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CEYLON.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1889.

(For Report for 1888 *see* Colonial Report No. 78, Old Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

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No 30.

CEYLON.

[For Report for 1888 *see* Colonial Report No. 78, Old Series.]

Sir A. E. HAVELOCK to LORD KNUTSFORD.

The Queen's Cottage, Nuwara Eliya,
Ceylon, October 14, 1891.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the Report of the Colonial Secretary on the Blue Book of Ceylon for 1889.

2. The Report was prepared and printed quite a twelvemonth ago, but I find that through a misunderstanding it was not transmitted sooner.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. E. HAVELOCK.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.

REPORT on the BLUE BOOK of CEYLON for 1889.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

1. The revenue of the Colony received during the year 1889 amounted to Rs. 15,299,877, and the expenditure to Rs. 14,906,281; the corresponding figures for 1888 were Rs. 15,408,812 and Rs. 14,630,120, respectively.

Revenue.

2. The above figures exhibit a reduction in the revenue of Rs. 108,934. This falling off is more than accounted for by the reduction of receipts under the head of pearl fishery, the fishery of 1889 having yielded less than that of 1888 by Rs. 305,110.

3. The increases and decreases under the other heads of revenue are set out in detail and explained by the Auditor-General in his return of June 19, 1890, and appear to call for no further remark.

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Expenditure.

4. The net increase of expenditure under the head "Establishments" in 1889 was Rs. 123,775. The increase is wholly attributable to the completion of the staff of the newly-created forest department, and to the classification under its proper head of "Colombo Harbour" of expenditure which had previously been brought to account in other ways, chiefly under the head of "Miscellaneous Services."

5. Under the head "Services exclusive of Establishments" the apparent increase is Rs. 152,385, but the real increase is very greatly more than this. In the account of expenditure for 1888 credit was taken for a sum of Rs. 750,000, set aside to meet the interest on the loan for railway extension to Haputalé. No similar sum finds a place in the account of expenditure for 1889, so that the actual increase of expenditure on the usual purposes of the Colony was really greater in 1889 than it was in 1888 by a sum of about Rs. 900,000.

6. This increase is accounted for, in the main, and omitting reference to comparatively small items of increase and decrease which tend to balance one another, and which are sufficiently explained in the Auditor-General's printed return, by larger votes on account of hospitals and sanitation to the amount of Rs. 116,825, on account of public works Rs. 338,104, on account of forest services Rs. 179,372, and by increased expenditure by way of interest and in exchange of Rs. 126,836.

7. The last quoted increase is due to the continued depreciation of silver, and is the only head which need be in any sense a source of regret. The increased expenditure on public works, the forest department, the Colombo harbour, and on the extension of hospital accommodation, is of direct advantage to the Colony and its inhabitants.

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

9. The assets of the Government on January 1, 1890, amounted to Rs. 9,342,767, and the total liabilities to Rs. 8,235,685, showing an excess of assets over liabilities of Rs. 1,107,082.

PUBLIC DEBT.

10. The debt of the Colony on January 1, 1890, stood at 2,209,727*l.* 15*s.* 1*d.*, as against 2,226,053*l.* 1*s.* 8*d.* in sterling, and Rs. 354,310·91 in silver, as against Rs. 365,000 on the corresponding day of the previous year.

11. The amount paid off on account of the various sterling loans under arrangements for sinking fund was 106,272*l.* 4*s.* 11*d.*; the amount paid off the silver loan was Rs. 10,689·09.

12. The loan for the extension of the railway to Haputalé and to Bentota was not raised, as had been intended, in 1889.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

13. The trade for the year was valued at Rs. 107,619,641·35, as against Rs. 97,908,124·51 in 1888, divided into :—

—	1888.	1889.
	Rs.	Rs.
Imports - - - - - -	58,534,987	60,695,135
Exports - - - - - -	39,383,134	46,924,505

or, exclusive of specie—

—	1888.	1889.
	Rs.	Rs.
Imports - - - - - -	53,314,854	54,170,495
Exports - - - - - -	39,292,191	46,098,778

14. The gross Customs revenue for 1889 was Rs. 3,718,152, which, though slightly less than that for 1888, is greatly in excess of that for many previous years.

Imports.

15. The principal imports compare with 1888 as follows :—

—		1888.	1889.
Grain - - - -	bushels	6,630,094	6,591,157
Cotton manufactures - -	Rs.	5,185,039	4,840,233
Malt liquors, wines, and spirits -	"	1,211,383	1,210,170
Metals and metal ware - -	"	1,278,834	1,383,367
Coal and coke - - -	tons	284,464	321,015
Specie - - - -	Rs.	4,927,066	6,241,571
Machinery - - -	"	784,359	1,040,258

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Exports.

16. The appended comparative table of exports for 1887, 1888, and 1889 shows the increases and decreases under the most important heads:—

—			1887.	1888.	1889.
Coffee - -		cwt.	181,909	139,109	89,694
Cinchona - -		lb.	13,113,067	12,499,949	9,455,641
Tea - -		,,	13,834,057	23,820,471	34,346,432
Cacao - -		cwt.	17,460	12,231	18,849
Cardamoms -		lb.	384,015	282,595	466,168
Cocoanut products.	Cocoanuts	No.	10,044,329	6,009,156	5,409,962 & pks. 2,764
	Coir stuffs	cwt.	97,804	112,355	132,396 & pks. 1,681
	Cocoanut oil	,,	323,445	364,116	379,937
	Copperah	,,	136,346	149,005	54,961
	Arrack	gal.	87,323	98,422	115,042
Cinnamon - -		lb.	2,046,153	2,040,589	2,562,711
Citronella oil -		oz.	8,276,218	11,273,127	10,818,812
Plumbago - -		cwt.	238,599	223,277	486,139
Tobacco - -		,,	35,954	57,815	52,407
Malt liquor - -		gal.	175,587	213,846	139,080

SHIPPING.

17. The returns of shipping visiting Ceylon continue to show a progressive increase both in the number and the aggregate tonnage.

PUBLIC WORKS.

18. The total expenditure on public works in 1889 was Rs. 2,907,454. This total may be conveniently divided as under:—

	Rs.	c.
Establishment - - -	299,863	58
Departmental charges - -	177,457	41
Maintenance and repairs of existing public works and buildings -	1,244,363	69
New roads, including additions to existing roads - - - -	483,262	45
New bridges - - - -	119,224	52
New irrigation works - -	410,270	68
New buildings, including alterations and additions, and miscellaneous new works not classified above - -	173,012	31
Total -	2,907,454	64

19. Maintenance of public works in the two years 1888 and 1889 compares as under:—

——	1888.		1889.	
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Public buildings - - -	124,775	39	135,570	81
Roads - - - -	867,033	34	939,464	36
Bridges - - - -	57,646	68	94,353	16
Canals - - - -	28,305	03	27,590	71
Irrigation works - - -	48,340	43	47,384	65
Total - -	1,126,100	87	1,244,363	69

The additional mileage of roads kept up by the Public Works Department in 1889 was 148·63; the roads were maintained at an average of Rs. 303 per mile.

20. The principal works on which expenditure was incurred were:—Under the head of Roads, the Colombo Harbour foreshore work; the Punnalai causeway, which was completed in the year; the Pánaduré-Ratnapura (usually called the Nambápáná) road, which was finished with the exception of two bridges: the road from Wellawáya to Monarágala, in the province of Uva; some roads in the Kalutara tea district; and one road, the Bathford Valley road extension, on the grant-in-aid system, in the Central Province.

One large bridge, the Toppu bridge, on the important road from Negombo to Chilaw, was commenced and nearly completed within the year. Among the other smaller bridges, one in Dikoya was the most important and the most useful.

No large public buildings were undertaken in the course of the year.

The construction of many considerable works of irrigation was in progress during the year. Of these the most important are the restoration of Kanakarayankulam, in the Northern Province; the Eraulla tank, the Bodi-ela, and the Waduwawela-ela, in the Central Province; the Kimbulwana-oya anicut, in the North-Western Province; and Hambagamuwa tank in Uva.

The great work at Ramba Vihara, on the Walawe-ganga, in the Southern Province, which has cost the Government almost exactly Rs. 220,000, was completed, and the development of cultivation and population beneath it may now be confidently looked for.

21. The furniture of the Queen's Houses has been kept in good condition, and the buildings themselves are in a fair state of repair.

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COLOMBO HARBOUR.

22. The expenditure on this work for 1889 amounted to Rs. 110,979·31.

The following is the statement of revenue and expenditure on account of the harbour for 1889 :—

RECEIPTS.	Rs.	c.	EXPENDITURE.	Rs.	c.
Colombo harbour dues - -	521,163	09	Paid Public Works Loan Commissioners on account principal -	90,550	24
Pilotage - - - -	39,677	0	Do. do. interest -	106,427	02
Rent of reclamation ground -	8,336	76	Interest on debentures - -	282,351	77
Sundries - - - -	1,854	75	Master attendant - -	75,071	62
Single rent - - - -	124,722	10	Director of public works - -	36,833	43
			Principal collector of customs -	5,224	99
			Engineer of works - - -	152,906	52
			Inspector-General of Police -	7,404	75
	695,753	70	Principal Civil Medical Officer -	2,247	66
Excess of expenditure over receipts	63,264	30			
Total - -	759,018	0	Total - -	759,018	0

23. The dredging of the outer harbour by the Merak was brought to a standstill very early in the year by the boilers showing signs of weakness. It was found necessary to renew them, and to repair the vessel, and no further work in this direction was carried on during 1889. The dredging of the inner harbour was, however, continued with success, and a large quantity of material was raised.

24. The usual examination of the harbour was made after the south-west monsoon, and the work was reported to be intact throughout.

SURVEY DEPARTMENT.

25. The work of the Survey Department tends to increase in amount, and to vary greatly in character. It now includes surveys of Crown lands for sale, surveys for irrigation and other public works, for the acquisition of land for public purposes, for forest settlements, and for settlements under the Registration of Titles to Land Ordinance, while in the course of 1889 the centre line of the proposed railway from Bentota through Galle to Mátara was laid out by two members of the Survey Department under the supervision of the Resident Engineer of the Haputalé extension.

26. The area of land alienated by the Crown during 1889 was 12,434 acres, a good deal less than usual. The following table shows to what extent these lands fell into the hands of Europeans and natives respectively :—

Abstract of Lands alienated from the Crown to Europeans and Natives in 1889.

Province.	Europeans.							
	Lots.	Extent.			Amount and Fees.		Average Rate per Acre.	
	No.	A.	R.	P.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Western	9	170	2	7·75	3,294	50	19	32
Central	29	160	2	28	2,079	0	12	95
Northern	—		—		—		—	
Southern	20	218	2	3	2,678	20	12	25
Eastern	2	8	1	12	108	50	13	56
North-Western	6	44	2	20	455	0	10	22
North Central	—		—		—		—	
Uva	65	541	2	10	6,186	50	11	42
Sabaragamuwa	15	285	1	15	3,503	60	12	28
Total	146	1,429	2	15·75	18,305	30	12	81

(*Continued.*)

Province.	Natives.							
	Lots.	Extent.			Amount and Fees.		Average Rate per Acre.	
	No.	A.	R.	P.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Western	1,107	3,325	3	6	61,126	16	18	37
Central	120	363	1	12	3,320	0	9	14
Northern	208	350	2	29	4,996	91	14	25
Southern	845	3,561	3	36	80,331	75	22	55
Eastern	184	1,078	2	20	14,896	60	13	81
North-Western	216	1,738	0	20	29,303	0	16	86
North Central	16	26	0	28·88	531	0	20	42
Uva	124	236	2	30	2,249	50	9	51
Sabaragamuwa	131	323	1	4	4,244	40	13	13
Total	2,951	11,004	2	25·88	200,999	32	18	26

27. The expenditure on the Department during the year was Rs. 390,352·81, and the amount realised by the Government from sales of land was Rs. 262,903.

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Railways.

28. The length of line open for traffic remained the same in 1889 as in 1888, 180½ miles. Two extensions were, however, in progress—that towards Haputalé and that towards Bentota.

29. The receipts, expenditure, and net earnings of 1886, 1887, 1888, and 1889—that is, since the opening of the last extension—compare as under for the whole railway :—

——	1886.	1887.	1888.	1889.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Receipts - - -	2,687,875	2,947,628	3,387,658	3,549,135
Expenditure - -	1,451,716	1,466,002	1,505,680	1,670,045
Net earnings - -	1,236,159	1,481,626	1,881,978	1,879,090

The results for the year on the working of the several sections of the line are as follows :—

——	Gross Earnings.	Working Expenses, including new Works.	Net Earnings.	Deficiency.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Main line - -	2,136,896	777,612	1,359,284	—
Coast line - -	318,777	265,266	53,511	—
Mátalé line - -	98,515	103,355	—	4,840
Náwalapitiya line -	348,311	160,879	187,432	—
Nánuoya line - -	646,635	362,932	283,703	—

The cost of construction and dividend earned by each section compare thus:—

——	Cost of Construction.	Net Earnings. 1889.	Dividend earned.		
			1889.	1888.	1887.
	Rs.	Rs.			
Main line - - -	17,591,076	1,359,284	7·73	7·75	6·31
Coast line - - -	2,339,182	53,511	2·29	2·91	1·15
Mátalé line - - -	3,391,952	Loss 4,835	Loss.	Loss.	Loss.
Náwalapitiya line - -	2,674,627	187,432	7·1	6·92	5·22
Nánuoya line* - -	10,927,853	283,703	2·59	2·47	1·98
The Railway as a whole -	36,924,690	1,879,090	5·09	5·19	4·02

* Account not closed.

The increase is in both goods and passenger traffic, which compares for the years 1886, 1887, 1888, and 1889, as follows:—

Coaching.

——	1886.	1887.	1888.	1889.
	No.	No.	No.	No.
Ordinary, first and second class passengers - -	156,849	164,771	179,952	184,342
Season, first and second class passengers - - -	571	610	593	610
Ordinary, third class passengers - - -	1,661,660	1,801,509	2,002,346	2,100,866
Season, third class passengers-	2,177	2,544	2,638	2,946
Parcels, &c. - -	146,934	159,297	194,913	200,244

Goods.

——	1886.	1887.	1888.	1889.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
General - - -	133,271	141,339	157,442	167,014
Public Departments - -	23,162	20,956	35,740	43,234

LEGISLATION.

Twenty-four Ordinances passed the Legislative Council in 1889, of which all have received Her Majesty's Confirmation and gracious allowance.

Of these, the Ordinance No. 1 of 1889, consolidating the laws relating to Courts and their jurisdictions; the Ordinance No. 2 of 1889, a complete Code of Civil Procedure; the Ordinance No. 3 of 1889, relating to Buddhist temporalities, which finally set at rest a long-standing grievance; and the Ordinance amending the law relating to Indian coolies employed on Ceylon estates are of more than usual interest and importance. The last-named was the cause of some controversy, and was only finally confirmed on an amending Ordinance being passed.

Besides the above, the Ordinances Nos. 23 and 24, relating to the irrigation and cultivation of paddy lands, and to village communities, are important enactments, consolidating the existing

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laws on the subject, which were widely scattered through the legislation of a number of years.

Of the less important Acts of the Legislature, No. 9 of 1889, an Ordinance relating to the sale of opium in the Colombo municipality, passed with the object of increasing the cost and lessening the opportunities of obtaining this drug; the Ordinance No. 16, authorising the punishment of whipping in certain cases; No. 17, an Ordinance relating to gaming; and No. 19, relating to the maintenance of wives and children, are likely to produce useful results.

Public Health.

The annexed table shows the comparative birth and death rates per 1,000 of the population during the years 1886, 1887, 1888, and 1889, for the nine provinces and for the whole island. The table is subject to the remark that deaths are more certainly and accurately recorded than births.

Provinces.	Deaths per Mille.				Births per Mille.			
	1886.	1887.	1888.	1889.	1886.	1887.	1888.	1889.
Western - - -	18·9	22·8	20·1	20·1	25·5	31·2	31·5	25·4
Central - - -	22·0	22·2	27·0	25·1	24·9	29·0	29·7	24·9
Northern - - -	27·9	19·9	23·3	32·7	26·7	35·8	32·9	27·5
Southern - - -	25·6	21·2	23·8	24·3	24·0	32·4	32·2	28·5
Eastern - - -	24·5	22·5	27·6	40·5	39·8	43·9	44·1	38·0
North-Western - -	25·2	32·2	35·3	48·9	36·2	41·1	36·1	38·4
North Central - -	35·8	31·9	46·3	42·5	39·3	44·4	41·9	38·1
Uva - - - -	27·0	33·0	37·9	28·9	30·8	32·1	30·1	28·0
Sabaragamuwa - -	—	—	—	35·9	—	—	—	31·6
Island - - -	23·7	24·0	26·7	29·2	27·1	32·9	32·1	28·4

The Principal Civil Medical Officer reports the health of the island to have been unsatisfactory during 1889. Cholera prevailed widely, 1,650 cases having occurred, with 1,158 deaths. The epidemic broke out on two occasions, following the great assemblages of people from India and different parts of Ceylon at the pearl fishery and at the Roman Catholic festival in honour of St. Anna. The effects of the disease were most severely felt in the Northern Province, where 838 proved fatal.

As in 1888, outbreaks of fever occurred in several parts of the island, the worst sufferers being the Northern and Eastern provinces. In the Western and Southern Provinces, and in Uva, there were outbreaks of a less severe kind.

There was but little small-pox, the number of cases reported being for the whole island only 396, with 75 deaths. Of these, 303 cases, and 53 deaths were in one province, the North-Western.

The comparative table subjoined gives the number of hospitals and dispensaries open, the number of patients, and the death-rate for the years 1887, 1888, and 1889 :—

—	Number open.			Number of Patients.		
	1887.	1888.	1889.	1887.	1888.	1889.
Civil hospitals - - - -	24	25	24	22,607	23,283	24,088
Medical Aid hospitals - - -	9	10	10	2,522	2,603	3,967
Immigrant hospitals - - -	6	6	6	1,689	2,155	1,962
Dispensaries - - - -	51	53	76	140,000	128,533	176,041
Police Hospital, Colombo - -	1	1	1	656	492	555
De Soysa Lying-in Home - -	1	1	1	145	165	181
Gaol Hospitals - - - -	31	31	30	5,332	5,969	4,925
Lunatic Asylum - - -	1	1	1	467	425	429
Leper Asylum* - - - -	1	1	1	237	258	256

(*Continued.*)

—	Number of Deaths.			Per-centage of Deaths to Patients.		
	1887.	1888.	1889.	1887.	1888.	1889.
Civil hospitals - - - -	2,083	2,319	2,510	9·21	9·96	10·42
Medical Aid hospitals - - -	429	727	748	17·01	20·24	18·90
Immigrant hospitals - - -	129	155	141	7·06	7·01	7·18
Dispensaries - - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—
Police Hospital, Colombo - -	—	—	1	—	—	1·80
De Soysa Lying-in Home - -	1	6	4	·66	3·06	2·20
Gaol Hospitals - - - -	109	129	136	2·04	2·16	2·76
Lunatic Asylum - - - -	30	27	17	6·04	6·03	3·96
Leper Asylum* - - - -	27	44	30	10·97	17·0	11·71

* Contains separate wards for lepers and paupers suffering from incurable diseases.

VACCINATION.

The following figures show the total number of persons operated upon in 1889 :—

—	Primary Vaccination.				Re-vaccination.		
	Total.	Successful.	Absent.	Percentage of Successful.	Total.	Successful.	Percentage of Successful.
1889 - -	106,320	85,536	14,881	81·39	11,265	7,622	67·66

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The decrease of 20,503 in the numbers operated upon, as compared with 1888, is attributed by the Principal Civil Medical Officer to the employment of his vaccinators on other duty in connexion with the outbreaks of cholera and the prevalence of fever.

The practice of animal vaccination, introduced in 1887, was successfully continued at very small cost to the Colony.

THE MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

The expenditure of the Medical Department was Rs. 669,660, as compared with Rs. 585,445 in 1888, the increase in expenditure following the increase in the number of dispensaries. The recoveries from paying patients was Rs. 11,000 less, of the returns at dispensaries Rs. 3,000 more, than in the preceding year.

The cost of working the Medical Aid Ordinance in 1889 is shown below :—

	Rs.	c.
Total cost in 1889 - - . -	175,665	20
Amount recovered from estates on account of visits, medicines, &c. -	41,372	17
Balance to be met from export duty	134,293	03
Receipts from export duty - -	58,404	87
Deficit met from general revenue -	75,888	16

FOREST DEPARTMENT.

The new organisation of the Department authorised by Government in 1888 came into effect from January 1, 1889, and considerable progress was made during the year in the direction of getting the new staff into working order and in making preparations, by way of surveys, examination and demarcation of forests, establishment of depôts, experiments in forest culture, &c., for the proper conservation and working of the Crown forests.

The railway fuel supply has been the cause to the new Department of considerable solicitude. Steps were taken for elaborating a methodical treatment of the forests set apart for the supply of railway fuel for the lower section of the main line, for which it is proposed permanently to set aside 10,000 acres of forest. The supply of the other sections of the line will engage the conservator's attention in the following year.

Experiments in the way of reafforestation have been continued, though as yet without very marked success, and the conservator reports that the older teak plantations, most of them of many years' standing, are not promising.

The following tables show the financial results of the working of the past two years: the profit has this year actually been

expended in the necessary stocking of the depôts, but there appears little reason to doubt that in a short time the forests will again become a source of considerable net revenue to the Government:—

—	1888.	1889.
CR.	Rs.	Rs.
Revenue credited - - - - -	228,387	332,253
Outstandings due to the Department at close of year.	27,650	103,880
Value of timber in depôts at close of the year -	160,468	244,264
Outstandings due by Department at beginning of year.	—*	17,602
Total - - - -	416,505	697,999

Deduct from this:—

—	1888.	1889.
DR.	Rs.	Rs.
Expenditure - - - - - -	247,510	393,962
Outstandings due by Department at close of year	17,602	35,424
Value of timber in depôts at beginning of year -	134,387	160,468
Outstandings due to Department at beginning of year.	482*	27,650
Total - - - -	399,981	617,504
Benefit to Department -	16,524	80,495

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

The numbers of cases and persons charged before the police magistrates for the past five years compare as follows:—

—	Cases instituted.	Cases in which there were Convictions.	Persons charged.	Persons convicted.
1885 - -	50,406	12,961	87,597	20,236
1886 - -	52,815	12,416	94,236	20,791
1887 - -	48,755	10,976	89,395	17,710
1888 - -	54,952	17,869	104,179	23,872
1889 - -	51,896	16,421	91,434	22,612

* Data incomplete.

CEYLON.

The table shows a larger percentage of convictions and a smaller of acquittals in the last than in preceding years.

The following table exhibits the number of persons convicted and acquitted in District Courts and in the Supreme Court :—

—	District Courts.		Supreme Court.	
	Convictions.	Acquittals.	Convictions.	Acquittals.
1885 - -	640	536	690	406
1886 - -	625	478	330	282
1887 - -	620	536	336	261
1888 - -	560	355	443	213
1889 - -	524	490	397	206

Omitting from consideration the year 1885, in which the old and new forms of procedure were at work side by side, and which cannot therefore be made the subject of comparison, it will be apparent that the number of convictions annually obtained in the higher courts does not greatly vary, and indeed tends to a very curious uniformity.

The results of the trials before the Supreme Court for murder and culpable homicide for the last few years are as follows :—

—	Murder.		Culpable Homicide.	
	Convictions.	Acquittals.	Convictions.	Acquittals.
1885 - - -	24	42	68	16
1886 - - -	48*	34	21*	13
1887 - - -	27	34	40	33
1888 - -	34	33	48	13
1889 - - -	43	45	38	11

The number of persons who suffered the extreme penalty of death was in the four years 1886, 1887, 1888, and 1889, as under :—

1886 - - - -	18
1887 - - - - -	24
1888 - - - - -	23
1889 - - - - -	36

* The returns for 1886 do not properly distinguish between murder and homicide.

Generally speaking, the criminal statistics of the country indicate the existence of a state of things which it is important to remedy.

The report of the Commissioner from India, which was laid before Sir A. Gordon's Government in May 1889, remains still under consideration.

EDUCATION

The proportion of children attending school, as compared with the whole population of this Colony, adult and otherwise, continues to improve steadily, being now for the whole Colony 1 in every 19; whereas in 1888 it was 1 in 21, in 1887 it was 1 in 22, 1 in 24 in 1886, 1 in 26 in 1885, and 1 in 27 in 1884.

The annexed table gives the comparative returns of attendance in Government, in grant-in-aid, and in unaided and Pansala (or Buddhist Monastery) schools for 1888 and 1889.

It will be observed that, while the number of scholars in each description of school has considerably increased, the cost to Government per scholar continues to decrease, owing, in the case of Government schools, to careful management and reduction of expenditure wherever compatible with efficiency on the part of the Public Instruction Department, while in the case of grant-in-aid schools really good English work is insisted upon before a grant can be earned, thus gradually counteracting the evil effects upon the country of a rising generation of half-educated idlers who deem that a little pigeon-English places them above honest work. Grant-in-aid vernacular schools, however, are encouraged, and are liberally treated, while a practical education in the rudiments of agriculture and sanitation is fostered in the higher standards of every village school. It is hoped that by degrees some improvement in the agriculture and sanitation of the outlying villages may follow.

Return of Attendances in Government and other Schools

—	No. of Schools in		Attended by					
	1888.	1889.	Boys in 1888.	Boys in 1889.	Girls in 1888.	Girls in 1889.	Total in 1888.	Total in 1889.
Government schools -	438	440	30,765	33,768	5,183	5,258	35,948	39,026
Grant-in-aid schools -	919	938	46,322	48,840	20,078	20,643	66,400	69,483
Unaided private schools -	583	616	12,803	13,271	809	4,444	16,612	17,715
Pansala schools - -	1,844	1,974	12,211	12,070	—	—	12,211	12,070
Total - - -	3,784	3,968	102,101	107,949	29,070	30,345	131,171	138,294

CEYLON.

—	Average Number of Scholars per School in 1888.	Average Cost to Government per Boy.		Average Cost to Government per Girl.	
		In 1888.	In 1889.	In 1888.	In 1889.
		Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Government Schools -	88	5 17	4 66	3 43	3 37
Grant-in-Aid Schools -	74	2 82 per scholar	2 79 per scholar	Boys and Girls not distinguished.	
Unaided Private Schls.	28	—	—	—	—
Pansala Schools -	—	—	—	—	—

The following return shows the schools and scholars, omitting the unaided schools. As stated last year, the old Anglo-vernacular schools have now disappeared in favour of Primary and Middle English schools; *i.e.*, instead of beginning English only in the VIth Standard in Anglo-vernacular schools, where nothing of importance was learned, translation into and from English now commences from the 1st Standard, thus giving a boy the whole of his school life for perfecting his studies:—

1888.

—	No. of Schools.	No. of Boys on the List.	No. of Girls on the List.	Total No. of Boys and Girls on the List.	Total No. of Scholars in Average Attendance.
GOVERNMENT.					
English High - - - - -	1	270	—	270	247
Agricultural School - - - -	1	19	—	19	21
Railway Girls' School, English - -	1	1	56	57	41
*English Primary and Middle - -	25	2,883	258	3,141	1,812
Vernacular - - - - - -	410	27,592	4,869	32,461	16,979
GRANT-IN-AID.					
English High - - - - -	83	6,628	1,558	8,186	5,915
*English Primary and Middle - -	56	3,181	1,514	4,695	2,992
Vernacular - - - - -	780	36,513	17,006	53,519	31,395
Total - - - - -	1,357	77,087	25,261	102,348	59,402

* These Primary and Middle English schools were previously Anglo-vernacular.

1889.

—	No. of Schools.	No. of Boys on the List.	No. of Girls on the List.	Total No. of Boys and Girls on the List.	Total No. of Scholars in Average Attendance.
GOVERNMENT.					
English High	1	310	—	310	252
Agricultural School	1	23	—	23	23
Railway Girls' School, English	1	3	62	65	41
English Primary and Middle	13	1,704	49	1,753	1,115
Vernacular	424	31,728	5,147	36,875	19,801
GRANT-IN-AID.					
English High	50	5,181	1,267	6,448	4,780
English Primary and Middle	58	2,493	1,422	3,915	2,691
Vernacular	830	41,166	17,954	59,120	33,753
Total	1,378	82,608	25,901	108,509	62,456

The one agricultural school shown in the above return is the Colombo School, where agricultural students are trained and sent out, some to work in Government schools, some to work on their private property on their own account. In the report for 1888 six of these young men were reported as working as agricultural instructors in Government schools, while two were employed and paid from local funds. The Government still pays only for six, but five more are now employed from local funds, their usefulness having been recognised, and other applications for these agricultural instructors are now under consideration.

The proportion which the number of children attending school bears to the population of the several Provinces during 1888 and 1889, comparatively, is shown in the following table:—

—	1888.	1889.
Western	1 in 12	1 in 11
Central	1 in 42	1 in 35
Northern	1 in 12	1 in 12
Southern	1 in 26	1 in 25
Eastern	1 in 14	1 in 15
North-Western	1 in 37	1 in 36
North Central	1 in 45	1 in 44
Uva	1 in 76	1 in 79
Sabaragamuwa	1 in 43	1 in 36

CEYLON.

The new system of night schools recorded in the last report is working fairly, but has not expanded as much as was expected, there being, except in active educational centres, a disinclination to go to school at night after the labours of the day.

The expenditure on education for 1889 was Rs. 470,292·75, as compared with Rs. 458,246·76 in 1888, but 6,161 more scholars were paid for than in 1888.

(Signed) E. NOEL WALKER,
Colonial Secretary.

Ceylon, 13th October 1891.

LONDON: Printed by EYRE and SPOTTISWOODE,
Printers to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty.
For Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

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ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1890.

(For Report for 1889 *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 30.)

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111	Labuan	1889
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113	Falkland Islands	"
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28	Gambia	"
29	Hong Kong	"
30	Ceylon	1889
31	Lagos	"
32	Lagos	1890

No. 33.

CEYLON.

[For Report for 1889 *see* Colonial Report (Annual) No. 30.]

Sir A. E. HAVELOCK to LORD KNUTSFORD.

Queen's House, Colombo,
Ceylon, November 27, 1891.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the usual Report on the Blue Book of Ceylon for the year 1890.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. E. HAVELOCK.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.

REPORT on the BLUE BOOK of CEYLON for the Year 1890.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The revenue of the Colony received during the year 1890 amounted to Rs. 16,228,768, and the expenditure to Rs.15,316,223; the corresponding figures for 1889 were Rs. 15,299,877 and Rs. 14,906,281 respectively.

Revenue.

2. The above figures show an increase in the revenue of Rs. 928,891. Increased returns are shown under almost every head of revenue, the most noticeable being the increases on railway receipts, Rs. 296,074, on Customs Rs. 210,608, on licenses Rs. 162,978, on stamps Rs. 61,223, and on port and harbour dues Rs. 59,272. These figures seem to afford a very satisfactory indication of the growing prosperity of the Island and the expansion of its trade. The decrease of Rs. 87,477 on the land revenue is due principally to failure of the crops in the Eastern and Northern Provinces. The pearl fishery produced Rs. 183,479, less than in 1889. The increases and decreases under the other heads of revenue are explained in detail in the Auditor-General's report of May 22, 1891, and do not appear to call for further notice.

Expenditure.

3. The total increase of expenditure as compared with 1889 was Rs. 409,942.

4. Under the head of establishments the increase is put down as Rs. 76,657, and is due chiefly to provision for the salary of the additional cadets who arrived in 1889–90, Rs. 22,516; additions

CEYLON.

to the staff of the Public Works Department, Rs. 26,769 ; and the Railway Department, Rs. 24,251, the latter rendered necessary by the opening of the extension to Bentota. The real increase is, however, Rs. 93,448, a sum of Rs. 16,791 on account of labour on Columbo harbour works, formerly charged to establishments, having been paid out of Services Exclusive of Establishments.

5. Under the head Services Exclusive of Establishments, the apparent increase is Rs. 333,284; but from this should be deducted a sum of Rs. 16,791 on account of labour on Colombo Harbour works, formerly charged to Establishments, and a further sum of Rs. 52,002 on account of Administration of Justice, formerly brought to account under Deposits, Lapsed Loan Board Funds, but which in 1890 was charged to General Revenue. The real increase amounts therefore to Rs. 264,491, and is due principally to increased votes on account of Revenue Services Rs. 92,565, on account of Public Works Rs. 351,728, on account of Hospitals and Sanitation Rs. 64,730, and on account of Military Contribution Rs. 78,524.

6. The increased expenditure on Revenue Services, Public Works, and Hospitals may be considered to be productive expenditure, and of direct advantage to the inhabitants of the Colony. The increased military contribution includes further expenditure on account of Colombo defences.

7. Further, it should be noted that considerable savings were effected under the head Services Exclusive of Establishments, amounting to about Rs. 200,000, owing to the more favourable rate of exchange which prevailed.

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

8. The following table shows the assets and liabilities of the Government on January 1, 1891, as compared with January 1, 1890 :—

Assets.				Liabilities.			
1890.		1891.		1890.		1891.	
Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
9,342,767	88	11,484,674	59	8,235,685	33	9,580,294	49
		Excess of assets -		1,107,082	55	1,904,380	10
				9,342,767	88	11,484,674	59

PUBLIC DEBT.

9. The debt of the Colony on January 1, 1891, amounted to 2,492,484*l.* 10*s.* 9*d.*, as against 2,209,727*l.* 15*s.* 1*d.* in sterling, and Rs. 345,301·14, as against Rs. 354,310·91 in silver, on January 1, 1890.

10. An additional loan of 300,500*l* was raised in May, 1890, for the Haputalé and Bentota Railway Extensions.

11. The amount paid off on account of the various sterling loans was 124,015*l*. 9*s*. 3*d*., and on account of the silver loan was Rs. 19,698·86.

CUSTOMS AND SHIPPING.

12. The total value of the trade of the Colony for the year was Rs. 114,219,279·03, as against Rs. 107,619,641·35 for 1889, thus:—

—	1889.		1890.	
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Imports - - - - -	60,695,135	79	63,091,939	13
Exports - - - - -	46,924,505	56	51,127,339	90
Total - - - -	107,619,641	35	114,219,279	03
Increase in 1890 - -	6,599,637	68	—	

Or deducting specie:—

—	1889.		1890.	
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Imports - - - - -	54,170,495	67	56,469,585	13
Exports - - - - -	46,098,778	56	50,181,919	11
Total - - - -	100,269,274	23	106,651,504	24
Increase in 1890 - - -	6,382,230	01	—	

13. The gross customs revenue for 1890 was Rs. 3,948,564.11 which, compared with that of 1888, the highest previous amount, shows an increase of Rs. 201,499.42, and compared with that of 1889 shows an increase of Rs. 230,411.94.

14. The principal imports and exports compare with those of 1889 as follows:—

Imports.

—		1889.	1890.
Grain - - -	bushels	6,591,157	6,350,036
Cotton goods - -	Rs.	4,840,233	5,858,225
Malt liquor, wines, &c. -	"	1,210,170	1,206,169
Metals and metalware -	"	1,383,367	1,889,520
Coal and coke - -	tons	321,015	303,896
Specie - - -	Rs.	6,241,571	6,339,285
Machinery - -	"	1,040,258	749,180

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Exports.

——		1889.	1890.
Coffee - - -	cwts.	89,694	90,091
Cinchona - -	lbs.	9,455,641	8,779,140
Tea - - -	„	34,346,432	45,799,518
Cacao - -	cwts.	18,849	15,942
Cardamons - -	lbs.	466,168	395,576
Cocoanut products :—			
Cocoanuts - -	No.	5,409,962 and pkgs. 2,764	12,444,070 and bags 135
Coir stuffs - -	cwts.	131,980 and pkgs. 1,681	124,330 and pkgs. 662
Cocoanut oil - -	„	379,937	368,725
Copperah - -	„	54,961	156,193
Arrack - -	gals.	115,042	103,931
Cinnamon - -	lbs.	2,562,711	2,345,564
Citronella oil - -	ozs.	10,818,812	18,785,098
Plumbago - -	cwts.	486,139	392,577
Tobacco - - -	„	51,900	55,301
Malt liquor - -	gals.	139,080	43,611

SHIPPING.

15. The shipping returns for the Island show a satisfactory increase, both in numbers and tonnage:—

——	1889.		1890.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Entered - -	3,366	2,423,505	3,566	2,576,019
Cleared - -	3,378	2,408,460	3,586	2,541,883
Total -	6,744	4,831,965	7,152	5,117,902

COLOMBO HARBOUR.

16. The expenditure on works for 1890 amounted to Rs. 227,973·43.

17. The following is the statement of revenue and expenditure on account of the harbour for 1890 :—

RECEIPTS.	Rs.	c.	EXPENDITURE.	Rs.	c.
Colombo Harbour dues - -	570,793	44	Public Works Loan Commissioners, on account of principal - -	90,963	06
Pilotage - - - -	42,977	00	Do. do. interest -	100,220	76
Rent of reclamation ground -	8,995	13	Interest on debentures - -	247,036	60
Sundries - - - -	2,635	50	Master attendant - - -	63,569	72
Single rent - - - -	137,310	22	Director of public works - -	27,160	85
			Principal Collector of Customs -	4,234	45
			Engineer of works - - -	163,939	88
			Inspector-General of Police -	7,117	03
			Principal Civil Medical Officer -	738	56
				704,981	91
			Excess of receipts - - -	57,730	38
Total - -	762,711	29	Total - -	762,711	29

It will be seen from the above that the receipts considerably exceeded the expenditure.

18. The usual examination of the breakwater was made after the south-west monsoon, and the works were found to be intact, while the annual series of cross soundings showed that no silting up of the harbour had taken place.

Dredging operations were resumed on May 8, after a stoppage of 51 months, and 101,380 cubic yards of material were removed, when the dredger again broke down. About one third of the dredged area has now been deepened to a depth of 28 feet, and it is hoped that on the arrival of the new dredger, which has been ordered from England, this work may be pushed on with the rapidity necessary to meet the demand for further accommodation resulting from the steady increase in the shipping frequenting the port. Dredging has unfortunately been again discontinued, owing to a serious leak in the old dredger.

PUBLIC WORKS.

19. The expenditure of the Public Works Department for 1890 was Rs. 3,376,583, as compared with Rs. 2,907,454 in 1889, being an increase of Rs. 469,128.49, or 13·89 per cent.

The expenditure was thus divided :—

	Rs.	c.
Establishment, including allowances and contingencies - - - -	345,681	38
Upkeep of roads, bridges, canals, and irrigation works - - - -	1,169,780	41
Carried forward - -	1,515,461	79

CEYLON.

	Rs.	c.
Brought forward - -	1,515,461	79
Repairs to buildings - - -	132,706	00
Departmental charges and miscellaneous	212,880	86
New works and buildings - - -	284,145	40
Alterations and additions to buildings	102,218	34
New roads and additions to roads -	444,510	27
Improvements to canals - - -	4,994	10
New bridges - - - - -	189,768	15
Irrigation works - - - -	489,898	22
Total - -	3,376,583	13

Maintenance of public works in 1889 and 1890 compares thus :—

—	1889.		1890.	
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Public buildings - - -	135,570	81	132,706	0
Roads - - - -	939,464	36	1,024,554	68
Bridges - - - -	94,353	16	60,581	42
Canals - - - -	27,590	71	27,200	55
Irrigation works - - -	47,384	65	57,443	76
Total - -	1,244,363	69	1,302,486	41

20. The additional mileage of roads kept up by the Public Works Department was 45·79 miles. The roads were maintained at an average cost of Rs, 314·80 a mile.

21. Under the head of new roads the principal works undertaken were the continuation of the Colombo Harbour foreshore works, the completion of the Ondachchimadam causeway in the Eastern Province, the extension of the Ruwanwella-Attanagala road in the important tea district of Kelani Valley, and survey of trace of a road to connect the Southern and Sabaragamuwa Provinces. A considerable portion of the south coast road running through the Eastern Province was reconstructed and gravelled, and sections of the north road were metalled.

22. The Toppu bridge commenced in 1889 was opened in July and another large bridge over an arm of the Bolgoda Lake was also completed. Progress with the important bridge over the Kuru-ganga, on the Nambapana road, was hindered by the floods.

23. Under the head Works and Buildings the most important works undertaken were the Kirillapane and Talpitiya flood-outlets in the Western Province, the extension of the customs warehouses, Colombo, and the construction of new export jetties for Colombo and Galle.

24. The most important building operation for the year was the new hospital in the town of Badulla. The new market in the same town was also completed.

25. Many considerable irrigation works were in progress during the year, of which the most important are the construction of an irrigation channel in connexion with the Liyangahatota anicut and works on the Walawe-ganga in the Southern Province, the Deduru-oya works in the North-western Province, and the Kumbukkan-oya works in the province of Uva.

26. Among other works, Kanakarayankulam tank in the Northern Province and Eraula tank and the Bodi-ela in the Central Province were completed, but the latter has since suffered from storm water, and a further report on its condition is awaited.

27. The furniture in the Queen's Houses was kept in good order, and the buildings are in a fair state of repair.

SURVEY DEPARTMENT.

28. The expenditure of the Department for 1890 amounted to Rs. 406,272·45, as compared with Rs. 390,352·81 in 1889.

29. The total revenue from sales of Government land amounted to Rs. 231,999, or a decrease of Rs. 30,904 on the revenue of 1889.

The area of land alienated by the Crown during 1890 was 2,713 acres, the annexed table showing the amounts sold to Europeans and natives respectively:—

Province.	Europeans.							
	Lots.	Extent.			Amount and Fees.		Average Rate per Acre.	
	No.	A.	R.	P.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Western	12	7	0	10	114	50	16	21
Central	71	544	1	2·08	9,020	54	16	58
Northern	1	1	3	22	25	0	13	36
Southern	2	164	2	30	1,912	30	11	62
Eastern	5	16	1	7	219	0	13	47
North-Western	6	249	2	14	7,383	50	29	53
North Central	—		—		—		—	
Uva	42	506	0	16	6,706	70	13	25
Sabaragamuwa	16	163	2	6	3,346	10	20	46
Total	155	1,653	1	27·08	28,727	64	17	38

(*continued.*)

CEYLON.

Province.	Natives.							
	Lots.	Extent.			Amount and Fees.		Average Rate per Acre.	
	No.	A.	R.	P.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Western - - - -	888	2,431	1	11·49	33,884	91	13	94
Central - - - -	107	225	1	0·72	6,153	21	27	34
Northern - - - -	45	235	3	9	2,466	25	10	46
Southern - - - -	1,172	3,740	3	6	62,618	95	16	73
Eastern - - - -	213	690	3	5	12,115	96	17	53
North-Western - - -	460	3,102	3	30	40,063	94	12	91
North Central - - -	11	44	2	15	492	10	11	5
Uva - - - -	105	171	1	10	2,241	25	13	10
Sabaragamuwa - - -	112	417	1	20	7,840	52	18	83
Total - -	3,113	11,060	0	27·21	167,877	9	15	17

30. Forest and irrigation surveys have principally occupied the attention of the Department, but other work of importance and of a very varied character as usual has been undertaken, including topographical surveys, boundary surveys, surveys of land for sale on applications, cadastral surveys of certain villages in the Western and Sabaragamuwa Provinces, and a trace of the proposed extension of the railway from Bentota to Mátara, a distance of 60 miles.

RAILWAYS.

31. The receipts in 1890 amounted to Rs. 3,862,313 as against Rs. 3,549,135 in 1889, or an increase of Rs. 313,178.

The expenditure was Rs. 1,722,755 against Rs. 1,670,045 in 1889.

The net profit amounted to Rs. 2,139,558, being a net profit on the capital cost of construction of 5·70 per cent.

32. The approximate results for the years 1889 and 1890 of each section of the railway are as follows:—

—	Main Line.		Náwalapitiya Line.		Nánu-oya Line.		Coast Line.		Mátalé Line.	
	1889.	1890.	1889.	1890.	1889.	1890.	1889.	1890.	1889.	1890.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Receipts	2,136,896	2,303,439	348,310	373,692	646,635	680,800	318,777	403,879	98,515	100,503
Expenditure	777,612	800,034	160,879	146,136	362,932	363,169	265,266	314,025	103,355	99,391
Profit -	1,359,284	1,503,405	187,431	227,556	284,703	317,631	53,511	89,854	—	1,112
Loss -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4,840	—

It will be observed that the Mátalé line for the first time shows a profit—a result due chiefly to revision of the traffic arrangements.

33. During the year the extension of 10¾ miles of the sea-coast line to Bentota was opened, making a total length of 191½ miles of open line. The net profit on this extension for 1890 amounted to no more than Rs. 1,491, but the line was only opened on March 31, and is at present mainly a passenger line. When opened as far as Galle it will carry a considerable goods traffic. The extension to Haputalé was proceeded with during the year.

LEGISLATION.

34. Thirty-two Ordinances were passed in 1890, all of which received Her Majesty's confirmation and gracious allowance, with the exception of Ordinance No. 18, relating to Chanks. The most important of these Ordinances were those regulating the recovery of royalty on precious stones and metals dug in land other than Crown land, relating to fortifications and official secrets, establishing a volunteer reserve, regulating the wearing and carrying of knives, amending the Criminal Procedure Code, 1883, and abolishing the duty on dry grain.

VITAL STATISTICS AND PUBLIC HEALTH.

35. The annexed table shows the proportion of births and deaths per thousand of the population for the five years 1886 to 1890 in the Island generally, and in the different provinces:—

Province.	Births to 1,000 Persons living.				
	1886.	1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.
CEYLON -	27·1	32·9	32·1	28·4	32·9
Western - -	25·5	31·2	31·5	25·4	27·3
Central - -	24·9	29·0	29·7	24·9	28·3
Northern - -	26·7	35·8	32·9	27·5	33·1
Southern - -	24·0	32·4	32·2	28·5	32·6
Eastern - -	39·8	43·9	44·1	38·0	48·1
North-Western -	36·2	41·1	36·1	33·4	39·8
North Central -	39·3	44·4	41·9	38·1	52·7
Uva - - -	30·8	32·1	30·1	28·0	40·0
Sabaragamuwa -	25·0	30·0	30·6	31·6	31·6

CEYLON.

(*continued.*)

Province.	Deaths to 1,000 Persons living.				
	1886.	1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.
CEYLON -	23·7	24·0	26·7	29·2	23·7
Western - -	16·9	22·8	20·1	20·1	15·6
Central - -	22·0	22·2	27·0	25·1	26·0
Northern - -	27·9	19·9	23·3	32·7	22·5
Southern - -	25·6	21·2	23·8	24·3	21·5
Eastern - -	24·5	22·5	35·3	40·5	25·7
North-Western	25·2	32·2	27·6	48·9	31·7
North Central -	35·8	31·9	46·3	42·5	37·3
Uva - - -	27·0	33·0	37·9	28·9	32·8
Sabaragamuwa -	25·0	30·0	33·5	35·9	29·1

The births exceeded the deaths by 26,506—a larger excess than in any previous year except 1883.

INDIAN IMMIGRANTS.

36. The departures of immigrant coolies amounted to 45,756; the arrivals amounted to 84,106, thus exceeding the departures by 38,350— an increase greater than in any previous year excepting the years of the Indian famine, 1876–1877.

PUBLIC HEALTH.

37. The health of the Island has been on the whole more satisfactory than in 1889. The most noticeable feature of the year was an epidemic of influenza, a disease not before observed in Ceylon. The epidemic lasted from the first week in February to the end of June, and appears to have been introduced by H.M. troopship "Himalaya."

The first cases occurred among the pilot's boatmen in Colombo Harbour, whence it spread to every part of the Island. It was noticed that the disease was most prevalent among classes of persons living or working in community, such as clerks in offices, prisoners in gaols, labourers on estates.

38. Cholera was widely spread but less severe in character than in 1889. 1,247 cases, principally from the Northern, North Central, and Southern Provinces were reported, resulting in 663 deaths, as against 1,650 cases and 1,158 deaths in 1889. No cases of cholera were reported from the Western Province.

39. There was a slight increase in the mortality from small-pox, which prevailed chiefly in the Western and Southern Provinces. In all 750 cases and 158 deaths were reported.

40. The comparative table subjoined gives the number of hospitals and dispensaries open, the number of patients, and the death-rate for the years 1888, 1889, and 1890:—

—	Number Open.			Number of Patients.		
	1888.	1889.	1890.	1888.	1889.	1890.
Civil hospitals, including Parangi and Field Hospitals.	25	24	32	23,283	24,088	24,970
Medical Aid Hospitals - - -	10	10	10	2,603	3,967	4,521
Immigrant Hospitals - - -	6	6	6	2,155	1,962	2,098
Dispensaries (Civil) - - -	53	76	127	128,533	176,041	248,625
Police Hospital, Colombo - -	1	1	1	492	555	522
De Soysa Lying-in Home - -	1	1	1	165	181	162
Gaol Hospitals - - - -	31	30	30	5,969	4,925	5,235
Lunatic Asylum - - - -	1	1	1	425	429	456
Leper Asylum - - - -	1	1	1	258	256	257

(*Continued.*)

—	Number of Deaths.			Per-centage of Deaths to Patients.		
	1888.	1889.	1890.	1888.	1889.	1890.
Civil hospitals, including Parangi and Field Hospitals.	2,319	2,510	2,144	9·96	10·42	8·59
Medical Aid Hospitals - - -	727	748	784	20·24	18·90	17·34
Immigrant Hospitals - - -	155	141	125	7·01	7·18	5·95
Dispensaries (Civil) - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—
Police Hospital, Colombo - -	—	1	1	—	1·80	0·01
De Soysa Lying-in Home - -	6	4	5	3·06	2·20	3·08
Gaol Hospitals - - - -	129	136	103	2·16	2·76	1·96
Lunatic Asylum - - - -	27	17	21	6·03	3·96	4·60
Leper Asylum - - - -	44	30	20	17·00	11·71	7·84

VACCINATION.

41. The following table shows the total number of persons operated on in 1889 and 1890:—

—	Primary Vaccination.				Re-vaccination.		
	Total.	Successful.	Absent.	Percentage of Successful.	Total.	Successful.	Percentage of Successful.
1889 - -	106,320	86,536	14,881	81·39	11,265	7,622	67·66
1890 - -	128,008	106,043	16,591	82·84	9,145	6,579	71·94

CEYLON.

Animal vaccination was carried on with success, and at a small cost to Government.

42. The expenditure of the Medical Department amounted to Rs. 706,708·84 against Rs. 669,660·99 in 1889. Deducting the receipts from paying patients and the collections at outdoor dispensaries, the net expenditure was Rs. 679,660·56 against Rs. 634,194·03 in 1889, making a net increase in expenditure of Rs. 48,466·53.

43. The cost of working the Medical Aid Ordinance appears as under :—

	Rs.	c.
Total cost in 1890 - - -	170,506	89
Amount recovered from estates, &c.	44,884	0
Balance to be met from export duty	125,622	89
Amount of export duty - -	66,810	4
Deficit to be met from general revenue - - -	58,812	85

The deficit is less by Rs. 19,004·22 than the deficit of last year.

FOREST DEPARTMENT.

44. Much good work was done by this Department during 1890, principally in connexion with the supply of fuel to the Railway and timber to the Public Works Departments.

45. Attention has been paid to artificial reproduction of existing species, and experimental plantations of new trees have been formed, the most noteworthy of which is one of Para rubber. But experimental plantation and the work of reafforesting must necessarily remain in the background when so much remains to be done in the direction of proper conservation and regulation of existing forests, and attention has been chiefly devoted to this object.

46. During the year, 23,389 acres of forest have been settled, but progress is still much delayed by the absence of exact knowledge as to the boundaries and areas of the forest under the charge of the Department. But as these and other difficulties are gradually removed, there is every reason to expect that the forests will be an ever-increasing source of revenue to Government.

47. The financial result of the year under review is very satisfactory, showing a profit of Rs. 88,527·83 as compared with deficits in 1889 and 1888, thus :—

——	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	Rs.	Rs.
1888 - - - -	228,611	245,588
1889 - - - -	329,925	393,231
1890 - - - -	510,045	421,517

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

48. The number of cases instituted and of persons charged before police magistrates during the past five years compares as follows:—

—	Cases instituted.	Cases in which there were Convictions.	Persons charged.	Persons convicted.
1886 - -	52,815	12,416	94,236	20,791
1887 - -	48,755	10,976	89,395	17,710
1888 - -	54,952	17,869	104,179	23,872
1889 - -	51,896	16,421	91,434	22,612
1890 - -	59,542	13,394	104,467	28,467

49. The following table shows the number of persons convicted and acquitted in the Supreme and District Courts for the last five years:—

—	District Courts.		Supreme Court.	
	Convictions.	Acquittals.	Convictions.	Acquittals.
1886 - -	625	478	330	282
1887 - -	620	536	336	261
1888 - -	560	355	443	213
1889 - -	524	490	397	206
1890 - -	589	453	422	310

50. The results of the trials for murder and culpable homicide before the Supreme Court are as follows:—

—	Number of Persons tried.	Number of Persons convicted of Murder.	Number of Persons convicted of culpable Homicide.	Number of Persons acquitted.	Number of Persons executed.
1886 -	116	48	21	47	18
1887 -	134	27	40	67	24
1888 -	116	34	48	46	23
1889 -	138	43	38	56	36
1890 -	180	39	46	59	25

CEYLON.

A comparison of the criminal statistics of the year with those of the preceding years leads to the regrettable conclusion that crime has not decreased. It is to be hoped that the action lately taken in making gaol discipline more rigorous may lead to a decided diminution of crime.

EDUCATION.

51. Satisfactory progress continues to be made in public instruction. During the year under review there was a net increase of 8,158 scholars in schools reporting to the Instruction Department, the total number in 1890 being 146,452, as against 138,294 in 1889. The proportion of children attending school as compared with the whole population of the Colony, adult or otherwise, continues to improve, having been 1 in 18 for 1890 as compared with 1 in 19 for 1889, 1 in 21 for 1888, 1 in 22 for 1887, 1 in 24 for 1886.

52. The proportion which the number of children attending school bears to the population of the several provinces for 1889 and 1890 is shown in the following table :—

Province.	1889.	1890.
Western	1 in 11	1 in 11
Central	1 in 35	1 in 34
Northern	1 in 12	1 in 12
Southern	1 in 25	1 in 22
Eastern	1 in 15	1 in 15
North-Western	1 in 36	1 in 34
North Central	1 in 44	1 in 40
Uva	1 in 79	1 in 78
Sabaragamuwa	1 in 36	1 in 32

53. The annexed table gives the comparative returns of attendance in Government, grant-in-aid, unaided, and Pansala schools for 1889 and 1890, together with the average attendance and average cost to Government of the scholars in Government and aided schools :—

—	No. of Schools in		Attended by					
	1889.	1890.	Boys in 1889.	Boys in 1890.	Girls in 1889.	Girls in 1890.	Total in 1889.	Total in 1890.
Government schools	440	436	33,768	34,775	5,258	5,515	39,026	40,290
Grant-in-aid schools	938	984	48,840	50,946	20,643	22,752	69,483	73,698
Unaided private schools	616	586	13,271	14,295	4,444	5,703	17,715	19,998
Pansala schools	1,974	2,031	12,070	12,466	—	—	12,070	12,466
Total	3,968	4,037	107,949	112,482	30,345	33,970	138,294	146,452

—	Average Number of Scholars per School		Average Cost to Government per Boy		Average Cost to Government per Girl	
	In 1889.	In 1890.	In 1889.	In 1890.	In 1889.	In 1890.
			Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Government Schools.	88	92	4 66	4 50	3 37	3 34
Grant-in-Aid Schools.	74	74	2 79 per scholar	2 74 per scholar	Boys and girls not distinguished.	
Unaided Private Schls.	28	34	—	—	—	—
Pansala Schools.	Not stated.	6	—	—	—	—

It will be seen that the cost to Government of each scholar continues to decrease, while the high average attendance maintained in Government and aided schools, as compared with unaided schools, is noteworthy.

54. The following return shows the schools and scholars for 1889 and 1890, omitting the unaided schools :—

1889.

—	No. of Schools.	No. of Boys on the List.	No. of Girls on the List.	Total No. of Boys and Girls on the List.	Total No. of Scholars in Average Attendance.
GOVERNMENT.					
English - - - - -	3	336	62	398	316
English Primary and Middle - -	13	1,704	49	1,753	1,115
Vernacular - - - - -	424	31,728	5,147	36,875	19,801
GRANT-IN-AID.					
English - - - - -	50	5,181	1,267	6,448	4,780
English Primary* and Middle - -	58	2,493	1,422	3,915	2,691
Vernacular - - - - -	830	41,166	17,954	59,120	33,753
Total - - - - -	1,378	82,608	25,901	108,509	62,456

1890.

—	No. of Schools.	No. of Boys on the List.	No. of Girls on the List.	Total No. of Boys and Girls on the List.	Total No. of Scholars in Average Attendance.
GOVERNMENT.					
English - - - - -	3	326	59	385	325
English Primary and Middle - -	11	1,539	1	1,540	952
Vernacular - - - - -	422	32,910	5,455	38,365	21,136
GRANT-IN-AID.					
English - - - - -	49	5,074	1,373	6,447	4,647
English Primary* and Middle - -	68	3,165	1,651	4,816	3,254
Vernacular - - - - -	867	42,707	19,728	62,435	36,057
Total - - - - -	1,420	85,721	28,267	113,988	66,371

* These primary and middle English schools were previously Anglo-vernacular.

CEYLON.

55. As regards schools for special instruction the Agricultural School continues to do good work. While competent instruction is given in all subjects connected with agriculture, manual labour in the field is insisted on and willingly accepted by the students. From the ranks of these, 12 agricultural instructors have been sent to various parts of the Island, some of whom are paid out of local funds. The reports of the Government agents of the districts on their work are satisfactory.

56. Further attention has been directed to the necessity for some means of technical instruction, and it is hoped that a commencement of work in this direction on a small scale may shortly be made.

57. The expenditure on education during 1890 was Rs. 474,387·99, as compared with Rs. 470,292·75 in 1889.

(Signed) E. NOEL WALKER,
Colonial Secretary.

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No. 60.

CEYLON.

[For Report for 1890 *see* Colonial Report (Annual) No. 33.]

Sir A. E. HAVELOCK to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

Queen's House, Colombo,
Ceylon, October 11, 1892.

MY LORD MARQUESS,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the usual Report on the Blue Book of Ceylon for the year 1891.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. E. HAVELOCK.

The Most Hon.
The Marquess of Ripon, K.G.
&c. &c. &c.

REPORT on the BLUE BOOK of CEYLON for the Year 1891.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The revenue of the Colony during the year 1891 amounted to Rs. 17,962,710 and the expenditure to Rs. 16,435,079.

The figures for the last two years were—

—	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	Rs.	Rs.
1889 - - - -	15,299,877	14,906,281
1890 - - - -	16,228,768	15,316,223

Revenue.

2. The above figures show an increase of no less than Rs. 1,733,942 over the Revenue of 1890, which in its turn exceeded that of 1889 by over Rs. 900,000. Under almost every head of revenue, increased returns are shown, the most noticeable items being railway receipts, which show an increase of Rs. 588,175, Customs Rs. 271,614, and licenses Rs. 143,654; port and harbour dues show an increase of Rs. 50,127, and stamps of Rs. 30,242. The pearl fishery realised no less than Rs. 961,541, being an

increase over 1890 of Rs. 646,090. This fishery was the most successful one held for more than half a century. It is feared, however, that for some years to come this head of Revenue is likely to remain blank. The small decrease of Rs. 5,337 under the head Land Revenue is due to the abolition of the tax on dry grain, which resulted in a decrease of Rs. 53,111 under the sub-head. Most of the other sub-heads show an increase, and the total decrease is therefore small. The Auditor-General's report of May 24, 1892, explains in detail the increases and decreases of revenue under the other sub-heads The figures generally indicate a considerable measure of prosperity and continued expansion of trade.

Expenditure.

3. The total increase of expenditure as compared with 1890 was Rs. 1,118,855.

4. Of this sum only Rs. 41,765 is put down against establishments, and is chiefly due to increase of staff and periodical increments earned by officers in the railway department. The additional provision under this head is Rs. 33,133—an addition obviously necessary in view of the enormous increase in the revenue of the railway department. The Medical Department shows an increase in cost of establishments of Rs. 16,479, due to additions to the staff and to employment of private practitioners in times of epidemic disease, and the Post and Telegraphs of Rs. 10,025, also due to increments and additions to staff consequent on extension of business. Savings were effected in many departments, notably the Police, Special Commissioner for Registration of Titles to Land, and Grain Commission. The total increase was under one per cent. of the whole cost of establishments, which amounts to Rs. 4,897,201.

5. Under the head Services Exclusive of Establishments, the increase is Rs.1,077,090, as against an increase of Rs. 333,284 in 1890. The main items of increase are Military Expenditure Rs. 415,893, due to the augmented contribution levied in 1891; Railway Services Rs. 200,754, due to increased traffic, expenditure incurred on new works and buildings, and low rates of exchange at the time of payment of interest; and Miscellaneous Services Rs. 132,133, principally due to the cost of the Census. Other considerable increases are Lands taken for Government purposes Rs. 81,204, mainly due to the cost of land acquired for preserving the water supply of Uva; Colombo Harbour Rs. 59,557, due to increase of dredging and cost of a new launch; Interest Rs. 56,574; Hospitals and Sanitation Rs. 49,050; Works and Buildings Rs. 42,539; and Education Rs. 31,501.

6. The increased expenditure on Public Works, Roads, Streets, and Bridges, Colombo Harbour, Hospitals and Sanitation, Education, and Lands taken for Public purposes may be considered productive expenditure, and of direct advantage to the inhabitants of Ceylon.

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

7. The following table shows the assets and liabilities of the Government on January 1, 1892, as compared with January 1, 1891 :—

Assets.		Liabilities.	
1891.	1892.	1891.	1892.
Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
11,484,674 59	12,985,784 59	9,580,294 49	10,244,698 21
	Excess of assets -	1,904,380 10	2,741,086 38
		11,484,674 59	12,985,784 59

PUBLIC DEBT.

8. The debt of the Colony on January 1, 1892, amounted to 2,501,759*l.* as against 2,492,484*l.* in sterling, and Rs. 335,839, as against Rs. 345,301 on January 1, 1891.

9. The amount paid off on account of the various sterling loans was 142,584*l.*, and on account of the silver loan was Rs. 29,610.

10. An additional sum of 37,000*l.* was raised on account of the Haputalé and Bentota Railway Extensions in 1891 under Ordinance 7 of 1888.

CUSTOMS AND SHIPPING.

11. The total value of the trade of the Colony for the year 1891 was Rs. 125,435,167, as against Rs. 114,219,279, thus :—

—	1890.	1891.
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Imports - - - - -	63,091,939 13	66,635,392 36
Exports - - - - -	51,127,339 90	58,799,744 31
Total - - - -	114,219,279 03	125,435,136 67

Or deducting specie :—

—	1890.	1891.
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Imports - - - - -	56,469,585 13	59,036,657 86
Exports - - - - -	50,181,919 11	58,305,601 31
Total - - - -	106,651,504 24	117,342,259 17

CEYLON. 1891.

12. The gross customs revenue for 1891 was Rs. 4,203,320·19, which, compared with 1890, the highest previous amount recovered, shows an increase of Rs. 254,756, and compared with 1889 an increase of Rs. 485,168.

13. The principal imports and exports compare with those of 1890 as follows:—

Imports.

——		1890.	1891.
Rice - - -	bushels	6,350,036	7,051,432
Cotton goods - -	Rs.	5,858,225	5,573,387
Malt liquor, wines, &c. -	,,	1,206,169	1,395,156
Metals and metalware -	,,	1,889,520	1,855,950
Coal and coke - -	tons	303,896	332,749
Specie - - -	Rs.	6,339,285	7,598,734
Machinery - -	,,	749,180	951,965

Exports.

——		1890.	1891.
Coffee - - -	cwts.	90,091	89,673
Cinchona - -	lbs.	8,779,140	5,589,550
Tea - - -	,,	45,799,518	67,718,371
Cacao - - -	cwts.	15,942	20,015
Cardamons - -	lbs.	395,576	408,866
Cocoanut products :—			
Cocoanuts - -	No.	12,444,070 and bags 135	7,421,643 and bags 611
Coir stuffs -	cwts.	124,330 and pkgs. 662	150,263
Cocoanut oil - -	,,	368,725	426,669
Copperah - -	,,	156,193	68,907
Arrack - -	gals.	103,931	101,378
Cinnamon - -	lbs.	2,345,564	2,810,098
Citronella oil - -	ozs.	13,785,098	12,139,814
Plumbago - -	cwts.	392,577	400,540
Tobacco - - -	,,	55,301	41,428
Malt liquor - -	gals.	43,611	3,936

SHIPPING.

14. The shipping returns for the island show a slight decrease in numbers but a considerable increase in tonnage:—

	1890.		1891.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Entered - -	3,566	2,576,019	3,461	2,857,919
Cleared - -	3,586	2,541,883	3,450	2,839,021
Total -	7,152	5,117,902	6,911	5,696,940

COLOMBO HARBOUR.

15. The expenditure on works for 1891 amounted to Rs. 105,245.

16. The following is the statement of revenue and expenditure on account of the harbour for 1891 :—

RECEIPTS.	Rs.	c.
Colombo Harbour dues - -	618,962	0
Pilotage - - - -	45,120	0
Rent of reclamation ground -	8,296	45
Sundries - - - -	2,253	5
Single rent - - - -	147,799	20
Rent of wharf and warehouse -	6,000	0
Total - -	828,430	80

EXPENDITURE.	Rs.	c.
Public Works Loan Commissioners, on account of interest - -	97,395	19
Interest on debentures - -	274,859	78
Master attendant - - -	85,006	92
Director of public works - -	33,731	34
Principal Collector of Customs -	4,037	11
Engineer of works - - -	179,456	4
Inspector-General of Police -	7,119	13
Principal Civil Medical Officer -	719	19
Balance at credit - - -	146,106	10
Total - -	828,430	8

	Rs.	c.
Principal paid off to Public Works Loan Commissioners - -	94,780	75
Sinking fund - - -	65,513	60
	160,294	35

	Rs.	c.
Balance - - - -	146,106	10
Amount at debit - - -	14,188	25
	160,294	35

Though the receipts considerably exceeded the expenditure, including charges for interests, yet they were insufficient to entirely meet the amount due on account of sinking fund, and had to be supplemented from general revenue.

17. The usual series of observations made over the Breakwater after the south-west monsoon showed that no material change had taken place in the condition of the structure.

18. A new hopper dredger has been ordered and is expected shortly. The dredger Merak, which broke down, has been recently under examination with a view to being repaired. In the inner harbour dredging was carried on throughout the year by the Priestman's grab dredger.

PUBLIC WORKS.

19. The expenditure of the Public Works Department for 1891 amounted to Rs. 3,316,111, as compared with Rs. 3,376,583 in 1890, thus showing a decrease of Rs. 60,472.

The expenditure was thus divided:—

	Rs.	c.
Establishment, including allowances and contingencies - - - -	338,357	97
Upkeep of roads, bridges, canals, and irrigation works - - - -	1,272,596	23
Repairs to buildings - - - -	177,535	44
Departmental charges and miscellaneous	237,488	4
New works and buildings - - -	255,240	67
Alterations and additions - - -	131,521	33
New roads and additions to roads -	320,395	40
New bridges - - - - -	130,497	33
Irrigation works - - - -	452,478	82
Total - -	3,316,111	23

20. 3,212·34 miles of roads were maintained at a cost of Rs. 1,055,823·24. A steam-roller was imported in December last, but it is too soon to pronounce a definite opinion as to its cost as compared with animal power. Consolidation is, however, much more rapid, and a better-shaped road is obtained.

21. The Colombo harbour foreshore works were continued during 1891. By the erection of a temporary jail on the reclamation ground, much waste of labour in marching convicts to and from jail has been saved.

The Véyangoda-Attanagalla road in the Kelani Valley made good progress, and will be opened to Ruwanwella by the end of the present year.

Another large section of the North road was metalled, and in the Eastern Province the Coast road was the principal work in the Province.

22. Large bridges over the Attanagalu-oya and Gurugoda-oya were begun in 1891, and the important Kurugammodara bridge is now nearly completed.

23. Under the head Works and Buildings the principal is the new General Post and Telgraph Office, estimated to cost Rs. 270,000. The work is to be undertaken departmentally, and a commencement was made at the end of the year. Amongst other works the new export jetties at Galle and Colombo were completed, the Badulla hospital was finished, and a new kachchéri was begun.

24. As regards irrigation works progress was made with the Deduru-oya scheme, in the North-Western Province. The Kirilapone flood-outlet advanced another stage in the erection of a new bridge with 50-ft. waterway and irrigation work was continued on the Walawé-gaṉa scheme in the Southern Province, the Kumbukkan-ár in the province of Uva, and Uggalkaltota in the province of Sabaragamuwa.

25. Artesian well-boring apparatus was obtained from America, and it is intended to experiment with it in Negombo, Mannár, and other places. This branch of engineering is new to Ceylon.

SURVEY DEPARTMENT.

26. The expenditure of the Department for 1891 amounted to Rs. 422·740, as compared with Rs. 406,272 in 1890.

27. The total revenue from land sales was Rs. 304,456, or an increase of Rs. 72,487 on the revenue of 1890.

28. The area of land alienated by the Crown during 1891 was 15,391 acres. Of these 3,328 acres were sold to Europeans at an average rate of Rs. 20·36, an increase of Rs. 2·98 on the 1890 rate. 12,063 acres were purchased by natives at the rate of Rs. 17·44 per acre, an increase of Rs. 2·15 per acre on the rates obtained in 1890.

29. The work of the Department was, as usual, of a very varied character. It included irrigation, forest, cadastral, village boundary, harbour, archæological, road and river, and miscellaneous surveys. Officers of the department were also employed under the chief resident engineer in tracing the lines of railway extension from Haputalé towards Bandárawela and from Polgahawela to Kurunégala.

RAILWAY.

30. The receipts in 1891 amounted to Rs. 4,429,243 as compared with Rs. 3,862,313, thus showing an increase of Rs. 566,930.

CEYLON. 1891.

The expenditure was Rs. 1,951,456, as compared with Rs. 1,722,755 during 1890.

The net profit was thus Rs. 2,477,787, or 6·6 per cent. on the capital cost of construction.

31. The approximate results for the years 1890 and 1891 of each section of the railway are as follows:—

—	Main Line.		Náwalapitiya Line.		Nánu-oya Line.		Mátalé Line.		Coast Line.	
	1890.	1891.	1890.	1891.	1890.	1891.	1890.	1891.	1890.	1891.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Receipts	2,303,439	2,642,576	373,692	430,075	680,800	782,003	100,503	116,152	403,879	458,437
Expenditure	800,034	932,393	146,136	158,583	363,169	383,002	99,391	104,680	314,025	372,798
Profit -	1,503,405	1,710,183	227,556	271,492	317,631	399,001	1,112	11,472	89,854	85,639

32. The coast line is the only section which shows a decrease in the profit earned as compared with the previous year. The reason assigned is the increase in cost of locomotive power owing to renewal of boilers and use of coals as fuel owing to failure of wood supply. It is satisfactory to note continued improvement in the Mátalé section, which had up to 1890 been worked at a loss.

33. The abnormal rainfall of the year caused many slips, resulting in a complete stoppage of through traffic for six days in October.

34. The extensions towards Haputalé and Galle were proceeded with during the year, and both are expected to be open during the course of next year.

LEGISLATION.

35. Twenty-three Ordinances were passed in 1891, all of which received Her Majesty's confirmation. Ordinance No. 18 of 1890, relating to Chanks, which had been disallowed pending certain explanations, was duly confirmed. The most important of the Ordinances were those permitting the conditional release of first offenders in certain cases, relating to cattle disease, consolidating and amending the Licensing Ordinances of 1873 and 1877, relating to arrack, rum, and toddy, rendering more accurate and complete the registration of deaths, and relating to the registration of titles to land and of all deeds affecting land in this Colony.

VITAL STATISTICS.

36. The annexed table shows the proportion of births and deaths per thousand of the population for the five years 1887 to 1891 in the island generally, and in the different provinces:—

Province.	Births to 1,000 Persons living.				
	1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.
CEYLON -	32·7	31·8	27·7	31·9	31·5
Western - -	31·2	31·5	25·4	27·3	30·1
Central - -	29·0	29·7	24·9	28·3	29·5
Northern - -	35·8	32·9	27·5	33·1	32·1
Southern - -	32·4	32·2	28·5	32·6	31·3
Eastern - -	43·9	44·1	38·0	48·1	38·9
North-Western -	41·1	36·1	33·4	39·8	33·7
North Central -	44·4	41·9	38·1	52·7	42·1
Uva - - -	32·1	30·1	28·0	40·0	40·3
Sabaragamuwa -	30·0	30·6	31·6	31·6	30·0

(*continued.*)

Province.	Deaths to 1,000 Persons living.				
	1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.
CEYLON -	24·0	26·5	28·6	23·1	28·5
Western - -	22·8	20·1	20·1	15·6	20·0
Central - -	22·2	27·0	25·1	26·0	28·5
Northern - -	19·9	23·3	32·7	22.5	23·3
Southern - -	21·2	23·8	24·3	21·5	32·6
Eastern - -	22·5	35·3	40·5	25·7	31·2
North-Western -	32·2	27·6	48·9	31·7	40·7
North Central -	31·9	46·3	42·5	37·3	34·5
Uva - - -	33·0	37·9	28·9	32·8	41·7
Sabaragamuwa -	30·0	33·5	35·9	29·1	29·6

CEYLON. 1891.

The births exceeded the deaths by 9,750 as compared with an excess of 26,506 in 1890, which was, however, unusually large.

INDIAN IMMIGRANTS.

37. The arrivals of immigrant coolies amounted to 103,149 and the departures to 60,042, being an excess of arrivals of 43,107, as against an excess in 1890 of 38,350, which was the greatest increase since the Indian famine years 1876–1877.

PUBLIC HEALTH.

38. The general health of the people in the year has been very unsatisfactory. With the exception of the Districts of Jaffna and Anurádhapura, all the others show a higher mortality than usual. The increased death-rates from fever and diarrhœal diseases account chiefly for the unhealthiness of the island in 1891.

39. Cholera was again widely spread during the year. 2,579 cases with 1,545 deaths were reported, as against 1,247 cases with 663 deaths in 1890. The severest outbreak was at Trincomalee, where there were 399 cases with 300 deaths. No cases were reported in the Western or Sabaragamuwa Provinces.

40. There was a considerable increase in the mortality from small-pox— 1,882 cases with 421 deaths, as against 750 cases and 658 deaths in the previous year.

41. The following table shows the total number of persons vaccinated in 1890 and 1891 :—

—	Primary Vaccination.				Re-vaccination.		
	Total.	Successful.	Absent.	Percentage of Successful.	Total.	Successful.	Percentage of Successful.
1890 - -	128,608	106,043	16,591	82·84	9,145	6,579	71·94
1891 - -	140,552	123,217	18,894	82·40	34,543	22,591	65·40

42. The subjoined table gives the comparative number of hospitals and dispensaries open in 1890 and 1891 :—

—	1890.	1891.
Civil Hospitals, including Field or Parangi Hospitals,	32	35
Medical Aid - - - -	10	11
Immigrant - - - - -	6	7
Dispensaries (Civil) - - - -	127	152
Lying-in Hospital - - - -	1	1
Asylums - - - - -	2	2

The death-rate of the total sick population in all the hospitals and asylums in 1891 was ·86 per cent. higher than in 1890.

43. The expenditure of the Medical Department amounted to Rs. 786,465·44 as against Rs. 706,708·84 in 1890. Deducting the receipts from paying patients and collections at outdoor dispensaries the net expenditure was Rs. 753,797·04 as against Rs. 679,660·56 in 1890.

44. The cost of working the Medical Aid Ordinance appears as under :—

	Rs.	c.
Total cost in 1891 - - -	185,567	32
Receipts from estates - -	50,655	67
Export duty - - -	78,979	19
Deficit - - -	55,932	46
Total -	185,567	32

The deficit in 1890 was Rs. 58,812·85.

FOREST DEPARTMENT.

45. Timber was supplied to the Public Works, Railway Extension (for sleepers), and Telegraph Department (for telegraph posts), as well as to private purchasers. Large sales of ebony and satinwood took place at the Central Depôt, Colombo. The very wet weather which prevailed in 1891 greatly impeded forest operations of every description.

Firewood was supplied mainly to the Railway Department for the use of the locomotives, but the Public Works Department took also small quantities in the Western, Northern, and Uva Provinces.

46. The expenditure exceeded the amount credited to revenue by Rs. 31,169·55. This result was principally caused by large plantation and demarcation work. It is anticipated that the year 1892 will be more profitable.

47. During the year, 475·5 acres of fresh plantations were formed, consisting both of artificial reproduction of existing species, and of experimental plantations. The Para rubber plantation in the Province of Sabaragamuwa, has so far been very successful.

48. Forest settlement work continued throughout the year, but the only final Proclamation establishing a reserve that was issued was for a forest of 782 acres in the North-Western Province.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

49. The number of cases instituted and of persons charged before police magistrates during the past five years compares as follows:—

—	Cases instituted.	Persons charged.	Persons convicted.
1887 - - - -	48,755	89,395	17,710
1888 - - - -	54,952	104,179	23,872
1889 - - - -	51,896	91,434	22,612
1890 - - - -	59,542	104,467	28,467
1891 - - - -	58,486	102,930	29,628

50. The following table shows the number of persons convicted and acquitted in the Supreme and District Courts for the last five years:—

—	District Courts.		Supreme Court.	
	Convictions.	Acquittals.	Convictions.	Acquittals.
1887 - -	620	536	336	261
1888 - -	560	355	443	213
1889 - -	524	490	397	206
1890 - -	589	453	422	310
1891 - -	467	341	220	163

583 fewer persons were tried in the higher courts in 1891 than in 1890.

51. The results of the trials for murder and culpable homicide not amounting to murder were as follows :—

—	Number of Persons tried.	Number of Persons convicted of Murder.	Number of Persons convicted of culpable Homicide.	Number of Persons acquitted.	Number of Persons executed.
1887 -	134	27	40	67	24
1888 -	116	34	48	46	23
1889 -	138	43	38	56	36
1890 -	180	39	46	59	25
1891 -	108	55	10	—	17

52. These figures would seem to point to a diminution in serious crime, for though the convictions for murder were more numerous than in the previous four years, the executions were fewer than in any previous year of the quinquennial period.

The increased strictness of jail discipline may possibly account for this diminution in serious crime, but it would be premature to express a decided opinion on this point.

EDUCATION.

53. During the year under review there was a net increase of 7,391 scholars in schools reporting to the Instruction Department, the total number in 1891 being 153,843, as against 146,452 in 1890. The proportion of children attending school, as compared with the whole population of the Colony, adult or otherwise, shows an apparent falling off, being 1 in 19 for 1891 as compared with 1 in 18 for 1890, 1 in 19 for 1889, 1 in 21 for 1888, 1 in 22 for 1887, 1 in 24 for 1886; but this is due to more accurate returns resulting from the recent Census.

54. The proportion which the number of children attending school bears to the population of the several provinces for 1890 and 1891 is shown in the following table :—

Province.	1890.	1891.
Western - - - - -	1 in 11	1 in 10
Central - - - - -	1 in 34	1 in 29
Northern - - - - -	1 in 12	1 in 12
Southern - - - - -	1 in 22	1 in 24
Eastern - - - - -	1 in 15	1 in 17
North-Western - - - -	1 in 34	1 in 37
North Central - - - -	1 in 40	1 in 45
Uva - - - - - -	1 in 78	1 in 52
Sabaragamuwa - - - -	1 in 32	1 in 39

CEYLON. 1891.

55. The annexed tables give the comparative returns of attendance in Government, grant-in-aid, unaided, and Pansala schools for 1890, and 1891, together with the average attendance and average cost to Government of the scholars in Government and aided schools :—

—	No. of Schools in		Attended by					
	1890.	1891.	Boys in 1890.	Boys in 1891.	Girls in 1890.	Girls in 1891.	Total in 1890.	Total in 1891.
Government schools -	436	436	34,775	35,814	5,515	5,932	40,290	41,746
Grant-in-aid schools -	984	971	50,946	52,449	22,752	22,406	73,698	74,855
Unaided private schools -	586	734	14,295	21,852	5,703	7,117	19,998	28,969
Pansala schools - -	2,031	1,911	12,466	8,273	—	—	12,466	8,273
Total - - -	4,037	4,052	112,482	118,388	33,970	35,455	146,452	153,843

—	Average Number of Scholars per School		Average Cost to Government per Boy		Average Cost to Government per Girl	
	In 1890.	In 1891.	In 1890.	In 1891.	In 1890.	In 1891.
Government Schools.	92	95	Rs. c. 4 50	Rs. c. 4 41	Rs. c. 3 34	Rs. c. 3 40
Grant-in-Aid Schools.	74	77	2 74 per scholar	2 94 per scholar	Boys and girls not distinguished.	
Unaided Private Schls.	34	39	—	—	—	—
Pansala Schools.	6	4	—	—	—	—

56. The following return shows the schools and scholars for 1890 and 1891, omitting the unaided schools :—

1890.

—	No. of Schools.	No. of Boys on the List.	No. of Girls on the List.	Total No. of Boys and Girls on the List.	Total No. of Scholars in Average Attendance.
GOVERNMENT.					
English - - - - -	3	326	59	385	325
English Primary and Middle - -	11	1,539	1	1,540	952
Vernacular - - - - -	422	32,910	5,455	38,365	21,136
GRANT-IN-AID.					
English - - - - -	49	5,074	1,373	6,447	4,647
English Primary and Middle - -	68	3,165	1,651	4,816	3,254
Vernacular - - - -	867	42,707	19,728	62,435	36,057
Total - - - - -	1,420	85,721	28,267	113,988	66,371

1891.

—	No. of Schools.	No. of Boys on the List.	No. of Girls on the List.	Total No. of Boys and Girls on the List.	Total No. of Scholars in Average Attendance.
GOVERNMENT.					
English	3	373	66	439	328
English Primary and Middle	11	1,641	6	1,647	1,040
Vernacular	422	33,800	5,860	39,660	22,510
GRANT-IN-AID.					
English	51	5,496	1,542	7,038	5,170
English Primary and Middle	66	3,233	1,566	4,799	3,365
Vernacular	854	43,720	19,298	63,018	36,510
Total	1,407	88,263	28,338	116,601	68,923

57. As regards schools for special instruction the Agricultural School continues to do good work. While competent instruction is given in all subjects connected with agriculture, manual labour in the field is insisted on and willingly accepted by the students. From the ranks of these, 12 agricultural instructors have been sent to various parts of the Island, some of whom are paid out of local funds. An English veterinary doctor has been attached to the school since the last report, and there is a promise of useful work by him, in inspecting cattle disease, by travelling in outlying districts, and by lectures given in the school during its session.

58. Further attention has been directed to the necessity for some means of technical instruction, and it is hoped that a commencement of practical work in this direction on a small scale may shortly be made. A series of lectures has already been started.

59. The expenditure on education during 1891 was Rs. 508,361·43 as compared with Rs. 474,387·99, in 1890.

(Signed) J. A. SWETTENHAM,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

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No. 90.

CEYLON 1892.

CEYLON.

[For Report for 1891 *see* Colonial Report (Annual) No. 60.]

Sir E. N. WALKER to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

The Pavilion, Kandy,
Ceylon, July 6, 1893.

MY LORD MARQUESS,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the usual Report on the Blue Book of Ceylon for the year 1892.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. NOEL WALKER.

The Most Hon.
The Marquess of Ripon, K.G.,
&c. &c. &c.

REPORT on the BLUE BOOK of CEYLON for the Year 1892.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The revenue of the Colony during the year 1892 amounted to Rs. 18,509,187 and the expenditure to Rs. 17,762,466.

The figures for the last two years were—

—	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	Rs.	Rs.
1890 - - - -	16,228,768	15,816,223
1891 - - - -	17,962,710	16,435,079

Revenue.

2. The above figures show an increase of Rs. 544,477 over the Revenue of 1891, and of upwards of 2¼ millions of rupees over that of 1890. The heads of Revenue under which the largest increased returns are found are Customs Duties on Imports, Rs. 388,936; Licenses (the duty on Arrack), Rs. 166,873; and Government Railways, Rs. 267,559. On the other hand, the principal reduction was of Rs. 960,931 on account of Pearl Fisheries, there having been no fishery in 1892.

3. The Auditor-General's report of the 6th June, 1893, published in the Blue Book, explains in detail the increases and decreases in Revenue under the various sub-heads. The figures indicate that the prosperity of the island has been maintained during 1892.

Expenditure.

4. The total increase of expenditure as compared with 1891 was Rs. 1,327,387. A full explanation of the various instances of increase and decrease under the different heads of Expenditure will be found in the Auditor-General's report quoted above.

The principal source of increased expenditure is to be found under the heading of Public Works Extraordinary, Rs. 799,256. This is, of course, a proper investment of the Surplus Revenues of the Colony. The next most considerable increase is in the expenditure of the Railway Department, and is attributable in the main to the increase in staff and in new works required to accommodate the larger traffic carried over the Government lines.

6. The fall in the price of silver has added considerably to the charges for the Public Debt, to the cost of Pensions, and of remittances to England.

7. There has been a reduction of expenditure of Rs. 166,290, due to there having been no Pearl Fishery in 1892, and another reduction under the head of Census expenditure, the greater portion of which necessarily fell into 1891. There is also a considerable saving under Prisons, the result of better administration, and a not inconsiderable saving on the upkeep of Public Works.

8. On the whole, the Revenues of the Colony have been expended with discretion and economy, and the increased expenditure has been properly incurred for the public advantage.

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

7. The following table shows the assets and liabilities of the Government on January 1, 1893, as compared with January 1, 1892:—

Assets.				Liabilities.			
1892.		1893.		1892.		1893.	
Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
12,985,784	59	15,155,348	45	10,244,698	21	13,089,939	99
				2,741,086	38*	2,065,408	46*
				12,985,784	59	15,155,348	45

* Balance of Assets over Liabilities.

PUBLIC DEBT.

10. The sterling debt of the Colony raised in London amounted on the 31st December 1892, to 2,603,614*l.*, as against 2,510,759*l.* on the same day in the preceding year, the balance of the 3 per cent. sterling loan of 450,000*l.* of 1890 having been received in the course of the year.

11. The debt of the Colony raised in silver in Colombo amounted to Rs. 1,325,856, as compared with Rs. 335,839 on the same dates. The 4 per cent. loan of Rs. 1,000,000, raised under the Ordinances Nos. 7 and 8 of 1892, was disposed of at the average rate of Rs. 1,019 per Rs. 1,000 of stock.

CUSTOMS AND SHIPPING.

12. The total value of the trade of the Colony for the year 1892 was Rs. 132,959,421, as against Rs. 125,435,136, thus:—

——	1891.		1892.	
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Imports - - - - -	66,635,392	36	70,687,496	89
Exports - - - - -	58,799,744	31	62,271,924	47
Total - - - -	125,435,136	67	132,959,421	36

Or deducting specie:—

——	1891.		1892.	
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Imports - - - - -	59,036,657	86	62,761,949	63
Exports - - - - -	58,305,601	31	61,095,885	47
Total - - - -	117,342,259	17	123,857,835	10

CEYLON. 1892.

13. The gross customs revenue for 1892 was Rs. 4,663,562·47, which, compared with 1891, the highest previous amount recovered, shows an increase of Rs. 460,242, and compared with 1890 an increase of Rs. 714,998.

14. The principal imports and exports compare with those of 1891 as follows:—

Imports.

——		1891.	1892.
Rice - - -	bushels	7,051,432	7,282,411
Cotton goods - -	Rs.	5,573,387	5,473,758
Malt liquor, wines, &c. -	„	1,395,156	1,950,373
Metals and metalware -	„	1,855,950	1,969,263
Coal and coke - -	tons	332,749	312,757
Specie - - -	Rs.	7,598,734	7,925,547
Machinery - -	„	951,965	953,938

Exports.

——		1891.	1892.
Coffee - - -	cwts.	89,673	43,338
Cinchona - -	lbs.	5,589,550	6,846,741
Tea - - -	„	67,718,371	72,279,985
Cacao - - -	cwts.	20,015	19,177
Cardamoms - -	lbs.	408,866	247,706
Cocoanut products :—			
Cocoanuts - -	No.	7,421,643 and bags 611	11,438,718 and bags 640
Coir stuffs - -	cwts.	150,263	159,989
Cocoanut oil - -	„	426,669	564,550
Copperah - -	„	68,907	169,073
Arrack - -	gals.	101,378	88,874
Cinnamon - -	lbs.	2,810,098	2,642,449
Citronella oil - -	ozs.	12,139,814	12,825,240
Plumbago -	cwts.	400,540	430,667
Tobacco - -	„	41,428	50,701
Malt liquor - -	gals.	3,936	1,789

SHIPPING.

15. The shipping returns for the island show an increase both in numbers and in tonnage:—

	1891.		1892.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Entered - -	3,461	2,857,919	3,760	2,924,864
Cleared - -	3,450	2,839,021	3,734	2,865,842
Total -	6,911	5,696,940	7,494	5,790,706

COLOMBO HARBOUR.

16. The expenditure on the year amounted to Rs. 401,191·82, and the total expenditure from the commencement of the work to Rs. 9,508,107·25.

17. The following is the statement of the revenue and expenditure on account of the harbour for 1892 :—

EXPENDITURE.	Rs.	c.	REVENUE.	Rs.	c.
Interest: Public Works Loan Commissioners - - -	100,583	7	Colombo Harbour dues - -	667,640	1
Interest on debentures - -	306,217	29	Pilotage - - - -	45,665	0
Charges incidental to management, lighting, &c., Port of Colombo -	575,370	75	Rent of reclamation ground -	8,893	2
			Single warehouse rent - -	159,334	25
			Rent of wharf and warehouse Company's warehouses - -	6,000	0
			Sundries - - - -	3,376	0
			Amount at debit - -	91,262	83
	982,171	11		982,171	1
	Rs.	c.			
To Principal paid off— Public Works Loan Commissioners	104,553				
Sinking fund - - -	72,793	93			
	177,346	96			

18. The usual series of observations made over the Breakwater after the south-west monsoon showed that the condition of the work still remains eminently satisfactory. No displacement of any kind or undue settlement has to be recorded.

19. The depth of the harbour has been maintained. Soundings taken over the harbour, with a view to determine what change is taking place, show the complete absence of silting action.

20. The new hopper-dredger "Triton" arrived at Colombo in the course of 1892; and the dredger "Merak" and the two hoppers were put under repair.

CEYLON. 1892.

PUBLIC WORKS.

21. The expenditure of the Public Works Department for 1892 amounted to Rs. 4,028,602, as compared with Rs. 3,316,111 in 1891.

22. The expenditure may be thus classified:—

	Rs.
Establishment - - - - - - -	337,005
Departmental and miscellaneous charges -	339,846
Upkeep of existing roads, bridges, canals, and irrigation works - - - -	1,306,981
Repairs to existing buildings - - -	231,975
New works and buildings - - - -	344,654
Alterations and additions to buildings -	131,372
New roads and improvements of roads and canals - - - - - - - -	552,707
New bridges - - - - - - -	319,319
New irrigation works - - - - -	376,269
Lands acquired - - - - - -	88,474
Total - -	4,028,602

23. 3,298 miles of roads were maintained in 1892 in good order, and the public buildings and works of the Colony were kept in satisfactory order.

24. The Colombo foreshore reclamation has been considerably advanced, and the work of erecting a new General Post Office has progressed favourably. A considerable sum has been expended in extending roads in the province of Uva to communicate with the extension of the main line of railway into that province. The Uggalkaltota irrigation channel in Sabaragamuwa has been completed, and the great irrigation works on the Deduru-oya, in the North-Western province, and at Kumbukkan-ár, in Uva, have been pushed forward, and are nearing completion. The provision of further outlets to discharge the flood waters of the Kelani river has made some progress.

SURVEY DEPARTMENT.

25. The expenditure of the Department in 1892 amounted to Rs. 450,937·75 as compared with Rs. 422,740, in 1891.

26. The total revenue from land sales was Rs. 427,647, or an increase of Rs. 168,861 on the revenue of 1891.

27. The area of land alienated by the Crown during 1892 was 16,576 acres. Of these 3,267 acres were sold to Europeans at an

average rate of Rs. 31·90, an increase of Rs. 11·54 on the 1891 rate. 13,309 acres were purchased by natives at the rate of Rs. 22·74 per acre, an increase of Rs. 5·25 per acre on the rates obtained in 1891.

28. The work of the Department was, as usual, of a very varied character. It included irrigation, forest, cadastral, village boundary, harbour, archæological, road and river, and miscellaneous surveys. Officers of the department were also employed under the Chief Resident Engineer, Railway Extensions, in tracing the lines of railway extension from Kurunégala towards Jaffna.

FOREST DEPARTMENT.

29. In settlement, extension, and improvement of forests the following work was done during the year :—

Kind of Work.	Extent.	Cost.
		Rs.
Area reserved during 1892 - - -	12,032 acres.	—
Length of boundaries demarcated - -	2,694 chains.	2,387
Area planted during the year - -	289 acres.	20,090
Roads and bridle paths made in 1892 -	11·34 miles.	2,421

(1.) Areas reserved situated in the Central, North-Western, and Sabaragamuwa provinces.

(2.) Boundaries demarcated in the North-Western and Sabaragamuwa provinces.

(3.) Net cost of plantations (for the year), after deducting revenue is Rs. 18,306. No new plantations were started except small ones in Uva. Teak and Para rubber are both doing well, but the railway fuel plantations at Galboda have not been so successful.

30. The value of sales of timber and other produce during the year amounted to :—

	Rs.
Timber - - - -	299,997
Firewood and charcoal - - -	168,588
Other produce - - - -	12,300
Total - - - -	480,885

CEYLON. 1892.

31. Of these Rs. 480,885, Rs. 272,165 were from sales to Public Departments and Rs. 197,099 from sales to private purchasers. The sales of *timber* were chiefly of timber in log and sawn for public works and private purchasers, ebony and satin for the English and China markets, sleepers for the Railway Extension Department, &c. Free grants, chiefly for the Chicago Exhibition, amounting in value to nearly Rs. 12,000, were made during the year. Firewood was supplied to the Railway Department, and small amounts were sold in Jaffna, Trincomalee, Galle, &c.

The monopoly of the collection of gallnuts in Uva is yearly rising in value. In 1892 its sale fetched Rs. 7,500.

32. The revenue credited in the Treasury amounted to Rs. 462,427, against an expenditure of Rs. 475,491, but the whole value of the timber sold was not recovered within the year. Taking into account the outstandings due to the Department, the increase of value of timber, &c., in depôts, and value of free grants, the revenue of the Department for the year exceeded the outgoings by Rs. 44,549.

RAILWAYS.

33. The receipts in 1892 amounted to Rs. 4,695,774 as compared with Rs. 4,429,243, thus showing an increase of Rs. 266,531.

The expenditure was Rs. 2,287,275 as compared with Rs. 1,951,456, during 1891.

The net profit was thus Rs. 2,408,499, or 6·4 per cent. on the capital cost of construction.

34. The approximate results for the years 1891 and 1892 of each section of the railway are as follows:—

—	Main Line.		Náwalapitiya Line.		Nánu-oya Line.		Mátalé Line.		Coast Line.	
	1891.	1892.	1891.	1892.	1891.	1892.	1891.	1892.	1891.	1892.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Receipts	2,642,576	2,799,018	430,075	451,450	782,003	811,854	116,152	118,130	458,437	515,322
Expenditure	932,393	1,122,346	158,583	175,170	383,002	473,153	104,680	107,482	372,798	405,124
Profit -	1,710,183	1,676,672	271,492	276,280	399,001	338,701	11,472	10,648	85,639	106,198

35. The mileage of railway open for traffic in 1892 was 191½ miles, the same as in 1891. The average cost of construction per mile has been Rs. 196,114.

36. The extensions towards Haputalé and Galle were proceeded with during the year, and the construction of a branch line towards Kurunégala commenced.

POST OFFICE.

37. The receipts of the Post Office are calculated by the Postmaster-General as under for 1892:—

	Rs.
Post Office receipts - - - -	470,130
Telegraph receipts - - - -	114,953
Total - - - -	585,083

But a considerable deduction has actually to be made on account of 5-cent postage stamps used for receipts.

38. The actual expenditure on the same account was:—

Post Office - - - - -	481,018
Telegraph - - - - -	101,376
Total - - - -	582,394

Credit, however, should be given to the Department for the Government letters, which are carried free, and for other expenditure on account of mail coaches, which is incurred rather in the interests of improved communication between distant stations than for the use of the Department

39. There was a moderate increase in the Postal Order business of the Colony, and the deposits in the Post Office Savings Bank rose from Rs. 406,725 at the end of 1891 to Rs. 502,476 at the end of 1892. The number of Savings Bank Offices at the end of the year was 127.

40. The number of Post and Telegraph Offices open is as under:—

Telegraph office - - - -	1
Combined post and telegraph offices - -	43
Post offices - - - - -	83
Railway receiving offices - - -	16
Village receiving offices - - - -	105
Total - - - - -	248

41. A reduction in Postal rates to all countries was effected from July, 1892, and a liberal reduction made in the telegraph charges, from which an increase in the number of messages sent has resulted.

CEYLON.
1892.

LEGISLATION.

42. In the year 1892 twenty-eight Ordinances were passed by the Legislative Council, and were subsequently confirmed by Her Majesty.

43. The Ordinance for the abolition of the Paddy Tax was the most important of the enactments which received Her Majesty's assent. Of the remaining Bills the principal were those amending—

(1.) The Forests and Waste Lands Ordinance of 1885;
(2.) The Ceylon Savings Bank Ordinance, under which the Government assumed the entire control and responsibility for the Institution;
(3.) The Law relating to Postal and Telegraphic Communications; and
(4.) The Law relating to the granting of Exclusive Privileges to Inventors.

44. Ordinances were also passed to provide for the creation of Inscribed Rupee Stock to be issued in the Colony, and for the imposition of a sanitary rate in certain localities which were not under the control of Municipalities or Local Boards.

VITAL STATISTICS.

45. The annexed table shows the proportion of births and deaths per thousand of the population for the five years 1888 to 1892 in the island generally, and in the different provinces:—

Province.	Births to 1,000 Persons living.				
	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.	1892.
CEYLON -	31·8	27·7	31·9	31·8	29·8
Western - -	28·6	24·5	26·2	30·0	29·1
Central - -	30·0	25·1	28·5	29·4	29·9
Northern - -	33·6	27·9	33·7	32·1	30·8
Southern - -	31·3	27·5	31·4	31·1	29·4
Eastern - -	42·9	36·5	46·4	39·4	39·1
North-Western -	34·2	30·9	36·5	33·5	30·4
North Central -	37·9	33·7	46·6	41·6	37·5
Uva - - -	31·4	29·1	42·0	40·6	41·5
Sabaragamuwa -	27·8	28·0	27·9	29·9	28·9

(*continued.*)

Province.	Deaths to 1,000 Persons living.				
	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.	1892.
CEYLON -	26·4	28·5	23·0	28·5	27·2
Western - -	19·1	19·4	15·0	20·0	19·2
Central - -	27·3	25·3	26·3	28·4	31·9
Northern - -	23·8	33·1	22·8	23·3	26·4
Southern - -	23·2	23·5	20·7	32·4	25·9
Eastern - -	26·8	38·9	24·8	31·0	36·3
North-Western -	33·5	45·3	29·1	40·4	33·3
North Central -	41·9	37·7	32·9	34·1	56·3
Uva - - -	39·5	30·0	34·4	42·0	38·9
Sabaragamuwa -	30·3	32·1	25·7	29·4	28·7

The births exceeded the deaths by 8,296, as compared with an excess of 9,850 in 1891.

INDIAN IMMIGRANTS.

46. The arrivals of immigrant coolies amounted to 116,472 and the departures to 67,616, being an excess of arrivals of 48,856, as against an excess in 1891 of 43,107, which was the greatest increase since the Indian famine years 1876–1877.

PUBLIC HEALTH.

47. The general health of the people has again been unsatisfactory, though the year shows a slight improvement over 1891.

48. Cholera was less prevalent during the year than in 1891. 1,712 cases with 1,100 deaths were reported, as against 2,579 cases with 1,545 deaths in 1891. The severe outbreak was at Pésálai, where there were 199 cases with 134 deaths. No cases were reported in the Western or Sabaragamuwa provinces.

49. There was a considerable decrease in the mortality from small-pox—355 cases with 56 deaths, as against 1,882 cases and 421 deaths in the previous year.

50. The following table shows the total number of persons vaccinated in 1891 and 1892 :—

—	Primary Vaccination.				Re-vaccination.		
	Total.	Successful.	Absent.	Percentage of Successful.	Total.	Successful.	Percentage of Successful.
1891 - -	149,552	123,217	18,894	92·81	34,543	22,591	78·46
1892 - -	139,179	117,138	15,245	93·37	18,054	12,317	81·65

51. The subjoined table gives the comparative number of hospitals and dispensaries open in 1891 and 1892 :—

—	1891.	1892.
Civil Hospitals, including Field or Parangi Hospitals.	35	35
Medical Aid - - - -	11	11
Immigrant - - - - -	7	7
Dispensaries (Civil and District) - -	180	190
Lying-in Hospital - - - -	1	1
Asylums - - - - -	2	2

The death-rate of the total sick population in all the hospitals and asylums in 1892 was 1·46 per cent. higher than in 1891.

52. The expenditure of the Medical Department amounted to Rs. 857,714·99 as against Rs. 786,465·44 in 1891. Deducting the receipts from paying patients, collections at outdoor dispensaries, and sale of medicines, the net expenditure was Rs. 779,068·38, as against Rs. 708,948·71 in 1891.

53. The cost of working the Medical Aid Ordinance appears as under :—

	Rs.	c.
Total cost in 1892 - - -	224,661	78
Receipts from estates - -	61,233	70
Export duty - - -	113,245	67
Deficit - - -	50,182	41
Total -	224,661	78

The deficit in 1891 was Rs. 55,932·46.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

54. The number of cases instituted and of persons charged before police magistrates during the past six years compares as follows:—

—	Cases instituted.	Persons charged.	Persons convicted.
1887 - - - -	48,755	89,395	17,710
1888 - - - -	54,952	104,179	23,872
1889 - - - -	51,896	91,434	22,612
1890 - - - -	59,542	104,467	28,467
1891 - - - -	58,486	102,930	29,628
1892 - - - -	51,655	95,452	19,705

55. The following table shows the number of persons convicted and acquitted in the Supreme and District Courts for the last six years :—

—	District Courts.		Supreme Court.	
	Convictions.	Acquittals.	Convictions.	Acquittals.
1887 - -	620	536	336	261
1888 - -	560	355	443	213
1889 - -	524	490	397	206
1890 - -	589	453	422	310
1891 - -	467	341	220	163
1892 - -	462	391	395	258

CEYLON. 1892.

56. The results of the trials for murder and culpable homicide not amounting to murder were as follows :—

—	Number of Persons tried.	Number of Persons convicted of Murder.	Number of Persons convicted of culpable Homicide.	Number of Persons acquitted.	Number of Persons executed.
1887 -	134	27	40	67	24
1888 -	116	34	48	46	23
1889 -	138	43	38	56	36
1890 -	180	39	46	59	25
1891 -	108	55	10	—	17
1892 -	120	61	7	52	16

57. The convictions in the Supreme Court are slightly above, those in the District Courts considerably below, and those in the Police Courts very greatly below, the average of the six years.

58. The convictions under the heads murder and culpable homicide are still regretably high.

PRISONS.

59. The number of regular penal stage jails in the island, outside Colombo, has been reduced to five, in pursuance of the policy recently adopted of concentrating the prisoners in Colombo for the benefit of the stricter supervision there obtainable. All the other jails transfer prisoners sentenced to over a month to the larger prisons.

60. The number of men imprisoned in 1892 was less by 1,800 than the number imprisoned in 1890 ; the difference in the daily average between 1890 and 1892 amounts to 767, that is, the return of admission shows a diminution of 22, and that of the daily average of 25 per cent.

For three successive years (1890, 1891, and 1892) there has been, not only a yearly, but in the two latter years a monthly diminution.

61. The expenditure for the years 1891 and 1892 was as under:—

—	1891.	1892.
	Rs.	Rs.
Establishment - - - -	168,008	159,452
Dieting - - - - -	217,064	192,828
Hospital charges - - - -	6,338	6,351
Clothing and bedding - - -	30,415	19,483
Lighting - - - - -	6,280	5,780
Materials for manufacture - - -	44,965	22,489
Other expenditure - - - -	65,415	76,202
Total - - - -	538,485	482,585

62. The daily sick per thousand of the daily average strength were 59·32 in 1891 and 59·81 in 1892.

The death-rate for the island runs as follows:—

Year.	Deaths per Thousand.
1889 - - - - -	43
1890 - - - - -	28
1891 - - - - -	46
1892 - - - - -	54

The high death-rate of 1892 is due entirely to the abnormal death-rate in Kandy, a death-rate which was accompanied by a very low sick rate. Excluding Kandy, the death-rate for the island comes to 47 per thousand.

63. The position of the guards has been very materially improved. Good quarters have been built in Kandy, and are being built in Colombo. Uniforms have been issued in Colombo, and are being made for Kandy. Half a full diet is issued to officers drawing less than 40 rupees a month at the following jails:—Colombo, Kandy, and Anurádhapura. A scheme has been sanctioned, by which some or all of these advantages shall be given to the officers of penal stage jails when those jails have been reported to be in a state of thorough efficiency.

CEYLON. 1892.

EDUCATION.

64. During the year under review there was a net increase of 4,615 scholars in schools reporting to the Instruction Department, the total number in 1892 being 158,458, as against 153,843 in 1891.

65. The proportion which the number of children attending school bears to the population of the several provinces for 1891 and 1892 is shown in the following table :—

Province.	1891.	1892.
Western - - - - -	1 in 10	1 in 11
Central - - - - -	1 in 29	1 in 29
Northern - - - - -	1 in 12	1 in 12
Southern - - - - -	1 in 24	1 in 22
Eastern - - - - -	1 in 17	1 in 19
North-Western - - - -	1 in 37	1 in 33
North Central - - - -	1 in 45	1 in 48
Uva - - - - - -	1 in 52	1 in 56
Sabaragamuwa - - - -	1 in 39	1 in 41

66. The annexed tables give the comparative returns of attendance in Government, grant-in-aid, unaided, and Pansala schools for 1891 and 1892, together with the average attendance and average cost to Government of the scholars in Government and aided schools :—

—	No. of Schools in		Attended by					
	1891.	1892.	Boys in 1891.	Boys in 1892.	Girls in 1891.	Girls in 1892.	Total in 1891.	Total in 1892.
Government schools -	436	453	35,814	36,030	5,932	6,110	41,746	42,190
Grant-in-aid schools -	971	1,024	52,449	57,133	22,406	25,504	74,855	82,637
Unaided private schools -	734	692	21,852	21,154	7,117	5,599	28,969	26,753
Pansala schools - -	1,911	1,703	8,273	6,878	—	—	8,273	6,878
Total - - -	4,052	3,872	118,388	121,245	35,455	37,213	153,843	158,458

—	Average Number of Scholars per School		Average Cost to Government per Boy		Average Cost to Government per Girl	
	In 1891.	In 1892.	In 1891.	In 1892.	In 1891.	In 1892.
Government schools.	95	93	Rs. c. 4 41	Rs. c. 4 47	Rs. c. 3 40	Rs. c. 3 45
Grant-in-aid schools.	77	80	2 94 per scholar	2 68 per scholar	Boys and girls not distinguished	
Unaided private schls.	39	38	—	—	—	—
Pansala schools.	4	4	—	—	—	—

67. As regards schools for special instruction, the Colombo School of Agriculture continues to do good work. The course of instruction is practical as well as theoretical. With this school are now amalgamated the three centres for training students previously existent at Kandy, Udugampola, and Bentota. The English Veterinary Surgeon, Mr. C. A. Lye, gives a course of theoretical and practical instruction in veterinary science to the students, besides visiting outlying districts in connection with cattle disease. Arrangements for the establishment of a Technical School have been made, and it is hoped to start the school in 1893.

68. The expenditure on education during 1892 was Rs. 525,839·19, as compared with Rs. 508,361·43 in 1891.

(Signed) J. A. SWETTENHAM,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, August 5, 1893.

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CEYLON.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1893.

(For Report for 1892 *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 90.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
94	British Honduras	1892
95	Lagos	"
96	Sierra Leone	"
97	Fiji	"
98	Rodrigues	"
99	St. Helena	"
100	British Bechuanaland	1892–93
101	British Guiana	"
102	Newfoundland	1892
103	Jamaica	1892–93
104	Victoria	1892
105	Bermuda	1893
106	Gambia	"
107	Hong Kong	"
108	St. Vincent	"
109	Gibraltar	"
110	Bahamas	"
111	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
112	Leeward Islands	"
113	Barbados	"
114	Malta	"
115	Zululand	"
116	British Honduras	"
117	Trinidad and Tobago	"
118	Falkland Islands	"
119	Rodrigues	"
120	Mauritius	"
121	Straits Settlements	"
122	Labuan	"
123	Basutoland	1893–94
124	St. Lucia	1893
125	St. Helena	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.

No. 126.

CEYLON.

[For Report for 1892 *see* Colonial Report (Annual) No. 90.]

Sir A. E. HAVELOCK to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

Queen's House, Colombo,
Ceylon, November 17, 1894.

MY LORD MARQUESS,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the usual Report on the Blue Book of Ceylon for the year 1893.

2. I beg to express regret for the delay in forwarding this Report. The delay has been chiefly due to the amended statement of Assets and Liabilities not having been revised and printed till recently.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. E. HAVELOCK.

REPORT on the BLUE BOOK of CEYLON for the Year 1893.

Although the year under review was not marked by any incidents of great public interest, the progress of the Colony was steady. Railway extension and public works generally were vigorously pushed forward, and a new departure was made in municipal history by the adoption in the city of Colombo of the principle of tramways. The public health was good. The Revenue would have far exceeded that of any previous year, but for the removal of the obnoxious direct tax on the food of the people known as the Paddy Tax; and, notwithstanding a liberal policy on Public Works and a falling rupee, expenditure was kept well within bounds. Opportunity was taken of the great Exhibition at Chicago to thoroughly advertise the staple product of Ceylon, "tea"; while at the same time the distinctive architecture, and art ware, of the colony, and the picturesque costumes of the native attendants in the suite of the Commissioner, had their share in compelling public curiosity.

CEYLON.
1893.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The revenue of the Colony during the year 1893 amounted to Rs. 18,051,950, and the expenditure to Rs. 18,276,107.

The figures for the last two years were—

—	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	Rs.	Rs
1891 - - - -	17,962,710	16,435,079
1892 - - - -	18,509,187	17,762,466

Revenue.

2. The above figures show a decrease of Rs. 457,237 as compared with the Revenue of 1892, and an increase of Rs. 89,240 over that of 1891. The fall in the Revenue of 1893 is primarily due to the abolition of the tithe levied on home-grown paddy. The lessened importation in 1893 of spirits, cordials, and kerosine oil, of which enormous stocks were imported during the latter part of the year 1892, in order to avoid the increased Customs duties which became leviable from the beginning of 1893, is the other prominent cause which has contributed to a diminished Revenue.

3. The increases and decreases in Revenue under the various sub-heads are explained in detail in the volume.

Expenditure.

4. The total increase of Expenditure as compared with 1892 was Rs. 513,641. A full explanation of the various instances of increase and decrease under the different heads of expenditure will be found in the Blue Book.

5. The increase in the expenditure is due to a considerable extension of the Railway system; larger expenditure on Public Wroks up-keep, &c.; the liberal Government contribution towards the representation of the Colony at the Chicago Exhibition, which is universally recognized as having been worthy of the Colony, and certainly attracted great attention, even in that colossal World's Fair; and very considerably to the depreciation in the value of the rupee.

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

6. The following table, showing the assets and liabilities of the Government on January 1, 1894, as compared with January 1, 1893:

Assets.				Liabilities.			
1893.		1894.		1893.		1894.	
Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
15,152,036	66*	12,051,812	38	13,932,353	48*	10,387,316	28
				1,219,683	18†	1,664,496	10†
				15,152,036	66	12,051,812	38

reveals the financial condition of the Colony as being sound, as the demand for Ceylon stock also testifies.

PUBLIC DEBT.

7. The sterling debt of the Colony raised in London amounted on the 31st December 1893, to 2,585,069*l.* 19*s.* 5*d.* as against 2,603,614*l.* on the same day in the preceding year.

8. The debt of the Colony raised in silver in Colombo amounted to Rs. 2,323,371.68 as compared with Rs. 1,325,856, on the same date in 1892.

CUSTOMS AND SHIPPING.

9. The total value of the trade of the Colony for the year 1893 was Rs. 146,536,029 as against Rs. 132,959,421, in 1892, thus:—

	1892.		1893.	
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Imports - - - - -	70,687,496	89	72,340,662	28
Exports - - - - -	62,271,924	47	74,195,367	54‡
Total - - -	132,959,421	36	146,536,029	82

Or deducting specie:—

	1892.		1893.	
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Imports - - - - -	62,761,949	63	65,977,293	8
Exports - - - - -	61,095,885	47	73,260,598	1
Total - - - -	123,857,835	10	139,237,891	4

* The figures for 1893, as published in the Blue Book, were incorrect. The revised figures are here given.

† Balance of Assets over Liabilities.

‡ The value of coal (Rs.4,217,591·70) re-exported to steamers in 1893 is entered for the first time.

CEYLON. 1893.

10. The gross Customs Revenue for 1893 was Rs. 4,498,912·10, which, compared with 1892, shows a decrease, the cause of which has been already explained.

11. The principal imports and exports compare with those of 1892 as follows:—

Imports.

—		1892.	1893.
Rice - - -	bushels	7,282,411	7,447,376
Cotton goods - -	Rs.	5,473,758	4,882,910
Malt liquor, wines, &c. -	"	1,950,373	1,392,555
Metals and metalware -	"	1,997,075	1,972,629
Coal and coke - -	tons	312,757	291,901
Specie - - -	Rs.	7,925,547	6,363,369
Machinery - -	"	953,938	679,074

Exports.

—		1892.	1893.
Coffee - - -	cwts.	43,338	55,423
Cinchona - -	lbs.	6,846,741	3,440,715
Tea - - -	"	72,279,985	82,269,353
Cacao - - -	cwts.	19,177	29,776
Cardamoms - -	lbs.	247,706	411,834
Cocoanut products :—			
Cocoanuts - -	No.	11,438,718 and bags 640	10,908,940
Coir stuffs - -	cwts.	159,989	159,959
Cocoanut oil - -	"	564,550	388,606
Copperah - -	"	169,073	87,220
Arrack - -	gals.	88,874	94,672
Cinnamon - -	lbs.	2,642,449	2,741,082
Citronella oil - -	ozs.	12,825,240	12,470,192
Plumbago - -	cwts.	430,667	332,169
Tobacco - -	"	50,701	39,942
Malt liquor - -	gals.	1,789	1,089

12. The decreased import of intoxicants and the increased export of coffee and tea should be satisfactory to the advocates of temperance. The decrease in the export of plumbago, due to a falling market, though unsatisfactory to the producers, is a sign of peace, the Ceylon mineral being largely used for the manufacture of crucibles for military purposes.

SHIPPING.

13. The shipping returns for the island show an increase in tonnage:—

	1892.		1893.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Entered - -	3,760	2,924,864	3,675	3,102,811
Cleared - -	3,734	2,865,842	3,631	3,049,582
Total -	7,494	5,790,706	7,306	6,152,393

COLOMBO HARBOUR.

14. The expenditure for the year amounted to Rs. 250,525.62, and the total expenditure from the commencement of the work to Rs. 9,758,632.87.

15. The following is the statement of the revenue and expenditure on account of the harbour for 1893:—

EXPENDITURE.	Rs.	c.	REVENUE.	Rs.	c.
Interest: Public Works Loan Commissioners - - -	105,000	68	Colombo Harbour dues - -	674,226	30
Interest on debentures - -	313,114	95	Pilotage - - - -	46,180	0
Charges incidental to management, lighting, &c., Port of Colombo -	269,322	44	Rent of reclamation ground -	13,447	41
Balance at credit - -	213,643	75	Single warehouse rent - -	156,281	36
			Rent of wharf and warehouse Company's warehouses - -	5,693	34
			Sundries - - -	2,653	37
			Rent of Syndicate Boat Company's Office - - - -	500	4
			Surplus overtime fees credited to Harbour Fund - - -	2,100	0
	901,081	82		901,081	82
To Principal paid off—	Rs.	c.			
Public Works Loan Commissioners	117,230	9			
Sinking fund - - -	74,399	95			
	191,630	4			

16. The usual series of observations made over the Breakwater after the south-west monsoon showed that the condition of the work still remains eminently satisfactory. No displacement of any kind or undue settlement has to be recorded.

17. The depth of the harbour has been maintained. Soundings taken over the harbour, with a view to determine what change is taking place, show the complete absence of silting action.

PUBLIC WORKS.

18. The expenditure of the Public Works Department for 1893 amounted to Rs. 4,347,765.49, as compared with Rs. 4,028,602.67 in 1892.

19. The expenditure may be thus classified:—

	Rs.	c.
Establishment - - - - -	340,778	74
Departmental and miscellaneous charges	337,490	56
Upkeep of existing roads, bridges, canals, and irrigation works - - -	1,313,855	54
Repairs to existing buildings - -	249,037	96
New works and buildings - - -	474,949	83
Alterations and additions to buildings -	130,075	69
New roads and improvements of roads and canals - - - - - -	722,628	60
New bridges - - - - -	369,358	10
New irrigation works - - -	367,070	24
Lands acquired - - - -	42,520	23
Total -	4,347,765	49

20. 3,412·24 miles of roads were maintained in 1893 in good order, and the public buildings and works of the Colony were kept in satisfactory order.

21. The Colombo foreshore reclamation has been finished as far as the Pettah, and the arrival of the Engineers and staff for the construction of the Northern Arm of the Breakwater is awaited; the large Kelani bridge has progressed, as has the General Post Office, Colombo; the new roads in the province of Uva have been considerably advanced; the Dehiwala flood-outlets and the Deduru-oya irrigation works in the North-Western Province have been pushed forward towards completion.

SURVEY DEPARTMENT.

22. The expenditure of the Department in 1893 amounted to Rs. 413,118.86, as compared with Rs. 450,937.75 in 1892.

23. The total revenue from land sales was Rs. 292,528, or a decrease of Rs. 135,119 over the revenue of 1892, owing to fewer lands being sold, chiefly owing to a wise restriction against the alienation of heavily timbered land which it is desirable to reserve in the interest of the Forest Department.

24. The area of land alienated by the Crown during 1893 was 12,158½ acres. Of these 3,005½ acres were sold to Europeans at an average rate of Rs. 28.19, a decrease of Rs. 3.71 on the 1892 rate. 9,153 acres were purchased by natives at the rate of Rs. 27.42 per acre, an increase of Rs. 4.68 per acre on the rates obtained in 1892.

The cultivation of the cocoanut palm, which was almost entirely in native hands, has been vigorously taken up by English capitalists, and will prove a valuable stand-by in case of the possible failure of tea.

25. The work of the Department was, as usual, of a very varied character. It included irrigation, forest, cadastral, village and province boundary, fuel reserve boundary, archæological, railway boundary, road and river, and miscellaneous, surveys. Officers of the department were also employed under the Chief Resident Engineer, Railway Extensions, in tracing the line of railway extension to Jaffna and Mátara.

FOREST DEPARTMENT.

26. In settlement, extension, and improvement of forests, useful work was done during the year. Considerable areas situated in the North-Western and Sabaragamuwa Provinces were reserved.

27. The value of sales of timber and other produce during the year amounted to Rs. 361,051.

28. Of these Rs. 361,051, Rs. 171,959 were from sales to Public Departments and Rs. 189,092 from sales to private purchasers. The sales of *timber* were chiefly of timber in log and sawn for public works and private purchasers, ebony and satin for the English and China markets (ebony being largely used in China in the manufacture of "chop-sticks"), sleepers for the Railway Extension Department, &c. Free grants, chiefly for the Chicago Exhibition, amounting in value to over Rs. 15,000, were made during the year. Firewood was supplied to the Railway Department, but the sales of private firewood to the Railway were no longer made through the Department, hence the great decrease in value of firewood sold, and small amounts were sold in Jaffna, Trincomalee, Galle, &c.

29. The revenue credited in the Treasury amounted to Rs. 365,758, against an expenditure of Rs. 404,756, but the whole value of timber sold was not recovered within the year.

RAILWAYS.

30. The receipts in 1893 amounted to Rs. 4,985,848 as compared with Rs. 4,695,774 in 1892, thus showing an increase of Rs. 290,074.

The expenditure, including new works, rolling stock, and loss on exchange was Rs. 2,865,434, as compared with Rs. 2,287,275 during 1892.

The net profit was thus Rs. 2,120,414, or 4·5 per cent. on the capital cost of construction.*

31. The mileage of railway open for traffic in 1893 was 231½, or 40 miles over 1892. The average cost of construction per mile has been Rs. 201,009. The extensions towards Galle and Bandárawela and from Polgahawela to Kurunégala were proceeded with during the year.

POST OFFICE.

32. The receipts of the Post Office are calculated at Rs. 605,089; but a considerable deduction has actually to be made on account of 5-cent postage stamps used for receipts.

33. The actual expenditure on the same accounts was Rs. 650,999.85.

Credit, however, should be given to the Department for the Government letters, which are carried free, and for other expenditure on account of mail coaches, which is incurred rather in the interests of improved communication between distant stations than for the use of the Department.

34. The deposits in the Post Office Savings Bank rose from Rs. 502,476.53 at the end of 1892 to Rs. 606,417.92 at the end of 1893, an indication of general prosperity and of a growing habit of thrift among the natives. The number of Savings Bank Offices at the end of the year was 132.

35. The number of Post and Telegraph Offices open is 260.

LEGISLATION.

36. There was little legislation of interest during the year. The most important laws passed were:—

(1.) The Rabies Ordinance;
(2.) The Pawnbrokers' Ordinance;
(3.) The Butchers' Ordinance;
(4.) The Knives Ordinance, relating to the wearing and carrying of knives.

* Including amounts expended on additional accommodation and improvements to end of December, 1892; and expenditure on Galle extension, although only open to Ambalangoda; and the cost of the Haputalé extension, which was only open for 6½ months.

VITAL STATISTICS.

37. The annexed table shows the proportion of births and deaths per thousand of the population for the six years 1888 to 1893:—

——	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.	1892.	1893.
Births to 1,000 persons living - -	31·8	27·7	31·9	31·8	29·8	30·8
Deaths to 1,000 persons living - -	26·4	28·5	23·0	28·5	27·2	29·1

38. In 1893 the births exceeded the deaths by 5,378, as compared with an excess of 8,296, in 1892.

INDIAN IMMIGRANTS.

39. The arrivals of immigrant coolies amounted to 91,676, and the departures to 73,181, being an excess of arrivals of 18,495, as against an excess in 1892 of 48,856, which was the greatest increase since the Indian famine years 1876–77.

PUBLIC HEALTH.

40. The general health of the people has been more satisfactory than during the past five years as regards infectious diseases.

41. There were 11 cases of cholera reported during 1893, of which 9 proved fatal, as against 1,712 cases, with 1,100 deaths in 1892.

42. There was a considerable decrease in mortality from small-pox; 140 cases with 26 deaths, as against 355 cases and 56 deaths in the previous year.

43. The following table shows the total number of persons vaccinated in 1892 and 1893:—

1892 - - - - -	139,179
1893 - - - - -	131,486

44. The subjoined table gives the comparative number of hospitals and dispensaries open in 1892 and 1893:—

——	1892.	1893.
Civil Hospitals, including Field or Parangi Hospitals.	35	37
Medical Aid Hospitals - - -	11	13
Immigrant Hospitals - - - -	7	7
Dispensaries (Civil and District) - -	190	200
Lying-in Hospital - - - -	1	1
Asylums - - - - -	2	2

The death-rate of the total sick population in all the hospitals and asylums in 1893 was ·50 per cent. higher than in 1892.

45. The expenditure of the Medical Department amounted to Rs. 980,440.52, as against Rs. 857,714.99 in 1892. Deducting the receipts from paying patients, collections at outdoor dispensaries, and sale of medicines, the net expenditure was Rs. 884,042.11, as against Rs. 779,068.38 in 1892.

46. The cost of working the Medical Aid Ordinance appears as under :—

	Rs.	c.
Total cost in 1893 - - -	307,575	92
Receipts from estates - -	104,243	3
Export duty - - -	83,576	55
Deficit - - -	119,756	34
Total -	307,575	92

The deficit in 1892 was Rs. 89,642.64.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

47. The following table shows the number of cases instituted and of persons charged and persons convicted before Police Magistrates during 1892 and 1893 :—

—	Cases instituted.	Persons charged.	Persons convicted.
1892 - - - -	51,655	95,452	19,705
1893 - - - -	51,773	94,550	20,442

48. The following table shows the number of persons convicted and acquitted in the Supreme and District Courts for the same period :—

—	District Courts.		Supreme Court.	
	Convictions.	Acquittals.	Convictions.	Acquittals.
1892 -	462	391	395	258
1893 -	470	381	318	216

49. The results of the trials for murder and culpable homicide not amounting to murder were as follows :—

—	Number of Persons tried.	Number of Persons convicted of Murder.	Number of Persons convicted of culpable Homicide.	Number of Persons acquitted.	Number of Persons executed.
1892 -	120	61	7	52	16
1893 -	97	24	38	35	11

50. The convictions in the Supreme Court are slightly above, those in the District Court considerably below, and those in the Police Courts very greatly below, the average of the six years.

51. The convictions under the heads murder and culpable homicide are still regrettably high.

PRISONS.

52. The transfer system has been extended and improved, and is now worked with ease and regularity. The following are the only jails where local convictions sentenced to over a month are kept:—The Convict establishment, Kandy, Ratnapura, Kurunégala, and Anurádhapura.

Prisoners sentenced to three months and under are retained at Ratnapura on account of the difficulty of transfer. At Kurunégala the prisoners are retained entirely on the ground of health, the Medical Officers being of opinion that Kurunegala men cannot be kept in health in Colombo. At Anurádhapura, the local convictions being extremely small, it is not worth while to transfer men sentenced to under six months. Jaffna transfers local convictions to Colombo, but receives from Colombo habitual thieves in their penal stage.

53. The total number of admissions for 1893 shows a diminution of 901 when compared with those for 1892. This, however, is entirely due to the decrease in road defaulters. Excluding road defaulters there is a slight increase of 157 in admissions. From this it may be gathered that though the progress made in 1891 and 1892 has been maintained, there has been no further advantage.

The daily average shows a diminution of 118, which, though not so large as in previous years, is on the whole satisfactory. We must go back to 1884 to find a lower number of admissions, and to 1881 to find a lower daily average. It is also gratifying to note that the number of men hanged continues to decrease; the figures for 1893 are the lowest since 1885.

54. The expenditure for the years 1892 and 1893 was as under :—

	Rs.
1892 - - - - -	482,585
1893 - - - - -	464,653

55. The health of the prisoners in the island was on the whole satisfactory, with the single but important exception of Welikada. The health of the prisoners in Welikada during 1893 was unquestionably bad. The cause of this has not yet been discovered. During 1893 an addition was made to the diets of the penal stage prisoners in Welikada, and days spent on light labour were counted as half-days spent in penal stage for class. In the Convict establishment the sick-rate of 1893 was equal to a daily average of 116 sick out of every thousand of the total daily average, while that of 1892 was only 62. The death-rate of 1893 was equal to 63 per thousand of the daily average, while that of 1892 was only 46.

In Kandy, where the treatment resembled that in Colombo in every respect, except that no extras were given, the sick-rate in 1893 amounted to a daily average of 59 per thousand of the total daily average, while the death-rate amounted to 59 per thousand. In 1892 the death-rate in Kandy amounted to 101 per thousand.

The daily sick per thousand of the total daily average strength in the Island was 59·81 in 1892 and 92.29 in 1893. The death-rate per thousand for the Island was 54 in 1892 and 56 in 1893.

56. There can be no doubt that the standard of discipline has been very much raised within the last two years, while the position of the guards has at the same time been materially improved.

EDUCATION.

57. During the year under review there was a decrease of 1,211 scholars in schools reporting to the Instruction Department, the total number in 1893 being 157,247, as against 158,458 in 1892.

58. The proportion which the number of children attending school bears to the population of the several provinces for 1892 and 1893 is shown in the following table :—

Province.	1892.	1893.
Western - - - - -	1 in 11	1 in 12
Central - - - - -	1 in 29	1 in 30
Northern - - - - -	1 in 12	1 in 12
Southern - - - - -	1 in 22	1 in 21
Eastern - - - - -	1 in 19	1 in 18
North-Western - - - -	1 in 33	1 in 34
North Central - - - -	1 in 48	1 in 47
Uva - - - - - -	1 in 56	1 in 54
Sabaragamuwa - - - -	1 in 41	1 in 41

59. The annexed tables give the comparative returns of attendance in Government, grant-in-aid, unaided, and Pansala schools for 1892 and 1893, together with the average attendance and average cost to Government of the scholars in Government and aided schools :—

—	No. of Schools in		Attended by					
	1892.	1893.	Boys in 1892.	Boys in 1893.	Girls in 1892.	Girls in 1893.	Total in 1892.	Total in 1893.
Government schools -	453	456	36,080	35,443	6,110	6,237	42,190	41,680
Grant-in-aid schools -	1,024	1,005	57,133	55,804	25,504	25,794	82,637	81,598
Unaided private schools -	692	687	21,154	20,785	5,599	6,535	26,753	27,320
Pansala schools - -	1,703	1,728	6,878	6,649	—	—	6,878	6,649
Total - - -	3,872	3,876	121,245	118,681	37,213	38,566	158,458	157,247

—	Average Number of Scholars per School		Average Cost to Government per Boy		Average Cost to Government per Girl	
	In 1892.	In 1893.	In 1892.	In 1893.	In 1892.	In 1893.
Government schools.	93	91	Rs. c. 4 47	Rs. c. 4 90	Rs. c. 3 45	Rs. c. 3 62
Grant-in-aid schools.	80	81	2 68 per scholar	2 85 per scholar	Not distinguished	Boys and girls
Unaided private schls.	38	40	—	—	—	—
Pansala schools.	4	4	—	—	—	—

60. The technical school, which was established towards the middle of the year, bids fair to become a prosperous institution, and will, it is hoped, afford to natives and Eurasians a practical knowledge of handicrafts and foster a growing tendency on their part to forsake the beaten paths which lead to the overstocked professions of law and medicine and the congested clerical service. The school roll consists of 67 names, and the students attend with praiseworthy regularity.

61. The expenditure on education during 1893 was Rs. 582,461.27, as compared with Rs. 525,839.19, in 1892.

(Signed) E. NOEL WALKER,
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, November 16, 1894.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 155.

CEYLON.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1894.

(For Report for 1893 *see* No. 126 of this Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty,
February 1896.

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ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
121	Straits Settlements	1893
122	Labuan	"
123	Basutoland	1893–94
124	St. Lucia	1893
125	St. Helena	"
126	Ceylon	"
127	Fiji	"
128	Grenada	"
129	Sierra Leone	"
130	British Bechuanaland	1893–4
131	British New Guinea	1892–3 & 1893–4
132	Lagos	1893
133	British Guiana	1893–94
134	Jamaica	"
135	Newfoundland	1893
136	Gold Coast	"
137	Zululand	1894
138	Bermuda	"
139	Bahamas	"
140	Barbados	"
141	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
142	Malta	"
143	Gambia	"
144	Windward Islands	"
145	Trinidad and Tobago	"
146	Gibraltar	"
147	Falkland Islands	"
148	Hong Kong	"
149	Straits Settlements	"
150	Lagos	"
151	Seychelles	"
152	Basutoland	1894–5
153	Fiji	1894
154	St. Helena	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.

No. 155.

CEYLON.

[For Report for 1893 *see* No. 126.]

Sir A. E. HAVELOCK to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN.

Queen's House, Colombo, Ceylon,
October 10, 1895.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the usual report on the Blue Book of Ceylon for the year 1894.

I have, &c.
A. E. HAVELOCK.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK OF CEYLON FOR THE YEAR 1894.

The Colony continued to make satisfactory progress during the year 1894. The Revenue was considerably the largest on record, though its purchasing capacity was not so great as that of 1877, owing to the fall in the value of the rupee.

The most noteworthy incident of the year was the laying the foundation stone of the first of the two breakwaters which are to make Colombo an enclosed harbour, protected on all sides against the monsoon winds, and largely increasing the space available for berthing both men-of-war and merchantmen.

It is confidently anticipated that this great work will give to Ceylon one of the finest, if not actually the finest artificial harbour in the world, and that the expansion of trade with the East and with Australasia will cause it to prove ultimately a financial success. In view of the geographical position of Colombo, it must always prove a centre to which trade will gravitate, and if to the natural advantages which it thus enjoys special facilities are added for protection and accommodation of shipping, a great increase in the volume of business transacted at this Port appears to be a necessary result.

a 22240. Wt. 20348.

CEYLON.
1894.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

1. The Revenue of the Colony for the year 1894 amounted to Rs.19,485,310 and the Expenditure to Rs.20,342,899.

The figures for the two previous years were—

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	Rs.	Rs.
1892 - - - -	18,509,187	17,762,466
1893 - - - -	18,051,950	18,276,107

Revenue.

2. As already noted, the Revenue was considerably larger than in any previous year.

Customs and Railways were responsible for the largest increases, but all heads of Revenue, save one, show an increase.

The decrease in Internal Revenue is due to the falling off in the Land Revenue.

3. The increases and decreases under the various sub-heads are fully explained in the Blue Book.

Expenditure.

4. The increase in Expenditure as compared with 1893 was some two and three-quarter million of rupees, mainly due to a continued extension of the Railway system, and to increased expenditure on Public Works.

5. The increased charges on account of the Public Debt amount to nearly Rs.700,000, owing to the fall in exchange and issue of Inscribed Stock.

There were also considerable increases under the heads Pensions, Exchange, and Military Expenditure, all due to the fall in value of the rupee.

Hospitals and Dispensaries show a considerable increase.

The cost of Administration generally exhibits a decrease, and in the Provincial Administration alone there was a decrease of nearly Rs.130,000, the Government being fully alive to the necessity for economy and retrenchment where possible.

PUBLIC DEBT.

6. The sterling debt of the Colony amounted on 31st December, 1894, to 3,563,976*l.*, as against 2,585,069*l.* on 31st December, 1893. 1,000,000*l.* was raised in 1894 for the new Breakwaters and other Public Works, the expenditure on which cannot be reproductive for some years.

7. The silver debt of the Colony was Rs.3,312,923, as against Rs.2,323,371 on 31st December, 1893.

CUSTOMS AND SHIPPING.

8 The total value of the trade of the Colony for 1894 was Rs.157,836,662, as against Rs.146,536,029 in 1893 :—

	1893.	1894.
	Rs.	Rs.
Imports - - - -	72,340,662	78,113,072
Exports - - - - -	74,195,367	79,723,590
Total - - - -	146,536,029	157,836,662

9. The total Customs Revenue for 1894 was Rs.4,931,967, as against Rs.4,498,912 in 1893.

10. The principal Imports and Exports compared with those of 1893 are as follows :—

Imports.

		1893.	1894.
Rice - - - -	bushels.	7,447,376	7,556,505
Cotton Goods - - -	Rs.	4,882,910	5,236,840
Malt Liquor, Wines, &c. - -	"	1,392,555	1,376,783
Metals and Metalware - -	"	1,972,629	1,949,537
Coal and Coke - - -	tons	291,901	325,497
Specie - - - -	Rs.	6,363,369	9,411,949
Machinery - - -	"	679,074	773,614

Exports.

		1893.	1894.
Coffee - - - -	cwt.	55,423	31,987
Cinchona - - -	lbs.	3,440,715	2,529,261
Tea - - - -	"	82,269,353	85,376,322
Cacao - - - -	cwt.	29,776	22,792
Cardamoms - - -	lbs.	411,834	316,863
Cocoanut Products :—			
Coir Stuffs - - -	cwt.	159,959	175,844
Cocoanut Oil - - -	"	388,606	448,573
Copperah - - -	"	87,220	45,441
Poonac - - -	"	169,638	189,959
Arrack - - -	gls.	94,672	97,774
Cinnamon - - -	lbs.	2,741,082	2,784,754
Citronella Oil - - -	ozs.	12,470,192	15,724,116
Plumbago - - -	cwt.	332,169	335,168
Tobacco - - - -	"	39,942	54,850

11. The decrease in imports of intoxicants, which was one of the features of last year's report, continues. The explanation in 1893 was that the duty on spirits had been considerably increased,

and large stocks had in consequence been laid in in the previous year. This explanation does not account for the decrease in 1894 as compared with 1893. It is due to the increased use of spirits, whilst there is a considerable decrease in the imports of wines and malt liquors.

The increase in the import of specie is due to large importations from India, the excess over 1893 from that country being over Rs.4,000,000. It is not easy to account for this, as the imports from British India enormously exceed our exports thither.

12. There has been a steady increase in the import of rice for the last three years. The abolition of the Paddy Tax has certainly not acted as a protective duty which would check imports, as was predicted in some quarters.

As regards exports, tea, cinnamon, plumbago, tobacco, and cocoanut products show an increase. The total value of the produce of the cocoanut-palm exported in 1894 was Rs.11,017,549, as against Rs.10,403,235 in 1893.

13. The export of coffee showed a considerable decrease, and it is to be hoped that we have touched bottom as regards this staple product.

14. There has been during the last three years a steady increase of exports to the mother-country, whilst to British Colonies and Foreign Countries there has been a decrease.

In 1892 the total value of goods exported to the United Kingdom was Rs.39,960,830, and to the Colonies and Foreign Countries it exceeded Rs.22,000,000, In 1894 the export to the mother-country had increased to Rs.53,558,073, whilst to other countries it had fallen to a little over Rs.18,000,000.

Shipping.

15. These returns continue to show an increase, the figures being as follows:—

	1893.		1894.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Entered - -	3,675	3,102,811	3,851	3,210,217
Cleared - -	3631	3,049,582	3,823	3,155,646
Total -	7,306	6,152,393	7,674	6,365,853

COLOMBO HARBOUR.

16 The expenditure for the year amounted to Rs.878,443, as against Rs.750,525 in 1893, but of this sum only Rs.102,363 was spent out of Revenue on account of the South-Wet Breakwater, the remainder being expended from the HarbourLoan on account of Harbour Extension, Land Acquisition, and Dredging

The total expenditure on the Harbour to December 31, 1894, was Rs.10,637,076.

17. The following is the statement of the revenue and expenditure on account of the Harbour for 1894:—

REVENUE.	Rs. c.	EXPENDITURE.	Rs. c.
Harbour Dues	706,523 17	Principal repaid to Public Works Loan Commissioners	131,749 20
Surplus Overtime Fees transferred to Harbour Fund	5,306 10	Interest paid to do.	109,559 38
Pilotage, &c.	51,105 0	Interest on Debentures, &c.	347,654 78
Rent of Reclamation Ground	11,923 90	Sinking Fund on Debentures, &c.	82,511 76
Single Warehouse Rent	160,680 80	Interest, &c., on Debentures under Ordinances Nos. 7 of 1892 and 17 of 1893	142,207 37
Rent of Wharf and Warehouse Company's Warehouses	2,520 0	Charges incidental to management, lighting, &c., of the Port of Colombo	207,322 66
Rent of Boat Company's Offices, &c., due to Harbour Fund	3,300 12		
Sundries	1,321 76		
Total	Rs. 942,680 85	Total	Rs. 1,021,005 15

18. The usual series of observations taken after the south-west monsoon showed that no settlement had taken place in the structure of the Breakwater.

A new dredger in place of the Merak, which has been condemned, has been ordered.

19. Preliminary operations in connection with the new Breakwaters are being vigorously pushed, and considerable progress has been made with the work of reclamation along the foreshore.

PUBLIC WORKS.

20. The total expenditure of the Public Works Department for 1893 amounted to Rs.3,822,446, classified as follows:—

	Rs.
Establishment	391,077
Recurrent Expenditure.	
Departmental and miscellaneous charges	195,742
Upkeep of roads, bridges, canals, and irrigation works	1,322,487
epairs to buildings	198,397
Extraordinary Expenditure.	
New works and buildings	434,710
Alterations and additions to buildings	112,236
New roads and improvement of roads and canals	580,278
New bridges	311,977
New irrigation works	302,210
Lands acquired	9,375

21. 3,407·91 miles of roads and the public buildings and other works were maintained in satisfactory order.

22. The new General Post Office and the Victoria Bridge over the Kelani, which is to take the place of the old bridge of boats, made great progress during the year, and have since been completed. These two works are amongst the most important that have been undertaken by the Public Works Department.

The charge of the Colombo Waterworks was transferred to the Public Works Department. A small saving in salaries was secured thereby. The average daily consumption of water in Colombo was about 2,000,000 gallons, whilst the delivery of the main pipes is a little under 2½ million gallons daily.

SURVEY DEPARTMENT.

23. The expenditure of the Department amounted to Rs.479,441, as compared with Rs.413,118 in 1893.

24. The total revenue from Land Sales was Rs.358,805, as compared with Rs.292,528 in 1893.

25. The area of land alienated by the Crown in 1894 was 13,084 acres, as against 12,158 acres in 1893. Of these, 5,495 acres were sold to Europeans at an average rate of Rs.24·99 per acre, a decrease of Rs.3·20 as compared with 1893. 9,965 acres were sold to natives at an average rate of Rs.25·86 per acre. It is noticeable that the rate per acre was higher in lands purchased by natives than by Europeans, a very unusual occurrence.

26. The work of the Department included Irrigation, Forest, Harbour, Railway, Archæological, and other surveys.

The demand for ferro-gallic prints carried on in the Head Office increased by 50 per cent., and amongst other work done by the Department may be mentioned photo-lithography, for the Archæological Commissioner's reports on the ruins at Anurádhapura.

FOREST DEPARTMENT.

27. The receipts amounted to Rs.384,536, against Rs.361,051 in 1893. The expenditure was Rs.456,568, against Rs.404,756 in 1893.

28. This deficit is, however, greatly reduced, if the increased stocks in the depôts and value of free grants is taken into account.

There was a large deficit in the Western Province, which has been the subject of investigation, but a considerable portion of the expenditure of the Department must be looked upon as capital, rather than current, expenditure, and as merely indirectly remunerative.

The reservation and settlement of forests, improvement fellings, experimental plantations, demarcation and survey work, roads constructed in connection with forest operations, and the protection of existing forests, bring in little or no direct revenue, but form the most important portion of the work of the Forest Department.

The Department supplied firewood and sleepers to the Government Railway and Harbour Extension Works, telegraph posts to the Postal Department, and timber to the Public Works Department.

Satinwood and ebony in the log were the principal timbers sold to dealers for exportation, but there was also a considerable sale of firewood to private purchasers.

RAILWAYS.

29. The receipts amounted to Rs.5,555,058, as compared with Rs.4,985,848 in 1893, showing an increase of over 11 per cent.

The expenditure, including new works and additional rolling stock, was Rs.4,145,547, or 74 per cent. of the receipts, as against 57 per cent. in 1893, but the increase was almost entirely due to new works, &c., which accounted for over 21 per cent. of the whole expenditure. The vacuum brake was introduced during the year.

30. There were three extensions of the railway opened during the year, viz., from Ambalangoda to Galle, from Haputalé to Bandarawela, and from Polgahawela to Kurunegala.

The mileage of railway open for traffic is 270 miles, as against 231 in 1893, which in its turn was 40 miles in excess of the previous year.

31. The gross profit, namely, the excess of receipts over working expenses, was a little under 3 per cent. A large portion of the expenditure of the Department is, however, in sterling, and the loss on exchange consequently very great. The passenger fares and rates have remained the same, or been lowered since the fall in the rupee began, and the travelling population have benefited at the expense of the railway. Nearly four and a quarter million passengers were conveyed during the year.

POST OFFICE.

32. The revenue and expenditure of the Post Office for the last two years is as follows :—

—	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	Rs.	Rs.
1893	605,089	650,999
1894	654,378	690,807

There was a large increase in all items of business—postal and telegraphic, money orders (both local and foreign), parcel post, registered packets, &c.

CEYLON. 1894.

33. It is proposed to abolish the existing privilege of free transport of mails and parcels at present enjoyed by Government Departments. In future, service stamps will be used. In this way an accurate estimate of the amount properly to be credited to the Post Office will be obtained.

34. The deposits in the Post Office Savings Banks increased from Rs.606,417 in 1893 to Rs.719,352. Post Office Savings Banks were introduced at the beginning of 1885, when the amount deposited was Rs.30,315. Facilities are granted to depositors for the purchase of Government 4 per cent. stock, just as consols can be purchased through the Savings Banks in Great Britain.

35. The total number of post and telegraph offices, receiving and telephone offices, is 350.

36. The geographical position of Colombo has suggested the expediency of making it a Central Foreign Sorting Depôt, and correspondence is now forwarded *à decouvert*, or in open mails, from India, New Zealand, Queensland, Hongkong, Netherlands-India, and other countries to Colombo, where it is sorted.

The new General Post Office, which is lighted throughout with the electric light, will enable the Department to deal with the increased business with which it now has to deal.

LEGISLATION.

37. There was but little legislation of importance during the year. The following were the principal Ordinances passed:—

An Ordinance relating to habitual criminals and to convicts licensed to be at large, under which a system of ticket-of-leave was brought into force, and the Bertillon system of identification by measurement legalized.

An Ordinance for the prevention of accidents by gunpowder and other explosives, framed on the lines of the English Acts, and after reference to the Home Office.

An Ordinance to abolish the import duty on certain metals, in the interests, mainly, of the planting industries; and Ordinances amending the Village Communities Ordinance and the law relating to the granting of pensions to widows and orphans.

VITAL STATISTICS.

38. The annexed table shows the proportion of births and deaths per 1,000 for the five years from 1890 to 1894.

——	1890.	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.
Births - -	31·9	31·8	29·8	30·8	32·5
Deaths - -	23·0	28·5	27·2	29·1	27·3

39. The births exceeded the deaths by 16,517, as compared with an excess of 5,738 in 1893.

INDIAN IMMIGRANTS.

40. The arrivals of immigrant coolies amounted to 85,256, and the departures to 66 292, being an excess of arrivals over departures of 18,964. In 1893 the excess was 18,495.

PUBLIC HEALTH.

41. The general health of the people was fairly satisfactory.

42. There were three small outbreaks of cholera in the north of the Island: 75 cases were reported, of which 60 proved fatal. Only 10 cases of small-pox were reported, of which but one was fatal. The figures were, for 1892, 355 cases and 56 deaths; for 1893, 140 cases and 26 deaths. Malarial fever, however, was prevalent more or less throughout the Island.

43. There were 144,309 persons vaccinated or re-vaccinated, as against 147,982 in 1893.

44. The number of hospitals and dispensaries open in 1893 and 1894 respectively was as follows:—

—	1893.	1894.
Civil Hospitals - - - -	37	43
Medical Aid Hospitals - - -	13	13
Immigrant Hospitals - - -	7	6
Dispensaries - - - - -	200	206
Asylums - - - - -	2	2
Lying-in Hospital - - - -	1	1

The death-rate of all sick treated in hospitals fell very materially being 9·75 in 1894, as against 12·40 in 1893.

45. The expenditure of the Medical Department amounted to Rs.1,266,712, as against Rs.980,440 in 1893.

46. One of the main features of the working of the Department has been the extension of the dispensary system. In 1875, when the present Head of the Department took charge, 6,890 persons in all were treated. In 1894, 651,987 were treated. The system of estate dispensaries has been inaugurated with satisfactory results.

47. The cost of working the Medical Aid Ordinance was as follows:—

	Rs.	c.
Total cost in 1894 - - -	331,692	0
Receipts from Estates - -	70,187	0
Export Duty - - -	82,857	0
Deficit - - - -	165,929	0

The deficit shows an increase of some Rs.16,000 paid by Government in excess of 1893. The deficit in 1892 was only Rs.89,642.

CEYLON.
1894.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

48. The following table shows the number of cases instituted and of persons convicted before Police Magistrates during 1893 and 1894.

——	Cases instituted.	Persons charged.	Persons convicted.
1893 - - -	51,773	94,550	20,442
1894 - - -	56,097	99,036	18,539

49. In the District and Supreme Courts the figures are as follows :—

Year.	District Courts.		Supreme Court.	
	Convictions.	Acquittals.	Convictions.	Acquittals.
1893 - - -	470	381	315	216
1894 - - -	536	221	420	307

50. The results of trials for murder and culpable homicide not amounting to murder were as follows :—

——	Number of Persons tried.	Number convicted of murder.	Number convicted of Culpable Homicide.	Number acquitted.	Number executed.
1893	97	24	38	35	11
1894	136	40	44	52	27

51. There has been a regrettable increase in the number of persons convicted by the superior courts, and in the number of homicides.

PRISONS.

52. No special changes were made in the management of the prisons in Ceylon. Prisoners have been transferred to Colombo from Kurunégala, where they had previously been kept on the ground of health. It was found that by giving them small doses of quinine regularly they retained their health after transfer to Colombo. It was a curious but well-established fact that prisoners previously transferred from the malarious climate of Kurunégala to the sea breezes of Colombo invariably suffered severely in health, and deaths were frequent.

53. The experiment of sending habitual criminals to Jaffna has proved satisfactory.

54. Of 250 habituals sent to that jail only 36 ever returned.

55. The total number of admissions for 1894 was 6,967, as compared with 7,922 in 1893. Deducting road defaulters (826), the number of admissions was the lowest since 1883, and the daily average (2,381) was the lowest since 1880.

56. For the fourth year in succession, the daily average of men imprisoned on conviction for offences shows a steady decline. The figures are:—

1890.	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.
3,509	3,353	2,684	2,495	2,381

so that the prison population has been reduced by about a third in that period.

57. The First Offenders' Ordinance, under which persons convicted by magistrates of a first offence may be discharged on giving security for good behaviour, and the Youthful Offenders' Ordinance, under which juvenile offenders are sent to certified industrial schools, are no doubt responsible in great measure for this great decrease in the prison population.

58. It unfortunately does not prove that serious crimes have diminished, as the number of admissions on committal from the higher courts was 859, the highest figure since 1888.

59. The expenditure for the year amounted to Rs.473,060, as against Rs.464,653 in 1893. These last two years have been the lowest since 1884. The actual cost of dieting was less than in any previous year in the decade from 1884 to 1894. Hospital charges were unfortunately much the highest in the same period, being no less than Rs. 21,947. The next highest figure was only Rs. 9,348.

60. The health of the prisoners showed no improvement, the death-rate being 61 in 1894 as against 56 in 1893.

61. The health of the prisoners in the Convict Establishment remained unsatisfactory, though the death-rate fell a little, from 88 to 74.

62. It is proposed to very largely reduce the number of prisoners in Welikada, which is the largest jail in the Island, by transferring as many as possible to Kandy, Mahara, and Mutwal jails. The last-mentioned jail is built close to the sea, in proximity to the new North-East Breakwater, on which a large number of convicts will be employed.

63. The daily sick per 1,000 of the total daily average strength in the Island was 92·29 in 1893 and 91·51 in 1894.

64. There was a decrease in the number of punishments inflicted on prisoners, and it is hoped that by the introduction of pingo-carrying a large reduction will be effected. The treadmill is in

use at Welikada, and it is proposed to utilize the force obtained either for driving a sawmill or charging accumulators with electricity for lighting the jail.

EDUCATION.

65. During 1894 there was an increase of 8,000 in the number of scholars in schools presented for examination.

66. In 1893 the number was 123,278, as against 131,334 in 1894. In 1885 the number was 83,944 only, showing an increase in the decade of over 50 per cent.

In 1870, the first year in which figures are available, the total was 16,927 only.

67. In point of attendance there was also improvement, the number of scholars in schools reporting to the Department being 163,910 in 1894, as compared with 157,247 in 1893.

68. The proportion which the number of children attending school bears to the population for 1893 and 1894 is as follows:—

Province.	1893.	1894.
Western - - -	1 in 12	1 in 12
Central - - -	1 in 30	1 in 28
Northern - - -	1 in 12	1 in 13
Southern - - -	1 in 21	1 in 20
Eastern - - -	1 in 18	1 in 19
North-Western - -	1 in 34	1 in 36
North-Central - - -	1 in 47	1 in 37
Uva - - - -	1 in 54	1 in 47
Sabaragamuwa - -	1 in 41	1 in 38

69. The annexed tables give the comparative returns of attendance in Government, grant-in-aid, unaided, and pansala schools for 1893 and 1894, together with the average attendance and average cost to Government of the scholars in Government and aided schools:—

—	No. of Schools in		Attended by					
	1893.	1894.	Boys in 1893.	Boys in 1894.	Girls in 1893.	Girls in 1894.	Total in 1893.	Total in 1894.
Government schools -	456	468	35,443	37,666	6,237	6,700	41,680	44,366
Grant-in-aid schools -	1,005	1,042	55,804	59,976	25,794	26,992	81,598	86,968
Unaided private schools -	687	730	20,785	19,929	6,535	6,054	27,320	25,983
Pansala schools - -	1,728	1,678	6,649	6,593	—	—	6,649	6,593
Total - - -	3,876	3,918	118,681	124,164	38,566	39,746	157,247	163,910

—	Average Number of Scholars per School.		Average Cost to Government per Boy.		Average Cost to Government per Girl.	
	In 1893.	In 1894.	In 1893.	In 1894.	In 1893.	In 1894.
Government schools.	91	94	Rs. c. 4 90	Rs. c. 4 89	Rs. c. 3 62	Rs. c. 3 69
Grant-in-aid schools.	81	83	2 85 per scholar	2 97 per scholar	Boys and girls not distinguished	
Unaided private schls.	40	35	—	—	—	—
Pansala schools.	4	3	—	—	—	—

70. The Technical School of Instruction continues to make satisfactory progress. The Superintendent reports that he had to reject ten applications for admission owing to the want of accommodation. The average daily attendance has been 49, whilst the number for which it was designed was only 25. The question of its extension is under consideration.

71. The School of Agriculture has not altogether fulfilled expectations, the sons of landowners not having joined to the extent that was hoped for. Recently a Government dairy in connection with the school has been started, and, in spite of a most unfortunate attack of rinderpest, which damaged its operations financially for a time, it has proved a successful experiment. The Government hospitals and asylums are supplied with pure milk, a boon which they stood much in need of, and at the present time the profits are considerable, aggregating Rs.500 a month.

72. The expenditure on Education in 1894 was Rs.597,388, as against Rs.600,836 in 1893.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, October 8, 1895.

E. NOEL WALKER,
Colonial Secretary.

10

Gt. Brit. Colonial office.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 187.

334
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CEYLON.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1895.

(For Report for 1894, *see* No. 155 of this Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
January 1897.

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ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
153	Fiji	1894
154	St. Helena	"
155	Ceylon	"
156	Mauritius	"
157	Labuan	"
158	Gold Coast	"
159	British Guiana	"
160	Sierra Leone	"
161	Jamaica	1894–5
162	British Honduras	1894
163	British Bechuanaland	1894–5
164	Newfoundland	1894
165	Gambia	"
166	Bermuda	"
167	Leeward Islands	"
168	British New Guinea	1894–5
169	Zululand	1895
170	Sierra Leone	"
171	Gibraltar	"
172	Malta	"
173	Barbados	"
174	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
175	Falkland Islands	"
176	St. Helena	"
177	Bahamas	"
178	Hong Kong	"
179	Windward Islands	"
180	Labuan	"
181	Trinidad and Tobago	"
182	Seychelles	"
183	Mauritius and Rodriguez	1894–5
184	British Honduras	1895
185	Lagos	1895
186	Basutoland	1895–6

MISCELLANEOUS.

o.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas	Sisal Industry.
	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.

No. 187.

CEYLON.

(For Report for 1894, *see* No. 155 of this Series.)

Sir J. WEST RIDGEWAY to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN.

Queen's House, Colombo, Ceylon,
November 6, 1896.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the usual Report on the Blue Book of Ceylon for the year 1895.

I have, &c.
J. WEST RIDGEWAY.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR THE YEAR 1895.

The year under review was not marked by any incident of special importance, save that Sir Arthur Havelock's term of administration came to an end.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

2. The revenue of the Colony for the year 1895 amounted to Rs. 20,982,808, and the expenditure to Rs. 20,899,713. For the two previous years the figures were—

——	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	Rs.	Rs.
1893 - - -	18,051,950	18,276,107
1894 - - -	19,485,310	20,342,899

Revenue.

3. For the first time in the history of the Colony the revenue exceeded Rs. 20,000,000, and showed an increase of nearly one and a half million rupees over that of the previous year, which in its turn had been the largest then recorded.

4. With the exception of Miscellaneous Receipts, all other regular heads of revenue showed an increase, the largest being those shown under Customs, Railway Receipts, and Licences. Land sales showed a slight decrease, due to the fact that Government, in view of the increasing value of land, was not anxious to push sales.

Expenditure.

5. The expenditure was some half a million rupees in excess of the previous year, but, unlike 1893 and 1894, was less than the revenue of the year. The principal increase of over Rs. 500,000 was under the head of Interest, the expenditure under this head now exceeding Rs. 3,000,000.

6. There was also a considerable increase in Military Expenditure, which amounted to some 16½ lacs of rupees. The charge on this account has now been fixed at 7½ per cent. of the gross revenue of the Colony, exclusive of Land Sales, which are of course not really revenue but capital.

7. There was an increase of nearly Rs. 150,000 under the head of Post Office and Telegraphs, the expenditure on which now exceeds Rs. 800,000. The increase is mainly due to the opening of new post and telegraph offices to meet the general expansion of business in the Colony.

8. The expenditure on account of the Medical Department, including Hospitals and Dispensaries, exceeded Rs. 1,300,000. The Educational Department cost Rs. 636,000 (an increase of Rs. 38,000 over 1894), and Police, Rs. 632,000. Prisons show a gratifying decrease of nearly Rs. 23,000, principally due to the policy of closing the smaller jails in outstations, but also to a fewer number of prisoners.

PUBLIC DEBT.

9. The sterling debt of the Colony amounted on 31st December to 3,541,223*l.*, as against 3,563,976*l.* on 31st December 1894. The amount is slightly less than in 1894, though the charges for interest are greater. This is explained by the fact that the full interest on the loan of 1,000,000*l.* raised in 1894 was not payable until 1895.

10. The silver debt of the Colony amounted to Rs. 3,302,000, as against Rs. 3,312,923 on 31st December 1894.

CUSTOMS AND SHIPPING.

11. The total value of the trade of the Colony for 1895 was Rs. 169,097,766, as against Rs. 157,836,662 in 1894 and Rs. 146,536,029 in 1893, showing a steadily increasing volume of trade:—

—	1894.	1895.
	Rs.	Rs.
Imports - -	78,113,072	84,556,309
Exports - -	79,723,590	84,541,457
Total - -	157,836,662	169,097,766

12. The total revenue from Customs in 1895 amounted to Rs. 5,481,595, as against Rs. 4,674,410 in 1894, an increase of nearly Rs. 850,000, or no less than 18 per cent. over the previous year, a very clear indication of the growing wealth and prosperity of the island.

13. The principal imports and exports compared with those of 1894 are as follows :—

Imports.

——		1894.	1895.
Rice - - - -	bushels	7,556,505	8,722,822
Cotton goods - - -	Rs.	5,236,840	5,960,856
Malt liquor, wines, &c. - -	„	1,376,733	1,660,741
Metals and metalware - -	„	1,949,537	2,427,120
Coal and coke - - -	tons	325,497	326,297
Specie - - - -	Rs.	9,411,949	7,986,070
Machinery - - -	„	679,074	702,377

Exports.

——		1894.	1895.
Coffee - - - -	cwt.	31,987	66,617
Cinchona - - - -	lb.	2,529,261	919,820
Tea - - - - -	„	85,376,322	98,581,060
Cacao - - - - -	cwt.	22,792	27,522
Cardamoms - - - -	lb.	316,863	435,090
Cocoanut Products :—			
Coir Stuffs - - - -	cwt.	175,844	185,147
Poonac - - - -	„	189,959	172,401
Copperah - - - -	„	45,441	31,716
Cocoanut oil - - -	gal.	448,573	418,990
Arrack - - - - -	„	97,774	118,745
Cinnamon - - - -	lb.	2,784,754	3,052,000
Citronella oil - - - -	oz.	15,724,116	15,007,730
Plumbago - - - -	cwt.	335,168	326,754
Tobacco - - - -	„	54,850	53,240

CEYLON. 1895.

14. The decrease in the import of intoxicating liquors, which was the subject of comment in the last two reports, has ceased, and this year's returns show a large increase in consumption of spirits, malt liquors, and wine.

15. The imports of specie from India decreased by nearly two million rupees. Last year there was an increase of over Rs. 4,000,000.

16. The increase in the import of rice still continues. It has been due to the low price of grain in 1895.

17. In respect of exports there was a large increase in the amount of tea exported, which is now very close on 100,000,000lbs.

There is a large increase in the export to the Australian Colonies, which now amounts to over 9,000,000 lb., an increase of over 2,000,000 lb. as compared with last year.

Coffee shows an encouraging recovery, the export being more than double that in 1894, and the highest since 1890, the total value being nearly Rs. 6,000,000.

The value of the various products of the cocoanut palm was Rs. 11,106,246, as against Rs. 11,017,549 in 1894. Cacao, cinnamon, and cardamoms show an increase, whilst cinchona shows a very great decrease, and the value of the whole amount exported has fallen to Rs. 73,000 only.

18. The present year showed an increase in the value of exports to the United Kingdom, to British Colonies, and to foreign countries.

The increase over 1894 to British Colonies was but slight, and is below the figures of 1893. To the Mother Country and to foreign countries the increase has been considerable.

The total value of goods exported to the United Kingdom was Rs. 57,475,000, as against Rs. 53,558,000 in 1894. To other countries it was a little over Rs. 20,000,000, as against some Rs. 18,000,000 last year.

Shipping.

19. The number of vessels was practically the same as in 1894, but the tonnage was greater. There was an increase at Colombo, but a decrease at Galle. The figures are as follows:—

	1894.		1895.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Entered - -	3,851	3,210,207	3,842	3,341,198
Cleared - -	3,823	3,155,646	3,826	3,201,999
Total -	7,674	6,365,853	7,668	6,543,197

COLOMBO HARBOUR.

20. The expenditure for the year, together with sundry expenditure previously incurred chargeable to Harbour Loan, amounted to Rs. 2,603,183, as against Rs. 878,443 in 1894. Of this sum Rs. 86,678 only was spent out of revenue on the maintenance of the South-West Breakwater. Rs. 1,559,667 was spent on the Harbour Extension.

The total expenditure on the Harbour from the beginning of the South-west Breakwater has been Rs. 13,006,135. The following is the statement of the revenue and expenditure, exclusive of payments from the loan, of the Harbour for 1895 :—

REVENUE.	Rs. c.	EXPENDITURE.	Rs. c.
Harbour dues - - -	779,255 42	Principal repaid to Public Works Loan Commissioners - -	142,648 86
Surplus overtime fees transferred to Harbour Fund - -	16,405 38	Interest paid to do. - -	109,783 4
Pilotage, &c. - - -	53,330 0	Interest on debentures, &c. -	347,628 68
Rent of reclamation ground -	12,534 43	Sinking fund on debentures, &c.	82,803 53
Single warehouse rent - -	184,462 37	Interest, &c. on debentures under Ordinances Nos. of 1892 and 17 of 1893 - - -	319,846 76
Rent of wharf and warehouse company's warehouses -	5,040 0	Charges incidental to management, lighting, &c. of the Port of Colombo - - -	211,734 10
Rent of boat company's offices, &c., due to harbour fund -	2,575 10		
Sundries - - - -	340 19		
Total - -	1,053,942 89	Total - - -	1,214,449 97

21. From the observations taken after the south-west monsoon it was apparent that the structure was in a thoroughly satisfactory condition. The annual soundings taken over the bed of the harbour show no signs of silting.

The dredging of the inner harbour was carried on for eight months, and the material dredged used for filling in the area that is being reclaimed along the foreshore.

22. The Harbour Extension works were vigorously prosecuted during the past year. The workshops, offices, blockyard, cement shed, and jetty, &c., were completed, and great progress made with the reclamation of the foreshore, where accommodation is to be found for the fishermen and for a coaling depôt.

23. A beginning was made with the steel pile staging for the North-east Breakwater, but the progress at first must be slow on account of the ground on which the first two or three bays stand being uneven rock.

PUBLIC WORKS.

24. The total expenditure of the Public Works Department for 1895 amounted to Rs. 3,455,589·50, classified as follows :—

	Rs.	c.
Establishment - - - - -	412,699	40

Recurrent Expenditure.

	Rs.	c.
Departmental and miscellaneous charges -	213,203	62
Upkeep of roads, bridges, canals, and irrigation works - - - -	1,348,028	4
Repairs to buildings - - - -	194,769	95

Extraordinary Expenditure.

New works and buildings - - -	348,011	93
Alterations and additions to buildings -	91,597	89
New roads and improvement of roads and canals - - - - -	413,063	98
New bridges - - - - -	200,704	74
New irrigation works - - - -	163,417	22
Lands acquired - - - - -	5,624	72
Miscellaneous - - - - -	64,463	1

25. 3,429·83 miles of roads and the public buildings and other works were maintained in satisfactory order.

26. The new General Post Office and the Victoria Bridge over the Kelani river were opened during the past year. They are two of the finest works ever executed by the Public Works Department in the island, and are highly successful both from an architectural and from a structural point of view.

27. The foundation of the Lady Havelock Hospital was laid at the beginning of last year, and the buildings are approaching completion.

COLOMBO WATERWORKS.

28 The rainfall for the year at the Labugama reservoir, from which the town of Colombo is supplied with water, was 162 inches, about double the rainfall at Colombo itself. The drainage area is 2,380 acres. The result of the examination of the town water at the standposts by the city analyst was highly satisfactory, the water being pronounced very pure after a careful miscroscopical and biological examination.

The delivery of the main pipe stood at 2,475,000 gallons daily, equal to 19 gallons per head daily for a population of 130,000. The question of duplicating the main pipe is under consideration in view of the rapidly increasing population of Colombo.

SURVEY DEPARTMENT.

29. The expenditure of the Department amounted to Rs. 472,403, as compared with Rs. 479,441 in 1894.

30. The total revenue from Land Sales was Rs. 438,870, as compared with Rs. 358,835 in 1894.

31. The extent of land alienated by the Crown was 17,027 acres, as against 13,084 in 1894. Of this area 4,236 acres were

sold to Europeans at an average rate of Rs. 21·80 per acre, whilst 12,789 acres were sold to natives at an average rate of Rs. 25 per acre. These figures indicate the growing prosperity of the natives of Ceylon. Until last year the rate per acre of land purchased by Europeans was considerably higher than that paid by natives.

32. The demand for ferro-gallic prints continued to increase, and the number of title plans prepared was the largest since 1886, owing to the increase in the number of land sales.

FOREST DEPARTMENT.

33. The receipts amounted to Rs. 417,375, as against Rs. 384,536. The expenditure was Rs. 426,799, as compared with Rs. 456,568 in 1894.

34. The past year shows a small deficit in the working of the Department, and if the value of free grants of timber is added the figures nearly balance. The Conservator of Forests points out that expenditure on plantations and the like is in the nature of capital expenditure, and that it cannot be expected that the Forest Department, which has only been organised of recent years, should under these circumstances show a profit. Moreover, the work of forest watchers and rangers is mainly preventive, and the result of their labour appears in the value of land which has not been ruined by timber thieves and chena clearers.

RAILWAYS.

35. The receipts in 1895 amounted to Rs. 6,222,735, as compared with Rs. 5,572,054 in 1894, an increase of Rs. 650,681, or over 12 per cent.

The expenditure was Rs. 3,095,266, as against Rs. 3,59[illegible],690, in 1894.

The large decrease was due to the smaller expenditure on new works. The working expenses are, therefore, about, 55 per cent of the receipts.

The profit on the total capital cost of the Railway—about Rs. 56,000,000—is between 5 and 6 per cent.

36. The total length of the line open for traffic on December 31st, 1895, was 297 miles. This includes the new section from Galle to Mátara, which was only opened in December last.

37. The number of passengers carried was 4,821,867, an increase of more than 600,000 over last year. The goods traffic for 1895 was 411,915 tons, as compared with 314,461 tons in 1894, an increase of 33 per cent.

POST OFFICE.

38. The receipts of the Post Office are calculated at Rs. 720,289. It is not possible to obtain exact figures, on account of the 5-cent stamp, which is used for both revenue and postal purposes.

39. The expenditure amounted to Rs. 818,177, as against Rs. 690,807, in 1894.

CEYLON. 1895.

40. The large increase is due mainly to two items :—

(1.) Rs. 64,702, a payment to the Indian Government for a new cable between Mannar and Paumben.

(2.) Rs. 41,538 increase in the expenditure on sea conveyance of mails.

41. The deposits in the Post Office Savings Bank rose from Rs. 719,352 at the end of 1894 to Rs. 837,228 on December 31, 1895, an increase of Rs. 117,875, the largest in any year since the system was established in 1885. At the end of 1886 the total amount deposited was only Rs. 50,885, another indication of the growing prosperity of the natives of the island.

42. The total number of post, telegraph, and telephone offices is 364, an increase of 14 over the previous year.

43. The value of money orders issued was Rs. 5,512,002, as against Rs. 4,733,897 in 1894.

44. The number of paid telegrams was 115,589 in 1895, the largest on record. In 1885 the number was 23,932 only.

LEGISLATION.

45. The most important Bills passed during the year 1895 were Ordinances consolidating the laws relating to the registration of Marriages, and of Births and Deaths (Nos. 1 and 2 of 1895), also Ordinances consolidating the Law relating to Oaths and Affirmations, and consolidating, defining, and amending the Law of Evidence. This last was the most important Bill introduced for some time past. It followed the lines of the Indian Act on the subject.

46. Other Ordinances of interest were those amending the Explosives Ordinance, the Buddhist Temporalities Ordinance, and the Penal Code, and an Ordinance providing for the protection of person and property from risks incidental to the use of electricity for lighting and other purposes. This last was consequent on the extended use of the electric light in Colombo.

VITAL STATISTICS.

47. The subjoined table shows the proportion of births and deaths per thousand of the population for the six years 1890 to 1895 :—

——	1890.	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.	1895.
Births - - -	31·9	31·8	29·8	30·8	32·5	31·1
Deaths - - -	23·0	28·5	27·2	29·1	27·3	27·1

48. The births exceeded the deaths by 13,179, as compared with an excess of 16,517 in 1894.

49. The estimated total population of Ceylon on December 31, 1895, was 3,298,342.

INDIAN IMMIGRANTS.

50. The arrivals of immigrant coolies amounted to 123,611, the largest number in any one year since 1877, when the coffee enterprise was at its zenith. The departures were 80,673, showing an excess of arrivals over departures of 42,938.

PUBLIC HEALTH.

51. The general health of the people was fairly satisfactory.

52. There were reported 156 cases of cholera with 99 deaths, of which the majority occurred among the Indian immigrants. Twenty-three cases of small-pox were reported, of which two proved fatal. The figures were, for 1893, 140 cases and 26 deaths; for 1894, 10 cases and 1 death. Malarial fever of a malignant type was prevalent in the south of the island, the cause of which is traced to the disturbance of the soil when cutting the Galle-Mátara Railway. In other parts its prevalence was milder than usual.

53. There were 158,604 persons vaccinated or re-vaccinated, as against 144,309 in 1894.

54. The number of hospitals and dispensaries open in 1894 and 1895 respectively was as follows :—

——	1894.	1895.
Civil hospitals - -	42	44
Medical aid hospitals -	13	15
Immigrant hospitals -	6	6
Dispensaries - -	206	211
Asylums - - -	2	2
Lying-in hospital -	1	1

55. The death-rate of all sick treated in hospitals fell very materially, being 9·62 in 1895, as against 9·75 in 1894.

56. The expenditure of the Civil Medical Department amounted to Rs. 1,046,257, as against Rs. 1,022,245 in 1894.

57. One of the main features of the working of the Department has been the extension of the dispensary system. In 1875, when the present head of the department took charge, 6,890 persons in all were treated. In 1895, 744,365 were treated. A system of estate dispensaries has been inaugurated with satisfactory results.

58. The cost of working the Medical Aid Ordinance was as follows:—

	Rs.	c.
Total cost in 1895 - - -	353,555	0
Receipts from estates - -	68,623	0
Export duty - - -	97,853	0
Deficit - - - -	187,079	0

CEYLON. 1895.

The deficit shows an increase of some Rs. 20,000 paid by Government in excess of 1894. The deficit in 1893 was only 150,000.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

59. The following table shows the number of cases instituted and of persons convicted before police magistrates during 1894 and 1895:—

—	Cases instituted.	Persons charged.	Persons convicted.
1894 - - - -	56,097	99,036	18,539
1895 - - - -	54,136	96,341	20,010

60. In the District and Supreme Courts the figures are as follows:—

—	District Courts.		Supreme Court.	
	Convictions.	Acquittals.	Convictions.	Acquittals.
1894 - -	536	493	420	307
1895 - -	445	411	255	128

61. The results of trials for murder and culpable homicide not amounting to murder were as follows:—

—	Number of Persons tried.	Number convicted of Murder.	Number convicted of culpable Homicide.	Number acquitted.	Number executed.
1894 -	136	40	44	52	27
1895 -	129	24	52	53	24

62. These figures do not point to any general increase in crime, but rather the reverse.

63. The number of murders and culpable homicides is, however, on the increase, and the inquest returns for 1895 give the extraordinarily large number of 196 homicides, much the largest on record, the previous highest being 160 in 1894.

64. The average for the last five years is 142, as against 132 in the previous five years.

PRISONS.

65. The main alteration effected in 1895 was the introduction of a system of labour (pingo-carrying), which almost abolished dietary punishment.

66. It has been found that this latter form of punishment has little, if any, deterrent force. The weight of the pingo to be carried can be accurately adjusted to the strength of the prisoner, and this form of penal labour has been found to be exceedingly distasteful.

67. The total number of admissions for 1895 was 6,242, as compared with 6,967 in 1894. Deducting road defaulters (744) the number of admissions and the daily average (2,192) were the lowest since 1880.

68. For the fifth year in succession, the daily average of men imprisoned on conviction for offences shows a steady decline. The figures are:—

1890.	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.	1895.
3,509	3,353	2,684	2,495	2,381	2,192

so that the prison population has been reduced by about a third in that period.

69. The First Offenders Ordinance, under which persons convicted by magistrates of a first offence may be discharged on giving security for good behaviour, and the Youthful Offenders Ordinance, under which juvenile offenders are sent to certified industrial schools, are no doubt responsible in a measure for this great decrease in the prison population.

70. The number of admissions on committals from higher courts is 614, the lowest on record except that of 1891; this is an indication of decrease of serious crime.

71. The expenditure for the year amounted to Rs. 441,610, as against Rs. 473,060 in 1894. The last three years have been the lowest since 1884. The actual cost of dieting was less than in any previous year in the decade from 1884 to 1895. Hospital charges were unfortunately much the highest in the same period, being no less than Rs. 26,397. The next highest figure was Rs. 21,947.

72. The health of the prisoners showed no improvement, the death-rate being 65 in 1895 as against 61 in 1894.

73. The health of the prisoners in the Convict Establishment remained unsatisfactory, though the death-rate fell a little from 74 to 72.

74. The daily sick per thousand of the total daily average strength in the island was 91·51 in 1894 and 100·19 in 1895.

CEYLON. 1895.

75. There was a decrease in the number of punishments inflicted on prisoners. A large number of prisoners are now employed in Mutwal and Mahara jails in connexion with the new North-east Breakwater.

EDUCATION.

76. During 1895 there was an increase of nearly 3,147 in the number of scholars in schools presented for examination.

77. In 1894 the number was 131,334, as against 134,481 in 1895. In 1886 the number was 87,608 only, showing an increase in the decade of over 60 per cent.

In 1870, the first year in which figures are available, the total was 16,927 only.

78. In point of attendance there was also improvement, the number of scholars in schools reporting to the Department being 169,834 in 1895, as compared with 163,910 in 1894.

79. The proportion which the number of children attending school bears to the population for 1894 and 1895 is as follows:—

Province.	1894.	1895.
Western - - -	1 in 12	1 in 11
Central - - -	1 in 28	1 in 25
Northern - -	1 in 13	1 in 11
Southern - -	1 in 20	1 in 17
Eastern - - -	1 in 19	1 in 18
North-Western - -	1 in 36	1 in 31
North-Central - -	1 in 37	1 in 38
Uva - - -	1 in 47	1 in 45
Sabaragamuwa - -	1 in 38	1 in 35

80. The annexed tables give the comparative returns of attendance in Government, grant-in-aid, unaided, and pansala schools for 1894 and 1895, together with the average attendance and average cost to Government of the scholars in Government and aided schools:—

—	No. of Schools in		Attended by					
	1894.	1895.	Boys in 1894.	Boys in 1895.	Girls in 1894.	Girls in 1895.	Total in 1894.	Total in 1895.
Government schools -	468	477	37,666	37,552	6,700	6,700	44,366	44,252
Grant-in-aid schools -	1,042	1,096	59,976	61,843	26,992	28,386	86,968	90,229
Unaided private schools -	730	700	19,929	22,031	6,054	6,658	25,983	28,689
Pansala schools - -	1,678	1,542	6,593	6,634	—	—	6,593	6,634
Total - - -	3,918	3,815	124,164	128,090	39,746	41,744	163,910	169,834

—	Average Number of Scholars per School		Average Cost to Government per Boy		Average Cost to Government per Girl	
	In 1894.	In 1895.	In 1894.	In 1895.	In 1894.	In 1895.
			Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Government schools.	94	93	4 89	4 91	3 69	3 65
Grant-in-aid schools.	83	82	2 97 per scholar.	3 10 per scholar.	Boys and girls not distinguished.	
Unaided private schs.	35	40	—	—	—	—
Pansala schools.	3	4	—	—	—	—

81. The Department of Public Instruction has under its control the Technical College and the School of Agriculture, to which it is proposed to add a School of Forestry. At present the Conservator of Forests delivers a course of lectures on both theoretical and practical forestry.

82. A dairy farm is attached to the School of Agriculture, and last year's working proved satisfactory, showing a profit of over Rs. 2,000 on a capital expenditure of Rs. 31,000.

W. T. TAYLOR,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Colombo,
October 30, 1896.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 218.

CEYLON.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1896.

(For Report for 1895, *see* No. 187.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
November 1897.

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ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
183	Mauritius and Rodrigues	1894 and 1895
184	British Honduras	1895
185	Lagos	"
186	Basutoland	1895–96
187	Ceylon	1895
188	British Guiana	1895–96
189	Gold Coast	1895
190	Jamaica	1895–96
191	Canada	1895
192	Bermuda	1896
193	Bahamas	"
194	Zululand	"
195	Gambia	"
196	Malta	"
197	British New Guinea	1895–96
198	Turks and Caicos Islands	1896
199	Barbados	"
200	Leeward Islands	1895
201	Trinidad and Tobago	1896
202	Gibraltar	"
203	Fiji (Trade)	"
204	Strait Settlements	1895
205	Do. do.	1896
206	Falkland Islands	"
207	British Honduras	"
208	Sierra Leone	"
209	Grenada	"
210	Hong Kong	"
211	St. Lucia	"
212	St. Vincent	"
213	St. Helena	"
214	Seychelles	"
215	Mauritius	"
216	Cocos-Keeling and Christmas Islands ...	1897
217	Figi	1896

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific	Solomon Islands.

No. 218.

CEYLON.

(For Report for 1895, *see* No. 187 of this Series.)

GOVERNOR SIR WEST RIDGEWAY TO MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Queen's Cottage, Nuwara Eliya, Ceylon,
24th September, 1897.

SIR,

I have the honour to forward herewith the usual report on the Blue Book of Ceylon for the year 1896.

I have, &c.,
WEST RIDGEWAY.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK OF CEYLON FOR THE YEAR 1896.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The revenue of the Colony for the year 1896 amounted to Rs. 21,974,573, and the expenditure to Rs. 21,237,859. The revenue thus shows an increase of nearly a million rupees over that of 1895, and two and a half millions over that of 1894. The actual figures for 1894 and 1895 were :—

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	Rs.	Rs.
1894	19,485,310	20,342,899
1895	20,982,808	20,899,713

2. The expenditure exceeded that of 1895 by Rs. 338,146, but was Rs. 736,714 less than the revenue of the year. The principal increase is on account of the Medical Department and Miscellaneous Services, which include acquisition of land by

CEYLON. 1896.

Government, expenses connected with Commissions, and subsidy to the Ceylon Steamship Company. The military expenditure increases with the revenue.

PUBLIC DEBT.

3. The sterling debt of the Colony amounted on 31st December to £3,519,503, as against £3,541,223 on 31st December, 1895.

4. The silver debt of the Colony amounted to Rs. 3,290,595, as against Rs. 3,302,004 on 31st December, 1895.

CUSTOMS AND SHIPPING.

5. The total value of the trade of the Colony for 1896 was Rs. 175,629,442, as against Rs. 169,097,766 in 1895 and Rs. 157,836,662 in 1894, showing a steadily increasing volume of trade :—

—	1895.	1896.
	Rs.	Rs.
Imports	84,556,309	87,788,085
Exports	84,541,457	87,841,357
Total ...	169,097,766	175,629,442

6. The principal imports and exports compared with those of 1895 are as follows :—

Imports.

—		1895.	1896.
Rice	bus.	8,722,737	7,594,413
Cotton goods	Rs.	5,960,856	5,992,367
Malt liquor, wines, &c.	,,	1,664,751	1,872,869
Metals and metalware	,,	2,469,924	2,680,771
Coal and coke	tons.	326,297	373,459
Specie	Rs.	8,012,607	10,704,497
Machinery	,,	796,917	831,867

Exports.

—		1895.	1896.
Coffee	cwt.	66,617	23,122
Cinchona	lb.	919,820	1,377,180
Tea	"	98,581,060	110,095,193
Cacao...	cwt.	27,522	33,890
Cardamoms	lb.	435,090	463,233
Cocoanut products :—			
Coir stuffs...	cwt.	185,147	161,990
Poonac	"	172,401	148,963
Copperah	"	40,498	57,581
Cocoanut oil	gal.	419,242	390,883
Arrack	"	118,745	117,376
Cinnamon	lb.	3,052,000	3,182,823
Citronella oil	oz.	15,007,730	19,492,669
Plumbago	cwt.	326,754	361,061
Tobacco	"	53,240	61,881

7. The decrease in the import of intoxicating liquors, which was the subject of comment in previous reports, has ceased, and this year's returns show a large increase in consumption of spirits, malt liquors, and wine.

8. The imports of specie from India increased by over three million rupees. Last year there was a decrease of nearly two million rupees.

9. The decrease in the import of rice is 1,128,324 bushels. It has been due to the exceptionally large importation in 1895, owing to cheapness of price.

10. In respect of exports there was a large increase in the amount of tea exported, which is now over 100,000,000 lb.

11. There is a large increase in the export to the Australian colonies, which now amounts to over 11,000,000 lb., an increase of over 2,000,000 lb. as compared with last year.

Coffee shows a decrease, the exports being 23,122 cwt. in 1896, the total value being nearly Rs. 1,721,133.

CEYLON. 1896.

The value of the various products of the cocoanut palm was Rs. 11,178,077, as against Rs. 11,106,246 in 1895. Cacao, cinnamon, cardamoms, and cinchona show an increase in quantity and value.

12. The year showed a decrease in the value of exports to the United Kingdom and to foreign countries, and an increase to British colonies.

The increase over 1895 to British colonies was large. To the mother country and to foreign countries the decrease has been slight.

The total value of goods exported to the United Kingdom was Rs. 56,931,531·52, as against Rs. 57,475,269·16 in 1895. To other countries it was Rs. 21,219,228, as against Rs. 20,020,287 last year.

Shipping.

13. The figures are as follows :—

—	1895.		1896.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Entered	3,842	3,341,198	3,953	3,526,323
Cleared	3,826	3,201,999	3,983	3,553,355
Total	7,668	6,543,197	7,936	7,079,678

COLOMBO HARBOUR.

14. The expenditure for the year 1896 amounted to Rs. 2,057,146, as against Rs. 2,603,183 in 1895. Of this sum Rs. 31,064 from the votes of 1895 and Rs. 81,810 from the votes for 1896 was spent out of revenue on the maintenance of the South-west Breakwater. Rs. 1,250,405 was spent on harbour extension.

The total expenditure on the harbour from the beginning of the South-west Breakwater, in 1873, has been Rs. 15,063,281.

STATEMENT showing the REVENUE and EXPENDITURE, exclusive of Payments from the LOAN of the HARBOUR, during 1896.

REVENUE.	Rs.	c.	EXPENDITURE.	Rs.	c.
Harbour dues	833,669	78	Principal repaid to Public Works Loan Commissioners	129,697	99
Surplus Overtime Fees transferred to Harbour Fund	—		Interest paid to do.	92,058	96
Pilotage	57,445	0	Interest on Debentures, &c.	322,789	91
Rent of Reclamation Ground	11,169	22	Sinking Fund on Debentures, &c. ...	76,359	19
Single Warehouse Rent	200,078	49	Interest, &c., on Debentures under Ordinances Nos. 7 of 1892 and 17 of 1893	300,738	0
Rent of Wharf and Warehouse Company's Warehouses	5,040	0	Charges incidental to management, lighting, &c., of the Port of Colombo	214,351	42
Rent of Boat Company's Offices, &c., due to Harbour Fund	4,809	0			
Sundries	2,786	90			
Total	1,114,998	39	Total	1,135,995	

PUBLIC WORKS.

15. The total expenditure of the Public Works Department for 1896 amounted to Rs. 3,437,862·47, classified as follows :—

	Rs.	c.
Establishment	395,197	96

Recurrent Expenditure.

Departmental and miscellaneous charges... ...	210,024	45
Upkeep of roads, bridges, canals, and irrigation works	1,420,427	22
Repairs to buildings	183,973	88

Extraordinary Expenditure.

New works and buildings	251,133	19
Alterations and additions to buildings	164,504	7
New roads and improvement of roads and canals	409,693	21
New bridges	154,471	15
New irrigation works	170,220	72
Lands acquired	1,709	60
Miscellaneous	76,507	2

16. 3,492·89 miles of roads and the public buildings and other works were maintained in satisfactory order.

SURVEY DEPARTMENT.

17. The expenditure of the Department amounted to Rs. 447,674, as compared with Rs. 472,403 in 1895.

18. The total revenue from Land Sales was Rs. 443,797, as compared with Rs. 438,870 in 1895.

19. The extent of land alienated by the Crown was 14,172 acres, as against 17,027 in 1895. Of this area 4,365 acres were sold to Europeans at an average rate of Rs. 28·12 per acre, whilst 9,807 acres were sold to natives at an average rate of Rs. 26·93 per acre.

FOREST DEPARTMENT.

20. The receipts amounted to Rs. 472,980, as against Rs. 417,375 in 1895. The expenditure was Rs. 463,375, as against Rs. 426,799.

21. The past year shows a small surplus of Rs. 9,605 in the working of the Department. If the value of free grants and the excess of outstandings due this year over that due in 1895 are taken into consideration, the balance in favour of the year amounts to Rs. 16,664. The year has been characterised by the commencement of a re-organization of the Department, which has for its object the control of the reserved forests under the Conservator of Forests and a special staff.

RAILWAYS.

22. The receipts in 1896 amounted to Rs. 6,777,832, as compared with Rs. 6,233,709 in 1895, an increase of Rs. 544,123, or over 8 per cent.

The expenditure was Rs. 3,087,790, as against Rs. 3,440,705 in 1895. The large decrease was due to the smaller expenditure on new works. The working expenses are therefore 45·55 per cent. of the receipts.

The profit on the total capital cost of the railway—Rs. 57,486,021—is between six and seven per cent.

23. The total length of the line open for traffic on December 31, 1895, was 297⅛ miles. This includes the new section from Galle to Matara, which was only opened in December, 1895.

24. The number of passengers carried was 5,683,957, an increase of more than 860,000 over last year. The goods traffic for 1896 was 421,129 tons as compared with 411,915 tons in 1895, an increase of 2 per cent.

POST OFFICE.

25. The receipts of the Post Office are calculated at Rs. 768,374·32. It is not possible to obtain exact figures, on account of the 5-cent stamp, which is used both for revenue and postal purposes.

26. The expenditure amounted to Rs. 914,739·83, as against Rs. 818,177 in 1895. The increase is due mainly to the payment for the telephone plant taken over from a private company, for cost of new telephone materials, and expenses in connection with the new telephone system generally.

27. The deposits in the Post Office Savings Bank rose from Rs. 837,228 at the end of 1895 to Rs. 1,006,971 on December 31, 1896, a still larger increase than that commented upon last year as the largest hitherto.

28. The total number of post, telegraph, and telephone offices is 364.

29. The value of money orders issued was Rs. 6,292,199·97, as against Rs. 5,503,507·27 in 1895.

30. The number of paid telegrams was 195,648 in 1896, an increase of 80,059 on the figures for 1895.

LEGISLATION.

31. Ordinances were passed providing for the regulation and inspection of mines and machinery, the decision by one Supreme Court Judge of appeals in Courts of Requests cases, and empowering District Judges who are also Police Magistrates to dispense with committals in cases triable before the District Court. Others dealt with pilgrimages, branch roads, the repression of crime, and to the law relating to the sale of goods.

32. Among the Ordinances amended during the year were the Municipal Councils' Ordinances, Tolls, and Widows' and Orphans' Pension Fund.

VITAL STATISTICS.

33. The subjoined table shows the proportion of births and deaths registered per thousand of the population for the six years 1891 to 1896 :—

—	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.	1895.	1896.
Births	31·8	29·8	30·8	32·5	31·1	31·3
Deaths	28·5	27·2	29·1	27·3	27·1	24·7

34. The registered births exceeded the deaths by 21,956, as compared with an excess of 13,179 in 1895.

35. The estimated total population of Ceylon on December 31, 1896, was 3,335,909.

INDIAN IMMIGRANTS.

36. The arrivals of immigrant coolies amounted to 128,350, the largest number in any one year since 1877, when the coffee enterprise was at its zenith. The departures were 93,281, showing an excess of arrivals over departures of 35,069.

PUBLIC HEALTH.

37. The general health of the people was satisfactory.

38. There were reported 106 cases of cholera with 94 deaths up to December 31, 1896. 17 cases of smallpox were reported, of which 3 proved fatal. The figures were, for 1894, 10 cases and 1 death; for 1895, 23 cases and 2 deaths. Fewer cases of malarial fever were reported than in the previous year. Although as usual it prevailed to some extent in a few districts, especially after the monsoon rains, there were no outbreaks calling for special active measures.

39. There were 282,287 persons vaccinated or re-vaccinated, as against 158,604 in 1895.

40. The number of hospitals and dispensaries open in 1895 and 1896 respectively was as follows :—

—	1895.	1896.
Civil hospitals	32	32
Medical aid hospitals	15	15
Field hospitals	7	7
Immigrant hospitals	6	6
Dispensaries	211	213
Asylums	2	2
Lying-in home	1	1

41. The death-rate of all sick treated in hospitals was 9·66 in 1896, as against 9·62 in 1895.

42. The expenditure of the Civil Medical Department amounted to Rs. 1,063,525·03, as against Rs. 1,046,257 in 1895.

43. One of the main features of the working of the Department has been the extension of the dispensary system. In 1895, 744,365 persons in all were treated; in 1896, 682,806 were treated. The system of estate dispensaries continued to work with satisfactory results.

44. The cost of working the Medical Aid Ordinance was as follows :—

	Rs.	c.
Total cost in 1896	269,457	4
Receipts from estates	85,696	50
Export duty	104,627	90
Deficit...	138,338	92

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

45. The following table shows the number of cases instituted and of persons convicted before police magistrates during 1894, 1895, and 1896 :—

Year.	Cases instituted.	Persons charged.	Persons convicted.
1894	56,097	99,036	18,539
1895	54,136	96,341	20,010
1896	54,612	91,748	23,614

46. In the District and Supreme Courts the figures are as follows :—

Year.	District Courts.		Supreme Court.	
	Convictions.	Acquittals.	Convictions.	Acquittals.
1894	536	493	420	307
1895	445	411	255	128
1896	598	554	355	246

47. The results of trials for murder and culpable homicide not amounting to murder were as follows :—

Year.	Number of Persons tried.	Number convicted of Murder.	Number convicted of Culpable Homicide.	Number convicted of Grievous Hurt and Hurt	Number acquitted.	Number executed.
1894	136	40	44	—	52	27
1895	129	24	52	—	53	24
1896	168	38	26	32	72	27

48. These figures do not point to any general increase in crime, but rather the reverse.

49. The number of murders and culpable homicides is, however, on the increase, and the inquest returns for 1895 give the extraordinarily large number of 196 homicides, much the largest on record, the previous highest being 160 in 1894.

50. The average for the last five years is 142, as against 132 in the previous five years.

PRISONS.

51. The total number of admissions for 1896 was 5,936, as compared with 6,242 in 1895. Deducting road defaulters (648), the number of admissions and the daily average (1,996) were the lowest on record.

52. For the sixth year in succession, the daily average of men imprisoned on conviction for offences shows a steady decline. The figures are :—

1890.	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.	1895.	1896.
3,509	3,353	2,684	2,495	2,381	2,192	1,996

So that the prison population has been reduced by more than a third in that period.

53. The number of admissions on committals from higher courts is 854, which is higher than that of 1895, but a great portion of the increase is accounted for by the operation of the Habitual Criminals' Ordinance and the introduction of anthropometrical identification.

54. The expenditure for the year amounted to Rs. 426,552, as against Rs. 441,610 in 1895. The last three years have been the lowest since 1884. The actual cost of dieting was less than in any previous year in the decade from 1884 to 1896. Hospital charges were unfortunately much the highest in the same period, being no less than Rs. 27,866. The next highest figure was Rs. 26,397.

55. The health of the prisoners showed a great improvement, the death-rate being 39 per thousand in 1896 against 65 in 1895.

56. The health of the prisoners in the convict establishment was also more satisfactory, the death-rate falling from 72 per thousand in 1895 to 37 per thousand in 1896.

CEYLON. 1896.

57. The daily sick per thousand of the total daily average strength in the Island was 100·19 in 1895 and 86·60 in 1896.

58. There was a decrease in the number of punishments inflicted on prisoners. A large number of prisoners are now employed in Mutwal and Mahara jails in connection with the new North-east Breakwater.

EDUCATION.

59. During 1896 there was an increase of nearly 4,451 in the number of scholars in schools presented for examination.

60. In 1895 the number was 134,481, as against 138,932 in 1896. In 1887 the number was 95,560 only, showing an increase in the decade of over 68 per cent.

In 1870, the first year in which figures are available, the total was 16,927 only.

61. In point of attendance there was also improvement, the number of scholars in schools reporting to the Department being 175,658 in 1896 as compared with 169,834 in 1895.

62. The proportion which the number of children attending school bears to the population for 1895 and 1896 is as follows :—

Province.	1895.	1896.
Western	1 in 11	1 in 11
Central	1 in 25	1 in 25
Northern	1 in 11	1 in 12
Southern	1 in 17	1 in 16
Eastern	1 in 18	1 in 17
North-western	1 in 31	1 in 25
North-central	1 in 38	1 in 36
Uva	1 in 45	1 in 52
Sabaragamuwa	1 in 35	1 in 33

63. The annexed tables give the comparative returns of attendance in Government, grant-in-aid, unaided, and pansala schools for 1895 and 1896, together with the average attendance and average cost to Government of the scholars in Government and aided schools :—

	Number of Schools in		Attended by					
	1895.	1896.	Boys in 1895.	Boys in 1896.	Girls in 1895.	Girls in 1896.	Total in 1895.	Total in 1896.
Government schools ..	477	474	37,552	37,825	6,700	6,713	44,252	44,538
Grant-in-aid schools ..	1,096	1,130	61,843	65,581	28,386	28,819	90,229	94,400
Unaided private schools	700	904	22,031	23,491	6,658	7,198	28,689	30,689
Pansala schools	1,542	1,364	6,664	6,031	—	—	6,664	6,031
Total ..	3,815	3,872	128,090	132,928	41,744	42,730	169,834	175,658

	Average Number of Scholars per School.		Average Cost to Government per Boy.		Average Cost to Government per girl.	
	In 1895.	In 1896.	In 1895.	In 1896.	In 1895.	In 1896.
Government schools	93	94	Rs. c. 4 91	Rs. c. 4 88	Rs. c. 3 65	Rs. c. 3 67
Grant-in-aid schools	82	84	3 10 per scholar	3 29 per scholar	Boys and distinguished	girls not
Unaided private schools	40	34	—	—	—	—
Pansala schools	4	4	—	—	—	—

64. The Department of Public Instruction has under its control the Technical College and the School of Agriculture, to which has been added a School of Forestry. At present the Conservator of Forests delivers a course of lectures in both theoretical and practical forestry. Competent instruction in mathematics, forest laws, and surveying is also provided under the direction of the Conservator.

65. A dairy farm is attached to the School of Agriculture, and last year's working proved satisfactory, showing a profit of over Rs. 3,000 on a capital expenditure of Rs. 31,000.

66. The expenditure on education in 1896 was Rs. 597,388, as against Rs. 597,388 in 1895.

E. NOEL WALKER,
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, September 27, 1897.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 254.

CEYLON.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1897.

(For Report for 1896, *see* No. 218.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
December 1898.

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ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
225	Jamaica	1896–97
226	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
227	Leeward Islands	1896
228	Bermuda	1897
229	Gambia	"
230	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
231	Barbados...	"
232	Lagos	"
233	St. Vincent	"
234	Sierra Leone	"
235	Falkland Islands	"
236	Straits Settlements	"
237	British New Guinea	1896–97
238	Bahamas	1897
239	St. Lucia...	"
240	St. Helena	"
241	Trinidad and Tobago	"
242	British Honduras	"
243	Malta	"
244	Fiji	"
245	Hong Kong	"
246	Leeward Islands	"
247	Grenada	"
248	Gibraltar...	"
249	Gold Coast	"
250	Mauritius and Rodrigues	"
251	British Solomon Islands	1897–98
252	Seychelles	1897
253	Labuan	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast...	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific	British Solomon Islands.
9	Dominica	Agriculture.
10	Virgin Islands	Condition during 1897.
11	Grenada	Agriculture in Carriacou.

No. 254.

CEYLON.

(For Report for 1896 *see* No. 218.)

GOVERNOR SIR J. WEST RIDGEWAY to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Queen's Cottage, Nuwara Eliya,
Ceylon,
29th September 1898.

SIR,

I have the honour to forward herewith the usual Report on the Blue Book of Ceylon for the year 1897.

I have, &c.,

WEST RIDGEWAY.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK OF CEYLON FOR THE YEAR 1897.

The progress of the Island during the year under review was very marked. The revenue far exceeded that of any previous year, and notwithstanding a liberal policy in Public Works the expenditure was kept well within bounds. The Diamond Jubilee of Her Majesty's reign was celebrated throughout the length and breadth of Ceylon with unbounded loyalty and fervour. The public health was good, and notwithstanding its proximity to, and frequent communications with, the continent of India, the Island is to be congratulated on its entire immunity from plague.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The revenue of the Colony during the year 1897 amounted to Rs. 24,006,521, and the expenditure to Rs. 21,634,377.

The figures for the last two years were:—

—	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	Rs.	Rs.
1895 ...	20,982,808	20,899,713
1896 ...	21,974,573	21,237,859

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Revenue.

2. The above figures show an increase of Rs. 2,031,948 as compared with the revenue of 1896. The rise in the revenue of 1897, amounting to considerably more than *two million rupees*, to use a popular phrase, "broke all previous records." From 1889 there has been, except in 1893, a steady rise every year of—roughly speaking—one million rupees, the figures being in millions 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, while this year it reached the unprecedented figure 24 in millions of rupees. This satisfactory increase was in nowise due to increased taxation or any unexpected windfall, but to the general prosperity of the Island, the people of which, in the year under review, imported more goods, travelled more, bought more Crown land, ate and drank more, wrote more letters and telegrams, and in general flourished more than in any previous year, to the no small gain both of themselves and of the Government.

3. The increases and decreases in revenue under the various sub-heads are explained in detail in the volume.

Expenditure.

4. The total increase of expenditure as compared with 1896 was Rs. 396,518. A full explanation of the various instances of increase and decrease under the different heads of expenditure will be found in the Blue Book.

5. The increase in the expenditure is largely due to supplementary votes due to the damage done to the roads by the great floods of December 1896.

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

6. The following table showing the assets and liabilities of the Government on January 1, 1898, as compared with January 1, 1897—

Assets.		Liabilities.	
1897.	1898.	1897.	1898.
Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
18,909,457 40	18,223,789 60	18,241,051 53	15,250,340 94½
—	—	668,405 87*	2,973,448 65½*
—	—	18,909,457 40	18,223,789 60

* Balance of assets over liabilities.

reveals the financial condition of the Colony as being sound, as the demand for Ceylon Stock also testifies.

PUBLIC DEBT.

7. The sterling debt of the Colony raised in London amounted on the 31st December 1897 to £3,766,000, as against £3,519,503 on the same day in the preceding year.

8. The debt of the Colony, raised in silver in Colombo, amounted to Rs. 3,365,000, as compared with Rs. 3,290,595 on the same date in 1896.

CUSTOMS AND SHIPPING.

9. The total value of the trade of the Colony for the year 1897 was Rs. 183,127,077, as against Rs. 175,629,442 in 1896, thus :—

—	1896.	1897.
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Imports	87,788,085 0	98,027,473 95
Exports	87,841,357 0	85,099,603 45
Total	175,629,442 0	183,127,077 40

Or, deducting specie :—

—	1896.	1897.
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Imports	77,083,587 29	85,730,156 92
Exports	75,859,428 81	83,229,304 45
Total	152,943,016 10	168,959,460 37

10. The gross Customs revenue for 1897 was Rs. 6,278,787·49, which, compared with 1896, shows an increase of Rs. 727,815·84.

CEYLON, 1897.

11. The principal imports and exports compare with those of 1896 as follows :—

Imports.		1896.	1897.
Rice...	bus.	7,594,413	8,723,750
Cotton goods	Rs.	5,992,367	7,866,099
Metals and metalware ...	,,	2,680,771	4,114,072
Coal and coke	tons.	373,452	414,912
Specie	Rs.	10,631,809	12,200,172
Exports.			
Coffee	cwts.	23,122	18,604
Cinchona	lbs.	1,377,180	591,136
Tea	,,	110,095,193	114,466,318
Cacao	cwts.	33,890	35,121
Cardamoms	lbs.	463,2[illegible]3	551,463
Cocoanut products :—			
Coir stuffs	cwts.	161,761	178,162
Cocoanut oil	,,	390,813	488,342
Copperah	,,	50,257	115,466
Arrack	gals.	117,376	109,598
Cinnamon	lbs.	3,182,823	3,850,005
Citronella oil	ozs.	19,492,669	18,853,637
Plumbago	cwts.	361,061	379,415

12. The large increase in the import of cotton goods is an unmistakable proof of the prosperity of the Island, as evidenced by the purchasing power of the inhabitants. With regard to the exports, the most satisfactory feature is the increase in the quantity and value of the produce of the cocoanut palm exported. The value amounted to no less than Rs. 13,142,621, showing an increase over the previous year of nearly two million rupees.

The value of tea exported was Rs. 46,931,190.

Shipping.

13. The shipping returns for the Island show a decrease in tonnage :—

1896.			1897.		
	No.	Tons.		No.	Tons.
Entered ...	3,953	3,526,323	Entered ...	3,771	3,367,415
Cleared ...	3,983	3,553,355	Cleared ...	3,785	3,337,332
Total ...	7,936	7,079,678	Total ...	7,556	6,704,747

The decrease is attributable to the effect of quarantine restrictions on the trade with the west coast of India.

Colombo Harbour.

14. The expenditure for the year amounted to Rs. 1,509,874·33, and the total expenditure from the commencement of the work to Rs. 16,573,146·07.

15. The whole of the staging for the north-east breakwater was completed in November 1897, in twenty months from the date of commencement.

16. The usual series of observations made over the south-west breakwater showed that the condition of the work still remains eminently satisfactory. No displacement of any kind or undue settlement has to be recorded.

17. The depth of the harbour has been maintained. Soundings taken over the harbour, with a view to determine what change is taking place, show no appreciable silting action.

Public Works.

18. The expenditure of the Public Works Department for 1897 amounted to Rs. 3,958,931·74, as compared with Rs. 3,437,862·47 in 1896.

19. The expenditure may be thus classified :—

	Rs.	c.
Personal Emoluments ...	393,612	14
Annually Recurrent Works ...	1,726,669	34
Extraordinary Public Works	1,683,673	2
Works chargeable to Loans ...	154,977	24
Total ...	3,958,931	74

CEYLON, 1897.

20. 3,537·10 miles of roads were maintained in 1897 in good order, and the public buildings and works of the Colony were kept in satisfactory order.

21. The Colombo foreshore reclamation has been finished as far as the coaling ground; the new roads in the Province of Uva have been considerably advanced; the Dehiwala flood-outlets and the Giant's Tank and Kanukkeni irrigation works in the Northern Province have made fair progress.

The Public Works and Irrigation Departments are being thoroughly re-organized.

SURVEY DEPARTMENT.

22. The expenditure of the Department in 1897 amounted to Rs. 480,280·97, as compared with Rs. 447,674 in 1896.

23. The total revenue from land sales was Rs. 491,452·85, or an increase of Rs. 48,363·97 over the revenue of 1896.

24. The area of land alienated by the Crown during 1897 was 22,446 acres and 31 perches. Of these, 4,695 acres 2 roods 7 perches were sold to Europeans at an average rate of Rs. 20·82, and 17,750 acres 2 roods 24 perches were purchased by natives at the rate of Rs. 30·61 per acre. The cultivation of the cocoanut palm, which was almost entirely in native hands, has been vigorously taken up by English capitalists, and will prove a valuable stand-by in case of the possible failure of tea.

25. The operations of the Department were unusually interesting, the Department having been entirely re-organized. Topographical and cadastral surveys on a considerable scale were undertaken during the year, and the work will greatly facilitate settlements under the Waste Lands Ordinance, Forest Administration, and Irrigation.

FOREST DEPARTMENT.

26. In settlement, extension, and improvement of forests, useful work was done during the year. Considerable areas situated in the Province of Sabaragamuwa were reserved, and some demarcation work was also done.

27. The value of sales of timber and other produce during the year amounts to Rs. 488,956·21.

RAILWAYS.

28. The receipts in 1897 amounted to Rs. 7,326,916, as compared with Rs. 6,777,832 in 1896, thus showing an increase of Rs. 290,074.

29. The expenditure, including new works, rolling stock, and loss on exchange, was Rs. 3,428,900, as compared with Rs. 3,087,790 during 1896.

30. The net earnings were Rs. 2,608,364, or 4·52 per cent. on the total capital cost of Rs. 57,734,069, an increase of 50 per cent. on the amount earned in 1896.

31. The mileage of railway open for traffic in 1897 was 297 miles. No further extensions were commenced.

Post Office.

32. The total revenue was Rs. 979,435.

33. The actual expenditure was Rs. 838,275.

34. The deposits in the Post Office Savings Bank rose from Rs. 1,006,971 at the end of 1896 to Rs. 1,051,632 at the end of 1897, an indication of general prosperity and of a growing habit of thrift among the natives. The number of savings bank offices at the end of the year was 140.

Legislation.

35. There was little legislation of interest during the year. The most important laws passed were :—

(1.) The Waste Lands Ordinance ;
(2.) The Joint Stock Banking Ordinance ;
(3.) The Widows and Orphans' Pension Fund Ordinance ;
(4.) The Quarantine and Prevention of Diseases Ordinance.

Vital Statistics.

36. The annexed table shows the births and deaths per thousand of the population for the year 1897, as compared with the average of the last ten years :—

—	1897.	Average.
Births to 1,000 persons living ...	36·9	31·1
Deaths to 1,000 persons living ...	23·2	26·6

Indian Immigrants.

37. The arrivals of immigrant coolies amounted to 84,330, and the departures to 14,123.

Public Health.

38. The general health of the people was fairly satisfactory as regards infectious diseases.

39. There were 216 cases of cholera reported during 1897, of which 124 proved fatal.

CEYLON, 1897.

40. There was no increase in mortality from small-pox: 35 cases with 3 deaths, as against 17 cases and 3 deaths in the previous year.

41. The following table shows the total number of persons vaccinated in 1896 and 1897:—

1896	165,379
1897	148,933

The subjoined table gives the number of hospitals and dispensaries open in 1897:—

Civil Hospitals, including Field or Parangi Hospitals	38
Medical Aid Hospitals	15
Immigrant Hospitals	6
Dispensaries (Civil and District)	303
Lying-in Hospital	1
Asylums	2

The death-rate of the total sick population in all the hospitals and asylums in 1897 was 9·79, as against 9·66 in 1896.

42. The expenditure of the Medical Department amounted to Rs. 1,077,151.

43. The cost of working the Medical Aid Ordinance appears as under:—

	Rs.	c.
Total cost in 1897	374,938	80
Receipts	127,114	27
Export Duty	107,880	37
Deficit...	139,944	16
Total ...	374,938	80

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

44. The following table shows the number of cases instituted and of persons charged and persons convicted before Police Magistrates during 1896 and 1897:—

—	Cases Instituted.	Persons Charged.	Persons Convicted.
1896	64,073	101,209	24,659
1897	67,514	101,910	26,004

45. The following table shows the number of persons convicted and acquitted in the Superior Courts for the same period :—

—	Superior Courts.	
	Convictions.	Acquittals.
1896	953	800
1897	1,360	1,353

46. The results of the trials for murder and culpable homicide not amounting to murder were as follows :—

Number of persons tried for murder	72
Number of persons convicted of murder	38
Number of persons convicted of culpable homicide	45
Number of persons acquitted	9

PRISONS.

47. The total number of admissions for 1897 shows an increase of 1,713 when compared with those for 1896. The daily average, excluding road defaulters, increased from 1,958 in 1896 to 2,178 in 1897.

48. The expenditure for the years 1896 and 1897 was as under :—

	Rs.
1896	426,552
1897	463,427

49. The health of the prisoners in 1897 was very satisfactory. The daily average of sick was 8·05 per cent., against a little less than 10 per cent. in the preceding year.

EDUCATION.

50. During the year under review there was an increase of 8,848 scholars in schools reporting to the Instruction Department, the total number in 1897 being 184,506 as against 175,658 in 1896.

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CEYLON, 1897.

51. The proportion which the number of children attending school bears to the population of the several provinces for 1896 and 1897 is shown in the following table :—

Province.	1896.	1897.
Western	1 in 11	1 in 10
Central	1 in 25	1 in 25
Northern	1 in 12	1 in 10
Southern	1 in 16	1 in 17
Eastern	1 in 17	1 in 17
North-Western	1 in 25	1 in 23
North-Central	1 in 36	1 in 28
Uva	1 in 52	1 in 49
Sabaragamuwa	1 in 33	1 in 33
Average ...	1 in 17	1 in 16

52. The annexed table gives the comparative returns of attendance in Government, grant-in-aid, and unaided schools for 1896 and 1897 :—

—	Number of Schools in		Total Scholars in	
	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.
Government Schools ...	474	474	44,538	45,113
Grant-in-Aid Schools ...	1,130	1,172	94,400	102,485
Unaided Private Schools ...	2,268	2,331	36,720	36,908
Total ...	3,872	3,977	175,658	184,506

53. The sphere of usefulness and the accommodation of the Technical School, which was established in 1893, were largely extended. The area of employment has been enlarged, and embraces prospects in the Public Works, Survey, Railway, and Telegraph Departments.

54. The expenditure on education during 1897 was Rs. 716,766.

E. NOEL WALKER,
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo,
September 27th, 1898.

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COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 274.

CEYLON.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1898.

(For Report for 1897, *see* No. 254.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
October, 1899.

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ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
247	Grenada	1897
248	Gibraltar	"
249	Gold Coast	"
250	Mauritius and Rodrigues	"
251	British Solomon Islands	1897–98
252	Seychelles	1897
253	Labuan	"
254	Ceylon	"
255	Basutoland	1897–98
256	Newfoundland	1896–97
257	Cocos-Keeling and Christmas Islands ...	1898
258	British New Guinea	1897–98
259	Bermuda	1898
260	Niger.—West African Frontier Force ...	1897–98
261	Jamaica	"
262	Barbados	1898
263	Falkland Islands	"
264	Gambia	"
265	St. Helena	"
266	Leeward Islands	"
267	St. Lucia	"
268	Fiji	"
269	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
270	Malta	"
271	Gold Coast	"
272	Trinidad	"
273	Sierra Leone	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland ...	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific ...	British Solomon Islands.
9	Dominica	Agriculture.
10	Virgin Islands... ...	Condition during 1897.
11	Grenada	Agriculture in Carriacou.
12	Anguilla	Vital Statistics, 1898.

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No. 274.

CEYLON.

CEYLON, 1898.

(For Report for 1897, *see* No. 254.)

LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR SIR E. NOEL WALKER to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Queen's House, Colombo,
Ceylon,
11th August 1899.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the usual Report on the Blue Book of Ceylon for the year 1898, prepared by Mr. J. J. Thorburn, the second Assistant Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.,
E. NOEL WALKER.

REPORT ON THE CEYLON BLUE BOOK OF 1898.

I.—FINANCIAL.

(A.) GENERAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

Revenue.

The record revenue of 1897 was handsomely surpassed by that of 1898, the figures being Rs. 25,138,669·26 against Rs. 24,006,521·83½. The estimated revenue for 1898 was realized, with Rs. 1,727,669·26 to spare.

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2. The comparative statement of revenue of 1897 and 1898 shows :—

—	Revenue of 1897.	Revenue of 1898.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
1. Customs	5,973,785 4	6,395,442 24	429,177 12	7,519 92
2 Port, Harbour, Wharf, and Lighthouse Dues...	971,429 31	1,099,204 67	127,775 36	—
3. Licenses, Excise, and Internal Revenue not otherwise classified.	5,456,917 87	5,528,529 84	167,312 70	95,700 73
4. Fees of Court or Office, Payment for Specific Services, and Reimbursements in Aid.	1,499,558 92	1,526,037 19	98,428 72	71,950 45
5. Posts and Telegraphs	827,801 62	955,884 74	150,545 47	22,462 35
6. Government Railways	7,318,682 88	7,558,611 2	239,928 14	—
7. Rents of Government Property...	99,017 42	133,663 50	34,646 8	—
8. Interest	539,892 20	630,267 41	105,766 98	15,391 77
9. Miscellaneous Receipts	308,633 23½	171,701 37	63,790 64½	200,722 51
10. Sale of Government Property	511,833 26	528,378 21	18,097 18	1,552 23
11. Land Sales	498,970 8	610,949 7	113,434 77	1,455 78
Total	24,006,521 83½	25,138,669 26	1,548,903 16½	416,755 74
Deduct Decrease ...			416,755 74	
Net Increase			1,132,147 42½	

3. Under each head there is an increase, except in the case of "Miscellaneous," which was unduly swelled in 1897 by an exceptional item. If this item be left out of consideration miscellaneous receipts show an increase also, and there is nothing to mar the gratifying series of progressive figures.

4. The "Customs" figures show a satisfactory increase in imports and exports and contain a new item in the export duty on arrack levied under Ordinance No. 7 of 1898.

5. "Port and Harbour Dues" testify to the greater number and tonnage of steamers calling at Colombo; "Licenses, Excise, &c.," show increased consumption of salt and arrack—a combination which might in some circumstances indicate cause and effect; "Post and Telegraphs" disclose a phenomenal increase in telegraph receipts, due to the success of the 25-cent telegram; "Railways" continue to show enhanced returns; and "Land Sales" a greater extent of land sold. The year was one of steady and maintained progress unaided by any windfall or adventitious revenue.

Expenditure.

6. The expenditure for 1898 was Rs. 22,843,851·89, and exceeded that of any previous year.

7. The comparative statement of the expenditure of 1897 and 1898 is as follows :—

Heads of Service.	1897.	1898.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
1. Charges on account of Public Debt	2,860,295 51	2,808,860 72	—	51,434 79
2. Pensions	1,013,966 30	1,032,154 39	18,188 9	—
3. His Excellency the Governor	123,950 68	121,770 5	—	2,180 63
3*a*. Civil Service	—	666,281 9	666,281 9	—
4. Secretariat	268,528 34	198,587 91	—	69,940 43
5. Audit Office	69,351 17	47,465 42	—	21,885 75
6. Treasury	56,724 45	39,337 97	—	17,386 48
7. Provincial Administration	1,100,479 6	974,979 5	—	125,500 1
8. Survey Department	467,576 23	567,796 98	100,220 75	—
9. Customs Department	154,988 54	115,037 5	—	39,951 49
10. Port and Marine Department, Colombo	237,986 55	259,135 36	21,148 81	—
11. Port and Marine Department other than Colombo	37,085 2	38,691 76	1,606 74	—
12. Botanic Gardens...	51,297 7	51,726 6	428 99	—
13. Colombo Museum	22,932 53	23,911 70	979 17	—

14 Legal Departments:—				
Supreme Court	130,280 92	127,693 32		2,587 60
Attorney-General	56,394 33	56,929 69	535 36	—
Solicitor-General	12,421 54	12,001 25		420 29
District Courts	245,620 49	148,052 35	—	97,568 14
Courts of Requests and Police Courts	195,963 22	116,861 39	—	79,101 83
Registration of Lands	86,808 91	77,411 72	—	9,397 19
Registration of Marriages, Births, and Deaths	80,182 62	97,487 13	17,304 51	—
Fiscals	196,481 14	192,906 15	—	3,574 99
Loan Board	5,731 99	5,695 54	—	36 45
15. Police	697,552 11	710,953 15	13,401 4	—
16. Prisons	477,388 56	517,157 28	39,768 72	—
17. Medical Department	348,542 16	366,414 65	17,872 49	—
18. Hospitals and Dispensaries	977,340 64	1,138,644 74	161,304 10	—
19. Ecclesiastical	51,463 86	49,835 0	—	1,628 86
20. Education...	716,766 71	738,122 5	21,355 34	—
21. Transport	20,387 43	20,481 46	94 3	—

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Comparative statement of the expenditure of 1897 and 1898—*continued.*

Heads of Service.	1897.	1898.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
22. Exchange	241,939 75	197,751 54	—	44,188 21
23. Military Expenditure	1,824,602 5	1,900,976 23	76,374 18	—
24. Miscellaneous Services	824,491 34	827,513 35	3,022 1	—
25. Colonial Store	80,284 46	71,372 88	—	8,911 58
26. Crown Agents, London	2,113 30	2,733 89	620 59	—
27. Forests	481,566 89	501,089 82	19,522 93	—
28. Post Office and Telegraphs	835,752 79	933,365 70	97,612 91	—
29. Railway Department	3,333,326 14	3,635,279 98	301,953 84	—
30. Public Works Department	372,891 79	387,609 12	14,717 33	—
31. Public Works Annually Recurrent	1,519,439 16	1,643,771 62	124,332 46	—
32. Public Works Extraordinary	1,353,482 19	1,420,005 38	66,523 19	—
Total	21,634,377 94	22,843,851 89	1,785,168 67	575,694 72
Deduct Decrease ...			575,694 72	
Net Increase			1,209,473 95	

8. The Survey Department, Hospitals and Dispensaries, the Post Office, Railway, and Public Works met with the greatest measure of success in their claims for a share of the good things available.

9. The total revenue and expenditure for the last five years is tabulated in the statement given below :—

—	1894.	1895.	1896.	1897.	1898.
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Revenue	19,485,310 91¼	20,982,808 78	21,974,573 41¼	24,006,521 83¼	25,138,669 26
Expenditure	20,342,899 31*	20,899,713 59	21,237,859 66	21,634,377 94	22,843,851 89
Expenditure from Surplus Funds	729,920 49	364,648 38	37,095 28	5,092 64	1,668 88
Expenditure from Balances of Votes of previous years.	289,401 70	251,905 23	—	—	—

* The deficit in 1894 was met from Surplus Revenue.

10. The expenditure, while increasing with the revenue, has done so at a slower pace, the increase of 1898 over 1894 being but 2½ million rupees, while the revenue in the same period has risen by over 5½ million.

11. The expenditure from surplus funds, which was Rs. 729,920·49 in 1894, fell to Rs. 1,688·88 in 1898.

(B.) Important Changes in Taxation.

There were no important changes in taxation during the year.

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CEYLON, 1898.

(C.) Assets and Liabilities.

1. The total assets on the 1st January, 1899, were Rs. 21,340,061·51 and the liabilities Rs. 16,005,932·70½, showing an excess of assets over liabilities of Rs. 5,334,128·79½, against which, however, must be set off the amount to be appropriated for the Northern Railway extension (Rs. 2,500,000) and the amount appropriated to meet the excess of estimated expenditure over estimated revenue for 1899 (Rs. 127,600), which reduces the excess to Rs. 2,706,528·79½.

2. On the 1st January, 1898, the excess of assets over liabilities was Rs. 2,973,448·65½.

(D.) Public Debt, showing Provision for Payment.

The balance due by the Colony on its sterling debt raised in London amounted on December 31st, 1898, to £3,470,821 6*s.* 3*d*, while the balance on the debt raised locally in silver was Rs. 3,266,212·18. The total debt is thus less than three years' revenue.

(E.) Currency.

Legal tender currency consists of Ceylon Government notes of Rs. 100, Rs. 50, Rs. 10, and Rs. 5, the Indian rupee with a subsidiary silver coinage of 50-cent, 25-cent, and 10-cent pieces, and a copper coinage of 5-cent, 1-cent, ½-cent, and ¼-cent pieces.

About half of the face value of the paper issued is held in specie by the Currency Commissioners, the remaining moiety being invested in Indian Government paper and other approved securities :—

—	Value.	
Circulation.		Rs. c.
Currency notes in circulation on December 31st, 1898.	—	10,598,700 0
Reserve.	In Silver. Rs. c.	In Securities. Rs. c.
By silver in the vault (8 cents copper) ...	4,984,777 48	—
By investments made by the Crown Agents	—	2,795,318 8
By investments made in Indian Government paper.	—	2,818,604 44
	4,984,777 48	5,613,922 52
Total	Rs 10,598,700	

4. The Mercantile Bank of India, Ltd., the Bank of Madras, the National Bank of India, Ltd., and the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation do business in the Colony.

(F.) Comparative Statement of Total Revenue and Expenditure of Municipalities and Public Boards.

Name of Municipality.	Revenue or Expenditure.	1894.	1895.	1896.	1897.	1898.	Total.
		Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Colombo	Revenue	689,622 79	726,554 31	786,597 49	834,546 17	922,189 17	3,959,509 93
	Loans	—	—	—	—	50,000 0	50,000 0
	Expenditure ...	630,337 6	655,372 59	704,856 69	798,423 1	837,809 72	3,626,799 7
Kandy	Revenue	117,413 31	114,884 84	116,854 57	125,414 90	131,379 34	605,946 96
	Loans	—	—	—	40,000 0	103,000 0	143,000 0
	Expenditure ...	109,136 38	114,136 22	119,142 62	119,217 71	166,774 19	628,407 12
Galle	Revenue	77,005 28	70,723 47	68,724 98	71,080 0	80,797 16	368,330 89
	Loans	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Expenditure ...	73,417 68	75,572 15	66,812 43	79,321 69	83,164 72	378,288 67

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(F.) COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF TOTAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE OF MUNICIPALITIES AND PUBLIC BOARDS—*continued.*

Name of Local Board.	Revenue or Expenditure.	1894.	1895.	1896.	1897.	1898.	Total.
		Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Kurunegala	Revenue	13,975 34	15,640 81	16,402 67	21,226 98	16,007 82	83,253 62
	Expenditure ...	15,126 3	15,854 3	17,407 12	17,424 27	19,275 19	85,086 64
Puttalam	Revenue	10,237 85	10,121 88	9,351 27	9,212 54	11,275 44	50,198 98
	Expenditure ...	9,436 46	9,787 78	8,787 73	10,047 90	11,889 88	49,949 75
Chilaw	Revenue	7,860 4	8,090 54	7,958 66	8,333 22	9,533 91	41,776 37
	Expenditure ...	7,684 60	8,446 64	7,329 21	8,620 87	10,146 65	42,227 97
Matale	Revenue	6,711 11	7,873 24	7,221 17	8,065 76	8,275 37	38,146 65
	Expenditure ...	5,423 27	9,194 45	6,935 80	8,832 35	7,425 8	37,810 95
Gampola	Revenue	6,174 57	4,086 29	7,106 34	8,704 65	4,743 51	30,815 36
	Expenditure ...	4,369 98	5,028 1	7,664 25	8,490 36	4,189 22	29,741 82
Nawalapitiya	Revenue	Established in April 1896.		2,829 78	4,323 81	7,107 66	14,261 25
	Expenditure ...			2,023 20	2,148 88	4,822 94	8,995 2

Badulla	Revenue	8,733 22	11,918 59	11,884 75	11,040 43	13,717 29	57,294 28
	Loans	15,200 0	4,000 0	—	3,500 0	—	—
	Expenditure ...	19,877 79	20,153 23	13,150 94	13,643 2	11,800 50	78,625 48
Matara	Revenue	14,841 32	15,002 57	15,267 92	13,559 77	14,466 86	74,987 58
	Loans	2,000 0	—	—	—	—	—
	Expenditure ...	16,051 9	15,435 15	13,533 58	13,256 26	12,025 46	70,301 54
Ratnapura...	Revenue	8,468 51	12,918 27	7,738 8	8,205 99	9,406 29	46,737 14
	Loans	5,500 0	—	—	—	—	—
	Expenditure ...	8,147 3	12,322 54	7,172 85	7,172 48	8,275 26	43,090 16
Kegalla	Revenue	Established in 1895.	740 67	4,406 96	3,787 67	3,574 74	12,510 4
	Expenditure ...		159 0	3,412 43	3,505 55	4,498 86	11,575 84
Batticaloa...	Revenue	10,274 30	13,974 30	15,323 19	14,315 32	17,124 88	71,011 99
	Loans	—	—	—	—	3,000 0	—
	Expenditure ...	10,583 86	14,208 56	15,328 94	13,960 15	16,865 4	70,946 55
Trincomalee	Revenue	13,105 16	12,453 54	12,798 23	13,355 48	13,184 15	64,896 56
	Loans	3,000 0	3,000 0	2,000 0	—	—	—
	Expenditure ...	10,724 58	11,052 86	18,472 15	15,325 89	12,754 96	68,330 44

(F.) Comparative Statement of Total Revenue and Expenditure of Municipalities and Public Boards—*continued.*

Name of Local Board.	Revenue or Expenditure.	1894.	1895.	1896.	1897.	1898.	Total.
		Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Negombo	Revenue	21,918 94	22,225 21	23,453 96	23,647 59	25,852 32	117,098 2
	Loans	—	—	12,000 0	—	—	—
	Expenditure ...	23,777 77	22,415 91	31,813 11	21,071 12	25,963 71	125,041 62
Kalutara	Revenue	16,128 72	12,792 38	15,637 63	13,182 53	19,587 80	77,329 6
	Expenditure ...	12,646 78	14,728 5	13,275 31	15,807 61	13,192 40	67,650 15
Nuwara Eliya (Board of Improvement from 1897).	Revenue	27,234 25	17,917 25	23,944 12	20,543 94	22,486 6	112,125 62
	Expenditure ...	24,720 62	17,515 92	21,632 78	19,125 28	20,472 68	103,467 28

(G.) DEBTS OF MUNICIPALITIES AND BOARDS, SHOWING PROVISION FOR PAYMENT.

1. The debts of the various Local Boards of the Colony at the end of the year were :—

—	Rs. c.		Rs.
Puttalam	6,160 0	on the original loan of	7,000
Badulla	26,163 92 800 0	do. do.	28,480 1,000
Ratnapura	3,661 44	do.	5,500
Batticaloa	17,600 0 2,940 0	do.	20,000 3,000
Trincomalee	7,420 0	do.	8,000
Negombo	10,000 2	do.	12,000
Nuwara Eliya (Board of Improvement since 1897)	12,880 0 4,800 0 78,061 0 9,000 0	do.	14,000 6,000 78,061 9,000

2. These loans are repayable from the general revenue of the Boards, generally at the rate of 2 per cent. per annum on the original loan.

3. Full details as to the method of repayment in each case are given in the Blue Book return.

4. Municipalities are indebted as follows :—

—	Rs. c.		Rs.
Kandy	200,492 24	on the original loan of	250,000
Galle	63,939 88	do.	70,000

5. These loans are secured on the water-rates.

6. Colombo has no debt.

CEYLON, 1898.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

(A.) IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

Imports.

1. The total imports and exports for the last five years were :—

—	Imports.		Exports.	
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
1894	68,682,011	16	78,939,599	2
1895	76,543,473	23	84,496,873	40
1896	77,083,587	29	85,352,428	81
1897	85,730,156	92	83,229,303	45
1898	87,525,034	97	93,801,890	13

2. The value of the imports for 1898, including specie (Rs. 10,368,023·75), aggregated Rs. 97,893,058·72.

3. The value of the imports imported into each province was—

			Rs.	c.
Western Province	...	...	79,490,499	39
Northern Province	...	...	3,347,691	6
Southern Province	...	...	3,960,565	42
Eastern Province	...	...	726,279	10
Total		...	87,525,034	97

4. Arms and ammunition accounted for Rs. 52,199·17 against Rs. 28,791·56, showing an increase of Rs. 23,407·61; the value of cotton manufactures imported fell from Rs. 6,866,099·65 in 1897 to Rs. 6,856,972·81 in 1898, the duty recovered showing a diminution of Rs. 4,710·75. The decrease, which was in unbleached goods, occurred in imports from British Colonies and foreign countries, which supplied Rs. 396,676·73 worth of goods less than in 1897. On the other hand, the imports from the United Kingdom rose by Rs. 387,549·89. The duty collected on

chemicals, dye stuffs, and tanning substances fell by Rs. 1,619·19 as against the preceding year, Rs. 1,273 of the deficit being due to smaller imports of cutch and gambier. The activity now prevailing in the building trade was demonstrated by an increase in the import of cement of 4,335 tons. Colombo imported 414,551 tons of coal and Galle 5,423 tons, against a total of 414,912 tons in 1897, made up of 411,731 tons for Colombo and 3,181 tons for Galle. The imports of Indian coal rose from 101,349 tons to 159,310 tons, due doubtless to the increasing use of Indian coal on the railway. Kerosine oil showed an increase of 143,591 gallons imported and 245,050 gallons entered for home consumption, with consequent increases of duty of Rs. 89,744·37 and Rs. 61,509·97 respectively. Food articles showed a general increase. Of rice 8,049,359 bushels were cleared for home consumption and brought in duty to the extent of Rs. 2,615,323·95, against Rs. 300,510·92 collected on other grain of all sorts. Live stock imported rose in value by Rs. 25,529, while machinery showed a decrease of Rs. 175,187·56, due probably to the wants of the tea factories having been supplied. The duty on malt liquor rose by Rs. 2,301·17 to Rs. 39,853·63; metals and metal-ware fell in value by Rs. 77,904·07, galvanized iron, hoop iron, and tin plates showing a considerable falling off, which is attributable to an overstocked market. Manures rose in value by Rs. 187,061·18, and oils (excluding kerosine) by Rs. 22,538·61. The import of gingelly oil more than doubled the import of 1897, but no definite reason can be assigned for this abnormal increase. Opium rose by 1,025 lb., poonac by 20,169 cwt., and the value of spices imported by Rs. 46,278·31. Spirits showed a decrease in value of Rs. 58,081·22, though an increase of 11,000 gallons in quantity. The chief fall was in the value of whisky, the poor white man's beverage. Sugar, on the other hand, showed an increase of 10 per cent. in the quantity imported. Specie showed a decrease of nearly two million rupees, the deficit being in the import of silver from India, due presumably to the tightness of money there. Silk manufactures rose in value, while tobacco and cigars declined. The value of woollen manufactures fell by Rs. 64,699·10, and of wines by Rs. 22,764.

Exports.

5. The value of exports in 1898 amounted to Rs. 95,097,692·13, distributed under the following heads:—

	Rs.	c.
Ceylon produce	83,288,352	57
Imports re-exported	788,467	56
Specie	1,295,802	0
Coal for use of steamers ...	9,725,070	0
Total ...	95,097,692	13

CEYLON, 1898.

6. Ceylon produce exported increased by Rs. 7,012,878·95, aided by the phenomenal advance in the value of plumbago and larger exports of copperah, cacao, and tea. Imports exported dwindled by Rs. 321,421·97 owing to quarantine regulations necessitated by the occurrence of plague in Bombay and Calcutta, which prevented the free intercourse with the Colony of vessels less than ten days out from an infected port. The value of coal exported for use of steamers rose by Rs. 1,700,000, while specie declined by about Rs. 500,000.

7. The value of exports to the United Kingdom rose from Rs. 51,274,207·12 to Rs. 52,530,107·04. Exports to British Colonies fell from Rs. 17,919,544·09 to Rs. 16,218,067·73, while exports to foreign countries rose from Rs. 8,480,321·64 to Rs. 16,624,447·36, the increase being due to the institution of direct lines of steamers to the United States and Russia. This is shown by the fact that the direct export of tea to those countries rose by 2,084,437 lb. and 1,093,896 lb. respectively, while the total direct imports increased in the case of Russia to almost ten-fold and in the case of the United States to nearly two-fold the figures of the previous year. Copperah showed a rise in export from 50,000 cwt. to 115,000 cwt., and citronella oil exports increased by one-third. The export of tea rose from 114,466,318 lb. to 122,395,518 lb.

8. It is to be noted that in the Blue Book return foreign goods coming through London and transhipped on to a British vessel have been classified as goods from the United Kingdom; and *rice versâ*, tea shipped from Ceylon to America or Russia-in-Asia *viâ* China is classified as an export to China.

(B.) Mines, Manufactures, and Fisheries.

1. The principal mining industry is plumbago, the profits arising from which are now very large. Mining operations are not at present carried on on scientific principles, many of the smaller mines, or rather pits, being abandoned if water is met with. With the rise in value of this product and the advice which a geological expert, lent by the Indian Government, will be able to give, improved methods of mining will doubtless be followed ere long. The industry is now flourishing, but great development may be expected, and capitalists are evincing an eager desire to obtain land for prospecting purposes.

2. In Sabaragamuwa gem mining is carried on in 247 pits, but it is not easy to ascertain the profits arising from this pursuit.

3. Manufactures embrace cloth, salt, oil, the numerous products of the cocoanut (such as copperah, coir, &c.), bricks and tiles, baskets, tobacco, jewellery, carpentry, &c.

4. The manufacture of salt is controlled by the Government, which has a monopoly of the sale.

5. The products of the cocoanut represent a large proportion of the total manufactures, and as the area under cocoanuts increases, and more European capital is invested in the industry, these products are likely to secure more attention in their manufacture, which is at present carried on in a somewhat primitive style.

6. *Fisheries.*—In the Northern, Eastern, and North-Western Provinces the fisheries are of great importance; but much could be done to develop them were capital invested in good fish-curing establishments, the produce of native curing yards leaving much to be desired at present. In the Northern Province the fisheries include chank and bêche-de-mer fisheries, and also the pearl fishery, which has not been held for some years past owing to a dearth of oysters.

7. It is anticipated that the extension of the railway to the north will materially aid in developing these fisheries.

(C.) Agricultural Industries and Botanical Stations.

1. The chief agricultural products are paddy, tea, cocoanuts, cacao, and tobacco.

2. The area under tea and cocoanuts continues to expand, and the cultivation of the latter yields an excellent return to those who can wait, the price realized being from Rs. 30 to 40 per 1,000 nuts, while little expenditure is required after the trees have come into bearing.

3. Cacao is also a profitable product, but has unfortunately a remarkable attraction for thieves, as the pods are easily removed from the bushes.

4. Tobacco, which does well in the Northern, Eastern, and North-Western Provinces, is a somewhat delicate plant. Although the quality is good, the local growers have not yet succeeded in having it manufactured to meet the taste of the average European.

CEYLON, 1898.

5. The hope that india-rubber might soon be added to the list of staple products has unfortunately been falsified.

6. *Botanical Stations.*—Of these the chief is at Peradeniya, where much useful work is done in introducing new plants and by publication of circulars containing instructions for the cure or prevention of disease and blight, &c., and for the identification of the numerous insect pests which are the bane of the cultivator. There is also a garden at Hakgala and some smaller experimental gardens in various parts of the Island. The latter have proved useful as centres from which to supply the villagers with new plants of economic value, and their influence is shown by the numerous village horticultural shows which have been held in recent years.

(D.) Land Grants and General Value of Land.

1. In 1898, 16,279 acres of land were alienated by sale, by grant at half the improved value, or by certificate against the right of the Crown.

2. In addition, 4,258 acres were sold under Sir Henry Ward's Minute, *i.e.*, on payment of one-fourth the purchase money and fees, the balance three-fourths being payable in three annual instalments. This easy mode of sale is confined to irrigable lands.

3. The 16,279 acres alienated realized Rs. 496,549, or say Rs. 30·50 per acre.

4. It is satisfactory to note that while more land was sold than in 1898 fewer plans had to be supplied by the Survey Department, as a good many blocks which had been surveyed in former years were disposed of.

5. The price realized for land has risen and will probably rise higher, and in the districts where plumbago is known to exist a keen competition may be expected in view of the abnormal increase in the value of that mineral.

6. The Survey Department has been very fully occupied in surveying land in connection with settlements under the Waste Lands Ordinance, with forest demarcations, and irrigation work.

7. Irrigation surveys of considerable importance were carried out in the Eastern Province, where the restoration of several large and important schemes is engaging the attention of the Central Irrigation Board.

(E.) Shipping.

1. The shipping returns for the Island show a decrease of 459 in the number of vessels and an increase of 377,894 tons in tonnage:—

—	1897.		1898.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Entered	3,771	3,367,415	3,551	3,605,706
Cleared	3,785	3,337,332	3,546	3,476,935
	7,556	6,704,747	7,097	7,082,641

2. The number and tonnage of steamers and sailing vessels entered inwards and cleared outwards in 1898, exclusive of those calling to coal and for orders at Colombo and Galle, are shown below:—

—		Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.		Total.	
		No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Colombo ...	Inwards	1,451	2,914,328	590	61,950	2,041	2,976,278
	Outwards	1,292	2,518,256	601	63,203	1,893	2,581,459
	Total	2,743	5,432,584	1,191	125,153	3,934	5,557,737
Galle	Inwards	141	265,382	17	1,135	158	266,517
	Outwards	136	265,070	17	1,135	153	266,205
	Total	277	530,452	34	2,270	311	532,722

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CEYLON, 1898.

3. The number of steamers calling at Colombo rose by 8 and the sailing ships decreased by 87, while 57 fewer steamers and 16 fewer sailing vessels put in at Galle as compared with 1897.

4. The decreases are due partly to the effect of precautionary measures against plague, but principally to the tendency to augment the tonnage of modern steamers. This tendency is well shown at (*a*) in the following table.

5. The nationality of vessels inwards and outwards during the year 1898 for the Island is thus made up :—

—	Entered Inwards.		Cleared Outwards.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
British	1,486	2,707,068	1,462	2,591,290
Colonial	1,776	169,075	1,800	171,243
American	1	2,096	1	2,096
Austrian	23	54,563	23	54,563
French	89	202,003	88	200,276
German	88	281,841	86	274,920
Japanese	28	90,040	27	84,352
Maldivian	28	1,543	28	1,398
Russian	21	73,663	20	72,783
Danish	1	2,626	1	2,626
Dutch	2	3,022	2	3,022
Spanish	7	17,663	7	17,663
Norwegian... ...	1	503	1	503

(*a*) Compared with the years 1894, 1895, 1896, and 1897, the result inwards and outwards is as follows :—

Inwards.

1894.—A decrease of 300 vessels, but an increase of 395,499 tons.
1895.—A decrease of 291 vessels, but an increase of 274,936 tons.
1896.—A decrease of 402 vessels, but an increase of 79,383 tons.
1897.—A decrease of 220 vessels, but an increase of 238,291 tons.

Outwards.

1894.—A decrease of 277 vessels, but an increase of 321,289 tons.
1895.—A decrease of 280 vessels, but an increase of 274,936 tons.
1896.—A decrease of 437 vessels, and a decrease of 76,420 tons.
1897.—A decrease of 239 vessels, but an increase of 139,603 tons.

III.—LEGISLATION.

The most important Ordinances passed were No. 2 of 1898, by which the military contribution payable by the Colony was fixed at 9½ per cent. of the Colonial revenue; No. 3 of 1898, giving police magistrates in certain cases power to prohibit convicted persons from carrying knives without a license; No. 7 of 1898, putting an export duty on arrack; No. 9 of 1898, limiting the liability of Government pilots; No. 10 of 1898, regulating the branding, sale, and transfer of cattle; No. 15 of 1898, consolidating and amending the procedure of the Courts of Criminal Judicature; No. 19 of 1898, securing in certain cases the right of property in telegraphic press messages.

IV.—EDUCATION.

Primary Education: Main Features and Number of Schools.

1. The total number of scholars in Ceylon was 185,035, or 6 per cent. of the total population.

2. The total number of Government schools was 479 with 46,279 scholars, showing an increase of 4 schools and 1,166 scholars.

3. There were 1,220 grant-in-aid schools with 103,951 scholars, and 2,330 unaided schools with an attendance of 34,805.

4. The cost to Government of each scholar was Rs. 5·32 in Government schools and Rs. 3·51 in grant-in-aid schools.

5. The cost of each pupil in the Royal College was Rs. 69·60, in the Technical College Rs. 307·06, in the School of Agriculture Rs. 675·25, and in grant-in-aid industrial schools Rs. 25·89.

6. Of the Government schools, 4 were English, 8 English primary and middle, and 467 vernacular.

7. Of the grant-in-aid schools, 54 were English, 72 English primary and middle, and 1,094 vernacular.

8. Higher instruction is provided in the Royal College at Colombo and the Technical College. In the latter instruction is given in civil engineering, mechanical engineering, and electrical engineering.

9. The University Scholarship examination and the Cambridge local examinations are the chief tests of the highest work of the schools.

10. There were 25 industrial schools in receipt of Government aid, with an attendance of 1,193.

11. In Colombo there is a School of Agriculture, to which is attached the Government dairy.

12. It has now been arranged to assign a certain number of appointments in Government Departments to students at the Technical College, but the scheme has not yet come into full operation.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

(A.) Hospitals and (B.) Asylums.

1. During the year 64 hospitals and asylums were in operation.

2. In the civil and lying-in hospitals 34,352 patients were treated, in the field hospitals 3,643, in the immigrant hospitals 2,473, and in the district hospitals 12,134.

3. The Lunatic Asylum at Colombo received 104 patients during the year, and the Leper Asylum 127.

4. In all 53,564 patients were treated, of whom 5,982 died.

(C.) Poor Houses.

There are no poor houses in Ceylon. The Government grants a monthly dole to a number of deserving paupers, and the Friend-in-Need Society relieves many others.

(D.) Reformatories.

The industrial school at Maggona serves as a reformatory for juvenile offenders.

(E.) Savings Banks.

1. The Ceylon Savings Bank, Colombo, had 22,156 depositors, with a sum of Rs. 3,374,362 to their credit. The deposits for the year were Rs. 1,341,737.

2. The Post Office Savings Bank had 43,003 depositors, with Rs. 1,099,019·87 to their credit. During the year Rs. 693,181·25 was deposited.

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VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

(A.) POLICE.

1. The strength of the force was 1,691, including officers, and cost Rs. 690,091·22. During the year a Harbour Police was established at Galle to enforce quarantine and to isolate the plague hospital if necessary.

2. In a few cases punitive police stations were established temporarily under Ordinance No. 15 of 1896.

3. Crime statistics supplied by the police point to a decrease of crime in all provinces except the Northern and Eastern, in both of which there was a slight increase of thefts of cattle and prædial produce.

4. The total number of murders and homicides (125) was the lowest within the last five years.

5. Cases of grievous hurt fell from 657 in 1897 to 500 in 1898.

6. Burglaries decreased from 719 to 638.

7. There were 17 convictions for breaches of plague regulations.

(B.) PRISONS.

1. The total admissions into jail were 7,051, against 7,001 in the preceding year.

2. The proportion of convictions and commitments for trial to offences reported was as follows:—

—	1896.	1897.	1898.
Offences reported... ...	18,071	20,800	15,328
Convictions	9,397	13,023	10,674

and shows a satisfactory advance.

3. The daily average in prison of convicted persons was 2,524.

4. The number of road defaulters imprisoned was only 379 against 500 in 1897, a gratifying feature in the prison report. Of these 379, 119 were released on paying the usual fine of Rs. 10 in default of payment of which they had been incarcerated. Of the balance (260) 20 were discharged on medical certificate and 30 pardoned.

CEYLON, 1898.

5. Under the Habitual Criminals' Ordinance 157 were convicted, against 73 in 1897.

6. There were 10 escapes from jail, but the escaped prisoner was in every instance recaptured.

7. The deaths in jail were 111, against 89 in 1897.

8. The health of the prisoners in Welikada and Mutwal was not quite satisfactory, pneumonia being somewhat prevalent.

9. Eighty-seven prisoners suffered disciplinary corporal punishment.

10. There was a decrease in Sinhalese and an increase in Tamil prisoners.

(C.) Criminal Statistics.

1. The number of cases instituted in police courts was 55,879, in which 73,524 persons were accused.

2. Of this latter total 36,471 were acquitted, 34,755 were summarily convicted, and 2,298 committed for trial.

3. In the Superior Courts 1,327 judgments were entered for the Crown and 1,169 for the prisoners.

4. Of 74 persons committed for murder 29 were convicted, while out of 37 committed for manslaughter 32 were found guilty.

5. In the police courts, of 2,549 persons charged with cattle stealing 2,084 were summarily acquitted and 70 committed for trial.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

(A.) Population.

1. The population, which was 3,008,466 according to the census of 1891, was estimated at 3,448,752 in 1898.

2. During the year 131,620 births were registered and 90,256 deaths, giving a birth and death rate of 38·2 and 26·2 respectively, against 36·9 and 23·2 in the preceding year. The increase in the death-rate is due to on epidemic of malarial fever which prevailed throughout the Island, especially in the Northern and North-Western Provinces.

(B.) Public Health.

1. There were three slight outbreaks of cholera in the Northern Province. During the first 67 died, while in the second 47 succumbed to the disease. In the North-Central Province 72 died of cholera, in the Western 19, and in the Central 29.

2. There were only 54 cases of small-pox with 12 fatalities.

3. The general health of the Island was, on the whole, satisfactory.

4. Thanks to the ample precautions taken, the Island escaped a visitation of the plague.

(C.) Sanitation.

1. The general sanitation of the Colony and of the chief towns is fairly satisfactory.

2. Of the chief towns Colombo compares favourably with many eastern cities. The drainage of Kandy, Jaffna, Kurunegala, and Badulla is defective, while Galle is the most insanitary of the municipalities.

3. In connection with the plague precautions a camp of observation for immigrant coolies was established at Ragama, which has accommodation for 3,000 persons, and at the close of the year the cooly route from India along the north road was closed.

4. The Pilgrimages Ordinance has enabled the Government to enforce sanitary measures during pilgrimages.

(D.) Climate.

(1) *Rainfall.*

The rainfall varied from 156·70 inches on 229 days in Ratnapura to 37·53 inches on 78 days in Mannar.

(2) *Temperature.*

The temperature averaged 82·3° at Jaffna and 59·7° at Hakgala.

The mean daily range of temperature was highest at Anuradhapura (17·2°) and lowest at Galle (5·8°). The mean daily range at Colombo was 12·4°.

(3) *Direction and Force of Wind.*

In January, February, and March the direction of the wind is, generally speaking, north-east, and from April to October north-west.

The average movement of the air in miles per diem varied from 243·6 at Jaffna to 17·3 at Kurunegaa.

VIII.—POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

1. The revenue was Rs. 963,000·33, against Rs. 979,435·37 in 1897, in which year the receipts were increased by a payment of over one lac of rupees on account of sea conveyance of mails for 1895, 1896, and 1897.

2. Inland money orders showed an advance of Rs. 351,302·57, and Indian money orders an advance of Rs. 967,743·91.

3. The total balance to credit of depositors in the Post Office Savings Bank rose by Rs. 24,853.

4. Telegraph receipts increased by Rs. 20,036·32, due chiefly to the popularity of the 25-cent telegram, which is probably the cheapest in the world.

5. Four telegraph offices, three post offices, and six receiving offices were opened during the year.

6. The limit of insured value on parcels to the United Kingdom was raised from £50 to £120 from 1st December.

7. Fifty-four miles of telegraph were added during the year, and the business of the Telegraph Department showed considerable expansion.

8. The telephone branch also worked fairly satisfactorily, considering the constant interruption which must be expected during the monsoon and the deleterious effect of damp salt breezes on the wires.

IX.—MILITARY FORCE AND EXPENDITURE.

1. The total force of regular troops was 1,668, including officers, and the volunteers numbered 1,224.

2. The expenditure was :—For regular troops, Rs. 1,788,066 ; for volunteers, Rs. 112,910·23 ; total, Rs. 1,900,976·23.

3. There is no militia or semi-military Colonial force.

X.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

(1) Important Events.

1. Perhaps the most important event of the year was the introduction of Imperial penny postage.

2. The successful efforts of Government to keep out the dreaded plague were an event of vital importance, or, perhaps more correctly, the prevention of a dire event the consequences of which it would be rash to attempt to calculate.

(2) Public Works.

The total expenditure was Rs. 4,190,003·03, including Rs. 410,228·32 on account of personal emoluments. The total road mileage of the Colony is now 3,570 miles, of which 2,500 are metalled or track metalled, 579 gravelled, and 491 natural roads. The average cost of upkeep in 1898 was Rs. 377 per mile, showing an increase of Rs. 22 over the rate for 1897.

A beginning was made with the duplication of the 20-inch water main from Labugama to Colombo, and by the end of the year about one mile had been laid on the section Wagga to Hunupitiya.

Good progress was made with the construction of the new passenger jetty at Colombo.

The Nuwara Eliya waterworks scheme, which includes the laying of over 6½ miles of pipes, was taken in hand for the Board of Improvement, and an officer of the Public Works Department was seconded to secure preliminary information required for the preparation of plans and estimates for the improved sanitation of Kandy.

CEYLON, 1898.

The Government factory expended Rs. 408,405·75 and turned out 136 iron bridges, besides doing much useful work for the Railway, Irrigation, and other Departments.

The work on the harbour was successfully carried on, the expenditure amounting to Rs. 1,700,398·12. The north-east breakwater was practically completed for a distance of 870 feet from the shore.

The railway continued to prosper and earned Rs. 7,549,620 against an expenditure of Rs. 3,605,944, showing a profit of Rs. 3,943,676, equal to a dividend of 7·43 per cent. on the original cost. The net earnings, after deducting expenses and payment of interest, yielded 4·68 per cent. on the capital cost. The extension of the railway to the north and to the Kelani Valley will give that department an even more prominent position than it already holds.

(3) Immigration and Emigration.

During the year 80,238 immigrants arrived in Ceylon from India, and 16,347 emigrants left Ceylon for India. Of these the great majority are employed as coolies on tea estates.

(4) Future Prospects of Trade.

The future prospects of trade are, in the light of the following table of imports and exports, excluding specie, most favourable :—

Year.	Amount.		Year.	Amount.	
	Rs.	c.		Rs.	c.
1887	83,889,572	0	1893... ...	139,237,891	0
1888	92,607,045	0	1894... ...	147,621,610	0
1889	100,269,274	0	1895... ...	161,040,346	0
1890	106,651,504	0	1896... ...	162,436,016	0
1891	117,342,259	0	1897... ...	168,959,460	0
1892	123,857,835	0	1898... ...	181,326,925	0

as it shows that trade has expanded enormously since 1887, rising in value from Rs. 83,889,572 to Rs. 181,326,925, and there is no ground for apprehension that this elasticity will diminish.

(5) Suitability of Climate for Europeans.

The climate is well suited for Europeans, but the labour conditions of the Island are not favourable for white labour. Manual labour is practically an impossibility for Europeans, whose duties are confined to the supervision of labour.

(6) Rates of Wages and Cost of Living.

The rate of wages for prædial labourers varies from 25 to 50 cents per diem ; 37½ cents is the general rate. Domestic servants earn from Rs. 10 to Rs. 20 per mensem, the average wage being about Rs. 12. Trade employees earn from 50 cents to Re. 1·50 a day. The cost of living varies greatly in different parts of the Island, being lowest in the Northern and Eastern Provinces and highest in Colombo, where house rent is a serious item to rich and poor. The ordinary villager can probably live in fair comfort for Rs. 5 to Rs. 6 a month.

(7) Openings for Investment of Capital.

Cocoanut planting offers a good investment for capital where immediate return can be dispensed with. In the near future plumbago mining will probably attract capital, while tea still continues to be a favourite field for investors.

(8) Social Condition of the People.

The social condition of the people is good. Their taxation is extremely light and the cost of living relatively cheap; and with the Island divided into a large number of small administrative districts their wants receive prompt attention from Government officials. Crime is still too prevalent, but it arises generally from hasty temper, and as education becomes more widely diffused and better assimilated there is reason to hope that this drawback to the welfare of the people will disappear.

(9) General Condition of the Colony.

The general condition of the Colony may be regarded as one of great prosperity.

J. J. Thorburn,
Assistant Colonial Secretary.

Colombo,
August 11th, 1899.

LONDON:
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COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 307.

CEYLON.

REPORT FOR 1899.

(For Report for 1898, *see* No. 274.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
December, 1900.

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The following, among other, reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
279	Mauritius and Rodrigues	1898
280	Grenada	"
281	St. Vincent	"
282	Hong Kong	"
283	Jamaica	1898–99
284	Lagos	1898
285	Seychelles	"
286	Christmas and Cocos-Keeling Islands ...	1899
287	Straits Settlements	1898
288	Basutoland	1898–99
289	Niger Coast Protectorate	"
290	British Guiana	1897–98 & 1898–99
291	Falkland Islands	1899
292	British New Guinea	1898–99
293	Bermuda	1899
294	Barbados	"
295	Malta	"
296	Fiji	"
297	Turks Islands	"
298	Bahamas	"
299	Sierra Leone	"
300	Gambia	"
301	Seychelles	"
302	Mauritius and Rodrigues	"
303	Trinidad and Tobago	"
304	Straits Settlements	"
305	Gibraltar	"
306	Gold Coast	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast...	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific	British Solomon Islands.
9	Dominica	Agriculture.
10	Virgin Islands	Condition during 1897.
11	Grenada	Agriculture in Carriacou.
12	Anguilla	Vital Statistics, 1898.
13	Cook Islands	Trade, 1899.
14	Bahamas	Fibre Industry.

No. 307.

CEYLON, 1899.

CEYLON.

(For Report for 1898, *see* No. 274.)

GOVERNOR SIR J. WEST RIDGEWAY to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Queen's Cottage, Nuwara Eliya,
Ceylon,
12th September, 1900.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the usual Report on the Blue Book for the year 1899, prepared by Mr. J. J. Thorburn, Acting Principal Assistant Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.,

WEST RIDGEWAY.

REPORT ON THE CEYLON BLUE BOOK OF 1899.

I.—FINANCIAL.

(A.) GENERAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

Revenue.

The revenue continued to expand and amounted in 1899 to Rs. 25,913,141·58, showing an increase of Rs. 774,472·32½ over the revenue of the preceding year and an increase of Rs. 947,641·58½ over the estimate for 1899.

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CEYLON, 1899.

2. The comparative statement of revenue of 1898 and 1899 shows :—

—	Revenue of 1898.	Revenue of 1899.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
1. Customs	6,395,442 24	6,752,367 19	419,662 7	62,737 12
2. Port, Harbour, Wharf, and Lighthouse Dues...	1,099,204 67	1,135,100 94	37,073 37	1,177 10
3. Licenses, Excise, and Internal Revenue not otherwise classified.	5,528,529 84	5,630,772 41	184,372 76	82,130 19
4. Fees of Court or Office, Payment for Specific Services, and Reimbursements in Aid.	1,526,037 19	1,642,617 36	131,165 53	14,585 36
5. Posts and Telegraphs	955,884 74	906,325 67	7,338 10	56,897 17
6. Government Railways	7,558,611 2	7,626,888 97	104,561 88	36,283 93
7. Rent of Government Property	133,663 50	119,320 79	6,294 21	20,636 92
8. Interest	630,267 41	488,929 46	13,082 43	154,420 38
9. Miscellaneous Receipts	171,701 37	266,253 26½	101,958 39½	7,406 50
10. Sale of Government Property	528,378 21	517,863 24	1,718 28	12,233 25
11. Land Sales	610,949 7	826,702 29	215,753 22	—
Total	25,138,669 26	25,913,141 58½	1,222,980 24½	448,507 92
		Deduct Decrease ...	448,507 92	
		Net Increase	774,472 32½	

3. The uniform increase in each item of revenue, which was a striking feature of the figures of 1898, has not been maintained, decreases having to be recorded under Post and Telegraphs, Rent of Government Property, Interest, and Sale of Government Property.

4. The substantial increase under Customs is due to larger imports of spirits, sugar, grain, and "other goods," and greater export of plumbago and arrack. Licenses and Excise show that salt and arrack rivalled sugar and spirits as earners of revenue, but stamps fell off; and there was a decline in Police Court fines, for which, however, there may, from another point of view, be cause for congratulation. The Railway, while showing a considerable advance, does not contribute the large increase of 1898 because of a reduction of rates and the inclusion in the revenue of 1898 of a sum of Rs. 36,283 realized by the sale of old brass tubes.

5. The decrease under Post and Telegraphs is noticeable under all sub-headings except Stamps, Parcels Post, and Other Collections; while Rent of Lands has marred the rent of Crown Property return. Interest loses Rs. 152,394 owing to shrinkage of investments of public funds; and Sundries and Timber and Firewood account for the decline under Sale of Government Property. The apparent decrease under Telegraph Receipts is due to the fact that five quarters' receipts were brought to account in 1898 against four quarters in 1899; and by the omission from the statement of Postal Revenue of the earnings of the Post Office Savings Bank, which were accounted for under Fees of Court, another nominal deficiency is explained.

The decrease under Rent of Government Property is a fictitious one, as the rent of the new Reclamation Ground is now credited to the Harbour Funds; while lease money on account of plumbago lands was credited in 1899 under Premia on Leases. The falling off under "sundries" is accounted for by the fact that receipts by sale of drugs are no longer included under that heading, and diminished receipts under Timber and Firewood are explained by the introduction of a new system of Forest accounts in the Western Province.

6. In 1889 the revenue, which for the first time appeared in the Blue Book expressed in Rupees, was Rs. 15,229,877. The revenue of 1899, Rs. 25,913,142, shows how prosperous for Ceylon has been the past decade.

Expenditure.

7. The expenditure of 1899 was Rs. 24,950,940, exceeding that of 1898 by Rs. 2,107,088. The increase is due chiefly to a growing Military Contribution, which is an unavoidable concomitant of increasing revenue; to heavy expenditure on account of Plague Precautions, the success of which amply justified the investment; to enhanced charges for maintenance of the Railway system and to larger outlay on Public Works Extraordinary.

8. The comparative statement of expenditure of 1898 and 1899 is as follows :—

Heads of Service.	1898.	1899.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
1. Charges on account of Public Debt	2,808,860 72	2,802,454 50	—	6,406 22
2. Pensions	1,032,154 39	1,115,583 22	83,428 83	—
3. His Excellency the Governor	121,770 5	124,292 54	2,522 49	—
3*a*. Civil Service	666,281 9	667,973 70	1,692 61	—
4. Secretariat	198,587 91	206,245 89	7,657 98	—
5. Audit Office	47,465 42	49,156 66	1,691 24	—
6. Treasury	39,337 97	39,413 1	75 4	—
7. Provincial Administration	974,979 5	933 723 83	—	41,255 22
8. Survey Department	567,796 98	608,697 75	40,900 77	—
9. Customs Department	115,037 5	127,770 81	12,733 76	—
10. Port and Marine Department, Colombo	259,135 36	307,271 36	48,136 0	—
11. Port and Marine Department other than Colombo	38,691 76	41,557 90	2,866 14	—
12. Botanic Gardens...	51 726 6	57,956 16	6,230 10	—
13. Colombo Museum	23,911 70	23,963 7	51 37	—

14. Legal Departments:—				
Supreme Court	127,693 32	126,013 57	—	1,679 75
Attorney-General	56,929 69	61,876 14	4,946 45	—
Solicitor-General	12,001 25	12,022 10	20 85	—
District Courts	148,052 35	155,301 8	7,248 73	—
Courts of Requests and Police Courts	116,861 39	116,269 27	—	592 12
Registration of Lands	77,411 72	78,336 17	924 45	—
Registration of Marriages, Births, and Deaths	97,487 13	107,190 70	9,703 57	—
Fiscals	192,906 15	193,565 12	758 97	—
Loan Board	5,695 54	5,604 26	—	91 28
15. Police	710,953 15	715,439 8	4,485 93	—
16. Prisons	517,157 28	487,561 16	—	29,596 12
17. Medical Department	366,414 65	373,547 18	7,132 53	—
18. Hospitals and Dispensaries	1,138,644 74	1,259,266 21	120,621 47	—
19. Ecclesiastical	49,835 0	47,324 97	—	2,510 3
20. Educational	738,122 5	778,133 85	40,011 80	—
21. Transport...	20,481 46	13,641 23	—	6,840 23

Comparative statement of the expenditure of 1898 and 1899—*continued.*

Heads of Service.	1898.	1899.	Increase.	Decrease
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
22. Exchange	197,751 54	164,487 53	—	33,264 1
23. Military Expenditure	1,900,976 23.	2,519,076 42	618,100 19	—
24. Miscellaneous Services	827,513 35	1,231,621 26	404,107 91	—
25. Colonial Stores	71,372 88	73,543 98	2,171 10	—
26. Crown Agents, London	2,733 89	2,704 46	—	29 43
27. Forests	501,089 82	378,484 50	—	122,605 32
28. Post Office and Telegraphs	933,365 70	964,414 56	31,048 86	—
29. Railway Department	3,635,279 98	4,098,601 43	463,321 45	—
30. Public Works Department	387,609 12	429,812 47	42,203 35	—
31. Public Works Annually Recurrent	1,643,771 62	1,758,447 38	114,675 76	—
32. Public Works Extraordinary	1,420,005 38	1,692,493 88	272,488 50	—
Total Expenditure	22,843,851 89	24,950,940 36	2,351,958 20	244,869 73
Deduct Decrease ...			244,869 73	
Net Increase			2,107,088 47	

9. In the annexed table the total revenue and expenditure for the last five years is tabulated :—

—	1895.	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Revenue	20,982,808 78	21,974,573 41½	24,006,521 83½	25,138,669 26	25,913,141 58½
Expenditure	20,899,713 59	21,237,859 66	21,634,377 94	22,843,851 89	24,950,940 36
Expenditure from Surplus Funds	364,648 38	37,095 28	5,092 64	1,668 88	1,519 81
Expenditure from Balances of Votes of previous years.	251,905 23	—	—	—	—

(B.) Important Changes in Taxation.

There is nothing to record under this heading for 1899.

(C.) Assets and Liabilities.

1. The total assets on the 1st January, 1900, were Rs. 24,188,315·37 and the liabilities Rs. 17,869,247·98, showing an excess of assets over liabilities of Rs. 6,319,067·39, against which, however, must be set off the amount

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appropriated in the Estimates of 1900 for the construction of the Northern, Kelani Valley, and Uda Pussellawa Railways, viz., Rs. 3,460,000, which reduces the actual excess to Rs. 2,859,067·39.

2. On the 1st January, 1899, the excess of assets over liabilities was Rs. 2,706,528·79.

(D.) Public Debt, showing Provision for Payment.

1. The balance due by the Colony on its sterling debt raised in London amounted on December 31st, 1899, to £3,445,839 17*s.* 3*d.*, as against £3,470,821 6*s.* 3*d.* on the corresponding date in 1898, while the balance due on the local silver debt had fallen from Rs. 3,266,212·18 to Rs. 3,253,191·72.

2. These loans are secured against General Revenue.

(E.) Currency.

Legal tender currency consists of Ceylon Government notes of Rs. 100, Rs. 50, Rs. 10, and Rs. 5, the Indian rupee with a subsidiary silver coinage of 50-cent, 25-cent, and 10-cent pieces, and a copper coinage of 5-cent, 1-cent, ½-cent, and ¼-cent pieces.

About half of the face value of the paper issued is held in specie by the Currency Commissioners, the remaining moiety being invested in Indian Government paper and other approved securities :—

—	Value.	
Circulation.		Rs. c.
Currency notes in circulation on December 31st, 1899.	—	14,455,950 0
Reserve.	In Silver. Rs. c.	In Securities. Rs. c.
By silver in the vault (8 cents copper) ...	8,439,777 48	—
By investments made by the Crown Agents	—	2,795,318 8
By investments made in Indian Government paper.	—	3,220,854 44
	8,439,777 48	6,016,172 52
Total	Rs. 14,455,950 0	

The Mercantile Bank of India, Ltd., the Bank of Madras, the National Bank of India, Ltd., the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, and the Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China do business in the Colony.

(F.) COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF THE TOTAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE OF MUNICIPALITIES FOR THE FIVE YEARS ENDING DECEMBER 31ST, 1899.

Name of Municipality.	Revenue or Expenditure.	1895.	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.
		Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Colombo	Revenue	726,554 31	786,597 49	834,546 17	922,189 17	1,088,519 50
	Expenditure	655,372 59	704,856 69	798,423 1	837,809 72	927,229 89
Kandy	Revenue	114,884 84	116,854 57	125,414 90	131,379 34	141,436 42
	Expenditure	114,136 22	119,142 62	119,217 71	166,774 19	150,032 87
Galle	Revenue	70,723 47	68,724 98	71,080 0	80,797 16	90,787 38
	Expenditure	75,572 15	66,812 43	79,321 69	83,164 72	84,439 26

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF THE TOTAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE OF THE LOCAL BOARDS FOR THE FIVE YEARS ENDING DECEMBER 31ST, 1899.

Name of Local Board.	Revenue or Expenditure.	1895.	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.
		Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Negombo	Revenue	22,225 21	23,453 96	23,647 59	25,852 32	20,493 60
	Expenditure	22.415 91	31,813 11	21,071 12	25,963 71	28,716 97
Kalutara	Revenue	12,792 38	15,637 63	13,182 53	19,587 80	34,796 69
	Expenditure	14,728 5	13,275 31	15,807 61	13,192 40	31,358 0
Minuwangoda	Revenue		Established	in 1899		1,683 48
	Expenditure ...					1,092 78
Matale	Revenue	7,873 24	7,221 17	8,065 76	8,275 37	9,827 51
	Expenditure	9,194 45	6,935 80	8,832 35	7,425 8	8,470 65

Gampola	Revenue	4,086 29	7,106 34	8,704 65	4,743 51	9,262 42
	Expenditure	5,028 1	7,664 25	8,490 36	4,189 22	11,347 65
Nawalapitiya	Revenue	From April, 1896.	2,829 78	4,323 81	7,107 66	8,370 34
	Expenditure ...		2,023 20	2,148 88	4,822 94	9,631 12
Mat ra	Revenue	15,002 57	15,267 92	13,559 77	14,466 86	13,508 44
	Expenditure	15,435 15	13,533 58	13,256 26	12,025 46	15,692 54
Batticaloa...	Revenue	13,974 30	15,323 19	14,315 32	17,124 88	17,326 82
	Expenditure	14,208 56	15,328 94	13,960 15	16,865 4	16,610 99
Trincomalee	Revenue	12,453 54	12,798 23	13,355 48	13,184 15	15,775 69
	Expenditure	11,052 86	18,472 15	15,325 39	12,754 96	13,772 61

Comparative Statement of the Total Revenue and Expenditure of the Local Boards for the Five Years ending December 31st, 1899—*continued.*

Name of Local Board.	Revenue or Expenditure.	1895.	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.
		Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Kurunegala	Revenue	15,640 81	16,402 67	21,226 98	16,007 82	24,470 71
	Expenditure	15,854 3	17,407 12	17,424 27	19,275 19	19,512 82
Puttalam	Revenue	10,121 88	9,351 27	9,212 54	11,275 44	12,773 44
	Expenditure	9,787 78	8,787 73	10,047 90	11,889 88	14,789 98
Chilaw	Revenue	8,090 54	7,958 66	8,333 22	9,533 91	11,434 88
	Expenditure	8,446 64	7,329 21	8,620 87	10,146 65	9,339 77
Ratnapura...	Revenue	12,918 27	7,738 8	8,205 99	9,406 29	9,229 99
	Expenditure	12,322 54	7,172 85	7,172 48	8,275 26	7,596 48

Kegalla	Revenue	740 67	4,406 96	3,787 67	3,574 74	5,383 66
	Expenditure	159 0	3,412 43	3,505 55	4,498 86	4,093 79
Badulla	Revenue	11,918 59	11,884 75	11,040 43	13,717 29	13,019 4
	Expenditure	20,153 23	13,150 94	13,643 2	11,800 50	14,821 45
Nuwara Eliya	Revenue	17,917 25	23,944 12	20,543 94	22,486 6	24,253 99
	Expenditure	17,515 92	21,632 78	19,125 28	20,472 68	21,011 86

(G.) STATEMENT OF DEBTS OF MUNICIPALITIES UP TO END OF 1899, SHOWING PROVISION FOR PAYMENT.

Name of Municipality.	Amount of Debt.	On what account.	Provision for Payment.
	Rs. c.		
Colombo	30,000 0	For creation of the Health Department.	Rs. 10,000 is provided yearly in the Budget.
Kandy	198,199 10	Waterworks construction ...	The sums necessary to pay interest and sinking fund are voted in Budget, and special items of revenue are pledged to Government.
	101,310 21	Lands over Reservoir	Do. do.
	16,300 0	Drainage	Do. do.
	36,000 0	Lake silt and widening Victoria Drive.	Voted at the rate of Rs. 4,000 per annum with interest upon the amount due at time of payment.
Galle	62,967 3	Waterworks	Water-rate at 7 per cent. levied within the Fort of Galle from July 1, 1897, reduced to 5 per cent. from July 1, 1899.
	9,900 0	Sanitary Improvements	Mortgage of Stamp Fees on Licenses, Carts, Boats and Coaches; Fees and Stamp Duties under Licensing Ordinance, 1873, and Ordinance No. 23 of 1877.

Statement of Debts of Local Boards at the end of 1899, showing Provision for Payment.

Name of Local Board.	Amount of Debt.	On what account.	Provision for Payment.
	Rs. c.		
Badulla	5,834 24	For construction of the public market.	Repayable from Local Board revenue by a sinking fund at the rate of 2 per cent. on the original loan of Rs. 6,784.
	13,680 0	For waterworks	Repayable from Local Board revenue by a sinking fund at the rate of 2 per cent. on the original loan of Rs. 15,200.
	3,680 0	do.	Repayable from Local Board revenue by a sinking fund at the rate of 2 per cent. on the original loan of Rs. 4,000.
	2,400 0	do.	Repayable from Local Board revenue by a sinking fund at the rate of 2 per cent. on the original loan of Rs. 2,500.
	600 0	For the improvement of the drainage.	Repayable from Local Board revenue by a sinking fund at the rate of 20 per cent. on the original loan of Rs. 1,000.

Statements of Debts of Local Boards at the end of 1899, showing Provision for Payment—*continued.*

Name of Local Board.	Amount of Debt.	On what account.	Provision for Payment.
	Rs. c.		
Puttalum	6,020 0	For waterworks	Repayable from Local Board revenue by a sinking fund of 2 per cent. on the original loan of Rs. 7,000.
Ratnapura	3,208 31	do.	Repayable from Local Board revenue at the rate of Rs. 458·33 per annum.
Nuwara Eliya	12,600 0	For construction of market ...	Repayable from Local Board revenue in twenty-five years.
	4,200 0	Additional loan for construction of market.	Repayable from Local Board revenue in ten years.
	78,061 13	For waterworks	Repayable from Local Board revenue in fifty years.
	8,910 0	For construction of Library and Reading Room.	Repayable from Local Board revenue by a sinking fund at the rate of 1 per cent. on the original loan of Rs. 9,000.

Batticaloa	17,200 0	For market construction	Repayable from Local Board revenue by a sinking fund at the rate of 2 per cent. on the original loan of Rs. 20,000.
	380 0	For opening a general cemetery...	Repayable from Local Board revenue in seven years.
Trincomalee	2,670 0	For sanitary purposes and other improvements.	Repayable from Local Board revenue in ten years.
	2,730 0	Second loan on the above account	Repayable from Local Board revenue in fifty years.
Negombo	9,333 36	For construction of a bridge ...	To be repaid from Local Board revenue in seventeen years.
Nawalapitiya	13,400 0	For improvement of water supply	To be repaid from Local Board funds in fifty years.

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II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

(A.) Imports and Exports.

1. The following table shows the annual value of the trade of the Colony for the last five years, exclusive of imports and exports of specie :—

Year.	Imports.		Exports.		Total.	
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
1895	76,543,473	23	84,496,873	40	161,040,346	63
1896	77,083,587	29	85,352,428	81	162,436,016	10
1897	85,730,156	92	83,229,303	45	168,959,460	37
1898	87,525,034	97	93,801,890	13	181,326,925	10
1899	101,542,220	61	111,405,649	99	213,007,870	60

2. The following statement shows the value of imports and specie imported into each Province during 1899 :—

—	Values.			
Value of Imports.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Western Province	93,166,526	60	—	
Northern Province	2,622,631	66	—	
Southern Province	5,063,142	42	—	
Eastern Province...	689,919	93	—	
			101,542,220	61
Value of Specie.				
Western Province	—		10,450,128	52
Total value of Imports for 1899, including Specie ...			111,992,349	13

3. The revenue derived from Customs dues shows an increase in 1899 as compared with 1898 of Rs. 387,225·91, and as compared with 1897 of Rs. 823,064·24.

4. Scrutiny of the following table will show how constantly progressive has been the income from this source for the twelve years beginning with 1888 :—

GROSS CUSTOMS REVENUE FOR THE TWELVE YEARS ENDED 1899.

Year.	Amount.		Year.	Amount.	
	Rs.	c.		Rs.	c.
1888	3,747,064	69	1894... ...	4,931,967	42
1889	3,718,152	17	1895... ...	5,770,241	2
1890	3,948,564	11	1896... ...	5,550,971	65
1891	4,302,320	19	1897... ...	6,278,787	49
1892	4,663,562	47	1898... ...	6,714,625	82
1893	4,498,912	10	1899... ...	7,101,851	73

5. Arms and ammunition showed an increase of Rs. 5,311·39 in duty recovered, the figures being Rs. 57,510·56, against Rs. 52,199·17. The value of cotton manufactures imported rose to Rs. 6,933,311·46, and netted Rs. 278,360·24, which gives a decrease in duty of Rs. 60,518·69. Of the total Rs. 6,933,311·46, Rs. 6,275,942·40 represents imports from the United Kingdom and British Colonies. The return from chemicals, dye stuffs, and tanning substances rose from Rs. 2,352·33 to Rs. 3,311·13, while the import of cement fell by 604 tons. Coal, coke, and patent fuel, however, rose by 91,718 tons, a noticeable feature being a marked increase in imports from British India, Japan, and Italy; Colombo imported 83,950 tons in excess of 1898, and Galle 7,765 tons, taking 13,188 tons against 5,423 in 1898. Of kerosine oil 1,871,440 gallons were imported and 2,087,915 gallons entered for home consumption, disclosing an increase in quantity of 618,780 and 464,191 gallons respectively, with corresponding increased contributions to revenue of Rs. 386,737·91 and Rs. 108,548·02. Food stuffs showed a general increase except in the case of beef and pork, which fell in value by Rs. 4,164·58, and curry stuffs, the return from which fell by no less than Rs. 18,099·53, representing the duty on a value of Rs. 484,046·37. Grain imports continued to rise and reached 9,178,405 bushels, a good index of the prosperity of the people. The duty collected on rice was Rs. 2,663,432·14, compared with Rs. 272,689·30 on

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all other sorts of grain. Live stock imported fell by Rs. 5,651; but metal ware rose by Rs. 31,806·55, and manures increased in quantity by 1,613 tons valued at Rs. 247,294·61; oils, excluding kerosine, declined in value by Rs. 44,622·25, and in productiveness from a revenue point of view by Rs. 2,125·59; opium and spices too fell off to some extent, but the quantity of poonac rose. Spirits of all kinds are credited with an enhanced yield of Rs. 114,547·68; whiskey giving Rs. 389,968·33, or nearly half the total. The quantity declined, but the quality as gauged by value apparently improved materially. Brandy and gin showed an advance in quantity and in tribute to the Crown coffers. Sugar contributed Rs. 473,135·02 to revenue, and silk Rs. 54,962·36, the increments being Rs. 87,978·85 and Rs. 25,765·75 respectively, which is nearly 100 per cent. in the case of the latter. Woollen manufactures claim an increase of Rs. 14,608·10 in value, and wine Rs. 43,288·52.

Exports.

6. The value of exports in 1899 amounted to Rs. 111,955,936·99, distributed as follows:—

	Rs.	c.
Ceylon produce	100,095,681	34
Imports re-exported	990,938	65
Specie	490,287	0
Coal for use of steamers ...	10,379,030	0
Total ...	111,955,936	99

7. Ceylon produce, owing to the increasing value of plumbago and larger exports of tea, takes credit for a rise in value of Rs. 16,807,328·77. Imports re-exported rose by Rs. 202,471; coal exported for use of steamers from Rs. 9,725,070 to Rs. 10,379,030; while specie declined by more than half, the figures being Rs. 490,287 and Rs. 1,295,802. Exports to the United Kingdom expanded in value to Rs. 61,076,138·03, an increase of some Rs. 8,000,000. On the other hand, exports to British Colonies declined by about Rs. 2,000,000. Exports to Foreign Countries continued to exhibit the same enormous expansion which was noticeable in 1898, the values being in 1897 Rs. 8,407,680·96, in 1898 Rs. 16,534,841·69, and in 1899 Rs. 26,365,171·54. This abnormal increase is largely accounted for by the phenomenal rise in the value of plumbago. Exports of tea to Russia and America showed gratifying advances of 1,609,744 lb. and 484,252 lb. respectively. The total exports of Ceylon produce to the United States of America sprang from Rs. 5,283,632 to Rs. 13,667,360 in value. Increases are to be recorded in the case of cinnamon, coir, and copperah, while exports of cardamoms and citronella have shrunk in volume.

8. The produce of the cocoanut tree now assumes the respectable proportion of 14½ per cent. of the total value of Ceylon produce exported. Exports of tea swollen by over 7,000,000 lb. bear testimony to an ever-growing output, destined, it is hoped, to find new markets. Coffee gained 6,000 cwt. and cacao 4,500 cwt., but cinchona lost 90,000 lb.

9. These products, in addition to their other virtues, yielded Rs. 122,257·45 towards medical aid and Rs. 258,840·68 to the tea fund.

10. The royalty on plumbago produced Rs. 158,808·84, against Rs. 119,565·46 in the preceding twelve months.

(B.) Mines, Manufactures, and Fisheries.

1. In the matter of mining, plumbago is *facile princeps* the favourite mineral. In the year 1899 prices ruled as high as Rs. 1,000 a ton for large lumps, and, although the price fell to Rs. 700 towards the close of the year, the handsome profits to be earned caused exceptional activity in this form of mining, which was stimulated further by the grant of licenses to prospect on Crown lands.

2. Kurunegala has 154 plumbago mines. In the Southern Province 117 acres of land supposed to contain plumbago were leased for ten years for Rs. 333,450, and in the Central Province 126 declarations of intention to open mines were recorded.

3. The method of working plumbago pits is in some instances unscientific and rudimentary, but European firms are now in the field, and it is to be hoped will prove as keenly interested in introducing improved methods of working as they are strenuous in their endeavours to secure more favourable terms for working their holdings.

4. The gemming industry, confined almost exclusively to Sabaragamuwa, where there are some 280 pits in working, is undoubtedly profitable; but the favoured few who make money out of their ventures preserve a discreet reticence as to their gains.

5. Manufactures embrace cloth weaving, oil (cocoanut, gingelly, citronella), copperah, coir, bricks and tiles, baskets, tobacco, jewellery, carpentry, &c.

6. The manufacture of salt is controlled by the Government, which has a monopoly of the sale and takes a goodly share of the profit on the production.

7. In the Northern, Eastern, and North-Western Provinces the fisheries are of great importance; but the output of the local fish-curing yards is not appreciated by the European as a rule. Attempts to improve the method of curing have proved abortive in the past; but with a conservative Eastern people to whom time is of no value it is well to work on the principal *festina lente* and

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hope for the good time coming. The Northern Province boasts of bêche-de-mer and chank fisheries, and the remunerative pearl oyster fishery, the long-expected recurrence of which must be awaited for some few years, in the opinion of the Master Attendant, Colombo, who for many years past ably directed its working with credit to himself and profit to the revenue.

(C.) AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES AND BOTANICAL STATIONS.

1. The chief agricultural products are paddy, tea, cocoanuts, cacao, and tobacco.

2. Tea exports aggregating 129,894,156 lb., disclose an increase of 10,000,000 lb., and prices, which had been woefully cut down, showed a tendency to recover.

3. Cocoanuts give a good profit if the cultivator can wait for it. It is, as a rule, ten or twelve years before the golden harvest can be reaped, but in favourable localities the humble plaintain reared among the young trees will yield a not inconsiderable return.

4. Cacao has recently suffered from canker, but the disease is now being kept in hand, and in the past year the output has increased. So fond are thieves of this easily purloined pod that it has been protected by legislation, and its possession in the unripe stage has got to be very fully explained by the villager.

5. During the year earnest efforts were made to improve the tobacco crop of the island, and large quantities of seed were imported from Cuba, the United States, and Italy. There is every reason to suppose that Ceylon can grow tobacco of an excellent quality; but, as at present cured, it runs the produce of the fish-curer very closely for "fragrance."

6. Ceylon is prolific of fibre-producing plants, but the expense of preparing the fibre in a marketable form and the low prices obtainable are a sad stumbling block to profitably exploiting the fibre industry.

7. A good deal of indiarubber was planted during the year, and the industry will be a profitable one if the rise in price of the manufactured article does not result in the introduction of some cheaper substitute.

8. *Botanical Stations.*—Peradeniya is the chief station, and if importance is to be gauged by its growing popularity with foreign *savants* its prosperity is assured. The Director, through the medium of circulars, conveys much useful information to planters, European and native, as to the detection and treatment of blight, disease, canker, and all the ills that vegetable life is heir to.

9. The engagement of the services of a Government Mycologist and an Entomologist in the course of the year will doubtless greatly increase the beneficial influence of this station.

10. At Hakgala and at several outstations experimental gardens are kept up to the benefit of the villagers, who are quick to see the advantage of growing any new product the cultivation of which involves little trouble.

(D.) LAND GRANTS AND VALUE OF LAND.

1. During the year 21,301 acres of land were alienated by the Crown by sale, grant at half-improved value, or certificate of no claim, as against 16,279 in the preceding year.

2. Under Sir Henry Ward's Minute 3,516 acres of irrigable land were sold.

3. The 21,301 acres brought in Rs. 728,690, or say Rs. 34·20 per acre, against an average return of Rs. 30·50 in 1898.

4. The Survey Department's energies were severely taxed with surveys cadastral and topographical, surveys in connection with irrigation, the number of which has increased with the inauguration of a forward irrigation policy, and very numerous surveys of land required for the Northern, Uda Pussellawa, and Kelani Valley railway extensions, which, being of an urgent nature, claimed immediate attention.

5. The extension of the railway to the North, and the policy of developing irrigation works in the proximity of the trace and constructing a network of feeder roads to the railway, must result in a material increase in the value of land in the North-Central and Northern Provinces a few years hence.

(E.) SHIPPING.

1. The shipping returns for the Island show—

—	1898.		1899.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Entered	3,551	3,605,706	3,845	3,721,782
Cleared	3,546	3,476,935	3,840	3,717,423
Total	7,097	7,082,641	7,685	7,439,205

giving an increase of 588 in number and an increase of 356,564 in tonnage.

CEYLON, 1899.

2. The arrivals at Colombo included 1,259 steamers aggregating 2,187,378 tons, and 553 sailing vessels aggregating 56,804 tons.

3. Arrivals at Galle increased in the case of steamers by 25, while 5 fewer sailing vessels visited that port.

4. Compared with the years 1895, 1896, 1897, and 1898, the result inwards and outwards is as follows:—

Inwards.

1895.—An increase of 3 vessels and 380,584 tons.
1896.—A decrease of 108 vessels and an increase of 195,459 tons.
1897.—An increase of 74 vessels and 354,367 tons.
1898.—An increase of 294 vessels and 116,076 tons.

Outwards.

1895.—An increase of 14 vessels and 515,424 tons.
1896.—A decrease of 143 vessels, but an increase of 164,068 tons.
1897.—An increase of 55 vessels and 380,091 tons.
1898.—An increase of 294 vessels and 240,488 tons.

5. The number and tonnage of steamers and sailing vessels entered inwards and cleared outwards in 1899, exclusive of those calling to coal and for orders at Colombo and Galle, are shown:—

—		Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.		Total.	
		No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Colombo ...	Inwards	1,259	2,187,378	553	56,804	1,812	2,244,182
	Outwards	1,256	2,179,730	550	56,367	1,806	2,236,097
	Total	2,515	4,367,108	1,103	113,171	3,618	4,480,279
Galle	Inwards	166	291,125	12	908	178	292,033
	Outwards	162	283,373	9	546	171	283,919
	Total	328	574,498	21	1,454	349	575,952

CEYLON, 1899.

6. The nationality of vessels inwards and outwards during 1899 for the Island is thus made up :—

—	Entered Inwards.		Cleared Outwards.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
British	1,491	2,721,455	1,494	2,723,223
Colonial	2,051	196,990	2,047	196,485
American	1	1,764	1	1,764
Austrian	28	71,267	28	71,267
French	83	196,764	82	194,089
German	92	283,530	92	283,530
Japanese	35	116,856	35	116,856
Maldivian	22	1,420	20	1,217
Russian	29	102,221	28	99,477
Danish	2	5,612	2	5,612
Dutch	2	2,964	2	2,964
Spanish	8	20,381	8	20,381
Norwegian... ...	1	558	1	558
Total ...	3,845	3,721,782	3,840	3,717,423

III.—LEGISLATION.

The most important legal enactments of 1899 are the following :—

An Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 1 of 1897, intituled "An Ordinance relating to claims to Forest, Chena, Waste, and Unoccupied Lands"

An Ordinance to protect Public Servants from Legal Proceedings in respect of certain Liabilities.

An Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 3 of 1861, intituled "An Ordinance to authorize the formation of Volunteer Corps in this Colony, and to provide for the good order and discipline thereof," and "The Volunteer Reserve Ordinance, 1890" (The Volunteer Amendment Ordinance, 1899).

An Ordinance to amend and consolidate the Law relating to Pilots appointed by the Governor of Ceylon.

An Ordinance to consolidate and amend the Law relating to the Possession and Sale of Opium.

An Ordinance to amend the Law relating to Inquiries into Shipping Casualties and the Conduct of Ships' Officers.

An Ordinance relating to Habitual Criminals and to Convicts licensed to be at large.

An Ordinance relating to General Cemeteries and Burial Grounds.

An Ordinance to amend "The Ceylon Postal and Telegraph Ordinance, 1892."

IV.—EDUCATION.

Primary Education: Main Features and Number of Schools.

1. The total number of scholars was 193,468, or 3⅓ per cent. of the total population.

2. The total number of Government schools was 489 with 47,482 scholars, showing an increase of 10 schools.

3. The grant-in-aid schools numbered 1,263—rising by 43—with 111,145 pupils. Of unaided schools there were 1,887 with 3,481 pupils. The number of unaided schools has fallen by 443, but the number of pupils has increased by 36.

4. The cost to Government of each scholar was Rs. 5·53 in Government schools. Each scholar at the Royal College cost Rs. 77·36, at the Technical College Rs. 223·23, at the School of Agriculture Rs. 678·50, and at grant-in-aid industrial schools Rs. 25·93.

5. Of the Government schools, 4 were English, 10 English primary and middle, and 475 vernacular.

6. Of the grant-in-aid schools, 57 were English, 81 English primary and middle, and 1,125 vernacular.

7. Since 1870 the number of grant-in-aid schools has risen from 299 to 1,263, and the average grant per school from Rs. 150 to Rs. 282·88.

8. The University Scholarship fell to St. Thomas's College, but was won by a lad who left the Royal College for the former institution a year before the examination.

9. For the London University Matriculation 14 candidates were presented, of whom 5 passed.

10. Thirty-one industrial schools, with an attendance of 1,460, received Government aid.

11. The expenditure on education reached the large sum of Rs. 778,133·85.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

(A.) Hospitals and (B.) Asylums.

1. During the year 65 hospitals and asylums were in operation.

2. In the civil and lying-in hospitals 35,295 patients were treated, in the field hospitals 3,981, in the immigrant hospitals 2,473, and in the district hospitals 12,134.

3. The Lunatic Asylum at Colombo received 130 patients during the year, and the Leper Asylum 141.

4. In all 54,705 patients were treated, of whom 5,987 died.

(C.) Poor Houses.

There are no poor houses in Ceylon. The Government grants a monthly allowance to a number of deserving paupers, and the Friend-in-Need Society relieves many others. Government contributed to the funds of this Society to the extent of Rs. 20,850.

(D.) Reformatories.

The industrial school at Maggona serves as a reformatory for juvenile offenders.

(E.) Savings Banks.

1. The Ceylon Savings Bank, Colombo, had 23,950 depositors, with a sum of Rs. 3,742,167 to their credit. The deposits for the year were Rs. 1,591,010.

2. The Post Office Savings Bank had 43,850 depositors, with Rs. 1,168,061·15 to their credit. During the year Rs. 736,634·75 was deposited.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

(A.) POLICE.

1. The strength of the force was 1,702, including officers, and cost Rs. 721,467.

2. Three punitive police stations were established temporarily under Ordinance No. 15 of 1896, one in the Western, one in the Southern, and one in the North-Western Province.

3. At Katugastota, Ukuwela, and Wattegama police were stationed to protect the cacao crops from theft—with beneficial results.

4. Reports of 14,434 true offences were recorded, in respect of which 10,173 convictions or committals for trial were obtained.

5. The figures of true offences reported and convictions or committals obtained read as follows for the past four years :—

Year.	True offences.	Convictions or Committals.
1896	18,071	9,397
1897	20,800	13,023
1898	15,312	10,673
1899	14,434	10,173

and show progress.

6. Murders and homicides aggregated 125, against 127 in 1898, 149 in 1897, and 144 in 1896.

7. Robberies fell from 312 to 269, the figures for 1897 and 1896 being 498 and 543 respectively.

8. Burglaries rose from 638 to 977—a serious increase.

9. Grievous hurts fell from 500 to 371.

10. Crime increased in the Southern Province and Province of Uva, but decreased in the Eastern Province and Central Province.

(B.) PRISONS.

1. The total admissions into jail were 6,158, against 7,051 in 1898.

2. The decrease in admissions since 1889 is remarkable, the total in that year being as high as 11,160.

CEYLON, 1899.

3. Of the 6,158 admissions, 331 were the result of convictions under the Labour Ordinance or for desertion and kindred offences by servants, which, though culpable, can hardly be classed as criminal.

4. Admission on conviction before Superior Courts fell from 1,138 to 731. Convictions for murder and manslaughter rose from 58 to 71. In 1899, 27 convicts were sentenced to death, of whom 21 were executed, against 28 capital sentences and 19 executions in the preceding year.

5. The daily average in prison of convicted persons fell from 2,524 to 2,360.

6. The number of road defaulters imprisoned fell from 379 to 329. Of this total 135 were released on payment of the fine of Rs. 10, in default of which they were incarcerated, and 1 on account of an informality in the warrant of commitment. Of the balance 193, 11 were discharged on medical certificate, leaving only 182, who were detained in jail for the full term of a month. It is interesting to note that the number of road defaulters imprisoned in 1891 totalled 3,505, and the reduction of this number by almost nine-tenths in eight years bears testimony to the satisfactory way in which the Road Ordinance is now being worked, and the manner in which the people comply with its reasonable requirements.

7. Eight prisoners escaped from jail, but all were recaptured.

8. Under the Habitual Criminals' Ordinance 124 were convicted in 1899.

9. Deaths in prisons fell from 111 to 101.

10. The daily average of sick decreased from 161 to 130, showing a marked improvement in the health of the prisoners.

(C.) CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

1. The number of cases instituted before the police courts and municipal police magistrates was 63,644, in which 71,415 persons were charged.

2. Of these, 35,955 were summarily acquitted, 34,023 summarily convicted, and 1,437 committed for trial.

3. Of 1,441 persons tried by Superior Courts, 824 were convicted and 617 acquitted.

4. Out of 42 persons charged with murder, 28 were convicted, and out of 54 charged with homicide, the verdict went against 43.

5. In cattle stealing cases, out of 2,038 there were summary acquittals in 1,661, convictions in 384, and commitment for trial in 23, showing how hard it is to prove this offence in Ceylon.

6. The number of institutions in the police court was smaller than in 1897 or 1898.

7. The number of convictions in the Superior Courts showed a great falling off, being but 824 against 1,327 in 1898.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

(A.) POPULATION.

Birth- and Death-rates.—The estimated population at the end of the year was 3,489,293. 132,190 births were registered and 104,983 deaths. The birth- and death-rates per 1,000 were 38·0 and 30·2 respectively. The population at the end of the year 1898 was 3,479,519, and the birth- and death-rates for that year were 38·2 and 26·2 per 1,000 respectively. So that, compared with the year 1898, the year under review shows an increase of population of 9,774, but the birth-rate is ·2 per 1,000 less, and the death-rate 4 per 1,000 more. One reason for this increase in the death-rate can certainly be put down to an unprecedented outbreak of malarial fever in the Northern Province, which occurred early in the year, and which was attended by a very great mortality.

(B.) PUBLIC HEALTH.

1. The public health of the Island has been generally good, improved sanitary conditions are being carried out with regard to drainage, water supply, and dwellings.

2. There were no cases of cholera in the Island, the last case having occurred in October, 1898. The closing of the Northern cooly route as a precaution against plague probably accounts for this unwonted immunity from cholera.

3. There were 334 cases of smallpox, of which 56 proved fatal. Of these cases the Western Province contributed 100, the Central 135, and the North-Western 63.

4. Of leprosy 506 cases were reported. As yet there is no law to deal with the compulsory segregation of lepers, but a Bill will shortly be introduced giving the requisite powers.

CEYLON, 1899.

(C.) SANITATION.

General Sanitary Condition of the Colony and of the Chief Towns.—The general sanitary condition of the Colony has been satisfactory during the year under review. Most of the chief towns have a good water supply from a reservoir, distributed by underground pipes with standpipes at several convenient points. In those towns where a good water supply does not at present exist measures are being taken to provide the same. The Municipalities and Local Boards are fully alive to the necessity of keeping their respective towns in as good a sanitary condition as possible, and the tendency is towards constant improvement.

5. The elaborate precautions taken to keep out plague and the heavy expenditure entailed thereby have been completely successful in attaining the end desired.

(D.) CLIMATE.

(1) *Rainfall.*

The rainfall varied from 247·99 inches in 183 days at Ramboda to 38·41 inches in 64 days at Hambantota.

(2) *Temperature.*

1. The mean temperature varied from 81·7 at Jaffna to 59·3° at Nuwara Eliya.

2. The mean daily range of temperature was highest at Nuwara Eliya (17·6°) and lowest at Galle (6·1°).

(3) *Direction and Force of Wind.*

3. In January-February is, generally speaking, north-east, and from April to October south-west.

4. The force of the wind varies enormously.

VIII.—POST AND TELEGRAPHS.

1. Inland money orders disclose an advance of Rs. 65,915·92, and Indian money orders an advance of Rs. 15,757·99.

2. The balance to credit of depositors in the Savings Bank rose by Rs. 70,059·40.

3. The number of inland telegraph messages despatched rose by 30,000.

4. A system of Government money orders was introduced and is working well.

5. Three post offices, five telegraph offices, and twelve receiving offices were opened.

6. A new 12-cent. stamp, a 6-cent. letter card, and a 6-cent. post card were introduced.

7. A system of insurance on letters between Ceylon and certain foreign counties was inaugurated.

8. A motor car was imported from England and is being utilized in Colombo.

9. Thirty-one miles of telegraph were added during the year, and the telegraph business continued to expand.

10. In consequence of the introduction of electric tramways the telephone system gave some trouble. As a remedial measure the installation of a return metallic circuit was put in hand.

11. The services of Mr. J. G. Mellersh, of the Imperial Post Office, were secured for a year, to devise a scheme for the re-organization of the Department, more especially the accounting branch, and he has made many valuable suggestions, which are being acted upon.

IX.—MILITARY FORCE AND EXPENDITURE.

1. The Colonial contribution for regular troops rose from Rs. 1,788,066 in 1898 to Rs. 2,127,959, and the cost of maintaining the Volunteer Force increased from Rs. 112,910·23 to Rs. 211,279·33.

2. These increases are due to the Colonial contribution on account of Imperial troops being fixed at a percentage of the revenue and consequently rising with the revenue, to the payment during the year of a balance due on account of 1898, and to the re-arming of the Volunteers, and the augmentation of the reserve of ammunition, and the improvement of rifle ranges.

3. Rs. 25,000 were paid in lieu of exemption from payment of Customs duty on articles imported for the troops, and Rs. 154,838·09 were expended on the fortifications at Colombo.

4. The gross military expenditure was therefore Rs. 2,519,076·42.

5. There is no militia or semi-military Colonial force.

X.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

(1) Important Events.

1. From the 20th March to 25th November the Lieutenant-Governor administered the Government during the absence on leave of His Excellency the Governor.

2. Sanction was obtained for the construction of the Northern, Kelani Valley, and Uda Pussellawa Railways.

3. His Excellency the Governor cut the first sod of the Graving Dock.

4. Plague was effectually kept out from the Island—thanks to unremitting precautions.

5. A prospective expenditure of Rs. 5,000,000 on irrigation to be spread over some years was sanctioned.

6. The Colony offered to place at the disposal of the Imperial Government, for service in South Africa, the troops composing the garrison.

7. By the sudden death of Mr. Lee, Treasurer of the Colony, the Government lost one of its ablest, most energetic, and most experienced servants.

(2) Public Works.

The total expenditure rose from Rs. 4,190,003·43 in 1898 to Rs. 5,343,891·42, personal emoluments, increasing from Rs. 410,228·32 to Rs. 455,961·92.

Annually recurrent expenditure claimed Rs. 2,030,684·45, and it required Rs. 2,856,867·71 to satisfy Public Works Extraordinary. The total mileage of roads is 3,594, of which 2,297 are metalled, 211 track-metalled, 625 gravelled, and 460 natural roads. The cost of maintenance was Rs. 490 per mile for metalled roads, Rs. 209 for gravelled roads, and Rs. 41 for natural roads.

The passenger jetty, Colombo, was completed, and the duplication of the water main from Wagga to Hunupitiya was also finished. With the exception of the erection of a few public fountains the Nuwara Eliya waterworks became a *fait accompli.*

The Government Factory was kept busy and spent Rs.620,056·59, of which Rs. 60,948·78 was on account of plague precautions, and incurred chiefly in respect of portable iron hospitals and buildings, &c., at the cooly camp at Ragama. No fewer than 216 iron bridges were turned out against 136 in the preceding year.

On the new passenger jetty, Colombo, Rs. 183,680·46 were expended, Rs. 6,881·28 went towards Molesworth sluices for irrigation works, while Rs. 27,567·47 was devoted to other departments.

The expenditure on Colombo Harbour was Rs. 1,988,061·03 made up as follows :—

	Rs.	c.
Upkeep of south-west breakwater and inner harbour dredging	97,731	20
Harbour improvements, &c.	640,508	68
Harbour extensions	1,249,821	15

The total expenditure on Harbour Extensions is now Rs. 6,448,061·03, and the grand total expenditure from the commencement of the south-west breakwater in 1873 Rs. 20,261,645·22. During the year new grain sheds with landing jetties were completed at a cost of Rs. 278,592·55.

The railway earned Rs. 7,658,886 gross revenue as against Rs. 7,549,620 in 1898, with an expenditure of Rs. 4,104,353 against Rs. 3,605,944.

The profits were made up of Rs. 2,904,661 coaching earnings, Rs. 4,677,278 goods earnings, Rs. 12,480 live stock earnings, and Rs. 64,466 miscellaneous earnings.

During the year Rs. 1,232,129 was paid by way of interest.

The total mileage of the railway, now 297, is likely to be materially increased at no distant date.

(3) Immigration and Emigration.

During the year 59,736 immigrants arrived in Ceylon and 884 emigrants left for India. The number of immigrants in 1898 was 80,238, and the large falling off is due to the closing of the Northern cooly route. The immigrants are almost all employed on tea estates.

(4) Future Prospects of Trade.

The value of the trade of the Colony has risen from Rs. 181,326,925 in 1898 to Rs. 213,007,870 in 1899. In 1895

CEYLON, 1899.

the value was Rs. 76,543,473. These splendidly progressive figures speak for themselves and show that future prospects of trade are bright.

(5) Suitability of Climate for Europeans.

The climate is well suited for Europeans, but under existing conditions manual labour is practically out of the question for the white man, who finds his avocation in sedentary pursuits or in the supervision of labour.

(6) Rates of Wages and Cost of Living.

The rate of wages for prædial labourers varies from 25 to 50 cents per diem ; 37½ cents is the general rate. Domestic servants earn from Rs. 10 to Rs. 20 per mensem, the average wage being about Rs. 12. Trade employees earn from 50 cents to Re. 1·50 a day. The cost of living varies greatly in different parts of the Island, being lowest in the Northern and Eastern Provinces and highest in Colombo, where house rent is a serious item to rich and poor. The ordinary villager can probably live in fair comfort for Rs. 5 to Rs. 6 a month.

The cost of living for a European is somewhat difficult to calculate, the purchasing power of the rupee being something midway between its nominal value of Rs. 2 and gold value of 1*s.* 4*d.*, if local and imported purchases are considered together.

(7) Openings for Investment of Capital.

Plumbago mining is now attracting capital from within and without the Island, and with the settlement of the difficult question on the terms on which the industry can be exploited more capital will no doubt be attracted. Tea continues to prosper, and cocoanut cultivation will always form a sound investment, while cocoa, cardamoms, and other like products yield a good return.

(8) Social Condition of the People.

As noted in last year's report, the native of Ceylon lives under more favourable conditions than his Indian cousin. His taxation is lighter, plague and famine he knows of only by hearsay, he has greater facilities for bringing his desires and complaints to the notice of Government officials, while his medical and educational wants are very generously provided for. He is still too criminal ; not in the sense of deliberate and wilful criminalty, but like a wayward child committing crimes of violence in the heat

of passion, and recklessly using the knife, which he cannot be debarred from wearing without the infliction of the greatest hardship. Education must be looked to to supply the cure, but the process must be a slow, as it is hoped it will be a thorough, one. Meanwhile the enactment of laws prescribing corporal punishment for the offence of recklessly using the knife shows him, in a way that he understands, that it has been determined to guide him by the *fortiter in re* as well as the *suaviter in modo* and it is anticipated that the combination will ultimately have its effect.

(9) General Condition of the Colony.

The general condition of the Colony is one of maintained and progressive prosperity.

J. J. Thorburn,
Assistant Colonial Secretary.

Colombo,
August 20th, 1900.

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No. 341.

CEYLON.

REPORT FOR 1900.

(For Report for 1899, *see* No. 307.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
November, 1901.

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315	Southern Nigeria	1899–1900
316	Grenada	1899
317	Jamaica	1899–1900
318	British Guiana	"
319	Christmas Island	1900
320	British Solomon Islands	1899–1900
321	Lagos	1900
322	Bermuda...	"
323	St. Helena	"
324	Sierra Leone	"
325	Gambia	"
326	Barbados	"
327	Bahamas...	"
328	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
329	Malta	"
330	Straits Settlements	"
331	Fiji	"
332	St. Lucia...	"
333	Seychelles	"
334	Falkland Islands	"
335	Mauritius and Rodrigues	"
336	British New Guinea	1899–1900
337	Leeward Islands	1900
338	Trinidad and Tobago	"
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340	Hong Kong	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
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3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas...	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific...	British Solomon Islands.
9	Dominica	Agriculture.
10	Virgin Islands	Condition during 1897.
11	Grenada	Agriculture in Carriacou.
12	Anguilla	Vital Statistics, 1898.
13	Cook Islands	Trade, 1899.
14	Bahamas...	Fibre Industry.
15	Canada	Legal Status of British North American Indians.
16	Miscellaneous Colonies ...	Medical Reports.
17	Gilbert and Ellice Islands ...	Report for 1896–1900.
18	Hong Kong	Operations in New Territory during 1900.

No. 341

CEYLON, 1900.

CEYLON.

(For Report for 1899, *see* No. 307.)

GOVERNOR SIR J. WEST RIDGEWAY to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Queen's Cottage,
Nuwara Eliya,
Ceylon, 20th September, 1901.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith copies of the Ceylon Blue Book for the year 1900, together with copies of the usual report prepared in the Colonial Secretary's Office.

I have, &c.,
J. RIDGEWAY.

REPORT ON THE CEYLON BLUE BOOK OF 1900.

I.—FINANCIAL.

(A) GENERAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

Revenue.

The revenue of 1900 amounted to Rs. 27,325,930·56, compared with Rs. 25,913,141·58 in 1899, showing an excess of Rs. 1,412,788·98. The estimated revenue was exceeded by Rs. 2,205,930·56. In 1850 the revenue amounted to £415,667—say Rs. 6,235,005—less than one-fourth of the receipts of 1900.

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2. The comparative statement of the revenue of 1899 and 1900 shows :—

—	Revenue of 1899.	Revenue of 1900.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
1. Customs	6,752,367 19	7,228,293 34	556,274 28	80,348 13
2 Port, Harbour, Wharf, and Lighthouse Dues...	1,135,100 94	1,319,377 79	184,282 10	5 25
3. Licenses, Excise, and Internal Revenue not otherwise classified.	5,630,772 41	5,796,008 85	174,502 74	9,266 30
4. Fees of Court or Office, Payment for Specific Services, and Reimbursements in Aid.	1,642,617 36	1,723,488 62	102,359 25	21,487 99
5. Post and Telegraphs	906,325 67	996,802 86	97,725 54	7,248 35
6. Government Railways	7,626,888 97	8,239,679 9	645,354 53	32,564 41
7. Rent of Government Property	119,320 79	102,900 49	1,015 56	17,435 86
8. Interest	488,929 46	486,450 54	4,031 46	6,510 38
9. Miscellaneous Receipts	266,253 26	209,188 97	—	57,064 29
10. Sale of Government Property	517,863 24	404,944 18	5 16	112,924 22
11. Land Sales	826,702 29	818,795 83	3,868 42	11,774 88
Total	25,913,141 58	27,325,930 56	1,769,419 4	356,630 6
		Deduct Decrease ...	356,630 6	
		Net Increase	1,412,788 98	

3. It is noticeable that while the first six heads of revenue contributed substantially to the gratifying increase the last five all showed a falling off.

4. The only appreciable decline under Customs is an item of Rs. 61,098 on account of exports of plumbago, and was to be expected in view of the relaxation of the boom in that mineral. The important items among the imports, such as grain, cotton manufactures, spirits, sugar, &c., all showed signs of satisfactory expansion. Under Licenses, Excise, &c., salt and arrack yielded enhanced returns, and road, bridge, and ferry rents sold better. Fees of Court show a falling off under survey fees, due to shrinkage in the area of land sold. Post and Telegraphs disclose a large increase in the sale of postage stamps, in commission on money orders, telegraph receipts, and parcel post collections. Railways contributed an increase of Rs. 612,790·12, or nearly half the total excess.

5. The falling off under Rent of Government Property is due mainly to the proceeds of plumbago leases being now credited under another head, while the decline under Interest is attributable to the diminution of funds invested. Every item under Miscellaneous Receipts shows a decrease, but as such receipts are of a fluctuating nature, the decrease is not one which calls for special comment or explanation. The shrinkage of proceeds of sale of timber and firewood from Rs. 486,472·36 to Rs. 378,937·09 accounts for almost the entire decrease under Sale of Government Property. The decline of plumbago affected land sales (Premia on Leases), as a smaller area was leased out for mining purposes.

Expenditure.

6. The expenditure for 1900 was Rs. 28,948,927·17, including Rs. 3,626,939·17 on account of Railway Construction debited to Surplus Funds, and exceeded the expenditure of 1899 by Rs. 3,997,986·81.

The re-organization of the Post Office Department and the natural expansion of the Railway and the Public Works Departments involved additional claims on the public purse, and increased provision for Grants-in-aid to existing schools helped to swell the expenditure. The outlay under Exchange also rose materially. Savings were effected under Provincial Administration owing to decrease in the cost of the Immigration Service, due to the closing of the North road and smaller expenditure on account of salt manufacture. Hospitals and Dispensaries showed a decrease, but this is due to the figures of 1899 being unduly swollen by payments made in that year on account of 1898; and for the same reason there is an apparent falling off under Military Expenditure. Economies were effected under Plague Precaution, Forests, and Public Works Extraordinary.

7. The comparative statement of expenditure of 1899 and 1900 is as follows :—

Heads of Service.	1899.	1900.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
1. Charges on account of Public Debt	2,802,454 50	2,802,422 41	—	32 9
2. Pensions	1,115,583 22	1,149,877 71	34,294 49	—
3. His Excellency the Governor	124,292 54	125,031 78	739 24	—
3a. Civil Service	667,973 70	661,511 68	—	6,462 2
4. Secretariat	206,245 89	249,328 16	43,082 27	—
5. Audit Office	49,156 66	49,160 75	4 9	—
6. Treasury	39,413 1	40,086 85	673 84	—
7. Provincial Administration	933,723 83	884,030 60	—	49,693 23
8. Survey Department	608,697 75	638,314 52	29,616 77	—
9. Customs Department	127,770 81	127,016 85	—	753 96
10. Port and Marine Department, Colombo	307,271 36	319,218 42	11,947 6	—
11. Port and Marine Department other than Colombo	41,557 90	34,212 78	—	7,345 12
12. Botanic Gardens...	57,956 16	70,678 59	12,722 43	—
13. Colombo Museum	23,963 7	25,851 99	1,888 92	—

14. Legal Departments:—				
Supreme Court	126,013 57	128,488 61	2,475 4	—
Attorney-General	61,876 14	60,432 34	—	1,443 80
Solicitor-General	12,022 10	12,043 87	21 77	—
District Courts	155,301 8	160,389 52	5,088 44	—
Courts of Requests and Police Courts	116,269 27	124,531 73	8,262 46	—
Registration of Lands	78,336 17	77,461 89	—	874 28
Registration of Marriages, Births, and Deaths	107,190 70	129,413 94	22,223 24	—
Fiscals	193,665 12	208,309 92	14,644 80	—
Loan Board	5,604 26	5,434 13	—	170 13
15. Police	715,439 8	721,511 37	6,072 29	—
16. Prisons	487,561 16	485,204 26	—	2,356 90
17. Medical Department	373,547 18	367,432 69	—	6,114 49
18. Hospitals and Dispensaries	1,259,266 21	1,209,980 99	—	49,285 22
19. Ecclesiastical	47,324 97	45,690 86	—	1,634 11
20. Education	778,133 85	820,133 87	42,000 2	—
21. Transport...	13,641 23	14,708 31	1,067 8	—
22. Exchange	164,487 53	227,989 88	63,502 35	—

Comparative statement of the expenditure of 1899 and 1900—*continued.*

Heads of Service.	1899.	1900.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
23. Military Expenditure	2,519,076 42	2,366,350 39	—	152,726 3
24. Miscellaneous Services	1,231,621 26	1,136,096 51	—	95,524 75
25. Government Stores	73,543 98	85,961 2	12,417 4	—
26. Crown Agents, London	2,704 46	2,033 66	—	670 80
27. Forests	378,484 50	341,313 79	—	37,170 71
28. Post Office and Telegraphs	964,414 56	1,098,798 17	134,383 61	—
29. Railway Department	4,098,601 43	4,366,298 45	267,697 2	—
30. Public Works Department	429,812 47	455,332 49	25,520 2	—
31. Public Works Annually Recurrent	1,758,447 38	1,896,243 19	137,795 81	—
32. Public Works Extraordinary	1,692,493 88	1,597,659 6	—	94,834 82
Total Expenditure	24,950,940 36	25,321,988 0	878,140 10	507,092 46
29. Railway Construction (Surplus Funds)	—	3,626,939 17		
		28,948,927 17		

	Rs. c.
Total increases	371,047 64
	3,626,939 17
	3,997,986 81

8. In the annexed table the total revenue and expenditure of the last five years is given :—

—	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Revenue	21,974,573 41¼	24,906,521 83¼	25,138,669 26	25,913,141 58¼	27,325,930 56
Expenditure	21,237,859 66	21,634,377 94	22,843,851 89	24,950,940 36	25,321,988 0*
Expenditure from Surplus Funds	37,095 28	5,092 64	1,668 88	1,519 81	3,626,939 17†

* This includes Rs. 504,024·81 on account of irrigation under the new policy.
† This represents the expenditure for 1900 on account of railway construction under the new policy.

(B.) Important Changes in Taxation.

Under this head there is nothing to record.

(C.) Assets and Liabilities.

The total assets on the 1st January, 1901, were Rs. 20,756,099·06 and the liabilities Rs. 16,130,437·75 showing an excess of assets over liabilities of Rs. 4,625,661·31. From this excess must be deducted recoverable arrears of revenue and overpayments outstanding on 1st January, 1901, amounting to Rs. 125,891·50, and Rs. 3,000,000 appropriated in the Estimates of 1901 on account of Railway Extension and Irrigation. The net excess is, therefore, Rs. 1,499,769·81.

On the 1st January, 1900, the net excess of assets over liabilities was Rs. 2,859,067·39.

CEYLON, 1900.

(D) PUBLIC DEBT, SHOWING PROVISION FOR PAYMENT.

The balance due by the Colony on its sterling debt raised in London amounted on December 31, 1900, to £3,419,451 1*s.* 5*d.*, as against £3,445,839 17*s.* 3*d.* on the corresponding date in 1899, while the balance due on the local silver debt had been reduced from Rs. 3,253,191·72 to Rs. 3,239,585·31.

These loans are secured against General Revenue.

(E) CURRENCY.

Legal tender currency consists of Ceylon Government notes of Rs. 1,000 (issued last year for the first time), Rs. 100, Rs. 50, Rs. 10, and Rs. 5, the Indian rupee with a subsidiary silver coinage of 50-cent, 25-cent, and 10-cent pieces, and a copper coinage of 5-cent, 1-cent, ½-cent, and ¼-cent pieces.

About half the face value of the paper issued is held in specie by the Currency Commissioners, the balance being invested in Indian Government paper and other approved securities:—

—	Value.	
Circulation.		Rs. c.
Currency notes in circulation on December 31st, 1899.	—	13,292,450 0
Reserve.	In Silver. Rs. c.	In Securities. Rs. c.
By silver in the vault (6 cents copper) ...	6,277,609 56	—
By investments made by the Crown Agents	—	3,507,486 0
By investments made in Indian Government paper.	—	3,507,354 44
	6,277,609 56	7,014,840 44
Total	Rs. 13,292,450 0	

The Mercantile Bank of India, Ltd., the Bank of Madras, the National Bank of India, Ltd., the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, and the Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China do business in the Colony.

(F.) COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF THE TOTAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE OF MUNICIPALITIES FOR THE FIVE YEARS ENDING DECEMBER 31ST, 1900.

Name of Municipality.	Revenue or Expenditure.	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.
		Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Colombo	Revenue	786,597 49	834,546 17	922,189 17	1,088,519 50	1,152,137 58
	Expenditure	704,856 69	798,4 3 1	837,809 72	927,229 89	902,408 5
Kandy	Revenue	116,854 57	125,414 90	131,379 34	141,436 42	181,946 94
	Expenditure	119,142 62	119,217 71	166,774 19	150,032 87	183,671 31
Galle	Revenue	68,724 98	71,080 0	80,797 16	90,787 38	109,566 51
	Expenditure	66,812 43	79,321 69	83,164 72	84,439 26	87,629 69

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF THE TOTAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE OF THE LOCAL BOARD AND THE BOARD OF IMPROVEMENT OF THE ISLAND FOR THE FIVE YEARS ENDING ON DECEMBER 31ST, 1900.

Name of Local Board.	Revenue or Expenditure.	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.
		Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
WESTERN PROVINCE.						
Negombo	Revenue	23,453 96	23,647 59	25,852 32	20,493 60	27,485 8
	Expenditure	31,813 11	21,071 12	25,963 71	28,716 97	24,330 84
Kalutara	Revenue	15,637 63	13,182 53	19,587 80	34,796 69	14,290 38
	Expenditure	13,275 31	15,807 61	13,192 40	31,358 0	17,429 54
Minuwangoda	Revenue	—	—	—	1,683 48	2,397 37
	Expenditure ...				1,092 78	1,557 90
CENTRAL PROVINCE.						
Matale	Revenue	7,221 17	8,065 76	8,275 37	9,827 51	10,430 95
	Expenditure	6,935 80	8,832 35	7,425 8	8,470 65	*16,545 28
Gampola	Revenue	7,106 34	8,704 65	4,743 51	9,262 42	6,954 47
	Expenditure	7,664 25	8,490 36	4,189 22	11,347 65	7,107 84

* Includes expenditure from loans.

CENTRAL PROVINCE—*cont.*						
Nawalapitiya	Revenue	2,829 78	4,323 81	7,107 66	8,370 34	13,447 25
	Expenditure	2,023 20	2,148 88	4,822 94	9,631 12	*14,632 89
Nuwara Eliya	Revenue	23,944 12	20,543 94	22,486 6	24,253 99	33,363 98
	Expenditure	21,632 78	19,125 28	20,472 68	21,011 86	26,914 9
NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCE.						
Kurunegala	Revenue	16,402 67	21,226 98	16,007 82	24,470 71	22,765 98
	Expenditure	17,407 12	17,424 27	19,275 19	19,512 82	30,166 20
Puttalam	Revenue	9,351 27	9,212 54	11,275 44	12,773 44	11,946 1
	Expenditure	8,787 73	10,047 90	11,889 88	14,789 98	10,867 77
Chilaw	Revenue	7,958 66	8,333 22	9,533 91	11,434 88	15,567 92
	Expenditure	7,329 21	8,620 87	10,146 65	9,339 77	16,188 76
EASTERN PROVINCE						
Batticaloa...	Revenue	15,323 19	14,315 32	17,124 88	17,326 82	17,190 37
	Expenditure	15,328 94	13,960 15	16,865 4	16,610 99	16,981 59
Trincomalee	Revenue	12,798 23	13,355 48	13,184 15	15,775 69	13,423 97
	Expenditure	18,472 15	15,325 89	12,754 96	13,772 61	15,575 56

* Includes expenditure from loans.

Comparative Statement of the Total Revenue and Expenditure of the Local Board and the Board of Improvement of the Island for the Five Years ending on December 31st, 1900—*continued.*

Name of Local Board.	Revenue or Expenditure.	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.
		Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
SOUTHERN PROVINCE.						
Matara	Revenue	15,267 92	13,559 77	14,466 86	13,508 44	19,233 29
	Expenditure	13,533 58	13,256 26	12,025 46	15,692 54	15,028 23
PROVINCE OF UVA.						
Badulla	Revenue	11,884 75	11,040 43	13,717 29	13,019 4	13,741 91
	Expenditure	13,150 94	13,643 2	11,800 50	14,821 45	13,365 26
PROVINCE OF SABARAGAMUWA.						
Ratnapura...	Revenue	7,738 8	8,205 99	9,406 29	9,229 99	9,370 59
	Expenditure	7,172 85	7,172 48	8,275 26	7,596 48	8,813 62
Kegalla	Revenue	4,406 96	3,787 67	3,574 74	5,383 66	4,679 90
	Expenditure	3,412 43	3,505 55	4,498 86	4,093 79	4,812 18

(G.) Statement of Debts of Municipalities up to end of 1900, showing Provision for Payment.

Name of Municipality.	Amount of Debt.	On what account.	Provision for Payment.
	Rs. c.		
Colombo	20,000 0	For creation of the Health Department.	Rs. 10,000 is provided yearly in the Budget.
Kandy	193,635 38	Waterworks construction ...	The sums necessary to pay interest and sinking fund are voted in Budget, and special items of revenue are pledged to Government.
	99,285 90	Lands over Reservoir	Do. do.
	15,988 45	Drainage	Do. do.
	32,000 0	Lake silt and widening Victoria Drive.	Voted at the rate of Rs. 4,000 per annum with interest upon the amount due at time of payment.
Galle	61,975 89	Construction of waterworks ...	Water-rate of 5 per cent. levied on all immovable property within Fort of Galle for payment of interest and sinking fund.
	15,693 96	Sanitary Improvements	Mortgage to Government of Stamp Duties on Licenses, on Carts, Boats and Coaches; and Fees and Stamp Duties under Licensing Ordinance, 1873, and Ordinance No. 23 of 1877.

STATEMENT OF DEBTS OF LOCAL BOARDS AT THE END OF 1900, WITH PROVISION FOR REPAYMENT.

Name of Local Board.	Amount of Debt.	On what account.	Provision for Repayment.
	Rs. c.		
Badulla	5,698 56	For construction of public market	Repayable from Local Board revenue by a sinking fund at the rate of 2 per cent. on the original loan of Rs. 6,784.
	13,376 0	For waterworks	Repayable from Local Board revenue by a sinking fund at the rate of 2 per cent. on the original loan of Rs. 15,200.
	3,600 0	Do.	Repayable from Local Board revenue by a sinking fund at the rate of 2 per cent. on the original loan of Rs. 4,000.
	2,350 0	Do.	Repayable from Local Board revenue by a sinking fund at the rate of 2 per cent. on the original loan of Rs. 2,500.
	400 0	For improvement of drainage ...	Repayable from Local Board revenue by a sinking fund at the rate of 20 per cent. on the original loan of Rs. 1,000.
Puttalam	5,880 0	For waterworks	Repayable from Local Board revenue by a sinking fund of 2 per cent. on the original loan of Rs. 7,000.
Ratnapura	2,749 98	For water-rate	Repayable from Local Board revenue at the rate of Rs. 458·33 per annum.

Negombo	9,333 36	For construction of a bridge ...	To be repaid from Local Board revenue in seventeen years.
Nuwara Eliya	12,320 0	For construction of market ...	Repayable from Local Board revenue by a sinking fund of 1 per cent. on the original loan.
	3,600 0	Additional loan for market contruction.	Repayable from Local Board revenue in ten years.
	78,061 0	For waterworks	Repayable from Local Board revenue by a sinking fund at the rate of 2 per cent. on the original loan.
	8,820 0	For construction of Library and Reading Room.	Repayable from Local Board revenue by a sinking fund at the rate of 1 per cent. on the original loan of Rs. 9,000.
Batticaloa	14,800 0	For market construction	Repayable from Local Board revenue by a sinking fund at the rate of 2 per cent. on the original loan of Rs. 20,000.
	320 0	For opening the general cemetery	Repayable from Local Board revenue in seven years.
Trincomalee	2,610 0	For drainage of the town... ...	Repayable from Local Board revenue in ten years.
	2,670 0	For improvement of the Fishers' quarters.	Repayable from Local Board revenue in fifty years.
Nawalapitiya	13,030 49	For water supply	Repayable from Local Board Revenue by a sinking fund at the rate of 2 per cent. half-yearly.
	10,000 0	For drainage of the town... ...	Repayable from Local Board revenue by a sinking fund at the rate of 2 per cent. half-yearly.

CEYLON, 1900.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

(A) IMPORTS AND EXPORTS

1. The annual value of the trade of the Colony for the last five years was:—

Year.	Imports.		Exports.		Total.	
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
1896	77,083,587	29	85,352,428	81	162,436,016	10
1897	85,730,156	92	83,229,303	45	168,959,460	37
1898	87,525,034	97	93,801,890	13	181,326,925	10
1899	101,542,220	61	111,405,649	99	213,007,870	60
1900	114,544,256	41	106,006,460	55	220,550,716	96

Imports.

2. The value of the imports for the year 1900, including specie (Rs. 7,795,501·53), was Rs. 122,339,757·94.

3. The value of the imports and specie imported into each Province during 1900 was:—

—	Value.			
Imports.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Western Province	105,363,743	27	—	
Northern Province	2,990,690	97	—	
Southern Province	5,579,948	14	—	
Eastern Province...	609,874	3	—	
			114,544,256	41
Specie.				
Western Province	—		7,795,501	53
Total			122,339,757	94

4. Comparing the imports of 1900 with 1899 the duty on arms and ammunition has risen from Rs. 57,510·56 to Rs. 70,546·55, an increase of Rs. 13,035·99.

Cotton manufactures show a total value of Rs. 7,917,770·98 against Rs. 6,933,311·46, and duty of Rs. 305,073·62 against Rs. 278,360·24.

Chemicals, dye stuffs, and tanning substances show an increase of Rs. 1,079·67 in duty.

Cement shows an increase in value of Rs. 84,019·70 and in quantity of 1,500 tons. The quantity of cement imported as Government stores was valued at Rs. 211,354·89 against Rs. 119,684·23 in 1899.

Coal, Coke, and Patent Fuel.—The quantity imported was 590,099 tons against 511,692 tons in 1899, an increase of 78,407 tons, British India and Japan contributing principally to the increase. Colombo imported 84,216 tons of coal more than in 1899, while the increase in Galle was 5,814 tons.

Kerosine oil shows an increase of 550,995 gallons on the quantity imported, of 214,796 gallons on the quantity entered for home consumption, of Rs. 344,372·02 in value, and Rs. 60,450·16 in duty.

Food stuffs generally, such as biscuits, beef and pork, butter, cheese, flour, and potatoes show an increase.

Grain.—The quantity of grain cleared for home consumption was 9,592,323¾ bushels against 9,178,405 bushels, the duty recovered amounting to Rs. 3,015,556·18, that on rice alone being Rs. 2,783,546·57.

There is an increase in the value of live stock imported of Rs. 400,413. The number of cattle rose from 20,888 to 26,539, of sheep from 79,628 to 96,330, and of horses from 503 to 534.

Metal and metalware shows an increase in value of Rs. 1,860,964·50.

Manures of all kinds have risen from 14,282 tons to 19,766 tons, the increase in value being Rs. 276,505·06.

Oils (excluding kerosine oil) show an increase in value of Rs. 202,179·81 and a decrease in duty of Rs. 2,255·96.

Opium.—The quantity of opium imported is greater by 7,611 lbs.

Spices show an increase in value of Rs. 17,531·74 and in duty of Rs. 1,149·93.

The quantity of poonac imported shows an increase of 3,134 cwts. 1 qr. 12 lbs.

Spirits of all kinds show an increase in value of Rs. 137,356·20 and in duty of Rs. 79,910·83. The quantity entered for home consumption was 171,045 gallons against 152,520 gallons, the chief increases being in gin and brandy.

Sugar shows an increase in quantity of 29,622 cwts. 2 qrs. 3 lbs., and in duty of Rs. 79,302·19.

The imports of specie show a decrease of Rs. 2,654,626·99, the decrease being mainly in gold.

CEYLON, 1900.

Silk manufactures of all kinds show an increase of Rs. 121,611·59 in value and of Rs. 2,220·55 in duty.

Woollen manufactures show a decrease in value of Rs. 94,430·77 and in duty of Rs. 5,377·74.

Tobacco shows an increase in quantity imported of 105,054 lbs. and cigars of 1,777 lbs.

Wines of all kinds show an increase of Rs. 9,351·95 in value and of Rs. 4,220·37 in duty, the total quantity entered for home consumption being 60,863·11 gallons against 54,845·24 gallons.

Exports.

1. In 1900 the value of exports amounted to Rs. 108,926,256·55 distributed as follows:—

Exports.	Value.	
	Rs.	c.
Ceylon produce	90,868,532	0
Imports re-exported	1,173,948	55
Specie	2,919,796	0
Coal for use of steamers ...	13,963,980	0
Total	108,926,256	55

Compared with 1899, Ceylon produce shows a decrease of Rs. 9,227,149·34, mainly attributable to the smaller shipments of plumbago, the price of which during the year fell heavily, while the market was inactive, the inevitable reaction after the boom of 1899.

Imports re-exported, however, show an increase of Rs. 183,009·90, the value of coal exported for the use of steamers an increase of Rs. 3,584,950, and the exports of specie of Rs. 2,429,509.

2. The value of exports to the United Kingdom fell from Rs. 61,076,138·03 in 1899 to Rs. 56,295,524·57. Exports to British Colonies rose from Rs. 14,135,597·42 in 1899 to Rs. 18,086,705·01, the exports to Foreign Countries falling from Rs. 26,365,171·54 in 1899 to Rs. 20,580,046·97, a decrease largely accounted for by the fall in plumbago, both in quantity and value. The exports of tea to Russia (Asiatic and European) rose by 4,713,751½ lbs., which is more than the entire exports of 1899; but that to the United States shows a decrease of 282,641 3/6 lbs. The value of direct exports to Russia (Asiatic

and European) of Ceylon produce exceeded that of 1899 by Rs. 1,543,550·18, while there was a fall in the value to the United States of America from Rs. 13,667,360·24 in 1899 to Rs. 6,602,935·13.

3. In the staple articles of export cardamoms show an increase of 785 cwts. 5 lbs.; cinnamon a fall from 49,116 cwts. 3 qrs. 20 lbs. in 1899 to 41,215 cwts. 1 qr.; coir yarn, fibre, and rope exported from the two principal ports (Colombo and Galle) has increased by 26,317 cwts.; copperah exported from Colombo and Galle, also shows an increase of 84,019 cwts. The exports of citronella oil have decreased by 2,454,362 oz. Of tea, the quantity exported rose from 129,661,908 lbs. in 1899 to 149,264,602 lbs.; of plumbago 391,700 cwts. were exported in 1900, as against 635,224 cwts. in the preceding year, while there was also a fall in value from Rs. 700 in 1899 to Rs. 500 per ton.

(B) MINES, MANUFACTURES, AND FISHERIES.

1. The fall in the value of plumbago exercised a check on mining operations, which are carried on principally in the North-Western, Central, and Western Provinces, and many of the smaller mines were abandoned. The larger pits yielding the better qualities of the mineral, and those whose owners held substantial capital and employed skilled European supervision showed an increased output and prospered fairly.

2. In Kurunegala only 50 plumbago pits were worked, compared with 154 in 1899, and in the Southern Province only 30 acres were leased as against 117. In the Central and Western Provinces similar signs of the depression of the industry were manifest.

3. The number of gem pits in the Province of Sabaragamuwa rose from 280 to 404, which would lead to the inference that this form of mining is a profitable, although naturally a speculative, investment.

4. The chief manufactures are cloth weaving, jaggery, oil (cocoanut, gingelly, and citronella), copperah, coir, bricks and tiles, mats, baskets, tobacco, jewellery, carpentry, &c.

5. The manufacture of salt is in the hands of the Government, and the monopoly of the sale yielded the substantial sum of Rs. 1,106,568·65.

6. The fisheries of the Northern, Eastern, and North-Western Provinces were successful, but no progress is to be recorded in respect of the methods of curing the produce. There was no oyster pearl fishery, nor is it expected that the banks will be ready to be fished for another year or two. The young oysters have a disappointing way of disappearing before they come to maturity, and have many enemies to contend with. An expert will visit Ceylon next year to investigate and report on the best measures for their protection.

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(c) AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES AND BOTANICAL STATIONS.

1. The chief agricultural products are paddy, tea, cocoanuts, cacao, tobacco, and spices.

2. The export of tea increased by 20,000,000 lbs. and reached 149,264,602 lbs., valued at Rs. 53,735,257. The export to Russia rose by 5,000,000 lbs., the export to Australia by 2,000,000 lbs., and to America by 1,000,000 lbs. The price realized in London fell 10 per cent. to 7·20*d.* per pound. Cultivation is extending in Southern India, Java, and elsewhere, and it is feared that the full effect of over-production has not yet been felt, and that the tea industry has a trying period before it. The remedy would appear to be in selecting specially trained managers, plucking for quality rather than quantity, improvement of the jat of tea planted, careful protection against disease, and improved methods of manufacture.

3. Of coffee only 10,777 cwt. were exported in marked contrast to the days when coffee was king.

4. The export of cacao decreased considerably, but the prices obtained were good. This plant is susceptible to canker and attacks of Helopeltis, and the pods offer so strong an attraction to thieves that the possession of green cacao without valid explanation is a statutory offence.

5. Cocoanut cultivation continued to expand, and there was an increase in the export of all the products of this most useful tree, including oil, copperah, desiccated cocoanut, poonac, coir, &c.

6. Cardamoms are being more extensively cultivated from year to year, but a considerable fall in price is to be anticipated. Cinnamon has also declined in value.

7. In favourable localities Indiarubber is doing well, and a large quantity of seed was exported to Burmah and the Straits. Samples prepared locally have been favourably reported on in Europe, and promise a future for this product.

8. Fibrous plants abound in Ceylon, but their cultivation is not systematically pursued.

9. Camphor came into prominence during the year. Owing to the monopoly established by Japan the price of crude camphor rose to 200*s.* a cwt., and if this price is maintained there is some prospect of growing the plant profitably in Ceylon, where it succeeds well in many districts. A series of distillation experiments yielded fairly promising results.

10. Tobacco cultivation is fairly remunerative, but there is reason to fear over-production, as Southern India affords the only market for Ceylon's surplus output. The quality is not high class.

11. Citronella oil has fallen in value, and it now barely pays to cultivate the grass.

Botanical Stations.

12. As usual the work of the Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens was carried out chiefly at Peradeniya. His staff has recently received a material acquisition of strength by the appointment of a Mycologist, an Entomologist, and an Agricultural Chemist, who have done much in the way of investigating disease, analyzing soils, &c., and generally advising the planting community as to the introduction of new products and the protection of existing ones.

13. Throughout the Island there are numerous experimental gardens from which new plants are furnished to the villagers for cultivation. The villagers are very conservative, but are quick enough to adopt any innovation that will pay, and the holding of local agricultural shows will no doubt in time weaken many of their old-fashioned prejudices.

(D) LAND GRANTS AND VALUE OF LAND.

1. During the year 32,250 acres of land were alienated by the Crown by sale or settlement, as against 21,301 in 1899.

2. Under Sir Henry Ward's Minute 3,655 acres were sold for paddy cultivation.

3. The prices realized showed a falling off, the average being Rs. 19·80 against Rs. 34·20.

4. The Survey Department again had a busy year, carrying out block surveys of 235,039 acres, topographical surveys of 2,628,487 acres, application surveys of 20,801 acres, and miscellaneous surveys of 1,516 acres.

The acquisition of land for the Northern, Uda Pussellawa, and Kelani Valley Railways involved a large number of surveys, and the claims of the Irrigation Department continued to increase.

(E) SHIPPING.

1. The shipping returns for the Island show a decrease of 1,335 in the number of vessels, but an increase of 1,048,735 tons in tonnage:—

—	1899.		1900.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Entered	3,845	3,721,782	3,147	4,250,066
Cleared	3,840	3,717,423	3,203	4,237,874
Total	7,685	7,439,205	6,350	8,487,940

CEYLON, 1900.

2. The number and tonnage of steamers and sailing vessels entered inwards and cleared outwards in 1900, exclusive of those calling to coal and for orders at Colombo and Galle, are shown:—

—	Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.		Total.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Colombo—						
Inwards ...	1,729	3,774,501	567	58,243	2,296	3,832,744
Outwards ...	1,739	3,775,576	565	58,128	2,304	3,833,704
Total ...	3,468	7,550,077	1,132	116,371	4,600	7,666,448
Galle—						
Inwards... ...	172	324,877	16	1,283	188	326,160
Outwards ...	170	322,300	16	1,283	186	323,583
Total ...	342	647,177	32	2,566	374	649,743

The arrivals at the Port of Colombo show an increase in steamers of 470 aggregating 1,587,123 tons, and in sailing vessels of 14 vessels aggregating 1,439 tons as compared with 1899. Galle shows an increase of six steamers aggregating 33,752 tons, and of four sailing vessels aggregating 375 tons; altogether showing an increased tonnage of 34,127 for the year.

3. The nationality of vessels inwards and outwards during 1900 for the Island is as follows:—

Nationality.	Entered Inwards.		Cleared Outwards.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
British	1,516	2,952,490	1,542	2,937,212
Colonial	1,157	101,970	1,187	105,056
Austrian	48	126,567	48	126,567
French	103	228,291	103	228,291
German	135	479,513	135	479,513
Japanese	53	187,325	53	187,325
Carried forward	3,012	4,076,156	3,068	4,063,964

NATIONALITY OF VESSELS—*cont.*

Nationality.	Entered Inwards.		Cleared Outwards.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Brought forward	3,012	4,076,156	3,068	4,063,964
Maldivian	81	10,217	81	10,217
Russian	23	78,301	23	78,301
Danish	3	5,839	3	5,839
Spanish	15	45,098	15	45,098
Norwegian... ...	8	22,297	8	22,297
Italian	4	10,461	4	10,461
Dutch	1	1,697	1	1,697
Total ...	3,147	4,250,066	3,203	4,237,874

4. Compared with the years 1896, 1897, 1898, and 1899, the result inwards and outwards is as follows:—

Inwards.

1896.—A decrease of 806 vessels, but an increase of 723,743 tons.
1897.—A decrease of 624 vessels, but an increase of 882,651 tons.
1898.—A decrease of 404 vessels, but an increase of 644,360 tons.
1899.—A decrease of 698 vessels, but an increase of 528,284 tons.

Outwards.

1896.—A decrease of 780 vessels, but an increase of 684,519 tons.
1897.—A decrease of 582 vessels, but an increase of 900,542 tons.
1898.—A decrease of 343 vessels, but an increase of 760,939 tons.
1899.—A decrease of 637 vessels, but an increase of 520,451 tons.

III.—LEGISLATION.

The legal enactments of 1900 are:—

An Ordinance to repeal certain Ordinances.

An Ordinance for Incorporating the Council of Legal Education.

An Ordinance to amend "The Widows' and Orphans' Pension Fund Ordinance, 1898,"

An Ordinance to consolidate the Law regulating the carriage of Passengers and Goods by Boat.

An Ordinance to further amend Ordinance No. 1 of 1897, intituled "An Ordinance relating to Claims to Forest, Chena, Waste, and Unoccupied Lands."

An Ordinance to provide for raising a sum not exceeding £100,000 Sterling for the Public Service.

An Ordinance to prohibit the Exportation to China of Arms, Military Stores, and other Goods.

An Ordinance to amend the Ordinance No. 1 of 1889, intituled "The Courts Ordinance, 1889."

An Ordinance to provide for the taking of a Census from time to time.

An Ordinance to amend "The Road Ordinance, 1861," and "The Road Ordinance, 1861, Amendment Ordinance, 1884,"

An Ordinance to amend "The Small Towns Sanitary Ordinance, 1892,"

An Ordinance relating to the Exportation of Arms, Ammunition, and Military and Naval Stores.

An Ordinance to amend the Ordinances No. 17 of 1869, No. 11 of 1891, and No. 18 of 1896, relating to Customs in the Island of Ceylon.

An Ordinance to raise a Loan of £1,400,000 Sterling for the construction of Railway, Irrigation, and other Public Works.

An Ordinance for the better preservation of the Antiquities of the Island.

An Ordinance to amend "The Municipal Councils' Ordinance, No. 7 of 1887."

An Ordinance for making provision for the Contingent Services for the Year 1901.

An Ordinance to provide for the further appropriation of certain Unclaimed Balances from the Loan Board.

An Ordinance to amend the Law relating to the Registration of Marriages in this Island other than the Marriages of Kandyans or Mohammedans.

An Ordinance to amend the Ordinance No. 6 of 1900, intituled "An Ordinance to provide for raising a sum not exceeding £100,000 Sterling for the Public Service.

An Ordinance further to amend the Law relating to Notaries.

An Ordinance for making provision for the Supplementary Contingent Charges for the Year 1900.

An Ordinance to amend the Law relating to the Registration of Births and Deaths in this Island.

IV.—EDUCATION.

PRIMARY EDUCATION: MAIN FEATURES AND NUMBER OF SCHOOLS.

(*a*) *Primary Education.*

1. The number of children receiving primary education in Government and aided schools was in 1900 159,494, of whom 115,564 were boys and 43,930 were girls. Of this total 48,223 were attending Government schools and 111,271 were attending aided schools. The total number of the schools here classed as primary was 1,765, of which 497 were Government Schools and 1,268 were aided schools.

Primary education in English was being given to 11,298 children: 10,408 boys and 890 girls. The remainder, viz., 148,196 children, was receiving instruction in the vernacular only. Of this number 105,156 were boys and 43,040 were girls. The cost of the Government schools was Rs. 198,635·87, and the sum paid as grants to the aided schools was Rs. 329,727·40.

2. In addition to the above there were 1,991 unaided vernacular schools which furnished numerical returns to Government; in these 33,738 children were said to be receiving instruction.

3. If the question is raised how far the elementary education provided is adequate to the wants of the population, the number of those receiving higher instruction should be added to the above figures: this gives as the total number of children attending schools 208,274, *i.e.*, about 6 per cent. of the population. It may be inferred that about half the children of school-going age are getting something in the way of education. Probably rather more than half are learning to read and write; for a large proportion of children leave school after passing the Second or Third Standard. The number presented for examination in the Fourth Standard is less than two-fifths of the number presented in the First Standard.

4. The children who are receiving no education at all are mainly those living in outlying country districts. The towns,

as a rule, are well provided for by Missionary schools and other private agencies.

5. Provision for compulsory attendance forms a part of the Gansabhawa rules in some country districts; in many of these it is enforced with creditable vigour. In most country districts and in all towns there is no means of enforcing school attendance.

(*b*) *Secondary Education.*

6. The only Government institution devoted to secondary education is the Royal College, Colombo, in which the number of pupils has for some years averaged a little over 300; in 1900 it averaged 288. The pupils in the upper classes of the College are presented for the Cambridge Local Examinations (Senior and Junior), London University Matriculation, and Intermediate in Arts. The staff consists of 16 masters, five of whom hold English University degrees. The gross cost to Government in 1900 was Rs. 40,455·25, of which the sum of Rs. 20,515 was recovered in school fees. Besides the Royal College there are 60 aided High schools, educating 9,480 pupils, of whom 7,093 are boys and 2,387 are girls. There are also 60 unaided institutions, at which 2,925 pupils are said to be under instruction, but only a very small number of these are really receiving secondary education.

7. The encouragement offered by Government takes two forms: (*a*) Grants, (*b*) Scholarships:—

(*a*) In aided schools grants for specific subjects as well as for work in the standards are paid on the results of the Government examination in each school. Liberal grants are also paid for every pupil who obtains honours in the Senior or Junior Cambridge Local Examination, or who passes the London University Matriculation or Intermediate in Arts. The total sum expended in grants to the High schools in 1900 was Rs. 44,891.

(*b*) The English University Scholarship of £200 for four years is awarded annually on the result of a special examination held by the Oxford and Cambridge Joint Board for School Examinations.

The Gilchrist Scholarship of £150 for three years for Mathematics and Science is awarded once in three years on the results of the Senior Local Examination.

One scholarship of Rs. 240 for three years is awarded annually to girls on the results of the Senior Cambridge Local Examination. On the results of the Cambridge Junior Local Examination one scholarship of Rs. 240 for three years and two of Rs. 120 for three years are awarded annually to boys and two scholarships of Rs. 120 for three years are awarded annually to girls.

In 1900 the total sum expended on scholarships was Rs. 20,944·74.

8. On the whole very creditable results are obtained in these examinations by which secondary education is tested. In 1900 ten candidates passed the London Matriculation, three in the First Division, seven in the Second Division; one candidate passed the London LL.B. Examination in the Second Division; 61 candidates passed the Senior Cambridge Local Examination, 14 obtaining honours; 145 passed the Junior Cambridge Local Examination, 24 obtaining honours.

INDUSTRIAL, TECHNICAL, AND AGRICULTURAL SCHOOLS.

9. There are no Government industrial schools, but industrial education is supported by a liberal grant. In 1900 the aided industrial schools, which are 30 in number, received grants amounting to Rs. 32,057·56. These schools are under the management of the Church of England, Roman Catholic, Wesleyan, and American Missions. The number of pupils in them was 1,750. The trades taught were dressmaking 146, lacemaking 641, embroidery 346, cooking 17, spinning 49, tailoring 74, shoemaking 8, joinery and cabinet-making 252, printing 68, bookbinding 116, ironwork 23, warping 6, bundling 2, and drawing 2. In some of these schools the work is excellently organized, each trade being under a skilled foreman, and sufficient outlay having been made to supply a really adequate stock of tools and plant. This is specially the case with the Roman Catholics, who place trained lay brothers in charge of each trade. In others the outlay on tools and plant has been insufficient, the trades are supervised by native foremen of an inferior character, and the management is in the hands of those who have no practical knowledge of the industries which are being taught. In 1900 an important step was taken in the direction of better organization. A schedule was drawn up, setting out three years' work in joinery, printing, bookbinding, and prescribing tests, the passing of which will in future be a necessary condition of earning a grant. These schools which form the only provision for elementary technical education may be expected in the future to increase considerably both in numbers and efficiency.

10. Higher technical education is provided for by the Technical College, a Government institution established in 1893. In 1897 it was re-organized and its work largely extended. It is now the regular channel of admission for Ceylonese to the following Departments:—Public Works, Survey, Railway, Post, and Telegraph. It contains Departments of Civil Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Telegraphy, Electrical Engineering, Surveying and Levelling, and Drawing. In 1900 the number of students was 96. The gross cost to Government was Rs. 28,956·11, of which sum Rs. 5,396·77 was recovered in fees, &c.

11. A School of Agriculture has been maintained by Government since the year 1884. The numbers in 1900 were 17, and

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the gross cost to Government was Rs. 10,554·44, of which sum Rs. 1,303·90 was recovered in fees. A forestry class of five students is also carried on under the supervision of the Superintendent.

The School of Agriculture has not realized the anticipations which were formed with regard to it. Its future organization is now under consideration.

12. The question of the cost of education to the Government is becoming a serious one in view of the ever-increasing demands of the Public Instruction Department, and the advisability of imposing a cess for educational wants is receiving consideration, but it is by no means a simple matter to devise in an Eastern country the machinery for securing its recovery and preventing its incidence being unduly or harshly felt.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

(A) HOSPITALS AND (B) ASYLUMS.

1. During 1900 there were 64 hospitals and asylums in operation, the immigrant hospital at Vankalai being rendered superfluous by the closing of the North road cooly route.

2. The number of patients treated in the civil and lying-in hospitals increased by 6,611, rising to 41,906. The daily average was 1,679 against 1,461 in 1899. The deaths numbered 3,735.

3. In the field hospitals 4,364 cases were treated with 154 deaths, the immigrant hospitals dealt with 1,944 cases with 79 casualties, and the district hospitals with 13,785 patients, of whom 2,454 succumbed.

4. The Lunatic Asylum sheltered 139 new-comers, the total number of inmates being 606. There were 55 discharged as cured and 38 deaths.

5. The Leper Asylum received 137 new patients, and the total lepers under treatment numbered 399.

6. The De Soysa Lying-in Home, the Lady Havelock Hospital, the Police Hospital, Colombo, the Grenier Eye, Ear, and Throat Infirmary, the Kalmunai Leper Hospital, the Friend-in-Need Society Hospital at Jaffna, and the Kanatta Infectious Diseases Hospital all did good work.

(C) POOR HOUSES.

Ceylon is fortunate in requiring no such institutions. Deserving cases of poverty are relieved by private effort, which is represented by the Friend-in-Need Society of Colombo, which has branches in many out-stations. To the funds of this Society

the Government contributed Rs. 22,650 in 1900 as well as granting small monthly allowances direct in certain cases.

(D) REFORMATORIES.

The only institution of this nature is the industrial school at Maggona, where efforts are made to reclaim youthful offenders.

(E) SAVINGS BANKS.

1. The Ceylon Savings Bank, Colombo, had 25,547 depositors against 23,958 in 1899. The amount deposited was Rs. 1,527,048 and the deposits held amounted to Rs. 4,187,949.

2. In the Post Office Savings Bank Rs. 772,324 was deposited, the total number of depositors standing at 51,887 with a holding of Rs. 1,257,293.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

(A) POLICE.

1. The strength of the force was 1,758, including officers, and cost Rs. 728,125.

2. Stations in connection with the camp for prisoners of war were established at Diyatalawa, Haputale, and Welimada at the cost of the Imperial Government.

3. No punitive police stations were established during the year, but temporary stations for the protection of cacao plantations were established at Yatawatta, Ukuwela, and Pallekele. Although the latter stations did useful work, the prevention of cacao stealing must always depend mainly on the selection of the watchers employed by estate owners.

4. Some alarm was caused in Colombo by a succession of burglaries accompanied in some cases by the use of a revolver. The miscreant was ultimately arrested and sentenced to ten years' imprisonment.

5. Reports of 17,703 true offences were recorded against 14,434 in 1899, and 12,990 convictions or committals were secured. Of this increase of 3,269 cases no less than 2,680 fall under the head "Other Offences," which includes breaches of Municipal and other by-laws, which, though transgressions can hardly be regarded as crimes.

The increase in real crime is probably due to the increased price of rice and the decline of the plumbago industry, in which many of the criminal class found employment.

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6. The figures of true offences reported and convictions or committals obtained read as follows for the past five years:—

Year.	True offences.	Convictions or Committals.
1896	18,071	9,397
1897	20,800	13,023
1898	15,312	10,673
1899	14,434	10,173
1900	17,703	12,990

7. Murders and homicides totalled 146, against 125 in 1899, 127 in 1898, and 149 in 1897. Robberies rose from 269 in 1899 to 289, the figures for 1898 and 1897 being 312 and 498 respectively. Burglaries again increased seriously from 977 to 1,245, while the total for 1898 was but 638. Grievous hurt cases which fell from 500 in 1898 to 371 in 1899 again rose to 391. Thefts of prædial produce, too, rose from 885 to 1,119.

8. The convictions in the Superior Courts rose in proportion, the figures being:—

Year.	Supreme Court.	District Court.
1896	335	519
1897	449	706
1898	375	763
1899	279	452
1900	328	611

Of the 146 cases of murder and homicide 124 were committed for trial, of which 98 went to the Supreme Court. In 67 cases convictions were obtained, resulting in 36 persons being sentenced to the extreme penalty, which was carried out in 31 cases.

9. Many of the burglary cases are only so in name, the offence often consisting in breaking through the wall of a mud hut, probably more with the object of annoying the owner than

to obtain plunder. The percentage of convictions rose from 20 per cent. to 36·23 per cent.

10. Under the Ordinance for the prevention of plague there were 196 prosecutions yielding 115 convictions.

11. There was an increase of crime in the Western, Central, North-Western, and Sabaragamuwa Provinces, and a decrease in the Northern, Southern, and Eastern Provinces, while the state of crime in Uva was normal, and the North-Central, as usual, had practically none to its debit.

(B) PRISONS.

1. The total admissions into jail (excluding road defaulters) was 6,000, against 6,158 in 1899, showing a decline of 1,227 as compared with 1891, when the population was 577,899 less.

2. The road defaulters sent to jail numbered only 260—a wonderfully small total for the Island,—and of these 260 only 142 served their sentences, 107 finding the money to pay the fine of Rs. 10, while one was discharged on account of an informal committal and ten were released on medical certificate.

3. Compared with the 3,505 admissions to jail of road defaulters in 1891 these figures offer a striking contrast, and it may be of interest to append the annexed table to show how the working of the Road Ordinance has improved in the last decade until it may be said to be almost automatic.

The admissions to prison of defaulters under the Road Ordinance were:—

Year.	No.
1891	3,505
1892	2,185
1893	1,127
1894	826
1895	744
1896	648
1897	500
1898	379
1899	329
1900	260

CEYLON, 1900.

4. Admissions on convictions before the Superior Courts numbered 939, against 731 in 1899 and 1,138 in 1898. Convictions for manslaughter again rose from 71 to 82. Thirty-one criminals were executed. These figures show a striking increase, the number sentenced to death being abnormally great, but it is difficult to explain the increase, where, as is the case in Ceylon, the primary motive for taking life is a sudden impulse of anger or revenge rather than cold-blooded calculation and intent.

5. The daily average of convicted prisoners fell from 2,360 to 2,231.

6. Only one prisoner succeeded in escaping, and he was recaptured.

7. The cost of maintaining each convicted prisoner was Rs. 189·50 per annum.

8. Deaths in prison rose to 111, the same number as in 1898.

9. Prison offences increased in number, but corporal punishment was resorted to in only 193 cases compared with 259 in 1899.

10. The daily sick rate rose from 130 in 1899 to 147, as compared with 161 in 1898.

(c) CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

1. The number of cases instituted in the Police Courts and Municipal Magistrate's Courts was 67,196, in which 70,616 persons were charged. Of these, 33,897 were acquitted, 34,863 convicted, and 1,856 committed for trial before a higher court.

2. Of 1,826 prisoners tried by the Superior Courts, 1,007 were convicted and 819 acquitted.

3. In murder cases 45 convictions were secured against 52 acquittals; the figures for culpable homicide showing 29 to 8.

4. The number of cases instituted in the Police Courts approximated to that of 1898, and was in excess of the number for 1899. The convictions in the Superior Courts increased, and the acquittals in the Minor Courts showed a considerable falling off.

5. Cattle-stealing cases, which afford ample scope for the ingenious but unscrupulous villager to get his neighbour into trouble, showed the usual striking results, no fewer than 2,057 out of 2,603 accused being summarily acquitted, while only 487 were convicted and 59 committed for trial.

6. The Gansabhawas, as usual, did a great deal of unobtrusive but useful work.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

(A) POPULATION.

The estimated population of the Island on 31st December, 1900, was 3,612,303. 136,051 births were registered and 100,873 deaths. The birth-rate was 38·2 against 38·0, and the death-rate 28·3 against 30·2 per 1,000 in the previous year, calculated on the estimated population at the middle of the year. Both birth and death-rates show an improvement, and the estimated population exceeded that of 1899 by 123,000. The birth-rate varied from 36·2 per mille in Colombo to 52·7 in Mannaar, and the death-rate from 23·2 in Negombo to 44·3 in Mannaar.

(B) PUBLIC HEALTH.

1. The public health of the inhabitants of the Island was good. There was an absence of those widespread severe outbreaks of malarial fever which characterized the previous year, but cases of cholera and smallpox were numerous. The sanitary conditions throughout all the towns and villages of the Island are always being improved.

2. During the year cholera outbreaks were very general throughout the Island in the Western, Central, North-Western, Eastern, North-Central, and Sabaragamuwa Provinces and in the province of Uva. The only Provinces which were free were the Northern and Southern. Cholera was prevalent throughout the cooly-recruiting districts of Southern India, and the outbreaks can in every instance be traced ultimately to them. The first case was reported in July on an estate in the Ramboda district of the Central Province, and outbreaks occurred soon afterwards in other parts of the Central Province and in the Province of Uva. There were 104 cholera centres up to the end of the year. The most severe outbreak occurred at Buttale in the Province of Uva.

3. There were 252 cases of smallpox, of which 52 proved fatal. Of these, 74 occurred in the Western Province and 141 in the Central Province.

4. Of leprosy 635 cases were reported, against 506 in 1899. The new cases reported were 210 against 208. The deaths numbered 43, the duration of the disease ranging from 2 to 26 years.

5. Of 3,646 cases of parangi treated in the hospitals only 9 proved fatal.

(C) SANITATION.

General Sanitary Condition of the Colony and the Chief Towns.

1. The general sanitary condition of the Island remains in much the same condition as last year. The same method of disposal of dust and night soil exists, and, though by no means

satisfactory, is still far from bad when compared with other tropical countries. The water supply is often very good, and endeavours are made every year to remedy defects.

2. Colombo is growing rapidly, and steps are being taken to keep it in as sanitary a condition as possible.

Port sanitation is the first consideration, as the number of ships entering the port from all parts of the world is rapidly increasing, and the first line of defence to the town against disease is the sanitation of the port. This has been carried out in a most efficient manner during the year. In the town itself the streets have been made wider, so that air space is abundant.

3. It is satisfactory to note that this Island has for another year escaped the scourge of plague, although it has been present in many ports from which vessels come to Ceylon. This freedom may be put down to a combination of many causes: 1st, that Colombo is not a terminal port; 2nd, that vessels do not come alongside any pier; 3rd, that vessels and their crews coming from infected ports are thoroughly inspected before leaving; 4th, that the Plague Committee is fully alive to its greatest responsibilities; 5th, to the good work performed by the Port Surgeons; 6th, that the Island is prepared to meet it.

(D) CLIMATE.

(1) *Rainfall.*

The rainfall varied from 180·34 inches in 246 days at Ratnapura to 36·39 inches in 78 days at Mannaar.

(2) *Temperature.*

The mean temperature varied between 82·8° at Jaffna to 58·2° at Hakgala.

The mean daily variation of temperature was highest at Badulla (18·2°) and lowest at Galle (8·9°). The mean daily range at Colombo was 13·1° and at Kandy 16·7°.

(3) *Direction and Force of Wind.*

From November to February the wind blows from the north-east and from April to October from the south-west. The force of the movement of the wind varies very greatly between 18·2 miles and 335 miles per diem at Ratnapura and Nuwara Eliya respectively.

VIII.—POST AND TELEGRAPHS.

1. An abnormal increase occurred in every department of money order business. The total number dealt with during the year was 356,218 of the value of Rs. 9,454,707, representing an increase over the previous year of 22 per cent. in number and 21 per cent. in amount.

2. The number of Indian telegraph money orders issued in Ceylon for payment in India was 22,277 of the value of Rs. 1,433,106, representing the enormous increase over the previous year of 55 per cent. in number and 51 per cent. in amount.

3. Service money orders issued free of commission to Government Departments during the year numbered 12,187, of the value of Rs. 648,140.

Postal Orders.

4. Postal Orders show a steady increase, but are not so popular as a means of remitting money as might be expected.

Savings Bank.

5. The year's transactions show a satisfactory increase over the previous year. The total number of depositors on the books at the end of the year was 51,887, and the amount to their credit was Rs. 1,257,293. 37,370 deposits, amounting to Rs. 772,324, and 14,534 withdrawals, amounting to Rs. 712,558, were made during the year.

6. An acknowledgment system of telegraphic money orders on India was introduced.

7. The transmission of money orders to Europe was accelerated by sending supplementary advice lists to London by the French and German steamers.

Telegraph extensions in 1900 were:—

From	Miles.
Jaffna to Anuradhapura	120
Vavuniya to Mullaittivu	59
Wattegama to Madulkele	10
Haldummulla to Balangoda	22
Colombo to Polgahawela	40

Telephone Exchange.

8. The number of subscribers to the telephone exchange increased by one; the number of telephones in use in Colombo by nine. Four miles of posts and 13 miles of wire were added.

9. Three telegraph offices and four village receiving offices were opened.

10. An envelope bearing a 6-cent stamp was introduced.

IX.—MILITARY FORCE AND EXPENDITURE.

The annexed table shows the total expenditure during 1900 on account of military services, and includes two new items of Rs. 15,867 for the formation of Planters' Rifle Corps and Rs. 149,651 for the despatch of the Ceylon Contingent to South Africa:—

Military Expenditure by the Colony during 1900.	Amount		
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c
Colonial Contribution for Regular Troops—			
Balance due for 1899	42,672 95		
Expenditure on account 1900 ...	1,845,095 0		
		1,887,767 95	
For Volunteer Regiment, including Miscellaneous Stores.		134 437 85	
Compensation in lieu of exemption from payment of Customs Duties on articles imported for the Troops.		16,428 50	
Expenses on account Fortifications at Colombo (on account).		120,264 17	
Amount paid to settle a loan to Volunteer Funds since 1892.		20,000 0	
Cost of reserve ammunition (re-vote).		17,392 69	
Passage money of discharged instructors.		4,540 0	
Expenses on account of formation of Planters' Rifle Corps.		15,867 62	
Expenses on account sending Contingent to South Africa.		149,651 61	
Total		—	2,366,350 39

X.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

(1) IMPORTANT EVENTS.

1. The most important event of the year, one of the most important in the history of Ceylon, was the Colony's participation in the South African campaign. On the 24th December, 1899, the Secretary of State accepted the offer of the Governor to furnish a Contingent 125 strong. There was no lack of volunteers, and by the 10th January the required number had been secured. On the 2nd February the Contingent sailed for the Cape under the command of Major A. H. Rutherford, R.D.F.

2. The martial spirit aroused throughout the British Empire by the earlier incidents of the campaign was manifested in Ceylon, and a movement originated among the planting community for the formation of Rifle Corps. The Government showed its cordial approval by meeting the cost of constructing ranges and providing arms and ammunition. The scheme has proved most successful, and the strength of the Planters' Rifle Corps is now 489, distributed among 16 sections in Colombo and up-country.

3. Another important and exceptional event was the reception of 5,000 prisoners of war, who arrived in the Island during August and September. Under the head of Public Works will be found a short account of the elaborate arrangements made for the accommodation and comfort of the Colony's unwilling guests.

4. It is gratifying to record that the Island continued to enjoy immunity from plague, the precautions to combat which were in no way relaxed.

5. Good progress was made with the railway extensions and irrigation.

6. The Commission appointed to report on the Sanitation and Water Supply of Colombo submitted their report, and the Secretary of State has now sanctioned the following arrangement:—The Government to undertake the remaining duplication of the water main from Labugama, estimated to cost Rs. 2,000,000, on the condition that it is relieved from all further liability in respect of the water supply of Colombo; the Waterworks to be handed over to the Municipal Council, who will be invited to commute by a lump payment their annual net contribution to revenue of Rs. 100,000 on this account; the Government to raise for the Municipal Council a loan of Rs. 3,000,000 for the carrying out of a drainage scheme, charging the Municipal Council one-half per cent. interest in excess of that paid on the loan; the Government to pay the Municipal Council Rs. 65,000 per annum in commutation of rates on Government property for a term of seven years, when the arrangement will be revised. These terms are now the subject of negotiation between the Government and the Municipal Council.

CEYLON, 1900.

(2) PUBLIC WORKS.

The total expenditure was Rs. 5,176,467 against Rs. 5,343,891 in 1899; personal emoluments rising from Rs. 455,961 to Rs. 462,262.

2. Annually Recurrent Works claimed Rs. 2,029,279 and Extraordinary Public Works accounted for Rs. 1,610,260. The total mileage of roads is 3,588, of which 2,305 are metalled, 260 track-metalled, 619 gravelled, and 403 natural roads. The cost of maintenance of metalled roads was Rs. 527 per mile against Rs. 490 in 1899, of gravelled roads Rs. 224, and of natural roads Rs. 61, showing an increase of Rs. 15 and Rs. 20 respectively.

3. On the completion of the duplication of the 20-inch water main from Hunupitiya to Wagga steps were taken to have it scraped, and the maximum discharging capacity was thus increased by 500,000 gallons per diem to 2,900,000 in 24 hours. The Waterworks at Nuwara Eliya were finally completed, and plans and sections were prepared for the sanitation of Kandy, while various schemes for the water supply of outstations were investigated.

4. The Plague Camp at Ragama absorbed Rs. 25,000 in repairs and improvements.

The Camp for Prisoners of War at Diyatalawa.

5. Instructions were received on the 2nd May to erect a camp for the reception of Boer prisoners at Diyatalawa. The site selected is situated on undulating ground below the railway station at Diyatalawa.

Accommodation was originally proposed to be provided for 2,500 prisoners; this was subsequently increased to 4,500.

The works included the erection of huts for prisoners with the necessary kitchens, bathing sheds and outbuildings, quarters for the staff with offices and stores, hospitals, the construction of a road and tramway and the necessary works for securing an adequate supply of water, and electric lighting.

The huts for the prisoners are 120 feet long and about 13 feet high, built of galvanized iron with substantial framing of rolled beams and provided with wooden floors. Contracts were let to the Colombo Commercial Co., Messrs. Walker, Sons & Co., and Messrs. Whittal & Co., for the erection of some of the huts, but the greater portion of the work was carried out at the Government Factory. The kitchens and outbuildings were of galvanized iron with concrete floors. The bathing sheds were erected of wattle and daub with concrete floors. The latrines are of the rail type on the bucket system, erected of galvanized iron with concrete floors. The buckets are removed by tram to the pitting ground situated about half-a-mile from the camp.

The quarters and offices for the staff are of galvanized iron lined with wood and provided with wooden floors. The stores are of galvanized iron with concrete floors. The hospitals are of similar construction to the buildings occupied by the staff.

A metalled road has been constructed from the railway station to the camp. A light tramway has been laid from the store to the ration sheds and from the camp to the pitting ground.

The water is obtained from streams on the hill side flowing through the Roehampton and Kahagalla estates above the railway; upon these were constructed suitable intakes. Nearly eight miles of wrought iron piping have been laid, varying in size from ¾-inch to three inches in diameter. A break of pressure tank was erected near the railway station and four covered service tanks, each having a capacity of 25,000 gallons, were constructed in close proximity to the camp.

The whole of the camp and staff buildings as well as some of the buildings occupied by the Military guard were lighted by electric light. This work was carried out by Messrs. Boustead Bros. of Colombo.

The whole of the camp is enclosed by a barbed wire fence nearly two miles in length.

Two hundred and fifty-nine buildings have been erected, having a floor area of 271,551 superficial feet. Upwards of 7,000 tons of material had to be transported to the site.

The camp was first occupied in August. The whole of the accommodation for 4,500 prisoners and staff, together with contingent works, was practically completed in October, or five months after receipt of notice that an encampment was required.

Camp for Prisoners of War at Ragama.

6. The site selected for the camp and staff quarters was that known as Plague Camps Nos. 2, 3, and 4; the buildings consisting of cadjan sheds in Camp No. 2; corrugated iron sheds with cadjan sides in Camps Nos. 3 and 4, those in Camp No. 4 having concreted floors.

The sheds in Camps Nos. 3 and 4 were sufficient for the accommodation of 300 prisoners, and only required the floors to be strengthened, roof to be covered with cadjans, and minor alterations to adapt them to the purpose required.

These two camps were surrounded by a barbed wire entanglement 3,600 feet in length, six feet in height. This fence was constructed of two lines of posts carrying horizontal wires and placed seven feet apart; between these wires were fixed both horizontally and diagonally.

The whole of the above buildings were of corrugated iron, the living rooms being provided with boarded floors and the walls lined with wood.

CEYLON, 1900.

The existing buildings in Plague Camp No. 2 were recadjanned and made suitable for occupation as quarters for police and servants and as stores.

Drains were constructed of brick and cement for the conveyance of fouled water.

An incinerator was erected in Camp No. 2 for the disposal of night soil.

An adequate supply of water is obtained from a well near the railway, the water being pumped up into iron tanks on high ground and distributed throughout the camp by wrought iron piping connected with standposts.

A new road has been constructed leading from the Colombo-Ragama road to the camp.

The necessary tables, forms, and shelving were provided and fitted up in the several huts and stores.

The lighting of the camp was provided for by oil lamps fixed on posts near the barbed wire enclosure, at distances of about 20 yards apart.

The work was commenced on the 26th November, 1900, and completed ready for occupation by the first week in January, under the immediate supervision of Mr. G. H. M. Hyde, Acting Factory Engineer, assisted by the District Engineers, Messrs. Jayawardene and Ludovici.

The approximate expenditure has been Rs. 50,000.

7. During the year 479 orders were received at the Government Factory, amounting to Rs. 494,352·30, which, added to Rs. 147,322·44 brought forward from 1899, makes a total of Rs. 641,674·74. To this sum a disbursement of Rs. 379,742·18 in connection with Camps Nos. 1, 2, and 3 for the South African prisoners of war at Diyatalawa and Rs. 12,060·66 for the two Camps at Ragama must be added.

The total amout available for expenditure in 1900 was as follows:—

—	Amount. Rs.	c.
Camps for South African Prisoners of War Nos. 1, 2, and 3 at Diyatalawa.	379,742	18
Camps for Prisoners of War, Ragama	12,060	66
Factory Orders	494,352	30
Amount brought forward from 1899	147,322	44
Total	1,033,477	58

During the same period 106 iron bridges were constructed, Rs. 68,603 were expended on harbour improvements, Rs. 52,437 on the manufacture of tools, and Rs. 16,583 for other Departments. The Factory turned out 1,927 cwts. of castings for the Railway.

8. The expenditure on Colombo Harbour was Rs. 2,000,186, made up as follows:—

—	Amount.
	Rs.
Upkeep of South-West Breakwater and inner harbour dredging.	85,599
Harbour improvements, &c.	442,736
Harbour works extension...	1,471,851

The total expenditure on Harbour Extensions now amounts to Rs. 7,920,785, the grand total outlay since 1873, when the South-West Breakwater was commenced, being Rs. 22,261,831.

Good progress was made with the North-West Breakwater. The lower layer of rubble was extended 1,900 feet and 430 lineal feet of blockwork were completed.

In connection with the Graving Dock 74,473 cubic yards were excavated.

9. The Railway figures given below are satisfactory:—

—	1900.	1899.	Increase. 1900.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Gross Receipts	8,272,351	7,658,887	613,464
Working Expenses	4,374,310	4,104,354	269,956
Profit	3,898,041	3,554,533	343,508

Only twice before in the history of the Railway have the receipts shown such a large increase, viz., in 1868, the year after the line was opened through to Kandy, when the earnings of the previous year were doubled, and again in 1895, when the increase over 1894 amounted to Rs. 678,651.

The camp for prisoners of war and their guard at Diyatalawa has largely contributed to the increase last year.

CEYLON, 1900.

Interest.

The interest paid on loans amounted to Rs. 1,233,619.

Net Earnings.

After deducting the working expenses and the payment of interest, the net amount contributed by the Railway to the general revenue of the Colony amounted to Rs. 2,664,422, equivalent to a dividend of 4·6 per cent. on the total capital cost of Rs. 57,958,225.

There was no extension of mileage.

(3) IMMIGRATION AND EMIGRATION.

The Blue Book figures are very incomplete, but the Master Attendant gives the number of cooly immigrants and emigrants at 136,153, and 51,581 respectively. The total number of persons passing from Ceylon to India was 120,360, while 204,081 crossed from India to Ceylon.

(4) FUTURE PROSPECTS OF TRADE.

The steady rise in the value of the trade of the Colony, which now stands at Rs. 220,550,716, shows how the trade of the Island is growing. In 1850 the figures were £1,249,956.

(5) SUITABILITY OF CLIMATE FOR EUROPEANS.

The climate is well suited for Europeans, but under existing conditions manual labour is practically out of the question for the white man, who finds his avocation in sedentary pursuits or in the supervision of labour.

(6) RATES OF WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

The rate of wages for prædial labourers varies from 25 to 50 cents per diem; 37½ cents is the general rate. Domestic servants earn from Rs. 10 to Rs. 20 per mensem, the average wage being about Rs. 12. Trade employés earn from 50 cents to Rs. 1·50 a day. The cost of living varies greatly in different parts of the Island, being lowest in the Northern and Eastern Provinces and highest in Colombo, where house rent is a serious item to rich and poor. The ordinary villager can probably live in fair comfort for Rs. 5 to Rs. 6 a month.

The cost of living for a European is somewhat difficult to calculate, the purchasing power of the rupee being something midway between its nominal value of 2*s.* and gold value of 1*s.* 4*d.*, if local and imported purchases are considered together.

(7) Openings for Investment of Capital.

The plumbago industry is experiencing a period of stagnation, and tea planting does not secure the profits which it once did, but cocoanut cultivation continues to thrive, and minor products, such as cacao, cardamoms, &c., are profitable.

Social Condition of the People.

There is little to add to what has been yearly noted on this subject. The Ceylon native has a very good time of it indeed generally, and as regards taxation is extremely fortunate in the small demands made on his income. Whether it may not be necessary in the near future to teach him the virtue of self-help by insisting on local contributions towards the ever-growing demands of the Medical and Educational Departments is a question which must shortly engage serious attention. The method of imposing and recovering a local cess for these objects, so that the incidence of the tax may be evenly distributed and press unduly on no one, has yet to be decided upon, and many points will have to be considered; but a solution of the problem will no doubt be found, and the delegation to Village Committees of the power to recover the cess will be another step towards teaching the rudiments of local government.

(9) General Condition of the Colony.

The last year of the century was the most prosperous in the history of the Island, and was marked by affluence and progress.

J. J. Thorburn,

Principal Assistant Colonial Secretary.

Colombo,

September 1, 1901.

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No. 367.

CEYLON.

REPORT FOR 1901.

(For Report for 1900, *see* No. 341.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
October, 1902.

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The following, among other, reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
343	Basutoland	1900–1901
344	Gold Coast	1900
345	Grenada	"
346	Northern Nigeria	1900–1901
347	British Solomon Islands	"
348	Lagos	1900
349	British Guiana	1900–1901
350	St. Vincent	1900
351	Jamaica	1900–1901
352	Cocos Islands	1901
353	Southern Nigeria...	1900
354	Bermuda	1901
355	Gambia	"
356	Falkland Islands	"
357	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast ...	"
358	Malta	"
359	Gibraltar	"
360	Straits Settlements	"
361	Sierra Leone	"
362	British Honduras	"
363	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
364	Seychelles	"
365	Bahamas	1901–1902
367	Fiji...	1901

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific	British Solomon Islands.
9	Dominica	Agriculture.
10	Virgin Islands	Condition during 1897.
11	Grenada	Agriculture in Carriacou.
12	Anguilla	Vital Statistics, 1898.
13	Cook Islands	Trade, 1899.
14	Bahamas	Fibre Industry.
15	Canada	Legal Status of British North American Indians.
16	Miscellaneous Colonies ...	Medical Reports.
17	Gilbert and Ellice Islands ...	Report for 1896–1900
18	Hong Kong	Operations in New Territory during 1900.
19	Miscellaneous Colonies ...	Medical Reports.
20	Wei Hai Wei...	General Report.
21	Dominica	Report on Caribs.

No. 367.

CEYLON.

(For Report for 1900, *see* No. 341.)

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR IM THURN to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Queen's House, Colombo,
Ceylon, 21st August, 1902.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith copies of the Ceylon Blue Book for the year 1901, together with copies of the usual Report prepared in the Colonial Secretary's office.

I have, &c.,

EVERARD IM THURN.

REPORT ON THE CEYLON BLUE BOOK OF 1901.

I.—FINANCIAL.

(A) GENERAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

Revenue.

The revenue of 1900, which amounted to Rs. 27,325,930, exceeded the estimate by Rs. 2,205,930. The revenue of 1901 was estimated to yield Rs. 26,320,000, and actually amounted to Rs. 26,437,102, showing an increase over the estimate of Rs. 117,102, but a decrease of Rs. 888,828 as compared with the actual revenue of the preceding year.

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2. The comparative statement of the revenue of 1900 and 1901 shows:—

—	Revenue of 1900.	Revenue of 1901.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
1. Customs	7,228,293 34	7,010,187 88	134,061 10	352,166 56
2. Port, Harbour, Wharf, and Lighthouse Dues...	1,319,377 79	1,331,217 76	21,328 24	9,488 27
3. Licenses, Excise, and Internal Revenue not otherwise classified.	5,796,008 85	5,858,955 1	116,991 46	54,045 30
4. Fees of Court or Office, Payment for Specific Services, and Reimbursements in Aid.	1,723,488 62	1,745,241 87	72,284 52	50,531 27
5. Post and Telegraphs	996,802 86	980,973 92	47,485 95	63,314 89
6. Government Railways	8,239,679 9	7,967,692 14	—	271,986 95
7. Rent of Government Property	102,900 49	114,548 27	11,647 78	—
8. Interest	486,450 54	426,355 68	8,833 49	68,928 35
9. Miscellaneous Receipts	209,188 97	78,597 82	11,575 96	142,167 11
10. Sale of Government Property	404,944 18	366,055 12	2,388 94	41,278 0
11. Land Sales	818,795 83	557,276 91	—	261,518 92
Total	27,325,930 56	26,437,102 38	426,597 44	1,315,425 62
Deduct Decrease ...			1,315,425 62	
Nett Decrease			888,828 18	

3. The decreases appear under Customs, Post and Telegraphs, Government Railways, Interest, Miscellaneous, Sale of Government Property, and Land Sales; and the increases under Port and Harbour Dues, Licenses, Fees of Court, Rent of Government Property.

4. Under Customs the imports of grain, cotton, sugar, and other goods declined, while imports of spirits and sugar increased. Exports of plumbago recovered slightly; but hides and horns, arrack, and chanks fell off. Recoveries on account of harbour dues were smaller. Salt yielded a larger and arrack a smaller return. Judicial stamps to the value of Rs. 46,894 were sold in excess of the sales of 1900, while warehouse rent and sundries contributed Rs. 8,576 and Rs. 25,526.39, respectively, to the increase; on the other hand, Rs. 43,705 and Rs. 19,609 of the deficit are attributable to commission on money orders and parcel post collections. Government Railways showed a loss under each sub-head, accounted for by a shrinkage in the goods traffic and a decrease in the number of third class passengers and coolies. Profit on new coins, which contributed no less than Rs. 126,512 to revenue in 1900, does not appear in the returns for 1901. Diminished sales of timber cut down profits by Rs. 38,187, and a shrinkage in land sales was registered by a falling off of Rs. 237,538, while the depression in the plumbago market was betrayed by a fall of Rs. 23,980 under Premia on Leases.

Expenditure.

5. The expenditure of 1901, which totalled Rs. 29,216,746, including Rs. 3,170,000 from surplus revenue on account of Railway Construction and Rs. 150,152 for Irrigation, exceeded the expenditure of the preceding year by Rs. 267,819.

6. New Pensions accounted for Rs. 41,526 of the additional expenditure; Provincial Administration cost Rs. 74,181 more than in 1900; special requirements of the Port of Colombo were satisfied at an enhanced cost of Rs. 50,926. The Supreme Court, Fiscals, and Prisons required increased provision. The largest claimants for extra expenditure were the Railway (Rs. 359,426), Hospitals (Rs. 101,412), Education (Rs. 87,863), and Military Expenditure (Rs. 81,313). Rs. 14,518 were saved under Registration, owing to payments on account of the Census being dealt with by the Treasurer. Owing to smaller expenditure on currency notes the Treasurer's vote "Miscellaneous" was saved Rs. 188,298. Forests and Post Office effected economies of Rs. 54,724 and Rs. 46,122, respectively. A re-classification of the Irrigation Department expenditure saved the Public Works Department Rs. 52,899, and on Public Works, both Recurrent and Extraordinary, less money was expended during the year.

7. The comparative statement of expenditure for 1900 and 1901 is as follows:—

Heads of Service.	1900.	1901.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
1. Charges on account of Public Debt	2,802,422 41	2,805,029 84	2,607 43	—
2. Pensions	1,149,877 71	1,191,404 33	41,526 62	—
3. His Excellency the Governor	125,031 78	127,838 44	2,806 66	—
3*a*. Civil Service	661,511 68	652,717 11	—	8,794 57
4. Secretariat	249,328 16	263,289 14	13,960 98	—
5. Audit Office	49,160 75	49,085 33	—	75 42
6. Treasury	40,086 85	41,563 59	1,476 74	—
7. Provincial Administration	884,030 60	958,212 40	74,181 80	—
8. Survey Department	638,314 52	652,561 31	14,246 79	—
9. Customs Department	127,016 85	129,309 68	2,292 83	—
10. Port and Marine Department, Colombo	319,218 42	370,144 95	50,926 53	—
11. Port and Marine Department other than Colombo	34,212 78	38,575 30	4,362 52	—
12. Botanic Gardens...	70,678 59	71,198 60	520 1	—
13. Colombo Museum	25,851 99	23,108 67	—	2,743 32
14. Legal Departments:—				
Supreme Court	128,488 61	154,778 92	26,290 31	—
Attorney-General	60,432 34	60,917 15	484 81	—
Solicitor-General	12,043 87	12,147 99	104 12	—
District Courts	160,389 52	164,071 82	3,682 30	—
Courts of Requests and Police Courts	124,531 73	124,935 24	403 51	—
Registration of Lands	77,461 89	78,385 24	923 35	—
Registration of Marriages, Births, and Deaths	129,413 94	114,895 13	—	14,518 81
Fiscals	208,309 92	238,416 37	30,106 45	—
Loan Board	5,434 13	4,416 25	—	1,017 88

15. Police	721,511 37	716,423 77	—	5,087 60
16. Prisons	485,204 26	507,411 86	22,207 60	—
17. Medical Department	367,432 69	377,767 72	10,335 3	—
18. Hospitals and Dispensaries	1,209,980 99	1,311,393 15	101,412 16	—
19. Ecclesiastical	45,690 86	45,714 12	23 26	—
20. Education	820,133 87	907,997 29	87,863 42	—
21. Transport...	14,708 31	13,887 47	—	820 84
22. Exchange	227,989 88	227,630 3	—	359 85
23. Military Expenditure	2,366,350 39	2,447,664 29	81,313 90	—
24. Miscellaneous Services	1,136,096 51	947,798 11	—	188,298 40
25. Government Stores	85,961 2	79,191 96	—	6,769 6
26. Crown Agents, London	2,033 66	2,719 2	685 36	—
27. Forests	341,313 79	286,589 69	—	54,724 10
28. Post Office and Telegraphs	1,098,798 17	1,052,676 6	—	46,122 11
29. Railway Department	4,366,298 45	4,725,724 59	359,426 14	—
30*a*. Public Works Department	455,332 49	402,433 37	—	52,899 12
30*b*. Irrigation Department	—	203,737 8	203,737 8	—
31. Public Works Annually Recurrent	1,896,243 19	1,839,690 26	—	56,552 93
32. Public Works Extraordinary	1,597,659 6	1,473,142 3	—	124,517 3
Total from Current Revenue	25,321,988 0	25,896,594 67	1,137,907 71	563,301 4
29. Railway Construction (from Surplus Funds voted in Estimates).	3,626,939 17	3,170,000 0	—	456,939 17
30*b*. Irrigation Department	—	150,152 15	150,152 15	—
Grand Total	28,948,927 17	29,216,746 82	1,288,059 86	1,020,240 21
Deduct Decrease			1,020,240 21	
Nett Increase...			267,819 65	

8. In the annexed table the total revenue and expenditure for the last five years is given:—

—	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Revenue	24,006,521 83½	25,138,669 26	25,913,141 58½	27,325,930 56	26,437,102 38
Expenditure (ordinary)	21,634,377 94	22,843,851 89	24,950,940 36	25,321,988 0*	25,896,594 67‡
Expenditure from Surplus Funds	5,092 64	1,668 88	1,519 81	3,626,939 17†	3,320,152 15§

* This includes Rs. 504,024·81 on account of Irrigation Works under the "New Policy."
† This represents the expenditure on account of Railway Construction Works under the "New Policy."
‡ Includes Rs. 203,737·08 on account of Irrigation Works under the "New Policy"
§ Represents the expenditure on account of Railway Construction Works (Rs. 3,170,000) and Irrigation (Rs. 150,152·15) under the "New Policy."

(B.) Important Changes in Taxation.

No such changes are to be recorded.

(C.) Assets and Liabilities.

On 1st January, 1901, the total assets were Rs. 24,972,692, against Rs. 20,756,099 on 1st January, 1900. The liabilities amounted to Rs. 23,075,437, showing an excess of assets over liabilities to the extent of Rs. 1,897,255. From this credit balance must be deducted Rs. 177,130, recoverable arrears of revenue outstanding, which reduces the surplus revenue on 1st January, 1902, to Rs. 1,720,125. Against this surplus, Rs. 1,900,000 has been voted for Irrigation and Railway Extension in 1902, and it will accordingly be necessary to restrict an expenditure on these services during 1902 by the difference—Rs. 179,875.

(D) Public Debt, showing Provision for Payment.

The balance due by the Colony on sterling debts raised in London stood on 31st December, 1901, at £3,391,844 3*s.* 5*d.*, against £3,419,451 1*s.* 5*d.* on the same date in 1900. The balance on the local silver debt was Rs. 3,225,366.65, as compared with Rs. 3,253,191.72 at the close of the preceding year.

(E) Currency.

Legal tender currency consists of gold, of Ceylon Government notes of Rs. 1,000, Rs. 100, Rs. 50, Rs. 10, and Rs. 5, the Indian rupee, with a subsidiary silver coinage of 50-cent, 25-cent, and 10-cent pieces, and a copper coinage of 5-cent, 1-cent, ½-cent, and ¼-cent pieces.

About half the face value of the paper issued is held in specie by the Currency Commissioners, the balance being invested in Indian Government Paper and other approved securities:—

—	Value.		
Circulation.		Rs.	c.
Currency notes in circulation on December 31st, 1901.	—	13,213,950	0

Currency—cont.

—	Value.	
	In Silver. Rs. c.	In Securities. Rs. c.
Reserve.		
By silver in the vault	4,586,609 54	—
By gold in the vault...	1,612 500 0	—
By investments made by the Crown Agents	—	3,507,486 2
By investments made in Indian Government Paper.	—	3,507,354 44
	6,199,109 54	7,014,840 46
Total	Rs. 13,213,950	

Under Ordinance No. 13 of 1901 the specie reserve may be held in gold as well as silver. The Currency Commissioners are bound to issue notes for either gold or silver, but may redeem notes either in gold or rupees as they may consider fit.

The Mercantile Bank of India, Limited, the Bank of Madras, the National Bank of India, Limited, the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, and the Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China do business in the Colony.

(F.) COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF THE TOTAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE OF MUNICIPALITIES FOR THE FIVE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31ST, 1901.

Name of Municipality.	Revenue or Expenditure.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.
		Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Colombo	Revenue	834,546 17	922,189 17	1,088,519 50	1,152,137 58	1,230,005 20
	Expenditure	798,423 1	837,809 72	927,229 89	902,408 5	1,306,278 56
Kandy	Revenue	125,414 90	131,379 34	141,436 42	181,946 94	181,107 91
	Expenditure	119,217 71	166,774 19	150,032 87	183,671 31	186,728 3
Galle	Revenue	71,080 0	80,797 16	90,787 38	109,566 51	86,222 74
	Expenditure	79,321 69	83,164 72	84,439 26	87,629 69	94,009 28

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF THE TOTAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE OF THE LOCAL BOARDS AND BOARD OF IMPROVEMENT OF THE ISLAND FOR THE FIVE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31ST, 1901.

Name of Local Board.	Revenue or Expenditure.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.
		Rs. c.	Rs c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
WESTERN PROVINCE.						
Negombo	Revenue	23,647 59	25,852 32	20,493 60	27,485 8	23,693 93
	Expenditure	21,071 12	25,963 71	28,716 97	24,330 84	26,996 59
Kalutara	Revenue	13,182 53	19,587 80	34,796 69	14,290 38	19,784 47
	Expenditure	15,807 61	13,192 40	31,358 0	17,429 54	19,592 77
Minuwangoda	Revenue	-	—	1,683 48	2,397 37	2,838 51
	Expenditure ...			1,092 78	1,557 90	2,913 31
CENTRAL PROVINCE.						
Matale	Revenue	8,065 76	8,275 37	9,827 51	10,430 95	10,481 85
	Expenditure	8,832 35	7,425 8	8,470 65	16,545 28	10,505 5
Gampola	Revenue	8,704 65	4,743 51	9,262 42	6,954 47	11,657 5
	Expenditure	8,490 36	4,189 22	11,347 65	7,107 84	10,871 76
Nawalapitiya	Revenue	4,323 81	7,107 66	8,370 34	13,447 25	13,036 72
	Expenditure	2,148 88	4,822 94	9,631 12	14,632 89	10,464 73
Nuwara Eliya	Revenue	20,543 94	22,486 6	24,253 99	33,363 98	34,260 89
	Expenditure	19,125 28	20,472 68	21,011 86	26,914 9	33,897 5

North-Western Province.						
Kurunegala	Revenue	21,226 98	16,007 82	24 470 71	22,765 98	24,242 97
	Expenditure	17,424 27	19,275 19	19,512 82	30,166 20	21,541 2
Puttalam	Revenue	9,212 54	11,275 44	12,773 44	11,946 1	12,503 32
	Expenditure	10,047 90	11,889 88	14,789 98	10,867 77	13,291 80
Chilaw	Revenue	8,333 22	9,533 91	11,434 88	15,567 92	30,864 69
	Expenditure	8,620 87	10,146 65	9,339 77	16,188 76	30,544 64
Province of Uva.						
Badulla	Revenue	13,559 77	14,466 86	13,019 4	13,741 91	14,357 52
	Expenditure	13,256 26	12,025 46	14,821 45	13,365 26	12,395 53
Province of Sabaragamuwa.						
Ratnapura...	Revenue	8,205 99	9,406 29	9,229 99	9,370 59	11,719 78
	Expenditure	7,172 48	8,275 26	7,596 48	8,813 62	10,664 82
Kegalla	Revenue	3,787 67	3,574 74	5,383 66	4,679 90	5,961 74
	Expenditure	3,505 55	4,498 86	4,093 79	4,812 18	4,173 33
North-Central Province.						
Anuradhapura	Revenue	—	—	—	—	5,705 72
	Expenditure ...					5,216 72
Southern Province.						
Matara	Revenue	13,559 77	14,466 86	13,508 44	19,233 29	17,557 19
	Expenditure	13,256 26	12,025 46	15,692 54	15,028 23	17,517 3
Eastern Province						
Batticaloa...	Revenue	14,315 32	17,124 88	17,326 82	17,190 37	13.406 13
	Expenditure	13,960 15	16,865 4	16,610 99	16,981 59	12,727 71
Trincomalee	Revenue	13,355 48	13,184 15	15,775 69	13,423 97	13,172 59
	Expenditure	15,325 89	12,754 96	13,772 61	15,575 56	13,081 45

(G.) Statement of Debts of Municipalities up to end of 1901, showing Provision for Payment.

Name of Municipality.	Amount of Debt outstanding.	On what account.	Provision for Payment.
	Rs. c.		
Colombo	10,000 0	For creation of the Health Department.	Rs. 10,000 is provided in the Budget for 1902.
Kandy	188,833 24	Waterworks construction ...	Water-rate at 6 per cent. on properties within certain portions of the Municipality, by Ordinances Nos 18 and 29 of 1884.
	97,310 11	Lands over Reservoir	Bond assigning portion of water-rate as authorised by Ordinance No. 7 of 1887.
	28,000 0	To widen Victoria Drive and clear lake silt.	Bond assigning proportion of rates and taxes under sections 127 (*a*) and (*b*), 128, 129, and 130 of Ordinance No. 7 of 1887.
	15,670 29	For repairing main sewer and constructing new drains.	Do. do.
Galle	60,944 70	Construction of waterworks ...	Water-rate of 7 per cent. levied within the Fort of Galle from July 1, 1897, reduced to 5 per cent. from July 1, 1899 (Ordinances Nos. 1 of 1890 and 18 of 1891).
	40,361 29	For sanitary improvement ...	Mortgage of stamp fees on license carts, boats, and coaches; fees and stamp duties under Licensing Ordinance, 1873, and Ordinance No. 23 of 1877, Ordinance No. 7 of 1887, section 263.

STATEMENT OF DEBTS OF LOCAL BOARDS AT THE END OF 1901, WITH PROVISION FOR PAYMENT.

Name of Board.	Amount of Loan (Balance).	On what Account.	Provision for Repayment.
	Rs. c.		
Badulla	5,562 88	For construction of a public market.	Repayable from Local Board revenue by a sinking fund at the rate of 2 per cent. on the original loan of Rs. 6,784.
	13,072 0	For waterworks	Repayable from Local Board revenue by a sinking fund at the rate of 2 per cent. on the original loan of Rs. 15,200.
	3,520 0	Do.	Repayable from Local Board revenue by a sinking fund at the rate of 2 per cent. on the original loan of Rs. 4,000.
	2,300 0	Do.	Repayable from Local Board revenue by a sinking fund at the rate of 2 per cent. on the original loan of Rs. 2,500.
	200 0	For improvement of drainage ...	Repayable from Local Board revenue by a sinking fund at the rate of 20 per cent. on the original loan of Rs. 1,000.
Puttalam	5,740 0	For waterworks	Repayable from Local Board revenue by a sinking fund at the rate of 2 per cent. on the original loan of Rs. 7,000.
Chilaw	10,000 0	For reclaiming marshy land adjoining Chilaw River.	Repayable in ten annual instalments from Local Board revenue.
Ratnapura	2,291 65	For waterworks	Repayable from Local Board reveuue at the rate of Rs. 458·33 per annum.
Negombo	8,666 70	For the construction of a bridge...	To be repaid from Local Board revenue in seventeen years.

Statement of Debts of Local Boards at the end of 1901, with Provision for Payment—*continued.*

Name of Board.	Amount of Loan. (Balance).	On what Account.	Provision for Repayment.
	Rs. c		
Nuwara Eliya	12,040 0	For construction of market ...	Repayable from Local Board revenue by a sinking fund at the rate of 1 per cent. on the original loan.
	3,000 0	Additional loan for market construction.	Repayable in ten years from Local Board revenue.
	76,695 6	For waterworks	Repayable from Local Board revenue by a sinking fund at the rate of 2 per cent. on the original loan.
	8,730 0	For construction of library and reading room.	Repayable at the rate of 1 per cent. on the original loan of Rs. 9,000.
	10,000 0	Improvement of the park ...	Repayable by a sinking fund at the rate of 10 per cent. on the original loan of Rs. 10,000.
	3,000 0	Loan for the completion of the model dwellings.	Repayable by a sinking fund at the rate of 10 per cent. on the original loan of Rs. 3,000
Batticaloa	14,400 0	For construction of market ...	Repayable from Local Board revenue by a sinking fund at the rate of 2 per cent. on the original loan of Rs. 20,000.
	260 0	For opening the general cemetery	Repayable from Local Board Revenue in seven years.
Gampola	6,200 0	For construction of market ...	Repayable from Local Board revenue.
Trincomalee	2,550 0	For drainage of the town... ...	Repayable from Local Board revenue in ten years.
	2,610 0	For improvement of the Fishers' quarters.	Repayable from Local Board revenue in fifty years.
Matale	3,600 0	For construction of market ...	Repayable from Local Board Revenue by a sinking fund at the rate of 2 per cent. half-yearly.
Nawalapitiya	12,771 19	For water supply	Do. do.
	9,290 41	For drainage of the town... ...	Do. do.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

(A) Imports and Exports.

1. The annual value of the trade of the Colony for the last five years was:—

Year.	Imports.		Exports.		Total.	
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
1897	85,730,156	92	83,229,303	45	168,959,460	37
1898	87,525,034	97	93,801,890	13	181,326,925	10
1899	101,542,220	61	111,405,649	99	213,007,870	60
1900	114,544,256	41	106,006,460	55	220,550,716	96
1901	104,050,036	12	100,182,170	0	204,232,206	12

Imports.

2. The value of the imports for the year 1901, including specie (Rs. 8,576,890), was Rs. 112,626,926.12.

3. The value of imports and specie imported into each Province during 1901 was:—

—	Value.			
Imports.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Western Province	94,374,512	6		
Northern Province	3,848,570	64		
Southern Province	4,616,427	94		
Eastern Province...	1,210,525	48		
			104,050,036	12
Specie.				
Western Province			8,576,890	0
Total			112,626,926	12

4. Comparing the imports of 1901 with 1900, the duty on arms and ammunition has risen from Rs. 70,546.55 to Rs. 75,152.34, an increase of Rs. 4,605.79.

Cotton, manufactured and raw, shows a total value of Rs. 6,327,293.48 against Rs. 8,208,817.56, and duty of Rs. 248,629.20 against Rs. 305,073.62.

Chemicals, dye-stuffs, and tanning substances show an increase of Rs. 165.07 in duty.

Cement (exclusive of the quantity imported as Government stores) shows a decrease in value of Rs. 112,356.40 and in quantity of 1,113 tons. The quantity imported as Government stores was valued at Rs. 429,634.06, against Rs. 211,354.89 in 1900.

Coal, Coke and Patent Fuel.—The quantity imported was 627,728 tons, against 590,099 tons in 1900, an increase of 37,629 tons, British India contributing principally to the increase. Colombo imported 16,871 tons of coal more than in 1900, while the increase in Galle was 12,849 tons.

Kerosine oil shows an increase of 369,821 gallons on the quantity imported, of 437,623 gallons on the quantity entered for home consumption, of Rs. 231,137.88 in value, and Rs. 109,404.95 in duty.

Food-stuffs, biscuits, beef and pork, fish, and provisions unenumerated show a decrease in both value and duty; butter and curry stuffs an increase in value and duty; cheese, flour, potatoes, ham and bacon, and ghee show a decrease in value, but an increase in duty. The apparent falling off in the value of certain articles is due to a change in the calculation of values. The actual value has been taken this year, while for many years past a fixed—and now excessive—value was given.

Grain.—The quantity of grain cleared for home consumption was 8,951,650 bushels, against 9,592,323 bushels, the duty recovered amounting to Rs. 2,908,111.77, that on rice alone being Rs. 2,597,723.74.

There is an increase in the value of live-stock imported of Rs. 233,617. The number of cattle rose from 26,539 to 29,093, of sheep from 96,330 to 111,733. The number of horses imported fell from 534 to 453.

Metals and metalware show a decrease in value of Rs. 2,040,435.20. The decrease is due principally to a falling off in imports and partly to a difference in the method of calculating the value.

Manures of all kinds.—There is a decrease in quantity of 6,082 tons, and in value of Rs. 565,748.70.

Oils (excluding kerosine oil) show an increase in value of Rs. 197,583.29, and a decrease in duty of Rs. 1,953.91.

Opium shows a decrease in the quantity imported of 2,748 lbs.

Poonac shows a decrease in quantity of 10,681 cwt.

Spices show a decrease in value of Rs. 5,039.38, and in duty of Rs. 413.

Spirits of all kinds show a decrease in value of Rs. 421,349.80, and an increase in duty of Rs. 24,478.62. The quantity entered for home consumption was 176,615 gallons, against 171,045 gallons in the previous year. The value of all spirits in 1901 is taken as declared by the importers, while in previous years the lowest rate at which the value was calculated was Rs. 6 a gallon. The apparent fall in value is due therefore to the correction of an anachronism and to no falling off in the trade.

Sugar shows a decrease in quantity of 12,428 cwt. and in duty of Rs. 34,029.49.

The imports of specie show an increase of Rs. 781,388, the increase being mainly in gold.

Silk manufactures of all kinds show a decrease in value of Rs. 374,480.06 and in duty of Rs. 15,112.23.

Tobacco shows a decrease in quantity of 10,361 lb., and cigars an increase of 12,110 lb.

Woollen manufactures give an increase in value of Rs. 276,897.18 and in duty of Rs. 13,070.68.

Wines of all kinds show a decrease of Rs. 109,298.71 in value, due to a change in the calculation of values, and of Rs. 3,077.19 in duty, the total quantity entered for home consumption being 57,007 gallons, against 60,863 gallons in 1900.

Exports.

1. In 1901 the value of exports amounted to Rs. 102,840,348, distributed as follows:—

Exports.	Value.	
	Rs.	c.
Ceylon produce	85,977,410	0
Imports re-exported	1,273,700	0
Specie	2,658,178	0
Coal for use of steamers ...	12,931,060	0
Total	102,840,348	0

2. Compared with 1900, Ceylon produce shows a decrease of Rs. 4,891,122, mainly attributable to the smaller shipments of tea, the valuation of which has also declined from 36 cents a pound to 33 cents in the year under review. Imports re-exported, however, show an increase of Rs. 99,752, value of coal exported for the use of steamers shows a decrease of Rs. 1,032,920, and the exports of specie of Rs. 261,618.

3. The value of exports to the United Kingdom fell from Rs. 56,295,524 in 1900 to Rs. 50,158,739. Exports to British Colonies rose from Rs. 18,086,705 in 1900 to Rs. 18,994,800, and those to Foreign Countries from Rs. 20,580,046 to Rs. 20,755,749. The exports of tea to Russia (Asiatic and European) rose by 842,386 lb., but that to the United Kingdom shows a decrease of 249,412 lb. The value of exports to Russia (Asiatic and European) of Ceylon produce fell from Rs. 4,282,500 to Rs. 4,069,415, and to the United States of America from Rs. 6,602,935 to Rs. 5,458,167. The fall in the value of exports to the latter is attributable chiefly to cocoanut oil, which shows a reduction from 66,102 cwt., value Rs. 941,960, to 27,122 cwt., value Rs. 434,766 in 1901.

4. In the staple articles of export, cardamoms show a decrease of 232 cwt. and cinnamon of 1,405 cwt. Coir yarn, fibre, and rope exported from the principal ports (Colombo and Galle) has increased by 1,084 cwt.; copperah exported from Colombo and Galle also shows an increase of 52,019 cwt. The exports of citronella oil have decreased by 1,920,797 oz. Of tea, the quantity exported fell from 149,264,602 lb. in 1900 to 144,275,608 lb. Of plumbago, 446,960 cwt. were exported in 1901 as against 391,699 cwt., but there was a fall in value from Rs. 500 in 1900 to Rs. 430 per ton.

(B) Mines, Manufactures, and Fisheries.

1. The plumbago industry still suffered from depression during the year. The number of mines working in the North-Western Province fell from 50 to 23. Owing to low prices the production of only the highest class of plumbago proved remunerative. There is, however, reason to believe that the introduction of improved plant would enable many of the mines which are now idle to be worked at a profit, and in some cases steam pumps have been used with good results. In the Southern, Central, and Western Provinces the depression in the plumbago trade was also felt, and the value of land fell in sympathy.

2. In Ratnapura the number of gem pits continued to increase and totalled 416, an increase of 12. It is difficult to frame any estimate as to the value of the gems obtained.

3. The chief manufactures include cloth-weaving, jaggery, oil of various sorts, copperah, coir, bricks, tiles, mats, baskets, tobacco, jewellery, carpentry, &c.

4. The manufacture of salt is a Government monopoly, and yields a substantial revenue.

5. The fisheries of Ceylon are an important industry in the maritime districts. A steam trawler has recently been worked near Colombo with excellent results, but somewhat to the annoyance of the local fishermen, who fear the depletion of their fishing ground, although the trawler taps a deep sea supply hitherto untouched. The Northern Province fisheries gave employment to over 6,000 people, and the value of the produce is estimated at over 2 million rupees.

6. Professor Herdman has now fully investigated the pearl oyster banks, and his report is favourable, showing that no disease exists, and that under careful supervision the prospects of the pearl fishery are good and that the banks will probably be ready to be fished in 1903.

(C) Agricultural Industries and Botanical Stations.

1. The chief agricultural products are paddy, tea, cocoanuts, cacao, tobacco, and spices.

2. The export of tea seems at last to be reaching its maximum, and shows a slight decrease on the figures of 1900, viz., 145,188,244 lb., against 148,431,639 lb. Part of the decrease is, however, made up by the export of 1,110,774 lb. of green tea, most of which went to America. The export to Russia and Australia has increased, that of black tea to America decreased, but the decrease is more than made up by the green tea. The year has been one of depression, but prospects of the industry are more favourable, the export to England having been 8 million lb. less, and the stock of Ceylon tea there having been considerably reduced. The average price is the lowest as yet recorded, 6·86*d.*, against 7·20*d.* in 1900, but towards the end of the year prices were considerably improved. The industry has not suffered from any very serious outbreaks of disease, and planting has not extended. The remarks made last year on the general prospects of tea in Ceylon continue to hold.

3. Coffee exports show a further fall from 10,777 to 9,722 cwt.

4. Cacao exports show a very large increase on the figures for 1900, being 49,459 cwt. against 33,476. This, as was foretold in last report, is due to some extent to the lateness of the crop of last year, some of which is credited to 1901, but it is also largely due to the energetic measures being taken in combating the canker, and especially in reducing the number of diseased pods, the quantity of "black cacao" having been reduced in some instances by 75 per cent. The prices obtained for cacao, even the best qualities, have been much below those of last year; this is perhaps more due to the conditions of the home market than to any difference in quality of the product, but the increasing proportion of Forastero kinds may have something to do with it. The canker has, as a rule, been seriously attacked on approved methods, and a marked decrease in the number of diseased trees is apparent.

5. Indiarubber has continued to extend as a cultivation in suitable districts, and samples from several estates have been prepared on lines similar to those worked out by Mr. Parkin in the Peradeniya laboratory. These have obtained very good prices on the home markets, considerably higher than the best South American rubber, and an export is now steadily going on, 66 cwt. having been exported in 1901.

6. The experiments on yield and distillation of camphor have been completed and results published, showing a prospect of a remunerative industry being established. Many planters in the hills have started small plots of this plant during the year.

7. Experiments with citronella oil have been continued, and it is hoped that it may yet be possible to save this industry from the great depression which has overtaken it, mainly owing to over-production and adulteration.

8. The planting of good kinds of cinchona continues to spread, and it is quite possible that this may once again become an industry of importance, though not a staple.

9. Coca, the source of cocaine, introduced some years by the Botanical Department, is now a regular item in our exports, and very good prices are being obtained for Ceylon leaves on the home market.

10. The cultivation of fruit trees continues to extend, but on a small scale only, and there are no signs of cultivation for export being anywhere commenced.

11. The export of cocoanut oil rose from 443,959 cwt. in 1900 to 453,531 in 1901, and that of copperah from 362,467 to 439,865 cwt. At the same time there has been a considerable rise in the market value of both these articles, due to short crops in other countries.

12. The export of citronella oil has also increased from 1,409,058 lb. to 1,430,168 lb., but has not reached the figures of 1899. The industry is in a very depressed state, owing to over-production and adulteration, the latter being so bad that even good local oils do not obtain the value that is really due to them. Prices have reached a very low ebb, 9½*d.* to 10*d.* per lb., and land is going out of cultivation in the grass. On the other hand, the new Java oil is selling in increasing quantities at high prices (often 1*s.* 4*d.*). It is not in reality so superior to the best Ceylon oils as the price would indicate, but it is not adulterated, and has no bad reputation to contend against.

13. Of other oils, the export of cinnamon oil has slightly increased from 72,904 oz. in 1900 to 73,493 oz., but has not yet reached the figures of past years. Trial plantations of castor oil have been made by various planters during the year; the plant grows well here, and there seems no reason why Ceylon should not export this oil as well as India.

14. Of spices there is little to record. The cultivation of cardamoms is extending, and the export has increased from 537,455 to 559,704 lbs. Pepper shows signs of extension of cultivation, and it should at least be possible to dispense with the present large import of this spice. Exports of cinnamon show a rise in bales, a fall in chips, the figures for 1900 being 2,678,111 and 1,863,406 lbs., and those for the last year 2,756,270 and 1,516,083 lbs., respectively. The "wild cinnamon" again shows an enormous fall to 8,581 lbs. bales and 5,066 lbs. chips. Vanilla planting has slightly extended. Tobacco cultivation continues to extend in the North and also in the Dumbara district. Of fodder plants there is little to report.

Botanical Stations.

15. The chief botanical stations are at Peradeniya and Hakgala, where much good work is done in investigating plant disease,

analising soils, &c., with a view to protecting existing products and introducing new ones.

16. In the outlying districts of the Island are several experimental gardens used to supply the villagers with seeds, and a scheme of school gardens has been initiated, which when fully developed will, it is hoped, yield good results, but patience and time will be required to start the scheme on a satisfactory basis.

(D) Land Grants and Value of Land.

1. During the year 24,102 acres of land were alienated by the Crown by sale or settlement, as against 32,250 in 1900 and realised Rs. 519,420, or, say, Rs. 21.50 on an average.

2. Under Sir Henry Ward's Minute 4,517 acres of irrigable land were sold. Of the balance 19,585 acres, no less than 18,049 were purchased by natives, as against 1,536 by Europeans.

3. In the Western Province sales and settlements to the value of Rs. 17,165 were made on block plans.

4. As usual, the Survey Department was fully employed, and carried out block surveys of 200,785 acres, topographical surveys of 1,871,360 acres, application surveys of 41,047 acres, and miscellaneous surveys of 612 acres; total 2,113,804 acres. The acquisition of land for the Railway Extensions and an increased number of Waste Lands Ordinance and Irrigation surveys swelled the volume of work to be done.

(E) Shipping.

1. The shipping returns for the Island show an increase of 453 vessels and an increase of 540,630 tons in tonnage:—

—	1900.		1901.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Entered	3,147	4,250,066	3,367	4,557,607
Cleared	3,203	4,237,874	3,436	4,470,963
Total	6,350	8,487,940	6,803	9,028,570

2. The number and tonnage of steamers and sailing vessels entered inwards and cleared outwards during the year 1901, exclusive of those calling to coal and for orders at Colombo and Galle, are shown :—

—		Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.		Total.	
		No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Colombo.	Inwards	1,804	4,111,517	543	47,608	2,347	4,159,125
	Outwards	1,808	4,019,266	537	49,767	2,345	4,069,033
Total		3,612	9,130,783	1,080	97,375	4,692	8,228,158
Galle—	Inwards	166	299,668	14	982	180	300,650
	Outwards	164	300,397	16	1,250	180	301,647
Total		330	600,065	30	2,232	360	602,297

3. The arrivals at the Port of Colombo numbering 1,804 steamers of 4,111,517 tons and 543 sailing vessels of 47,608 tons, show an increase of 75 steamers (337,016 tons) and a decrease of 24 sailing vessels (10,635 tons). Galle had a decrease of 6 steamers (2,520 tons) and a decrease of 2 sailing vessels (301 tons).

4. The total collection of harbour dues at Colombo amounted to Rs. 1,123,428.

5. The nationality of vessels inwards and outwards during 1901 for the Island is thus made up:—

Nationality.	Entered Inwards.		Cleared Outwards.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
British	902	2,612,913	929	2,393,662
Colonial	1,956	592,155	1,998	724,762
Austrian	60	161,280	60	161,280
French	90	233,751	90	233,751
German	142	538,851	142	538,851
Japanese	59	205,235	59	205,235
Maldivian	89	8,525	89	8,525
Russian	37	117,633	37	117,633
Danish	7	18,707	7	18,707
Spanish	19	60,030	19	60,030
Italian	1	2,005	1	2,005
Norwegian... ...	4	4,825	4	4,825
Dutch	1	1,697	1	1,697

6. Compared with the years 1897, 1898, 1899, and 1900, the result inwards and outwards is as follows:—

Inwards.

1897.—A decrease of 404 vessels, but an increase of 1,190,192 tons.

1898.—A decrease of 184 vessels, but an increase of 951,901 tons.

1899.—A decrease of 478 vessels, but an increase of 835,825 tons.

1900.—An increase of 220 vessels, and an increase of 307,541 tons.

Outwards.

1897.—A decrease of 349 vessels, but an increase of 1,133,631 tons.

1898.—A decrease of 110 vessels, but an increase of 994,028 tons.

1899.—A decrease of 404 vessels, but an increase of 753,540 tons.

1900.—An increase of 233 vessels, and an increase of 233,089 tons.

7. The total harbour dues collected at the Port of Colombo during the year ended 31st December, 1901, are shown under the different headings:—

—	Amount.	
	Rs.	c.
Entering dues...	249,418	50
Tonnage dues...	366,296	99
Over-hour dues	18,108	0
Wharfage dues	440,022	99
	1,073,846	48
Dues collected on live stock...	49,581	90
Total	1,123,428	38
Total collection for the year 1900 ...	1,146,769	33
Decrease	23,340	95

III.—LEGISLATION.

A large number of important Ordinances were passed in 1901, the chief legal enactments being—

An Ordinance to amend "The Local Boards' Ordinance, 1898."

An Ordinance to further amend "The Buddhist Temporalities Ordinance, 1889."

An Ordinance to provide for the segregation and treatment of lepers.

An Ordinance to make provision for preventing the introduction and spread of Insect or Fungous Pests or Plant Diseases.

An Ordinance relating to the possession and use of Firearms.

An Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 17 of 1869, intituled "An Ordinance for the General Regulation of Customs in the Island of Ceylon."

An Ordinance to further amend "The Municipal Councils Ordinance, 1887."

An Ordinance to amend and consolidate the Law relating to Carriages, Carts, and Coaches.

An Ordinance to amend "The Irrigation and Paddy Cultivation Ordinances, 1889 and 1892."

An Ordinance to regulate the Possession and Sale of Poisons.

An Ordinance for regulating the Sale of Manures or Fertilizers of the Soil.

An Ordinance to amend "The Ceylon Paper Currency Ordinance, 1884."

An Ordinance to amend "The Criminal Procedure Code, 1898."

An Ordinance to amend "The Firearms Ordinance, 1901."

An Ordinance to provide for the publication of a Revised Edition of the Legislative Enactments of this Island.

An Ordinance to facilitate the Investment of Trust and other Funds in the United Kingdom in Ceylon Government Securities.

An Ordinance for defining the meaning of certain terms and for shortening the Language used in Ordinances and other Written Laws and for other purposes.

An Ordinance to amend "The Civil Procedure Code, 1889."

An Ordinance to amend "The Courts Ordinance, 1889."

An Ordinance to provide for the Registration of Dogs.

IV.—EDUCATION.

(A) Primary Education: Main Features and Number of Schools for 1901.

Schools are classed as Primary where the work is confined to the first five standards, Middle where they include any standard above the fifth, and High when they include what in

England would be classed as secondary education, *e.g.*, preparation for Cambridge Local Examination, London University Examination, and Indian University Examination.

It should be noted that the distinction between primary and secondary education is not very clearly drawn in Ceylon. In most of the English schools which prepare candidates for the highest examinations the lower part of the school is organised according to the Government schedules, and the pupils are presented for the same grant-in-aid examination as the primary schools. Many of these children belong to a class which would in England be attending elementary schools. Allowance must be made for this in scrutinising the figures which follow. For instance, the number of girls receiving primary English instruction appears as only 1,455; but primary instruction of exactly the same kind is also being given to a considerable number of the 2,122 girls who are attending English High schools.

Primary Education.

1. The number of children receiving primary education in Government and aided schools was in 1901 174,192, of whom 126,161 were boys and 48,031 were girls. Of this total, 53,333 were attending Government schools and 120,859 were attending aided schools. The total number of the schools here classed as primary was 1,857, of which 500 were Government schools and 1,357 were aided schools.

Primary education in English was given to 17,119 children, of this number 14,443 being boys and 2,676 girls. The cost of the Government schools was Rs. 316,495.87, and the sum paid as grants to the aided schools was Rs. 461,512.82.

2. In addition to the above, there were 2,062 unaided vernacular schools, which furnished numerical returns to Government; in these 35,218 children were said to be receiving instruction. But in most cases the numbers furnished by such schools are quite unreliable, and the education provided is of extremely little value.

3. In connection with the question whether the elementary education provided is adequate to the wants of the population, the number of those receiving higher instruction should be added to the above figures; this gives as the total number of children attending schools 183,261, about 5 per cent. of the population. It may be inferred that about half the children of school-going age are getting something in the way of education. Probably rather more than half are learning to read and write, for a large proportion of children leave school after passing the Second or Third Standard. The number presented for examination in the Fourth Standard is less than two-fifths of the number presented in the First Standard.

4. The children who are receiving no education at all are mainly those living in outlying country districts. The towns, as a rule, are well provided for by Missionary schools and other private agencies. The only exception to this is Colombo, where the problem of educating the poorer classes is beyond the power of the Missionary bodies, and has not yet been finally solved by the Government, who are carefully considering this difficult question.

5. Provision for compulsory attendance forms a part of the Gansabhawa rules in some country districts; in many of these it is enforced with creditable vigour. In country districts without Gansabhawas there is no means of enforcing school attendance.

Secondary Education.

6. The only Government institution devoted to secondary education is the Royal College, Colombo, in which the number of pupils has for some years averaged a little over 300; in 1901 it averaged 285. The pupils in the upper part of the College are presented for the Cambridge Local Examinations (Senior and Junior), London University Matriculation, and Intermediate in Arts. The staff consists of 16 masters, 5 of whom hold English University degrees. The gross cost to Government in 1901 was Rs. 41,221.54, of which the sum of Rs. 19,775 was recovered in school fees. Besides the Royal College, there are 49 aided High schools, educating 8,409 pupils, of whom 6,287 are boys and 2,122 are girls. There are also 38 unaided institutions, at which 1,826 pupils are said to be under instruction, but only a very small number of these are really receiving secondary education.

7. The encouragement offered by Government takes two forms: (*a*) Grants, (*b*) Scholarships:—

(*a*) In aided schools grants for specific subjects as well as for work in the standards are paid on the results of the Government examination in each school. Liberal grants are also paid for every pupil who obtains honours in the Senior or Junior Cambridge Local Examinations, or who passes the London University Matriculation or Intermediate in Arts. The total sum expended in grants to the High schools in 1901 was Rs. 42,119.

(*b*) The English University Scholarship of £200 for four years is awarded annually on the result of a special examination held by the Oxford and Cambridge Joint Board for School Examinations.

The Gilchrist Scholarship of £150 for three years for Mathematics and Science is awarded once in three years on the results of the Senior Local Examination.

One Scholarship of Rs. 240 for three years is awarded annually to girls on the results of the Senior Cambridge Local Examination. On the results of the Cambridge Junior Local Examination one scholarship of Rs. 240 for three years and two of Rs. 120 for three years are awarded annually to boys, and two scholarships of Rs. 120 for three years are awarded annually to girls.

In 1901 the total sum expended on scholarships was Rs. 14,460.67.

8. On the whole, very creditable results are obtained in these examinations, by which secondary education is tested. In 1901 three candidates passed the London Matriculation, 2 in the First Division, 1 in the Second Division; 78 passed the Senior Cambridge Local Examination, 17 obtaining honours; 156 passed the Junior Cambridge Local Examination, 23 obtaining honours.

(B.) INDUSTRIAL, TECHNICAL, AND AGRICULTURAL SCHOOLS.

9. There are no Government industrial schools, but industrial education is supported by a liberal grant. In 1901 the aided industrial schools, which are 35 in number, received grants amounting to Rs. 46,187.53. These schools are under the management of the Church of England, Roman Catholic, Wesleyan, and American Missions. The number of pupils in them was 1,855. The trades taught were dressmaking 138, lacemaking, 821, embroidery 357, cooking 15, tailoring 88, shoemaking 11, joinery and cabinet-making 192, printing 82, bookbinding 116, ironwork 35. In some of these schools the work is excellently organised, each trade being under a skilled foreman, and sufficient outlay having been made to supply a really adequate stock of tools and plant. This is specially the case with the Roman Catholics, who place trained lay brothers in charge of each trade. In others the outlay on tools and plant has been insufficient, the trades are supervised by native foremen of an inferior character, and the management is in the hands of those who have no practical knowledge of the industries which are being taught. In 1898 an important step was taken in the direction of better organisation: a schedule was drawn up setting out three years' work in joinery, printing and bookbinding, and prescribing tests, the passing of which will in future be a necessary condition of earning a grant. These schools, which form the only provision for elementary technical education, may be expected in the future to increase considerably both in numbers and efficiency.

10. Higher technical education is provided for by the Technical College, a Government institution established in 1893. In 1897 it was re-organised, and its work largely extended. It is now the regular channel of admission for Ceylonese to the following Departments:—Public Works, Survey, Railway, Post and Telegraph. It contains Departments of Civil Enineering, Mechanical Engineering, Telegraphy, Electrical Engineering, Surveying

and Levelling, and Drawing. In 1901 the number of students was 187. The gross cost to Government was Rs. 41,988.22, of which sum Rs. 9,773.26 was recovered in fees, &c.

(c.) School Gardens and Elementary Horticulture.

11. An order was issued several years ago that every Government school was to have a garden, but nothing was done to introduce method into the general scheme, and although a few of the most intelligent schoolmasters set to work on practical lines, in the large majority of cases the effort stopped short at growing a few unsuccessful crotons. The scheme, now gradually being developed, is (1) to select in each Province those schools where, owing to climatic circumstances and space, a garden can be profitably developed, and to let the other schools alone for the present; (2) to cultivate the ideas of taste, neatness, pleasant surroundings on the one hand, and, on the other, in consultation with the revenue officer and headmen, to discover what economic products do best in, or ought to be introduced into, the neighbourhood, and to devote a large section of the garden to these; (3) to start supply gardens at various centres for the issue of seeds, cuttings, &c.; (4) to appoint a special inspector of gardens to take charge of the supply gardens, to visit all the school gardens in turn, to instruct the teachers how to teach their pupils and what points to pay special attention to, and to give a few elementary lessons in school on practical horticulture and botany.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

(a) Hospitals and (b) Asylums.

1. During the year 1901 two new hospitals were opened, one at Dimbula and the other at Pussellawa, making a total of 66 hospitals in the Island, as compared with 64 in the previous year.

2. The total number of cases treated in the different civil hospitals in the Island, including the De Soysa Lying-in Home, Colombo, was 43,949, showing an increase of 2,043 over the previous year. The total number of deaths was 4,219, being 484 more than in the previous year, while the daily average sick was 1,647·40, as against 1,679·10 in 1900.

3. In the field hospitals there were 4,680 cases treated with 156 deaths, against 4,360 cases treated and 154 deaths in 1900. The immigrant hospitals admitted 2,047 cases, of whom 90 died, against 1,944 cases treated with 79 deaths the previous year. The daily average sick in the field hospitals was 184·29 and in the immigrant hospitals 84·45 during the year under review, the previous year showing 181·78 and 74·28 respectively. In the district hospitals 14,816 cases were treated with 3,511 deaths,

against 13,785 cases with 2,454 deaths, the daily average sick in hospitals for 1901 and 1900 being 844·27 and 771·78 respectively.

4. During the year 1901 124 patients were admitted into the Lunatic Asylum, which number with 494 remaining at the end of the previous year made the total insane population 618, of whom 388 were males and 230 females. The daily average was 481·05. Of the total treated, 52 were discharged recovered, 14 relieved, and 17 not improved, and 72 deaths occurred during the year.

5. The Leper Asylum, Hendala, admitted 150 patients during the year, which with 278 patients remaining at the end of the previous year made a total of 428. The daily average sick was 272·9. Of the total treated, 93 were discharged relieved, 16 not improved, and 43 died.

6. There were 499 cases treated at the De Soysa Lying-in Home during the year, with 4 deaths; 1,030 cases at the Lady Havelock hospital, with 61 deaths; 645 cases at the Police hospital, Colombo, with 1 death; and at the Grenier Eye, Ear, and Throat Infirmary 4,336 cases were attended to during the year, against 3,676 in 1900. Twenty-seven leper patients were treated in the Leper ward of the Kalmunai hospital, of whom 1 died. The Friend-in-Need hospital at Jaffna treated 1,314 patients during the year, of whom 39 died; and at the Kanatta Infectious Diseases hospital a total of 405 cases was treated, of whom 29 died.

(c) Poor Houses.

Poor houses are unknown in Ceylon. The Friend-in-Need Society does much to relieve cases of distress in Colombo and the outstations. In Colombo a considerable number of loafers, who allege that they desire to find work or ask to be shipped home, make heavy claims on the Society, to whose funds the Government contributed Rs. 22,650. The Government also grants small monthly allowances in the case of paupers whom the revenue officers certify to be deserving.

(d) Reformatories.

There is an industrial school at Maggona worked by private effort, which receives juvenile offenders at the rate of Rs. 7.50 per mensem.

(e) Savings Banks.

The Ceylon Savings Bank held Rs. 3,976,660 to the credit of 27,694 depositors, who placed Rs. 1,576,655 in the bank during the year.

To the Post Office Savings Bank 54,426 depositors contributed Rs. 786,261, and the total deposits aggregated Rs. 1,322,613.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

(A) Police.

1. The authorised strength of the Police Deparement on 31st December, 1901, was the Inspector-General, 4 Superintendents, 6 Assistant Superintendents, 27 Inspectors, 9 Sergeant-Majors, 223 Sergeants, 1,479 Constables, 1 Registrar of Servants, 1 Drill Instructor, 1 Chief Clerk, 58 Clerks, 1 Storekeeper, 1 Lock-up Keeper, 4 Magazine-keepers, 10 coolies, and 1 Apothecary, being a total of 1,827. The total cost of the Police for 1901 was Rs. 730,840; it was Rs. 728,125 in 1900.

2. Stations in connection with the prisoners of war were established at Ragama and Kelaniya at the cost of the Imperial Government.

3. Temporary stations for the protection of cacao plantations were also established at Matale, Pallekele, and Wattegama.

4. Taking the grand totals, we find that there were 17,690 true offences committed in 1901. Of these, 12,793 resulted in convictions in the Police Court or committals to higher courts.

5. The true cases and results for the last five years have been:—

Year.	True offences.	Convictions or Committals.
1897	20,800	13,023
1898	15,312	10,673
1899	14,434	10,173
1900	17,703	12,990
1901	17,690	12,793

6. Of the 17,690 true cases, 13,128 appear under the head of "Other Offences," which include statutory offences, breaches of Municipal and other by-laws, and other minor offences, leaving 4,562 cases of what may be considered as crime. The "Other Offences" in 1900 amounted to 13,516, leaving only 4,187 cases of crime; there has therefore been an increase of 375 cases of crime.

7. The following table gives a ready means of comparison of serious crime for the past five years:—

—	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.
Murder and homicide ...	149	127	125	146	160
Rape	43	38	39	32	36
Robbery	498	312	269	289	382
Burglary	719	638	977	1,245	1,384
Grievous hurt	657	500	371	391	441
Theft of cattle and prædial products.	1,714	1,076	885	1,119	1,127
Total	3,780	2,691	2,666	3,222	3,530

The following have been added to the specially-named offences, and have only been so recorded for the past three years:—

—	1899.	1900.	1901.
Arson	145	98	148
Riot	14	3	10

8. The convictions in the Superior Courts have increased. They are for the past five years as follows:—

Year.	Supreme Court.	District Court.
1897	449	706
1898	375	763
1899	279	452
1900	328	611
1901	468	646

Of those in 1901, 140 cases were sent to the District Court and 41 cases to the Supreme Court under the Habitual Criminals Ordinance. These cases would nearly all have been tried in the lower courts had there not been previous convictions of the offenders.

9. In the 160 cases of murder and homicide, 138 cases were committed for trial, of which 128 cases were tried in the Supreme Court. In 96 cases the accused were convicted and 47 persons were sentenced to be hanged, of whom 37 were executed.

In 59 of the above cases a knife or some other cutting or stabbing instrument was used; in 1900 such an instrument was used in 62 cases. Clubs were used in 21 cases, compared with 31 cases in 1900. In 27 cases the victims were shot, compared with 25 cases in 1900.

10. Thefts of cattle and prædial products are practically the same as in 1900. There were 1,010 cases of theft of cattle, with 273 convictions, but in many of these cases the loser compounded with the thief and recovered his cattle, suppressing all evidence. There were 117 cases of theft of prædial products, with 67 convictions.

11. For minor offences there were 10,793 convictions for 13,128 cases, including 136 convictions for 204 breaches of Ordinance No. 3 of 1897 (Prevention of Plague).

12. There was an increase of crime in the Western, Central, Southern, and North-Western Provinces, and a decrease in the Northern and Sabaragamuwa Provinces. Crime was normal in Uva, and does not practically exist in the North-Central and Eastern Provinces.

(B) PRISONS.

1. There has been a serious increase in the total number of admissions of convicted prisoners to the prisons in Ceylon during the past year.

2. Excluding defaulters under the Road Ordinance, who must be dealt with separately, the totals of admissions of convicted prisoners to the prisons for the last ten years have been:—

Year.	Number.
1892	6,638
1893	6,795
1894	6,141
1895	5,498
1896	5,288
1897	7,001
1898	7,051
1899	6,158
1900	6,000
1901	6,581

the increase of population being, between the Census of 1891 and that of 1901, 577,899.

3. The admissions to prison of defaulters under the Road Ordinance, who complete the prison population of convicted prisoners, for the same periods have been—

Year.	No.
1892	2,185
1893	1,127
1894	826
1895	744
1896	648
1897	500
1898	379
1899	329
1900	260
1901	354

4. Of the 354 road defaulters committed to jail, 165 served their sentences, 179 paid a fine of Rs. 10 and obtained their release, while 2 were discharged on account of informal committal, and 8 on medical certificate.

5. In 1901 the date for paying single rate was extended from 28th February to 31st March under Ordinance No. 10 of 1900, and it is probable that some of the more ignorant villagers imagined that the tax was to be remitted and purposely refused to pay.

6. Of the total admissions of convicted prisoners to prisons, the following figures give those from the Superior Courts for the same periods:—

Year.	Number.
1892	789
1893	655
1894	859
1895	614
1896	854
1897	1,155
1898	1,138
1899	731
1900	939
1901	1,114

There has therefore been an increase over last year of those convicted for serious offences of 175.

7. There is an increase in convictions for murder and manslaughter. The numbers of the last ten years are as follows:—

Year.	Number.
1892	58
1893	50
1894	82
1895	75
1896	62
1897	88
1898	58
1899	71
1900	82
1901	101

The number of men sentenced to death and of those whose capital sentences were carried out are as follows:—

Year.	Sentenced to Death.	Hanged.
1892	26	16
1893	23	12
1894	43	23
1895	26	22
1896	37	25
1897	40	20
1898	28	19
1899	27	21
1900	51	32
1901	47	37

8. This last table is most unsatisfactory, showing as it does that there were 101 convictions against 58 in 1892, and 37 executions against 16. Of convictions for aggravated assaults there were no less than 285.

9. Much has been written to explain the prevalence of violent crime in this Colony, but the arguments used in respect of one year are frequently upset by the figures of the next.

10. The daily average of convicted prisoners in jail was 2,684, against 2,360 in 1900.

11. Two prisoners escaped, but both were recaptured.

12. The cost of maintaining each prisoner was Rs. 174.75, against Rs. 189.50 in 1900.

13. The number of deaths in the prisons was 121.

14. Prison offences decreased, and in only 148 was recourse had to corporal punishment.

15. The daily sick rate was 152, against 147 in 1900 and 130 in 1899.

16. Of 39 Europeans convicted, only 2 were resident in Ceylon, the balance, 37, being sailors, passengers, or loafers.

(c) Criminal Statistics.

1. The number of cases instituted in the Police Courts and Municipal Magistrates' Courts was 71,307, in which 79,342 persons were charged, 43,008 being acquitted summarily, 34,019 convicted, and 2,315 committed before a higher court.

2. Of 2,511 committals before the Superior Courts, 1,272 resulted in a verdict for the Crown and 1,239 in favour of the accused. The number of committals in 1900 was 1,826, of which 1,007 ended in favour of the Crown.

3. In murder cases there were 48 convictions to 52 acquittals, homicides resulted in 72 convictions to 10 acquittals, and cattle stealing showed 77 convictions to 80 acquittals.

4. In the Police Courts 71,307 cases were instituted, against 67,196 in 1900, the convictions being 28,786 against 28,766. Of 2,433 persons charged with cattle stealing, 1,927 were acquitted; and of 2,682 prosecutions under the Labour Laws, 1,855 were unsuccessful.

5. The number of convictions in the Superior Courts rose from 1,007 to 1,272.

6. The Gansabhawas did useful work as usual.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

(A) Population.

The total population enumerated on the last Census day (1st March, 1901) was 3,578,332. Since that date to the end of the year 1901 there was an excess of 29,320 of registered births over deaths, and a further excess of 11,513 of Indian immigrants over emigrants. Adding these two excesses to the enumerated population we get the estimate of 3,619,165 at the end of the year. The increase of population during the year was 37,699 (or about 1 per cent.).

Birth- and Death-rates.

134,252 births and 98,813 deaths were registered, equal to a rate of 37·3 and 27·5 per mille per annum respectively. As compared with 1900, the birth-rate shows a decline 1·2 per mille and the death-rate a decline of 1·1 per mille. As compared with the average rates for the decade 1891-1900, the birth-rate shows an increase of 3·0 and the death-rate a decline of ·1.

(B) Public Health.

The public health of the inhabitants of the Island was good. There was an absence of those widespread severe outbreaks of malarial fever which characterised the previous year, but cases of small-pox were numerous, with a few outbreaks of cholera. The sanitary conditions throughout all the towns and villages of the Island are steadily being improved.

During the year under review cholera occurred in the Western, Northern, North-Western, and Uva Provinces. Nine cases, with 8 deaths, occurred in the Western Province. Of these, 8 cases —all fatal—occurred at the Ragama Cooly Depôt. The greatest number of cases was reported from the Northern Province, where 95 cases occurred, with 60 deaths; the Province of Uva comes next, with 46 cases and 27 deaths. Four outbreaks of cholera occurred during the year at Ragama Cooly Depôt.

There were 390 cases of small-pox, of which 75 proved fatal. Of these, 311 occurred in the Western Province, chiefly in Colombo.

Of enteric fever 292 cases were recorded, with 74 deaths; of leprosy 590; and of parangi 3,117. Only 12 of the parangi patients died.

(c) Sanitation.

General Sanitary Conditio[illegible] the Colony and the Chief To[illegible].

The town is growing rapidly, and urgent methods are needed, and are being taken, to keep it in as sanitary a condition as possible.

Port sanitation is the first consideration, as the number of ships entering the port from all parts of the world is rapidly increasing, and the first line of defence to the town against disease is the sanitation of the port. This has been carried out in a most efficient manner during the year. In the town itself the streets have been made wider, so that air space is abundant, but the dust is objectionable and detrimental to health. The streets should, if possible, be watered more frequently to allay this nuisance. The houses of the poor still need much improvement, and attempts to make these more healthy and sanitary are making their mark. The scavenging is fairly good.

Fæcal matter is still removed at night and buried. It need hardly be said that this is objectionable, and that some other method is desirable. Much has been done, but much remains to be done, with regard to the drainage of Colombo. Everywhere collections of stagnant water are to be seen, but though these would appear likely breeding grounds for anopheles, and therefore for the spread of malaria, only Culex larvæ have up to the present been found. Government has sanctioned the modified system of drainage proposed by Mr. Mansergh, C.M G.

The water supply derived from the Labugama reservoir has always been favourably reported on by the City Analyst. Infectious cases, viz., small-pox and enteric fever, have been common.

Kandy, the capital of the Central Province, possesses a Municipality, and employs a medical man as Sanitary Officer. The drainage of the town is defective, but measures are under consideration for an improved system. The water supply is of good quality, but during a long drought is a source of some anxiety. The town itself is well scavenged, and is lighted by electricity. The burial of night soil is the method adopted for the conservancy of the town.

Jaffna, the chief town of the Northern Province, possesses neither a Municipality nor a Local Board. Certain parts of the town are in a very crowded and an insanitary state. There are two public latrines, which are not resorted to. The cesspit system is in vogue. The water supply is from uncovered wells. Sunlight and free circulation of air are interfered with by the houses being huddled together and by high cadjan fences. The foreshore and other places are fouled and polluted. Drainage requires attention.

Galle, the capital of the Southern Province, is still the most insanitary of the towns possessing Municipalities. Although a good many improvements have been effected as regards the drainage and conservancy, much yet remains to be done. The water supply is still derived from the Bikke reservoir; a system of filtration has not yet been arranged owing to the cost. The dry-earth system has been introduced in some parts of the town, and has been found to work satisfactorily. Although a good deal has been done as regards the drains in the Fort, they are still very defective in several localities.

Batticaloa, the chief town of the Eastern Province, possesses a Local Board, and the sanitary condition is said to be fairly satisfactory. The drainage is very bad, and the water supply equally so; the small supply of good water from wells is curtailed by the wells running dry during drought. The latrine arrangements are very defective; cesspits are used. As in Jaffna the foreshore and neighbouring jungles are polluted by human excreta.

Kurunegala, the chief town of the North-Western Province, is in fairly good sanitary condition, but its drainage and water supply are defective.

Anuradhapura, the principal town of the North-Central Province, formerly had a reputation for unhealthiness, but of recent years, owing to improved sanitary measures, the health of the inhabitants has wonderfully improved.

Badulla, the chief town of the Province of Uva, is a good specimen of what a sanitary tropical town should be, and is provided with a good water service by pipes. The town is well kept. The drainage, however, is defective.

Ratnapura, the chief town of the Province of Saabaragamuwa, possesses a Local Board, and is in a fair state of sanitation. The water supply is good.

No cases of plague were recorded.

During the year 165,948 subjects were vaccinated, 152,106 for the first time. The percentage of successful vaccinations was 92 per cent.

(D) Climate.

Rainfall.

The rainfall varied from 151·29 inches in 234 days at Ratnapura to 26·19 inches in 67 days at Hambantota.

Temperature.

The climate of Ceylon varies considerably in different parts of the Island, both as regards temperature and rainfall. In the low lands the climate is tropical, but in the mountains in the interior the climate is found equal to that of many parts of Europe.

The mean temperature for the year 1901 was highest at Mannar (82·6) and lowest at Nuwara Eliya (59·4).

The mean temperature at Colombo and Kandy was 81·1 and 75·2 respectively.

The mean daily range of temperature (*i.e.*, the mean of the daily difference between the maximum and minimum temperature) was highest at Ratnapura (25·3) and lowest at Galle (7·2).

The mean daily range at Colombo was 13·0 and at Kandy 16·4.

The absolute range (or the difference between the highest and lowest temperature of the air recorded during the year) was greatest at Ratnapura and lowest at Galle, having been 35·8 and 10·4 respectively.

The absolute difference at Colombo was 19·3 and at Kandy 25·7.

Direction and Force of Wind.

From November to February the wind blows from the north-east and from April to October from the south-west. The force of the movement of the wind varied very greatly, between 13·8 miles and 334 miles per diem at Ratnapura and Jaffna respectively.

VIII.—POST AND TELEGRAPHS.

The annexed tables show the revenue and expenditure of the Post Office during the past decade:—

Year.	Postage Stamps.	Unpaid Postage Collections.	Money Order Commission.	Sea Conveyance of Mails.	Telegraph Receipts.	Telephone Receipts.	Reimbursements in Aid.	Other Collections.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1892	421,349	7,259	34.095	764	114,953	—	3,400	3,258	585,078
1893	427,242	6,078	37.761	186	120.029	—	4,500	9,293	605 088
1894	466,493	6,684	42.758	929	126,439	—	5,300	5,772	654,375
1895	516,762	6,565	49,849	5,281	131,573	—	5.800	4,457	720,287
1896	542,082	7,727	59.464	32	144,852	—	6,300	7,917	768 374
1897	615,202	7,532	58,055	100,665	168,366	16,274	7,394	5,947	979,435
1898	644,904	8,338	66,797	24,848	188,402	16 638	6,862	6,211	963,000
1899	607,128	6,682	64,157	35,452	183,031	16,315	6,971	3,795	923,531
1900	656,015	7,216	79,824	19,607	197,936	16,387	7,655	20,365	1,005,005
1901	687,517	7,397	62,418	29,718	215,056	17,910	7,864	11,608	1,039,488

EXPENDITURE of the DEPARTMENT from 1892 to 1901 inclusive.

Year.	Personal Emoluments.		Other Charges.	Total.
	Postal.	Telegraph.		
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
1892 ...	165,829 82	101,376 24	315,188 30	582,394 36
1893 ...	184,119 27	106,549 59	360,330 99	650,999 85
1894 ...	215,078 95	116,635 12	359,093 36	690,807 44
1895 ...	224,724 79	121,507 24	407,243 32	753,475 35
1896 ...	232,554 3	125,446 60	556,719 20	914,739 83
1897 ...	240,172 14	140,875 1	457,228 31	838,275 46
1898 ...	228,883 31	147,886 35	555,606 47	932,376 13
1899 ...	252,710 72	152,974 84	558,729 20°	964,414 76
1900 ...	278,284 33	166,462 92	646,676 87*	1,091,424 12
1901 ...	301,994 14	179,061 13	571,620 79*	1,052,676 6

° These figures include special expenditure on Telegraph and Telephone Construction.

In 1901 the increase of revenue was normal under all heads, except Commission on Money Orders, the decrease in which was attributable to a falling off in the number and value of telegraphic money orders to India.

Mails.—The rapid growth of the business done by the Ceylon Post Office is illustrated by the statements which follow. The weight of mails despatched from Ceylon to the United Kingdom for ten years was:—

Year	By P. & O. Packets.		By Orient Packets.		By French Packets.		By German Packets.		By Bibby Line.		Total.	
	Letters and Post Cards.	Other Articles.	Letters and Post Cards.	Other Articles.	Letters and Post Cards.	Other Articles.	Letters and Post Cards.	Other Articles.	Letters and Post Cards.	Other Articles.	Letters and Post Cards.	Other Articles.
	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.
1892	4,009	10.338	2.008	5,489	753	1,286	318	544	—	—	7,088	17,657
1893	4,509	13,142	2,306	6,209	598	1,154	393	778	—	—	7,806	21,283
1894	4,627	13,249	2,492	6,041	625	1,310	389	989	50	505	8,183	22.094
1895	4,851	14,030	2,769	7,378	565	1,076	297	620	98	439	8,580	23,543
1896	5,174	15,556	3.086	9,504	584	1 431	583	1,283	37	64	9.464	27,838
1897	5,217	17,056	3,280	9,992	859	2,466	736	2,116	—	—	10,092	31,630
1898	5,482	17,977	3,512	11,774	997	2,477	784	1.990	55	115	10,830	34.333
1899	6,836	20,217	4,925	14,043	561	1,160	841	2,508	15	38	13,178	37,966
1900	6,506	19,153	4.721	13,730	1,164	3.283	1,126	3,098	—	—	13,517	39.264
1901	7,211	20,817	5,399	14,240	1,485	4,014	1,774	4,479	—	—	15.869	43 550

It will be seen that in ten years the weight of letters and post cards has increased 124 per cent., and the weight of other articles 146 per cent. The table is of further interest as showing how increasing advantage is taken of the French and German steamers.

Parcel rates between India and Ceylon were reduced by nearly 15 per cent., and the division of the postage was adjusted to the benefit of Ceylon.

Money Orders.—The next table shows the money order business done:—

MONEY ORDER BUSINESS from 1892 to 1901, inclusive.

Year.	Inland.		Indian.		United Kingdom.		Colonial & Foreign.		Grand Total.	
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.
1892	118,442	3,238,129	31,716	1,162,917	2,597	65,843	2,998	167,766	155,753	4,634,655
1893	128,324	3,347,480	35,278	1,200,393	2,801	80,669	2,881	164,622	169,284	4,793,164
1894	135,895	3,079,216	41,159	1,622,805	2,951	76,800	3,433	181,680	183,438	4,960,501
1895	150,406	3,473,928	52,165	2,013,110	2,777	81,069	3,563	189,418	208,911	5,757,525
1896	161,789	3,825,490	67,886	2,369,964	3,670	102,212	3,640	179,762	236,985	6,478,428
1897	178,295	4,208,559	75,930	2,826,341	4,756	118,179	3,440	158,941	262,421	7,312,020
1898	190,476	4,559,862	79,788	2,919,819	6,133	132,459	4,272	184,021	280,669	7,797,161
1899	193,998	4,625,778	86,400	2,812,400	7,184	151,318	4,616	214,333	292,198	7,803,829
1900	233,251	5,320,346	110,024	3,726,274	7,646	160,414	5,297	247,673	356,218	9,454,707
1901	239,171	5,231,615	112,932	3,539,698	9,760	299,137	5,539	270,578	365,402	9,341,034

The average advance in the value of the business for ten years is 10 per cent. per annum. The value for 1901 was Rs. 113,500 less than for 1900, a drop of 1 per cent., but 1900 was an abnormal year, and the increase of 1901 over 1899 was very close on 20 per cent. The uncertain factor is the telegraph money order business with India, which is presumably affected by the immigrant labour market.

The commission paid on money orders issued in 1901 amounted to Rs. 62,400, and orders on Government service were issued free, the commission on which amounting to Rs. 9,131 was earned but not paid.

In the course of the year a direct money order exchange was arranged with Natal, serving British South Africa, and largely availed of by the prisoners of war in Ceylon.

A material improvement effected was the issue of money orders on the United Kingdom, the colonies, and foreign countries at every post office in Ceylon, the public being thus saved the trouble of sending a local money order to the General Post Office to purchase a foreign money order.

Telegraph Lines.—The only new lines completed during the year were:—

(1) The extension of the Madulkele line on from Wattegama to Kandy, 7½ miles, to take the Wattegama office off the Trincomalee line and put the Madulkele Office direct on to Kandy, the latter office being in a better position to act as a transit office than Wattegama.

(2) Urugasmanhandiya Boer Camp looped into the Colombo-Galle line, 3½ miles of posts and 7 miles of wire.

(3) The Colombo-Nuwara Eliya direct wire looped into the Kandy office for testing purposes, 8 miles of wire.

(4) The looping of all passing wires into the Polgahawela and Veyangoda Offices for testing purposes for the localisation of faults.

(5) A metallic circuit for the Tyer's tablet apparatus between Maradana and Mount Lavinia, 16 miles of wire. Total 3½ miles of posts and 41 miles of wire.

The following new offices were opened in 1901:—Ragama, Mullaittivu, Vavuniya, Urugasmanhandiya Camp.

Revenue.—The revenue derived from the Telephone branch was—

	Rs.	c.
In 1898	16,635	82
In 1899	16,045	7
In 1900	16,387	0
In 1901	17,909	94

IX.—MILITARY FORCE AND EXPENDITURE.

The annexed table shows the expenditure on account of military services, and includes an additional sum on account of commutation of the rebate of duty on stores supplied to the troops. The fixed sum of Rs. 25,000 was augmented in consideration of the increased number of troops in garrison since the advent of the Prisoners of War:—

Military Expenditure by the Colony during 1901.

Military Expenditure by the Colony during 1901.	Amount.	
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Colonial Contribution for Regular Troops—		
Balance due for 1900	164,928 16	
Expenditure on account 1901	1,913,482 00	
		2,078,410 16
For Volunteer Regiment, including Miscellaneous Stores, Arms for New Rifle Corps, and passage money of Non-Commisioned Officers on expiry of term of service.		270,675 95
Compensation in lieu of exemption from payment of Customs Duties on articles imported for the Troops.		42,669 99
Cost of erecting certain buildings for the Military.		46,886 0
Expenses connected with the Ceylon Contingent for South Africa.		486 52
Expenses connected with the Fortifications of Colombo.		8,535 67
Total		2,447,664 29

X.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

(1) Important Events.

The death of Her gracious Majesty Queen Victoria caused the most profound sorrow throughout the Island.

Their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall, who visited Ceylon in the spring, met with a loyal and enthusiastic reception.

A Census of the population was successfully carried out.

At Ambalangoda the inhabitants refused to pay the Local Board rate, and assumed so obstructive an attitude that a police force was sent down to enforce the distraint of property. The police were attacked by the mob and were compelled to fire in self-defence, causing more than one casualty. A military force was then despatched to the scene of the disturbance, but the rioters had dispersed before its arrival. A punitive police force has since been stationed at Ambalangoda.

Arabi Pasha and the Egyptian exiles were permitted to return to Egypt.

The appointment of a Fourth Judge of the Supreme Court was sanctioned.

The Government purchased Gangaroowa estate, Peradeniya, at a cost of £8,000, for the establishment of an experimental plantation.

By the retirement of Sir E. Noel Walker, who served as Colonial Secretary for over fourteen years, and of Sir A. C. Lawrie, whose connection with the Island goes back to 1873, the Colony lost two of its highest and most popular officials.

The careful precautions against the introduction of plague continued to be entirely efficacious.

(B) Public Works.

The following tabular statement shows the expenditure on Annually Recurrent Works, Extraordinary Public Works, and those chargeable to loans and other funds during the years 1895 to 1901, inclusive:—

Year.	Public Works.		Miscellaneous including loans.	Total.
	Recurrent.	Extraordinary.		
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1895	1,756,001	1,286,889	—	3,042,890
1896	1,823,558	1,219,106	—	3,042,664
1897	1,726,669	1,838,650	—	3,565,319
1898	1,900,307	1,510,143	369,324	3,779,774
1899	2,040,684	1,707,119	1,250,125	4,997,928
1900	2,029,279	1,610,261	1,074,665	4,714,205
1901	2,112,905	1,348,032	666,028	4,126,965

The charges under Personal Emoluments amounted to Rs. 428,948.

The roads in this Colony are classified under the following descriptions:—Metalled, Track Metalled, Gravelled, and Natural. The total length maintained during the year in each Province was as follows:—

Province.	Metalled.	Track Metalled.	Gravelled.	Natural.	Total.
	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.
Western ...	295·26	—	62·94	—	358·20
Central	534·33	—	70·74	65·25	670·33
Northern ...	310·00	—	86·50	121·00	517·50
Southern ...	272·78	—	47·50	—	320·28
Eastern... ...	162·25	—	132·60	54·00	348·85
North-Western	175·67	143·00	76·71	30·00	425·38
North-Central ...	101·78	68·75	138·28	8·60	317·41
Uva	246·03	—	25·33	102·00	373·36
Sabaragamuwa ...	185·97	80·59	17·94	25·00	309·50
Total ...	2,284·07	292·34	658·54	405·85	3,640·80

The above statement shows an increase of 51·87 miles of roads in charge of this Department. This is due to the completion of the Annfield road, extension of the Madampe-Hambantota road, and the transfer of the Matara-Akuressa, Maradankadawela-Habarana, and Kekirawa-Talawe roads from the Provincial Road Committee to this Department.

The average cost per mile of road upkeep in the several provinces was as follows:—

Province.	Metalled.	Track Metalled.	Gravelled.	Natural.	General Average.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Western ...	806	—	315	—	720
Central	629	—	233	77	533
Northern ...	273	—	181	52	206
Southern ...	577	—	180	—	518
Eastern... ...	456	—	229	20	302
North-Western	409	461	245	33	370
North-Central ...	436	—	174	—	310
Uva	651	—	284	71	467
Sabaragamuwa...	661	437	270	97	535

The general average throughout the Colony was:—Metalled roads Rs. 549 per mile, gravelled roads Rs. 221 per mile, natural roads Rs. 57 per mile.

Considerable progress has been made in carrying out the works asked for by the Chamber of Commerce:—

The building of a quay wall in front of the old grain sheds J and K is in hand.

The construction of two jetties on the north-east face of the sea wall is practically completed.

The ironwork for the erection of a light open shed to shelter goods landed adjacent to I warehouse is completed.

Another iron shed adjoining I warehouse of the same length and width has been completed. Commissariat street has been included in the Customs premises, and the road nearly completed round by G and H warehouses.

The ironwork has been completed for covering in the roadway on the sea front of the export warehouses B, C, and D, and erection is in hand.

The lengthening of the two jetties at Kochchikada has practically been completed.

One-half of the roadway leading to the warehouses at Kochchikada has been paved with Jarrah timber blocks laid on concrete.

Plans and estimate have been prepared and submitted for the reconstruction of the Master Attendant's jetty.

Orders have been placed for the supply of electric cranes for use in the Customs premises.

The work of widening Seashore street is in hand.

Camps for Prisoners of War.—The maintenance and additions required from time to time at the camps have been duly attended to.

Cooly Camps, Ragama.—The erection of a new camp similar to camp No. 5 is in hand.

Minor Courts, Hulftsdorp.—The erection of these buildings has made substantial progress, and it is anticipated they will shortly be ready for occupation.

Main Pipe Line.—The pipe line has been satisfactorily maintained, a constant flow being obtained throughout the year. The few leaks which occurred were in the portion duplicated, and were repaired without the flow of water to Colombo being stopped.

Maligakanda Service Reservoir.—This reservoir has been maintained in a satisfactory state of repair without any exceptional expenditure.

Distribution Works.—The distribution works were maintained in a satisfactory state of repair. During the year four new

standposts or street fountains were fixed and four were removed, the total number in use being 691. 136 new services for domestic supply were constructed, making a total number of 3,071. 53 meters were fixed to services for other than domestic purposes. 28 meters were removed, making a total of 206 in use. 1,269 yards of 3-in. pipe for extended services were laid during the year.

Except during January, the maximum daily consumption each month exceeded the maximum discharging capacity of the Labugama main, viz., 2,900,000 gallons per diem, necessitating the water being shut off from 8 p.m. to 4 a.m. during the following periods:—

April 1 to 8
August 1 to 31
September 1 to 30
October 1 to 28
December 15 to 28.

The average consumption of water per head per diem, taking the population at 150,000, was for all purposes at the rate of 18·5 gallons; deducting the metered supplies reduces the rate to 15·5 gallons.

The survey of the important feeder roads to the Northern Railway lying within the North-Western Province has been carried out; five new bridges on the Galle-Udugama road are almost completed, and a lattice girder bridge has been erected over the Battulu-oya.

During the year 482 orders were received at the Government Factory amounting to Rs. 885,620.34, making with Rs. 194,604.54 brought forward from 1900 a total of Rs. 1,080,224.88; to this amount must be added disbursements on account of camps for prisoners of war and reception of Their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York.

The total amount therefore available for expenditure for 1901 was as follows:—

	Rs.	c.
Brought forward from 1900 ...	194,604	54
Factory Orders for 1901	885,620	34
Camps for Prisoners of War ...	90,359	17
Reception of Their Royal Highnesses	6,333	38
Total ...	1,176,917	43

During the same period 172 iron bridge spans of varying length were turned out at a cost of Rs. 286,964.

The expenditure on buildings amounted to Rs. 75,845, on harbour improvements to Rs. 193,378, on miscellaneous services, including cost of tools and plant, to Rs. 51,323; for irrigation works Rs. 3,659; and for other departments Rs. 25,668.

The expenditure on Colombo Harbour was Rs. 3,225,808.27, as under:—

—	Amount.	
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Upkeep of South-West Breakwater, Inner Harbour, Dredging, &c.	—	83,198 10
Harbour Improvements, Dredging, and Moorings.	227,861 98	
New works at Customs, &c.	418,994 28	
		646,856 26
Harbour Extension Works, Graving Dock		2,495 753 91
Total		3,225,808 27

The total expenditure on Harbour Extension Works, Graving Dock, &c., to 31st December, 1901, is—

—	Amount.	
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Harbour Extension Works, North-East and and North-West Breakwaters, Reclamation, Coal Depôt, Patent Slip, and Barge Repairing Basin.	5,663,639 22	
Stock of plant, stores, &c., at December 31, 1901, for Harbour Extension Works, &c.	1,584,535 45	
Removal of work-yard from Galle Buck to Reclamation, building block jetty, &c.	1,049,802 43	
Graving Dock...	1,577,271 57	
Plant for Graving Dock	541,290 83	
Total Expenditure to December 31 1901.		10,416,539 50
Grand Total Expenditure from commencement of South-West Breakwater in 1873 to December 31, 1901.		25,487,640 15

The Northern Arm was completed to a distance of 1,275 feet, about one-half the total length, and good progress was made with the work of the Graving Dock.

The original capital cost of open railway lines is Rs. 53,090,104. The total cost of the Railway, including additions and improvements, up to December 31, 1901, has been Rs. 57,970,083, but this does not include the sum of Rs. 2,351,493 spent during the last five years on new works and rolling stock, which has been paid out of revenue.

On January 1, 1901, the capital outstanding on loans (sterling debts converted into local currency at the rate of 1*s.* $4\frac{1}{32}$*d.* per rupee) was Rs. 32,229,610, or Rs. 66,150 more than on January 1, 1900, due to a slightly lower rate of exchange

Result of the year's working:—

—	1901.	1900.	Increase, 1901.	Decrease, 1901.
	Rs	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Gross Receipts	7,938,131	8,272,351	—	334,220
Working Expenses	4,736,701	4,374,310	362,391	—
Profit	3,201,430	3,898,041	—	696,611

Interest.—The interest paid on loans amounted to Rs. 1,235,178.

Nett Earnings.—After deducting the working expenses and the payment of interest, the nett amount contributed by the railway to the general revenue of the Colony amounted to Rs. 1,966,252, equivalent to a dividend of 3·39 per cent. on the total capital cost of Rs. 57,970,083.

On ordinary passenger traffic there was a decrease of Rs. 172,407 and on goods traffic a decrease of Rs. 210,667. There was a decrease of 3,879 tons of tea, an increase of 5,535 tons of copperah and 1,858 tons of fruit and vegetables and other 5th class goods, and a decrease of 12,000 tons in plumbago.

The mileage was not increased during the year.

(C.) Immigration and Emigration.

The figures obtained from the Government Agents are incomplete and unreliable. They show that 120,603 immigrants arrived in Ceylon from India, while 118,343 left for India from Ceylon.

(D.) Future Prospects of Trade.

The value of the trade of the Colony has fallen somewhat in the year under review, but later statistics show that there has been no further decline, and the prospects of trade are good.

(E.) Suitability of Climate for Europeans.

The climate is well suited for Europeans, but under existing conditions manual labour is practically out of the question for the white man, who finds his avocation in sedentary pursuits or in the supervision of labour.

(F.) Rates of Wages and Cost of Living.

The rate of wages for prædial labourers varies from 25 to 50 cents per diem; 37½ cents is the general rate. Domestic servants earn from Rs. 10 to Rs. 20 per mensem, the average wage being about Rs. 12. Trade employés earn from 50 cents to Re. 1.50 a day. The cost of living varies greatly in different parts of the

Island, being lowest in the Northern and Eastern Provinces and highest in Colombo, where house rent is a serious item to rich and poor. The ordinary villager can probably live in fair comfort for Rs. 5 to Rs. 6 a month.

The cost of living for a European is somewhat difficult to calculate, the purchasing power of the rupee being something midway between its nominal value of 2*s.* and gold value of 1*s.* 4*d.*, if local and imported purchases are considered together.

(G.) Openings for Investment of Capital.

There has been a slight revival in plumbago and no improvement in the prospects of tea, but cocoanuts continue to do well, and the many minor products of the Island are not unremunerative.

(H.) Social Condition of the People.

The social condition of the people is good in so far as their material welfare is concerned, but their moral failing is illustrated by the figures relating to violent crime. It is true that cold-blooded premeditated crime is of rare occurrence, but acts of violence committed in the heat of the moment are rife. Corporal punishment, it must be admitted, has proved much less efficacious than was anticipated as a deterrent punishment. Education will doubtless furnish the radical cure in time, but the process will be a long and tedious one. It is remarkable that of the 37 men who paid the highest penalty of the law, all but two were Buddhists, whose religious teaching inculcates the theory of the sanctity of life. These figures would tend to show that religious education and training have little effect in restraining passion and jealousy, the primary cause of most violent crime in Ceylon.

(I.) General Condition of the Colony.

Though the past year showed no such pronounced increase of revenue as the phenomenal year 1900, the general prosperity of the Colony is unimpaired.

J. J. Thorburn,

Principal Assistant Colonial Secretary.

Colombo, August 8, 1902.

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ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
373	Jamaica	1901–1902
374	Leeward Islands	"
375	Gold Coast	1901
376	Grenada	"
377	Northern Nigeria	"
378	British Guiana	1901–1902
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387	Gibraltar	"
388	Wei-hai-wei	"
389	Sierra Leone	"
390	British Honduras	"
391	Gambia	"
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393	Hong Kong	"
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MISCELLANEOUS.

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7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
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9	Dominica	Agriculture.
10	Virgin Islands	Condition during 1897.
11	Grenada...	Agriculture in Carriacou.
12	Anguilla	Vital Statistics, 1898.
13	Cook Islands	Trade, 1899.
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22	Seychelles	Report on Para Rubber.
23	Dominica	Roads and Land Settlement.

No. 396.

CEYLON.

(For Report for 1901 *see* No. 367.)

GOVERNOR SIR J. WEST RIDGEWAY to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

The Queen's House, Colombo,
Ceylon, 19th August, 1903.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith copies of the Ceylon Blue Book for the year 1902, together with copies of the usual Report prepared in the Colonial Secretary's Office.

I have, &c.,

J. RIDGEWAY.

REPORT ON THE CEYLON BLUE BOOK OF 1902.

I.—FINANCIAL.

(A) GENERAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE

Revenue.

Th estimated revenue for 1902 was Rs. 26,500,000; the actual revenue was Rs. 27,198,056, showing an increase over the estimate of Rs. 698,056, an increase over the revenue of 1901 of Rs. 760,954, and a decrease of only Rs. 127,874, as compared with the revenue collected in 1900.

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2. The following is a comparative statement showing the actual revenue collected in 1901 and 1902:—

—	Revenue of 1901.	Revenue of 1902.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
1. Customs	7,010,187 88	7,181,272 67	217,183 64	46,098 85
2. Port, Harbour, Wharf, and Lighthouse Dues...	1,331,217 76	1,289,727 64	8,208 93	39,699 5
3. Licenses, Excise, and Internal Revenue not otherwise classified.	5,858,955 1	6,057,748 0	259,411 89	60,618 90
4. Fees of Court or Office, Payment for Specific Services, and Reimbursements in Aid.	1,745,241 87	1,826,949 12	117,454 39	35,747 14
5. Post and Telegraphs	980,973 92	1,110,784 74	129,810 82	—
6. Government Railways	7,967,692 14	7,977,589 88	24,639 69	14,741 95
7. Rent of Government Property	114,548 27	126,891 30	15,161 53	2,818 50
8. Interest	426,355 68	514,047 29	87,728 41	36 80
9. Miscellaneous Receipts	78,597 82	90,888 58	33,739 85	21,449 9
10. Sale of Government Property	366,055 12	329,674 88	—	36,380 24
11. Land Sales	557,276 91	682,482 34	144,173 .7	18,968 34
Total	26,437,102 38	27,198,056 44	1,037,512 92	276,558 86
Deduct Decrease ...			276,558 86	
Nett Increase			760,954 6	

3. It will be seen that an increase is shown under every head of revenue except under Port and Harbour Dues and Sale of Government Property.

4. Under Customs, imports of grain and sundries decreased, but imports of cotton, sugar, spirits, kerosine, and other goods increased. The export of plumbago, arrack, and elephants showed an increase, while the export of hides and horns and chanks showed a decrease. The decrease in Harbour Dues is attributable to the diminished import of rice. Salt and arrack both yielded a larger revenue. Judicial stamps showed a considerable decrease, due to property of less value having been under litigation, but recoveries of survey fees and upon irrigation works showed large increases. Increases are shown under every head of Postal Service, postage stamps, money orders, and sundry collections being responsible for increases of Rs. 18,266, Rs. 60,216, and Rs. 26,312, respectively. Government Railways show the satisfactory increase of Rs. 24,639 under passenger traffic, but goods traffic shows a decrease of Rs. 10,270. Sales of timber showed a decrease of Rs. 32,362. Land sales increased to the value of Rs. 144,173, but against this increase has to be set a decrease of Rs. 18,968 under premia on leases, due to the continued depression of the plumbago industry.

Expenditure.

5. The following is the comparative statement of expenditure for 1901 and 1902:—

Heads of Service.	1901.	1902.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
1. Charges on account of Public Debt	2,805,029 84	3,099,403 41	294,373 57	—
2. Pensions	1,191,404 33	1,284,648 9	93,243 76	—
3. His Excellency the Governor	127,838 44	126,472 54	—	1,365 90
3*a*. Civil Service	652,717 11	663,645 88	10,928 77	—
4. Secretariat	263,289 14	273,565 16	10,276 2	—
5. Audit Office	49,085 33	52,246 56	3,161 23	—
6. Treasury	41,563 59	41,970 29	406 70	—
7. Provincial Administration	958,212 40	949,323 89	—	8,888 51
8. Survey Department	652,561 31	638,086 37	—	14,474 94
9. Customs Department	129,309 68	130,153 72	844 4	—
10. Port and Marine Department, Colombo	370,144 95	330,712 55	—	39,432 40
11. Port and Marine Department other than Colombo	38,575 30	43,624 37	5,049 7	—
12. Botanic Gardens...	71,198 60	72,246 57	1,047 97	—
13. Colombo Museum	23,108 67	25,660 92	2,552 25	—
14. Legal Departments:—				
Supreme Court	154,778 92	156,277 41	1,498 49	—
Attorney-General	60,917 15	60,799 75	—	117 40
Solicitor-General	12,147 99	12,143 85	—	4 14
District Courts	164,071 82	160,382 37	—	3,689 45
Courts of Requests and Police Courts	124,935 24	128,299 99	3,364 75	—
Registration of Lands	78,385 24	78,408 17	22 93	—
Registration of Marriages, Births, and Deaths	114,895 13	117,475 61	2,580 48	—

	Fiscals	238,416 37	229,775 81	—	8,640 56
	Loan Board	4,416 25	5,431 89	1,015 64	—
15.	Police	716,423 77	732,646 59	16,222 82	—
16.	Prisons	507,411 86	527,819 34	20,407 48	—
17.	Medical Department	377,767 72	379,114 19	1,346 47	—
18.	Hospitals and Dispensaries	1,311,393 15	1,219,504 24	—	91,888 91
19.	Ecclesiastical	45,714 12	26,925 70	—	18,788 42
20.	Education	907,997 29	952,279 98	44,282 69	—
21.	Transport...	13,887 47	23,061 79	9,174 32	—
22.	Exchange	227,630 3	211,039 98	—	1[illegible] 5
23.	Military Expenditure	2,447,664 29	2,220,819 60	—	226,[illegible]44 69
24.	Miscellaneous Services	947,798 11	1,234,658 9	286,859 98	—
25.	Government Stores	79,191 96	78,527 39	—	664 57
26	Crown Agents, London	2,719 2	2,715 0	—	4 2
27.	Forests	286,589 69	268,358 98	—	18,230 71
28.	Post Office and Telegraphs	1,052,676 6	1,125,136 92	72,460 86	—
29.	Railway Department	4,725,724 59	4,897,546 67	171,822 8	—
30.	Special Officer, Waste Lands Ordinance	—	26,730 30	26,730 30	—
31.	Public Works Department	402,433 37	411,289 76	8,856 39	—
32.	Irrigation Department	203,737 8	309,830 84	106,093 76	—
33.	Public Works Annually Recurrent	1,839,690 26	1,874,387 64½	34,697 38½	—
34.	Public Works Extraordinary	1,473,142 3	1,428,020 64½	—	45,121 38½
			26,631,168 82	1,229,320 20½	
	Deduct half-year's interest on New Loan brought to account under Public Debt, and chargeable to Surplus Funds.	—	289,290 79	289,290 79	—
	Total from Current Revenue	25,896,594 67	26,341,878 3	940,029 41½	494,746 5½

Expenditure—*cont.*

Heads of Service.	1901.	1902.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Expenditure from Surplus Funds.				
1. Public Debt, half-year's interest on Loan (Ordinance No. 14 of 1900).	—	289,290 79	289,290 79	—
29. Railway Construction	3,170,000 0	948,165 48	—	2,221,834 52
32. Irrigation Construction	150,152 15	462,770 36	312,618 21	—
Grand Total	29,216,746 82	28,042,104 66	1,541,938 41½	2,716,580 57½
Deduct Increase				1,541,938 41½
Nett Decrease				1,174,642 16

6. The expenditure for 1902 was thus less than the expenditure for 1901 by Rs. 1,174,642, the decrease being due principally to the fact that Rs. 948,165 only was contributed towards railway construction from surplus funds, as compared with Rs. 3,170,000 in 1901, the smaller sum being the amount required to make up the moiety to be found from surplus funds under the "New Policy."

7. Increased expenditure to the amount of Rs. 93,243 was necessitated by new pensions. Increments under the new scheme necessitated increased expenditure on the Civil Service, and increments and certain additional appointments and equipments necessary to efficiency required increased provision for the Secretariat, the Police, Prisons, Postal, and Irrigation Departments. Increased grants, increments to officers, and miscellaneous expenditure account for an increase of Rs. 44,282 under Education. Under Miscellaneous Services there was an increase of Rs. 286,859, of which Rs. 136,570 represents expenditure in connection with the Coronation, and the balance is chiefly the purchase amount and incidental expenses for acquisition of Gangaruwa estate. The Railway Department demanded an excess of Rs. 171,822, of which Rs. 139,989 was the amount required to complete the expenditure on the deposit stocking account, and the balance was due to opening of the Northern and Kelani Valley Railways.

The Waste Lands Department was created as a separate Department in 1902, and therefore appears for the first time under a separate head of expenditure. Economies were effected principally under the headings Survey Department, Port and Marine, Fiscals, Hospitals and Dispensaries, Exchange, Forests, Public Works Extraordinary, and Military Expenditure (Rs. 226,844), the last being due to the fact that the balance for 1900 was brought to account in 1901, whereas no such balance was payable in 1902, and to less expenditure on account of Volunteers. A saving of Rs. 18,788 was made under the head Ecclesiastical, owing to the salary of the Bishop having lapsed on transfer of Bishop Copleston to the See of Calcutta. The actual expenditure was less than the estimated expenditure by Rs. 62,593.

8. The following table shows the total revenue and expenditure for the last five years:—

—	1898.	1899.	1900	1901.	1902.
	Rs. c.	Rs c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Revenue	25,138,669 26	25,913,141 58	27,325,930 56	26,437,102 38	27,198,056 44
Expenditure from Current Revenue	22,843,851 89	24,950,940 36	25,321,988 0*	25,896,594 67‡	26,341,878 3‖
Expenditure from Surplus Funds	1,668 88	1,519 81	3,626,939 17†	3,320,152 15§	1,700,226 63¶

* Includes on account of Irrigation Works under the "New Policy," Rs. 504,024·81.
† Represents expenditure on Railway Construction under the "New Policy."
‡ Includes on account of Irrigation Works under the "New Policy," Rs. 203,737·08.
§ Represents expenditure on Railway Construction Works, Rs. 3,170,000; and Irrigation Construction Works Rs. 150,152·15.
‖ Includes on account Irrigation Works under the "New Policy," Rs. 309,830·84.
¶ Includes expenditure under the "New Policy," Railway Construction, Rs. 948,165·48; Irrigation, Rs. 462,770·36

(B.) Important Changes in Taxation.

No important changes were made in 1902.

(C.) Assets and Liabilities.

The total assets on January 1, 1903, were Rs. 24,576,277, as against Rs. 24,972, 692 on January 1, 1902. The liabilities were Rs. 22,173,748, showing an excess of assets over liabilities of Rs. 2,402,529. From this has to be deducted Rs. 289,350, being recoverable arrears of revenue and overpayments outstanding on January 1, 1903, leaving a balance of Rs. 2,113,178. Against this a sum of Rs. 410,150 has been appropriated in the Estimates for 1903 for new roads, &c., leaving a total available surplus of assets of Rs. 1,703,028. Of this sum, Rs. 1,237,101 is the residue of loans raised under Ordinances Nos. 7 and 8 of 1892 and 17 of 1893, disposal of which is still under consideration.

(D) Public Debt, showing Provision for Payment.

The balance due by the Colony on sterling loans raised in London stood on December 31, 1902, at £4,762,808 0*s.* 7*d.*, as against £3,391,844 3*s.* 5*d.* on the same date in 1901, a new loan of £1,400,000 having been raised during the year for harbour construction, railways and irrigation works. The balance outstanding on the local silver debt was Rs. 3,210,507.16, as compared with Rs. 3,225,366.65 at the close of 1902.

Provision is made for repayment of all loans by means of a Sinking Fund.

(E) Currency.

The currency of Ceylon is based upon the Indian rupee. It consists at present of—

(1) Notes: Ceylon Government notes of Rs. 1,000, Rs. 100, Rs. 50, Rs. 10, and Rs. 5.

(2) Gold: British sovereigns, which are current at the rate of Rs. 15 to the sovereign.

(3) Silver: The Indian rupee.

All the above are legal tender to any amount.
Subsidiary coins are—

(1) Silver: Ceylon 50-cent, 25-cent, and 10-cent pieces. Also Indian 8-anna and 4-anna pieces, which are current at 50 cents and 25 cents respectively. These are legal tender to the amount of Rs. 5.

(2) Copper: Ceylon 5-cent, 1-cent, ½-cent, and ¼-cent pieces. These are legal tender to the amount of 50 cents.

About half the face value of the paper issued is held in specie by the Currency Commissioners, the balance being invested in Indian Government paper and other approved securities.

—	Value.		
Circulation.			Rs. c.
Currency notes in circulation on December 31st, 1902.	—	—	13,868,440 0
Reserve.	In Gold. Rs. c	In Silver. Rs. c.	In Securities. Rs. c.
By gold £411,666 in sovereigns at Rs. 15 a sovereign.	6,174,990 0	—	—
By silver in the vault (77 cents copper).	—	1,742,309 77	—
By investments made by the Crown Agents.	—	—	2,567,486 2
By investments made in Indian Government Paper.	—	—	3,383,654 23
	6,174,990 0	1,742,309 77	5,951,140 25
Total	Rs. 13,868,440·2		

Under Ordinance No. 13 of 1901, the specie reserve may be held in gold as well as silver. The Currency Commissioners are bound to issue notes for either gold or silver, but may redeem notes either in gold or rupees as they may consider fit. As a result of this Ordinance a difficulty arose during 1902 in keeping up the supply of silver in the Island, and the question was referred to a Commission, whose report is still under consideration.

The following banks do business in the Colony:—The Mercantile Bank of India, Ltd., the Bank of Madras, the National Bank of India, Ltd., the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, and the Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China.

(F.) COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF THE TOTAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE OF MUNICIPALITIES FOR THE FIVE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31ST, 1902.

Name of Municipality.	Revenue or Expenditure.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.
		Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Colombo	Revenue	922,189 17	1,088,519 50	1,152,137 58	1,230,005 20	1,405,838 88
	Expenditure	837,809 72	927,229 89	902,408 5	1,306,278 56	1,175,727 7
Kandy	Revenue	131,379 34	141,436 42	181,946 94	181,107 91	173,202 85
	Expenditure	166,774 19	150,032 87	183,671 31	186,728 3	185,364 63
Galle	Revenue	80,797 16	90,787 38	109,566 51	86,222 74	91,652 67
	Expenditure	83,164 72	84,439 26	87,629 69	94,009 28	92,535 45

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF THE TOTAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE OF THE LOCAL BOARDS AND BOARD OF IMPROVEMENT OF THE ISLAND FOR THE FIVE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31ST, 1902.

Name of Board.	Revenue or Expenditure.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.
		Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
WESTERN PROVINCE.						
Negombo	Revenue	25,852 32	20,493 60	27,485 8	23,693 93	20,929 11
	Expenditure	25,963 71	28,716 97	24.330 84	26,996 59	23,557 16
Kalutara	Revenue	19,587 80	34,796 69	14,290 38	19,784 47	18,063 33
	Expenditure	13,192 40	31,358 0	17,429 54	19,592 77	16,285 55
Minuwangoda	Revenue	—	1,683 48	2,397 37	2 838 51	3,249 58
	Expenditure ...		1,092 78	1,557 90	2,913 31	2,220 12
CENTRAL PROVINCE.						
Matale	Revenue	8,275 37	9,827 51	10,430 95	10,481 85	12,980 54
	Expenditure	7,425 8	8,470 65	16,545 28	10,505 5	7,704 58
Gampola	Revenue	4,743 51	9,262 42	6,954 47	11,657 5	12,754 58
	Expenditure	4,189 22	11,347 65	7,107 84	10,871 76	9,965 88
Nawalapitiya	Revenue	7,107 66	8,370 34	13,447 25	13,036 72	10,316 67
	Expenditure	4,822 94	9,631 12	14,632 89	10,464 73	10,025 25
Nuwara Eliya	Revenue	22,486 6	24,253 99	33,363 98	34,260 89	30,956 47
	Expenditure	20,472 68	21,011 86	26,914 9	33,897 5	30,736 6
Hatton	Revenue	—	—	—	—	11,649 77
	Expenditure	—	—	—	—	10,494 0

North-Western Province.						
Kurunegala	Revenue	16,007 82	24,470 71	22,765 98	24,242 97	21,578 29
	Expenditure	19,275 19	19,512 82	30,166 20	21,541 2	18,415 21
Puttalam	Revenue	11,275 44	12,773 44	11,946 1	12,503 32	10,739 72
	Expenditure	11,889 88	14,789 98	10,867 77	13,291 80	11,789 44
Chilaw	Revenue	9,533 91	11,434 88	15,567 92	30,864 69	9,702 54
	Expenditure	10,146 65	9,339 77	16,188 76	30,544 64	8,881 7
Province of Uva.						
Badulla	Revenue	14,466 86	13,019 4	13,741 91	14,357 52	14,296 64
	Expenditure	12,025 46	14,821 45	13,365 26	12,395 53	12,848 67
Province of Sabaragamuwa.						
Ratnapura...	Revenue	9,406 29	9,229 99	9,370 59	11,719 78	10,326 58
	Expenditure	8,275 26	7,596 48	8,813 62	10,664 82	9,873 54
Kegalla	Revenue	3,574 74	5,383 66	4,679 90	5,961 74	5,518 31
	Expenditure	4,498 86	4,093 79	4,812 18	4,173 33	4,732 50
North-Central Province.						
Anuradhapura	Revenue	—	—	—	5,705 72	11,002 98
	Expenditure ...				5,216 72	11,013 90
Southern Province.						
Matara	Revenue	14,466 86	13,508 44	19,233 29	17,557 19	16,853 77
	Expenditure	12,025 46	15,692 54	15,028 23	17,517 3	17,994 13
Eastern Province.						
Batticaloa...	Revenue	17,124 88	17,326 82	17,190 37	13,406 13	14,654 37
	Expenditure	16,865 4	16,610 99	16,981 59	12,727 71	13,732 81
Trincomalee	Revenue	13,184 15	15,775 69	13,423 97	13,172 59	13,017 63
	Expenditure	12,754 96	13,772 61	15,575 56	13,081 45	12,861 41

(G.) Statement of Debts of Municipalities up to end of 1902, showing Provision for Payment.

Name of Municipality.	Amount of Debt.	On what account.	Provision for Payment.
	Rs. c.		
Colombo	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Kandy	183,837 9	Waterworks construction ...	Water-rate at 6 per cent. on properties within certain portions of the Municipality, by Ordinances Nos 18 and 29 of 1884.
	95,373 64	Acquisition of lands over reservoir	Bond assigning portion of water-rate authorised by Ordinance No. 7 of 1887.
	24,000 0	To widen Victoria Drive and clear lake silt.	Bond assigning proportion of rates and taxes under sections 127 (*a*) and (*b*), 128, 129, and 130 of Ordinance No. 7 of 1887.
	15,258 45	For repairing main sewer and constructing drains.	Do. do.
Galle	59,871 86	Construction of waterworks ...	A water-rate of 5 per cent. is levied within the Fort for repayment of water works loan.
	39,642 59	Sanitary improvements	Mortgage of stamp duties on licenses or carts, boats, and coaches; fees and stamp duties under Licensing Ordinances, 1873, and 1877, for payment of loan for sanitary improvements.

Statement of Debts of Local Boards and Boards of Improvement at the end of 1902, with Provision for Payment.

Name of Board.	Balance of Loan.	On what Account.	Provision for Repayment.
	Rs. c.		
Badulla	5,427 20	For construction of a public market.	Repayable from Local Board revenue by a sinking fund of 2 per cent. on the original loan of Rs. 6,784.
	12,768 0	For waterworks	Repayable from Local Board revenue by a sinking fund of 2 per cent. on the original loan of Rs. 15,200.
	3,440 0	Do.	Repayable from Local Board revenue by a sinking fund of 2 per cent. on the original loan of Rs. 4,000.
	2,250 0	Do.	Repayable from Local Board revenue by a sinking fund of 2 per cent. on the original loan of Rs. 2,500.
Puttalam	5,600 0	For waterworks	Repayable from Local Board revenue by a sinking fund of 2 per cent. on the original loan of Rs. 7,000.
Chilaw	14,250 0	For reclaiming marshy land adjoining Chilaw River.	Repayable from Local Board revenue in ten annual instalments.
Ratnapura	1,833 32	For waterworks	Repayable from Local Board revenue at the rate of Rs. 458 33 per annum.
Negombo	8,000 4	For the construction of a bridge...	To be repaid from Local Board revenue in seventeen years.
Nuwara Eliya ...	11,760 0	For construction of a market ...	Repayable from Local Board revenue by a sinking fund at the rate of 2 per cent. on the original loan.
	2,400 0	For market construction.	Repayable from Local Board revenue in ten years.
	75,914 45	For waterworks	Repayable from Local Board revenue by a sinking fund at the rate of 2 per cent. on the original loan.

Statement of Debts of Local Boards and Boards of Improvement at the end of 1902, with Provision for Payment—*continued.*

Name of Board.	Balance of Loan.	On what Account.	Provision for Repayment.
	Rs. c		
Nuwara Eliya ... ... (*continued.*)	8,640 0	For construction of a reading room.	Repayable at the rate of 1 per cent. on the original loan of Rs. 9,000.
	9,000 0	Improvement of the park ...	Repayable by a sinking fund at the rate of 10 per cent. on the original loan of Rs. 10,000.
	2,700 0	For construction of model dwellings.	Repayable by a sinking fund at the rate of 10 per cent. on the original loan of Rs. 3,000
	13,882 56	For construction of model dwellings and extension of waterworks.	Repayable from Board of Improvement Revenue.
Batticaloa	14,000 0	For construction of market ...	Repayable from Local Board revenue by a sinking fund at the rate of 2 per cent. on the original loan of Rs. 20,000.
	200 0	For opening the general cemetery	Repayable from Local Board Revenue in seven years.
Trincomalee	2,490 0	For drainage of the town... ...	Repayable from Local Board revenue in ten years.
	2,550 0	For improvement of the Fishers' quarters.	Repayable from Local Board revenue in fifty years.
Gampola	5,580 0	For construction of market ...	Repayable from Local Board revenue.
Nawalapitiya	12,391 88	For water supply	Repayable from Local Board Revenue by a sinking fund at the rate of 2 per cent. half-yearly.
	7,496 38	For drainage of the town... ...	Do. do.
Hatton and Dikoya ...	6,500 0	For drainage of main streets ...	Repayable from Local Board revenue by annual instalments.
Matale	3,200 0	For building public market ...	Do. do.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

(A) Imports and Exports.

1. The annual value of the trade of the Colony for the last five years was:—

Year.	Imports.		Exports.		Total.	
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
1898	87,525,034	97	93,801,890	13	181,326,925	10
1899	101.542,220	61	111,405,649	99	213,007,870	60
1900	114,544,256	41	106,006,460	55	220,550,716	96
1901	104,050,036	12	100,182,170	0	204,232,206	12
1902	97,883,263	50	110,731,670	0	208,614,933	50

Imports.

2. The value of the imports for the year 1902, including specie (Rs. 11,585,002.55), was Rs. 109,468,266.05.

3. The value of imports and specie imported into each Province during 1902 was—

—	Value.			
Value of Imports.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Western Province	88,595,590	72		
Northern Province	3,340,816	8		
Southern Province	4,646,133	91		
Eastern Province...	1,300,722	79		
			97,883,263	50
Value of Specie.				
Western Province			11,585,002	55
Total			109,468,266	5

The decrease of Rs. 6,166,772.62 in the value of imports, omitting specie, as compared with 1901 is mainly due to a decrease in the value of Government stores and coal, and also to the omission of the value of Military stores.

4. Comparing the imports of 1902 and 1901—

The duty on arms and ammunition has fallen from Rs. 75,152.34 to Rs. 57,652.19, a decrease of Rs. 17,500.15, due principally to smaller importations of gunpowder and dynamite.

Cotton, manufactured and raw, shows a total value of Rs. 6,562,282.36 against Rs. 6,327,293.48, and duty of

Rs. 260,884.44 against Rs. 248,629.20. Comparing the value of imports from various countries it is found that there is a decrease of Rs. 268,467.07 from the United Kingdom, and an increase of Rs. 401,238.09 from British Colonies and of Rs. 102,218.36 from foreign countries.

Chemicals, dye stuffs, and tanning substances show a decrease of Rs. 554.24 in duty.

Cement (exclusive of the quantity imported as Government stores) shows a decrease in value of Rs. 35,300.94 and in quantity of 444$\frac{3}{5}$ tons. The quantity imported as Government stores was valued at Rs. 637,595, against Rs. 429,634.06 in 1901.

Coal, Coke, and Patent Fuel.—The quantity imported was 352,159 tons, against 627,728 tons in 1901, a decrease of 95,569 tons, British India alone contributing 89,019 tons to the decrease. The imports to both Colombo and Galle were less than in 1901 by 91,691 tons and 1,792 tons respectively.

Kerosine oil shows an increase of 373,783 gallons on the quantity imported, of 127,483 gallons on the quantity entered for home consumption, and of Rs. 31,910.80 in duty, but there is a decrease of Rs. 445,642.03 in value.

Food Stuffs.—Biscuits, fish, and ghee show an increase in both value and duty. Butter, cheese, potatoes, curry stuffs, ham and bacon, and provisions unenumerated show a decrease in value and duty. Beef and pork and wheat flour show an increase in value, but a decrease in duty.

Grain.—The quantity of rice cleared for home consumption was 8,873,871 bushels, against 8,951,650 bushels. The duty recovered on all grain amounted to Rs. 2,873,151, that on rice alone being Rs. 2,575,168.64.

There is a decrease in the value of live stock imported of Rs. 170,951.04. The number of cattle rose from 29,093 to 29,232, of horses from 453 to 469, but that of sheep and goats fell from 111,733 to 103,806. The average value set upon a horse was Rs. 249, against Rs. 342 in 1901.

Metals and metalware show an increase in value of Rs. 177,296.53.

Manures of all kinds.—There is an increase in quantity of 4,055 tons, and in value of Rs. 387,140.70.

Oils (excluding kerosine oil) show a decrease in value of Rs. 63,560.80, and an increase in duty of Rs. 542.47.

Opium shows an increase in the quantity imported of 273 lb.

Poonac shows an increase in quantity of 15,030 cwt.

Spices show an increase in value of Rs. 40,616.31, and in duty of Rs. 1,425.58.

Spirits of all kinds show a decrease in value of Rs. 22,860.31, and an increase in duty of Rs. 50,664.38. The quantity

entered for home consumption was 186,159 gallons, against 176,615 gallons in the previous year.

Sugar shows an increase in quantity of 29,644 cwt., and in duty of Rs. 91,200.23.

The imports of specie show an increase of Rs. 3,008,112.55, gold showing an increase of Rs. 5,424,622.05, and silver a decrease of Rs. 2,416,509.50.

Silk manufactures of all kinds show a decrease in value of Rs. 237,789.48, and in duty of Rs. 11,935.98.

Tobacco shows a decrease in quantity of 37,632 lbs., and cigars an increase of 1,720 lbs.

Woollen manufactures show a decrease in value of Rs. 165,430.94, and in duty of Rs. 4,984.73.

Wines of all kinds show a decrease of Rs. 22,831.52 in value, and an increase of Rs. 163.08 in duty, the total quantity entered for home consumption being 57,971 gallons, against 57,007 gallons in 1901.

Exports.

1. In 1902 the value of exports amounted to Rs. 111,900,170, distributed as follows:—

Exports.	Value.	
	Rs.	c.
Ceylon produce	96,771,467	0
Imports re-exported	1,462,923	0
Specie	1,168,500	0
Coal for use of steamers ...	12,497,280	0
Total	111,900,170	0

2. Compared with 1901, Ceylon produce shows an increase of Rs. 10,794,057, attributable to larger shipments of tea, the valuation of which has also risen from 33 cents a pound to 38 cents in the year under review. Imports re-exported also show an increase of Rs. 189,223; the value of coal exported for the use of steamers shows a decrease of Rs. 433,780; and the exports of specie of Rs. 1,489,678.

3. The value of exports to the United Kingdom rose from Rs. 50,158,739 in 1901 to Rs. 53,643,256. Exports to British Colonies fell from Rs. 18,994,800 in 1901 to Rs. 17,318,766, while exports to foreign countries rose from Rs. 20,755,749 to Rs. 28,440,868. The exports of tea to Russia (Asiatic and European) rose by 1,806,516 lbs., and to the United States of America by 2,201,513 lbs., which is more than the entire exports of 1901. The value of exports to Russia (Asiatic and

European) of Ceylon produce rose from Rs. 4,069,415 to Rs. 4,502,897, and to the United States of America from Rs. 5,458,167 to Rs. 9,980,737. The rise in the value of exports to the latter is attributable chiefly to larger exports of tea, plumbago, and cocoanut oil.

4. In the staple articles of export, cardamoms show an increase of 1,026 cwt., and cacao of 114,005 cwt. Cinnamon exported fell from 39,810 cwt. to 38,981 cwt. in 1902. Coir yarn, fibre, and rope exported from the two principal ports (Colombo and Galle) has increased by 1,056 cwt.; copperah exported from Colombo and Galle shows a decrease of 74,590 cwt. The exports of citronella oil have increased by 1,354,831 ozs. Of tea, the quantity exported rose from 144,275,608 lbs. in 1901 to 150,829,707 lbs. Of plumbago, 503,778 cwts. were exported in 1902, as against 446,960 cwts., but there was a fall in value from Rs. 430 in 1901 to Rs. 417.50 per ton.

(B) Mines, Manufactures, and Fisheries.

1. The plumbago industry though still depressed showed signs of revival. Prices were slightly higher during the year, and in consequence increased activity was shown in almost every district where this mineral occurs, followed by an increased output. From the North-Western Province alone 1,200 tons more plumbago was sent down to Colombo than in 1901.

2. A small quantity of mica is annually exported, but little interest is shown in this industry, which seems capable of further development.

3. During the year an expert was employed by Government in prospecting for gold, but, although indications of the metal were found in many places, it was nowhere found in quantities likely to pay the expense of mining.

4. In Ratnapura District 427 gem pits were open, as against 416 in 1901; the principal stones found being rubies and cats'-eyes. In Kandy District moonstones continue to be mined.

5. The Mineralogical Survey which has been arranged for will throw further light on mining prospects in the Island.

6. The principal manufactures continue to be vegetable oils, copperah, desiccated cocoanut, coir, cotton cloth woven on hand looms, jaggery, bricks, tiles, mats, baskets, tobacco, jewellery, furniture. To these should be added arrack, rum, and leather. The two latter are chiefly consumed in the Island, but the demand for arrack for export is increasing. There are also numerous soda water factories and one brewery, the products of which are principally consumed in the Island.

7. Salt is manufactured in large quantities by evaporation from sea water, and is a Government monopoly. It is a precarious industry, largely dependent on the weather, and proposals are under consideration for increasing the output. A simple contrivance for increasing and regulating the supply of sea water to the pans where salt is formed in the Southern Province has been adopted with great success.

8. The fisheries continue to afford a means of livelihood to a very large portion of the population. The trawling operations started in 1901 by an enterprising native gentleman were continued, but in spite of the fact that an improved steam trawler was imported did not prove a success, and have now been abandoned.

Three fish-curing yards opened by Government in the North-Western Province continue to give employment to a number of persons during the fishing season (north-east monsoon), but, in spite of the facilities offered, are not financially successful.

9. Investigations regarding the pearl oyster in continuation of the inquiry commenced by Professor Herdman are being continued by his assistant, who has been placed in charge of a small marine laboratory at Galle. It is hoped that this institution may be useful incidentally to the fishing industry generally, as well as helping to solve the difficulty as regards the pearl oyster. Meanwhile a successful transplantation of young pearl oysters from the more exposed banks to quieter waters has been made, and an inspection of the pearl banks late in the year showed every promise of the successful fishery which has since been made. Professor Herdman's final report has not yet been received.

(c) Agricultural Industries and Botanical Stations.

1. The chief agricultural products continue to be paddy, tea, cocoanuts, cacao, tobacco, and spices.

2. The area under paddy cultivation increases very slowly, and it is doubtful whether the home-grown paddy suffices for more than one-third of the total rice consumption of the Island, the other two-thirds being imported.

3. The production of tea all over the Island has increased slightly, and the proportion of green tea has more than doubled, some 4,000,000 lbs. having been made. The prices have been slightly lower, 6⅞*d.* being the average price against 7*d.* in 1901; but this is not due to any falling off in the quality of the tea produced, but to the condition of the home market, which was rather over-burdened with stocks. Though the weather, especially during the latter part of the year, has been most unfavourable for both the health of the tea bush and the production of leaf, tea estates have not suffered

to any special degree from diseases. "Gray Blight" has been active in various parts, but not so much as seemed probable from the climatic conditions. More cases of root disease have been recorded, but this is no doubt due to the fact that planters now recognise the cause of the death of the bushes, and not that this evil is on the increase. Very little, if any, tea has been planted, and the prospects of the industry seem generally hopeful.

"Shot-hole Borer" and Helopeltis, and later in the year the Lobster Moth, did some damage, but the advice of the Government Entomologist was sought, and means have been taken to combat all of these pests.

4. Coffee production remains about the same, the slight increase being due to a rather better yield than usual. The leaf disease shows no sign of abating.

5. Cocoanuts are receiving more attention from planters, both European and native, and the cultivation of this useful palm has generally improved. The exports of cocoanut oil and poonac have increased, of copperah a little decreased, and the cocoanuts exported whole are also less than 1901. The prices of all the various marketable produce of the cocoanut palm have been maintained.

6. The condition of cacao in the Island is prosperous, but not without an element of danger. The crops have been plentiful, and show an increased production of nearly 20 per cent. Not much of this is due to new cacao coming into bearing; it is chiefly owing to improved crops on the majority of estates. The abnormal rainfall in the cacao districts (about 25 per cent. above the average) has been in favour of the spread of the canker fungus, and on many estates the position in regard to freedom from canker is very little, if any, better than last year.

7. Para rubber is rapidly taking its place as one of the most important of the cultivations of the Island, and has been planted up in various climates at different elevations, but will be found no doubt most profitable at the lower elevations. During the year some 250,000 seeds have been distributed from the trees in the Henaratgoda Garden. Good yields have been obtained, and the best methods of getting rid of the water and preparing the "biscuits" for the market are beginning to be understood and practised. Prices have been kept up to a high figure, over 4*s*. having been obtained for a large quantity. Proposals for experimental plantations of Para rubber under irrigation works in the dry zone are being considered.

8. Exports of cocoanut oil rose from 474,188 cwts. in 1901 to 551,391 cwts. in 1902, but exports of copperah fell from 451,825 cwts. in 1901 to 377,235 cwts. in 1902.

The citronella industry is still in a depressed condition, and showed a falling off of about 15 per cent. The continual adulteration of this oil with kerosine and other cheap oils, which are difficult to detect, has lowered the value of this oil, and the price, about 9*d.* per pound, does not make this cultivation sufficiently remunerative. Until by means of putting sound oil on the market a clean name is obtained for the Ceylon article, it cannot be hoped that the best prices, often 1*s.* 3*d.* can be obtained. There is a large demand for this oil, if pure, but there are various substitutes if the article falls below a certain standard. Exports of cinnamon oil showed a small increase over the figures for 1901.

9. As regards spices, there are now more than 8,000 acres of cardamoms under cultivation in Ceylon. The quantity produced has increased during 1902 by about 10 per cent., owing in a great measure to the abundant rainfall in all the cardamom districts. The prices do not improve. The most hopeful direction for progress with this product is in discovering the conditions which favour the fertilization of the flowers and so inducing an increase of fruit. Meanwhile efforts are being made to open up new markets for this spice.

Pepper is only cultivated as a subsidiary product on cacao and other estates in Ceylon, and it is consequently not of very high quality, and no special efforts have been made to improve it. The quantity produced was about the same as in 1891. Vanilla planting has been but little extended, and the quantity and quality of the pods have not improved.

10. Camphor continues to be planted up in various up-country districts. At the present time the supply is not equal to the demand, and the price, which some few years ago was 50*s.* per cwt., is now often over £10. The market would be able to stand an increased production, though this would tend to lower prices, but with a lower price there would arise a greater demand than at present.

Tobacco cultivation remains at much the same figure. Experiments were conducted during the year by an expert on behalf of a private syndicate, with a view to securing an improved method of curing the leaf, but it is understood that these have not so far been successful.

11. To Botanical stations two important additions were made during the year. The first of these is the experiment station opened on Gangaruwa estate, adjoining the Royal Botanic Gardens at Peradeniya. The purchase of this estate by Government was negotiated in the preceding year, but experimental work was actually organized only in 1902.

The object of the station is to add to existing knowledge of economic products by using scientific methods in experiment and observation. Such questions as the best methods of cultivation of plants already being cultivated for profit with a

view to improving these; the prevention and cure of the diseases associated with cultivated plants; the introduction of new and untried plants of possible economic value; the improvement, by selection and other scientific methods, of economic plants; the determination of the value of various manures for different crops; the value of shade for each product; and the best trees and number of them to be used—these and many other points of vital importance to agriculture in Ceylon, and the tropics generally, will be experimented on and the knowledge gained published.

The other addition is the opening up of a small experimental garden of about five acres at Nuwara Eliya. The climate of Nuwara Eliya differs from that of Hakgala, and many plants which prosper at the lower elevation will not grow vigorously at Nuwara Eliya. The older gardens at Peradeniya, Hakgala, and Henaratgoda continue to do useful work.

12. Mention should also be made of the important industry of stock raising. Enormous numbers of cattle (including buffaloes) are raised all over the Island, being used chiefly for agricultural purposes. In most districts pasture is insufficient or innutritious, and as a result of this and of carelessness in breeding the native cattle show signs of degeneration, but efforts are being made at improvement by provision of stud bulls, by introducing castration of underbred animals, and by providing better pasturage where possible; and even in his present state the native bull is an exceedingly hardy and useful draught animal.

For heavy draught purposes large numbers of cattle are imported from India, while on up-country estates stock imported principally from Australia, or bred from animals so imported, is increasing, the animals being kept both for dairy purposes and for manure.

In Colombo the Government maintains a dairy mainly to supply the hospitals with milk, but it serves also as a stock farm, from which cattle of improved breed are distributed.

Horse breeding is carried on with some success by the Government in the island of Delft off the north-west coast. The establishment was taken over from the Dutch, and was for many years much neglected, but of recent years it has been re-organized, and very serviceable animals are now bred. A few private owners have also attempted horse and pony breeding in various parts of the Island, but with only moderate success, the climate and conditions being generally unfavourable to horse breeding.

Goats are kept in large numbers principally by Tamils for food. A less number of sheep is kept. Pigs abound, and are largely used for food in the Maritime Districts, but no attention is paid to their breeding or food.

(D) LAND GRANTS AND VALUE OF LAND.

1. In 1902 38,117 acres of land were alienated by the Crown by sale or settlement, as against 24,102 acres in 1901. The amount realized was Rs. 737,539, or an average of Rs. 19.34 an acre.

2. Under Sir Henry Ward's Minute 7,028 acres of irrigable land were sold in 1902, as against 4,517 in 1901. Of the balance 31,089 acres, 28,167 acres was purchased by natives, as against 2,922 acres purchased by Europeans.

3. During the year the operations of the Survey Department comprised block surveys of 212,858 acres, topographical surveys of 1,961,600 acres, and application surveys of 34,293 acres, or a total of 2,208,751 acres in addition to acquisition and irrigation surveys.

(E) SHIPPING.

1. The shipping returns for the Island show an increase of 44 vessels and an increase of 926,686 tons:—

—	1901.		1902.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Entered	3,367	4,557,607	3,418	4,981,584
Cleared	3,436	4,470,963	3,429	4,973,672
Total	6,803	9,028,570	6,847	9,955,256

2. The number and tonnage of steamers and sailing vessels entered inwards and cleared outwards during the year 1902, exclusive of those calling to coal and for orders at Colombo and Galle, are shown :—

—		Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.		Total.	
		No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Colombo	Inwards	1,887	4,524,032	546	50,239	2,433	4,574,271
	Outwards	1,895	4,559,122	540	46,251	2,435	4,605,373
Total		3,782	9,083,154	1,086	96,490	4,868	9,179,644
Galle—	Inwards	162	301,295	15	1,231	177	302,526
	Outwards	158	294,044	10	699	168	294,743
Total		320	595,339	25	1,930	345	597,269

3. The arrivals at the Port of Colombo in the year 1902 numbered 1,887 steamers aggregating 4,524,032 tons, and 546 sailing vessels aggregating 50,239 tons, showing an increase in steamers of 83 aggregating 412,515 tons, and in sailing vessels an increase of 3 aggregating 2,631 tons, as compared with the preceding year.

The arrivals at the Port of Galle in 1902 numbered 162 steamers aggregating 301,295 tons, and 15 sailing vessels aggregating 1,231 tons, showing a decrease in steamers of 4, but an increase in tonnage aggregating 1,627 tons, and in sailing vessels an increase of 1 aggregating 249 tons.

4. The total collection of harbour dues at Colombo during the year 1902 amounted to Rs. 1,104,013.26, a decrease of Rs. 19,415.12 from the preceding year, and Rs. 42,756.07 from the year 1900, the collections of which were abnormally large owing to heavy importation of rice, but a satisfactory increase over the collections of all previous years.

5. The nationality of vessels inwards and outwards during 1902 for the Island is thus made up:—

Nationality.	Entered Inwards.		Cleared Outwards.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
British	1,608	3,372,284	1,636	3,366,823
Colonial	1,259	105,621	1,242	103,170
Austrian	56	176,791	56	176,791
French	123	297,692	123	297,692
German	165	647,691	165	647,691
Japanese	62	220,136	62	220,136
Maldivian	86	8,342	86	8,342
Russian	32	77,902	32	77,902
Danish	2	3,285	2	3,285
Spanish	23	69,685	23	69,685
Norwegian... ...	1	571	1	571
Dutch	1	1,584	1	1,584

6. Compared with the years 1898, 1899, 1900, and 1901, the result inwards and outwards is as follows:—

Inwards.

1898.—A decrease of 133 vessels, but an increase of 1,375,878 tons.

1899.—A decrease of 427 vessels, but an increase of 1,259,802 tons.

1900.—An increase of 271 vessels, and an increase of 731,518 tons.

1901.—An increase of 51 vessels, and an increase of 423,977 tons.

Outwards.

1898.—A decrease of 117 vessels, but an increase of 1,496,737 tons.

1899.—A decrease of 411 vessels, but an increase of 1,256,249 tons.

1900.—An increase of 226 vessels and an increase of 735,798 tons.

1901.—A decrease of 7 vessels, but an increase of 502,709 tons.

7. The total harbour dues collected at the Port of Colombo during the year ended December 31, 1902, are shown under the different headings:—

—	Amount.
	Rs. c.
Entering dues...	258,727 50
Tonnage dues...	343,111 75
Over-hour dues	16,342 50
Wharfage dues	430,635 16
	1,048,816 91
Dues collected on live stock...	55,196 35
Total	1,104,013 26
Total collection for the year 1901 ...	1,123,428 38
Decrease	19,415 12

III.—LEGISLATION.

Twenty Ordinances were passed during the year, the principal of which were—

An Ordinance to provide for the Registration of Written Authorities and Powers of Attorney.

An Ordinance to regulate the Employment of Natives outside the Island.

An Ordinance for the Prevention of Accident by Explosives.

An Ordinance relating to the Ceylon Railways.

An Ordinance relating to the Wanton Destruction of Elephants, Buffaloes, and other Game.

An Ordinance relating to the Construction, Upkeep, and Repair of Estate Roads.

An Ordinance to provide for the increase of the Export Duty on Tea.

An Ordinance to impose Stamp Duty on Civil Cases tried by Village Tribunals.

An Ordinance to limit the number of Lashes or Strokes which may be inflicted in cases where the punishment of whipping is awarded.

An Ordinance for the better regulation of Printing Presses and of Books and Papers published in Ceylon.

An Ordinance to amend "The Lepers' Ordinance, 1901."

IV.—EDUCATION.

(A) Primary Education: Main Features and Number of Schools for 1901.

Schools are classed as Primary when the work is confined to the first five standards, Middle when they include any standard above the fifth, and High when they include what in England would be classed as secondary education, *e.g.*, preparation for Cambridge Local Examinations, London University Examinations, and Indian University Examinations.

It should be noted that the distinction between primary and secondary education is not very clearly drawn in Ceylon. In most of the English schools which prepare candidates for the highest examinations the lower part of the school is organized according to the Government schedules, and the pupils are presented for the same grant-in-aid examination as the primary schools. Many of the children belong to a class which would in England be attending elementary schools. Allowance must be made for this in scrutinizing the figures which follow. For instance, the number of girls receiving primary English instruction appears as only 2,706; but primary instruction of exactly the same kind is also being given to a considerable number of the 2,171 girls who are attending English high schools.

(A) Primary Education.

1. The number of children receiving primary education in Government and aided schools was in 1902 181,724, of whom 132,002 were boys and 49,722 were girls. Of this total, 59,048 were attending Government schools, and 122,676 were attending aided schools. The total number of the schools here classed as primary was 1,891, of which 512 were Government schools and 1,379 were aided schools. Primary education in English

was being given to 18,763 children; 16,057 boys and 2,706 girls. The remainder, viz., 162,961 children, were receiving instruction in the vernacular only; of this number, 115,945 were boys and 47,016 were girls. The cost of the Government schools was Rs. 328,077.69, and the sum paid in grants to the aided schools was Rs. 477,562.31.

2. In addition to the above, there were 1,753 unaided schools, which furnished numerical returns to Government; in these 37,004 children were said to be receiving instruction. But in most cases the numbers furnished by such schools are quite unreliable, and the education provided is of extremely little value.

3. In considering how far the elementary education provided is adequate to the wants of the population, the number of those receiving higher instruction should be added to the above figures; this gives as the total number of children attending schools 189,403, *i.e.*, slightly over 6 per cent. of the population. It may be inferred that three-fifths of the children of school-going age are getting something in the way of education. Probably rather more than half are learning to read and write, for a large proportion of children leave school after passing the Second or Third Standard. The number presented for examination in the Fourth Standard is less than two-thirds of the number presented in the First Standard.

4. The children who are receiving no education at all are mainly those living in outlying country districts. The towns, as a rule, are well provided for by Missionary schools and other private agencies. The only exception to this is Colombo, where the problem of educating the poorer classes is beyond the power of the Missionary bodies, and has not yet been finally solved by the Government, though consideration is being given to the matter.

5. Provision for compulsory attendance forms a part of the Gansabhawa rules in most country districts; in many of these it is enforced with creditable vigour. In others, owing to the apathy of headmen and other local officials, the rules on the subject are a dead letter. In most country districts and in all towns there is at present no means of enforcing school attendance.

6. The utility of many of the rural Government schools is considerably enhanced by the school gardens scheme which was started in 1901. In certain selected schools the local authorities have provided land, from about half an acre to an acre; the Instruction Department supplies implements and seeds. The scheme is worked under the supervision of a Superintendent of School Gardens.

(B) Secondary Education.

7. The only Government institution devoted to secondary education is the Royal College, Colombo, in which the number

of pupils has for some years averaged a little over 280; in 1902 it averaged 299. The pupils in the upper part of the College are presented for the Cambridge Local Examinations (Senior and Junior), London University Matriculation, and Intermediate in Arts. The staff consists of 19 masters, five of whom hold English University degrees. The gross cost to Government in 1902 was Rs. 43,583.13, of which the sum of Rs. 20,135 was recovered in school fees. Besides the Royal College, there are 44 aided high schools, educating 7,044 pupils, of whom 4,873 are boys and 2,171 are girls.

There are also 1,753 unaided institutions, at which 37,004 pupils are said to be under instruction, but only a very small number of these are really receiving secondary education.

8. The encouragement offered by Government takes two forms: (*a*) Grants, (*b*) Scholarships:—

(*a*) In aided schools grants for specific subjects as well as for work in the standards are paid on the results of the Government examination in each school. Liberal grants are also paid for every pupil who obtains honours in the Senior or Junior Cambridge Local Examination, or who passes the London University Matriculation Examination or Intermediate in Arts. The total sum expended in grants to high schools in 1902 was Rs. 36,388.50. The experiment of allowing "block grants" to certain selected schools was continued with success, but the scheme has not yet passed the experimental stage.

(*b*) The English University Scholarship of £200 for four years is awarded annually on the results of a special examination held by the Oxford and Cambridge Joint Board for School Examination.

The Gilchrist Scholarship of £150 for three years for Mathematics and Science has since 1883 been awarded once in three years on the results of the Senior Local Examination. It has now been withdrawn by the Trustees.

One scholarship of Rs. 240 for three years is awarded annually to girls on the results of the Senior Cambridge Local Examination. On the results of the Cambridge Junior Local Examination one scholarship of Rs. 240 for three years and two of Rs. 120 for three years are awarded annually to boys, and two scholarships of Rs. 120 for three years are awarded annually to girls. In 1902 the total sum expended in scholarships was Rs. 18,006.90.

9. On the whole, very creditable results are obtained in these examinations, by which secondary education is tested. In 1902 four candidates passed the London Matriculation, one in the First Division, three in the Second Division; one candidate

passed the London Intermediate Examination in Laws in the Second Division; 108 candidates passed the Senior Cambridge Local Examination, 22 obtaining honours; 157 passed the Junior Cambridge Local Examination, 21 obtaining honours.

(c) Industrial Schools and Technical and Training Colleges.

10. There are no Government industrial schools, but industrial education is supported by a liberal grant. In 1902 the aided industrial schools, which are 36 in number, received grants amounting to Rs. 48,279.49. These schools are under the management of the Church of England, Roman Catholic, Wesleyan, and American Missions. The number of pupils in them was 1,981. The trades taught were dressmaking 157, lacemaking 805, embroidery 453, cooking 2, spinning 20, tailoring 108, shoemaking 6, joinery and cabinet-making 209, printing 88, bookbinding 122, ironwork 11. In some of these schools the work is excellently organized, each trade being under a skilled foreman, and sufficient outlay having been made to supply a really adequate stock of tools and plant. This is specially the case with the Roman Catholics, who place trained lay brothers in charge of each trade. In others the outlay on tools and plant has been insufficient, the trades are supervised by native foremen of an inferior character, and the management is in the hands of those who have no practical knowledge of the industries which are being taught. In 1898 an important step was taken in the direction of better organization. A schedule was drawn up mapping out three years' work in joinery, printing, and bookbinding, and prescribing tests, the passing of which in future will be a necessary condition of earning a grant. These schools, which form the only provision for elementary technical education, may be expected in the future to increase considerably both in number and efficiency.

11. Higher technical education is provided for by the Technical College, a Government institution established in 1893. In 1897 it was re-organized, and its work largely extended. It is now the regular channel of admission for Ceylonese to the following Departments of Government:—Public Works, Survey, Railway, Post and Telegraphs. It contains Departments of Civil Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Telegraphy, Electrical Engineering, Surveying, and Levelling. In 1902 the number of students was 165. The gross cost to Government was Rs. 39,087.44, of which sum Rs. 7,572.05 was recovered in fees and by sale of stationery, &c., to students.

12. Since the abolition of the old Normal School in 1884 there has been no provision for the training of English Teachers in Ceylon. An attempt has been made to supply this most serious want by opening a Government Training College in Colombo.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

(A) Hospitals

1. A new District Hospital was opened during the year at Maturata, making a total of 67 hospitals and asylums, as against 66 in 1901.

2. In the Civil and Lying-in Home Hospitals there were 43,973 cases treated with 3,698 deaths, being 24 cases more and 521 deaths less than in the preceding year. The daily average sick was 1,652.51, as against 1,647.40 the previous year.

3. In the Field Hospitals there were 4,426 cases treated with 171 deaths, against 4,680 treated and 156 deaths during the preceding year. The daily average sick was 179.46, as against 184.29 during the previous year.

The number treated in the five immigrant hospitals was 1,855, against 2,047 in the previous year. Of the total treated, the deaths numbered 84, or 6 less than the preceding year. The daily average sick was 73.49, as against 84.45 the previous year.

4. In the District Hospitals 14,928 cases were treated, against 14,816 during the preceding year. There were 2,510 deaths, as against 3,511 in the previous year. The daily average was 792.41, against 844.27 the previous year.

5. At the De Soysa Lying-in Home 737 patients were treated, of whom 9 died; at the Lady Havelock Hospital for women and children 1,072 patients were treated, of whom 83 died; at the Police hospital 740 patients were treated, of whom 1 died. At the Friend-in-Need Society's hospital, Jaffna, 163 patients were treated, of whom 49 died; at the Kanatta (Colombo) Infectious Diseases hospital 853 patients were treated, of whom 40 died. At the Grenier Eye, Ear, and Throat Infirmary (Colombo) 4,927 cases were treated, as against 4,336 in 1901.

(B) Asylums.

Lunatic Asylum, Colombo.

1. During 1902 165 patients were admitted into the asylum, which, with 463 remaining from the previous year, made the total insane population 628, of whom 410 were males and 218 females. The daily average number of inmates was 479.28. Of the total treated, 93 were discharged recovered (62 males and 31 females). There were 52 deaths, and 483 remained under treatment at the end of the year.

Leper Asylum, Hendala.

2. The Leper Asylum received 106 patients for treatment during the year, which, with 276 remaining from the previous year, made the total leper population 382. The daily average in the asylum was 225.25. Of the total treated, 30 were discharged improved; 41 died.

Kalmunai Leper Ward.

3. At this institution 30 lepers were treated during the year, of whom 19 were discharged relieved, 2 died, and 9 remained under treatment at the end of the year.

(c) Poor Houses.

There are no poor houses. In Colombo and in most of the other large towns there are Friend-in-Need Societies, to which grants are made by Government, and from these, supplemented by private subscriptions, much distress is relieved. In country districts relief is afforded by means of a limited grant made by Government and administered by the revenue officers. In considering the question of relief of distress from public funds it must be remembered that in a country where alms-giving may be said to be almost a religious observance, the cases of distress for which no private means of relief are available are comparatively few.

(d) Reformatories.

Maggona continues to be the only reformatory. It is under private management, and Government continues to pay at the rate of Rs. 7.50 a month for maintenance of each juvenile offender received.

(e) Savings Banks.

There are two Savings Banks under Government control.

The Ceylon Savings Bank.

1. The total funds at credit of depositors at the end of 1902 were Rs. 4,173,543, as compared with Rs. 3,976,660 in 1901. The total deposits during the year were Rs. 1,688,751, as against Rs. 1,576,655 in 1901. The total number of depositors was 29,846, as against 27,694 in 1901.

The Post Office Savings Bank.

2. The total funds at credit of depositors at the end of 1902 were Rs. 1,454,858, as compared with Rs. 1,322,613 in 1901. The total deposits during the year amounted to Rs. 927,310, as against Rs. 786,261 in 1901; while the number of depositors was 57,007, as against 54,426 in 1901.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

(a) Police.

1. The authorized strength of the Police on 31st December, 1902, was 4 Superintendents, 6 Assistant Superintendents, 27 Inspectors, 9 Sergeant-Majors, 222 sergeants, 1,484 constables,

1 drill instructor, 1 registrar of servants, 59 clerks, 1 storekeeper, 1 lockup-keeper, 4 magazine-keepers, 10 coolies, and 1 apothecary, being a total of 1,830.

The total cost of the Ceylon Police in 1902 was Rs. 738,014; the cost in 1901 was Rs. 730,840.

2. The police stations established in connection with the prisoners of war at Welimada and Haputale in the Province of Uva, and Kelaniya and Ragama in the Western Province, and maintained by the Imperial Government, were abolished in consequence of the removal of prisoners of war from the Island.

3. The figures show that there were 17,374 true cases committed in 1902. Of these, 12,229 resulted in convictions in the Police Court or were committed to higher courts.

4. The true cases and results for the last five years have been—

Year.	True cases.	Convictions or Committals.
1898	15,312	10,673
1899	14,434	10,173
1900	17,703	12,990
1901	17,690	12.793
1902	17,374	12,229

5. Of the 17,374 cases, 12,901 appear under the head of "Other Offences," which include statutory offences, breaches of Municipal and other bye-laws, and other minor offences, leaving 4,473 cases of what may be considered as crime. In 1901 the "Other Offences" amounted to 13,128, leaving 4,562 cases of crime; there has therefore been a decrease of 89 cases of crime.

6. The following table gives a ready means of comparison of serious crime for the past five years:—

—	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.
Murder and homicide ...	127	125	146	160	146
Rape	38	39	32	36	22
Robbery	312	269	289	382	326
Burglary	638	977	1,245	1,384	1,433
Grievous hurt	500	371	391	441	447
Theft of cattle and prædial produce.	1,076	885	1,119	1,127	1,185
Arson ... ... }	Not	145	98	148	156
Riot ... ... }	available.	14	3	10	16

7. The convictions in the Superior Courts for the past five years are as follows:—

Year.	Supreme Court.	District Court.
1898	375	763
1899	279	452
1900	328	611
1901	468	646
1902	268	611

It should be noted that in 1902 194 cases were sent to the District Court and 28 cases to the Supreme Court under the Habitual Criminals' Ordinance. Had there not been previous convictions of the offenders, these cases would have been disposed of in the lower courts.

8. Of the 146 cases of murder and homicide shown, 120 cases were committed for trial, and 118 cases were tried in the Supreme Court. In 83 cases the accused were convicted, and 40 persons were sentenced to be hanged, of whom 30 were executed.

9. In 60 cases a knife or other cutting instrument was used, compared with 57 in 1901. In 24 cases clubs were the instrument, compared with 21 cases in 1901; and in 30 cases the victims were shot, compared with 27 in 1901. The use of the gun or pistol as a means of murder is increasing, and it is now premature to express an opinion on the deterrent effects of the Firearms Ordinance, which came into operation early in 1902.

10. Burglaries show an increase of 49 cases. Grievous hurt, arson, and riot show a slight increase. Theft of cattle and prædial produce also show an increase. There were 1,097 cases of theft of cattle with 267 convictions, and there were 88 cases of theft of prædial produce with 49 convictions.

11. As regards minor offences, there were 10,535 convictions for 12,901 cases, including 124 convictions for breach of Ordinance No. 3 of 1897 (Plague Prevention).

12. There was an increase of crime in the Central, Southern, and Northern Provinces. In the latter in consequence of a religious riot a punitive police force was quartered in one village with good effect.

There was a decrease in crime in the Western, North-Western, Uva, and Sabaragamuwa Provinces. In the Eastern and North-Central Provinces crime was practically non-existent as usual.

(B) PRISONS.

1. The number of convicted prisoners, exclusive of Road Ordinance defaulters, admitted to the prisons during the year, viz., 6,369, bears favourable comparison with the admissions during the previous ten years, while it is less than in the previous year by 212.

Of the total admissions of convicted prisoners to prisons, the following figures give those from the Superior Courts for the last ten years:—

Year.	Number.
1893	655
1894	859
1895	614
1896	854
1897	1,155
1898	1,138
1899	731
1900	939
1901	1,114
1902	879

2. The admissions to prison of defaulters under the Road Ordinance, who complete the prison population of convicted prisoners, for the same periods have been—

Year.	Number.
1893	1,127
1894	826
1895	744
1896	548
1897	500
1898	379
1899	329
1900	260
1901	354
1902	237

The figure for 1902 is eminently satisfactory, being the lowest on record. It should be added that of this number

only 122 were absolute defaulters, the remainder being released on payment of the appointed fine, while of these 122 only 97 actually served their sentences. Of the rest 5 were discharged on medical certificate, and 20 were released on pardon in commemoration of the Coronation.

3. The number of convictions for murder and manslaughter for the same period has been as follows:—

Year.	Number.
1893	50
1894	82
1895	75
1896	62
1897	88
1898	58
1899	71
1900	82
1901	101
1902	81

4. The number of men sentenced to death and of those whose capital sentences were carried out are as follows:—

Year.	Sentenced to Death.	Hanged.
1893	23	12
1894	43	23
1895	26	22
1896	37	25
1897	40	20
1898	28	19
1899	27	21
1900	51	32
1901	47	37
1902	43	30

The fluctuation in the figures is somewhat remarkable, and may be due to many causes. The total number of admissions from the Superior Courts during 1902 is however lower than that of the previous year by 235. The convictions for murder and manslaughter are also lower than in the previous year, but above the average. The number sentenced to death, though slightly less than those for the two years 1900 and 1901, is higher than the total of any previous year since 1895, indicating that these crimes are not on the decrease.

5. The following table gives the number of escapes from the prisons and recaptures during past ten years, and is as follows:—

Year.	Escapes.	Recaptures.
1893	18	18
1884	5	6
1895	11	13
1896	.9	8
1897	13	12
1898	10	I0
1899	8	8
1900	1	1
1901	2	2
1002	81	75

The total number of escapes for 1902 is 81, the highest on record. Though classified under escapes from prisons, 79 represent escapes from the working party at the Mahara quarry outside the prison, so that only two prisoners really escaped from inside a prison, namely, one from Mahara, the other from Avisawella, a not very safe jail.

The facts connected with the escape at Mahara are shortly as follows:—On the 28th June, 1902, at about 2 p.m., the prison guard was surprised by a simultaneous rush of about one hundred prisoners from the working party at the Mahara quarry, armed with crowbars and other implements used in stone-cutting and dressing, and, overpowering the officers, 79 of the prisoners made their escape. A deputy jailer was knocked down and deprived of his revolver by one of the ring-leaders, while four overseers were beaten, wounded, and disabled by other prisoners. Both the police guard and the prison guard were quite unprepared for such a contingency, the attack being a preconcerted one, and the result was confusion. The men escaping were, however, shot at by some of the guards, who seriously wounded some of them, and the firing had the effect of preventing the other prisoners who were working in the quarry, and who no doubt were in the conspiracy, from following their more daring comrades; otherwise it is probable that all would have made their escape.

Forty were recaptured the same day and others have since been arrested, only four of the men who escaped on this occasion being still at large.

6. The daily average of convicted prisoners in jail was 2,404, as against 2,447 in 1901.

7. The number of deaths was 125, as against 121 in 1901.

8. Prison offences increased in number, but in only 143 cases was it necessary to have recourse to corporal punishment.

9. The average daily sick rate was 156, as compared with 152 in 1901 and 147 in 1900.

10. Forty-seven Europeans were convicted of offences, but none were residents of Ceylon.

11. The cost of maintaining each prisoner was Rs. 191, as compared with Rs. 174 in 1901.

(c) Criminal Statistics.

1. The number of cases instituted in the Police Courts and Municipal Magistrates' Courts was 74,049, in which 81,700 persons were charged, 39,603 being acquitted summarily, 39,532 convicted, and 1,950 committed before a higher court.

2. Of 2,097 committals before the Superior Courts, 1,090 resulted in a verdict for the Crown and 1,007 in favour of the accused. The number of committals in 1901 was 2,511, of which 1,272 ended in favour of the Crown.

3. In murder cases there were 63 convictions to 36 acquittals; homicides resulted in 26 convictions to 4 acquittals.

4. In the Police Courts 74,049 cases were instituted, against 71,307 in 1901, the convictions being 32,160 against 28,786. Of 2,352 persons charged with cattle stealing, 1,769 were convicted; and of 2,404 prosecutions under the Labour Laws, 772 only were unsuccessful.

5. The number of convictions in the Superior Courts fell from 1,272 to 1,090.

6. The Gansabhawas did useful work as usual.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

(a) Population.

The total population as enumerated at the last Census (March 1, 1901) was (inclusive of the Military, the Shipping, and the Prisoners of War) 3,578,333. The natural increase by excess of births over deaths from that date to the end of the year 1902 amounted to 71,575, while the number of Indian immigrants exceeded the number of emigrants by 35,359. The population estimated to the end of 1902 was accordingly 3,685,267, an increase compared with the population at the end of the preceding year of 66,059 persons, and equal to a rate of 1.8 per cent.

Birth- and Death-rates.

The births registered during the year numbered 141,893 and were in the proportion of 39.0 per 1,000 persons living. The registered deaths numbered 99,680, and were equal to a rate of 27.4 per 1,000 of the population. Compared with 1901, the birth-rate shows an increase of 1.5 per mille, and the death-rate a decrease of 2 per mille. Compared with the average rates for the decade 1892-1901, the birth-rate shows an increase of 4 and the death-rate a decrease of 1.

(B) Public Health.

The public health during the past year has been on the whole good. There have been no widespread severe outbreaks of malaria; there have been a few outbreaks of cholera and smallpox, but these have been very moderate in severity and extent.

Cholera.

There were 179 cases of cholera, with 116 deaths, during 1902; outbreaks occurred in the Western, Central, Northern, Southern, Uva, and North-Western Provinces. The greatest number occurred in the Western Province, which includes the Cooly Camp at Ragama. There were 74 cases, with 55 deaths, in this Province; 36 cases and 28 deaths in the Northern Province. The North-Western Province had 29 cases and 16 deaths; the Central Province 22 cases with 12 deaths; the Southern Province 21 cases with 4 deaths; and in the Province of Uva there were 2 cases with 1 death.

The establishment of the Ragama Camp for coolies has been of great benefit towards reducing the outbreaks of cholera and other infectious diseases in various parts of the Island. In nearly every outbreak of cholera during the year infection could be traced to India.

There were 146 cases of smallpox, of which 120 occurred in Colombo. In all there were 35 deaths from this disease.

The number of cases of enteric fever treated in the hospitals throughout the Island was 242, of whom 63 died. Though an improvement has been made in the number of cases notified, many cases doubtless still escape detection.

Parangi cases treated numbered 3,434, of whom 10 died.

One case of plague was reported on a vessel in Colombo Harbour. The patient had contracted the disease at Hongkong. He was landed at Galle and there isolated and recovered.

During the year 149,901 subjects were vaccinated, of whom 142,141 were primary vaccinations. The percentage of successful vaccinations was 92.81.

(c) Sanitation.

General Sanitary Condition of the Colony and of the Chief Towns.

The general sanitary condition of the Island is gradually improving and compares favourably with other tropical countries. Increased attention was given to disposal of filth and rubbish and to provision and conservation of pure water supplies, especially at the larger centres of population. With this view an officer of the Public Works Department was specially deputed to frame schemes for water supplies, and several of the more urgent schemes have already been prepared. Good progress was made with the extension of surface drains in bazaars, and steps were taken in many places to fill up pools and hollows likely to become breeding-places for mosquitoes.

Colombo possesses a Municipality. The sanitation of the Port continues effective. In the city considerable progress has been made in widening some of the narrower thoroughfares, while the street watering and scavenging is improving.

Night soil was still disposed of by burial, but experiments in septic tanks were made pending introduction of the sewerage scheme devised by Mr. Mansergh. The preliminary operations in connection with this scheme were commenced.

The water supply is of excellent quality, but deficient in quantity, a defect which will be remedied on duplication of the main, a work upon which considerable progress was made during the year.

Infectious cases, principally smallpox and enteric fever, occurred in considerable numbers.

Kandy, the capital of the Central Province, possesses a Municipality, and employs a medical man as Sanitary Officer. The drainage of the town is defective, but measures are under consideration for an improved system. The water supply is of good quality, but during a long drought is a source of some anxiety. The town itself is well scavenged, and is lighted by electricity. The burial of night soil is the method adopted for the conservancy of the town.

Jaffna, the chief town of the Northern Province, possesses neither a Municipality nor a Local Board. Certain parts of the town are in a very crowded and an insanitary state. There are two public latrines, which are not resorted to. The cesspit system is in vogue. The water supply is from uncovered wells. A new scheme for the water supply of the town is under consideration. Sunlight and free circulation of air are interfered with by the houses being huddled together and by high cadjan fences. The foreshore and other places are fouled and polluted. Drainage requires attention.

Galle, the capital of the Southern Province, possesses a Municipality. Although a good many improvements have been effected as regards the drainage and conservancy, much yet remains to be done. The water supply is still derived from the Bikke reservoir; a system of filtration has not yet been arranged owing to the cost. The dry-earth system has been introduced in some parts of the town, and has been found to work satisfactorily. Although a good deal has been done as regards the drains in the Fort, they are still very defective in several localities.

Batticaloa, the chief town of the Eastern Province, possesses a Local Board, but the sanitary condition cannot be said to be satisfactory. The drainage is very bad, and the water supply equally so; the small supply of good water from wells is curtailed by the wells running dry during drought. The latrine arrangements are very defective; cesspits are used. As in Jaffna, the foreshore and neighbouring jungles are polluted by human excreta.

Kurunegala, the chief town of the North-Western Province, is in a bad sanitary condition; its drainage and water supply are defective. A new water supply scheme has been reported on, including designs and estimates, and is now under consideration.

Anuradhapura, the principal town of the North-Central Province, formerly had a reputation for unhealthiness, but of recent years, owing to improved sanitary measures, the health of the inhabitants has wonderfully improved.

Badulla, the chief town of the Province of Uva, is in a fairly sanitary condition, and is provided with a good water service. The town is well kept. The drainage, however, is defective.

Ratnapura, the chief town of the Province of Sabaragamuwa, possesses a Local Board, and is in a fair state of sanitation. The water supply is good.

(D) CLIMATE.

1. The climate varies considerably in different parts of the Island, both as regards temperature and rainfall. In the low lands the climate is tropical, but in the mountains in the interior the climate is found equal to many parts of Europe.

Rainfall.

2. This varied from 167·29 inches on 235 days at Ratnapura, to 50·90 inches on 95 days at Hambantota. During the year the rainfall of the Island was from 14 to 30 inches in excess of the average of thirty years.

Temperature.

3. The mean temperature for the year 1902 was highest at Mannar and lowest at Nuwara Eliya, being 82·3° and 59·7° respectively.

At Colombo and Kandy the mean temperature was 81·8° and 75·4° respectively.

The mean daily range of temperature (*i.e.*, the mean of the daily differences between the maximum and minimum temperatures) was highest at Ratnapura, having been 20·2°, and lowest at Galle, 8·7°.

The differences recorded at Colombo and Kandy were 12·7° and 15·8° respectively.

The absolute range or differences between the highest and lowest temperature of the air recorded during the year was greatest at Nuwara Eliya and lowest at Galle, having been 30·7° and 12·5° respectively.

The absolute difference at Kandy was 24·3° and at Colombo 19·0°.

The hottest station, taking the mean temperature of night and day all the year round into account, was Mannar (82·3°). The coolest, Nuwara Eliya (59·7°). Colombo and Kandy were 81·0° and 75·4° respectively.

Direction and Force of the Wind.

4. The general direction of the wind is from north-east from November to March and from the south-west from April to October. The movement of the wind varied from an average of 30 miles a day at Ratnapura to an average of 246 miles a day at Hambantota.

VIII.—POST AND TELEGRAPHS.

Comparison of Revenue and Expenditure.

	1901.	1902.
	Rs.	Rs.
Revenue	1,039,487	1,050,014
Expenditure	1,034,733	1,081,797
Excess Revenue...	4,754	—
Excess Expenditure	—	31,783

The revenue figures represent collections in cash only, and do not include value of Service stamps, commission on official money orders, value of postage on unstamped official correspondence, value of official telegrams, and other work done for other Public Departments free.

MONEY ORDER BUSINESS.

The total number of money orders issued and paid during the year was 397,706, an increase over the previous year of 8·25 per cent., and the total value was Rs. 9,815,239, an increase over the previous year of 5·08 per cent.

Official money orders numbered 17,086 of the value of Rs. 924,226, the commission on which amounted to Rs. 10,322.

Postal orders maintained their normal growth.

SAVINGS BANK.

The total number of accounts open on the 31st December, 1902, was 57,007, with a total amount of Rs. 1,454,858 to the credit of depositors.

TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE.

The total number of telegrams handed in for despatch during the year was 511,510, an increase of 1,109 in the year 1901. Three new Postal Telegraph Offices and fifteen new Railway Offices were opened. Three hundred miles of new wire was erected.

There were 95 subscribers to the Telephone Exchange, an increase of 11 on the previous year, and 109,465 calls on the exchange, against 76,090 in the previous year.

IX.—MILITARY FORCE AND EXPENDITURE.

The following table shows the military expenditure by the Colony during 1902:—

—	Amount.	
	Rs.	c.
Colonial Contribution for Regular Troops—		
Balance due for 1901	—	
Expenditure on account 1902	1,972,938	57
For Volunteers	185,050	22
Compensation in lieu of exemption from payment of Customs Duties on articles imported for the Troops ...	35,324	50
Cost of erecting certain buildings for the Military ...	13,815	0
Expenses connected with the Fortifications of Colombo...	12,535	98
Cost of Guard Room, Welikada	1,155	53
Total	2,220,819	60

The total strength of the Volunteer Force on the 31st December was 2,532.

X.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

(A) Important Events.

A most successful elephant kraal was held in the North-Western Province in February, when the record number of 102 elephants was driven into the enclosure. It was not, however, found possible to noose more than forty-five of these, and the rest were allowed to escape.

The news of the conclusion of peace in South Africa was received with great demonstrations of joy by all, including the prisoners of war interned in the different camps in the Island.

Many prisoners of war were at first sceptical as to the published terms of peace, and were reluctant to accept them by a formal declaration, but in view of letters received from South Africa, the majority were soon persuaded that the true facts had been stated to them, and on declaring allegiance were returned to South Africa as soon as transports could be provided, so that by the end of the year only 56 prisoners of war remained in the Island, of whom 18 were invalids, and of the balance many were foreigners.

The news of the illness of His Majesty the King was received with much anxiety.

The Coronation was celebrated at all important centres, and even in most villages throughout the Island, with demonstrations of the most enthusiastic loyalty, and the selection of the Governor of Ceylon as the representative of the Eastern Colonies generally at the actual ceremony was a source of much gratification to the people of Ceylon.

(B) Public Works.

The total expenditure of the Public Works Department during the year under review was Rs. 4,623,067.36, classified as follows:—

— —	Amount.	
	Rs.	c.
Personal Emoluments	439,038	49
Annually Recurrent Works	2,163,393	70
Extraordinary Public Works	1,448,491	77
Chargeable to Loans and other Funds	572,143	40
Total	4,623,067	36

The following tabular statement shows the expenditure on annually recurrent works, extraordinary public works, and

those chargeable to loans and other funds during the years 1895 to 1902, inclusive:—

Year.	Public Works.		Miscellaneous including loans.	Total.
	Recurrent.	Extraordinary.		
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1895	1,756,001	1,286,889	—	3,042,890
1896	1,823,558	1,219,106	—	3,042,664
1897	1,726,669	1,838,650	—	3,565,319
1898	1,900,307	1,510,143	369,324	3,779,774
1899	2,040,684	1,707,119	1,250,125	4,997,928
1900	2,029,279	1,610,261	1,074 665	4,714,205
1901	2,112,905	1,348.032	666,028	4,126,965
1902	2,163,394	1,448,491	572,143	4,184,028

The roads in the Colony are classified under the following descriptions:—metalled, track metalled, gravelled, and natural. The total length maintained during the year in each Province was as follows:—

Province.	Metalled.	Track Metalled.	Gravelled.	Natural.	Total.
	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.
Western ...	303·56	—	59·39	—	362·95
Central	539·09	—	65·88	65·25	670·22
Northern ...	310·57	—	87·00	121·00	518·57
Southern ...	282·11	—	38·50	—	320·61
Eastern... ...	162·25	—	134·21	54·00	350·46
North-Western	183·67	142·68	66·71	30·00	423·06
North-Central ...	100·85	68·75	140·96	—	310 56
Uva	248·03	—	26·58	98·00	372·61
Sabaragamuwa...	190·47	73·65	29·16	25·00	318·28
Total ...	2,320·60	285·08	648·39	393·25	3,647·32

The above statement shows an increase of 6·52 miles of roads in charge of this Department.

The average cost per mile of road upkeep in the several Provinces was as follows:—

Province.	Metalled.	Track Metalled.	Gravelled.	Natural.	General Average.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Western ...	786	—	294	—	705
Central... ...	642	—	217	73	545
Northern ...	283	—	207	53	217

Average Cost per Mile of Road Upkeep—cont.

Province.	Metalled.	Track Metalled.	Gravelled.	Natural.	General Average.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Southern ...	614	—	197	—	564
Eastern... ...	521	—	257	18	345
North-Western	444	416	246	33	374
North-Central ...	821	—	181	—	349
Uva	662	—	307	74	482
Sabaragamuwa...	637	430	252	87	511

The general average throughout the Colony was:—Metalled, including track metalled, roads Rs. 565 per mile; gravelled roads, Rs. 230 per mile; natural roads, Rs. 57 per mile.

Generally speaking, the roads have been maintained in a satisfactory condition, considering their respective classes and the traffic on them. Owing to the exceptionally prolonged periods of heavy rainfall during the months of October, November, and December, some of the roads, especially the gravel ones, suffered to a considerable extent. Two four-ton steam rollers have been used on the Colombo-Negombo and Colombo-Avisawella roads with good results.

The work of replacing the old wooden bridges with iron and concrete structures has progressed.

Customs Premises.

The works in connection with the building of a quay wall in front of the old grain sheds J and K, the erection of electric cranes, and the extension of the export warehouses B, C, and D, and the widening of Seashore street have made satisfactory progress.

Camps for Prisoners of War.

The maintenance and additions required from time to time have been duly attended to.

Cooly Camps, Ragama.

The erection of a new camp similar to camp No. 4 has been completed.

Minor Courts, Hulftsdorp.

The Minor Courts at Hulftsdorp have been practically completed.

New Deputy Fiscal's Office, Hulftsdorp.

The erection of a new Deputy Fiscal's Office has made satisfactory progress and is nearing completion.

Railway Extension Fund.

Under this heading roads to the goods station, Jaffna, Chavakachcheri station, and Pallai station have been completed, and the approach road to the passenger station, Jaffna, has been commenced.

Resthouse, Kalmunai.

The new resthouse, Kalmunai, has been completed.

Main Pipe Line.

The pipe line has been satisfactorily maintained, a constant flow being obtained throughout the year. The duplication of the pipe is now well in hand.

Maligakanda Service Reservoir.

This reservoir has been maintained in a satisfactory state of repair without any exceptional expenditure.

Distribution Works.

The distribution works were maintained in a satisfactory state of repair. During the year the 7-inch pipe along Reclamation road was removed and replaced by a 9-inch pipe connecting with the subsidiary mains in the Fort, at a cost of Rs. 18,561.05. This improvement has been attended with very satisfactory results, enabling water to be supplied to the upper floors of the buildings in the Fort.

Six new standposts or street fountains were fixed and one was removed, the total number in use being 696. 111 new services for domestic supply were constructed, making a total number of 3,182. 49 meters were fixed to services for other than domestic purposes, 38 were removed, making a total of 217 in use.

Throughout the year the maximum daily consumption each month exceeded the maximum discharging capacity of the main, viz., 25,000,000 gallons per diem, necessitating the water being shut off from 8 p.m. to 4 a.m. during the greater part of the year.

The average consumption of water per head per diem, taking the population at 150,000, was for all purposes at the rate of 16·7 gallons; deducting the metered supplies reduces the rate to 13·0 gallons.

During the year 462 orders were received, amounting to Rs. 740,141.08, making with Rs. 382,838.56 brought forward from 1901 a total of Rs. 1,122,979.64. To this amount must be added disbursements on account of camps for South African prisoners of war, Rs. 5,924.35, and transport funds Rs. 1,722.85. The total amount therefore available for expenditure for 1902 was as follows:—

—	Amount.	
	Rs.	c.
Brought forward from 1901	382,838	56
Factory Orders, 1902	740,141	8
Prisoners of War	5,924	35
Transport Funds	1,722	85
Total	1,130,626	84

In the same period 180 iron bridges of different spans were produced at a cost of Rs. 228,558.

Expenditure on buildings in Colombo was Rs. 102,223, on harbour improvements Rs. 249,770, on tools, plants, &c., Rs. 65,099, on work for other Departments Rs. 14,835. During the year 4,819 cwt. of castings, principally for the Railway Department, was turned out at a cost of Rs. 24,657.

Colombo Harbour Works.

The expenditure for the year amounted to Rs. 2,651,119.88, as under:—

—	Amount.			
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Upkeep of South-West Breakwater, Inner Harbour, dredging.	—		96,772	84
Harbour Improvements, dredging, and moorings.	219,760	67		
New works at Customs, acquisition of land, &c.	427,664	56		
			647,425	23
Harbour Extension Works, Graving Dock			1,906,921	81
Total			2,651,119	88

The total expenditure on harbour extension works, graving dock, &c., to 31st December, 1902, is—

—	Amount.			
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Harbour Extension Works, North-East and North-West Breakwaters, Reclamation, Coal Depôt, Patent Slip, Barge Repairing Basin, Coal Jetties.	6,725,146	40		
Stock of plant, stores, &c., at December 31, 1902, for Harbour Extension Works, &c.	1,579,098	86		
Removal of work-yard from Galle Buck to Reclamation, building block jetty, &c.	1,049,802	43		
Graving Dock...	2,416,612	51		
Graving Dock Plant	552,801	11		
Total Expenditure to December 31, 1902.			12,323,461	31
Grand Total Expenditure from commencement of South-West Breakwater in 1873 to December 31, 1902.			28,138,760	3

Satisfactory progress was made with the breakwaters under construction and with the graving dock.

Railways.

The total mileage open was increased by 71 miles during the year by the opening of the sections of the northern line between Jaffna and Pallai (34 miles), and by the opening of the first section of the Kelani Valley Railway from Colombo to Avisawella (37 miles). The northern line is on the standard gauge.

The opening of the Kelani Valley Railway on the narrow gauge (2 feet 6 inches) marks a new epoch in the history of railway construction in the Colony, seeing it is the first break of gauge introduced since the opening of the broad gauge line to Kandy in 1867.

The original capital cost of open lines is approximately Rs. 58,566,733, the increase over 1901 of Rs. 5,446,629 representing the proportion of the outlay on the sections of the Northern and Kelani Valley extensions, which were opened for traffic during the year. The total cost of the railway, including additions and improvements up to the 31st December, 1902, has been Rs. 63,436,659, but this does not include the sum of Rs. 3,097,276 spent during the last six years on new works and rolling stock, which has been paid out of revenue.

On the 1st January, 1902, the capital outstanding on loans (sterling debts converted into local currency at the rate of 1*s.* 4*d.* per rupee) was Rs. 32,067,372, or Rs. 162,238 less than on the 1st January, 1901.

Result of the year's working:—

—	1901.	1902.	Increase. 1901.	Decrease. 1902.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs
Gross receipts	7,938,131	7,975,506	37,375	—
Working expenses	4,736,701	4,907,101	170,400	—
Profit...	3,201,430	3,068,405	—	133,025

Interest.

The interest on loans amounted to Rs. 1,493,082, but of this sum half the interest paid on the loan of Rs. 1,400,000 raised for the construction of the Northern, Kelani Valley, and Uda Pussellawa lines and quarters for railway guards (namely Rs. 127,417) has been charged to the cost of raising the loan, thereby making the nett amount of interest chargeable to revenue Rs. 1,365,665, being an increase of Rs. 130,487 over 1901.

Nett Earnings.

After deducting the working expenses and the payment of the interest and sinking fund, the nett amount contributed by the railway to the general revenue of the Colony amounted to Rs. 1,363,152. In previous years the amount due to sinking fund has not been deducted under this heading.

Irrigation.

The total expenditure of the Irrigation Department for the year was Rs. 779,714.64, and the services to which it was appropriated, as compared with the two previous years, were as follows:—

—	1900.		1901.		1902.	
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Works of survey and investigation	21,594	1	29,811	30	24,038	66
Works of construction	199,417	62	390,194	42	381,247	18
Minor works and repairs... ...	54,724	16	40,201	71	48,527	41
Works of maintenance	74,556	16	68,502	7	76,806	10
Establishment: salaries and allowances.	132,093	35	207,164	68	219,805	83
Miscellaneous: tools, instruments, &c.	21,639	51	31,971	5	29,289	46
Total	504,024	81	767,845	23	779,714	64

The expenditure on works of construction was as follows:—

—	Amount.
Northern Province—	Rs. c.
Giant's tank	59,133 99
Kanukkeni tank	16,570 83
Karachchi scheme	18,478 86
North-Central Province—	
Kalawewa Yoda-ela	46,756 83
Maha Illuppalama	18,083 24
Minneri	69,247 59
Manankettiya	964 7
Nachchaduwa	60 0
Maha Galkadawala	94 92
Eastern Province—	
Kanthalai	5,580 62
Vakaneri	35,321 53
Rugam anicuts	22,739 42
Pattipolai-aru	3,678 91
Sakamam Vammiyaddi scheme	11,950 97
Tempittiya	5,147 21
Unnichchai	11,480 11
Southern Province—	
Walawe-ganga	3,784 86
Kirinde-oya	37,983 62
North-Western Province—	
Deduru-oya works	14,189 60
Total	381,247 18

In addition, a large number of surveys of promising schemes were made.

(C.) Immigration and Emigration.

The statistics available are unreliable. They show that 91,875 persons arrived in Ceylon from South Indian ports, while 107,800 left Ceylon for India. These figures include traders and others, in addition to estate coolies.

(D.) Future Prospects of Trade.

The value of the trade of the Colony for 1902 exceeded that for 1901 by Rs. 4,372,727. The prospects of trade appear to be favourable.

(E.) Suitability of Climate for Europeans.

The climate varies greatly according to elevation and situation, but is not generally unsuitable for Europeans. In the hills the climate is excellent, and in the low-country the

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European if careful can keep his health, but an occasional change to a more temperate climate is generally necessary. Manual labour is practically impossible for the European, who is employed chiefly in supervision of labour or in sedentary pursuits.

A - 11

(F.) Rates of Wages and Cost of Living.

The rate of wages for prædial labourers varies from 25 to 50 cents per diem; 37½ cents is the general rate. Domestic servants earn from Rs. 10 to Rs. 20 per mensem, the average wage being about Rs. 12. Trade employés earn from 50 cents to Rs. 1.50 a day. The cost of living varies greatly in different parts of the Island, being lowest in the Northern and Eastern Provinces and highest in Colombo, where house rent is a serious item to rich and poor. The ordinary villager can probably live in fair comfort for Rs. 5 to Rs. 6 a month.

(G.) Openings for Investment of Capital.

The revival in plumbago continues. Cocoanuts continue to pay well, and many minor products, notably rubber and camphor, are coming to the fore. The encouragement of cultivation of products likely to suit the soil along the new Northern line, such as rubber, cotton, cocoanuts, has received the consideration of the Government.

(H.) Social Condition of the People.

The material condition of the people generally is good. They are lightly taxed, the necessaries of life are cheap, and with the extension of cultivation and irrigation and of railways and public works, work is plentiful. In remote villages food may be scarce, but this is generally due to the disinclination of the villager to leave his village even temporarily in search of work, and actual famine is impossible.

As regards the moral condition of the people, but little progress can be recorded. Violent crime is still unduly prevalent, and the severity and even the increased certainty of punishment seem to have little effect in restraining it. The explanation perhaps lies in the fact that the sanctions of the old religion and customs are gradually dying away, while the newer education provided has not had time to operate as a restraining influence.

C. R. Cumberland,

Principal Assistant Colonial Secretary.

Colombo, August 7, 1903.

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COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

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CEYLON.

REPORT FOR 1903.

(For Report for 1902 *see* No. 396.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
August, 1904.

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No. 425.

CEYLON.

(For Report for 1902 *see* No. 396.)

GOVERNOR SIR H. A. BLAKE to MR. LYTTELTON.

On tour,
Ceylon,
June 9, 1904.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith copies of the Ceylon Blue Book for the year 1903, together with copies of the usual report prepared in the Colonial Secretary's office.

I have, &c.,

HENRY A. BLAKE,
Governor, &c.

REPORT ON THE CEYLON BLUE BOOK OF 1903.

I.—FINANCIAL.

(A) General Revenue and Expenditure.

The following is a comparative statement of the revenue and expenditure of Ceylon for the last fifteen years:—

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Excess of Revenue as compared with previous year.	Surplus of Revenue over Expenditure.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1889	15,299,877	14,987,312	—	312,565
1890	16,228,769	15,499,509	928,892	729,260
1891	17,962,710	16,772,392	1,733,941	1,190,318
1892	18,509,187	18,392,999	546,477	116,188
1893	18,051,950	18,763,492	—	*711,542**
1894	19,485,311	20,632,301	1,433,361	*1,146,990**
1895	20,982,808	21,151,618	1,497,497	*168,810**
1896	21,974,573	21,237,859	991,765	736,714
1897	24,006,521	21,634,377	2,031,948	2,372,144
1898	25,138,669	22,843,851	1,132,148	2,294,818
1899	25,913,141	24,950,940	774,472	962,201
1900	27,325,930	25,321,988	1,412,789	2,003,942
1901	26,437,102	25,896,594	—	540,508
1902	27,198,056	26,341,878	760,954	856,178
1903	29,423,308	26,714,828	2,225,252	2,708,480

* Deficit.

2. It will be noticed that since 1889 the revenue has increased nearly 100 per cent.; that with only two exceptions the advance has been uninterrupted; and that the nett surplus of revenue over expenditure during the period aggregates some Rs. 12,800,000. Since 1896 the average annual surplus has been Rs. 1,500,000.

3. The savings thus placed at the disposal of the Colony have not been hoarded, but have been spent in the vigorous prosecution of great public works having for their object the development of the latent resources of the island. These works may be summed up in the two words Railways and Irrigation. In 1899 Sir West Ridgeway pressed upon the Secretary of State the desirability of opening up the many comparatively inaccessible but fertile districts in the Colony, and Mr. Chamberlain ultimately sanctioned a very extensive scheme, which included the construction of railways to the north of the island, in the Kelani Valley tea district, and in the hill districts of Nuwara Eliya and Uda Pussellawa, and also the expenditure

of five millions of rupees on irrigation works. The total cost of the scheme is estimated at about Rs. 21,000,000, and half of this amount has already been met out of the surplus revenue of the Colony, the other half being raised by loan.

4. Notwithstanding this liberal contribution from current revenue towards the cost of works which are largely for the benefit of future generations, the buoyancy of the island's finances at the end of 1903 showed no signs of diminution, the surplus for the year being Rs. 2,700,000 and the accumulated savings and surpluses on December 31, 1903, being estimated at nearly Rs. 4,000,000. Nor has the policy of partly defraying expenditure on special works out of revenue been carried out at the cost of an undue restriction of the ordinary expenditure of the Colony, for it will be seen from the above table that that expenditure has kept pace with the revenue, the increase during the past 15 years being, as in the case of the revenue, about 100 per cent. The expansion has been general, but the most noticeable advance has been in the cases of the Education, Survey, and Botanic Gardens Departments. Although the increase of general expenditure in recent years has been very rapid, there are numerous indications that the demands on the revenue in the near future will be exceptionally heavy.

Revenue, 1903.

5. Turning now to the particular year under review, it will be seen from the table in the first paragraph that the revenue of 1903 was by far the largest ever collected. The first pearl fishery for twelve years accounted for some Rs. 800,000 of the increase, but there was a gratifying advance under almost every head. The actual revenue for the year was Rs. 2,378,928 in excess of the estimated revenue.

6. The following is a comparative statement showing the actual revenue collected in 1902 and 1903:—

—	Revenue of 1902.	Revenue of 1903.	Increases.	Decreases.	Nett Increase.
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. Customs	7,181,272 67	7,576,359 95	430,262	35,174	395,088
2. Port, Harbour, Wharf, and Lighthouse Dues.	1,289,727 64	1,337,205 82	39,976	2,498	37,478
3. Licenses, Excise, and Internal Revenue not otherwise classified.	6,057,748 0	6,355,287 56	306,236	8,696	297,540
4. Fees of Court or Office, Payment for Specific Services, and Reimbursements in Aid.	1,826,949 12	1,891,269 30	194,194	129,874	64,320
5. Post and Telegraphs	1,110,784 74	1,078,981 36	59,583	91,386	*31,803**
6. Government Railways	7,977,589 88	8,355,675 90	382,276	4,190	378,086
7. Rent of Government Property	126,891 30	164,507 32	45,244	7,628	37,616
8. Interest	514,047 29	506,729 47	6,903	14,221	*7,318**
9. Miscellaneous Receipts	90,888 58	235,889 23	184,280	39,279	145,001
10. Sale of Government Property	329,674 88	1,185,432 54	857,894	2,137	855,757
11. Land Sales	682,482 34	735,970 7	53,487	—	53,487
Total	27,198,056 44	29,423,308 52	2,560,339	335,087	2,225,252
Deduct Decrease ...			335,087		
Nett Increase			2,225,252		

* Decrease.

7. The increase in Customs revenue was chiefly due to larger importations of grain, spirits, and "other goods." Colombo Harbour Dues continued to advance, and the revenue derived from arrack rents increased by Rs. 157,000. A rise of nearly Rs. 78,000 in revenue stamps sold points to activity in the sales of valuable properties. The decline in Postal revenue is apparent only, being due to adjustments of accounts; the amount realised from the sale of postage stamps, a reliable index of general prosperity, increased by Rs. 25,500. The increase in Railway revenue is chiefly due to receipts from the new lines opened at the end of 1902 being credited in 1903. In the large total of Rs. 1,185,432 under Sale of Government Property is included Rs. 827,308, the proceeds of the Pearl Fishery. The enhanced amount derived from Land Sales is due to more lands being sold in the Western Province.

Expenditure, 1903.

8. The following table shows the expenditure of 1903 compared with that for 1902:—

Heads of Service.	1902.	1903.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
1. Charges on account of Public Debt	3,099,403 41	3,450,586 84	351,183 43	—
2. Pensions	1,284,648 9	1,307,182 69	22,534 60	—
3. His Excellency the Governor	126,472 54	123,261 68	—	3,210 86
3*a*. Civil Service	663,645 88	676,103 80	12,457 92	—
4. Secretariat	273,565 16	277,870 68	4,305 52	—
5. Audit Office	52,246 56	56,827 31	4,580 75	—
6. Treasury	41,970 29	43,997 35	2,027 6	—
7. Provincial Administration	949,323 89	1,147,622 32	198,298 43	—
8. Survey Department	638,086 37	656,937 45	18,851 8	—
9. Customs Department	130,153 72	131,128 26	974 54	—
10. Port and Marine Department, Colombo	330,712 55	309,053 67	—	21,658 88
11. Port and Marine Department other than Colombo	43,624 37	34,165 21	—	9,459 16
12. Botanic Gardens...	72,246 57	125,310 82	53,064 25	—
13. Colombo Museum	25,660 92	25,027 6	—	633 86
14. Legal Departments:—				
Supreme Court	156,277 41	160,085 42	3,808 1	—
Attorney-General	60,799 75	69,686 90	8,887 15	—
Solicitor-General	12,143 85	12,122 63	—	21 22
District Courts	160,382 37	163,862 89	3,480 52	—
Courts of Requests and Police Courts	128,299 99	130,702 34	2,402 35	—
Registration of Lands	78,408 17	80,709 41	2,301 24	—
Registration of Marriages, Births, and Deaths	117,475 61	121,554 18	4,078 57	—

	Fiscals	229,775 81	233,244 0	3,468 19	—
	Loan Board	5,431 89	5,529 38	97 49	—
15.	Police	732,646 59	735,149 66	2,503 7	—
16.	Prisons	527,819 34	538,781 36	10,962 2	—
17.	Medical Department	379,114 19	385,875 40	6,761 21	—
18.	Hospitals and Dispensaries	1,219,504 24	1,225,518 94	6,014 70	—
19.	Ecclesiastical	26,925 70	11,622 50	—	15,303 20
20.	Education	952,279 98	1,038,697 29	86,417 31	—
21.	Transport...	23,061 79	17,055 26	—	6,006 53
22.	Exchange	211,039 98	227,342 17	16,302 19	—
23.	Military Expenditure	2,220,819 60	2,214,349 66	—	6,469 94
24.	Miscellaneous Services	1,234,658 9	862,622 44	—	372 035 65
25.	Government Stores	78,527 39	85,021 71	6,494 32	—
26.	Crown Agents, London	2,715 0	2,713 68	—	1 32
27.	Forests	268,358 98	271,735 20	3,376 22	—
28.	Post Office and Telegraphs	1,125,136 92	1,104,038 86	—	21,098 6
29.	Railway Department	4,897,546 67	4,510,997 34	—	386,549 33
30.	Special Officer, Waste Lands Ordinance	26,730 30	48,446 15	21,715 85	—
31.	Public Works Department	411,289 76	433,843 56	22,553 80	—
32.	Irrigation Department	309,830 84	375,867 12	66,036 28	—
33.	Public Works Annually Recurrent	1,874,387 64½	1,948,378 28	73,990 63½	—
34.	Public Works Extraordinary	1,428,020 64½	1,334,199 48	—	93,821 16½
		26,631,168 82	26,714,828 35	1,019,928 70½	936,269 17½
	Deduct half-year's interest on New Loan brought to account under Public Debt, but chargeable to Surplus Funds.	289,290 79	—	—	289.290 79
	Total Expenditure against Current Revenue ..	26,341,878 3	26,714,828 35	1,019,928 70½	646,978 38½

Expenditure—*cont.*

Heads of Service.	1902.	1903.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Expenditure from Surplus Funds voted in the Estimates.				
1. Public Debt, half-year's interest on New Loan (Ordinance No. 14 of 1900).	289,290 79	—	—	289,290 79
29. Railway Construction Works	948,165 48	—	—	948,165 48
32. Irrigation Construction Works	462,770 36	54,534 0	—	408,236 36
24. Miscellaneous Services, Ratnapura Railway and Mineralogical Surveys.	—	58,702 65	58,702 65	—
29 Railway Department Blasting and Tunnelling Operations, Kadugannawa Incline, &c.	—	180,747 35	180,747 35	—
34. Public Works Extraordinary, Feeder Roads to Railway Stations, &c.	—	69,946 75	69,946 75	—
Total against Surplus Funds	1,700,226 63	363,930 75	309,396 75	1,645,692 63
Grand Total	28,042,104 66	27,078,759 10	1,329,325 45½	2,292,671 1½
Deduct Increase				1,329,325 45½
Nett Decrease				963,345 56

9. The total expenditure from current revenue was thus some Rs. 370,000 more than in the previous year, but the gross total expenditure from revenue and surplus funds was less than in 1902 by Rs. 963,345. As explained above, the moiety due from revenue on account of the forward policy initiated in 1899 has now been paid, and the expenditure from surplus funds is therefore proportionately less. The question of making a further appropriation from surplus funds towards the total expenditure yet to be incurred on account of special works is under consideration.

10. As compared with the estimated expenditure for the year, the actual expenditure shows an excess of Rs. 47,537, but if charges against surplus funds are included the actual figures tally with the estimate to within Rs. 1,550. The annual Supplementary Supply Bill of the Colony, to cover expenditure on works of unforeseen but pressing necessity is a large one, but it is satisfactory to be able to record that in only three instances during the last eight years has the total actual expenditure (including supplementary votes) exceeded the estimated expenditure; in two of these the excess was little more than Rs. 100,000, and in no case has the estimate been exceeded by more than Rs. 250,000.

11. The details in the comparative table in paragraph 8 do not call for much comment. The charges on the loan of £1,400,000 raised in 1902 became fully payable in 1903, and so increased the expenditure under Public Debt. The amount disbursed in pensions increased by Rs. 22,500, the advance under this head, however, being only a quarter of the corresponding increase last year. The abnormal increase of nearly Rs. 200,000 under Provincial Adminstration is due to the inclusion of expenditure on account of the Pearl Fishery. Charges on account of the Experiment Station at Peradeniya and cotton experiments in the North-Central Province have nearly doubled the provision for the Botanical Gardens Department, while another large increase in the expenditure on Education forms a significant commentary on the recent criticisms of the Government's educational policy. During the last eight years the vote for the Education Department has risen by over 50 per cent. The operations of the Waste Lands Department, to which special reference was made in last year's report, were still further extended during 1903, and an Assistant Land Settlement Officer was appointed: the expenditure under this head therefore shows a substantial increase, but the advantages, both to Crown and people, of a systematic and permanent settlement of dubious titles to land fully justify the comparatively small expense involved. The increase in expenditure on Public Works Recurrent is balanced by a decrease under Public Works Extraordinary. The increases in other departments were small.

12. Under the heads "Miscellaneous Services" and "Railway Department" there appear large decreases; the expenditure on the former was enhanced in 1902 by charges on account of the Coronation and the acquisition of Gangaruwa estate for an experimental botanical station, while the large apparent decrease in railway expenditure is due to certain adjustments of accounts in the two years. Economies were effected by the Port and Marine and Ecclesiastical Departments, but the decrease under Post Office is fictitious, being due to certain charges on account of "Sea Conveyance of Mails" not being brought to account within the year.

(B) Important Changes in Taxation.

Nil.

(C) Assets and Liabilities.

The total assets on January 1, 1904, were Rs. 24,567,634, as against Rs. 24,576,277 on January 1, 1903. The liabilities were Rs. 20,795,061, showing an excess of assets over liabilities of Rs. 3,772,572.

(D) Public Debt, showing Provision for Payment.

1. Since 1875, when the first loan for harbour improvements was raised, the Colony has borrowed £5,166,000 in sterling and Rs. 3,365,000 in local currency, or a total amount of £5,391,209. This sum has been appropriated for Harbour Works, New Railways, Waterworks, and Irrigation Works. The amount still due on December 31, 1903, was Rs. 74,194,946.79.

2. Provision is made for the repayment of all loans by means of a sinking fund, the charges on the debt in interest and sinking fund being in 1903 Rs. 3,450,586. The existing debt will be reduced by about Rs. 30,000,000 in 1934, and should be totally extinguished by the year 1948.

3. At the present time the debt amounts to about two and three-quarter times the revenue. In this respect it compares very favourably with other colonies. For instance, taking the figures for 1901, the debt of the Australian Commonwealth is about seven times the revenue; of New Zealand more than eight times the revenue; of Canada nearly seven times the revenue; and of Natal about three and half times the revenue. If gauged by the standard of amount per head of population, the debt works out to about £1 8*s.* per head, as contrasted with £54 11*s.* in Australia, £68 10*s.* in New Zealand, £13 11*s.* in Canada, £11 7*s.* in Natal, £13 7*s.* in Cape Colony, and £4 10*s.* in Jamaica.

4. In common with practically all colonial stocks Ceylon stock suffered a fall in price in 1903, but whereas the average relapse in Australian issues was about 6 per cent., and the decline in Canadian securities about 3 per cent., the price of Ceylon 3 per cent. inscribed stock was at the close of 1903 only 1 per cent. lower than the price at the end of 1902. The highest and lowest prices in 1903 were 97¼ and 93½ respectively, as compared with 97½ and 93¾ in the previous year.

5. The following table, giving the prices at the end of 1903 of various colonial securities, shows that Ceylon stock stands well to the front in comparison with similar stock in other parts of the Empire:—

Colonial Securities.			Price.
New South Wales	3 per cent.	inscribed ...	86
New Zealand	do.	do ...	90
Victoria	do.	do. ...	86
W. Australia	do.	do. ...	87
British Guiana	do.	do. ...	90
Canada	do.	do. ...	98
Cape Colony	do.	do. ...	87
Natal	do.	do. ...	89
Trinidad	do.	do. ...	91
CEYLON	do.	do. ...	95

(E) CURRENCY AND BANKING.

The currency of Ceylon is based upon the Indian rupee. It consists at present of—

(1) Notes: Ceylon Government notes of Rs. 1,000, Rs. 100, Rs. 50, Rs. 10, and Rs. 5.

(2) Gold: British sovereigns, which are legal tender at the rate of Rs. 15 to the sovereign.

(3) Silver: The Indian rupee.

All the above are legal tender to any amount.

Subsidiary coins are—

(1) Silver: Ceylon 50-cent, 25-cent, and 10-cent pieces. Also Indian 8-anna and 4-anna pieces, which are current at 50 cents and 25 cents respectively. These are legal tender to the amount of Rs. 5.

(2) Copper: Ceylon 5-cent, 1-cent, ½-cent, and ¼-cent pieces. These are legal tender to the amount of 50 cents.

About half the face value of the paper issued is held in specie by the Currency Commissioners, the balance being invested in Indian Government paper and other approved securities.

—	Value.		
Circulation.			Rs. c.
Currency notes in circulation on December 31st, 1903.	—	—	17,111,090 0
Reserve.	In Gold. Rs. c.	In Silver. Rs. c.	In Securities. Rs. c.
By gold £350,034 in sovereigns at Rs. 15 a sovereign.	5,250,510 0	—	—
By silver in the vault (10 cents copper).	—	2,667,299 90	—
By investments made by the Crown Agents.	—	—	7,486 2
By investments made in Indian Government Paper.	—	—	4,575,794 10
	5,250,510 0	2,667,299 90	9,193,280 12
Total	Rs. 17,111,090·2		

A slight but important change was effected during the year in the currency legislation of the Colony. It was found that the provision in Ordinance No. 13 of 1901, which required the Currency Commissioners to issue notes for gold or silver to an unlimited extent, led to a large accumulation of gold in the reserve, whereas the coins chiefly in demand for redemption of notes are rupees. On the advice of a representative Commission appointed to devise the best solution of this difficulty, the Ordinance was amended by a clause freeing the Commissioners of Currency from the obligation to receive gold in exchange for notes when it might be inexpedient in their judgment to do so. The limit up to which the Commissioners will receive sovereigns is at present £200,000. Sufficient time has not yet elapsed to disclose whether the amendment will bring about the desired effect, viz., renewed importations of silver.

Banking.

The following banks do business in the Colony:—The Mercantile Bank of India, Ltd., the Bank of Madras, the National Bank of India, Ltd., the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, and the Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China.

Exchange was steady throughout the year, the highest rate being 1*s.* 4 $\frac{5}{32}$*d.* (demand) and the lowest 1*s.* 4 $\frac{1}{32}$*d.*, or a difference of $\frac{1}{8}$. Money was plentiful locally, especially during the first six months, at which time the rate was as low as 3 per cent.

(F.) COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF THE TOTAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE OF MUNICIPALITIES FOR THE FIVE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31ST, 1903.

Name of Municipality.	Revenue or Expenditure.	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.
		Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Colombo	Revenue	1,088,519 50	1,152,137 58	1,230,005 20	1,405,838 88	1,337,344 8
	Expenditure	927,229 89	902,408 5	1,306,278 56	1,175,727 7	1,494,429 40
Kandy	Revenue	141,436 42	181,946 94	181,107 91	173,202 85	199,303 84
	Expenditure	150,032 87	183,671 31	186,728 3	185,364 63	196,217 71
Galle	Revenue	90,787 38	109,566 51	86,222 74	91,652 67	92,886 64
	Expenditure	84,439 26	87,629 69	94,009 28	92,535 45	88,115 81

Statement of Debts of Municipalities up to end of 1903, showing Provision for Payment.

Name of Municipality.	Amount of Debt.	On what account.	Provision for Payment.
	Rs. c.		
Colombo	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Kandy	178,639 11	Waterworks construction ...	Water-rate at 6 per cent. on properties within certain portions of the Municipality.
	93,475 71	Acquisition of lands over reservoir	Bond assigning portion of water-rate.
	22,000 0	To widen Victoria Drive and clear lake silt.	Bond assigning proportion of rates and taxes.
	15,153 67	For repairing main sewer and constructing drains.	Do. do.
Galle	58,047 7	Construction of waterworks ...	A water-rate of 5 per cent. is levied within the Fort for repayment of waterworks loan.
	38,759 54	Sanitary improvements	Mortgage of stamp duties on licenses or carts, boats, and coaches; fees and stamp duties under Licensing Ordinances for payment of loan for sanitary improvements.
Total	406,075 10		

Note.—In 1893 the amount lent to Municipalities was Rs. 289,126.

(G) Local Boards.

There are eighteen Local Boards in the island. In 1903 their total revenue was Rs. 290,062 and their total expenditure Rs. 263,140. They all appear to be in a sound financial position.

In recent years the Local Boards have made frequent applications to Government for assistance in prosecuting schemes for water supply and sanitation. In cases where the necessity for recourse to general revenue is shown to be fully justified, the assistance is usually bestowed in the form of a loan, repayable, as a rule, in ten annual instalments, and the extent to which local effort has been thus encouraged may be gathered from the fact that, whereas in 1893 the amount lent to Local Boards, &c., was only Rs. 33,216, distributed among four Boards, the amount lent out at the end of 1903 was Rs. 240,336, distributed in twenty-four loans among twelve Boards.

(H) Loans to other Bodies.

In addition to the loans to Municipalities and Local Boards referred to above, it may be noted that in 1903 the Government lent to the Committee of the Planters' Association the sum of Rs. 150,000 for payment of a bonus on the manufacture of green teas. The loan is repayable within seventeen months, with interest at 4 per cent., out of the tea export duty, the proceeds of which are applied, on the recommendation of the Planters' Association, to increasing the consumption of Ceylon tea in foreign lands.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

(A) Imports and Exports.

1. The year 1903 was a prosperous one for Ceylon trade, the aggregate value of the imports and exports being higher than in any year of the Colony's history, with the exception of 1900. The figures since 1893, expressed in lacs of rupees, are as follows (omitting specie, but including coal exported for use of steamers):—

Year.	Rs.
1893	1,392
1894	1,476
1895	1,610
1896	1,624
1897	1,690
1898	1,813
1899	2,130
1900	2,206
1901	2,042
1902	2,086
1903	2,158

2. The outstanding feature of the past decade has been the rapid expansion of the Colony's trade with foreign countries. The following table shows the distribution of the total imports and exports since 1893 (omitting specie and coal exported for use of steamers):—

Total Imports and Exports (in Lacs of Rupees).

Year.	United Kingdom.	British Colonies.	Foreign Countries.	Total.
1893	568	545	118	1,231
1894	724	542	125	1,391
1895	773	618	139	1,530
1896	683	597	158	1,438
1897	768	634	202	1,504
1898	785	682	241	1,708
1899	922	728	365	2,015
1900	896	819	340	2,055
1901	800	783	317	1,900
1902	800	752	394	1,946
1903	796	804	431	2,031

3. From the above figures it will be seen that whereas in 1893 over 90 per cent. of the total trade of the island was with the United Kingdom and the colonies (including India), last year more than 20 per cent. of the total represented trade with foreign countries. Such a statement, however, does not adequately express the remarkable development of the Colony's foreign commerce. Between 1893 and 1903—

The total trade of the Colony increased 70 per cent.

The Home trade increased 40 per cent.

The Indian and Colonial increased 50 per cent.

The Foreign increased 370 per cent.

Taking imports and exports separately, the figures are, roughly, as follows:—

Imports from United Kingdom have increased 40 per cent.

Imports from Colonies have increased 50 per cent.

Imports from Foreign Countries have increased 350 per cent.

Exports to United Kingdom have increased 13 per cent.

Exports to Colonies have increased 50 per cent.

Exports to Foreign Countries have increased 380 per cent.

4. While the imports and the exports taken as a whole approximately balance* one another, this is by no means the case as regards the imports and exports by the three main channels of the island's trade. Broadly, it may be said that Ceylon—

Exports to the United Kingdom half her total exports, and imports from the United Kingdom one-fourth her total imports.

Exports to British Colonies one-sixth her total exports, and imports from British Colonies nearly two-thirds her total imports.

Exports to Foreign Countries one-third of her total exports, and imports from Foreign Countries one-ninth her total imports.

(The predominant position held by the colonies as regards imports is mainly due to the fact that India supplies Ceylon with vast amounts of grain every year, the value of the rice received from the adjoining continent being nearly a third of the total imports of the Colony.)

Imports.

5. The following summary exhibits a comparison between the state of affairs in 1893 and 1903:—

Imports.	1893.	1903.
	Rs.	Rs.
From United Kingdom	18,800,000	25,800,000
„ British Colonies	43,700,000	64,800,000
„ Foreign Countries	3,700,000†	11,700,000
Total	66,200,000	102,300,000

† Including Rs. 300,000 in specie.

It will be noticed that, although the imports from foreign countries are still a comparatively small proportion only of the total imports, their relative importance is no longer negligible, and if their present rate of increase continues, another ten years will place them in front of the imports from the mother country.

* NOTE.—The balance of trade for the last five years is as follows :—

Year.	Excess of Exports.	Excess of Imports.
	Rs.	Rs.
1899	9,863,000	—
1900	—	8,537,000
1901	—	3,867,000
1902	12,848,000	—
1903	11,243,000	—

6. An examination of the following table, in which a comparison has been instituted between the sources of some of the chief imports in 1893 and 1903, will show in respect of what articles the foreigner has successfully competed with the United Kingdom, in some cases to the verge of supersession:—

Articles.	1893. From United Kingdom.	1893. From Foreign Countries.	1903. From United Kingdom.	1903. From Foreign Countries.	1903. Chief Foreign Countries which now supply the Article.
I.—Articles of Food and Drink—	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Gin	79,000	—	40,000	208,000	Holland and Germany.
Brandy	107,000	27,000	18,000	336,000	France.
Refined Sugar	50,000* 490,000† 28,000‡	7,000	77,000* 148,000† 915,000‡	750,000	Austria.
Potatoes	12,000* 258,000†	14,000	3,000* 190,000†	156,000	France, Germany, and Italy.
Biscuits	82,000	10,000	165,000	108,000	Germany.
Cheese...	58,000	—	16,000° 22,000§	31,000	Holland and Germany.
II.—Raw Materials—					
Iron, Angle and Swedish Bar ...	43,000	—	8,000	32,000	Sweden, Germany, and Belgium.
Iron bar, flat	58,000	—	54,000	104,000	Belgium, Sweden, and Germany.
Cast steel	15,000	—	81,000	36,000	Germany and Belgium.
Coal	5,275,000	—	4,955,000	400,000	Japan.

III.—Manufactured Articles.					
Galvanized iron	279,000	—	473,000	56,000	Belgium, Germany, and United States of America.
Iron nails	83,000	40,000	70,000	87,000	Do.
Hoop iron	115,000	7,000	148,000	111,000	Belgium and Germany.
Hardware	406,000	5,000	935,000	113,000	Austria, United States of America and Germany.
Tinware	22,000	—	13,000	36,000	Germany and Japan.
Drums and tanks	22,000	5,000	22,000	34,000	Belgium and Germany.
Machinery	660,000	—	1,032,000	130,000	United States of America and Germany.
Flannel	55,000	7,000	88,000	28,000	Germany and Austria.
Silk and satin...	48,000	14,000	119,000	165,000	Holland, Japan, France, and China.
Made up apparel	64,000	2,000	266,000	120,000	Japan and Germany.
Gray piece goods	937,000	6,000	801,000	88,000	United States of America and Holland.
Dyed cotton piece goods	43,000	—	434,000* 1,137,000†	332,000	Germany, Holland, Italy, and Switzerland.
Haberdashery	600,000	12,000	711,000	90,000	Germany, Austria, and France.
Manures	3,000	—	215,000	550,000	Germany.
Kerosine oil	—	100,000	—	1,036,000	Russia and United States of America.
Matches	37,000	34,000	2,000	256,000	Sweden, Austria, and Germany.
Cement	170,000	14,000	88,000	102,000	Germany, Belgium, and Austria.
Tea chests	36,000	—	450,000	1,032,000	Japan, China, and Russia.

* United Kingdom. † India. ‡ Hong Kong. § Australia.

7. It is possible that owing to the greater care which is now taken in discriminating the real country of production of articles imported into the Colony the above analysis may unduly magnify the increase in foreign imports, but it is believed that the figures for 1903 at least may be accepted as substantially accurate. From them it may be deduced—(*a*) as regards food-stuffs, that practically all the gin and brandy imported comes from Holland, Germany, and France; about 40 per cent. of the sugar from Austria; nearly half the potatoes from France, Germany, and Italy; 40 per cent. of the biscuits from Germany; and 45 per cent. of the cheese from Holland and Germany; (*b*) as regards raw material, that more than half the angle, bar, and flat iron, and cast steel comes from Sweden, Belgium, and Germany; and that Japan now supplies an appreciable quantity of coal; (*c*) as regards manufactured articles, that in textile and metal goods and machinery, foreign countries are still a long way behind the United Kingdom, but have gained a firm footing; that Germany, Belgium, Austria, Japan, and Russia outdo the United Kingdom in the supply of manures, cement, and tea chests; that Russia and the United States of America have the monopoly of kerosine oil; and Sweden, Austria, and Germany of matches.

8. The next table has been drawn up to show (*a*) the growth of imports from the chief foreign countries during the ten years, and (*b*) the staple articles which are now imported from each:—

Imports from Foreign Countries.

Imports from	In 1893.	In 1903.	Chief Articles now imported in 1903.
	Rs.	Rs.	
Austria	150,698	985,006	Refined sugar (Rs. 647,000), hardware, beds, cement, furniture, glass, haberdashery, lamps, matches, paper.
Belgium	74,523	469,883	Iron and steel (raw, Rs. 126,000, manufactured, Rs. 93,000), cards, glass, manure, cement, sugar.
France	203,867	744,550	Brandy (Rs. 336,000), wines (Rs. 170,000), potatoes, silks, haberdashery, umbrellas.
Germany...	348,568	2,061,008	Manures (Rs. 437,000), textile manufactured goods (Rs. 271,000), metal goods (Rs. 282,000), cement, chinaware, explosives, glass, haberdashery, lamps, machinery, soap, timber, toys, refined sugar, metals (raw material).
Holland	135,272	488,582	Gin (Rs. 186,000), cotton goods (Rs. 130,000), silks, piece goods, cheese.
Italy	36,390	269,440	Potatoes (Rs. 107,000), textile goods, writing paper.
Japan	304,934	1,583,483	Tea chests (Rs. 936,000), coal (Rs. 400,000), rickshaws (Rs. 40,000), made-up apparel, silks, fancy articles, mats.
Russia	100,533	897,520	Kerosine oil (Rs. 856,854).
Sweden	—	250,442	Matches (Rs. 206,304), raw iron (Rs. 35,000).
Switzerland	2,775	370,762	Milk (Rs. 220,629), cotton goods (Rs. 74,000), manures (Rs. 65,000).
United States of America	380	721,887	Kerosine oil (Rs. 179,000), tobacco, textile goods, metal manufactured goods, machinery, lubricating oil, &c.
Total of all Foreign Countries	3,714,922	11,749,049	

9. It will be seen that Germany is well ahead of the others, and that her exports to Ceylon are very varied. Japan makes a good second, but the imports therefrom consist almost wholly of tea chests and coal. Austria, Russia, France, and the United States are fairly on an equality, as also are Holland, Belgium, Switzerland, Italy, and Sweden.

Exports.

10. Turning now to exports, the following summary corresponds to that for imports in section 5:—

EXPORTS OF CEYLON PRODUCE and MANUFACTURE.

—	1893.	1903.
	Rs.	Rs.
To United Kingdom ...	48,000,000	53,900,000
To British Colonies ...	10,800,000	15,600,000
To Foreign Countries ...	8,400,000	31,400,000
Total	67,200,000	100,900,000

Here the expansion of the foreign trade is still more striking. The exports to foreign countries, which ten years ago were exactly one-eighth of the total exports and were Rs. 2,400,000 less than the exports to British possessions, are now almost one-third of the total exports, are double the exports to British possessions, and are rapidly approaching the exports to the United Kingdom.

11. Ceylon's chief customers in the foreign markets in 1893 were the United States of America, Germany and Russia. These countries still retain their pre-eminence and in the same order, but the German and Russian trade has developed in greater proportion than the American. A comparison between the foreign exports of 1893 and 1903 is annexed, the chief articles contributing to the figures being shown as in the case of imports (section 8):—

Exports to	In 1893.	In 1903.	Chief Articles exported in 1903.
	Rs.	Rs.	
Austria	709,709	1,163,376	Cocoanut oil (Rs. 753,000), copra (Rs. 290,000), cinnamon (Rs. 50,000), tea (Rs. 31,000).
Belgium	442,109	2,662,663	Poonac (Rs. 654,000), copra (Rs. 650,000), plumbago (Rs. 452,000), cocoanut oil (Rs. 260,000), coir fibre (Rs. 151,000), desiccated cocoanuts (Rs. 86,000), tea (Rs. 65,000).
France...	165,751	1,754,506	Copra (Rs. 1,076,000), cocoanut oil (Rs. 253,000), tea (Rs. 172,000), cinnamon (Rs. 66,000), cacao (Rs. 50,000), poonac (Rs. 36,000).
Germany	2,010,064	7,069,284	Copra (Rs. 2,844,000), plumbago (Rs. 971,000), cinnamon (Rs. 818,000), poonac (Rs. 800,000), cocoanut oil (Rs. 380,000), desiccated cocoanuts (270,000), tea (Rs. 233,000), coir yarn (Rs. 128,000), coir fibre (Rs. 124,000), cardamoms (Rs. 76,000), citronella oil (Rs. 50,000), fresh cocoanuts (Rs. 67,000).
Holland	158,487	301,699	Cinnamon (Rs. 112,000), desiccated cocoanuts (Rs. 55,000), cocoanut oil (Rs. 50,000), copra (Rs. 40,000).
Italy	118,109	688,441	Copra (Rs. 360,000), cinnamon (Rs. 160,000), cocoanut oil (Rs. 135,000).
Japan	63,380	98,296	Plumbago (Rs. 46,000), cardamoms (Rs. 21,000), citronella oil (Rs. 13,000).
Russia (Asiatic and European)	398,604	6,018,743	Tea (Rs. 3,950,000), copra (Rs. 2,005,660), plumbago (Rs. 52,000).
United States	3,954,514	8,545,632	Plumbago (Rs. 2,964,000), tea (Rs. 2,701,000), cocoanut oil (Rs. 1,700,000), citronella oil (Rs. 400,000), cinnamon (Rs. 304,000), desiccated cocoanut (Rs. 330,000), cacao (Rs. 41,000).
Total for all Foreign Countries ...	8,387,484	31,365,927	

12. Perhaps the most satisfactory features of the Ceylon export trade with foreign countries in recent years are the success of Ceylon tea in Russia and America, the large increase in the exports of plumbago to Germany and the United States, and the remarkable demand by all the important countries for the produce of the cocoanut palm.

13. The rapid development of Ceylon trade derived from the cultivation of the cocoanut palm has in recent years frequently been the subject of congratulation, and it is of interest, therefore, to note that the island's best customers for these important staples are foreign countries, as will be seen from the following summary:—

VALUE of EXPORTS of PRODUCTS of the COCOANUT PALM in 1903.

Products.	Exported to United Kingdom.	Exported to Colonies.	Exported to Foreign Countries.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Arrack	—	126,000	3,500
Fresh cocoanuts	438,000	9,200	202,400
Desiccated cocoanuts ...	2,061,000	220,400	823,000
Coir fibre	379,000	69,000	345,000
Coir rope	1,000	204,000	2,500
Coir yarn	646,000	93,500	205,700
Copra	70,000	8,700	7,453,000
Cocoanut oil	6,792,000	653,000	5,578,000
Poonac	9,000	—	1,490,000
Total	10,396,000	1,383,800	14,103,100

14. Briefly, the products of the cocoanut palm represented 25 per cent. of the exports of Ceylon produce in 1903, and of this amount foreign countries took more than half. For copra and poonac, indeed, it would appear there would be practically no market were it not for Germany, Russia, France, Belgium, Italy, and Austria.

15. The great bulk of the tea exported still goes to the United Kingdom, but whereas in 1893 the exports to foreign countries were infinitesimal, foreign countries now take almost as much as British Colonies, the exports to which have themselves more than doubled.

16. To conclude this analysis of the Colony's exports, the following summary discloses the fact that in the case of three out of five staples (regarding products of the cocoanut palm as a whole) Ceylon is chiefly dependent on foreign countries

for her trade, and that in respect of the chief staple of all, the foreign trade is a factor of very considerable importance:—

STAPLE EXPORTS of the COLONY in 1903.

Products.	To United Kingdom.	To British Colonies.	To Foreign Countries.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Tea	38,000,000	10,500,000	9,500,000
Products of the cocoanut palm ...	10,500,000	1,500,000	14,000,000
Plumbago	1,446,000	48,500	4,430,000
Cinnamon	443,000	30,000	2,000,000
Cacao	1,734,000	207,000	300,000

17. After making due allowance for possible inaccuracies in the figures from which the above tables have been compiled, it may not unreasonably be deduced that the foreign trade of the Colony has increased at about seven times the rate of the trade with the home country and sister colonies, but that while the foreigner has succeeded to a considerable extent in ousting the British producer from the Ceylon market, the Ceylon producer has made still greater inroads on foreign markets, the exports to those markets being nearly three times the imports from them.

18. Finally, it may be noted that the Ceylon import tariff is one imposed primarily and practically entirely for revenue purposes. The general rate of duty is 5½ per cent. *ad valorem*. Sundry articles are admitted free, such as tea machinery and requisites, manures, unwrought metals, &c., and there are special rates for cotton goods, wines, spirits, tobacco, &c. There is a quasi-protective duty of 25 cents (*i.e.* 4*d.*) a pound on tea, which is retained at the instance of the Planters' Association and the Chamber of Commerce, the object being to discourage the blending of other teas at Colombo in order that nothing but pure Ceylon tea may be shipped from the island.

Customs Revenue.

The revenue derived from Customs dues in 1903 was the highest ever reached, and shows an increase as compared with 1902 of Rs. 412,887.32. The following table shows the income from this source for the twelve years beginning with 1892—

GROSS CUSTOMS REVENUE for the TWELVE YEARS ended 1903.

Year.	Revenue.	
	Rs.	c.
1892	4,663,562	47
1893	4,498,912	10
1894	4,931,967	42
1895	5,770,241	2
1896	5,550,971	65
1897	6,278,787	49
1898	6,714,625	82
1899	7,101,851	73
1900	7,620,432	29
1901	7,446,807	26
1902	7,630,175	62
1903	8,043,062	94

The increase in 1903 is mainly due to larger imports of grain, spirits and cordials, sugar, and other goods.

Up to 1893 the Customs revenue included recoveries under the head of "Port Dues," which are now shown under a distinct head.

The cheif articles contributing to the revenue in 1903 were—

	Rs.
Grain	3,079,420
Kerosine Oil	1,039,512
Sugar	621,361
Cotton	245,785
Tobacco	216,511

Tea.

The export of tea, nearly 150,000,000 lb., is the largest yet recorded, but the quantity of black tea shows a further decrease on last year. An appreciable rise in the price of black teas on the London market has thus been caused, and would have been much greater had not the Indian exports more than made up the deficiency in those of Ceylon, while a larger amount of cheap China teas has also been used in England. The average price of Ceylon tea in London was 7·52*d.*, against 6·81*d.* in 1902.

The manufacture of "green tea," originally recommended by the planters' agent in the United States, is a new and very promising branch of the industry. In 1898 the Planters' Association began to give a bonus on the production of these teas, and so rapid has been the development of the new trade that funds ordinarily at their disposal have proved insufficient

to meet the demand for the bonus. In 1903 some 8,200,000 lb. of green teas were exported chiefly to markets where black teas have little or no sale, and the results of the new enterprise are strikingly exemplified in the returns of the total export of tea from the island. After the experience of 1900 and 1901, when prices sank very low, chiefly owing to over-production, the planters curtailed their exports, so that the figure for 1901 was 3,000,000 lb. less than in 1900. The figure for 1902, including green teas, showed, however, an advance of 500,000 lb. on even the high-water mark of 1900, while the output for 1903 was 149,200,000 lb., or about a million more than in 1900. This apparent return to excessive production is due to the export of green tea to the American market and to an increased export of tea to countries other than the United Kingdom.

An interesting and hopeful feature in the development of the Ceylon tea trade in recent years has been the successful exploitation of new markets and the consequent relief in the strain on the home market. In 1895 out of a total tea export of 98,581,060 lb., only 12,186,532 lb. were diverted from London; in 1903 no less than 52,000,000 lb. went to other countries out of a total export of 149,000,000 lb. The increase during recent years in the amount of tea exported to the United Kingdom has been negligible, the figure for 1896 being 95,487,000 lb., and in 1903 97,267,000 lb. To Canada, however, there has been an increase from 184,000 lb. in 1896 to over 6,000,000 lb. in 1903, while Australia and New Zealand take over 19,500,000 lb., as against only 11,500,000 lb. in 1896. No less remarkable is the advance in the tea trade with foreign countries, one of the features of the trade being the increase of tea exported to Russia. In 1896 only 201,000 lb. were exported there from Ceylon. In 1903 the figure had risen to over 10,000,000 lb.; and the actual total is really much higher, as most of the tea exported to China finds its way to Russia. In 1896 the exports to China were 85,000 lb. only. Last year they had risen to nearly 5,000,000 lb. The increase in the export to the United States is very promising, having risen from 318,000 lb. in 1896 to nearly 7,000,000 lb. in 1903. The increase in this instance is, as previously explained, due to the recognition of the fact that what is wanted in America is green tea, more than half the tea exported to the United States being of that variety.

This rapid expansion of the field of activity is chiefly due to the practical and successful manner in which the proceeds of the "cess"—the small export tax on tea—have been administered by the Committee of the Planters' Association and Chamber of Commerce and the Commissioners appointed by the Committee. Government on its part contributed Rs. 120,000 towards an adequate representation of Ceylon products, more especially tea, at the last Paris Exhibition, and more than three times this sum will be spent on this year's exhibition at St. Louis.

The Imperial tax on tea continued during the year at 6*d.* a pound. It was hoped that consumption in the United Kingdom would receive a much-needed impetus by the remission of at least the additional war tax of 2*d.* a pound which was imposed in 1900, and the announcement of the further addition to the tax in this year's Budget has been received with keen disappointment.

(B) Mines, Manufactures, and Fisheries.

Pearl Oyster Fisheries.

After an interval of twelve years a pearl fishery was held at Marichchikaddi (on the north-west coast) and proved a conspicuous success. The fishery commenced on March 2 on the North-east Cheval Paar, and terminated on April 14. There were thirty-eight working days, during which 41,180,137 oysters were fished, giving a Government share 27,435,425. The receipts by sale of oysters amounted to Rs. 816,478. To this must be added Rs. 12,872 additional revenue, such as Customs, rents, &c., which bring the total receipts of the fishery to Rs. 829,348. The revenue derived from the six best fisheries since 1837 is as follows:—1859, Rs. 483,015; 1863, Rs. 510,723; 1881, Rs. 599,533; 1888, Rs. 804,312; 1891, Rs. 961,541; and 1903, Rs. 829,348. In productiveness the 1903 fishery is probably third, the fishing of 1888—when the expenses were considerably less than in 1903—taking second place.

The chief feature of the pearl fishery market of 1903 was the number of small speculators and Ceylon buyers. The success of previous fisheries from the earliest times was considered to depend on the number of Indian merchants attracted to the spot, and the principal difficulty the superintendent had to meet was a combination amongst the merchants; in 1857, for example, a league of Chetties was only broken up by a Proclamation closing the fishery. At the fishery of 1903 an inner ring of big speculators at first kept down prices, and oysters were sold at from Rs. 20 to Rs. 25 a thousand, the big buyers taking lots of from 50,000 to 100,000 oysters and dividing these between fifteen to twenty purchasers. This combination was broken up by the small buyers, who only wanted a few thousand and did not mind paying a few extra rupees to get them. Prices rose rapidly, and at the close of the fishery ranged from Rs. 35 to Rs. 50 a thousand.

The fishery appears to have been a very profitable one for the divers and merchants. Divers came from Tuticorin, Keelakari, Mandapam, and Paumben in India, and from Erukelampidi in the Mannar District, and a few men from Galle and Jaffna. By the end of February there were 260 boats and about 3,000 divers at Marichchikaddi. The merchants came from all parts of India and Ceylon, and from Arabia, Persia, and Cashmir.

The trade in pearls was very brisk, and the prices paid were unprecedented. This is chiefly owing to the fact that no fishery had been held in Ceylon since 1891, and to the demand in the Indian and English markets.

It is generally believed that the fishery of 1903 turned out very good single pearls, many of which were sold for prices varying from Rs. 500 to Rs. 3,000.

Although the profit accruing to Government from these pearl fisheries is large, it has been urged that it might be considerably enhanced if the present stereotyped methods of fishing and washing the pearls were superseded by a more modern system. At present the native divers, having got their oysters, weigh anchor, and after a run of some hours' duration reach the shore, where their loads—theoretically the whole of their loads—are divided into three equal shares, of which they take one and the Government takes two. Theoretically, therefore, the Government gets a two-third share of the profits of the fishery, and the natives get one-third. But, as a matter of fact, it is known that during the hours of the run in from the banks to shore the divers and the crews of their boats are busily engaged in extracting as many pearls as time permits; and even when the shore is reached, and these opportunities for extraction come to an end, the crowd and bustle is so great that, despite every precaution, it is certain that a few entire loads, or parts of others, escape being submitted to partition. Consequently, in the opinion of the most experienced Government officials, the actual share of profit on the fishery obtained by the Government is not two-thirds but one-half. Even this half is, however, only the gross profit, as from it has to be deducted the cost of the construction and upkeep of the very extensive camp. It is therefore obvious that a system which would leave all the oysters in the hands of Government would be greatly to the advantage of the revenue.

From recent investigations by means of diving dresses on the oyster beds themselves it seems probable that a larger number of oysters could be obtained at less labour and cost and with less restriction as to depth and as to the state of the weather and time of the year by the ordinary dredging apparatus used on the English oyster beds. On the other hand, the present system cannot lightly be discarded. Any radical change must be introduced gradually and with every precaution both to guard against dissatisfaction on the part of those accustomed to the old methods and to ensure the success of the new.

A noteworthy event of the year was the publication of Professor W. A. Herdman's report on the pearl oyster fisheries in the Gulf of Mannar. In this work, which has been published by the Royal Society with the co-operation of the Ceylon Government, Professor Herdman gives a definite explanation of the causes exercising pernicious effects upon the pearling

industry, and he formulates a number of remedial or rather cultural measures which he believes will bring prosperity and eliminate to a considerable extent the discontinuity which has been a marked but inexplicable characteristic of the past.

The chief causes of mortality among the oysters appear to be as follows: shifting of sand due to the strong currents and the monsoons, the ravages of natural enemies such as voracious fishes, overcrowding, diseases due to the invasion of parasites, and over-fishing. As regards the intermittence of the pearl fisheries, Professor Herdman considers that the main hope of introducing constancy of results and a regular succession of fisheries must rest upon a system of transplanting young "strikes" or broods of oysters when they make their appearance on useless or unreliable paars to wherever there is room for them at the time upon ground where it is known they will have a better chance of living and growing to maturity. With reference to "over-fishing" or the exhaustion of breeding stock at a time when no further supply of young in the larval stage is being brought by currents from neighbouring grounds, Professor Herdman thinks that in the future if transplanting is adopted it may be expected that such a state of affairs as the last fishery of a series with no young oysters growing up in the neighbourhood, will be very unlikely to recur. Many of Professor Herdman's final recommendations are being carried out by the Marine Biologist who accompanied him during his investigations in 1902, and whose services have since been retained for a further period of five years by Government.

Professor Herdman's inquiry was not confined to seeking the best methods of resuscitating the pearl fisheries, but extended to all possible valuable marine products of the Colony. There appear, for instance, to be great possibilities in respect of sponge culture on an extensive and profitable scale at Trincomalee and in the shallows of the Jaffna Peninsula, while the culture of edible oysters and of the pearl-bearing Tampalakam window oyster (*Placuna Placenta*) is capable of extensive development.

In order that Professor Herdman's investigations and suggestions might be followed up by further practical study of local conditions, a temporary marine laboratory has been established at Galle, where the Biologist has every facility for prosecuting his experiments. The laboratory should also attract zoologists, for it may well be doubted whether anywhere else there are equal opportunities for the study of a tropical marine fauna in conjunction with laboratory conveniences essential to successful research.

Mineralogical Survey.

Efforts have been repeatedly made to initiate a geological survey of the island, but have hitherto been unsuccessful owing to the difficulty of obtaining the necessary expert staff. In the meantime a mineralogical survey has been undertaken and

work commenced in 1903. The survey which is being carried out by an expert under the direction of Professor Dunstan of the Imperial Institute is expected to extend over two or three years, and is specially concerned with the investigation of the occurrence, composition, and commercial value of such minerals as are of economic importance, with a view to their commercial development, and eventually to their exploitation with the aid of native or English capital. Such minerals as mica, corundum, ironstone, limestone, clays, and quicksilver ore, all of commercial value, are known to occur, but information is needed as to the nature and extent of the deposits, the quality of the minerals, and their suitability for industrial purposes. The actual survey is now being conducted in communication and in co-operation with the scientific and technical department of the Imperial Institute, which undertakes the chemical analysis of all samples of minerals sent for the purpose, and arranges with manufacturers and others for carrying out such technical trials of the materials on a large scale as are requisite to test their suitability for industrial purposes. The Institute also obtains reports on the commercial value of the samples on the basis of the results of their chemical analysis and technical trials.

Already two discoveries of great scientific interest and practical importance have been made. Among the specimens sent home were those of a mineral existing in small black cubical crystals found in the refuse from gem washings near Balangoda in the Province Sabaragamuwa. The mineral had been locally identified as probably uraninite or pitchblende, but on analysis by the scientific staff of the Imperial Institute its principal constituent was found to be oxide of thorium, which was present to the extent of more than 75 per cent., an amount far higher than that contained in any mineral hitherto examined. The mineral, therefore, appears to be new, and Professor Dunstan has suggested for it the name of *thorianite*. Since it is radio-active, it will, it is expected, be found to be an important source of radium or radio-active earths, and will probably furnish helium.

Another Ceylon mineral examined was also found in the same gem washings at Balangoda, and was at first thought to be monazite, but has since been identified at the Imperial Institute as thorite, consisting chiefly of thorium silicate.

Considerable commercial importance attaches to the discovery of these two minerals, since their chief constituent, thoria, is now largely employed in the manufacture of incandescent gas mantles.

Salt.

The year 1903 will be memorable as the year in which there was an almost total failure in salt production. It was observed in the early months of the year that the stock of salt in the

island was gradually but regularly decreasing, and efforts were accordingly made to stimulate production, but unfortunately the weather was consistently unfavourable to the salt industry, with the result that the production was practically *nil*. In order, therefore, to meet the requirements of the island until the time of the next collection it was decided to import salt from India—a course which was followed in 1881—and this has been done with very successful financial results.

(c) Agricultural Industries and Botanical Stations.

Cotton.

Steps were taken in 1903 towards the initiation of an agricultural experiment which may prove to have very far-reaching consequences for the island. The rapid rise in the price of cotton owing to the shortage of crops in America and the efforts of the British Cotton-Growing Association to encourage the growth of cotton within the Empire synchronized with the approaching completion of the Northern Railway, which passes through vast tracts of undeveloped but promising country, on the irrigation of which large sums of money have been and are being spent. It was proved some years ago that these parts of Ceylon were adapted for cotton cultivation, and it is evident, therefore, that there is an excellent prospect of a new and profitable industry for the Colony.

The chief question is whether Ceylon cultivators can grow a staple better than the inferior Indian staple which was formerly cultivated in the island, and which as at present grown in India yields a poor return in price. To determine this point Government has sanctioned an experimental cultivation, which is being carried out under the supervision of the Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens, who has received valuable help in the supply of seed, machinery, and advice from the British Cotton-Growing Association. An area of about 80 acres is being planted with cotton under the new tank at Maha Illuppalama, about 20 miles south of Anuradhapura in the North-Central Province, and a thorough trial will be given to large plots of Tinnevelli, Egyptian, and American cottons, with and without irrigation. The experiment has been made three-cornered by adding fodder and stock, the latter to supply manure for the cotton. Besides the Government experiment, it is intended to grant favourable terms to capitalists intending to experiment with the industry, and there have already been several applications for land on behalf of English syndicates, in one case for 5,000 to 10,000 acres of land under Minneri, another tank in the North-Central Province. It is also intended to encourage cotton growing among the villagers by grants of good seed on credit, and by purchase of the crop for a few years, until the possibilities of the industry securing a hold in Ceylon have been thoroughly tested.

The chief agricultural products continue to be paddy, tea, cocoanuts, cacao, tobacco, and spices. The area under paddy cultivation increases very slowly, and it is doubtful whether the home-grown paddy suffices for more than one-third of the total rice consumption of the island, the other two-thirds being imported. With the opening of land under new irrigation tanks in the dry zone, however, the area under rice continues slowly to increase.

The industry which attracted most attention during 1903 was indiarubber. About 45,000 lb. of rubber were exported, and obtained much higher prices on the London market than any of the wild rubber from the Amazon Valley or elsewhere, owing to the great cleanliness of the "biscuits," which are prepared by the method elaborated by Mr. Parkin, formerly on the staff of the Royal Botanical Gardens Department. The estimates of yield published in 1898 have been exceeded, while the cost of growing and tapping is considerably less than that of collecting the wild rubber in America or Africa. Planting is going on rapidly, and probably an area of about 12,000 acres is now covered with rubber in the wet zone of Ceylon, while experiments in growing rubber under irrigation are being started in the dry zone.

Tea was threatened by several serious pests—insect and fungus—but timely action was taken under the advice of the Mycologist and Entomologist, and there is no reason to fear any severe outbreak of disease over large areas. The year was on the whole a prosperous one, owing to the output of green teas and other causes reducing the export of black tea and improving the price. An interesting feature was the establishment of a small company to manufacture soluble tea directly from the green leaf.

Cocoanuts share in the general expansion, and the exports of the produce of the cocoanut palm were the largest on record. In 1896 the value of the exports of the cocoanut palm was Rs. 11,178,000. In 1893 the value had risen to nearly Rs. 26,000,000. The articles which chiefly contributed to this large amount are cocoanut oil (Rs. 11,000,000), copra (Rs. 7,500,000), desiccated cocoanuts (Rs. 3,100,000), and poonac (Rs. 1,500,000). The last two articles are comparatively new, desiccated cocoanuts—so largely in request for confectionery—being an unknown product twenty years ago, but the exports of these two articles alone are now equal in value to the total exports of the products of the cocoanut palm in 1882. The most marked advance since 1896 has been in the export of copra, which has increased in value from 5½ to 75 lacs of rupees, and in quantity from 57,500 cwt. to 730,000 cwt. Cocoanut oil has risen from 60 to 110 lacs, and the value of poonac exported has increased more than 100 per cent., reaching 15 lacs in 1902. Coir fibre has risen from 2½ lacs in 1896 to nearly 8 in 1902.

The important position which the products of the cocoanut palm now occupy in the trade returns may be gauged from the fact that whereas in 1896 they formed only about 14½ per cent., they now represent nearly 26 per cent. of the total exports of Ceylon produce.

Cacao also had a prosperous year. The canker is now kept well in hand on most estates, and even the greatest sceptics are being convinced of the efficacy of proper treatment by the success of such methods on the Experiment Station, where there is now but little canker, though in 1902, when the place was purchased, about 98 per cent. of the trees were cankered.

The continued adulteration of citronella oil led to a further heavy fall in the exports, but measures are under consideration for the examination of all oils before export, and the export of such oils only as pass a certain standard of purity. In this way it is hoped that this important minor industry may be prevented from further decline.

Among spices, cardamoms, as predicted some years ago, have been suffering from great overproduction, the exports showing a rise of about 47 per cent, as compared with 1902. The trade in cinnamon also shows great expansion, while other spices remain stationary. Vanilla is no longer being planted on account of the drop in price, due to overplanting in other countries. Pepper, on the other hand, shows signs of progress.

Among drugs, the export of cinchona continues to fall. On the other hand, Ceylon coca leaves are now regularly exported to London, and obtain the highest market prices. The cultivation of camphor continues to spread slowly in suitable districts in the hills, and distillations have given promising results. The recent rise in price will give a stimulus to this industry.

The work of the Department of Royal Botanic Gardens was, as usual, devoted mainly to the larger industries, their improvement, and conservation. The planting industries in particular are becoming every year more and more scientific in their methods. A noteworthy feature of 1903 was the movement in favour of legislative help in combating disease, to enable pressure to be brought to bear upon those who wilfully neglect to deal with disease upon their plantations, and thus become sources of infection to their neighbours. A committee has since been appointed to advise on the question of pests and plant sanitation generally.

Interesting experiments in the breeding of improved local races of peas, maize, &c., have been continued during the year

with promising results; this work is among the very first of its kind in the tropics, and a great future lies before it.

Experiments have been begun upon the protection of soils from wash, and their enrichment in nitrogen, by planting of leguminous crops among the regular crops, such as tea. The results are very promising, and there are already signs that a radical change may soon come over the planting industries in this direction.

Special attention has been devoted to the formation of large stocks of vegetables for local distribution through the school gardens and in other ways. The school gardens have already been the means of introducing quite a number of new vegetables into the villages.

(D) Land Grants and Value of Land.

In 1903 27,829 acres of land were alienated by the Crown by sale or settlement, as against 38,117 acres in 1902. The amount realised was Rs. 702,142, or an average of Rs. 25·23 an acre.

Of the above amount 3,897½ acres of irrigable land was sold in 1903 under "Sir Henry Ward's Minute," which provides for payments in four annual instalments. Of the balance 23,931½ acres, 19,761 acres were purchased by natives and 4,170¼ acres by Europeans.

During the year the operations of the Survey Department comprised block surveys of 282,149 acres, topographical surveys of 897,290 acres, and application surveys of 47,195 acres, or a total of 5,601,604 acres, in addition to the revised and hill sketched surveys for the 8-mile map of the island.

(E) Shipping.

The shipping returns of the island show an increase of 62 vessels and an increase of 361,482 tons over the returns of 1902. The figures for the last three years are as follows:—

—	1901.		1902.		1903.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Entered	3,367	4,557,607	3,418	4,981,584	3,452	5,184,690
Cleared	3,436	4,470,963	3,429	4,973,672	3,457	5,132,048
	6,803	9,028,570	6,847	9,955,256	6,909	10,316,738

The arrivals at the Port of Colombo in the year 1903 numbered 1,877 steamers aggregating 4,691,020 tons, and 508 sailing vessels aggregating 48,266 tons, showing a decrease in steamers of 10 vessels, but an increase in tonnage of 166,988 tons, and in sailing vessels a decrease of 38 vessels aggregating 1,973 tons, as compared with the preceding year.

The arrivals at the Port of Galle in 1903 numbered 163 steamers aggregating 345,518 tons, and 15 sailing vessels aggregating 1,441 tons, showing an increase in steamers of 1, and an increase in tonnage of 44,223 tons, and in sailing vessels an increase only in tonnage of 210 tons, the number of vessels being the same as in the preceding year.

As regards Colombo, the steamer tonnage was nearly 98 per cent. of the whole. The vessels for the most part fly the British flag, the tonnage for 1903 under that flag representing 69 per cent. of the whole. Germany comes first among the vessels under foreign flags, with nearly 5 per cent. of the number and 12·4 per cent. of the tonnage. The other vessels flying the principal flags are—

—	Year 1903.	
	No.	Tons.
French	115	279,312
Japanese	69	238,691
Austrian	59	180,301
Russian	47	127,257

The highest proportion of the tonnage of foreign vessels is of those flying the German and Japanese flags.

Colombo Harbour Dues.

The total collection of Harbour Dues at Colombo during the year 1903 amounted to Rs. 1,148,190.75, an increase of Rs. 44,177.49 over the preceding year, and Rs. 1,421.42 over the year 1900, the collections of which were abnormally large. The collection for the year 1903 exceeded those of all previous years. Compared with the collection of the first year (1883), viz., Rs. 379,018.23, the receipts in 1903 show an increase of Rs. 769,172.52. The total collections up to last year since the Harbour Revenue was established in 1883 amounted to Rs. 15,239,788.35.

The following table, showing the number and tonnage of vessels calling to coal at Colombo, and the entering dues paid since 1883, proves the rapid growth of the port:—

Year.	No.	Tons.	Entering Dues.
			Rs.
1883	110	168,216	10,145
1884	135	217,419	12,955
1885	148	244,131	14,460
1886	136	219,232	12,822
1887	179	288,471	17,230
1888	256	432,133	25,340
1889	302	484,697	29,359
1890	344	557,446	33,342
1891	326	540,370	31,975
1892	307	520,299	30,822
1893	348	619,979	35,872
1894	369	696,583	39,240
1895	387	786,819	42,265
1896	384	794.899	40,955
1897	366	787,785	40,420
1898	493	1,004,145	53,722
1899	498	1,020,393	53,972
1900	607	1,309,760	64,715
1901	630	1,390,960	66,397
1902	610	1,339,945	65,713
1903	590	1,297,974	64,430

III.—LEGISLATION.

The chief enactments of the year were as follows:—

Ordinance No. 2 of 1903, without affecting the main principles of the Customs tariff, introduced certain amendments of detail which had been necessitated by alterations and developments in the course of trade, such, for example, as the growing importation of liquid fuel, and the introduction of motor cars. Motor cars not used for traction have been excluded from the exemption in favour of prime movers,* and the flashing point for liquid fuel below which it becomes dutiable as kerosine oil has been reduced from 200°F. to 150°F. In order to check the importation of potable spirits under the guise of "perfumery," a duty of Rs. 7 per gallon was imposed on perfumery and spirits imported as perfumery.

By Ordinance No. 3 of 1903, previous Ordinances with regard to the repression of crime were consolidated and amended. In particular, the procedure for the allocation and recovery of the amounts charged to defray the cost of punitive police, &c., was revised with the view of securing greater simplicity and efficiency.

* NOTE.—It has since been decided, however, to allow a rebate in favour of motor cars imported by Government contractors for use in mail coach services.

Important amendments in the law of criminal defamation were effected by Ordinance No. 5 of 1903. With the object of preventing the institution of criminal actions for defamation in cases where the civil remedy would satisfy the requirements of justice, the Ordinance prohibits the institution of such cases without the previous sanction of the Attorney-General. On the other hand, provision for the punishment of inveterate offenders has been made by empowering the courts, in cases where the offender has been previously sentenced to twelve months or upwards, to award the punishment of hard labour.

An important modification of the Currency Ordinance was effected by Ordinance No. 6 of 1903, and is explained under the head "Currency" (*vide* section I.).

Ordinance No. 8 of 1903 prohibits the establishment of any apparatus or installation for transmitting or receiving messages by means of wireless telegraphy without the license of His Excellency the Governor.

The Penal Code was amended by Ordinance No. 10 of 1903, the object of which is to secure the punishment of clerks or servants who fraudulently falsify books or papers in their charge. As the law stood previously it was often difficult to bring home a charge of forgery or embezzlement. The amendment follows the Law of England by making falsification of books a substantive offence.

IV.—EDUCATION.

(A) Preliminary.

It is not possible to draw the same clear line between preliminary and secondary education in Ceylon which can be drawn in some other countries. The question is complicated by the fact that English is a foreign language to all but a small fraction of the population. The Europeans, Burghers, and Eurasians added together form a little less than 1 per cent. of the population. The Sinhalese form 65·3 per cent. of the total; the Tamils and Tamil-speaking Moors 33·1 per cent. A few families among the educated Sinhalese and Tamils have adopted English as their home language. On the other hand, in many of the poorer families of Burghers and Eurasians the children are brought up without anything approaching to a complete knowledge of any language. The result is that schools in which English is taught are teaching a language which is foreign to all or almost all of their pupils, and the distinction between primary and secondary education is replaced by the distinction between vernacular and English schools. The vernacular schools really constitute the primary education of the country. The Department of Public Instruction attempted for

some time to make a distinction between those English schools which confined their work to the schedules of the Code and those which also prepared pupils for such examinations as the Cambridge Local or the London University Matriculation, the latter being classed as High schools. In recent reports on the Blue Book this distinction has been followed, and all English schools, except the High schools, have been dealt with under the head of "Primary Education." But the distinction is no longer maintained by the Department, nor was it of any real value, for almost all of the so-called High schools were really of the same class as the elementary schools, and the main part of their work was carried on in accordance with schedules based closely on those of the English Code for elementary schools. It has, therefore, been thought better that the distinction should disappear from this report, and that the subject should be treated under the two main heads of "Vernacular Education" and "English Education," with additional sections on the special provision for higher education, the training of teachers, technical and industrial education, and the education of special classes, such as the estate cooly.

(B) Vernacular Education.

In 1903 there were 497 Government vernacular schools attended by 44,631 boys and 11,132 girls, and 1,273 aided vernacular schools attended by 76,619 boys and 37,707 girls. There is, therefore, a total of 1,770 vernacular schools attended by 121,250 boys and 48,839 girls. As compared with the previous year the number of schools has increased by 26, the number of boys of 5,134, and the number of girls by 1,823. The total sum spent by Government on vernacular education was Rs. 616,608.68, of which Rs. 230,855.88 was expended on Government schools and Rs. 385,782.80 on aided schools. In addition to the above there were 1,755 unaided schools (almost all of them vernacular) which furnished numerical returns to Government. In these 39,805 children were said to be receiving instruction, but the figures furnished by these schools are not always reliable.

The question whether the educational provision for Ceylon is sufficient was raised during the year in the Imperial Parliament. The answer is that, though the provision is not as yet sufficient, there has been and still is a very fair rate of progress. The total number of pupils attending schools of all classes in 1903 was 238,259, the increase on the previous year being 11,852. The deficiencies may be classified under three heads—

(*a*) The education of girls.

(*b*) The Colombo Municipality.

(*c*) Certain rural districts, notably the Province of Uva and the North-Central Province, the Kurunegala District of the North-Western Province, the Mullaittivu District, and the inland portions of the Jaffna and Batticaloa Districts.

(*a*) The education of girls presents special difficulties in the East, and few Asiatic countries have accomplished so much as has been done in Ceylon. Many years must elapse before the whole island is ready for anything like a complete measure of compulsory female education.

(*b*) The Department of Public Instruction was in correspondence with the Colombo Municipality during the year 1903, and the Municipal Council have now applied to Government for powers to deal with the question of elementary education in Colombo.

(*c*) The country districts referred to consist for the most part of sparsely populated areas. In the North-Central Province, for example, a population of 79,110 persons is spread over 4,002 square miles. There are parts of these districts which can never be dealt with in a completely satisfactory way, and in most of them the only chance of efficient action is the establishment of a largely increased number of Government or Gansabhawa schools. The Gansabhawa schools, or schools carried on by the Village Council, have only recently been started; they are still in the experimental stage, and the experiment is being tried in two distinct forms—(1) In Tamankaduwa, an isolated but compact district of the North-Central Province, which was entirely unprovided with schools, the local authorities in 1899 tried the experiment of starting elementary schools of the cheapest possible form, supported by Gansabhawa funds and supervised by the native revenue officer of the district. A lump sum grant of Rs. 1,000 has been allowed annually to the district to be utilised by the revenue officer for the support of those schools, of which there are now twenty attended by 725 children. (2) In Uva and the North-Western Provinces the experiment is being tried in a different form. Schools have been established by the Gansabhawas, which are to be registered as aided schools and examined for grant in the usual way. Seven of these schools have been started in the Province of Uva and one in the North-Western Province. They are more ambitious institutions than the schools of Tamankaduwa, being placed under certificated teachers, and worked in accordance with the Code for Aided Schools. It remains to be seen whether they can be permanently carried on by the aid of the Government grant, and whether, when managed in this way, they will really cost less than Government schools of the ordinary kind.

(c) English Schools.

In 1903 there were 174 English schools attended by 22,611 pupils, of whom 18,795 were boys and 3,816 were girls. As

compared with 1902, these figures show an increase of twelve schools and 1,221 pupils. In the majority of these schools the work is confined to the schedules of the Code, but there are many in which the upper classes are prepared for the Cambridge Local Examinations, Senior and Junior, and a few in which the work of the most advanced students reaches a much higher level. In 1903 619 candidates entered for the Cambridge Local Examinations. For the Senior Local there were 190 candidates, of whom 170 were boys and 20 girls; of these, 89 boys and 15 girls succeeded in gaining certificates, 17 boys and 4 girls obtaining honours. For the Junior Local there were 429 candidates: 328 boys and 101 girls; certificates were obtained by 133 boys and 42 girls, honours by 12 boys and 2 girls.

The only Government institution devoted to higher education is the Royal College, at which in 1903 there were 313 pupils, with an average attendance of 284. The pupils in the upper part of the College are prepared for the Cambridge Local Examinations and for the special examination which is held for the English University Scholarship. The staff consists of seventeen masters, five of whom hold English University degrees. The gross cost to Government in 1903 was Rs. 43,249.93, of which the sum of Rs. 20,220 was recovered in school fees. The other institutions in which anything that can fairly be described as higher education is given are, with one exception, registered as aided schools under the Code. The one exception is the Jaffna College, which is supported entirely by the American Mission, and is affiliated as a first grade college to the Calcutta University.

The encouragement offered by Government takes two forms —(*a*) Grants, (*b*) Scholarships.

(*a*) In aided English schools grants for specific subjects as well as for work in the standards are paid on the results of the Government examination in each school. Liberal grants are also paid for every pupil who obtains honours in the Cambridge Local Examinations or who passes the London University Matriculation Examination or Intermediate Examination in Arts. The total sum expended in grants to English schools was Rs. 121,609.88.

(*b*) The English University Scholarship of £200 per annum for four years is awarded annually on the results of a special examination held for the purpose by the Oxford and Cambridge Joint Board for School Examinations. One scholarship of Rs. 240 per annum for three years is awarded annually to girls on the results of the Cambridge Senior Local Examination. On the results of the Cambridge Junior Local Examination one scholarship of Rs. 240 for three years and two of Rs. 120 for two years are awarded annually to boys, and two scholarships of Rs. 120 for three years are awarded annually to girls. The total sum expended in scholarships in 1903 was Rs. 15,117.01.

(D) Training of Teachers.

In January, 1903, a Government Training College for English teachers was started. For many years previous to this there had been no provision for the training of English teachers either on the part of Government or on the part of the managers of aided schools. The new institution is specially intended to meet the wants of the aided English schools, in many of which the teaching has been of a very inferior order. Twelve studentships of the annual value of Rs. 300 each are provided by Government. Two small vernacular training schools which were carried on at Colombo and Kandy are now combined with the new Training College, which thus has a vernacular as well as an English department. An English boys' school and a vernacular boys' school are worked on the same premises, and serve as practising schools for the two departments. Training schools for vernacular teachers are also carried on by most of the Ceylon Missionary bodies. These receive a liberal grant under the Code for Aided Schools.

(E) Technical and Industrial Education and School Gardens.

Higher technical education is provided for by the Technical College, a Government institution established in 1893. In 1897 is was re-organised and its work largely extended. It is now the regular channel of admission for Ceylonese to the following Departments of Government: Public Works, Survey, Railway, Post and Telegraph. It contains departments of Civil Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Telegraphy, Surveying and Levelling. In 1903 the number of students was 172, and the gross cost to Government was Rs. 38,207.88, of which Rs. 6,656.46 was recovered in fees and by sale of stationery, instruments, &c. New buildings, including extensive laboratories, are in course of erection.

There are no Government industrial schools, but industrial education is supported by a liberal grant. In 1903 the aided industrial schools, which are 36 in number, received grants amounting to Rs. 51,573.29. The number of pupils was 2,025, and the trades taught were as follows:—Dressmaking 160, carpentry 260, printing 105, bookbinding 140, shoemaking 15, tailoring 116, blacksmiths' work 22, lace-making 788, embroidery 390, cooking 3, weaving 1, masonry 13, spinning 12.

The most important of these schools is the Maggona Certified Industrial School, which is utilised by Government as a reformatory, and carried on by the Roman Catholic Mission. This institution has an estate of about 300 acres and excellent buildings, to the cost of which Government has contributed. At the end of 1903 the number of juvenile offenders receiving instruction in it was 167. The trades taught were carpentry,

ironwork, masonry, printing, bookbinding, and tailoring. An allowance is paid by Government for the maintenance of each juvenile offender; this is not included in the amount specified above as the grants paid for industrial schools. The total cost of this institution to Government in 1903 was Rs. 21,609.26.

Good work is also done by some of the other industrial schools, but it is doubtful whether in the case of those which draw their pupils from rural districts real benefit ensues. In Ceylon, where 88 per cent. of the population is rural, the technical and industrial education required for the main part of the population is one which will fit them for rural and agricultural life. An attempt is being made to supply this by a scheme for school gardens which is being carried on in connection with Government schools. There are now 55 Government schools in which gardens are being carried on under this scheme. Seeds and implements are supplied by the Department, and the gardens are visited as often as possible by the Superintendent of School Gardens and his Assistant. It is hoped that in the future this scheme will be considerably extended.

Needlework in the girls' schools is a no less important matter, and this has been an extremely weak subject in all schools, Government as well as aided, which have not had the personal supervision of a lady manager. The defective work has been in a great measure due to the want of competent inspection. In 1903 Government decided to supply this by the appointment of an inspectress, who has since begun work.

(F) Schools for Special Classes.

Estate Schools.

Special facilities are offered by the Code for the registration of estate schools with grants on a very liberal scale. Little advantage, however, has hitherto been taken of these offers. In 1903, for instance, there were only 43 estate schools attended by 1,765 children, and attention was drawn in the House of Commons to the want of educational provision for this class. There are two main causes for the fact that comparatively little has been done by voluntary effort:—

(1) The Government Code prescribed a session of three hours, and this necessitated the curtailment of the children's daily work as tea pluckers.

(2) There is an undefined but very real feeling that education will prevent the children following the vocation of their parents.

An attempt has been made to meet the first objection by limiting the session to two hours in the case of children over eleven years. The second is a more serious objection, and deserves every consideration. It is unfortunately true that in

many countries education has tended to draw away children from the rural and agricultural pursuits of their parents. It is not merely that the knowledge gained at school suggests the possibility of other vocations; a more serious matter is that school work as usually organised causes too complete a withdrawal from that hardy open air life to which the agriculturist ought to be habituated from childhood. The remedy doubtless lies in properly adapting the work and hours of the school to the wants of the class for which it is intended. An attempt will be made to do this, but joint action between Government and the Planters' Association is necessary if there is to be any satisfactory solution of the difficulty. The attention of the latter body has been directed to the question by the Governor, and a systematic attempt to investigate it is now being made.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

(A) Hospitals.

The most noteworthy event of the year was the laying of the foundation stone by Lady Ridgeway in August of the new Colombo Eye Hospital, which is to commemorate the reign of Queen Victoria. The hospital, which it is expected will be completed in 1904, will be a handsome structure situated on a commanding site, and will contain forty-four beds, with special provision for children. The ample accommodation thus afforded should render it possible to get acute cases into hospital at an early stage, and thus save the eyesight of many. The hospital will also provide excellent material for demonstrating eye diseases to medical students by well-qualified lecturers. The cost, approximately estimated at Rs. 200,000, is being defrayed partly by voluntary contributions and partly from revenue.

During the year 1903 66 hospitals and asylums were in operation. In the 32 civil and lying-in home hospitals there were 40,553 cases treated, with 3,433 deaths, being 3,420 cases and 265 deaths less than in the previous year. The daily average sick was 1,553·53, against 1,652·51 in the previous year. In the eight field hospitals there were 4,105 cases treated with 129 deaths, against 4,426 treated and 171 deaths during the previous year. The number treated in the four immigrant hospitals was 1,318, against 1,855 in 1902. Of the total treated, the deaths numbered 63, against 84 in the previous year. In the 20 district hospitals 13,081 cases were treated, against 14,928 in 1902. There were 1,859 deaths, against 2,510 in the preceding year.

General Hospital, Colombo.

The total number of patients treated at this institution during the year was 14,606 with 1,138 deaths, against 16,035 cases

and 1,101 deaths in the previous year. The daily average sick was 486·82, and the percentage of deaths to total treated was 7·79.

The institution consists of twenty-five wards and eight solitary rooms, and the number of beds is 425. An administration block with quarters for the Medical and Nursing Staff is in course of construction, and will, when completed, enhance to a considerable extent the usefulness of the institution. In the paying section which consists of twenty wards with forty-four beds, the total number of patients treated during 1903 was 523 with 55 deaths, against 577 cases and 41 deaths in 1902. The daily average sick was 26·34, against 27·61 in 1902; and the percentage of deaths to total treated was 10·51, against 7·11 in 1902.

De Soysa Lying-in Home.

The popularity of the home is daily increasing, especially with the Mohammedan patients.

Twenty-three pupil midwives received training in the Lying-in Home in 1903, of whom 17 obtained certificates after passing a satisfactory examination. A new scheme to train selected pupils from all provinces has been adopted, and it is hoped that it will supply a long-felt want by the speedy introduction of European midwifery into the villages.

Lady Havelock Hospital (for Women and Children).

In this hospital 1,137 patients were treated, against 1,072 in 1902.

Grenier Eye, Ear, and Throat Infirmary.

At this institution 6,602 cases were treated during the year, against 4,927 in the previous year.

Kanatta Infectious Diseases Hospital.

Eleven cases of infectious diseases remained from the previous year and there were 316 admissions, making a total of 327. Of these, 303 were discharged cured, 4 died, and 20 remained. The death-rate was 2·30 per cent., against 8·77 per cent., in 1902.

(B) Medical Institutions.

The De Soysa Bacteriological Institute has been placed in charge of Dr. Aldo Castellani, M.D. (Florence), who was employed on the Sleeping Sickness Commission of the Royal Society and Foreign Office in Uganda in the years 1902 and 1903.

Medical College.

The college contains lecture halls, laboratories for chemical physiology, biology, and pathology, dissecting room, offices, photographic rooms, a Museum and Colonial Medical Library, and a separate building for lady students. A professor of chemistry is being obtained for the college from England. There were 96 medical and 32 apothecary students at the end of the year.

(c) Asylums.

Lunatic Asylum, Colombo.

At the beginning of the year there remained 316 males and 167 females, total 483 cases. During 1903 151 cases (103 males and 48 females) were admitted, the total number under treatment being 634 (419 males and 215 females). Of these, 49 males and 26 females, 75 in all, were discharged, and 39 males and 12 females, 51 in all, died. The daily average was 488·37 (males 317·34, females 171·03), an increase of 6·92 as compared with the previous maximum average. This increase affects only the male division, which was already overcrowded. There was one case of accidental injury to a patient by an attendant, another case of serious injury by a patient to another patient; other cases of injury have been rather unusually numerous, some being accidental in origin and others being due to the action of fellow-patients. No case of suicide occurred during the year.

(d) Poor Houses.

There are no poor-houses. In Colombo and in most of the other large towns there are Friend-in-Need Societies, to which grants are made by Government, and from these, supplemented by private subscriptions, much distress is relieved. In country districts relief is afforded by means of a limited grant made by Government and administered by the revenue officers. The amount contributed by Government for the relief of the poor, when compared with the population and revenue of the island, is, however, insignificant. It is highly creditable to the people that among a poor population, many of whom are living on the verge of want, it has not been necessary to provide poor-houses; the claims of humanity are so widely recognized, and so freely met, that the pauper can always obtain shelter and a meal.

(e) Reformatories.

The only reformatory is that at Maggona. The institution stands on extensive grounds given by Government to the Roman Catholic Mission, but is open to all youthful offenders irrespective of religion. The average period of detention is about two years, eighteen years being the limit of age till which they are detained. The boys are under a large resident staff, including European Brothers, who supervise the industrial

work. The efficiency of the institution is highly commended by the Director of Public Instruction, and it is satisfactory to note that only three of those who left the institution during the four years 1898 to 1902 have been again convicted in the courts. An extension of the building has recently been sanctioned, and there will shortly be accommodation for over 200 boys.

(F) Savings Banks.

There are two Savings Banks under Government control.

The Ceylon Savings Bank had a prosperous year. The amount to the credit of depositors (who numbered 30,840, as against 29,846 in 1902) increased from Rs. 4,173,543 at the end of 1902 to Rs. 4,309,827 at the end of 1903. The bank pays interest on deposits at rates of 3 and 4 per cent., and has a reserve fund of over Rs. 500,000.

The Post Office Savings Bank is in a satisfactory condition, and the number of depositors continues to increase. At the end of 1903 the number of depositors with open accounts was 58,121, or, estimating the population at the same time at 3,600,000, one depositor to every 62 persons. This compares very favourably with India, where there is only one depositor to every 369 persons, though, as might be expected, it is a very long way behind the remarkable figures of the United Kingdom, where one out of every 4 persons is a savings bank depositor. The total funds to the credit of depositors was on 31st December, 1903, Rs. 1,605,041, as against Rs. 1,454,858 on 31st December, 1902.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

(A) Police.

1. The authorized strength of the Police Department on the 31st December, 1903, was 1 Inspector-General, 4 Superintendents, 7 Assistant Superintendents, 27 Inspectors, 10 Sergeant-Majors, 16 European sergeants, 18 European constables, 203 native sergeants, 1,444 native constables, 26 Government clerks, 34 policemen clerks, 1 registrar of servants, 1 storekeeper, 10 coolies, and 1 apothecary.

2. In October, 1903, an Assistant Superintendent, additional to the existing staff, was appointed for special duty as chief of a Criminal Investigation Department. The duties assigned to him are to help all divisions in cases of serious crime which baffle, or threaten to baffle, the local police. All cases of serious crime are reported to him by telegram. He is directed to keep himself acquainted with the nature of the investigations being carried out in the various provinces and divisions, and, when he considers it necessary, to send an experienced detective to help the local police. In the more difficult and serious cases he proceeds himself to the locality.

3. The total cost of the Ceylon police for the year 1903 was Rs. 753,312, as against Rs. 738,014 in 1902.

4. During the year 274 recruits were enlisted. The demand, however, is far greater than the supply; during the year the force was never up to its full strength, and on the 31st December there were 53 men short. Much attention was paid to the training and instruction of the recruit. All recruits are now kept in the training school for a period of at least four months prior to joining the ranks for duty. Each man does four hours' study, lectures, catechism, &c., daily, with two hours' gymnastics and two hours' drill.

(B) PRISONS.

1. There was some increase in the total number of admissions of convicted prisoners to the prisons in Ceylon during the year, the increase being in prisoners with short sentences. Excluding Road Ordinance defaulters, the totals of admissions of convicted prisoners to the prisons for the last ten years have been as follows:—

Year.	Number.
1894	6,141
1895	5,498
1896	5,288
1897	7,001
1898	7,051
1899	6,158
1900	6,000
1901	6,581
1902	6,369
1903	6,905

The admissions of defaulters under the Road Ordinance, who complete the prison population of convicted prisoners, have been as follows:—

Year.	Number.
1894	826
1895	744
1896	648
1897	500
1898	379
1899	329
1900	260
1901	354
1902	237
1903	344

The increase in 1903 is due to a large number of admissions in Kandy.

2. Of the total admissions of convicted prisoners to prisons, the following figures give those from the Superior Courts:—

Year.	Number.
1894	859
1895	614
1896	854
1897	1,155
1898	1,138
1899	731
1900	939
1901	1,114
1902	879
1903	923

There has therefore been an increase over last year of those convicted for serious offences of 44.

3. There is, however, a decrease in convictions for murder and manslaughter of 11. The numbers for the last ten years are as follows:—

Year.	Number.
1894	82
1895	75
1896	62
1897	88
1898	58
1899	71
1900	82
1901	101
1902	81
1903	70

4. The number of men sentenced to death and of those whose capital sentences were carried out are as follows:—

Year.	Sentenced to Death.	Hanged.
1894	43	23
1895	26	22
1896	37	25
1897	40	20
1898	28	19
1899	27	21
1900	51	32
1901	47	37
1902	43	30
1903	36	22

There has, therefore, been a very satisfactory decrease under this head, but the numbers are still large. The offenders do not, as has been repeatedly pointed out, belong to the habitual criminal class. They are, as a rule, men without previous convictions, who have up to the time of the crime led a comparatively blameless life. The offence is not generally committed with the deliberation of the hardened criminal but in the heat of passion or under the influence of liquor, and even the death penalty appears to have no deterrent effect. Murders in Ceylon are not committed in towns so much as in villages, *i.e.*, among the uneducated.

5. The following table gives the number of escapes from the prisons and recaptures during the past ten years:—

Year.	Escapes.	Recaptures.
1894	5	6
1895	11	13
1896	9	8
1897	13	12
1898	10	10
1899	8	8
1900	1	1
1901	2	2
1902	81	75
1903	2	5

There were two escapes and five recaptures during the year. The two prisoners that escaped were both recaptured. The remaining recaptures were of three of the 79 prisoners that escaped from Mahara on the 28th June, 1902. Of the two escapes, one prisoner escaped from the escort at Bandarawela, while he was being transferred from Badulla to Kandy. The other was a female prisoner that escaped from the Tangalla jail. On the usual inquiry being held, it transpired that the prisoner escaped with the connivance of the matron in charge. Both the matron and the prisoner were prosecuted, and were sentenced to three and one months' rigorous imprisonment respectively.

6. The daily average of convicted prisoners in jail was 2,459, as against 2,404 in 1902.

7. The total number of deaths (87) is much less than that of last year (125). The average daily sick rate also shows an encouraging decrease, being 132 as compared with 156 in 1902 and 152 in 1901.

8. The number of punishments has increased from 3,938 in 1902 to 4,353 in 1903, but it is satisfactory to note that with an increased number of admissions and daily average the number

of prisoners punished has fallen from 3,356 to 3,286, a decrease of 70. This appears to show that there have been repetitions of offences by the same prisoners. Corporal punishments have decreased, being 178 in 1903, as against 200 in 1902.

9. As in 1902, no resident European was convicted during the year; 30 non-resident Europeans were convicted, as against 47 in the previous year. The majority of these were sailors, who were imprisoned on charges of disobeying lawful commands and refusing to work.

10. The cost of maintaining each prisoner was Rs. 189, as compared with Rs. 191 in 1902.

(c) Criminal Statistics.

I.—*From Returns furnished by the Inspector-General of Police.*

There were 16,769 true cases of cognizable offences committed in 1903, with 11,492 convictions or commitments to higher courts, as against 17,374 true cases with 12,229 convictions or commitments in 1902, or a decrease of 605 cases. The true cases and results for the last five years have been:—

Year.	True cases.	Convictions or Committals.
1899	14,434	10,173
1900	17,703	12,990
1901	17,609	12,793
1902	17,374	12,229
1903	16,769	11,492

2. Of the 16,769 cases in 1903, 12,063 cases were under "Other Offences," in which are included all statutory offences, breaches of Municipal and other by-laws, and minor offences; and 4,706 cases for offences which may be regarded as real crime.

3. The following table shows the fluctuations of serious crime for the past five years:—

—	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.
Murder and homicide ...	125	146	160	146	134
Rape	39	32	36	22	31
Robbery	269	289	382	326	294
Burglary	977	1,245	1,384	1,433	1,481
Grievous hurt	371	391	441	447	436
Theft of cattle and prædial products.	885	1,119	1,127	1,185	1,215
Arson	145	98	148	156	206
Riot	14	3	10	16	21

4. In 1903 146 cases were sent to the District Court and 16 cases to the Supreme Court under the Habitual Criminals Ordinance, showing a decrease of 48 and 12 cases, respectively, as compared with 1902.

5. Of the 134 cases of murder and homicide, 103 cases were committed for trial, of which 91 cases were sent to the Supreme Court. In 58 cases the accused were convicted, and 36 persons were sentenced to be hanged, of whom 22 were executed.

6. In 57 of the murder cases a knife or other cutting instrument was used, compared with 60 in 1902. In 36 cases clubs were used, and in 19 cases the victims were shot as compared with 30 cases in 1902. The decrease in the number of shooting cases is a satisfactory feature of the year's returns.

7. With regard to other special offences, robberies decreased during 1903 by 32 cases. There was also a decrease in the cases of grievous hurt.

8. House-breaking cases by night show a further increase. There were 1,433 cases in 1902 and in 1903 1,481 cases. There were 157 convictions, or 10·6 per cent. of cases. Many of these cases, though technically house-breaking, can hardly be considered so. They consist of entering second-class houses and small huts, which have no real protection, situated in secluded gardens and far away from the road, and taking of small articles of value.

9. Thefts of cattle and prædial produce also show an increase from 1,185 in 1902 to 1,215 in 1903. Of the latter, 1,165 cases were of cattle and 50 of prædial produce. There were 256 convictions in the former and 22 in the latter.

10. As regards minor offences, there were 12,063 cases with 9,800 convictions. Under Ordinance No. 3 of 1897 (Prevention of Plague) there were 233 prosecutions, resulting in 202 convictions.

11. There was an increase of crime in the Western, Eastern, North-Western, North-Central, and Sabaragamuwa Provinces, and a decrease in the Central, Northern, Southern, and Uva Provinces.

12. It was found necessary to quarter punitive police in three villages in the Western Province in consequence of repeated attempts being made to derail the trains on the new Kelani Valley Railway. The tax was recovered without difficulty.

13. The riot which occurred in Anuradhapura in June, 1903, is referred to elsewhere (*vide* section XI. (A)).

II.—*From Returns furnished by the Solicitor-General.*

The number of cases instituted in the Police Courts and Municipal Magistrates' Courts was 72,408, in which 79,569

persons were charged, 43,296 being acquitted summarily, 33,693 convicted, and 2,580 committed before a higher court.

2. Of 2,075 committals before the Superior Courts, 1,138 resulted in a verdict for the Crown and 937 in favour of the accused. The number of committals in 1902 was 2,097, of which 1,090 ended in favour of the Crown.

3. In murder cases there were 45 convictions to 55 acquittals; homicides resulted in 29 convictions to 23 acquittals.

4. In the Police Courts 72,408 cases were instituted, against 74,049 in 1902, the convictions being 30,123 against 38,160.

5. The number of convictions in the Superior Courts fell from 1,090 to 986.

6. The "Gansabhawas," *i.e.*, Village Tribunals for the disposal of petty cases between natives, did useful work as usual.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

(A) Population.

The population enumerated at the last Census (1st March, 1901) was 3,565,954. The natural increase by excess of births over deaths from that date to the end of the year 1903 amounted to 123,518, while the number of Indian immigrants exceeded the number of emigrants by 51,090. The population estimated to the end of 1903 was accordingly 3,740,562, an increase compared with the population at the end of the preceding year of 67,674 persons, and equal to a rate of 1·8 per cent. These figures do not include the military, the shipping, and the prisoners of war, who at the last Census numbered 12,379.

Birth and Death Rates.

The births registered during the year numbered 148,027, and were in the proportion of 40·0 per 1,000 persons living. The registered deaths numbered 96,084, equivalent to a rate of 25·9 per 1,000 of the population. Compared with 1902, the birth-rate shows an increase of 1·5 per mille and the death-rate a decrease of 1·6 per mille. Compared with the average rates for the five years 1898-1902, the birth-rate shows an increase of 1·6 per mille and the death-rate a decrease of 2·3 per mille.

(B) Public Health.

The public health was good. There were very few outbreaks of epidemic disease, and the numbers attacked for each of the more serious infectious diseases have been less than in 1902

(with the exception of enteric fever). The following table shows the actual extent of these diseases in the two years:—

—	1902.		1903.	
	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.
Cholera	179	116	46	23
Small-pox	146	35	29	5
Malaria	6,513	115	4,766	108
Enteric Fever	243	63	358	71

With reference to the increase in the number of enteric fever cases, it must be remembered that the notification of these cases is becoming more general, and bacteriological aid in diagnosis is more used by medical practitioners. The prevalence of enteric may be put down to contaminated water, for as long as cesspits and wells in close proximity to them exist cases must be numerous.

It is satisfactory to note the small number of cases of cholera. This comparative freedom may be attributed to the closure of the North Road cooly route and to the quarantining of coolies at Ragama.

There has also been a marked falling off in the admissions in the hospitals for malaria, but the deaths from this disease are ½ per cent. higher for 1903 than the year previous.

Small-pox.

There were 29 cases of small-pox, with 5 deaths. In almost every outbreak the infection was traced to recent arrivals in the island.

Chicken-pox.

There were 1,862 cases with four deaths. Most of these cases were treated in their own homes.

Measles.

This disease did not assume any alarming proportions in any of the towns or villages.

Dysentery.

This disease was fairly equally distributed throughout the island, but was most prevalent in the Western, Sabaragamuwa, and Central Provinces. The total number of cases treated in all hospitals was 2,384, with 658 deaths. The largest number treated in any one institution was in the General Hospital,

Colombo, where 505 cases were admitted, of whom 83 died. There were 636 cases treated in the various jails throughout the island.

Leprosy.

The total number of cases reported during the year was 589, against 560 in 1902, being an increase of 29 cases. The number of lepers treated at ordinary hospitals and dispensaries was 111, as against 148 in 1902. 447 cases were treated in the Leper Asylum at Hendala, and 31 in the Kalmunai Leper Wards.

An enactment was passed in 1901 to provide for the segregation and treatment of lepers, in view of the recommendations of the Berlin Conference of 1897, at which conclusive evidence was adduced in support of the theory that the disease is communicable. The Ordinance has now been in operation for nearly two years, and has worked smoothly, but it will necessitate the provision of more accommodation in the leper asylums. The number of lepers in Ceylon is comparatively insignificant, but the Principal Civil Medical Officer estimates that the total number of cases is about 120 in excess of the existing provision. Additional accommodation must therefore be provided, but when all the cases have been segregated no further spread of the disease should be possible. There are 207 known lepers throughout the island whose names and addresses are registered, and who are periodically examined. They are in the non-contagious stage of the disease, and there is no room at present for them in the leper institutions. The acquisition of more land for building and burial purposes has recently been effected.

Anchylostomiasis.

This disease is constantly introduced from India by Malabar coolies, and is spread owing to their careless habits. The disease is on the increase. There were 1,775 admissions in all hospitals, with 272 deaths. The largest number was treated in the General Hospital, Colombo, viz., 756 admissions, with 38 deaths. A large number of cases occurs in the planting districts. The danger of the disease exists in the profound anæmia, which so lowers the vitality that the victim is carried off by practically any intercurrent complaint. A part at least of the increase in the reported cases is probably due to the fact that the disease is recognized more readily now.

Parangi.

From the hospital returns it would appear that the number of admissions for this disease has steadily increased during the last five years, but not in proportion to the increase of the population, so that the numbers affected in ratio to the inhabitants is becoming less every year. As food becomes more

easily obtainable with the extension of irrigation, and as sanitary methods become more generally known, this disease will, it may confidently be predicted, show a marked decrease. The death-rate is remarkably small: out of 3,254 admissions for this disease during the year there were only 11 deaths.

Plague.

The same precautions against plague were continued during the year as have been taken for several years past. The Plague Committee held fortnightly meetings. Plague hospitals at remote stations are not now kept up, but sites are ready and building materials at hand in case of necessity. On 5th March, 1903, a case of plague was landed from ss. "Maria Valerie" at the Galle Plague Hospital; the patient was discharged cured on 29th April, 1903. The contacts were segregated and placed in quarantine for the full period of ten days.

(c) Sanitation.

General Sanitary Condition of the Colony and of the Chief Towns.

The general sanitary condition of the island remains in much the same condition as last year. The same methods of disposal of dust and fœcal matter exist, and, though by no means satisfactory, are still very fair when compared with other tropical countries. The importance of a pure water supply is increasingly recognized by local bodies.

Colombo.

This city has had its sanitary staff considerably augmented recently. There are two specially qualified Medical Officers of Health with a staff of Inspectors in the employment of the Municipality. The disposal of sewage is the same as it has been for some years past, viz., the collection of solid matter for burial at various depôts and the continuance of cess-pits, but the latter are being gradually filled up and closed. Colombo has contributed the largest number of cases of enteric fever, and in most cases the origin of the disease has been traced to contaminated water or milk.

Good progress was made with the preliminary operations in connection with Mr. Mansergh's drainage scheme. The scheme provides for a water carriage system for the sewage of the more densely populated part of Colombo, but it is being carried out so that it may, if necessary, be extended to the whole city. The works now under construction will probably take some five years to complete, and will cost over three millions of rupees.

A great advance was made in 1903 in the direction of providing Colombo with an ample water supply. The duplication of the main from Labugama was completed, and a continuous supply is now available throughout the whole twenty-four hours. When the new reservoir in the north of the city is finished—probably early in 1905—the reservoir capacity of Colombo will be 15,000,000 gallons, or 5½ days' supply. At Labugama, the feeder reservoir, 25¼ miles from Colombo, there is a year's supply.

Kandy.

The general sanitary state of Kandy leaves considerable room for improvement. Several cases of enteric fever occurred in the town from insanitary causes. The drainage is imperfect. An improved scheme is under consideration, but the cost is at present an insuperable obstacle. The water supply is sufficient and of good quality. The conservancy of the town has been improved, but several cesspits remain. Alleys are ill-ventilated, insanitary, and overcrowded.

Jaffna.

Jaffna, with 33,879 inhabitants, but no Local Board or Municipality, is the only town in the Northern Province where sanitation is carried on to some extent, and even here much improvement is required. Water for all purposes is obtained chiefly from wells, the majority of which, however, contain hard brackish water unfit for drinking. A special water supply scheme has recently been investigated by a Public Works Department officer, and is now under consideration.

Galle is in a fairly sanitary condition. The fort especially shows considerable improvement since the closing of cesspits and the introduction of the dry-earth system in private houses. In the other divisions of the Municipality much remains to be done, and the water supply of the town is very defective.

Batticaloa.

The sanitary condition of Batticaloa is fairly satisfactory, but there is ample room for improvement. A better system of drainage is required, but owing to the flatness of the land this is a matter of some difficulty. The water supply, which is drawn from wells, is plentiful, but in the dry season is apt to fail.

Kurunegala.

The sanitary condition is not satisfactory. A drainage scheme and public markets are, however, to be taken in hand by the Local Board shortly, and an improved water supply is being investigated.

Anuradhapura, the principal town of the North-Central Province, formerly had a reputation for unhealthiness, but of recent years, owing to improved sanitary measures, the health of the inhabitants has greatly improved.

Badulla.

The water service is satisfactory, but the drainage is defective. Scavenging is satisfactorily done, but public latrine accommodation is deficient.

Ratnapura.

The sanitary condition is not satisfactory, but the water supply is reported to be good.

(D) CLIMATE.

The climate varies very considerably in different parts of the island, both as regards temperature and rainfall. In the lowlands the climate is tropical, but in the mountains in the interior the climate all the year round may be said to correspond to the spring of Southern Europe.

Temperature.

The records kept by the Meteorological Department of the Surveyor-General's Office show that the temperature has varied from 3° below freezing point at Nuwara Eliya to 103·7° at Trincomalee. In 1903 the extremes were 32° at Nuwara Eliya on March 23, and 99·4° at Anuradhapura on April 24.

The mean temperature of Colombo is 80·7°, and the most noticeable feature of the climate is the permanent humidity of the atmosphere. On the other hand, the mean daily range of temperature is comparatively small (12° in 1903), and in this respect Colombo compares very favourably with Madras, Bombay, and Calcutta. The absolute highest and lowest temperatures in 1903 were 94° on March 14, and 68·5° on February 1 and 2, while the mean for the year was 81·3°.

Rainfall.

The variations of rainfall are even more remarkable than those of the temperature, the official records ranging from 20·42 inches at Mannar in 1892 to 301·40 inches at Nawalapitiya in 1891. For 1903 the maximum and minimum were 188·72 inches at Digolla, Avisawella, and 41·80 at Hambantota.

The severity of an up-country rainstorm in Ceylon may be gauged from the fact that 18¾ inches have been recorded in twenty-four hours (at St. Martin's, Rangalla, on December 14 and 15, 1896). The heaviest downpour in twenty-four hours in 1903 was 11·53 inches at Haputale on 3rd and 4th December.

Direction and Velocity of Wind.

The general direction of the wind is from north-east from November to March and from the south-west from April to October. The average velocity, during the last thirty-five years, of the north-east monsoon has been 196·9 miles, and of the south-west 181·7 miles. In 1903 the figures were 214·4 and 174·7 miles respectively.

Abnormal Phenomena.

On September 1 and 2, 1903, a linear storm occurred from west-south-west and lasted five hours, during which the wind attained the unprecedented velocity of 50 miles per hour.

A hailstorm, with stones the size of the proverbial marbles, occurred at Kandy on Good Friday, April 10, and another at Ohiya (6,500 ft. above sea level) lasting 15 minutes on September 4.

A fine waterspout was observed at Kayts (Northern Province) travelling from north-west on the 3rd July.

VIII.—POST AND TELEGRAPHS.

The expansion in every branch of the Ceylon Post and Telegraph Department during the last seven years has been remarkable. The weight of mails has doubled; the number of parcels transmitted has increased 60 per cent. Money orders have risen 90 per cent. in number and 70 per cent. in value; the number of savings bank accounts has increased 80 per cent., and the amount to the credit of depositors 73 per cent., while in the number of telegrams despatched there has been an extraordinary advance of 168 per cent.

As regards 1903, there was a small deficit of Rs. 13,707 on the year's working. The revenue figures, however, do not include the value of work done free for other Government Departments, which is estimated at Rs. 247,250.

Letters, &c., dealt with.

The number of letters passing between Ceylon and India and the telegrams received from other countries fell during the

year. With these exceptions there was an increase in every direction, the features being the large numbers of post cards passing through the post—pictorial sent abroad, and advertisements received from India—and the telegrams despatched abroad. The reduction of the rates to Europe from 4*s.* 2*d.* to 2*s.* 7*d.* per word and to Australia from 4*s.* 10*d.* to 2*s.* 7*d.* gave an immediate impetus to the telegrams.

Money Orders.

The exchange with the United Kingdom is stationary. There was a slight decrease in the amount remitted to British Colonies, chiefly to Australia, this being due to the action of the Australian Government in prohibiting race lottery transactions by means of the Postal Service. The money order business with India increased considerably, a total of Rs. 3,692,792 being sent from Ceylon to India. The greater portion of this sum represents the savings of Tamil immigrants, while Rs. 349,179 was the amount collected from the recipients of value-payable parcels and remitted to the senders in India. Included in the total sum remitted is a total of Rs. 1,284,129 sent by telegraph.

Post Office Savings Bank.

Deposits increased by 2,166 in number and Rs. 23,155 in amount, and withdrawals by 1,071 in number and Rs. 29,170 in amount. The total sum held to the credit of depositors rose from Rs. 1,454,858 to Rs. 1,597,616, and the amount of investments, which are entirely in Ceylon, India, and Colonial Government securities, rose to Rs. 1,682,272.

Telegraph and Telephone.

Telegraphs.—Thirty-nine miles of new wire were erected for Postal Service and 54 miles for Railway Service during the year.

Telephones.—Forty-six miles of telephone wire were added during the year; there were 20 new subscribers, and 22 additional instruments, while the number of calls on the exchange increased from 109,465 in 1902 to 161,313 in 1903, or at the rate of nearly 68 per cent.

IX.—MILITARY STATISTICS.

(A) Military Expenditure.

The Military Expenditure during the year was as follows:—

	Amount.	
	Rs.	c.
Colonial Contribution for Regular Troops*	1,912,109	23
For Volunteer Regiment	223,627	63
Compensation in lieu of exemption from payment of Customs Duties on articles imported for the Troops ...	25,000	0
Cost of erecting certain buildings for the Military† ...	16,500	0
Expenses connected with the Fortifications of Colombo...	37,112	80
Total	2,214,349	66

* This contribution is assessed at nine and a half per cent. of the Colonial revenues, the revenues being defined for this purpose as including the *nett* receipts of the Government Railway but excluding the proceeds of land sales and præmia on leases or land grants. Ordinance No. 2 of 1898 provides that "in no year shall the sum paid by way of percentage exceed three-fourths of this cost of the garrison for that year."

† In addition to the contribution referred to in the previous note, the Colony provides "any capital expenditure required for military lands and buildings outside Trincomalee," such sums being voted by the Legislative Council with the usual estimates.

Government has agreed to place a sum of £8,000 at the disposal of the military authorities towards a sanitarium, and a new residence for the General Officer Commanding at Nuwara Eliya. It has also contributed £1,750 towards the formation of a musketry camp at Diyatalawa and towards the construction of a new rifle range there, which will be also available for the volunteers during the camp of exercise.

(B) Volunteer Force.

The expenditure on the volunteers was Rs. 223,627. Seven years ago it was only Rs. 106,309.

The following table shows the growth of the force during the last five years:—

Strength on 31st December.	Number.
1899	1,250
1900	1,302
1901	1,975
1902	2,170
1903	2,174

In addition to the above, a cadet battalion of the Ceylon Light Infantry was raised in 1902, which on 31st December of that year numbered 362, and on 31st December, 1903, stood at 418.

The annual camp of exercise was in 1903 held for the first time at Diyatalawa, where during the years 1900-1902 more than 4,500 Boer prisoners of war were interned. The place possesses exceptional natural advantages: the climate is cool and healthy, and the country one on which practical instruction on manœuvring can readily be imparted. No fewer than 1,434 volunteers attended camp, and with the cordial co-operation of the military authorities a very instructive fortnight was passed.

X.—PUBLIC WORKS.

(A) Public Works Department.

The total expenditure of the Public Works Department during the year under review was Rs. 5,319,241·77, classified as follows:—

— —	Amount.	
	Rs.	c.
Personal Emoluments	463,488	62
Annually Recurrent Works...	2,240,085	99
Extraordinary Public Works	1,339,699	31
Chargeable to Loans and other Funds	1,275,967	85
Total	5,319,241	77

The following tabular statement shows the expenditure on Annually Recurrent Works, Extraordinary Public Works, and those chargeable to loans and other funds during the years 1896 to 1903, inclusive:—

Year.	Recurrent.	Extraordinary.	Miscellaneous, including Loans.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1896	1,823,558	1,219,106	—	3,042,664
1897	1,726,669	1,838,650	—	3,565,319
1898	1,900,307	1,510,143	369,324	3,779,774
1899	2,040,684	1,707,119	1,250,125	4,997,928
1900	2,029,279	1,610,261	1,074,665	4,714,205
1901	2,112,905	1,348,032	666,028	4,126,965
1902	2,163,394	1,448,491	572,143	4,184,028
1903	2,240,085	1,339,699	1,275,967	4,855,751

The mileage of roads in the Colony was increased during the year by 13 miles and now stands at 3,660·31, divided as follows:—

—	Miles.
Metalled	2,357·14
Track metalled	288·90
Gravelled	646·02
Natural tracks and bridle paths	368·25

Special attention is being paid at the present time to "feeder roads" for the new (*i.e.*, Northern and Kelani Valley) railways. A special officer has been deputed for the duty of supervising this important work in the North-Western Province, where the roads are most urgently needed; unfortunately progress is retarded by the scarcity of labour.

Among the important works under construction by the Public Works Department in 1903 were a new reservoir for Colombo, the Victoria Eye Hospital, and the Technical College.

(B) Colombo Harbour Works.

The Colombo Harbour Extension Works made good progress. The amount spent during the year was nearly Rs. 3,000,000, bringing the total expenditure on the present works up to Rs. 13,426,575, the grand total expenditure since the commencement of the south-west breakwater in 1873 being Rs. 31,042,771.

The new breakwaters are now far advanced towards completion, and it became necessary in 1903 to decide the question of the width of the entrance to the harbour between the old or south-west breakwater and the island or north-west breakwater. After full consideration the width was fixed at 800 feet with the concurrence of the Consulting Engineers, the Admiral, and the Harbour Board. No narrower entrance appears to be convenient for navigation, but it is considered that a width of 800 feet will be sufficient for the largest steamers to enter the harbour.

It is anticipated that the new graving dock will be open in 1906. The original estimate of cost was Rs. 5,218,380, and the Admiralty and the Colony agreed to provide this amount in equal shares. Subsequently, however, it was decided to increase the length of the dock from 500 to 700 feet, and as the Admiralty were unable to increase their contribution the whole additional cost—£28,700—is being borne by the Colony.

The dock, when completed, will be the finest and largest in Asia, and indeed will probably challenge comparison with any

of the dry docks available for the use of His Majesty's Navy. The Merewether dry dock at Bombay, the No. 1 dry dock at Hong Kong, and the dry dock No. 3 now under construction at Singapore are 500 feet long on the floor, or 200 feet shorter than the Colombo graving dock, while, although the docks under construction at Gibraltar and Malta are to have lengths of 850 and 750 feet respectively, it must be remembered that they are really double docks. The depth over all of the Ceylon dock at high water will be 32 feet, which also compares favourably with the depths of the docks at Bombay, Singapore, and Hong Kong. The breadth of the graving dock will be 85 feet at the entrance. The longest ships in the Navy—the Good Hope class—are 500 feet long; the broadest—the King Edward VII. class—78 feet; while none draws more than 27½ feet; the Colombo dock will therefore easily accommodate the longest and largest British war vessels for many years to come. As regards merchant ships, it will take anything afloat with the exception of the new boats on the Atlantic line, but none of these is ever likely to be seen at Colombo.

The Patent Slip, which will prove a valuable adjunct to the graving dock, was opened from the beginning of the year. It has been built to accommodate vessels up to 1,200 tons weight, and has fulfilled its object very successfully, the heavy harbour dredgers having been dealt with without a hitch. Its total cost was Rs. 635,000, or an excess of 20 per cent. over the estimate of the Consulting Engineers. On the other hand, the receipts from the slip have proved very satisfactory, and the year's working shows a profit of 4·66 per cent.

Wet Dock.

In view of the possible necessity for still more harbour accommodation, steps were taken during the year to survey a site for an inland dock near Mutwal in the north of Colombo. The survey was completed in June, but the plans and estimates have not yet been received from the Consulting Engineers. The dock, which would be entered from the present harbour across the site of the Mutwal jail, would be some 187 acres in extent, and the cost is certain to be very large.

(c) Railways.

The mileage open at the end of 1903 was 391¾, being an increase of 23¼ miles during the year, viz., 12¼ miles from Nanu-oya to Nuwara Eliya and Kandapolla and 11 miles from Avisawella to Yatiyantota.

Railway Extension.

The Kelani Valley narrow-gauge (2 ft. 6 in.) line was completed on the 14th September. The railway has proved a costly one, the final estimate being over Rs. 112,000 per mile, or more

than 30 per cent. in excess of the estimate on which work was commenced. Nevertheless, there is little doubt that the line will soon show a considerable profit. The number of passengers has been about double the number estimated, and although the railway did not reach the chief tea-producing district, Yatiyantota, till towards the end of the year, the goods traffic exceeded anticipations both as to tonnage and receipts.

The Uda Pussellawa light railway was opened for traffic to Nuwara Eliya on 1st August, 1903, and to Kandapolla on 21st December. As the first example of a light narrow gauge railway in the hill districts, the experience of the line will be watched with keen interest.

On the opening of the line some difficulty was experienced owing to the unsuitability of the rolling stock to the frequent curves and reverse curves. The defects have, however, been remedied, and the line is now in efficient working order. The cost of the railway is expected to reach about Rs. 80,000 per mile, which again is a considerable excess on the original estimate. It is not yet possible to form an accurate idea as to the profitableness of this branch.

Northern Railway.

Good progress was made during the year with the construction of the trunk line from Kurunegala to Jaffna, the first step in a scheme which will probably one day link Ceylon with India. It is expected that the railway will be open as far as Anuradhapura, the ancient Sinhalese capital, about September, 1904, and large tracts of fertile country will then be brought into direct communication with Colombo.

The Railway Department had a prosperous year. The total receipts, Rs. 8,338,613·90, were the highest yet reached, and the surplus of revenue over expenditure was Rs. 3,748,692·18, or after deducting Rs. 1,724,725 interest and sinking fund charges on capital, a nett profit of Rs. 2,024,966·55 available for general purposes. According to the usual method of calculating the profit of commercial undertakings the profit earned by the railway last year was 6·04 per cent. of the capital cost, and it is interesting to compare this figure with those for Indian and English railways. For 1902, the latest year for which comparative figures are available, the average profit on all Indian railways worked by the State was 3·90 of the capital cost, and on guaranteed lines 5·03; while for English railways the percentage was only 3·45.

The railways of the island have during the forty years of their existence contributed about 33 millions of rupees to general administrative purposes, such as hospitals, schools, &c.

Between 1862 and 1902 the Ceylon railway accumulated 72¼ millions of profits, and, after paying over 27¾ millions in the shape of interest on capital outstanding and 11½ millions towards a sinking fund for the extinguishing of the debt, left a surplus of 33 millions available for Colonial purposes. The capital outlay on the whole mileage open at the end of 1902 is estimated to be about 58½ millions of rupees, so that the gross profits have already more than covered the total capital outlay. It will be seen that Ceylon in its railways has a highly remunerative property from which the Colony generally in all branches of its administration has greatly benefited.

The principal event during the year was the undertaking of extensive works for the better preservation of the Kadugannawa incline on the Colombo-Kandy line. From time to time trouble has been experienced with this section of the railway, owing to the precipitous formation of the trace in places and to the liability of loose overhanging rocks falling on the line, and this danger has necessitated constant vigilance on the part of the railway officers and servants. Early in 1903 it was felt that it was time the question of the safety of the incline should be definitely considered and settled; a small expert committee, including a competent Indian Geological engineer, was accordingly appointed, and as the result of their inquiries it was found desirable to construct tunnels at two places, one 440 yards long and the other 210 yards long. Sundry other minor operations and precautions were recommended, and the general verdict of the committee was that when the works were completed the incline would be in a satisfactory condition, and that it was unnecessary to consider the question of any alternative route.

The chief urgent work undertaken was the removal of the "Lion's Mouth," a huge rock estimated at 6,000 tons weight, which showed dangerous signs of falling on to the line. As no deviation of the line was possible it became necessary to suspend traffic during the operations. The work of removing the dangerous portion of the rock was completed in ten days, 542 lb. of dynamite being used to remove 3,000 tons of rock, whilst the remaining 3,000 tons of rock was subsequently taken away on Sundays, with only slight interruption of traffic.

It is anticipated that the work of constructing the two tunnels will occupy some two and a-half years, and will cost some Rs. 400,000.

(D) Irrigation.

The expenditure on irrigation during 1903 and the three previous years was as follows:—

	Rs.
1900	504,024
1901	767,845
1902	779,714
1903	795,936

With the sanction of the Secretary of State the Colony in 1900 agreed to set apart the sum of Rs. 5,000,000 to be expended on some eighteen large irrigation works, chiefly in the Eastern and Southern Provinces and along the line of the Northern Railway now under construction. On the completion of these eighteen works over 162,000 acres (250 square miles) of land, which is mostly at present jungle, will be added to the irrigable land in the Colony, at a cost, allowing for the completion of all schemes, of about Rs. 35 per acre for construction charges.

Experiments in the cultivation of rubber, cotton, cacao, &c., are already being made by Government under one of the tanks recently restored. When these experiments have been successfully carried out the results will be published, and favourable terms will be offered to those who are willing to take up land.

Six of the eighteen large works have already been completed, the restoration of two important tanks being successfully accomplished during the year 1902.

The Giant's Tank in the Northern Province is a fine specimen of the ancient irrigation works, the remains of which are found in nearly all parts of the island. The tank itself has a bund of 9¼ miles, and has been restored to hold up 10 feet of water at the sluices: it has an area of 4,425 acres and a storage capacity of 1,046,000,000 cubic feet, which, with the aid of the village tanks which are fed through its sluices, renders irrigable an extent of about 20,000 acres. There have been actually cultivated during the past two harvests 11,000 acres, all of which have paid an irrigation rate of Re. 1 per acre for 1902. The return in this case has been the most rapid of any irrigation work yet constructed in Ceylon, and there seems every reason to hope that it will continue to increase in an equally satisfactory manner, for most encouraging reports have been received showing that the cultivators have readily paid the water-rate and throughly appreciate the benefits which the completion of the work has conferred upon them. The tank is capable of further enlargement, and there is little doubt that very nearly 40,000 acres will ultimately be irrigated by it.

The restoration of Minneri tank in the North-Central Province adds from 10,000 to 15,000 acres to the irrigable land of the island without taking account of the supply of water that can be ultimately made available when required by the restoration of its ancient supply channels.

XI.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

(A) Important Events.

1. Sir West Ridgeway, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., K.C.S.I., relinquished the administration of the Colony on 18th November, 1903, after governing Ceylon for nearly eight years, a term of office only exceeded by that of General Sir Robert Brownrigg, who was Governor from March, 1812, to February, 1822. The Lieutenant-Governor, the Hon. Mr. E. F. im Thurn, C.B., C.M.G. administered the Government from 19th November to 3rd December, on which date Sir Henry A. Blake, G.C.M.G., arrived from Hong Kong and assumed the Governorship.

2. In June, 1903, a riot occurred in Anuradhapura. Some members of a local branch of the body known as the Maha Bodhi Society put forward on behalf of the Buddhists most extravagant claims to Crown lands in Anuradhapura, and there is unmistakable evidence to prove that their ultimate object was the total exclusion from the town and its environs of all persons not of their persuasion. The claims advanced were refused by Government, and when an appeal was made to the Secretary of State he also rejected them. It was then hoped that the society had withdrawn its extravagant pretensions, and steps were therefore taken to negotiate a settlement which would concede the reasonable requirements of the Buddhist community, such as the grant of land round the principal dagabas sufficient for the erection of pansalas and seminaries. The negotiations were on the eve of a satisfactory conclusion, when some of the agitators attempted to force the hand of Government by violence. Advantage was taken of the great annual gathering of pilgrims in June to excite and inflame the crowd, and certain buildings to which the agitators had objected and also the Roman Catholic school and church were soon wrecked and destroyed by fire. Stern measures were promptly taken for the restoration of order, and thirty-six of the chief rioters were sentenced by the Supreme Court to terms of imprisonment varying from one to seven years.

3. The camp for prisoners of war was broken up in August, but there still remained five (out of the original 5,000 interned in the island), who refused to take the oath or the declaration of allegiance, and at the same time declined to proceed elsewhere than to South Africa. They were therefore released in the island, but informed that Government was at any time ready to provide them with a passage to any place except South Africa, or to South Africa if they would declare allegiance. Two of the five subsequently complied with the condition, and were accordingly repatriated. One of the last three has died in the island and the remaining two still seem to prefer their voluntary imprisonment.

4. A topographical map of Ceylon on the scale of eight miles to the inch was issued at the end of the year. This is the first accurate complete map of the Colony which has been published.

5. An important event of the year was the appointment of a Consulting Electrical Engineer to advise the Government and the Colombo Municipality in all electrical questions. With the continuously increasing use of electricity, not only for telegraphs and telephones, but also for tramways, lighting, and power supply, it has become important that Government should have an expert officer available for purposes both of advice and supervision. The officer selected by the Consulting Electrical Engineers to the Crown Agents arrived in May, 1903, and has already been able to afford both Government and the Municipality valuable assistance. As regards the former, his work consists in advising Government and local bodies on all undertakings involving the use of electricity, in enforcing the rules for protection of person and property under the Electricity Ordinance, and in supervising the plans and estimates and general work of the electrical branch of the Government Factory. His chief municipal duties are to advise the Council as to regulations for electric lighting and power, to conduct the necessary electric tests from time to time in connection with such regulations, and to advise upon any proposed electrical installation.

(B) Immigration and Emigration.

The returns of the Superintendent of Immigration in India show that there sailed to Ceylon during 1903, from the ports of Tuticorin, Ammapatam, Tondi, and Paumben, 112,336 coolies, traders, &c., and that 110,339 returned from Ceylon. On the whole immigration was slightly more active than in the preceding year, but the development of the Colony proceeds so rapidly that the supply of labour is still insufficient to meet the demand. Special measures for recruiting coolies in India are under the consideration both of Government and the Planters' Association.

(C) Future Prospects of Trade.

The value of the trade of the Colony in 1903 was Rs. 215,000,000, or about Rs. 60 per head of the population. The chief staple, tea, and the other staples, such as plumbago, cacao, and the products of the cocoanut palm, are all in a throughly healthy condition, while systematic experiments with new products likely to prove of commercial value are being vigorously prosecuted. Of these rubber is already a well-established industry, the Ceylon variety being considered the best quality in the market. There would appear to be no reason why the present position of rubber should not be the beginning of a trade which may well expand during the next five or six years to annual shipments of from 1,500,000 lb. to 2,000,000 lb. worth perhaps between £300,000 and £400,000. At the present time great interest centres round the cotton experiments in the dry zones of the island. If, as there seems good reason to

expect, they prove successful, the prosperous condition of the Colony's trade will be more firmly established than ever.

(D) Suitability of Climate for Europeans.

The climate varies greatly according to elevation and situation, but is not generally unsuitable for Europeans. In the hills the climate is excellent, and in the low-country the European, if careful, can keep his health, but an occasional change to a more temperate climate is generally necessary. Manual labour is practically impossible for the European, who is employed chiefly in supervision of labour or in sedentary pursuits.

(E) Rates of Wages and Cost of Living.

The rate of wages for prædial labourers varies from 25 to 50 cents per diem; 37½ cents is the general rate. Domestic servants earn from Rs. 10 to Rs. 20 per mensem, the average wage being about Rs. 12. Trade employés earn from 50 cents to Re. 1·50 a day. The cost of living varies greatly in different parts of the island, being lowest in the Northern and Eastern Provinces and highest in Colombo, where house rent is a serious item to all classes. The ordinary villager can probably live in fair comfort for Rs. 5 to Rs. 6 a month.

(F) Openings for Investment of Capital.

Openings for investment of capital are numerous.

The cultivation of rubber is proving a highly profitable industry, and there is plenty of available land well suited to this product.

Plumbago land in the Southern Province is comparatively cheap at present, and will become valuable when the price of the mineral rises.

Cocoanut cultivation extends steadily, and shows good returns on capital invested.

Some of the most promising opportunities for investment of capital are to be found in the Northern, North-Central, and North-Western Provinces. In the course of the next few years this area, where the restoration of great irrigation works has been carried out simultaneously with the construction of the Northern Railway, will be available for almost every branch of agricultural industry for which a tropical country is suited. Several applications for large extents of land have already been received from European syndicates, who intend to grow cotton, rubber, cacao, &c. These products should find a congenial home on the rich low-lying lands, while Indian corn and fine grains of all sorts will yield large returns on the higher lands. Pasturage being abundant, it is probable that cattle breeding might be made to pay, and the dry climate during nine months of the year should be favourable for poultry raising.

(G) General Condition of the Colony.

In concluding a review of his administration the late Governor, Sir West Ridgeway, described the economical condition of the Colony as "one of increasing wealth and prosperity, widely diffused among all classes of the community. Of this increase and diffusion there is abundant evidence in all branches of the revenue, in the savings bank returns, in the railway traffic, in the consumption of luxuries, and in the adoption of higher standards of living by the masses." As regards the immediate future, some anxiety is felt as to the effect of the recent unexpected enhancement of the Imperial tax on the chief staple, tea; on the other hand, the development of the northern part of the island is only just beginning, and far-reaching results may confidently be anticipated from rubber and cotton, the cultivation of which is being vigorously initiated.

(H) Social and Moral Condition of the People.

The social condition of the general body of inhabitants presents some striking contrasts. On the one hand, the native planters and traders possess the instincts of business and enterprise in a marked degree; on the other hand, the ordinary villager whose wants are few and easily satisfied, still deliberately refuses the many opportunities for obtaining liberal wages which are freely available to all who are willing to labour on the many estates and public works in the island. A similar association of opposite characteristics is noticeable in the moral condition of the people. In deeds of charity they are generous to a fault and under firm and consistent government they are quite amenable to the law. Education has not yet, however, had time to eradicate certain deplorable tendencies which, in the course of centuries, have become part of the native character. Chief among these is the ungovernable passion which leads the Sinhalese to commit, on the impulse of the moment, those savage assaults (too frequently, though generally quite unintentionally, ending in murder) which remain the chief problem of criminal administration in the Colony. If, however, the returns of violent crime appear to form a somewhat disappointing exception to the uniform progress of the Colony in all other respects, it must be borne in mind that in recent years great pains have been taken to perfect the machinery for investigating, and more especially for reporting, crime, and that therefore statistics which apparently reveal a stationary condition of affairs really contain the evidence of an appreciable advance.

A. R. Slater,

Assistant Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, May 30, 1904.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following among other, reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
405	Southern Nigeria	1902
406	Straits Settlements	"
407	Trinidad and Tobago	1902–1903
408	Basutoland	"
409	Northern Nigeria	1902
410	Malta	1902–1903
411	St Lucia	1902
412	Mauritius	"
413	British Guiana	1902–1903
414	Jamaica	"
	Bahamas (Printed separately as [Cd. 1985]) ...	1902
415	Falkland Islands	1902–1903
416	Leeward Islands	"
417	British Honduras	1903
418	Bermuda	"
419	Weihaiwei	"
420	St. Helena	"
421	Hong Kong	"
422	Gibraltar	"
423	Sierra Leone	"
424	Gambia	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
15	Canada	Legal Status of British North American Indians.
16	Miscellaneous Colonies ...	Medical Reports.
17	Gilbert and Ellice Islands ...	Report for 1896–1900.
18	Hong Kong	Operations in New Territory during 1900.
19	Miscellaneous Colonies ...	Medical Reports.
20	Weihaiwei	General Report.
21	Dominica	Report on Caribs.
22	Seychelles	Report on Para Rubber.
23	Dominica	Roads and Land Settlement.
24	Grenada	Land Settlement in Carriacou.
25	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague, 1903.
26	Northern Nigeria	Mineral and Vegetable Products.
27	Miscellaneous Colonies... ...	Medical Reports.

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No. 481.

CEYLON.

REPORT FOR 1904.

(For Report for 1903, *see* No. 425.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
March, 1906.

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No. 481.

CEYLON.

(For Report for 1903 *see* No. 425.)

GOVERNOR SIR H. A. BLAKE to THE EARL OF ELGIN.

The Queen's House,
Colombo, Ceylon,
17th January, 1906.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith copies of the Report on the Blue Book for 1904 prepared in the Colonial Secretary's Office.

I have, &c.,

HENRY A. BLAKE,
Governor, &c.

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g.c.d. 6/5/07. S.L.

REPORT ON THE CEYLON BLUE BOOK OF 1904.

*** This Report has been delayed owing to the revision of the Accounts of the Colony.

I.—FINANCIAL.

(A.) General Revenue and Expenditure.

Revenue.

The estimated revenue for 1904 was Rs. 28,651,370, while the actual revenue amounted to Rs. 30,846,694, an increase over the estimate of Rs. 2,195,324. It should be noted, moreover, that the actual revenue of 1904 has exceeded the actual revenue of 1903—the largest revenue hitherto collected, amounting to Rs. 29,423,308—by Rs. 1,423,385.

2. The chief sources of revenue were:—

	Rs.	c.
Customs Imports and Exports ...	7,878,724	39
Licences, Excise, and Internal Revenue, not otherwise classified	5,810,477	73
Government Railways	8,900,957	15

3. The following is a comparative statement showing the actual revenue collected in 1903 and 1904:—

—	Revenue of 1903.	Revenue of 1904.	Nett Increase.	Nett Decrease.
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
1. Customs	7,576,359 95	7,878,724 39	302,364 44	—
2. Port, Harbour, Wharf, and Lighthouse Dues.	1,337,205 82	1,422,869 44	85,663 62	—
3. Licenses, Excise, and Internal Revenue not otherwise classified.	6,355,287 56	5,810,477 73	—	544,809 83
4. Fees of Court or Office, Payment for Specific Services, and Reimbursements in aid.	1,891,269 30	1,926,568 42	35,299 12	—
5. Post and Telegraphs	1,078,981 36	1,167,711 45	88,730 9	—
6. Government Railway	8,355,675 90	8,900,957 15	545,281 25	—
7. Rents of Government Property ..	164,507 32	181,227 4	16,719 72	—
8. Interest	506,729 47	527,324 0	20,594 53	—
9. Miscellaneous Receipts	235,889 23	507,909 27	272,020 4	—
10. Sale of Government Property ..	1,185,432 54	1,449,869 42	264,436 88	—
11. Land Sales..	735,970 7	690,686 75	—	37,283 32
12. Railway Permanent Way Materials Account.	—	374,369 20	374,369 20	—
Total	29,423,308 52	30,846,694 26	2,005,478 89	582,093 15
	Deduct Decrease.. ..		582,093 15	
	Nett Increase		1,423,385 74	

4. There has been an increase under every head of revenue except under "Licences, Excise, and Internal Revenue not otherwise classified" and "Land Sales." The decrease under the former head was mainly due to the effect of the temperance movement on the sales of arrack, but it should be noted that, while the loss of revenue under this head was estimated at Rs. 1,000,000, the actual loss as compared with the figures of last year amounted only to Rs. 406,300·48.

5. The increase under "Customs" was due chiefly to larger importations of grain, cotton manufactures, kerosine oil, and "other goods," kerosine oil being responsible for an increase of Rs. 213,708·88. There was an increase under "Harbour Dues" of nearly Rs. 50,000. The decrease of the revenue derived from the sale of arrack rents has already being referred to. The failure of the salt pans throughout the Island—a result of the abnormal rains and floods during the latter part of 1903—necessitated the purchase of salt from India, and it is a matter for congratulation that the revenue derived under this head amounted to Rs. 1,069,667·56, a decrease on the revenue of 1903 of only Rs. 144,000. The increase of nearly Rs. 60,000 in the sale of postage stamps speaks for itself. "Government Railways" shows the satisfactory increase of Rs. 545,281. The revenue from "Land Sales" shows a decrease of Rs. 37,283.

Expenditure.

6. The following is the comparative statement of expenditure for 1903 and 1904:—

Heads of Service.	1903.	1904.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
1. Charges on account of Public Debt.	3,450,586 84	3,591,313 36	140,726 52	—
2. Pensions	1,307,182 69	1,325,397 19	18 214 50	—
3. His Excellency the Governor ..	123,261 68	145,063 61	21,801 93	—
3a. Civil Service	676,103 80	679,721 72	3,617 92	—
4. Secretariat	277,870 68	290,162 15	12,291 47	—
5. Audit Office	56,827 31	60,073 72	3,246 41	—
6. Treasury	43,997 35	45,989 57	1,992 22	—
7. Provincial Administration	1,147,622 32	1,064,683 46	—	82,938 86
8. Survey Department	656,937 45	667,236 50	10,299 5	—
9. Customs Department	131,128 26	132,564 73	1,436 47	—
10. Port and Marine Department, Colombo.	309,053 67	441,092 55	132,038 88	—
11. Port and Marine Department other than Colombo.	34,165 21	34,860 85	695 64	—
12. Botanic Gardens	125,310 82	129,638 48	4,327 66	—
13. Colombo Museum	25,027 6	26,898 25	1,871 19	—
14. Legal Departments—				
Supreme Court	160,085 42	146,820 15	—	13,265 27
Attorney-General	69,686 90	76,168 69	6,481 79	—
Solicitor-General	12,122 63	12,522 65	400 2	—
District Courts	163,862 89	164,205 96	343 7	—
Courts of Requests and Police Courts.	130,702 34	136,624 23	5,921 89	—
Registration of Lands	80,709 41	80,264 81	—	444 60
Registration of Marriages, Births, and Deaths.	121,554 18	124,526 46	2,972 28	—
Fiscals	233,244 0	220,507 60	—	12,736 40
Loan Board	5,529 38	5,568 27	38 89	—
Carried forward	9,342,572 29	9,601,904 97	368,717 80	109,385 13

Expenditure.—cont.

Heads of Service.	1903.	1904.	Increase.	Decrease
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Brought forward	9,342,572 29	9,601,904 97	368,717 80	109,385 13
15. Police	735,149 66	765,576 75	30,427 9	—
16. Prisons	538,781 36	540,469 63	1,688 27	—
17. Medical Department	385,875 40	402,633 83	16,758 43	—
18. Hospitals and Dispensaries.. ..	1,225,518 94	1,274,473 4	48,954 10	—
19. Ecclesiastical	11,622 50	9,260 0	—	2,362 50
20. Education	1,038,697 29	1,055,317 37	16,620 8	—
21. Transport..	17,055 26	12,518 34	—	4,536 92
22. Exchange	227,342 17	240,877 33	13,535 16	—
23. Military Expenditure	3,214,349 66	2,677,980 51	463,630 85	—
24. Miscellaneous Services	921,325 9	1,692,187 40	770,862 31	—
25. Government Stores	85,021 71	99,368 0	14,846 29	—
26. Crown Agents, London	2,713 68	2,715 0	1 32	—
27. Forests	271,735 20	306,089 80	34,354 60	—
28. Post Office and Telegraphs.. ..	1,104,038 86	1,252,051 33	148,012 47	—
29. Railway Department. Open Lines.	4,691,744 69	5,187,682 90	495,938 21	—
Railway Construction Account ..	—	1,125,000 0	1,125,000 0	—
30. Settlement Officer, Waste Lands Department.	48,446 15	67,163 16	18,717 1	—
31. Public Works Department	433,843 56	420,714 61	—	13,128 95
31.a Irrigation Department	430,401 12	331,683 24	—	98,717 88
32. Consulting Electrical Engineer ..	—	15,077 22	15,077 22	—
33. Public Works Annually Recurrent.	1,948,378 28	2,003,929 89	55,551 61	—
34. Public Works Extraordinary ..	1,404,146 23	2,934,218 27	1,530,072 4	—
Total Expenditure chargeable to General Revenue.	27,078,759 10	32,019,392 58	5,168,764 86	228,131 38
35. Public Works Extraordinary, chargeable to Loan Funds.	—	2,259,805 45	2,259,805 45	—
Grand Total	27,078,759 10	34,279,198 3	7,428,570 31	228,131 38
		Deduct Decrease ..	228,131 38	
		Nett Increase	7,200,438 93	

The total expenditure for 1904 chargeable to current revenue and surplus funds was Rs. 4,940,633·48 more than in the previous year. To this must be added a sum of Rs. 2,259,805·45, being expenditure incurred in 1904 chargeable but not yet charged to loan, distributed as follows:—

	Rs. c.
Duplication of Water Main ...	701,132 92
Harbour Construction	932,178 87
Railway Construction	626,493 66

7. As compared with the estimated expenditure for the year, the actual expenditure, not including the amount chargeable to loan, shows an excess of Rs. 3,039,542·58. The chief items contributing to the excess are:—

(1) "Miscellaneous Services."—Excess over estimate Rs. 883,592·40. Additional provision to meet value of buildings at Diyatalawa Camp taken over by the Ceylon Government; expenses on account of pearl-extracting machinery; purchase of ss. "Violet"; St. Louis Exhibition; and refund of Customs duty on articles purchased for Boer prisoners.

(2) "Railway Department."—Railway construction works Rs. 1,125,000. Moiety of the excess on the estimated cost of construction of the Kelani Valley and Uda Pussellawa Railways now charged to revenue.

(3) "Public Works Extraordinary."—Rs. 779,305·27. Moiety of the cost of duplication of the water main now charged to revenue.

8. On a careful investigation of the financial position of the Colony it was ascertained that the surplus balance on 1st January, 1904, stood at Rs. 4,457,727·96. The real balance was, however, much less, the difference being made up of large sums advanced for various public works and treated as recoverable advances, when in fact they were not recoverable but had been spent, though not yet accounted for. These advances were brought to account as expenditure, and thus helped to increase the expenditure for the year to so large an amount as Rs. 34,279,198·03.

(B.) Important Changes in Taxation.

Nil.

(C.) Assets and Liabilities.

1. According to the accounts of the Colony the total excess of assets over liabilities on 31st December, 1904, amounted to Rs. 1,025,224·19, arrived at as follows:—

Assets.

	Rs.	c.
By surplus funds on December 31, 1903 ...	4,457,727	96
By revenue for 1904...	30,846,694	26
Total—Rs.	35,304,422	22

Liabilities.

	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
To expenditure for 1904 chargeable to current revenue and surplus balances ...			32,019,392	58
To expenditure for 1904 chargeable but not yet charged to loan:—				
Duplication of water main	701,132	92		
Harbour construction ...	932,178	87		
Railway construction ...	626,493	66		
			2,259,805	45
Total—Rs.			34,279,198	3
Excess of assets over liabilities—Rs.			1,025,224	19

2. The position, however, was actually better than the accounts disclosed, because some portion of the expenditure which was taken into account in striking the balance was expenditure of which the general revenue was entitled, under the Secretary of State's authority, to be relieved, and the item Rs. 2,259,805·45 carried to loan; and when this operation had been effected the nett surplus on 31st December, 1904, was Rs. 3,285,029·64. Only a small part of this 3¼ millions was, however, available for appropriation. A part of the Colony's balances invested on rupee paper had depreciated by about Rs. 500,000, and a sum of Rs. 1,600,000 is more or less permanently locked up in advances to public bodies and in the shape of stores. Something less, therefore, than Rs. 1,200,000 was the free balance at the Colony's disposal on 31st December, 1904.

(D.) Public Debt, showing Provision for Payment.

1. No loans were raised in 1904. The balance due by the Colony on sterling loans raised in London stood on 31st December, 1904, at £4,702,501 10*s.* 5*d.* as against £4,733,331 2*s.* 5*d.* on the same date in 1903. The balance outstanding on the local silver loans was Rs. 3,178,754·07 as against Rs. 3,194,979·98 on 31st December, 1903.

2. Provision is made for the repayment of all loans by means of a sinking fund, the charges on the debt in interest and sinking fund amounting in 1904 to Rs. 3,591,313·36.

3. The total amount in local currency of the Colony's debt was on 31st December, 1904, Rs. 73,716,276·87, that is to say, only 2 $\frac{5}{12}$ times the revenue.

4. The price of Ceylon stock has remained firm. A comparison of the following table giving the prices at the end of 1903 and 1904 of various Colonial securities shows that Ceylon, New South Wales, and Cape Colony stock are the only three that have not suffered a fall:—

Stock.	1903.	1904.
New South Wales 3 per cent. inscribed ...	86	86
New Zealand do. do.	90	88
Victoria do. do.	86	85
W. Australia do. do.	87	84½
British Guiana do. do.	90	88
Canada do. do.	98	97
Cape Colony do. do.	87	87
Natal do. do.	89	88
Trinidad do. do.	91	89
Ceylon do. do.	95	95

(E.) Currency and Banking.

Currency.

The currency of Ceylon is based upon the Indian rupee. It consists at present of—

(1) Notes: Ceylon Government notes of Rs. 1,000, Rs. 100, Rs. 50, Rs. 10, and Rs. 5.

(2) Gold: British sovereigns, which are legal tender at the rate of Rs. 15 to the sovereign.

(3) Silver: The Indian rupee.

All the above are legal tender to any amount.

Subsidiary coins are—

(1) Silver: Ceylon 50-cent, 25-cent, and 10-cent pieces. Also Indian 8-anna and 4-anna pieces, which are current at 50 cents and 25 cents respectively. These are legal tender to the amount of Rs. 5.

(2) Copper: Ceylon 5-cent, 1-cent, ½-cent, and ¼-cent pieces. These are legal tender to the amount of 50 cents.

About half the face value of the paper issued is held in specie by the Currency Commissioners, the balance being invested in Indian Government Paper and other approved securities.

—	Value.		
Circulation.			Rs. c.
Currency notes in circulation on December 31st, 1904.	—	—	13,633,770 0
Reserve.	In Gold. Rs. c.	In Silver. Rs. c.	In Securities. Rs. c.
By gold £199,934 in sovereigns at Rs. 15 a sovereign.	2,999.010 0	—	—
By silver in the vault ...	—	3,808,313 33	—
By investments made by the Crown Agents.	—	—	4,617,486 2
By investments made in Indian Government Paper.	—	—	2,208,960 67
	2,999,010 0	3,808,313 33	6,826,446 69
Total	Rs. 13,633,770·2		

The effect of the change in currency legislation made in 1903, by which the Commissioners of Currency were freed from the obligation to receive gold in exchange for notes when it

might be inexpedient in their judgment to do so, was that by 18th January the gold reserve was reduced to £100,000 and the note issue to Rs. 13,811,090. Before the close of the first quarter of the year the reserve in coin fell below one-third of the note issue, and it was, therefore, decided to sell Indian Paper up to the amount of silver required. Accordingly between 15th April and 6th June Rs. 2,400,000 worth of Indian Paper was sold and silver to that amount was imported. There has been no further importation of silver since that date.

Banking.

The following banks do business in the Colony:—The Mercantile Bank of India, Limited, the Bank of Madras, the National Bank of India, Limited, the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, and the Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China.

(F.) Comparative Statement of the Total Revenue and Expenditure of Municipalities for the Five Years ended December 31, 1904.

Name of Municipality.	Revenue or Expenditure.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.
		Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Colombo ..	Revenue ..	1,152,137 58	1,230,005 20	1,405,838 88	1,337,344 8	1,567,907 46
	Expenditure	902,408 5	1,306,278 56	1,175,727 7	1,494,429 40	1,656,127 70
Kandy	Revenue ..	181,946 94	181,107 91	173,202 85	199,303 84	192,150 47
	Expenditure	183,671 31	186,728 3	185,364 63	196,217 71	179,583 10
Galle	Revenue ..	109,566 51	86,222 74	91,652 67	92,886 64	95,911 93
	Expenditure	87,629 69	94,009 28	92,535 45	88,115 81	86,563 57

Statement of Debts of Municipalities up to end of 1904, showing Provision for Payment.

Name of Municipality.	Amount of Debt.	On what account.	Provision for Payment.
	Rs. c.		
Colombo	Nil.	—	—
Kandy	173,231 13	Waterworks construction ...	Water-rate of 6 per cent. on properties within certain portions of the Municipality (Ordinances Nos. 18 and 29 of 1884).
	91,615 55	Acquisition of lands above reservoir	Bond assigning portion of water-rate, as authorised by Ordinance No. 7 of 1887.
	20,000 0	To widen Victoria Drive and clear lake silt.	Bond assigning portion of rates and taxes under sections 127 (*a*) and (*b*), 128, 129 and 130 of Ordinance No. 7 of 1887.
	14,852 11	For repairing main sewer and constructing new drains.	Do. do
Galle	58,180 78	Construction of waterworks ...	A water-rate of 5 per cent. is levied within the Fort for repayment of loan.
	38,304 73	Sanitary improvements	Mortgage of stamp duties on licenses for carts, boats, and coaches; and also stamp duties under Licensing Ordinances of 1893 and 1897.
Total	396,184 30		

(G.) Local Boards.

There are eighteen Local Boards in the Island. In 1904 their total revenue amounted to Rs. 319,279·03 as compared with Rs. 290,062, the revenue in 1903; and the total expenditure amounted to Rs. 276,951·89 as against Rs. 263,143, the expenditure in 1903.

The total balance outstanding of the loans granted to Local Boards by Government in order to carry out urgent schemes of sanitation and water supply, &c., was on 31st December, 1904, Rs. 314,703·14, which was made up of twenty-eight loans distributed amongst twelve Local Boards.

The following loans (included in the above amount) were granted in 1904:—

	Rs.
Local Board, Hatton, for construction of markets	11,500
Board of Improvement, Nuwara Eliya, for a new town hall and assembly rooms ...	36,000
Local Board, Trincomalee, for the construction of markets	12,000
Local Board, Ratnapura, for the construction of drains	6,500
Local Board, Gampola, for a water supply ...	25,000

(H.) Loans to other Bodies.

In addition to the loans to Municipalities and Local Boards referred to above, it may be noted that the following loans have been granted:—

—	Original Loan.	Balance outstanding on December 31, 1904.
	Rs.	Rs.
Kandy industrial School	10,000	6,881 14
District Road Committee, Jaffna, for improvement of markets.	5,000	4,000 0
The Thirty Committee for advertising tea in foreign lands.	150,000	100,000 0
The Pettah Library, for new building ...	14,000	14,000 0

The loan to the Thirty Committee was originally repayable within seventeen months, but on a representation being made subsequently to Government asking for an extension of time it was decided to spread the repayment over three years at Rs. 50,000 a year.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

(A.) Imports and Exports.

1. The year 1904 was a prosperous one for Ceylon trade, the aggregate value of the imports and exports showing an increase of Rs. 5,424,000 over the previous year, which surpassed any year in the history of the Colony except 1900.*

The figures since 1894, expressed in lacs of rupees (omitting specie, but including coal exported for use of steamers), are as follows:—

Year.	Rs.
1894	1,476
1895	1,610
1896	1,624
1897	1,690
1898	1,813
1899	2,130
1900	2,206
1901	2,042
1902	2,086
1903	2,144
1904	2,198

2. The expansion of the Colony's trade with foreign countries has continued. The following table shows the distribution of the total imports and exports since 1894 (exclusive of specie and coal exported for use of steamers):—

Total Imports and Exports (in lacs of rupees).

Year.	United Kingdom.	British Colonies.	Foreign Countries.	Total.
1894	724	542	125	1,391
1895	773	618	139	1,530
1896	683	597	158	1,438
1897	768	634	202	1,504
1898	785	682	241	1,708
1899	922	728	365	2,015
1900	896	819	340	2,055
1901	800	783	317	1,900
1902	800	752	394	1,946
1903	796	804	431	2,031
1904	772	849	443	2,064

3. The trade with the United Kingdom has fallen below any year since 1897, and is less than it was nine years ago.

* The total aggregate for 1900 was 2,205 lacs of rupees, or 7 lacs more than in 1904. The imports in 1900 were 92 lacs more than in 1904. The exports were 85 lacs less.

The trade with British Colonies shows an increase of 45 lacs, and is greater than any year on record, as is also the trade with foreign countries, which shows an increase of 12 lacs.

In 1894:—

52 per cent. of the trade of the Island was with the United Kingdom;

39 per cent. of the trade of the Island was with British Colonies (including India);

9 per cent. of the trade of the Island was with foreign countries.

In 1904:—

37½ per cent. of the trade of the Island was with the United Kingdom;

41 per cent. of the trade of the Island was with British Colonies (including India);

21½ per cent. of the trade of the Island was with foreign countries.

The great increase in the Colony's trade with foreign countries was pointed out in last year's report; the increase is continued and marked. The percentage of trade with foreign countries to the whole trade of the Island for the last five years is—

1900	16·5
1901	16·7
1902	20·2
1903	21·2
1904	21·5

4. Of Ceylon in 1904 it may be said roughly that the Colony—

Exported to the United Kingdom half her total exports, and imported from the United Kingdom one-fourth of her total imports.

Exported to the British Colonies one-sixth of her total exports, and imported from British Colonies nearly two-thirds of her total imports.

Exported to foreign countries one-third of her total exports, and imported from foreign countries one-ninth of her total imports.

This rough balance of trade is in accord with that for 1903, though the percentages show a falling off in the trade with the United Kingdom. Comparing the figures of 1903 and 1904—

Imports from United Kingdom have decreased 21 per cent.
Imports from British Colonies have increased 8 per cent.
Imports from foreign countries have increased 8 per cent.
Exports to United Kingdom have decreased 6 per cent.
Exports to British Colonies have increased 10 per cent.
Exports to foreign countries have increased 4 per cent.
Total increase in trade 1·6 per cent.

Imports.

5. The following table gives a comparison between 1903 and 1904:—

Imports.	1903.	1904.
	Rs.	Rs.
From United Kingdom	25,800,000	26,500,000
" British Colonies...	63,400,000	66,500,000
" Foreign Countries	11,700,000	12,700,000

6. In the report for 1903 a table was given to illustrate the great increase in imports from foreign countries, and the articles in which the foreigner was gradually superseding the English producer as a supplier to Ceylon.

The United Kingdom has held her own with or improved her position as regards foreign countries in exports to Ceylon of refined sugar, biscuits, iron, angle, and Swedish bar, tinware, cement, and tea chests, which were among the articles given in 1903 as instances of the development of foreign trade. The figures for these commodities are:—

—	From United Kingdom.		From Foreign Countries.		Remarks.
	1903.	1904.	1903.	1904.	
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Refined sugar ..	77,000* 148,000† 915,000‡	67,000* 289,000† 967,000‡	750,000	693,000	An increase of Rs. 141,000 in value of amount imported from India, and a decrease of Rs. 106,000 on imports from Austria.
Biscuits	165,000	200,965	108,000	85,224	—
Iron, angle, and Swedish bar.	8,000	5,160	32,000	14,375	—
Tinware.. ..	13,000	46,000	36,000	14,000	Increase due to larger import from United Kingdom.
Cement	88,000	96,000	102,000	88,000	Do.
Haberdashery..	711,000* 520,000†	745,000* 634,000†	90,000	111,000	Increase due to larger import from British India.
Tea chests ..	450,000	550,000	1,032,000	1,101,000	—

* United Kingdom. † India. ‡ Hong Kong.

7. The articles enumerated above are the only important imports in which the competition of the foreigner does not show a further advance. The most marked progress made by the foreigner is in Ceylon imports of cast steel, hardware, machinery, made-up apparel, and cotton piece goods, of which the total value of imports from foreign countries amounted in 1893 to Rs. 7,000, in 1904 to Rs. 1,273,000.

The following table gives a list of imports in which foreign countries improved their position as regards the United Kingdom in 1904:—

—	From United Kingdom.		From Foreign Countries.		Remarks.
	1903.	1904.	1903.	1904.	
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Potatoes	3,000* 190,000†	3,800* 167,000†	156,000	167,000	Germany exported Rs. 300 value in 1903, Rs. 15,000 in 1904.
Cast steel	81,000	65,000	36,000	61,000	Value imported from Germany increased by Rs. 30,000.
Hoop iron	148,000	69,000	111,000	105,000	A general decrease, but affecting the United Kingdom more than other countries.
Hardware.. ..	935,000	791,000* 23,000†	113,000	128,000	—
Machinery ..	1,032,000	741,000	130,000	338,000	Germany exported Rs. 260,000 worth of oil-making machinery to Ceylon, as against Rs. 2,000 in 1903. There was an increase of Rs. 59,000 in value of foundry and workshop machinery imported from the United Kingdom.
Flannel	88,000	83,000	28,000	36,000	—
Made-up apparel	266,000	245,000	120,000	138,000	Increase of Rs. 20,000 under imports from Germany.
Dyed cotton piece goods.	434,000* 1,343,000†	417,000* 1,379,000†	332,000	608,000	French exports to Ceylon increased from Rs. 3,000 to Rs. 26,000, German from Rs. 59,000 to Rs. 94,000, Dutch from Rs. 109,000 to Rs. 291,000, Swiss from Rs. 54,000 to Rs. 124,000. Only Foreign Country showing decrease is Italy, from Rs. 75,000 to Rs. 48,000.
Manures	217,000* 1,105,000†	182,000* 1,559,000†	562,000	591,000	The largest increases are shown by Germany in export to Ceylon of basic slag (Rs. 12,000), kainit (Rs. 12,000), sulphate of ammonia (Rs. 8,500), sulphate of potash (Rs. 82,000), superphosphate (Rs. 15,000), other manures (Rs. 36,000). British India shows increased import by Ceylon of castor seed, poonac (Rs. 185,000), ground nut cake, a new import (Rs. 93,000), bone manure (Rs. 50,000), fish manure (Rs. 57,000).

* United Kingdom. † India.

8. It is not possible in this report to analyse the causes at work which tend to increase foreign trade, but attention may be called to the fact that the increase in imports by Ceylon of foreign goods is largely in cheap articles, which the German, Belgian, and French manufacturers put on the market in a form which will appeal to the native buyer.

Germany exported to Ceylon Rs. 84,000 worth of biscuits, which command a sale almost entirely on account of the boxes in which they are packed, which are of a size suitable for a betel box, or a native woman's work box, and ornamented with attractive, if gaudy, designs. Germany exports to Ceylon more beads, images and statues, handkerchiefs, scarves, shawls, pewterware, and zincware than the United Kingdom. The imports in 1904 of fancy articles, lamps, haberdashery, made-up apparel, dyed goods, musical instruments, toilet soap, and toys from Germany show a very large increase on the values imported in 1903.*

It appears that it is chiefly in the smaller articles, the sale of which is pushed by the commercial traveller, that the foreigner is gaining the market.

9. The following table gives the countries which export the largest number of articles to Ceylon in order, showing the value of the imports in 1903 and 1904 and the decrease or increase in trade:—

Imports from	Imports from Foreign Countries.		Increase or Decrease, per cent.	Reasons for Increase or Decrease.
	1903.	1904.		
	Rs.	Rs.		
1. Germany	2,061,008	2,452,637	+ 20	Increased imports by Ceylon of manures, oil-making machinery, textile, manufactured goods, fancy articles, &c.
2. Japan	1,583,483	1,757,074	+ 10	Increased imports of tea chests and coal (Rs. 480,000 against Rs. 400,000 in 1903).
3. Russia	897,520	1,445,802	+ 61	Increased imports of kerosine oil (Rs. 1,390,000 in 1904, Rs. 857,000 in 1903).
4. Austria	985,006	841,819	− 15	Decrease in imports of refined sugar (Java and Russia in Europe exported respectively Rs. 35,000 and 33,500 worth of refined sugar to Ceylon in 1904, as against no import from Java and only Rs. 190 worth from Russia in 1903).
5. France..	744,550	750,635	+ ·8	—
6. United States of America	721,887	725,963	+ ·5	—
7. Holland	488,582	653,938	+ 33	Increased import of gin and cotton goods.
8. Switzerland	370,762	438,662	+ 18	Increased import of cotton goods and Swiss milk, but no import of Swiss manures, as against a value of Rs. 65,000 in 1903.
9. Belgium	469,883	377,162	− 19	Decrease in imports of raw iron and steel.
10. Italy	369,440	290,540	− 21	Decrease in imports of dyed goods.
11. Sweden	250,442	184,861	− 26	Decrease in imports of raw iron and matches.
Total of all Foreign Countries.	11,749,049	12,725,048		

* The increase for the year in the value of these articles imported from Germany was Rs. 111,000 on a total value of Rs. 346,000.

Russia shows the largest increase, due almost entirely to the increased demand for kerosine oil. Germany keeps well ahead, and the only other country to show any marked increase in its exports to Ceylon is Holland.

10. The next table gives a list of articles which are or can be produced in Ceylon, but which were imported in large quantities in 1904. In some cases there is an import and export trade:—

Articles.	Value.	Country from which Imported.
	Rs.	
Chillies	1,190,644	Imported from India and Burma.
Tamarind... ...	136,263	Do. do.
Fish: cured and salted.	1,648,430	Do. do.
	69,100	Imported from Foreign India.
	54,147	Exported to Straits Settlements and British India.
Ghee	124,258	Imported from British India and Burma.
Paddy	2,262,752	Do. do.
Rice ...	34,248,853	Do. do.
	98,189	Imported from Straits Settlements.
	1,776,679	Imported from Foreign India.
	24,818	Exported to Maldive Islands.
Onions	585,997	Imported from India and Burma.
Ginger, dry ...	43,644	Do. do.
Pepper ...	18,475	Do. do.
	113,949	Exported to United Kingdom, British India, and France.
Ground-nut cake...	95,118	Imported from India.
Tobacco (unmanufactured).	45,171	Imported from India and Burma.
	924,295	Exported to British India.
Palmyra fibre	109,631	Imported from India and Burma.
	189,214	Exported to United Kingdom, Belgium, and Germany.
Tea seed ...	11,686	Imported from India and Burma.
	19,544	Exported to United Kingdom and Java.
Tortoise shell	32,874	Imported from India, Burma, Straits, and China.
	41,880	Exported to United Kingdom.
Teak	698,307	Imported from India, Burma, and Straits.
Gunny bags	149,670	Imported from India, Burma, and China.
	407,716	Exported to India.
Mats, mat bags, and baskets	34,907	Imported from India, Burma, and China.
	5,950	Exported to India.
Oil, gingelly ...	35,017	Imported from India and Burma.
Oil, castor ...	114,955	Do. do.
Poonac, gingelly	1,579,562	Do. do.
	39,313	Imported from France and India.

9,560,321 bushels of rice were imported in 1904 as against 9,519,161 bushels in 1903, which gives an average of 2·68 bushels per head of population, the highest average for any period, certainly since 1866, when the average was 2·04 per head, and 3,765,716 bushels were imported.

The import of rice does not depend entirely on the quantity of rice for which there is a demand, but also on the quality. There is in some districts a marked preference for Indian rice; this fact is, however, noteworthy in connection with irrigation and the large irrigation works which have been restored in the last few years.

Exports.

11. Exports of Ceylon produce and manufacture:—

—	1903.	1904.
	Rs.	Rs.
To United Kingdom ...	53,900,000	51,100,100
To British Colonies ...	15,600,000	17,300,000
To Foreign Countries ...	31,400,000	31,500,000

In 1904 the value of exports amounted to Rs. 117,666,666, made up as follows:—

—	Value.
	Rs.
Ceylon produce	99,894,461
Imports re-exported	1,214,415
Specie...	3,157,050
Coal for use of steamers	13,400,740
Grand Total	117,666,666

Compared with 1903, Ceylon produce shows a decrease of Rs. 977,095, which is mainly due to smaller shipment of cocoanut oil and to the fall in the average value of tea from 39 cents a pound to 36 cents.

Imports re-exported show a decrease of Rs. 141,752; specie of Rs. 3,379,562, but there is an increase in the value of coal exported for use of steamers from Rs. 11,293,240 to Rs. 13,400,740.

12. The following table shows the countries which take the largest amount of Ceylon produce, giving the value of the exports to them in 1903 and 1904, with the increase or decrease per cent.:—

Countries which take the Largest Amount of Ceylon Produce.

Exports to	In 1903.	In 1904.	Increase or Decrease Per cent.	Reasons for Increase or Decrease.
	Rs.	Rs.		
1. Germany ..	7,069,284	8,666,251	+ 22	Increased exports of copra (Rs. 3,527,000 in 1904 against Rs. 2,814,000 in 1903), plumbago (Rs. 1,300,000 against Rs. 971,000), desiccated cocoanuts (Rs. 453,000 against Rs. 270,000), tea (Rs 415,000 against Rs. 233,000), fresh cocoanuts (Rs. 114,500 against Rs. 67,000), cacao (Rs. 516,352 as against Rs. 153,681). There were decreases in the export of cinnamon (Rs. 713,000 from Rs. 818,000 in 1903), poonac (Rs. 698,000 from Rs. 800,000 in 1903), cocoanut oil (Rs. 320,000 from Rs. 380,000).
2. United States of America.	8,545,632	8,193,536	- 4	The decrease is due to the export of tea for 1904 being valued at Rs. 2,019,000 as against Rs. 2,701,000 in 1903, plumbago (Rs. 2,570,000 against Rs. 2,964,000), cinnamon (Rs. 223,000 against Rs. 304,000), cacao (Rs. 13,700 against Rs. 41,000). The export of cocoanut oil increased from Rs. 1,700,000 in 1903 to Rs. 2,360,000 in 1904; desiccated cocoanut from Rs. 330,000 to Rs. 463,600.
3. Russia	6,018,743	4,992,282	- 17	The decrease is due to less tea being exported in 1904 (Rs. 3,835,000 as against Rs. 3,950,000 in 1903), less copra (Rs. 1,088,000 against Rs. 2,005,660 in 1903).
4. Belgium ..	2,662,663	2,834,307	+ 6	Though there was an increase in the amount of plumbago, copra, coir fibre, and desiccated cocoanut exported, there were decreases of Rs. 262,000 in export of poonac and of Rs. 42,000 in cocoanut oil.
5. Austria	1,163,376	1,975,232	+ 69	Export of cocoanut oil increased from Rs. 753,000 to Rs 1,200,000, copra from Rs. 290,000 to Rs. 600,000, and tea from Rs. 31,000 to Rs. 51,000.
6. France	1,754,506	1,840,939	+ 5	There were increased exports of copra (Rs. 1,076,000 in 1903 and Rs. 1,298,000 in 1904) and tea (Rs. 172,000 to Rs. 218,00), but decreased exports of cocoanut oil (from Rs. 253,000 in 1903 to Rs. 93,000) and cinnamon (from Rs. 66,000 to Rs. 25,000); no poonac was exported to France in 1904, as against Rs. 36,000 worth in 1903.
7. Italy	688,441	606,374	- 11	There were decreased exports of copra (Rs. 300,000 against Rs. 360,000 in 1903) and cocoanut oil (Rs. 74,000 against Rs. 135,000), and an increased export of cinnamon (Rs. 21,000).
8. Holland.. ..	301,699	497,291	+ 64	There was an increased export of copra (Rs. 80,000 against Rs. 4[illegible],000), of desiccated cocoanuts (Rs. 85,000 against Rs. 55,000), and cinnamon (Rs. 183,500 against Rs 112,000).
9. Japan	98,296	150,178	+ 52	Increased export of plumbago (Rs. 85,000 against Rs. 46,000 in 1903) and tea (Rs. 41,000 against Rs. 8,000).

13. The most interesting point in this comparison is that Germany is now Ceylon's chief customer, and has for the first time displaced the United States of America in the quantity

and value of her imports from Ceylon. Germany is first in both tables of imports and exports; she takes over a third of the total exports of Ceylon to foreign countries, while she supplies one-fifth of the imports into Ceylon from foreign countries.

14. With the exception of Japan and Holland all the most important foreign countries import a much larger value of commodities from than they send to Ceylon.

The total exports to foreign markets is about two and a half times the imports from them. Where Ceylon takes most she gives most, except in the case of Japan and Holland, where tea chests and gin respectively give these two countries the larger portion of the trade between them and Ceylon.

15. There has been a considerable increase during the year in the trade with Austria, Holland, and Japan, as well as Germany; the only decrease of any importance is in the trade with Russia (17 per cent.), due to decrease in export of copra and tea.

16. The value of exports of products of the cocoanut palm show an increase of Rs. 1,326,300 in the exports to foreign countries, though there are decreases of Rs. 287,800 in exports to British Colonies and of Rs. 2,512,500 in exports to United Kingdom. The following summary gives the figures for the different products:—

Value of Exports of Products of the Cocoanut Palm in 1903 *and* 1904.

Products.	Exported to United Kingdom.		Exported to Colonies.		Exported to Foreign Countries.	
	1903.	1904.	1903.	1904.	1903.	1904.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Arrack	—	—	126,000	117,000	3,500	4,700
Fresh Cocoanuts	498,000	615,000	9,200	8,000	202,400	300,000
Desiccated Cocoanuts ..	2,061,000	1,705,000	220,400	168,000	823,000	1,222,000
Coir Fibre	379,000	367,500	69,000	87,000	345,000	344,500
Coir Rope	1,000	2,000	204,000	215,500	2,500	—
Coir Yarn	646,000	658,000	93,500	117,000	205,700	209,000
Copra	70,000	42,500	8,700	1,500	7,453,000	7,929,500
Cocoanut Oil	6,792,000	4,487,000	653,000	381,500	3,578,000	4,328,700
Poonac	9,000	6,500	—	500	1,490,000	1,091,000
Total	10,396,000	7,883,500	1,383,800	1,096,000	14,103,100	15,429,400

The products of the cocoanut palm represent nearly 25 per cent. of the export of Ceylon produce in 1904, and of this amount foreign countries took nearly two-thirds. As in 1903, practically all the copra and poonac was exported to Germany, Belgium, France, Russia, Austria, and Italy.

There was a considerable decrease on the amount of cocoanut oil exported to the United Kingdom (4½ millions against 6 millions in 1903) and to the British Colonies (Rs. 381,500 against Rs. 653,000 in 1903), and a decrease of Rs. 350,000 in desiccated cocoanut exported to United Kingdom.

There were increases of Rs. 475,000 in value of copra and Rs. 750,000 in value of cocoanut oil exported to foreign countries.

There were increases in value of arecanuts exported (Rs. 768,000), cacao (Rs. 200,000), citronella oil (Rs. 200,000), plumbago (Rs. 489,000).

The largest decreases besides those mentioned above were in cinnamon (Rs. 170,000), plantation coffee (Rs. 125,000), and tea (Rs. 1,344,000).

17. The following summary gives the staple exports of the Colony in 1903-4:—

Products.	To United Kingdom.		To British Colonies.		To Foreign Countries.	
	1903.	1904.	1903.	1904.	1903.	1904.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Tea	38,000,000	37,500,000	10,000,000	11,700,000	9,500,000	7,800,000
Products of the Cocoanut Palm.	10,396,000	7,883,500	1,383,800	1,096,000	14,103,100	15,429,400
Plumbago	1,446,000	1,800,000	48,500	40,500	4,430,000	4,660,000
Cinnamon	443,000	328,000	30,000	66,500	2,000,000	1,877,500
Cacao	1,700,000	1,559,000	207,000	225,000	300,000	663,600

The exports to foreign countries of the principal products of the Ceylon market have increased in every case except tea, where there is a large decrease, and cinnamon, where there is a small one.

18. It remains true, as was stated last year, that though the British producer has had in many products to give way to the foreigner, the Ceylon producer had made still greater progress in foreign markets, to which Ceylon exports were two and a half times her imports from foreign countries.

Customs Revenue.

19. The revenue derived from Customs dues in 1904 was the highest ever reached, surpassing that of 1903, the previous record, by Rs. 291,368·80. The following table shows the income from this source for the ten years beginning from 1895:—

Gross Customs Revenue for the Ten Years ended 1904.

Year.	Revenue.	
	Rs.	c.
1895	5,770,241	2
1896	5,550,971	65
1897	6,278,787	49
1898	6,714,625	82
1899	7,101,851	73
1900	7,620,432	29
1901	7,446,807	26
1902	7,630,175	62
1903	8,043,062	94
1904	8,334,431	74

The increase in 1904 is mainly due to larger imports of kerosine oil* (increase in duty of Rs. 229,046), grain (increase in duty of Rs. 40,314), cotton manufactures (increase in duty of Rs. 22,170), and other goods.

The chief articles contributing to the revenue in 1904 were—

—	Amount.
	Rs.
Grain	3,119,734
Spirits	986,647
Kerosine Oil	938,437
Sugar	594,545
Cotton	267,956
Tobacco	243,504
Wines	57,283

The cost of collection was 1·65 upon the total collections.

Tea.

The export of tea (158,000,000 lb.) is the largest yet recorded, being 8,702,097 lb. more than in 1903; but the value of tea exported has decreased, except in the case of exports to British Colonies, which show an increase of Rs. 1,700,000 worth. The decrease in value exported to the United Kingdom is Rs. 500,000, to foreign countries Rs. 1,900,000. This decrease is due to the fall in the average value of tea from 39 cents a pound to 36 cents in 1904. The average price of Ceylon tea in London was 7·17*d.* against 7·52*d.* in 1903. 5,394,849 lb. of green tea were exported as against 8,236,768 lb. in 1903. The decrease is said to have been due largely to the fact that in

* The increase in duty under this head for the last four years amounts to Rs. 1,066,600.

1903, when shipments were large, the price of Japan tea was very high, and Ceylon was then able to supply Canada with a green tea suitable to the requirements of a large percentage of the trade at a price much lower than the charge made for a similar quality of tea from Japan. It was believed that the war would still further send up the price of Japan tea. This was not the case—buyers in Canada became stocked with Ceylon green tea and stopped further purchases. Stocks began to accumulate in Colombo, the market became depressed, and a number of estates making green tea went back to the manufacture of black. The exports are, however, more than double those of 1902, and in all probability more Ceylon green tea was actually consumed in 1904 than in 1903. There was a large increase in the quantity of green tea exported to Russia, though there was less demand for the tea in the United Kingdom, Canada, and the United States of America.

It was pointed out in 1903 that an interesting and hopeful feature in the development of the Ceylon tea trade in recent years has been the successful exploitation of new markets and the consequent relief in the strain on the home market. In 1895 out of a total tea export of 98,581,060 lb. only 12,186,532 lb. were diverted from London. In 1903 no less than 52,000,000 lb. went to other countries out of a total export of 149,000,000 lb. In 1904 53,670,413 lb. went elsewhere than the United Kingdom. But in some cases there appears to be a disappointing set-back. There was a decrease of 2,430,473 lb. in the quantity exported to Russia in Asia, and 2,904,114 lb. less were taken by China, and most of this tea finds its way into Russia. But on the other hand there was an increase of 2,930,382 lb. exported to Russia in Europe, and the total for the Russias shows an increased export of 226,660 lb. of black tea and 273,269 lb. of green tea, though there is a total decrease in value of Rs. 124,606, due to the fall in the average value by 3 cents a pound.

There was a decrease of 1,316,641 lb. on the quantity of tea exported to the United States of America; the decrease was confined to green tea, of which 1,925,998 lb. less were exported, while the export of black tea increased from 3,403,566 lb. to 4,012,923 lb. There were also decreases in export to other foreign countries in Asia by 291,219 lb. (black tea only), to South Australia by 287,907 lb. (black tea only), and to Canada by 96,112 lb. (increase of black tea by 1,000,000 lb., decrease in green tea by 1,100,000 lb.).

There were, however, considerable increases in the exports to New South Wales (increase 2,324,425 lb.), Victoria (1,415,836 lb.), Germany (554,963 lb.), British India (491,133 lb.), New Zealand (346,916 lb.); there were also considerable increased exports to Queensland, West Australia, Belgium, Egypt, and France; in all these cases the increase was in export of black tea.

The Ceylon Commissioner at St. Louis, Mr. Stanley Bois, and his assistants made a very successful start with the Ceylon Court at that Exhibition, and the Ceylon tea trade in America is undoubtedly obtaining an excellent advertisement. Work in other parts of America in co-operation with the Indian tea cess will probably open new markets. The duty on tea remained the same throughout the year.

(B.) Mines, Manufactures and Fisheries.

The Pearl Fishery.

A pearl fishery in 1904 was at one time unexpected. It was reported after the inspection in November, 1903, that there were no fishable oysters on the banks. A further inspection was made in December, 1903, by the Assistant Government Agent, Mannar, and the Marine Biologist in the dredging steamer "Ready." Oysters were found on the South-West Cheval Paar, and a sample of 3,000 was lifted and washed, giving a valuation of Rs. 26·67 per 1,000.

A further inspection of the banks was made in February by Mr. Hornell, the Marine Biologist, who had been appointed Inspector of Pearl Banks. The results confirmed the December discovery, and it was decided to advertise a fishery to commence on or about the 14th March.

The fishery, of which Mr. Lewis, Acting Government Agent, Northern Province, was Superintendent, commenced on 15th March and lasted until 23rd April. 41,039,085 oysters were lifted, of which 27,470,210 were sold as Government share, bringing in Rs. 1,054,694·75 to Government—the record amount obtained from a pearl fishery during the nineteenth or twentieth century.

The total receipts of the fishery, which include, besides sale of oysters, revenue by Postal and Telegraph Department, rents of boutique sites, and arrack and liquor licenses, amounted to Rs. 1,070,467·45.

The fishery of 1904 takes first place among all recorded fisheries. The largest revenues obtained from pearl fisheries are:—

Year.	Value.
	Rs.
(1) 1904	1,070.467
(2) 1814	1,051,867
(3) 1891	963,748
(4) 1808	842,577
(5) 1903	829,348*

* Exclusive of Postal revenue.

From the 19th to 23rd March over 3 lacs of rupees were taken. The price given for the oysters was very high throughout the fishery, the average price per 1,000 being Rs. 38·39; the average in 1903 was Rs. 29·72. The largest purchasers at the auctions were from Southern India, and they purchased nearly 25 million out of the 27½ million oysters sold. Ceylon took only 2,376,000 oysters, a London pearl merchant 16,000, and a trader from Mecca 22,000. The oysters fished in 1904 were said to be very rich in quantity of pearls, though the quality was not up to the standard of 1903.

As in 1903, though there were at one time 20,000 people in the Pearl Fishery Camp, there was no attack of any serious illness, and very little crime.

Alternative methods of obtaining the oysters at a less expensive outlay than is at present involved in allotting one-third of the oysters raised to the divers were again considered. The dredging steamer "Ready" was at work on the banks during most of the fishery; her largest hauls did not exceed those of the biggest Tuticorin diving boats.

On the results of his inspection immediately before and after the fishery the Inspector of Pearl Banks reported that there ought to be excellent fisheries in 1905 and 1906 upon the Cheval and Moderagam Paars; beyond 1906, or at latest 1907, a break in the fishery cycle is likely.

After the inspection in November the Inspector was hopeful of a more prolonged series of fisheries, anticipating a small fishery on the south and south-east section of the Cheval Paar in 1907, and fishing on the "north and central thirds of the Cheval Paar" in 1908 and 1909.

To ensure future fisheries it was recommended that spat should be transplanted from the most exposed parts of the bank to more sheltered paars, and at the same time "cultch," or materials for making a bottom suitable for the reception of young oysters, should be laid down on likely spots. It was not found possible to carry out any special measures for the culture of the banks in 1904, but arrangements were made for extensive experiments in 1905.

In October the steamer "Violet," which was previously used for fish trawling, was purchased by Government for use on the banks, the block barge "Ready" being no longer available, and the "Violet" being considered more suitable both for trawling and dredging experiments. Together with the experiment in obtaining the oysters by dredging it is hoped to combine a system of washing the oysters by machinery to enable Government to put pearls instead of oysters on the market, and thus obtain the profits which the oyster-buyers now realise at fisheries.

Mr. G. G. Dixon had been at work on a process for washing oysters by machinery in 1903; this he patented in 1904. It

was decided to secure the services of Mr. Dixon and erect the necessary machinery at Marichchukkaddi to allow him to continue his experiment, the patent to become the property of the Ceylon Government.

Mr. Dixon was engaged from March to the end of the year in erecting the machinery, which was first used for washing oysters at the November inspection. The machinery will be thoroughly tested at the fishery of 1905, when it should be possible to ascertain whether it will pay Government better to bear the expenses of washing the oysters to obtain the pearls, and then sell them, than to continue the present system of selling the oysters and taking no part in the pearl trade.

Mineralogical Survey.

The most important discovery connected with the Mineralogical Survey was that of the occurrence of thorium-bearing minerals in Ceylon. Of this the most important is thorianite, a mineral new to science, and containing 70 to 80 per cent. of the rare earth thoria, which is used for the manufacture of incandescent gas mantles.

The Government was informed that £30 per cwt. was being offered in England for thorianite containing from 70 to 72 per cent. of thoria. With a view to encouraging further search for this valuable mineral a notice was published giving the above particulars and also stating the places where thorianite and thorite had been found. Intending prospectors were informed that Government would for three years undertake to levy no royalty on this mineral, except in the case of extraction from Crown lands, where the permission to wash will be by agreement on liberal terms.

There is a large area, including all the Province of Sabaragamuwa and part of the Central, Western, and Southern Provinces, where the mineral may be looked for. Search is now being made in many localities; it is not possible to say at present how far a regular supply can be anticipated.

About 140 lb. of thorianite, which were received from Mr. W. D. Holland, who first obtained this mineral, were sent to the Crown Agents in November, and were sold by Professor Dunstan of the Imperial Institute for £95 2*s.* 4*d.* Professor Dunstan is taking further steps to obtain reports on the commercial value of the sample sent to him and for supplying such further information as may lead to more discoveries. The Mineralogical Survey were further engaged in examining the gemming districts in Sabaragamuwa and the Southern Province, in investigating discoveries of corundum and of heavy minerals containing rare elements, as for example allanite and several minerals belonging to the Samarskite group.

Salt.

The salt production in 1904 was satisfactory. The outturn of the year was up to the average of prosperous years. The efforts to stimulate production initiated in the previous year were materially helped by fine weather. Large supplies were produced in Puttalam, Hambantota, and Trincomalee, which are the chief centres of the salt industry in the Island. The "maha" collection at Puttalam was very successful; nearly 300,000 cwt. of salt were manufactured, of which about 165,000 cwt. were brought into store within the year. The stores at Hambantota and Trincomalee were also well stocked during the year.

It was, however, necessary to continue the importation of salt from India to meet demands during a greater part of the year; the new salt could not be made available for immediate consumption, and it was desirable to hold in stock a supply of some months' consumption. Approximately 130,224 cwt. of imported Indian salt were sold during the year at stores specially established in Colombo, Galle, and Haputale, and satisfactory financial results were obtained.

At the end of the year the stock of salt was approximately 340,000 cwt., or equal to nine months' consumption, the year's consumption being reckoned on the average of 450,000 cwt.

(C.) Agricultural Industries and Botanical Stations.

It was decided at a public meeting on the 28th October to form a "Ceylon Agricultural Society," to be controlled by a Board of Agriculture, to which members of the Executive and Legislative Councils and the heads of the Scientific Departments should belong, together with members of the Society from each Province to be nominated by the Governor.

Considerable interest has been aroused in the Society—the membership at the commencement of 1905 was over 200—and the correspondence on all agricultural subjects and from all classes of the community is considerable.

It is the object of the Society to bring the work of the Botanic Gardens into close touch with the small cultivator by distributing the information obtained at Peradeniya as widely as possible, while assisting its dissemination by practical experiment and assistance.

Local branches were formed in different parts of the Island.

A vote of Rs. 30,000 will be placed at the disposal of the Board in 1905 for necessary expenditure.

The first experimental cultivation inaugurated by the Board was ground-nuts; 1,414 kilos. of ground-nut seed were obtained from Mauritius and distributed to members of the Society.

Leaflets giving particulars of the cultivation in the vernaculars were widely distributed, and cultivators informed that an officer from Peradeniya would visit all experimental plots to give such assistance as might be required.

Considerable experiments with different varieties of groundnuts were made at the Experiment Station, Peradeniya. It was found that it was possible to obtain a yield of fifty- to eighty-fold, which means approximately 1,100 to 1,700 lb. per acre per crop of the Mauritius variety. Samples sent to England have been valued at prices varying from Rs. 110 to Rs. 210 per ton.

Experiments are to be made in cotton, new varieties of paddy, date palm, and other products, and in the improvement of live stock.

The work of the Society is not confined to the dissemination of new products and new methods; it is also concerned with the improvement and development of local industries.

The paddy crops were seriously damaged in the Northern and Central Provinces by the ravages of a caterpillar called the "arakkodiyan" (Tamil, meaning, all-destroying); in two districts of Jaffna 3,000 and 800 acres of paddy respectively were destroyed by the ravages of this pest. Instructions issued by the Government Entomologist after inspection of these devastated areas were widely distributed in the vernaculars by the Agricultural Society.

The chief agricultural products of the Island are:—Paddy, tea, cocoanut, cacao, tobacco, and spices.

The area under paddy increases slowly; in spite of the restoration of large irrigation works, the total acreage cultivated in 1904 is less than that cultivated in 1871, while the amount of rice imported increases per head of population. The figures for the census years 1871, 1881, 1891, 1901, and for 1904 are given below:—

Year.	Rice Imported.	Population.	Average Import per Head of Population.	Number of Acres under Paddy.
	Bushels.	Number.		
1871	4,383,227	2,405,287	1·82	777,622
1881	5,943,578	2,763,984	2·15	553,192
1891	7,051,432	3,008,466	2·36	563,421
1901	8,951,650	3,565,954	2·51	670,433
1904	9,560,321	3,565,954	2·68	711,336

The explanation of the very slight increase in the number of acres under paddy, considering the large expenditure on irrigation, is partly to be found in the fact that many of

the new irrigation works irrigate districts which are at present uninhabited, and have been constructed as natural auxiliaries of the Northern Railway Extension, which it is hoped will bring the population with it.

Further, the paddy cultivators are the most conservative in the Island, and unless they are prepared to adopt rotations of crops better results than those obtained to-day are not likely to result; restored irrigation works will mean added security to the village cultivator against the risk of losing his crop for want of water, rather than added wealth from the opportunity of extending that crop and cultivating it more frequently, unless he is taught to realise and take advantage of the opportunities afforded.

The industry which attracted most attention during 1904 was rubber. The value of rubber exported increased from Rs. 85,000 in 1903 to Rs. 221,000 in 1904.

The area under rubber is now estimated to be 25,000 acres, while experiments are being tried all over the Island by European and native estate owners.

The prices realised have been very high, reaching over Rs. 6 per lb. on two occasions.

The rubber has been mainly planted in conjunction with other crops, such as tea or cacao, and rarely as a single product.

Para rubber has generally been planted, but the high price obtained for ceara and the satisfactory growth of ceara and castilloa in districts not suitable for Para has revived interest in these varieties.

Tea has not suffered in yield, or been more subject to disease than in former years. The export of black tea during 1904 was the largest on record. The decrease in the export of green tea is referred to above.

Cocoanuts.—The value of total exports of the products of the cocoanut palm amounted in 1904 to Rs. 24,409,000; in 1903 the value was Rs. 25,883,000.

There was a decrease in the export of oil and poonac, but cocoanut and copra show an increase.

There is reported to have been a very large extension of cocoanut plantations in the North-Western Province, the extent having increased from 317,815 acres in 1903 to 355,037 acres in 1904.

Cacao.—The value of the cacao exported increased from Rs. 2,248,000 to Rs. 2,448,000. The yield has been larger, but the price was lower than in 1903.

The low value of cacao from Ceylon is mainly due to the mixed nature of the purple and white seeds; the Botanic Department issued a circular during the year pointing out the probable cause and suggesting better varieties for cultivation.

The results obtained at Peradeniya during the last two years have been useful in showing planters how to eradicate disease and increase the yield.

There was an increase in the value of citronella oil exported (1904, Rs. 891,500; 1903, Rs. 692,100).

The Director reports that the adulteration of citronella can now be dealt with, as the Department possesses pure samples in large quantities distilled at the Experiment Station.

Various experiments have been carried out with citronella and lemon grass at an elevation of 1,500 feet, and the results show the possibility of cultivating these products in districts hitherto disregarded.

The cultivation of pepper, coca, and camphor has increased slightly and the export of cinchona has decreased during the year.

Cardamoms, though over 1,000 cwt. more have been exported than in 1903, have been sold at unremunerative prices, and with a view to exploiting new markets the planters have agreed to an export cess of 1 cent. per lb. to provide the necessary funds.

In addition to the cultivations above-mentioned, the important experiments at Maha Illuppalama in cotton cultivation have been continued. The main object of the experiments has been to determine which varieties can be profitably grown with and without irrigation in the North-Central Province.

Several varieties, such as the Tinnevelli, Sea Island, Egyptian, and Uplands, have been tried. Altogether there are about 60 acres of different kinds of foreign cotton, all growing well, the best being found to be the Sea Island.

Experiments in cotton cultivation have not been confined to Government; in the North-Western Province considerable experiments have been made by native landowners.

At the end of the year a notice was issued by Government offering specially favourable terms to applicants for lease of land for cotton and rubber cultivation, all applications to be sent in before the 1st July, 1905, the lease to be for fifty years, at a minimum rate of 50 cents per acre, or Rs. 2·50 per acre if the land is irrigable from a Government tank.

Experiments have also been made by the Botanic Department in castor oil, peas, Indian corn, maize, and green manures.

The work of the Department of Royal Botanic Gardens is being continuously brought more into touch with the planting industries, which are every year more scientifically conducted. Lectures and Departmental Circulars on new products, results of experiments, symptoms of various plant diseases and pests, hints as to their eradication, reports on specimens and seeds, methods of preparing and tapping rubber, new instruments,

&c., are increasingly demanded, while further information is obtained by co-operative experiments, which are now assisted by the Agricultural Society and by the work of the school gardens.

Through these gardens a great increase is obtained in the quantity and quality of vegetables grown in the villages. The garden is the local experimental centre, and children are now being encouraged to start "home" gardens with seed procured from the school.

A Commission met during the year to consider the question of legislation against the spread of plant diseases.

(D.) Land Settlements, &c.

The area brought under the operation of the Waste Lands Ordinances in 1904 came to 104,267 acres, and the area settled to 76,497 acres. Almost all the work was done in the villages, and allowed of personal inspection of the lands by the Settlement Officer.

In 1904 38,756 acres of land were alienated by the Crown by sale or settlement, as against 27,829 acres in 1903. The amount realised was Rs. 809,264·50, or an average of Rs. 20·88 an acre.

Of the above amount 3,480½ acres of irrigable land were sold in 1904 under "Sir Henry Ward's Minute," which provides for payment in four annual instalments. Of the balance 35,276 acres, 31,164 acres were purchased by natives and 4,111 acres by Europeans.

During the year the operations of the Survey Department comprised block surveys of 198,383 acres, topographical surveys of 536,320 acres, and application surveys of 33,864 acres, or a total of 768,567 acres.

(E.) Shipping.

The total number of vessels and tonnage which entered at and cleared from ports in the Island during the years 1903 and 1904, exclusive of those calling to coal, are as follows:—

Inwards.			Outwards.		
Year.	Number.	Tons.	Year.	Number.	Tons.
1903	3,452	5,184,690	1903	3,457	5,132,048
1904	3,719	5,646,016	1904	3,725	5,580,583

The arrivals at the Port of Colombo in the year 1904 numbered 1,966 steamers aggregating 5,142,562 tons, and 503 sailing vessels aggregating 53,260 tons, showing an increase in steamers of 89 vessels aggregating 451,542 tons, and in sailing vessels a decrease of 5 vessels, but an increase in tonnage of 4,994 tons as compared with the preceding year.

595 vessels called to coal at Colombo,* 81 at Galle.

1,728	vessels	from the	United Kingdom
1,477	,,	,,	Colonies
172	,,	,,	Germany
124	,,	,,	France
6	,,	,,	Russia
5	,,	,,	Japan

entered at ports in Ceylon in 1904.

The number of Russian vessels in 1903 was 47, of Japanese 69; the decrease was, of course, due to the war.

Colombo Harbour Dues.

The total collection of Harbour Dues at Colombo during the year 1904 amounted to Rs. 1,199,126·84, an increase of Rs. 50,936·09 over 1903. The increase was principally under the heads of "Entering Dues" and "Tonnage Dues." The total is the largest yet collected. The total collections up to the end of 1904 since the Harbour Revenue was established in 1883 amounted to Rs. 16,438,915·19.

In 1884 the total Harbour Dues collected amounted to Rs. 379,078·23.

In 1894 the collections totalled Rs. 706,722·96.

In 1904 the collections totalled Rs. 1,199,126·84.

The following statement shows the number and tonnage of vessels calling to coal at Colombo and the entering dues paid in 1884, 1894, and 1904 respectively.

Year.	Vessels.	Tons.	Entering Dues.
			Rs.
1884	135	217,415	12,955
1894	369	696,583	39,240
1904	595	1,373,484	65,995

The above figures give some idea of the rapid growth of the port.

* In 1884 135 vessels and in 1894 369 vessels called to coal in Colombo.

III.—LEGISLATION.

The chief enactments of the year were as follows:—

Ordinance No. 3 of 1904 amended the law relating to corporal punishment by the reduction of the maximum number of strokes with a rattan, which may be inflicted in the case of boys between the ages of 12 and 16, from twenty-four to twelve.

Ordinance No. 8 of 1904 gives effect to the recommendation of a Commission appointed to inquire and report whether special legislation was required to prevent thefts of cacao. The Commission considered the evil a serious one, against which the ordinary criminal law was of little avail, and that drastic measures were necessary to put down the evil. Accordingly provision was made for a system of licensing dealers in cacao subject to certain restrictions, no one being permitted to buy cacao except for domestic use unless he was a licensed dealer. The principal restrictions on dealers are that they can only buy on licensed premises; they are forbidden to buy between sunset and sunrise or from children under the age of 12 years, and in no circumstances are they allowed to buy what is termed in the Ordinance "wet cacao" that is, cacao in the pod or cacao beans so fresh as to be partly or wholly covered with pulp. Dealers are obliged to keep books showing the amount of cacao brought into their stores and issued therefrom, and their premises are open to inspection by certain authorised persons.

The other main object of the Ordinance is to compel persons to give an account of cacao reasonably suspected to be stolen. This provision is restricted to "wet cacao."

Ordinance No. 11 of 1904 was enacted with a view to protect the public from danger arising from the use of shooting ranges. The Ordinance provides for the framing of such by-laws as may be necessary, and applies to any military land appropriated for the purpose of a rifle range, an artillery range, a school of gunnery, or any purpose incidental thereto.

Ordinance No. 12 of 1904 introduced two changes in the law relating to the administration of estates, the first of which is of considerable importance.

(1) It declares that the provisions of section 547 of the Civil Procedure Code apply only to cases where the intestate died after the Code came into operation. By this amendment omission to take out administration in certain cases where the intestate died before the Code came into operation does not affect title, while omission to do so now does.

(2) It provides for the appointment of a fit and proper person to take charge of the property in Ceylon of minors and wards who are not resident in the Island, and also for the appointment of an administrator to the estate and effects of a mortgagor who has died out of Ceylon, notwithstanding that the mortgagor at his death was not possessed of property in Ceylon.

As it was apparent that the provisions of "The Petroleum Ordinance, 1887," which governed the storage and transport of petrol and other like substances, could not be applied without unnecessary inconvenience to the public who used petrol for the purpose of motor cars and similar vehicles, it was decided to pass Ordinance No. 14 of 1904, which empowers the Governor in Council to make special regulations with regard to the keeping and use of petrol, &c., when used for motor cars, motor cycles, and launches.

The system in force in India of identifying criminals by means of finger impressions was introduced into Ceylon by amending "The Ceylon Evidence Ordinance, 1895," by Ordinance No. 15 of 1904.

Ordinance No. 19 of 1904 declares the principle upon which the nett receipts of the Ceylon Government Railway are to be ascertained for the purpose of "The Defence Contribution Ordinance, 1898." It provides that for the purpose of this Ordinance the railway revenue shall represent the gross receipt of the Ceylon Government Railway less (*a*) maintenance charges, (*b*) interest and sinking fund on loans borrowed for railway construction and extension, and (*c*) an amount equal to 4 per cent. per annum on the capital expenditure on railway construction and extension contributed from current revenue and surplus balances for a period of fifty years from the 1st January, 1904, in respect of past contributions, and upon all future contributions for a period of fifty years from the date of each of such contributions. This Ordinance was enacted in compliance with a despatch from the Secretary of State.

IV.—EDUCATION.

In last year's report it was decided to abandon the distinction between primary and secondary education in Ceylon which it was attempted to draw by distinguishing between those English schools which confined their work to the schedules of the Code and those which also prepared pupils for such examinations as the Cambridge Local and the London University Matriculation, and which were accordingly classed as high schools. In fact, the latter were really of the same class as the elementary schools, and the main part of their work was carried on in accordance with schedules based closely on those of the earlier English Codes for elementary schools. All English schools except the high schools were dealt with under the head of "Primary Education." The vernacular schools really constituted the primary education of the country.

The distinction between primary and secondary education has been, therefore, abandoned for the distinction between vernacular and English schools. English is a foreign language to all but a very small portion of the population. The Sinhalese form 65·3 of the total; the Tamils and Tamil-speaking Moors 33·1; the Europeans, Burghers, and Eurasians together form a little less than 1 per cent. of the population, to whom may be added a few of the best educated Sinhalese and Tamil families, who have adopted English as their "home" language.

(A.) Vernacular Education.

The number of Government vernacular schools and their attendance for the last three years is as follows:—

Year.	Number of Government Schools.	Attended by		Number of Aided Schools.	Attended by	
		Number of Boys.	Number of Girls.		Vernacular Boys.	Vernacular Girls.
1902 ...	495	44,457	10,878	1,249	71,659	36,138
1903 ...	497	44,631	11,132	1,273	76,619	37,707
1904 ...	507	46,785	11,678	1,316	77,700	39,103

The figures for 1904 as compared with the previous year show an increase of 53 in the number of schools, of 3,235 in the number of boys in the list and of 1,942 in the number of girls.

The total sum spent by Government on vernacular education was Rs. 627,043·81, of which Rs. 237,481·44 was expended on

Government schools and Rs. 389,562·47 on aided schools. The increased expenditure as compared with 1903 was Rs. 10,435·23.

In addition to the above there were 1,757 unaided schools (almost all of them vernacular) which furnished numerical returns to Government. In these 40,477 children were said to be receiving instruction, but the figures furnished by these schools are not always reliable, and the amount of education imparted varies considerably.

The cost of educating a child in (*a*) a vernacular Government school is less than it was in 1884, but more than in 1894.

The figures are:—

Cost in	Amount.
	Rs. c.
1884	4 45
1894	3 79
1904	4 6

In (*b*) a grant-in-aid school it is increasing. The figures are:—

Cost in	Amount.
	Rs. c.
1884	2 21
1894	2 71
1904	3 32

The question whether the educational provision for Ceylon is sufficient has been discussed in the Imperial Parliament in 1903 and in 1904. The answer is that, though the provision is not as yet sufficient, steady progress is being made. The total number of pupils attending schools of all classes during the last five years is as follows:—

Year.	Number.
1900	208,274
1901	218,479
1902	226,407
1903	238,259
1204	246,382

The deficiencies were in 1903 classified under three heads, which apply equally well in 1904:—

(*a*) The education of girls:

A very difficult problem in the East. There has been a marked increase in the number of girls educated in English, Anglo-vernacular, and vernacular schools. In 1884 the figures for girls* were 21,083, in 1894 33,692, in 1904 56,480. It is estimated that about 26 per cent. of the female population of the country get something in the way of education, and this may fairly be considered a high percentage for the East.

(*b*) The Colombo Municipality:

A Committee was appointed by the Municipality in 1903, which reported in favour of establishing one school experimentally.

The Council has applied to Government for the necessary power to do this, and an Ordinance is being prepared which will give to Municipalities and Local Boards the power to establish vernacular schools and compel attendance at them.

(*c*) Certain rural districts—*e.g.*, the Province of Uva and the North-Central Province, the Kurunegala and Puttalam Districts of the North-Western Province, the Mullaittivu District, and the inland portions of the Northern and Eastern Provinces:

Among these country districts the one which most urgently calls for early measures is the Kurunegala District of the North-Western Province, much of which is a populous country growing rapidly in prosperity. The rest consist for the most part of sparsely populated areas. In the North-Central Province a population of 79,110 persons is spread over 4,002 square miles, and in the Magam pattu in the Southern Province there are only 7,636 persons to 641 square miles. There are parts of these districts which can never be dealt with in a completely satisfactory way, and in most of them the only chance of efficient action is the establishment of a largely increased number of Government or Gansabhawa schools.

The Gansabhawa schools, or schools carried on by the Village Council, have only recently been started; they are still in the experimental stage, and the experiment is being tried in two distinct forms:—(1) In Tamankaduwa, an isolated but compact district of the North-Central Province, which was entirely unprovided with schools, the local authorities in 1899 tried the experiment of starting elementary schools of the cheapest possible form, supported by Gansabhawa funds and supervised by the native Revenue Officer of the district. In addition to the support received from Gansabhawa funds a lump-sum grant of Rs. 1,000 has been allowed annually to the district to be utilised by the Revenue Officer for the support of these schools,

* Girls attending the unaided schools are not included, as the returns do not give them separately.

of which there are now twenty, attended by 755 children. (2) In Uva and the North-Western Provinces the experiment is being tried in a different form. Schools have been established by the Gansabhawas which are to be registered as aided schools and examined for grant in the usual way; four of these schools are now working in Uva and two in the North-Western Province. They are more ambitious institutions than the schools of Tamankaduwa, being placed under certificated teachers and worked in accordance with the Code for Aided Schools. It remains to be seen whether they can be permanently carried on by the aid of the Government grant, and whether, when managed in this way, they will really cost less than Government schools of the ordinary kind.

(B.) English Schools.

In 1904 there were 220 English and Anglo-vernacular schools, attended by 30,639 pupils—24,940 boys and 5,699 girls. As compared with 1903,* these figures show an increase of 7 schools and 2,274 pupils. In the majority of these schools the work is confined to the schedules of the Code, but there are many in which the upper classes are prepared for the Cambridge Local Examinations, Senior and Junior, and a few in which the work of the most advanced students reaches a much higher level. In 1904 692 candidates entered for the Cambridge Local Examinations. For the Senior Local there were 257 candidates, of whom 224 were boys and 33 girls; of these, 105 boys and 25 girls succeeded in gaining certificates, 9 boys and 4 girls obtaining honours. For the Junior Local there were 436 candidates—346 boys and 90 girls; certificates were obtained by 158 boys and 37 girls, honours by 20 boys and 1 girl.

The rapid development of English education is shown by the fact that the number of pupils attending English and Anglo-vernacular schools has increased from 16,817 in 1894 to 30,639 in 1904.

The only Government institution devoted to higher education is the Royal College, at which in 1904 there were 298 pupils, with an average attendance of 281. The pupils in the upper part of the College are prepared for the Cambridge Local Examinations and for the special examination which is held for the English University Scholarship. The staff consists of 17 masters, 5 of whom hold English University degrees. The gross cost to Government in 1904 was Rs. 43,312·69, of which a sum of Rs. 18,937·25 was recovered in school fees. The other institutions in which anything that can fairly be described as higher education is given are, with two exceptions, registered as aided schools under the Code. The two exceptions are (1) the Jaffna College, which is supported entirely by the American

* The figures given in the Blue Book Report for 1903 were for English schools only, and did not include Anglo-vernacular schools.

Mission, and affiliated as a first grade college to the Calcutta University; and (2) the Church Missionary Society's Ladies' College in Colombo.

The encouragement offered by Government takes two forms —(*a*) Grants, (*b*) Scholarships.

(*a*) In aided English schools grants for specific subjects as well as for work in the standards are paid on the results of the Government examination in each school. Liberal grants are also paid for every pupil who obtains honours in the Cambridge Local Examinations, or who passes the London University Matriculation Examination or Intermediate Examination in Arts. The total sum expended in grants to English schools was Rs. 131,591·59, an increase of Rs. 10,000 on the amount granted in 1903.

(*b*) The English University Scholarship of £200 per annum for four years is awarded annually on the results of a special examination held for the purpose by the Oxford and Cambridge Joint Board for School Examinations. Negotiations are in progress, with a view to awarding this Scholarship on the Intermediate Examination in Arts and Science of the London University. One scholarship of Rs. 240 per annum for three years is awarded annually to girls on the results of the Cambridge Senior Local Examination.

On the results of the Cambridge Junior Local Examination one scholarship of Rs. 240 for three years and two of Rs. 120 for two years are awarded annually to boys, and two scholarships of Rs. 120 for three years are awarded annually to girls.

The total sum expended in scholarships in 1904 was Rs. 21,968·67, or Rs. 6,800 more than in 1903.

(C.) Training of Teachers.

In January, 1903, a Government Training College for English teachers was started. For many years previous to this there had been no provision for the training of English teachers either on the part of Government or on the part of managers of aided schools. The new institution is specially intended to meet the wants of the aided English schools, in many of which the teaching has been of a very inferior order. Twelve studentships of the annual value of Rs. 300 each are provided by Government. Two small vernacular training schools which were carried on at Colombo and Kandy are now combined with the new Training College, which thus has a vernacular, as well as an English, department.

To these was added in 1904 an Anglo-vernacular class for the training of teachers employed in the Government Anglo-vernacular schools.

An English boys' school and a vernacular boys' school are worked on the same premises, and serve as practising schools for the two departments. Training schools for vernacular teachers are also carried on by most of the Ceylon Missionary bodies. These receive a liberal grant under the Code for Aided Schools.

(D.) Technical and Industrial Education and School Gardens.

Higher technical education is provided for by the Technical College, a Government institution established in 1893. In 1897 it was reorganised and its work largely extended. It is now the regular channel of admission of Ceylonese to the following Departments of Government:—Public Works, Survey, Railway, Post and Telegraph; it contains Departments of Civil Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Telegraphy, Surveying and Levelling. In 1904 the number of students was 150—a decrease of 22 from 1903, due to a special class for drawing and art for teachers having been held in that year, and the gross cost to Government was Rs. 39,522·51, of which Rs. 4,981·83 was recovered in fees and by sale of stationery, instruments, &c. New buildings, including extensive laboratories, have been erected.

There are no Government industrial schools, but industrial education is supported by a liberal grant. In 1904 the aided industrial schools, which are 37 in number, received grants amounting to Rs. 49,151·47. The number of pupils was 2,060, and the trades taught were as follows:—Dressmaking 147, carpentry 325, printing 107, bookbinding 153, shoemaking 28, tailoring 85, blacksmiths' work 10, lace-making 760, embroidery 407, cooking 3, and spinning 35.

The most important of these schools is the Maggona Certified Industrial School, which is utilised by Government as a reformatory, and carried on by the Roman Catholic Mission. This institution has an estate of about 300 acres and excellent buildings, to the cost of which Government has contributed. At the end of 1904 the number of juvenile offenders receiving instruction in it was 172; the trades taught are carpentry, ironwork, masonry, printing, bookbinding, and tailoring. Masonry, which was introduced two years ago, has proved a most successful trade, and those who have learnt it can usually find employment at once. Gardening was introduced in 1904. Of the 44 boys discharged in 1904, 23 were known to be following the trade learnt in the reformatory. An allowance is paid by Government for the maintenance of each juvenile offender; this is not included in the amount specified above as the grants paid for industrial schools. The total cost of the institution to Government in 1904 was Rs. 13,925·23.

Good work is also done by some of the other industrial schools, but it is doubtful whether in the case of those which draw their pupils from rural districts real benefit ensues. In Ceylon, where 88 per cent. of the population is rural, the technical and industrial education required for the main part of the population is one which will fit them for rural and agricultural life. An attempt is being made to supply this by the scheme for school gardens which is being carried on in connection with Government schools. There are now 73 Government schools in which gardens are being carried on under this scheme, an increase of 18 in the number in 1903. The seeds and implements are supplied by the Department, and the gardens are visited as often as possible by the Superintendent of School Gardens and his assistant. This scheme is being yearly extended.

Needlework in the girls' schools is a no less important matter, and this has been an extremely weak subject in all schools, Government as well as aided, which have not had a personal supervision of a lady manager. The defective work has been in a great measure due to the want of competent inspection. In 1903 Government decided to supply this by the appointment of an inspectress, who began work in January, 1904.

A Committee was appointed to consider the best means of extending the *teaching of elementary hygiene* in aided schools. It was decided that a series of simple and practical lectures on this subject should be given to a selected number of teachers at the Medical College by members of the Medical Staff. The teachers who passed a successful examination given in the subject are to give object-lessons at their schools.

(E.) Schools for Special Classes.

Estate Schools.

Increased attention was again bestowed on the condition of estate education in Ceylon. The fact that there "were only 43 estate schools in 1903, of which 2 were Government schools and 41 were aided schools, on 1,857 estates"* was pointed out by the East India Association and by Members of Parliament who interested themselves in the question.

It was at first thought that the number of schools would be increased if the regulations for obtaining Government grant-in-aid and registration of estate schools were clearly explained to the planters. A circular giving the information was issued

* The statement that there are 1,857 estates, though given general circulation, is very misleading. It is the number given in the Census Report, and includes all estates, cocoanut and cacao as well as tea estates. Under the Census Ordinance an estate means "an extent of 20 acres or more under cultivation upon which there are ten or more resident coolies or labourers." The number of estates registered as members of the Planters' Association is about 900.

by the Director of Public Instruction, and it was further suggested that estates might be combined into groups for educational purposes.

During the year there were 23 applications for the registration of new schools on estates; 8 new schools were actually examined for grant during the year and 9 others were registered for examination in 1905. At the end of the year there were, therefore, 58 aided schools and 2 Government schools. In the schools examined the number of pupils was 2,139, of whom 1,936 were boys and 203 were girls. The response to the Government offer of grants in aid is small. The reasons for this are—

(1) To obtain the grant the school must have a session of three hours (except in the case of boys over 11), and this seriously interferes with the wage-earning power of the children, who are taken away from the estate work of plucking the tea bushes.

(2) The planter has to bear a heavy initial expenditure, and before he gets it back in a grant he must wait sometimes for years.

(3) The chance of losing the grant by coolies leaving before the examination.

(4) Difficulties in obtaining suitable Tamil schoolmasters.

Mr. S. M. Burrows, C.C.S., late Director of Public Instruction, was instructed to make a special report on this question.

It appears from Mr. Burrows's report that more is being done for the education of the children of Tamil immigrants by the more prosperous and better educated of that community by means of "lines schools" than was generally supposed. In addition to the 2 Government schools and 58 aided schools there are 299 unaided schools—120 held in a building or room supplied by the estate and 179 held in cooly lines. From the answers received to circulars sent to 721 estates, representing the largest labour forces in the Island, it appears that out of 21,045 immigrant Tamil boys of school-going age 6,949 are receiving the rudiments of education. The number of children under instruction is 7,607.

It was recommended that the "lines schools" or local schools on the estates, which are in touch with the needs of this community, and afford the children a suitable education, should be assisted and developed by joint action between Government and the Planters' Associations. These recommendations together with the proposal to group estates for educational purposes, wherever there are favourable conditions, have been approved by the Secretary of State. The details will be worked out by the Committee which is to be appointed at the beginning of 1905 to consider the present state of elementary education in Ceylon.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

(A.) Hospitals.

Considerable progress was made during the year with the Victoria Memorial Eye Hospital, which is to commemorate the reign of Queen Victoria. It will be formally opened in 1905. The cost of this hospital has been borne half by public contribution and half by Government. A sum of over Rs. 200,000 has been expended.

During the year 1904 66 hospitals and asylums were open. In the 32 civil and lying-in home hospitals there were 40,091 cases treated, with 2,890 deaths, being 462 cases and 543 deaths less than in 1903. The daily average sick was 1,560·03 against 1,553·53 in 1903. In the eight field hospitals there were 4,225 cases treated, with 151 deaths, against 4,105 cases treated, with 129 deaths, during the previous year. The number treated in the three immigrant hospitals was 1,471, with 73 deaths, against 1,318 cases, with 63 deaths, in 1903. In the 20 district hospitals 12,739 cases were treated against 13,081 in 1903. There were 1,574 deaths against 1,859 in the preceding year.

General Hospital, Colombo.

The total number of patients treated at this institution during the year was 13,657, with 958 deaths, against 14,605 cases and 1,138 deaths in the previous year. Of the total treated, 421 remained from the previous year and 13,236 were new admissions, 12,254 were discharged, and there remained 445 under treatment at the end of the year. The daily average sick was 479·64, and the percentage of deaths to total treated was 7·01. The institution consists of twenty-five wards and eight solitary rooms, and the number of beds is 425. The new administration block with quarters for the medical and nursing staff was nearly completed at the end of the year.

In the paying section, which consists of 20 wards with 44 beds, the total number of patients treated was 575, with 56 deaths, against 523 cases and 55 deaths in 1903. The daily average sick was 28·54 against 26·34 in 1903, and the percentage of deaths to total treated was 9·5 against 10·51 in 1903. Two fully trained nurses and a matron were appointed and assumed duties in July.

De Soysa Lying-in Home.

The total number of patients treated at this institution during the year was 776 against 818 in 1903. The daily average sick was 16·9. The percentage of deaths to total treated was 1·3 against 2·12 in 1903.

The number of Mohammedan patients is increasing every year; 28 were admitted in 1904.

In the Lying-in Home 21 pupil midwives received training in 1904, of whom 13 obtained certificates after passing a satisfactory examination.

A new scheme to train selected pupils from all provinces has been adopted with the hope of introducing European midwifery into the villages. Eleven pupils were trained and sent out during the year.

Lady Havelock Hospital.

In this institution 1,159 patients were treated against 1,137 in 1903; 322 were children (135 boys and 187 girls). There were 46 operations performed, with one death.

Police Hospital, Colombo.

845 patients were treated in the Police Hospital, of whom 834 were discharged after treatment, one died, and 10 remained at the end of the year.

Grenier Eye, Ear, and Throat Infirmary.

7,848 cases were treated during the year against 6,602 in the previous year.

Kanatta Infectious Diseases Hospital.

Twenty cases of infectious diseases remained from the previous year and 720 were admissions, making a total of 740, as against 327 in 1903. Of these, 701 were discharged cured, 11 died, and 28 remained. The death-rate was 2·82 per cent. against 2·30 per cent. in 1903.

Dispensaries.

490 dispensaries, including branch institutions and visiting stations, were in operation. Of these, 313 were civil, 46 district, and 131 estate. In the civil and district dispensaries there were treated 948,386 persons, who paid 1,454,367 visits, against 921,422 persons, who paid 1,434,260 visits, in 1903.

(B.) Medical Institutions.

The De Soysa Bacteriological Institute.

The total number of specimens examined bacteriologically during the year was 1,628. Special investigations were made

on cerebro-spinal meningitis, diphtheria, and dysentery. Researches were also made on the hœmatozoa of vertebrates in Ceylon by the Director of the Bacteriological Institute (Dr. Castellani) in conjunction with Dr. Willey, D.Sc., F.R.S. The water supply of Colombo is examined bacteriologically once in three months.

Medical College.

The College contains lecture halls, laboratories for chemical physiology, biology, and pathology, dissecting room, offices, photographic rooms, a Museum and Colonial Medical Library, and a separate building for lady students. Professor K. C. Browning has been appointed Lecturer in Chemistry and Public Analyst. Considerable additions will be made to the laboratories. There were 99 medical, 29 apothecary, and two casual, students at the end of the year.

Post Graduate Lectures.

For the second year in succession a course of instruction lasting a fortnight was held in Colombo for Medical Officers at outstations to familiarise themselves with the most recent advances made in medicine, surgery, and bacteriology. Thirteen Medical Officers attended in 1903 and 11 in 1904.

(C.) Asylums.

Lunatic Asylum, Colombo.

The total number of patients treated in the Asylum during 1904 was 666 against 634 in 1903. The daily average of patients was 576·34 against 488·37 in 1903.

In the House of Observation 139 persons were admitted, which, with four remaining from the previous year, gives a total of 143. The accommodation has now been taxed to its utmost, and extension of the buildings is necessary.

To admissions the recovery rate was 32·91 per cent. The percentage for males was 31·81 and for females 35·41. The death-rate was 7·35 per cent. of the number treated, due principally to tubercular affections. There were no cases of fatal injuries or suicide. One lunatic escaped, but was brought back.

There are four houses of observation for suspected lunatics at Colombo, Kandy, Galle, and Jaffna.

(D.) Poor Houses.

There are no poor-houses. In Colombo and in most of the other large towns there are Friend-in-Need Societies, to which

grants are made by Government, and from these, supplemented by private subscriptions, much distress is relieved. In the district the revenue officers have small votes from which charitable allowances are paid in deserving cases. But the amount contributed by Government for the relief of the poor is very small when compared with the population and revenue of the Island. This is creditable to the people, who are always quick to relieve distress and to contribute liberally towards any relief fund. In the villages the principle of mutual aid and assistance is fully recognised, while recourse to any public form of charity by respectable persons is very rare. The feeling extends to admission to Government hospitals; in many districts it is very difficult to get villagers to send their sick to hospital.

(E.) Reformatories.

The only reformatory is that at Maggona. The institution is managed by the Roman Catholic Mission, to whom the ground was given by Government, but youthful offenders are received irrespective of their religion. The average period of detention is about nine years; eighteen years being the limit of age at which the inmates are detained.

(F.) Savings Banks.

There are two Savings Banks under Government control.

(1) The Ceylon Savings Bank, which continued to make satisfactory progress. The amount to the credit of depositors, who now number 31,507—an increase of 667 from 1903—stood at Rs. 4,238,689. The amount of invested funds is Rs. 4,642,111, and the amount of deposits during the year was Rs. 1,644,573. The bank pays interest on deposits at rates of 3 and 4 per cent.

(2) The Post Office Savings Bank.—There was a considerable increase in the number of depositors in this bank. At the end of 1904 the number of depositors with open accounts was 60,884 against 58,121 at the end of 1903, or one depositor to every fifty-nine persons in the Island. The total funds to the credit of depositors was on the 31st December, 1904, Rs. 1,690,412 as against Rs. 1,605,041 on 31st December, 1903.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

(A.) Police.

1. The authorised strength of the Police Department on the 31st December, 1904, was 1 Inspector-General, 4 Superintendents, 7 Assistant Superintendents, 27 Inspectors, 11 Sergeant-Majors, 16 European sergeants, 18 European constables, 210 native sergeants, 1,454 native constables, 26 Government clerks, 34 policemen clerks, 1 registrar of servants, 1 storekeeper, 10 coolies, and 1 apothecary.

2. The total cost of the Police for the year 1904 was Rs. 765,795 as against Rs. 753,312 in 1903.

3. During the year 243 recruits were enlisted, but, as usual, the demand is greater than the supply. On the 31st December the force was 44 short of the sanctioned strength.

(B.) Prisons.

1. The only two events of any importance that occurred during the year 1904 were (1) the separation of Mahara jail from the Convict Establishment—it has been placed under the immediate charge of a residential Superintendent; and (2) the closing of Puttalam jail.

2. There was a reduction of exactly one hundred in the total number of admissions of convicted prisoners to the prisons in Ceylon during the year, excluding the Road Ordinance defaulters, of whom there were 359 in 1904 as against 344 in 1903. The figures for the last ten years are as follows:—

Year.	Number.
1895	5,498
1896	5,288
1897	7,001
1898	7,051
1899	6,158
1900	6,000
1901	6,581
1902	6,369
1903	6,905
1904	6,805

3. Of the total admissions of convicted prisoners to prisons, the following figures give those from the Superior Courts (Supreme and District Court):—

Convicted Prisoners from the Superior Courts.

Year.	Number.
1895	614
1896	854
1897	1,155
1898	1,138
1899	731
1900	939
1901	1,114
1902	879
1903	923
1904	840

There was, therefore, a decrease of 83 as compared with 1903 in the number of persons convicted for more serious offences.

4. There was, however, an increase in convictions for murder and manslaughter of 20. The numbers for the last ten years are as follows:—

Year.	Number.
1895	75
1896	62
1897	88
1898	58
1899	71
1900	82
1901	101
1902	81
1903	70
1904	90

The number of convictions for aggravated assaults has slightly decreased—from 200 in 1903 to 188 in 1904.

5. The number of men sentenced to death and capital sentences carried out for the last ten years are as follows:—

Year.	Sentenced to Death.	Hanged.
1895	26	22
1896	37	25
1897	40	20
1898	28	19
1899	27	21
1900	51	32
1901	47	37
1902	43	30
1903	36	23
1904	33	22

The figures are, therefore, very similar to those for the previous year. Of the 33 sentenced to be hanged, 26 were Sinhalese, 6 Tamils, and 1 Eurasian; 22 out of the 33 sentences were confirmed and the remaining 11 commuted.

No Mohammedan was sentenced to death during the year, and no prisoner from the Northern, Eastern, North-Central, and Uva Provinces, the least criminal districts in the Island.

The offenders were in nearly all these cases men who had not been previously convicted of any crime. The murders were committed in the heat of passion or after drinking bouts and quarrels in gambling dens. It is seldom that a murder is deliberately committed with the intention of theft or robbery. The death penalty seems to have little deterrent effect.

6. There were three escapes of prisoners and three recaptures during the year; two of the escapes were recaptured, the third recapture was one of the 79 prisoners who escaped from Mahara quarry in 1902. Of these 79, 76 have been now recaptured.

7. The daily average of convicted prisoners in jail was 2,534 as against 2,459 in 1903. There was a satisfactory decrease in the daily average of unconvicted prisoners in the jail as well as in the admissions of such prisoners. The total admissions during the year were 6,044 as against 6,548 in 1903.

8. The total number of deaths in jail was 73, which is the lowest on record. The general health of the prisoners was on the whole fair, but there was a serious epidemic of fever at Mahara, which, beginning in the early months, continued until almost the end of the year. The mortality at Mahara was, in proportion to the number of persons treated, lower than in the previous year, but the number of cases of fever was two and a half times the number in 1903.

The average daily sick rate for the year was 137 as against 132 in 1903.

9. The number of punishments inflicted on prisoners decreased from 4,353 in 1903 to 4,124 in 1904. The number of individuals punished has, however, increased from 3,286 in 1903 to 3,431. This increase probably means that the punishment has been more deterrent and that there have not been repetitions of offences by the same prisoners.

Corporal punishments increased from 178 in 1903 to 210.

10. There was a decrease in the number of juveniles committed to prison and an increase in the number of prisoners between 20 and 30. Nearly 50 per cent. of the persons convicted were between 20 and 30.

11. Two resident Europeans were convicted in 1904 as against none in 1903 and 1902. Twenty-three non-resident Europeans were convicted as against 30 in 1903 and 7 in 1902.

12. The cost of maintaining each prisoner was Rs. 188 as compared with Rs. 189 in 1903.

13. The estimated value of remunerative labour contributed by prisoners was Rs. 194,660.

(C.) Criminal Statistics.

I.—*From Returns furnished by the Inspector-General of Police.*

1. There were 19,027 true cases of cognizable offences committed in 1904 with 13,063 convictions or commitments to higher courts as against 16,769 true cases with 11,492 convictions or commitments in 1903, or an increase of 2,258 cases. The true cases and results for the last five years have been:—

Year.	True cases.	Convictions or Committals.
1900	17,703	12,990
1901	17,609	12,793
1902	17,374	12,229
1903	16,769	11,492
1904	19,027	13,063

2. Of the 19,027 cases in 1904, 14,042 cases were under "Other Offences," in which are included all statutory offences, breaches of Municipal and other by-laws, and minor offences; and 4,985 cases as against 4,706 in 1903 for offences which may be regarded as serious crime.

3. The following table shows the fluctuations of serious crime for the past five years:—

—	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.
Murder and homicide ...	146	160	146	134	144
Rape	32	36	22	31	20
Robbery	289	382	326	294	280
Burglary	1,245	1,384	1,433	1,481	1,716
Grievous hurt	391	441	447	436	408
Theft of cattle and prædial products.	1,119	1,127	1,185	1,215	1,377
Arson	98	148	156	206	190
Riot	3	10	16	21	8

4. In 1904 158 cases were sent to the District Court and 17 cases to the Supreme Court under the Habitual Criminals' Ordinance, showing an increase of 12 cases and 1 case respectively as compared with 1903.

5. Of the 144 cases of murder and homicide, 111 cases were committed for trial, of which 103 were sent to the Supreme Court. In 80 cases the accused were convicted; 33 persons were sentenced to be hanged, of whom 22 were executed.

6. In 71 of the murder cases a knife or other cutting instrument was used, in 25 cases clubs were used, and in 21 cases the victims were shot.

7. There have been decreases of 11 under rape, 14 under robbery, 28 under grievous hurt, 16 under arson, and 13 under riot; there are increases under burglary and theft of cattle, &c.

8. The most notable increase is in cases of house breaking by night, from 1,481 cases in 1903 to 1,716 in 1904. In these cases there were only 160 convictions, or 9·3 per cent. In the majority of these cases the evidence was quite insufficient to convict anybody; holes are bored in the walls of mud huts and isolated dwellings, and articles, often of little value, removed. Over 300 cases under this head were found to be false.

9. Out of 1,955 cases instituted under section 368 of the Criminal Procedure Code (theft of cattle) 367 were found to be false, and in 337 cases the committal of an offence was not established.

In only 338 cases out of 1,377 pronounced to be true cases of theft of cattle or prædial produce were convictions obtained.

10. As regards minor offences convictions were obtained in 11,381 out of 14,042 cases. 224 cases were instituted for breach of quarantine regulations (for prevention of plague); there were 100 convictions.

673 cases were instituted for cruelty to animals, and in 647 cases convictions were secured.

11. There was an increase of crime in the Western, North-Western, North-Central, Uva, Eastern, and Northern Provinces, and a decrease in the Central and Southern Provinces—but not in serious crime: in the Southern Province the number of murders increased from 20 to 29—and in Sabaragamuwa.

12. Owing to a religious riot at Batticaloa (*vide* page 68) a force of 1 Assistant Superintendent, 1 Inspector, 5 sergeants, and 45 constables were despatched to assist the local police in restoring order. Two sergeants and 13 constables were left at Batticaloa. A force of punitive police was established at a village in the Galle District where there was a large amount of crime; the special rate was collected without difficulty.

II.—*From Returns furnished by the Solicitor-General.*

1. The number of cases instituted in the Police Courts and Municipal Magistrates' Courts was 84,446. In 1904 there were

3,407 cases less against the person than in the average for each year of the period 1899-1903; and 2,294 cases against property less than in the average for each year of the same period; and 333 cases of cattle stealing above the annual average for the same period.

2. The proportion of persons tried by Police Courts per 100,000 inhabitants was 2,222.

3. Of 1,777 committals before the Superior Courts, 1,022 resulted in a verdict for the Crown and 755 in favour of the accused.

4. In murder cases there were 33 convictions to 27 acquittals; offences against person 318 convictions to 169 acquittals; offences against property 386 convictions to 319 acquittals.

5. Good work was done by the Gansabhawas, *i.e.*, Village Tribunals; 28,604 civil and 44,269 criminal cases were disposed of during the year. In only 168 civil and 162 criminal cases were the Presidents' judgments set aside by the Government Agent, and in only 14 civil and 3 criminal cases were judgments set aside on the final appeal from the Government Agents to the Governor in Executive Council.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

(A.) Population.

The population enumerated at the census (March 1st, 1901) was 3,565,954, exclusive of the military, the shipping, and the prisoners of war. The natural increase by excess of births over deaths from that date to the end of the year 1904 amounted to 174,831, while the number of Indian immigrants exceeded the number of emigrants by 72,146. The population estimated to the end of 1904 was accordingly 3,812,931, an increase as compared with the population at the end of 1903 of 72,369 persons, and equal to a rate of 1·9 per cent.

Birth- and Death-rates.

The births registered during the year numbered 145,253, and were in the proportion of 38·0 per 1,000 persons living. The registered deaths numbered 93,940, and were equal to a rate of 24·6 per 1,000 of the population. Compared with 1903, the birth-rate shows a decrease of 2·0 per mille and the death-rate a decrease of 1·3 per mille. Compared with the average rates for the six years 1898-1903, the birth-rate shows a decrease of 0·6 per mille and the death-rate of 3·2 per mille.

(B.) Public Health.

The public health of the Island during the year was satisfactory, the death-rate (24·6) showing a diminution of 1·3 from the previous year. No epidemics of cholera or small-pox broke out in the Island during the year—an immunity which the Island has only enjoyed once before, in 1899. The four deaths from cholera registered in the year were of sailors who arrived in the Island stricken with the disease. There were only two deaths from small-pox registered during the year (one in Trincomalee and the other in Colombo). The principal causes of death were:—Fevers, 18,389; diarrhœa and dysentery, 17,805 (as against 19,880 in 1903); infantile convulsions, 9,465; debility, 4,909; bronchitis, 757; pneumonia, 3,035; phthisis, 3,489; anæmia, 2,817; worms, 2,233; and old age, 2,400.

Malarial Fever.

There were two distinct and serious epidemics of this disease —one at Mutwal, Colombo, and the other at the Mahara jail. In the former the persons affected all resided in insanitary dwellings, surrounded by stagnant pools of water. After many fruitless searches a few mosquitoes of the Anophiline variety were found. At Mahara no insanitary condition was present, and the Anophilines found were of the Barbirostris variety, which is said to be not a carrier of the malarial parasite.

A circumstance in common to these two outbreaks is the fact that excavations were being carried out in the vicinity. Towards the close of the year these epidemics ceased. The death-rate in each was very low.

In 1904 there were 5,288 cases of malarial fever, with 75 deaths, treated in the various hospitals. In 1903 there were 4,766 cases, with 108 deaths.

A large number of deaths are returned as being due to malarial cachexia, viz., 424 out of 3,796 admitted for this disease.

Enteric Fever.

The number of cases treated was less than in the year previous. The death-rate was about the same. Of the total cases reported from the various stations, 246, with 49 deaths, occurred in the Colombo hospitals as against 251, with 53 deaths in 1903.

Dysentery.

At the various Government hospitals 2,111 cases of dysentery, with 478 deaths, were treated. The total number treated and the deaths were less than in 1903, when there were 2,384 cases treated, with 658 deaths.

Chicken-pox.

There were 3,224 cases, with 1 death, as against 1,862 cases, with 4 deaths, in 1903.

Leprosy.

There was a total of 289 cases of leprosy remaining at the Hendala Asylum on 1st January, 1904, and 155 cases were admitted during the year, giving a total of 444 treated during the year. Of these, 58 were discharged and 58 died. At Kalmunai 35 cases were treated, 17 of whom were discharged, and 3 deaths. From the Kalmunai and Batticaloa Districts, Eastern Province, 109 casese were reported.

An experiment was undertaken by Dr. Meier, the Superintendent of Hendala, of the use of Dr. Rost's leprolin serum on three cases with very satisfactory results. Further observations could not be made owing to the fact that the serum cannot be obtained. The Indian Government are undertaking measures to prove the real efficacy of Dr. Rost's serum and to standardise it before supplying it to the public.

Anchylostomiasis.

The number of cases of this disease treated at the Government hospitals has increased during the year under review by 162. In 1903 the number of admissions was 1,775, in 1904 1,937. Originally this disease was confined to Malabar coolies on estates who bring the disease from India. It is, therefore, being constantly introduced with the batches of coolies who arrive daily. It is reported by most of the Medical Officers doing duty among the natives of the Island living on the confines of estates that the disease is spreading among them. Improved sanitary methods can alone combat this disease.

The death-rate from this disease in 1904 to cases of the disease treated was 14·7 per cent.

Diphtheria.

A few cases of this disease occurred during the year. It was thought that this disease was not known in India and Ceylon, but there was no doubt about the correctness of the diagnosis in these cases as it was confirmed by bacteriological observation and experiment.

Parangi.

There were 3,501 cases of this disease treated with 16 deaths, being 256 cases and 5 deaths in excess of the numbers for 1903. The disease is more rife where the necessities of life are most difficult to obtain. This disease is worst in the North-Western

Province. The increase in the number of cases is not in proportion to the increase of the population, and the ratio of those affected to the whole population is becoming less every year.

Cancer.

There were 234 cases of cancer and 35 cases of sarcoma reported from the various medical institutions in the Island.

Phthisis.

In 1903 there were 878 cases of phthisis returned; in 1904 the total was 1,102 cases.

Vaccination.

During the year 145,098 subjects were vaccinated. 139,706 were primary vaccinations and 5,392 re-vaccinations. Of the former, 118,884 were successful and 12,946 unsuccessful, and in 7,876 subjects the result of the operation was not known, as they failed to present themselves for examination on the appointed days. The percentage of successful cases to total inspected was 90·17. Of the re-vaccinations 3,446 were successful and 1,138 unsuccessful, and the result was not known in 808 cases, as the subjects failed to present themselves for inspection. The percentage of successful cases to total inspected was 75·66.

Comparative Statement of Principal Diseases for the last Five Years.

Disease.	Year.	Cases.	Deaths.
Cholera	1900	814	456
	1901	152	97
	1902	179	116
	1903	46	23
	1904	7	4
Smallpox	1900	252	42
	1901	390	75
	1902	146	35
	1903	29	5
	1904	10	2
Chickenpox	1900	935	—
	1901	1,762	6
	1902	2,293	3
	1903	1,862	4
	1904	3,224	1

Comparative Statement of Principal Diseases – cont.

Disease.	Year.	Cases.	Deaths.
Dysentery	1900	3,204	934
	1901	4,177	1,543
	1902	3,017	999
	1903	2,383	658
	1904	2,111	478
Enteric Fever	1900	224	77
	1901	292	74
	1902	243	63
	1903	358	71
	1904	341	70
Leprosy	1900	635	43
	1901	518	56
	1902	483	48
	1903	526	92
	1904	532	68
Anchylostomiasis	1900	1,336	273
	1901	1,691	326
	1902	1,609	257
	1903	1,775	272
	1904	1,937	286
Parangi	1900	3,646	9
	1901	3,117	12
	1902	3,434	10
	1903	3,254	10
	1904	3,501	16
Malarial Fever	1900	6,226	147
	1901	5,665	89
	1902	6,513	115
	1903	4,766	108
	1904	5,288	75

Plague.

The same precautions against the introduction of plague were continued as have been taken for many years past. No case of plague was brought to the Island, but six vessels, on which there were suspicious cases of illness, were kept in strict quarantine.

During the year the Clayton's sulphur dioxide disinfecting machine was fixed to one of the harbour tugs. It should be a useful adjunct to the harbour equipment both for infected vessels and for fire.

The most unhealthy districts in Ceylon in 1904 were Mannar, Mullaittivu, Anuradhapura, and Jaffna, where the mortality was in the proportion of 42, 39·5, 37·5, and 35·9 per 1,000 of the population respectively, the rate for the Island being 24·5.

There was an abnormally high mortality from fever in the Jaffna District in January and February, and in the Mannar District in April.

In the Districts of Jaffna and Mannar the estimated population decreased by 383 and 188 respectively.

January and February were as usual the unhealthiest months of the year throughout the Island.

(C) Sanitation.

General Sanitary Condition of the Colony and of the Chief Towns.

The general sanitary condition of the Island remains in much the same condition as last year. The same methods of disposal of dust and fœcal matter exist, and, though, by no means satisfactory, are still very fair when compared with other tropical countries. The importance of a pure water supply is increasingly recognised by local bodies.

Colombo.

In this city there are two specially qualified Medical Officers of Health with a staff of Inspectors in the employment of the Municipality. The disposal of sewage is the same as it has been for some years past, viz., the collection of solid matters for burial at various depôts and the continuance of cesspits; the latter are being gradually filled and closed. Colombo has contributed the largest number of cases of enteric fever, and in most cases the origin of the disease has been traced to contaminated water or milk.

Progress is being made with the preliminary operation, the laying of pipes, for the Mansergh scheme of drainage.

The scheme provides for a water carriage system for the sewage of the more densely populated part of Colombo, but it is being carried out with the view of its being extended if necessary to the whole city.

The work now under construction is likely to take some five years to complete, and the cost is likely to exceed four million rupees.

Kandy.

The general sanitary condition of Kandy leaves considerable room for improvement. Several cases of enteric occurred at Katukele. A drainage scheme has been considered, but the cost is at present prohibitive. The water supply is pure and of good quality. The conservancy has been much improved, and several cesspits in crowded parts of the town have been closed.

Jaffna.

This is the only town in the Northern Province where sanitation in any regular way is attended to, though there is no Local Board or Municipality. The water supply is obtained from wells; it is hard and brackish. A scheme for a better supply has been estimated for, and is under the consideration of Government.

Galle.

This town is in a fairly sanitary condition. The improvement of the conservancy system in filthy suburbs is receiving the attention of the Municipality. The water supply is defective, but a new scheme is under consideration.

Batticaloa.

The sanitary condition of this town is fairly satisfactory, but there is still room for improvement. The drainage system requires improving, but this is a matter of some difficulty owing to the flat character of the surrounding country. The water supply obtained from wells is sufficient, but is in some places brackish, and sometimes fails in the dry season.

Kurunegala.

The sanitary condition is not satisfactory. The drainage and water supply are unsatisfactory.

Anuradhapura.

The general sanitary condition of this town is good. The water supply, which is obtained from tanks, is abundant and wholesome.

Badulla.

The general sanitary condition is fairly satisfactory. The water supply is insufficient. Public latrine accommodation is deficient. The scavenging was satisfactorily done.

Ratnapura.

The drainage has been improved recently. The water supply is reported to be insufficient.

(D.) Climate.

The climate varies considerably in different parts of the Island, both as regards temperature and rainfall. In the low-country the climate is tropical, but on the hills in the interior

it more nearly resembles the spring of Southern Europe. The heat in the central, south, and west of the Island is a damp heat; in the north and east it is a dry heat, more like the climate of South India. There are few places in the Island at which Europeans are stationed which are more than four days' distance from a cool climate.

Temperature.

The records kept by the Meteorological Department of the Surveyor-General's Office show that the temperature has varied from 38° below freezing point at Nuwara Eliya to 103·7° at Trincomalee. In 1904 the extremes were 28·2° at Nuwara Eliya on 6th February, and 99·8° at Anuradhapura on 7th May.

The mean temperature of Colombo is 80·7°, and the most noticeable feature of the climate is the permanent humidity of the atmosphere. On the other hand, the mean daily range of temperature is comparatively small (10·9° in 1904), and in this respect Colombo compares very favourably with Madras, Bombay, and Calcutta. The absolute highest and lowest temperatures in 1904 were 92·7° on 25th February and 65·0° on 3rd and 4th February, while the mean for the year was 80·4°.

Rainfall.

The variations of rainfall are even more remarkable than those of the temperature, the official records ranging from 12·40 inches at Hambantota in 1904 to 301·40 inches at Nawalapitiya in 1891. For 1904 the maximum and minimum were 220·54 inches at St. Martin's, Rangalla, and 12·40 inches at Hambantota.

The severity of an up-country rainstorm in Ceylon may be gauged from the fact that 18¾ inches have been recorded in twenty-four hours (at St. Martin's, Rangalla, on 14th and 15th December, 1896). The heaviest downpour in twenty-four hours in 1904 was 16·81 inches at St. Martin's, Rangalla, on 17th and 18th December. It only rained for thirty-nine days in eleven months at Mannar, and for fifty-two days of the year at Jaffna, while it rained on more than half the number of days in the year at Ratnapura, Kandy, Nuwara Eliya, and Hakgala. There were less than 50 inches of rain during the whole year at Puttalam, Anuradhapura, Mannar, Jaffna, and Hambantota.

Direction and Velocity of Wind.

The general direction of the wind is from north-east from November to March and from the south-west from April to October. The average velocity during the last thirty-five years of the north-east monsoon has been 197·7 miles, and of the

south-west 182·6 miles. In 1904 the figures were 222·5 and 213·8 miles respectively.

Abnormal Phenomena.

A slight shock of earthquake was noticed in various parts of Colombo at 9·47 a.m. on 4th May.

Thunderstorms were comparatively violent, although ranging through a shorter season than usual. A house at Kotahena was struck by lightning, killing a dog and injuring several women on 13th January.

Hail fell at 3 p.m. at Kandy on 10th April, at Bandarawela on 16th April, and at Diyatalawa 4 p.m. on 20th August.

At the end of May, 1904, the highest flood since 1871 occurred in the Kelani Valley and the Kalutara District.

VIII.—POST AND TELEGRAPHS.

There was a further increase in the work of the Ceylon Post and Telegraph Department, which has shown a remarkable expansion during the last eight years.

In 1904 there was an increase of nearly one million in the number of letters, post-cards, and printed matter passing through the post; the largest increase was in post-cards, due to the popularity of the Indian trade circular post-card and the Ceylon picture post-card; the only decrease shown was in trade circulars from India.

The parcels traffic increased 6 per cent. The value-payable increasing at a greater rate than ordinary parcels, Rs. 852,714 as against Rs. 789,691, in 1903, was collected from the addresses of value-payable parcels and remitted to the senders by the Department. The increase in 1903 was chiefly on parcels posted in Ceylon, on which the increase was Rs. 41,000, but there was also an increase in value of Rs. 21,000 on parcels received from India. A development of the value-payable post between the United Kingdom and Ceylon would be of great advantage to the general public of this Colony.

The rates of commission on money orders were revised and simplified, being settled on a uniform basis of 1 per cent. on units of Rs. 10 for rupee orders and of Rs. 15 for sterling orders, with the one exception that the minimum commission on a sterling order should be 25 cents.

The total value of the money orders dealt with during the year was Rs. 11,214,305, of which Rs. 6,289,250 was for inland

orders, Rs. 4,188,547 for Indian, Rs. 385,040 for British, and Rs. 351,466 for Colonial and Foreign orders, being an increase of Rs. 616,000 over the business in 1903, half the increase being on Inland orders.

Postal Orders.

Postal orders are far less popular in Ceylon. The total number of postal orders issued does not amount to one-sixth of the Inland money orders issued. Arrangements were completed for the issue and payment of British postal orders at all Money Order Offices in Ceylon, for use as a means of remitting small sums between Ceylon and the United Kingdom and other Colonies.

Telegraphs and Telephones.

The number of telegrams despatched during the year exceeded any previous year, the inland 25-cent telegram again leading. There has been an increase of nearly 50 per cent. in the number of telegrams despatched between 1899 and 1904. The increase in the number of foreign telegrams has been rather less than normal. The only telephone exchange, which is situated in the centre of the business quarter of Colombo, registered 26 new subscribers, making a total of 129. The number of calls, however, increased from 161,313 in 1903 to 215,349 in 1904.

In consequence of the growth of the postal telegraphs, the development of the telephone system, and the extension of railway telegraphs, two additional assistants to the Superintendent of Telegraphs were appointed.

Mail Services.

(*a*) *Inland.*—The applicability of motor cars for local conveyance of mails was considered by a special Committee. Forms of tender were issued in Ceylon and in the United Kingdom; up to the end of the year no satisfactory tender had been received.

(*b*) *Foreign.*—By the terms of the renewal of the contract with the Peninsular and Oriental Company Ceylon receives the outward mail from Europe on Saturdays instead of Sundays. The Indian Government concluded negotiations with the British India Company for improvements in the service between Tuticorin and Colombo, giving a seven-day, in place of a six-day, weekly service, larger steamers, and increased speed.

IX.—MILITARY STATISTICS.

(A.) Military Expenditure.

The Military Expenditure during the year was as follows:—

——	Amount.	
	Rs.	c.
Colonial Contribution for Regular Troops*	2,244,975	29
For Volunteer Regiment	268,951	92
Compensation in lieu of exemption from payment of Customs Duties on articles imported for the Troops.	27,856	50
Cost of erecting certain buildings for the Military† ...	11,985	32
Expenses connected with the Fortifications of Colombo...	13,186	28
Sanatorium at Nuwara Eliya	68,452	29
Rifle Range and Musketry Camp, Diyatalawa	18,690	0
Cost of site for General Officer Commanding quarters, Nuwara Eliya.	20,882	91
General store for the Royal Garrison Artillery	3,000	0
Total	2,677,980	51

* This contribution is assessed at nine and a half per cent. of the Colonial revenues, the revenues being defined for this purpose as including the *nett* receipts of the Government Railway but excluding the proceeds of land sales and præmia on lease or land grants. Ordinance No. 2 of 1898 provides that "in no year shall the sum paid by way of percentage exceed three-fourths of the cost of the garrison for that year."

† In addition to the contribution referred to in the previous note, the Colony provides "any capital expenditure required for military lands and buildings outside Trincomalee," such sums being voted by the Legislative Council with the usual estimates.

(B.) Volunteer Force.

The expenditure on the volunteers was Rs. 268,844—an increase of Rs. 45,217 on the expenditure in 1903. It is now two and a half times what it was seven years ago.

The strength of the force at the end of 1904 was 1,992, being a decrease of 182 since the end of 1903. The reason of the decrease is that at the beginning of 1904 there was a large number of non-efficients who were kept on the roll in the hope that they would qualify themselves early in the following year. Those who failed to do so were struck off. The number of non-efficients is now small.

The Cadet Battalion of the Ceylon Light Infantry, raised in 1902 with a strength at the end of that year of 362, now numbers 479, showing an increase of 61 during the past year.

1,453 volunteers attended the camp at Diyatalawa; in 1903 the number was 1,434.

X.—PUBLIC WORKS.

(A.) Public Works Department.

The total expenditure of the Public Works Department during the year under review was Rs. 5,186,754·63, classified as follows:—

——	Amount.	
	Rs.	c.
Personal Emoluments	422,009	37
Annually Recurrent Works...	2,286,812	28
Extraordinary Public Works	1,858,657	46
Works chargeable to Loans, &c.	619,275	52
Total	5,186,754	63

The following tabular statement shows the expenditure on Annually Recurrent Works, Extraordinary Public Works, and those chargeable to loans and other funds for the last nine years:—

Year.	Recurrent.	Extraordinary.	Miscellaneous, including Loans.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1896	1,823,558	1,219,106	—	3,042,664
1897	1,726,669	1,838,650	—	3,565,319
1898	1,900,307	1,510,143	369,324	3,779,774
1899	2,040,684	1,707,119	1,250,125	4,997,928
1900	2,029,279	1,610,261	1,074,665	4,714,205
1901	2,112,905	1,348,032	666,028	4,126,965
1902	2,163,394	1,448,491	572,143	4,184,028
1903	2,240,085	1,339,699	1,275,967	4,855,751
1904	2,286,812	1,858,657	619,275	4,764,744

The mileage of roads in the Colony was increased by 6·07 miles new roads and 40·74 miles of minor roads previously in charge of the Provincial and District Road Committees which were taken over by Government.

The total length maintained by the Public Works Department during the year was 3,707·12 miles divided as follows:—

——	Miles.
Metalled	2,384·63
Track metalled	285·15
Gravelled	664·11
Natural tracks and bridle paths	373·23
	3,707·12

There is at present great need of roads and better roads in the Kurunegala and Dandugama Districts and of "feeder roads" to the new Northern Railway and Kelani Valley Lines.

The extraordinary floods in May caused considerable though temporary inconvenience and some damage to roads, bridges, and causeways on the Kelani Valley and Kegalla Districts.

The output of work from the Government factory shows an increase of Rs. 25,140·54 over that for 1903. The increase is due principally to more bridges made (130 against 117) and more work on buildings.

Among the important works under construction by the Public Works Department in 1904 were the New Service Reservoir for Colombo, the Technical College, the Supreme Court Buildings, the Victoria Memorial Eye Hospital, the Administration Block, General Hospital, Colombo, and the construction of the new steel bridge over the Mahaweli-ganga Peradeniya.

(B.) Colombo Harbour Works.

Good progress was made with the Colombo Harbour Extension Works. The amount spent during the year was Rs. 2,184,082, bringing the total expenditure on the present works up to Rs. 15,294,940, the grand total expenditure since the commencement of the South-West Breakwater in 1873 being Rs. 33,226,853.

It is expected that the North-West Breakwater and the coal jetties will be completed by about the end of 1906 or early in 1907.

The Graving Dock, according to the anticipation of the Chief Resident Engineer, will be finished about the end of 1906. Its length is 700 feet, width 113 feet from cope to cope, depth over all 30 feet at low water ordinary spring tide, width at entrance 85 feet between coping. The body of the dock, the entrance, and south jetty are practically completed, with the exception of some coping stones and the concreting of about a quarter of the floor area of the dock.

The Patent Slip was in constant use; it was occupied by 33 vessels, 14 of which belonged to Government. The revenue was Rs. 43,580 and the expenditure Rs. 11,423·32.

Dredging.

The present scheme of harbour dredging to give 30 feet depth at low water will be completed by the end of 1905. The question has been raised as to whether steps ought to be taken to increase the depth to 33 feet at low water, in view of the fact that larger vessels are being built with deeper draught.

The time required to complete the work would be about eight years at an annual cost of Rs. 180,000.

(C.) Railways.

The mileage open at the end of 1904 was 466¾ miles, being an increase of 75 miles during the year, viz., 6⅞ miles from Kandapolla to Ragalla, and 68⅛ miles from Kurunegala to Anuradhapura.

The great event of the railway year was the opening of the section of the line from Kurunegala to Anuradhapura for passengers and goods traffic on 1st November. The passenger receipts from the section during the Christmas holidays were heavy, but the goods traffic has been light, as is only to be expected until the country is more fully developed.

The figures for the traffic on this portion were taken with those for the line between Polgahawela and Anuradhapura for 1904.

The earnings on the Polgahawela-Kurunegala section for 1903 averaged Rs. 9,373 per mile of line opened, whilst in 1904 the earnings of the whole section Polgahawela to Anuradhapura averaged Rs. 6,850 per mile of line open.

There was a steady increase of traffic on the Kelani Valley Line, the figures for 1904 being Rs. 394,299, or Rs. 8,257 per mile open, against Rs. 295,763, or Rs. 7,371 per mile open, in 1903.

The question of an extension of the line from Avisawella to Ratnapura and of a line to Badulla and Passara from Ratnapura were both considered during the year. It was decided to refer them to Special Committees, and the Legislative Council was asked to vote a sum of Rs. 50,000 for a survey of the proposed Badulla-Passara section as a preliminary step to the consideration of that scheme.

The Railway Department had a prosperous year; the total receipts (Rs. 8,891,586) exceed all previous years and are Rs. 552,973 more than in 1903. The surplus of revenue over expenditure was Rs. 3,850,553, giving a profit of 5·86 per cent. on original outlay and 9·53 per cent. on capital outstanding on 1st January, 1904.

Steady progress was made with the tunnelling operations on the Kadugannawa Incline; a sum of Rs. 146,030 was expended under this head. A serious accident unfortunately occurred at Alagalla, and four lives were lost by an explosion which occurred after the blasting for the tunnelling.

The numerous slips and washaways during the break of the south-west monsoon, which were particularly numerous and severe on the Kelani Valley Line, caused heavy expenditure on repairs and in strengthening the line.

(D.) Irrigation.

The annexed table shows the expenditure on Irrigation Works—on construction and maintenance—during the past ten years:—

Statement of Expenditure on Irrigation for the last Ten Years (1895–1904).

Year.	Construction.		Maintenance.	
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
1895...	163,417	22	65,674	48
1896...	170,220	72	60,449	0
1897...	178,810	77	62,940	72
1898...	189,989	10	63,802	47
1899...	213,606	90	69,881	58
1900...	297,375	30	74,556	16
1901...	487,768	12	72,912	43
1902...	483,102	71	76,806	10
1903...	494,364	11	82,699	3
1904...	668,377	56	88,081	10
Total	3,347,032	51	717,803	7

From the table it will be seen that the expenditure on works of construction has increased to more than four times what it was ten years ago, and that there was an increased expenditure of Rs. 174,000 on construction in 1904 as compared with 1903. The increase in cost of maintenance has not increased to such a large extent, being now a little more than one-third as much again as it was in 1895.

During the last ten years 69 irrigation works were started, of which 48 have been pronounced completed.

A table is annexed showing the area of land opened for irrigation each year during the last ten years:—

Statement of Area of Land opened for Irrigation each year during the last Ten Years (1895–1904).

Year.	Area.		
	A.	R.	P.
1895...	2,097	0	5
1896...	5,809	3	22
1897...	1,409	1	34
1898...	2,791	2	20
1899...	1,536	2	1
1900...	1,737	1	25
1901...	3,962	2	36
1902...	1,121	0	26
1903...	1,231	0	7
1904...	2,012	2	21
Total...	23,709	1	37

From this statement it appears that between the ten years during which 48 irrigation works have been completed 23,709 acres of land have been opened for irrigation, and that the extent actually opened in the first year of this period was more than in 1904. The area opened in 1896 was more than double the extent given for 1904.

The amount of rice imported in 1904 was 9,560,321 bushels, an average of 2·68 bushels per head of population. The average for the period 1886-1890 was 2·04 and for the period 1891-1895 was 2·53.

It was decided in 1904 that before any further new works were started efforts should be made to complete thoroughly the works already undertaken. With this end in view it was decided to pay special attention to the completion of the channels under the tanks.

It was at the same time resolved that before any further new works were undertaken there should be evidence of a willingness on the part of the people to take up land under the newly restored tanks. The beneficial results of the restoration of such magnificent irrigation works as Giant's tank in the Northern Province, Kalawewa and Minneri in the North-Central Province, the Deduru-oya in the North-Western Province, and Walawe and Tissa in the Southern Province, are certain to result in the future. Their development is only a question of time; at present they afford scope for the existing population to settle on irrigable land and turn it to the best advantage.

XI.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

(A.) Important Events.

1. Mr. E. F. im Thurn, C.B., C.M.G., Lieutenant-Governor and Colonial Secretary, was appointed Governor of Fiji and High Commissioner of the Western Pacific. He was succeeded by Mr. A. M. Ashmore, C.M.G.

A riot occurred at Puliyantivu, Batticaloa, on the 14th November between Sivites and Roman Catholics, in which three persons were badly hurt. The riot was followed by desecration of the Roman Catholic burial ground. There was considerable tension and excitement for a time, but the arrival of a detachment of fifty police from Colombo and the excellent restraining influence exercised by the Roman Catholic priests over their congregations prevented any further serious disorder. Twenty-two rioters were put on their trial.

3. There were very severe floods on the Kelani River during May, which resulted in considerable damage to property on

the banks of the river. A relief fund was started, and Rs. 13,370 were collected and distributed amongst the sufferers from the floods.

4. The naval Dockyard at Trincomalee was closed on the 31st December. About 230 employés were thrown out of employment.

The most important event of the year was the Temperance "wave," which spread over the country in a remarkable manner. Originally it started in the Southern Province, and Associations were soon formed all over the Island. The arrack renters suffered considerably for some months, and Government introduced an excise system in many districts in place of insisting on the payment by the renter of the instalment due on his rent. By the end of the year there was evidence that the movement had abated, and that the people were returning to their ordinary habits. The movement was attended with good results in many cases, where excessive drinking ceased for the time, but was often attended with acts of oppression, and picketing and coercion were resorted to. It was perhaps most remarkable for the success of its organisation, the rapidity with which the movement spread, and the public interest it aroused.

(B.) Immigration and Emigration.

The returns show that there sailed to Ceylon in 1904 from the ports of Tuticorin, Tondi, Ammapatam, and Paumben 142,728 coolies, traders, &c., and that 123,995 passengers from Ceylon were landed at these ports. The number of immigrants to Ceylon was 30,392 more than in 1903.

A Labour Commissioner and assistant to reside in India were appointed by the Planters' Association. The work of the Commissioner is to look after the interest of estates in such matter as the sending of money to the coast by kanganies, and to protect as far as possible the interests of the coolies and kanganies themselves and save them from being cheated by each other and by outsiders.

A grant of Rs. 11,000 per annum, or 25 per cent. of the total estimated cost, has been made by Government.

(C.) Rates of Wages and Cost of Living.

The rate of wages for prædial labourers varies from 25 to 50 cents per diem; 37½ cents may be taken as the general rate. Domestic servants' wages vary very much according to whether they receive their food or not. The servants of the European are not as a rule given food as part of their wages. This is the custom with most of the natives. Wages without food vary from Rs. 12·50 to Rs. 20 per mensem, with food from Rs. 5 to Rs. 12.

Trade employés earn from 50 cents to Re. 1·50 a day. The cost of living varies greatly in different parts of the Island, being lowest in the Northern and Eastern Provinces and highest in Colombo, where house rent is yearly increasing for all classes.

(D.) General Condition of the Colony; Openings for Capital and Future Prospects of Trade.

With the present good returns on cocoanut land, the generally satisfactory condition of the tea industry, and the large development in rubber cultivation which may be confidently expected, the condition of the Colony may be taken to be as satisfactory as its revenue would indicate. The opennings for capital are numerous, and are at present only limited by the steady return which established cultivations yield.

Paddy cultivation has an immense hold on the native cultivator, for it provides him with his food supply at his door. He knows that if he can get his crop he can lay by a store which will last him until the next season comes round. To be insured against want he must be insured against drought. The development and restoration of the irrigation works of the Island supply this want.

For the villager who has capital to invest, if he can afford to wait, a safe investment is the purchase and planting up of cocoanut land. For the European planter the cultivation of rubber is now the greatest attraction; and assured of his chief staple—tea—being in a healthy condition, he is able to invest in the purchase of land for rubber plantations.

The scientific agricultural experiments now being made will, it is hoped, provide a number of "catch-crops" which can be obtained both by the European and the native planter from their lands, while they are awaiting the full growth of the rubber or cocoanuts or in rotation with paddy.

The "open field" for agricultural experiment and development is the land along the Northern Railway, in the North-Western, North-Central, and Northern Provinces. Much of the land is irrigated from the large restored irrigation works; the improvement of road communication, the cutting of irrigation channels, and the results of the experiments now being made in cotton cultivation and other grains will further introduce this district to the likely settler.

The development of the Northern Province of this Island may be confidently anticipated, but it must be a gradual development. The present condition of the country and the numerous openings for capital in known centres must militate for the time against any emigration from one district to another by a most conservative people. But with increased prosperity

must go increased wants, higher standards of comfort, and increased population. These will be the chief factors in the development of the Northern Districts.

(E.) Social and Moral Condition of the People.

The prevalence of serious crime in the Colony, which is still an unhappy feature of its history, is in some degree a reflex of the prosperity of the Island.

The murders and savage assaults, which too frequently occur, are generally the results of ungovernable passion. Most of the other crimes in the Island are committed by persons for whom an assured condition of well-being has no attraction. The problem of the unemployed in the East is very different from that of the West. The present condition of the people of the Island is in most parts such that they can support themselves and satisfy their ordinary wants with the least degree of exertion.

When there is a balance available for further expenditure the problem of their well-being arises. The present conditions of life—good wages, prosperous trade, and good returns on the staple crops—all mean more money to spend. In many cases the native planters and traders show remarkable instincts of business and enterprise, extend their operations and improve their lands. In other cases the added wealth too often finds its way to the liquor shop and in the purchase of the cheap "luxuries," generally of European manufacture, which are now common in every village bazaar. Education alone will determine the question of how to spend profitably, and in the improved education now being widespread over the Island is to be found the best means of improving the well-being of the people.

E. B. Denham,

Assistant Colonial Secretary.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
454	Turks and Caicos Islands	1904
455	British Honduras	"
456	Seychelles	"
457	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
458	Straits Settlements	"
459	Southern Nigeria	"
460	Sierra Leone	"
461	British Solomon Islands	1903–1905
462	Malta	1904–1905
463	Grenada	1904
464	St. Vincent	"
465	Gold Coast	"
466	Barbados	1904–1905
467	Uganda	"
468	Somaliland	"
469	Trinidad and Tobago	"
470	Lagos	1904
471	Bahamas...	1904–1905
472	British Central Africa Protectorate	"
473	Mauritius	1904
474	Fiji	"
475	East Africa Protectorate	1904–1905
476	Northern Nigeria	1904
477	British Guiana	1904–1905
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23	Dominica	Roads and Land Settlement.
24	Grenada	Land Settlement in Carriacou.
25	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague, 1903.
26	Northern Nigeria	Mineral and Vegetable Products.
27	Miscellaneous Colonies ...	Medical Reports.
28	Gold Coast and Sierra Leone ...	Rubber.
29	Ceylon	Geological Survey.
30	Pitcairn Island	Report by Mr. R. T. Simon.
31	Northern Nigeria	Cotton, &c.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 494.

CEYLON.

REPORT FOR 1905.

(For Report for 1904, *see* No. 481.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
August, 1906.

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No. 494.

CEYLON.

(For Report for 1904, *see* No. 481.)

THE GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

The Queen's Cottage, Nuwara Eliya,
Ceylon, 9th July, 1906.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward the enclosed report on the Blue Book for 1905 prepared in the Colonial Secretary's Office. I would add to the report a few observations.

Exports.

2. I find that of the exports of Ceylon produce, but Rs. 21,000 of "Pearls and Precious Stones" comes within the purview of the Customs. But to this should be added the results of the pearl fishery, which may be assumed to be as valuable as the money received for the pearl oysters. In 1905 the amount received for the Government two-thirds share of the oysters was Rs. 2,626,175, to which must be added one-third disposed of by the divers, making a sum of Rs. 3,501,536, practically all of which is exported. Again, from information received from gem merchants and dealers, I am satisfied that precious stones are annually disposed of by direct export and to passing travellers to the extent of at least Rs. 3,000,000. The gross amount of exports may thus be taken at an additional value roughly of Rs. 6,501,000.

Pearl Fishery.

3. As a matter of fact, the anticipation of the Inspector of Pearl Banks has been exceeded in the last fishery, but, in my opinion, the lease of the fishery, assuring as it does for 20 years an annual income almost exactly double the nett average annual income for 50 years past, with the reversion at the expiration of the lease of a fishery, upon the development of which a sum between the minimum of Rs. 1,000,000 and maximum of Rs. 3,000,000 will have been spent, at the discretion of the Government, cannot be otherwise than advantageous to the Colony.

Agriculture (*Page* 24, *paragraph* 10).

4. The result of the experiment at Maha-Illupalama shows that in the North-Central Province and districts to the north there are over one million acres on which cotton can be profitably cultivated where moderate irrigation is possible. The

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quality is a matter of selection of seed plants that we can only hope for if the cultivation is taken up by capitalists with the same systematic attention to cultivation that has been devoted to tea and other remunerative products. I have made arrangements for a water survey of this district.

Land Settlement (*Page* 25).

6. At the present rate of progress the settlement of all the villages of the Island will take a century to complete, and in the meantime undecided claims retard the development of the country and create great delay in the acquisition of land for investment in rubber and other cultivations. The strengthening of this Department has become a pressing necessity.

Estate Schools (*Pages* 27–29).

6. The increase of 92 Government and Aided Schools, and of 19,518 children attending is very satisfactory, as is the increase of Estate Schools from 58 to 78, with an attendance of 7,490. It is an evidence of the readiness of the estate proprietors to meet the views of the Government on the subject of Coolie education.

Police (*Page* 31, *paragraph* 2).

7. Before the late change in the system and increase of pay to the lower ranks, it was found very difficult to obtain recruits of the proper stamp, and the vacancies in the force became a serious question. Now, no man is recruited whose character is not properly vouched for; the standard has been raised one inch and the chest measurement increased to the same extent, yet excellent material has presented itself, and not alone is the force at its full strength, but there are, I am informed by the Inspector-General, at present over 50 acceptable candidates awaiting vacancies. The new police stations have been manned and the sub-districts defined. I have little doubt that when the system has been for a time in operation, the preventive effect of police supervision will be apparent.

Public Health (*Page* 32, *paragraph* 3).

8. I have arranged with the Principal Civil Medical Officer to extend this experiment to all malarial districts during the present year by grouping the villages and sending to each group an itinerant dispenser, who will administer quinine at regular intervals during the malarial season, while all schools will be similarly treated. The result of the experiment cannot fail to be interesting, and will, I hope, be satisfactory.

I have, &c.,

HENRY A. BLAKE,
Governor, &c.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK OF 1905.

I.—FINANCIAL.

(A.) General Revenue and Expenditure.

The year 1905 was one of great financial prosperity. The estimated revenue for the year was Rs. 29,698,080, while the actual revenue amounted to Rs. 34,395,336, an increase over the estimate of Rs. 4,697,256, and over the revenue of 1904, the highest previously obtained, of Rs. 3,548,642.

2. The following is a comparative statement showing the actual revenue collected in 1904 and 1905:—

—	Revenue of 1904.	Revenue of 1905.	Nett Increase.	Nett Decrease.
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
1. Customs	7,878,724 39	8,183,728 22	305,003 83	—
2. Port, Harbour, Wharf, and Lighthouse Dues.	1,422,869 44	1,428,973 39	6,103 95	—
3. Licences, Excise, and Internal Revenue not otherwise classified.	5,810,477 73	6,860,293 93	1,049,816 20	—
4. Fees of Court or Office, Payment for Specific Services, and Reimbursements in aid.	1,926,568 42	1,985,101 35	58 532 93	—
5. Post and Telegraphs	1,167,711 45	1,235,706 17	67,994 72	—
6. Government Railway	8,900,957 15	9,648,651 33	747,694 18	—
7. Rent of Government Property ..	181,227 4	206,164 51	24,937 47	—
8. Interest	527,324 0	462,411 93	—	64,912 7
9. Miscellaneous Receipts	507,909 27	261,821 24	—	246,088 3
10. Sale of Government Property ..	1,449,869 42	2,988,915 81	1,539,046 39	—
11. Land Sales..	698,686 75	1,133,568 23	434,881 48	—

The head "Railway Permanent Way Material Account," under which a sum of Rs. 374,369·20 appeared in the return of revenue for 1904, does not appear in 1905.

3. The increase under "Sale of Government Property" was chiefly due to the large proceeds of the pearl fishery, 1905.

The increase under "Licences" was due to larger sales of salt, to better recoveries from the arrack renters in consequence of the cessation of the temperance movement, and to higher duty paid on stamped instruments.

The increase under "Fees of Court" to the increase of value of property under litigation and increased land sales, the revenue from which, owing to the keen demand for land during the year, also shows a satisfactory increase.

The decrease under "Miscellaneous Receipts" was due to the smaller importation of new coins, which caused a falling off of Rs. 248,962.

Expenditure.

4. The estimated expenditure of 1905 (excluding that chargeable to loan) was Rs. 29,070,679, and the actual expenditure Rs. 29,736,899·28.

5. The total expenditure of 1905 was Rs. 32,087,491·65, as compared with Rs. 34,279,198·03 in 1904, or a decrease of Rs. 2,191,706·38.

6. A detailed comparative statement of expenditure for 1904 and 1905 is annexed:—

Heads of Service.	1904.	1905.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
1. Charges on account of Public Debt.	3,591,313 36	3,647,787 54	56,565 18	—
2. Pensions	1,325,397 19	1,392,614 03	67,216 84	—
3. His Excellency the Governor ..	145,063 61	139,300 85	—	5,762 76
3a. Civil Service	679,721 72	683,041 55	3,319 83	—
4. Secretariat	290,162 15	312,231 39	22,069 24	—
5. Audit Office	60,073 72	64,582 32	4,508 60	—
6. Treasury	45,989 57	50,974 14	4,984 57	—
7. Provincial Administration	1,064,683 46	1,257,612 53	192,929 7	—
8. Survey Department	667,236 50	780,133 50	112,897 0	—
9. Customs Department	132,564 73	135,537 86	2,973 13	—
10. Port and Marine Department, Colombo.	441,092 55	410,189 57	—	27,902 98
11. Port and Marine Department other than Colombo.	34,860 85	40,454 87	5,594 2	—
12. Botanic Gardens	129,638 48	131,114 35	1,475 87	—
13. Colombo Museum	26,898 25	26,473 93	—	424 32
14. Legal Departments—				
Supreme Court	146,820 15	159,192 58	12,372 43	—
Attorney-General	76,168 69	64,905 63	—	11,263 6
Solicitor-General	12,522 65	11,002 25	—	1,520 40
District Courts	164,205 96	166,031 97	1,826 1	—
Courts of Requests and Police Courts.	136,624 23	136,339 31	—	284 92
Registration of Lands	80,264 81	107,499 65	27,234 84	—
Registration of Marriages, Births, and Deaths.	124,526 46	123,182 65	—	1,343 81
Fiscals	220,507 60	234,091 16	13,583 56	—
Loan Board	5,568 27	4,079 83	—	1,488 44
15. Police	765,576 75	809,593 86	44,017 11	—
16. Prisons	540,469 63	527,232 87	—	13,236 76
17. Medical Department	402,633 83	443,998 8	41,364 25	—
18. Hospitals and Dispensaries.. ..	1,274,473 4	1,323,673 62	49,200 58	—
19. Ecclesiastical	9,260 0	9,260 0	—	—
20. Education	1,055,317 37	1,098,793 17	43,475 80	—
21. Transport..	12,518 34	18,595 8	6,076 74	—
22. Exchange	240,877 33	216,050 16	—	24,827 17
23. Military Expenditure	2,677,980 51	2,504,390 38	—	173,590 13
24. Miscellaneous Services	1,692,187 40	869,825 77	—	822,361 63
25. Government Stores	99,868 0	82,232 23	—	17,635 77
26. Crown Agents, London	2,715 0	2,715 0	—	—
27. Forests	306,089 80	310,554 92	4,465 12	—
28. Post Office and Telegraphs.. ..	1,252,051 33	1,401,899 15	149,847 82	—
29. Railway Department. Open Lines.	5,187,682 90	5,196,895 43	9,212 53	—
Railway Construction Account ..	1,125,000 0	—	—	1,125,000 0
30. Settlement Officer, Waste Lands Department.	67,163 16	76,391 49	9,228 33	—
31. Veterinary Department	—	17,729 38	17,729 38	—
32. Consulting Electrical Engineer ..	15,077 22	14,283 98	—	793 24
33. Irrigation Department	331,683 24	547,398 6	215,714 82	—
34. Immigration Department	—	42,334 4	42,334 4	—
35. Public Works Department	420,714 61	410,287 39	—	10,427 22
36. Public Works Annually Recurrent	2,003,929 89	2,040,985 59	37,055 70	—
37. Public Works Extraordinary ..	2,934,218 27	1,693,315 17	—	1,240,903 10
Total Expenditure chargeable to General Revenue.	32,019,392 58	29,736,899 28	1,199,272 41	3,481,765 71
38. Public Works Extraordinary, chargeable to Loan Funds.	2,259,805 45	2,350,592 37	90,786 92	—
Grand Total	34,279,198 3	32,087,491 65	—	2,191,706 38

7. The increase of expenditure in 1905 on account of Provincial Administration, Rs. 192,929, was due to increased expenditure on the pearl fishery and collecting and storing salt. That of Rs. 112,897 in the Survey Department, to extension of surveys, especially the Block Surveys in the North-Western Province. That of Rs. 149,847·82 under Post Office to the cost of stores for the new Telephone Exchange, contribution to the Eastern Mail subsidy, and re-erection of telephone wires.

The decrease in Public Works Extraordinary, Rs. 1,240,903·10, was chiefly due to the fact that Rs. 1,000,000 on account of the cost of duplication of the water main were charged to revenue in 1904.

The increase under Irrigation Department is due to the fact that part of the expenditure for 1904 was charged to Loan Funds.

(C.) Assets and Liabilities.

8. According to the accounts of the Colony, the assets on December 31st, 1905, amounted to Rs. 17,158,632·92, and the liabilities to Rs. 13,739,564·94; thus the excess of assets over liabilities was Rs. 3,419,067·98. As, however, the former includes a sum of Rs. 1,597,465 (advances, &c.) not available for appropriation, and is exclusive of sums amounting to Rs. 4,610,397·82 which have been met from revenue, but will ultimately be charged to the loan authorized by Ordinance No. 1 of 1905, the real balance available on January 1st, 1906, was Rs. 6,432,000·80.

(D.) Public Debt, showing Provision for Payment.

9. The raising of a loan of £1,000,000, by the sale of debentures or inscribed stock was authorized by Ordinance No. 1 of 1905, but has not yet been carried out.

10. The balance due by the Colony on December 31st, 1905, on outstanding sterling loans raised by the Crown Agents in London was £4,670,306 17*s.* 9*d.*, and that on locally raised silver loans Rs. 3,161,797·99, or a total in Ceylon currency of Rs. 73,216,401·30, or roughly 2⅛ the revenue of the Colony.

Provision is made for the repayment of all loans by means of a sinking fund.

(E.) Currency and Banking.

11. The currency of Ceylon consists of:—

(1) Copper: Ceylon 5 cent, 1 cent, ½ cent, and ¼ cent pieces.

(2) Silver: the India rupee, with subsidiary Ceylon 50 cent, 25 cent, and 10 cent pieces.

(3) Gold: British sovereigns, which are legal tender at Rs. 15 per £.

(4) Ceylon Government notes of Rs. 1,000, 100, 50, 10, and 5.

12. On December 31st, 1905, the value of notes in circulation was Rs. 12,767,915, against which the coin reserve consisted of gold value Rs. 2,444,010, and silver Rs. 3,398,309·95, the balance being invested in Indian securities Rs. 2,308,109·05, and investments by Crown Agents Rs. 4,617,486·02.

13. The Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China; the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation; the Bank of Madras; the Mercantile Bank of India, Limited; and the National Bank of India, Limited, do business in the Colony.

(F.) Comparative Statement of the Total Revenue and Expenditure of Municipalities for the Five Years ended December 31, 1905.

Name of Municipality.	Revenue or Expenditure.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.
		Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Colombo ..	Revenue ..	1,230,005 20	1,405,838 88	1,337,344 8	1,567,907 46	1,591,742 10
	Expenditure	1,306,278 56	1,175,727 7	1,494,429 40	1,656,127 70	1,387,277 98
Kandy	Revenue ..	181,107 91	173,202 85	199,303 84	192,150 47	188,553 17
	Expenditure	186,728 [illegible]3	185,364 63	196,217 71	179,583 10	207,938 78
Galle	Revenue ..	86,222 74	91,652 67	92,886 64	95,911 9[illegible]	104,899 28
	Expenditure	94,009 28	92,535 45	88,115 81	86,563 57	101,473 50

Statement of Debts of Municipalities up to end of 1905, showing Provision for Payment.

Name of Municipality.	Amount of Debt.	On what account.	Provision for Payment.
	Rs. c.		
Colombo	Nil.	—	—
Kandy	164,706 76	Waterworks construction ...	Water-rate of 6 per cent. on properties within certain portions of the Municipality (Ordinances Nos. 18 and 29 of 1884).
	90,699 0	Acquisition of lands above reservoir	Bond assigning portion of water-rate, as authorised by Ordinance No. 7 of 1887.
	18,000 0	To widen Victoria Drive and clear lake silt.	Bond assigning portion of rates and taxes under sections 127 (*a*) and (*b*), 128, 129 and 130 of Ordinance No. 7 of 1887.
	14,703 59	For repairing main sewer and constructing new drains.	Do. do.
Galle	55,763 91	Construction of waterworks ...	A water-rate of 5 per cent. is levied within the Fort for repayment of loan.
	36,508 3	Sanitary improvements	Mortgage of stamp duties on licences for carts, boats, and coaches; and also stamp duties under Licensing Ordinances of 1893 and 1897.
Total	380,381 29		

(G.) Local Boards.

There are 18 Local Boards in Ceylon. In 1905 their total revenue amounted to Rs. 272,985·18, and their total expenditure to Rs. 321,757·31.

Loans are made by Government to Local Boards for approved purposes, such as waterworks, drainage, erection of market, &c., on the security of their revenue. Those outstanding on December 31st, 1905, amounted to Rs. 317,316·48

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

(A.) Imports and Exports.

1. The year 1905 was a prosperous one for Ceylon trade, the aggregate value of imports and exports, omitting specie, being Rs. 224,078,800, which was an increase of Rs. 4,234,200 over that of 1904, and of 3½ million rupees over that of any previous year.

2. The following table shows the distribution of imports and exports for the last five years in lacs of rupees; specie and coal exported for the use of steamers are omitted:—

Year.	United Kingdom.		British Possessions abroad.		Foreign Countries.	
	Imports from	Exports to	Imports from	Exports to	Imports from	Exports to
1901	301	501	628¼	164	110½	207½
1902	268¼	536½	599¾	161½	110¾	284¼
1903	257¾	541¼	633¾	166	117¼	315
1904	260½	511¾	665¾	183	127	316¼
1905	251¾	539¾	705¼	190	126¼	292¼

3. From this it will be seen that the value of imports from the United Kingdom fell roughly 3·4 per cent. as compared with 1904, while those from foreign countries fell ·6 per cent., and those from British Possessions abroad increased by 6 per cent. in value; or of the total imports:—

65·1 came from British Possessions as against 63·2 in 1904.

23·3 came from United Kingdom as against 24·7 in 1904.

11·6 came from Foreign Countries as against 12·1 in 1904.

Of the total exports:—

52·8 went to United Kingdom as against 50·6 in 1904.

28·6 went to Foreign Countries as against 31·3 in 1904.

18·6 went to British Possessions abroad as against 18·1 in 1904.

Imports.

4. The value of imports, omitting specie, for 1905 was Rs. 108,324,328, as against Rs. 105,324,720 in 1904. The principal increase was in imports from British Possessions abroad, the value of which rose from Rs. 66,576,728 to Rs. 70,528,784.

Over half this amount is for grain from India. The value of the rice imported from British India and Burma in 1905 was Rs. 37,234,500, as against Rs. 34,249,000 in 1904, and the total quantity of rice imported, over 10½ million bushels, was the highest on record.

The quantity of spirits imported rose from 193,140 to 215,210 gallons, the increase in gin—of which 71,572 gallons were imported—being 17,699 gallons. The quantity of whisky rose slightly from 77,784 to 78,538, and of brandy from 42,413 to 45,563 gallons.

The value of kerosine oil imported, Rs. 1,192,000, shows a falling off of Rs. 573,500, a million gallons less than in 1904 being imported, largely owing to the unrest at Baku.

As regards specie there was a considerable decrease in both exports and imports; of gold 31·6 lacs of rupees in value only were imported—a falling off of 6 lacs; and of silver 37·3 lacs —a falling off of 36 lacs; the export of specie fell from 31 to 3 lacs.

The chief reason for this was the coming into operation of Ordinance No. 6 of 1903 early in 1904, and the limitation of the Colony's gold reserve to £200,000. The surplus gold in hand (£133,000) was issued for export in January, 1904, since when the gold reserve has not been allowed to exceed the sum named. As a consequence of that issue, silver to the value of Rs. 2,400,000 was imported by the Currency Commissioners in April, 1904, since when they have been in a position to keep up their reserve without importing.

The falling off of 8½ lacs in silver exports is due to the Commissioners refusing silver for export.

The decrease of 6 lacs in the value of the imports of gold is due to the fact that the Commissioners have issued to the banks the gold required by foreign and British men-of-war entering the Port, and so saved them the necessity of exercising their option of taking gold from shipments from Australia in transit.

The amount of coal imported from the United Kingdom fell from 308,208 tons to 215,382. The figures for 1904 were, however, considerably in excess of the average, and the decrease in 1905 has been counterbalanced to some extent by an increase of 86,000 tons in the first quarter of 1906. Imports from India rose from 300,500 to 362,700 tons, owing to the increasing popularity of Bengal coal, which is of fair quality and of comparatively moderate price. The coal consumed in the Island amounted only to 60,000 tons, 678,239 tons of that imported being re-exported for the use of steamers in 1905.

5. The following table shows the comparative values for 1904 and 1905 in round numbers of some of the chief imports. The notes point to some of the most marked cases where foreign goods are superseding those of British manufacture:—

—	Imports from—					
	United Kingdom.		British Possession Abroad.		Foreign Countries.	
	1904.	1905.	1904.	1905.	1904.	1905.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Cotton Piece Goods—						
(1) Bleached	1,640,000	1,675,500	215,500	157,500	24,500	13,000
(2) Dyed	416,500	718,000	1,380,500	1,535,500	608,500	724,500
(3) Grey	685,500	1,163,000	10,000	28,000	79,500	107,000
(4) Muslin	37,000	26,500	4,000	7,000	1,500	600
(5) Printed	758,000	972,500	26,000	20,500	22,500	13,500
(6) Other	244,500	407,500	117,500	118,500	42,500	153,500
Apparel made up	245,500	203,500	31,500	33,000	138,000	293,000
Flannel	83,000	54,000	9,500	12,200	36,000	60,000
Silk and satin, broad stuffs ..	85,850	52,700	62,800	41 700	154,000	178,000
Haberdashery	745,200	852,000	663,000	816,000	111,500	130,200
Hardware	791,500	894,750	23,500	16,000	128,000	141,000
Cement	96,000	110,000	—	—	88,000	123,000
Galvanized iron	532,000	597,000	500	4,000	65,000	122,000
Hoop iron	69,500	88,000	18,000	14,000	105,500	146,500
Cast steel	65,500	72,250	3,700	2,000	62,000	127,500
Manures (manufactured) ..	180,000	213,000	1,094,500	1,126,000	591,500	555,500
Biscuits	201,000	232,500	9,500	9,000	85,000	55,000
Milk (preserved)	7,500	9,500	1,330	2,760	266,400	265,800
Refined sugar	67,500	59,500	1,287,000	1,605,600	693,000	1,051,300
Potatoes	3,800	3,700	174,100	173,500	167,100	189,500

6. (*a.*) Cotton Piece Goods.—English imports on the whole showed a very satisfactory increase of 31 per cent. from Rs. 3,781,500 to Rs. 4,963,000, and foreign an increase of 30 per cent. from Rs. 779,000 to Rs. 1,012,100.

(1) Bleached goods from India fell from Rs. 215,000 to Rs. 157,500 in value. The falling off under foreign goods is due to the fact that none were imported from Switzerland and Belgium, whose imports were valued at Rs. 16,250 and Rs. 4,000 respectively in 1904.

(2) Dyed piece goods showed a phenomenal increase all round, the English increasing in value 72 per cent. Belgian goods increased from Rs. 1,700 to Rs. 39,000, and Austrian from Rs. 1,700 to Rs. 10,000 in value.

The largest foreign imports were from Holland Rs. 270,500 (a decrease of Rs. 20,250), Germany Rs. 200,500 (an increase of Rs. 107,000 on those of 1904), and Switzerland Rs. 107,000 (decrease of Rs. 17,000). Indian rose from Rs. 1,378,500 in 1904 to Rs. 1,529,500.

(3) Grey, of English manufacture, show an increase of 70 per cent. The foreign are practically all American. Indian increased from Rs. 10,000 to Rs. 28,000 in value.

(4) Other.—The value of German goods rose from Rs. 20,500 to Rs. 91,500. The next largest supplies were from Belgium, Rs. 19,000, and Japan, Rs. 13,000.

(*b.*) Apparel made up.—English manufactures show a decrease of 17 per cent., while foreign show an increase of 112 per cent. The largest increase was in German manufactures, viz., from Rs. 81,750 to Rs. 208,350. Japan is second to Germany, with value Rs. 58,500.

(*c.*) Flannel.—Imports from the United Kingdom decreased 35 per cent., while foreign imports increased 66 per cent. From Germany the imports increased in value from Rs. 25,400 to Rs. 54,000, and from Italy from nil to Rs. 2,850.

(*d.*) Silk Broad Stuffs.—The total imports fell in value from Rs. 302,650 in 1904 to Rs. 272,400 in 1905.

English manufactures decreased in value from Rs. 118,880 in 1903 and Rs. 85,850 in 1904 to Rs. 52,700, and those from British Possessions abroad also by 34 per cent., while foreign increased 15 per cent. Those from Japan (value Rs. 50,600) show a falling off of Rs. 3,000 and those from Switzerland (Rs. 4,500) of Rs. 5,900, but those from China (Rs. 32,250) an increase of Rs. 13,500, from France (Rs. 34,300) an increase of Rs. 6,500, from Germany (Rs. 14,600), an increase of Rs. 3,300, from Holland (Rs. 41,000) an increase of Rs. 9,500.

The average value per yard of English make was Re. 1·17, of that from France Re. 1·19, from Germany 97 cents, from Japan 70 cents, from India 33 cents, and that from Holland 32 cents.

(*e.*) Haberdashery.—English imports show an increase of 14 per cent., colonial 23 per cent., and foreign 17 per cent. Supplies from Germany were valued at Rs. 71,600 as against Rs. 59,000 in 1904, and from Austria at Rs. 24,750 as against Rs. 14,000. Those from France, however, show a decrease from Rs. 18,500 to Rs. 7,000. Indian goods rose from Rs. 635,000 to Rs. 773,500, and those from the Straits Settlements from Rs. 20,000 to Rs. 33,500.

(*f.*) Hardware.—English imports increased 13 per cent. and foreign 10 per cent. German rose from Rs. 60,250 to Rs. 89,000, while Austrian decreased from Rs. 39,500 to Rs. 25,500 and American from the United States from Rs. 20,000 to Rs. 17,250.

(*g.*) Cement.—The value of cement from Germany rose from Rs. 53,000 to Rs. 90,500.

(*h.*) Galvanized iron.—Foreign imports increased 106 per cent. The value of German increased Rs. 54,500 to 2½ times the value of the 1904 imports. Austrian increased Rs. 25,500, while Belgian decreased Rs. 15,500, the value of imports from those countries in 1904 being nil, and Rs. 18,730 respectively.

(*i.*) Hoop iron.—British manufacture shows satisfactory increase of 26 per cent, and foreign 39 per cent. The value of German imports rose from Rs. 66,000 to Rs. 107,000, while that of Belgian fell from Rs. 37,900 to Rs. 20,700. Austrian also rose from Rs. 600 to Rs. 18,000.

(*j.*) Cast steel of foreign manufacture rose over 100 per cent. and British 11 per cent. German rose from Rs. 52,000 to Rs. 90,500 and Belgian from Rs. 9,650 to Rs. 35,500 in value.

(*k.*) In manufactured manures foreign imports fell 6 per cent. The foreign are nearly all German and the chief decreases were blood-meal manure (Rs. 15,000) and basic slag (Rs. 23,000). In the latter the value of imports from the United Kingdom decreased Rs. 8,000; in the former it increased Rs. 37,000.

(*l.*) Biscuits.—Foreign imports fell 35 per cent. The value of German biscuits (Rs. 54,750) continued to fall from Rs. 84,600 in 1904 and Rs. 107,000 in 1903.

(*m.*) Refined sugar from British Possessions rose 25 per cent., that from Hong Kong increasing to Rs. 420,000 (43 per cent.) and sugar valued Rs. 44,000 being imported from New South Wales.

Of foreign sugar the largest increase was in that from Java, from which the imports of 1905 were valued at Rs. 488,750 as against Rs. 35,000 in 1904 and nil in 1903.

The value of Austrian sugar fell from Rs. 541,000 in 1904 to Rs. 460,000, of German from Rs. 42,000 to Rs. 13,000, while that from China rose from Rs. 13,500 to Rs. 39,000.

(*n.*) Potatoes from British Possessions are all from India; the foreign from Italy, value Rs. 157,000, and France Rs. 29,500.

Pig lead rose in value from Rs. 291,000 to Rs. 489,000, and tea lead decreased from Rs. 776,250 to Rs. 498,750, chiefly owing to the establishment of a lead-rolling factory in Colombo.

7. The following table gives the foreign countries which export the largest number of articles to Ceylon in order, showing the value of the imports in 1903, 1904, and 1905, and the decrease or increase in trade:—

—	Imports from Foreign Countries.			Difference compared with	
	1903.	1904.	1905.	1903.	1904.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. Germany	2,061,008	2,452,637	2,692,913	+ 631,905	+ 240,276
2. Japan	1,583,483	1,757,074	1,623,854	+ 40,371	- 133,220
3. Russia	897,421	1,445,802	983,291	+ 85,870	- 462,511
4. Austria	985,006	841,819	878,261	- 106,745	+ 36,442
5. United States of America..	721,887	725,963	801,157	+ 79,270	+ 75,194
6. France	744,550	750,635	755,239	+ 10,689	+ 4,604
7. Holland	488,582	653,938	677,506	+ 188,924	+ 23,568
8. Belgium..	469,883	377,162	544,566	+ 74,683	+ 167,404
9. Switzerland	370,762	438,662	431,801	+ 61,039	- 6,861
10. Italy	369,440	270,540	322,936	- 46,504	+ 52,396
11. Sweden	250,442	184,864	182,330	- 68,112	- 2,534
Total of all Foreign Countries omitting Specie.	11,726,139	12,700,007	12,624,888	+ 898,749	- 75,119

8. From this it appears that the value of imports from Germany continues to increase, though not so rapidly as in 1904. In 1905 German imports formed 21·5 per cent. of the total foreign imports, being over one million rupees, or 66 per cent. in excess of the Japanese, the next on the list.

The chief articles from Germany are manures (Rs. 543,000), apparel made up (Rs. 208,500), dyed piece goods (Rs. 200,500), hoop iron (Rs. 107,000), piece goods, other (Rs. 191,650), cement (Rs. 90,500), cast steel (Rs. 90,500), and hardware (Rs. 89,000), the increases in which have been already noted.

Iron nails and rivets also rose from Rs. 24,200 to Rs. 59,600 in value.

9. The imports from Japan formed nearly 13 per cent. of the total foreign imports. There was a falling off in their value compared with 1904, doubtless owing to the Russo-Japanese war. The chief imports are tea chests (Rs. 882,800), a decrease of Rs. 123,400, coal (Rs. 470,000), apparel made up (Rs. 58,500), and silk broad stuffs (Rs. 50,600).

10. Russian imports show a large falling off. They are practically confined to kerosine oil, which was valued at Rs. 976,850 as against Rs. 1,391,600 in 1904. The cause of the reduction has been already noted.

11. Austria regained some of the ground lost in 1904. Her chief exports to Ceylon are refined sugar (Rs. 460,150) a decrease of Rs. 81,000 as already noted, casks and shooks (Rs. 83,750 as against Rs. 6,150 in 1904), matches (Rs. 43,750 as against Rs. 20,600 in 1904), writing paper (Rs. 29,000 as against Rs. 18,850), and haberdashery (Rs. 24,750 as against Rs. 14,150.)

12. French imports show a small increase. The chief are brandy Rs. 317,900 (as against Rs. 308,600 in 1904), wines Rs. 149,500 (as against Rs. 152,300), umbrellas Rs. 40,850 (as against Rs. 33,480).

13. The increase on imports from the United States is chiefly due to kerosine oil, which was valued at Rs. 189,250 as against Rs. 121,450 in 1904, the increase being caused by the decrease of Russian oil from Baku, and grey piece goods Rs. 105,250 (as against Rs. 79,500).

14. Imports from Belgium show an increase of 44 per cent. on 1904, and more than recover the ground lost in that year.

Flat iron, bar and rod (Rs. 61,500), showed a decrease of Rs. 3,000 in value, but galvanized iron (Rs. 58,250) an increase of Rs. 18,750, refined sugar (Rs. 49,450) an increase of Rs. 21,850, iron nails and rivets (Rs. 45,250) an increase of Rs. 30,000, dyed piece goods (Rs. 39,250) an increase of Rs. 22,250, cast steel (Rs. 35,500) an increase of Rs. 25,500, iron drums (Rs. 34,500) an increase of Rs. 14,500, and window glass (Rs. 29,500) an increase of Rs. 20,000.

15. The following table shows the comparative figures for the last three years:—

—	1903.	1904.	1905.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Value of Ceylon Produce ...	100,871,566	99,894,461	100,898,551
Value of Imports exported ...	1,356,167	1,214,415	1,291,158
Value of Specie	6,536,612	3,157,050	300,350
Total	108,764,335	104,265,926	102,490,059

16. The value of Ceylon produce taken by the United Kingdom was Rs. 53,827,187, as against Rs. 51,062,777 in 1904 and Rs. 53,875,036 in 1903.

By British Possessions abroad, Rs. 18,025,305 as against Rs. 17,313,474 in 1904 and Rs. 15,630,593 in 1903.

By foreign countries, Rs. 29,046,059 as against Rs. 31,518,210 in 1904 and Rs. 31,365,927 in 1903.

17. Compared with 1904 the value of Ceylon produce exported increased Rs. 1,004,090, or 1 per cent.

18. The most notable decrease was in the value of copra—from Rs. 7,973,545 in 1904 to Rs. 4,904,209—due in a great measure to the competition now being experienced with the Malay Archipelago and South Sea Islands, and also to the fact that the freight from Ceylon for the produce has been increased.

The falling off was partly compensated for by increased export of cocoanut oil for the manufacture of which copra is exported.

19. Of the value of Ceylon produce exported the products of the cocoanut palm represent over 22 per cent., and tea, roughly, 60 per cent.

20. The following table shows the countries which take the largest amount of Ceylon produce, giving the value of the exports to them in 1903, 1904, and 1905:—

Exports to—	In 1903.	In 1904.	In 1905.	1905 compared with	
				1903.	1904.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. United States of America..	8,545,632	8,193,536	8,151,821	- 393,811	- 41,715
2. Germany	7,069,2-4	8,666,251	6,568,464	- 500,820	-2,097,787
3. British India	3,656,483	4,708,931	5,071,733	+1,415,250	+ 362,802
4. Russia	6,018,743	4,992,282	4,415,455	-1,603,288	- 576,827
5. New South Wales	2,875,004	3,566,907	3,465,672	+ 590,668	- 101,235
6. Victoria..	2,653,019	3,046,823	2,996,746	+ 343,727	- 50,077
7. Austria	1,163,376	1,975,232	2,962,389	+1,799,013	+ 987,157
8. Belgium	2,662,663	2,834,307	1,995,701	- 666,962	- 838,606
9. China, excluding Hong Kong.	1,886,766	688,095	1,526,360	- 360,406	+ 838,264
10. France	1,754,506	1,840,939	1,367,542	- 386,964	- 473,397

21.—(*a*.) From this table it appears that the United States have again taken their place above Germany as the largest consumer of Ceylon produce, although the value of that taken by them has decreased Rs. 41,715 compared with 1904.

Of exports to United States of America, tea fell in value from Rs. 2,019,373 to Rs. 1,740,953, cocoanut oil from Rs. 2,360,070 to Rs. 1,906,460, while plumbago rose from Rs. 2,535,813 to Rs. 2,912,902, desiccated cocoanut from Rs. 463,642 to Rs. 658,634, and citronella oil from Rs. 401,586 to Rs. 490,512.

(*b*.) The serious falling off in exports to Germany of Rs. 2,097,787, or 24 per cent. on the total for 1904, is chiefly due to copra, which fell Rs. 1,693,831 or 48 per cent. in value, cacao, which fell Rs. 176,823 or 34 per cent. in value, and cocoanut oil, which fell Rs. 172,506 or over 53 per cent. Plumbago (Rs. 1,294,360) remained practically constant as did desiccated cocoanut (Rs. 451,968). Poonac (Rs. 632,953) fell Rs. 65,539, cardamoms (Rs. 83,419) Rs. 30,050, and tea (Rs. 359,104) Rs. 58,129.

The chief increases were in cinnamon, Rs. 807,404 as compared with Rs. 713,153, coir fibre Rs. 199,279 as compared with Rs. 130,410, and citronella oil Rs. 101,461 as compared with Rs. 51,400.

(*c*.) Russia.—The decline of 11 per cent. was chiefly due to copra, which fell from Rs. 1,088,125 to Rs. 446,265 in value.

Tea (Rs. 3,930,967) and plumbago (Rs. 33,497) showed slight increases.

(*d.*) The value of exports to Austria shows a steady increase. The value of cocoanut oil exported rose from Rs. 1,199,304 to Rs. 1,522,214; that of copra from Rs. 600,656 to Rs. 1,226,490, and of tea from Rs. 51,464 to Rs. 105,623.

(*e.*) The decrease in exports to Belgium was mainly in copra, which fell from Rs. 989,481 to Rs. 149,196, cacao (Rs. 4,977 as against Rs. 24,246 in 1904), desiccated cocoanut (Rs. 93,733 as against Rs. 115,903 in 1904). Plumbago (Rs. 635,146), poonac (Rs. 388,866), coir fibre (Rs. 192,889), and cinnamon (Rs. 171,790) showed small increases.

(*f.*) China.—The value of tea exported to China, excluding Hong Kong, was Rs. 1,504,904 as against Rs. 673,617 in 1904, but was still Rs. 357,451 less than that of 1903.

(*g.*) Exports of tea to France fell from Rs. 217,629 to Rs. 138,956, of copra from Rs. 1,298,432 to Rs. 999,838, and of cocoanut oil from Rs. 92,682 to Rs. 167.

(*h.*) Exports of plumbago to Japan increased in value from Rs. 85,213 to Rs. 270,399.

(*i.*) The value of exports to Italy fell from Rs. 606,374 to Rs. 180,389, that of copra falling from Rs. 308,174 to nil, of cinnamon from Rs. 180,985 to Rs. 146,312, and of cocoanut oil from Rs. 73,900 to nil.

22. The following table shows the value in round numbers of the staple exports of the Colony, excluding tea:—

—	To United Kingdom.		To British Possessions Abroad.		To Foreign Countries.	
	1904.	1905.	1904	1905.	1904.	1905.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Products of Cocoanut Palm.	7,883,500	8,963,000	1,093,000	1,439,000	15,429,500	12,046,000
Plumbago	1,800,000	1,929,500	40,500	33,500	4,660,000	5,207,500
Cinnamon	328,000	296,000	66,500	81,000	1,877,500	1,935,000
Cacao	1,559,000	1,611,000	225,000	333,500	663,500	489,000

23. From this it appears that the total value of products of the cocoanut palm exported fell from Rs. 24,409,000 in 1904 to Rs. 22,448,000 in 1905.

24. The value of copra to foreign countries alone fell 3 million rupees for reasons already noted.

Plumbago exports show a total increase in value of Rs. 670,000; 612,848 cwt. being exported as against 521,204 in 1904.

The total value of cacao exported has fallen Rs. 14,000; that to foreign countries having fallen Rs. 174,500 and that to British Possessions abroad having increased Rs. 129,500, and to the United Kingdom Rs. 52,000.

The total export of cinnamon has increased in value Rs. 40,000, foreign countries and British Possessions abroad having made up for decreased export to the United Kingdom.

The quantity of rubber exported was 1,401 cwt., as against 676 cwt. in 1904, and 387 in 1903, and there is every prospect of the rapid expansion of the export of this product.

Tea.

25. A total of 170,183,572 lb. of tea was exported in 1905 as against 157,929,342 lb. in 1904, the average value being 35 cents per lb., as against 36 cents in 1904, and 39 cents in 1903.

26. Of these 170 million lb., 112 million went to the United Kingdom or 7·7 million in excess of the amount exported in 1904, 11·2 to Russia (an increase of ·6), 9·25 to New South Wales (a decrease of ·12), 8 to Victoria (increase of ·2), 6·4 to Canada (increase of ·48), 5 to United States (decrease of ·6), 4 to New Zealand (increase of ·3), and 2 to South and West Australia.

27. The total value of tea exported in 1905 was estimated at Rs. 59,564,245 as against Rs. 56,854,563 in 1904.

28. The total quantity of green tea exported was 3 million lb., as against 5·4 in 1904 and 8·2 in 1903.

The following table shows the fluctuation in the export of green tea during the past five years:—

Year.	Exported to		United States of America.	Russia.
	United Kingdom.	Canada.		
	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.
1901...	260,949	549,013	360,373	40,122
1902...	411,514	736,534	1,264,303	133,180
1903...	1,794,853	2,695,628	3,522,444	152,388
1904...	1,736,795	1,584,838	1,596,446	425,657
1905...	264,807	1,285,300	621,859	855,121

Customs Revenue.

29. The revenue derived from Customs dues in 1905 was the highest ever reached, surpassing that of 1904, the previous record, by Rs. 318,553·64. The following table shows the

income from this source for the ten years beginning from 1896:—

Gross Customs Revenue for the Ten Years ended 1905.

Year.	Revenue.	
	Rs.	c.
1896	5,550,971	65
1897	6,278,787	49
1898	6,714,625	82
1899	7,101,851	73
1900	7,620,432	29
1901	7,446,807	26
1902	7,630,175	62
1903	8,043,062	94
1904	8,334,431	74
1905	8,652,985	38

30. The chief increases in 1905 were on grain (Rs. 211,412), spirits (Rs. 111,355), cotton manufactures (Rs. 55,227), other goods (Rs. 34,171), and sugar (Rs. 31,821·55). The duty on kerosine oil decreased by Rs. 143,438.

31. The chief articles contributing to the revenue in 1905 were:—

——	Amount.
	Rs.
Grain	3,330,495
Spirits	1,097,223
Kerosine Oil	797,502
Sugar	626,099
Cotton Goods	325,120

(B.) Mines, Manufactures, and Fisheries.

Pearl Fishery.

1. For the third year in succession, after a spell of twelve practically blank years prior to 1903, a pearl fishery took place in 1905.

2. As usual a camp was built especially for the fishery at Marichchikkaddi, and between 30,000 and 40,000 people were accommodated there. The health and sanitation of the camp proved satisfactory, and save one bad case of dacoity—the offenders in which have since been brought to justice and a large part of their booty recovered—no serious crime occurred.

Two fires, however, broke out, and the buildings being temporary ones of inflammable material, one of them resulted in considerable damage being done.

3. 923 of the 4,991 divers present were Arabs, and security having been taken for their good behaviour prior to licensing them, their conduct was good throughout.

4. 318 boats took part in the fishery, and on 48 days between February 20th and April 21st oysters were brought to camp. Their total number was very nearly double that of any preceding fishery, and the Government share amounted to 49,878,616, the sale of which by auction on the spot realised Rs. 2,060,970, or an average of Rs. 40·29 per thousand, as against Rs. 38·39 in 1904 and Rs. 29·72 in 1903.

5. The total revenue derived from the fishery and camp amounted to Rs. 2,626,175, and the expenditure to Rs. 220,530, and the net profit Rs. 2,405,645 was over a million and a third rupees in excess of that of 1904, which was the previous highest on record.

6. The Inspector of Pearl Banks anticipated an excellent fishery in 1906, but that after a probably small fishery in 1907 and, perhaps, 1908, another break in the fishery cycle was likely.

7. It has been decided to lease the fishery to "The Ceylon Company of Pearl Fishers, Limited," for a period of 20 years as from January 1st, 1906, for a sum of Rs. 310,000 per annum, it being stipulated that a sum shall be annually expended by the Company upon the improvement of the fishery—not less than Rs. 50,000, to be increased at the discretion of the Government to any sum not greater than Rs. 150,000—and that all the expenses of the supervision and protection of the fishery camp by Government shall be borne by the Company.

8. The third and fourth volumes of Professor Herdman's work on the Ceylon Pearl Banks have been published, and his recommendations will be tested.

The Mineralogical Survey.

1. The mineralogical survey has been continued during 1905. The two officers have worked mainly in Sabaragamuwa, but also in the Western and Southern Provinces, and tours have been made through parts of the North-Western, North-Central, and Eastern Provinces.

2. The year has been remarkable for the discovery of thorianite, to which much attention has been given by private prospectors; a number of new localities, where amounts not exceeding a few cwt. were obtained, have been found by the Survey and others. The Survey discovery of the occurrence of

thorianite as a microscopic constituent of river sands in the Ratnapura District may prove important.

3. Monazite has also been discovered and proves to be of widespread occurrence in Ceylon river sands. Small deposits of cassiterite and galena have been found, as well as molybdenite. Observations on the mode of occurrence, and possible origin, of graphite have been made.

4. It has been decided to continue the operations of the survey till the end of 1906, making its period one of nearly four years. During 1906 the principal work undertaken will be the continued examination of river sands and search for heavy minerals containing rare elements.

Mining.

1. The output of plumbago, in spite of the falling of value from Rs. 20·88 per cwt. in 1902 and Rs. 12·50 in 1903 and 1904 to Rs. 11·70, which in some cases leaves barely sufficient margin to cover expenses, shows an increase over previous years, and 612,848 cwt. were exported.

2. The mines are chiefly in the Ratnapura and Kurunegala Districts and are mostly managed by native capitalists. In Dumbara in the Ratnapura District a European Syndicate is carrying on operations, and the prospects are said to be favourable, but the industry is one whose operations are attended with great uncertainty.

3. Gemming was carried on more extensively than in 1904 in the Ratnapura District, the year being an unusually dry one, and some very valuable finds were reported.

4. It is also carried on in the Matara District and parts of the Kandy District.

Salt.

The manufacture of salt is a Government monopoly. Fine weather prevailed during the salt harvest season and good supplies were collected in Puttalam (396,417 cwt.), Hambantota (164,532 cwt.), Trincomalee (75,600 cwt.), and in the Northern Province (63,088 cwt.), so that it was found possible to discontinue the importation of Indian salt necessary in 1903 and 1904 and stock the stores then erected for it in Colombo, Galle, and Haputale with that locally produced. Government stores have been opened at suitable centres with a view to keeping the retail price as low and as uniform as possible. Salt is sold by Government at Rs. 3·50 per cwt. at manufacturing centres.

Manufactures.

1. Indigenous crafts of the Kandyan country are silver and brass work, the making of jewellery, earthenware, tiles, bricks,

and painted pottery, the plaiting of fibre mats and weaving of clot' lacquer work, and ivory carving.

2. od work is being done by the Kandyan Art Association in encouraging a high standard of excellence, especially in brass and silver work, and discouraging the crude imitations of Western patterns, which has done so much to injure native art both in India and in Ceylon.

3. In other districts the making of coir rope from cocoanut husks, of mats, bricks and tiles, common eathernware for water pans, &c., is generally pursued for local wants, and also carpentry and blacksmiths' work.

4. Cloth of a coarse description is woven in the Manmunai pattu of the Eastern Province, where over 600 looms are working, and also in the Northern Province.

5. In the Eastern Province brass work for utilitarian purposes—for the making of lamps, betel stands, plates, and water pots—is carried on at over 50 foundries.

6. The manufacture of jewellery is steadily increasing in the Northern Province.

7. Cigars are made in the Northern and part of the Central Province. The Jaffna cigar, very small, strong, and cheap, is consumed almost exclusively by the natives of Ceylon.

(C.) Agriculture.

1. The Ceylon Agricultural Society, founded in November, 1904, increased its membership in 1905 from 197 to 944, with 40 Branch Societies, the members of which are 2,250 in number.

2. It aims at the improvement and development of local industries as well as the dissemination of new products; also at improving the breed of cattle and poultry.

3. Experimental gardens have been opened by nearly all the branches and village schools, and home gardens have been considerably extended.

4. The principal experiments made by the Society in 1905, with the guidance and assistance of the scientific staff of Peradeniya, were with ground-nuts, new varieties of paddy, cotton, lemon grass, rotation of crops on paddy fields, transplantation of paddy, English vegetables, and fruit trees.

Experiments are also being made in sericulture at Peradeniya by the Government Entomologist.

Five Agricultural Shows were held during the year in different parts of the Island.

5. The most remarkable development during 1905 was the planting of rubber, under which there were at the end of 1905

some 40,000 acres as compared with 11,000 in 1904 and 7,500 in 1903, and the value of rubber exported in 1905 was Rs. 557,945 as compared with Rs. 221,000 in 1904.

6. Various new methods of tapping have been under trial during the year, and some have given favourable results. A very useful book upon Para rubber has been published by Mr. Herbert Wright, and the first edition of 1,000 copies was sold out in less than four months, a comment upon the interest being taken in this product. Rubber planting is being taken up by natives to a small extent, and interesting experiments are being tried by the Botanical Department upon its cultivation under irrigation in the North-Central Province.

7. Camphor cultivation has been slightly extended during the year, and further extension is probable.

8. The output of citronella oil (1,242,800 lb.) has improved 80,000 lb., the price having risen from 75 cents to 84 cents per lb. Consignments of a really pure oil, grown at the Peradeniya Experiment Station, have been sent home, and have aroused considerable interest among manufacturers, who have probably never seen pure oil before. These pure oils will not pass Schimmel's test, hitherto the standard for this oil, a fact which in itself speaks volumes.

9. The cultivation of lemon grass for oil has been proceeded with at the Peradeniya Experiment Station, with fairly favourable results, and as the price of this oil is rising, its cultivation may prove profitable.

10. In fibres the cultivation of cotton is being promoted and the cotton experiments are being continued at Maha-Iluppalama in the North-Central Province by the Botanical Department. The yield there, especially of the Sea Island variety, has been fairly good, but the quality has not proved satisfactory owing to want of experience in the cultivation and to the mixing of the different sorts of cotton by the coolies when plucking near the places where the fields meet.

11. Coca has been exported in increasing quantity, and Ceylon coca now rules the market as to quality.

12. The output of tea, cacao, cinnamon, and cocoanut products has already been commented on under "Exports."

13. The export of cardamoms has decreased from 9,216 cwt. to 7,888, and the average price has fallen from Rs. 90·75 to Rs. 73·90 per cwt. At the request of the Planters' Association of Ceylon an export duty has been placed on cardamoms to form a fund for finding new markets for the product.

14. Paddy is the staple article of food of the villager, and is grown in all parts of the Island, but not in sufficient quantity to meet the total demands of the population, including Indian

immigrant coolies, and its cultivation extends very slowly. In 1905 rice valued Rs. 38,565,000 and paddy valued Rs. 2,372,200 were imported for consumption, and both show an increase since 1904.

15. Tobacco is extensively grown in the Northern Province in gardens irrigated as a rule with water from wells raised from a depth of from 20 to 35 feet by means of well-sweeps worked by coolies. The tobacco leaves find a ready market at Cochin and Travancore, and the Agricultural Society has decided to employ an expert to improve the quality and curing of the leaves and to endeavour to grow tobacco suitable for the European market.

16. The cultivation of manioca, a valuable article of village food, is also being extended in the Northern Province.

(D.) Land Settlement, &c.

1. The settlement of waste lands by the special officers made good progress, 201,988 acres being "noticed" and 224,321 acres being finally settled during the year, of which 3,545 acres were declared private property.

2. 35,552 acres of Crown land were sold at an average price of Rs. 35·92 per acre.

3. The demand for land for rubber cultivation continued good.

4. The operations of the Survey Department comprised 161,696 acres block surveys and 259,200 acres topographical surveys.

5. Applications were invited during the earlier part of the year for leases of blocks of land for fifty years on easy terms (the minimum rent being 50 cents per acre per annum) for the experimental cultivation of cotton and rubber in districts where the products had not before been grown, and a fairly large number of the applications received in response were complied with, chiefly in the Uva, North-Western, North-Central, and Southern Provinces.

6. A Commission appointed to consider the question of soil denudation in the Kelani Valley recommended the maintenance of the Kelani Valley reserve, the insistence on sufficient reservation adjoining streams and on hill summits, and the substitution of leases instead of sale outright in the case of land available in the Kelani Valley so that necessary restrictions might be enforced.

7. Amended rules for the sale and lease of Crown lands were published. The minimum upset price has been raised from Rs. 10 to Rs. 15 per acre and separate fees for survey, stamp

duty, preparation of deeds, and headman's inspection have been abolished.

(E.) Shipping.

1. There was a small decrease of shipping in 1905 compared with 1904, 3,664 vessels having entered with a tonnage of 5,605,664 as against 5,719 with tonnage 5,646,026 in 1904. Of these, 1,756 were British, with tonnage 4,040,723, and 1,382 were Colonial (chiefly native sailing ships) with tonnage 97,900. Of the 526 foreign vessels, 198 were German (tonnage 751,405), 139 French (tonnage 419,172), 51 Austrian, and 26 Spanish.

2. The falling off appears to have been due to the Russo-Japanese war, only 3 Russian and no Japanese ships having entered during the year, as against 47 and 69 in 1903.

3. The collection of Colombo Harbour dues amounted to Rs. 1,213,028, the largest yet reached.

III.—LEGISLATION.

Among the Ordinances passed in 1905 were:—

1. Ordinance No. 2 of 1905, providing for the registration of medical and surgical practitioners in Ceylon on the lines adopted in the United Kingdom.
2. No. 4, providing for an export duty on cardamoms to create a fund to meet the expenses of finding new markets for them.
3. No. 8, amending the existing law relating to the administration of Buddhist temporalities in the Island, *inter alia* by allowing the Government to appoint Government Agents as Commissioners to control the District Committees in their administration of its provisions.
4. No. 12, an Ordinance for regulating the business of dealers in old metal by removing facilities for disposal of stolen goods, similar to that in force in United Kingdom.
5. No. 17, prohibiting the cultivation and possession of Indian hemp; the possession and sale of bhang and ganja extracted from it being already forbidden.

IV.—EDUCATION.

1. The system of elementary education in Ceylon and the desirability of making such education compulsory are exhaustively treated in the Report of the Elementary Education Commission, 1905. The Commissioners recommend that such education should be compulsory, but differ from the Commission of 1901 as to the method that should be pursued to effect this. Their recommendations have since been embodied in Ordinance No. 5 of 1906.

(A.) Vernacular Education.

2. The following table shows the numerical progress for the last three years:—

Year.	Number of Government Schools.	Attendance.		Number of Aided Schools.	Attendance.	
		Boys.	Girls.		Boys.	Girls.
1903 ...	497	44,631	11,132	1,273	77,619	37,707
1904 ...	507	46,785	11,678	1,316	77,700	39,103
1905 ...	529	52,375	12,829	1,386	85,436	44,144

3. The cost of the Government schools was Rs. 251,150. The grants in aid of the others amounted to Rs. 418,200. Besides these, 36,478 children were reported to be receiving education in unaided schools. The education of a child in the Government schools cost Government Rs. 3·85 (5*s.* 1½*d.*) and in an aided school Rs. 3·22 (4*s.* 3¾*d.*) per annum.

(B.) English Schools.

4. In 1905 there were 221 English and Anglo-Vernacular schools attended by 26,043 boys and 5,928 girls, an increase of 1 school and 1,332 pupils over those of 1904.

5. In the majority of these schools the work is confined to the subjects enumerated in the schedule of the School Code.

6. The following is a table showing those who entered for the Cambridge Local Examination:—

—	Candidates.		Honours.		Passes.	
	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.
Senior	228	35	11	4	72	18
Junior	323	84	19	3	119	43

7. The Government school for boys—the Royal College—has 328 scholars and 18 masters, of whom 5 hold University degrees. The gross cost in 1905 was Rs. 43,806·65, Rs. 19,505 being recovered in fees.

8. Grants amounting to Rs. 132,805 were paid to aided English schools on the result of the Government Examination and for honours in the Cambridge, &c., Examinations.

9. An English University Scholarship, £200 for four years, is awarded annually, also smaller local scholarships, on the results of the Cambridge Examinations, Rs. 19,161·44 being spent altogether on scholarships in 1905.

10. The Government Training College trains teachers chiefly for the aided English schools. At it 12 studentships of Rs. 300 each are provided by Government.

11. Higher technical education is provided at the Government Technical College, the regular channel for the admission of Ceylonese to the Public Works Department, Survey Department, Railway, and Post and Telegraph Department. In 1905, 133 students were attending and paid fees amounting to Rs. 3,604·57. The gross cost to Government was Rs. 50,955.

12. The working of the College, which had formed the subject of criticism, was inquired into by a Special Committee in the middle of the year, who found that the average standard of technical and practical knowledge shown by passed students of the College was not as high as desirable. Their suggestions as to the best means to improve it are being carried out.

13. There are 37 aided industrial schools which received grants amounting to Rs. 49,770 in 1905. Dressmaking, carpentry, painting, bookbinding, shoemaking, tailoring, blacksmith's work, lace-making, embroidery, cooking, spinning, gardening, and masonry, were taught to a total of 2,173 pupils.

14. Maggona Certified Industrial School is carried on by the Roman Catholic Mission and used as a Government Reformatory. At it, 148 juvenile offenders were being taught in 1905.

15. In Ceylon 88 per cent. of the population being rural, an education fitting boys for an agricultural life is, perhaps, of more benefit than an industrial one, and a scheme for school gardens is now being carried out in connection with Government schools; 106 of such gardens are now being worked.

(C.) Estate Schools.

16. There were 78 aided estate schools at the end of 1905 as against 58 at the end of 1904. 7,490 children are now receiving instruction (including 689 girls).

17. The question of estate schools was treated by the Education Commission, who recommended that there should be no rigorous system of compulsory attendance during fixed hours, that it should be made the duty of planters to see that all children received some instruction so far as is reasonably possible, that they should submit quarterly returns giving detailed information regarding the arrangements made, and that ultimately Government should have the power of ordering the provision of instruction at the expense of estates on which, after clear warning, no sufficient provision had been made by the planters.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

(A.) AND (B.) HOSPITALS AND MEDICAL.

1. During 1905, 65 hospitals and asylums, 424 Government dispensaries, and 142 estate dispensaries were working.

2. A new hospital built of stone and with the latest improvements was opened at Dikoya, with accommodation for 85 patients, and the building of a new hospital at Dolosbage was commenced.

3. The Victoria Memorial Eye Hospital, with accommodation for 42 patients, was opened in August, and is supplied with the latest equipment.

4. Modern aseptic furniture and instruments have also been supplied to some of the older hospitals.

5. In-patients in 1905 numbered 68,321 in all hospitals and asylums, of whom 6,697 died or 9·8 per cent.

6. At Government dispensaries 1,222,790 new cases were treated during the year.

7. 99 senior students and 24 apothecary students were on the books of the Ceylon Medical College.

8. The total expenditure on medical institutions was Rs. 1,809,585, and revenue collected from medical sources Rs. 119,563.

(C.) ASYLUMS.

Lunatic Asylum.

9. To the Lunatic Asylum, Colombo, 171 patients were admitted in 1905; 71 were discharged and 66 died. The present accommodation, viz., for 378 patients and attendants, has become insufficient, and plans are being made for the necessary extensions. 728 persons altogether were treated during the year.

Leper Asylum.

10. 165 patients were admitted to the Leper Asylum, Hendala. 102 were discharged, 74 died, and 65 absconded, of whom 46 were brought back. A necessary extension to the asylum is being undertaken.

(D.) Poor-Houses.

11. There is no Poor-house in Ceylon.

(E.) Reformatories.

12. As before stated, Maggona Industrial School is used as the Government Reformatory.

(F.) Savings Banks.

There are two Government institutions:—

1. The Ceylon Savings Bank showed satisfactory progress. The amount to the credit of 32,344 depositors is Rs. 4,239,805, as against 31,507 and Rs. 4,248,689 for 1904. The reserve fund amounts to Rs. 532,554, and 3 or 4 per cent. is paid on deposits. Rs. 1,636,771 were deposited during the year.

2. The Post Office Savings Bank.—The steady progress of the Post Office Savings Bank was well maintained; the amount standing to the credit of the 63,000 depositors was Rs. 1,748,127.

The assets on 31st December, 1905, exceeded the liabilities by Rs. 161,843, calculating the investments—all Government Securities—at the market rate on that day.

The bank paid interest at the rate of 2·40 per cent., and has 156 branches.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

(A.) Police.

1. The sanctioned strength of the force was increased during the year (chiefly in connection with the Station House system to be adopted for policing the more criminal districts) by 2 superintendents, 2 assistant superintendents, 13 sergeant-majors, 50 station house officers, and 203 native police constables. The actual strength, however, was not so largely increased, as arrangements for the introduction of the system were not complete by the end of the year.

2. The cost of the police for 1905 was Rs. 823,227 as against Rs. 765,795 in 1904, the increase being due to increase of strength, and to raising the pay of third class constables, which has rendered recruiting less difficult.

Police Crime Statistics.

3. 22,459 cognizable offences were disposed of during the year. Of these 16,831 were reported by the police to be "true cases," and 11,036 convictions, or 65·5 per cent. were obtained. Of these only 5,594 true cases were for offences under the Penal Code, with 1,979 convictions.

4. The following are (*a*) the number of cases, (*b*) true cases, and (*c*) convictions during 1905 of more serious crime:—Murder (*a*) 196, (*b*) 176, (*c*) 100; robbery (*a*) 911, (*b*) 322, (*c*) 109; burglary (*a*) 2,468, (*b*) 1,933, (*c*) 134; cattle theft (*a*) 2,311, (*b*) 1,445, (*c*) 322; theft (*a*) 3,030, (*b*) 1,942, (*c*) 608; hurt with knife, &c., (*a*) 1,534, (*b*) 945, (*c*) 594; grievous hurt (*a*) 795, (*b*) 674, (*c*) 233.

5. There are over 4,500 habitual criminals on the register, of whom 217 were again convicted in 1905. The Bertillon system is in use in the registry.

(B.) Prisons.

1. The Inspector-General of Prisons was relieved of his duties as Inspector-General of Police in July, 1905, and undertook the duties of Superintendent of the Convict Establishment in addition to his own.

2. 7,376 convicted prisoners, exclusive of 353 road tax defaulters, were admitted into prison during 1905, or 711 in excess of the average for the preceding four years, the increase being chiefly in short-sentenced prisoners. Of these 1,054 were convicted in the Supreme and District Courts. 116 persons were convicted of homicide, an increase of 26 over 1904 and 46 over 1903. Of these 53 (44 Sinhalese, 8 Tamils, and 1 Moor) were sentenced to death, and of them 30 were hanged, as against 23 in 1904; one of the 53 was a woman, and her sentence was commuted.

3. 1,410 prisoners had previous convictions; 22 juvenile offenders, under 16 years of age, were admitted, the average for the preceding three years being 26.

4. The number of corporal punishments inflicted on prisoners was 137 as against 210 in 1904.

5. No serious epidemic prevailed in the prisons. The average sick was 149 per diem, and 105 died from disease during the year.

6. A sum of Rs. 517,527 was expended during 1905, giving the cost per prisoner per annum as Rs. 180·50, a decrease of Rs. 7·50 compared with 1904.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

(A.) Population.

1. The population enumerated at the Census of 1901 was 3,565,954, and was estimated at the end of 1905 to be 3,950,123, including immigrant coolies, of whom 166,713 arrived in excess of those who left Ceylon.

2. In 1905 the birth-rate was 38·2 per thousand and the death-rate 27·4; the former is ·4 less than the average of the preceding seven years, and the latter normal.

(B.) Public Health.

1. Of 108,160 deaths registered the principal causes were diarrhœa and dysentery (22,867), fevers (22,171), infantile convulsions (10,670). The usual fair standard of health was maintained during the year.

2. The inhabitants of the North-Western and Sabaragamuwa Provinces, however, suffered from malarial fever to a greater extent than usual. The experiment of administering quinine regularly as a prophylactic, which had already been tried with some success on the prisoners in Mahara and Mutwal Jails, was extended to an area in the North-Western Province surrounding the dispensary at Nikaweratiya.

3. The following figures showing the result in one of the villages are interesting:—

Number of people in the village, 466.

Of 210 boutique-keepers who took no quinine 140, or 66 per cent., suffered from malaria.

Of 232 villagers who took quinine only 36, or 15·5 per cent., suffered, and of 24 villagers who took no quinine 12, or 50 per cent., suffered from malaria.

4. The free distribution of quinine to villagers in the more malarial districts as a prophylactic is being considered.

5. An outbreak of small-pox occurred in June in the Southern Province, introduced from India, and the first case escaping detection the disease spread to several districts in the interior, where it continued to prevail sporadically till the end of the year. 239 cases occurred and 157 patients were discharged cured.

6. Smaller outbreaks occurred in Trincomalee and the Province of Uva. The total deaths from small-pox amounted to 112.

7. There was only one death due to reputed cholera.

(C) Sanitation.

8. The sanitation of large towns is in the hands of municipalities, and in smaller towns in the hands of boards of health. The general expense of scavenging, &c., is met from rates recovered locally, and loans are made occasionally to the local bodies for larger works of permanence, such as water supply, construction of drains, the cost of which they are unable to meet in a lump sum.

9. At present in the municipalities the dry-earth closet system is in operation, the solid matter being collected nightly in carts for disposal at depôts outside the towns.

10. The scheme of drainage for Colombo, providing for a water carriage system of sewage, planned by Mr. Mansergh, has made good progress during the year.

11. In the villages sanitation is enforced by the headmen, neglect of it being punished by the village committees.

(D.) Climate.

12. There are few countries in the world which enjoy such a variety of climates as Ceylon. In the low lands the climate is tropical, but in the hills it resembles that of Southern Europe. It is chiefly influenced by the two monsoons—the North-East, which prevails from November to February, and the South-West, which prevails from April to September.

13. The south-western parts are moist and temperate, and the hill regions cool and bracing. Together they constitute the "wet region," a tract with a rainfall of 60 inches or more during the two monsoons.

The remainder of the Island is the dry region—an almost flat plain with a rainfall of under 60 inches.

14. The following table shows the rainfall and mean temperature at some of the chief stations. At Mannar the mean temperature was highest and at Hakgala lowest:—

Rainfall and Temperature.

—	Rainfall.		Mean Temperature.
	Inches.	Days.	
Ratnapura	135·05	229	78·3°
Nuwara Eliya	80·81	176	59·5°
Galle	80·57	155	79·9°
Hakgala	75·07	166	59·4°
Kurunegala	74·48	149	79·9°
Batticaloa...	70·63	95	79·7°
Diyatalawa	65·55	158	65·9°
Colombo	65·29	168	81·1°
Kandy	64·32	155	75·7°
Badulla	57·64	122	73·4°
Hambantota	52·53	94	80·4°
Puttalam	47·95	76	80·1°
Trincomalee	47·87	101	81·2°
Anuradhapura	39·34	87	80·7°
Jaffna	38·20	66	81·9°
Mannar	26·60	64	82·2°

15. The mean daily range of temperature—*i.e.*, the mean of the daily differences between the maximum and minimum temperatures—was highest at Anuradhapura, having been 19·3° and lowest at Galle 9·6°.

16. The differences recorded at Colombo and Kandy were 11·2° and 14·0° respectively.

17. The absolute range or differences between the highest and lowest temperature of air recorded during the year was greatest at Nuwara Eliya and lowest at Galle, having been 30·7° and 25·8° respectively.

18. The absolute difference at Kandy was 24·3° and at Colombo 17·7°.

19. The hottest station, taking the mean temperature of night and day of all the year round into account, was Mannar 82·2°. The coolest were Nuwara Eliya 59·5°, and Hakgala 59·4°. Colombo and Kandy were 81·1° and 75·7° respectively.

20. As regards rainfall the year 1905 was an exceptionally dry year. The rainfall at Colombo (62·59 inches) was 26 inches below the average for the preceding 30 years, that at Kandy 17¼ inches below, that at Nuwara Eliya 13 inches. The lowest recorded rainfall (26·60 inches at Mannar) was 12 inches below the average.

21. A year of drought falls especially heavily upon the villager, whose main cultivation—that of paddy—requires so much water, and in dry years such cultivation is only possible under the larger irrigation works, as village tanks, as a rule,

do not hold up a sufficient store of water, but easily dry up. In such years the villagers in the dry regions have to resort to the sowing of "high lands" or "chenas" with "dry" grain for their food supply.

22. In consequence of failure of crops, it was found necessary to start relief works in some parts of the Northern Province to alleviate the distress of the inhabitants.

23. The general direction of the wind is from north-east from November to March, and from south-west from April to October. The average velocity in Colombo was 199 miles per diem.

VIII.—POST AND TELEGRAPH.

1. 382 post offices, of which 156 transact money order and savings bank business, and 95 are telegraph offices, were open in 1905.

2. The revenue was Rs. 1,241,810, an increase of over Rs. 500,000 on that of 1895. Postage stamps valued at Rs. 850,000 were sold, an increase of Rs. 65,000 on 1904.

3. 26½ million letters, post cards, and printed packets passed through the post, the increase of 2½ million on the 1904 figures being chiefly on letters (12½ per cent. increase) and post cards (25 per cent.). There were 3½ million post cards posted.

4. The total parcels traffic remained almost constant, a slight decrease in the internal parcels being almost counterbalanced by increase in the external parcels. A sum of Rs. 850,000 was recovered from the addressees of "value payable" parcels, of which Rs. 350,000 was remitted to senders in India.

5. The projected motor mail service has not yet started owing to difficulty in obtaining cars suitable to the work and the roads. A Thorneycroft motor omnibus has been indented for as an experiment on the section of the road between Bandarawela and Lunugala, and a contract for the extension of the service to the section from Lunugala to Batticaloa with a smaller car is being entered into.

Money Orders.

6. Money orders of the value of Rs. 11,680,125 were dealt with, of which Indian amounted to over 4¼ million rupees.

Telegrams.

7. The number of telegrams sent and received was 717,000, an increase of 8·73 per cent., chiefly on the inland 25 cents telegrams.

8. A further reduction to 2*s.* per word for telegrams to Europe was made as against 2*s.* 6*d.* in 1902 and 4*s.* before 1902.

Telephones.

9. There are 150 subscribers to the Colombo Telephone Exchange, and calls numbered 400,000 in 1905. 490 miles of wire are in use.

IX.—MILITARY EXPENDITURE.

1. The total military expenditure of the year was Rs. 2,504,390·38, the Colonial contribution (9½ per cent. on the revenue) for regular troops amounting to Rs. 2,164,468·75 and the volunteer expenditure to Rs. 244,000·45. The balance was spent on military buildings, &c.

2. The total strength of the volunteers on December 31, 1905, was 2,062, of whom 1,821 were classed as efficient. The numbers in the various Corps were:—Ceylon Light Infantry 1,077, Ceylon Planters' Rifle Corps 594, Ceylon Mounted Infantry 135, Artillery Volunteers 129, Volunteer Medical Corps 67, Band 39, and Permanent Staff 21.

3. The number of boys in the Cadet Battalion of the Ceylon Light Infantry was 417.

4. At the Annual Camp of Instruction, held at Diyatalawa from July 6th to 15th, 1,531 volunteers of all arms attended.

5. The closing of the Naval Yard at Trincomalee was completed by March 31st. The Admiralty decided that it should be reduced to a "cadre," which could be developed in time of war according to necessity.

6. It was also decided to abandon Trincomalee as a military station.

X.—PUBLIC WORKS.

(A.) Public Works Department.

1.—(*a.*) The Technical College buildings and the Victoria Memorial Eye Institution were completed during the year, and the erection of the Supreme Court buildings and new Telephone Exchange made good progress.

2. The duplication of the water main from Labugama to Colombo and construction of the reservoir at Elie House were also completed.

3. A scheme was submitted by the Director of Public Works for the reclamation of a large portion of the Colombo lake, which is polluted by sewage, including provision for preserving communication by a system of canals and for opening up direct communication between the lake and harbour. The estimate for the work, roughly Rs. 3,800,000, is receiving consideration.

(B.) Harbour Works.

4. A sum of Rs. 1,858,544 was spent on the Colombo Harbour Works during 1905, of which Rs. 1,650,319 was for harbour extension, graving dock, &c.

5. The total expenditure on harbour works reached Rs. 35,085,400 at the end of 1905.

6. Excellent progress was made with the new breakwater, which was practically finished, and with the coaling jetties. The graving dock, 700 feet long by 113 feet wide, was finished, so far as work with the coffer dam was concerned, and will probably be opened by the end of 1906.

7. The Patent Slip was occupied by 27 vessels, 12 of which belonged to Government. Revenue was Rs. 58,048 and expenditure Rs. 9,175·65.

8. Sir W. Matthews, the Consulting Engineer, visited the Island in December and personally inquired into the question of the further protection necessary to enable the new coaling jetties to be used throughout the year. Of the alternatives suggested, the scheme to lengthen the straight part of the south-western breakwater at a cost of £400,000 will probably be undertaken.

(C.) Railways.

9. The mileage open at the end of 1905 was 562⅛, 95⅜ miles having been opened during the year. The Northern Extension was completed and opened on August 1st.

10. The profit on the year's working (receipts amounting to Rs. 9,690,653 and expenditure to Rs. 5,206,899) was Rs. 4,483,754, an increase of Rs. 633,201 over the profits of 1904.

11. This surplus shows a profit of 6·3 per cent. on the original outlay.

(D.) Irrigation.

12. In 1905 a sum of Rs. 611,532·47 was spent on irrigation works for construction and Rs. 89,464·35 for the maintenance of existing works.

13. Eleven works have been started during the past ten years, during which 37,150 acres have been opened for irrigation; 2,860 acres were opened during 1905.

14. A lengthy critical report on the irrigation policy of the Government, past and present, was made by Sir J. Keane, the late Private Secretary to the Governor. The present policy is to concentrate all the energies of the Irrigation Department on the completion of works already started before new works of magnitude are entered upon, and to increase the extent of land irrigated by better arrangement for the distribution and control of water available. Only one estimate for an additional large work, viz., for improvements to Nuwarawewa in the North-Central Province, which forms part of the larger Nachchaduwa scheme, was sanctioned during the year.

15. It was also decided that steps should be taken to abolish the Central Irrigation Board, and that irrigation works should be undertaken by the recently formed Department of the Director of Irrigation in the same manner as other public works are and from funds voted in the annual Supply Bill.

XI.—PUBLIC SERVICE.

1. His Excellency the Governor, Sir Henry A. Blake, G.C.M.G., was absent from the Colony on leave for three months from September 8th, during which the Government was administered by the Lieutenant-Governor the Hon. Mr. A. M. Ashmore, C.M.G., the Hon. Mr. Fowler acting as Colonial Secretary.

2. Mr. Ashmore received the honour of a Knight Commandership of the Order of Saint Michael and Saint George in November, and Mr. Fowler a Companionship of the Order. A Knighthood was conferred on Mr. Stanley Bois, a leading member of the mercantile community.

3. Messrs. L. Creasy and Gerard Grenier, Registrar of the Supreme Court, were made Companions of the Imperial Service Order.

4. The Hon. F. C. Moncreiff retired from the office of Puisne Justice and was succeeded by Mr. Wood Renton from Mauritius in September.

5. Mr. J. J. Thorburn, Principal Assistant Colonial Secretary, was appointed Senior Provincial Commissioner of Southern Nigeria at the beginning of the year.

6. Mr. C. C. Longden of the Madras Police was, with the consent of the Madras Government, appointed Inspector-General of Police in July.

7. The scheme for increasing the salaries of the members of the Public Service was, with the consent of the Secretary of State, given effect to from January 1st, 1905.

8. Under it salaries are now fixed in sterling with annual increments and at a sum considerably higher in the case of the lower classes than the former rupee salaries, exchange compensation being done away with, and salary, leave pay, and pension being paid at the current rate of exchange.

9. In the case of senior officers entitled to the privilege of leave pay and pension at 1*s.* 10½*d.* the rupee, by whom the sterling salary, which in their case is fixed only slightly in excess of their former salary, would not be desired in view of the loss of the said privilege, the alternative of continuing on the former rupee salary with a further 1*d.* per rupee exchange compensation and of counting their whole salary so enhanced for leave and pension purposes has been granted.

10. The scheme for the re-organisation of the Clerical Service has also been sanctioned from January 1st.

F. J. Smith,

Assistant Colonial Secretary.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
466	Barbados	1904–1905
467	Uganda Protectorate	"
468	Somaliland Protectorate	"
469	Trinidad and Tobago	"
470	Lagos	1904
471	Bahamas	1904-1905
472	British Central Africa	"
473	Mauritius	1904
474	Fiji	"
475	East Africa Protectorate	1904–1905
476	Northern Nigeria	1904
477	British Guiana	1904–1905
478	Leeward Islands	"
479	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
480	Basutoland	"
481	Ceylon	1904
482	St. Lucia	"
483	Ashanti	1905
484	Bermuda	"
485	Hong Kong	"
486	St. Helena	"
487	Weihaiwei	"
488	Gold Coast	"
489	Seychelles	"
490	Falkland Islands	"
491	Gambia	"
492	Jamaica	1904–1905
493	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1905

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
26	Northern Nigeria	Mineral and Vegetable Products.
27	Miscellaneous Colonies ...	Medical Reports.
28	Gold Coast and Sierra Leone...	Rubber.
29	Ceylon	Geological Survey.
30	Pitcairn Island...	Report by Mr. R. T. Simon.
31	Northern Nigeria	Cotton, &c.
32	Do. Do.	Mineral Survey.
33	Southern Nigeria	Do.
34	Montserrat	Agricultural Industry.
35	Antigua and St. Kitts-Nevis...	Sugar.
36	West Indies	Work of Imperial Department of Agriculture.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 527.

CEYLON.

REPORT FOR 1906.

(For Report for 1905, *see* No. 494.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

July, 1907.

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No. 527.

CEYLON.

(For Report for 1905, *see* No. 494.)

THE GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

The Queen's House, Colombo,
Ceylon, 22nd May, 1907.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Lordship six copies of the Report of the Blue Book for 1906, prepared with great care and thoroughness by Mr. F. J. Smith, Second Assistant Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.,

HENRY A. BLAKE,
Governor, &c.

The Right Honourable
The Earl of Elgin, K.G.,
&c., &c., &c.

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REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK OF 1906.

I.—FINANCIAL.

(A.) General Revenue and Expenditure.

Revenue.

The steady increase in the revenue of the Colony continued in 1906. The estimated revenue of the year was Rs. 31,059,300 and the actual revenue Rs. 35,030,660, or Rs. 3,971,360 in excess of the estimate and Rs. 635,324 in excess of the actual revenue of 1905, which was over 3½ million rupees in excess of any preceding year.

2. The estimated revenue was exceeded by nearly 2 million rupees under the head Land Sales, and by Rs. 536,095 on salt and Rs. 272,586 on arrack under Excise, while the actual revenue from the duty on kerosine oil was Rs. 250,195 less than anticipated.

3. The principal sources of revenue were:—

	Rs.
Government Railway	10,092,928
Customs—Import and Export Duties	8,358,542
Licences, Excise, and Internal Revenue not otherwise classified	7,602,012

4. The following is a comparative statement showing the actual revenue collected in 1905 and 1906. The classification of items of revenue has been revised in several instances, and consequently the apparent nett increases and decreases shown against the several heads are not always real:—

—	Revenue of 1905.	Revenue of 1906.	Nett Increase.	Nett Decrease.
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
1. Customs	8,183,728 22	8,358,542 10	174,813 88	—
2. Port, Harbour, Wharf, and Lighthouse Dues.	1,428,973 39	2,086,793 30	657,819 91	—
3. Licences, Excise, and Internal Revenue not otherwise classified.	6,860,293 93	7,602,012 96	741,719 3	—
4. Fees of Court or Office. Payment for Specific Services, and Reimbursements in aid.	1,985,101 35	1,421,061 69	—	564,039 66
5. Post and Telegraphs	1,235,706 17	1.237,790 91	2,084 74	—
6. Government Railway	9,648,651 33	10,092,928 31	444,276 98	—
7. Rent of Government Property ..	206,164 51	—	—	206,164 51
8. Interest	462,411 93	580,737 87	118,325 94	—
9. Miscellaneous Receipts	261,821 24	440,019 35	178,198 11	—
10. Sale of Government Property ..	2,988,915 81	—	—	2,988,915 81
11. Land Revenue (exclusive of Land Sales)	—	594,288 48	594,288 48	—
12. Land Sales..	1,133,568 23	2,616,485 95	1,482,917 72	—
Total	34,395,336 11	35,030,660 92	635,324 81	—

(*a*) Exclusive of Land Sales, the total revenue of 1906 was Rs. 32,414,175 as against Rs. 33,261,767 in 1905, but the latter

included a windfall of Rs. 2,626,175 from a successful pearl fishery.

(*b*) The increase under Customs was chiefly due to increases of Rs. 160,968 on the duties from sugar and of Rs. 72,908 on "other goods." There was a falling off in the duty on spirits and cordials of Rs. 58,136 and on kerosine oil of Rs. 44,111.

(*c*) As regards Port, Harbour, &c., the apparent increase is chiefly due to the re-classification. Rs. 288,852, for instance, were credited as single warehouse rent under this head for the first time. Harbour dues show an increase of Rs. 67,007, and the revenue from harbour tugs Rs. 22,314.

(*d*) Under Licenses, Excise, &c., there was an increase of Rs. 329,492 on salt and Rs. 373,509 on arrack.

(*e*) The apparent falling off under Fees of Court again is largely due to the re-classification, warehouse rent, *e.g.*, from which Rs. 354,979 were derived in 1905, not appearing under this head. School fees show an increase of Rs. 35,998 and medical aid dues Rs. 27,259. Under Judicial Stamps there was a decrease of Rs. 28,580, probably due to casual decrease of value of property under litigation; and under Title Deed Fees, the levy of which as a separate charge is now being discontinued on sales of land, Rs. 17,956.

(*f*) Under Post and Telegraphs there was an increase of Rs. 16,827 in postage stamps; but telephone receipts, owing to the disorganization at the beginning of the year, when a portion of the telephone service was disconnected for some months to admit of reconstruction, show a falling off of Rs. 10,575. The recoveries from telegraph receipts, viz., Rs. 240,166, also show a small decrease of Rs. 2,652.

(*g*) Under Government Railway recoveries from goods traffic increased from Rs. 5,654,259 to Rs. 5,906,229, and from passenger traffic from Rs. 3,910,360 to Rs. 4,075,021.

(*h*) Interest on bank balances shows an increase of Rs. 88,334 and on public funds invested Rs. 52,251; that on loans to Corporations a decrease of Rs. 20,978.

(*i*) Under Miscellaneous Receipts there was really a falling off, the rent paid by the Pearl Fishery Company, viz., Rs. 310,000, and rent of boutique sites at the Fishery Camp Rs. 69,587, having been credited under this head, whereas in previous years proceeds from the pearl fishery were credited under Sale of Government Property. The amount paid by the Company, Rs. 120,000, for Mr. Dixon's machinery and Rs. 62,500 for the "Violet" do not appear under revenue, as they were credited to the surplus and deficit account of the Colony. The expenses of supervision, &c., paid to the Government by the Company, viz., Rs. 239,420, are also omitted from the statement of revenue being counterbalanced by the disbursements of Government for the purpose. Under Sundries there was a falling off of Rs. 177,450, under Unclaimed Deposits Rs. 20,807, and under Profits on New Coins Rs. 14,641.

(*j*) Land Revenue appears as a new head; under it a sum of Rs. 426,400 was brought to account as sale of timber, for which Rs. 319,067 was brought to account under Sale of Government Property in 1905.

(*k*) Proceeds of land sales show an increase of Rs. 1,466,080, the keen demand for land, especially for rubber cultivation, having been sustained during the year.

Expenditure.

5. The following is a comparative statement of expenditure for 1905 and 1906:—

Heads of Service.	1905.	1906.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
1. Charges on account of Public Debt.	3,647,878 54	3,648,732 25	853 71	—
2. Pensions	1,392,614 3	1,412,571 91	19,957 88	—
3. His Excellency the Governor ..	139,300 85	134,217 9	—	5,083 76
3*a*. Civil Service	683,041 55	800,655 79	117,614 24	—
4. Secretariat	312,231 39	347,521 34	35,289 95	—
5. Audit Office	64,582 32	62,655 63	—	1,926 69
6. Treasury	50,974 14	74,490 37	23,516 23	—
7. Provincial Administration	1,257,612 53	1,021,052 64	—	236,559 89
8. Survey Department	780,133 50	825,201 52	45,068 2	—
9. Customs Department	135,537 86	160,147 20	24,609 34	—
10. Port and Marine Department, Colombo.	410,189 57	398,874 8	—	11,315 49
11. Port and Marine Department other than Colombo.	40,454 87	43,246 2	2,791 15	—
12. Botanic Gardens	131,114 35	131,513 2	398 67	—
13. Colombo Museum	26,473 93	28,187 70	1,713 77	—
14. Legal Departments—				
Supreme Court	159,192 58	164,508 52	5,315 94	—
Attorney-General	64,905 63	74,649 86	9,744 23	—
Solicitor-General	11,002 25	13,924 63	2,922 38	—
District Courts	166,031 97	180,906 36	14,874 39	—
Courts of Requests and Police Courts.	136,339 31	138,183 11	1,843 80	—
Registration of Lands	107,499 65	108,956 87	1,457 22	—
Registration of Marriages, Births, and Deaths.	123,182 65	135,591 75	12,409 10	—
Fiscals	234,091 16	261,417 53	27,326 37	—
Loan Board	4,079 83	3,594 18	—	485 65
15. Police	809,593 86	993,046 14	183,452 28	—
16. Prisons	527,232 87	540,500 8	13,267 21	—
17. Medical Department	1,767,671 70	2,018,468 10	250,796 40	—
18. Ecclesiastical	9,260 0	9,309 66	49 66	—
19. Education	1,098,793 17	1,071,309 5	—	27,484 12
20. Transport..	18,595 8	—	—	18,595 8
21. Exchange	216,050 16	143,267 58	—	72,782 58
22. Military Expenditure	2,504,390 38	2,868,478 40	364,088 2	—
23. Miscellaneous Services	869,825 77	777,450 39	—	92,375 38
24. Government Stores	82,232 23	90,425 42	8,193 19	—
25. Crown Agents, London	2,715 0	—	—	2,715 0
26. Forests	310,554 92	276,524 15	—	34,030 77
27. Post Office and Telegraphs.. ..	1,401,899 15	1,455,164 54	53,265 39	—
28. Railway Department—				
Maintenance and Capital Charges, open Lines.	5,196,895 43	5,102,378 37	—	94,517 6
Railway Construction Works ..	—	964,034 52	964,034 52	—
29. Special Officer, Waste Lands Ordinance.	76,391 49	104,837 8	28,445 59	—
30. Veterinary Department	17,729 38	18,012 73	283 35	—
31. Consulting Electrical Engineer ..	14,283 98	14,190 37	—	93 61
32. Irrigation Department	547,398 6	277,983 52	—	269,414 54
33. Immigration Department	42,334 4	52,937 5	10,603 1	—
35. Public Works Department	410,287 39	563,882 96	153,595 57	—
36. Public Works Annually Recurrent	2,040,985 59	2,325,602 27	284,616 68	—
37. Public Works Extraordinary ..	1,693,315 17	1,913,542 62	220,227 45	—
38. Irrigation Annually Recurrent ..	—	164,268 57	164,268 57	—
39. Irrigation Recurrent	—	196,171 87	196,171 87	—
40. Board of Agriculture..	—	30,743 83	30,743 83	—
41. Director, Mineralogical Survey ..	—	24,389 10	24,389 10	—
42. Marine Biological Department ..	—	5,061 82	5,061 82	—
43. Inspector of Mines	—	10,395 7	10,395 7	—
44. Inspector of Machinery	—	4,000 0	4,000 0	—
45. Archæological Commissioner ..	—	64,579 48	64,579 48	—
Carried forward				

Expenditure—*cont.*

Heads of Service.	1905.	1906.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Brought forward				
46. Plague Prevention	—	38,678 11	38,678 11	—
47. Increase of Salaries	—	353,782 66	353,782 66	—
Total Expenditure chargeable to Current Revenue.	29,736,899 28	32,644,214 88	3,774,695 22	867,379 62
Public Works Extraordinary, chargeable to Loan Funds :—				
48. Duplication of Water Main ..	135,142 35	1,503 3	—	133,639 32
49. Harbour Construction	1,365,933 63	944,763 34	—	421,170 29
50. Railway Construction	579,244 67	138,329 91	—	440,914 76
51. Irrigation Construction.. ..	270,271 72	196,171 86	—	74,099 86
52. Station Extensions	—	569,570 98	569,570 98	—
Total chargeable to Loan Funds	2,350,592 37	1,850,339 12	569,570 98	1,069,824 23
Grand Total	32,087,491 65	34,494,554 0	4,344,266 20	1,937,203 85
		Deduct Decrease ..	1,937,203 85	
		Nett Increase ..	2,407,062 35	

6. The total expenditure of 1906 chargeable to current revenue and surplus funds was Rs. 2,907,316 more than in 1905, Rs. 964,034 for Railway Construction Works being so charged against nil in 1905, and the expenditure in the case of the Public Works Department exceeding that of 1905 by Rs. 658,440, and in case of the Medical Department by Rs. 250,800.

7. The estimated expenditure chargeable to current revenue was Rs. 345,528 in excess of the actual, the chief heads under which the estimate was not realized being—

Chief Heads.	Rs.	Remarks.
Railway, New Construction, on which there was an over-estimate of.	617,847	It was decided that expenses of Stations Extension, Colombo, should be debited to loan, though estimated for under this head.
Public Works Extraordinary of	321,724	The long-continued drought of the year rendered the repair and construction of roads extremely difficult. In the waterless portion of the Island metal cannot be laid down with benefit.
Public Works Annually Recurrent of	175,265	
Public Debt of	145,282	This was chiefly owing to the loan contemplated under Ordinance No. 1 of 1905 not having been raised.
while the estimated expenditure was exceeded in the case of—		
Military Expenditure by	408,008	The balance of the Military contribution for 1905.
Miscellaneous Services by	283,638	Cost of Wet Dock survey, expenses of sale of salt, and Rubber Exhibition.
Medical Department by	181,863	Additional expenditure on hospitals and dispensaries.
Provincial Administration by	139,014	Owing chiefly to relief works and cost of manufacturing salt.

(B.) Important Changes in Taxation.

Nil.

(C.) Assets and Liabilities.

According to the accounts of the Colony the assets of the Colony on 31st December, 1906, were Rs. 19,952,741 and the liabilities Rs. 14,798, 115, or the assets exceeded the liabilities by Rs. 5,154,626. Further, a sum of Rs. 6,457,736 had been advanced from surplus balances for Harbour, Railway, and Irrigation expenditure, which will ultimately be charged to the loan of £1,000,000 authorized by Ordinance No. 1 of 1905.

Of the assets—

A sum of Rs. 10,774,098 was in cash in the hands of the Treasurer, Government Agents, and the Crown Agents;
Rs. 5,209,161 in investments;
Rs. 1,362,573 advanced for the Colombo Drainage Works;
Rs. 957,079 in stores;
Rs. 827,613 in loans to Local Bodies; and
Rs. 736,365 in miscellaneous advances.

The balance being in remittances in transit, in cash in the hands of the Straits and Malay States Governments, and in loans made by the Crown Agents to Public Officers.

The chief liabilities were:—

	Rs.
Currency Reserve	7,029,745
Widows 'and Orphans' Pension Fund	4,553,539
Deposits	2,703,126

(D.) Public Debt, showing Provision for Repayment.

No loan was raised in 1906. That of £1,000,000 sterling authorized for public works by Ordinance No. 1 of 1905 has not been raised owing to the depressed state of the money market. Pending the raising of it, advances have been made from surplus balances to carry on the works.

2. The balance due by the Colony on sterling loans raised in London stood on 31st December, 1906, at £4,638,334, as against £4,670,306 on the same date in 1905. On locally raised silver loans the balance was Rs. 3,144,078.

3. Provision is made for the repayment of all loans by means of a sinking fund, except in the case of the loan from the Public Works Commissioners under Ordinance No. 6 of 1875 amounting to £250,000, which is repayable by an annuity. Of this sum, £56,534 was outstanding on 31st December, 1906. This debt will be extinguished in 1911.

4. The charge on the public debt on account of interest and sinking fund amounted to Rs. 3,648,732 in 1906.

5. The total amount in local currency of the debt of the Colony on 31st December, 1906, was Rs. 72,719,095, or $2\frac{1}{14}$ the revenue of the year.

(E.) Currency and Banking.

The currency of Ceylon consists of—

(1) Copper: Ceylon 5-cent, 1-cent, ½-cent, and ¼-cent pieces.

(2) Silver: the India rupee, with subsidiary Ceylon 50-cent, 25-cent, and 10-cent pieces.

(3) Gold: British sovereigns, which are legal tender at Rs. 15 per £.

(4) Ceylon Government notes of Rs. 1,000, 100, 50, 10, and 5.

On 31st December, 1906, the value of currency notes in circulation was Rs. 16,264,175, on which date the currency reserve was distributed as follows:—

	Rs.
Gold £103,934 = ...	1,559,010
Rupees	4,985,735
Small silver	485,000
Colonial investments	4,625,049
Indian investments	4,609,381

The Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China; the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation; the Bank of Madras; the Mercantile Bank of India, Limited; and the National Bank of India, Limited, do business in the Colony.

(F.) Comparative Statement of the Total Revenue and Expenditure of Municipalities for the Five Years ended December 31, 1906.

Name of Municipality.	Revenue or Expenditure.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.
		Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Colombo ..	Revenue ..	1,405,838 88	1,337,344 8	1,567,907 46	1,591,742 10	1,763,106 35
	Expenditure	1,175,727 7	1,494,429 40	1,656,127 70	1,387,277 98	2,528,754 99
Kandy	Revenue ..	173,202 85	199,303 84	192,150 47	188,553 17	220,691 47
	Expenditure	185,364 63	196,217 71	179,583 10	207,938 78	203,242 40
Galle	Revenue ..	91,652 67	92,886 64	95,911 93	104,899 28	113,035 46
	Expenditure	92,535 45	88,115 81	86,563 57	101,473 50	108,918 0

The abnormal expenditure by the Colombo Municipality was due to the acquisition of lands for Municipal improvements; over Rs. 1,000,000 was spent on this account in 1906.

Statement of Debts of Municipalities up to end of 1906, showing Provision for Payment.

Name of Municipality.	Amount of Debt.	On what account.	Provision for Payment.
	Rs. c.		
Colombo	Nil.	—	—
Kandy	161,750 89	Waterworks construction ...	Water-rate of 6 per cent. on properties within certain portions of the Municipality (Ordinances Nos. 18 and 29 of 1884).
	90,699 39	Acquisition of lands above reservoir	Bond assigning portion of water-rate, as authorised by Ordinance No. 7 of 1887.
	18,000 0	To widen Victoria Drive and clear lake silt.	Bond assigning portion of rates and taxes under sections 127 (*a*) and (*b*), 128, 129 and 130 of Ordinance No. 7 of 1887.
	14,703 59	For repairing main sewer and constructing new drains.	Do. do.
Galle	54,481 76	Construction of waterworks ...	A water-rate of 5 per cent. is levied within the Fort for repayment of loan.
	35,577 45	Sanitary improvements	Mortgage of stamp duties on licences for carts, boats, and coaches; and also stamp duties under Licensing Ordinances of 1893 and 1897.
Total	375,213 8		

As regards the Municipality of Colombo, a sum of Rs. 3,000,000 is being advanced by the Government towards the cost of the Mansergh Drainage and Sewerage Scheme.

The construction of the Colombo Waterworks and the Victoria Bridge was carried out by Government, and the Municipality has undertaken to repay Government an annual sum of Rs. 100,000, until 1924 in respect of the former, and of Rs. 8,000 until 1945 for the latter.

(G.) Local Boards.

The town of Jaffna having been brought under the provisions of the Local Boards Ordinance, there are now 19 Local Boards in Ceylon. The Boards are entrusted with the maintenance of public health and the general improvement and conservancy of the towns in which they are established. Their sources of revenue are an assessment tax on real property, taxes on vehicles and animals, road commutation tax, stamp duties for various licences, and fines for breaches of by-laws, &c.

In 1906 the total revenue of these Boards amounted to Rs. 330,993 as against Rs. 272,955 in 1905, and the total expenditure to Rs. 297,726 as against Rs. 321,757 in 1905.

Loans are made to Local Boards usually at 3½ per cent. interest and 2 per cent. sinking fund for approved purposes such as waterworks, drainage, erection of markets, &c., on the security of their revenue. Loans outstanding on 31st December, 1906, amounted to Rs. 386,716.

The following new loans were granted during the year:—

Local Board, Puttalam, Rs. 20,000, for drainage and waterworks.

Local Board, Trincomalee, Rs. 1,800, to meet extra expenses incurred in connection with an outbreak of smallpox.

Local Board, Bandarawela, Rs. 48,000, for waterworks.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

(A.) Imports and Exports.

The volume of the trade of the Colony has continued to expand. The aggregate value of imports and exports, omitting specie, for 1906 was Rs. 236,315,200, an increase of Rs. 12,236,350 over that of 1905, which was 3½ million rupees over that of any preceding year.

2. The following table shows the distribution of imports and exports for the last five years in lakhs of rupees. Specie and coal exported for the use of steamers are omitted:—

Imports and Exports.

Year.	United Kingdom.		British Possessions abroad.		Foreign Countries.	
	Imports from	Exports to	Imports from	Exports to	Imports from	Exports to
1902	268¼	536½	599¾	161½	110¾	284¼
1903	257¾	541¼	633¾	166	117¼	315
1904	260½	511¾	665¾	183	127	316¼
1905	251¾	539¾	705¼	190	126¼	292¼
1906	296	534½	706½	205¼	125¼	357¼

3. Of the total imports (omitting specie), 63 per cent. came from British Possessions abroad, as against 65 per cent. in 1905; 26 per cent. came from the United Kingdom, as against 23½ per cent. in 1905; 11 per cent. came from Foreign Countries, as against 11½ per cent. in 1905.

Of the total exports (omitting specie and coal), 48½ per cent. went to the United Kingdom, as against 53 per cent. in 1905; 32½ per cent. went to Foreign Countries, as against 28½ per cent. in 1905; 19 per cent. went to British Possessions abroad, as against 18½ per cent. in 1905.

Imports.

4. The value of imports, omitting specie, for 1906 was Rs. 112,789,270, as against Rs. 108,324,330 in 1905 and Rs. 105,324,720 in 1904.

5. The value of imports from the United Kingdom rose, roughly, 17·7 per cent. compared with 1905, from British Possessions abroad ·2 per cent., while that of imports from Foreign Countries decreased ·9 per cent.

6. The increase in the value of imports from the United Kingdom was largely due to coal, the value of which increased by Rs. 2,345,500, but, with the exception of cotton goods, there was an increase in most of the imports from the United Kingdom.

7. As noted above, 63 per cent. of the imports of the Colony came from British Possessions abroad, and the large proportion of this represents food supplies. The value of the Rice imported from British India in 1906 was Rs. 34,533,550, from Burma Rs. 2,653,160, from Straits Settlements Rs. 1,256,750, and paddy from the two former was valued at over 2½ million rupees. The quantity of rice cleared for home consumption, 10,280,300 bushels, was the highest on record.

8. Next to grain, spirits contribute most of the Customs revenue. In 1906 the quantity of spirits of all sorts imported was 205,356 gallons, as against 215,500 in 1905 and 193,140 in

1904. The decrease in 1906 was due to the imports of gin falling from 89,270 to 78,760 gallons, probably in view of the passing of Ordinance No. 21 of 1906, which renders it unlawful to sell spirits of a lower strength than 27° under proof. Hitherto the gin imported has been for the most part of the cheapest and worst kind, and is usually adulterated before retail. The quantities of whisky and brandy imported, viz., 78,870 and 46,040 gallons respectively, remained practically constant.

9. Wines of all kinds show an increase of Rs. 22,180 in value, and the quantity rose from 48,083 gallons in 1905 to 55,071 gallons in 1906.

10. Of Kerosine Oil in bulk 2,101,540 gallons were imported in 1906, as against 2,661,456 in 1905; in cases 1,137,443 gallons, as against 413,751; and liquid fuel 689,963 gallons, as against 1,757,546 gallons in 1905. On 5th September the main storage tank of kerosine oil containing 408,100 gallons at the time was destroyed by fire, and has not yet been replaced. Since the unrest at Baku, Borneo and the United States of America have entered the field against Russia for the Ceylon market. In 1903 the imports from Borneo were valued at Rs. 115,110, in 1904 Rs. 324,910, in 1905 Rs. 145,577, while those of 1906 were Rs. 660,602. From America the value of kerosine oil in cases was Rs. 121,465 in 1904, Rs. 189,229 in 1905, and Rs. 704,386 in 1906. The value of bulk kerosine from Russia in 1905 was Rs. 931,509 as against Rs. 163,891 in 1906, and that of kerosine in cases fell from Rs. 403,550 in 1904 to Rs. 45,349 in 1905 and to Rs. 2,525 in 1906.

11. As regards Coal, the total imports, 681,480 tons, were valued at Rs. 11,919,000. Of this, 332,250 tons were from the United Kingdom as against 215,380 in 1905 and 308,200 tons in 1904, 337,670 tons from British India as against 362,696 in 1905. Imports from Japan fell from 31,875 to 8,200 tons. The coal is almost wholly re-exported for use of steamers, the local consumption being, roughly, only 60,000 tons per annum.

12. As regards Specie, gold imports, practically all from Australia, were valued at Rs. 3,499,537, and exports Rs. 915,270, as against Rs. 3,160,299 and Rs. 350 in 1905; silver imports at Rs. 7,229,870, practically all from British India, and exports Rs. 1,500,000, as against Rs. 3,729,991 and Rs. 300,000 in 1905.

The import and export of specie are almost wholly in the hands of the Bank of Madras. A larger amount than usual appears to have been imported in 1906 owing to the good prospects of investment in rubber, &c. There was also somewhat of a scare in connection with the Arbuthnot failure at Madras, which led to an increase of imports. Surplus moneys were, as usual, remitted to India at the end of the year, a total of Rs. 2,805,270 being exported in December.

13. Silk Manufactures of all kinds show an increase in value of Rs. 16,000, while woollens show a decrease in value of

Rs. 171,603, the falling off being chiefly under the head Other, *i.e.*, exclusive of Berlin wool, blankets, carpets, and flannel. Under Woollen—Other—imports from the United Kingdom fell Rs. 30,870, from British India Rs. 18,700, from Germany Rs. 43,647, from Italy Rs. 31,300. The value of blankets from British India also decreased Rs. 23,000.

14. Cigars show a decrease in quantity of 10,483 lb., though an increase in value of Rs. 83,240, 106,856 lb. having been imported from the United Kingdom, valued Rs. 337,750, as against 116,204 lb., valued Rs. 245,519, in 1905.

15. Opium 18,885 lb., valued at Rs. 336,110, were imported in 1906, as against 20,082 lb. in 1905 and 21,692 lb. in 1904.

16. Cotton—manufactured and raw—was valued at Rs. 8,194,200, as against Rs. 8,695,950 in 1905, the decrease being chiefly in dyed piece goods.

17. The import of Arms and Ammunition (including dymamite, detonators, fuse, and blasting powder) was over 30 per cent. in excess of that of 1905, and the duty rose from Rs. 67,880 to Rs. 93,090. The value of sporting gunpowder from the United Kingdom increased from Rs. 7,610 to Rs. 19,200.

18. Metals and Metalware increased in value by Rs. 279,300, the principal increases being in pig and tea lead, galvanized iron, and hardware.

19. The following table shows, in round numbers, the fluctuations in some of the most important imports during the last three years, and indicates the progress of competition between British and Foreign goods.—

—	Imports from—								
	United Kingdom.			British Possessions abroad.			Foreign Countries.		
	1904.	1905.	1906.	1904.	1905.	1906.	1904.	1905.	1906.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Cotton piece goods :—									
(1) Bleached	1,640,000	1,675,500	1,626,700	215,500	157,500	119,500	24,500	13,000	15,200
(2) Dyed	416,500	718,000	593,600	1,380,500	1,535,500	1,352,700	608,500	724,500	532,200
(3) Gray...	685,500	1,163,000	1,081,300	10,000	28,000	36,300	79,500	107,000	168,100
(4) Muslin	37,000	26,500	38,700	4,000	7,000	4,000	1,500	600	145
(5) Printed	758,000	972,500	930,600	26,000	20,500	18,400	22,500	13,500	28,300
(6) Other	244,500	407,500	553,800	117,500	118,500	108,400	42,500	153,500	103,100
Apparel, made up	245,500	203,500	254,800	31,500	33,000	28,400	138,000	293,000	160,300
Flannel	83,000	54,500	61,700	9,500	12,200	6,300	36,000	60,000	23,600
Silk and satin broad stuffs	85,850	52,700	80,600	62,800	41,700	58,400	154,000	178,000	145,300
Piece goods, mixed materials	197,500	167,500	170,000	234,300	240,500	207,300	160,200	140,800	109,000
Haberdashery	745,200	852,000	921,500	663,000	816,000	764,200	111,500	130,200	190,600
Hardware	791,500	894,700	916,800	23,500	16,000	19,000	128,000	141,000	154,200
Galvanized iron	532,000	597,000	678,100	500	4,000	650	65,000	122,000	91,000
Hoop iron	69,500	88,000	81,100	18,000	14,000	18,900	105,500	146,500	130,000
Cast steel	65,500	72,200	115,200	3,700	2,000	300	62,000	127,500	97,300
Iron nails and rivets	45,500	43,500	32,800	650	700	300	61,600	125,000	105,500
Biscuits	201,000	232,500	258,600	9,500	9,000	9,700	85,000	55,000	66,200
Milk, preserved	7,500	9,500	30,800	1,300	2,800	900	266,400	265,800	302,700
Sugar, refined	67,500	59,500	97,900	1,287,000	1,605,600	1,474,100	693,000	1,051,300	1,216,300
Potatoes	3,800	3,700	4,700	174,100	173,500	144,200	167,100	189,500	270,000
Cement	96,000	110,000	159,900	—	—	—	88,000	123,000	69,900
Matches	1,600	250	1,200	—	—	500	182,300	200,100	207,200
Manures, manufactured...	180,000	213,000	173,900	1,094,500	1,126,000	1,185,000	591,500	555,500	668,300
Soap	231,500	240,200	242,700	125,000	128,800	139,400	34,200	37,400	41,600
Fancy articles	219,500	214,600	238,300	38,000	32,200	42,100	83,900	82,800	118,100
Chinaware	247,600	231,800	188,300	1,300	1,800	700	72,900	70,500	112,100
Bottled beer	86,100	92,300	82,100	—	—	—	100,200	106,400	125,000
Tea chests...	549,600	599,400	782,000	27,700	43,600	31,200	1,102,000	925,800	1,110,000

20. The total value of Cotton Piece Goods from England was Rs. 4,824,700, as against Rs. 4,963,000 in 1905; from Foreign Countries Rs. 747,000, as against Rs. 912,100 in 1905.

(*a*) The fall in Bleached Goods from India continued, their value in 1906 being Rs. 118,100, as against Rs. 157,400 in 1905 and Rs. 215,000 in 1904.

(*b*) As regards Dyed Piece Goods, the phenomenal increase of 1905 was not maintained, and there was a falling off of 17½ per cent. on English goods compared with 1905. The decrease of over 25 per cent. on goods from Foreign Countries was due mainly to the value of German goods falling from Rs. 200,600 to Rs. 83,600, Swiss from Rs. 107,200 to Rs. 75,500, and Italian from Rs. 50,600 to Rs. 21,000. Those from Holland, however, rose from Rs. 270,400 to Rs. 308,800 in value. Imports from India fell from Rs. 1,529,500 to Rs. 1,350,200 in value. The average value of dyed goods from India was under 16 cents a yard, as against 27 cents for English and 33 cents for those from Holland.

(*c*) Gray Goods of English manufacture show a falling off, roughly, of ·8 per cent. compared with 1905, in which year, however, there was a rise of 70 per cent. compared with the preceding year. The Foreign—American—show an increase of 57 per cent., and were over double the value of those of 1904, but still are only about one-eighth of the total imports.

(*d*) Printed.—The increase in printed goods was chiefly due to goods, valued Rs. 16,250, being received from Russia, from which none were imported in 1905.

(*e*) Other.—The English goods showed a satisfactory increase of 36 per cent. Foreign decreased 33 per cent., imports from Germany being valued at Rs. 52,950 as against Rs. 91,650 in 1905, and from Belgium Rs. 7,400 as against Rs. 19,100.

21. Apparel made up.—English manufacturers recovered the ground lost in 1905, and foreign manufacturers, which increased 112 per cent. in 1905, decreased 45 per cent. Apparel from Germany was valued Rs. 208,400 in 1905 and Rs. 71,200 in 1906, that from Japan, the only other large exporter, Rs. 58,500 in 1905 and Rs. 71,600 in 1906.

22. Flannel.—The falling off in Foreign imports was in German goods, the value of those imported in 1906 being Rs. 16,800 as against Rs. 54,100 in 1905.

23. Silk Broad Stuffs.—The English goods recovered part of the ground lost in 1905, but were still under one-third of the total imports. Goods of Foreign manufacture show a decrease in value of 18 per cent. The value of Japanese goods rose from Rs. 50,600 to Rs. 72,250, while that of French fell from Rs. 34,300 to Rs. 30,000, Chinese from Rs. 32,200 to Rs. 19,800, and Dutch from Rs. 41,100 to nil. Imports from Hong Kong rose from Rs. 2,800 to Rs. 16,900.

24. Piece Goods and Mixed Materials.—There was a decrease in goods from British Possessions abroad, imports from British

India falling from Rs. 237,000 to Rs. 205,000 in value. The fall in those from Foreign countries also continued, imports from non-British India decreasing from Rs. 72,000 to Rs. 48,200.

25. Haberdashery.—English imports show an increase of 8 per cent. Those from British Possessions abroad, which increased 23 per cent. in 1905, a decrease of 6 per cent., British Indian falling from Rs. 773,300 to Rs. 729,800 in value. The Foreign show an increase of 46 per cent., German imports being Rs. 115,300 in value as against Rs. 71,600 in 1905, and French Rs. 15,100 as against Rs. 6,900.

26. Hardware showed a satisfactory increase all round. German imports increased from Rs. 89,000 to Rs. 99,300 in value, and American from Rs. 17,200 to Rs. 22,800.

27. Galvanized Iron.—German imports increased from Rs. 49,000 to Rs. 64,800, but Belgian fell from Rs. 58,300 to Rs. 18,300, and American from Rs. 14,600 to Rs. 7,800.

28. Hoop Iron.—The value of German fell from Rs. 106,900 to Rs. 77,000, while that of Austrian increased from Rs. 18,200 to Rs. 33,600.

29. Cast Steel.—German imports fell from Rs. 90,400 to Rs. 61,900 in value.

30. Iron Nails and Rivets show a general decrease in value. German decreased from Rs. 59,600 to Rs. 48,300, and Belgian from Rs. 45,200 to Rs. 33,500, while American rose from Rs. 11,700 to Rs. 18,900 in value.

31. The increase in Biscuits of English manufacture continued, and the Foreign biscuits, which fell 35 per cent. in 1905, show an increase of 20 per cent., German having increased from Rs. 54,800 to Rs. 64,300, and Dutch from nil to Rs. 1,400.

32. Preserved Milk from the United Kingdom rose from Rs. 9,500 to Rs. 30,800, but the bulk of that imported is from Switzerland, from which the imports of 1906 were valued at Rs. 292,400, as against Rs. 255,400 in 1905.

33. In Refined Sugar the steady increase in Foreign imports has continued, the returns for 1906 showing an increase of 15½ per cent. Sugar from British Possessions abroad shows a decrease of Rs. 131,500 in value. The principal supply is from Hong Kong, from which the imports were valued at Rs. 1,167,000 in 1906, as against Rs. 1,386,600 in 1905.

From Foreign Countries the largest supply was from Austria, valued at Rs. 814,036, as against Rs. 460,100 in 1905. That from Java, however, fell from Rs. 488,700 in 1905 (to which it suddenly rose from Rs. 35,000 in 1904 and nil in 1903) to Rs. 74,000 in 1906. That from Germany increased from Rs. 42,000 in 1904 and Rs. 12,900 in 1905 to Rs. 232,700 in 1906.

34. In Potatoes the chief rise was in imports from Italy, valued at Rs. 225,600, as against Rs. 157,000 in 1905. The next largest Foreign supplier is France, with value Rs. 27,500, as against Rs. 29,400 in 1905.

35. Cement from Germany fell from Rs. 90,500 to Rs. 56,500 in value.

36. Matches were imported principally from Sweden, the supply from which was valued at Rs. 167,500, as against Rs. 154,100 in 1905, the next largest supplier being Austria, with value Rs. 35,500, as against Rs. 43,700 in 1905.

37. In Manufactured Manures a decrease of 18 per cent. is shown on English manufactures, and an increase of 20 per cent. on Foreign.

The manures from British Possessions abroad are chiefly castor seed poonac (Rs. 798,200), ground-nut cake (Rs. 126,800), and rape seed poonac (Rs. 63,800) from British India.

The value of basic slag from England fell from Rs. 15,800 to Rs. 9,200. Sulphate of ammonia fell from Rs. 77,700 to Rs. 64,000, "Other" fell from Rs. 65,000 to Rs. 37,000, while blood meal rose from Rs. 52,000 to Rs. 60,500.

The largest proportion of Foreign manures came from Germany. The value of "Other Manures" from Germany rose from Rs. 249,400 to Rs. 393,100, of basic slag from Rs. 34,700 to Rs. 42,200, and of sulphate of ammonia from nil to Rs. 4,900, while that of kainit fell from Rs. 24,800 to Rs. 9,600, and of sulphate of potash from Rs. 156,600 to Rs. 103,500.

38. Fancy Articles from Japan increased in value from Rs. 25,400 to Rs. 49,400, from Germany from Rs. 26,900 to Rs. 35,200, and from Austria from Rs. 12,500 to Rs. 15,500.

39. Chinaware.—The bulk of Foreign chinaware is from Germany, valued at Rs. 84,200, as against Rs. 53,900 in 1905. Belgian was valued at Rs. 7,800, as against Rs. 300 in 1905.

40. Bottled Beer is chiefly imported from Germany, and was valued at Rs. 114,600 in 1906, as against Rs. 84,900 in 1905.

41. Tea chests from Japan were valued at Rs. 1,074,400 in 1906.

42. Food stuffs, beef and pork, butter, cheese, wheat, flour, curry stuffs, ham, and bacon all showed a satisfactory increase in value.

43. The following table gives the Foreign countries which export goods of the highest aggregate value to Ceylon, with the value, in round numbers, of the import from them in 1904, 1905, and 1906:—

Foreign Countries which Export Goods of the Highest Aggregate Value to Ceylon.

—	1904.	1905.	1906.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. Germany	2,452,600	2,692,900	2,814,800
2. Japan	1,757,100	1,623,900	1,557,000
3. United States of America ...	726,000	801,200	1,375,800
4. Austria	835,700	794,600	1,141,100
5. France...	750,600	755,200	797,800
6. Holland	653,900	677,500	591,400
7. Belgium	377,200	544,600	425,300
8. Switzerland	438,700	431,800	422,800
9. Siam	61,700	172,800	390,800
10. Italy	270,500	322,900	335,200
11. Russia...	1,445,800	983,300	254,500
12. Sweden	184,900	182,300	193,500
Total of all Foreign Countries, omitting Specie.	12,700,000	12,624,900	12,525,800

44. From this table it appears that imports from Germany constitute 23½ per cent. of the total Foreign imports into Ceylon in value, and exceed those of Japan, the second on the list, by over 1¼ million rupees. The imports from Germany of the highest value in 1906 were:—

—	Rs.	—	Rs.
Manures	627,000	Chinaware	84,200
Refined sugar	232,700	Dyed cotton piece goods	83,600
Harberdashery	115,300	Hoop iron	77,000
Bottled beer	114,600	Apparel made up ...	71,200
Hardware	99,300		

45. The imports from Japan formed 12 per cent. of the total Foreign imports, and, except in coal, show an increase over last year. The largest items are tea chests Rs. 1,074,400, coal Rs. 121,000 (as against Rs. 470,000 in 1905), silk broad stuffs Rs. 72,200 (as against Rs. 50,600 in 1905), and apparel made up Rs. 71,600 (as against Rs. 58,500 in 1905).

46. The United States of America are placed above Russia and Austria on the list of 1906, the total imports from them showing an increase of 71 per cent. over those of 1905.

The value of keosine oil in cases was Rs. 704,400, as against Rs. 189,200 in 1905. This increase was to supply the deficiency in the supply of Russian oil from Baku. Gray piece goods were valued at Rs. 168,000 as against Rs. 105,200 in 1905, and tobacco at Rs. 73,200 as against Rs. 50,000 in 1905.

47. Austria, too, displaced Russia, and imports from it, excluding the value of casks and shooks, which are mostly returned empties, show an increase of 44 per cent. over those of

1905. The value of refined sugar from Austria rose to Rs. 814,000, as against Rs. 460,150 in 1905.

48. French imports show a small increase. Brandy was valued at Rs. 311,000 as against Rs. 317,900 in 1905, wines at Rs. 170,500 as against Rs. 149,500, and umbrellas at Rs. 80,000 as against Rs. 40,850.

49. The imports from Holland show a decrease of Rs. 86,100. The value of gin fell from Rs. 244,900 to Rs. 181,000, but that of dyed cotton piece goods rose from Rs. 270,400 to Rs. 308,700.

50. Holland silk broad stuffs fell from Rs. 41,100 to nil.

51. Belgian imports, which rose 44 per cent. in 1905, decreased by nearly 23 per cent. The chief imports were:—

Refined sugar Rs. 55,300, as against Rs. 49,450 in 1905.
Iron drums Rs. 49,200, as against Rs. 34,500 in 1905.
Iron, bar, flat, and rod, Rs. 44,400, as against Rs. 61,500 in 1905.
Iron nails and rivets Rs. 33,500, as against Rs. 45,250 in 1905.
Cast steel Rs. 32,500, as against Rs. 35,500 in 1905.

52. The increase in the case of Siam is due to increased imports of teak, which was valued in 1906 at Rs. 362,800, that from Burma being valued at Rs. 182,800. In 1905 the Burmese was valued at Rs. 276,800 and the Siamese at Rs. 171,300.

53. The falling off in the case of Russia is due to the drop in the value of kerosine oil from Rs. 976,900 in 1905 to Rs. 166,400, which has been already noted.

Exports.

54. The following table shows the comparative figures for the last three years:—

—	1904.	1905.	1906.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Value of Ceylon produce ...	99,894,461	100,898,551	108,248,232
Value of Imports re-exported	1,214,415	1,291,158	1,463,412
Value of Specie	3,157,050	300,350	2,805,270
Coal for use of steamers ...	13,400,740	13,564,780	13,814,240
Total	117,666,666	116,054,839	126,331,154

55. The value of Ceylon produce and manufactures exported to the United Kingdom was Rs. 53,264,700, as against Rs. 53,827,200 in 1905 and Rs. 51,062,800 in 1904. To British Possessions abroad Rs. 19,386,800, as against Rs. 17,313,500 in 1905 and Rs. 15,630,600 in 1904. To Foreign Countries Rs. 35,596,700, as against Rs. 31,518,200 in 1905 and Rs. 31,365,900 in 1904.

56. The total increase in the value of Ceylon produce exported was Rs. 7,349,681.

57. The following table shows the distribution of the staple exports of the Colony, exclusive of tea, in round figures, for the last three years :—

—	To United Kingdom.			To British Possessions abroad.			To Foreign Countries.		
	1904.	1905.	1906.	1904.	1905.	1906.	1904.	1905.	1906.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Product of coconut palm ...	7,883,500	8,963,000	7,130,700	1,096,000	1,439,000	2,516,800	15,429,500	12,046,000	13,472,200
Plumbago	1,800,000	1,929,500	2,792,000	40,500	33,500	57,500	4,660,000	5,207,500	7,607,900
Cinnamon	328,000	296,000	310,500	66,500	81,000	40,500	1,877,500	1,935,000	2,291,000
Cacao	1,559,000	1,611,000	1,415,500	225,000	333,500	219,000	663,500	489,000	417,900

58. From this it appears that the total value of products of the coconut palm exported was Rs. 23,119,600 as against Rs. 22,448,000 in 1905 and Rs. 24,409,000 in 1904, and formed over 21 per cent. of the total value of Ceylon produce.

The total value of Coconut Oil was Rs. 9,545,700 as against Rs. 9,815,900 in 1905, the average value, as given in the exporters' entries, rising from Rs. 16·71 to Rs. 17·71 per cwt

The total value of Fresh Coconuts was Rs. 929,700 as against Rs. 945,900 in 1905, though the average price increased from Rs. 52·21 to Rs. 57·33 per 1,000.

The total value of Copra exported was Rs. 5,661,300 as against Rs. 4,904,200 in 1905, the average value per cwt. rising from Rs. 12·53 to Rs. 12·61.

The total value of Desiccated Coconuts was Rs. 3,404,000 as against Rs. 3,301,500 in 1905, the average price rising from Rs. 17·93 to Rs. 18·72 per cwt.

The total value of Coir Stuffs was Rs. 2,267,800 as against Rs. 2,326,700 in 1905.

The total value of Poonac was Rs. 1,064,800 as against Rs. 1,038,236 in 1905.

59. Plumbago exports show an increase in value from Rs. 7,170,300 to Rs. 10,457,500, and in quantity from 30,642 to 35,092 tons. The figures are the highest on record.

60. The total value of Cinnamon was Rs. 2,642,000 as against Rs. 2,312,500 in 1905, and of Cacao Rs. 2,052,400 as against Rs. 2,433,600 in 1905.

The total value of Citronella Oil exported was Rs. 1,204,764 as against Rs. 1,041,256, the average price rising from 84 to 99 cents per lb.

The export of Cardomoms was 6,505 cwt. valued at Rs. 585,755, as against 7,888 cwt. valued at Rs. 583,072 in 1905, the increase in value being from Rs. 73·92 to Rs. 90·05 per cwt.

The export of Rubber in the last four years has been 387, 676, 1,401, and 3,705 cwt. respectively, and as the trees that have of recent years been widely planted become fit to tap there is every prospect of a very considerable expansion of the export of this product.

61. The following table shows the countries to which Ceylon produce of the highest value was exported during the last three years:—

Exports to	In 1904.	In 1905.	In 1906.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
United States of America	8,193,536	8,151,800	10,333,500
Germany	8,666,300	6,568,500	8,201,700
British India	4,708,900	5,071,700	6,013,000
Russia	4,992,300	4,415,500	5,780,100
New South Wales ...	3,566,900	3,465,700	3,233,000
Victoria	3,046,800	2,996,700	3,190,300
Austria	1,975,200	2,962,400	3,005,900
Belgium	2,834,300	1,995,700	2,708,900
Canada	2,195,200	2,302,500	2,635,700
China, excluding Hong Kong.	688,100	1,526,400	1,947,200
New Zealand	1,389,000	1,484,600	1,574,700
France	1,840,900	1,367,500	795,800

62. The United States of America have retained their place above Germany as the largest consumers of Ceylon produce.

There was a large increase in the exports of plumbago, which were valued at Rs. 4,668,200, as against Rs. 2,912,900 in 1905 and Rs. 2,535,800 in 1904.

Tea exports were valued at Rs. 2,030,700 as against Rs. 1,741,000 in 1905.

Citronella oil showed a satisfactory increase from Rs. 490,500 to Rs. 508,100.

Cinnamon was valued at Rs. 373,100 as against Rs. 274,100.

There was a falling off in coconut oil, which was valued at Rs. 1,673,500, as against Rs. 1,906,500 in 1905 and Rs. 2,360,100 in 1904, and also in desiccated coconut from Rs. 658,600 in 1905 to Rs. 435,200.

63. Exports to Germany revived somewhat in 1906. The most marked increases were in corpa, the value of which rose from Rs. 1,833,200 to Rs. 2,289,600, and in coconut oil, which rose from Rs. 147,750 to Rs. 604,800. There was also an increase in desiccated coconut from Rs. 452,000 to Rs. 551,700, in cinnamon from Rs. 807,400 to Rs. 883,000, and in tea from Rs. 357,100 to Rs. 440,500.

The fall in cacao continued from Rs. 516,300 in 1904 and Rs. 337,500 in 1905 to Rs. 201,100.

There was also a small decrease in poonac (valued at Rs. 599,500) and in citronella oil (Rs. 94,600).

64. Russia.—The value of tea exported to Russia was Rs. 4,909,800 as against Rs. 3,931,000 in 1905, and of copra Rs. 854,400 as against Rs. 446,300. In plumbago there was a falling off from Rs. 33,500 to Rs. 15,000.

65. Austria.—There was a slight increase in the exports to Austria, which are principally coconut oil, copra, and tea.

66. Belgium.—Exports to Belgium recovered in 1906. The value of plumbago rose from Rs. 635,100 to Rs. 885,100, of copra from Rs. 149,200 to Rs. 403,800 (as against Rs. 989,500 in 1904), of desiccated coconut from Rs. 93,700 to Rs. 149,000, of cinnamon from Rs. 171,800 to Rs. 204,000, and of poonac from Rs. 388,900 to Rs. 463,500.

67. China.—The increase was in tea, valued at Rs. 1,918,700 in 1906, as against Rs. 1,504,900 in 1905.

68. France.—The fall in the export to France continued, copra falling in value to Rs. 251,700 from Rs. 999,800. The value of tea, however, rose to Rs. 199,300 from Rs. 139,000 in 1905.

69. The exports to the Australian Colonies were almost wholly tea.

70. The export of plumbago to Japan, which rose in 1905 from Rs. 85,200 to Rs. 270,400, fell in 1906 to Rs. 89,000 in value.

Tea.

71. A total of 170,527,126 lb. of tea was exported in 1906 as against 170,183,572 lb. in 1905 and 157,929,342 lb. in 1904, the average value being entered at 36 cents per lb. as against 35 cents in 1905.

72. Of these 170½ million lb., 108 million were shipped to the United Kingdom (nearly 4 million less than in 1905), 13·7 million to Russia (an increase of 2·4 million), 8·8 to New South Wales (a decrease of ·42), 8 to Victoria (an increase of ·1), 7·2 to Canada (an increase of ·8), 5·6 to the United States (an increase of ·6), 5·3 to China (an increase of 1), 4 to New Zealand, 1·75 to South and Western Australia, and 1·2 to Germany (an increase of ·2).

73. The total value of tea exported in 1906 was estimated at Rs. 61,389,765, as against Rs. 59,564,245 in 1905 and Rs. 56,854,563 in 1904, and formed 56½ per cent. of the total value of Ceylon produce.

74. The total quantity of green tea exported was 3·8 million lb. as against 3·08 in 1905, 5·4 in 1904, and 8·2 in 1903.

The following table shows the fluctuation in the export of green tea during the past six years:—

Year.	Exported to		Russia.	United States of America.
	United Kingdom.	Canada.		
	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.
1901	260,949	549,013	40,122	360,373
1902	411,514	736,534	133,180	1,264,383
1903	1,794,853	2,695,628	152,388	3,522,441
1904	1,736,795	1,584,838	425,657	1,596,446
1905	264,807	1,285,300	855,121	621,859
1906	430,038	1,763,966	919,688	601,470

Customs Revenue.

75. The revenue derived from Customs dues in 1906 was the highest ever reached, surpassing that of 1905, the previous record, by Rs. 222,193·37. The following table shows the income from this source for the ten years beginning from 1897:—

Gross Customs Revenue for the Ten Years ended 1906.

Year.	Revenue.	
	Rs.	c.
1897	6,278,787	49
1898	6,714,625	82
1899	7,101,851	73
1900	7,620,432	29
1901	7,446,807	26
1902	7,630,175	62
1903	8,043,062	94
1904	8,334,431	74
1905	8,652,985	38
1906	8,875,178	15

76. The chief nett increases in 1906 were on sugar (Rs. 159,570), other goods (Rs. 54,025), and grain (Rs. 45,165). There were decreases on spirits (Rs. 56,138) and kerosine oil (Rs. 29,779).

77. The chief articles contributing to the revenue in 1906 were:—

—	Amount.
	Rs.
Grain	3,375,336
Spirits	1,045,189
Sugar	785,865
Kerosine Oil	753,815
Cotton Goods	317,294

(B.) Mines, Manufactures, and Fisheries.

Pearl Fishery.

Ordinance No. 8 of 1906 confirming the agreement dated 30th November, 1905, between the Crown Agents for the Colonies and the Gulf Syndicate, Limited, for the lease for twenty years from 1st January, 1906, of the exclusive right to remove oysters from the beds between Talaimannar and Dutch Point Bay was assented to by His Excellency the Governor on 1st March, 1906.

2. The "Ceylon Company of Pearl Fishers, Limited," has agreed to pay an annual sum of Rs. 310,000, to expend a sum of not less than Rs. 50,000, to be increased at the discretion of the Government to any sum not greater than Rs. 150,000 per annum, upon the improvement and scientific development of the fishery, and to pay all the expenses of the supervision and protection of the Fishery Camp by Government.

3. The fishery of 1906 was conducted in a similar manner to previous fisheries on Government account, an adjustment being finally made with the Company when the accounts were closed. This fishery was the fourth in succession after twelve practically blank years prior to 1903.

4. There was fishing for oysters on thirty-six days between 20th February and 3rd April, and 66,692,214 oysters were obtained by 8,368 divers (of whom 4,090 were Arabs) in 473 boats.

The gross amount realized by the Company's share (two-thirds) was Rs. 1,376,745, which has only been exceeded in 1905, when a sum of Rs. 2,060,970 was obtained.

The Government has received Rs. 310,000 as rent, Rs. 239,420 in repayment of cost of supervision of the fishery, Rs. 69,587 as rent of boutique sites, Rs. 8,850 from materials supplied to contractors, &c., making in all Rs. 627,857.

5. By Ordinance No. 17 of 1906 provision has been made for the protection of pearl oysters, including the "window" oysters, in the territorial waters of the Colony.

6. Tenders were invited, as the best means of protection, for the lease for five years of the right to collect window oysters of over 5½ inches in diameter in Tamblegam Bay on the Trincomalee coast, and a sum of Rs. 3,550 per annum was accepted.

The Mineralogical Survey.

The work of the Department continued throughout the year under the direction of Dr. Coomaraswamy, and it was decided that the four years' terms of the survey should be extended for a further three years from the end of 1906.

2. The officers were chiefly engaged in the field, but 921 specimens in the Colombo Museum were catalogued, and also a large number of specimens received from private individuals were reported upon.

3. Asbestos was found in the Galle District, but the quantity and quality are not such as appear at present to render it of commercial importance.

4. Near Pelmadulla an interesting deposit of native copper in laterite was observed. There seems no reason to doubt its natural origin, but it is feared the quantity obtainable is too small for the discovery to have any commercial value.

5. Concentrates fairly rich in monazite and thorianite were found in a few places near Dodanduwa, and investigations at Maddegama in Hinidum pattu proved that thorianite was derived from a decomposed mica orthoclase pegmatite, in which it occurred in commercially paying quantities. It is not yet known if there is sufficient quantity there to pay for mining and crushing the hard rocks, which will be reached after the decomposed portion of the vein has been removed.

6. Near Welimada some fragments of thorianite were observed in a deposit associated with a mica spinel rock, itself closely associated with quartz orthoclase pegmatite. Thorite was also obtained both in the gravel and in the soft micaceous veins of the rock itself.

7. Investigations near Bogoda, where a similar mica spinel rock was observed, proved the occurrence of thorianite and thorite in a small gravel deposit associated with it.

8. These results will be of the greatest service as guides in prospecting for thoria-bearing minerals, which has hitherto been largely a matter of chance.

9. Thorite was also found in small quantities in Uda Dumbara disseminated in a granite rock and in stream gravel.

10. Occurrences of andalusite and sillimanite were investigated near Hatton, and fragments of zircon and corundum were found in some abundance in the gravel of the district and also at Madugoda in Uda Dumbara.

11. Interest in mica was renewed, and some productive mines were worked. This mineral occurs over a very extended area.

Mining.

The output of plumbago increased during the year, and 10,457,490 cwt. were exported, as against 7,170,321 cwt. in 1905. The average value placed upon it by the exporters also rose from Rs. 11·70 to Rs. 14·90 per cwt.

2. The mines are chiefly in the Ratnapura and Kurunegala Districts and managed by native capitalists. In Dumbara in the Ratnapura District a European Syndicate is carrying on operations, with, it is believed, favourable results.

3. Mica continued to be worked in the Ratnapura District, and 99 cwt. were exported to England, valued at Rs. 7,516, or Rs. 75·92 per cwt.

4. There was a falling off in the export of thorianite from 179 cwt. to 52 cwt.; this was due in some measure to the combination in Europe to lower prices, owing to which the Government share recovered by way of royalty on thorianite obtained from Crown lands is being retained in store.

Salt.

The manufacture of salt is a Government monopoly, and is protected by the imposition of a duty of Rs. 2·13 per cwt. on imported salt. A sum of Rs. 1,736,075 was realized by its sale in 1906, or Rs. 329,492 in excess of 1905.

2. The year was a favourable one for its manufacture and collection, and a fairly large collection was made in Puttalam, amounting to 317,290 cwt. as against 396,417 cwt. in 1905. Good collections were also made in Hambantota, Trincomalee, and in the Northern Province.

3. The Government stores at manufacturing centres were well stocked at the end of the year, and contained the equivalent of the Island's average consumption for a period of nearly two and a half years.

4. The special retail stores established by Government at Galle, Colombo, and Haputale kept the retail price of salt at a reasonably low figure. With the object of further reducing the cost to the consumer, the price at manufacturing centres was reduced from Rs. 3·50 to Rs. 3 a cwt.

Manufactures.

Indigenous crafts of the Kandyan country are silver and brass work, the making of jewellery, earthenware, tiles, bricks, and painted pottery, the plaiting of fibre mats and weaving of cloths, painting on wood and cloth, lacquer work, and ivory carving.

2. Good work is being done by the Kandyan Art Association in encouraging a high standard of excellence, especially in brass and silver work, and discouraging the crude imitations of Western patterns, which has done so much to injure native art both in India and in Ceylon.

3. In other districts the making of coir rope from coconut husks, of mats, baskets, bricks and tiles, common earthenware for water pans, &c., is generally pursued for local wants, and also carpentry and blacksmiths' work.

4. 20,840 cwt. of coir rope and 104,825 cwt. of coir yarn, prepared for the most part by village women, were exported in 1906.

5. Cloth of a coarse description is woven in the Manmunai pattu of the Eastern Province, where over 600 looms are working, and also in the Northern Province, where, too, there is a mat-dyeing industry.

6. In the Eastern Province brass work for utilitarian purposes—for the making of lamps, betel stands, plates, and water pots—is carried on in about 50 foundries.

7. The manufacture of jewellery is carried on to a fairly large extent at Jaffna in the Northern Province and at Galle in the South.

8. Cigars are made in the Northern and part of the Central Province. The Jaffna cigar, very small, strong, and cheap, is consumed almost exclusively by the natives of Ceylon.

9. In the Matara and Hambantota Districts of the Southern Province the distillation of citronella oil is pursued, and arrack is distilled from toddy in parts of the Western and Southern Provinces.

10. The making of copra is carried on in most of the coconut districts of the Island.

11. Fish-curing for inland consumption is pursued by the fishermen of Negombo, Hambantota, and Trincomalee.

(C.) Agriculture.

Botanic Gardens and the Agricultural Society.

The Ceylon Agricultural Society, founded in November, 1904, had at the end of 1906 a membership of 1,110, and 50 branch societies spread all over the Island working under its auspices. It aims at the improvement and development of local agricultural industries and the dissemination of new products, also at the improvement of the local breeds of cattle and poultry. Distributions of seed, fruit trees, and plants have been made, together with literature bearing on their cultivation, and much attention has been paid to the cultivation of vegetables. The Society is now in close touch with the scientific staff at Peradeniya, the Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens having been appointed by the Governor organizing Vice-President of the Society.

2. The principle of co-operation has been adopted by more than one of the branches, seed and in some cases money having been advanced by the local societies to their members at low interest. Important results may be expected from the extension of this principle of co-operation and self-help in the future.

3. Agricultural Instructors are employed in visiting centres and giving demonstrations and practical lessons to the village cultivators, and Stock Inspectors have given demonstrations of scientific castration of cattle unfit for breeding purposes.

4. Ten successful Agri-Horticultural Shows were held during the year with prizes and certificates for various classes of fruits, flowers, vegetables, commercial products, and live stock.

5. Experiments with transplantation and introduction of new varieties of paddy and other products have continued, also with rotation of crops on chenas or high grounds, which have shown the falsity of the contention that the land is too poor to grow regular crops. Cotton cultivation has been introduced into several Provinces, and attention has also been paid to tobacco and improved means of curing it.

6. At a Sericulture Experimental Farm silkworms introduced from India and Assam are being reared, and experiments have also been conducted in apiculture.

7. At the Peradeniya Experiment Station some ninety-five experiments are being carried on. The experiment lasting since 1902 upon the eradication of cacao canker by excision and spraying has yielded valuable results. In 1902 it was estimated that 98 per cent. of the trees were diseased, and the crop was about ½ cwt. per acre. Now only 3 per cent. of the trees are diseased, and the crop nearly 4 cwt. per acre.

Position of Agricultural Industries.

7. The state of the agricultural industries remains on the whole one of genuine prosperity.

Tea, the largest industry, maintained its position. The general quality was of good average. The output has been commented upon under "Exports."

Coconuts, owing to the drought, yielded badly, but the extraordinary rise in prices of the product of the palm, especially copra and coconut oil, quite compensated for the reduced yield. See comments under "Exports."

Cacao remained in a good and healthy condition, though the output was reduced by the drought at the end of 1905 and beginning of 1906.

The Cardamom crop was up to expectations, 6,505 cwt. being exported at an average value of Rs. 90·05 per cwt., as against 7,888 cwt. at Rs. 73·90 per cwt. in 1905.

Coca, though only a small crop, continues to prosper. The Ceylon leaf brings higher prices than the South American, and is largely the standard of the market.

Citronella Oil.—The output, viz., 1,213,748 lb., remained practically constant, but the average value in 1906 rose from 84 to 99 cents per lb. Experiments with the distillation of oil from lemon grass and citronella are continuing at Peradeniya with a view to extending these industries.

Camphor.—Owing to the high price more attention has been bestowed upon this product, and large quantities of seed were imported from Japan and Formosa, with disappointing results as regards germination. Experience has, however, since shown that where fresh seed is sown without delay the germination is satisfactory. Attempts are being made to strike plants from cuttings. The distillation of camphor has been improved, and a larger yield is now obtained than formerly.

8. Rubber has undergone great extension, and there are probably 120,000 acres now under it as against 40,000 at the end of 1905 and 11,000 at the end of 1904. The value of that exported was Rs. 1,527,539 as against Rs. 557,945 in 1905 and Rs. 221,000 in 1904. The trees are, as a rule, remarkably healthy, and in suitable soil the growth is vigorous, giving every promise of success in the future.

9. In September the first Rubber Exhibition was held in the Peradeniya Gardens, and proved a great success. The exhibits were chiefly confined to rubber and machinery and appliances connected with its production from Ceylon, Malaya, South India, Bombay, the Philippines, and Germany, from which countries and also from London representatives attended. Interesting and instructive lectures were delivered by experts among the visitors and the Botanic staff on the cultivation and treatment of rubber and its preparation for the market. Ceylon secured a very satisfactory proportion of the prizes offered.

10. Paddy.—Rice being the staple article of food, paddy cultivation is the main industry of the village agriculturists throughout the Island. The possibility of failure of the rains at the required season where the cultivator is dependent upon the natural rainfall renders its cultivation somewhat precarious, and during 1906 there were complete or partial failures of both crops in many parts of the Northern, Eastern and Uva Provinces owing to the drought. In such seasons the villagers in the districts not served by irrigation works have to depend for their food either on imported rice or on the "dry" grains, millet, &c., cultivated on "chenas." It is hoped that the completion of the larger irrigation works will render the cultivation of land under them practically independent of the ordinary fluctuations of weather.

The total area under paddy cultivation was roughly estimated at 634,567 acres in 1906. The output is never sufficient to meet the demands of the population, including Indian immigrant coolies, and in 1906 6 million cwt. of rice, valued at Rs. 39,000,000, were imported to supplement the local supply.

11. Tobacco is extensively grown in the Northern Province, and also in the Dumbara Valley of the Central Province and in the Trincomalee District.

In the Jaffna District the area under tobacco is estimated at 7,000 acres. The plants are irrigated with water from wells of from 20 to 35 feet in depth by means of well sweeps worked by coolies, and so are largely independent of the rainfall.

The crop of 1906 was heavier than usual, but the supply exceeded the demand, and there was consequently a general fall in price. The future of the cultivation depends to a great extent on the finding of new markets for export. At present practically the whole of that exported—in 1906 4,400,000 lb. of unmanufactured tobacco—is exported to Cochin and Travancore. Experiments in improved means of curing are being undertaken. The great proportion of that grown is consumed locally, and even here the cigarettes of the British-American Tobacco Company are reported to be obtaining a large consumption among the natives.

(D.) Land Settlement.

The useful work of the Land Settlement Department, the staff of which was increased to four Settlement Officers, continued during the year. Their operations were chiefly confined to the Southern, Uva, the North-Central, and the North-Western Provinces.

The difficulties attending this important work are but faintly realized by the general public, and irritation is sometimes felt at what appears to those who are ignorant of the details to be unreasonable delay. Putting aside the time necessary for legal notice, the attached two maps* of a village before and after

* Not reproduced.

settlement will show the amount of work in separating Crown land from village claims and surveying such claims separately.

2. In the Southern Province 54 notices were issued in 1906 covering 6,921 acres of land, and 176 final orders, some of course in respect of land noticed in 1905, were made, under which 16,800 acres were declared the property of the Crown and 1,263 acres private property.

3. In the Province of Uva 46 notices were issued in 1906 covering 17,712 acres, and 123 final orders were made declaring 9,065 acres Crown land and 2,196 private property.

4. In the North-Central Province 143 notices were issued covering 58,243 acres, and 149 final orders were made declaring 61,213 acres Crown property.

5. In the North-Western Province 23 notices were issued covering 4,896 acres, and 18 final orders declared 1,302 acres Crown property and 16 acres private.

6. In Trincomalee District one notice was issued covering 34,400 acres.

7. The total operations under the Waste Lands Ordinance have so far covered 850,733 acres, and on 31st December, 1906, a total of 716,849 acres had been settled, of which 681,943 were declared Crown, 26,322 private, and 8,584 were sold.

8. The operations of the Survey Department during the year comprised 130,283 acres under the Block Survey, 92,480 acres under the Topographical Survey, and 65,968 acres under Application Surveys.

9. The extension of rubber cultivation caused an extraordinary demand for land during the year, and the block surveys had to give way to some extent to the application work.

10. A total of Rs. 2,592,565 was realized by the sale of Crown lands in 1906, or over double the amount obtained in 1905. The total brought to account under the head Land Sales was Rs. 2,616,485, as against Rs. 1,133,568 in 1905 and Rs.698,686 in 1904.

11. The highest average price of Crown land sold by public auction, viz., Rs. 102·85 per acre, was obtained in the Ratnapura District, 1,017 acres being sold at this rate, chiefly for rubber cultivation. In the Kandy District 384 acres were sold at an average price of Rs. 95 per acre, and in the Matale District 2,604 acres at an average price of Rs. 46·53 per acre. In the Colombo District the average price was Rs. 82·34 per acre, and in the Kalutara District—where the largest area was sold during the year—20,407 acres were sold chiefly for rubber at an average price of Rs. 55·66 per acre. In another good rubber district, Kegalla, 6,765 acres were sold at an average price of Rs. 43·58 per acre. In the Kurunegala District 1,783 acres of land suitable for coconuts and rubber were sold at the

average price of Rs. 46·50, and in the Chilaw District 870 acres for coconut cultivation at Rs. 61 per acre.

(E.) Shipping.

In 1906 3,894 vessels entered at the ports of Ceylon with a tonnage of 6,697,329 tons, as against 3,664 vessels with tonnage 5,605,664 in 1905.

2. Of these, 1,829 with tonnage 4,625,821 tons were British (as against 1,756 with tonnage 4,040,723 in 1905) and 1,352 British Colonial (chiefly native sailing ships) with tonnage 106,546.

3. Of the Foreign vessels, the German were 223 in number with tonnage 832,988 tons as against 198 in 1905 with tonnage 751,405, 147 French (as against 139 in 1905) with tonnage 451,568, 54 Japanese with tonnage 191,169, 53 Russian with tonnage 136,263, and 23 Danish as against 3 in previous year.

Colombo Harbour Dues.

The total collection of harbour dues at Colombo during 1906 amounted to Rs. 1,290,696, an increase of Rs. 77,667·94 over 1905, and is the largest yet recovered.

III.—LEGISLATION.

Among the more important Ordinances passed in 1906 were:—

No. 4 of 1906.—"An Ordinance to prevent the overcrowding of Vessels carrying Passengers from Ceylon to any port or place in British India." This Ordinance substituted for Ordinance No. 1 of 1860, which was enacted in order to prevent the overcrowding of vessels carrying passengers in the Gulf of Mannar and Palk's Straits, a measure on similar lines applying to vessels carrying passengers from Ceylon to any port or place in British India.

No. 5 of 1906.—"An Ordinance to provide for compulsory Vernacular Education in Municipal and Local Board Towns under the operation of 'The Small Towns Sanitary Ordinance, 1902,'" established a system of compulsory education in the vernacular languages in Municipal and Local Board towns; and empowers the local authority to defray the necessary expenses from the funds at their disposal.

No. 8 of 1906.—An Ordinance to confirm an Agreement for a Lease of Pearl Fisheries (already referred to).

No. 15 of 1906.—"An Ordinance to amend the Law relating to the granting of Patents for Inventions"

replaced the previously existing Inventions Ordinance by a measure on the lines of the enactments with regard to patents which are in force in Great Britain and throughout the greater part of the Empire.

No. 16 of 1906.—Consolidating Irrigation Ordinance. (See remarks under "Irrigation.")

No. 17 of 1906.—"An Ordinance to make better provision for the protection of the Pearl Fisheries of Ceylon." This Ordinance was framed with the object of protecting pearl-producing oysters of all descriptions, including the "window oyster" and any exotic species which may be introduced into the Island waters.

No. 21 of 1906.—Licensing Ordinance Amendment Ordinance renders it unlawful to sell spirituous liquor of a lower strength than 27° under proof. It aims at the prevention of the excessive dilution of imported spirits, especially gin, which being largely adulterated were being sold at a very cheap rate and entering into competition with arrack, from the sale of the exclusive right to sell which a considerable revenue is derived annually.

No. 26 of 1906.—"An Ordinance to make better provision for facilitating and regulating the supply and use of Electrical Energy for Lighting, Traction, and other purposes" replaced "The Electricity Ordinance, 1895," by a measure more in accordance with modern requirements.

No. 28 of 1906.—"An Ordinance to prohibit the carrying of dangerous Knives." Nearly every Sinhalese villager carries a knife for use in his ordinary avocations, and is prone to use it upon the slightest provocation, with too often fatal results. This Ordinance renders it penal to carry, within any proclaimed district, a knife with a blade more than 3½ inches in length, and unless so rounded or blunted at the point as to be incapable of being used as a stabbing instrument.

IV.—EDUCATION.

(A.) Preliminary.

It is not possible to draw the same clear line between Primary and Secondary education in Ceylon as can be drawn in other countries. The matter is complicated by the fact that English is a foreign language to all but a fraction of the population; the Europeans, Burghers, and Eurasians added together form a little less than 1 per cent. of the population; the Sinhalese form 65 per cent. of the total; the Tamils and Tamil-speaking

Moors 33 per cent. A few families among the educated Sinhalese and Tamils have adopted English as their home language, but in many of the poor families of Burghers and Eurasians the children are brought up without anything approaching to a complete knowledge of any language. The result is that most of the schools in which English is taught are teaching a language which is foreign to the great majority of their pupils, and the distinction between Primary and Secondary education is replaced by the distinction between Vernacular and English schools. The Vernacular schools really constitute the Primary education of the country. The Department of Public Instruction attempted for some time to make a distinction between those English schools which confined their work to the schedules of the Code and those which also prepared pupils for such examinations as the Cambridge Local or the London University Matriculation, the latter being classed as High schools. But the distinction is no longer maintained by the Department, nor was it of any real value, for most of the so-called High schools were really of the same class as the elementary schools, and the main part of their work was carried on in accordance with schedules based closely on those of the earlier English Codes for elementary schools.

(B.) Vernacular Education.

2. The following table shows the numerical progress for the last five years in the case of Vernacular schools:—

Year.	Number of Government Schools.	Attendance.		Number of Aided Schools.	Attendance.	
		Boys.	Girls.		Boys.	Girls.
1902 ...	495	44,457	10,878	1,249	71,659	36,138
1903 ...	497	44,631	11,132	1,273	77,619	37,707
1904 ...	507	46,785	11,678	1,316	77,700	39,103
1905 ...	529	52,375	12,829	1,386	85,436	44,144
1906 ...	566	54,249	13,827	1,429	90,389	44,599

3. From this it appears that there were in 1906 altogether 1,995 Government or Aided schools, attended by 144,638 boys and 58,426 girls. These figures show an increase of 80 schools, of 6,827 boys, and 1,453 girls over the corresponding figures of 1905.

4. In addition to these, 31,327 children were reported to be receiving instruction in 1,785 Unaided schools, almost all of them Vernacular; the figures furnished by such schools cannot, however, be relied upon, and the education is often of very little value.

5. The total spent by Government on Vernacular education was Rs. 608,670, of which Rs. 259,242 was expended on Government schools and Rs. 349,428 on Aided schools. This gives the cost to Government of education of a child in a Government school as Rs. 3·81 or 5*s.* 1*d.* per annum, and in an Aided school as Rs. 2·58 or 3*s.* 5½*d.* per annum.

6. The above shows that there has been a fair rate of progress in the past five years, during which the number of children attending school has increased by, roughly, 25 per cent., but a good deal remains to be done in regard to the education (*a*) of girls, (*b*) of children within the larger towns, and (*c*) of children in certain sparsely populated districts.

7. As regards the first, the education of girls presents special difficulties in the East, and few Asiatic countries have accomplished so much as has been done in Ceylon; but many years must elapse before the whole Island is ready for anything like a complete measure of compulsory female education.

8. As regards the second, an Ordinance entitled the Town Schools Ordinance was passed in 1906, which gives to Municipalities and Local Boards power to enforce attendance and to provide additional schools where they are required. The Colombo Municipal Council is preparing to bring this Ordinance into force within the limits of Colombo, and it is hoped that other similar local bodies will shortly follow suit.

9. The recommendations of the Elementary Education Commission of 1905 have been embodied in an Ordinance "to make provision in Rural and Planting Districts for the Education of Children in the Vernacular Language," which provides for the appointment of District School Committees to prepare schemes for the establishment of Vernacular schools for the school divisions into which the Island is to be divided, to carry them out, when approved through the Village Committees, and to pass by-laws regarding attendance, course of instruction, &c. It is also provided that no religious instruction shall be imparted to or in the presence of children attending such schools if their parents object thereto.

(C.) English Schools.

10. In 1906 there were 226 English and Anglo-Vernacular schools attended by 33,300 pupils, of whom 27,067 were boys and 6,233 were girls. As compared with 1905, these figures show an increase of 5 schools and 1,329 pupils. In the majority of these schools the work is confined to the schedules of the Educational Code, but there are many in which the upper classes are prepared for the Cambridge Examinations, Senior and Junior, and a few in which the work of the most advanced students reaches a much higher level.

11. The following were the results of the Cambridge Local Examinations, for which 698 candidates presented themselves in 1906, viz., 265 for the Senior and 433 for the Junior:—

—	Candidates.		Honours.		Passes.	
	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.
Senior	230	35	14	4	87	23
Junior	362	71	16	1	171	35

12. The only Government institution devoted to higher education is the Royal College, at which in 1906 there were 331 pupils, with an average attendance of 292. The pupils in the upper part of the College are prepared for the Cambridge Local Examinations and for the special examination which is held for the English University Scholarship. The staff consists of 19 masters, of whom 5 hold English University degrees. The gross cost to Government in 1906 was Rs. 46,355·78, of which a sum of Rs. 20,705 was recovered in school fees.

13. The other institutions in which anything that can fairly be described as higher education is given are, with two exceptions, registered as Aided schools under the Code. The two exceptions are (1) the Jaffna College, which is supported entirely by the American Mission, and affiliated as a first grade college to the Calcutta University; and (2) the Church Missionary Society's Ladies' College in Colombo.

14. The encouragement offered by Government takes two forms: (*a*) grants, (*b*) scholarships.

(*a*) In Aided English schools grants for specific subjects as well as for work in the standards are paid on the results of the Government Examination in each school. Liberal grants are also paid for every pupil who obtains honours in the Cambridge Local Examinations or who passes the London University Matriculation Examination or Intermediate Examination in Arts. The total sum expended in grants to English schools was Rs. 144,869·74 in 1906.

(*b*) Two University Scholarships of £200 per annum for three years are now awarded on the results of the Intermediate Examinations of the University of London—one on the Examination in Arts, the other on the Examination in Science.

One scholarship of Rs. 240 per annum for three years is awarded annually to girls on the results of the Cambridge Senior Local Examination.

On the results of the Cambridge Junior Local Examination one scholarship of Rs. 240 per annum for three years and two of Rs. 120 per annum for two years are awarded annually to

boys, and two scholarships of Rs. 120 per annum for three years are awarded annually to girls.

The total sum expended in scholarships in 1906 was Rs. 16,414·81.

(D.) Training of Teachers.

15. In January, 1903, a Government Training College for English teachers was started. For many years previous to this there had been no provision for the training of English teachers either on the part of Government or on the part of managers of aided schools. The new institution is especially intended to meet the wants of the aided English schools, in many of which the teaching has been of a very inferior order. Twelve studentships of the annual value of Rs. 300 each are provided by Government. Two small vernacular training schools, which were carried on at Colombo and Kandy, are now combined with the new Training College, which thus has a vernacular as well as an English Department. To these were added in 1904 an Anglo-Vernacular class for the training of teachers employed in the Government Anglo-Vernacular schools. An English boys' school and and an Anglo-Vernacular boys' school are worked in the same premises, and serve as practising schools for the two Departments. Training schools for vernacular teachers are also carried on by most of the Ceylon Missionary bodies. These receive a liberal grant under the Code for Aided Schools.

(E.) Technical and Industrial Education; School Gardens.

16. Higher technical education is provided for by the Technical College, a Government institution established in 1893. In 1897 it was re-organised and its work largely extended. It is now the regular channel of admission of Ceylonese for the following Departments of Government: Public Works, Survey, Railway, Post and Telegraph; it contains Departments of Civil Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Telegraphy, Surveying and Levelling. In 1906 the number of students was 104, and the gross cost to Government was Rs. 59,829·28, of which Rs. 3,682·81 was recovered in fees and by the sale of stationery, instruments, &c. New buildings, including extensive laboratories, have been erected.

17. There are no Government Industrial Schools, but industrial education is supported by liberal grants. In 1906 the aided industrial schools, which are 38 in number, received grants amounting to Rs. 53,179·05. The number of pupils was 1,984, and the trades taught were as follows:—Dressmaking, 143; carpentry, 229; printing, 104; bookbinding, 144; shoemaking, 24; tailoring, 114; blacksmiths' work, 23; lacemaking, 866; embroidery, 305; gardening, 20; masonry, 12.

18. The most important of these schools is the Maggona Certified Industrial School, which is utilised by Government as a reformatory, and carried on by the Roman Catholic Mission. This institution has an estate of about 300 acres and excellent buildings, to the cost of which Government has contributed. At the end of 1906 the number of juvenile offenders receiving instruction in it was 154; the trades taught were carpentry, ironwork, masonry, bookbinding, and tailoring. An allowance is paid by Government for the maintenance of each juvenile offender; this is not included in the amount specified above as the grants paid for industrial schools. The total cost of the institution to Government in 1906 was Rs. 13,428·68.

19. Good work is also done by some of the other industrial schools, but it is doubtful whether in the case of those which draw their pupils from rural districts real benefit ensues. In Ceylon, where 88 per cent. of the population is rural, the technical and industrial education required for the main part of the population is one which will fit them for rural and agricultural life. An attempt is being made to supply this by the scheme for school gardens, which is being carried on in connection with Government schools. There are now 117 Government schools in which gardens are being carried on under the scheme. The seeds and implements are supplied by the Department, and the gardens are visited as often as possible by the Superintendent of School Gardens and his Assistant. It is hoped that in future this scheme will be considerably extended.

20. Needlework in the girls' schools is a no less important matter, and this has been an extremely weak subject in all schools, Government as well as aided, which have had not the personal supervision of a lady manager. The defective work has been in a great measure due to the want of competent inspection. The Government Inspectress visits as many schools as she can, and marks the work done in examination at all girls' and mixed schools throughout the island.

(F.) Estate Schools.

21. As regards Aided Estate schools, the figures continue to show progress; at the end of 1906 there were 90 Aided Estate schools, as against 78 at the end of 1905 and 58 at the end of 1904. The number of Estate schools actually examined for grant was 81, as compared with 66 in 1905.

22. As in the previous year, a form was circulated to collect information from planters. Returns were received from 920 estates, and showed a total number of 6,748 children receiving instruction in schools on the estates, of whom 6,082 were boys and 666 were girls. Besides these, 901 children were returned as attending schools not on the estates. There are 164 estates on which there are what may be called schools held either in

special bungalows or in rooms provided for the purpose by the estate. In 76 cases it was reported that instruction was being given in cooly lines.

23. The whole subject was dealt with exhaustively by the Elementary Education Commission in 1905. The Ordinance already referred to, and now under consideration in the Legislative Council, makes it the duty of the Superintendent of every estate to provide for the vernacular education of the children of his labourers between the age of six and ten, and to keep registers showing the attendance of such children; and in default of satisfactory provision by him, it provides that a suitable school may be erected and a teacher provided by Government at the expense of the estate.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

(A.) Hospitals.

During the year 1906, 68 hospitals and asylums were open. In the 35 civil and lying-in home hospitals there were 57,205 cases treated with 6,400 deaths, being 13,152 cases and 2,359 deaths more than in 1905. The daily average sick was 4,443·71. In the seven field hospitals there were 5,771 cases treated with 390 deaths, against 4,738 cases treated with 231 deaths during the previous year. The number treated in the three immigrant hospitals was 1,545 with 100 deaths, against 1,594 cases with 102 deaths in 1905. In the 20 district hospitals 20,467 cases were treated, against 16,469 in 1905. There were 4,315 deaths, against 2,466 in the preceding year.

The opening of land for rubber cultivation in the remoter parts of several Provinces is rendering the provision of fresh hospitals and dispensaries a matter of some urgency.

General Hospital, Colombo.—The total number of patients treated at this institution during the year was 17,115 with 2,044 deaths, against 13,044 cases and 1,234 deaths in the previous year. Of the total treated, 483 remained from the previous year and 16,632 were new admissions, 14,621 were discharged, and there remained 450 under treatment at the end of the year. The daily average sick was 632·31, and the percentage of deaths to total treated was 11·94. The institution consists of 25 wards and eight single rooms. The number of beds is 425.

In the paying section, which consists of 20 wards with 44 beds, the total number of patients treated was 630 with 75 deaths, against 511 cases and 34 deaths in 1905. The percentage of deaths to total treated was 11·9, against 6·7 in 1905.

De Soysa Lying-in Home.—The total number of patients treated at this institution during the year was 933, against

877 in 1905. The daily average sick was 21·35. The percentage of deaths to total treated was 2·14, against 1·48 in 1905.

In the Lying-in Home 30 pupil midwives received training in 1906, of whom 16 obtained certificates after passing a satisfactory examination.

A new scheme to train selected pupils from all Provinces has been adopted, with the hope of introducing European midwifery into the villages. Sixteen pupils were trained and sent out during the year.

Lady Havelock Hospital.—In this institution 933 patients were treated, against 1,030 in 1905; 348 were children. There were 86 operations performed, with four deaths.

Police Hospital, Colombo.—753 patients were treated in the Police Hospital, of whom three died, and 10 remained at the end of the year.

Victoria Memorial Eye Hospital.—507 cases were treated during the year.

Kanatta Infectious Diseases Hospital.—20 cases of infectious diseases remained from the previous year and 622 were admissions, making a total of 642 as against 915 in 1905. Of these, 592 were discharged cured, 25 died, and 25 remained. The death-rate was 5·02 per cent., against 2·73 per cent. in 1905.

Dispensaries.—502 dispensaries, including branch institutions and visiting stations, were in operation. Of these, 313 were civil, 46 district, and 143 estate. In the civil and district dispensaries there were treated 1,434,033 persons who paid 2,108,668 visits, against 1,222,790 persons who paid 1,849,544 visits in 1905.

(B.) Medical Institutions.

The De Soysa Bacteriological Institute.—The total number of specimens examined bacteriologically during the year was 1,720. Special investigations were made on cerebro-spinal meningitis, diphtheria, and dysentery. Researches were also made on the hæmatozoa of vertebrates in Ceylon by the Director of the Bacteriological Institute (Dr. Castellani) in conjunction with Dr. Willey, D.Sc., F.R.S. The water supply of Colombo is examined bacteriologically once in three months.

Medical College.—The College contains lecture halls, laboratories for chemical physiology, biology, and pathology, dissecting room, offices, photographic rooms, a Museum and Colonial Medical Library, and a separate building for lady students. Professors W. S. Templeton and C. H. Burgess have been appointed Lecturers in Physics and Chemistry. Considerable additions were made to the laboratories. There were 103 medical and 31 apothecary students at the end of the year.

Post-graduate Lectures.—For the fourth year in succession a course of instruction, lasting a fortnight, was held in

Colombo for medical officers at outstations to familiarise themselves with the most recent advances made in medicine, surgery, and bacteriology. Eleven medical officers attended in 1906.

(C.) Asylums.

Lunatic Asylum, Colombo.—The total number of patients treated in the asylum during 1906 was 731, against 708 in 1905. The daily average of patients was 553·45, against 560·39 in 1905.

In the House of Observation 172 persons were admitted, which with nine remaining from the previous year gives a total of 181. The accommodation has now been taxed to its utmost, and extension of the buildings is necessary.

The recovery rate was 17·37 per cent. The percentage for males was 17·49 and for females 17·16. The death-rate was 12·58 per cent. of the number treated, due principally to tubercular affections and brain diseases.

There are four houses of observation for suspected lunatics, at Colombo, Kandy, Galle, and Jaffna.

(D.) Poor-Houses.

There are no workhouses in Ceylon.

2. A hospital for pauper patients of the starved and aged classes and for indigent incurables, with sufficient accommodation for 150 persons, was established at Ragama in the old Boer Prisoners' Camp in May, 1906, chiefly to relieve the congestion in the pauper wards of the General Hospital, Colombo, which were seriously overcrowded.

3. In July a Commission was appointed to report upon the origin and condition of the large population of homeless vagrants infesting the town of Colombo, and to suggest means for their proper custody and control.

4. A census showed there were about 700 vagrants in Colombo, chiefly Tamil estate coolies who had lost their employment. Of these, 459 persons were examined, and 13 were found to be incapacitated or blind, 342 exhibited loathsome sores or disease, 13 were religious beggars, and 91 able-bodied.

5. In compliance with the Commission's suggestion, the Planters' Association have been invited to co-operate with Government as regards the turning off from estates of coolies incapacitated from work.

6. The Commission also favoured the establishment of a house of detention for vagrants, and a Bill dealing with the question is before the Legislative Council.

(E.) Reformatories.

As before stated, Maggona Industrial School is used as the Government Reformatory.

(F.) Savings Banks.

There are two Government institutions, and the business of both showed a satisfactory increase in 1906:—

(1) The Ceylon Savings Bank had a sum of Rs. 4,448,117 to the credit of 33,175 depositors on the 31st December, 1906, as against Rs. 4,239,805 to the credit of 32,344 depositors on the corresponding date of 1905. The amount of the Bank's invested funds was Rs. 4,765,024. Interest is allowed on deposits at the rates of 3 and 4 per cent.

(2) The progress of the Post Office Savings Bank was also well maintained. Depositors' accounts increased by 3,099 and deposits by Rs. 116,652, the figures at the end of the year being Rs. 1,897,822 to the credit of 66,949 depositors. Business is done at 158 offices, and the rate of interest is 2·40 per cent.

VI.—JUDICIAL.

(A.) Police.

The authorised strength of the Police Force on the 31st December, 1906, was 1 Inspector-General, 6 superintendents, 11 assistant superintendents, 20 inspectors, 22 sergeant-majors, 16 European sergeants, 18 European constables, 54 station house officers, 219 native sergeants, and 1,742 native constables. Seven members of the Civil Service are now seconded for duty with the police.

2. The total cost of the police for the year 1906 was Rs. 1,050,787, as against Rs. 823,227 in 1905.

3. During the year 662 recruits were enlisted, but as usual the demand was greater than the supply. On the 31st December the force was 25 short of the sanctioned strength.

4. In connection with a strike of carters in Colombo serious allegations of oppression and corruption were made against the police. A small Commission, appointed to inquire into the matter, reported at the end of October that the lower ranks of the police did systematically, though indirectly, receive illegal gratifications. The Commissioners were of opinion that additional supervision more efficiently applied would check the evil of extortion to a great extent, also that the tone of the force would be improved if all its members were compelled to live in barracks. They also advocated the importation of a few Sikhs as an experiment for such duties as regulating the traffic. The recommendations of the Commission are receiving consideration. Meanwhile, the Governor being of opinion that Colombo requires the strengthening of the police force by a proportion of European sergeants and constables, application

has been made for authority to employ an increased number of 34 English head constables and sergeants, and 50 constables.

A more careful system of recruiting has been recently adopted, which, it is hoped, will gradually improve the force.

5. It was found necessary during the year to establish forces of punitive police at Kirinde in the Southern Province, at Nungomuwa and Delgoda in the Western Province, and at Mirusuvil in the Northern Province.

6. By the end of the year regular police charged with the investigation and repression of serious crime in the villages, which had before been solely dealt with by the headmen, were established in the Western (24 stations) and Southern (24 stations) Provinces and in the Kurunegala District of the North-Western Province (10 stations). They have not been working long enough for a decided opinion to be formed as to the value of the experiment, but the results in the most criminal parts of the Southern Province, where they have been longest established, are reported to be most favourable.

7. Extended use of the Bertillon system of identification was made during the year, and measures were taken for the extension of the finger-print system.

(B.) Crime Statistics.

I.—*From Returns furnished by the Inspector-General of Police.*

There were 17,621 true cases of cognisable offences committed in 1906, *i.e.*, cases in which the magistrate believed offences had in fact been committed, with 11,224 convictions or commitments to higher courts, as against 16,831 true cases with 11,036 convictions or commitments in 1905, or an increase of 790 cases. The true cases and results for the last five years have been:—

Year.	True Cases.	Convictions or Committals.
1902	17,374	12,229
1903	16,769	11,492
1904	19,027	13,063
1905	16,831	11,036
1906	17,621	11,224

2. Of the 17,621 cases in 1906, 12,283 were under "Other Offences," in which are included all statutory offences, breaches of municipal and other bylaws, and minor offences, and 5,338 cases for offences which may be regarded as serious crime.

3. The following table shows the fluctuation in the number of cases of serious crime for the past five years:—

—	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.
Murder and homicide ...	146	134	144	170	186
Rape	22	31	20	23	30
Robbery	326	294	280	330	382
Burglary	1,433	1,481	1,716	1,869	2,107
Grievous hurt	447	436	408	448	481
Theft of cattle and prædial products.	1,185	1,215	1,377	1,623	1,915
Arson	156	206	190	230	229
Riot	16	21	8	4	8

4. In 1906, 235 cases were sent to the District Court and 12 cases to the Supreme Court under the Habitual Criminals Ordinance, showing an increase of 37 cases in the District Court and a decrease of seven in the Supreme Court as compared with 1905.

5. Of the 186 cases of murder and homicide, 156 cases were committed for trial, of which 154 were sent to the Supreme Court. In 102 cases the accused were convicted.

6. Out of 2,346 cases instituted under section 368 of the Ceylon Penal Code (theft of cattle), 390 were found to be false, and in 414 cases the committal of an offence was not established. Convictions were obtained in only 410 cases out of 1,705 pronounced to be true cases of theft of cattle and prædial produce.

7. As regards minor offences, convictions were obtained in 9,658 out of 12,283 cases. 131 cases were instituted for breach of quarantine regulations (for prevention of plague); there were 106 convictions. 504 cases were instituted for cruelty to animals, and in 501 cases convictions were secured.

II.—*From Returns furnished by the Solicitor-General.*

The number of cases instituted in the Police Courts and Municipal Magistrates' Courts in 1906 was 87,828. There were 1,122 cases of offences against the person less than the annual average for the period 1901-5; 3,503 cases of offences against property, exclusive of cattle stealing, more than the average for the same period; and 897 cases of cattle stealing above that average.

2. The proportion of persons tried by Police Courts per 100,000 inhabitants was 2,315.

3. The number of cases sent up for trial before the superior Courts in 1906 was 1,555, viz., 332 before the Supreme Court and 1,223 before the District Courts. Of the 332 cases before the Supreme Court, 6 were withdrawn and 26 were pending at the end of the year. Of the remaining 300, 226 ended in the

conviction of one or more of the accused, and 74 in the acquittal of all the accused. The 332 cases included 154 in which the accused were charged with murder. Of these, 1 was withdrawn and 10 were pending at the end of the year. Of the remaining 143 cases, 113 resulted in the conviction of one or more of the accused (49 on the capital charge and 64 of lesser offences), and 30 in the acquittal of all the accused.

4. Altogether 2,497 persons were committed for trial before the superior Courts. Of these, 62 were awaiting trial at the end of the year. Of the remaining 2,435, 1,343 were convicted and 1,092 were acquitted or discharged.

5. In the superior Courts, in cases in which the accused were indicted for murder, there were 144 convictions of individuals (61 of murder and 83 of lesser offences) to 53 acquittals; in cases for offences against the person there were 526 convictions of individuals to 270 acquittals, and in those for offences against property 526 convictions to 519 acquittals.

6. In the Gansabhawas or Village Tribunals, 33,392 civil and 54,674 criminal cases were disposed of during the year. In 139 civil and 165 criminal cases the Presidents' judgments were set aside by the Government Agent, and 11 civil and 8 criminal cases judgments were set aside on final appeal by the Governor in Executive Council.

(C.) Prisons.

There was an increase of 937 prisoners in the total number of admissions of convicted prisoners to the prisons in Ceylon during the year, excluding Road Ordinance defaulters, of whom there were 575 in 1906, as against 353 in 1905. The figures for the last five years are as follows:—

Year.	Number.
1902	6,369
1903	6,905
1904	6,805
1905	7,376
1906	8,313

2. Of the total admissions of convicted prisoners to prisons, the following figures give those from the superior Courts (Supreme and District Courts):—

Year.	Number.
1902	879
1903	923
1904	840
1905	1,054
1906	1,135

There was, therefore, an increase of 81, as compared with 1905, in the number of persons convicted of more serious offences.

3. There was also an increase in convictions for murder and manslaughter of 11. The numbers for the last five years are as follows:—

Year.	Number.
1902	81
1903	70
1904	90
1905	116
1906	127

4. The following table shows the number of men sentenced to death and the number of capital sentences carried out during the last five years:—

Year.	Sentenced to Death.	Hanged.
1902	43	30
1903	36	22
1904	33	23
1905	53	26
1906	54	26

Of the 54 sentenced to be hanged in 1906, 44 were Sinhalese, 9 Tamils, and 1 Bengalee; 23 out of the 54 sentences were confirmed, and the remaining 31 commuted. Four prisoners were hanged during 1906 who were sentenced in 1905, and one prisoner in 1907 who was sentenced in 1906. No prisoner from the Eastern Province was sentenced to death.

5. Two prisoners escaped from jail during the year, one of whom was recaptured.

6. The daily average of convicted prisoners in jail was 2,811, as against 2,521 in 1905. There was a somewhat large increase in the daily average of unconvicted prisoners in the jail as well as in the admissions of such prisoners. The total admissions during the year were 7,630, as against 6,764 in 1905.

7. The total number of deaths in jail was 118, as against 105 in 1905. There was no serious epidemic of any kind. The average daily sick-rate for the year was 134 as against 150 in 1905, a satisfactory decrease.

8. The number of punishments for prison offences inflicted on prisoners decreased from 2,504 in 1905 to 1,971 in 1906. The number of individuals punished also decreased from 2,141

in 1905 to 1,771 in 1906. Corporal punishments decreased from 137 in 1905 to 109 in 1906.

9. There was a decrease in the number of juveniles committed to prison, and an increase in the number of prisoners between 20 and 30. Nearly 50 per cent. of the persons convicted were between 20 and 30.

10. No resident Europeans were convicted in 1906, as against 3 and 3 in 1905 and 1904, respectively. Nine non-resident Europeans were convicted, as against 40 in 1905 and 23 in 1904.

11. The cost of maintaining each prisoner was Rs. 167, as compared with Rs. 180 in 1905.

12. The estimated value of remunerative labour contributed by prisoners was Rs. 262,773.

During the year under review "pingo" carrying, which constituted the labour for penal stage prisoners, that is, during their first three months of imprisonment, was entirely done away with, and husk-beating and stone-breaking, labours much disliked by the prisoners, were substituted. At Jaffna, to which jail habitual criminals are sent, the task for husk-beating was increased from 3½ to 5 lb. fibre per diem per man.

Industrial labour is being introduced into the larger jails as quickly as possible. In Welikada, coir door rugs, matting, rattan furniture, and boots are made, also the tin, zinc, and other utensils used in all jails. The whole of the clothing of the prisoners of the jails of the Convict Establishment and the officers' uniforms are also made by prisoners, and part of the laundry work of the hospitals is being assigned to them as an experiment. Repairs, alterations, and additions to jail buildings and officers' quarters in Colombo and other jails are performed by prison labour with materials supplied by the Public Works Department.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

(A.) Population.

The population enumerated at the Census (1st March, 1901) was 3,565,954, exclusive of the military, the shipping, and the South African prisoners of war. The natural increase by excess of births over deaths from that date to the end of the year 1906 amounted to 223,032, while the number of Indian immigrants exceeded the number of emigrants by 195,999. The population, estimated at the end of 1906, was accordingly 3,984,985, an increase, as compared with the population at the end of 1905, of 34,862 persons, and equal to a rate of ·88 per cent.

Birth and Death Rates.

The births registered during the year numbered 141,847, and were in the proportion of 37·4 per 1,000 persons living.

The registered deaths numbered 136,271, and were equal to a rate of 35·9 per 1,000 of the population. Compared with 1905, the birth-rate shows a decrease of 1·3 per mille and the death-rate an increase of 8·2 per mille. Compared with the average rates for the eight years 1898-1905, the birth-rate shows a decrease of 1·2 per mille and the death-rate an increase of 8·5 per mille.

(B.) Public Health.

The public health of the island during the year was not satisfactory, the death-rate being 13·16 against 9·92 in the previous year. Cholera occurred in every Province except the North-Western, the outbreak being most serious in the Province of Uva, where 549 cases occurred with 355 deaths. In all, there were 756 cases and 449 deaths. Small-pox occurred in every Province, excepting the North-Western and North-Central. The total cases were 287, with 69 deaths. The principal causes of deaths were fevers 2,372, diarrhœa and dysentery 4,641, meningitis 55, debility 805, bronchitis 67, pneumonia 668, phthisis 458, anæmia 77, ulcer 241, and old age 97. A serious epidemic of malarial fever began in April after the prolonged drought and lasted until August, and the resources of the hospitals were tried to the utmost. Additional assistance was recruited, and large quantities of quinine and other drugs were distributed free. Arrangements, too, were made for the regular administration of quinine by special distributors to school children, as well as to any villagers who cared to take it as a prophylactic during the bad seasons in the more malarial districts. The total number of cases of malarial fever treated in the various hospitals during the year was 17,252 with 2,206 deaths. A large number of deaths are returned as being due to malarial cachexia, viz., 2,000, out of 5,897 admitted for this disease.

Enteric Fever.—The number of cases treated was 615, with 165 deaths. The death-rate was 26·81 per cent. Of the total cases reported from the various stations, 464 with 128 deaths occurred in the Colombo hospitals, as against 362 with 94 deaths in 1905.

Dysentery.—At the various Government hospitals 4,788 cases of dysentery with 1,649 deaths were treated. The total number treated in 1905 was 2,914, with 805 deaths.

Chicken-pox.—There were 2,677 cases with 1 death, as against 4,426 cases with 1 death in 1905.

Leprosy.—There was a total of 317 cases of leprosy remaining at the Hendala Asylum on 1st January, 1906, and 174 cases were admitted during the year, giving a total of 491 treated during the year. Of these, 107 were discharged and 67 died. At Kalmunai 41 cases were treated, 17 of whom were discharged and 1 death. From the Kalmunai and Batticaloa Districts, Eastern Province, 41 cases were reported.

Anchylostomiasis.—The number of cases of this disease treated at the Government hospitals has increased during the year under review by 396. In 1905 the number of admissions was 2,657, in 1906 3,048. Originally this disease was confined to Malabar coolies on estates, who bring the disease from India. It is, therefore, being constantly introduced with the batches of coolies who arrive daily. It is reported by most of the medical officers, doing duty among the natives of the island living on the confines of estates, that the disease is spreading among them. Improved sanitary methods can alone combat this disease. The death-rate from this disease in 1906 to cases of the disease treated was 24·57 per cent.

Parangi.—There were 3,958 cases of this disease treated with 41 deaths, being 571 cases and 16 deaths in excess of the numbers for 1905. The disease is more rife where the necessities of life are most difficult to obtain. This disease is worst in the North-Western Province.

Vaccination.—During the year 148,965 subjects were vaccinated. 133,196 were primary vaccinations and 15,769 re-vaccinations. Of the former, 118,534 were successful and 13,096 unsuccessful, and in 7,566 subjects the result of the operation was not known, as they failed to present themselves for examination on the appointed days. The percentage of successful cases to total inspected was 89·99. Of the re-vaccinations, 8,396 were successful and 2,501 unsuccessful, and the result was not known in 4,512 cases, as the subjects failed to present themselves for inspection. The percentage of successful cases to total inspected was 77·04.

The following is a comparative statement of the principal diseases for the last five years:—

Year.	Cases.	Deaths.	Year.	Cases.	Deaths.
Cholera.			*Dysentery.*		
1902	179	116	1902	3,017	999
1903	46	23	1903	2,383	658
1904	7	4	1904	2,111	478
1905	—	—	1905	2,914	805
1906	756	449	1906	4,788	1,649
Smallpox.			*Enteric Fever.*		
1902	146	35	1902	243	63
1903	29	5	1903	358	71
1904	10	2	1904	341	70
1905	440	122	1905	362	94
1906	287	69	1906	615	165
Chickenpox.			*Leprosy.*		
1902	2,293	3	1902	483	48
1903	1,862	4	1903	526	92
1904	3,224	1	1904	532	68
1905	4,426	1	1905	632	78
1906	2,677	1	1906	570	73

Comparative Statement of the Principal Diseases—cont.

Year.	Cases.	Deaths	Year.	Cases.	Deaths.
Anchylostomiasis.			*Parangi*—cont.		
1902	1,609	257	1905	3,387	25
1903	1,775	272	1906	3,958	41
1904	1,937	286			
1905	2,810	517			
1906	3,206	788	*Malarial Fever.*		
			1902	6,513	115
Parangi.			1903	4,766	108
1902	3,434	10	1904	5,288	75
1903	3,254	10	1905	7,796	129
1904	3,501	16	1906	11,159	206

Plague.—The same precautions against the introduction of plague were continued as have been taken for many years past. No case of plague was brought to the island, but two vessels, on which there were suspicious cases of illness, were kept in strict quarantine.

(C) Sanitation.

The sanitation of large towns is in the hands of municipalities, and in smaller towns in the hands of Boards of Health. The general expense of scavenging, &c., is met from rates recovered locally, and loans are made occasionally to the local bodies for larger works of permanence, such as water supply, construction of drains, the cost of which they are unable to meet in a lump sum.

2. At present in the municipal towns the dry-earth closet system is in operation, the solid matter being collected nightly in carts for disposal at depôts outside the towns.

3. In the villages sanitation is enforced by the headmen, neglect of it being punished by the Village Committees.

4. As regards Colombo, the Mansergh Drainage Scheme, which provides for a water-carriage system for the sewage of the more densely populated parts of the city, made good progress during the year, a total length of 10½ miles of drains having been completed at a cost of Rs. 1,900,210. The estimate for the extended scheme to cover the area draining into the lake will bring the total cost of the work to Rs. 8,000,000.

5. There was an abnormal amount of sickness in Colombo in the early part of the year, and in April the death-rate rose to 40 per mille. Dr. Chalmers was deputed in June to examine and report upon the sanitary condition of the city, and he sent in an exhaustive report in November showing the thorough sanitation of the town to be a work of the most pressing necessity. His recommendations will receive the earnest attention of the Government and the Municipality.

6. The general sanitary condition of Kandy leaves considerable room for improvement. A drainage scheme has been considered, but the cost is at present prohibitive. The water supply is sufficient and of good quality. The conservancy has been much improved, and several cesspits in crowded parts of the town have been closed.

7. Galle is in a fairly sanitary condition. The water supply, however, is defective, and a new scheme is under consideration.

8. In the Local Board towns the general sanitary condition is fairly satisfactory, though there is still room for improvement in the way of drainage and water supply.

(D.) Climate.

There are few countries in the world which enjoy such a variety of climates as Ceylon. In the lowlands the climate is tropical, but in the hills it resembles that of Southern Europe. It is chiefly influenced by the two monsoons—the north-east, which prevails from November to February, and the south-west, which prevails from April to September.

2. The south-western parts are moist and temperate, and the hill regions cool and bracing. Together they constitute the "wet region," a tract with a rainfall of 60 inches or more during the two monsoons.

3. The remainder of the island is the dry region—an almost flat plain with a rainfall of under 60 inches.

4. The following table shows the average rainfall for the last thirty years, the rainfall in 1906, and the mean temperature at some of the chief stations:—

Rainfall and Temperature, 1906.

—	Average Rainfall.	Rainfall.		Mean Temperature.
	Inches.	Inches.	Days.	
Ratnapura ...	151·21	135·66	240	78·1°
Galle	91·16	104·08	185	79·7°
Nuwara Eliya ...	94·03	94·06	210	60 0°
Hakgala	90·97	92·17	168	60·3°
Kurunegala ...	81·65	75·29	156	80·4°
Kandy	81·52	75 01	170	76·1°
Jaffna	45·80	73 53	66	82·3°
Colombo	94 66	71·55	167	81·3°
Trincomalee ...	62·97	71·24	110	81·7°
Diyatalawa ...	62·89	63·60	174	67 6°
Anuradhapura ...	53·79	59·20	114	80·5°
Badulla	75·28	56·08	133	73·3°
Batticaloa... ...	59·04	50·19	108	82·1°
Puttalam	46·81	47·32	81	80·6°
Mannar	37·92	35·62	73	82·6°
Hambantota ...	37·51	27·38	86	80·9°

5. The mean daily range of temperature—*i.e.*, the mean of the daily differences between the maximum and minimum temperatures—was highest at Badulla, having been 19·1°, and lowest at Galle 10°. The differences recorded at Colombo and Kandy were 10·7° and 14·7° respectively.

6. The absolute range or difference between the highest and lowest temperature of air recorded during the year was greatest at Kurunegala and lowest at Colombo, having been 39·8° and 24·2° respectively. The absolute difference at Kandy was 37·8°.

7. The hottest station, taking the mean temperature of night and day of all the year round into account, was Mannar, 82·6°. The coolest was Nuwara Eliya, 60°. Colombo and Kandy were 81·3° and 76·1° respectively.

8. The drought experienced in 1905 continued for the first three quarters of 1906, and resulted in the failure of crops in parts of the Northern, Eastern, North-Central, and Uva Provinces. Relief work on roads and tanks was given to the distressed villagers, and in some cases advances of seed paddy were made when the rains rendered cultivation possible.

9. Severe rains fell in October, which resulted in landslips and floods. At Hatton 37·74 inches fell during the month, of which 23·65 inches fell between the 25th and the 28th. Considerable damage was done to the up-country railway line, and also to private properties flooded, especially in the neighbourhood of Colombo.

10. The highest recorded rainfall was at Ratnapura, 135·66 inches, which was 15½ inches below the average; the lowest at Mannar, 35·62 inches, or 2·30 inches below the average. The rainfall in Colombo was 23 inches below the average, and at Kandy 6½ inches.

11. The general direction of the wind is from the north-east from November to March and from the south-west from April to October. In Colombo the average force of the wind was 194 miles per diem, in Jaffna and Trincomalee 267 and 235 miles respectively, in Kurunegala only 28 miles, and in Kandy 43.

VIII.—POST AND TELEGRAPHS.

Three hundred and ninety-two post offices, of which 158 transacted money order and savings bank business, and 100 are telegraph offices also, were open in 1906. Ten new post offices were opened, and money order business was extended to two and telegraph business to five new offices during the year.

2. The revenue amounted to Rs. 1,249,005, and the expenditure to Rs. 1,455,164. Taking into consideration the value of official services rendered free, estimated at not less than

Rs. 350,000, which is not included in the revenue figures, the Department more than pays its expenses.

3. Of letters, post cards, and printed matter, 29¼ million articles passed through the post, being an increase of 2¾ millions over 1905. The increase in post cards, which had been the feature of the previous year, dropp d from 25 to 12¼ per cent.

4. 458,848 parcels of all kinds were dealt with in the post, being an increase of 44,645 over the previous year. The value-payable parcel from India, as in former years, shows the greatest proportional increase, and received an impetus from the trading by Indian shopkeepers on the coupon "Snowball" system. 82,435 inland and 69,278 Indian value-payable parcels passed through the post, and the sum of Rs. 851,055 was collected from the addressees, Rs. 364,157 being transmitted to senders in India, and the remainder, viz., Rs. 486,904, to senders in Ceylon.

5. 448,216 money orders to the value of 12½ million rupees were issued and paid during the year. Of this sum, inland business accounted for 7 millions and Indian to 4 millions nearly. The amount sent to India from Ceylon was Rs. 3,935,739. On the other hand, the sum received from the Straits Settlements and the Federated Malay States was Rs. 523,096, or double the amount in the year 1904.

6. The facilities of the British postal order system introduced in the previous year are being rapidly appreciated, no less than 6,727 orders of the value of £3,943 4*s.* 6*d.* having been sold at post offices in Ceylon in 1906.

7. Telegrams increased by 41,997, and reached a total of over three-quarters of a million. Foreign telegrams (other than those sent to India), the charge on which was reduced to 2*s.* per word in 1905, increased over 10 per cent.

There are 3,470 miles of telegraph wire connecting 100 postal-telegraph offices and 106 railway stations.

8. The only public telephone exchanges are in Colombo, where there are two, with a total of 188 subscribers. The calls on the exchange amounted to 448,994. Subscriptions amounted to Rs. 21,070.

An extensive scheme of reconstruction was begun, and rates to the public were reduced.

IX.—MILITARY EXPENDITURE.

The total expenditure of the year was Rs. 2,868,478, the Colonial contribution for regular troops (9½ per cent. on the revenue so long as that sum does not exceed three-fourths of the cost of the garrison for that year) amounting to Rs. 2,526,240, and the expenditure on volunteers to Rs. 285,987. The balance was for compensation in lieu of exemption from Customs duty and for military buildings.

2. The 2nd Battalion of the Worcestershire Regiment, which arrived in November, 1904, left Ceylon in December, and was replaced by the 75th Carnatic Infantry Regiment.

3. The evacuation of Trincomalee as a military station was continued during the year. The last troops left on 18th June, and the removal of the ordnance stores was completed a month or two later. The buildings are at present in charge of caretakers.

4. The strength of all arms of the Volunteer Force on 31st December, 1906, was 1,927, exclusive of 406 members of the Cadet Battalion of the Ceylon Light Infantry, and of these 1,652 or 86 per cent. were classed as efficient.

5. The following statement shows the strength and efficiency of each of the arms and also the attendance at the Annual Camp of Instruction:—

Corps.	Efficient.	Non-Efficient.	Strength on 31st December, 1906.			Attendance at Camp, 1906.		
			Officers.	Non-Commissioned Officers and Men.	Total.	Officers.	Non-Commissioned Officers and Men.	Total.
Permanent Staff ..	23	1	4	20	24	4	18	22
Artillery	101	58	8	151	159	4	75	79
Mounted Rifles	125	19	8	136	144	4	56	60
Ceylon Light Infantry	966	56	52	970	1,022	34	691	725
Ceylon Volunteer Medical Corps.	4	17	9	12	21	3	4	7
Ceylon Planters' Rifle Corps.	399	124	15	508	523	6	92	98
Band	34	—	—	34	34	—	34	34
	1,652	275	96	1,831	1,927	55	970	1,025
Cadet Battalion, Ceylon Light Infantry.	—	—	17	389	406	15	317	332
Total	1,652	275	163	2,220	2,333	70	1,287	1,357

6. The camp was held for the fourth time at Diyatalawa, and lasted from the 5th to 14th July. The attendance, owing to sickness and other causes, was not so large as in 1905, but good work was done.

7. Lieutenant-Colonel L. C. Koe, late Royal Garrison Regiment, was appointed Staff Officer to the Volunteer Force under the decentralization scheme, and assumed duties in June.

8. On the recommendation of the Colonial Defence Committee the designation of the Mounted Infantry was changed to Mounted Rifles in June. The corps is now armed with the new short Lee-Enfield rifle.

9. In the Planters' Rifle Corps a falling off occurred in numbers during the year. This must be partly ascribed to transfers of members to the Mounted Rifle Corps and partly to the fact that the corps was the outcome of a patriotic impulse during the Boer War, and planters are now unable, especially in view of the rubber boom, to make such sacrifice of time as they did when the patriotic feeling was at its height.

10. The strength of the Ceylon Volunteer Medical Corps fell from 67 to 21, chiefly owing to the resignation of 42 Medical Students on account of an imaginary grievance as to the date of an examination interfering with their attendance at camp.

11. The Ceylon Artillery Volunteers have increased by 30. They were inspected at gun drill on 8th October, 1906, by Sir John Owen, K.C.B., President of the War Office Commission on Colonial Defences.

12. The musketry returns for 1906 showed a marked improvement on the musketry efficiency of all corps.

13. The expenditure on Volunteers during 1906 amounted to Rs. 285,987, as against Rs. 244,000 in 1905.

X.—PUBLIC WORKS.

(A.) Public Works Department.

The total expenditure of the Public Works Department during the year under review was Rs. 5,258,978·20, classified as follows:—

—	Amount.	
	Rs.	c.
Personal Emoluments	558,897	33
Other Charges	83,010	42
Public Works Annually Recurrent	2,582.398	29
Public Works Extraordinary	1,901,588	67
Works chargeable to Loans, &c.	133,083	49
Total	5,258,978	20

2. The following tabular statement shows the expenditure on Public Works Annually Recurrent, Public Works Extraordinary, and those chargeable to loans and other funds for the last ten years:—

Year.	Recurrent.	Extraordinary.	Miscellaneous including Loans.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1897	1,726,669	1,838,650	—	3,565,319
1898	1,900,307	1,510,143	369,324	3,779,774
1899	2,040,684	1,707,119	1,250,125	4,997,928
1900	2,029,279	1,610,261	1,074,665	4,714,205
1901	2,112,905	1,348,032	666,028	4,126,965
1902	2,163,394	1,448,491	572,143	4,184,028
1903	2,240,086	1,339,699	1,275,968	4,855,753
1904	2,286,812	1,858,657	619,275	4,764,744
1905	2,324,805	1,595,612	370,431	4,290.848
1906	2,582,398	1,901,588	133,083	4,617,069

3. The mileage of the roads maintained by the Public Works Department increased by 8·44 miles of new roads and 10·86 miles of roads previously in charge of the District Committees and Local Boards, which were taken over by Government.

The total length maintained by the Public Works Department during the year was 3,784·25 miles, divided as follows:—

—	Miles.
Metalled	2,441·88
Track metalled	291·69
Gravelled	701·60
Natural tracks and bridle paths	349·08
Total	3,784·25

for the maintenance of which the estimated provision was Rs. 1,972,465.

The introduction of motor cars has considerably extended the use of the roads in the outlying parts of the Island for fast traffic, demanding a higher class of road than that previously required.

4. A sum of Rs. 650,699 was voted in the Estimates of 1906 for new works and buildings, Rs. 254,870 for alterations and additions to buildings, Rs. 238,118 for new roads, Rs. 424,037 for additions and improvements to roads, Rs. 262,978 for work on new bridges, and Rs. 191,480 for repair of bridges.

5. Among the important works under construction by the Public Works Department in 1906 were:—

—	Total Estimate.
	Rs.
Supreme Court Buildings, Colombo	350,000
New Public Works Offices, Colombo...	260,000
New Telephone Exchange, Fort, Colombo	75,000
New Block Paying Wards, General Hospital, Colombo ...	50,750
Cattle Quarantine Station, Dematagoda	28,600
Additions to Neboda Hospital	40,000
Medical Aid Hospital, Meenagala, Dolosbage	31,000
Medical Aid Hospital, Dikoya	137,000
New Jetty, Batticaloa	38,500
Police Station and Barracks, Batticaloa	57,500
New Police Station and Barracks, Anuradhapura	34,900
Hotel, Anuradhapura	60,000
Improvements, Nagoda-Matugama road	72,750
Brookside-High Forest road	113,000
Paranthan-Karachchi road	241,700
South Coast road extension, Eastern Province	53,500
Bibile-Medagama-Muppane road	40,000
Improvements, Customs road, Colombo	150,000
Improvements, Muppane-Pottuvil road	115,000
Improvements, Kurunegala-Galagedara road	60,000
Improvements, Kekirawa to Talawa road	109,200
Peradeniya new bridge...	160,000
Ambalantota new bridge	66,795
Matara new bridge	76,883
Bandarawela water supply	60,000

The new Peradeniya bridge was completed and opened by the Governor in September.

5. The question of linking up existing roads, so as to connect districts now separated, is receiving the attention of the Government, the heavy weather which occurred at the end of October with its attendant floods and landslips having demonstrated the importance of such connections.

(B.) Colombo Harbour Works.

Satisfactory progress was made with the Colombo Harbour Extension Works. The amount spent during the year was Rs. 955,728·90, bringing the total expenditure on the present works up to Rs. 17,900,989·36, the total expenditure since the commencement of the South-West Breakwater in 1873 being Rs. 36,253,663·58.

New Breakwaters.

The North-East and North-West Breakwaters we completed at the end of 1906.

Coal Depôt.

The Coal Depôt was completed in December, 1906.

Graving Dock.

The Graving Dock was completed in October, and the first vessel to enter—the "Monkseaton"—was docked on 31st October.

There still remains the North Guide Pier to be constructed. It is to run parallel to the Dock for a distance of 800 feet into the harbour. It will probably be completed during 1908.

The necessary workshops in connection with the Dock have not yet been put in hand. Tenders have been called for from local firms for the lease of land for the workshops, and are still under consideration.

Wet Dock.

The idea of excavating a Wet Dock at Mutwal has been abandoned for the present, as there is no certainty of such an increase in the business of the port in the near future as would justify the enormous outlay required, and the existing accommodation is ample for present requirements.

Patent Slip.

The Patent Slip was used by 27 vessels, and produced a revenue of Rs. 38,044, the expenditure being Rs. 13,817·83.

Dredging.

The scheme of dredging to give a depth of 30 feet at low water was completed at the end of 1905, and the dredger

"Triton" was disposed of in the latter half of 1906. The "Sir John Coode" has been retained for the purpose of maintenance and for any further dredging that may be decided upon. During the greater part of 1906 she was engaged in clearing the channel forming the entrance to the Dock. The total sum expended on dredging during the year amounted to Rs. 142,190·77.

New Arm.

An estimate amounting to Rs. 6,600,000 was sanctioned for extending the South-West Breakwater, so as to protect the northern area from the heavy seas that sweep in during the South-West Monsoon, rendering that portion of the harbour practically useless for the loading and discharge of cargo in heavy weather, and preventing the use of the new coaling jetties at such times.

The plant is being overhauled and renewed, and the concrete blocks for next season's work are being cast. The first block will be set probably in November, 1907, and the work is expected to extend over some six or seven years.

(C.) Railway.

The mileage open at the end of 1906 was 562⅛ miles. Two new stations were opened during the year, Kotte road and Homagama, on the Kelani Valley section of the line.

2. The receipts for the year amounted to Rs. 10,103,595, being Rs. 412,942 in excess of the preceding year, to which goods traffic contributed about two-thirds, viz., Rs. 241,766. The other increases were Rs. 102,460 on receipts from ordinary passengers, Rs. 9,053 from season tickets, Rs. 27,902 from other coaching traffic, and Rs. 31,760 from miscellaneous receipts.

3. The increases on goods traffic were principally on rice 8,015 tons, plumbago 5,292 tons, manure 3,307 tons, ordinary 3rd class goods (principally imported) 4,171 tons, and ordinary 4th class local products 2,272 tons.

4. Expenditure.—During the last ten years the outlay on new works and additional rolling stock paid for out of revenue has been included as part of the working expenses of the Railway, but it has now been decided that the more correct way of dealing with such expenditure is to add it to the capital cost of the Railway and to exclude it from the working expenses.

5. The actual working expenses for 1906 (excluding expenditure on new works, &c.) were Rs. 5,233,269, as compared with Rs. 4,766,872 in 1905. Of the increase of Rs. 466,397, about one-quarter is in personal emoluments due to the increases granted to the staff under the revised salary scheme. In other charges the enhanced expenditure is partly accounted for by the ordinary requirements of the larger volume of traffic dealt

with, and partly to the heavy additional outlay incurred in connection with the several serious slips and washaways caused by abnormal monsoon rains.

6. The result of the year's working was as follows:—

——	Amount.
	Rs.
Receipts	10,103,595
Working expenses	5,233,269
Profit...	4,870,326

Of this profit, the sum of Rs. 842,701 was expended in providing additional accommodation, both station and rolling stock, increased safety appliances, &c.

7. The total capital cost of the Railway, including additional accommodation provided, up to the 31st December, 1906, amounts to Rs. 82,021,563, made up as under:—

——	Amount.
	Rs.
Cost to 31st December, 1905	76 536,062
Expended out of revenue on new works and additional rolling stock from 1897 to 1905 inclusive.	3,895 136
Expended on new works, &c., 1906	842,701
Expended from surplus funds on Kadugannawa Incline deviations.	39 763
Expended on Loan Account on station improvements, &c. ...	707,901
Total	82,021,563

The profit on the capital cost of the Railway, including additional accommodation, to the 31st December, 1906, was therefore 5·94 per cent. The capital outstanding on loans on 1st January, 1906, was Rs. 39,341,626.

8. General Remarks.—The works connected with the deviation on the Kadugannawa Incline were completed, and the second new tunnel was brought into use in August, 1906. The total expenditure on this account during the year was Rs. 39,763.

Good progress was made with the Stations Extension work at Maradana, the total expenditure being Rs. 569,571.

9. The question of increasing the supply of rolling stock for the Railway to a satisfactory level received attention during 1906, and a large addition to the goods stock will be carried out. The new high-capacity wagons, which were obtained from England for coal and firewood traffic, proved so satisfactory that it was decided to order a further supply in 1907.

These wagons carry a high tonnage with a comparatively low tare.

A scheme for considerable additions to the passenger stock in the course of the next two or three years was sanctioned, whilst steps were taken to replace certain old and obsolete engines by new ones of a modern and powerful type.

It is anticipated that in future bogies and under-frames for carriages will be constructed in the Railway workshops, thus not only saving money, but avoiding the serious delays that have taken place in obtaining these materials from home.

10. Two serious accidents resulted from the heavy north-east monsoon rains, one on 27th October, 1906, near Hatton, where a subsidence of the line derailed and capsized the engine and three bogie coaches of a down train, killing 11 and injuring 13.

The other occurred between Killinochchi and Mankulam on the Northern Line on 13th November, 1906, where a washaway caused derailment of the up through train from Colombo, telescoping a first class compartment and causing injury to eight persons, two of whom have since died.

11. Great difficulty was experienced in working the traffic owing to several other serious slips, one at Wangi-oya, between Nanu-oya and Watagoda, causing a lot of trouble and necessitating the partial closing of the line for several days. As a result of a thorough inspection of the line after the slips, it was found necessary to sanction estimates amounting to Rs. 344,490 for culverts and other improvements on the Up-country Line and Rs. 107,800 on the Northern Line.

Railway Extension.

Four projects for railway extension received attention during the year:—

(1) The construction of a branch line from Ragama to Negombo, at an estimated cost of Rs. 1,500,000, was sanctioned on general considerations towards the end of the year; the cost to be met from the surplus balances of the Colony.

(2) An extension of the Kelani Valley Line from Avisawella to Ratnapura, estimated to cost Rs. 2,800,000, was pressed forward by the planting community and recommended to the Secretary of State by the local Government, as no doubts were entertained of its financial success. The Secretary of State, however, objected to increasing the burden of the Colony's debt, and the matter is still under correspondence.

(3) Another extension desired by the local planting community was that from Bandarawela to Passara. After a flying survey Mr. Oliver made a rough estimate of the cost of a line on the Kelani Valley type at Rs. 6,000,000. A detailed engineering survey has been approved, and the question

whether the line will pay to make will be decided when the estimate is received.

(4) The suggestion that a branch line should be constructed at a roughly estimated cost of Rs. 2,800,000 from the Northern Line to Mannar to establish through connection with India by means of a steam ferry to Paumben, to which the South Indian Railway is to be extended, was favourably received locally, and the matter is under correspondence with the Secretary of State.

(D.) Irrigation.

The following statement shows the amount expended on the construction of new works and the maintenance of existing works in each of the last ten years:—

Year.	Construction.		Maintenance.	
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
1897 ...	178,810	77	62,940	72
1898 ...	189,989	10	63,802	47
1899 ...	213,606	90	69,881	58
1900 ...	297,375	30	74,556	16
1901 ...	487,768	12	72,912	43
1902 ...	483,102	71	76,806	10
1903 ...	494,364	11	82,699	3
1904 ...	668,377	56	88,081	10
1905 ...	612,129	0	89,464	35
1906 ...	481,629	73	83,372	36
Total ...	4,107,153	30	764,516	30

2. The expenditure on construction in 1906 was mostly on the following works:—

—	Total Estimate.
	Rs.
The Karachchi Scheme, Northern Province	1,105,714
The Unichchai Scheme, Eastern Province	684,677
The Pattipolai-aru Scheme, Eastern Province... ...	429,436
The Nachchaduwa Scheme, North-Central Province...	456,735

3. A sum of Rs. 70,000 was also provided on account of the Kirinde-oya scheme (Southern Province), Rs. 30,000 for the Allai supply channel (Eastern Province), Rs. 40,000 for the Nuwarawewa scheme (North-Central Province).

4. Over 2,000 acres of new land were opened for irrigation in 1906, of which over 1,400 were in the North-Central Province.

5. The policy which the Governor has adopted for the past two years is that of completing by the construction of main

channels of distribution all works under restoration before entering upon new works. There are ten large works being now so dealt with.

6. Ordinance No. 16 of 1906 was passed during the year consolidating the three existing Irrigation Ordinances. It abolished the system under which the administration of the funds devoted to irrigation was vested in a Central Irrigation Board, and provided for a revised procedure with regard to the construction and maintenance of irrigation works.

XI.—GENERAL

Public Service.

The year under review is the third year of the Administration of Sir Henry Arthur Blake, G.C.M.G.

2. The Colonial Service sustained heavy losses by death during the year. The Lieutenant-Governor, Sir Alexander Ashmore, K.C.M.G., died on 7th December after an operation for appendicitis; Mr. Herbert Wace, C.M.G., Acting Colonial Secretary, on 28th May; and Mr. G. J. A. Skeen, the Government Printer, after thirty-seven years' service, on 10th July.

3. During the absence of Sir Alexander Ashmore on leave between April and August the Hon. Mr. H. Wace, C.M.G., acted as Colonial Secretary until his death, and thereafter the Hon. Mr. H. L. Crawford, who received the honour of a Companionship of the Order of Saint Michael and Saint George in June. Since the death of Sir Alexander Ashmore the Hon. Mr. G. M. Fowler, C.M.G., has been acting as Colonial Secretary.

4. The Chief Justice, Sir C. P. Layard, retired in March, and was succeeded by Sir J. T. Hutchinson in October, the Attorney-General, the Hon. Mr. A. G. Lascelles, K.C., having acted as Chief Justice in the meanwhile.

5. Mr. F. R. Ellis, C.M.G., Auditor-General; Mr. H. L. Moysey, I.S.O., Postmaster-General; Mr. P. Ramanathan, K.C., C.M.G., Solicitor-General; Mr. J. H. de Saram, C.M.G., District Judge, Kandy; and Mr. Eardley Wilmot, retired from the Service during the year.

6. Mr. W. S. Christoffelsz, Councils Clerk of the Secretariat, was appointed a Member of the Imperial Service Order in recognition of his forty years' meritorious service.

Miscellaneous.

7. Ceylon received the honour of a short visit from His Royal Highness Prince Arthur of Connaught in January on his way to Japan. His Royal Highness paid a flying visit to Kandy,

and was received with their usual loyalty by the Kandyan Chiefs.

8. Her Highness Princess Louise Augusta of Schleswig-Holstein again made a prolonged visit to the Island, and during her stay laid the foundation stone of a hospital to be built by private beneficence at Moratuwa. Her Highness also presented new equipment and fittings for the maternity ward opened in the Kandy Hospital by Her Highness in February last.

9. The insanitary condition of the Colombo lake continued to occupy attention. The Committee appointed to consider alternative schemes in regard to it reported that the most satisfactory means of dealing with it would be to fill it in and provide canals for boat traffic to the Harbour. The cost was estimated at Rs. 3,816,000, and they anticipated that returns would probably be sufficient to pay 3½ per cent. upon this amount.

Further inquiries have been pursued as to the possibility of flushing out the lake occasionally, and it is hoped that with the extension of the Drainage Works to include the area at present draining into the lake and with improved dredging it may be possible to retain the lake in a fairly pure condition. It is considered that to fill it in would prejudically affect the crowded Pettah, to which the sea breezes across the lake have at present free access, and would also destroy one of the beauties of Colombo.

10. The question of floods prevention, especially in the neighbourhood of Colombo, was again brought into prominence by the floods consequent on the abnormal rains in October, and a Committee was appointed in December to consider whether the benefit to be anticipated from the completion of any of the works recommended in the past, but not pursued owing to the largeness of the expenditure involved, would be such as to justify the cost or a proportion of it being met from public funds, especially in view of the fact that a large part of the area affected is within Municipal Council limits.

11. A strike of the carters of Colombo, as a protest against an obnoxious Municipal by-law prohibiting them from sitting on the poles of their carts when driving, occurred in August, and lasted from the 11th to the 16th, causing considerable dislocation in trade.

12. A fire occurred at the premises of the Asiatic Petroleum Company adjoining the Harbour at Colombo on 5th September, and 408,100 gallons of oil were consumed. Fortunately, the tank having been well constructed, no oil escaped from it, and the only damage caused in the neighbourhood was by the heat. A similar tank containing liquid fuel situated within 25 feet of it was saved by the Fire Brigade, which pumped a continuous stream of water upon it.

Condition of the People.

13. No very marked improvement is noticeable in the social or moral condition of the people, and the spread of education has as yet had little perceptible result either in raising the moral tone or in decreasing crime.

14. The following is an extract from a report by the Government Agent of the Northern Province, with which railway communication was opened in 1905. The inhabitants are Tamils:—

"There are 406 schools in the Jaffna District. One of the chief results of the spread of education is that the better educated classes are leaving the country for the town. An educated man no longer lives upon or cultivates his land: he either leases it or works it with hired labour, while he himself enters Government service or becomes a clerk in a mercantile firm. It is part of the same tendency which causes many to leave the Jaffna District for posts in Colombo, on tea estates, and in the Straits Settlements. The spread of education among all classes has considerably modified society, for caste and family are no longer the only factors in social position and influence. In effect the Jaffna District is at present in a transition stage, the old system of society and manners has almost disappeared, while education has not yet produced anything which can be said to have taken its place."

15. The following extract from a report of the Assistant Government Agent of Matara regarding the low-country Sinhalese is also typical:—

"The general condition of the district is fairly good, but the majority of the people are quite without capital or continuous occupation. The actual margin between their normal condition and want is exceedingly small, but an indulgent climate and a habit of meeting small necessities by borrowing from neighbours prevents this margin from being transgressed.

"The social condition of the people is transitional and somewhat hybrid. The well-to-do tend towards the civilization of the West, to which however they never entirely assimilate themselves; the poor are probably but little changed socially from what they were a generation ago. There is perhaps a certain loss of primitiveness unaccompanied by any very valuable development in other respects.

"Morally the people excel in the softer virtues, but are deficient in those hardier and sterner qualities which form the foundations of Western societies."

F. J. Smith,

Assistant Colonial Secretary.

Colombo, May 10th, 1907.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

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No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
495	Turks and Caicos Islands	1905
496	Bahamas	1905–1906
497	Barbados	"
498	Malta	1905
499	British Central Africa Protectorate	1905–1906
500	Colonial Survey Committee	"
501	Grenada	1905
502	Straits Settlements	"
503	Gibraltar	"
504	Trinidad and Tobago	1905–1906
505	St. Lucia	1905
506	Mauritius	"
507	Southern Nigeria (Lagos)	"
508	Somaliland	1905–1906
509	Fiji	1905
510	St. Vincent	1905–1906
511	Sierra Leone	1905
512	Southern Nigeria	"
513	Basutoland	1905–1906
514	British Guiana	"
515	British Honduras	1905
516	Northern Nigeria	1905–1906
517	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
518	Leeward Islands	"
519	East Africa Protectorate	"
520	Seychelles	1906
521	Hong Kong	"
522	Falkland Islands	"
523	Ashanti	"
524	Jamaica	1905–1906
525	Uganda	"
526	St. Helena	1906

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
32	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey.
33	Southern Nigeria	Do.
34	Montserrat	Agricultural Industry.
35	Antigua and St. Kitts-Nevis ...	Sugar.
36	West Indies	Work of Imperial Department of Agriculture.
37	Ceylon	Mineral Survey, 1904–5.
38	St. Helena	Agriculture.
39	Jamaica	Cayman Islands.
40	Northern Nigeria	Taxation of Natives.
41	East Africa Protectorate ...	Report on Kenia Forests.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 561.

CEYLON.

REPORT FOR 1907.

(For Report for 1906, *see* No. 527.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty
June, 1908.

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No. 561.

CEYLON.

(For Report for 1906, *see* No. 527.)

THE GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

The Queen's Cottage, Nuwara Eliya,
Ceylon, 25th April, 1908.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to enclose, for Your Lordship's information, the usual report on the Ceylon Blue Book of 1907, prepared by the Second Assistant Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.,

HENRY MCCALLUM,
Governor, &c.

The Right Honourable,
The Earl of Elgin and Kincardine,
K.G., G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E.,
&c., &c.

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REPORT ON THE CEYLON BLUE BOOK OF 1907.

I.—FINANCIAL.

(A.) General Revenue and Expenditure.

Revenue.

The revenue in 1907 amounted to Rs. 36,573,825, which was Rs. 2,737,825 more than the estimate, Rs. 1,543,164 more than the revenue of 1906, and Rs. 3,982,303 more than the expenditure.

2. The following table shows the rapid growth of the Ceylon revenue during the last five years:—

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Excess of Revenue as compared with previous year.	Surplus of Revenue over Expenditure.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1903	29,423,308	26,714,828	988,150	2,708,480
1904	30,846,694	32,019,393	1,423,386	1,172,699*
1905	34,395,336	29,736,899	3,548,642	4,658,437
1906	35,030,661	32,644,215	635,325	2,386,446
1907	36,573,825	32,591,522	1,543,164	3,982,303

* Deficit.

3. It is worthy of note that the high figure at which the revenue stood in 1907 was not due to any windfall such as the pearl fishery which swelled the revenue of 1905 by Rs. 2,600,000, while the revenue from land sales was Rs. 700,000 less than in 1906, the year of the "rubber boom." The figure for 1907 therefore represents the present revenue-producing capacity of the Island during a year of general prosperity somewhat more fairly than the figures of the previous two years.

4. The surplus fund of the Colony on December 31st, 1907, amounted to nearly Rs. 16,000,000. The greater part of this sum has, however, been advanced to meet expenditure on certain large public works which are really chargeable to the loan account of the Colony, *e.g.*, Harbour Works, completion of the 1899 Railway Extension programme, Colombo Railway Extensions scheme, duplication of Colombo water main, and Irrigation. Some Rs. 3,000,000 has also been spent on behalf

of the Colombo Municipality on the Colombo Drainage Works. The succession of large surpluses has thus fortunately obviated the necessity of the Colony borrowing while the money market was in an unsettled state. When the next loan is raised these advances will be set free, and with the sanction of the Secretary of State it is proposed then to devote a large portion of this surplus to certain public works, which, though urgently required, are not of that directly remunerative character which would justify their being constructed out of borrowed money.

5. The following is a comparative statement showing the actual revenue collected in 1906 and 1907:—

—	Revenue of 1906.	Revenue of 1907.	Nett Increase.	Nett Decrease.
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
1. Customs	8,358,542 10	9,189,922 57	831,380 47	—
2. Port, Harbour, Wharf, and Lighthouse Dues.	2,086,793 30	2,135,632 39	48,839 9	—
3. Licences, Excise, and Internal Revenue not otherwise classified.	7,602,012 96	7,959,763 73	357,750 77	—
4. Fees of Court or Office, Payment for Specific Services, and Reimbursements in aid.	1,421,061 69	1,543,287 83	122,226 14	—
5. Post and Telegraphs	1,237,790 91	1,341,193 92	103,403 1	—
6. Government Railway	10,092,928 31	10,741,008 19	648,079 88	—
7. Rent of Government Property ..	—	—	—	—
8. Interest	580,737 87	731,501 30	150,763 43	—
9. Miscellaneous Receipts	440,019 55	531,012 63	90,993 23	—
10. Sale of Government Property ..	—	—	—	—
11. Land Revenue (exclusive of Land Sales)	594,288 48	486,431 6	—	107,857 42
12. Land Sales..	2,616,485 95	1,914,071 27	—	702,414 68
Total	35,030,660 92	36,573,824 89	1,543,163 97	—

6. It will be noticed that there was a consistent advance under every head except Land Revenue and Land Sales. The revenue from the latter source was, however, Rs. 574,000 over the estimate, the demand for land in 1906 being exceptional.

Expenditure.

7. The ordinary expenditure of 1907 amounted to Rs. 32,591,522, or Rs. 1,782,767 less than the estimated expenditure and Rs. 52,693 less than the actual expenditure of 1906.

8. The savings on the estimate were chiefly under Military Expenditure (Rs. 970,000), due to the substitution of a native for a European regiment, and Public Works Extraordinary (Rs. 600,000). The staff of the Public Works Department has not been increased for many years, and its present spending power is evidently not capable of much further expansion without special and temporary arrangements.

9. The following is a comparative statement of expenditure for 1906 and 1907:—

Heads of Service.	1906.	1907.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
1. Public Debt	3,649,732 25	3,651,063 5	2,330 80	—
2. Military Expenditure	2,868,478 40	1,601,310 41	—	1,267,167 99
3. Pensions	1,412,571 91	1,492,652 47	80,080 56	—
4. Ecclesiastical	9,309 66	8,309 71	—	999 95
5. Exchange	143,267 58	81,628 74	—	61,638 84
6. His Excellency the Governor ..	134,217 9	179,772 46	45,555 37	—
7. Civil Service	800,655 79	813,986 8	13,330 29	—
8. Secretariat	347,521 34	324,018 95	—	23,502 39
8a. Controller of Revenue	—	5,781 45	5,781 45	—
9. Audit Office	62,655 63	69,082 91	6,427 28	—
10. Treasury	78,084 55	84,077 49	5,992 94	—
11. Provincial Administration	1,021,052 64	1,015,782 86	—	5,269 78
12. Settlement Officer under Waste Lands Ordinance.	104,837 8	96,887 2	—	7,950 6
13. Survey Department	825,201 52	902,376 66	77,175 14	—
14. Government Stores	90,425 42	71,717 26	—	18,708 16
15. Immigration	52,937 5	79,494 84	26,557 79	—
16. Quarantine	38,678 11	31,941 74	—	6,736 37
17. Customs	160,147 20	153,592 45	—	6,554 75
18. Post Office and Telegraphs.. ..	1,455,164 54	1,521,502 89	66,338 35	—
19. Forest Department	276,524 15	280,689 31	4,165 16	—
20. Railway Department	5,102,378 37	5,374,562 23	272,183 86	—
21. Port and Marine, Colombo	398,874 8	479,501 48	80,627 40	—
22. Port and Marine other than Colombo.	43,246 2	38,557 62	—	4,688 40
23. Legal Departments—				
Supreme Court	164,508 52	180,702 96	16,194 44	—
Attorney-General	74,649 86	80,598 77	5,948 91	—
Solicitor-General	13,924 63	13,639 13	—	285 50
District Courts	180,906 36	179,629 12	—	1,277 24
Courts of Requests and Police Courts.	138,183 11	139,832 27	1,649 16	—
Registration of Lands	108,956 87	113,576 51	4,619 64	—
Registration of Marriages, Births, and Deaths.	135,591 75	128,134 1	—	7,457 74
Fiscals	261,417 53	285,150 44	23,732 91	—
24. Police Department	993,046 14	1,066,758 57	73,712 43	—
25. Prisons Department	540,500 8	590,272 54	49,772 46	—
26. Medical Department	2,018,468 10	2,198,889 43	180,421 33	—
27. Education	1,071,309 5	1,297,259 23	225,950 18	—
28. Botanic Gardens	131,513 2	128,068 11	—	3,444 91
29. Colombo Museum	28,187 70	36,574 92	2,387 22	—
30 Archæological Commissioner ..	64,579 48	70,027 20	5,447 72	—
31. Veterinary Department	18,012 73	20,299 57	2,286 84	—
32. Board of Agriculture..	30,743 83	30,531 25	—	212 58
33. Mineralogical Survey..	24,389 10	20,277 68	—	4,111 42
33a. Marine Biological Department ..	5,061 82	—	—	5,061 82
34. Inspector of Mines	10,395 7	11,733 85	1,338 78	—
35. Inspector of Factories	4,000 0	4,000 0	—	—
36. Miscellaneous Services	777,450 39	629,028 6	—	148,422 33
37. Public Works Department	563,882 96	600,563 12	36,680 16	—
38. Irrigation Department	277,983 52	304,783 3	26,799 51	—
39. Consulting Electrical Engineer ..	14,190 37	8,968 14	—	5,222 23
40. Public Works Annually Recurrent	2,325,602 27	2,396,945 69	71,343 42	—
41. Irrigation Annually Recurrent ..	164,268 57	181,763 56	17,494 99	—
42. Public Works Extraordinary ..	1,913,542 62	2,008,381 0	94,838 38	—
43. Irrigation Extraordinary	196,171 87	155,209 10	—	40,962 77
44. Railway Department New Construction	964,034 52	1,357,634 45	393,599 93	—
Increase of Salaries	353,782 66	—	—	353,782 66
Total Expenditure chargeable to General Revenue	32,644,214 88	32,591,521 79	1,920,764 80	1,973,457 89
45. Public Works Extraordinary charged to Revenue, pending raising of Loan :—				
Duplication of Water Main ..	1,503 3	—	—	1,503 3
Harbour Construction	944,763 34	1,580,627 23	635,863 89	—
Railway Construction	138,329 91	137,073 44	—	1,256 47
Irrigation Construction.. ..	196,171 86	155,209 11	—	40,962 75
Station Extensions .. .	569,570 98	737,257 92	167,686 94	—
Passara Railway Survey ..	—	47,762 80	47,762 80	—
Ratnapura Railway Survey ..	—	2,852 27	2,852 27	—
Mannar Railway Survey ..	—	407 13	407 13	—
	1,850,339 12	2,661,189 90	854,573 3	43,722 25
Grand Total	34,494,554 0	35,252,711 69	2,775,337 83	2,017,180 14
		Deduct Decrease ..	2,017,180 14	
		Nett Increase ..	758,157 69	

10. Perhaps the most significant feature in the above statement is the large increase of over 20 per cent. in the expenditure on education. The decrease under Military Expenditure has already been explained. The increase of expenditure on Railway New Construction is due to the fact that the Negombo railway, which was sanctioned at the end of 1906, is being built out of revenue.

(B.) Assets and Liabilities.

11.—(i.) The assets of the Colony on December 31st, 1907, were Rs. 22,928,172, and the liabilities Rs. 16,079,870, the assets thus exceeding the liabilities by Rs. 6,848,302. Further, a sum of Rs. 9,121,926 had been advanced from surplus balances for Harbour, Railway, and Irrigation expenditure, which will ultimately be charged to loan.

(ii.) Of the assets, a sum of—

Rs. 10,588,054 was in cash in the hands of the Treasurer, Government Agents, and the Crown Agents;
Rs. 5,209,160 in investments;
Rs. 3,015,036 advanced for the Colombo Drainage Works;
Rs. 1,835,975 in stores;
Rs. 842,459 in loans to Local Bodies; and
Rs. 578,291 in miscellaneous advances.

(iii.) The chief liabilities were:—

	Rs.
Currency Reserve	7,710,245
Widows' and Orphans' Pension Fund ...	4,930,361
Deposits	2,935,215

(C.) Public Debt.

12. On December 31st, 1907, the public debt of Ceylon stood as follows:—

	£
Nett Sterling Debt	4,012,087
Nett Silver Debt (Rs. 2,735,214) ...	182,347
Total Indebtedness ...	£4,194,434

13. The following table exhibits in sterling the revenue and nett amount of debt during each of the last five years:—

Year.	Revenue. £	Nett Amount of Debt. £
1903	1,961,554	4,553,169
1904	2,056,446	4,476,480
1905	2,293,022	4,386,039
1906	2,335,377	4,304,396
1907	2,438,255	4,194,434

14. It is estimated that about £2,000,000 is required to defray the cost of completing the programme of Public Works already sanctioned. Of this, some £800,000 has been provisionally advanced out of surplus revenue, including £200,000 for the Colombo Drainage Scheme, which sum will be regarded as a loan to the Municipality.

15. Provision is made for the repayment of all loans by means of a sinking fund, except in the case of the loan from the Public Works Commissioners under Ordinance No. 6 of 1875, which is repayable by an annuity. This debt will be extinguished in 1911.

16. The capital expenditure of the Colony has, with the exception of comparatively small sums spent on Irrigation Works, and the duplication of the Colombo water main, all been made on two great services, Railways and Colombo Harbour Works. The former yield very nearly 6 per cent. interest on the capital invested, while the Harbour has hitherto met all charges, including interest and sinking fund.

(D.) Currency and Banking.

17. The currency of Ceylon consists of:—

(1) Copper: Ceylon 5-cent, 1-cent, ½-cent, and ¼-cent pieces.

(2) Silver: the India rupee, with subsidiary Ceylon 50-cent, 25-cent, and 10-cent pieces.

(3) Gold: British sovereigns, which are legal tender at Rs. 15 per £.

(4) Ceylon Government notes of Rs. 1,000, 100, 50, 10, and 5.

On December 31st, 1907, the value of currency notes in circulation was Rs. 16,944,675.

18. The Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China; the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation; the Bank of Madras; the Mercantile Bank of India, Limited; and the National Bank of India, Limited, do business in the Colony.

(E.) General.

19. Early in the year the Audit Department was separated from that of the Controller of Revenue, a specially trained Colonial Auditor being appointed. The Audit Office was thus relieved of responsibilities and duties that had previously tended to retard its more legitimate functions, while the Controller of Revenue is able to devote himself to the supervision of all questions affecting the revenue, especially Land, Arrack, Salt, Opium, and Tolls.

(F.) MUNICIPALITIES.

20. The following is a comparative statement of the total revenue and expenditure of the Municipalities for the five years ended December 31st, 1907:—

Name of Municipality.	Revenue or Expenditure.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.	1907.
		Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Colombo ..	Revenue ..	1,337,344 8	1,567,907 46	1,591,742 10	1,763,106 35	2,382,259 12*
	Expenditure	1,494,429 40	1,656,127 70	1,387,277 98	2,528,754 99	2,217,100 86
Kandy	Revenue ..	199,303 84	192,150 47	183,553 17	220,691 47	224,196 41
	Expenditure	196,217 71	179,583 10	207,938 78	203,242 40	192,736 5
Galle	Revenue ..	92,886 64	95,911 93	104,899 28	113,035 46	129,637 81
	Expenditure	88,115 81	86,563 57	101,473 50	108,918 0	116,578 59

* The revenue of the Colombo Municipality for 1907 includes a sum of Rs. 600,000 advanced by Government on account of Drainage Works.

21. Below will be found a statement of the debts of the Municipalities up to the end of 1907, showing provision for payment:—

Name of Municipality.	Amount of Debt.	On what account.	Provision for Payment.
	Rs. c.		
Colombo	Nil.	—	—
Kandy	152,523 87	Waterworks construction ...	Water-rate of 6 per cent. on properties within certain portions of the Municipality (Ordinances Nos. 18 and 29 of 1884).
	105,402 98	Acquisition of lands above reservoir ; repairs to main sewer and other various works.	Bond assigning portion of water-rate, as authorized by Ordinance No. 7 of 1887 ; also portion of rates and taxes.
	18,000 0	To widen Victoria Drive and clear lake silt.	Bond assigning portion of rates and taxes under sections 127 (*a*) and (*b*), 128, 129 and 130 of Ordinance No. 7 of 1887.
Galle	53,147 81	Construction of waterworks ...	A water-rate of 5 per cent. is levied within the Fort for repayment of loan.
	37,840 82	Sanitary improvements	Mortgage of stamp duties on licences for carts, boats, and coaches ; and also stamp duties under Licensing Ordinances of 1893 and 1897.
Total	366,915 48		

22. As regards the Municipality of Colombo, a sum of Rs. 3,015,036 has been advanced by the Government towards the cost of the Mansergh Drainage and Sewerage Scheme. The construction of the Colombo Waterworks and the Victoria Bridge was carried out by Government, and the Municipality has undertaken to repay Government an annual sum of Rs. 100,000 until 1924 in respect of the former, and of Rs. 8,000 until 1945 for the latter.

(G.) Local Boards.

23. The town of Bandarawela having been brought under the provisions of the Local Boards' Ordinance, there are now twenty Local Boards in Ceylon. The Boards are entrusted with the maintenance of public health and the general improvement and conservancy of the towns in which they are established. Their sources of revenue are an assessment tax on real property, taxes on vehicles and animals, road commutation tax, stamp duties for various licences, and fines for breaches of by-laws, &c.

24. In 1907 the total revenue of these Boards amounted to Rs. 361,054 as against Rs. 330,993 in 1906, and the total expenditure to Rs. 370,942 as against Rs. 297,726 in 1906. Loans are made to Local Boards usually at 3½ per cent. interest and 2 per cent. sinking fund for approved purposes, such as waterworks, drainage, erection of markets, &c., on the security of their revenue. Loans outstanding on December 31st, 1907, amounted to Rs. 406,079.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

(A.) Imports and Exports.

25. The year 1907 was one of unprecedented prosperity for Ceylon trade, as will be seen from the following table:—

Aggregate value of imports and exports for the last five years (omitting specie, but including coal exported for use of steamers).

Year.	Lacs of Rupees.
1903	2,144
1904	2,198
1905	2,240
1906	2,363
1907	2,631

26. The Customs revenue strikingly benefited by the prevalent activity in trade, and nearly reached a hundred lacs of rupees:—

Gross Customs Revenue for the five years ended 1907.

Year.	Rs.	Increase over previous year. Rs.
1903	8,043,000	413,000
1904	8,334,000	291,000
1905	8,653,000	319,000
1906	8,875,000	222,000
1907	9,678,000	803,000

27. The chief articles contributing to the revenue in 1907 were:—

	Rs.
Grain	3,474,072
Spirits	1,261,000
Kerosine oil	911,122
Sugar	870,336
Cotton goods	342,313

28. The following table shows the distribution of exports and imports (omitting specie, and coal exported for use of steamers):—

Distribution of Imports and Exports.

Total Imports, Rs. 120,150,000.

	Per Cent.
From United Kingdom	27·2
From British Possessions... ...	60·6
From Foreign Countries	12·2

Total Exports, Rs. 129,350,000.

	Per Cent.
To United Kingdom	51·0
To British Possessions	17·2
To Foreign Countries	31·8

29. In the Report on the Blue Book for 1903 the writer drew attention to the vast strides made in the foreign trade of the Colony in the preceding decade. As regards imports, it was remarked that "Although the imports from foreign countries are still a comparatively small proportion only of the total imports, their relative importance is no longer negligible, and if their present rate of increase continues another ten years will place them in front of the imports from the mother country," while the exports to foreign countries were observed to be rapidly approaching the exports to the United Kingdom. It is of some interest therefore to find that during the last four years the British and Colonial trade has not lost any further ground, but has practically maintained its position, as the following comparison of percentages shows:—

—	Imports.		Exports.	
	1903.	1907.	1903.	1907.
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
From United Kingdom ...	25·22	27·2	53·42	51·0
From British Possessions ...	63·34	60·6	15·46	17·2
From Foreign Countries ...	11·44	12·2	31·12	31·8

30. The following table exhibits the values of the principal imports for the last two years:—

Principal Imports.

—	1906.				1907.			
	United Kingdom.	British Possessions.	Foreign Countries.	Total.	United Kingdom.	British Possessions.	Foreign Countries.	Total.
1.—Live Animals.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Cattle	600	439,300	—	439,900	2,100	402,500	—	404,600
Horses...	3,600	90,800	—	94,400	4,500	150,000	—	154,500
Sheep	—	321,700	—	321,700	—	184,000	—	184,000
Goats	—	218,000	—	218,000	—	311,800	—	311,800
2.—Articles of Food and Drink.								
Bacon	71,200	1,800	600	73,600	77,500	500	200	78,200
Beer { Bottled	82,100	—	125,000	284,400	92,900	—	113,300	263,500
Beer { Cask...	76,700	—	600		57,200	—	100	
Brandy	24,800	1,100	312,200	338,100	14,400	1,100	343,800	359,300
Biscuits	258,600	9,700	66,200	334,500	247,900	18,500	62,200	328,600
Butter...	3,800	182,900	9,300	196,000	4,600	213,400	7,000	225,000
Coffee (unmixed)	200	815,300	—	815,500	200	846,300	3,600	850,100
Confectionery...	175,200	14,100	4,200	193,500	202,100	12,200	3,500	217,800
Flour	400	1,414,100	1,400	1,415,900	—	1,500,300	400	1,500,700
Gin	39,400	—	181,500	220,900	37,900	—	258,800	296,700
Gram	—	715,600	13,100	728,700	—	817,600	15,100	832,700
Onions...	300	542,400	3,000	545,700	—	641,200	1,100	642,300
Paddy	—	2,544,100	500	2,544,600	—	2,244,000	2,700	2,246,700
Potatoes	4,700	144,200	270,000	418,900	3,400	214,200	286,700	504,300
Rice	100	38,443,500	605,500	39,049,100	—	39,523,400	1,401,600	40,925,000
Sugar (refined)	97,900	1,474,100	1,216,300	2,788,300	201,200	1,078,200	1,635,400	2,914,800
Whisky	490,000	3	1,600	491,600	532,600	1,000	100	533,700

Principal Imports—continued.

—	1906.				1907.			
	United Kingdom.	British Possessions.	Foreign Countries.	Total.	United Kingdom.	British Possessions.	Foreign Countries.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
3.—Narcotics.								
Cigars	337,800	13,800	56,500	408,100	315,700	13,900	64,700	394,300
Tobacco (unmanufactured)... ...	—	26,100	2,000	28,100	100	17,900	6,400	24,400
Opium ... ... lb.	27	18,512	346	18,885	33	21,924	327	22,284
4.—Raw Materials.								
Coal	7,051,000	4,747,000	121,000	11,919,000	6,444,400	3,862,100	243,400	10,549,900
Iron (all kinds)	79,500	22,600	87,100	189,200	109,100	4,200	140,200	253,500
Manure (bone and fish)	1,200	693,400	16,200	710,800	—	996,300	16,400	1,012,700
Lead (pig)	71,000	476,000	61,300	609,000	50,700	510,100	—	560,800
Steel	115,200	300	97,300	212,800	226,100	1,000	104,500	331,600
Teak	—	222,700	362,800	585,500	—	86,200	507,700	593,900
Tin (plates and slabs)	124,400	59,300	10,100	193,800	111,100	97,500	—	208,600
5.—Manufactured Articles.								
(*a*) *Textile.*								
Apparel (made up)	254,800	28,400	160,300	443,500	297,500	42,800	137,700	478,000
Cotton piece goods :—								
(1) Bleached	1,626,700	119,500	15,200	1,761,400	2,163,900	115,800	16,600	2,296,300
(2) Dyed	593,600	1,352,700	532,200	2,478,500	586,800	1,498,200	682,800	2,767,800
(3) Gray	1,081,300	36,300	168,100	1,285,700	704,300	17,800	88,200	810,300
(4) Muslin	38,700	4,000	100	42,800	41,800	5,600	1,000	48,400
(5) Printed	930,600	18,400	28,300	977,300	1,141,200	36,600	11,600	1,189,400
(6) Other	553,800	108,400	103,100	765,300	460,500	111,700	127,600	699,800

Flannel	61,700	6,300	23,600	91,600	61,700	1,500	39,600	102,800
Mixed materials, piece goods ...	170,000	207,000	109,000	486,000	235,900	220,000	117,400	573,300
Silk and satin broad-stuffs	80,600	58,400	145,300	284,300	74,400	56,000	142,000	272,400
(*b*) *Metal.*								
Galvanized iron	678,100	600	91,000	769,700	991,700	200	174,800	1,166,700
Hardware	916,800	19,000	154,200	1,090,000	1,089,600	20,400	162,900	1,472,900
Hoop iron	81,100	18,900	130,000	230,000	189,300	13,100	198,100	400,500
Nails and rivets	32,800	300	105,500	138,600	30,100	1,800	103,900	135,800
Tea lead	555,900	—	1,800	557,700	348,000	—	3,200	351,200
(*c*) *Other.*								
Casks and shooks	93,800	241,500	232,200	567,500	80,600	141,500	81,900	304,000
Cement	159,900	—	69,900	229,800	205,700	—	103,900	309,600
Chemists' sundries	315,700	22,400	55,200	393,300	319,900	18,600	85,900	424,400
Chinaware	188,300	700	112,100	301,100	209,000	3,300	112,600	324,900
Fancy articles...	238,300	42,100	118,100	398,500	243,600	35,400	106,100	385,100
Haberdashery (including jewellery)	977,300	935,800	216,700	2,129,800	974,200	913,600	198,200	2,086,000
Kerosine oil	—	2,100	1,452,500	1,454,600	—	1,400	1,424,600	1,426,000
Machinery (all kinds)	920,600	14,200	129,300	1,064,100	1,018,400	9,400	115,200	1,143,000
Manures (all kinds)	173,900	1,185,000	668,300	2,027,200	253,800	1,479,000	911,700	2,644,500
Matches	1,200	500	207,200	208,900	7,800	2,800	167,500	178,100
Milk (preserved)	30,800	[illegible]	302,700	334,400	35,000	2,000	334,000	371,000
Poonac...	—	1,361,200	24,800	1,386,000	—	1,471,600	21,600	1,493,200
Soap	242,700	139,400	41,600	423,700	184,500	177,800	21,600	383,900
Tea chests	782,000	31,200	1,110,000	1,923,200	872,200	33,400	891,500	1,797,100
6.—SPECIE.								
Gold (coin)	222,000	3,277,500	—	3,499,500	15,000	4,650,000	300	4,665,300
Silver (coin)	—	7,213,900	200	7,214,100	—	4,484,200	200	4,484,400

31. An analysis of the above table shows that the chief changes are as follows:—

Live Animals.—Less sheep and correspondingly more goats were imported.

Food and Drink.—Less beer, more brandy and whisky, much more gin were imported. Imports of rice from non-British India have increased from ½ to nearly 1½ million rupees; imports of rice from British India meanwhile have increased from 38½ to 39½ millions.

Raw Materials.—(*a*) Imports of Japanese coal are double in amount at expense of British coal; (*b*) imports of iron rise from Rs. 189,000 to Rs. 253,000—this is chiefly due to a very large increase in the import of bar iron from Belgium (Rs. 43,000 to Rs. 111,000); (*c*) in pig lead Spain and Germany account for Rs. 61,000 to 1906, but in 1907 this disappears entirely; (*d*) in steel the United Kingdom output is doubled, while Belgium advances at the expense of Germany; (*e*) the teak import shows growth of Siamese produce—Burma decreases from Rs. 183,000 to Rs. 80,000, and Siam grows from Rs. 363,000 to Rs. 504,000.

Manufactured Articles.—(*a*) Imports of galvanized iron show a large increase. This is due to an import of Rs. 381,000 worth of galvanized barbed wire (not found in 1906 statistics), of which the United Kingdom supplies Rs. 236,000, Belgium Rs. 41,000, Germany Rs. 75,000, and United States of America Rs. 29,000. In ordinary galvanized iron, Germany falls from Rs. 65,000 to Rs. 19,000. (*b*) The import of hoop iron also shows a large increase—practically doubled. The increase is distributed as follows:—United Kingdom Rs. 81,000 to Rs. 189,000, Germany Rs. 77,000 to Rs. 137,000, and Belgium Rs. 16,000 to Rs. 41,000. (*c*) Imports of casks and shooks—both from British India and Austria—show large decreases. (*d*) Imports of manures from United Kingdom, British India, and Germany have risen largely in quantity.

32. The above table may also be analysed as follows to show the articles which are imported to a larger extent from foreign countries than from the United Kingdom or the Colonies:—

Articles in respect of which the United Kingdom or the Colonies head the Imports into Ceylon.		Articles in respect of which Foreign Countries head the Imports into Ceylon.
Live animals	Apparel (made up)	Bottled beer
	*Cotton piece goods	Brandy
Bacon	Flannel	Gin
Cask beer	*Mixed materials, piece goods	Potatoes
*Biscuits	*Galvanized iron	Sugar
Butter	*Hardware	
Coffee	Tea lead	Teak
Confectionery		
Flour		Silks and satins
Gram	*Casks and shooks	
Onions	*Cement	Hoop iron

Articles in respect of which the United Kingdom or the Colonies head the Imports into Ceylon.		Articles in respect of which Foreign Countries head the Imports into Ceylon.
Paddy	*Fancy articles	Nails and rivets
Rice	*Haberdashery	
Whisky	*Machinery	Kerosine oil
Cigars	*Manures	Matches
Opium	Poonac	Milk (preserved)
Coal	Soap	Tea chests
Manures (bone and fish)		
Lead		
Steel		
Tin		

It will be noticed that the United Kingdom or the Colonies still hold the field in the large majority of important articles. In those marked* however there is considerable foreign competition.

33. The following table shows the changes in the relative positions of the various countries which export goods to Ceylon:—

Ceylon's Chief Sources of Supply, Value of Imports (excluding Specie).

Country.	1905.		1906.		1907.	
	Value of Exports to Ceylon.	Position.	Value of Exports to Ceylon.	Position.	Value of Exports to Ceylon.	Position.
	Rs.		Rs.		Rs.	
1. British India ...	60,495,700	1	59,687,700	1	60,468,700	1
2. United Kingdom	25,170,700	2	29,569,700	2	32,626,000	2
3. Burma	4,223,400	3	4,057,600	3	4,045,800	3
4. Germany... ...	2,692,900	4	2,814,800	4	2,921,100	4
5. Straits Settlements	414,500	19	1,887,700	5	2,904,100	5
6. Maldive Islands ...	2,042,200	5	1,843,300	6	2,267,000	6
7. India(non-British)	1,511,900	8	753,600	12	1,735,000	7
8. Japan	1,623,900	6	1,557,000	7	1,507,000	8
9. Austria	794,600	11	1,141,100	10	1,297,500	9
10. Borneo	145,600	25	660,600	14	1,267,500	10
11. Hong Kong ...	1,555,200	7	1,479,900	8	1,152,600	11
12. United States of America.	801,200	10	1,375,800	9	1,002,400	12
13. France	755,000	12	797,800	11	757,600	13
14. South Australia...	480,700	17	591,200	16	744,900	14
15. Victoria	530,900	15	667,400	13	740,100	15
16. Java	496,300	16	101,500	25	735,200	16
17. Holland	677,500	13	591,400	15	715,900	17
18. Belgium	544,600	14	425,300	17	694,700	18
19. Siam	172,800	24	390,800	19	627,200	19
20. Italy	322,900	20	335,200	20	451,200	20
21. Switzerland ...	431,800	18	422,800	18	428,300	21
22. New South Wales	278,500	21	254,900	22	329,700	22
23. Sweden	182,300	23	193,500	24	164,400	23
24. China	231,900	22	282,500	21	124,800	24
25. Russia	983,300	9	254,500	23	59,700	25
26. West Australia ...	88,400	26	85,700	26	41,100	26

The chief features are the advance of the Straits, Borneo, and Siam, and the decline of Hong Kong and Russia.

34. In the next table will be found a comparison between exports of Ceylon produce and manufacture in 1906 and 1907 :—

Principal Exports.

—	1906.				1907.			
	United Kingdom.	British Possessions.	Foreign Countries.	Total.	United Kingdom.	British Possessions.	Foreign Countries.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Areca nuts	1,800	1,937,800	89,200	2,028,800	5,300	2,322,900	86,800	2,415,000
Cacao	1,415,500	219,000	417,900	2,052,400	3,803,000	234,400	1,195,700	5,232,100
Cardamoms...	235,600	231,600	118,600	585,800	286,400	415,500	127,100	829,000
Cinnamon	310,700	40,400	2,291,000	2,642,100	407,200	66,400	2,572,100	3,045,700
Citronella oil	514,200	66,000	624,600	1,204,800	617,000	67,100	702,000	1,386,100
Coconuts :—								
(1) Desiccated	1,798,800	245,200	1,360,100	3,404,100	2,439,400	328,900	1,703,200	4,471,500
(2) Fresh	666,200	7,300	255,000	928,500	689,400	13,600	201,500	904,500
Coconut oil...	3,430,200	1,567,900	4,547,600	9,545,700	4,985,100	2,434,300	4,411,000	11,830,400
Coir fibre	274,200	116,600	535,500	926,300	400,700	198,400	652,400	1,251,500
Coir rope	1,200	202,200	5,000	208,400	4,200	208,200	6,300	218,700
Coir yarn	722,000	101,500	248,100	1,071,600	705,700	106,800	246,300	1,058,800
Copra	187,600	32,100	5,441,700	5,661,400	33,200	50,200	5,239,000	5,322,400
Plumbago	2,791,900	57,700	7,607,900	10,457,500	2,327,000	51,600	6,528,000	8,906,600
Poonac	—	400	1,064,100	1,064,500	—	2,100	882,900	885,000
Rubber	1,016,000	23,300	488,300	1,527,600	1,703,500	69,000	1,179,600	2,952,100
Tea	38,961,600	12,515,100	9,945,800	61,422,100	46,281,800	13,829,100	14,553,000	74,663,900
Tobacco (unmanufactured)	—	915,600	—	915,600	—	928,800	—	928,800

It will be seen that every product, except coir yarn, copra, plumbago, and poonac shows a most satisfactory advance.

35. Ceylon's largest customers are given below:—

Ceylon's Chief Customers (Value of Exports, excluding Specie).

Country.	1905.		1906.		1907.	
	Value of Exports from Ceylon.	Position.	Value of Exports from Ceylon.	Position.	Value of Exports from Ceylon.	Position.
	Rs.		Rs.		Rs.	
1. United Kingdom	53,827,200	1	53,264,700	1	65,565,900	1
2. United States of America.	8,151,800	2	10,333,500	2	11,802,100	2
3. Russia°	4,415,500	5	5,780,100	5	9,022,000	3
4. Germany... ...	6,568,500	3	8,201,700	3	8,177,500	4
5. British India ...	5,071,700	4	6 013,000	4	5,763,900	5
6. New South Wales	3,465,700	6	3,233,000	6	4,255,000	6
7. Victoria	2,996,700	7	3,190,300	7	3,416,900	7
8. Belgium	1,995,700	10	2,708,900	9	3,233,400	8
9. China (excluding Hong Kong).	1,526,400	11	1,947,200	11	3,209,600	9
10. Canada	2,302,500	9	2,635,700	10	2,607,900	10
11. New Zealand ...	1,484,600	12	1,574,700	12	1,894,500	11
12. Austria	2,962,400	8	3,005,900	8	1,548,800	12
13. France	1,367,500	13	795,800	13	706,200	13
14. Holland	341,700	15	546,700	16	620,900	14
15. Denmark... ...	205,900	16	670,200	14	610,700	15
16. Straits Settlements	655,000	14	571,100	15	599,600	16
*Russia in Asia	522,300	...	1,745,000	...	2,079,100	
Russia in Europe	3,893,000	...	4,035,200	...	6,942,900	

Russia and Belgium have largely increased their imports from Ceylon; Austria and France, on the other hand, take much less than they did three years ago. The increased value of exports to the United Kingdom is attributed to the better price obtained for Ceylon tea (see paragraph 37).

Tea.

36. The following table shows the comparative distribution of Ceylon tea in 1906 and 1907:—

Principal Markets for Ceylon Tea.

—	1906.	1907.
	lb.	lb.
I.—UNITED KINGDOM	108,154,199	111,485,802
II.—*British Possessions:*—		
British India	1,166,381	1,214,950
Canada	7,234,582	6,161,602
Hong Kong	745,527	294,885

—	1906.	1907.
II.—*British Possessions*—cont.	lb.	lb.
Natal	443,695	534,894
New South Wales	8,824,980	9,618,560
New Zealand	4,071,051	4,313,696
Queensland	746,431	866,376
South Australia...	919,897	1,018,795
Victoria	8,055,420	7,187,238
West Australia	843,910	736,825
Total British Possessions...	34,751,281	33,290,854
III.—*Foreign Countries* :—		
Austria	319,579	201,060
China (excluding Hong Kong)	5,329,671	7,699,129
Egypt	228,782	217,151
France	553,695	461,845
Germany...	1,223,624	578,881
Russia	13,638,244	19,670,490
United States	5,640,931	5,528,297
Total Foreign Countries ...	27,621,666	35,068,171
Grand Total	170,527,146	179,844,827

The feature of the year was the greatly increased Russian demand.

37. The average price of Ceylon tea sold on the London market in 1907 was nearly 1*d*. per lb. higher than the corresponding price in 1906, viz., $8\frac{1}{8}d$. against $7\frac{1}{4}d$. Prices on the Colombo market were consistently above those of the previous year, the average for the whole year being 40·87 cents, against 34·82 cents for 1906. According to the annual report of the Ceylon Planters' Association, "The year closed with a very strong market, the statistical position showing that consumption is gradually overtaking production."

38. The total production of green tea for the year was approximately $6\frac{1}{2}$ million lb., against $4\frac{1}{2}$ million lb. for 1906. Russian shipment figures showed an increase of over 100 per cent. on the previous season, and the American figures show that Ceylon has more than maintained her footing in that market in the competition with the teas of Japan and China.

39. In accordance with directions from the Secretary of State, a Proclamation issued on January 24th, 1907, notifying the discontinuance after December 31st, 1908, of Ordinance No. 4 of 1894, which levied an export duty of 20 cents per 100 lb. of tea, "in order that the proceeds of such duty may be devoted to increasing the consumption of Ceylon tea in foreign lands."

(B.) Mines, Manufactures, and Fisheries.

(a) *Pearl Fishery.*

40. For the fifth year in succession a pearl fishery was held at Marichchukkaddi, and for the first time in the long history of the industry the fishery was managed by a company instead of by Government. The Ceylon Company of Pearl Fishers leased for twenty years from January 1st, 1906, "all that right or privilege which the Ceylon Government have heretofore exercised and enjoyed of fishing for and taking pearl oysters on the coasts of Ceylon between Talaimannar and Dutch Bay point," but the fishery of 1906 was managed by Government on the old lines on behalf of the company. In 1907 the company took over the complete management themselves. The administration of the camp in general, however, remained in the hands of Government on behalf of the company, which reimburses Government for the expenses incurred.

41. The company introduced several reforms in the conduct of the fishery, *e.g.*, (1) limitation of the number of boats and divers permitted to participate; (2) landing of the divers' catch of oysters in sealed bags instead of in bulk, and delivery to buyers in bags averaged to a common size, thereby dispensing with the necessity of counting individual oysters; and (3) the sealing and tallying in bags of the catch of each boat at the close of the day's fishing and before the boats started on their homeward journey. This plan proved most successful in securing the practical cessation of illicit opening of oysters.

42. The fishery lasted from February 20th to April 2nd, the total number of oysters lifted by the divers being 21,514,434, so that the company's "two-thirds" share was 14,342,955. By the terms of the lease Government receive a fixed annual rent of Rs. 310,000.

43. One of the conditions of the lease is that a sum of not less than Rs. 50,000—to be increased at the discretion of the Government to any sum not greater than Rs. 150,000—shall be annually expended by the company on the improvement of the fishery, and the first report of the company shows that more than Rs. 100,000 has been so spent.

(b) *Inland Fisheries.*

44. A Commissioner has been appointed to undertake a statistical and biological inquiry into the present state of the inland fisheries in the different Provinces from the point of view of food supply.

(c) *The Mineralogical Survey.*

45.—(i.) The following extracts from a report* published in September, 1907, by Professor Wyndham Dunstan, M.A.,

* Colonial Report (Miscellaneous), No. 42.

LLD., F.R.S., Director of the Imperial Institute, are of interest:—

"The Mineral Survey of Ceylon has now been sanctioned by the Secretary of State for the Colonies on the recommendation of the Government of Ceylon for a further term of three years under the supervision of the Director of the Imperial Institute and in collaboration with the Scientific and Technical Department of the Institute. Mr. James Parsons, B.Sc., has been appointed Principal Mineral Surveyor, and Mr. J. A. Daniel, B.A. (Cantab.), Assistant Mineral Surveyor. The Surveyors, who are stationed in Ceylon, are instructed to conduct a thorough geological exploration of selected areas of the Island, with special reference to the occurrence of economic minerals, specimens of which are to be regularly forwarded to the Imperial Institute, where their precise composition and probable commercial value will be ascertained by examination in the Scientific and Technical Department, and, wherever necessary, by submission to manufacturers for technical trial. Notification has also been given in the Island by the Government of Ceylon that residents may forward to the Imperial Institute for report, through the Colonial Secretary at Colombo, specimens of any minerals found in the Island which are believed to be of economic importance."

* * * * * * *

(ii.) "Attention has again been given to the examination of localities in which minerals containing thorium may occur, especially the beds of streams and rivers, and preliminary results of much importance have been obtained. The river gravels have in several instances proved to contain not only the valuable minerals thorianite, monazite, and thorite, but gold in addition. These river gravels have been concentrated by the officers of the survey by 'panning' in the usual way, and the results of the analysis of the concentrates forwarded for examination to the Imperial Institute.

"It will be seen that gold and thorium minerals are often present in considerable quantities. Attention may be particularly directed to a concentrate obtained from the Walawe-ganga (Morahela) river, which contained no less than 9·6 per cent. of gold and 45 per cent. of thorianite. If material of this quality can be readily concentrated on a large scale from the gravels of large areas of the river bed, the undertaking will no doubt prove to be highly profitable."

* * * * * * *

(iii.) "The occurrence of gold in payable quantities in those localities in which thorianite also occurs enormously increases the profit obtainable from the exploitation of the latter mineral. The collection of thorianite in Ceylon has yielded already a handsome return since the value of this mineral was made known in 1904, though the subsequent fall in the price of thoria referred to in the previous report has led to a lessening of activity on the part of the collector, and a natural desire to hold rather than sell the material which has been collected in the expectation of a rise in its market value."

(iv.) "Of scientific interest as well as commercial importance is the fact recorded in this and the previous report that the monazite of Ceylon is richer in thoria, and therefore correspondingly more valuable than the monazite obtained in other localities. It is now shown that one specimen from Pussedola, Dela, Sab., contains no less than 14 per cent. of this valuable rare earth."

(v.) "Of great interest is the occurrence of platinum found for the first time in Ceylon near Karawita. This occurrence should be further investigated, and careful search made for this most valuable metal in other localities."

46. Mr. Parsons reports that there was a considerable increase in the mining of mica during 1907, especially in the Kandy District, 426 cwt. being exported as against 99 cwt. in 1906.

(*d*) *Mining.*

47.—(i.) The output of plumbago showed a decrease during the year. Only 650,116 cwt. valued at Rs. 8,906,589 were exported, as against 701,845 cwt. in 1906 valued at Rs. 10,457,490. In the Western Province, where plumbago is extensively mined, there was a decrease of 40,000 cwt., as compared with the output of the previous year. The average value in 1907 was Rs. 13·70 a cwt., as against Rs. 14·90 a cwt. in 1906; good prices prevailed during the greater part of the year, but towards the end a marked depression set in and there was a serious fall in prices.

(ii.) The plumbago mines are chiefly in the Ratnapura and Kurunegala Districts and parts of the Western and Southern Provinces. The industry is a somewhat speculative one, success depending largely on the demand for plumbago by buyers in the European and American markets. It is carried on for the most part by native capitalists. A great improvement has been effected in the methods of working the mines or pits since the appointment of a Government Inspector of Mines.

48. Mica has been extensively worked in the Balangoda district of the Province of Sabaragamuwa. The mineral obtained there is reported to be of excellent quality. There are also two mines at work in the Nuwara Eliya District, the output of which during the year was 80 cwt. The total quantity of mica exported during the year was 426 cwt. valued at Rs. 14,955, or Rs. 35 per cwt. In 1906 only 99 cwt. were exported, but this smaller quantity was valued at Rs. 7,516, or Rs. 75·92 per cwt.

49. Moonstones are found in the Kandy District, where two large pits were worked during the year. Other precious stones, such as rubies, cat's-eyes, sapphires, &c., are gemmed in the Ratnapura District chiefly.

50. The quarrying of cabook or gneiss and granite has received a stimulus in recent years consequent on the demand for new houses in the principal towns, especially in Colombo and its suburbs.

(*e*) *Salt.*

51. The manufacture of salt is a Government monopoly, and is protected by the imposition of a duty of Rs. 2·13 per cwt. on imported salt. A sum of Rs. 1,737,871·86 was realized by its sale in 1907, or Rs. 1,775·93 in excess of 1906.

The year was a favourable one for its manufacture and collection. A total of 674,798 cwt. was collected for the whole Island, which is the second highest on record within the last thirty-four years, and is exceeded only by the harvest of 1905, which realized 713,822 cwt.

(*f*) *Manufactures.*

52. Ceylon is essentially an agricultural country, and its manufactures on any large scale are chiefly confined to the products of agriculture.

53. In the districts where the coconut palm is cultivated copra is manufactured, and is largely exported to the United Kingdom and elsewhere in Europe. The making of fibre, coir rope, and yarn, and coir matting from the husk of the coconut is also carried out on an extensive scale, the work being done for the most part by women. There are a few desiccating mills, where the kernel of the coconut is dried and specially prepared for export.

54. In the Northern Province, where tobacco thrives, cigars are manufactured, but this industry suffers from increasing competition with cigarettes. The Jaffna cigar seller nevertheless is still ubiquitous in the Island, and his cigars, which are small, strong, and extremely cheap, are a favourite smoke with the natives. The future of this industry largely depends on new markets being found for the cigars, but to effect this an improvement in the method of curing the tobacco is essential.

55. The manufacture of tiles and bricks is carried on in all parts of the Island where suitable clay is plentiful.

56. The weaving of a coarse kind of cloth in hand looms is carried on in the Eastern, Northern, and Central Provinces. It supplies purely local wants, and the cloth, though strong and of hard wearing quality, is inferior in texture and finish to imported material. It is, however, highly valued by the particular class of natives who use it.

57. In other districts the making of baskets, tortoise-shell boxes and combs, and common earthenware for water pans and cooking utensils is generally pursued to meet local wants. Excellent furniture is made in the Western Province, especially at Moratuwa.

58. Jewellery of very fine workmanship is made in the Northern Province to supply local wants. It is a species of filigree work, which is highly prized by the Tamil population of the Island.

59. The indigenous crafts peculiar to the Kandyan country, *i.e.*, silver and brass work, the making of jewellery, earthenware, and painted pottery, lacquer work, and ivory carving, continue to receive encouragement from the Kandyan Art Association. Specimens of the articles are kept in the Kandyan Art Museum, where they can be purchased.

60. Brass lamps, betel stands, plates, cooking utensils, and water pots are made in the North-Western and Eastern Provinces, and at Negombo in the Western Province.

61. In the Mannar District of the Northern Province the drying and salting of fish gives employment to a large number

of people. No less than 20,500 cwt. of this article, valued roughly at Rs. 197,700, were manufactured in 1907 for inland consumption. Fish curing is also pursued by the fishermen of Negombo, Hambantota, and Trincomalee.

(C.) Agriculture.

(*a*) *The Agricultural Society.*

62.—(i.) The Ceylon Agricultural Society, founded in November, 1904, had at the end of 1907 a membership of 1,168 and 52 branches.

(ii.) The principle of co-operation has been adopted by more than one of the branch societies, seed and in some cases money being advanced by the local societies to their members at a low rate of interest. Important results are hoped for from the extension of this principle of co-operation and self-help.

(iii.) Agricultural Instructors are employed in making inspections and giving demonstrations in the villages. The utility of these officers has so far been demonstrated that the appointment of an additional Instructor is before the Board.

(iv.) Twelve successful Agri-Horticultural Shows were held during the year.

(v.) Cotton cultivation has been introduced into several Provinces, and attention has also been paid to tobacco and improved means of curing it.

(vi.) Other crops which have received special attention, particularly by the introduction of better varieties, are betel (Piper betel), yams (Dioscoreæ), shilli (Capsicum), orange, mango, sapodilla, durian, and all varieties of vegetables.

(vii.) The development of the fibre industry and the introduction of suitable machines continue to receive attention.

(viii.) The extermination of pestiferous plants, such as iluk and prickly pear, has been carried out in different places.

(ix.) In connection with paddy cultivation, an effort has been made to encourage transplanting, judicious manuring, and the employment of better seed as well as implements.

(x.) School gardens, which are doing excellent work, are being multiplied.

(xi.) Three additional experimental gardens were started during the year.

(xii.) The encouragement of sericulture has extended to the purchase of machinery for treating the cocoons of silkworms.

(xiii.) Bee-keeping makes steady progress.

(xiv.) The improvement of stock is being kept well in view with the help of the Veterinary Surgeon and his Stock Inspectors.

(b) Position of Agricultural Industries.

63. The state of the agricultural industries remains on the whole one of genuine prosperity.

Tea.—See page 19.

Coconut Products.—The following is from the annual report of the Planters' Association:—"The year has been quite the best on record, for though crops were generally short, yet the high price of copra in the early part of the year more than compensated owners for such shortage. On February 27th, 1907, the price rose to Rs. 86 per candy, which is the highest figure ever recorded for this article in the annals of Ceylon history. The total export of copra (347,970 cwt.) was about 76,000 cwt. short of the quantity sent out in 1906; the coconuts in the shell were less by 2½ million nuts. Oil also shows a falling off in shipment by 50,000 cwt., 460,683 cwt. going out this year against 511,720 in 1906; whilst poonac, of course, shows a similar decline.

"This falling off in crop is generally considered to be due to the very dry season of 1906, which seriously affected in many districts the young nuts then setting for maturity in 1907. Germany, again this year, was our best customer for copra, and took almost half of the total export, and purchases by Belgium come next, and show a heavy increase over the business done in the previous year."

Cacao.—The export, owing partly to late cropping in 1906, increased from 55,621 cwt. to 93,851 cwt.

Cardamoms had a good year, 7,085 cwt. being exported at an average value of Rs. 117·01 per cwt., as against 6,505 cwt. at Rs. 90·05 per cwt. in 1906.

Coca, though only a small crop, continues to prosper. The Ceylon leaf brings higher prices than the South American, and is largely the standard of the market.

Citronella Oil.—The output increased slightly from 1,213,748 lb. to 1,298,752 lb., and the average value in 1907 rose from 99 cents to Rs. 1·07 per lb. Experiments with the distillation of oil from lemon grass and citronella are continuing at Peradeniya with a view to extending these industries.

Camphor.—The serious drop in price has materially curtailed the profits in this industry, but new areas are still being opened. The Planters' Association reports as follows:—

"The old destructive method of obtaining the camphor is now being abandoned as too improvident to repay the expenses of cultivation. There seems to be a general tendency to look towards the leaves and new twigs as to the future source of commercial camphor. It is found that the valuable product is distributed throughout the whole system of the tree, and a method of cultivation, depending upon the production of a large quantity of leaves and twigs, is probably the one which will be aimed at."

The cultivation of Rubber continued to extend, and there are probably 150,000 acres now under it, as against 120,000 at

the end of 1906 and 40,000 at the end of 1905. The value of rubber exported was Rs. 2,932,119, as against Rs. 1,527,539 in 1906, Rs. 557,945 in 1905, and Rs. 221,000 in 1904. The trees are, as a rule, remarkably healthy, and in suitable soil the growth is vigorous, giving every promise of success in the future.

During the last four months of the year a great drop in price occurred, and speculators were hardly hit. It has, however, fortunately checked the rapid expansion of the rubber area that was going on, and should prove a blessing in disguise to the industry.

The planting of cotton, often as a catch crop upon rubber estates, is slowly extending, and it is probable that this season there are several hundred acres under this crop.

Paddy.—Rice being the staple article of food, paddy cultivation is the main industry of the village agriculturists throughout the Island. The possibility of failure of the rains at the required season where the cultivator is dependent upon the natural rainfall renders its cultivation somewhat precarious. The completion of the larger irrigation works will render the cultivation of land under them practically independent of the ordinary fluctuations of weather, but in the present thinly populated state of most of the country irrigated from the large tanks, it is difficult to get the people to grow more than they require for food, *i.e.*, one crop in two or more seasons.

(D.) Land Settlement.

64.—(i.) The Land Settlement Department, which is concerned with the settlement of title (as between the Crown and the individual) to the vast tracts of waste land in the Island, has continued its important work with the same success that has always attended its efforts. The Waste Lands Ordinance under which the settlements are effected has now been in operation for ten years, and the opposition which marked its introduction has practically disappeared. An abortive agitation against the land settlement policy of Government in the North-Western Province was made in the latter part of 1907, but it only served as an opportunity for a complete vindication of that policy in the Legislative Council and a reassurance of the liberal intentions of Government towards *bonâ fide* claimants. As a matter of fact the settlements proposed by the Settlement Officers are almost universally accepted as fair and equitable, and such opposition as there is can generally be traced to interested motives.

(ii.) The total operations under the Waste Lands Ordinance have so far covered 1,110,450 acres, but as there are between 12,000,000 and 13,000,000 acres of uncultivated land in the Island much remains to be done. The Department in 1907 consisted of five officers, and four have been added since; there is some difficulty in speedily recruiting suitable men possessing

the necessary intimate knowledge of the languages and customs of the people.

(iii.) The following notes by the Chief Settlement Officer are of interest:—

In the North-Central Province a large area of Crown land is available for cotton cultivation.

In Uva much land at an elevation of over 2,000 feet has been rendered available for future extensions of tea cultivation, and the settlement of large areas in the low-country suited for coconut and rubber is being proceeded with.

In Matara District many large blocks of land which could be turned into rubber and citronella estates are now available for sale.

The operations in the Trincomalee District of the Eastern Province in 1907 have established the Crown title to a large extent of valuable forest land.

(E.) Land Sales.

65.—(i.) A total of Rs. 1,914,071 was realized by the sale of Crown lands in 1907, or Rs. 702,414 less than the amount obtained in 1906, the year of the "rubber boom."

(ii.) The highest average price of Crown land sold by public auction, viz., Rs. 62·75 per acre, was obtained in the Colombo District, 3,451 acres being sold at this rate, chiefly for rubber cultivation. In the Kandy District 230 acres were sold at an average price of Rs. 49 per acre, and in the Matale District 265 acres at an average price of Rs. 33·31 per acre. In the Kalutara District the average price was Rs. 58·94 per acre. In the Ratnapura District, which had in 1906 the highest average price of Rs. 102·85 per acre, 644 acres were sold by public auction at an average price of Rs. 53·12 per acre. In another good rubber district, Kegalla, 4,793 acres were sold at an average price of Rs. 50·73 per acre. In the Kurunegala District 2,524 acres of land suitable for coconuts, rubber, and cotton were sold at an average price of Rs. 46·92, and in the Chilaw District 1,331 acres for coconut cultivation at Rs. 55 per acre.

(F.) Survey Department.

66. The operations of the Survey Department during the year comprised 97,010 acres under the Block Survey and 45,595 acres under the Application Surveys, besides Topographical Surveys.

67. In the early part of the year the services of Mr. G. T. Hall of the Survey of India were secured to teach a few members of the staff the use of the plane table for topographical survey work. Mr. Hall spent three months in the Island, with the result that twelve men were well grounded in the work. These men have in their turn taught others, so that there is now a competent body of plane tablers in the Department. The result should be that the 4-mile-to-an-inch map should be finished at a much earlier period than would otherwise be the case.

68. At the instance of the Secretary of State Major E. H. Hills, R.E., C.M.G., head of the Topographical Section of the War Office, made a thorough inspection of survey work in Ceylon during May. Major Hills, who arrived in Ceylon on April 26th, carefully examined every branch of the Department in detail, and visited all the principal centres, travelling over the Island with the Surveyor-General, in order to obtain a personal knowledge of the varying conditions of climate and configuration of the country in which the surveyors are employed. In a valuable and practical report he emphasized the pressing necessity for the strengthening of the supervising staff of the Department, which has not been increased *pari passu* with the expansion of the lower grades. He also pointed out that "unless the staff of both Survey and Settlement Departments are very materially enlarged, the final settlement of all the inhabited and cultivated regions of the Island is little more than a vision of the distant future."

69. As a result of Major Hills' recommendations provision has been made in the Budget of 1908 for twelve more Assistant Superintendents and two new block survey parties, besides five additional temporary surveyors for topographical work and eight clerks and draughtsmen for the head office. It is proposed to enlist the services of some non-commissioned officers of the Royal Engineers for office work, lithography, secondary and minor triangulation, and the running of initial lines of levels, but Assistant Superintendents, who are to supervise parties, will as a rule be recruited from England from a class of men of good education with a general knowledge of surveying and engineering. Such men will before embarking for Ceylon be put through a short course lasting about a month at the Ordnance Survey, and their training will be completed locally. In the meantime, as already stated, the Land Settlement Department has been strengthened by the addition of four additional Settlement Officers.

(G.) Shipping.

70. The following table exhibits the number and tonnage of vessels entering the ports of Ceylon in 1906 and 1907:—

Nationality.	1906.		1907.	
	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.
All nations	3,894	6,697,329	3,836	6,657,323
British	1,829	4,625,821	1,719	4,467,307
British, Colonial ...	1,352	106,546	1,386	151,899
German	223	832,988	197	780,447
French	147	451,568	144	453,127
Japanese	54	191,169	112	377,238
Russian	53	136,263	43	113,955

71. According to the statistical abstract for the British Empire (1906), Colombo is the fifth largest port in the Empire:—

	Tons.
London	11,222,542
Hong Kong	11,050,070
Liverpool	8,145,441
Singapore	6,466,411
Colombo	6,281,164
Tyne Ports	5,548,111
Cardiff	5,295,331
Glasgow	1,842,416

Colombo Harbour Dues.

72. The total collection of harbour dues at Colombo during 1907 amounted to Rs. 1,304,265·16, an increase of Rs. 13,568·64 over 1906. A Commission sat in 1907 to consider the advisability of revising the scale of dues in view of the increased charges for interest and sinking fund that will have to be defrayed when the new loan is raised. The Commission made certain recommendations, but no changes have yet been approved.

III.—LEGISLATION.

73. Among the new Ordinances passed during 1907 were:—

No. 3 of 1907.—"An Ordinance relating to the Registration of Titles to Land and of Deeds affecting Land." The enactment has not, however, been put in operation yet, the Land Settlement Officers being at present fully occupied in settling claims between the Crown and the people.

No. 6 of 1907.—"An Ordinance to provide for the Destruction of Plant Pests and for the Sanitation of Plants in the Colony." Under this law Plant Pests Boards are established in the various districts, and have considerable powers for enforcing measures for dealing with proclaimed pests. The question of compensation gave rise to much discussion, and the Ordinance as passed contains a provision whereby the Governor in Executive Council can under certain conditions order compensation to be paid to owners or occupiers who are ordered to destroy plants.

No. 8 of 1907, entitled "An Ordinance to make provision in Rural and Planting Districts for the Education of Children in the Vernacular Languages," is designed to introduce into the rural districts of the

Island a system of compulsory education in the vernacular languages, and to impose upon superintendents of estates the obligation of providing for the vernacular education of the children of the labourers. The superintendent is required to provide for the vernacular instruction of children between the ages of six and ten, and to set apart and keep in repair a suitable schoolroom. The Ordinance in fact provides for the extension of measures which in many cases are already taken voluntarily.

No. 17 of 1907 amends "The Joint Stock Companies' Ordinance" by allowing any Joint Stock Company in Ceylon the right to modify its memorandum of association so far as to enable it to divide its capital or any part of it into shares of smaller or larger amount than is fixed by the memorandum of association.

No. 19 of 1907 amended the marriage law of the Colony by reducing the minimum period of residence in the Colony before notice of marriage can be given from ten days to four days.

No. 22 of 1907 is a new general Loan Ordinance enacted at the instance of the Secretary of State for the Colonies. It provides the necessary machinery for the purpose of raising loans by short dated debentures convertible into inscribed stock at a lower rate of interest.

IV.—EDUCATION.

(A.) Preliminary.

74. It is not possible to draw the same clear line between elementary and secondary education in Ceylon as can be drawn in other countries. The matter is complicated by the fact that English is a foreign language to all but a small fraction of the population; the Europeans, Burghers, and Eurasians together form a little less than 1 per cent. of the population; the Sinhalese form 65 per cent. of the total; the Tamils and Tamil-speaking Moors 33 per cent. The result is that most of the schools in which English is taught are teaching a language which is foreign to the great majority of their pupils, and the distinction between elementary and secondary education is replaced by the distinction between vernacular and English schools. The vernacular schools really constitute the elementary education of the country.

(B.) Vernacular Education.

75. The following table shows the numerical progress for the last five years in the case of vernacular schools:—

Year.	Number of Government Schools.	Attendance.		Number of Aided Schools.	Attendance.	
		Boys.	Girls.		Boys.	Girls.
1903 ...	497	44,631	10,878	1,249	77,619	37,707
1904 ...	507	46,785	11,678	1,316	77,700	39,103
1905 ...	529	52,375	12,829	1,386	85,436	44,144
1906 ...	566	54,249	13,827	1,429	90,389	44,599
1907 ...	592	55,624	14,372	1,456	88,707	48,518

76. From this it appears that there were in 1907 altogether 2,048 Government and grant-in-aid vernacular schools, attended by 144,331 boys and 62,890 girls. These figures show an increase of 53 schools and 4,157 children over the corresponding figures for 1906.

77. Besides the children attending Government and aided schools, 33,669 children were reported to be receiving instruction in 1,758 unaided schools, almost all of them vernacular; the figures furnished by such schools cannot, however, be relied upon, and the education is often of very little value.

78. The total spent by Government on vernacular education was Rs. 703,887·39, of which Rs. 298,495·69 was expended on Government schools and Rs. 405,391·70 on aided schools. This gives the cost to Government of education of a child in a Government school as Rs. 4·26 or 5*s.* 8*d.* per annum, and in an aided school as Rs. 2·95 or 3*s.* 11*d.* per annum.

79. The above figures show a somewhat lower rate of progress in 1907 than in the preceding years. They are drawn up on returns furnished on June 30th in each year, and the year which ended June 30th, 1907, was one in which the conditions were exceptional. There was an unusual amount of ill-health, which in many districts had a very prejudicial effect on the attendance at schools. The increase in the number of girls attending school is a good sign.

80. Up to the end of the year no Municipality or Local Board was brought under the Town Schools Ordinance of 1906. Preparations are, however, being made to start municipal schools tentatively in Colombo and Kandy.

81. An Ordinance to make provision in rural and planting districts for the education of children in the vernacular languages was passed in 1907, and will be brought into force in 1908. The funds provided under this Ordinance will be of

great service to the local authorities, which in some parts of the Island have been hampered by great difficulties in providing and maintaining the buildings for Government schools.

(C.) English Schools.

82. In 1907 there were 248 English and Anglo-vernacular schools attended by 34,602 pupils, of whom 29,667 were boys and 4,935 were girls. As compared with 1906, these figures show an increase of 22 schools and 1,302 pupils. In the majority of these schools the work is confined to the schedules of the Educational Code, but there are many in which the upper classes are prepared for the Cambridge Examinations, Senior and Junior, and a few in which the work of the most advanced students reaches a higher level.

83. The following were the results of the Cambridge Local Examinations, for which 897 candidates presented themselves in 1907, viz., 335 for the Senior and 562 for the Junior:—

—	Candidates.		Honours.		Passes.	
	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.
Senior	301	34	13	1	133	19
Junior	461	101	21	7	266	50

84. The following were the results of the London Examinations held in 1907:—

—	Candidates.	Passes.
Matriculation	36	15
Intermediate in Arts ...	11	7
Intermediate in Science ...	3	1

85. The only Government school in which higher education is given is the Royal College, at which in 1907 there were 324 pupils, with an average attendance of 299. The pupils in the upper part of the College are prepared for the Cambridge Local Examinations and the examinations of the London University as far as the Intermediate in Arts and Science. The staff consists of 19 masters, of whom five hold English University degrees. The gross cost to Government in 1907 was Rs. 50,863, of which a sum of Rs. 20,473 was recovered in school fees.

86. The other institutions in which anything that can fairly be described as higher education is given are, with two exceptions, registered as aided schools under the Code. The two

exceptions are (1) the Jaffna College, which was for some time affiliated as a first grade college to the University of Calcutta, but has now applied for registration as an aided school under the Department; and (2) the Church Missionary Society's Ladies' College in Colombo.

87. The encouragement offered by Government takes two forms: (*a*) Grants; (*b*) Scholarships:—

(*a*) In most of the aided English schools grants are paid on the results of examinations in the ordinary schedules of the Code, supplemented by specific subjects. But in some of the better schools the system has been replaced by one under which the greater part of the grant is paid on the average attendance. Liberal grants are also paid for every pupil who obtains honours in the Cambridge Local Examinations or who passes the London University Matriculation Examination or Intermediate Examination in Arts. The total sum expended in grants to English schools was Rs. 143,200 in 1907.

(*b*) Two University scholarships of £200 per annum for three years are now awarded on the results of the Intermediate Examinations of the University of London: one on the examination in Arts, the other on the examination in Science. One scholarship of Rs. 240 per annum for three years is awarded annually to girls on the results of the Cambridge Senior Local Examination. On the results of the Cambridge Junior Local Examination one scholarship of Rs. 240 per annum for three years and two of Rs. 120 per annum for two years are awarded annually to boys, and two scholarships of Rs. 120 per annum for three years are awarded annually to girls. The total sum expended in scholarships in 1907 was Rs. 13,971.

88. The Board of Education was engaged during the year in a revision of the schedules attached to the Code for Aided Schools, which has now been completed. The previous schedules were antiquated in form, and in many respects were felt to be an obstacle to intelligent teaching. The new schedules provide fo Infant Departments, for instruction in English on lines corresponding to the direct method of teaching modern languages and for more practical methods of teaching arithmetic and geography.

(D.) Training of Teachers.

89. The Government Training College consists of three departments: English, Anglo-vernacular, and Vernacular. The English department is intended specially to meet the wants of aided English schools; 12 studentships of the annual value of Rs. 300 each are provided by Government. In the Anglo-vernacular and Vernacular departments students have hitherto been prepared only for work in Government schools; in 1907 there were four students in the Anglo-vernacular and 16 in the

Vernacular department. An English boys' school and an Anglo-vernacular boys' school are worked on the same premises, and serve as practising schools to the students; the staff in both these schools consists almost entirely of trained teachers. The Training College was started in 1903 in a somewhat tentative way; it has now been decided to extend its work. An enlargement of the building was begun in 1907, and will be completed during the present year; a female department for Sinhalese teachers will be added, and a Tamil department will be attached to the existing Sinhalese Vernacular department for male teachers. The numbers in the other departments will be increased. An important regulation has been added to the Code for Aided Schools, by which the second class certificate for English teachers will after the year 1909 be confined to teachers who have gone through a period of training.

(E.) Technical and Industrial Education; School Gardens.

90. Higher technical education is provided for by the Technical College, a Government institution established in 1893. In 1897 it was re-organized, and its work largely extended. It is now the regular channel of admission of Ceylonese for the following Departments of Government: Public Works, Survey, Railway, Post and Telegraph; it contains departments of civil engineering, telegraphy, surveying, and levelling. In 1907 the number of students (including Drawing students) was 256 and the gross cost to Government was Rs. 61,664, of which Rs. 5,179 was recovered in fees and by the sale of stationery, instruments, &c. New buildings, including extensive laboratories, have been erected. A Commission has (1908) been appointed by the Governor to advise *inter alia* whether the different courses at the Technical College could not be so revised that it could be incorporated with or affiliated to the Royal College.

91. There are no Government industrial schools; but carpentry schools have been attached to five Government schools in the Kandyan Provinces. In 1907 the aided industrial schools, which are 38 in number, received grants amounting to Rs. 50,862. The number of pupils was 3,105, and the trades taught were as follows: dressmaking, carpentry, printing, bookbinding, shoemaking, tailoring, blacksmiths' work, lace-making, embroidery, gardening, and masonry.

92. The most important of these schools is the Maggona Certified Industrial School, which is utilized by Government as a reformatory, and carried on by the Roman Catholic Mission. This institution has an estate of about 300 acres and excellent buildings, to the cost of which Government has contributed. At the end of 1907 the number of juvenile offenders

receiving instruction in it was 178; the trades taught were carpentry, ironwork, masonry, gardening and estate work, bookbinding, and tailoring. An allowance is paid by Government for the maintenance of each juvenile offender; this is not included in the amount specified above as the grants paid for industrial schools. The total cost of the institution to Government in 1907 was Rs. 16,864.

93. In Ceylon, where 88 per cent. of the population is rural, the technical and industrial education required for the main part of the population is one which will fit them for rural and agricultural life. An attempt is being made to supply this by the scheme for school gardens, which is being carried on in connection with Government schools. There are now 132 Government schools in which gardens are being carried on under the scheme. The seeds and implements are supplied by the Department, and the gardens are visited as often as possible by the Superintendent of School Gardens and his Assistants. The work is encouraged by money prizes for the most successful school in each district.

94. Needlework in girls' schools has received much attention since the appointment of the Inspectress of Needlework in 1904. The Inspectress visits personally as many schools as she can, and marks the work done at all girls' and mixed schools throughout the Island. This has led to a marked improvement both in plain needlework and in the lace and embroidery done in industrial schools.

(F.) Estate Schools.

95. As regards aided estate schools, the figures continue to show progress; at the end of 1907 there were 105 aided estate schools, as against 90 at the end of 1906 and 78 at the end of 1905. The number of estate schools actually examined for grant was 97, as compared with 81 in 1906.

96. As in the previous year, a form was circulated to collect information from planters. Returns were received from 784 estates, and showed a total number of 6,434 children receiving instruction in schools on the estates, of whom 5,490 were boys and 944 girls. These figures will, no doubt, be considerably increased when the new Ordinance is actually brought into force.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

(A.) Hospitals.

97. See under Public Health.

(B.) Medical Institutions.

98. These comprise a Medical College (with a Council incorporated by Ordinance No. 3 of 1905) and a Bacteriological Institute.

99. Ordinance No. 2 of 1905, providing for the registration of medical practitioners in Ceylon, was brought into force on April 1st, 1906, and December 31st, 1907, was fixed as the final day for receiving applications from native doctors, &c., not ordinarily entitled to registration.

(C.) Asylums.

100. There are asylums in Colombo for lunatics and lepers; there is also a Home for Incurables, which, though not an official institution, receives a grant of Rs. 5,000 per annum from Government.

(D.) Poor-Houses.

101. There are no poor-houses in Ceylon. In Colombo and some other towns there are Friend-in-Need Societies for the relief of distress, and these are subsidized by Government, the Colombo subsidy being Rs. 12,000 per annum. In addition to this every Government Agent and Assistant Government Agent has an annual vote for "Allowances to Paupers;" the votes vary from Rs. 10,000 in the Colombo District to Rs. 340 in the Nuwara Eliya District; the maximum allowance is Rs. 5 a month.

(E.) Savings Banks.

102. There are two Government institutions, and the business of both showed a satisfactory increase in 1907:—

(1) The Ceylon Savings Bank had a sum of Rs. 4,679,480 to the credit of 33,888 depositors on December 31st, 1907, as against Rs. 4,448,117 to the credit of 33,175 depositors on the corresponding date of 1906. The amount of the Bank's invested funds was Rs. 4,969,020. Interest is allowed on deposits at the rate of 3 per cent. in sums above Rs. 1,000, and 4 per cent. on sums below that amount.

(2) Post Office Savings Bank. — Depositors' accounts increased by 4,069, and amount to credit of depositors by Rs. 219,377, the figures at the end of the year being Rs. 2,117,199 to the credit of 71,018 depositors. In 1906 the increase of accounts was 3,099 and of deposits Rs. 149,695, so that the progress in 1907 was more marked. Business is done at 158 offices, and the rate of interest is 2·40 per cent.

VI.—JUDICIAL.

(A.) Police.

103. The authorized strength of the Police Force on December 31st, 1907, was 1 Inspector-General, 6 Superintendents of Police, 13 Assistant Superintendents of Police, 20

Inspectors, 23 Sergeant-Majors, 16 European Police Sergeants, 18 European Police Constables, 54 Station House Officers, 225 Native Sergeants, and 1,780 Native Constables. Seven members of the Civil Service are attached to the Force.

104. The cost of the Force was Rs. 1,091,745, as against Rs. 1,050,787 in 1906 and Rs. 823,227 in 1905. During the year 401 recruits were enlisted. On December 31st the force was short by 30 men, but is now (March, 1908) nearly up to strength.

105. The regular police established in the Southern, Western, and North-Western Provinces have continued to work steadily; they need experience, but promise well. The Government Agent of the Southern Province reports that there has been a marked diminution in crime since the establishment of regular police there.

(B.) Crime Statistics.

I.—*From Returns furnished by the Inspector-General of Police.*

106. The following figures show the movement of crime for the past five years:—

Year.	True Cases.	Convictions or Committals.
1903	16,769	11,492
1904	19,027	13,063
1905	16,831	11,036
1906	17,621	11,224
1907	15,555	11,550

Of the 15,555 cases in 1907, 9,935 cases were statutory offences, breaches of Municipal by-laws, and other minor offences; only 5,620 cases can be classed as serious crime, as against 5,338 in 1906.

107. The following table shows the fluctuation of the more important forms of serious crime:—

—	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.	1907.
Murder and homicide ...	134	144	170	186	188
Rape	31	20	23	30	110
Robbery	294	280	330	382	926
Burglary	1,481	1,716	1,869	2,107	2,370
Grievous hurt	436	408	448	481	479
Theft of cattle and prædial products.	1,215	1,377	1,623	1,915	1,161
Arson	206	190	230	229	384
Riot	21	8	4	8	2

108. The marked decrease in cattle theft is noteworthy, and is probably due to the efforts of the new stations to break up gangs of cattle thieves. The increase in robbery is probably due to more correct registration, and the other increases are more or less normal.

109. In 83 murder cases the accused were convicted.

II.—*From Returns furnished by the Solicitor-General.*

110. The number of cases instituted in the Police Courts and Municipal Magistrates' Courts in 1907 was 82,453, as against 87,828 in 1906. The proportion of persons tried by Police Courts per 100,000 inhabitants was 1,600, as against 2,315 in 1906. The number of cases sent up for trial before the Superior Courts in 1907 was 1,708, viz., 353 before the Supreme Court and 1,355 before the District Courts. Of these, 219 ended in the conviction of one or more of the accused, and 114 in the acquittal of all the accused.

111. The cases before the Supreme Court included 147 in which the accused were charged with murder. Of these, one was withdrawn and three were pending at the end of the year. Of the remaining 143 cases, 110 resulted in the conviction of one or more of the accused (44 on the capital charge and 66 of lesser offences), and 33 in the acquittal of all the accused. Altogether 2,744 persons were committed for trial before the Superior Courts. Of these, 61 were awaiting trial at the end of the year. Of the remaining 2,683, 1,487 were convicted and 1,170 were acquitted, while 26 were discharged, the charges against them having been withdrawn.

(C.) Prisons.

112. There was a decrease of 125 prisoners in the total number of admissions of convicted prisoners to the prisons in Ceylon during the year, excluding Road Ordinance defaulters, of whom there were 487 in 1907 as against 575 in 1906. The figures are as follows:—

1906	8,313
1907	8,188

113. Of the total admissions of convicted prisoners to prisons, the following were from the Superior Courts (Supreme and District Courts):—

1906	1,135
1907	1,296

There was therefore an increase of 161, as compared with 1906, in the number of persons convicted of more serious offences.

114. The convictions for murder and manslaughter were 126, as against 127 in 1906.

115. There was a large increase in the number of capital sentences carried out:—

	Sentenced to Death.	Hanged.
1906	54 ...	26
1907	59 ...	44

Of the 59 sentenced to be hanged in 1907, 49 were Sinhalese, nine Tamils, and one Moor; 45 out of the 59 sentences were confirmed, 13 were commuted, and one was pardoned.

116. The total number of deaths in jail was 121, as against 118 in 1906. There was no serious epidemic of any kind. The average daily sick-rate for the year was 101, as against 134 in 1906—a very satisfactory decrease.

117. The number of punishments for prison offences inflicted on prisoners increased from 1,971 in 1906 to 2,308 in 1907. The number of individuals punished also increased from 1,771 in 1906 to 2,013 in 1907. Corporal punishments also increased from 109 in 1906 to 128 in 1907. The increases in the number of punishments, both corporal and "others," is attributed to the substitution of husk-beating and stone-breaking tasked labours, which were very much disliked by the prisoners, in lieu of "pingo drill."

118. The chief feature of the year was the successful efforts made to substitute productive for unproductive labour. In Welikada coir door rugs, matting, brooms, and brushes of all descriptions are made. Rattan furniture making has proved a success. Boot-making machines have been obtained from England, and the boot and shoe department now supplies all boots and shoes required by the officers for uniform and for the European and Burgher prisoners. The blacksmiths', tinsmiths', and carpenters' parties have been extended, and all articles required in the jails of the Island are made by prison labour. The Railway and Government Stores are also supplied with such articles as they may order. The tailors' department makes up the whole of the clothing required for officers' uniforms and for the prisoners. Repairs, alterations, and additions to jail buildings and officers' quarters in Colombo and other jails are performed by prison labour, the materials being supplied by the Public Works Department. At Negombo a basket industry has been started, and the Public Works Department, Railway, and Government Stores are supplied with jail-made goods made by convalescent prisoners who are unfit for hard labour. The estimated value of remunerative labour performed by prisoners was Rs. 323,266.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

(A.) Population.

119. The population enumerated at the Census (March 1st, 1901) was 3,565,954, exclusive of the military, the shipping, and the South African prisoners of war. The natural increase by excess of births over deaths from that date to the end of the year 1907 amounted to 234,058, while the number of Indian immigrants exceeded the number of emigrants by 188,052. The population estimated to the end of 1907 was accordingly 3,988,064, an increase, as compared with the population at the end of 1906, of 3,079 persons, and equal to a rate of ·08 per cent. The increase is much less than usual, being one-eleventh of the increase in 1906 compared with 1905. This was due to the excess of departures over arrivals of immigrant coolies in 1907. In the last twenty years there has been only one other year in which the departures exceeded the arrivals.

Birth and Death Rates.

120. The births registered during the year numbered 130,403, and were in the proportion of 32·8 per 1,000 persons living. The registered deaths numbered 119,377, and were equal to a rate of 30·1 per 1,000 of the population. Compared with 1906, the birth-rate shows a decrease of 2·9 per mille, and the death-rate a decrease of 4·2 per mille. Compared with the average rates for the nine years 1898-1906, the birth-rate shows a decrease of 5·5 per mille, and the death-rate an increase of 1·9 per mile.

(B.) Public Health.

121. The public health during 1907 showed a marked improvement on the previous year, which was one of the worst on record. There was an absence of widespread malaria, and the outbreaks of cholera and smallpox did not attain large proportions.

122. The greatest number of deaths occurred, as usual, under diseases of the gastro-intestinal canal; deaths under "Fevers" came next. There were 72 registered deaths from cholera and 24 from smallpox. There were 105 cases of cholera and 126 cases of smallpox in 1907, as against 756 and 287 respectively in 1906.

123. In the hospitals of the Island, of which there are 69, including asylums, there was a daily average sick of 4,175, as against 4,443 in the previous year. The number of parangi cases decreased in 1907. There were only two diseases which showed an increase in admissions during this year over 1906, viz., enteric fever and anchylostomiasis.

124. The following is a comparative statement of the number of admissions and deaths for the principal diseases in hospitals for 1906 and 1907:—

—	1906.		1907.	
	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.
Anchylostomiasis	3,206	788	3,831	888
Chickenpox	2,677	1	2,441	2
Cholera	756	449	105	62
Dysentery	4,788	1,649	3,474	1,264
Enteric Fever	615	165	696	157
Leprosy	570	73	516	73
Malarial Fever	11,159	206	7,164	167
Parangi	3,958	41	3,513	45
Smallpox	287	69	126	24

125. Vaccination.—During the year 173,128 subjects were vaccinated. The percentage of successful primary vaccination cases to total inspected was 89·94, while the percentage of successful re-vaccination cases was 82·32.

126. Prevention of Malaria.—(i.) Owing to the excessive rainfall and the presence of large masses of water in the form of lagoons, canals, and paddy fields, Ceylon presents insurmountable difficulties in the way of a complete campaign against malaria. The weapons mainly used against the spread of this disease are the education of the people and the free distribution of quinine as a prophylactic.

(ii.) All school children are taught the rudiments of the prevention and cause of malaria, and they are given quinine regularly twice a week just before and during the rains. Free quinine is also distributed to the inhabitants by the headmen of remote villages, and by the officers of the Government hospitals and dispensaries where these are established.

(iii.) During the year many thousands of pamphlets dealing with the prevention of malaria have been distributed in various languages, and medical officers and apothecaries have given popular lectures on the same subject.

127. Plague.—Fortunately the Island continues free from the ravages of plague, and no case has been brought to the Island. Ceylon's freedom from plague may be attributed to the following circumstances: it is not a terminal port, ships do not come alongside a quay, and cargo lighters are regularly disinfected and kept free from rats.

(C.) Sanitation.

128. The sanitation of large towns is in the hands of municipalities, and in smaller towns in the hands of Boards of Health. The general expense of scavenging, &c., is met from

rates recovered locally, and loans are made occasionally to the local bodies for larger works of permanence, such as water supply, construction of drains, &c., the cost of which they are unable to meet in a lump sum. At present in the municipal towns the dry-earth closet system is in operation, the solid matter being collected nightly in carts for disposal at depôts outside the towns. (See also under head Public Works, (E) Colombo Drainage Works.)

(D.) METEOROLOGY.

129. The year 1907 was under the average as regards rainfall, but was distinguished by a number of cyclonic storms. In March a cyclone of considerable violence for Ceylon visited the east of the Island and caused extensive damage to coconut plantations, thousands of trees being destroyed. On October 1st a sudden storm, accompanied by heavy rain, resulted in a large landslip near Watawala, a portion of the railway line being carried away, the line being blocked for five days. On December 15th a cyclonic storm, accompanied by heavy rain, occurred between Dambulla and Anuradhapura. A number of tanks overflowed and had their bunds damaged, and a portion of the railway track in the North was carried away, the traffic being interrupted for some days.

130. The highest recorded rainfall was at Ratnapura, 138·36 inches, which was 12·10 inches below the average; the lowest at Hambantota, 33·64 inches, or 3·49 inches below the average. The rainfall in Colombo was 16·03 inches below the average, and at Kandy 7½ inches. The hottest station, taking the mean temperature of night and day of all the year round into account, was Jaffna, 82·6°. The coolest was Nuwara Eliya, 59·1°. Colombo and Kandy were 80·1° and 75·8° respectively.

VIII.—POST AND TELEGRAPH.

131. The total number of offices open in 1907 was 397; of these, 158 were Post Offices and 239 were Receiving Offices. Of the 158 Post Offices, 105 are also Telegraph Offices.

132. A comparison of the revenue and expenditure for the years 1906 and 1907 shows—

—	1906.	1907.
	Rs.	Rs.
Revenue	1,249,046	1,353,202
Estimated value of work done for Government	250,560	246,507
Total	1,499,606	1,599,709
Expenditure	1,455,164	1,483,502
Balance	44,442	116,207

133. The total estimated number of articles, exclusive o parcels, which passed through the post during the year ex ceeded 30¼ millions, against 29¼ millions in 1906 and 26 millions in 1905. The business done in parcels is shown a follows:—

—	1906.	1907.
Total number of parcels	458,848	503,507
Inland value-payable parcels	82,435	98,117
Indian value-payable parcels	69,278	75,951
Collected from addressees of value-payable parcels.	Rs. 851,055	Rs. 867,587

134. The "snow ball" system of trading by post, which has now been checked by the Indian Postal authorities, resulted in 19,265 value-payable parcels from India being refused by the addressees and returned to India.

135. The following are the figures for Money Orders:—

—	1906.		1907.	
	No.	Value. Rs.	No.	Value. Rs.
Inland	270,059	7,158,908	292,422	8,062,074
Indian	156,514	4,379,922	174,231	4,751,428
United Kingdom ...	10,862	373,523	10,547	382,710
Colonial and Foreign ...	10,781	644,799	11,487	768,307
Total	448,216	12,557,153	488,687	13,964,518

The slight decrease in money order business with the United Kingdom is due to the increase in British Postal Orders.

136. The business done in Postal Orders is shown below:—

—	1906.		1907.	
	No.	Value.	No.	Value.
Inland	53,488	Rs. 175,898	58,463	Rs. 192,112
British	9,854	£6,036	35,445	£10,248

137. The total number of telegrams was 807,996 in 1907 against 759,571 in 1906, an increase of 48,425 against an increase of 41,997 over 1905. Foreign telegrams (other than those sent to India) showed an increase of 17 per cent., against 10 per cent. in the previous year.

138. The number of miles of wire and of postal telegraph offices and railway telegraph stations is shown below:—

	1906.	1907.
Miles of wire	3,470	3,651
Number of postal telegraph offices	100	106
Railway telegraph stations ...	106	107

Postage Rates.

139. The unit of weight by the foreign post was raised from ½ oz. to 1 oz., and the second rate on foreign letters reduced from 15 cents to 9 cents from October 1st, while the rates on foreign printed matter, patterns, and samples were slightly altered, with effect from January 1st, 1908, in order to bring them into conformity with the Postal Union regulations.

140. A general revision of the inland postage rates was sanctioned during the course of the year. The main features of it were the raising of the unit of weight for letters from 1 oz. to 4 oz., the reduction of rates on parcels between 1 lb. and 11 lb., the removal of the limit of weight on registered newspapers, and an increase in the rates for other printed matter, which has hitherto been carried at unremunerative rates. The new inland rates are on the lines of the postal rates in the United Kingdom. These alterations come into effect on January 1st, 1908, and the same rates will be extended to India from the same date. A reduction has also been made in the insurance rates on parcels to India, bringing them into line with the rates for insured letters.

IX.—MILITARY EXPENDITURE.

141. The total expenditure of the year was Rs. 1,601,310, as against Rs. 2,868,478 in 1906, or a decrease of Rs. 1,267,168. The colonial contribution for regular troops (9½ per cent. on the revenue so long as that sum does not exceed three-fourths of the cost of the garrison for that year) amounted to Rs. 1,350,295, as against Rs. 2,526,240 in 1906. The decrease under this head is accounted for by the fact that during the whole year Ceylon had a Native Infantry Regiment (viz., the 75th Carnatic Infantry Regiment, which succeeded the 2nd Battalion Worcestershire Regiment), the cost of which was less than that of a British Regiment.

142. The strength of all arms of the Volunteer Force on December 31st, 1907, was 1,904, exclusive of 463 members of the Cadet Battalion of the Ceylon Light Infantry, and of these, 1,720 or 90 per cent. were classed as efficient.

The annual camp was held for the fifth time at Diyatalawa, and lasted from July 11th to 20th. The attendance was higher than that of 1906.

The establishment of the Ceylon Mounted Rifles was increased during the year from 160 to 200.

The strength of the Ceylon Planters' Rifle Corps is practically the same as last year.

The Ceylon Volunteer Medical Corps is regaining its position as to numbers and efficiency.

The Volunteer Force was inspected by the Duke of Connaught, Inspector-General of the Forces, in March, and His Royal Highness expressed his approval at the result of the inspection.

The standard of musketry efficiency attained in 1906, which was high, has been maintained.

The expenditure on Volunteers during 1907 amounted to Rs. 239,247, as against Rs. 285,987 in 1906.

X.—PUBLIC WORKS.

(A.) Public Works Department.

143. The expenditure of the Public Works Department during the last two years may be compared as follows:—

—	1906.	1907.
	Rs.	Rs.
Personal Emoluments	558,897	533,049
Other Charges	83,010	89,857
Public Works Annually Recurrent	2,582,398	2,648,741
Public Works Extraordinary	1,901,588	1,929,416
Works chargeable to Loans, &c....	133,083	227,081
Total	5,258,976	5,428,144

144. The total expenditure of the Public Works Department has steadily increased during the last ten years from Rs. 4,190,003 in 1898 to Rs. 5,428,144 in 1907.

145. The total length of roads maintained by the Public Works Department during the year was 3,763 miles, of which 3,423 miles are cart roads and 340 miles are bridle roads. The construction of cart roads where required is receiving the close attention of Government, and the hospital accommodation throughout the Colony is being largely increased.

(B.) Colombo Harbour Works.

146. The total expenditure upon the works during 1907 amounted to Rs. 1,725,611·40, and the total expenditure since the commencement of the South-west Breakwater in 1873, including maintenance charges, &c., amounted to Rs. 37,979,274·98.

New Arm, South-west Breakwater.

147. Preliminary work on the foundations commenced as soon as weather permitted in October, and up to the end of the year 19 blocks were set. Owing to the exposed position the work presents considerable difficulties, and it is estimated hat it will not be finished for five or six years.

Graving Dock.

148. The Dock was occupied on nine occasions during the year. The revenue amounted to Rs. 23,947·19, and the expenditure to Rs. 34,738·52. A start was made on the north guide pier in November. It is hoped that a considerable length of the total 800 feet will have been completed before the arrival of the south-west monsoon of 1908.

Patent Slip.

149. The slip was used on twenty-nine occasions, producing a revenue of Rs. 33,532. The working expenses amounted to Rs. 10,066·94.

New Projects.

150. During the year borings were taken opposite the present Harbour Works yard with a view to framing an estimate of cost of two jetties which could be used for berthing large steamers. The estimate is now being prepared by the Consulting Engineers. Consideration of the proposed Wet Dock has been postponed, there being no pressing need for increased harbour accommodation at present.

(C.) Railway Department.

(*Open Lines.*)

151. The total length of railways open at the end of 1907 was 562⅛ miles.

152. The receipts for the year amounted to Rs. 10,695,430, being Rs. 591,835 in excess of the preceding year; to this increase goods traffic contributed more than half, viz., Rs. 327,640; ordinary passenger receipts increased by Rs. 239,823. The increases in goods traffic were principally on rice, manure, machinery, bridge and building materials, food stuffs, tea, cacao, fruits, and vegetables.

153. The actual working expenses for 1907 (excluding expenditure on new works, &c.) were Rs. 5,362,470, as compared with Rs. 5,233,269 in 1906.

154. The result of the year's working was therefore as follows:—

	Rs.
Receipts	10,695,430
Working expenses	5,362,470
Profit ...	5,332,960

155. Of this profit, the sum of Rs. 1,116,200 was expended in providing additional accommodation, rolling stock, increased safety appliances, &c.

156. The total capital cost of the railway, including additional accommodation provided, up to December 31st, 1907, amounted to Rs. 84,011,755. The profit on the capital cost of the railway, including additional accommodation, to December 31st, 1907, was therefore 6·35 per cent. The capital outstanding on loans on January 1st, 1907, was Rs. 39,154,126.

157. The results of the year's working may be considered satisfactory, for whilst the gross receipts exceeded last year's total by Rs. 591,835, the working expenses were only increased by Rs. 128,544, and this notwithstanding heavy expenditure in 1907 on works for the prevention of slips and washaways and damage by floods. The result in fact reflects the prevalent prosperity in the Island.

158. The sanctioned scheme for the provision of additional goods vehicles, to bring the stock up to a more satisfactory level for dealing with the traffic, was completed during the year by the supply of 30 four-wheeled covered goods waggons, 12 iron high-sided waggons, and six bogie low-sided waggons. Twelve additional high capacity waggons for coal and firewood were also ordered from home and delivered at the end of the year.

159. Additions were also made to the passenger stock, including 2 bogie brake refreshment cars lit by electric light and a complete suburban block train also electrically lit. Steady progress is being made in the installation of Stone's electric light in carriages in lieu of the old-fashioned and unsatisfactory oil lamps. Six suburban tank engines of a new and powerful type were obtained from home to replace old and obsolete engines. Important additions were made to the locomotive workshops and machinery therein in pursuance of the policy of bringing these thoroughly up to date with labour-saving plant.

160. Very little trouble was experienced during the year by slips and washaways on the main line, the only serious case being a slip at Watawala on October 2nd, which blocked the

line for five days. Heavy rain on the northern line on and from December 15th caused serious damage, and interrupted traffic totally for a day and partially for several days more.

Colombo Stations Extension.

161. This important scheme, which includes the rebuilding and enlargement of the Maradana Junction station, an extension of the goods yard, new running sheds, and the duplication and deviation of the main line across a portion of reclaimed lake, and the construction of a new Fort station for the business centre of the city, made substantial progress during the year. The new Maradana station is well advanced, and six acres have been reclaimed from the lake for the goods yard extension. The total estimate for the whole work, which is being charged against loan funds, is Rs. 4,447,145, out of which Rs. 1,320,860 had been spent up to the end of 1907.

Railway Extension.

Negombo Railway.

162. The construction of the railway to Negombo, for which sanction had been obtained towards the end of 1906, was taken in hand, the first sod being turned by Sir Henry Blake, G.C.M.G., at Negombo, shortly before he relinquished office. This extension will be on the broad gauge, and will connect with the present main line at Ragama. Practically it will form an extension north of Colombo of the present Sea Coast Railway to Galle and Matara. It is being constructed out of General Revenue. The total estimate is Rs. 1,641,471, out of which Rs. 254,622 was spent in 1907.

Ratnapura Railway.

163. A re-survey of the proposed branch narrow gauge line from Avisawella to Ratnapura was made during the year for the purpose of revising the grading and curvature. The estimated cost of the revised trace is calculated by the consulting engineers at Rs. 2,953,408. With the development of rubber cultivation in the neighbourhood, the estimated receipts are now considerably more than they were when the project was first put forward, and the consulting engineers anticipate that there will be a profit of some Rs. 44,000 per annum, after payment of working expenses and interest and sinking fund at 4¾ per cent. The extension has now (1908) been finally sanctioned by the Secretary of State, and the work of construction will shortly begin. The cost will be met from loan funds.

Mannar Railway.

164. Sanction has been received for the survey of this all-important link of communication with South India, and the work is now in hand. The estimate is expected to be completed by about October, 1908. It has been decided that the line, if constructed, shall branch off from the main line at Madawachchi.

Badulla-Passara Railway.

165. A detailed survey and estimate of an extension of the main line from Bandarawela to Badulla and Passara was made during the year. Two estimates have been framed, one for a broad gauge railway to Passara throughout (Rs. 9,254,641), the other for a broad gauge to Badulla and a narrow gauge to Passara (Rs. 7,802,500), but the working expenses of the mixed gauge would be considerably higher than those of the broad gauge. It remains to be seen whether it is possible to fix rates which will result in a profit sufficient to cover the interest and sinking fund on so large an expenditure.

(D.) Irrigation.

166. The expenditure on construction in 1907 was Rs. 415,452, as against Rs. 481,629 in 1906. An extent of 1,704 acres of new land was opened for irrigation in 1907, of which 575 acres were in the Southern Province, 461 acres in the Eastern Province, and 470 acres in the North-Central Province. A large amount of work was done during 1907 in preparing contoured plans of the areas irrigated by various works, both old and recently constructed, and in the preparation of accurate specifications of the lands irrigated and irrigable by each scheme.

(E.) Colombo Drainage Works.

167. Messrs. Mansergh & Sons' scheme for the drainage of Colombo has been in course of construction since 1904. The whole scheme is estimated to cost about 20½ million rupees, and up to the present an expenditure of Rs. 5,200,000 has been sanctioned for dealing with the area which at present drains into the harbour, containing about one quarter of the population; and a further expenditure of Rs. 1,500,000 has been approved for extending the main sewer to intercept partially the sewage which at present drains into the lake in the centre of the city.

168. Sewers are being laid in all the principal streets, gravitating to a pumping station near the harbour, where the sewage will be lifted into a main sewer and led away about 2¼ miles to a terminal pumping station and bacterial treatment

works, whence the purified effluent will be discharged into the Kelani river near the Victor[illegible]idge. The sewers are capable of taking six times the dry [illegible]ther flow of the sewage, and separate drains are being provided for dealing with heavy rainfall.

169. The total length of sewers and rain water drains completed up to December 31st, 1907, amounted to 16¾ miles, showing a progress of 6¼ miles during the year. At the harbour pumping station all the heavy works up to ground level have been completed. At the northern pumping station and treatment works all the deep excavations have been finished, and building operations have been commenced in the foundation of the pumping station; the storm water beds and outfall channel are well advanced. Altogether about 187,000 cubic yards of excavation has been done; and about 22,250 cubic yards of concrete and masonry and 13½ miles of stoneware pipes have been put in place.

170. The total expenditure up to December 31st, 1907, amounted to Rs. 2,896,955·36, of which Rs. 996,742·38 was expended during 1907. In December, 1907, 2,421 men were employed upon the works, as against 1,467 in December, 1906.

XI.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

(A.) Important Events.

171. Their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Connaught, accompanied by the Princess Patricia, honoured Ceylon with a visit in the early part of the year. His Royal Highness, as Inspector-General of the Forces, inspected the military forces in the Colony, and paid a visit to the Diyatalawa Camp. He also unveiled the statue erected at Kandy by the planters of Ceylon to the memory of Ceylon Volunteers who fell in the South African War.

172. Ceylon was also visited by His Majesty the King of Siam, who spent some days in the Island.

173. The news of the death of Lady Ridgeway, wife of Sir West Ridgeway, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., who was Governor of the Colony from 1896 to 1903, was received with great regret by the people of Ceylon. A number of ladies, representative of the different communities of the Island, have collected some Rs. 40,000, and it is proposed to build a hospital for children in memory of the deceased lady.

174. A commencement was made with the building of an observatory in Colombo, and by the time this report is published the construction should be about finished. The observatory will be in direct charge of the Surveyor-General, and its erection will remove the reproach from Colombo of being the only port of any importance within the British Empire unprovided with accurate time signals for the use of its shipping. The immediate work which the observatory will undertake will be the supply of correct time to the harbour three times a day through a time ball which will be erected on the Pilot's tower. The meteorological instruments, which have been working at the Surveyor-General's office under most unsatisfactory conditions for the past few years, will also be transferred to the observatory grounds, as well as the seismograph, which has been temporarily erected at the Technical College. It is hoped that, by gradual accession of fresh instruments, Ceylon will eventually take a place commensurate with its importance in the international scheme for the advancement of astronomical and meteorological science, for which it is so conspicuously suited by its geographical position.

175. A cyclone of exceptional severity for Ceylon caused great damage in the east of the Island in March, 1907, and coconut cultivation, which is the principal agricultural industry in that district, will take some years to recover. Thousands of trees were uprooted, and the total damage was variously estimated at from Rs. 4,000,000 to Rs. 6,000,000. As the fallen trees threatened to become a grave source of danger by affording breeding ground for beetles and other pests, Government voted Rs. 100,000 towards the destruction of the trees, and appointed a special officer to supervise the work.

(B.) Public Service.

176. Sir Henry Blake, G.C.M.G., who had been Governor since December 3rd, 1903, relinquished the administration on July 11th, 1907, and was succeeded by Sir Henry McCallum, G.C.M.G., A.D.C., late Governor of Natal, who arrived in the Colony on August 24th.

177. The Hon. Mr. Hugh Clifford, C.M.G., Colonial Secretary of Trinidad, was appointed to succeed the late Sir Alexander Ashmore, K.C.M.G., as Colonial Secretary, and assumed duties on May 18th, relieving the Hon. Mr. G. M. Fowler, C.M.G., who had acted as Colonial Secretary from the time of Sir Alexander Ashmore's death. Mr. Clifford administered the Government during the period between the departure of Sir Henry Blake and the arrival of Sir Henry McCallum.

178. Mr. Bernard Senior, I.S.O., late Auditor-General of the Orange River Colony, was appointed to the newly created post of Colonial Auditor.

(C.) Immigration.

179. The number of immigrant labourers for the year 1907 was 58,724, as against an average of 103,000 during the five preceding years. There can be no doubt that there is increasing demand by other colonies for the services of the South Indian coolies, and that additional inducements are required to retain for Ceylon her position among the competitors. A representative Labour Commission has been appointed to inquire into and advise upon this important but complicated question.

(D.) Openings for Investment of Capital.

180. Rubber, coconut, tea, and plumbago are the chief openings for investment of capital. In the Western and Central Provinces the area of land at the disposal of the Crown for sale is rapidly shrinking, but in the rest of the Island, and notably in Uva, the North-Western, and the Southern Provinces, large tracts are available.

(E.) General Condition of the Colony.

181. The general condition of the Colony is one of steady prosperity. The staple agricultural products are in a sound position, and the export of rubber is rapidly increasing. The general rise in material well-being and the standard of comfort is reflected in the ever-increasing value and variety of imports.

(F.) Social and Moral Condition of the People.

182. The complaint that education results in the educated classes leaving the country for the town finds many echoes in the reports of the Government Agents in Ceylon. "The educated man no longer lives upon or cultivates his land; he either leases it or works it with hired labour, while he himself enters the Government service or becomes a clerk in a mercantile firm." "The education given is only good in that it supplies the possessor with an instrument to assist him in competing for employment and endeavouring to alter his position from that of an agriculturist to that of a clerk or mechanic." "The tendency seems to be to create a distaste for an agricultural life, which after all is the only occupation open to the great majority of the people."

183. The moral condition of the people is better than statistics would lead one to believe. In the North the people are law-abiding and peaceful, and crime is rare; in the Central Province crime is reported to be decreasing; while in the Chilaw District of the North-Western Province there is said to be an absence of really serious crime. In the low-country maritime Provinces—*i.e.*, Western and Southern—crimes of violence are still common, but the Southern Province

shows a distinct improvement, and up to the present a single Magistrate has presided over the Police and Municipal Courts of the city of Colombo, with a cosmopolitan population of nearly 200,000. It must be remembered that the inhabitants of Ceylon are extremely litigious and prone to bringing false charges against their enemies, and it must not be presumed that the heavy work in the courts connotes a proportionate prevalence of serious crime.

A. R. SLATER,

Assistant Colonial Secretary.

April 10th, 1908.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony &c.	Year.
528	Bermuda	1906
529	Gibraltar	"
530	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
531	Sierra Leone	"
532	Colonial Survey Committee	1906–1907
533	Weihaiwei	1906
534	Gold Coast	"
535	Malta	1906–1907
536	Gambia	1906
537	British Central Africa Protectorate	1906–1907
538	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
539	Leeward Islands	"
540	Straits Settlements	1906
541	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
542	Somaliland Protectorate	1906–1907
543	Bahamas	"
544	Barbados	"
545	Trinidad and Tobago	"
546	Grenada	"
547	Mauritius	1906
548	Fiji	"
549	Jamaica	1906–1907
550	British Guiana	"
551	Northern Nigeria	"
552	British Honduras	1906
553	St. Lucia	1906–1907
554	Southern Nigeria	1906
555	St. Vincent	1906–1907
556	Basutoland	"
557	East Africa Protectorate	"
558	Uganda Protectorate	"
559	Swaziland	"
560	St. Helena	1907

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony &c.	Subject.
45	East Africa Protectorate ...	Geology.
46	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey (1904–5).
47	Do. do.	Do. (1905–6).
48	Nyasaland Protectorate ...	Do. (1906–7).
49	East Africa Protectorate ...	Veterinary Department.
50	British Colonies, &c.	Cotton cultivation.
51	Southern Nigeria	Forest Administration.
52	South Africa	Native Education.

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(For Report for 1907, *see* No. 561.)

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No. 604.

CEYLON.

(For Report for 1907, *see* No. 561.)

THE GOVERNOR TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

The Queen's House, Colombo, Ceylon,
26th May, 1909.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith, for Your Lordship's information, the usual report on the Ceylon Blue Book for 1908, prepared by the Second Assistant Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.,

HENRY MCCALLUM,
Governor, &c.

The Right Honourable,
The Earl of Crewe, K.G.,
&c., &c., &c.

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REPORT ON THE CEYLON BLUE BOOK OF 1908.

I.—FINANCIAL.

(A.) General Revenue and Expenditure.

Revenue.

The revenue in 1908 amounted to Rs. 35,572,849, which was Rs. 27,151 less than the estimate, Rs. 1,000,976 less than the revenue of 1907, and Rs. 819,392 more than the ordinary expenditure, exclusive of the amount charged to surplus balances, or Rs. 540,794 more than the total expenditure of the year.

The following table shows the rapid growth of the Ceylon revenue during the last decade:—

Year.	Revenue	Expenditure.	Excess of Revenue as compared with previous Year.	Surplus of Revenue over Expenditure.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1899	25,913,141	24,950,940	774,472	962,201
1900	27,325,930	25,321,988	1,412,789	2,003,942
1901	26,437,102	25,896,594	—	540,508
1902	28,435,158	26,341,878	1,998,056	2,093,280
1903	29,423,308	26,714,828	988,150	2,708,480
1904	30,846,694	32,019,393	1,423,386	1,172,699*
1905	34,395,336	29,736,899	2,548,642	4,658,437
1906	35,030,661	32,644,215	635,325	2,386,446
1907	36,573,825	32,591,522	1,543,164	3,982,303
1908	35,572,849	35,032,055†	—	540,794

* Deficit. † Includes Rs. 278,597 from surplus balances.

The following is a comparative statement showing the actual revenue collected in 1907 and 1908:—

—	Revenue of 1907.	Revenue of 1908.	Nett Increase.	Nett Decrease.
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
1. Customs	9,189,922 57	8,993,111 76	—	196,810 81
2. Port, Harbour, Wharf, and Lighthouse Dues.	2,135,632 39	2,186,626 23	50,993 84	—
3. Licences, Excise, and Internal Revenue not otherwise classified.	7,959,763 73	7,777,187 17	—	182,576 56
4. Fees of Court or Office, Payment for Specific Services, and Reimbursements-in-Aid.	1,543,287 83	1,526,934 53	—	16,353 30
5 Post and Telegraphs	1,341,193 92	1,416,194 94	75,001 02	—
6. Government Railway	10,741,008 19	10,917,929 57	176,921 38	—
7. Interest	731,501 30	749,799 78	18,298 48	—
8. Miscellaneous Receipts	531,012 63	509,163 69	—	21,848 94
Total	34,173,322 56	34,076,947 67	321,214 72	417,589 61
9. Land Revenue (exclusive of Land Sales).	486,431 06	471,770 78	—	14,660 28
10. Land Sales	1,914,071 27	1,024,130 84	—	889,940 43
Total	36,573,824 89	35,572,849 29	—	1,000,975 60

The revenue of 1908, though less than that of the previous year by a little over a million rupees, is only Rs. 27,151 less than the estimated revenue for the year, and is the second highest of the decade. An analysis of the different sources of revenue shows that there were deficiencies on the estimated revenue of over four and a half lakhs in Import and Export Duties, of three lakhs in the Arrack, Rum, and Toddy Rents, of over one lakh in the Land Revenue, and of two and a half lakhs in Land Sales, making altogether a deficiency of nearly eleven and a half lakhs.

There were increases of over one lakh under Post and Telegraphs, two lakhs under Railway Receipts, and nearly one lakh under the head Interest. The revenue of 1908 may be regarded as very satisfactory when it is considered that the figures may be taken to represent the revenue of the Island during an ordinary year, when there was no special activity in trade.

Two and a half lakhs of the decrease were due to a falling off in Land Sales, which cannot be regarded as a fall in revenue.

In 1906, and to a certain extent in 1907, there was a very large demand for land owing to the rubber boom, and to take advantage of the demand and stimulate the opening up of land in rubber sales were pushed on. At the present time there is no need to push land sales. There is always a steady demand for land, and as the country becomes more and more opened up by railways land rises in value. Land revenue should be kept apart from the ordinary sources of revenue; it represents capital rather than income.

The decrease of four and a half lakhs in Import and Export Duties was principally due to a very large falling off in the import duties on grains, caused by the prospect of a bad monsoon in India, which sent up the price of rice, and led merchants here to keep their stock of imported rice as low as possible. If a result has been an increased consumption of local grain, this decrease in import luties may be welcomed as likely to support the policy of making the people of this country more self-dependent for their staple food. The decrease of three lakhs in the Arrack, Rum, and Toddy Rent was due largely to instalments of rent not being paid within the year.

The increases on the estimated revenue were in branches which correspond with material prosperity and increased business. More money was spent on postage and telegrams and on travelling.

The surplus fund of the Colony at the end of the year amounted to Rs. 16,694,979. The greater part of this sum has, however, been advanced to meet expenditure on certain large public works which are really chargeable to the loan account of the Colony, *e.g.*, Harbour Works, completion of the 1899 Railway Extension Programme, Colombo Railway Extensions Scheme, Duplication of Colombo Water Main, and Irrigation. The total amount advanced on account of these works up to the end of 1908 is Rs. 11,912,911. The accumulations of the surplus fund have enabled the Colony to defer borrowing money while the money market was in an unsettled state. As soon as loan funds are

available to release these surplus fund advances, the Secretary of State has sanctioned a large portion of this fund being devoted to certain other public works which are urgently required, but which as they are not of a directly remunerative character cannot properly be constructed out of borrowed money.

Expenditure.

The ordinary expenditure of 1908 amounted to Rs. 35,032,055, or Rs. 1,267,380 less than the estimated expenditure.

The savings on the estimate were chiefly under Public Works Extraordinary Rs. 640,966, and Rs. 209,761 under Railway Works Extraordinary. The staff of the Public Works Department has not been increased for many years, and its present spending power is evidently not capable of much further expansion without special and temporary arrangements.

The following is a comparative statement of expenditure for 1907 and 1908:—

Heads of Service.	1907.	1908.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
1. Public Debt	3,651,063 5	3,667,166 41	16,103 36	—
2. Military Expenditure	1,601,310 41	1,978,998 55	377,688 14	—
3. Pensions	1,492,652 47	1,608,539 22	115,886 75	—
4. Ecclesiastical	8,309 71	3,409 80	—	4,899 91
5. Exchange	81,628 74	85,261 67	3,632 93	—
6 His Excellency the Governor ..	179,772 46	181,519 32	1,746 86	—
7. Civil Service	813,986 8	824,537 71	10,551 63	—
8. Secretariat	324,018 95	347,644 55	23,625 60	—
9. Controller of Revenue	5,781 45	8,113 94	2,332 49	—
10. Treasury	84,077 49	79,878 71	—	4,198 78
11. Audit Office	69,082 91	101,397 57	32,314 66	—
12. Provincial Administration	1,015,782 86	1,046,417 14	30,634 28	—
13. Settlement Officer under Waste Lands Ordinance.	96,887 2	157,032 17	60,145 15	—
14. Survey Department	902,376 66	997,200 49	94,823 83	—
15. Government Stores	71,717 26	73,611 79	1,894 53	—
16. Immigration	79,494 84	76,322 44	—	3,172 40
17. Quarantine	31,941 74	32,634 89	693 15	—
18. Customs	153,592 45	163,210 55	9,618 10	—
19. Post Office and Telegraphs	1,521,502 89	1,611,033 0	89,530 11	—
20. Forest Department	280,689 31	250,451 98	—	30,237 33
21. Railway Department	5,374,562 23	5,694,818 70	320,256 47	—
22. Port and Marine, Colombo	479,501 48	489,063 41	9,561 93	—
23. Port and Marine other than Colombo	38,557 62	37,101 12	—	1,456 50
24. Legal Departments:—				
Supreme Court	180,702 96	189,202 76	8,499 80	—
Attorney-General	80,598 77	83,120 47	2,521 70	—
Solicitor-General	13,639 13	14,667 50	1,028 37	—
District Courts	179,629 12	190,797 27	11,168 15	—
Courts of Requests and Police Courts.	139,832 27	138,131 54	—	1,700 73
Registration of Lands..	113,576 51	118,771 89	5,195 38	—
Registration of Marriages, Births, and Deaths.	128,134 1	129,016 30	882 29	—
Fiscals	285,150 44	303,498 61	18,348 17	—
25. Police Department	1,066,758 57	1,118,962 63	52,204 06	—
26. Prisons Department	590,272 54	568,582 89	—	21,689 65
27. Medical Department	2,198,889 43	2,178,185 58	—	20,703 85
28. Education	1,297,259 23	1,342,903 47	45,644 24	—
29. Botanic Gardens	128,068 11	151,957 38	23,889 27	—
30. Colombo Museum	36,574 92	38,615 42	8,040 50	—
31. Archæological Commissioner ..	70,027 20	66,575 22	—	3,451 98
32. Veterinary Department	20,299 57	23,287 11	2,987 54	—
33. Board of Agriculture	30,531 25	30,000 0	—	531 25
34. Mineralogical Survey	20,277 68	22,118 72	1,841 04	—
35. Inspector of Mines	11,733 85	16,206 21	4,472 36	—
36. Inspector of Factories	4,000 0	3,457 75	—	542 25
37. Miscellaneous Services	629,028 6	703,074 92	74,046 86	—
38. Public Works Department	600,563 12	665,545 67	64,982 55	—
39. Irrigation Department	304,783 3	322,466 94	17,683 91	—

Heads of Service.	1907.	1908.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
39a. Consulting Electrical Engineer ..	8,968 14	—	—	8,968 14
40. Public Works Annually Recurrent..	2,396,945 69	2,420,404 9	23,458 40	—
41. Irrigation Annually Recurrent ..	181,763 56	197,268 68	15,505 12	—
42. Railway Works Annually Recurrent	—	109,695 95	109,695 95	—
43. Public Works Extraordinary ..	2,008,381 0	1,947,041 83	—	61,339 17
44. Irrigation Extraordinary	155,209 10	166,452 14	11,243 4	—
45. Railway Works Extraordinary ..	1,357,634 45	1,978,083 79	620,449 34	—
46. Surplus Balances—				
Railway Sea Coast Protection Scheme.	—	116,148 59	116,148 59	—
Warehouses, Colombo Customs ..	—	162,448 94	162,448 94	—
Total Expenditure chargeable to General Revenue.	32,591,521 79	35,032,055 39	2,603,425 54	162,891 94
47. Public Works Extraordinary charged to Revenue, pending raising of Loan :—				
Harbour Construction .. .	1,580,627 23	1,329,617 1	—	251,010 22
Northern Railway Construction	137,073 44	26,998 74	—	110,074 70
Station Extensions	737,257 92	1,031,800 74	294,542 82	—
Passara Railway Survey	47,762 80	—	—	47,762 80
Ratnapura Railway Construction	2,852 27	185,728 87	182,876 60	—
Mannar Railway Survey	407 13	50,385 98	49,978 85	—
Irrigation Construction	155,209 11	166,453 21	11,244 10	—
	2,661,189 90	2,790,984 55	538,642 37	408,847 72
Grand Total	35,252,711 69	37,823,039 94	3,142,067 91	571,739 66
Deduct Decrease			571,739 66	
Nett Increase			2,570,328 25	

The most significant features in the above statement are the increases under the heads Military Expenditure, Settlement Officer under the Waste Lands Ordinance, Railway Department, and Railway Works Extraordinary. Military Expenditure shows a total increase of Rs. 377,000, or 23 per cent. This is accounted for by an increase of Rs. 25,000 for Volunteer Regiment, which may be considered a normal increase due to additions to the Force; an increase of Rs. 337,000 in the contribution to the Imperial Government, which is now fixed at £112,500; an increase of Rs. 14,000 under the head Special Expenditure, Buildings, &c.; and an increase of Rs. 1,000 under Compensation in lieu of exemption from Customs Duty. The increase under "Settlement Officer under the Waste Lands Ordinance" is 62 per cent. This is due to additions to the staff of the Department to expedite the work of land settlement. The increase under Railway Department is Rs. 320,256, an increase only of a little over 6 per cent., due to normal increases of salary and maintenance votes. Railway Works Extraordinary expenditure has increased by over 45 per cent., on account of the construction of the Negombo Railway, which is being built out of revenue.

(B.) Assets and Liabilities.

(i.) The assets of the Colony on December 31st 1908, were Rs. 22,918,877, and the liabilities Rs. 18,136,809, the assets thus exceeding the liabilities by Rs. 4,782,068. Further, a sum of Rs. 11,912,911 had been advanced from surplus balances for Harbour, Railway, and Irrigation expenditure, which will ultimately be charged to loan.

(ii.) Of the assets, a sum of—

Rs. 10,144,372 was in cash in the hands of the Treasurer and Government Agents;
Rs. 5,209,162 in investments;
Rs. 4,351,220 advanced for the Colombo Drainage Works;
Rs. 1,666,511 in stores;
Rs. 842,419 in loans to Local Bodies; and
Rs. 658,318 in miscellaneous advances.

(iii.) The chief liabilities were:—

	Rs.
Currency Reserve	6,830,245
Widows' and Orphans' Pension Fund...	5,303,316
General Deposits	2,657,469

(C.) Public Debt.

On December 31st, 1908, the public debt of Ceylon stood as follows:—

	£
Nett Sterling Debt	3,912,143
Nett Silver Debt (Rs. 2,671,287) ...	178,086
Total Indebtedness	£4,090,229

The following table exhibits in sterling the revenue and nett amount of debt during each of the last ten years:—

Year.	Revenue.	Nett Amount of Debt.
	£	£
1899	1,727,543 ...	3,424,462
1900	1,821,729 ...	3,361,750
1901	1,762,473 ...	3,297,321
1902	1,895,677 ...	4,624,183
1903	1,961,554 ...	4,553,169
1904	2,056,446 ...	4,476,480
1905	2,293,022 ...	4,386,039
1906	2,335,377 ...	4,304,396
1907	2,438,255 ...	4,194,434
1908	2,371,523 ...	4,090,229

It should be noticed—

(*a*) That Ceylon has not borrowed since 1902.
(*b*) That the debt is now less than twice the annual revenue.
(*c*) That Ceylon could borrow £3,000,000 more without its indebtedness exceeding three times the annual revenue.

It is estimated that a sum of slightly under 4½ million pounds is required to defray the cost of completing the programme of public works already sanctioned. Of this amount, approximately £3,360,000 will be chargeable to loan, and the balance to surplus balances. The expenditure is to be spread over the next five years. In the programme is included the expenditure on the Colombo Drainage Works, five-sixths of which represents a loan to the Municipality, and the expenditure on the Colombo Lake Scheme, which is now the subject of an inquiry by a Special Commission.

Of the sum of £4,500,000, £1,084,275 has been provisionally advanced out of surplus revenue, including £290,081 for the Colombo Drainage Scheme, which sum will be regarded as a loan to the Municipality.

Provision is made for the repayment of all loans by means of a sinking fund, except in the case of the loan from the Public Works Commissioners under Ordinance No. 6 of 1875, which is repayable by an annuity. This debt will be extinguished in 1911. In compliance with instructions from the Secretary of State on the issue of the loan now approved, a reserve fund of not less than Rs. 2,000,000 is to be created by the investments by the Crown Agents in securities of the highest class. The interest earned is to be credited to the fund, to which additions will hereafter be made from surplus balances, as may be decided from time to time, until the total reaches Rs. 5,000,000, thereafter the interest earned will be credited to general revenue.

The capital expenditure of the Colony has, with the exception of comparatively small sums spent on Irrigation Works, and the duplication of the Colombo water main, all been confined to two great services, Railways and Colombo Harbour Works. The former yield very nearly 6 per cent. interest on the capital invested, while the Harbour has hitherto met all charges, including interest and sinking fund.

(D.) Currency and Banking.

The currency of Ceylon consists of—

(1) Copper: Ceylon 5-cent, 1-cent, ½-cent, and ¼-cent pieces.
(2) Silver: the India rupee, with subsidiary Ceylon 50-cent, 25-cent, and 10-cent pieces.
(3) Gold: British sovereigns, which are legal tender at Rs. 15 per £.
(4) Ceylon Government notes of Rs. 1,000, 100, 50, 10, and 5.

The question of replacing the clumsy copper 5-cent piece by a nickel coin of the same denomination is at present engaging the attention of Government. There was some difficulty in securing a design dissimilar to a coin which the Indian Government are introducing, but this difficulty has now been removed.

On December 31st, 1908, the value of currency notes in circulation was Rs. 15,466,575, on which date the currency reserve was distributed as follows:—

	Rs
Gold, £165,434	2,481,510
Rupees	3,997,735
Small silver	351,000
Colonial investments	4,625,049
Indian investments	4,011,281

The Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China; the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation; the Bank of Madras; the Mercantile Bank of India; and the National Bank of India, Limited, do business in the Colony.

(E.) Municipalities.

The following is a comparative statement of the total revenue and expenditure of the Municipalities for the five years ended December 31st, 1908:—

Colombo.

Year.	Revenue. Rs. c.	Expenditure. Rs. c.
1904	1,567,907 46	1,656,127 70
1905	1,591,742 10	1,387,277 98
1906	1,763,106 35	2,528,754 99
1907	2,382,259 12*	2,217,100 86
1908	1,884,133 4	1,846,000 97

Kandy.

Year.	Revenue. Rs. c.	Expenditure. Rs. c.
1904	192,150 47	179,583 10
1905	188,553 17	207,938 78
1906	220,691 47	203,242 40
1907	224,196 41	192,736 5
1908	226,646 54	189,138 78

Galle.

Year.	Revenue. Rs. c.	Expenditure. Rs. c.
1904	95,911 93	86,563 57
1905	104,899 28	101,473 50
1906	113,035 46	108,918 0
1907	129,637 81	116,578 59
1908	141,984 46	132,461 36

Below will be found a statement of the debts of the Municipalities up to the end of 1908, showing provision for payment:—

Amount of Debt.	On what Account.	Provision for Payment.
Rs. c.	*Colombo.*	
—	—	—
	Kandy.	
146,060 82	Waterworks construction.	Water-rate of 6 per cent. on properties within certain portions of the Municipality (Ordinances Nos. 18 and 29 of 1884).
105,402 98	Acquisition of lands above reservoir; repairs to main sewer and other various works.	Bond assigning portion of water-rate as authorised by Ordinance No. 7 of 1887; also portion of rates and taxes.
18,000 0	To widen Victoria Drive and clear lake silt.	Bond assigning portion of rates and taxes under sections 127 (*a*) and (*b*), 128, 129, and 130 of Ordinance No. 7 of 1887.

* The revenue of the Colombo Municipality for 1907 includes a sum of Rs. 600,000 advanced by Government on account of Drainage Works.

Amount of Debt.	On what Account.	Provision for Payment.
Rs. c.	*Galle.*	
51,759 97	Construction of water-works.	A water-rate of 5 per cent. is levied within the Fort for repayment of loan.
33,716 29	Sanitary improvements	Mortgage of stamp duties on licences for carts, boats, and coaches, and also stamp duties under Licensing Ordinances of 1893 and 1897.
354,940 6		

As regards the Municipality of Colombo, a sum of Rs. 4,000,000 has been advanced by the Government towards the cost of the Mansergh Drainage and Sewerage Scheme.

The construction of the Colombo Waterworks and the Victoria Bridge was carried out by Government, and the Municipality has undertaken to repay Government an annual sum of Rs. 100,000 until 1924 in respect of the former, and of Rs. 8,000 until 1945 for the latter.

(F.) Local Boards.

The town of Moratuwa having been brought under the provisions of the Local Boards Ordinance, there are now twenty-one Local Boards in Ceylon. The Boards are entrusted with the maintenance of public health and the general improvement and conservancy of the towns in which they are established. Their sources of revenue are an assessment tax on real property, taxes on vehicles and animals, road commutation tax, stamp duties for various licences, and fines for breaches of by-laws, &c.

In 1908 the total revenue of these Boards amounted to Rs. 430,626 as against Rs. 361,054 in 1907, and the total expenditure to Rs. 411,853·69 as against Rs. 370,942 in 1907.

Loans are made to Local Boards usually at 3½ per cent. interest and 2 per cent. sinking fund for approved purposes, such as waterworks, drainage, erection of markets, &c., on the security of their revenue. Loans outstanding on December 31st, 1908, amounted to Rs. 462,900.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

(A.) Imports and Exports.

The total value of Ceylon trade in the year 1908 exceeded that of any previous year, as will be seen from the following table:—

Aggregate Value of Imports and Exports for the last Ten Years (omitting Specie, but including Coal exported for use of Steamers).

Year.	Lacs of Rupees.
1899	2,130
1900	2,206
1901	2,042
1902	2,086
1903	2,144
1904	2,198
1905	2,240
1906	2,363
1907	2,631
1908	2,648

The Customs revenue, however, showed a decrease of Rs. 182,410·79, as compared with 1907, owing to a falling off in the importations of grain and the exportations of plumbago. The figures for the year were, however, far in advance of any previous year, except 1907.

The chief articles contributing to the revenue in 1908 were:—

	Rs.
Grain	3,205,856
Spirits	1,269,810
Kerosine Oil	1,056,463
Sugar	857,020
Cotton Goods	372,375

The distribution of Imports and Exports was as follows:—

	Rs.
Total Imports	122,420,000
Total Exports	128,962,000

The following table shows the percentage of Imports and Exports:—

(1) From United Kingdom,
(2) From British Possessions,
(3) From Foreign Countries,

during the last five years:—

Imports.

—	1904.	1905.	1906.	1907.	1908.
From United Kingdom ...	24·7	23·2	26·2	27·2	26·4
From British Possessions ...	63·2	65·1	62·7	60·6	60·4
From Foreign Countries ...	12·1	11·7	11·1	12·2	13·2

Exports.

—	1904.	1905.	1906.	1907.	1908.
To United Kingdom	50·6	52·8	48·7	50·9	49·5
To British Possessions... ...	18·1	18·6	18·7	17·2	16·9
To Foreign Countries	31·3	28·6	32·6	31·9	33·6

It will be seen that British and Colonial trade has practically maintained its position in competition with foreign countries, but that there has been on the whole a slight advance by the latter. The position is such that it behoves the British trader to exert himself to the utmost to prevent his foreign competitor securing a lead in the market.

Ninety-three commercial travellers declared their samples at the Customs in 1908; of these, fifty-five appear to have been travelling for British firms and thirty-eight for foreign firms. The latter travelled in electroplate, silverware, haberdashery, fancy leather goods,* perfumery, watches, jewellery, hardware, and rubber goods—all articles in which there have been increased imports from foreign countries in recent years.

The native of Ceylon shows a marked preference for an English article, and he does not mind paying a little more for it, as his experience has taught him that the cheap imitation article will not last. English cutlery, machinery, hardware, flannel, biscuits, and soap have the best name in the market. It is not uncommon to see notices in the native shops, "English goods only," "English cutlery," "English steel," &c. The British manufacturer is, however, apt to lose ground by failure to put his goods on the market in an attractive form which will appeal to a native population, *e.g.*, the picture on the lid, the ornamental stamp on the leather, the carved pipe bowl, &c., and in lack of initiative in advertising, and in not taking measures to guard against and prevent colourable imitations.

The slight decrease in the percentage of trade with the United Kingdom in 1908 as compared with foreign countries is principally due to a reduced importation of Government stores. Great Britain does not appear to have lost ground in the general bulk of trade. There is a decrease in the importation of British made-up wearing apparel. German and Japanese goods were largely imported, but this is counterbalanced by increased import of British cotton piece goods.

The rise in the value of goods imported from foreign countries is chiefly in respect of articles which have become the particular product or speciality of the countries exporting them, *e.g.*, kerosine oil (Russia, Borneo, United States of America), tea chests (Japan), matches (Sweden), brandy (France), and gin (Holland).†

* Cheap German leather belts are now a common article of dress amongst all classes of natives.

† The value of the gin imported increased, while the quantity remained almost the same as in 1907, due probably to an increased consumption of Schnapps in place of Key gin. Cheap gin was rapidly becoming a serious competitor with arrack among the lower classes.

Imports.

A comparison of the values of imports in 1907 and 1908 shows large increases in 1908 under the following heads:—

(1) Coal.—Increase of Rs. 2,000,000; due to large demand for Indian coal.

(2) Manures.—Rs. 400,000 increase; large imports of castor seed poonac from India.

The increase in the manure bill of the Colony has been remarkable: the value of imports of manure in 1908 was Rs. 4,161,447; in 1898 it amounted to Rs. 849,419, or about one-fifth of the value of the supply in 1908. This development of scientific agriculture is apparent to the passenger in Ceylon, as close to the first three railway stations after leaving Colombo for Kandy large manure works will soon be noticed.

(3) Tea chests.—Increase Rs. 400,000.

(4) Cotton Piece Goods (Dyed).—Increase Rs. 900,000.

(5) Cotton Piece Goods (Bleached).—Increase Rs. 300,000.

(6) Cotton Piece Goods (Grey).—Increase Rs. 200,000.

(7) Lead (Pig).—Increase Rs. 200,000.

(8) Kerosine Oil.—Increase Rs. 250,000.

In 1907 Borneo supplied all the bulk oil; in 1908 Russia sent 55 per cent. and Borneo 45 per cent. of the quantity imported.

There were decreases under the following heads:—Rice (Rs. 1,000,000), paddy (Rs. 900,000), gram (Rs. 500,000), haberdashery (Rs. 500,000), galvanized iron (Rs. 300,000), hardware, hoop iron, and tea lead (each Rs. 200,000).

Changes in market were few, the most noticeable being the increase in the supply of sugar from Java, an increase in value of Rs. 430,000, which now puts Java at the head of the countries exporting sugar to Ceylon, *vice* Austria. There is a large decrease in the imports of rice from British India, while imports from the Straits Settlements have increased five-fold.

The United Kingdom or the Colonies are the largest suppliers of the following articles to Ceylon:—Live animals, bacon, cask beer, biscuits,* butter, coffee,* confectionery, flour, gram, onions, paddy, rice, whisky, cigars, opium, coal, manures (bone and fish), lead, steel, tin, apparel (made up), cotton piece goods,* flannel, mixed materials, piece goods,* galvanized iron,* hardware,* tea lead, casks and shooks,* cement,* fancy articles,* haberdashery,* machinery,* manures,* poonac, soap.

Foreign countries supply Ceylon with more bottled beer, brandy, gin, potatoes, sugar, teak, silks and satin, broadstuffs, hoop iron, iron nails and rivets, kerosine oil, matches, milk (preserved), tea chests, wines, window glass, and German sheet.

It will be noticed that the United Kingdom or the Colonies still hold the field in the large majority of important articles. In those marked * however there is considerable foreign competition.

The following table shows the changes in the relative positions of the various countries which export goods to Ceylon:—

Ceylon's Chief Sources of Supply (Value of Imports, excluding Specie).

Country.	1906.		1907.		1908.	
	Value of Exports to Ceylon.	Position.	Value of Exports to Ceylon.	Position.	Value of Exports to Ceylon.	Position.
	Rs.		Rs.		Rs.	
1. British India ...	59,687,700	1	60,468,700	1	54,137,900	1
2. United Kingdom ...	29,569,700	2	32,626,000	2	32,329,000	2
3. Straits Settlements ...	1,887,700	5	2,904,100	5	9,906,500	3
4. Burma	4,057,600	3	4,045,800	3	3,049,100	4
5. Germany	2,814,800	4	2,921,100	4	2,826,400	5
6. Maldive Islands ...	1,843,300	6	2,267,000	6	2,033,200	6
7. Japan	1,557,000	7	1,507,000	8	1,818,700	7
8. Hong Kong	1,479,900	8	1,152,600	11	1,789,000	8
9. India (non-British)...	753,600	12	1,735,000	7	1,275,000	9
10. Java	101,500	25	735,200	16	1,164,900	10
11. Austria	1,141,100	10	1,297,500	9	1,120.600	11
12. United States of America.	1,375,800	9	1,002,400	12	1,097,500	12
13. Holland	591,400	15	715,900	17	1,095,500	13
14. Siam	390,800	19	627,200	19	1,005,000	14
15. Borneo (excluding British).	660,600	14	1,267,500	10	893,800	15
16. France	797,800	11	757,600	13	860,900	16
17. South Australia ...	591,200	16	744,900	14	856,000	17
18. New South Wales ...	254,900	22	329,700	22	746,600	18
19. Russia	254,500	23	59,700	25	737,900	19
20. Victoria	667,400	13	740,100	15	724,200	20
21. Belgium	425,300	17	694,700	18	647,600	21
22. Switzerland	422,800	18	428,300	21	484,800	22
23. Italy	335,200	20	451,200	20	424,100	23
24. Western Australia ...	85,700	26	41,100	26	404,000	24
25. Sweden	193,500	24	164,400	23	259,100	25
26. Natal	11,400	27	8,400	27	202,100	26
27. China...	282,500	21	124,800	24	166,800	27
28. South America ...	3,800	28	3,600	28	119,700	28

The chief features are the advance of the Straits, Russia, and Hong Kong, and the decrease in the value of imports from British India and Burma.

Exports.

A comparison of the value of the exports may be made from the following table, which summarizes the staple exports of the Colony in 1907 and 1908:—

Products.		To United Kingdom.	To British Colonies.	To Foreign Countries.
Tea	1907	46,281,800	13,829,100	14,553,000
	1908	44,811 900	14,178,700	14,562,700
Product of the Coconut Palm	1907	9,257,700	3,342,500	13,342,600
	1908	10,436,600	1,393,200	17,507,500
Plumbago	1907	2,327,000	51,600	6,528,000
	1908	2,476,900	62,100	5,464,600

Products.		To United Kingdom.	To British Colonies.	To Foreign Countries.
Cinnamon	1907	407,200	66,400	2,572,100
	1908	259,000	56,000	2,298,800
Cacao	1907	3,803,000	234,400	1,195,700
	1908	1,890,200	187,400	585,800
Arecanuts	1907	5,300	2,322,900	86,800
	1908	11,000	2,089,800	81,900
Citronella Oil	1907	617,000	67,100	702,000
	1908	443,600	84,500	515,600
Rubber	1907	1,703,500	69,000	1,179,600
	1908	2,243,700	173,700	1,189,500

Of the total value of Ceylon produce exported, the products of the coconut palm represent 23·3 per cent. and tea 57·9 per cent.

There was an increased demand for the products of the coconut palm, especially copra. It is noticeable that foreign countries spent half as much again on the products of the coconut as the United Kingdom and British possessions combined, while foreign countries also took twice as much plumbago, ten times as much cinnamon, and the same amount of citronella oil as the British Dominions.

Ceylon's best customers are given below:—

Country.	1906.		1907.		1908.	
	Value of Exports from Ceylon (excluding Specie).	Position.	Value of Exports from Ceylon (excluding Specie).	Position.	Value of Exports from Ceylon (excluding Specie).	Position.
	Rs.		Rs.		Rs.	
1. United Kingdom ...	53,264,700	1	65,565,800	1	63,566,800	1
2. United States of America.	10,333,500	2	11,802,100	2	10,450,900	2
3. Russia*	5,780,100	5	9,022,000	3	10,069,200	3
4. Germany	8,201,700	3	8,177,500	4	8,171,300	4
5. British India ...	6,013,000	4	5,763,900	5	5,643,100	5
6. Belgium	2,708,900	9	3,233,400	8	4,357,100	6
7. New South Wales ...	3,233,000	6	4,255,000	6	3,823,200	7
8. Canada	2,635,700	10	2,607,900	10	3,394,900	8
9. China (excluding Hong Kong).	1,947,200	11	3,209,600	9	3,025,700	9
10. Victoria	3,190,300	7	3,416,900	7	2,863,300	10
11. Austria	3,005,900	8	1,548,800	12	2,151,400	11
12. New Zealand ...	1,574,700	12	1,894,500	11	1,977,800	12
13. Denmark	670,200	14	610,700	15	1,152,600	13
14. Holland	546,700	16	620,900	14	702,800	14
15. France	795,800	13	706,200	13	696,100	15
16. Straits Settlements ...	571,100	15	599,600	16	566,700	16

*Russia in Asia ...	1,745,000	2,079,100	2,769,000
Russia in Europe ...	4,035,200	6,942,900	7,300,200

Russia, Belgium, Canada, and Denmark have largely increased their imports from Ceylon; Austria, on the other hand, takes much less than she did three years ago; while trade with France is surprisingly small. The decreased value of exports to the United Kingdom is chiefly due to smaller shipments of Ceylon tea.

Tea.

The following table shows the comparative distribution of Ceylon tea in 1907 and 1908:—

Principal Markets for Ceylon Tea.

	1907. lb.	1908. lb.
I.—United Kingdom ...	111,485,802	109,297,386
II.—British Possessions:—		
British India ...	1,214,950	1,912,357
Canada	6,161,602	8,047,730
Cape Colony ...	281,937	383,399
Hong Kong ...	294,885	273,099
Natal	534,894	612,958
New South Wales...	9,618,560	8,863,775
New Zealand ...	4,313,696	4,493,202
Queensland ...	866,376	821,510
South Australia ...	1,018,795	1,144,936
Straits Settlements	455,333	471,976
Victoria	7,187,238	6,140,989
Western Australia	736,825	567,983
Total British Possessions	32,685,091	33,733,914
III.—Foreign Countries:—		
Austria	201,060	157,013
China (excluding Hong Kong) ...	7,699,129	7,344,623
Egypt	217,151	488,336
France	461,845	609,829
Germany	578,881	504,448
Russia	19,670,490	19,612,592
Turkey	62,718	314,583
United States ...	5,528,297	5,888,238
Total Foreign Countries	34,419,571	34,919,662
Grand Total	178,590,464	177,950,962

There was a large increase in the shipments of tea (green) to Canada, while the total quantity exported to all countries was about half a million pounds less. The quality of teas generally was well maintained, but there was a slight reduction in the average price (from 41½ cents per lb. in 1907 to 41 cents per lb. in 1908).

According to the annual report of the Ceylon Planters' Association: "The year closed with a good statistical position, and with every indication of an improved market for 1909."

The Tea Export Cess of 20 cents per 100 lb. ceased December 31st, 1908; it had been collected for a period of sixteen years.

Rubber.

Shipments of Ceylon rubber during 1908 show an increase of 356,045 lb. as compared with those for 1907, the actual figures being—

	lb.
1907	556,080
1908	912,125

The United Kingdom and America continue to take the bulk of the exports, Germany and Australia coming next in order.

The market for the latter half of 1908 has been very strong, with a good general demand for all grades, especially for the inferior grades of crepe, which, now that estates are getting increased crops, they are able to make of a better general appearance and more even in colour, which is most desirable in these grades. The general outturn from all estates has been of better quality than previously, and up till now biscuit and sheet have been the favourite form of manufacture, but more estates are going in for making white crepe, which realizes a higher price.

The best buyer on the local market has been the United States, but foreign countries and also Australia are interesting themselves in the product, though so far they have not been in so favourable a position to compete with the former; they should, however, in the future be strong competitors.

Prices for good biscuit and sheet rubber ranged during the six months from Rs. 2·80 per lb. to Rs. 3·90 per lb., and the lower grades rose proportionately, and all rubber offered was eagerly taken up by local buyers.

Ceylon was well represented at the International Rubber Exhibition held in London, and at the Colonial Products Exhibition, Liverpool.

(B.) Mines, Manufacture, and Fisheries.

(a) *Pearl Fishery.*

A pearl fishery did not take place in 1908. At the end of March the Ceylon Company of Pearl Fishers decided to fish the oysters (estimated at five millions) which had been discovered on the North Kondachchi Paar. No camp was formed and divers were not collected, but an attempt was made to carry on the work by dredging. Progress was slow, and the attempt was abandoned after 85,000 oysters had been fished.

The annual rent of Rs. 310,000 was paid by the Company to Government, and a sum of Rs. 115,581 was spent by the Company on the development of the pearl banks by experiment and research.

(b) *The Mineralogical Survey.*

The mineralogical survey has been continued during the year by Mr. James Parsons and his Assistant Mr. J. A. Daniel. On December 29th Mr .Parsons disappeared in jungle, near Nuwara Eliya, when engaged on inspection work. He was still missing at the end of the year.*

Both Mr. Parsons and his Assistant performed a considerable amount of travelling during the year. No discoveries of special importance were made.

Monazite was found to be widely distributed in the Southern Province.

Graphite is widely distributed in the Island, and Ceylon continues to provide a large output of this mineral.

About 234 cwt. of mica have been exported, as against 426 cwt. in 1907 and 99 cwt. in 1906.

Professor Dunstan states in his Report on the Work of the Imperial Institute: "The Mineralogical Survey has shown that thorite, thorianite, monazite, and gold are widely distributed in Ceylon, but usually only in small quantities, and somewhat irregularly. Further exploration in Ceylon will decide whether such gravels will repay working.

"Other minerals of economic interest received and reported on were kaolin, galena, limestone, rutile, and molybdenite. The specimens awaiting investigation at the end of 1907 were mainly clays, micas, and concentrates containing thorium minerals.

"In addition, a large number of minerals, mainly for identification and valuation were received from residents in Ceylon."

(c) *Mining.*

Plumbago.—There was a decrease of Rs. 33,000 in the royalty recovered in plumbago, and of 133,750 cwt. in quantity exported.

The market has been dull since the American crisis, and it was only towards the close of the year that there were signs of improvement. The decrease as one would expect was especially marked in the shipment to the United States—130,000 cwt. less than in 1907—nearly the whole deficiency for 1908. The average price was higher than in 1907.

The plumbago mines are chiefly in the Ratnapura and Kurunegala Districts and parts of the Western and Southern Provinces. The industry is a somewhat speculative one, success depending largely on the demand for plumbago by buyers in the European and American markets. It is carried on for the most part by native capitalists. A great improvement has been effected in the methods of working the mines or pits since the appointment of a Government Inspector of Mines.

Moonstones are found in the Kandy District, where two large pits were worked during the year. Other precious stones, such

* The body of Mr. Parsons was found in the jungle near a tea estate in the neighbourhood of Nuwara Eliya on 11th April, 1909.

as rubies, cats-eyes, sapphires, &c., are gemmed in the Ratnapura District chiefly.

The quarrying of cabook or gneiss and granite has received a stimulus in recent years consequent on the demand for new houses in the principal towns, especially in Colombo and its suburbs.

(*d*) *Salt.*

The manufacture and collection of salt is a Government monopoly, and is protected by the imposition of a duty of Rs. 2·13 per cwt. on imported salt. A sum of Rs. 1,760,551·59 was realized by its sale in 1908, or Rs. 22,679·85 in excess of 1907.

The year was highly favourable both for manufacture and collection, a quantity of 725,547 cwt. being secured in all, which represents the highest aggregate reached within the last thirty-five years. The second highest was in 1905, when a total of 713,822 cwt. was realized.

The stock of salt in the various stores at the end of the year amounted to 1,226,378 cwt., which at the present rate of consumption is sufficient for the needs of the Island for 2½ years.

(*e*) *Manufactures.*

Ceylon is essentially an agricultural country, and its manufactures on any large scale are chiefly confined to the products of agriculture.

In the districts where the coconut palm is cultivated copra is manufactured, and is largely exported to the United Kingdom, Germany, and elsewhere in Europe. The making of fibre, coir rope, and yarn, and coir matting from the husk of the coconut is also carried out on an extensive scale, the work being done for the most part by women. There are a few desiccating mills, where the kernal of the coconut is dried and specially prepared for export. There is a large devolopment of this industry in the Chilaw District.

In the Northern Province, where tobacco thrives, cigars are manufactured; but this industry suffers from increasing competition with cigarettes. The Jaffna cigar seller nevertheless is still ubiquitous in the Island, and his cigars, which are small, strong, and extremely cheap, are a favourite smoke with the natives. The feature of this industry largely depends on new markets being found for the cigars, but to effect this an improvement in the method of curing the tobacco is essential.

The manufacture of tiles and bricks is carried on in all parts of the Island where suitable clay is plentiful.

The weaving of a coarse kind of cloth in hand looms is carried on in the Eastern, Northern, and Central Provinces. It supplies purely local wants, and the cloth, though strong and of hard-wearing quality, is inferior in texture and finish to imported material. It is, however, highly valued by the particular class of natives who use it.

In other districts the making of baskets, tortoise-shell boxes and combs, and common earthenware for water pans and cooking utensils is generally pursued to meet local wants. Excellent furniture is made in the Western Province, especially at Moratuwa.

Jewellery of very fine workmanship is made in the Northern Province to supply local wants. It is a species of filigree work, which is much prized by the Tamil population of the Island.

The indigenous crafts peculiar to the Kandyan country, *i.e.*, silver and brass work, the making of jewellery, earthenware, and painted pottery, lacquer work, and ivory carving, continue to receive encouragement from the Kandyan Art Association. Specimens of the articles are kept in the Kandyan Art Museum, where they can be purchased.

Brass lamps, betel stands, plates, cooking utensils, and water pots are made in the North-Western and Eastern Provinces, and at Negombo in the Western Province.

In the Mannar District of the Northern Province the drying and salting of fish gives employment to a large number of people. In 1908 1,336 tons of dried fish valued at Rs. 220,600 were exported from the Mannar District during the year.

(C.) Agriculture.

The Agricultural Society.

The Ceylon Agricultural Society, founded in November, 1904, had at the end of 1908 a membership of 943, a decrease of 200 from the previous year, owing to the subscription being raised from Rs. 5 to Rs. 8 per annum.

The number of Agricultural Instructors employed by the Society has been increased from two to five, three for the Sinhalese districts and two for the Tamil districts.

Eight Shows were held during the year.

Considerable work was done in the introduction of better varieties of fruits, vegetables, &c. Several of the Government Agents report increased cultivation of vegetables in their districts, which means both an improved food supply and improved health amongst people who live largely on a vegetable and fish diet.

Good progress has been made in popularizing, transplanting, and manuring in paddy (rice) cultivation.

School gardening has been encouraged, and there are now 180 gardens connected with schools.

The development of the fibre industry (including cotton) and the improvement of the tobacco industry have received a good deal of attention. Provision has been made for large experiments in the cultivation of tobacco in the North-Central Province.

A number of affiliated societies (notably the Dumbara branch) have adopted the co-operative principle in seed supply with success.

The subject of loans to agriculturists is occupying the attention of the Society, and a scheme for administrating such loans is at present under consideration.

Position of Agricultural Industries.

The year has in general been prosperous for agriculture. Extension of rubber has practically ceased, and there are now signs that attention will next be devoted to cotton—a very desirable move, for it is a crop which will suit the smaller capitalist, it is yearly becoming scarcer, and there is an unlimited demand for it, so that nothing Ceylon can do will affect the market; and there are thousands of acres of land suitable at present lying idle.

The most noteworthy agricultural features of the year have been—

(*a*) The steadily growing recognition on the part of the public that the real bar to agricultural progress among the poorer natives, who form the great part of the cultivating community of Ceylon, is lack of capital, and the necessity for co-operative credit societies.

(*b*) The success of the application of good machinery to the land of the North-Central Province, and the success upon such cultivated land of crops hitherto not grown in the north of Ceylon. The machinery has not only reduced the cost of weeding to about one-tenth of what it was, but weeds absolutely clean, and keeps the land tilled. There may now be seen at Maha Illuppalama large areas of land as well tilled and as weedless as a European farm, while the growth of the Ceara rubber, the coconuts, the cotton, the cacao, &c., has been remarkable.

(*c*) The great spread of the coconut stem bleeding disease in the early part of the year, and the application of the new Pests Ordinance to the villagers' crops. On the whole, the Ordinance has worked with great smoothness; few cases were instituted in the Police Courts.

(*d*) The serious commencement of cotton-growing in Ceylon, though as yet it is mainly grown in the wrong part of the Island —the wet zone—as a catch crop among rubber or other products.

(*e*) Reference has already been made to the exports of tea, rubber, and the product of the coconut palm. The only other important cultivation in Ceylon is paddy, which is capable of very great extension. Unfortunately, the dependence of a very large proportion of the population on imported rice and the lethargy of the ordinary paddy cultivator, who is content to raise a sufficient crop for his own needs, has prevented full benefit being derived from the successfully-restored irrigation works.

Cattle.

Rinderpest.—There was a serious outbreak of the disease in 1908; the infection was probably brought from India. There has been considerable loss amongst cart bulls, which has inter-

fered with transport in planting districts. The mortality was very high; out of 3,194 cases in 1908 2,184 cattle died. Treatment with anti-serum inoculation has been adopted on a large scale.

A new quarantine station at Colombo was completed during the year, which should prevent infectious diseases spreading in this country from importation.

(D.) Land Settlement.

The Land Settlement Department, which is concerned with the settlement of title (as between the Crown and the individual) to the vast tracts of waste land in the Island, has been able to get through an increased amount of work and to carry out more settlements than it has hitherto been able to take up in any year.

The total area of the Island settled under the Waste Lands Ordinance at the end of 1908 was 1,197,253 acres, and to this must be added large acreages settled by the Department by sale or lease.

A large extent of land available for cotton, coconut, and citronella cultivation in the North-Central Province, Uva, and Hambantota was declared under the Ordinance to be the property of the Crown. The Waste Lands Ordinance has now been in operation for eleven years, and the opposition which marked its introduction has practically disappeared. Litigation under the Ordinance is becoming very rare. The vast field open for the work of this Department has required considerable additions to the staff of this and the Survey Department.

(E.) Land Sales.

The total number of acres sold, granted at half value, and settled on free grants during 1908 was 25,080. The number of acres for which title plans have been granted in 1908 was 52,815. An extent of 15,286 acres was sold outright.

The average price paid for land per acre varied from Rs. 110·80 in the Colombo District, Rs. 65 in the Kalutara District of the Western Province, Rs. 54 in Kegalla, chiefly rubber land, Rs. 50 in the Puttalam and Chilaw Districts, Rs. 53·50 in the Galle District, to Rs. 16 per acre in the Nuwara Eliya District and a fraction over Rs. 20 per acre in the North-Central and Eastern Provinces.

The largest extent of land sold in any Province was 4,344 acres in the Western Province; the North-Western Province comes next with 1,678 acres, and then Sabaragamuwa with 1,360 acres. The demand for land is steady; prices have ruled very high in the last few years owing to the boom in rubber, the prosperity of the coconut industry, and the large profits made from tobacco cultivation in the North-Western Province.

Town sites always command high prices in Colombo especially, but even in the smaller and more distant places there is considerable competition. A piece of land in Anuradhapura town sold after brisk competition at the rate of Rs. 8,000 an acre.

(F.) Survey Department.

The operations of the Survey Department during the year comprised 81,000 acres under the block survey and 34,141 acres on application surveys, besides topographical surveys Plane table surveys of 447 square miles of country have been completed. The total area now covered by block surveys is 2,133,500 acres.

The demands made on the Survey Department have been extremely heavy for years past. It has been shown that the demand for land has been extraordinary. In addition to the ordinary application surveys, various other important surveys have been required. Block surveys to keep pace with land settlements, surveys to delimitate boundaries where they have not been recognizable on the ground owing to sales on old preliminary plans, surveys of the towns of Ceylon, delimitations of road reservations, and improved maps have all been urgently required. To deal with this work a considerable increase in staff has long been necessary.

The erection of the Colombo Observatory was completed in December. The principal function of the Observatory is to give correct time to the Port of Colombo by means of a time ball. Provision has also been made for the synchronization of public clocks. The seismograph, which is at present located at the Technical College, will shortly be transferred to a special room in the Observatory.

(G.) Shipping.

The following table exhibits the number and tonnage of vessels entering the ports of Ceylon in 1907 and 1908:—

Nationality.	1907.		1908.	
	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.
All Nations	3,836	6,657,323	3,533	6,931,593
British	1,719	4,467,307	1,663	4,658,4
British, Colonial	1,386	151,899	1,125	91,266
German	197	780,447	203	804,951
French	144	453,127	153	509,647
Japanese	112	377,238	109	374,886
Russian	43	113,955	54	141,538

In previous reports the figures for the coasting trade have been omitted in giving the total tonnage of the port.

Counting these figures, which are included in the returns for other ports,—the Board of Trade figures for 1907, the last available—show Colombo to be the fourth port in the British Empire and the seventh in the world.

Colombo Harbour Dues.

The total collection of harbour dues at Colombo during 1908 amounted to Rs. 1,387,893·86, an increase of Rs. 83,628·70 over 1907. It was decided that from January 1st, 1909, no charge shall be made for the use of the harbour tugs; and a special reduced rate has been fixed for vessels calling for coal and water only, which should tend to make the port still more popular.

III.—LEGISLATION.

Among the new Ordinances passed during 1908 were:—

No. 11 of 1908.—"An Ordinance to consolidate and amend the Law relating to the Post Office in Ceylon"—to bring the postal legislation of the Colony into line with modern postal developments.

No. 21 of 1908.—"An Ordinance to Prevent Thefts of Rubber." In view of the extension of rubber cultivation it was considered necessary to protect this product by special legislation directed against thieves and receivers of the product in the same way as has been done in the case of cacao.

No. 25 of 1908.—"An Ordinance to prescribe the Taxation on mechanically propelled Vehicles according to a uniform Scale, and to regulate the use of such Vehicles." The increased use of motor cars and other mechanically-propelled vehicles, both for the carriage of persons and the transport of goods, have rendered their special taxation and definite regulations as to their use necessary. The taxation is based on the weight of the vehicle.

No. 31 of 1908.—"An Ordinance to amend the Law relating to Firearms." The frequent recurrence of crimes committed with firearms has necessitated a revision of the Firearms Ordinance, with the object of removing certain defects in the existing Ordinance, and of enabling the Governor in certain cases to cancel or suspend licences to possess firearms.

No. 32 of 1908.—"An Ordinance regulating the Emigration of Natives for the purpose of Employment in certain capacities outside the Island." Cases have frequently occurred where natives of Ceylon have been employed in shows and spectacular displays outside the Island, and then left without means to return to their homes. The Ordinance provides for their due return to Ceylon on the completion of their term of service by imposing stringent conditions on the employers of such persons, and requiring them to give security for the repatriation, without charge to the public, of the persons employed by them.

No. 35 of 1908.—"An Ordinance relating to the Ceylon Telegraphs." Hitherto the telegraph service of the Island has been regulated by "The Ceylon Postal and Telegraph Ordinance, 1892," but owing to developments in this service it has been considered desirable to have a separate Ordinance to regulate it.

The new enactment is based on the corresponding enactment in British India.

No. 37 of 1908.—"An Ordinance to amend the Criminal Procedure Code." This enactment empowers the Governor to exempt from service as jurors Volunteers who have attended a camp of exercise for a prescribed period and attained a prescribed standard of efficiency with the object of encouraging service in the Volunteer Corps of the Island. It also provides for Station House Officers of the Police Department having powers, as regards the investigation of crime, similar to those now possessed by Inquirers.

IV.—EDUCATION.

(A.) Preliminary.

It is not possible to draw the same clear line between elementary and secondary education in Ceylon as can be drawn in other countries. The matter is complicated by the fact that English is a foreign language to all but a small fraction of the population. The Europeans, Burghers, and Eurasians together form a little less than 1 per cent. of the population; the Sinhalese form 65 per cent. of the total; the Tamils and Tamil-speaking Moors 33 per cent. The result is that most of the schools in which English is taught are teaching a language which is foreign to the great majority of their pupils, and the distinction between elementary and secondary education is replaced by the distinction between vernacular and English schools. The vernacular schools really constitute the elementary education of the country.

(B.) Vernacular Education.

The following table shows the numerical progress for the last six years in the case of vernacular schools:—

Year.	Number of Government Schools.	Attendance.		Number of Aided Schools.	Attendance.	
		Boys.	Girls.		Boys.	Girls.
1903 ...	497	44,631	10,878	1,249	77,619	37,707
1904 ...	507	46,785	11,678	1,316	77,700	39,103
1905 ...	529	52,375	12,829	1,386	85,436	44,144
1906 ...	566	54,249	13,827	1,429	90,389	44,599
1907 ...	592	55,624	14,372	1,456	88,707	48,518
1908 ...	624	59,756	15,634	1,574	95,467	53,646

From this it appears that there were in 1908 altogether 2,198 Government and grant-in-aid vernacular schools attended by 155,223 boys and 69,280 girls. These figures show an increase of 150 schools and 17,282 children over the corresponding figures for 1907.

Besides the children attending Government and aided schools, 26,180 children were reported to be receiving instruction in 1,549 unaided schools, almost all of them vernacular; the figures furnished by such schools cannot, however, be relied upon, and the education is often of very little value. Their number is decreasing.

The total spent by Government on vernacular education was Rs. 761,079·25, of which Rs. 301,750·67 was expended on Government schools and Rs. 459,328·58 on aided schools. This gives the cost to Government of education of a child in a Government school at Rs. 4 or 5*s*. 4*d*. per annum, and in an aided school as Rs. 3·08 or 4*s*. 1¼*d*. per annum.

The above figures show an increase of 17,282 in the number of children attending Government and grant-in-aid vernacular schools, as compared with 1907.

The Rural Schools Ordinance of 1907 was brought into force on July 1st, 1908, in thirteen revenue districts, and three other districts were brought under the Ordinance two months later. The District School Committees, which have been appointed in these districts, had a somewhat complicated task before them, and were occupied for the remainder of the year in preparing schemes for making provision for the education of the areas placed under them. In almost all of these districts a large number of new schools will be necessary, and time must necessarily elapse before sites have been secured and buildings provided. The Ordinance includes provision for spreading this work over a period of five years, and in most of the districts this ought to be sufficient. Meanwhile by-laws have been drafted in all the districts, and will shortly be in force for all areas which are provided with accessible schools.

(C.) English Schools.

In 1907 there were 228 English and Anglo-vernacular schools attended by 35,707 pupils, of whom 28,938 were boys and 6,769 were girls. As compared with 1907, these figures show a decrease of 20 schools and an increase of 1,105 pupils. In the majority of these schools the work is confined to the schedules of the Educational Code, but there are many in which the upper classes are prepared for the Cambridge Examinations, Senior and Junior, and a few in which the work of the most advanced students reaches a higher level.

The following were the results of the Cambridge Local Examinations, for which 1,036 candidates presented themselves in 1908, viz., 388 for the Senior and 648 for the Junior:—

—	Candidates.		Honours.		Passes.	
	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.
Senior...	349	39	16	2	143	25
Junior	537	111	20	6	292	60

The following were the results of the London Examinations held in 1908:—

	Candidates.	Passes.
Matriculation	25 ...	7
Intermediate in Arts ...	11 ...	5
Intermediate in Science ...	5 ...	2

The only Government school in which higher education is given is the Royal College, at which in 1908 there were 323 pupils, with an average attendance of 283. The pupils in the upper part of the College are prepared for the Cambridge Local Examinations and the Examinations of the London University as far as the Intermediate in Arts and Science. The staff consists of nineteen masters, of whom five hold English University degrees. The gross cost to Government in 1908 was Rs. 45,749·09, of which a sum of Rs. 20,505 was recovered in school fees.

The Royal College was the subject of an inquiry by a Commission in 1908. It is proposed to continue the policy of maintaining the College as a Government institution, taking such steps as may be found advisable to improve its efficiency, especially in the scientific and mathematical branches. It is felt that the Royal College as the only Government institution of its kind can follow a continuous policy and maintain a high standard in education. The fees are to be increased by 50 per cent., and the lower school gradually replaced by the English school which is attached to the Government Training College. Plans are being prepared for a new Royal College in the Cinnamon Gardens, where the school will have the advantage of an excellent site, instead of its present unsatisfactory position in the heart of the town, without proper playing fields.

The other institutions in which anything that can fairly be described as higher education is given are registered as aided schools under the Code, with one exception, viz., the Church Missionary Society's Ladies' College in Colombo.

The encouragement offered by Government takes two forms: (*a*) Grants; (*b*) Scholarships:—

(*a*) In most of the aided English schools grants are paid on the results of examinations in the ordinary schedules of the Code, supplemented by specific subjects. But in some of the better schools the system has been replaced by one under which the greater part of the grant is paid on the average attendance. Liberal grants are also paid for every pupil who obtains honours in the Cambridge Local Examinations, or who passes the London University Matriculation Examination or Intermediate Examination in Arts. The total sum expended in grants to English schools was Rs. 136,221·21 in 1908.

(*b*) Two University Scholarships of £200 per annum for three years are now awarded on the results of the Intermediate Examinations of the University of London: one on the Examination in Arts, the other on the Examination in Science. One scholarship, Rs. 240 per annum for three years, is awarded annually to girls on the results of the Cambridge Senior Local Examination. On the results of the Cambridge Junior Local Examination one

scholarship of Rs. 240 per annum for three years and two of Rs. 120 per annum for two years are awarded annually to boys, and two scholarships of Rs. 120 per annum for three years are awarded annually to girls. The total sum expended in scholarships in 1908 was Rs. 15,524·76.

(D.) Training of Teachers.

The Government Training College consists of three departments: English, Anglo-Vernacular, and Vernacular. The English department is intended specially to meet the wants of aided English schools; two studentships of the annual value of Rs. 480 and twenty studentships of the annual value of Rs. 300 are provided by Government. In the Anglo-Vernacular and Vernacular departments students have hitherto been prepared only for work in Government schools; in 1908 there were six students in the Anglo-Vernacular and twenty in the Vernacular department. An English boys' school and an Anglo-Vernacular boys' school are worked on the same premises, and serve as practising schools to the students; the staff in both these schools consists almost entirely of trained teachers. The Training College was started in 1903 in a somewhat tentative way; it has now been decided to extend its work. An enlargement of the building was begun in 1907 and completed at the end of 1908; it includes accommodation for a Sinhalese female department and a Tamil male department. An important regulation has been added to the Code for Aided Schools, by which the second class certificate for English teachers will after the year 1909 be confined to teachers who have gone through a period of training.

(E.) Technical and Industrial Education; School Gardens.

Higher technical education is provided for by the Technical College, a Government institution established in 1893; in 1897 it was re-organized, and its work largely extended. It is now the regular channel of admission of Ceylonese for the following Departments of Government: Public Works, Survey, Railway, Post and Telegraph; it contains departments of civil engineering, telegraphy, surveying and levelling. In 1908 the number of students (including drawing students) was 164, and the gross cost to Government was Rs. 60,700·72, of which Rs. 4,596·53 was recovered in fees and by the sale of stationery, instruments, &c.

The Technical College was also reported upon by a Special Commission appointed in 1908, owing to criticisms with regard to the courses prescribed for the student. The Commission recommended that the College should continue to be used as a feeder to Government Departments. It was considered that it was more economical to provide for the theoretical instruction of such recruits in a single institution than for each department to arrange for its own course of instruction. It is hoped that with the present great demand for men in the technical departments and the inducements which can be held out that the Technical College will be able to afford a supply of the right material.

There are no Government industrial schools; but carpentry schools have been attached to five Government schools in the

Kandyan Provinces. In 1908 the aided industrial schools, which are 34 in number, received grants amounting to Rs. 15,978·92. The number of pupils was 4,839, and the trades taught were dressmaking, carpentry, printing, bookbinding, shoemaking, tailoring, blacksmiths' work, lace-making, embroidery, gardening, and masonry.

The most important of these schools is the Maggona Certified Industrial School, which is utilized by Government as a reformatory, and carried on by the Roman Catholic Mission. This institution has an estate of about 300 acres and excellent buildings, to the cost of which Government has contributed. At the end of 1908 the number of juvenile offenders receiving instruction in it was 217; the trades taught were carpentry, ironwork, masonry, gardening, and estate work, bookbinding, and tailoring. An allowance is paid by Government for the maintenance of each juvenile offender. The total cost of the institution to Government in 1908 was Rs. 19,184·57.

In Ceylon, where 88 per cent. of the population is rural, the technical and industrial education required for the main part of the population is one of which will fit them for rural and agricultural life. An attempt is being made to supply this by the scheme for school gardens, which is being carried on in connection with Government schools. There are now 142 Government schools in which gardens are being carried on under the scheme; in all there are 180 schools with school gardens. The seeds and implements are supplied by the Department, and the gardens are visited as often as possible by the Superintendent of School Gardens and his Assistants. The work is encouraged by money prizes for the most successful school in each district.

Needlework in girls' schools has received much attention since the appointment of the Inspectress of Needlework in 1904. The Inspectress visits personally as many schools as she can, and marks the work done at all girls' and mixed schools throughout the Island. This has led to a marked improvement both in plain needlework and in the lace and embroidery done in industrial schools.

(F.) Estate Schools.

As regards aided estate schools, the figures show marked progress. At the end of 1908 there were 162 aided estate schools, as against 105 at the end of 1907 and 90 at the end of 1906. The number of estate schools actually examined for grant was 126, as compared with 97 in 1907.

As in the previous year, a form was circulated to collect information from planters. Returns were received from 735 estates, and showed a total number of 10,954 children receiving instruction in schools on the estates, of whom 9,262 were boys and 1,692 girls.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

(A.) Hospitals.

There are 73 hospitals, with a total number of 4,444 beds.

(B.) Medical Institutions.

The Medical College has a total of 113 medical students and 36 apothecary students. The course of study is five years for the former and two years for the latter. The number of qualified medical men registered in 1908 under the Ordinance No. 2 of 1905 was 225, and the total number of irregular medical practitioners who availed themselves of registration under the special conditions of the Ordinance was 176.

There is a Bacteriological Institute, a clinic for tropical medicine for research and instruction, and a laboratory for the Public Analyst.

(C.) Asylums.

There are asylums in Colombo for lunatics and lepers; there is also a home for Incurables, which, though not an official institution, receives a grant of Rs. 5,000 per annum from Government. The daily average number of patients at the Leper Asylum is 325.

(D.) Poor Houses.

There are no poor houses in Ceylon. In Colombo and some other towns there are Friend-in-Need Societies for the relief of distress, and these are subsidized by Government, the Colombo subsidy being Rs. 12,000 per annum. In addition to this every Government Agent and Assistant Government Agent has an annual vote for "Allowances to Paupers"; the votes vary from Rs. 10,000 in the Colombo District to Rs. 340 in the Nuwara Eliya District; the maximum allowance is Rs. 5 a month.

(E.) Reformatories.

There are no Government reformatories in Ceylon, but by an arrangement with the Roman Catholic Mission the Maggona Industrial School is used as a reformatory for youthful offenders (*vide* (E) Technical and Industrial Education).

(F.) Savings Banks.

There are two Government institutions, and the business of both showed a satisfactory working in 1908:—

(1) The Ceylon Savings Bank had a sum of Rs. 4,556,778 to the credit of 34,309 depositors on December 31st, 1908, as against Rs. 4,679,480 to the credit of 33,888 depositors on the corresponding date of 1907. The amount of the Bank's invested funds was Rs. 4,970,944. Interest is allowed on deposits at the rate of 3 per cent. in sums above Rs. 1,000, and 4 per cent. on sums below that amount.

(2) Post Office Savings Banks.—Depositors' accounts increased by 3,946, and amount to credit of depositors by Rs. 83,896, the figures at the end of the year being Rs. 2,201,177 to the credit of 74,964 depositors. In 1907 the increase of accounts was 4,069, and of deposits Rs. 219,337. Business is done at 159 offices, and the rate of interest is 2·40 per cent.

VI.—JUDICIAL.

(A.) Police.

The authorized strength of the Police on December 31st, 1908, was 1 Inspector-General, 6 Superintendents of Police, 14 Assistant Superintendents of Police, 21 Inspectors, 38 Sergeant-Majors, 16 European Police Sergeants, 18 European Police Constables, 57 Station House Officers, 238 Native Police Sergeants, and 1,825 Native Police Constables. 398 recruits were enlisted during the year.

The cost of the Force was Rs. 1,120,414, as against Rs. 1,091,745 in 1907.

No new punitive forces were imposed during the year.

(B.) Crime Statistics.

I.—*From Returns furnished by the Inspector-General of Police.*

The following figures show the number of offences dealt with:—

Year.	True Cases.	Convictions or Committals.
1904	19,027	13,063
1905	16,831	11,036
1906	17,621	11,224
1907	15,555	11,550
1908	17,831	12,523

Of the above total, 11 023 were statutory offences, breaches of Municipal by-laws, and other minor offences. The real crime is represented by 6,808 offences, as against 5,620 in 1907.

The following table shows the fluctuation of the more important forms of serious crime:—

—	1904.	1905.	1906.	1907.	1908.
Murder and homicide	144	170	186	188	201
Rape	20	23	30	110	129
Robbery	280	330	382	926	1,000
Burglary...	1,716	1,869	2,107	2,370	2,570
Grievous hurt	408	448	481	479	329
Theft of cattle and prædial products.	1,377	1,623	1,915	1,161	2,079
Arson	190	230	229	384	499
Riot	8	4	8	2	1

II.—*From Returns furnished by the Solicitor-General.*

The number of cases instituted in the Police Courts and Municipal Magistrates' Courts in 1908 was 81,281, as against 82,453 in 1907.

The proportion of persons tried by Police Courts per 100,000 inhabitants was 2,042, as against 1,600 in 1907.

2,605 persons were committed for trial before the Superior Courts. Of these, 75 were awaiting trial at the end of the year. Of the remaining 2,530, 1,486 were convicted of various offences and 1,032 were acquitted, while 12 were discharged, the charges against them having been withdrawn.

These figures as they stand point rather to an increase in the state of crime in Ceylon rather than to any decrease. But it must be remembered, in dealing with any crime figures, that an increase in the number of cases reported by no means implies an increase in crime, but very frequently indicates increased vigilance on the part of the police force, and more cases reported and so investigated.

Crime.—There is no doubt, both from the reports of the judicial and police officers as well as those of the revenue officers, that the country is much better policed, and that far more criminals are detected and punished than was the case a few years ago. The Southern Province has for long had the reputation of being the most criminal in the Island, and was consequently the most thoroughly marked out for Police Stations. The Government Agent, Southern Province, in his Administration Report for 1908, states:—

"Balapitiya (a district in the Southern Province) held the unenviable distinction of holding the first place in crime for five years from 1898 to 1902, was second in 1903 and 1904, third in 1905, and now is ninth. The proportion of persons committed was 21 per 10,000 in 1901; it is now 6·3. The Galle division dropped in 1907 from 4th to 15th place.

"Burglaries have dropped from 521 reported in 1906 to 308 in 1908. There were 251 cattle stealing cases in 1906 and 122 in 1908."

Serious crime diminished by 29 per cent. during 1907 in the Southern Province, and the decrease is continued.

Increased efficiency in detecting and reporting crime will not at once produce any marked effect on the state of crime in Ceylon. Murders and violent assaults are still regrettably frequent. It has been a matter for serious consideration whether a form of punishment could not be found which would have a more deterrent effect than the death sentence on the people of this country.

(C.) Prisons.

There was an increase of 433 prisoners in the total number of admissions of convicted prisoners to the prisons in Ceylon during the year, excluding Road Ordinance defaulters, of whom there

were 379 in 1908, as against 487 in 1907. The figures are as follows:—

1907	8,188
1908	8,621

The convictions for murder and manslaughter were 101, as against 127 in 1907.

There was a decrease in the number of capital sentences carried out:—

	Sentenced to Death.	Hanged.
1907	59 ...	44
1908	45 ...	23

Of the 45 sentenced to be hanged in 1908, 37 were Sinhalese, 4 Tamils, 2 Moors, and 2 Eurasians; 27 out of the 45 sentences were confirmed, and 18 were commuted.

There were 7 escapes from jail during the year, in 6 of them re-captures were effected.

The total number of deaths in jail was 227, as against 121 in 1907. There was no serious epidemic of any kind. There was, however, a slight outbreak of cholera in Welikada Jail in November, the total number of deaths from this disease being 14. The increase in deaths was due to the prevalence of diarrhœa and dysentery. The average daily sick-rate for the year was 121, as against 101 in 1907, an increase of 20.

The number of punishments for prison offences inflicted on prisoners increased from 2,308 in 1907 to 2,475 in 1908. Corporal punishment also increased from 128 in 1907 to 131 in 1908. The increase in the number of punishments, both corporal and "others," was due to the increase in the number of admissions and daily average of prisoners, both convicted and unconvicted.

Industrial labour has continued to be carried out and extended. The weaving of cloth for prisoners' clothing was started in Welikada towards the latter end of the year, and should prove a success and reduce expenses in clothing the prisoners. At Anuradhapura a quarry was opened for the supply by prison labour of ballast to the Railway Department. At Negombo there is a remunerative basket industry. The estimated value of remunerative labour performed by prisoners was Rs. 314,258.

The desirability of instituting portable jails to admit of the employment of parties of long-sentenced prisoners from the Mutwal quarries, which are no longer workable, on such works as water supply and drainage schemes for minor towns and villages, has been under consideration.

Owing to the congested state of the Government Printing Office, and want of space in the Fort for the erection of new offices and buildings, it has been decided to erect new printing works at Welikada on Government property. Labour will thus be found for some 200 prisoners daily, for machine and press printing, stereotyping, ruling, perforating, numbering, binding, packing, warehousing, and preparing for despatch, under the

direct supervision of the Government Printer, who will also have his own staff of free labour in a separate portion of the building.

The printing of railway tickets is now being carried out at Welikada. All embossing work for Government Departments is also carried out by prison labour.

Prisoners will also be employed on the Karaiyur Reclamation Scheme at Jaffna next year, their employment for this purpose having been sanctioned by the Secretary of State. Their use for this purpose will effect a double purpose: habitual criminals will be employed in work which should prove remunerative at a considerable distance from the home of the majority of them, and in a part of the country much disliked by the Sinhalese.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

(A.) Population.

The population enumerated at the Census (March 1st, 1901) was 3,565,954, exclusive of the military, the shipping, and the South African prisoners of war. The natural increase by excess of births over deaths from that date to the end of the year 1908 amounted to 276,789, while the number of Indian immigrants exceeded the number of emigrants by 195,713. The population estimated to the end of 1908 was accordingly 4,038,456, an increase of 50,392 persons, or 1·3 per cent. on the population of 1907.

Birth and Death Rates.

The births registered during the year numbered 160,713, and were in the proportion of 40·1 per 1,000 persons living. The registered deaths numbered 117,982, and were equal to a rate of 29·4 per 1,000 of the population. Compared with 1907, the birth-rate shows an increase of 7·3 per mille, and the death-rate a decrease of ·7 per mille. Compared with the average rates for the ten years 1898-1907, the birth-rate shows an increase of 2·3 per mille, and the death-rate also an increase of 1·0 per mille.

Public Health.

The public health during 1908 was not so good as in the previous year, there was more malarial fever, and smallpox was prevalent.

The greatest number of deaths occurred under the heading of Specific, Febrile or Zymotic Diseases, and of these the highest figures are given under the sub-heads of Miasmatic and Diarrhœal Diseases. The deaths from smallpox increased as the year progressed, and the number of deaths from enteric and simple continued fevers was high. The deaths attributed to malaria alone and from cholera were few. In the hospitals of the Island the daily average sick during 1908 was 4,278·45, as against 4,175 in the previous year. Parangi cases decreased in 1907.

Of the principal diseases, the following showed an increase in admissions over 1907, viz., anchylostomiasis, chickenpox, enteric fever, leprosy, malarial fever, and smallpox.

The following table shows the admissions for, and deaths from, the most prevalent diseases during 1908 as compared with 1907:—

Diseases.	1907.		1908.	
	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.
Anchylostomiasis	3,831	888	4,434	1,034
Chickenpox	2,441	2	3,471	1
Cholera	105	62	51	40
Dysentery	3,474	1,264	3,099	825
Enteric Fever	696	157	1,029	248
Leprosy	516	73	562	68
Malarial Fever	7,164	167	11,492	718
Parangi	3,513	45	3,246	23
Smallpox...	126	24	1,446	321

(B.) Vaccination.

During the year 246,118 subjects were vaccinated. The percentage of successful primary vaccination cases to total inspected was 85·18, while the percentage of successful re-vaccination cases was 71·80.

A Pasteur Institute has been established at Coonoor, where all persons who have been bitten by rabid animals undergo free prophylactic treatment for hydrophobia. The Ceylon Government gives the institute an annual grant, and all poor persons in Ceylon bitten by rabid animals, and unable to meet the expenses of the journey, are sent there at the cost of the Government. Many of the inhabitants of this Island have already availed themselves of the advantages of this institution.

Plague.—The Island continues free from the ravages of plague. One case of plague was brought to Colombo from Bombay and sent to Galle. The principal causes of Ceylon's freedom from plague are probably that it is not a terminal port, ships do not come alongside a quay, and cargo lighters are regularly disinfected and kept free from rats.

(C.) Sanitation.

The water carriage system in Colombo has made considerable progress during the year, and it is expected that in 1909, or early in 1910, the portion of the work known as the Harbour Sewage Scheme will be completed and working.

The large towns are controlled by Municipalities, other towns have Local Boards, or come under the Small Town's Ordinance.

The general expense of scavenging is met from rates recovered locally, and loans are made occasionally to the local bodies for larger works of permanence, such as water supply, construction

of drains, &c., the cost of which they are unable to meet in a lump sum.

See also under head Public Works, (F.) Colombo Drainage Works.

(D.) Meteorology.

The climate of Ceylon varies considerably in different parts of the Island, both as regards temperature and rainfall. In the low-country and coast districts the climate is tropical, but in the mountainous districts in the interior of the Island it resembles that experienced in many parts of Europe, being temperate and equable.

The year 1908 was much below the average as regards rainfall. The highest recorded rainfall was at Ratnapura 118·06 inches. This district also held the highest record for 1907 with 138·36 inches. The lowest record was at Hambantota, 25·11 inches, as against 33·64 inches for the same district in 1907, which was the lowest of that year. The rainfall in Colombo was 58·41 inches and in Kandy 63·72 inches. At Ratnapura it rained on 229 days in the year, while at Puttalam there was rain on only 56 days.

The hottest station, taking the mean temperature of night and day all the year round into account, was Trincomalee, 82·3°, with Jaffna—which had a temperature of 82·6° in 1907—second with 81·4° in 1908. The coolest was Nuwara Eliya, 59·3°. Colombo and Kandy were 79·9° and 76·1° respectively. The highest temperature reached in Colombo was on February 8th, 93·0°, the highest on record in Colombo is 95·8° registered on February 22nd, 1885.

The highest temperature for the whole Island reached during the year was at Anuradhapura, 99·9° on August 28th; the highest on record for the Island was at Trincomalee, 103·7° on May 12th, 1890.

VIII.—POST AND TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT.

The total number of offices open in 1908 was 402; of these, 159 were Post Offices and 243 were Receiving Offices. Of the 159 Post Offices, 108 are also Telegraph Offices.

A comparison of the revenue and expenditure for the years 1907 and 1908 shows:—

	1907. Rs.	1908. Rs.
Revenue	1,353,202	1,417,072
Estimated value of work done for Government ...	246,507	242,361
Total	1,599,709	1,659,433
Expenditure	1,483,502	1,614,602
Balance ...	116,207	44,831

The total estimated number of articles, exclusive of parcels, which passed through the post during the year exceeded 31½ millions, against 30¼ millions in 1907 and 29¼ millions in 1906.

The business done in parcels is shown as follows:—

	1907.	1908.
Total number of parcels ...	503,507	480,775
Inland value-payable parcels	98,117	99,882
Indian value-payable parcels	75,951	73,243
Collected from addresses of value-payable parcels ...	Rs. 867,587	Rs. 979,352

The fall in the total number of parcels is due to the fact that a large number of packets formerly posted as parcels now fall into the letter rate of postage.

The following are the figures for money orders:—

—	1907.		1908.	
	No.	Rs.	No.	Rs.
Inland	292,422	8,062,074	310,154	8,489,757
Indian	174,231	4,751,428	181,197	5,233,151
United Kingdom	10,547	382,710	10,390	400,646
Colonial and Foreign ...	11,487	768,307	11,586	756,523
Total	488,687	13,964,518	513,327	14,880,077

Money order business with the United Kingdom has decreased in extent owing to the increasing popularity of the British postal order. The business done in postal orders is shown below:—

—	1907.		1908.	
	No.	Value.	No.	Value.
Inland	58,463	Rs. 192,112	61,474	Rs. 203,571
British	15,445	£ 10,248	22,267	£ 14,870

The total number of telegrams was 823,905 in 1908, against 807,996 in 1907, an increase of 15,909, against an increase of 48,425 over 1906. Foreign telegrams (other than those sent to India) showed an increase of 8 per cent., against 17 per cent. in the previous year.

The number of miles of wire and of Postal Telegraph Offices and Railway Telegraph Stations is shown below:—

	1907.	1908.
Miles of wire	3,651	4,061
Number of Postal Telegraph Offices	106	108
Railway Telegraph Stations	107	108

The new P. & O. mail contract, which came into force on February 1st, 1908, has effected a reduction in the subsidy pay-

able by Ceylon of £515 per annum, the amount payable in future being £4,852 per annum.

Mr. A. H. Preece, of the firm of Preece & Cardew, Consulting Electrical Engineers, paid a visit to Ceylon in January last, and inspected the Telegraph and Telephone Systems of the Colony.

In consequence of his recommendations, it is proposed to replace the existing overhead method of construction of the Colombo telephone service by an underground system on the more congested portions of the service, and estimates for that purpose are in course of preparation. The cost is roughly estimated at Rs. 100,000.

A proposal made by Mr. Preece for the construction of telephone trunk lines between Colombo, Kandy, and Nuwara Eliya has received consideration, and estimates of the cost have been prepared. The cost, which amounts roughly to Rs. 220,000, includes a large amount of reconstruction of the existing routes, along which the trunk lines will have to be carried, and this reconstruction should materially improve both the Postal Telegraph and Railway Telegraph Systems.

IX.—PUBLIC WORKS.

(A.) Public Works Department.

The expenditure of the Public Works Department during the last two years may be compared as follows:—

	1907. Rs.	1908. Rs.
Personal Emoluments ...	533,049	518,919
Other Charges	89,857	87,470
Public Works Annually Recurrent	2,648,741	2,684,811
Public Works Extraordinary	1,929,416	1,781,144
Works chargeable to Loans, &c.	227,081	415,167
Total	5,428,144	5,487,513

The total expenditure of the Public Works Department has steadily increased during the last eleven years from Rs. 4,190,003 in 1898 to Rs. 5,487,513 in 1908.

The total length of roads maintained by the Public Works Department during the year was 3,790 miles, of which 3,450 miles are cart roads and 340 miles are bridle roads.

(B.) Colombo Harbour Works.

The total expenditure upon the works during 1908 amounted to Rs. 1,499,375 and the total expenditure since the commencement of the South-west Breakwater in 1873, including maintenance charges, &c., has amounted to Rs. 39,478,650.

New Arm, South-west Breakwater.

Preliminary work on block setting re-commenced after the south-west monsoon as soon as weather permitted in October, and up to the end of the year 30 slices were set, or 290 feet of breakwater completed. Owing to the exposed position the work presents considerable difficulties, and it is estimated that it will not be finished for four or five years.

Graving Dock.

The dock was occupied on seventeen occasions during the year. The revenue amounted to Rs. 32,010·90 and the expenditure to Rs. 54,336·20.

The North Guide Pier is practically complete as regards length, and is now in use. The fendering, coping, and other subsidiary work is now in hand. The whole will be completed during the year 1909.

Patent Slip.

The slip was used on twenty-one occasions, producing a revenue of Rs. 27,356. The working expenses amounted to and Rs. 5,455 respectively.

(C.) Railway Department.

Open Lines.

The total length of railways open at the end of 1908 was 566⅝ miles, an increase during the year of 4½ miles, by the opening of a section of the new Negombo Extension as between Ragama and Ja-ela.

The receipts for the year amounted to Rs. 10,906,431, being Rs. 211,001 in excess of the preceding year; to this increase coaching traffic contributed more than half, viz., Rs. 137,567, while goods traffic and miscellaneous increased by Rs. 67,979 and Rs. 5,455 respectively.

The most noticeable increases in goods traffic are as follows:—Coconut produce (coconut oil, copra, desiccated coconuts), manure, rubber, machinery, food stuff, &c., fibre yarn, &c., liquid fuel, bulk petroleum, and tea packing.

The increase in coaching traffic is due to an increase in the number of ordinary passengers and season ticket holders of all classes, including coolies, and to the conveyance of a large number of bicycles, carriages, dogs, &c.

The actual working expenses for 1908 (excluding expenditure on new works, &c.) were Rs. 5,850,743, as compared with Rs. 5,400,470* in 1907. The result of the year's working was therefore as follows:—

	Rs.
Receipts	10,906,431
Working expenses	5,850,743
Profit	5,055,688

* The figures given in the Blue Book Report for 1907, viz., Rs. 5,362,470, have since been corrected. They should be as now given.

Of this profit, the sum of Rs. 967,797 was expended in providing additional accommodation, rolling stock, increased safety appliances, &c.

The total capital cost of the Railway, including additional accommodation provided up to December 31st, 1908, amounted to Rs. 86,795,858. The profit on the capital cost of the Railway, including additional accommodation to December 31st, 1908, was therefore 5·82 per cent. The capital outstanding on loans on January 1st, 1908, was Rs. 38,956,126.

During the year six new engines for the broad and narrow gauge lines, ten bogie carriages, and a number of goods wagons were added to stock. Considerable improvements to stations, workshops, and buildings, and further extensions of the installation of vacuum brake, tablet system, interlocking of signals, and Stone's electric light apparatus were carried out.

It is interesting to note that, whereas not so many years ago all the carriages on the Ceylon Railway were imported bodily from England, they are now, with the exception of the wheels and axles and some minor details, entirely constructed in the railway workshops, resulting in great economy of expenditure and the provision of employment for a large number of Ceylonese.

Railway Extensions.

Colombo Stations Extensions.

This scheme includes the rebuilding and enlargement of the Maradana station, large extensions of the goods yard, erection of new goods warehouses, lake jetties, &c., the building of a new up-to-date station at the Fort, the deviation and duplication of the broad gauge line across the lake to Slave Island, a new large engine yard and coal stage, engine sheds and offices at Dematagoda, and the reclamation of approximately 40 acres of the lake. The total estimate for the work amounts to Rs. 4,447,145, out of which a sum of Rs. 2,295,636·49 had been spent up to the end of 1908. Maradana station has been completed, with the exception of the signalling and interlocking. The goods warehouses are in hand, also the new engine sheds and coal stage offices at Dematagoda. It is hoped that this scheme will be completed by the end of 1912.

Negombo Extension.

The construction of this line was started in November, 1907, and good progress has been made during 1908. The line as far as Ja-ela, a distance of 4½ miles, was opened for traffic from November 9th last. It is hoped to place the rails as far as Negombo by the middle of 1909. This extension is approximately 15 miles. The actual date of the opening of the line, however, depends on the completion of the Dandugama-oya bridge. This extension is constructed out of the general

revenue. The total estimate for this work is Rs. 1,683,436, out of which Rs. 1,218,336·53 has been spent in 1908.

Ratnapura Extension.

This extension was sanctioned at the commencement of the year; it is 27 miles in length. The total estimate for the work is Rs. 2,953,408. During 1908 application has been made for all the land required, and acquisition has been pushed on rapidly. The cost of this line is being met from Loan funds.

Sea Coast Duplication and Ragama Widening.

Sanction has been obtained for the widening of the line from Maradana to Ragama, a distance of 8½ miles, and also from Slave Island to Moratuwa, a distance of 10¾ miles. The work is to be taken in hand in the beginning of 1909. During 1908 detail surveys and estimates of the widening from Slave Island to Moratuwa were prepared. The land required for station sites has also been applied for. Six new stations will be re-erected.

Protection of the Sea Coast Line.

In recent years the sea has considerably encroached on the Sea Coast Railway line. It was found necessary to take immediate steps to prevent further encroachment. It is proposed to protect this coast with a bank of heavy rubble blocks weighing 5 to 9 tons. During 1908 the necessary plant for the handling and transporting of these heavy blocks has been indented for from England, and a portion of this plant arrived during 1908. The total estimate for this work is Rs. 437,510, out of which Rs. 91,341·70 has been spent. This work is being done from Revenue funds.

Mannar Line.

The survey and estimates of the proposed line have recently been completed. Its length is some 69½ miles, and the approximate estimate was Rs. 5,000,000 on the basis of a 46¼ lb. rail. Since then it has been decided to use an 80 lb. rail line. The estimated excess of Rs. 1,138,800 so caused will be included in the Loan Bill. Subject to examination by the Consulting Engineers of the detailed plans and estimates, the line has now been sanctioned.

Its completion is likely to have far-reaching effect in the history of Ceylon, which will then be connected by rail with India.

Motor Traction as Railway Feeders.

Motor traction as railway feeders opens a field for great possibilities in Ceylon, where the country with its spendid system of roads is in many parts admirably fitted for traction trains. Ceylon representatives were sent to India to attend and report on the trials of the Renard-Sourcoup road trains held in the Bengal Presidency.

(D.) Irrigation.

The present policy in irrigation matters is to develop the irrigable areas opened up by the large irrigation works which have been carried out in the past, and to complete these works by carrying out connected schemes of channels, &c., which will bring the full schemes into general usefulness.

The Indian Government has lent the Colony the service of Mr. W. L. Strange, an irrigation expert, who is now examining the irrigation works of the Island, and who will advise on the best means of deriving the full benefit of these splendid monuments of the past and present restorations.

The expenditure on construction in 1908 was Rs. 445,169, as against Rs. 415,452 in 1907. This is a considerable decrease from the figures for the seven previous years. Expenditure was rising rapidly from 1900, and reached Rs. 668,377 in 1904.

The cost of maintenance was Rs. 97,660, as against Rs. 85,276 in 1907.

An extent of 1,803 acres of land was opened for irrigation in 1908, 818 acres being in the North-Central Province.

Consideration has been given to numerous minor works for existing tanks in the Wanni—a stretch of land in the north of Ceylon, within easy distance of the railway, and served by numerous irrigation schemes. This district is at present almost uninhabited, and every effort is being made to attract settlers to land, which irrigation should make one of the most fertile portions of Ceylon. (*Vide* also remarks under Position of Agricultural Industries, Maha Illuppalama Experimental Station, page 22.)

(E.) Forests.

The future *personnel* of the Forest Department will consist of trained foresters only, as in the case of the Imperial Forest Service in India. The first officers trained at Oxford will arrive at the end of 1909.

Forest exploitation has been directed towards the elimination of over-mature timber which retarded future regeneration of crops, and to the utilization of timber on areas to be alienated for sale, lease, or irrigation purposes.

The supply to Public Departments at actual cost of output reached a value of about Rs. 548,700 in 1908, as against Rs. 125,000 in 1906 and Rs. 401,500 in 1907.

During the last four years the Forest Department has delivered 169,000 broad gauge and 42,000 narrow gauge sleepers to the Railway, and holds a large supply in reserve.

The average cost of delivery to date has been Rs. 3·32 per broad gauge and Re. 1·73 per narrow gauge sleeper. The Railway previously paid over Rs. 5 per sleeper for its best supply of broad gauge jarrah, so that a considerable saving has been effected by the supply being obtained from the local forests. On sylvicultural reasons it will be necessary in future to limit the supply of sleepers to 50,000 broad gauge per annum.

(F.) Colombo Drainage Works.

(1) Messrs. Mansergh & Sons' scheme for the drainage of Colombo to replace the present "dry earth" system has been in course of construction since 1904. The whole scheme is estimated to cost about 20½ million rupees. An expenditure of Rs. 5,200,000 has been sanctioned for the first instalment, dealing with the harbour watershed, which contains about a quarter of the population; and a further expenditure of Rs. 988,344 was sanctioned in 1908 for a portion of the second instalment, consisting of the main sewer from Layard's Broadway to Polwatta, which will partially intercept the sewage now draining into the lake in the centre of the city.

(2) Sewers are being laid in all the principal streets, gravitating to a pumping station near the harbour, where the sewage will be lifted into a main sewer and led away about 2¼ miles to a terminal pumping station and bacterial treatment works, whence the purified effluent will be discharged into the Kelani river, near the Victoria bridge. The sewers are capable of taking six times the dry weather flow of the sewage, and separate drains are being provided for dealing with heavy rainfall.

(3) The total length of drains completed up to December, 1908, was 22½ miles. All the principal sewers have now been laid. The extension of the main sewer was commenced in March, and about ¾ mile had been completed by the end of the year. Altogether, about 250,000 cubic yards of excavation have been done, and about 56,000 cubic yards of concrete and masonry have been put in place.

(4) The total expenditure up to December 31st, 1908, amounted to Rs. 4,297,190·52, of which Rs. 1,400,235·16 was expended during 1908. The labour force averages a little under 3,000 men during the year, and reached 3,047 in November, which is about one twenty-fourth of the total adult male population of Colombo.

X.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

(A.) Important Events.

Her Majesty the ex-Empress Eugenie spent three months in the Island.

Empire Day was very widely celebrated throughout Ceylon. There were large gatherings of school children at all the large centres.

Two Durbars of Native Chiefs were held in Colombo and Kandy. The Conference of the Chief Headmen of the five Kandyan Provinces was the first held in the history of the Colony.

The American fleet visited Colombo in December, and were warmly welcomed. On December 13th 15 large American battle-

ships were securely berthed in the harbour in 4½ hours, and on Thursday, the 17th, at noon, there were in the harbour 41 vessels, all ocean-going steamers, including the American fleet of 16 battleships and 4 auxiliaries. There was no interference with the ordinary business of the port, which gives a good idea of the capabilities of the Colombo Harbour. On the 20th the fleet left the harbour, consisting of 16 battleships and 2 auxiliaries, in 1 hour 13 minutes. The American despatch vessel attached to the fleet was docked, cleaned, painted, and undocked in the Graving Dock in 24 hours, and was the first American vessel to use the dock.

The news of the death in June of Sir Arthur Havelock, G.C.S.I., G.C.M.G., &c., who was Governor of the Colony from 1890 to 1896, of Lady Havelock (in February), and of Sir E. Noel Walker (in October), who was Colonial Secretary from 1887 to 1901, was received with great regret in Ceylon.

(B.) Public Service.

An additional member was appointed to the Executive Council with the approval of the Secretary of State.

Mr. P. D. Warren, Surveyor-General, was made a Companion of the Order of Saint Michael and Saint George. Mr. J. E. Christoffelsz was appointed a Member of the Imperial Service Order.

The death on December 11th of Mr. H. C. Nicolle, Treasurer of this Colony from September, 1904, is recorded with regret.

(C.) Immigration.

A Commission was appointed, and sat during the year, to inquire into and report upon various questions connected with labour on estates in Ceylon.

The questions with which the Commission were principally concerned were the recruiting of labour, the pay of the coolies, their indebtedness, the means of dealing with absconders, and the registration of coolies on estates.

The Commission was presided over by the Hon. Mr. Hugh Clifford, C.M.G., Colonial Secretary.

Their recommendations have been adopted by the Planters' Association, and will be embodied in legislation, which will mark an important step in dealing with the labour, which at present plays so important a part in the development of the tea and rubber estates of Ceylon.

The number of immigrant labourers arriving in Ceylon in 1908 was 80,584, as against 55,701 in 1907. The number for each year depends largely on the state of the crops in South India.

In 1908 there was famine in the labour districts of South India. The Mannar Railway Extension should increase the number of immigrant labourers coming to Ceylon; the demand for the Tamil labourer is yearly becoming greater, and recruiting agencies are to be found all over South India.

(D.) Openings for Investment of Capital.

Rubber, coconut, tea, and plumbago are the chief openings for investment of capital. In the Western and Central Provinces the area of Crown land is comparatively very small; the country is covered with estates and native holdings. Inducements are being held out by offering specially favourable terms to obtain settlers for the tracts of valuable irrigated land in the Northern, North-Central, and North-Western Provinces, along the Northern Railway. There are also large tracts under the big irrigation schemes, *e.g.*, Giant's tank, where there will be 10,000 acres available, and Vakaneri, which open great possibilities for the paddy cultivator. It is hoped that in a few years cotton may prove to be one of the most remunerative products in Ceylon. There are large areas most suitable for its cultivation.

(E.) General Condition of the Colony; Social and Moral Condition of the People.

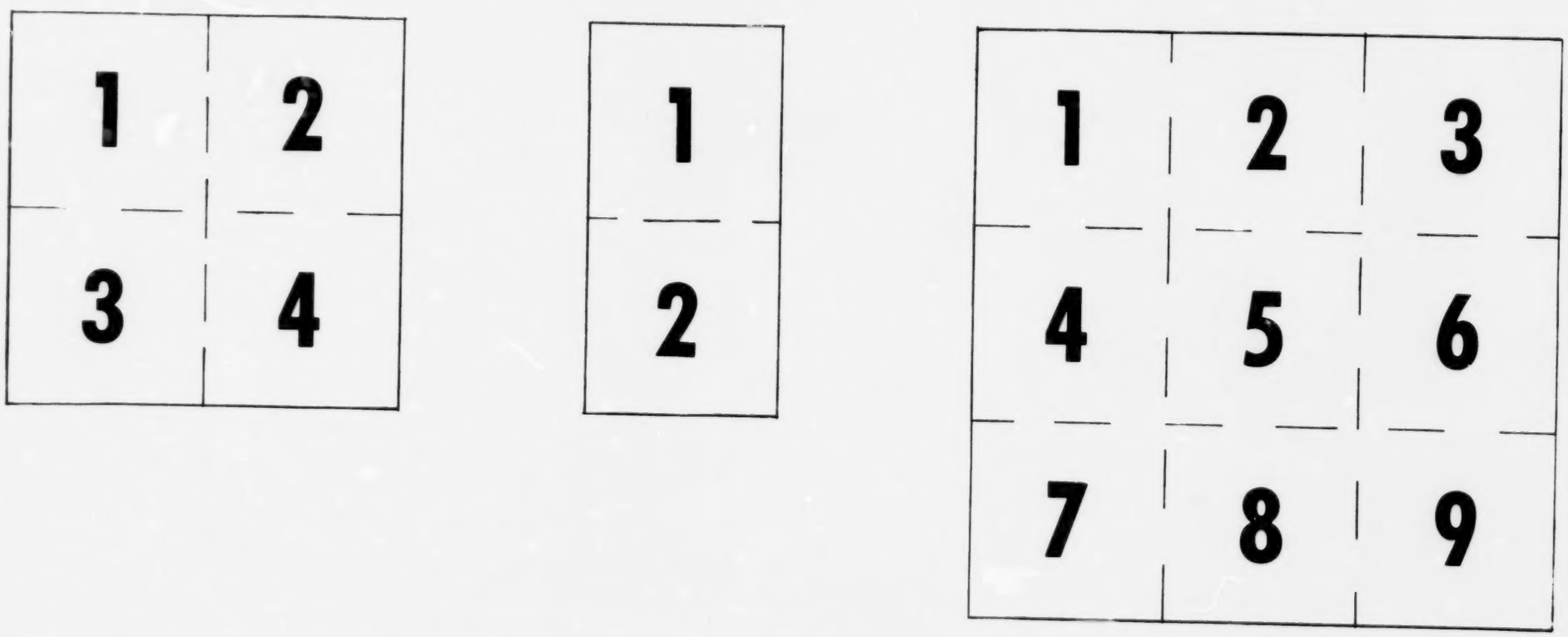
The general condition of the Colony is one of all round prosperity. The staple agricultural products are in a sound and healthy position. The investor can be sure of a steady return on capital invested in the industries of the Island; the native everywhere shows signs of material well-being and prosperity. In fact, so general is the prosperity among the people of the country, that the greatest problems to be faced are those which civilization and education have introduced. In the East, where the villager has few wants, a balance in his favour represents a problem to be solved. Wants are created, and these wants are governed by a standard of comfort set by those who are the first to find that the possession of more money means a greater purchasing power. Their spending capacity depends largely on their education. The danger is that a standard of living may be created which it will be difficult afterwards to abandon, but which is not suited to the wants and habits of the people of the country. Changes of this sort bring with them alterations in dress, in eating and drinking, in ceremonies and entertainments, in manners, which all cut at the root of local customs and distinctions, too often destroying what is old and understood and leaving only what is raw and undigested.

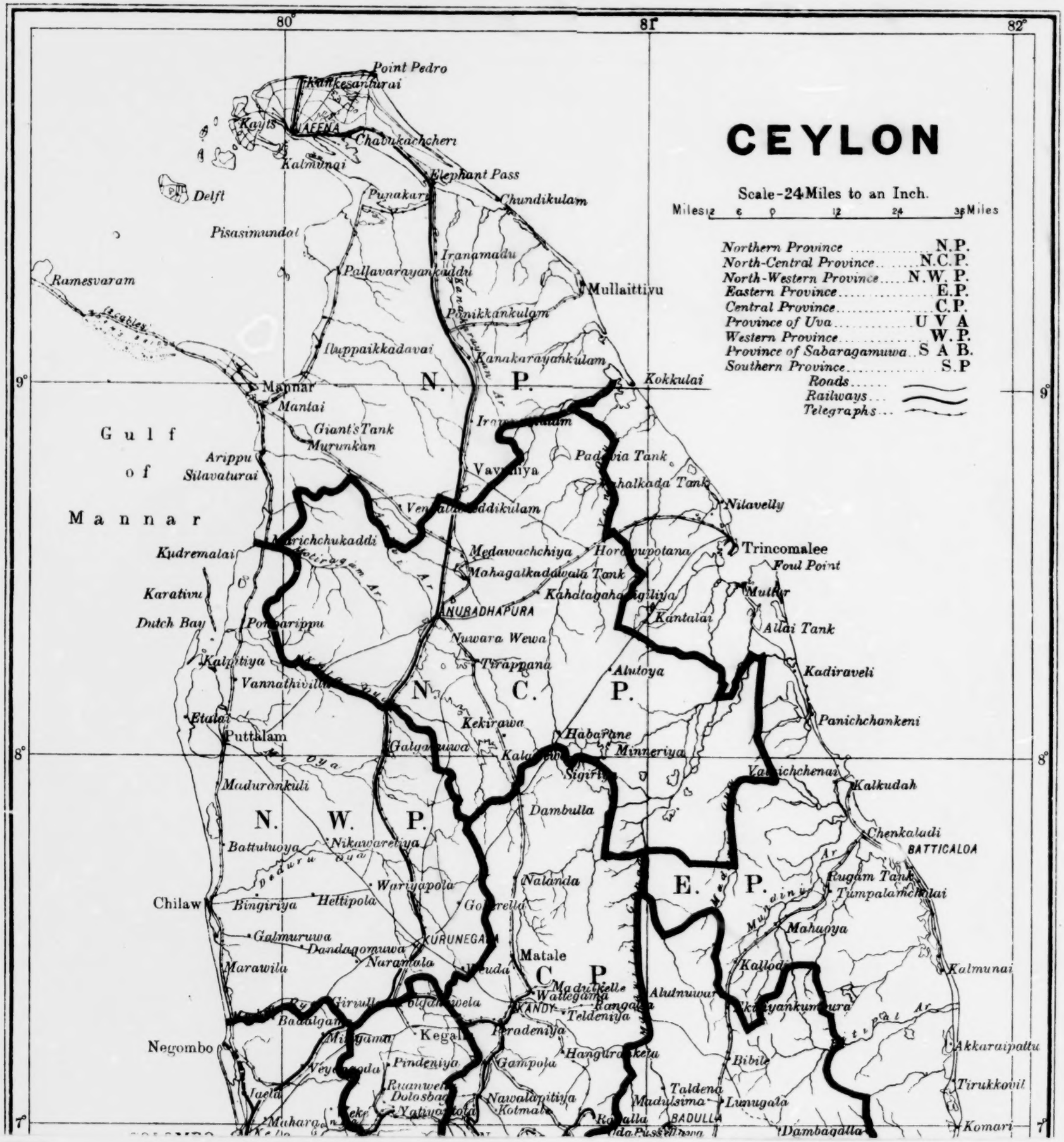
Such is the problem which education has to face in Ceylon to-day.

E. B. Denham,
Assistant Colonial Secretary.

May, 1909.

Maps on this order too large to be entirely included in one exposure are filmed clockwise beginning in the upper left hand corner, left to right and top to bottom as many frames as required. The following diagrams illustrate the method.




CEYLON
Scale-24 Miles to an Inch.
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Northern Province N.P.
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North-Western Province N.W.P.
Eastern Province E.P.
Central Province C.P.
Province of Uva U V A
Western Province W.P.
Province of Sabaragamuwa S A B.
Southern Province S.P
Roads
Railways
Telegraphs
80°
81°
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9°
8°
7°
Point Pedro
Kankesanturai
Kayts
JAFFNA
Chavakachcheri
Kalmunai
Elephant Pass
Delft
Punakari
Chundikulam
Pisasimundel
Iranamadu
Pallavarayankaddu
Ramesvaram
Mullaittivu
Ponnikkankulam
Iluppaikkadavai
Kanakarayankulam
N. P.
Kokkulai
Mannar
Mantai
Giant's Tank
Murunkan
Gulf of Mannar
Arippu
Silavaturai
Vavuniya
Padaviya Tank
Nilavelly
Trincomalee
Foul Point
Kudremalai
Medawachchiya
Horowpotana
Mahagalkadawala Tank
Karativu
Dutch Bay
ANURADHAPURA
Kantalai
Mutur
Allai Tank
Nuwara Wewa
Kalpitiya
Tirappana
Alutoya
Kadiraveli
N. C. P.
Vannathivillu
Etalai
Puttalam
Kekirawa
Habarane
Minneriya
Panichchankeni
Galgamuwa
Sigiriya
Kalkudah
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Dambulla
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Chenkaladi
BATTICALOA
Battulwoya
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Tumpalamchilai
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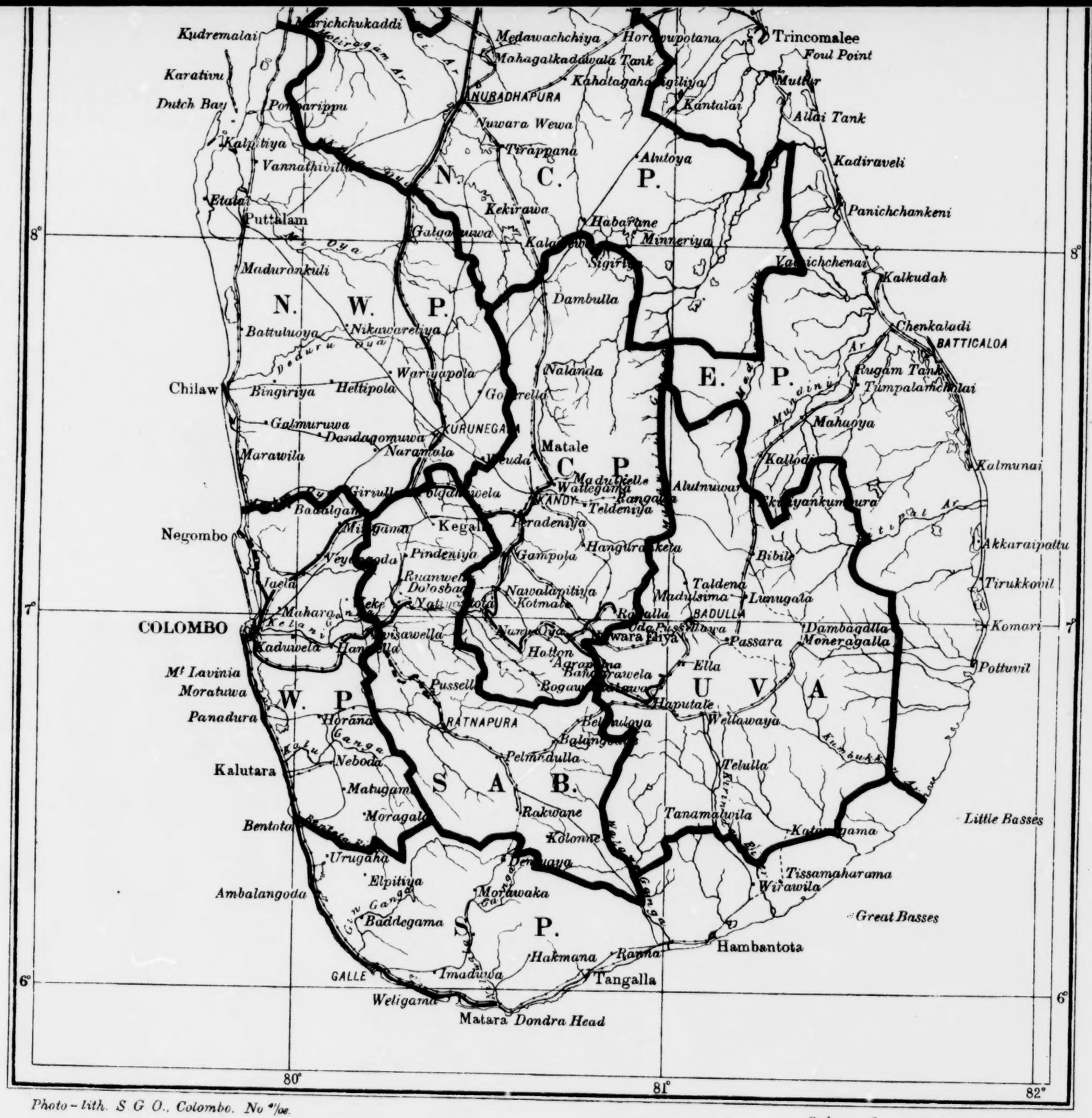

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Ordnance Survey Office, Southampton, 1909.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
569	Weihaiwei	1907
570	Hong Kong	"
571	Malta	1907–1908
572	British Honduras	1907
573	Gold Coast	"
574	Nyasaland Protectorate	1907–1908
575	Bahamas	"
576	Gambia	1907
577	St. Vincent	1907–1908
578	Turks and Caicos Islands	1907
579	St. Lucia	"
580	Fiji	"
581	Mauritius	"
582	Straits Settlements	"
583	Southern Nigeria	"
584	Imperial Institute	1906–1907
585	Barbados	1907–1908
586	Somaliland Protectorate	"
587	Trinidad and Tobago	"
588	Sierra Leone	1907
589	British Guiana	1907–1908
590	Grenada	1907
591	Leeward Islands	1907–1908
592	East Africa Protectorate	"
593	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
594	Northern Nigeria	"
595	Basutoland	"
596	Swaziland	"
597	St. Helena	1908
598	Gibraltar	1907–1908
599	Falkland Islands	1908
600	Uganda	1907–1908
601	Imperial Institute	1908
602	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
603	Ashanti	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
51	Southern Nigeria	Forest Administration.
52	South Africa	Native Education.
53	East Africa Protectorate	Veterinary Bacteriological Work, 1907–8.
54	Newfoundland	Governor's Visit to the Micmac Indians.
55	Cape Colony	Rietfontein Area.
56	Turks Islands	Salt Industry.
57	Uganda	Governor's Tour.
58	British Colonies	Fibres.
59	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1906–7.

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1909.

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No. 653.

CEYLON.

REPORT FOR 1909.

(For Report for 1908, *see* No. 604.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
October, 1910.

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REPORT ON THE CEYLON BLUE BOOK OF 1909.

I.—FINANCIAL.

(A) General Revenue and Expenditure.

Revenue.

The revenue in 1909 amounted to Rs. 39,332,861, which was Rs. 2,832,861 more than the estimate, Rs. 3,760,012 more than the revenue of 1908, and Rs. 5,449,904 more than the ordinary expenditure, exclusive of the amount charged to surplus balances, or Rs. 3,543,463 more than the total expenditure of the year.

The following table shows the rapid growth of the Ceylon revenue during the last decade :—

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Excess of Revenue as compared with previous Year.	Surplus of Revenue over Expenditure.	
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1899	25,913,141	24,950,940	774,472	962,201	
1900	27,325,930	25,321,988	1,412,789	2,003,942	
1901	26,437,102	25,896,594	—	540,508	
1902	28,435,158	26,341,878	1,998,056	2,093,280	
1903	29,423,308	26,714,828	988,150	2,708,480	
1904	30,846,694	32,019,393	1,423,386	—	1,172,699*
1905	34,395,336	29,736,899	3,548,642	4,658,437	
1906	35,030,661	32,644,215	635,325	2,386,446	
1907	36,573,825	32,591,522	1,543,164	3,982,303	
1908	35,572,849	35,032,055†	—	540,794	
1909	39,332,861	35,789,398‡	3,760,012	3,543,463	

* Deficit. † Includes Rs. 278,597 from surplus balances.
‡ Includes Rs. 1,906,443 from surplus balances.

It will be seen that the revenue has increased 50 per cent. since 1901, and that it has increased by 10 million rupees in six years.

The following is a comparative statement showing the actual revenue collected in 1908 and 1909 :—

	Revenue of 1908.		Revenue of 1909.		Nett Increase.		Nett Decrease.	
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
1. Customs ..	8,993,111	76	9,417,161	95	424,050	19	—	
2. Port, Harbour, Wharf, Warehouse, and other Dues	2,186,626	23	2,428,807	94	242,181	71	—	
3. Licenses, Excise, and Internal Revenue not otherwise classified ..	7,777,187	17	8,463,695	14	686,507	97	—	
4. Fees of Court or Office, Payment for Specific Services, and Reimbursements-in-Aid ..	1,526,934	53	1,738,803	54	211,869	1	—	
5. Post and Telegraphs ..	1,416,194	94	1,450,360	4	34,165	10	—	
6. Government Railway ..	10,917,929	57	11,712,704	31	794,774	74	—	
7. Interest	749,799	78	840,489	12	90,689	34	—	
8. Miscellaneous Receipts ..	509,163	69	1,672,131	28	1,162,967	59	—	
9. Land Revenue (exclusive of Land Sales) ..	471,770	78	445,341	1	—		26,429	77
10. Land Sales ..	1,024,130	84	1,163,367	28	139,236	44	—	
Total ..	35,572,849	29	39,332,861	61	3,760,012	32	—	

There is an increase under every head of revenue as compared with 1908, except Land Revenue (exclusive of Land Sales), due to a falling off in the sale of timber by the Forest Department, owing largely to opening up of land by private capitalists and sale of timber on these lands. There was an increase over the estimated revenue under each head except Fees of Court, where there was a difference of Rs. 500,000 under Opium Sales, due to the suspension of the Opium Ordinance. A sum of Rs. 500,000 had been estimated as the total receipts to Government on the working of the Ordinance. This would have been balanced by the expenditure of the same amount, and was really therefore only a paper credit. The largest increases in revenue, compared with 1908, were over a million rupees on Miscellaneous Receipts, due chiefly to an adjustment of the Railway Stores Account; close on eight lakhs under Government Railway—a good indication of the general prosperity of the country—the increases being on receipts from goods and passengers, which are responsible for over seven and a half lakhs out of the eight lakhs; nearly seven lakhs under Licenses, Excise, &c., due to increased amounts derived from the Arrack Rents—the revenue under this head is also nearly five lakhs in excess of the estimated revenue; four lakhs under Customs, due principally to increased imports of grain and general miscellaneous trade; nearly two and a half lakhs in Port and Harbour Dues; two lakhs in Fees of Court, due partly to an increase of Rs. 69,000 under the head of Judicial Stamps, owing to administration being taken out to several very valuable estates during the year; and an increase of one lakh in Land Sales.

The surplus fund of the Colony at the end of the year amounted to Rs. 20,145,362. The greater part of this sum has, however, been temporarily advanced to meet expenditure on certain large public works, which are really chargeable to the loan account of the Colony, *e.g.*, Harbour Works, completion of the 1899 Railway Extension Programme, Colombo Railway Extensions Scheme, Duplication of Colombo Water Main, and Irrigation. The total amount advanced on account of these works up to the end of 1909 is Rs. 16,843,348, of which Rs. 6,904,144 has been recovered from the portion of the loan raised.

The appropriation of a sum of Rs. 17,355,076 out of the total surplus balances of Rs. 20,145,362 has been ear-marked for the purposes of certain important and urgently required public works already sanctioned, so that the actual amount unappropriated at the end of 1909 was Rs. 2,790,286.

Expenditure.

The ordinary expenditure of 1909 amounted to Rs. 35,789,398, or Rs. 3,598,115 less than the estimated expenditure, including amount from surplus balances.

The savings on the estimate were chiefly under Public Works Extraordinary Rs. 554,709, and Public Works Annually Recurrent Rs. 227,794, and Rs. 152,450 under Railway Department, though the expenditure under these three heads was largely in excess of that of 1908, and Rs. 132,977 under Railway Works Extraordinary. The present spending capacity of the Public Works Department is not capable of much further expansion without special and temporary arrangements.

There was also a decrease of Rs. 663,815 under Medical Department, of which Rs. 500,000 was unexpended owing to the Opium Ordinance not being in force. The largest excess over the estimate was Rs. 187,063 under Miscellaneous Services, due principally to a sum of Rs. 119,975 paid to the Crown Agents as interest on advances made by them. Hitherto the interest was paid from the interest earned on Ceylon Government balances in the hands of the Crown Agents. This interest is now included under Revenue, and the interest due to the Crown Agents is paid from a vote under Miscellaneous Services.

The following is a comparative statement of expenditure for 1908 and 1909 :—

Heads of Service.	1908.		1909.		Increase.		Decrease.	
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
1. Public Debt ..	3,667,166	41	3,679,508	45	12,342	4	—	
2. Military Expenditure ..	1,978,998	55	1,384,137	18	—		594,861	37
3. Pensions ..	1,608,539	22	1,361,236	60	—		247,302	62*
4. Ecclesiastical ..	3,409	80	3,239	75	—		170	5
5. Exchange ..	85,261	67	348,157	60	262,895	93	—	
6. H. E. the Governor ..	181,519	32	186,230	2	4,710	70	—	
7. Civil Service ..	824,537	71	863,613	95	39,076	24	—	
8. Secretariat ..	347,644	55	314,759	41	—		32,885	14
9. Controller of Revenue ..	8,113	94	7,452	33	—		661	61
10. Treasury ..	79,878	71	77,734	34	—		2,144	37
11. Audit Office ..	101,397	57	124,374	66	22,977	9	—	
12. Provincial Administration ..	1,046,417	14	981,765	56	—		64,651	58
13. Settlement Officer under Waste Lands Ordinance ..	157,032	17	159,424	91	2,392	74	—	
14. Survey Department ..	997,200	49	1,062,466	67	65,266	18	—	
15. Government Stores ..	73,611	79	188,179	37	114,567	58	—	
16. Immigration ..	76,322	44	77,545	87	1,223	43	—	
17. Quarantine ..	32,634	89	54,419	75	21,784	86	—	
18. Customs ..	163,210	58	161,612	78	—		1,597	77
19. Post Office ..	1,611,033	0	1,653,363	91	42,330	91	—	
20. Forest Department ..	250,451	98	254,547	40	4,095	42	—	
21. Railway Department ..	5,694,818	70	5,951,173	75	256,355	5	—	
22. Port and Marine, Colombo ..	489,063	41	484,713	33	—		4,350	8
23. Port and Marine other than Colombo ..	37,101	12	38,425	83	1,324	71	—	
24. Legal Departments :—								
Supreme Court ..	189,202	76	187,225	60	—		1,977	16
Attorney-General ..	83,120	47	91,041	70	7,921	23	—	
Solicitor-General ..	14,667	50	15,555	25	887	75	—	
District Courts ..	190,797	27	188,711	34	—		2,085	93
Courts of Requests and Police Courts..	138,131	54	135,549	33	—		2,582	21
Registration of Lands	118,771	89	122,980	68	4,208	79	—	
Registration of Marriages, Births, and Deaths ..	129,016	30	126,690	51	—		2,325	79
Fiscals ..	303,498	61	294,315	86	—		9,182	75
25. Police Department ..	1,118,962	63	1,168,187	71	49,225	8	—	
26. Prisons Department ..	568,582	89	604,088	32	35,505	43	—	
27. Medical Department ..	2,178,185	58	2,262,316	9	84,130	51	—	
28. Education ..	1,342,903	47	1,442,464	24	99,560	77	—	
29. Botanic Gardens ..	151,957	38	146,818	92	—		5,138	46
30. Colombo Museum ..	38,615	42	33,668	35	—		4,947	7
31. Archæological Commissioner ..	66,575	22	93,103	96	26,528	74	—	
32. Veterinary Department	23,287	11	107,367	39	84,080	28	—	
33. Agricultural Society ..	30,000	0	30,000	0	—		—	
34. Mineralogical Survey ..	22,118	72	14,350	26	—		7,768	46
35. Inspector of Mines ..	16,206	21	16,426	76	220	55	—	
36. Inspector of Factories ..	3,457	75	4,706	33	1,248	58	—	
37. Registrar of Patents ..	—		3,520	49	3,520	49	—	
38. Miscellaneous Services..	703,074	92	810,373	13	107,298	21	—	
39. Irrigation Department..	322,466	94	303,567	49	—		18,899	45
40. Irrigation Annually Recurrent ..	197 268	68	195,758	26	—		1,510	42
41. Public Works Department ..	665,545	67	673,223	11	7,677	44	—	

* See increase under 5, Exchange.

Heads of Service.	1908.	1909.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
42. Public Works Annually Recurrent ..	2,420,404 9	2,553,637 86	133,233 77	—
— Railway Works Annually Recurrent ..	109,695 95	—	—	109,695 95
43. Public Works Extraordinary ..	1,947,041 83½	1,719,389 15	—	227,652 68½
44. Irrigation Extraordinary	166,452 14	143,418 6	—	23,034 8
45. Railway Works Extraordinary ..	1,978,083 79	976,417 45	—	1,001,666 34
46. Works chargeable to Surplus Balances:—				
Protection of South Coast Railway Line	116,148 59	133,124 15	16,975 56	—
Kalutara Bridge ..	—	303,854 16	303,854 16	—
Negombo Railway ..	—	376,761 90	376,761 90	—
Colombo Defences ..	—	110,603 40	110,603 40	—
Printing Office ..	—	24,415 16	24,415 16	—
Completion of Interlocking Points and Signals ..	—	47,732 67	47,732 67	—
Fitting existing Rolling Stock with Vacuum Brakes ..	—	72,375 85	72,375 85	—
Colombo Customs (Quay Wall and Jetties) ..	—	84,304 3	84,304 3	—
Warehouses, Colombo Customs ..	162,448 94	145,383 96	—	17,064 98
Underground Telephone Cables for Colombo ..	—	21 11	21 11	—
Telephone Exchange, Kandy ..	—	7,968 62	7,968 62	—
Telephone Exchange, Nuwara Eliya .	—	12,755 40	12,755 40	—
Telephone Trunk Line, Peradeniya Junction to Gampola, Hatton, and Nanu-oya ..	—	10,716 92	10,716 92	—
Hospitals ..	—	53,574 16	53,574 16	—
Precaution against Infectious Diseases ..	—	2,380 45	2,380 45	—
Roads and Bridges ..	—	39,647 35	39,647 35	—
Survey and Settlement ..	—	205,611 95	205,611 95	—
Improvements to Northern Railway Line ..	—	240,106 92	240,106 92	—
Contribution towards relief of sufferers in Messina ..	—	30,000 0	30,000 0	—
Chilaw Railway Survey	—	5,103 45	5,103 45	—
Total Expenditure chargeable to General Revenue ..	35,032,055 39½	35,789,398 63	3,141,499 56	2,384,156 32½

Heads of Service.	1908.	1909.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
47. Public Works Extraordinary chargeable to Loan:—				
Harbour Works ..	1,329,617 1	1,539,175 91	209,558 90	—
Northern Railway ..	26,998 74	—	—	26,998 74
Station Extensions ..	1,031,800 74	721,558 21	—	310,242 53
Ratnapura Railway ..	185,728 87	1,116,536 49	930,807 62	—
Duplication of Line, Ragama to Moratuwa ..	—	978,706 64	978,706 64	—
Colombo Lake Development .	—	20,781 58	20,781 58	—
Karaiur Reclamation, Jaffna ..	—	6,384 80	6,384 80	—
Irrigation Works ..	166,453 21	142,582 47	—	23,870 74
Mannar Railway ..	50,385 98	94,959 39	44,573 41	—
Expenses of raising Loan, Ordinance No. 6 of 1909 ..	—	402,831 0	402,831 0	—
	2,790,984 55	5,023,516 49	2,593,643 95	361,112 1
Grand Total ..	37,823,039 94½	40,812,915 12	5,735,143 51	2,745,268 33½
		Deduct Decrease ..	2,745,268 33	
		Nett Increase ..	2,989,875 18	

The largest increases are under the heads Works chargeable to Surplus Balances, Public Works Extraordinary chargeable to Loan, Exchange, Railway Department, Public Works Annually Recurrent, Government Stores, and Miscellaneous Services.

The largest items of increased expenditure were on account of the Ratnapura Railway, the Duplication of the Line (Ragama to Moratuwa), the Negombo Railway, the Kalutara Bridge, Improvement to the Northern Railway Line, and Survey and Settlement.

Change of Financial Year.

The financial year of the Colony will in future run from July to June, not according to the calendar year as heretofore. The change, which was adopted principally to avoid inconvenience in closing the accounts of the year at the end of December when the Christmas holidays interfere with the proper working of Departments, comes into force from next year. This report is therefore the last one in which Revenue and Expenditure will be shown for the calendar year.

(B) ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

(i.) The assets of the Colony on December 31, 1909, were Rs. 19,052,105, and the liabilities Rs. 8,845,947, the assets thus exceeding the liabilities by Rs. 10,206,158. Further, a sum of Rs. 9,939,203 had been advanced from surplus balances for Harbour, Railway, and Irrigation expenditure, which will ultimately be charged to loan, and is exclusive of Rs. 6,904,144 already charged to loan.

(ii.) Of the assets, a sum of—

Rs. 3,783,781 was in cash in the hands of the Treasurer, Government Agents, and the Crown Agents in London;

Rs. 5,209,162 in investments;

Rs. 5,954,876 advanced for the Colombo Drainage Works;
Rs. 2,294,721 in stores;
Rs. 852,606 in loans to Local Bodies; and
Rs. 882,974 in miscellaneous advances.

(iii.) The chief liabilities were :—

		Rs.
Widows' and Orphans' Pension Fund	..	5,678,183
General Deposits..	.. ..	2,599,925

The assets and liabilities of the Commissioners of Currency are no longer included in the balance sheet of the Colony. The sums hitherto included represented only a portion of the total liabilities and assets of the Commissioners of Currency, and there appeared to be no justification for the inclusion of these amounts in the balance sheet of the Colony. Moreover, this practice is not adopted in other Colonies.

(c) Public Debt.

On December 31, 1909, the public debt of Ceylon stood as follows :—

		£
Nett Sterling Debt	.. ..	4,269,769
Nett Silver Debt (Rs. 2,619,185)	..	174,612
Total indebtedness	..	£ 4,444,381

The following table exhibits in sterling the revenue and nett amount of debt during each of the last eleven years :—

Year.			Revenue. £		Nett Amount of Debt. £
1899	..	..	1,727,543	..	3,424,462
1900	..	..	1,821,729	..	3,361,750
1901	..	..	1,762,473	..	3,297,321
1902	..	..	1,895,677	..	4,624,183
1903	..	..	1,961,554	..	4,553,169
1904	..	..	2,056,446	..	4,476,480
1905	..	..	2,293,022	..	4,386,039
1906	..	..	2,335,377	..	4,304,396
1907	..	..	2,438,255	..	4,194,434
1908	..	..	2,371,523	..	4,090,229
1909	..	..	2,622,190	..	4,444,381

Out of the 3½ per cent. loan of £3,436,854 authorized by Ordinance No. 6 of 1909, to meet the cost of the Colombo Harbour and Colombo Drainage Works, the Mannar Railway, and other Railway and Public Works, an instalment of £1,500,000 was raised in December, the price of issue being 98½ per cent. A sum of Rs. 6,904,144·63 was received as part proceeds of this instalment of the authorized loan during the year, and applied in repayment of advances made from surplus balances towards the cost of works chargeable to loan funds.

The expenses of raising the instalment of loan charged to the accounts of the year amounted to Rs. 402,831.

It was at first made a condition of the raising of this loan that a reserve fund of 2 million rupees should be created as the first instalment of a reserve fund of 5 million rupees. The Secretary of State, however, subsequently agreed that, in view of the variety of flourishing industries now in existence in Ceylon, the proposal to create a reserve fund may be abandoned.

The expenditure of the Ceylon Government out of loans has, with the exception of comparatively inconsiderable sums spent on Irrigation Works and on the Colombo Water Supply, been made upon two great services : the Colony's

Railways and the Colombo Harbour. Both of these works being regarded as directly remunerative, either immediately or after a reasonable interval, were proper subjects for which to borrow money. They have answered the expectation on which the capital cost was borrowed; they both return a profit to the Colony after the discharge of liabilities for interest and sinking fund.

(D) Currency and Banking.

The currency of Ceylon consists of—

(1) Copper: Ceylon 5-cent, 1-cent, ½-cent, and ¼-cent pieces.
(2) Silver: the India rupee, with subsidiary Ceylon 50-cent, 25-cent, and 10-cent pieces.
(3) Gold: British sovereigns, which are legal tender at Rs. 15 per £.
(4) Ceylon Government notes of Rs. 1,000, 100, 50, 10, and 5.

By Proclamation dated December 13, 1909, the Ceylon 5-cent and ¼-cent copper coins will cease to be current or legal tender on July 1, 1910. By another Proclamation dated December 13, 1909, the Ceylon nickel bronze 5-cent coin became current or legal tender on January, 1, 1910.

On December 31, 1909, the value of currency notes in circulation was Rs. 17,249,565, on which date the currency reserve was distributed as follows:—

	Rs.
Gold (£141,500)	2,122,500
Rupees	6,257,735
Small silver	233,000
Colonial investments	4,625,049
Indian investments	4,011,281

The Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China; the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation; the Bank of Madras; the Mercantile Bank of India; and the National Bank of India, Limited, do business in the Colony.

(E) Municipalities.

The following is a comparative statement of the total revenue and expenditure of the Municipalities for the five years ended December 31, 1909:—

Year.	Revenue. Rs.	c.	Expenditure. Rs.	c.
Colombo.				
1905	1,591,742	10	1,387,277	98
1906	1,763,106	35	2,528,754	99
1907	2,382,259	12*	2,217,100	86
1908	1,884,133	4	1,846,000	97
1909	1,848,294	12	2,068,958	38
Kandy.				
1905	188,553	17	207,938	78
1906	220,691	47	203,242	40
1907	224,196	41	192,736	5
1908	226,646	54	189,138	78
1909	180,602	94	165,850	27
Galle.				
1905	104,899	28	101,473	50
1906	113,035	46	108,918	0
1907	129,637	81	116,578	59
1908	141,984	46	132,461	36
1909	156,051	80	192,656	31

* The revenue of the Colombo Municipality for 1907 includes a sum of Rs. 600,000 advanced by Government on account of Drainage Works.

Below will be found a statement of the debts of the Municipalities up to the end of 1909, showing provision for payment :—

Amount of Debt.	On what Account.	Provision for Payment.
Rs. c.	*Colombo.*	
— ..	— ..	—
	Kandy.	
139,336 68 ..	Waterworks construction ..	Water-rate of 6 per cent. on properties within certain portions of the Municipality (Ordinances Nos. 18 and 29 of 1884).
105,402 98 ..	Acquisition of lands above reservoir; repairs to main sewer and other various works	Bond assigning portion of water-rate as authorized by Ordinance No. 7 of 1887; also portion of rates and taxes.
18,000 0 ..	To widen Victoria Drive and clear lake silt	Bond assigning portion of rates and taxes under sections 127 (*a*) and (*b*), 128, 129, and 130 of Ordinance No. 7 of 1887.
	Galle.	
50,316 6 ..	Construction of waterworks ..	A water-rate of 5 per cent. is levied within the Fort for repayment of loan.
32,785 71 ..	Sanitary improvements ..	Mortgage of stamp duties on licenses for carts, boats, and coaches, and also stamp duties under Licensing Ordinances of 1893 and 1897.
345,841 43		

As regards the Municipality of Colombo, a sum of Rs. 4,000,000 has been advanced by the Government towards the cost of the Mansergh Drainage and Sewerage Scheme. The construction of the Colombo Waterworks and the Victoria Bridge was carried out by Government, and the Municipality has undertaken to repay Government an annual sum of Rs. 100,000 until 1924 in respect of the former, and of Rs. 8,000 until 1945 for the latter.

(F) Local Boards.

There are twenty-one Local Boards in Ceylon. The Boards are entrusted with the maintenance of public health and the general improvement and conservancy of the towns in which they are established. Their sources of revenue are an assessment tax on real property, taxes on vehicles and animals, road commutation tax, stamp duties for various licenses, and fines for breaches of by-laws, &c.

In 1909 the total revenue of these Boards amounted to Rs. 485,602, as against Rs. 430,626 in 1908; and the total expenditure to Rs. 428,385, as against Rs. 411,853·69 in 1908.

Loans are made to Local Boards, usually at 3½ per cent. interest and 2 per cent. sinking fund, for approved purposes, such as waterworks, drainage, erection of markets, &c., on the security of their revenue. Loans outstanding on December 31, 1909, amounted to Rs. 695,804·33.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

(A) Imports and Exports.

The total value of Ceylon trade in the year 1909 exceeded that of any previous year, as will be seen from the following table :—

Aggregate Value of Imports and Exports for the last Ten Years (omitting Specie, but including Coal exported for the use of Steamers).

Year.	Lakhs of Rupees.	Year.	Lakhs of Rupees.	Year.	Lakhs of Rupees.	Year.	Lakhs of Rupees.
1900 ..	2,206	1903 ..	2,144	1906 ..	2,363	1908 ..	2,648
1901 ..	2,042	1904 ..	2,198	1907 ..	2,631	1909 ..	2,853
1902 ..	2,086	1905 ..	2,240				

The Customs revenue showed an increase of Rs. 429,724, as compared with 1908. There has been a marked advance in the collections on imports, especially in grain and other goods. The record revenue hitherto obtained was in 1907, nearly 2½ lakhs less than 1909.

The chief articles contributing to the revenue in 1909 were :—

	Rs.
Grain	3,463,863
Spirits	1,359,223
Sugar	905,660
Kerosine Oil	904,042
Cotton Goods	344,365

The distribution of Imports and Exports was as follows :—

	Rs.
Total Imports	125,441,000
Total Exports	146,899,000

The following table shows the percentage of Imports and Exports—

(1) From United Kingdom ;
(2) From British Possessions ;
(3) From Foreign Countries—

during the last five years :—

Imports.

	1905.	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.
From United Kingdom ..	23·2 ..	26·2 ..	27·2 ..	26·4 ..	26·0
From British Possessions ..	65·1 ..	62·7 ..	60·6 ..	60·4 ..	61·7
From Foreign Countries ..	11·7 ..	11·1 ..	12·2 ..	13·2 ..	12·3

Exports.

	1905.	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.
To United Kingdom ..	52·8 ..	48·7 ..	50·9 ..	49·5 ..	49·2
To British Possessions ..	18·6 ..	18·7 ..	17·2 ..	16·9 ..	15·5
To Foreign Countries ..	28·6 ..	32·6 ..	31·9 ..	33·6 ..	35·3

It will be seen that the proportion of the British and Colonial trade taken together was slightly higher than last year, whilst that of Foreign Countries was lower. The latter now occupy the same position as in 1907. It should be pointed out, however, that the decrease in Foreign Countries is practically confined to India (exclusive of British India) and Borneo. Germany, perhaps our most serious competitor, has improved her position during the year.

Imports.

A comparison of the values of imports in 1908 and 1909 shows large increases in 1909 under the following heads :—

(1) *Manures.*—Increase of Rs. 200,000 ; the increase is principally in fish manure, sulphate of ammonia, and sulphate of potash. Increases under this head have been steady, and may be confidently expected in the future owing to the rapid agricultural development of the country. At one time the natives never purchased manures and rarely used them ; they are now among the best customers of the Manure Works in Ceylon.

(2) *Rice.*—Increase of Rs. 2,200,000 ; due to larger imports from the Straits Settlements.

(3) *Haberdashery.*—Increase Rs. 200,000 ; the value of handkerchiefs, scarves, &c., imported rose 50 per cent.

(4) *Paddy.*—Increase Rs. 1,100,000 ; increased imports from British India and Burma.

(5) *Metals and Metalware.*—Increase in value of Rs. 130,000; the largest increase being under Hardware and in the total value of iron and steel. Pig and tin lead showed a fall of 1⅔ lakh and 1 lakh respectively.

(6) *Spirits.*—The duty recovered was Rs. 89,000 more than in 1908, Rs. 71,000 being accounted for by increased imports of gin. Cheap gin is rapidly becoming a popular competitor with arrack among the lower classes.

There were decreases under the following heads :—

(1) *Coal.*—Rs. 2,700,000; the imports from the United Kingdom, British India, and New South Wales fell off, the largest decrease being in Indian coal, 112,000 tons.

(2) *Kerosine Oil.*—Rs. 300,000, chiefly in bulk oil; more case oil was cleared during the year.

(3) *Tea Chests.*—Nearly Rs. 300,000; due to smaller supplies from the United Kingdom and Japan.

(4) *Bleached Piece Goods.*—Rs. 1,000,000.

(5) *Dyed Piece Goods.*—Rs. 400,000.

In 1908 there were increases amounting to Rs. 1,400,000 under Bleached, Dyed, and Gray Piece Goods, which practically accounted for this decrease in 1909.

The following table shows the changes in the relative positions of the various countries which export goods to Ceylon :—

Ceylon's Chief Sources of Supply (Value of Imports, excluding Specie).

Country.	1907.		1908.		1909.	
	Value of Exports to Ceylon.	Position.	Value of Exports to Ceylon.	Position.	Value of Exports to Ceylon.	Position.
	Rs.		Rs.		Rs.	
1. British India ..	60,468,700	1	54,137,900	1	51,078,100	1
2. United Kingdom ..	32,626,000	2	32,329,000	2	32,576,100	2
3. Straits Settlements ..	2,904,100	5	9,906,500	3	13,073,200	3
4. Burma ..	4,045,800	3	3,049,100	4	5,574,500	4
5. Germany ..	2,921,100	4	2,826,400	5	3,296,500	5
6. Maldive Islands ..	2,267,000	6	2,033,200	6	2,455,000	6
7. Hong Kong ..	1,152,600	11	1,789,000	8	2,047,000	7
8. Japan ..	1,507,000	8	1,818,700	7	1,713,500	8
9. United States of America ..	1,002,400	12	1,097,500	12	1,077,000	9
10. Austria ..	1,297,500	9	1,120,600	11	1,069,400	10
11. Russia ..	59,700	25	737,900	19	1,016,200	11
12. Java ..	735,200	16	1,164,900	10	974,800	12
13. Natal ..	8,400	27	202,100	26	952,800	13
14. France ..	757,600	13	860,900	16	872,800	14
15. Siam ..	627,200	19	1,005,000	14	847,700	15
16. Holland ..	715,900	17	1,095,500	13	724,900	16
17. Belgium ..	694,700	18	647,600	21	702,700	17
18. Victoria ..	740,100	15	724,200	20	655,700	18
19. South Australia ..	744,900	14	856,000	17	645,900	19
20. India (non-British) ..	1,735,000	7	1,275,000	9	587,100	20
21. Switzerland ..	428,300	21	484,800	22	579,700	21
22. West Australia ..	41,100	26	404,000	24	535,000	22
23. Italy ..	451,200	20	424,100	23	393,200	23
24. China ..	124,800	24	166,800	27	322,500	24
25. Borneo (excluding British) ..	1,267,500	10	893,800	15	296,400	25
26. Cochin China ..	—	—	1,400	29	288,200	26
27. Sweden ..	164,400	23	259,100	25	229,100	27
28. South America ..	3,600	28	119,700	28	215,300	28
29. New South Wales ..	329,700	22	746,600	18	147,600	29

The chief features are the advance of the Straits, Burma, Natal, Germany, and Hong Kong, and the decrease in the value of imports from British India, Borneo, New South Wales, and India (excluding British India). With the exception of Germany, the advances are nearly all due to increased imports of one particular article.

There have been few changes in markets. The only cases in which one country has displaced another as the principal supplier to Ceylon have been in the following articles:—*Kerosine oil*, bulk, in which Russia in Asia has taken the place of Borneo; Hong Kong is now the largest supplier of refined *sugar* to Ceylon, supplanting Java; the United Kingdom has displaced Germany as the largest supplier of *aerated water bottles* and *oil-making machinery;* Japan in the value of *tea chests* imported into Ceylon; and Belgium in the supply of *plate glass*. Germany, on the other hand, has taken the lead from the United Kingdom in the supply of *dynamite*, and does a big trade in all *explosives*.

Trade with Germany has also increased in certain chemical manures, toys, beer, copper sheathing, made-up apparel, lace and net, barbed wire, hoop iron, hardware, and perfumery.

Other cases where there have been largely increased imports from Foreign Countries have been in *coffee*—South America sent an increased value of Rs. 113,000 in coffee to Ceylon in 1909, as against a decrease in value of Rs. 156,000 in imports from British India; China has increased her exports of *beans* to Ceylon by Rs. 85,000 worth.

On the whole, it may fairly be said that the United Kingdom and the Colonies held their own in practically every branch of trade with Ceylon in 1909. The articles in which a higher value was imported from a foreign country are nearly all articles which are special products of the country exporting them, *e.g.*, German beer, Dutch cheeses and gin, French brandy and wines, Swiss milk, Italian potatoes, Siamese teak, Norwegian and Swedish worked timber, Japanese silks and satins and rickshaws, and Russian kerosine oil. The only other articles in which a foreign country has taken the lead are hoop iron (German), window glass (Belgian), copper sheathing (German), playing cards, zincware, and bar iron (Belgian), typewriters and clocks (United States of America), matches (Swedish), and embroidery (Swiss). In every other branch the United Kingdom and her Colonies maintain a supremacy, and in very many cases a practical monopoly.

The English trader must not think that he can retain this supremacy without effort. There is very serious competition to be met, and the fact that English trade is at present so far to the fore is, it must be remembered, very largely due to the start it has had in the race. The native prefers English goods, as they still retain their reputation for solid worth and durability. English hardware, cutlery, and machinery are in special demand; the townsman will not buy a cheap imitation article, though he is quite willing to palm it off on the villager. It is among the latter that cheap foreign goods, as, *e.g.*, biscuits, soaps, leather belts, bead ornaments, coloured scarves, &c., are in demand. This is chiefly due to their being put on the market in a more attractive form, intended to catch the eye of the purchaser: gaudy pictures are painted on the box covers, the soaps are called after native deities and pictures are given away with them, belts have portraits on the buckles, pipes—heads carved on the bowls; all such additions appeal to the villager. It behoves the English manufacturer to retain his present reputation for putting the best article on the market, but at the same time he should study the habits and character of the public he appeals to; he should display his wares as far as possible in a form suited to Eastern tastes and requirements.

The intelligence of the commercial traveller can suggest the means; personal contact is immeasurably superior to any written word. A larger number of English commercial travellers declared their samples at the Customs in 1909 than in 1908; there were 127 travellers in all, of whom 81 appear to have been travelling for English firms, while 46 represented foreign firms. Of the latter, 14 were diamond merchants; the others travelled in electroplate, haberdashery, fancy leather goods, perfumery, and cheap hardware.

Exports.

A comparison of the value of the exports may be made from the following table, which summarizes the staple exports of the Colony in 1908 and 1909:—

Products.		To United Kingdom. Rs.	To British Colonies. Rs.	To Foreign Countries. Rs.
Tea	1908	44,811,900	14,178,700	14,562,700
	1909	50,608,400	15,253,900	15,149,900
Products of the Coconut Palm	1908	10,436,600	1,393,200	17,507,500
	1909	10,451,100	1,104,500	20,843,000
Plumbago	1908	2,476,900	62,100	5,464,600
	1909	1,964,600	60,500	7,954,500
Cinnamon	1908	259,000	56,000	2,298,800
	1909	301,000	53,900	2,374,700
Cacao	1908	1,890,200	187,400	585,800
	1909	1,954,300	173,300	640,100
Arecanuts	1908	11,000	2,089,800	81,900
	1909	1,900	2,274,900	101,600
Citronella Oil	1908	443,600	84,500	515,600
	1909	565,900	44,000	523,300
Rubber	1908	2,243,700	173,700	1,189,500
	1909	5,080,298	126,282	3,169,023

Of the total value of Ceylon produce exported, the products of the coconut palm represent 22·5 per cent. and tea 56·2 per cent. There was an increase in the value of the products of the coconut palm.

"The export of copra has surpassed even the record figure established in the preceding year. Shipments of other products, though somewhat less than during 1908, are well above the average of the last ten years, the figures for desiccated coconut and coconuts being second only to the record of the former year.

"For the first half of the year business was steady without any great fluctuations in price, copra ranging between Rs. 57 and Rs. 64 per candy, and coconut oil between Rs. 387·50 and Rs. 420 per ton. From July onwards, however, the demand outran the supply, and prices rose rapidly, copra at the end of the year standing at Rs. 84 and coconut oil at Rs. 565. These prices are remarkable in face of the satisfactory export figures, and the fact that the recorded copra supply of the world, though slightly less than in 1908, was far in excess of any former year. The indications are that the demand is increasing more rapidly than the supply, promising a continuance of favourable prices in this section of the Colony's trade."*

It is noticeable that Foreign Countries spent 80 per cent. more than the United Kingdom and British Possessions on the products of the coconut palm, nearly four times more on plumbago, seven times as much on cinnamon, and a nearly equal amount on citronella oil. In every branch trade with foreign countries increased.

* Report of the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce.

Ceylon's best customers are given below :—

Country.	1907. Value of Exports from Ceylon (excluding Specie).	1907. Position.	1908. Value of Exports from Ceylon (excluding Specie).	1908. Position.	1909. Value of Exports from Ceylon (excluding Specie).	1909. Position.
	Rs.		Rs.		Rs.	
1. United Kingdom ..	65,565,800	1	63,566,800	1	71,987,600	1
2. United States of America ..	11,802,100	2	10,450,900	2	16,403,400	2
3. Russia*	9,022,000	3	10,069,200	3	10,428,700	3
4. Germany	8,177,500	4	8,171,300	4	9,891,800	4
5. British India ..	5,763,900	5	5,643,100	5	5,440,000	5
6. New South Wales ..	4,255,000	6	3,823,200	7	4,155,700	6
7. Belgium	3,233,400	8	4,357,100	6	3,743,000	7
8. Canada	2,607,900	10	3,394,900	8	3,567,300	8
9. Victoria	3,416,900	7	2,863,300	10	3,427,700	9
10. Austria	1,548,800	12	2,151,400	11	3,206,900	10
11. China (excluding Hong Kong)	3,209,600	9	3,025,700	9	3,090,500	11
12. New Zealand ..	1,894,500	11	1,977,800	12	2,083,900	12
13. France	706,200	13	696,100	15	672,800	13
14. South Australia ..	465,900	17	521,500	17	602,700	14
15. Holland	620,900	14	702,800	14	593,800	15
16. Straits Settlements ..	599,600	16	566,700	16	526,900	16
17. Denmark	610,700	15	1,152,600	13	432,600	17
* Russia in Asia ..	2,079,100	..	2,769,000	..	2,394,300	
Russia in Europe ..	6,942,900	..	7,300,200	..	8,034,400	

The United Kingdom, United States of America, Germany, Austria, and Russia have largely increased their imports from Ceylon; Denmark, on the other hand, took less than half the value of last year, the decrease being in copra, and has become the last among the important countries. The increase in the value of Ceylon produce in 1909 is chiefly due to larger shipments of tea, plumbago, rubber, and copra.

Tea.

The following table shows the comparative distribution of Ceylon tea in 1908 and 1909 :—

Principal Markets for Ceylon Tea.

	1908. lb.	1909. lb.
I.—UNITED KINGDOM ..	109,297,386 ..	120,496,262
II.—BRITISH POSSESSIONS :—		
British India	1,912,357 ..	1,363,095
Canada	8,047,730 ..	8,176,403
Cape Colony	383,399 ..	357,738
Hong Kong	273,099 ..	217,710
Malta	257,675 ..	267,900
Natal	612,958 ..	601,355
New South Wales ..	8,863,775 ..	9,483,000
New Zealand	4,493,202 ..	4,710,156
Queensland	821,510 ..	911,939
South Australia	1,144,936 ..	1,327,978
Straits Settlements ..	471,976 ..	398,942
Victoria	6,140,989 ..	7,378,684
West Australia	567,983 ..	665,775
Other British Possessions ..	590,696 ..	458,323
Total British Possessions ..	34,582,285 ..	36,318,998

III.—FOREIGN COUNTRIES:—	1908. lb.	1909. lb.
Austria ..	157,013	189,906
China (excluding Hong Kong)	7,344,623	7,296,362
Egypt ..	488,336	293,750
France ..	609,829	772,702
Germany ..	504,448	646,407
Russia ..	19,612,592	16,972,656
Turkey .	314,583	130,636
United States ..	5,888,238	9,043,313
Other Foreign Countries	598,979	725,553
Total Foreign Countries ..	35,518,641	36,071,285
Grand Total ..	179,398,312	192,886,545

Our staple continues to develop; the total quantity exported to all countries was about thirteen and a half million pounds in excess of the previous year. The United Kingdom took most of this, while larger supplies also went to Australia and the United States of America. Russia has reduced her imports during the year, due probably to the development of her trade in Indian teas, for which Colombo is a point of distribution. In green tea alone there was an increase of nearly half a million pounds, while exports of this kind to the United States of America rose from 794,964 lb. in 1908 to 1,718,436 lb. in 1909. The average price of teas generally rose from 41 cents per lb. in 1908 to 40 to 43 cents per lb. in the year under review, prices being more favourable during the latter half of the year.

Rubber.

In 1909 the United Kingdom took a quantity in excess of the entire exports of 1908. The United States of America is our next best customer, taking double the quantity she did in 1908. After deducting Straits rubber sold in the local market, the total quantity exported was as follows:—

	Cwt.
1908	7,808
1909	13,621

During the year prices for rubber reached unprecedented figures, influenced by a very strong demand and a short supply. The record prices paid for Ceylon plantation rubber were 9*s.* 3¾*d.* per lb. in London, and Rs. 7·20 in Colombo. The year closed with a quotation of 7*s.* 7½*d.* for fine hard Para. The Chamber of Commerce reports:—

"Further points which deserve special mention are the general improvement in, and greater regularity of, quality, which have been noticeable during the year, many estates (more particularly those making use of crepe machines) having turned out rubber of such even quality, size, and colour that it has become customary to deal in the produce of such estates on the mark alone, without samples, which has tended to greatly facilitate business.

"Statistics relating to importing markets show the position at the close of the year to be exceptionally satisfactory from a producer's point of view, and prospects for 1910 would appear to be all that can be desired."

(B) Mines, Manufactures, and Fisheries.

(*a*) *Pearl Fishery.*

There was no pearl fishery in 1909. The date of the next fishery is quite uncertain. Further investigations and researches were made on the banks during the year by the Company who hold the lease.

The annual rent of Rs. 310,000 was paid to the Government, and a sum of Rs. 73,298 was spent by the Company on the development of the pearl banks by experiment and research.

(b) *The Mineral Survey.*

The Mineral Survey has been continued throughout the year by Mr. J. A. Daniel, Acting Mineral Surveyor.

The most important observations during the year were made in the Central Province near Gampola, and the upper reaches of the Mahaweli-ganga and its tributaries, with special reference to the occurrence of thorianite, monazite, and other valuable minerals in the river gravels.

There were also explorations in the Bintenna district in Uva.

An expedition was made to the graphite mines in the Kandy and Kurunegala Districts, where molybdenite and apatite were noticed with graphite.

All the specimens collected were despatched to the Imperial Institute for examination and report. During the year 1909, 121 specimens were despatched.

In addition to the survey work, the Mineral Gallery at the Colombo Museum was re-arranged and added to. A special grant of Rs. 3,000 was made by Government for the purchase of gems for this gallery. The Mineral Survey was therefore enabled, in addition to the commoner gems, to add several unique specimens to the Gallery, which now forms an interesting reference collection of the more important minerals of Ceylon.

The export of graphite in 1909 was 643,853 cwt., as against 516,316 cwt. in the year 1908.

Only 2 cwt. of thorianite were exported during the year in question.

There was no export of mica.

(c) *Mining.*

Plumbago.—There was an increase of Rs. 32,000 in the royalty recovered on plumbago, and of 125,500 cwt. in quantity exported. The year has seen a satisfactory improvement in the plumbago trade, exports being about 25 per cent. more than in the previous year. The quantity taken by the United States of America, Ceylon's chief customer, was about double the amount exported in 1908, and represents 48 per cent. of the total. Germany now holds second place as a buyer of plumbago, taking 2,500 cwt. more than that shipped to the United Kingdom during the year. It is reported that the decrease in exports to the United Kingdom is due to the competition of Korean lead, the bulk of which is sold in London.

The plumbago mines are chiefly in the Ratnapura and Kurunegala Districts and parts of the Western and Southern Provinces. The industry is a somewhat speculative one, success depending largely on the demand for plumbago by buyers in the European and American markets. It is carried on for the most part by native capitalists. A great improvement has been effected in the methods of working the mines or pits since the appointment of a Government Inspector of Mines.

Moonstones are found in the Kandy District, where two large pits were worked during the year. There was a considerable demand for moonstones during the first half of the year. Other precious stones, such as rubies, cat's-eyes, sapphires, &c., are gemmed chiefly in the Ratnapura District.

The quarrying of cabook, or gneiss, and granite has received a stimulus in recent years consequent on the demand for new houses in the principal towns, especially in Colombo and its suburbs.

(d) *Salt.*

The manufacture and collection of salt is a Government monopoly, and is protected by the imposition of a duty of Rs. 3 per cwt. on imported salt. A sum of Rs. 1,520,647·95 was realized by its sale in 1909, or Rs. 239,903·64 less than in 1908. The year was favourable both for manufacture and collection, but owing to the large stocks already in hand restrictions were imposed on the manufacture, and the quantity secured was only 293,457 cwt., or 432,090 cwt. less than in the preceding year.

The stock of salt in the various stores at the end of the year amounted to 1,067,830 cwt., which at the present rate of consumption is sufficient for the needs of the Island for over two years.

(e) *Manufactures.*

Ceylon is essentially an agricultural country, and its manufactures on any large scale are chiefly confined to the products of agriculture.

In the districts where the coconut palm is cultivated copra is manufactured, and is largely exported to the United Kingdom, Germany, and elsewhere in Europe.* The making of fibre, coir rope and yarn, and coir matting from the husk of the coconut, is also carried out on an extensive scale, the work being done for the most part by women. There are a few desiccating mills, where the kernel of the coconut is dried and specially prepared for export. This industry is being largely developed in the Chilaw District.

In the Northern Province, where tobacco thrives, cigars are manufactured, but there is increasing competition with cigarettes. The Jaffna cigar "merchant" nevertheless is still ubiquitous in the Island, and his cigars, which are small, strong, and extremely cheap, are a favourite smoke with the natives. The future of this industry largely depends on new markets being found, but to effect this an improvement in the method of curing the tobacco is essential.

The manufacture of tiles and bricks is carried on in all parts of the Island where suitable clay is plentiful. Rs. 2,500 worth of Ceylon manufactures under this head were exported in 1909.

The weaving of a coarse kind of cloth in hand looms is carried on in the Eastern, Northern, and Central Provinces. It supplies purely local wants, and the cloth, though strong and of hard wearing quality, is inferior in texture and finish to imported material. It is, however, highly valued by the particular class of natives who use it.

In other districts baskets, tortoise-shell boxes, and combs are manufactured, and common earthenware for water pans and cooking utensils to meet localwants.

Excellent furniture is made in the Western Province, especially at Moratuwa.

Jewellery of very fine workmanship is made in the Northern Province, but on a very small scale. It is a species of filigree work, prized by the Tamil population of the Island.

The indigenous crafts peculiar to the Kandyan country, *i.e.*, silver and brass work, the making of jewellery, earthenware, and painted pottery, lacquer work, and ivory carving, continue to receive encouragement from the Kandyan Art Association. Specimens of these articles are kept in the Kandyan Art Museum, where they can be purchased.

Brass lamps, betel stands, plates, cooking utensils, and water pots are made in the North-Western and Eastern Provinces and at Negombo in the Western Province.

In the Mannar District of the Northern Province the drying and salting of fish gives employment to a large number of people. In 1909 over Rs. 200,000 worth of dried fish was exported from the Mannar District.

(c) Agriculture.

The Agricultural Society.

The Ceylon Agricultural Society, founded in November, 1904, had at the end of 1909 a membership of 983.

Twelve shows were held during the year, one of the most successful being a School Garden Show.

Considerable work was done in the introduction of better varieties of fruits, grain, and vegetables. Several of the Government Agents report increased

* *Vide* remarks under Exports, page 12.

cultivation of vegetables in their districts, which means both an improved food supply and improved health amongst people who live largely on a vegetable diet.

Good progress has been made in transplanting and manuring in paddy (rice) cultivation, and several new varieties of paddy have been introduced.

School gardening is extending rapidly, and there are now 224 gardens attached to schools, an increase of 44 during the year. A series of experiments with modern ploughs have been made, and in some places have met with success. The year has seen a considerable increase in the importation of agricultural machinery. Cultivating tools of modern construction are being used on level areas under rubber and coconut estates. The mechanical means of clearing land, introduced at the experiment station, Maha Illuppallama, are being taken up elsewhere.

Provision has been made for a large experiment in the cultivation of tobacco in the North-Central Province, where 50 acres are being cultivated under the supervision of an expert.

Position of Agricultural Industries.

The year has been one of marked prosperity for estate products in general. The increase in the exports of almost all agricultural commodities has been already referred to. Further experiments have been made in cotton cultivation, but, while the main products of the Island continue to yield increasing profit, little development in this cultivation can be expected. It is generally admitted that much has still to be learnt as to the best seasons in Ceylon for growing cotton. The experiments hitherto made have all shown that the rule in one part of the Island becomes the exception in another, owing to the variations of temperature, rainfall, &c.

The important question of Agricultural Training in Ceylon and the introduction of Co-operative Credit Societies have been fully considered by special Committees during the year. The recommendations of the Committee dealing with the first of these questions are directed towards—

(1) The establishment of a central school of agriculture at Peradeniya, with a view to the practical training of future agricultural instructors, headmen, and selected teachers, as well as students desiring to study agriculture on their own account.

(2) The modification of the present system of education in vernacular schools, with a view to the introduction of a training better suited to those whose life will be devoted to agricultural pursuits, and, in order to secure that object, the introduction of a course of study for teachers under training. It is also proposed to offer agricultural scholarships.

The Committee dealing with Co-operative Credit Societies considered fully the reasons of the indebtedness of the villager and the best means of relief.

This question was also discussed at the Durbars of Tamil Chiefs and Low-country Chiefs, while the Kandyan Chiefs at their Durbar considered the allied question of the supply of seed paddy to cultivators. It is probably on these lines, viz., by loan of seed paddy, that most benefit can be secured to the poorer cultivators.

One of the most important branches of all agricultural work, and especially so in tropical climates, is the investigation of pests and blights, which receives the special attention of the Government Entomologist and Mycologist at Peradeniya. The coconut stem bleeding disease, which in the previous year caused some anxiety, has been practically stamped out. There have been no serious outbreaks of plant diseases or pests during the year.

Cattle.

The *rinderpest* outbreak continued from the previous year, but towards the end of the year there was a marked improvement, and the disease appeared to be dying out.

The mortality as in the previous year was very high; out of 78,458 cases, 70,940 cattle died. Stringent measures are taken to guard against the introduction of the disease by examination and detention at Tuticorin, the South Indian port from which the cattle are sent over to Ceylon, and by ten days' quarantine on this side. Anti-rinderpest serum has been largely imported from the Imperial Bacteriological Laboratory in India.

(D) Land Settlement.

The Land Settlement Department, which is concerned with the settlement of title (as between the Crown and the subject) to the large area of waste land in the Island, has again succeeded in settling a larger area than in any preceding year.

The total area of waste land settled under the Waste Lands Ordinances at the end of 1909 was 1,413,148 acres. To this must be added large areas sold or leased by this Department.

Almost all claims continue to be settled without recourse to litigation.

Large areas of land suitable for cotton, coconut, and citronella cultivation in the North-Central and Uva Provinces and in the Hambantota and Kurunegala Districts have now been declared to be the property of the Crown under the Waste Lands Ordinances.

The large amount of settlement work that remains to be done has necessitated not only a further strengthening of the Land Settlement and Survey Departments, but also a programme of work calculated to maintain an equilibrium between the outturn of both Departments, and to ensure their closer relationship with each other.

(E) Land Sales.

The total number of acres sold, granted at half value, and settled on free grants during 1909 was 25,648. An extent of 19,226 acres was sold outright.

The average price paid for land per acre varied from Rs. 100 to Rs. 150 in the Colombo District, Rs. 70 in the Kalutara District of the Western Province, Rs. 70 in the Kurunegala District, chiefly coconut land, Rs. 56 in Kegalla, chiefly rubber land, Rs. 53 in the Galle District, and Rs. 25 in the Eastern Province, to Rs. 18 per acre in the North-Central Province.

The largest extents of land sold in the Provinces were 4,866 acres in the Western Province, in the North-Western Province 3,244 acres, and in the Province of Uva 3,248 acres. The demand for land is steady; prices have ruled very high in the last few years, owing to the boom in rubber. The demand for rubber land still continues, especially in the Western and Sabaragamuwa Provinces. The prosperity of the coconut industry continues, and the demand for suitable land for its cultivation is now as great as that for rubber.

Town sites always command high prices in Colombo especially, but even in the smaller and more distant places there is considerable competition for land for building sites.

(F) Survey Department.

The operations of the Survey Department during the year comprised 47 500 acres under the block survey. 515 block survey preliminary plans were issued, containing nearly 21,000 lots, and covering an area of 235,000 acres, besides topographical surveys. 2,479 preliminary plans for 15,354 acres were forwarded to the Government Agents during the year. A large increase is shown in the number of village plans issued. Plane table surveys of 329 square miles of

country have been completed. The total area now covered by block surveys is 2,180,791 acres.

The demands made on the Survey Department have been extremely heavy for years past. It has been shown that the demand for land has been very great. In addition to the ordinary application surveys, various other important surveys have been required. Block surveys to keep pace with land settlements, surveys to delimitate boundaries where they have not been recognizable on the ground owing to sales on old preliminary plans, surveys of the towns of Ceylon, delimitations of road reservations, and improved maps have all been urgently required. To deal with this work the staff is being increased. The passing of the Landmarks Ordinance should prove most useful in all future dealings with land. Permanent stone or concrete pickets will be embedded in the ground on the boundaries of sold lots, lands declared private under the Waste Lands Ordinance, and other lands where necessary. Owners of land purchased subsequently to January 1, 1910, should therefore have no difficulty in the future in knowing their boundaries, and surveyors will be able to locate them easily when surveying adjoining land.

The Colombo Observatory was fully equipped with the necessary transit instruments and clocks during 1909, and an experimental time ball was set up to the west of the buildings. A 12¼-inch equatorial reflector was purchased in September from Mr. G. N. Molesworth of Trincomalee, and was temporarily erected in the grounds.

The seismograph was transferred from the Technical College on July 5, and has worked satisfactorily from that date.

(G) Shipping.

The following table exhibits the number and tonnage of vessels entering the ports of Ceylon in 1908 and 1909 :—

Nationality.	1908.		1909.	
	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.
All nations	3,533	6,931,953	3,233	7,007,944
British	1,663	4,658,447	1,553	4,506,996
British, Colonial	1,125	91,266	976	129,820
German	203	804,951	206	814,455
French	153	509,647	142	466,649
Japanese	109	374,886	109	423,706
Russian	54	141,538	42	112,489

A decrease in numbers but an increase in tonnage.

Steamship facilities have been considerably improved during the year in various ways. Two Dutch lines have inaugurated weekly services *via* Colombo. The transhipment of tea at Colombo for Russian ports, which was stopped for some time, has been re-started. Both the P. & O. and the Orient Lines have added to their service a number of new and up-to-date vessels. The Orient Line run their outward steamers to call at Colombo on Saturdays from February 26, 1910, instead of on Mondays, heretofore.

Colombo Harbour Dues.

The total collection of harbour dues at Colombo during 1909 amounted to Rs. 1,623,601·16, an increase of Rs. 235,707·30 over 1908. It was decided that from January 1, 1909, no charge shall be made for the use of the harbour tugs ; and a special reduced rate has been fixed for vessels calling for coal and water only, which should tend to make the port still more popular.

III.—LEGISLATION.

Among the new Ordinances passed during the year were :—

No. 1 of 1909.—" An Ordinance to amend and consolidate the Law relating to the Protection of Game, Wild Beasts, Birds, and Fish." This measure consolidates the different Ordinances on this subject, and introduces certain amendments, most of which were recommended by a Committee which recently reported on the subject of game preservation.

No. 7 of 1909.—" An Ordinance to provide for the erection and maintenance of permanent Landmarks to define the Boundaries of Land alienated by the Crown." The general object of this Ordinance is to introduce a system of defining the boundaries alienated by the Crown by means of permanent boundary marks of an approved pattern. The marks are set up in the first instance by the Crown at the time of alienation. It then becomes the duty of the owner or occupier to keep them in proper repair or position.

No. 9 of 1909.—" An Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 13 of 1889, intituled ' An Ordinance amending the Law relating to Indian Coolies employed on Ceylon Estates.' " This law gives effect to the recommendations contained in the Report of the Commission appointed in 1908 to inquire into and report upon certain questions connected with labour in this Island, and providing for the monthly payment of estate labour and the registration of all coolies working on estates.

No. 10 of 1909.—" An Ordinance to amend ' The Ceylon Penal Code, 1883.' " This Ordinance remedies certain defects in the Penal Code, *e.g.*, it extends the scope of the offence of " abetment " so as to include the abetment in Ceylon of the commission of offences outside Ceylon. It also provides for the punishment of persons who utter words, &c., with the deliberate intention of wounding the religious feelings of others.

No. 22 of 1909.—" An Ordinance to amend and consolidate the Law relating to Stamps." This Ordinance has been designed to revise and consolidate the law relating to stamps and to bring it into line with modern legislation. It also gives effect to certain amendments proposed by the Chamber of Commerce.

No. 25 of 1909.—" An Ordinance to make better provision with respect to Contagious and Infectious Diseases of Cattle and other Animals." This Ordinance introduces improved measures for preventing the introduction and spread of cattle disease and of diseases affecting certain other domestic animals, such as horses, sheep, goats, and swine. Ordinance No. 9 of 1891, which applied only to cattle, is repealed, and re-enacted with considerable additions and modifications.

No. 26 of 1909.—" An Ordinance to amend the Law relating to Land Surveyors, Auctioneers, and Brokers." The principal object of this Ordinance is to provide more efficient machinery for dealing with dishonest or incompetent licensed surveyors. This is effected by a system of annual licenses, which the Surveyor-General is empowered to refuse to renew on the ground of serious misconduct, incompetence, or carelessness.

IV.—EDUCATION.

(A) Preliminary.

It is not possible to draw the same clear line between elementary and secondary education in Ceylon as can be drawn in other countries. The matter is complicated by the fact that English is a foreign language to all but a small fraction of the population. The Europeans, Burghers, and Eurasians together form a little less than 1 per cent. of the population ; the Sinhalese form 65 per cent. of the total ; the Tamils and Tamil-speaking Moors 33 per

cent. The result is that most of the schools in which English is taught are teaching a language which is foreign to the great majority of their pupils, and the distinction between elementary and secondary education is replaced by the distinction between vernacular and English schools. The vernacular schools really constitute the elementary education of the country.

(B) Vernacular Education.

The following table shows the numerical progress for the last six years in the case of vernacular schools :—

Year.	Number of Government Schools.	Attendance.		Number of Aided Schools.	Attendance.	
		Boys.	Girls.		Boys.	Girls.
1904	507	46,785	11,678	1,316	77,700	39,103
1905	529	52,375	12,829	1,386	85,436	44,144
1906	566	54,249	13,827	1,429	90,389	44,599
1907	592	55,624	14,372	1,456	88,707	48,518
1908	624	59,756	15,634	1,574	95,467	53,646
1909	656	63,862	17,189	1,652	102,598	53,884

From this it appears that there were in 1909 altogether 2,308 Government and grant-in-aid vernacular schools attended by 166,460 boys and 71,073 girls. These figures show an increase of 110 schools and 13,030 children over the corresponding figures for 1908.

Besides the children attending Government and aided schools, 28,691 children were reported to be receiving instruction in 1,528 unaided schools, almost all of them vernacular ; the figures furnished by such schools cannot, however, be relied upon, and the education is often of very little value.

The total spent by Government on vernacular education was Rs. 782,263·06, of which Rs. 326,664·63 was expended on Government schools and Rs. 455,598·43 on aided schools. This gives the cost to Government of education of a child in a Government vernacular school as Rs. 4·03 or 5*s*. 4½*d*. per annum, and in an aided vernacular school as Rs. 2·91 or 3*s*. 11*d*. per annum.

Rural Schools Ordinance.—On the whole, satisfactory progress has been made in carrying out the Ordinance in the sixteen districts which were brought under it by Proclamation in 1908. In fourteen districts by-laws have been approved by Government and published ; in seven of these the system of enforcing attendance at grant-in-aid schools is being carried out either wholly or in part. There has been no difficulty so far and there seems to be every reason to hope that none of the difficulties which were anticipated by some of the managers of aided schools will arise. It is hoped that in the course of the present year it will be brought into working order in all the districts. The scheme adopted by the Committee provides for the establishment of over 200 new Government schools ; 32 of these were opened in 1909. Inevitable delays occur in procuring sites and in the preliminaries to the erection of buildings. In some districts it has been found necessary to make altogether new arrangements for carrying out village works. The result of this has been that some of the Committees have carried forward a great part of their funds as balances for the following year.

Town Schools Ordinance.—The Local Board of Kegalla is the only place in which this Ordinance is actually at work. A part of the Municipality of Kandy has been proclaimed under the Ordinance, and a school has been built but not yet opened. No progress can be expected under this Ordinance till it is made compulsory in its operation.

(C) English Schools.

In 1909 there were 236 English and Anglo-Vernacular schools attended by 36,414 pupils, of whom 29,443 were boys and 6,971 girls. As compared with 1908, these figures show an increase of 8 schools and 707 pupils. In

the majority of these schools the work is confined to the schedules of the Educational Code, but there are many in which the upper classes are prepared for the Cambridge Examinations, Senior and Junior, and a few in which the work of the most advanced students reaches a higher level.

The following were the results of the Cambridge Local Examinations, for which 1,143 candidates presented themselves in 1909, viz., 456 for the Senior and 687 for the Junior :—

	Candidates.		Honours.		Passes.	
	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.
Senior	412	44	22	6	178	31
Junior	567	120	33	3	314	58

The following were the results of the London Examinations held in 1909 :—

	Candidates.	Passes.
Matriculation	24	11
Intermediate in Arts	20	7
Intermediate in Science	2	2
Intermediate in Laws	1	1
Bachelor of Arts	1	1

The only Government school in which higher education is given is the Royal College, at which in 1909 there were 276 pupils, with an average attendance of 266. The pupils in the upper part of the College are prepared for the Cambridge Local Examinations and the Examinations of the London University as far as the Intermediate in Arts and Science. The staff consists of eighteen masters, of whom five hold English University degrees. The gross cost to Government in 1909 was Rs. 47,173·65, of which a sum of Rs. 19,672·50 was recovered in school fees.

The question of new buildings for the Royal College was under consideration during the year; the original proposals have been considerably modified, and desirable improvements rendered possible by the provision for this work being increased from Rs. 150,000 to Rs. 250,000.

The policy of gradually abandoning the lower school was started by dropping the First Form at the beginning of 1909. At the same time fees have been raised in the upper school from Rs. 10 to Rs. 15, and in the lower school from Rs. 5 to Rs. 7·50. The result of these two changes has been a decrease in numbers, confined, however, to the lower school.

The other institutions in which anything that can fairly be described as higher education is given are registered as aided schools under the Code, with one exception, viz., the Church Missionary Society's Ladies' College in Colombo.

The encouragement offered by Government takes two forms: (*a*) grants; (*b*) scholarships :—

(*a*) In most of the aided English schools grants are paid on the results of examinations in the ordinary schedules of the Code, supplemented by specific subjects. But in some of the better schools the system has been replaced by one under which the greater part of the grant is paid on the average attendance. Liberal grants are also paid for every pupil who obtains honours in the Cambridge Local Examinations, or who passes the London University Matriculation Examination or Intermediate Examination in Arts. The total sum expended in grants to English schools was Rs. 145,365·38 in 1909.

(*b*) Two University Scholarships of £200 per annum for three years are now awarded on the results of the Intermediate Examinations of the University of London: one on the Examination in Arts, the other on the Examination in Science. One scholarship of Rs. 240 per annum for three years is awarded annually to girls on the results of the Cambridge Senior Local Examination. On the results of the Cambridge Junior Local Examination one scholarship of

Rs. 240 per annum for three years and two of Rs. 120 per annum for three years are awarded annually to boys, and two scholarships of Rs. 120 per annum for three years are awarded annually to girls. The total sum expended in scholarships in 1909 was Rs. 21,720·61.

(D) Training of Teachers.

The Government Training College consists of three departments: English, Anglo-Vernacular, and Vernacular. The English department is intended specially to meet the wants of aided English schools; two studentships of the annual value of Rs. 480 and twenty studentships of the annual value of Rs. 300 are provided by Government. In the Anglo-Vernacular and Vernacular departments students have hitherto been prepared only for work in Government schools; in 1908 there were 6 students in the Anglo-Vernacular, and 21 in the department for Sinhalese males, 15 in the department for Sinhalese females, 12 in the department for Tamil males. Four schools are carried on in connection with the Training College and on the same premises, viz., three boys' schools, English, Anglo-Vernacular Sinhalese, and Anglo-Vernacular Tamil, and one girls' school, Vernacular Sinhalese. An important regulation has been added to the Code for Aided Schools, by which the second class certificate for English teachers will henceforth be confined to teachers who have gone through a period of training.

(E) Technical and Industrial Education; School Gardens.

Higher technical education has been provided for by the Technical College, a Government institution established in 1893; in 1897 it was re-organized, and its work largely extended. It has been the regular channel of admission of Ceylonese for the following departments of Government: Public Works, Survey, Railway, Post and Telegraph; it contained departments of civil engineering, telegraphy, surveying and levelling, drawing and art. In 1909 the number of students (including drawing students) was 228, and the gross cost to Government was Rs. 58,440·25, of which Rs. 4,681·37 was recovered in fees and by the sale of stationery, instruments, &c.

The Technical College was reported upon by a Special Commission appointed in 1908, owing to criticisms with regard to the courses prescribed for the student. As a result of the Commission's report it has been decided to abolish the civil engineering department, and to confine the work of the College to the preparation of candidates for subordinate posts in the Survey, Railway, and Postal Departments, and to the classes in drawing and art. Scholarships for engineering students will in future be offered, which will enable their holders to go through the engineering course at the Madras Engineering College. Separate provision will be made at the Medical College for the instruction of the numerous medical students who have been taught in the Technical College laboratories.

There are no Government industrial schools; but carpentry schools have been attached to 5 Government schools in the Kandyan Provinces. In 1909 the aided industrial schools, which are 34 in number, received grants amounting to Rs. 15,170. The number of pupils was 4,930, and the trades taught were dressmaking, carpentry, printing, bookbinding, shoemaking, tailoring, blacksmith's work, lace-making, embroidery, gardening, and masonry.

The most important of these schools is the Maggona Certified Industrial School, which is utilized by Government as a reformatory, and carried on by the Roman Catholic Mission. This institution has an estate of about 300 acres and excellent buildings, to the cost of which Government has contributed. At the end of 1909 the number of juvenile offenders receiving instruction in it was 238; the trades taught were carpentry, ironwork, masonry, gardening

and estate work, bookbinding, and tailoring. An allowance is paid by Government for the maintenance of each juvenile offender. The total cost of the institution to Government in 1909 was Rs. 25,439·44.

In Ceylon, where 88 per cent. of the population is rural, the technical and industrial education required for the main part of the population is one which will fit them for rural and agricultural life. An attempt is being made to supply this by the scheme for school gardens, which is being carried on in connection with Government schools. There are now 224 Government schools in which gardens are being carried on under the scheme; in all there are 180 schools with school gardens. The seeds and implements are supplied by the Department, and the gardens are visited as often as possible by the Superintendent of School Gardens and his Assistants. The work is encouraged by money prizes for the most successful school in each district.

Needlework in girls' schools has received much attention since the appointment of the Inspectress of Needlework in 1904. The Inspectress visits personally as many schools as she can, and marks the work done at all girls' and mixed schools throughout the Island. This has led to a marked improvement both in plain needlework and in the lace and embroidery done in industrial schools.

(F) Estate Schools.

As regards aided estate schools, the figures show progress. At the end of 1909 there were 185 aided estate schools, as against 162 at the end of 1908 and 103 at the end of 1907. The number of estate schools actually examined for grant was 164, as compared with 126 in 1908.

As in the previous year, a form was circulated to collect information from planters. Returns were received from 569 estates, and showed a total number of 8,545 children receiving instruction in schools on the estates, of whom 7,296 were boys and 1,249 girls.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

(A) Hospitals.

There are 73 Government hospitals fully equipped with the most modern hospital furniture and surgical appliances. The number of beds in the hospitals ranges from 30 to 425. The outpatients' department of the General Hospital, Colombo, has been commenced, and will be completed next year. In addition to the hospitals, there are 588 outdoor Government dispensaries, and 220 estate dispensaries supported by the planters, who get their drugs free, up to value of 50 cents a cooly.

(B) Medical Institutions.

The Medical College is a flourishing institution, with 147 medical and 34 apothecary students. The full course of training for medical students is five years; a diploma in medicine, surgery, and midwifery (which can be registered in the United Kingdom) is granted to the successful students. There is a Bacteriological Institute, with a small clinic for tropical medicine attached; a laboratory for the Government Analyst, containing the most modern chemical apparatus; an ophthalmic hospital; a lying-in home; a women's hospital; a children's hospital; and special hospitals for the police and convicts.

(C) Asylums.

The Lunatic Asylum is situated in Colombo, and is the only one in the Island. There are 586 inmates.

The Leper Asylum is situated about 6 miles from Colombo, and has 345 patients. A small establishment for lepers exists in the Eastern Province; a large leper settlement is to be founded there, and will shortly be commenced.

In association with Government, a Home for Incurables (containing 80 beds) is worked by a Committee of Government officials and representatives of the public.

(D) Poor Houses.

There are no poor houses in Ceylon. In Colombo and some other towns there are Friend-in-Need Societies for the relief of distress, and these are subsidized by Government, the Colombo subsidy being Rs. 12,000 per annum. In addition to this every Government Agent and Assistant Government Agent has an annual vote for "Allowances to Paupers"; the votes vary from Rs. 10,000 in the Colombo District to Rs. 340 in the Nuwara Eliya District; the maximum allowance is Rs. 5 a month.

(E) Reformatories.

There are no Government reformatories in Ceylon, but by an arrangement with the Roman Catholic Mission the Maggona Industrial School is used as a reformatory for youthful offenders (*vide* (E) Technical and Industrial Education).

(F) Savings Banks.

There are two Government institutions, and the business of both showed a satisfactory working in 1909.

(1) *Ceylon Savings Bank.*—The Ceylon Savings Bank had a sum of Rs. 4,620,801 to credit of 34,884 depositors on December 31, 1909, as against Rs. 4,556,778 to the credit of 34,309 depositors on the corresponding date of 1908. The amount of the bank's invested funds was Rs. 5,060,293. Interest is allowed on deposits at the rate of 3 per cent. on sums of Rs. 1,000 and over, and 4 per cent. on sums under Rs. 1,000.

(2) *Post Office Savings Banks.*—Depositors' accounts increased by 4,740 and amount to credit of depositors by Rs. 245,342, the figures at the end of the year being Rs. 2,447,582 to the credit of 79,704 depositors. In 1908 the increase of accounts was 3,946, and of deposits 83,896. Business is done at 166 offices, at the rate of interest of 2·40 per cent.

VI.—JUDICIAL.

(A) Police.

The authorized strength of the Police on December 31, 1909, was 1 Inspector-General, 6 Superintendents of Police, 14 Assistant Superintendents of Police, 10 Probationary Assistant Superintendents, 21 Inspectors, 38 Sub-Inspectors, 16 European Police Sergeants, 18 European Police Constables, 57 Station House Officers, 239 Native Police Sergeants, and 1,893 Native Police Constables. 475 recruits were enlisted during the year.

The cost of the Force was Rs. 1,198,934, as against Rs. 1,120,414 in 1908.

No new punitive forces were imposed during the year.

(B) Crime Statistics.

I.—*From Returns furnished by the Inspector-General of Police.*

The following figures show the number of offences dealt with :—

Year.	True Cases.	Convictions and Committals.	Percentage of Convictions obtained.
1905	16,831	11,036	65·5
1906	17,621	11,224	63·6
1907	15,555	10,195	65·5
1908	17,831	12,523	70·2
1909	16,296	12,120	74·3

Of the above total, 7,945 were statutory offences, breaches of Municipal by-laws, and other minor offences. The real crime is represented by 8,351 offences, as against 6,808 in 1908.

The following table shows the fluctuation of the more important forms of serious crime :—

	1905.	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.
Murder and homicide	170	186	188	201	177
Rape	23	30	110	129	130
Robbery	330	382	926	1,000	937
Burglary	1,869	2,107	2,370	2,570	2,456
Grievous hurt	448	481	479	329	551
Theft of cattle and prædial products	1,623	1,915	1,161	2,079	1,656
Arson	230	229	384	499	391
Riot	4	8	2	1	1

Offences against property have decreased, while offences against the person have slightly increased.

II.—*From Returns furnished by the Attorney-General.*

The number of cases instituted in the Police Courts and Municipal Magistrates' Courts in 1909 was 86,130, as against 81,281 in 1908.

The proportion of persons tried by Police Courts per 100,000 inhabitants was 2,631, as against 2,042 in 1908.

2,593 persons were committed for trial before the Superior Courts. Of these, 64 persons were awaiting trial at the end of the year. Of the remaining 2,539 persons, 1,477 were convicted of various offences and 1,023 persons acquitted, while 22 persons were discharged, the charges against them having been withdrawn, and 7 persons sent to the Lunatic Asylum, having been found to be insane.

Crime.—The Inspector-General of Police reports that—

(1) For the first time for many years there has been a very substantial reduction in the number of murders and homicides.

(2) There is a steady increase in the detection of burglary, perhaps the best test by which to judge police work. This increase has been continuous since 1905.

(3) The fall in cattle theft and the recovery to the detection percentage of 1907 is very satisfactory. The percentages for the last three years are 1907 32·1, 1908 25·4, 1909 33·9.

Comparisons with previous years by crime statistics are always liable to be fallacious. An increase in any particular district may often mean that a zealous police officer has succeeded in getting more crime reported, and that offences are no longer suppressed but investigated by the police. There is no doubt, however, that Ceylon is much better policed than ever before, and that the criminal has fewer chances of escape. Complaints are more readily investigated and crime more easily detected, owing to the large increase in the number of police stations throughout the Island, and the improved efficiency in the system of crime reports. Where special attention has been paid to the improved system of policing a Province, the best results have been obtained. The Southern Province had for long the pre-eminence in crime—reference was made in last year's report to the improvement effected in this Province. The Government Agent in his Administration Report for 1909 states : " There has been a vast diminution of crime of the more serious kind, and as regards the whole volume of crime reported to the police, there is a reduction from 798 cases reported in 1908 to 627 cases reported in 1909. The ' true cases ' of the district have been reduced from 928 in 1905 to 385 in 1909—a reduction of 58·5 per cent."

As regards crime against the person, no amount of police protection or police investigation is likely to affect this class of crime, which is really governed by the character and impulses of the people. Murders are caused by the most trivial circumstances, and are regrettably frequent. The question of the alternative punishment of transportation for the death sentence as likely to be more deterrent was under further consideration during the year.

(c) Prisons.

There was an increase of 219 prisoners in the total number of admissions of convicted prisoners to the prisons in Ceylon during the year, excluding Road Ordinance defaulters, of whom there were 408 in 1909, as against 379 in 1908. The figures are as follows :—

1908	8,621
1909	8,840

The convictions for murder and manslaughter were 110, as against 101 in 1908. There was an increase in the number of capital sentences carried out :—

	Sentenced to Death.	Hanged.
1908	45 ..	23
1909	48 ..	30

Of the 48 sentenced to be hanged, 42 were Sinhalese and 6 Tamils ; 27 out of the 48 sentences were confirmed, 13 commuted, in 8 cases pardons were granted.

There were 2 escapes during the year. Both of them are still at large. But there were 4 recaptures of prisoners who escaped prior to 1909.

The total number of deaths in jail was 381, as against 227 in 1908. There was no serious epidemic of any kind. The increase in deaths was due to the prevalence of diarrhœa and dysentery. The average daily sick rate for the year was 167, as against 121 in 1908, an increase of 46. The increase in sickness in the jail has seriously engaged the attention of Government, and changes are being made in the diets of prisoners.

The number of punishments for prison offences inflicted on prisoners decreased from 2,475 in 1908 to 1,801 in 1909. Corporal punishment also decreased from 131 in 1908 to 45 in 1909.

Industrial labour has continued to be carried out and extended. The weaving of cloth for prisoners' clothing was started in Welikada towards the latter end of 1908, and has proved a success, and reduces expenses in clothing the prisoners. At Anuradhapura a quarry was opened in 1908, and continues to supply by prison labour ballast to the Railway Department. At Negombo there is a remunerative basket industry. The estimated value of remunerative labour performed by the prisoners was Rs. 302,142.

In May, 1909, a steam laundry was erected at Welikada Jail at a cost of Rs. 10,000. The whole of the washing of linen from the Medical Health Department and Lunatic Asylum was undertaken by prison labour, and has proved most satisfactory. From January 1, 1910, linen from the Railway Department and the paying wards of the Colombo General Hospital has been taken.

The new Government Printing Office is now in course of erection, and will probably be completed next year, when prison labour will be utilized.

The printing of the railway tickets in Welikada Jail has been continued, over 6,000,000 tickets having been turned out during the year. All embossing work for Government Departments is done by prison labour.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

(A) Population.

The population enumerated at the Census (March 1, 1901) was 3,565,954, exclusive of the military, the shipping, and the South African prisoners of war. The natural increase by excess of births over deaths from that date to the end of the year 1909 amounted to 302,710, while the number of Indian immigrants exceeded the number of emigrants by 214,271. The population estimated to the end of 1909 was accordingly 4,082,935, an increase of 44,479 persons or 1·1 per cent. on the population of 1908.

Birth and Death Rates.

The births registered during the year numbered 148,891, and were in the proportion of 36·7 per 1,000 persons living. The registered deaths numbered 122,970, and were equal to a rate of 30·3 per 1,000 of the population. Compared with 1908, the birth-rate shows a decrease of 3·4 per mille, and the death-rate an increase of ·9 per mille. Compared with the average rates for the eleven years 1898–1908, the birth-rate shows also a decrease of 1·3 per mille, and the death-rate an increase of 1·8 per mille.

Public Health.

The year under review cannot be regarded as a healthy one, though there were no serious outbreaks of cholera, smallpox, or enteric fever.

The following table shows the admissions to hospital for and deaths from the most prevalent diseases during 1909 as compared with 1908 :—

Diseases.	1908. Cases.	1908. Deaths.	1909. Cases.	1909. Deaths.
Anchylostomiasis	4,434	1,034	4,896	1,184
Chickenpox	3,471	1	2,936	3
Cholera	51	40	12	7
Dysentery	3,099	825	3,273	123
Enteric Fever	1,029	248	657	178
Leprosy	562	68	607	54
Malarial Fever	11,492	718	11,117	612
Parangi	3,246	23	3,485	13
Smallpox	1,446	321	280	62

There was an increase in the number of persons attacked with dysentery, but the number of deaths was very much less than in 1908. Malarial fever was not as prevalent as usual. Quinine crusades were conducted throughout the Island ; it may perhaps now be said that quinine is in wide demand by the native as a fever medicine.

The number of cases of deaths from anchylostomiasis increased ; this disease, which is found among the estate coolies from India, is now receiving special attention, and steps are being taken in conjunction with the Planters' Association to prevent its spread in Ceylon.

The number of cases of phthisis in Ceylon also received considerable attention during the year, and a Commission has been appointed to consider measures to be taken to relieve the sufferers from this complaint. It is believed that the climate of the northern part of Ceylon is eminently suited for the establishment of a Home for Consumptives.

There were eleven deaths during the year from appendicitis.

(B) Vaccination, &c.

During the year 184,534 subjects were vaccinated. The percentage of successful primary vaccination cases to total inspected was 92·55, while the percentage of successful re-vaccination cases was 74·95.

A Pasteur Institute has been established at Coonoor, where all persons who have been bitten by rabid animals undergo free prophylactic treatment for hydrophobia. The Ceylon Government gives the institute an annual grant, and poor persons bitten by rabid animals, and unable to meet the expenses of the journey, are sent there at the cost of the Government. There were 20 cases of hydrophobia in 1909. Strict measures are being taken to destroy stray dogs and to put the provisions of the Rabies Ordinance in force.

Plague.—The Island continues free from the ravages of plague. There was no case during the year. The principal causes of Ceylon's immunity are probably that it is not a terminal port, ships do not come alongside a quay, and cargo lighters are regularly disinfected and kept free from rats.

(C) Sanitation.

The water-carriage system in Colombo has made considerable progress during the year. The whole of the section is finished which is to drain the sewage that now finds its way into the harbour; it only requires to be linked up with the dwelling-houses.

The large towns are controlled by Municipalities, other towns have Local Boards, or come under the Small Towns Ordinance.

The general expense of scavenging is met from rates recovered locally, and loans are made occasionally to the local bodies for larger works of permanence, such as water supply, construction of drains, &c., the cost of which they are unable to meet in a lump sum.

See also under head Public Works, (F) Colombo Drainage Works.

(D) Meteorology.

The climate of Ceylon varies considerably in different parts of the Island, both as regards temperature and rainfall. In the low-country and coast districts the climate is tropical, but in the mountainous districts in the interior of the Island it resembles that experienced in many parts of Europe, being temperate and equable.

The year 1909 was much below the average as regards rainfall. The highest recorded rainfall was at Ratnapura, 166·46 inches. This district also held the highest record for 1908, with 118·06 inches. The lowest record was at Jaffna, 36·68 inches, as against 25·11 inches at Hambantota in 1908, which was the lowest of that year. The rainfall in Colombo was 66·13 inches, and in Kandy 81·34 inches. At Ratnapura it rained on 244 days in the year, while at Puttalam there was rain on only 67 days.

The hottest stations, taking the mean temperature of night and day all the year round into account, were Mannar and Trincomalee, both with 82·4°. After these comes Batticaloa with 82·2°. The coolest was Nuwara Eliya, 59·1°. Colombo and Kandy were 79·4° and 75·6° respectively.

The highest temperature reached in Colombo was on February 11 and April 20 and 21, 92·8°; the highest on record in Colombo is 95·8°, registered on February 22, 1885.

The highest temperature for the whole Island reached during the year was at Kurunegala, 98·2° on March 28; the highest on record for the Island was at Trincomalee, 103·7° on May 12, 1890.

VIII.—POST AND TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT.

Six new Post Offices and ten new Receiving Offices were opened in 1909. The total number of offices now is 418, of which 253 are Receiving Offices for sale of postage stamps and posting and delivery of letters; 165 are Money Order and Savings Banks, and of these 108 are also Telegraph Offices.

A comparison of the revenue and expenditure for the years 1908 and 1909 shows :—

	1908. Rs.	1909. Rs.
Revenue	1,417,072	1,457,069
Estimated value of work done for Government	242,361	279,555
Total ..	1,659,433	1,736,624
Expenditure	1,614,602	1,694,682
Balance ..	44,831	41,942

The total estimated number of articles, exclusive of parcels, which passed through the post during the year exceeded 35¼ millions, against 31½ millions in 1908 and 30¼ millions in 1907.

The business done in parcels is shown as follows :—

	1908.	1909.
Total number of parcels ..	480,775	484,703
Number of inland value-payable parcels	99,882	110,923
Value on inland value-payable parcels	Rs. 648,351	Rs. 723,778
Number of Indian value-payable parcels	73,243	80,270
Value on Indian value-payable parcels	Rs. 508,850	Rs. 613,073

The following are the figures for money orders :—

	1908.		1909.	
	No.	Rs.	No.	Rs.
Inland ..	310,154	8,489,757	367,089	9,666,463
Indian ..	181,197	5,233,151	210,568	5,694,935
United Kingdom ..	10,390	400,646	11,007	435,982
Colonial and Foreign	11,586	756,523	11,812	774,395
Total ..	513,327	14,880,077	600,476	16,571,775

The business done in postal orders is shown below :—

	1908.		1909.	
	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.
Ceylon ..	61,474	Rs. 203,571	72,543	Rs. 243,553
British ..	22,267	£14,870	27,950	£19,163

The total number of telegrams dealt with was 744,175 in 1909, against 823,905 in 1908—a decrease of 79,730. Foreign telegrams (other than those sent to India) amounted to 110,630. Telegrams received from India and other countries numbered 89,573.

On February 1 the rate for inland telegrams was altered. The free address was abolished, and the former rate of 25 cents for the first 8 words, with 5 cents for each additional word, address and sender's name free, was altered into a rate of 25 cents for the first 10 words, with 5 cents for each additional 2 words, address and sender's name to be counted and charged for. This caused an immediate fall in the number of telegrams, which was not recovered until the end of the year.

The "urgent" class of telegrams was abolished at the same time, and a system of late fees for telegrams despatched out of business hours was introduced.

On the same date arrangements by which telegraph offices at 46 railway stations at places not provided with Postal Telegraph Offices were thrown open to the use of the public, came into operation.

A system of Inland Telegraph Money Orders was inaugurated on February 1, and has proved most successful.

Advantage was taken of the presence in India of Mr. J. Newlands, Deputy Controller of Post Office Telegraphs in London, to obtain his advice on the re-organization of the telegraph traffic arrangements in Ceylon. On his recommendation the whole system has been simplified and the service accelerated. New telegraph forms were introduced, the methods of signalling were revised, and several checks and records were abolished, with the result that there has been considerable improvement in the service.

The through connection to Bombay of one of the Colombo-Madras wires, arranged with the Indian Government through the assistance of Mr. Newlands, has accelerated the transmission of telegrams to Europe by cutting out the re-signalling of them at Madras.

The Department opened town telephone exchanges in Kandy and Nuwara Eliya, and made considerable progress with the construction of a trunk line to connect these exchanges with Colombo. Several licenses were granted for the establishment of small exchanges in the planting districts, this branch of telephone development being left for the present entirely to private enterprise.

There has been an enormous increase in the amount of telephone business done during the last few years.

In 1898 there were 175 telephones in use; there are now 939. The average daily calls at the Colombo Telephone Exchange in 1898 were 211; they now number 4,432.

IX.—PUBLIC WORKS.

(A) Public Works Department.

The expenditure of the Public Works Department during the last two years may be compared as follows :—

	1908. Rs.	1909. Rs.
Personal Emoluments	578,068 ..	584,199
Other Charges	87,470 ..	88,946
Public Works Annually Recurrent ..	2,684,811 ..	2,794,994
Public Works Extraordinary ..	1,781,144 ..	1,631,316
Works chargeable to Surplus Balances, Loans, &c.	415,167 ..	504,495
Total ..	5,546,660	5,603,951

The total annual expenditure of the Public Works Department has increased from Rs. 3,437,862 in 1896 to Rs. 5,603,951 in 1909.

The average annual expenditure during the past fourteen years was Rs. 4,888,645.

The total length of roads maintained by the Public Works Department during the year was 3,782 miles, of which 3,444 miles are cart roads and 338 miles are bridle roads.

(B) Colombo Harbour Works.

The total expenditure upon the works during 1909 amounted to Rs. 1,717,602·32, and the total expenditure since the commencement of the South-west Breakwater in 1873, including maintenance charges, &c., has amounted to Rs. 41,196,253.

New Arm, South-west Breakwater.

Work on block setting continued from the end of last year to April 2, and re-commenced after the south-west monsoon as soon as weather permitted in November; up to the end of the year 160 slices were set, or 1,072 feet of breakwater completed.

Graving Dock.

The Dock was occupied on seventeen occasions during the year. The revenue amounted to Rs. 41,509·60, and the expenditure to Rs. 53,244·30.

Patent Slip.

The Slip was used on twenty-one occasions, producing a revenue of Rs. 50,328. The working expenses amounted to Rs. 11,669·16

(c) RAILWAY DEPARTMENT.

Open Lines.

The Ceylon Government Railway is frequently referred to—more especially in the columns of the local Press—as "the best paying railway in the world." Such is not the case. The capital expenditure on the Ceylon Government Railways to the end of 1908 was Rs. 86,795,000. The profits that year, viz., the revenue less expenditure—not reckoning interest and sinking fund—amounted to Rs. 5,187,880, or 5·96 on the capital expenditure. From this last sum the Ceylon Government has to pay the interest and sinking fund for loan purposes. The balance of profit is therefore small. It must further be remembered that Railway capital is not debited with the value of the Crown land handed over free of charge for Railway construction. The Railway pays no rates or taxes, and the goods imported for its use are exempt from Customs duty. Pensions to retired Railway officers are not included under Railway Expenditure. There is also a very considerable amount of work done for the Railway Department by other Government Departments which would represent secretarial charges and audit fees, &c., if the duties were performed for a private company.

The total length of the railway lines open for traffic at the end of 1909 was 576¾ miles, or an increase during the year of nearly 10½ miles, by the opening on December 1 of the remaining section of the Negombo line, viz., between Ja-ela and Negombo.

The receipts for the year amounted to Rs. 11,746,603, being Rs. 840,172 in excess of the preceding year. To this increase goods traffic contributed more than half, viz., Rs. 539,124, while coaching and miscellaneous traffic increased by Rs. 244,443 and Rs. 56,605 respectively.

The principal increases in goods traffic are as follows:—Rice 15,962 tons; tea 5,063 tons; cacao 1,052 tons; rubber 313 tons; plumbago 4,664 tons; timber (including staves) 2,722 tons; manure 14,912 tons, or, deducting the quantity handled twice in transport from Wharf and Colombo to Kelaniya and Hunupitiya, a nett increase of 3,796 tons; bulk petroleum 1,118 tons; liquid fuel 2,271 tons; and tobacco 612 tons.

Under the head of Coaching, passenger traffic shows increases in the receipts from all classes, including season tickets, the number of ordinary passenger and season ticket holders carried in excess of last year being 354,064 and 4,538 (monthly tickets) respectively. Other coaching traffic also shows an increase of Rs. 21,507.

The working expenses for 1909, excluding expenditure on new works chargeable to capital, amounts to Rs. 5,990,419, as against Rs. 5,850,743 in 1908. The general result of the year's working was as follows:—

	Rs.
Receipts	11,746,603
Working expenses	5,990,419
Balance ..	5,756,184

Of this balance, a sum of Rs. 936,866 was expended in improvements, new rolling stock, &c. A further sum of Rs. 664,070 from the surplus balances of the Colony was also spent on new works.

The capital outstanding on loans on January 1, 1909, was Rs. 38,753,626, and the total capital cost of the Railway, including additional accommodation, rolling stock, and improvements provided up to December 31, 1909, amounted to Rs. 91,184,208.

Considerable additions were made to the rolling stock in bogie passenger carriages, four-wheeled covered goods, passenger carriages, and goods brakes. Several improvements to stations and buildings, and the extension of the tablet system, interlocking, &c., were carried out during the year.

Railway Extensions.

Negombo Extension.

The Railway showed a small loss on its working in 1909.*

The remaining portion of this line was completed and opened for traffic on December 1, 1909. The expenditure during the year was Rs. 377,068, or a total up to December 31, 1909, of Rs. 1,595,383 out of the total estimate of Rs. 1,683,436.

Chilaw Extension.

The survey and detail estimate of the proposed extension from Negombo to Chilaw have been sanctioned. The work was taken in hand in November, 1909. The line passes through a thickly populated district, the greater part of which is devoted to the cultivation of coconuts. A large goods traffic is expected on this extension. The expenditure in 1909 was Rs. 5,103.

Ratnapura Extension.

The total length of this extension is approximately 27 miles, starting from Avisawella on the Colombo-Yatiyantota narrow gauge (2 ft. 6 in.) line. The total estimated cost is Rs. 2,953,408, and the expenditure up to December 31, 1909, was Rs. 1,310,381, most of which was expended during 1909.

Colombo Stations Extension.

This work is being pushed forward rapidly; Maradana station has been opened for traffic, and the old Terminus demolished. A large building is being erected at an estimated cost of Rs. 150,000 to form a new railway store. A large inward goods shed is being built on the reclamation of the lake. It has been constructed on concrete piles, and is about three-quarters completed. The works on the new engine shed and engine yard are approaching completion. The new Fort station has been founded on concrete piles, and the work is well in hand. Several other small buildings have been erected on the lake reclamation and elsewhere.

The filling required for the new engine yard and the reclamation of the lake is being brought from Ragama by a special service of trains. Approximately 11,000 tons of filling have been brought to Colombo each month. The bridges at the entrance of the new railway lake basin and over the arm connecting the main and western portions of the lake have been completed; about 11,000 lineal yards of sidings and main lines under this extension scheme have been laid. Practically all the ironwork required for the work has arrived in the Colony. Of the total estimate of Rs. 4,447,145, a sum of Rs. 3,066,768 had been spent up to the end of 1909.

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* The statement of traffic for the first six months of 1910 shows that the Railway pays about 4 per cent. Government borrow at $3\frac{3}{4}$ per cent., and there is therefore a small profit of $\frac{1}{4}$ per cent.—excluding the 1 per cent. which has to be found for the sinking fund. When the Chilaw Extension is undertaken the Railway should pay better.

The Mannar Railway.

Every effort is being made to push on this important link with India, in order to keep pace with the work done by the South Indian Railway on the other side of Adam's bridge.

The Chief Resident Engineer with five Assistants has arrived from England.

The work is one which presents considerable difficulties owing to the shoal foreshore at Talaimannar; the absence of landing places on a surf-beaten beach and the inaccessibility from the land side, due to the fact that the gravel road from Madawachchi would be soon broken up were the heavy ironwork and bridges sent by that route; also owing to the entire absence of roads along the line of route in the sandy island of Mannar. The materials required for the two piers at Talaimannar weigh nearly 3,000 tons, the bridges at Mannar nearly 700 tons, and 20 miles of permanent way materials, including sleepers, about 6,000 tons, or nearly 10,000 tons in all. Temporary piers both on the north and the south sides of Adam's bridge will have to be constructed in the first place, and arrangements made for the conveyance and landing of these materials from the steamers which bring them out.

Instructions have been given to the Chief Resident Engineer that the health of the working parties must be carefully conserved, and that, if necessary, they must be housed in portable mosquito-proof lines of special design, plans of which have already been prepared.

Sea Coast Duplication and Maradana-Ragama Widening.

This work was commenced in 1909. On the Main line between Maradana and Ragama all the smaller bridges have been widened, and the filling necessary for the duplication of the line is nearly complete. Extensive alterations have been carried out at Hunupitiya and Ragama.

On the Sea Coast line a new bridge for a double line is being erected in place of the present one 15 chains south of Slave Island station. The new bridge carrying the Kollupitiya road over the railway has been constructed.

The total estimate for the two works is Rs. 2,700,000, out of which Rs. 986,681 had been spent up to the end of 1909.

Protection of Sea Coast Line.

The heavy protection works start about 40 chains south of Bambalapitiya station, between which place and the Kollupitiya curve the encroachment of the sea is most marked. The total estimate is Rs. 437,510, out of which Rs. 249,563 had been spent up to the end of 1909.

Further protection works are to be carried out south of Wellawatta, the estimate for which amounts to Rs. 76,000.

(D) IRRIGATION.

The present policy in irrigation matters is to develop the irrigable areas opened up by the large irrigation works which have been carried out in the past, and to complete these works by carrying out connected schemes of channels, &c., which will bring the full schemes into general usefulness. Without such surveys it is not possible accurately to define the irrigable area, to say what lands are or are not irrigable, or to devise the most suitable means for supplying them with water. Nor is it possible efficiently to control the distribution of water and ensure its proper and economical use.

In 1908 and 1909 the Indian Government lent the Colony the services of Mr. W. L. Strange, who has reported on the best means of deriving the full benefit from these works. The report is now under consideration.

The expenditure on construction in 1909 was Rs. 389,412, against Rs. 450,299 in the previous year, while the cost of maintenance in 1909 was Rs. 100,069. The total expenditure on irrigation for the year was Rs. 785,756, which includes the cost of staff and all management charges. The recoveries in irrigation rates are small, owing to the very low water rates the cultivators are charged.

The rates in Ceylon are extremely low when compared with India, where rates averaging from Rs. 16 to Rs. 4·50 an acre are charged. In Ceylon the rate levied has never exceeded Rs. 2. When the grain tax was abolished, no steps were taken at the time to increase the irrigation rates proportionately. One of the results of the unchecked supply of water at low rates, which are no standard of its value, has been great wastage. While the irrigation works in Ceylon have proved of enormous indirect advantage, it is now necessary to put them on a business-like footing before any further steps can be taken to extend them—substantial contribution by the cultivators themselves in developing their own resources must be forthcoming.

The area irrigated by the larger works restored by Government is 143,000 acres, or 224 square miles; and 163,000 acres, or 254 square miles, are irrigated by the village works which have been restored by the people under the guidance and supervision of Government officers.

Consideration has been given to numerous minor works for existing tanks in the Wanni—a stretch of land in the north of Ceylon, within easy distance of the Railway, and served by numerous irrigation schemes. This district is at present almost uninhabited, and every effort is being made to attract settlers to land, which irrigation should make one of the most fertile portions of Ceylon.

(E) Forests.

The future *personnel* of the Forest Department will consist of trained Foresters only, as in the case of the Imperial Forest Service in India. The first two officers trained at Oxford arrived early in January, 1910.

Forest exploitation has been directed towards the elimination of over-mature timber which retarded future regeneration of crops, and to the utilization of timber on areas to be alienated for sale, lease, or irrigation purposes.

The supply to Public Departments at actual cost of output reached a value of about Rs. 713,000 in 1909, as against Rs. 125,000 in 1906, Rs. 401,500 in 1907, and Rs. 548,700 in 1908. During the last five years the Forest Department has delivered 238,496 broad gauge and 87,928 narrow gauge sleepers to the Railway, and holds a large supply in reserve.

The average cost of delivery to date has been Rs. 3·61 per broad gauge and Re. 1·79 per narrow gauge sleeper. The Railway previously paid over Rs. 5 per sleeper for its best supply of broad gauge Jarrah, so that a considerable saving has been effected by the supply being obtained from the local forests, and the sleepers are admittedly more durable. For sylvicultural reasons it will be necessary in future to limit the supply of sleepers to 50,000 broad gauge per annum.

(F) Colombo Drainage Works.

Messrs. Mansergh & Son's scheme for the drainage of Colombo will replace the present bucket and dry-earth system, and will provide for the complete sewerage and drainage of the Municipality and the disposal of the sewage by bacterial treatment upon modern lines, at an estimated cost of 20½ million rupees.

The scheme divides the Municipality into eight main drainage areas with a pumping station in each. These areas are subdivided into 22 districts, which can be taken in hand separately as urgency may demand.

The first instalment of the scheme was commenced in 1904, and consists of the harbour drainage area with its pumping station, the main sewer to Madampitiya, the northern pumping station, treatment works, and outfall into the river Kelani, at an estimated cost of approximately 5 million rupees.

In 1908 the extension of the main sewer, from Layard's Broadway to its extremity at Polwatta, was sanctioned at an estimated cost of Rs. 988,000.

The above works are now practically complete, and will be brought into operation as soon as the house connections can be made.

In 1909 a further extension of the scheme was taken in hand, to deal with the drainage areas falling towards the lake and bordering the main sewer. Altogether a total expenditure of Rs. 10,800,000 has been sanctioned up to date.

Sewers are being laid in all the principal streets, capable of taking six times the volume of dry weather sewage. Separate drains are being provided for dealing with heavy rainfall. The pumping stations are fitted with centrifugal pumps worked by gas engines and suction gas plant capable of dealing with the full discharge of the sewers. The system of sewage treatment adopted consists of septic tanks and sprinkling filters capable of dealing with twice the volume of dry weather sewage, and storm water filters for dealing with additional rainfall up to four times the volume of dry weather sewage.

The total expenditure to December 31, 1909, amounted to Rs. 5,803,000, of which Rs. 1,506,000 was expended during the year. 36½ miles of sewers and drains have been completed, 14 miles of which were constructed during the year. The labour force averaged 2,914 men during the year, and reached 3,154 in September.

X.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

(A) Important Events.

Three Durbars of Native Chiefs were held during the year, for the Tamil Headmen, the Kandyan Chiefs, and the Chief Headmen of the Low-country and Maritime Districts.

The various grades of native ranks and the dresses proper to each rank have been settled, after full and searching historical research. Various old native ranks which had fallen into abeyance have been revived. The numbers of each grade have been fixed, and honours will not in future be granted except as vacancies occur.

The vexed question of the control and administration of the eight sacred places at Anuradhapura was settled. The Atamasthana Committee met, and accepted the terms suggested to them. The limits of the sacred places were marked out and published for general information.

Commissions were appointed during the year to inquire into the following important questions :—

(*a*) Development of the Colombo Lake.
(*b*) Registration of Vedaralas in connection with the new Opium System.

Committees were also appointed to deal with the following subjects :—

(*a*) Agricultural Training.
(*b*) Village Co-operative Banks.
(*c*) Horse Insurance Fund for Ceylon Volunteer Force.
(*d*) Security required from Public Officers.
(*e*) Requirements of the Ceylon Court at the Imperial Institute.

Preliminary to the introduction of a system of excise in Ceylon, the services of Mr. Thurley, an expert on the subject, were obtained from the Indian Government. Mr. Horsburgh of the Ceylon Civil Service has been associated with him in inquiries now being made throughout the Island.

Empire Day was celebrated throughout Ceylon with considerable enthusiasm; it has become recognized as a popular holiday, especially amongst the schools.

On September 13 Viscount Kitchener of Khartoum visited Ceylon for a few days on his way to the Far East.

On December 16 General Sir John French paid a visit of inspection to Ceylon, as Inspector-General of Forces, and inspected the Ceylon Volunteers at Colombo and Kandy.

(B) Public Service.

Sir Hugh Clifford, the Colonial Secretary, received the dignity of a Knight Commandership, and Mr. F. C. Loos, the Burgher Member of Council, a Companionship of the Order of Saint Michael and Saint George.

The following deaths during the year among retired members of the Public Service are recorded with regret:—Sir Bruce Burnside, who held the office of Chief Justice of the Colony; Messrs. W. E. T. Sharpe and R. W. D. Moir, who both retired from the office of Government Agent of the Central Province; Dr. W. G. Rockwood, M.D., an eminent surgeon who had retired from the post of Surgeon of the General Hospital at Colombo.

(C) Immigration.

The most important event affecting the labour supply on the estates in Ceylon was the introduction of Ordinance No. 9 of 1909 from October 1. The Ordinance has already been referred to under Legislation (*vide* page 20). The number of immigrant labourers who arrived in Ceylon in 1909 was 80,718, which is above the average for the past five years, which was roughly 76,000. The number for each year depends largely on the state of the crops in South India. The demand for Tamil labour is yearly increasing, and recruiting agencies are to be found all over South India.

The necessity for the construction of a depôt and segregation camp near Paumben, to provide the necessary facilities for the detention in quarantine of immigrant coolies proceeding by the Mannar route, whenever that line becomes the established line of labour communication between India and Ceylon, has long been recognized. Nearly 37 acres of land have been acquired at Kondegal, 1½ mile from Paumben. On this land will be erected 20 sheds, each capable of accommodating 40 coolies, an infectious diseases hospital, a dispensary, various outhouses, &c. The water supply has been duly tested.

The Secretary of State has approved the establishment of the depôt, and a sum of Rs. 70,000 (on account) has been provided for this service in the Estimates for 1910–1911. The Kondegal Camp will also provide facilities for passenger accommodation from Southern India to the Jaffna peninsula, instead of by the Tuticorin-Colombo circuitous route.

(D) Openings for Investment of Capital.

Rubber, coconut, tea, and plumbago are the chief openings for investment of capital. In the Western and Central Provinces the area of Crown land is comparatively very small; the country is covered with estates and native holdings. It is hoped to attract settlers by offering specially favourable terms to the tracts of valuable irrigated land in the Northern, North-Central, and North-Western Provinces, along the Northern Railway. There are also large tracts under the big irrigation schemes, *e.g.*, Giant's tank, where there will be 10,000 acres available, and Vakaneri, which open great possibilities for the paddy cultivator. There are large areas suitable for the cultivation of cotton, which may also prove in time to be one of the paying crops of Ceylon. At present the main products of the Island are so successful that capital can scarcely be attracted to any other cultivation.

(E) General Condition of the Colony; Social and Moral Condition of the People.

Ceylon is passing through a period of prosperity which has affected all classes. The problem of social and moral progress now depends on the use or abuse of wealth. In the disposal of the surplus—which means for the native of this country the difference between his known wants and his acquired tastes—lies the future development of the people of this country.

There is a general demand for the externals of what is regarded as European civilization—the dress, house furniture, food, and drink of the West are now popularized in the East.

Such is the position in a period of prosperity for all—the problem is one for education to face—the preservation of what is good in the old civilization with the benefits to be derived from the new.

June, 1910.

E. B. DENHAM,
Assistant Colonial Secretary.

H. C. COTTLE, GOVERNMENT PRINTER, COLOMBO, CEYLON.

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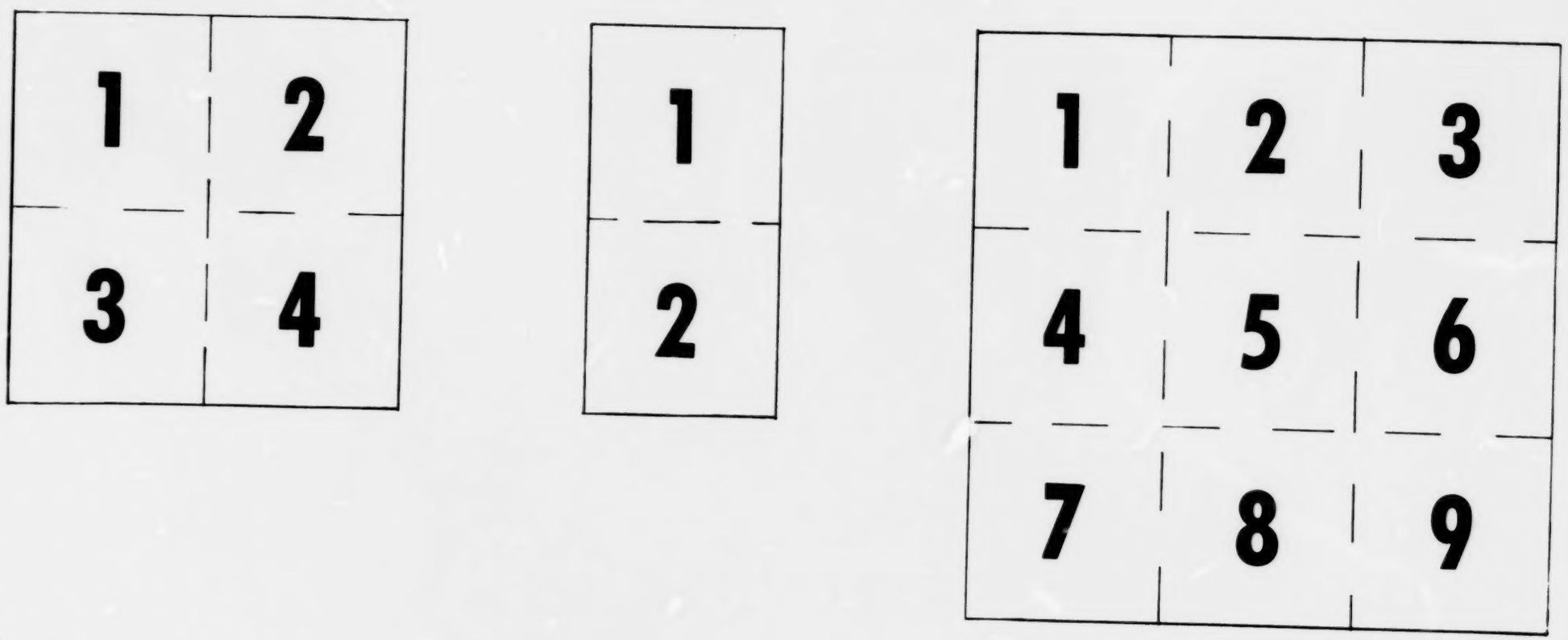

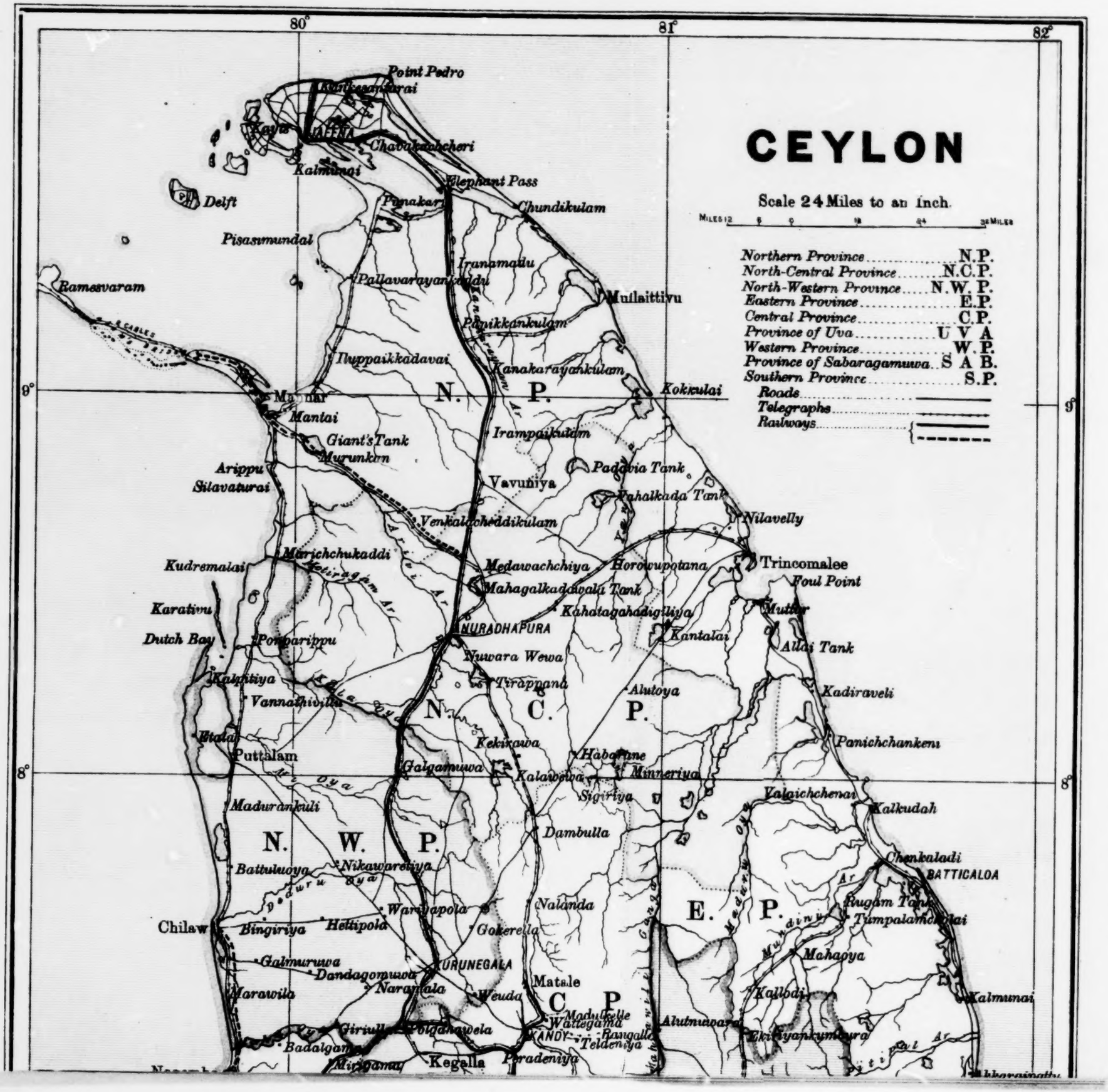
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Kudremalai
Medawachchiya
Horowupotana
Trincomalee
Foul Point
Mahagalkadawala Tank
Karativu
Kahatagahadigiliya
Muttur
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Pomparippu
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Kantalai
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Nuwara Wewa
Kalpitiya
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Alutoya
Kadiraveli
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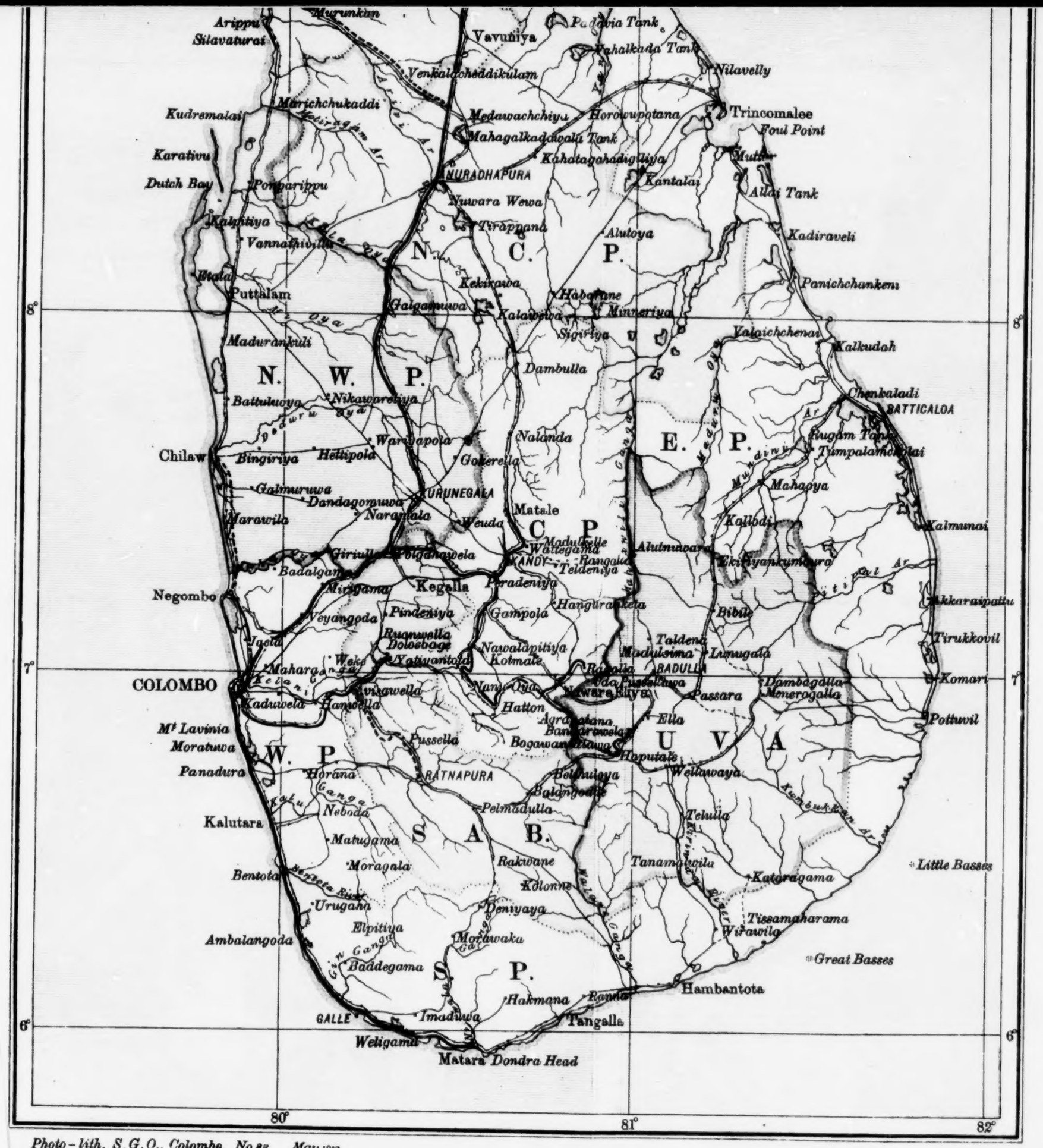

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COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
620	Barbados	1908–1909
621	Trinidad and Tobago	"
622	Straits Settlements	1908
623	Somaliland	1908–1909
624	Mauritius	1908
625	St. Vincent	1908–1909
626	Jamaica	"
627	Swaziland	"
628	Grenada	1908
629	Leeward Islands	1908–1909
630	Southern Nigeria	1908
631	British Honduras	"
632	British Guiana	1908–1909
633	Northern Nigeria	"
634	Basutoland	"
635	East Africa Protectorate	"
636	Uganda	"
637	Weihaiwei	1909
638	St. Helena	"
639	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
640	Ashanti	"
641	Gambia	"
642	Malta	1909–1910
643	Seychelles	1909
644	Colonial Survey Committee	1909–1910
645	Falkland Islands	1909
646	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
647	Gibraltar	"
648	Sierra Leone	"
649	Somaliland	1909–1910
650	Bahamas	"
651	Tongan Islands Protectorate	1909
652	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1909–1910

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No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
65	Uganda	Sleeping Sickness.
66	Gold Coast	Forests.
67	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1905–1906.
68	Do. Do.	Do. 1906–1907.
69	St. Helena	Fisheries.
70	Colonies	List of Laws relating to Patents, Trade Marks, &c.
71	Imperial Institute	Foodstuffs.
72	Fiji	Hurricane.
73	Jamaica	Cayman Islands.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 716.

CEYLON.

REPORT FOR 1910-11.

(For Report for 1909, *see* No. 653.)

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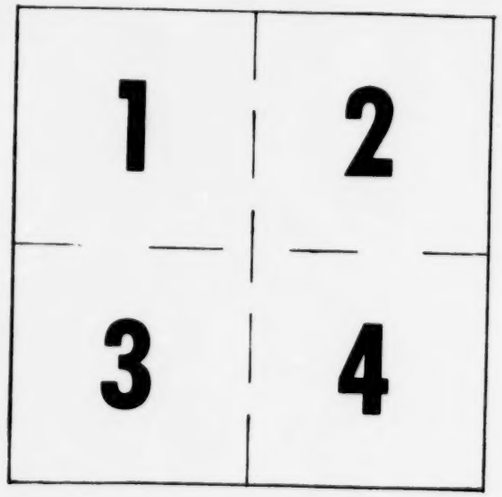
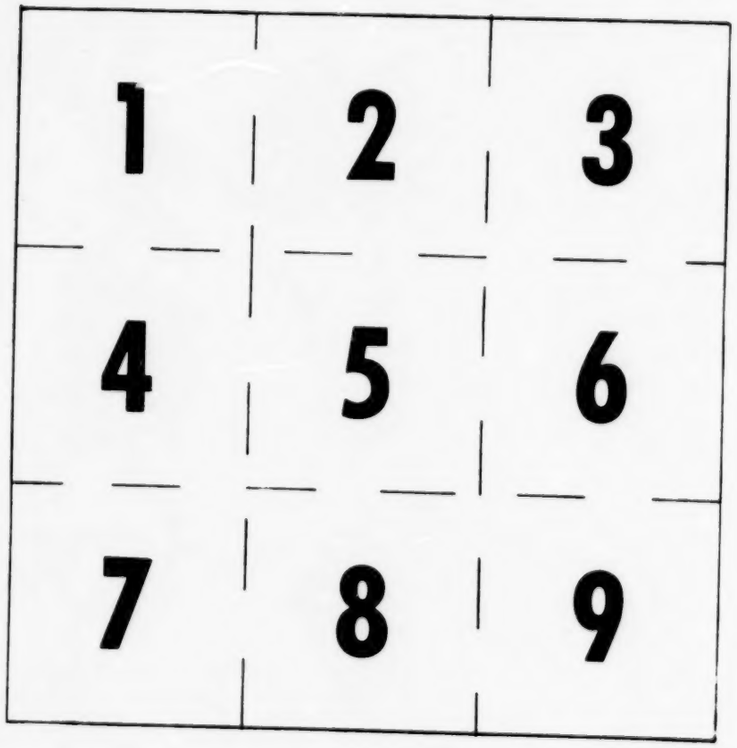
Maps on this order too large to be entirely included in one exposure are filmed clockwise beginning in the upper left hand corner, left to right and top to bottom as many frames as required. The following diagrams illustrate the method.





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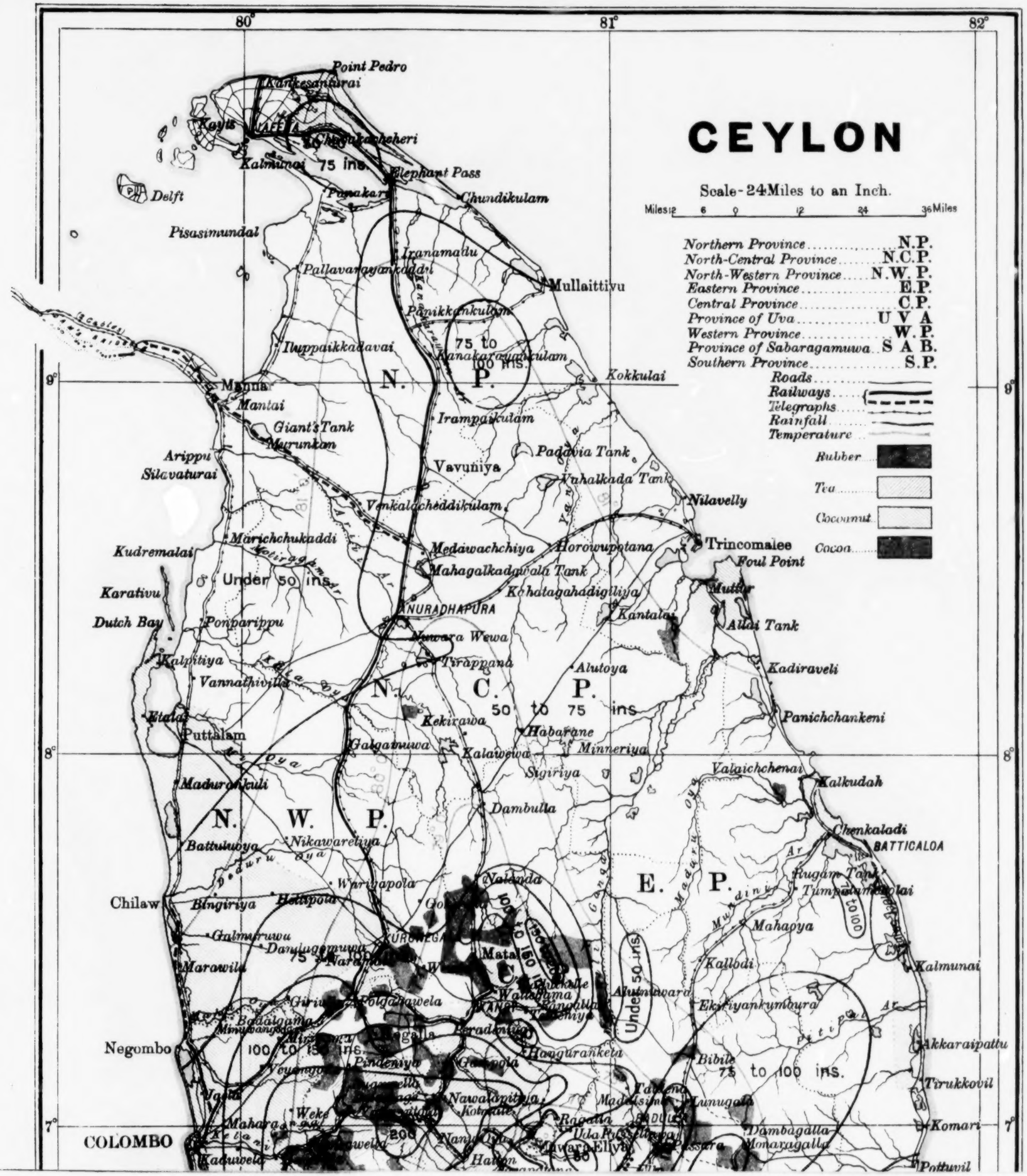
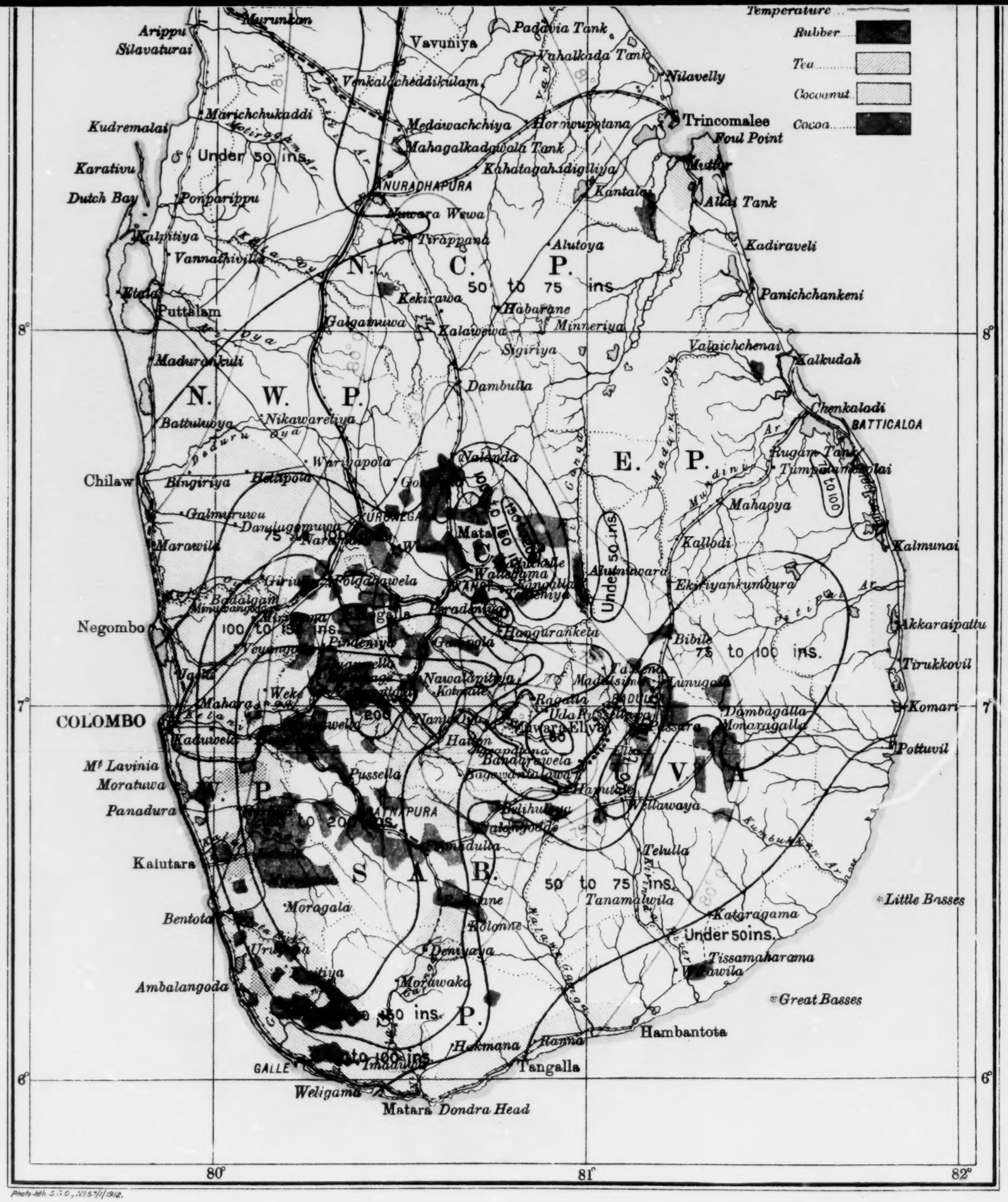

CEYLON
Scale - 24 Miles to an Inch.
Miles 12 6 0 12 24 36 Miles
Northern Province N.P.
North-Central Province N.C.P.
North-Western Province N.W.P.
Eastern Province E.P.
Central Province C.P.
Province of Uva U V A
Western Province W.P.
Province of Sabaragamuwa S A B.
Southern Province S.P.
Roads
Railways
Telegraphs
Rainfall
Temperature
Rubber
Tea
Cocoanut
Cocoa
80°
81°
82°
9°
8°
7°
Point Pedro
Kankesanturai
Kayts
JAFFNA
Chavakacheri
Kalmunai
75 ins.
Elephant Pass
Delft
Pungakary
Chundikulam
Pisasimundal
Iranamadu
Pallavarayankaddi
Mullaittivu
Panikkankulam
Iluppaikkadavai
75 to 100 ins.
Kanakarayankulam
N. P.
Kokkulai
Mannar
Mantai
Giant's Tank
Murunkan
Irrampaikulam
Arippu
Silavaturai
Padavia Tank
Vavuniya
Vahalkada Tank
Nilavelly
Venkalacheddikulam
Marichchukaddi
Medawachchiya
Horowupotana
Trincomalee
Foul Point
Kudremalai
Under 50 ins.
Mahagalkadawala Tank
Kohatagahadigiliya
Karativu
Dutch Bay
Ponparippu
ANURADHAPURA
Kantalai
Mutur
Allai Tank
Nuwara Wewa
Kalpitiya
Tirappana
Alutoya
Kadiraveli
Vannathivilu
N. C. P.
50 to 75 ins
Etala
Puttalam
Kekirawa
Habarane
Panichchankeni
Galgamuwa
Kalawewa
Minneriya
Sigiriya
Valaichchenai
Kalkudah
Madurankuli
Dambulla
N. W. P.
Chenkaladi
BATTICALOA
Battuluoya
Nikawaretiya
Rugam Tank
Tumpalamkulai
Wariyapola
Yatinda
E. P.
Chilaw
Bingiriya
Hettipola
Mahapoya
Galmaruwa
Danluggamuwa
KURUNEGALA
Under 50 ins.
Kallodi
Kalmunai
Marawila
Giriulla
Polgahawela
Wattegama
Aluthwara
Ekiriyankumbura
Badalgama
Negombo
100 to 150 ins.
Hanguranketa
Bibile
75 to 100 ins.
Akkaraipattu
Pindeniya
Gampola
Tirukkovil
Nawalapitiya
Madulsima
Lunugala
Weke
Ragala
Komari
Mahara
COLOMBO
200
Nanu Oya
Uda Pussellawa
Dambagalla
Nuwara Eliya
Bibile
Kaduwela
Hatton
Pottuvil


Temperature
Rubber
Tea
Cocoanut
Cocoa
Under 50 ins.
N. C. P.
50 to 75 ins.
N. W. P.
E. P.
S. P.
S A B.
U V A
100 to 150 ins.
75 to 100 ins.
50 to 75 ins.
Under 50 ins.
Arippu
Silavaturai
Murunkan
Vavuniya
Padavia Tank
Vahalkada Tank
Nilavelly
Trincomalee
Foul Point
Mutur
Allai Tank
Kadiraveli
Panichchankeni
Kalkudah
Valaichchenai
Chenkaladi
BATTICALOA
Kalmunai
Akkaraipattu
Tirukkovil
Komari
Pottuvil
Little Basses
Great Basses
Hambantota
Tangalla
Dondra Head
Matara
Weligama
GALLE
Kudremalai
Karativu
Dutch Bay
Ponparippu
Kalpitiya
Vannathivilu
Puttalam
Madurankuli
Chilaw
Negombo
COLOMBO
Mt Lavinia
Moratuwa
Panadura
Kalutara
Bentota
Ambalangoda
Marawila
Galmuruwu
Bingiriya
Battuluoya
Nikawaretiya
Wariyapola
Kurunegala
Matale
Nalanda
Dambulla
Anuradhapura
Medawachchiya
Mahagalkadawala Tank
Kahatagahadigiliya
Horowupotana
Kantalai
Alutoya
Tirappana
Nuwara Wewa
Kekirawa
Habarane
Galgamuwa
Kalawewa
Minneriya
Sigiriya
Mahaoya
Kallodi
Ekiriyankumbura
Bibile
Dambagalla
Monaragalla
Wellawaya
Telulla
Tanamalwila
Katagagama
Tissamaharama
Hakmana
Ramma
Imaduwa
Pussella
Moragala
Kolonne
Deniyaya
Morawaka
Nawalapitiya
Kotmale
Ragala
Hatton
Bandarawela
Haputale
Ella
Badulla
Bibile
Mahiyanganaya
Kataragama
Tumpalamullai
Rugam Tank
Madurankuli
Mullaitivu
Kuruvil
Kuruvil Ar.
Kumbuk Ar.
Mahaweli Ganga
Kala Oya
Deduru Oya
Maduru Oya
Mundini
Ar.
Pattipalai Ar.
Vavuniya Ar.
Vavuniya
Arippu
Molirogamar
Kalpitiya
Vannathivilu
Puttalam
Madurankuli
Galgamuwa
Kekirawa
Habarane
Minneriya
Sigiriya
Valaichchenai
Kalkudah
Chenkaladi
Kalmunai
Akkaraipattu
Tirukkovil
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Little Basses
Great Basses
Hambantota
Tangalla
Dondra Head
Matara
Weligama
GALLE
Kalutara
Panadura
Mt Lavinia
Moratuwa
COLOMBO
Negombo
Chilaw

REPORT ON THE CEYLON BLUE BOOK OF 1910-1911.

NOTE.—Since the issue of the Report for 1909 the financial year of the Colony has been altered to run from July to June. The present Report therefore covers the period from January 1, 1910, to June 30, 1911.

I.—FINANCIAL.

(A) GENERAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

Revenue.

THE revenue in 1910–11 amounted to Rs. 65,612,638, which was Rs. 8,425,438 more than the estimate, and Rs. 6,658,404 more than the total expenditure of the eighteen months.

Taking two-thirds of the total for the eighteen months, the proportionate revenue for twelve months during the period under review was Rs. 43,741,758, or Rs. 4,408,897 more than the revenue of 1909.

The following table shows the rapid growth of the Ceylon revenue during the last decade :—

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Excess of Revenue as compared with previous Year.	Surplus of Revenue over Expenditure.	
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1900	27,325,930	28,948,927*b*	1,412,789	—	1,622,997*a*
1901	26,437,102	29,216,747*c*	—	—	2,779,645*a*
1902	28,435,158	28,042,105*d*	1,998,056	393,053	
1903	29,423,308	27,078,759*e*	988,150	2,344,549	
1904	30,472,325	32,019,393	1,049,017	—	1,547,068*a*
1905	34,395,336	29,736,899	3,923,011	4,658,437	
1906	35,030,661	32,644,215	635,325	2,386,446	
1907	36,573,825	32,591,522	1,543,164	3,982,303	
1908	35,572,849	35,032,055*f*	—	540,794	
1909	39,332,861	35,789,398*g*	3,760,012	3,543,463	
1910–11*	43,741,758	39,302,822*h*	4,408,897	4,438,936	

* Proportionately for twelve months.

a Deficit.
b Includes Rs. 3,626,939 from surplus balances.
c Includes Rs. 3,320,152 from surplus balances.
d Includes Rs. 1,700,227 from surplus balances.
e Includes Rs. 363,931 from surplus balances.
f Includes Rs. 278,598 from surplus balances.
g Includes Rs. 1,906,442 from surplus balances.
h Includes Rs. 2,835,115 from surplus balances.

On the proportionate figures for twelve months of 1910–11, it will be seen that the revenue has increased by 60 per cent. during the decade, and that the excess of revenue for 1910–11, as compared with the previous year, is the largest recorded during the period.

The following is a comparative statement showing the actual revenue collected in 1909 and in 1910–11 :—

	Revenue for 1909.	Revenue for Eighteen Months 1910–11.	Proportionate Revenue for Twelve Months 1910–11.	Nett Increase.	Nett Decrease.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. Customs	9,417,162	16,885,970	11,257,313	1,840,151	—
2. Port, Harbour, Wharf, Warehouse, and other Dues	2,428,808	4,097,681	2,731,787	302,979	—
3. Licenses, Excise, and Internal Revenue not otherwise classified ..	8,463,695	13,802,335	9,201,556	737,861	—
4. Fees of Court or Office, Payment for Specific Services, and Reimbursements in Aid ..	1,738,804	2,457,736	1,638,491	—	100,313
5. Post and Telegraphs ..	1,450,360	2,700,903	1,800,602	350,242	—
6. Government Railway ..	11,712,704	20,160,125	13,440,083	1,727,379	—
7. Interest	840,489	1,824,724	1,216,483	375,994	—
8. Miscellaneous Receipts ..	1,672,131	1,119,598	746,399	—	925,732
9. Land Revenue (exclusive of Land Sales) ..	445,341	775,831	517,221	71,880	—
10. Land Sales ..	1,163,367	1,787,735	1,191,823	28,456	—
Total ..	39,332,862	65,612,638	43,741,758	5,434,942	1,026,045
		Deduct Decrease ..		1,026,045	
		Nett Increase for 12 Months ..		4,408,897	

There is an increase under every head of revenue as compared with 1909, with the exception of Fees of Court, &c., and Miscellaneous Receipts. The decrease under the latter head is reduced to Rs. 25,732, if allowance be made for an abnormal credit of Rs. 900,000 under this head in 1909, due to an adjustment of the Railway Stores Account. The decrease under Fees of Court, &c., is mainly due to the abolition of judicial stamps as from July 1, 1910, and the substitution of revenue stamps, the value of which went to swell the increase under Licenses, &c. The increases of eighteen lakhs under Customs, seventeen under Government Railway, and three and a half under Post and Telegraph are indicative of the growth of trade and increasing general prosperity.

The principal heads of Customs revenue under which an increase is shown are Grain, Spirits and Cordials, Sugar, Kerosine Oil, and "Other Goods." Licenses, Excise, &c., show an increase of over seven lakhs, chiefly due to increased receipts on account of Salt and Stamps ; Interest of three and a quarter lakhs, the Crown Agents having held large balances to the credit of the Colony ; and Port and Harbour Dues of three lakhs. Land Sales, which in 1909 were responsible for an increase of Rs. 139,000 as compared with 1908, show for 1910–11 a further increase of only Rs. 28,000.

Surplus Fund.—The surplus fund of the Colony on June 30, 1911, stood at Rs. 26,800,436, or Rs. 6,655,074 more than at the end of 1909. The fund is composed of balances accruing by excess of revenue over expenditure in successive years, and is utilized to finance the execution of certain important public works, in accordance with a programme approved by the Secretary of State. Advances are also made from the fund to meet expenditure on works

properly chargeable to loan funds, such as the Colombo Harbour Works and the Mannar Railway, such advances being repaid as further loan funds are raised. The sum of Rs. 16,843,348 shown in the Report for 1909 to have been thus advanced was fully refunded during 1909 and 1910, when the first portion of the loan authorized by Ordinance No. 6 of 1909 was raised. During the first half of 1911 a further sum of Rs. 2,736,933 was advanced to meet expenditure on loan works.

Of the total fund of Rs. 26,800,436, a sum of Rs. 6,793,672 only—including the advance to loan works—had not been definitely appropriated up to June 30, 1911. The original appropriations against the fund, since partially expended, include seventeen and a half lakhs to be expended on roads and bridges, thirty-eight lakhs for survey and settlement of land, thirty-nine for the Chilaw Railway, thirteen for rolling stock, twenty-six for the Badulla Railway, fifteen towards the cost of deepening the Colombo Harbour, besides a number of smaller appropriations for other important public works.

Expenditure.

The ordinary expenditure of 1910–11, including the amount expended from surplus balances, totalled Rs. 58,954,234, or Rs. 3,884,498·56 less than the estimated expenditure.

The following is a comparative statement showing the actual expenditure in 1909 and in 1910–11.

	Heads of Service.	Expenditure for 1909. Rs. c.	Expenditure for 18 Months 1910–11. Rs. c.	Proportionate Expenditure for 12 Months 1910–11. Rs. c.	Nett Increase. Rs. c.	Nett Decrease. Rs. c.
1.	Public Debt..	3,679,508 45	6,732,556 83	4,488,371 22	808,862 77	—
2.	Military Expenditure	1,384,137 18	2,958,339 32	1,972,226 21	588,089 3	—
3.	Pensions	1,361,236 60	2,070,921 72	1,380,614 48	19,377 88	—
4.	Ecclesiastical	3,239 75	4,909 70	3,273 13	33 38	—
5.	Exchange	348,157 60	471,903 20	314,602 13	—	33,555 47
6.	His Excellency the Governor	186,230 2	273,837 34	182,558 23	—	3,671 79
7.	Civil Service	863,613 95	1,480,918 19	987,278 79	123,664 84	—
8.	Clerical Service	—	1,623,001 78	1,082,001 19	1,082,001 19	—
9.	Secretariat	314,759 41	394,818 90	263,212 60	—	51,546 81
10.	Controller of Revenue	7,452 33	2,874 7	1,916 5	—	5,536 28
11.	Treasury	77,734 34	61,674 8	41,116 5	—	36,618 29
12.	Audit Office..	124,374 66	59,269 57	39,513 5	—	84,861 61
13.	Provincial Administration	981,765 56	1,250,432 60	833,621 73	—	148,143 83
14.	Settlement Officer under Waste Lands Ordinance	159,424 91	141,240 4	94,160 3	—	65,264 88
15.	Survey Department	1,062,466 67	1,801,930 83	1,201,287 22	138,820 55	—
16.	Government Stores	188,179 37	233,757 42	155,838 28	—	32,341 9
17.	Immigration and Quarantine	131,965 62	302,718 28	201,812 19	69,846 57	—
18.	Customs	161,612 78	258,554 18	172,369 45	10,756 67	—
19.	Post Office	1,653,363 91	2,591,814 42	1,727,876 28	74,512 37	—
20.	Forest Department	254,547 40	367,333 68	244,889 12	—	9,658 28
21.	Railway Department	5,951,173 75	8,838,955 93	5,892,637 29	—	58,536 46
22.	Port and Marine, Colombo	484,713 33	740,645 99	493,763 99	9,050 66	—
23.	Port and Marine other than Colombo	38,425 83	55,215 22	36,810 15	—	1,615 68
24.	Legal Departments :—					
	Supreme Court	187,225 60	236,270 96	157,513 97	—	29,711 63
	Attorney-General	91,041 70	113,586 66	75,724 44	—	15,317 26
	Solicitor-General	15,555 25	20,438 15	13,625 43	—	1,929 82
	District Courts	188,711 34	121,892 56	81,261 71	—	107,449 63
	Courts of Requests and Police Courts	135,549 33	67,212 69	44,808 46	—	90,740 87
	Registration of Lands	122,980 68	56,986 54	37,991 3	—	84,989 65
	Registration of Marriages, Births, and Deaths	126,690 51	150,186 82	100,124 55	—	26,565 96
	Fiscals	294,315 86	309,810 28	206,540 19	—	87,775 67

25	Police	1,168,187 71	1,693,763 13	1,129,175 42	—	39,012 29
26.	Prisons Department	604,088 32	826,668 21	551,112 14	—	52,976 18
27.	Medical Department	2,262,316 9	3,903,000 96	2,602,000 64	339,684 55	—
28.	Education	1,442,464 24	2,214,922 44	1,476,614 96	34,150 72	—
29.	Botanic Gardens	146,818 92	227,928 1	151,952 1	5,133 9	—
30.	Colombo Museum	33,668 35	50,448 58	33,632 39	—	35 96
31.	Archæological Commissioner	93,103 96	147,466 2	98,310 68	5,206 72	—
32.	Veterinary Department	107,367 39	127,987 12	85,324 75	—	22,042 64
33.	Agricultural Society	30,000 0	45,000 0	30,000 0	—	—
34.	Mineralogical Survey	14,350 26	30,131 97	20,087 98	5,737 72	—
35.	Inspector of Mines	16,426 76	25,802 33	17,201 55	774 79	—
36.	Inspector of Factories	4,706 33	6,240 48	4,160 32	—	546 1
37.	Registrar of Patents	3,520 49	6,278 53	4,185 69	665 20	—
38.	Miscellaneous Services	810,373 13	1,472,101 88	981,401 25	171,028 12	—
39.	Irrigation Department	303,567 49	570,221 40	380,147 60	76,580 11	—
40.	Irrigation Annually Recurrent	195,758 26	187,891 33	125,260 89	—	70,497 37
41.	Public Works Department	673,223 11	922,453 20	614,968 80	—	58,254 31
42.	Public Works Annually Recurrent	2,553,637 86	4,151,934 97	2,767,956 65	214,318 79	—
43.	Public Works Extraordinary	1,719,389 15	2,424,587 62	1,616,391 75	—	102,997 40
44.	Irrigation Extraordinary	143,418 6	292,407 52	194,938 35	51,520 29	—
45.	Railway Works Extraordinary	976,417 45	1,580,318 63	1,053,545 75	77,128 30	—
	Total Expenditure from General Revenue, Heads 1 to 45	33,882,957 2	54,701,562 28	36,467,708 21	3,906,944 31	1,322,193 12
46.	Works chargeable to Surplus Balances :—					
	Protection of Sea Coast Railway Line	133,124 15	96,291 1	64,194 1	—	68,930 14
	Kalutara Bridge	303,854 16	46,680 41	31,120 27	—	272,733 89
	Negombo Railway	376,761 90	18,268 11	12,178 74	—	364,583 16
	Colombo Defences	110,603 40	211,567 27	141,044 85	30,441 45	—
	Printing Office	24,415 16	198,445 62	132,297 8	107,881 92	—
	Completion of Interlocking Points and Signals	47,732 67	163,758 82	109,172 55	61,439 88	—
	Fitting existing Rolling Stock with Vacuum Brakes	72,375 85	102,471 62	68,314 41	—	4,061 44
	Colombo Customs (Quay Wall and Jetties)	84,304 3	162,901 14	108,600 76	24,296 73	—
	Warehouses, Colombo Customs	145,383 96	11,290 82	7,527 21	—	137,856 75

Heads of Service.	Expenditure for 1909. Rs. c.	Expenditure for 18 Months 1910–11. Rs. c.	Proportionate Expenditure for 12 Months 1910–11. Rs. c.	Nett Increase. Rs. c.	Nett Decrease. Rs. c.
Police Stations	—	108,912 34	72,608 23	72,608 23	—
Nuwara Eliya Lighting	—	145,160 34	96,773 56	96,773 56	—
Underground Telephone Cables for Colombo	21 11	127,700 72	85,133 81	85,112 70	—
Telephone Exchange, Kandy	7,968 62	—	—	—	7,968 62
Telephone Exchange, Nuwara Eliya	12,755 40	—	—	—	12,755 40
Telephone Trunk Line, Peradeniya Junction to Gampola, Hatton, and Nanu-oya	10,716 92	114,126 36	76,084 24	65,367 32	—
Hospitals	53,574 16	174,453 42	116,302 28	62,728 12	—
Precautions against Infectious Diseases	2,380 45	74,670 1	49,78 11	47,399 56	—
Roads and Bridges	39,647 35	401,643 8	267,762 5	228,114 70	—
Royal College	—	59,421 81	39,614 54	39,614 54	—
Survey and Settlement	205,611 95	611,481 38	407,654 25	202,042 30	—
Improvements to Northern Railway Line	240,106 92	259,886 0	173,257 34	—	66,849 58
Contributions towards Relief of Sufferers in Messina	30,000 0	—	—	—	30,000 0
Water Supply to Minor Towns—					
Galle	—	79,937 88	53,291 92	53,291 92	—
Mannar	—	3,691 32	2,460 88	2,460 88	—
Diyatalawa	—	3,947 9	2,631 39	2,631 39	—
Railway to Chilaw	5,103 45	127,682 49	85,121 66	80,018 21	—
Rolling Stock for Railway	—	943,810 78	629,207 19	629,207 19	—
Wireless Telegraphy	—	860 81	573 87	573 87	—
Extension to General Treasury	—	2,281 51	1,521 1	1,521 1	—
Biological Laboratory, Medical College	—	1,330 0	886 66	886 66	—
Total Expenditure on Works chargeable to Surplus Balances, Head 46	1,906,441 61	4,252,672 16	2,835,114 77	1,894,412 14	965,738 98

Summary of ordinary Expenditure.

From	1909. Rs. c.	1910–11 (18 Months). Rs. c.	1910–11 (12 Months). Rs. c.	Nett Increase. Rs. c.
General Revenue	33,882,957 2	54,701,562 28	36,467,708 21	2,584,751 19
Surplus Balances	1,906,441 61	4,252,672 16	2,835,114 77	928,673 16
Grand Total	35,789,398 63	58,954,234 44	39,302,822 98	3,513,424 35

Taking a two-thirds proportion of the figures for the eighteen months for comparison with those of 1909, it will be seen that under ordinary expenditure, exclusive of expenditure from surplus balances, there has been an increase of Rs. 2,584,751.

There is an increase under Public Debt of eight lakhs, mainly due to the payment for the first time of interest on the newly raised loan of £1,500,000; of nearly six lakhs under Military Expenditure, due to re-adjustment of the military contribution for 1909 and 1910–11; of over a lakh under Civil Service, due to supernumerary appointments and to new appointments being made on the increased initial sterling salary. The head Clerical Service appears for the first time, the salaries of the clerical establishments, which up to 1909 were voted to their respective departments, being now combined under this head. The apparent increase of ten lakhs is therefore accounted for by corresponding decreases under the departmental votes. The increase of one lakh under Survey Department includes a new item, provision for the erection of land-marks defining the boundaries of Crown lands sold; while that of three lakhs under Medical Department is accounted for by the expenditure in connection with the working of the new Opium Ordinance. Miscellaneous Services include expenditure in connection with the Excise Commission, the Census, the Coronation celebrations, and the Rubber Exhibition in London. The increase of two lakhs under Public Works Annually Recurrent is in part set off by a decrease of one lakh under Public Works Extraordinary. The principal decreases under other heads call for no special comment, being for the most part due to the transfer of clerical establishments to Clerical Service.

Works chargeable to Surplus Balances show an expenditure for the eighteen months of forty-two and a half lakhs out of sixty lakhs provided in the Estimates; but the proportionate expenditure for twelve months was nine lakhs in excess of that for 1909. The chief items of expenditure during the eighteen months were nine lakhs for Rolling Stock for the Railway, six for Survey and Settlement, two and a half for Improvements to Northern Railway Line, and four for Roads and Bridges.

As apart from ordinary expenditure, the following statement shows the expenditure during the eighteen months on Public Works Extraordinary chargeable to Loan Funds, which was met up to December, 1910, from a portion of the loan raised, and after that date by an advance from surplus balances:—

	Expenditure, January to December, 1910, met from portion of Loan raised in 1909 and 1910.		Expenditure, December, 1910, to June, 1911, met from Surplus Balances pending raising of Balance Loan.		Total.	
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Colombo Harbour Works ..	767,989	81	362,492	23	1,130,482	4
Colombo Stations Extensions ..	409,409	81	85,357	32	494,767	13
Ratnapura Railway Extensions..	557,728	33	639,507	43	1,197,235	76
Duplication of Line, Ragama to Moratuwa	605,727	18	363,223	50	968,950	68
Colombo Lake Development ..	26,687	60	16,546	8	43,233	68
Karaiur Reclamation, Jaffna ..	10,897	22	8,522	68	19,419	90
Irrigation Works ..	—		176,743	57	176,743	57
Mannar Railway ..	2,282,632	12	1,084,540	75	3,367,172	87
Expenses of raising Loan ..	163,307	44	—		163,307	44
Colombo Drainage Works ..	499,515	93	—		499,515	93
Total ..	5,323,895	44	2,736,933	56	8,060,829	0

The following comparative statement shows the expenditure on works chargeable to loan funds as compared with 1909 :—

	1909.		1910–11 (18 Months).		1910–11 (12 Months proportionately).	
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Colombo Harbour Works ..	1,539,175	91	1,130,482	4	753,654	69
Colombo Stations Extensions ..	721,558	21	494,767	13	329,844	75
Ratnapura Railway ..	1,116,536	49	1,197,235	76	798,157	17
Duplication of Line, Ragama to Moratuwa	978,706	64	968,950	68	645,967	12
Colombo Lake Development ..	20,781	58	43,233	68	28,822	45
Karaiur Reclamation, Jaffna ..	6,384	80	19,419	90	12,946	60
Irrigation Works ..	142,582	47	176,743	57	117,829	4
Mannar Railway ..	94,959	39	3,367,172	87	2,244,781	91
Expenses of raising Loan (Ordinance No. 6 of 1909) ..	402,831	0	163,307	44	108,871	62
Colombo Drainage Works ..	—		499,515	93	333,010	62
Total ..	5,023,516	49	8,060,829	0	5,373,885	97

It will be seen that on a two-thirds proportion of the figures for the eighteen months the total expenditure for twelve months during 1910–11 was over Rs. 350,000 in excess of that for 1909. By far the largest item of expenditure was that on account of the Mannar Railway. The Government contribution towards the cost of the Colombo Drainage Works appears for the first time.

(B) Changes in Taxation.

The antiquated system of road tolls was abolished as from January 1, 1911, and to cover the consequent loss to the revenue the following increases in Customs duties were brought into force in December, 1910 :—

Article.	Old Duty.	New Duty.
Spirits ..	Rs. 6 a gallon (proof)	Rs. 7 a gallon (proof)
Tobacco (manufactured)	40 cents a lb.	Re. 1·40 a lb.
Tobacco (unmanufactured)	25 cents a lb.	75 cents a lb.
Kerosine oil ..	25 cents a gallon	30 cents a gallon
Matches ..	5½ per cent. *ad valorem*	60 cents a gross
Coffee ..	Nil ..	3 cents a lb.

(C) Assets and Liabilities.

The assets of the Colony on June 30, 1911, were Rs. 35,479,125, and the liabilities Rs. 11,415,622, the assets thus exceeding the liabilities by Rs. 24,063,503. Further, as already stated, a sum of Rs. 2,736,933 had been advanced from surplus balances for Harbour, Railway, and Irrigation expenditure, which will ultimately be charged to loan.

Of the assets, a sum of—

Rs. 8,401,475 was in cash in the hands of the Treasurer, the Government Agents, the local banks, and the Crown Agents in London ;
Rs. 15,373,869 in investments ;
Rs. 7,530,909 advanced for the Colombo Drainage Works ;
Rs. 1,995,522 in stores ;
Rs. 1,025,209 in loans to Local Bodies ; and
Rs. 846,004 in miscellaneous advances.

The chief liabilities were—

	Rs.
Widows' and Orphans' Pension Fund ..	6,246,032
General Deposits..	3,653,532

(D) PUBLIC DEBT.

On June 30, 1911, the public debt of Ceylon stood as follows :—

		£
Nett Sterling Debt	.. ..	5,145,603
Nett Silver Debt (Rs. 2,502,243) ..	..	166,816
Total indebtedness	..	£5,312,419

The following table exhibits in sterling the revenue and nett amount of debt during each of the last six years :—

Year.	Revenue.	Nett Amount of Debt.
	£	£
1905	2,293,022 ..	4,386,039
1906	2,335,377 ..	4,304,396
1907	2,438,255 ..	4,194,434
1908	2,371,523 ..	4,090,229
1909	2,622,190 ..	4,444,381
1910–11 (proportionate for 12 months) ..	2,916,117 ..	5,312,419

It will be noticed that the total indebtedness is less than twice the annual revenue.

With the exception of the loan of Rs. 300,000 (£20,000) borrowed from the Ceylon Savings Bank, which is repayable by an annuity of Rs. 20,000 (£1,333. 6*s*. 8*d*.), provision is made for the repayment of all loans by a sinking fund of 1 per cent. The loan of £250,000 borrowed between 1876 and 1884 from the Public Works Loan Commissioners in England for the improvement of the Colombo Harbour was extinguished in February, 1911.

Out of the 3½ per cent. loan of £3,436,854 authorized by Ordinance No. 6 of 1909 to meet the cost of the Colombo Harbour and Drainage Works, the Mannar Railway, and other railway and public works, a sum of £1,500,000 has already been raised, the price of issue being 98½ per cent. The total amount realized was Rs. 22,163,756, of which Rs. 566,138 represented expenses of flotation. The nett amount realized was applied in repayment of sums advanced from surplus balances to meet the cost of works chargeable to loan funds, and towards further expenditure on loan works. The allocations against this moiety of the loan, which was fully exhausted by December, 1910, have been as follows :—

		£
Northern Railway	.. .. ..	50,438
Uda Pussellawa Railway	.. .. ..	32,458
Kelani Valley Railway	.. .. ..	19,582
Stations Extensions	.. .. ..	240,867
Ratnapura Railway	.. .. ..	128,711
Duplication of Open Lines	.. .. ..	109,994
Mannar Railway	.. .. ..	168,056
Duplication of Water Main	.. .. ..	58,185
Irrigation ..	.. .. ..	64,334
Colombo Lake Development	.. .. ..	3,297
Karaiur Reclamation	.. .. ..	1,200
Colombo Drainage Works	.. .. ..	34,694
Colombo Harbour Works	.. .. ..	587,584
	Total ..	1,500,000

(E) Currency and Banking.

The currency of Ceylon consists of—

Copper: Ceylon 1-cent and ½-cent pieces, 6¼ cents being equivalent to 1*d*. English.

Nickel: Ceylon 5-cent piece.

Silver: Indian rupee (= 100 cents), equivalent to 1*s*. 4*d*. English; and Ceylon 50-cent, 25-cent, and 10-cent pieces.

Gold: British sovereigns, which are legal tender at Rs. 15 to the sovereign.

Ceylon Government currency notes of Rs. 1,000, 100, 50, 10, and 5.

The nickel 5-cent piece became legal tender on January 1, 1910, while the copper 5-cent and ¼-cent coins were demonetized from July 1, 1910.

On June 30, 1911, the value of currency notes in circulation was Rs. 19,737,240, the currency reserve on that date being distributed as follows:—

	Rs.	c.
Gold (£59,000)	885,000	0
Rupees	7,831,216	65
Small silver	158,000	0
Colonial investments	5,620,048	77
Indian investments	5,242,[illegible]74	58

The Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China; the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation; the Bank of Madras; the Mercantile Bank of India, Limited; and the National Bank of India, Limited, do business in the Colony.

(F) Municipalities.

The following is a comparative statement of the total revenue and expenditure of the Municipalities for the five years ended December 31, 1910:—

Year.	Revenue. Rs.	c.	Expenditure. Rs.	c.
	Colombo.			
1906	1,763,106	35	2,528,754	99
1907	2,382,259	12*	2,217,100	86
1908	1,884,133	4	1,846,000	97
1909	1,848,294	12	2,068,958	38
1910	2,260,049	41	2,191,141	42
	Kandy.			
1906	220,691	47	203,242	40
1907	224,196	41	192,736	5
1908	226,646	54	189,138	78
1909	180,602	94	165,850	27
1910	224,346	80	225,323	32
	Galle.			
1906	113,035	46	108,918	0
1907	129,637	81	116,578	59
1908	141,984	46	132,461	36
1909	156,051	80	192,656	31
1910	135,329	75	156,856	28

* The revenue of the Colombo Municipality for 1907 includes a sum of Rs. 600,000 advanced by Government on account of Drainage Works.

Below will be found a statement of the debts of the Municipalities up to June 30, 1911, showing provision for payment :—

Amount of Debt outstanding.	On what Account.	Provision for Payment.
Rs. c.	*Colombo.*	
(See below) ..	— ..	—
	Kandy.	
132,340 87 ..	Waterworks construction ..	Water-rate of 6 per cent. on properties within certain portions of the Municipality (Ordinances Nos. 18 and 29 of 1884).
105,402 98 ..	Acquisition of lands above reservoir ; repairs to main sewer and other various works	Bond assigning portion of water-rate as authorized by Ordinance No. 7 of 1887 ; also portion of rates and taxes.
18,000 0 ..	To widen Victoria Drive and clear lake silt	Bond assigning portion of rates and taxes under sections 127 (*a*) and (*b*), 128, 129, and 130 of Ordinance No. 7 of 1887.
	Galle.	
201,167 98 ..	Construction of waterworks ..	A water-rate of 5 per cent. is levied within the Fort for repayment of loan.
37,840 82 ..	Sanitary improvements ..	Mortgage of stamp duties on licenses for carts, boats, and coaches, and also stamp duties under Licensing Ordinances of 1893 and 1897.
494,752 65		

As regards the Municipality of Colombo, a sum of Rs. 7,530,909 has been advanced by the Government towards the cost of the Mansergh Drainage and Sewerage Scheme. The construction of the Colombo Waterworks and the Victoria Bridge was carried out by Government, and the Municipality has undertaken to repay Government an annual sum of Rs. 100,000 until 1924 in respect of the former, and of Rs. 8,000 until 1945 for the latter.

(G) Local Boards.

There are twenty-one Local Boards in Ceylon. The Boards are entrusted with the maintenance of public health and the general improvement and conservancy of the towns in which they are established. Their sources of revenue are an assessment tax on real property, taxes on vehicles and animals, road commutation tax, stamp duties for various licenses, and fines for breaches of by-laws, &c.

In 1910 the total revenue of these Boards amounted to Rs. 448,420, as against Rs. 485,802 in 1909 ; and the total expenditure to Rs. 436,933, as against Rs. 428,385 in 1909.

Loans are made to Local Boards, usually at 3½ to 4½ per cent. interest and 2 per cent. sinking fund, for approved purposes, such as waterworks, drainage, erection of markets, &c., on the security of their revenue. Loans outstanding on June 30, 1911, amounted to Rs. 445,389.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

(A) Imports and Exports.

(The attention of those interested in the trade of the Island may be directed to the annual Administration Report of the Principal Collector of Customs for 1910–11,* from which the following particulars are extracted.)

* Obtainable at the Government Record Office, Colombo, price 75 cents, or 1*s*.

Trade in General.

The total value of Ceylon trade in the year 1910-11 once again exceeded that of any previous year, as will be seen from the following table :—

Aggregate Value of Imports and Exports for the last Ten Years (omitting Specie, but including Coal exported for the use of Steamers).

Year.	Lakhs of Rupees.	Year.	Lakhs of Rupees.	Year.	Lakhs of Rupees.	Year.	Lakhs of Rupees.
1901 ..	2,042	1904 ..	2,198	1907 ..	2,631	1909-10 ..	3,088
1902 ..	2,086	1905 ..	2,240	1908 ..	2,648	1910-11 ..	3,432
1903 ..	2,144	1906 ..	2,363				

The year (July to June) 1910-11 was remarkable for an extraordinary increase in Customs revenue, showing an advance of Rs. 1,917,750, as compared with 1909-10. As against a total revenue of Rs. 7,279,985 in 1900, the total for 1910-11 was Rs. 11,881,238, or an increase of 63 per cent. in the decade.

The chief source of this revenue in 1909-10 and 1910-11 was the import duty on—

	1909-10. Rs.	1910-11. Rs.
Grain	3,584,487 ..	4,041,166
Spirits	1,425,826 ..	1,815,591
Kerosine Oil	848,905 ..	1,282,301
Sugar	974,485 ..	1,110,669
Cotton Goods	367,902 ..	460,508

The total trade of the Colony, excluding specie and coal exported for use of steamers, amounted to Rs. 328,857,769, an increase of Rs. 34,700,000, or 11·8 per cent. over 1909-10, compared with an increase of Rs. 42,700,000 (nearly 17 per cent.) during the previous period. Except 1907 there is no year which can approach either of the last two in expansion of trade.

The following table gives details for the last ten years of the annual value of the trade of the Colony, omitting specie and the value of coal for the use of steamers :—

Year.	Imports.	Exports. Produce and Manufacture of the Colony.	Exports. British, Foreign, and other Colonial Produce and Manufacture.	Exports. Total.	Total of Imports and Exports, omitting Specie and the Value of Coal for use of Steamers.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1901 ..	104,050,036 ..	85,977,410 ..	1,273,700 ..	87,251,110 ..	191,301,146
1902 ..	97,883,263 ..	96,771,467 ..	1,462,923 ..	98,234,390 ..	196,117,653
1903 ..	100,889,372 ..	100,871,556 ..	1,356,167 ..	102,227,723 ..	203,117,095
1904 ..	105,324,719 ..	99,894,461 ..	1,214,415 ..	101,108,876 ..	206,433,595
1905 ..	108,324,328 ..	100,898,551 ..	1,291,158 ..	102,189,709 ..	210,514,037
1906 ..	112,789,269 ..	108,248,232 ..	1,463,412 ..	109,711,644 ..	222,500,913
1907 ..	120,061,934 ..	127,095,587 ..	2,272,664 ..	129,368,251 ..	249,430,185
1908 ..	122,420,393 ..	127,015,846 ..	1,946,310 ..	128,962,156 ..	251,382,549
1909-10..	136,256,342 ..	153,899,326 ..	3,941,002 ..	157,840,328 ..	294,096,670
1910-11..	156,662,547 ..	166,194,490 ..	6,000,732 ..	172,195,222 ..	328,857,769

It will be noticed from the above table that for the last four years the value of the exports has materially exceeded that of the imports. This is due practically entirely to the weighty influence of the valuable new export, rubber. In 1906, the last year when imports exceeded exports, the value of the rubber exports was only Rs. 1,527,539; last year (1910-11) it was Rs. 24,512,180, exclusive of 3½ millions of rupees worth of Straits and Indian rubber transhipped here. The great increase in imports last year, however, reduced the balance in favour of exports from Rs. 21,600,000 to Rs. 15,500,000.

An analysis of the distribution of the trade of Ceylon as between the United Kingdom, British Colonies, and foreign countries during the past three years gives the following figures (omitting imports of rubber, specie, and coal exported for the use of steamers):—

	1908.	1909–10.	1910–11.
Percentage of total trade of Ceylon taken by—			
United Kingdom	38·42 ..	38·60 ..	38·09
British Colonies	37·86 ..	35·33 ..	34·52
Foreign Countries	23·72 ..	26·07 ..	27·39
Percentage of import trade of Ceylon taken by—			
United Kingdom	26·62 ..	26·90 ..	28·45
British Colonies	60·11 ..	60·56 ..	58·04
Foreign Countries	13·27 ..	12·54 ..	13·51
Percentage of export trade of Ceylon taken by—			
United Kingdom	49·54 ..	48·44 ..	46·5
British Colonies	16·9 ..	14·9 ..	14·02
Foreign Countries	33·56 ..	37·47 ..	39·48

There is a steady advance by foreign countries both in import and export trade. The United Kingdom takes a trifle less of our products, but is securing a larger share of our import trade. The advance of foreign countries, in fact, seems to have been mainly at the expense of other British Colonies, whose share in Ceylon trade has decreased under both heads. The salient fact which emerges is that while foreign countries have made comparatively little headway in the competition for the supply of our imports (their share even now being only 13½ per cent.), they are increasingly good customers for our exports.

A comparison between the increase in population, as shown by the recent Census, and the increase in value of trade during the ten years is of interest, as indicating the marked prosperity which the Island has recently enjoyed :—

	Per Cent.
Increase in population since 1901..	14·98
Increase in imports	50·00
Increase in exports	100·00
Increase in total trade	72·00

Imports.

There were advances under practically all heads, especially noteworthy being those under Cotton, Metals, Manures, Sugar, and Kerosine Oil.

Biscuits and Confectionery.—The imports of *biscuits* rose 45 per cent., *i.e.*, from 1,000,697 lb. (in 1909–10) to 1,449,429 lb., an increase in one year greater than the total increase in the preceding ten years. The consumption of *confectionery* was 969,441 lb., or 13 per cent. more than in the preceding twelve months.

Cement.—The activity in the building trade is strikingly illustrated by the increase in the demand for cement, the number of hundredweights imported in 1910–11 (345,422) being nearly 50 per cent. more than in the preceding twelve months.

Coal imports rose from the depressed figure of 1909 (552,745 tons) to 676,398 tons. The average for the last ten years is about 620,000 tons.

Cotton, Manufactured and Raw.—The setback to the cotton trade which occurred in 1909—when imports dwindled from Rs. 10,168,933 to Rs. 8,645,079—was amply atoned for in 1910–11, the value of such imports rising Rs. 1,350,000 over the previous highwater mark of 1908 and reaching 11½ millions of rupees The recovery is well distributed over bleached, gray, and printed piece goods from the United Kingdom; dyed piece goods from the United Kingdom, Germany, Belgium, and Holland; and "other" piece goods from the United Kingdom and Germany.

Grain.—The quantity of rice cleared for home consumption during the year was 14½ per cent. more than in the previous period, the figures being: 1909–10, 6,354,558 cwt.; 1910–11, 7,272,839 cwt.

Horses and Motor Cars.—The number of motor cars imported during the "rubber boom" year was 151, as against 75 in 1909 and 89 in 1908. Out of the 151 imported in 1910, 111 came from Great Britain, 30 from Germany, and 6 from France, but it is doubtful whether these figures accurately represent the real proportions of imports from the actual "Countries of production."

The ever-increasing popularity of motoring is reflected in the imports of *petrol*. The following are the figures since 1909:—1909, 66,208 gallons; 1910, 136,646 gallons; 1911 (6 months only), 93,816 gallons.

Despite the number of motor cars imported, *horses* also shared in the prevalent prosperity, the number imported, 796, being more than double the average of the previous nine years (373).

From May 1, 1911, no horse can be imported into Ceylon without production of a certificate of inspection by a qualified veterinary surgeon at the port of shipment. They have also to be inspected before landing by the Municipal Veterinary Inspector.

Kerosine oil had a record year in spite of the increase in duty from 25 to 30 cents in the middle of the period. Of 4,798,255 gallons imported in 1910–11, 3,830,127 consisted of bulk oil and the balance case oil. Both kinds shared in the activity of the market.

Lamps.—The general rise in the standard of living is strikingly exemplified by the extraordinary increase in the use of imported lamps. While ten years ago the total number imported was only 75,156, last year the number was 219,108, the imports in 1910–11 being 25 per cent. more than in 1909–10. The average value entered at the Customs ranged from about Re. 1·50 for English lamps to 6 cents for small glass kitchen lamps from Japan.

Metals and Metalware.—The year's total far exceeds all previous records, and the increase during the year is twice as large as the previous largest increase in the decade, *i.e.*, in 1907.

The most noticeable advances were made by *hardware* (8⅓ lakhs), *galvanized iron* (nearly 3 lakhs), *barbed wire* (2 lakhs), and *cast steel* (2¼ lakhs), but there were also some very remarkable increases among the minor imports, such as *aluminium* (the imports of which were three times as great as the previous maximum in 1901), *copperware* (over 100 per cent.), *bar iron*, *silver plate* and *electro plate*, and *tin plates*. On the other hand, there was a curious decline in *iron drums and tanks* and in *pig lead*, but the latter is balanced by an almost exactly corresponding increase in *tea lead*.

Manure imports continue to expand rapidly, increasing 26 per cent. during the year. The total quantity imported in 1910–11, viz., 75,000 tons, is more than five times the quantity imported ten years ago. Fish manure alone now accounts for nearly 20,000 tons, or far more than the total of all manures in 1901. The other manures which contribute mainly to this year's total are castor seed poonac (11,500 tons), ground nut cake (8,750 tons), and rape seed poonac (6,000 tons). Compared with 1909–10 castor seed poonac showed a marked decline, but imports of rape seed poonac were more than quadrupled.

Opium.—The importation of *opium*, except by Government, was prohibited from October 1, 1910.

Silk manufactures of all kinds show a marked advance of 30 per cent., the value of lace imported being over three times as much as in 1909–10.

Spirits.—Despite an increase of Re. 1 a gallon in the duty on spirits, imposed in the middle of the period under review, the imports rose by 18 per cent., from 276,409 gallons in 1909–10 to 326,937 gallons in 1910–11.

The increases in the three spirits that contribute chiefly to the revenue were—

Gin	29 per cent.
Brandy	23 per cent.
Whisky	1½ per cent.

Sugar.—The imports of candy and refined sugar showed a substantial increase of 44,816 cwt. (or about 14 per cent.) on the imports of the previous twelve months. Palm and jaggery increased less markedly, while unrefined sugar showed a slight decline.

Tobacco, Cigars, and Cigarettes.—The increase of the duty on manufactured tobacco from 40 cents a pound to Re. 1·40 a pound (*i.e.*, an increase of 250 per cent.) sent the imports down with a run. Cigars and cigarettes show an abnormal increase. The figures as compared with last year are :—

	Cigars and Cigarettes. lb.	Manufactured Tobacco. lb.	Total. lb.
1909	192,381 ..	123,395 ..	315,776
1910–11	250,786 ..	85,947 ..	336,773

Wines.—The chief feature under this head is the increased consumption of champagne and other sparkling wines—under the influence of a " boom " year. In still wines the chief feature is a decline in claret, balanced by an advance in sherry and port (in wood).

Woollen Manufactures.—The increase under this head was even greater than the increases under Silk and Cotton, the nett advance being 62 per cent.

The sub-head " Other," which is chiefly responsible for this remarkable increase, comprises mainly cloths and stuffs, *i.e.*, trouserings, dress materials, &c.

The following table shows the relative positions of the various countries which export goods to Ceylon (the percentages being percentages of value) :—

Countries.	1908. Per Cent.	1909–10. Per Cent.	1910–11. Per Cent.
British India	44·22 ..	42·9 ..	45·78
United Kingdom ..	26·4 ..	26·23 ..	27·23
Straits Settlements ..	8·09 ..	8·62 ..	6·3
Burma	2·49 ..	4·67 ..	3·73
Germany	2·31 ..	2·8 ..	3·06
Java	·95 ..	1·06 ..	1·3
Maldive Islands ..	1·66 ..	1·67 ..	1·25
Japan	1·48 ..	1·24 ..	1·21
Hong Kong	1·46 ..	1·47 ..	1·09
United States of America ..	·9 ..	·92 ..	1·05
Holland	·89 ..	·55 ..	·74
France	·7 ..	·68 ..	·72
Belgium	·53 ..	·55 ..	·71
Borneo (excluding British) ..	·73 ..	·7 ..	·71
Austria	·91 ..	·64 ..	·64
Siam	·82 ..	·56 ..	·63
South Australia ..	·69 ..	·63 ..	·57
Victoria	·59 ..	·55 ..	·5
India (excluding British) ..	1·04 ..	·54 ..	·47
Russia in Asia	·58 ..	·25 ..	·45
Switzerland	·39 ..	·42 ..	·39
Italy	·34 ..	·31 ..	·29
Sweden	·21 ..	·18 ..	·2
New South Wales ..	·61 ..	·13 ..	·17
Western Australia ..	·33 ..	·34 ..	·11
China (excluding Hong Kong) ..	·13 ..	·17 ..	·09
South America.. ..	·09 ..	·2 ..	·06

If we exclude India, whose pride of place is of course due to the enormous supplies of rice and other food stuffs for the native population, the most striking

feature of the table is the easily maintained pre-eminence of the United Kingdom, in spite of all foreign competition. Her latest position is even better than last year, and she still possesses nine times the trade of the nearest foreign rival. That rival, however (Germany), is steadily advancing, and her place in the table should really be fourth, as 3·72 of the figure for imports from the Straits represents rubber, which is of course an " import " only in name, being soon transhipped again. The only other points in the table that call for comment are the advance of Java from ninth to sixth place in the table (due to her capture of almost all the sugar trade), the steady increase in American imports, the improved position of Belgium, and the decline of Austria. For the most part, however, the various countries maintain their relative positions with little change.

The mother country and Colonies still easily retain their advantage in respect of all the articles, but they have lost some ground in their supplies of *coffee, lace and net, copper nails and wire, galvanized iron*, and *printing paper*.

Coffee in 1906 came practically entirely from India ; now South American coffee can be landed in Ceylon at a lower price, and last year represented Rs. 100,000 out of the total value of Rs. 600,000 of the imports of this article.

In *lace and net* Germany is competing fiercely, her supplies representing now 33 per cent. (as against 8 per cent. in 1906) of the total value of our imports. This advance may be attributed to the energy with which this trade is pushed by the numerous German commercial travellers ; not only do their prices rule considerably lower than that of the Nottingham article, but German firms will accept orders for small quantities, which the Nottingham manufacturers will not do. English travellers in lace are few, attention being confined for the most part to Manchester goods.

Germany is also responsible for the increased foreign trade in *copper nails and wire* and *galvanized iron*, but the United Kingdom still sends more than four times as much as all foreign countries, and there being little difference in price, the superior quality of the English article is bound to tell.

The most striking proportional advance by foreign countries is in *printing paper*, the supplies of which from such sources have increased over 100 per cent., while the imports from the United Kingdom have remained stationary. Here it is simply a question of price. The lowest possible class of paper sufficiently meets the general demand, and the foreign market can supply at very cheap rates an article which the English manufacturers either cannot or will not sell.

The United Kingdom and Colonies have in some directions, *e.g.*, in dynamite, tea chests, and iron drums, captured much of the foreign trade. In addition to the vast imports of grain and coal—in which India and the United Kingdom respectively hold the practical monopoly—the United Kingdom or the Colonies supply almost the whole of such important imports as *workshop and tea machinery, tea lead, tin plates and slabs, pig lead, wheat flour, brassware, boots and shoes, bar soap*, and many of the *manures* (blood meal, castor seed poonac, ground nut cake, rape seed poonac, refuse of saltpetre, sulphate of ammonia, and fish manure).

The summary given above discloses what a comparatively small part of our total import trade is taken by foreign countries, and it is a specially satisfactory fact, from the point of view of insular security, that the dominating position of India and the United Kingdom is chiefly based on supplies of food and raw material. It has been noted also that there is no one to touch the United Kingdom in the important sphere of *machinery*.

When, however, we turn to the general run of manufactured articles, the competition of foreign countries is appreciable, their share of the total imports of this class being more than one-sixth. It is interesting to see in what directions the chief foreign countries compete for our custom in manufactured articles.

Germany.—While most foreign countries compete in a comparatively limited range of articles, there is hardly a manufactured article which Germany does not send us. It will suffice here to enumerate the following articles, which she supplies in quantities appreciably comparable with those of the largest supplier (generally the United Kingdom) :—Lace and net, dyed piece goods, piece goods of mixed materials, silks, woollens, carpets, hardware, barbed wire, *hoop iron*,* *nails and rivets*, *beads*, *bleaching materials*, motor cars, cement, chinaware, dynamite, *fuse*, gunpowder, fancy articles, glass (" other "), haberdashery, jewellery, lamps, *sewing machines*, oil-making machinery, manures, perfumery, and printing paper.

America competes effectively in gray piece goods, hardware, barbed wire, *clocks*, chemists' sundries, *kerosine oil* (case), lubricating oil, sewing machines, and *typewriters ;* but one is struck by the limited range of the competition, and the comparative triviality of several of even the few articles supplied.

Belgium limits her serious competition to a still smaller range, but the goods are all important :—Dyed piece goods, barbed wire, *drums and tanks*, hoop iron, nails, and *window glass*.

Holland's trade with us lies more in the direction of gin and cheese than manufactured articles, but she sends large quantities of dyed cotton piece goods, and also piece goods of mixed material.

France is another country which concerns herself more with supplies under the heading " Food and Drink," but her manufacturers compete in apparel made up, mixed material piece goods, silks, and *shot* (in the supply of which she has a practical monopoly).

Austria, by her large supplies of bentwood furniture, runs the United Kingdom very close for first place under furniture, and her competition is also felt in hardware, fancy articles, glass (" other "), and writing paper.

Switzerland is an easy first in embroidery, and sends us large supplies of dyed yarn and twist and silk broadstuff.

Sweden monopolizes the supply of *matches* (with the exception of a small quantity from Austria), and is also an easy first in worked timber, but these are practically the sole articles which she sends us.

Russia and *Dutch Borneo* supply us with all our bulk oil, but do not otherwise compete for our trade.

Japan holds the first place in three articles, viz., *silk broadstuffs*, *tea chests*, and *carriages and carts* (rickshaws), and she also competes effectively in apparel made up, handkerchiefs, fancy articles, and cotton goods (" other ").

Exports.

Ceylon's chief export products in order of value are as follows :—

	Lakhs of Rupees.	
	1909-10.	1910-11.
Tea	800	841
Rubber	129	245
Coconut oil	168	137
Copra	118	105
Plumbago	95	74
Desiccated coconuts	47	63
Arecanuts	23	28
Cocoa	29	27
Coir fibre	14	18
Coconuts	11	14
Coir yarn	11	12
Citronella oil	12	11
Poonac	12	10
Tobacco	7	8
Cardamoms	8	7

* Articles in which the country is actually the largest supplier are printed in italics.

Taking the various products of the coconut palm separately, as above, it will be seen that rubber now easily takes second place, and bids fair soon to reach the head of the table. Coconut oil, cocoa, citronella oil, poonac, and cardamoms have each fallen a place; while arecanuts, coconuts, coir yarn, and tobacco have correspondingly improved their position. If, on the other hand, its products be taken together, the coconut palm still retains the second place, with a total of 349 lakhs in 1910–11, as against 369 in 1909–10, the decrease being accounted for by the drop in coconut oil and copra.

The advance under exports is much less marked than under imports, and whereas practically every important import showed a large increase, several of the exports showed a decrease both in quantity and value, while others show a decrease in quantity, though an increase in value. Still, though there was a decrease in the quantity of most of the staple exports, there was an increase in the value of the majority, and except in the case of coir yarn, rope, rubber, citronella oil, poonac, and plumbago, prices ruled better than in 1909–10.

Compared with 1909–10 better prices were obtained for cocoa, coir fibre, coconut oil, copra, and tea; while plumbago and rubber were the only products showing any appreciable decline.

Tea exports just failed to reach the high quantity level of 1909 and 1909–10, but a substantial rise in average price more than neutralized the insignificant drop in quantity. The quantity figures for the last few years exhibit a noteworthy stability:—

	Million of lb. exported.
1907	182
1908	180
1909	192
1909–10	185
1910–11	184

The actual decrease in tea exports amounts to 1,032,575 lb. The following table shows the comparative distribution, 1909–10 and 1910–11:—

Principal Markets for Ceylon Tea.

	1909–10.	1910–11.	Increase.	Decrease.
	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.
I.—United Kingdom	113,274,909	108,356,360	—	4,918,549
II.—British Possessions—				
British India	1,454,711	1,443,561	—	11,150
Canada	7,423,133	7,031,333	—	391,800
Cape Colony	436,101	486,284	50,183	—
Hong Kong	144,962	368,817	223,855	—
Natal	692,685	930,705	238,020	—
Newfoundland	96,922	264,683	167,761	—
New South Wales	9,084,846	8,715,512	—	369,334
New Zealand	4,891,712	4,540,822	—	350,890
Queensland	970,665	993,019	22,354	—
South Australia	1,431,850	1,057,401	—	374,449
Straits Settlements	437,165	518,563	81,398	—
Victoria	6,664,805	6,895,520	230,715	—
West Australia	746,524	701,415	—	45,109
Other British Possessions	593,126	567,411	106,242	131,957
Total British Possessions	35,069,207	34,515,046	1,120,528	1,674,689
			Deduct Increase	1,120,528
			Nett Decrease	554,161

	1909–10. lb.	1910–11. lb.	Increase. lb.	Decrease. lb.
III.—Foreign Countries—				
Austria	176,096 ..	133,818 ..	— ..	42,278
China (excluding Hong Kong)	6,474,130 ..	7,138,735 ..	664,605 ..	—
Egypt	287,036 ..	317,820 ..	30,784 ..	—
France	819,597 ..	810,036 ..	— ..	9,561
Germany.. ..	489,118 ..	612,583 ..	123,465 ..	—
Russia in Asia ..	5,435,110 ..	8,428,161 ..	2,993,051 ..	—
Russia in Europe ..	14,373,211 ..	14,921,123 ..	547,912 ..	—
Turkey	95,155 ..	150,136 ..	54,981 ..	—
United States ..	7,727,839 ..	7,860,942 ..	133,103 ..	—
Other Foreign Countries ..	716,320 ..	660,393 ..	60,331 ..	116,258
Total Foreign Countries ..	36,593,612	41,033,747	4,608,232	168,097
		Deduct Decrease ..	168,097	
		Nett Increase ..	4,440,135	
Grand Totals ..	184,937,728	183,905,153	5,728,760	6,761,335
			Deduct Increase ..	5,728,760
			Nett Decrease ..	1,032,575

The outstanding feature is the increase in exports to Russia, due to an unprecedented demand for green tea. There was a marked and rapid decline in this market between 1907 and 1909, but the recovery has been even more rapid and complete.

The total exports of *green tea* in 1910–11 were 7,377,909 lb., as against 6,043,093 lb. in 1909.

Products of the Coconut Palm.—The total value of the exports under this head was Rs. 36,157,060, as against Rs. 38,445,699 in 1909–10. The three principal products are coconut oil, copra, and desiccated coconuts. The two most important of these show a decline from the figures of recent years, but the third shows a satisfactory advance :—

	Desiccated Coconuts. Cwt.	Copra. Cwt.	Coconut Oil. Cwt.
1907 ..	208,067 ..	385,156 ..	477,996
1908 ..	244,734 ..	768,795 ..	670,121
1909–10 ..	224,665 ..	817,689 ..	647,863
1910–11 ..	264,198 ..	623,934 ..	527,004

In the report for 1909 the prices of Rs. 84 per candy for copra and Rs. 565 per ton for coconut oil were commented on as remarkable. Although both articles show a decline in quantity and in total value during the twelve months from July, 1910, to June, 1911, it may be noted that during the year 1910 copra touched Rs. 93·50 per candy, while coconut oil reached as much as Rs. 605 per ton f.o.b. Though these prices have given place to more normal figures, a great impetus to the coconut planting industry has been given. The minor products, viz., coconuts (actual nuts), coir fibre, coir yarn, and coir rope, had a good year, all showing an increase except coir rope, which showed a small decline. On the whole, the prospects of the industry are bright.

Rubber.—Ceylon exported more than twice as much rubber in 1910–11 as in 1909–10, the actual figures being—

	Cwt.
July, 1909, to June, 1910	22,382
July, 1910, to June, 1911	48,465

These figures may be contrasted with an export of only 676 cwt. seven years ago, and about 10,000 cwt. in 1908. The area now under rubber, alone or with other products, is said to be over 200,000 acres. Only ten years ago it was no more than 1,750 acres.

The distribution of the rubber is as follows for the two most recent periods :—

	1909–10. Per Cent.	1910–11. Per Cent.
United Kingdom	62·97	53·2
United States of America	32·87	38·92
Belgium	2·77	5·79
Germany	·91	·58
Japan	—	·55

The other countries to purchase Ceylon rubber in 1910–11 were Victoria, Canada, Italy, New South Wales, France, Austria, and British India. Japan, New South Wales, France, and British India appeared as new buyers.

The average value entered in 1910–11 was Rs. 4·51 per lb., as against Rs. 5·15 per lb. in 1909–10. In April, 1910, however, the price reached the extraordinary figure of Rs. 9·65 per lb., with results in the share market which have become historic.

The new Medical Aid Ordinance enacted in 1910 provides for an export levy on rubber, similar to that derived from tea. Up to date, however, no duty has been actually imposed.

Commenting on the increasing popularity of plantation rubber at the end of 1911, the Committee of the Planters' Association of Ceylon observe that "Uniformity throughout is looked for as much as anything on the market, and it is of the utmost importance to the future of the industry that badly cured or dried rubber should not be exported. With due attention paid to these essentials, plantation rubber may be expected to increase in popularity with the manufacturer, and thereby, it is anticipated, the increasing output for some years will be fully absorbed by one or other of the various markets. In comparison with fine hard Para, the best sorts of plantation rubber have well held their own on the London market during 1911. It is satisfactory to note that offerings on the local market are increasing rapidly, and that Colombo should soon become as important a distributing centre for rubber as it is for tea."

The following table gives the proportions of Ceylon produce and manufactures taken by the principal countries during the last three years :—

Country.	1908. Per Cent.	1909–10. Per Cent.	1910–11. Per Cent.
United Kingdom	50·04	49·24	47·32
United States of America	8·22	12·62	13·69
Germany	6·43	8·01	9·01
Russia in Europe	5·74	6·01	5·92
British India	4·44	3·19	3·03
Belgium	3·43	2·48	2·63
New South Wales	3·01	2·67	2·56
Russia in Asia	2·18	1·52	2·32
Victoria	2·25	2·08	2·18
Canada	2·67	2·13	2·03
China (excluding Hong Kong)	2·38	1·83	1·98
New Zealand	1·55	1·44	1·32
Austria	1·69	2·02	·69
France	·54	·48	·63
Straits Settlements	·44	·35	·36
Holland	·55	·39	·35
Natal	·23	·25	·34
Queensland	·29	·3	·33
South Australia	·41	·43	·32

There is no very striking change in the position of any country in this table, but exports to Austria have fallen off considerably, and the United Kingdom takes a steadily diminishing percentage, though her gross imports from Ceylon are larger than ever. America and Germany and Asiatic Russia materially improved their percentages during the year.

Alterations in Customs Duties.

All imports not specially rated or exempted by the Tariff are liable to a Customs duty of 5½ per cent. *ad valorem*.

The following alterations have been made in the Tariff during the eighteen months :—

The duties have been increased on—

Spirits, from Rs. 6 per gallon (proof) to Rs. 7 per gallon.
Tobacco (*manufactured*), from 40 cents per lb. to Re. 1·40 per lb.
Tobacco (*unmanufactured*), from 25 cents per lb. to 75 cents per lb.
Kerosine oil, from 25 cents per gallon to 30 cents per gallon.
Matches, from 5½ per cent. *ad valorem* to 60 cents per gross boxes.

The duty on *non-safety matches* has been increased to Re. 1 per gross boxes.

A new duty of 3 cents per lb. has been imposed on *coffee*, hitherto imported free.

The duties have been abolished on *scrap iron* and on *wax plates for making gramophone records*.

Tea, cocoa, and coffee are liable to an export duty of 10 cents per cwt., and cinchona to an export duty of 5 cents per cwt. under the Medical Wants Ordinance; and by a recent amendment of that Ordinance such products as rubber, cardamoms, coca, camphor, and pepper may also be similarly taxed. These additional products have not, however, at the time of writing been subjected to any tax.

(B) MINES, MANUFACTURES, AND FISHERIES.

(*a*) *Pearl Fishery.*

No pearl fishery was held during the period covered by this report, and it is uncertain when the next fishery may be held. The periodical inspections of the pearl banks made by the Company who held the lease showed an absence of oysters or spat. Investigations and research were continued by the Company. The annual rent of Rs. 310,000 was paid to the Government.

(*b*) *The Mineralogical Survey.*

In the spring of 1910 Professor W. R. Dunstan, Director of the Imperial Institute, paid a visit to the Island and personally examined the more important localities indicated by the work of the survey up to date as those in which valuable minerals might be found.

In accordance with the advice of Professor Dunstan it was decided to continue the survey on more practical lines, with a view to the possible commercial exploitation of the minerals found; and Mr. J. S. Coates, a mineralogical surveyor of scientific attainments and practical experience, was appointed Principal Mineralogical Surveyor in the place of the late Mr. J. A. Parsons, with Mr. F. D. Paisley as his Assistant. The survey proceeded under the immediate direction of Professor Dunstan, the duties of the surveyors being mainly to undertake further investigation of the thorium minerals, and to see what results could be obtained by the adoption of more up-to-date methods of working than those hitherto employed.

The work of the survey was principally carried on in the Ratnapura District of the Province of Sabaragamuwa, the results being reported direct to Professor

Dunstan. Unfortunately it has for the moment been brought to a standstill by the death of Mr. Paisley through enteric fever and the departure of Mr. Coates on sick leave after a serious illness of the same disease.

(c) *Mining.*

Plumbago.—Plumbago provides the only form of mining proper in Ceylon. Approximately 1,000 plumbago mines in all were worked during the eighteen months, giving employment to some 16,000 men. Of these, two only are in European hands. Generally speaking, the methods employed are primitive, though some of the larger mines are adopting more up-to-date appliances. The mining centres are situated in the Southern, Western, Sabaragamuwa, Central, and North-Western Provinces.

There was a decrease of Rs. 13,786 in the royalty recovered on plumbago during 1910-11, and of 55,005 cwt. in the quantity exported. The United States of America, Ceylon's chief customer, took 42 per cent. of the total shipments, as against 49 per cent. in 1909-10. Germany, the next largest buyer, absorbed 27 per cent. of the total, showing an increase of 24 per cent. over her figures for the previous year. The exports to the United Kingdom decreased by 18 per cent., her total representing 17 per cent. of the whole trade for the year. Belgium, the only other country to buy an appreciable quantity, took some 5,000 cwt. more than in the previous year.

The market was dull throughout the year, prices being unfavourable to sellers, owing to the large stocks in the hands of foreign buyers. The decrease in shipments to the United States is believed to have been in part due to the unsettled state of the affairs of the Steel Trust, while on the London market the competition of Korean plumbago has been felt. There was a larger proportionate export of the inferior grades from Ceylon than in 1909, and it is chiefly in this direction that the Colony has to compete with foreign countries. In regard to the superior grades, it is believed that the Korean article cannot compare with the Ceylon mineral; while the competition of India, Bavaria, California, and Canada is confined to the inferior grades.

Gemming.—With the exception of moonstones and garnets, gems are not obtained *in situ* in Ceylon, but from gravels deposited by streams and rivers. There are two large moonstone pits in the Kandy District. Other precious stones, such as rubies, cat's-eyes, sapphires, &c., are gemmed chiefly in the Ratnapura District.

(d) *Salt.*

The manufacture and collection of salt is a Government monopoly, and is protected by the imposition of a duty of Rs. 3 per cwt. on imported salt. A sum of Rs. 2,351,733·50 was realized by its sale during the eighteen months ended June 30, 1911, the amount credited in 1910 being Rs. 1,530,570·26. The corresponding revenue for the year 1909 was Rs. 1,520,647·95. The period under review was a favourable one for manufacture and collection, excepting at Trincomalee, where manufacture failed entirely. The total yield was 926,803 cwt., of which 759,396 cwt. was gathered in 1910, being the highest total yet recorded for any one year. The quantity secured in 1909 was 293,457 cwt., and in 1908 725,547 cwt.

(e) *Manufactures.*

Ceylon is essentially an agricultural country, and its manufactures on any large scale are chiefly confined to the products of agriculture. Out of 1,046 factories in the Island, 863 or 82 per cent. are tea factories, 60 coconut fibre and desiccating, 23 cocoa, and 11 rubber. Particulars of their output are given under "Exports." The preparation of coconut oil, copra, and arrack gives employment to a large number of the inhabitants, and, to a less extent, that of citronella oil and cinnamon.

In the Northern Province cigars are manufactured, but there is increasing competition with cigarettes. The Jaffna cigar, which is small, strong, and extremely cheap, is a favourite with the natives.

Cigars from Dumbara in the Central Province have been manufactured on a small scale to suit the requirements of European taste. But no expansion of the tobacco industry can be expected without improved methods of growing and curing. Experiments in this direction are now being pursued.

The manufacture of tiles and bricks is carried on in all parts of the Island where suitable clay is plentiful. Rs. 2,263 worth of Ceylon manufactures under this head were exported in 1910–11.

The weaving of a coarse kind of cloth in hand looms is carried on in the Eastern, Northern, and Central Provinces. It supplies purely local wants, and the cloth, though strong and of hard wearing quality, is inferior in texture and finish to imported material. Lace-making is carried on in the Western Province.

In other districts baskets, tortoise-shell boxes, and combs are manufactured, and common earthenware for water pans and cooking utensils to meet local wants.

Excellent furniture is made in the Western Province, especially at Moratuwa.

Jewellery of very fine workmanship is made in the Northern Province, but on a very small scale. It is a species of filigree work, prized by the Tamil population of the Island.

The indigenous crafts peculiar to the Kandyan country, *i.e.*, silver and brass work the making of jewellery, earthenware, and painted pottery, lacquer work, and ivory carving, continue to receive encouragement from the Kandyan Art Association. Specimens of these articles are kept in the Kandyan Art Museum, where they can be purchased.

Brass lamps, betel stands, plates, cooking utensils, and water pots are made in the North-Western and Eastern Provinces and at Negombo in the Western Province.

In the Mannar District of the Northern Province the drying and salting of fish gives employment to a large number of people. In 1910–11 nearly Rs. 500,000 worth of dried fish was exported from the Mannar District.

(c) Agriculture.

The Agricultural Society.

The Ceylon Agricultural Society has now a membership of 983.

Through the agency of the "Tropical Agriculturist and Magazine of the Ceylon Agricultural Society," its smaller Sinhalese and Tamil monthly publications, and the dissemination of leaflets, the Society helps to keep the local agriculturist in touch with the progress of agriculture in all parts of the world, particularly in the tropical regions.

A number of small village shows were held during the eighteen months in various parts of the Island.

Demonstrations in the use of improved implements were continued, with the result that there is now a considerable demand for better class ploughs, &c. The dearth of buffaloes for mudding and ploughing owing to the ravages of rinderpest in some parts of the Island has tended to quicken the interest of the paddy cultivator in more modern methods.

The Society has interested itself in the introduction of improved varieties of fruits and vegetables, has conducted experiments in the improvement of tobacco cultivation and curing, and has co-operated with the local agents of the British Cotton Growing Association to encourage the cultivation of cotton.

Good work is being done by a village Co-operative Credit Society and Agricultural Bank in the Central Province, and an Ordinance has recently been enacted to promote the formation of such societies.

Position of Agricultural Industries.

The continued prosperity of the tea, coconut, and rubber industries is sufficiently indicated by the figures already given under the head of "Exports."

The position of cocoa, cardamoms, citronella oil, and cinnamon has continued satisfactory.

The cultivation of cotton and tobacco for export purposes remains still in the experimental stage. That with reasonable capital expenditure and scientific methods of treatment both crops can be made to pay there is little doubt. But so long as the older established products continue to yield such handsome returns the inducement to pioneer in new ventures is not great.

Hitherto the native tobacco plantations of the Northern and Eastern Provinces and the Chilaw and Kandy Districts have contented themselves with supplying the local market, with the exception of a not inconsiderable export of Jaffna tobacco to Travancore. The Travancore authorities having recently imposed a limit on the import of this tobacco there is no room for expansion in this direction, and unless the native cultivator can be induced to set himself seriously to the improvement of the quality of tobacco produced, the prospects of the industry are not bright.

Paddy cultivation remains the principal occupation of the villager, but shows little sign of extension, while the quantity of rice imported for local consumption continues steadily to increase.

During the latter months of 1910 and the first half of 1911 a prolonged drought was experienced in most parts of the Island. In many localities the tanks did not fill, and paddy cultivation was seriously affected. The same cause has in many cases interfered with the realization of the estimated yields of the staple export products.

The Botanic Gardens at Peradeniya have continued to render valuable assistance to the cultivator in all branches of agriculture, both directly and through the instrumentality of the Agricultural Society. From 1912 the staff of the Gardens will be merged in a regular Agricultural Department, the organization of which has received the sanction of the Secretary of State. The establishment of a School of Agriculture and the modification of the present system of education in vernacular schools with a view to the introduction of a training in agricultural pursuits await the inauguration of the new Department. Meanwhile arrangements have been made for selected students from Ceylon to undergo a course of agricultural training at the Agricultural College at Poona, and the Government is offering scholarships for students who take up the course.

Diseases of Animals.

Cattle.—The principal diseases affecting cattle are rinderpest and foot-and-mouth disease. The former was prevalent all over the Island. Compared with 1908-9, when the disease was very severe, there has been a steady decline in the number of cases and the mortality. During the period January 1, 1910, to June 30, 1911, there were 20,188 cases and 11,902 deaths, as against 78,458 cases and 70,940 deaths during the twelve months of 1909.

Foot-and-mouth disease is of a mild type. During the eighteen months there were 6,975 cases and 227 deaths. Other infectious diseases of cattle are uncommon.

Horses.—Horses are remarkably free from infectious disease. The only disease causing serious loss is osteoporosis.

Stringent measures are taken to guard against the introduction of disease by importation. Cattle, which are principally imported from India, are detained and examined at Tuticorin, the South Indian port of shipment, and are quarantined for ten days on arrival at Colombo. Horses, principally imported from Australia, must have a certificate of good health at the time of shipment, and on arrival are inspected before they can be landed.

Dogs.—During the eighteen months there were 110 cases of rabies, of which 97 were positive. Stringent measures with reference to muzzling and destruction are in force, and the landing of dogs from India, China, Japan, Java, the Straits Settlements, or the Federated Malay States is prohibited.

(D) Land Grants and General Value of Land.

Land Settlement.

The Land Settlement Department, which is concerned with the settlement of title to land as between the Crown and the subject, has, within the eighteen months under review, maintained the same steady progress as was recorded during the preceding year.

An area of a little over 200,000 acres has been settled, the larger portion of this outside the Waste Lands Ordinance. The striking features of the work have been the peaceful nature of the settlements and the rapid development of the country which has followed upon the establishment of secure titles. The confidence of the large majority of the people in the fairness of the settlements offered has now been secured, and advantage is eagerly taken of the increased facilities for acquiring land from the Crown.

The constantly increasing work of the Department necessitated a further strengthening of the staff and the entire reorganization of the office, both of which have been successfully accomplished.

The total area settled under the Waste Lands Ordinance has now reached about a million and a half acres.

Survey.

The operations of the Survey Department for the period under review comprised 68,365 acres of block survey, the majority of the staff being engaged on settlement surveys in the block survey area.

The number of block survey preliminary plans issued was 397, containing over 14,000 lots and covering an area of 152,003 acres. Final village plans to the number of 476 were issued to Government Agents. The total area now covered by block surveys is 2,252,408 acres.

1,858 preliminary plans for 28,097 acres in 8,486 lots were forwarded to the Government Agents during the eighteen months. The total area covered by final village plans in the hands of the Government Agents now stands at 358,342 acres contained in 10,394 lots, or 828 final village plans.

There have been 99 *applications to purchase Crown land for rubber cultivation* dealt with during the eighteen months, totalling 5,840 acres, most of which lie in the Western and Sabaragamuwa Provinces. This is an increase of 63 applications, or 4,600 acres, over the previous eighteen months.

Surveys have been carried out in connection with the Mannar and Chilaw Railways, the Bambalapitiya road, the Welimada-Bandarawela road, and the Kukulu Korale-Ratnapura road.

Town surveys, water-rate surveys, and irrigation surveys have also been carried out.

The Landmarks Ordinance has been in force during the period under review, and all lands sold are now permanently demarcated.

Land Sales.

Except in special cases, the alienation of Crown land in Ceylon is effected by the sale of the freehold at public auction. There is no general system of leaseholds. Where occupiers can prove prescriptive possession against the Crown, certificates of quiet possession are issued; and where the occupation has been for less than the prescriptive period, settlements may be effected on special terms.

The total extent of Crown land alienated during the eighteen months of 1910–11 was 46,042 acres, and the amount realized, including fees, Rs. 1,937,950. Taking a two-thirds proportion, the extent alienated during twelve months of the period was, roughly, 30,694 acres, and the amount realized Rs. 1,291,966.

The figures for the last six years are :—

	Extent alienated. Acres.	Amount realized. Rs.
1905	34,383	1,062,346
1906	58,958	2,613,122
1907	41,904	1,734,138
1908	25,080	907,630
1909	28,828	991,866
1910–11 (12 months)	30,694	1,291,966

The average price paid per acre in 1910–11 ranged from Rs. 17·50 in the Mannar District of the Northern Province to Rs. 153 in the Western Province. In the principal coconut, rubber, and tea districts of the Low-country, other than the Western Province, the average prices were : Batticaloa Rs. 24, Jaffna Rs. 42, Chilaw Rs. 44, Matara Rs. 57, Galle Rs. 75, and Kurunegala Rs. 98. In the tea and rubber districts of the Kandyan provinces average prices ranged from Rs. 27 in Uva to Rs. 42 in Ratnapura and Kegalla, and from Rs. 43 to Rs. 46 in the Central Province.

Omitting sales and settlements effected by the Land Settlement Department, the area alienated by the Government Agents during the eighteen months included an extent of over 4,700 acres in the Western Province, 3,200 in the Galle District, and a similar extent in the Province of Uva, 2,800 acres in the North-Western Province, and 2,500 in the Kegalla District.

A price of Rs. 8,589 per acre was realized for some building sites in Colombo, and Rs. 6,400 per acre for land in Jaffna town. One land in the Galle District was sold with gemming rights at the rate of Rs. 12,698 per acre.

(E) Shipping.

The total number of all vessels (including warships) which entered the ports of the Island in 1910–11 was 4,401, with a tonnage of 9,314,052 tons, showing an increase of 550 vessels and 661,467 tons as compared with 1909.

The following table gives the total number and nett tonnage of shipping entered and cleared at all ports in Ceylon during the years 1909 and 1910–11 :—

	1909.			
	Entered.		Cleared.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Merchant vessels (with cargo and in ballast)	2,257	6,878,124	2,240	6,870,364
Merchant vessels (called to coal) ..	563	1,500,098	562	1,497,832
Native sailing vessels ..	976	129,820	1,038	135,199
Warships	55	144,543	55	144,543
Total ..	3,851	8,652,585	3,895	8,647,938
	1910–11.			
Merchant vessels (with cargo and in ballast)	2,524	7,421,291	2,509	7,423,749
Merchant vessels (called to coal) ..	597	1,613,350	597	1,613,350
Native sailing vessels ..	1,226	102,142	1,185	91,263
Warships	54	177,269	54	177,269
Total ..	4,401	9,314,052	4,345	9,305,631

Omitting warships and vessels calling to coal, the following tables give the distribution according to nationality, inwards and outwards, during 1910–11 :—

Entered.

Nationality.	With Cargo. Vessels.	With Cargo. Tons.	In Ballast. Vessels.	In Ballast. Tons.	Total. Vessels.	Total. Tons.
British	1,325	3,568,838	407	1,221,244	1,732	4,790,082
Colonial	889	77,869	199	9,820	1,088	87,689
Maldivian	122	12,930	16	1,523	138	14,453
Austrian	58	189,682	7	21,667	65	211,349
French	76	236,669	60	201,731	136	438,400
German	183	713,771	55	211,225	238	924,996
Japanese	87	366,484	15	54,689	102	421,173
Russian	—	—	67	164,710	67	164,710
Danish	6	12,898	1	3,613	7	16,511
Spanish	13	29,986	13	30,204	26	60,190
Norwegian	25	34,522	—	—	25	34,522
Italian	40	106,861	—	—	40	106,861
Dutch	4	8,982	78	234,590	82	243,572
Siamese	4	8,925	—	—	4	8,925
Total	2,832	5,368,417	918	2,155,016	3,750	7,523,433

Cleared.

Nationality.	With Cargo. Vessels.	With Cargo. Tons.	In Ballast. Vessels.	In Ballast. Tons.	Total. Vessels.	Total. Tons.
British	974	2,912,608	746	1,889,455	1,720	4,802,063
Colonial	430	31,187	611	44,584	1,041	75,771
Maldivian	61	6,989	83	8,503	144	15,492
Austrian	31	111,508	34	99,841	65	211,349
French	81	253,306	55	185,094	136	438,400
German	184	724,029	53	196,120	237	920,149
Japanese	81	336,619	21	84,549	102	421,168
Russian	58	141,379	9	23,331	67	164,710
Danish	5	11,717	1	2,397	6	14,114
Spanish	23	52,866	3	7,324	26	60,190
Norwegian	1	1,672	23	30,576	24	32,248
Italian	25	65,314	15	41,547	40	106,861
Dutch	8	24,705	74	218,867	82	243,572
Siamese	3	6,691	1	2,234	4	8,925
Total	1,965	4,680,590	1,729	2,834,422	3,694	7,515,012

Taking the figures inwards, we get the following comparative distribution according to nationality for 1909 and 1910–11 :—

	1909. No.	1909. Tons.	1910–11. No.	1910–11. Tons.
British	1,553	4,506,996	1,732	4,790,082
British Colonial	867	118,071	1,088	87,689
Total British Ships	2,420	4,625,067	2,820	4,877,771
German	206	814,455	238	924,996
Maldivian	109	11,749	138	14,453
French	142	466,301	136	438,400
Japanese	109	423,706	102	421,173
Dutch	43	127,412	82	243,572
Russian	42	112,489	67	164,710
Austrian	57	192,335	65	211,349
Italian	35	95,902	40	106,861
Spanish	25	60,323	26	60,190
Norwegian	23	21,801	25	34,522
Danish	12	33,759	7	16,511
Siamese	5	11,157	4	8,925
Swedish	5	11,488	—	—
Total Foreign Ships	813	2,382,877	930	2,645,662

The only points calling for comment are the enhanced predominance of British shipping and the striking increase in the number of Dutch vessels calling, the fine new steamers of the Royal Dutch Mail forming a feature of the year.

So far as concerns Colombo, the year 1910-11 surpassed all records. The figures below give the number and nett tonnage of British and foreign vessels entering the port during each of the past five years :—

	No.	Tons.
1906	3,092 ..	7,204,027
1907	3,065 ..	7,278,719
1908	3,065 ..	7,525,824
1909	2,983 ..	8,091,423
1910-11..	3,253 ..	8,701,097

À propos of these figures, the Principal Collector of Customs makes the following comment :—

" Questions are often raised as to the relative position of the world's great ports. The following figures are taken from the authoritative 'Statistical Abstracts' published by the British Government. The figures for the Empire ports (printed in italics) are for 1909; those for foreign ports are for 1908, these being the latest years for which statistics are available at the time of writing. It will perhaps surprise many people to find that in point of tonnage of vessels calling, Colombo is third in the British Empire and seventh in the whole world. This latter place, it may be remarked, would not be affected if the figure for even 1908 were taken (7,525,824 tons). Her figure for 1910-11, as we have seen above, is 8,701,097 tons :—

	Port.	Total Tonnage of Steam and Sailing Vessels entered (1909).
1	New York	12,154,780*
2	*London*	*11,605,698*
3	Antwerp	11,005,761*
4	Hamburg	10,944,909*
5	*Hong Kong*	*10,085,595*
6	Rotterdam	8,600,496*
7	**Colombo**	**8,091,423**
8	*Liverpool*	*7,747,994*
9	Marseilles	7,187,638*
10	*Singapore*	*7,045,193*
11	Monte Video	6,936,983*
12	*Cardiff*	*5,771,476*"

* For 1908.

III.—LEGISLATION.

Among the new Ordinances passed during the period of eighteen months from January 1, 1910, to June 30, 1911, were :—

No. 1 of 1910.—" An Ordinance to amend 'The Criminal Procedure Code, 1898.' " The principal object of the Ordinance was to provide for the more equal incidence of jury service—the system of drawing jurors was re-modelled, and provision made for the exemption whenever possible of such jurors as had served within the previous twelve months.

No. 3 of 1910.—" An Ordinance to amend 'The Destitute Immigrants Regulation Ordinance, 1907.' " The Ordinance was designed further to discourage stowaways from coming to Ceylon by increasing the penalty to which they are liable from one month to six months. Provision was also made

to enable the master or agent of a vessel by which a stowaway is imported to free himself from liability for the stowaway's maintenance by providing him with a passage to some place where he can be lawfully landed.

No. 5 of 1910.—"The Opium Ordinance, 1910." This Ordinance placed the importation, sale, and distribution of opium under the direct control of Government with a view to restricting the consumption of the drug.

No. 6 of 1910.—"The Municipal Councils Ordinance." This Ordinance consolidates the Ordinances relating to Municipalities. It also introduces certain amendments relating to elections. The list of voters is made the only evidence of the right to vote; the system of voting by ballot is introduced; and the franchise is enlarged by the addition of boarders in hotels, clubs, or boarding houses, and of joint stock companies, subject to certain qualifications.

No. 9 of 1910.—"The Customs (Amendment) Ordinance, 1910." This Ordinance was designed to legalize the practice of charging double rent when goods are not removed from the warehouse within three days of the date of landing, for every day or part of a day after the expiration of this period.

No. 10 of 1910.—"The Penal Code (Amendment) Ordinance, 1910." The section of the Penal Code which provides that the sentence of death shall not be passed on a person under the age of sixteen was amended, so as to give the court discretionary power in determining the age in the absence of undeniable evidence.

No. 13 of 1910.—"The Legislative Council Ordinance, 1910." This Ordinance gives effect to Royal Instructions for the admission of certain elected members to seats in the Legislative Council.

No. 1 of 1911.—"The Jaffna Matrimonial Rights and Inheritance Ordinance, 1911." This Ordinance revised and codified and in certain respects precised the law relating to the matrimonial right and inheritance of those Tamils who are governed by the Tesawalamai.

No. 7 of 1911.—"The Co-operative Credit Societies Ordinance, 1911." The object of the Ordinance is to facilitate the organization and registration of co-operative credit societies among agriculturists, artisans, and persons of limited means.

No. 8 of 1911.—"The Ceylon Incorporated Law Societies Ordinance, 1911." The Ordinance establishes an Incorporated Law Society for the purpose of protecting the interests of that branch of the legal profession which is composed of proctors, and for the enforcement of discipline among them and the observance by them of the rules of professional etiquette.

No. 11 of 1911.—"The Life Insurance Companies Ordinance, 1911." The object of the Ordinance is to compel life insurance companies doing business in Ceylon to give security for the due fulfilment of their obligations with policy holders, and to provide for the better regulation of the business of such companies.

IV.—EDUCATION.

It is not possible to draw the same clear line between elementary and secondary education in Ceylon as can be drawn in other countries. The matter is complicated by the fact that English is a foreign language to all but a small fraction of the population. The Europeans, Burghers, and Eurasians together form less than 1 per cent. of the population; the Sinhalese form 66 per cent. of the total; the Tamils and Tamil-speaking Moors 32 per cent. The result is that most of the schools in which English is taught are teaching a language which is foreign to the great majority of their pupils, and the distinction between elementary and secondary education is replaced by the distinction between vernacular and English schools. The vernacular schools really constitute the elementary education of the country.

(A) Vernacular Education.

The following table shows the numerical progress for the last six years in the case of vernacular schools :—

Year.	Number of Government Schools.	Attendance. Boys.	Attendance. Girls.	Number of Aided Schools.	Attendance. Boys.	Attendance. Girls.
1905	529	52,375	12,829	1,386	85,436	44,144
1906	566	54,249	13,827	1,429	90,389	44,599
1907	592	55,624	14,372	1,456	88,707	48,518
1908	624	59,756	15,634	1,574	95,467	53,646
1909	656	63,862	17,189	1,652	102,598	53,884
1910	734	71,148	19,761	1,699	111,191	59,356

From this it appears that there were in 1910 altogether 2,433 Government and grant-in-aid vernacular schools, attended by 182,339 boys and 79,117 girls. These figures show an increase of 125 schools and 23,923 children over the corresponding figures for 1909.

Progress of the Decade.—It is of interest to note the progress in education, from a numerical standpoint, made since the Census of 1901 was taken. The number of vernacular schools in 1901 was 1,719, as against 2,433 at the end of 1910, with an attendance of 157,232 pupils, as against 261,456. As shown below there were at the end of 1910 236 English and Anglo-Vernacular schools, with an attendance of 38,164 pupils. The figures for 1901 were 191 English and Anglo-Vernacular schools, with 26,029 pupils.

It will thus be seen that the total number of those under instruction at Government and aided schools of all descriptions has risen from 183,261 in 1901 to 299,620 in 1911, or an increase of about 63 per cent. The total population of the country has during the same period increased by only about 15 per cent. It may be noted that in the previous decade, 1891 to 1901, the figures increased from 124,827 to 183,261, an increase of approximately 47 per cent.

Unaided Schools.—Besides the children attending Government and aided schools, 36,754 children were reported to be receiving instruction in 1,546 unaided schools, almost all of them vernacular. The figures furnished by such schools cannot, however, be relied upon, and the education is often of very little value.

Cost of Vernacular Education.—The total sum spent by Government on vernacular education during the eighteen months, January, 1910, to June, 1911, was Rs. 1,274,613·98, of which Rs. 520,912·09 was expended on Government schools and Rs. 753,701·89 on aided schools. For twelve months the cost to Government of the education of each pupil in a Government vernacular school was Rs. 3·82 or 5*s.* 1*d.*, and the average grant per head of each pupil in grant-in-aid schools was Rs. 3·16 or 4*s.* 2½*d.*

Rural Schools Ordinance.—This Ordinance is now in force in all districts, except Jaffna and Mullaittivu in the Northern Province. Since it was brought into force in 1908 110 new Government schools have been started.

Town Schools Ordinance.—The Local Boards of Kegalla and Hambantota and a portion of the Municipality of Kandy are the only places in which this Ordinance is at work. No progress can be expected under this Ordinance till it is made compulsory in its operation.

Estate Schools.—As regards aided schools on the tea and other estates, the figures show progress. At the end of 1910 there were 227 aided estate schools, as against 185 at the end of 1909 and 162 at the end of 1908. The number of estate schools actually examined for grant was 199, as compared with 164 in 1909.

As in recent years, a form was circulated to collect information from superintendents of estates. Returns were received from 853 estates, on which the number of resident children between the ages of 6 and 10 was 24,796, of whom 14,964 were boys and 9,832 were girls. The number who attended school was 11,635, of whom 9,551 were boys and 2,084 were girls.

(B) English Schools.

In 1910 there were 236 English and Anglo-Vernacular schools attended by 38,164 pupils, of whom 31,131 were boys and 7,033 girls. As compared with 1909 the number of schools is unchanged, and there has been an increase of 1,750 pupils. In the majority of these schools the work is confined to the schedules of the Educational Code, but there are many in which the upper classes are prepared for the Cambridge Examinations, Senior and Junior, and a few in which the work of the most advanced students reaches a higher level.

The following were the results of the Cambridge Local Examinations, for which 1,201 candidates presented themselves in 1910, viz., 514 for the Senior and 687 for the Junior :—

	Candidates.		Honours.		Passes.	
	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.
Senior	470	44	27	4	225	23
Junior	568	119	26	4	323	62

The following were the results of the London Examinations held in 1910 :—

	Candidates.	Passes.
Matriculation	47	14
Intermediate in Arts	25	4
Intermediate in Science	6	2
Intermediate in Science (Economic)	1	0
Bachelor of Arts	2	0

The Royal College.—The only Government school in which higher education is given is the Royal College, at which in 1910 there were 234 pupils, with an average attendance of 211. The pupils in the upper part of the College are prepared for the Cambridge Local Examinations and the Examinations of the London University as far as the Intermediate in Arts and Science. The staff consists of seventeen masters, of whom four hold English University degrees. The gross cost to Government for eighteen months, January, 1910, to June, 1911, was Rs. 79,204, of which a sum of Rs. 34,900 was recovered in school fees.

New buildings for the College at a cost of about Rs. 250,000 are in course of construction.

The policy of gradually abandoning the lower school was started by dropping the First Form at the beginning of 1909. At the same time fees have been raised in the upper school from Rs. 10 to Rs. 15, and in the lower school from Rs. 5 to Rs. 7·50. The result of these two changes has been a decrease in numbers, confined, however, to the lower school.

Non-Government Institutions.—The other institutions in which anything that can fairly be described as higher education is given are registered as aided schools under the Code, with one exception, viz., the Church Missionary Society's Ladies' College in Colombo.

The following schools have presented candidates either for the University Scholarship or for the London Intermediate Examination :—

St. Thomas's College	Colombo	Church of England
St. Joseph's College	do.	Roman Catholic
St. Benedict's Institute	do.	do.
Wesley College	do.	Wesleyan
Ananda College	do.	Buddhist
Trinity College	Kandy	Church of England
Richmond College	Galle	Wesleyan
Prince of Wales's College	Moratuwa	Private
St. John's College	Panadure	Private

Government assistance.—The encouragement offered by Government takes two forms : (*a*) grants ; (*b*) scholarships.

(*a*) In most of the aided English schools grants are paid on the results of examinations in the ordinary schedules of the Code, supplemented by specific

subjects. But in some of the better schools the system has been replaced by one under which the greater part of the grant is paid on the average attendance. Liberal grants are also paid for every pupil who obtains honours in the Cambridge Local Examinations, or who passes the London University Matriculation Examination or Intermediate Examination in Arts. The total sum expended in grants to English schools was Rs. 235,628 for eighteen months, January, 1910, to June, 1911.

(*b*) On the results of the Intermediate Examinations of the University of London two Government scholarships are given annually, one on the Examination in Arts, the other on the Examination in Science. They are tenable for three years, and are of the value of £200 each per annum, with free passage to England and £50 outfit allowance. The holders of these scholarships are at liberty to join any British University, or to enter upon a course of studies at any recognized engineering institution in the United Kingdom. Students studying medicine are allowed a scholarship for four years. One scholarship of Rs. 240 per annum for three years is awarded annually to girls on the results of the Cambridge Senior Local Examination. On the results of the Cambridge Junior Local Examination one scholarship of Rs. 240 per annum for three years and two of Rs. 120 per annum for three years are awarded annually to boys, and two scholarships of Rs. 120 per annum for three years are awarded annually to girls. The total sum expended in scholarships in 1910 was Rs. 39,000.

(c) Training of Teachers.

The Government Training College consists of five departments: English, Anglo-Vernacular, Sinhalese Men, Sinhalese Women, and Tamil Men. The English department is intended specially to meet the wants of aided English schools; in the Anglo-Vernacular and Vernacular departments students are trained for work in Government schools. The number of students in training at the beginning of 1911 was as follows:—English 23, Anglo-Vernacular 5, Sinhalese Men 48, Sinhalese Women 20, Tamil Men 12.

Four schools are carried on in connection with the Training College, and on the same premises, viz., three boys' schools, English, Anglo-Vernacular Sinhalese, and Anglo-Vernacular Tamil, and one girls' school, Vernacular Sinhalese.

The total expenditure on the Government Training College for the eighteen months, January, 1910, to June, 1911, was Rs. 67,896, of which sum Rs. 11,941 was recovered in school fees.

Besides the Government Training College, there are twenty Vernacular Training Schools, which received yearly grants amounting to Rs. 17,275.

(d) Technical, Industrial, and Agricultural Education.

The Government Technical Schools.—There is now no general provision for higher technical education in Ceylon. The civil engineering classes at the Technical College were finally brought to an end in the early part of 1910. A little later the classes in surveying were taken over by the Survey Department, which now trains its own recruits. The title of the institution was changed to "Technical Schools," and the work was confined to the preparation of candidates for the lower branches of the Railway and Postal Departments, and to the classes in chemistry and physics, which are held in the science laboratories for medical and other students.

At the same time the training of candidates for the Public Works Department in civil engineering was abandoned, and in its place Government offers three scholarships to enable students to take the course of the Engineer Class at the Madras Engineering College, with a view to their ultimate appointment to posts in that department. These scholarships entitle their holders to a subsistence

allowance of Rs. 50 per mensem and an outfit and travelling allowance at the rate of Rs. 300 per annum for three years. The fees also are paid by Government. Those students who pass the College final examination at the end of the three years' course will receive the same subsistence allowance for an additional year, during which they will be employed on works in India. They will further receive the same travelling allowances as are drawn by Indian students under the same circumstances.

For students desirous of entering the Irrigation Department three scholarships are offered, to be held in the Upper Subordinate Class in Engineering at the same institution. These scholarships carry with them a subsistence allowance of Rs. 30 per mensem and an outfit and travelling allowance at the rate of Rs. 200 per annum for three years, with a further year's employment on works in India to those students who pass the College final examination at the end of the three years' course.

In the year 1910 there were 137 students at the Technical Schools. The cost of the institution for the eighteen months, January, 1910, to June, 1911, was Rs. 74,231, of which Rs. 6,061 were recovered in fees and by the sale of stationery, instruments, &c.

Industrial Schools.—There are no Government industrial schools, but carpentry schools have been attached to five Government schools in the Kandyan Provinces. In 1910 the aided industrial schools, which are 36 in number, received grants amounting to Rs. 21,790. The number of pupils was 5,497, and the trades taught were dressmaking, carpentry, printing, bookbinding, shoemaking, tailoring, blacksmith's work, lace-making, embroidery, gardening, and masonry.

The most important of these schools is the Maggona Certified Industrial School, which is utilized by Government as a reformatory, and carried on by the Roman Catholic Mission. This institution has an estate of about 300 acres and excellent buildings, to the cost of which Government has contributed. At the end of 1910 the number of juvenile offenders receiving instruction in it was 233. The trades taught were carpentry, ironwork, masonry, gardening and estate work, bookbinding, and tailoring. An allowance is paid by the Government for the maintenance of each juvenile offender. The total cost of the institution to Government in 1910 was Rs. 32,417.

Agricultural Instruction.—In Ceylon, where 88 per cent. of the population is rural, the technical and industrial education required for the main part of the population is one which will fit them for rural and agricultural life. An attempt is already being made to supply this by the scheme for school gardens, which is conducted in connection with the Government schools. There are now 229 Government schools in which gardens are being carried on under the scheme. The seeds and implements are supplied by the Royal Botanic Gardens, and the gardens are visited as often as possible by the Superintendent of School Gardens and his Assistants. The work is encouraged by money prizes for the most successful school in each district.

It is hoped at no distant date to establish a central school of agriculture, and at the same time to modify the training in the vernacular schools in the direction of imparting elementary instruction in agricultural subjects. The working out of these proposals awaits the institution of the new Agricultural Department. Meanwhile arrangements have been made for the training of selected students from Ceylon at the Agricultural College at Poona, and scholarships will be given by Government to assist such students in the pursuit of their studies.

Needlework in Girls' Schools.—This subject has received much attention since the appointment of the Inspectress of Needlework in 1904. The Inspectress visits personally as many schools as she can, and marks the work done at all girls' and mixed schools throughout the Island. This has led to a marked improvement both in plain needlework and in the lace and embroidery done in industrial schools.

(E) Proposed Educational Reforms.

The question of a revision of the methods of secondary and higher education now in force has recently come prominently before Government and the public, and in June, 1911, an extra-departmental committee was appointed to inquire into the subject generally. Its report is expected to cover, amongst other questions, those of instruction in the vernacular languages, in the classical and modern languages of Europe, in science, commercial education, and manual training. The Committee will consider also the question of University education.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

(A) Hospitals.

There are 74 Government hospitals fully equipped with the most modern hospital furniture and surgical appliances. The number of beds in the hospitals ranges from 30 to 425. The new outpatients' department of the General Hospital, Colombo, will be completed shortly. In addition to the hospitals, there are 413 outdoor Government dispensaries, and 256 estate dispensaries supported by the planters, who get their drugs free up to a value of 50 cents a cooly.

(B) Medical Institutions.

The Medical College is a flourishing institution, with 161 medical and 82 apothecary students; these numbers showing an increase of 14 and 48 as compared with 1909. The full course of training for medical students is five years; a diploma in medicine, surgery, and midwifery (which can be registered in the United Kingdom) is granted to successful students. There are a Bacteriological Institute, with a small clinic for tropical medicine attached; a laboratory for the Government Analyst, containing the most modern chemical apparatus; an ophthalmic hospital; a lying-in home; a women's hospital; a children's hospital; and special hospitals for the police and convicts.

(C) Asylums.

The Lunatic Asylum is situated in Colombo, and is the only one in the Island. There are 649 inmates.

The Leper Asylum is situated about 6 miles from Colombo, and contains 376 patients. A small establishment for lepers exists in the Eastern Province; a large leper settlement is to be founded there shortly.

In association with Government, a Home for Incurables (containing 80 beds) is worked by a Committee of Government officials and representatives of the public.

(D) Poor Houses.

There are no poor houses in Ceylon. In Colombo and some other towns there are Friend-in-Need Societies for the relief of distress, and these are subsidized by Government, the Colombo subsidy being Rs. 12,000 per annum. In addition to this, every Government Agent and Assistant Government Agent has an annual vote for "Allowances to Paupers"; the votes vary from Rs. 10,000 in the Colombo District to Rs. 340 in the Nuwara Eliya District; the maximum allowance is Rs. 5 a month.

(E) Reformatories.

There are no Government reformatories in Ceylon, but by an arrangement with the Roman Catholic Mission the Maggona Industrial School is used as a reformatory for youthful offenders (*vide* IV. (D) Technical, Industrial, and Agricultural Education).

(F) Savings Banks.

There are two Government institutions, and the business of both showed a satisfactory working in 1910–11.

Ceylon Savings Bank.—The Ceylon Savings Bank had a sum of Rs. 4,852,262 to the credit of 36,462 depositors on June 30, 1911, as against Rs. 4,620,801 to the credit of 34,884 depositors on December 31, 1909.

Ten years ago, viz., on December 31, 1901, there were 27,694 depositors, with a sum of Rs. 3,976,660 to their credit. The figures thus show an increase in the number of depositors of 8,768 or 31 per cent., and of Rs. 875,602 or 22 per cent. in the amount to their credit, as against an increase of 15 per cent. in the total population of the Island during the decade.

The number of depositors at date represents approximately one in every 112 of the population.

The amount of the bank's invested funds on June 30, 1911, was Rs. 5,322,185. Interest is allowed on deposits at the rate of 3 per cent. on sums of Rs. 1,000 and over, and 4 per cent. on sums under Rs. 1,000.

Post Office Savings Bank.—At the end of 1910 there was a sum of Rs. 2,873,432 to the credit of 85,954 depositors, an increase of Rs. 425,849 and 6,250 depositors over 1909.

The number of branch offices is now 168, as against 149 in 1901, in which year there was a sum of Rs. 1,315,469 to the credit of 54,426 depositors. There has thus been an increase during the decade of Rs. 1,557,963 or 118 per cent. in the amount deposited, while the number of depositors has increased by 31,528 or 58 per cent., there being now one depositor in the Post Office Savings Bank in every 47 of the population.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

(A) Police.

The authorized strength of the Police on June 30, 1911, was 1 Inspector-General, 6 Superintendents of Police, 15 Assistant Superintendents of Police, 22 Inspectors, 40 Sub-Inspectors, 56 Station House Officers, 2 European Sergeants, 244 Native Police Sergeants, and 1,914 Native Police Constables.

595 recruits were enlisted during the eighteen months.

European Police.—In August, 1910, the old European Police Force, consisting of twelve sergeants and constables, was disbanded, and was succeeded in September by a force of two Sub-Inspectors and twenty-five sergeants, recruited from the county police of the United Kingdom. The duties of this force consist mainly in the regulation of traffic and maintenance of order in Colombo, where the growing importance of the port and the cosmopolitan character of the population passing through it render their presence desirable.

The strength of the force at the end of 1911 was: 1 Inspector, 2 Sub-Inspectors, 4 Second Class Sergeants, and 24 Third Class Sergeants.

Training School.—On enlistment all recruits enter the Police Training School for a course of drill and instruction, extending ordinarily over a period of four months. During the eighteen months 475 recruits passed through the school. All Station House Officers on enlistment enter the school for a six months' course of instruction. Classes for constables desiring to qualify as sergeants are held twice a year.

Rewards.—Two native constables were awarded the "King's Police Medal" for conspicuous bravery in arresting an armed burglar.

Policing of the Provinces.—Of the nine Provinces of the Island, only the Western, the Southern, and the Kurunegala District of the North-Western are systematically policed throughout. Provision has recently been made to extend the system to the Puttalam and Chilaw Districts of the last-named Province.

Punitive Police.—In consequence of the lawlessness of the locality and the repeated occurrence of robbery and other crimes, a small force of punitive police was in March, 1911, established at Eravur in the Eastern Province.

(B) PRISONS.

There was a decrease of 691 prisoners in the total number of admissions of convicted prisoners to the prisons of Ceylon during the year July, 1910, to June, 1911, excluding Road Ordinance defaulters, of whom there were 215 in 1910-11, as against 408 in 1909. The figures are as follows :—

1909	8,840
1910-11	8,149

The convictions for murder and manslaughter were 117, as against 110 in 1909. There was a decrease of one in the number of capital sentences carried out :—

	Sentenced to Death.	Hanged.
1909	48 ..	30
1910-11	41 ..	29

Of the 41 sentenced to death, 38 were Sinhalese and 3 Tamils; 28 out of the 41 sentences were confirmed, 12 were commuted, and in one case a pardon was granted. There were six escapes during the period under review and three recaptures.

The total number of deaths in jail was 249, as against 381 in 1909 and 227 in 1908. The death-rate per thousand of the prisons population was 16·77, as against a rate of 28 per thousand of the general population. It may be noted that this figure compares favourably with the rate reported for India.

The daily average sick rate was 162, as against 167 for 1909. On the recommendation of the Principal Civil Medical Officer rice was substituted for bread in the penal No. 1 diet, with beneficial results.

The number of punishments for prison offences inflicted during the period under review was 1,220, as against 1,801 in 1909. The total number of individuals punished was 1,144, which would seem to indicate that it is seldom necessary to punish an individual a second time. Corporal punishments decreased from 45 in 1909 to 28 in 1910-11.

The jail at Nuwara Eliya was closed from January 1, 1911. It is proposed to close the jail at Ratnapura as soon as the railway is opened to that station.

As regards the employment of prisoners in works of public utility and remunerative industrial labour, Ceylon has the distinction of having more work to be done than prisoners available to do it.

All the cloth required for the clothing of prisoners is now woven by the prisoners themselves. Clothing and bedding are made by the prison tailors for the Prisons and Medical Departments. Baskets are manufactured by convalescent prisoners for the use of the Public Works Department. The steam laundry at the Welikada Prison in Colombo undertakes washing for the Medical and Railway Departments. Some 200 prisoners are daily employed in the new Government Printing Office. Quarters for the prison staff at the Convict Establishment in Colombo are being erected by prison labour.

Out of doors prisoners are employed chiefly in the quarrying of stone and breaking of metal. At Mahara, near Colombo, some 550 prisoners are daily employed in quarrying stone for the Harbour Works. At Kandy, Galle, and

Anuradhapura stone and metal are supplied to the Public Works Department, the Municipal Councils, and the Railway. The Karaiur Reclamation Scheme at Jaffna is expected shortly to give employment to some 300 prisoners daily, while another 160 will be employed at Mankulam, in the Northern Province, quarrying stone in connection with the Karachchi irrigation scheme.

For the accommodation of prisoners at Mankulam and other places where there is no established jail the use of portable prisons has been introduced. This will make it possible to transfer working parties to the site of those public works on which their services are most required throughout the Island. It is anticipated further that the prospect of being set to hard labour in lonely jungle districts will prove a deterrent to the habitual criminal.

So great has the demand become for the employment of prison labour on such works as the foregoing that it has been found advisable to reduce the period passed in the "penal" stage from three months to two. This action has not proved detrimental to discipline in the prisons, while it has rendered available the services of a larger number of prisoners for works of public utility, prisoners who have passed the "penal" stage being employed in outdoor manual labour instead of in "husk-beating" or other forms of comparatively unremunerative work within the walls of the jail.

(c) Criminal Statistics.

I.—*From Returns furnished by the Inspector-General of Police.*

The following figures show the number of "true" cases of cognizable crime dealt with for the past five years :—

Year.	True Cases.	Convictions and Committals.	Percentage of Convictions obtained.
1906	17,621	11,224	63·6
1907	15,555	11,550	65·5
1908	17,831	12,523	70·2
1909	16,296	12,120	74·3
1910	14,104	10,505	74·4
1911 (six months)	6,589	4,903	74·4

Of the total of 14,104 cases for 1910, 7,679 were for offences under the Penal Code, against 8,475 for 1909, a very considerable decrease in real crime. Municipal and statutory offences also show a decrease, from 7,821 to 6,425.

The following table shows the fluctuations of true cases of the more serious forms of crime :—

	1907.	1908.	1909.	1910–11 (12 Months).
Murder and homicide	171	180	157	186
Grievous hurt	478	472	468	608
Hurt with dangerous weapons	855	767	798	970
Burglary	2,022	2,010	1,620	1,131
Theft of cattle and prædial products	1,370	1,196	836	676

The Inspector-General comments as follows on the above figures :—

"It will be seen that there has been a slight increase in the number of murders and homicides as compared with the average of the three preceding years, and a large increase in the number of cases of grievous hurt and hurt with dangerous weapons. A marked decrease has occurred in cases of burglary, and a considerable decrease in the number of cases of thefts of cattle and prædial products.

"The increase in the number of cases of grievous hurt and hurt with dangerous weapons is serious. The increase has not been confined to any particular Province, but is general to all localities. This makes the problem of dealing

with it more difficult. I can only repeat what my predecessors have so often stated before, that cases of murder and stabbing are crimes over which the police can exercise little control, and to prevent which is almost impossible. The causes are hard to detect. The extraordinary wave of prosperity has probably had a marked effect. To suggest a remedy is still harder. Stabbing is the national way of fighting in Ceylon. Not until a radical change in the nature of this national custom is effected can much improvement be expected. To effect such a change it is essential to begin with the children. At present if two small boys have a dispute, it is usual for one to threaten to stab the other, even though he may have no knife. Such is the common national threat, and children become imbued with the idea that the use of the knife is proper and manly. It has been suggested that boxing should be encouraged as a national pastime in all schools. It could do no harm, and in years to come might well tend to a more general use of the fists to the exclusion of the knife."

Out of 278 murders committed during the eighteen months, 72 are reported to have been due to long-standing enmity between the parties, 69 to sudden quarrels, 48 to jealousy over women, 17 to land disputes, 10 for the purpose of plunder, and 62 due to various other causes.

II.—*From Returns furnished by the Solicitor-General.*

The number of cases instituted in the Police Courts and Municipal Magistrates' Courts during the period January, 1910, to June, 1911, was 119,431. The proportion for twelve months of the period was 79,620, as against 86,130 in 1909.

The number of persons dealt with in the above cases was 129,121. The proportion per 100,000 inhabitants was 3,144, as against 2,631 in 1909.

2,884 persons were committed for trial before the Superior Courts. Of these, 14 were found to be insane and incapable of defending themselves, 45 were discharged on the withdrawal by the Attorney-General of the indictments against them, 1,690 were convicted of various crimes, and the remaining 1,135 were acquitted.

Taking into account offences of a serious nature which, in certain circumstances, are summarily triable by Police Magistrates, altogether 3,240 persons would appear to have been convicted of serious crimes during the eighteen months. The proportion for twelve months is 2,160, as against 1,882 for 1909, or an increase of 278 persons convicted.

The question of the substitution in certain cases of the alternative punishment of transportation for the death sentence had for some time been under consideration, and recently Ordinance No. 13 of 1911 was enacted, providing for the removal from Ceylon under "The Colonial Prisoners Removal Act, 1884," of persons condemned to death, whose sentence is commuted by the Governor to one of imprisonment. It is believed that this form of punishment in the cases referred to will have a more deterrent effect.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

(A) Population.

The population enumerated at the last Census (March 10, 1911) was 4,105,535, and consisted of 7,625 Europeans, 26,857 Burghers and Eurasians, 2,714,616 Sinhalese, 1,059,354 Tamils, 266,454 Moors, 13,089 Malays, and 17,540 Others, exclusive of the Military and the Shipping. Compared with the population at the Census of 1901, there was an increase of 15·1 per cent. in the decade. The natural increase by excess of births over deaths from the date of the last Census to June 30, 1911, amounted to 10,636, while the number of Indian immigrants

exceeded the number of emigrants by 8,169. The population estimated as on July 1, 1911, was accordingly 4,124,340, an increase of 127,676 persons or 3·19 per cent. on the population at the end of 1909 estimated on the basis of the last Census.

Birth- and Death-rates.—The births registered during the eighteen months numbered 241,488, and were in the proportion of 39·6 per 1,000 of the population per annum estimated to the middle of the period. The deaths registered during the eighteen months numbered 171,194, and were equal to a rate of 28·0 per 1,000 of the population per annum. Compared with 1909, the birth-rate for the eighteen months 1910–11 shows an increase of 2·9 per mille, and the death-rate a decrease of 2·3 per mille. Compared with the average rates for the twelve years 1898–1909, the birth-rate for the eighteen months shows an increase of 1·8, and the death-rate a decrease of ·5 per mille.

(B) Public Health.

The public health during the year 1910 was slightly better than in the previous year, the death-rate being 27·3 per 1,000 of the population living in 1910, against 31·0 in 1909.

Causes of Death.—Deaths registered from enteric fever, diarrhœa, and dysentery showed a large decrease, whilst anchylostomiasis showed an increase. Cholera and smallpox, usually imported into the Island with the Indian cooly, accounted for 22 and 29 deaths respectively in 1910; but in the first half of 1911 there was a sharp outbreak of cholera, which was responsible for as many as 227 deaths.

In the eighteen months, January, 1910, to June, 1911, there were in all 171,194 deaths, the principal causes of death being diarrhœa, which accounted for 20,728 deaths, tuberculosis 6,070, dysentery 5,487, enteric fever 4,887, malarial fever 1,392, other kinds of fever 28,900, and anchylostomiasis 2,374.

Preventive Measures.—Measures have been taken for the prevention of *malaria*, from which at certain seasons of the year the native population suffers severely, by the circulation of leaflets and the free distribution of quinine to the villagers through the officers of the Medical Department and the headmen.

A systematic *anti-malaria campaign* is now in progress at Kurunegala in the North-Western Province.

Systematic measures for the prevention of *anchylostomiasis*, prevalent amongst the immigrant estate population, are in hand.

In connection with the King Edward VII. Memorial Fund, the erection of sanatoria, &c., in Colombo and elsewhere for the treatment of *tuberculosis* is under consideration.

Vaccination is systematically carried out throughout the Island by a special staff. During the eighteen months 251,500 subjects were vaccinated. The percentage of successful primary vaccination cases to total inspected was 95·45, while the percentage of successful re-vaccination cases was 70·34.

Stringent precautions are taken under the auspices of the Plague Committee to prevent the introduction of *plague* into Ceylon. The Island has hitherto been immune from the ravages of the disease. No cases occurred during the eighteen months under review.

There were 56 deaths from *hydrophobia* during 1910–11. The Ceylon Government gives an annual grant to the Pasteur Institute at Coonoor, and poor persons bitten by rabid animals and unable to meet the expenses of the journey are sent there at the cost of the Government.

Concerted action is being taken by the local authorities to stamp out rabies, by enforcing the registration of dogs and by the destruction of homeless "pariahs." (See under II. (c) Diseases of Animals.)

(C) SANITATION.

In the matter of sanitation the large towns are controlled by Municipalities, while others have Local Boards, or come under the Small Towns Ordinance.

The general expense of scavenging is met from rates recovered locally, and loans are made occasionally to local bodies for larger works of permanence, such as water supply, construction of drains, &c., the cost of which they are unable to meet in a lump sum.

Colombo Drainage Works.—The drainage of Colombo has been undertaken by Government at the request of the Municipal Council, the necessary funds being advanced by Government on loan, while further assistance is being given by the contribution of a part of the expenditure as a free grant.

The scheme provides for a complete system of sewers and rain water drains throughout the city, and for the disposal of the sewage by bacterial treatment upon modern lines.

The first instalment of the scheme, for the harbour watershed, was commenced in June, 1904. These works, dealing with about one-fourth of the population of the city, were completed and handed over to the Municipal Council in September, 1910.

Satisfactory progress is being made in the establishment of the water carriage system in the area in question and its connection with the sewers.

Water Supply Schemes.—With the assistance of the Government, partly by way of grant, partly of loan, the Municipality of Galle has completed a water supply for that town. Similar assistance is being given to the Local Board of Kurunegala in the North-Western Province and to that of Batticaloa in the Eastern ; while in the Northern Province special consideration has been shown to Mannar, a small township which is likely to rise to some importance with the opening of through railway connection with South India in the near future.

(D) CLIMATE.

The climate of Ceylon varies considerably in different parts of the Island, both as regards temperature and rainfall. In the low-country and coast districts the climate is tropical, and a noticeable feature is the small diurnal variation of both the barometer and thermometer. In the mountainous districts in the interior of the Island it resembles that experienced in many parts of Europe, being temperate and equable.

The rainfall over the Island as a whole was below the average in 1910. Ratnapura again heads the list with 128·04 inches on 232 days, as against 166·46 inches on 244 days in 1909. At the other extreme, Mannar had 33·34 inches on 54 days, as against 36·68 inches at Jaffna in 1909.

The rainfall in Colombo was 45·69 inches on 135 days, and at Kandy 81·09 inches on 175 days.

The mean temperature for the whole year was highest at Trincomalee, 82·7° F. ; and lowest at Hakgala, near Nuwara Eliya, 59·2° F.

At Colombo and Kandy the mean temperature was 80·7° and 75·8° respectively.

The highest temperature reached in the Island during 1910 was 101·2° on March 22 at Anuradhapura.

The highest on record for the Island is 103·7° at Trincomalee on May 12, 1890.

The highest temperature reached in Colombo in 1910 was 94·2° on January 30.

The mean daily range of temperature, *i.e.*, the mean of the daily differences between the maximum and minimum temperatures, was highest at Badulla, where it was 19·1° ; and lowest at Galle, 8·1°.

VIII.—POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

Two new post offices and thirty-one new receiving offices were opened during the eighteen months, January, 1910, to June, 1911. The total number of offices now is 444, of which 276 are receiving offices for the sale of postage stamps and posting and delivery of letters, while 168 are money order and savings banks offices, and of these 110 are also telegraph offices.

A comparison of the revenue and expenditure for the year 1909 and the period under review shows—

	1909.	January, 1910, to June, 1911.	Proportionately for Twelve Months, 1910-11.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Revenue ..	1,457,069 ..	2,483,774 ..	1,655,849
Estimated value of work done for Government..	279,555 ..	483,387 ..	322,258
Total ..	1,736,624	2,967,161	1,978,107
Expenditure ..	1,694,682 ..	2,846,261 ..	1,897,507
Balance ..	41,924	120,900	80,600

The total estimated number of articles, exclusive of parcels, which passed through the post during eighteen months, January, 1910, to June, 1911, exceeded 56¼ millions or, say, 37½ millions for twelve months, against 35¼ millions in 1909 and 31½ millions in 1908.

The business done in parcels is shown as follows :—

	1909.	January, 1910, to June, 1911.	Proportionately for Twelve Months, 1910-11.
Total number of parcels..	484,703 ..	833,936 ..	555,958
Number of inland value-payable parcels ..	110,923 ..	179,591 ..	119,728
Value on inland value-payable parcels ..	Rs. 723,778 ..	Rs. 1,237,438 ..	Rs. 824,959
Number of Indian value-payable parcels ..	80,270 ..	145,630 ..	97,087
Value on Indian value-payable parcels ..	Rs. 613,073 ..	Rs. 1,193,313 ..	Rs. 795,542

The following are the figures for money orders :—

	1909.		January, 1910, to June, 1911.		Proportionately for Twelve Months, 1910-11.	
	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.
		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.
Inland ..	367,089 ..	9,666,463 ..	582,074 ..	16,542,271 ..	388,050 ..	10,928,181
Indian ..	210,568 ..	5,694,935 ..	356,593 ..	10,667,714 ..	237,729 ..	7,111,810
United Kingdom ..	11,007 ..	435,982 ..	17,506 ..	717,061 ..	11,671 ..	478,041
Colonial and Foreign ..	11,812 ..	774,395 ..	19,400 ..	1,355,243 ..	12,934 ..	903,496
Total ..	600,476	16,571,775	975,573	29,282,289	650,384	19,221,528

The business done in postal orders is shown below :—

	1909.		January, 1910, to June, 1911.		Proportionately for Twelve Months, 1910–11.	
	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.
Ceylon	72,543	Rs. 243,553	120,521	Rs. 407,690	80,348	Rs. 271,794
British	27,950	£19,163	55,151	£37,915	36,768	£25,277

The total number of telegrams dealt with during the eighteen months under review was 1,408,952, or 939,301 for twelve months, against 744,175 in the year 1909. Foreign telegrams (other than those sent to India) amounted to 139,062. Telegrams received from India and other countries numbered 166,464.

It will be seen that the increase throughout reflects the general increase in trade, while the activity of the rubber share market during the "boom" of 1910 was not without its effect on the telegraph receipts.

The telephone trunk line from Kandy to Galaha was opened on April 1, 1910 ; from Colombo to Kandy on March 10, 1911 ; and from Kandy to Nuwara Eliya on April 13, 1911.

In 1896, the year that Government took over the Telephone Exchange from the Oriental Telephone Company, there were 130 telephones in use ; there are now 1,114, as against 939 in 1909. The average daily calls at the Colombo Telephone Exchange in 1896 were 85 ; they now number 7,837, as against 4,432 in 1909.

Wireless Telegraph Station.—The establishment of a wireless telegraph station in the Colony has been started. The work has been entrusted to the Marconi Wireless Telegraph Company, and is estimated to cost Rs. 75,000. The station will be situated at Colombo. Its anticipated range is 450 to 500 miles by day and 800 miles by night.

IX.—PUBLIC WORKS.

(A) Public Works Department.

The total expenditure of the Public Works Department has increased from Rs. 3,437,862 in 1896 (twelve months) to Rs. 6,582,319 in 1910–11 (twelve months), the latter figure showing an increase of Rs. 945,006 over 1909. The average annual expenditure during the past fifteen years is Rs. 5,054,701.

The total length of roads maintained by the Public Works Department during the year was 3,839 miles, of which 3,493 miles are cart roads and 346 miles are bridle roads.

The special expenditure on roads and bridges for the eighteen months, under the programme of Works chargeable to Surplus Balances, amounted to more than Rs. 401,000, or proportionately for twelve months some Rs. 267,000, an increase over 1909 of Rs. 228,000.

Amongst the more important public works in progress or in contemplation during the period under review the following may be noted :—

The *Central Telegraph Office* in Colombo was completed in March, 1911.

New premises for the *Government Printing Office* have been completed at Welikada, permitting its removal from its somewhat cramped situation in the Fort of Colombo.

A commencement has been made with the building of the new *Royal College* at Colombo, estimated to cost Rs. 250,000.

Plans and estimates have been approved for the rebuilding of the *Ceylon Medical College*, the accommodation in the present premises being inadequate to meet the growing requirements of the local Medical Service.

A scheme for the development of the *Colombo Lake* with a view to its use as an accessory to the Colombo Harbour has been taken in hand. The project provides for the improvement of the lake for water transport between it and the harbour, and includes among other works the construction of a canal to connect the harbour with the lake and the reclamation of certain portions of the lake, which will provide valuable sites for the purposes of stores and mercantile warehouses.

Owing to the heavy cost of the work, only the most important section of the lake, which lies immediately to the southward of the Fort of Colombo, is to be taken in hand immediately. The works now in progress are estimated to cost Rs. 3,000,000.

(B) Colombo Harbour Works.

The expenditure upon the harbour works proper during the eighteen months amounted Rs. 1,534,543, the total expenditure since the commencement of the South-west Breakwater in 1873 being Rs. 42,730,796.

New Arm, South-west Breakwater.—This structure is now complete, with the exception of the landing jetty, masswork, lighthouse, and bagwork, which it is expected will be finished during the present block setting season. A saving of Rs. 1,605,000 is expected on the estimated cost of the work, consequent on economies in construction and on the reduction of the length of the arm from the 2,000 feet originally contemplated to 1,800 feet.

Graving Dock.—Workshops for the repair of ships in connection with the Graving Dock are being erected by a private firm in terms of an agreement with the Government.

In conjunction with Government the Municipal Council has undertaken to effect an important improvement in the widening of the approach road to the Dock.

Coaling Grounds.—The new coaling grounds on the east side of the harbour have been allotted to the different coaling firms. The site of the old coaling grounds on the south side will probably be utilized for a much-needed extension of the Customs premises.

Deepening of the Harbour.—In view of the decision of the Suez Canal Company to increase the depth of the canal to 11 metres or 36 feet, steps are being taken to dredge the northern portion of the harbour to a similar depth, two further areas, at the root of the South-west Breakwater and opposite the coaling jetties, being dredged to a depth of 33 feet.

Extension of the Passenger Jetty.—Funds have been provided for the extension of the passenger jetty from its present length of 250 feet to 370 feet.

(C) Railway.

Open Lines.

The total length of line open for traffic at the end of June, 1911, was 576$\frac{7}{8}$ miles. No addition was made during the eighteen months.

The receipts from all sources during the year 1910–11 amount to Rs. 13,583,160, or Rs. 1,836,557 in excess of 1909. Of this increase, Rs. 998,045 is due to coaching traffic, Rs. 731,090 to goods traffic, and the balance to other miscellaneous traffic.

With regard to goods traffic, the most noticeable increases are as follows :—Sundry goods 40,404 tons, manure 15,182 tons, rice 14,213 tons, rubber 1,433 tons, liquid fuel 1,395 tons, tobacco 679 tons.

The working expenses, including new works maintenance charges, for the year 1910-11 amounted to Rs. 6,337,583, as against Rs. 5,990,419 in 1909, or an increase of Rs. 347,164 :—

	Rs.
Receipts	13,583,160
Working expenses	6,337,583
Profit ..	7,245,577

Of this balance, a sum of Rs. 1,219,367 was expended during the year on additional rolling stock and improvements. A further sum of Rs. 1,168,335 from the surplus balances of the Colony was spent on new works.

The capital outstanding on railway construction loans on June 30, 1911, was Rs. 49,354,216, and the total capital cost to June 30, 1911, including additional accommodation and improvements, amounted to Rs. 95,657,026.

A number of improvements to stations and buildings and the extension of the Tyer's tablet and interlocking systems have been carried out during the year, and nearly 200 bogie and four-wheeled vehicles for both goods and passenger traffic have been added to the rolling stock.

Extensions.

To Chilaw.—This line will form a continuation of that opened in December, 1909, between Colombo and Negombo, extending it for another 27 miles up the west coast through a thickly populated district, the greater portion of which is devoted to the cultivation of coconuts. It is anticipated that it will attract a large goods traffic. The survey of the line was completed during the period under review, and the work of construction is now in hand. The estimated cost of the extension is Rs. 3,932,053.

To Ratnapura.—The Kelani Valley narrow gauge (2 ft. 6 in.) line runs at present from Colombo to Avisawella. The extension to Ratnapura will carry it another 27 miles through a wide tract of country already opened or now being opened in rubber and tea, and will tap the important rubber centre of Pelmadulla and the tea districts of Rakwana and Balangoda. The line was opened for goods traffic to Ratnapura and passenger traffic to Kuruwita in January, 1912, and will probably be completely opened in April. The total estimated cost is Rs. 2,953,408, and the expenditure up to June 30, 1911, Rs. 2,502,353.

To Pelmadulla.—A preliminary survey has been made for a distance of some 17 miles beyond Ratnapura, with a view to the possible further extension of the Kelani Valley narrow gauge line to Pelmadulla. The trace proposed follows the We-ganga Valley, along which very large areas of rubber have been opened during the last few years.

To Badulla.—Sanction has been given for the commencement of preliminary work with a view to the extension of the main line from Bandarawela, the present up-country terminus, to Badulla, the chief town of the Province of Uva, and an important centre of the tea and rubber plantation industries. The new line will be some 21 miles in length, traversing hilly and broken country throughout. The survey of the trace is now in hand.

To Mannar.—Steady progress has been made during the eighteen months on this section of the "Indo-Ceylon Railway," and ballast trains are now running over 36 miles of line. A new port has been created at Talaimannar, and over 10,000 tons of rail materials were landed during 1910, including all the steelwork required for the piers and bridges over the Mannar channels.

The north pier at Talaimannar now extends 300 feet seaward, and it has been found possible to carry on the work practically without interruption during both monsoons.

Station buildings and staff quarters are in course of erection, and owing to the total absence of stone or clay suitable for brick making in the island of Mannar, cement blocks are used for building purposes. These have been found most satisfactory, as coarse sand can be obtained in abundance. The blocks are made in portable machines at the building site.

The health of the working parties has been satisfactory, considering the unhealthy and malarious district in which the work lies. Quinine is issued free to all the labour force, and every endeavour made to induce the coolies to observe simple sanitary regulations.

Colombo Stations Extension.—This scheme comprises the construction of new stations at Maradana and the Fort, new railway store, engine sheds and yards, re-arrangement of the old goods yard, deviation and duplication of main lines across the lake, formation of lake basins to take traffic from the railway by water to the godowns and eventually to the harbour, the reclamation of a large area of the lake, and the construction of a quay wall, on which electric cranes will work. The new station at Maradana, engine sheds and yards, railway store and office, and inward goods shed have already been completed. The quay wall is three-quarters completed, and good progress is being made with the rest of the works. The total estimated cost of the work as it at present stands is Rs. 4,822,145, and the expenditure to June 30, 1911, Rs. 3,554,955.

Sea Coast Duplication and Maradana-Ragama Widening.—This work was commenced in 1909, and provides for the duplication of the track between Moratuwa on the Coast line south of Colombo and Ragama on the line to Kandy. The actual duplication between Colombo and Ragama has been completed, and signalling, interlocking, &c., are now in hand. South of Colombo four new stations have been opened, and three others are approaching completion, while the duplication has been effected as far as Mount Lavinia. It is hoped to open certain sections of this line for double traffic by March, 1912. The total estimate for the work is Rs. 2,697,356, the expenditure to June 30, 1911, being Rs. 1,965,831.

Protection of Sea Coast Line.—To counteract the encroachment of the sea heavy protection works of rubble and blocks of stone have been taken in hand along the line running through Kollupitiya and Bambalapitiya, and in weak spots between Wellawatta and Mount Lavinia. About half of the former work has been completed, and from observations made during the last monsoon it is believed that further erosion has been permanently checked. The estimate for the whole of these works is Rs. 463,510, and the expenditure to June 30, 1911, Rs. 326,690.

(D) Irrigation.

The present policy in irrigation matters is to develop the irrigable areas opened up by the large irrigation works which have been carried out in the past, and to complete these works by carrying out connected schemes of channels, &c.

The expenditure on construction for the period of eighteen months from January 1, 1910, to June 30, 1911, was Rs. 484,228, against Rs. 389,412 in the previous year, while the cost of maintenance during the period under review was Rs. 161,572. The total expenditure on irrigation for the year was Rs. 1,256,752, which includes the cost of staff and all management charges.

A revised computation of the area irrigated by the larger works restored by Government shows the extent to be about 132,612 acres, or 207 square miles.

The extent irrigated by village works restored under Government supervision is reported to have been for the period under review 103,245 acres, or 161 square miles. The decrease of 93 square miles as compared with 1909 is attributed to the fact that 1910 was a dry year, and that the area cultivated had in consequence to be restricted.

In accordance with the recommendations of the Special Committee appointed to consider the report of Mr. W. L. Strange, whose services were lent to the Colony by the Government of India, steps have been taken to strengthen the staff of the Irrigation Department and to rearrange the areas under the supervision of the district officers, with a view to decentralizing the work and giving the Divisional Engineers a freer hand in dealing direct with the local revenue officers. Other recommendations made by the Committee are receiving attention.

(E) Forests.

In accordance with the decision that for the future the posts of Deputy Conservators and Assistant Conservators of Forests should be filled by trained Foresters only, four new officers trained at Oxford were appointed during 1910.

Forest exploitation has been directed towards the elimination of over-mature timber, which retarded future regeneration of crops, and to the utilization of timber on areas to be alienated for sale, lease, or irrigation purposes.

The supply to Public Departments at actual cost of output reached a value of about Rs. 972,000 for the period from January 1, 1910, to June 30, 1911, or, say, Rs. 648,000 for twelve months, as against Rs. 713,000 in 1909. Since 1906 the Forest Department has delivered 427,910 broad gauge and 119,343 narrow gauge sleepers to the Railway, and it now holds a large supply in reserve.

The average cost of delivery to date has been Rs. 3·62 per broad gauge and Re. 1·85 per narrow gauge sleeper. The Railway previously paid over Rs. 5 per sleeper for supplies of broad gauge Jarrah, so that a considerable saving has been effected by the supply being obtained from the local forests, while the local sleepers are admittedly more durable.

X.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

(A) Important Events.

The remarkable manifestations of sorrow evoked amongst all sections of the community by the news of the death of His Majesty King Edward in May, 1910, and the no less universal rejoicings that marked the local celebrations of the Coronation of His Majesty King George in June last, gave proof, if proof were wanting, that to His Majesty's subjects of all races in Ceylon the words "The King is dead. Long live the King!" came home with hardly less significance than to the people of the mother-country. In Colombo, on the occasion of the King's death, a memorial service held in the open on the Galle Face esplanade drew together a gathering of several thousands of every race and creed; while at the time of the Coronation, not only did the official programme surpass in elaboration any previous function of the kind, but private munificence vied with public display that all might bear a share in the festivities, and even the houses of the poorest bore some token of rejoicing.

In February, 1910, an elephant kraal was held in the Kurunegala District.

Durbars were held of the Kandyan Chiefs at Kandy in July, and of the Chief Headmen of the Maritime Sinhalese Provinces in Colombo in August. In the latter month the Durbar of the Tamil Chief Headmen was held for the first time at Jaffna.

In September His Excellency Sir Henry McCallum paid a visit to the Maldive Islands, sailing in the flagship of the East Indies Squadron, which was placed at his disposal through the courtesy of His Excellency the Naval Commander-in-Chief of the East Indies Station.

In the same month a children's hospital was opened in Colombo as a memorial to the late Lady Ridgeway, wife of a former Governor of Ceylon.

Their Imperial Highnesses the German Crown Prince and Princess paid a visit to the Island from November 20 to December 11, 1910. The visit was an unofficial one, and Their Imperial Highnesses spent the greater part of their stay in motoring about the country, and enjoyed some hunting and shooting. They were made the guests of the Colony during their stay in Colombo, where a garden party was given in their honour by His Excellency the Governor.

The fifth Decennial Census of Ceylon was taken on the night of March 10, 1911, the total population, exclusive of the military and the shipping, being returned at 4,105,535, or an increase of 15·13 over the figure for 1901.

In March, 1911, two hospitals, erected by private munificence, were opened by His Excellency the Governor at Veyangoda and Negombo respectively.

In May His Excellency laid the foundation stone of the new Royal College building in Colombo.

The eighteen months have witnessed a striking development in the growth of Colombo as a city. There has been great activity in building in the Fort, two firms in particular having erected new premises of five and six storeys high. Both the leading hotels have undertaken large programmes of reconstruction and extension.

Commissions were appointed by the Governor during the year to inquire into two important questions, viz. :—

Tuberculosis—its prevalence, and the preventive and remedial measures called for.

Goods and passenger traffic on the Railway—how far the existing means of dealing with the traffic were adequate, and what further facilities were needed to meet immediate and future requirements.

Committees were also appointed to deal with the following subjects :—

The registration of "vedaralas," or native medical practitioners, in connection with the sale of opium as a Government monopoly.

The prevention of the spread of anchylostomiasis.

The prevention of malaria.

The pay and prospects of the nursing staff of the Civil Medical Department.

The suggested extension of the railway from Ratnapura to Pelmadulla.

The question of compensation to Government officers stationed in Colombo for the high cost of house rents.

The general question of higher and secondary education in the Colony.

The Excise Commissioners, appointed in 1909 to advise the Government with regard to the proposed abolition of the existing system of production and distribution of arrack and toddy and the introduction of a system of excise on the lines of that in force in the Madras Presidency, presented their preliminary report in July, 1910. Their recommendations having received the general approval of the Secretary of State, steps are being taken to work out the details of the new system and to train a number of officers, who will eventually form

the nucleus of an Excise Department. The changes involved are, however, so comprehensive and far-reaching that some little time must still elapse before they can be brought into full operation.

(B) Public Service.

Mr. H. W. Brodhurst, Government Agent of the Western Province, received the honour of a Companionship of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, and the Hon. Mr. S. C. Obeyesekere, the representative of the Low-country Sinhalese in the Legislative Council, that of Knight Bachelor. Lieut.-Col. E. C. Davies was appointed a Companion of the Imperial Service Order.

The following deaths among members of the Public Service are recorded with regret :—Sir F. R. Saunders, K.C.M.G., who retired from the office of Treasurer of the Colony ; Mr. G. E. Worthington, who retired in 1891 from the office of District Judge, Jaffna ; Mr. J. H. Bostock, Resident Engineer of the Colombo Harbour Works ; Mr. A. Murray, formerly of the Ceylon Public Works Department ; Dr. James Craib, Provincial Surgeon ; Mr. J. H. Leak, late of the Ceylon Civil Service ; Mr. H. W. Nelson, Registrar of the Supreme Court ; Mr. John Kyle, Resident Engineer of the Colombo Harbour Works.

Sir Joseph Hutchinson, Chief Justice of the Colony, retired in May, 1911, and was succeeded by Mr. A. G. Lascelles, K.C., formerly Attorney-General.

(C) Changes in the Constitution of the Legislative Council.

By Royal Instructions dated November 24, 1910, the constitution of the Legislative Council of the Island was remodelled, so as to make provision for the election of a proportion of the unofficial members. Hitherto there had been nine official and eight unofficial members of Council, the latter all being nominated by the Governor. In the new Council there are eleven official and ten unofficial members. Of the latter, four are elected, representing respectively the European urban, the European rural, the Ceylonese, and the Burgher electorates. The remaining six unofficial members are still nominated by the Governor, and include one Kandyan Sinhalese, one Muhammadan, two Low-country Sinhalese, and two Tamil members.

For the European electorates the qualifications of voters are based on considerations of residence and property. For the Ceylonese, which includes the Sinhalese, Tamils, and other persons who are not eligible for the European or Burgher electorates, the qualification is educational. For the Burgher electorate the qualification is based on descent from Europeans who were in the service of the old Dutch East India Company in Ceylon.

The newly constituted Council met for the first time in January, 1912.

(D) Immigration and Emigration.

The term " immigration " in Ceylon is commonly used with reference to the immigration of native labour from the South of India for the tea and rubber plantations. There is no opening in Ceylon, as in the self-governing Colonies, for the immigration of white labour.

The number of immigrant labourers who arrived in Ceylon in 1910–11 was 158,744, or taking the figures for the twelve months of 1910 and the six months of 1911 separately the numbers were 118,613 and 40,131 respectively. These figures are above the average for the past six years, which was, in round figures, 78,000. The number that arrived in 1909 was 80,718, so that comparing the arrivals of the year 1909 with those of 1910 there was an increase of nearly 50 per

cent. in the latter year. While such an increase is in itself satisfactory, it must be borne in mind that the arrivals are largely counterbalanced by the departures, which in the official returns are given at 64,660 for 1910 and 36,601 for six months of 1911, the arrivals thus showing an excess over the departures for the eighteen months of 57,483. But the returns quoted do not include the departures of coolies by the vessels of the Ceylon Steamship Company, so that the actual excess was less than the figure given.

Although in some parts of the Island the Sinhalese villagers are taking more and more to work on estates, the demand for immigrant Tamil labour is still steadily on the increase, and with the competition in the labour market of South India both of the Straits Settlements and of India itself, the position from the point of view of the Ceylon employer is one that calls for, and is receiving, the earnest consideration of the planting community.

To provide for the detention in quarantine of immigrant coolies entering Ceylon by the Mannar route as soon as through communication with India is established, it was proposed to construct a depôt and segregation camp at Kondegal, near Paumben, on Rameswaram island. Owing, however, to the scarcity of the water supply, it has been found that that site affords inadequate facilities for enlargement of the depôt should the route become a favourite one with the coolies. Negotiations are now in progress for the acquisition of a more suitable site at Tangachchimadam, the next station to Paumben on the railway line between that place and Daneshkodi.

Apart from coolies returning to their homes, the main stream of emigration from Ceylon is rather to the Straits Settlements and the Malay States than to India, and the number of Ceylonese, especially from the north of the Island, who of late years have sought a living in the countries named is not inconsiderable.

(E) Openings for Investment of Capital.

The cultivation of tea, rubber, and coconuts continues to offer the chief openings for the investment of capital. Coconuts in particular are now attracting European capital, and should it once be established that they can be successfully grown under irrigation, there is the prospect of considerable extension of this industry in the North-Western Province, and even in the drier districts of the North-Central Province as well as elsewhere.

The plumbago mining and gemming industries, as well as the cultivation of tobacco, are almost exclusively in native hands. The market for the tobacco now produced being limited, there is little, if any, room for the extension of its cultivation on present lines. But it is believed that with more up-to-date methods of cultivation and curing this crop can be grown with profit for the European market. Similarly, in the drier districts the cultivation of cotton offers possibilities as yet undeveloped.

[See under II. (B) Mining, II. (C) Position of Agricultural Industries, and II. (D) Land Sales.]

(F) General Condition of the Colony; Social and Moral Condition of the People.

Of the material prosperity of the Colony and its inhabitants there is no question. Except perhaps in the remotest districts, there is evidence on every hand of increasing wealth and a higher standard of living. Education is spreading, and although in some parts of the country its effects are so gradual as to be hardly noticeable, in others the demand of the people themselves for the establishment of new schools testifies to the fact that its advantages are appreciated. But while in the towns and among the more cultivated of the

community wealth and education may be productive of little but good, in the villages it too often happens that the acquisition of a little learning and the increase of riches afford a stimulant to that love of litigation which is already the curse of the country. The spirit of the vendetta is strong, the system of inheritance of landed property in infinitesimal shares is not conducive to harmony, and in the intervals between the sowing and the reaping of the paddy crops work is at a discount, while legitimate forms of amusement are generally few, and the law court becomes an irresistible centre of attraction. The question of the system of inheritance is one that has already engaged the serious attention of the Government. The more strict control of the liquor trade, which the introduction of an excise system will secure, may be expected to have beneficial results. The policing of the rural districts should tend to effect not only the more prompt punishment of real offenders, but a reduction in the number of false charges. For the rest it is for the leaders of the people themselves, as well as for all those who are concerned with the education of the young, to inculcate a spirit of self-respect and of that mutual help and co-operation which are so largely the basis of modern civilization.

February, 1912.

A. N. GALBRAITH,
Second Assistant Colonial Secretary.

H. C. COTTLE, GOVERNMENT PRINTER, COLOMBO, CEYLON.

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78	Weihaiwei	Census, 1911.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8 and 1908–9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.

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No. 758.

CEYLON.

REPORT FOR 1911-12.

(For Report for 1910-11, *see* No. 716.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

July, 1913.

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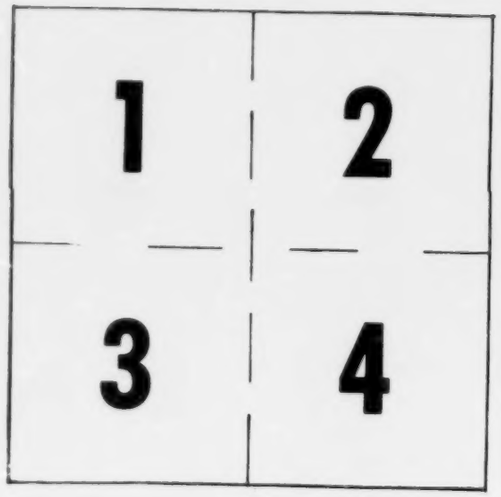

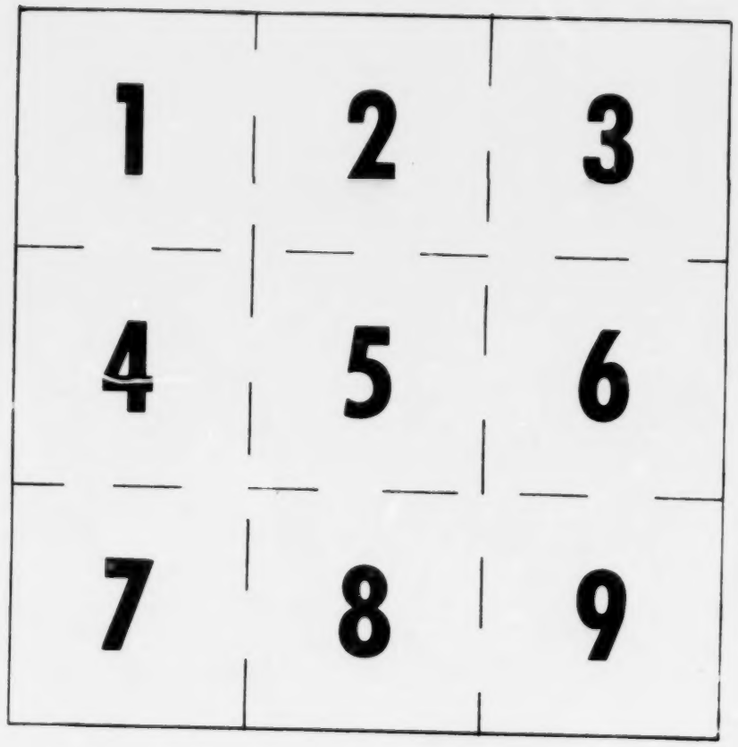

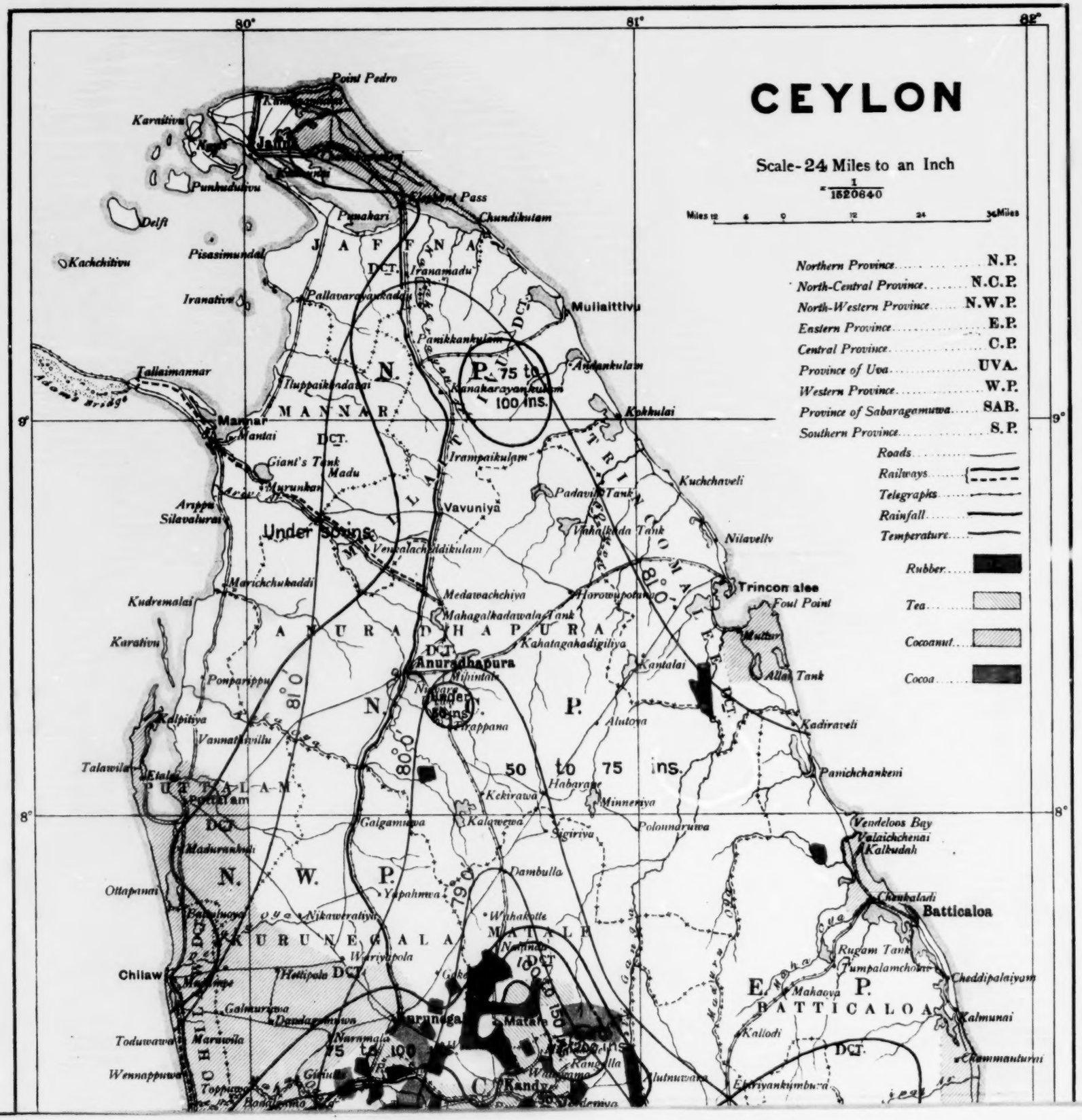
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Western Province W.P.
Province of Sabaragamuwa SAB.
Southern Province S.P.
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Kudremalai
Karativu
Ponparippu
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Iranamadu
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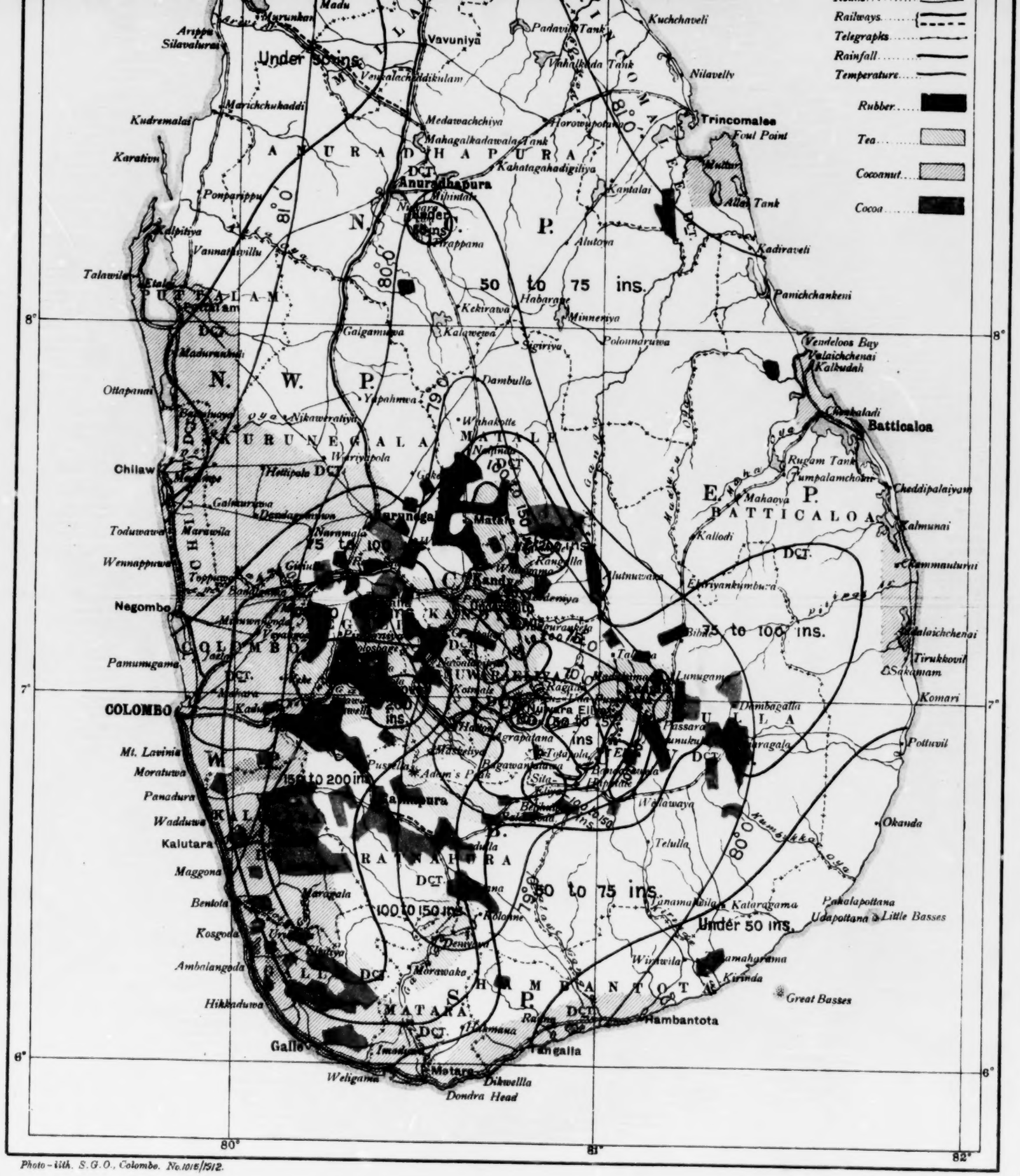
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Rainfall
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Foul Point
Batticaloa
Negombo
COLOMBO
Galle
Hambantota
Anuradhapura
Kandy
Matara
Mt. Lavinia
Moratuwa
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Wadduwa
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Ambalangoda
Hikkaduwa
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Komari
Pottuvil
Okanda
Great Basses
Little Basses
Weligama
Dondra Head
Dikwellla
Tangalla
Lunugam
Dambagalla
Kataragama
Pakalapottana
Udapottana
Kirinda
Weligama
Telulla
Wellawaya
Bibile
Mahaoya
Ellaiyankumburu
Galgamuwa
Kekirawa
Habarane
Minneriya
Polonnaruwa
Sigiriya
Dambulla
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Galkuruwa
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Madu Ganga
Arippu
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Vavuniya
Padaviya Tank
Kuchchaveli
Nilavelly
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Kalkudah
Batticaloa

REPORT ON THE CEYLON BLUE BOOK OF 1911–1912.

[NOTE.—The last Report dealt with the financial year 1910–11. It has since been decided that the Blue Book should give statistics for the calendar year so far as possible. This Report, therefore, deals with statistics for the calendar year 1911, except in the sections dealing with Finance, Education, and Railway, where, the figures being based on the returns for the financial year, the period dealt with is that from July 1, 1911, to June 30, 1912.]

I.—FINANCIAL.

(A) GENERAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

Revenue.

THE revenue in 1911–12 amounted to Rs. 47,246,222, which was Rs. 3,034,222 more than the estimate, and Rs. 2,609,122 more than the total expenditure of the twelve months chargeable to revenue.

Taking two-thirds of the total for the eighteen months 1910–11 as the proportionate revenue for twelve months ending June 30, 1911, the revenue during the period under review was Rs. 3,504,464 more than the revenue of the preceding twelve months.

The following table shows the rapid growth of the Ceylon revenue during the last decade :—

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Excess of Revenue as compared with previous Year.	Surplus of Revenue over Expenditure.	
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1901	26,437,102	29,216,747*a*	—	—	2,779,645*b*
1902	28,435,158	28,042,105*c*	1,998,056	393,053	
1903	29,423,308	27,078,759*d*	988,150	2,344,549	
1904	30,472,325	32,019,393	1,049,017	—	1,547,068*b*
1905	34,395,336	29,736,899	3,923,011	4,658,437	
1906	35,030,661	32,644,215	635,325	2,386,446	
1907	36,573,825	32,591,522	1,543,164	3,982,303	
1908	35,572,849	35,032,055*e*	—	540,794	
1909	39,332,861	35,789,398*f*	3,760,012	3,543,463	
1910–11*	43,741,758	39,302,822*g*	4,408,897	4,438,936	
1911–12	47,246,222	44,637,100*h*	3,504,464	2,609,122	

* Proportionately for twelve months.

a Includes Rs. 3,320,152 from surplus balances.
b Deficit.
c Includes Rs. 1,700,227 from surplus balances.
d Includes Rs. 363,931 from surplus balances.
e Includes Rs. 278,508 from surplus balances.
f Includes Rs. 1,906,442 from surplus balances.
g Includes Rs. 2,835,115 from surplus balances.
h Includes Rs. 5,118,596 from surplus balances.

It will be seen that the revenue has increased by 78 per cent. during the decade.

The following is a comparative statement showing the actual revenue collected in 1910–11 and 1911–12 :—

	A. Revenue for Eighteen Months, 1910–11.	B. Proportionate Revenue for Twelve Months, 1910–11.	C. Revenue for 1911–12 (Twelve Months).	Nett Increase (compared with B).	Nett Decrease (compared with B).
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. Customs	16,885,970	11,257,313	12,554,534	1,297,221	—
2. Port, Harbour, Wharf, Warehouse, and other Dues	4,097,681	2,731,787	2,924,519	192,732	—
3. Licenses, Excise, and Internal Revenue not otherwise classified ..	13,802,335	9,201,556	10,128,717	927,161	—
4. Fees of Court or Office, Payment for Specific Services, and Reimbursements in Aid ..	2,457,736	1,638,491	1,799,056	160,565	—
5. Post and Telegraphs ..	2,700,903	1,800,602	1,849,382	48,780	—
6. Government Railway ..	20,160,125	13,440,083	14,052,651	612,568	—
7. Interest	1,824,724	1,216,483	1,226,774	10,291	—
8. Miscellaneous Receipts ..	1,119,598	746,399	581,074	—	165,325
9. Land Revenue (exclusive of Land Sales) ..	775,831	517,221	449,469	—	67,752
10. Land Sales	1,787,735	1,191,823	1,680,046	488,223	—
Total ..	65,612,638	43,741,758	47,246,222	3,737,541	233,077
Deduct Decrease ..				233,077	
Nett Increase for 12 Months ..				3,504,464	

There is an increase under every head of revenue as compared with 1910–11, with the exception of Miscellaneous Receipts and Land Revenue (exclusive of Land Sales). The decrease under the former is chiefly due to the Pearl Fishery Rent (Rs. 310,000) not having been paid in for 1912; that under the latter to a decrease in receipts on account of Rent of Lands, Miscellaneous Land Revenue, and Sale of Timber and Forest Produce. The increase of nearly 13 lakhs under Customs, 6 under Government Railways, and nearly 5 lakhs under Land Sales are indicative of the continued prosperity of the Island. The increase of over 9 lakhs under Licenses is due to the abolition of Judicial Stamps and the use of Revenue Stamps in their stead, as well as to larger receipts under Arrack Rents.

Surplus Fund.—The surplus fund of the Colony on June 30, 1912, stood at Rs. 29,409,559, or Rs. 2,609,123 more than at the end of June, 1911. The fund is composed of balances accruing by excess of revenue over expenditure in successive years, and is utilized to finance the execution of certain important public works in accordance with a programme approved by the Secretary of State. Advances are also made from the fund to meet expenditure on works properly chargeable to loan funds, such as the Colombo Harbour Works and the Mannar Railway, such advances being repaid as further loans are raised. After the first portion of the loan raised under Ordinance No. 6 of 1909 had been exhausted, a sum of Rs. 2,736,933 was advanced to meet expenditure during the first half of 1911, and Rs. 4,006,587 to meet expenditure between July, 1911, and June, 1912.

Of the total fund of Rs. 29,409,559, a sum of Rs. 12,126,415, including the advance to loan works, had not been appropriated up to June 30, 1912. The commitments against the surplus balances, of which about 40 per cent. had been spent to June 30, 1912, include 17½ lakhs to be expended on roads and bridges, 38 lakhs for survey and settlement of land, 39 for the Chilaw Railway, 24 for rolling stock, 26 for the Badulla Railway, 15 towards the cost of deepening the Colombo Harbour, 22 for the Pelmadulla Railway, besides a number of smaller appropriations for other important public works.

Expenditure.

The ordinary expenditure of 1911-12, including the amount expended from surplus balances, totalled Rs. 44,637,100, or Rs. 5,377,143 less than the estimated expenditure.

The following is a comparative statement showing the actual expenditure in 1910-11 and 1911-12.

	Heads of Service.	Expenditure for 18 Months, 1910–11. Rs. c.	Proportionate Expenditure for 12 Months, 1910–11. Rs. c.	Expenditure for 1911–12. Rs. c.	Increase. Rs. c.	Decrease. Rs. c.
1.	Public Debt..	6,732,556 83	4,488,371 22	4,333,121 92	—	155,249 30
2.	Military Expenditure	2,958,339 32	1,972,226 21	1,724,681 31	—	247,544 90
3.	Pensions	2,070,921 72	1,380,614 48	1,474,528 23	93,913 75	—
4.	Ecclesiastical	4,909 70	3,273 13	3,119 80	—	153 33
5.	Exchange	471,903 20	314,602 13	322,026 36	7,424 23	—
6.	His Excellency the Governor	273,837 34	182,558 23	183,981 87	1,423 64	—
7.	Civil Service	1,480,918 19	987,278 79	1,014,191 80	26,913 1	—
8.	Clerical Service	1,623,001 78	1,082,001 19	1,133,907 14	51,905 95	—
9.	Secretariat	394,818 90	263,212 60	275,520 97	12,308 37	—
10.	Controller of Revenue	2,874 7	1,916 5	2,996 13	1,080 8	—
11.	Treasury	61,674 8	41,116 5	41,893 46	777 41	—
12.	Audit Office	59,269 57	39,513 5	43,285 19	3,772 14	—
13.	Provincial Administration	1,250,432 60	833,621 73	874,417 66	40,795 93	—
14.	Settlement Officer under Waste Lands Ordinance	141,240 4	94,160 3	92,211 39	—	1,948 64
15.	Survey Department	1,801,930 83	1,201,287 22	1,224,861 27	23,574 5	—
16.	Government Stores	233,757 42	155,838 28	157,911 50	2,073 22	—
17.	Immigration and Quarantine	302,718 28	201,812 19	218,290 55	16,478 36	—
18.	Customs	258,554 18	172,369 45	227,583 74	55,214 29	—
19.	Post Office	2,591,814 42	1,727,876 28	1,909,418 91	181,542 63	—
20.	Forest Department	367,333 68	244,889 12	280,926 97	36,037 85	—
21.	Railway Department	8,838,955 93	5,892,637 29	6,270,484 35	377,847 6	—
22.	Port and Marine, Colombo	740,645 99	493,763 99	534,290 52	40,526 53	—
23.	Port and Marine other than Colombo	55,215 22	36,810 15	37,270 32	460 17	—
24.	Legal Departments :—					
	Supreme Court	236,270 96	157,513 97	179,340 82	21,826 85	—
	Attorney-General	113,586 66	75,724 44	78,351 10	2,626 66	—
	Solicitor-General	20,438 15	13,625 43	13,840 35	214 92	—
	District Courts	121,892 56	81,261 71	83,373 71	2,112 0	—
	Courts of Requests and Police Courts	67,212 69	44,808 46	43,807 50	—	1,000 96
	Registration of Lands	56,986 54	37,991 3	48,748 66	10,757 63	—
	Registration of Marriages, Births, and Deaths	150,186 82	100,124 55	109,609 19	9,484 64	—
	Fiscals	309,810 28	206,540 19	228 123 50	21,583 31	—

25.	Police	1,693,763 13	1,129,175 42	1,138,379 19	9,203 77	—
26.	Prisons Department	826,668 21	551,112 14	544,131 54	—	6,980 60
27.	Medical Department	3,903,000 96	2,602,000 64	3,118,576 28	516,575 64	—
28.	Education	2,214,922 44	1,476,614 96	1,707,218 19	230,603 23	—
29.	Botanic Gardens	227,928 1	151,952 1	147,697 8	—	4,254 93
30.	Colombo Museum	50,448 58	33,632 39	42,099 20	8,466 81	—
31.	Archæological Commissioner	147,466 2	98,310 68	116,955 16	18,644 48	—
32.	Veterinary Department	127,987 12	85,324 75	77,512 9	—	7,812 66
33.	Agricultural Society	45,000 0	30,000 0	30,047 50	47 50	—
34.	Mineralogical Survey	30,131 97	20,087 98	15,672 42	—	4,415 56
35.	Inspector of Mines	25,802 33	17,201 55	16,590 55	—	611 0
36.	Inspector of Factories	6,240 48	4,160 32	5,397 15	1,236 83	—
37.	Registrar of Patents	6,278 53	4,185 69	4,402 37	216 68	—
38.	Miscellaneous Services	1,472,101 88	981,401 25	1,460,388 35	478,987 10	—
39.	Irrigation Department	570,221 40	380,147 60	361,360 93	—	18,786 67
40.	Irrigation Annually Recurrent	187,891 33	125,260 89	130,029 69	4,768 80	—
41.	Public Works Department	922,453 20	614,968 80	692,405 29	77,436 49	—
42.	Public Works Annually Recurrent	4,151,934 97	2,767,956 65	2,890,124 46	122,167 81	—
43.	Public Works Extraordinary	2,424,587 62	1,616,391 75	2,060,108 79	443,717 4	—
44.	Irrigation Extraordinary	292,407 52	194,938 35	208,879 5	13,940 70	—
45.	Railway Works Extraordinary	1,580,318 63	1,053,545 75	1,584,412 5	530,866 30	—
	Total Expenditure from General Revenue, Heads 1 to 45	54,701,562 28	36,467,708 21	39,518,503 52	3,499,553 86	448,758 55
46.	Works chargeable to Surplus Balances :—					
	Protection of Sea Coast Railway Line	96,291 1	64,194 1	59,906 76	—	4,287 25
	Kalutara Bridge	46,680 41	31,120 27	27,823 35	—	3,296 92
	Negombo Railway	18,268 11	12,178 74	5,208 90	—	6,969 84
	Colombo Defences	211,567 27	141,044 85	127,502 88	—	13,541 97
	Printing Office	198,445 62	132,297 8	12,022 35	—	120,274 73
	Completion of Interlocking Points and Signals	163,758 82	109,172 55	62,622 91	—	46,549 64
	Fitting existing Rolling Stock with Vacuum Brakes	102,471 62	68,314 41	76,052 5	7,737 64	—
	Colombo Customs (Quay Wall and Jetties)	162,901 14	108,600 76	65,065 42	—	43,535 34
	Warehouses, Colombo Customs	11,290 82	7,527 21	450 50	—	7,076 71
	Bandarawela Motor Mail Service	—	—	69,610 82	69,610 82	—
	Bandarawela-Badulla Railway Survey	—	—	25,865 69	25,865 69	—
	Acquisition of Captain's Garden	—	—	356,016 61	356,016 61	—
	Allowance to Public Officers stationed in Colombo	—	—	336,827 68	336,827 68	—
	Deepening Colombo Harbour	—	—	19,679 29	19,679 29	—

Heads of Service.	Expenditure for 18 Months, 1910–11. Rs. c.	Proportionate Expenditure for 12 Months, 1910–11. Rs. c.	Expenditure for 1911–12. Rs. c.	Increase. Rs. c.	Decrease. Rs. c.
Police Stations	108,912 34	72,608 23	152,089 65	79,481 42	—
Nuwara Eliya Lighting	145,160 34	96,773 56	47,055 44	—	49,718 12
Underground Telephone Cables for Colombo	127,700 72	85,133 81	8,799 75	—	76,334 6
Telephone Trunk Line, Peradeniya Junction to Gampola, Hatton, and Nanu-oya	114,126 36	76,084 24	—	—	76,084 24
Hospitals	174,453 42	116,302 28	66,224 78	—	50,077 50
Precautions against Infectious Diseases	74,670 1	49,780 1	80,375 38	30,595 37	—
Roads and Bridges	401,643 8	267,762 5	263,131 25	—	4,630 80
Royal College	59,421 81	39,614 54	90,334 55	50,720 1	—
Survey and Settlement	611,481 38	407,654 25	431,126 88	23,472 63	—
Improvements to Northern Railway Line	259,886 0	173,257 34	200,000 0	26,742 66	—
Water Supply to Minor Towns—					
Galle	79,937 88	53,291 92	26,043 84	—	32,340 35
Mannar	3,691 32	2,460 88			
Diyatalawa	3,947 9	2,631 39			
Railway to Chilaw	127,682 49	85,121 66	1,420,352 72	1,335,231 6	—
Rolling Stock for Railway	943,810 78	629,207 19	940,820 71	311,613 52	—
Wireless Telegraphy	860 81	573 87	83,356 35	82,782 48	—
Extension to General Treasury	2,281 51	1,521 1	42,707 52	41,186 51	—
Biological Laboratory, Medical College	1,330 0	886 66	21,521 96	20,635 30	—
Total Expenditure on Works chargeable to Surplus Balances, Head 46	4,252,672 16	2,835,114 77	5,118,595 99	2,818,198 69	534,717 47

Summary of ordinary Expenditure.

From	1910–11 (12 Months). Rs. c.	1911–12. Rs. c.	Nett Increase. Rs. c.
General Revenue	36,467,708 21	39,518,503 52	3,050,795 31
Surplus Balances	2,835,114 77	5,118,595 99	2,283,481 22
Grand Total	39,302,822 98	44,637,099 51	5,334,276 53

Taking a two-thirds proportion of the figures for the eighteen months of 1910–11 as the ordinary expenditure for the twelve months ending June 30, 1911, it will be seen that the expenditure of 1911–12, exclusive of expenditure from surplus balances, is in excess of that for the previous twelve months by Rs. 3,050,795.

There is a decrease of 1½ lakhs under Public Debt, which is accounted for by the fact that in the year under review there was no payment made in respect of the loan of £250,000 raised from the Public Works Loan Commissioners, the last annuity thereon having been paid off in the previous year. There is also a decrease of nearly 2½ lakhs under Military Expenditure, which is explained by the payment during the previous year of arrears of increased rates for 1909, 1910, and 1911 in respect of military contribution to the Imperial Government.

There is an increase under nearly all the other heads. That of Rs. 180,000 under Post Office is mainly due to the all-round expansion of the work of the Department, but includes notable additions under the sub-heads of Delivery of Telegrams, Telegraph Extensions, and Telephone Extensions. The Railway Department shows an all-round increase of Rs. 377,000. The Medical Department is responsible for an increase of over 5 lakhs. Of this, the working of the Opium Ordinance absorbed nearly Rs. 17,000, and expenses on account of a cholera outbreak involved the expenditure of an additional Rs. 17,000 odd. In an unusually unhealthy year Purchase of Medicines showed an increase of nearly 2 lakhs, while there was a general increase of expenditure on Hospitals. Education shows an increase of Rs. 230,000. Under Public Works Extraordinary there is an increase of over 4 lakhs, of which 2 lakhs odd were expended on the acquisition of land in Colombo in connection with the expansion of the headworks of the Railway. The largest increase of all, under Railway Works Extraordinary, amounts to Rs. 530,000 odd, of which over 2 lakhs were devoted to the provision of new engines. The increase of Rs. 470,000 under Miscellaneous Services includes expenditure in connection with the Excise Commission, the representation of Ceylon at the Delhi Durbar, the local Coronation celebrations, the election of members of the Legislative Council, and the investigation of sprue, while over 2½ lakhs were expended in compensating Municipalities and Road Committees for the abolition of road and bridge tolls.

Works chargeable to Surplus Balances show an expenditure of 51 lakhs out of 61 provided in the Estimates, or an increase of nearly 23 lakhs over the proportionate figure for the preceding twelve months, and of nearly 9 lakhs over the actual expenditure of the eighteen months of 1910–11. The principal items of expenditure were the acquisition of Captain's Garden, Colombo, to provide for the expansion of the headworks of the Railway; the payment of the special allowance recently granted to public officers stationed in Colombo; the railway extension to Chilaw; and the provision of rolling stock for the Railway.

As apart from ordinary expenditure, the following comparative statement shows the expenditure during the twelve months on Public Works Extraordinary chargeable to Loan Funds (which was met by advances from surplus balances pending the raising of a further loan) as compared with the expenditure during 1910–11 :—

	1910–11 (18 Months).		1910–11 (12 Months proportionately).		1911–12 (12 Months).	
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Colombo Harbour Works ..	1,130,482	4	753,654	69	1,210,512	50
Colombo Stations Extensions ..	494,767	13	329,844	75	371,600	7
Ratnapura Railway ..	1,197,235	76	798,157	17	324,743	62
Duplication of Line, Ragama to Moratuwa	968,950	68	645,967	12	437,489	13
Colombo Lake Development ..	43,233	68	28,822	45	108,548	63
Karaiur Reclamation, Jaffna ..	19,419	90	12,946	60	38,631	17
Irrigation Works ..	176,743	57	117,829	4	70,410	97
Mannar Railway ..	3,367,172	87	2,244,781	91	1,108,166	95
Expenses of raising Loan (Ordinance No. 6 of 1909) ..	163,307	44	108,871	62	—	
Colombo Drainage Works, 2nd Series	499,515	93	333,010	62	305,610	0
Motor Traction as feeders to Railway	—		—		1,057	94
Additional Engines and Rolling Stock	—		—		29,816	90
Total ..	8,060,829	0	5,373,885	97	4,006,587	88

(B) Assets and Liabilities.

The assets of the Colony on June 30, 1912, were Rs. 35,154,678, and the liabilities Rs. 12,488,640, the assets thus exceeding the liabilities by Rs. 22,666,038. Further, a sum of Rs. 6,743,521 had been advanced from surplus balances for Harbour, Railway, and Irrigation expenditure, which will ultimately be charged to loan.

Of the assets, a sum of—

Rs. 6,854,805 was in cash in the hands of the Treasurer, the Government Agents, the local banks, and the Crown Agents in London ;
Rs. 15,453,720 in investments ;
Rs. 8,486,704 advanced for the Colombo Drainage Works ;
Rs. 2,018,993 in stores ;
Rs. 1,110,202 in loans to Local Bodies ; and
Rs. 781,866 in miscellaneous advances.

The chief liabilities were—

	Rs.
Widows' and Orphans' Pension Fund ..	6,590,765
General Deposits..	4,349,544

(C) Public Debt.

On June 30, 1912, the public debt of Ceylon stood as follows :—

	£
Nett Sterling Debt	5,038,570
Nett Silver Debt (Rs. 2,434,260)	162,284
Total indebtedness ..	£5,200,854

The following table exhibits in sterling the revenue and nett amount of debt during each of the last six years :—

Year.	Revenue.	Nett Amount of Debt.
	£	£
1905	2,293,022 ..	4,386,039
1906	2,335,377 ..	4,304,396
1907	2,438,255 ..	4,194,434
1908	2,371,523 ..	4,090,229
1909	2,622,190 ..	4,444,381
1910–11 (proportionate for 12 months) ..	2,916,117 ..	5,312,419
1911–12..	3,149,748 ..	5,200,854

It will be noticed that the total indebtedness is less than twice the annua revenue.

With the exception of the loan of Rs. 300,000 (£20,000) borrowed from the Ceylon Savings Bank, which is repayable by an annuity of Rs. 20,000 (£1,333. 6*s*. 8*d*.), provision is made for the repayment of all loans by a sinking fund of 1 per cent.

Out of the 3½ per cent. loan of £3,436,854 authorized by Ordinance No. 6 of 1909 to meet the cost of the Colombo Harbour and Drainage Works, the Mannar Railway, and other railway and public works, a sum of £1,500,000 has already been raised, the price of issue being 98½ per cent. It is not considered necessary at present to raise any further portion of the loan, as the surplus balances of the Colony admit of advances being made to works chargeable to the loan, in anticipation of settlement when the balance or a further portion of the loan is raised.

(D) Currency and Banking.

The currency of Ceylon consists of—

Copper : Ceylon 1-cent and ½-cent pieces, 6¼ cents being equivalent to 1*d*. English.

Nickel : Ceylon 5-cent piece.

Silver : Indian rupee (= 100 cents), equivalent to 1*s*. 4*d*. English ; and Ceylon 50-cent, 25-cent, and 10-cent pieces.

Gold : British sovereigns, which are legal tender at Rs. 15 to the sovereign.

Ceylon Government currency notes of Rs. 1,000, 100, 50, 10, and 5.

On June 30, 1912, the value of currency notes in circulation was Rs. 21,146,720, the currency reserve on that date being distributed as follows :—

	Rs.	c.
Gold (£135,000)	2,025,000	0
Rupees	7,248,207	14
Small silver	375,000	0
British investments	435,000	0
Colonial investments	5,323,048	77
Indian investments	5,740,464	9

The Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China ; the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation ; the Bank of Madras ; the Mercantile Bank of India, Limited ; and the National Bank of India, Limited, do business in the Colony.

(E) MUNICIPALITIES.

The following is a comparative statement of the total revenue and expenditure of the Municipalities for the five years ended December 31, 1911 :—

Year.	Revenue. Rs. c.	Expenditure. Rs. c.
	Colombo.	
1907	2,382,259 12*	2,217,100 86
1908	1,884,133 4	1,846,000 97
1909	1,848,294 12	2,068,958 38
1910	2,260,049 41	2,191,141 42
1911	2,662,823 36	2,466,953 17
	Kandy.	
1907	224,196 41	192,736 5
1908	226,646 54	189,138 78
1909	180,602 94	165,850 27
1910	224,346 80	225,323 32
1911	245,473 66	245,088 6
	Galle.	
1907	129,637 81	116,578 59
1908	141,984 46	132,461 36
1909	156,051 80	192,656 31
1910	135,329 75	156,856 28
1911	154,342 21	144,680 6

* The revenue of the Colombo Municipality for 1907 includes a sum of Rs. 600,000 advanced by Government on account of Drainage Works.

Below will be found a statement of the debts of the Municipalities up to June 30, 1912, showing provision for payment :—

Amount of Debt outstanding.	On what Account.	Provision for Payment.
Rs. c.	*Colombo.*	
(See below)	—	—
	Kandy.	
121,313 67	Waterworks construction	Water-rate of 6 per cent. on properties within certain portions of the Municipality (Ordinances Nos. 18 and 29 of 1884).
105,402 98	Acquisition of lands above reservoir; repairs to main sewer and other various works	Bond assigning portion of water-rate as authorized by Ordinance No. 7 of 1887; also portion of rates and taxes.
18,000 0	To widen Victoria Drive and clear [illegible] silt	Bond assigning portion of rates and taxes under sections 127 (*a*) and (*b*), 128, 129, and 130 of Ordinance No. 7 of 1887.
	Galle.	
246,445 90	Construction of waterworks	A water-rate of 5 per cent. is levied within the Fort for repayment of loan.
37,840 82	Sanitary improvements	Mortgage of stamp duties on licenses for carts, boats, and coaches, and also stamp duties under Licensing Ordinances of 1893 and 1897.
529,003 37		

As regards the Municipality of Colombo, a sum of Rs. 8,486,703·68 has been advanced by the Government towards the cost of the Mansergh Drainage and Sewerage Scheme. The construction of the Colombo Waterworks and the Victoria Bridge was carried out by Government, and the Municipality has undertaken to repay Government an annual sum of Rs. 100,000 until 1924 in respect of the former, and of Rs. 8,000 until 1945 for the latter.

(F) Local Boards.

There are twenty-one Local Boards in Ceylon. The Boards are entrusted with the maintenance of public health and the general improvement and conservancy of the towns in which they are established. Their sources of revenue are an assessment tax on real property, taxes on vehicles and animals, road commutation tax, stamp duties for various licenses, and fines for breaches of by-laws, &c.

In 1911 the total revenue of these Boards amounted to Rs. 596,425, as against Rs. 448,420 in 1910; and the total expenditure to Rs. 488,073, as against Rs. 436,933 in 1910.

Loans are made to Local Boards, usually at 3½ to 4½ per cent. interest and 2 per cent. sinking fund, for approved purposes, such as waterworks, drainage, erection of markets, &c., on the security of their revenue. Loans outstanding on June 30, 1912, amounted to Rs. 484,947.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

(A) Imports and Exports.

Trade in General.

The total value of Ceylon trade in the year 1911 once again exceeded that of any previous year, as will be seen from the following table :—

Aggregate Value of Imports and Exports for the last Ten Years (omitting Specie, but including Coal exported for the use of Steamers).

Year.	Lakhs of Rupees.	Year.	Lakhs of Rupees.
1902	2,086	1907	2,631
1903	2,144	1908	2,648
1904	2,198	1909	2,853
1905	2,240	1910	3,321
1906	2,363	1911	3,523

The Customs revenue collected in 1911 showed an advance of Rs. 993,455, as compared with 1910. Between 1901 and 1911 the increase has amounted to Rs. 5,542,287, or 61·3 per cent.

The chief source of this revenue in 1910 and 1911 was the import duty on—

	1910. Rs.	1911. Rs.
Grain	3,895,860	3,856,615
Spirits	1,614,820	1,974,002
Kerosine Oil	1,157,118	1,362,388
Sugar	1,037,847	1,125,417
Cotton Goods	425,128	450,926

The total trade of the Colony, excluding specie and coal exported for use of steamers, amounted to Rs. 337,513,065, an increase of Rs. 20,845,810, or 6·6 per cent. over 1910, compared with an increase of Rs. 44,326,027 (16·3 per cent.) during the previous period.

The following table gives details for the last ten years of the annual value of the trade of the Colony, omitting specie and the value of coal for the use of steamers :—

Year.	Imports.	Exports. Produce and Manufacture of the Colony.	Exports. British, Foreign, and other Colonial Produce and Manufacture.	Exports. Total.	Total of Imports and Exports, omitting Specie and the Value of Coal for use of Steamers.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1902	97,883,263	96,771,467	1,462,923	98,234,390	196,117,653
1903	100,889,372	100,871,556	1,356,167	102,227,723	203,117,095
1904	105,324,719	99,894,461	1,214,415	101,108,876	206,433,595
1905	108,324,328	100,898,551	1,291,158	102,189,709	210,514,037
1906	112,789,269	108,248,232	1,463,412	109,711,644	222,500,913
1907	120,061,934	127,095,587	2,272,664	129,368,251	249,430,185
1908	122,420,393	127,015,846	1,946,310	128,962,156	251,382,549
1909	125,441,597	144,121,334	2,778,297	146,899,631	272,341,228
1910	150,195,648	160,771,277	5,700,330	166,471,607	316,667,255
1911	156,986,106	170,110,905	10,416,054	180,526,959	337,513,065

It will be noticed from the above table that for the last five years the value of the exports has materially exceeded that of the imports. This is due practically entirely to the weighty influence of the valuable new export, rubber. In 1906, the last year when imports exceeded exports, the value of the rubber exports was only Rs. 1,527,539 ; in 1911 it was Rs. 28,356,056, exclusive of 8 millions of rupees worth of Straits and Indian rubber transhipped here. The balance in favour of exports was in 1911 Rs. 23,540,000.

An analysis of the distribution of the trade of Ceylon as between the United Kingdom, British Colonies, and foreign countries during the past three years gives the following figures (omitting imports of rubber, specie, and coal exported for the use of steamers) :—

	1909.	1910.	1911.
Percentage of total trade of Ceylon taken by—			
United Kingdom	38·79	38·03	39·31
British Colonies	36·35	34·57	33·37
Foreign Countries	24·86	27·4	27·32
Percentage of import trade of Ceylon taken by—			
United Kingdom	26·38	28·32	28·3
British Colonies	61·13	58·77	57·71
Foreign Countries	12·49	12·91	13·99
Percentage of export trade of Ceylon taken by—			
United Kingdom	49·23	46·49	48·39
British Colonies	15·52	13·49	13·29
Foreign Countries	35·25	40·02	38·32

In the import trade foreign countries have steadily advanced, while the United Kingdom is in much the same position as in 1910. In exports the United Kingdom showed an advance over 1910, but the figures were below those of 1909, the percentage for foreign countries being less than in 1910, but more than in 1909. The percentage of trade with British Colonies has declined under both heads.

Imports.

There were advances under practically all heads, especially noteworthy being those under Cotton, Metals, Manures, Sugar, and Kerosine Oil.

Biscuits and Confectionery.—The imports of *biscuits* rose 17 per cent., *i.e.*, from 1,265,938 lb. in 1910 to 1,485,805 lb. The import of *confectionery* was 1,091,634 lb., or 20 per cent. more than in the preceding year.

Cement.—The activity in the building trade is strikingly illustrated by the increase in the demand for cement, the number of hundredweights imported in 1911 (361,088) being nearly 39 per cent. more than in 1910.

Coal imports have decreased from 801,379 tons in 1910 to 665,047 tons in 1911.

Cotton, Manufactured and Raw.—The setback to the cotton trade which occurred in 1909—when imports dwindled from Rs. 10,168,933 to Rs. 8,645,079—was amply atoned for in 1911, the value of such imports rising Rs. 1,085,000 over the previous highwater mark of 1908 and reaching over 11 millions of rupees. The recovery is well distributed over bleached, gray, and printed piece goods from the United Kingdom; dyed piece goods from the United Kingdom, Germany, Belgium, and Holland; and "other" piece goods from the United Kingdom and Germany.

Grain.—The quantity of rice cleared for home consumption during the year was slightly more than in the previous period, the figures being: 1910, 6,877,568 cwt.; 1911, 6,897,034 cwt.

Horses and Motor Cars.—The number of motor cars imported during the year was 213, as against 151 in 1910, 75 in 1909, and 89 in 1908.

The ever-increasing popularity of motoring is reflected in the imports of *petrol*. The following are the figures since 1909:—1909, 66,208 gallons; 1910, 136,646 gallons; 1911, 206,028 gallons.

Only 483 *horses* were imported in 1911, as against 796 in 1910.

From May 1, 1911, no horse can be imported into Ceylon without production of a certificate of inspection by a qualified veterinary surgeon at the port of shipment. Horses have also to be inspected by the Municipal Veterinary Inspector before landing.

Kerosine oil imports amounted to 4,427,074 gallons, of which 2,737,854 consisted of bulk oil and the balance case oil. Both kinds shared in the activity of the market.

Lamps.—The total number imported was 204,843, as against 206,416 in 1910. The total value was, however, slightly more than in 1910. The average value entered at the Customs ranged from about Re. 1·50 for English lamps to 6 cents for small glass kitchen lamps from Japan.

Metals and Metalware.—The total value of imports was Rs. 7,576,465, an increase of Rs. 341,661 over 1910.

The most noticeable increases were in *hardware* (1½ lakhs), *tea lead* (1¼ lakhs), *steelware* (nearly 1 lakh), and *cast steel* (¾ lakh); but there were also some remarkable decreases, as in *pig lead* (1¾ lakhs) and *hoop iron* (1 lakh).

Manure imports continue to expand rapidly. The total quantity imported in 1911, viz., 80,000 tons, is more than five times the quantity imported ten years ago. Fish manure alone now accounts for nearly 20,000 tons, or far more than the total of all manures in 1901. The other manures which contribute mainly to this year's total are castor seed poonac (12,000 tons), ground nut cake (10,500 tons), and rape seed poonac (6,500 tons).

Silk manufactures of all kinds show a marked advance of 27 per cent., the figures being: 1910, Rs. 523,166; 1911, Rs. 664,444.

Spirits.—The imports rose from 313,866 gallons in 1910 to 333,205 gallons in 1911.

The imports of brandy have increased in value over 1910 by 13 per cent. and gin by 10 per cent., while whisky shows a slight decrease.

Sugar.—The imports of candy and refined sugar showed an increase of 29,678 cwt. (or about 9 per cent.) on the imports of the previous year. Java and Hong Kong, the two chief suppliers, sent together 87 per cent. of the total for 1911. Palm and jaggery and unrefined sugar have increased less markedly.

Tobacco, Cigars, and Cigarettes.—The increase of the duty on manufactured tobacco from 40 cents a pound to Re. 1·40 a pound (*i.e.*, an increase of 250 per cent.) sent the imports down with a run. Cigars and cigarettes also show a decrease. The figures as compared with last year are :—

	Cigars and Cigarettes. lb.	Manufactured Tobacco. lb.	Total. lb.
1910	258,571	117,873	376,444
1911	215,756	38,788	254,544

Wines.—There was an increase of 3,504 gallons in the total quantity cleared for home consumption, due principally to a greater demand for port.

The following table shows the relative positions of the various countries which export goods to Ceylon (the percentages being percentages of value) :—

Countries.	1909. Per Cent.	1910. Per Cent.	1911. Per Cent.
British India	40·72	43·83	46·92
United Kingdom	25·97	27·35	26·84
Straits Settlements	10·42	6·9	5·75
Germany	2·63	2·77	3·11
Burma	4·44	4·73	2·96
United States of America	·86	1·05	1·39
Japan	1·37	1·17	1·38
Maldive Islands	1·96	1·45	1·34
Hong Kong	1·63	1·21	1·3
Java	·78	1·19	1·25
Holland	·58	·62	·82
France	·7	·68	·82
Belgium	·56	·62	·76
Austria	·85	·68	·61
India (excluding British)	·47	·42	·53
South Australia	·51	·64	·5
Victoria	·52	·57	·5
Russia in Asia	·81	·07	·44
Switzerland	·46	·38	·43
Borneo (excluding British)	·24	1·1	·39
Siam	·68	·7	·39
Italy	·31	·31	·38
New South Wales	·12	·16	·17
Western Australia	·43	·32	·17
Sweden	·18	·23	·16
China (excluding Hong Kong)	·26	·12	·14

If we exclude India, whose pride of place is of course due to the enormous supplies of rice and other food stuffs for the native population, the most striking feature of the table is the easily maintained pre-eminence of the United Kingdom, in spite of all foreign competition. She possesses nearly nine times the trade of the nearest foreign rival. That rival, however (Germany), is steadily advancing, and her place in the table should really be third, as a large proportion of the figure for imports from the Straits represents rubber, which is of course an " import " only in name, being soon transhipped again.

Exports.

Ceylon's chief export products in order of value are as follows :—

	Lakhs of Rupees. 1910.	1911.		Lakhs of Rupees. 1910.	1911.
Tea	792	849	Coir fibre	16	13
Rubber	196	283	Coconuts	12	11
Copra	127	131	Coir yarn	11	11
Coconut oil	173	131	Citronella oil	12	10
Desiccated coconuts	56	70	Poonac	13	9
Plumbago	79	66	Tobacco	3	8
Arecanuts	27	24	Cardamoms	6	6
Cocoa	24	23			

Taking the various products of the coconut palm separately, as above, it will be seen that rubber now easily takes second place, and bids fair soon to reach the head of the table. Coconut oil, plumbago, and cardamoms have each fallen a place; while copra, desiccated coconuts, and tobacco have correspondingly improved their position. Poonac has fallen from the tenth to the thirteenth place; while coir yarn has risen from the thirteenth to the eleventh place. If, on the other hand, its products be taken together, the coconut palm still retains the second place, with a total of 380 lakhs in 1911, as against 412 in 1910, the decrease being chiefly accounted for by the drop in coconut oil.

Tea exports show an increase on 1910, but just failed to reach the high quantity level of 1909. The average price was higher in 1911 than in 1910. The quantity figures for the last few years exhibit a noteworthy stability :—

	Million of lb. exported.		Million of lb. exported.
1907	182	1910	182
1908	180	1911	186
1909	192		

The following table shows the comparative distribution, 1910 and 1911 :—

Principal Markets for Ceylon Tea.

	1910. lb.	1911. lb.	Increase. lb.	Decrease. lb.
United Kingdom ..	108,432,182	112,510,272	4,078,090	—
British Colonies—				
British India ..	1,413,595	1,670,310	256,715	—
Canada	7,132,799	8,102,728	969,929	—
Cape Colony ..	484,754	530,542	45,788	—
Hong Kong ..	216,054	432,297	216,243	—
Malta	225,181	214,504	—	10,677
Natal	862,797	962,270	99,473	—
Newfoundland ..	246,627	212,064	—	34,563
New South Wales ..	8,809,679	8,099,003	—	710,676
New Zealand ..	4,522,594	4,661,226	138,632	—
Queensland ..	906,944	1,054,964	148,020	—
South Australia ..	1,170,751	1,183,966	13,215	—
Straits Settlements ..	504,480	511,082	6,602	—
Victoria	6,975,616	6,313,501	—	662,115
West Australia ..	767,556	704,312	—	63,244
Other British Possessions..	387,431	444,517	57,086	—
Total British Possessions..	34,626,858	35,097,286	1,951,703	1,481,275
		Deduct Decrease ..	1,481,275	
		Nett Increase ..	470,428	
Foreign Countries—				
Austria	148,928	235,038	86,110	—
China (excluding Hong Kong)	6,030,900	5,569,550	—	461,350
Egypt	296,349	327,957	31,608	—
France	821,657	771,784	—	49,873
Germany.. ..	550,179	663,453	113,274	—
Russia in Asia ..	7,034,868	8,253,306	1,218,438	—
Russia in Europe ..	15,699,984	12,174,367	—	3,525,617
Turkey	104,049	125,921	21,872	—
United States ..	7,644,873	10,151,479	2,506,606	—
Other Foreign Countries ..	679,267	713,642	34,375	—
Total Foreign Countries ..	39,011,054	38,986,497	4,012,283	4,036,840
		Deduct Increase ..		4,012,283
		Nett Decrease ..		24,557
Grand Total ..	182,070,094	186,594,055	4,523,961	—

The principal increases were in exports to the United Kingdom, the United States of America, Russia in Asia, and Canada; while the principal decreases were under Russia in Europe, New South Wales, Victoria, and China.

The total exports of *green tea* in 1911 were 8,657,117 lb., as against 6,441,242 lb. in 1910.

Products of the Coconut Palm.—The total value of the exports under this head was 380 lakhs, as against 412 lakhs in 1910. The three principal products are coconut oil, copra, and desiccated coconuts. The first of these shows a decrease in the quantity exported. The exports of the other two beat all previous records :—

	Desiccated Coconuts. Cwt.	Copra. Cwt.	Coconut Oil. Cwt.		Desiccated Coconuts. Cwt.	Copra. Cwt.	Coconut Oil. Cwt
1908..	244,734	768,795	670,121	1910..	242,286	758,711	619,680
1909..	230,791	784,522	599,795	1911..	292,210	821,814	505,016

The average price for coconut oil was Rs. 26·03 per cwt., and is the highest for the last five years, with the exception of 1910. During the year the price of copra ranged from Rs. 62·75 to Rs. 93·50 per candy.

Rubber.—Ceylon exported nearly twice as much rubber in 1911 as in 1910, the actual figures being—

	Cwt.
1910	33,952
1911	61,212

These figures may be contrasted with an export of only 676 cwt. seven years ago, and about 10,000 cwt. in 1908. The area now under rubber, alone or with other products, is said to be over 200,000 acres. Only ten years ago it was no more than 1,750 acres.

The distribution of the rubber among the two largest buyers is as follows for the past two years :—

	1910. Per Cent.	1911. Per Cent.
United Kingdom	54·84	55·59
United States of America	41·35	29·44

The average value entered in 1911 was Rs. 4·13 per lb., as against Rs. 5·16 per lb. in 1910.

The new Medical Aid Ordinance enacted in 1910 provides for an export levy on rubber, similar to that derived from tea. Up to date, however, no duty has been actually imposed.

The following table gives the proportions of Ceylon produce and manufactures taken by the principal countries during the last three years :—

Countries.	1909. Per Cent.	1910. Per Cent.	1911. Per Cent.
United Kingdom	49·95	47·41	48·61
United States of America	11·38	13·52	13·89
Germany	6·86	9·72	9·44
Russia in Europe	5·57	6·27	5·02
Belgium	2·6	2·43	3·23
British India	3·77	2·83	2·88
New South Wales	2·88	2·51	2·37
Canada	2·48	2·01	2·27
Russia in Asia	1·66	1·9	2·21
Victoria	2·38	2·16	1·95
China (excluding Hong Kong)	2·14	1·65	1·5
New Zealand	1·45	1·29	1·34
Austria	2·23	1·38	·54
France	·47	·58	·51
South Australia	·42	·35	·35
Queensland	·29	·29	·34
Natal	·21	·31	·32
Straits Settlements	·37	·37	·32
Holland	·41	·31	·3

Belgium, which occupied the seventh place in 1910, is now fifth in the list. The United Kingdom has improved her percentage over last year.

Customs Duties.

All imports not specially rated or exempted by the Tariff are liable to a Customs duty of 5½ per cent. *ad valorem*

Tea, cocoa, and coffee are liable to an export duty of 10 cents per cwt., and cinchona to an export duty of 5 cents per cwt. under the Medical Wants Ordinance; and by a recent amendment of that Ordinance such products as rubber, cardamoms, coca, camphor, and pepper may also be similarly taxed. These additional products have not, however, at the time of writing been subjected to any tax.

(B) Mines, Manufactures, and Fisheries.

(a) *Pearl Fishery.*

No pearl fishery was held during the year under review, and it is uncertain when the next fishery may be held. The last was held in 1907. This was the second fishery held after the lease of the pearl banks to the Ceylon Company of Pearl Fishers, Ltd., but the first actually carried out by the Company. Since then the periodical inspections of the pearl banks made by the Company showed an absence of oysters or spat, and it is estimated that at least a period of three years must elapse before another fishery can take place. Meanwhile the Company found that its remaining funds were insufficient to meet its obligations under the lease during the next three barren years and accordingly approached Government for a modification of the terms of payment of the annual rent. The matter was under consideration at the end of the year, and the lease was eventually terminated in 1912.

(b) *Mineralogical Survey.*

In accordance with the scheme drawn up for the continuance of the survey, an examination was begun in 1911 of the areas which, according to previous reports, gave most promise of being adapted for commercial exploitation. The alluvial deposits of the Weralupe, We, and Getahetta rivers in the Province of Sabaragamuwa were thoroughly tested, to determine whether the gold, thoria minerals, and gems contained in them could be worked profitably by modern methods of alluvial mining. The result was to show that the valuable minerals, with the exception of gem stones, are too irregularly distributed, and occur in too small a quantity to be worked at a profit. The examination of a reputed tin-bearing area in the Kuruwita valley gave an equally unfavourable result.

In July both officers of the survey contracted enteric fever, from which the Assistant Surveyor, Mr. F. D. Paisley, died in August. The Principal Surveyor was in hospital till October, and in the following month left for home to recruit on four months' leave. The field operations of the survey were, therefore, completely suspended during the second half of the year.

(c) *Mining.*

Plumbago.—Plumbago provides the only form of mining proper in Ceylon. Approximately 450 plumbago mines in all were worked during the twelve months, giving employment to some 1,100 men. Of these, three only are in European hands. Generally speaking, the methods employed are primitive, though some of the larger mines are adopting more up-to-date appliances. The mining centres are situated in the Southern, Western, Sabaragamuwa, Central, and North-Western Provinces. In the last-named Province some mines have been sunk to a depth of nearly 200 fathoms, and there is every indication of their being sunk to even greater depths with increased success.

The state of the plumbago market during the latter part of 1911 being very dull most of the small pits stopped work, and only in the larger mines was work continued throughout the year. In nearly all the Provinces the lands on which large numbers of shallow pits had been sunk have now been abandoned, the plumbago therein having been extracted; and it may be anticipated that gradually the small pits worked by villagers will cease to exist, and only deep mining be resorted to.

The quantity exported decreased from 630,551 cwt. in 1910 to 538,973 cwt. in 1911. Of this total, the United States of America took 41 per cent. as against 51 per cent. in 1910, Germany 27 per cent. as against 20, the United Kingdom 19 per cent. as against 16, and Belgium 9 as against 8 per cent. Prices were low, and the demand poor. The falling off in the export to America may be attributable in part to depression in the steel trade, but there is no doubt that the competition of the Korean product has made itself felt. It is, however, noteworthy that Japan imported 814 cwt. of Ceylon plumbago, as against 35 cwt. in 1910.

Gemming.—With the exception of moonstones and garnets, gems are not obtained *in situ* in Ceylon, but from gravels deposited by streams and rivers. There are two large moonstone pits in the Kandy District. Other precious stones, such as rubies, cat's-eyes, sapphires, &c., are gemmed chiefly in the Ratnapura District.

(*d*) *Salt.*

The manufacture and collection of salt is a Government monopoly. A sum of Rs. 1,631,380·59 was realized by its sale in 1911, as compared with Rs. 1,530,570·26 in 1910 and Rs. 1,520,647·95 in 1909. The year was favourable for the production of salt, except at Trincomalee, where manufacture failed owing to premature rain. At Puttalam, which is the largest producing centre, manufacture was restricted owing to congestion at the stores, and the total yield for the whole Island amounted accordingly to only 328,199 cwt. The quantity secured in 1910 (the record year) was 759,396 cwt., and in 1909 293,457 cwt.

(*e*) *Manufactures.*

Ceylon is essentially an agricultural country, and its manufactures on any large scale are chiefly confined to the products of agriculture. Out of 1,112 factories in the Island, 872 or 78 per cent. are tea factories, 76 coconut fibre and desiccating, 23 cocoa, and 41 rubber. Particulars of their output are given under "Exports." The preparation of coconut oil, copra, and arrack gives employment to a large number of the inhabitants, and so to a less extent does that of citronella oil and cinnamon.

In the Northern Province cigars are manufactured, but there is increasing competition from cigarettes. The Jaffna cigar, which is small, strong, and extremely cheap, is a favourite with the natives.

Cigars from Dumbara in the Central Province have been manufactured on a small scale to suit the requirements of European taste. But no expansion of the tobacco industry can be expected without improved methods of growing and curing. Experiments in this direction are now being pursued.

The manufacture of tiles and bricks is carried on in all parts of the Island where suitable clay is plentiful. Rs. 3,595 worth of Ceylon manufactures under this head were exported in 1911.

The weaving of a coarse kind of cloth in hand looms is carried on in the Eastern, Northern, and Central Provinces to supply purely local wants. The cloth, though strong and of hard wearing quality, is inferior in texture and finish to imported material. Lace-making is carried on in the Western Province.

In other districts baskets, tortoise-shell boxes, and combs are manufactured, and common earthenware for water pans and cooking utensils to meet local requirements.

Excellent furniture is made in the Western Province, especially at Moratuwa.

Jewellery of very fine workmanship is made in the Northern Province, but on a very small scale. It is a species of filigree work, prized by the Tamil population of the Island.

The indigenous crafts peculiar to the Kandyan country, *i.e.*, silver and brass work, the making of jewellery, earthenware, and painted pottery, lacquer work, and ivory carving, continue to receive encouragement from the Kandyan Art Association. Specimens of these articles are kept in the Kandyan Art Museum, where they can be purchased.

Brass lamps, betel stands, plates, cooking utensils, and water pots are made in the North-Western and Eastern Provinces and at Negombo in the Western Province.

In the Mannar District of the Northern Province the drying and salting of fish gives employment to a large number of people. In 1911 nearly Rs. 323,000 worth of dried fish was exported from the Mannar District.

(c) Agriculture.

The Agricultural Society.

The Ceylon Agricultural Society has now a membership of 914.

Through the agency of the "Tropical Agriculturist and Magazine of the Ceylon Agricultural Society," its smaller Sinhalese and Tamil monthly publications, and the dissemination of leaflets, the Society helps to keep the local agriculturist in touch with the progress of agriculture in all parts of the world, particularly in the tropical regions.

A number of small village shows were held during the twelve months in various parts of the Island.

Demonstrations in the use of improved implements were continued, with the result that there is now a considerable demand for better class ploughs, &c. The dearth of buffaloes for mudding and ploughing owing to the ravages of rinderpest in some parts of the Island has tended to quicken the interest of the paddy cultivator in more modern methods.

The Society has interested itself in the introduction of improved varieties of fruits and vegetables, has conducted experiments in the improvement of tobacco cultivation and curing, and has co-operated with the local agents of the British Cotton Growing Association to encourage the cultivation of cotton.

Good work is being done by a village Co-operative Credit Society and Agricultural Bank in the Central Province, and the co-operative movement has now begun to spread to other districts.

Position of Agricultural Industries.

The continued prosperity of the *tea*, *coconut*, and *rubber* industries is sufficiently indicated by the figures already given under the head of "Exports."

The *cocoa* industry suffered in 1911 from the abnormal drought which prevailed during the greater part of the twelve months, the crop being 61,711 cwt., as against 70,278 cwt. for 1910.

Cardamoms, with an output of 564,819 lb., suffered from the same cause. The cultivation was abandoned on a number of the older fields, which were planted up with tea instead, while the new acreage coming into bearing was very small.

The quantity of *citronella oil* exported was 1,574,956 lb., or 187,963 lb. less than in 1910, which was a record year.

There was a fall in the export of *cinnamon*, both for quills and chips, but towards the end of the year prices rose rapidly, as much as 90 cents being paid for the highest grade of fine cinnamon. In the Kalutara District and the Southern Province several cinnamon plantations were superseded by rubber, while in the Negombo District coconuts are taking the place of cinnamon.

The cultivation of *cotton* and *tobacco* for export purposes remains still in the experimental stage. That with reasonable capital expenditure and scientific methods of treatment both crops can be made to pay there is little doubt. But so long as the older established products continue to yield such handsome returns the inducement to pioneer in new ventures is not great.

Hitherto the native tobacco plantations of the Northern and Eastern Provinces and the Chilaw and Kandy Districts have contended themselves with supplying the local market, with the exception of a not inconsiderable export of Jaffna tobacco to Travancore. The Travancore authorities having recently imposed a limit on the import of this tobacco there is no room for expansion in this direction, and unless the native cultivator can be induced to set himself seriously to the improvement of the quality of tobacco produced, the prospects of the industry are not bright.

Paddy cultivation remains the principal occupation of the villager, but shows little sign of extension, while the quantity of rice imported for local consumption continues steadily to increase.

During the first nine months of 1911 a prolonged drought was experienced in most parts of the Island. In many localities the tanks did not fill, and paddy cultivation was seriously affected. Heavy rains in November and December improved the prospects for 1912.

Organization of Agricultural Department.

The Botanic Gardens at Peradeniya, though originally started as a botanic station, have during the last ten years so extended their scope and organization that they have become in everything except name a Department of Scientific Tropical Agriculture. They included in 1911 a well-equipped Agricultural Experiment Station, and, besides the Director, the staff contained an Economic Botanist, a Mycologist, an Entomologist, and two Superintendents of Experiment Stations, while the services of an Agricultural Chemist were at the disposal of the Department. The Gardens have rendered valuable assistance to the cultivator in all branches of agriculture, both directly and through the instrumentality of the Agricultural Society. In order that the Gardens may be brought more into touch with the European planters and native agriculturists, and organize a systematic propaganda, which will ensure that the practical lessons to be derived from the researches of the scientific staff shall be made known and taken advantage of as widely as possible, arrangements were commenced in 1911 for the formation of a regular Agricultural Department, in which the staff of the Gardens should be merged. The organization of the new Department received the sanction of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, and arrangements were made for its inauguration during 1912. It is proposed to establish schools of agriculture and to modify the present system of education in vernacular schools with a view to the introduction of a systematic course of training in agricultural pursuits, which is now available in a more or less limited form through the medium of school gardens. As Ceylon is essentially an agricultural colony, it is of the utmost importance that the spread of agricultural education should be encouraged, and one of the objects of the new Department will be to ensure the spread of agricultural knowledge.

The Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Dr. J. C. Willis, retired at the end of the year and steps were taken to select a suitable officer to take over the duties of head of the new Department.

Meanwhile, with a view to securing trained teachers for provincial agricultural schools, which are to be established after the inauguration of the new Department, it was decided, with the approval of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, to grant Government scholarships to promising young men desirous of embarking on an agricultural career in the Government service to enable them to receive a training in an Agricultural College in India. As a first step, it was decided to grant four scholarships tenable for a period of three years for a course of training at the Agricultural College at Poona. A scholarship entitles the holder to the following allowances during the three years' course: a subsistence allowance of Rs. 50 per mensem, and an outfit and travelling allowance at the rate of Rs. 300 per annum paid half-yearly. Fees for tuition, cost of instruments, &c., and rent of quarters are paid by Government.

Diseases of Animals.

Cattle.—Rinderpest continued from the previous year, and cases occurred in all the Provinces. It was specially prevalent in those Provinces where the drought was most severe and food scanty. The planting districts were comparatively free, and there was very little interference with transport or cultivation during the year.

There were 15,195 cases of rinderpest, of which 5,636 recovered, 8,340 died naturally, and 1,219 were shot.

Foot-and-mouth Disease.—There were 1,813 cases reported among cattle during the year, of which 143 died and 1,670 recovered.

This disease assumes a mild form in Ceylon, and with ordinary care the percentage of mortality should be almost nil.

Surra among Cattle and Horses.—This disease prevailed in Hatton district among horses and cattle during the latter part of 1911. The affected animals were all destroyed, with the exception of two bulls, which died naturally.

Strict measures were imposed with reference to the cleansing of stables and cattle sheds to abate the fly pest, and restrictions were placed upon the removal of horses and cattle out of the infected area, with the result that the epizootic disappeared in less than three months. The total number of cases, including 7 suspects, was 19 cattle and 2 horses.

Dogs.—During the twelve months under review 62 cases of rabies were reported, of which 49 gave positive result upon bacteriological examination and the other 13 negative.

(D) Land Grants and General Value of Land.

Land Settlement.

The Land Settlement Department, which is concerned with the settlement of title to land as between the Crown and the subject, has within the year under review maintained the same steady progress.

An area of 112,062 acres has been settled, about half of this area being dealt with otherwise than under the Waste Lands Ordinance. The striking features of the work have been the peaceful nature of the settlements and the development of the country which has followed upon the establishment of secure titles. The confidence of the large majority of the people in the fairness of the settlements offered has now been secured, and advantage is eagerly taken of the increased facilities for acquiring land from the Crown.

The total area settled under the Waste Lands Ordinance has now reached over a million and a half acres.

Survey.

The operations of the Survey Department for the period under review comprised 80,899 acres of block survey.

The number of block survey preliminary plans issued was 119, containing over 5,097 lots and covering an area of 109,083 acres. Final village plans to the number of 290 were issued to the Government Agents. The total area now covered by block survey is 2,309,222 acres.

1,371 preliminary plans for 29,806 acres in 6,549 lots were forwarded to the Government Agents. The total area covered by final village plans in the hands of the Government Agents now stands at 416,596 acres, contained in 11,988 lots or 941 final village plans.

Thirty-four applications to purchase Crown land for rubber cultivation were dealt with during the period, covering 1,079 acres, chiefly in the Western and Sabaragamuwa Provinces.

Surveys have been carried out in connection with the Negombo-Chilaw Railway, and the survey of the Bandarawela-Welimada road was completed during the year.

Town surveys and water-rate surveys have also been carried out.

The Landmarks Ordinance has been in force during the period under review, and all lands sold are now permanently demarcated.

Land Sales.

Except in special cases, the alienation of Crown land in Ceylon is effected by the sale of the freehold at public auction. There is no general system of leaseholds. Where occupiers can prove prescriptive possession against the Crown, certificates of quiet possession are issued; and where the occupation has been for less than the prescriptive period, settlements may be effected on special terms.

The total extent of Crown land alienated during the twelve months of 1911-12 (commencing from July 1) was 26,172 acres, and the amount realized, including fees, Rs. 1,430,666.

The figures for the last five years are :—

	Extent alienated.	Amount realized.
	Acres.	Rs.
1907	41,904 ..	1,734,138
1908	25,080 ..	907,630
1909	28,828 ..	991,866
1910-11 (12 months)	30,694 ..	1,291,966
1911-12..	26,172 ..	1,430,666

Omitting sales and settlements effected by the Land Settlement Department, the area alienated by the Government Agents during the twelve months included an extent of 4,017 acres in the Western Province, 1,795 acres in the Galle District, 1,256 acres in the Province of Uva, 2,998 acres in the North-Western Province, and 966 acres in the Kegalla District.

The average price paid per acre ranged from Rs. 19·47 in the North-Central Province to Rs. 138 in the Western. In the principal coconut, rubber, and tea districts of the low-country, other than the Western Province, the average prices were : Batticaloa Rs. 21, Jaffna Rs. 46, Kurunegala Rs. 48, Puttalam Rs. 53, Matara Rs. 62, Galle Rs. 89. In the tea and rubber districts of the Kandyan Provinces average prices ranged from Rs. 24 in Uva to Rs. 59 in Nuwara Eliya.

(E) SHIPPING.

The total number of all vessels (including warships) which entered the ports of the Island in 1911 was 4,355, with a tonnage of 9,561,977 tons, showing a decrease of 53 vessels and an increase of 89,068 tons as compared with 1910.

The following table gives the total number and nett tonnage of shipping entered and cleared at all ports in Ceylon during the years 1910 and 1911 :—

	1910.			
	Entered.		Cleared.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Merchant vessels (with cargo and in ballast)	2,430	7,235,146	2,401	7,219,022
Merchant vessels (called to coal)	720	1,934,669	720	1,934,669
Native sailing vessels ..	1,193	161,821	1,179	153,219
Warships	49	141,273	49	141,273
Total ..	4,392	9,472,909	4,349	9,448,183
	1911.			
Merchant vessels (with cargo and in ballast)	2,410	7,387,615	2,385	7,363,938
Merchant vessels (called to coal)	691	1,872,580	691	1,873,141
Native sailing vessels ..	1,203	90,306	1,203	94,905
Warships	51	211,476	51	211,476
Total ..	4,355	9,561,977	4,330	9,543,460

Omitting warships and vessels calling to coal, the following tables give the distribution according to nationality, inwards and outwards, during 1911 :—

Entered.

Nationality.	With Cargo.		In Ballast.		Total.	
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
British ..	1,247	3,569,727	361	1,123,702	1,608	4,693,429
Colonial ..	924	69,292	150	8,224	1,074	75,516
German ..	177	706,951	61	237,510	238	944,461
French ..	80	243,395	57	204,630	137	448,025
Maldivian ..	125	14,374	6	482	131	14,856
Japanese ..	87	374,097	9	34,359	96	408,456
Dutch ..	3	5,784	84	260,168	87	265,952
Russian ..	—	—	72	174,870	72	174,870
Austrian ..	60	195,464	9	24,452	69	219,916
Italian ..	32	85,832	—	—	32	85,832
Norwegian ..	30	46,952	—	—	30	46,952
Spanish ..	8	18,884	18	42,503	26	61,387
Danish ..	8	17,110	1	2,238	9	19,348
Siamese ..	2	4,463	2	4,458	4	8,921
Total ..	2,783	5,350,325	830	2,117,596	3,613	7,467,921

Cleared.

Nationality.	With Cargo.		In Ballast.		Total.	
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
British ..	868	2,750,422	720	1,942,031	1,588	4,692,453
Colonial ..	473	40,403	595	38,653	1,068	79,056
German ..	187	748,943	50	190,671	237	939,614
French ..	72	222,158	64	221,297	136	443,455
Maldivian ..	44	5,755	91	10,094	135	15,849
Japanese ..	81	342,775	15	64,681	96	407,456
Dutch ..	7	20,899	80	245,053	87	265,952
Russian ..	68	165,963	4	8,907	72	174,870
Austrian ..	27	101,742	42	118,194	69	219,936
Italian ..	20	51,862	12	33,970	32	85,832
Norwegian ..	1	1,672	29	45,280	30	46,952
Spanish ..	23	54,457	3	6,930	26	61,387
Danish ..	4	7,681	4	9,429	8	17,110
Siamese ..	4	8,921	—	—	4	8,921
Total ..	1,879	4,523,653	1,709	2,935,190	3,588	7,458,843

Taking the figures inwards, we get the following comparative distribution according to nationality for 1909 and 1911 :—

	1909.		1911.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
British ..	1,553	4,506,996	1,608	4,693,429
British Colonial	867	118,071	1,074	75,516
Total British Ships	2,420	4,625,067	2,682	4,768,945
German ..	206	814,455	238	944,461
Maldivian	109	11,749	131	14,856
French ..	142	466,301	137	448,025
Japanese	109	423,706	96	408,456
Dutch ..	43	127,412	87	265,952
Russian..	42	112,489	72	174,870
Austrian	57	192,335	69	219,916
Italian ..	35	95,902	32	85,832
Spanish ..	25	60,323	26	61,387
Norwegian	23	21,801	30	46,952
Danish ..	12	33,759	9	19,348
Siamese..	5	11,157	4	8,921
Swedish..	5	11,488	—	—
Total Foreign Ships	813	2,382,877	931	2,698,976

The only points calling for comment are the continued predominance of British shipping and the striking increase in the number of Dutch vessels calling. As compared with two years ago, there is an increase of German, Russian, and Austrian vessels, and a decrease of Japanese, French, and Italian.

The figures below give the number and nett tonnage of British and foreign vessels entering the port of Colombo during each of the past five years :—

	No.	Tons.
1907 ..	3,065	7,278,719
1908 ..	3,005	7,525,824
1909 ..	2,983	8,091,423
1910–11 (July to June) ..	3,253	8,701,097
1911 (calendar year) ..	2,620	7,069,641

The decrease is probably accounted for by the labour strikes in Europe, which greatly interfered with the shipping trade.

III.—LEGISLATION.

Among the new Ordinances passed during 1911 were :—

No. 1 of 1911.—" The Jaffna Matrimonial Rights and Inheritance Ordinance, 1911." This Ordinance revised and codified and in certain respects precised the law relating to the matrimonial rights and inheritance of those Tamils who are governed by the Tesawalamai.

No. 7 of 1911.—" The Co-operative Credit Societies Ordinance, 1911." The object of the Ordinance is to facilitate the organization and registration of co-operative credit societies among agriculturists, artisans, and persons of limited means.

No. 8 of 1911.—" The Ceylon Incorporated Law Societies Ordinance, 1911." The Ordinance establishes an Incorporated Law Society for the purpose of protecting the interests of that branch of the legal profession which is composed of proctors, and for the enforcement of discipline among them and the observance by them of the rules of professional etiquette.

No. 11 of 1911.—" The Life Insurance Companies Ordinance, 1911." The object of the Ordinance is to compel life insurance companies doing business in Ceylon to give security for the due fulfilment of their obligations with policy holders, and to provide for the better regulation of the business of such companies.

No. 12 of 1911.—" The Seashore Protection Ordinance, 1911." The object of this Ordinance is to regulate, and when necessary prevent, the removal of sand, coral, and other substances from the sea and seashore within the areas from which such removal will result in detriment to property and buildings bordering the sea.

No. 13 of 1911.—" The Prisoners Removal Ordinance, 1911." The Ordinance is intended to provide a more deterrent form of punishment than ordinary imprisonment in cases where in the exercise of the prerogative of mercy death sentences are commuted. Provision is made for the removal of prisoners in such cases to undergo such commuted sentences out of the Island under the Colonial Prisoners Removal Act, 1884, and arrangements have been made with the Government of India for the period of imprisonment to be served in the Andaman Islands.

No. 14 of 1911.—" The Destitute Immigrants Regulation (Amendment) Ordinance, 1911." By this Ordinance an addition has been made to the definition of the expression "costs and charges," making all money expended out of public funds for the deportation of stowaways, or for their maintenance, care, or treatment during imprisonment on conviction, recoverable from the party liable. Costs and charges incurred during a period even exceeding two months have also been made recoverable.

No. 17 of 1911.—" The Opium Ordinance, 1911." The main object of the Ordinance is to relax the strictness of certain provisions of " The Opium Ordinance, 1910." Provincial Surgeons are given the power by endorsement on prescriptions to exempt the person in whose name the prescription is made out from the restrictions imposed by the Ordinance. Provision is made to enable planters out of the range of dispensaries to supply opium in a medicinal form to their coolies in emergencies under proper regulations.

IV.—EDUCATION.

It is not possible to draw the same clear line between elementary and secondary education in Ceylon as can be drawn in other countries. The matter is complicated by the fact that English is a foreign language to all but a small fraction of the population. The Europeans, Burghers, and Eurasians together form less than 1 per cent. of the population ; the Sinhalese form 66 per cent. of the total ; the Tamils and Tamil-speaking Moors 32 per cent. The result is that most of the schools in which English is taught are teaching a language which is foreign to the great majority of their pupils, and the distinction between elementary and secondary education is replaced by the distinction between vernacular and English schools. The vernacular schools really constitute the elementary education of the country.

(A) Vernacular Education.

The following table shows the numerical progress for the last six years in the case of vernacular schools :—

Year.	Number of Government Schools.	Attendance. Boys.	Attendance. Girls.	Number of Aided Schools.	Attendance. Boys.	Attendance. Girls.
1906	566	54,249	13,827	1,429	90,389	44,599
1907	592	55,624	14,372	1,456	88,707	48,518
1908	624	59,756	15,634	1,574	95,467	53,646
1909	656	63,862	17,189	1,652	102,598	53,884
1910	734	71,148	19,761	1,699	111,191	59,356
1911-12	754	76,251	21,841	1,754	119,659	65,972

From this it appears that there were in 1911 altogether 2,508 Government and grant-in-aid vernacular schools attended by 195,910 boys and 87,813 girls. These figures show an increase of 75 schools and 22,267 children over the corresponding figures for 1910.

Unaided Schools.—Besides the children attending Government and aided schools, 34,595 children were reported to be receiving instruction in 1,501 unaided schools, almost all of them vernacular. The figures furnished by such schools cannot, however, be relied upon, and the education is often of very little value.

Cost of Vernacular Education.—The total sum spent by Government on vernacular education during 1911-12 was Rs. 987,844·59, of which Rs. 385,142·59 was expended on Government schools and Rs. 602,702 on aided schools. The cost to Government of the education of each pupil in a Government vernacular school was Rs. 3·93 or 5*s.* 3*d.*, and the average grant per head of each pupil in grant-in-aid schools was Rs. 3·25 or 4*s.* 4*d.*

Rural Schools Ordinance.—This Ordinance is now in force in all districts, except Jaffna and Mullaittivu in the Northern Province. Since it was brought into force in 1908 138 new Government schools have been started.

Town Schools Ordinance.—This Ordinance is now in force in the Local Board towns of Kalutara, Moratuwa, Kegalla, and Hambantota. Arrangements are being made for bringing it into force at Matale, Ratnapura, and Gampola.

Estate Schools.—At the end of 1911 there were 238 aided estate schools, as against 227 at the end of 1910 and 185 at the end of 1909. The number of estate schools actually examined for grant was 193, as compared with 199 in 1910.

As in recent years, a form was circulated to collect information from superintendents of estates. Returns were received from 771 estates, on which the number of resident children between the ages of 6 and 10 was 20,709, of whom 12,567 were boys and 8,142 were girls. The number who attended school was 9,379, of whom 8,073 were boys and 1,306 were girls.

(B) English Schools.

In 1911 there were 239 English and Anglo-Vernacular schools attended by 41,559 pupils, of whom 33,561 were boys and 7,998 girls. As compared with 1910, there has been an increase of 3 schools and 3,395 pupils. In the majority of these schools the work is confined to the schedules of the Educational Code, but there are many in which the upper classes are prepared for the Cambridge Examinations, Senior and Junior, and a few in which the work of the most

advanced students reaches a higher level. The following were the results of the Cambridge Local Examinations, for which 1,249 candidates presented themselves in 1911, viz., 538 for the Senior and 711 for the Junior :—

	Candidates.		Honours.		Passes.	
	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.
Senior	492	46	35	2	219	26
Junior	575	136	39	—	338	86

The following were the results of the London University Examinations held in 1911 :—

	Candidates.	Passes.
Matriculation	33	15
Intermediate in Arts	14	9
Intermediate in Science	9	3
Bachelor of Arts	2	2
First Examination in Medical Degrees	2	2

The Royal College.—The only Government school in which higher education is given is the Royal College, at which in 1911 there were 190 pupils, with an average attendance of 184. The pupils in the upper part of the College are prepared for the Cambridge Local Examinations and the Examinations of the London University as far as the Intermediate in Arts and Science. The staff consists of sixteen masters, of whom four hold English University Degrees. The gross cost to Government for 1911–12 was Rs. 52,262·36, of which a sum of Rs. 20,987·50 was recovered in school fees. New buildings for the College at a cost of about Rs. 250,000 are in course of construction.

The policy of gradually abandoning the lower school was started by dropping the first form at the beginning of 1909, and since then one form has been dropped each year. At the same time fees have been raised in the upper school from Rs. 10 to Rs. 15, and in the lower school from Rs. 5 to Rs. 7·50. The result of these two changes has been a decrease in numbers, confined, however, to the lower school.

Non-Government Institutions.—The other institutions in which anything that can be fairly described as higher education is given are registered as aided schools under the Code, with one exception, viz., the Church Missionary Society's Ladies' College in Colombo.

The following schools have presented candidates either for the University Scholarship or for the London Intermediate Examination :—

St. Thomas's College	Colombo	Church of England
St. Joseph's College	do.	Roman Catholic
St. Benedict's Institute	do.	do.
Wesley College	do.	Wesleyan
Ananda College	do.	Buddhist
Trinity College	Kandy	Church of England
Richmond College	Galle	Wesleyan
Prince of Wales's College	Moratuwa	Private
St. John's College	Panadure	do.

Government Assistance.—The encouragement offered by Government takes two forms : (*a*) grants ; (*b*) scholarships.

(*a*) In most of the aided English schools grants are paid on the results of examinations in the ordinary schedules of the Code, supplemented by specific subjects. But in some of the better schools the system has been replaced by one under which the greater part of the grant is paid on the average attendance. Liberal grants are also paid for every pupil who obtains

honours in the Cambridge Local Examinations, or who passes the London University Matriculation Examination or Intermediate Examination in Arts. The total sum expended in grants to English schools was Rs. 203,907·40.

(*b*) On the results of the Intermediate Examinations of the University of London two Government scholarships are given annually, one on the Examination in Arts, the other on the Examination in Science. They are tenable for three years, and are of the value of £200 each per annum, with free passage to England and £50 outfit allowance. The holders of these scholarships are at liberty to join any British University, or to enter upon a course of studies at any recognized engineering institution in the United Kingdom. Students studying medicine are allowed a scholarship for four years. One scholarship of Rs. 240 per annum for three years is awarded annually to girls on the results of the Cambridge Local Examination. On the results of the Cambridge Junior Local Examination one scholarship of Rs. 240 per annum for three years and two of Rs. 120 per annum for three years are awarded annually to boys, and two scholarships of Rs. 120 per annum for three years are awarded annually to girls. The total sum expended in scholarships in 1911 was Rs. 35,217·69.

(C) Training of Teachers.

The Government Training College consists of four departments: English, Sinhalese Men, Sinhalese Women, and Tamil Men. The English department is intended specially to meet the wants of aided English schools; in the vernacular departments students are trained for work in Government schools. The number of students in training at the beginning of 1912 was as follows:—English 33, Sinhalese Men 47, Sinhalese Women 20, Tamil Men 12.

Three boys' schools are carried on in connection with the Training College, and on the same premises, viz., English, Anglo-Vernacular Sinhalese, and Anglo-Vernacular Tamil.

The total expenditure on the Government Training College was Rs. 49,199·93 of which sum Rs. 12,199 was recovered in school fees.

Besides the Government Training College, there are twenty Vernacular Training Schools, which received yearly grants amounting to Rs. 14,275.

(D) Technical, Industrial, and Agricultural Education.

The Government Technical Schools.—There is now no general provision for higher technical education in Ceylon. The civil engineering classes at the Technical College were finally brought to an end in the early part of 1910. A little later the classes in surveying were taken over by the Survey Department, which now trains its own recruits. The title of the institution was changed to "Technical Schools," and the work was confined to the preparation of candidates for the lower branches of the Railway and Postal Departments, to the classes in chemistry and physics, which are held in the science laboratories for medical and other students, and to the drawing and art departments.

At the same time the training of candidates for the Public Works Department in civil engineering was abandoned, and in its place Government offers three scholarships to enable students to take the course of the Engineer Class at the the Madras Engineering College, with a view to their ultimate appointment to posts in that Department. These scholarships entitled their holders to a subsistence allowance of Rs. 50 per mensem, and an outfit and travelling allowance at the rate of Rs. 300 per annum for three years. The fees also are paid by Government. Those students who pass the College final examination at the end of the three years' course will receive the same subsistence allowance for an additional year, during which they will be employed on works in India. They will further receive the same travelling allowances as are drawn by Indian students under the same circumstances.

For students desirous of entering the Irrigation Department three scholarships are offered, to be held in the Upper Subordinate Class in Engineering at the same institution. These scholarships carry with them a subsistence allowance of Rs. 30 per mensem, and an outfit and travelling allowance at the rate of Rs. 200 per annum for three years, with a further year's employment on works in India to those students who pass the College final examination at the end of the three years' course.

In the year 1911 there were 72 students at the Technical Schools. The cost of the institution for the year was Rs. 37,756·95, of which Rs. 1,816·18 were recovered in fees and by the sale of stationery, instruments, &c.

Industrial Schools.—There are no Government industrial schools, but carpentry schools have been attached to five Government schools in the Kandyan Provinces. In 1911 the aided industrial schools, which are 36 in number, received grants amounting to Rs. 20,895·16. The number of pupils was 6,115 and the trades taught were dressmaking, carpentry, printing, bookbinding, shoemaking, tailoring, blacksmith's work, lace-making, embroidery, gardening, and masonry.

The most important of these schools is the Maggona Certified Industrial School, which is utilized by Government as a reformatory, and carried on by the Roman Catholic Mission. This institution has an estate of about 300 acres and excellent buildings, to the cost of which Government has contributed. At the end of 1911 the number of juvenile offenders receiving instruction in it was 220. The trades taught were carpentry, ironwork, masonry, gardening and estate work, bookbinding, and tailoring. An allowance is paid by the Government for the maintenance of each juvenile offender. The total cost of the institution to Government in 1911 was Rs. 23,849·57.

Agricultural Institution.—In Ceylon, where 88 per cent. of the population is rural, the technical and industrial education required for the main part of the population is one which will fit them for rural and agricultural life. An attempt is already being made to supply this by the scheme for school gardens, which is conducted in connection with the Government schools. There are now 231 Government schools in which gardens are being carried on under the scheme. The seeds and implements are supplied by the Royal Botanic Gardens, and the gardens are visited as often as possible by the Superintendent of School Gardens and his assistants. The work is encouraged by money prizes for the most successful school in each district.

It is hoped at no distant date to establish a central school of agriculture, and at the same time to modify the training in the vernacular schools in the direction of imparting elementary instruction in agricultural subjects. Meanwhile arrangements have been made for the training of selected students from Ceylon at the Agricultural College at Poona, and four students proceeded there this year to go through a three years' course.

Needlework in Girls' Schools.—This subject has received much attention since the appointment of the Inspectress of Needlework in 1904. The Inspectress visits personally as many schools as she can, and marks the work done at all girls' and mixed schools throughout the Island. This has led to a marked improvement both in plain needlework and in the lace and embroidery done in industrial schools.

(E) Proposed Educational Reforms.

The Committee appointed to inquire into the state of education in Ceylon presented its report in May, 1912. It is now receiving the consideration of Government together with a special report on the same subject by Mr. J. J. R. Bridge, Inspector of Secondary Schools, who was sent out by the English Board of Education at the request of the Government of Ceylon.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

(A) Hospitals.

There are 76 Government hospitals, in addition to the Lunatic and Leper Asylums, equipped with modern hospital furniture and surgical appliances. The number of beds in the hospitals ranges from 30 to 425.

The new outpatients' department of the General Hospital, Colombo, is now completed and in working order. In addition to the hospitals, there are 418 outdoor Government dispensaries and 279 estate dispensaries supported by the planters, who get their drugs free up to a value of 50 cents per cooly per annum.

(B) Medical Institutions.

The Medical College accommodated in 1911 151 medical and 81 apothecary students, these numbers showing a decrease of 10 and 1 respectively as compared with 1910. The full course of training for medical students is five years; a diploma in medicine, surgery, and midwifery (which can be registered in the United Kingdom) is granted to successful students. In association with the College there are a Bacteriological Institute with a small Clinic for Tropical Medicine attached; a laboratory for the Government Analyst; an ophthalmic hospital; a lying-in home; a women's hospital; a children's hospital; and special hospitals for the insane, lepers, and infectious diseases.

The staff of the Civil Medical Department has recently been strengthened by the appointment of two Itinerating Inspecting Medical Officers, whose principal duties are—

(*a*) Inspection of hospitals and dispensaries and of the work of the Provincial Surgeons generally.
(*b*) Inspections of opium depôts.
(*c*) Initiation and execution of measures to combat anchylostomiasis, tuberculosis, and malaria.
(*d*) Inspection of estates.
(*e*) Special supervision of cholera, smallpox, or other epidemics.

(C) Asylums.

The Lunatic Asylum is situated in Colombo. There are 664 inmates.

The Leper Asylum is situated about 6 miles from Colombo, and contains 392 patients. A small establishment for lepers exists in the Eastern Province, and contains 36 patients. A large leper settlement is to be founded there shortly.

In association with Government, a Home for Incurables (containing 80 beds) is worked by a Committee of Government officials and representatives of the public.

(D) Poor Houses.

There are no poor houses in Ceylon. In Colombo and some other towns there are Friend-in-Need Societies for the relief of distress, and these are subsidized by Government, the Colombo subsidy being Rs. 12,000 per annum. In addition to this, every Government Agent and Assistant Government Agent has an annual vote for "Allowances to Paupers"; the votes vary from Rs. 10,500 in the Colombo District to Rs. 660 in the Nuwara Eliya District; the maximum allowance is Rs. 5 a month.

(E) Reformatories.

There are no Government reformatories in Ceylon, but by an arrangement with the Roman Catholic Mission the Maggona Industrial School is used as a reformatory for youthful offenders (*vide* IV. (D) Technical, Industrial, and Agricultural Education).

(F) Savings Banks.

There are two Government institutions, and the business of both showed a satisfactory working in 1911.

Ceylon Savings Bank.—The Ceylon Savings Bank had a sum of Rs. 5,152,981 to the credit of 37,099 depositors on December 31, 1911, as against Rs. 4,857,383 to the credit of 35,938 depositors on December 31, 1910.

The amount of the bank's invested funds on December 31, 1911, was Rs. 5,601,947. Interest is allowed on deposits at the rate of 3 per cent. on sums of Rs. 1,000 and over, and 4 per cent. on sums under Rs. 1,000.

Post Office Savings Bank.—At the end of 1911 there was a sum of Rs. 3,217,242 to the credit of 93,549 depositors, an increase of Rs. 343,810 and 7,595 depositors over 1910.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

(A) Police.

The authorized strength of the Police on December 31, 1911, was 1 Inspector-General, 7 Superintendents, 15 Assistant Superintendents, 24 Inspectors, 41 Sub-Inspectors, 59 Station House Officers, 253 Sergeants, and 1,983 Constables.

In addition, the strength of the European Police was 1 Inspector, 2 Sub-Inspectors, 4 Second Class Sergeants, and 24 Third Class Sergeants.

The cost of the force in 1911 was Rs. 1,240,385.

(For criminal statistics furnished by the Inspector-General of Police see under (C) below.)

(B) Prisons.

There was a decrease of 302 in the total number of admissions of convicted prisoners to the prisons of Ceylon during the year 1911, excluding Road Ordinance defaulters, of whom there were 191, as against 214 in 1910. The figures are as follows :—

1910	..	..	..	..	8,840
1911	..	..	..	..	8,538

The convictions for murder and manslaughter were 106, as against 101 in 1910. Of these 106, 50 were sentenced to be hanged, of whom 31 were executed. Of the 50 sentenced to be hanged, 44 were Sinhalese, 5 Tamils, and 1 an Arab.

There were 13 escapes during the year and 9 recaptures.

The total number of deaths in jail was 315, as against 238 in 1910 and 381 in 1909. The death-rate per 1,000 of the prisons population was 20·98, as against 16·36 in 1910 and 23·85 in 1909.

The daily average sick was 180·82, as against 148·83 in 1910 and 166·60 in 1909.

The number of punishments for prison offences inflicted during the year was 1,151, as against 1,287 for 1910. The total number of individuals punished was 1,093. Corporal punishments decreased from 30 in 1910 to 25 in 1911.

Prisoners are employed on works of public utility and remunerative industrial labour, the demand for such work being still in excess of the supply.

All cloth required for the clothing of prisoners is woven by the prisoners themselves in Welikada Prison. Clothing and bedding are made for the Medical Department. Baskets are manufactured at Negombo and Batticaloa by convalescent prisoners for the Public Works Department. The steam laundry at Welikada undertakes washing for all the Medical Department institutes in Colombo, as well as for the Railway Department; while the tailors in Welikada, in addition to making articles for the Medical Department, make up uniforms for

all officers in the Prisons Department, as well as all prisoners' clothing. 200 prisoners are daily employed at the Government Printing Office at Welikada, and it is hoped shortly to increase this number. For this purpose the accommodation at Welikada has been and is being increased, all the work being done by prison labour.

Out of doors prisoners are chiefly employed in quarrying stone and breaking metal and on reclamation works. At Mahara 540 prisoners are employed in the quarries for the Harbour Works. At Kandy, Galle, Chilaw, Anuradhapura, and Tangalla stone and metal are supplied to the Railway and Public Works Departments. The Karaiur reclamation scheme at Jaffna is now in full swing. Large additions and alterations have been made in the Jaffna Prison giving increased accommodation, which enables 400 prisoners to be kept at that station and employed on the reclamation works.

The portable prison at Mankulam was opened in September, 1911, and has proved a success. It not only affords useful remunerative labour in the shape of quarrying stone and breaking metal for the Irrigation Department, but has proved a good deterrent.

So great has been the demand for prison labour on such works as above noted that it was found in December, 1911, necessary to reduce still further the " penal stage " from two months to one. This step has in no way proved detrimental to prison discipline, while it has improved the health of the prisoners and has rendered more prisoners available for works of public utility, prisoners who have passed the penal stage being employed in outdoor manual labour, instead of in husk-beating or other forms of comparatively unremunerative work within the jail walls.

(c) Criminal Statistics.

I.—*From Returns furnished by the Inspector-General of Police for the Calendar Year 1911.*

The following figures show the number of " true " cases of crime dealt with during the past five years :—

Year.	True Cases.	Convictions and Committals.
1907	15,555	11,550
1908	17,831	12,523
1909	16,296	12,120
1910	14,104	10,505
1911	12,751	9,316

Of the total 12,751 for 1911, 5,055 were statutory offences, breaches of Municipal by-laws, and other minor offences. Real crime amounted to 7,696 offences for the year.

The following table shows the fluctuations of the more important forms of serious crime :—

	1907.	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.
Murder and homicide	188	201	177	209	182
Rape	110	129	130	131	121
Robbery	926	1,000	937	1,015	798
Burglary	2,370	2,570	2,456	1,957	1,630
Grievous hurt	479	329	551	731	680
Theft of cattle and prædial products	1,161	2,079	1,656	1,324	1,366
Arson	384	499	391	442	383
Riot	2	1	1	—	4

The figures show that there has been a further large decrease in burglary and a slight decrease in cases of grievous hurt, while the amount of other crime has been nearly stationary.

The number of murders is below the average of the last six years, but the decrease is very slight and shows no real improvement. Of the murders, as is usual, nearly half the number were stabbing cases, and when the causes are examined, an almost equal number are found to be due to sudden and quite unpremeditated quarrels. It is satisfactory to note that in only two cases was murder committed for the sake of plunder. 22 cases were due to jealousy and 25 were the outcome of long-standing enmity, while 10 more were due to land disputes. Recent inquiries tend to throw doubt on the correctness of the figures prior to 1907, but steps have recently been taken to ensure greater accuracy in the compilation of criminal statistics, and the figures may now be regarded as more reliable than they have been previously. The fall in the number of burglary cases is the most satisfactory feature of the year.

II.—*From Returns furnished by the Solicitor-General for the Financial Year July, 1911, to June, 1912.*

The number of cases instituted in the Police Courts and Municipal Magistrates' Courts during the period July, 1911, to June, 1912, was 78,601, as against 79,620, the proportionate number for twelve months of the period January, 1910, to June, 1911.

The number of persons dealt with in the above cases was 85,312. The proportion per 100,000 inhabitants was 2,075, as against 3,144 during the preceding eighteen months.

1,573 persons were committed for trial before the Superior Courts. Of these, 18 were discharged on the withdrawal of the indictments against them by the Attorney-General, 898 were convicted of various crimes, and the remaining 657 were acquitted.

Taking into account offences of a serious nature which, in certain circumstances, are summarily triable by Police Magistrates, altogether 1,763 persons would appear to have been convicted of serious crime during the twelve months, as against 2,160 the proportionate number for twelve months of the period January, 1910, to June, 1911, or a decrease of 397 persons convicted.

Out of 52 persons convicted of murder, 6 were transported to the Andamans, the sentence of death being commuted.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

(A) Population.

The population of Ceylon on December 31, 1911, exclusive of the immigrant population, estimated on the basis of the Census of March 10, 1911, was 4,106,254, an increase of 13,018 on the population estimated on December 31, 1910, and consisted of 7,644 Europeans, 27,044 Burghers, 2,716,438 Sinhalese, 1,057,740 Tamils, 266,980 Moors, 13,115 Malays, and 17,293 "Others." Compared with the population at the end of 1910, there was an increase of ·32 per cent. The natural increase by excess of births over deaths from the date of the last Census to December 31, 1911, amounted to 719, while the number of Indian immigrants exceeded the emigrants by 43,259. The population (inclusive of immigrants) on January 1, 1912, was accordingly 4,149,513, an increase of 51,638 persons (made up of an excess of 13,018 births over deaths and of 38,620 immigrants over emigrants), *i.e.*, an excess of 1·01 per cent. of the population (inclusive of immigrants) at the end of 1910 estimated on the basis of the last Census.

Births and Deaths.—The births registered in 1911 numbered 156,398, and were in the proportion of 37·9 per 1,000 of the population estimated at the middle of the year. The deaths registered in 1911 numbered 143,380, and were equal to a rate of 34·8 per 1,000 of the population—the second highest rate on record for the last forty-five years, the highest (35·1) being in 1906. Compared with 1910, the birth-rate for 1911 shows a decrease of 1·1 per mille, and the death-rate an increase of 7·5 per mille. Compared with the average rates for the eleven years 1898–1908, the birth-rate for 1911 shows a decrease of ·1, and the death-rate an increase of 6·3 per mille.

(B) Public Health.

The general health of the population during the year was bad, the death-rate rising to 34·8 from 27·3 in the previous year and from 28·5 the average for the eleven years 1898–1908, and the infantile mortality to 218 from 176 in 1910 and 180 the average for 1898 to 1910. The deterioration was shared by five of the Provinces, the exceptions being the North-Central Province (33·0, average 42·1), the Northern Province (24·7, average 30·8), the Eastern Province (29·9, average 32·1), and the Province of Uva (37·1, average 37·9). The deterioration was especially marked in the Province of Sabaragamuwa, where the rate rose to 59·0 from 32·5.

Causes of Death.—Deaths from enteric fever showed a marked decrease from the previous year, numbering 651, as against 4,619. But this is almost entirely due to an alteration in the method of tabulation, only those cases being now entered as " enteric fever " which are duly certified as such by qualified medical men, while deaths previously reported by village registrars as due to this cause are now classified as due to " ill-defined fever." Under the latter head the number of deaths increased from 16,238 in 1910 to 33,064 in 1911.

Deaths registered as due to diarrhœa rose from 13,602 in 1910 to 17,347 in 1911, to dysentery from 2,960 to 4,743, to phthisis from 3,917 to 4,286, and to anchylostomiasis from 1,592 to 2,001.

Cholera accounted for 277 deaths, as against 22 in 1910, 242 of these occurring in the cooly camp at Ragama, and being traceable to infection from India. Deaths from smallpox, also traced to infection from India, numbered 89, as against 29 in 1910.

Preventive Measures against Disease.—Measures have been taken for the prevention of malaria by the circulation of leaflets, the free distribution of quinine, and lectures and demonstrations to the public through the officers of the Medical Department and the headmen.

An anti-malaria campaign is being conducted at Kurunegala in the North-Western Province, and measures are also in progress at Badulla in the Province of Uva.

In connection with the King Edward VII. Memorial Fund, measures are being taken to combat the ravages of tuberculosis.

Vaccination is systematically carried on throughout the Island by a special staff. During the twelve months 161,979 subjects were vaccinated. The percentage of successful primary vaccination cases to total inspected was 90·39, while the percentage of successful re-vaccination cases was 70·95.

Stringent precautions are taken under the auspices of the Plague Committee to prevent the introduction of plague into Ceylon. The Island has hitherto been immune from the ravages of the disease. One case of plague in a European was landed at Galle in July, the patient recovering.

There were 38 deaths from hydrophobia during 1911. The Ceylon Government gives an annual grant to the Pasteur Institute at Coonoor, and poor persons bitten by rabid animals and unable to meet the expenses of the journey are sent there at the cost of the Government.

Concerted action is being taken by the local authorities to stamp out rabies by enforcing the registration of dogs and by the destruction of homeless pariahs.

(C) SANITATION.

In the matter of sanitation the large towns are controlled by Municipalities, while others have Local Boards, or come under the Small Towns Ordinance.

The general expense of scavenging is met from rates recovered locally, and loans are made occasionally to local bodies for larger works of permanence, such as water supply, construction of drains, &c., the cost of which they are unable to meet in a lump sum.

Colombo Drainage Works.—The drainage of Colombo has been undertaken by Government at the request of the Municipal Council, the necessary funds being advanced by Government on loan, while further assistance is being given by the contribution of a part of the expenditure as a free grant.

The scheme provides for a complete system of sewers and rain water drains throughout the city, and for the disposal of the sewage by bacterial treatment upon modern lines.

Up to the end of 1911 75 miles of sewers and rain water drains had been laid, and about half the city was ready for house connections.

Water Supply Schemes.—With the assistance of the Government, partly by way of grant, partly of loan, the Municipality of Galle has completed a water supply for that town. Similar assistance is being given to the Local Board of Kurunegala in the North-Western Province and to that of Batticaloa in the Eastern; while in the Northern Province special consideration has been shown to Mannar, a small township which is likely to rise to some importance with the opening of through railway connection with South India in the near future. Schemes for supplying water to Puttalam and Chilaw are being considered.

(D) CLIMATE.

The climate of Ceylon varies considerably in different parts of the Island, both as regards temperature and rainfall. In the low-country and coast districts the climate is tropical, and a noticeable feature is the small diurnal variation of both the barometer and thermometer. In the mountainous districts in the interior of the Island it resembles that experienced in many parts of Europe, being temperate and equable.

The rainfall for 1911 was below normal on the west side of the Island, but above it on the east. Unusually heavy rain occurred in December in the north and north-east. Ratnapura again heads the list with 148·77 inches on 224 days, as against 128·04 inches on 232 days in 1910. At the other extreme Puttalam had 37·64 inches on 87 days, as against 33·34 inches at Mannar and 32·91 inches at Hambantota in 1910.

The rainfall at the Colombo Observatory was 69·36 inches on 169 days, and at Kandy 86·84 inches on 177 days.

The mean temperature for the whole year was highest at Mannar, 83·1° F.; and lowest at Nuwara Eliya, 59·6° F.

At the Colombo Observatory and at Kandy the mean temperature was 81·6° F. and 76·0° F. respectively.

The highest temperature reached in the Island during 1911 was 101·1° on May 21 at Trincomalee. The highest on record is 103·7° F. at Trincomalee on May 12, 1890.

The highest temperature reached at the Colombo Observatory in 1911 was 95·7° F. on February 19.

The mean daily range of temperature, *i.e.*, the mean of the daily differences between the maximum and minimum temperatures, was highest at Badulla, where it was 19·9° F.; and lowest at Galle, 8·4° F.

VIII.—POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

One new post office and eleven new receiving offices were opened during the year 1911. The total number of offices now is 454, of which 286 are receiving offices for the sale of postage stamps and delivery of letters, while 168 are money order and savings bank offices, and of these 114 are also telegraph offices.

The total estimated number of articles, exclusive of parcels, which passed through the post amounted to 40 millions, against 37½ millions in the year 1910.

The total number of parcels dealt with was 589,312, an increase of 39,403 over the previous year. The business done is shown as follows :—

	1910.	1911.
Total number of parcels..	549,909	589,312
To the United Kingdom	12,516	12,502
From the United Kingdom	25,942	28,414
To other countries	37,041	38,624
From other countries	120,453	131,382

The following are the figures for money orders :—

	1910.		1911.	
	Number.	Value. Rs.	Number.	Value. Rs.
Inland	384,610	10,853,842	401,636	11,615,385
Indian	236,475	7,021,194	248,963	7,587,354
United Kingdom	11,456	464,688	11,454	521,837
Other Countries	12,869	884,244	13,110	965,258

The increase in telegrams is shown in the following figures :—

	1910.	1911.
Inland	662,246	712,990
Indian	156,301	161,736
Other Countries	89,945	87,516

Postal Improvements.—The travelling post office van formerly returned daily from Kandy to Colombo by the 7 A.M. Down train practically empty. It has now been arranged that it shall return by the Down Night Mail, and up-country offices make up bags for the van. Parcels and registered letters are also sent from a number of post offices to the travelling post office.

District Inspectors of Post Offices.—The Island has been divided into four postal districts, and an inspector has been placed in charge of each.

Investigating Inspector.—A special inspector was appointed to inquire into cases of fraud and alleged thefts in the post. It was arranged that he should receive three months' training in India.

Date-stamping Machine. — A Krag date-stamping machine capable of stamping 600 letters a minute was introduced into the Colombo Office.

New Telegraph Office.—Owing to the want of room in the General Post Office, due to the growth of the Telegraph Department, the Central Telegraph Office was removed on March 12, 1911, to a new building at the end of Chatham street and near the Fort Railway Station.

Wireless Telegraph Station.—Provision was made in the Estimates for 1911-1912 for the construction of a Wireless Telegraph Station at Colombo. The work was entrusted to the Marconi Wireless Telegraph Co., the site selected being in the neighbourhood of Welikada Jail. It was anticipated that it would have a range of 450 to 500 miles by day and 800 by night.

Telephones.—In 1896, the year that Government took over the Telephone Exchange from the Oriental Telephone Co., there were 130 telephones in use; there are now over 1,200.

The underground telephone cables in Colombo were completed in the early part of the year.

Telephone trunk lines were opened from Colombo to Kandy on March 10, 1911, and from Kandy to Nuwara Eliya on April 13, 1911.

IX.—PUBLIC WORKS.

(A) Public Works Department.

The total expenditure of the Public Works Department for the year 1911 was Rs. 6,916,805, an increase of Rs. 334,487 over 1910.

The total length of roads maintained by the Public Works Department during the year was 3,873 miles, of which 3,564 miles are cart roads and 309 miles are bridle roads.

The special expenditure on roads and bridges for 1911 under the programme of Works chargeable to Surplus Balances amounted to Rs. 264,900.

Amongst the more important works completed during the year were the Central Telegraph Office and Telephone Exchange, Colombo; the Outpatients' Department, General Hospital, Colombo; and the new Government Printing Office, Colombo.

The following works were in progress, but had not been completed at the end of the year:—The Wireless Telegraph Station, Colombo; the Anatomical Block in connection with the rebuilding of the Medical College, Colombo; the new Royal College, Colombo; the Hydro-Electric Installation, Nuwara Eliya; the extension of the Customs premises and Passenger Jetty, Colombo; and the Colombo Lake Development Project.

Considerable progress was made in the extension of metalled cart roads in the planting districts in the year under review.

(B) Colombo Harbour Works.

The total expenditure upon the harbour works proper during 1911 amounted to Rs. 908,530·78, the total expenditure since the commencement of the South-west Breakwater in 1873, including maintenance charges, being Rs. 43,193,914·93.

New Arm, South-west Breakwater.—The work of block setting was resumed in October, and good progress made. At the end of the year there remained to be done the landing jetty, masswork, capping, lighthouse, and bagwork, all of which it was anticipated would be completed within the following four months.

Graving Dock.—The Dock was occupied on seventeen occasions during the year. The revenue amounted to Rs. 36,800·17, and the expenditure to Rs. 65,029·71.

Patent Slip.—The Slip was used on twenty-three occasions, producing a revenue of Rs. 23,964; the working expenses amounted to Rs. 15,119·47.

Coaling Grounds.—The new coaling grounds on the east side of the harbour have been allotted to the different coaling firms. The site of the old coaling grounds on the south side will probably be utilized for a much-needed extension of the Customs premises.

Deepening of the Harbour.—In view of the decision of the Suez Canal Company to increase the depth of the canal to 11 metres or 36 feet, steps are being taken to dredge the northern portion of the harbour to a similar depth, two further areas, at the root of the South-west Breakwater and opposite the coaling jetties, being dredged to a depth of 33 feet.

(C) Railway.

Open Line, 1911-12.

The new section of the narrow gauge line from Avisawella to Ratnapura, a distance of 27 miles, was opened in January, 1912, bringing the total length of line open for traffic to 604¾ miles.

The revenue derived from all sources during the year amounted to Rs. 14,113,877, the new line to Ratnapura contributing Rs. 129,011. These figures compared with the receipts for 1910–11 show an increase of Rs. 530,717, the largest item of increase being Rs. 386,657 under Coaching Traffic.

Under Goods Traffic the tonnage conveyed has increased, the principal increases being under the heads of Tea 8,043 tons, Rubber 2,577 tons, Tea Packing 2,055 tons, Manure, 13,144 tons, Liquid Fuel 3,083 tons, and Other Third Class Goods 11,913 tons.

The total working expenses, including a sum of Rs. 339,479 spent on new and minor works, amounted to Rs. 6,686,891, or an increase over the preceding year of Rs. 349,308.

The result of the year's working is as follows :—

	Rs.
Receipts	14,113,877
Working Expenses	6,686,891
Profit ..	7,426,986

Of this profit, a sum of Rs. 1,244,933 was expended on additional accommodation and improvements. In addition to this, a sum of Rs. 1,442,046 from the surplus balances of the Colony was spent on new works and rolling stock, 16 new engines and 185 passenger and goods wagons having been put into traffic during the year.

The total capital cost to June 30, 1912, was Rs. 102,367,082, and the capital outstanding Rs. 49,115,716.

Extensions, 1911–12.

To Chilaw.—This line will form a continuation of that opened in December, 1909, between Colombo and Negombo, extending it for another 27 miles up the west coast through a thickly populated district, the greater portion of which is devoted to the cultivation of coconuts. It is anticipated that it will attract a large goods traffic. The line is being constructed on the broad gauge. The estimated cost of the extension is Rs. 3,932,053, the amount expended up to June 30, 1912, being Rs. 1,540,152.

To Ratnapura.—The extension of the Kelani Valley narrow gauge (2 ft. 6 in.) line, covering the 27 miles from Avisawella to Ratnapura, was opened to traffic on January 15, 1912. Of the estimated cost of Rs. 2,953,408, a sum of Rs. 2,827,944 had been expended up to June 30, 1912. At that date certain minor works remained to be executed, at an estimated cost of Rs. 70,000.

To Pelmadulla.—The survey and estimate for this line were completed in 1912, and sanction for its construction was given in June of that year. The line will run in extension of that from Avisawella to Ratnapura, for nearly 17 miles beyond the latter place, and will pass through some of the richest rubber growing country in the Island. It will be constructed on the 2 ft. 6 in. gauge. The total estimated cost is Rs. 2,253,414.

To Badulla.—Plans, sections, and estimates were prepared for an extension of the Main line from Bandarawela, the present up-country terminus, to Badulla, the chief town of the Province of Uva, and an important centre of the tea and rubber plantation industries. The new line will be some 21 miles in length, traversing hilly and broken country throughout.

To Mannar.—By July, 1912, the earthwork on this extension was practically complete, and rail head was within 20 miles of Mannar. From this station the rails had been laid to Talaimannar, a distance of 18 miles.

The twelve months showed a good average rate of construction. The country was free from the rinderpest and drought which caused so much trouble the year before, and there was a marked improvement in the health of the labour force, owing largely to better conditions of transport.

Colombo Stations Extension.—This scheme comprises the construction of new stations at Maradana and the Fort, new railway store, engine sheds and yards, re-arrangement of the old goods yard, deviation and duplication of main lines across the lake, formation of lake basins to take traffic from the railway by water to the godowns and eventually to the harbour, the reclamation of a large area of the lake, and the construction of a quay wall, on which electric cranes will work, &c. The new station at Maradana, engine sheds and yards, railway store and office, and inward goods shed have already been completed. Good progress is being made with the rest of the works. The total estimated cost of the work as it now stands is Rs. 6,443,271, while the expenditure to June 30, 1912, was Rs. 3,907,382.

Sea Coast Duplication and Maradana-Ragama Widening.—This work was commenced in 1909, and provides for the duplication of the track between Moratuwa on the Coast line south of Colombo and Ragama on the line to Kandy. The actual duplication between Colombo and Ragama has been completed. South of Colombo the line has been opened for double line working between Bambalapitiya and Mount Lavinia. The total estimate for the work is Rs. 2,697,356, the expenditure to June 30, 1912, being Rs. 2,376,140.

Protection of Sea Coast Line.—To counteract the encroachment of the sea heavy protection works of rubble and blocks of stone have been taken in hand along the line running through Kollupitiya and Bambalapitiya, and in weak spots between Wellawatta and Mount Lavinia. The estimate for the whole of these works is Rs. 513,510, and the expenditure to June 30, 1911, Rs. 433,370.

(D) Irrigation, 1911-12.

The total expenditure on the construction of irrigation works for the year ending June 30, 1912, was Rs. 291,559, the expenditure for the previous eighteen months from January 1, 1910, to June 30, 1911, being Rs. 484,523.

The expenditure on the maintenance of irrigation works during the same period was Rs. 115,591. This covers only the major works, there being in addition a very large number of village works which are maintained, as far as possible by unskilled labour, by the people owning the land irrigated by them.

The work of the year has consisted chiefly in pushing on the construction of the five large works already undertaken. The year 1913 should see three of these brought practically to completion as far as the main works are concerned; but their development by subsidiary works, such as minor channels, will probably take some years. The exceptionally heavy and unprecedented floods during the north-east monsoon were responsible for considerable delay in construction and damage to works already completed.

The area brought under irrigation by major works during the year was 428 acres, thus bringing the total area irrigated by these works up to 133,040 acres or 208 square miles. The area irrigated by the village tanks, which have been constructed by the people with Government assistance and under the supervision of Government officers, is reported to have been 95,700 acres or 150 square miles. These figures for village works are not altogether reliable, and although the figures are less than those given for the previous year, viz., 103,245 acres or 161 square miles, there has probably actually been an increase rather than a decrease.

(E) Forests.

Forest exploitation has been directed towards the elimination of over-mature timber which retarded future regeneration of crops, and the utilization of timber on areas to be alienated for sale, lease, or irrigation purposes.

The supply to public departments at actual cost of output reached a value of about Rs. 490,000 for the period from July 1, 1911, to June 30, 1912, as against

Rs. 648,000 for the preceding twelve months. Since 1906 the Forest Department has delivered 552,767 broad gauge and 136,669 narrow gauge sleepers to the Railway, and it now holds a large supply in reserve.

The average cost of delivery to date has been Rs. 3·66 per broad gauge and Re. 1·86 per narrow gauge sleeper. The Railway previously paid over Rs. 5 per broad gauge sleeper and Rs. 3·25 per narrow gauge for supplies of Jarrah, so that a considerable saving has been effected by the supply being obtained from the local forests, while the local sleepers are admittedly more durable than the imported ones.

X.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

(A) Important Events.

The fifth Decennial Census of Ceylon was taken on the night of March 10, 1911, the total population, exclusive of the military and the shipping, being returned at 4,105,535, or an increase of 15·13 over the figure for 1901.

In March, 1911, two hospitals, erected by private munificence, were opened by His Excellency the Governor at Veyangoda and Negombo respectively.

In May His Excellency laid the foundation stone of the new Royal College building in Colombo.

In June the local celebration of the Coronation of His Majesty King George V. took place. Reference has been made in the Report for 1910–1911 to the demonstrations of loyalty which the occasion evoked.

On June 29 His Excellency the Governor proceeded to Europe on leave, and Sir Hugh Clifford, K.C.M.G., assumed the administration of the Government. The Governor returned from leave on November 19, and proceeded almost immediately to India to represent the Colony at the Delhi Durbar and Coronation celebrations.

On November 20 His Excellency opened a large hospital at Moratuwa, which had been erected by private munificence.

Towards the close of the year the elections of candidates for the newly constituted Legislative Council took place. Of the four elective seats, two were contested, namely, those of the Burgher and the Ceylonese electorates. The former was contested by three candidates and the latter by two.

The representatives of several European Governments at the Coronation of the King of Siam visited the Island on their way from Europe to Bangkok. Among others who honoured Ceylon with a visit were His Serene Highness Prince Alexander of Teck and Her Royal Highness Princess Alexander of Teck, His Imperial Highness the Grand Duke Boris of Russia, Their Royal Highnesses Prince William and Princess Mary of Sweden, and His Royal Highness Prince Waldemar of Denmark.

A Commission was appointed by the Governor in April to inquire into the question of the adequacy of the rolling stock and other facilities on the railway for goods and passenger traffic, how far these were sufficient for existing requirements, and what further facilities were needed to meet immediate and future requirements.

Committees were also appointed to deal with the following subjects :—

The suggested extension of the railway from Ratnapura to Pelmadulla.

Relief to Government officers in Colombo owing to the high cost of living, especially in the matter of house rent.

The amendment of the local laws relating to merchant shipping.

The general question of secondary and higher education in the Island.

The position and prospects of the members of the various departments of the Public Service.

(B) Public Service.

Sir Hugh Clifford, K.C.M.G., administered the Government of the Colony from June 29 to November 19, 1911, during the absence of the Governor on leave, and again from November 23, 1911, when the Governor proceeded to India to represent the Colony at the Delhi Durbar. Mr. L. W. Booth acted for Sir Hugh Clifford as Colonial Secretary.

Mr. H. W. Brodhurst, Government Agent of the Western Province, received the honour of a Companionship of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, and Dr. C. T. Griffin, Assistant Principal Civil Medical Officer, was appointed a Companion of the Imperial Service Order in June. Mr. James A. van Langenberg and Mr. B. W. Bawa, two of the leading advocates practising at the Colombo Bar, were appointed King's Counsel in November. Mr. H. W. Milligan of the Ceylon Civil Service was awarded the Royal Humane Society's medal for rescuing fishermen from drowning at Negombo in April.

Mr. A. G. Lascelles, K.C., Attorney-General, succeeded Sir Joseph Hutchinson as Chief Justice of the Colony in May, 1911, and Mr. Anton Bertram, formerly Puisne Judge of Cyprus, succeeded Mr. Lascelles as Attorney-General.

The following retirements from the Public Service took place during the year under review :—Dr. C. T. Griffin, I.S.O., from the office of Assistant Principal Civil Medical Officer and Inspector-General of Hospitals, in April ; Mr. H. L. Crawford, C.M.G., from the office of Controller of Revenue, also in April ; Lieut.-Col. E. C. Davies, V.D., I.S.O., from the office of Government Factory Engineer, in May, 1911 ; and Mr. H. W. Brodhurst, C.M.G., from the office of Government Agent of the Western Province, in November, 1911.

The following deaths among members of the Public Service are recorded with regret :—Mr. H. H. Cameron, who retired from the office of Treasurer of the Colony ; Mr. H. L. Wendt, late Puisne Judge of the Supreme Court of the Island ; and Mr. John Kyle, Resident Engineer of the Colombo Harbour Works.

The deaths also took place of Mr. F. C. Loos, C.M.G., Unofficial Member representing the Burgher community in the Legislative Council ; of Mr. Philip Freudenberg, for many years Imperial German Consul at Colombo ; of the Right Rev. Dr. C. Pagnani, O.S.B., Roman Catholic Bishop of Kandy ; and of H. Sri Sumangala Thero, High Priest of Adam's Peak and Principal of the Vidyodaya Buddhist College.

(C) The Excise Commission.

During 1911 the Excise Commissioners were employed in working out the details of the scheme sanctioned by the Secretary of State. Plans of the experimental distillery were prepared, a site was selected, and orders were placed for the stills and other apparatus. A complete scheme for dealing with the foreign liquor question was prepared and approved. A departmental scheme was worked out, and the nucleus of a staff trained. An Ordinance to give effect to the proposals was drafted, and progress was made with the collection of statistics and other information.

(D) Immigration and Emigration.

The term " immigration " in Ceylon is commonly used with reference to the immigration of native labour from the South of India for the tea and rubber plantations. There is no opening in Ceylon, as in the self-governing Colonies, for the immigration of white labour.

The number of immigrant labourers who arrived in Ceylon in 1911 was 97,536, as against 112,202 in 1910. The arrivals in 1911, though less than those of the previous year, were considerably above the average for the past six years, which was, in round figures, 78,000. The arrivals are, however, largely counterbalanced by the departures, which in the official returns are given at 64,660 for 1910 and 58,916 for 1911.

Although in some parts of the Island the Sinhalese villagers are taking more and more to work on estates, the demand for immigrant Tamil labour is still steadily on the increase, and with the competition in the labour market of South India both of the Malay Peninsula and of India itself, the position from the point of view of the Ceylon employer is one that calls for, and is receiving, the earnest consideration of the planting community.

Apart from coolies returning to their homes, the main stream of emigration from Ceylon is rather to the Straits Settlements and the Malay States than to India, and the number of Ceylonese, especially from the north of the Island, who of late years have sought a living in the countries named is not inconsiderable.

(E) Openings for Investment of Capital.

The cultivation of tea, rubber, and coconuts continues to offer the chief openings for the investment of capital. Coconuts in particular are now attracting European capital, and, should it once be established that they can be successfully grown under irrigation, there is the prospect of considerable extension of this industry in the North-Western Province, and even in the drier districts of the North-Central Province.

The plumbago mining and gemming industries, as well as the cultivation of tobacco, are almost exclusively in native hands. The market for the tobacco now produced being limited, there is little, if any, room for the extension of its cultivation on present lines. But it is believed that with more up-to-date methods of cultivation and curing this crop can be grown with profit for the European market. Similarly, in the drier districts the cultivation of cotton offers possibilities as yet undeveloped.

A. N. GALBRAITH,
Second Assistant Colonial Secretary.

March, 1913.

H. M. RICHARDS, ACTING GOVERNMENT PRINTER, COLOMBO, CEYLON.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year
726	Turks and Caicos Islands	1911
727	Fiji	"
728	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1911–1912
729	Basutoland	"
730	Colonial Survey Committee	"
731	Malta	"
732	Nyasaland	"
733	British Honduras	1911
734	Gilbert and Ellice Islands...	1910
735	Southern Nigeria	1911
736	Somaliland	1911–1912
737	Imperial Institute	1911
738	Northern Nigeria	"
739	Jamaica	1911–1912
740	Swaziland	"
741	Bahamas	"
742	Grenada	1911
743	Uganda	1911–1912
744	Mauritius	1911
745	Trinidad and Tobago	1911–1912
746	British Guiana	"
747	St. Vincent	"
748	Barbados	"
749	Leeward Islands	"
750	Straits Settlements...	1911
751	East Africa Protectorate	1911–1912
752	St. Lucia	"
753	Gilbert and Ellice Islands Protectorate...	1911
754	Cayman Islands (Jamaica)	1911–1912
755	Gibraltar	1912
756	St. Helena	"
757	Weihaiwei	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
72	Fiji	Hurricane, 1910.
73	Jamaica	Cayman Islands.
74	Ceylon	Mineral Survey, 1906–7 and 1907–8.
75	West Indies...	Imperial Department of Agriculture.
76	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8.
77	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement Fund.
78	Weihaiwei	Census, 1911.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8 and 1908–9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies...	Preservation of Ancient Monuments.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 797.

CEYLON.

REPORT (SUPPLEMENTARY) FOR 1912.

(For Report for 1911–12, see No. 758.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
June, 1914.

PRINTED IN COLOMBO.

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JUN 22 1914

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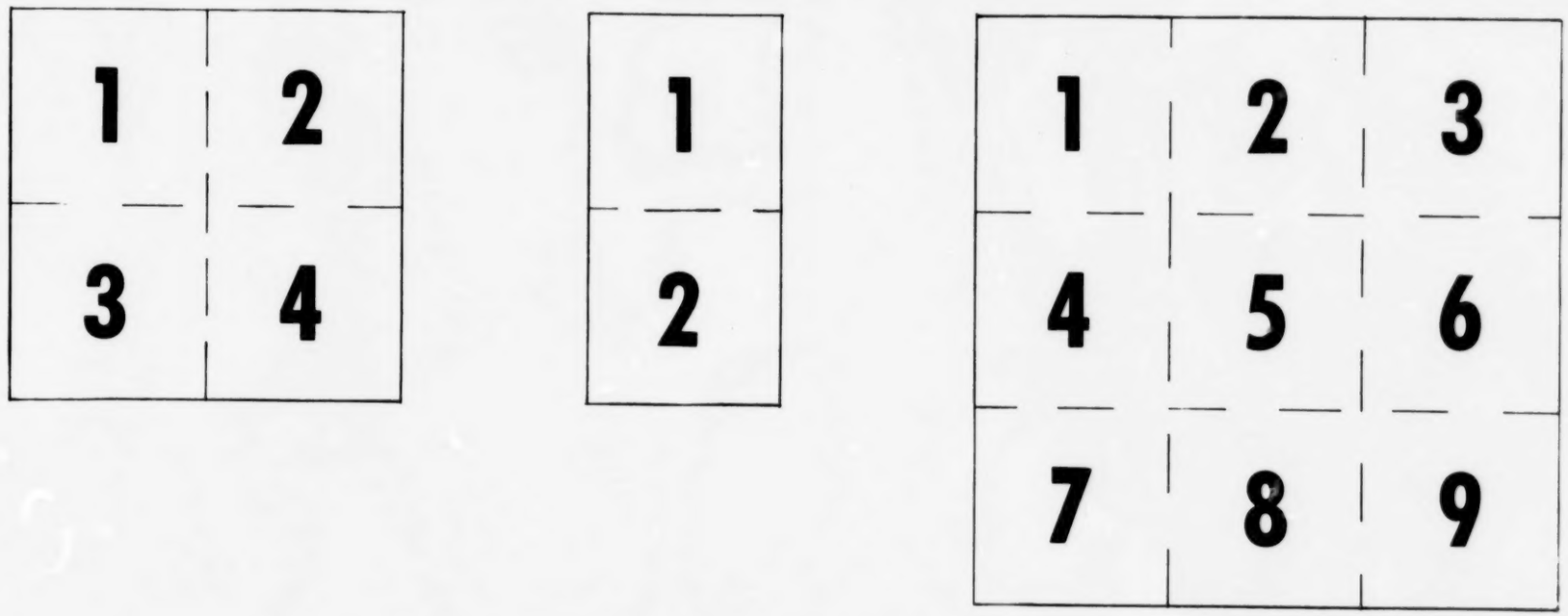

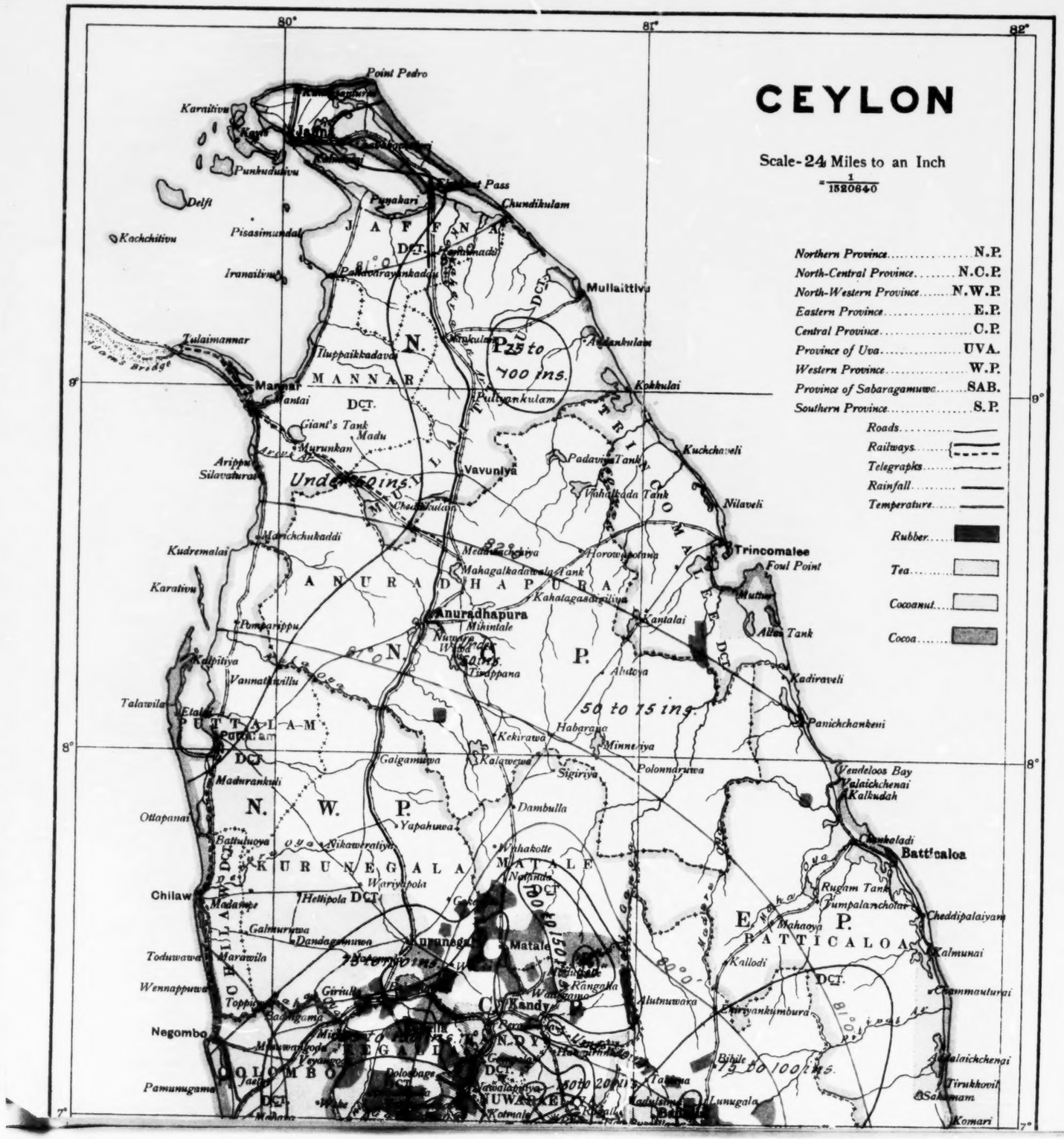
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North-Western Province N.W.P.
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Central Province C.P.
Province of Uva UVA.
Western Province W.P.
Province of Sabaragamuwa SAB.
Southern Province S.P.
Roads
Railways
Telegraphs
Rainfall
Temperature
Rubber
Tea
Cocoanut
Cocoa
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81°
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7°
Point Pedro
Karaitivu
Punkudutivu
Delft
Kachchitivu
Pisasimundal
Iranaitivu
Tulaimannar
Adam's Bridge
Mannar
Giant's Tank
Madu
Murunkan
Arippu
Silavathurai
Kudremalai
Karativu
Pomparippu
Kalpitiya
Talawila
Madurankuli
Ottapanai
Chilaw
Toduwawa
Wennappuwa
Negombo
Pamunugama
Jaffna
Pungahari
Chundikulam
Mullaittivu
Kokkulai
Pulliyankulam
Vavuniya
Padaviya Tank
Kuchchaveli
Nilaveli
Trincomalee
Foul Point
Kantalai
Kadiraveli
Panichchankeni
Verdeloos Bay
Valaichchenai
Kalkudah
Batticaloa
Cheddipalaiyam
Kalmunai
Tirukkovil
Komari
Marichchukaddi
Mahagalkadawala Tank
Horowpotana
Anuradhapura
Mihintale
Tirappana
Habarana
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Kekirawa
Galgamuwa
Kalawewa
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Polonnaruwa
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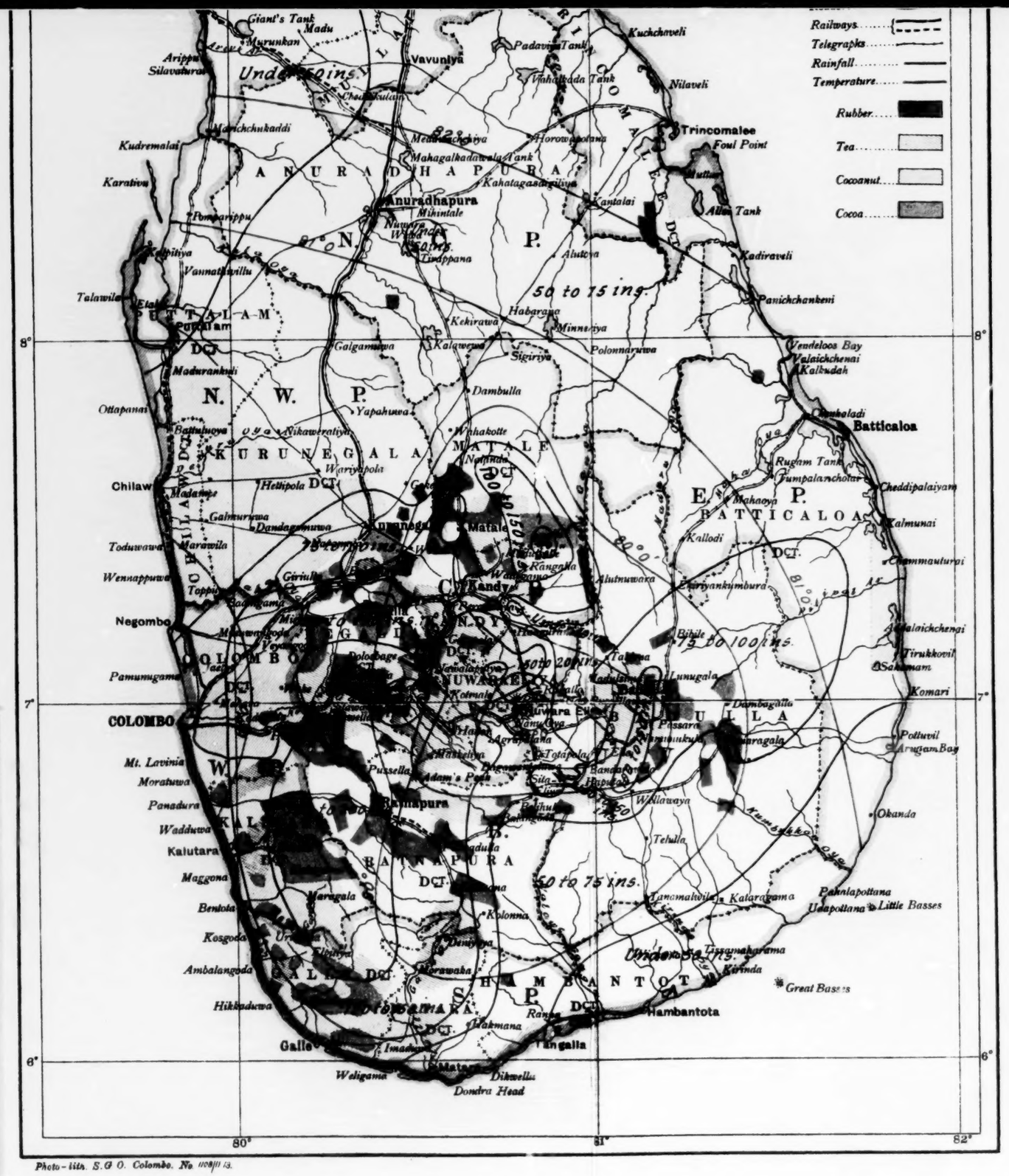

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REPORT ON THE CEYLON (SUPPLEMENTARY) BLUE BOOK OF 1912.

[NOTE.—The Blue Book and Report for 1911–12 dealt with financial statistics for the year ending June 30, 1912, but with statistics other than financial for the calendar year 1911. In future the Blue Book will be compiled for the calendar year, and will contain financial statistics for the financial period ending within that year. The financial statistics for the twelve months from July 1, 1912, to June 30, 1913, will accordingly appear with other statistics for the calendar year 1913. To secure continuity in the statistics other than financial, it has become necessary to issue a Supplementary Blue Book containing such statistics for the calendar year 1912, and it is with these alone that the present Report deals, except in the case of local bodies, which still follow the calendar year for purposes of accounting.]

I.—FINANCIAL.

(A) MUNICIPALITIES.

THE following is a comparative statement of the total revenue and expenditure of the Municipalities for the five years ended December 31, 1912 :—

Colombo.

Year.	Revenue. Rs.	c.	Expenditure. Rs.	c.
1908	1,884,133	4	1,846,000	97
1909	1,848,294	12	2,068,958	38
1910	2,260,049	41	2,191,141	42
1911	2,662,823	36	2,466,953	17
1912	2,678,159	63	2,906,599	85

Kandy.

1908	226,646	54	189,138	78
1909	180,602	94	165,850	27
1910	224,346	80	225,323	32
1911	245,473	66	245,088	6
1912	233,939	10	211,794	95

Galle.

1908	141,984	46	132,461	36
1909	156,051	80	192,656	31
1910	135,329	75	156,856	28
1911	154,342	21	144,680	6
1912	184,382	50	165,102	70

Below will be found a statement of the debts of the Municipalities up to December 31, 1912, showing provision for payment :—

Amount of Debt outstanding.	On what Account.	Provision for Payment.
Rs. c.	*Colombo.*	
(See below) ..	—	—
	Kandy.	
121,313 67 ..	Waterworks construction ..	Water-rate of 6 per cent. on properties within certain portions of the Municipality (Ordinances Nos. 18 and 29 of 1884).
105,402 98 ..	Acquisition of lands above reservoir; repairs to main sewer and other various works	Bond assigning portion of water-rate as authorized by Ordinance No. 7 of 1887; also portion of rates and taxes.
18,000 0 ..	To widen Victoria Drive and clear lake silt	Bond assigning portion of rates and taxes under sections 127 (*a*) and (*b*), 128, 129, and 130 of Ordinance No. 7 of 1887.
	Galle.	
245,624 81 ..	Construction of waterworks ..	A water-rate of 5 per cent. is levied within the Fort for repayment of loan.
37,840 82 ..	Sanitary improvements ..	Mortgage of stamp duties on licenses for carts, boats, and coaches, and also stamp duties under Licensing Ordinances of 1893 and 1897.
528,182 28		

As regards the Municipality of Colombo, a sum of Rs. 9,194,814·41 has been advanced by the Government towards the cost of the Mansergh Drainage and Sewerage Scheme. In addition to this, a sum of Rs. 250,000 has been advanced towards the improvement of the Colombo water supply, *i.e.*, for laying an additional main. The construction of the Colombo Waterworks and the Victoria Bridge was carried out by Government, and the Municipality has undertaken to repay Government an annual sum of Rs. 100,000 until 1924 in respect of the former, and of Rs. 8,000 until 1945 for the latter.

(B) Local Boards.

There are twenty-one Local Boards in Ceylon. The Boards are entrusted with the maintenance of public health and the general improvement and conservancy of the towns in which they are established. Their sources of revenue are an assessment tax on real property, taxes on vehicles and animals, road commutation tax, stamp duties for various licenses, and fines for breaches of by-laws, &c.

In 1912 the total revenue of these Boards amounted to Rs. 494,406, as against Rs. 596,425 in 1911; and the total expenditure to Rs. 500,573, as against Rs. 488,073 in 1911.

Loans are made to Local Boards, usually at 3½ to 4½ per cent. interest and 2 per cent. sinking fund, for approved purposes, such as waterworks, drainage, erection of markets, &c., on the security of their revenue.

During 1912 a loan of Rs. 2,325 was made to the Local Board of Bandarawela, and one of Rs. 8,000 to the Sanitary Board, Galle District.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

(A) Imports and Exports.

Trade in General.

The total value of Ceylon trade in the year 1912 again exceeded that of any previous year, as will be seen from the following table :—

Aggregate Value of Imports and Exports for the last Ten Years (omitting Specie, but including Coal exported for the use of Steamers).

Year.	Lakhs of Rupees.	Year.	Lakhs of Rupees.
1903	2,144	1908	2,648
1904	2,198	1909	2,853
1905	2,240	1910	3,321
1906	2,363	1911	3,523
1907	2,631	1912	3,886

The Customs revenue collected in 1912 showed an advance of Rs. 1,643,737 as compared with 1911. Between 1902 and 1912 the increase has amounted to Rs. 7,294,498, or 81·7 per cent.

The chief source of this revenue in 1911 and 1912 was the import duty on—

	1911. Rs.	1912. Rs.
Grain	3,856,615	3,941,579
Spirits	1,974,002	2,208,726
Kerosine Oil	1,362,388	1,605,472
Sugar	1,125,417	1,295,334
Cotton Goods	450,926	546,112

The total trade of the Colony, excluding specie and coal exported for use of steamers, amounted to Rs. 374,277,881, an increase of Rs. 36,764,816, or 10·9 per cent. over 1911, compared with an increase of Rs. 57,610,626 (18·2 per cent.) during the previous period.

The following table gives details for the last ten years of the annual value of the trade of the Colony, omitting specie and the value of coal for the use of steamers :—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.			Total of Imports and Exports, omitting Specie and the Value of Coal for use of Steamers.
		Produce and Manufacture of the Colony.	British, Foreign, and other Colonial Produce and Manufacture.	Total.	
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1903	100,889,372	100,871,556	1,356,167	102,227,723	203,117,095
1904	105,324,719	99,894,461	1,214,415	101,108,876	206,433,595
1905	108,324,328	100,898,551	1,291,158	102,189,709	210,514,037
1906	112,789,269	108,248,232	1,463,412	109,711,644	222,500,913
1907	120,061,934	127,095,587	2,272,664	129,368,251	249,430,185
1908	122,420,393	127,015,846	1,946,310	128,962,156	251,382,549
1909	125,441,597	144,121,334	2,778,297	146,899,631	272,341,228
1910	150,195,648	160,771,277	5,700,330	166,471,607	316,667,255
1911	156,986,106	170,110,905	10,416,054	180,526,959	337,513,065
1912	175,322,979	190,932,654	8,022,248	198,954,902	374,277,881

It will be noticed from the above table that for the last six years the value of the exports has materially exceeded that of the imports. This is due practically entirely to the influence of rubber. In 1906, the last year when imports exceeded exports, the value of the rubber exports was only Rs. 1,527,539 ; in 1912 it was Rs. 52,178,051, exclusive of 5 millions of rupees worth of Straits and Indian rubber transhipped here. The balance in favour of exports was in 1912 Rs. 23,631,000.

An analysis of the distribution of the trade of Ceylon as between the United Kingdom, British Colonies, and foreign countries during the past three years gives the following figures (omitting imports of rubber, specie, and coal exported for the use of steamers) :—

	1910.	1911.	1912.
Percentage of total trade of Ceylon taken by—			
United Kingdom	38·03 ..	39·31 ..	40·13
British Colonies	34·57 ..	33·37 ..	32·7
Foreign Countries	27·4 ..	27·32 ..	27·17
Percentage of import trade of Ceylon taken by—			
United Kingdom	28·32 ..	28·3 ..	29·62
British Colonies	58·77 ..	57·71 ..	55·4
Foreign Countries	12·91 ..	13·99 ..	14·98
Percentage of export trade of Ceylon taken by—			
United Kingdom	46·49 ..	48·39 ..	49·14
British Colonies	13·49 ..	13·29 ..	13·26
Foreign Countries	40·02 ..	38·32 ..	37·6

There was an advance by the United Kingdom both in the import and export trade, while the British Colonies showed a decrease under both heads. The percentage of value of our imports from foreign countries has steadily increased, but the percentage of our exports to those countries has similarly declined.

Imports.

There were advances under practically all heads, especially noteworthy being those under Cotton, Metals, Coal, Sugar, and Kerosine Oil.

Biscuits and Confectionery.—The imports of *biscuits* rose 15 per cent., *i.e.*, from 1,485,805 lb. in 1911 to 1,714,656 lb. in 1912. The import of *confectionery* was 1,309,078 lb., or about 20 per cent. more than in the preceding year.

Cement.—The demand for cement declined in quantity from 361,088 cwt. in 1911 to 318,996 cwt. in 1912.

Coal imports have increased from 665,047 tons to 885,661 tons during the same period.

Cotton, Manufactured and Raw.—Imports were valued at Rs. 14,109,396, an increase of Rs. 2,855,533 over the previous record year 1911. There were appreciable increases under bleached, gray, and printed piece goods from the United Kingdom and dyed piece goods from British India, Holland, and the United Kingdom.

Grain.—The quantity of rice cleared for home consumption during the year was more than in the previous period, the figures being : 1911, 6,897,034 cwt. ; 1912, 7,089,690 cwt.

Horses and Motor Cars.—The number of motor cars imported during the year was 239, as against 213 in 1911, 151 in 1910, 75 in 1909, and 89 in 1908.

The ever-increasing popularity of motoring is reflected in the imports of *petrol.* The following are the figures since 1909 :—1909, 66,208 gallons ; 1910, 136,646 gallons ; 1911, 206,028, gallons ; 1912, 216,714 gallons.

Only 384 *horses* were imported in 1912, as against 796 in 1910 and 483 in 1911.

Kerosine oil imports amounted to 4,917,895 gallons, of which 4,144,268 consisted of bulk oil and the balance case oil. Their total increased by about 12 per cent. over 1911.

Lamps.—The total number imported was 234,630, as against 204,843 in 1911. The average value entered at the Customs ranged from about Re. 1·50 for English lamps to 6 cents for small glass kitchen lamps from Japan.

Metals and Metalware.—The total value of imports was Rs. 8,950,518, an increase of Rs. 1,374,053 over 1911.

The most noticeable increases were in *hardware* (2½ lakhs), *iron, galvanized* (5 lakhs), *hoop iron* (1 lakh), and *cast steel* (2 lakhs) ; while *steelware* showed a fall of ¾ lakh.

Manure.—The total quantity imported in 1912 was 77,664 tons, as against 80,000 tons in 1911. Ground nut cake manure was imported in by far the largest quantity (13,500 tons). The other manures which contribute mainly to this year's total are castor seed poonac (10,200 tons), fish manure (12,260 tons), bone manure (8,100 tons), and basic slag (6,800 tons).

Silk manufactures of all kinds show an advance of 18 per cent., the figures being: 1911, Rs. 664,444; 1912, Rs. 786,524.

Spirits.—The quantity imported rose from 333,205 gallons in 1911 to 513,798 gallons in 1912, due principally to larger imports of arrack from India.

The imports of whisky also show an increase over 1911, while gin and brandy show a decrease of 7,282 gallons and 6,782 gallons respectively.

Sugar.—The imports of candy and refined sugar show an increase of 50,888 cwt. (or about 14 per cent.) on the imports of the previous year. Java and Hong Kong, the two chief suppliers, sent together 92 per cent. of the total for 1912. Unrefined sugar has increased nearly 24 per cent., while the imports of palm and jaggery were slightly more than in 1911.

Tobacco, Cigars, and Cigarettes.—The increase of the duty on manufactured tobacco from 40 cents a pound to Re. 1·40 a pound in December, 1910 (*i.e.*, an increase of 250 per cent.) sent the imports down with a run; but both tobacco and cigars and cigarettes show an increase for 1912. The figures for the last three years are:—

	Cigars and Cigarettes. lb.	Manufactured Tobacco. lb.	Total. lb.
1910	258,571	117,873	376,444
1911	215,756	38,788	254,544
1912	324,966	54,765	379,731

Wines.—There was an increase of 4,047 gallons in the total quantity cleared for home consumption. All kinds shared in the increase, except port and ginger wine.

The following table shows the relative positions of the various countries which export goods to Ceylon (the percentages being percentages of value):—

Countries.	1910. Per Cent.	1911. Per Cent.	1912. Per Cent.
British India	43·83	46·92	45·81
United Kingdom	27·35	26·84	28·76
Straits Settlements	6·9	5·75	3·81
Germany	2·77	3·11	3·37
Burma	4·73	2·96	2·37
Japan	1·17	1·38	2
Java	1·19	1·25	1·86
Maldive Islands	1·45	1·34	1·29
Hong Kong	1·21	1·3	1·27
United States of America	1·05	1·39	1·11
Holland	·62	·82	·92
France	·68	·82	·74
Belgium	·62	·76	·7
Borneo (excluding British)	1·1	·39	·63
Victoria	·57	·5	·51
South Australia	·64	·5	·49
Austria	·68	·61	·49
Siam	·7	·39	·48
Russia in Asia	·07	·44	·47
Switzerland	·38	·43	·4
Western Australia	·32	·17	·39
Italy	·31	·38	·37
India (excluding British)	·42	·53	·31
New South Wales	·16	·17	·21
China (excluding Hong Kong)	·12	·14	·17
Sweden	·23	·16	·16

If we exclude India, whose pride of place is of course due to the enormous supplies of rice and other food stuffs for the native population, the most striking feature of the table is the easily maintained pre-eminence of the United

Kingdom, in spite of all foreign competition. She possesses nearly nine times the trade of the nearest foreign rival. That rival, however (Germany), is steadily advancing, and her place in the table should really be third, as a large proportion of the figure for imports from the Straits represents rubber, which is of course an " import " only in name, being soon transhipped again. Japan occupies the second place among foreign countries.

Exports.

Ceylon's chief export products in order of value are as follows :—

	Lakhs of Rupees. 1911.	1912.		Lakhs of Rupees. 1911.	1912.
Tea	849	838	Cocoa	23	27
Rubber	283	521	Coir fibre	13	17
Coconut oil	131	105	Coconuts	11	12
Copra	131	100	Citronella oil	10	11
Plumbago	66	83	Coir yarn	11	11
Desiccated coconuts	70	66	Tobacco	8	8
Cinnamon	20	28	Cardamoms	6	8
Arecanuts	24	28	Poonac	9	7

For the first time the value of rubber has exceeded the total value of the products of the coconut palm exported. The growth of rubber exports is so rapid that they may fairly be expected to reach the head of the table within the next two or three years. Copra, desiccated coconuts, arecanuts, cocoa, and coir yarn have each fallen a place ; while coconut oil, plumbago, citronella oil, tobacco, and cardamoms have correspondingly improved their position. Cinnamon, which occupied the ninth place last year, is now seventh in the list. Poonac has fallen from the fourteenth to the last place. Coir fibre and coconuts have maintained their positions.

Tea exports show an increase in quantity on 1911, but failed to reach the high quantity level of 1909. The average price was lower in 1912 than in 1911. The quantity figures for the last few years exhibit a noteworthy stability :—

	Million of lb. exported.		Million of lb. exported.
1907	182	1910	182
1908	180	1911	186
1909	192¾	1912	192

The following table shows the comparative distribution, 1911 and 1912 :—

Principal Markets for Ceylon Tea.

	1911. lb.	1912. lb.	Increase. lb.	Decrease. lb.
United Kingdom	112,510,272	115,806,997	3,296,725	—
British Colonies—				
British India	1,670,310	2,065,778	395,468	—
Canada	8,102,728	8,464,715	361,987	—
Cape Colony	530,542	719,609	189,067	—
Hong Kong	432,297	204,197	—	228,100
Malta	214,504	206,829	—	7,675
Natal	962,270	1,090,327	128,057	—
Newfoundland	212,064	627,246	415,182	—
New South Wales	8,099,003	9,001,341	902,338	—
New Zealand	4,661,226	5,046,598	385,372	—
Queensland	1,054,964	949,538	—	105,426
South Australia	1,183,966	1,327,699	143,733	—
Straits Settlements	511,082	530,216	19,134	—
Victoria	6,313,501	7,018,699	705,198	—
West Australia	704,312	798,244	93,932	—
Other British Possessions	444,517	488,414	43,897	—
Total British Possessions	35,097,286	38,539,450	3,783,365	341,201
		Deduct Decrease	341,201	
		Nett Increase	3,442,164	

	1911. lb.	1912. lb.	Increase. lb.	Decrease. lb.
Foreign Countries—				
Austria	235,038 ..	319,942 ..	84,904 ..	—
China (excluding Hong Kong)	5,569,550 ..	6,492,339 ..	922,789 ..	—
Egypt	327,957 ..	613,614 ..	285,657 ..	—
France	771,784 ..	865,958 ..	94,174 ..	—
Germany	663,453 ..	697,248 ..	33,795 ..	—
Russia in Asia ..	8,253,306 ..	6,084,834 ..	— ..	2,168,472
Russia in Europe ..	12,174,367 ..	11,052,787 ..	— ..	1,121,580
Turkey	125,921 ..	252,403 ..	126,482 ..	—
United States ..	10,151,479 ..	10,507,521 ..	356,042 ..	—
Other Foreign Countries ..	713,642 ..	786,498 ..	72,856 ..	—
Total Foreign Countries ..	38,986,497	37,673,144	1,976,699	3,290,052
			Deduct Increase ..	1,976,699
			Nett Decrease ..	1,313,353
Grand Total ..	186,594,055	192,019,591	5,425,536 ..	—

The principal increases were in exports to the United Kingdom, China, New South Wales, Victoria, and Newfoundland; while the principal decreases were under Russia in Asia and Russia in Europe.

The total exports of *green tea* in 1912 were 8,093,131 lb., as against 8,657,117 lb. in 1911.

Products of the Coconut Palm.—The total value of the exports under this head was 324 lakhs, as against 380 lakhs in 1911. The three principal products are coconut oil, copra, and desiccated coconuts. The exports of all three show a falling off as compared with 1911, and, except in the case of desiccated coconuts, are the lowest since 1908 :—

	Desiccated Coconuts. Cwt.	Copra. Cwt.	Coconut Oil. Cwt.		Desiccated Coconuts. Cwt.	Copra. Cwt.	Coconut Oil. Cwt.
1908 ..	244,734 ..	768,795 ..	670,121	1911 ..	292,210 ..	821,814 ..	505,016
1909 ..	230,791 ..	784,522 ..	599,795	1912 ..	278,806 ..	614,089 ..	401,779
1910 ..	242,286 ..	758,711 ..	619,680				

The average price for coconut oil was Rs. 26·35 per cwt., and is the highest for the last five years, with the exception of 1910. During the year the price of copra ranged from Rs. 78·50 to Rs. 88 per candy.

Rubber.—Ceylon exported over twice as much rubber in 1912 as in 1911, the actual figures being—

	Cwt.
1910	33,952
1911	61,212
1912	132,569

The distribution of the rubber among the two largest buyers is as follows for the past two years :—

	1911. Per Cent.	1912. Per Cent.
United Kingdom	55·59 ..	55·2
United States of America	29·44 ..	31·67

The average value entered in 1912 was Rs. 3·51 per lb., as against Rs. 4·13 per lb. in 1911.

The new Medical Aid Ordinance enacted in 1910 provides for an export levy on rubber, similar to that derived from tea. Up to the end of 1912, however, no duty had been actually imposed.

The following table gives the proportions of Ceylon produce and manufactures taken by the principal countries during the last three years :—

Countries.	1910. Per Cent.	1911. Per Cent.	1912. Per Cent.
United Kingdom	47·41	48·61	49·45
United States of America	13·52	13·89	16·58
Germany	9·72	9·44	7·08
Russia in Europe	6·27	5·02	3·61
Belgium	2·43	3·23	3·34
British India	2·83	2·88	2·86
New South Wales	2·51	2·37	2·28
Victoria	2·16	1·95	2·11
Canada	2·01	2·27	2·09
China (excluding Hong Kong)	1·65	1·5	1·49
Russia in Asia	1·9	2·21	1·39
New Zealand	1·29	1·34	1·24
Austria	1·38	·54	·83
Denmark	·18	·15	·65
Norway	·29	·2	·45
France	·58	·51	·41
Spain (excluding Gibraltar)	·3	·25	·35
South Australia	·35	·35	·33
Straits Settlements	·37	·32	·3
Egypt	·24	·16	·31
Natal	·31	·32	·31
Queensland	·29	·34	·26
Cape Colony	·21	·23	·26
Holland	·31	·3	·25

The United States of America have materially improved their percentage over last year. Canada, which in 1911 was eighth on the list, has fallen one place; while Victoria has advanced from the tenth to the eighth place.

Customs Duties.

All imports not specially rated or exempted by the Tariff are liable to a Customs duty of 5½ per cent *ad valorem.*

Tea, cocoa, and coffee are liable to an export duty of 10 cents per cwt., and cinchona to an export duty of 5 cents per cwt. under the Medical Wants Ordinance; and by a recent amendment of that Ordinance such products as rubber, cardamoms, coca, camphor, and pepper may also be similarly taxed. These additional products had not, however, up to the end of 1912 been subjected to any tax.

(B) Mines, Manufactures, and Fisheries.

(*a*) *Pearl Fishery.*

No pearl fishery was held during the year under review, and it is uncertain when the next fishery may be held. The last was held in 1907. This was the second fishery held after the lease of the pearl banks to the Ceylon Company of Pearl Fishers, Ltd., but the first actually carried out by the Company. Since then the periodical inspections of the pearl banks made by the Company showed an absence of oysters or spat. Meanwhile the Company found that its remaining funds were insufficient to meet its obligations under the lease, and accordingly approached Government for a modification of the terms of payment of the annual rent. The lease was eventually terminated in 1912, and the plant, stores, &c., of the Company were taken over by the Ceylon Government as from July 8, 1912.

(b) *Mineral Survey.*

The Principal Surveyor returned from sick leave in March, 1912, accompanied by Mr. E. J. Wayland, F.G.S., as assistant, and the examination of promising alluvial deposits was continued. Exhaustive tests of the valley of the Denawakganga, in which thorianite had been reported, showed that the mineral is nowhere present in paying quantities. Systematic prospecting of the country between Haputale and Balangoda failed to reveal any minerals of economic importance, and deposits of thoria minerals discovered in the district between Haputale and Welimada proved to be commercially valueless.

Preparations were made to test the reputed auriferous gravels of the Sitawaka and Kelani rivers by boring with a Keystone drill, but owing to delay in delivery the machinery was not ready for work before the break of the north-east monsoon, and this work could not be begun till near the middle of December.

(c) *Mining.*

Plumbago.—Plumbago provides the only form of mining proper in Ceylon. Approximately 450 plumbago mines in all were worked during the twelve months, giving employment to some 11,050 men. Of these, three only are in European hands. Generally speaking, the methods employed are primitive, though some of the larger mines are adopting more up-to-date appliances. The mining centres are situated in the Southern, Western, Sabaragamuwa, Central, and North-Western Provinces. In the last-named Province some mines have been sunk to a depth of nearly 200 fathoms, and there is every indication of their being sunk to even greater depths with increased success.

The quantity of plumbago exported rose from 538,973 cwt. in 1911 to 654,650 cwt. in 1912. Of this total, the United States of America took 47 per cent. as against 41 per cent. in 1911, Germany 25 per cent. as against 27, the United Kingdom 16 per cent. as against 19, and Belgium a percentage of 9 for each year. The average price was higher than in 1911, large and ordinary lumps showing an increase of Rs. 9·52, and chips, dust, and flying dust of Rs. 8·18 per ton. The increase in the export to America may be attributable in part to prosperity in the steel trade, but there is no doubt that the competition of the Korean product still continues. It is, however, noteworthy that Japan imported 4,407 cwt. of Ceylon plumbago, as against 35 cwt. in 1910 and 814 cwt. in 1911.

Gemming.—With the exception of moonstones and garnets, gems are not obtained *in situ* in Ceylon, but from gravels deposited by streams and rivers. There are two large moonstone pits in the Kandy District. Other precious stones, such as rubies, cat's-eyes, sapphires, &c., are gemmed chiefly in the Ratnapura District.

(d) *Salt.*

The manufacture and collection of salt is a Government monopoly, and is protected by the imposition of a heavy duty on imported salt. Salt is sold at all salt stores at Rs. 3 per cwt., and the sum of Rs. 1,522,542·73 was realized by its sale in 1912, as compared with Rs. 1,631,380·59 in 1911 and Rs. 1,530,570·26 in 1910. The year was not favourable for the production of salt owing to premature rain. At Trincomalee, however, where collection was a total failure in 1911, there was a collection of 43,344 cwt. consequent on favourable weather. Although no restriction was placed on the output, the total yield for the Island amounted only to 276,781 cwt. The quantity secured in 1910 (the record year) was 759,396 cwt., and in 1911 328,199 cwt.

(e) *Manufactures.*

Ceylon is essentially an agricultural country, and its manufactures on any large scale are chiefly confined to the products of agriculture. Out of 1,112 factories in the Island, 872 or 78 per cent. are tea factories, 76 coconut fibre and desiccating, 23 cocoa, and 41 rubber. Particulars of their output are given under "Exports." The preparation of coconut oil, copra, and arrack gives employment to a large number of the inhabitants, and so to a less extent does that of citronella oil and cinnamon.

In the Northern Province cigars are manufactured, but there is increasing competition from cigarettes. The Jaffna cigar, which is small, strong, and extremely cheap, is a favourite with the native population.

Cigars from Dumbara in the Central Province have been manufactured on a small scale to suit the requirements of European taste. But no expansion of the tobacco industry can be expected without improved methods of growing and curing. Experiments in this direction are being pursued.

The manufacture of tiles and bricks is carried on in all parts of the Island where suitable clay is plentiful, but only Rs. 188 worth of Ceylon manufactures under this head were exported in 1912, as against Rs. 3,595 in 1911.

The weaving of a coarse kind of cloth in hand looms is carried on in the Eastern, Northern, and Central Provinces to supply purely local wants. The cloth, though strong and of hard wearing quality, is inferior in texture and finish to imported material. Lace-making is carried on in the Western Province.

In other districts baskets, tortoise-shell boxes, and combs are manufactured, and common earthenware for water pans and cooking utensils to meet local requirements.

Excellent furniture is made in the Western Province, especially at Moratuwa.

Jewellery of very fine workmanship is made in the Northern Province, but on a very small scale. It is a species of filigree work, prized by the Tamil population of the Island.

The indigenous crafts peculiar to the Kandyan country, *i.e.*, silver and brass work, the making of jewellery, earthenware, and painted pottery, lacquer work, and ivory carving, continue to receive encouragement from the Kandyan Art Association. Specimens of these articles are kept in the Kandyan Art Museum, where they can be purchased.

Brass lamps, betel stands, plates, cooking utensils, and water pots are made in the North-Western and Eastern Provinces and at Negombo in the Western Province.

In the Mannar District of the Northern Province the drying and salting of fish gives employment to a large number of people. In 1912 about Rs. 240,000 worth of dried fish was exported from the Mannar District.

(c) Agriculture.

The Department of Agriculture.

The Department of the Royal Botanic Gardens was superseded by the Department of Agriculture in May, 1912, on the arrival of Mr. R. N. Lyne to take up the new appointment of Director of Agriculture. The staff of the old Department was absorbed into the new, several important additions being made and the Department re-organized on a completely new footing, designed to meet the needs of the planting community, of native agriculture, and of research work.

Four young men have been sent by the Government to Poona College with a view to their forming eventually the nucleus of a staff for the agricultural education of the villager.

Co-operative Credit Societies.

Interest is beginning to be taken by the people of Ceylon in the Co-operative Credit Societies movement, and societies are springing up in various parts of the Island. The villagers are beginning to understand that relief from the excessive usury to which they are subject may be obtained through the medium of these societies.

The Agricultural Society.

The total number of subscribers is 1,704—828 local and 876 foreign.

The "Tropical Agriculturist" was at the end of the year acquired by the Society from Messrs. A. M. & J. Ferguson.

The Sinhalese Agricultural Magazine (Govikam Sangarawa) has a circulation of 3,250.

The number of Agricultural Instructors has been increased to twelve.

The effort at arousing interest through shows reached its climax in the All-Ceylon Exhibition which was held in July, 1912.

A cotton trial at Ambalantota in the south of the Island proved very successful, and encourages the belief that this product will thrive in that district. The variety grown was Allen's long staple American Upland, and the yield was 1,040 lb. of lint per acre.

The dissemination of improved varieties of fruit and vegetables is being continued; while the improvement of native methods of tillage, the introduction of transplanting and manuring in paddy growing, and of rotations in dry land cultivation are the chief concern of the Instructors.

The Board of Agriculture has taken energetic steps towards promoting the scheme for a College of Tropical Agriculture in Ceylon.

Position of Agricultural Industries.

The rubber industry was marked by steady progress. The export for the year amounted to 14,847,735 lb., as against 6,855,709 lb. in 1911.

Estimating that in the East 950,000 acres are under rubber, Ceylon may be credited with 200,000 acres.

The average price obtained in London was 4*s*. 8*d*. per lb.

The general condition of tea estates throughout the Island shows no deterioration. Cultivation has been well maintained, and the market has been good. Extensions to the tea area continue, but not to an extent likely to upset the balance of supply and demand.

The exports were 192,019,591 lb., as against 186,594,055 lb. in 1911.

The coconut crops of 1912 were shorter than they should have been owing to the drought of the two previous years. This loss was compensated by the steady prices maintained for all coconut palm products in 1912.

Cocoa passed through one of its best years. The exports amounted to 71,754 cwt. Prices were on the whole higher than in previous years. Good beans were during the latter part of the year selling at Rs. 72 per cwt.

The cardamom exports for 1912 were 440,000 lb., the shortest crop for many years. There has been a general falling off since 1909, due to want of rain during the blossoming period. Prices, however, were satisfactory. In Colombo well-bleached seed fetched Rs. 2·50 to Rs. 3 per lb., while the London average was about 4*s*.

The price of cinnamon during the year was good; fine grades fetched 90 cents and over. 53,086 cwt. were exported, as against 51,897 cwt. in 1911.

There was a decline in citronella cultivation, due to some of the citronella land having gone under rubber. The exports of citronella oil were 1,487,276 lb., as against 1,533,744 lb. in 1911.

Diseases of Animals.

Cattle.—Rinderpest prevailed chiefly in the North-Central and North-Western Provinces during April, May, and June. The total number of cases for the whole Island during 1912 was 9,103, of which 2,290 recovered, 6,096 died, and 717 were shot.

Foot-and-mouth Disease.—There were 485 cases reported, of which 470 recovered and 15 died.

Dogs.— the year under review there were 60 cases of rabies reported, of which 48 gave positive results upon bacteriological examination and the other 12 negative. 46 persons went from Ceylon to the Pasteur Institute, Coonoor, for treatment.

(D) Land Grants and General Value of Land.

Land Settlement.

The Land Settlement Department is concerned with the settlement of title to lands as between the Crown and the subject.

During the year 1912 an area of about 96,000 acres was settled. Almost all claims continue to be settled without recourse to litigation.

The confidence of the people in the fairness of the settlements offered continues, and the increased facilities for acquiring land from the Crown are appreciated.

Survey.

The operations of the Survey Department for the period under review comprised 44,715 acres of block survey.

Forty-eight applications to purchase Crown land for rubber cultivation were dealt with during the period, covering 2,396 acres, chiefly in the Western, Southern, Uva, and Sabaragamuwa Provinces. In 1911 such applications numbered thirty-four, covering 1,079 acres.

Mannar town survey and the Mantivu island survey (acquisition for leper establishment) were completed during the year.

All lands sold are now permanently demarcated in accordance with the Landmarks Ordinance.

Land Sales.

Except in special cases, the alienation of Crown land in Ceylon is effected by the sale of the freehold at public auction. There is no general system of leaseholds. Where occupiers can prove prescriptive possession against the Crown, certificates of quiet possession are issued; and where the occupation has been for less than the prescriptive period, settlements may be effected on special terms.

The total extent of Crown land sold during 1912 was 30,692 acres, and the amount realized, including fees, Rs. 1,649,367.

The figures for the last five years are :—

	Extent sold. Acres.	Amount realized. Rs.
1908	25,080	907,630
1909	28,828	991,866
1910	30,673	1,273,889
1911	27,947	1,269,597
1912	30,692	1,649,367

Omitting sales and settlements effected by the Land Settlement Department, the area alienated by the Government Agents during the twelve months included an extent of 4,356 acres in the Southern Province, 3,979 acres in the Western, 2,888 acres in the North-Western, and 1,544 acres in the Province of Uva.

The average price paid per acre ranged from Rs. 15 in the North-Central Province to Rs. 166 in the Western. In the principal coconut, rubber, and tea districts of the low-country, other than the Western Province, the average prices were: Jaffna Rs. 30, Batticaloa Rs. 36, Kurunegala Rs. 44, Puttalam Rs. 92, Matara Rs. 122, and Galle Rs. 147. In the tea and rubber districts of the Kandyan Provinces average prices ranged from Rs. 25 in Ratnapura and Rs. 27 in Uva to Rs. 46 in Matale, Rs. 84 in Kandy, and Rs. 89 in Kegalla.

(E) SHIPPING.

The total number of all vessels (including warships) which entered the ports of the Island in 1912 was 4,352, with a tonnage of 9,916,597 tons, showing a decrease of 3 vessels and an increase of 354,620 tons as compared with 1911.

The following table gives the total number and nett tonnage of shipping entered and cleared at all ports in Ceylon during the years 1911 and 1912 :—

	1911.			
	Entered.		Cleared.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Merchant vessels (with cargo and in ballast)	2,410	7,387,615	2,385	7,363,938
Merchant vessels (called to coal)	691	1,872,580	691	1,873,141
Native sailing vessels	1,203	90,306	1,203	94,905
Warships	51	211,476	51	211,476
Total	4,355	9,561,977	4,330	9,543,460

	1912.			
Merchant vessels (with cargo and in ballast)	2,430	7,610,101	2,453	7,617,784
Merchant vessels (called to coal)	764	2,032,397	763	2,030,048
Native sailing vessels	1,120	96,989	1,101	95,268
Warships	38	177,110	38	177,110
Total	4,352	9,916,597	4,355	9,920,210

Omitting warships and vessels calling to coal, the following tables give the distribution according to nationality, inwards and outwards, during 1912 :—

Entered.

Nationality.	With Cargo.		In Ballast.		Total.	
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
British	1,251	3,794,123	386	1,245,493	1,637	5,039,616
Colonial	872	76,198	136	7,588	1,008	83,786
German	166	556,722	55	258,947	221	815,669
French	83	267,929	46	161,696	129	429,625
Maldivian	110	12,870	2	333	112	13,203
Japanese	88	367,301	6	24,597	94	391,898
Austrian	63	200,346	26	61,730	89	262,076
Dutch	10	13,897	75	236,563	85	250,460
Russian	13	37,741	52	141,980	65	179,721
Norwegian	31	47,770	3	95	34	47,865
Italian	24	65,302	3	9,063	27	74,365
Spanish	6	15,457	21	51,418	27	66,875
Danish	15	34,696	4	10,485	19	45,181
Siamese	2	4,463	—	—	2	4,463
Swedish	—	—	1	2,287	1	2,287
Total	2,734	5,494,815	816	2,212,275	3,550	7,707,090

Cleared.

Nationality.	With Cargo. Vessels.	With Cargo. Tons.	In Ballast. Vessels.	In Ballast. Tons.	Total. Vessels.	Total. Tons.
British	873	2,832,400	789	2,217,406	1,662	5,049,806
Colonial	409	32,463	590	50,896	999	83,359
German	172	622,080	49	193,589	221	815,669
French	71	228,611	58	201,014	129	429,625
Maldivian	25	3,291	77	8,618	102	11,909
Japanese	79	336,582	14	53,709	93	390,291
Austrian	48	154,651	41	107,425	89	262,076
Dutch	12	31,159	72	218,401	84	249,560
Russian	58	161,385	7	18,336	65	179,721
Norwegian	1	757	33	47,108	34	47,865
Italian	15	38,677	12	35,688	27	74,365
Spanish	23	56,868	4	10,007	27	66,875
Danish	16	39,102	3	6,079	19	45,181
Siamese	1	2,234	1	2,229	2	4,463
Swedish	—	—	1	2,287	1	2,287
Total	1,803	4,540,260	1,751	3,172,792	3,554	7,713,052

Taking the figures inwards, we get the following comparative distribution according to nationality for 1911 and 1912 :—

	1911. No.	1911. Tons.	1912. No.	1912. Tons.
British	1,608	4,693,429	1,637	5,039,616
British Colonial	1,074	75,516	1,008	83,786
Total British Ships	2,862	4,768,945	2,645	5,123,402
German	238	944,461	221	815,669
French	137	448,025	129	429,625
Maldivian	131	14,856	112	13,203
Japanese	96	408,456	94	391,898
Austrian	69	219,916	89	262,076
Dutch	87	265,952	85	250,460
Russian	72	174,870	65	179,721
Norwegian	30	46,952	34	47,865
Italian	32	85,832	27	74,365
Spanish	26	61,387	27	66,875
Danish	9	19,348	19	45,181
Siamese	4	8,921	2	4,463
Swedish	—	—	1	2,287
Total Foreign Ships	931	2,698,976	905	2,583,688

The decrease apparent in the total of British ships is due to a falling off of Colonial sailing vessels. The decrease apparent in the total of foreign ships is mainly due to a difference of 19 Maldivian vessels and 17 German between the two years under comparison. But this is in part compensated by an increase of 20 Austrian and 10 Danish. British steamers continue to predominate both in number and tonnage, the increase in steamers being 29 and in tonnage 346,187 tons.

The figures below give the number and nett tonnage of British and foreign vessels entering the port of Colombo during each of the past five years, including vessels which called to coal :—

	No.	Tons.
1908	3,005	7,525,824
1909	2,983	8,091,423
1910	3,339	8,847,184
1911	3,299	8,920,552
1912	3,397	9,370,843

III.—LEGISLATION.

Among the new Ordinances passed during 1912 were :—

"The Chamber of Commerce (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 2 of 1912."—The Ordinance of 1895 allowed five Directors (excluding the Chairman and Vice-Chairman). The new Ordinance provides for the appointment of not less than five nor more than ten Directors (excluding the Chairman and Vice-Chairman). The object of the change is to permit of every section of trade and commerce being represented on the Committee or Board.

"The Public Performances Ordinance, No. 7 of 1912."—This Ordinance provides general powers for the prevention of objectionable performances, and for the protection of the public against the danger of fire, overcrowding, or disorder.

"The Excise Ordinance, No. 8 of 1912."—This Ordinance was framed in conformity with the terms of a resolution adopted by the Legislative Council, which affirmed the expediency of altering the existing system of arrack and toddy renting and introducing a system of Excise on the lines followed in Madras, or an adaptation thereof to local conditions. The Ordinance deals in a comprehensive manner with the whole question of the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquor of all kinds. It has also been made applicable to intoxicating drugs, such as bhang and ganja, bringing them under Excise control. Opium is excluded from its operation.

"The Medical Wants Ordinance, No. 9 of 1912."—The object of this Ordinance was to consolidate the legislation relating to the medical wants of planting districts, and at the same time to introduce certain amendments. Under the existing law the system of medical aid extended only to immigrant labourers; under the new Ordinance it extends to all resident labourers, whether immigrant or native. The financial scheme of "The Medical Wants Ordinance, 1900," has been re-adjusted so as to bring it into harmony with existing conditions. Special provision has been made to check infant mortality upon estates.

"The Diseases (Labourers) Ordinance, No. 10 of 1912."—This Ordinance aims at the protection of labourers who are housed together in definite localities in such circumstances that any infectious disease which may break out among them is liable to assume an epidemic character. When any infectious or contagious disease breaks out upon any estate in a severe form the estate is to be visited by a District Medical Officer, who is to give the necessary directions for the treatment of the labourers either on the estate or in the hospital.

"The Game Protection (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 13 of 1912."—The Ordinance provides—

(1) Means for relaxing the restrictions on the shooting of wild elephants where they have become so numerous as to be a menace to the safety of the inhabitants of any district or to their crops or produce;
(2) Enhanced penalties for the breach of a condition endorsed on a license;
(3) For dealing with cases in which there is good reason to believe that a person is in possession of a tusker that has been unlawfully captured;
(4) For dealing with the unlawful possession of game during the close and open seasons.

"The Lepers (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 15 of 1912."—The object is to afford similar protection to the property of lepers detained under the Leper Ordinance, as is afforded to the property of minors and lunatics by the Civil Procedure Code.

s publishing company, inc.

"The Aerial Navigation Ordinance, No. 18 of 1912."—The Ordinance provides for the protection of the public, and also of the State, against the dangers which might arise through the use of aircraft with a view to observing military works.

An Ordinance further to amend "The Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 19 of 1912."—This Ordinance confers power on Municipal Magistrates and Village Tribunals, in addition to Police Magistrates, to make an order for the treatment of sick or injured animals in an infirmary. It also authorizes the appropriation of fines imposed under the Ordinance to the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

"The Land Acquisition (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 25 of 1912."—The object of the Ordinance is to allow of land being acquired for public purposes by way of exchange for other land the property of the Crown, instead of a pecuniary compensation, and to allow persons who desire to present land to the Crown for public purposes to do so under the Land Acquisition Ordinance without going through fictitious formalities.

"The Penal Code (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 26 of 1912."—The object is to deal with the Indian betting advertisements which are from time to time published in the local papers.

IV.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

(N.B.—Educational statistics, being for the most part based on the returns of the financial year, are omitted from this Report. See note on page 1.)

(A) Hospitals.

There are 76 Government hospitals, in addition to the Lunatic and Leper Asylums, equipped with modern hospital furniture and surgical appliances. The number of beds in the hospitals ranges from 30 to 425.

In addition to the hospitals, there are 418 outdoor Government dispensaries and 279 estate dispensaries supported by the planters, who get their drugs free up to a value of 50 cents per cooly per annum.

(B) Medical Institutions.

The Medical College accommodated in 1912 148 medical and 90 apothecary students, these numbers showing a decrease of 3 and increase of 9 respectively as compared with 1911. The full course of training for medical students is five years; a diploma in medicine, surgery, and midwifery (which can be registered in the United Kingdom) is granted to successful students. In association with the College there are a Bacteriological Institute with a small Clinic for Tropical Medicine attached; a laboratory for the Government Analyst; an ophthalmic hospital; a lying-in home; a women's hospital; a children's hospital; and special hospitals for the insane, lepers, and infectious diseases.

(C) Asylums.

The Lunatic Asylum is situated in Colombo. There are 714 inmates.

The Leper Asylum is situated about 6 miles from Colombo, and contains 398 patients. A small establishment for lepers exists in the Eastern Province, and contains 36 patients. A large leper settlement is to be founded there shortly.

In association with Government, a Home for Incurables (containing 80 beds) is worked by a Committee of Government officials and representatives of the public.

(D) Poor Houses.

There are no poor houses in Ceylon. In Colombo and some other towns there are Friend-in-need Societies for the relief of distress, and these are subsidized by Government, the Colombo subsidy being Rs. 12,000 per annum. In addition to this, every Government Agent and Assistant Government Agent has an annual vote for "Allowances to Paupers"; the votes vary from Rs. 10,500 in the Colombo District to Rs. 660 in the Nuwara Eliya District; the maximum allowance is Rs. 5 a month.

(E) Reformatories.

There are no Government reformatories in Ceylon, but by an arrangement with the Roman Catholic Mission the Maggona Industrial School is used as a reformatory for youthful offenders.

(F) Savings Banks.

There are two Government institutions, and the business of both showed a satisfactory working in 1911.

Ceylon Savings Bank.—The Ceylon Savings Bank had a sum of Rs. 5,380,286 to the credit of 38,146 depositors on December 31, 1912, as against Rs. 5,152,981 to the credit of 37,099 depositors on December 31, 1911.

The amount of the bank's invested funds on December 31, 1912, was Rs. 5,819,677. Interest is allowed on deposits at the rate of 3 per cent. on sums of Rs. 1,000 and over, and 4 per cent. on sums under Rs. 1,000.

Post Office Savings Bank.—At the end of 1912 there was a sum of Rs. 3,571,596·79 to the credit of 101,347 depositors approximately, as against Rs. 3,217,242 to the credit of 93,549 depositors at the end of 1911.

V.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

(A) Police.

The authorized strength of the Police on December 31, 1912, was 1 Inspector-General, 7 Superintendents, 15 Assistant Superintendents, 24 Inspectors, 44 Sub-Inspectors, 59 Station House Officers, 257 Sergeants, and 2,019 Constables.

In addition, the strength of the European Police was 1 Inspector, 2 Sub-Inspectors, 4 Second Class Sergeants, and 24 Third Class Sergeants.

The cost of the force in 1912 was approximately Rs. 1,200,000.

(B) Prisons.

There was an increase of 883 in the total number of admissions of convicted prisoners to the prisons of Ceylon during the year 1912, excluding Road Ordinance defaulters, of whom there were 166, as against 191 in 1911. The figures are as follows :—

1911	8,538
1912	9,421

The convictions for murder and manslaughter were 98, as against 106 in 1911. Of these 98, 48 were sentenced to be hanged. There were 29 executions in 1912, including 5 sentenced to be hanged in 1911. Of the 48 sentenced to be hanged, 43 were Sinhalese, 3 Tamils, 1 Moor, and 1 Malay. 19 convicts were deported to the Andamans for life.

There were 7 escapes during the year, and 8 recaptures.

The total number of deaths in jail was 167, as against 315 in 1911 and 238 in 1910—a marked improvement. The death-rate per 1,000 of the prisons population was 10·32, as against 20·98 in 1911 and 16·36 in 1910.

The daily average sick was 115·09, as against 180·82 in 1911 and 148·83 in 1910.

The number of punishments for prisons offences inflicted during the year was 1,199, a slight increase over the figures for 1911, which were 1,151, but lower than the figures for 1910, namely, 1,287.

The total number of individuals punished was 1,159, as against 1,093 for 1911. There were 26 cases of corporal punishment, as against 25 in 1911—an increase of one only.

Prisoners are employed on works of public utility and remunerative industrial labour, the demand for such work being still in excess of the supply. At the large central jail at Welikada the whole of the cloth required for prisoners' clothing is made by prison labour. All boots required for officers are also turned out. All clothing and bedding required by the Medical Health Department is made up free of charge. There are also parties of carpenters, black- and tin-smiths, cane furniture makers, brush, broom, mat, and door rug makers, who execute large Government orders received from the Colonial Storekeeper and other Departments, as well as private orders.

The steam laundry continues to be a success. The total sum spent on the laundry since it was started in 1909 to June 30, 1913, has been Rs. 19,842; this sum includes initial cost, upkeep, and all working expenses. The sum of Rs. 17,763 was for the same period recovered and credited to Revenue, the charge to the Departments using the laundry being merely nominal, namely, 75 cents for every hundred pieces of linen washed. Welikada Prison also sends 240 prisoners daily to the Government Printing Office free of charge. At the convalescent jails at Negombo and Batticaloa prisoners are employed in making baskets for the Public Works Department.

Out of doors prisoners are chiefly employed in quarrying stone and breaking metal for the Public Works and Railway Departments and on reclamation works. At Mahara 540 prisoners are employed in the old quarries for the Harbour Works, while a new quarry was opened at the latter end of the year for the purpose of supplying granite setts and broken metal to the Government Factory Engineer. At Kandy, Galle, Chilaw, Anuradhapura, and Tangalla stone and metal are supplied to the Railway and Public Works Departments.

The Karaiur reclamation at Jaffna has made very good progress, and employs 400 prisoners daily on the works.

The portable prison at Mankulam has been greatly improved and brought into a thoroughly good sanitary condition. The 160 prisoners stationed there are employed in quarrying stone and breaking metal for the Irrigation Department. The prison not only affords useful remunerative labour for a large number of habitual criminals, but has proved a good deterrent.

Owing to the large number of prisoners located at Jaffna and Mankulam, it was found necessary to place the two prisons at these stations under a paid prisons official. This was found feasible without any extra cost to Government by closing the prison at Mutwal in July and transferring the officers and prisoners.

As in 1911, so great has been the demand for prison labour this year on such works as above noted that, notwithstanding the "penal stage" now being only one month, it is at times almost impossible to meet all demands.

(C) Criminal Statistics.

I.—*From a Return furnished by the Inspector-General of Police.*

The following table shows the fluctuations of the more important forms of serious crime :—

	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.
Murder and homicide	201	177	209	182	179
Rape	129	130	131	121	80
Robbery	1,000	937	1,015	798	505
Burglary	2,570	2,456	1,957	1,630	1,582
Grievous hurt	329	551	731	680	552
Theft of cattle and prædial products	2,079	1,656	1,324	1,366	1,251
Arson	499	391	442	383	216

The figures show that there has been a decrease in all classes of crime.

The number of murders is below the average of the last four years. Of the murders, as usual nearly half the number were stabbing cases, and when the causes are examined an almost equal number are found to be due to sudden and unpremeditated quarrels. In 7 cases murder was committed for the sake of plunder, as compared to 2 cases in 1911. 29 cases were due to jealousy, 15 were the outcome of long-standing enmity, and 13 were due to land disputes.

II.—*From a Return furnished by the Solicitor-General.*

The number of cases instituted in the Police Courts and Municipal Magistrates' Courts during the year 1912 was 78,466.

The number of persons dealt with in the above cases was 85,679. The proportion per 100,000 inhabitants was 2,084.

1,527 persons were committed for trial before the Superior Courts. Of these, 19 were discharged on withdrawal of the indictments against them by the Attorney-General, 957 were convicted of various crimes, and the remaining 551 were acquitted.

Taking into account offences of a serious nature which, in certain circumstances, are summarily triable by Police Magistrates, altogether 1,748 persons would appear to have been convicted of serious crime during the year 1912.

Out of the 45 persons convicted of murder, 19 were transported to the Andamans, the sentence of death being commuted.

VI.—VITAL STATISTICS.

(A) Population.

The estimated population of Ceylon on December 31, 1912, was 4,189,000, an increase of nearly 1 per cent. on that of the previous year. The increase was due to the natural excess of births over deaths and to the excess of arrivals over departures of Indian coolies.

The population comprised the various nationalities shown below :—

Nationality.	Numbers.	Percentage of Total Population.
Sinhalese	2,726,800	65·2
Tamils (indigenous)	611,100	14·5
Tamils (immigrants and their descendants)	518,500	12·4
Moors	267,400	6·4
Burghers	27,000	·6
Malays	13,100	·3
Europeans	7,700	·2
Others	17,400	·4

There is an excess of males over females in the population, viz., 113 males to 100 females, as contrasted with England and Wales, where the proportion is 94 males to 100 females.

Births.

The birth-rate for 1912 was 33 per mille, and was lower than the average 38. It appears to be gradually declining. The proportion of births to population in Ceylon is similar to that prevailing in other tropical countries, but considerably higher than the rate (about 25) in England and Wales. There were 105 male to every 100 female births.

Deaths.

The death-rate for the whole Island was 32, and was in excess of the average 28. The Ceylon rate appears to be lower than that of Bombay, but higher than those of Bengal, Madras, Jamaica, British Guiana, while it is more than double the death-rate in England and Wales. The infantile mortality was 215 per 1,000 births compared with an average of 183, and a rate in England and Wales of 105 to 1,000 births.

Snakebite, homicide, and suicide each accounted for 50 deaths per million of the population. There were 29 executions, *i.e.*, 7 per million as compared with 4 per million in England and Wales.

The urban death-rate was 30 per mille, and rose from 9·7 in Nuwara Eliya, the sanatorium of Ceylon, to 67 in Anuradhapura. The lowest rates, as a rule, are found in the towns on the western seaboard.

The tea, rubber, and cocoa estates contain a population of about 578,200, mostly of Tamils immigrant from Southern India. The estate death-rate rose to 40 from an average of 35, and in one district was as high as 72.

(B) Public Health.

There was a slight improvement in the general health of the population during the year 1912 as compared with 1911, the death-rate being 32·72 as against 34·8 per thousand; the average death-rate between 1898 and 1908 (11 years) was 29 per annum per thousand, that from 1909 to 1911 31·02.

The following figures show the death-rate per thousand for the different Provinces :—

Western	24·6
Central	31·3
Eastern	32·9
Northern	35·6
North-Western	35·6
Southern	35·7
Uva	37·1
Sabaragamuwa	40·1
North-Central	54·1

Causes of Death.—The chief causes of death were fever (chiefly malaria), diarrhœa, dysentery, pneumonia, phthisis. Deaths from enteric fever showed a decrease from the previous year, numbering 461, as against 651, while those classified under the heading *ill-defined* increased to 36,417 from 33,064 in 1911; deaths registered as due to diarrhœa were 17,010 in 1912, as against 17,347 in 1911; dysentery 5,237, as against 4,743 in 1911; phthisis 4,306, as against 4,286 in 1911; and anchylostomiasis 1,843, as against 2,001 deaths in 1911.

There were only 13 deaths from cholera during the year, as against 277 in 1911 and 22 in 1910. Of the 13 deaths, 12 occurred in the Colombo District and the other in Jaffna; deaths from smallpox numbered 15, as against 89 in 1911 and 29 in 1910.

Preventive Measures against Disease.—Measures have been taken for the prevention of malaria by the free distribution of quinine, the circulation of leaflets, and lectures and demonstrations to the public through the officers of the Medical Department and the headmen.

The anti-malarial campaign at Kurunegala in the North-Western Province was continued.

Anchylostomiasis.—This disease, which is extremely prevalent amongst estate coolies, especially in the low-country, has been and is receiving considerable attention on the part of the Inspecting Medical Officers. A large number of estates have been visited by them, the incidence of this disease inquired into, and both prophylactic and medical treatment are being adopted.

Parangi (Yaws) has been treated successfully with Salvarsan in some of the hospitals, and arrangements are in progress to introduce it to other hospitals in parangi-stricken districts.

Vaccination is systematically carried on throughout the Island by a special staff; during 1912 140,501 subjects were vaccinated. The percentage of successful primary vaccination cases to total inspected was 93·3, while the percentage of successful re-vaccination cases was 71·71.

Stringent precautions are taken under the auspices of the Plague Committee to prevent the introduction of plague into Ceylon. The Island has hitherto been immune from the disease. One case of plague in a European was landed at Galle in July, 1912, the patient recovering.

There were 14 deaths from hydrophobia during 1912, as against 38 in 1911. The Ceylon Government gives an annual grant to the Pasteur Institute at Coonoor, and poor persons bitten by rabid animals and unable to meet the expense of the journey are sent there at the cost of the Government. Concerted action is being taken by the local authorities to stamp out rabies by enforcing the registration of dogs and by the destruction of homeless pariahs.

(C) Sanitation.

In the matter of sanitation the large towns are controlled by Municipalities, while others have Local Boards, or come under the Small Towns Ordinance.

The general expense of scavenging is met from rates recovered locally, and loans are made occasionally to local bodies for larger works of permanence, such as water supply, construction of drains, &c., the cost of which they are unable to meet in a lump sum.

The drainage of Colombo has been undertaken by Government at the request of the Municipal Council, the necessary funds being advanced by Government on loan, while further assistance is being given by the contribution of a part of the expenditure as a free grant.

The scheme provides for a complete system of sewers and rain water drains throughout the city, and for the disposal of the sewage by bacterial treatment upon modern lines.

Up to the end of 1912 86 miles of sewers and rain water drains had been laid, and connections had been made thereto from 463 premises.

Water Supply Schemes.—With the assistance of Government, partly by way of grant, partly of loan, various local bodies have undertaken the provision of an improved water supply for the towns under their control. Work on such schemes was in contemplation or in progress during 1912 for the towns of Kurunegala, Batticaloa, Mannar, Puttalam, Chilaw, and Matale.

(D) Climate.

There is a marked variation in climate between the different parts of Ceylon. In the low-country, with a mean temperature of the order of 80° F., a noticeable feature is the small range of both temperature and pressure. There is, however wide divergence between the moist conditions in the south-west of the Island, where the annual rainfall is often over 100 inches, and the dry zone areas of the north, north-west, and south-east.

Inland, with altitudes reaching 8,000 feet, the temperature is cooler and shows a bigger daily range, there is a corresponding change in vegetation, and the conditions are altogether more akin to those in the temperate zone.

Rainfall, 1912.—This was below normal in the north and north-east and above it in the south and south-west, chiefly owing to heavy rain in November and December.

Ratnapura again heads the list in absolute amount, viz., 149·95 inches, which is practically identical with the average for that station. At the other extreme Jaffna had 30·71 inches on 55 days, or 17·64 inches below its average.

Hambantota, which last year was the driest first class station with 39·3 inches, this year reached 59·48 inches, or 22·6 inches above its average.

Kandy had 75·89 inches on 192 days, being 6·4 inches in deficit; Galle was 10·7 inches in excess.

Colombo Observatory with 101·14 inches on 195 days was well above normal, but it must be remembered that the "average" is not fully established yet for this station. Comparisons with the average of the old Colombo Fort readings are hardly admissible.

Temperature.—The mean temperature for the whole year was highest at Mannar, 83·2° F.; and lowest at Hakgala (near Nuwara Eliya), 58·4° F.

At the Colombo Observatory and at Kandy the mean temperature was 81·0° F. and 76·6° F. respectively.

The highest temperature reached in the Island during 1912 was 100·2° F. on August 10 at Anuradhapura. The highest on record is 103·7° F. at Trincomalee on May 12, 1890.

The highest temperature reached at the Colombo Observatory in 1912 was 96·2° F. on February 28 and March 15.

The mean daily range of temperature, *i.e.*, the mean of the daily difference between the maximum and minimum temperatures, was highest at Badulla, 19·0° F.; and lowest at Galle, 9·5° F.

VII.—POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

One new post office and eleven new receiving offices were opened during the year 1912. Three offices were converted into combined post and telegraph offices. The total number of offices now is 476, of which 308 are receiving offices for the sale of postage stamps and delivery of letters, while 168 are money order and savings bank offices, and of these 119 are also telegraph offices.

The total estimated number of articles, exclusive of parcels, which passed through the post amounted to nearly 41 millions, against 40 millions in the year 1911.

The total number of parcels dealt with was 658,479, an increase of 69,167 over the previous year. The business done is shown as follows :—

	1911.	1912.
Total number of parcels	589,312	658,479
To the United Kingdom	12,502	14,838
From the United Kingdom	28,414	34,687
To other countries	38,624	47,957
From other countries	131,382	151,403

The following are the figures for money orders :—

	1911.		1912.	
	Number.	Value. Rs.	Number.	Value. Rs.
Inland	401,636	11,615,385	434,011	13,197,182
Indian	248,963	7,587,354	280,227	8,319,899
United Kingdom	11,454	521,837	13,259	542,016
Other Countries	13,110	965,258	13,626	1,054,834

The increase in telegrams is shown in the following figures :—

	1911.	1912.
Inland	712,990 ..	813,722
Indian	161,736 ..	170,209
Other Countries	87,516 ..	94,868

Postal Improvements.—On the completion of the railway extension from Avissawella to Ratnapura the mails hitherto conveyed by horse and bullock coaches between these two stations were transferred to the railway and an improved service established. Negotiations were concluded for the extension of the value-payable parcel system to the Straits Settlements to come into force from January 1, 1913.

Combined Postage and Revenue Stamps.—New combined postage and revenue stamps were introduced, and the revenue stamps hitherto in use withdrawn from circulation.

Telegraphs.—The work entrusted to the Marconi Wireless Telegraph Company for the construction of a Wireless Telegraph Station at Colombo was completed and the station opened to the public on July 22. This station has a range of 400 knots by day and 1,000 knots by night.

A deferred telegram system was introduced whereby the senders of private telegrams in plain language to the United Kingdom and several other countries can obtain the benefit of a reduction of 50 per cent., such telegrams being transmitted after telegrams charged at full rate have gone forward.

Telegraph rates between India and Ceylon were reduced from 20 cents a word to 12 words for one rupee.

Arrangements were made for the acceptance and delivery of telegrams by telephone at offices connected with telephone exchanges, a fee of 15 cents being charged for each message sent or received in addition to the usual cost of the telegram. The special charge is, however, waived in districts where the telephone has been put into a post office at the expense of private persons.

Telephones.—In 1896, the year that Government took over the Telephone Exchange from the Oriental Telephone Company, there were 130 telephones in use ; there are now over 1,300. A telephone trunk line was opened from Kandy to Hatton. Telephone trunk line call offices were opened at Hatton and Kalutara.

VIII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

(A) Public Works Department.

The total expenditure of the Public Works Department for the year 1912 was Rs. 7,581,768—an increase of Rs. 664,963 over 1911.

The total length of roads maintained by the Public Works Department during the year was 3,940 miles, of which 3,631 miles are cart roads and 309 miles are bridle roads.

The special expenditure on roads and bridges for 1912 under the programme of Works chargeable to Surplus Balances amounted to Rs. 348,940.

Amongst the more important works completed during the year were the Wireless Telegraph Station, Colombo ; the Hydro-Electric Installation, Nuwara Eliya ; new wards at the Anuradhapura Hospital ; and a number of new roads.

The following works were in progress, but had not been completed at the close of the year :—The Government Distillery at Kalutara, the new Royal College, the extension to the Treasury and extensions of jetties and Customs premises in Colombo, the Mannar water supply, two important hospitals in the planting districts, and various roads and bridges.

(B) Colombo Harbour Works.

The total expenditure upon the harbour works proper during 1912 amounted to Rs. 1,163,018·53; the total expenditure since the commencement of the South-west Breakwater in 1873, including maintenance charges, being Rs. 44,364,701·15.

New Arm, South-west Breakwater.—This structure, including the lighthouse, was finished by May 1, on which date the commemoration stone recording the completion of the harbour works was laid by His Excellency the Governor.

Graving Dock.—The Dock was occupied on fifteen occasions during the year. The revenue amounted to Rs. 20,576·60, and the expenditure to Rs. 56,088·46.

Patent Slip.—The Slip was used on thirty-five occasions, producing a revenue of Rs. 27,286; the working expenses amounted to Rs. 18,282·90.

Deepening of the Harbour.—In order that there should be ample accommodation in the Colombo harbour for vessels of deep draught when the improvements in the Suez Canal now being undertaken are complete, a dredging scheme to provide mooring berths capable of taking passenger, cargo, and coal steamers of more than the maximum draught which will be allowed to pass through the Suez Canal has been sanctioned by Government. This scheme of dredging necessitated the provision of a new and larger dredger, which it was expected would be delivered in Colombo in time to afford the necessary deep water accommodation early in 1914, by which time the Suez Canal authorities anticipated that vessels of 30 feet draught would be permitted to pass through the canal.

(C) Government Railway.

(The returns of the open line, being based on the financial year, are not dealt with in this Report.)

Extensions.

To Chilaw.—This line is a continuation of the Negombo line, which was opened in December, 1909, and is 27 miles in length. It runs through the thickly populated districts of the west coast, north of Colombo, and will serve the richest coconut district in the Island. The line is constructed to a gauge of 5 ft. 6 in. All stations will be interlocked. The construction of the line was in December, 1912, about half completed. The total estimated cost of the extension is Rs. 3,932,053, and the actual cost up to December 31, 1912, was Rs. 2,180,334.

Ratnapura Extension.—This is an extension of the 2 ft. 6 in. gauge from Avissawella to Ratnapura. The line was completed and opened for traffic throughout by His Excellency Sir Henry MacCallum on April 18, 1912. The total estimated cost of the line was Rs. 2,953,408, and the actual amount debited to the construction funds up to December 31, 1912, was Rs. 2,829,227. There are a few minor works still to complete, the cost of which is light. The line passes through a rich tea and rubber district.

Pelmadulla Extension.—This is a further extension of the narrow gauge line from Ratnapura, in length some 17 miles, and will serve one of the richest rubber districts in the Island. The line throughout follows the valley of the We-ganga. The estimated cost of this extension is Rs. 2,253,414. The construction of the line was sanctioned in June, 1912. The line for the first 7 miles traverses fairly easy country; but after this mileage the ground is very sidelong and broken, necessitating heavy banks and deep cuttings.

Badulla Extension.—The construction of this line was sanctioned by the Secretary of State on November 22, 1912, and the setting out of certain deviations, &c., was taken in hand at once. The line will be 21 miles in length, and traverses throughout hilly and broken country. Steep gradients are necessary

owing to the difference in height of Bandarawela and Badulla, the former town being 4,103 feet above mean sea level, and the latter 2,228 feet. Bandarawela is the present terminus of the Main line. The total estimate for the work is Rs. 5,254,443.

Colombo Stations Extension.—This scheme comprises the construction of new stations at Maradana and the Fort; new railway stores, engine sheds, and yard; totally remodelling the old goods yards; the erection of three new main goods sheds, each 650 feet in length; provision of large cart areas and approaches, all paved with sett paving; the construction of two lake basins with quay walls, and the provision of cranes for same; the construction of two new yards and sheds complete for narrow gauge traffic; the duplication and deviation of the main lines across the lake; and the extension of the narrow gauge line to the Fort. The total estimated cost of these works amounts to Rs. 6,229,234, out of which Rs. 4,280,064 was spent up to December 31, 1912.

Main Line Duplication from Colombo (Base Line Road) to Ragama and from Slave Island to Moratuwa.—This work was far advanced in December, 1912. It included totally new buildings at six stations from Colombo southwards, and large additions to five other stations. The total estimate for the work is Rs. 2,697,356, and the cost up to December, 1912, was Rs. 2,454,783·34.

Sea Coast Protection Works.—To counteract the encroachment of the sea, heavy protection work consisting of tipping heavy rubble blocks varying in size from 13 tons downwards was taken in hand between Galle Face curve and Wellawatta station. At the end of 1912 this work was approaching completion. The estimate for the work was Rs. 437,310, and the cost up to December, 1912, was Rs. 438,655·72. To the estimate a sum of Rs. 40,000 should be added, increasing it to Rs. 477,310, being amount since recovered from the Stations Extension by the transfer of the quarry at Ragama to that extension.

Lines under Survey.—A further extension of the Pelmadulla line from Kahawatta to Opanayaka is contemplated. This extension is only 6 miles in length, and connects the Ratnapura-Balangoda road at the foot of the Balangoda Pass with Kahawatta station, the Pelmadulla terminus. This line will serve the large tea district of Balangoda.

Mannar.—The North Pier at Talaimannar and the bridges spanning the seaway between the island of Mannar and the mainland of Ceylon were completed in October, 1912.

The north-east rains delayed the advance of rail head; but less than 10 miles of line remained to be laid by the end of the year, while the station buildings and railway staff quarters were nearly all built.

(D) Irrigation.

The total expenditure on the construction of irrigation works for the year ended December 31, 1912, was Rs. 264,639·63, the expenditure for the previous twelve months being Rs. 314,846·49.

The expenditure on the maintenance of irrigation works during the same period was Rs. 124,497·22. This covers only the major works, there being in addition a very large number of village works which are maintained as far as possible by unskilled labour by the people owning the land irrigated by them.

The work of the year consisted chiefly in pushing on the construction of the five large works already undertaken, the commencement of the Tabbowa scheme in the North-Western Province (a combined irrigation and water supply scheme), and making good the damage caused by floods. Agricultural roads were opened on the completed irrigation works where they were found to be most needed.

IX.—GENERAL.

(A) Important Events.

His Excellency Sir Henry McCallum returned to the Island on January 3 after his official visit to Delhi to represent Ceylon at the Coronation celebrations.

In March Dr. P. H. Bahr arrived in Ceylon to conduct an investigation into the disease known as "Ceylon sore mouth," or "Sprue," under the auspices of the London School of Tropical Medicine.

On May 1 the new arm of the South-west Breakwater of the Colombo Harbour was opened by the Governor.

In July the wireless telegraph installation at Colombo was completed and opened for the use of the public.

The All-Ceylon Exhibition, the first of its kind on so large a scale, was held under the auspices of the Agricultural Society in the Victoria Park, Colombo, during the first week in July.

Ceylon was officially represented at the New York Rubber Exhibition held in September-October.

In December the Regular Troops and Volunteer Corps were inspected by General Sir Ian Hamilton, Inspector-General of the Oversea Forces.

The first successful aeroplane flights seen in Ceylon were given by two French aviators in Colombo in the same month.

Amongst distinguished visitors to the Island in the course of the year were His Serene Highness Prince Alexander and Her Royal Highness Princess Alexander of Teck, His Imperial Highness the Grand Duke Boris of Russia, His Royal Highness Prince Waldemar of Denmark, Their Royal Highnesses the Crown Prince and Princess of Sweden, and the Right Honourable Sir J. West Ridgeway, Governor of the Island from 1896 to 1903.

(B) Public Service.

The premature retirement of the Governor, His Excellency Sir Henry McCallum, G.C.M.G., is recorded with regret. After a serious indisposition in July His Excellency was again taken ill in December, and acting on medical advice was compelled to return to England shortly after the close of the year.

Sir Hugh Clifford, K.C.M.G., Colonial Secretary, left the Island in September on his promotion to the office of Governor of the Gold Coast.

Mr. L. W. Booth, Ceylon Civil Service, acted as Colonial Secretary on the departure of Sir Hugh Clifford, pending the arrival of Mr. R. E. Stubbs in January, 1913.

In February His Excellency Sir A. E. Bethell, K.C.M.G., was appointed to succeed His Excellency Sir E. J. W. Slade, K.C.I.E., K.C.V.O., as Naval Commander-in-Chief, East Indies Station.

Mr. J. P. Middleton and Mr. Joseph Grenier, Puisne Justices of the Supreme Court, retired during the year, being succeeded by Mr. J. C. W. Pereira, K.C., and Mr. G. F. M. Ennis, lately Judge of the High Court of Uganda.

Mr. Justice Middleton received the honour of knighthood in June.

Other retirements from the Public Service during the year included those of Messrs. H. C. P. Bell, C. M. Lushington, C. D. Vigors, K. Macleod, G. M. Cookson, and L. S. Woolf of the Civil Service; Dr. J. C. Willis, Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens; Dr. J. B. Spence, Medical Superintendent of the Lunatic Asylum; Lieut.-Colonel F. E. G. Skey, Commanding Royal Engineer;

Dr. R. H. Lock, Assistant Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens; Mr. W. Dunuwille, Police Magistrate, Matale; Mr. P. de Saram, Itinerating Police Magistrate, Western Province; Mr. R. E. Tickell, Resident Engineer, Colombo Drainage Works; and Mr. H. O. Barnard, Assistant Surveyor-General.

The deaths of the following members of the Public Service are recorded with regret:—Mr. J. B. Dutton of the Civil Service and Mr. E. L. Mitford, who retired from the office of Government Agent of the North-Western Province at the age of 56 in the year 1866.

(c) The Excise Commission.

The Excise Ordinance, No. 8 of 1912, was passed by the Legislative Council on May 31, 1912. It was not, however, brought into force till January 1, 1913.

The Ordinance prepared the way for radical changes tending towards the introduction into Ceylon of an excise system based on the lines which have been successfully followed in Madras, but adapted to the conditions of Ceylon. It provides machinery for bringing under Government control all operations connected with the production and distribution in Ceylon of all alcoholic liquors and of certain intoxicating drugs, including cocaine, bhang, and ganja, and all forms thereof.

Changes in the old renting system were introduced step by step, the first being the separation of the arrack and toddy rents. The same renters had prior to July, 1912, purchased the right to sell toddy together with the right to sell arrack; but as from July, 1912, the right to retail toddy was sold at auction independently, in the great majority of cases for areas of a few square miles only, the number of taverns being strictly limited. The villages in which toddy taverns should be established were selected with a view to supplying those districts in which a demand for toddy existed and putting down illicit sale. It was found possible to exclude from the toddy rent sales the whole of the North-Central Province, the largest of the nine Provinces of the Island. Meanwhile the arrack rents were sold for the same areas as during the immediately preceding years.

Work was continued on the Government experimental distillery, and regulations were framed introducing changes in the licensing and conduct of premises authorized to sell imported liquor. These regulations, however, were not put into operation until July 1, 1913.

During the year an Excise Department was formed, and its officers put through a course of training and allotted definite spheres of operations in the field.

(d) Immigration and Emigration.

The term "immigration" in Ceylon is commonly used with reference to the immigration of native labour from the South of India for the tea and rubber plantations. There is no opening in Ceylon, as in the self-governing Colonies, for the immigration of white labour.

The number of immigrant labourers who arrived in Ceylon in 1912 was 117,475, as against 97,536 in 1911 and an average during the previous six years of about 78,000. The arrivals are, however, largely counterbalanced by the departures, which in the official returns are given at 77,840 for 1912.

Apart from coolies returning to their homes, the main stream of emigration from Ceylon is rather to the Straits Settlements and the Malay States than to India, and the number of Ceylonese, especially from the North of the Island, who of late years have sought a living in the countries named is considerable.

(E) Openings for Investment of Capital.

The cultivation of tea, rubber, and coconuts continues to offer the chief openings for the investment of capital. Coconuts in particular are now attracting European capital, and, should it once be established that they can be successfully grown under irrigation, there is the prospect of considerable extension of this industry in the North-Western Province, and even in the drier districts of the North-Central Province.

The plumbago mining and gemming industries, as well as the cultivation of tobacco, are almost exclusively in native hands. The market for the tobacco now produced being limited, there is little, if any, room for the extension of its cultivation on present lines. But it is believed that, with more up-to-date methods of cultivation and curing, this crop can be grown with profit for the European market. Similarly, in the drier districts the cultivation of cotton offers possibilities as yet undeveloped.

A. N. GALBRAITH,
Second Assistant Colonial Secretary.

January, 1914.

H. C. COTTLE, GOVERNMENT PRINTER, COLOMBO, CEYLON.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
764	Falkland Islands	1912
765	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
766	Bahamas	"
767	Gambia	"
768	Fiji	"
769	Basutoland	1912–1913
770	Gold Coast	1912
771	Ashanti	"
772	Nyasaland	1912–1913
773	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
774	British Solomon Islands	"
775	Colonial Survey Committee	"
776	Tongan Islands Protectorate	1911–1913
777	Swaziland	1912–1913
778	Imperial Institute	1912
779	Barbados	1912–1913
780	British Guiana	"
781	Entomological Research Committee	"
782	Southern Nigeria	1912
783	Jamaica	1912–1913
784	British Honduras	1912
785	Northern Nigeria	"
786	Malta	1912–1913
787	Uganda	"
788	Mauritius	1912
789	Straits Settlements	"
790	Trinidad and Tobago	1912–1913
791	East Africa Protectorate	"
792	Grenada	1912
793	Leeward Islands	1912–1913
794	St. Lucia	"
795	St. Vincent	"
796	Bermuda	1912

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
78	Weihaiwei	Census, 1911.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8 and 1908–9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 802.

CEYLON.

REPORT FOR 1913.

(For Reports for 1911-12, see Nos. 758 and 797.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
August, 1914.

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REPORT ON THE CEYLON BLUE BOOK FOR 1913.

[NOTE.—This Report deals with statistics for the calendar year 1913, except in the section dealing with finance, where the figures are based on the returns for the financial year, viz., July 1, 1912, to June 30, 1913.]

I.—FINANCIAL.

GENERAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

THE revenue for 1912–13 amounted to Rs. 51,172,535, being an increase of Rs. 3,926,313 over the revenue for the preceding twelve months.

The expenditure was Rs. 47,670,928, an increase of Rs. 3,033,828.

The revenue and expenditure of the Colony during the last six years has been :—

Year.	Revenue. Rs.	Expenditure. Rs.
1907	36,573,825	32,591,522
1908	35,572,849	35,032,055
1909	39,332,861	35,789,398
1910–11*	43,741,758	39,302,822
1911–12	47,246,222	44,637,100
1912–13	51,172,535	47,670,928

* Proportion for twelve months.

The revenue in 1902 was Rs. 28,435,158. The revenue of the Colony has, therefore, increased by 80 per cent. during the decade. It exceeds by no less than Rs. 10,679,031 the average revenue of the five preceding years.

The detailed figures for 1911–12 and 1912–13 are as follows :—

Revenue.

	1911–12. Rs.	1912–13. Rs.	Increase. Rs.	Decrease. Rs.
1. Customs	12,554,534	13,388,630	834,096	—
2. Port, Harbour, Wharf, Warehouse, and other Dues	2,924,519	3,050,255	125,736	—
3. Licenses, Excise, and Internal Revenue not otherwise classified	10,128,717	10,687,701	558,984	—
4. Fees of Court or Office, Payment for Specific Services, and Reimbursements in Aid	1,799,056	1,838,114	39,058	—
5. Post and Telegraphs	1,849,382	1,207,780	—	641,602
6. Government Railway	14,052,651	15,694,869	1,642,218	—
7. Interest	1,226,774	1,403,570	176,796	—
8. Miscellaneous Receipts	581,074	1,616,706	1,035,632	—
9. Land Revenue (exclusive of Land Sales)	449,469	572,581	123,112	—
10. Land Sales	1,680,046	1,712,329	32,283	—
Total	47,246,222	51,172,535	4,567,915	641,602
			641,602	
Nett Increase			3,926,313	

Expenditure.

	1911–12. Rs.	1912–13. Rs.	Increase. Rs.	Decrease. Rs.
1. Public Debt..	4,333,122	4,440,818	107,696	—
2. Military Expenditure	1,724,681	1,900,273	175,592	—
3. Pensions	1,474,528	1,589,447	114,919	—
4. Ecclesiastical	3,120	3,140	20	—
5. Exchange	322,026	346,819	24,793	—
6. His Excellency the Governor	183,982	188,145	4,163	—
7. Civil Service	1,014,192	1,050,257	36,065	—
8. Clerical Service	1,133,907	1,319,361	185,454	—
9. Secretariat	275,521	403,363	127,842	—
10. Controller of Revenue	2,996	3,453	457	—
11. Treasury	41,894	49,699	7,805	—
12. Audit Office	43,285	54,987	11,702	—
13. Provincial Administration	874,418	934,081	59,663	—
14. Settlement Officer	92,211	108,803	16,592	—
15. Survey Department	1,224,861	1,188,554	—	36,307
16. Government Stores	157,912	192,120	34,208	—
17. Immigration and Quarantine	218,291	273,643	55,352	—
18. Customs	227,584	203,159	—	24,425
19. Post Office	1,909,419	2,242,144	332,725	—
20. Forest Department	280,927	292,625	11,698	—
21. Railway Department	6,270,484	7,372,832	1,102,348	—
22. Port and Marine, Colombo	534,291	601,108	66,817	—
23. Port and Marine other than Colombo	37,270	36,997	—	273
24. Legal Departments	785,195	813,335	28,140	—
25. Police	1,138,379	1,284,856	146,477	—
26. Prisons	544,132	566,217	22,085	—
27. Medical Department	3,118,576	3,045,601	—	72,975
28. Education	1,707,218	1,839,795	132,577	—
29. Botanic Gardens	147,697	168,475	20,778	—
30. Colombo Museum	42,099	43,120	1,021	—
31. Archæological Commissioner	116,955	108,194	—	8,761
32. Veterinary Department	77,512	102,378	24,866	—
33. Agricultural Society	30,048	30,000	—	48
34. Mineralogical Survey	15,672	42,714	27,042	—
35. Inspector of Mines	16,591	18,125	1,534	—
36. Inspector of Factories	5,397	5,369	—	28
37. Registrar of Patents	4,402	4,467	65	—
38. Miscellaneous Services	1,460,388	1,985,507	525,119	—
39. Irrigation Department	361,361	416,649	55,288	—
40. Irrigation Annually Recurrent	130,030	168,108	38,078	—
41. Public Works Department	692,405	757,046	64,641	—
42. Public Works Annually Recurrent	2,890,125	3,099,525	209,400	—
43. Public Works Extraordinary	2,060,109	2,389,261	329,152	—
44. Irrigation Extraordinary	208,879	184,847	—	24,032
45. Railway Works Extraordinary	1,584,412	1,367,639	—	216,773
46. Works chargeable to Surplus Balances	5,118,596	4,433,872	—	684,724
Total	44,637,100	47,670,928	4,102,174	1,068,346
			1,068,346	
		Nett Increase	3,033,828	

The revenue exceeded the estimate by Rs. 5,939,735. Of the ten heads of revenue, nine exceeded the estimate by Rs. 6,647,955, the remaining head, No. 5, Post and Telegraphs, falling short of the estimate by Rs. 708,220.

The short fall under this head is more than accounted for by a short fall of Rs. 775,813 on the sub-head Postage Stamps, due to the adoption of one stamp for postage and revenue purposes, and the consequent transfer of the proceeds of postage stamps to Head 3, the revenue under which head exceeded the estimate by Rs. 1,020,601.

The expenditure showed a saving of Rs. 3,610,155 on the original estimate.

The following statement shows the main items of expenditure during 1912–13 on works chargeable to surplus balances :—

	Rs.
Protection of Sea Coast Railway Line	65,543
Kalutara Bridge	15,206
Colombo Defences	40,628
Completion of Interlocking Points and Signals ..	67,004
Colombo Customs (Quay Wall and Jetties) ..	94,033
Bandarawela Motor Mail Service	38,982
Deepening Colombo Harbour	179,203
Police Stations	95,849
Hospitals	142,523
Precautions against Infectious Diseases.. ..	53,737
Roads and Bridges	382,180
Royal College	82,968
Survey and Settlement	448,422
Water Supply to Minor Towns	40,285
Medical College	64,482
Railway to Chilaw	1,260,037
Rolling Stock for Railway	306,932
Extension to General Treasury	50,369
Railway Works	368,792
Pelmadulla Railway	437,510
Badulla Railway	174,328

Apart from ordinary expenditure, the following statement shows the expenditure during the twelve months on Public Works Extraordinary chargeable to Loan Funds. This expenditure was met by advances from surplus balances pending the raising of a further loan :—

	Rs.
Colombo Harbour Works	277,294
Colombo Stations Extension	667,137
Ratnapura Railway	51,147
Duplication of Line, Ragama to Moratuwa ..	200,435
Colombo Lake Development	276,786
Karaiur Reclamation, Jaffna	16,197
Irrigation Works	64,707
Mannar Railway	894,510
Colombo Drainage Works	250,000
Motor Traction as feeders to Railway, including improvements to roads	32,659
Railway Works (additional Engines and Rolling Stock) ..	1,194,610
Total ..	3,925,482

Similar advances from the balances of the Colony were made in 1910–11 and 1911–12, and the total advances to loan account are Rs. 10,669,004, made up as follows :—

	Rs.
During 1910–11	2,736,934
Do. 1911–12	4,006,588
Do. 1912–13	3,925,482
Total ..	10,669,004

This sum will be recovered from Loan Funds when the balance of the loan authorized by Ordinance No. 6 of 1909 is raised.

Assets and Liabilities.

The assets of the Colony on June 30, 1913, were Rs. 34,592,646, and the liabilities Rs. 12,350,483.

The chief assets were :—

	Rs.
Cash in the hands of the Treasurer, the Government Agents, and the local banks	6,378,851
Investments	12,298,816
Advance for the Colombo Drainage Works	10,031,538
Value of stores in hand	2,779,680
Loans to local bodies	1,120,568
Advance for the Colombo Waterworks	700,000
Miscellaneous advances	844,854

The chief liabilities were :—

	Rs.
Widows' and Orphans' Pension Fund	6,966,369
General Deposits	3,914,270

Public Debt.

On June 30, 1913, the public debt of Ceylon stood as follows :—

	£
Nett Sterling Debt	4,919,413
Nett Silver Debt (Rs. 2,363,192)	157,546
Total ..	5,076,959

The following statement shows in sterling the revenue and nett amount of debt for the last five years :—

Year.	Revenue.	Nett Amount of Debt.
	£	£
1908	2,371,523 ..	4,090,229
1909	2,622,190 ..	4,444,381
1910–11*	2,916,117 ..	5,312,419
1911–12..	3,149,748 ..	5,200,854
1912–13..	3,411,502 ..	5,076,959

* Proportion for twelve months.

It will be seen that the total indebtedness is approximately one and a half times the annual revenue.

Of the 3½ per cent. loan of £3,436,854 authorized by Ordinance No. 6 of 1909 to meet the cost of the Colombo Harbour and Drainage Works, the Mannar Railway, and other railway public works, a sum of £1,500,000 has already been raised, the price of issue being 98½ per cent. No further portion of the loan has yet been raised, as the surplus balances of the Colony admit of advances being made to works chargeable to the loan, in anticipation of settlement when the balance or a further portion of the loan is raised.

Currency.

The currency of Ceylon consists of—

Copper : Ceylon 1-cent and ½-cent pieces, 6¼ cents being equivalent to the 1*d*. English.

Nickel : Ceylon 5-cent piece.

Silver : Indian rupee (= 100 cents), equivalent to 1*s*. 4*d*. English ; and Ceylon 50-cent, 25-cent, and 10-cent pieces.

Gold : British sovereign, which is legal tender at Rs. 15.

Ceylon Government currency notes of Rs. 1,000, 100, 50, 10, and 5.

On June 30, 1913, the value of currency notes in circulation was Rs. 23,462,000. The currency reserve on that date was distributed as follows :—

	Rs.
Gold (£199,500)	2,992,500
Rupees	7,942,206
Small silver	539,000
British investments	435,000
Colonial investments	5,559,180
Indian investments	5,994,114

MUNICIPALITIES.

The following is a comparative statement of the total revenue and expenditure of the Municipalities for the five years ended December 31, 1913 :—

Year.	Revenue. Rs.	c.	Expenditure. Rs.	c.
Colombo.				
1909	1,848,294	12	2,068,958	38
1910	2,260,049	41	2,191,141	42
1911	2,662,823	36	2,466,953	17
1912	2,678,159	63	2,906,599	85
1913	2,710,447	95	2,939,586	04
Kandy.				
1909	180,602	94	165,850	27
1910	224,346	80	225,323	32
1911	245,473	66	245,088	06
1912	233,939	10	211,794	95
1913	253,416	82	223,634	91
Galle.				
1909	156,051	80	192,656	31
1910	135,329	75	156,856	28
1911	154,342	21	144,680	06
1912	184,382	50	165,102	70
1913	158,203	25	165,302	95

The following statement shows the debts of the Municipalities of Kandy and Galle up to June 30, 1913, with provision for payment :—

Amount of Debt outstanding. Rs.	c.	On what Account.	Provision for Payment.
		Kandy.	
117,489	94 ..	Waterworks construction ..	Water-rate of 6 per cent. on properties within certain portions of the Municipality.
105,402	98 ..	Acquisition of lands above reservoir; repairs to main sewer and other various works	Bond assigning portion of water-rate; also portion of rates and taxes.
18,000	00 ..	To widen Victoria Drive and clear lake silt ..	Bond assigning portion of rates and taxes.
		Galle.	
245,624	81 ..	Waterworks construction ..	Water-rate of 5 per cent. on properties within the Fort.
37,840	82 ..	Sanitary improvements ..	Mortgage of stamp duties on licenses for carts, boats, and coaches, and stamp duties under Licensing Ordinances of 1893 and 1897.

As regards the Municipality of Colombo, a sum of Rs. 10,031,538 has been advanced by Government towards the cost of the Mansergh Drainage and Sewerage Scheme. The construction of the Colombo Waterworks and the Victoria Bridge was carried out by Government, and the Municipality has undertaken to repay Government an annual sum of Rs. 100,000 until 1924 in regard to the former, and of Rs. 8,000 until 1945 in regard to the latter.

A further sum of Rs. 700,000 has been advanced by Government towards the cost of the Colombo Waterworks further duplication of main.

Local Boards.

There are twenty-one Local Boards in Ceylon. They are entrusted with the maintenance of public health and the general improvement and conservancy of the towns in which they are established. Their chief sources of revenue are an assessment tax on real property, taxes on vehicles and animals, road commutation tax, and stamp duties for various licenses.

Their total revenue and expenditure for the past three years is as follows :—

Year.	Revenue. Rs.	Expenditure. Rs.
1911	596,425	488,073
1912	494,406	500,573
1913	589,145	526,883

Loans for approved purposes, such as waterworks, drainage, or erection of markets, are made to Local Boards, the usual rate being 4 per cent. interest and 2 per cent. sinking fund.

II.—TRADE.

The total value of Ceylon trade in the year 1913 showed a large increase on that of any previous year, as will be seen from the following table :—

Aggregate Value of Imports and Exports for the last Ten Years (omitting Specie, but including Coal exported for the use of Steamers).

Year.	Lakhs of Rupees.	Year.	Lakhs of Rupees.
1904	2,198	1909	2,853
1905	2,240	1910	3,321
1906	2,363	1911	3,523
1907	2,631	1912	3,886
1908	2,648	1913	4,329

The Customs revenue collected in 1913 showed an advance of Rs. 776,501 as compared with 1912. The increase in the last decade has amounted to Rs. 7,622,541, or over 80 per cent.

The chief articles contributing to the revenue in 1913 were—

	Rs.
Grain	4,181,963
Spirits	2,158,835
Kerosine Oil	1,499,998
Sugar	1,626,993
Cotton Goods	581,545

The total trade of the Colony, excluding specie and coal exported for use of steamers, amounted to Rs. 419,060,040, an increase of Rs. 44,782,159, or nearly 12 per cent. over that for 1912.

The following table shows in detail the annual value of the trade of the Colony for the last ten years, excluding specie and the value of coal exported for the use of steamers :—

Year.	Imports. Rs.	Exports. Rs.	Total. Rs.
1904	105,324,719	101,108,876	206,433,595
1905	108,324,328	102,189,709	210,514,037
1906	112,789,269	109,711,644	222,500,913
1907	120,061,934	129,368,251	249,430,185
1908	122,420,393	128,962,156	251,382,549
1909	125,441,597	146,899,631	272,341,228
1910	150,195,648	166,471,607	316,667,255
1911	156,986,106	180,526,959	337,513,065
1912	175,322,979	198,954,902	374,277,881
1913	186,073,086	232,986,954	419,060,040

It will be noticed that the value of exports, which in 1904, 1905, and 1906 was less than that of imports, now materially exceeds it. This is due almost entirely to the influence of rubber. In 1906 the value of rubber exports was Rs. 1,527,539. In 1913 it was Rs. 61,269,262, exclusive of Straits and Indian rubber transhipped here to the value of 5½ millions of rupees.

Of the total exports in 1913, Rs. 224,236,263 represents the produce and manufacture of the Colony, and Rs. 8,750,691 represents British, foreign, and other colonial produce and manufacture.

The following table gives an analysis of the distribution of the trade of Ceylon with (1) the United Kingdom, (2) British Colonies, (3) Foreign Countries during the last three years, excluding imports of rubber, specie, and coal exported for the use of steamers :—

	1911.	1912.	1913.
Imports.			
From United Kingdom	28·3	29·6	30·1
From British Colonies	57·7	55·4	54·4
From Foreign Countries	14	15	15·5
Exports.			
To United Kingdom	48·4	49·1	45·3
To British Colonies	13·3	13·3	12·2
To Foreign Countries	38·3	37·6	42·5
Total Trade.			
With United Kingdom	39·3	40·1	38·7
With British Colonies	33·4	32·7	30·6
With Foreign Countries	27·3	27·2	30·7

These figures show a relative decline as regards both imports and exports in the trade with British Colonies, and a marked increase in the percentage of the total trade with foreign countries.

IMPORTS.

A comparison of the value of imports in 1912 and 1913 shows increases under nearly every head, especially noteworthy being those under Metals, Sugar, and Grain.

Confectionery.—The total imports were 1,519,748 lb., an increase of 16 per cent.

Cement.—439,426 cwt. were imported in 1913, as against 318,996 cwt. in 1912, an increase of 38 per cent. This would appear to indicate considerable activity in the building trade.

Coal imports have decreased from 885,661 tons in 1912 to 744,529 tons in 1913. In 1911 the imports amounted to 665,047 tons.

Cotton, manufactured and raw, shows a slight decrease, from Rs. 14,109,396 in 1912 to Rs. 14,013,451 in 1913, due in a large measure to a decreased demand for gray piece goods. A comparison of the value of imports from various

countries shows an increase of Rs. 282,510 from the United Kingdom, and a decrease of Rs. 124,833 from British colonies and of Rs. 253,622 from foreign countries.

Grain.—There was a considerable increase in the quantity of rice cleared for home consumption, the figures being: 1912, 7,089,690 cwt.; 1913, 7,530,723 cwt.

Horses and Motor Cars show interesting figures. The number of motor cars imported during the last six years is as follows:—

1908	89	1911	213
1909	75	1912	239
1910	151	1913	407

A corresponding decrease appears in the number of horses imported, the figures being—

1910	786	1912	384
1911	483	1913	246

The increasing popularity of motoring is strikingly reflected in the imports of petrol. The figures since 1909 are—

Year.	Gallons.	Year.	Gallons.
1909	66,208	1912	216,714
1910	136,646	1913	383,442
1911	206,028		

Lamps.—The total number imported was 373,441, as against 234,630 in 1912. The average value entered at the Customs ranged from about Re. 1·40 for English lamps to 6 cents for small glass kitchen lamps from Japan.

Metals and Metalware.—The total value of imports was Rs. 11,045,186, an increase of Rs. 2,094,668 over 1912.

The most noticeable increases were in *hardware* (9¼ lakhs), *pig lead* (2 lakhs), *barbed wire* (1¼ lakh), *brassware* (1 lakh), *steelware* (7 lakhs), *cast steel* (2¼ lakhs). On the other hand, there were large decreases in *tea lead* (3 lakhs) and *iron nails* and *rivets* (1 lakh).

Manure.—The rapid and continued agricultural development of the country is exemplified by the continued increase in manure imports. The total quantity imported in 1913, viz., 80,600 tons, is more than three times the quantity imported ten years ago. Fish manure alone now accounts for 20,726 tons, or far more than the total of all manures in 1902. Fish manure, ground nut cake, and guano show the largest increases over 1912; while castor seed poonac shows a marked decrease.

Spirits.—The total quantity imported has fallen from 513,798 gallons in 1912 to 397,045 gallons in 1913. This is chiefly due to a large decrease in the quantity of arrack imported from British India.

Gin shows an increase of nearly 15 per cent.; whisky and brandy show a slight decrease.

Sugar.—The imports of candy and refined sugar show an increase of 111,069 cwt., or about 27 per cent. Java and Hong Kong, the two chief suppliers, provided 87 per cent. of the total for 1913, as opposed to 92 per cent. in 1912.

Tobacco, Cigars, and Cigarettes.—The figures for the last four years are—

Year.	Cigars and Cigarettes. lb.	Manufactured Tobacco. lb.	Total. lb.
1910	258,571	117,873	376,444
1911	215,756	38,788	254,544
1912	324,966	54,765	379,731
1913	358,513	49,487	408,000

The total figures have recovered from the temporary setback caused by the increase in the duty on manufactured tobacco from 40 cents a pound to Re. 1·40 a pound in December, 1910.

It is claimed, however, that these figures show that the effect of the duty has been to encourage the smoking of cheap cigarettes.

Ceylon's Chief Sources of Supply.

The following table shows the changes in the relative positions of the various countries which export goods to Ceylon. The percentages are percentages of value :—

		1911.		1912.		1913.	
		Per Cent.	Position.	Per Cent.	Position.	Per Cent.
1.	British India	46·92	1	45·81	1	40·83
2.	United Kingdom	26·84	2	28·76	2	29·19
3.	Straits Settlements	5·75	3	6·81	3	6·12
4.	Burma	2·96	5	2·37	5	3·82
5.	Germany	3·11	4	3·37	4	3·24
6.	Japan	1·38	7	2·00	6	2·21
7.	Java	1·25	10	1·86	7	1·75
8.	United States of America	1·39	6	1·11	10	1·28
9.	Maldive Islands	1·34	8	1·29	8	1·19
10.	Belgium	·76	13	·70	13	·93
11.	Hong Kong	1·30	9	1·27	9	·91
12.	France	·82	11	·74	12	·79
13.	Natal	·05	27	·12	27	·73
14.	Holland	·82	11	·92	11	·72
15.	Russia in Asia	·44	18	·47	19	·66
16.	South Australia	·50	16	·49	16	·56
17.	Italy	·38	22	·37	22	·54
18.	Borneo (excluding British)	·39	20	·63	14	·51
19.	Austria	·61	14	·49	16	·51
20.	Victoria	·50	16	·51	15	·44
21.	China (excluding Hong Kong)	·14	26	·17	25	·38
22.	Siam	·39	20	·48	18	·37
23.	India (non-British)	·53	15	·31	23	·34
24.	Western Australia	·17	23	·39	21	·29
25.	Switzerland	·43	19	·40	20	·26
26.	Sweden	·16	25	·16	26	·19
27.	New South Wales	·17	23	·21	24	·17

India heads the table by virtue of her enormous supplies of rice and other food stuffs for the native population. The United Kingdom has maintained her position as against foreign competitors, and at present possesses exactly nine times the trade of Germany—her greatest foreign rival.

The advance of the Straits Settlements is somewhat fictitious, being accounted for to a large extent by imports of rubber, which are speedily transhipped and exported.

Burma's advance is due to a remarkable increase in her rice supplies.

EXPORTS.

Ceylon's chief export products in order of value are as follows :—

		Lakhs of Rupees.	
		1912.	1913.
1.	Tea	838	877
2.	Rubber	521	612
3.	Copra	100	209
4.	Coconut oil	105	167
5.	Plumbago	83	90
6.	Desiccated coconuts	66	78
7.	Arecanuts	28	30
8.	Cocoa	27	30
9.	Cinnamon	28	24
10.	Citronella oil	12	16
11.	Coir fibre	17	15
12.	Coir yarn	11	15
13.	Coconuts	12	14
14.	Poonac	7	11
15.	Cardamoms	8	9
16.	Tobacco	8	8

Coconut oil, coir fibre, cinnamon, coconuts, and tobacco have receded, and copra, cocoa, coir yarn, citronella oil, and poonac have advanced.

The total products of the coconut palm retained second place till 1911, when they were supplanted by rubber. For 1913 the figures were 514 lakhs, as against 612 lakhs for rubber. This diminution is, however, only relative, as the figures for 1913—viz., 514 lakhs—compare very favourably with the corresponding figures—324 lakhs—for 1912.

Ceylon's best customers are given below :—

	1911. Per Cent.	1912. Per Cent.	1913. Per Cent.
United Kingdom	48·61	49·45	45·54
United States of America	13·89	16·58	16·63
Germany	9·44	7·08	10·11
Russia in Europe	5·02	3·61	4·63
Belgium	3·23	3·34	4·59
British India	2·88	2·86	2·39
New South Wales	2·37	2·28	2·24
Victoria	1·95	2·11	2·14
China (excluding Hong Kong)	1·50	1·49	1·70
Canada	2·27	2·09	1·68
Russia in Asia	2·21	1·39	1·42
New Zealand	1·34	1·24	1·11
Austria	·54	·83	·66
Norway	·20	·45	·57
France	·51	·41	·38
Japan	·17	·18	·37
South Australia	·35	·33	·34
Strait Settlements	·32	·30	·32
Natal	·32	·30	·28
Denmark	·15	·65	·26
Holland	·30	·25	·25
Egypt	·16	·30	·25
Cape Colony	·23	·26	·23
Queensland	·34	·26	·22
Spain (excluding Gibraltar)	·25	·35	·22
Italy	·10	·13	·18
West Australia	·21	·2	·18
Philippines	·13	·21	·17
Sweden	·10	·11	·09
India (excluding British)	·12	·12	·09
Turkey in Asia	·06	·06	·07
Newfoundland	·06	·14	·06
Hong Kong	·13	·05	·06

It will be seen that there is no striking change in the position of the principal countries during the last three years, but exports to Germany and Belgium have increased appreciably, while the United Kingdom has taken a smaller percentage than in the two previous years.

Tea.

Tea exports show a slight decrease as compared with 1912. The average price was, however, higher in 1913 than in 1912. The figures for the last seven years are remarkably stable :—

	Millions of lb. exported.		Millions of lb. exported.
1907	182	1911	186
1908	180	1912	192
1909	192	1913	191
1910	182		

The following table shows the comparative distribution, 1912 and 1913 :—

Principal Markets for Ceylon Tea.

	1912. lb.	1913. lb.	Increase. lb.	Decrease. lb.
United Kingdom	115,806,997	111,646,640	—	4,160,357
British Colonies—				
British India	2,065,778	1,624,400	—	441,378
Canada	8,464,715	7,624,464	—	840,251
Cape Colony	719,609	832,729	113,120	—
Hong Kong	204,197	186,081	—	18,116
Malta	206,829	122,357	—	84,472
Mauritius	99,891	107,627	7,736	—
Natal	1,090,327	1,221,449	131,122	—
Newfoundland	627,246	310,620	—	316,626
New South Wales	9,001,341	9,823,133	821,792	—
New Zealand	5,046,598	5,153,207	106,609	—
Queensland	949,538	908,802	—	40,736
South Australia	1,327,699	1,560,867	233,168	—
Straits Settlements	530,216	504,200	—	26,016
Victoria	7,018,699	7,910,968	892,269	—
West Australia	798,244	786,294	—	11,950
Other British Possessions	388,523	517,092	128,569	—
Total British Possessions	38,539,450	39,194,290	2,434,385	1,779,545
		Deduct Decrease	1,779,545	
		Nett Increase	654,840	
Foreign Countries—				
Austria	319,942	368,149	48,207	—
Belgium	56,357	104,711	48,354	—
China (excluding Hong Kong)	6,492,339	8,247,053	1,754,714	—
Egypt	613,614	578,264	—	35,350
France	865,958	752,918	—	113,040
Germany	697,248	631,677	—	65,571
Mozambique	111,959	119,225	7,266	—
Russia in Asia	6,084,834	6,930,732	845,898	—
Russia in Europe	11,052,787	13,304,651	2,251,864	—
Sweden	145,374	123,676	—	21,698
Turkey in Asia	192,422	105,697	—	86,725
United States of America	10,507,521	8,896,386	—	1,611,135
Other Foreign Countries	532,789	505,345	—	27,444
Total Foreign Countries	37,673,144	40,668,484	4,956,303	1,960,963
		Deduct Decrease	1,960,963	
		Nett Increase	2,995,340	
Grand Total	192,019,591	191,509,414	—	510,177

This shows large increases in the supplies exported to Russia in Europe, China, and Russia in Asia among foreign countries, and to Victoria and New South Wales among British Colonies, as opposed to large decreases in those exported to the United Kingdom, the United States of America, Canada, British India, and Newfoundland.

The total exports of green tea in 1913 were 5,298,007 lb., as against 8,093,131 lb. in 1912.

Products of the Coconut Palm.

The total value of the exports under this head was 514 lakhs, as against 324 lakhs in 1912. The three principal products, viz., coconut oil, copra, and desiccated coconuts, show large increases. The figures for the last six years are as follows :—

	Desiccated Coconuts. Cwt.	Copra. Cwt.	Coconut Oil. Cwt.		Desiccated Coconuts. Cwt.	Copra. Cwt.	Coconut Oil. Cwt.
1908	244,734	768,795	670,121	1911	292,210	821,814	505,016
1909	230,791	784,522	599,795	1912	278,806	614,089	401,779
1910	242,286	758,711	619,680	1913	303,808	1,117,292	546,984

The average price for coconut oil was Rs. 26·35 per cwt. The price of copra ranged from Rs. 86·50 to Rs. 107 per candy.

Rubber.

The export of Ceylon rubber in 1913 was 71 per cent. in excess of that in 1912, the actual figures for the last four years being—

	Cwt.		Cwt.
1910	33,952	1912	132,569
1911	61,212	1913	226,491

Nine years ago the export for the year amounted to 676 cwt.

The distribution of rubber among the two largest buyers for the past two years is—

	1912. Per Cent.	1913. Per Cent.
United Kingdom	55·2	55·38
United States of America	31·67	23·89

The average value entered in 1913 was Rs. 2·42 per lb., as against Rs. 3·51 per lb. in 1912.

CUSTOMS DUTIES.

All imports not specially rated or exempted by the Tariff are liable to a Customs duty of 5½ per cent. *ad valorem.*

From January 1, 1914, cacao and tea are liable to an export duty of 15 cents per 100 lb., and rubber and cardamoms to an export duty of 75 cents per 100 lb., under the Medical Wants Ordinance.

III.—AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRIES.

PEARL FISHERY.

No pearl fishery was held in 1913, and there appears to be no prospect of any fishery in the near future. The last was held in 1907, and since then the periodical inspections of the pearl banks show an absence of oysters or spat. The lease of the fishery held by the Ceylon Company of Pearl Fishers was terminated in 1912, as the funds of the Company were insufficient to meet its obligations under the lease.

MINERAL SURVEY.

The Sitawaka and Kelani rivers were prospected during the year. Observations proved that in Sitawaka, where the pay-gravel lies at a comparatively small depth, the parts richest in gold and gems had already been exhausted by the natives. In the Kelani, where the pay-gravel lies much deeper, fairly rich patches were occasionally discovered, but they were small in size, and separated by long stretches of barren ground.

A systematic examination of the gemming fields in the Province of Sabaragamuwa showed the industry to be in a moderately flourishing condition. Rich finds were made at Avissawella and Karangoda.

Two European syndicates attempted to mine for gems with gravel pumps, but met with little success. Their failure may be ascribed in the one case to inadequate prospecting, and in the other possibly to failure to adapt the machinery to peculiar local conditions.

The general conclusion of prospecting during the year has been to emphasize the peculiarly local nature of the alluvial deposits of valuable minerals in this country.

Mining.

Plumbago provides the only form of mining proper in Ceylon. There are about 450 plumbago mines, the chief mining centres being situated in the Southern, Western, Sabaragamuwa, Central, and North-Western Provinces. The market was dull, especially during the last three months of the year, but prices showed an appreciable advance on those realized in 1912. The averages per ton for large and ordinary lumps rose from Rs. 376 to Rs. 441, and for chips and dust from Rs. 210 to Rs. 270.

The quantity of plumbago shipped from Ceylon showed a decrease, the figures for the last four years being—

Year.	Cwt.
1910	630,551
1911	538,973
1912	654,650
1913	570,807

Our chief customer, the United States of America, took over 20,000 cwt. less than in 1912, and Germany nearly 40,000 cwt. less. The export to the United Kingdom showed scarcely any variation.

Prior to 1913 only the competition of the Korean product was felt, but during 1913 Madagascar appeared as a new rival in the market. Her output in 1913 was about 8,000 tons, and is said to be rapidly increasing.

Salt.

The manufacture and collection of salt is a Government monopoly, and is protected by a heavy duty on imported salt. Salt is sold at salt stores at Rs. 3 per cwt., and the amounts realized by its sale in the last three years are—

Year.	Rs.
1911	1,631,380
1912	1,522,542
1913	1,618,674

The year was not favourable for the production of salt owing to premature rain. At Hambantota the collection was a comparative failure, and the total yield for the Island amounted only to 210,310 cwt. In 1910—the record year—759,396 cwt. were secured.

Manufactures.

Ceylon is essentially an agricultural country, and its manufactures are chiefly confined to agricultural products. The preparation of coconut oil, copra, and arrack, and to a less extent of citronella oil and cinnamon, gives employment to a large number of the inhabitants.

Tobacco is grown in the Northern and Central Provinces, and the Jaffna cigar, which is small, strong, and cheap, is a favourite with the native population. It has, however, a growing rival in the imported cigarette, and unless improved methods of growing and curing are devised, it seems unlikely that tobacco will ever become a staple industry.

The weaving of a coarse kind of cloth in hand looms is carried on in the Eastern, Northern, and Central Provinces to supply purely local wants. The cloth is strong, but is inferior in texture and finish to imported material.

Lace-making is carried on in the Western Province.

The indigenous crafts peculiar to the Kandyan districts—silver and brass work, lacquer work, painted pottery, and ivory carving—are encouraged by the Kandyan Arts Association. The Government Agent, Province of Sabaragamuwa, complains, however, that workers show a lack of energy and enterprise, and that the demand for cheap European goods is growing.

The Agricultural Society.

The Ceylon Agricultural Society has a total of 1,832 subscribers, of whom 922 are local and 910 foreign subscribers.

The Society acquired the sole rights of the "Tropical Agriculturist" from January, 1913, and the journal is now issued to local subscribers at Rs. 8 per annum and to foreign subscribers at Rs. 12 per annum.

The Co-operative Credit Societies movement is now under the control of the Director of Agriculture—as Registrar—and a special staff. Up to date thirty-one societies have been established.

Position of Agricultural Industries.

The export of rubber in 1913 was practically double that in 1912. Although the price of rubber showed a marked decline, the position generally is regarded as sound, and the low cost of production in Ceylon enables a satisfactory profit to be made at the prices now ruling.

The prices of tea have been very satisfactory, and the industry both from an agricultural and from a commercial standpoint is flourishing.

The year was a favourable one for coconuts. Crops were large, and prices much above the average. The area under coconut cultivation is steadily increasing, particularly in the Kurunegala and Puttalam Districts.

Cocoa planters had a bad year. Both crops were short, and the beans were poor.

Diseases of Animals.

Cattle.

Rinderpest still continued, but showed a steady decrease during 1913, and by the end of the year all Provinces except the North-Western were free.

The number of cases during the last three years are—

Year.	Number.
1911	15,195
1912	9,103
1913	4,848

Of the cases during 1913, 1,715 recovered, 2,663 died naturally, and 470 were shot. There were 5,161 cases of foot-and-mouth disease during the year, and 4,877 recoveries. Surra appeared amongst cart bulls at Talawakele in October. Three cases were detected.

Dogs.

There was a notable decrease of rabies during 1913. The figures for the last three years are—

Year.	Number.
1911	62
1912	60
1913	17

Only three of the cases during 1913 gave a positive result upon bacteriological examination.

Land Settlement.

The Land Settlement Department settles title to land as between the Crown and the subject. During the year 1913 an area of 99,500 acres was settled, as compared with 96,000 acres in 1912. Almost all claims were settled without recourse to litigation, an indication of the confidence of the people in the fairness of the settlements offered to them.

Land Sales.

The total extent of Crown land sold during 1913 was 30,861 acres, and the amount realized was Rs. 1,698,883. The figures for the last four years are—

Year.	Acres.	Rs.
1910	30,673	1,273,889
1911	27,947	1,269,597
1912	30,692	1,649,367
1913	30,861	1,698,883

Of the extent sold in 1913, 13,631 acres were sold by the Government Agents realizing Rs. 1,150,960, and 17,230 acres were sold or settled by the Settlement Officer realizing Rs. 547,923.

The average price per acre ranged from Rs. 20 in the North-Central Province to Rs. 175 in the Western Province.

Thirty-six applications to purchase Crown land for rubber cultivation were dealt with in 1913 covering 1,114 acres. The comparative extents for the last three years are—

Year.	Acres.
1911	1,079
1912	2,396
1913	1,114

The decrease is, of course, due to the fall in the price of rubber.

IV.—SHIPPING.

The total number of all vessels which entered the ports of the Island in 1913 was 4,283, with a tonnage of 10,103,727. This shows a decrease of 69 vessels, and an increase of 187,130 tons as compared with 1912.

The following table gives the total number and nett tonnage of shipping n tering all ports in Ceylon during the last three years :—

	1911.		1912.		1913.	
	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.
Merchant vessels (with cargo and in ballast)	2,410	7,387,615	2,430	7,610,101	2,464	7,981,773
Merchant vessels (called to coal)	691	1,872,580	764	2,032,397	651	1,816,376
Native sailing vessels	1,203	90,306	1,120	96,989	1,115	106,958
Warships	51	211,476	38	177,110	53	198,620
Total	4,355	9,561,977	4,352	9,916,597	4,283	10,103,727

Omitting warships and vessels calling to coal, the following table gives the comparative distribution according to nationality for 1912 and 1913 :—

		1912.		1913.	
		Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.
1.	British	1,637	5,039,616	1,660	5,075,607
	British Colonial	1,008	83,786	992	93,657
	Total British Ships	2,645	5,123,402	2,652	5,169,264
2.	German	221	815,669	251	1,013,884
3.	French	129	429,625	131	461,530
4.	Japanese	94	391,898	100	416,620
5.	Dutch	85	250,460	104	330,268
6.	Austrian	89	262,076	110	326,428
7.	Russian	65	179,721	62	168,086
8.	Spanish	27	66,875	26	64,819
9.	Italian	27	74,365	17	48,003
10.	Danish	19	45,181	16	38,328
11.	Norwegian	34	47,865	23	36,084
12.	Maldivian	112	13,203	123	13,301
13.	Siamese	2	4,463	5	8,139
14.	Swedish	1	2,287	1	3,267
	Total Foreign Ships	905	2,583,688	969	2,928,757

The predominance of British shipping continues, but the increase in tonnage during 1913 has not kept pace with that in foreign shipping.

There is a notable increase in German, Dutch, and Austrian shipping.

The nett tonnage of British and foreign shipping entering the port of Colombo during 1913 is 9,510,532 tons, as compared with 9,370,843 tons in 1912.

The statistical abstract for the British Empire for 1912 shows Colombo the third largest port in the Empire :—

		Tons.
1.	Hong Kong	10,805,536
2.	London	10,800,716
3.	Colombo	9,370,843
4.	Singapore	8,223,272
5.	Liverpool	7,253,016
6.	Cardiff	6,236,944

In 1906 Colombo was fifth and the order was London, Hong Kong, Liverpool, Singapore, Colombo, Cardiff.

V.—LEGISLATION.

Very few Ordinances of other than purely local importance were passed during 1913. The Vehicles (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 5 of 1913, was introduced with the object of diminishing the risk of collisions between motors and vehicles drawn by bullocks or horses when travelling at night. Previously a bullock cart was only compelled to carry one light, which was usually so slung as to be more visible in the rear than in front. A horse-drawn vehicle carried two lights, but was under no obligation to throw any illumination to the rear, and was in consequence often invisible to an approaching motor.

The Ordinance provides that all such vehicles shall carry two lights, each throwing a white light in front and a red light behind.

The Small Towns Sanitary (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 12 of 1913, empowered Sanitary Boards in towns under the operation of the Small Towns Sanitary Ordinance of 1892 to take and receive fees recovered under the Dog Registration Ordinance. The maximum rate on the annual value of property was also raised from 4 per cent. to 6 per cent.

VI.—EDUCATION.

It is difficult to draw a clear line between elementary and secondary education in Ceylon. The English-speaking community form scarcely 1 per cent. of the total population, so that most of the schools where English is taught are teaching a language which is foreign to the large majority of their pupils.

The vernacular schools constitute the real elementary education of the country.

Vernacular Education.

In 1913 there were 778 Government vernacular schools with an attendance of 79,380 boys and 23,940 girls. There were also 1,782 aided schools with an attendance of 123,505 boys and 68,907 girls.

The total sum expended by Government on vernacular education in 1913 was approximately Rs. 1,000,000, of which, roughly speaking, Rs. 400,000 was spent on Government schools and Rs. 600,000 on aided schools.

The Rural Schools Ordinance is now in force in all districts of the Island except Jaffna.

At the end of 1913 there were 255 aided estate schools, and returns from 577 estates showed that of a total of 18,666 children of school-going age 7,590 were attending estate schools. Of these, 6,347 were boys and 1,243 girls.

A school for the deaf and blind was opened in temporary quarters in Dehiwala in November, 1912, and has made good progress.

English Schools.

In 1913 there were 242 English and Anglo-vernacular schools attended by 43,192 pupils, of whom 34,677 were boys and 8,515 girls.

In many of the schools candidates are prepared for the Senior and Junior Cambridge Local Examinations. In 1912 the candidates who presented themselves and the results obtained were—

	Candidates.	Honours.	Passed.
Senior	546	54	347
Junior	784	43	471

The results of the London University Examinations in 1912 showed that 59 candidates from Ceylon presented themselves for the Matriculation Examination, 27 of whom passed. In addition, 11 candidates passed the Intermediate Examination in Arts, 5 passed the Intermediate Examination in Science, 2 the Examination for the degree of Bachelor of Arts, and 3 the First Examination in Medical Degrees.

The encouragement offered by Government takes the form either of grants or scholarships. In the majority of the aided English schools grants are paid on the results of examinations in the schedules of the Code, but in some of the more advanced schools the greater part of the grant is paid on the average attendance. Considerably more than Rs. 200,000 was expended in grants to English schools in 1913.

Two Government scholarships are offered annually, one on the results of the Intermediate Examination in Arts and the other on the results of the Intermediate Examination in Science. These scholarships are tenable for three years, and are of the value of £200 each per annum, with free passage to England and a £50 outfit allowance. The holders may join any British University, or study at any recognized engineering institution in the United Kingdom.

Training of Teachers.

The Government Training College consists of three departments: English, Sinhalese men, and Sinhalese women. The object is to supply trained teachers for aided English schools and Government vernacular schools. At the beginning of 1913 the number of students in training was English 40, Sinhalese men 51, Sinhalese women 20.

Industrial Schools.

There are no Government industrial schools, but carpentry schools are attached to five Government schools in the Kandyan Provinces. In 1913 the aided industrial schools, which are 36 in number, received grants amounting to over Rs. 25,000. The trades taught were carpentry, dressmaking, printing, shoemaking, tailoring, lace-making, embroidery, gardening, and masonry.

The most important of these schools is the Maggona Certified Industrial School, which is utilized by Government as a reformatory for youthful offenders, and is carried on by the Roman Catholic Mission. This institution has an estate of some 300 acres and excellent buildings, towards the cost of which Government has contributed. Over 200 youthful offenders are at present receiving instruction in this school, and an allowance is paid by Government for the maintenance of each offender.

Agricultural Institution.

The vast majority of the population of Ceylon is rural, and in consequence the most useful form of technical education is one which will form a training for rural and agricultural life.

An attempt has been made to supply this by a scheme for school gardens conducted in connection with Government schools. Seeds and implements are supplied by the Royal Botanic Gardens, and prizes are offered for competition.

VII.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

Hospitals.

There are 78 Government hospitals equipped with modern hospital furniture and surgical appliances. The number of beds in the hospitals ranges from 12 to 647.

There are also 423 outdoor Government dispensaries, and 321 estate dispensaries supported by the planters, who receive drugs free up to a value of 50 cents per annum per cooly.

Medical Institutions.

The new Anatomical Block for the Medical College was opened by His Excellency the Governor on November 3, 1913. During the Session 1913–14 336 students attended the College, of whom 134 were medical and 202 apothecary. The full course for medical students is five years, and a diploma in medicine, surgery, and midwifery is granted to successful students. A Bacteriological Institute, with a small clinic for tropical medicine, and various other institutions are attached to the College.

The staff of the Medical Department was strengthened towards the close of the year by the appointment of a Senior and a Junior Sanitary Officer, and a Sanitary Department is in process of formation.

Asylums.

The Lunatic Asylum, situated in Colombo, has 780 inmates. It is overcrowded, and Government have decided to build a new asylum, with extensive grounds and accommodation for 1,000 patients.

The Leper Asylum is situated about 6 miles from Colombo, and contains 424 patients. A small establishment for lepers exists at Kalmunai, in the Eastern Province. It is proposed to establish a leper colony on the island of Mantivu.

VIII.—CRIME.

Prisons.

There was a decrease of 118 in the total number of convicted prisoners during 1913. The figures are—

Year.	Number.
1912	9,421
1913	9,303

The convictions for murder and manslaughter were 92, as against 98 in 1912 and 106 in 1911.

Twenty-one criminals were sentenced to be hanged, of whom 18 were Sinhalese and 3 were Tamils.

The number of deaths in jail shows a marked decrease, the figures for the last three years being—

Year.	Number.
1911	315
1912	167
1913	105

The death-rate per 1,000 of the prisons population in 1913 was only 6·77, and the daily average sick has decreased from 180 to 92 in the last three years. Prisoners are employed on works of public utility and industrial labour. At the central jail at Welikada all the cloth required for prisoners' clothing is made by prison labour, and in addition 240 prisoners are sent daily to the Government Printing Office.

Criminal Statistics.

The following table shows the fluctuations of serious crime in the past five years :—

	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.
Murder and homicide	177	209	182	179	172
Rape	130	131	121	80	59
Robbery	937	1,015	798	505	301
Burglary	2,456	1,957	1,630	1,582	1,087
Grievous hurt	551	731	680	552	593
Theft of cattle and prædial produce	1,656	1,324	1,366	1,251	673
Arson	391	442	383	216	213

The decrease in the crimes of rape, robbery, burglary, and theft of cattle is remarkable, and may in a great measure be attributed to the increased efficiency of the police. The decrease in burglary, for instance, is a testimony to the efficiency of police patrols, especially in Colombo.

The number of murders is below the average of the last four years. As usual, more than half were stabbing cases, generally the outcome of sudden, unpremeditated quarrels.

Four murders were committed for the sake of plunder, as against 7 in 1912. Sixteen were due to jealousy, 20 were the outcome of long-standing enmity, and 18 were due to land disputes.

IX.—VITAL STATISTICS.

Population.

The estimated population of Ceylon on December 31, 1913, was 4,262,100. The population comprised the following nationalities :—

Nationality.	Number.	Percentage of Total.
Sinhalese	2,768,000	65·0
Tamils (indigenous)	617,200	14·5
Tamils (immigrants)	541,500	12·7
Moors	269,700	6·3
Burghers	27,400	·6
Malays	13,300	·3
Europeans	7,800	·2
Others	17,200	·4

There is an excess of males over females, the proportion being 113 males to 100 females.

The birth-rate for 1913 was 39 per mille, which is slightly above the average. This is considerably higher than in England, where the rate is about 25 per mille.

The death-rate for 1913 was 28. This is almost double that of England, and three times that of Australia and New Zealand.

The infantile mortality was 189 per 1,000 births, which compares favourably with the 215 per 1,000 births in 1912.

The urban death-rate was highest in Mannar and Anuradhapura and was lowest in Nuwara Eliya, the average urban death-rate being 30 per mille.

Public Health.

There was an improvement in the general health during 1913, the death-rate being 28·5 per 1,000, as against 32·7 in 1912 and 34·8 in 1911.

The death-rate was lowest in the Western and Southern Provinces, and highest in Uva and in the North-Central Provinces.

Generally speaking, the western seaboard is the healthiest part of the Island.

The chief causes of death were fever, diarrhœa, dysentery, pneumonia, and phthisis.

Deaths from enteric fever showed a welcome decline, viz., 394, as against 461 in 1912 and 651 in 1911.

The deaths from dysentery were 4,190, as against 5,237 in 1912; and from phthisis 4,167, as against 4,306 in 1912.

Deaths from anchylostomiasis show an increase, 2,196, as against 1,843 in 1912. This disease is especially prevalent amongst estate coolies in the low-country, and is receiving the attention of the Inspecting Medical Officers, who have visited a number of estates and have prescribed both prophylactic and curative treatment.

Parangi has been treated successfully with Salvarsan. In addition to the three hospitals and the clinic for tropical diseases in which the treatment was adopted previously, it has now been introduced in ten other hospitals, and will shortly be extended to six others.

There were 69 deaths from cholera during the year, due chiefly to an outbreak which occurred in Colombo in the last quarter, and which resulted in 54 deaths.

Only one death was registered from smallpox, as against 15 in 1912 and 89 in 1911.

Climate.

There are few countries which exhibit such a marked variation in climate as Ceylon.

In the low-country the range of temperature is small, but there is a considerable divergence between the moist conditions in the south-west and the dry zone areas of the north, north-west, and south-east.

Inland, where the altitude reaches as high as 8,000 feet, the temperature is cooler, and shows a much wider range.

The rainfall in 1913 was above normal. The highest total for the year was 256·67 in. recorded at Ledgerwatte estate.

Ratnapura, as usual, heads the list amongst towns, the rainfall for the year being 159·18 in. In January there was a large excess, particularly on the eastern side of the Island, viz., Batticaloa and Trincomalee; and in October the western side of the Island suffered from an excess, which resulted in extensive floods.

The highest average temperature for the year was Trincomalee 83·1° F., and the lowest Nuwara Eliya 59·9° F. At Colombo and Kandy the averages were 80·3° F. and 76·4° F., respectively. The highest shade temperature recorded during the year was 100° F. at Anuradhapura on April 9, and the highest recorded in Colombo was 91·9° F. on March 1.

X.—POSTAL SERVICE.

Six new post offices and 19 new receiving offices were opened during 1913. The total number of offices now is 502, of which 131 are also telegraph offices.

The number of articles, exclusive of parcels, which passed through the post in 1913 is estimated at over 46 millions, as against 41 millions in 1912. The number of parcels dealt with was 677,574, an increase of 19,095 over the previous year. Of these, 14,587 were despatched to the United Kingdom and 33,475 received from the United Kingdom.

The increase in telegrams is shown by the following figures :—

	1912.	1913.
Inland	813,722 ..	916,578
Indian	170,209 ..	227,830
Other countries	94,868 ..	101,803

An expert in the Baudot printing telegraph system was lent by the British Post Office for the purpose of training a staff of local operators with a view to introducing this system on the Indo-Ceylon lines.

Ceylon was connected with Penang by a direct cable in June, and with Aden in December, 1913. Since then the Eastern Telegraph Cable Company have taken over practically the whole of the foreign traffic other than Indian.

Telegrams are accepted and delivered by the Postal Department, the transmission only being attended to by the Cable Company. With the introduction of the new cable the rates have been reduced.

New telephone exchanges were established during the year at Galle, Kalutara, Hatton, and Anuradhapura.

In 1896, the year that Government took over the telephone exchange from the Oriental Telephone Company, there were 130 telephones in use; there are now 1,803.

XI.—PUBLIC WORKS.

Public Works Department.

The total expenditure of this Department for the year 1913 was Rs. 8,189,530, which shows an increase of Rs. 455,725 over the expenditure in 1912 and of Rs. 1,120,688 over that in 1911.

Amongst the more important works completed during the year were the new Royal College, the Anatomical Block in connection with the rebuilding of the Medical College, extensions to the General Treasury, and Headquarters for the Ceylon Engineer Volunteers.

The more important works in progress, but not completed by the end of the year, included new Customs warehouses on the old coaling grounds, new office buildings for the Master Attendant, Colombo, quarters for the nursing staff of the Leper Asylum, and quay wall and shed for the Galle Customs.

Mention should also be made of the Colombo Lake Development Scheme, which made steady progress during the year.

Government Railway.

Open Line.

No new sections were opened during 1913. The total length of the open line is 604¾ miles. The revenue derived from all sources amounted to Rs. 15,753,570, an increase of Rs. 1,639,693 over the revenue for the previous year. The number of passengers conveyed showed an increase of 1,159,501. The tonnage of goods conveyed showed an increase of 82,097 tons, the most notable increases being rubber 4,450 tons, rice 23,228 tons, coconut produce 13,145 tons, and manure 25,142 tons. The total working expenses amounted to Rs. 7,650,498.

Over Rs. 2,000,000—partly from surplus funds and partly from loan funds—was spent on new works and rolling stock during the year, 11 new engines and 211 new goods and passenger wagons being put into traffic.

The total capital cost to June 30, 1913, was Rs. 106,465,279, and the capital outstanding on Railway loans was Rs. 48,866,716.

Extensions.

Chilaw.—This line, which is a continuation of the Negombo line, is 27 miles in extent. It runs through one of the most thickly populated and richest districts in the Island. The actual cost up to the end of 1913 was Rs. 3,235,643 out of a total estimated cost of Rs. 4,185,746, and the construction was about three-fourths completed.

Pelmadulla.—This line is a further extension of the narrow gauge line to Ratnapura, which was completed and opened for traffic in April, 1912. The length of the extension is 17 miles. The estimated cost is Rs. 2,253,414, and the expenditure up to the end of 1913 was Rs. 723,448. It will serve one of the richest rubber districts in the Island.

Badulla.—This line, the construction of which was sanctioned by the Secretary of State in November, 1912, will be 21 miles in length, and passes through hilly and broken country.

From Bandarawela, the present terminus of the Main line, to Badulla the drop is nearly 2,000 feet, and in consequence the gradients are steep. The total estimated cost of the extension is Rs. 6,028,445, and the expenditure up to the end of 1913 was Rs. 491,577.

Colombo Stations Extension.—This scheme comprises the construction of new stations at Maradana and the Fort; new railway stores, engine sheds, and yard; the erection of new main goods sheds; the construction of lake basins with quay walls; and the duplication and deviation of the main lines across the lake. The total estimated cost is Rs. 6,229,234, and about three-fourths of the work has now been completed.

The *Main Line Duplication* from Colombo to Ragama and Moratuwa, and the *Sea Coast Protection Works* designed to counteract the encroachment of the sea, were completed in June, 1913. The respective costs were Rs. 2,584,702 and Rs. 412,923.

Mannar. — Through communication between Madawachchi and Talaimannar was established during the year. The last spike was driven on April 12, and the first through construction train from Madawachchi entered Mannar station on that date. In all about 72 miles of single line have been laid.

All bridges, culverts, and stations had been completed by the end of 1913, and it was anticipated that the formal opening of the line would be celebrated in February, 1914.

XII.—COLOMBO PORT COMMISSION.

The administration of the Colombo harbour was transferred from July 1, 1913, to a newly constituted body designated the Colombo Port Commission, consisting of six unofficial members, five of whom are nominated by the Chamber of Commerce, and the sixth nominated by the Governor to represent native interests in the port, and of a corresponding number of official members representing the different departments concerned with the administration of the port.

The period to the end of 1913 was chiefly devoted by the Commission to the necessary preparations for taking over the various works from other departments and organizing the requisite staff. A modification of the scheme

suggested by the Colombo Port Improvements Commission which sat in 1912 for the utilization of the Harbour Works area was sanctioned. A quay wall is to be built on this section of the foreshore and warehouses erected, which will allow ample room for the development of the trade of the port.

Meanwhile the Public Works Department has made considerable progress with the new warehouses on the old coal grounds, and with the scheme for connecting the lake with the harbour by means of a canal and locks. In the old Customs premises the export warehouses have been enlarged and the quay wall completed. There is, therefore, reason to hope that the facilities for landing and warehousing cargo will prove equal in the future to the growing needs of the port.

The expenditure on Harbour Works during 1913 amounted to Rs. 839,838; the total expenditure since the commencement of the South-west Breakwater in 1873, including maintenance charges, has been Rs. 45,204,540. In order amply to protect the sea face of the South-west Breakwater, it was decided to deposit a wave breaker of 30-ton blocks on the outer side of the structure. This work had been constructed for three-quarters of its total length by the end of the year.

The "Sir John Coode" has been engaged during the year in deepening the harbour to a depth of 33 feet. The construction of the new dredger has been delayed by various causes, and the vessel is not likely to arrive in the Island until the middle of 1914. There will, however, be no difficulty in providing the necessary deep water accommodation for vessels arriving *via* the Suez Canal, as there are berths at the northern end of the harbour with a depth of 33 feet at low water.

XIII.—EXCISE.

The Excise Commission.

The Excise Ordinance, No. 8 of 1912, was brought into force with effect from January 1, 1913.

Several radical changes were introduced during the year, of which the following are the more important :—

(1) Standard measures were prescribed for the sale of arrack.

(2) Distilleries were brought under stricter control, and the base used in distillation was toddy or such other materials as were specially permitted by the Excise Commissioner.

(3) Advisory Committees were formed to advise Government Agents with regard to the establishment of new taverns, the closing of existing taverns, and the transference of existing taverns from one locality or area to another.

(4) The whole system of licensing for the bottling and sale of foreign liquor was remodelled and placed on a logical basis. A minimum strength of 20 degrees under London proof was prescribed for foreign spirits.

(5) The possession of ganja, bhang, and every preparation and admixture of the same, and of every intoxicating drink or substance prepared from any part of the hemp plant was absolutely prohibited.

The new Ordinance has enabled a degree of control to be exercised over the manufacture, possession, and distribution of intoxicating liquor and drugs such as was previously impossible. Illicit practices have been repressed, and the financial results as evidenced by the sales of the arrack and toddy rents from July 1 and by the fees recovered on foreign liquor licenses have shown a marked improvement over all preceding years.

XIV.—IMMIGRATION.

The term "immigration" in Ceylon is commonly used with reference to the immigration of native labour from the south of India for tea and rubber plantations.

There is no opening in Ceylon for the immigration of white labour.

The number of immigrant labourers who arrived in Ceylon in 1913 was 120,354, as against 117,475 in 1912. The departures were 90,374.

XV.—GENERAL.

His Excellency Sir Robert Chalmers, K.C.B., LL.D., arrived in the Island and assumed duties as Governor on October 18.

Mr. R. E. Stubbs, Colonial Secretary, arrived on January 18, and administered the Government from the departure of Sir Henry McCallum in January until the arrival of Sir Robert Chalmers.

During this period Mr. L. W. Booth, C.M.G., Ceylon Civil Service, acted as Colonial Secretary.

Brigadier-General H. H. L. Malcolm, C.B., D.S.O., took over command of the forces in May, in succession to Brigadier-General A. J. Whitacre Allen.

Mr. L. W. Booth, Mr. W. H. Jackson, and Mr. J. G. Fraser of the Ceylon Civil Service received the honour of Companionship of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George.

Mr. Alfred Lascelles, K.C., Chief Justice, Mr. Ponnambalam Arunachalam of the Ceylon Civil Service, and Mr. Edward Rosling, Rural Member of the Legislative Council, received the honour of Knighthood.

Mr. Anton Bertram, Attorney-General, and Mr. J. R. Grenier, retired Puisne Judge, were appointed King's Counsel.

The following retirements from the Public Service took place during 1913 :—Mr. L. W. Booth, C.M.G., Acting Colonial Secretary; Mr. W. H. Jackson, Controller of Revenue ; Mr. (now Sir) P. Arunachalam, Registrar-General ; Mr. K. W. B. MacLeod, Mayor of Colombo ; Mr. F. A. Cooper, C.M.G., Director of Public Works ; Mr. T. J. Campbell, Conservator of Forests ; Mr. R. W. Smith, Director of Irrigation ; Mr. C. A. Lovegrove, Deputy Director of Public Works.

Amongst members of the general public, the retirements from Ceylon of Mr. A. Fairlie, Sir Stanley Bois, and Mr. (now Sir) Edward Rosling may be mentioned.

The deaths of Mr. Ivor E. David, Inspector-General of Police, which occurred in November, 1913, of Mr. John Ferguson, C.M.G., for many years a Member of the Legislative Council, which occurred in October, 1913, and of Mr. C. A. Murray, I.S.O., and Mr. G. C. Roosmalecocq, retired Civil Servants, are recorded with regret.

Condition of the People.

The general condition of the Colony is one of continued prosperity. The staple agricultural products—coconuts, paddy, tea, rubber, cocoa, and cinnamon—are flourishing.

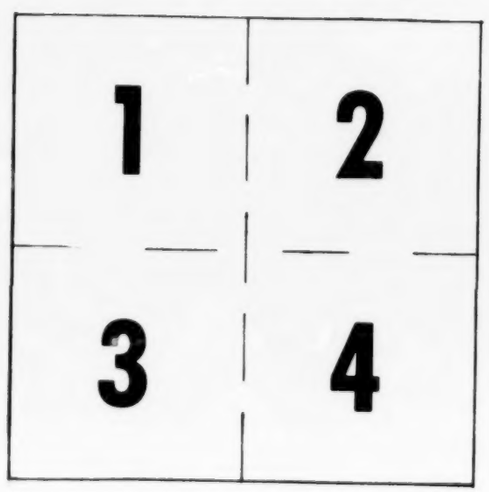
The standard of comfort has risen. The villager now requires a better house and better furniture. He is better clothed and better fed. If the spread of civilisation has increased his facilities for making money, it has likewise increased his powers of spending it, and has, perhaps, occasionally diverted it into undesirable channels.

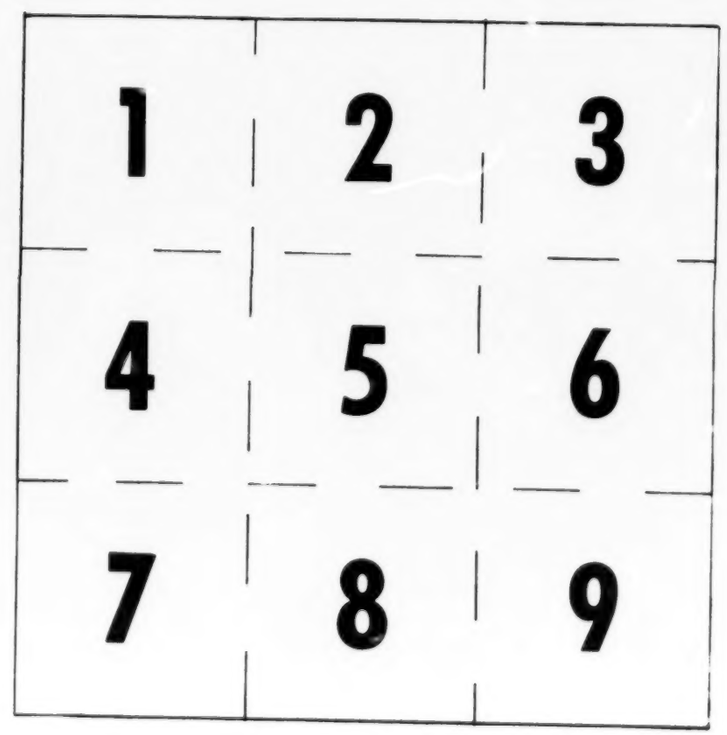
D. W. ARNOTT,
Second Assistant Colonial Secretary.

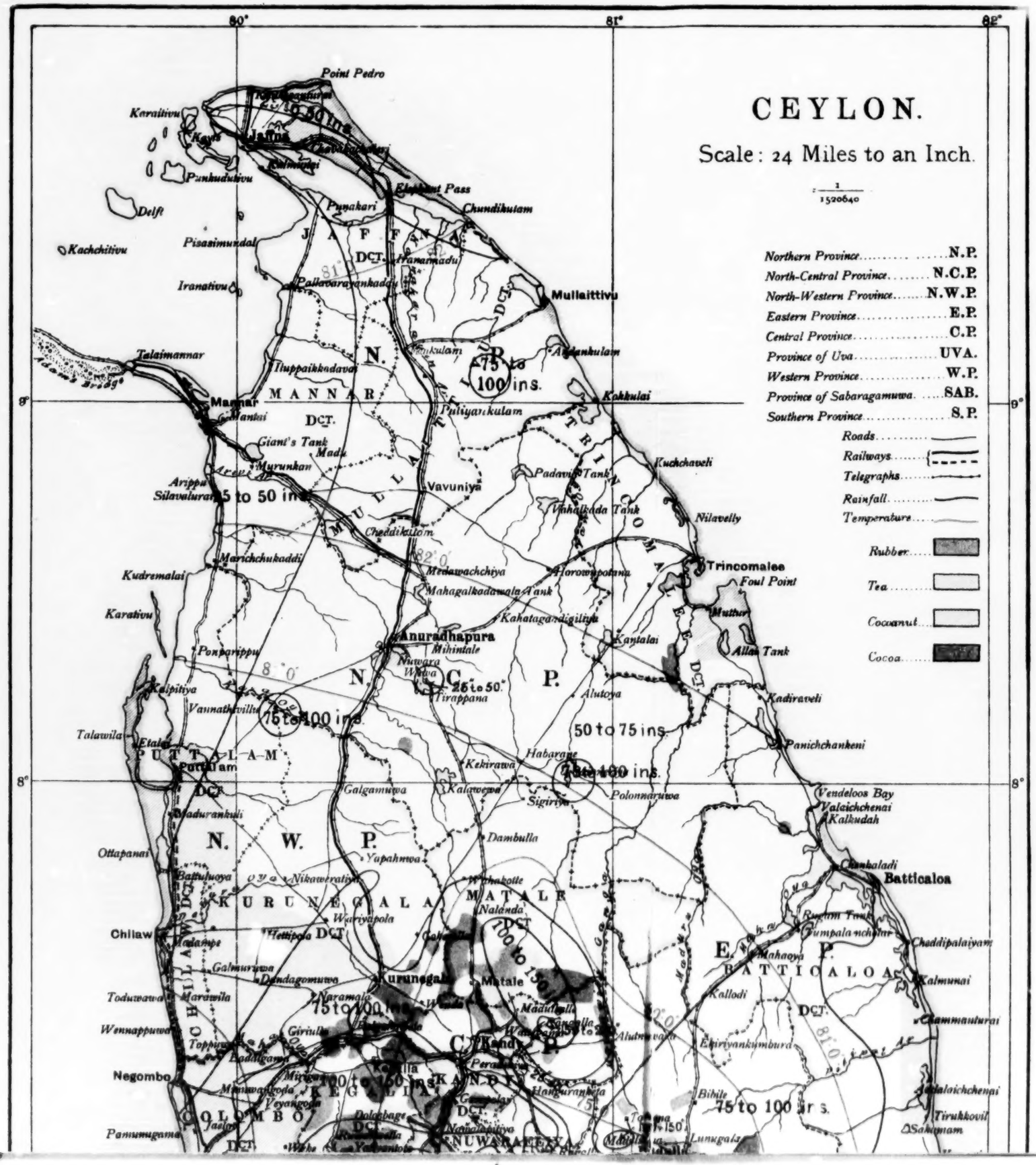
March 30, 1914.

H. C. COTTLE, GOVERNMENT PRINTER, COLOMBO, CEYLON.

Maps on this order too large to be entirely included in one exposure are filmed clockwise beginning in the upper left hand corner, left to right and top to bottom as many frames as required. The following diagrams illustrate the method.






CEYLON.
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Northern Province N.P.
North-Central Province N.C.P.
North-Western Province N.W.P.
Eastern Province E.P.
Central Province C.P.
Province of Uva UVA.
Western Province W.P.
Province of Sabaragamuwa SAB.
Southern Province S.P.
Roads
Railways
Telegraphs
Rainfall
Temperature
Rubber
Tea
Cocoanut
Cocoa
80°
81°
82°
9°
8°
Point Pedro
Karaitivu
Kayts
Jaffna
Punkuduivu
Delft
Kachchitivu
Pisasimundal
Iranativu
Elephant Pass
Punakari
Chundikulam
Mullaittivu
Talaimannar
Adam's Bridge
Mannar
Mantai
Giant's Tank
Madu
Murunkan
Arippu
Silavaluraipu
Vavuniya
Cheddikulam
Marichchukaddi
Kudremalai
Karativu
Medawachchiya
Mahagalkadawala Tank
Horowupotana
Anuradhapura
Mihintale
Nuwara Wewa
Tirappana
Kahatagasdigiliya
Kantalai
Alles Tank
Trincomalee
Foul Point
Muttur
Nilavelly
Kuchchaveli
Kadiraveli
Panichchankeni
Vendeloos Bay
Valaichchenai
Kalkudah
Batticaloa
Kokkulai
Puliyankulam
Padavi Tank
Vahalkada Tank
Ponparippu
Kalpitiya
Vannathivillu
Talawila
Etale
Puttalam
Galgamuwa
Kekirawa
Habarana
Sigiriya
Polonnaruwa
Alutoya
Dambulla
Yapahuwa
Nikaweratiya
Wahakotte
Nalanda
Matale
Kurunegala
Wariyapola
Hettipola
Galmuruwa
Dandagamuwa
Naramala
Giriulla
Kandy
Peradeniya
Gampola
Nuwaraeliya
Kegalla
Mawanella
Yatiyantota
Ottapanai
Batticaloa
Chunnakam
Pungudutivu
Mahaoya
Kallodi
Kalmunai
Cheddipalaiyam
Ammaiturai
Ekiriyankumbura
Bibile
Lunugala
Tirukkovil
Sainmam
Chilaw
Negombo
Toduwawa
Wennappuwa
Panwila
Pamunugama
Jaela
Ja-ela
Ratmalana
Colombo
Kalutara
Bentota
Galle
Matara
Hambantota
Tangalle
Hanguranketa
Madulla
Mutale
Alutnuwara
Dolahaga
Nanuoya
Tonna
Madulla
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Galgamuwa
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Polonnaruwa
Dambulla
Yapahuwa
Nikaweratiya
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Galmuruwa
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Giriulla
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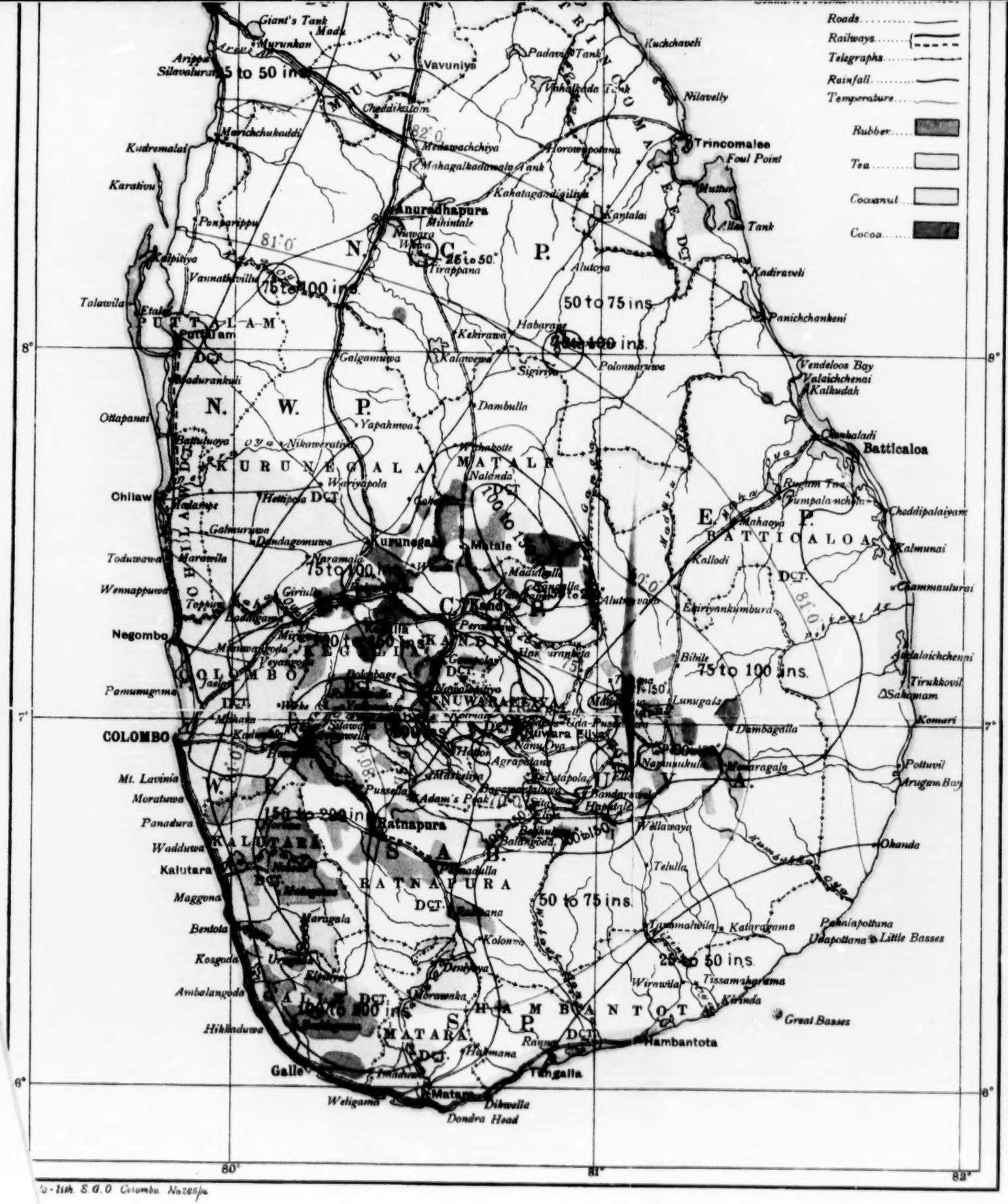
Bibile
Lunugala
Tonna
Madulla


Roads
Railways
Telegraphs
Rainfall
Temperature
Rubber
Tea
Cocoanut
Cocoa
Giant's Tank
Madu
Murunkan
Arippu
Silavaluran
5 to 50 ins
Vavuniya
Padavi Tank
Kuchchaveli
Nilavelly
Trincomalee
Foul Point
Muttur
Allai Tank
Kadiraveli
Panichchankeni
Vendeloos Bay
Valaichchenai
Kalkudah
Batticaloa
Cheddipalaiyam
Kalmunai
Chammanturai
Kalmunai
Tirukkovil
Sahamam
Komari
Pottuvil
Arugam Bay
Okanda
Pahalapottuna
Udapottana
Little Basses
Great Basses
Hambantota
Tangalla
Matara
Dibwella
Dondra Head
Galle
Weligama
Mt. Lavinia
Moratuwa
Panadura
Wadduwa
Kalutara
Maggona
Bentota
Kosgoda
Ambalangoda
Hikkduwa
Negombo
COLOMBO
Pamunugama
Chilaw
Toduwawa
Wennappuwa
Ottapanai
Talawila
Kudremalai
Karativu
Pooneryn
Kalpitiya
Puttalam
Anuradhapura
Mihintale
Nuwara Wewa
Tirappana
Alutoya
Habarana
Kekirawa
Galgamuwa
Kalawewa
Sigiriya
Polonnaruwa
Dambulla
Yapahuwa
Nikaweratiya
Kurunegala
Matale
Nalanda
Hettipola
Galmuruwa
Dandagamuwa
Naramala
Giriulla
Kandy
Peradeniya
Gampola
Nuwara Eliya
Hatton
Nanu Oya
Agrapatana
Maskeliya
Pussella
Adam's Peak
Ratnapura
Balangoda
Pelmadulla
Kolonna
Deniyaya
Morawaka
Hiddumana
Elpitiya
Urubokka
Matara
Tissamaharama
Kataragama
Lunugala
Bibile
Ellaiyankumburu
Kallodi
Mahaoya
Rumpalanchena
Dambagalla
Nawaragala
Wellawaya
Telulla
Wirawila
Kirinda
Bandarawela
Haputale
Badulla
Balangoda
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Nanu Oya
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Anuradhapura
Mihintale
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Dandagamuwa
Naramala
Giriulla
Toppu
Lodigama
Mirigama
Minuwangoda
Peyagala
Dolebage
Kotte
Kolonnawa
Moratuwa
Panadura
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Kosgoda
Ambalangoda
Hikkduwa
Galle
Weligama
Matara
Dondra Head
Tangalla
Hambantota
Wellawaya
Telulla
Lunugala
Bibile
Ellaiyankumburu
Kallodi
Mahaoya
Rumpalanchena
Dambagalla
Nawaragala

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
769	Basutoland	1912–1913
770	Gold Coast	1912
771	Ashanti	"
772	Nyasaland	1912–1913
773	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
774	British Solomon Islands	"
775	Colonial Survey Committee	"
776	Tongan Islands Protectorate	1911–1913
777	Swaziland	1912–1913
778	Imperial Institute	1912
779	Barbados	1912–1913
780	British Guiana	"
781	Entomological Research Committee	"
782	Southern Nigeria	1912
783	Jamaica	1912–1913
784	British Honduras	1912
785	Northern Nigeria	"
786	Malta	1912–1913
787	Uganda	"
788	Mauritius	1912
789	Straits Settlements	"
790	Trinidad and Tobago	1912–1913
791	East Africa Protectorate	"
792	Grenada	1912
793	Leeward Islands	1912–1913
794	St. Lucia	"
795	St. Vincent	"
796	Bermuda	1912
797	Ceylon	"
798	Gibraltar	1913
799	St. Helena	"
800	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
801	Seychelles	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
78	Weihaiwei	Census, 1911.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8 and 1908–9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 855.

CEYLON.

REPORT FOR 1914.

(For Report for 1913 see No. 802.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

September, 1915.

PRINTED IN CEYLON.

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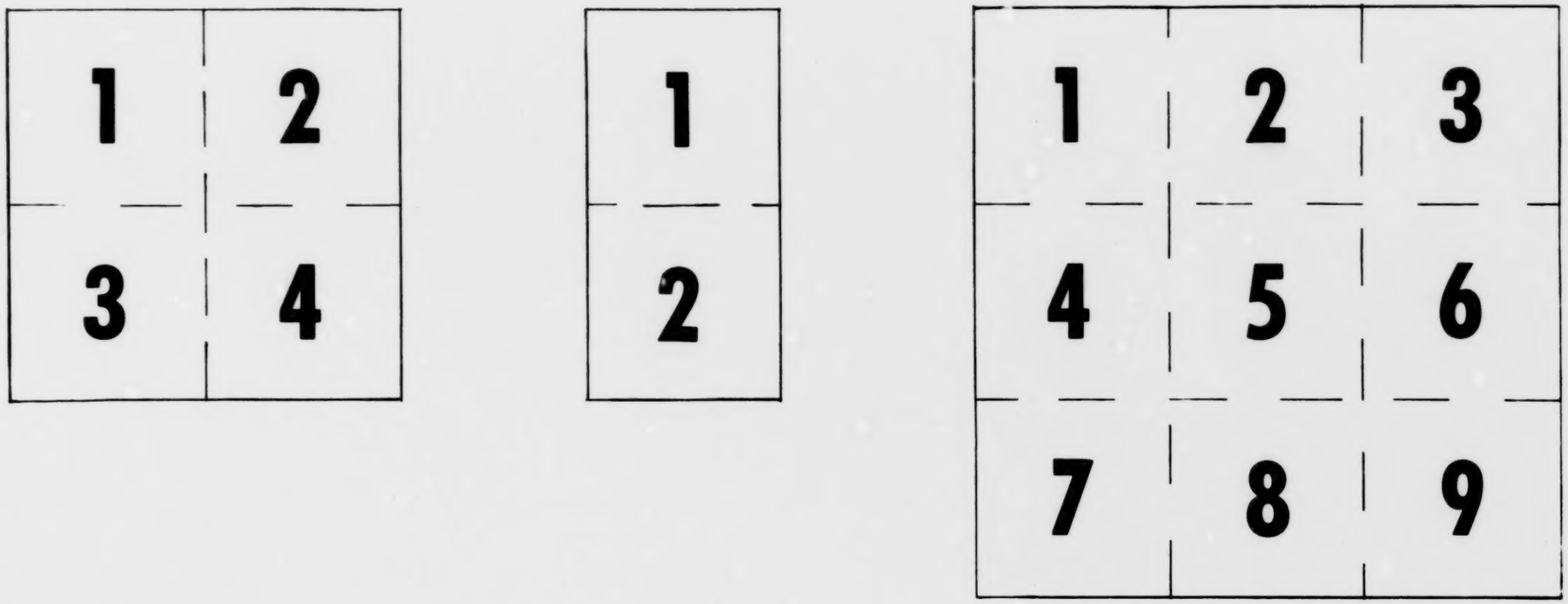
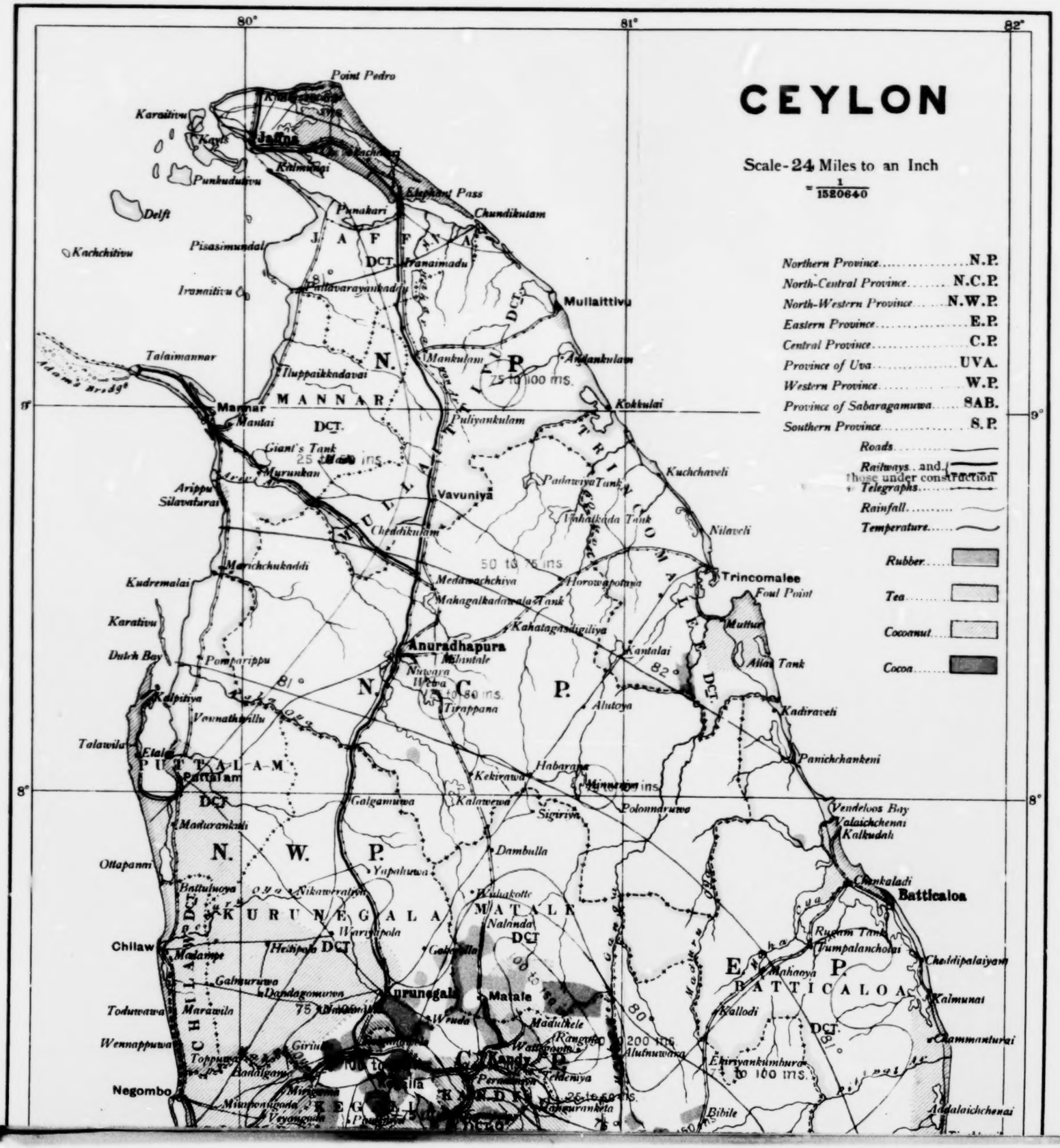
Maps on this order too large to be entirely included in one exposure are filmed clockwise beginning in the upper left hand corner, left to right and top to bottom as many frames as required. The following diagrams illustrate the method.




CEYLON
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Northern Province N.P.
North-Central Province N.C.P.
North-Western Province N.W.P.
Eastern Province E.P.
Central Province C.P.
Province of Uva UVA.
Western Province W.P.
Province of Sabaragamuwa SAB.
Southern Province S.P.
Roads
Railways and those under construction
Telegraphs
Rainfall
Temperature
Rubber
Tea
Cocoanut
Cocoa
80°
81°
82°
9°
8°
Point Pedro
Karaitivu
Jaffna
Punkudutivu
Delft
Kachchitivu
Pisasimundal
Iranaitivu
Elephant Pass
Chundikulam
Pungudutivu
Mullaittivu
Talaimannar
Adam's Bridge
Mannar
Mantai
Giant's Tank
Murunkan
Arippu
Silavaturai
Vavuniya
Puliyankulam
Kokkulai
Kuchchaveli
Nilaveli
Trincomalee
Foul Point
Kudremalai
Karativu
Dutch Bay
Pomparippu
Anuradhapura
Tirappana
Alutoya
Kantalai
Kadiraveli
Panichchankeni
Vendeloos Bay
Valaichchenai
Kalkudah
Batticaloa
Chilaw
Negombo
Puttalam
Kurunegala
Matale
Galgamuwa
Dambulla
Polonnaruwa
Habarana
Sigiriya
Kekirawa
Madurankuli
Ottapanni
Yapahuwa
Nalanda
Warugipola
Madampe
Gabaduwa
Dandagamuwa
Toduwawa
Marawila
Wennappuwa
Wanduramba
Madulkele
Rangala
Alutnuwara
Kandy
Kegalla
Bibile
Addalaichchenai
Kalmunai
Chammanturai
Cheddipalaiyam
Tumpalanchollai
Batticaloa
Vallodi
Eliriyankumbura
Mahaoya
Rugam Tank
Chankaladi
Mullaitivu
Mankulam
Iluppaikkadavai
Pallavarayankattu
Punakari
Jaffna
Kilinochchi
Kayts
Elephant Pass
Trincomalee
Anuradhapura
Kurunegala
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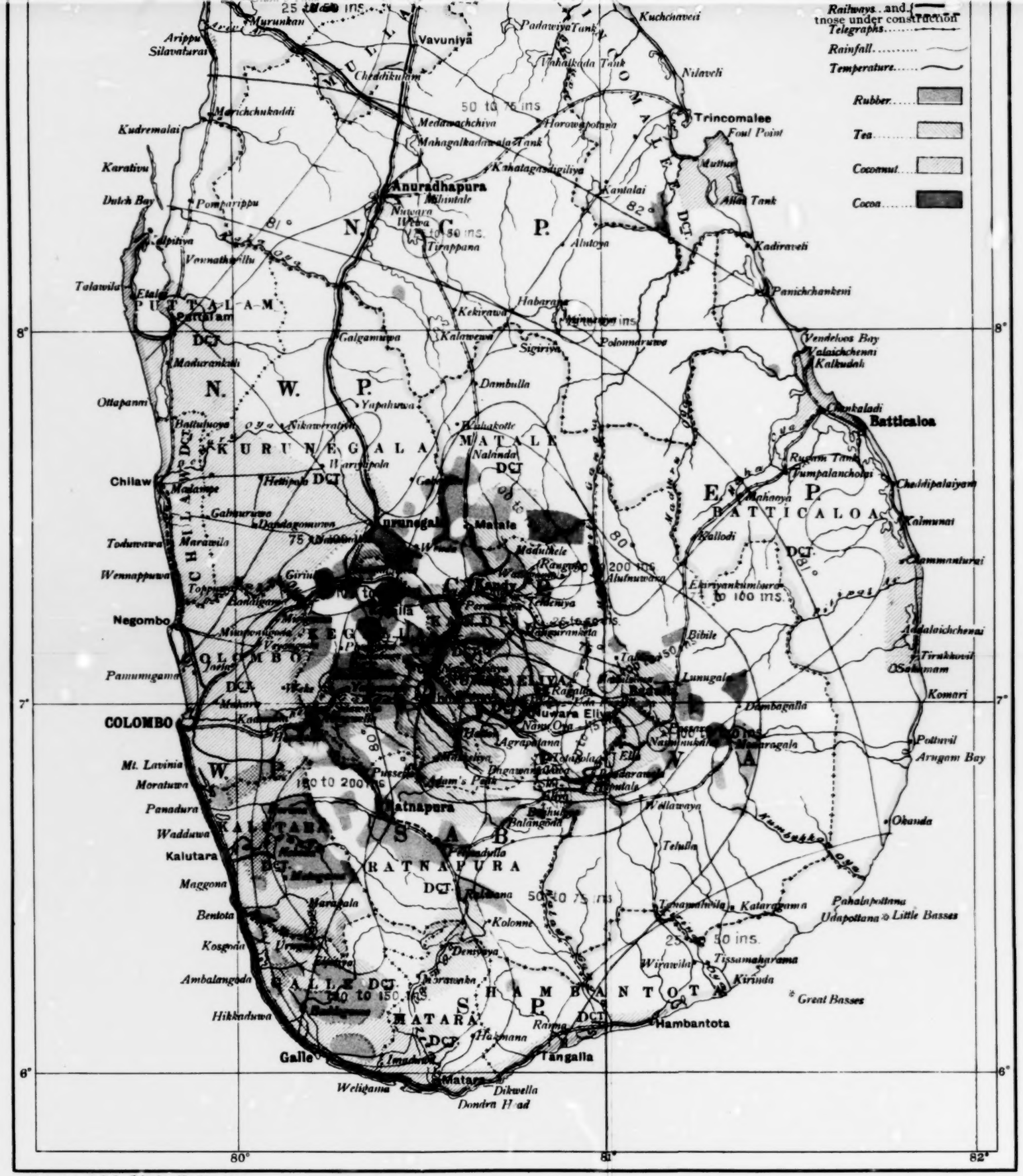
Railways and those under construction
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Ella
Tissamaharama
Kataragama
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Lake Bibile
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Lake Anuradhapura
Lake Trincomalee
Lake Kandy
Lake Nuwara Eliya
Lake Badulla
Lake Haputale
Lake Ella
Lake Bandarawela
Lake Tissamaharama
Lake Kataragama
Lake

REPORT ON THE CEYLON BLUE BOOK FOR 1914.

I.—GENERAL.

Important Events.

Apart from the outbreak of war in August and its effect on the Colony, the following are the principal events which occurred during 1914 :—

In the early part of the year plague made its appearance in Colombo for the first time. The infection spread throughout Colombo, but though imported cases occurred in Jaffna and Kurunegala, no other place became infected. The disease did not become epidemic, the greatest number of cases in one month being 71 in March.

The railways and ferry service connecting Ceylon with India by way of Mannar and Dhanushkodi were formally opened on February 24.

In April an administrative change of importance was introduced by the appointment of a Consultative Committee on Roads.

The foundation stone of the King Edward VII. Memorial, which is to take the form of an Anti-Tuberculosis Institution, was laid in June.

The Commission which was appointed to report on the affairs of the Colombo Municipality concluded its sittings in September.

The Public Service.

Sir Alfred Lascelles, K.C., Chief Justice, retired in August, 1914, and was succeeded by Mr. A. Wood Renton, Senior Puisne Justice.

Mr. W. S. Shaw, Chief Justice, British Honduras, was appointed Third Puisne Justice.

Mr. G. S. Saxton, Government Agent, Central Province, retired from the Public Service in December.

Mr. A. R. Slater of the Civil Service and Mr. D. MacGregor, Colonial Auditor, were appointed to posts in other Colonies, the former as Colonial Secretary of the Gold Coast and the latter as Treasurer of Nigeria.

Dr. A. Castellani, Director of the Bacteriological Institute, retired from the Public Service to take up the appointment of Regius Professor of Tropical Medicine at the University of Naples.

Mr. H. L. Dowbiggin, Superintendent of Police, was appointed Inspector-General of Police in succession to the late Mr. Ivor E. David.

Mr. R. E. Stubbs, Colonial Secretary, received the honour of Companionship of the Most Distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George, and Mr. Hector van Cuylenburg, Burgher Member of the Legislative Council, received the honour of Knighthood.

The deaths of Mr. E. R. Ayrton, Archæological Commissioner, and Mr. G. M. Clark, Irrigation Engineer, who were drowned while boating on Tissamaharama tank, of Mr. J. N. Tisseveresinghe, Second Tamil Member of the Legislative Council, of Mr. W. E. Thorpe, Government Agent of the Eastern Province, and Mr. J. O'K. Murty, District Judge of Jaffna, are recorded with regret.

The Effect of the War on Ceylon.

The outbreak of war with Germany and Austria in August and the subsequent breach of relations with Turkey served to emphasize the unquestioned loyalty of the permanent population of the Colony. The latter event in particular

evoked from the Muhammadan community striking and unanimous manifestations of their adherence to the Throne. Hardly less noteworthy was the absence of any symptoms of panic, and it is gratifying to be able to record that, in spite of some unavoidable disturbance to the continuity of certain industries, there has been a remarkable lack of distress arising from unemployment.

The effects of the war on the finances and the trade of the Colony are dealt with in other sections of this report, and it will be sufficient here to note briefly such local incidents of importance as occurred in consequence of the war.

A Prize Court was established shortly after the commencement of the war and dealt with the enemy merchant ships—seven in number—which were captured or detained in Colombo Harbour. One of these ships was sold locally after condemnation, another was used to convey local produce to the United Kingdom, and the remainder were handed over to the Indian Government.

The crews of the captured ships were detained as prisoners of war at Ragama. After a short time they were removed to Diyatalawa, where they were interned, together with Ceylon residents of enemy nationality, in the camp which was originally constructed for the detention of prisoners sent to Ceylon during the Boer war.

Their number has been increased by the addition of enemy subjects captured on vessels calling at Colombo, and also of wounded prisoners taken by H. M. A. S. "Sydney" after her engagement with the "Emden."

A company of the Ceylon Planters' Rifle Corps after training at Diyatalawa left for Europe in November. War with Turkey broke out while they were on their way, and the company disembarked at Port Said and remained in Egypt, where they were attached to the New Zealand Forces. A number of the rank and file received commissions in other units.

Excellent work was done by the principal Ceylonese Corps, the Ceylon Light Infantry. Several companies were mobilized soon after the commencement of the war, and performed the important duties of guarding bridges and other points of strategic importance.

The Ceylon Artillery Volunteers and the Ceylon Engineer Volunteers were also mobilized, and assisted in their respective capacities in manning the defences of Colombo, the latter Corps being employed on the searchlights in the vicinity of the harbour.

A Town Guard was formed for the defence of Colombo, and nearly all the European residents of Colombo who were not already members of the existing Volunteer Forces were enrolled in this Corps.

The Condition of the People.

In spite of the effects of the war on prices and employment the year under review was, on the whole, a prosperous one. There were no serious floods, and, with the exception of plague in Colombo and one or two small outbreaks of smallpox, no serious epidemics.

The condition and health of the villager throughout the Island are being materially improved, as a result of the increased attention paid to sanitation and of the spread of medical facilities. Most striking results were obtained from the new treatment of "parangi," a disease which until recently was believed to be ineradicable.

Paddy crops were in the main satisfactory, and the other principal agricultural products of the Island—tea, rubber, coconuts, cocoa, and cinnamon—continued to flourish.

The general prosperity of the Island was reflected in the steady demand for Crown land.

II.—FINANCIAL.

Owing to the decision that the financial year of the Colony should in future run from October 1 to September 30 instead of from July 1 to June 30, the period under review consists of fifteen months, viz., from July, 1913, to September, 1914.

Revenue.

The revenue collected during this period amounted to Rs. 67,221,964, an excess of Rs. 5,351,963 over the estimate. The proportionate revenue for twelve months exceeds the revenue for the preceding year by Rs. 2,605,035.

The sources of revenue which contributed principally to this increase were the Customs, the Government Railway, and Excise and other Licenses.

In the last two months of the financial period there was a marked decrease in the revenue under the first two of these heads, owing to the outbreak of war and the consequent temporary disturbance to trade.

The average annual increase in the revenue since 1908 is between 3½ million and 4 million rupees, and it is probable that this average would have been maintained but for the outbreak of war.

Expenditure.

The expenditure for 1913–14 was estimated at Rs. 73,203,454, and the amount actually expended was Rs. 69,367,397.

The proportionate expenditure for twelve months shows an increase of Rs. 7,822,989 over the expenditure of 1912–13. This was due mainly to the increased expenditure of the Public Works and Railway Departments and of the Port and Marine Department of Colombo.

Apart from ordinary expenditure, a sum of Rs. 6,897,951 was spent on Extraordinary Public Works chargeable to Loan Funds.

Assets and Liabilities.

The assets of the Colony on September 30, 1914, were Rs. 40,615,386, and the liabilities Rs. 14,941,983. The assets consist largely of advances to local bodies, and in particular to the Municipality of Colombo, and the principal item among the liabilities is the Widows' and Orphans' Pension Fund.

Public Debt.

At the close of the financial period the public debt of the Colony stood at £5,949,151, approximately one and two-third times the annual revenue.

Of the loan of £3,436,854 authorized by Ordinance No. 6 of 1909 to meet the cost of the Colombo Harbour and Drainage Works, the Mannar Railway, and railway and other public works, a sum of £1,500,000 was raised at 98½, bearing interest at 3½ per cent., in 1909–10, and a further sum of £1,000,000 at 99, bearing interest at 4 per cent., was raised in 1914. A balance (£128,653) of the latter loan has been carried forward to meet expenditure in 1914–15. Any excess thereon will be met from revenue till the remaining portion of the loan is raised.

Currency.

On September 30, 1914, the value of currency notes in circulation was Rs. 27,902,000, and the currency reserve on that date consisted of Rs. 3,682,500 in gold, Rs. 9,058,200 in silver, and Rs. 15,161,300 in British, Colonial, and Indian investments.

III.—AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRIES.

Agriculture.

Agricultural industries suffered serious dislocation on the outbreak of war, but by the close of the year normal conditions had been for the most part restored.

Coconuts.—The price of copra, which had fallen to Rs. 30 per candy for a few parcels on the declaration of war, rapidly recovered and rose to Rs. 77 at the close of 1914, with the prospect of the market still further improving. Some of the largest local buyers were German firms, whose partners were interned as prisoners of war, and whose businesses were put in the hands of controllers; there has, however, been no lack of markets, and there is every prospect of new and important markets being opened by the war.

Coconut Fibre.—This industry, especially on the seaboard on the Western and Southern Provinces, has been seriously affected by the war, as the market was chiefly continental.

Tea.—Owing to shortage of rainfall in the early months of the year, causing considerable deficiency in some districts, the estimate for the year was not quite realized, though the output was slightly in excess of that of 1913. The reduction of labour on rubber estates has had the effect of a more plentiful supply being available for tea plantations, which have been maintained in a state of good cultivation. The large demands from Russia have helped to keep up prices, which have been maintained at a high level.

Rubber.—The outlook was uncertain during the latter part of the year, owing to the continental market being cut off and exports to America prohibited. The fears of a serious slump were not realized, and though standard crêpe fell in December to 1*s.* 11½*d.*—the lowest price touched during the year—this created no uneasiness. Reduction in cost of production has more than kept pace with reduction in price, while the standard of cultivation has improved.

Cocoa.—The crop was below that of 1913, and the quality below average on account of the unusually wet weather of October, November, and December, necessitating curing indoors and causing a considerable increase of canker. After the outbreak of war prices fell considerably, and lower grades became almost unsaleable. The market speedily recovered, and the year ended with prices slightly higher than those at the end of 1913.

Tobacco.—This industry has also been seriously affected by the war, especially in the Northern Province. A Government expert is at work endeavouring to establish better types suitable for the English market.

Co-operative Credit Societies.—Progress has been made with the movement in some parts of the Island, in spite of a considerable amount of local apathy to be overcome. There are now 50 registered societies.

The Agricultural Society.

This Society has a roll of 1,889 members—922 local and 967 foreign.

The organ of the Society is the "Tropical Agriculturist."

The Society publishes two vernacular magazines, one in Sinhalese (Govikam Sangarawa) and the other in Tamil (Kamat Tholil Velakkam), and periodically issues special leaflets.

A stock of plants and seeds is available at cost price, to members only, at the beginning of each planting season.

Twelve instructors were employed during the year for service chiefly among native cultivators, and ten experimental and demonstration gardens were maintained in different parts of the Island.

Sale and Settlement of Land.

The total extent of Crown land sold and settled (exclusive of settlements under the Waste Lands Ordinance) was 27,471 acres. An area of 87,275 acres was settled under the Waste Lands Ordinance by the Land Settlement Department, as against 99,500 acres in 1913.

The decrease is due to the fact that the activities of the Department were curtailed by a number of its officers and those of the Survey Department being employed on special duty after the outbreak of the war.

Cattle.

Rinderpest.—Outbreaks occurred in all Provinces except the Southern. The steady decrease of the last three years continued. The totals for the last four years are :—

Year.	Number of Cases.
1911	15,195
1912	9,103
1913	4,848
1914	3,835

Of the cases during 1914, 1,182 recovered, 2,298 died naturally, 352 were shot, and 3 remained on hand at the close of the year.

Foot-and-mouth Disease.—During 1914 this disease prevailed all over the Island. Cases 8,664, recoveries 8,305, deaths 79, shot 5, balance ill at the close of the year 275.

Salt.

The manufacture and collection of salt is a Government monopoly, which is protected by the imposition of a duty on imported salt. Salt is sold to purchasers from all Government salt stores at Rs. 3 per cwt. ; and the amount realized by its sale in 1914 was Rs. 1,582,178·89, as compared with Rs. 1,618,674·22 in 1913 and Rs. 1,522,542·73 in 1912.

The year was favourable for the production of salt, and a fairly large harvest was collected. No restriction was placed on the output, and the total yield for the Island amounted to 522,350 cwt., the best since 1910, when the total reached 759,396 cwt. The quantity secured in 1911 was 328,199 cwt., in 1912 it was 276,781 cwt., and in 1913 210,310 cwt.

Pearl Fishery.

No pearl fishery was held in 1914, nor does there appear to be any prospect of a fishery in the near future. The last was held in 1907.

Mineral Survey.

During the first five months of the year explorations of the high patana country and of the Kalu-ganga valley were carried on. Valuable information was obtained as to the source of the thoria minerals and corundum in the alluvial deposits of the Island, but no deposits of actual commercial value were discovered. The examination of the Kalu-ganga valley, with special reference to the occurrence of deep-lying alluvial deposits, was not completed before the end of the the dry season.

From June to December both officers of the Survey were on leave.

Forests.

Forest exploitation has been directed towards the elimination of over-mature timber, which retarded future generation of crops, and the utilization of timber on areas to be alienated for sale, lease, or irrigation purposes.

Public Departments have been supplied during 1914 with 1,257,860 cubic feet of timber approximately, the royalty value of which was Rs. 149,283, and cost Rs. 244,345.

Since 1906 the Forest Department has delivered 682,308 broad gauge and 223,969 narrow gauge sleepers to the Railway, the average cost of delivery to date being Rs. 3·64 per broad gauge and Re. 1·57 per narrow gauge sleeper. The Railway previously paid over Rs. 5 per broad gauge sleeper and Rs. 3·25 per narrow gauge sleeper for supplies of Jarrah, so that a considerable saving has been effected by the supply being obtained from the local forests, while the local sleepers are admittedly more durable than the imported ones.

Mining.

The plumbago industry suffered during 1914, first, from competition with Madagascar; and secondly, from the war, owing to prohibition of export to the American markets. The value of plumbago exported in 1914 was approximately 42 lakhs, as compared with 90 lakhs in 1913.

The gemming industry, which is principally carried on in Sabaragamuwa, also suffered from the effects of the war.

Manufactures.

There is nothing of note to record with regard to the manufactures of Ceylon in 1914. They are for the most part confined to the preparation of agricultural products.

Weaving, lace-making, silver and brass work, and ivory-carving give employment to a few families, who have carried on these arts for generations and supply only local demands.

IV.—TRADE.

The total value of Ceylon trade in the year 1914, though falling short of that of 1913, showed an increase over that of previous years, as will be seen from the following table :—

Aggregate Value of Imports and Exports for the last Ten Years (omitting Specie, but including Coal exported for the use of Steamers).

Year.	Lakhs of Rupees.	Year.	Lakhs of Rupees.
1905	2,240	1910	3,321
1906	2,363	1911	3,523
1907	2,631	1912	3,886
1908	2,648	1913	4,329
1909	2,853	1914	4,022

The Customs revenue collected in 1914 showed a decrease of Rs. 581,581 compared with 1913. Up to the end of August the revenue showed an advance of Rs. 913,673 over the corresponding period of 1913, when it declined rapidly during the months of September and October owing to the war, and more particularly to the presence of the "Emden" in the Indian Ocean and shortage of freight. There was a slight recovery during the last two months of the year, but it cannot be expected that the revenue will maintain its former level under present conditions.

The chief articles contributing to the revenue in 1914 were :—

	Rs.
Grain	4,071,681
Spirits	2,045,214
Kerosine Oil	1,712,643
Sugar	1,433,476
Cotton Goods	499,917

The total trade of the Colony, excluding specie and coal exported for use of steamers, amounted to Rs. 390,681,395, a decrease of Rs. 28,378,645 below 1913.

The following table shows in detail the annual value of the trade of the Colony for the last ten years, excluding specie and value of coal exported for the use of steamers :—

Year.	Imports. Rs.	Exports. Rs.	Total. Rs.
1905	108,324,328	102,189,709	210,514,037
1906	112,789,269	109,711,644	222,500,913
1907	120,061,934	129,368,251	249,430,185
1908	122,420,393	128,962,156	251,382,549
1909	125,441,597	146,899,631	272,341,228
1910	150,195,648	166,471,607	316,667,255
1911	156,986,106	180,526,959	337,513,065
1912	175,322,979	198,954,902	374,277,881
1913	186,073,086	232,986,954	419,060,040
1914	172,317,549	218,363,846	390,681,395

The excess of exports over imports in recent years is due almost entirely to the influence of rubber. In 1906, the last year in which the value of imports exceeded the value of exports, the value of rubber exports was Rs. 1,527,539. In 1914 it was Rs. 57,220,155, exclusive of Straits and Indian rubber transhipped here to the value of 4¼ millions of rupees.

Of the total exports in 1914, Rs. 210,711,403 represents the produce and manufacture of the Colony, and Rs. 7,652,443 represents British, foreign, and other colonial produce and manufacture.

The following table gives an analysis of the distribution of the trade of Ceylon among (1) the United Kingdom, (2) British Colonies, (3) Foreign Countries during the last three years, excluding imports of rubber, specie, and coal exported for the use of steamers :—

	1912.	1913.	1914.
Imports.			
From United Kingdom	29·6	30·1	29·5
From British Colonies	55·4	54·4	55
From Foreign Countries	15	15·5	15·5
Exports.			
To United Kingdom	49·1	45·3	52·9
To British Colonies	13·3	12·2	13·5
To Foreign Countries	37·6	42·5	33·6
Total Trade.			
With United Kingdom	40·1	38·7	42·8
With British Colonies	32·7	30·6	31·4
With Foreign Countries	27·2	30·7	25·8

These figures show a marked decrease in the percentage of the trade with foreign countries, due principally to Germany having dropped out of the market.

It is, however, significant that the proportion of imports from foreign countries has not been affected, probably owing to large German imports previous to the outbreak of war.

Imports.

A comparison of the value of imports in 1913 and 1914 shows decreases under nearly all the important heads.

Confectionery.—The total imports were 1,052,870 lb., a decrease of 30 per cent.

Cement.—355,147 cwt. were imported in 1914, as against 439,426 cwt. in 1913. The United Kingdom sent in 1914 as much as in the previous year, but while 176,152 cwt. were imported from Germany in 1913, she was only able to supply 77,360 cwt. in 1914. Coal imports have decreased from 744,529 tons in 1913 to 598,957 tons in 1914. There was a drop in Indian and Japanese coal.

Cotton, manufactured and raw, shows a decrease from Rs. 14,013,451 in 1913 to Rs. 13,062,117 in 1914, due principally to smaller imports of dyed piece goods from British India. The value of imports from the United Kingdom shows a decrease of Rs. 117,370, from British Colonies of Rs. 983,894, but there was an increase of Rs. 149,930 from foreign countries.

Grain.—The quantity of rice cleared for home consumption was practically the same as that cleared during the previous year, the figures being: 1913, 7,530,723 cwt.; 1914, 7,400,269 cwt.

Horses and Motor Cars.—The number of motor cars imported during the last six years is as follows :—

1909 ..	.. 75	1912 ..	.. 239
1910 ..	.. 151	1913 ..	.. 407
1911 ..	.. 213	1914 ..	.. 459

There was a corresponding decrease in the number of horses imported, the figures being as follows :—

Year.	No. of Horses imported.	Year.	No. of Horses imported.
1910 ..	.. 786	1913 ..	.. 246
1911 ..	.. 483	1914 ..	.. 332
1912 ..	.. 384		

(The large number imported in 1914 is only apparent, as 217 horses re-exported during the last four months of the year have to be deducted from the figures, the number re-exported under normal conditions being trifling.)

The increasing popularity of motoring is strikingly reflected in the imports of petrol. The figures since 1909 are—

Year.	Gallons.	Year.	Gallons.
1909 ..	.. 66,208	1912 ..	.. 216,714
1910 ..	.. 136,646	1913 ..	.. 383,442
1911 ..	.. 206,208	1914 ..	.. 701,082

Lamps.—The total number imported was 322,040, valued at Rs. 232,786. Austria and Germany together supplied about half the number, representing one-third of the total value. The average value entered at the Customs was highest for English lamps, and lowest for lamps made in Japan; the latter consisting largely of small glass kitchen lamps costing 6 cents each.

Metals and *Metalware.*—The total value of imports was Rs. 7,837,819, a decrease of Rs. 3,207,367 below 1913. The most noticeable decreases were in hardware (10¼ lakhs), galvanized iron (6½ lakhs), cast steel (5¾ lakhs), and steelware (4¾ lakhs). On the other hand, tea and pig lead alone showed a fair increase, due to activity in the tea trade.

Manure.—There was a decrease in manure imports from 80,600 tons in 1913 to 61,800 tons in 1914. The decrease under fish manure alone was 16,270 tons. The total imports in 1914 are the lowest since 1910. Supplies from Germany during the second half-year of 1914 fall short of the figures for the corresponding period of 1913 by 4,060 tons.

Spirits.—The total quantity cleared has fallen from 391,366 gallons in 1913 to 331,006 gallons in 1914. All kinds show decreases except brandy. The importation of arrack from India under the Governor's warrant has now ceased.

Sugar.—The imports of candy and refined sugar decreased from 527,378 cwt. in 1913 to 470,378 cwt. in the year under review. Java and Hong Kong, the two chief suppliers, sent 68 per cent. of the total, as against 87 per cent. in 1913. Mauritius took the third place in 1914 by supplying nearly 13 per cent. of the total.

Tobacco, Cigars, and Cigarettes.—The amounts cleared during the last three years are—

Year.	Cigars.	Cigarettes.	Manufactured Tobacco.	Total.
	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.
1912	21,842	282,158	53,276	357,276
1913	22,051	318,955	48,258	389,264
1914	22,803	329,230	39,149	391,182

The duty on tobacco was considerably enhanced with effect from December 18, 1914.

Ceylon's Chief Sources of Supply.

The following table shows the changes in the relative positions of the various countries which export goods to Ceylon. The percentages are percentages of value :—

		1912.		1913.		1914.
		Per Cent.	Position.	Per Cent.	Position.	Per Cent.
1.	British India	45·81	1	40·83	1	35·93
2.	United Kingdom	28·76	2	29·19	2	28·58
3.	Straits Settlements	3·81	3	6·12	3	8·94
4.	Burma	2·37	5	3·82	4	6·11
5.	Germany	3·37	4	3·24	5	2·49
6.	Japan	2	6	2·21	6	1·71
7.	Java	1·86	7	1·75	7	1·5
8.	United States of America	1·11	10	1·28	8	1·33
9.	Maldive Islands	1·29	8	1·19	9	1·21
10.	Siam	·48	18	·37	22	1·1
11.	Persia	·00	30	·01	29	·88
12.	Holland	·92	11	·72	14	·85
13.	France	·74	12	·79	12	·83
14.	Belgium	·7	13	·93	10	·8
15.	Natal	·12	27	·73	13	·79
16.	Hong Kong	1·27	9	·91	11	·77
17.	Victoria	·51	15	·44	20	·76
18.	Austria	·49	17	·51	19	·6
19.	China (excluding Hong Kong)	·17	25	·38	21	·53
20.	Italy	·37	22	·54	17	·46
21.	India (excluding British)	·31	23	·34	23	·46
22.	Borneo (excluding British)	·63	14	·51	18	·46
23.	Western Australia	·39	21	·29	24	·39
24.	South Australia	·49	16	·56	16	·36
25.	Mauritius	·02	28	·06	28	·34
26.	Sweden	·16	26	·19	26	·23
27.	New South Wales	·21	24	·17	27	·23
28.	Switzerland	·4	20	·26	25	·22
29.	Tasmania	·01	29	·00	30	·18
30.	Russia in Asia	·47	19	·66	15	·15

The United Kingdom has maintained her position as against foreign competitors.

India's position at the head of the table is by virtue of her enormous supplies of rice and other food stuffs for the native population. Her setback during the year was largely owing to a reduction in her export of rice, which has been met by a corresponding increase in the supplies from the Straits Settlements and Burma.

The figures for the Straits Settlements are somewhat fictitious, as they include the value of rubber which is brought here and speedily re-shipped.

Exports.

Ceylon's chief export products in order of value are as follows :—

		Lakhs of Rupees. 1913.	1914.			Lakhs of Rupees. 1913.	1914.
1.	Tea	877	897	9.	Cinnamon	24	16
2.	Rubber	612	572	10.	Citronella oil	16	13
3.	Copra	209	232	11.	Coir yarn	15	13
4.	Coconut oil	167	134	12.	Coir fibre	15	13
5.	Desiccated coconuts	78	78	13.	Tobacco	8	9
				14.	Poonac	11	9
6.	Plumbago	90	42	15.	Coconuts	14	9
7.	Cocoa	30	20	16.	Cardamoms	9	7
8.	Arecanuts	30	18				

Plumbago, arecanuts, coir fibre, coconuts, and cardamoms have receded, and desiccated coconuts, cocoa, coir yarn, and tobacco have advanced. Until 1911 the total value of the products of the coconut palm came next to that of tea, but thereafter rubber took the second place. Its value in 1914 was some 80 lakhs more than the value of the products of the palm for the same year.

Ceylon's best customers are given below :—

	1912. Per Cent.	1913. Per Cent.	1914. Per Cent.
United Kingdom	49·45	45·54	53·88
United States of America	16·58	16·63	14·1
Germany	7·08	10·11	5·48
Russia in Europe	3·61	4·63	3·13
Belgium	3·34	4·59	2·71
New South Wales	2·28	2·24	2·56
Victoria	2·11	2·14	2·46
British India	2·86	2·39	2·07
Canada	2·09	1·68	1·97
New Zealand	1·24	1·11	1·57
Russia in Asia	1·39	1·42	1·32
China (excluding Hong Kong)	1·49	1·7	1·31
Denmark	·65	·26	1·2
Austria	·83	·66	·85
Holland	·25	·25	·71
France	·41	·38	·54
South Australia	·33	·34	·42
Norway	·45	·57	·35
Egypt	·3	·25	·33
Japan	·18	·37	·31
Natal	·3	·28	·29
Queensland	·26	·22	·28
Cape Colony	·26	·23	·27
Straits Settlements	·3	·32	·26
Spain (excluding Gibraltar)	·35	·22	·25
West Australia	·2	·18	·21
Philippines	·21	·17	·17
Hong Kong	·05	·06	·16
Italy	·13	·18	·1
India (excluding British)	·12	·09	·08
Newfoundland	·14	·06	·08
Roumania	—	·04	·07
Sweden	·11	·09	·07
Turkey in Asia	·06	·07	·07

A striking feature in the table is the general increase in the percentages taken by the United Kingdom and her Colonies. Their combined takings rose from Rs. 127,866,155 in 1913 to Rs. 140,509,097 in 1914, an increase of Rs. 12,642,942, or about 10 per cent.

Tea.

Tea exports were the largest on record, and showed an increase of nearly ¾ million pounds over the previous record (1909). The increase over 1913 amounted to 2 million pounds, while the average price was also higher than in

that year. The figures for the last seven years are here shown in millions of pounds :—

	Millions of lb.		Millions of lb.
1908 ..	.. 180	1912 ..	.. 192
1909 ..	.. 192	1913 ..	.. 191
1910 ..	.. 182	1914 ..	.. 193
1911 ..	.. 186		

The following table shows the comparative distribution, 1913 and 1914 :—

Principal Markets for Ceylon Tea.

	1913. lb.	1914. lb.	Increase. lb.	Decrease. lb.
United Kingdom ..	111,646,640 ..	115,888,689 ..	4,242,049 ..	—
British Colonies—				
British India ..	1,624,400 ..	2,062,129 ..	437,729 ..	—
Canada ..	7,624,464 ..	8,522,964 ..	898,500 ..	—
Cape Colony ..	832,729 ..	975,502 ..	142,773 ..	—
Hong Kong ..	186,081 ..	193,060 ..	6,979 ..	—
Malta	122,357 ..	100,222 ..	— ..	22,135
Mauritius ..	107,627 ..	104,787 ..	— ..	2,840
Natal	1,221,449 ..	1,241,785 ..	20,336 ..	—
Newfoundland ..	310,620 ..	349,744 ..	39,124 ..	—
New South Wales ..	9,823,133 ..	10,797,256 ..	974,123 ..	—
New Zealand ..	5,153,207 ..	6,679,761 ..	1,526,554 ..	—
Queensland ..	908,802 ..	1,087,632 ..	178,830 ..	—
South Australia ..	1,560,867 ..	1,782,070 ..	221,203 ..	—
Straits Settlements ..	504,200 ..	461,680 ..	— ..	42,520
Victoria ..	7,910,968 ..	7,972,142 ..	61,174 ..	—
Western Australia ..	786,294 ..	873,774 ..	87,480 ..	—
Other British Possessions	517,092 ..	414,973 ..	— ..	102,119
Total British Possessions	39,194,290	43,619,481	4,594,805	169,614
		Deduct Decrease ..	169,614	
		Nett Increase ..	4,425,191	
Foreign Countries—				
Austria ..	368,149 ..	223,109 ..	— ..	145,040
Belgium ..	104,711 ..	49,877 ..	— ..	54,834
China (excluding Hong Kong) ..	8,247,053 ..	5,862,619 ..	— ..	2,384,434
Egypt	578,264 ..	1,232,202 ..	653,938 ..	—
France.. ..	752,918 ..	928,118 ..	175,200 ..	—
Germany ..	631,677 ..	399,071 ..	— ..	232,606
Japan	56,135 ..	66,039 ..	9,904 ..	—
Mozambique ..	119,225 ..	201,446 ..	82,221 ..	—
Philippine Islands ..	61,182 ..	65,181 ..	3,999 ..	—
Russia in Asia ..	6,930,732 ..	5,983,696 ..	— ..	947,036
Russia in Europe ..	13,304,651 ..	7,925,794 ..	— ..	5,378,857
South America ..	54,159 ..	58,731 ..	4,572 ..	—
Sweden ..	123,676 ..	80,042 ..	— ..	43,634
Turkey in Asia ..	105,697 ..	79,072 ..	— ..	26,625
United States of America	8,896,386 ..	10,667,008 ..	1,770,622 ..	—
Other Foreign Countries	333,869 ..	253,417 ..	— ..	80,452
Total Foreign Countries	40,668,484	34,075,422	2,700,456	9,293,518
		Deduct Increase ..		2,700,456
		Nett Decrease ..		6,593,062
Grand Total ..	191,509,414	193,583,592	2,074,178	—

The very large diminution in the supplies taken by Russia in Europe was due to the Russian Volunteer Fleet having suspended its service between Colombo and Odessa owing to the war. China and Russia in Asia also show considerable decreases, but the end of the year saw a very large demand for teas for Russia *via* Vladivostock; exports to nearly every British Colony and the United Kingdom were appreciably larger than in the previous year.

Products of the Coconut Palm.

The exports under this head were valued at 491 lakhs, as against 514 lakhs in 1913. Of the three principal products, copra and desiccated coconuts show large increases, while coconut oil shows a decrease. The figures for the last six years are as follows :—

Year.	Desiccated Coconuts. Cwt.	Copra. Cwt.	Coconut Oil. Cwt.
1909	230,791	784,522	599,795
1910	242,286	758,711	619,680
1911	292,210	821,814	505,016
1912	278,806	614,089	401,779
1913	303,808	1,117,292	546,984
1914	311,864	1,411,947	486,286

The average price for coconut oil was Rs. 27·54 per cwt. The price for copra varied considerably during the year, the average entered value per cwt. being about Rs. 3 lower than in 1913.

Rubber.

The export of Ceylon rubber has increased in amount but declined in value. 226,491 cwt. valued at 61¼ million rupees were exported during 1913, but while the exports amounted to 306,724 cwt. during 1914, their value was only 57¼ million rupees.

The distribution of rubber among the two largest buyers for the past two years is—

	1913. Per Cent.	1914. Per Cent.
United Kingdom	55·38	62·9
United States of America	23·89	23·19

The following statement shows the growth in the amount of rubber exported :—

	Cwt.		Cwt.
1910	33,952	1913	226,491
1911	61,212	1914	306,724
1912	132,569		

Ten years ago the export for the year only amounted to 676 cwt.

Customs Duties.

All imports not specially rated or exempted by the tariff are liable to a Customs duty of 5½ per cent. *ad valorem*.

From December 18, 1914, all spirits other than perfumed and sweetened are liable to an import duty of Rs. 9·37 per proof gallon with a minimum rate of Rs. 8 per gallon, sweetened spirits to Rs. 9·37 per imperial gallon, unmanufactured tobacco, including hooka, to Re. 1·50 per lb., and cigars, cigarettes, and manufactured tobacco to Rs. 3 per lb.

V.—SHIPPING.

The total number of all vessels which entered the ports of the Island in 1914 was 4,401, with a tonnage of 9,338,535. This shows an increase of 118 vessels and a decrease of 765,192 tons as compared with 1913.

The following table gives the total number and nett tonnage of shipping entering all ports in Ceylon during the last three years :—

	1912.		1913.		1914.	
	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.
Merchant vessels (with cargo and in ballast)	2,430	7,610,101	2,464	7,981,773	2,523	7,041,986
Merchant vessels (called to coal)	764	2,032,397	651	1,816,376	615	1,728,558
Native sailing vessels	1,120	96,989	1,115	106,958	1,159	103,541
Warships*	38	177,110	53	198,620	104	464,450
Total	4,352	9,916,597	4,283	10,103,727	4,401	9,338,535

* Warships displacement tonnage.

Omitting warships and vessels calling to coal, the following table gives the comparative distribution according to nationality for 1913 and 1914 :—

		1913.		1914.	
		Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.
1.	British	1,660	5,075,607	1,840	4,610,513
	British Colonial	992	93,657	1,033	83,813
	Total British Ships	2,652	5,169,264	2,873	4,694,326
2.	German	251	1,013,884	151	612,852
3.	French	131	461,530	116	403,375
4.	Japanese	100	416,620	105	435,657
5.	Dutch	104	330,268	120	446,706
6.	Austrian	110	326,428	77	225,966
7.	Russian	62	168,086	38	98,600
8.	Spanish	26	64,819	26	63,297
9.	Italian	17	48,003	19	52,349
10.	Danish	16	38,328	16	45,640
11.	Norwegian	23	36,084	25	31,440
12.	Maldivian	123	13,301	108	13,428
13.	Siamese	5	8,139	1	2,228
14.	Swedish	1	3,267	3	7,312
15.	Greek	—	—	4	12,351
	Total Foreign Ships	969	2,928,757	809	2,451,201

The predominance of British shipping continues, but the decrease in tonnage of 474,938 tons is due to the war.

The falling off in German, Austrian, Russian, and French shipping is traceable to the same cause.

There has been a slight increase in the number of Dutch and Japanese vessels.

VI.—LEGISLATION.

Thirty-four Ordinances were passed during the year 1914. The only Ordinances of special interest are a group connected with the outbreak of the present war. These Ordinances were as follows:—

(*a*) "*The Effect of War Ordinance, No. 18 of 1914,*" declared that all questions relating to the effect of war upon the legal rights and liabilities should be determined in accordance with law by which such questions would for the time being be determined in England.

(*b*) "*The Necessaries of War Exportation Ordinance, No. 19 of 1914,*" enlarged to the fullest possible extent the power of the Governor to prohibit the exportation of necessaries of war and generally of any articles the exportation of which would be liable to increase the resources of the King's enemies or to restrict the supplies of his forces and subjects.

(*c*) "*The Trading with the Enemy Ordinance, No. 20 of 1914,*" was passed to enforce the Trading with the Enemy Proclamation issued in the United Kingdom.

(*d*) "*The Tea Cess Ordinance, No. 21 of 1914,*" authorized the "Thirty Committee" to make patriotic gifts to the Prince of Wales's War Fund and the Russian troops.

(*e*) "*The Volunteer Amendment (Town Guards) Ordinance, No. 22 of 1914,*" put the Colombo Town Guard on a legal footing, and provided for the organization of similar town guards elsewhere.

About the time of the enactment of these Ordinances, two other Ordinances sanctioned before the outbreak of the war were opportunely passed, namely, "The Wireless Ceylon Telegraph (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 15 of 1914," which increased the Government control of wireless telegraphy, and "The Aerial Navigation Ordinance, No. 24 of 1914," which made the legislation of the Colony uniform with that of the mother country.

Another group of Ordinances to which attention may be called consists of Ordinances making the necessary adjustment in regard to cooly camps and Customs for the purpose of the new railway connection with India *viâ* Talaimannar. They are "The Indian Coolies (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 3 of 1914," and "The Ceylon Railways (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 4 of 1914." Contemporaneously with these was passed "The Customs (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 5 of 1914," which cleared up various doubts and regularized the various practices already in existence in the administration of the Customs of the Colony.

Two Ordinances, namely, "The Excise (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 25 of 1914," and "The Ceylon Post Office (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 26 of 1914," while dealing with other matters, were passed mainly with a view to give effect to the new and the more stringent policy adopted with regard to the importation and use of cocaine.

The only other Ordinance of any interest was "The Habitual Criminals and Licensed Convicts Ordinance, No. 32 of 1914," which introduced two new elements into the legislation on the subject, namely:—

(*a*) A new scheme for the recording and improving of previous convictions of habitual criminals by means of finger prints;

(*b*) A scheme of preventive detention following the lines of that recently introduced into the United Kingdom.

VII.—EDUCATION.

It is difficult to draw a clear line between elementary and secondary education in Ceylon. The English-speaking community form scarcely one per cent. of the total population, so that most of the schools where English is taught are teaching a language which is foreign to the large majority of their pupils.

The vernacular schools constitute the real elementary education of the country.

Vernacular Education.

In 1914 there were 794 Government vernacular schools, with an attendance of 82,092 boys and 25,273 girls. There were also 1,807 aided schools, with an attendance of 126,554 boys and 72,640 girls.

The total sum expended by Government on vernacular education in 1914 was approximately Rs. 1,217,888, of which, roughly speaking, Rs. 551,458 was spent on Government schools and Rs. 666,430 on aided schools.

The Rural Schools Ordinance is now in force in all districts of the Island except Jaffna.

At the end of 1914 there were 255 aided estate schools, and returns from 576 estates showed that of a total of 15,882 children of school-going age 7,703 were attending estate schools. Of these, 6,423 were boys and 1,280 girls.

A school for the deaf and blind has been carried on since 1912, and receives an annual grant from Government of Rs. 3,000.

English Schools.

In 1914 there were 247 English and Anglo-vernacular schools attended by 45,139 pupils, of whom 35,915 were boys and 9,224 girls.

In many of the schools candidates are prepared for the Senior and Junior Cambridge Local Examinations. In 1913 the candidates who presented themselves and the results obtained were—

	Candidates.	Honours.	Passed.
Senior	693	53	337
Junior	939	44	619

The results of the London University Examinations in 1914 showed that 63 candidates from Ceylon presented themselves for the Matriculation Examination, 29 of whom passed. In addition, 8 candidates passed the Intermediate Examination in Arts, 13 passed the Intermediate Examination in Science, 2 the examination for the degree of Bachelor of Arts, 2 the First Examination in Medical Degrees, and 1 the Bachelor of Laws.

The encouragement offered by Government takes the form either of grants or scholarships. In the majority of the aided English schools grants are paid on the results of examinations in the schedules of the Code, but in some of the more advanced schools the greater part of the grant is paid on the average attendance. Considerably more than Rs. 250,000 was expended in grants to English schools in 1914.

Two Government scholarships are offered annually, one on the results of the Intermediate Examination in Arts and the other on the results of the Intermediate Examination in Science. These scholarships are tenable for three years, and are of the value of £200 each per annum, with free passage to England and a £50 outfit allowance. The holders may join any British University, or study at any recognized engineering institution in the United Kingdom.

Training of Teachers.

The Government Training College consists of three departments: English, Sinhalese men, and Sinhalese women. The object is to supply trained teachers for aided English schools and Government vernacular schools. At the beginning of 1914 the number of students in training was English 34, Sinhalese men 55, Sinhalese women 20.

Industrial Schools.

There are no Government industrial schools, but carpentry schools are attached to five Government schools in the Kandyan Provinces. In 1914 the aided industrial schools, which are 39 in number, received grants amounting to over Rs. 22,000. The trades taught were carpentry, dressmaking, printing, shoemaking, tailoring, lace-making, embroidery, gardening, and masonry.

The most important of these schools is the Maggona Certified Industrial School, which is utilized by Government as a reformatory for youthful offenders, and is carried on by the Roman Catholic Mission. This institution has an estate of some 300 acres and excellent buildings, towards the cost of which Government has contributed. Over 200 youthful offenders are at present receiving instruction in this school, and an allowance is paid by Government for the maintenance of each offender.

Agricultural Instruction.

An attempt has been made to supply elementary agricultural instruction by a scheme for school gardens conducted in connection with Government schools. The gardens are under the supervision of the Department of Agriculture; there is a Superintendent of School Gardens, who is assisted by three inspectors. 286 school gardens attached to Government schools are worked under this scheme, and 53 grant-in-aid schools receive garden grants. Seeds and implements are supplied by the Department of Agriculture, and prizes are offered for competition.

VIII.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

Hospitals.

There are 80 Government hospitals equipped with modern hospital furniture and surgical appliances; the number of beds in the institutions ranges from 12 to 647; in addition to the hospitals, there are 427 Government dispensaries and 366 estate dispensaries. The estate dispensaries are provided by the owners of the estates, and receive drugs free from Government up to a value of 50 cents per labourer per annum.

Three hospitals were completed and opened during the year, at Ingiriya, Undugoda, and Tissamaharama, respectively, and five others are in course of construction, at Pimbura near Agalawatta, Alutnuwara, Passara, Kitulgala, and Pelmadulla.

Medical Institutions.

A general rebuilding scheme is in contemplation for the improvement of the Medical College. The full course of training for medical students is five years; a diploma in medicine, surgery, and midwifery (which can be registered in the United Kingdom) is granted to successful medical students.

In Colombo there are a Bacteriological Institute, a General Hospital, Lunatic Asylum, an Ophthalmic Hospital, a Lying-in Home, a hospital for women and children, and one for infectious diseases; there is an establishment where calf vaccine is manufactured, and there are special dispensaries at Kandy and Galle for the treatment of eye diseases.

Asylums.

The Lunatic Asylum contains 826 inmates. As there is very considerable overcrowding in the present building, it is proposed to build a new institution a few miles out of Colombo, with accommodation for 1,000 patients, and for the necessary staff, officers, and servants. The number of patients treated in the asylum during 1914 was 1,068 (685 males and 383 females). The number discharged was 166 (males 128 and females 38), and the number of deaths was 76 (males 42 and females 34). In the House of Observation 297 persons were treated, of whom 276 were discharged or admitted to the Asylum, 5 cases died, and 16 remained at the end of the period.

The Leper Asylum is situated 6 miles from Colombo; it contained 426 patients at the end of the period. The total treated during 1914 numbered 557. A small establishment for lepers exists at Kalmunai, in the Eastern Province, and has accommodation for 30; it is proposed to establish a leper colony at Mantivu in the same Province.

A Home for Incurables (containing 80 beds) is administered by a Committee of Government officials and representatives of the public.

IX.—CRIME.

Police.

The authorized strength of the Police on December 31, 1914, was 1 Inspector-General, 8 Superintendents, 15 Assistant Superintendents, 35 Inspectors, 84 Sub-Inspectors, 20 Station House Officers, 290 Sergeants, 2,127 Constables.

In addition, the strength of the European Police was 1 Inspector, 2 Sub-Inspectors, 7 2nd Class Sergeants, 21 3rd Class Sergeants.

The cost of the Force was Rs. 1,578,500 approximately.

Crime Statistics.

The following table shows the more important forms of serious crime in the year under review and in the previous year :—

	1913.	1914.
Murder	172	209
Grievous hurt	593	613
Causing hurt by dangerous weapons	1,002	1,218
Burglary	1,203	1,609
Theft of cattle and prædial produce	666	796

More than half the murders committed were stabbing cases, and a large majority followed on sudden and unpremeditated quarrels. In all but 16 out of 209 cases the offenders were traced. In 11 cases the accused died or proved to be insane, and in 113 cases the accused were convicted. It can be claimed, therefore, that the number of murders in which the offender was undetected is small in proportion to the number committed.

It will be seen that there was an increase in the number of cases of crime committed in the year under review as compared with the previous year. Examination of the criminal returns shows that this increase occurred entirely in the second half of the year. In an ordinary year the majority of the cases of crime occur in the first rather than in the second half of the year. This has always been attributed to the fact that the Sinhalese New Year, invariably an occasion for an outbreak of crime against property, falls within the first half of the year. However, in 1914 far the greater proportion of cases occurred in the last six months of the year.

The unusual increase in crime between July and December may be attributed to the war. Following on the outbreak of war in August, although there were

no cases of complete destitution, there was an undoubted increase in the cost of luxuries and certain articles in common use. Moreover, the closing of plumbago pits, the more economical working of factories, mills, and estates with smaller labour forces, added to the number of persons not regularly employed. In one Province, in which there had been a great increase in crime in the months of September, October, and November, a noticeable decrease in burglary coincided with the re-employment of labour early in December, when conditions became more favourable.

There were no cases of riot, looting, or serious disorder. Throughout the Colony order was maintained, and the crime which occurred is not out of proportion to the returns of previous years in view of the exceptional conditions prevailing during the war.

Prisons.

There was an increase of 918 in the total number of admissions of convicted prisoners of Ceylon during the year 1914: 1913, 9,303; 1914, 10,221.

The convictions for murder and manslaughter were 113, as against 92 in 1913. Fifty-four criminals were sentenced to be hanged, and in 41 cases the sentence was carried out. Of these, 35 were Sinhalese, 5 Tamils, and 1 Moor. Eleven convicts were deported to the Andamans for life.

There were 5 escapes during the year and 6 recaptures, inclusive of 1 prisoner who escaped prior to January, 1914.

The total number of deaths in jail was 75, as against 105 in 1913 and 167 in 1912—a marked improvement. The death-rate per 1,000 of the prisons population was 4·38, as against 6·77 in 1913 and 10·32 in 1912. The daily average sick was 80·51, as against 92·93 in 1913 and 115·09 in 1912.

The portable prison at Mankulam was closed in July and has been moved to Mahara, where it will be erected, thus affording additional accommodation for prisoners to be employed for the Harbour Works and Government Factory.

X.—VITAL STATISTICS.

Population.

The estimated population of Ceylon on December 31, 1914, was about 4,260,700, a decrease of nearly 1,400 on that of the previous year. The decrease was due to an excess of about 26,700 departures over arrivals of Indian coolies, a number which exceeded the natural increase by births over deaths.

The population comprised the various nationalities shown below:—

Nationality.	Number.	Percentage of Total Population.
Sinhalese	2,798,800	65·7
Tamils (indigenous)	613,500	14·4
Tamils (immigrants and their descendants)	512,800	12·0
Moors	269,800	6·3
Burghers	27,700	·7
Malays	13,400	·3
Europeans	7,800	·2
Others	16,900	·4

There is an excess of males over females in the population, viz., 113 males to 100 females, as contrasted with England and Wales, where the proportion is 94 males to 100 females.

Births.

The birth-rate in Ceylon for 1914 was 38·1 per mille, and was slightly above the average (37·5) for the previous decade, but below the rate in the preceding year (38·6). The proportion of births to population in Ceylon is similar to that

prevailing in other tropical countries, but considerably higher than the rate (about 26) in England and Wales. It has shown no marked tendency in the last sixteen years either to rise or to fall. There were 104 male to every 100 female births, the same as the English rate.

Deaths.

The death-rate for the whole Island was 32·2, and was higher than the average (30·2) for the previous decade and the rate (28·4) in the preceding year. Since 1898, when improved registration began, the death-rate, with slight fluctuations, has had a tendency to rise. The average death-rate of Ceylon is generally much lower than that prevailing in the Straits Settlements; it is almost identical with the rates which obtain in Bombay Presidency, Bengal, and British Guiana; but the mortality exceeds that of Madras and Jamaica, whilst it is more than double the average annual mortality in England and Wales, and almost three times the rate in the Australian Commonwealth and New Zealand.

The tea, rubber, and cocoa estates at the end of the year 1914 contained a population of about 579,300, mostly of Tamil immigrants from Southern India. The estate death-rate rose to 42·85 per mille from an average of 33·2, and was as high as 79·2 and 74·5 in Ratnapura and Kurunegala estates respectively.

The urban death-rate was 30·5 per mille, as against an average of 29·3 for the preceding five years. The rate rose from 8·9 in Nuwara Eliya town to 64·8 in Anuradhapura and 64·4 in Mullaittivu. But the mortality rate of Nuwara Eliya is calculated, not on the average population of the town, which is not known, but on the population estimated on a census taken at the height of the Nuwara Eliya season, and this recorded rate is obviously flattering to the sanatorium of Ceylon. Excluding Nuwara Eliya, the healthiest town, as in the previous year, was Kegalla, with a death-rate of 16·1.

Infantile Mortality.

The infantile mortality was 213 per 1,000 registered births compared with an average of 191 and an average rate in England and Wales of 121 to 1,000 births registered. In the last sixteen years the infantile mortality has shown a tendency to rise.

The estate infantile mortality was 246 per 1,000, as in the previous year, and the urban rate was 255, as against 246 in the previous year.

Causes of Death.

The proportion of deaths in the general community from certain principal causes to a million of the population was as follows:—Diarrhœa, 3,511; infantile convulsions, 3,438; bronchitis and pneumonia, 1,262; dysentery, 1,112; phthisis, 994, and other forms of tuberculosis, 101; malaria and malarial cachexia, 645; anchylostomiasis, 620; premature birth and congenital defects, 365; cancer, 99; enteric fever, 70; smallpox, 24; and cholera, 11.

The total number of deaths from plague registered in the Island during the year was 401, of which 378 were within the Municipal limits of Colombo and 23 elsewhere. This number corresponded to a rate of 94 per million persons living in the Island.

Accidental drowning accounted for 101 deaths per million, falls from trees for 86, and snake-bite for 56.

209 deaths (including 2 of Europeans) resulted from suicide, and corresponded to a rate of 49 per million persons living. The rate in England and Wales in 1912 was 98 per million.

Homicide also accounted for 209 deaths, corresponding to a rate of 49 per million—more than five times the rate prevailing in England and Wales.

CLIMATE.

Rainfall.—The highest annual rainfall registered was at St. Martin's estate, Rangalla, which had a total of 178·93 inches and 174 days on which rain fell. The lowest annual rainfall was at Mankulam, which had a total of less than half its average, *i.e.*, 26·01 inches in 90 days. The stations with the highest and lowest average annual rainfall are, respectively, Padupola with 220·73 inches in 202 days, and Marichchikaddi with 33·06 inches in 57 days. The longest drought occurred at Mantota, lasting for 143 days, May 9 to September 28. The longest wet period occurred at Duckwari estate, Rangalla, lasting for 62 days, May 27 to July 27.

The annual rainfall at Colombo (Cinnamon Gardens) was 74·26 inches in 181 days. At Kandy 78·90 inches were registered in 197 days, while the annual rainfall at Nuwara Eliya was 83·95 inches in 220 days. On the whole, the annual rainfall was above normal in the north and east, and slightly below it elsewhere.

Temperature.—The highest average for the year was Trincomalee 83·8° F., and the lowest Nuwara Eliya 60·4° F. At Colombo and Kandy the averages were 81·1° F. and 76·7° F. respectively.

The highest shade temperature recorded during the year was 101·2° F. at Anuradhapura on September 17. The highest on record is 103·7° F. at Trincomalee on May 12, 1890. The highest shade temperature at Colombo in 1914 was 93·1° F. on February 10.

The mean daily range, *i.e.*, difference between the average maximum and average minimum, was highest at Nuwara Eliya (19·1° F.), and lowest at Galle (9·4° F.). At Colombo and Kandy it was 12·8° F. and 14·2° F. respectively. The absolute range, *i.e.*, difference between actual highest and lowest readings, for the year was maximum at Nuwara Eliya (51·2° F.), and minimum at Galle (21·1° F.).

XI.—POSTAL SERVICE.

Five new post offices and 3 new receiving offices were opened during 1914. The total number of post offices now is 500, of which 168 are also telegraph offices.

The number of articles, exclusive of parcels, which passed through the post in 1914 is estimated at 49 millions, as against 46 millions in 1913. The number of parcels dealt with was 705,659, an increase of 28,085 over the previous year. Of these, 10,313 were despatched to the United Kingdom and 24,885 received from the United Kingdom.

The increase in telegrams is shown by the following figures :—

	1913.	1914.
Inland	916,578 ..	1,028,846
Indian	227,830 ..	236,613
Other countries	101,803 ..	114,736

The increase is not so large as it would have been in normal circumstances, the war causing a considerable falling off in telegrams in the closing months of the year.

Postal Improvements.—On the opening of the Indo-Ceylon Railway from March 1 the letter mails for India were despatched by this route, and advantage taken of the night service for the despatch of mails for the Northern and North-Central Provinces. A railway travelling post office for sorting correspondence to and from India and to expedite the disposal of the northern mails is attached

to the Indo-Ceylon train between Colombo and Anuradhapura. The British India steamer daily service between Colombo and Tuticorin was suspended in August, and all mails are now despatched by the inland route.

Motor mail services replaced the existing horse and coach services on Matara-Deniyaya (52 miles) and Matale-Dambulla (29 miles) lines.

The inland rules relating to registered newspapers were extended to include newspapers and periodicals registered in the United Kingdom or British Colonies and re-posted in Ceylon for inland delivery.

In September the British Post Office notified the total suspension of postal relations with Germany, the German Colonies, and Austria-Hungary, and letters, parcels, &c., for these countries were not accepted for onward transmission. Special arrangements were subsequently made by the British Post Office for the interchange of correspondence of prisoners of war.

Telegrams.—In May a reduction was made in the rates for telegrams to Europe, West Africa *viâ* Europe, and America; and a scheme for week-end telegrams at reduced rates providing for the transmission of telegrams on Saturday night to be delivered at destination on Tuesday morning was introduced between Ceylon and the United Kingdom, Germany, South and Central Africa. This service was subsequently extended to Australia and New Zealand.

Since the outbreak of the war the service of week-end telegrams has been temporarily suspended.

A Baudot duplex system of telegraph working between Colombo and Madras was successfully inaugurated by an expert lent by the British Post Office.

Telephones.—Government telephone exchanges were opened at Peradeniya and Matara, bringing the total of Government exchanges up to nine.

Increased use of the telephone system has been made for transmitting telegrams.

The number of subscribers to the Colombo exchange rose from 992 to 1,215, and the total number of telephones maintained from 1,803 to 2,172.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

Public Works Department.

The total expenditure of the Public Works Department has increased from Rs. 3,437,862 in 1896 to Rs. 14,667,967 in 1914, the latter figure showing an increase of Rs. 6,451,624 over 1913. The average annual expenditure during the past nineteen years is Rs. 5,709,655.

The total length of roads maintained by the Public Works Department during the year was 3,946 miles, of which 3,646 miles are cart roads and 300 miles are bridle roads.

Among the more important works completed or in course of construction may be mentioned the following :—Office for the Master Attendant, Colombo ; warehouses on old coaling grounds ; Colombo Customs quay wall and jetties ; bungalows for Government officers stationed in Colombo; residence for Colonial Secretary, Nuwara Eliya ; Government and Police buildings, Talaimannar ; and the Leper Asylum, Eastern Province.

Progress was also made with the Colombo Lake Development Scheme.

The necessity for retrenchment in consequence of the war led to the postponement in the latter part of the year of a number of projected works.

IRRIGATION.

The total expenditure of the Irrigation Department for the fifteen months of the financial period was Rs. 1,119,380.

Work during the year was continued on Karachchi, Unnichchai, Pattipolai-aar, Kirinde-oya right bank, and Tabbowa schemes. The Nachchaduwa scheme was completed.

A large amount of survey work under the Pattipolai-aar work was done, and 1,000 acres blocked out for sale under Karachchi scheme.

The area irrigated and paying rate under the Crown works is 123,060 acres; in addition, there is a large area irrigated free. A considerable area of irrigable land is ready for development.

GOVERNMENT RAILWAY.

Open Line.

The total length of line open for traffic on September 30, 1914, was 672 miles, the increase being due to the opening of the new line to Talaimannar on March 1, 1914.

The revenue derived amounts to Rs. 16,535,291, or an increase of Rs. 781,721 as compared with the previous financial year.

In passenger traffic 1,074,131 passengers and in goods traffic 14,999 tons were conveyed in excess of last year. The principal increases in goods traffic are rubber 5,824 tons, coconut produce 4, 873 tons, tea and rubber packing 2,829 tons, liquid fuel 1,530 tons, and other goods 4,976 tons.

The working expenses for the year amount to Rs. 9,616,780, including a sum of Rs. 511,831 expended on maintenance works.

The result of the year's working is as follows :—

	Rs.
Receipts	16,535,291
Working expenses	9,616,780
Balance	6,918,511

Of this balance, a sum of Rs. 1,913,985 was expended on additional accommodation and improvements. A further sum of Rs. 2,868,568 was also spent on new works and rolling stock, 34 engines and 67 passenger and goods vehicles being put into traffic on the broad and narrow gauge lines during the year.

The capital cost, including additional accommodation and improvements to September 30, 1914, amounts to Rs. 118,963,006, and capital outstanding on Railway loans Rs. 56,336,656.

Railway Extensions.

In addition to the completion of the Talaimannar line, to which reference has already been made, steady progress was made during the year with the extensions to Chilaw, Pelmadulla, and Badulla, and the Colombo Stations Extension, and with the duplication of the line from Ragama to Rambukkana.

COLOMBO DRAINAGE WORKS.

The drainage of Colombo has been undertaken by Government at the request of the Municipal Council, the necessary funds being advanced by Government on loan, while further assistance is being given by the contribution of a part of the expenditure as a free grant.

The scheme provides for a complete system of sewers and rain-water drains throughout the city, and for the disposal of the sewage by bacterial treatment upon modern lines.

At the end of 1914 111 miles of sewers and rain-water drains had been laid, and 4 pumping stations brought into regular operation.

The City Sanitation Engineer's report for December showed that 24 public water-carriage latrines had been constructed and put into use, and that 816 other premises had been drained.

XIII.—COLOMBO PORT COMMISSION.

During the year 1914 the organization of the new Port Department was completed. Practically the whole of the maintenance work in connection with the harbour has been transferred from other departments and is now in the hands of the Port Department.

Considerable progress was made with the sanctioned Port Improvement Works. In the Harbour Works area (between the Patent Slip and the Block Loading Jetty) 714 feet of new quay walling was completed, and paved yard with an area of 9,200 sq. ft. is now available. The Public Works Department has made further progress with the new Customs warehouses on the old coaling grounds, and six warehouses and a covered roadway of a total area of 52,650 sq. ft., with the necessary quay wall and jetties, have been practically completed. The work on the eastern portion of the old coaling grounds has been somewhat retarded, owing to the erection of temporary sheds for the storage of rice in connection with measures taken on the outbreak of plague in the city of Colombo in January. The extension of the export warehouses in the old Customs premises west of the passenger jetty was completed in May. Further progress has also been made with the scheme for connecting the Colombo lake with the harbour by means of a canal and locks. Owing to the reduction of expenditure consequent on the war the prosecution of the less important works was postponed during the latter portion of the year.

The Port Commission has had under consideration the question of the provision of complete facilities for the discharge, bunkering, and storage of liquid fuel and other petroleum products at Colombo, and expert advice on the subject is being obtained from England.

The "Sir John Coode" was engaged during the year in deepening the harbour to a depth of 33 feet. The new dredger "Sir William Matthews," the cost of which is £72,250, arrived at Colombo in August, and a certificate of delivery of the vessel, which is capable of dredging to a depth of 45 feet, was given to the contractors in October. The port is now fully equipped to keep pace with the dredging work being carried on in the Suez Canal for the passage of vessels of greater draught.

The protection of the sea face of the South-west Breakwater by the deposit of a wave breaker of 30-ton blocks on the outer side of the structure was completed in March.

The tonnage of vessels visiting Colombo harbour in 1914 amounted to 1,657,199. The receipts from the Graving Dock were Rs. 30,195·11, and from the Patent Slip Rs. 16,508.

The expenditure on Harbour Works (apart from those being carried out by the Public Works Department) during 1914 amounted to Rs. 2,047,492·01; the total expenditure since the commencement of the South-west Breakwater in 1873, including maintenance charges, is therefore Rs. 47,252,032·01. The sum expended by the Public Works Department in the construction of new warehouse and wharf accommodation during the year was Rs. 895,199·53, the total expenditure for the year thus amounting to Rs. 2,942,691·54.

XIV.—EXCISE.

The year under review started with an increased staff, and there has been marked progress in the operations of the Department, particularly in the direction of detection and suppression of illicit practices and regulation and supervision of licensed places.

No change of any striking nature was introduced during the year, and the policy inaugurated in the previous year was pursued. The only change in the Legislature dealing with Excise was the passing of Ordinance No. 25 of 1914 to amend the principal Ordinance No. 8 of 1912.

The chief amendment was the inclusion of "cocaine" in the sections relating to bhang, ganja, &c., in the principal Ordinance. Soon after the passing of the Ordinance some notifications regulating the importation, possession, and sale of cocaine were published.

In December, 1914, the rate of Customs duty leviable under Ordinance No. 5 of 1914 on all foreign spirits imported into Ceylon was raised from Rs. 7 per proof gallon with a minimum of Rs. 6 (Rs. 8 for unenumerated spirits) to Rs. 9·37 per proof gallon with a minimum of Rs. 8.

As experience was acquired the general conditions applicable to all Excise licenses and the sale conditions of arrack and toddy rents were duly revised, with slight alterations in minor details, for the financial year October, 1914, to September, 1915.

The arrack and toddy rents for the same period were sold in May and June, and satisfactory prices were secured, resulting in an aggregate increase of Rs. 1,806,733 over the figures for the previous financial year in terms of twelve months. Thus, the increase in the arrack rents was 24·55 and that in the toddy rents was 46·9 per cent. over the preceding period.

The fees on those foreign liquor licenses which are assessed on a system of gallonage or business done were substantially increased in all the districts of the Island with due regard to the extent of business done, as calculated on the statistics carefully collected and checked by the Department. The revenue from this source for the financial year 1914–15 shows a marked increase of 29 per cent. over the revenue for the previous financial year in terms of twelve months, and of 93 per cent. over the revenue derived in 1911–12 before the present Ordinance was introduced.

The experimental distillery was worked from May 1 to December 31, and information was collected in regard to distillation, fermentation, cost, and other material points.

There were 256 private distilleries licensed during 1914. The rules which were passed and published in May, 1913, were enforced as far as practicable, with the result that much improvement is noticeable in the condition and working of the distilleries.

Considerable energy was exercised by the subordinate officers of the Department in the detection and suppression of illicit practices. Some 2,240 cases of offences against the Excise law were decided in the courts during 1914, resulting in fines amounting to Rs. 144,950, exclusive of other punishments, such as imprisonment, &c., and those settled departmentally by way of composition fees. The fines imposed by courts in 1913 were Rs. 62,603·75.

A departmental Excise Manual, containing the Excise law and the regulations made thereunder, with references to the leading cases on the subject, departmental instructions for the guidance of officers, &c., was printed and published during the year.

M. A. YOUNG,
Third Assistant Colonial Secretary.

March 29, 1915.

H. C. COTTLE, GOVERNMENT PRINTER, COLOMBO, CEYLON.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

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ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
818	Malta	1913–1914
819	Trinidad and Tobago	"
820	Jamaica	"
821	Northern Nigeria	1913
822	Grenada	"
823	Zanzibar	"
824	Barbados	1913–1914
825	Southern Nigeria	1913
826	Mauritius	"
827	British Honduras	"
828	Colonial Survey Committee	1913–1914
829	Tongan Islands Protectorate	"
830	Swaziland	"
831	Uganda	"
832	Nyasaland	"
833	British Guiana	"
834	Imperial Bureau of Entomology	1914
835	St. Vincent	1913–1914
836	St. Lucia	"
837	Somaliland	"
838	Straits Settlements	1913
839	Cayman Islands	1913–1914
840	East Africa Protectorate	"
841	Leeward Islands	"
842	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	"
843	Zanzibar	1914
844	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
845	Weihaiwei	"
846	Seychelles	"
847	St. Helena	"
848	Fiji	"
849	Bahamas	1914–1915
850	Gibraltar	1914
851	Sierra Leone	"
852	Grenada	1914–1915
853	Bermuda	1914
854	Malta	1914–1915

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8 and 1908–9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.

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COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 904.

CEYLON.

REPORT FOR 1915.

(For Report for 1914 see No. 855.)

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October, 1916.

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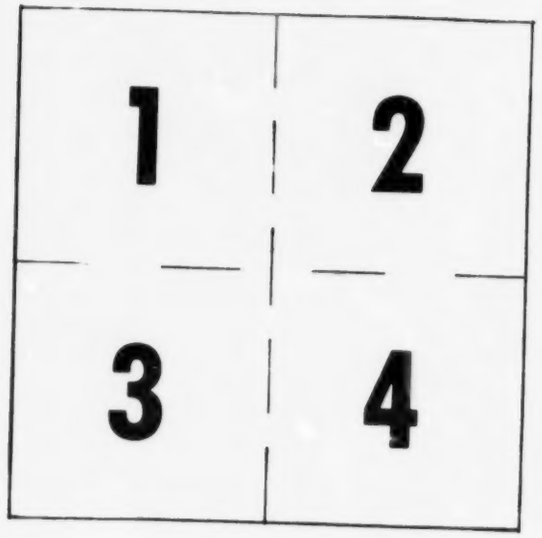

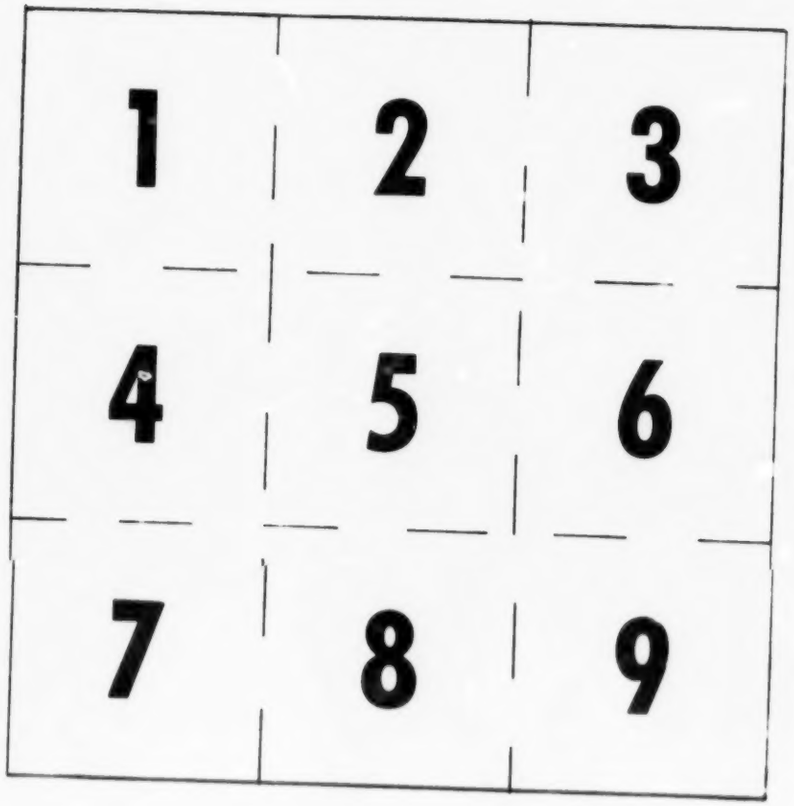

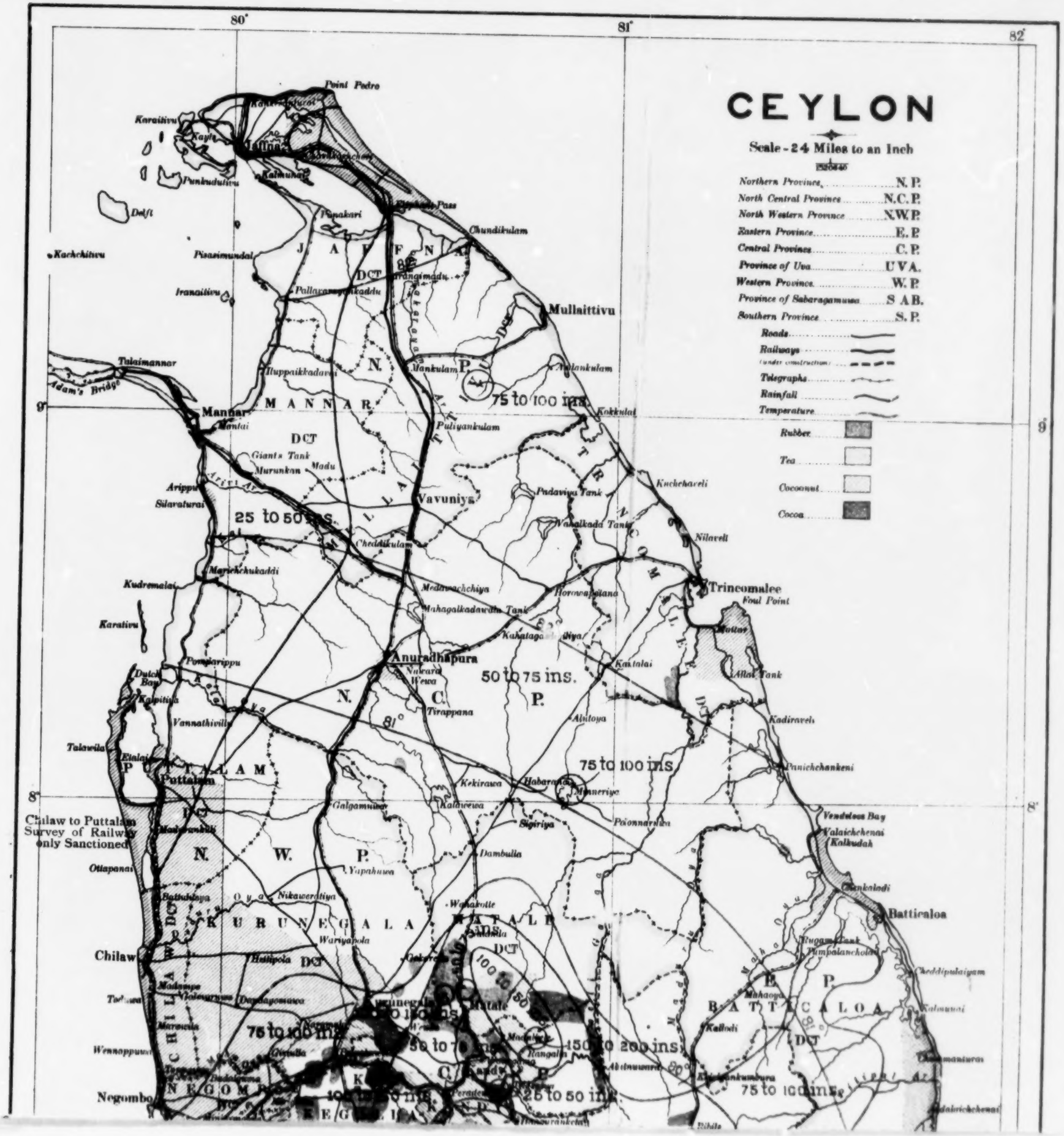
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North Central Province ..... N.C.P.
North Western Province ..... N.W.P.
Eastern Province ..... E. P.
Central Province ..... C. P.
Province of Uva ..... U V A.
Western Province ..... W. P.
Province of Sabaragamuwa ..... S A B.
Southern Province ..... S. P.
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Railways
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Rainfall
Temperature
Rubber
Tea
Cocoanut
Cocoa
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81°
82°
9°
8°
Point Pedro
Karaitivu
Jaffna
Kalmunai
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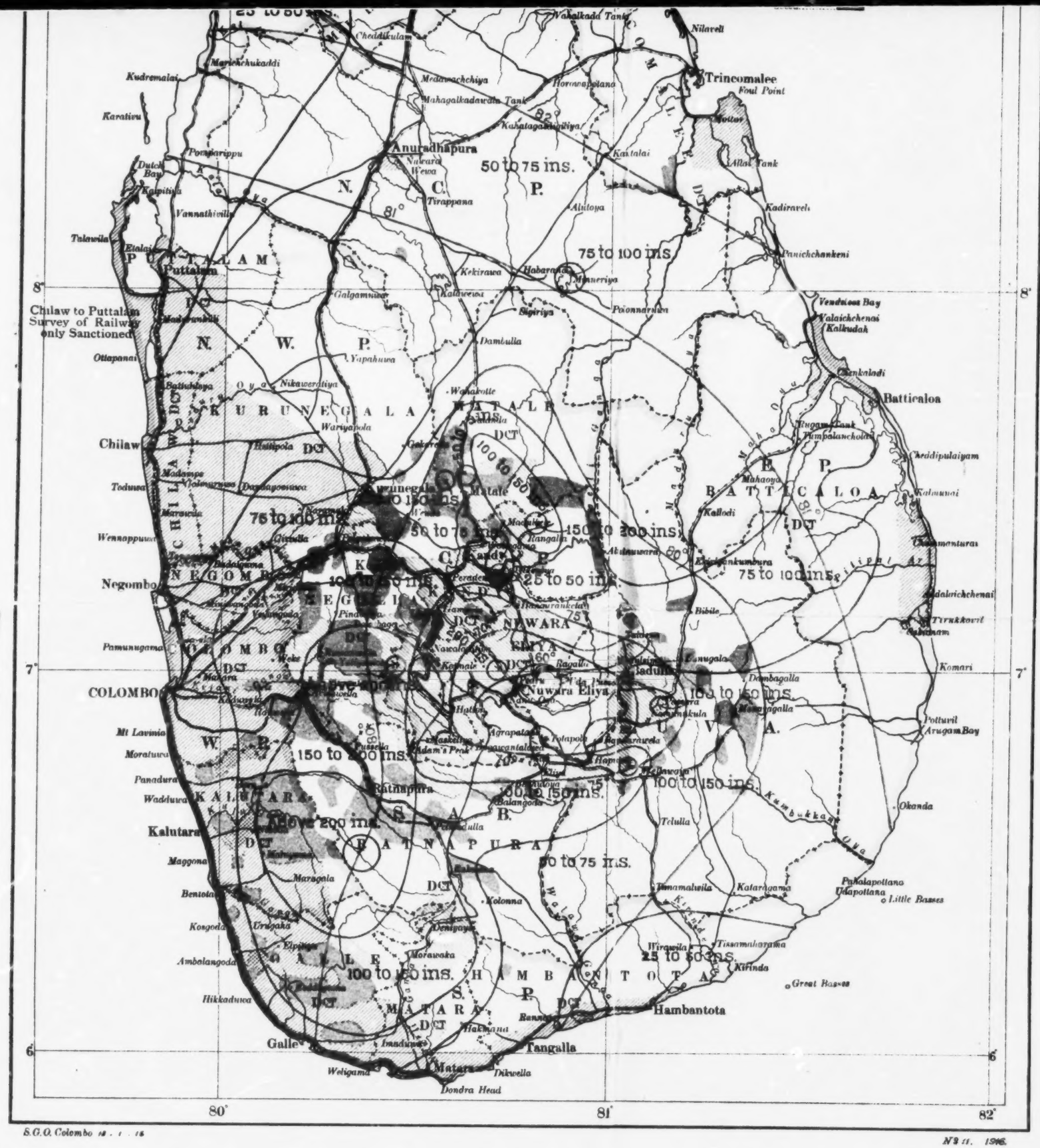
Delft
Kachchitivu
Pisarimundal
Iranaitivu
Pallavarayankaddu
Pooneryn
Elephant Pass
Chundikulam
Mullaittivu
Talaimannar
Adam's Bridge
Mannar
Mantai
Iluppaikkadavai
Mankulam
Puliyankulam
Kokkulai
Kuchchaveli
Nilaveli
Trincomalee
Foul Point
Arippu
Silavaturai
Giants Tank
Murunkan
Madu
Vavuniya
Padaviya Tank
Kudremalai
Marichchukaddi
Medawachchiya
Horowupotana
Mahagalkadawala Tank
Kahatagasdigiliya
Anuradhapura
Nuwara Wewa
Tirappana
Kantalai
Allai Tank
Kadiraveli
Dutch Bay
Kalpitiya
Vannathiviliu
Puttalam
Alutoya
Panichchankeni
Kekirawa
Habarana
Galgamuwa
Kalawewa
Sigiriya
Dambulla
Vendaloos Bay
Valaichchenai
Kalkudah
Ottapanai
Yapahuwa
Batticaloa
Chilaw
Hettipola
Wariyapola
Kurunegala
Matale
Negombo
Chilaw to Puttalam Survey of Railway only Sanctioned
75 to 100 ins.
25 to 50 ins.
50 to 75 ins.
100 to 150 ins.
150 to 200 ins.
N. P.
N. C. P.
N. W. P.
W. P.
C. P.
E. P.
S. P.
DCT



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REPORT ON THE CEYLON BLUE BOOK FOR 1915.

I.—GENERAL.

THE Colony was administered by Sir Robert Chalmers, K.C.B., until December 4, when he left to resume duties at the Treasury. After this date Mr. R. E. Stubbs, C.M.G., became Officer Administering the Government.

Sir Allan Perry, Principal Civil Medical Officer, and Mr. R. S. Templeton, Surveyor-General, retired from the Public Service during the year.

Mr. J. Thomson Broom and Mr. A. Wood Renton, Chief Justice, received the honour of Knighthood, and the Companionship of the Most Distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George was conferred on Mr. F. Bowes, Principal Collector of Customs.

The deaths of the following are recorded with regret :—Mr. A. Rutherford, Entomologist; Captain A. N. Galbraith, of the Ceylon Civil Service (while serving with the Ceylon Contingent in Egypt); Mr. J. van Langenberg, K.C., Solicitor-General; Mr. R. A. Brohier, retired Assistant Auditor-General; Mr. J. C. W. Pereira, K.C., Senior Puisne Justice; Sir Hector van Cuylenberg, Burgher Member of the Legislative Council; Sir William Mitchell, for many years formerly a Member of the same Council; and Mr. James Conroy, of the Ceylon Civil Service (while on leave in England).

On March 1 occurred the centenary of British rule over the whole of Ceylon. Sir Robert Chalmers presented a *pintaliya*, or drinking fountain, to the people of Kandy in commemoration of the occasion.

The general condition of the Island has been prosperous in 1915. In most parts of the country the people have been only slightly, or not at all, affected by the war. The food supply has been plentiful, and prices show only a moderate increase over those prevailing before the outbreak of war. Imported luxuries and frozen meat have, however, risen considerably in price. As the stocks of goods of continental manufacture have been exhausted, there has been a scarcity in the bazaars of articles of common use, such as lamps, lamp chimneys, glassware, crockery, &c., and the cost of such things has increased. Importations from Japan are said to be taking to some extent the place of articles formerly made in Germany, Belgium, Austria, and other countries in Europe.

There has been no distress, and the conditions of living have been quite normal in Ceylon. In the early months of the war suits for the realization of securities and the recovery of rents were on the increase, but lately nothing has been heard of such cases. A decrease in the rates of wages of labourers has been noticed, due to the lack of employment in certain occupations, and the suspension of public works and private enterprises. Minor industries have naturally suffered, but the statistics of the exports of the Colony show, in spite of difficulties of freight, a successful year as regards the staple products of the Island.

Owing to the fall in the revenue of the Colony, it was found necessary to continue the reduction of public expenditure as far as possible. The list of public works completed shows that without undertaking any new works, except the most urgent, the Colony has been able to finish a number of much-needed buildings, &c., which had been begun or sanctioned in previous years. In such cases cessation of operations would involve considerable damage to materials and a loss of labour forces. Progress has been made with the railway extensions to Chilaw and Opanake, and with the harbour and lake schemes and the drainage works in Colombo.

Unfavourable reports concerning the state of the people have been received only from the districts of Galle and Matara. About the former district, it is stated, " the depression in trade in consequence of the war, damages caused by floods, sickness, abnormal rise in the price of food stuffs, and the riots in June, all contributed to make the lot of the villager less favourable than usual." And as regards Matara District, a report says, " the district was, on the whole, not in a prosperous condition. The war was responsible for this partly, but the riots of June upset all trade, employment, &c. To add to all these troubles, severe floods were again experienced in 1915."

The general health of the population has been good, and no disease broke out in epidemic form. A separate account of plague in Colombo is given in a later section, and shows a decrease in the number of cases as compared with those of 1914, the first year in which the infection appeared in the Island.

The Anti-Tuberculosis Institute was completed and handed over to the Medical Department, but it has not been possible to open it yet, for want of a trained medical officer to take charge of the anti-tuberculosis campaign.

The International Health Commission of America (Rockefeller Foundation) has started a campaign against anchylostomiasis, the Ceylon Government bearing half the expenditure and the Estate Agents' Association the other half. Dr. Snodgrass arrived in December, being followed by Dr. Howard, and work has begun among the inhabitants of estates and villages in the Matale District.

A Commission was engaged in the year in investigating the condition of labourers on estates in the planting districts of the Province of Sabaragamuwa. It has since made its report, and the conclusion of the Commissioners on the general condition of labourers is, " We consider the condition of the Indian cooly far better than it is in India, where he is left more or less to himself. Certainly no other community in Ceylon receives the same amount of individual attention and care from his employer. We have no hesitation in stating that the condition of coolies employed on estates in this Province gives no cause for complaint." The Commission has made various suggestions for improving the sanitary conditions of lines, and increasing the attention paid to cases of ill-health among coolies.

No Volunteer Camp was held during the year, owing to the war. The Force has maintained its efficiency. The strength of the Planters' Rifle Corps is slightly lower than in 1914. Most of the Volunteers belonging to the Planters' Rifle Corps, the Ceylon Mounted Rifles, the Ceylon Light Infantry, and the Colombo Town Guard were called out to help in suppressing the riots in June. The Ceylon Artillery Volunteers, the Town Guard Artillery, and the Ceylon Engineer Volunteers assisted in manning the defences of Colombo, the last-named Corps being employed on the searchlights in the vicinity of the harbour.

The war was brought home to the inhabitants of the Island by the sinking of the " Ville de la Ciotat," which left Colombo on December 9, having on board 49 Ceylonese going to the United Kingdom to enlist. The steamer was sunk by a torpedo in the Mediterranean on December 24, and 14 of the Volunteers were reported missing.

The German prisoners of war, who had been interned at Diyatalawa, were removed from Ceylon in the course of the year, the last batch in November. The women decided to go to Australia with the male members of their families in preference to being sent elsewhere. One German lady was repatriated in the steamer " Golconda," which was employed by the Indian Government to convey persons of enemy nationality to Europe for repatriation. There are now no German prisoners of war in Ceylon, and steps are being taken to wind up the businesses of the former German residents.

The Prize Court continued its sittings, but there were no new ships to be dealt with, and the work of the court was confined to the settlements of claims arising out of the seven ships originally seized. There was one case under the Trading with the Enemy Ordinance, in which the manager of an Indian firm

in Ceylon was fined £500. Prize Court proceedings have been instituted against the goods as enemy goods brought into the harbour during the war.

In November a law was passed enabling the Colony to make a contribution of a million pounds sterling in ten annual instalments to the mother country towards the cost of the present war. New export duties on the products of Ceylon tea, rubber, cacao, coconuts, copra, and coconut oil were imposed to help in raising the annual contribution, as well as to provide funds for carrying on to their completion existing loan works and other urgent requirements of the Colony.

A one day's pay fund from Government servants was initiated, and the sums collected in the first three months were Rs. 5,394, Rs. 20,682, and Rs. 21,627, respectively. The contributions are purely voluntary. The amount collected is divided by the Committee amongst various war funds in the allied countries and in Ceylon.

In view of the number of Australian troops passing through Colombo an allowance of Rs. 500 a month to supplement other funds and private efforts was granted by Government towards the end of the year for their entertainment. It has since been raised to Rs. 1,000 a month, and its scope extended to soldiers and sailors of allied nations.

The most remarkable event of the year, and the most deplorable, took place on the last days of May and the first days of June, when Sinhalese rioters attacked the Moorish traders throughout the greater part of the Central, North-Western, Sabaragamuwa, Western, and Southern Provinces, plundered their possessions, and destroyed many of their shops and mosques.

The following is an estimate of the loss of property and of the number of persons injured :—

(1) Injury to property caused by rioters :—

Moor boutiques looted	4,075
Moor boutiques and houses burnt ..	350
Moor mosques burnt	17
Moor mosques otherwise damaged ..	86
Total value of damage as provisionally assessed..	Rs. 5,527,745·35

(2) Injury to persons caused by rioters :—

Moors murdered	25
Moors wounded	189
Moor women raped (ascertained cases) ..	4

Martial law was proclaimed in the Sinhalese Provinces, and steps were taken to punish offenders and to assess the damage by the appointment of Special Commissioners. Pending the recovery of compensation from the inhabitants of areas in which the damage was committed, money has been advanced by Government for the payment of claims, and as much as possible has been done to make reparation to the sufferers.

The wide-spread nature of the disturbances had the effect of stopping business for the month of June to a great extent, and a fall in the revenue for that month was experienced. Besides this, rebates had to be allowed to the holders of excise rents owing to the closing of taverns during June. The destruction of food stuffs and boutique goods, which took place all over the affected Provinces, tended to raise the prices of the small stock in the hands of others (the Moormen having practically a monopoly of petty trade), and the closing of many shops and restrictions on traffic and trade operated in the same direction.

The riots, however, appear to have left little permanent effect. Prices, so far as they were raised by the riots, have resumed their normal rates, the damage done has been repaired, and the majority of the Moorish traders have resumed their business.

The cause of the riots is attributed to the ebullition of religious and racial feelings and trade jealousy, which had been felt by the Sinhalese towards the Moormen for several years, and which were inflamed by a local dispute and litigation regarding a procession at Gampola.

A Commission was appointed to inquire into the organization of the police, and to advise what measures are required for strengthening or otherwise re-organizing the force, regard being had in particular to the experience which has accrued respecting the conduct of the police in connection with the recent riots in the Island.

II.—FINANCIAL.

Revenue.

The revenue collected during the period October, 1914, to September, 1915, amounted to Rs. 51,545,472, a decrease of Rs. 6,134,527 on the estimate.

The fall in the revenue is mainly attributable to the war. The principal sources which contributed to the decrease are the Customs, Harbour Dues, Railway, and Excise.

Expenditure.

The expenditure for 1914–15 was estimated at Rs. 66,555,207, but on the outbreak of war a fall in the revenue was anticipated, and a policy of retrenchment was accordingly embarked upon. The estimates of expenditure were revised, and reduced from Rs. 66,555,207 to Rs. 48,287,484. It was, however, found possible, owing to the revenue exceeding expectations, to allot further sums to various departments from time to time. The amount (excluding expenditure chargeable to Loan Funds) actually spent during the year was Rs. 50,148,001, which includes Rs. 1,364,156 for war services and expenses of the Ceylon Volunteer Contingent. Apart from ordinary expenditure, a sum of Rs. 3,430,014 was spent on Extraordinary Public Works chargeable to Loan Funds.

Assets and Liabilities.

The assets of the Colony on September 30, 1915, were Rs. 39,974,826, and the liabilities Rs. 15,347,370. The assets consist largely of advances to local bodies, and in particular to the Municipality of Colombo, the principal item among the liabilities being the Widows' and Orphans' Pension Fund.

Public Debt.

At the close of the financial period the public debt of the Colony stood at £5,805,687, or approximately one and two-third times the annual revenue.

Of the loan of £3,436,854 authorized by Ordinance No. 6 of 1909 to meet the cost of the Colombo Harbour and Drainage Works, the Mannar Railway, and other public works, a sum of £1,500,000 was raised at 98½ in 1909–10, bearing interest at 3½ per cent., and a further sum of £1,000,000 was floated in 1914 at 99, bearing interest at 4 per cent. A balance (£65,906) of the latter loan has been carried forward to meet expenditure in 1915–16.

Currency.

On September 30, 1915, the value of currency notes in circulation was Rs. 27,325,500, and the currency reserve on that date consisted of Rs. 3,525,000 in gold, Rs. 8,639,200 in silver, and Rs. 15,161,300 in British, Colonial, and Indian investments.

III.—AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRIES.

AGRICULTURE.

In purely native agriculture more or less normal conditions prevailed, the paddy crop being an average one; but owing to an increase in the number of unemployed, steps had to be taken to prevent a shortage in the local food supply. The Agricultural Society provided the necessary funds for encouraging the cultivation of quick-growing food crops, and in co-operation with the officers of the Department of Agriculture carried on a campaign in the villages, instituting inquiries and distributing seeds of vegetables and of short-lived cereals (such as sorghum), as well as cuttings of tuberous plants (sweet potatoes, &c.), which helped appreciably to increase the output of edible products and to provide against any possibility of scarcity in the villages.

School of Tropical Agriculture.—During the year 1915 plans were completed for the opening of a School of Tropical Agriculture, which is now in full working order, with 60 English-speaking students and 7 vernacular. Over 30 applications have had to be refused for admission at present. The school is attached to the Royal Botanic Gardens and the Experiment Station, wherein practical demonstrations take place daily.

Tea Industry.—The area planted in tea is approximately 392,500 acres, and ranges from the tropical climate at sea level to the semi-tropical or temperate climate at 7,000 feet elevation. It is almost entirely in the hands of Europeans, the estates being managed by European managers with Tamil labour imported from Southern India.

These estates vary in size from 100 or 200 acres to about 2,500 acres, the average being about 400 acres, yielding an average outturn for Ceylon of 483 lb. of made tea per acre. Well-cultivated estates yield more heavily, an average of 600 to 800 lb. being frequent.

The year 1915 was exceptionally favourable climatically for tea, there being a complete absence of extreme cold in higher districts, and a uniformly good distribution of rain in every month of the year. This was especially marked in the Province of Uva, where the usual drought was not experienced. The crop was, therefore, a record one from most estates, and the high prices ruling afforded unusually good profits.

A considerable area of tea has been cut out from under rubber, but other areas, chiefly on patana soil, are being gradually opened.

The shot-hole borer pest is under investigation by a Government specialist.

The average prices are as follows:—

1913	45·84 cents per lb.
1914	46·35 cents per lb.
1915	56·79 cents per lb.

Cacao.—The cacao growing area ranges from 500 to 1,800 feet above sea level, and is chiefly in the Kandy and Matale Districts. There are approximately 22,000 acres under cacao, mostly in the hands of European planters, but there is also a fair acreage in native gardens, where it is grown in a very neglected state. Very few new plantations are being opened, as there remains little suitable available land.

Pod fungus and bark canker, the two most serious diseases of cacao in Ceylon, are still very prevalent during wet seasons.

The crop has been fairly maintained, and owing to the sunny weather prevailing during the main cropping season of October and November the beans have been sun dried and finer colour obtained than if dried in the drying rooms, which the continual wet weather in these months generally necessitates. But the failure of the north-east monsoon has affected the spring crop for 1916, which will probably be a poor one.

The average prices are as follows :—

1913	..	..	..	44·03 cents per cwt.
1914	..	..	..	37·76 cents per cwt.
1915	..	..	..	37·48 cents per cwt.

Coconut Industry.—From 800,000 to 1,000,000 acres are under coconuts in Ceylon, and for a time after the outbreak of war the industry suffered severely from low prices. The coir fibre industry in the south-west of the Island was also seriously affected.

During the last few months the price of copra has greatly improved, reaching Rs. 90 per candy. The average for the last three years has been: Rs. 91·88 in 1913, Rs. 73·39 in 1914, and Rs. 61·73 in 1915. The price of coconut oil for the first quarter stood at Rs. 600 per ton, reached a maximum of Rs. 640, and then dropped again to Rs. 600; desiccated nut ranged from 22 cents to 22½ cents per lb.; and bristle fibre, which was Rs. 8·25 per cwt. in the first quarter, rose to Rs. 9·25 per cwt. in December.

New plantations are being opened up in the northern districts, in the semi-dry zone, under irrigation from the tanks.

Rubber.—The year 1915 has seen a considerable increase in the output of rubber, as young plantations have come into bearing, and the older ones increased their yield through better cultivation and tapping.

The area under Hevea rubber is approximately 240,500 acres, almost entirely in the hands of European planters, and ranges from sea level to 2,000 feet.

Few new plantations are being planted, owing to lack of suitable available land, as Hevea will not thrive in the dry northern districts, even under irrigation.

By far the greater amount is shipped as crêpe, though a certain amount of smoked sheet and biscuit is also made.

Prices have ruled satisfactory throughout the year, the average price being Re. 1·65 per lb.

Experiments in the upbringing of plantations with green manure, seed selection, wide spacing, artificial manuring, and the best methods of tapping are being carried out.

Experts are engaged on research work connected with the physical problems connected with the tree, latex, and rubber, and with the fungus diseases attacking the tree, which are somewhat serious in the wetter districts.

Cinnamon.—2,000 acres of cinnamon were uprooted last year in one Province alone and planted with coconuts; in another large areas have been replaced by rubber. In recent years cinnamon has fallen very much in price, owing probably to the more extended use of cheap cassia bark from China. The white sandy soils of Negombo, on which the best cinnamon is grown, is proving, under good cultivation, well adapted for coconuts, which do not require skilled labour in the preparation of the product for market, as is the case of cinnamon, which must, moreover, be harvested in the wet seasons, and is altogether a more troublesome crop to grow.

Fodder Plants.—One of the chief agricultural needs of Ceylon in general is a supply of fresh food for cattle. Efforts have been renewed at the hill gardens at Hakgala and Nuwara Eliya to introduce and establish plants likely to meet this want. *Paspalum dilatatum* has so far proved to be the most suitable grass for the hill districts, and its cultivation is now being taken up and extended by planters and others. The tree lucern and teosinte grass are being tried as possible supplementary sources of supply.

Fibres.—With a view to a possible demand for plants yielding commercial fibres, a consignment of the Manila hemp plant was obtained from the Philippines. Trial plots have been planted at the Peradeniya Experiment Station, where it is doing well, and at Hakgala. At the latter place a trial plot of the New Zealand hemp has also been established.

Palm Collection in Peradeniya Gardens.—What may some day prove of economic importance is the classified collection of palms, which has been begun in 1915 in the Royal Botanic Gardens, Peradeniya. This extends over a considerable area, and includes species from all parts of the tropics.

CATTLE.

Rinderpest.—Outbreaks occurred in five Provinces, and four remained free during the year. The steady decrease of the last four years continued:—

Year.	Number of Cases.	Year.	Number of Cases.
1911 ..	.. 15,195	1914 ..	.. 3,835
1912 ..	.. 9,103	1915 ..	.. 1,493
1913 ..	.. 4,848		

Of the cases during 1915, 271 recovered, 1,153 died naturally, and 69 were shot. At the close of the year the Island was free.

Foot-and-mouth Disease.—During 1915 outbreaks occurred in seven Provinces. Cases 1,916, recoveries 1,849, deaths 47, balance ill at close of the year 20. In 1914 there were 8,664 cases.

Anthrax.—Deaths from this disease occurred in the Western and Central Provinces. Western Province: 18 cases, 18 deaths; Central Province: 31 cases, 31 deaths.

Swine.—During 1915 an epidemic of disease resembling swine fever occurred amongst swine in the Colombo District of the Western Province. It spread northwards, and cases occurred in the North-Western Province. Western Province: cases 2,431, deaths 2,401, shot 30; North-Western Province: cases 81, deaths 13, recoveries 1, shot 67.

SALT.

The manufacture and collection of salt is a Government monopoly. Salt is sold to purchasers from all Government salt stores at Rs. 3 per cwt.; the amount realized by its sale in 1915 was Rs. 1,800,856·22, as compared with Rs. 1,582,178·89 in 1914 and Rs. 1,618,674·22 in 1913.

The year was not favourable for the production of salt, as the weather interfered with the manufacture at different centres. There was no collection of natural salt in Jaffna District, as the formations in the lewayas were all dissolved by untimely rains. A fair harvest was, however, collected on the whole. Though no restriction was placed on the output, the total yield for the Island amounted only to 295,965 cwt. The quantity secured in 1912 was 276,781 cwt., in 1913 it was 210,310 cwt., and in 1914 522,350 cwt.

SALE OF CROWN LAND.

The total extent of Crown land sold and settled (exclusive of settlements under the Waste Lands Ordinances) was 14,773 acres, as compared with 27,471 acres in 1914 and 30,861 acres in 1913.

Sales of Crown lands were restricted during part of the year, owing to an apprehension that during the war the lands would not fetch their proper value. As, however, the villager is anxious to buy lands, and is ready to offer prices equivalent to those ruling at sales before the war, the continuance of land sales was permitted in most of the Provinces towards the end of the year.

The Land Settlement Department settles title to land as between the Crown and the subject. During the year 1915 an area of about 94,245 acres has been settled. Almost all the claims were settled without recourse to litigation.

The confidence of the people in the fairness of the settlements offered continues, and the increased facilities for acquiring land from the Crown are appreciated.

Pearl Fishery.

No pearl fishery was held in 1915, nor does there appear any prospect of a fishery being undertaken in the near future. The last was in 1907.

Mineral Survey.

During the year attention has been paid mainly to prospecting for sources of thoria, in view of the shortage of the mineral in home markets. Some valuable deposits of monazite sand have been found on the coast, and arrangements are being made to develop them. The hopes that have been entertained of producing thorianite in marketable quantities, either from primary or secondary deposits, have been proved to be unfounded.

Forests.

Re-afforestation.—Considerable attention has been paid to re-afforestation. Areas which are exploited for firewood supplies to the Railway and Public Departments are now being re-afforested on a systematic basis. Existing plantations are being extended. During the year the area of plantations was increased by nearly 300 acres.

Exploitation.—Public Departments were supplied with timber, fuel, and other forest produce valued at Rs. 326,398·51. The supplies included 25,060 broad gauge and 14,600 narrow gauge sleepers, 25,000 cubic feet of timber, and 58,000 cubic yards of firewood.

Since 1906 the Forest Department has supplied the Railway with 706,155 broad gauge and 234,619 narrow gauge sleepers, at an average cost of Rs. 3·64 and Re. 1·58 per sleeper respectively. By obtaining these supplies from the local forests a very large saving over the cost of imported sleepers has been effected, while it is admitted that the local sleepers are far more durable than anything that has hitherto been imported.

The revenue received from the public on account of timber, fuel, and minor forest produce during the year was Rs. 239,822·11.

Manufactures.

Ceylon is essentially an agricultural country, and its manufactures on any large scale are chiefly confined to the products of agriculture. The figures given under " Exports " show the output of factories in the year.

Minor industries, such as silver and brass work, ivory work, jewellery, lace-making, furniture, &c., have suffered from the lack of demand owing to the war and the absence of visitors to the Island.

About 6,500 acres were under tobacco cultivation in the Jaffna District, which is the principal tobacco-growing part of the Island. The crop was good, and the prices normal. The industry is languishing for want of a market, Cochin and Travancore being the only places to which the product is sent at present. The future depends on the success of the experiments now being conducted in Jaffna, with the object of turning out a tobacco suitable for the European market. During the year a number of foreign varieties of tobacco were successfully raised in the Government experimental garden under the direction of the tobacco expert.

A sugar refining company under European management has been formed, with partly European and partly Ceylonese capital, and a factory has been erected on the sea coast near Point Pedro. The necessary plant and machinery have been received, and are being installed in the buildings erected for the purpose. The company has taken on lease a large number of palmyra trees in the neighbourhood, from which sweet toddy is to be extracted, and sugar will be manufactured on an extensive scale.

MINING.

There was slackness in the plumbago industry, except towards the end of the year, when the price of the plumbago rose high owing to a sudden demand, due to facilities having been given for export to America, and some activity was in consequence displayed in mining.

The gemming industry has suffered from the effects of the war, and has been depressed for the greater part of the year. At one mine in Matara District a few precious stones were found, and this led to a renewal of digging operations in the vicinity.

IV.—TRADE.

The total value of Ceylon trade in 1915, excluding specie but including the value of coal supplied for the use of steamers, is estimated at Rs. 449,550,045. This is the highest figure recorded, and is due to the highly prosperous export trade in the staple products of the Colony.

The following table gives the total value of trade in lakhs of rupees for the past ten years :—

Year.	Lakhs of Rupees.	Year.	Lakhs of Rupees.
1906	2,363¼	1911	3,523½
1907	2,631¼	1912	3,886¾
1908	2,647¾	1913	4,329½
1909	2,853½	1914	4,022¼
1910	3,321¾	1915	4,495½

The Customs revenue collected in 1915 totalled Rs. 17,588,625·17. This sum, which is the largest ever collected by the Department, includes the new export duties, aggregating nearly two million rupees, which have been recovered since October 1. A large portion of this additional revenue is, however, being refunded under the regulations which exempt from the increased export duty goods in stock on September 30, 1915, or purchased under forward contracts entered into before October 1, 1915. In imports there were slight decreases under all heads, *i.e.*, all heads under which revenue is classified, with the exception of kerosine oil, the total decrease amounting to 86¾ lakhs as compared with 1914, and 224¼ lakhs as compared with 1913. The chief articles contributing to the revenue in the last two years are—

	1914. Rs.	1915. Rs.
Grain	4,071,681	3,910,501
Spirits	2,045,214	1,881,294
Kerosine Oil	1,712,643	1,733,002
Sugar	1,433,476	1,331,786
Cotton Goods	499,917	419,578

The following table shows the annual value of imports and exports for a period of ten years. The figures do not include the value of specie or the value of coal supplied for the use of steamers :—

Year.	Imports. Rs.	Exports. Rs.	Total. Rs.
1906	112,789,269	109,711,644	222,500,913
1907	120,061,934	129,368,251	249,430,185
1908	122,420,393	128,962,156	251,382,549
1909	125,441,597	146,899,631	272,341,228
1910	150,195,648	166,471,607	316,667,255
1911	156,986,106	180,526,959	337,513,065
1912	175,322,979	198,954,902	374,277,881
1913	186,073,086	232,986,954	419,060,040
1914	172,317,549	218,363,846	390,681,395
1915	163,637,758	273,375,987	437,013,745

The excess in the value of exports over imports was Rs. 109,738,229, or 67 per cent.

Of the total exports in 1915, Rs. 265,733,258 represent the produce and manufacture of the Colony, and Rs. 7,642,729 represent British, foreign, and other colonial produce and manufacture.

The following table shows the percentage of the trade of Ceylon with the United Kingdom, British possessions, and foreign countries. Imports of rubber are excluded, as in previous years, this being an import only in name, the article being almost at once re-exported :—

	1913.	1914.	1915.
Imports.			
From United Kingdom	30·1	29·5	22·3
From British Possessions	54·4	55	62·6
From Foreign Countries	15·5	15·5	15·1
Exports.			
To United Kingdom	45·3	52·9	53·8
To British Possessions	12·2	13·5	14·1
To Foreign Countries	42·5	33·6	32·1
Total Trade.			
With United Kingdom	38·7	42·8	42·2
With British Possessions	30·6	31·4	31·9
With Foreign Countries	30·7	25·8	25·9

Egypt is entered this year among British possessions and protectorates. Our imports from and exports to that country were valued at Rs. 263,162 and Rs. 2,566,304, respectively.

The British share in respect of imports has declined, while the total value of trade has been distributed among the United Kingdom, British possessions, and foreign countries in much the same ratio as in 1914.

IMPORTS.

The principal articles imported in 1915 show decreases as compared with 1914.

Confectionery.—The total imports were 952,612 lb. valued at Rs. 390,936, as against 1,052,870 lb. valued at Rs. 382,137 in 1914, the United Kingdom supplying the greater part. Switzerland supplied Rs. 22,723 worth in 1915, while supplies from other foreign countries were negligible.

Cement.—331,372 cwt. were imported in 1915, a decrease of 23,775 cwt. as compared with 1914. More than half of this came from the United Kingdom, while Japan and Denmark supplied most of the remainder. Japan occupies the place formerly held by Germany in this trade. The article supplied by Japan is cheap ; it is put up in strong barrels to prevent wastage, and is gaining in popularity, the higher British freights being a handicap in this as in many other commodities.

Cotton, Manufactured and Raw. — There is a decrease in value from Rs. 14,013,451 in 1913 and Rs. 13,062,117 in 1914 to Rs. 9,483,674 in 1915, due principally to smaller imports of dyed and bleached piece goods from the United Kingdom. Imports from British possessions rose from Rs. 1,879,544 in 1914 to Rs. 2,806,612 in 1915, the chief increase being in imports from British India, while those from foreign countries fell from Rs. 2,145,909 to Rs. 956,222 in the same period. There was a better demand than in 1914 for yarn and twist for use in the local weaving industry.

Grain.—The quantity of rice cleared for consumption decreased from 7,400,269 cwt. in 1914 to 7,175,581 cwt. in the year under review. More rice came from the Straits Settlements and Burma, and less from British India.

Motor Cars and Horses.—296 cars have been imported during 1915. During the previous five years the imports were—

1910	151
1911	213
1912	239
1913	407
1914	459

While the war restricted imports from the United Kingdom, there was an increased demand for low-priced cars, which has been supplied by the United States of America, imports from that country rising from 120 cars in 1914 to 174 cars in 1915.

Imports of petrol, which is mainly used as a source of motive power for cars in Ceylon, also declined. The figures since 1910 are—

Year.	Gallons.
1910	136,646
1911	206,208
1912	216,714
1913	383,442
1914	701,082
1915	607,774

Only 60 horses were imported in 1915, chiefly from British India. Under normal conditions imports should be appreciably larger, the number of horses imported in 1913 being 246.

Lamps.—Of the 156,985 lamps imported in 1915, 101,222 came from Japan. These were principally small glass kitchen lamps of trifling value. Most of the better kinds are imported from the United Kingdom, and to a less extent from the United States of America. Germany figures as the principal foreign country in the return for lamps in 1915, the value of German lamps imported being Rs. 13,089. This represents principally imports from British possessions of lamps purchased before the war, while a part consisted of prize cargo sold in Colombo.

Metals and Metalware.—There was a drop of Rs. 353,157 as compared with 1914. The most important head in metals and metalware is hardware. This shows the largest decrease, which, in the case of the United Kingdom, amounts to 50 per cent., due no doubt to the fact that the factories at home are being largely used for the manufacture of war materials; barbed wire also showed a large diminution. The increase in the imports of pig lead for conversion into tea lead more than made up for the decrease in imports of manufactured tea lead, and was due to the demand caused by increased exports of tea.

Manure.—Imports of all kinds amounted to 81,501 tons, an increase of 19,613 tons over 1914. Groundnut manure from British India showed an increase of 16,635 tons compared with the previous year. Kainit, sulphate of potash, and muriate of potash, of which Austria and Germany were the chief exporters, have been but poorly supplied during the year.

Spirits.—The quantity cleared for home consumption was 229,516 gallons, as against 331,006 gallons in 1914. Whisky was the spirit imported in the largest quantity, and while this was on a level with the imports of 1914, gin, the import of which in recent years was greater than that of whisky, showed a decline of about 45 per cent., a similar decrease being also noticeable under brandy.

Sugar.—Imports of palm and jaggery, unrefined sugar, and refined sugar, including candy, aggregated 467,762 cwt., the quantity of candy and refined sugar alone being 430,573 cwt., as against 470,378 cwt. in 1914. Java and Hong Kong are the principal countries supplying this article.

Tobacco, Cigars, and Cigarettes.—The amounts cleared during the past three years have been—

Year.	Cigars.	Cigarettes.	Manufactured Tobacco.	Total.
	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.
1913	22,051	318,955	48,258	389,264
1914	22,803	329,230	39,149	391,182
1915	22,745	231,500	20,432	274,677

It will be seen that while the supply of cigars is maintained, that of cigarettes and manufactured tobacco has declined considerably.

Ceylon's Chief Sources of Supply.

The principal countries exporting goods to Ceylon, with the percentages of value supplied by each, are shown in the following table :—

Position.	Countries.	1913. Per Cent.	1914. Per Cent.	1915 Per Cent.
1.	British India	40·83	35·93	41·19
2.	United Kingdom	29·19	28·58	21·66
3.	Straits Settlements	6·12	8·94	10·41
4.	Burma	3·82	6·11	6·88
5.	Japan	2·21	1·71	3·22
6.	United States of America	1·28	1·33	2·95
7.	Java	1·75	1·5	2·21
8.	Maldive Islands	1·19	1·21	1·39
9.	Hong Kong	·91	·77	·98
10.	Siam	·37	1·1	·78
11.	China (excluding Hong Kong)	·38	·53	·75
12.	France	·79	·83	·64
13.	Holland	·72	·85	·62
14.	Natal	·73	·79	·6
15.	Borneo (excluding British)	·51	·46	·57
16.	Persia	·01	·88	·5
17.	New South Wales	·17	·23	·47
18.	India (excluding British)	·34	·46	·41
19.	Sumatra	—	—	·37
20.	Norway	·09	·11	·36
21.	Switzerland	·26	·22	·34
22.	Western Australia	·29	·39	·31
23.	Sweden	·19	·23	·29
24.	Mauritius	·06	·34	·26
25.	Italy	·54	·46	·21
26.	Victoria	·44	·76	·19
27.	Germany	3·24	2·49	·18
28.	Egypt	·05	·04	·16

The setback under United Kingdom is due to restricted imports, principally of coal, cotton goods, hardware, and cars and parts. British India has improved her percentage by sending larger supplies of coal to make up the deficiency from the United Kingdom.

Japan is leading among foreign competitors, and now occupies the position held by Germany before the war. The fact that the latter country appears at all at the bottom of the table, with a total value of Rs. 302,518 to her credit, is mainly due to the importation of articles manufactured in Germany, but exported into other countries prior to the war. The importation of goods made in Germany is now prohibited, except with the special sanction of the Principal Collector of Customs.

EXPORTS.

The staple products in order of value are as follows :—

		Lakhs of Rupees.		
		1913.	1914.	1915.
1.	Tea	877	897	1,225
2.	Rubber	612	572	790
3.	Copra	209	232	177
4.	Coconut oil	167	134	130
5.	Desiccated coconuts	78	78	86
6.	Plumbago	90	42	79
7.	Arecanuts	30	18	33
8.	Cacao	30	20	31
9.	Cinnamon	24	16	20
10.	Citronella oil	16	13	15
11.	Coir yarn	15	13	10
12.	Poonac	11	9	10
13.	Coir fibre	15	13	9
14.	Cardamoms	9	7	8
15.	Tobacco	8	9	6
16.	Coconuts	14	9	5

The increase under tea, rubber, and plumbago are significant.

Arecanuts, poonac, and cardamoms have advanced ; while cacao, coir fibre, tobacco, and coconuts have receded.

The principal countries buying Ceylon produce and manufacture are given in the following table, with the percentages of value taken by each :—

	1913. Per Cent.	1914. Per Cent.	1915. Per Cent.
United Kingdom	45·54	53·88	55·05
United States of America	16·63	14·1	18·39
Russia in Europe	4·63	3·13	3·99
Victoria	2·14	2·46	2·57
British India	2·39	2·07	2·39
New South Wales	2·24	2·56	2·26
Denmark	·26	1·2	2·14
Russia in Asia	1·42	1·32	2·06
Canada	1·68	1·97	1·68
China (excluding Hong Kong)	1·7	1·31	1·44
New Zealand	1·11	1·57	1·4
Egypt	·25	·33	·96
Holland	·25	·71	·94
France	·38	·54	·91
Norway	·57	·35	·9
South Australia	·34	·42	·42
Natal	·28	·29	·36
Cape Colony	·23	·27	·35
Straits Settlements	·32	·26	·27
Spain (excluding Gibraltar)	·22	·25	·23
Queensland	·22	·28	·22
Japan	·37	·31	·2
Western Australia	·18	·21	·17
Philippines	·17	·17	·13
Newfoundland	·06	·08	·08
Hong Kong	·06	·16	·06
Italy	·18	·1	·05

The loss of markets in Austria and Germany, representing a loss of something approaching 25 million rupees, as well as the general restrictions introduced with a view to preventing supplies from reaching enemy countries, has not had the effect of checking the total quantity exported. Substantial increases are noticeable all round, except in the percentages of three Australian States, New Zealand, Canada, Japan, the Philippine Islands, Hong Kong, Spain, and Italy.

Tea.

The figures for tea, which have been fairly stable for some years, showed a remarkable rise, the increase being one of over 22 million pounds above last year's total, the average price per pound ruling for the article being also about 23 per cent. more. The exports during the past seven years are shown below :—

	Millions of lb.		Millions of lb.
1909 ..	.. 192	1913 ..	.. 191
1910 ..	.. 182	1914 ..	.. 193
1911 ..	.. 186	1915 ..	.. 215
1912 ..	.. 192		

The distribution among the principal countries, with their increases and decreases, is set out in the following table :—

	1914. lb.	1915. lb.	Increase. lb.	Decrease. lb.
United Kingdom ..	115,888,689 ..	124,396,216 ..	8,507,527 ..	—
British Colonies—				
British India ..	2,062,129 ..	2,875,159 ..	813,030 ..	—
Canada ..	8,522,964 ..	7,162,572 ..	— ..	1,360,392
Cape Colony ..	975,502 ..	1,394,126 ..	418,624 ..	—
Egypt	1,232,202 ..	4,320,278 ..	3,088,076 ..	—
Hong Kong ..	193,060 ..	130,701 ..	— ..	62,359
Malta	100,222 ..	132,246 ..	32,024 ..	—
Mauritius ..	104,787 ..	119,712 ..	14,925 ..	—
Natal	1,241,785 ..	1,529,459 ..	287,674 ..	—
Newfoundland ..	349,744 ..	371,877 ..	22,133 ..	—
New South Wales ..	10,797,256 ..	9,880,166 ..	— ..	917,090
New Zealand ..	6,679,761 ..	6,170,492 ..	— ..	509,269
Queensland ..	1,087,632 ..	874,344 ..	— ..	213,288
South Australia ..	1,782,070 ..	1,776,178 ..	— ..	5,892
Straits Settlements ..	461,680 ..	442,511 ..	— ..	19,169
Victoria ..	7,972,142 ..	8,698,999 ..	726,857 ..	—
Western Australia ..	873,774 ..	692,948 ..	— ..	180,826
Other British Possessions	414,973 ..	432,602 ..	17,629 ..	—
Total British Possessions	44,851,683	47,004,370	5,420,972	3,268,285
		Deduct Decrease ..	3,268,285	
		Nett Increase ..	2,152,687	
Foreign Countries—				
China (excluding Hong Kong) ..	5,862,619 ..	6,631,778 ..	769,159 ..	—
France.. ..	928,118 ..	1,581,917 ..	653,799 ..	—
Japan	66,039 ..	55,150 ..	— ..	10,889
Mozambique ..	201,446 ..	156,027 ..	— ..	45,419
Persia	1,920 ..	99,149 ..	97,229 ..	—
Philippine Islands ..	65,181 ..	73,680 ..	8,499 ..	—
Russia in Asia ..	5,983,696 ..	9,369,899 ..	3,386,203 ..	—
Russia in Europe ..	7,925,794 ..	15,727,736 ..	7,801,942 ..	—
South America ..	58,731 ..	75,213 ..	16,482 ..	—
United States of America	10,667,008 ..	10,250,652 ..	— ..	416,356
Other Foreign Countries	1,082,668 ..	210,940 ..	— ..	871,728
Total Foreign Countries	32,843,220	44,232,141	12,733,313	1,344,392
		Deduct Decrease ..	1,344,392	
		Nett Increase ..	11,388,921	
Grand Total ..	193,583,592	215,632,727	22,049,135	—

The largest quantitative increase was in the shipments to Russia, while the largest proportionate increase was in the shipments to Egypt—an increase of about 250 per cent. over last year, and accounted for by supplies sent for the use of His Majesty's troops there. More tea was also taken by the United Kingdom, British India, China, Victoria, France, and the Cape Colony; while Canada, New South Wales, New Zealand, and the United States of America took less.

Products of the Coconut Palm.

The exports under this head were valued at 429 lakhs, as against 491 lakhs in 1914. Recent exports of the three principal products have been—

Year.	Desiccated Coconuts. Cwt.	Copra. Cwt.	Coconut Oil. Cwt.
1910	242,286	758,711	619,680
1911	292,210	821,814	505,016
1912	278,806	614,089	401,779
1913	303,808	1,117,292	546,984
1914	311,864	1,411,947	486,286
1915	349,009	1,208,529	501,510

Prices realized for the products of the coconut palm generally were lower than in 1914. Of the three products mentioned above, coconut oil showed a decrease in the average price, from Rs. 27·54 per cwt. in 1914 to Rs. 25·84 in 1915; while the average value entered for copra was Rs. 14·61 per cwt., as against Rs. 16·46 per cwt. in 1914. The average value entered for desiccated coconuts was practically the same as in 1914.

Rubber.

Exports of Ceylon rubber constitute a record, the quantity being 435,748 cwt. for 1915. For the previous five years, a period notable for the remarkable growth in the exports of this product, the exports have been—

	Cwt.		Cwt.
1910	33,952	1913	226,491
1911	61,212	1914	306,724
1912	132,569		

The United Kingdom and the United States of America continue as the principal buyers, their purchases being 55·12 per cent. and 39·72 per cent. respectively of the total, as against 62·9 per cent. and 23·19 per cent. in 1914.

Besides the United States of America and France and Russia, the only other foreign country to be supplied with this article was Japan, due to restrictions necessitated by the war.

CUSTOMS DUTIES.

All imports not specially rated or exempted by the tariff are liable to a Customs duty of 5½ per cent. *ad valorem*.

Under Ordinance No. 17 of 1869, as amended by Ordinance No. 5 of 1914, the following export duties have been levied with effect from October 1, 1915:—

	Rs. c.		Rs. c.
Tea, per 100 lb.	1 50	Coconuts, fresh, per 1,000	2 0
Rubber, per 100 lb.	7 50	Coconut, desiccated, per cwt.	0 70
Cacao, per 100 lb.	1 50	Copra, per cwt.	0 40
Cardamoms, per 100 lb.	7 50	Coconut oil, per cwt.	0 75

The duty on cardamoms was rescinded early in 1916, as a concession to an industry which is not at present in a prosperous condition.

Separate recoveries made under the Medical Wants Ordinance, No. 9 of 1912, in respect of the first four articles ceased when the new duties were imposed, a portion of the new duties, equivalent to the duties previously levied under the Medical Wants Ordinance, being credited to the Medical Wants Fund.

V.—SHIPPING.

The total number of all vessels which entered the ports of the Island of Ceylon in 1915 was 4,272, with a tonnage of 7,883,268. This shows a decrease of 129 vessels and a decrease of 1,455,267 tons as compared with 1914.

The following table gives the total number and nett tonnage of shipping entering all ports in Ceylon during the last three years :—

	1913.		1914.		1915.	
	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.
Merchant vessels (with cargo and in ballast)	2,464	7,981,773	2,523	7,041,986	1,560	4,984,122
Merchant vessels (called to coal)	651	1,816,376	615	1,728,558	655	1,937,572
Native sailing vessels	1,115	106,958	1,159	103,541	1,847	268,938
Warships* and transports	53	198,620	104	464,450	210	692,636
Total	4,283	10,103,727	4,401	9,338,535	4,272	7,883,268

* Warships' displacement tonnage.

Omitting warships and vessels calling to coal, the following table gives the comparative distribution according to nationality for 1914 and 1915 :—

	1914.		1915.	
	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.
British	1,840	4,610,513	1,103	3,508,012
British Colonial	1,033	83,813	1,728	253,985
Maldivian	108	13,428	119	14,953
Total British Ships	2,981	4,707,754	2,950	3,776,950
American	—	—	5	11,745
Austrian	77	225,966	—	—
Belgian	—	—	1	1,860
Danish	16	45,640	14	37,249
Dutch	120	446,706	83	302,279
French	116	403,375	92	320,656
German	151	612,852	—	—
Greek	4	12,351	1	2,489
Italian	19	52,349	18	50,453
Japanese	105	435,657	139	573,542
Norwegian	25	31,440	54	66,173
Russian	38	98,600	10	13,614
Siamese	1	2,228	—	—
Spanish	26	63,297	28	65,283
Swedish	3	7,312	12	30,767
Total Foreign Ships	701	2,437,773	457	1,476,110

The predominance of British shipping continues, but the decrease in the number and tonnage is due to the war.

There have been no German or Austrian vessels on account of the war. There have been increases in the number of Japanese, Norwegian, and Swedish vessels; and decreases in the number of Russian, French, Dutch, and Greek vessels, probably due to the same cause.

The entrance of five American vessels is a feature of the year 1915, there having been none in the past two years.

Colombo Port Commission.

In spite of the reduction in expenditure necessitated by the war, progress has been maintained in increasing the warehouse accommodation and other facilities of the port. Six new warehouses, which have been named the Delft warehouses, and a covered roadway, situated on the old coaling grounds immediately east of the passenger jetty, were completed by the Public Works Department and handed over for use; while two new warehouses intended for export cargo, constructed by the Colombo Port Commission on the new quay wall in front of the old Harbour Works premises, are approaching completion.

The construction of the quay wall betwen the Patent Slip and Block Jetty and of the quay walls of the canal leading from the lake to the harbour has advanced considerably. The water service was laid throughout the Customs premises, and arrangements have been made for supplying the shipping from meters on the south-west breakwater, thus relieving the congestion of the foreshore used for coaling and the discharge of cargo.

The Chalmers' granaries for the storage of rice were opened in May. Three of these sheds were completed by the end of 1915, and a fourth is approaching completion. The question of the provision of complete facilities for the discharge, bunkering, and storage of liquid fuel and other petroleum products at Colombo has still further engaged the attention of the Commission. A site for the new oil installations has been selected at a distance from the harbour at Mattacooly; detailed plans and estimates of the installation, to be connected with a basin for the discharge and bunkering of oil vessels to the north of the present Graving Dock, are being prepared by Messrs. Coode, Matthews, Fitzmaurice, & Wilson, Consulting Engineers. The survey of a proposed railway to Mutwal, which will serve the proposed new oil installations and link up the harbour direct with the main line, is in hand; its construction will very greatly increase the facilities of the port.

The work of deepening the harbour has been suspended during 1915. The work at Colombo is, however, in advance of the work of deepening in the Suez Canal.

Two new pilot launches, costing Rs. 103,932, were received in June, 1915.

The nett tonnage of vessels (sailing and steam) visiting Colombo harbour in 1915 amounted to 6,787,891 tons; in addition 210 warships and transports with a tonnage of 692,636 and coasting vessels with a tonnage of 19,652 entered the port. The receipts from the Graving Dock were Rs. 108,743·69 (inclusive of Rs. 45,481·61 in respect of charges for docking His Majesty's ships from 1907 to 1913), and from the Patent Slip Rs. 14,586·50.

The management of the Galle harbour was placed in the hands of the Master Attendant, Colombo, from November 1, 1915. The signal station at Galle was transferred by Lloyds' Agents to the Ceylon Government from October 1, 1915. Arrangements have since been made to send and receive signals both night and day.

The expenditure by the Colombo Port Commission (apart from the works carried out by the Public Works Department) during the financial year 1914–15 (October 1, 1914, to September 30, 1915) amounted to Rs. 1,769,990·16. The sum expended by the Public Works Department in the construction of new warehouse and wharf accommodation during the financial year 1914–15 was Rs. 188,273·92, the total expenditure in connection with the harbour during the financial year thus amounting to Rs. 1,958,264·08.

VI.—LEGISLATION.

Twenty-four Ordinances were passed during the year 1915. Of these, the three following owed their origin to the present war :—

(*a*) *The Tea Cess Ordinance, No. 1 of 1915*, authorizing a further appropriation out of the Tea Cess Fund, similar in character to those authorized by " The Tea Cess Ordinance, No. 21 of 1914 " ;

(*b*) *The Patents, Designs, and Trade Marks (Temporary Rules) Ordinance, No. 10 of 1915*, framed on the lines of " The Patents, Designs, and Trade Marks Temporary Rules Act, 1914 " ; and

(*c*) *The War Contribution Ordinance, No. 24 of 1915*, providing for a contribution out of the revenue of the Colony towards the cost of the present war.

Besides these, the following Ordinances are of interest :—

(i.) *The Dentists Registration Ordinance, No. 3 of 1915*. Its special features are--

(*a*) The prohibition of dental practice by unqualified persons ;

(*b*) The prohibition of the use of the title " doctor " by dentists ;

(*c*) The authority reserved to vedaralas, Government apothecaries, and estate dispensers to render all dental services, except dental operations ; and

(*d*) The issue of special licenses to practise to existing unqualified practitioners.

(ii.) *The Criminal Procedure Code (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 18 of 1915*, empowers the Governor to give directions for the trial of the offence of sedition, and any other offence, which owing to the circumstances of the time is not appropriately triable by jury, by a special tribunal consisting of three Judges of the Supreme Court.

(iii.) *The Housing and Town Improvement Ordinance, No. 19 of 1915*, is a comprehensive Ordinance, enlarging the powers of local authorities to control the growth of towns, and to take measures for the improvement of insanitary areas, and areas otherwise requiring special action by means of improvement schemes.

(iv.) *The Riot Damages Ordinance, No. 23 of 1915*, provides for the assessment of damages caused by riots, and for the recovery of compensation from the inhabitants and property owners of the districts in which they have occurred.

VII.—EDUCATION.

It is difficult to draw a clear line between elementary and secondary education in Ceylon. The English-speaking community form scarcely one per cent. of the total population, so that most of the schools where English is taught are teaching a language which is foreign to the large majority of their pupils.

The vernacular schools constitute the real elementary education of the country.

Vernacular Education.

In 1915 there were 801 Government vernacular schools, with an attendance of 82,418 boys and 26,705 girls. There were also 1,827 aided schools, with an attendance of 125,364 boys and 73,707 girls.

The total sum expended by Government on vernacular education in 1915 was approximately Rs. 1,355,176, of which, roughly speaking, Rs. 660,486 was spent on Government schools and Rs. 694,689 on aided schools.

The Rural Schools Ordinance is now in force in all districts of the Island except Jaffna.

At the end of 1915 there were 242 aided estate schools, and returns from 569 estates showed that of a total of 16,622 children of school-going age 7,217 were attending estate schools. Of these, 6,056 were boys and 1,161 girls.

A school for the deaf and blind has been carried on since 1912, and receives an annual grant from Government of Rs. 3,000.

Schools teaching English.

In 1915 there were 258 English and Anglo-vernacular schools attended by 44,684 pupils, of whom 35,317 were boys and 9,367 girls.

In many of the schools candidates are prepared for the Senior and Junior Cambridge Local Examinations. In 1914 the candidates who presented themselves and the results obtained were—

	Candidates.	Honours.	Passed.
Senior	792	57	427
Junior	1,078	49	639

The results of the London University Examinations in 1915 showed that 72 candidates from Ceylon presented themselves for the Matriculation Examination, 22 of whom passed. In addition, 13 candidates passed the Intermediate Examination in Arts, 10 passed the Intermediate Examination in Science, 1 the Examination for the Degree of Bachelor of Arts, 5 the First Examination in Medical Degrees and 2 the Intermediate Examination in Laws.

The encouragement offered by Government takes the form of grants or scholarships. In the majority of the aided English schools grants are paid on the results of examinations in the schedules of the Code, but in some of the more advanced schools the greater part of the grant is paid on the average attendance. The grants paid to English schools in the financial year 1914–15 amounted to Rs. 314,933.

Two Government scholarships are offered annually, one on the results of the Intermediate Examination in Arts and the other on the results of the Intermediate Examination in Science. These scholarships are tenable for three years, and are of the value of £200 each per annum, with free passage to England and £50 outfit allowance. The holders may join any British University, or study at any recognized engineering institution in the United Kingdom.

Training of Teachers.

The Government Training College consists of three departments: English, Sinhalese men, and Sinhalese women. The object is to supply trained teachers for aided English schools and Government vernacular schools. At the beginning of 1915 the number of students in training was English 45, Sinhalese men 53, Sinhalese women 20.

Industrial Schools.

There are no Government industrial schools, but carpentry schools are attached to five Government schools in the Kandyan Provinces. In 1915 the aided industrial schools, which are 39 in number, received grants amounting to Rs. 23,788. The trades taught were carpentry, dressmaking, printing, shoemaking, tailoring, lace-making, embroidery, gardening, and masonry.

The most important of these schools is the Maggona Certified Industrial School, which is utilized by Government as a reformatory for youthful offenders, and is carried on by the Roman Catholic Mission. This institution has an estate of some 300 acres and excellent buildings, towards the cost of which Government has contributed. Over 200 youthful offenders are at present receiving instruction in this school, and an allowance is paid by Government for the maintenance of each offender.

Agricultural Instruction.

An attempt has been made to supply elementary agricultural instruction by a scheme of school gardens conducted in connection with Government schools. The gardens are under the supervision of the Department of Agriculture; there is a Superintendent of School Gardens, who is assisted by three inspectors. 287 school gardens attached to Government schools are worked under this scheme, and 56 grant-in-aid schools receive garden grants. Seeds and implements are supplied by the Department of Agriculture, and prizes are offered for competition.

VIII.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

Hospitals.

There are 78 Government hospitals (in addition to the Lunatic and the Leper Asylums) equipped with modern hospital furniture and surgical appliances; the number of beds in the institutions ranges from 12 to 497, while the number accommodated in the Lunatic Asylum numbered 837 as lowest and 903 as highest; in addition to the hospitals, there are 430 Government outdoor dispensaries. The owners of estates have also provided 54 estate hospitals, which receive a rebate on export duty, and 353 dispensaries, which receive drugs free from Government to a value of 50 cents per labourer per annum.

Four new hospitals are under construction at Pimbura in the Western Province, Passara in the Province of Uva, and Kitulgala and Pelmadulla in the Province of Sabaragamuwa. A new building is also being erected at Alutnuwara in the Province of Uva to replace the present hospital building; a new dispensary was opened during the year at Kahataruppe in the Province of Uva.

Medical Institutions.

A general rebuilding scheme is in contemplation for the improvement of the Medical College. The full course of training for medical students is five years; a diploma in medicine, surgery, and midwifery (which can be registered in the United Kingdom) is granted to successful medical students.

In Colombo there are a Bacteriological Institute, a General Hospital, Lunatic Asylum, an Ophthalmic Hospital, a Lying-in Home, a hospital for women and children, and one for infectious diseases. There is an establishment for the manufacture of calf lymph; there are special dispensaries at Kandy and Galle for the treatment of eye diseases.

Asylums.

The Lunatic Asylum contained 897 inmates on December 31, 1915. As there is very considerable overcrowding in the present building, it is proposed to build a new institution a few miles out of Colombo, with accommodation for 1,000 patients, and for the necessary staff, officers, and servants. The number of patients treated in the asylum during 1915 was 1,136 (717 males and 419 females). The number discharged was 165 (110 males and 55 females), and the number of deaths was 74 (48 males and 26 females). In the House of Observation 391 persons were treated, of whom 191 were transferred to the asylum, 174 were discharged, 9 cases died, and 17 remained at the end of the year.

The Leper Asylum is situated 6 miles from Colombo; it contained 402 patients at the end of the year; the total treated during 1915 numbered 509. A small establishment for lepers exists at Kalmunai in the Eastern Province, and has accommodation for 30; it is proposed to establish a leper colony at Mantivu in the same Province.

A Home for Incurables (containing 80 beds) is administered by a Committee of Government officials and representatives of the public. An institute for the treatment of tuberculosis has been built in Colombo, but was not opened, as no suitable officer was obtainable.

IX.—CRIME.

Police.

The strength of the Force on December 31, 1915, provided for in the Estimates was 1 Inspector-General, 9 Superintendents, 15 Assistant Superintendents, 3 Probationers, 36 Inspectors, 87 Sub-Inspectors, 4 Station House Officers, 318 Native Sergeants, and 2,169 Native Constables.

European Police: 1 Inspector, 3 Sub-Inspectors, 7 Second Class Sergeants, and 22 Third Class Sergeants.

Total of all ranks 2,675.

The cost of the Force was Rs. 1,506,100 approximately.

Criminal Statistics.

General Character of the Year.—The following statement shows the state of crime in 1915 as compared with 1914 :—

	1914.	1915.*	1915.†
Murder and homicide	209	204	52
Grievous hurt	613	615	16
Hurt with knife	1,218	1,214	12
Rape	53	56	14
Robbery	303	381	54
Arson	192	267	63
Burglary	1,609	1,911	116
Theft of cattle and prædial produce	796	981	17
Treason, &c.	—	—	141
Attempted homicide	—	—	19
Unlawful assembly and rioting	—	—	1,162
Destroying building: mosque and shop breaking	—	—	107
Other offences committed in connection with rioting	—	—	285
Total	4,993	5,629	2,058

* Not including crime committed during the disturbances in May-June.
† Crime committed during the disturbances.

There was a general increase in crime against the person and property.

Disturbances.—Crime committed during the disturbance is shown separately. Starting in Kandy on the night of May 28, when the Muhammadan mosque was attacked by the Buddhists, and continuing in Kandy on May 29, disturbances broke out round Kandy on the 30th, and on May 31 in the Sabaragamuwa, North-Western, and Western Provinces. On June 1 rioting was in progress in four Provinces, in 86 different centres, extending over an area of 112 miles from north to south. On June 2 disturbances were spread over five Provinces, in 116 different centres, extending over an area of 136 miles from north to south. The severity of the disturbances may be gauged by the fact that between May 28 and June 5 serious offences were committed to the number of 36 per cent. of other crime for the whole year.

Of the persons convicted by Courts Martial for offences committed in connection with the disturbances, 96 per cent. were Sinhalese and 90 per cent. were Buddhists. Out of 5,315 habitual criminals in the Island, only 10 were convicted by Courts Martial. 1,508 persons were arrested by the police while rioting was going on.

Crime committed during the disturbances cannot, therefore, be classed with the ordinary crime in the Colony.

The statement below shows the distribution of crime during the disturbances from May 28 to June 5 :—

Offences committed during the Disturbances from May 28 to June 5 dealt with by Police Courts, District Courts, and Courts Martial.

Province.	Offences against the State.	Offences against the Person.	Offences against Property.	Total.
Western ..	826 ..	66 ..	210 ..	1,102
Sabaragamuwa ..	180 ..	3 ..	91 ..	274
North-Western ..	101 ..	15 ..	123 ..	239
Southern ..	73 ..	18 ..	131 ..	222
Central	123 ..	16 ..	82 ..	221
Total ..	1,303	118	637	2,058

Distribution of Crime.—The following table shows the distribution of crime, excluding offences committed during the disturbances :—

Province.	Homicide.	Attempted Homicide.	Grievous Hurt.	Hurt with Dangerous Weapons.	Burglary.	Thefts of Cattle and Prædial Produce.	Other Offences.	Total.
Western ..	70..	10..	213..	367..	572..	381	879..	2,492
Southern ..	36..	5..	117..	276..	497..	199..	303..	1,433
Central ..	17..	11..	59..	104..	232..	44..	522..	989
North-Western ..	23..	8..	43..	103..	235..	189..	520..	1,121
Sabaragamuwa ..	32..	6..	53..	116..	212..	64..	331..	814
Colombo City ..	6..	1..	41..	82..	46..	4..	279..	459
Uva ..	7..	2..	19..	43..	55..	43..	151..	320
Northern ..	8..	— ..	48..	63..	18..	18..	226..	381
Eastern ..	3..	— ..	14..	41..	24..	21..	82..	185
North-Central ..	2..	— ..	8..	19..	20..	18..	76..	143
Total ..	204	43	615	1,214	1,911	981	3,369	8,337

The state of crime in each Province may best be determined by comparing the number of serious offences committed with the population. Such an analysis shows that (crime and population of Colombo excluded)—

		Persons.
In the Western Province there was 1 case of crime to every	..	357
In the North-Western Province	do. ..	387
In the Southern Province	do. ..	439
In the Colombo City	do. ..	472
In the Province of Sabaragamuwa	do. ..	502
In the North-Central Province	do. ..	603
In the Central Province	do. ..	679
In the Province of Uva	do. ..	677
In the Eastern Province	do. ..	993
In the Northern Province	do. ..	970

Comparison with Madras.—Compared with the Madras Presidency—

	Ceylon. Persons.	Madras. Persons.
Proportion of crime to population is 1 case of crime to ..	492 ..	1,971
Proportion of murders to population is 1 case of murder to	20,129 ..	38,863

That there is a large amount of serious crime to be dealt with in Ceylon may be gauged by the fact that the proportion of murders and crime generally to population in Ceylon is three times as high as in the Madras Presidency. In Ceylon a murder is committed every other day.

Steps have been taken to deal with the increase of crime in the Colony during the year by the appointment of additional officers to supervise the work of the police in the criminal Provinces and by other expedients.

A punitive police force was established at Hanwella in the Western Province. This was the first place where it was reported that the Moors were still being molested by the Sinhalese after martial law had been withdrawn.

Supreme Court sessions were held in the outlying criminal districts, with good effect. For example, in the North-Western Province sessions were held twice in Kurunegala and once in Chilaw, with marked success.

The War.—Since the outbreak of war 84 male and 20 female enemy subjects in the Colony have been interned. The Harbour Police detected 87 enemy subjects arriving on vessels in the harbour, all of whom were arrested and detained. 172 prisoners were removed from prize ships and interned.

PRISONS.

There was an increase of 5,524 in the total number of admissions of convicted prisoners of Ceylon during the year 1915, excluding Road Ordinance defaulters, of whom there were 114, as against 119 in 1914. The figures are as follows: 1914, 10,221; 1915, 15,745.

The increase in the number of admissions was due to the large number of prisoners committed to jail during June and July last in connection with the anti-Moorish riots. The number of rioters thus committed to prison was 5,492.

The number of prisoners sentenced to death was 156, as against 54 in 1914. There were 90 executions during the year, as against 41 in 1914. The figures for 1915 include 83 sentences of death and 34 executions as a result of Court Martial trials. Of the 90 whose capital sentences were carried out, 81 were Sinhalese, 8 Tamils, and 1 Moor. Of the number sentenced to death in 1915, 3 were hanged in 1916, and of the number hanged, 1 had been sentenced in 1914. Six convicts were deported to the Andamans for life.

There were 8 escapes and 3 recaptures during the year.

The total number of deaths in jail was 232, as against 75 in 1914; and the death-rate per 1,000 of the prisons population was 8·63, as against 4·38 in 1914 and 6·77 in 1913. The daily average of sick was 167·98, as against 80·51 in 1914 and 92·93 in 1913.

The number of punishments inflicted during the year for prison offences was 1,422, as against 885 in 1914 and 1,272 in 1913. There were 34 cases of corporal punishments, as against 19 in 1913.

Prisoners, whenever possible, are employed on public works of utility and remunerative industrial labours. At Welikada jail in Colombo and Bogambra prison in Kandy various trades are taught, such as carpentry, blacksmiths' and tinsmiths' work, boot making, cane furniture, coir mats, rugs, brooms, coal bags and string, tailoring, laundry work, bookbinding, and printing. An average of 250 prisoners is daily employed in the Government Printing Office, Colombo.

The articles manufactured are supplied to Government Departments free of charge. The demand for articles made from coir fibres and strings is great from all Government Departments since the abolition of inter-departmental payments.

The carpenters in Welikada prison have all been busily employed since August last on making the whole of the furniture required for the new Agricultural School at Peradeniya, the wood for this purpose being obtained from the Government Forest Department.

Owing to the riots it was found necessary to increase the accommodation at Mahara. This was done by utilizing the portable prison from Mankulam, and turning the meal sheds into wards for prisoners. Since July last a daily average of 1,080 prisoners has been employed there on account of the Harbour and Public Works Departments, turning out metal, rubble, and granite setts.

Similarly, additional accommodation was provided at Jaffna by the erection of a temporary prison on the Karaiur reclamation, the majority of the rioters being sent there. By this means over 1,200 prisoners have been found daily work of a remunerative nature. To obtain still further accommodation, it was decided to reopen the old jails at Ratnapura and Hambantota. At Ratnapura 100 prisoners are employed on railway extension works, while at Hambantota 250 will be employed on the salt lewayas.

At Galle, Chilaw, Anuradhapura, and Tangalla stone and metal are supplied to the Railway and Public Works Departments. Chilaw has, in addition, a party of prisoners daily employed on reclamation work on behalf of the Local Board.

At Badulla prisoners are employed on metal breaking for the Public Works Department and Local Board, with a small party on works of improvement.

The convalescents at Negombo are employed in basket making and twisting coir string, while at Batticaloa the prisoners are employed at husk beating and in improving the water supply of the town.

X.—VITAL STATISTICS.

Population.

Estimated on the basis of the Census of 1911, the population (exclusive of the military and shipping) at the end of 1915 was about 4,424,300, an increase of nearly 107,600 on that of the previous year, due to an excess of about 51,100 births over deaths and 56,500 arrivals over departures of Indian coolies. Thus, in population, Ceylon approximates to Bulgaria, Ireland, Scotland, and Switzerland among the countries of Europe.

The population comprised the various nationalities shown below :—

Nationality.	Number.	Percentage of Total Population.
Sinhalese	2,846,400	64·3
Tamils (indigenous)	612,100	13·9
Tamils (immigrants and their descendants)	628,300	14·2
Moors	271,600	6·2
Burghers	28,000	·6
Malays	13,600	·3
Europeans	7,500*	·2
Others	16,800	·4

* Exclusive of the Europeans who left the Island for military purposes.

There are 113 males to every 100 females in the population of Ceylon, while in England and Wales the proportions are reversed, with only 94 males to every 100 females.

Marriages.

The marriages registered during the year corresponded to a rate of 14·4 persons married per 1,000 of the population at all ages, showing an increase of 2·6 on that of the previous year and of 3·1 on the average for the past ten years. This rate compares not unfavourably with that in the United Kingdom, where the average is 14·7.

Births.

The birth-rate was 37·0 per mille, and was ·9 below the rate in the preceding year and ·2 less than the average. The proportion of births to population in Ceylon is similar to that prevailing in other tropical countries, but is considerably higher than the rate (about 26) in England and Wales, whilst being nearly double the rate in France. There were 105 male to every 100 female births, almost like the English rate.

DEATHS.

The death-rate was 25·0 per 1,000 of the population, and was 5·8 below the average, and 7·2 below the rate in the previous year. This rate was the lowest on record since 1898, when improved registration began, with the exception of the rate in 1904, when it was only ·1 less. The average death-rate of Ceylon is generally much lower than that prevailing in the Straits Settlements; it is almost identical with the rates which obtain in Bombay Presidency, Bengal, and British Guiana; but the mortality exceeds that of Madras and Jamaica, whilst it is more than double the average annual mortality in England and Wales, and almost three times the rate in the Australian Commonwealth and New Zealand.

The tea, rubber, and cacao estates at the end of the year contained a population of about 695,271, mostly of Tamil immigrants from Southern India. The estate death-rate was 32·3, against an average of 35·4, and ranged from 20·8 in Kegalla to 54·8 in Matara.

The urban death-rate was 28·0 per mille, against 30·5 in the preceding year and 29·9 the average for the preceding six years. The rate ranged from 8·5 in Nuwara Eliya to 50·4 in Anuradhapura and 50·1 in Mullaittivu. Excluding Nuwara Eliya—the rate for which is obviously flattering, as it is calculated on the population estimated on the Census taken at the height of the Nuwara Eliya season—the healthiest town was, as usual, Kegalla, with a rate of 15·0.

Infantile Mortality.

171 infants under 1 year died to every 1,000 born, against an average of 195. This rate is the lowest recorded during the preceding decennium, though still considerably higher than the rate (121) in England and Wales.

The estate infantile mortality rate was 212 per 1,000 births, and the urban 237.

Causes of Deaths in the Island.

The proportion of deaths in the general community from certain principal causes to a million of the estimated population was as follows:—Infantile convulsions, 2,596; diarrhœa, 2,465; bronchitis and pneumonia, 1,146; phthisis and other forms of tuberculosis, 952; dysentery, 774; anchylostomiasis, 468; malaria and malarial cachexia, 390; premature birth and congenital defects, 307; cancer, 92; enteric fever, 88; and smallpox, 35.

Plague, which broke out in 1914 for the first time in the history of Ceylon, is still continuing, though the victims claimed in the year under review are very much less—about a third of the number in 1914.

108 deaths per million were due to accidental drowning, 80 to falls from trees, and 53 to snake-bite.

202 deaths resulted from suicide, and corresponded to a rate of 46 per million persons living—about half the rate in England and Wales.

342 deaths were attributed to homicide, against an average of 181. This corresponded to a rate of 77 per million—the highest ever recorded in Ceylon—and was due to the riots in June. The number of executions, too, rose to 76, from an average of 29, owing to the same cause.

Causes of Deaths in the Estates.

The chief causes of mortality on the estates were debility under three months of age, 3,355 per million of the estate population; debility over three months, 1,458; diarrhœa, 3,292; dysentery, 2,738; bronchitis and pneumonia, 2,696; anchylostomiasis, 2,574; infantile convulsions, 1,921; premature birth and congenital defects, 564; malaria and malarial cachexia, 510; and phthisis, 409.

Causes of Deaths in the Towns.

In the 33 towns in the Island (inclusive of Colombo), of the total number of deaths, pneumonia accounted for 2,986 per million of the population, phthisis and other tubercular diseases for 2,447, infantile convulsions for 2,378, diarrhœa for 2,105, malaria and malarial cachexia for 2,032, dysentery for 1,610, anchylostomiasis for 1,211, enteritis for 1,009, bronchitis for 620, enteric fever for 534, smallpox for 217, and cancer for 142.

Plague in Colombo.

There was a great improvement as regards the incidence of plague in Colombo during 1915 compared with 1914, the total number of cases reported being only 139, as against 413 during the previous year. On the other hand, and contrary to expectations, there was no diminution in the virulence of the disease, the total case mortality being 92 per cent., as in the previous year.

The following are the chief statistical data for the two years :—

	1914.	1915.
Total cases	413 ..	139
Total deaths	381 ..	128
Septicæmic cases	247 ..	81
Septicæmic deaths	246 ..	80
Bubonic cases	166 ..	58
Bubonic deaths	135 ..	48
Total case mortality per cent. ..	92 ..	92
Septicæmic mortality per cent.* ..	99·6 ..	98·7
Bubonic mortality per cent. ..	81·3 ..	82·7

* The septicæmic figures for each year include one recovery, in which the diagnosis of plague was not confirmed bacteriologically. If these are excluded, the septicæmic case mortality was 100 per cent. each year.

The following table shows the monthly incidence of cases during each year :—

	1914.	1915.
January	4 ..	19
February	67 ..	6
March	58 ..	3
April	28 ..	3
May	29 ..	3
June	49 ..	1
July	47 ..	5
August	40 ..	20
September	18 ..	21
October	23 ..	24
November	24 ..	10
December	26 ..	24
Total ..	413	139
Monthly Mean ..	34	11·5

As in the previous year, the largest number of cases occurred amongst young adults, males being attacked much more frequently than females.

During 1915, as was also the case in 1914, the chief focus of infection as regards both rat and human plague was situated in the Sea street area. During 1914 there were, in addition to the Sea street centre, three other outbreaks, viz., in Union lane, Symonds road, and San Sebastian areas. During 1915, on the other hand, none of these areas suffered, except for a few sporadic cases in San Sebastian. It may be said, in fact, that during 1915 there was only one endemic centre, viz., the Sea street area, all the other cases in the town being sporadic.

The comparative absence of the usual signs of an epizootic amongst the rats, which was such a striking feature of the 1914 experience, was repeated in 1915.

In like manner, the extraordinary precision with which the disease selected, and in fact was, so far as the people are concerned, confined to the most insanitary quarters of the town, was observed in 1915 also.

With a view to limiting the danger associated with insanitary rat-infested wholesale grain stores situated in the heart of the town and surrounded by dwellings, the Government took steps to erect a series of rat-proof rice stores in the Racquet Court (the Chalmers' granaries), which are under official control. The transport of rice from the private godowns in the town to estates up-country was at the same time forbidden, unless it was previously exposed for two hours in the sun.

The same preventive measures as hitherto were carried out, reliance being placed chiefly upon isolation of patients, segregation of contacts, evacuation of insanitary tenements in infected localities pending the carrying out of structural improvements, pesterining of infected houses, capture and destruction of rats, including the fumigation of rat runs by Clayton machine. Inoculation with anti-plague vaccine has not become a popular measure, and very few people have undergone the operation.

Rat Catching.

	1914.	1915.
Number of rats trapped and found dead	142,015	147,198
Number of poison baits placed	2,298,035	3,913,944
Number of poison baits eaten or removed by rats	427,362	734,697
Number of rats sent to Municipal Bacteriologist	17,163	23,187
Number of rats found infected	250	57

CLIMATE.

General Remarks.—There is a marked variation in climate between the different parts of Ceylon. In the low-country, with a mean temperature of the order of 80° F., a noticeable feature is the small range of both temperature and pressure; there is, however, wide divergence between the moist conditions in the south-west of the Island, where the average annual rainfall varies from 100 to 200 inches, and the dry zone areas of the north, north-west, and south-east.

Inland, with altitudes reaching 8,000 feet, the temperature is cooler, and shows a bigger range ; there is a corresponding change in vegetation, and the conditions are altogether more akin to those in the temperate zone.

Rainfall.—The highest annual rainfall registered was at "Carney estate," Ratnapura, which had a total of 266·82 inches and 212 days on which rain fell. The lowest annual rainfall was at Mantota, in Mannar, which had a total of 25·85 inches in 39 days. The stations with the highest and lowest average annual rainfall are, respectively, Padupola with 220·25 inches in 202 days, and Marichchukkaddi with 33·03 inches in 56 days. The longest drought occurred at Kalpitiya, lasting for 85 days, June 27 to September 19. The longest wet period occurred at Padupola estate, near Dikoya, lasting for 47 days, April 11 to May 27.

The annual rainfall at Colombo (Cinnamon Gardens) was 96·81 inches in 192 days. At Kandy 91·33 inches were registered in 193 days, while the annual rainfall at Nuwara Eliya was 91·88 inches in 206 days. On the whole, the annual rainfall was much in excess of that of the average in the south-west, in slight excess up-country, and in deficit elsewhere.

Temperature.—The station showing the highest mean shade temperature for the year was Trincomalee with 84·4° F., and the lowest Nuwara Eliya with 60·7° F. The figures for Colombo and Kandy were 81·0° F. and 77·1° F., respectively.

The highest shade temperature recorded during the year was 101·6° F. at Trincomalee on May 25. The highest on record is 103·7° F. at Trincomalee on May 12, 1890. The highest shade temperature at Colombo in 1915 was 97·2° F. on February 23.

The mean daily range, *i.e.*, the difference between the mean of the maximum and the mean of the minimum, was highest at Nuwara Eliya (19·1° F.) and lowest at Galle (8·0° F.). At Colombo and Kandy it was 12·0° F. and 14·9° F., respectively. The absolute range for the year, *i.e.*, the difference between the highest and the lowest readings actually recorded, was greatest at Nuwara Eliya (44·3° F.) and least at Galle (21·1° F.).

XI.—POSTAL SERVICE.

Eight new post offices and 6 new receiving offices were opened during 1915. Fourteen post offices were converted into combined post and telegraph offices, and 11 receiving offices were closed. The total number of post and receiving offices now is 508, of which 181 are also telegraph offices.

The number of articles, exclusive of parcels, which passed through the post in 1915 is estimated at 46⅓ millions, as against 49⅓ millions in 1914 and 46¼ millions in 1913. The number of parcels dealt with was 717,817, an increase of 12,158 over the figures of the previous year. Of these, 36,825 were to or from the United Kingdom.

There has been a decrease in the number of telegrams dealt with, as will be seen by the following figures :—

	1914.	1915.
Inland	1,028,846 ..	971,620
Indian	236,613 ..	225,625
Other countries	114,736 ..	110,357

In 1913 the number of inland telegrams was 916,578.

Mail Services.—A contract was entered into for a motor mail service between Polgahawela and Kegalla.

The motor mail route from Matara to Hambantota was diverted at Dikwella from the main road to the Dikwella-Beliatta-Tangalla road, and the runner service between Tangalla and Beliatta was discontinued.

Parcels Services.—An agreement was entered into for a direct exchange of parcels between Ceylon and Mozambique (Portuguese East Africa) in place of the service *viâ* India, but has been suspended for want of suitable communications owing to the war.

The parcel post rates for New Zealand were increased from Re. 1·50, Rs. 2·25, and Rs. 3 to Rs. 2, Rs. 3, and Rs. 3·75, to cover the more expeditious overland transit in Australia.

The rates to Sweden were reduced from Rs. 2·25, Rs. 3, and Rs. 3·75 to Re. 1·35, Rs. 2·35, and Rs. 3·35.

Stamps.—Rolls of 500 postage stamps of 2 and 5 cents denominations, suitable for inserting in stamp-affixing machines, were introduced during the year, and were sold at the face value.

Telegrams.—Arrangements were made for acceptance of special week-end letter telegrams at quarter rates, without a minimum number of words, for transmission to soldiers, sailors, and nurses serving with His Majesty's Forces in the United Kingdom, France, Belgium, Egypt, Gibraltar, Malta, the Persian Gulf, and all British possessions outside of Europe (except Hong Kong) where such Forces were employed.

A service of free telegraphic inquiries regarding officially reported sick or wounded members of His Majesty's Forces serving in the countries above named (as well as Gibraltar and Malta) was also introduced.

Telephones.—The main trunk line was duplicated between Colombo and Polgahawela and Kandy and Gampola. A trunk line between Kalutara Government Exchange and Neboda Planters' Exchange was completed, and also one between Colombo and Negombo. The Panadure-Bandaragama-Horana-Ingiriya telephone-telegraph circuit was completed during the year.

Call offices were opened at the following places :—Law Courts (Colombo), Kelaniya, Gampola, Negombo, Polgahawela, Ambalangoda, Mutwal.

Junction lines were constructed by the Department between private exchanges : (1) Galaha to Hewaheta, (2) Kandapola to Ragalla.

Two licenses for planters' telephone exchanges were granted during the year : (1) Maturata, (2) Deniyaya.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

Public Works Department.

The total expenditure of the Public Works Department has increased from Rs. 3,437,862 in 1896 to Rs. 8,044,211 in 1915, the latter figure showing a decrease of Rs. 6,623,756 below 1914. The average annual expenditure during the past twenty years is Rs. 5,642,110.

The total length of roads maintained by the Public Works Department during the year was 4,014 miles, of which 3,802 miles are cart roads and 212 miles are bridle roads.

Among the more important works which have been completed or were in course of construction may be mentioned the following :—Bungalows for Government officers stationed in Colombo ; erection of grain sheds, Colombo ; Colombo Lake Development project ; Colombo Customs quay wall and jetties ; extension to Custom-house; quarters and office for District Engineer, Panadure ; quarters for Assistant Superintendent of Police, Kalutara ; police station and barracks, Panadure ; quarters for District Engineer, Kalutara ; residence for Colonial Secretary, Nuwara Eliya ; Post Office, Nanu-oya ; District Judge's quarters and Government bungalow, Hatton; married quarters for police, Gampola ; quay wall and export shed, Galle Customs ; additional jetty, Galle Customs ; quarters for Police Magistrate, Matara ; reconstruction of Kananke bridge; Government buildings, Talaimannar ; Police Office and quarters for Sub-Inspector, Jaffna ; Post Office, Jaffna Kachcheri ; Leper Asylum, Eastern Province ; Batticaloa waterworks ; officers' quarters, Batticaloa prison ; additions to police barracks, Batticaloa ; residence for Provincial Surgeon, Kurunegala ; police barracks, Kurunegala ; quarters for Public Works Department clerks, Kurunegala ; Public Works Department buildings, Maho ; administration block, Marawila hospital ; clerks' quarters, Anuradhapura ; quarters for jail guards and Sub-Inspector of Police, Badulla ; new resthouse, Ratnapura ; new office for Provincial Surgeon, Sabaragamuwa ; quarters for police at Avissawella ; additions to hospitals at Matale, Kegalla, Kolonna, Lunugala, and Dambulla ; new hospitals at Pimbura, Passara, Alutnuwara, Kitulgala, and Kahawatta ; and various roads and bridges.

Irrigation.

The total expenditure of the Irrigation Department for the financial year 1914–15 was Rs. 792,661.

The schemes under construction were Karachchi, Unnichchai, Pattipola-aar, Kirinde-oya right bank, and Tabbowa. Work on the last-named scheme was closed down temporarily at the end of the financial year.

Surveys were made in connection with the following schemes :—Kirinde-oya right bank, Walawe left bank, Nalanda-oya, Karachchi, Unnichchai, Pattipola-aar, Batticaloa flood prevention, Kantalai, Allai, and Nachchaduwa.

The area irrigated and paying rate under the Crown works is 123,710 acres ; in addition, there is a large area irrigated free. A considerable area of irrigable land is ready for development.

Survey.

During the year under review a considerable reduction in the staff and expenditure was effected owing to the war.

25,930 acres of block surveys and 129,727 acres of " topographical surveys with block survey insets for settlement purposes " were surveyed.

The number of block survey preliminary plans issued was 176, containing 6,867 lots, covering an area of 58,474 acres. The number of topographical preliminary plans issued with block survey insets for settlement purposes was 4, containing 121 lots, covering an area of 111,593 acres.

The total areas now covered by block survey and by " topographical surveys with block survey insets for settlement purposes " are 2,059,414 acres and 1,015,668 acres respectively, making a total area of 3,075,082 acres issued for settlement.

175 final village plans for 68,026 acres in 3,337 lots were issued to the Government Agents and the Assistant Government Agents during the year. The total area covered by final village plans in the hands of the Government Agents and their Assistants now stands at 645,579 acres contained in 22,528 lots, or 1,579 final village plans.

1,274 preliminary plans for 22,010 acres in 5,267 lots were forwarded to the Government Agents and the Assistant Government Agents. Fifty-five railway settlement survey plans for 758 acres in 1,559 lots were forwarded to the Settlement Officer.

There have been 21 applications to purchase Crown lands for rubber cultivation dealt with during the period, totalling 808 acres. Most of them lie in the Western and Central Provinces.

Surveys have been continued in connection with the Bandarawela-Badulla railway extensions.

Railway Department.

Open Line.

The length of the line open for traffic on September 30, 1915, was 692⅝ miles, as against 672 miles in the preceding year. The increase is due to the opening of a section of the line to Chilaw on June 1, 1915.

The revenue for the year, exclusive of a sum of Rs. 745,682, being the value of work done for other Government Departments, is Rs. 15,693,563, but for purposes of comparison with previous years the total revenue is taken as Rs. 16,439,245. This figure compared with 1913–14 shows a decrease of Rs. 96,046, made up of a decrease of Rs. 445,754 under the head of " Coaching," and increases of Rs. 330,121 and Rs. 19,587 under the heads of " Goods and Live Stock " and "Miscellaneous," respectively.

The number of passengers conveyed during the year has considerably fallen off, the decrease being 1,351,507 passengers. As regards goods traffic, the total tonnage of all classes of goods, including foreign traffic, shows an increase of 43,721 tons. The most noticeable increases are under the head of rubber 5,013 tons, tea 15,552 tons, coconut produce 3,893 tons, tea and rubber packing 5,917 tons. The working expenses, including a sum of Rs. 27,295 expended on maintenance works, amount to Rs. 8,087,156.

The result of the year's working is as follows :—

	Rs.
Receipts	15,693,563
Working expenses	8,087,156
Balance..	7,606,407

Of this profit on working, a sum of Rs. 1,458,626 was expended on improvements, and a further sum of Rs. 193,187 on new works and rolling stock. During the year 18 passenger and 186 new goods vehicles, including a number of tank wagons, were put into traffic. The total capital cost to September 30, 1915, including additional accommodation and improvements, amounts to Rs. 125,735,236, and capital outstanding on railway loans to Rs. 56,072,776.

Railway Extensions.

The work on the Chilaw line during 1915 was approaching completion, and on June 1 the railway up to Kochchikade was opened for all descriptions of traffic, and the stations at Nattandiya and Madampe were opened for goods traffic only.

Steady progress was made with the Pelmadulla and Badulla Extensions, especially on the sections between Ratnapura and Dela and between Bandarawela and Ella.

Work is in progress on the Colombo Stations Extensions, and during the year a large broad gauge goods shed and connecting sidings were brought into use by the open line of railway. Earthwork is in hand on the Main line duplication between Ragama and Veyangoda.

In December, 1915, the survey of the line from Chilaw to Puttalam was commenced, and the survey connecting the harbour line with the railway *viâ* Mutwal was completed.

Drainage Works.

The drainage of Colombo has been undertaken by Government at the request of the Municipal Council, the necessary funds being advanced by Government on loan, while further assistance is being given by the contribution of a part of the expenditure as a free grant.

The scheme provides for a complete system of sewers and rain-water drains throughout the city, and for the disposal of the sewage by bacterial treatment upon modern lines.

At the end of 1915 115 miles of sewers and rain-water drains had been laid, and 5 pumping stations brought into regular operation.

The City Sanitation Engineer's report for December showed that 24 public water-carriage latrines had been constructed and put into use, and that 884 other premises had been drained.

XIII.—EXCISE.

No change of any radical nature was introduced during the year under review. The policy inaugurated in previous years of sternly repressing illicit practices and supervising licensed premises more closely than before was pursued in 1915.

The strength of the sanctioned staff was practically the same as in the previous year, viz., 1 Excise Commissioner, 1 Deputy Commissioner of Excise, 1 Excise Adviser, 4 Assistant Commissioners of Excise, 1 Superintendent of Excise, 14 Assistant Superintendents of Excise, 100 Inspectors, 223 Peons.

The Acting Excise Commissioner continued throughout 1915 to perform the duties of Deputy Commissioner of Excise in addition to his own.

Mr. E. H. J. Eames, lately Excise Adviser to the Ceylon Government, who was lent by the Government of India, returned to India at the end of June on the expiry of his term. He was succeeded by Mr. E. C. Ward, also of the Madras Salt and Abkari Department.

The work of the staff in the detection of offences against the Excise law has been satisfactory. In 1915 2,575 cases were decided in the courts, resulting in fines amounting to Rs. 121,268·47, besides other punishments, such as imprisonment. Moreover, some cases were settled departmentally by recovery of " composition fees " ; these fees amounted in 1915 to Rs. 21,509·55.

The financial results as evidenced by the sale of arrack and toddy rents and by the fees recovered on foreign liquor licenses were satisfactory, though the war affected some rents. Various remissions were allowed, because the renters at the time of bidding for the rents could not anticipate the war in which the Empire is now involved. The war has caused a fall in consumption of liquor generally.

Some 247 licenses were issued in 1915, as against 256 in 1914, for the working of distilleries.

Efforts have been made, with very considerable success, towards the detection, punishment, and suppression of illicit practices at and in connection with these distilleries.

As is well known, the large number of these distilleries, and the fact that they are scattered along a section of coast about 100 miles in length, make adequate supervision practically impossible under existing circumstances.

Government has approved the establishment of a distillery for distillation of non-potable alcohol by private enterprise. Two inspectors have been sent to India for a short course of training in distillery work. They will be appointed to supervise the distillery on their return.

New forms of passes and licenses have been prescribed for the import, transport, and sale of cocaine, and trade in cocaine is now to be brought under close supervision. It is recognized that timely efforts should be made for preventing the spread of the cocaine habit in Ceylon.

E. SUETER,
Third Assistant Colonial Secretary.

April, 1916.

H. C. COTTLE, GOVERNMENT PRINTER, COLOMBO, CEYLON.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No	Colony, &c.	Year.
869	British Solomon Islands	1914–1915
870	Tongan Islands Protectorate	,,
871	Barbados	,,
872	Falkland Islands	1914
873	Uganda	1914–1915
874	British Guiana	,,
875	Mauritius	1914
876	Leeward Islands	1914–1915
877	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
878	Nigeria	1914
879	Cayman Islands	1914–1915
880	St. Lucia	,,
881	East Africa Protectorate	,,
882	Imperial Institute	1914
883	Nyasaland	1914–1915
884	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	,,
885	Weihaiwei	1915
886	Zanzibar	,,
887	Fiji	,,
888	Sierra Leone	,,
889	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
890	Gambia	,,
891	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
892	Hong Kong	,,
893	Ashanti	,,
894	Gold Coast	,,
895	Malta	1915–1916
896	St. Helena	1915
897	Seychelles	,,
898	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1915–1916
899	Gibraltar	1915
900	Bahamas	1915–1916
901	Swaziland	,,
902	Somaliland	1915–1916
903	Cyprus	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8 and 1908–9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.

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COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 934.

CEYLON.

REPORT FOR 1916.

(For Report for 1915 see No. 904.)

Presented to Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

October, 1917.

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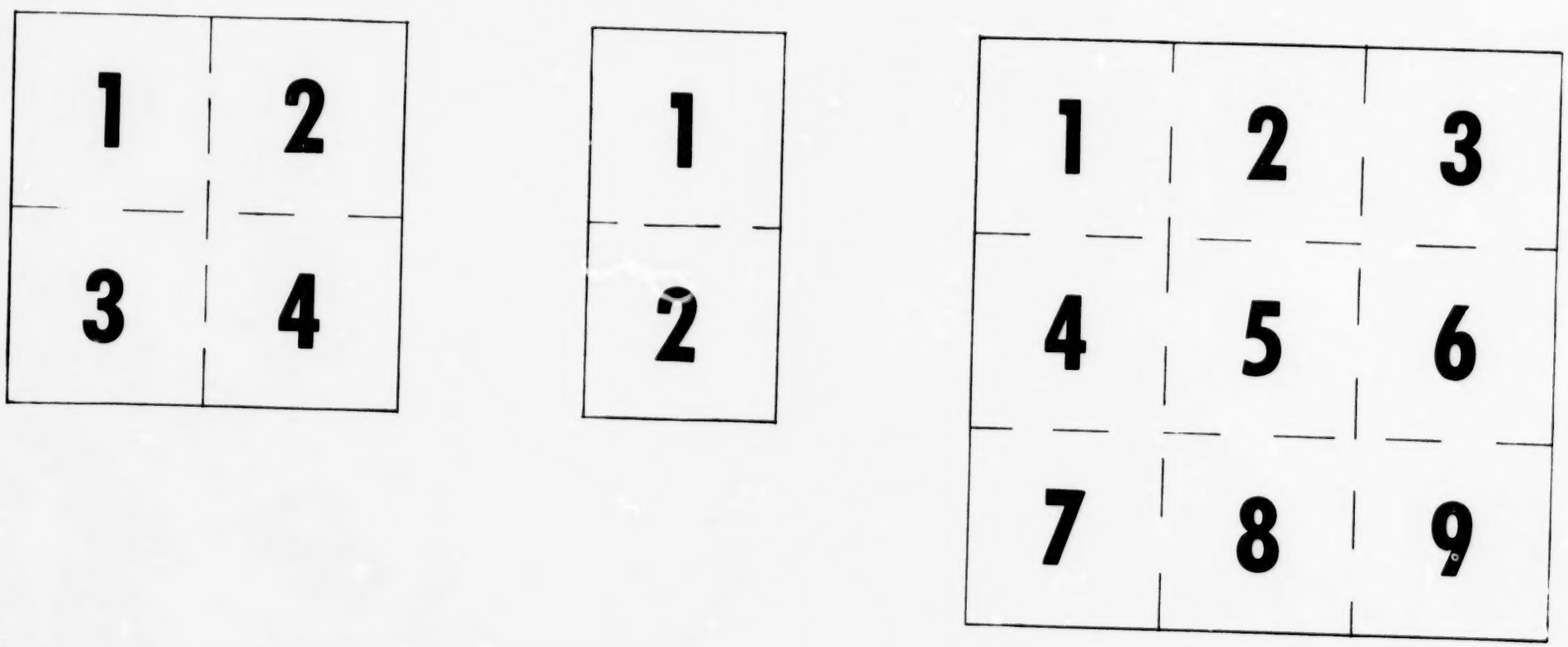

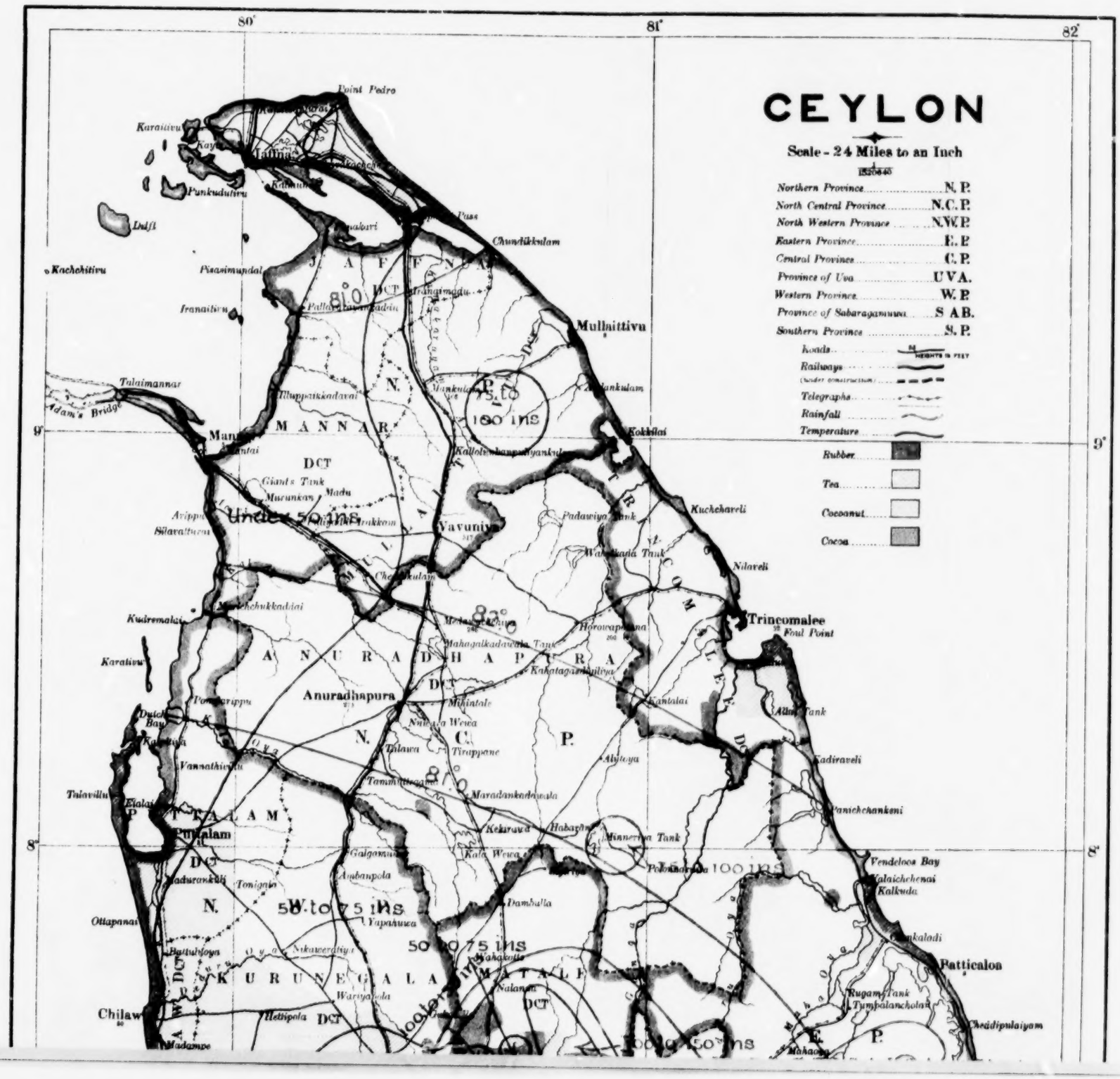
CEYLON
Scale - 24 Miles to an Inch
Northern Province N. P.
North Central Province N.C.P.
North Western Province N.W.P.
Eastern Province E. P.
Central Province C. P.
Province of Uva UVA.
Western Province W. P.
Province of Sabaragamuwa S AB.
Southern Province S. P.
Roads
Railways
Telegraphs
Rainfall
Temperature
Rubber
Tea
Cocoanut
Cocoa
80°
81°
82°
9°
8°
Point Pedro
Karaitivu
Jaffna
Punkudutivu
Delft
Kachchitivu
Pasimundal
Iranaitivu
Chundikkulam
Mullaittivu
Talaimannar
Adam's Bridge
Mannar
Giant's Tank
Madu
Vavuniya
Kuchchaveli
Nilaveli
Trincomalee
Foul Point
Kudremalai
Karativu
Anuradhapura
Dutch Bay
Kalpitiya
Vanathiviu
Thalaivillu
Puttalam
Ottapanai
Chilaw
Madampe
Batticaloa
Vendeloos Bay
Kalkuda
Kadiraveli
Kokkilai
Kankesanturai
Galgamuwa
Ambanpola
Dambulla
Kurunegala
Yapahuwa
Tonigala
Hettipola
Wariyapola
Nalanda
Mahaoya
Rugam Tank
Tumpalanchola
Cheddipulaiyam
Under 50 ins
50 to 75 ins
75 to 100 ins
100 ins
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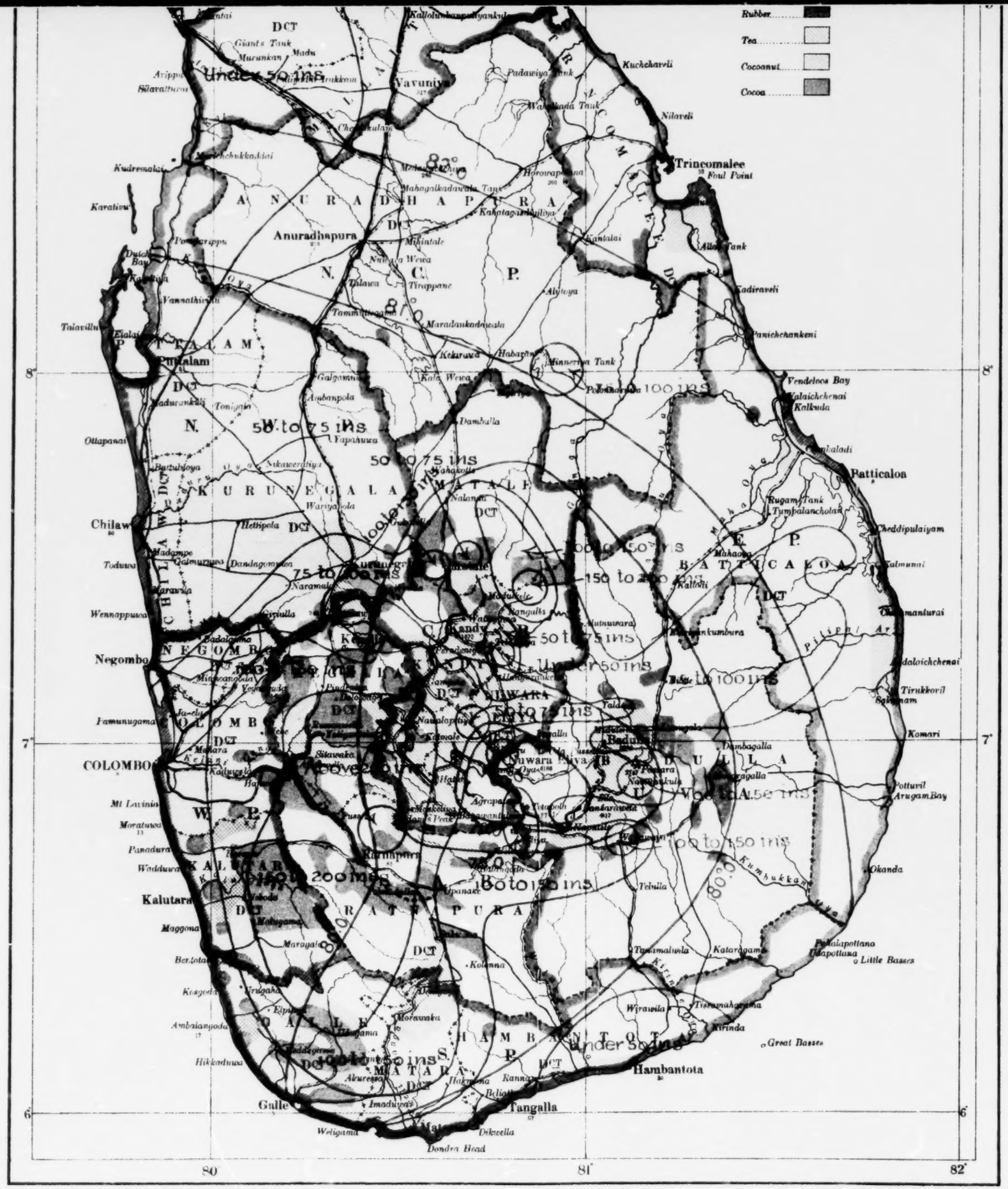

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REPORT ON THE CEYLON BLUE BOOK FOR 1916.

I.—GENERAL.

THE Colony was administered by Mr. R. E. Stubbs, C.M.G., until April 15, on which date Sir John Anderson, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., arrived and assumed duties as Governor.

Mr. Anton Bertram, K.C., Attorney-General, received the honour of Knighthood, and the Companionship of the Most Distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George was conferred on Mr. Bernard Senior, I.S.O., Colonial Treasurer, and on Brigadier-General H. H. L. Malcolm, C.B., D.S.O., who had been Officer Commanding the Troops in Ceylon from 1913 to 1915.

The Imperial Service Order was conferred on Mr. W. C. Macready, Assistant Postmaster-General.

The following retired from the Public Service during the year :—Mr. J. Harward, Director of Education ; Mr. R. N. Lyne, Director of Agriculture ; Mr. D. S. Corlett, Superintendent of the Experimental Station, Peradeniya ; Mr. G. W. Waddell, Deputy Director of Public Works (proceeded on leave preparatory to retirement); Mr. W. C. Macready, Assistant Postmaster-General ; Mr. F. Booth, Chief Irrigation Inspector ; Mr. T. C. Campbell, of the Pilot Service ; and Mr. W. A. Taylor, Colonial Storekeeper.

The deaths of the following are recorded with regret :—Mr. E. B. F. Sueter, Third Assistant Colonial Secretary, by drowning; Second Lieutenant A. H. Pinder, of the Ceylon Civil Service (on active service); Mr. A. H. Clark, retired Assistant Conservator of Forests; Mr. W. G. Martin, retired Assistant Superintendent of Prisons ; Sir Cecil Clementi Smith, K.C.M.G., formerly Colonial Secretary ; Mr. R. B. Strickland, late Assistant Director of Education ; Mr. G. W. Templer, formerly Government Agent of the Eastern Province ; Mr. H. Thwaites, formerly Registrar of the Supreme Court ; Mr. G. H. Withers, retired Puisne Judge ; Mr. W. A. Taylor, Colonial Storekeeper ; and the Hon. Mr. J. N. Campbell, formerly European Member of the Legislative Council.

Mr. C. W. van der Wall was elected to represent the Burgher community in the Legislative Council, in succession to the late Sir Hector van Cuylenburg.

The constitution of the Legislative Council was altered with respect to the number of Official Members who hold their seats *ex officio*. These were reduced to five, the remaining Official Members being such six other persons holding office in the Island as the Governor may from time to time appoint.

Commissions were appointed during the year for the following purposes :—

(1) To inquire into and report upon what measures are desirable to encourage such industries (other than agricultural) as exist in this Island, and to promote the establishment of new industries.

(2) To consider the arrangements for the manufacture and sale of spirits in the Colony.

(3) To inquire into and report upon the existing provision for, and machinery of, local government in the rural areas of the Island in regard to matters of sanitation, education, and communications, and to advise as to what steps it is desirable to take for their improvement.

(4) To inquire into and report with regard to certain questions of Kandyan law.

(5) To inquire into and report upon the circumstances connected with the shooting of certain persons during the riots of 1915.

Committees were appointed for the following purposes :—

(1) To consider (*a*) whether it is desirable that a system of compulsory training for British-born Europeans should be established in Ceylon ; and (*b*) if so, what should be the general outlines of such a system.

(2) To consider the terms and conditions on which land should in future be leased for agricultural purposes.

(3) To consider and report on the general question of the cultivation of paddy and other agricultural food products in the tank districts of the Island.

Despite the continuance of the war, the condition of the Island has remained, on the whole, prosperous during 1916. The partial failure of two successive north-east monsoons has, however, led to a shortage of paddy and to restriction of paddy cultivation in parts of the North-Central, North-Western, and Eastern Provinces.

The prices of food stuffs and of imported articles have risen owing to the war.

The prices of coconuts and of the products of the coconut palm have continued low. Restricted freight and the restrictions on exports have checked the demand for these products. The exports of coconut oil and coir yarn show a notable decrease compared with the figures for 1915. In Colombo a number of fibre and desiccating mills were closed down during the year. In spite, however, of low prices and partial stagnation of the industries depending on the coconut, a fair amount of new plantation has been done, a fact which indicates the large profits obtainable from coconut growing. In the Kurunegala District the area under coconuts was increased by as much as 15,000 acres during 1916.

The stagnation in the coconut industries has been largely counterbalanced by the flourishing condition of the plumbago industry. The price of plumbago reached a record figure during the year, and the great demand for this product gave employment to many low-country people. In the Galle District alone no less than 3,087 declarations of intention to prospect for plumbago were received during the year.

The planting of rubber is being increasingly undertaken by native landowners ; and a certain amount of land formerly cultivated for paddy has been planted in rubber.

No serious outbreaks of epidemic disease occurred during the year, except plague in Colombo, particulars of which are given under a separate heading.

The statistics show a certain decrease in serious crime throughout the Island as compared with 1915, even leaving out of account crimes connected with the riots of that year. It is probable, however, that the reaction from the riots of 1915 had not spent itself during the year under report ; moreover, police supervision is being continually improved and extended. It cannot yet be said with confidence that the advance of education has been attended by a diminution in crime.

A continued improvement in the standard of living and of comfort is reported from almost all districts of the Island, despite the rise in price of many of the articles and products which an improved standard demands.

Colombo and the neighbouring coast were visited by a severe storm on July 18, which resulted in the loss of 77 fishermen and of a number of fishing boats. Prompt measures were taken both by private persons and by the public authorities to alleviate the consequent distress.

The new railway extension from Negombo to Chilaw was opened by His Excellency Sir John Anderson on May 1.

The Anti-Tuberculosis Institute, which was erected in Colombo as a memorial to His late Majesty King Edward VII., was made available for public use.

The campaign against anchylostomiasis, which was started by the International Health Commission of America (Rockefeller Foundation), was continued within a certain area in the Matale and Kandy Districts, and, it is hoped, will shortly be extended to other planting districts. Rules have recently been framed enforcing the provision of adequate and sanitary latrine accommodation, an indispensable step towards the eradication of this very widespread disease. The results of the campaign have been very encouraging.

The co-operative credit movement made progress during the year. Fourteen new societies were registered, bringing the total to 68, and the total membership is now 6,488, an increase of 2,230 over the figure for 1915. The movement is still in the experimental stage, and comparatively few of the societies have as yet made any considerable use of the opportunities which co-operation affords.

Owing to the depressed market for cardamoms, the export duty on this product was repealed.

The Volunteer Force again bore a considerable share of the military duties connected with the defence of the port of Colombo. The total strength of the Force was very little less than in 1915, despite the number of men who left the Island for war service. The efficiency of the Force has been maintained. Camps were held for the Ceylon Mounted Rifles, Ceylon Planters' Rifle Corps, Ceylon Light Infantry, and for a company of the Colombo Town Guard. Other corps were mobilized and performing active service duties.

A Motor Cyclist Corps was formed during the year, and a Volunteer Signalling Association was started, which is doing valuable work.

II.—FINANCIAL.

Revenue.

The revenue collected during the period October, 1915, to September, 1916, amounted to Rs. 66,013,010, showing an excess of Rs. 15,003,360 over the estimate, and an increase of Rs. 14,467,538 over the revenue of the previous financial year.

The principal sources which contributed to the increase were the Customs, Excise, and Railway. The new export duties levied from January 1, 1916, brought in a revenue of Rs. 6,780,300. The increase also includes a sum of Rs. 1,425,000 realized by the sale of the dredger " Sir William Matthews " and brought to account under " Miscellaneous Receipts."

Expenditure.

The expenditure for 1915–16 was estimated at Rs. 54,679,216, but the amount actually spent was Rs. 56,104,514, which shows an increase of Rs. 5,956,513 over the expenditure of 1914–15. The increase is chiefly due to the Ceylon war contribution to the Imperial Government and the additional Government grant to the Colombo Municipal Council for Drainage Works.

Assets and Liabilities.

The assets of the Colony on September 30, 1916, were Rs. 51,674,812, and the liabilities Rs. 16,577,608. The assets consist largely of advances to local bodies, and in particular to the Municipality of Colombo, the principal item among the liabilities being the Widows' and Orphans' Pension Fund.

Public Debt.

At the close of the financial period the public debt of the Colony stood at £5,656,751, or, approximately, one and a third times the annual revenue.

Of the loan of £3,436,854 authorized by Ordinance No. 6 of 1909 to meet the cost of the Colombo Harbour and Drainage Works, the Mannar Railway, and other public works, a sum of £1,500,000 was raised at 98½ in 1909–10 bearing interest at 3½ per cent., and a further sum of £1,000,000 was floated in 1914 at 99 bearing interest at 4 per cent. A balance (£25,872) of the latter loan has been carried forward to meet expenditure in 1916–17.

Currency.

On September 30, 1916, the value of currency notes in circulation was Rs. 27,885,000, and the currency reserve on that date consisted of Rs. 3,502,500 in gold, Rs. 9,221,200 in silver, and Rs. 15,161,300 in British, Colonial, and Indian investments.

Ceylon Savings Bank.

The Ceylon Savings Bank had a sum of Rs. 4,107,917 to the credit of 38,899 depositors on December 31, 1916, as against Rs. 4,115,634 to the credit of 38,827 depositors on December 31, 1915. The amount of the Bank's invested funds on December 31, 1916, was Rs. 4,653,885, which includes the reserve fund Rs. 686,634. Interest was allowed on deposits at the rate of 3 per cent. on sums of Rs. 1,000 and over and 4 per cent. on sums under Rs. 1,000.

III.—AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRIES.

Agriculture.

The Ceylon Agricultural Society.—This Society, started in 1904, has 920 local members and 530 foreign subscribers. The subscription payable by local members is Rs. 10 and by foreign subscribers Rs. 15 (£1) per annum.

The "Tropical Agriculturist," the Society's journal, is published monthly and issued free to members, in addition to an Agricultural Year Book published every other year.

The vernacular magazines, also issued monthly in Sinhalese and Tamil, are distributed free to members. Leaflets are published from time to time on special subjects.

Seeds and plants are procured for members at cost price; while periodically vegetable seeds are imported for each planting season. Grafted fruit plants from Australia and India required by members are also procured at cost price.

The Society employs nine agricultural instructors, who itinerate in the various Provinces and afford advice and instruction to native cultivators, who have every facility for securing information regarding control of plant diseases, crops, tillage, manuring, &c.

Seven demonstration gardens in different centres are being worked.

The advice and assistance of the scientific staff of the Department of Agriculture is freely available for members of the Society.

School of Tropical Agriculture.—The school was formally opened on January 15, 1916. In the daily programme the mornings are devoted to fieldwork, and the afternoons to classroom work. During tillage, sowing, and reaping operations, however, the whole day is spent in fieldwork; while at the termination of field operations, near the conclusion of the session, the whole day is given to revision classes.

The school staff consists of a Registrar and four agricultural teachers, who hold the Diploma of the Poona Agricultural College. These teachers carry out the groundwork in all subjects. The field demonstrations in horticulture and planting were in the charge of the Curator, Royal Botanic Gardens, and the

Manager, Experiment Station, Peradeniya, respectively. The members of the Scientific Division of the Department also gave special lectures. A special course of work, theoretical and practical, in tobacco cultivation was conducted in Jaffna. The number of students admitted during the year was 77.

Two hostels have been equipped for the residence of students under adequate supervision. In them 32 students were accommodated. As this was found insufficient, houses in the neighbourhood were recognized for residence of students; and these houses were regularly inspected. The health of the students was, on the whole, good.

The school has issued the first number of a magazine called "The Peradeniyan." It is hoped to make this the medium of all communications from students past and present. The school has, further, a debating society for the discussion of agricultural subjects.

Tea.—The area planted in tea is approximately 392,500 acres, and ranges from the tropical climate at sea level to the semi-tropical or temperate climate at 7,000 feet elevation. The estates are managed almost entirely by European managers, and worked with Tamil labour imported from Southern India.

The estates vary in size from 100 acres to about 2,500 acres, the average being about 400 acres, yielding an average outturn of 485 lb. of made tea per acre. Well-cultivated estates yield more heavily, an average of 600 to 800 lb. being frequent.

The year 1916 was, on the whole, favourable for tea, but in some districts the first two months of the year were exceedingly dry, and therefore there was a slight falling off in yields. Prices ruled high, and good profits were realized.

Considerable modifications were made in the manuring of tea during 1915 and 1916 owing to the impossibility of obtaining potash salts, which had been largely employed in manure mixtures for several years. The lack of potash has not so far affected crops, heavier liming and better cultivation having been carried out to utilize more fully the reserve potash in the soil.

The removal of tea from under rubber in the low-country continues, but other areas are being opened up on patana soils in the uplands.

The average prices are as follows :—

1914	..	..	..	46·35 cents per lb.
1915	..	..	..	56·79 cents per lb.
1916	..	..	..	51·79 cents per lb.

Rubber.—The output of rubber has again shown a considerable increase. Young plantations are coming into bearing, and older ones have shown increased yields through better cultivation and more careful tapping.

The area under Hevea rubber is now approximately 240,000 acres. There are some small plantings being carried out, but the lands most suited to rubber have already been planted. Some low-country tea is being interplanted with rubber with a view to removal of the tea at a later date, but, similarly, inferior up-country rubber is being replaced by tea.

Thinning operations are now general, and will probably induce conditions less favourable for the development of fungus diseases. A serious outbreak of pod disease and leaf-fall occurred in August, 1916, as a consequence of the continuance of heavy monsoon rains during that month, but steps are being taken by estate authorities to reduce disease to a minimum.

The greater part of Ceylon rubber is shipped as crêpe, though a certain amount of smoked sheet and biscuit is also made. Prices have been satisfactory during the year, the average price being Re. 1·79 per lb.

Cacao.—The cacao-growing area ranges from 500 to 1,800 feet above sea level, and is chiefly in the Kandy and Matale Districts. There are approximately 22,000 acres under cacao, mostly in the hands of European planters, but there is also a fair acreage of native gardens. Very few new plantations are being opened.

The failure of the north-east monsoon in the early part of the year affected the spring crop, and therefore the exports show a decided fall, below those of the previous year.

The average prices are as follows :—

1914	Rs. 37·76 per cwt.
1915	Rs. 37·48 per cwt.
1916	Rs. 38·57 per cwt.

Coconuts.—The coconut crop of 1916, owing to the well-distributed rainfall of the previous year, was higher than the crop of 1915, but the exports were somewhat less, owing to the considerable fall in prices during the latter part of the year and to shortage of freight.

There are now over 1,000,000 acres under coconuts in the Colony, and there have been considerable plantations during the past few years. During 1916 a fairly large area of new land was opened out under coconuts, the greater portion being on cinnamon soil.

Cinnamon.—During the year the cinnamon industry suffered very severely owing to low prices, and there was no market at all for the finer grades of quills. Consequently the whole crop of the year remains with the producers unsold.

Exports of ordinary grade cinnamon quills amounted to 2,176,970 lb., as against double the quantity in 1915. The prices obtained ranged from 25 to 30 cents per lb., which is more or less the cost of production.

The export of cinnamon chips (unquilled bark) was larger than in 1915, a large quantity of chips being available from areas which have been uprooted to make way for coconuts.

Cardamoms.—The export showed a considerable drop as compared with the previous year.

Citronella Oil.—There was a greater export of citronella oil, but the acreage under this grass remains stationary.

Vanilla.—An interest in this product is being re-awakened, and its cultivation has been begun upon several estates.

Native Products.—Normal conditions prevailed during the year. In some districts the drought at the beginning of the year resulted in a small (rice) paddy crop, but the shortage was not serious.

CATTLE.

Rinderpest.—Outbreaks occurred in six Provinces, and three remained free. The decrease recorded last year continued throughout 1916. The total number of cas s for the year was 856, against 1,493 last year.

Foot-and-mouth Disease.—Outbreaks occurred in six Provinces, and three remained free. The total number of cases, including Colombo town and quarantine station, was 284, against 2,366 last year.

Surra.—Four cases were detected in the Province of Uva. Two of the animals died, and two were shot.

Anthrax.—Twenty deaths occurred from this disease in three Provinces (Western, Central, and North-Central). The disease is very prevalent amongst goats and sheep imported from India, and 1,196 of these animals died at the quarantine station out of 76,820 imported.

Swine Disease.—The outbreak referred to in 1915 continued during the early part of the year in the Western and North-Western Provinces. Western Province: 254 cases; 254 animals died, of which 7 were shot. North-Western Province: 20 cases; 20 animals died, of which 3 were shot. The outbreak ended in July.

Salt.

The manufacture and collection of salt is a Government monopoly. Salt is sold to purchasers from all Government salt stores at Rs. 3 per cwt.; the amount realized by its sale in 1916 was Rs. 1,716,792·58, as compared with Rs. 1,800,856·22 in 1915 and Rs. 1,582,178·89 in 1914.

The year was not favourable for the production of salt, as wet weather interfered with the manufacture during the usual salt-producing season. There was, on the other hand, an unexpected collection of over 105,000 cwt. in the salt lewayas of Hambantota District during the first quarter of the year, in which period there are ordinarily no collections. There was no collection of natural salt in the lewayas of the Northern Province, except at Mattalan, in the Mullaittivu District, as the formations were dissolved by untimely rains. At Nilaveli, in the Trincomalee District, manufacture failed entirely, and the harvest at Puttalam, the largest salt centre, was not satisfactory. Though no restriction was placed on the output, the total yield for the Island amounted only to 298,799 cwt. The quantity secured in 1915 was 295,965 cwt. and in 1914 522,350 cwt. The best output was in 1910, when the total reached 759,396 cwt. In view of the shortage of stocks it will be necessary to import salt in 1917.

Sale of Crown Land.

The total extent of Crown land sold and settled (exclusive of settlements under the Waste Lands Ordinances) was 11,373 acres, as compared with 14,773 acres in 1915 and 27,471 acres in 1914.

The decrease in the acreage alienated is almost entirely due to the fact that sales of Crown land were in abeyance after the month of August, pending the introduction of a system of leasing. The demand for land does not appear to have decreased.

The Land Settlement Department settles title to land as between the Crown and the subject. During the year 1916 an area of about 208,817 acres has been settled. Almost all the claims were settled without recourse to litigation. The confidence of the people in the fairness of the settlements offered continues.

Mineral Survey.

The survey of the coast line in search of monazite sands has been completed. No additional deposits have been found. Newly found areas of sedimentary rocks in the north-west of the Island have been surveyed in the hope of discovering oil or coal-bearing beds, but with negative results. An investigation of the gem-bearing deposits of the Island has been begun with the objects (1) of discovering, if possible, an extension of the gemming belt; and (2) of discovering the source of the gems. The first part of the investigation has shown that the gemming belt ends somewhat abruptly at the south-east, as at the north end. The latter object is still being pursued.

Forests.

Re-afforestation.—During the year the area of plantations was increased from 2,870 acres to 3,396 acres.

Exploitation.—Public Departments were supplied during 1916 with 15,895 broad gauge and 21,121 narrow gauge sleepers, 109,436 cubic feet of timber, and 73,649 cubic yards of firewood, in addition to the usual indents for small round timber, &c. The value of these was Rs. 400,107·21.

Since 1906 the Forest Department has supplied the Railway Department with 722,050 broad gauge and 255,740 narrow gauge sleepers, at an average cost of Rs. 3·63 and Re. 1·59 per sleeper respectively. Thus, a very large saving

over the cost of imported sleepers has been effected in obtaining these supplies from the local forests, while it is admitted that the local sleepers are far more durable than anything that has hitherto been imported.

The revenue received from the public on account of timber, fuel, and minor forest produce during the year was Rs. 273,120·31, an increase of Rs. 33,298·20 over the previous year.

MANUFACTURES.

Ceylon is essentially an agricultural country, and its manufactures are chiefly confined to the products of agriculture. Particulars of the output of the staple Ceylon products are given under "Exports." The preparation of coconut oil, copra, and arrack gives employment to a large number of the inhabitants, and to a less extent that of citronella oil and cinnamon.

About 6,500 acres were under tobacco cultivation in the Jaffna District, which is the principal tobacco-growing district in the Island. Two varieties are grown, one for smoking and the other for chewing. The smoking tobacco crop was good, and prices were normal. The chewing tobacco crop was equally good, and fetched good prices. Most of the chewing tobacco is exported to South India. A small portion finds its way to the south of the Island for the use of the Indian labourers on estates. All the smoking tobacco is turned into cigars, which find a ready sale in all parts of the Island.

Experiments in the cultivation of foreign varieties of tobacco continued at the Government Experimental Garden under the direction of the tobacco expert.

The Ceylon Sugar Refineries Company, a newly established enterprise, in which a considerable amount of capital, both European and Ceylonese, is invested, has begun to buy jaggery, a product of the palmyra palm, for sugar refining and for distilling alcohol from the refuse molasses. The first samples of the sugar manufactured by the Company were put on the market towards the close of the year.

The fish industry is carried on principally in the Mannar District, from which salted, dried, and iced fish to the value of Rs. 386,110 were sent to other parts of the Island during 1916.

Minor industries, such as silver and brass work, ivory work, jewellery, lace-making, furniture, &c., have suffered from the lack of demand, owing to the war and the absence of visitors to the Island.

MINING.

The year 1916 was a record year for plumbago mining in Ceylon, owing mainly to the continued demand and the facilities given for export of plumbago to America, which took approximately three-quarters of the output. At the end of the year 2,881 mines were actually working, the majority of which, however, are only prospecting ventures. 22,114 persons were employed in the mines at the end of the year.

IV.—TRADE.

Ceylon is fortunate in possessing staple products which are in constant demand, and the majority of which are actual necessities of war. In spite of high freights, the Colony consequently enjoyed a year of extraordinary trade prosperity until towards the end of December, when the financing of the export trade became a matter of great difficulty, owing to the adverse rate of exchange consequent on the restricted sale of India Council Bills in London. The effect of this financial difficulty did not show itself in 1916, and the subject is one which need not therefore be discussed in this report.

The total value of Ceylon trade in 1916, excluding specie but including the value of coal supplied to steamers, amounted to Rs. 521,280,838, as compared with Rs. 449,550,045 in 1915. The total value of trade in 1915 constituted a record, but while the increase in that year was only in exports, in 1916 both imports and exports show considerable increases, and in each case the total for the year constitutes a new record.

The following table shows the total value of trade in lakhs of rupees in each year for the period 1907 to 1916 :—

Year.	Lakhs of Rupees.	Year.	Lakhs of Rupees.
1907 ..	2,631¼	1912 ..	3,886¾
1908 ..	2,647¾	1913 ..	4,329½
1909 ..	2,853½	1914 ..	4,022¼
1910 ..	3,321¾	1915 ..	4,495½
1911 ..	3,523½	1916 ..	5,212¾

The Customs revenue collected in 1916 amounted to Rs. 25,488,407, an increase of Rs. 7,899,782 over 1915, itself a record year, due mostly to the new export duties on tea, rubber, copra, coconut oil, desiccated and fresh coconuts, and cacao, first imposed on October 1, 1915, and on plumbago, imposed on August 2, 1916. Of the total revenue, Rs. 7,977,976 represent the proceeds of the new export duties, of which a sum of Rs. 752,985·69 was refunded in accordance with the concessions granted in the case of goods in stock or already sold when the new duties came into force. The Customs revenue is, however, mostly derived from imports, of which the figures classified under the specified heads for the last two years are as follows :—

	1915. Rs.	1916. Rs.
Grain ..	3,910,502	4,493,038
Spirits ..	1,881,295	1,859,945
Kerosine Oil	1,733,002	1,756,296
Sugar ..	1,331,786	1,240,842
Cotton Goods	419,579	547,844
Other Goods	3,356,196	4,377,842

The following table shows the total amount of the imports and exports for the past ten years. The figures given do not include specie and the value of coal supplied to steamers :—

Year.	Imports. Rs.	Exports. Rs.	Total. Rs.
1907	120,061,934	129,368,251	249,430,185
1908	122,420,393	128,962,156	251,382,549
1909	125,441 597	146,899,631	272,341,228
1910	150,195,648	166,471,607	316,667,255
1911	156,986,106	180,526,959	337,513,065
1912	175,322,979	198,954,902	374,277,881
1913	186,073,086	232,986,954	419,060,040
1914	172,317,549	218,363,846	390,681,395
1915	163,637,758	273,375,987	437,013,745
1916	211,500,753	297,505,905	509,006,658

The considerable increase in the imports of 1916 over 1915 was due to larger importations of the principal articles, chiefly rice, cotton goods, manures, metals and metalware, cars and parts thereof, and haberdashery, and to enhanced prices owing to the war. In exports the increase was almost entirely due to larger exports of plumbago and rubber, and to the very remunerative prices realized for the former, both articles being in great demand to supply the needs created by the war. Of the total exports in 1916, Rs. 284,837,976 represent the value of Ceylon produce and manufactures, and Rs. 12,667,929 of imported goods re-exported.

The percentage of imports, exports, and total trade for the United Kingdom, British Possessions, and foreign countries are shown in the following table. The value of rubber imports is omitted from the table, owing to the fact that

this article is brought here solely for purposes of export, and is therefore an import only in name. The percentages are :—

	1914.	1915.	1916.
Imports.			
From United Kingdom	29·53	22·33	23·01
From British Possessions	54·96	62·54	59·97
From Foreign Countries	15·51	15·13	17·02
Exports.			
To United Kingdom	52·92	53·79	44·28
To British Possessions	13·47	14·06	12·6
To Foreign Countries	33·61	32·15	43·12
Total Trade.			
With United Kingdom	42·8	42·24	35·64
With British Possessions	31·43	31·86	31·83
With Foreign Countries	25·77	25·9	32·53

The United Kingdom, which had previously been well ahead both of her possessions and of foreign countries in her share of the trade with Ceylon, now takes only a slightly better share than the others, the change being brought about by the increase in the trade with foreign countries on account of large exports of rubber and plumbago, especially to the United States of America, and to increased imports from Japan and the United States of America.

Imports.

The principal articles imported in 1916 show increases as compared with 1915.

Confectionery.—The imports rose in quantity from 952,612 lb. in 1915 to 1,017,441 lb. in 1916, and in value from Rs. 390,936 to Rs. 547,366. Most of the trade is with the United Kingdom, the 746,935 lb. supplied by her in 1916 being valued at Rs. 441,845, as against 899,450 lb. of the value of Rs. 357,294 in the previous year.

Imports from Japan increased in quantity from 1,525 lb. to 62,793 lb., and imports from British India from 25,464 lb. to 175,354 lb. Imports from other countries are negligible, with the exception of those from Switzerland, which supplied much the same quantity as last year, viz., 24,805 lb.

Cement.—The year's imports amounted to 315,598 cwt., or 15,774 cwt. less than in the previous year. The United Kingdom supplied 155,988 cwt., Japan 136,623 cwt., and Hong Kong and Denmark most of the remainder. The average value of cement imported from Japan was Rs. 2·65 per cwt., while that from the United Kingdom was Rs. 3·48 per cwt.

Cotton, Manufactured and Raw.—Imports rose in value from Rs. 9,483,674 in 1915 to Rs. 12,958,380 in the year under review. The largest increases were in printed piece goods from the United Kingdom, and dyed piece goods from British India, the United Kingdom, and Holland. The United Kingdom, British Possessions, and foreign countries have all shared in the increase.

Grain.—The imports of rice were 8,073,964 cwt., an increase of 900,186 cwt. over 1915. British India and the Straits Settlements sent less, and Burma more, than in the previous year.

Horses and Motor Cars.—On August 2, 1916, the duty on motor cars, except lorries, was raised from 5½ per cent. to 33⅓ per cent. *ad valorem*, with a view to restricting imports, but as this had not the desired effect action was taken early in 1917 still further to increase the duty. The importation of motor cars has increased considerably, the number for the past seven years being :—

1910	151	1914	459
1911	213	1915	296
1912	239	1916	590
1913	407		

The United States of America have supplied 526 cars out of the 590 imported in 1916.

Petrol imports, mainly for motor cars, have also increased. The figures are :—

Year.	Gallons.	Year.	Gallons.
1910	136,646	1914	701,082
1911	206,208	1915	607,774
1912	216,714	1916	776,092
1913	383,442		

Only 60 horses were imported in 1915, but the number rose to 261 in 1916, and importations have again resumed normal proportions. Of the horses imported in 1916, 237 came from British India, 23 from the United Kingdom, and 1 from the Straits Settlements.

Lamps.—198,741 lamps were imported in 1916, as compared with 156,985 in 1915. Japan sent the largest number and of a somewhat better kind than last year. The United Kingdom, the United States of America, Japan, and British India, named in order of value, are the chief countries supplying Ceylon with lamps.

Metals and Metalware.—There was an increase of about 30 per cent. in value over the previous year. Increases are noticeable under nearly all the important heads, but especially under hardware, pig lead, and hoop iron. Drums and tanks, tea lead, and silver and silver gilt plate show decreases. Of the principal countries supplying metals and metalware, the United Kingdom furnished 55½ per cent. of the value, Burma 17 per cent. (due mainly to her supplies of pig lead), and the United States of America 12 per cent., the supplies of galvanized goods, including barbed wire, hardware, and cast steel, from the last-named country having specially increased.

Manure.—This also shows an increase, the total value of all kinds for 1915 and 1916 being Rs. 8,005,529 and Rs. 11,221,778 respectively. All the important manures show increases, except groundnut cake, which comes from British India. Of the manures supplied by foreign countries, superphosphates came from Japan, nitrate of soda from Japan and South America, and nitrolim (classified under "Other Manures" in the Customs returns) from Norway. There were no imports of nitrate of potash in 1916.

Spirits.—Whisky was in greatest demand, followed by gin and brandy in the order named. The total quantities cleared were, however, slightly less than in 1915, viz., 226,749 bulk gallons, as against 229,416 gallons. From April 1, 1916, the Customs monthly returns show imports in proof gallons (where the strength can be ascertained), in addition to the bulk gallons hitherto shown.

Sugar.—The total imports of sugar classified under the three heads "Palm and Jaggery," "Unrefined Sugar," and "Sugar, Refined or Candied," were 467,762 cwt. and 548,924 cwt. in 1915 and 1916 respectively, there being decreases under the chief head "Sugar, Refined or Candied," as well as under "Unrefined Sugar," and an increase in "Palm and Jaggery." Palm and jaggery, of which the imports averaged 26,135 cwt. for the three previous years, rose to the phenomenal figure of 180,560 cwt., most of which was taken by the sugar factory established during the latter half of the year 1916 at Valuveddit-turai, in the Northern Province. The output at this refinery has so far been limited to a few tons of refined sugar, the industry having only lately gone beyond the experimental stage.

Tobacco, Cigars, and Cigarettes.—The quantities cleared during the past three years are given below. It will be seen that there has been an increased demand under each head as compared with 1915 :—

Year.	Cigars.	Cigarettes.	Manufactured Tobacco.	Total.
	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.
1914	21,803	329,230	39,149	391,182
1915	22,745	231,500	20,432	274,677
1916	31,226	256,779	23,423	311,428

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Chief Sources of Supply.

The following table shows the proportion of values for the principal countries exporting goods to Ceylon :—

Position.	Countries.	1914. Per Cent.	1915. Per Cent.	1916. Per Cent.
1.	British India	35·93	41·19	35·05
2.	United Kingdom	28·58	21·66	22·11
3.	Burma	6·11	6·88	14·67
4.	Straits Settlements	8·94	10·41	8·03
5.	Japan	1·71	3·22	4·32
6.	United States of America	1·33	2·95	3·65
7.	Java	1·5	2·21	1·54
8.	Borneo (excluding British)	·46	·57	1·28
9.	Maldive Islands	1·21	1·39	1·12
10.	Hong Kong	·77	·98	·86
11.	Holland	·85	·62	·78
12.	China (excluding Hong Kong)	·53	·75	·56
13.	France	·83	·64	·52
14.	Siam	1·1	·78	·48
15.	Persia	·88	·5	·47
16.	New South Wales	·23	·47	·46
17.	Norway	·11	·36	·43
18.	Switzerland	·22	·34	·37
19.	India (excluding British)	·46	·41	·37
20.	Sweden	·23	·29	·29
21.	Western Australia	·39	·31	·28
22.	Russia in Europe	·03	—	·27
23.	Mozambique	·06	—	·26
24.	Italy	·46	·21	·23
25.	Victoria	·76	·19	·15
26.	Natal	·79	·6	·14
27.	Sumatra	—	·37	·14
28.	South America	·01	·01	·14
29.	South Australia	·36	·12	·14

Burma has gained one place, mainly owing to increased supplies of rice, while the Straits Settlements has receded from the third to the fourth place. Japan and the United States of America appear as the principal foreign competitors. Both these countries are now supplying goods of a greater value than Germany did before the war, the total value for Japan and the United States of America for the year being Rs. 9,134,670 and Rs. 7,727,277, respectively, as compared with the value for Germany of Rs. 6,022,497 for 1913.

Exports.

The staple Ceylon products exported, in order of value, are as follows :—

		Lakhs of Rupees. 1915.	1916.
1.	Tea	1,225	1,053
2.	Rubber	790	1,035
3.	Plumbago	79	225
4.	Copra	177	219
5.	Coconut oil	130	89
6.	Coconut, desiccated	86	87
7.	Cacao	31	28
8.	Arecanuts	33	28
9.	Citronella oil	15	13
10.	Cinnamon	20	13
11.	Coir fibre	9	9
12.	Coir yarn	10	8
13.	Cardamoms	8	5
14.	Tobacco, unmanufactured	6	5
15.	Coconuts	5	4
16.	Poonac	10	4

The increase in the value of plumbago is a special feature of the year. Good prices were obtained throughout, and there was a steady demand for the article. Rubber shows a substantial increase, its total value being almost equal to the value of tea. Copra, coconut oil, desiccated coconuts, arecanuts, cinnamon, and coir yarn have each lost a place. Cacao, citronella oil, cardamoms, tobacco, and coconuts have each gained a place. Coir fibre has advanced two places, while poonac has receded four places, exports of the article having fallen owing to high freights.

The following table shows the proportion of Ceylon produce and manufactures taken by the principal countries for the last three years :—

Position.	Countries.	1914. Per Cent.	1915. Per Cent.	1916. Per Cent.
1.	United Kingdom	53·88	55·05	45·89
2.	United States of America	14·1	18·39	26·87
3.	France	·54	·91	5
4.	Russia in Europe	3·13	3·99	4·17
5.	British India	2·07	2·39	2·53
6.	New South Wales	2·56	2·26	2·07
7.	Victoria	2·46	2·57	2·01
8.	Russia in Asia	1·32	2·06	1·96
9.	China (excluding Hong Kong)	1·31	1·44	1·74
10.	Denmark	1·2	2·14	1·42
11.	Egypt	·33	·96	1·24
12.	New Zealand	1·57	1·4	1
13.	Canada	1·97	1·68	·89
14.	Hong Kong	·16	·06	·34
15.	Cape Colony	·27	·35	·31
16.	Japan	·31	·2	·31
17.	Natal	·29	·36	·29
18.	South Australia	·42	·42	·25
19.	Philippines	·17	·13	·21
20.	Straits Settlements	·26	·27	·20
21.	Norway	·35	·9	·19
22.	Italy	·1	·05	·17
23.	Western Australia	·21	·17	·15
24.	Newfoundland	·08	·08	·14
25.	Queensland	·28	·22	·14
26.	Spain (excluding Gibraltar)	·25	·23	·13
27.	Mozambique	·05	·05	·08

The United States of America and France have made a marked advance, chiefly on account of larger purchases of rubber and plumbago by the former, and of copra by the latter. There were no exports to Holland during the year. The chief foreign country in Europe not being an allied country to be supplied was Denmark, the total value being Rs. 4,049,430 in 1916.

Tea.

The exports of tea during the past seven years in round figures are shown below. It will be seen that the quantity exported is the highest, with the exception of 1915, while the average price realized for the article was also only lower than the average price for 1915, the rate being 51·79 cents per pound in 1916, as against 56·79 cents per pound in 1915 :—

Year.	Millions of lb.	Year.	Millions of lb.
1910	182	1914	193
1911	186	1915	215
1912	192	1916	203
1913	191		

The distribution among the principal countries, with their increases and decreases, is shown in the following table :—

Countries.	1916. lb.	1915. lb.	Increase over 1915. lb.	Decrease below 1915. lb.
United Kingdom	113,535,561	124,396,216	—	10,860,655
British Possessions—				
British India	2,393,152	2,875,159	—	482,007
Canada	4,341,831	7,162,572	—	2,820,741
Cape Colony	1,413,972	1,394,126	19,846	—
Egypt	6,405,167	4,320,278	2,084,889	—
Hong Kong	177,690	130,701	46,989	—
Malta	162,805	132,246	30,559	—
Mauritius	157,697	119,712	37,985	—
Natal	1,452,952	1,529,459	—	76,507
Newfoundland	779,341	371,877	407,464	—
New South Wales	10,107,538	9,880,166	227,372	—
New Zealand	5,039,998	6,170,492	—	1,130,494
Queensland	694,956	874,344	—	179,388
South Australia	1,268,700	1,776,178	—	507,478
Straits Settlements	571,446	442,511	128,935	—
Victoria	7,759,300	8,698,999	—	939,699
Western Australia	761,506	692,948	68,558	—
Other British Possessions	399,398	432,602	—	33,204
	43,887,449	47 004,370	3,052,597	6,169,518
			Deduct Increase	3,052,597
			Nett Decrease	3,116,921
Foreign Countries—				
China (excluding Hong Kong)	9,346,605	6,631,778	2,714,827	—
France	2,252,218	1,581,917	670,301	—
Mozambique	412,300	156,027	256,273	—
Russia in Asia	7,580,928	9,369,899	—	1,788,971
Russia in Europe	18,499,784	15,727,736	2,772,048	—
United States of America	7,225,813	10,250,652	—	3,024,839
Other Foreign Countries	515,689	514,132	1,557	—
	45,833,337	44,232,141	6,415,006	4,813,810
		Deduct Decrease	4,813,810	
		Nett Increase	1,601,196	
Grand Total	203,256,347	215,632,727	—	12,376,380

It will be seen that the total quantity taken by foreign countries was more than in 1915, while that taken by the United Kingdom and her possessions was less. Egypt shows a substantial increase among British Possessions, and Canada and New Zealand a decrease. Among foreign countries, Russia (European) and China took more than in the previous year, and the United States of America took less.

Products of the Coconut Palm.

The total value of the products of the coconut palm was 422 lakhs, as compared with 429 lakhs in the previous year. The exports of its three principal products are shown below for a period of six years :—

Year.	Desiccated Coconuts. Cwt.	Copra. Cwt.	Coconut Oil. Cwt.
1911	292,210	821,814	505,016
1912	278,806	614,089	401,779
1913	303,808	1,117,292	546,984
1914	311,864	1,411,947	486,286
1915	349,009	1,208,529	501,510
1916	306,149	1,309,939	323,017

The average values declared by the exporters for desiccated coconuts and copra were higher than in 1915. The average price for coconut oil was Rs. 27·26 per cwt. in 1916, as against Rs. 25·84 in 1915. The large decrease in exports of coconut oil was due to a reduced demand from the United States of America and to war trade restrictions.

Rubber.

Exports in 1916, in spite of the restrictions due to the war, exceeded the previous record (1915) by 50,942 cwt., and amounted to 486,690 cwt. in all. The extent of the growth in the trade can be seen from the following table, which shows figures from the year 1910. Should the present rate of increase continue, rubber will take first place among Ceylon products in 1917. The exports have been :—

Year.	Cwt.	Year.	Cwt.
1910 ..	33,952	1914 ..	306,724
1911 ..	61,212	1915 ..	435,748
1912 ..	132,569	1916 ..	486,690
1913 ..	226,491		

The foreign countries supplied with rubber were the United States of America, France, Russia, Japan, and Italy.

Plumbago.

The total quantity shipped was 668,214 cwt. valued at Rs. 22,494,943 in 1916, as against 436,351 cwt. valued at Rs. 7,919,770 in 1915. Three-fourths of the total shipped in 1916 went to the United States of America, about 18 per cent. to the United Kingdom and her possessions, and the remainder to Russia. Since the imposition of the *ad valorem* duty on this article on August 2, 1916, the Customs have accepted F. O. B. prices for Customs purposes. These prices give for the period August to December an average of Rs. 819 per ton for all grades. For the year the average price of large and ordinary lumps was Rs. 873·61 per ton, and that of chips, dust, and flying dust Rs. 478·56 per ton. The best grades reached record values, while dust of low grades was unsaleable owing to high freights.

CUSTOMS DUTIES.

All imports not specially rated or exempted by the tariff are liable to a Customs duty of 5½ per cent. *ad valorem*. By resolution of the Legislative Council dated August 2, 1916, the import duty on motor vehicles other than motor lorries was increased from 5½ per cent. *ad valorem* to 33⅓ per cent. *ad valorem*, and the rebate of the import duty paid on petrol consumed in such cars was withdrawn with effect from September 5, 1916. On August 2, 1916, the export duty of 25 cents per cwt. on plumbago was replaced by an *ad valorem* duty of 3 per cent., the value accepted by the Customs being F. O. B. prices, Colombo harbour.

V.—SHIPPING.

The total number of all vessels which entered the ports of the Island of Ceylon in 1916 was 4,580, with a tonnage of 8,874,843. This shows an increase of 308 vessels and an increase of 891,575 tons as compared with 1915.

The following table gives the total number and nett tonnage of shipping entering all ports in Ceylon during the last three years :—

	1914.		1915.		1916.	
	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.
Merchant vessels (with cargo and in ballast) .	2,523	7,041,986	1,560	4,984,122	2,035	4,480,703
Merchant vessels (called to coal) ..	615	1,728,558	655	1,937,572	737	2,008,057
Native sailing vessels ..	1,159	103,541	1,847	268,938	1,372	106,646
Warships* and Government chartered vessels	104	464,450	210	692,636	436	2,279,437
Total ..	4,401	9,338,535	4,272	7,883,268	4,580	8,874,843

* Warships' displacement tonnage.

Omitting warships and vessels calling to coal, the following table gives the comparative distribution according to nationality for 1915 and 1916 :—

	1915.		1916.	
	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.
British ..	1,103	3,508,012	1,652	3,364,847
British Colonial	1,728	253,985	1,260	92,549
Maldivian	119	14,953	112	14,097
Total British Ships	2,950	3,776,950	3,024	3,471,493
American	5	11,745	4	14,062
Belgian ..	1	1,860	—	—
Chinese ..	—	—	3	3,666
Danish ..	14	37,249	11	31,694
Dutch ..	83	302,279	47	122,691
French ..	92	320,656	80	349,804
Greek ..	1	2,489	1	1,939
Italian ..	18	50,453	15	44,166
Japanese	139	573,542	102	341,517
Norwegian	54	66,173	79	108,070
Roumanian	—	—	1	1,452
Russian	10	13,614	3	5,319
Spanish	28	65,283	23	58,628
Swedish..	12	30,767	14	32,848
Total Foreign Ships	457	1,476,110	383	1,115,856

The predominance of British shipping still continues. The increase in the number and tonnage of vessels is due to the increased number of Government chartered vessels which called at Colombo during the year 1916.

There has been a considerable falling off of Dutch vessels, and a decrease in French, Russian, and Japanese vessels calling at this port, but a continued increase of Norwegian and Swedish vessels.

A feature of the year 1916 was the arrival of one Roumanian and three Chinese vessels.

Colombo Port Commission.

Further progress has been made during the year 1916 in providing increased warehouse accommodation and making other improvements at the port of Colombo. The two warehouses (of an area of 40,000 square feet) east of the Patent Slip were completed in March, 1916. The quay wall between the Patent Slip and Block Jetty, 1,690 feet in length, was finished in August. In July sanction was given for the erection of a block of warehouses between the canal and the Patent Slip. These warehouses will be two in number, with an open cartway, and will be used for exports. The area of the warehouses will be 81,000 square feet. Despite the difficulty which has been experienced in obtaining the necessary materials for the erection of these warehouses, rapid progress has been made. One warehouse has been completed, and it is anticipated that the other will be finished in March, 1917. The quay walls of the lake to harbour canal basin have been completed, but owing to various difficulties it has not been possible yet to dredge this area for the use of cargo lighters. The four cranes for the Delft warehouse area (between the passenger jetty and canal) have arrived. The work of enclosing the Colombo Port Commission premises has been completed.

The work of deepening the harbour, which had been suspended since December, 1914, was resumed in October, 1916.

Fifteen more sheds at the Chalmers granaries were completed during the year 1916, making a total of twenty-one stores so far handed over to the rice merchants ; several more sheds are in hand.

Sanction has been given for the construction of a railway to connect the Colombo harbour with the general railway system of the Island, and the work is being begun within Colombo Port Commission premises.

A severe storm struck Colombo and the south-west coast of Ceylon on July 18, 1916, and wrecked a large number of fishing craft with the loss of many lives amongst the Mutwal fishermen. The Government tugs "Samson" and "Goliath" and the Ceylon Wharfage Company's tug "Lady Mackay" rendered valuable assistance in rescue work, and saved 53 lives.

The nett tonnage of vessels (sailing and steam) visiting Colombo harbour in 1916 amounted to 6,203,474; in addition 436 warships and transports with a gross tonnage of 2,279,437 and coasting vessels with a nett tonnage of 25,168 entered the port. The receipts from the Graving Dock were Rs. 50,986·59, and from the Patent Slip Rs. 8,075.

The supervision and control of coast lights were placed in the charge of the Master Attendant, Colombo and Galle, from October, 1916. The Master Attendant's Department, Galle, and the Signal Station, Galle, which have been managed by the Master Attendant, Colombo, since November 1, 1915, and October 1, 1915, respectively, have worked very satisfactorily during the year.

The expenditure by the Colombo Port Commission (apart from the work carried out by the Public Works Department) during the financial year 1915–16 (October 1, 1915, to September 30, 1916) amounted to Rs. 1,128,989; the expenditure on work carried out by the Public Works Department for the Port Commission was Rs. 48,697, a total of Rs. 1,177,686. The revenue during the same period amounted to Rs. 2,607,250.

VI.—LEGISLATION.

Forty-two Ordinances were passed during the year 1916. Of these, the nine following owed their origin to the present war :—

(*a*) *The Necessaries of War Exportation (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 1 of 1916.*—This Ordinance amended "The Necessaries of War Exportation Ordinance, No. 19 of 1914," by giving power to the Principal Collector of Customs to issue licenses, subject to conditions, authorizing the exportation of any goods subject to prohibition under the main Ordinance to a particular person or place or to a particular person at a particular place named in the license.

(*b*) *The Trading with the Enemy (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 2 of 1916.*—This Ordinance amended "The Trading with the Enemy Ordinance, No. 20 of 1914," by giving further powers to the Principal Collector of Customs to seize imported goods which he suspects to have been imported in contravention of the law relating to trading with the enemy, and giving power to the Principal Collector of Customs to require goods in transit to be landed, and to require the person exporting the goods to make a declaration before shipment as to the person or country for whom or which the goods are ultimately destined.

(*c*) *The Ceylon Post Office (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 3 of 1916.*—This Ordinance amended "The Ceylon Post Office Ordinance, 1908," and prohibited persons from having non-postal communication to or from Ceylon, and further prohibited persons from sending letters from Ceylon in invisible ink, &c.

(*d*) *The Trading with the Enemy (Amendment No. 2) Ordinance, No. 13 of 1916.*—This Ordinance further amended "The Trading with the Enemy Ordinance, No. 20 of 1914," on the lines of the Imperial Act, namely, The Trading with the Enemy (Extension of Powers) Act, 1915.

(*e*) *The Enemy Firms Liquidation Ordinance, No. 20 of 1916*, passed with the object of liquidating all enemy firms in Ceylon.

(*f*) *The Enemy Property Ordinance, No. 23 of 1916*, passed with the object of compiling a record of all properties belonging to enemy subjects in Ceylon.

(*g*) *The Customs Amendment (War Powers) Ordinance, No. 30 of 1916.*—This Ordinance gave further powers to the Governor in Council to prohibit or restrict imports.

(*h*) *The Disabled Ceylon Men's Fund Ordinance, No. 31 of 1916*, to incorporate an association which has been established consisting of persons interested in the welfare of persons from Ceylon who become incapacitated or disabled through wounds or diseases whilst in the service of the Allied Governments presently at war with the Central Powers, and for the administration of their funds.

(*i*) *The Volunteer (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 42 of 1916*, providing for the obligatory enlistment of all male British subjects of European birth under the Volunteer Ordinance.

Besides these, the following Ordinances are of interest :—

(i.) *The Vehicles Ordinance, No. 4 of 1916*, consolidated the law relating to all vehicles and motor cars.

(ii.) *The Planters' Association of Ceylon Incorporation Ordinance, No. 12 of 1916*, incorporating the Planters' Association of Ceylon.

(iii.) *The New St. Andrew's Church Ordinance, No. 16 of 1916*, incorporating the trustees of St. Andrew's Church, Colombo.

(iv.) *The Hotel Keepers Liability Ordinance, No. 19 of 1916*, limiting the liability of hotel keepers in respect of the goods of their guests.

(v.) *Ordinance No. 21 of 1916*, increasing the export duty on plumbago.

(vi.) *The Local Loans and Development Ordinance, No. 22 of 1916*, provides facilities for the granting of loans for local purposes of public utility.

(vii.) *The Firearms Ordinance, No. 32 of 1916*, amending and consolidating the law relating to firearms.

VII.—EDUCATION.

It is difficult to draw a clear line between elementary and secondary education in Ceylon. The English-speaking community form scarcely 1 per cent. of the total population, so that most of the schools where English is taught are teaching a language which is foreign to the large majority of their pupils. The vernacular schools constitute the real elementary education of the country.

Vernacular Education.

In 1916 there were 812 Government vernacular schools, with an attendance of 83,545 boys and 27,157 girls. There were also 1,840 aided schools, with an attendance of 129,612 boys and 75,441 girls.

The total sum expended by Government on vernacular education in 1916 was Rs. 1,234,146, of which approximately two-fifths were spent on Government schools and three-fifths on aided schools.

The Rural Schools Ordinance is now in force in all districts of the Island, having been introduced in the Jaffna District in December 1916.

The Town Schools Ordinance was also introduced into the towns of Kurunegala, Trincomalee, Chilaw, and Matara during the year.

At the end of 1916 there were 242 aided estate schools, and returns from 589 estates showed that of a total of 18,585 children of school-going age 6,771 were attending estate schools. Of these, 5,566 were boys and 1,205 girls.

A school for the deaf and blind, started in 1912, receives an annual grant from Government of Rs. 3,000.

Schools teaching English.

In 1916 there were 252 English and Anglo-vernacular schools attended by 42,890 pupils, of whom 33,407 were boys and 9,483 girls.

In many of the schools candidates are prepared for the Senior and Junior Cambridge Local Examinations. In 1915 the candidates who presented themselves and the results obtained were :—

	Candidates.	Honours.	Passed.
Senior	1,057 ..	66 ..	499
Junior	1,274 ..	56 ..	601

There are special syllabuses for Ceylon students in English, Science, and Needlework, special stress being laid on the necessity for obtaining a high standard in English.

The results of the London University Examinations in 1916 showed that 89 candidates from Ceylon presented themselves for the Matriculation Examination, 36 of whom passed. In addition, 13 candidates passed the Intermediate Examination in Arts, 13 passed the Intermediate Examination in Science, 5 the Examination for the degree of Bachelor of Arts, 1 the Examination for the degree of Bachelor of Science, 2 the First Examination in Medical Degrees, 1 the Second Examination, Part I., and 4 the Intermediate Examination in Laws.

The encouragement offered by Government takes the form of grants or scholarships. In the majority of the aided English schools grants are paid on the results of examinations in the schedules of the Code, but in some of the more advanced schools the greater part of the grant is paid on the average attendance. The grants paid to English schools in the financial year 1915–16 amounted to Rs. 328,471.

It was decided to amalgamate the Royal College and the Training College English School, which puts the former on its previous footing of a fully organized school with upper and lower forms. Its pupils now number 623.

Two Government scholarships are offered annually, one on the results of the Intermediate Examination in Arts and the other on the results of the Intermediate Examination in Science. These scholarships are tenable for three years, and are of the value of £200 each per annum, with free passage to and from England and £50 outfit allowance. The holders may join any British University, or study at any recognized engineering institution in the United Kingdom.

Training of Teachers.

The Government Training College consists of three departments : English, Sinhalese men, and Sinhalese women. The object is to supply trained teachers for aided English schools and Government vernacular schools. At the beginning of 1916 the number of students in training was English 69, Sinhalese men 45, Sinhalese women 20. During the year steps were taken to increase the numbers, and to get the managers to send in candidates whose fees they would be prepared to pay. Trained teachers at present command high salaries, and there is a great demand for their services.

Industrial Schools.

There are no Government industrial schools, but carpentry schools are attached to 6 Government schools in the Kandyan Provinces. In 1916 the aided industrial schools, which are 38 in number, received grants amounting to Rs. 23,961. The trades taught were carpentry, dressmaking, printing, shoemaking, tailoring, lace-making, embroidery, gardening, and masonry.

The most important of these schools is the Maggona Certified Industrial School, which is utilized by Government as a reformatory for youthful offenders ; it is managed by the Roman Catholic Mission. This institution has an estate of some 300 acres and excellent buildings, towards the cost of which Government

has contributed. 237 youthful offenders are at present receiving instruction in this school, and an allowance is paid by Government for the maintenance of each offender.

Agricultural Instruction.

An attempt has been made to supply elementary agricultural instruction by a scheme of school gardens conducted in connection with Government schools. The gardens are under the supervision of the Department of Agriculture; there is a Superintendent of School Gardens, who is assisted by three Inspectors. 327 school gardens attached to Government schools are worked under this scheme, and 45 grant-in-aid schools receive garden grants. Seeds and implements are supplied by the Department of Agriculture, and prizes are offered for competition.

War Leaflet.

A war leaflet has been published monthly, commencing from July last, in English, Sinhalese, and Tamil; it gives an account of the progress of the war during the previous month, with stories of heroism. The price is 10 cents, and all proceeds go to the Red Cross. 20,000 copies were sold of the first number, and the monthly circulation is over 10,000 copies. Rs. 6,000 realized by sales have already been remitted to the Red Cross. The leaflet has proved very valuable in disseminating correct information regarding the war, and spreading amongst the schools a knowledge and appreciation of what is being done.

VIII.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

There are 81 Government hospitals, in addition to the Lunatic and the Leper Asylums, equipped with modern hospital furniture and surgical appliances; the number of beds in the institutions ranges from 12 to 497, while the number accommodated in the Lunatic Asylum varied between 891 and 949; in addition to the hospitals, there are 432 Government outdoor dispensaries. The owners of estates have provided 55 estate hospitals, which receive a rebate on export duty, and 375 dispensaries which receive drugs free from Government to a value of 50 cents per labourer per annum.

Five new hospitals are under construction: at Pimbura in the Western Province, Aranayaka and Kahawatta in the Province of Sabaragamuwa, and Chilaw in the North-Western Province, a Tuberculosis Hospital at Ragama, and a sanatorium at Kandana in the Western Province. New buildings are also being erected at Alutnuwara, Buttala, and Lunugala, in the Province of Uva, to replace the present hospital buildings. New hospitals were opened during the year at Passara, Kitulgala, and Mulhalkele, and new central dispensaries at Akmimana and Ambalantota in the Southern Province, Nildandahena in the Central Province, Makandura in the North-Western Province, and Maspana in the Province of Uva.

Medical Institutions.

The general rebuilding scheme in contemplation for the improvement of the Medical College was deferred; the full course of training for medical students is five years; a diploma in medicine, surgery, and midwifery (which can be registered in the United Kingdom) is granted to successful medical students. The course of training for apothecaries is two years; on obtaining their qualifications they are employed by Government. The following were the attendances and passes during the past two years:—

Session.	Attendances.		Passes.	
	Medical.	Apothecaries.	Medical.	Apothecaries.
1915 May to July	123	52	2	7
1914 October to 1915 March	135	57	6	11
1916 May to July	164	81	6	10
1915 October to 1916 March	137	61	6	6

In Colombo there are a Bacteriological Institute, a General Hospital, Lunatic Asylum, an Ophthalmic Hospital, a Lying-in Home, a hospital for women and children, and one for infectious diseases. There is an establishment for the manufacture of calf lymph; there are special dispensaries at Kandy and Galle for the treatment of eye diseases. An Anti-Tuberculosis Institute in Colombo was opened during the year, fitted with an up-to-date X'ray apparatus.

Asylums.

The Lunatic Asylum contained 966 inmates on December 31, 1916. As there is very considerable overcrowding in the present building, the Government is erecting a new institution a few miles out of Colombo, with accommodation for 1,000 patients and for the necessary staff and servants. The number of patients treated in the Asylum during 1916 was 1,248 (794 males and 454 females). The number discharged was 214 (135 males and 79 females). In the House of Observation 383 persons were treated, of whom 213 were transferred to the Asylum, 143 were discharged, 4 cases died, and 23 remained at the end of the year.

The Leper Asylum is situated 6 miles from Colombo; it contained 419 patients at the end of the year; the total treated during 1916 numbered 497. A small establishment for lepers exists at Kalmunai in the Eastern Province, and has accommodation for 30; a leper colony at Mantivu, a small island on the lagoon in the neighbourhood of Batticaloa, is being erected.

A Home for Incurables (containing 80 beds) is administered by a Committee of Government officials and representatives of the public.

A campaign against anchylostomiasis has been started with the help of the Rockefeller Foundation, in the Matale, Dikoya, and Bogawantalawa districts.

IX.—CRIME.

Police.

The strength of the Force on December 31, 1916, as provided for in the Estimates, was 1 Inspector-General, 2 Deputy Inspectors-General, 10 Superintendents, 21 Assistant Superintendents, 3 Probationers, 36 Inspectors, 87 Sub-Inspectors, 1 Station House Officer, 326 Native Sergeants, 50 Special Class Constables, and 2,223 Native Constables. European Police: 1 Inspector, 3 Sub-Inspectors, 7 Second Class Sergeants, and 22 Third Class Sergeants. Total of all ranks 2,793.

The Force was increased by 2 Deputy Inspectors-General, 1 Superintendent, and 6 Assistant Superintendents for work in the Criminal Investigation Department and in the Provinces in which serious crime is most prevalent.

Two Assistant Superintendents were on active service with the Army in France throughout the year, and an effort is being made to permit a further number of physically fit officers to proceed on active service, their places being filled temporarily by gentlemen who have been disabled or are physically unfit for active service.

The cost of the Force was Rs. 1,863,175 approximately.

Criminal Statistics.

General Character of the Year.—There was a general decrease in crime in 1916 as compared with 1915. There were 7,634 cases of serious crime in 1916, as compared with 8,337 in 1915 (excluding crime committed during the disturbances

in May/June, 1915). The decrease was common to crime against the person and against property, as the following statement shows :—

	1915 (excluding Crime committed during the disturbances in May/June, 1915).	1916.
Homicide	204	158
Attempted homicide	43	29
Grievous hurt	615	641
Hurt with dangerous weapons	1,214	1,093
Burglary	1,911	1,899
Theft of cattle and prædial produce ..	981	911
Other offences	3,369	2,903
Total ..	8,337	7,634

There was a decrease in crime in all the five Provinces in which Martial law was in force in 1915, viz., the Western, North-Western, Southern, Central, and Sabaragamuwa Provinces. There was an increase in cases of theft in Colombo city. The war had a considerable effect on the city in this respect; many persons have been thrown out of employment by employers who have been unable to get out materials from England, and this with the increase in the cost of living has caused an increase in petty thefts.

Distribution of Crime.—The following table shows the distribution of crime :—

Province.	Homicide.	Attempted Homicide.	Grievous Hurt.	Hurt with Dangerous Weapons.	Burglary.	Theft of Cattle and Prædial Produce.	Other Offences.	Total.
Colombo City ..	6	—	59	89	57	5	387	603
Western ..	44	7	201	333	553	340	674	2,152
North-Western ..	10	7	50	114	333	182	272	968
Sabaragamuwa ..	23	4	62	95	188	65	285	722
Southern ..	28	5	103	201	348	155	254	1,094
Uva ..	10	2	21	31	71	55	171	361
Eastern ..	6	1	13	37	51	28	139	275
North-Central ..	—	—	6	11	21	17	68	123
Central ..	22	3	86	102	246	43	435	937
Northern ..	9	—	40	80	31	21	218	399
Total ..	158	29	641	1,093	1,899	911	2,903	7,634

Comparing the number of serious offences committed with the population in each Province it is found that—

		Persons.
In the Colombo City there is 1 case of crime to every	..	359
In the Western Province do.	..	413
In the North-Western Province do.	..	448
In the Province of Sabaragamuwa do.	..	566
In the Southern Province do.	..	575
In the Province of Uva do.	..	600
In the Eastern Province do.	..	668
In the North-Central Province do.	..	701
In the Central Province do.	..	717
In the Northern Province do.	..	926

The steps taken to deal with crime in the Colony during the year were :—

(i.) The provision of a separate Criminal Investigation Department for the duty of examining and registering all persons passing through the ports of Ceylon, collecting and distributing information from and to the Provinces, and supervising the vernacular Press.

(ii.) The appointment of a Deputy Inspector-General of Police to be frequently on tour in the Provinces in which crime is most prevalent.

(iii.) The appointment of five additional officers for the duty of investigating crime and supervising outlying police stations in the Provinces in which crime is prevalent.

(iv.) The connection of outlying police stations with the headquarters of each district by telephone.

(v.) The appointment of 22 additional Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors for special inquiries in areas where crime is prevalent.

PRISONS.

There was a decrease of 4,743 in the total number of admissions of convicted prisoners of Ceylon during the year 1916, excluding Road Ordinance defaulters, of whom there were 129, as against 114 in 1915. The figures are as follows :—

1915	15,745
1916	11,002

The number of prisoners sentenced to death was 48, as against 156 in 1915. There were 30 executions during the year, as against 90 in 1915. Of the 30 whose capital sentences were carried out, 22 were Sinhalese, 7 Tamils, and 1 Bengali Muhammadan. Of the number sentenced to death in 1916, 1 was hanged in 1917, and of the number hanged, 3 had been sentenced in 1915. Twelve convicts were deported to the Andaman islands for life.

There were 21 escapes and 19 recaptures during the year. Of these, 14 escapes and 12 recaptures occurred at Hambantota jail.

The total number of deaths in jail was 389, as against 232 in 1915 ; and the death-rate per 1,000 of the prisons population was 22·37, as against 8·63 in 1915 and 4·38 in 1914. The daily average sick was 259·48, as against 167·98 in 1915 and 80·51 in 1914.

The number of punishments inflicted during the year for prison offences was 2,526, as against 1,422 in 1915 and 885 in 1914. There were 66 cases of corporal punishment, as against 34 in 1915.

Prisoners are in all jails employed on works of public utility and remunerative industrial labours. At Welikada jail in Colombo and Bogambra jail in Kandy various trades are taught, such as carpentry, blacksmiths' and tinsmiths' work, bootmaking, tailoring, the making of cane furniture and matting, coir mats, brooms, door rugs, rope, string, coal bags, bamboo tats, &c., laundry work, printing, bookbinding, and masons' work.

The prisoners at Mahara are exclusively employed in the quarries on account of the Harbour Works and Public Works Departments, and supplied 2,019 cubes of metal to the Public Works Department, while 457 cubes of metal, 5,571 cubes of rubble, and 118,248 dressed stones were supplied to the Harbour Works Engineer. Kandy supplied 675 cubes of metal to the Public Works Department. Metal was also supplied from the Anuradhapura, Galle, Tangalla, Badulla, and Chilaw jails.

With the available labour for reclamation work on the Karaiyur reclamation at Jaffna, the work has progressed most satisfactorily. During the year 8 acres were reclaimed, making a total of 27 acres up to date.

The convalescent prisoners at Negombo are employed on basket making for Government Departments, and supplied 27,188 baskets during the year.

Hambantota and Ratnapura jails, which were temporarily reopened on account of the riots in 1915, were closed, as was also the temporary jail at Welikada.

Owing to the high sick rate at Mahara during the early part of the year, due to extreme drought, the old bathing tank and wells were condemned, and a good and sufficient water supply laid on to the jail from the Ragama pumping station. Ample supplies are now forthcoming for all purposes. In place of the old bathing tank, cast iron troughs have been erected on cement platforms. The old kitchen was pulled down and a new up-to-date fly-proof building put

up in its place. Since these improvements, the percentage of admissions to hospital of men suffering from bowel complaints has been reduced to 33·08 per cent., as against 50·66 per cent. before the improvements were made.

Additional accommodation is now in course of construction at Mahara, in order to meet the demands for increased labour by the Public Works Department.

X.—VITAL STATISTICS.

Population.

Estimated on the basis of the Census of 1911, the population (exclusive of the military and shipping) at the end of 1916 was about 4,547,200, an increase of nearly 122,900 on that of the previous year, due to an excess of about 54,800 births over deaths and 68,100 arrivals over departures of Indian coolies.

The population comprised the various nationalities shown below:—

Nationality.	Number.	Percentage of Total Population.
Sinhalese	2,892,900	63·6
Tamils	1,314,000	28·9
Moors	274,000	6·0
Burghers	28,300	·6
Malays	13,800	·3
Europeans	7,600	·2
Others	16,600	·4

To every 100 females there are 113 males in Ceylon. In England and Wales the proportion is 94.

Marriages.

The marriages registered during the year corresponded to a rate of 12 persons married per 1,000 of the non-Muhammadan population at all ages, an increase of ·5 on the average for the past ten years, though 2·4 less than the rate in 1915, when an extraordinarily large number of unions was contracted.

Births.

The birth-rate was 39 per 1,000 of the population, and was the highest recorded during the past five years. The average rate for the past decade was 37·3, which is considerably higher than the rate in England and Wales. There were 105 male to every 100 female births, this rate approximating to the English rate.

Deaths.

The death-rate was 26·8 per 1,000 of the population, and was 1·6 higher than the rate in the previous year, though 3·9 less than the average. The proportion of deaths to the population in Ceylon is similar to the rates which obtain in Bombay Presidency, Bengal, and British Guiana, but is more than double the rate in England and Wales.

The tea, rubber, and cacao estates at the end of the year contained a population of about 766,700, mostly Tamil immigrants from Southern India. The death-rate in estates was 38·4, against an average of 35·6.

The urban death-rate was 28 per 1,000, as in the preceding year, against 29·4 the average for the preceding seven years. Excluding Nuwara Eliya, the healthiest town was Panadure, with a rate of 17·4, and the unhealthiest was Mullaittivu, with 47·9.

Infantile Mortality.

184 infants under one year died to every 1,000 born, against an average of 195. The estate infantile mortality rate was 232 per 1,000 births and the urban 227.

Causes of Death (General).

The proportion of deaths in the general community from certain principal causes to a million of the estimated population was as follows :—Infantile convulsions, 3,029 ; diarrhœa, 2,473 ; bronchitis and pneumonia, 1,289 ; phthisis and other forms of tuberculosis, 953 ; dysentery, 816 ; anchylostomiasis, 559 ; malaria and malarial cachexia, 420 ; premature birth and congenital defects, 342 ; enteric fever, 127 ; and cancer, 94.

Plague was responsible for 285 deaths, more than double the number recorded in 1915.

98 deaths per million were due to accidental drowning, 83 to falls from trees, and 49 to snake bite.

50 deaths per million were attributed to suicide, 38 to homicide, and 6 to judicial executions.

Causes of Death on Estates.

The chief causes of mortality on the estates were, per million of the estate population : Diarrhœa, 3,537 ; debility under three months of age, 3,454 ; debility over three months of age, 1,414 ; bronchitis and pneumonia, 3,064 ; dysentery, 3,038 ; anchylostomiasis, 2,836 ; infantile convulsions, 2,035 ; premature births and congenital defects, 691 ; malaria and malarial cachexia, 630 ; and phthisis, 369.

Causes of Death in Towns.

In the 33 towns in the Island (inclusive of Colombo) pneumonia accounted for 3,482 deaths per million of the urban population, phthisis and other tubercular diseases for 2,530, convulsions for 2,501, diarrhœa for 2,101, malaria and malarial cachexia for 1,574, anchylostomiasis for 1,458, dysentery for 1,355, enteritis for 1,001, enteric fever for 713, bronchitis for 622, and cancer for 136.

PLAGUE.

122 cases of plague were treated in the medical institutions of the Island during 1916, as compared with 52 cases in 1915 and 437 in 1914. Of these, 88 cases with 64 deaths were admissions to the Infectious Diseases Hospital. 12 cases with 11 deaths occurred in the Western Province, outside the Colombo Municipal limits, all of whom may be regarded as having been infected within the Municipal limits, being persons whose work or business required their presence in infected localities in the city. One passenger on a train died at Moratuwa, 5 cases occurred among people living in or near Panadure, the infection being from Colombo. Infection from Colombo was responsible also for 5 cases which occurred in Beruwala. Five cases occurred in the Northern Province, all of these being passengers from Colombo. Two were found dead in the train *en route* for India. No cases occurred where local infection could be suspected in the Northern Province. In the Central Province 6 cases occurred, viz., 2 at Kadugannawa, people living in close proximity to the railway goods sheds, and 4 at Hatton. Three of the latter cases were among persons from infected localities in Colombo, the fourth case being direct infection of the Dikoya hospital mortuary cooly from contact with one of the imported cases. No cases occurred in the North-Western, Southern, North-Central, Eastern, Uva, or Sabaragamuwa Provinces.

As regards plague in Colombo, the improvement as regards incidence, which was observed during 1915, was not maintained during 1916, there being 291 cases recorded, as against 138 in 1915. Although more widespread, the cases were not so numerous as in 1914, when 413 cases were recorded.

Instead of the succeeding years showing a diminution of the virulence of the disease, as was hoped might be the case, the contrary has been experienced. Thus, the total case mortality, which was 92·2 per cent. in 1914, was 92·8 per cent. in 1915 and 93·8 per cent. in 1916.

The following are the chief statistical data for the three years :—

	1914.	1915.	1916.
Total cases	413	139	291
Total deaths	381	128	273
Septicæmic cases	247*	81*	159
Septicæmic deaths	246	80	159
Bubonic cases	166	58	132
Bubonic deaths	135	48	114
Total case mortality per cent.	92·2	92·8	93·8
Sept cæmic mor ality per cent.	99·6	98·7	100
Bubonic mortality per cent.	81·3	82·7	86·4

* The cases for 1914 and 1915 each include one septicæmic recovery, but the diagnosis was not in either case confirmed bacteriologically, and may have been erroneous.

The following table shows the monthly incidence of cases during each year :—

	1914.	1915.	1916.
January	4	19	17
February	67	6	18
March	58	3	18
April	28	3	14
May	29	3	11
June	49	1	36
July	47	5	43
August	40	20	35
September	18	21	25
October	23	24	24
November	24	10	25
December	26	24	25
Total	413	139	291
Monthly Mean	34·4	11·5	24·2

As in the two previous years, the largest number of cases occurred amongst young adults, males being attacked more frequently than females.

Similarly, the chief focus of infection as regards both rat and human plague was again situated in the Sea street area. During 1916 there were, in addition to the main Sea street centre, five other outbreaks, viz., in Kehelwatta, Silversmith street, Grandpass road, Skinner's road south, Marichchikkade, and Short's road. In addition to these, there were a few sporadic cases throughout the town, notably in Modara, which, owing to its outlying and isolated situation, was one of the latest parts of the town to become infected. As regards the persistence of the Sea street area as the chief focus of infection, this is probably associated with (*a*) the existence of an old system of underground insanitary rain-water drains which are much infested with rats ; and (*b*) the fact that the bulk of the private wholesale grain stores, in none of which has any attempt at rat proofing been made, are situated within this area. As regards the other centres of infection, there is, as was observed in the two previous years, one striking feature common to them all, viz., the existence of crowded insanitary tenements which are invariably found to be infested with rats.

The same preventive measures as hitherto were carried out, reliance being placed chiefly upon isolation of patients in hospital, segregation of contacts, evacuation of insanitary tenements in infected localities pending the carrying out of structural improvements, pesterining of infected and adjoining houses, and capture and destruction of rats, including trapping, poisoning, and fumigation of rat runs by Clayton machines, six of which are now in use. Anti-plague vaccination proved to be so unpopular that it has practically been abandoned, and the stock of serum which was obtained by the Municipality from Bombay has had to be destroyed.

The comparative absence of the usual signs of an epizootic amongst the rats was again a striking feature, but the very limited amount of work which has been possible in the matter of opening up rat runs indicates that most of the affected rats die within and remain concealed in their runs.

Rat Catching.

	1915.	1916.
Number of rats trapped and found dead ..	147,198 ..	146,751
Number of poison baits placed ..	3,913,944 ..	3,171,655
Number of poison baits eaten or removed by rats	734,697 ..	509,414
Number of rats sent to Bacteriologist ..	23,187 ..	22,476
Number of rats found infected ..	57 ..	62

CLIMATE.

General Remarks.—There is a marked variation in climate between the different parts of Ceylon. In the low-country, with a mean temperature of about 80° F., a noticeable feature is the small range of both temperature and pressure; there is, however, wide divergence between the moist conditions in the south-west of the Island, where the average annual rainfall varies from 100 to 200 inches, and the dry zone areas of the north, north-west, and south-east.

Inland, with altitudes reaching 8,000 feet, the temperature is cooler, and shows a bigger range; there is a corresponding change in vegetation, and the conditions are altogether more akin to those in the temperate zone.

Rainfall.—The highest annual rainfall registered was at Avissawella, which had a total of 208·17 inches and 182 days on which rain fell. The lowest annual rainfall was at Ettalai resthouse, which had a total of 25·99 inches in 45 days. The stations with the highest and lowest average annual rainfall are, respectively, Padupola with 219·53 inches in 200 days, and Pomparippu resthouse with 36·89 inches in 57 days. The longest drought occurred at Galgamuwa resthouse, lasting for 78 days, November 28, 1915, to February 13, 1916. The longest wet period occurred at Strathellie estate, Ambegamuwa, lasting for 54 days, July 3 to August 25.

The total rainfall at Colombo (Cinnamon Gardens) was 90·57 inches in 183 days. At Kandy 75·12 inches were registered in 178 days, while the total rainfall at Nuwara Eliya was 77·51 inches in 187 days. The rainfall for the year for the country to the west of a line drawn midway between Chilaw and Puttalam to a point little east of Matara was in decided excess. The remainder and the much larger portion of the Island was as decidedly in deficit.

Temperature.—The station showing the highest mean shade temperature for the year was Trincomalee with 83·3° F., and the lowest Nuwara Eliya with 59·6° F. The figures for Colombo and Kandy were 80·1° F. and 76·4° F. respectively.

The highest shade temperature recorded during the year was 101·0° F. at Trincomalee on April 20. The highest on record is 103·7° F. at Trincomalee on May 12, 1890. The highest shade temperature at Colombo in 1916 was 91·6° F. on December 8.

The mean daily range, *i.e.*, the difference between the mean of the maximum and the mean of the minimum, was highest at Nuwara Eliya (19·9° F.), and lowest at Galle (8·6° F.). At Colombo and Kandy it was 12·4° F. and 16·4° F. respectively. The absolute range for the year, *i.e.*, the difference between the highest and the lowest readings actually recorded, was greatest at Nuwara Eliya (46·8° F.), and lowest at Galle (20·8° F.)

XI.—POSTAL SERVICE.

No new post offices were opened during the year 1916. One at Pinnawela, Sabaragamuwa, was closed owing to insufficiency of business. Four additional village receiving offices and two railway receiving offices were opened. Four additional postal telegraph offices were opened, and one railway telegraph office made available for public traffic. At the end of the year the total number of offices of all classes was 513, of which 185 were telegraph offices.

The number of articles, exclusive of parcels, which passed through the post in 1916 is estimated at 43½ millions, as against 46⅓ millions in 1915 and 49¼ millions in 1914. The number of parcels dealt with was the highest on record, viz., 753,837, an increase of 36,020 over the figures of the previous year. Of these, 43,230 were to or from the United Kingdom, an increase of 6,405.

The total number of telegrams dealt with was also the highest on record. The figures for 1915 and 1916 were :—

	1915.	1916.
Inland	971,620 ..	1,127,256
Indian	225,625 ..	252,721
Other countries	110,357 ..	116,137
Total ..	1,307,602	1,496,114

The previous highest total was 1,380,195 in 1914.

Mail Services.—A motor mail contract service superseded the horse coach service on the Talawakele-Lindula-Agrapatana line. There are now three motor services performed for the Department by the Ceylon Government Railway, and eight motor services performed by private contractors.

Runner services were replaced by a bicycle service between Hambantota and Tissamaharama, and a hackery service between Galle and Nakiyadeniya.

Owing to the suspension of the Orient Line sailings, the English mail was received and transmitted fortnightly *viâ* the Indo-Ceylon Railway between Bombay and Colombo alternately with the usual fortnightly delivery by P. & O. steamers.

The parcel post service with Russia had to be suspended owing to transport difficulties caused by the war.

An express letter delivery service was inaugurated in Colombo.

Post Office Savings Bank.—The maximum allowed to be deposited in any one year was raised from Rs. 300 to Rs. 750, exclusive of one withdrawal repaid, and the total interest-bearing deposit allowable raised from Rs. 1,500 to Rs. 3,000.

Sanction was obtained for the acceptance of stamped slips for deposits, and for the withdrawal of sums not exceeding Rs. 10 at any post office without reference to the head office.

A telegraph deposit account system was inaugurated at the Central Telegraph Office, Colombo.

Telephones.—Telephone exchanges were opened at Kelaniya, Ragama, and Negombo, and public call offices at Horana, Ingiriya, Ragama, Matale, and Pussellawa.

Seven licenses were granted for the installation of private telephone systems.

There was a steady increase in the number of subscribers to the Post Office Telephone System. The number of connections to the Colombo Exchange on December 31 was 1,495, Kandy 73, Nuwara Eliya 72, Galle 46, Kalutara 22, Negombo 18. There are five other smaller Government exchanges.

New trunk lines were completed between Polgahawela and Kandy (30 miles) (to complete the duplication of the Colombo-Kandy trunk line) and between Kandy-Wattegama-Matale (21 miles).

Junction lines were constructed between (1) Wattegama and Elkaduwa (8 miles); (2) Gampola and Pussellawa (11 miles); (3) Nuwara Eliya and Kandapola (6 miles); (4) Hatton-Kotagala-Talawakele (8 miles); (5) Pundaluoya-Watagoda-Talawakele (12 miles); (6) Kotmale and Nawalapitiya (7 miles).

Telegraph Routes.—An additional telegraph line was run from Colombo to Avissawella (36 miles) and one constructed between Matara and Akuressa (13½ miles) during the year. Eight additional sections of the Railway were equipped with the Tyer's tablet apparatus.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

Public Works Department.

The total expenditure of the Public Works Department has increased from Rs. 3,437,862 in 1896 to Rs. 9,797,672 in 1916, the latter figure showing an increase of Rs. 2,733,207 over 1915. The average annual expenditure during the past twenty-one years has been Rs. 5,648,460.

The total length of roads maintained by the Public Works Department during the year was 4,026 miles, of which 3,747 miles are cart roads and 279 miles are bridle roads.

Amongst the more important works carried out or in course of construction may be mentioned the following :—

General.—Bungalows for Government officers stationed in Colombo; grain sheds, Colombo; quarters for Police Magistrate, Matara; office for the Assistant Conservator of Forests, Haputale; quay wall, additional jetty, and export shed, Galle Customs; improvements to Customs, Colombo; office and quarters for District Engineer, Panadure; quarters for District Engineer, Maradankadawala.

Medical Buildings.—New Lunatic Asylum, Angoda; new Merchants' Ward, General Hospital, Colombo; new hospitals at Pimbura, Chilaw, Passara, Alutnuwara, Kitulgala, Kahawatta, and Aranayaka; additions to the hospitals at Buttala, Kegalla, Kolonna, and Lunugala; and new dispensaries at Watawala, Baduluwela, Hambegamuwa, and Kahataruppe.

Police Buildings.—Police station and barracks, Panadure; police barracks, Kurunegala; and quarters for police at Avissawella.

Progress was also made with the Colombo Lake Development Scheme; construction of a quarantine camp for coolies at Mandapam, South India; and the Karaiyur reclamation, Jaffna.

Irrigation.

The total expenditure of the Irrigation Department for the financial year 1915–16 was Rs. 745,500.

The schemes under construction were Karachchi, Unnichchai, Pattipola-aru, and Kirindi-oya right bank. Work on Tabbowa scheme, which was closed down at the end of the last financial year, has not been re-started.

Surveys were made in connection with the following schemes :—Giant's tank, Kirindi-oya right bank, Walawe left bank, Nalanda-oya, Karachchi, Unnichchai, Pattipola-aru, Kantalai, Allai, and Nachchaduwa.

The area irrigated and paying rate under the Crown works is 123,844 acres; in addition, there is a large area irrigated free. A considerable area of irrigable land is ready for development.

Survey.

The operations of the Survey Department for the period under review, with the staff reduced owing to the war, comprised 70,436 acres of block surveys and 77,620 acres of topographical surveys with block survey insets for settlement purposes.

The number of block survey preliminary plans issued was 64, containing 3,853 lots covering an area of 24,373 acres. The number of topographical preliminary plans issued with block survey insets was 4, containing 183 lots covering an area of 83,550 acres.

The total area now covered by block survey is 2,129,850 and by topographical survey with block survey insets 1,093,380 acres, making a total of 3,223,230 acres.

138 final village plans for 73,273 acres in 2,919 lots were issued to the Government Agents and the Assistant Government Agents during the year. The total area covered by final village plans in the hands of the Government Agents and their Assistants now stands at 718,852 acres contained in 25,447 lots, or 1,717 final village plans.

1,318 preliminary plans for 14,888 acres in 5,001 lots were forwarded to the Government Agents and their Assistants.

There have been 37 applications to purchase Crown land for rubber cultivation dealt with during the period, totalling 461 acres. Most of them lie in the Western and Southern Provinces.

Many surveys have been carried out for acquisition in connection with important public purposes.

Extensive surveys for dealing with the irrigable lands under Vakaneri tank in the Eastern Province and forest reserves in the Northern Province were carried out.

The topographical flat map survey of the Province of Sabaragamuwa was completed.

Railway Department.

Open Line.

The total length of line open for traffic was 705⅞ miles, or 13¼ miles in excess of the previous year, due to the opening of two sections, viz., Madampe to Chilaw on the broad gauge and Ratnapura to Dela on the narrow gauge.

The receipts for the year amounted to Rs. 18,014,543, or an increase of Rs. 1,575,298 as compared with last year.

In passenger traffic the total number of passengers conveyed shows an increase of 1,726,063, cooly traffic contributing no less than 63,346 coolies.

The weight of goods conveyed during the year was 1,210,635 tons, as against 1,043,543 tons in the preceding year. Of this, 107,491 tons represent the weight of foreign goods conveyed between Colombo and India *viâ* Talaimannar.

The principal increases are under the heads of Rubber 3,804 tons, Rice 23,771 tons, Fruit and Vegetables 3,612 tons, Plumbago 12,320 tons, Manure 58,898 tons, Sundry Goods 47,985 tons, and Foreign Goods 19,501 tons. There has, however, been a falling off in Tea and Packing of 1,806 tons and 3,082 tons respectively.

The expenditure for the year was Rs. 7,944,893. This includes a sum of Rs. 56,126 spent on new works and charged to ordinary working expenses.

The result of the year's working stands as follows:—

	Rs.
Receipts	18,014,543
Working expenses	7,944,893
Balance	11,021,089

Of this balance, a sum of Rs. 805,082 was expended on new works and improvements and added to capital account.

The capital cost of the Railway to September 30, 1916, was Rs. 130,044,966, and the capital outstanding on Railway Loans Rs. 56,069,986.

During the year 3 Nanu-oya engines, 4 shunting engines, and 160 passenger and goods vehicles were put into use.

Railway Extensions.

On March 1 the Chilaw Railway was opened for all descriptions of traffic to Madampe, also for goods only to Kakkapalliya and Chilaw. On May 1 His Excellency the Governor opened the whole line for all traffic to Chilaw.

On April 3 the Pelmadulla extension was opened for goods only to Dela station, and a large traffic is being obtained. Good progress was made on the remainder of the extension.

Steady progress was made on the Badulla extension, especially between Bandarawela and Naulla.

The survey and estimate of the proposed line between Chilaw and Puttalam was finished.

The survey of the proposed line between Horana and Agalawatta was completed; and the survey of the line between Katukurunda and Agalawatta was well in hand, and will be completed about May, 1917.

The survey and estimate of the proposed harbour rail connection was completed, and application for the acquisition of land is being made.

On the Main line du ation good progress was made with the earthwork and masonry between R a and Veyangoda.

At the end of 1916 the work in Colombo under the Stations extension scheme was in a forward state.

Three large broad gauge goods sheds and yards are now in use, also two large sheds and yards to accommodate narrow gauge traffic.

The new Fort Station, Colombo, was partially prepared for traffic, but was not brought into use during the year under review.

Colombo Drainage Works.

The drainage of Colombo has been undertaken by Government at the request of the Municipal Council, the necessary funds being advanced by Government on loan, while further assistance is being given by the contribution of a part of the expenditure as a free grant.

The scheme provides for a complete system of sewers and rain-water drains throughout the city, and for the disposal of the sewage by bacterial treatment upon modern lines.

At the end of 1916 122 miles of sewers and rain-water drains had been laid, and 5 pumping stations brought into regular operation.

The City Sanitation Engineer's report for December showed that 24 public water-carriage latrines had been constructed and put into use, and that 968 other premises had been drained.

XIII.—EXCISE.

The Excise Department is now in the fifth year of its existence.

The sanctioned strength of the Department in 1915 was 1 Excise Commissioner, 1 Deputy Commissioner, 4 Assistant Commissioners, 1 Excise Adviser, 2 Superintendents, 13 Assistant Superintendents, 1 Distillery Officer, 101 Inspectors, and some 227 Peons, in addition to a Clerical Staff.

The Deputy Commissioner continued to act as Excise Commissioner, in addition to his own duties.

The rules governing the constitution and procedure of Excise Advisory Committees were amended by providing for a majority of unofficial members on the Committees. New Committees were created for Negombo and Chilaw.

To prevent the "cocaine habit" from spreading in Ceylon, new notifications regulating the importation, fees, periods, restrictions, conditions, and forms of license for the sale and possession thereof were passed. The regulations affecting its possession and sale by medical practitioners were so framed as to allow a *modus operandi* in their case.

Stringent measures were also taken to put down the use of every part of the hemp plant (*cannabis indica* or *sativa*), *e.g.*, in forms commonly known as ganja and bhang. The import, export, and possession of these or any other preparation or admixture of each were prohibited in 1914. The regulations as they now stand prohibit this drug, with exceptions in favour of corn paints, corn plasters, bromidia, chlorodyne, and tinctura chloroformi et morphinæ composita.

The efforts of the Department to put down the use of ganja and bhang or any preparation thereof have resulted in prosecutions during 1916 as follows :—

Number of cases decided	..	..	339
Number of persons convicted	..	..	289
Total fines and forfeitures	..	..	Rs. 38,826·21

Illicit practices, such as distillation and the sale and possession of liquor by unauthorized persons and Excise offences generally, are being strongly repressed,

and considerable success has been achieved in this direction. The system of offering rewards for good work has been an inducement to satisfactory preventive work.

The constant supervision of the Excise Staff and the fear of detection on the part of the culprit have tended to reduce the number of offences against Excise law. The number of detections in 1916 was 3,981, of which 1,742 were compounded for Rs. 20,055. The prosecutions in courts resulted in fines and forfeitures amounting to Rs. 128,937·57, exclusive of other punishment, such as imprisonment, &c. The number of detections in 1915 was 4,113, of which 1,538 were compounded for Rs. 21,509·55. In 1915 the amount of fines and forfeitures was Rs. 121,268·47.

There has been an increase in the sums bid for the various arrack and toddy rents for the financial year 1916–17 as compared with those of 1915–16, thus :—

	Arrack. Rs.	Toddy. Rs.
1916–17..	7,807,658 ..	1,459,772
1915–16..	6,747,378 ..	973,844

The causes of this increase are, among others, decrease in illicit practices detrimental to *bona fide* licensees, recovery from the first shock of the war, and the great prosperity of the tea, rubber, and plumbago industries.

The fees obtained in the financial year 1916–17 by the issue of foreign liquor licenses, which are assessed on a system of gallonage or business done, amounted to Rs. 144,280·50. The revenue derived from this source for the financial year 1915–16 was Rs. 144,280.

The general conditions applicable to all Excise licenses remained the same.

The arrack and toddy rent sale conditions were revised, with minor additions, for the financial year 1916–17.

In 1916 there has been a rise in the consumption of arrack and toddy. Doubtless the high prices payable for foreign liquor have led to increased consumption of the cheaper beverages, arrack and toddy :—

	Arrack. Gallons consumed.	Toddy. Gallons consumed.
1916	1,286,367 ..	3,998,645
1915	1,212,828 ..	3,144,672

219 private distilleries were licensed in the year 1916, as against 247 in 1915. The Distillery Area is a narrow belt of sea coast extending about 100 miles south and east from Panadure. Increased supervision and control have been exercised over these distilleries.

In 1916 there were 108 successful prosecutions (as against 53 in 1915) by officers of the Distillery Circle. The fines imposed by courts in cases instituted by the Superintendent of Excise, Distillery Circle, amounted to Rs. 16,344·50. Apart from this, the fees imposed on account of compounded offences in the Distillery Area amounted to Rs. 1,354.

The Government Experimental Distillery at Kalutara worked for a short period in 1916, and useful information and data were gathered from the various experiments made there.

The Distillery which was erected at Point Pedro by the Ceylon Sugar Refineries, Limited, to distil non-potable alcohol, was licensed, and started work in the latter part of the year 1916. The spirit obtained has been distilled from molasses.

A Commission was appointed during the year to inquire into and consider the arrangements for the manufacture and sale of spirits in the Colony. The Commission had not sent in its report at the close of the year.

R. H. WHITEHORN,
Acting Third Assistant Colonial Secretary.

May, 1917.

H. C. COTTLE, GOVERNMENT PRINTER, COLOMBO, CEYLON.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

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ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
897	Seychelles	1915
898	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1915–1916
899	Gibraltar	1915
900	Bahamas	1915–1916
901	Swaziland	"
902	Somaliland	"
903	Cyprus	"
904	Ceylon	1915
905	Straits Settlements	"
906	Grenada	1915–1916
907	Falkland Islands	1915
908	Bermuda	"
909	Jamaica	1915–1916
910	British Guiana	1915
911	Basutoland	1915–1916
912	Barbados	"
913	Leeward Islands	"
914	Uganda	"
915	British Honduras	1915
916	Mauritius	"
917	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
918	St. Lucia	1915–1916
919	Nyasaland	"
920	Nigeria	1915
921	East Africa Protectorate	1915–1916
922	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	"
923	Hong Kong	1916
924	Weihaiwei	"
925	Zanzibar	"
926	Fiji	"
927	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
928	Cayman Islands	1915–1916
929	Seychelles	1916
930	Trinidad and Tobago	"
931	Gibraltar	"
932	Bahamas	1916–1917
933	St. Helena	1916

MISCELLANEOUS.

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80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-Percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.

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COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 971.

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REPORT FOR 1917.

(For Report for 1916 see No. 934.)

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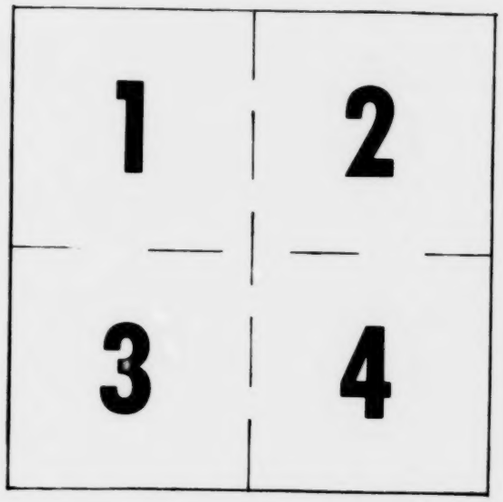

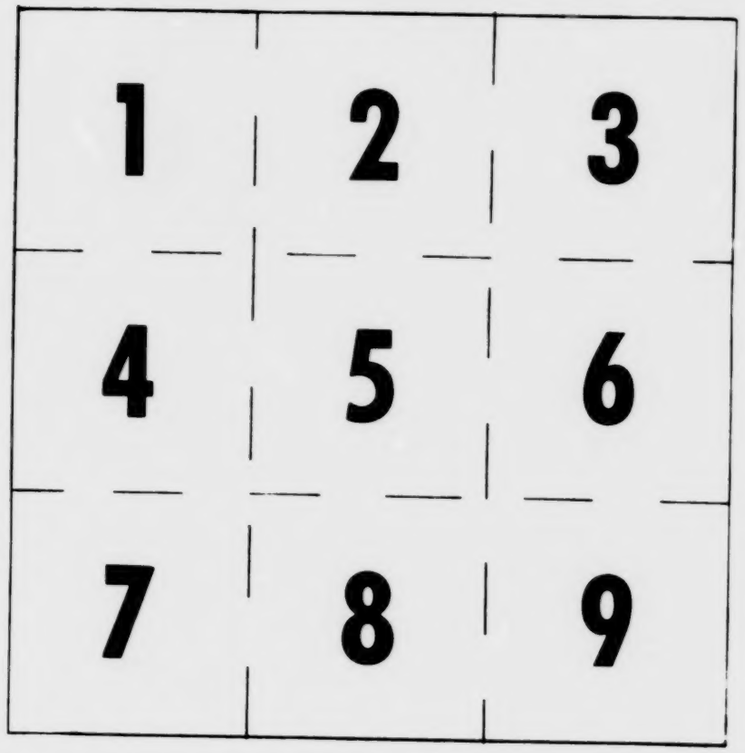

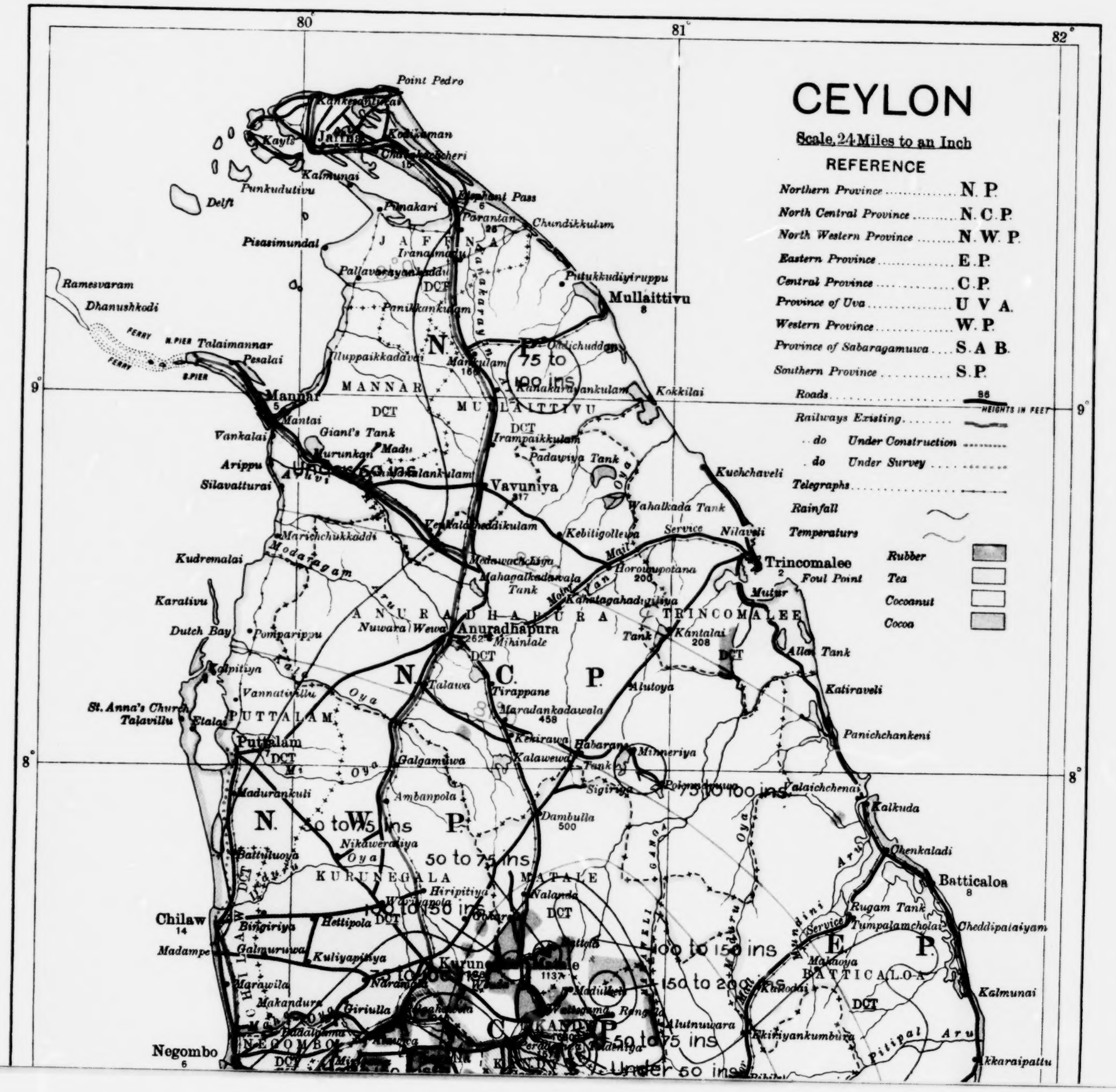
CEYLON
Scale, 24 Miles to an Inch
REFERENCE
Northern Province N.P.
North Central Province N.C.P.
North Western Province N.W.P.
Eastern Province E.P.
Central Province C.P.
Province of Uva U.V.A.
Western Province W.P.
Province of Sabaragamuwa S.A.B.
Southern Province S.P.
Roads
HEIGHTS IN FEET
Railways Existing
do Under Construction
do Under Survey
Telegraphs
Rainfall
Temperature
Rubber
Tea
Cocoanut
Cocoa
80°
81°
82°
9°
8°
Point Pedro
Kankesanturai
Jaffna
Kayts
Kodikaman
Chavakachcheri
Kalmunai
Punkudutivu
Delft
Elephant Pass
Pilnakari
Parantan
Chundikkulam
Pisasimundal
JAFFNA
Iranaimadu
Pallavarayankaddu
Putukkudiyiruppu
Mullaittivu
Ramesvaram
Dhanushkodi
FERRY
N.PIER
S.PIER
Talaimannar
Pesalai
Panikkankulam
Olodichuddan
Iluppaikkadavai
Mankulam
MANNAR
MULLAITTIVU
Kokkilai
Mantai
Giant's Tank
Vankalai
Arippu
Silavatturai
Vavuniya
Irrampaikkulam
Padawiya Tank
Kuchchaveli
Wahalkada Tank
Kebitigollewa
Nilaveli
Trincomalee
Foul Point
Mutur
Marichchukkaddi
Modaragam
Kudremalai
Horowupotana
Mahagalkadawala Tank
Kahatagahadiliya
TRINCOMALEE
Karativu
Dutch Bay
Pomparippu
ANURADHAPURA
Nuwara Wewa
Anuradhapura
Mihintale
Kantalai
Allai Tank
Kalpitiya
Talawa
Tirappane
Alutoya
Katiraveli
St. Anna's Church
Talavillu
Etalai
PUTTALAM
Maradankadawala
Kekirawa
Habarana
Minneriya
Panichchankeni
Galgamuwa
Kalawewa
Sigiriya
Valaichchenai
Kalkuda
Maduranku
Ambanpola
Dambulla
Nikaweratiya
Batticaloa
Chenkaladi
KURUNEGALA
MATALE
Hiripitiya
Nalanda
Rugam Tank
Chilaw
Bingiriya
Hettipola
Tumpalamcholai
Cheddipalaiyam
Madampe
Galgamuwa
Kuliyapitiya
Makandura
Giriulla
Madulkelle
Mutur
Mutunuwara
BATTICALOA
Kalmunai
Negombo
Akkaraipattu
Under 50 ins
50 to 75 ins
75 to 100 ins
100 to 150 ins
150 to 200 ins
N.C.P.
N.W.P.
E.P.
C.P.
S.P.
DCT

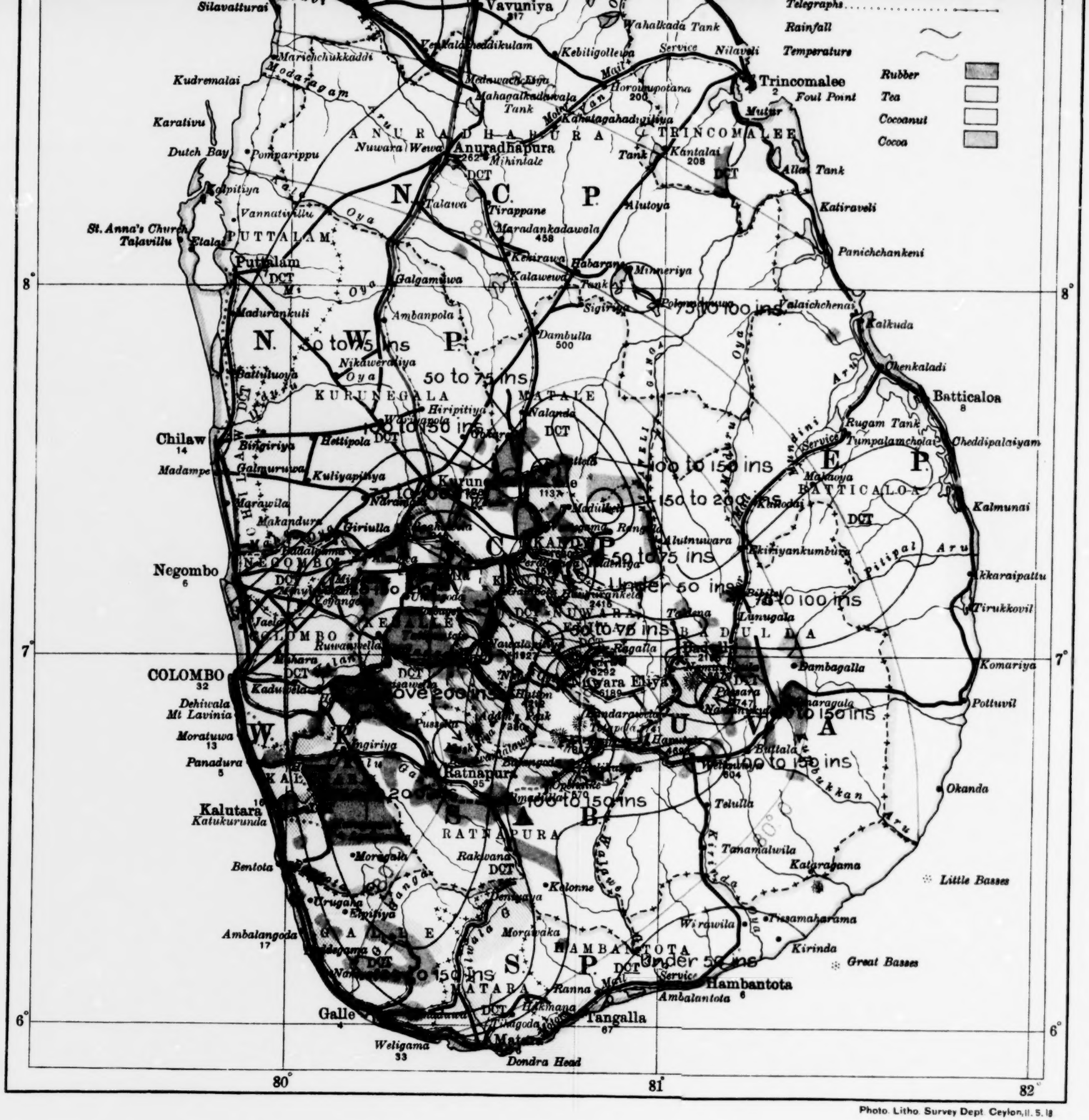

Photo. Litho. Survey Dept. Ceylon, II. 5. 18

REPORT ON THE CEYLON BLUE BOOK FOR 1917.

I.—GENERAL.

THE Colony was administered throughout the year by Sir John Anderson, G.C.M.G., K.C.B.

The Hon. Mr. Ambalavanar Kanagasabai, until 1916 First Tamil Member of the Legislative Council, received the honour of Knighthood; and the Companionship of the Most Distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George was conferred on Mr. A. S. Pagden, Controller of Revenue.

The deaths of the following are recorded with regret :—Second Lieutenant D. W. Arnott, Second Lieutenant T. A. Carey, and Second Lieutenant H. W. Milligan, all of the Ceylon Civil Service, killed in action ; Mr. J. S. de Saram, Office Assistant, Matara ; Mr. L. B. Clarence, late Senior Puisne Judge ; Mr. J. S. Bowes, late Superintendent of Police ; Mr. G. Grenier, I.S.O., late Registrar of the Supreme Court ; Mr. H. Mooyart, C.C.S. ; and Mr. C. C. M. Fyers, late Superintendent of Surveys.

The following retired from the Public Service during the year :—Mr. J. H. Campbell, Master of the Dredger " Sir John Coode " ; Mr. A. Harvie, Senior Pilot, Colombo ; Mr. J. W. Robertson, Assistant Superintendent of Surveys ; Mr. J. Howison, Assistant Traffic Manager, Ceylon Government Railway ; Mr. L. Shipton, Superintendent of Surveys ; and Mr. J. E. de Silva, Police Magistrate, Kalutara.

In February Mr. M. Stevenson, C.C.S., was appointed Chief Secretary to the Government of Cyprus.

The following gentlemen were appointed by the Governor in January, 1917, to be Unofficial Members of the Legislative Council :—Mr. Noordeen Hadjiar Mohammed Abdul Cader ; Dr. Hilarion Marcus Fernando, M.D., B.Sc. ; Meedeniya Rajakaruna Senanayake Pandita Herat Mudianseralahamillage John Henry Meedeniya, Dissawa ; Mr. Arunachalam Sapapathy ; and Mr. Wickelia Oswald Christopher Dissanayaka Tillekeratne. The Hon. Mr. P. Ramanathan, K.C., C.M.G., was re-elected to represent the Educated Ceylonese in the Legislative Council. In September Mr. E. R. Williams was appointed to act as Urban European Member of the Legislative Council, during the absence of the Hon. Mr. H. Creasy from the Island.

Considering that this is the third year of the great European war, it has been, on the whole, one of very fair prosperity. The effects of the war have, however, undoubtedly been felt more than in the past two years, and there are signs that they will be more felt still in the future. The Colony has had to face this year a general rise of prices, depression in trade, particularly with regard to certain industries, considerable financial stringency, difficulties with exchange, shortage of freight, and a certain amount of want of employment and consequent distress. Notwithstanding this, the total volume of Ceylon trade has been larger than ever before, with the exception of the year 1916, and several of the more important industries have had a very good year. The problem is largely one of adjustment to meet altered circumstances ; the community as a whole has faced it with determination, and with a very fair measure of success.

The question of exchange has caused a considerable amount of anxiety during the year. In normal times, as is well known, the export and import trade of the Island is almost entirely financed by remittances from London to India

by means of the sale of Indian Council drafts. Towards the end of the year 1916 the Government of India found itself forced to restrict the sale of these drafts. The immediate result was that the arrangements for maintaining the exchange between the United Kingdom and India, and consequently between the United Kingdom and Ceylon, India being the channel of exchange for Ceylon, broke down. It at once became necessary to take steps to relieve the immediate pressure on the exchange banks. This was partly effected in January, 1917, by the Government resorting to the expedient of issuing new currency notes to the banks, in exchange for credit in London, a method of procedure which was ultimately legalized by Ordinance No. 1 of 1917, authorizing the holding of a portion of the currency reserve in London. New currency to the extent of Rs. 9,000,000 was issued at this period. The failure of the exchange naturally caused grave dislocation of trade, and the situation was serious for some time, but it was further relieved, at a slightly later date, by an arrangement under which buyers agreed to accept payment in sterling in London. At the same time the Government agreed to accept the payment of export duties in sterling at the offices of the Crown Agents for the Colonies in London. This arrangement, however, can only be considered a palliative, as, though it enables export trade to be carried on, it does not provide means for bringing to the Colony money required for the upkeep of estates and for other domestic purposes, but rather adds to the indebtedness of London to Ceylon. The exchange banks allowed plumbago exporters to draw for the full value of their exports, owing to the national importance of this product, but in the case of tea, rubber, coconut, and other produce they were only able to allow estates to draw sufficient for bare upkeep.

About the middle of the year another situation arose which threatened to become very serious. Ceylon has to pay India a sum of something like ten lakhs weekly for rice and other food stuffs. For the reasons indicated above, the exchange banks, having only limited funds to bring over from India to Ceylon, found themselves unable to issue drafts on their Indian branches to meet the demand for remittances on account of payments for rice and other important food stuffs. An increase in the issue of Council drafts would have put the banks in funds in India; but this, the only real solution of the difficulty, has been found to be impracticable, and will, it is feared, remain so for the duration of the war. As a temporary measure, the Government transferred a portion of its gold reserve to the Bank of Madras in exchange for credit in India, and arranged with that bank to issue drafts up to the amount of this credit, until an arrangement could be effected with the Government of India for dealing with the situation. This was ultimately done by an agreement by which the Indian Government arranged to place ten lakhs of rupees to the credit of this Government weekly for six months, such credit to be utilized only in the purchase of food stuffs and by importers approved by the Principal Collector of Customs, who were permitted to draw upon this credit. This ten lakhs was to be paid for by a remittance of two lakhs in silver rupees weekly to India, and by the payment of the balance of eight lakhs to the Secretary of State for India in London. This arrangement, which came into operation on August 1, effected the purpose for which it was made. It was, however, found, towards the end of September, that the drawings on India had not been so large as had been anticipated, and, moreover, considerable sums of money had begun to be deposited to the credit of the Ceylon Government in India on account of the purchase of South Indian teas for the British Government by the Treasury Chest Officer, Ceylon, these transactions being financed, in the first instance, by the Colonial Government. It was decided, therefore, that, until these credits had been exhausted, the arrangements for the weekly credit of ten lakhs should remain in abeyance. This condition of affairs continued for the remainder of the year.

Another matter which has come very much to the fore during the year is that of the supply of food stuffs. Ceylon is to a very great extent dependent

upon India for its supply of rice and curry stuffs, the staple food both of the indigenous population and of the immigrant estate labourers. The annual import of rice amounts to between 7¾ and 8 million hundredweights, and of this the greater part comes from India. So long as the exchange between the two countries remains stable there is no difficulty, and Ceylon is able to draw on India for all the rice she requires. Directly, however, exchange is interrupted, Ceylon ceases to be able to meet her liabilities, the import trade is affected, and, unless relief is forthcoming speedily, must cease altogether. The steps which have been taken to deal with the exchange question have already been indicated, but it has been felt that this is not of itself sufficient, and that every endeavour should be used to make Ceylon as far as possible self-supporting with regard to her food supplies. The question presented some difficulties, and all efforts to deal with the situation had to be largely experimental. Leaflets in the vernaculars have been printed and distributed throughout the country; seeds of good quality, especially of vegetables and of curry stuffs, were distributed through the Government Agents at the commencement of the north-east monsoon; the Government Agents have induced the cultivators to cultivate as large areas of paddy as possible; and every encouragement has been given to "chena" cultivation. Considerable assistance has been given by the Ceylon Agricultural Society in procuring and distributing seed; the Department of Education helped by increased encouragement of school gardens, and experiments with various curry stuffs, &c., were made at the experimental stations at Peradeniya and Anuradhapura. Special efforts were made to encourage the cultivation of suitable vegetables in all parts of the country. It is rather early yet to say what the results of these endeavours will be, but they have certainly led to an increased interest in the cultivation of food products, while there is evidence that much of the food and curry stuffs now imported could be grown locally. Pulses, onions, and chillies thrive well in most parts of the Colony.

The condition of the people has been fairly satisfactory on the whole, but less so than in 1916. In the tea and especially the rubber districts there has been no decrease of prosperity, but in the coconut districts matters have not been so favourable. The depression has been especially felt in the maritime districts from Chilaw to Hambantota, districts which before the war were among the most prosperous in the Island. There is not much actual distress so far, but many people have been reduced from a position of comparative affluence to the bare minimum sufficient for their sustenance. The failure of the plumbago market towards the close of the year has increased this tendency, not only in the vicinity of the mines, but also in the neighbourhood of Colombo, where most of the sorting and "curing" is carried on. In those districts which are devoted to the cultivation of paddy, the year has been, on the whole, decidedly prosperous, but a small rainfall in the early part of the year led to a partial failure of the crops in the Puttalam and Mannar Districts, and floods and unseasonable rains damaged the crops in Batticaloa and caused distress there. In the latter district it became necessary to start relief works, and to give advances for the purchase of seed paddy. Prices have unfortunately continued to rise, particularly those of imported food stuffs and luxuries. There has been no change worth noting in the general habits and customs of the people. There has been no noticeable increase in vagrancy due to unemployment, and the return for the whole Island of cases of house-breaking, theft of cattle, and theft generally, crimes which might be committed by persons in want, actually shows a slight decrease in 1917 as compared with 1916.

The following summary of some of the measures taken during the year in connection with the European war will be of interest:—

In November, 1915, the Legislature passed an Ordinance enabling the Colony to make a contribution of £1,000,000 to the mother country towards the cost of the war, payable in ten annual instalments. It was considered that the

time had come to increase this contribution, and accordingly a further Ordinance was passed in June, 1917, authorizing the Government to raise a loan not exceeding Rs. 15,000,000, and to place the amount so raised at the disposal of His Majesty's Government. Interest at the rate of 3 per cent. was to be paid, and also further sums were to be distributed by drawings of bonds annually by way of premia or prizes. Unfortunately, however, owing very largely to the depression which set in with regard to all industries connected with the cultivation of the coconut, the loan did not prove successful, and it became necessary to abandon the issue. The want of success of the loan made it impossible for Ceylon to contribute the £1,000,000 at once. It was accordingly decided to pay the money by instalments, in a somewhat similar manner to that in which the original contribution was paid, and the following resolution was passed by the Legislative Council on October 24 :—" This Council approves of the payment to His Majesty's Government of a sum of £1,000,000 as a further contribution towards the cost of the war, payment to be made within the next ten years by such instalments as may be found convenient." It was also decided that contributors to the proposed loan who wished to do so should be invited to allow their money to remain with Government for three years, Government paying interest meanwhile at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum. A sum of £100,000 was remitted to England as the first instalment of this second contribution of £1,000,000.

An Ordinance was passed towards the end of 1916 providing for the obligatory enlistment of all male British subjects of European birth between the ages of 18 and 50 under the "Volunteer" Ordinance. Registration of all male Europeans was carried out under the provisions of this Ordinance during the early part of the year, and special committees were appointed for the various divisions of the Island to deal with applications for exemption from service. The compulsory clauses came into operation in June, and the Ordinance has worked, on the whole, very satisfactorily. The Ceylon Planters' Rifle Corps and the Ceylon Light Infantry have been re-organized on the same lines as a British regiment. A Ceylon Railway Battalion has been raised and organized, and the Ceylon Artillery Volunteers and the Town Guard Artillery have been amalgamated into one corps under the title of the Ceylon Garrison Artillery. Camps were held at Diyatalawa for the Ceylon Mounted Rifles and for the Ceylon Planters' Rifle Corps between July 6 and September 14, and a camp was held in Colombo for the Colombo Town Guard. Quarterly camps of three days' duration each were held for the two former corps also, and at all camps training was carried out on the lines of a training reserve battalion in England.

Perhaps one of the most interesting features of the year in this connection has been the raising of a Ceylon Sanitary Company for service in Mesopotamia. The proposal to form such a company, which emanated in the first instance from Mr. A. H. Nathanielsz, District Engineer, Public Works Department, was gratefully accepted by the Army Council. The establishment of the company was originally fixed as follows :—1 Major, 2 Captains, 2 Lieutenants, 4 sergeants, 5 corporals, and 91 privates, and the work was to include the chlorination of water, selection of camp sites, and generally the supervision of sanitary arrangements at the advance base of the Expeditionary Force. The cost of the company was to be borne by colonial funds. The company was completed by the middle of July, and after a period of training at Diyatalawa left the Island for Bombay *en route* for Mesopotamia on September 10, disembarking at Basrah on the 27th of that month. That the company is giving a good account of itself may be inferred from the fact that since the end of the year the War Office have telegraphed three times for additional men, all of whom have been equipped and despatched.

In October, 1916, a committee, styled the Colombo Rivercraft Committee, was, at the request of the Government of India, constituted under the chairmanship of the Chairman of the Colombo Port Commission to assist in securing floating craft, plant, and men for service in Mesopotamia. The committee

has not been able to render much assistance in the way of floating craft, but some plant and material have been sent up, and 315 mechanics, consisting of 8 motor mechanics, 55 motor boat drivers, 38 motor boat driver mechanics, 3 turners, 77 fitters, 2 coppersmiths, 5 tinsmiths, 12 blacksmiths, 3 electricians, 4 carpenters, 107 marine ratings, and 1 butler have been sent; and also 50 railwaymen, including 7 drivers, 28 firemen, 3 machinists, 1 carriage examiner, and 11 boilermakers.

Since the commencement of the war it is estimated that approximately 200 Government servants have left the Island on war service, including 26 members of the Civil Service. 167 free passages have been granted by Government to Government servants and others proceeding to the front. The total number of persons who have left the Island on war service, including the Ceylon Contingent, the Ceylon Sanitary Company, and men recruited by the Rivercraft Committee, is approximately 2,750. This is, of course, a very rough figure, as it is obviously impossible to keep accurate statistics.

Commissions were appointed during the year as follows :—

(1) To report upon what steps are necessary to secure the more expeditious despatch of business in the District Court of Colombo. (As a result of this Commission's findings, another Additional District Judge has been appointed for Colombo, making three Judges in all.)
(2) To inquire into and report upon the desirability of introducing legislation for defining the person or class of persons to whom the *Tesawalamai* applies.
(3) To report what amendments are desirable in the law relating to the registration of deaths.
(4) To consider and report upon the recruiting of Indian labour for Ceylon, and especially upon the question whether it is desirable that a greater measure of control and supervision should be exercised by Government.

The following Committees were appointed :—

(1) An Advisory Committee to regulate the affairs of the Technical School.
(2) A Committee to inquire into the desirability of placing prisoners under the care of the Salvation Army.
(3) A Committee to inquire into and advise upon all local orders for the importation of machinery and other materials from the United Kingdom for which there is a demand for war purposes. (The scope of this Committee was afterwards extended to include articles imported from India also.)
(4) A Committee to inquire and report as to the adequacy of the scale of remuneration to notaries.
(5) A Committee to examine and report upon the practice of trafficking in sterling drafts.
(6) A Committee to advise as to what steps it is possible to take to facilitate the employment of natives of Ceylon in the higher ranks of the Public Service, and especially as to the question of securing local candidates for posts for which scientific and technical qualifications are required.

The Commission which was appointed in 1916 to "inquire into and report upon what measures are desirable to encourage such industries (other than agricultural) as exist in the Island, and to promote the establishment of new industries," continued its sittings throughout the year, and has issued a *resumé* of the work of its five Sub-Committees, indicating the progress made.

The "Local Government Commission," appointed in the same year, has finished its work and issued its report, and a comprehensive Ordinance giving effect to its proposals is now under consideration.

II.—FINANCIAL.

Revenue.

The revenue collected during the period October, 1916, to September, 1917, amounted to Rs. 66,981,877, showing an increase of Rs. 4,146,177 over the estimate, and of Rs. 968,867 over the revenue of the previous financial year. The principal sources which contributed to the increase this year were the Customs and the Railway.

Expenditure.

The expenditure for 1916–17 was estimated at Rs. 63,573,051, but the amount actually spent was Rs. 64,335,670, which shows an increase of Rs. 8,231,155 over the expenditure of 1915–16. The increase is chiefly due to the expenditure on account of Ceylon War Services.

Assets and Liabilities.

The assets of the Colony on September 30, 1917, were Rs. 58,115,851, and the liabilities Rs. 19,984,358. The assets consist largely of advances to local bodies, and in particular to the Municipality of Colombo, the principal item among the liabilities being the Widows' and Orphans' Pension Fund.

Public Debt.

At the close of the financial period the public debt of the Colony stood at £5,501,018, or, approximately, one and a quarter times the annual revenue.

Of the loan of £3,436,854 authorized by Ordinance No. 6 of 1909 to meet the cost of the Colombo Harbour and Drainage Works, the Mannar Railway, and other public works, a sum of £1,500,000 was raised at 98½ in 1909–10 bearing interest at 3½ per cent., and a further sum of £1,000,000 was floated in 1914 at 99 bearing interest at 4 per cent.

Currency.

On September 30, 1917, the value of currency notes in circulation was Rs. 38,875,000, and the currency reserve on that date consisted of Rs. 7,850,337 coin in England, Rs. 2,572,500 in gold, Rs. 9,141,200 in silver, and Rs. 19,310,963 in British, Colonial, and Indian investments.

Ceylon Savings Bank.

The Ceylon Savings Bank had a sum of Rs. 3,798,480 to the credit of 38,408 depositors on December 31, 1917, against Rs. 4,107,917 to credit of 38,899 on December 31, 1916. The amount of the Bank's invested funds on December 31, 1917, was Rs. 4,320,737, which includes the reserve fund Rs. 680,884. Interest was allowed on deposits at the rate of 4 per cent. all round for the year 1917.

III.—AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRIES.

Tea.

The area planted with tea approximates to 400,000 acres, mainly planted during the past thirty years, and ranges from sea level to elevations of nearly 7,000 feet. The estates vary in size from 100 acres to about 2,500 acres, and are mainly under European supervision, and worked with Tamil labour from Southern India. There are small areas in various localities which are cultivated by the permanent population, leaf being sold to estate factories in their vicinity.

The average outturn for Ceylon tea ranges between 400 to 500 lb. of made tea per acre, but well-cultivated estates yield more heavily. The quality of the trees varies according to the situation of the estates and to the methods of cultivation and manufacture. The year 1917 was a favourable one for tea, but some restriction of output took place, owing to exchange and freight difficulties consequent upon the war.

Many estates had to modify their manuring programmes owing to exchange difficulties and the high cost of many artificial fertilizers, but cultivation has, as a whole, been maintained at a high level. Some new clearings were planted up in favourable localities, while the removal of tea from under rubber in the low-country continues.

Freight space was controlled during the year owing to shortage of shipping, and the necessity for giving preference to freight for those imports into the United Kingdom which were considered to be essential. This affected tea exports to some extent, particularly those from estates which usually effected local sales in Colombo.

In the last month of the year the export of Ceylon teas to the United Kingdom was taken under the control of the Food Controller, and a Tea Commissioner was appointed locally to deal with controlled tea and to provide for local purchases.

The average prices for local sales of tea have been :—

1915	56·79 cents per lb.
1916	51·79 cents per lb.
1917	49 cents per lb. approximately

Rubber.

The rubber industry continues to thrive and the exports to increase. The area under Hevea rubber is now approximately 251,500 acres, and planting still continues to take place. There is a growing tendency amongst small owners to plant rubber on lands which were formerly used for growing food products, especially in districts well suited by soil and climate for rubber cultivation.

Rubber is gradually displacing cinnamon in parts of the Western Province. In the Kalutara District even paddy lands are gradually being converted into rubber estates—a tendency which is, on the whole, to be deprecated. It results in a diminished production of food stuffs; the rubber is often badly planted and easily becomes diseased, causing these small blocks to be a danger to their neighbours, and the planting of rubber in this way is usually found to be followed by increased idleness and crime on the part of the cultivators. In the Matara District large areas formerly under citronella are now being planted with rubber.

Extension of estate plantings has taken place during the year. Rubber is being interplanted in tea in the low-country with a view to replacing tea by rubber, while on some estates up-country inferior rubber is being cut out.

Thinning operations have been continued throughout the Island, and care is being devoted by estate authorities to the treatment of diseases. The necessity for inspecting officers to deal with plant diseases and pests has been discussed during the year, and provision will shortly be made for the training of such officers.

The average price for all grades of Ceylon rubber sold at the local auctions during 1917 was Re. 1·49 per lb.

Cacao.

Little or no extension of this cultivation is taking place, and the average of 22,000 acres is stationary. Some small areas have been planted up during the year, but other areas which had been interplanted with rubber have been cut out.

The cacao crop has during the year been a satisfactory one, the autumn crop in practically all districts being above the average.

There has been some difficulty in obtaining freight for cacao, and therefore the market has been low and irregular. When freight offered fair prices were realizable, and some satisfactory sales were made in America. At other times prices were low.

There has been an extension of the local manufacture of chocolate during the year, owing to a local demand for prepared chocolate and a ready sale for cocoa butter. The extension of this industry would have been greater had it been possible to procure additional machinery.

The average price for cacao during the year has been Rs. 24·84 per cwt.

Coconuts.

Coconuts and coconut products have suffered severely during the year. Very little freight has offered, and coconut owners have seen prices fall, in spite of high value in European and American markets, until at the end of the year they were barely above the cost of production. The price of coconuts fell in Colombo to as low as Rs. 20 per thousand. Copra fell from Rs. 56·50 at the beginning of the year to Rs. 28 at the end, and coconut oil dropped from Rs. 18 to Rs. 14 per cwt. Continuous efforts were made to relieve the situation. The export taxes on copra and coconut oil were removed with the object of affording some relief. An arrangement which had been come to for the purchase of considerable quantities of coconut oil on behalf of His Majesty's Government materially assisted towards this end. The shortage of tonnage, however, made it impossible to find any really satisfactory solution of the difficulties.

Coconut crops were satisfactory, some districts recording increases over 1916. Some outbreaks of disease, particularly in the Kurunegala District, received careful attention.

Owing to the difficulties regarding the sale of coconut products, estates have had to reduce their expenses to a minimum. Many of the smaller owners have had to stop all cultivation and manuring, but it is satisfactory to note that larger estates are endeavouring to continue their cultivation as usual, and are making use of coconut poonac, owing to its low price, as manure. Careful attention is also being given generally to young plantations, but little or no additional clearings have been planted.

The prices for copra during 1916 and 1917 have been as follows :—

	1916.		1917.	
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
First Quarter	89	75	50	0
Second Quarter	65	75	37	50
Third Quarter	57	0	34	0
Fourth Quarter	55	0	30	0

Cinnamon.

Prices ruled low, except during the last two months of the year, when profitable prices again obtained. The uprooting of cinnamon for coconuts was not considerable during the year, owing to the low prices for coconut products.

Miscellaneous.

Areas under citronella continue to be reduced, and there is some reduction in cardamoms. Interest is being taken in the cultivation of the Robusta types of coffee and in vanilla, while some experiments have been carried out on a small scale with growing Natal-Java indigo for seed.

Paddy crops were, on the whole, satisfactory, although damage was done during the second quarter of the year by caterpillars in several localities, particularly in the Galle District and in parts of the North-Central Province.

Tobacco crops were good. This product is now being widely grown, and samples of leaf sent to England from the Government experimental station in Jaffna show a great improvement in quality, and seem to indicate that it may be possible to grow tobacco in Ceylon for the European market.

The Ceylon Agricultural Society.

The Society, started in 1904, has 829 local members and 696 foreign members. The subscription payable by local members is Rs. 10, and by foreign subscribers Rs. 15 (£1) per annum.

The "Tropical Agriculturist," the Society's journal, is published monthly and issued free to members and subscribers, in addition to an Agricultural Year Book published every other year.

The vernacular magazines, also issued monthly, are available free to members. They are the Sinhalese "Govikam Sangarawa," to which, as supplement, is issued free a Sinhalese edition of the Year Book, and the Tamil "Kamat Tholil Velakkam." Leaflets are published from time to time on special subjects.

Seeds and plants are procured for members at cost price, while vegetable seeds are imported for each planting season. Grafted fruit plants from Australia and India required by members are also procured at cost price.

The Society employs eleven Agricultural Instructors, who itinerate in the various Provinces and afford advice and instruction to cultivators, who have every facility for securing information regarding control of plant diseases, crops, tillage, manuring, &c. Some Instructors have charge of experimental demonstration gardens established in village centres.

The Scientific Staff of the Department of Agriculture is freely available to members of the Society.

Co-operative Credit Societies.

Progress is being made with Co-operative Credit Societies, and during the year 26 new societies have been registered and 4 other applications for registration were under consideration. The registration of 6 societies that were not doing satisfactory work was cancelled during the year and the societies wound up. The total number of societies working at the end of December, 1917, was 88.

The total number of members is now 8,183, an increase of 1,695 on the year 1916, and the paid-up capital has been increased by Rs. 12,297 to a total of Rs. 41,337.

Working societies have issued loans amounting to Rs. 43,368·14 within the year. Government loans to the extent of Rs. 1,500 were issued to two societies, and instalments of previous loans recovered from four. The total amount outstanding under the head " Government Loans " at the end of the year was Rs. 3,213.

The business of the societies is gradually increasing, and greater interest in the Co-operative Credit Society movement is being evinced by the chief headmen and by the village cultivators. Satisfactory progress is being made in the co-operative purchase of paddy manures for distribution amongst members of societies, as is shown by the following figures :—

	Quantity. Tons.	Value. Rs.	c.
1915	46	4,624	7
1916	79	8,380	60
1917	138½	11,633	75

The societies are the medium through which distribution of seeds is made, and encouragement has been given to them to organize village agricultural shows and prize competitions, with a view to encouraging an interest in the greater production of food stuffs.

Diseases of Animals.

Rinderpest.—Outbreaks occurred in six Provinces, and three remained free. The total number of cases for the year was 2,076, against 856 last year. The increase is chiefly due to a somewhat extensive outbreak in the town of Colombo—806 cases.

Foot-and-Mouth Disease.—There was a great increase in the number of cases of this disease during the year, and all Provinces were infected. The total number of cases was 7,132, against 284 last year. As usual in this country, the disease was of a very mild type, and little loss was caused, only 94 deaths being reported.

Anthrax.—The number of cases outside Colombo was 62. In the town 6 cases occurred, and in the Quarantine Station 472 cases amongst the goats and sheep imported from South India, the disease being very prevalent amongst these animals during shipment.

Rabies.—The disease was more prevalent than usual during the year, especially in Colombo town. 42 cases were examined at the Bacteriological Institute, of which 25 were positive and 17 gave negative results. 189 persons went from Ceylon to the Pasteur Institute at Coonoor for treatment. In all 55 cases were reported, of which 51 were from Colombo town. It has been

decided to establish a Pasteur Institute for Ceylon: the necessary buildings are in course of erection, and the Institute will be opened early in 1918.

Piroplasmosis.—Odd cases due to infection by *Piroplasma bigeminum* were reported from time to time, especially amongst imported European cattle.

Surra.—Nil.

Swine Septicæmia.—Nil.

Horses.—No outbreak of infectious disease occurred during the year. The disease that caused most loss was osteoporosis.

Salt.

The manufacture and collection of salt is a Government monopoly. The amount realized by its sale in 1917 was Rs. 1,235,409·13, against Rs. 1,716,792·58 in 1916 and Rs. 1,800,856·22 in 1915.

Owing to the short collection of salt in 1916, which was due to bad weather, it was found necessary to import salt during 1917. A quantity of 339,824 cwt. in all was imported, and is being sold on Government account through local firms.

A Government store was also opened in Colombo, and a portion of the imported salt is held there to supply outstation stores where necessary.

The local production of salt during the year 1917 was again interfered with by wet weather, though not to the same extent as in 1916.

The total local production was 429,893 cwt., distributed as follows :—

	Cwt.
Puttalam District	198,090
Hambantota District	102,067
Trincomalee District	49,754
Northern Province	79,982
Total ..	429,893

The usual selling price at the Government Stores is Rs. 3 per cwt., but owing to short stocks it was found necessary during the year to raise the price temporarily to Rs. 3·75 per cwt. at Puttalam, Trincomalee, and Tondaimannar.

Though no restrictions were placed on the output of salt at any centre during the year, the total collections, exclusive of the salt imported, were only about two-thirds of the annual consumption, and it is possible that further importation may be necessary during 1918.

Sale of Crown Land.

The total extent of Crown land sold and settled (exclusive of settlements under the Waste Lands Ordinance) was 6,158 acres, as compared with 11,373 acres in 1916, 14,773 acres in 1915, and 27,471 acres in 1914.

It has been decided to discontinue, except in special cases, the practice of selling Crown land outright, and to introduce in its place a system of leasing. Owing to this, transactions with regard to Crown land have been restricted during the year. Land is still in demand, particularly in districts suitable for the planting of rubber.

The Land Settlement Department has continued during the year its work of settling title to land as between the Crown and the subject, though its operations have been curtailed to some extent by a reduction of staff. During 1917 an area of some 143,991 acres was settled without recourse to litigation.

Forests.

Re-afforestation.—During the year the area of plantations was increased from 3,396 acres to 4,216 acres.

Exploitation.—Public Departments were supplied during 1917 with 37,140 broad gauge and 25,356 narrow gauge sleepers, 259,551·7·0½ cubic feet of timber, 156,463 cubic yards of firewood, 141 tons 18 cwt. of fuel, and 155,455 pieces of small round timber, &c. The value of these supplies was Rs. 1,030,257·42.

Since 1906 the Forest Department has supplied the Railway Department with 759,019 broad gauge and 281,016 narrow gauge sleepers, at an average cost of Rs. 3·63 and Re. 1·61 per sleeper, respectively. A very large saving over the cost of imported sleepers has been effected by obtaining these supplies from the local forests, while it is admitted that the local sleepers are far more durable than the imported ones.

The revenue received from the public on account of timber, fuel, and minor forest produce during the year was Rs. 259,379·76, against Rs. 273,120·31 during the year 1916. The miscellaneous revenue provided an additional sum of Rs. 11,477·90.

MINES.

In the latter half of the year 1915 the plumbago-mining industry became very active after a period of stagnation lasting for about a year, owing to restrictions in export. This activity continued throughout 1916, which proved to be a record year, both for the value and for the quantity of plumbago obtained, the total quantity exported being 33,410 tons valued at Rs. 22,494,999, which works out at Rs. 673 a ton.

The year 1917 started in the same way, and there was every promise of another good year, as the demand was great, and the Imperial Government had asked that efforts be made to increase the output of 1916 by 9,000 tons.

To meet this demand the local Government, acting on a suggestion of the Industries Commission, offered to give permits to mine on Crown lands, with a view to the discovery of new deposits of plumbago. Advantage was taken of this opportunity to some extent, but, owing to a difficulty in working the system as it was first devised, the scheme was not carried very far. It is, however, expected to have better results in future.

At the beginning of the year there was a great demand for plumbago, and high prices were realized, but the export was somewhat hampered by difficulties of freight. Some best quality plumbago was sold at over Rs. 1,600 a ton, and during the first six months 13,000 tons, to the value of over Rs. 12,000,000, were exported, but during the second half-year the value fell considerably, to Rs. 8,000,000 for 13,164 tons. In comparing these values with normal years, it must be remembered that the very high freight charges practically excluded the inferior grades, and sales were limited to good quality plumbago.

Towards the end of the year the demand for plumbago practically ceased, and there were no sales at all. As a consequence, a great number of the smaller mines ceased to work. The majority of such mines being owned by men of small means, with a labour force of 8 to 20 men, the owners rely entirely on an immediate sale of their plumbago, and any rise or fall in the demand quickly affects them, and the closing down or opening up of these mines does not involve any great expense. Most of the larger mines are continuing work in the hope of an early revival, and fairly good stocks are accumulating.

At the end of the first half of the year there were 1,288 mines at work, employing 19,912 men at the mines, and giving an approximate output of 2,367 tons a month. At the end of the year 764 mines were at work, employing 15,379 men, and yielding approximately 2,161 tons a month. These output returns are extracted from the half-yearly reports, and, though not altogether to be depended on, are found to correspond fairly well with the export returns for the year. From them it is shown that the monthly output of the Southern Province fell from 953 tons a month during the first half of the year to 421 tons a month for the second half. Most of the mines in this Province are small ones. There was a rise in the North-Western Province of 58 tons a month, in the Western Province of 92 tons, in the Province of Sabaragamuwa of 155 tons; whilst the Central Province shows a drop of 28 tons a month.

3,264 new mines were registered during the year. Several large mines were given up as being worked out; but, on the other hand, several mines that were abandoned years ago were re-started, and yielded a considerable quantity of plumbago. Though a good many mines were opened in new villages, no

valuable new deposits have yet been found; but the exploitation of Crown lands may give good results.

The output of plumbago is entirely dependent upon the demand for it and the prices ruling. With an improvement in these respects there is every possibility of Ceylon being able to supply 30,000 tons a year for some years. The quantity of machinery used in mines is steadily increasing, and this enables work to be done to a greater depth, and also allows mines that were formerly abandoned to be re-opened.

The industry at present is in a bad way, and nothing can be done for it until the market for plumbago improves, when opportunities should be given for exploiting new lands, with a view to finding new deposits to take the place of the present ones that are becoming exhausted.

During the year there was the usual mining for gems, and some attempt was made to revive the moribund mica-mining industry. Success in this direction depends principally on the possibility of procuring freight space for the export of the product and of assuring a good market for it.

Mineral Survey.

The Assistant Mineral Surveyor having relinquished his appointment on January 26, work was carried on during 1917 by one officer only. The greater part of the year was devoted to the search for the parent rock of the gem stones found in the alluvial gravels. Both corundum (sapphire) and beryl (aquamarine) were traced to pegmatite veins, but no vein of commercial importance has yet been discovered.

The possibility of manufacturing Portland cement in the Island was investigated from June onwards, samples of apparently suitable materials being collected for analysis. This work is still in progress; it seems probable that suitable materials can be procured for the purpose in easily accessible localities.

Samples of sands apparently suitable for glass manufacture were also collected and sent to England for examination, but duplicate sets of these having been lost in transit, no further progress can be reported at present.

Factories.

The following is a statement of the factories in Ceylon in 1917:—

	Province.							
	Central.	Uva.	Southern.	Western.	Sabaragamuwa.	North-Western.	Northern.	Total.
Tea, rubber, and cacao	592	121	31	96	167	21	—	1,028
Coconut fibre, oil, &c.	—	—	3	82	—	34	—	119
Engineering and saw mills	7	2	3	34	—	—	—	46
Aerated water, ice, &c.	4	1	2	16	—	—	—	23
Printing	—	—	—	11	—	—	—	11
Sundries, manure, spinning, &c.	3	—	1	24	—	—	1	29
	606	124	40	263	167	55	1	1,256
Steam power	119	32	17	117	46	23	1	355
Electric installation	42	5	3	32	6	2	1	91

A further classification of the 29 factories shown under column "Sundries" gives 14 grain-crushing and produce, *i.e.*, sorting, packing, &c., 1 bulk petroleum, 5 hotels, 2 breweries and refineries, 7 brick-making, lead mills, spinning and weaving, and cold storage.

The number of instances in which steam power was in use have diminished by 3½ per cent. Electric lighting installations, on the other hand, have increased by 7 per cent. since last year.

The total number of factories registered by the end of 1916 was 1,251, showing an increase of 5 for 1917, or under one-half per cent.

MANUFACTURES.

Ceylon is essentially an agritultural country, and its manufactures are mostly connected with the products of agriculture, such as the making of tea, coconut oil, &c.

Minor industries, such as silver and brass work, ivory carving, lace-making, furniture-makir &c., have continued during the year, but the lack of demand and the rise in ost of a great many of the materials used have caused them to suffer considera y. Manufacture of tobacco in Jaffna for sale in various parts of the Island and for export to South India was carried on as usual, and the Ceylon Sugar Refineries continued its manufacture of sugar and alcohol from palmyra jaggery. In the Kalutara District an association has been formed to promote the Kalutara basket-weaving industry, which should be of considerable interest and benefit to the village population of that district.

IV.—TRADE.

The total value of Ceylon trade in 1917, excluding specie, but including the value of coal supplied to steamers, amounted to Rs. 498,319,941, as compared with Rs. 521,280,838 in 1916. The figure for 1917 is the highest on record, with the exception of that for 1916. The following table shows the value of the trade in lakhs of rupees for the past ten years :—

Year.	Lakhs of Rupees.	Year.	Lakhs of Rupees.
1908	2,647¾	1913	4,329½
1909	2,853½	1914	4,022¼
1910	3,321¾	1915	4,495½
1911	3,523½	1916	5,212¾
1912	3,886¾	1917	4,983¼

The Customs revenue collected in 1917 totalled Rs. 24,891,362, as against Rs. 25,488,407 in 1916. The decrease was mostly under imports. The import duty collected under the main heads for 1916 and 1917 is as follows :—

	1916. Rs.	1917. Rs.
Grain	4,493,038 ..	4,298,249
Cotton Goods	547,844 ..	735,523
Spirits and Cordials	1,859,945 ..	1,175,645
Sugar	1,240,842 ..	1,127,659
Kerosine Oil	1,756,296 ..	1,526,438
Other Goods	4,377,842 ..	4,154,801

Of the total duty collected in 1917, Rs. 13,018,315 was on imports and Rs. 9,160,776 on exports, exclusive of a sum of Rs. 834,857 recovered on exports of tea, cacao, and rubber under the Medical Wants Ordinance. The refunds of duty recovered on imports in 1917 amounted to Rs. 146,901·17, and on exports to Rs. 268,019·14, the latter being mostly drawbacks on shut-out cargo or refund of duty on tea supplied to the War Office.

The following table shows the total value of the imports and exports, excluding specie, and the value of coal supplied to steamers for the past ten years :—

Year.	Imports. Rs.	Exports. Rs.	Total. Rs.
1908 ..	122,420,393 ..	128,962,156 ..	251,382,549
1909 ..	125,441,597 ..	146,899,631 ..	272,341,228
1910 ..	150,195,648 ..	166,471,607 ..	316,667,255
1911 ..	156,986,106 ..	180,526,959 ..	337,513,065
1912 ..	175,322,979 ..	198,954,902 ..	374,277,881
1913 ..	186,073,086 ..	232,986,954 ..	419,060,040
1914 ..	172,317,549 ..	218,363,846 ..	390,681,395
1915 ..	163,637,758 ..	273,375,987 ..	437,013,745
1916 ..	211,500,753 ..	297,505,905 ..	509,006,658
1917 ..	184,123,986 ..	304,160,457 ..	488,284,443

Of the total exports in 1917, Rs. 292,625,008 represents the value of Ceylon produce and manufactures, showing an increase of Rs. 7,787,032 over 1916, and Rs. 11,535,449 the value of imported goods re-exported, showing a decrease of Rs. 1,132,480 below 1916. Omitting the value of rubber imports, an article which is imported merely for purposes of export, the percentages of imports, exports, and of the total trade from the United Kingdom, British Possessions, and foreign countries for the three recent years are as follows :—

	1915. Per Cent.	1916. Per Cent.	1917. Per Cent.
Imports.			
From United Kingdom	22·33	23·01	18·32
From British Possessions	62·54	59·97	66·01
From Foreign Countries	15·13	17·02	15·67
Exports.			
To United Kingdom	53·79	44·28	39·94
To British Possessions	14·06	12·6	18·09
To Foreign Countries	32·15	43·12	41·97
Total Trade.			
With United Kingdom	42·24	35·64	31·96
With British Possessions	31·86	31·83	35·78
With Foreign Countries	25·9	32·53	32·26

Hitherto the United Kingdom had the largest share of the total trade, but this has now gone to her possessions. The shares of imports from the United Kingdom and foreign countries show a decline, while that from British Possessions shows a rise. For the first time the foreign countries together have taken more exports than the United Kingdom, owing to the large quantity of rubber purchased by the United States of America. The principal country among British Possessions buying Ceylon produce was British India. The value of exports of Ceylon produce to that country rose from Rs. 7,208,018 in 1916 to Rs. 13,624,593 in 1917, due largely to increased shipments of copra.

IMPORTS.

A comparison of the value of imports in 1916 and 1917 shows decreases under nearly all the important heads.

Confectionery.—The imports of this article were equal, roughly, to only one-third the imports of 1916, the quantity being 1,017,441 lb. and 353,001 lb. for 1916 and 1917, respectively. Indian confectionery showed an increase, and formed more than half the total for 1917; while of supplies from foreign countries, Japanese confectionery showed a fall from 62,793 lb. in 1916 to 49,427 lb. in 1917 and Swiss from 24,805 lb. to 9,559 lb. in the same period.

Cement.—The imports amounted to 244,336 cwt., as compared with 315,598 cwt. in 1916, the decrease being due to a fall in imports from Japan from 136,623 cwt. to 67,281 cwt. The United Kingdom has supplied a little more than in 1916. The imports of cement have been sufficient to meet the demands of 1917.

Cotton, Manufactured and Raw. — The value of imports rose from Rs. 12,958,380 in 1916 to Rs. 15,062,024 in the year under review. The share of the United Kingdom for 1917 was 62 per cent. of the value, of British Possessions 29 per cent., and of foreign countries 9 per cent. There was a good demand for bleached piece goods during the year, while imports of lace and net were reduced to about one-half the imports of the previous year. Sewing thread imports are the smallest for the last five years. The prices of cotton goods generally are still on the increase. More dyed yarn was imported from India for use in the local industry, the quantity of the other kinds of yarn imported being about the same as last year.

Grain.—The imports of rice showed a decrease from 8,073,964 cwt. in 1916 to 7,754,121 cwt. in 1917. The Straits Settlements supplied 486,754 cwt., or less than one-half the previous year's amount. The rest of the imports in 1917 was about equally divided between British India and Burma.

Horses and Motor Cars.—The imports of cars, including commercial cars, during the past seven years have been :—

1911	213	1915	296
1912	239	1916	590
1913	407	1917	126
1914	459		

Of the number imported in 1917, 77 were complete cars, 17 were chassis, and 32 were lorries. The duty on all motor vehicles, except lorries, was raised on February 2, 1917, from 33⅓ per cent. to 100 per cent. The imports of petrol (used mainly for cars) for a period of seven years were :—

Year.	Gallons.	Year.	Gallons.
1911 ..	206,208	1915 ..	607,774
1912 ..	216,714	1916 ..	776,092
1913 ..	383,442	1917 ..	884,093
1914 ..	701,082		

Horses.—The number of horses imported fell from 261 in 1916 to 58 in 1917. These came from the United Kingdom and British India. Horses of a value of Rs. 1,000 and over imported into Ceylon are now liable to an *ad valorem* duty of 7½ per cent. Of the number imported, 8 horses have been subject to this duty.

Lamps.—77,375 lamps were imported, valued at Rs. 117,403, or, roughly, one-half of the previous year's imports. Most of the trade was with the United Kingdom. Foreign competitors have not improved their position in this trade.

Metals and Metalware.—The value of imports of metals and metalware was Rs. 8,260,070, a decrease of Rs. 2,426,621 as compared with last year. The largest decrease was in hardware. Galvanized goods decreased by one-half, while imports of galvanized barbed wire amounted to only 1,638 cwt., as against 10,873 cwt. in 1916. Of the various metals, pig lead, which has the largest value, showed an increase of Rs. 476,171 over 1916. Bar, flat, and rod iron and tin slabs also showed large increases, the imports of the latter being equal to double the imports in 1916. The proportion of the value of metals and metalware contributed by the principal countries in 1917 were :—United Kingdom 39¾ per cent., Burma 33¾ per cent., United States of America 13⅓ per cent., Japan 4¼ per cent., and the Straits Settlements 3½ per cent.

Manure.—Imports of all kinds of manures amounted to about 47,000 tons valued at five million rupees, being less than half of the 1916 imports. All sulphate of ammonia imported in 1917 came from the United Kingdom, and superphosphate from Japan, while basic slag and nitrate of soda came principally from the United Kingdom and Japan, respectively. For the rest of the imports British India was the principal or only supplier. There were no imports of two of the specified manures, viz., of kainit and muriate of potash, during the year 1917.

Spirits.—Here, again, the imports were only one-half of those for 1916. All kinds of spirits have shared in the decrease. In 1917 the imports of the three principal spirits in proof gallons have been :—

	Proof Gallons.
Whisky	54,679
Gin	22,051
Brandy	14,894

The duty on these liquors is Rs. 11·25 per proof gallon, with a minimum rate of Rs. 9·60 per gallon.

Sugar.—The imports of sugar have been as follows :—

	1916. Cwt.	1917. Cwt.
Refined or candied sugar	359,463	362,574
Unrefined and jaggery	189,461	43,764

The Straits Settlements, Java, Hong Kong, and Japan, in the order given, are the principal countries supplying Ceylon with refined sugar. The large imports of jaggery in 1916 were due to the establishment of a sugar-refining factory in the Island. This supply was in excess of the requirements for the year, and consequently the imports in 1917 have been reduced to a figure which is still about one and a half times the average annual import of the three years 1913 to 1915. The local factory has manufactured sugar for home consumption, and has also exported 2,394 cwt. to British India in 1917.

Tobacco, Cigars, and Cigarettes.—More cigars and cigarettes were cleared for home consumption and less manufactured tobacco, as the following figures show :—

Quantities Cleared.

Year.	Cigars.	Cigarettes.	Manufactured Tobacco.	Total.
	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.
1915	22,745	231,500	20,432	274,677
1916	31,226	256,779	23,423	311,428
1917	32,676	288,812	15,069	336,557

Cigars were supplied principally by British India, and cigarettes and manufactured tobacco by the United Kingdom.

Ceylon's Chief Sources of Supply.

The following table shows the proportion of values for the principal countries exporting goods to Ceylon. Countries which supplied goods of less than ¼ per cent. of the total value in 1917 (or, roughly, less than Rs. 500,000) are not included in the table :—

		1915.	1916.	1917.
1.	British India	41·19	35·05	35·89
2.	Burma	6·88	14·67	20·35
3.	United Kingdom	21·66	22·11	17·7
4.	Straits Settlements	10·41	8·03	7·02
5.	Japan	3·22	4·32	5·45
6.	United States of America	2·95	3·65	2·99
7.	Borneo (excluding British)	·57	1·28	1·68
8.	Java	2·21	1·54	1·3
9.	Maldive Islands	1·39	1·12	1·22
10.	Sumatra	·37	·14	·71
11.	Holland	·62	·78	·61
12.	Egypt	·16	·03	·56
13.	Hong Kong	·98	·86	·47
14.	France	·64	·52	·36
15.	Siam	·78	·48	·35
16.	Sweden	·29	·29	·33
17.	India (excluding British)	·41	·37	·28

Of the seventeen countries mentioned above, ten are foreign countries, of which Japan and the United States of America and France are the only countries which compete with British countries in imports generally, while the other seven countries supply only a few articles which are more or less the special produce of those countries. These latter are Borneo (excluding British) and Sumatra competing mostly in oils (kerosine oil, petrol, and liquid fuel), Java in refined sugar, Holland in gin and dyed camboys and sarongs, Siam in timber, particularly teak, Sweden in matches and printing paper, and India (excluding British) in rice. Japan and the United States of America maintain the fifth and sixth positions they occupied in 1916, while France has lost a place. There was a notable advance in Burma, due to larger imports of rice than in 1916.

EXPORTS.

Ceylon's staple exports in order of value are as follows :—

	Lakhs of Rupees. 1916.	1917.
1. Rubber	1,035	1,310
2. Tea	1,053	957
3. Plumbago	225	218
4. Copra	219	132
5. Coconut oil	89	101
6. Coconut, desiccated	87	94
7. Arecanuts	28	30
8. Cacao	28	18
9. Citronella oil	13	12
10. Cinnamon	13	10
11. Tobacco, unmanufactured	5	7
12. Coir fibre	9	4
13. Cardamoms	5	4
14. Coconuts	4	3
15. Coir yarn	8	2
16. Poonac	4	2

For the first time rubber takes its place at the head of the table, while tea, which was the principal article of export previously, has the second place. There was a strong demand for coconut oil, but the average price of this article was lower than in the previous year. The quantity of cacao exported was practically the same as in 1916, but here, again, the article showed a considerable drop in value. Arecanuts and unmanufactured tobacco, for which India is our chief customer, improved their positions. Exports of coir fibre and yarn and poonac have suffered considerably, owing to shortage of freight.

The principal countries buying Ceylon produce and manufactures are given in the following table, with the percentages of values taken by each :—

	1915. Per Cent.	1916. Per Cent.	1917. Per Cent.
1. United Kingdom	55·05	45·89	41·07
2. United States of America	18·39	26·87	33·32
3. British India	2·39	2·53	4·66
4. Canada	1·68	·89	3·17
5. France	·91	5	2·57
6. Victoria	2·57	2·01	2·27
7. New South Wales	2·26	2·07	2·08
8. Russia in Asia	2·06	1·96	1·38
9. Russia in Europe	3·99	4·17	1·23
10. New Zealand	1·4	1	1·14
11. Egypt	·96	1·24	·8
12. China (excluding Hong Kong)	1·44	1·74	·75
13. Cape Colony	·35	·31	·62
14. Holland	·94	—	·5
15. Italy	·05	·17	·39
16. Denmark	2·14	1·42	·38
17. South Australia	·42	·25	·34
18. Japan	·2	·31	·33
19. Straits Settlements	·27	·2	·3
20. South America	·03	·03	·3
21. Natal	·36	·29	·26
22. Hong Kong	·06	·34	·25
23. Philippine Islands	·13	·21	·25
24. Mozambique	·05	·08	·23
25. Queensland	·22	·14	·23
26. Western Australia	·17	·15	·2
27. Newfoundland	·08	·14	·12
28. Norway	·9	·19	·09
29. Burma	·01	·02	·06

The United States of America have made a notable advance, the value of goods taken being double that of 1915. The improved position of British India is due to its being the principal market for copra, unmanufactured tobacco, and arecanuts, in all of which there have been increases, as well as in the purchases of tea. Canada has also improved her percentage by purchasing more tea and rubber than in 1916.

Of the countries buying goods of not less than one per cent. in value in 1917, France, Russia in Europe, and New South Wales have dropped from the third, fourth, and sixth places to the fifth, ninth, and seventh places, respectively; while British India, Canada, Victoria, and New Zealand have risen from the fifth, thirteenth, seventh, and twelfth places to the third, fourth, sixth, and tenth places, respectively. Russia in Asia occupied the same position as in 1916.

Tea.

The exports of tea for the past seven years are given below, in millions of pounds :—

	Million Pounds.		Million Pounds.
1911	186	1915	215
1912	192	1916	203
1913	191	1917	195
1914	193		

It will be seen that the exports of tea were better than in any of the previous years, except 1915 and 1916. The average price for the year may be taken as 49 cents a pound as compared with 51·79 cents in 1916, but it is not easy to calculate an average price owing to the extraordinary fluctuations in price caused by the varying restrictions which have governed the export from time to time. The quality of the teas was better than in 1916. The distribution among the principal countries for 1916 and 1917, with the increases and decreases, is shown in the following table :—

Countries.	1916.	1917.	Increase over 1916.	Decrease below 1916.
	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.
United Kingdom	113,535,561	85,885,445	—	27,650,116
British Possessions :—				
British India	2,393,152	5,797,512	3,404,360	—
Canada	4,341,831	11,903,499	7,561,668	—
Cape Colony	1,413,972	3,082,844	1,668,872	—
Egypt	6,405,167	4,162,895	—	2,242,272
Hong Kong	177,690	1,054,993	877,303	—
Mauritius	157,697	153,965	—	3,732
Natal	1,452,952	1,302,021	—	150,931
Newfoundland	779,341	737,747	—	41,594
New South Wales	10,107,538	11,317,440	1,209,902	—
New Zealand	5,039,998	6,419,126	1,379,128	—
Queensland	694,956	1,237,782	542,826	—
South Australia	1,268,700	1,794,042	525,342	—
Straits Settlements	571,446	1,190,479	619,033	—
Victoria	7,759,300	8,194,640	435,340	—
Western Australia	761,506	1,069,922	308,416	—
Other British Possessions	562,203	2,098,500	1,536,297	—
	43,887,449	61,517,407	20,068,487	2,438,529
		Deduct Decrease	2,438,529	
		Nett Increase	17,629,958	
Foreign Countries—				
China (excluding Hong Kong)	9,346,605	4,457,547	—	4,889,058
France	2,252,218	2,581,537	329,319	—
Japan	94,495	859,223	764,728	—
Mozambique	412,300	1,296,750	884,450	—
Philippine Islands	85,746	175,589	89,843	—
Russia in Asia	7,580,928	7,032,502	—	548,426
Russia in Europe	18,499,784	7,260,205	—	11,239,579
South America	99,299	1,466,098	1,366,799	—
United States of America	7,225,813	22,475,152	15,249,339	—
Other Foreign Countries	236,149	224,137	—	12,012
	45,833,337	47,828,740	18,684,478	16,689,075
		Deduct Decrease	16,689,075	
		Nett Increase	1,995,403	
Total for all countries	203,256,347	195,231,592	—	8,024,755

Exports to the United Kingdom took place under certain restrictions, with the result that there was a drop of 27 million pounds in exports. The decrease to Russia was due to the unrest prevailing in that country. There was a decrease in the quantity of teas supplied to the troops in Egypt, and an increase in the supplies sent to Mesopotamia and Salonika. The decision of the Australian Commonwealth to purchase only teas grown in the British Possessions for the period of the war probably accounts for the increased quantities taken by the various Australian States in 1917. Most of the other British Possessions purchased more tea during the year, as well as the United States of America, Japan, and South America among foreign countries.

Products of the Coconut Palm.

339 lakhs of rupees worth of these products were exported in 1917, as against 422 lakhs worth in 1916. The exports of the three principal products for the last six years were as follows :—

	Desiccated Coconuts.	Copra.	Coconut Oil.
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.
1912	278,806	614,089	401,779
1913	303,808	1,117,292	546,984
1914	311,864	1,411,947	486,286
1915	349,009	1,208,529	501,510
1916	306,149	1,309,939	323,017
1917	272,059	1,078,704	434,699

The average value declared by the exporters for desiccated coconuts was better than in 1916. Copra decreased in value considerably, its price being seriously affected owing to the difficulty of obtaining freight. Export of coconut oil has increased owing to a demand from the United Kingdom. The average price of this article was Rs. 23·19 per cwt., as against Rs. 27·26 per cwt. in 1916.

Rubber.

There was a substantial increase in exports from 486,690 cwt. in 1916 to 645,797 cwt. in 1917. The exports of rubber since 1912 have been as follows :—

	Cwt.		Cwt.
1912	132,569	1915	435,748
1913	226,491	1916	486,690
1914	306,724	1917	645,797

In 1917 the United States of America have been supplied with as much rubber as the United Kingdom. Besides the United States, the other foreign countries to be supplied with rubber named in order of importance were France, Italy, Russia in Asia, Japan, South America, and China. Rubber exports to foreign countries are allowed only under license owing to the war.

Plumbago.

In spite of shortage of freight, the export of plumbago, though lower than in 1916, was better than in the two previous years. The exports for the past four years have been :—

	Cwt.		Cwt.
1914	284,562	1916	668,214
1915	436,351	1917	523,940

The price for the best qualities was not so high as in 1916, but it was nevertheless good. The average F. O. B. price for all grades was Rs. 832 per ton in 1917, as compared with Rs. 819 per ton for the period August to December, 1916, during which such F. O. B. prices were first accepted from the exporters.

Customs Duties, Classification of Imports and Exports.

A revised tariff for imports came into operation on June 9, 1917. The important changes are the increase of duty on general merchandise from 5½ per cent. to 7½ per cent. *ad valorem*, and on cotton goods from 4 per cent. to 5½ per cent. *ad valorem*, and the imposition of a new duty of 2½ per cent. *ad valorem* on metals, except sheet and pig lead and tin plates, which were previously included in the free list. From January 1, 1918, Chili will be shown as a separate country in the Customs returns. From the same date shot guns, now entered separately as single- and double-barrelled guns, will be further classified as muzzle-loading and breach-loading guns under each of these classes.

V.—SHIPPING.

The total number of vessels which entered the ports of the Island of Ceylon in the year 1917 was 3,856 with a tonnage of 5,990,410. This shows a decrease of 724 vessels and 2,884,433 tons as compared with the preceding year 1916.

The following table gives the total number and nett tonnage of shipping which entered at all ports in Ceylon during the last three years :—

	1915.		1916.		1917.	
	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.
Merchant vessels (with cargo and in ballast)	1,560	4,984,122	2,035	4,480,703	1,686	2,980,358
Merchant vessels (called to coal)	655	1,937,572	737	2,008,057	350	877,732
Native sailing vessels	1,847	268,938	1,372	106,646	1,306	105,979
Warships* and Government chartered vessels	210	692,636	436	2,279,437	514	2,026,341
Total	4,272	7,883,268	4,580	8,874,843	3,856	5,990,410

* Warships' displacement tonnage.

Omitting warships and vessels which called only to coal, the following table gives the comparative distribution according to nationality for 1916 and 1917 :—

	1916.		1917.	
	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.
British	1,652	3,364,847	1,382	2,208,390
British Colonial	1,260	92,549	1,207	92,954
Maldivian	112	14,097	99	13,025
Total British Ships	3,024	3,471,493	2,688	2,314,369
American	4	14,062	4	8,859
Chinese	3	3,666	1	1,314
Danish	11	31,694	3	5,254
Dutch	47	122,691	25	48,480
French	80	349,804	55	220,763
Greek	1	1,939	4	8,389
Italian	15	44,166	16	45,181
Japanese	102	341,517	121	336,739
Norwegian	79	108,070	57	59,340
Roumanian	1	1,452	—	—
Russian	3	5,319	4	4,665
Spanish	23	58,628	5	11,239
Swedish	14	32,848	8	18,870
Portuguese	—	—	1	2,875
Total Foreign Ships	383	1,115,856	304	771,968

Colombo Port Commission.

During the past year the work connected with the administration of the port of Colombo has very greatly increased as a result of the existing war conditions, and every branch of the Port Department has worked under considerable strain.

The policy of retrenchment, which was begun soon after the outbreak of war, has been continued, and for this reason, and owing to the difficulty in obtaining materials, works of improvement at the port have necessarily been curtailed. In July the second warehouse between the canal and the Patent Slip was completed. The total warehouse area of the port is now 559,106 square feet and the total quayage 5,828 lineal feet, an increase of 267,506 square feet and 1,183 lineal feet respectively since 1913. Further improvement in the sanitation of the port has been made by the construction of more latrines, and the water service to Port Commission premises is now complete. Quarters for the Master Attendant, near the Flagstaff, are being erected by the Public Works Department. It has, however, owing to the cost of materials, not been possible to

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make progress with the building of bungalows for departmental officers at Mutwal, although a sum was voted in the Estimates of 1916–17 for this purpose. The Harbour Engineer's boat shed has been extended and improved, and various other works of minor improvement have been executed.

Three hopper barges have been constructed by the Factory Engineer for the harbour, and a certain amount of new machinery necessary for the upkeep of the numerous vessels now employed has been obtained for the Harbour Engineer's workshops.

Further progress has been made with the Lake-Harbour Canal Scheme, but this has necessarily been hampered by war conditions.

The work of deepening the harbour has been carried on throughout the year.

The Chalmers Granaries at the Racquet Court have now been completed; the blocks of buildings, ten in number, have been divided into 100 stores, giving accommodation for the storage of 600,000 bags of rice.

The site for the oil installations depôt at Kolonnawa has been definitely decided on, and a sum of Rs. 850,000 for the acquisition of land, excavating and filling, and for providing railway connection has been voted by the Legislative Council. The land having been acquired, work was commenced at the site in December. A scheme for the berthing of oil steamers is now being prepared. The survey has been completed, and the detailed plans of all the bridges, &c., are nearly finished. Work is progressing on the harbour portion of the line.

Certain of the measures taken for the defence of the port during the last year have been carried out by means of the administrative machinery of the Port Commission, and have involved a large increase in the work of the several departments.

The nett tonnage of vessels (sailing and steam) visiting Colombo harbour in 1917 amounted to 3,646,256; in addition, 514 warships and transports with a gross tonnage of 2,026,341 and coasting vessels with a nett tonnage of 12,147 entered the port. The receipts from the Graving Dock were Rs. 78,130 and from the Patent Slip Rs. 10,156, against Rs. 50,987 and Rs. 8,075, respectively, in 1916.

There was no pearl fishery and no inspection of the pearl banks in 1917.

The expenditure by the Colombo Port Commission (apart from the work carried out by the Public Works Department) during the financial year 1916–17 (October 1, 1916, to September 30, 1917) amounted to Rs. 1,713,438·92; the expenditure on work carried out by the Public Works Department for the Port Commission was Rs. 18,828·62, a total of Rs. 1,732,267·54. The revenue during the same period amounted to Rs. 2,394,060. In addition to the above, a sum of Rs. 472,985 was spent during the financial year on work connected with war services.

VI.—LEGISLATION.

Forty-five Ordinances were passed during the year 1917. Of these, the following were necessitated by the present war and the conditions arising therefrom:—

(*a*) The Ceylon Paper Currency (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 1 of 1917, enacted partly to empower the issue of 1-rupee and 2-rupee currency notes, partly to authorize as an emergency measure the issue of currency notes to the exchange banks against a credit in the Bank of England in lieu of a deposit in gold, and partly to suspend the proviso to section 17 so as to admit of the conversion of a part of the specie reserve into investments in England which had been found necessary.

(*b*) The Merchant Shipping (War Service) Ordinance, No. 3 of 1917, to provide for the discipline of seamen serving on ships chartered or requisitioned in the present war.

(*c*) The Enemy Firms Liquidation (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 4 of 1917, partly to make certain amendments of detail in the main Ordinance, and

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partly to enact certain special provisions regulating the sale of immovable properties in the liquidation of enemy firms and in controlling the future devolution of such properties.

(*d*) The Enemy Property (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 5 of 1917, passed to empower the Governor to vest in the Custodian of Enemy Property any property belonging to enemy subjects, and to make certain minor amendments of the principal Ordinance.

(*e*) The Customs (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 10 of 1917, passed in order to increase certain Customs duties, primarily with a view to provide, together with the increase of certain duties under the Stamp Ordinance, the money requisite for the payment of an additional million pounds to His Majesty's Government as a war contribution.

(*f*) The War Loan Ordinance, No. 11 of 1917, passed with a view to raising a loan of Rs. 15,000,000 upon premium bonds or bonus bonds for a sum of Rs. 50 each secured as a charge upon the revenue and assets of the Colony, in order to offer to His Majesty's Government a contribution of one million pounds as an assistance from the Colony for the successful prosecution of the war, as recommended by the Committee appointed by the Governor for the purpose.

(*g*) The Merchant Shipping (War Service) Ordinance, No. 13 of 1917, introduced on the instructions of the Secretary of State to bring our law into line with section 39 A of the Defence of the Realm Regulations as amended by the Order in Council of November 29, 1916, providing for the discipline of persons serving on certain ships or vessels.

(*h*) The Supervision of Aliens Ordinance, No. 14 of 1917, passed at the request of the Secretary of State to provide safeguards to ensure that individuals desiring to work as missionaries, &c., are not in active sympathy with the enemies of His Majesty the King, or lacking in goodwill towards the Government of this country. Recent experience in India and in the Colonies has shown that such safeguards are expedient.

(*i*) The Stamps (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 16 of 1917, for objects and reasons of which see item (*e*) above.

(*j*) The Trading with the Enemy (Amendment) No. 3 Ordinance, No. 24 of 1917, for introducing into the Colony the provisions of sections 1 and 2 of the Trading with the Enemy and Export of Prohibited Goods Act, 1916.

(*k*) The Ceylon Coinage Ordinance, No. 33 of 1917, to prohibit during the present war the melting of specie, similar prohibitions being in force in the United Kingdom and in India.

(*l*) The Prices Regulation Ordinance, No. 36 of 1917, designed to prevent profiteering by traders.

(*m*) The Enemy Property (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 41 of 1917, to facilitate dealings in regard to shares and debentures of local companies held by or on behalf of enemies.

The following Ordinances are not connected with the war, but were passed pursuant to instructions received from the Home Government to give effect to provisions in certain Imperial Acts, or to bring the law of the Colony into line with the law prevailing in other British Possessions :—

(*a*) The Fugitive Criminals (Repeal) Ordinance, No. 12 of 1917, passed in order to repeal "The Federated Malay States (Fugitive Criminals) Ordinance, 1903," which was rendered unnecessary by His Majesty's Order in Council of 1916.

(*b*) The Anglo-Portuguese Commercial Treaty Ordinance, No. 15 of 1917, to obtain for the Colony the commercial and navigation advantages provided by the treaty.

(*c*) The Marriage Registration (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 27 of 1917, to afford, in Ceylon, facilities for the marriage of British subjects corresponding to those afforded in the United Kingdom by "The Marriage of British Subjects (Facilities) Act, 1915."

Besides the above, the following are of interest :—

(*a*) The Trusts Ordinance, No. 9 of 1917, passed in order to put the general law of trusts upon a definite basis, and to introduce a code of the law of trusts. It incidentally affords facilities for the reconstruction and regulation of the religious trusts of the Hindu, Muhammadan, and Parsee communities.

(*b*) The Irrigation Ordinance, No. 45 of 1917, passed with a view to consolidate and amend the law relating to irrigation.

VII.—EDUCATION.

It is difficult to draw a clear line between elementary and secondary education in Ceylon. The English-speaking community forms scarcely 1 per cent. of the total population, so that most of the schools where English is taught are teaching a language which is foreign to the large majority of their pupils. The vernacular schools provide the real elementary education of the country, and in them 91 per cent. of the school-going children are educated.

Vernacular Education.

In 1917 there were 817 Government vernacular schools, with an attendance of 84,552 boys and 28,545 girls. There were also 1,835 aided schools, with an attendance of 131,892 boys and 78,434 girls.

The total sum expended by Government on vernacular education in 1917 was Rs. 1,241,435·15, of which approximately two-fifths were spent on Government schools and three-fifths on aided schools.

The Rural Schools Ordinance is now in force in all districts of the Island.

The Town Schools Ordinance was also introduced into the towns of Nuwara Eliya and Galle during the year, and its proclamation in Colombo is only deferred until there are sufficient schools in the wards for the school-going children. Two large new Government schools were commenced during the year in Colombo.

At the end of 1917 there were 235 aided estate schools, with an attendance of 8,794 boys and 1,017 girls.

A school for the deaf and blind, started in 1912, receives an annual grant from Government of Rs. 3,000.

Schools Teaching English.

In 1917 there were 253 English and Anglo-vernacular schools attended by 43,611 pupils, of whom 34,066 were boys and 9,545 girls.

In many of the schools candidates are prepared for the Senior and Junior Cambridge School Certificate Examinations. In 1916 the number of candidates who presented themselves and the results obtained were :—

	Candidates.	Honours.	Passes.
Senior	480 ..	20 ..	87
Junior	624 ..	17 ..	157

There are special syllabuses for Ceylon students in English, Science, and Needlework, special stress being laid on the necessity for obtaining a high standard in English.

The results of the London University Examinations in 1917 showed that 237 candidates from Ceylon presented themselves for the Matriculation Examination, 61 of whom passed. In addition, 4 candidates passed the First Examination for Medical Degrees, 3 the Second Examination, Part I., and 1 the Intermediate Examination in Science (Economics).

The encouragement offered by Government takes the form of grants or scholarships. In the majority of the aided English schools grants are paid on the results of examinations in the schedules of the Code, but in some of the more advanced schools the greater part of the grant is paid on the average attendance. The grants paid to English schools in the financial year 1916–17 amounted to Rs. 332,702·62.

Two Government scholarships are offered annually: one on the results of the Intermediate Examination in Arts, and the other on the results of the Intermediate Examination in Science. These scholarships are tenable for three years, and are of the value of £200 each per annum, with free passage to and from England and £50 outfit allowance. The value of the scholarship has been increased to £250 during the period of the war. The holders may join any British University, or study at any recognized engineering institution in the United Kingdom.

Training of Teachers.

The Government Training College consists of three departments: English, Sinhalese men, and Sinhalese women. The object is to supply trained teachers for aided English schools and Government vernacular schools. At the beginning of 1917 the number of students in training was English 83, Sinhalese men 42, Sinhalese women 20. During the year a special class of 21 students was started, the fees for these students being paid by the managers of schools. An Anglo-vernacular class will be started from next year, and the number of Sinhalese women students will be doubled. Trained teachers at present command high salaries, and there is a great demand for their services.

Industrial Schools.

There are no Government industrial schools, but carpentry schools are attached to 6 Government schools in the Kandyan Provinces. In 1917 the aided industrial schools, which are 39 in number, received grants amounting to Rs. 20,999·78. The trades taught were carpentry, dressmaking, printing, shoemaking, tailoring, lace-making, embroidery, gardening, and masonry. The most important of these schools is the Maggona Certified Industrial School, which is utilized by Government as a reformatory for youthful offenders; it is managed by the Roman Catholic Mission. This institution has an estate of some 300 acres and excellent buildings, towards the cost of which Government has contributed. 226 youthful offenders are at present receiving instruction in this school, and an allowance is paid by Government for the maintenance of each offender.

Agricultural Instruction.

An attempt has been made to supply elementary agricultural instruction by a scheme of school gardens conducted in connection with Government schools. The gardens are under the supervision of the Department of Agriculture; there is a Superintendent of School Gardens, who is assisted by three Inspectors. 335 school gardens attached to Government schools are worked under this scheme, and 68 grant-in-aid schools receive garden grants. Seeds and implements are supplied by the Department of Agriculture, and prizes are offered for competition. Fifteen teachers from Government and grant-in-aid schools will be admitted for a special course of training at the Agricultural College, Peradeniya, next year.

Technical.

During the year building construction and mechanical engineering night classes were started, and the plumbing and sanitary engineering classes revived. These classes secured large attendances.

University College.

The first steps were taken in connection with the establishment of a University College, and in 1918 a start will be made with the new laboratories for this institution and with the new Royal College. This will leave the present Royal College buildings available for the University College.

Schools and the War.

The war leaflet published in English, Sinhalese, and Tamil was continued until twelve issues had appeared, when its publication was temporarily suspended, as it was decided to issue only special numbers in future, the twelve

copies issued to be used as an alternative reader in the schools. Rs. 11,000 realized by sales have been remitted to the Red Cross Fund. War pictures are issued every month to 954 schools. 103 village school teachers took war bonds.

Educational Conferences.

The first conference of school teachers in Ceylon was held at Jaffna in August, and was attended by over 300 teachers. The conference lasted for a week, and was very well attended throughout. The proceedings have been published in book form. A conference of managers and head teachers was held in Colombo on November 23 and 24.

VIII.—PUBLIC HEALTH, VITAL STATISTICS, &c.

The general health of the people during the year has been, on the whole, very satisfactory. There have been no serious epidemics of any kind.

Hospitals.

There are 84 Government hospitals, in addition to the Lunatic and the Leper Asylums, equipped with modern hospital furniture and surgical appliances; the number of beds in the institutions ranges from 12 to 497, while the number accommodated in the Lunatic Asylum varied between 951 and 1,047. In addition to the hospitals, there are 441 Government outdoor dispensaries. The owners of estates have provided 58 estate hospitals, which receive a rebate on export duty, and 401 dispensaries, which receive drugs free from Government to a value of 50 cents per labourer per annum.

The following new hospital buildings are under construction :—

(1) Kandana sanatorium, in the Western Province.
(2) Agrapatna hospital, in the Central Province.
(3) New Leper Asylum, Batticaloa, in the Eastern Province.
(4) Alutnuwara, in the Province of Uva.
(5) Lunugala, in the Province of Uva.
(6) Kahawatta, in the Province of Sabaragamuwa.
(7) Aranayaka, in the Province of Sabaragamuwa.

New hospitals were opened during the year at Pimbura, Kahawatta, and Chilaw.

Medical Institutions.

The general rebuilding scheme in contemplation for the improvement of the Medical College was deferred owing to the war; the full course of training for medical students is five years; a diploma in medicine, surgery, and midwifery (which can be registered in the United Kingdom) is granted to successful medical students. A two years' course of training is provided for apothecaries, who on becoming qualified are employed by Government. The following were the attendances and passes during the past two years :—

Session.	Attendances.		Passes.	
	Medical.	Apothecary.	Medical.	Apothecary.
1916 May to July	164	81	6	10
1915 October to 1916 March	137	61	6	6
1917 May to July	153	47	9	5
1916 October to 1917 March	166	64	9	9

In Colombo there are a Bacteriological Institute, a General Hospital, Lunatic Asylum, an Ophthalmic Hospital, a Lying-in Home, a Hospital for Women and Children, and one for Infectious Diseases. There is an establishment for the manufacture of calf lymph; there are special dispensaries at Kandy and Galle for the treatment of eye diseases. An Anti-Tuberculosis Institute in Colombo was opened during the year, fitted with an up-to-date X'ray apparatus. A start was made during the year in connection with the opening of a Pasteur Institute in Colombo.

Asylums.

The Lunatic Asylum contained 1,030 inmates on December 31, 1917. As there is very considerable overcrowding in the present building, the Government is erecting a new institution a few miles out of Colombo, with accommodation for 1,000 patients and for the necessary staff officers and servants. The number of patients treated in the asylum during 1917 was 1,670 (1,142 males and 528 females). The number discharged was 516 (386 males and 130 females). These figures include those of the house of observation.

The Leper Asylum is situated 6 miles from Colombo ; it contained 429 patients at the end of the year ; the total treated during 1917 numbered 531. A small establishment for lepers exists at Kalmunai, in the Eastern Province, and has accommodation for 30 ; a leper colony at Mantivu, a small island on the lagoon in the neighbourhood of Batticaloa, is being erected.

A Home for Incurables (containing 80 beds) is administered by a Committee of Government officials and representatives of the public.

ANCHYLOSTOMIASIS CAMPAIGN.

The campaign against the above disease, which is extremely prevalent in practically every part of the Island, was carried on throughout the year by officers of the International Health Commission, whose work is much appreciated, in conjunction with the Medical Department. Work which had previously been started in the Matale, Dikoya, and Bogawantalawa districts being practically over, three new areas were taken in hand, viz., Avissawella, Elpitiya, and Koslanda. In addition to remedial measures taken in these districts, a great deal has been done in many other Local Board, Sanitary Board, and rural areas by the erection of latrines, and by lectures and the distribution of literature, &c., to further the end in view.

PLAGUE.

There was an improvement as regards the prevalence of this disease during the year, 207 cases being recorded, as against 291 during 1916, and an average of 281 during the three years 1914 to 1916.

The total for 1917 includes 10 cases which, although infected in Colombo, had escaped from the town and were detected elsewhere. That the reduction in the number of cases during 1917 was in no way due to the virulence of the infection having abated is indicated by the steady rise in the case mortality. Thus, the total case mortality, which was 92·2 per cent. in 1914, 92·8 in 1915, and 93·8 in 1916, rose to 94·7 in 1917.

From January to the middle of April the number of cases recorded was considerably above the average for the same period of the three previous years, but from then onwards there was a marked improvement, the numbers subsequently recorded being much below the average. As hitherto, the largest number of cases occurred amongst young adults, males being attacked much more frequently than females. The disease was, as usual, almost entirely confined to the occupants of insanitary tenements.

The principal centre of infection was as hitherto in the area which lies around the Town Hall, viz., Sea street, Wolfendahl, Fourth and Fifth Cross streets, &c. There were one or two subsidiary centres, *e.g.*, Modara, Nagalagam, Grandpass, Vincent street, Symonds road, and Java lane. Elsewhere the disease was distinctly sporadic in character. The better class and more sanitary parts of the town entirely escaped infection.

Out of a total of 23,382 rats examined bacteriologically during the year, only 70, or 0·3 per cent., were infected, by far the largest number being found in the Fourth and Fifth Cross streets area, which is the chief centre of the petty trade in grain. The highest rates of infection amongst rats occurred during the months of February, March, and April, during which period the greatest number of human cases also occurred. It is of special interest to record that three out of six cats examined were found to be heavily infected.

The same preventive measures as hitherto were carried out, reliance being placed chiefly upon isolation of patients in hospital, segregation of contacts, evacuation and closure of insanitary tenements in infected localities pending the carrying out of structural improvements by the owners, pesterining of infected and adjacent houses, sulphur fumigation of rat tunnels, capture and poisoning of rats. Of these measures, the most effective are evacuation and improvement of insanitary dwellings and fumigation of rat tunnels.

The following are the chief statistical data for the four years since plague appeared here :—

	1914.	1915.	1916.	1917.
Total cases	413	139	291	207
Total deaths	381	128	273	196
Septicæmic cases	247*	81*	159	124
Septicæmic deaths	246	80	159	124
Bubonic cases	166	58	132	83
Bubonic deaths	135	48	114	72
Total case mortality per cent.	92·2	92·8	93·8	94·7
Septicæmic mortality per cent.	99·6	98·7	100·0	100·0
Bubonic mortality per cent.	81·3	82·7	86·4	86·7

* The cases for 1914 and 1915 each include one septicæmic recovery, but the diagnosis was not in either case confirmed bacteriologically, and may have been erroneous.

Monthly Incidence of Cases.

	1914.	1915.	1916.	1917.
January	4	19	17	25
February	67	6	18	40
March	58	3	18	61
April	28	3	14	34
May	29	3	11	11
June	49	1	36	3
July	47	5	43	6
August	40	20	35	1
September	18	21	25	3
October	23	24	24	7
November	24	10	25	10
December	26	24	25	6
Total	413	139	291	207
Monthly Mean	34·4	11·5	24·2	17·2

Population.

The estimated population of Ceylon on December 31, 1917, was about 4,632,400. This shows a nett increase of nearly 85,500 over that of the previous year, and was made up of an excess of about 70,590 births over deaths, of 15,180 arrivals over departures of Indian coolies, and of a reduction of nearly 270 persons of the European population who left Ceylon during the year for war service. The population comprised the various nationalities shown below :—

Nationality.	Number.	Percentage of Total Population.
Sinhalese	2,951,100	63·7
Tamils	1,338,100	28·9
Moors	276,650	5·9
Burghers	28,750	·6
Malays	14,000	·3
Europeans	7,200	·2
Others	16,600	·4

To every 100 males of the population there are 89 females, the same proportion as in the Census of 1911.

Marriages.

The marriages registered during the year corresponded to a rate of 11·8 persons married per 1,000 of the population at all ages, exclusive of Muhammadans. This rate, though nearly equal to the average of the preceding decennium, is slightly below that for last year, when the rate was 12·0.

Births.

The birth-rate in 1917 was 40·1 per mille of the population, and was 2·6 higher than the average of the preceding decennium. It was the second highest on record, being ·9 below that of 1908, which was the highest. The proportion of male to female births was 104 to 100.

Deaths.

The death-rate during the year corresponded to a rate of 24·7, and was the lowest recorded during the last ten years, being lower than the preceding decennial average by 5·7 and the rate for last year by 2·1. There were 57,812 deaths of males and 55,577 of females registered during the year under review, as compared with 61,150 and 59,012 respectively during 1916. The proportion of male to female deaths was 104 to 100, which is the same as the proportion of births.

The tea, rubber, and cacao estates at the end of the year contained a population of about 787,800, mostly of Tamil immigrants from Southern India. The death-rate in estates was 37·6, against an average of 36·4. This high-rate of mortality compared with the general death-rate for the Colony may be partly due to the fact that the estate rate is worked out on the estate population at the Census of 1911, more reliable figures not being available.

The urban death-rate (*i.e.*, the rate for the principal towns) was 26·0, and was an improvement both on the average rate since 1908 (29·7) and the rate for the preceding year (28·0). Excluding Nuwara Eliya, whose mortality is only 8·5 per 1,000, and Vavuniya and Lunugala, whose population is below 1,000, the lowest death-rate (13·5) was in Ambalangoda, and the highest (44·7) in Nawalapitiya. The city of Colombo recorded a rate of 24·1, against an average of 29·4.

Infant Mortality.

Of the total deaths registered during the year, 28·2 per cent. were those of infants under one year of age, corresponding to a mortality rate of 174 per 1,000 births registered. This rate is 20 per 1,000 below the average for the preceding decennium, and 10 per 1,000 below that for 1916. The infant mortality in estates was 219 per 1,000 births and in the towns it was 233.

Causes of Death.

The proportion of deaths in the general community from certain principal causes to a million of the estimated population was as follows :—

Infantile convulsions 2,814, diarrhœa 2,217, pneumonia 1,090, phthisis 821, dysentery 666, anchylostomiasis 575, puerperal septicæmia 401, premature birth and congenital defects 349, malaria and malarial cachexia 278, bronchitis 189, cancer 92, and enteric fever 91. Plague, which broke out in Ceylon for the first time in 1914, is still continuing its scourge, having claimed as its victims in the year under review 211 persons, against 286 in 1916.

Accidental drowning accounted for 95 deaths per million population, fall from trees for 83, and snake-bite for 46. 240 deaths (including 2 Europeans) resulted from suicide, and corresponded to a rate of 52 per million persons living. The rate in England and Wales in 1915 was 78. Homicide accounted for 183 deaths, corresponding to a rate of 40 per million ; 38 deaths were due to judicial hanging, representing a rate of 8 per million.

Causes of Death in the Estates.—The chief causes of mortality in the estates per million of the estate population were debility under three months 5,657, diarrhœa 4,532, anchylostomiasis 4,081, pneumonia 3,756, dysentery 3,494, infantile convulsions 3,098, debility three months and over 1,923, premature birth and congenital defects 1,127, bronchitis 814, phthisis 508, and malaria and malarial cachexia 496.

Causes of Death in the Towns.—In the 33 principal towns in the Island (inclusive of Colombo), of the total deaths registered, pneumonia accounted for 3,095 per million of the urban population, convulsions for 2,426, phthisis for

1,916, diarrhœa for 1,748, anchylostomiasis for 1,522, malaria and malarial cachexia for 1,134, enteritis for 1,103, dysentery for 974, enteric fever for 545, bronchitis for 490, and cancer for 201. Of the 197 deaths registered from plague in the 33 principal towns, no less than 189 were in the city of Colombo.

CLIMATE.

General Remarks.—There is a marked variation in climate between the different parts of Ceylon. In the low-country, with a mean temperature of the order of 80° F., a noticeable feature is the small range of both temperature and pressure; there is, however, wide divergence between the moist conditions in the south-west of the Island, where the average annual rainfall varies from 100 to 200 inches, and the dry zone areas of the north, north-west, and south-east. Inland, with altitudes reaching 8,000 feet, the temperature is cooler, and shows a bigger range; there is a corresponding change in vegetation, and the conditions are altogether more akin to those in the temperate zone.

Rainfall.—The highest annual rainfall registered was at Watawala railway station, which had a total of 239·43 inches, and 191 days on which rain fell. The lowest annual rainfall was at Pomparippu resthouse, which had a total of 27·87 inches on 44 days. The stations with the highest and lowest average annual rainfall are, respectively, Padupola with 219·05 inches on 201 days, and Pomparippu resthouse with 35·61 inches on 54 days. The longest drought occurred at Pallai, lasting for 143 days, March 24 to August 13. The longest wet period occurred at Strathellie estate, lasting for 40 days, August 27 to October 5.

Rain fell on 181 days at Colombo—Cinnamon Gardens—and totalled 72·03 inches, at Kandy 94·69 inches on 190 days, while at Nuwara Eliya there were 94·60 inches on 207 days. The rainfall for the year was heaviest on the north-east and south-west slopes of the hills, being especially heavy in the district east of Matale and the Nitre Cave district, and in the south-west to the north of Ratnapura and the Ambagamuwa district. An excess over normal was experienced practically throughout the east, and a deficit to the south-west and the north.

Temperature.—The station showing the highest mean shade temperature for the year was Mannar with 82·2° F., and the lowest Nuwara Eliya with 59·5° F. The figures for Colombo and Kandy were 80·1° F. and 75·9° F. respectively. The highest shade temperature recorded during the year was 98·5° F. at Trincomalee on May 23. The highest on record is 103·7° F. at Trincomalee on May 12, 1890. The highest shade temperature at Colombo in 1917 was 91·7° F. on February 7. The mean daily range, *i.e.*, the difference between the mean of the maximum and the mean of the minimum, was highest at Nuwara Eliya (17·7° F.) and the lowest at Galle (8·1° F.). At Colombo and Kandy it was 11·5° F. and 15·2° F., respectively. The absolute range for the year, *i.e.*, the difference between the highest and the lowest readings actually recorded, was greatest at Nuwara Eliya (47·1° F.) and lowest at Galle (20·7° F.).

IX.—POLICE AND CRIME.

POLICE.

The strength of the Force on December 31, 1917, provided for in the Estimates was 1 Inspector-General, 2 Deputy Inspectors-General, 10 Superintendents, 21 Assistant Superintendents, 3 Probationers, 45 Inspectors, 108 Sub-Inspectors, 1 Station House Officer, 326 Native Sergeants, and 2,252 Native Constables. European Police: 1 Inspector, 3 Sub-Inspectors, 11 Second Class Sergeants, and 20 Third Class Sergeants. Total of all ranks 2,804.

The Force was kept up to strength of native sergeants and constables throughout the year, the actual strength on December 31 being only 5 short of the sanctioned (2,573, against 2,578).

The total strength of the Force was short by 43 on December 31, the shortage being principally among the European Police Force, which is working with the

minimum number of men actually necessary for carrying on the most essential duties only during the war.

During the year four gentlemen resident in the Colony, being themselves physically unfit or otherwise prevented from proceeding on war service, offered their services to permit physically fit Police officers to go on active service. With the appointment of these gentlemen as Temporary Assistant Superintendents, and by the appointment of two Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors to act as Assistant Superintendents, it was possible to relieve six more officers of the Force for active service. There are now on active service 3 Superintendents, 5 Assistant Superintendents, 2 European Sub-Inspectors, 1 European Sergeant, 2 Native Sergeants, and 5 Native Constables.

An effort is being made to get disabled men of the Navy and Army to take the place of European Sergeants physically fit and anxious to proceed on active service. Three disabled men selected by the Secretary of State with this object in view arrived in Ceylon from England in December, 1917, and are now being trained.

Out of 24 officers in the Force when war broke out, 1 (Mr. A. C. Godfrey) has been appointed Inspector-General of Police, Mauritius, 1 is on active service with a permanent Commission, and 8 have obtained temporary Commissions in the Army.

The strength of the Force was increased by 9 officers after the disturbances in May/June, 1915, and the 19 vacancies have been filled as follows :—

Probationers from England in 1915	2
Officers temporarily appointed	9
Inspectors promoted to be or to act as Assistant Superintendents ..	4
Total ..	15

It has not been possible to fill the remaining vacancies, and there are actually now in Ceylon 29 Officers, Temporary Officers, and Acting Assistant Superintendents to fill 37 posts.

Good reports have been received of all members of the Force on war service. The cost of the Force was Rs. 1,758,560 approximately.

Criminal Statistics.

The decrease in crime in the year 1916 as compared with 1915 (excluding crime committed during the disturbances in May/June, 1915) was maintained in 1917, as the following statement shows :—

	1915 (excluding Crime committed during the Disturbances in May/June, 1915).	1916.	1917.
Homicide	204	158	163
Attempted homicide ..	43	29	40
Grievous hurt ..	615	641	727
Hurt with dangerous weapons	1,214	1,093	1,012
Burglary	1,911	1,899	1,892
Theft of cattle and prædial produce	981	911	891
Other offences ..	3,369	2,903	2,856
Total ..	8,337	7,634	7,581

It will be seen that since 1915 there has been less crime against the person, as well as a decrease in crime against property.

There was trouble on Fordyce estate in the Dikoya district on August 31, 1917, in connection with the treatment of coolies for anchylostomiasis. New regulations have now been passed to assist the medical officers and superintendents of estates in prescribed areas in the examination and treatment of estate coolies.

An interesting result of the issue of the new 2-rupee notes was the way in which persons who had previously been concerned in the forgery of 100-, 50-, and 10-rupee notes quickly took up the counterfeiting of the new notes.

It had been supposed that in the case of the 2-rupee notes the margin of profit available for the forger, the utterer, and possibly some third party would not be sufficient to attract the interest of forgers of notes. In November, 1917, a man was arrested whilst in the act of uttering 151 forged 2-rupee notes. He was convicted and sentenced to sixteen years' rigorous imprisonment. Another man who was charged in the same case with possessing forged notes was sentenced to ten years' rigorous imprisonment. The prompt capture and the deterrent punishment inflicted should have good effect.

During the year seven ringleaders of the riots in May/June, 1915, who had absconded, were arrested, including the murderer of a constable killed while on duty during the riots in the Colombo District of the Western Province. Seven riot ringleaders are still at large.

The following table shows the distribution of crime :—

Province.	Homicide.	Attempted Homicide.	Grievous Hurt.	Hurt with Dangerous Weapons.	Burglary.	Theft of Cattle and Prædial Produce.	Other Offences.	Total.
Colombo City	6	1	82	93	57	6	319	564
North-Western	23	12	62	117	285	160	411	1,070
Western	55	10	210	314	552	339	693	2,173
Southern	34	8	128	188	372	164	272	1,166
Sabaragamuwa	16	2	76	82	221	83	224	704
Uva	5	1	19	27	53	48	156	309
North-Central	—	—	11	12	23	11	62	119
Central	13	5	89	90	237	25	372	831
Northern	4	1	40	61	53	30	264	453
Eastern	7	—	10	28	39	25	83	192
Total	163	40	727	1,012	1,892	891	2,856	7,581

Comparing the number of serious offences committed with the population in each Province, it is found that—

		Persons.
In the Colombo City there is 1 case of crime to every		384
In the North-Western Province	do.	406
In the Western Province	do.	409
In the Southern Province	do.	539
In the Province of Sabaragamuwa	do.	580
In the Province of Uva	do.	701
In the North-Central Province	do.	725
In the Central Province	do.	809
In the Northern Province	do.	816
In the Eastern Province	do.	957

There was an increase of crime in the Northern, North-Western, and Southern Provinces in 1917 ; there was a slight increase in the Western ; crime in the North-Central Province was normal with 1916 ; there was a decrease in crime in the Eastern, Uva, Central, and Sabaragamuwa Provinces, and in Colombo city. The greatest increase in crime in 1917 is found in the Northern Province (13 per cent. increase). In the Eastern Province there was a marked decrease on the 1916 record (30 per cent. decrease). In 1916 there was an abnormal amount of burglary and theft in the Eastern Province. The return for 1917 is normal with the return of years prior to 1916, and there is again less crime per population in the Eastern than in any other Province. Most of the crime in the Island is committed in the Western, Southern, North-Western, Central, and Sabaragamuwa Provinces, and it is in these Provinces and in Colombo city that the Police are chiefly employed.

Action taken to deal with Crime.—The proportion of serious crime to population in Ceylon is still very high (1 to 542). The proportion of Police to

population is 1 to 1,464. The steps taken to deal with crime in the Colony during the year were :—

(i.) The establishment of additional police stations in the Kegalla District. The only police station in this district was a force of 14 men at the headquarters of the district in Kegalla town. This force was employed in guarding the Treasury and performing beat and patrol duty in the town. There were no Police available for investigating crime or dealing with disorder in the district. The only lock-up or cells in the district were in Kegalla town, and the need of Police was greatly felt, not only during the disturbances in May/June, 1915, but in dealing with crime generally. The rioting in the Kegalla District in May/June, 1915, was of a particularly serious character. Dynamite was largely used, and rioting continued till some time after rioting had ceased in other Provinces and districts.

The increase in crime in this district in recent years is probably due to the country being opened up, low-country men and plumbago coolies coming in, over whom the headmen have not the same control as over their own villagers.

Additional police stations were opened at Rambukkana, Aranayaka, Warakapola, Ruanwella, Dehiowita, and Yatiyantota. A separate police station to deal with crime outside but round the town of Kegalla was started, a prosecuting officer stationed at Avissawella to conduct cases in the Police Court, and an Assistant Superintendent placed in charge of the district with an office and headquarters in Kegalla town.

(ii.) Twenty-two additional Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors were appointed for the investigation of crime, and for making inquiries in areas where crime is prevalent.

(iii.) A punitive Police Force was established at Ambepitiya, in the Kalutara District of the Western Province. Four murders had been committed in two years in this village, and in no case had the offender been brought to justice, owing to the suppression of evidence.

(iv.) Funds were provided for connecting up more police stations with the headquarters of each district by telephone.

(v.) Sessions of the Supreme Court were held in districts in which crime is prevalent, *e.g.*, Kalutara, Panadure, Kurunegala, Chilaw, Negombo, Ratnapura, Matara, with good effect. In Provinces where crime is prevalent the trial of an offender in the district where the crime was committed has more effect than trial in a distant town, and possibly in another Province.

(vi.) Special attention is being given to the training of all ranks in the Force in the investigation of crime.

First-Aid to the Injured.—Every Officer, Inspector, Sub-Inspector, and Sergeant is now required to hold a First-aid Certificate. No constable is promoted to the rank of Sergeant until he has obtained a First-aid Certificate. A certain number of intelligent Constables hold First-aid Certificates; the remainder are trained to act under a Sergeant, Sub-Inspector, Inspector, or Officer holding a First-aid Certificate, of whom there is always at least one in every police station in the Island.

Institutions of the Force include a Pensioners' Corps, which secures employment for men no longer physically fit for active police duty, and a Boys' Brigade, numbering 236, in which sons of Police officers are trained from the age of 5 upwards. Boys between the age of 5 and 13 do one hour's drill, physical exercises, and boxing, and four hours' school daily. On reaching the age of 14 each boy is eligible for promotion to the senior division of the Brigade, in which he starts earning a pay of Rs. 5 a month at the age of 14 to Rs. 10 a month at the age of 17. At the age of 18 he is eligible for enlistment in the Force. Boys in the senior division do one hour's drill or boxing, two hours' school, and for three hours a day act as messengers in attendance at a police office.

Schools are maintained for the boys at Headquarters, in the Colombo police stations, in Kandy, Jaffna, and wherever necessary.

The object of the Brigade is to provide healthy exercise and recreation for the sons of Police officers and pensioners, and to provide them during their youth with sound instruction such as will fit them when they grow up to take their place in the ranks of the Force. There are now 16 men in the Force who started in the Brigade.

General Steps taken towards the Improvement of the Force in 1917.—Funds were provided for—

(*a*) Starting the new Police Headquarters and providing married quarters for European Sergeants.

(*b*) Starting the new Police Training School buildings. The Training School is at present temporarily housed in the old Volunteer Headquarters in the Pettah, which merely provides sleeping accommodation and class-rooms for the recruits. The officers in charge and the instructors live a long way from the school; there is no room or ground for purposes of recreation, and the locality is not desirable. A good site has been reserved next to the Police Recreation Ground for the new school buildings, and for the quarters of the instructors, the officer in charge, and the other officers resident in Colombo. The scheme approved will not only provide for the housing of the school on a healthy site, but will bring recruits under the constant influence, both in work and play, of their officers, and should go far to provide for the future efficiency of the Force, and the formation of a sound, healthy, moral tone.

(*c*) The housing of the Police at Mahara, Teldeniya, and the Inspector at Hatton.

A ·22 rifle provided at every police station so that monthly practice in musketry at a miniature range (25 yards) is possible.

Prisons.

There was a decrease of 478 in the total number of admissions of convicted prisoners of Ceylon during the year 1917, excluding Road Ordinance defaulters, of whom there were 135, as against 142 in 1916. The figures are as follows :—

1916	10,989
1917	10,511

The number of prisoners sentenced to death was 59, as against 48 in 1916. There were 39 executions during the year, as against 30 in 1916. Of the 39 whose capital sentences were carried out, 32 were Sinhalese, 6 Tamils, and 1 Muhammadan. Of the number sentenced to death in 1917, 1 committed suicide whilst in the police custody and 1 was hanged in 1918. Of the number hanged, 1 had been sentenced in 1916. Six convicts were deported to the Andamans for life. There were 9 escapes and 7 recaptures during the year.

The total number of deaths in jail was 131, as against 389 in 1916, and the death-rate per thousand of the prison population was 7·69, as against 22·37 in 1916 and 8·63 in 1915. The daily average sick was 158·34, as against 259·89 in 1916 and 167·98 in 1915. The number of punishments inflicted during the year for prison offences was 1,892, as against 2,526 in 1916 and 1,422 in 1915. There were 26 cases of corporal punishment, as against 66 in 1916.

Prisoners are in all prisons employed upon works of public utility and remunerative industrial labours. At Welikada and Bogambra jails various trades are taught, such as carpentry, blacksmiths' and tinsmiths' work, boot-making, tailoring, cane furniture and matting, coir brooms, rugs, mats, coal and tea leaf bags, ropes, strings, the making of bamboo tats, laundry work, printing, bookbinding, and mason's work.

During the past year a large amount of wooden furniture has been turned out for various Government Departments free of charge from timbers supplied by the Forest Department. The output is, however, not equal to the demand, owing to want of steam power to deal with the large logs of wood. A great

delay is experienced in having to tackle these by hand. With steam power the output could be more than doubled. Government Departments are now obtaining very large supplies of brooms, tats, mats, door rugs, &c., from Welikada jail, all free of charge. In addition to the works above mentioned, Welikada jail supplies the Government Printing Office with a daily average of some 250 prisoners, besides washing all soiled linen for all institutions of the Medical, Health, and Railway Departments in Colombo, as well as making up all clothing and bedding for the Colonial Storekeeper. All labour is free of charge to Government Departments.

The prisoners at Mahara are exclusively employed in the quarries on account of the Harbour Works and Public Works Departments. 39,612 stone setts were dressed, valued at Rs. 7,130. 3,500 tons of rubble, valued at Rs. 12,566, and 864 cubes of metal, valued at Rs. 15,550, were despatched to the Colombo Harbour Works; while the Public Works Department were supplied with 12,025 stone setts, 1,306 dressed stones, 1,060 cubes of rubble, and 1,582 cubes of metal, of a total estimated value of Rs. 49,435. In addition to the above works, the site for the new Harbour Works quarries has been cleared of jungle and soundings taken, and a railway line laid down to the Public Works Department quarry by prison labour. Three additional sheds were also erected in the portable jail, and a gang of prisoners are now employed in putting up quarters for the Police.

The Karaiur reclamation works at Jaffna are making satisfactory progress, but owing to the large numbers of prisoners discharged, the reclaimed area is not as large as in 1916.

The prisoners at Anuradhapura, Kandy, Galle, Chilaw, Badulla, and Tangalla also supply metal to the Public Works Department; while a small party at Anuradhapura is now employed by the Forest Department in clearing jungle and planting out Ceylon teak trees. At Negombo convalescents are employed on basket-making and supplying coir strings.

The improved water supply at Mahara jail has proved efficient in bringing about a marked improvement in the health of the prisoners. The incidence of bowel complaints has now been markedly reduced by the chief causative factor having been removed. The daily average sick was 28·96, the percentage of sick to strength 3·38, and the percentage of deaths to strength 1·12, as against 47·23, 6·16, and 3·96, respectively, for 1916; while the daily average strength of prisoners at Mahara in 1917 was 824·65, as compared with 765·54 for 1916.

In August last schools were opened in Welikada, Bogambra, Mahara, and Jaffna jails. Prisoners who on admission to prison are 23 years of age and under and have a sentence of six months and over attend school at these jails for two hours daily. The schoolmasters are supplied by the Director of Education.

X.—POST AND TELEGRAPHS.

Two new post offices were opened during the year, viz., Naula in the Matale District and Madampe in the Chilaw District. The number of telegraph offices was increased by the opening of postal-telegraph offices at Naula, Madampe, and Waga (Kelani Valley). An additional railway receiving office was opened at Paranthan, and village receiving offices in eleven villages. At the close of the year the total number of offices of all classes was 524, of which 147 were telegraph offices.

The number of articles, exclusive of parcels, which passed through the post in Ceylon is estimated at 43 millions in 1917, as against 43½ millions in 1916. The number of parcels dealt with was 754,391, as against 753,837 in 1916.

Foreign Mail Services.

The disorganization in the foreign mail services caused by the war continued, and fewer mails could be sent to Australia and to East, owing to the withdrawal of the P. & O. and the Orient Company's regular sailings, and to the use of the

Cape-Singapore route in the case of the Japanese mail steamers, &c. Advantage was taken as far as possible of non-contract vessels on these routes; and the Australian line was the only one in which prolonged delays occasionally occurred.

The Telegraph System.

Additional circuits were installed between Kandy and Gampola and between Padukka and Waga, bringing the total wire mileage to 6,953.

The number of paid inland telegrams handled during the year was 1,063,175, yielding a revenue of Rs. 348,584. The total number was about 3 per cent. less than that handled in 1916, which was the highest on record, and 12½ per cent. above that handled in 1914, the next highest. The average time occupied in the transmission of an inland telegram was 17 minutes, 84 per cent. of telegrams being transmitted within 10 minutes, and 99 per cent. being sent out for delivery within 10 minutes of receipt at office of destination.

The Telephone System.

New telephone trunk lines were run during the year between Gampola and Nawalapitiya (9 miles) and between Polgahawela and Kurunegala (14 miles), and a junction line between the private exchanges at Radella and Tillicoultry. At the close of the year the following Government trunk lines were in use :—

(1)	Colombo-Polgahawela-Kandy (duplicated)	75 miles
(2)	Colombo-Kalutara-Ambalangoda-Galle	72 ,,
(3)	Kandy-Hatton-Nuwara Eliya	66 ,,
(4)	Colombo-Negombo	24 ,,
(5)	Kandy-Gampola-Nawalapitiya	21 ,,
(6)	Colombo-Moratuwa-Panadure	18 ,,
(7)	Kandy-Wattegama-Matale	18 ,,

Besides several trunk and junction lines less than 15 miles.

Public trunk call offices were opened at the post offices at Galaha, Katugastota, Kurunegala, Nawalapitiya, Norwood, Pussellawa, Watawala, and Wattegama. The new Government urban exchanges at Kurunegala, Matale, Gampola, and Nawalapitiya were proceeded with, though progress was handicapped by shortage of stores. At the close of the year there were 14 Government exchanges with trunk facilities open. The five largest were (with number of subscribers) Colombo 1,621, Kandy 87, Nuwara Eliya 81, Galle 57, and Kalutara 31. Apart from Government exchanges, there are small private licensed district systems with a total of 623 subscribers, 400 of whom have trunk facilities *viâ* junction lines to their exchanges provided on suitable terms by the Government.

It is estimated that 6,793,000 calls were dealt with at Government exchanges in 1917, the number of trunk calls averaging about 200 per diem. The fee (15 cents each) for delivering telegrams to subscribers by telephone and subsequent confirmation by post was abolished, but the fee was continued in the case of telegrams received at post offices over the telephone for onward transmission.

Post Office Savings Bank.

The withdrawals continued to be in excess of deposits, the totals for the year being—

	Rs.
Withdrawals	1,520,750
Deposits	1,186,934
Difference	333,816

Foreign Money Order System.

The rate of exchange of Rs. 15 to the £, which had been in force unchanged for several years, had to be altered to Rs. 14·12 to the £ to meet the enhanced exchange value of the rupee; and to prevent abuse of the money order system in view of the general financial difficulties, the amounts which could be remitted

(by single remitters by money order) from other countries to Ceylon had to be limited, *e.g.*, from the United Kingdom to £40 per week, from the Straits Settlements and Federated Malay States to Rs. 150 per week, and from South Africa and Egypt to £10 per week.

XI.—PUBLIC WORKS.

Public Works Department.

The total expenditure of the Public Works Department has increased from Rs. 3,437,862 in 1896 to Rs. 11,364,627 in 1917, the latter figure showing an increase of Rs. 2,560,049 over 1916. The average annual expenditure during the past twenty-two years has been Rs. 6,001,200.

The total length of roads maintained by the Public Works Department during the year was 4,038 miles, of which 3,769 miles are cart roads and 269 miles are bridle roads.

Amongst the more important works carried out or in course of construction during the year may be mentioned the following :—

General.—Bungalows for Government officers stationed in Colombo ; grain sheds, Colombo ; additions to Government Training College, Colombo ; Public Works Department buildings, Nalanda ; Agricultural Department buildings, Peradeniya ; quarters for Secretary, District Court, Nuwara Eliya ; quarters for Forester, Nuwara Eliya ; Pilot Station, Galle, and quarters for officer in charge ; additions and improvements to District Court, Jaffna ; quarters for Public Works Department clerks, Puttalam ; new Public Works Department office, Dandugama ; quarters for District Engineer, Maradankadawala ; quarters for Inspector of Vaccination, North-Central Province ; Stock Inspector's quarters, Anuradhapura ; clerks' quarters, Anuradhapura ; Stock Inspector's quarters, Bandarawela ; Post and Telegraph Office, Kahawatta.

Medical Buildings.—New Merchants' Ward, General Hospital ; new Lunatic Asylum, Angoda ; Religious Sisters' quarters, General Hospital ; a children's ward at Kandy hospital ; Leper Asylum, Eastern Province ; new hospitals at Chilaw, Passara, Alutnuwara, Kitulgala, Kahawatta, and Aranayaka ; an infectious diseases hospital at Ratnapura ; additions and improvements to the hospitals at Neboda, Dambulla, Madulkele, Nawalapitiya, Dolosbage, Nuwara Eliya, Balapitiya, Marawila, Mullaittivu, Dandugama, Nikaweratiya, Kurunegala, Haputale, Buttala, Namunukula, and Lunugala ; new dispensaries at Morawaka, Madampe, Irakkamam, and Paddirippu.

Police Buildings.—Quarters for twelve European married sergeants, Colombo ; six quarters for married constables at Mahara jail ; married quarters for Police, Nuwara Eliya ; improvements to police barracks, Jaffna ; new police barracks, Kurunegala ; and additions to police station, Avissawella.

Progress was also made with the Colombo Lake Development project ; construction of a quarantine camp at Mandapam, South India ; Karaiur Reclamation, Jaffna ; overhead bridge, Parsons road, Colombo ; Gin-oya bridge, Chilaw District ; and Digarolla bridge, Moratuwa.

Irrigation.

The total expenditure of the Irrigation Department for the financial year 1916–17 was Rs. 828,473·19.

The schemes under construction were Karachchi, Unnichchai, Pattipola-aar, and Kirinde-oya right bank. Work on Tabbowa scheme, which was closed down in September, 1915, has not been re-started.

Surveys were made in connection with the following schemes :—Nalanda-oya, Walawe left bank, Giant's tank, Jaffna lagoon, Akathimurippu, Unnichchai, Allai, Kantalai, and Nachchaduwa.

The area irrigated and paying rate under the Crown works is 124,320 acres ; in addition, there is a large area irrigated free.

A considerable area of irrigable land is ready for development.

SURVEY.

The operations of the Survey Department for the period under review, with the staff reduced owing to the war, comprised 54,332 acres of block surveys and 234,683 acres of forest reserve surveys.

The number of block survey preliminary plans issued was 85, containing 7,044 lots, covering an area of 33,736 acres. The number of forest reserve plans issued was 4, containing 4 lots, covering an area of 39,225 acres. One topographical preliminary plan of 69 lots, with an extent of 23,232 acres, was issued.

The total area now covered by block survey is 2,184,182, by the topographical survey with block survey insets 1,093,380, and by forest reserve survey 291,906 acres, making a total of 3,569,468 acres.

108 final village plans for 38,195 acres in 2,481 lots were issued to the Government Agents and Assistant Government Agents during the year. The total area covered by final village plans in the hands of the Government Agents and their Assistants now stands at 757,047 acres contained in 27,928 lots, or 1,825 final village plans.

1,006 preliminary plans for 48,910 acres in 4,099 lots were forwarded to the Government Agents, their Assistants, and to the Settlement Officer. 421 supplementary surveys, consisting of 811 lots covering 2,784 acres, have been made within issued final village plans and preliminary plans.

338 applications covering 988 acres were surveyed for paddy cultivation, 35 applications covering 1,191 acres for tea, 76 applications covering 1,450 acres for rubber, 186 applications covering 587 acres for coconuts, 443 applications covering 1,330 acres for miscellaneous cultivations, and 286 applications covering 397 acres for building purposes, &c.

Many surveys have been carried out for the purpose of acquiring land for works of public importance, including a new site for the Colombo bulk oil installation and a railway connection thereto, also surveys for the Badulla Railway, the Chilaw-Puttalam Railway, and for a police training ground at Colombo, besides others for the improvement of several small towns in the Western Province, &c.

The extensive surveys for dealing with the irrigable land under Vakaneri tank in the Eastern Province were completed, and similar surveys for the Kirinde-oya right bank irrigation scheme, in the Southern Province, were taken in hand.

Town surveys have been carried out in Colombo, Galle, Trincomalee, Matara, Nawalapitiya, and Kadugannawa.

The topographical flat map survey of the Western and part of the Southern Province was completed. The flat map survey of the Island is now complete.

RAILWAY.

Open Line.

No new sections of the line having been opened for traffic during the year, the total length of the line remains the same as last year, viz., 705⅞ miles.

The revenue derived during the year was Rs. 18,487,093, or Rs. 472,550 in excess of the preceding year. This figure does not include items on warrants on account of work done for other departments, which amount to Rs. 1,114,515. To this increase of Rs. 472,550, Coaching Traffic contributed Rs. 185,562, Goods and Live Stock Traffic Rs. 336,953, and Motor Service Rs. 4,788, whilst the receipts under Miscellaneous have fallen off to the extent of Rs. 54,753.

The number of passengers conveyed was 12,935,742, or 205,245 in excess of last year. The number of season ticket holders shows an increase of 2,957, and parcels an increase of 85,734. There has, however, been a decrease of over 70,000 in the number of coolies conveyed.

As regards Goods Traffic, the tonnage conveyed, inclusive of Foreign Traffic, was 1,250,482 tons, as compared with 1,210,635 tons in the previous year. The most noticeable increases are Rubber 5,314 tons, Rice 8,613 tons, Fruit and Vegetables 3,472 tons, Sundry Goods 25,179 tons, and Foreign Goods

40,616 tons. The decreases are under the heads of Tea and Manure, with 6,854 and 62,530 tons, respectively.

The expenditure for the year, including a sum of Rs. 30,423 spent on new works and charged to ordinary maintenance, was Rs. 9,480,461.

The result of the year's working is as follows :—

	Rs.
Receipts	18,487,093
Working expenses	9,480,461
Balance ..	9,006,632

The total capital cost, including additional accommodation and improvements, to September 30, 1917, was Rs. 132,922,962, and the capital outstanding on Railway Loans Rs. 56,125,141. During the year 11 passenger and 29 goods vehicles were put into traffic on the broad gauge, and 4 passenger and 2 goods vehicles on the narrow gauge lines.

Owing to the requisitioning of the ships carrying coal for the Railway from Calcutta, it became necessary to reduce the train service in December, and to use a much larger proportion of wood as fuel.

Railway Extensions.

The work on the Badulla Extension, which is an extension of the main line beyond Bandarawela, and is 21 miles in length, has progressed steadily. This is a difficult line to construct, with steep gradients and sharp curves. The work is confined mostly to the sections between Bandarawela and Naulla. The high arch viaduct (102 feet), nine spans of 30 feet, is under construction. The line between Bandarawela and Ella is nearly finished.

The construction of the Pelmadulla line, 21½ miles long (being an extension of the narrow gauge beyond Ratnapura), is also a line passing through very difficult country, and is in a forward state, the progress being as satisfactory as can be expected under present circumstances.

The survey of the line forming a direct connection with the harbour from the main lines north of Colombo is completed. Application has been made for the acquisition of all the land required for the construction.

The survey of the line connecting the new Kolonnawa oil yards with the main lines at Urugodawatta is finished, and the necessary land applied for.

Application has been made for the acquisition of all lands required for the Puttalam Extension, which is an extension of the west coast line north of Chilaw. This line will be 32½ miles in length.

During 1917 one large broad gauge shed and yard, cart area, &c., and one lakeside narrow gauge shed and yard have been opened for traffic in Colombo. The duplication and deviation of the main lines between Maradana and Slave Island, including the new Fort station, have been brought into use. The construction of the Parsons road overhead bridge is completed as far as circumstances will allow.

The survey and estimate of the proposed branch line between Katukurunda (Kalutara) and Agalawatta, 15½ miles in length, has been completed.

The survey of the branch line from Dehiwala to Horana, 18¾ miles in length, has been finished, and the estimate is in hand.

Steady progress is being made on the duplication of the Main line between Ragama and Ambepussa.

COLOMBO DRAINAGE WORKS.

The drainage of Colombo has been undertaken by Government at the request of the Municipal Council, the necessary funds being advanced by Government on loan, while further assistance is being given by the contribution of a part of the expenditure as a free grant.

The scheme provides for a complete system of sewers and rain-water drains throughout the city, and for the disposal of the sewage by bacterial treatment upon modern lines.

At the end of 1917 123 miles of sewers and rain-water drains had been laid, and five pumping stations brought into regular operation.

The City Sanitation Engineer's report for December showed that 27 public water-carriage latrines had been constructed and put into use, and that 1,073 other premises had been drained.

XII.—EXCISE.

An important feature in the history of Excise reform in the year under review is the adoption of the report made by the Commission appointed to consider the arrangements for the manufacture and sale of spirits in Ceylon. Some of the more important recommendations of the Excise Commission are :—

(1) Considerable strengthening of the Excise staff.
(2) Improvement of existing toddy arrack distilleries.
(3) The introduction of the contract supply system as a temporary measure, and eventually a system of purchase by tavern keepers in the open market.
(4) The prohibition of "off" sales at taverns outside Municipalities, Local Boards, and large towns in two districts as an experimental measure.
(5) The imposition of certain further restrictions in connection with the sale of foreign liquor.
(6) The closing of a tavern in any area where 75 per cent. of the tax-paying population objects to its existence.
(7) The delegation to certain planters of powers under certain sections of the Excise Ordinance.
(8) The reconstruction of Advisory Committees.

The sanctioned strength of the Department remained practically the same as in 1916, viz., 1 Excise Commissioner, 1 Deputy Commissioner of Excise, 4 Assistant Commissioners of Excise, 1 Excise Adviser, 2 Superintendents of Excise, 13 Assistant Superintendents of Excise, 1 Distillery Officer, 101 Excise Inspectors, and 228 Excise peons, in addition to a clerical staff.

The Advisory Committees appointed to consider and assist Government Agents and Assistant Government Agents in the work connected with arrack and toddy taverns continue to give valuable aid.

Every effort is being made to cope with and, if possible, completely to eradicate the "cocaine habit" in Ceylon.

Stringent measures continue to be taken to put down the use of every part of the hemp plant (*cannabis indica* or *sativa*) in forms commonly known as ganja and bhang. The smuggling of ganja from India is a matter that is continually receiving the close attention of this Department. Several cases of such smuggling in 1917 were detected by Excise officers and ended in convictions in Police Courts. The efforts of the Department to put down the use of ganja and bhang and any preparation thereof have resulted, *inter alia*, in prosecutions during 1917 as per the subjoined table :—

Number of cases decided	299
Number of persons convicted..	248
Total fines and forfeitures	Rs. 30,815·63

4,426 cases of offences against the Excise law have been detected in 1917, of which 1,680 were disposed of departmentally by the levy of composition fees, totalling Rs. 22,520. The prosecutions in courts resulted in fines and forfeitures amounting to Rs. 127,171·59, exclusive of other punishment, such as imprisonment, &c. The corresponding figures for 1916 were 3,981 (1,742 compounded for Rs. 20,055) and Rs. 128,937·57.

The amount realized for the 1917–18 arrack rents is the highest on record. The toddy rent sales also show an increase when compared with 1916–17. The

amounts realized on account of arrack and toddy rents in the two preceding financial years are shown here for comparison with the amounts realized in 1917–18 :—

	Arrack. Rs.	c.	Toddy. Rs.	c.
1915–16	6,747,378	0	973,844	0
1916–17	7,807,658	0	1,459,772	0
1917–18	7,814,121	55	1,648,506	0

The increase in arrack rents is slight. As regards toddy, the increase is due to closer supervision and better working of taverns, and also to the fact that the hours of toddy taverns had not been curtailed as in the case of arrack.

In accordance with one of the recommendations of the Excise Commission, the fees for foreign liquor licenses have in some cases been revised. The fees obtained during the financial year 1917–18 by the issue of foreign liquor licenses amounted to Rs. 129,118·25, against Rs. 144,280·50 obtained during the financial year 1916–17.

The general conditions applicable to all Excise licenses and the arrack and toddy rent sale conditions were revised for the 1917–18 rent period.

The hours of opening and closing arrack and foreign liquor taverns and shops were fixed as from 8 A.M. to 6.30 P.M. generally. The Government Agents and Assistant Government Agents, however, with the advice of their Advisory Committees, were empowered to extend the hour of closing such licensed premises to such hour as local circumstances warranted. The closing hours of toddy taverns will be brought into line with those of arrack taverns as from the 1918–19 rent period.

In 1917 there has been a fall in the consumption of arrack, but an increase in the case of toddy, as compared with 1916. The consumption of arrack and toddy in the years 1915, 1916, and 1917 was—

	Arrack. Gallons consumed.	Toddy. Gallons consumed.
1915	1,212,828	3,144,672
1916	1,286,367	3,998,645
1917	1,144,132	4,627,097

Some of the contributory causes for the decrease in consumption of arrack may be suggested as (1) the early closing of taverns, (2) certain industries being adversely affected by the war and shortage of money generally, (3) the fixing of a minimum selling price for arrack. The increase in the case of toddy is due to the diversion of a large part of the drinking population to toddy owing to its being the cheaper drink, and closer supervision resulting in a considerable reduction of illicit consumption.

The number of private distilleries licensed during 1917 was 231, as against 219 in 1916, showing an increase of twelve licenses.

There were 117 successful prosecutions in 1917 (as against 108 in 1916) by officers of the Distillery Circle. The fines imposed by courts in these cases amounted to Rs. 11,819.

All work in connection with the Government Experimental Distillery at Kalutara was stopped during the year.

The distillery at Point Pedro worked by the Ceylon Sugar Refineries, Limited, was permitted, with certain limitations, to manufacture and sell arrack distilled from molasses.

The system of admitting "Excise Learners" with a view to their eventual employment as Excise Inspectors has been maintained, as it proved to be satisfactory. Twelve learners were appointed on the results of a competitive examination held on November 2 and 3, 1917, by the Director of Education.

April 25, 1918.

C. H. COLLINS,
Second Assistant Colonial Secretary.

H. C. COTTLE, GOVERNMENT PRINTER, COLOMBO, CEYLON.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

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ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
939	Sierra Leone	1916
940	Straits Settlements	"
941	Cyprus	1916–1917
942	Grenada	"
943	Jamaica	"
944	Somaliland	"
945	Swaziland	"
946	Nigeria	1916
947	Basutoland	1916–1917
948	Gold Coast	1916
949	Ashanti	"
950	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1916–1917
951	Barbados	"
952	Leeward Islands	"
953	St. Vincent	"
954	Uganda	"
955	Nyasaland	"
956	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1916
957	British Honduras	"
958	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	1916–1917
959	Cayman Islands	"
960	Bermuda	1916
961	Mauritius	"
962	Ashanti	1917
963	Falkland Islands	"
964	Seychelles	"
965	Weihaiwei	"
966	Fiji	"
967	Solomon Islands	1917–1918
968	Grenada	"
969	Turks and Caicos Islands	1917
970	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8 and 1908–9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.

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COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1007.

CEYLON.

REPORT FOR 1918.

(For Report for 1917 see No. 971.)

Presented to Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
November, 1919.

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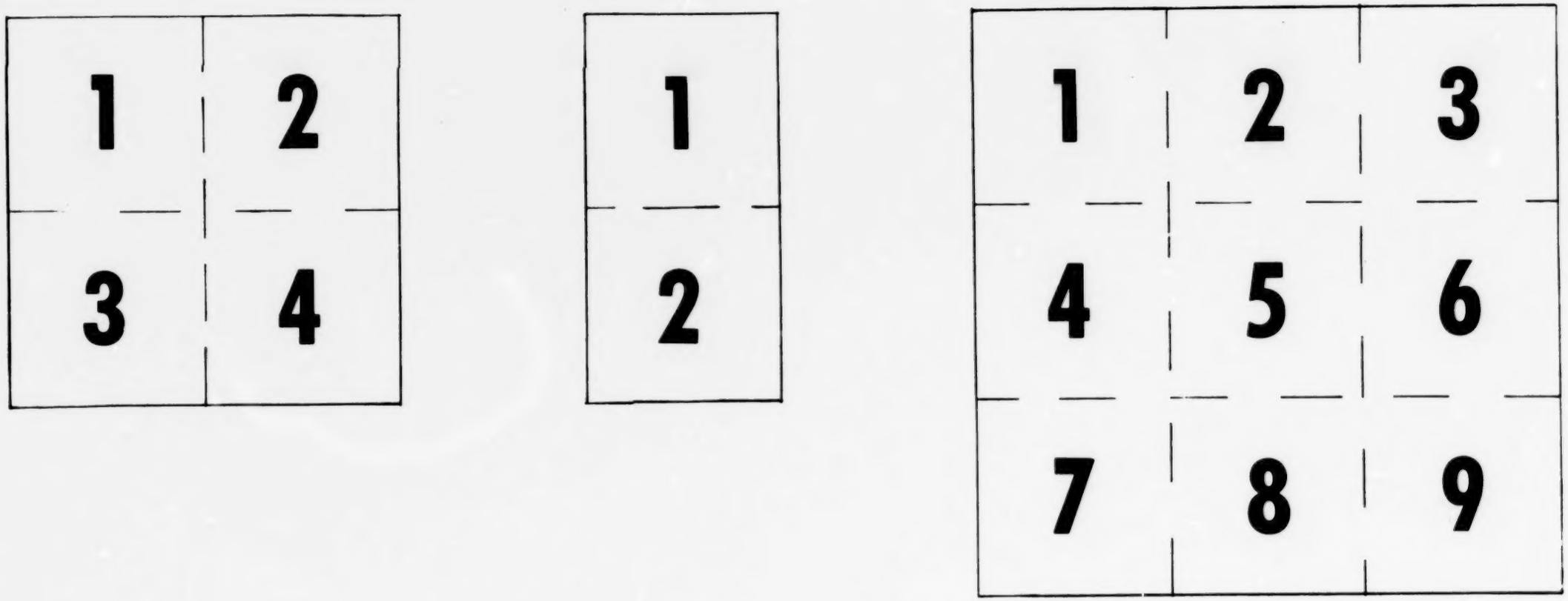

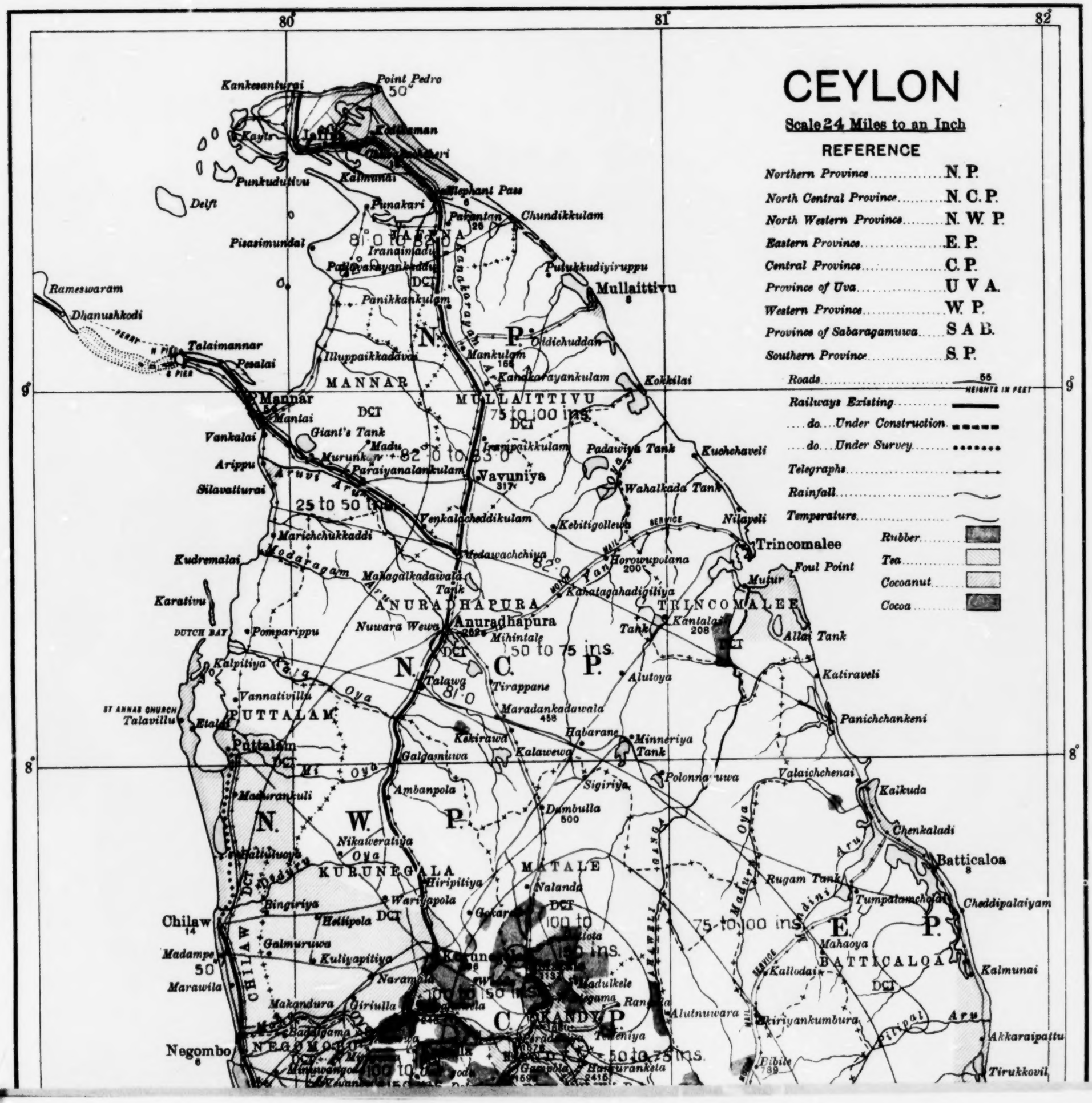
CEYLON
Scale 24 Miles to an Inch
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North Western Province N. W. P.
Eastern Province E. P.
Central Province C. P.
Province of Uva U V A.
Western Province W. P.
Provinces of Sabaragamuwa S A B.
Southern Province S. P.
Roads
HEIGHTS IN FEET
Railways Existing
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Temperature
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JAFFNA
Iranaimadu
Pallavarayankadu
Pulukkudiyiruppu
Mullaittivu
Rameswaram
Dhanushkodi
Panikkankulam
Talaimannar
Pesalai
Illuppaikkadavai
Mankulam
Oldichuddan
Kanakarayankulam
Kokkilai
MANNAR
Mannar
Mantai
MULLAITTIVU
Vankalai
Giant's Tank
Madu
Iranpaikkulam
Padawiya Tank
Kuchchaveli
Arippu
Paraiyanalankulam
Vavuniya
Wahalkada Tank
Silavatturai
Venkalacheddikulam
Kebitigollewa
Nilaveli
Trincomalee
Marichchukkaddi
Medawachchiya
Horowupotana
Foul Point
Kudremalai
Mahagalkadawala Tank
Kahatagahadigiliya
Mutur
Karativu
ANURADHAPURA
TRINCOMALEE
Nuwara Wewa
Anuradhapura
Mihintale
Kantalai
Tank
Allai Tank
DUTCH BAY
Pomparippu
Kalpitiya
Talawa
Tirappane
Alutoya
Katiraveli
Vannativillu
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Kalawewa
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Sigiriya
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Nikaweratiya
Halgolugoya
KURUNEGALA
MATALE
Hiripitiya
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Batticaloa
Rugam Tank
Wariyapola
Pingiriya
Hettipola
Tumpalamchola
Cheddipalaiyam
Chilaw
Galmuruwa
Madampe
Kuliyapitiya
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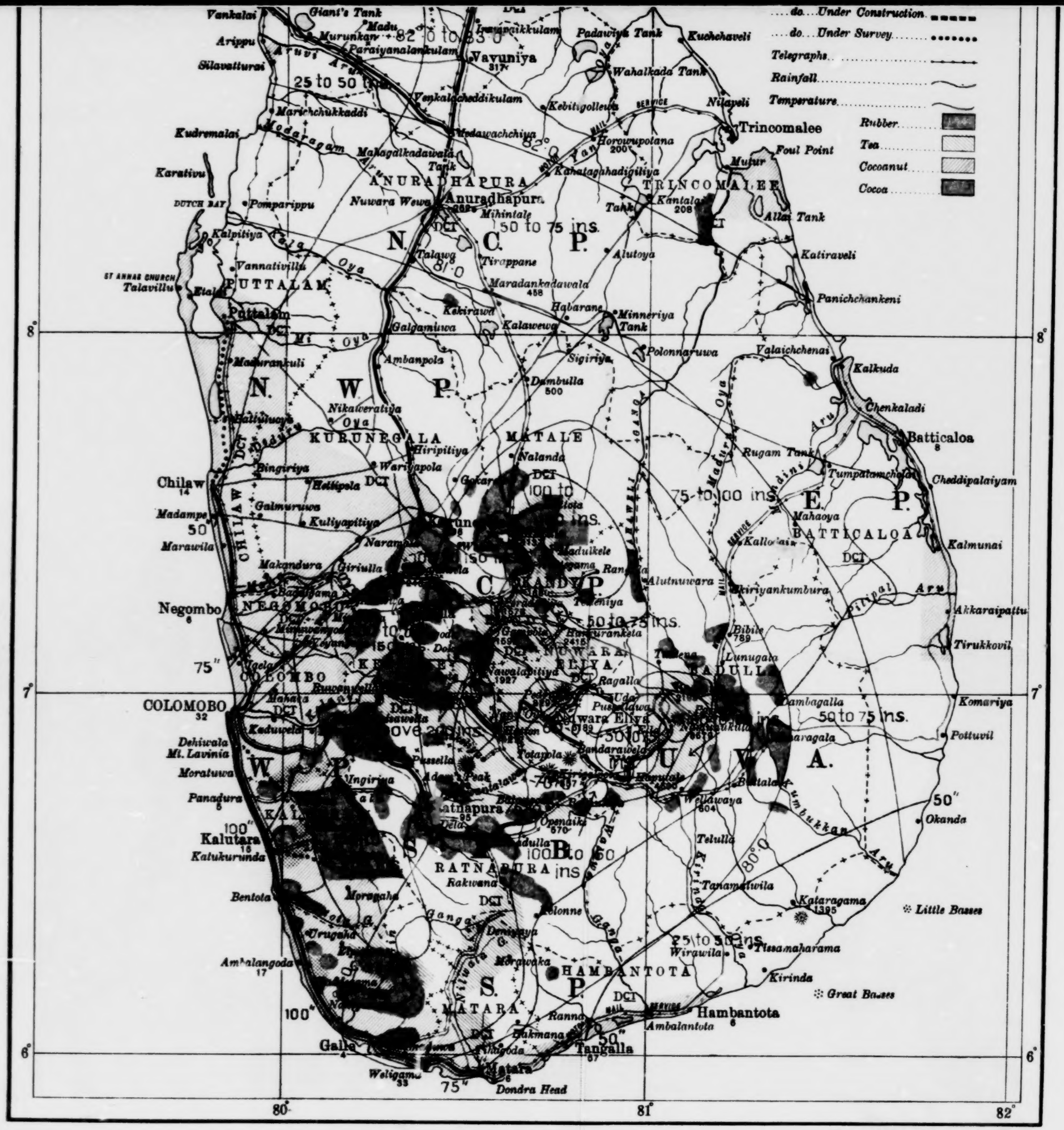
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Jaffna
Point Pedro
Mullaitivu
Trincomalee
Batticaloa
Mannar
Little Basses
Great Basses
Dondra Head
Weligama
Ambalangoda
Bentota
Moratuwa
Panadura
Dehiwala
Mt. Lavinia
Negombo
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Ambalangoda
Bentota
Moratuwa
Panadura
Kalutara
Negombo
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REPORT ON THE CEYLON BLUE BOOK FOR 1918.

I.—GENERAL.

THE Colony was administered by Sir John Anderson, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., until his lamented death on March 24 after a long illness. Mr. R. E. Stubbs, C.M.G., administered the Government from this date until September 11, when Sir W. H. Manning, K.C.M.G., K.B.E., C.B., who had been appointed Governor of the Colony, arrived and assumed the Government.

Mr. H. L. de Mel was made a Commander of the Order of the British Empire, and the Imperial Service Order was conferred upon Mr. J. E. de Silva Suriyabandara, retired Police Magistrate, Kalutara.

Sir Anton Bertram was appointed Chief Justice on July 26, Mr. H. C. Gollan being appointed to succeed him as Attorney-General.

Brigadier-General F. A. Macfarlan, C.B., succeeded Brigadier-General F. Hacket-Thompson as Officer Commanding the Troops, Ceylon, in September.

On May 6 Mr. E. R. Williams was elected to represent the European (Urban) Electorate in the Legislative Council, in succession to Mr. H. Creasy.

The deaths of the following are recorded with regret :—Mr. E. T. Hughes, of the Ceylon Civil Service, and Second Lieutenant B. A. Horsfall, V.C., of the Public Works Department, killed in action ; Mr. A. C. Allnutt, of the Civil Service (Tea Commissioner) ; Mr. D. E. Grenier, Police Magistrate, Negombo ; Mr. R. J. K. MacBride, District Engineer, Public Works Department ; Messrs. H. L. Moysey and J. E. Smart, late of the Ceylon Civil Service ; Messrs. H. A. Grant and P. Cumming, late of the Public Works Department ; Doctors T. F. Garvin and O. Johnson, late of the Medical Department.

The following retired from the Public Service during the year :—Sir A. Wood Renton, Chief Justice ; Mr. A. G. Clayton, Second Assistant Colonial Secretary ; Messrs. J. Devane and Bertram Hill, of the Ceylon Civil Service ; Mr. A. F. Churchill ; Mr. E. T. Cockerill, Chief Instructor, Technical Schools ; and Mr. G. J. Bradley, of the Irrigation Department.

The year under review will always be remembered as marking one of the most important events in the history of the world—the cessation of the great European war and the overthrow of German militarism. So far as Ceylon is concerned, the year has been essentially a " war " year, and the general remarks made last year apply equally to it. It has been, all things considered, fairly satisfactory, though the volume of trade was considerably below that of 1917, and there has been great depression in certain industries, notably in the plumbago industry. The rise in prices, which has been such a marked feature since the outbreak of the war, has continued, and the general level of prices, especially for articles which have to be imported from abroad, was throughout very high ; while the financial stringency, shortage of freight, and difficulties with exchange, which were noted last year, have continued, though perhaps, except shortage of freight, not in such an acute form. Of the principal industries of the Island, the tea industry perhaps suffered least. It has, in fact, regained its position as Ceylon's most valuable article of export, a place taken by rubber for the first time in 1917. The rubber industry has suffered considerably, principally owing to want of freight, and voluntary reduction of output was proposed. The various coconut industries have, on the whole, had a fairly satisfactory

year. Beginning badly, the prices of copra, coconut oil, &c., have risen steadily, and at the end of the year these industries were in a stronger position than they had been for some considerable time. This was largely due to purchases of coconut oil and copra on behalf of the Imperial Government and to sale of copra in India.

While trade generally was fairly satisfactory, the general condition of the people was not so. The public health, though generally good during the first half of the year, was most unsatisfactory during the latter portion, due to the outbreak of influenza, with its concomitant diseases of catarrhal and lobar pneumonia. Epidemics of other diseases were, however, fortunately rare, and the Colony is to be congratulated on the virtual disappearance of plague after a rather severe outbreak at Nawalapitiya, details of which will be found below.

In other respects conditions were unfavourable. The general high level of prices, especially of imported goods, the partial failure of the south-west monsoon, and the spread of influenza during the north-east planting season, which had the effect of preventing any great increase of locally-grown foodstuffs, had their effect on the populace. A serious drought in India and other reasons interfered with the usual regular supply of rice from India, and especially from Madras, and the price of rice towards the end of the year rose suddenly. Combined with this, there was a shortage of shipping, and for a time the position seemed serious. However, arrangements were made to obtain supplies from Burma and Calcutta, and prices fell. Meanwhile an arrangement was come to with the Government of India for regular supplies, and the Shipping Controller in India, with whom the Principal Collector of Customs has kept in touch, did everything possible to ensure regular shipments. The work on the rice granaries was continued, in order to provide the Colony with a reserve of grain in case a serious shortage again occurs.

Some other circumstances point to the fact that the year was a difficult one for a considerable part of the population. Except in the North, there has been a marked increase of crime in most parts of the country, particularly of burglary. A fall in the consumption of the somewhat expensive drink, arrack, is reported, coupled with an increase in the consumption of toddy, a cheaper and less intoxicating drink, for which state of affairs the want of ready money is certainly one of the causes, though other reasons will be found in Section XII. below.

The reports of the Government Agents do not show that there was much actual distress, except in parts of the Batticaloa and Uva Districts, where, owing to the failure of the rains, relief works were necessary. In other districts, particularly along the sea coast, there was much depression, and many people who were comparatively well to do at one time found their income much reduced. The rise in the price of products of the coconut helped to put matters on a better footing, but the failure of the market for plumbago, which resulted in the closing down of most of the smaller mines, had its effect, not only on the mine owners, but on the many people in the vicinity of the mines, and also in and near Colombo, who were engaged in sorting and curing the plumbago.

With the end of the war, however, and the possibility of more freight in the near future, and a greater demand for Ceylon products, the situation should improve.

There has been no change worth noting in the general habits and customs of the people.

As was stated last year, the question of the supply of foodstuffs is one of very great importance, and has engaged the attention of Government during the year. Ceylon does not produce anything like the amount of foodstuffs she needs, and she depends on India for the bulk of the rice and curry stuffs she requires for the immigrant Tamil labourers and for the greater part of the indigenous population. The annual importation of rice amounts to between 7¾ and 8 million hundredweights. The events of the last few years have shown that, though India is willing to help Ceylon as far as is possible, there may be

times when, owing to exchange difficulties, or to drought and famine in India, that country is not able to supply Ceylon's needs without great difficulty, and it has been realized that every endeavour should be used to make Ceylon as far as possible self-supporting with regard to her foodstuffs. The methods which were adopted in 1917 were continued in 1918, *e.g.*, leaflets in the vernacular were circulated among the villages, seeds of good quality were distributed by the Ceylon Agricultural Society and the Government Agents, and further facilities were given for the cultivation of foodstuffs in chenas, &c. In addition, local committees have been formed in each district with the object of furthering the growth of foodstuffs, and plans are under consideration for the utilization of irrigable Crown lands that have not so far been taken up, and for ensuring that all paddy lands shall be cultivated and not allowed to lie fallow; whilst the Agricultural Department is making experiments with a view to introducing new varieties of grain and new methods, whereby a greater return from the seed sown, which is very low in Ceylon at present, may be obtained. The various Co-operative Credit Societies are doing a useful work, particularly in arranging for the purchase and supply to their members of suitable kinds of manure. A colonization scheme was started under Nachchaduwa tank in the North-Central Province, but it is too early to say yet whether this will be successful.

Another important matter which was much to the fore in 1918 was that of exchange. A brief summary of the history of the question to the end of 1917 will be found in the Blue Book Report for that year. India is the channel of exchange between the United Kingdom and Ceylon, and the import and export trade of the Island is in normal times almost entirely financed by remittances from London to India by means of the sale of India Council drafts. The Government of India at the end of 1916 found themselves obliged to restrict the issue of these India Council drafts, and other expedients had to be adopted. An agreement was come to, with effect from August 1, 1917, with the Indian Government, by which that Government arranged to place ten lakhs of rupees weekly, the amount required for the payment in India for rice and other foodstuffs, to the credit of the Ceylon Government, for six months, such credit to be utilized only in the purchase of foodstuffs, and by importers approved by the Principal Collector of Customs, who were allowed to draw on this credit. This ten lakhs was to be paid for by a remittance of two lakhs in silver rupees weekly to India, and by the payment of the balance of eight lakhs to the Secretary of State for India in London. By the end of September however, it was found that the drawings on India had not been so large as had been anticipated, and considerable sums had begun to be placed to the credit of the Ceylon Government in India on account of the purchase of South India teas for the British Government by the Treasury Chest Officer, Colombo, these transactions being financed in the first instance by the Colonial Government. In the circumstances it was decided that the arrangements for the weekly credit of ten lakhs should remain in abeyance till these credits had been exhausted. This was the position of affairs at the beginning of 1918. In February, 1918, the balances in India became low, and the arrangement detailed above was reverted to, remittances being made to India and to London in exchange for a credit of ten lakhs weekly in India. By April the credit in India amounted to Rs. 7,700,000, and the arrangement was again allowed to fall into abeyance.

The matter was further complicated by the fact that the Food Controller desired this Government to finance the Ceylon purchase of tea for the Ministry of Food in England, and, as a temporary measure, in February the India Office granted Council drafts to the total amount of forty lakhs weekly to those Exchange Banks that had branches in Rangoon and Colombo, to provide for exports of rice and tea for the Ministry of Food from Burma and Ceylon. When the credit provided by these Council drafts had been exhausted the matter became serious, and a special allotment of Council drafts was asked for by this Government to be divided among the Exchange Banks according as they were short of cover.

This was agreed to, the drafts were made payable to the Government of Ceylon in India, and were paid for in the first instance by the Crown Agents for the Colonies. Thirteen lakhs weekly in the form of deferred telegraphic transfers payable in India were earmarked for the Government of Ceylon from April 26, thirteen lakhs were drawn weekly from April 26 to May 10, and thereafter only the actual requirements were drawn up to September. Meanwhile large payments were being made for coconut oil purchased on behalf of the Ministry of Munitions. Payments had been made in rupees locally, but the balance was becoming low, and the amount of some sixty-eight lakhs expended for this purpose locally had to be replaced. Arrangements were made to pay two lakhs weekly to the credit of this Government in Madras on account of this advance of sixty-eight lakhs. At the end of September this Government was informed that as the Exchange Banks were then in funds in India, no further Council drafts would be provided after the 27th of that month till these funds had been exhausted. On representations by this Government, however, three allotments monthly of thirteen lakhs each were allowed for the purchase of tea and oil. By October 19, however, a marked weakness of the exchange was exhibited, and it was found unnecessary to continue the purchase of special Council drafts, and the arrangement was accordingly cancelled. It was arranged for the Indian branches of the Exchange Banks to purchase tea bills in Colombo against remittances offered to them in India.

In regard to the war, the following particulars will be found of interest. Ceylon has agreed to contribute two sums, each of £1,000,000, to the Imperial Government towards the cost of the war. During the year Rs. 3,397,705 was remitted, making a total remittance to date of Rs. 7,897,705.

The Ceylon Sanitary Company, consisting originally of 105 members of all ranks, which has been working in Mesopotamia since September, 1917, has continued to give a good account of itself, and has been found most useful. Fifty-five additional men were despatched during the year, and the total number of members at the end of the year was 153.

The Government continued, until the armistice was signed, the scheme for providing second class passages for men who desired to proceed to the front, and who needed this assistance. 149 men were given passages in this way during the year, making 249 in all, including 41 men who sailed in the Admiralty Transport "City of York" on June 30, 1918.

The Colombo Rivercraft Committee continued to send clerks, mechanics, and others to Mesopotamia and British and German East Africa. The total number of men sent during the year was 648. By the end of 1918 965 men in all had gone.

The compulsory clauses of the Volunteer Amendment Ordinance, No. 42 of 1916, which provide for the registration and enlistment in the Ceylon Defence Force of all Europeans of military age who are not specially exempted, was in operation during the year, and worked smoothly. Drills were held regularly, and a course of musketry was fired by every member of the force, but no regimental camps were held.

The Ceylon Light Infantry was partially mobilized throughout the year, and has done good work by relieving the "regular" regiment for duty at the front. The Ceylon Garrison Artillery and the Ceylon Engineers, whose work in the defence of the port since the beginning of the war is above all praise, were demobilized on the signing of the armistice.

Commissions were appointed during the year as follows :—

To inquire into and report on the question of providing a more speedy and less expensive method of partitioning lands than that provided by Ordinance No. 10 of 1863.

To inquire into the working of the Buddhist Temporalities Ordinance and to report thereon with such recommendations as the Commission may deem to be desirable for the amendment of, or the better carrying out of, that Ordinance.

The following Committees were appointed :—

To consider and revise the details of a draft bill to extend the provision for local government in Ceylon, prepared upon the lines of the report of the Local Government Commission.

To consider the question of the adjustment of the respective spheres of the Director of Irrigation and the Government Agents under the provisions of the new Irrigation Ordinance, No. 45 of 1917, and to prepare the necessary general orders.

To consider the question of establishing a trial peasant settlement under the Nachchaduwa tank.

To examine and report on the plan and estimate which were prepared for a new lunatic asylum at Angoda.

To inquire into the law relating to mortgages to secure future advances or floating liabilities on current accounts, and to report as to the principles which should in future govern the law on the subject.

To work out a scheme to ensure greater control over the importation, storage, sale, and manufacture of explosives.

To deal with applications from Ceylonese to be sent to England on war service.

To consider and report upon the desirability of establishing in a tank district a penal settlement for habitual criminals and long-termed prisoners.

II.—FINANCIAL.

Revenue.

The revenue collected during the period October, 1917, to September, 1918, amounted to Rs. 63,933,629, a decrease of Rs. 130,371 under the estimate, and of Rs. 3,048,249 under the revenue of the previous financial year. The principal reason for this decrease is to be found in a falling off of Customs and Railway revenue.

Expenditure.

The expenditure for 1917–18 was estimated at Rs. 65,435,616, but the amount actually spent was Rs. 64,944,549, which shows an increase of Rs. 608,878 over the expenditure of 1916–17. This is chiefly due to payment on account of the second war contribution of £1,000,000 to the Imperial Government.

Assets and Liabilities.

The assets of the Colony on September 30, 1918, were Rs. 56,189,623, and the liabilities Rs. 19,069,052. The former consist largely of advances to local bodies, and in particular to the Municipality of Colombo. The principal item among the liabilities is the Widows' and Orphans' Pension Fund.

Public Debt.

At the close of the financial period the public debt of the Colony stood at £5,327,187, or, approximately, just under one and a quarter times the annual revenue.

Of the loan of £3,436,854 authorized by Ordinance No. 6 of 1909 to meet the cost of the Colombo Harbour and Drainage Works, the Mannar Railway, and other public works, a sum of £1,500,000 was raised at 98½ in 1909–10 bearing interest at 3½ per cent., and a further sum of £1,000,000 was floated in 1914 at 99 bearing interest at 4 per cent.

Currency.

On September 30, 1918, the value of currency notes in circulation was Rs. 37,340,522, and the currency reserve on that date consisted of Rs. 7,850,337 credit in England, Rs. 2,574,000 in gold, Rs. 7,605,190 in silver, and Rs. 19,310,995 in British, Colonial, and Indian investments.

Ceylon Savings Bank.

The Ceylon Savings Bank had a sum of Rs. 3,742,593 to the credit of 38,627 depositors on December 31, 1918, against Rs. 3,798,480 to credit of 38,408 on December 31, 1917. The amount of the Bank's invested funds on December 31, 1918, was Rs. 4,262,250, which includes the reserve fund Rs. 678,184.

Interest was allowed on deposits at the rate of 4 per cent. on sums of Rs. 1,000 and under, and 3 per cent. on sums above Rs. 1,000 for the year 1918.

III.—AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRIES.

Tea.

The area cultivated with tea is approximately 400,000 acres, mainly planted during the past thirty years, and ranges from sea level to elevations of nearly 7,000 feet. The estates vary in size, from under 100 acres to 2,500 acres, and are mainly under European supervision, and worked with Tamil labour from Southern India. Small areas in various localities are cultivated by villagers, leaf being sold to estate factories in their vicinity.

The average outturn for Ceylon tea ranges between 400 to 500 lb. of made tea per acre, but well-cultivated estates yield more heavily. The quality of the trees varies according to the situation of the estates and to the methods of cultivation and manufacture.

The early part of the year 1918 was not particularly favourable for tea, as climatic conditions were unsuitable. In the higher altitudes cold spells of weather were experienced, and in some parts the south-west monsoon brought less rain than usual. The tea-growing districts of Uva experienced a serious drought. Later in the year seasonable rains fell and good crops were realized. The total export of tea was 180,638,872 lb. in 1918, as against 193,033,962 lb. in 1917.

Cultivation was well maintained, and larger quantities of artificial fertilizers were applied during the year than in 1917, when owing to freight and exchange difficulties a smaller programme of manuring, &c., than usual was adopted on most estates. The extension of the planting of permanent green manure trees continues, and there is little doubt that the results of this system of cultivation are highly satisfactory. The removal of tea under rubber in the low-country has continued, but some estates over 1,500 feet have under consideration a proposal to take out rubber and leave tea.

The export of Ceylon teas was under the control of the Food Controller of the United Kingdom and the Local Tea Commissioner during the year, and remunerative prices were realized. High grade teas, which were available for uncontrolled sale, met with a ready demand and commanded good prices.

The exports to the United Kingdom and Australia increased during the year, whilst those to the United States of America and to Russia show a marked reduction.

Rubber.

The area under rubber continues to expand, and approximately 255,000 acres are now under cultivation. New areas are being opened and citronella lands in the Southern Province are being extensively planted with rubber. The tendency of small owners to plant rubber on lands which were formerly used for growing food products continues, particularly in the Kalutara and Ratnapura Districts. A small increase in the area under rubber is reported from the Chilaw District, a district which has been until now almost exclusively a coconut district. Cultivation of rubber was carefully carried out by all the larger estates. Thinning operations were continued, and the treatment of diseases attended to. Manuring of rubber was stopped on many estates during the year in the endeavour to reduce expenditure. Forking and liming was carried out.

The training of inspecting officers for plant pests and diseases was begun during the year.

Difficulties in regard to freight and the control of imports of rubber into the United States brought about an accumulation of stocks of rubber in the East. Prices fell very considerably, and a large number of estates subscribing to the Rubber Growers' Association decided upon a voluntary restriction of output. Proposals for a general restriction were considered by the Government and representatives of the rubber industry during the year, and it was agreed that, should such restriction be necessary, the Colony's rubber industry would adhere to any scheme worked under Government control. With the signing of the armistice the outlook for rubber became more promising, and the proposals for a general restriction of output were not proceeded with. Owing to the low prices for the various grades of rubber, the Legislative Council, towards the end of the year, passed a resolution authorizing the Governor in Executive Council to reduce the export duty when and for such period as might be found desirable, and the duty was reduced accordingly to Rs. 3 per 100 lb.

Some inquiries were made at the end of the year into the possibility of extracting rubber seed oil.

The export of rubber in 1918 was only 47,219,128 lb., as against 71,351,629 lb. in 1917.

Coconuts.

Coconuts and coconut products did not suffer so severely in 1918 as in the previous year. The year opened with low prices and difficulties in regard to freight, but a demand for copra in India improved the situation, and considerable exports were made to that country during the year. Extensive purchases of coconut oil were made on behalf of the Imperial Government for shipment to Europe, and this had the effect of easing the situation very considerably. Desiccated coconut was prepared chiefly for the United States; the export of this product to the United Kingdom showed a very large reduction in comparison with the exports of the previous year.

Towards the end of the year prices ruled high, and after the signing of the armistice a further improvement took place. The export duty on coconut products, which had been remitted on account of the low prices, was not re-imposed during the year, but it was decided to collect the duty again from the beginning of 1919.

Crops were, on the whole, satisfactory. Severe drought was experienced in some districts, *e.g.*, the North-Western Province and Batticaloa, but with good cultivation its effects can be mitigated to some extent. Coconut poonac was used on an increasing scale, as prices were low, as a manure for coconut estates. Careful attention was given to the younger plantations. Little extension has taken place in the area planted, though one or two places, *e.g.*, Trincomalee, report a slight increase of area, and the majority of estates stopped, for reasons of economy, the application of commercial fertilizers.

The price of copra rose from about Rs. 50 to about Rs. 76 a candy, and nuts reached Rs. 50 to Rs. 60 per thousand at the end of the year. The price of coconut oil was from about £45 to £47 a ton for ordinary varieties.

Cacao.

The area under this product is about 22,000 acres. This acreage remains stationary, as little extension is taking place, and in some areas in the Matale District cacao planted under rubber has been cut out. The yield during 1918 was an average one. The spring crop was not good, but a satisfactory autumn crop was being gathered at the close of the year.

At times there were difficulties in securing freight for cacao, and prices were, on the whole, irregular. They however ruled considerably higher during the year than during 1917, and after the signing of the armistice there was a brisk demand for cacao of all grades at improving prices. The exports amounted to 79,025 cwt., as against 73,280 cwt. in 1917.

The local manufacture of chocolate for the local market and for India has been continued, and inquiries have been made as to the possibility of an extension of this commercial enterprise.

CINNAMON.

The exports of cinnamon products show an improvement over those of the previous year, and towards the end of the year inquiries for cinnamon were common. The cultivation has again become profitable, and the tendency to cut out cinnamon in favour of rubber was not so marked during the year as in the preceding few years. Little change in the acreage under cinnamon took place, but greater attention was beginning to be again given to cultivation.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Citronella oil exports were 1,048,202 lb., as against 1,211,197 lb. in 1917, the largest purchasers being the United States and the United Kingdom. This product is largely grown in the Hambantota District, particularly the West Giruwa pattu. Prices, on the whole, ruled low.

Cardamom exports amounted to 383,050 lb., as against 367,824 lb. in 1917. This product is grown in the hill country below 6,000 feet, particularly in marshy grounds and the sides of hills. It is grown by Sinhalese villagers as well as by estates. The price fell from Rs. 2·50 to 25 cents a measure on the outbreak of the war. The price in the early part of 1918 was 35 cents a measure, which, of course, is not a paying rate. There was a rise in price later, and the prospects at the end of the year were favourable.

Greater interest is being taken in the cultivation of the Robusta types of coffee, and there is a ready demand for seed for propagating purposes.

The possibilities of vanilla cultivation on a small scale are being investigated by some, and attention is being given to the prospect of successful cultivation of Sisal and other fibres, which should do well in the hot and dry districts, especially where irrigation is available.

Tobacco cultivation is the most remunerative crop of the Northern Province. It is also grown in various other parts of the Island on a small scale, particularly in Trincomalee, Chilaw, and the Dumbara Valley in the Central Province, and on a very small scale in Hambantota, and at certain places other than Dumbara in the Central Province. In the Jaffna District 6,600 acres were cultivated. Two varieties are grown, one for smoking and one for chewing. Most of the latter is exported to Cochin and Travancore, whilst the former is made into cigars, which find a ready sale in all parts of the Island. Over 4½ million lb. were exported from Jaffna to India during the year. The Agricultural Department is conducting experiments with the object of turning out a tobacco acceptable to the European market.

The Government of India was obliged early in the year to limit the export of castor oil, and allow Ceylon only what was necessary for urgent needs. It was therefore decided to ascertain whether this valuable oil could not be produced locally, outside the tea area, where its cultivation is impossible owing to the plant being the host of the shot-hole borer of tea. Some seed was procured from Madras, and three areas in the dry district were planted by the Agricultural and Forest Departments, and some seed was distributed to villagers to be grown in their chenas. The Government areas planted were at Madawachchi 35 acres, Iranamadu 30 acres, and Madu 71 acres. At Madawachchi the ground was exceptionally good, some 700 lb. per acre being expected. Iranamadu was fairly satisfactory, but elk destroyed part of the plantation. Madu was a complete failure, due to poor soil, destruction by wild animals, and difficulty in getting labour owing to influenza. Arrangements are being made for the erection of a press to extract the oil. It is too early yet to say whether the experiment will be successful, but it has certainly been interesting and useful.

Larger areas were planted during the year in food products. In every district extension of areas under these products is noticeable. Manioc, sweet potatoes,

and plantains are being much more largely cultivated, while increasing attention is being given to growing maize, beans, and various dry grains in suitable localities. Trials have demonstrated that curry stuffs can be successfully grown in several districts, and that much of the onions, chillies, and pulses now imported could be grown locally.

The cultivation of vegetables has received a considerable impetus from the movement to make Ceylon more self-supporting in the matter of foodstuffs. The cultivation of "foreign" vegetables has become a permanent and very profitable industry in the town and neighbourhood of Nuwara Eliya, where large quantities of vegetables are raised, mostly from imported seed, for consumption in Colombo and the low-country, and also for supply to ships passing through Colombo. Ordinary vegetables were raised in large quantities, particularly in the Galle District.

Paddy crops were, on the whole, satisfactory, though the drought in the early part of the year adversely affected certain districts, particularly Kurunegala and Batticaloa, and there has been a decided effort to increase the area under this crop for the north-east monsoon crop. The high price of paddy, consequent upon the difficulties in regard to freight and supplies from India and Burma, has induced many cultivators to take up lands that had been uncultivated for some time. The influenza epidemic, which was at its height during the principal cultivation season, has, however, caused slovenly cultivation methods to be adopted in some parts, and has rendered the cultivation of fields in other localities impossible. Rice mills have been established in the Hambantota District.

Meat imports again show a reduction. The demand for meat is now being met to a large extent from local supplies, but statistics show that an increasing number of buffaloes are being slaughtered—not a very satisfactory state of affairs.

The Ceylon Agricultural Society.

This Society was started in 1904, and has a membership of 1,595, composed of 936 local members paying an annual subscription of Rs. 10, and 659 foreign members paying Rs. 15. The Society receives an annual grant from Government of Rs. 25,000.

The Society publishes monthly journals in English, Sinhalese, and Tamil, which are issued free to members, in addition to its Year Book. The journals are the *Tropical Agriculturist*, *Govikam Sangarawa*, and *Kamat Tholil Velakkam*. Leaflets in English and the vernacular dealing with specific subjects are also issued free to members.

Seeds and plants are supplied to members at cost price. One of the principal objects of the Society is to encourage agricultural shows, co-operative credit societies, apiculture, and home gardens by the offer of prizes and in various other ways.

The Society employs eleven itinerating instructors, whose duty it is to give the village cultivator every facility in the way of instruction and advice regarding tillage, manuring, crop pests and diseases, &c. Of these instructors, eight work in the Sinhalese and three in the Tamil districts. They also have in their charge experimental and demonstration gardens established in village centres in different parts of the country.

Members of the Society receive advice and assistance from the Scientific Staff of the Department of Agriculture.

Co-operative Credit Societies.

In spite of the scarcity of money and other adverse conditions resulting from the war, Co-operative Credit Societies have made progress, and during the year 13 new societies were registered. The registration of 3 societies was cancelled as they had not started work, and of another as its work was unsatisfactory. The total number of societies working at the end of the year was 97,

as against 88 last year. The total number of members increased by 2,151 to 10,334, and the paid-up capital amounted to Rs. 49,356·75, an increase of Rs. 8,019·75 on the year 1917. Several societies have issued loans to their members, at rates of interest varying from 6 per cent. to 12 per cent., to the total amount of Rs. 76,692·15, as against Rs. 43,368·14 last year. The recoveries during the year totalled Rs. 13,694·40, and the balance outstanding on December 31 was Rs. 59,224·76. Government loans to the extent of Rs. 6,100, as against Rs. 1,500 last year, were issued to 8 societies, the rate of interest charged being 5 per cent. Four societies repaid Rs. 261, and the outstanding balance on account of Government loans was Rs. 9,052. In co-operation with the officers of the Agricultural Department, the societies have made greater efforts towards the growing of food products, and shown interest in the adoption of improved methods of cultivation. Agricultural shows were held by 8 societies during the year. Four societies which took part in the garden competition were awarded money prizes by the Ceylon Agricultural Society. The beneficial results of the use of manure in paddy fields appear to be appreciated by the villagers, as is shown by the following table :—

	Quantity. Tons.	Value. Rs. c.		Quantity. Tons.	Value. Rs. c.
1915	46	4,624 7	1917	138½	11,633 75
1916	79	8,380 60	1918	165	16,005 0

Applications for manure are made to the Registrar by the committees of the societies according to the requirements of the members, and if approved by him are forwarded to the manure firm, which allows such societies 5 per cent. discount and eight months' credit. The manure is then sold on credit to the members, who repay the amount usually at the end of the harvest. Agricultural implements have similarly been supplied to societies. Greater interest in the co-operative credit system has been evinced by chief and other headmen, and the success of the movement seems assured.

Diseases of Animals.

Rinderpest.—There was a marked decrease during the year, the total number of cases being 161, against 2,076 last year. Outbreaks occurred in three Provinces, and six remained free. The total number of cases for the year outside Colombo town was 128, of which 20 recovered and 108 died. In Colombo town 9 cases occurred, of which 4 recovered and 5 died. At the Quarantine Station there were 24 cases, of which 9 recovered and 15 died.

Foot-and-Mouth Disease.—This disease was very prevalent throughout the year. All Provinces, except the Southern, were infected. The total number of cases was 10,377, against 7,132 last year. The total number of cases outside Colombo town was 9,984, of which 9,420 recovered, 247 died, and 316 were ill at the close of the year. In Colombo town their were 297 cases, of which 290 recovered and 7 died. At the Quarantine Station 96 cases occurred, of which 82 recovered and 14 died. As usual, the disease, though of a very mild type, spread with great rapidity. The total number of deaths was 268, chiefly young sucking calves and neglected cases.

Anthrax.—In the Provinces only 24 cases were reported. In Colombo town 3 cases occurred, and at the Quarantine Station 1,302 cases amongst goats and sheep imported from South India.

Rabies.—Seventy-four suspected cases were examined at the Bacteriological Institute, of which 23 were from Colombo town. Of these, 44 gave positive and 22 negative results. Eight were received in a condition unfit for examination. 221 persons underwent treatment at the Pasteur Institutes at Colombo and Coonoor.

Swine Septicæmia.—Only 30 cases were reported, all from the Western Province.

Black Quarter.—23 cases were reported in the Southern Province and 7 cases in Uva.

Piroplasmosis.—No cases were reported.

Surra.—No cases were reported.

Miscellaneous.—Fifteen cases of ophthalmia occurred amongst cattle in the Central Province, all of which recovered under treatment.

Horses.—With the exception of one case of anthrax amongst the Police horses, there was no outbreak of infectious disease during the year.

SALT.

The manufacture and collection of salt is a Government monopoly, which is protected by a duty of Rs. 3 per cwt. on imported salt. The amount realized by its sale in 1918 was Rs. 1,116,774·14, as against Rs. 1,235,409·13 in 1917, Rs. 1,716,792·58 in 1916, and Rs. 1,800,856·22 in 1915.

Owing to the shortage of stocks it was found necessary to continue the importation of salt into the Island during 1918. This imported salt is being sold in Colombo on Government account through local firms.

The Government store opened in Colombo was retained, a portion of the imported salt being held there to supply outstation stores, where necessary.

The local production of salt during the year 1918 was a great improvement on that of previous years. The total production of 1,186,524 cwt. was distributed as follows :—

	Cwt.
Puttalam District	554,498
Hambantota District	387,902
Trincomalee District	124,804
Northern Province	119,320
Total ..	1,186,524

This is probably a record yield for the Island, as the highest total output in recent years was 759,396 cwt. in 1910.

The usual selling price at the Government Stores is Rs. 3 per cwt., but owing to short stocks it was found necessary to continue the restrictions in sales from Puttalam to the Western Province, and also to retain the enhanced price of Rs. 3·75 per cwt. at Puttalam and Rs. 3·35 per cwt. at Tondaimannar.

No restrictions were placed on the output of salt at any centre during the year, and with the record collections of 1918 it will now be possible to withdraw all restrictions and revert to normal conditions. The total stocks at the end of the year amounted to 1,426,244 cwt., or more than two years' supply.

CROWN LAND.

The total area of Crown land sold and settled (exclusive of settlements under the Waste Lands Ordinance) was 6,019 acres, as compared with 6,158 acres in 1917, 11,373 acres in 1916, 14,773 acres in 1915, and 27,471 acres in 1914.

The continuance of war conditions, and the fact that a new system of leasing has been introduced in place of the old system of selling outright, have restricted transactions in regard to Crown lands during the year. There has been some demand for land, particularly in areas suitable for rubber planting, *e.g.*, in Ratnapura and Kegalla, in the Western Province, and in the Galle District. There is also a demand for land in the tea district of Nuwara Eliya, but in this district there is little suitable land remaining to be opened up, except in Walapone, an unopened district, which may prove capable of development. There is some demand for land in Trincomalee District, but little in Jaffna, where there are good openings for coconut planters in the Pachchilaippali and Punakari divisions. Fresh land is or will soon be available for paddy cultivation in the Karachchi district of the Northern Province and under the new Walawe-ganga works in the Hambantota District of the Southern Province, and it is anticipated that there will be a demand for land in these places. An increased demand is reported from Kantalai in the Trincomalee District.

The Land Settlement Department has continued its work of settling title to land as between the Crown and the subject, and during the year the large

area of 447,356 acres was settled. It is reported that the confidence of the people in the fairness of the settlements offered continues.

Forests.

Re-afforestation.—The planting up of areas which have been denuded for the supply of firewood and sleepers to the Railway and timber generally to Public Departments and the general public has been carried on for several years, and such areas are being systematically re-afforested. During the year the area of plantation was increased from 4,216 acres 2 roods and 4 perches to 5,179 acres 2 roods and 20 perches.

Exploitation.—Public Departments were supplied during 1918 with 42,272 broad gauge and 33,450 narrow gauge sleepers, 531,006 cubic yards of firewood, 202,917 cubic feet of timber, 122 tons of fuel, 130,381 small round timber, &c. The value of these supplies was Rs. 1,919,065, as against Rs. 1,030,257 for the previous year.

Since 1906 the Forest Department has supplied the Railway Department with 801,291 broad gauge and 314,466 narrow gauge sleepers, at an average cost of Rs. 3·63 and Re. 1·65 per sleeper, respectively. Thus, a very large saving over the cost of imported sleepers has been effected in obtaining these supplies from the local forests, while it is admitted that the local sleepers are far more durable than the imported ones.

The revenue received from the public on account of timber, fuel, and minor forest produce during the year was Rs. 244,035, against Rs. 259,380 during the year 1917; and the miscellaneous revenue Rs. 12,946, against Rs. 11,478 during 1917.

Mines and Mining.

Gem Mining is carried on principally in the Ratnapura District, and is almost entirely in native hands. Very little has been done during the period of the war.

Plumbago Mining is the principal mining industry in Ceylon, and the mineral is worked in various parts of the Island, particularly in the Kurunegala, Colombo, Galle, Kalutara, and Kegalla Districts. Mines exist also in the Kandy District, and plumbago is found in small quantities in places as far removed from the principal centres of production as the vicinity of Colombo town on the one hand, and the Mullaittivu District, where a small mine was opened in 1918, on the other. Many of the mines are worked in a primitive fashion, but some employ up-to-date machinery, electric lighting, &c. The industry has suffered great vicissitudes during the war, a period of stagnation being followed at the end of 1915 by a period of prosperity and activity, which continued through 1916. During 1917 the price of the commodity, which had been very high at the beginning of the year, fell very considerably, and at the end of the year there was practically no demand at all. The cessation of the demand is ascribed to competition with Madagascar plumbago in England and to a fall in the demand for the mineral from America, whilst Japan shipped a considerable quantity of Korean graphite, a product inferior to the Ceylon variety in carbon content, but nevertheless sufficiently good for certain purposes for which plumbago is used. The cessation of the demand for Ceylon plumbago in America was unexpected, but was probably in part at least due to accumulation of stocks purchased in previous years. Representations were made through the Secretary of State, and it was pointed out that the closing down of many mines would be followed by flooding of those mines, with the result that, should a sudden demand arise, it would be difficult to meet it, as it would take some time to free the mines of water. An arrangement was made in June by which licenses to ship plumbago to the United States of America were grantable, provided the applicant had obtained a permit to import from the United States authorities. In July this arrangement was extended to Japan, but it was provided that in this case the consignee must give the British Ambassador at Tokio a guarantee against re-export to Russia. There

was little movement in the market, however, but towards the end of the year there were indications of a slight demand from America, when some new permits to import were issued, and a few orders began to be received.

The Island is capable of producing at least 30,000 tons a year, but it actually produced only a little over 1,000 tons a month in 1918. The number of mines working at the end of the year was 263, and the number of men actually employed in the mines was 6,433. The total quantity of plumbago exported during 1918 was 15,217 tons valued at Rs. 5,240,630, against 26,164 tons valued at Rs. 20,000,000 in 1917, and 33,410 tons valued at Rs. 22,494,999 in 1916—Ceylon's record year.

Mica.—Some inquiries early in the year from the Ministry of Munitions, in regard to the possibility of obtaining mica from Ceylon, led to a renewal of interest in this industry. Samples of the Ceylon product were sent to England and were found marketable, and a scheme was arranged for the Government purchase of the commodity on behalf of a large firm of importers in London. The Principal Mineral Surveyor was given charge of the scheme, which included the payment in Ceylon of 75 per cent. of the value of the mica accepted, a commission of 5 per cent. being charged towards the expenses necessarily incurred by the Government. By the time the scheme was in working order hostilities had ceased, but inquiries in London showed that the demand for mica of the quality then being shipped was not likely to cease, and it was decided to continue the scheme, with the object of establishing the Ceylon industry firmly. The mica shipped so far has all been phlogopite, though some muscovite exists in the Island, but possibly only a small percentage of the latter kind is marketable. Good quality mica is readily saleable in London at a satisfactory price, but a great deal of the Ceylon produce is not suitable for the London market, and if shipped would not only not be saleable, but would cause Ceylon mica generally to be looked upon with disfavour. For this reason the Government scheme includes careful inspection and grading by the Principal Mineral Surveyor. Private exportation of mica has not been interfered with, however, and considerable amounts have been sent home, mostly by persons who know what is required in London.

Mineral Survey.

Monazite.—Some beds of monazite sand have been discovered in Ceylon, and a special plant for the treatment of a bed of this sand near Bentota was erected during 1918. The plant has worked successfully, and by the end of the year some 20 tons of refined sand had been separated, and will be shipped to England when an opportunity occurs.

Portland Cement.—Further investigations were made as to the possibility of producing this article locally, especially in the Galle District, where limestone is to be found, but no positive results have yet been arrived at. The question of the provision of fuel is a difficult one, and has not yet been settled.

Mica.—The Principal Mineral Surveyor was engaged, as described under the heading "Mines," in the purchase, inspection, and grading of mica for shipment to England.

Industries and Manufactures.

Ceylon is essentially an agricultural country, and its industries and manufactures are mostly connected with the products of agriculture, such as the manufacture of tea, copra, coconut oil, &c. There are engineering works in various parts of the country mostly engaged in the manufacture and repair of agricultural implements and machinery, and there are lead rolling mills in Colombo, which prepare lead for tea chests, &c., for Ceylon and Southern India. The local manufacture of tea chests to take the place of imported chests is under consideration, and investigations are being made by the Forest Department to ascertain whether suitable timber exists in sufficient quantity to render manufacture of this article on a large scale possible. Meanwhile the industry,

which has existed for many years in Moratuwa, is forging ahead, and new factories were opened during the year. Minor industries, such as silver, brass, and ivory work, and the manufacture of lace, were carried on during the year, but owing to the small demand from visitors to the Island and the rise in the price of the raw materials, these minor industries did not have a prosperous year. The Kalutara basket industry, referred to last year, on the other hand, has flourished greatly, and the various articles of basket work, which are made in their homes by villagers, and sold to the Kalutara Basket Association, found a ready sale both in Ceylon and abroad. Various other local industries received encouragement, particularly from the Education Department, and the manufacture of chalk, inks, and slate pencils, besides rattan work, basket work, and weaving, are being taught in schools. A proposal has been under consideration to establish an industrial school in Jaffna.

Investigations were started by the Public Works Department with the object of ascertaining whether any feasible scheme could be devised for supplying Colombo and other parts of the Island with electric power at a cheap rate.

The fishing industry of Ceylon is one of some importance. The industry is largely in the hands of people of Negombo, who migrate during the fishing season to various parts of the coast of the North-Western and Northern Provinces, and even as far as Trincomalee. The fish they catch is cured and salted. Fish is also caught at several places on the coast and sent to Colombo packed in ice, even from places as far distant as Jaffna. About 800 cwt. of bêche-de-mer and about 3,000,000 chanks were exported from Jaffna in 1918.

The Ceylon Sugar Refineries Company, which had opened large works at Valvettitturai in the Northern Province, was obliged to close down during the year, but there are proposals to establish a sugar industry in the Island, the sugar being obtained from cane, which will grow in Ceylon.

The Industries Commission which was appointed in 1916 to "inquire into and report upon what measures are desirable to encourage such industries (other than agricultural) as exist in the Island, and to promote the establishment of new industries," continued its work during the year under five Sub-Committees, and issued an interim report.

The following details regarding the Government Printing Office will be found of interest :—

The Government Printing Office is attached to the Secretariat, but is conveniently placed in the Welikada Jail grounds in the outskirts of Colombo, and employs a native staff of from 500 to 530 men and boys. The whole of the official forms, books, &c., required by the Government Departments of the Colony are manufactured here.

The free staff, consisting of about 300 hands, deals with the type-setting and printing, some 230 prisoners from the Welikada Jail being employed in ruling, perforating, and machine-numbering the printed forms, binding the printed books, and despatching the finished work to Departments all over the Island.

During the past year 17,100 pages of bookwork were set in type and printed ; 96,000 school books were completed ; 47¼ million forms were struck off ; 6¾ million stamped envelopes, post cards, letter cards, and postal wrappers (with a total face value of Rs. 194,000), and 1 million unstamped envelopes were manufactured ; 7¼ million postage stamps were over-printed ; 4 million printed forms were ruled with red and blue lines ; 3¾ million forms of receipt, licenses, &c., in foil and counterfoil, were perforated and machine-numbered ; 86,000 sheets of notepaper and envelopes were embossed in colours, &c. ; 273,000 books were bound ; and 2,500 maps were engraved for the official *Gazette*, which averaged 108 pages per weekly issue.

The whole of the 31½ tons of type required for the publications in English was machine-set and cast by a battery of ten Monotype machines. The type required for the Sinhalese and Tamil publications was set by hand.

73 power machines are installed in the office, of which 32 are printing presses, the impressions made by them during the year totalling 23 million.

The paper, &c., used weighed 205 tons. In 1914 the average cost of the paper was Rs. 6·40 per ream ; its average price rose to Rs. 27·35 per ream in 1918; an increase of about 430 per cent.

The prisoners work nine hours a day, in a separate building, under the supervision of the Government Printer and his Assistants, but controlled by their own guards. The saving to Government is very considerable ; they have displaced the whole of the free unskilled labour force formerly employed in binding, ruling, perforating, numbering, envelope-making, packing, despatching, &c.

FACTORIES.

The following is a statement of the factories in Ceylon in 1918 :—

	Western.	Central.	Southern.	North-Western.	Uva.	Sabaragamuwa.	Total.
Tea and rubber	96	597	31	16	121	179	1,040
Coconut fibre, desiccating, and oil	83	—	3	33	—	—	119
Cacao	—	—	—	5	—	—	5
Engineering and saw mills	35	7	3	—	2	—	47
Aerated water	16	4	2	1	1	—	24
Printing	11	—	—	—	—	—	11
Packing and produce	14	—	—	—	—	—	14
Bulk petroleum	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Hotels	3	1	—	—	—	—	4
Plumbago curing	2	—	1	—	—	—	3
Spinning and weaving	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Brick-making	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Breweries	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Various	4	—	—	—	—	—	4
Total	267	610	40	55	124	179	1,275

IV.—TRADE.

The total value of Ceylon trade in 1918, omitting specie, but including the value of coal supplied to steamers, amounted to Rs. 406,521,432, as compared with Rs. 498,319,941 in 1917. The following table shows the value of the trade in lakhs of rupees for the past ten years :—

Year.	Lakhs of Rupees.	Year.	Lakhs of Rupees.
1909	2,853½	1914	4,022¼
1910	3,321¾	1915	4,495½
1911	3,523½	1916	5,212¾
1912	3,886¾	1917	4,983½
1913	4,329½	1918	4,065¼

The gross Customs revenue for 1918 was Rs. 20,437,808, as compared with Rs. 24,891,362 in 1917. Of the duty collected in 1918, Rs. 11,942,758 was realized on imports and Rs. 6,754,200 on exports, the other main sources of the Customs revenue being warehouse rent and harbour and port dues.

The amount of duty collected on imports is given below for a period of two years under the six main heads under which imports are classified :—

	1917. Rs.	1918. Rs.
Grain	4,298,249	3,559,769
Cotton Goods	735,523	987,744
Spirits and Cordials	1,175,645	772,136
Sugar	1,127,659	1,111,250
Kerosine Oil	1,526,438	1,389,695
Other Goods	4,154,801	4,122,164

Refunds and drawbacks totalled Rs. 591,306 for 1918, as against Rs. 445,093 in 1917.

The following table shows the total value of the imports and exports for the past ten years. The figures are exclusive of specie and the value of coal supplied to steamers :—

Year.	Imports. Rs.	Exports. Rs.	Total. Rs.
1909	125,441,597	146,899,631	272,341,228
1910	150,195,648	166,471,607	316,667,255
1911	156,986,106	180,526,959	337,513,065
1912	175,322,979	198,954,902	374,277,881
1913	186,073,086	232,986,954	419,060,040
1914	172,317,549	218,363,846	390,681,395
1915	163,637,758	273,375,987	437,013,745
1916	211,500,753	297,505,905	509,006,658
1917	184,123,986	304,160,457	488,284,443
1918	177,716,763	211,325,334	389,042,097

The decrease under imports is mainly due to less rice being imported during the year, while that under exports is attributable to a fall in the shipments of rubber, plumbago, and tea. Of the total exports in 1918, the value of Ceylon produce represents Rs. 197,633,194, while Rs. 13,692,140 is the value of imported goods which were exported.

Omitting the value of imported rubber, an article which is imported merely for purposes of export, the percentages of imports, exports, and of the total trade with the United Kingdom, British Possessions, and foreign countries for 1916, 1917, and 1918 were as follows :—

	1916. Per Cent.	1917. Per Cent.	1918. Per Cent.
Percentage of total trade of Ceylon taken by—			
United Kingdom	35·64	31·96	31·27
British Possessions	31·83	35·78	48·48
Foreign Countries	32·53	32·26	20·25
	100	100	100
Percentage of import trade of Ceylon with—			
United Kingdom	23·01	18·32	16·71
British Possessions	59·97	66·01	67·4
Foreign Countries	17·02	15·67	15·89
	100	100	100
Percentage of export trade taken by—			
United Kingdom	44·28	39·94	43·07
British Possessions	12·6	18·09	33·14
Foreign Countries	43·12	41·97	23·79
	100	100	100

About half of the total trade during 1918 was with British Possessions, while the share of the United Kingdom was about the same as last year. The fall in the percentage under exports to foreign countries is mainly due to a fall in the value of exports of Ceylon produce to the United States of America from Rs. 97,494,266 in 1917 to Rs. 35,129,918 in 1918, and to Russia (Asiatic and European) from Rs. 7,643,726 in 1917 to Rs. 71,628 in 1918.

Imports.

A comparison of the value of imports in 1917 and 1918 shows decreases under several of the important heads.

Confectionery.—The quantity imported was less than one-third that of the previous year. This, again, was equal to about one-third of the imports during

1916, the figures being 1,017,441 lb., 353,001 lb., and 107,536 lb. for 1916, 1917, and 1918, respectively. The share contributed by the United Kingdom was very small indeed. British India and Japan have also supplied less. The only other country of importance supplying Ceylon with confectionery was the United States of America. The quantity supplied by that country rose from 9,559 lb. in 1917 to 11,904 lb. in 1918.

Cement.—Here, again, imports were roughly one-third of the quantity imported in 1917, the amounts being 244,336 cwt. and 89,299 cwt. for 1917 and 1918, respectively. This article rose considerably in price during the year. The quantity of cement imported for Government use during the year was more than the imports by private firms by 21,209 cwt. Taking imports by Government and by private firms together, it is found that the United Kingdom has supplied 109,438 cwt., as compared with 90,326 cwt. from Japan.

Cotton, Manufactured and Raw.—Imports rose in value by Rs. 3,589,580, and totalled Rs. 18,651,604 in the year under review, the United Kingdom showing an increase of Rs. 1,316,696 and British Possessions of Rs. 2,654,006, whilst from foreign countries there was a decrease of Rs. 381,122. Prices of piece goods generally were higher than in 1917, and during the latter half of the year there was much speculation owing to stocks being held back through uncertainty of arrivals. Towards the end of the year the local market often quoted prices below that current in the United Kingdom at the time, but prices still continue high. The quantity of yarn imported for local use was less than in 1917, but there was a considerable increase in importation of raw cotton for local use. Owing to the shortage of cotton goods in India, and to an attempt made to deplete the local market of existing stocks, it was considered necessary to prohibit exportation of cotton, linen, and woollen manufactures from Ceylon, except under license.

Grain.—There was a decrease in the imports of rice from 7,754,121 cwt. in 1917 to 6,472,152 cwt. in 1918. This quantity was considerably below the average for recent years. The export of rice from Southern India of the variety known as *muttusamba*, to which the better class of people in Ceylon were accustomed, was prohibited from October, 1918, owing to the failure of crops in India. Imports of rice into Ceylon are now allowed only under licenses, the quantity which is considered sufficient for Ceylon being distributed evenly among the recognized importers. Towards the close of the year the shortage of supplies, combined with the rise in freight, which was partly due to speculation, sent up the price considerably, but the market rate always compared favourably with that current in Madras.

Motor Cars.—The imports of all kinds of motor cars, including chassis, during the past seven years have been :—

1912	239	1916	590
1913	407	1917	126
1914	459	1918	15
1915	296		

Of the cars imported in 1918, 10 were commercial cars. There were no imports of chassis during the year. The duty of 100 per cent. imposed as a war measure has had the desired effect of checking imports.

The quantity of petrol imported mainly for use as a source of motive power for cars during the past seven years was :—

Year.	Gallons.	Year.	Gallons.
1912	216,714	1916	776,092
1913	383,442	1917	884,093
1914	701,082	1918	680,395
1915	607,774		

Horses.—The number of horses imported rose from 58 in 1917 to 78 in 1918. Of the number imported in 1918, 17 horses were subject to duty, the tariff providing for the taxation of horses of the value of Rs. 1,000 and over.

Lamps.—There was a considerable decrease in the number and value of lamps imported. The United Kingdom, Japan, and the United States of America, the three principal countries supplying Ceylon with lamps, have all shared in the decrease, the largest decrease being from Japan. The most expensive kinds came from the United States of America. The total value of imports from all countries was Rs. 70,233 in 1918, as against Rs. 117,403 in 1917.

Metals and Metalware.—Imports were valued at Rs. 8,185,440, a decrease of Rs. 74,630 below 1917. This year the country which supplied metals and metalware of the largest value was the United States of America. In 1917 the United Kingdom came first. The principal imports from the United States of America in 1918 consisted of hoop iron, value Rs. 1,488,958 ; nails and rivets, value Rs. 437,008 ; cast steel, value Rs. 194,900 ; hardware, value Rs. 187,760 ; and galvanized barbed wire, value Rs. 127,512. The principal item now in point of value is pig lead, which usually comes from Burma. There was a small decrease of pig lead during the year. Japan is also competing in metals and metalware, but in no case has the value under any one head been more than a lakh of rupees in 1918, except hardware, which was of the value of Rs. 159,571. The proportion of the values of metals and metalware contributed by the principal countries was :—

	Per Cent.		Per Cent.
United States of America ..	32¼	Japan	6½
Burma	31½	Straits Settlements ..	3½
United Kingdom ..	24½		

Manure.—65,384 tons were imported during the year, valued at 6½ million rupees, an increase over 1917 of 18,704 tons in quantity and 1½ million rupees in value. Practically all this came from British India, imports from other countries being only 32 tons of fish manure, which were imported from the Maldive Islands, 289 tons of bone manure from India (excluding British), and 370 tons of nitrate of soda from Japan. Bone, fish, groundnut cake, and guano (mainly fish guano) show large increases, and nitrate of soda a large decrease. There were no imports during the year of five of the specified kinds, viz., muriate of potash, nitrate of potash, rape seed poonac, superphosphate, and sulphate of ammonia, while of manures grouped under the heading of " Other Manures," imports consisted of about two varieties, viz., lime and linseed cake manure, but principally of the former.

Spirits.—The following were the imports of the three principal spirits in proof gallons during 1917 and 1918 :—

	Proof Gallons. 1917.	1918.
Whisky	54,679 ..	48,869
Gin	22,051 ..	8,551
Brandy	14,894 ..	9,239

It will be seen that all the three kinds show large decreases. The total amount of duty realized on spirits is the lowest for the past twenty years, and this in spite of the rate of duty being higher.

Sugar.—The imports of sugar have been as follows :—

	1917. Cwt.	1918. Cwt.
Refined or candied sugar	362,574 ..	355,446
Unrefined and jaggery	43,764 ..	59,543

The supplies of refined sugar were principally obtained from the Straits Settlements (quantity imported 153,616 cwt.) and Java (quantity 123,508 cwt.), and to a lesser extent from British India (38,495 cwt.) and Hong Kong (31,609 cwt.). Japan, which supplied 22,872 cwt. in 1917, sent only 3,036 cwt. in the year under review, small quantities of refined sugar being also imported from China, South Australia, Burma, New South Wales, and the United States of

America. Owing to financial loss, the sugar factory which was established at Valvettitturai ceased operations during the year after working for about two years. About 16,500 cwt. of locally-manufactured sugar has been exported, mostly as ships' stores.

Tobacco, Cigars, and Cigarettes.—The quantity of cigars, cigarettes, and manufactured tobacco cleared for home consumption during the last three years are as follows :—

Year.	Cigars.	Cigarettes.	Manufactured Tobacco.	Total.
	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.
1916	31,226 ..	256,779 ..	23,423 ..	311,428
1917	32,676 ..	288,812 ..	15,069 ..	336,557
1918	33,550 ..	264,796 ..	17,234 ..	315,580

There has been a large decrease in the quantity of manufactured tobacco as compared with 1916, while the consumption of cigars and cigarettes appears to be fairly stable.

Ceylon's Chief Sources of Supply.

The proportion of values for the principal countries exporting goods to Ceylon is shown below. Countries which have supplied goods of less than Rs. 500,000 in value in 1918 are omitted from the table. The percentages are :—

	1916. Per Cent.	1917. Per Cent.	1918. Per Cent.
1. British India ..	35·05 ..	35·89 ..	38·08
2. Burma	14·67 ..	20·35 ..	19·51
3. United Kingdom ..	22·11 ..	17·7 ..	16·11
4. Japan	4·32 ..	5·45 ..	5·14
5. Straits Settlements ..	8·03 ..	7·02 ..	3·83
6. United States of America	3·65 ..	2·99 ..	3·17
7. Natal	·14 ..	·22 ..	2·84
8. Sumatra.. ..	·14 ..	·71 ..	2·17
9. Java	1·54 ..	1·3 ..	1·35
10. Maldive Islands ..	1·12 ..	1·22 ..	1·35
11. Borneo (excluding British)	1·28 ..	1·68 ..	1·21
12. France	·52 ..	·36 ..	·43
13. India (excluding British)..	·37 ..	·28 ..	·43
14. Hong Kong ..	·86 ..	·47 ..	·43
15. Sweden	·29 ..	·33 ..	·35
16. South Australia ..	·14 ..	·17 ..	·29

Three of the countries which appeared in the table last year have dropped out. These are Holland, Egypt, and Siam, due to smaller supplies from those countries of dyed piece goods and gin, salt, and timber, respectively. Natal and South Australia find a place each in the table this year, owing to larger supplies of coal by the former, and of articles of food, such as bacon, biscuits, ham, milk, sugar, dripping (included under "Unenumerated" in the return), &c., by the latter country. Japan now occupies the fourth place, as against the fifth place in 1917; while the United States of America maintains the same position as last year. The total value of goods supplied from the United Kingdom amounted to 28¾ million rupees, as against 9¼ million rupees from Japan and 5¾ million rupees from the United States of America.

EXPORTS.

Ceylon's staple exports in order of value are as follows :—

	Lakhs of Rupees. 1917.	1918.		Lakhs of Rupees. 1917.	1918.
1. Tea	957 ..	832	10. Coir fibre	4 ..	9
2. Rubber	1,310 ..	622	11. Citronella oil ..	12 ..	9
3. Coconut oil ..	101 ..	157	12. Tobacco, unmanufactured	7 ..	9
4. Copra	132 ..	127	13. Skins (dressed and undressed)	7 ..	7
5. Coconut, desiccated..	94 ..	52	14. Coconut, fresh ..	3 ..	4
6. Plumbago ..	218 ..	48	15. Cardamoms	4 ..	3
7. Arecanuts ..	30 ..	38	16. Coir yarn	2 ..	3
8. Cacao	18 ..	23			
9. Cinnamon ..	10 ..	13			

Tea, which had for many years taken its place at the head of the table, and was displaced by rubber for the first time during last year, again occupies the first place. The exports of both these articles were considerably less than in 1917. Rubber fared worse than tea owing to exports to the United States of America being restricted. The price of this article in consequence fell so low at the latter end of the year that relief was sought for and granted in the reduction of the export duty from 7½ cents per lb. to 3 cents per lb. It will be seen that the total value of exports of rubber was less than half that for 1917. Coconut oil has risen from the fifth place to the third place, there being a steady demand for the article from the United Kingdom. The increased shipment of coir fibre is due to this demand for oil, as much of the fibre was shipped as stowage for oil. There were large decreases in desiccated coconut and plumbago, the former being due to a reduced demand for it from the United Kingdom, and the latter, like rubber, being affected owing to an inability to find admission for it into the United States of America so freely as before. Poonac, which appeared in the table last year, has dropped out, as very little of it was exported, on account of freight being excessive for so low-priced an article, which was, moreover, not on the Priority List.

The principal countries buying Ceylon produce are given in the following table, with the percentage of values taken by each :—

		1916. Per Cent.	1917. Per Cent.	1918. Per Cent.
1.	United Kingdom	45·89	41·07	44·72
2.	United States of America	26·87	33·32	17·78
3.	British India	2·53	4·66	10
4.	Canada	·89	3·17	5·85
5.	New South Wales	2·07	2·08	4·87
6.	Victoria	2·01	2·27	3·62
7.	Egypt	1·24	·8	2·41
8.	France	5	2·57	2·06
9.	Cape Colony	·31	·62	·95
10.	New Zealand	1	1·14	·72
11.	South America (excluding Chili)	·03*	·3*	·66
12.	Japan	·31	·33	·61
13.	Italy	·17	·39	·56
14.	Philippines	·21	·25	·49
15.	Straits Settlements	·2	·3	·49
16.	China (excepting Hong Kong)	1·74	·75	·37
17.	Natal	·29	·26	·36
18.	Mozambique	·08	·23	·3
19.	South Australia	·25	·34	·25
20.	West Australia	·15	·2	·23
21.	Queensland	·14	·23	·22
22.	Chili	(Included under South America)		·2
23.	Hong Kong	·34	·25	·17
24.	Malta	·03	—	·16
25.	Newfoundland	·14	·12	·12
26.	Burma	·02	·06	·11
27.	Norway	·19	·09	·07
28.	Mauritius	·03	·03	·06
29.	Persia	—	—	·05

* Including Chili.

The most noticeable feature in the table is the fall in the percentage taken by the United States of America, caused by large decreases in the value of rubber, plumbago, and tea. The improved percentage of British India is on account of larger exports of copra, arecanuts, tea, and unmanufactured tobacco. Canada, New South Wales, and Victoria also show a remarkable improvement in their percentages. A considerable amount of coconut oil was exported to Canada during the year, as against nil in 1917 ; while rubber, too, was purchased more largely by that country. Larger exports of tea is the cause of the rise

under New South Wales and Victoria. Russia in Asia and Europe, Holland, and Denmark, which stood eighth, ninth, fourteenth, and sixteenth in the table, have all dropped out; while Malta has come into the twenty-fourth place during the year, with Mauritius and Persia into the last two places. Chili appears as a separate country for the first time this year, its position being secured as a buyer of Ceylon tea. It was hitherto included under South America. Countries which have taken less than a hundred thousand rupees' worth in 1918 are omitted from the table, but of the countries that have been so omitted only Russia in Asia has taken any goods at all from Ceylon.

Tea.

For the last seven years the exports have been as follows :—

	Million Pounds.		Million Pounds.
1912 ..	.. 192	1916 ..	.. 203
1913 ..	.. 191	1917 ..	.. 195
1914 ..	.. 193	1918 ..	.. 180
1915 ..	.. 215		

The year has not been a very good one for this trade, the depressing factors being the almost entire loss of the Russian market, due to the prevailing unrest, and the fall in the exports to the United States of America, owing, it is said, to Java teas entering into competition with Ceylon teas, low rates of freight being in favour of Java teas. Shipments to Hong Kong have probably fallen on account of that port being used as a place of transhipment to the United States of America, and those to China similarly, owing to the fact that it used to be a supplier to Russia. The teas generally were of a good quality, though not quite up to the high standard of 1917, and the average price for the year may be taken at 46 cents per lb., as against 49 cents per lb. in 1917.

The distribution among the principal countries for 1917 and 1918, with the increases and decreases, is shown in the following table :—

Countries.	1917.	1918.	Increase over 1917.	Decrease below 1917.
	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.
United Kingdom ..	85,885,445 ..	94,358,654 ..	8,473,209 ..	—
British Possessions :—				
British India ..	5,797,512 ..	8,582,870 ..	2,785,358 ..	—
Canada	11,903,499 ..	2,281,073 ..	— ..	9,622,426
Cape Colony ..	3,082,844 ..	3,778,277 ..	695,433 ..	—
Egypt	4,162,895 ..	8,126,477 ..	3,963,582 ..	—
Hong Kong ..	1,054,993 ..	125,056 ..	— ..	929,937
Malta	3,500 ..	676,342 ..	672,842 ..	—
Mauritius	153,965 ..	275,615 ..	121,650 ..	—
Natal	1,302,021 ..	1,119,459 ..	— ..	182,562
Newfoundland ..	737,747 ..	509,065 ..	— ..	228,682
New South Wales ..	11,317,440 ..	17,798,831 ..	6,481,391 ..	—
New Zealand ..	6,419,126 ..	2,797,211 ..	— ..	3,621,915
Queensland ..	1,237,782 ..	866,862 ..	— ..	370,920
South Australia ..	1,794,042 ..	971,618 ..	— ..	822,424
Straits Settlements ..	1,190,479 ..	1,124,125 ..	— ..	66,354
Victoria	8,194,640 ..	11,887,109 ..	3,692,469 ..	—
Western Australia ..	1,069,922 ..	875,520 ..	— ..	194,402
Other British Possessions ..	2,095,000 ..	4,141,363 ..	2,046,363 ..	—
	61,517,407	65,936,873	20,459,088	16,039,622
		Deduct Decrease	..16,039,622	
		Nett Increase	.. 4,419,466	

Countries.	1917. lb.	1918. lb.	Increase over 1917. lb.	Decrease below 1917. lb.
Foreign Countries :—				
China (excluding Hong Kong)	4,457,547	1,421,735	—	3,035,812
France	2,581,537	3,843,193	1,261,656	—
Italy	8,355	286,743	278,388	—
Japan	859,223	233,044	—	626,179
Mozambique	1,296,750	1,219,324	—	77,426
Norway	74,553	118,184	43,631	—
Persia	12,965	228,131	215,166	—
Philippine Islands	175,589	177,348	1,759	—
Russia in Asia	7,032,502	155,713	—	6,876,789
Russia in Europe	7,260,205	—	—	7,260,205
Chili / South America	1,466,098	698,542 / 2,224,372	1,456,816	—
United States of America	22,475,152	9,062,543	—	13,412,609
Other Foreign Countries	128,264	853,345	725,081	—
	47,828,740	20,522,217	3,982,497	31,289,020
			Deduct Increase	3,982,497
			Nett Decrease	27,306,523
Total for all countries	195,231,592	180,817,744	—	14,413,848

Shipments to the United Kingdom show a substantial increase. All bills of lading for teas sent to the United Kingdom were made to the order of the Food Controller or to the Director-General of Supplies. The quantity taken by the latter has amounted to 13,819,504 lb. for the year. The Australian Commonwealth has purchased 32,424,341 lb. of tea, an increase of 8,788,441 lb. over the figures for 1917. The figures against Egypt probably do not all represent exportation for consumption in that country, but being in many cases the final destination of vessels, a part may be taken as consumed elsewhere. Under " Other British Possessions " in the return are included exports to the Transvaal and to Salonika. The increase under " Other Foreign Countries " is due mainly to shipments to French territory in Africa. Canada and New Zealand have purchased very little as compared with 1917. South America shows an increase equivalent to the entire export to that country in the previous year.

Products of the Coconut Palm.

The total value of the produce of the coconut palm exported during 1918 amounted to 355 lakhs of rupees, as against 339 lakhs of rupees in 1917. The exports of the three principal products are given below for a period of six years :—

	Desiccated Coconut. Cwt.	Copra. Cwt.	Coconut Oil. Cwt.
1913	303,808	1,117,292	546,984
1914	311,864	1,411,947	486,286
1915	349,009	1,208,529	501,510
1916	306,149	1,309,939	323,017
1917	272,059	1,078,704	434,699
1918	203,366	1,272,321	527,481

It will be seen that the export of desiccated coconut is the smallest for the last six years. Its average value as entered by exporters was about Rs. 25·50 per cwt. in 1918, as compared with Rs. 34·50 per cwt. in 1917. There was also a considerable fall in the price of copra. When the year opened it was very low, but it gradually rose in value until it reached its highest figures for the year in December, but prices were not so good as in 1917. The bulk of the copra exported was sent to British India, and a fairly large quantity to France. The average price ruling for coconut oil was very satisfactory, its average for the year, viz., Rs. 29·75 per cwt., being the highest, with the exception of 1913. Coconut oil could be exported to places other than the United Kingdom only

under permits or licenses. During 1918 807 cwt. of coconut oil were supplied to foreign countries, of which Italy took 798 cwt. As a concession to the trade, the export duty on copra and coconut oil was temporarily withdrawn in December, 1917, but the duty has again been imposed as from January 1, 1919.

Rubber.

For the first time there was a check on the steady rise in the exports of Ceylon-grown rubber. The quantities exported are shown below for a period of seven years :—

	Cwt.		Cwt.		Cwt.		Cwt.
1912 ..	132,569	1914 ..	306,724	1916 ..	486,690	1918 ..	413,303
1913 ..	226,491	1915 ..	435,748	1917 ..	645,797		

The largest decrease was in the shipments to the United States of America, while the United Kingdom, too, reduced her demand for the article. The rise in the exports to Canada is significant, there being an increase from 11,665 cwt. in 1917 to 49,341 cwt. in the year under review.

Plumbago.

The exports of plumbago during the past four years have been :—

	Cwt.		Cwt.		Cwt.		Cwt.
1915 ..	436,351	1916 ..	668,214	1917 ..	523,940	1918 ..	304,340

There was a considerable decrease in the amount as well as in the average price of the article. The United States of America, our chief customer, took a quantity representing less than half the previous year's exports to that country. The average F. O. B. prices for the year for all grades was only Rs. 318 per ton, while it was Rs. 832 per ton in 1917. The United States of America took more largely of the better grades of plumbago than the United Kingdom, our next best customer.

Customs Duties, Classification of Imports and Exports.

The tariff which came into operation on June 3, 1917, continued in force throughout the year, the only changes made during 1918 being the increase of the import duty on cigarettes from Rs. 3 per lb. to Rs. 4 per lb., with effect from November 14, and the temporary reduction of the export duty on rubber from 7½ cents to 3 cents per lb. from November 19. The export tax on coconut oil and copra was remitted in December, 1917, and the remission was extended till the end of 1918. In the classification of imports, wire nails, acetic acid, and cinema films will in future appear as separate items. It is proposed during the course of 1919 to effect such alteration in the present classification as may be necessary, to bring it more into line with the classifications in force in the United Kingdom and British India.

V.—SHIPPING.

3,706 vessels with a tonnage of 5,669,558 entered the various ports of the Island in 1918, a decrease of 150 vessels and a tonnage of 320,852 as compared with the previous year. The following table shows the number and tonnage of the vessels under four general heads for the past three years :—

	1916.		1917.		1918.	
	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.
Merchant vessels (with cargo and in ballast)	2,035	4,480,703	1,686	2,980,358	1,654	3,204,518
Merchant vessels (called to coal)	737	2,008,057	350	877,732	506	1,382,808
Native sailing vessels	1,372	106,646	1,306	105,979	1,315	96,274
Warships* and Government chartered vessels	436	2,279,437	514	2,026,341	231	985,958
Total	4,580	8,874,843	3,856	5,990,410	3,706	5,669,558

* Warships' displacement tonnage.

Omitting merchant vessels which called only to coal, and also warships and transports, the comparative distribution according to nationality for 1917 and 1918 is shown below :—

	1917.		1918.	
	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.
British ..	1,382	2,208,390	1,362	2,390,822
British Colonial	1,306	105,979	1,315	96,274
Total British Vessels ..	2,688	2,314,369	2,677	2,487,096
American	4	8,859	4	10,596
Chinese ..	1	1,314	7	9,070
Danish ..	3	5,254	1	283
Dutch ..	25	48,480	34	94,544
French ..	55	220,763	32	175,514
Greek ..	4	8,389	4	7,440
Italian ..	16	45,181	18	40,047
Japanese	121	336,739	115	341,098
Norwegian	57	59,340	53	73,427
Russian..	4	4,665	—	—
Spanish..	5	11,239	11	27,239
Swedish..	8	18,870	11	29,805
Portuguese	1	2,875	2	4,633
Total Foreign Vessels..	304	771,968	292	813,696

Colombo Port Commission.

Owing to the continued necessity for retrenchment and the high price of materials, steel and iron, &c., little was done in the way of improvements, and the work of maintaining the buildings under the charge of the Port Commission was reduced to a minimum to meet prevailing conditions.

The export traffic was transferred in the middle of July to the new warehouses in the " Baghdad " area, suitable office accommodation for the Customs officials being provided in one of the temporary rice sheds that had been converted for the purpose.

The new quarters for the Master Attendant near the flagstaff were completed, and occupied by that officer in September.

An open shed 80 feet by 40 feet, consisting of steel framework and corrugated iron roof, for dealing with the transhipment of barrels of oil, was erected at the northern end of the Pettah warehouses.

Dredging operations were continued in the harbour as usual.

The construction of an accommodation road providing access to the new coaling grounds leased to the various firms for the storage of coal was completed during the year. The road, which is 3,000 feet in length and 21 feet wide, commences at the barge-repairing basin and terminates at the entrance to the Graving Dock.

Considerable progress was made in 1918 with the development of the land at Kolonnawa for the oil installation depôt. The original area of 35 acres has now been increased by the acquisition of a further 20 acres to a total of 55 acres, about half of which area has been levelled.

The scheme now decided upon and in process of execution is, shortly, to provide a discharge berth of bulk-oil-carrying vessels at the outer end of the North Guide Pier of the Graving Dock in the Colombo Harbour, whence oil is to be conveyed by means of pipe lines to the depôt at Kolonnawa. At this depôt provision is now being made for the installations for three important oil companies. The oil will be stored in large tanks, and will be conveyed again to the harbour for fuel for oil-burning vessels, loaded at Kolonnawa into railway wagons for conveyance to the various stations in the high- and low-country districts, or tinned and conveyed by rail or water to consumers throughout the Island.

It is intended to construct along the North-east Breakwater two steamer bunkering berths, at which oil-driven vessels will take bunker fuel as desired. A battery interchange station and measuring tanks will also be provided in the vicinity of the harbour.

Electric light was installed at the Graving Dock early in the year.

As a heavy crane was wanted in the vicinity of the Graving Dock, the 35-ton steam block loading crane was transferred from the South-west Breakwater to the North Guide Pier. This crane is capable of dealing with loads up to 35 tons at a radius of 40 feet. A special track 500 feet in length was laid on the pier to enable the crane to travel and to deal with loads at various points.

Certain measures that were necessary for the defence of the port were carried out during the year by the Port Commission.

The nett tonnage (sailing and steam) visiting Colombo in 1918 amounted to 4,442,050 tons; in addition, 231 warships and transports with a gross tonnage of 985,958 tons and coasting vessels of 13,300 tons entered the port.

Forty-three vessels were docked during the year, and 57 vessels were taken on to the Patent Slip.

The receipts from the Graving Dock were Rs. 92,701 and from the Patent Slip Rs. 5,926, against Rs. 78,130 and Rs. 10,156, respectively, in 1917.

There was no pearl fishery and no inspection of the pearl banks in 1918.

The expenditure by the Colombo Port Commission (exclusive of the work carried out by the Public Works Department) during the financial year 1917–18 (October 1, 1917, to September 30, 1918) amounted to Rs. 1,882,050·63, including a sum of Rs. 517,221·72 expended on the acquisition and preparation of the site of the oil installation depôt at Kolonnawa; and the expenditure on work carried out by the Public Works Department for the Port Commission was Rs. 24,668·10, making a total of Rs. 1,906,718·73. The revenue during the same period amounted to Rs. 2,158,503·09. In addition to the above, a sum of Rs. 652,034·35 was spent during the financial year on work connected with war services.

VI.—LEGISLATION.

During the year 1918 twenty-five Ordinances were passed. Of these, the following are the more important :—

(*a*) The Registration of Business Names Ordinance, No. 6 of 1918.—The object of this Ordinance is to enact for this Colony an Ordinance corresponding to the Registration of Business Names Act, 1916, of the United Kingdom. All individuals and firms carrying on business under a business name which does not disclose the true full names or names and initials of those individuals or of the partners of the business are required to register their business names. The same obligation is imposed on every firm any of whose partners have at any time changed their names. Where any such business name is registered, the nationality of every person composing the firm and any previous name or nationality of such person must also be registered.

(*b*) The Joint Stock Companies (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 7 of 1918.—The object of this Ordinance is to apply to companies certain provisions of the first-named Ordinance, namely, those relating to the registration of the names and nationalities and previous names and nationalities of directors of companies, and the prohibition of the incorporation or continued incorporation of companies under names which are calculated to mislead the public as to the nationality of those who control them.

(*c*) The Money Lending Ordinance, No. 2 of 1918, was passed with the object of coping with the abuses of the money lending system prevalent in

Ceylon. It is based mainly on the United Kingdom Money Lending Act, 1900, requiring the registration of all money lenders, and empowering the courts to re-open and revise all money lenders' accounts in cases in which the interest charged is excessive, and the transaction is otherwise harsh or unconscionable. It further requires money lenders to carry on their business at fixed offices under a registered trade name. The most important section is the one which requires particulars of the amount actually borrowed on promissory notes and the annual rate of interest to be separately set forth on the note given as security for the loan of money. The Ordinance further provides special protection to lenders against the frivolous or vexatious use of the Ordinance.

The Ordinances of lesser importance are :—

(*a*) The Mortgage Ordinance, No. 8 of 1918, which was passed to deal with the situation created by the judgment of the Supreme Court in a local case. It was recognized that, although the legal principles of this decision were unimpeachable, there was, nevertheless, a unanimity of feeling that the decision was not in accordance with the law as hitherto understood in commercial and legal circles.

(*b*) The Colombo Municipal Council Waterworks (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 9 of 1918, enacted in order to compel the owners of tenements occupied by thirty or more persons to provide such tenements with water service at a reasonable cost in so far as they are not required to be made by the Council.

(*c*) The Mines and Machinery Protection (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 25 of 1918, enacted to make provisions similar to those in the United Kingdom for the holding of inquiries into accidents by expert officers.

(*d*) An Ordinance to amend the Law relating to the Punishment for Thefts of Prædial Products, namely, No. 16 of 1918. This Ordinance substituted strokes with a rattan for lashes in case of theft of prædial products.

VII.—EDUCATION.

Schools in Ceylon may be divided broadly into "English" and "Vernacular." 91 per cent. of the school-going population attend vernacular schools. The education in the English schools is usually divided into two "sides": secondary, leading up to the London Matriculation and Cambridge Certificate Examinations; and elementary, which is in preparation for the Elementary School-leaving Certificate Examination. To the elementary side commercial classes have now been added in several of the largest schools. There is a great demand for English, and the tendency is to convert vernacular schools into Anglo-vernacular, and Anglo-vernacular into elementary English schools.

The inclusion of Tamil in the London Matriculation and Sinhalese and Tamil in the Cambridge Examinations will, it is believed, give a stimulus to the study of the vernacular languages. The requirements of the Medical College have made it necessary that Latin and French should be taught, but this is done too frequently, it is feared, without a sufficient grounding in English.

Vernacular Education.

In 1918 there were 843 Government vernacular schools, with an attendance of 88,578 boys and 30,691 girls. There were also 1,880 aided schools, with an attendance of 134,055 boys and 81,406 girls.

The total sum expended by Government on vernacular education in 1918 was Rs. 1,337,493·48, of which approximately two-fifths were spent on Government schools and three-fifths on aided schools.

The Rural Schools Ordinance is now in force in all districts of the Island. The Town Schools Ordinance was proclaimed in Colombo in August, 1918.

In 1918 there were 257 aided estate schools, with an attendance of 9,935 boys and 1,318 girls.

Two large Government schools were completed during the year in Colombo, and another is nearing completion. A school for the deaf and blind, started in 1912, receives an annual grant from Government of Rs. 3,000.

Schools Teaching English.

In 1918 there were 259 English and Anglo-vernacular schools attended by 46,122 pupils, of whom 35,912 were boys and 10,210 girls. There is one Government secondary school in Colombo, with an average attendance of 430.

There were 21 State-aided secondary schools, particulars of which are shown below :—

Return of Secondary Schools.

Province and Management.	Name of School.	Number of Pupils on Roll and Average Attendance on March 31, 1918. Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Average Attendance.
Western Province.					
Church of England	St. Thomas's College B	485	—	485	432
Do.	Bishop's College G	6	156	162	137
Church Missionary Society	C. M. S. Ladies' College G	33	162	195	125
Private	Panadure, St. John's M	155	27	182	177
Roman Catholic	St. Joseph's College B	534	—	534	480
Do.	St. Benedict's B	1,083	—	1,083	917
Do.	St. Bridget's Convent G	55	213	268	183
Do.	Bambalapitiya Convent G	98	224	322	233
Wesleyan	Wesley College B	449	—	449	391
Do.	Methodist College G	16	239	255	221
Southern Province.					
Roman Catholic	St. Aloysius's College B	485	—	485	430
Wesleyan	Richmond College B	392	—	392	348
Central Province.					
Church Missionary Society	Kandy, Hillwood G	24	67	91	84
Do.	Trinity College B	457	—	457	447
Roman Catholic	St. Anthony's College B	381	—	381	291
Wesleyan	Kandy G	37	183	220	181
Northern Province.					
American	Jaffna College, Vaddukoddai B	294	—	294	276
Church Missionary Society	Chundikuli G	53	180	233	183
Do.	St. John's College B	453	—	453	409
Roman Catholic	St. Patrick's College B	624	—	624	561
Wesleyan	Jaffna, Central College B	429	—	429	382
	21	6,543	1,451	7,994	6,888

B = Boys. G = Girls. M = Mixed.

The following is the scale of fees charged in the various classes of English schools in the Island :—

	Per Mensem. Rs.	c.
Elementary Schools :—		
Infant Department and Standards I. and II.	1	0
Standards III. to V.	2	0
Standards VI. to VIII.	3	0
Secondary Schools :—		
Lower School, as in Elementary Schools.		
Standards V. to VIII. and Junior School Examination Class	5	0
Higher classes	7	0

In many of the schools candidates are prepared for the Senior and Junior Cambridge School-leaving Certificate Examinations. In 1917 the number of candidates who presented themselves and the results obtained were :—

	Candidates.	Honours.	Other Passes.
Senior	455	37	195
Junior	705	30	264

There are special syllabuses for Ceylon students in English, Science, and Needlework, special stress being laid on the necessity for obtaining a high standard in English.

The results of the London University Examinations in 1918 showed that 294 candidates from Ceylon presented themselves for the Matriculation Examination, 65 of whom passed. In addition, 8 candidates passed the First Examination for Medical Degrees. Forty-six candidates presented themselves for the Intermediate Examination in Arts, 45 for the Intermediate Examination in Science, 4 for the Intermediate Examination in Laws, 5 for the B.A. Degree, 6 for B.Sc., and 4 for LL.B., but the results of these examinations have not yet reached Ceylon.

The encouragement offered by Government takes the form of grants and scholarships. In the majority of the aided English schools grants are paid on the results of examinations in the schedules of the Code, but in some of the more advanced schools the greater part of the grant is paid on the average attendance. The grants paid to English schools in the financial year 1917–18 amounted to Rs. 360,674·70.

Two Government scholarships are offered annually: one on the results of the Intermediate Examination in Arts, and the other on the results of the Intermediate Examination in Science. These scholarships are tenable for three years, and are of the value of £200 each per annum, with free passage to and from England and £50 outfit allowance. The value of the scholarship has been increased to £250 during the period of the war. The holders may join any British University, or study at any recognized engineering institution in the United Kingdom.

Government Training College.

The Government Training College consists of four departments: English men and women, Anglo-vernacular men only, Sinhalese men, and Sinhalese women. The object is to supply trained teachers for aided English schools and Government vernacular schools. At the beginning of 1918 the number of students in training was: English men 61, Anglo-vernacular men 11, English women 39, Sinhalese men 44, Sinhalese women 40. Trained teachers at present command high salaries, and there is a great demand for their services.

A class of 20 boys under eleven at time of examination was formed from boys in vernacular schools, whose board and lodging are paid for by public subscription. Their tuition is free. The boys on examination after two terms' work were found fit to join the fourth standard. They knew no English when they joined.

Industrial Schools.

There are no Government industrial schools, but carpentry schools are attached to 6 Government schools in the Kandyan Provinces. In 1918 the aided industrial schools, which are 38 in number, received grants amounting to Rs. 27,550. The trades taught were carpentry, dressmaking, tailoring, lace-making, embroidery, gardening, and masonry. The most important of these schools is the Maggona Certified Industrial School, which is utilized by the Government as a reformatory for youthful offenders. It is managed

by the Roman Catholic Mission. This institution has an estate of some 300 acres and excellent buildings, towards the cost of which the Government has contributed. 253 youthful offenders are at present receiving instruction in this school, and an allowance is paid by the Government for the maintenance of each offender.

Much progress was made with home industries in different parts of the Island. Basket and hat making and weaving are taught in several schools. Chalks, blanco, ink, and slate pencils are made in the Southern Province. An Inspector of Industrial Work and specially qualified teachers will be appointed early next year.

Agricultural Instruction.

An attempt has been made to supply elementary agricultural instruction by a scheme of school gardens conducted in connection with Government schools. The gardens are under the supervision of the Department of Agriculture; there is a Superintendent of School Gardens, who is assisted by three Inspectors. 376 school gardens attached to Government schools are worked under this scheme, and 74 grant-in-aid schools receive garden grants. Seeds and implements are supplied by the Department of Agriculture, and prizes are offered for competition. Nine teachers from Government and five from grant-in-aid schools underwent a special course of training at the Agricultural College, Peradeniya. The scheme has been supplemented by the establishment of home gardens in large numbers, seed being provided for boys who undertake to plant up vegetables in their home compounds.

Technical.

In addition to the night classes in building construction and mechanical engineering, the following new night classes were formed during the year:—Electric wiring, carpentry and joinery, drawing class for carpenters, cabinet makers, &c., machine construction, and drawing. These classes were well attended. It is proposed to start early next year commercial classes in the following subjects:—English (all branches), shorthand, typewriting, book-keeping, accountancy, methods and machinery of business, commercial geography, and commercial arithmetic, including tots. A large number of applications to join the above classes were received.

University College.

The new laboratories for the above institution are in course of construction, and plans for a new Royal College have been approved. The present Royal College buildings will be available for the University College.

Educational Conference.

A conference of teachers in Ceylon was held in Kandy in August and was attended by over 500 teachers. The conference lasted for a week, and was very well attended throughout. The proceedings are being published in book form.

Schools and the War.

War pictures were issued during the year to 960 schools, and are hung in all schools and explained to the pupils. 1,004 teachers contributed one day's pay monthly to war charities. The declaration of the armistice was celebrated by all schools in Ceylon.

VIII.—PUBLIC HEALTH, VITAL STATISTICS, AND METEOROLOGY.

General.

The general health of the Colony has not been satisfactory this year. This was principally due to a serious outbreak of influenza during the second half of the year. Ceylon had been practically free from this disease since 1891, but the outbreak which has spread this year over the greater part of the world visited Ceylon also, and affected every part of the Island. The epidemic appeared first in Colombo about June, and caused a great deal of trouble and inconvenience in the Fort, where a large number of employés in the various firms and offices were incapacitated by the disease. For the next two months the disease appears to have abated, but in September there was a fresh outbreak, this time in nearly all parts of the Island, and the character of the disease changed for the worse, many cases being followed by pneumonia, catarrhal or lobar, which was largely responsible for the high mortality. The disease was very severe among the Tamil coolies on estates, and also among the villagers of the low-country, particularly in malarious parts, whilst even ordinarily healthy districts, such as the sea coast towns and the Galle District, suffered severely. At the end of the year the disease was still bad, particularly in the North-Western Province, where it seems to have lingered longer than in most other parts.

Everything possible was done to afford medical and material relief to the sufferers from the disease. Numbers of additional medical officers and apothecaries were employed, vaccination was suspended in places where the disease was bad, and the vaccinators were employed in combating influenza. The Anchylostomiasis Campaign was suspended for a time, and all its officers were employed in influenza work. Many sanitary inspectors and estate dispensers were similarly employed. Large quantities of quinine and other medicines were distributed, especially in malarious districts, and special pamphlets were printed and widely circulated. In October the Government Agents and the Assistant Government Agents were given instructions to make payments in necessitous cases from their votes for charitable allowances, and were permitted to exceed these votes in cases of need, and this was done where necessary. In Uva, for instance, the original vote of Rs. 1,000 was exceeded by Rs. 3,750. Local Boards and other bodies also contributed, and local funds were raised in many places. A great deal of good was done by private persons and by various associations working in conjunction with the local authorities.

Apart from the epidemic of influenza, the year was not unhealthy. There were, however, two outbreaks of disease which should be specially mentioned. These were an outbreak of smallpox at Mannar and the spread of plague to Nawalapitiya.

Smallpox appeared in Mannar town about the middle of the year, and rapidly spread to some neighbouring villages on Mannar island and to a few on the mainland. A careful system of isolation was adopted, and stringent measures were taken to prevent the spread of the disease, and as a result it was speedily stamped out. There were in all 182 cases, of which 25 proved fatal.

Plague appeared in Nawalapitiya in March, the first case being reported on the 28th of that month. The infection was probably introduced from Colombo, but it is difficult to say by what means. A rat campaign was started almost at once, and patients were treated at the Infectious Diseases Hospital, whilst contacts were segregated at a special camp. It was, however, difficult to induce the townspeople to take the matter seriously, and as fresh cases continued to occur and infected rats were found, it was decided to take drastic action to stamp out the disease. In May the affected area was completely evacuated, 1,648 persons being removed from the area. An evacuation camp was formed, and united with the quarantine camp. The clothes of all persons entering the camp were fumigated, and they themselves were kept under medical surveillance,

though everything possible was done to make life in the camp as comfortable as possible in the circumstances. The whole of the infected area was surrounded by a fence formed of over 3,000 yards of corrugated iron, so made that no rats could escape. All foodstuffs and merchandise was then removed, and a careful rat hunt started; whilst all houses, boutiques, &c., were thoroughly cleaned up and disinfected, and those unfit for habitation were demolished. The results were highly satisfactory, and no case of plague was reported from Nawalapitiya after June 22. The disease spread to a few neighbouring places, *e.g.*, Ginigathena and Kadianlena, which were treated similarly. The last case in the neighbourhood was on Kenilworth estate on July 30. The disease appeared in the bubonic and septicæmic forms. There were in all 126 cases, of which 113 occurred in Nawalapitiya, 7 in Kadianlena, 1 in Ginigathena, 1 in Kataboola, and 4 on Kenilworth estate. 97 persons died and 29 recovered. A special force of police stationed at Nawalapitiya during the outbreak did good and useful work in keeping order.

Plague in Colombo.—The year 1918 was a record good year as regards plague in Colombo, only 70 cases being recorded, as against the previous lowest record of 139 cases during 1915, and the annual average of 262 cases during the four years 1914–17. That this improvement was in no way due to a reduction in the virulence of the infection is indicated by the fact that the case mortality has risen each year since the disease appeared, and reached its maximum in 1918, when 96·6 per cent. of the recorded cases proved fatal. Careful inquiries failed to disclose any evidence that the higher case mortalities during recent years were due to mild non-fatal cases having escaped detection.

The reduction in the number of cases, compared with previous years, was observed during every month of the year, but was especially marked during the last six months, only 6 cases in all having occurred from June 30 to December 31. As hitherto, the largest number of cases occurred amongst young adults, males being attacked much more frequently than females.

The disease was, as usual, confined almost entirely to the poorer and most insanitary parts of the town, the principal centres of infection being in the area which lies around the Town Hall, viz., Sea street, Wolfendahl, Kochchikade, &c. Sea street alone had 10 cases, which is out of all proportion to its population. The disease first appeared in Ceylon in this street in 1914, and has persistently recurred there ever since, in spite of the fact that every house has been repeatedly "Claytonized." The persistence of the disease there is believed to be in a large measure due to the existence of a series of old, untrapped, underground, defective, rain-water sewers, which discharge into the harbour, and which serve as a safe retreat for rats.

Out of a total of 21,000 rats examined bacteriologically, 61, or 0·29 per cent., were plague infected, which is much the same as in 1917.

The most acute outbreak of rat plague yet observed in Colombo occurred in some cellars in the Fort, a considerable number of dead rats being found in various stages of decomposition. In 14 of these it was found possible to isolate the plague bacillus. This outbreak was immediately suppressed by the use of the Clayton fumigators and by pesterining. Another outbreak occurred in the Customs premises, where 21 infected rats were found. This outbreak ceased when the numerous underground drains were rendered rat proof by the fixing of gratings.

The same preventive measures as hitherto were carried out, reliance being placed chiefly upon isolation of patients in hospital, segregation of contacts, evacuation, closure and improvement of insanitary dwellings, fumigation of rat tunnels by means of Clayton machines, pesterining of floors, capture and poisoning of rats in infected localities. During the year the indiscriminate poisoning of rats was stopped, this measure being confined to infected, and consequently evacuated, buildings. Six new petrol-driven Clayton fumigators were imported from England, and have proved a great improvement on the old hand-driven ones.

The annexed statements show the chief statistical data for the five years since plague appeared in Colombo :—

	1914.	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.
Total cases	413	139	291	207	70
Total deaths	381	128	273	196	69
Septicæmic cases	247*	81*	159	124	41
Septicæmic deaths	246	80	159	124	41
Bubonic cases	166	58	132	83	29
Bubonic deaths	135	48	114	72	28
Total case mortality per cent.	92·2	92·8	93·8	94·7	98·6
Septicæmic mortality per cent.	99·6	98·7	100·0	100·0	100·0
Bubonic mortality per cent.	81·3	82·7	86·4	86·7	96·6

* The cases for 1914 and 1915 each include one septicæmic recovery, but the diagnosis was not in either case confirmed bacteriologically, and may have been erroneous.

Monthly Incidence of Cases.

	1914.	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.
January	4	19	17	25	13
February	67	6	18	40	18
March	58	3	18	61	10
April	28	3	14	34	11
May	29	2	11	11	2
June	49	1	36	3	9
July	47	5	43	6	2
August	40	20	35	1	1
September	18	21	25	3	—
October	23	24	24	7	—
November	24	10	25	10	2
December	26	24	25	6	2
Total	413	139	291	207	70
Monthly mean	34·4	11·5	24·2	17·2	5·8

Annual average for the four years 1914–17 = 262.

Anchylostomiasis.—This disease is extremely prevalent in Ceylon, both among the indigenous population and among the immigrant Tamils working on the estates in the planting districts of the Island. The campaign which is being waged against the disease by officers of the International Health Commission, whose work is much appreciated, in conjunction with the Civil Medical Department, was continued during the year, and work was done in the Elpitiya, Maskeliya, Haputale, Koslanda, and Kelani Valley districts, and village work was done also in the village of Gorakapola in the Western Province. It was decided to abandon the original plan of selecting a number of small areas as "demonstration" areas, and to adopt the system of working outwards from a number of centres, as this plan is more likely to prevent re-infection of treated areas. Assistant Medical Officers were detailed for work in the various areas, and "post-campaign" operations were started under specially trained apothecaries. The result of a post-campaign investigation in the Matale District appeared at first sight disappointing, as a large amount of re-infection was disclosed. It appears, however, that this was due partly to the circumscribed area of the original campaign, and partly (and principally) to failure to prevent soil pollution. These investigations made it perfectly clear that the campaign can only be successful as a whole if and when the pollution of the soil by fæcal matter ceases, and every effort was made to impress this fact on all concerned. It is pleasing to be able to record that suitable latrine accommodation is being provided on very many estates, and also in many village areas. For instance, 19,000 privies of an approved type were erected and brought into use in a single korale in the Western Province in five months of this year. 50,800 coolies were treated during the year, and 44,718 were cured. In addition, some 2,971 villagers, boutique-keepers, were treated, and many Sinhalese labourers. As an indication of the prevalence of the disease in the villages, even in the comparatively healthy Western Province, it may be stated that in Gorakapola 639 out of 679 villagers were found to be infected, and 600 were treated.

Statement of Infectious Diseases.

Particulars regarding Plague, Smallpox, and Cholera for the Year 1918.

Plague.

	Cases.	Deaths.
Colombo	70	69
Nawalapitiya	126	97

Recovered, 29.

Six plague cases, contacts from Nawalapitiya, died at the following places :—

(1) At Mahiapeddy, Jaffna, March 31, 1918.
(2) At Alawatugoda, Kandy District, April 23, 1918.
(3) At Nayapane estate, Pussellawa, April 25, 1918.
(4) At Ahangama, May 7, 1918.
(5) At Weligama, May 14, 1918.
(6) At Gampola, May 10, 1918.

Total, 202 cases, with 172 deaths.
Recoveries, 30.

Smallpox.

	Cases.	Deaths.
Colombo	36	5
Outside Colombo	6	2
Colombo imported cases	6	3
Central Province	2	—
Northern Province, Mannar	182	25
Other centres in Northern Province	8	2

Cholera.

	Cases.	Deaths.
Colombo	1	1

MEDICAL INSTITUTIONS.

There are 84 Government hospitals, in addition to the Lunatic and the two Leper Asylums, equipped with modern hospital furniture and surgical appliances. The number of beds in the institutions ranges from 12 to 687, while the number accommodated in the Lunatic Asylum varied between 989 and 1,078. In addition to the hospitals, there are 447 Government outdoor dispensaries. Owners of estates have provided 58 estate hospitals, which receive a rebate on export duty, and 432 estate dispensaries, which receive drugs free from Government to a value of 50 cents per labourer per annum. At the close of the year the sanatorium for consumptives at Kandana was ready to receive patients, and the hospital at Aranayaka was almost completed. The following new hospital buildings were also under construction :—

Agrapatna, in the Central Province.
New Leper Asylum at Mantivu, in the Eastern Province.
New buildings at Alutnuwara and Lunugala, in the Province of Uva.

The general rebuilding scheme in contemplation for the improvement of the Medical College remained deferred owing to the war.

The full course of training at the Ceylon Medical College is five years for the medical students and two years for the apothecary students. A diploma in medicine, surgery, and midwifery (which can be registered in the United Kingdom) is granted to the successful medical students. The apothecary students are employed by Government after they qualify in the examination. The following were the attendances and passes during the past two years :—

	Attendances.		Passes.	
	Medical.	Apothecary.	Medical.	Apothecary.
1917 May to 1917 July	153	47	9	5
1916 October to 1917 March	166	64	9	9
1918 May to 1918 July	169	61	11	6
1917 October to 1918 March	190	82	14	13

In Colombo there are a Bacteriological Institute, a Pasteur Institute, a General Hospital of 687 beds, an Ophthalmic Hospital, a Lying-in Home, a Hospital for Women and Children, and one for infectious diseases. There is an establishment for the manufacture of calf lymph. There are special dispensaries at Kandy and Galle for the treatment of eye diseases. There is an Anti-Tuberculosis Institute in Colombo fitted with an up-to-date X'ray apparatus.

Asylums.

The Lunatic Asylum contained 1,066 inmates on December 31, 1918. As there is very considerable overcrowding in the present building, the Government is erecting a new institution a few miles out of Colombo, with accommodation for 1,000 patients, and for the necessary staff and servants. The number of patients treated in the Asylum during 1918 was 1,376 (907 males and 469 females). The number discharged was 153 (104 males and 49 females).

The Leper Asylum is situated 6 miles from Colombo. It contained 375 patients at the end of the year. The total treated during 1918 numbered 541. A small establishment of lepers exists at Kalmunai, in the Eastern Province, and has accommodation for 30. As stated above, a leper colony is being erected at Mantivu, a small island on the lagoon in the neighbourhood of Batticaloa.

A Home for Incurables containing 80 beds is administered by a Committee of Government officials and representatives of the public.

Population.

The estimated population of Ceylon on December 31, 1918, was 4,686,381. This shows an increase of 53,998 persons above the population at the end of 1917, as the result of an excess of 33,975 births over deaths, and 20,023 more arrivals than departures of Indian coolies. The number of persons belonging to the various races in the Island and the proportion of each race to 1,000 of the total population as estimated at the end of 1918 are shown below :—

Race.	Estimated at December 31, 1918.	Proportion to 1,000 at the end of 1918.
Europeans	7,301* ..	1·6
Burghers	29,043 ..	6·2
Sinhalese	2,989,362 ..	637·9
Tamils	1,352,492 ..	288·6
Moors	277,630 ..	59·2
Malays	14,118 .	3·0
Others	16,435 ..	3·5

* Exclusive of 956 Europeans who left the Island on Military Service prior to 1918 within the knowledge of the Military Authorities.

Marriages.

The marriages registered in 1918 numbered 22,185, of which 16,628 were "general" (*i.e.*, other than Kandyan or Muhammadan) marriages and 5,557 Kandyan marriages, and are 3,016 fewer than in the previous year. The number of persons married corresponds to a rate of 10·2 per 1,000 of the population, exclusive of the Muhammadans, as against 11·8 in the previous year and 11·9 the average for the years 1908–1917.

Births.

The births registered during the year 1918 numbered 183,383 (93,398 males and 89,985 females), and were equal to a rate of 39·2 per 1,000 of the estimated population, a decrease of ·9 on the rate for 1917. Compared with the ten years 1908–1917, the rate for 1918 shows an increase of 1·1 per 1,000. The

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proportion of male to female births was 104 to 100, the same as in 1917. The number of births registered in the estates corresponded to a rate of 52·8 per 1,000 of the estate population, as against 36·4 the average for the period 1908–1917. In the principal towns the birth-rate was 27·0, as against an average of 28·4.

Deaths.

149,408 deaths were registered during 1918, being the highest number ever recorded in the Island in any single year. 68,314, or about 46 per cent. of the total deaths in the year, were registered in the months of October, November, and December. The abnormal mortality during the last quarter of the year must be attributed to the violent outbreak of influenza which was prevailing in the Island during that time. The number of deaths during the year corresponded to a rate of 31·9 per 1,000 of the estimated population, it being 7·2 per 1,000 higher than that of the last year, and 2·7 higher than the average for the years 1908–1917. The total number of deaths reported for registration from the estates amounted to 30,998, and corresponded to a standardized rate of 75·2 per 1,000 of the estate population, as against 46·3 in 1917. Thus, the mortality rate in estates during the year is not only considerably higher than the rate of the previous year, but also is more than double the Island rate (31·9). The urban death-rate, 31·5, is slightly below the Island rate, but is higher than the average (29·3) and the rate for the previous year (25·9).

Infant Mortality.

Of the total deaths registered during the year, 23 per cent. were those of infants under one year of age, corresponding to a mortality rate of 188 per 1,000 births registered. This rate, though 5 per 1,000 below the average rate for the preceding decennium, is 14 per 1,000 higher than that for 1917. The infant mortality in the estates was 231 per 1,000 births registered, and in the principal towns it was 252, the rate in each case being considerably higher than for the Island as a whole.

Causes of Deaths.

Consequent on the virulent outbreak of influenza during the latter half of the year, an abnormally large number of deaths from influenza and pneumonia were registered, affecting not only the general population, but also that on the estates and the urban population. The proportion of deaths in the general community from these causes to a million of the estimated population was 4,084 and 3,585, respectively. In 1917 the respective proportions were 24 and 1,090. The proportion of deaths per million of the estimated population in the general community from certain other principal causes was as follows :—Infantile convulsions 2,847, diarrhœa 2,134, phthisis 810, dysentery 519, anchylostomiasis 498, puerperal septicæmia 369, premature birth and congenital defects 364, bronchitis 291, malaria and malarial cachexia 241, enteric fever 113, and cancer 103.

Plague, which was practically confined to the limits of the city of Colombo since its outbreak in 1914, made its appearance in the town of Nawalapitiya about the end of March of the year under review, and the number of deaths registered there during the period March to July was 87. The total number of deaths registered from plague in Ceylon in 1918 was 165, as against 211 in 1917.

Accidental drowning accounted for 92 per million of the population, fall from trees for 77, and snake-bite for 43. 235 deaths resulted from suicide, 204 from homicide, and 34 from judicial hanging, the respective rates per million of the population being 50, 43, and 7.

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Causes of Deaths in the Estates.

By far the highest mortality in estates during the year was from pneumonia, chiefly as a result of the epidemic of influenza, which corresponded to a mortality rate of 21,871 per million of the estate population. Deaths from influenza corresponded to a rate of 6,053 per million. A comparison of the rates of mortality from pneumonia and influenza in the estates with the corresponding rates for the Island shows that the epidemic was more virulent among the estate population than among the general community. The proportion per million of the estate population from the various causes of deaths in estates is as follows :—Debility (of children under three months) 5,890, anchylostomiasis 3,498, infantile convulsions 3,402, diarrhœa 3,339, dysentery 2,640, debility (over three months) 1,863, bronchitis 1,448, premature birth and congenital defects 1,229, phthisis 575, and malaria and malarial cachexia 455. Forty-one deaths from suicide and 10 from homicide were registered in the estates.

Causes of Deaths in the Towns.

In the thirty-three principal towns in the Island (inclusive of Colombo), of the total deaths registered, pneumonia accounted for 6,606 per million of the urban population, influenza for 3,442, convulsions 2,229, infantile debility 2,083, phthisis 1,843, diarrhœa 1,375, anchylostomiasis 1,301, enteritis 1,060, malaria and malarial cachexia 955, dysentery 941, Bright's disease and nephritis 781, enteric fever 644, bronchitis 564, and cancer 205.

METEOROLOGY.

General Remarks.—There is a marked variation in climate between the different parts of Ceylon. In the low-country, with a mean temperature of the order of 80° F., a noticeable feature is the small range of both temperature and pressure ; there is, however, wide divergence between the moist conditions in the south-west of the Island, where the average annual rainfall varies from 100 to 200 inches, and the dry zone areas of the north, north-west, and south-east. Inland, in the centre and south of the Island, with altitudes reaching 8,200 feet, the temperature is cooler, and shows a bigger range ; there is a corresponding change in vegetation, and the conditions are in general more akin to those in the temperate zone.

Rainfall.—The highest rainfall registered was at Carney estate, Ratnapura, which had a total of 199·36 inches, and at which rain fell on 233 days. The lowest rainfall was at Kudawewa, which had a total of 19·71 inches in 58 days. The stations with the highest and lowest average annual rainfall are, respectively, Padupola with 218·29 inches in 200 days, and Marichchukkadi with 33·03 inches in 57 days. The longest drought occurred at Paranthan railway station, lasting for 187 days, May 13 to November 15. The longest wet period occurred at Koslanda, lasting for 40 days, October 8 to November 6.

The rainfall at Colombo (Cinnamon Gardens) for the year was 58·48 inches, which fell on 168 days. At Kandy 80·17 inches were registered on 181 days, while the rainfall at Nuwara Eliya was 81·13 inches on 204 days. For the Island generally, the rainfall was heaviest to the south-west and on the north-eastern slopes of the hills ; and least to the north-west and south-east. Though heaviest in the south-west, it was also in this district much below the average. The greater part of the coast district and most of the up-country were also in deficit. Immediately to the south-east of the hills and in the inland district to the north of the hills the rainfall was above the average.

In general, the south-west monsoon failed in most parts of the Island; the drought in the North-Western, Central, and Eastern Provinces during the early part of the year adversely affected paddy and coconut cultivation, whilst in Jaffna there was practically no rain for nine months. The north-east rains were late, and delayed the planting of paddy in the north and east. When the rain did come, it fell in such quantities that the crops of the late sowing

were submerged in the heavy floods and partly destroyed, though the prospects of those that survived the floods were good. There was an unprecedentedly heavy rainfall of about 27 inches in Jaffna on November 17, resulting in heavy floods, in which many houses fell, and cattle, goats, and sheep were washed away. There were no floods in other parts of the Island.

Temperature.—The station showing the highest mean shade temperature for the year was Trincomalee with 83·0° F., and the lowest Nuwara Eliya with 59·2° F. The figures for Colombo and Kandy were 80·5° F. and 76·0° F., respectively. The highest shade temperature recorded during the year was 101·2° F. at Trincomalee on July 19. The highest on record is 103·7° F. at Trincomalee on May 12, 1890. The highest shade temperature at Colombo in 1918 was 92·6° F. on April 9. The mean daily range, *i.e.*, the difference between the mean of the maximum and the mean of the minimum, was highest at Badulla (19·3° F.), and lowest at Galle (8·2° F.); at Colombo and Kandy it was 11·9° F. and 16·2° F., respectively. The absolute range for the year, *i.e.*, the difference between the highest and the lowest readings actually recorded, was greatest at Nuwara Eliya (49·7° F.), and lowest at Galle (22·0° F.).

IX.—POLICE, CRIME, AND PRISONS.

The Police Force.

Strength.—The strength of the Force on December 31, 1918, provided for in the Estimates was :—

Inspector-General	1
Deputy Inspectors-General ..	2
Superintendents	10
Assistant Superintendents (Probationers)	24
Chief Inspectors	4
Inspectors	41
Sub-Inspectors	111
Station House Officer ..	1
Native Sergeants	329
Native Constables	2,283

European Police.

Inspector	1
Sub-Inspectors	3
1st Class Sergeants	2
2nd Class Sergeants	9
3rd Class Sergeants	20
Total of all ranks ..	2,841

The Force was kept up to strength of native sergeants and constables throughout the year, the actual strength on December 31 being only 5 short of the sanctioned (2,612). The total strength of the Force was short by 45 on December 31, the shortage being principally among the European Police Force, which is working with the minimum number of men actually necessary for carrying on the most essential duties only during the war, all physically fit men having gone on active service.

On Active Service.—During the year five gentlemen resident in the Colony, being themselves physically unfit or otherwise prevented from proceeding on war service, offered their services to permit physically fit Police officers to go on active service. With the appointment of these gentlemen as Temporary Assistant Superintendents, and by the appointment of two Inspectors to act as Assistant Superintendents, it was possible to relieve more officers of the Force for active service. There are now on active service—

Superintendents ..	3	European Sergeants ..	5
Assistant Superintendents ..	5	Native Sergeants ..	2
European Sub-Inspectors ..	2	Native Constables ..	5

In addition to the above, three officers left Ceylon to offer their services, but arrived in England after the armistice was signed.

As no examinations for Police Probationerships were held during the war, the strength of officers was short by 11, and the Force in Ceylon has been with a shortage of 22 permanent officers out of a sanctioned strength of 37.

The services of those gentlemen who placed their services at the disposal of Government for the period of the war, in many cases at great personal sacrifice, is deserving of special mention. They have worked with zeal and done well. Of the European Sergeants, every physically fit man went on active service.

A large number of applications were received from Inspectors, Sub-Inspectors, Sergeants, and Constables of the Force to be permitted to go on active service, but it was decided that the men most wanted on active service were young officers and the European Sergeants who had previously served in the Navy and Army. With the departure of such a large proportion of officers, it was not possible to provide for changes in the rank and file, and the men who applied to go were informed that their offer was appreciated in the spirit in which it was made, but they were best serving their King and country by carrying on essential Police duties in Ceylon during the war. This they continued to do in a very loyal manner. A small party of 2 Native Sergeants and 5 Native Constables were permitted to go on active service to represent the rank and file. Mr. R. G. B. Spicer, attached to the 6th Dragoon Guards, was awarded the Military Cross in April.

The Force has been extremely fortunate in that, though some of its officers have been wounded and "gassed," all have come through the war alive. The experience of active service which these officers and men have had will be of immense value to them and to the Force on their return.

The cost of the Force was Rs. 1,972,333, approximately.

Criminal Statistics.

There was an increase in crime in 1918 as compared with the years 1916 and 1917, as the following statement shows :—

	1916.	1917.	1918.
Homicide ..	158	163	170
Attempted homicide ..	29	40	46
Grievous hurt ..	641	727	816
Hurt with dangerous weapons ..	1,093	1,012	1,007
Burglary ..	1,899	1,892	2,301
Theft of cattle and prædial produce	911	891	914
Other offences ..	2,903	2,856	3,074
Total ..	7,634	7,581	8,328

The increase was chiefly under the head Burglary. The harder conditions of life among the poorer classes, as a result of the rise in the price of necessaries of life, such as foodstuffs and cloth, which was felt in 1918 more than previously during the war, is probably the cause of the increase in burglary.

The following table shows the distribution of crime :—

Province.	Homicide.	Attempted Homicide.	Grievous Hurt.	Hurt with Dangerous Weapons.	Burglary.	Theft of Cattle and Prædial Produce.	Other Offences.	Total.
Colombo ..	7	3	136	76	70	4	349	645
North-Western ..	25	20	91	101	365	145	418	1,165
Western ..	46	5	240	292	667	367	676	2,293
Sabaragamuwa ..	24	3	85	98	334	56	318	918
Southern ..	32	4	112	205	445	247	284	1,329
Uva ..	11	2	20	33	62	38	179	345
Central ..	10	4	66	98	277	29	418	902
Northern ..	7	2	50	63	42	10	283	457
Eastern ..	2	2	10	33	30	14	115	206
North-Central ..	6	1	6	8	9	4	34	68
Total ..	170	46	816	1,007	2,301	914	3,074	8,328

Comparing the number of serious offences committed with the population in each Province, it is found that—

				Persons.
In the Colombo City there is 1 case of crime to every			..	336
In the North-Western Province	do.	..	..	373
In the Western Province	do.	..	..	388
In the Province of Sabaragamuwa	do.	..	..	445
In the Southern Province	do.	..	..	473
In the Province of Uva	do.	..	..	628
In the Central Province	do.	..	..	745
In the Northern Province	do.	..	..	809
In the Eastern Province	do.	..	..	892
In the North-Central Province	do.	..	..	1,269

There was an increase of crime in the Province of Sabaragamuwa, in the Colombo City, and in the Southern, Uva, North-Western, Central, and Western Provinces. Crime in the Northern and Eastern Provinces was normal, and there was a decrease in the North-Central Province. The most criminal districts in the Island are the Kalutara District, the Panadure District, the Colombo City, the Chilaw District, the Kurunegala District, the Galle District, the Ratnapura District, the Kegalla District, the Tangalla District, the Matara District, and the Colombo District. In the Kalutara District there is 1 case of serious crime per annum to every 186 persons—a very high proportion. The average for Ceylon is 1 to 493. Whereas 50 true cases of crime in a year is considered as much as a small police station can efficiently deal with, in the Paiyagala Police Station area there were 155 true cases of serious crime in 1918, in the Matugama area 106 true cases, in the Kalutara South area 95 true cases, and in the Alutgama area 94 true cases.

Special steps were taken to meet the increase in crime in the Kalutara District: the strength of the stations affected was increased, picked Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors were sent to the district to take charge of the heaviest stations, the Assistant Superintendent was authorized to visit stations as frequently as possible, and Mr. C. E. Wedd, the Assistant Superintendent in charge, was most active in investigating crime and in supervising his men. Stations were visited six or seven times a month, and the scene of crime promptly visited. The Assistant Government Agent brought the need of giving special attention to crime to the notice of the headmen, and himself took a great interest in the matter. The headmen did well in patrolling with the Police, and the Mudaliyar of Pasdun korale west organized patrols by villagers and did a great deal of hard work in dealing with crime in his district.

A punitive Police Force for the criminal village of Potuwila, in the Paiyagala Police Station area, has been recommended. The residents of the surrounding villages complained that the people of Potuwila were the cause of all the trouble and crime in surrounding villages as well as in their own. There were 21 cases of serious crime in the village of Potuwila alone in 1918.

In the Kegalla District, in which police stations were introduced in 1917 in consequence of the great amount of crime in the district, the result of a year's work in 1918 showed that police stations were established in this district none too soon. There were 475 true cases of crime in 1918, and no less than 24 cases of murder and 4 cases of attempted homicide. This in a district in which eighteen months ago there was only a guard at the Kachcheri.

The result of the year's work has made clear the need for additional Police in the district. In the Kegalla District Station there were 146 true cases of crime, and a total of 321 cases reported. This means that a case of crime is investigated almost daily, and as the distances are great, the area requires to be broken up and a new station started. Similarly in the Dehiowita area, where there were 108 true cases of crime, a separate station is required at Yatiyantota.

The very heavy return of murders and other crime in this district meant a great deal of work, which was faced and well carried out by the Assistant Superintendent in charge, Captain T. G. Salmon. The Assistant Government Agent secured the hearty co-operation of the headmen, and Ratemahatmayas Nugawela, Boyagoda, and Meedeniya were particularly mentioned as having rendered good service.

Additional police stations are required in the Ratnapura District, where, though the number of cases is not as heavy as in the Kalutara and Kegalla Districts, crime is steadily increasing. Police stations required in the Ratnapura District were not opened in 1918 for lack of funds as a result of the war. Though the needs of the Kalutara and Kegalla Districts were the more urgent, the increase in crime in the Ratnapura District has to be faced, and police stations must be established as soon as funds can be provided.

Action taken to deal with Crime.—Steps taken to deal with crime in the Colony during the year were :—

(1) Special attention given to the state of crime in the Kalutara and Kegalla Districts.

(2) The establishment of new stations at Kirillawela and Welipenna in the Western Province, and at Rattota and Matale in the Central Province.

The strength of the Force was increased by 3 Sub-Inspectors, 3 Native Sergeants, and 31 Constables for the investigation of crime.

(3) Funds were provided for connecting up more police stations with the headquarters of each district by telephone.

The position with regard to the connection of police stations by telephone is now as follows :—

Number of police stations already on the telephone ..	78
Funds provided for police stations to be connected by telephone ..	3
Estimates asked for works to be undertaken in 1918–19 ..	11
Number of police stations requiring telephone connection for which funds have not been provided	54*
Total ..	146

* Excluding Depôt and Mahara.

(4) Sessions of the Supreme Court were held in districts in which crime is prevalent, viz., Kalutara, Negombo, Tangalla, and Ratnapura.

In Provinces where crime is prevalent the trial of an offender in the district where the crime was committed has more effect than trial in a distant town, and possibly in another Province.

(5) The Police Magistrate of Kalutara opened a Sessions Court at Matugama, in a criminal part of the district.

Duties of the Police.—Additional Police duties necessitated by the war in connection with the port of Colombo, the searching of ships, and the supervision of persons entering, leaving, and passing through the Colony were carried out by the Colombo Harbour and Talaimannar Police, and by a special staff from the Criminal Investigation Department. Although in the majority of cases the precautions taken to frustrate hostile acts and to intercept enemy subjects and spies, &c., resulted in no actual detections of such acts or persons, it may be stated that, but for the numerous and strict precautions taken, which soon became well known at ports outside the Colony, the Colony would have been more or less a rendezvous for hostile and pseudo-neutral subjects. The following are some of the more important war duties carried out during the year :—

(1) Examination of all neutral vessels for mines, bombs, arms, and ammunition, &c.

(2) Searching of all vessels for enemy subjects and suspicious persons.

(3) Enforcing regulations prohibiting persons boarding vessels in the harbour or being afloat in the harbour without permits.

(4) Enforcing regulations regarding the disconnection of all wireless apparatus on ships in harbour.
(5) The examining and stamping of passports of all persons wishing to disembark from steamers.
(6) The searching and supervision of all native vessels.
(7) The guarding of troop and hospital ships while in harbour.
(8) The supervision of all Indians passing through the Colony *en route* to India.
(9) The examination and registration of all alien commercial travellers arriving in the Colony.
(10) The surveillance of all suspicious alien subjects resident in the Colony.
(11) Corresponding with the Censor regarding all suspicious letters, telegrams, and publications, &c.
(12) Corresponding with other countries regarding anti-British individuals and suspicious persons.

Training.—Special attention has been given to the training of all men of the Force in the duty of preserving order and in the prevention and investigation of crime.

Discipline.—Several acts of bravery displayed in arresting armed criminals and saving life from drowning were reported during the year.

First-aid to the Injured.—Every Officer, Inspector, Sub-Inspector, and Sergeant is required to hold a First-aid Certificate. No Constable is promoted to the rank of Sergeant until he has obtained a First-aid Certificate. A certain number of intelligent Constables hold First-aid Certificates; the remainder are trained to act under a Sub-Inspector, Inspector, or Officer holding a First-aid Certificate, of whom there will always be at least one in every police station in the Island. A Sergeant or Constable on receiving a Service Badge after three years' efficient service is awarded a special grant of Rs. 10 per annum, which he continues to draw so long as he remains efficient. On being awarded a medal after fifteen years' efficient service, a grant of Rs. 2·50 per mensem has been sanctioned by Government. A knowledge of first-aid is particularly useful to Police officers stationed in criminal districts, where so many cases of serious injuries from personal violence occur at places far distant from a hospital.

Institutions of the Force include a Pensioners' Corps, which secures employment for men no longer physically fit for active police duty, and a Boys' Brigade, numbering 312, in which sons of Police officers are trained from the age of 5 upwards. Boys between the age of 5 and 13 do one hour's drill, physical exercises, and boxing, and four hours' school daily. On reaching the age of 14 each boy is eligible for promotion to the senior division of the Brigade, in which he starts earning a pay of Rs. 5 a month at the age of 14 to Rs. 10 a month at the age of 17. At the age of 18 he is eligible for enlistment in the Force. Boys in the senior division do one hour's drill or boxing, two hours' school, and for three hours a day act as messengers in attendance at a Police office. Schools are maintained for the boys at Headquarters, in the Colombo Police Stations, in Kandy, Jaffna, and wherever necessary. The object of the Brigade is to provide healthy exercise and recreation for the sons of Police officers and pensioners, and to provide them during their youth with sound instruction such as will befit them when they grow up to take their places in the ranks of the Force. There are now 21 men in the Force who started in the Brigade.

Justices of the Peace.—In 1916 certain Justices of the Peace and Unofficial Police Magistrates were appointed to keep in touch with the Police and take charge of a district generally in times of disturbance or trouble. There can be no doubt that if a resident of standing and position, who has no interest in a dispute which may arise between factions, arrives on the scene of any possible disturbance and takes charge of the situation, all parties and persons readily rally to him and render assistance in the preservation of order. It is impossible

for the Government Agent, Police Magistrate, or the Superintendent of Police to get to the scene of disturbance in time in the great majority of cases. The Force of Police at oustations is small, but if gentlemen of the neighbourhood co-operate in maintaining law and order, much greater difficulties must exist for persons anxious to make trouble. Since the scheme was introduced many instances have occurred in which good service has been rendered by Justices of the Peace, who have been of great service, not only in being available in times of disturbance, but in visiting police stations, attending drills, and in supervising musketry, &c.

General Steps taken towards the Improvement of the Force in 1918.—(1) Quarters for the Police Guard at Mahara were completed; (2) funds were provided for (*a*) married quarters for European Sergeants, and (*b*) the housing of the Police at Teldeniya and the Inspector at Hatton.

PRISONS.

There was an increase of 1,929 in the total number of admissions of convicted prisoners of Ceylon during the year 1918, excluding Road Ordinance defaulters, of whom there were 173, as against 135 in 1917. The figures are as follows :—

1917	10,511
1918	12,440

The number of prisoners sentenced to death was 51, as against 59 in 1917. There were 35 executions during the year, as against 38 in 1917. Of the 35 whose capital sentences were carried out, 33 were Sinhalese and 2 Tamils. Of the number executed, 1 had been sentenced in 1917; and of the number sentenced to death, 2 were executed in 1919. No convicts were deported to the Andamans during the year. There were 6 escapes and 5 recaptures during the year.

The total number of deaths in jail was 126, as against 131 in 1917, and the death-rate per 1,000 of the admissions during the year was 6·50, as against 7·69 in 1917 and 22·37 in 1916. Of these 126 deaths, 10 were from influenza and 45 pneumonia following influenza during the epidemic. The daily average sick was 138·73, as against 158·34 in 1917 and 259·89 in 1916. The number of punishments inflicted during the year for prison offences was 1,795, as against 1,892 in 1917 and 2,526 in 1916. There were 28 cases of corporal punishment, as against 26 in 1917.

Prisoners are in all prisons employed upon works of public utility and remunerative industrial labours. At Welikada and Bogambra jails various trades are taught, such as carpentry, blacksmiths' and tinsmiths' work, boot-making, tailoring, the making of cane furniture, matting, coir brooms, rugs, mats, coal and tea leaf bags, ropes, string, bamboo tats, laundry work, printing, bookbinding, and masons' work.

During the past year a large amount of wooden furniture has been made for various Government Departments from timber supplied by the Forest Department. The output is, however, not equal to the demand, owing to the want of steam power to deal with the large logs of wood. Government Departments are now obtaining large supplies of brooms, tats, mats, door rugs, &c., from Welikada jail. In addition to the works above mentioned, Welikada jail supplies the Government Printing Office with a daily average of some 230 prisoners, besides washing all soiled linen for all institutions of the Medical and Railway Departments in Colombo, as well as making up all clothing and bedding for the Colonial Storekeeper. All labour is free of charge to Government Departments.

The prisoners at Mahara are exclusively employed in the quarries on account of the Harbour Works and Public Works Departments. 51,010 stone setts, 1,157 cubes of hand rubble, and 271 cubes of 2-inch metal were despatched to the Colombo Harbour Works. 1,016 cubes of metal and 150 cubes of hand rubble were stacked in the quarry; while the Public Works Department was

supplied with 4,209 cubes of 2-inch metal, 596½ cubes of hand rubble, and 3,000 stone setts, at a total estimated value of Rs. 99,813. In addition to the above works, the site for the new Harbour Works quarries was cleared of jungle and soundings taken, and a railway line laid down to the Public Works Department quarry by prison labour. Four additional sheds were erected in the portable jail. The Police quarters, which were commenced last year, were completed. The Karaiur reclamation works at Jaffna are making satisfactory progress; 4 acres were reclaimed during the year, making a total of 34 acres to date.

The prisoners at Kandy, Anuradhapura, Tangalla, Galle, Chilaw, and Badulla also supply metal to the Public Works Department; while a small party at Anuradhapura is still employed by the Forest Department in clearing jungle and planting out Ceylon teak and margosa trees. At Negombo convalescents are employed in basket-making and supplying coir string.

In August, 1917, schools were opened in Welikada, Bogambra, Mahara, and Jaffna jails. Prisoners who on admission to prison are 23 years of age and under and have a sentence of six months and over attend school at these jails for two hours daily. The schoolmasters are supplied by the Director of Education. The daily average attendance was 143·86.

X.—POST AND TELEGRAPHS.

Four new post offices were opened during 1918, viz., Kandy sub-office, in Trincomalee street, Kandy; Kahawatta, in Sabaragamuwa; Kamburupitiya, in the Matara District; and Mawanella, in the Kegalla District. The number of postal-telegraph offices was increased by five, viz., Elpitiya and Gintota in the Southern Province, Kesbewa in the Western Province, Kandy sub-office, and Kahawatta. Additional railway receiving offices were opened at Lunuwila in the Chilaw District and Dela in the Ratnapura District. Nineteen new village receiving offices were opened and three closed. At the close of the year the total number of postal offices of all classes was 523, of which 194 were money order and 152 were telegraph offices.

The number of articles, exclusive of parcels, which passed through the post in Ceylon is estimated at 42½ millions in 1918, against 43 millions in 1917. The number of parcels dealt with was 715,395, against 734,391 in 1917.

Foreign Mail Services.

The disorganization in the foreign mail services caused by the war continued, and fewer mails could be sent to Australia and to East, owing to the withdrawal of the Peninsular and Oriental Company's, the Orient Company's, and the Messageries Maritimes regular sailings, and to the use of the Cape-Singapore route in the case of the Japanese mail steamers, &c. Advantage was taken as far as possible of non-contract vessels on these routes; and the Australian and Mauritius lines were the only ones on which prolonged delays occasionally occurred.

In 1918 48 mails were despatched to England from Ceylon, and 32 arrived from England. No homeward mails were lost, but the outward mails of June 13–27 (including 793 parcels for Ceylon) and September 7–11 were sunk by enemy action.

Postal Rates.

With effect from November 18, 1918, postage, &c., rates were raised to help the revenue as a war measure. The foreign penny post was raised from 1*d.* to 1½*d.* per oz. (6 cents to 9 cents), while the inland and Indian 2 cents and 5 cents rates were raised to 3 cents and 6 cents respectively, and the post card rate from 2 cents to 4 cents. The registration fee was raised from 10 cents to 15

cents; an extra 5 cents was imposed on inland parcels, and 15 cents on inland telegrams. Stamps of the 5-cent denomination were over-printed "1 cent"; and a proportion of these 1 cent, as well as of the 2, 3, and 5 cents denominations were over-printed "War Stamp."

The Telegraph System.

Additional lines required by increase of traffic were run between Mount Lavinia and Moratuwa, between Galle and Gintota, and between Welimada and Lunugala, bringing the total wire mileage to 7,133.

The number of paid inland telegrams handled during the year was 1,295,528, yielding a revenue of Rs. 405,158. The total number was 21 per cent. more than that handled in 1917, and constituted a record. Domestic telegrams in connection with the influenza epidemics were responsible for much of the increase. The average time occupied in the transmission of an inland telegram was 21 minutes.

In view of the delays to ordinary cables caused by the war conditions, provision was made for an "Urgent Foreign Cable Service," the rates charged on urgent cables being three times the ordinary full rates.

The Telephone System.

The following new telephone trunk and junction lines were run :—

	Miles.
(1) Polgahawela-Pannala-Giriulla-Dandagamuwa	32
(2) Kosgama-Pugoda	3
(3) Police Headquarters to Migahawatta	11
(4) Moratuwa-Kesbewa	5
(5) Ambalangoda-Elpitiya	8

The telephone trunk and junction mileage now totals 1,140. The total number of telephones maintained by the Department was 2,920.

Public trunk call offices were opened at the post offices at Watagoda, Bandaragama, Elpitiya, Kesbewa, Kochchikade, and Kandy sub-office; also at the Grand Hotel, Nuwara Eliya. At the close of the year there were 18 Government exchanges with trunk facilities open. The six largest (with number of subscribers) were Colombo 1,630, Kandy 95, Nuwara Eliya 85, Galle 59, Kalutara 30, and Negombo 22.

The development of Government exchanges was hindered by difficulty in obtaining extension stores, and by the necessity of conserving battery materials to ensure the continuance of connections already given. The new 300 lines section of the Colombo switchboard, bringing the multiple board up to 1,600, was brought into use, but the Munitions Department in England found itself unable to pass the indent for an additional section, and at the end of the year there were over 300 applications on the waiting list.

It is estimated that 8½ million calls were dealt with at Government exchanges in 1918, the number of trunk calls averaging 368 and junction calls 240 per diem.

Post Office Savings Bank.

For the first year under war conditions the deposits exceeded the withdrawals, the totals being—

	Rs.
Deposits	1,558,403
Withdrawals	1,329,630
Excess deposits ..	228,773

but on December 31 the Bank still owed to Government 1½ million rupees of the advances made, on the security of its investments, to meet the excess of withdrawals in previous years.

Rate of Exchange.

The rates for conversion of sterling money and postal orders had more than once to be amended in consequence of the large fluctuations in the exchange value of the rupee, and from June 10, 1918, the rate ruling was Re. 1 = 1*s.* 6*d.*, or £1 = Rs. 13·33.

XI.—PUBLIC WORKS.

Public Works Department.

The total expenditure of the Public Works Department has increased from Rs. 3,437,862 in 1896 to Rs. 10,020,886 in 1918, the latter figure showing a decrease of Rs. 1,343,741 over 1917. The average annual expenditure during the past twenty-three years has been Rs. 6,175,969.

The total length of roads maintained by the Public Works Department during the year was 4,073 miles, of which 3,807 miles are cart roads and 266 miles are bridle roads.

Amongst the more important works carried out or in course of construction may be mentioned the following :—

General.—Bungalows for Government officers stationed in Colombo ; grain sheds, Colombo ; buildings in connection with the University College ; Land Registry, Negombo ; quarters for Government clerks, Nuwara Eliya ; Pilot Station, Galle, with quarters for officer in charge ; clerks' quarters, Anuradhapura ; Survey Office, Ratnapura ; clerks' quarters, Badulla ; Post Office, Moneragala ; quarters for officers and matrons, Welikada jail ; extension of Land Registry, Kalutara ; Forester's quarters, Nuwara Eliya ; additions and improvements to District Court, Jaffna ; improvements to court-house, Chavakachcheri ; quarters for Postal Assistants, Puttalam ; Post Office, Maradankadawala ; Stock Inspector's quarters, Anuradhapura ; quarters for Inspector of Vaccination, Anuradhapura ; Forest Ranger's quarters, Kahatagasdigiliya ; quarters for Public Works Department clerks, Badulla ; quarters for Assistant Conservator of Forests, Haputale ; quarters for married surveyors, Diyatalawa ; Post and Telegraph Office, Kahawatta ; quarters for Forest Ranger, Kahawatta.

Medical Buildings.—New Merchants' Ward, General Hospital ; new Lunatic Asylum, Angoda ; quarters for Religious Nursing Sisters, General Hospital ; Leper Asylum, Mantivu ; quarters for apothecary and steward, Neboda hospital ; apothecaries' quarters, Negombo hospital ; additional accommodation, De Soysa Lying-in Home ; quarters for apothecary, Dambulla hospital ; quarters for Medical Officer, Nawalapitiya ; quarters for visiting apothecary, Dolosbage hospital ; quarters for Provincial Surgeon, Anuradhapura ; new hospitals at Agrapatna, Alutnuwara, Aranayaka, Kahawatta, and Passara, and an Infectious Diseases Hospital at Ratnapura, and additions and improvements to the hospitals at Neboda, Hendala, Ingiriya, Kandy, Nawalapitiya, Maskeliya, Dolosbage, Galle, Jaffna, Batticaloa, Nikaweratiya, Dandagama, Chilaw, Marawila, Lunugala, Koslanda, Badulla, and Karawanella ; and new dispensaries at Irakkamam, Kattankudi, Udappu, Madampe, and Tanamalwila.

Police Buildings.—Quarters for twelve European police sergeants, Colombo ; police station with quarters for Inspector at Teldeniya ; quarters for Police Inspector, Hatton ; quarters for Police Guard at Mahara jail ; and improvements to police barracks, Jaffna.

Progress was also made with the Colombo Lake Development project ; construction of a quarantine camp at Mandapam, South India ; Karaiur reclamation, Jaffna ; Digarolla bridge, Moratuwa ; and overhead bridge, Parsons road, Colombo.

Irrigation Department.

The total expenditure (which was much restricted owing to war retrenchment) of the Irrigation Department for the financial year 1917–18 was Rs. 808,580.

The schemes under construction were Karachchai, Unnichchai, Pattipola-aar, and Kirinde-oya (right bank), and distribution channels under Nachchaduwa scheme. Work on Tabbowa scheme, which was closed down in September, 1915, was not re-started.

Surveys and investigations were commenced or made in connection with the following schemes :—Nalanda-oya, Kirama, Weligama flood outlet, Giant's tank, Jaffna lagoon, Akathimurippu, Unnichchai, Allai, Kantalai, Maha Uswewa, and Nachchaduwa.

The number of Crown irrigation works is 185, and under these about 130,000 acres are irrigated for paddy, and pay irrigation rates ; in addition, there is a large area of land irrigated which pays no rate.

In addition to the Crown works, there are approximately 5,000 village tanks and " elas " (small channels) in operation with an approximate area of 160,000 acres of land cultivated for paddy (rice). About 2,000 village works are under restoration by the villagers.

About 40,000 acres of undeveloped irrigable land suitable for rice cultivation is available under the existing Crown irrigation works.

Survey Department.

The operations of the Survey Department for the period under review, with the staff reduced owing to the war, comprised 32,055 acres of block surveys, 9,815 acres of irrigation surveys, 237,700 acres of forest reserve surveys, and 2,951 acres of town surveys.

The number of block survey preliminary plans issued was 65, containing 4,924 lots, covering an area of 73,614 acres. The number of forest reserve survey plans issued was 10, covering an area of 230,658 acres. Eight irrigation survey plans, containing 2,457 lots, covering an area of 20,782 acres, were issued.

The total area now covered by block survey is 2,216,237 acres, topographical survey for settlement purposes 1,093,380 acres, forest reserve survey 529,606 acres, irrigation survey 23,382 acres, and town survey 4,045 acres, making a total of 3,866,650 acres.

Final Village Plans.—244 plans covering 230,885 acres in 5,456 lots were issued to the Government Agents and the Assistant Government Agents during the year. The total area covered by final village plans in the hands of the Government Agents and the Assistant Government Agents now stands at 987,932 acres, composed of 2,069 final village plans containing 33,384 lots.

Preliminary Plans.—807 plans for 8,315 acres in 4,128 lots were forwarded to the Government Agents, Assistant Government Agents, and to the Settlement Officer.

Supplementary Surveys in Final Village Plans.—262 surveys were made, consisting of 1,304 lots covering 3,960 acres and shown on the existing plans.

Applications.—411 applications covering 1,128 acres were surveyed for paddy cultivation ; 57 applications covering 1,052 acres for tea ; 107 applications covering 2,785 acres for rubber ; 187 applications covering 839 acres for coconuts ; 599 applications covering 2,020 acres for miscellaneous cultivations ; 400 applications covering 764 acres for buildings ; and 12 applications covering 25 acres for plumbago.

Many surveys were carried out for acquisitions in connection with important public purposes, including surveys for the Chilaw-Puttalam Railway, Government Dairy, additional lands for the bulk oil installation at Kolonnawa and rail connection therefor, Harbour Railway connection, and Sanitary Board towns, chiefly in the Western Province.

Contour surveys were carried out over 1,144 square miles.

Railway Department.

Open Line.

A new section of line from Bandarawela to Ella was opened during the year, making the total mileage of the railway 712 miles, as against 706 miles in the preceding year.

On account of the shortage of freight for coal a reduced passenger and goods service was run throughout the year, and a much larger proportion of firewood was used as fuel.

The revenue derived during the year was Rs. 16,910,153, a decrease of Rs. 1,576,940 as compared with the preceding year. This figure does not include items on warrants on account work done for other Government Departments, which amount to Rs. 1,249,600. The decrease of Rs. 1,576,940 is made up of Rs. 925,540 in Coaching Traffic, Rs. 579,150 in Goods, Rs. 11,264 in Live Stock, and Rs. 45,899 in Miscellaneous Traffic.

The number of passengers conveyed was 9,002,729, or a decrease of 3,933,016 as compared with last year. The number of season ticket holders shows the heavy decrease of 24,399, chiefly third class. Coolies also show a falling off of 106,739, whilst in Parcels Traffic there was a slight increase of Rs. 3,101.

As regards Goods Traffic, the tonnage conveyed, inclusive of Foreign Traffic, was 1,111,349 tons, as compared with 1,250,482 tons in the previous year. The most noticeable decreases are Rice, 37,892 tons; Tea and Rubber Packing, 10,329 tons; Plumbago, 12,106 tons; and Tea, 6,932 tons. The increases are under Coconut Produce, 15,475 tons; Bulk Petroleum, 1,069 tons; and Foreign Traffic, 4,930 tons.

The expenditure for the year, including a sum of Rs. 76,275 spent on new works and charged to ordinary maintenance, was Rs. 9,099,413.

The results of the year's working are as follows :—

	Rs.
Receipts	16,910,153
Working expenses	9,099,413
Balance ..	7,810,740

The total capital cost, including additional accommodation and improvements, to September 30, 1918, was Rs. 140,184,015, and the capital outstanding on Railway Loans Rs. 55,966,141.

During the year the following vehicles were put into traffic :—6 fish vans, 15 passenger carriages, and 50 goods wagons on the broad gauge, and 1 goods wagon on the narrow gauge lines.

Badulla Extension.

This line, in length 7 miles 70 chains, was opened for all traffic between Bandarawela and Ella on July 1, 1918. The formation of the line between Ella and Naulla, a length of 3½ miles, is practically completed. An indent for rails, fastenings, &c., required for this section has been sent forward. The formation between Naulla and Badulla, a length of 8⅝ miles, is in hand, but the progress is slow.

The line, which is an extension of the Main line beyond Bandarawela, 4,103 feet above sea level, to Badulla, the capital of the Province of Uva, 2,226 feet above sea level, is constructed through very heavy country, necessitating many high viaducts and tunnels. A large viaduct of nine spans of 30 feet, approximately 110 feet high (arches), is now completed at 9 miles 23 chains from Bandarawela. The line serves a very large tea district.

Pelmadulla and Opanake Extensions.

These are extensions of the narrow gauge line beyond Ratnapura, and serve the large districts of the Wey-ganga Valley, Rakwana, and Balangoda. The

line is constructed through very rough country, and the work was delayed owing to two large slips, the rainfall in the district being exceedingly heavy. The line is now approaching completion.

Harbour Rail Connection.

This line gives direct access from the Main line at Urugodawatta to the harbour in the vicinity of the Graving Dock. All land has now been handed over to the Construction Department, and the work is in progress at Urugodawatta and near the Graving Dock. Included in this scheme is the re-modelling of the harbour line along the harbour frontage.

The laying of the line connecting the Wharf station with the harbour line near the Harbour offices is now approaching completion. This portion of the line is carried under the new approach road to the jetty, and by a bridge of four spans of 35 feet over the new lake to harbour canal.

Colombo Stations Extension.

The new bridge carrying the railway which connects the sidings to the north of the canal basin with the main goods yards was completed, and the continuation of the same bridge carrying the Norris road widened to a 100 feet over the same canal is nearing completion. The new entrances from Railway road to the goods yards are about to be opened for traffic. It is hoped that the narrow gauge extension from Maradana to Fort will be opened early in 1919.

Main Line Duplication.

This work includes the duplication of the line between Ragama and Rambukkana, but very little progress can be made at the present time.

The new bridge over the Maha-oya at 36 miles 4 chains has been started, and all piers have been founded. The bridge is now about one-fourth completed.

Puttalam Extension.

This line is an extension of the Chilaw line northwards. Steps are being taken for the acquisition of land in the vicinity of the Chilaw town for the construction of the first section of this line.

The Line connecting the Main Line with the Kolonnawa Oil Depôt.

This work is in hand throughout, and will probably be completed during the financial year 1918–1919, with the exception of the permanent way, the materials for which have not yet been received in the Island.

Works under Survey, &c.

Katukurunda-Agalawatta Line.—The survey and estimate of the line was completed. The construction of the line has, however, been deferred for the present.

Dehiwala-Horana Line.—The survey and estimate were completed.

Colombo Drainage Works.

The drainage of Colombo has been undertaken by Government at the request of the Municipal Council, the necessary funds being advanced by Government on loan, while further assistance is being given by the contribution of a part of the expenditure as a free grant.

The scheme provides for a complete system of sewers and rain-water drains throughout the city, and for the disposal of the sewage by bacterial treatment upon modern lines.

At the end of 1918, 125 miles of sewers and rain-water drains had been laid, and five pumping stations brought into regular operation.

The City Sanitation Engineer's report for December showed that 28 public water-carriage latrines had been constructed and put into use, and that 1,119 other premises had been drained.

XII.—EXCISE.

In the report for 1917 reference was made to the adoption of the report of the Commission which was appointed in 1917 to consider the arrangements for the manufacture and sale of spirits in the Island (Sessional Paper IX. of 1917). Many of the recommendations so made were given effect to in 1918. The more important of these are :—

(*a*) The delegation to certain planters of powers under several sections of the Excise Ordinance.

(*b*) The prohibition of "off" sales of both foreign liquor and country spirits at taverns outside Municipalities and Local Boards. As an experimental measure, the scheme was introduced in the Jaffna and Chilaw Districts.

(*c*) In regard to foreign spirits, the introduction of a rule permitting the sale of only such brands as are approved by the Government.

(*d*) The introduction of the principle of "local option" in so far as arrack and foreign liquor taverns are concerned.

(*e*) The reconstruction of the Advisory Committees so as to enhance their powers and to allow an unofficial majority of two-thirds of the members in each Committee.

The sanctioned strength of the Department remained the same as in 1917. The Excise Advisory Committees appointed to assist the Government Agents and the Assistant Government Agents in the work connected with arrack and toddy taverns, and the Unofficial Excise Officers who were delegated certain powers under the Excise Ordinance, rendered valuable aid in the working of the Ordinance. The local option ballots for the closure of foreign liquor taverns and arrack taverns were held in various parts of the Island under the supervision of the Government Agents and their Assistants. In the case of foreign liquor taverns eleven ballots were held, and in respect of two ballots 75 per cent. or more of the taxpayers voted for the abolition of taverns. The figures in regard to arrack taverns up to December 31, 1918, are as follows :—

Number of ballots held	64
Number in which more than 75 per cent. of taxpayers voted for abolition of taverns	14

It is too early yet to touch on the effect of the introduction of the system of "off" sales.

Every effort is being made to cope with and, if possible, completely to eradicate the "cocaine habit" in Ceylon.

Stringent measures continue to be taken to put down the use of every part of the hemp plant (*cannabis indica* or *sativa*) in forms commonly known as ganja and bhang. The smuggling of ganja from India is a matter that is continually receiving the close attention of the Excise, Customs, and Police Departments. Several cases of such smuggling in 1918 were detected, and ended in convictions in Police Courts. The efforts of the Department to put down the use of ganja and bhang and any preparation thereof resulted, *inter alia*, in prosecutions during 1918 as follows :—

Number of cases decided	291
Number of persons convicted	219
Total fines and forfeitures	Rs. 31,818·46

4,126 cases of offences against the Excise law were detected in 1918, of which 1,597 were disposed of departmentally by the levy of composition fees, totalling Rs. 21,035·20. The prosecutions in courts resulted in fines and forfeitures amounting to Rs. 102,078·37, exclusive of other punishment, such as imprisonment, &c. The corresponding figures for 1917 were 4,426 (1,680 compounded for Rs. 22,520) and Rs. 149,791·59.

The amount realized for the 1918–19 arrack rents is Rs. 7,387,850, showing a decrease of Rs. 426,271·55. The toddy rent sales, however, show an increase

when compared with the 1917–18 figures. The amounts realized on account of arrack and toddy rents in the two preceding financial years are shown here for comparison with the amounts realized in 1918–19 :—

	Arrack.		Toddy.	
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
1916–17	7,807,658	0 ..	1,459,772	0
1917–18	7,814,121	55 ..	1,648,506	0
1918–19	7,387,850	0 ..	1,877,465	0

As regards arrack rents, the decrease is mainly due to war conditions.

The fees obtained during the financial year 1918–19 by the issue of foreign liquor licenses amounted to Rs. 97,591·75, as against Rs. 129,118·25 obtained during the financial year 1917–18.

In 1918 there was a fall in the consumption of arrack, but an increase in the case of toddy, as compared with 1917. The consumption of arrack and toddy in the years 1915, 1916, 1917, and 1918 was :—

	Arrack.	Toddy.
	Gallons Consumed.	Gallons Consumed.
1915	1,212,828 ..	3,144,672
1916	1,286,367 ..	3,998,645
1917	1,144,132 ..	4,627,097
1918	1,015,386 ..	4,736,016

Some of the contributory causes for the decrease in consumption of arrack may be suggested as (1) the early closing of taverns, (2) certain industries being adversely affected by the war and shortage of money generally, (3) the fixing of a minimum selling price of arrack, and (4) the prohibition of "off" sales.

The increase in the case of toddy is due to the diversion of a large part of the drinking population to toddy owing to its being the cheaper drink, and probably also owing to the fact that in 1918 there was a big drop in the number of distilleries working, *i.e.*, illicit consumption in these distillery topes was not so extensive as in 1917.

The number of private distilleries licensed during 1918 was 145, as against 231 in 1917, showing a decrease of 86 licenses. The number of stills that worked in 1918 was 178, as compared with 280 in 1917.

There were 219 successful prosecutions in 1918, as against 117 in 1917, by officers of the Distillery Circle. The fines imposed by courts in these cases amounted to Rs. 10,348.

The Government distillery at Kalutara was not worked during 1918.

The distillery at Point Pedro worked by the Ceylon Sugar Refineries, Limited, was closed in October, 1918, as the company in question went into liquidation.

C. H. COLLINS,
Second Assistant Colonial Secretary.

April 30, 1919.

H. C. COTTLE, GOVERNMENT PRINTER, COLOMBO, CEYLON.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

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No.	Colony, &c.	Year
976	British Guiana	1917
977	St. Vincent	1917–1918
978	Bahamas	"
979	Gambia	1917
980	Jamaica	1917–1918
981	Gibraltar	1917
982	Bermuda	"
983	Swaziland	1917–1918
984	Trinidad	1917
985	Mauritius	"
986	Cyprus	1917–1918
987	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
988	East African Protectorate	1916–1917
989	Barbados	1917–1918
990	Sierra Leone	1917
991	Straits Settlements	"
992	Leeward Islands	1917–1918
993	Uganda	"
994	British Honduras	1917
995	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	1917–1919
996	Nyasaland	"
997	Basutoland	"
998	Gold Coast	1917
999	Weihaiwei	1918
1000	Zanzibar	"
1001	Hong Kong	"
1002	Somaliland	1917–1918
1003	Cayman Islands	"
1004	Malta	1918–1919
1005	Seychelles	1918
1006	Fiji	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8 and 1908–9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement

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CEYLON.

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REPORT FOR 1919.

(For Report for 1918 see No. 1007.)

Presented to Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

November, 1920.

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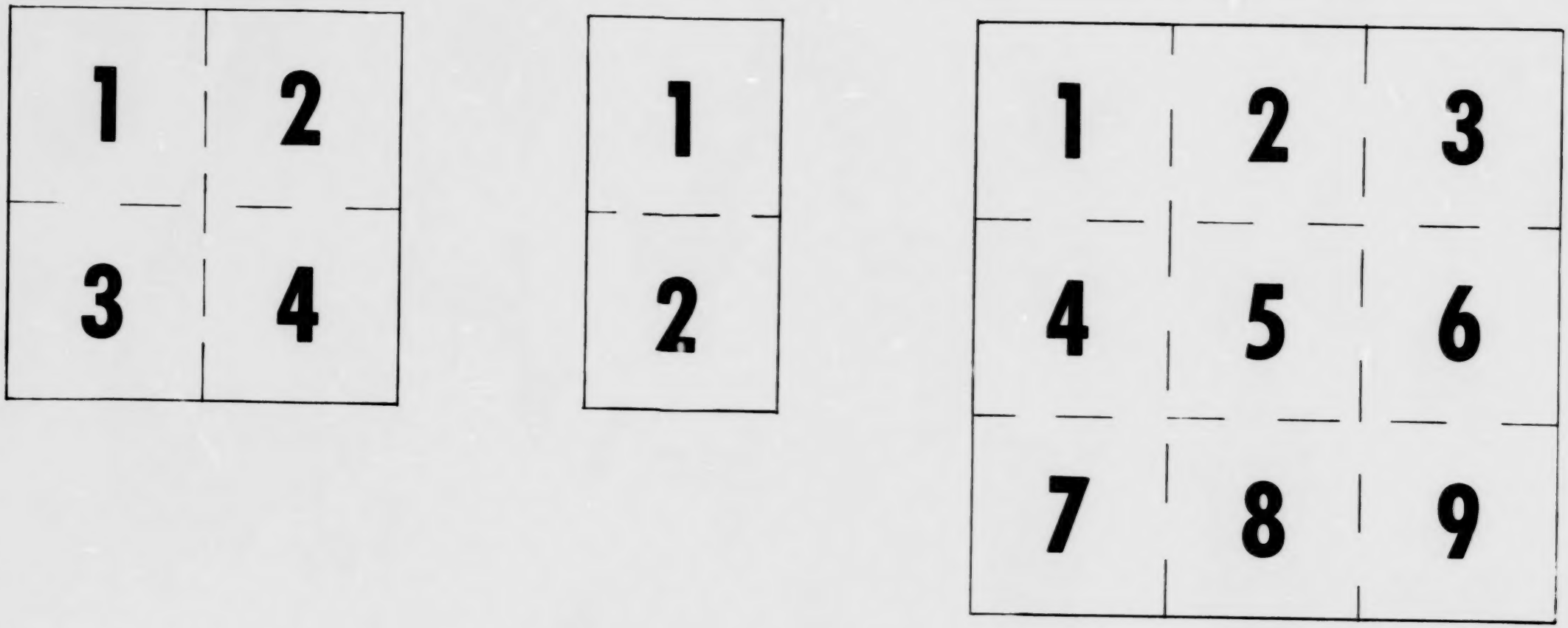
Maps on this order too large to be entirely included in one exposure are filmed clockwise beginning in the upper left hand corner, left to right and top to bottom as many frames as required. The following diagrams illustrate the method.

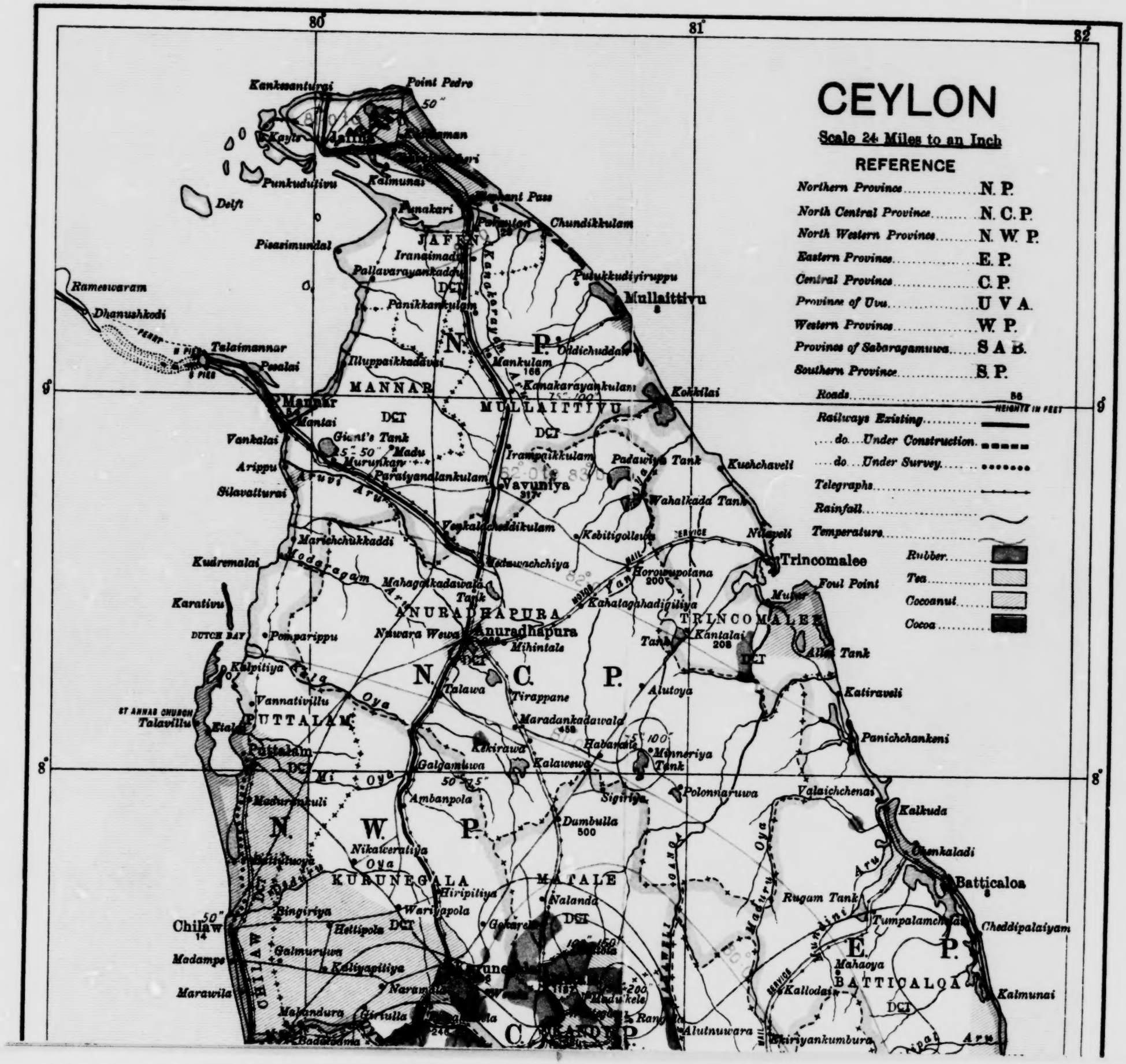


CEYLON

Scale 24 Miles to an Inch

REFERENCE

Northern Province	N. P.
North Central Province	N. C. P.
North Western Province	N. W. P.
Eastern Province	E. P.
Central Province	C. P.
Province of Uva	U V A.
Western Province	W. P.
Province of Sabaragamuwa	S A B.
Southern Province	S. P.
Roads	56 HEIGHTS IN FEET
Railways Existing	
....do....Under Construction	
....do....Under Survey	
Telegraphs	
Rainfall	
Temperature	
Rubber	
Tea	
Cocoanut	
Cocoa	


80°
81°
82°
9°
8°
Kankesanturai
Point Pedro
Kayts
Jaffna
Punkudutivu
Delft
Kalmunai
Elephant Pass
Punakari
Chundikkulam
Pesalimundal
JAFFNA
Iranaimadu
Pallavarayankaddu
Pulukkudiyiruppu
Mullaittivu
Rameswaram
Dhanushkodi
FERRY
Talaimannar
Pesalai
Panikkankulam
N. P.
Oddichuddan
Illuppaikkadavai
Mankulam
168
MANNAR
Kanakarayankulam
Kokkilai
Mantai
MULLAITTIVU
DCT
Vankalai
Giant's Tank
Madu
Arippu
Murunkan
Paraiyanalankulam
Irampaikkulam
Padawiya Tank
Kuchchaveli
Silavatturai
Vavuniya
317
Wahalkada Tank
Vengalacheddikulam
Kebitigollewa
Nilaveli
Mariichchukkaddi
Kudremalai
Modaragam
Medawachchiya
Horowupotana
200
Trincomalee
Foul Point
Mahagalkadawala Tank
Kahatagahadigiliya
Karativu
ANURADHAPURA
TRINCOMALEE
DUTCH BAY
Pomparippu
Nuwara Wewa
Anuradhapura
Mihintale
Kantalai
208
Allis Tank
Kalpitiya
N. C. P.
Talawa
Tirappane
Alutoya
Katiraveli
Vannativillu
ST ANNAS CHURCH
Talavillu
PUTTALAM
Maradankadawala
458
Panichchankeni
Puttalam
Kikirawa
Habarana
Minneriya Tank
Galgamuwa
Kalawewa
Ambanpola
Sigiriya
Polonnaruwa
Valaichchenai
Madurankuli
Dumbulla
500
Kalkuda
N. W. P.
Nikaweratiya
Oya
Chenkaladi
KURUNEGALA
MATALE
Batticaloa
Hiripitiya
Nalanda
Rugam Tank
Bingiriya
Wariyapola
Chilaw
14
Hettipola
Gokarella
Tumpalamchenai
Cheddipalaiyam
Galmuruwa
Madampe
Kaliyapitiya
E. P.
Mahaoya
Marawila
Naranwala
Kallodai
BATTICALOA
Kalmunai
Malandura
Giriulla
Madukele
Alutnuwara
Ekiriyankumbura
C. PROVINCE
Badulla
Arru
Oya
Mi Oya
Maduru Oya
Mahaweli Ganga
Kanakarayankulam
Vavuniya
Trincomalee
Batticaloa
Chilaw
Kurunegala
Matale
Anuradhapura
Jaffna
Mullaittivu
Mannar
Puttalam
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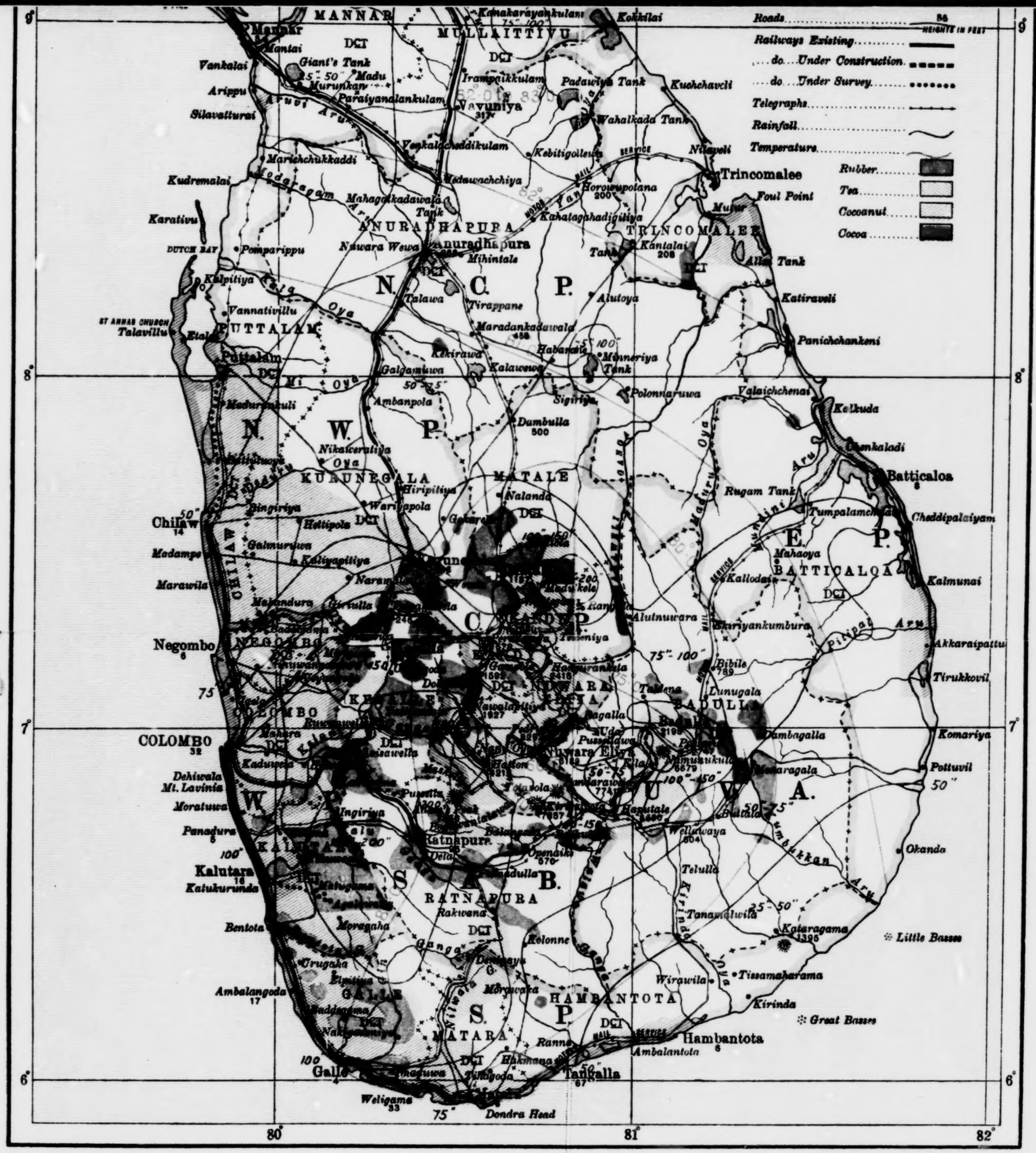
Kalkuda
Batticaloa
Trincomalee
Kantalai


Roads
Railways Existing
do. Under Construction
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Telegraphs
Rainfall
Temperature
Rubber
Tea
Cocoanut
Cocoa
HEIGHTS IN FEET
MANNAR
MULLAITTIVU
ANURADHAPURA
TRINCOMALEE
PUTTALAM
KURUNEGALA
MATALE
BATTICALOA
NEGOMBO
COLOMBO
KALUTARA
RATNAPURA
GALLE
MATARA
HAMBANTOTA
N. C. P.
N. W. P.
C. P.
E. P.
S. P.
S. B.
U. W. A.
Trincomalee
Batticaloa
Negombo
COLOMBO
Kalutara
Gallo
Hambantota
Tangalla
Dondra Head
Little Basses
Great Basses
Kokkilai
Kuchchaveli
Nilaveli
Foul Point
Kalpitiya
Puttalam
Chilaw
Madampe
Marawila
Bentota
Ambalangoda
Weligama
Ambalantota
Tissamaharama
Kirinda
Kataragama
Okanda
Kalmunai
Akkaraipattu
Tirukkovil
Komariya
Pottuvil
Batticaloa
Trincomalee
Anuradhapura
Puttalam
Kurunegala
Ratnapura
Galle
Matara
Hambantota
Badulla
Nuwara Eliya
Kandy
Giant's Tank
Padawiya Tank
Wahalkada Tank
Allai Tank
Rugam Tank
Bibile
Lunugala
Dambagalla
Mahaoya
Kallodai
Kantalai
Horowupotana
Kahatagahadigiliya
Mihintale
Talawa
Tirappane
Alutoya
Maradankadawala
Galgamuwa
Ambanpola
Dambulla
Sigiriya
Polonnaruwa
Habarana
Minneriya Tank
Kalawewa
Nikaweratiya
Hiripitiya
Nalanda
Wariyapola
Galewela
Hettipola
Galmuruwa
Kaliyapitiya
Naranpanawa
Mahandura
Kiriulla
Kurunegala
Pomparippu
Vannativillu
Madurankuli
Mundalama
Kudremalai
Karativu
Marichchukkaddi
Mahagalkadawala Tank
Medawachchiya
Vavuniya
Irampaikkulam
Paraiyanalankulam
Vankalai
Arippu
Silavatturai
Mantai
Mannar
Kanakarayankulam
Vankalaicheddikulam
Kebitigollewa
Horowupotana
Kantalai
Muttur
Katiraveli
Panichchankeni
Valaichchenai
Kalkuda
Batticaloa
Chenkaladi
Tumpalamchalai
Chaddipalaiyam
Kallodai
Kariyankumbura
Bibile
Lunugala
Badulla
Dambagalla
Maharagala
Bandarawela
Hapugala
Wellawaya
Telulla
Tanamalwila
Kataragama
Wirawila
Tissamaharama
Kirinda
Hambantota
Ambalantota
Tangalla
Ranna
Hakmana
Weligama
Galle
Matara
Morawaka
Kelonne
Ratnapura
Rakwana
Nuwara Eliya
Kandy
Hatton
Pussellawa
Ingiriya
Bentota
Moratuwa
Panadura
Kalutara
Katukurunda
Dehiwala
Mt. Lavinia
Colombo
Negombo
Madampe
Chilaw
Puttalam
Kalpitiya
Vannativillu
Talavillu
Etala
Mundalama
Madurankuli
Nikaweratiya
Galgamuwa
Galewela
Kurunegala
Hettipola
Galmuruwa
Kaliyapitiya
Naranpanawa
Mahandura
Kiriulla
Bingiriya
Wariyapola
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Habarana
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Okanda
Kalmunai
Akkaraipattu
Tirukkovil
Komariya
Pottuvil
Tissamaharama
Wirawila

REPORT ON THE CEYLON BLUE BOOK FOR 1919.

I.—GENERAL.

THE Colony was administered throughout the year by Sir W. H. Manning, K.C.M.G., K.B.E., C.B.

Mr. R. E. Stubbs, Colonial Secretary, was appointed Governor of Hong Kong, and was created a Knight Commander of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George. He was succeeded as Colonial Secretary by Sir Graeme Thomson, K.C.B., who assumed duties in October.

The following honours were conferred for services rendered in Ceylon :—

Order of the British Empire: Commanders.—Mrs. (now Lady) Stubbs and Lady Bertram.

Officers.—Major O. Tonks and Mr. H. K. Hillyer.

Members.—Mrs. A. J. R. de Soysa, Mrs. Cosmo Gordon, Miss N. Twynam, Mrs. R. Huyshe-Eliot, and Mr. E. C. de Fonseka.

Imperial Service Order.—Mr. R. G. Anthonisz, Government Archivist.

The following Military honours may also be mentioned :—

Order of the British Empire (Military Division): Commander.—Brigadier-General R. B. Fell.

Officers.—Lieutenant-Colonel T. H. Chapman, Lieutenant-Colonel M. H. Halford, Lieutenant-Colonel C. S. Harris, Major A. F. P. Wehner, Major R. L. D. Whitfield, Major J. H. W. Gill, Captain Eardley Wilmot.

Distinguished Service Order.—Major W. H. Murray.

Military Cross.—Captain C. Ross Bridge, Lieutenant F. Latham, Lieutenant J. Shirley.

Mr. H. C. Gollan and Mr. G. S. Schneider were appointed King's Counsel.

On March 10 Mr. Graeme Sinclair was elected to represent the European (Rural) Electorate in the Legislative Council in succession to Mr. R. Huyshe-Eliot.

The following retired from the Public Service during the year :—Mr. H. R. Freeman, of the Ceylon Civil Service ; Mr. K. C. Browning, Government Analyst ; Mr. C. A. Coombs, Irrigation Engineer ; Mr. H. C. Cottle, Government Printer ; Mr. J. G. Drieberg, District Engineer ; and Dr. W. W. Margenout, Provincial Surgeon.

The deaths of the following are recorded with regret :—Sir Henry McCallum, G.C.M.G., Governor of Ceylon, 1907–13 ; Mr. H. M. Richards, Assistant Government Printer ; Dr. G. W. van Twest, First Grade Medical Officer ; Mr. E. C. Davies, late Factory Engineer ; Mr. F. R. Cummins, late of the Public Works Department; and Dr. J. Attygalle, late of the Medical Department.

The following were the principal Committees appointed during the year :—

(1) To consider and report on the desirability of establishing State Banks for the purpose of giving financial assistance to persons engaged in the production of foodstuffs.

(2) To examine and report on the proposals in connection with the construction of new buildings for the Secretariat, Council Chamber, and Government Offices.

(3) To consider and report whether it is desirable to establish workhouses for professional beggars.

(4) To consider and report on the desirability of making adequate provision for the payment of costs and compensation in criminal proceedings.
(5) To consider an Ordinance proposed to be introduced for the registration of chemists and druggists, and to amend the law with regard to the sale of poisons.
(6) To advise the Government on all questions affecting conditions of labour generally, exclusive of labour on estates.
(7) To examine and report on the gemming industry in Ceylon.
(8) To consider proposals with regard to the erection of monuments in the Royal Botanic Gardens at Peradeniya in 1921 in commemoration of the centenary of the transfer of the Gardens to the present site.

The principal circumstance which affected the prosperity of the Colony during the year under review was the failure of the 1918 monsoon in India, and the consequent restriction placed by the Government of India on the export of rice.

A system of food control was established, and maximum prices for rice were fixed in all districts in which imported rice is consumed. The supply from India was supplemented by the importation of Bangkok rice at a cost to the public funds of over three million rupees.

Special efforts were made to increase the cultivation of rice and other foodstuffs in Ceylon, with encouraging results. Large areas, which had hitherto been uncultivated, were brought under paddy, dry grains, and vegetables, and the locally-grown food supply, though still very far from adequate to the needs of the Island, was considerably augmented.

These and other relief measures were for the most part successful in averting distress, but the situation was at times serious, particularly in June, when the imports were at their lowest, and the shortage was most acutely felt.

The Chalmers Granaries, which were recently erected in Colombo as a safeguard against the introduction of plague by infected rats, were used by the Department of Food Control as a store for all imported rice, and greatly facilitated control and distribution, as did also the new Manning Markets, which were opened during the year under review.

Other circumstances, in addition to the diminution of food supplies, combined to affect the condition of the people unfavourably during the year.

The epidemic of influenza, which began in the latter part of 1918, continued in the early months of 1919, and resulted in many deaths from influenza and pneumonia.

Certain districts were seriously affected by an outbreak of cholera.

It will be seen from the section dealing with Vital Statistics that the death-rate for the year was the highest yet recorded.

The prosperity of a large proportion of the people, namely, the agricultural population, is in a great measure dependent on the condition of their cattle, and much loss was caused, principally in the Western Province, by a serious recrudescence of rinderpest.

In the latter part of the year considerable damage was caused in the same Province by floods.

In spite of many adverse circumstances, the year was, on the whole, one of prosperity.

The rainfall was heavy, but generally well distributed, and in most parts of the Island crops were good. The end of the war was followed by a revival of trade, the figures of imports and exports for the year being the highest yet recorded.

The upward tendency of prices has continued, and the increased cost of living has led to a general increase of wages. In the Public Service new scales of temporary increase to salaries were brought into effect from January 1.

A feature of the year has been the return of numerous residents after long absence on war service.

The original contingent of the Ceylon Planters' Rifle Corps, which left the Island in November, 1914, did not for long remain as a separate unit, its members being for the most part given Commissions in other regiments. Of these, and of the large number of others who left Ceylon to join the Forces, many returned in the course of the year, after experience in all theatres of the war.

The Ceylon Sanitary Company, which was raised in 1917, returned to the Island after performing valuable services in Mesopotamia.

It is estimated that 2,182 Ceylon men, 1,573 Europeans and 609 Ceylonese, joined the Army during the war. Of these, over 300 gave their lives for their country.

In addition to those who joined the Army, 1,204 men were recruited by the Colombo Rivercraft Committee for service in Mesopotamia and East Africa as clerks, mechanics, &c.

The Returned Soldiers Registration Committee, which was officially recognized by the Government in 1919 as an organization for providing civil employment for persons returning to the Island after serving in His Majesty's Forces, has assisted a large number of returned soldiers, both Europeans and Ceylonese, to find suitable employment.

Peace Celebrations took place in all parts of the Island on July 19, and the signing of the Armistice was commemorated on its first anniversary in Ceylon, as in all parts of the Empire, by two minutes' silence.

No very noteworthy legislation was enacted during the year, but various important measures were under consideration, including the Local Government Bill, providing for a wide extension of the principle of local government, and a new Ordinance regulating the conditions of immigrant labour.

II.—FINANCIAL.

Revenue.

The revenue collected during the period October, 1918, to September, 1919, amounted to Rs. 70,070,941·80, showing an increase of Rs. 12,027,642 over the estimate, and of Rs. 6,137,313 over the revenue of the previous financial year. The principal item which contributed to this increase was gain on exchange.

Expenditure.

The expenditure for the financial year 1918–19 was estimated at Rs. 58,950,892, but the amount actually spent was Rs. 70,843,681, which shows an increase of Rs. 5,899,132 over the expenditure for the year 1917–18. The increase is chiefly due to war allowances and temporary increases of salaries and pensions to public officers, loss on rice purchases, and conversion of Indian 3½ per cent. paper to 5 per cent. war loan.

Assets and Liabilities.

The assets of the Colony on September 30, 1919, were Rs. 61,463,984, and the liabilities Rs. 25,116,151, showing an excess of assets over liabilities of Rs. 36,347,833. Assets consist mainly of advances to local bodies, particularly the Municipality of Colombo for drainage and waterworks. The main liability is the amount due to the Widows' and Orphans' Pension Fund. The available cash balances total Rs. 25,860,272.

Currency.

On September 30, 1919, the value of currency notes in circulation was Rs. 40,533,042, and the currency reserve on that date consisted of Rs. 7,850,337 cash at call in English banks, Rs. 2,680,500 in gold, Rs. 8,691,210 in silver rupees, and Rs. 21,310,995 in British, Colonial, and Indian investments.

Public Debt.

At the close of the financial period the public debt of the Colony stood at £5,142,268, or approximately one and one-tenth times the annual revenue. Of the loan of £3,436,854 authorized by Ordinance No. 6 of 1909 to meet the cost of the Colombo Harbour and Drainage Works, the Mannar Railway, and other public works, a sum of £1,500,000 was raised at 98¼ in 1909-10 bearing interest at 3½ per cent., and a further sum of £1,000,000 was floated in 1914 at 99 bearing interest at 4 per cent.

Ceylon Savings Bank.

The Ceylon Savings Bank had a sum of Rs. 4,089,722 to the credit of 39,706 depositors on December 31, 1919, against Rs. 3,742,593 to credit of 38,627 depositors on December 31, 1918. The amount of the Bank's invested fund on December 31, 1919, was Rs. 4,663,908, which includes the reserve fund of Rs. 676,360. Interest was allowed on deposits at the rate of 4 per cent. on sums of Rs. 1,000 and under, and 3 per cent. on sums above Rs. 1,000.

III.—AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRIES.

Tea.

The export of tea during 1919 amounted to 208,433,578 lb., a larger quantity than has been shipped in any one year during the last ten years, with the exception of 1915, when 211,629,777 lb. were exported. Contracts with the Tea Controller expired on May 31, and all tea exported to the United Kingdom subsequently went forward free of control. A steady rise in price occurred during the last six months concurrently with the rise in exchange.

Teas of exceptionally good quality were produced in the Nuwara Eliya District both in the Spring and Autumn, and in the Uva District in the middle of the year, while the general average quality from the hill districts was uniformly good. The quantity of green tea exported totalled just under 2¾ million pounds, as against slightly under 1½ million pounds in 1918, and its quality and manufacture showed improvement.

From the agricultural point of view the year was marked by a prolonged and severe south-west monsoon, which retarded crops to a great extent. Cultivation, which had been to some extent suspended owing to war conditions, is now being generally resumed. Pests and diseases have not shown any abnormal increase.

Rubber.

The exports of rubber amounted to 100,392,831 lb., as against 47,219,128 lb. in 1918. This increase is no doubt due in part to the holding up of stocks in the previous year owing to lack of shipping facilities. The season generally was unfavourable for harvesting crop owing to the heavy rains, but there is naturally an increase due to the increased age of the trees on many estates. Root diseases have shown an increase during the year. Fruit disease and leaf fall were bad in some districts, but this disease was not so serious as in 1916. Towards the end of the year bark rot was common. Brown bast continues to be the most serious affection of the rubber tree, but it has not notably increased during the last year.

Cacao.

Exports of cacao show a reduction from 79,025 cwt. in 1918 to 54,742 cwt. in 1919. The season, however, was favourable, and both the Spring and Autumn crops were good. The Autumn crop was late, and suffered severely

in consequence from the attacks of pod canker during the rains. Prices were higher than they have ever been before, the year closing with a price of about 200 shillings per cwt. in New York.

Coconuts.

Exports of coconut produce show a notable increase during the year, which is again due to the liberation of stocks previously held up through lack of freight. Calculated on the basis of the number of nuts required to produce the quantities of copra, oil, &c., exported, the exports for 1919 represent a total of 929,190,745 nuts. The pre-war average for five years represented 569,841,250 nuts, and the average during the war 549,913,000 nuts.

Crops during 1919 were usually short, as a result of the long drought of 1918. The prospects for 1920 are good, especially as full manuring programmes are now being resumed. Considerable extensions are being carried out.

Prices during the year have risen to abnormal levels, as much as Rs. 123 per candy having been paid for copra, and Rs. 100 per 1,000 nuts. The local price of nuts for food has risen in proportion, and the price of coconuts in the towns has been from 12 cents upwards.

Cardamoms.

The export for 1919 was 561,244 lb., an increase of nearly 50 per cent. over the previous year. This increase has been obtained chiefly by the reclamation of a large number of small areas which had been abandoned owing to low prices in previous years, when it scarcely paid to gather and cure the crop. A few acres of new clearings have been opened, but the area under cardamoms has not been increased by any appreciable extent. The export has been chiefly to the United Kingdom, and good prices have been realized.

Foodstuffs.

To meet the food shortage chena permits have been issued freely, and large quantities of kurakkan and other dry grains have been raised. Paddy crops have in general been good, and the high prices have induced the villager to cultivate his lands to a fuller extent than previously. Several estates have grown maize, &c., in order to supplement the rice ration. The supply of food grown locally is much greater than in previous years, but it still falls far short of what is required.

Co-operative Credit Societies.

Thirty new societies were registered during the year, four being industrial societies and twenty-six agricultural. The total number of societies is now 127. The reserve funds at the termination of the societies' year (March) amounted to Rs. 11,243·17. 328 tons of manure costing Rs. 37,074·53 were supplied through the societies, and over 2,000 packets of seeds were distributed to members.

The Ceylon Agricultural Society.

This Society, organized in 1904, now has a membership of 1,457, consisting of 810 local members and 647 foreign, paying an annual subscription of Rs. 10 and Rs. 15, respectively. An annual grant of Rs. 38,000 is received from Government.

The publications issued by the Society include the English, Sinhalese, and Tamil Agricultural Magazines and the English and Sinhalese Year Books, which are issued free to members. Leaflets in English and the vernaculars dealing with specific subjects are also issued free to members.

Seeds, plants, implements, &c., are supplied to members at cost price.

The Society encourages agricultural shows, co-operative credit societies, apiculture, poultry, home gardens, and local industries by offer of awards and in other ways.

The Society employs thirty-six itinerating instructors, who give advice to the village cultivator regarding tillage, manuring, crop pests and diseases, &c. Experimental and demonstration gardens have been established in village centres, and are in charge of the instructors.

Members of the Society receive advice and assistance from the Scientific Staff of the Department of Agriculture. The Director of Agriculture is the Organizing Vice-President of the Society.

Diseases of Animals.

Rinderpest prevailed chiefly in the Western, North-Western, Sabaragamuwa, and Central Provinces, the disease being introduced from India to Colombo, and radiating from the outskirts of the Municipality to the Western Province in a north-easterly direction along the main lines of traffic, and from this Province to the three others in the same direction. The total number of cases in the Western Province during the year under review was 1,140, of which 182 recovered, 861 died, 45 were shot, and 52 remained ill at the end of the year. Of this total, 776 cases occurred in Colombo. In the North-Western Province there were 237 cases, in Sabaragamuwa 329, and in the Central Province 437. In the latter part of the year the outbreak was completely stamped out in the Central and Sabaragamuwa Provinces, and at the end of the year the disease was better under control in the North-Western and Western Provinces.

Towards the end of the year a conference, consisting of the Government Agent, Western Province, the Government Agent, North-Western Province, the Mayor of Colombo, and the Government and Municipal Veterinary Surgeons, was held to formulate a scheme of concerted action in order to check the introduction and prevalence of rinderpest in future.

A quarantine camp in Colombo at a distance from the Cattle Mart is felt to be a necessity, and when this is established, arrangements will probably be made to take all imported cattle to it by direct rail communication from the harbour.

Anti-rinderpest Inoculation.—Supplies of anti-rinderpest serum were obtained from India, and inoculation of contacts was regularly and successfully carried out. In addition to this precaution, all possible steps were taken to check the spread of the disease by the destruction or isolation of cases, the segregation of contacts, disinfection, proclamation of infected areas, shooting of stray cattle in such areas, and closing of infected halting sheds. At the end of the year a shortage in the supplies of anti-rinderpest serum from India emphasized the necessity of local manufacture.

Foot-and-Mouth Disease.—This disease prevailed to a certain extent throughout the year, almost all Provinces being more or less infected, but not in a virulent form. The total number of cases was 10,907, against 10,377 in the previous year. The total number of cases outside Colombo town was 10,887, of which 10,600 recovered, 285 died, and 2 were shot. In Colombo town only 8 cases were reported, and at the Quarantine Station 12 cases. As usual, the disease was of a very mild type, and spread with great rapidity. There was an extensive outbreak in the Province of Uva, the number affected being 4,584, of which 4,532 recovered and 52 died. Unlike rinderpest, this disease seems to be enzootic in the Island, although fresh waves of infection are often introduced to Colombo and the Western Province by imported cattle from India.

Anthrax.—In the various Provinces 259 cases were reported, of which 251 died and 8 recovered. In Colombo town there were 16 cases, and at the Quarantine Station 366 cases amongst sheep and goats imported from South India. 151 cases of anthrax occurred in the Mannar District of the Northern Province, and 49 cases in the Matara District of the Southern Province.

Certain low swampy pasture lands were suspected to be the breeding ground of this disease in the Matara District, and on the cattle being removed from such lands the disease soon subsided.

Rabies.—160 suspected cases were examined at the Bacteriological Institute, of which 60 were from Colombo town. Of the latter, 43 gave positive and 14 negative results. Three were received unfit for examination. 522 persons underwent treatment at the Pasteur Institute in Colombo.

Black Quarter or Quarter Ill.—Fifteen cases were reported in the Province of Uva, of which all proved fatal. This disease, which is hardly amenable to treatment, and is responsible for a great deal of mortality among young stock in certain countries, is comparatively rare in Ceylon.

The Island was free from *Swine Septicæmia*, which gave considerable trouble during the previous two years ; and no cases of *Surra* occurred, although this disease seriously affects horses, cattle, and camels in India, and was met with among cattle up-country in Ceylon in some previous years. There was no outbreak of infectious disease among horses during the year.

Salt.

The manufacture and collection of salt is a Government monopoly, which is protected by a duty of Rs. 3 per cwt. on imported salt. The amount realized by its sale in 1919 was Rs. 1,786,054·08, as against Rs. 1,116,774·14 in 1918 and Rs. 1,716,792·58 in 1916 (a normal year when no imported salt was sold).

The importation of salt into the Island, which was sanctioned by Government in 1917 owing to the shortage of stocks, continued during the year. This imported salt was sold in Colombo on Government account through a local firm.

The local production of salt in 1919 was greatly interfered with by untimely rains during the salt-forming season, and the harvests in Puttalam and Trincomalee Districts were comparative failures. Though no restrictions were placed on the output, the total yield only amounted to 319,463 cwt., which was made up as follows :—

	Cwt.
Northern Province	79,667
Southern Province	203,211
Eastern Province	9,786
North-Western Province	26,799
Total ..	319,463

This represents about half of the annual consumption, and is disappointing as compared with the record collections of 1918, which amounted to 1,186,524 cwt.

The usual selling price at the Government Salt Stores is Rs. 3 per cwt. The restrictions on issues, which were in force at Puttalam during 1917 and 1918 owing to short stocks, were withdrawn, and the enhanced prices at Puttalam and Tondaimanar were reduced to normal at the beginning of the year.

The total stocks at the end of 1919 amounted to 1,188,020 cwt., or somewhat less than two years' supply. In view of this, and of the fact that two new Government salterns at Elephant Pass (Jaffna District) and Palavi (Puttalam District) are to be worked during 1920 under the supervision of the Salt Adviser, Mr. F. W. Gooch, who is on deputation from the Government of Madras, it is hoped that there will be no necessity for further importations of salt, and that in future the Island will be self-supporting in the matter of its salt supply.

Sale of Crown Land.

The total area of Crown land sold and settled (exclusive of settlements under the Waste Lands Ordinance) was 6,546 acres, as compared with 6,019 acres in 1918. The system of leasing in perpetuity, in place of selling, was continued

throughout the year, but it has now been decided to revert to the system of outright sale. The lease system was not popular with capitalists, and it may be anticipated that the change will result in a greater demand for Crown land. Owing to the food shortage, special leases on easy terms were allowed to villagers for the cultivation of foodstuffs, and in many cases free permits for the cultivation of Crown land were issued.

The work of the Land Settlement Department continued, and an area of 153,382 acres was settled during the year.

FORESTS.

Re-afforestation.—During the year 1919 the area of plantations was increased from 5,179 acres 2 roods 20 perches to 6,201 acres 3 roods 20 perches.

Exploitation.—Public Departments were supplied during the year with 38,827 broad gauge and 19,139 narrow gauge sleepers, 461,510 cubic yards of firewood, 158,575 cubic feet of timber, 119 tons of fuel, and 179,715 small round timber, &c. The value of these supplies amounted to Rs. 1,576,606, as against Rs. 1,919,065 for the previous year, and as against Rs. 1,030,257 for the year 1917.

Since 1906 the Forest Department has supplied the Railway Department with 840,118 broad gauge and 333,605 narrow gauge sleepers at an average cost of Rs. 3·65 and Re. 1·67 per sleeper, respectively. Thus, a very large saving over the cost of imported sleepers has been effected in obtaining these supplies from the local forests, while it is admitted that the local sleepers are far more durable than the imported ones.

The revenue received from the public on account of timber, fuel, and minor forest produce during the year 1919 was Rs. 312,596, as against Rs. 244,035 during the year 1918. The miscellaneous revenue provided an additional sum of Rs. 14,472, as against Rs. 12,946 during the year 1918.

MINES.

Gem Mining.—The price of gems has risen considerably, but the high rainfall has been unfavourable to gemming operations. The industry is almost entirely in native hands, but during the year a small European syndicate started gemming in the Ratnapura District.

A Committee was appointed towards the end of the year to report on possible developments of the industry.

Plumbago Mining.—There was very little demand for Ceylon plumbago during the year, and the industry, which at one time during the war was in a most flourishing condition, has declined since 1917, and is now at a very low ebb.

Not more than 50 mines were working at the end of the year, as compared with nearly 1,300 in 1917. There is little prospect of an early revival of the industry.

MINERAL SURVEY.

During the year the examination of localities likely to provide materials for the manufacture of Portland cement was carried out. Suitable materials were discovered near Jaffna, and it is hoped that the commercial production of cement may be undertaken by a private firm in the near future.

The attempt to revive mica mining in the Island was unsuccessful. A small quantity of amber mica was exported and sold at good prices, but the deposits are too small to repay the cost of production.

The production of monazite sand was continued on a small scale at Induruwa.

PEARL FISHERY.

There was no pearl fishery during the year. An inspection of the pearl banks was carried out in December, but was hampered by the loss of one of the inspection vessels, which went ashore in a cyclone.

FACTORIES.

The total number of factories registered by the end of 1919 was 1,266. Of these, 1,033 are concerned with the preparation of tea and rubber, and 115 with coconut products. The remainder include 44 engineering factories and sawmills, and 22 aerated water factories.

MANUFACTURES AND INDUSTRIES.

The Industries Commission continued its inquiries and issued further interim reports. The following are the principal subjects which have engaged the attention of the various Sub-Committees :—

Manufacture of Packing Cases.—As a result of investigations by the Forest Department, the Sub-Committee on Factory Industries came to the conclusion that suitable timber for packing chest manufacture does not exist in sufficient quantities in Ceylon to enable the local industry to compete successfully with the imported Momi chest when freights are normal. The Sub-Committee recommended that planting on a large scale should be systematically proceeded with.

Production of Hydro-Electric Power.—It is generally recognized that the possibilities of hydro-electric production in Ceylon at moderate cost are particularly favourable compared with India and other countries. The Public Works Department continued its investigations on several up-country streams, and at the end of the year arrangements were made for a visit of inspection and for a report on the whole subject by the Electrical Adviser to the Government of India.

Home Industries, such as weaving, basket-making, gold, silver, and brass work, inlaying and lacquer work, pottery, &c.—The Sub-Committee on Home Industries directed their inquiries in particular on the possibilities of promoting such industries by the organization of industrial classes in the schools. Striking progress was made during the year in the Kalutara basket- and hat-making industry.

Fisheries.—The evidence collected by the Fisheries Sub-Committee has led to the conclusion that the following branches of the fishing trade require to be taken in hand as soon as possible :—

(1) The increase and improvement of the fresh fish supply. It is stated that the amount of fish in Ceylon waters is sufficient to support a population of nearly one hundred millions. With existing methods, however, Ceylon is unable to capture enough fish to supply her own needs.
(2) The introduction of new methods of fish curing.
(3) The establishment of an experimental fish-canning factory.
(4) The organization of the tank fisheries.

Miscellaneous Industries.—The investigations of the Sub-Committee included the following industries :—The manufacture of glass, soap, pencils, brick and tiles, chocolate, sugar and jaggery, tanning, and vegetable oils.

IV.—TRADE.

There has been a revival of trade in general during the year under review. In spite of the difficulties with freight, the higher rates charged, and the rise in exchange, the total value of Ceylon trade, which shows an increase of

Rs. 232,756,628 as compared with that of 1918, has been the highest of the last ten years. The following table shows the value of Ceylon trade in lakhs of rupees for the past ten years :—

Year.	Lakhs.	Year.	Lakhs.
1910	3,321¾	1915	4,495½
1911	3,523½	1916	5,212¾
1912	3,886¾	1917	4,983¼
1913	4,329½	1918	4,065¼
1914	4,022¼	1919	6,392¾

These figures include the value of coal supplied to steamers, but exclude that of specie.

The gross Customs revenue for 1919 was Rs. 23,601,952, as compared with Rs. 20,437,808 in 1918, an increase of Rs. 3,164,144. Imports contributed Rs. 1,337,972 and exports Rs. 1,144,646 towards this increase, the difference being made up from other sources, viz., harbour dues, warehouse rent, &c.

The following table gives the amount of duty collected under the main heads of imports and exports for the last two years :—

	1918. Rs.	1919. Rs.
Imports.		
Grain	3,559,769	3,259,043
Cotton Goods	987,744	1,014,255
Spirits	772,136	805,077
Sugar	1,111,250	1,200,660
Kerosine Oil	1,389,695	1,904,600
Other Goods	4,122,164	5,097,095
Exports.		
Produce of the Coconut Palm	591,939	1,608,139
Tea, Rubber, and Cacao	6,003,208	6,235,205
Plumbago	145,907	48,722
Other	13,146	6,780
Total	18,696,958	21,179,576

A total increase of Rs. 2,482,618.

Refunds and drawbacks totalled Rs. 473,608 in 1919, as against Rs. 591,306 in 1918.

The following table shows the total value of imports and exports for the past ten years. The figures are exclusive of specie and the value of coal supplied to steamers :—

Year.	Imports. Rs	Exports. Rs	Total. Rs
1910	150,195,648	166,471,607	316,667,255
1911	156,986,106	180,526,959	337,513,065
1912	175,322,979	198,954,902	374,277,881
1913	186,073,086	232,986,954	419,060,040
1914	172,317,549	218,363,846	390,681,395
1915	163,637,758	273,375,987	437,013,745
1916	211,500,753	297,505,905	509,006,658
1917	184,123,986	304,160,457	488,284,443
1918	177,716,763	211,325,334	389,042,097
1919	239,323,731	367,054,779	606,378,510

It will be noticed that there has been an appreciable increase in the value of both imports and exports during 1919. The value of rice imported during 1919 shows an increase of nearly 14 million rupees, though the quantity imported was less than that of the previous year. The value of coal imported shows an increase of over 22 million rupees.

The effect of the removal of the restrictions and prohibitions on export trade is reflected in the marked increase in the value of goods exported. The chief articles which contributed towards this increase are :—Tea, over 33 million ; rubber, 69 million ; coconuts, desiccated, 21 million ; copra, 19 million ; and coconut oil, 10 million.

The total value of goods imported and re-exported is Rs. 13,286,855.

The following three tables show the percentages of imports, exports, and of the total trade (exclusive of the value of imported rubber) with the United Kingdom, British Possessions, and foreign countries during 1917, 1918, and 1919 :—

	1917. Per Cent.	1918. Per Cent.	1919. Per Cent.
Percentage of import trade of Ceylon with—			
United Kingdom	18·32	16·71	14·51
British Possessions	66·01	67·04	63·43
Foreign Countries	15·67	15·89	22·06
	100	100	100
Percentage of export trade of Ceylon taken by—			
United Kingdom	39·94	43·07	42·13
British Possessions	18·09	33·14	14·62
Foreign Countries	41·97	23·79	43·25
	100	100	100
Percentage of the total trade of Ceylon taken by—			
United Kingdom	31·96	31·27	31·39
British Possessions	35·78	48·48	33·61
Foreign Countries	32·26	20 25	35
	100	100	100

The percentage of the total trade of Ceylon with foreign countries has advanced considerably, and has headed the list for the first time. The chief countries which contributed towards this increase are—

Imports : Siam, America, and Java.

Exports : America, Belgium, Denmark, France, and Holland.

Here, again, the effect of the removal of the restrictions and prohibitions on export trade is noticeable.

IMPORTS.

There has been a general increase in the value of goods imported in 1919 as compared with 1918.

Flour, Wheat.—The scarcity of foodstuffs has necessitated the increase in the importation of this article of diet. The quantity imported during 1919 was practically double that of the previous year, and the value owing to the increase in price has risen to three-fold. Increased supplies have been received from Australia, but India still continues to be the chief source of supply.

Rice.—The Indian Government still controls the export of rice from India, and as the quantity allotted to Ceylon was considerably under our normal requirements, both the distribution and the selling price have been under Government control. Government also, in order to relieve the shortage, imported as much as it was able from Bangkok.

The imports during last year were : 5,342,575 cwt. valued at Rs. 66,325,439, as compared with 6,472,152 cwt. valued at Rs. 52,804,441 in 1918—a decrease of 1,129,577 cwt. in weight, though the value has increased by Rs. 13,520,998. As compared with 1917, the quantity imported is less by nearly 2¼ million cwt.

Other Grain.—The restricted supply of rice led to larger importations of other grain, and the imports this year show a marked increase over that of previous years. The most noticeable increase under this head is that of green peas, which are now used largely as a substitute for rice among the poorer classes.

Sugar.—The imports of sugar during the year are as follows :—

	Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1919	381,041 ..	9,743,084
1918	355,488 ..	6,845,306

An increase of 25,553 cwt. in weight and Rs. 2,897,778 in value. The average price per cwt. rose from Rs. 20 in 1918 to Rs. 26 in 1919. The chief sources of supply in order of importance are Java, Straits Settlements, and Hong Kong.

Tobacco, Cigars, and Cigarettes.—The quantities of cigars, cigarettes, and manufactured tobacco on which duty was paid during 1917 to 1919 are as follows :—

	Cigars. lb.	Cigarettes. lb.	Manufactured Tobacco. lb.	Total. lb.
1917 ..	32,676 ..	288,812 ..	15,069 ..	336,557
1918 ..	33,550 ..	264,796 ..	17,234 ..	315,580
1919 ..	11,820 ..	319,967 ..	13,625 ..	345,412

Beedies, which in previous years were classified under Cigars, are now classified under Cigarettes, as the rate of duty on them was increased to correspond with that on cigarettes. The quantity imported in 1919 was 16,825 lb.

Cotton, Manufactured and Raw.—The value of cotton goods imported during the year shows a slight decrease (Rs. 163,069) as compared with 1918. The export of cotton goods from Ceylon is still prohibited, except under permit.

Spirits.—The quantity (in proof gallons) of the chief spirits—whisky, brandy, and gin—cleared for home consumption during the year was 82,315 gallons, as compared with 78,042 gallons in 1918. Brandy and gin show an increase in imports, but whisky shows a decrease.

Coal.—The quantity and value of coal imported during 1918 and 1919 is as follows :—

	Tons.	Value. Rs.
1918	218,350 ..	12,363,837
1919	686,077 ..	34,478,740
An increase of tons ..	467,727	22,114,903

British India still heads the list of countries from which coal is imported into Ceylon.

Manure.— Imports of all kinds amounted to 1,552,192 cwt. (value Rs. 10,110,972), an increase of 244,516 cwt. over 1918.

The largest importation under this head was groundnut manure (401,836 cwt. valued at Rs. 2,435,941), exclusively from British India, which was also the largest supplier of fish manure and fish guano, with 267,261 cwt. and 219,262 cwt., respectively.

The following countries are the principal sources of supply :—

Countries.	Kind.	Cwt.
British India ..	Bone manure	249,896
Do. ..	Castor seed poonac ..	84,446
Do. ..	Refuse of saltpetre ..	52,597
Do. ..	Other manure	45,991
France	Basic slag	32,960
Egypt	do.	29,987
British India ..	Bone meal	21,083
Natal	Sulphate of ammonia ..	11,185
Norway ..	Other manure	11,098
Chili	Nitrate of soda	10,000
Belgium ..	Sulphate of potash ..	6,380

Kerosine Oil in Bulk and Case.—The quantity imported during the year shows an increase over that of 1918.

The following are the figures :—

	Gallons.
1919	4,058,705
1918	3,612,695
An increase of gallons ..	446,010

Petrol.—Though there was a drop of nearly 200,000 gallons in the importation of petrol in 1918 as compared with 1917, the importations during the year under review show a marked increase of nearly 500,000 gallons as compared with 1918, and of 300,000 gallons as compared with 1917. The gross duty recovered under the above two heads amounted to Rs. 1,904,600. Refunds of duty amounting to Rs. 55,318 were allowed on kerosine oil and petrol used as motive power on stationery engines and vehicles used for the transport of goods.

The following table shows the quantity of petrol imported during the last five years :—

	Gallons.		Gallons.
1915 ..	607,774	1918 ..	680,395
1916 ..	776,092	1919 ..	1,175,784
1917 ..	884,093		

Horses and Motor Cars.—The number of horses imported rose from 78 in 1918 to 88 in 1919 ; of these, 45 were subject to duty as being of Rs. 1,000 and over in value. The removal of the enhanced duty of 100 per cent. *ad valorem* as a war measure imposed on imported motor cars has encouraged the importation of a larger number of cars this year than in the previous two years. The number of cars (including chassis) imported rose to 217, as against only 5 in 1918 and 94 in 1917.

Metal and Metalware.—Imports under this head were valued at Rs. 9,464,415, an increase of Rs. 1,278,975 over 1918. The United States, which was the chief supplier in 1918, has in the year under review been superseded by the United Kingdom. There has been a general increase in all the chief articles classified under this head, the most noticeable being—

	An Increase of Rs.		An Increase of Rs.
Hardware ..	605,285	Steel, cast ..	348,480
Iron, galvanized ..	764,015	Steelware ..	119,254
Iron nails and rivets	125,878		

The value of hoop iron imported during the year shows a decrease of Rs. 752,868 as compared with the previous year ; this decrease may be attributed to the shortage of supplies from America, the imports from this source being Rs. 761,958 less than in 1918.

Cement. — The quantity imported by private firms during the year shows an increase of 63,490 cwt. over that of the previous year, the quantity imported being 152,789 cwt. Imports on Government account amounted to 148,433 cwt., or nearly as much as the quantity imported by private firms. The United Kingdom, with a total export of 173,119 cwt., maintains the first place, though Japan, with a total export of 126,913 cwt., has been a keen competitor.

Ceylon's Chief Sources of Supply.

The proportion of values for the principal countries exporting goods to Ceylon is shown below. Countries which have supplied goods of less than Rs. 500,000 in value in 1919 are omitted from the table. The percentages are :—

	1917.	1918.	1919.
1. British India ..	35·89 ..	38·08 ..	30·36
2. Burma	20·35 ..	19·51 ..	23·95
3. United Kingdom ..	17·7 ..	16·11 ..	14·16
4. Siam	·35 ..	·19 ..	3·93

		1917.	1918.	1919.
5.	Straits Settlements	7·02	3·83	3·80
6.	Japan	5·45	5·14	3·50
7.	United States of America	2·99	3·17	3·36
8.	Java	1·3	1·35	2·87
9.	Borneo (excluding British)	1·68	1·21	2·50
10.	Natal	·22	2·84	1·42
11.	Persia	·18	—	1·09
12.	Sumatra	·71	2·17	·93
13.	Maldive Islands	1·22	1·35	·90
14.	South Australia	·17	·29	·86
15.	Mozambique	·2	·03	·83
16.	Hong Kong	·47	·43	·77
17.	France	·36	·43	·66
18.	New South Wales	·21	·22	·54
19.	China	·1	·09	·51
20.	Holland	·61	·26	·34
21.	Victoria	·09	·14	·26

It will be noticed that India (excluding British) and Sweden have dropped out of the list this year. The former due to the short supplies of rice from Karikal, and the latter chiefly to the fall in the shipments of matches. Siam, Persia, Mozambique, New South Wales, China, Holland, and Victoria found a place this year. Siam has gained the fourth place, chiefly owing to the shipments of rice received from there, consequent on the control placed in India on the exports of this article of diet. Japan, which held the fourth place in 1918, has fallen two places lower, and the United States of America have come down from fifth to seventh.

The total value of goods supplied from the United Kingdom amounted to 33¾ million rupees, against 28¾ in 1918. The value of goods from Japan and the United States of America amounted to 8½ million in each case, as against 9¼ and 5¾, respectively, in the previous year.

Exports.

The staple Ceylon products exported in order of value are as follows :—

		Lakhs of Rupees.		
		1917.	1918.	1919.
1.	Rubber	1,310	622	1,321
2.	Tea	957	832	1,165
3.	Copra	132	127	323
4.	Coconut oil	101	157	257
5.	Desiccated coconut	94	52	249
6.	Cinnamon	10	13	37
7.	Arecanuts	30	38	30
8.	Cacao	18	23	31
9.	Coir fibre	4	9	17
10.	Plumbago	218	48	17
11.	Coir yarn	2	3	11
12.	Skins (dressed and undressed)	7	7	10
13.	Citronella oil	12	9	9
14.	Cardamoms	4	3	9
15.	Tobacco (unmanufactured)	7	9	6
16.	Poonac	2	—	5
17.	Coconuts, fresh	3	4	3

The increases under rubber, tea, copra, coconut oil, and desiccated coconuts are significant. Tea has again been displaced from the head of the list by rubber, the export of the latter article being more than 100 per cent. over that of the previous year. The most striking increase is that in desiccated coconuts, the value being nearly five times as much as in the preceding year. Cacao, cinnamon, coir fibre, cardamoms, and coir yarn also show increased shipments. The most noticeable decrease is that on plumbago, which has continued to decline since 1916. Poonac has again appeared on the list with a value of 5 lakhs.

The following table shows the proportion of Ceylon produce and manufactures taken by the principal countries for the last three years, with percentage of values taken by each :—

		1917. Per Cent.	1918. Per Cent.	1919. Per Cent.
1.	United Kingdom	41·07	44·72	42·13
2.	United States of America	33·32	17·78	33·52
3.	British India	4·66	10	6·83
4.	France	2·57	2·06	2·22
5.	Belgium	—	—	2·07
6.	Canada	3·17	5·85	1·78
7.	Denmark	—	—	1·59
8.	Holland	—	—	1·33
9.	Egypt	·8	2·41	1·28
10.	New South Wales	2·08	4·87	1·25
11.	Victoria	2·27	3·62	1·08
12.	Norway	·09	·07	·51
13.	Italy	·39	·56	·51
14.	Straits Settlements	·3	·49	·49
15.	Cape Colony	·62	·95	·38
16.	New Zealand	1·14	·72	·34
17.	Philippine Islands	·25	·49	·33
18.	Japan	·33	·61	·2
19.	Natal	·26	·36	·16
20.	South America	·3	·66	·16
21.	West Australia	·2	·23	·15

The United Kingdom still heads the list, though her percentage has been a little lower than in 1918. Belgium, Denmark, and Holland have appeared on the list again with prominent places, chiefly due to the removal of the restrictions on export trade. The United States of America show a considerable increase, the percentage being almost double of that of 1918. The increased shipments of rubber and coconut oil to that country during the year chiefly contributed towards this result.

Tea.—The exports of tea for the last seven years have been as follows :—

	Million Pounds.		Million Pounds.
1913	191	1917	195
1914	193	1918	180
1915	215	1919	208
1916	203		

The exports of tea during the year have been the largest since 1909, except in 1915, when 215 million pounds were exported. The average price for the year has been reckoned at 55·86 cents a pound, as against 46 cents a pound in 1918. The United Kingdom and the United States of America have respectively taken about 46 and 8 million pounds more than in the previous year, while Russia (European and Asiatic), which had practically dropped out in 1918, has again come into the market. There have also been increased shipments to Greece, Madagascar, and Norway. The distribution among the principal countries, with their increases and decreases, is shown in the following table :—

Countries.	1919. lb.	1918. lb.	Increase over 1918. lb.	Decrease below 1918. lb.
United Kingdom	140,647,501	94,358,654	46,288,847	—
British Possessions:—				
Aden	2,125	1,930	195	—
British East Africa	16,924	42,620	—	25,696
British Guiana	2,500	20,050	—	17,550
British India	6,136,696	8,582,870	—	2,446,174
British West Indies	11,825	79,480	—	67,655
Burma	90,376	14,938	75,438	—
Canada	7,753,623	2,281,073	5,472,550	—
Cape Colony	2,198,696	3,778,277	—	1,579,581

Countries.	1919. lb.	1918. lb.	Increase over 1918. lb.	Decrease below 1918. lb.
British Possessions:—				
Egypt	2,250,862	8,126,477	—	5,875,615
Gibraltar	6,000	81,342	—	75,342
Hong Kong	282,588	125,056	103,532	—
Maldive Islands	5,991	11,305	—	5,314
Malta	49,660	676,342	—	626,682
Mauritius	95,450	275,615	—	180,165
Natal	1,002,765	1,119,459	—	116,694
Newfoundland	664,393	509,065	155,328	—
New South Wales	7,221,974	17,798,831	—	10,576,857
New Zealand	2,063,115	2,797,211	—	734,096
Other British Possessions in—				
Africa	1,955,923	1,683,119	272,804	—
America	—	8,000	—	8,000
Asia	52,569	17,835	34,734	—
Australasia	200	1,050	—	850
Europe	—	2,149,713	—	2,149,713
Queensland	189,373	866,862	—	677,489
South Australia	809,975	971,618	—	161,643
Straits Settlements	1,044,114	1,124,125	—	80,011
Tasmania	21,420	24,401	—	2,981
Victoria	5,925,960	11,887,109	—	5,961,149
Western Australia	907,651	875,520	32,131	—
Zanzibar	83,198	5,580	77,618	—
Foreign Countries:—				
Arabia	145	—	145	—
Belgium	540,765	—	540,765	—
Central America	1,050	840	210	—
Chili	88,420	698,542	—	610,122
China (excluding Hong Kong)	565,616	1,421,735	—	856,119
Cochin-China	1,320	1,820	—	500
Denmark	1,057,237	—	1,057,237	—
France	3,860,614	3,843,193	17,421	—
Greece	259,000	18,000	241,000	—
Holland	86,430	—	86,430	—
India (excluding British)	968	137	831	—
Italy	137,195	286,743	—	149,548
Japan	150,324	233,044	—	82,720
Java	1,143	—	1,143	—
Madagascar	17,494	1,100	16,394	—
Mozambique	206,058	1,219,324	—	1,013,266
Norway	237,907	118,184	119,723	—
Other Foreign Countries in—				
Africa	290,889	585,921	—	295,032
Asia	2,250	41,196	—	38,946
Australasia	8,860	39,200	—	30,340
Persia	179,976	228,131	—	48,155
Philippine Islands	136,858	177,348	—	40,490
Portugal	11,940	48,782	—	36,842
Roumania	50,000	—	50,000	—
Russia in Asia	425,997	155,713	270,284	—
Russia in Europe	257,971	—	257,971	—
Siam	16,368	14,960	1,408	—
South America (except Chili)	558,739	2,224,372	—	1,665,633
Spain (excluding Gibraltar)	22,445	22,013	432	—
Sumatra	3,450	300	3,150	—
Sweden	24,734	—	24,734	—
Switzerland	177,563	79,076	98,487	—
Turkey in Asia	46,250	—	46,250	—
Turkey in Europe	160,841	—	160,841	—
United States of America	17,534,679	9,062,543	8,472,136	—
	208,560,943	180,817,744	63,980,169	36,236,970
		Deduct Decrease	36,236,970	
		Nett Increase	27,743,199	

It will be noticed that the United Kingdom with 140 million pounds has taken practically five times as much as foreign countries (27 million pounds), and more than three and a half times the amount taken by British Possessions (40 million pounds). Shipments to China show a decrease; but Belgium, Denmark, Holland, and Roumania, to which countries no tea was exported in the previous year, have taken appreciable quantities. The most noticeable decreases are New South Wales, Victoria, Egypt, British India, Mozambique, and South America.

Products of the Coconut Palm.—The total value of the products of the coconut palm was 870 lakhs, as compared with 355 lakhs in the previous year. The exports of the three principal products are shown below for a period of six years :—

	Desiccated Coconut.	Copra.	Coconut Oil.
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.
1914	311,864	1,411,947	486,286
1915	349,009	1,208,529	501,510
1916	306,149	1,309,939	323,017
1917	272,059	1,078,704	434,699
1918	203,366	1,272,321	527,481
1919	675,060	1,759,525	675,999

The shipments of all the three principal products during the year have been the heaviest since 1914. The most noticeable increase is that in desiccated coconuts. The chief buyers of this product were the United States of America with 302,567 cwt. and United Kingdom with 239,936 cwt., shipments to both countries showing substantial increases.

Copra.—British India has been the chief buyer during the year, though the quantity exported to that country has been much less in the previous year. The United Kingdom, which took only 514 cwt. in 1918, has taken 151,530 cwt. United States of America and New South Wales have dropped out, but Belgium (174,800 cwt.), Denmark (313,047 cwt.), Holland (165,207 cwt.), Norway (47,537 cwt.), and Sweden (10,000 cwt.) have again come in. No exports to these countries had been made in the previous years due to war restrictions. The price of this article fell considerably in 1918, but the growing demand has again raised it, as much as Rs. 120 a candy (5 cwt.) being realized on some shipments.

Coconut Oil.—The quantity of this product exported during the year shows a good increase over that of 1918. United States of America has been the largest purchaser among foreign countries, with 147,031 cwt., as against only 2 cwt. in the previous year. The United Kingdom, though she had taken less than in the previous year, has been the largest purchaser. Canada has dropped out of the market, and Belgium, Denmark, France, Greece, Holland, Norway, and Sweden, which did no business in this line in 1918 owing to war restrictions, have again come in.

Rubber.—Ceylon-grown rubber, on which previously there had been a continuous rise, experienced a check in 1918, but the total exports (900,198 cwt.) during the year under review show a remarkable recovery, due to shipments of stocks which had previously been held back. The quantities exported during the last seven years are shown below :—

	Cwt.		Cwt.
1913	226,491	1917	645,797
1914	306,724	1918	413,303
1915	435,748	1919	900,198
1916	486,690		

Shipments of rubber to the United States of America were hitherto allowed on licenses issued by the Secretary of State to approved consignees. The effect of the withdrawal of these restrictions about the beginning of 1919 has led to a large increase (of nearly 49 million pounds) over the figures of the

previous year, when only 17 million pounds were exported to that country. During 1919 the United States of America took over half the total exports from the Colony, and more than double the amount taken by the United Kingdom.

Customs Duties.

The only change made during the year was the introduction of a new rate of rent on bonded goods.

V.—SHIPPING.

During the year under review 4,130 vessels with a tonnage of 9,988,176 have entered the several ports of the Island of Ceylon, as compared with 3,706 vessels with a tonnage of 5,669,558 in 1918, an increase of 442 vessels with a tonnage of 4,318,618. This increase may be attributed to the release of many vessels which had in the previous years been requisitioned by the Admiralty for war work, and also to increased foreign tonnage, especially from Japan :—

	1918.		1919.	
	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.
Merchant vessels (with cargo and in ballast)	1,654	3,204,518	1,762	4,669,598
Merchant vessels (called to coal)	506	1,382,808	1,177	4,086,379
Native sailing vessels	1,315	96,274	1,018	103,413
Warships and Government chartered vessels	231	985,958	173	1,128,786
	3,706	5,669,558	4,130	9,988,176

The comparative distribution according to nationality for 1918 and 1919, omitting warships and transports, is given in the following table. The figures for 1919 include vessels which called to coal :—

	1918.		1919.	
	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.
British	1,362	2,390,822	2,168	6,467,584
British Colonial	1,315	96,274	1,018	103,413
Total British Vessels	2,677	2,487,096	3,186	6,570,997
American	4	10,596	31	87,499
Austrian	—	—	1	4,915
Belgian	—	—	6	12,207
Chinese	7	9,070	5	11,846
Danish	1	283	16	43,981
Dutch	34	94,544	79	272,573
French	32	175,514	72	317,776
Greek	4	7,440	17	43,735
Italian	18	40,047	42	134,877
Japanese	115	341,098	364	1,054,331
Norwegian	53	73,427	82	165,784
Russian	—	—	16	34,482
Siamese	—	—	1	803
Spanish	11	27,239	17	40,390
Swedish	11	29,805	21	57,341
Portuguese	2	4,633	1	5,853
Total Foreign Vessels	292	813,696	771	2,288,393

Colombo Port Commission.

During the year 1919 the activities of the port have been largely devoted to the restoration of normal conditions after the war as expeditiously as possible. The policy of retrenchment was continued during the year, and the high price of materials of every description was maintained, the result being that comparatively little was done towards carrying out further improvements. Additional warehouse accommodation was, however, provided in the old

Exports warehouses west of the Passenger Jetty by linking up two warehouses, thus giving an additional warehouse area of 7,952 square feet. The system of cranes has been revised and improved to meet present conditions, and additional cranes have been provided.

The new Passenger Jetty bridge was completed in April, 1919, but further progress in connection with the scheme for the improvement of York street, Church street, and Leyden Bastion road was stopped, as the negotiations had not been completed. Satisfactory arrangements have now been made, and this very desirable improvement should be completed early in 1920.

Dredging operations in the harbour were restricted during the latter portion of the year, as the "Sir John Coode" was laid up for extensive repairs. A new hopper dredger, estimated to cost £184,680, is now on order, and it is expected that it will be received in the port at the end of 1920 or early in 1921. This dredger will enable the dredging operations in the port to keep pace with those in the Suez Canal.

Towards the end of the year permission was given to two companies to put a number of passenger motor launches on the harbour.

Eight mooring buoys for lighters containing explosives have been put down in the vicinity of the Block Jetty.

The Mine-sweeping Department was closed down in April, 1919, and four of the six trawlers purchased for mine sweeping were sold later in the year. Two trawlers have been retained.

Satisfactory progress was made with the new Harbour Railway.

Further progress was made in 1919 with the development of the land at Kolonnawa for the Oil Installations Depôt. A total area of 87 acres has now been acquired, of which 42 acres have been levelled. The Standard Oil Company have erected two tanks for kerosine oil on the site allotted to them.

It has been decided that there should be two bunkering berths for steamers along the North-east Breakwater, and one discharge berth on the northern side of the Graving Dock Guide Pier. Pending the construction of these berths, the present lighterage system for oil fuel must continue, but it is hoped in due course to do away with the system or to reduce it to a purely auxiliary use.

The recruiting work in the Office of the Colombo Rivercraft Committee for the Government of India was continued during the year. 239 men were recruited and sent overseas in 1919; recruiting in the latter portion of the year was, with a few exceptions, confined to motor car and motor lorry drivers. A total of 1,204 were sent from Ceylon up to the end of 1919.

The nett tonnage of vessels (sailing and steam) visiting Colombo Harbour in 1919 amounted to 8,603,643 tons; in addition, 173 warships and transports with a gross tonnage of 1,128,786 tons and coasting vessels with a nett tonnage of 45,452 tons entered the port.

Forty-four vessels were docked during the year, and 56 vessels were taken on to the Patent Slip; 45 vessels were fumigated.

The receipts from the Graving Dock were Rs. 100,868 and from the Patent Slip Rs. 11,650, against Rs. 92,701 and Rs. 5,926 respectively in 1918; the receipts from fumigation were Rs. 9,767, as against Rs. 2,182 in 1918.

The expenditure of the Colombo Port Commission (exclusive of the work carried out by the Public Works Department) during the financial year 1918–19 (October 1, 1918, to September 30, 1919) amounted to Rs. 2,059,351·08, including a sum of Rs. 364,715·57 expended on the acquisition of land and the preparation of the site of the Oil Installations Depôt at Kolonnawa; the expenditure on work carried out by the Public Works Department for the Port Commission was Rs. 13,316·69, making a total of Rs. 2,072,667·77. The revenue during the same period amounted to Rs. 2,805,968·29. In addition to the above, a sum of Rs. 369,293·18 was spent during the financial year 1918–19 on work connected with war services.

VI.—LEGISLATION.

Thirty-two Ordinances were passed during the year, of which the following are the more important :—

(*a*) The Municipal Councils (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 2 of 1919, containing new provisions regarding drainage.

(*b*) The Copyright (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 6 of 1919, repealing Ordinances Nos. 21 of 1915 and 11 of 1918, and re-enacting such of the provisions of section 14 of the Imperial Copyright Act, 1911, as local circumstances require.

(*c*) The Estate Duty Ordinance, No. 8 of 1919, based on the Imperial Finance Act, 1894, and amending Acts, and providing for recovery of duty on property passing at death.

(*d*) The Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 9 of 1919, extending the scope of the principal Ordinance and increasing the penalty for offences.

(*e*) and (*f*) The Stamps (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 10 of 1919, and the Land Registration (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 11 of 1919.—By the former, in addition to certain amendments of minor importance, a higher duty was imposed on the execution of deeds. The latter removed the registration duty on certain classes of deeds in order to encourage registration of deeds, while at the same time it increased registration duty in certain cases.

(*g*) The Quarantine and Prevention of Diseases (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 14 of 1919, legalizing an existing practice of working ships in the Colombo Harbour in " preventive " quarantine, for which there was no provision in the principal Ordinance.

(*h*) The Termination of the War (Definition) Ordinance, No. 17 of 1919.

(*i*) The Former Enemy Aliens Ordinance, No. 19 of 1919, providing for the exclusion from the Colony of former enemy aliens, following the policy in the United Kingdom.

(*j*) The Vexatious Actions Ordinance, No. 20 of 1919, providing, in case of habitual abuse of process of court, for an order of the Supreme Court or a Judge thereof, requiring the special leave of the said court or such Judge, by the party in question, before the institution of any civil case thereafter, the party being allowed to show cause against such order.

(*k*) The Criminal Law (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 21 of 1919, giving legislative effect to the recommendations of a Commission appointed to investigate the subject of prostitution in Colombo.

(*l*) The Ceylon Penal Code (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 25 of 1919, penalizing the possession of imitations of Indian currency notes.

(*m*) and (*n*) The Registration of Business Names (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 27 of 1919, and the Joint Stock Companies (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 29 of 1919, empowering the composition by the Registrar-General of unintentional offences against the Ordinance, following the precedent of Ordinance No. 1 of 1907.

VII.—EDUCATION.

Schools in Ceylon may be broadly divided into English and vernacular. 91 per cent. of the school-going population attend vernacular schools. The education in the English schools is usually divided into two sides : secondary, leading up to the London Matriculation and Cambridge Certificate Examinations; and elementary, which is in preparation for the Elementary School-leaving Certificate Examination. To the elementary side commercial classes have

now been added in several of the largest schools. There is a great demand for English, and the tendency is to convert vernacular schools into Anglo-vernacular and Anglo-vernacular into Elementary English schools.

The inclusion of Sinhalese and Tamil in the London Matriculation and the Cambridge Examinations has given a stimulus to the study of the vernacular languages. Several secondary schools are now teaching Sinhalese and Tamil. English has suffered in the past from Latin being taught in the schools to boys from Sinhalese- and Tamil-speaking homes, who have not acquired a sound knowledge of English, and have little facility in expressing themselves in any but their own language.

Vernacular Education.

In 1919 there were 884 Government vernacular schools, with an attendance of 97,819 boys and 32,570 girls. There were also 1,855 aided schools, with an attendance of 129,027 boys and 78,649 girls.

The total sum expended by Government on vernacular education in 1919 was Rs. 1,434,264·28, of which approximately two-fifths were spent on Government schools and three-fifths on aided schools.

The Rural Schools Ordinance is now in force in all districts of the Island. The Town Schools Ordinance is in force in the Colombo District.

A new Ordinance dealing with education and constituting a Board of Education was introduced into Council during the year.

In 1919 there were 256 aided estate schools, with an attendance of 9,061 boys and 1,247 girls.

A large Government school was completed during the year in Colombo, and another is almost complete. This will make the fourth Government vernacular school in the town of Colombo. A school for the deaf and blind started in 1912 receives an annual grant from Government of Rs. 3,000.

Schools teaching English.

In 1919 there were 265 English and Anglo-vernacular schools attended by 46,988 pupils, of whom 36,526 were boys and 10,462 girls. There is one Government secondary school in Colombo, with an average attendance of 434. The cost to Government of this school for the year was Rs. 58,292·64, and the fees recovered amounted to Rs. 31,643. There were 21 State-aided secondary schools, particulars of which are shown below :—

Return of Secondary Schools.

Province and Management.	Name of School.	Number of Pupils on Roll and Average Attendance on March 31, 1919. Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Average Attendance.
Western Province.					
Church of England	St. Thomas's College B	485	—	485	432
Do.	Bishop's College G	7	170	177	145
Church Missionary Society	C. M. S. Ladies' College G	46	165	211	160
Private	Panadure, St. John's M	163	25	188	163
Roman Catholic	St. Joseph's College B	523	—	523	471
Do.	St. Benedict's B	1,127	—	1,127	956
Do.	St. Bridget's Convent G	66	228	294	235
Do.	Bambalapitiya Convent G	106	234	340	253
Wesleyan	Wesley College B	412	—	412	366
Do.	Methodist College G	31	247	278	251
Southern Province.					
Roman Catholic	St. Aloysius's College B	477	—	477	418
Wesleyan	Richmond College B	367	5	372	314

B = Boys. G = Girls. M = Mixed.

Province and Management.	Name of School.	Number of Pupils on Roll and Average Attendance on March 31, 1919.			
		Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Average Attendance.
Central Province.					
Church Missionary Society	Kandy, Hillwood G	29	85	114	92
Do.	Trinity College B	506	5	511	444
Roman Catholic	St. Anthony's College B	417	—	417	372
Wesleyan	Kandy G	34	189	223	192
Northern Province.					
American	Jaffna College, Vaddukoddai B	319	—	319	247
Church Missionary Society	Chundikuli G	50	146	196	165
Do.	St. John's College B	427	—	427	360
Roman Catholic	St. Patrick's College B	607	—	607	548
Wesleyan	Jaffna Central College B	367	—	367	316
	21	6,566	1,499	8,065	6,900

B = Boys. G = Girls. M = Mixed.

In most of the larger schools candidates are prepared for the Senior and Junior Cambridge School-leaving Certificate Examinations. In 1918 the number of candidates who presented themselves and the results obtained were :—

	Candidates.	Honours.	Other Passes.
Senior	437	17	204
Junior	740	39	319

There are special syllabuses for Ceylon students in English, Science, and Needlework, special stress being laid on the necessity for obtaining a high standard in English.

The result of the London University Examinations in 1919 showed that 381 candidates from Ceylon presented themselves for the Matriculation Examination, 108 of whom passed. In addition, 9 candidates passed the First Examination for Medical Degrees and 3 the Second Examination, Part I. Fifty-three candidates presented themselves for the Intermediate Examination in Arts, 42 for the Intermediate Examination in Science, 8 for the Intermediate Examination in Laws, 11 for the B.A. degree, 4 for B.Sc., and 2 for LL.B., but the results of these examinations have not yet reached Ceylon.

The encouragement offered by Government takes the form of grants or scholarships. In the majority of the aided English schools grants are paid on the results of examinations as laid down in the schedules of the Code, but in some of the more advanced schools the greater part of the grant is paid on the average attendance. The grants paid to English schools in the financial year 1918–19 amounted to Rs. 455,174·01.

Two Government scholarships are offered annually : one on the results of the Intermediate Examination in Arts, and the other on the results of the Intermediate Examination in Science. These scholarships are tenable for three years, and are of the value of £250 each per annum, with free passages to and from England and £50 outfit allowance. The holders may join any British University, or study at any recognized engineering institution in the United Kingdom.

Government has sanctioned a Natural Science Scholarship of the value of £250 a year tenable for three years, with outfit allowance and passages as in the above scholarships. The first examination for this scholarship will be held in July, 1920.

An exhibition of Rs. 250 or Rs. 300 a year has been offered by the Hon. Dr. H. M. Fernando, Member of the Legislative Council, to the Ceylon student who obtains the highest marks in botany and either chemistry or agricultural science in the Cambridge Senior School Certificate Examination.

A member of the Buddhist priesthood—Suriyagoda Sumangala Thero—has been sent to the University of Oxford for two years on an annual scholarship provided by Government and private subscriptions in equal shares. He will devote himself to Oriental Studies, and will, it is hoped, qualify himself for the post of lecturer in these studies at the University College.

Government Training College.

The Government Training College consists of four departments: English, (men and women), Anglo-vernacular (men only), Sinhalese (men), and Sinhalese (women). The object is to supply trained teachers for aided English schools and Government vernacular schools. At the beginning of 1919 the number of students in training was: in the English side 39 men and 41 women, in the Anglo-vernacular 8 men, in the Sinhalese 40 men and 40 women. Trained teachers at present command high salaries, and there is a good demand for their services.

A class of 20 boys under eleven at time of examination for admission was formed in 1918 from boys in vernacular schools, a further class of 20 boys was formed in 1919, and an examination for selection of another 20 was held in December last. The board and lodging of these boys are paid for by public subscription. Their tuition is free. The boys of the first batch are now up to the average of Standard VI., and are much in advance of boys of their own age who have been learning English for several years. These boys knew no English when they joined.

Industrial Schools.

In 1919 the aided industrial schools, which are 39 in number, received grants amounting to Rs. 27,340. The trades taught were carpentry, dressmaking, tailoring, lace-making, embroidery, gardening, and masonry. The most important of these schools is the Maggona Certified Industrial School, which is utilized by Government as a reformatory for youthful offenders. It is managed by the Roman Catholic Mission. This institution has an estate of some 300 acres and excellent buildings, towards the cost of which Government has contributed. 292 youthful offenders are at present receiving instruction in this school, and an allowance is paid by Government for the maintenance of each inmate. The amount so paid in the year 1919 was Rs. 32,284.

An impetus was given to home industries, which are taught in different parts of the Island. Carpentry is taught in 23 schools, and 17 schools will shortly have carpentry sheds with instructors attached. Five schools are engaged in cloth-weaving, and 12 others are awaiting equipment. Printing and book-binding are taught in 4 schools. Shoemaking and smithy work in 2 schools. Cane and rattan work in 3 schools. Two schools are fully equipped for chalk-making. The Inspector of Industrial Work reports an improvement in its manufacture. One school is ready equipped for lacquer work, and 2 are being equipped. One school is being equipped for pottery work. Basket-making and mat-weaving are taught in several schools. Hat-making is making good progress in the Kalutara District, and in 16 schools there are classes in basket-making for children.

Agricultural Instruction.

Elementary agricultural instruction is given by a scheme of school gardens conducted in connection with Government schools. The gardens are under the supervision of the Department of Agriculture. There is a Superintendent of School Gardens, who is assisted by three Inspectors. The total number of registered Government school gardens at the end of 1919 was 389, or an increase of 13 over the preceding year. The number of gardens attached to grant-in-aid

schools was 95, an increase of 20 over last year; 150 school gardens are awaiting registration. Seeds and implements are supplied by the Department of Agriculture, and prizes are offered for competition.

Twelve Government teachers underwent a special course of training at Peradeniya. The scheme has been supplemented by the establishment of home gardens in large numbers, seed being provided for boys who undertake to plant up vegetables in their home compounds.

A new boarding school for teaching of agriculture and English to vernacular teachers was opened at Henaratgoda. Forty teachers are being trained in this school.

Technical.

In addition to night classes in building construction, mechanical engineering, electric wiring, carpentry and joinery, drawing class for carpenters, &c., the following new classes were formed:—English, shorthand, typewriting, book-keeping, accountancy, methods of business, commercial geography, and commercial arithmetic. These classes secured good attendances.

Steps are being taken to open a technical school in the Jaffna peninsula, and 62 scholarships of Rs. 100 per annum each for four years have been subscribed.

Domestic Science.

Domestic Science is now being introduced as one of the subjects in the curriculum for girls' schools. Provision for the salary of a Supervisor of Domestic Science was sanctioned by Government, and a fully qualified Supervisor has been appointed in England, and will arrive shortly.

University College.

The new laboratories for the University College are nearing completion. The new Royal College has now been started. When this building is completed, the present Royal College will be available for the University College.

A strong Committee has been appointed by the Hebdomadal Council of the University of Oxford to advise on the course of studies and conduct of the Ceylon University College.

Educational Conferences.

A conference of Tamil teachers organized by the Inspector of the district was held in Jaffna in June, 1919. A conference of teachers was held at the Training College in December under the auspices of the Training College Union. Both conferences were largely attended.

VIII.—PUBLIC HEALTH, VITAL STATISTICS, AND CLIMATE.

The general health of the people during 1919 was not satisfactory. The principal causes were the continuance of the influenza epidemic and the shortage of food. There was a marked increase during the year, as compared with 1918, of fatal cases of dysentery, pneumonia, and fevers of all sorts.

Hospitals.

There are 86 Government hospitals, including a leper hospital and a hospital for chronic cases of tuberculosis, equipped with modern hospital furniture and surgical appliances. In addition to the hospitals, there are 462 Government outdoor dispensaries. The owners of estates have provided 53 estate hospitals, which received a rebate on export duty, and 468 estate dispensaries receiving drugs free from Government to the value of 50 cents per labourer per annum.

Medical Institutions.

A general rebuilding scheme is in contemplation for the improvement of the Medical College. The full course of training at the Ceylon Medical College is five years for the medical students and two years for the apothecary students. A diploma in medicine, surgery, and midwifery (which can be registered in the United Kingdom) is granted to the successful medical students. The apothecary students are employed by Government after they qualify in the examination.

The following were the attendances and passes during the past two years:—

	Attendances.		Passes.	
	Medical.	Apothecary.	Medical.	Apothecary.
1918 May to 1918 July	169	61	11	6
1917 October to 1918 March	190	82	14	13
1919 May to 1919 July	181	65	14	3
1918 October to 1919 March	187	78	3	9

In Colombo there are a Bacteriological Institute, a Pasteur Institute, a General Hospital of 687 beds, an Ophthalmic Hospital, a Lying-in Home, a Hospital for Women and Children, an Anti-Tuberculosis Institute fitted with an up-to-date X-ray apparatus, and a Hospital for Infectious Diseases. There are special dispensaries at Kandy and Galle for the treatment of eye diseases.

Asylums.

The Lunatic Asylum contained 1,090 inmates on December 31, 1919. As there is very considerable overcrowding in the present building, the Government is erecting a new asylum building a few miles out of Colombo with accommodation for 1,000 patients, and for the necessary staff and servants. The number of patients treated in the asylum during 1919 was 1,820 (1,194 males and 626 females). The number discharged was 553 (393 males and 160 females). These figures include those of the House of Observation. Temporary accommodation has been provided for 150 inmates at Matara to relieve the overcrowding.

The Leper Asylum is situated 6 miles from Colombo, and contained 412 patients at the end of the year. The total treated during 1919 numbered 492. A small establishment of lepers exists at Kalmunai, in the Eastorn Province, and has accommodation for 30. A new leper asylum is being erected at Mantivu, a small island on the lagoon in the neighbourhood of Batticaloa.

A Home for Incurables containing 80 beds is administered by a Committee of Government officials and representatives of the public. The enlargement of this institution is now under consideration with a view to accommodate the large number of chronic cases now remaining in hospitals.

Plague.

Eighty-seven cases of plague were recorded during the year, as against 70 during 1918, and an annual average of 224 during the five years 1914–18. All the cases, except one, at Talaimannar, occurred in Colombo.

The case mortality was 94·3 per cent., which is slightly lower than in 1917 and 1918, but is still very high.

During the first seven months of the year only 4 cases occurred, this being much the lowest number recorded for that period of the year since plague appeared. No case occurred during the four months April to July. Two cases occurred in August, 5 in September, 18 in October, 34 in November, and 24 in December. The incidence of rat plague coincided closely with that of human plague as regards both time and place. The great majority of the cases occurred, as usual, amongst young adults, many more males being attacked than females. The disease was as hitherto confined almost entirely to the poorer and more insanitary tenement areas of the town of Colombo.

Rat plague was distributed fairly evenly over the areas where the human cases occurred. 108,338 rats were trapped during the year, and 21,739 were examined in the Municipal Bacteriological Laboratory, 66 or 0·3 per cent. being found to be plague infected. The bodies of 6,794 rats which were killed in known infected areas by the Clayton fumigator were found and examined bacteriologically, 27 or 0·4 per cent. of these being plague infected.

The same preventive measures as hitherto were carried out, reliance being placed chiefly upon isolation of patients in hospitals, se regation of contacts, closure and improvement of insanitary dwellings, pesterining of the floors of infected houses, fumigation of rat holes by means of Clayton machines, trapping and poisoning of rats, and filling up of all rat holes with cement after fumigation.

The annexed statements show the chief statistical features for the six years since plague first appeared in Ceylon :—

	1914.	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.
Total cases	413	139	291	207	70	87
Total deaths	381	128	273	196	69	82
Septicæmic cases	247*	81*	159	124	41	50
Septicæmic deaths	246	80	159	124	41	50
Bubonic cases	166	58	132	83	29	37
Bubonic deaths	135	48	114	72	28	32
Total case mortality per cent.	92·2	92·8	93·8	94·7	98·6	94·3
Septicæmic mortality per cent.	99·6	98·7	100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0
Bubonic mortality per cent.	81·3	82·7	86·4	86·7	96·6	86·5

* The cases for 1914 and 1915 each includes one septicæmic recovery, but the diagnosis was not in either case confirmed bacteriologically, and may have been erroneous.

Monthly Incidence of Cases.

	1914.	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.
January	4	19	17	25	13	—
February	67	6	18	40	18	1
March	58	3	18	61	10	3
April	28	3	14	34	11	—
May	29	3	11	11	2	—
June	49	1	36	3	9	—
July	47	5	43	6	2	—
August	40	20	35	1	1	2
September	18	21	25	3	—	5
October	23	24	24	7	—	18
November	24	10	25	10	2	34
December	26	24	25	6	2	24
Total	413	139	291	207	70	87
Monthly Mean	34·4	11·5	24·2	17·2	5·8	7·2

Annual average for the five years 1914–18 = 224.

Anchylostomiasis.

The campaign against anchylostomiasis, started with the help of the Rockefeller Foundation, is now being carried out in three areas, viz., Kandy, Galaha, and Agrapatana. The following areas have been completed :—Central Province: Matale, Bogawantalawa, Dikoya, Maskeliya, Gampola, Dimbula, and Talawakele; Western Province: Avi sawella; Southern Province: Elpitiya; Province of Uva : Koslanda, Haputale, and Badulla.

Population.

The estimated population of the Island on December 31, 1919, was 4,757,598. This is an increase on the previous year of 71,215 persons, which represents the difference between the excess (78,133) of arrivals over departures of Indian

coolies and an excess (6,918) of deaths over births. The distribution of the population according to the principal races and the proportion of each race to 1,000 of the total population were as follows :—

	Estimated Population on December 31, 1919.	Proportion per 1,000 of the Total Population.
Europeans..	7,349	1·5
Burghers ..	29,336	6·2
Sinhalese ..	2,989,382	628·3
Tamils ..	1,424,649	299·4
Moors ..	276,631	58·2
Malays ..	14,105	3·0
Others ..	16,146	3·4

At the Census of 1911 the density of the population of the Island was 162 persons per square mile. At the end of 1919 the density was estimated at 187 persons.

European Population.—The number of European residents in the Island is estimated at 7,349, but in the absence of any reliable record of arrivals and departures of Europeans, which since the outbreak of the war have been abnormal, it is difficult to state the number with any degree of certainty. This must be left to be ascertained at the Census of 1921.

Marriages.

The number of marriages registered during the year was 18,870, of which 14,423 were among the general community, *i.e.*, other than Kandyan or Muhammadan, and 4,447 Kandyan. This total is the lowest recorded during the last decade. The considerable falling off in the number of marriages during the year is, no doubt, due to the prevailing epidemic and the distress consequent on the shortage of food supplies in the Island. The number of persons married per 1,000 of the population, exclusive of the Muhammadans, corresponds to a rate of 8·6, as against 10·2 in the previous year and 11·6 the average for the years 1909–1918. The marriage rate for the year is the second lowest on record ; the lowest was 8·2 in 1885.

Births.

The number of births registered during 1919 was 161,405 (82,464 males and 78,941 females), that is, 21,979 less than in the previous year. The number corresponds to a rate of 34·2 per 1,000 of the estimated population, which is 5·0 per 1,000 below the rate of the previous year and 3·8 below the average rate of the past decade. With two exceptions, the birth-rate for the year is the lowest since 1897, when the improved scheme of registration under the Ordinance No. 1 of 1895 came into operation. The proportion of male to female births was 104 to 100, the same as in the two previous years. The births registered on the estates numbered 21,851, and were equal to a rate of 43·0 per 1,000 of the estate population according to the last Census and 25·8 per 1,000 of the estimated population in 1919, as against 52·8 and 33·6 respectively in 1918. In the thirty-three principal towns 16,481 births were registered, equivalent to a rate of 25·4 per 1,000 of the urban population, as against 27·0 in the previous year.

Deaths.

The deaths of 168,323 persons were registered in Ceylon during the year 1919, 84,144 of these being males and 84,179 females. These deaths, which are the highest yet recorded, correspond to a rate of 35·6 per 1,000 of the estimated population, or 3·7 per 1,000 higher than that for 1918, and 6·1 per 1,000 higher than the average for the ten years 1909–1918. The rate for the year is the highest on record. This unprecedentedly high death-rate is mainly attributable to the influenza epidemic. The largest number of deaths was registered

in the first quarter of the year, and a gradual decrease was noticed in the subsequent quarters. The total number of deaths on estates amounted to 24,127, showing a decrease of 6,870 on the previous year. The number of deaths corresponds to a standardized rate of 58·5 per 1,000 of the estate population according to the last Census and 35·0 per 1,000 of the estimated population in 1919, as against 75·2 and 47·9 respectively in 1918. In the thirty-three principal towns the deaths registered were 22,844, of which 17,726 were of town residents. This number corresponds to a standardized rate of 29·7, as against 31·5 in the previous year.

Infant Mortality.

Of the total deaths registered during the year, 35,941 (21 per cent.) were of infants under one year of age, corresponding to a rate of 223 per 1,000 births registered. This is considerably higher than the rate 188 in the previous year and the average 193 for the ten years 1909–1918. The infant mortality on the estates was also higher than in the previous year, being 252, as against 231. In the principal towns the rate was still higher, being 259, as against 252 in 1918.

Causes of Deaths.

Of the 168,323 deaths registered during the year, a fifth was attributed to influenza and pneumonia. There is reason to believe that the epidemic which broke out in the Island in the latter part of 1918 has been prevailing in several parts of the Island more or less throughout the year 1919. The death-rate from influenza and pneumonia per million persons living was 4,829 and 2,276, as against 4,084 and 3,585 respectively in 1918. As usual, a very large number of deaths is attributed to pyrexia, a vague term, under which are classified all deaths assigned to "fever" by rural registrars. The death-rate from this cause per million persons living was 4,842, as against 3,927 in 1918. Deaths from diarrhœa were equal to a rate of 3,260 per million persons living, as against 2,134 in 1918; convulsions 3,132, as against 2,996 in 1918; dysentery 801, as against 519 in 1918; phthisis 747, as against 810 in 1918; anchylostomiasis 552, as against 498 in 1918; malaria and malarial cachexia 412, as against 241 in 1918; puerperal septicæmia 357, as against 369 in 1918; premature birth and congenital defects 320, as against 364 in 1918; bronchitis 247, as against 291 in 1918; enteric fever 139, as against 114 in 1918; and cancer 105, as against 103 in 1918.

Plague.—The number of deaths registered from plague during the year was 79, all of which occurred in the city of Colombo, excepting one in Talaimannar. More than four-fifths of the deaths were registered in the last quarter of the year, while there were no deaths at all in January and from April to July. In the previous year the number was 165.

Cholera.—An outbreak of cholera during the year accounted for 419 deaths, most of which occurred in the third quarter in Hambantota. Several deaths occurred also in Badulla, where probably infection was carried from Hambantota.

Deaths from Accident, Homicide, &c.—474 deaths were due to accidental drowning, 452 to fall from trees, and 224 to snake-bite. 229 deaths, as against 204 in 1918, were attributed to homicide, the respective rates per million being 48 and 44. 243 deaths resulted from suicide. There were 39 judicial executions registered in the Island during the year. The number is 5 in excess of that in 1918, and corresponds to a rate of 8 per million persons living.

Causes of Deaths on the Estates.

Of the total deaths registered on the estates during the year, 30 per cent. were attributed to pneumonia and influenza, and their rates per million of the estate population at the last Census were 11,143 and 3,418 respectively, as

against 21,871 and 6,053 in 1918. The death-rate from debility (per million persons living) was 7,694, from diarrhœa 3,928, dysentery 3,559, anchylostomiasis 3,451, infantile convulsions 3,030, premature birth and congenital defects 1,097, bronchitis 914, phthisis 577, and from malaria and malarial cachexia 451. Forty-eight deaths from suicide and 13 from homicide were registered on the estates, as against 41 and 10 respectively in 1918.

Causes of Deaths in the Principal Towns.

In the towns the principal causes of deaths and their rates per million of the urban population were as follows :—Pneumonia, 5,141 ; convulsions, 2,339 ; infantile debility, 2,042 ; diarrhœa, 1,965 ; phthisis, 1,890 ; anchylostomiasis, 1,766 ; influenza, 1,658 ; dysentery, 1,527 ; enteritis, 1,412 ; malaria and malarial cachexia, 1,404 ; Bright's disease and nephritis, 930 ; enteric fever, 790 ; bronchitis, 496 ; and cancer, 219.

CLIMATE.

General Remarks.—There is a marked variation in climate between the different parts of Ceylon. In the low-country, with a mean temperature of the order of 80° F., a noticeable feature is the small range of both temperature and pressure ; there is, however, wide divergence between the moist conditions in the south-west of the Island, where the average annual rainfall varies from 100 to 200 inches, and the dry zone areas of the north, north-west, and south-east. Inland, with altitudes reaching 8,000 feet, the temperature is cooler, and shows a bigger range ; there is a corresponding change in vegetation, and the conditions are altogether more akin to those in the temperate zone.

Rainfall.—The highest rainfall registered in 1919 was at Strathellie estate, which had a total of 239·43 inches, and 251 days on which rain fell. The lowest rainfall was at Naula tank, which had a total of 24·56 inches in 60 days. The stations with the highest and lowest average annual rainfall are, respectively, Padupola with 218·27 inches in 200 days, and Marichchukkaddi with 33·12 inches in 57 days.

The annual rainfall at Colombo (Cinnamon Gardens) was 93·70 inches in 208 days. At Kandy 84·80 inches were registered in 205 days ; while the annual rainfall at Nuwara Eliya was 93·90 inches in 214 days.

On the whole, the rainfall was above the average, being especially so immediately south-west of the hills and in the Northern Province. However, it was in deficit at most of the stations on the east side of the Island, and at a number of those in the south, and in the Matale District.

Temperature.—The station showing the highest mean shade temperature for the year was Trincomalee with 83·4° F., and the lowest Nuwara Eliya with 60·0° F. The figures for Colombo and Kandy were 81·0° F. and 76·6° F., respectively. The highest shade temperature recorded during the year was 99·3° F. at Trincomalee on May 7. The highest on record is 103·7° F. at Trincomalee on May 12, 1890. The highest shade temperature at Colombo in 1919 was 93·5° F. on March 29. The mean daily range, *i.e.*, the difference between the mean of the maximum and the mean of the minimum, was highest at Badulla and Nuwara Eliya (17·4° F.), and lowest at Galle (8·3° F.). At Colombo and Kandy it was 11·6° F. and 14·8° F. respectively. The absolute range for the year, *i.e.*, the difference between the highest and the lowest readings actually recorded, was greatest at Nuwara Eliya (46·4° F.), and lowest at Galle (20·4° F.). At all but two of the main stations the mean air temperature for the year was slightly, though only very slightly, above the average of previous years. The two stations in slight deficit were Anuradhapura and Kurunegala. The wet bulb temperatures were all quite near to the average, and can be summarized roughly as in excess up-country, and in deficit at the coast.

IX.—POLICE AND PRISONS.

POLICE.

Strength.—The strength of the Force on December 31, 1919, as provided for in the Estimates was :—

Inspector-General	1
Deputy Inspectors-General ..	2
Superintendents	9
Assistant Superintendents and Probationers	24
Inspectors	45
Sub-Inspectors	116
Native Sergeants	336
Native Constables	2,315

European Police Force.

Inspector	1
Sub-Inspectors	3
Sergeants	32
Total of all ranks ..	2,884

The Force was kept up to strength of native sergeants and constables throughout the year, the actual strength on December 31 being only 16 short of the sanctioned strength (2,651). The total strength of the Force was short by 48 on December 31, the shortage being principally among the European Police Force, which during the war was working with the minimum number of men actually necessary for carrying on the most essential duties. With the war over, European sergeants are now being selected and enlisted from men who served in the Navy and Army during the war.

Of the 23 officers and men of the Force who proceeded on active service, 16 returned during the year. All had good records, and did credit while on active service to themselves and to the Colony. The experience these officers and men have gained during the war will be of great value, not only to themselves, but to the Force.

The cost of the Force was Rs. 2,122,869 approximately.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

There was an increase of crime in 1919 as compared with the years 1917 and 1918, as the following statement shows :—

	1917.	1918.	1919.
Homicide	163	170	200
Attempted homicide ..	40	46	41
Grievous hurt	727	816	747
Hurt with dangerous weapons ..	1,012	1,007	955
Burglary	1,892	2,301	2,317
Theft of cattle and prædial produce	891	914	1,325
Other offences	2,856	3,074	2,992
Total ..	7,581	8,328	8,577

It will be seen that offences against the person show a decrease. The total number of cases of homicide and attempted homicide, grievous hurt, and hurt with dangerous weapon in 1919 numbered 1,943, as compared with 2,039 in 1918. Burglary figures are practically stationary, 2,317 in 1919 and 2,301 in 1918. The increase in 1919 appears under the head "Theft of Cattle and Prædial Produce." There is no doubt that the rise in the price of rice and foodstuffs has led to the theft and slaughter of cattle. The habit of allowing cattle to stray at will greatly helps the commission of this offence. The fact that an animal is lost is not noted for a considerable time.

The following table shows the distribution of crime :—

Province.	Homicide.	Attempted Homicide.	Grievous Hurt.	Hurt with Dangerous Weapons.	Burglary.	Theft of Cattle and Prædial Produce.	Other Offences.	Total.
Colombo City	12	2	104	86	62	8	368	642
North-Western	38	5	54	88	314	253	439	1,191
Southern	33	8	117	187	492	391	274	1,502
Sabaragamuwa	32	7	73	95	351	97	278	933
Western	56	11	234	276	496	401	532	2,006
Central	13	5	75	112	375	66	469	1,115
Uva	2	1	11	27	80	74	164	359
Northern	3	—	58	56	98	22	302	539
Eastern	6	1	17	19	27	10	125	205
North-Central	5	1	4	9	22	3	41	85
Total	200	41	747	955	2,317	1,325	2,992	8,577

Comparing the number of serious offences committed with the population in each Province, it is found that—

		Persons.
In the Colombo City there is 1 case of crime to every		338
In the North-Western Province	do.	364
In the Southern Province	do.	419
In the Province of Sabaragamuwa	do.	438
In the Western Province	do.	443
In the Central Province	do.	603
In the Province of Uva	do.	604
In the Northern Province	do.	686
In the Eastern Province	do.	896
In the North-Central Province	do.	1,015

There was an increase of crime in the Southern, Central, Northern, and North-Central Provinces (Central Province 24 per cent., Northern Province 18 per cent., Southern Province 13 per cent.). Crime in Colombo city and in the North-Western, Sabaragamuwa, Uva, and Eastern Provinces showed no variation from the figures for 1918. There was a decrease in the Western Province (12 per cent.). The most criminal districts of the Island are the Kalutara District, the Chilaw District, the Colombo city, the Matara District, the Kurunegala District, the Kegalla District, the Panadure District, the Galle District, and the Tangalla District.

In the Kalutara District there is one case of serious crime per annum to every 226 persons, the average for Ceylon is 1 to 479. The state of crime in the Kalutara District in 1919 shows an improved record on the return for 1918, 572 cases in 1919 as against 695 in 1918.

In 1918 the Paiyagala Police Station area in the Kalutara District was the most criminal in the Island. A punitive police force was established in the village of Potuwila, in the Paiyagala Station area, for six months from April 1, and the strength of the Paiyagala Police Station was specially increased, and a specially selected Sub-Inspector placed in charge. By the energetic raiding of gaming places and by constant day and night patrolling crime has been reduced from 155 true cases in 1918 to 89 in 1919, a 45 per cent. reduction in crime. With this reduction in crime there has been a marked improvement in detection. The additional police provided and the special steps taken have had good effect.

The Kegalla District Station area shows the largest number of true cases of crime committed in 1919. Special steps are being taken on the lines of the action taken in the case of Paiyagala to add temporarily to the strength of any station in which a large number of cases of crime occur, so that additional patrols can be sent out day and night.

Action taken to deal with Crime.—Steps taken to deal with crime in the Colony during the year were :—

(1) Special attention given to the state of crime in the Kalutara and Kegalla Districts.
(2) The establishment of a new station at Undugoda in the Kegalla District.
(3) The strength of the Force was increased by 4 Sub-Inspectors, 7 sergeants, and 26 constables for the investigation of crime.
(4) Funds were provided for connecting up more police stations with the headquarter of each district by telephone.

The position with regard to the connection of police stations by telephone is now as follows :—

Number of police stations already on the telephone.. ..	84
Funds provided for police stations to be connected by telephone during 1919–20	4
Number of police stations requiring telephone connection for which funds have not been provided	59*
Total ..	147

* Excluding Depôt and Mahara.

5) Sessions of the Supreme Court were held in districts in which crime is prevalent, such as Kalutara and Negombo.

Duties of the Police.—During the year some of the additional duties necessitated by the war and undertaken by the Criminal Investigation Department and Harbour Police were relaxed or abolished. The following are some of the most important duties enforced during 1914 to 1918, which were discontinued during 1919 :—

(1) Searching of neutral vessels for mines, bombs, arms, and ammunition.
(2) Prevention of persons being afloat in the Colombo harbour without permits.
(3) Enforcing the regulations regarding the disconnection of all wireless apparatus on ships in the harbour.
(4) Searching native vessels for contraband goods.
(5) Work in connection with the Censor's Department.

Other duties necessitated by the war and still enforced are :—

(1) Searching of all vessels for enemy subjects and suspicious persons, since no late enemy subject can land in Ceylon without special permission from Government.
(2) Enforcing regulations prohibiting persons boarding vessels in the harbour without permits.
(3) Examining and stamping of passports of all persons wishing to disembark from vessels.
(4) Examining the passports of all persons leaving the Colony by steamer.
(5) Guarding of troop and hospital ships while in harbour.
(6) Supervision and registration of all Indians passing through the Colony *en route* to India.
(7) Examination and registration of all alien commercial travellers arriving in the Colony.
(8) Surveillance of all suspicious alien subjects resident in the Colony.
(9) Correspondence with other countries regarding suspicious individuals.

Effects of the Food Shortage.—With a view to preventing possible rice riots and looting in Colombo during the food shortage, armed police guards were stationed in the Customs, the Wharf Warehouses, the Chalmers Granaries, and the Manning Market, and carts and lorries transporting rice to railway stations

were escorted by armed police. A few cases of thefts of rice from carts in transit to railway stations occurred, but the tendency to loot was speedily checked by increasing the strength of the armed police escorts, and no cases of serious looting occurred.

Depôts throughout Colombo were opened by the Municipality for the distribution of rice by sale by the measure, and during June, July, August, and September over 150 police sergeants and constables did duty daily at these depôts. In the first instance the crowds collected at the depôts were inclined to be disorderly and impatient, but as the novelty of this procedure in distributing and selling rice wore off, the crowds became more orderly, and the employment of fewer police at the depôts was found to be feasible. The procedure of selling rice from depôts throughout Colombo continues and works satisfactorily, but police are still detailed to preserve order at most of the depôts.

Control of Motor Vehicles.—The system of control of all motor vehicles by one registering authority (Inspector-General of Police) has worked smoothly, and the examination of applicants for, and the issue of, licenses to drive motor vehicles has been carried out by the Police.

Training and Discipline of the Force.—Special attention has been given to the training of all men of the Force in the duty of preserving order and in the prevention and investigation of crime. In addition to the weekly issue to all stations of orders relating to new Ordinances, by-laws, and regulations, in which all ranks are instructed and questioned, notes and hints on incidents and cases which have actually occurred are published for general information and guidance. Men are also instructed in matters which affect their particular district or branch of work. Many acts of bravery and prompt action displayed in arresting armed criminals and saving life from drowning were reported during the year.

First Aid to the Injured.—Every Officer, Inspector, Sub-Inspector, and Sergeant is required to hold a First-aid Certificate. No constable is promoted to the rank of sergeant until he has obtained a First-aid Certificate. A certain number of intelligent constables hold First-aid Certificates; the remainder are trained to act under a Sub-Inspector, Inspector, or Officer holding a First-aid Certificate, of whom there will always be at least one in every police station in the Island. A sergeant or constable on receiving a service badge after three years' efficient service is awarded a special grant of Rs. 10 per annum, which he continues to draw so long as he remains efficient. After fifteen years' efficient service a medal and a grant of Rs. 2·50 per mensem are awarded.

At stations on the sea coast all ranks are specially instructed in rendering first aid and artificial respiration to persons rescued from drowning.

Institutions of the Force include a Pensioners' Corps, which secures employment for men no longer physically fit for active police duty, and a Boys' Brigade, in which sons of police officers are trained from the age of 5 upwards. The object of the Brigade is to provide healthy exercise and recreation for the sons of police officers and pensioners, and to educate and train them to become useful men. In the first stage, between the ages of 5 and 13, the boy is put into uniform, and not only attends school, but is drilled for one hour daily in squad drill, physical exercises, and boxing. In school the boy is taught reading, writing, and general knowledge, which will fit him for employment. On parade, in boxing and games, he is taught discipline, kept hard and fit, taught to keep his temper, and learns to keep himself and his uniform clean. Between the ages of 14 and 17 the boy continues to attend school and parade for half the day, and in the other half attends a police office as a messenger working under the eye of an officer, for which he is paid Rs. 5 a month at the age of 14 to Rs. 10 a month at the age of 17. At this stage the boy learns regular and punctual attendance for duty, good manners, and activity, and

the importance of steady and regular work if he is to get on in the world. At the age of 18 the boy is eligible for enlistment in the Force. Thirteen boys of the Brigade were enlisted in the Force during the year, and there are now 41 men in the Force who started in the Brigade, one of whom has already been promoted to the rank of sergeant after four years' service as a constable.

Justices of the Peace.—Justices of the Peace have rendered very good service, not only in being available in times of emergency, but in visiting police stations, attending drills, and in supervising musketry.

Police Quarters.—Quarters for (*a*) twelve married European sergeants on the old Royal College site, (*b*) the police at Teldeniya, and (*c*) the Inspector at Hatton were completed.

PRISONS.

There was an increase of 2,330 in the total number of admissions of convicted prisoners of Ceylon during the year 1919, excluding Road Ordinance defaulters, of whom there were 280, as against 173 in 1918. The figures are as follows :—

1918	12,440	1919	14,770

The number of prisoners sentenced to death was 55, as against 51 in 1918. There were 38 executions during the year, as against 35 in 1918. Of the 38 whose capital sentences were carried out, 36 were Sinhalese and 2 Tamils. Of the number executed, 2 had been sentenced in 1918; and of the number sentenced to death, 3 were executed in 1920. No convicts were deported to the Andamans for life during the year. There were 3 escapes and 1 re-capture during the year.

The total number of deaths in jail was 326, as against 126 in 1918; and the death-rate per 1,000 of the admissions during the year was 1,408, as against 6·50 in 1918 and 7·69 in 1917. The daily average sick was 271·30, as against 138·73 in 1918 and 158·34 in 1917. The number of punishments inflicted during the year for prison offences was 2,065, as against 1,795 in 1918 and 1,892 in 1917. There were 35 cases of corporal punishments, as against 28 in 1918.

Prisoners are in all prisons employed upon works of public utility and remunerative industrial labours. At Welikada and Bogambra jails various trades are taught, such as carpentry, blacksmiths' and tinsmiths' work, boot-making, tailoring, the making of cane furniture, matting, coir brooms, rugs, mats, coal and tea leaf bags, ropes, strings, bamboo tats, laundry work, printing, bookbinding, and masons' work.

During the year 2,023 articles of wooden furniture were turned out by prison labour for various Government Departments. Owing to the increased demand for furniture, brooms, mats, tats, door rugs, and other articles, the industrial working parties at Bogambra jail have been largely increased. A power-driven saw and surfacing machines to deal with the logs of timber supplied by the Forest Department have been ordered from England, and on their arrival it is hoped that it will be possible to make a very considerable addition to the output of furniture. The Government Printing Office continues to employ a daily average of 250 prisoners from Welikada jail. This jail also continues to wash all soiled linen from the Medical and Railway Departments, as well as the Lunatic Asylum, 709,608 pieces being dealt with during the year. 10,232 articles of clothing and bedding were made up for the Colonial Storekeeper, and 22,250 yards of cloth woven for prison use.

The prisoners at Mahara are exclusively employed in the quarries on account of the Harbour Works and Public Works Department. 733 cubes of hand rubble, 93 cubes of 2-inch metal, 583 pitching stones, and 157 cubes of quarry scrapings were despatched to Colombo Harbour Works. 1,343 cubes 2-inch metal, 33,169 stone setts, 120 pitching stones, 2,425 cubes hand rubble, and

33 cubes quarry scrapings were stacked in the quarry ; while the Public Works Department were supplied with 3,882 cubes of 2-inch metal, 519 cubes of hand rubble, and 555 stone setts, at a total estimated value of Rs. 60,272·06.

The Karaiyur reclamation at Jaffna continues to make good progress, 8 acres were reclaimed during the year, making a total of 46 acres reclaimed to date.

Metal was supplied to the Public Works Department from Bogambra, Anuradhapura, Tangalla, Galle, Chilaw, and Badulla prisons. At Anuradhapura a party of 25 prisoners was employed by the Forest Department on re-afforestation.

The daily average attendance at the schools opened in August, 1917, was 174·36 during the year.

X.—POST AND TELEGRAPHS.

At the end of the year there were 551 post offices in the Island, as compared with 523 at the end of 1919. The number includes 160 telegraph offices.

The total number of postal articles, exclusive of parcels, passing through the post during the year is estimated at 44 millions, an increase of 1½ millions over the previous year. The growth was evenly distributed between internal and external traffic. There was a marked fall in the use of inland post cards, owing no doubt to the increase in the rate of postage from 2 to 4 cents. This rate has since been reduced to 3 cents.

Mail Services.

The opening of the extension of the railway from Ratnapura to Opanake enabled the road motor service to be discontinued. The mails for the Rakwana and Balangoda districts were conveyed by train to the nearest stations. Apart from the substitution of a motor for a runner service between Naula and Dambulla, no new motor services were established during the year.

The outward and homeward mail service between England and Ceylon was carried on weekly *viâ* Marseilles and Bombay, the average time between London and Colombo being twenty-four days. Towards the end of the year a service by occasional vessels of the Orient line *viâ* Toulon on the outward and Naples on the homeward voyage conveyed the mails in nineteen days. Fairly frequent service was available to the Straits Settlements and China by vessels of the British India Company and of Japanese lines. Service to Australia depended chiefly on troopships calling at Colombo.

Parcels and Telegrams.

The number of postal parcels dealt with increased during the year, both on internal and external services.

A considerable fall occurred in the number of inland telegrams transmitted, owing to the increase in the rate from 25 to 40 cents. Towards the end of the year, however, the traffic showed distinct signs of recovery.

The number of telegrams despatched to, and received from, countries overseas by cable increased during the year, notwithstanding serious delay in transmission owing to breakdowns and other causes.

Money Orders and Postal Orders.

While the total amount, Rs. 9,221,563, remitted from Ceylon to India, United Kingdom, and other countries shows a slight decrease on the figure for the previous year, the value received for payment in the Island increased from Rs. 2,230,083 to Rs. 2,781,082 ; a large proportion of this increase was due to family remittances by Ceylonese employed in Mesopotamia. On the other hand, there was a marked increase in the number of British Postal Orders

issued, and a decrease in the number of amount paid in Ceylon, due no doubt to the rise in the exchange value of the rupee, from 1*s.* 6*d.* to 2*s.* 4*d.* during the course of the year.

Post Office Savings Bank.

Notwithstanding the general rise in cost of food and other necessaries of life, deposits exceeded withdrawals by Rs. 750,000 during the year, being the largest increase in the sum entrusted to the Post Office for safe-keeping in any one year since the system was instituted.

Telegraphs and Telephones.

The rates for telegrams to India were assimilated to those in force in India by the introduction of an "express" class of telegrams at a charge of Rs. 2 for twelve words.

New telegraph circuits were run between—

	Miles.
Chilaw and Puttalam	32
Ratnapura and Nivitigala	9
Matara and Kamburupitiya	10¾
Neboda-Matugama-Agalawatta	10
Kandy and Wattegama	8

Inclusive of railway telegraphs, 31 miles of posts and 186 miles of wire were added to the telegraph system, bringing the total up to 2,132 miles of posts and 7,319 miles of wire.

On the telephone system, public call offices were opened at Tebuwana, Magalla, Dandagamuwa, and Kotahena.

The Maturata and Rattota private telephone exchanges were connected by junction lines with the main trunk line system.

Telephone circuits for the Police were provided :—Veyangoda to Pasyala ; Matara to Kamburupitiya ; Neboda to Matugama ; Matugama to Welipenna ; Matugama to Migahatenna ; Horana to Anguruwatota ; Negombo to Dunagaha.

At the close of the year there were 22 Government exchanges open, with a total of 2,134 subscribers. The connection of new subscribers was again hindered by difficulty in obtaining stores and materials, of which additional sections for the Colombo switchboard are wanted principally. It is estimated, however, that nearly 9 million telephone calls were dealt with, an increase of 6 per cent. on the year 1918.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The gross revenue of the Department increased from Rs. 2,866,145 to Rs. 3,576,385, chiefly from the increased postage rates brought into force in November, 1918. The total expenditure of Rs. 2,847,631 remained about the same as in 1918, but there was an increase of over Rs. 100,000 in salaries, wages, &c., set off by a reduced sum having been expended on conveyance of mails beyond the Colony. Revenue exceeded expenditure during the year by the sum of Rs. 728,754.

XI.—PUBLIC WORKS.

Public Works Department.

The total expenditure of the Public Works Department has increased from Rs. 3,437,862 in 1896 to Rs. 8,765,025 in 1919, the latter figure showing a decrease of Rs. 1,255,861 below 1918. The average annual expenditure during the past twenty-four years has been Rs. 6,283,846.

The total length of roads maintained by the Public Works Department during the year was 4,086 miles, of which 3,819 miles are cart roads and 267 miles are bridle roads.

Amongst the more important works carried out or in course of construction may be mentioned the following :—

General.—New Customs House at the Passenger Jetty, Colombo ; erection of grain sheds, Colombo ; buildings in connection with the University College and Training College, Colombo ; Government explosive magazine, Colombo ; new Government Dairy at Narahenpita, Colombo ; Land Registry, Negombo ; improvements to Technical Schools, Colombo ; temporary offices and stores for the Survey Department Headquarters, Colombo ; additional accommodation for District Court, Kandy ; additions and improvements to District Court, Jaffna ; improvements to court-house, Chavakachcheri ; Post Office, Maradankadawala ; quarters for Assistant Conservator of Forests, Haputale ; new Post Office, Moneragala ; quarters for married surveyors, Diyatalawa ; quarters for junior clerks, Forest Office, Haputale ; Forest Ranger's quarters, Haputale ; Survey Office, Ratnapura.

Medical Buildings.—New Lunatic Asylum, Angoda ; additional accommodation, De Soysa Lying-in Home, Colombo ; improvements to Lady Havelock Hospital, Colombo ; additions, General Hospital, Colombo ; additions and improvements to the hospitals at Deltota, Mulhalkele, and Matale ; new hospital at Agrapatana ; quarters for visiting apothecary, Dolosbage hospital ; quarters for Medical Officer and operating room, Nawalapitiya hospital ; hospital for Udugama ; medical buildings, Elpitiya ; additional accommodation, Galle hospital ; paying wards, Jaffna hospital ; Leper Asylum, Batticaloa ; dispensary, Kattankudi ; additions and improvements to the Dandagamuwa hospital ; quarters for Provincial Surgeon, Anuradhapura ; dispensary, Tanamalwila ; hospital, Aranayaka ; additions, Balangoda hospital ; improvements, Karawanella hospital.

Police Buildings.—Quarters for twelve European police sergeants, Colombo ; Teldeniya police station ; quarters for Police Inspector, Hatton.

Progress was also made with the Colombo Lake Development project ; construction of a quarantine camp at Mandapam, South India ; Karaiyur reclamation, Jaffna ; overhead bridge, Parsons road, Colombo ; Digarolla bridge, Moratuwa ; renewing Pol-oya bridge, Galle District ; re-erecting Dodanduwa bridge ; improvements to Matara bridge ; renewing Gintota bridge ; reconstructing Uma-oya bridge ; and bridge, Mallowapitiya-Ramboda-gala road.

IRRIGATION.

The expenditure of the Irrigation Department was much restricted owing to war retrenchment. The total for the financial year 1918–19 was Rs. 658,190.

The schemes under construction were Karaichchi, Unnichchai, Pattipola-aru, Kirindi-oya (right bank), and distribution channels under Nachchaduwa scheme. Work on Tabbowa scheme, which was closed down in September, 1915, was not re-started.

Surveys and investigations were commenced or made in connection with the following schemes :—Mutturajawela, Nalanda-oya, Kirama, Jaffna lagoon, Akattimurippu, Kanukkeni, Karaichchi channels, Allai extension scheme, Kantalai, Nachchaduwa, Kalawewa, Nuwarawewa, and Hambegamuwa. Contour surveys of the following tank beds were also made :—Giant's tank, Irakkamam, Amparai, Vammiyadi, Sakamam, and Lahugala.

The number of Crown irrigation works is 184, and under these about 130,000 acres are irrigated for paddy and pay irrigation rates ; in addition, there is a large area of land irrigated which pays no rate. In addition to the Crown works, there are approximately 5,200 village tanks and "elas" (small channels) in operation with an approximate area of 167,000 acres of land cultivated

for paddy. About 1,500 village works are under restoration by the villagers. About 40,000 acres of undeveloped irrigable land suitable for rice cultivation is available under the existing Crown irrigation works.

SURVEY.

The operations of the Survey Department for the period under review, with a reduced staff, comprised 25,711 acres of block surveys, 11,593 acres of irrigation surveys, and 55,776 acres of forest reserve surveys. The number of block survey preliminary plans issued was 45, containing 5,791 lots, covering an area of 55,614 acres. Two irrigation survey plans containing 290 lots, covering an area of 1,048 acres, and 7 forest reserve survey plans, covering 158,464 acres, were also issued. The total area now covered by block survey is 2,241,948 acres, topographical survey 1,093,380 acres, forest reserve survey 585,382 acres, and irrigation survey 34,975 acres, making a total of 3,955,685 acres.

Final Village and Topographical Plans.—144 final village and topographical preliminary plans for 54,126 acres were issued during the year. The total area covered by these final plans in the hands of the Government Agents and Assistant Government Agents now stand at 1,042,058 acres contained in 37,275 lots on 2,213 plans.

Preliminary Plans.—1,221 preliminary plans for 14,402 acres in 6,770 lots were forwarded to the Government Agents, Assistant Government Agents, and the Settlement Officer.

Supplementary Surveys in Final Village Plans and existing Preliminary Plans.—333 surveys were made consisting of 1,460 lots covering 5,827 acres, and inserted on existing plans.

Applications.—There were 484 applications covering 1,340 acres surveyed for paddy cultivation, 21 applications covering 315 acres for tea, 63 applications covering 1,361 acres for rubber, 25 applications covering 2,816 acres for tea and rubber, 156 applications covering 584 acres for coconut, 12 applications covering 117 acres for coconut and rubber, 370 applications covering 1,697 acres for miscellaneous cultivations, 235 applications covering 263 acres for building, and 2 applications covering 301 acres for farming.

Many surveys were carried out for acquisition in connection with important public purposes, including surveys for the Chilaw-Puttalam Railway, Badulla Railway, additional lands for the bulk oil installation at Kolonnawa, improvements to roads at Moratuwa, deviation of the Ellearawa-Pinnawala road in Ratnapura District, development of the port of Talaimannar, experimental station and agricultural school at Tirunelveli in Jaffna District, improvements to Sanitary Board Towns and construction of Government schools, and special surveys for cultivation of foodstuffs and for the production of salt.

Town Surveys.—Surveys covering an area of 4,666 acres were carried out, which brings the total area under this head to 8,711 acres.

RAILWAY.

Open Line.

The total length of the line open for traffic on September 30 was 728 miles, as against 712 miles in the preceding year, an increase of 16 miles, due to the opening of a new section from Dola to Opanake.

The revenue derived during the year was Rs. 16,901,830, or a decrease of Rs. 8,323 as compared with the preceding year. (This figure does not include the value of work done free for other Departments, which amounts to Rs. 1,354,797, or of freight on Rice conveyed free amounting to Rs. 367,018.) The decrease of Rs. 8,323 is due to a falling off chiefly in Goods Traffic.

Passenger Traffic.—The number conveyed was 8,644,935, or a decrease of 278,008 as compared with last year; whilst Cooly Traffic shows an increase of 41,738, and Season Ticket Traffic an increase of 3,289 in the number of season ticket holders.

Parcels conveyed show a decrease in number of 41,310.

As regards Goods Traffic, the tonnage conveyed, inclusive of Foreign Traffic, was 995,907, as compared with 1,111,349 tons in the previous year. The most noticeable decreases are in Foreign Traffic 117,981 tons, Coconut Produce 3,341 tons, Plumbago 2,282 tons, and Other Goods 12,664 tons. The increases are Rubber 4,725 tons, Tea 8,988 tons, Manure 19,313 tons, Tea and Rubber Packing 4,852 tons, and Rice 1,745 tons.

The working expenses for the year (including a sum of Rs. 95,706 spent on new works and charged to ordinary maintenance) amount to Rs. 9,389,408, as against Rs. 9,099,413 in the preceding year.

The results of the year's working is as follows :—

	Rs.
Receipts	16,901,830
Working expenses	9,389,408
Balance ..	7,512,422

Of this balance, a sum of Rs. 482,547 was spent on new works and improvements.

The capital cost, including additional accommodation and improvements to September 30, 1919, was Rs. 141,451,370, and the capital outstanding on loans Rs. 55,666,141.

Railway Extensions.

Badulla Extension.—This line is an extension of the main up-country line (5 ft. 6 in. gauge) beyond Bandarawela to Badulla, the principal centre of the Province of Uva. It passes throughout its entire length rough and mountainous country, necessitating steep gradients and sharp curves, tunnels, and heavy bridge work. Bandarawela is 4,103 feet above mean sea level, and Badulla station 2,226, the difference in level being 1,877 feet. The length of the line is about 21 miles. The first portion of the line between Bandarawela and Ella is opened for traffic, 7½ miles in length. The portion between Ella and Demodara (4 miles) is ready for laying the rails, the delivery of these is expected in England in February. On this section a large viaduct of nine spans (arches) 110 feet high is finished, also a smaller one of four spans. Owing to limited funds the progress of the work between Demodara and Badulla is slow. The line serves a very large area cultivated in tea and rubber.

Pelmadulla and Opanake Extensions.—These are extensions of the narrow gauge (2 ft. 6 in.) beyond Ratnapura, in the Province of Sabaragamuwa, and serve the large districts of the Wey-ganga, Rakwana, and Balangoda. These districts are mostly planted in rubber and tea. The line passes for a great portion of its length through rough and broken country subjected to very heavy rainfall. The opening of the railway was delayed owing to two large slips. The line was completed and opened for traffic on May 1 last, and a large volume of traffic has since been handled. The two extensions together are 21¾ miles in length.

Harbour Rail Connection.—This line gives direct rail access to the harbour in the vicinity of the Graving Dock from Urugodawatta on the Main line. Included in this scheme is the re-modelling of the harbour line along the harbour frontage, and the extension to the old Wharf station under the approach to the Passenger Jetty and over the new lake and harbour canal. The work is being pushed forward as fast as possible. The portion of the railway in the vicinity of the Passenger Jetty is practically completed.

Colombo Stations Extensions.—The work of re-modelling Colombo goods yard is in hand. The bridge carrying road and railway over San Sebastian canal is finished. The superstructure for the bridge carrying Parsons road over the railway in the vicinity of the Fort has arrived in the Island and is being erected. Application has been made for the acquisition of the land required for the large new sorting yard at Urugodawatta. The permanent way materials required for this yard are on order from England.

The narrow gauge (2 ft. 6 in.) has been extended for passenger service from Maradana to the Fort. This short extension was opened in March last. New transfer sheds and sidings for the transfer of goods from broad to narrow gauge and *vice versâ* are in hand.

Main Line Duplication.—Owing to a limited vote on this work very little progress has been made. The large bridge over the Maha-oya, near Ambepussa station, is approaching completion. No rails have up to date been ordered.

Puttalam Extension.—Application for the land required has been made, and the land for the first 5 miles of line has been acquired. No actual work on construction has been started yet.

Line connecting Main Line with Kolonnawa Oil Depôt.—With the exception of laying the rails, the construction is practically completed. All rails, &c., are in the Island.

Katukurunda (Kalutara)-Agalawatta Line.—The survey is completed, and the construction is deferred for the present.

Dehiwala-Horana Line.—The survey and estimates are completed, and the construction is deferred for the present.

Colombo Drainage Works.

The drainage of Colombo has been undertaken by Government at the request of the Municipal Council, the necessary funds being advanced by Government on loan, while further assistance is being given by the contribution of a part of the expenditure as a free grant.

The scheme provides for a complete system of sewers and rain-water drains throughout the city, and for the disposal of the sewage by bacterial treatment upon modern lines.

At the end of 1919 127 miles of sewers and rain-water drains had been laid and 6 pumping stations brought into regular operation.

The City Sanitation Engineer's report for December showed that 30 public water-carriage latrines had been constructed and put into use, and that 1,155 other premises had been drained.

XII.—EXCISE.

The Excise Department entered upon its eighth year of existence. It continued to be governed by Excise Ordinance, No. 8 of 1912, and Ordinance No. 25 of 1914 amending the same.

A certain amount of new legislation in the form of notifications under, and amendments to, the Excise Ordinance was introduced in 1919.

The sanctioned strength of the Department in 1919 was 1 Excise Commissioner, 1 Deputy Commissioner of Excise, 4 Assistant Commissioners of Excise, 1 Excise Adviser, 2 Superintendents of Excise, 13 Assistant Superintendents of Excise, 102 Excise Inspectors, and some 229 Excise peons, in addition to a clerical staff.

Owing to the exigencies of the service, the Excise Adviser continued to act as Excise Commissioner, in addition to his own duties. One Assistant Superintendent of Excise was promoted Superintendent of Excise and attached to the Head Office.

A system of examinations for the subordinate officers of the Excise Department was instituted in 1919. The first examination was held in August, 1919.

A scheme of increased salaries for the staff employed in the Excise Department, viz., Superintendents, Assistant Superintendents, and Inspectors, was formulated and received the sanction of the Governor, with the approval of the Secretary of State. The scheme came into operation with effect from October 1, 1919.

The regulations affecting the importation, sale, and possession of cocaine continue to work well. There have been few cases of breach of these regulations.

Stringent measures continue to be taken to put down the use of every part of the hemp plant (*Cannabis indica* or *sativa*) in forms commonly known as ganja and bhang. The smuggling of ganja from India is a matter that is continually receiving the close attention of this Department. Several cases of such smuggling in 1919 were detected by Excise Officers, and ended in convictions in Police Courts. The efforts of the Department to put down the use of ganja and bhang and any preparation thereof have resulted, *inter alia*, in prosecutions during 1919 as follows :—

Number of cases decided	..	..	223
Number of persons convicted	..	..	182
Total fines and forfeitures	..	..	Rs. 17,205·81

Excise offences generally are being strongly repressed, and an amount of success has been achieved. 4,382 cases of offences against Excise law have been detected in 1919, of which number, 1,592 cases were disposed of departmentally by the levy of composition fines totalling Rs. 23,924·80. The prosecutions in courts resulted in fines and forfeitures amounting to Rs. 104,842·69, exclusive of other punishment, such as imprisonment, &c. The corresponding figures for 1918 were 4,126 (1,597 compounded for Rs. 21,035·20) and Rs. 102,078·37.

The system of offering rewards for good work has been an incentive to satisfactory preventive work. Rewards paid during the year 1919 to Excise officers and others who helped in the detection of Excise offences amounted to Rs. 23,044·62.

The sums bid for the various arrack and toddy rents for the financial year 1919–20 as compared with the two preceding years are as follows :—

			Arrack. Rs.	c.		Toddy. Rs.	c.
1919–20	..	..	7,432,429	0	..	2,008,832	0
1918–19	..	..	7,387,850	0	..	1,877,465	0
1917–18	..	..	7,814,121	55	..	1,648,506	0

The fees obtained during the financial year 1919–20 from the issue of foreign liquor licenses amounted to Rs. 90,63[illegible]50. The revenue derived from this source in 1918–19 was Rs. 97,591·75. The decrease may be put down to high selling price of liquor and low consumption in the previous year, and therefore a reduction of the assessment, which is based on the system of gallonage or business done.

The consumption of arrack and toddy in 1919 as compared with 1918 and 1917 was :—

				Arrack. Gallons consumed.		Toddy. Gallons consumed.
1919	..	..	..	1,029,269	..	4,570,395
1918	..	..	..	1,015,386	..	4,736,016
1917	..	..	..	1,144,132	..	4,627,097

There is a slight increase in the consumption of arrack in 1919 as compared with the year 1918. This may be attributed to the change generally of conditions since the armistice was signed.

138 private distilleries were licensed in the year 1919, as against 145 licensed in 1918, showing a decrease of 7. The number of stills that worked in 1919 were 173, as compared with 178 in 1918.

In accordance with the recommendation of the Excise Commission, certain rules have been passed in order to place the toddy arrack distilleries and wholesale warehouses in a condition that will satisfy sanitary, analytical, and Excise requirements. The rules regarding sanitary requirements are to be enforced as from January 1, 1921, and those regarding analytical and Excise requirements as from January 1, 1924.

There were 128 successful prosecutions in 1919, as compared with 219 in 1918, by officers of the Distillery Circle. The fines imposed by courts in these cases amounted to Rs. 6,182. There were also 142 offences compounded for Rs. 772·75 in the Distillery Circle.

Another recommendation of the Excise Commission is the introduction of the contract supply system. As a first experiment, it was decided to introduce this system into the Northern Province as from October 1, 1920, and tenders have been called for for the purpose. The conditions of the tender require that the contractor shall manufacture at the Government Distillery, Kalutara (the only up-to-date distillery in the Island), all the spirit that shall be required for the contract area.

With a view to check the import into the Island of cheap and inferior quality of foreign spirit, a rule was passed that no brands of foreign spirit shall be sold or offered for sale, unless such have been approved by the Excise Commissioner. Several lists have accordingly been published in the shape of notifications under the Excise Ordinance showing the brands of spirit which have been approved by the Excise Commissioner.

It is very doubtful whether the prohibition of "off" sales, which is being tried as an experimental measure in the Jaffna and Chilaw Districts, will be a success. In both districts there has been an increase in arrack consumption as compared with 1918. There was a fall in the consumption of toddy, more particularly in the Jaffna District, but this was largely due to other reasons.

Most of the other recommendations of the Excise Commission were given effect to in 1918, the principle of local option, however, being restricted to foreign liquor taverns and arrack taverns only. In 1919 this was extended to the other classes of taverns, viz., toddy taverns and places licensed for the sale of beer and porter. The following statement shows the result of local option ballots held in 1919 in respect of arrack taverns, toddy taverns, and foreign liquor taverns. No ballots were held in respect of beer and porter taverns:—

	Arrack Taverns.	Toddy Taverns.	Foreign Liquor Taverns.
Number of ballots held	87	62	3
Number where more than 75 per cent. of the tax-paying inhabitants voted for abolition of taverns ..	39	46	—

Since the principle of local option was adopted, some 54 arrack taverns, 46 toddy taverns, and 2 foreign liquor taverns in all have been closed. It may also be mentioned that since October, 1919, there is not a single arrack or toddy tavern in the whole of the North-Central Province.

The Excise Advisory Committees appointed to assist the Government Agents and Assistant Government Agents in the work connected with arrack and toddy taverns and the Unofficial Excise Officers to whom certain powers were delegated under the Excise Ordinance continue to render valuable aid.

April 28, 1920.

M. A. YOUNG,
Third Assistant Colonial Secretary.

H. R. COTTLE, ACTING GOVERNMENT PRINTER, COLOMBO, CEYLON.

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No. 1086.

CEYLON.

REPORT FOR 1920.

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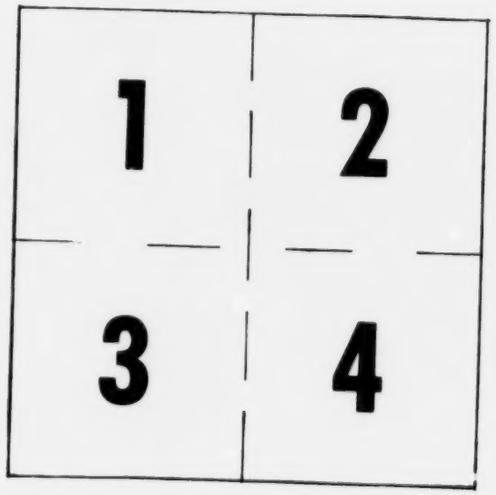
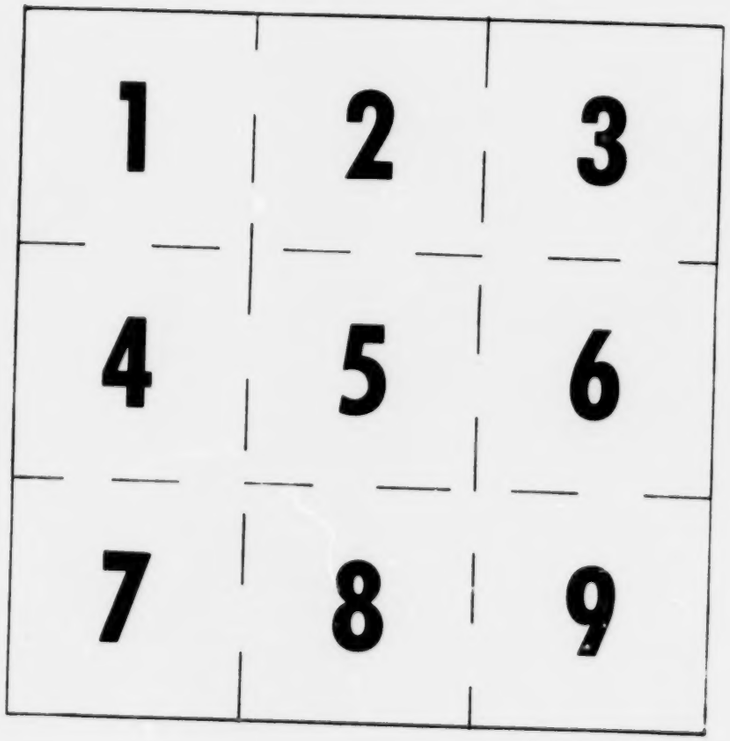
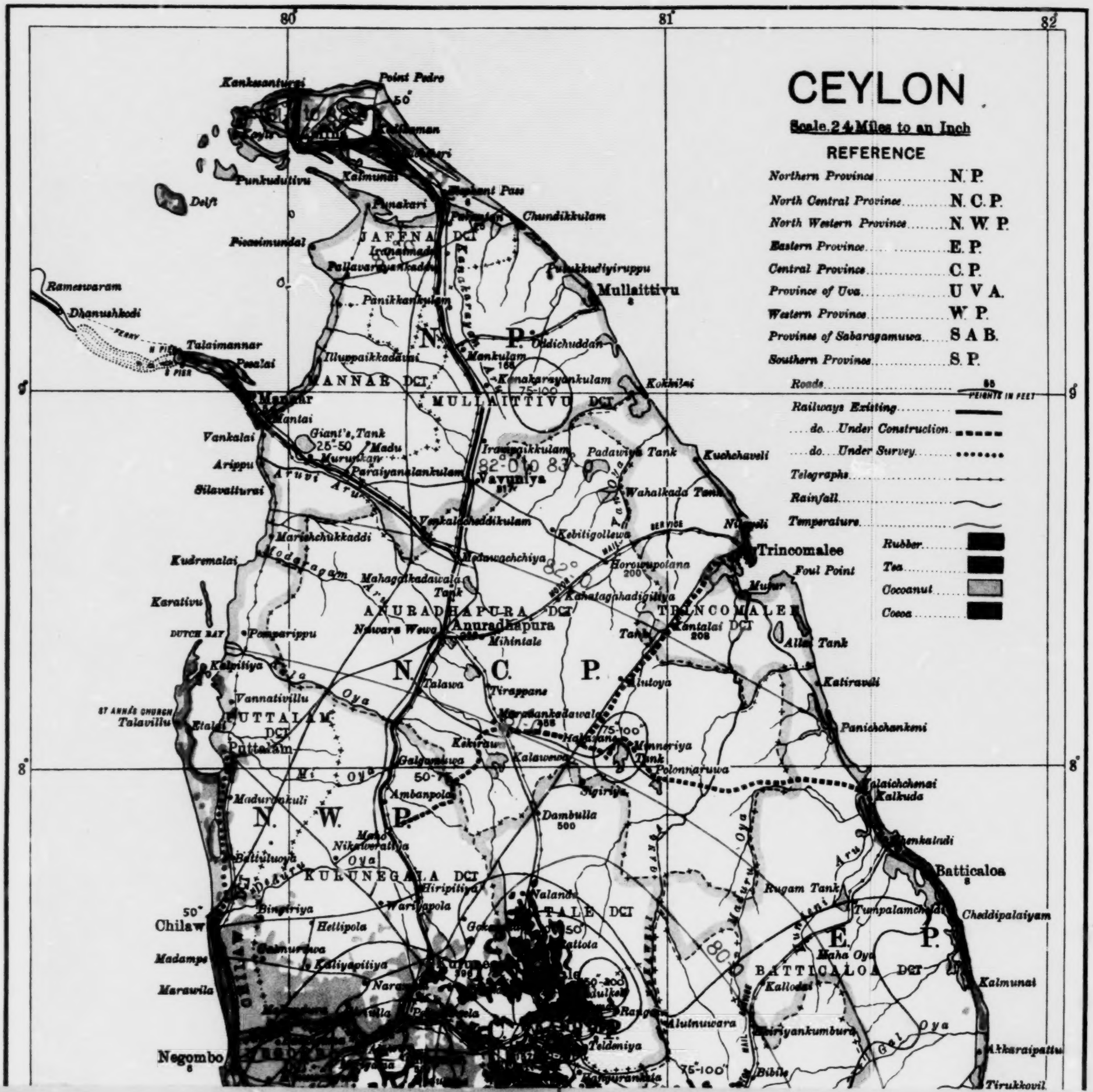
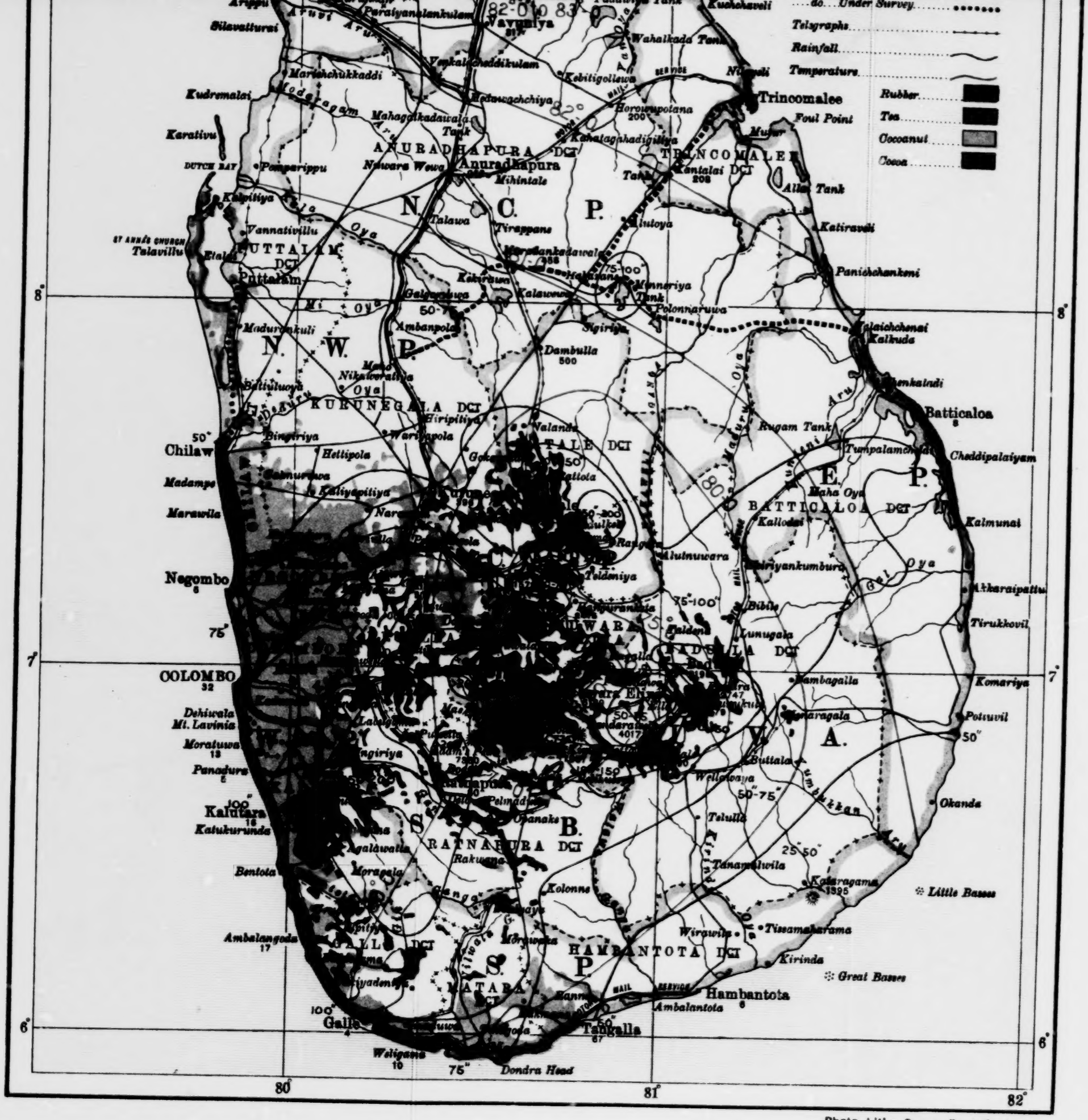
Maps on this order too large to be entirely included in one exposure are filmed clockwise beginning in the upper left hand corner, left to right and top to bottom as many frames as required. The following diagrams illustrate the method.






CEYLON
Scale, 24 Miles to an Inch
REFERENCE
Northern Province N. P.
North Central Province N. C. P.
North Western Province N. W. P.
Eastern Province E. P.
Central Province C. P.
Province of Uva U V A.
Western Province W. P.
Provinces of Sabaragamuwa S A B.
Southern Provinces S. P.
Roads
Railways Existing
do. Under Construction
do. Under Survey
Telegraphs
Rainfall
Temperature
Rubber
Tea
Cocoanut
Cocoa
Point Pedro
Kankesanturai
Punkudutivu
Delft
Kalmunai
Elephant Pass
Chundikkulam
Pulmoddai
Pulukkudiyiruppu
Mullaittivu
Pesalai
Rameswaram
Dhanushkodi
Talaimannar
Mannar
Vankalai
Giant's Tank
Madu
Arippu
Silavaturai
Mariichchukkaddi
Kudremalai
Karativu
Pomparippu
Kalpitiya
Vannativillu
Puttalam
Chilaw
Negombo
Madampe
Marawila
Batticaloa
Trincomalee
Foul Point
Kokkilai
Kuchchaveli
Nilaveli
Kantalai
Tirukkovil
Kalmunai
Akkaraipattu
Batticaloa
Cheddipalaiyam
Kalkuda
Panichchankeni
Katiravali
Allai Tank
Muthur
Kinniya
Mullaitivu
Vavuniya
Anuradhapura
Mihintale
Galgamuwa
Ambanpola
Dambulla
Sigiriya
Polonnaruwa
Minneriya Tank
Kurunegala
Galgamuwa
Nikaweratiya
Madurankuli
Bettiluoya
Hettipola
Wariyapola
Galaha
Nalanda
Matale
Rugam Tank
Tampalamchenai
Kallodai
Bibile
Teldeniya
Alutnuwara
Rangala
Kebitigollewa
Horowupotana
Kahatagahadigiliya
Medawachchiya
Mahagalkadawala Tank
Nuwara Wewa
JAFFNA DCT
MANNAR DCT
MULLAITTIVU DCT
ANURADHAPURA DCT
TRINCOMALEE DCT
PUTTALAM DCT
KURUNEGALA DCT
MATALE DCT
BATTICALOA DCT
N. P.
N. C. P.
N. W. P.
E. P.
Padaviya Tank
Wahalkada Tank
Iranaimadu
Pallavarayankaddu
Panikkankulam
Kanakarayankulam
Giant's Tank
Iranaipaikkulam
Vankalaichchedikulam
Tirappane
Kekirawa
Kalawewa
Galgamuwa
Madu
Mi Oya
Kala Oya
Deduru Oya
Maha Oya
Gal Oya
Mahaweli Ganga
Kala Oya
Aruvi Aru
Modaragam Aru
Kanakarayan Aru
Madurankuli Oya
Mahaweli Ganga
Gal Oya
Maha Oya
Kallodai
Kinniya
Muthur
Trincomalee
Batticaloa
Point Pedro
Kankesanturai
Jaffna
Mullaittivu
Mannar
Vavuniya
Anuradhapura
Trincomalee
Batticaloa
Kurunegala
Negombo
Chilaw
Puttalam
Galle
Matara
Hambantota
Colombo
Kandy
Nuwara Eliya
Ratnapura
Kegalle
Badulla
Bandarawela
Hatton
Ampara
Tangalle



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ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR 1920.

I.—GENERAL.

SIR W. H. MANNING, K.C.M.G., K.B.E., C.B., was Governor of Ceylon throughout the year. He was absent in India from January 8 to 18 and in England from March 6 to September 12 on public business. During these periods Sir Graeme Thomson, K.C.B., administered the Government.

Mr. H. L. Dowbiggin, Inspector-General of Police, received the King's Police Medal.

Mr. E. B. Denham, of the Ceylon Civil Service, was appointed Colonial Secretary of Mauritius, and left Ceylon in December.

The following retired from the Public Service during the year: Messrs. A. S. Pagden, H. O. Fox, and J. M. Davies, all of the Civil Service; Messrs. P. M. Bingham, A. E. Mayes, R. A. Powell, and W. C. Price, Provincial Engineers, Public Works Department; Dr. J. Lunn, Inspecting Medical Officer; and Mr. John Fox, Assistant Postmaster-General.

The following deaths are recorded with regret:—Mr. T. Goonetilleke, C.C.S.; Mr. L. A. James, Assistant Marine Biologist; Mr. W. H. Jackson, retired C.C.S.; Mr. J. H. de Saram, retired District Judge, Kandy; Mr. Dodwell Brown, retired District Judge, Colombo; Mr. J. G. Drieberg, retired Provincial Engineer; Mr. W. H. Tocke, retired Assistant Conservator of Forests; Drs. F. G. Spittel and G. P. Schokman, Provincial Surgeons; Dr. M. Sinnetamby, retired Medical Superintendent, De Soysa Lying-in Home; Dr. A. J. Chalmers, formerly Registrar, Ceylon Medical College; Sir Charles Bruce, formerly Director of Education; Mr. R. Huyshe Eliot, late European Rural Member in the Legislative Council; Mr. G. A. Talbot, M.P., formerly Member of the Legislative Council; and Mr. A. de A. Seneviratne, formerly Member of the Legislative Council.

The general condition of the Colony was fairly satisfactory during the early months of 1920, but there was a great depression in the tea and rubber industries during the latter part of the year. There was very little export of plumbago, and few mines were working. The coconut industries alone remained prosperous throughout the year, and good prices ruled, though there was a slight fall in the price of desiccated coconut and coconut oil towards the end of the year. Prices of imported articles generally continued to rise, and this tendency was assisted by the great fluctuations in the rate of exchange, as indicated in the following table, which shows variation in the bank's buying rate for sterling drafts (on demand):—

	s.	d.		s.	d.
December 31, 1919 ..	2	$4\frac{7}{16}$	August 13 ..	1	$11\frac{1}{4}$
January 30, 1920 ..	2	$4\frac{1}{16}$	September 10 ..	1	11
February 2 ..	2	8	October 2 ..	1	$9\frac{7}{8}$
February 11 ..	2	$10\frac{5}{16}$	October 14 ..	1	$8\frac{1}{2}$
February 14 ..	2	$9\frac{9}{16}$	November 2 ..	1	8
March 6 ..	2	$8\frac{1}{16}$	November 15 ..	1	$8\frac{5}{8}$
March 16 ..	2	$4\frac{13}{16}$	December 2 ..	1	$6\frac{7}{8}$
April 30 ..	2	4	December 14 ..	1	$5\frac{5}{8}$
May 29 ..	2	$2\frac{1}{4}$	December 31 ..	1	$5\frac{11}{16}$
June 15 ..	1	$10\frac{5}{8}$			

The crises in the tea and rubber industries became acute in the latter months of the year, and the question of Government assistance was fully discussed, but fortunately the fall in the price of rice at the end of the year gave the needed measure of relief, and enabled the estates to continue working, though in very many cases at a very small margin of profit, and in some cases at an actual loss.

It was anticipated that it might be necessary to arrange for repatriation of coolies to India, and a labour bureau was established in November, under the charge of the Controller of Estate Supplies, to deal with applications for repatriation, and also to try to find work for planters, European and Ceylonese, out of employment, and to obtain particulars of estates understaffed and overstaffed with labour, so that it might be possible to arrange for the transfer of labour to places where it was wanted. A very considerable demand for labour was rather unexpectedly discovered, and it was found that no necessity existed for dealing on a large scale with repatriation of Tamil labour to India.

The year was not a prosperous one for the people generally, but there was little actual distress. Some relief works were necessary in the Salpiti and Alutkuru korales of the Western Province, a sum of Rs. 14,000 being spent on works of utility, the average number of persons benefitted being 175 a month. Some distress was also reported from Matale and Jaffna. In the latter district the rainfall was exceptionally heavy at the end of the year, and some parts of the peninsula were flooded, and very considerable damage was done. In this case also necessary relief was given. Health conditions however improved, the number of cases of influenza very greatly diminished, and there were no serious epidemics, except an outbreak of plague in Kandy, of which particulars will be found below. There was a slight decrease in serious crime as compared with the two previous years.

The food position at the beginning of 1920, and the decision of the Indian Government, not only to restrict exports of rice as in the previous year, but to consign all shipments to the Ceylon Government instead of to licensed importers, necessitated the continuance of the Food Control Department, and the undertaking by this Government of trading operations on a large scale. The allotment made to Ceylon was 280,000 tons, which was eventually increased to 300,000 tons; but the whole allotment was not taken up. It would have been insufficient in normal times, but the very high price charged—which, though less than might have been expected had Ceylon been forced to buy in competition with other countries, still represented an increase of over 50 per cent. on 1919 prices—resulted in combination with various other causes in a great decrease in consumption. The acual quantity imported during the year was 286,984 tons, including paddy, which was imported to Jaffna direct. The shipments arrived at an abnormally rapid rate during April, May, June, and July; and the system of rationing, to which it had been necessary rigidly to adhere during the periods of scarcity early in the year, was abandoned in July. The sole source of rice during the year was Burma.

The great improvement in the world position and prospects as regards foodstuffs in the latter part of the year enabled India to effect a considerable modification in the policy of export restriction, and the close of 1920 found Ceylon with stocks at the Chalmers Granaries amounting to 44,030 tons, a purchase of 25,000 tons from Rangoon ready for shipment in January and February, and good prospect of cheap and ample supplies under free conditions for some time to come. In anticipation of the removal of control from Burma's exports, and as a needed measure of relief to the community and to industries which were in a critical position through the high price of rice, the Ceylon Government in December effected a substantial reduction in price of over Rs. 4 per bushel. Rice and foodstuffs continued to be carried free on rail.

In view of the great difficulty in obtaining adequate supplies of imported rice, and the high prices which had to be paid for such supplies as were obtainable, a Food Production Department was established on April 12, 1920, under the Directorship of Mr. E. B. Denham, C.C.S., who was succeeded by Mr. F. J. Smith in December.

Mr. Denham at once inaugurated a vigorous campaign throughout the Colony, pointing out the urgent necessity of increasing the supply of home-grown foodstuffs, and the duty of every class of the community to assist towards this end. The high prices of rice, &c., ruling afforded a further stimulus towards increased production, and many lands which had hitherto remained fallow were put under food crops.

To increase the acreage under rice Crown lands were offered on easy terms, and possession was given without many of the usual preliminaries, such as detailed survey, &c., tending to delay operations.

Large irrigable areas were leased to food-producing companies, 9,000 acres under Minneriya irrigation works being leased to the Minneriya Development Company, formed under the auspices of the Ceylon Planters' Association; 5,000 acres under Kalawewa to the Ceylon Mills, Ltd.; 2,600 acres under the Kirindi-oya works to the Low-country Food Products, Ltd.; and 1,000 acres under Nachchaduwa to Mr. W. A. de Silva.

In these cases leases for ninety-nine years were approved on pepper corn rent for the first ten years, and thereafter at the rate of Rs. 3 per acre per annum for ten years, after which the rent becomes subject to revision. Any timber on the land necessary for buildings, fences, &c., in connection with the cultivation is allowed free. Work on all these was started too late to allow of much progress within the year, but Mr. W. A. de Silva was able to put half the acreage allowed to him under cultivation—a very creditable performance.

Under Unnichchai tank a block of 2,600 acres was granted to the Salvation Army as trustees for Government for the establishment of a Salvation Army colony manned by recruits from India, each family being given 5 acres of paddy land and an allotment of high land on a pepper corn rent for ten years, with option then of purchase at the upset price of Rs. 25 per acre payable in ten instalments. Government undertook to finance the colonists at the start, paying their passages from India, providing houses and other buildings, paying the colonization office staff, and making advances for paddy, tools, buffalo hire, &c., until the first crop. At the end of the year 108 families were in residence in three camps provided at some distance apart for those of the Tamil, Telegu, and Malayalam races separately; and 540 acres were cleared and some 250 acres planted with paddy.*

Unfortunately the work in all these areas was greatly impeded by outbreaks of malaria after the rains. Free medical attention and drugs were provided for the residents of all the areas.

Small Government colonies were also started with free grants of land conditional on cultivation, and with assistance from Government in the way of advances, &c., under Nachchaduwa in the North-Central Province (19 families at the end of the year), Unnichchai Right Bank (10 families), Vakaneri (30 families), and Tembittiya (6 families). Good work was done and the colonies will be enlarged next year.

Grants of smaller lots of lands for paddy cultivation were also authorized with immediate possession and three years' occupation free of rent, with right (in the case of lots under 10 acres in extent) to purchase then, if properly cultivated, at an upset price equal to that of uncultivated land, payable in ten instalments; or in the case of larger lots with right to lease thereafter for

* This colony unfortunately did not prove successful, and the colonists were repatriated to India early in 1921.

a period of thirty years at a rental of 6 per cent. per annum on the value of the land prior to its occupation. On these terms some 27,000 acres had been allowed for paddy cultivation by the end of the year.

As a further encouragement to cultivation, the irrigation rates on all cultivated lands were suspended till 1925.

The provisional returns of the Superintendent of Census for the year ending April 15, 1920, show for the whole Island a total of 731,792 acres under paddy cultivation, and an estimated total yield of 12,600,000 bushels. (The imports for 1920 were equivalent to, roughly, 20,000,000 bushels of paddy.) On some fields two crops were grown and on others only one, and the returns give an average of 15·6 bushels for the maha and 14·6 bushels per acre for the yala crop. The figures are not reliable, but there is no doubt that the average yield in Ceylon is extremely low compared with the yields in other countries, and steps are being taken to get agriculturists to improve their methods of cultivation. The Agricultural Department, by its instructors, by lectures, and by the dissemination of leaflets, is endeavouring to educate the agriculturist in the value of improved methods of cultivation, seed selection, transplanting, manuring, &c., and demonstration plots have been established in a large number of centres. Manures were also supplied below cost price to members of co-operative societies.

Easy terms were also granted for Crown lands for the cultivation of foodstuffs other than paddy; and leaflets were prepared by the Agricultural Department showing what crops were best suited for each district and how they were best grown. A considerable additional area was cultivated with Indian corn, yams of all sorts, pulse, dry grains, &c., and also vegetables. Seeds were supplied free in deserving cases or at a small cost.

Further inquiries were undertaken by the Department with a view to providing additional cattle pastures, improved means of communication, markets for village produce, increased irrigation facilities, &c.

The Returned Soldiers Registration Committee, which commenced its operations in 1919, and was recognized and given a grant by Government, continued its useful work during 1920, giving relief to 21 Europeans, 22 Burghers, 32 Sinhalese, and 7 Tamils. 208 persons were registered, and billets were found for 119. Some of the remainder undoubtedly found billets for themselves, but did not report the fact to the Committee.

The new Archæological Commissioner, Mr. A. M. Hocart, who was appointed in May, 1919, arrived in Ceylon in October, 1920, after pursuing a course of special study in England, and left for India to complete the course. It is hoped that he will take up duties early in 1921, and that the Archæological Department will then be able to resume its activities, which practically ceased with the death of the late Commissioner, Mr. E. R. Ayrton. Meanwhile the state of the Jetawanarama Vihare (or Lankatilaka Vihare as it is now called) in Polonnaruwa was found to be dangerous, and restoration was started under Mr. H. C. P. Bell and the Public Works Department, and afterwards under Mr. Bell alone, and a considerable amount of work was done in 1920.

Three Commissions were appointed during the year, viz. :—

(1) To inquire into the working of the Buddhist Temporalities Ordinance, and to report thereon with such recommendations as the Commission may deem to be desirable for the amendment of, or the better carrying out of, that Ordinance.

(2) To consider the representations which have been made by the Railway employees as to their conditions of employment, apart from the question of the adequacy of their pay.

(3) To inquire and report upon the existing Native Headmen System, both paid and unpaid, with a view to its improvement.

The following are some of the principal Committees appointed during the year :—

To consider the question of making Ceylon more self-supporting with regard to its food supply.

To consider and report upon the proposed revision of the Weights and Measures Ordinance.

To make preliminary arrangements with regard to the representation of Ceylon at the British Empire Exhibition in London in 1921.

To advise Government on the financial aspect of the proposals put forward in connection with the economic resources of the Empire.

To consider charges to be imposed for the use of locks and warehouses proposed in connection with the Lake Development Scheme.

To report whether section 19 of Ordinance No. 15 of 1876 (Matrimonial Rights) should not be amended so as to bring the law on the point into conformity with English law.

To formulate a scheme for the provision of assistance, financial and otherwise, to expectant mothers of the labouring classes.

To consider and report whether there has been a general rise in rents in outstations, and whether public officers who are in receipt of salaries below Rs. 300 per annum in Colombo, and other officers residing out of Colombo, should be allowed increments on account of house rents.

To consider and report upon the lines on which the work of a Statistical Department for Ceylon should be commenced.

To consider and report on proposals for the resumption of an extensive irrigation programme.

To consider (1) the working as one Government concern of all quarries, in which convict labour is employed, which would supply the required quantity of rubble and metal and stone for Government and Colombo Municipality.

(2) The desirability of amalgamating the Railway quarries.

(3) What further area of quarry land should be acquired at Ragama.

To consider the question of the site, staff, &c., of the proposed Borstal Institute.

To investigate the question of pension and endowment schemes for teachers in grant-in-aid schools.

To consider and report the conditions on which grants of money should be made to local authorities to secure the systematic improvement of all towns and centres of population in the Island.

To consider proposals for erecting simpler types of Government quarters for public officers.

II.—FINANCIAL.

Revenue.

The revenue collected during the period October, 1919, to September, 1920, amounted to Rs. 81,200,418·02, showing an increase of Rs. 17,650,418·02 over the estimate, and of Rs. 11,129,476·22 over the revenue of the previous financial year. The principal items which contributed to the increase this year were Customs Duties, Stamp Duties, and Gain on Exchange.

Expenditure.

The expenditure for the financial year 1919–20 was estimated at Rs. 74,826,556, but the amount actually spent was Rs. 84,883,269·89, which shows an increase of Rs. 14,039,589·32 over the expenditure for the previous year. The increase is chiefly due to the general rise in expenditure in the several Departments, increased wages to labourers, and to the high cost of materials.

Assets and Liabilities.

The assets of the Colony on September 30, 1920, were Rs. 58,614,789, and the liabilities Rs. 25,949,808, showing an excess of assets over liabilities of Rs. 32,664,981. The assets consist mainly of advances to local bodies, particularly the Municipality of Colombo for drainage and waterworks, value of stores on hand, and cash in fixed deposit and current account in banks. The main liabilities are the amount due to Widows' and Orphans' Pension Fund and sundry deposits in the Treasury and local Kachcheries. The available cash balances total Rs. 23,453,233.

Currency.

On September 30, 1920, the value of currency notes in circulation was Rs. 47,190,289, and the currency reserve on that date consisted of Rs. 4,482,299 cash at call at Madras, Rs. 42,000 in gold, Rs. 11,787,442 in silver rupees, and Rs. 33,432,662 in British, Colonial, and Indian investments.

Public Debt.

At the close of the financial period the public debt of the Colony stood at £4,947,467, or approximately nine-tenths the annual revenue. Of the loan of £3,436,854 authorized by Ordinance No. 6 of 1909 to meet the cost of the Colombo Harbour and Drainage Works, the Mannar Railway, and other public works, a sum of £1,500,000 was raised at 98¼ in 1909–10 bearing interest at 3½ per cent., and a further sum of £1,000,000 was floated in 1914 at 99 bearing interest at 4 per cent.

Ceylon Savings Bank.

The Ceylon Savings Bank had a sum of Rs. 4,283,218 to the credit of 40,670 depositors on December 31, 1920, against Rs. 4,089,722 to the credit of 39,706 depositors on December 31, 1919. The amount of the Bank's invested funds on December 31, 1920, was Rs. 4,842,475, which includes the reserve fund of Rs. 699,884. Interest was allowed on deposits at the rate of 3 per cent. for the year 1920.

III.—AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRIES.

Tea.

The exports of tea during 1920 amounted to 184,770,231 lb., as against 208,433,578 lb. shipped during the previous year. The quantity of green tea exported totalled just under 3¼ million pounds, as against slightly over 2¾ million pounds in 1919. The fall in exports was due to the depression in the tea market during the latter part of the year. Stocks upon the world's markets had accumulated to such an extent that the demand for teas, except for those of the finest quality, was very small. The accumulated stocks contained much tea of inferior quality, which was difficult to dispose of, and consequently only high-grown teas of fine quality were required by the market. This depression in the tea market was the most serious that the tea industry had faced for many years, and, owing to the exceptionally high cost of rice and other foodstuffs, estates, except those in favoured localities in high elevations, found that they were working at a loss. To meet this serious state of affairs restriction of crop was decided upon, cultivation and manuring expenses reduced to a minimum, finer plucking adopted, and greater attention paid to the manufacture of high-grade products. The reduction in the cost of rice, referred to elsewhere, towards the end of the year, however, enabled many estates which had been working at a loss to secure their crops with a small margin of profit. Prices also improved towards the end of the year, especially for the teas from high elevations. With restriction of crop, finer plucking, and greater attention to

manufacture, the quality of teas greatly improved towards the end of the year. Diseases were somewhat more common during the year, especially upon those estates which had reduced manuring or cultivation during the period of the war. Owing to factories declining to purchase leaf, many small holdings were partially abandoned in the latter half of the year, but some are attempting to maintain a certain degree of cultivation.

RUBBER.

The exports of rubber amounted to 93,167,284 lb., as against 100,822,149 lb. in 1919. The fall in exports occurred in the latter half of the year, when owing to accumulation of stocks in Europe and America and to general trade depression a heavy fall in price occurred. The price offered for standard sheet or crêpe was often below the cost of production, and sales of inferior grades became impossible. This, coupled with the high cost of rice and other foodstuffs, caused production to be carried on, in some instances, at a loss. The rubber industry of the Colony, at the invitation of the Rubber Growers' Association, decided to adopt a voluntary 25 per cent. reduction of crop in order to allow the accumulation of stocks to become reduced. In several instances estates were compelled to discharge labour, although every effort was made to avoid this. The position at the end of the year had shown no signs of improvement, and the industry was generally in a depressed condition. Diseases had not been more prevalent than usual during the year. Pod disease and leaf fall was common in some districts, but, on the whole, this disease was less serious than in previous years. Root diseases were frequent where stumps had not been removed, and bark rot was common during the very wet weather. The control of this last disease by means of the application of disinfectants is becoming general. Brown bast is of frequent occurrence, but it did not appear to be so common as in the previous year. A census of the rubber acreage was taken during the year, with the following results :—

	In Bearing. Acres.	Not in Bearing. Acres.
Estates over 15 acres in extent..	253,930	95,560
Plantations below 15 acres in extent	13,032	35,372
Total ..	266,962	130,932

CACAO.

The exports of cacao were 56,397 cwt. in 1920, as against 52,884 cwt. in 1919. The spring crop was fair, while the autumn crop was, on the whole, good. Prices fell considerably in the last few months of the year, and inferior grades became almost unsaleable. The recently formed Peradeniya Chocolate Company had practically completed the erection of their chocolate factory at the end of the year.

COCONUTS.

The exports of coconut products for 1920 were as follows :—

Nuts ..	No.	9,776,449
Copra ..	Cwt.	1,357,870
Desiccated coconut	Cwt.	518,735
Oil ..	Cwt.	507,527
Fibre ..	Cwt.	84,947
Shells ..	Cwt.	447

Crops, on the whole, were good, as the result of a favourable season during the previous twelve months, and to the greater attention that is being paid to cultivation. Motor tractors are being employed in increasing numbers upon coconut estates, and reports are, on the whole, favourable. Diseases have not been serious during the year, although in the wetter parts of the Kurunegala

District nut fall has caused considerable losses of crops. Spraying has been tried experimentally, and with coconut products at high prices appears to be profitable. The prices for all coconut products ruled exceptionally high during the year, copra fetching as much as Rs. 145 per candy of 5 cwt. Increased planting of coconuts is taking place, and the acreage is gradually extending.

CARDAMOMS.

The export for 1920 was 3,754 cwt., as against 5,011 cwt. in 1919. Prices, on the whole, were fairly satisfactory, except during the latter part of the year.

CINNAMON.

The exports of this product were as follows :—

Quills	Cwt.	22,561
Chips	Cwt.	12,560
Oil	Oz.	73,246
Leaf oil	Oz.	365,976

The prices during the year were satisfactory, although some stocks of fine quality products are being held for further improvements in the market.

CITRONELLA.

The exports of citronella oil amounted to 1,022,809 lb., of which nearly half went to the United States of America.

KAPOK.

The exports of this fibre amounted to 301,743 lb., of which over one-third was shipped to British India.

FOODSTUFFS.

The price of all foodstuffs ruled very high during the year, and determined efforts were made to increase local supplies. Every encouragement possible was given to the cultivators of paddy, and liberal permits given for dry grain cultivations. Owing to high prices and the efforts of all classes of agriculturists, considerably increased crops of paddy were produced during the year. The yields were, on the whole, fair, although considerable damage was done in some districts towards the end of the year by heavy floods.

CO-OPERATIVE CREDIT SOCIETIES.

Twenty-six new societies were registered during the year. The total number of societies now reaches 153. The share capital of existing societies on March 31, 1920, was Rs. 99,284, their reserve fund Rs. 14,662, and their members numbered 15,210. Manure to the extent of 245 tons were supplied to village cultivators through these societies during the year.

THE CEYLON AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

This Society was organized in 1904. It has now a membership of 1,515, of whom 840 are local and 675 foreign, *i.e.*, residents outside Ceylon who pay Rs. 15 per annum, while Ceylon residents pay Rs. 10 as annual subscription. The activities of the Society were mainly directed during the period under review to increasing the production of food crops, and the Government grant (Rs. 38,000) was raised to Rs. 61,790, so as to enable the employment of additional Agricultural Instructors. The number of Instructors at present is 35. These officers will in future be under the direct control of Divisional Agricultural Officers, and will ultimately be absorbed into the Department of Agriculture.

The publications issued by the Society include the English (Tropical Agriculturist), Sinhalese (Govikam Sangarawa), and Tamil (Kamat Tholil Velakkam) Agricultural Magazines issued monthly free to members, in addition to English and Sinhalese Year Books issued alternately every year.

Leaflets in English and the vernaculars dealing with specific subjects are also issued free to members.

The Society's functions hitherto included the encouragement of agricultural exhibitions, co-operative credit societies, apiculture, poultry, home gardens, and other industries by offer of awards and in other ways ; but these functions, as the re-organization of the Department of Agriculture progresses, are gradually being merged in the departmental activities. A Beekeepers' Association, recently formed, is paying attention to improvement in apiculture.

Experimental and demonstration gardens in village centres, maintained either wholly or partly by the Society or by the Department of Agriculture, are in charge of some of the Instructors, whose duties as itinerating officers include imparting advice and instruction in tillage, manuring, crop pests, diseases, &c., to the cultivators, who readily responded to the call for increased food production during the rice scarcity.

The Director of Agriculture is the Organizing Vice-President of the Society, and the members receive advice and assistance from the Scientific Staff of the Department, which has been augmented by the recent appointment of three Divisional Agricultural Officers.

Members who hitherto enjoyed the privilege of obtaining seeds, plants, implements, &c., at cost price through the Society may still enjoy similar benefits from the Seed Division of the Department of Agriculture, which has now fitted up a special seed store which will afford greater facilities.

VETERINARY.

Importation from India.—During the year there were imported from India 5,639 cattle for slaughter, 948 for draught work, 204 for dairy purposes, 1,224 buffaloes for slaughter, and 1,400 for dairy purposes. In addition, 500 Indian cattle were imported for transhipment to Brazil for breeding purposes. 56,957 sheep and goats were imported for slaughter.

Amongst the cattle at the Colombo Quarantine Station, the following cases of disease occurred :—17 cases of rinderpest and 77 cases of foot-and-mouth disease. Amongst the goats and sheep 342 cases of anthrax and 117 cases of foot-and-mouth disease.

In the first half of the year the inspection at Tuticorin before shipment was under the supervision of a Veterinary Inspector of the Madras Veterinary Department, but later an officer of the Colombo Municipal Veterinary Department was despatched to supervise the work of inspection before shipment.

Rinderpest.—This disease prevailed chiefly in the Western and North-Western Provinces during the first three quarters of the year. In Colombo town there were 493 cases, with 108 recoveries and 385 deaths. In the Western Province outside the town 1,356 cases occurred, with 361 recoveries and 955 deaths ; 40 were shot. In the North-Western Province there were 946 cases, of which 277 recovered, 602 died, and 67 were shot. Central Province 2 cases, 1 recovery and 1 death. The Southern, Northern, and North-Central Provinces were free. In the Eastern Province there were 2 cases and 2 deaths. In the Province of Uva 12 cases and 12 deaths, and in the Province of Sabaragamuwa 4 cases, with 1 recovery and 3 deaths.

Anti-rinderpest Inoculation.—The "serum alone" method was employed. The supply from India being difficult to obtain, the production of serum in Colombo was commenced by the Director of the Bacteriological Institute. A special vote was allowed by Government for the purpose. This was used by the Department at the Government Dairy and elsewhere, and was found perfectly satisfactory, and as effective as the supply from India.

Foot-and-Mouth Disease.—This disease was prevalent in all the Provinces, except the Northern and Eastern, but to a much less extent than in the previous year. 1,610 cases occurred, against 10,887 last year. Most cases recover in the course of ten days.

Anthrax.—Very few cases occur outside the Quarantine Station. 342 deaths amongst goats and sheep occurred after importation, and was confined to these animals. Shipment in large numbers and crowding appear to exercise a great effect on the incidence of this disease, since it is not so prevalent before shipment, and rapidly decreases after a few days' rest in the station in Colombo. Large numbers of cattle and buffaloes in the same station, but in different sheds, remain free. For the rest of the Island, in the Central Province 8 cases, Southern Province 6 cases, Eastern Province 24 cases were reported, some of which were doubtful.

Rabies.—Seventy-four suspected cases were examined by the Director of the Bacteriological Institute, 25 of which were from Colombo town. Of these, 41 gave positive and 18 negative results; 15 were received unfit for examination. 272 persons were treated at the Pasteur Institute, Colombo.

Black Quarter or Quarter Ill.—No cases were reported during the year.

Hæmorrhagic Septicæmia.—Twelve cases in the Central Province and 17 cases in the Province of Sabaragamuwa were reported.

Surra.—Eleven cases were reported from the Central Province amongst cattle.

Horses and Swine.—No outbreak of infectious disease occurred during the year.

SALT.

The manufacture and collection of salt is a Government monopoly, which is protected by a duty of Rs. 3 per cwt. on imported salt. The amount realized by its sale in 1920 was Rs. 1,988,278·53, as against Rs. 1,786,054·08 in 1919 and Rs. 1,116,774·14 in 1918.

The local production of salt during the year was not interfered with by the weather, but the total yield of 330,202 cwt. does not compare favourably with the output in a normal year, owing to the refusal of the salt pan owners at Puttalam to manufacture salt during 1920. The production was distributed as follows:—

Hambantota District	Cwt.	166,062
Jaffna District	..	99,869
Trincomalee District	..	64,271
		330,202

This represents a little over half of the annual consumption of the Island, and is disappointing when compared with the record collections of 1918, which amounted to 1,186,524 cwt.

The re-organization of the Salt Department under the direction of the Salt Adviser, Mr. F. W. Gooch (who is on deputation from the Government of Madras), was taken in hand in the latter half of 1919, and two new Government salterns, one at Elephant Pass (Jaffna District) and the other at Palavi (Puttalam District) have been started. The work in connection with the laying out of these and the erection of machinery, &c., could not be completed during 1920, but it is expected that manufacture will be carried out on a fairly large scale in 1921.

The usual selling price at the Government Salt Stores is Rs. 3 per cwt., except at the Government Check Stores at Haputale and Galle, where the salt is sold in limited quantities at Rs. 5·25 and Rs. 4 per cwt., respectively.

The total stocks at the end of 1920 amounted to 1,007,344, or a little over 1½ years' supply. As the salt pan owners at Puttalam (which has been the chief source of the salt supply of the Island) have again refused to manufacture salt, the question of the importation of salt will have to be considered if a sufficient supply cannot be secured from the two new Government salterns.

Crown Land.

The total area of Crown land sold and settled (exclusive of settlements under the Waste Lands Ordinance) was 10,069 acres, as compared with 6,546 acres in 1919.

The system of outright sale in place of the system of leasing, which was tried but found unpopular, was adopted generally, and special terms were given in many cases in order to encourage the production of food crops locally. There was a fair demand for land during the year, mostly for coconuts and paddy. There was no demand for plumbago lands, and little for rubber.

The Land Settlement Department continued its operations throughout the year. The staff, which was reduced during the war, has not yet been brought up to full strength, but this will be done gradually as the staff of the Survey Department is increased, and more block survey plans are produced by that Department. 116,296 acres were settled on forest plans during the year, this area covering a number of proposed forest reserves in the Northern Province. 76,624 acres were settled on block survey preliminary plans and 1,106 acres on topographic plans. The total area settled by the Land Settlement Department during the year was 194,027 acres.

Forests.

Re-afforestation.—During the year 1920 the area of plantations was increased from 6,201 acres 3 roods 20 perches to 7,346 acres 1 rood 12 perches.

Exploitation.—Public Departments were supplied during the year 1920 with 50,688 broad gauge and 5,573 narrow gauge sleepers, 378,225 cubic yards of firewood, 186,483 cubic feet of timber, 286,383 small round timber, and other minor produce, chiefly stone, sand, gravel, &c. The value of these supplies amounted to Rs. 1,595,633, as against Rs. 1,576,606 for the previous year, and as against Rs. 1,919,065 for the year 1918.

Since 1906 the Forest Department has supplied the Railway Department with 890,806 broad gauge and 339,178 narrow gauge sleepers at an average cost of Rs. 3·68 and Re. 1·69 per sleeper, respectively. Thus, a very large saving over the cost of imported sleepers has been effected in obtaining these supplies from the local forests, while it is admitted that the local sleepers are far more durable than the imported ones.

The revenue received from the public on account of timber, fuel, and minor forest produce during the year 1920 was Rs. 420,591, as against Rs. 312,596 during the year 1919. The miscellaneous revenue provided an additional sum of Rs. 25,204, as against Rs. 14,472 during the year 1919.

Mines and Mining.

Gem Mining is carried on principally in the Ratnapura District, the industry being confined almost entirely to Ceylonese.

Plumbago Mining is the principal mining industry of Ceylon. The most important mining districts are the Kurunegala, Colombo, Galle, Kegalla, and Kalutara Districts, but the mineral is also found in other places. There is an abundance of plumbago in the Island, in some places near the surface, but in others deep mining has to be resorted to. The year was a poor one for the industry, as only about 50 mines were working at the end of the year, employing about 2,000 men. The Island is capable of producing about 30,000 tons a year, but during 1920 only 9,205 tons were exported, valued at Rs. 2,100,114, as compared with 33,410 tons valued at Rs. 22,494,000 in 1916, which was Ceylon's best year.

There is very little demand for plumbago at present, and the prospects are not very promising.

Mica.—Ceylon contains considerable quantities of mica, mostly phlogophite, but the demand is small, and the interest which was taken a few years ago in this product has not been sustained. 296 cwt. were exported during the year valued at Rs. 36,523.

MINERAL SURVEY.

The principal investigations carried out during 1920 were (*a*) an examination of the laterites of the Island, in search of material suitable for use as aluminium ore; and (*b*) the continuation of prospecting for the source of the precious stones found in the alluvial gravels.

It may be said almost with finality that no aluminium ores exist in the Island. The proportion of free alumina in all samples examined was negligible, and that of silica excessive.

A discovery of sapphire in minute quantity in the parent rock was made in the Southern Province.

The production of monazite at the works near Bentota under the control of the mineral survey was continued throughout the year. A shipment of 72 tons of refined sand, containing over 8·5 per cent. of thoria was made in November.

A new discovery of moonstone was made by private miners at Weragoda, in the Southern Province, early in the year. There has been no output of this semi-precious stone for some years past, but several hundredweight were mined this year in a few months.

INDUSTRIES AND MANUFACTURES.

The industries and manufactures of Ceylon are mostly connected with the products of agriculture, such as the manufacture of tea, copra, coconut oil, desiccated coconut, rubber, &c. There are engineering works in various parts of the country engaged in the manufacture and repair of agricultural implements and machinery, &c., and Colombo contains lead-rolling mills, which prepare lead for tea chests for Ceylon and South India. In the same town are also several large engineering works fully equipped to undertake repairs to ships, &c.

Further investigations have been made by the Public Works Department in connection with the proposed hydro-electric scheme for Ceylon. The probable site for the works will be at the Laxapana falls in the Province of Sabaragamuwa, where an enormous quantity of power is available.

Minor industries, such as silver, brass, and ivory work, and the manufacture of lace, had a fairly successful year. Mention should be made of the Kandyan Arts Association, which has done much to foster and improve the silver, brass, and lacquer work of the Kandyan districts. The Kalutara Basket Association has continued to make good progress, and a new hall was opened in Kalutara for the sale of its products. The various articles of basket work are made by the villagers in their homes from locally grown cane, and are purchased and distributed by the Association, finding a ready sale both in Ceylon and abroad. The preparation of coir and coir rope forms a considerable cottage industry, especially along the south-west coast of the Island. A small quantity of cloth is still woven in Jaffna and Batticaloa, but this industry is dying out. There is a spinning and weaving mill in Colombo. The Education Department has endeavoured to encourage various small local industries, such as the manufacture of chalk, ink, and slate pencils, and several industrial schools have been opened (see under head Education below).

FISHERIES.

Food Fisheries.—At present the marine fisheries are carried on in a comparatively primitive manner by local fishermen from outrigger canoes and catamarans, and from the shore. Line fishing is practised far out at sea, whilst nets of various kinds are used in the inshore waters and estuaries. Considerable quantities of fish are caught, packed in ice, and sent to Colombo and other large centres of population from places on the railway, even so far distant as Jaffna

and Mannar. Elsewhere most of the fish is dried or pickled. Many of the fishermen of the Negombo District migrate during the fishing season to various parts of the coast of the North-Western and Northern Provinces, the fish they catch being cured and salted. The supply of fish, however, is inadequate for the growing demands of the Island, as is shown by the following table of the imports of fish goods from 1910 to 1919 :—

Value of Imports of Fish Goods into Ceylon.

	Cured Fish. Rs.	Tinned Fish. Rs.	Fish Manure. Rs.	Fish Oil. Rs.	Total. Rs.
1919	3,849,420	79,956	1,357,273	4,635	5,291,284
1918	4,463,125	62,386	1,067,381	840	5,593,732
1917	4,121,258	80,345	502,959	2,100	4,706,662
1916	4,482,770	184,468	713,808	3,738	5,384,784
1915	4,237,500	147,437	223,990	1,845	4,610,772
1914	3,679,338	152,078	262,756	2,433	4,096,605
1913	4,467,725	166,661	1,167,687	1,213	5,803,286
1912	4,228,690	149,636	757,113	5,507	5,140,946
1911–12	4,339,008	135,177	1,077,073	948	5,552,206
1910–11	4,233,363	105,240	1,174,889	—	5,513,492

The Marine Biological Survey, under the Director of the Colombo Museum and Marine Biologist, is making investigations with a view to improving the fish supply and experimenting with modern fishing appliances. The preliminary survey of the coastal waters is now complete, and two valuable trawling banks have been examined, one off Kankesanturai, and the other near Cape Comorin, outside the Indian territorial waters, which could easily be worked from Colombo. Apart from these two banks of nearly 4,000 square miles, the littoral waters are not suitable for trawling. Enormous quantities of mid-water fish, however, abound everywhere, and there can be no doubt that modern methods of drift net fishing could be successfully introduced.

The Marine Biological Survey is at present engaged upon these problems, and there is no reason why an adequate supply of fresh fish, and, with improved methods, a greatly increased quantity of dried fish, should not be produced from Ceylon littoral waters.

Pearl Fisheries.—The pearl banks, which are situated in the shallow water plateau of the north-eastern corner of the Gulf of Mannar, are probably the most ancient fisheries now in existence, and appear to be carried on under much the same conditions now as they were 2,000 or 3,000 years ago. Pliny refers to Taprobane (Ceylon) " as the most productive of pearls of all parts of the world," and in the " Mahawansa " mention is made of a present which included local pearls from King Wijaya of Ceylon to his Indian father-in-law about 540–550 B.C.

Notable features of these fisheries are their uncertainty and their intermittent periods of unproductiveness—characteristics which have obtained from early times. The most noteworthy of these barren periods, omitting fisheries of negligible value, occurring during the British period have been :—

1815–1827, inclusive, 13 years.
1838–1854, inclusive, 17 years.
1864–1873, inclusive, 10 years.
1892–1902, inclusive, 11 years.
1908–present day.

The most profitable series of fisheries on record was during 1903–1907, the value of the 1905 fishery alone being 3½ millions of rupees, of which the Government share was two-thirds. There is an excellent prospect of a new series of fisheries starting in the year 1924.

Window-pane Oyster Fishery.—This is a local industry of some importance carried on at Lake Tamblegam, near Trincomalee. The window-pane oyster (*Placuna placenta*) produces a pearl of inferior quality used for cheap native jewellery. It also has some medicinal value.

Tank Fisheries.—The tanks of the dry zone provide an abundant supply of fresh-water fish, which with care could be converted into a valuable source of food supply.

Edible Oyster Fisheries.—Edible oysters are found in considerable quantities at certain points on the coast, but apparently they are not appreciated by the indigenous population, though many Europeans regard them as a great delicacy. The demand is not very great at the present time, and there does appear to be sufficient reason for developing these fisheries.

Chank Fisheries and Bêche-de-mer.—There is a chank fishery near the islands of Palk Strait, controlled by the Government Agent of the Northern Province, from which Government derives a small but steady revenue. Some 2,155,000 chanks and 156½ cwt. of bêche-de-mer were exported from the Jaffna District during the year.

FACTORIES.

The total number of factories registered at the end of 1920 was 1,270, which was an increase of 4 over the number for the previous year. The greater number of the factories, of course, deal with tea and rubber. These show a decrease of 7 to 1,026, whilst factories dealing with coconut products have increased in number from 115 to 124. Engineering factories and saw mills have increased by 9 to 53.

The number of factories using steam power has diminished by 4·4 per cent., a rate—with the exception of last year, when it was just 8 per cent.—that has been usual for some years past. Electric installations, on the other hand, have increased by 8 per cent. during the year.

IV.—TRADE.

The total value of Ceylon trade in the year 1920, though falling short of that in 1919, showed an increase over that of previous years, as will be seen from the following table. In considering these figures the fluctuations in the rate of exchange have to be borne in mind. Owing to the high relative value of the rupee, the value of imports was correspondingly diminished in rupees. This effect was more than counterbalanced by the inflation in the quantity of imports which the favourable rate of exchange occasioned. Had it not been for the general depression in trade during the last few months of the year, the total value of trade for 1920 would have far exceeded that of any previous year. The figures include the value of coal supplied for the use of steamers, but exclude the value of specie. The figures are :—

Year.		Lakhs of Rupees.	Year.		Lakhs of Rupees.
1911	..	3,523½	1916	..	5,212¾
1912	..	3,886¾	1917	..	4,083¼
1913	..	4,329½	1918	..	4,065¼
1914	..	4,022¼	1919	..	6,392¾
1915	..	4,495½	1920	..	6,263¾

The gross Customs revenue for 1920 amounted to Rs. 25,945,649, an increase of Rs. 2,343,696 over that of 1919.

The following table shows the duties recovered during the past two years under the general heads under which imports and exports are classified :—

Imports.		1919. Rs.		1920. Rs.
Grain	..	3,259,043	..	3,468,949
Cotton Goods	..	1,014,255	..	1,526,429
Spirits	..	805,077	..	1,324,575
Sugar	..	1,200,660	..	817,579
Kerosine Oil	..	1,904,600	..	1,459,900
Other Goods	..	5,097,095	..	7,809,807

Exports.	1919. Rs.	1920. Rs.
Coconuts, fresh and desiccated, Copra, and Coconut Oil ..	1,608,139	1,318,619
Tea, Rubber, and Cacao	6,235,205	5,564,646
Plumbago ..	48,722	62,331
Other ..	6,780	11,200
Total ..	21,179,576	23,364,035

an increase of Rs. 2,184,459. Taken separately, the duty on imports shows an increase of Rs. 3,126,509, and that on exports a decrease of Rs. 942,050.

Refunds and drawbacks totalled Rs. 279,038 in 1920, as against Rs. 473,608 in 1919.

The total value of imports and exports for the past ten years is given in the following table. The figures here are exclusive of the value of specie and of coal supplied to steamers :—

Year.	Imports. Rs.	Exports. Rs.	Total. Rs.
1911	156,986,106	180,526,959	337,513,065
1912	175,322,979	198,954,902	374,277,881
1913	186,073,086	232,986,954	419,060,040
1914	172,317,549	218,363,846	390,681,395
1915	163,637,758	273,375,987	437,013,745
1916	211,500,753	297,505,905	509,006,658
1917	184,123,986	304,160,457	488,284,443
1918	177,716,763	211,325,334	389,042,097
1919	239,323,731	367,054,779	606,378,510
1920	321,275,652	268,462,183	589,737,835

It will be noticed that in 1920 the value of imports exceeded that of exports, the percentage of the excess being 16·4, while in all previous years the balance has been in favour of exports. The large increase in the value of imports in 1920 was due to the high price of rice, and to the large local demand for goods from the United Kingdom owing to the favourable position of exchange. Of the total value of exports, Rs. 257,178,888 represents the value of Ceylon produce and manufactures and Rs. 11,283,295 that of imports re-exported, the value of imported rubber exported representing approximately a third of the total under the latter head.

The percentages of imports, exports, and of the total trade are shown distinctively as regards Empire and foreign trade in the table below for the past three years (exclusive of the value of imported rubber):—

	1918. Per Cent.	1919. Per Cent.	1920. Per Cent.
Percentage of total trade of Ceylon taken by—			
United Kingdom ..	31·27	31·39	34·38
British Possessions ..	48·48	33·61	39·35
Foreign Countries ..	20·25	35	26·27
	100	100	100
Percentage of import trade of Ceylon with—			
United Kingdom ..	16·71	14·51	24·46
British Possessions ..	67·4	63·43	59·72
Foreign Countries ..	15·89	22·06	15·62
	100	100	100
Percentage of export trade of Ceylon taken by—			
United Kingdom ..	43·07	42·13	46·06
British Possessions ..	33·14	14·62	15·34
Foreign Countries ..	23·79	43·25	38·6
	100	100	100

The percentage of the import, export, and of the total trade of the United Kingdom for 1920 was the highest during the three years. Smaller purchases by the United States of America—their total value represents a 100 per cent. decrease—are largely responsible for the reduced percentage under foreign countries. Imports from foreign countries were valued at Rs. 50,060,068, as against Rs. 51,555,279 in 1919.

IMPORTS.

There were increases under most of the important heads of imports.

Flour (Wheat).—Imports increased in quantity from 352,255 cwt. in 1919 to 556,115 cwt. in the year under review. British India alone supplied a quantity in excess of the total imports from all sources in 1919, Australia was the next important supplier in 1920, while a fair quantity was also imported from the Straits Settlements. The maximum price at which wheat flour can be sold in the local market was fixed from time to time by the Food Controller, but owing to large imports sales were often effected considerably below these prices.

Rice.—Throughout the year the importation, distribution, and selling price of rice have been under Government control. The figures for 1919 were 5,342,575 cwt. valued at Rs. 66,425,349, or an average of Rs. 12·43 per cwt.; this year the corresponding figures were 5,788,730 cwt. valued at Rs. 91,667,375, or an average of Rs. 15·83 per cwt. The average price per cwt. for 1918 was Rs. 8·11. The cost to the Colony of the high price of rice as compared with 1918 was, therefore, at the rate of Rs. 7·72 per cwt., which on 5,788,730 cwt. represents a sum of over 43 million rupees. There was a similar comparative loss, though not so great, in 1919, and no stronger testimonial to the actual financial stability of the Colony could be adduced than the manner in which this shock has been met.

Other Grains.—There was a slight decrease in the quantity imported. Paddy and peas are the two principal kinds included under "Other Grain." Owing to a limited rice supply there was a considerable demand for "Ragi" as a substitute for rice.

Sugar showed a decrease, the quantities imported being 449,678 cwt. and 372,925 cwt. for 1919 and 1920, respectively. Java, the principal country supplying Ceylon with refined sugar, sent 180,182 cwt., as against 246,251 cwt. in the previous year, while there was an appreciable increase in the quantity imported from Australia.

Manufactured Tobacco, Cigars, and Cigarettes.—The quantities of each of these cleared for home consumption during the past three years have been :—

	Cigars.	Cigarettes.	Manufactured Tobacco.	Total.
	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.
1918	33,550	264,796	17,234	315,580
1919	11,820	319,967	13,625	345,412
1920	12,198	428,295	28,854	469,347

The figure for cigars for 1918 includes "beedies." These are now included under cigarettes. Imports of beedies in 1920 amounted to 12,036 lb. The increase in the quantity of manufactured tobacco is most noticeable.

Spirits.—Imports of all varieties show an increase as compared with 1919, with the exception of spirits of wine. Of the varieties most in demand, brandy showed an increase from 13,218 proof gallons to 21,601 proof gallons in the quantity cleared for home consumption, gin from 13,575 proof gallons to 33,989 proof gallons, and whisky from 41,293 proof gallons to 58,903 proof gallons.

Cotton, Manufactured and Raw.—Imports rose in value by 78 per cent. as compared with 1919. The increase in the value was distributed under all heads. There was a small decrease in the value of cotton goods imported from British Possessions.

Coal.—Imports increased in quantity from 686,077 tons in 1919 to 705,193 tons in 1920. The total value, however, showed a decrease. British India was the chief source of supply, and sent 640,742 tons for the year. Small quantities of English, Japanese, African, and Australian coal were also imported, but supplies were less than in the previous year, except in the case of English coal. These figures represent imports by private firms, which are mainly for bunkers. Ceylon will not be supplied with bunker coal from India from April 1 next, owing to the decision of the Indian Government to reserve her coal supply for industrial and other purposes within the Indian Empire.

Manure.—There was an increase in total imports from 1,552,192 cwt. in 1919 to 1,813,021 cwt. in the year under review, which was due to the large imports at the beginning of the year. From August onwards the imports greatly decreased owing to the depression in the tea and rubber industries. The bulk of the manures came from British India. The most noticeable increases were under bone, guano, kainit, nitrate of soda, muriate of potash, superphosphate, sulphate of potash, refuse of saltpetre, and other manures, while imports of basic slag, castor seed poonac, and sulphate of ammonia showed a considerable decrease. The United Kingdom was the principal supplier for nitrate of soda and sulphate of ammonia, Belgium for kainit and superphosphates, France for muriate and sulphate of potash, while Egypt must be bracketed with Belgium for the first place for basic slag, each supplying an equal quantity, Egypt also being the leading country from which "other manures" were supplied during the year. The value of all manures amounted to Rs. 13,141,891, an increase of over three million rupees over 1919.

Kerosine Oil in Bulk and Cases.—During the year under review all the bulk oil came from Persia, and all the case oil from the United States of America. Total imports show a small decrease, the quantities being 5,106,100 gallons and 5,290,046 gallons for 1920 and 1919, respectively.

Petrol.—Imports were less than in the year 1919, but exceeded the quantity for previous years. Imports since 1915 were :—

	Gallons.		Gallons.
1915	607,774	1918	680,395
1916	776,092	1919	1,175,784
1917	884,093	1920	988,427

Sumatra was the chief source of supply for petrol during the year, while a small quantity came from Dutch Borneo and 20 gallons from the United States of America.

Horses and Motor Cars.—317 horses were imported, as against 68 horses in 1919. About half the number imported in 1920 came from Australia, one of which was subject to duty ; 91 and 67 horses, respectively, came from British India and the United Kingdom, of which 20 and 38, respectively, were subject to duty, including one horse imported from Arabia. All horses which are imported of the value of Rs. 1,000 and over are subject to a duty of 7½ per cent. *ad valorem.*

The number of cars imported, including commercial cars and chassis, rose from 263 in 1919 to 990 in 1920. Of the total, 599 were American, 199 Canadian, 154 English, 17 Italian, 14 French, and 3 German cars.

Metal and Metalware.—Imports rose by 69 per cent. in value, all the important items contributing to the increase, with the exception of hoop iron and pig lead. Galvanized iron (including barbed wire) showed a remarkable increase in value from Rs. 943,529 in 1919 to Rs. 3,646,993 in 1920. Iron—bar, flat, rod, and nail rod—from Rs. 1,397 to Rs. 524,093, and cast steel from Rs. 652,905 to Rs. 1,829,658 in the same period. Supplies of the various kinds of metal and metalware from the United Kingdom were of the value of Rs. 10,874,198, equivalent to 67·93 per cent. of the total value for all countries. Burma came second, with 14·03 per cent. to her credit. The other principal countries

supplying metal and metalware named in order of importance were the United States of America (5·3 per cent.), British India (3·54 per cent.), Germany (2·42 per cent.), Belgium (2·16 per cent.), and Japan (1·61 per cent.). The position of Germany is mainly due to her supplies of hoop iron and wire nails, for both of which she was the leading country but one.

Cement.—Imports by private firms doubled, the quantity for 1919 and 1920 being 152,122 cwt. and 353,604 cwt., respectively. There was very little demand for Japanese cement, imports falling from 44,548 cwt. in 1919 to only 2,561 cwt. in 1920. Belgium, Austria, and Italy appear as fresh sources of supply since the war.

Ceylon's Chief Sources of Supply.

The following table shows the principal countries exporting goods to Ceylon, with the percentages of value supplied by each :—

		1918. Per Cent.	1919. Per Cent.	1920. Per Cent.
1.	Burma	19·51	23·95	30·29
2.	United Kingdom	16·11	14·16	24·11
3.	British India	38·08	30·36	23·66
4.	United States of America	3·17	3·36	3·37
5.	Straits Settlements	3·83	3·8	2·26
6.	Japan	5·14	3·5	2·18
7.	Java	1·35	2·87	2·04
8.	Borneo (excluding British)	1·21	2·51	1·66
9.	Holland	·26	·34	·97
10.	France	·43	·66	·86
11.	Persia	—	1·09	·85
12.	Maldive Islands	1·35	·90	·77
13.	Hong Kong	·43	·78	·58
14.	Belgium	—	·14	·54
15.	China (excluding Hong Kong)	·09	·51	·51
16.	Natal	2·84	1·42	·47
17.	Switzerland	·09	·25	·42
18.	Sumatra	2·17	·93	·39
19.	South Australia	·29	·86	·37
20.	Italy	·07	·07	·36
21.	New South Wales	·22	·54	·35
22.	Victoria	·14	·27	·34
23.	Norway	·28	·13	·34
24.	West Australia	—	·04	·33
25.	Canada	·01	·03	·32
26.	Germany	—	—	·27
27.	Siam	·19	3·93	·25
28.	Other British Possessions in Africa	1·41	1·09	·25
29.	Sweden	·35	·08	·21
30.	Egypt	·23	·06	·18
31.	Russia in Europe	—	·22	·11
32.	Queensland	·07	·03	·1
33.	Mozambique	·04	·83	·09
34.	India (excluding British)	·43	·03	·07

Burma heads the table for the first time by virtue of her being almost the sole supplier of rice. There is a noticeable increase in the percentage of the United Kingdom. The total value of goods imported from that country showed an increase of over a hundred per cent. as compared with 1919. Exchange was favourable to the importer in the early part of 1920, and large orders were placed in the hands of exporting firms. The rise in the rate of exchange towards the latter part of the year, coupled with the general depression in trade, resulted in the inability of some of the consignees to pay for and clear the goods ordered. The result has been that the quantity of goods entered for bonding has far exceeded that of any previous year. At present four additional warehouses have been set apart as bonded warehouses, and these will probably suffice, as speculative consignments are no longer coming in.

Japan maintained her place as the second best foreign supplier, in spite of a reduction in her percentage as compared with the previous two years, while Germany comes twenty-sixth on the table by supplying Rs. 862,540 worth of goods. Germany's position in 1913 was fifth among all countries, and first among foreign countries.

EXPORTS.

The staple products of Ceylon exported in order of value are as follows :—

		Lakhs of Rupees.		
		1918.	1919.	1920.
1.	Rubber	622	1,321	900
2.	Tea	832	1,165	808
3.	Copra	127	323	284
4.	Coconut oil	157	257	199
5.	Coconut, desiccated	52	249	183
6.	Arecanuts	38	30	29
7.	Cacao	23	31	25
8.	Cinnamon	13	37	21
9.	Plumbago	48	17	21
10.	Coir fibre	9	17	16
11.	Citronella oil	9	9	11
12.	Coconuts, fresh	4	3	10
13.	Skins (dressed and undressed)	7	10	9
14.	Tobacco, unmanufactured	9	6	8
15.	Coir yarn	3	11	8
16.	Poonac	—	5	6
17.	Cardamoms	3	9	5

The decreased demand for tea and rubber is reflected in these figures. The prices for coconut products being what they were, all available supplies from Ceylon must have been disposed of. This slight revival in plumbago has not much significance.

The following table shows the principal countries buying Ceylon produce for the last three years, with the percentage of values taken by each :—

	1918. Per Cent.	1919. Per Cent.	1920. Per Cent.
United Kingdom	44·72	42·13	47·59
United States of America	17·78	33·52	22·8
Holland	—	1·33	5·3
British India	10	6·83	3·92
Belgium	—	2·07	2·14
Canada	5·85	1·78	1·78
New South Wales	4·87	1·25	1·74
France	2·06	2·22	1·71
Denmark	—	1·59	1·7
Germany	—	·02	1·55
Egypt	2·41	1·28	1·47
Norway	·07	·51	1·31
Victoria	3·62	1·08	1·26
New Zealand	·72	·34	1·17
Italy	·56	·51	·71
Cape Colony	·95	·38	·42
Straits Settlements	·49	·49	·39
Japan	·61	·20	·37
Natal	·36	·16	·32
Philippines	·49	·33	·32
South Australia	·25	·13	·3
South America (excluding Chili)	·66	·16	·27
Sweden	—	·1	·19
West Australia	·23	·15	·19
Other British Possessions in Africa	·4	·30	·16
Spain	·03	·11	·13
Newfoundland	·12	·10	·12
Queensland	·22	·04	·12

The table shows the United Kingdom and United States of America as the most important purchasers. The trade with Germany is re-commencing, the exports to that country being valued at nearly 4 million rupees, equal to about one-fourth of the figure before the war.

Tea.—The quantities exported in millions of pounds during the past seven years were :—

	Million Pounds.		Million Pounds.
1914	193	1918	180
1915	215	1919	208
1916	203	1920	184
1917	195		

There was a reduced demand during the last quarter of the year, the total exported during the first nine months being about five million pounds more than in the corresponding period of 1919. The average price for the year is the lowest since 1913, and showed a considerable drop from 55·86 cents per pound in 1919 to 43·72 cents per pound in the year under review. The distribution among the principal countries with their increases and decreases is shown below :—

	1920. lb.	1919. lb.	Increase. lb.	Decrease. lb.
United Kingdom	119,690,793	140,647,501	—	20,956,708
British Possessions.				
British India	4,122,167	6,136,696	—	2,014,529
Canada	7,123,971	7,753,623	—	629,652
Cape Colony	2,037,208	2,198,696	—	161,488
Egypt	4,417,990	2,250,862	2,167,128	—
Hong Kong	297,041	228,588	68,453	—
Mauritius	279,705	95,450	184,255	—
Natal	1,622,047	1,002,765	619,282	—
Newfoundland	711,118	664,393	46,725	—
New South Wales	8,083,413	7,221,974	861,439	—
New Zealand	6,131,739	2,063,115	4,068,624	—
Other British Possessions in Africa	879,136	1,955,923	—	1,076,787
Queensland	559,962	189,373	370,589	—
South Australia	1,492,056	809,975	682,081	—
Straits Settlements	1,099,431	1,044,114	55,317	—
Victoria	5,565,347	5,925,960	—	360,613
West Australia	918,070	907,651	10,419	—
Other British Possessions	491,569	342,788	148,781	—
	45,831,970	40,791,946	9,283,093	4,243,069
		Deduct Decrease	4,243,069	
		Nett Increase	5,040,024	
Foreign Countries.				
	1920. lb.	1919. lb.	Increase. lb.	Decrease. lb.
Chili	235,209	88,420	146,789	—
France	1,025,277	3,860,614	—	2,835,337
Germany	130,992	—	130,992	—
Holland	200,210	86,430	113,780	—
Italy	134,655	137,195	—	2,540
Japan	254,025	150,324	103,701	—
Madagascar	104,103	17,494	86,609	—
Mozambique	162,350	206,058	—	43,708
Philippines	250,977	136,858	114,119	—
South America (excluding Chili)	1,198,140	558,739	639,401	—
Turkey in Asia	296,440	46,250	250,190	—
United States of America	14,735,804	17,534,679	—	2,798,875
Other Foreign Countries	519,286	4,298,435	—	3,779,149
	19,247,468	27,121,496	1,585,581	9,459,609
		Deduct Increase		1,585,581
		Nett Decrease		7,874,028
	1920. lb.	1919. lb.		Decrease. lb.
Total	184,770,231	208,560,943		23,790,712

Exports to the United Kingdom and foreign countries showed a decrease, while those to the British Possessions showed an increase. Russia in Europe took nothing in 1920. Germany took 130,992 lb., as against nothing in 1919.

Products of the Coconut Palm.—The total value of the products of the coconut palm exported was 709 lakhs, as against 870 in 1919. The exports of the three principal products are shown below for a period of six years :—

	Desiccated Coconut. Cwt.	Copra. Cwt.	Coconut Oil. Cwt.
1915	349,009	1,208,529	501,510
1916	306,149	1,309,939	323,017
1917	272,059	1,078,704	434,699
1918	203,366	1,272,321	527,481
1919	675,060	1,759,525	675,999
1920	518,735	1,357,870	507,527

The exports of desiccated coconuts and copra are the largest for the six years, with the exception of 1919. Coconut oil exports were more than in 1915, 1916, and 1917, but less than in the remaining three years.

Desiccated Coconuts.—The figures for desiccated coconut are again large, although not so large as in 1919. Of the total quantity for 1920, the United States of America took 45 per cent. and the United Kingdom 35 per cent. Germany was the next largest buyer with 24,891 cwt. to her credit. Australia and Canada come next in importance. The average price of desiccated coconuts was lower than in the previous year.

Copra.—The countries buying copra are not so numerous as in the case of desiccated coconuts, but among them competition is keener. Holland leads with 395,117 cwt., while the United Kingdom, British India, Belgium, Denmark, and France have taken quantities varying from 113,000 cwt. to 187,000 cwt. each. Germany, too, was a large buyer, and took 96,912 cwt., while Norway (83,002, cwt.), Sweden (10,000 cwt.), India excluding British (2,485 cwt.), and the United States of America (37 cwt.) complete the list. The average price of copra was higher than in 1919.

Coconut Oil.—The United Kingdom maintained her position as the principal buyer, while the United States bought considerably less than in 1919, her purchases for 1919 and 1920 being 147,031 cwt. and 29,267 cwt., respectively, thereby yielding the second position to Holland with 136,135 cwt. to her credit. In 1919 Holland purchased only 10,323 cwt. The other large buyers were Norway (35,359 cwt.) Egypt (32,555 cwt.), Belgium (28,547 cwt.). The average price for the year was Rs. 39·14 per cwt., as against Rs. 37·98 per cwt. in 1919.

Tariff Changes.

The importation of Japanese shaving brushes was prohibited, with effect from July 2, 1920. Natural history specimens other than trophies were exempted from duty, with effect from the same date.

V.—SHIPPING.

3,992 vessels with a tonnage of 9,718,068 have entered the various ports of the Island in 1920, a decrease of 138 vessels and a tonnage of 270,108 as compared with 1919.

The following table gives the number of vessels and their tonnage under four general heads for the past two years :—

	1919.		1920.	
	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.
Merchant vessels (with cargo and in ballast) ..	1,762	4,669,598	2,016	5,830,177
Merchant vessels (called to coal)	1,177	4,086,379	967	3,171,546
Native sailing vessels ..	1,018	103,413	867	86,737
Warships and Government chartered vessels ..	173	1,128,786	142	629,608
	4,130	9,988,176	3,992	9,718,068

The decrease in the number of sailing vessels is probably due to rice not being available for transport owing to Government control.

Omitting warships and transports, the comparative distribution according to nationality for 1919 and 1920 was as follows :—

Nationality.	1919.		1920.	
	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.
British ..	2,168	6,467,584	1,972	5,576,509
British Colonial	1,018	103,413	867	86,737
Total British Vessels ..	3,186	6,570,997	2,839	5,663,246
American	31	87,499	105	384,089
Austrian	1	4,915	1	3,782
Belgium	6	12,207	4	10,945
Brazilian	—	—	2	8,464
Chinese ..	5	11,846	2	3,761
Danish ..	16	43,981	29	59,882
Dutch ..	79	272,573	176	679,610
French ..	72	317,776	155	621,665
German	—	—	—	—
Greek ..	17	43,735	13	30,365
Italian ..	42	134,877	82	271,158
Japanese	364	1,054,331	329	1,105,625
Norwegian	82	165,784	63	112,321
Russian..	16	34,482	10	29,508
Siamese..	1	803	—	—
Spanish..	17	40,390	14	33,766
Swedish..	21	57,341	26	70,273
Portuguese	1	5,853	—	—
Total Foreign Vessels ..	771	2,288,393	1,011	3,425,214

Port Commission.

Owing to the unsatisfactory position of food supplies in the early part of the year, and to the depression in the tea and rubber markets in the latter months, it was necessary to continue the policy of economy, which has been pursued since the war, and only the most essential works were undertaken by the Port Commission.

Good progress was made with the preparation of the Oil Installations Depôt site at Kolonnawa, and the construction of the oil bunkering and discharge jetties in the harbour. Two companies have already taken possession of the lots assigned to them at the depôt, and have commenced the erection of the necessary tanks and buildings. It is hoped that the depôt will be actually working by August, 1921.

The Anglo-Persian Oil Company's temporary liquid fuel installation at Blomendahl was brought into operation in July, 1920, liquid fuel in bulk being then for the first time discharged at the Graving Dock Guide Pier by pipe line.

Sites for measuring tanks have been allocated to the other companies at Blomendahl, and will shortly be handed over.

The branch of the new Harbour Railway from the Main line to Kolonnawa is complete, and ballast trains were able to run through the remaining section to the harbour before the end of the year. By the time the Kolonnawa Oil Installations are ready, it is hoped that the Harbour Railway will also be in working order.

Similarly, good progress was made towards the completion of the Colombo Lake Development Scheme, and it is anticipated that full communication between the lake and the harbour will be possible before the middle of 1921. The Lakeside Warehouse is complete, and as soon as the canal is dredged will be available for use as an Export Warehouse.

The new bridge leading to the Passenger Jetty, the improvements to York street and Church street, and the new road opened from York street to Leyden Bastion road were all completed.

The only increase in the warehouse area was the addition of 7,350 square feet, which was secured by the conversion of the passage between two warehouses into a new warehouse at Delft.

The dredger "Sir John Coode," which had been undergoing very extensive repairs, resumed dredging in the harbour in the early part of the year, and also carried out the dredging connected with the construction of the oil jetties. The trials of the new dredger "Sir William Matthews," which is being constructed by Messrs. Fleming & Ferguson, Limited, of Paisley, are expected to be completed shortly. The vessel is a twin screw bucket hopper dredger of 1,200 tons, capable of dredging to a depth of 45 feet.

The nett tonnage of vessels (sailing and steam) visiting Colombo Harbour in 1920 amounted to 8,849,116 tons ; in addition, 132 warships and transports with a gross tonnage of 629,608 tons and coasting vessels with a nett tonnage of 13,053 tons entered the port.

Thirty-eight vessels were docked during the year, and 31 vessels were taken on to the Patent Slip ; 20 vessels were fumigated.

The receipts from the Graving Dock were Rs. 68,243·54 and from the Patent Slip Rs. 2,714, against Rs. 100,868 and Rs. 11,650, respectively, in 1919 ; the receipts on account of fumigation were Rs. 5,170, as against Rs. 9,767 in 1919.

The expenditure of the Colombo Port Commission (exclusive of the work carried out by the Public Works Department) during the financial year 1919–20 (October 1, 1919, to September 30, 1920) amounted to Rs. 3,963,955·89, including a sum of Rs. 867,009·27 expended on the acquisition of land and the preparation of the site of the Oil Installations Depôt at Kolonnawa ; the expenditure on work carried out by the Public Works Department for the Port Commission was Rs. 52,826·68, making a total of Rs. 4,016,782·57 for Port Commission services. In addition to the above, a sum of Rs. 2,750·29 was spent during the financial year 1919–20 on work connected with war services, and disbursements on account of other departments amounted to Rs. 376,776·38 making a total expenditure of Rs. 4,393,558·95. The revenue during the same period amounted to Rs. 3,542,623·81, including a sum of Rs. 343,842·23, the value of trawlers and barges sold.

The recruitment of staff for the Government of India for service overseas was finally stopped in March, 1920, only 14 men being recruited during the three months to that date. A considerable amount of work was, however, carried out during the year in dealing with inquiries—both verbal and written—from relatives of men recruited regarding allotments, health, whereabouts, date of return, &c., and inquiries from returned men as to balance of pay due. The total number recruited by the Colombo Rivercraft Committee was 1,218. So far only 525 men have reported at the Port Commission Office on termination of engagement.

VI.—LEGISLATION.

Twenty-four Ordinances were passed during the year 1920. Of these, the greater part are Ordinances amending previous Ordinances, in order to cure defects found in administering them or to meet present requirements.

The principal, new or consolidating, Ordinances of purely local interest were :—

(*a*) The Education Ordinance (No. 1), which deals with the subject on more comprehensive lines than has obtained hitherto, and by which the Government assumes a larger share of the responsibility in education ; and

(*b*) The Local Government Ordinance (No. 11), by which provision is made for the creation of local bodies with a majority of elected members possessing extensive powers over public thoroughfares, public health, public services, and general local wants and interests. In conjunction with the local bodies, and with a view to securing uniformity and efficiency of work, there will be a Central Local Government Board as a co-ordinating and controlling authority.

Among the Ordinances of less importance were :—

(*a*) The Midwives Ordinance (No. 2), based in The Midwives Act, 1902, which provides for the employment of properly qualified and registered midwives only in areas where they are available in sufficient numbers.

(*b*) The Buffalo Protection Ordinance (No. 17), passed in order to restrict the wholesale slaughter of buffaloes for meat, and the consequent depletion of the stock available for agricultural purposes.

Ordinances of more than local interest or specially affecting aliens were :—

(*a*) The Treaty of Peace (Enforcement) Ordinance (No. 7), making the necessary modifications to enable the Treaty of Peace Order, 1919, of His Majesty in Council to be brought into force in the Island.

(*b*) The Former Enemy Aliens (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 10), which, among other things, modifies the provisions of the principal Ordinance on the same lines as has been done in England.

(*c*) The Quarantine and Prevention of Diseases (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 14), which gives legislative sanction to the practice of preventive disinfection of ships in harbour and of recovering the expenses incurred by Government in that connection.

(*d*) The Restriction of Imports and Exports Ordinance (No. 19), which provides for the exercise by the Governor of powers similar to those granted by emergency legislation during the war (Ordinances Nos. 19 of 1914 and 30 of 1916) of restricting imports and exports for a period of five years from the date of termination of the war.

VII.—EDUCATION.

Schools in Ceylon may be broadly divided into two classes : English and vernacular. The vernacular schools are attended by about 90 per cent. of the school-going population. The English schools provide (*a*) elementary education, leading up to the Elementary School-leaving Certificate Examination; (*b*) secondary education, leading up to the Cambridge Senior School Certificate Examination and the Intermediate Examinations in Arts and Science of London University. There are also classes for commercial subjects in some of the larger schools. There is an increasing demand for English, and an attempt

has been made to meet this demand by a scheme of Government Central English Schools for rural districts, where children may receive an English education. Two such schools have been opened, one at Henaratgoda and another at Piliyandala, in the Western Province.

The inclusion of Sinhalese and Tamil in the London Matriculation and Intermediate Arts Examinations and the Cambridge Examinations has given a stimulus to the study of the vernacular languages. Several secondary schools are now teaching Sinhalese and Tamil. English has suffered in the past from Latin being taught in the schools to boys from Sinhalese and Tamil-speaking homes, who have not acquired a sound knowledge of English, and have little facility in expressing themselves in any but their own language.

VERNACULAR EDUCATION.

In 1920 there were 919 Government vernacular schools, with an attendance of 97,866 boys and 33,454 girls. There were also 1,868 aided schools, with an attendance of 123,752 boys and 73,888 girls. Of these, 275 were estate schools, with an attendance of 9,977 boys and 1,309 girls. A school for the deaf and blind started in 1912 receives grant at the rate of Rs. 5 per mensem per child on the average number of children on the roll during the year. The total sum expended by Government on vernacular education in 1920 was Rs. 1,603,557·45, of which approximately two-fifths were spent on Government schools and three-fifths on aided schools.

The Rural Schools Ordinance is now in force in all districts of the Island. The Town Schools Ordinance is in force in the following towns :—

Municipalities	..	Colombo, Kandy, and Galle.
Local Board Towns :—		
Western Province	..	Kalutara, Moratuwa, and Negombo.
Central Province	..	Gampola, Hatton-Dikoya, Matale, Nawalapitiya, and Nuwara Eliya.
Province of Sabaragamuwa		Kegalla and Ratnapura.
North-Central Province	..	Anuradhapura.
North-Western Province	..	Kurunegala and Chilaw.
Eastern Province	..	Batticaloa and Trincomalee.
Northern Province	..	Jaffna.
Southern Province	..	Matara.

The new Ordinance dealing with education in the Island and constituting a Board of Education was passed during the year, but only that part of it relating to the new Board of Education was brought into force.

Another Government vernacular town school was completed and opened during the year, making the fourth town school opened since Colombo was brought under the Town Schools Ordinance.

The annual course of lectures in sanitation and hygiene was given to teachers of vernacular schools at the Government Medical College during the midsummer vacation. Thirty-seven teachers attended the lectures, and at the examination held at the end of the course 37 gained certificates.

Lectures were also given during the year in first aid for teachers of vernacular Government and grant-in-aid schools, and in school organization and management for estate school teachers. The object of the latter course of lectures was to give estate school teachers, who are nearly all uncertificated men, some idea of proper methods of teaching and school organization. The lectures to teachers in first aid will be continued at as many centres as possible.

Schools Teaching English.

In 1920 there were 278 English and Anglo-vernacular schools attended by 48,125 pupils, of whom 37,730 were boys and 10,395 girls. There is one Government secondary school in Colombo, with an average attendance of 539. The cost to Government of this school for the year was Rs. 56,149·75, and the fees recovered amounted to Rs. 34,648. There were 21 State-aided secondary schools, particulars of which are shown below :—

Return of Secondary Schools, 1920.

Province and Management.	Name of School.	Number of Pupils on Roll and Average Attendance on March 31, 1920. Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Average Attendance.
Western Province.					
Church of England	St. Thomas's College B	485	—	485	432
Do.	Bishop's College G	8	190	198	165
Church Missionary Society	C. M. S. Ladies' College G	46	165	211	160
Private	Panadure, St. John's M	151	18	169	162
Roman Catholic	St. Joseph's College B	593	—	593	484
Do.	St. Benedict's B	1,136	—	1,136	978
Do.	St. Bridget's Convent G	81	266	347	264
Do.	Bambalapitiya Convent G	89	274	363	262
Wesleyan	Wesley College B	413	—	413	338
Do.	Methodist College G	21	231	252	215
Southern Province.					
Roman Catholic	St. Aloysius's College B	479	—	479	411
Wesleyan	Richmond College B	394	3	397	336
Central Province.					
Church Missionary Society	Kandy, Hillwood G	29	85	114	92
Do.	Trinity College B	564	—	564	491
Roman Catholic	St. Anthony's College B	420	13	433	373
Wesleyan	Kandy G	33	229	262	193
Northern Province.					
American	Jaffna College, Vaddukoddai B	367	—	367	285
Church Missionary Society	Chundikuli G	55	146	201	151
Do.	St. John's College B	450	—	450	396
Roman Catholic	St. Patrick's College B	611	—	611	549
Wesleyan	Jaffna Central College B	398	—	398	326
	21	6,823	1,620	8,443	7,063

In most of the larger schools candidates are prepared for the Senior and Junior Cambridge School Certificate Examinations. In 1919 the number of candidates who presented themselves and the results obtained were :—

	Candidates.	Honours.	Other Passes.
Senior	651	38	345
Junior	871	82	432

There are special syllabuses for Ceylon students in English, Science, and Needlework, special stress being laid on the necessity for obtaining a high standard in English.

The results of the London University Examinations in 1920 showed that 396 candidates from Ceylon presented themselves for the Matriculation Examination, 124 of whom passed. In addition, 14 candidates passed the First Examination for Medical Degrees and 8 the Second Examination, Part I. 62 candidates presented themselves for the Intermediate Examination in Arts, 36 for the Intermediate Examination in Science, 13 for the Intermediate Examination in Laws. Twenty candidates presented themselves for the B.A. degree, 2 for the B.Sc., but the results of these examinations have not yet reached Ceylon.

The encouragement offered by Government takes the form of grants or scholarships. In the majority of the aided English schools grants are paid on the results of examinations as laid down in the schedules of the Code, but in some of the more advanced schools the greater part of the grant is paid on the average attendance. Special grants are paid on account of buildings and equipment. The grants paid to English schools in the financial year 1919–20 amounted to Rs. 514,673·85.

Three Government scholarships are now offered, one on the results of the Intermediate Arts Examination of the London University, and two on the results of the Intermediate Examination in Science. Scholarships are tenable for three years, and are of the value of £250 per annum, with free passage and £50 outfit allowance. The holders may join any British University or any recognized engineering institution in the United Kingdom. The third scholarship, which was offered for the first time this year, is awarded on condition that the holder studies agriculture and natural science, and on completing his course accepts an appointment in the Department of Agriculture, Ceylon. The scholarship was not awarded for 1920, as only one candidate entered for it, but subsequently withdrew.

An exhibition of Rs. 250 or Rs. 300 a year has been offered by the Hon. Dr. H. M. Fernando, Member of the Legislative Council, to the Ceylon student who obtains the highest marks in botany and either chemistry or agricultural science in the Cambridge Senior School Certificate Examination.

The member of the Buddhist priesthood—Suriyagoda Sumangala Thero—who had been sent to the University of Oxford for two years on an annual scholarship provided by Government and private subscriptions in equal shares, has had his scholarship extended for a further period of six months until he takes his degree in Oriental Languages.

The following is the scale of fees charged in the various classes of English schools in the Island :—

	Per Mensem. Rs.
Elementary Schools.	
Infant Department and Standard I. and Standard II. ..	1
Standards III. to V.	2
Standards VI. to VIII.	3
Secondary Schools.	
Lower schools, as in Elementary Schools.	
Standard V. to VIII. and Junior School Examination Class ..	5
Higher Classes	7

Government Training College.

The Government Training College consists of four departments : English, men and women ; Anglo-vernacular, men only : Sinhalese, men ; and Sinhalese, women. The object is to supply trained teachers for aided English schools and Government Anglo-vernacular and vernacular schools. At the beginning of 1920 the number of students in training was in the English side 37 men and 45 women, in the Anglo-vernacular 13 men, in the Sinhalese 40 men, 40 women.

Trained teachers at present command good salaries, and there is a good demand for their services.

A class of 20 boys under eleven at time of examination for admission was formed in 1918 from boys in vernacular schools. Further classes of 20 each were formed in 1919 and 1920. The board and lodging of these boys are paid for by public subscription. Their tuition is free. The boys of the first batch are now up to the average of Standard VII., and are much in advance of boys of their own age who have been learning English for several years. These boys knew no English when they joined.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS.

In 1920 the aided industrial schools, which are 39 in number, received grants amounting to Rs. 28,960. The trades taught were carpentry, dressmaking, tailoring, lace-making, embroidery, and gardening. The most important of these schools is the Maggona Certified Industrial School, which is utilized by Government as a reformatory for youthful offenders. It is managed by the Roman Catholic Mission. This institution has an estate of some 300 acres and excellent buildings, towards the cost of which Government has contributed. 331 youthful offenders are at present receiving instruction in this school, and an allowance is paid by Government for the maintenance of each offender. The amount so paid in the year 1920 was Rs. 44,809·91. Another important industrial school is that at Wellawatta, Colombo, under the management of the Wesleyan Mission. The amount of grant paid to this institution in 1920 amounted to Rs. 4,800.

An impetus was given to home industries which are taught in different parts of the Island by the appointment of two Inspectors of Industries, one for weaving schools and one for carpentry and general industrial work. Carpentry is taught in 23 schools, and 18 schools have carpentry sheds with instructors attached. Five schools are engaged in cloth weaving, and 12 others are awaiting equipment. Printing and bookbinding are taught in 4 schools. Shoemaking and smithy work in 2 schools. Cane and rattan work in 3 schools. One school is ready equipped for lacquer work, and 2 are being equipped. One school is being equipped for pottery work. Basket-making and mat-weaving are taught in several schools. Hat-making is making good progress in the Kalutara District, and in 16 schools there are classes in basket-making for children.

AGRICULTURAL INSTRUCTION.

Elementary agricultural instruction is given by a scheme of school gardens conducted in connection with Government schools. The gardens are under the supervision of the Department of Agriculture. There is a Superintendent of School Gardens, who is assisted by three Inspectors. The total number of registered Government school gardens at the end of 1920 was 389. The number of gardens attached to grant-in-aid schools was 951; 150 school gardens are awaiting registration. Seeds and implements are supplied by the Department of Agriculture, and prizes are offered for competition.

Thirteen Government teachers underwent a special course of training at Peradeniya. The scheme has been supplemented by the establishment of home gardens in large numbers, seed being provided for boys who undertake to plant up vegetables in their home compounds.

Forty teachers are being trained in the boarding school for teaching agriculture and English to vernacular teachers, which was opened at Henaratgoda last year.

TECHNICAL.

In addition to night classes in building construction, mechanical engineering, electric wiring, carpentry and joinery, drawing class for carpenters, motor drivers, and mechanics, the following new classes were formed :—English, shorthand, typewriting, bookkeeping, accountancy, methods of business, and commercial arithmetic. These classes secured good attendances.

Steps are being taken to open a technical school in the Jaffna peninsula, and 62 scholarships of Rs. 100 per annum each for four years have been subscribed.

Domestic Science.

Domestic science is now being introduced as one of the subjects in the curriculum for girls' schools. A qualified Supervisor of Domestic Science assumed duties on May 12, 1920, and it is proposed to start classes early next year in the domestic science rooms, especially re-modelled and equipped for the purpose at the Government Training College.

Vacation classes at the Training College were held in August. Short courses were arranged for English teachers in the following subjects :—Geography, nature study, domestic science, and drill.

University College.

The new laboratories for the University College are nearing completion. The new Royal College building has now been started. When this building is completed, the present Royal College will be available for the University College.

Professors have already been appointed in English and Physics, and it is proposed to start lectures in the following subjects early next year, temporary lecturers being employed pending the appointment of the remainder of the permanent staff :—

(1) English Language and Literature.
(2) Classics and Philosophy.
(3) Modern History and Economics.
(4) Physics.
(5) Chemistry.
(6) Mathematics.
(7) Sanskrit and Pali.
(8) Tamil.
(9) Sinhalese.
(10) Botany.
(11) Zoology.
(12) Geology.
(13) Geography.
(14) Education.

A strong committee has been appointed by the Hebdomadal Council of the University of Oxford to advise in the course of studies and conduct of the Ceylon University College.

Industrial Exhibition.

With the object of encouraging home industries and the arts and crafts of the Island, an industrial exhibition was held in January at the Government Training College, and proved a great success. The exhibits received were representative of not only the ordinary school industries and handicrafts, but also of the indigenous arts and crafts of the Island. Parties of craftsmen gave exhibitions daily of the various processes of manufacture.

Educational Conferences.

A conference for Inspectors was held during the year in Kandy, at which addresses were given on various subjects dealing with education, followed by discussions and demonstrations. The conference was very well attended.

VIII.—PUBLIC HEALTH, VITAL STATISTICS, AND METEOROLOGY.

The general health of the Colony was satisfactory, on the whole, during the year. The epidemic of influenza, which caused the death-rate for the two preceding years to be abnormally high, partially, though not entirely, disappeared, and health conditions returned to normal. Malaria was still prevalent in the North and the Wanni, but even in these districts there was an improvement over previous years.

The only epidemic of importance during the year was an outbreak of plague in Kandy. Plague in Colombo was worse than in 1919.

Plague in Kandy.—A case of plague was detected at Dhanushkodi on April 22, 1920, and was traced to Kandy, but the outbreak in Kandy itself did not assume serious proportion till later in the year. The centre of the infection was in Castle Hill street and Colombo street, but the origin cannot be definitely traced. The town was proclaimed an infected area on June 18, and there were 120 cases in all. The worst months were July (33), August (44), and September (21), after which the disease died away, there being only 3 cases in October and 1 in November, and no case whatever thereafter. The disease occurred mostly in the bubonic form (90 cases). Thirty cases were septicæmic, but no case of pneumonic plague occurred. There were 98 deaths in all, and 22 recoveries. The greatest mortality was among the Moors. Notification of plague is, of course, compulsory, but unfortunately many cases were concealed, and this caused difficulties, and led to the spread of the disease. Patients were removed to the Infectious Diseases Hospital, direct contacts to the segregation camp, and indirect contacts, who could not afford a separate house, were accommodated in the military barracks. 250 persons were inoculated against the disease. This was successful in all cases except one, that of a disinfecting cooly, who contracted plague. A tagram fence was erected around the original plague area, but a system of underground barrel drains in Kandy made it difficult to confine the disease. Houses were systematically disinfected and cleaned, and a vigorous rat destruction campaign carried on. Special precautions were adopted regulating the storage and removal of grain. A Board of Improvement has been established in Kandy to deal especially with the "alley" population of that town.

Plague in Colombo.—235 cases of plague were recorded during the year, as against 87 during 1919, and an annual average of 201 during the six years 1914–19.

The total case mortality was 94·9 per cent., as against the average of 93·6. There were 93 cases of septicæmic plague, all of which, as usual, proved fatal; while of 142 cases of bubonic plague, 130 died. This is the first year in which the number of bubonic cases has exceeded the number of septicæmic cases.

The increased prevalence of this disease, which was experienced towards the end of 1919, was maintained during January of 1920, after which it fell to below the average during the months February to October. It then steadily increased until a maximum was reached during December, in which month 77 cases were recorded.

The majority of the cases occurred, as usual, amongst young adults, many more males than females being attacked. The disease was as hitherto almost entirely confined to the tenement areas of the town, the vast majority of the victims being people who slept upon mats on the floor within easy reach of fleas. The chief centres of the disease were the Sea street-Kochchikade area, Malay street in Slave Island, Mosque lane in Colpetty, Rudd's lane and Dean's road in Maradana, and Ferry street in New Bazaar.

Rat plague was for the most part distributed much in the same manner as the human cases, but the Sea street-Pettah areas showed an undue proportion of the total cases. During the year 106,833 rats were trapped, 3,212 were killed by the Clayton machines, and 138 were found dead. 17,013 of the trapped rats and all the Claytonized and dead rats, *i.e.*, 20,363 in all, were examined bacteriologically. Of these, 137 or 0·67 per cent. were infected. The percentage of infection was 0·34 per cent. amongst trapped rats, 18·11 per cent. amongst rats found dead, and 1·68 per cent. amongst rats killed by the Clayton fumigators.

The small proportion of rats found dead is one of the most remarkable features of the experience in Colombo. The experience so often recorded in India of plague-stricken rats coming out and wandering about in a dazed manner in the open very rarely occurs here.

In addition to the usual measures of isolation of patients and contacts, pesterining, Claytonizing and rat destruction, thorough turning out, and cleansing of all the contents of the houses in infected areas is now carried out. Partial unroofing so as to expose rat holes on the top of the party walls has also been undertaken.

The annexed statements show the chief statistical features for the seven years since plague first appeared in Ceylon :—

	1914.	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	Average 1914 to 1919.	1920.
Total cases	413	139	291	207	70	87	201	235
Total deaths	381	128	273	196	69	82	188	223
Septicæmic cases	247*	81*	159	124	41	50	117	93
Septicæmic deaths	246	80	159	124	41	50	117	93
Bubonic cases	166	58	132	83	29	37	84	142
Bubonic deaths	135	48	114	72	28	32	71	130
	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.
Total case mortality	92·2	92·8	93·8	94·7	98·6	94·3	93·5	94·9
Septicæmic mortality	99·6	98·7	100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0
Bubonic mortality	81·3	82·7	86·4	86·7	96·6	86·5	84·5	91·5

* The cases for 1914 and 1915 each includes one septicæmic recovery, but the diagno s was not in either case confirmed bacteriologically, and may have been erroneous.

Monthly Incidence of Plague Cases.

	1914.	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	Average 1914 to 1919.	1920.
January	4	19	17	25	13	—	13	25
February	67	6	18	40	18	1	25	20
March	58	3	18	61	10	3	25·5	3
April	28	3	14	34	11	—	15	3
May	29	3	11	11	2	—	9	4
June	49	1	36	3	9	—	16	3
July	47	5	43	6	2	—	17	12
August	40	20	35	1	1	2	16·5	7
September	18	21	25	3	—	5	12	18
October	23	24	24	7	—	18	16	28
November	24	10	25	10	2	34	17·5	34
December	26	24	25	6	2	24	18	77
Total	413	139	291	207	70	87	201	235
Monthly mean	34·4	11·5	24·2	17·2	5·8	7·2	16·8	19·6

Anchylostomiasis.—The campaign against this very prevalent disease, which was begun in 1916 by officers of the International Health Commission, who are doing excellent work in Ceylon, in conjunction with the Civil Medical Department, was continued, but the estate work was, with the exception of a few outlying estates, confined entirely to the Central Province throughout the year. The Nawalapitiya, Wattegama, Maturata, and Hatton areas were completed. The rate of infection was found to be from 95 per cent. to 99 per cent. of the estate population, mostly South Indian Tamils. 126,529 persons were treated, of whom 96,477 were cured.

Village campaigns were also continued in the low-country Sinhalese districts, particularly in Henaratgoda, Veyangoda, Panadure, and Kalutara, and neighbouring villages in the Western Province. A number of temporary dispensaries have been opened, and large numbers of patients have been treated in this way.

Government Medical Institutions.

There are in the Island 86 Government hospitals, including a leper hospital and a hospital for chronic cases of tuberculosis, equipped with modern hospital furniture and surgical appliances. The number of beds in the institutions ranges from 12 to 687, while the number of persons accommodated in the Lunatic Asylum varied between 911 and 1,070. In addition to the hospitals, there are 463 Government outdoor dispensaries. The owners of estates have provided 63 estate hospitals, receiving in terms of the Medical Wants Ordinance a rebate on export duty, and 649 estate dispensaries, receiving drugs free from Government to the value of 50 cents per labourer per annum.

At the close of the year the new Leper Asylum at Mantivu in the Eastern Province was nearing completion, and it is expected to be opened about the middle of 1921.

The general rebuilding scheme in contemplation for the improvement of the Medical College remained deferred. The full course of training at the Ceylon Medical College is five years for the medical students and two years for the apothecary students. A diploma in medicine, surgery, and midwifery (which can be registered in the United Kingdom) is granted to successful medical students. The apothecary students are employed by Government after they qualify in the examination.

The following were the attendances and passes during the past two years :—

	Attendances.		Passes.	
	Medical.	Apothecary.	Medical.	Apothecary.
1918, October, to 1919, March	187	78	3	9
1919, May, to 1919, July	181	65	14	3
1919, October, to 1920, March	201	74	6	10
1920, May, to 1920, July	181	60	5	11

The Government institutions in Colombo include a Bacteriological Institute, a Pasteur Institute, a General Hospital of 687 beds, an Ophthalmic Hospital, a Lying-in Home, a Hospital for Women and Children, an Anti-tuberculosis Institute fitted with an up-to-date X-ray apparatus, and a Hospital for Infectious Diseases. There are special dispensaries at Kandy and Galle for the treatment of eye diseases.

Asylums.

The Lunatic Asylum contained 966 inmates on December 31, 1920. As there is very considerable overcrowding in the present building, Government is erecting an up-to-date and thoroughly equipped asylum building a few miles out of Colombo, with accommodation for 1,000 patients and for the necessary staff and servants. The number of patients treated in the Asylum during 1920 was 1,734 (1,095 males and 639 females). The number discharged was 595 (434 males and 161 females). These figures include those of the House of Observation. Temporary accommodation has been provided for 150 inmates at Matara to relieve the overcrowding.

The Leper Asylum is situated at Hendala 6 miles, from Colombo, and contained 485 patients at the end of the year. The total number treated during 1920 was 551. A small establishment of lepers exists at Kalmunai, in the Eastern Province, and has accommodation for 30. As stated above, a leper colony is being erected at Mantivu, a small island on the lagoon in the neighbourhood of Batticaloa.

A Home for Incurables containing 80 beds is administered by a committee of Government officials and representatives of the public. The enlargement of this institution is under consideration with a view to accommodate the large number of chronic cases now remaining in hospital.

POPULATION.

The estimated population of the Island on December 31, 1920, was 4,806,725,* as against 4,757,596 at the end of 1919, an increase of 49,129, or 1·3 per cent. on that of the previous year. This increase is due to the excess of 30,764 births over deaths and 18,365 arrivals over departures of Indian coolies on estates. The population is estimated to have increased by 700,375,* or 18 per cent. on the enumeration of the Census of 1911. In the case of the estimate of the European population, the number is likely to be somewhat untrustworthy owing to conditions brought about by the war. There has not been available any reliable record of the actual number of the Europeans who left on war service and of those who arrived since the conclusion of the war. It was ascertained that 956 Europeans left the Island for the different theatres of war within the knowledge of the Military auth rities prior to 1918, and this number was deducted from the estimated number of Europeans then resident in Ceylon. Since then no account of European arrivals and departures has been taken. The forthcoming Census should show how far the estimates of the population of the principal races, which are shown below, approximate the actual number :—

	Estimated Population on December 31, 1920.	Proportion per 1,000 of the Total Population.
Europeans	7,428	1·5
Burghers	29,677	6·2
Sinhalese	3,017,303	627·7
Tamils	1,442,867	300·2
Moors	278,989	58·0
Malays	14,330	3·0
Others	16,131	3·4

MARRIAGES.

The number of marriages registered in 1920, exclusive of the Muhammadan, was 21,818, of which 16,382 were among the general community and 5,436 among the Kandyans. The number shows an increase of 2,949 on the previous year, but a decrease of 1,541 on the average of the past decade. The number of persons married per 1,000 of the estimated population, exclusive of the Muhammadan population, was equal to a rate of 9·8, as against 8·6 in the previous year and 11·6 the average rate of the preceding ten years. The economic distress in the country has in no small measure contributed to the low marriage rate for the last two years.

BIRTHS.

The births registered in 1920 numbered 163,720 and were equivalent to a rate of 34·3 per thousand of the estimated population. The number is 2,317 above that of the previous year, while the rate is higher by ·1 per 1,000. The average rate for the past decade is 37·7. The number of male children born during 1920 was 83,557 and female children 80,162. The birth of a hermaphrodite was registered in Matara District. The proportion of male children per every 100 female children born was 104, the same as in 1919.

The births registered on the estates were 23,926, and correspond to a rate of 47·1 per 1,000 of the estate population at the Census of 1911, as against 43·0 in 1919. When the rate is calculated on the estimated population on estates at the middle of 1920, it is 27·0, as against 25·8 in 1919.

In the principal towns 18,762 births were registered, or 2,283 more than in the previous year. The urban birth-rate was 28·2, as against 25·4 in 1919. The birth-rate in the city of Colombo was 24·4.

* The Census of 1921 has shown that this estimate is too generous. The provisional figures of the Census are 4,502,477, an increase of 9·54 per cent. over 1911.

DEATHS.

The deaths registered in 1920 were 132,956, representing a rate of 27·9 per 1,000 of the estimated population. The number is very much lower than that registered in 1919 (168,323), which was the highest total registered in any year. It is also lower than the number registered in 1918, but higher than that registered in the three years previous to 1918. The rate shows an improvement on the average rate for the past decade of 2·0 per 1,000 persons. The comparatively low death-rate for the year indicates that the country has more or less returned to normal health after the severe influenza epidemic.

The mortality on the estates, too, was lower than in 1919, for there were registered 21,430 deaths in 1920, as against 24,127 in 1919. The standardized rate per 1,000 of the estate population at the Census of 1911 was 52·0, as against 58·5 in 1919. Calculated on the estimated population on estates at the middle of the year, the standardized rate was 29·8.

In the principal towns the mortality during the year was a little above the previous one, the total deaths registered being 23,229, as against 22,844 in 1919. The standardized rate of mortality of residents in the towns was 29·0 per 1,000, as against 29·8 in the previous year. In the city of Colombo the death-rate was 27·1.

Infant Mortality.

Of the total deaths registered during the year, 29,792, or 22 per cent., were of children under 1 year of age, corresponding to a rate of 182 per 1,000 births registered. The rate for the year shows a distinct improvement on the previous year (223), and compares favourably with the average rate for the past decade (195) and with the rate for 1918 (188). The mortality of infants on the estates, too, showed an improvement, and it was equal to a rate of 224, as against 252 in 1919. In the principal towns the infant mortality corresponded to a rate of 228 per 1,000 births registered, or 46 per 1,000 above the Island rate and 4 per 1,000 higher than the rate on estates. In 1919 the rate in the towns was 259. The mortality of male infants in the Island, which is usually higher than the female, repeated itself in 1920 also, for during the year 189 out of every 1,000 male children born and 175 out of every 1,000 females are found to have died before attaining the age of one year.

Causes of Death.

The causes of death in the Island have been classified according to the international or Bertillon system since 1911. Corresponding to a decreased mortality, the deaths reported from most of the principal causes were less in 1920 than in 1919. As usual, pyrexia heads the list of causes with 18,582 deaths, as against 22,878 in 1919. All the deaths attributed to fever by the rural registrars are assigned to pyrexia, and there is no doubt that very many of these deaths would under proper diagnosis have been returned otherwise. The death-rate per million of the estimated population of the Island from some of the principal causes for 1920 and 1919 are given below :—

	1920.	1919.
Diarrhœa	2,660	3,260
Infantile convulsions	2,594	3,302
Pneumonia	1,396	2,276
Dysentery	884	801
Influenza	763	4,829
Anchylostomiasis	683	552
Phthisis	657	747
Malaria and malarial cachexia	315	329
Premature birth and congenital defects	301	320
Puerperal septicæmia	258	357
Bronchitis	239	247
Enteric fever	182	139

Influenza.—The deaths from influenza, which in the previous year numbered 22,814 and in 1918 19,102, have considerably decreased during the year, the number being only 3,643, or less than a sixth of the deaths in the previous year. The decrease was noticeable in each quarter of the year, though in the third the number of deaths was slightly above the second. However, the number of deaths during the year cannot be said to be negligible, as, previous to the epidemic in 1918, cases of influenza were few and far between. It is also worthy of note that the deaths from pneumonia, which in the majority of cases was but a complication of influenza, have also decreased appreciably, for the number of deaths was 6,666 in 1920, as against 9,200 in 1919.

Plague.—During the year the plague caused the deaths of 319 persons. In the previous year the number attributed to this cause was very much less, being only 79. There has been a sudden increase in the number of plague deaths during the second half of the year. Out of the total number, only 72 deaths were registered during the months of January to June. The deaths from July began to grow till in the month of December alone there were registered 67 deaths (65 in Colombo), or about a fourth of the number registered during the rest of the year. As many as 209 deaths were registered in the city of Colombo. In the town of Kandy the outbreak in May continued till about October, and caused the deaths of 82 persons. Three deaths were registered in Kalutara District, 2 in Jaffna, 1 in Matara, and 1 in Mannar.

Cholera.—130 deaths were registered from cholera, all of which were in the first quarter of the year, excepting 2 in the second. Several of them were reported from Badulla and Batticaloa, due probably to infection from Hambantota District, where the disease prevailed during the latter part of 1919.

Affections produced by External Causes.

Accidents.—2,499 deaths were registered from all forms of accidents, representing a rate of 523 per million of the estimated population. From drowning alone 514 persons lost their lives, the rate per million being 108. There were 605 deaths attributed to fall from trees, corresponding to a rate of 127 per million. Burns caused 242 deaths; of these, 61 were due to the bottle lamp.

Snake Bite.—261 deaths, as against 224 in 1919, were due to snake bite. The rate per million persons is 55.

Homicide.—227 deaths were attributed to homicide, as against 229 in 1919. The number for 1920 corresponds to a rate of 48 per million persons.

Suicide.—249 deaths were returned as due to suicide, corresponding to a rate of 52 per million persons, the same as in the previous year. The number of deaths from suicide as well as homicide seem to be rising, as compared with their respective averages for the last ten years.

Executions.—39 deaths were registered as due to judicial hanging. In 1919 the same number was registered.

Causes of Deaths on the Estates.

The chief causes of deaths on estates and their rates per million of the estate population at the Census of 1911 were as follows :—Debility (of infants under three months), 4,997 ; diarrhœa, 4,441 ; anchylostomiasis, 4,357 ; dysentery, 4,341 ; pneumonia, 4,213 ; infantile convulsions, 2,988 ; debility (of persons over three months old), 2,962 ; premature birth and congenital defects, 1,148 ; influenza, 965 ; bronchitis, 794 ; malaria and malarial cachexia, 311 ; suicide, 95 ; and homicide, 33.

Causes of Deaths in the Principal Towns.

The deaths in the towns are registered by qualified medical men. The principal causes in 1920 and their rate per million of the urban population were :—Pneumonia, 3,982 ; convulsions, 2,631 ; diarrhœa, 2,183 ; anchylostomiasis, 2,118 ; debility (of children under one year), 1,884 ; phthisis, 1,885 ; dysentery, 1,717 ; enteritis, 1,557 ; malaria and malarial cachexia, 1,295 ; Bright's disease and nephritis, 1,181 ; enteric fever, 1,031 ; influenza, 752 ; bronchitis, 499 ; puerperal septicæmia, 337 ; and cancer, 238.

METEOROLOGY.

General Remarks.—There is a marked variation in climate between the different parts of Ceylon. In the low-country, with a mean temperature of the order of 80° F., a noticeable feature is the small range of both temperature and pressure ; there is, however, wide divergence between the moist conditions in the south-west of the Island, where the average annual rainfall varies from 100 to 200 inches, and the dry zone areas of the north, north-west, and south-east.

Inland, with altitudes reaching 8,000 feet, the temperature is cooler, and shows a bigger range ; there is a corresponding change in vegetation, and the conditions are altogether more akin to those in the temperate zone.

Rainfall.—The highest annual rainfall registered in 1920 was at Watawala railway station, which had a total of 257·98 inches, and 203 days on which rain fell. The lowest annual rainfall was at Hambantota, which had a total of 31·40 inches in 121 days. The stations with highest and lowest average annual rainfall are, respectively, Carney estate with 213·80 inches in 224 days, and Marichchikkaddi with 33·22 inches in 57 days. The longest droughts occurred at Murungan, lasting for 139 days, from June 4 to October 20, and Marichchikkaddi, lasting for 138 days, from May 20 to October 4. The longest wet period occurred at Holmwood estate, lasting for 53 days, June 10 to August 1. The annual rainfall at Colombo (Cinnamon Gardens) was 90·73 inches in 189 days. At Kandy 94·29 inches were registered in 205 days ; while the annual rainfall at Nuwara Eliya was 89·47 inches in 229 days. June and November were the two months in which the rainfall was most noticeably above average, but examination of the annual totals shows that this year there is no one phrase that summarizes them all. The areas with more than their average rainfall include roughly the Northern Province, most of the North-Western Province, the western face of the hill country, and the low-country west of it (*i.e.*, parts but not the whole of Western Province, Central Province, and Province of Sabaragamuwa). Galle and Batticaloa were both above their average, but the greater number of stations in the Southern and Eastern Provinces were not, and both the Uva and the North-Central Provinces can show offsets in both directions. Floods caused considerable damage in the Colombo, Alutkuru korale south, and Hewagam division of the Western Province, and also in Jaffna, where very great damage was done at the end of the year.

Temperature.—The stations showing the highest mean shade temperature for the year was Trincomalee with 83·7° F., and the lowest Nuwara Eliya with 59·3° F. The figures for Colombo and Kandy were 80·5° F. and 76·2° F., respectively. The highest shade temperature recorded during the year was 98·5° F. at Trincomalee on May 12, 1890. The lowest this year was 27·3° F. at Nuwara Eliya (6,000 feet above sea level) on February 23, which is the lowest since 27·1 in 1914 at the same station. The highest shade temperature at Colombo in 1920 was 93·0° F. on March 26. The mean daily range, *i.e.*, the difference between the mean of the maximum and the mean of the minimum, was highest at Nuwara Eliya (18·2° F.), and lowest at Galle (8·2° F.) At Colombo and Kandy it was 11·4° F. and 15·1° F., respectively. The absolute

range for the year, *i.e.*, the difference between the highest and the lowest readings actually recorded at any one station, was greatest at Nuwara Eliya (50·2° F.), and lowest at Galle (20·7° F.).

In no case did a station's mean temperature for 1920 differ by more than half a degree from its average derived from previous years. April was the month with the biggest deficit below average, and January and February were the two months in which temperature offsets were, on the whole, most uniformly above normal, though the biggest individual deficit also occurred in the latter, viz., Nuwara Eliya 55·4, or 2·2 below its average of 57·6 for that month, a result for which a number of distinctly cold night temperatures were responsible.

IX.—POLICE, CRIME, AND PRISONS.

Strength.—The strength of the Force on December 31, 1920, provided for in the Estimates was :—

Inspector-General	1
Deputy Inspectors-General ..	2
Superintendents	10
Assistant Superintendents and Probationers	24
Inspectors	45
Sub-Inspectors	116
Sergeants	346
Constables	2,343

European Police Force.

Inspectors	1
Sub-Inspectors	3
Sergeants	31
Total of all ranks ..	2,922

The Force was kept up to strength of sergeants and constables throughout the year, the actual strength on December 31 being only 5 short of the sanctioned (2,689). The total strength of the Force was short by 31 on December 31.

Active Service.—All the remaining officers and men of the Force who had been on active service and survived the war were demobilized and returned to the Force in the course of the year.

Cost.—The cost of the Force was Rs. 2,483,300 approximately.

CRIME.

Crime committed during the Year.—There was a decrease in crime in 1920 as compared with the years 1918 and 1919, as the following statement shows :—

	1918.	1919.	1920.
Homicide	170	200	176
Attempted homicide ..	46	41	43
Grievous hurt	816	747	770
Hurt with dangerous weapons ..	1,007	955	1,009
Burglary	2,301	2,317	2,144
Theft of cattle and prædial produce	914	1,325	1,068
Other offences	3,074	2,992	2,979
Total ..	8,328	8,577	8,189

It will be seen that offences against the person show a slight increase. The total number of cases of homicide and attempted homicide, grievous hurt, and hurt with dangerous weapons in 1920 numbered 1,998, as compared with 1,943 in 1919. There has been a decrease in offences against property, which

may be classed as preventible crime. Burglary figures show a decrease, 2,144 in 1920 and 2,317 in 1919. Figures under the head "Theft of Cattle and Prædial Produce" show a decrease, 1,068 in 1920, as compared with 1,325 in 1919.

Distribution of Crime.—The following table shows the distribution of crime:

Province.	Homicide.	Attempted Homicide.	Grievous Hurt.	Hurt with Dangerous Weapons.	Burglary.	Theft of Cattle and Prædial Produce.	Other Offences.	Total.
Colombo City	11	1	73	89	79	7	446	706
North-Western	37	7	99	122	291	162	400	1,118
Southern	34	12	150	261	354	265	276	1,352
Sabaragamuwa	16	7	63	80	347	106	253	872
Western	49	9	248	259	437	332	534	1,868
Uva	5	—	14	32	115	64	197	427
Northern	2	1	43	43	102	40	325	556
Central	14	5	60	93	360	72	399	1,003
North-Central	2	1	1	6	32	6	59	107
Eastern	6	—	19	24	27	14	90	180
Total	176	43	770	1,009	2,144	1,068	2,979	8,189

Comparing the number of serious offences committed with the population in each Province, it is found that—

		Persons.
In the Colombo City there is 1 case of crime to every		307
In the North-Western Province	do.	388
In the Southern Province	do.	465
In the Province of Sabaragamuwa	do.	468
In the Western Province	do.	476
In the Province of Uva	do.	507
In the Northern Province	do.	665
In the Central Province	do.	670
In the North-Central Province	do.	806
In the Eastern Province	do.	1,021

The proportion of serious crime to population in Ceylon is 1 case of serious crime per annum to every 501 persons. The proportion of murders to population in Ceylon is 4·28 per 100,000 population, as against ·4 per 100,000 in England and Wales.

There was an increase of crime in the Colombo city, Uva, Northern, and North-Central Provinces. (Colombo city 10 per cent., Uva 19 per cent., Northern 3 per cent., and North-Central 26 per cent.) There was a decrease in the North-Western (6 per cent.), Southern (10 per cent.), Sabaragamuwa (7 per cent.), Western (7 per cent.), Central (10 per cent.), and Eastern (12 per cent.).

The most criminal districts of the Island are :—

The Kalutara District.
The Colombo City.
The Chilaw District.
The Panadure District.
The Kurunegala District.
The Kegalla District.
The Galle District.
The Matara District.
The Tangalla District.
The Ratnapura District.

Action taken to deal with Crime.—Steps taken to deal with crime during the year were :—

(1) The strength of the Force was increased by 1 Sub-Inspector, 10 sergeants, and 33 constables for the investigation of crime.

(2) Funds were provided for connecting up more police stations with the headquarters of each district by telephone.

The position with regard to the connection of police stations by telephone is now as follows :—

Number of police stations already on the telephone	88
Funds provided for police stations to be connected by telephone during 1920–21	2
Number of police stations requiring telephone connection, for which funds have not been provided	57*
	147

* Excluding Mahara and Depôt.

(3) Sessions of the Supreme Court were held in districts in which crime is prevalent, such as Ratnapura, Kurunegala, and Badulla.

(4) Special attention was given to the state of crime in the Kalutara District, in which there is more crime per population than in any other district in the Island.

In 1919 a Punitive Police Force of 1 sergeant and 4 constables was stationed in the most criminal village of Potuwila, in the Paiyagala police station area, and the strength of the Paiyagala, Alutgama, and Matugama police stations was increased to provide for additional patrols. All the nine police stations in the district, except one (Alutgama), have been connected by telephone with the Assistant Superintendent at Kalutara.

The results of two years' work on these lines are striking. In 1918 there were 695 true cases of crime, in 1919 there was a considerable drop to 497 cases, in 1920 a further decrease to 377 true cases. That is to say, in two years there has been a 46 per cent. decrease in serious crime in the Kalutara District.

A gratifying feature of this record is that with the decrease in the number of cases of crime committed there has been a marked improvement in detection. In 1918 convictions were obtained in 30 per cent. of true cases, in 1920 convictions were obtained in 57 per cent. true cases. That is to say, while the volume of crime has decreased by half, the percentage of convictions has been practically doubled.

The most marked decrease is noted under the head "Burglary," which comes under the head of "Preventible Crime." There has been a 66 per cent. drop in burglary, while the percentage of convictions in burglary cases has risen from 12 to 27 per cent.

The improvement is not confined to one station area, but is general throughout the district.

The number of absconders at large has been reduced from 60 to 27. Eighty gaming places were raided, against 29 in 1918.

Provision has been made for additional police stations in the Ratnapura District. With the extension of the railway and opening up of the country bad characters are coming to the district from other parts, and the headmen have not the same control over them as over their own villagers.

It has been arranged for an officer to be sent to Uva to take in hand the increasing crime in this Province. The extension of the railway has attracted bad characters from other districts, causing an increase in crime.

Special attention has been given to the training of all ranks on more skilled and well-thought-out lines, in order to supply the counter thrust to the ingenuity of the professional criminal, who, as he becomes better educated, is more skilled.

The police are being constantly called in to investigate cases of forgery, counterfeiting notes, forgery in connection with the false presentation of stolen money orders. These cases are becoming far more frequent, and it is without doubt consonant with the education of the lower classes ; their consequent ability to read and write has opened their minds to the possibilities of forgery.

It has been stated that education is the one remedy for crime. It would appear that without formation of character education alone is of little value. The criminal merely pursues more skilled methods, and may commit forgery instead of open theft.

The problem of connecting crime with criminals involves an intensive study of criminal methods of operation.

Careful examination of the scene, analysis of the class of crime, the method by which it was committed, and the nature of the property removed narrows down the probable offenders to a small group, whose movements can be speedily verified.

The investigation of crime on these lines and its prevention so far as possible by efficient patrolling, by raiding gaming places (which attract bad characters to a district, money is lost, and crime against property committed), and by all ranks keeping on the move as much as possible in each station area has been the subject of special training and action in 1920.

Youthful Offenders.—A Committee appointed by Government to consider the need of a Borstal institution in Ceylon under the presidentship of the Chief Justice has reported in favour of the establishment of such an institution, and a capital site in the country at Urugasmanhandiya has been suggested, where the boys can be employed both in trade and agriculture and gardening. It is hoped that as soon as funds are available this very desirable scheme will be undertaken.

DUTIES RESULTING FROM THE WAR.

Duties of the Police.—In addition to the ordinary work of the police, certain extra duties, initiated shortly after the outbreak of war in 1914, have been continued throughout 1920. Of these, the most important are :—

(1) Enforcement of the regulation that no late enemy subject is permitted to land in the Colony without special permission from Government. This regulation necessitates the searching of all vessels entering the port of Colombo.

(2) Enforcement of the regulation that no person may embark on any ship in the harbour unless he is in possession of a passport and steamer ticket or holds a special permit from the Chairman, Plague Committee, to do so. This regulation necessitates the Harbour Police checking all persons attempting to board a vessel.

(3) Examining and stamping on board ship the passports of all steamer passengers who wish to land at Colombo.

(4) The examination of the passports of all persons leaving the Colony by steamer.

(5) Registering and supervising all alien commercial travellers and missionaries arriving in the Colony by steamer or from India *viâ* Talaimannar.

(6) The general surveillance of all other aliens arriving in the Colony and of all aliens resident in the Colony.

(7) Correspondence with India, South Africa, and all Eastern Colonies regarding suspicious characters.

LEGISLATION AFFECTING THE POLICE.

Legislation dealing with the Regulation of Traffic: Motor Vehicles.—The system of control of all motor vehicles by one registering authority (Inspector-General of Police) continues, and the examination of applicants for and the issue of licenses to drive motor vehicles are being carried out by the police. The by-laws introduced in previous years to give effect to this system were added to in the course of the year to provide for the following :—

(*a*) The licensing authority nominating any engineer in the employ of Government or a Municipality, a Government motor car driver, or any person possessing the required knowledge, who may be available in his district as an examiner of motor cars for the district.

(*b*) Requiring the applicant for the issue of a license for a car to ply for hire to produce a certificate signed by an examiner so appointed that the car for which a license is desired is in every way fit to be hired for the purpose intended.

(*c*) A fee being paid by the applicant to the examiner before the examination is made.

(*d*) In the case of a motor car found finally and definitely unfit for the purpose intended, information to be conveyed by the local authority to the Registrar of Motors, who will then inform all licensing authorities and examiners of motor cars in case the applicant should try to obtain a certificate or a license to ply for hire in another district.

(*e*) It frequently happened that on a narrow thoroughfare on which there was sufficient room for two vehicles proceeding at a reasonable rate of speed to pass, the driver of one car made no attempt to reduce speed and the other driver was forced to pull out on the grass and stop for his own safety. To deal with this, a new by-law was introduced providing that when two motor cars are approaching each other on a narrow thoroughfare, both motor cars shall slow down for the purpose of allowing safe passage.

(*f*) A new code of signals in traffic was brought into operation providing a method of signalling, which can be easily performed and understood by drivers of all vehicles. The main difference between the new by-laws and the old is that in the new by-laws there is one common signal for the driver to give other vehicles of his intention to stop, slow down, or turn to the right, viz., the holding out of the right arm or whip. The fact that the right arm is held out is an indication of caution to vehicles behind. A printed note explaining these signals was issued to each applicant for a license to drive a motor vehicle, and was also issued to drivers applying for renewal of license.

(*g*) A prosecution in respect of any failure to report change of ownership or change in description of mechanically propelled vehicles or change of the postal addresses of owners may be commenced at any time within six months of the commission of any such breach. Previously the law limited the prosecution to within three months of the date of offence. It was found in practice that this period was too short in cases of failure to report changes of ownership, change of address, &c.

Other Legislation affecting the Police.—Other legislation affecting the police and introduced during the year include :—

(*a*) Release of offenders on probation. Criminal Procedure Code (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 31 of 1919, gazetted in 1920.

The new chapter XXVI. revises the chapter of the Criminal Procedure Code dealing with the release of offenders on probation. The old chapter permitted a person convicted of an offence punishable with not more than four years' imprisonment only to be released, and did not extend to some of the commonest forms of theft and criminal breach of trust. Further, the old chapter gave no power of supervision over the offender during the probationary period. Both these defects are removed in the new chapter. The new chapter also makes provision for probation officers, *i.e.*, for the appointment of persons who will undertake the responsibility of visiting or receiving the reports of persons under probation, seeing that he observes the conditions of his cognizance, watching over his behaviour and his associations, and generally advising, assisting, and befriending him.

(*b*) The Ceylon Penal Code (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 25 of 1919 (gazetted in 1920), making it penal for any person to possess in the Colony any imitation of an Indian currency note, including cotton, silk, or other woven goods having impressed thereon designs in imitation of Indian currency notes.

(*c*) Firearms (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 6 of 1920, relating to the sale of cartridges. By the new law no person may sell cartridges to any other person unless the purchaser produces a gun license authorizing him to possess a gun of the type for which the cartridges are required. In the case of every such sale the vendor is required to enter in a book the name of the purchaser, the character and quantity of the cartridges sold, and the number of the gun license.

(*d*) The Proclamation under the Necessaries of War Exportation Ordinance, No. 11 of 1914, relating to the prohibition of explosives other than industrial explosives, ammunition, and firearms being exported from Ceylon to destinations other than British Dominions.

(*e*) Ordinance No. 10 of 1920 amending the former Enemy Aliens Ordinance, No. 19 of 1919.

Special legislation to require a showman to make arrangements for the repatriation of an employee paid off from a travelling circus or theatre while in Ceylon has been asked for, as several cases have come to notice in which persons not natives of Ceylon have been paid off and left homeless and destitute.

TRAINING.

General.—Special attention has been given to the training of all men of the Force in the duty of preserving order and in the prevention and investigation of crime.

In addition to the weekly issue to all stations of orders relating to new Ordinances, by-laws, and regulations, in which all ranks are instructed and questioned, notes and hints on incidents and cases which have actually occurred are published for general information and guidance.

Men are also instructed in matters which affect their particular district or branch of work.

Training in the Investigation and Prevention of Crime.—All ranks have been trained to study and get to know criminals, not merely by their name and description, but by the " class " of crime each commits, and the " method " in which he has generally set about it.

It has been proved by records that habitual criminals are very rarely versatile in their crimes. They tend to commit the same crime over and over again ; they do not venture upon forms of crime with which they are unfamiliar. Generally speaking, every crime of a certain class is committed by a criminal of corresponding class : Burglary by burglars, pocket picking by pickpockets, bicycle stealing by bicycle thieves, the simple and probable reason being that he is used to one form of crime, and thinks that he is safest in doing what he knows best how to do. The bicycle thief who has been successful in this particular line will not take the risk of picking a man's pocket or of committing a burglary.

Not only is it true that the habitual criminal is a person with a limited horizon, who from habit, expediency, or limited resourcefulness merely practises one form of crime, but it is found that habitual criminals specialize in a particular " method" of committing their crimes. Professional criminals tend to commit their offences in certain characteristically individual methods. The burglar who forces the back window with a jemmy usually confines himself to that method, while another burglar places his faith in keys. Similarly, one house-breaker will always confine his attention to the " downstair " rooms, for he apparently has not the knack of climbing gutter pipes or of moving about upstairs without making a noise. On the other hand, no house-breaker will enter upstair bedrooms of upstair bungalows merely because he can climb gutter pipes or has learned the knack of climbing without making a noise, but probably he is not an expert in forcing windows, which in the case of a ground floor would probably be locked.

Again, " modus operandi " can be distinctly traced by the articles stolen, for one man takes trinkets and little articles of silverware, another takes clothes.

In other words, every criminal stamps his individuality on his crime. The successive offences of the same man are recognizable similarly. Almost without exception the habitual criminal leaves behind him some distinct clue, infinitesimal perhaps, which makes him out from all his fellows, so that with trained observation and a rational classification of crimes, made up on right principles, a particular offender may be located within a small class. By comparison and elimination crime is linked with crime, suspect with offender, until finally the case is brought to a point where an arrest can be made. The problem of connecting crime with criminals involves an intensive study of criminal methods of operation.

When a crime is reported to the police, after visiting the spot and making a careful examination and analysis of the class of crime, the method by which it was committed and the nature of the property removed, the constable has no longer to verify the movements of some 600 habitual criminals who reside in the locality. The crime is narrowed down to a class of, say, two to six offenders, whose movements on the day or night in question can be checked, and this small number can be watched for the sale or disposal of property in a way that a large number cannot possibly be.

The investigation of crime on these lines makes every case one of interest, but it requires skilled observation and analysis to arrive at sound deductions, and this can only be brought about by training and experience.

Every effort has been made in the course of the year to carry out training on these lines to bring about an improvement in the detection of crime.

The movement of police by day and night in the streets and villages has a good moral effect, and is the best and soundest method of preventing crime.

Physical Training.—Special attention has been paid to the physical development and training of young constables. A new system of physical training has been introduced, the object of which is to keep a young man physically fit, active, light on his feet, quick-handed, and at the same time, if possible, to keep him quick-witted. By the introduction of games and less formal exercises the interest of the man is sustained, and both mind and body are worked together in a healthy and happy manner.

The good physical effect of the system was illustrated by measurements taken of a squad of young constables before and after a two months' course of the new system. The average increase in chest measurement per man was 1⅝ inches, with ¾ inch average increase in height.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Discipline.—Many acts of bravery and prompt action displayed in arresting armed criminals and saving life from drowning were reported during the year.

Imperial Service Medal.—Sergeant H. A. Kelaart of the Harbour Police, Sergeant Cassim Ally of the Criminal Investigation Department, Police Constable Dingiri Banda of Central Province, and Police Constable S. Thambymuttu of Uva were awarded the Imperial Service Medal by His Majesty the King for long, good, and meritorious service.

First Aid to the Injured.—Every Officer, Inspector, Sub-Inspector, and Sergeant is required to hold a First-aid Certificate, and no constable is promoted to the rank of sergeant until he has obtained such a certificate. A certain number of intelligent constables hold First-aid Certificates ; the remainder are trained to act under a Sub-Inspector, Inspector, or Officer, of whom there will always be at least one in every police station in the Island. A sergeant or constable on receiving a service badge after three years' efficient service is awarded a special grant of Rs. 10 per annum, which he continues to draw so long as he remains efficient. On being awarded a medal after fifteen years' efficient service, he is given a grant of Rs. 2·50 per mensem.

A knowledge of first aid is particularly useful to police in criminal districts, where so many cases of serious injuries from personal violence occur at places far distant from a hospital. In the year 1920 there were 176 cases of homicide, 43 cases of attempted homicide, 770 cases of grievous hurt, and 1,009 cases of hurt with dangerous weapons committed in the Colony. In cases brought to police stations of assault and accident, in which bones are fractured and punctured wounds caused, there can be no question but that the cleaning of the wound, stoppage of bleeding, or application of splints before the long journey of anything up to 15 miles in a cart is undertaken must cause great relief to the patient, and prove of value in the subsequent treatment.

At stations on the sea coast all ranks are specially instructed and kept up to the mark in rendering first aid and artificial respiration to persons rescued from drowning.

Institutions of the Force include a Pensioners' Corps, which secures employment for men no longer physically fit for active police duty, and a Boys' Brigade in which sons of police officers are trained from the age of 5 upwards. The object of the Pensioners' Corps is to assist police pensioners to supplement their pension by obtaining posts as watchers, doorkeepers, &c., on retirement, and to assist the public by providing men of a reliable type and long service in Government for posts which require a steady and reliable man.

Pensioners of the Corps not in private employ are called out to assist the police at times of outbreak of plague, cholera, &c., when they are particularly useful in guarding and watching houses and contacts. There are 128 pensioners in the Corps.

The object of the Boys' Brigade is to provide healthy exercise and recreation for the sons of police officers and pensioners, and to educate and train them to become useful men. Between the ages of 5 and 13 the boy is put into uniform, and not only attends school, but is drilled in squad drill, physical exercises, and boxing. Between the ages of 14 and 17 he continues to attend school and parade for half the day, and during the other half he attends a police office as a messenger, working under the eye of an officer, for which he is paid from Rs. 5 a month at the age of 14 to Rs. 10 a month at the age of 17. At 18 he is eligible for enlistment in the Force. There are 55 senior and 290 junior boys in the Brigade.

Fifteen boys of the Brigade were enlisted in the Force during the year, and there are now 55 men in the Force who started in the Brigade, three of whom have already been promoted as sergeants.

Justices of the Peace.—Justices of the Peace have rendered very good service, not only in being available in times of emergency, but in visiting police stations, attending drills, and in supervising musketry. The fact of a resident of standing being in a position to take charge of any station and direct action in the event of a disturbance, fire, serious accident, or any other calamity is of value, not only to the police, but to owners of property, shopkeepers, householders, and the public generally. In a large and scattered district it is not always possible for the Government Agent, Police Magistrate, or Superintendent of Police to get to the scene in time to prevent trouble.

General Steps taken towards the improvement of the Force in 1920.—Two convalescent quarters at Bandarawela for sergeants and constables suffering from chest complaints were completed and are being used.

Dispensaries in large Stations.—With the growth of Colombo and the opening of police stations at considerable distance from the Police Hospital, it was found that in simple cases requiring early treatment men avoided the long walk to hospital, or, if they went to hospital, spent the greater part of the day in getting to the hospital and back, with consequent loss of time and duty. In order to encourage the men to get early treatment and at the same time to prevent the loss of time in walking to and from the Police Hospital for attention in simple cases which can be attended to at the station, Government has sanctioned a scheme whereby small dispensaries with simple remedies have been established at eight police stations at some distance from the hospital, viz., Wellawatta, Colpetty, Cinnamon Gardens, Slave Island, Pettah, Kotahena, Modera, Training School. These dispensaries are visited daily by an Assistant Medical Officer, whose appointment has been specially sanctioned by Government for this purpose. The Assistant Medical Officer sees all cases and treats them at once on the spot.

Funds have been voted for starting work on the new Police Training School at Bambalapitiya and on the barracks for men of the Pettah at the old Royal College site. These buildings have been very much needed for many years for the progress of the Force and proper training of the recruits, and the buildings when completed will be of the greatest value and assistance in the training and efficiency of the Force.

PRISONS.

There was a decrease of 341 in the total number of admissions of convicted prisoners of Ceylon during the year 1920, excluding Road Ordinance defaulters, of whom there were 410, as against 280 in 1919. The figures are as follows :—

1919	14,770	1920	14,429

The number of prisoners sentenced to death was 50, as against 55 in 1919. There were 40 executions during the year, as against 38 in 1919. Of the 40 whose capital sentences were carried out, 34 were Sinhalese and 6 Tamils. Of the number executed, 3 had been sentenced in 1919, and of the number sentenced to death, 3 were executed in 1921. Seven convicts were deported to the Andamans for life during the year. There were 5 escapes and 6 recaptures during the year.

The total number of deaths in jail was 213, as against 326 in 1919, and the death-rate per 1,000 of the admissions during the year was 9·30, as against 14·08 in 1919 and 6·50 in 1918. The number of punishments inflicted during the year for prison offences was 2,481, as against 2,067 in 1919 and 1,795 in 1918. There were 47 cases of corporal punishments, as against 35 in 1919.

Prisoners are in all prisons employed upon works of public utility and remunerative industrial labours. At Welikada and Bogambra Jails various trades are taught, such as carpentry, blacksmith and tinsmith work, bootmaking, tailoring, the making of cane furniture, matting, coir brooms, rugs, mats, coal and tea leaf bags, ropes, strings, bamboo tats, laundry work, printing, book-binding, and masons' work.

During the year 1,633 articles of wooden furniture were turned out by prison labour for various Government Departments. Owing to the increased demand for furniture, brooms, mats, tats, door rugs, and other articles, the industrial working parties at Bogambra Jail have been largely increased. Machinery to deal with the large logs of timber supplied by the Forest Department has been indented for from England, and is expected early. The Government Printing Office continues to employ a daily average of 216 prisoners from Welikada Jail. This jail also continues to wash all soiled linen from the Medical and Railway Departments, as well as the Lunatic Asylum, 726,921 pieces being dealt with during the year. 11,603 articles of clothing and bedding were made up for the Colonial Storekeeper, and 21,011¾ yards of cloth woven for prison use.

The prisoners at Mahara are exclusively employed in the quarries on account of the Harbour Works and Public Works Departments. 2,339⅝ cubes of hand rubble, 136$\frac{17}{25}$ cubes of 2-inch metal, 44⅝ cubes pitching stones, 63$\frac{8}{25}$ cubes of quarry scrapings were despatched to Colombo Harbour Works, 939·12 cubes 2-inch metal, 35,352 stone setts, 100 cubes pitching stones, 2,312½ cubes hand rubble, and 161½ cubes quarry scrapings were stocked in the quarry, while the Public Works Department were supplied with 5,687·53 cubes of 2-inch metal, 145·50 cubes of hand rubble, and 768 ashlar stones at a total estimated value of Rs. 101,800·63½.

The Karaiyur reclamation at Jaffna continues to make good progress, 6 acres 1 rood and 9 perches were reclaimed during the year, making a total of 5 acres 2 roods and 26 perches reclaimed to date.

Metal continued to be supplied to the Public Works Department from Bogambra, Anuradhapura, Tangalla, Galle, Chilaw, and Badulla prisons. At Anuradhapura a party of 25 prisoners is daily employed by the Forest Department on re-afforestation, 12 prisoners are employed in reclamation works, and 8 prisoners in the rice mills.

During the year a tract of about 10 acres of land adjoining Welikada Jail was planted with vegetables by prison labour, and a sum of Rs. 1,174·28 was credited to revenue by sale of vegetables.

The daily average attendance at the schools opened in August, 1917, was 171·41 during the year.

X.—POST AND TELEGRAPHS.

On December 31, 1920, 561 offices of various classes were open. Of these, 166 were postal telegraph offices, 30 non-telegraph post offices, and 365 receiving post offices. Two new post offices and 11 receiving offices were opened during the year. Five post offices were converted into post and telegraph offices, and 1 post office and 2 receiving offices were closed during the year.

The total number of articles, exclusive of parcels, which passed through the post in 1920 is estimated at 49 millions, as against 44 millions in 1919. The increase of 5 millions over that of the previous year was mainly in inland correspondence.

Mail Services.

A regular weekly mail service was maintained between England and Ceylon *viâ* Marseilles and Bombay, the average time between London and Colombo being twenty-one days. An occasional service by vessels of the Orient Line *viâ* Toulon conveyed the mails in eighteen days.

Fairly frequent service to the Far East was available by vessels of the British India Company, Messageries Maritimes Company, and Japanese lines.

The mails to and from Australia were carried by the P. & O. and Orient line steamers, and the service was more regular than in the previous year.

The British India Company's steamers carried mails between Ceylon and Mauritius, and the Indian and African lines of steamers conveyed mails between Ceylon and South Africa, but at irregular intervals.

Parcels.

The number of postal parcels dealt with during the year was 796,000, an increase of 61,000 over the total dealt with in 1919.

The exchange of parcels with the United Kingdom on the "Cash on Delivery" System was introduced in April, 1920, and 1,627 parcels were received and 29 despatched by this service.

Telegrams.

The number of inland telegrams transmitted during the year increased, but it was still below that dealt with in 1918. The traffic dropped at the end of 1918 owing to the increase in the charge per telegram from 25 cents to 40 cents, which was then brought into operation, and it had not fully recovered.

The number of telegrams received from India increased, but the number of telegrams despatched to India fell off. The decrease was no doubt due to the depression in trade.

The number of cablegrams despatched to, and received from, all other countries increased, and was the highest on record. This increase is, perhaps, due to the revival of trade relations with foreign countries, and to fluctuations in exchange, which give rise to a number of telegrams.

There was an increase in the number of radio-telegrams (a service which was reduced to a minimum during the war) as compared with the previous year, and a marked increase as compared with the pre-war period.

Money Orders and Postal Orders.

In comparison with the figures of the previous year, there was an increase of over Rs. 300,000 in the total value of money orders issued in Ceylon on India, United Kingdom, and other countries, making a total of Rs. 9,547,432, and a decrease of Rs. 500,000 in the total amount paid, the latter being Rs. 2,268,228.

The sale of both Ceylon and British postal orders increased, while the number and amount of British postal orders paid in the Colony was less than in 1919. The total issued and paid was £28,902. 3*s*. 3*d*.

The rates of conversion for the issue and payment of sterling money orders and British postal orders varied considerably during the year owing to fluctuations in exchange.

Post Office Savings Bank.

The business of the Bank increased considerably. During the year there were 130,169 deposits amounting to Rs. 3,508,791, and 61,082 withdrawals amounting to Rs. 2,732,443. Ten years ago the corresponding figures were 85,055 deposits amounting to Rs. 1,844,431, and 30,705 withdrawals amounting to Rs. 1,470,452.

Telegraphs and Telephones.

New telegraph circuits were run between—

	Miles.		Miles.
Kandy-Ulapane	.. 16	Colombo-Padukka	.. 22

Inclusive of railway telegraphs, 14 miles of posts and 239 miles of wire were added to the telegraph system, bringing the total up to 2,147 miles of posts and 7,558 miles of wire.

On the telephone system, public call offices were opened at Colpetty, Dehiwala, Katukurunda, Teldeniya, Galagedara, Avissawella, Padukka, Watawala, Baddegama, and Nanu-oya.

A junction line was erected between Kandy and Kondesale connecting the private exchange at Kondesale with the main trunk line system.

A new trunk line was constructed between Colombo and Avissawella.

The following telephone circuits were provided for the use of the Police Department :—Galle-Katukurunda ; Katukurunda-Talpe ; Hatton-Ginigathena.

Two new telephone exchanges were opened during the year, raising the total number of Government exchanges to 24, and the number of subscribers to 2,321. Chiefly owing to want of spare positions in the switchboard at the Colombo exchange, an acute shortage of instruments, and, in some areas, shortage of spare cable loops, a large number of applications received for new telephone connections had again to be held up.

The estimated number of telephone calls dealt with was nearly ten millions.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue in 1920 amounted to Rs. 3,951,802, and the expenditure to Rs. 3,459,390. These figures do not include either invisible revenue in the shape of work done free for other Government Departments, or invisible expenditure in the shape of work done free for the Post Office by other Government Departments (*e.g.*, the Railway) and Post Office charges not debited to the Post Office vote (*e.g.*, Temporary Increases debited to Head 46).

XI.—PUBLIC WORKS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

The total expenditure of the Public Works Department has increased from Rs. 3,437,862 in 1896 to Rs. 12,775,055 in 1920, the latter figure showing an increase of Rs. 4,010,030 over 1919. The average annual expenditure during the past twenty-five years has been Rs. 6,543,495.

The total length of roads maintained by the Public Works Department during the year was 4,099 miles, of which 3,830 miles are cart roads and 269 miles are bridle roads.

Amongst the more important works carried out or in course of construction may be mentioned the following :—

General.—Science Block, University College; additions to the Training College, Colombo; new Government Dairy at Narahenpita; new Royal College; improvements to Technical Schools, Colombo; temporary offices and stores for the Survey Department at headquarters, Colombo; improvements to Government Stores, Fort; additions and improvements to the Government Explosives Magazine, Colombo; conversion of old Land Registry Office, Negombo, into a Post Office; Elementary School in the Technical School grounds, Colombo; improvements to Registrar-General's Office, Colombo; improvements to Queen's House, Colombo; drainage of public buildings, Colombo; quarters for clerks, Experimental Station, Peradeniya; additions to District Court, Kandy; additions and improvements to Government Bungalow, Kandy; improvements to Agricultural School, Peradeniya; additional accommodation Matale Kachcheri; seed store, &c., at Peradeniya; quarters for Assistant Veterinary Surgeon, Nuwara Eliya; Forest Ranger's quarters, Hatton; Plantation Overseer's quarters, Pattipola; improvements to Nuwara Eliya Post Office; alterations to District Engineer's Office, Pussellawa; improvements to Nawalapitiya town; Clerks' quarters, Hambantota; water collecting tanks, Hambantota District; Government Technical School, Jaffna; Experimental Station at Jaffna; new Customs building at Talaimannar; additions and improvements to the Land Registry, Jaffna; improvements to the court-house, Chavakachcheri; additions to District Engineer's quarters, Batticaloa; new bungalow for District Judge, Chilaw; powder magazine at Chilaw; quarters for conductor and permanent cooly lines at Experimental Station, Anuradhapura; clerks' quarters, Anuradhapura; improvements to District Engineer's quarters, Mihintale; erection of mill, &c., at Anuradhapura, in connection with experimental husking of rice; clerks' quarters, Diyatalawa; Forest Ranger's quarters, Haputale; new Post Office, Moneragala; additions and improvements to Survey Camp, Diyatalawa; improvements to Bandarawela water supply; quarters for the District Engineer, Pelmadulla; additions and improvements to quarters of Head Clerk, Ratnapura Kachcheri; water supply, Avissawella.

Medical Buildings.—New Lunatic Asylum, Angoda; quarters for apothecary, Watupitiwala; additions and improvements to the De Soysa Lying-in Home, Colombo; additions to the General Hospital, Colombo; improvements to the Negombo hospital, Mulhalkele hospital, Nawalapitiya hospital, Agrapatana hospital, Dimbula hospital, Lindula hospital, and Dolosbage hospital; additions to Deltota hospital; quarters for Medical Officer, Pussellawa hospital; additions and improvements to Nuwara Eliya hospital; hospital for Udugama; medical buildings, Elpitiya; additional accommodation, Galle hospital; improvements to Jaffna hospital; Leper Asylum, Batticaloa; Ridigama hospital; additions

to Dandagamuwa hospital, Kurunegala hospital, Polgahawela dispensary, and Topawewa dispensary; dispensary and apothecary's quarters, Nachchaduwa; dispensary at Madulsima; quarters for second apothecary Moneragala hospital; improvements to Lunugala hospital water supply; additions and improvements to Karawanella hospital.

Police Buildings.—Additions to police station, Puttalam; quarters for police constables at Bandarawela.

Progress was also made with the Colombo Lake Development project; construction of a quarantine camp at Madampam, South India; Karaiyur reclamation, Jaffna; Digarolla bridge, Moratuwa; Gampola bridge; Blackpool bridge, Nanuoya-Nuwara Eliya road; Tripichang-oya bridge, Kurunegala-Puttalam road; repairs to Dodanduwa and Gintota bridges; reconstructing Badalgama bridge, Negombo-Giriulla road; renewing Pol-oya bridge, Galle District.

Irrigation.

The total expenditure of the Irrigation Department for the financial year 1919–20 was Rs. 933,093.

The schemes under construction were Karachchi, Tabbowa, Nachchaduwa (distribution channels), Unnichchai (distribution channels), Pattipola-aru extension, and Kirinda-oya (right bank). Work on Tabbowa scheme, which was closed down in 1915, was resumed in October, 1919. The closure of the bund of Karachchi tank was successfully completed at the end of the year, and the bund withstood without damage a flood which rose to 4 feet above the level of the spill.

Surveys and investigations were made in connection with the following schemes:—Vadamaradchi lagoon, Karachchi, Giant's tank, Nachchaduwa Nuwerawewa, Kanukkeni, Tabbowa, Kalawewa, Minneri, Kantalai, Unnichchai, Hambagamuwa, Mutturajawela, Kirinde-oya (right and left banks), and Walawe (right and left banks). Contour surveys were made of Lahugalla tank bed and of the paddy fields under Kirama, Kalu-oya, and Giant's tank. Gaugings and other observations were taken at Vadamaradchi lagoon, Elephant Pass, Mahaweli-ganga, Virgil-aru, Bolgoda lake, and Polwatte-ganga.

The number of Crown irrigation works is 184, and under these works about 155,000 acres are irrigated for paddy. It has been decided, in order to encourage the cultivation of foodstuffs, that these lands will pay no irrigation rates until 1925 if cultivated for paddy or other foodstuffs. In addition to the Crown works, there are approximately 5,200 village tanks and elas (small channels) in operation with an approximate area of 167,000 acres of land cultivated for paddy. About 1,500 village works are under restoration by the villagers. Approximately 15,000 acres of undeveloped irrigable land suitable for paddy cultivation is available under the existing Crown irrigation works.

Survey Department.

The operations of the Survey Department for the period under review comprised 40,838 acres of block surveys, 1,440 acres of irrigation surveys, 1,894 acres of forest reserve surveys, and 3,051 acres of town survey.

The number of block survey preliminary plans issued was 27, containing 2,533 lots, covering an area of 23,110 acres. Three irrigation survey plans containing 1,099 lots, covering an area of 6,262 acres, were issued. The number of forest reserve survey plans was 2, covering an area of 81,892 acres.

Two town survey plans containing 111 lots, covering an area of 24 acres, were also issued.

Final village plans to the number of 200 were issued.

The total area now covered by block surveys is 2,282,786 acres, topographical surveys 1,093,380 acres, forest reserve surveys 587,276 acres, irrigation surveys 36,415 acres, and town surveys 11,762 acres, making a total of 4,011,619 acres.

Final Village and Topographical Plans.—245 final village and topographical preliminary plans for 218,058 acres in 6,663 lots were issued to the Government Agents and Assistant Government Agents during the year. The total area covered by the final plans in the hands of the Government Agents and Assistant Government Agents now stands at 1,260,116 acres, contained in 43,938 lots on 2,458 plans.

Preliminary Plans.—1,381 preliminary plans for 15,925 acres in 6,610 lots were forwarded to the Government Agents, Assistant Government Agents, and the Settlement Officer.

Supplementary Surveys in Final Village Plans and existing Preliminary Plans.—406 supplementary surveys consisting of 1,812 lots, covering 5,679 acres, have been made and inserted on final village plans and preliminary plans already issued.

Applications.—521 applications, covering 2,190 acres, were surveyed under Government Circular No. 36 of April 15,1920, by which the Government allows an applicant for irrigable Crown land, for the cultivation of paddy, to take immediate possession of the land free of rent for a period of three years. After the expiration of this period, the sale or lease of the land to the cultivator is to be considered. In the event of sale, the sale price may be paid, if desired, in yearly instalments over a period of not more than ten years. The object of this is to increase the production of rice in the Island.

Nature of Applications.—1,013 applications, covering 3,816 acres, were surveyed for paddy ; 31 applications, covering 1,643 acres, for tea ; 208 applications, covering 3,021 acres, for rubber ; 24 applications, covering 1,945 acres, for tea and rubber ; 287 applications, covering 818 acres, for coconuts ; 63 applications, covering 1,439 acres, for rubber and coconuts ; 644 applications, covering 2,326 acres, for native cultivation ; and 312 applications, covering 466 acres, for building purposes.

Acquisition Surveys.—Many surveys have been carried out for acquisition in connection with important public purposes, such as the Chilaw-Puttalam Railway ; Badulla Railway ; additional lands for the Bulk Oil Installation at Kolonnawa ; Agalawatta-Badureliya road ; Matugama-Bellapitiya road ; Infectious Diseases Hospital, Colombo ; improvements at Dehiwala ; widening of the Colombo-Negombo road from the Victoria bridge up to the 4th mile ; building offices, bungalows, &c., for the headquarters and research staff of the Department of Agriculture, Peradeniya ; war memorial at the Civil Hospital, Galle ; Woodend-Algoda road ; deviation of the Gampola-Nawalapitiya road ; approaches to the proposed new bridge over the Mahaweli-ganga at Gampola ; and for improvements of Local and Sanitary Boards.

Acquisition preliminary plans to the number of 193, for 570 acres in 1,308 lots, were forwarded to the Government.

Railway Department.

Open Line.

The length of the line opened for traffic on September 30 remains the same as last year, viz., 728 miles.

The revenue receipts advanced from Rs. 16,901,830 in 1919 to Rs. 17,129,292. This figure does not include Rs. 2,245,164, which represents freight charges on rice and foodstuffs conveyed free, and Rs. 1,747,648 on account work done to other Government Departments.

The number of passengers conveyed was 10,396,004, or an increase of over one and a half millions as compared with the previous year. Season Ticket Traffic taken on a monthly basis and Parcels Traffic have also increased by 18,884 and 108,492, respectively, but there has been a falling off of 47,202 in Foreign Cooly Traffic.

The total tonnage of goods carried shows an increase of 172,108 tons over the preceding year. The principal increases are rubber 7,310 tons, rice 7,961 tons, coconut produce 16,811 tons, tea and rubber packing 6,032 tons, manure 31,613 tons, sundry goods 54,824 tons, and foreign traffic 4,931 tons.

The ordinary expenditure, exclusive of amounts paid on account of temporary increases on salaries, &c., and on account new and minor works chargeable to maintenance, amounted to Rs. 11,786,145, which is in excess of the comparative figures of the previous year by Rs. 2,492,443.

The capital cost of the Railway, including sums expended on additional accommodation and improvements to September 30, was Rs. 144,026,601, of which sum there was outstanding on loan account Rs. 55,328,641.

Railway Construction.

Badulla Extensiom.—This line is an extension of the Main line beyond Bandarawela. It serves the Badulla, Passara, and Lunugala districts. This line is 21½ miles in length, and the difference in level between the two termini is 1,875 feet. The line traverses rough mountainous country throughout, necessitating very heavy work, with high viaducts and six tunnels. The line between Bandarawela and Ella was opened for traffic on July 1, 1918. The portion of the railway from Ella to Demodera was opened on December 15, 1920, for goods traffic only.

All work remaining is now in hand on the section between Demodera and Badulla. The line Ella to Demodera will be opened for all traffic by the beginning of April, 1921.

Colombo Stations Extensions.—This large scheme, which involved the complete remodelling and rebuilding of the Maradana and Fort stations in Colombo, the deviation and duplication of the main lines across land reclaimed from the lake between Maradana and Slave Island, the construction of new engine sheds at Dematagoda, the erection of new Railway stores, and the complete remodelling and additions of Colombo goods yards and new Kelani Valley goods yards, is now approaching completion. Work during 1920 was confined to the erection of the new arrival platform at the Fort, the remodelling of the existing goods yard near Railway road, and the completion of the reclamation and quay walls round the "lake basin." All these works have been pushed forward as fast as circumstances will allow. All cart areas inside the goods yards are being paved with sett paving, and this work is in hand.

Main Line Duplication.—This work was practically suspended during the war. It consists of duplicating the line from Ragama to Rambukkana, a distance of over 43 miles, new stations on up-to-date lines being provided at Mirigama, Alawwa, and Rambukkana. Work has now re-started, and will be pushed forward quickly when funds are available. The bridge over the Maha-oya at 36 miles 5 chains is about three-fourths completed, and work on the Mirigama tunnel is in hand.

Harbour Rail Extension.—This railway connects the Main line of railway at Urugodawatta with the Harbour line in the vicinity of the Graving Dock, and the connection of the lines in the vicinity of the Wharf station with the Harbour line north of the new Lake and Harbour Canal. It includes the lowering of the premises known as "Uplands" and "Summer Hill" to the level of the top of the Graving Dock. The work has been pushed forward quickly during 1920, and a single line connection has now been established

between the Graving Dock and Urugodawatta. In connection with this line, but included in the Stations Extensions Scheme, is a large goods sorting yard at Urugodawatta. Over-bridges are being erected over the principal thoroughfares, and the construction of a goods station at Urugodawatta and transfer sidings at Blomendahl is in hand.

Kolonnawa Oil Branch.—This connects Urugodawatta with the Oil Depôt at Kolonnawa, and the work is practically complete.

Puttalam Extension.—This is an extension of the west coast railway north of Chilaw. The length of the line is 33⅓ miles and the gauge 5 ft. 6 in. Work was started at the end of November, and the clearing of land is nearly completed. Earthworks are in hand, and a portion of the rails and steelwork for the larger superstructures of bridges ordered.

Maho-Batticaloa and Trincomalee Light Railway.—These lines aggregate about 170 miles in length. Over one-third of the total length has been surveyed. Construction on about 20 miles is at present in hand, and the rails are laid for a length of 6 miles. The gauge of these lines is 5 ft. 6 in. and the section of the rails 46¼ lb. per yard. These lines will open large tracts of country hitherto undeveloped owing chiefly to the difficulty in access.

Horana-Dehiwala and Agalawatta-Kalutara Lines.—These lines have been surveyed, but no sanction has yet been received for construction.

Projected Railways.—The principal projected railways remaining unsurveyed are (1) the Matara-Hambantota line *viâ* Tangalla; (2) the Rambukkana-Kegalla line.

Colombo Drainage Works.

The drainage works have been carried out under the administration of Government on behalf of the Municipal Council. The necessary funds have been advanced by Government, partly on loan and partly by contribution as a grant in aid.

The scheme provides for a system of sewers and rain-water drains and pumping stations throughout the Municipality, and for the disposal of the sewage by bacterial treatment works upon modern lines.

At the end of 1920, out of a total habitable area of 5,725 acres within the Municipality, about 61 per cent. has been provided with a complete sewerage system, ready to receive house connections; about 28 per cent. has been partially drained by a system of arterial sewers, public latrines, and depôts for the disposal of night soil into the sewers; and 11 per cent. is devoid of any sewerage system.

Ten pumping stations and 128 miles of sewers have been constructed, including all the main sewers and most of the principal branch sewers.

The public latrines are now being used by over one-third of the whole population of the Municipality daily.

Since 1911, when the scheme was first brought into operation, the annual death-rate has shown an average reduction of about 18 per cent.

XII.—EXCISE.

The Excise Department is governed by Excise Ordinance, No. 8 of 1912, and the amending Ordinance, No. 25 of 1914. A certain amount of new legislation in the form of notifications under and amendments to the Excise Ordinance was introduced in 1920.

The sanctioned strength of the Department in 1920 was : 1 Excise Commissioner ; 1 Deputy Commissioner of Excise (vacant) ; 4 Assistant Commissioners of Excise ; 1 Excise Adviser, whose term of deputation ceased on September 28, 1920 ; 2 Superintendents of Excise ; 13 Assistant Superintendents of Excise, to which number two new appointments were added from October, 1920 : 102 Excise Inspectors and some 229 Excise peons, in addition to a clerical staff.

Owing to the exigencies of the service, the Excise Adviser continued to act as Excise Commissioner, in addition to his own duties, till August 1, when Mr. T. W. Roberts, C.C.S., assumed charge of the Department. Mr. Parsons and Mr. de Saram have been appointed to act as Assistant Commissioners of Excise instead of Officers from the Civil Service.

Departmental examinations continue to be held in February and August of each year.

The regulations affecting the importation, sale, and possession of cocaine continue in force. There have been few cases of breach of these regulations.

Stringent measures are taken to put down the use of the hemp plant (*Cannabis indica* or *sativa*) of ganja and of bhang. The smuggling of ganja from India and the growth and use in Ceylon have received the close attention of this Department. The following prosecutions were the result in 1920 :—

Number of cases decided	176
Number of persons convicted	162
Total fines and forfeitures	Rs. 12,717

Excise offences generally are being strongly repressed. 3,980 cases of offences against Excise law have been detected in 1920, of which number 1,338 cases were disposed of departmentally by the levy of composition fines, totalling Rs. 21,809·50. The prosecutions in courts resulted in fines and forfeitures amounting to Rs. 90,546·75, exclusive of other punishments, such as imprisonment, &c. The corresponding figures for 1919 were 4,382 (1,592 compounded for Rs. 23,924·80) and Rs. 104,842·69.

Rewards are given for good work as an incentive to keenness. Rewards paid during the year amounted to Rs. 27,985·72.

The sums bid for the various arrack and toddy rents for the financial year 1920-21 as compared with the two preceding years are as follows :—

	Arrack.			Toddy.	
	Rs.	c.		Rs.	c.
1920-21	7,937,130	0*	..	1,952,330	23
1919-20	7,432,429	0	..	2,008,832	0
1918-19	7,387,850	0	..	1,877,465	0

* Does not include Jaffna, Mannar, and Mullaittivu rents, which were sold under the contract supply system.

The fees obtained during the financial year 1920-21 from the issue of foreign liquor licenses amounted to Rs. 95,598·51. The revenue derived from this source in 1919-20 was Rs. 90,638·50. The increase may be put down to larger importation, greater consumption, and higher assessment, which is now based more precisely on the amount of gallonage or business done.

Some slight amendments and alterations were made in the general conditions, arrack and toddy rent sale conditions for 1920-21. A separate set of conditions were drawn up governing the arrack taverns under the contract supply system in the Northern Province.

The consumption of arrack and toddy in 1920 as compared with 1919 and 1918 was :—

	Arrack. Gallons consumed.	Toddy. Gallons consumed.
1920	1,019,370	4,752,605
1919	1,029,269	4,570,395
1918	1,015,386	4,736,016

There is a slight decrease in the consumption of arrack in 1920 as compared with the year 1919. This was due to the depression in the rubber and tea industries and to the high prices of foodstuffs.

135 private distilleries were licensed in the year 1920–21, as against 138 licensed in 1919–20. The number of stills that worked in 1920 were 196 as compared with 173 in 1919.

In accordance with the recommendation of the Excise Commission (*vide* Sessional Paper IX. of 1917) certain rules have been passed in order to place the toddy-arrack distilleries and wholesale warehouses in a condition that will satisfy sanitary, analytical, and Excise requirements. The rules *re* sanitary requirements come into force from January 1, 1921, and those *re* analytical and Excise requirements as from January 1, 1924.

There were 125 successful prosecutions in 1920, as compared with 128 in 1919, by officers of the Distillery Circle. The fines imposed by courts in these cases amounted to Rs. 8,369·41. There were also 120 offences compounded for Rs. 1,872 in the Distillery Circle.

It was decided to introduce the arrack contract supply system as an experiment into the Northern Province, and tenders were called for twice. No satisfactory tender was received, and Government has, therefore, directly organized supply. All the arrack required for the contract supply area is turned out at the Government Distillery at Kalutara at a cost of just over Rs. 2 per gallon. This is about one-half the rate asked for by the tenderers, and the distilling operations for the year are expected to yield a profit of Rs. 40,000. The arrack is distilled from two bases, viz., toddy and molasses, in the ratio of 3 to 1. Toddy is bought from contractors locally, and molasses is imported from Java. Arrack is issued from the Distillery under bond to the Excise Warehouses at Jaffna, Mannar, and Mankulam, from which tavern renters are bound to draw their supply. Arrack is issued from the warehouses only on production of a Kachcheri receipt in token of pre-payment of cost price, duty, and rent. Under the contract supply system arrack taverns are sold individually, and the person who offers the highest amount as rent for every gallon sold in the tavern becomes the purchaser of the right to sell. The rent bids were very high, their average level being 40 per cent. higher than under the old renting system. In consequence the selling price in Jaffna has been raised by nearly 40 per cent. This has heavily reduced consumption in the Province, but the revenue is likely still to equal or exceed that of the previous year. The new system will be extended to another Province as from October 1, 1921.

Brands of Spirit.—All the brands of spirit which have hitherto been approved by the Excise Commissioner for sale in the Island were revised, embodied in one list, and published in the shape of a notification under the Excise Ordinance in October, 1920.

The prohibition of "off sales" is being continued for the second year in the Jaffna and Chilaw Districts, but with little success. In spite of the prohibition of "off sales," the arrack consumption in Chilaw District show an increase of about 10,000 gallons over the previous year. The consumption in the Jaffna District has, however, fallen by about 8,000 gallons, but this is due (1) to the high prices of rice and arrack; (2) to the closure of certain taverns.

Most of the other recommendations of the Excise Commission were given effect to in 1918, the principle of local option, however, being restricted to foreign liquor taverns and arrack taverns only. In 1919 this was extended to the other classes of taverns, viz., toddy taverns and places licensed for the sale of beer and porter. The privilege of local option is now being exercised in regard to all classes of taverns.

Instructions have been issued to the Government Agents in terms of the motion recently brought forward at the Legislative Council that local option ballots should be held at the same time and place for the closure of all classes of taverns to be taken together, or of each class of tavern to be taken separately as the application may specify.

The following statement shows the result of local option ballots held in 1920 in respect of arrack taverns, toddy taverns, and foreign liquor taverns. No ballots were held in respect of beer and porter taverns :—

	Arrack Taverns.	Toddy Taverns.	Foreign Liquor Taverns.
Number of ballots held ..	93 ..	41 ..	3
Number where more than 75 per cent. of the tax-paying inhabitants voted for abolition of taverns	22 ..	23 ..	1

Since the privilege of local option was conceded, some 76 arrack taverns, 70 toddy taverns, and 3 foreign liquor taverns in all are to be closed under the local option rules. Since October, 1919, there has not been a single arrack or toddy tavern in the whole of the North-Central Province. These numerous closings have not so far reduced consumption.

Excise Advisory Committees have assisted the Government Agents and Assistant Government Agents in fixing the number and the sites of taverns. Unofficial Excise Officers have in some places given valuable aid.

The Departmental Staff List was revised and published in 1920 in the form of an ordinary seniority list.

Excise learners are appointed on the results of a competitive examination held by the Director of Education. Exceptions were made in the case of a few returned soldiers, who were admitted without examination into the class. Excise clerks are also admitted in accordance with the rules governing the admission of learners.

April 14, 1921.

C. H. COLLINS,
Third Assistant Colonial Secretary.

H. R. COTTLE, GOVERNMENT PRINTER, COLOMBO, CEYLON.

Colonial Reports, Etc.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Year.*
1050	Gibraltar	1919–1920
1051	Somaliland	,,
1052	Zanzibar	1919
1053	Gambia	,,
1054	Uganda	1918–1919
1055	Malta	1919–1920
1056	Swaziland	,,
1057	Bechuanaland Protectorate	,,
1058	Ashanti	1919
1059	Bahamas	1919–1920
1060	British Solomon Islands	,,
1061	Seychelles	,,
1062	Mauritius	,,
1063	St. Vincent	April–December 1919
1064	Nigeria	,,
1065	Sierra Leone	,,
1066	Gold Coast	,,
1067	Jamaica	1919–1920
1068	British Guiana	1919
1069	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
1070	British Honduras	,,
1071	Hong Kong	,,
1072	Barbados	1919–1920
1073	East Africa Protectorate	1918–1919
1074	Leeward Islands	1919–1920
1075	Nyasaland	,,
1076	Falkland Islands	1919
1077	Bermuda	1920
1078	Grenada	,,
1079	Uganda	1919–1920
1080	Fiji	1920
1081	Gibraltar	,,
1082	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1919
1083	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1920–1921
1084	St. Helena	1920
1085	Basutoland	1920–1921

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Subject.*
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oil Seeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.

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COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1137.

CEYLON.

REPORT FOR 1921.

(For Report for 1920 see No. 1086.)

PRINTED IN CEYLON.

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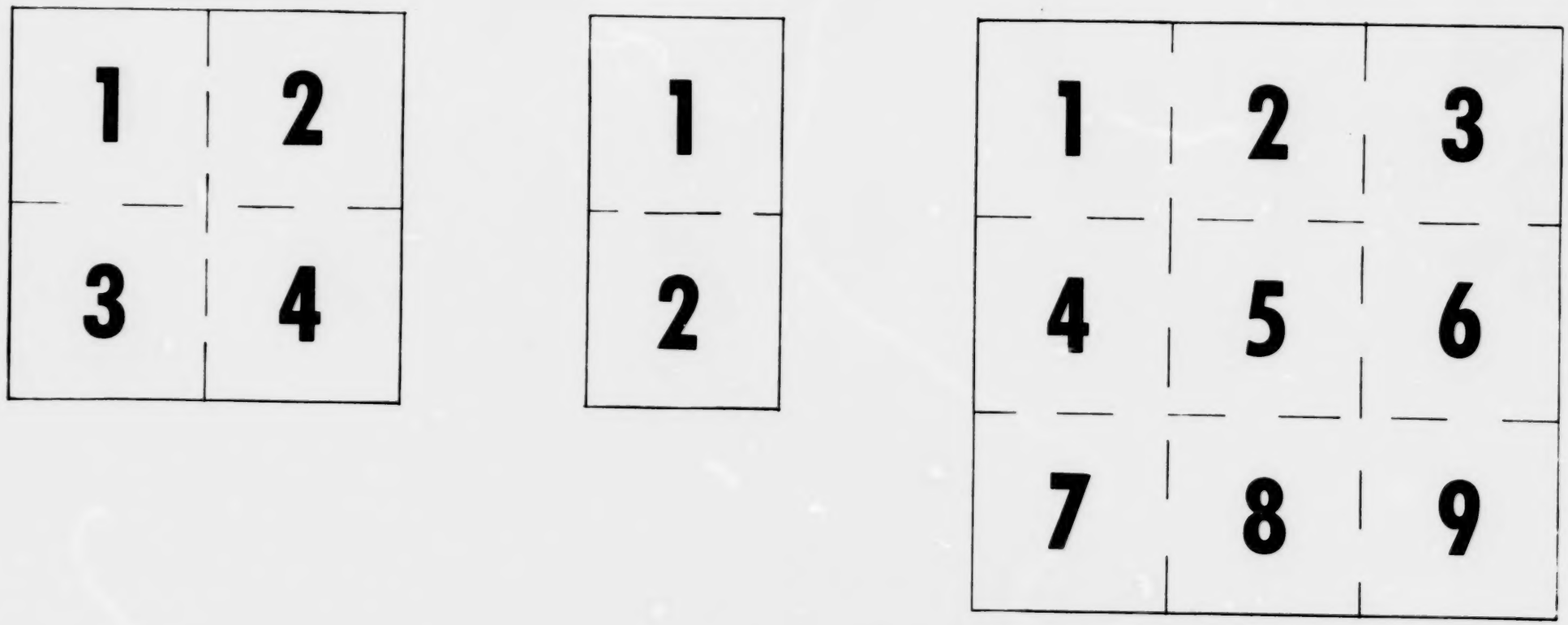
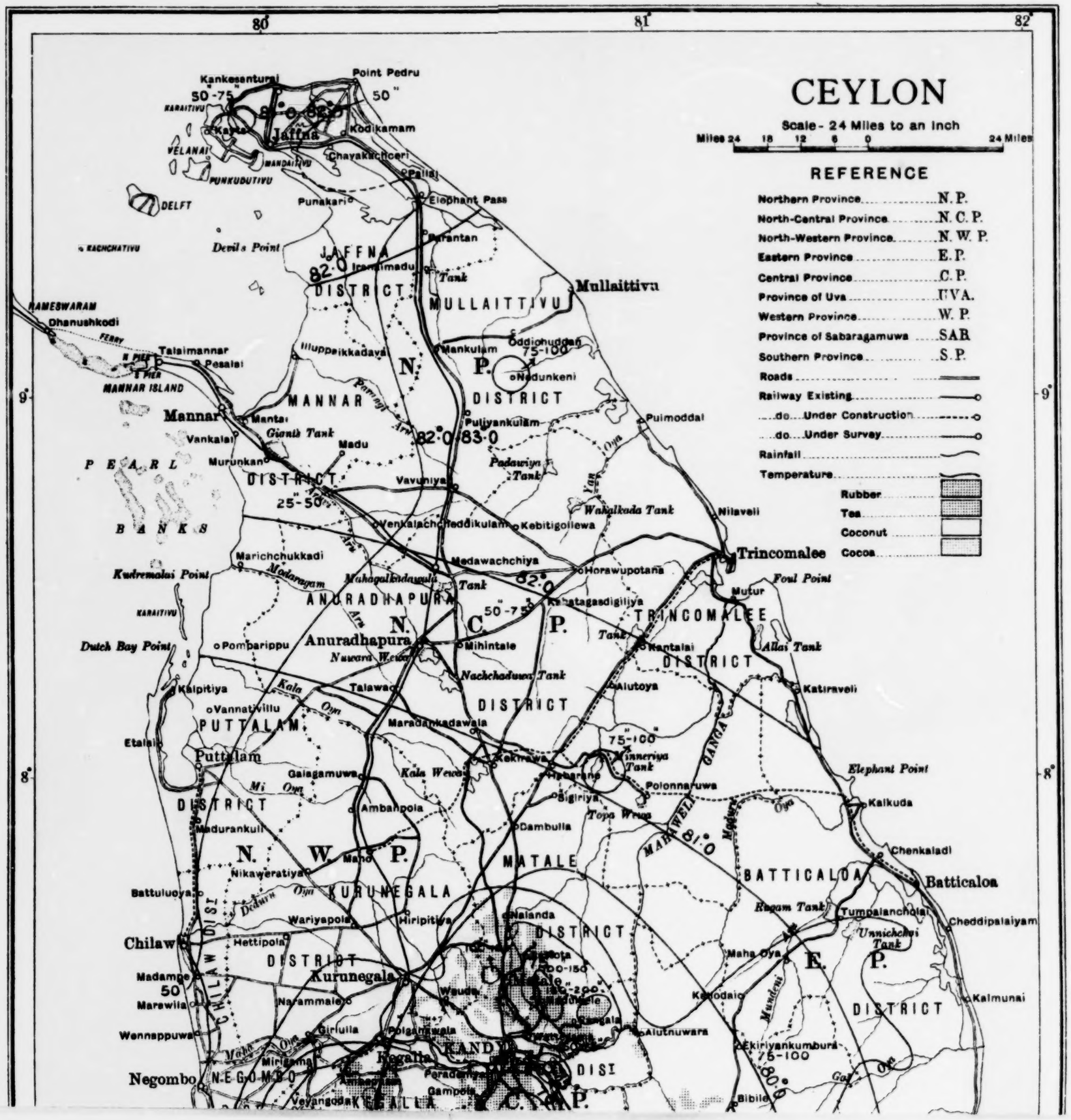
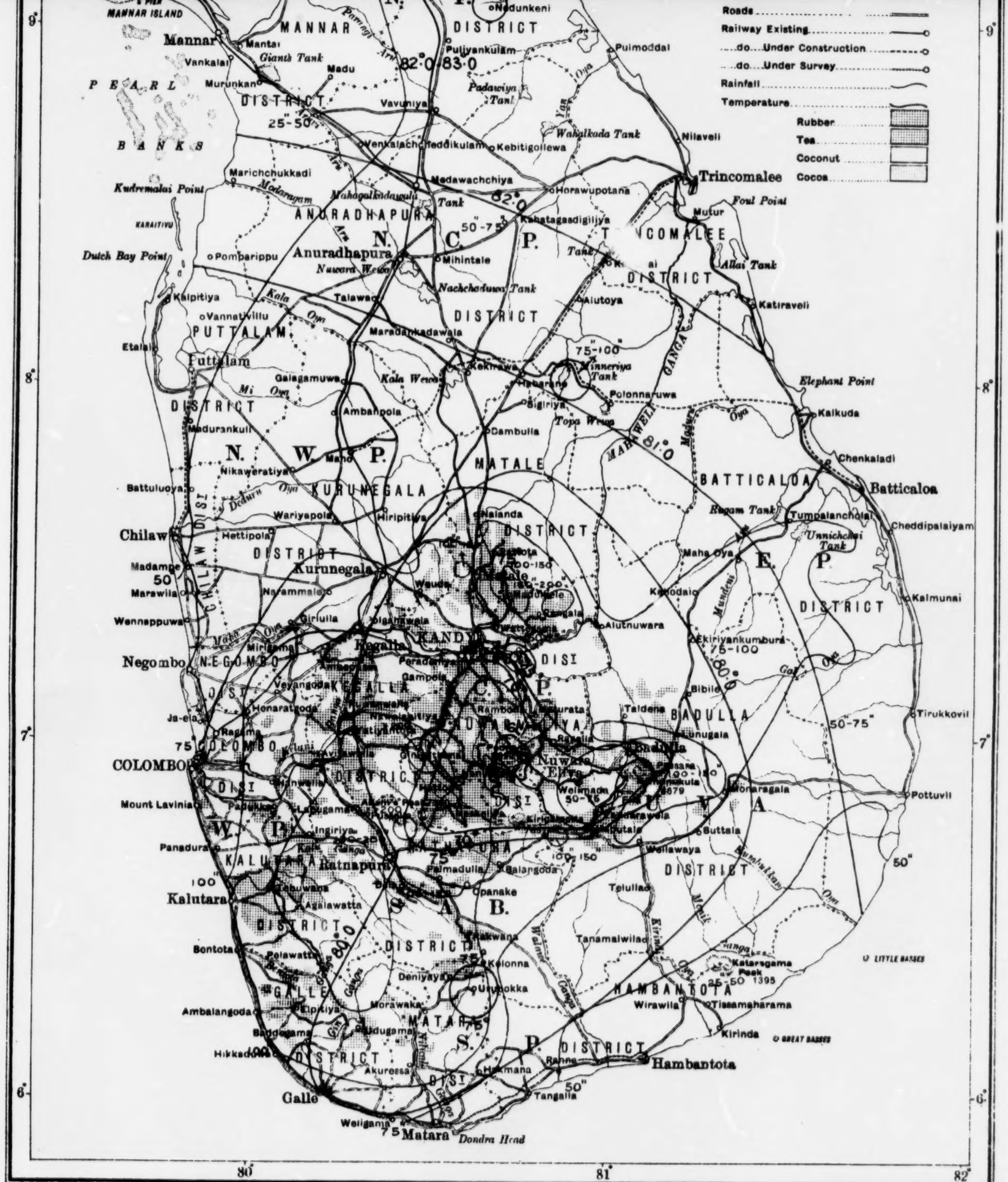



CEYLON
Scale - 24 Miles to an Inch
Miles 24 18 12 6 0 24 Miles
REFERENCE
Northern Province N. P.
North-Central Province N. C. P.
North-Western Province N. W. P.
Eastern Province E. P.
Central Province C. P.
Province of Uva UVA.
Western Province W. P.
Province of Sabaragamuwa SAB.
Southern Province S. P.
Roads
Railway Existing
do. Under Construction
do. Under Survey
Rainfall
Temperature
Rubber
Tea
Coconut
Cocoa
80°
81°
82°
9°
8°
Point Pedru
Kankesanturai
Jaffna
Kodikamam
Chavakachcheri
Palaly
Elephant Pass
Punakari
Pirantan
Tank
Mullaittivu
Devil's Point
JAFFNA DISTRICT
MULLAITTIVU
RAMESWARAM
Dhanushkodi
FERRY
Talaimannar
Pesalai
MANNAR ISLAND
Illuppaikkadavai
Mankulam
Oddichuddan
Nedunkeni
MANNAR DISTRICT
Mannar
Manta
Giant Tank
Vankalai
Madu
Murunkan
Puliyankulam
Puimoddal
Padawiya Tank
PEARL BANKS
Vavuniya
Wakalkada Tank
Nilaveli
Trincomalee
Wenkalachchi
Teddikulam
Kebitigollewa
Marichchukkadi
Kudremalai Point
Medawachchiya
Horawupotana
Foul Point
Mutur
Mahagalkadawala Tank
ANURADHAPURA DISTRICT
Kahatagasdigiliya
TRINCOMALEE DISTRICT
Dutch Bay Point
Pombarippu
Anuradhapura
Mihintale
Nuwara Wewa
Nachchaduwa Tank
Kantalai
Allai Tank
Kalpitiya
Talawa
Alutoya
Katiraveli
Vannativillu
PUTTALAM DISTRICT
Maradankadawala
Etalai
Puttalam
Galagamuwa
Kekirawa
Minneriya Tank
Elephant Point
Polonnaruwa
Sigiriya
Kalkuda
Ambanpola
Madurankuli
Dambulla
Chenkaladi
Nikaweratiya
Maho
MATALE
BATTICALOA DISTRICT
Batticaloa
Battuluoya
KURUNEGALA DISTRICT
Wariyapola
Hiripitiya
Nalanda
Rugam Tank
Tumpalancholai
Cheddipalaiyam
Unnichchai Tank
Chilaw
Hettipola
Kurunegala
Maha Oya
Madampe
Marawila
Narammala
Waudu
Kebodaio
Kalmunai
Wennappuwa
Giriulla
Polgahawela
Alutnuwara
Ekiriyankumbura
Negombo
Mirigama
Kegalla
Peradeniya
Gampola
Bibile
Veyangoda


Roads
Railway Existing
do. Under Construction
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Madurankuli
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Chenkaladi
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BATTICALOA
Battuluoya
KURUNEGALA
Wariyapola
Hiripitiya
Galanda
Rugam Tank
Tumpalanchotai
Cheddipalaiyam
Unnichchai Tank
Chilaw
Hettipola
Madampe
Marawila
Kurunegala
Narammala
Wennappuwa
Girulla
Alutnuwara
Kodaio
Ekiriyankumbura
Kalmunai
Negombo
NEGOMBO
Veyangoda
Bibile
Tirukkovil
Ja-ela
Ragama
Taldena
BADULLA
Bandarawela
COLOMBO
Mount Lavinia
Welimada
Monaragala
Pottuvil
Buttala
Wellawaya
Panadura
Ratnapura
Palmadulla
Balangoda
Kalutara
Opanake
Telulla
Agalawatta
Bontota
Pelawatta
Kelonna
Deniyaya
Kataragama Peak
Ambalangoda
Morawaka
Wirawila
Tissamaharama
Bandagama
Hikkaduwa
Akuressa
Hakmana
Kirinda
Hambantota
Galle
Tangalla
Weligama
Matara
Dondra Head
LITTLE BASSES
GREAT BASSES

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ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR 1921.

I.—GENERAL.

SIR W. H. MANNING, G.C.M.G., K.B.E., C.B., was Governor of Ceylon throughout the year. The title of Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George was conferred on His Excellency in January.

The Honour of Knighthood was conferred on the Hon. Mr. H. C. Gollan, Attorney-General, and on the Hon. Mr. Ponnambalam Ramanathan, K.C., C.M.G.

The Companionship of the Order of St. Michael and St. George was conferred on the Hon. Mr. B. Horsburgh, C.C.S.

The following were appointed King's Counsel :—Messrs. A. Drieberg, C. B. Elliott, T. F. Garvin, A. St. V. Jayawardene, and H. J. C. Pereira.

Hon. Mr. W. S. Shaw, Puisne Justice, was appointed Chief Justice, Straits Settlements, and Mr. J. Scott, C.C.S., and Mr. H. M-M. Moore, C.C.S., were appointed Assistant Chief Secretary, Nigeria, and Colonial Secretary, Bermuda, respectively.

Mr. H. G. Bois, European (Rural) Member of the Legislative Council, resigned in July, and was succeeded by Mr. R. S. Philpott.

The following retired from the Public Service during the year :—Messrs. R. B. Hellings, C. R. Cumberland, and R. W. Byrde of the Civil Service; Brigadier-General R. B. Fell, Commandant, Ceylon Defence Force; Mr. H. F. Tomalin, Conservator of Forests; Mr. J. C. C. Middleton, Assistant Conservator of Forests; Dr. K. McGahey, Senior Sanitary Officer; Dr. G. VanRooyen, Inspecting Medical Officer; Mr. A. E. McCloskey, Chief Engineer of Telegraphs; Mr. F. R. Dias, District Judge, Kandy; Mr. G. Hazelrigg, Registrar, Supreme Court; and Mr. E. Human, Chief Engineer, Colombo Lake Development Scheme.

The following deaths are recorded with regret :—Mr. W. Wadsworth, Additional District Judge, Colombo; Mr. J. E. de Silva, late Police Magistrate, Kalutara; and Messrs. A. R. Dawson, E. Elliott, H. O. Fox, E. T. Noyes, and H. White, all retired members of the Ceylon Civil Service.

The general condition of the Colony has not been very satisfactory this year. The year began badly with a very serious depression in three of the Colony's most important industries, tea, rubber, and plumbago. Tea recovered steadily however, and was in a strong position at the end of the year. The rubber industry remained in a depressed state throughout, with a very slight improvement during the second half of the year, but estates have been able to continue their operations, exercising, of course, the greatest possible economy in all directions. Plumbago has had a very bad year, and the market for the present is almost dead. The coconut industries, however, have remained in a satisfactory condition, and there has been little real distress in the Colony. Prices have generally remained at a high level, except in the case of rice, the price of which fell considerably during the latter part of the year. Exchange remained almost stationary at about 1*s.* 4*d.* to the rupee, a fact which, though it helped to keep prices high, gave material assistance to estates and exporters.

32-22-1,000

The condition of the people was fairly satisfactory throughout, and no special relief works have been necessary in any part. Weather conditions have been fair, but heavy rains at the very beginning and end of the year, and long periods of dry weather at other times, caused the paddy harvests on the whole to be somewhat poor. Health conditions were satisfactory, and there were no epidemics of any consequence. Malaria, however, continued to be very prevalent in some parts.

Owing to the restriction of imports of rice from India, a system of food control had been in operation in Ceylon since 1919, and at the commencement of the year the system was still in force, but conditions were much better, and there was reason to believe that an ample supply of rice would be available. Consequently, on February 28 all restrictions as to the quantities purchasable were removed, but the restrictions as to a maximum selling price were retained. At the end of June, however, it became necessary to re-impose the restrictions as to the amount purchasable, as there were then further difficulties in obtaining supplies from Burma. These difficulties were overcome, and early in August the restrictions were removed, and by the end of October it became possible to remove all restrictions, including those fixing a maximum selling price. Since then the supply has been sufficient, and the price reasonable.

The Food Production Department, which was established in April, 1920, ceased to exist at the end of March, 1921, and its functions were divided between the Controller of Revenue, the Government Agents, and the Agricultural Department. It had accomplished a good work in encouraging the local cultivation of foodstuffs, but the abandonment of the proposed compulsory food production Ordinance and the improved condition of the food supply from abroad rendered the existence of a separate department unnecessary. This did not mean that the efforts which had previously been made to increase the area under cultivation in Ceylon were abandoned. The colonies referred to in last year's report continued their work, with the exception of the Salvation Army Indian colony at Unnichchai, which proved a failure. Local cultivators, however, took up land at Unnichchai, and their colony is progressing, though slowly. There are other colonies at Tempitiya, Vakaneri, and Lahugala in the Eastern Province and at Ratmale (Nachchaduwa) in the North-Central Province, which continue to make progress, and the Government Agent of the Eastern Province reports that steps were also taken to settle the chena cultivators of Bintenna, Wewgam pattu, and Kathiraveli upon paddy lands, with a considerable amount of success. He also states that "Food production was further stimulated by the operations of the Paddy Bank which by the end of the year had about one lakh of rupees out on small loans. The work of this bank has so far been experimental, but it is proposed shortly to settle its constitution, and to work out in connection with it a system under which the small cultivator will be encouraged to make a certain annual saving and gradually acquire a capital of his own, instead of, as at present, being dependent upon borrowing to do his cultivation." The Agricultural Department has continued to work with the same object in view by maintaining experimental and demonstration gardens, by distributing seed and leaflets, and by lectures, &c. Irrigation rates on lands cultivated with paddy remained suspended, and the free carriage of foodstuffs on the railway was continued.

Of special interest are the experiments which have been made to introduce new products, especially those suitable for the dry zone, where the present staple products of the Colony, tea, rubber, coconuts, cacao, &c., do not thrive. A large estate has been opened in sisal hemp by a syndicate of European planters in the North-Central Province, and is showing great promise. Cotton cultivation has been tried in the past without any very striking success, but further endeavours are being made to introduce this crop, the Hambantota District of the Southern Province being considered the most likely part of the Colony for this purpose. Some inquiries have also been made into the possibility of

growing and canning pineapples in large quantities, an industry which may find a suitable home in certain areas of the Colony with a considerable rainfall, *e.g.*, the Kegalla District.

The important question of transport has received a great deal of attention during the year. First in importance in this connection are, of course, the new railway extensions. The long extensions to Batticaloa and Trincomalee are intended to provide an outlet for the large food-producing areas of the Eastern Province, and to open up much new land, at present mostly forest and jungle, along their routes. The Puttalam extension will supply a long felt need by giving railway facilities to a large and important coconut-growing and salt-producing district; the Badulla extension of the Main line will supply one of the foremost tea districts of the Colony, and the Harbour extension and Kolonnawa lines will not only facilitate the work of the port and of the oil installation, but will also benefit suburban Colombo. In addition to these railway undertakings, the year has seen a large increase in the use of mechanical road transport, not only in the planting areas, but also in the low-country. There are now motor 'bus services on most of the main roads of the Colony, even in districts generally considered to be backward, such as the Mullaittivu District and the North-Central Province, of the latter of which the Government Agent writes: "There has also been considerable development of motor traction along the main roads, and private 'buses (in addition to the Government mail motor 'bus from Anuradhapura to Trincomalee) ply on all the main Public Works Department roads. The villager is now able to travel to Anuradhapura and back very rapidly at a small uniform charge of 10 cents per mile . . . . ." The use of large-sized motor vehicles for the conveyance of goods as well as passengers is on the increase, and is giving rise to a very serious problem, for the roads of the Colony, though in most instances quite suitable for the traffic borne by them in the past, are not always able to bear the extra traffic now put upon them, and require new, heavier, and wider bridges, and often demand entire reconstruction.

One of the outstanding events of the year was the opening of University College, Colombo, which marks a very important step in advance as regards higher education in the Colony. As indicated in Section VII. "Education" below, the institution has had a successful first year, and it is hoped that within the next few years it will be possible to convert the present college into a University for Ceylon.

In regard to Local Government and the public health, the most important event was the formation of a Local Government Board under Ordinance No. 11 of 1920, and the preliminary steps for the creation of new Urban District Councils for the towns of Negombo and Ratnapura under this Ordinance in place of the existing Local Boards. These new Councils will have elected Unofficial Chairmen and a majority of elected members, with extensive powers over public thoroughfares, public health, and local matters generally. Reference might also be made to the work of the Board of Improvement Commissioners, Kandy, who, with funds provided partly by Government and partly by the Municipal Council, have formulated schemes of improvement for the town, and have started the erection of a number of model dwellings intended to house the "alley" population of the town. In Nuwara Eliya four sets of model dwellings were completed during the year, this being a portion of a scheme financed partly by a loan and partly by a grant from Government for improving the housing conditions of the poorer classes. In the Western Province considerable advance has been made in many of the small towns by the provision of wide roads and open spaces, markets, &c., and in some cases by the provision of a local water supply. In Colombo the drainage works, which provide for a system of sewers and rain-water drains and pumping stations throughout the Municipality, and for the disposal of sewage by bacterial treatment on modern lines, were practically completed and were in process of being

handed over to the Municipality. It was not possible, however, to provide further public funds for the Board of Improvement Commissioners of Colombo, and this body ceased to function.

The first meeting of the Reformed Legislative Council under "The Ceylon (Legislative Council) Order in Council, 1920," was held in June. The new Council consists of 14 official members and 23 unofficial members. The latter consist of 16 elected members (11 of these being territorially elected members), 2 nominated Kandyan members, 1 nominated Muhammadan member, 1 nominated Indian member, and 3 other nominated members.

Among the events of interest during the year may be mentioned the visit of the Crown Prince of Japan in March, an elephant kraal at Kalawana in the Province of Sabaragamuwa in the same month, the taking of the census of population on March 18, and the laying of the foundation stone of the Victory Column (War Memorial) on the Galle Face, Colombo, by His Excellency the Governor in December.

Two Commissions were appointed during the year, viz. :—

(1) Consisting of Sir Alexander Wood Renton and the Hon. Dr. Fernando, to make a general and comprehensive investigation into the pay, prospects, and conditions of the service of the staff of all the Departments, and particularly to make recommendations for an equitable revision, and, if necessary, a re-grading of the salaries and allowances of all Public Officers of the Government Service. To consider all cognate questions, such as age of retirement, leave, free passages, free holiday passes, house and station allowances, and provision of Government quarters. To investigate the adequacy or otherwise of the staff employed at Government offices generally, and to make recommendations if it is considered possible that such staffs might be reduced without loss of efficiency.

This Commision completed its work and made its report to Government. The report was still under consideration at the end of the year.

(2) To inquire into and report whether it would be possible to reduce the expenditure in Public Departments by the reduction of the staffs of these Departments.

The following are some of the principal Committees appointed during the year :—

To consider what steps should be taken for the representation of Ceylon at the International Rubber and Allied Industries Exhibition to be held in London.

To fix the amount of compensation to claimants for cars commandeered during the riots of 1915.

To consider proposals with regard to prevention and mitigation of floods.

To consider what further measures should be taken for carrying out sanitary precautions on estates and in villages, with a view to prevent soil pollution.

To consider the Forest Ordinance, and what steps should be taken to give effect to the recommendations contained in the report of Mr. P. M. Lushington.

To inquire into and report upon the prevalance of parangi in Ceylon with a view to making adequate provision for coping with the disease.

To consider the question of the definition of the habitual criminal in connection with the application of certain proposals of the Indian Jails Committee, 1919–20, to Ceylon.

II.—FINANCIAL.

Revenue.

The revenue collected during the financial year ended September 30, 1921, amounted to Rs. 70,619,061·06, which was Rs. 2,416,938·94 less than the estimate and Rs. 10,581,356·96 less than the amount collected in the previous financial year. Trade depression was the main cause of the shortfall as compared with the estimate, and a contributory cause of the decrease as compared with the revenue of the previous financial year, but the fact that the large credits to revenue in 1919–20 on account of gain on exchange were not repeated in 1920–21 was the main cause of the difference between the two years.

Expenditure.

The expenditure for the period under review, which was estimated at Rs. 82,179,678, was actually Rs. 91,767,691·35, being in excess of the estimate by Rs. 9,588,013·35 and the expenditure of previous financial year by Rs. 6,884,421·46. The principal cause of these differences is to be found in the loss on exchange and on rice purchases in connection with food control.

Assets and Liabilities.

The assets of the Colony on September 30, 1921, were Rs. 43,245,044, and the liabilities Rs. 31,728,693, showing an excess of assets over liabilities of Rs. 11,516,351. The assets consisted of cash in fixed deposits and current accounts in the local banks and with the Crown Agents, value of stores in hand, and advances to local bodies. The main liabilities are the amounts due to the Widows' and Orphans' Pension Fund and to sundry depositors in the General Treasury and local Kachcheries. The cash balances available amounted to Rs. 24,057,843.

Currency.

On September 30, 1921, the value of currency notes in circulation was Rs. 45,734,049, and the currency reserve on that date consisted of Rs. 14,855,502 in silver rupees and Rs. 28,264,002 in British, Colonial, and Indian investments.

Public Debt.

At the close of the financial year the nett sterling public debt of the Colony stood at £7,587,262 and the rupee debt at Rs. 2,068,534, or approximately 1·1 of the annual revenue. Of the loan of £6,000,000 authorized by Ordinance No. 6 of 1921 to meet the cost of construction of railways and of other works of improvement and for the repayment to the general balance of the Colony of sums advanced to the Colombo Municipal Council on account of Drainage and Waterworks, a sum of £3,212,993. 8*s*. 4*d*. was raised up to September 30, 1921, and bears interest at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum.

Death Duties.

Estates of persons whose deaths occurred on or after July 1, 1919, are chargeable with duty under the new Estate Duty Ordinance, No. 8 of 1919, which came into operation as from that date.

The estate duty collected during the financial year 1920–21 on 980 estates amounted to Rs. 939,821. The largest estate dealt with was of the value of Rs. 3,411,745, and the amount of duty payable was Rs. 441,780. Of this sum one instalment was paid during the year, the remaining seven instalments being payable annually.

The total duty collected under the new Ordinance is nearly three times the amount of stamp duty formerly collected on probates and letters of administration.

Ceylon Savings Bank.

The Ceylon Savings Bank had a sum of Rs. 4,503,592 to credit of 41,608 depositors on December 31, 1921, against Rs. 4,283,218 to the credit of 40,670 depositors on December 31, 1920. The amount of the bank's invested funds on December 31, 1921, was Rs. 5,021,766, which includes the reserve fund of Rs. 714,115. Interest was allowed at the rate of 4 per cent. on sums of Rs. 1,000 and under, and 3 per cent. on sums over Rs. 1,000.

Note.—See page 50 for a report of the work of the Post Office Savings Bank.

III.—AGRICULTURE.

Tea.

The exports of the black tea during 1921 amounted to 159,302,769 lb., as against 184,770,231 lb. shipped during the previous year. The quantity of green tea exported totalled 2,308,197 lb., as against 3,204,134 lb. in 1920. These exports are the lowest in the past decade, and the year has been a most extraordinary one for the tea industry. At the beginning of the year prices, except for high grown teas, were comparatively low, and restriction of crops was still being adopted. Prices improved very considerably as the year advanced, but the market demanded the very finest qualities. Great care in plucking and in manufacture became necessary in order to meet the demands of the market, and many firms sent experts in manufacture to the various estates under their control to advise on factory work. This demand for only the finest qualities necessitated the adoption of finer plucking, and as a consequence all crops of leaf have been smaller. The quality of Ceylon tea improved very considerably as the result of the care taken upon the estates, and there has been a good steady demand for the best qualities at remunerative prices. The climatic conditions of the year in the tea districts have been abnormal. Both monsoons were light, and there was a marked shortage of rain in many of the principal tea-growing areas of the Colony, particularly at the higher elevations. This naturally tended greatly to reduce crops, and assisted towards the improvement of quality. High prices were reached in the middle of the year, and have since been well maintained.

The restriction of manuring was necessary owing to the financial losses of estates during 1920, and owing to the demand for better qualities of teas. Changes have been made in the systems of manuring, less nitrogenous manures as a whole being employed.

Pests, such as scales, mites, &c., were common in some localities, and red rust has given some trouble. These pests and diseases are generally associated with weakly bushes, and if they are to be controlled, greater attention will have to be given to cultivation and to manuring. Estates realize this necessity, and with the improvement in prices have taken steps to give the affected areas more liberal treatment. Changes have been made in the regulations affecting shot-hole borer of tea, and after close investigation of the efficacy of the disinfection treatment of tea seed at the Colombo Fumigatorium, it was decided that it was advisable, in order to protect the Ceylon tea industry against blister blight, to prohibit the import of tea seed from India.

Rubber.

The exports of rubber amounted to 88,125,425 lb., as against 93,167,284 lb. in 1920. A large number of estates continued a policy of restriction for part of the year, while some restricted output for the whole period. Prices have been very low throughout the year, although a temporary recovery was shown in the last two months. Crêpe was most in demand, and only first quality

sheet was able to command reasonable prices in comparison with crêpe. Low grade sheet and all scraps were practically unsaleable during the earlier part of the year. Much scrap rubber was burnt on the estates, and various attempts were made to utilize low grades of rubber locally either on roads, for making stair carpets, for soles for tennis shoes, or for the manufacture of paints and varnishes.

The low prices for rubber has naturally resulted in closer attention being given to manufacture. Buyers were very particular in regard to the quality and appearance of sheet, and prices were considerably lower for all consignments which were mildewed or rusty. The Department of Agriculture during the year had several inquiries as to the methods of prevention of mildew and rust in sheet rubber, and the matter was brought up for discussion before the Estates Products Committee of the Board of Agriculture. Rubber estates have been compelled to stop all manuring, to reduce expenditure on cultivation, and to curtail expenses on roads and drains.

It is satisfactory to note that most estates still maintain expenditure on the treatment of pests and diseases. Fortunately, owing to the comparatively dry season, diseases of rubber were not particularly prevalent during the year. There was practically no pod and leaf-fall disease, and brown bast, which is now considered to be a physiological disorganization associated with tapping, was considerably less common. The majority of estates continue to tap on alternate days, but an increasing number of estates are now experimenting with the three-day tapping system.

The Colony was well represented at the International Rubber Exhibition held in London in June, and secured several important awards for its exhibits. An exhibit which attracted some attention was the pure rubber soles for boots and shoes. Several requests for samples were received, and the manufacture of these soles has since been taken up locally. It is hoped, eventually, that a company will be started to place this manufacture on a commercial basis.

Cacao.

The exports of cacao were 62,244 cwt., as against 56,397 cwt. in 1920. The spring crop was, on the whole, a light one, but the autumn crop was a very satisfactory one. Prices were low in the first part of the year, but subsequently improved considerably. The Peradeniya Chocolate Company began operations during the year, and turned out very good qualities of chocolate.

Coconuts.

The export of coconut products during 1921 were as follows :—

Coconuts	No.	23,738,542
Copra	Cwt.	1,375,696
Desiccated nuts	Cwt.	870,943
Oil	Cwt.	502,042
Fibre	Cwt.	205,278

A very large increase took place in the export of nuts. These were mainly sent to the United Kingdom, Egypt, and Holland. Very considerably increased exports of fibre were also made. Desiccated nut exports were greatly in excess over the exports of the previous year, while exports of copra and oil were approximately the same.

Crops were very good in all districts, many areas producing crops which were 25 per cent. in excess of normal. Prices were, on the whole, good, more especially in the middle of the year. Tractor trials were held upon an estate in the Kurunegala District during the year under the auspices of the Department of Agriculture. These trials demonstrated the possibilities of certain types of motor tractors in the cultivation of coconuts, and attracted a considerable amount of interest. Diseases of coconuts have been given special attention,

especially in the Kurunegala District. They were not exceptionally prevalent, and many diseases are closely associated with unfavourable soil conditions and with defective drainage and cultivation. Pests have also been investigated. The caterpillar pest has been declared under the Plant Pest and Disease Ordinance, and has been the subject of control by the Plant Pest Board of Batticaloa, where considerable damage was done by this pest, particularly in Akkaraipattu. Damage continues to be done by the beetle and weevil pests, especially in the Batticaloa District. A predator on the black beetle was discovered by the Entomologist during the year.

Cardamoms.

The export for 1921 was 4,512 cwt., as against 3,754 cwt. in 1920. This product is grown chiefly in Kotmale in the Nuwara Eliya District by villagers, but the low price of the product since the outbreak of the war has not encouraged its cultivation.

Cinnamon.

The exports of this product were as follows :—

Cinnamon quills	..	..	..	lb. 3,328,408
Cinnamon chips	..	..	..	lb. 1,471,520

These exports were in excess of the previous year. Prices were, on the whole, fair, but some good stocks are still being held in expectation of a rise in price. The position is fairly satisfactory, but there is no encouragement for opening fresh lands for the cultivation of cinnamon.

Citronella.

The exports of citronella oil, which is prepared mostly in the Tangalla District of the Southern Province, amounted to 1,160,555 lb., as against 1,022,809 lb. during the previous year.

Kapok.

The exports of this fibre amounted to 461,652 lb., as against 301,743 lb. in 1920.

Paddy (Rice).

An increase in the area under paddy cultivation is reported from most Provinces, particularly during the earlier part of the year, when the price of imported rice was high, but with the fall in the price and the removal of food control, the impetus for the cultivation of as much land as possible under paddy was removed. Many parts of the Island suffered from drought, but the North-Central Province, one of the principal paddy-growing areas, had a sufficient rainfall and good crops.

Tobacco.

This product is grown in various parts of the Island, Jaffna, Kandy, Chilaw, Mullaittivu, Mannar, and Tamankaduwa being the chief places. The tobacco grown is mostly for local consumption and for export to India and the Straits Settlements, but experiments have been made, and are still being made, to produce tobacco suitable for the European market. There was a fall in the export of this commodity this year from 3,600,000 lb. to 2,400,000 lb., but the export is greater than it was in 1919. The Government Agent, Northern Province, reports that the prices for the Jaffna product in Ceylon and in Travancore ruled abnormally high, and the tobacco dealers made large profits, but generally as regards this product the year was not very satisfactory.

FOODSTUFFS.

The efforts to increase the local supplies of foodstuffs have been continued, and the Department of Agriculture has concentrated upon demonstrating the value of better cultivation, the value of manures, and of transplanting. The question of the improvement by selection of the varieties of paddy has also been taken up at two experiment stations. Facilities have continued to be given to paddy growers, and the work of the Paddy Bank in the Batticaloa District has, on the whole, been encouraging.

CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES.

Thirteen new societies were registered during the year. The total number of societies is 165. The share capital of existing societies on March 31, 1921, was Rs. 122,071, and the reserve funds Rs. 20,523. The total number of members was 17,890, and the amount of manure distributed by societies to village cultivators during the year was 244 tons and 16 cwt. A new Co-operative Ordinance was passed by the Legislature during the year further to encourage the co-operative movement and to render possible the formation of central societies.

BOARD OF AGRICULTURE.

The Department of Agriculture during the year took over the Agricultural Instructors from the Agricultural Society and placed them under the supervision of Divisional Agricultural Officers. The publications of the Society have also been taken over by the Department. The Agricultural Society proposes to transform itself into an Agri-Horticultural Society, with headquarters at Colombo, as soon as finances improve. For the present the work of the Society, with the sanction of the Executive Committee, is being dealt with by the Department of Agriculture. An Advisory Board of Agriculture was legally constituted during the year. It is divided into three main Committees—Executive, Estate Products, Food Products—and is advisory to the Department of Agriculture and to Government on all matters affecting the agricultural industry.

VETERINARY.

Diseases of Animals.

Rinderpest.—At the close of 1920 this disease was confined to two villages in the North-Western Province. The disease was restricted to this Province, and with the end of these cases in the first half of the year all the Provinces remained free during the rest of the year. In the North-Western Province there were 36 cases (23 deaths, 11 recoveries, and 2 shot), which ended the 1919–20 outbreak.

The town of Colombo—outside the Quarantine Station—was free during the year. Amongst the cattle imported from India 31 cases were reported from the Cattle Quarantine Station, Colombo.

The virtual disappearance of this disease is one of the most satisfactory features of the year.

Foot-and-Mouth Disease.—This disease appeared in all the Provinces, except the Northern and North-Central Provinces. 1,324 cases were reported, against 1,610 cases in the previous year (1,170 recoveries, 21 deaths, and 1 shot, and 132 remained ill at the close of the year).

There were 107 cases in Colombo town, and 54 cases at the Cattle Quarantine Station. The disease is thus fairly common in Ceylon, but the type is mild and the fatality small.

Anthrax.—The Provinces were free. 397 deaths occurred at the Cattle Quarantine Station amongst the goats and sheep imported from India.

Rabies.—Fifty-two suspected cases were examined by the Director of the Pasteur Institute, 15 of which were from Colombo town. Thirty-three gave a positive and 15 a negative result; 4 were unfit for examination. 249 persons underwent treatment at the Pasteur Institute in Colombo.

Quarter Ill.—No reports of this disease were received.

Hæmorrhagic Septicæmia.—Twenty cases were reported in the Province of Uva, with 18 deaths and 2 recoveries.

Piroplasmosis.—Six cases were reported in the Western Province and 19 cases in the Central Province.

Surra.—No cases were detected during the year.

Swine Diseases.—There was no outbreak during the year.

Equine Diseases.—The only disease that caused serious loss was Osteoporosis, which was more prevalent than formerly, and caused great loss, especially amongst the young race horses imported.

SALT.

The manufacture and collection of salt are a Government monopoly, which is protected by a duty of Rs. 3 per cwt. on imported salt. The amount realized by its sale in 1921 was Rs. 1,911,157·42, as against Rs. 1,988,278·53 in 1920 and Rs. 1,786,054·08 in 1919.

The local production of salt was poor, and the total yield was only 294,135 cwt. distributed as follows:—

	Cwt.
Hambantota District	139,671
Puttalam District	74,195
Jaffna District	36,060
Trincomalee District	18,024
Elephant Pass (Government Saltern)	1,185
Palavi (Government Saltern)	25,000
	294,135

This output represents less than half of the annual consumption in the Island, and the decrease was largely due to the manufacturers at Puttalam (which has up to 1919 been the chief source of the salt supply of the Island) not starting manufacture till very late in the season. Untimely rains also interfered with the collection at other centres.

The reorganization of the Salt Department under the direction of the Salt Adviser was continued during 1921, and the construction work of the two new Government salterns, one at Elephant Pass (Jaffna District) and the other at Palavi (Puttalam District), could not be completed during 1921 owing to unfavourable weather and other causes. Manufacture, therefore, could not be carried out on the scale originally expected, but during the construction there were small collections made, 1,185 cwt. at Elephant Pass and 25,000 cwt. at Palavi. The total expenditure on the work of reorganization, including construction of these salterns and cost of 11 miles of light railway with sleepers up to September 30, 1921, was Rs. 573,855·59. It is expected that manufacture of salt will be carried out more successfully in 1922.

The usual selling price at the Government Salt Stores is Rs. 3 per cwt., except at the Government Check Stores at Ratnapura and Galle, where the salt is sold in limited quantities at Rs. 5·25 and Rs. 4 per cwt., respectively. In May, 1921, the normal issues of salt for the Western Province from Puttalam were closed down, owing to shortage of stocks at Puttalam, and sales in Colombo were carried out on behalf of Government by a contractor, who undertook to transport 240,000 cwt. of salt from Hambantota, Bundala, and Trincomalee, paying Rs. 3 to Government at these centres as value of salt, and to sell the salt to the public in Colombo at Rs. 4·25 per cwt. This temporary measure

was in force at the end of 1921, and is likely to be continued for some time longer, unless the pan owners at Puttalam, who have been allowed to manufacture salt without restriction, produce large quantities in 1922.

The total stocks at the end of 1921 amounted to 611,073 cwt., or about one year's supply.

Crown Land.

The total area of Crown land sold and settled (exclusive of settlements under the Waste Lands Ordinance) was 9,098 acres, as against 10,069 acres in 1920.

The average price per acre varied from Rs. 280 and Rs. 193 in Sabaragamuwa and Westerns Province, respectively, to Rs. 38 and Rs. 25 in the Eastern and Northern Provinces, respectively.

Special terms have been offered as regards lands for paddy cultivation, for which there is a demand in several Provinces. Lands for the cultivation of coconuts and tea are always in demand, but little land suitable for the latter product remains to be opened up. There was no demand for plumbago lands, and the demand for other products, including rubber, has been small.

Land Settlement.

The Land Settlement Department settles title to land as between the Crown and the subject. Owing to the vague nature of many of the old grants, deeds, or other proof of title and the system of undivided inheritance, the work is often of some complexity, demanding time and patience.

Since the passing of the Waste Lands Ordinance in 1897 over three million acres have been settled, but large parts of the Island still remain untouched. The districts in which most work has been accomplished are the Galle District, in which the whole of the Hinidum pattu has been settled ; Matara, where the whole of the interior has been finished, leaving only the belt along the coast, in which the extent of Crown land to be saved is scarcely sufficient to justify the expense of block survey and settlement of large continuous areas ; Hambantota District, where the greater number of villages are complete, leaving only the more thinly populated Magam pattu, the settlement of which is contemplated in the near future ; and the North-Central Province, in which large areas are complete and steady progress is being maintained.

Settlement work is also being undertaken at present in certain areas of the North-Western Province, Uva, Matale, Kegalla, and Ratnapura. Work in the two latter districts is often extremely complex, but the value of the land, both for agricultural and forestry purposes, demands its speedy settlement, and the work is progressing as steadily as circumstances permit.

Owing, however, to the many calls on the revenue of the Island, the expansion of the Survey and Settlement Departments is at present unavoidably curtailed.

During 1921 an area of 48,549 acres was settled. The confidence of the people in the fairness of the settlements offered continues. Perhaps the most interesting feature of the year's work was the amicable settlement of a long standing claim to 200 acres of Puttalam plain, the larger portion of which lay on the site contemplated for the railway station, railway yard, and other premises required by the construction of the new Puttalam Railway. The claimants received 26 acres adjoining their old plantations, and the remainder of the area was conserved for the Crown.

Forests.

Re-afforestation.—During the year 1921 the area of plantations was increased from 7,346 acres 1 rood and 12 perches to 8,501 acres and 4 perches.

Exploitation.—Public Departments were supplied during the year 1921 with 32,369 broad gauge and 14,144 narrow gauge sleepers, 279,058 cubic yards of firewood, 201,175 cubic feet of timber, 262,397 small round timber, and other

minor produce, chiefly stone, sand, gravel, &c. The value of these supplies amounted to Rs. 1,351,181, as against Rs. 1,595,633 for the previous year and as against Rs. 1,576,606 for the year 1919.

Since 1906 the Forest Department has supplied the Railway Department with 923,175 broad gauge and 353,322 narrow gauge sleepers at an average cost of Rs. 3·71 and Re. 1·71 per sleeper, respectively. Thus, a very large saving over the cost of imported sleepers has been effected in obtaining these supplies from the local forests, while it is admitted that the local sleepers are far more durable than the imported ones.

The revenue received from the public on account of timber, fuel, and minor forest produce during the year 1921 was Rs. 340,961, as against Rs. 420,591 during the year 1920. The miscellaneous revenue provided an additional sum of Rs. 31,341, as against Rs. 25,204 during the year 1920.

General.—The year will probably be a red-letter year in the history of the Forest Department, as indicating the commencement of a new forest policy. The Government has received the very valuable report of Mr. A. M. Lushington, a retired member of the Indian Forest Service, who was specially deputed to advise on the forests of the Island, and a Committee has been appointed to advise Government as to the best methods of giving effect to these recommendations. Briefly put, the main recommendation is that the Forest Department should confine its attention mainly to special forest reserves, the extent of which will be about 5,000 square miles, and which it is proposed to work on thoroughly scientific lines, and the remainder of the forest lands will be dealt with by the Government Agents and Assistant Government Agents.

Mines and Mining.

Gem Mining is carried on in the Ratnapura District almost exclusively, and is in the hands of Ceylonese. The gem-digging industry is carried on by Sinhalese, whilst the gem-cutting industry is monopolized by the Moors. The industry expanded largely during the latter part of the year, and the Government Agent, Province of Sabaragamuwa, reports that during November and December applications for licenses were received in considerable numbers.

Plumbago Mining is still in a very unsatisfactory state. Only 26 mines were reported to be working at the end of the year, employing about 874 men. The total quantity of plumbago exported was 87,060 cwt., valued at Rs. 806,903.

Mica.—88 cwt. were exported, valued at Rs. 15,102.

Mineral Survey.

Prospecting of the gemming fields of the Ratnapura District was continued from January till the beginning of March, in search of the parent rock of the gem stones found in the alluvial gravels. During the remainder of the year field work was suspended owing to the absence of the Principal Mineral Surveyor on leave.

The monazite works at Bentota continued in operation, the production amounting to 61 tons.

Trials of various mineral-dressing appliances made in England, under the supervision of the Mineral Surveyor, show that at the present price of monazite sand it should be possible to treat economically the extensive low-grade deposits of " black sand " on the west coast of the Island.

Industries and Manufactures.

The industries and manufactures of Ceylon are mostly connected with the products of agriculture, such as the manufacture of tea, copra, coconut oil, desiccated coconut, rubber, &c. There are large engineering works in Colombo and other parts of the country, particularly in the Central Province, engaged

in the manufacture and repair of machinery and agricultural implements. Colombo contains also fully-equipped engineering works capable of carrying out repairs to ships, &c., and there are also lead-rolling mills which prepare lead for tea chests, &c., for Ceylon and South India.

The manufacture of rubber articles is now receiving considerable attention, particularly as the price of raw rubber is low, and a large factory was opened during the year to supply rubber soles for boots, &c. The Colombo Spinning and Weaving Mills, the only institution of its kind in Ceylon, is enlarging its works.

A greater amount of importance than usual has been attached of late years to what are now being called the "cottage" industries of the Island. These consist of the manufacture of silver, brass, and ivory work, lace, basket work, cloth, coir, and coir rope, &c. Various associations have been formed to foster and encourage these home industries, and these have met with a considerable measure of success. Mention should be made of the Kandyan Arts Association, which has worked in Kandy for a number of years, at first with Government assistance, but latterly on a self-supporting basis. It has done much to organize the local industries in gold, silver, ivory, brass, and lacquer work, for which the Kandyan "Navandunno" are famous. The Kalutara Basket Association has also continued its good work, and the hat and basket industry is now firmly established, there being a large demand, both from Ceylon and abroad, for the various articles, which are mostly made by women in their own homes from locally-grown cane and dyed with locally-produced dyes. A newer association is the Batticaloa Cloth Association, which has been formed to revive and improve the ancient cloth-weaving industry in the Eastern Province. Reference should also be made to the Ceylon Society of Arts, which, by competitions and otherwise, is helping to promote the artistic side of these industries.

Further steps have been taken with regard to the proposed hydro-electric scheme for Ceylon, and a definite scheme has been formulated for the erection of a power station at Laxapana Falls in the Province of Sabaragamuwa, the electric current being carried by high tension mains to Colombo and Kandy. The whole scheme is at present under consideration. If effect is given to the proposal, a large quantity of power will be available at a very low rate for the establishment of new industries and manufactures.

FACTORIES.

There has been an increase of 29 in the total number of factories compared to that of 1920, or nearly 2½ per centum. The actual number of new factories registered during the year was 43, but 14 ceased work permanently. The increases comprise 5 tea, 2 rubber, 1 chocolate, 14 coconut desiccating, 7 coconut fibre, 4 sawing, 1 aerated water, 2 printing, 1 packing and produce, 1 rice hulling, 2 manure, 1 soap, 1 paper making, and 1 oxygen producing mills; the decreases, 1 tea, 2 coconut desiccating, 1 coconut fibre, 1 engineering 1 sawing, 2 aerated water, 1 printing, 2 packing and produce, 1 manure, and 2 plumbago curing mills. Three new types of factories have been started during the year, 1 oxygen producing (for welding purposes mainly), 1 for soap, and 1 for paper manufacture.

The number of cases in which steam power was used has diminished by 1·3 per cent., a rate lower than in previous years, which have averaged about 4·4 per cent. Electric installations have increased, on the other hand, by 8·5 per cent. since the last report.

FISHERIES.

Food Fisheries.—At present the marine fisheries are carried on in a comparatively primitive manner by local fishermen from outrigger canoes and catamarans and from the shore. Line fishing is practised far out at sea, whilst nets of various kinds are used in the inshore waters and estuaries.

Considerable quantities of fish are caught, packed in ice, and sent to Colombo and other large centres of population from places on the railway, even so far distant as Jaffna and Mannar. Elsewhere most of the fish is dried or pickled. Many of the fishermen of the Negombo District migrate during the fishing season to various parts of the coast of the North-Western and Northern Provinces, the fish they catch being cured and salted. The supply of fish, however, is inadequate for the growing demands of the Island, as is shown by the following table of the imports of fish goods from 1910 to 1920 :—

Value of Imports of Fish Goods into Ceylon.

Year.	Cured Fish. Rs.	Tinned Fish. Rs.	Fish Manure. Rs.	Guano. Rs.	Fish Oil. Rs.	Total. Rs.
1920	4,508,568	230,147	1,338,411	1,967,961	2,775	8,047,862
1919	3,849,420	79,956	1,357,273	1,446,696	4,635	6,737,980
1918	4,463,125	62,386	1,067,381	777,396	840	6,371,128
1917	4,121,258	80,345	502,959	165,906	2,100	4,872,568
1916	4,482,770	184,468	713,808	196,369	3,738	5,581,153
1915	4,237,500	147,437	223,990	6,740	1,845	4,617,512
1914	3,679,338	152,078	262,756	316,395	2,433	4,413,000
1913	4,467,725	166,661	1,167,687	358,275	1,213	6,161,561
1912	4,228,690	149,636	757,113	140,595	5,507	5,281,541
1911	4,339,008	135,177	1,077,073	17,956	948	5,570,162
1910	4,233,363	105,240	1,174,889	17,732	1,030	5,532,254

The Marine Biological Survey, under the Director of the Colombo Museum and Marine Biologist, is making investigations with a view to improving the fish supply and experimenting with modern fishing appliances. The preliminary survey of the coastal waters is now complete, and two valuable trawling banks have been examined, one off Kankesanturai, and the other near Cape Comorin, outside the Indian territorial waters, which could easily be worked from Colombo. Apart from these two banks of nearly 4,000 square miles, the littoral waters are not suitable for trawling. Enormous quantities of mid-water fish, however, abound everywhere, and there can be no doubt that modern methods of drift net fishing could be successfully introduced.

The Marine Biological Survey is at present engaged upon these problems, and there is no reason why an adequate supply of fresh fish, and, with improved methods, a greatly increased quantity of dried fish, should not be produced from Ceylon littoral waters.

Pearl Fisheries.—The pearl banks, which are situated in the shallow water plateau of the north-eastern corner of the Gulf of Mannar, are probably the most ancient fisheries now in existence, and appear to be carried on under much the same conditions now as they were 2,000 or 3,000 years ago. Pliny refers to Taprobane (Ceylon) "as the most productive of pearls of all parts of the world," and in the "Mahawansa" mention is made of a present which included local pearls from King Wijaya of Ceylon to his Indian father-in-law about 540–550 B.C.

Notable features of these fisheries are their uncertainty and their intermittent periods of unproductiveness—characteristics which have obtained from early times. The most noteworthy of these barren periods, omitting fisheries of negligible value, occurring during the British period have been :—

1815 to 1827, inclusive, 13 years.
1838 to 1854, inclusive, 17 years.
1864 to 1873, inclusive, 10 years.
1892 to 1902, inclusive, 11 years.
1908 to present day.

The most profitable series of fisheries on record was during 1903–1907, the value of the 1905 fishery alone being 3½ millions of rupees, of which the Government share was two-thirds. There is an excellent prospect of a new series of fisheries starting in the year 1924 or 1925.

Window-pane Oyster Fishery.—This is a local industry of some importance carried on at Lake Tamblegam, near Trincomalee. The window-pane oyster (*Placuna placenta*) produces a pearl of inferior quality used for cheap native jewellery. It also has some medicinal value.

Tank Fisheries.—The tanks of the dry zone provide an abundant supply of fresh-water fish, which with care could be converted into a valuable source of food supply.

Edible Oyster Fisheries.—Edible oysters are found in considerable quantities at certain points on the coast, but apparently they are not appreciated by the indigenous population, though many Europeans regard them as a great delicacy. The demand is not very great at the present time, and there does not appear to be sufficient reason for developing these fisheries.

Chank Fisheries and Bêche-de-mer.—There is a chank fishery near the islands of Palk Strait, controlled by the Government Agent of the Northern Province, from which Government derives a small but steady revenue. Some 2,185,700 chanks and 156 cwt. of bêche-de-mer were exported from Jaffna District during the year.

IV.—TRADE.

The total value of Ceylon trade in 1921, omitting specie but including the value of coal supplied to steamers, amounted to Rs. 545,136,333, as compared with Rs. 626,376,409 in 1920. The following table shows the value of the trade in lakhs of rupees for the past ten years :—

Year.	Lakhs of Rupees.	Year.	Lakhs of Rupees.
1912	3,886¾	1917	4,983¼
1913	4,329½	1918	4,065¼
1914	4,022¼	1919	6,392¾
1915	4,495¼	1920	6,263¾
1916	5,212¾	1921	5,451¼

The gross Customs revenue for 1921 was Rs. 26,152,640·62, as compared with Rs. 25,945,649·07 in 1920, an increase of Rs. 206,991·55, due to the import duty on rice being raised from cents 50 to Re. 1 per cwt. There was a considerable decrease in the import duty under "Other Goods," owing to small imports of hardware, galvanized iron, motor cars, &c.

The amount of duty alone collected under the main heads of imports and exports during 1920 and 1921 has been :—

	1920. Rs.	1921. Rs.
Imports.		
Grain	3,468,949	5,249,462
Cotton goods	1,526,429	1,267,888
Spirits	1,324,575	1,473,264
Sugar	817,579	1,212,793
Kerosine oil	1,459,900	1,708,592
Other goods	7,809,807	6,037,047
Exports.		
Produce of the coconut palm	1,318,619	1,624,322
Tea, rubber, and cacao	4,605,794	4,320,841
Plumbago	62,332	22,706
Other	11,200	13,428
Total	22,405,184	22,930,343

Refunds and drawbacks totalled Rs. 202,331·61, as against Rs. 279,146·94 in 1920.

The following table shows the annual value of imports and exports for a period of ten years, excluding the value of specie and the value of coal supplied for the use of steamers :—

Year.	Imports. Rs.	Exports. Rs.	Total. Rs.
1912	175,322,979	198,954,902	374,277,881
1913	186,073,086	232,986,954	419,060,040
1914	172,317,549	218,363,846	390,681,395
1915	163,637,758	273,375,987	437,013,745
1916	211,500,753	297,505,905	509,006,658
1917	184,123.986	304,160,457	488,284,443
1918	177,716,763	211,325,334	389,042,097
1919	239,323,731	367,054,779	606,378,570
1920	321,275,652	268,462,183	589,737,835
1921	260,897,161	256,600,413	517,497,574

Of the total value of exports in 1921, Rs. 248,120,500 represents the value of the produce and manufacture of the Colony, and Rs. 8,479,913 the value of British, foreign, and other Colonial produce and manufacture. It will be seen that the total value of imports in 1921 was more than that of previous years, with the exception of 1920, while the total value of exports in 1921 was higher than in the years 1912, 1913, 1914, and 1918, and lower than in the remaining five years.

The following table shows the percentages of imports, exports, and total trade for the United Kingdom, British possessions, and foreign countries during 1919, 1920, and 1921. This table excludes the value of specie, of rubber imports, and of coal exported for the use of steamers :—

	1919. Per Cent.	1920. Per Cent.	1921. Per Cent.
Imports.			
From United Kingdom	14·51	24·46	25·32
From British Possessions	63·43	59·72	58·76
From Foreign Countries	22·06	15·82	15·92
	100	100	100
Exports.			
To United Kingdom	42·13	46·06	46·22
To British Possessions	14·62	15·34	16·38
To Foreign Countries	43·25	38·6	37·4
	100	100	100
Total Trade.			
With United Kingdom	31·39	34·38	35·74
With British Possessions	33·61	39·35	37·64
With Foreign Countries	35	26·27	26·62
	100	100	100

The share of the United Kingdom in respect of imports, exports, and the total trade has improved, while the share of exports to foreign countries has declined.

IMPORTS.

There were decreases under several important heads of imports.

Wheat Flour.—Imports show a decrease in quantity from 556,115 cwt. in 1920 to 291,028 cwt. in 1921. During the year British India supplied 198,090 cwt., as against 388,090 cwt. in the previous year, while the remainder, with the exception of 90 cwt., was imported from Australia. Exports of wheat flour from India to Ceylon are being controlled by license.

Rice.—Government control of the importation, distribution, and selling price of rice ceased with effect from October 27, 1921, as sufficient supplies were available to last throughout the year at reasonable prices. 5,859,957 cwt.

were imported during the year, as against 5,788,730 cwt. in 1920, valued at 69½ million rupees and 91½ million rupees, respectively. Besides imports from India, 263,364 cwt. were imported from the Straits Settlements, as against 14 cwt. in 1920, and 88,639 cwt. from Siam, as against nil in the previous year.

Other Grains.—Total imports increased in quantity from 1,310,996 cwt. in 1920 to 1,324,895 cwt. in 1921. Imports of paddy were more than double those in the previous year, while the importation of peas was equal to about half the imports in 1920. All the paddy imported in 1921 was during the first half year. Importation of Ragi has ceased with the removal of the Government control on rice.

Sugar.—Imports rose in quantity from 372,925 cwt. in 1920 to 450,964 cwt. in 1921. There was an increase in refined sugar, while unrefined sugar and jaggery showed a decrease. Java, the principal country supplying Ceylon with refined sugar, sent 303,712 cwt., which is more than the entire import of refined sugar in 1920. Hong Kong and the Straits Settlements were the next largest suppliers, with 43,994 cwt. and 31,706 cwt., respectively, to their credit, the former country supplying a quantity equal to that supplied in 1920, and the latter supplying nearly four times the quantity supplied in that year.

Manufactured Tobacoo, Cigars, and Cigarettes.—The quantities of each cleared for home consumption during the last three years have been :—

	Cigars.	Cigarettes.	Manufactured Tobacco.	Total.
	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.
1919 ..	11,820 ..	303,142 ..	13,625 ..	328,587
1920 ..	12,198 ..	371,575 ..	29,034 ..	412,807
1921 ..	8,092 ..	319,005 ..	23,330 ..	350,427

The demand for all the three kinds was less than in the year 1920, but, with the exception of cigars, was more than in 1919. The United Kingdom supplied most of the cigarettes and manufactured tobacco, while cigars were supplied chiefly by India, the Philippines, and Holland. The figure for cigarettes excludes beedy cigarettes.

Spirits.—The quantity cleared for home consumption was more than in 1920, the increase being under all heads, except liqueur and rum. The quantity of the three principal kinds cleared is shown below in proof gallons for the past two years :—

	Quantity cleared. (Proof Gallons.)	
	1920.	1921.
Brandy	21,601 ..	24,269
Gin	33,989 ..	34,131
Whisky	58,903 ..	62,885

Cotton, Manufactured and Raw.—There was a decrease in the value of cotton goods imported from Rs. 32,927,654 in 1920 to Rs. 25,594,269 in the year under review, the value of imports from the United Kingdom and foreign countries showing a decrease from Rs. 21,682,013 and Rs. 3,358,518, respectively, to Rs. 14,916,801 and Rs. 2,459,706, respectively, and that from British possessions an increase from Rs. 7,887,123 to Rs. 8,217,762. There was an increased demand for gray piece goods and muslin, while that for other piece goods fell. Prices of cotton goods generally were appreciably lower than in 1920. The total value for 1921, though falling short of 1920, was higher than the value for previous years. Cotton embroidery is now shown separately, while previously such imports were classified under the heading " Embroidery " in the returns.

Coal.—The quantity imported showed a decrease from 705,193 tons in 1920 to 640,961 tons in 1921. Imports during the second half of 1921 were about one-third the imports during the first half of the year. British India was the chief source of supply, but imports from that country fell from 640,742 tons in

1920 to 201,479 tons in 1921. Imports from other sources increased, the most noticeable increase being from the United Kingdom, the quantity rising from 6,165 tons in 1920 to 129,568 tons in 1921. The total value of coal imported during the year amounted to Rs. 29,268,364, as against Rs. 29,636,553 in 1920. In 1913 the imports were from the United Kingdom 234,234 tons, from British India 364,020. Since July 1 coke is entered separately in the returns, while previous to that date it was included with coal. Imports of coke are trifling, and the figure for the second six months of 1921 was only 147 tons.

Manure.—Only 343,568 cwt. were imported during the year, as against 1,813,021 in 1920, the decrease being under all heads. Groundnut cake was the variety most in demand in 1920. In 1921 it was bone meal. The total imports in 1921 are less than the quantity of groundnut cake manure alone imported in 1920. British India was the principal country to supply Ceylon with manure. There were no imports of nitrate of soda during the year. Sylvinite is entered separately in the returns from July 1, 1921. The value of all manures imported amounted to Rs. 2,254,899, as compared with Rs. 13,141,891 in 1920.

Kerosine Oil in Bulk and Cases.—Here, again, the total imports fell from 5,106,100 gallons in 1920 to 4,307,378 gallons in 1921. Bulk oil was imported from Persia (2,930,155 gallons) and Sumatra (577,085 gallons), while the United States of America supplied all the case oil, with the exception of 8 gallons, which were imported from British India.

Petrol.—Imports since 1916 have been—

	Gallons.		Gallons.
1916	776,092	1919	1,175,784
1917	884,093	1920	988,427
1918	680,395	1921	1,381,671

All the imports in 1921 were from Sumatra. This quantity is the highest on record.

Horses and Motor Cars.—The number of horses imported was less than in the previous year, the number for 1920 and 1921 being 317 horses and 188 horses, respectively. This decrease is noticeable in imports of Australian, English, and also Indian horses. Thirty English, 7 Australian, and 28 Indian horses, being each of the value of Rs. 1,000 and over, were subject to duty, horses below that value being admitted free.

The total number of motor cars imported was also less than in 1920. The number of cars other than lorries and chassis fell from 816 to 387. Lorries from 109 to 29 and chassis from 65 to 47. Imports of American, Canadian, and English cars showed a decrease, while the number of French cars imported was one more than in 1920. German cars rose from 3 to 14, including 4 lorries, and Italian cars from 17 to 32, including 1 chassis and 1 lorry. Two Swiss cars were also imported, as against nil in the previous year.

Metals and Metalware.—The value of imports of metals and metalware was Rs. 8,628,902, as against Rs. 16,008,987 in 1920, the decrease being mainly in imports from the United Kingdom, the value of which fell from Rs. 10,874,198 to Rs. 4,825,996. Of the total value for 1921, the share of the United Kingdom was 56 per cent., and that of the two next largest suppliers, Burma and the United States of America, 14 per cent. each. The importation of hardware and galvanized goods, iron bars, &c., as well as of tea lead and hoop iron, decreased as compared with 1920.

Cement.—Imports fell in quantity from 353,604 cwt. in 1920 to 193,192 cwt. in 1921, the bulk of the imports in both the years was from the United Kingdom. The next largest supplier for 1921 was Germany. Imports from that country were 30,463 cwt., as against nil in the previous year. Imports of cement by the Government were considerably more than in 1920, the quantity being 92,687 cwt. and 181,646 cwt. for 1920 and 1921, respectively.

Ceylon's Chief Sources of Supply.

The following table shows the principal countries exporting goods to Ceylon, with the percentages of value supplied by each :—

		1919. Per Cent.	1920. Per Cent.	1921. Per Cent.
1.	United Kingdom	14·16	24·11	25·08
2.	British India	30·36	23·66	24·51
3.	Burma	23·95	30·29	23·01
4.	Natal	1·42	·47	3·40
5.	Java	2·87	2·04	3·04
6.	United States of America	3·36	3·37	2·72
7.	Straits Settlements	3·8	2·26	2·7
8.	Japan	3·5	2·18	1·57
9.	Persia	1·09	·85	1·53
10.	Borneo (excluding British)	2·51	1·66	1·48
11.	Other British Possessions in Africa	1·09	·25	1·06
12.	Holland	·34	·97	1·06
13.	Maldive Islands	·9	·77	1·06
14.	New South Wales	·54	·35	·94
15.	Sumatra	·93	·39	·9
16.	France	·66	·86	·74
17.	Hong Kong	·78	·58	·58
18.	Germany	—	·27	·56
19.	West Australia	·04	·33	·56
20.	Siam	3·93	·25	·45
21.	Italy	·07	·36	·45
22.	Victoria	·27	·34	·36
23.	China (excluding Hong Kong)	·51	·51	·31
24.	Canada	·03	·32	·27
25.	Sweden	·08	·21	·25
26.	Queensland	·03	·1	·24
27.	South Australia	·86	·37	·22
28.	Switzerland	·25	·42	·19
29.	Belgium	·14	·54	·16
30.	British North Borneo	—	—	·1
31.	Russia in Europe	·22	·11	·09
32.	Norway	·13	·34	·06
33.	Egypt	·06	·18	·06

The United Kingdom, British India, Burma, and Natal head the list, and together supplied three-quarters of the import trade of Ceylon. Natal rose from the sixteenth place in 1920 to the fourth place in 1921 by virtue of her sending larger supplies of coal. The United States of America was the principal foreign supplier in 1920, being placed fourth in the list. Java now ranks as the principal foreign supplier, but is placed only fifth in the list. The latter's position is due to her supplying Ceylon with more sugar than in 1920. The value of goods supplied by these two countries in 1921 was Rs. 7,095,718 and Rs. 7,928,468, respectively, as compared with Rs. 10,821,428 and Rs. 6,559,565, respectively, in the previous year.

EXPORTS.

The staple products of Ceylon exported in order of value are as follows :—

		Lakhs of Rupees. 1919.	1920.	1921.
1.	Tea	1,165	808	1,127
2.	Rubber	1,321	900	516
3.	Coconut, desiccated	249	183	266
4.	Copra	323	284	243
5.	Coconut oil	257	199	150
6.	Arecanuts	30	29	33
7.	Coconut, fresh	3	10	24
8.	Cacao	31	25	20
9.	Cinnamon	37	21	18
10.	Coir fibre	17	16	11
11.	Citronella oil	9	11	11
12.	Poonac	5	6	9

		Lakhs of Rupees.		
		1919.	1920.	1921.
13.	Plumbago	17	21	8
14.	Coir yarn	11	8	6
15.	Tobacco, unmanufactured	6	8	6
16.	Skins (dressed and undressed)	10	9	6
17.	Cardamoms	9	5	5

The year was a bad one for the rubber industry, while it was a prosperous one for the tea industry. Tea fetched very good prices during the second half of the year, the average being 62 cents per pound for the first six months and 70 cents per pound for the whole year. The exports of plumbago in 1921 has been the lowest for the three years, the price obtainable, as well as the demand for the article, being unfavourable.

A table is also annexed showing the quantities of the several products exported during these years :—

			1919.	1920.	1921.
1.	Tea	lb.	208,560,943	184,770,231	161,610,966
2.	Rubber	Cwt.	900,197	790,648	786,834
3.	Coconut, desiccated	Cwt.	675,060	518,735	870,515
4.	Copra	Cwt.	1,759,525	1,357,870	1,367,431
5.	Coconut oil	Cwt.	675,999	507,527	484,724
6.	Arecanuts	Cwt.	150,457	124,048	131,045
7.	Coconut, fresh	No.	3,390,710	9,776,479	23,738,542
8.	Cacao	Cwt.	58,884	56,397	62,245
9.	Cinnamon	Cwt.	68,755	35,121	45,364
10.	Coir fibre	Cwt.	239,391	252,568	202,267
11.	Citronella oil	lb.	992,850	1,022,809	1,160,555
12.	Poonac	Cwt.	87,341	92,452	160,699
13.	Plumbago	Cwt.	133,428	184,100	86,996
14.	Coir yarn	Cwt.	112,076	72,438	60,710
15.	Tobacco, unmanufactured	lb.	1,739,392	3,590,474	2,411,419
16.	Skins (dressed and undressed)	Cwt.	12,899	12,925	8,353
17.	Cardamoms	Cwt.	4,870	3,754	4,512

The principal countries buying Ceylon produce and manufactures* are given in the following table, with the percentage of value taken by each :—

		1919. Per Cent.	1920. Per Cent.	1921. Per Cent.
1.	United Kingdom	42·13	47·59	47·47
2.	United States of America	33·52	22·8	22
3.	Germany	·02	1·55	4·05
4.	British India	6·83	3·92	3·12
5.	Holland	1·33	5·3	3·01
6.	New South Wales	1·25	1·74	2·19
7.	Denmark	1·59	1·7	2·14
8.	Italy	·51	·71	1·91
9.	Victoria	1·08	1·26	1·8
10.	Canada	1·78	1·78	1·73
11.	New Zealand	·34	1·17	1·45
12.	Egypt	1·28	1·47	1·31
13.	Norway	·51	1·31	1·13
14.	Belgium	2·07	2·14	1·09
15.	Natal	·16	·32	·72
16.	Cape Colony	·38	·42	·7
17.	France	2·22	1·71	·58
18.	Japan	·2	·37	·47
19.	Straits Settlements	·49	·39	·39
20.	Sweden	·01	·19	·37
21.	South Australia	·13	·3	·34
22.	Spain (excluding Gibraltar)	·11	·13	·29
23.	Queensland	·04	·12	·27
24.	West Australia	·15	·19	·26
25.	Philippines	·33	·32	·25
26.	South America (excluding Chili)	·16	·27	·19
27.	Other British Possessions in Africa	·3	·16	·14
28.	Newfoundland	·1	·12	·1

* The figures thus exclude imports re-exported and specie.

A feature of the year is the improved position of Germany, which now ranks as the principal foreign buyer but one. The total value of goods exported to that country amounted to Rs. 10,038,999 for the year, and consisted chiefly of the following :—

Tea.—The quantities exported during the past seven years are shown below in millions of pounds.

	Million Pounds.		Million Pounds.
1915 ..	215	1919 ..	208
1916 ..	203	1920 ..	184
1917 ..	195	1921 ..	161
1918 ..	180		

Of the quantity for 1921, 159,302,769 lb. were black tea and 2,308,197 lb. green, exported chiefly to India, the United States of America, and to Canada. The tea manufactured was of a particularly high grade, and the aim of the exporter being to put on the market good quality teas, so as to counteract the effect of the temporary glut in the market which was experienced early in the year. The increase in the average price of the article was from 43·72 cents per pound in 1920 to 70 cents per pound in 1921.

The distribution among the principal countries, with their increases or decreases, is shown in the following table :—

	1921. lb.	1920. lb.	Increase. lb.	Decrease. lb.
United Kingdom	110,887,396	119,690,793	—	8,803,397
British Possessions.				
British India	1,590,404	4,122,167	—	2,531,763
Canada	4,408,819	7,123,971	—	2,715,152
Cape Colony	2,278,375	2,037,208	241,167	—
Egypt	1,788,067	4,417,990	—	2,629,923
Hong Kong	151,269	297,041	—	145,772
Mauritius	191,965	279,705	—	87,740
Natal	2,341,862	1,622,047	719,815	—
Newfoundland	333,903	711,118	—	3737,215
New South Wales	6,943,631	8,083,413	—	1,139,782
New Zealand	4,725,983	6,131,739	—	1,405,756
Other British Possessions in Africa	450,412	879,136	—	428,724
Queensland	841,579	559,962	281,617	—
South Australia	1,039,836	1,492,056	—	452,220
Straits Settlements	774,815	1,099,431	—	324,616
Victoria	5,215,823	5,565,347	—	349,524
West Australia	730,434	918,070	—	187,636
Other British Possessions	263,509	491,569	—	228,060
	34,070,686	45,831,970	1,242,599	13,003,883
			Deduct Increase	1,242,599
			Nett Decrease	11,761,284

Foreign Countries.

	1921. lb.	1920. lb.	Increase. lb.	Decrease. lb.
France	515,160	1,025,277	—	510,117
Japan	234,964	254,025	—	19,061
South America (excluding Chili)	357,463	1,198,140	—	840,677
United States of America	14,611,334	14,735,804	—	124,470
Other Foreign Countries	933,963	2,034,222	—	1,100,259
Total Foreign Countries	16,652,884	19,247,468	—	2,594,584
Total	161,610,966	184,770,231	—	23,159,265

Only countries which took over one hundred thousand pounds each in 1921 are shown separately in the table. It will be seen that there have been reduced exports to all the important countries, with the exception of Natal, Queensland, and the Cape Colony.

Products of the Coconut Palm exported were valued at 713 lakhs, as against 709 lakhs in 1920. The exports of the three principal products for the past six years have been—

	Desiccated Coconut. Cwt.	Copra. Cwt.	Coconut Oil. Cwt.
1916	306,149	1,309,939	323,017
1917	272,059	1,078,704	434,699
1918	203,366	1,272,321	527,481
1919	675,060	1,759,525	675,999
1920	518,735	1,357,870	507,527
1921	870,515	1,367,431	484,724

The quantity of desiccated coconuts exported in 1921 constitutes a record. The quantity of copra was less than in 1919, but more than in any of the remaining four years, while exports of coconut oil was more than in 1916 and 1917 and less than in the remaining three years.

Desiccated Coconuts.—The United States of America, our best customer, took 57 per cent. more than in the previous year, and absorbed 42 per cent. of the total exports, as compared with 45 per cent. in 1920. Exports to the United Kingdom represent 31 per cent. of the total, as against 35 per cent. in 1920. Germany continues to hold the third place, and has increased her quantity from 24,891 cwt. in 1920 to 98,764 cwt. in 1921. The average price entered by the exporter was 28 cents per pound, as against 32 cents per pound in 1920. More desiccated coconuts was exported during the second half year than during the first half year.

Copra.—Denmark, Holland, Italy, Germany, United Kingdom, and Norway were the principal countries to buy copra in 1921. These are mentioned in order of importance. The total quantity exported during the second half year was more than double the exports during the first half year. Holland was the principal purchaser of copra in 1920. The average price entered by the exporters was Rs. 17·77 per cwt., as against Rs. 20·92 per cwt. in the previous year.

Coconut Oil.—The bulk of the exports was taken by the United Kingdom, the quantity being 268,219 cwt. out of the total of 484,724 cwt. exported. The next important buyers were Holland (78,833 cwt.), Egypt (32,958 cwt.), Norway (28,828 cwt.), and Germany (25,036 cwt.). The United Kingdom and Germany bought more than in 1920, and Holland and Norway less. Exports to Egypt were practically the same as in the previous year. Here, again, the average price was less than in 1920, but prices during the first half were slightly higher than during the second half year. Only 2,006 cwt. was exported to the United States of America, and this was during the first half year, as against 29,267 cwt. in 1920 and 147,031 cwt. in 1919. The new proposed American Tariff had an adverse effect on the trade in coconut oil. It was withdrawn too late in the year to admit of any exports taking place before the close of the year.

Rubber.—The total quantity exported was practically the same as in the previous year, the quantity being 88,552,542 lb. and 88,125,425 lb. for 1920 and 1921, respectively. There was a better demand from the United States of America, which country took five-eighths of the total exports for the year. The price went down considerably, but there was a recovery towards the close of the year, which relieved the situation.

V.—SHIPPING.

3,621 vessels, with a tonnage of 9,134,066, entered the various ports of the Island in 1921, a decrease of 371 vessels and a tonnage of 584,002 as compared with 1920. The following table shows the number and tonnage of the vessels under four general heads for these two years :—

	1920.		1921.	
	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.
Merchant vessels (with cargo and in ballast)	2,016	5,830,177	2,030	6,551,830
Merchant vessels (called to coal)	967	3,171,546	639	2,205,698
Native sailing vessels	867	86,737	881	91,590
Warships and transports*	142	629,608	71	284,948
	3,992	9,718,068	3,621	9,134,066

* Warships' displacement tonnage.

Omitting merchant vessels which called only to coal, and also warships and transports, the comparative distribution according to nationality for 1920 and 1921 is shown below :—

	1920.		1921.	
	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.
British	1,389	3,674,155	1,474	4,448,308
British Colonial	867	86,737	881	91,590
Total British Vessels	2,256	3,760,892	2,355	4,539,898
American	53	202,811	35	133,521
Belgian	2	6,353	—	—
Chinese	2	3,761	1	3,871
Danish	17	23,093	14	19,871
Dutch	117	449,463	129	601,723
French	106	438,066	85	392,393
German	—	—	20	81,414
Greek	—	—	1	1,881
Italian	61	204,407	51	178,488
Japanese	196	695,261	169	588,958
Norwegian	50	74,279	25	31,169
Portuguese	—	—	1	2,404
Russian	1	836	—	—
Spanish	11	26,316	11	26,098
Swedish	11	31,376	14	41,731
	627	2,156,022	556	2,103,522

Of the vessels under the principal foreign flags, those under the Norwegian flag show a considerable falling off, while twenty vessels have entered under the German flag for the first time since the cessation of war.

Colombo Port Commission.

Owing to the trade depression in the Colony, the policy of retrenchment, followed in previous years in consequence of the war, was continued, and only very urgent works were undertaken during the year.

The warehouse area is at the present time adequate for the trade of the Port, and it is not proposed for the present that further warehouse construction should be undertaken.

The construction of and arrangements in connection with the new oil depôts at Colombo are now practically complete. The work of preparing the site for the Oil Installations Depôt at Kolonnawa is almost complete. The total excavation will be completed when it is found convenient to demolish the

existing buildings at present being used as offices, &c. It is estimated that on final completion of the depôt the area developed will amount to 83 acres 1 rood and 36 perches. Four oil companies, viz., the Anglo-Persian Oil Company, Limited, the Asiatic Petroleum Company, Limited, the Standard Oil Company of New York, and Messrs. Cory Brothers and Company, Limited, have already taken up allotments at the depôt, and have constructed or are constructing the necessary storage tanks, &c. Sites have also been allotted to them at the Measuring Tanks Depôt at Bloemendahl. The discharge jetty on the northern side of the Graving Dock Guide Pier and the two bunkering jetties inside the North-east Breakwater were completed in July, 1921. Work in connection with the two main pipe lines—10-inch line for fuel oil and 8-inch line for kerosine—connecting the discharge jetty at the harbour with the exchange station at the Oil Installations Depôt, Kolonnawa, was completed at the end of January, 1922. From the main pipe line for fuel oil a branch line is also provided to the exchange station at the Bloemendahl Measuring Tanks Depôt. The pipe lines from the measuring tanks to the bunkering jetties are practically complete. The pumping plant required for propelling oil has been installed at the harbour and Kolonnawa pumping stations. The work of providing electric lighting for the Kolonnawa depôt and a telephone service for the whole oil scheme is being pushed forward to completion in time for the official opening of the installation, which will take place shortly.

The branch railway line from the Main line to the Kolonnawa Oil Depôt has recently been completed, and is used temporarily for transport purposes in connection with the Oil Installations Depôt.

Good progress has also been made with the harbour rail extension connecting the Main line with the harbour direct in the vicinity of the Graving Dock. The work of connecting the existing lines in the Customs premises south of the Passenger Jetty with the existing harbour lines near the Harbour Engineer's present premises has been completed. The rest of the work is well in hand.

The constructional work connected with the Lake Development Scheme has been practically completed. The lake to harbour canal is complete, except for the fendering of the Main street and Norris road bridges and the entrances to the locks, which still remains to be done. The canals from the harbour to the locks and the additional basin are dredged to a depth of 7½ feet below mean sea level; when dredging is complete the depth will be 10 feet below mean sea level. The locks between the lake and the canal have continued to be used by the Lake Development Department, but owing to the trade depression the canal has not so far been used for commercial purposes. An area of 14,200 square feet of the Lakeside Warehouse has been completed, and is being temporarily used for storing Government cement and paper. The completion of the full area of this warehouse is postponed indefinitely. Good progress was also made in the deviation of Lotus Pond road.

During the earlier part of the year dredging work in the harbour was confined to the site for the discharge and bunkering jetties. This work was carried on till July by the dredger "Sir John Coode." The new dredger "Sir William Matthews" arrived in the harbour on May 25, 1921. After her preliminary trials, which were carried out satisfactorily, she was put on to work at the oil jetties and inner harbour dredging until September, when the dredging of a special area of the harbour to accommodate H. M. S. "Renown" took precedence over that work.

The nett tonnage of vessels (sailing and steam) which visited Colombo Harbour in 1921 amounted to 8,596,710 tons; in addition, 71 warships and transports with a gross tonnage of 284,948 tons and coasting vessels with a nett tonnage of 14,107 tons entered the Port.

Fifty-two vessels were docked during the year, and 25 vessels were taken on to the Patent Slip; 25 vessels were fumigated.

The receipts from the Graving Dock and Patent Slip brought to account during the year 1921 show a considerable increase, being Rs. 135,894·95 and Rs. 46,242·93, respectively, against Rs. 68,243·58 and Rs. 2,714 in the previous year. Rs. 6,619·50 was received in respect of fumigation, as against Rs. 5,170 in 1920.

The total expenditure of the Colombo Port Commission for the financial year 1920–21, including Rs. 2,432,917·69 chargeable to Loan Account in respect of the Oil Installations Scheme, was Rs. 6,164,902. Of this amount Rs. 2,424·93 was expended by the Public Works Department on work for this Department, and the sum of Rs. 246,529·79 expended by the Colombo Port Commission on account of other departments. The nett expenditure on Colombo Port Commission services was Rs. 5,918,372·21. The revenue during the same period was Rs. 3,104,912·32.

A considerable amount of work was carried on during the year in connection with the men recruited during the war by the Colombo Rivercraft Committee and sent for service overseas. A large number of inquiries—both written and verbal—were attended to, especially regarding balances of pay due to men who had already been discharged and returned to Ceylon, the health and the return of men recruited, and re-employment on return to Ceylon. Out of the 1,218 men recruited by the Colombo Rivercraft Committee, so far only 640 have reported at the Colombo Port Commission Office on termination of engagement.

VI.—LEGISLATION.

Forty-three Ordinances were passed during the year, the majority of them being amending Ordinances, which call for no special comment.

Of the consolidating or new Ordinances, the most important are :—

Ordinance No. 5.—Certain amendments of the law were required to allow of a loan being floated in London, and occasion was taken to repeal and re-enact Ordinances Nos. 22 of 1907 and 28 of 1914 with the necessary amendments. Section 12 defines the expression "outstanding debentures," and section 13 allows of the rate of contribution to the sinking fund being fixed with reference to the prospectus or terms of issue. The limitation of the interest to 4 per centum by section 24 of Ordinance No. 22 of 1907 is omitted, as it would obviously be impossible in existing conditions to raise a loan at such interest.

Ordinance No. 7.—The object of the Ordinance is to enable the Colony to be brought under the provisions of "The Colonial Probates Act, 1892," for mutual recognition of probates and letters of administration.

Ordinance No. 15.—Passed for facilitating the enforcement in the Colony of maintenance orders made in England and Ireland, and *vice versâ*.

Ordinance No. 33.—When customs duties are to be increased or altered it is obvious that if the revenue is not to suffer, either the measure must be passed in one day, or there must be provision for protecting the revenue by levying such increased rates from the date the bill is approved by the Governor till it is passed, any adjustment consequent on the rates being disallowed or altered in Council being effected subsequently. There are obvious objections to the hurried consideration of tariff questions, and the latter alternative has been adopted and provision made for the proposed tariff coming into force on an order made by the Governor.

Ordinance No. 34.—Relates to the constitution and control of co-operative societies, and effects a large number of amendments of varying importance found necessary in the working of the law as it stood. This new Ordinance is based to a considerable extent on the corresponding Indian enactment.

Ordinance No. 37.—Passed to give a legal status to the Department of Agriculture, which, particularly since the recent shortage of foodstuffs in the Island, has increased its sphere of activity.

Ordinance No. 38.—Passed to provide machinery for destroying domesticated or confined animals which prove to be dangerous and uncontrollable.

Ordinance No. 41.—Passed to provide for the reciprocal enforcement of judgments of the courts of the United Kingdom or of British Possessions and Protectorates and this Colony.

Ordinance No. 43.—Mainly repealing the provisions of the law which provided for the punishment by criminal courts, or breaches of contracts of service between immigrant labourers and their employers, and for the abolition of the system known as the tundu system, by which the debts due by labourers to their employers were transferred to a new employer on the labourers effecting a change of service, owing to the fact that the system was open to abuse.

VII.—EDUCATION.

University College.

The most important event of the year from the point of view of education was the establishment of a University College in Colombo. This institution was opened in January, 1921, and a Principal and a Staff of Professors and Lecturers have been appointed, and courses in the following subjects arranged, in preparation for the Intermediate and Final Arts and Science Degree Examinations of the University of London :—

English	Education
Latin	Chemistry
Greek	Physics
History	Mathematics
Economics	Botany
Philosophy	Zoology

Admission to the full course is confined to students who have been registered as matriculated students of the University of London. One hundred and fifty students joined in January, and at the commencement of the new academic year in October, 1921, there were over two hundred on the roll.

An Advisory Council and Boards of Studies have been appointed. It is proposed that as early as convenient the institution shall be incorporated as a University for Ceylon.

New chemical, physical, and biological laboratories were opened in October. All registered students of the Ceylon Medical College receive their first professional course in chemistry and physics and biology at the University College. During the year a College Union Society was formed, to which sports and other clubs were attached. Plans were discussed for the establishment of college hostels.

SCHOOLS GENERALLY.

Schools in Ceylon may be broadly divided into two classes: English and vernacular. The vernacular schools are attended by about 90 per cent. of the school-going population. The English schools provide (*a*) elementary education, leading up to the Elementary School-leaving Certificate Examination; (*b*) secondary education, leading up to the Cambridge Senior School Certificate Examination and the Intermediate Examinations in Arts and Science of London University. There are also classes for commercial subjects in some of the larger schools. There is an increasing demand for English, and an attempt has been made to meet this demand by a scheme of Government Central English Schools for rural districts, where children may receive an English education. Three such schools have been opened at Henaratgoda, Piliyandala, and Veyangoda, respectively, in the Western Province.

The inclusion of Sinhalese and Tamil in the London Matriculation and Intermediate Arts Examinations and the Cambridge Examinations has given a stimulus to the study of the vernacular languages. Several secondary schools are now teaching Sinhalese and Tamil. English has suffered in the past from Latin being taught in the schools to boys from Sinhalese and Tamil-speaking homes who have not acquired a sound knowledge of English, and have little facility in expressing themselves in any but their own language.

VERNACULAR EDUCATION.

In 1921 there were 942 Government vernacular schools, with an attendance of 95,256 boys and 37,217 girls. There were also 1,861 aided schools, with an attendance of 123,179 boys and 76,716 girls. Of these, 269 were estate schools, with an attendance of 9,866 boys and 1,803 girls. A school for the deaf and blind started in 1912 receives grant at the rate of Rs. 5 per mensem per child on the average number of children on the roll during the year.

The total sum expended by Government on vernacular education in 1921 was Rs. 1,783,491·34, of which approximately two-fifths were spent on Government schools and three-fifths on aided schools.

The Rural Schools Ordinance is now in force in all districts of the Island. The Town Schools Ordinance is in force in the following towns :—

Municipalities ..	Colombo, Kandy, and Galle.
Local Board Towns :—	
Western Province ..	Kalutara, Moratuwa, and Negombo.
Central Province ..	Gampola, Hatton-Dikoya, Matale, Nawalapitiya, and Nuwara Eliya.
Province of Sabaragamuwa .	Kegalla and Ratnapura.
North-Central Province ..	Anuradhapura.
North-Western Province ..	Kurunegala and Chilaw.
Eastern Province ..	Batticaloa and Trincomalee.
Northern Province ..	Jaffna.
Southern Province ..	Matara.

SCHOOLS TEACHING ENGLISH.

In 1921 there were 259 English and Anglo-vernacular schools attended by 43,786 pupils, of whom 32,500 were boys and 11,286 girls. There is one Government secondary school in Colombo, with an average attendance of 542.

The cost to Government of this school for the year was Rs. 62,047·80, and the fees recovered amounted to Rs. 38,221. There were 24 State-aided secondary schools, particulars of which are shown below :—

Return of Secondary Schools, 1921.

Province and Management.	Name of School.	Number of Pupils on Roll, and Average Attendance on March 31, 1921. Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Average. Attendance.
Western.					
Church of England	St. Thomas's College B	727	6	733	687
Do.	Bishop's College G	5	170	175	155
Church Missionary Society	C.M.S. Ladies' College G	52	227	279	231
Private	Panadure, St. John's M	148	29	177	171
Roman Catholic	St. Joseph's College B	702	—	702	533
Do.	St. Benedict's College B	1,120	—	1,120	850
Do.	St. Bridget's Convent G	74	295	369	304
Do.	Bambalapitiya Convent G	98	313	411	333
Do.	Kotahena Convent G	72	661	733	566
Wesleyan	Wesley College B	413	—	413	359
Do.	Methodist College G	16	241	257	213
Southern.					
Roman Catholic	St. Aloysius's College B	474	—	474	413
Do.	Galle Convent G	51	200	251	194
Wesleyan	Richmond College B	416	3	419	353
Central.					
Church Missionary Society	Kandy (Hillwood) G	14	93	107	90
Do.	Trinity College B	561	4	565	540
Roman Catholic	St. Anthony's College B	448	11	459	369
Do.	Kandy Convent G	65	279	344	260
Wesleyan	Kandy G	33	205	238	189
Northern.					
American	Jaffna College, Vaddukoddai B	394	—	394	314
Church Missionary Society	Chundikuli G	48	157	205	155
Do.	St. John's College B	474	—	474	375
Roman Catholic	St. Patrick's College B	592	—	592	532
Wesleyan	Jaffna Central College B	374	—	374	311
	24	7,371	2,894	10,265	8,497

In most of the larger schools candidates are prepared for the Senior and Junior Cambridge School Certificate Examinations. In 1920 the number of candidates who presented themselves and the results obtained were :—

	Candidates.	Honours.	Other Passes.
Senior	725	52	348
Junior	1,015	98	451

There are special syllabuses for Ceylon students in English, Science, and Needlework, special stress being laid on the necessity for obtaining a high standard in English.

The results of the London University Examinations in 1921 showed that 452 candidates from Ceylon presented themselves for the Matriculation Examination, 135 of whom passed. In addition, 13 candidates passed the First Examination for Medical Degrees and 9 the Second Examination, Part I. Eighty-four candidates presented themselves for the Intermediate Examination in Arts, 52 for the Intermediate Examination in Science, 6 for the Intermediate Examination in Laws. Ten candidates presented themselves for the B.A. degree, 7 for the B.Sc., but the results of these examinations have not yet reached Ceylon.

The encouragement offered by Government takes the form of grants or scholarships. In the majority of the aided English schools grants are paid on the results of examinations as laid down in the schedules of the Code, but in some of the more advanced schools the greater part of the grant is paid on the

average attendance. Special grants are paid on account of buildings and equipment. The grants paid to English schools in the financial year 1920–21 amounted to Rs. 862,625·26.

Three Government scholarships are now offered: one on the results of the Intermediate Arts Examination of the London University, and two on the results of the Intermediate Examination in Science. Scholarships are tenable for three years, and are of the value of £300 per annum, with free passages and £50 outfit allowance. The holders may join any British University or any recognized engineering institution in the United Kingdom. The third scholarship is awarded on condition that the holder studies agriculture and natural science, and on completing his course accepts an appointment in the Department of Agriculture, Ceylon.

An exhibition of Rs. 250 or Rs. 300 a year has been offered by the Hon. Dr. H. M. Fernando, Member of the Legislative Council, to the Ceylon student who obtains the highest marks in botany and either chemistry or agricultural science in the Cambridge Senior School Certificate Examination.

The member of the Buddhist priesthood—Rev. Suriyagoda Sumangala Thero—who had been sent to the University of Oxford for two years on an annual scholarship provided by Government and private subscriptions in equal shares, has had his scholarship extended for a period of six months at the expense of Government.

The following is the scale of fees charged in the various classes of English schools in the Island :—

	Per Mensem. Rs.
Elementary Schools.	
Infant Department, Standard I. and Standard II.	1
Standards III. to V.	2
Standards VI. to VIII.	3
Secondary Schools.	
Lower Schools, as in Elementary Schools.	
Standards V. to VIII. and Junior School Examination Class ..	5
Higher Classes	7

Government Training College.

The Government Training College consists of four departments: English (men and women), Anglo-vernacular (men only), Sinhalese (men), and Sinhalese (women). The object is to supply trained teachers for aided English schools and Government Anglo-vernacular and vernacular schools. At the beginning of 1921 the number of students in training was in the English side 36 men and 44 women, in the Anglo-vernacular 14 men, in the Sinhalese 30 men, 30 women.

Eight graduate student teachers were trained at the University College during the year, and 20 others were admitted.

Arrangements are being made to open a Tamil Training School at Jaffna.

Trained teachers at present command good salaries, and there is a good demand for their services.

A class of 20 boys under eleven at the time of examination for admission was formed in 1918 from boys in vernacular schools. Further classes of 20 each were formed in 1919 and 1920. The board and lodging of these boys are paid by public subscription. Their tuition is free. The boys of the first batch are now up to the average of Standard VIII., and are much in advance of boys of their own age who have been learning English for several years. These boys knew no English when they joined. No class was formed in 1921 owing to want of accommodation and funds.

Industrial Schools.

In 1921 the aided industrial schools, which are 33 in number, received grants amounting to Rs. 15,990. The trades taught were carpentry, dressmaking, tailoring, lace-making, embroidery, and gardening. The most important of these schools is the Maggona Certified Industrial School, which is utilized by

Government as a reformatory for youthful offenders. It is managed by the Roman Catholic Mission. This institution has an estate of some 300 acres and excellent buildings, towards the cost of which Government has contributed. 358 youthful offenders are at present receiving instruction in this school, and an allowance is paid by Government for the maintenance of each offender. The amount so paid in the year 1921 was Rs. 49,891·68. Another important industrial school is that at Wellawatta, Colombo, under the management of the Wesleyan Mission. The amount of grant paid to this institution in 1921 amounted to Rs. 4,800.

An impetus was given to home industries, which are taught in different parts of the Island, by the appointment of two Inspectors of Industries—one for weaving schools and one for carpentry and general industrial work. Carpentry is taught in 23 schools, and 18 schools have carpentry sheds with instructors attached. Five schools are engaged in cloth-weaving, and 12 others are awaiting equipment. Printing and bookbinding are taught in 4 schools. Shoemaking and smithy work in 2 schools. Cane and rattan work in 3 schools. One school is ready equipped for lacquer work, and 2 are being equipped. One school is being equipped for pottery work. Basket-making and mat-weaving are taught in several schools. Hat-making is making good progress in the Kalutara District, and in 16 schools there are classes in basket-making for children.

Agricultural Instruction.

Elementary agricultural instruction is given by a scheme of school gardens conducted in connection with Government schools. The gardens are under the supervision of the Department of Agriculture. There is a Superintendent of Schools Gardens, who is assisted by three Inspectors. The total number of registered Government school gardens at the end of 1921 was 389. The number of gardens attached to grant-in-aid schools was 95. 150 school gardens are awaiting registration. Seeds and implements are supplied by the Department of Agriculture, and prizes are offered for competition.

Thirteen Government teachers underwent a special course of training at Peradeniya. The scheme has been supplemented by the establishment of home gardens in large numbers, seed being provided for boys who undertake to plant up vegetables in their home compounds.

Forty teachers are being trained in the boarding school for teaching agriculture and English to vernacular teachers, which was opened at Henaratgoda in 1919.

Technical.

In addition to night classes in building construction, mechanical engineering, electric wiring, carpentry, and joinery, drawing classes for carpenters, motor drivers, and mechanics, the following classes are held :—English, shorthand, typewriting, bookkeeping, accountancy, method of business, and commercial arithmetic. These classes are well attended.

The Jaffna Technical School was opened on October 8, 1921. There were 40 students at the end of the year. Sixty-two scholarships have been promised, of which 12 have been paid in full, and in the case of 42 scholarships the first instalment of Rs. 100 has been paid. The total amount collected is Rs. 10,028·66. Manual training, woodwork, iron work, and drawing are taught in this school.

Domestic Science.

Domestic science is now being introduced as one of the subjects in the curriculum for girls' schools. A qualified Supervisor of Domestic Science assumed duties on May 12, 1920, and classes were started in the Domestic Science rooms, especially remodelled and equipped for the purpose, at the Government Training College.

Vacation classes at the Training College were held in August.

VIII.—PUBLIC HEALTH, VITAL STATISTICS, AND METEOROLOGY.

The health of the Colony was generally satisfactory during the year. Influenza, which had been very bad two years previously, was less prevalent, and its character was milder. Malaria was still very prevalent in the Wanni districts and in the North, and caused a great deal of trouble on the new railway extensions to Trincomalee, Batticaloa, and Puttalam. There were no epidemics during the year, and plague in Colombo showed an improvement over the preceding year. The outbreak of plague in Kandy in 1920 was effectually arrested during that year, and no further cases occurred in 1921.

Parangi is still prevalent in the Wanni districts, and in the backward parts of Uva and the Eastern Province. Considerable attention has been given to this disease, and conditions are improving considerably. The disease is treated with salvarsan, and considerable quantities of this drug have been imported. Special Itinerating Medical Officers have also been appointed to certain areas, and the reports of the Government Agents on their work are very encouraging. A Special Committee was appointed during the year to make further recommendations to Government for dealing with the disease.

A clinic was opened in Colombo for the treatment of venereal diseases.

The campaign against anchylostomiasis, carried on conjointly by the Rockfeller Foundation and the Ceylon Government, has continued its work during the year, but the depression in the tea and rubber industries has caused a setback. Three village areas in the Western Province, viz., Henaratgoda, Veyangoda, and Kalutara, were treated during the year, and a separate campaign has been started for prisoners in the jails.

The following statistics of plague, cholera, and smallpox will be found interesting :—

Plague.

	Cases.	Deaths.
Colombo	184	170
Talaimannar	1	1
Hirimburo (Galle)	1	1
Mulleriyawa	1	1
ss. " Karmala "	1	1

Smallpox.

Colombo	12	3
Steamer cases—		
ss. " Clan Kenneth "	1	—
ss. " Lorenszo "	1	—
ss. " Lady McCallum " (Hambantota)	1	—
Outside Colombo—		
Kayts	1	—
Rayigama	1	—
Valvettiturai	1	—

Cholera.

Nil.

Plague in Colombo.—184 cases of plague occurred during the year, as against 235 in 1920 and an average of 206 during the seven years 1914–1920.

The mortality rate for all cases was 92·4 per cent., as against the average of 93·9. There were 70 cases of septicæmic and 114 of bubonic plague, this being the second year in succession in which the bubonic type has exceeded in number the septicæmic type.

The case mortality amongst the septicæmic cases was, as usual, 100 per cent., while the bubonic case mortality was 86·3 per cent. The sharp outbreak which began during the last quarter of 1920 continued until the end of February, 1921, when it began to subside rapidly, and fell below the average in March,

from which date, with the exception of one week in April, it remained well below the average during the rest of the year. The majority of the cases occurred, as usual, amongst young adults. The chief centre of the disease was, as usual, in the Sea street—Pettah area—with small localized outbreaks at Dean's road, Nagalagam, and Colpetty road near the police station. Only a few sporadic cases occurred in other parts of the town.

Rat Plague.—The distribution of rat plague was very similar to that of human plague, with the exception that there was sharp outbreak in March amongst the rats at the Customs premises, without, however, the occurrence of any human infection there. During the year 163,200 rats were trapped, killed, or found dead, of which 157,628 were trapped, 5,046 were killed by the Clayton fumigators, and 426 were found dead. 33,272 rats, including all those killed by the Claytons, were examined bacteriologically, with the result that 67 or 0·20 per cent were found to be infected, as against an infection rate of 0·67 during 1920. There was an unusually sharp outbreak of plague amongst the rats in the Fourth Cross street area of the Pettah during the last three months of the year.

Prevention.—The special measures which were adopted in December, 1920, were carried on throughout the year, and were greatly assisted by the importation of five new Claytons and the employment of additional staff, which were set to work towards the end of June.

The annual statements show the chief statistical features for the eight years since plague first appeared in Ceylon :—

	1914.	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	Average 1914 to 1920.	1921.
Total cases	413	139	291	207	70	87	235	206	184
Total deaths	381	128	273	196	69	82	223	193	170
Septicæmic cases	247*	81*	159	124	41	50	93	113	70
Septicæmic deaths	246	80	159	124	41	50	93	113	70
Bubonic cases	166	58	132	83	29	37	142	93	114
Bubonic deaths	135	48	114	72	28	32	130	80	100
	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.
Total case mortality	92·2	92·8	93·8	94·7	98·6	94·3	94·9	93·9	92·4
Septicæmic case mortality	99·6	98·7	100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0
Bubonic case mortality	81·3	82·7	86·4	86·7	96·6	86·5	91·5	86·3	87·7

* The cases for 1914 and 1915 each includes one septicæmic recovery, but the diagnosis was not in either case confirmed bacteriologically, and may have been erroneous.

Monthly Incidence of Plague Cases.

	1914.	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	Average 1914 to 1920.	1921.
January	4	19	17	25	13	—	25	15	65
February	67	6	18	40	18	1	20	24	53
March	58	3	18	61	10	3	3	22	27
April	28	3	14	34	11	—	3	13	7
May	29	3	11	11	2	—	4	9	2
June	49	1	36	3	9	—	3	15	1
July	47	5	43	6	2	—	12	16	3
August	40	20	35	1	1	2	7	15	2
September	18	21	25	3	—	5	18	13	2
October	23	24	24	7	—	18	28	18	9
November	24	10	25	10	2	34	34	20	4
December	26	24	25	6	2	24	78	26	9
Total for the year	413	139	291	207	70	87	235	206	184
Monthly mean	34·4	11·6	24·2	17·2	5·8	7·2	19·6	17·2	15·3

Medical Institutions.

Ceylon is well supplied with hospitals and dispensaries, most of which have been provided by Government. There are 87 Government hospitals, including a hospital for chronic cases of tuberculosis, all equipped with modern hospital furniture and surgical appliances. Of these hospitals, two were recently opened, one at Kilinochchi in the Northern Province and one at Ridigama in the North-Western Province. The number of beds in the institutions ranges from 12 to 711. In addition to the hospitals there are 474 central and branch dispensaries, including a central institute in Colombo for tuberculosis provided with a modern X-ray apparatus. There is also a tuberculosis sanatorium at Kandana to the north of Colombo. Ceylon possesses two leper asylums and a lunatic asylum, which accommodated last year from 960 to 1,061 patients.

The owners of estates have provided under the Medical Wants Ordinances 68 estate hospitals, towards the upkeep of which they receive a rebate on export duties on tea and rubber, and also 475 estate dispensaries receiving drugs free from Government to the value of 50 cents per labourer per annum.

Government Medical Institutions.

The scheme in contemplation for the rebuilding of the Ceylon Medical College remained deferred. The full course of training at the college is five years for the medical students and two years for the apothecary students. A diploma in medicine, surgery, and midwifery (which can be registered in the United Kingdom) is granted to the successful medical students. The apothecary students are employed by Government after they qualify in the final examination.

The following were the attendances and passes during the last two years :—

	Attendances.		Passes.	
	Medical.	Apothecary.	Medical.	Apothecary.
1919, October, to 1920, March ..	201	74	6	10
1920, May, to 1920, July ..	181	60	5	11
1920, October, to 1921, March ..	226	62	3	3
1921, May, to 1921, July ..	203	53	7	15

Colombo possesses a Bacteriological Institute, a Pasteur Institute, a General Hospital of 711 beds, an Ophthalmic Hospital, a Lying-in Home, a Hospital for Women and Children, and a Hospital for Infectious Diseases. There are special dispensaries at Kandy and Galle for the treatment of eye diseases.

Asylums.

The Lunatic Asylum contained 966 inmates or December 31; the new asylum buildings at Angoda, 6 miles from Colombo, are still in progress, and when completed will have accommodation for 1,000 patients and for the necessary staff and servants. At present, owing to insufficient accommodation in the Colombo asylum, about 150 lunatic patients are accommodated in a temporary asylum at Matara. The number of patients treated in the asylum during 1921 was 1,641 (1,026 males and 615 females). The number discharged was 478 (333 males and 145 females). These figures include those of the House of Observation.

Of the two leper asylums, one is at Hendala, 6 miles from Colombo, and contained 505 patients at the end of the year, the total number treated during 1921 being 594. The other is the recently opened asylum at Mantivu in the Eastern Province, to which the patients of the leper ward hitherto attached to the Kalmunai hospital were removed ; 59 lepers remained in the Mantivu asylum at the end of the year.

A House for Incurables of 80 beds is administered by a Committee of Government officials and representatives of the public.

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VITAL STATISTICS.

The chief event connected with the vital statistics of the Island during the year was the census of the population, which was taken on the night of March 18, under the superintendence of Mr. L. J. B. Turner, C.C.S.

Population.—The population as enumerated on that day was 4,497,686 persons (2,381,072 males and 2,116,614 females), exclusive of the military, shipping, and miscellaneous, and showed an increase of 9·5 per cent. during the decade, which was much less than the increases recorded in the two previous censuses. Estimated on the basis of the census figures, the population at the end of 1921 was 4,538,360, as against 4,510,297 at the end of 1920, or an increase of ·6 per cent. during the year. The excess of births over deaths amounted to 43,168, and the loss by excess of emigration over immigration 20,509. The estimated population of the various races and the proportion per 1,000 of the total population at the end of 1921 were as follows :—

	Population on December 31, 1921.	Proportion per 1,000 of Total Population.
Europeans	8,501	1·9
Burghers	29,311	6·4
Sinhalese	3,046,473	671·9
Tamils	1,124,819	247·8
Moors	286,862	63·2
Malays	13,932	3·1
Others	24,907	5·5

Marriages.—The marriages registered in 1921 numbered 23,100, of which 18,131 were under the general marriage Ordinance, and 4,969 under the Kandyan. The total number was higher than that registered in any of the three previous years, during which the number of marriages had noticeably fallen, and was nearly equal to the average number which obtained in the past decade. The rate of persons married per mille of the estimated population was 11, as against 10·4 in the previous year and 11·7 the average for the decade 1909–1918. The approach of the marriage rate to the normal indicates a return of the normal conditions after the years of war and influenza.

Births.—The births registered during the year numbered 183,917 (93,519 males and 90,398 females). The number was the second highest on record, the highest being 183,975 registered in 1917. Compared with the number of births registered in 1920, there were 20,198 more children born in 1921. The total number during the year corresponded to a rate of 40·8 per mille of the estimated population, as against 36·3 the average for the two years 1919–1920 and 38·0 the average for the decade 1909–1918. The proportion of male children for every 1,000 female children born in 1921 was 1,035, as against 1,042 in 1920.

In the 33 principal towns the births registered numbered 22,408, and corresponded to a rate of 38·8 per mille of the urban population, as against 28·2 in 1920. The urban birth-rate for the year is markedly above the average rate for the decade 1911–1920, which was 27·6. In the city of Colombo the births registered during the year amounted to 8,685, and the corresponding rate was 35·6 or 11·2 per mille more than in 1920.

Deaths.—The deaths registered during the year numbered 140,749, of which 71,081 were males and 69,668 females. Though the number is 7,794 more than in the previous year, the mortality shows a marked improvement on the numbers registered in 1918 and 1919. The deaths during the year yield a rate of 31·3 per mille of the estimated population, as against 29·6 in the previous year, and 37·6 in 1919. Compared with the average rate of the

past two years this year's rate shows an improvement of 2·3 per mille ; but compared with the average rate for the decade 1909–1918, the mortality shows an increase of 1·8 per mille. The increased mortality during the year would seem to be largely due to the higher death-rate from " pyrexia " than in the previous year.

Estate Deaths.—The total number of deaths registered on estates during the year amounted to 18,073, and showed a decrease of 3,357 deaths on the previous year.

Urban Deaths.—In the principal towns the mortality during the year was slightly in excess of the previous year, the number of deaths being 24,404, as against 23,229 in 1920. Of the deaths registered in 1921, the residents in the towns numbered 19,015, corresponding to a standardized rate of 35·9, as against 29·0 in the previous year and 29·5 the average for the decade 1911–1920. In the city of Colombo the deaths numbered 8,169, of which 6,999 were residents. This number corresponded to a standardized rate of 33·3 per mille, and was 6·2 per mille more than in the previous year.

Infant Mortality.—The mortality of infants under one year of age was 35,325, and corresponded to 25 per cent. of the total death at all ages. The rate calculated per 1,000 births registered during the year was equivalent to 192, as against 182 in the previous year. Compared with the average rate for the past decade, this year's rate shows an improvement of 4 per 1,000 births.

On the estates the infant mortality was equal to a rate of 203 per 1,000 births, and shows a decided improvement on the rate of the preceding year (224).

In the principal towns the rate of infant mortality (238 per 1,000 births) is higher than in the Island or on the estates, and is also higher than the corresponding rate (228) recorded in the previous year. In the city of Colombo the infant mortality rate was 240.

Causes of Death.—The classification of causes of death in the Island is based upon the international or Bertillon system. During the year the deaths registered under all causes amounted to 140,749, of which by far the largest number (21,381) was, as usual, attributed to pyrexia. The death-rate per million persons from this cause was 4,748, as against 4,142 in 1920. The death-rates from some of the other principal causes in 1921 per million persons are shown below with the corresponding rates in 1920 :—

	1921.	1920.
Infantile convulsions	3,215 ..	2,909
Diarrhœa	2,792 ..	2,831
Pneumonia	1,490 ..	1,486
Dysentery	945 ..	941
Phthisis	699 ..	699
Influenza	663 ..	812
Anchylostomiasis	651 ..	727
Malaria and malarial cachexia ..	436 ..	335
Puerperal septicæmia.. ..	370 ..	376
Premature birth and congenital defects	350 ..	337
Bronchitis	278 ..	254
Enteric fever	148 ..	194

Influenza.—The deaths registered from influenza during the year numbered 2,986, showing a substantial decrease on the numbers of the previous years since its outbreak. The highest number of deaths was registered in the first quarter of the year. The number gradually declined till the minimum number (489) was reached in the fourth quarter. The deaths from pneumonia, which in several cases was found to be a complication of influenza, however, showed a slight increase during the year, the number being 6,708, as against 6,666 in 1920.

Plague.—The number of deaths attributed to plague during the year was 187, as against 319 in the previous year. The mortality from plague was highest in the first quarter of the year, when the number was 144, being a little more than three-fourths of the total deaths. The lowest number registered was 6 in the third quarter. As usual, by far the greatest number of deaths occurred within the city of Colombo, which was 175. There were no deaths at all during the year in Kandy town, which in the previous year recorded 82 deaths. Three deaths were registered in Colombo District (outside the Municipal limits), 2 in Kalutara, 3 in Galle, 1 in Jaffna, 2 in Mannar, and 1 in Kegalla. In almost all these cases the infection was traceable to Colombo.

Smallpox.—Seven deaths were registered from smallpox during the year, as against 23 in the previous year. Of the deaths registered during the year, 4 were in Colombo District, including 3 deaths in the city, 2 in Galle, and 1 in Matara.

Cholera.—The mortality from cholera (3 deaths) during the year was practically negligible as compared with the deaths, viz., 130, registered in 1920. Of the deaths, 2 were registered in Kandy District of Tamil estate labourers and 1 in Badulla District of a Sinhalese.

Accidents and other Affections produced by External Causes.—During the year 2,152 deaths resulted from accidents and other external violence, showing an appreciable decline on the number (2,498) registered in 1920. The mortality rate per million persons was 478 in 1921 and 557 in 1920. 530, or nearly a fourth of the accidental deaths, were due to fall from trees, while 419, or slightly less than a fifth of the total number, were attributed to drowning. Burns caused 201 deaths, of which 34 were assigned to the bottle lamp. The deaths attributed to the bottle lamp showed a marked fall during the year.

Snake Bite.—249 deaths, corresponding to a rate of 55 per million persons, were registered from snake bite in 1921, as against 261 deaths in 1920.

Homicide.—217 deaths were registered in 1921 as having resulted from homicide, and showed a slight decrease on the number (227) registered in 1920. The death-rate per million persons was 48, or 3 per million less than the rate in 1920.

Suicide.—The number of deaths from suicide in 1921 was 244, being 5 less than in the previous year. The favourite mode of suicide in Ceylon is hanging, which was resorted to by no fewer than 146 persons. The death-rate per million from suicide was 54, as against 56 in the previous year.

Executions.—49 persons underwent the extreme penalty of the law in 1921, as against 39 in 1920.

Causes of Deaths on Estates.—Of the 18,073 deaths registered on estates from all causes, 2,359 were registered from debility of infants under three months, corresponding to a rate of 4,195 per million of the estate population. The death-rate from anchylostomiasis was equivalent to 3,359 per million persons; from pneumonia, 3,073; dysentery, 2,963; diarrhœa, 2,600; infantile convulsions, 2,233; debility of persons over three months, 1,985; premature birth and congenital defects, 939; bronchitis, 704; influenza, 674; and phthisis, 482. The rate of mortality from homicide was 20 per million, and was much less than the Island rate, but, curiously enough, that from suicide was much greater, being as high as 78.

Causes of Death in the Towns.—The principal causes of mortality in the towns in 1921 and their rates per million of the urban population were as follows:—Pneumonia, 4,798; convulsions, 3,213; infantile debility, 2,819; diarrhœa, 2,243; phthisis, 2,198; enteritis, 2,194; dysentery, 2,156; anchylostomiasis, 2,102; malaria and malarial cachexia, 1,967; Bright's disease and nephritis, 1,729; enteric fever, 862; influenza, 753; bronchitis, 725; puerperal septicæmia, 675; and cancer, 237.

METEOROLOGY.

General Remarks.—There is a marked variation in climate between the different parts of Ceylon. In the low-country, with a mean temperature of the order of 80° F., a noticeable feature is the small range of both temperature and pressure. There is, however, wide divergence between the moist conditions in the south-west of the Island, where the average annual rainfall varies from 100 to 200 inches, and the dry zone areas of the north, north-west, and south-east.

Inland, with altitudes reaching 8,000 feet, the temperature is cooler, and shows a bigger range. There is a corresponding change in vegetation, and the conditions are altogether more akin to those in the temperate zone.

Rainfall.—The highest rainfall registered this year was at Carney estate near Ratnapura, which had a total of 223·82 inches, and 249 days on which rain fell. This station also has the highest annual average rainfall (viz., 215·06 inches on 227 days), and in 1921 differed from the majority of stations on the south-west side of the Island in having more rainfall than its average. The lowest rainfall for this year was 30·77 inches in 67 days at Nachchakali near Puttalam. The lowest average is 33·31 in 56 days at a station a little further north, Marichchukkadi, which also recorded the longest period of drought in 1921, viz., 202 days (roughly through the south-west monsoon). The longest wet period occurred at Maliboda and lasted 56 days. The rainfall during the south-west monsoon was distinctly below average, and most stations in the south-western quarter and centre of the Island (which rely on that monsoon for a large proportion of their rainfall) were consequently far below their average for the year, deficits of 30 inches being common. The rainfall at Colombo (Cinnamon Gardens) was 53·56 inches in 179 days, or about 25 inches below average. At Kandy 73·30 inches were registered in 197 days; while the annual rainfall at Nuwara Eliya was 70·95 inches in 231 days. In the north the totals for the year were about normal, and in the north-east (*e.g.*, Trincomalee) and eastern parts they were well above average, a result largely due to heavy rain in the last few days of the year.

Temperature.—The station showing the highest mean shade temperature for the year was Mannar with 82·9° F., and the lowest Nuwara Eliya with 59·9° F. The figures for Colombo and Kandy were 81·3° F. and 76·6° F., respectively.

The highest shade temperature recorded during the year was 99·8° F. at Anuradhapura on August 24. The highest on record is 103·7° F. at Trincomalee on May 12, 1890. The lowest this year was 28·1° F. at Nuwara Eliya (6,000 feet above sea level) on February 25.

The highest shade temperature at Colombo in 1921 was 92·6° F. on February 11.

The mean daily range, *i.e.*, the difference between the mean of the maximum and the mean of the minimum, was highest at Nuwara Eliya (17·3° F.), and lowest at Galle (8·0° F.). At Colombo and Kandy it was 11·9° F. and 15·5° F., respectively. The absolute range for the year, *i.e.*, the difference between the highest and the lowest readings actually recorded at any one station, was greatest at Nuwara Eliya (50·5° F.), and lowest at Galle (17·4° F.).

IX.—ARCHÆOLOGICAL SURVEY.

Mr. Hocart assumed duties as Archæological Commissioner on January 24. After seven years without a head the Department was naturally disorganized, and the first task therefore was to reorganize. This task is not yet completed owing to shortage of staff, and to the necessity for attending immediately to the repairs to the Lankatilaka which had been begun by Mr. Bell.

The library was re-arranged, and a beginning made of a card index.

Records were begun for finds and inscriptions. New squeezes were taken to enable the Epigraphist to go ahead. The foundations of a coin collection were laid for reference.

The work begun by Mr. Bell on the Lankatilaka at Polonnaruwa was completed according to a slightly modified programme. The principles followed were :—

(1) To put in no work that was not necessary to the safety of the building ;
(2) To conceal no evidence that could possibly be left exposed.

The frescoes of the Demala Maha Seya were roofed over with cadjans.

Minor repairs were carried out at the Kiri Vehera and Potgul Vehera.

The so-called Dhatu Mandiraya was taken in hand at Anuradhapura, and the brickwork was repointed to prevent wear and tear, and the stones were reset. Unexcavated portions and parts that had become buried again were exposed, so that the plan of the whole monastery is laid bare as far as is possible. It is hoped to proceed to more important work later, but it takes some time to get the staff to work to a system, and from that cause and owing to shortage of staff it has been necessary to begin work before the plan of campaign had been properly worked out.

During the repairs of the Lankatilaka a careful record was made as to any evidence as to the age of the various parts of the building. An old floor was discovered under the present one, doubtless the original floor of the present building. Underneath this were traces of what appears to be the remains of an old building anterior to Parakrama Bahu. The evidence collected was not as decisive as might be wished ; but a comparison with other buildings should gradually clear up the question of dates, and help to establish a satisfactory chronology.

A hasty reconnaissance was carried out in Puttalam on the spot where a clay figure had been found by Mr. Mason of the Railway Construction Department. More pottery of the same kind was found, but no clue as to period or origin. The style is similar to that of certain clay figures in the Museum, and information about these would be welcome.

A rapid survey of Jaffna peninsula, Mantai, the environs of Kurunegala, and the coast between Chilaw and Puttalam was carried out. The ruins of Arankale, near Hiripitiya, North-Western Province, may be especially recommended to notice.

Mr. Ayrton's Memoir on the Ratana Pasada and the ruins on the Outer Circular road is ready for publication, but funds are not available at present.

X.—POLICE, CRIME, AND PRISONS.

POLICE.

Strength.—The strength of the Police Force on December 31, 1921, provided for in the Estimates was :—

Inspector-General	1
Deputy Inspectors-General ..	2
Superintendents	11
Assistant Superintendents and Probationers	24
Inspectors	45
Sub-Inspectors	119
Sergeants	350
Constables	2,407

European Police Force.

Inspectors	1
Sub-Inspectors	3
Sergeants	13
Total of all ranks ..	2,994

The total strength of the Force was short by 60 on December 31. The shortage of sergeants and constables was due to lack of accommodation at the Training School. There are a large number of approved applicants on the list awaiting enlistment. The accommodation at the Training School is very limited and overcrowded, but this will be remedied when the new Training School sanctioned is ready.

Cost.—The cost of the Force was Rs. 2,696,764 approximately. The cost of police per man is Rs. 898·92 per annum. The cost per head of population is 60 cents or 10*d*.

The cost of police in Ceylon is very low as compared with the cost in other countries, *e.g.* :—

Calcutta, cost per population Rs. 2·71 or about 3*s*. 8*d*.
South Australia, cost per population 5*s*. 9*d*.
Western Australia, cost per population 9*s*. 4*d*.

CRIME.

Crime committed during the Year.—There was a decrease in crime in 1921 as compared with the years 1919 and 1920, as the following statement shows:—

	1919.	1920.	1921.
Homicide	200	176	221
Attempted homicide ..	41	43	43
Grievous hurt	747	770	714
Hurt with dangerous weapons ..	955	1,009	1,025
Burglary	2,317	2,144	1,908
Theft of cattle and prædial produce	1,325	1,068	1,036
Other offences	2,992	2,979	2,693
Total ..	8,577	8,189	7,640

It will be seen that offences against the person show a slight increase. The total number of cases of homicide and attempted homicide, grievous hurt, and hurt with dangerous weapons in 1921 numbered 2,003, as compared with 1,998 in 1920. There has been a decrease in offences against property, which may be classed as preventible crime. Burglary figures show a decrease, 1,908 in 1921, against 2,144 in 1920. Cases under the head " Theft of cattle and prædial produce " show a decrease, 1,036 in 1921, as compared with 1,068 in 1920. The decrease in preventible crime is a satisfactory feature.

Distribution of Crime.—The following table shows the distribution of crime :—

Province.	Homicide.	Attempted Homicide.	Grievous Hurt.	Hurt with Dangerous Weapons.	Burglary.	Theft of Cattle and Prædial Produce.	Other Offences.	Total.
Uva ..	10	2	22	50	122	96	248	550
Colombo City ..	11	—	55	60	73	9	363	571
North-Western ..	33	10	103	97	249	177	392	1,061
Southern ..	43	7	130	263	333	310	326	1,412
Western ..	64	15	235	301	382	275	470	1,742
Sabaragamuwa ..	21	5	64	78	308	69	208	753
Central ..	17	2	57	93	345	65	351	930
North-Central ..	9	1	2	3	21	7	52	95
Northern ..	6	1	33	45	57	15	209	366
Eastern ..	7	—	13	35	18	13	74	160
Total ..	221	43	714	1,025	1,908	1,036	2,693	7,640

Comparing the number of serious offences committed with the population in each Province, it is found that—

				Persons.
In the Province of Uva there is 1 case of crime to every			..	425
In the Colombo City	do.	..	..	450
In the North-Western Province	do.	..	..	464
In the Southern Province	do.	..	..	475
In the Western Province	do.	..	..	568
In the Province of Sabaragamuwa	do.	..	..	627
In the Central Province	do.	..	..	772
In the North-Central Province	do.	..	..	1,016
In the Northern Province	do.	..	..	1,024
In the Eastern Province	do.	..	..	1,205

The proportion of serious crime to population in Ceylon is 1 case of serious crime per annum to every 589 persons. The proportion of murders to population in Ceylon is 5 per 100,000 population, as against ·4 per 100,000 in England and Wales. The number of murders and the proportion to population in Ceylon is very high

There was an increase of crime in the Uva and Southern Provinces (Uva 29 per cent., Southern 4 per cent.). There was a decrease in the Colombo city (19 per cent.), North-Western (5 per cent.), Western (7 per cent.), Sabaragamuwa (14 per cent.), Central (7 per cent.), North-Central (11 per cent.), Northern (34 per cent.), and Eastern (11 per cent.).

The increase in crime in Uva affords a very striking example of the fact that as a Province is opened up the call is for additional police. The extension of the railway brings to the Province criminals from other districts, over whom the village headmen have no control. In 1914 Uva was not regarded as a Province in which serious crime was prevalent; there was less crime per population in Uva than in the Western, Southern, North-Western, Sabaragamuwa Provinces, and Colombo city. Uva stood seventh out of nine in the list of Provinces placed in order of proportion of crime to population. There were only 222 cases of serious crime committed in Uva in 1914, and the proportion of crime to population was 1 to 976. In 1921 Uva heads the list of Provinces placed in order of proportion of serious offences to population, with 1 case of crime to every 425 persons, while the number of true cases of serious crime committed has increased by 109 per cent.

A Superintendent for the Province of Uva and the opening of three new stations have been specially sanctioned to deal with this crime.

The most criminal districts of the Island are :—

The Chilaw District.
The Badulla District.
The Tangalla District.
The Colombo City.
The Matara District.
The Galle District.
The Kalutara District.
The Kurunegala District.
The Colombo District, Western Province.
The Panadure District.

Action taken to deal with Crime.—Steps taken to deal with crime during the year were :—

(1) The strength of the Force was increased by 1 Superintendent, 3 Sub-Inspectors, 4 sergeants, and 64 constables for the investigation of crime.

(2) *Means of Communication.*—Funds were provided for connecting up by telephone more police stations with their headquarters.

The position with regard to the connection of police stations by telephone is now as follows :—

Number of police stations already on the telephone	94
Police stations for which funds have been provided to connect by telephone during 1921–22	3
Number of police stations requiring telephone connection for which funds have not been provided	52*
	149

* Excluding Mahara and Depôt.

Prompt means of communication is of the greatest assistance in police work, and many cases were recorded during the year in which the arrest of an offender or the tracing of property would not have been possible but for the immediate use of the telegraph or telephone. By getting some stations connected by telephone each year it is hoped that eventually every police station in districts where crime is prevalent will be on the telephone.

Province of Uva.—A Superintendent was posted to the Province of Uva, and the strength of the Force in Uva has been specially increased by 3 Sub-Inspectors and 16 constables.

Ratnapura District.—Additional police stations were established in the Ratnapura District. With the extension of the railway and opening up of the country, bad characters are coming to the district from other parts, and the headmen have not the same control over them as over their own villagers.

Kalutara District.—Special attention was given to the state of crime in the Kalutara District. There has been a marked improvement in both the prevention and detection of crime since special action was started in 1918.

Comparing the number of true cases of serious crime committed in the last four years the figures are :—

	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
True Cases of Serious Crime. ..	695 ..	497 ..	377 ..	283

This shows a 59 per cent. drop in serious crime in 1921 as compared with 1918.

The most marked decrease is noted under the head " Burglary," which comes under the head " Preventible crime." There has been a 72 per cent. drop in burglary since 1918.

The record of detection shows an equally marked improvement :—

	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
Percentage of Convictions to total True Cases. ..	30 ..	51 ..	57 ..	61

These figures show that there has been a marked improvement in both the prevention and detection of crime since special action was taken in 1918, and show that the better record noted in 1920 has not only been kept up, but improved upon in 1921.

The improvement is equally noticeable in other ways. In 1919 there were 60 absconders at large. This number was reduced to 37 in 1920, and has been further reduced to 27 in 1921. 217 gaming places have been raided in the district since 1919.

Kegalla District.—Good results have attended the opening of police stations and the special attention given to the investigation of crime in the Kegalla District. There has been a 30 per cent. decrease in serious crime since 1919, with a better record of detection as the following figures show :—

Year.	True Cases of Serious Crime.	Convictions.	Percentage of Convictions to True Cases.
1919 ..	555 ..	195 ..	35
1920 ..	465 ..	182 ..	39
1921 ..	391 ..	160 ..	41

Training in the Investigation and Prevention of Crime.—Special attention has been given to the training of all ranks in regard to the investigation and prevention of crime.

The Deputy Inspector-General, Criminal Investigation Department, reports as regards crime that a noticeable feature this year in a large number of cases dealt with by the Criminal Investigation Department has been the remarkable ingenuity displayed in the commission or attempted commission of offences of a fraudulent description.

The bulk of crime, certainly of crime against property, is committed by those who have previously been in the hands of the police.

Police sent to Festivals in other Provinces.—Police from other Provinces were sent to Anuradhapura and Madhu to look out for absconders and dangerous characters from their Provinces at the time of the annual festivals.

Close Supervision of Dangerous Characters.—Special attention is being given to the close supervision of really dangerous characters as opposed to the previous general supervision of all so-called " Habitual Criminals."

The present definition of a habitual criminal, as a person who has been twice convicted of a crime, is a misleading one from the point of view of the police as well as from other points of view.

A Committee presided over by the Chief Justice has considered the matter and is making certain recommendations to Government, the effect of which are that—

(*a*) The word " Habitual " will be deleted from the Ordinance No. 32 of 1914, and the word " Criminal " only will remain.

(*b*) The person who has been twice convicted of a crime will, in the rules framed under the Ordinance, be known and referred to as a " Reconvicted Criminal," which is a more proper description.

(*c*) The attention of the police will be drawn to the fact that they should not confine supervision to " Re-convicted Criminals," but should supervise any person who has been convicted of a crime and shows a definite system or method in committing crime, *e.g.*, the bicycle thief, fowl thief, forger of currency notes, bully, notorious procurer, &c.

The police will, if this is brought into force, refer to the twice convicted, or more frequently convicted, person as a " Re-convicted Criminal."

Beside the re-convicted criminal, there will be another class of persons who require to be specially watched by the police. These will be persons who may have only one conviction. The reason for the police specially watching them will not be the number of convictions registered against them, but the fact that they show system and method in committing crime and have a distinctly criminal mind.

This further class will be called " Dangerous Characters."

The worst criminals of both these classes will be regarded as dangerous criminals, and these should be photographed and receive supervision above the ordinary.

The good effect of the special supervision of the more dangerous criminals and taking photographs of them can be judged by the greatly improved state of crime in the Kalutara District, where this system is in force.

There is no doubt that if in each police station area the four or five most dangerous criminals are marked down and properly supervised a very good check on crime is obtained. It is not a case of trying to shadow and keep in close touch with 1,000 or even a 100 dangerous criminals in each station area ; the number of really dangerous criminals in each station area will be found to be small, and it is these dangerous criminals that the police will specially watch.

Examination of Bioscope Films.—Special attention has been given to the examination of bioscope films. Apart from the need for censorship of films which are indecent, suggestive, or improper, and films which are apt to cause feelings of ill-will or hostility between different classes, there is no doubt the films which depict the commission of crime do harm.

Co-operation of Headmen with Police.—In all Provinces headmen have co-operated very heartily with the police, and improved relations between headmen and police is bound to have effect.

A good understanding and a sound system of co-operation between headmen and police is the most important point in Police Provincial Administration. In districts where there are police stations the headmen have patrolled regularly by night with the police, and in some cases organized their own patrols.

In many districts the police have attended the Chief Headmen's monthly division days, so that the headmen can be kept instructed and informed of the lines the police are working on, and of any new orders or points which have come to light affecting the work of the district.

Co-operation by Railway Staff and by the Public.—The railway staff have been particularly helpful in bringing to notice and detecting persons committing theft from passengers on the railway, and sixteen cases have been brought to the notice of the General Manager in which observation and prompt action by an officer of the railway had resulted in the detection of crime. The officers were in each case rewarded.

Prevention of Crime.—The attention of the police is being specially directed to the prevention of crime on the lines above mentioned. By co-operating with the headmen and the public and securing their help and interest; by knowing the worst characters, and knowing the method and system by which each criminal commits crime; by constant patrolling, raiding gaming places, and police keeping on the move as much as possible in each station area, crime can be prevented, and this has been the subject of special training.

FURTHER ACTION NECESSARY TO DEAL WITH CRIME.

Dealing with Youthful Offenders.—It has been mentioned in previous reports that one of the greatest needs of the Colony is the treatment of youthful offenders on sound practical lines in order to prevent a youth becoming an habitual criminal. Ceylon offers an exceptional field for work such as this to be started. The volume of crime is very heavy.

The record of criminals in Ceylon shows that a very large proportion of the habitual criminals come from the towns, and their history almost invariably starts with petty thefts in the streets committed at the age of 15 to 21.

The object of a sound police and prison system is to prevent, so far as possible, a person from becoming a habitual criminal. Nothing can be done with a hardened criminal; it is useless teaching him a trade, for on release from prison he will, from sheer force of habit, in almost every case return to his former state and live on the proceeds of crime committed.

The Borstal system aims at the permanent reformation of the youth, who has committed his first offence, by hard work of an industrial character in clean and healthy surroundings for a period of three years, if possible, and not less than two years. A youth after being two or three years in such an institution is far more likely to settle down to a trade than the youth who has served a short sentence in a jail and returns to the streets. A youth who returns to the streets can never be reformed; the petty thief in course of time becomes the house-breaker. The great point aimed at is to teach a youth a trade and accustom him to regular and hard work. A hardworking man in a trade is seldom found amongst criminals. By the Borstal method the youth is prevented from becoming a habitual criminal.

Being a port of call, the streets of Colombo are infested with boys who plague and molest passengers. Such boys are continually being prosecuted. They are fined small amounts or given cuts with a cane and return to the streets. Living such a life a boy cannot but become a criminal. It is just this type of boy who might be turned into a decent man in a Borstal institution.

A Committee appointed by Government to consider the need of a Borstal institution in Ceylon, under the Presidentship of the Chief Justice, has reported that a Borstal institution is very necessary. A capital site in the country at Urugasmanhandiya has been suggested, where the boys can be employed both in trade and agriculture and gardening, and all that is required is the provision of funds.

Duties Resulting from the War.

Duties of the Police.—In addition to the ordinary work of the police, certain extra duties, initiated shortly after the outbreak of war in 1914, have been continued throughout 1921. Of these, the most important are :—

(1) Enforcement of regulation that no person may embark on any ship in the harbour unless he is in possession of a passport and steamer ticket or holds a special permit from the Chairman, Plague Committee, to do so. This regulation necessitates the Harbour Police checking all persons attempting to board a vessel.

(2) Examining and stamping on board ship the passports of all steamer passengers who wish to land at Colombo.

(3) Registering and supervising all Indians arriving by steamer *en route* to India *viâ* Talaimannar.

(4) Registering and supervising all alien commercial travellers and missionaries arriving in the Colony by steamer or from India *viâ* Talaimannar.

(5) The general surveillance of all other aliens arriving in the Colony and of all aliens resident in the Colony.

(6) Correspondence with India, South Africa, and all Eastern Colonies regarding suspicious aliens, anti-British persons, &c.

Legislation dealing with the Regulation of Traffic.

Motor Vehicles.—The system of control of all motor vehicles by one registering authority (Inspector-General of Police) continues, and the examination of applicants for and the issue of licenses to drive motor vehicles are being carried out by the police.

Other Legislation affecting the Police.—Other legislation affecting the police and introduced during the year include :—

"The Dangerous Animals Ordinance, No. 38 of 1921," which provides for the destruction of an animal which has been and is likely to be dangerous to life and property. This does not affect the right of every individual to destroy an animal when it is actually threatening life and damage to property, but provides for the destruction of an animal that has been proved to be dangerous, though possibly not endangering life at the time the matter is under consideration.

Training.

General.—Special attention has been given to the training of all men of the Force in the duty of preserving order and in the prevention and investigation of crime.

In addition to the weekly issue to all stations of orders relating to new Ordinances, by-laws, and regulations, in which all ranks are instructed and questioned, notes and hints on incidents and cases which have actually occurred are published for general information and guidance.

Men are also instructed in matters which effect their particular district or branch of work.

The Constable's Manual, which, in the form of question and answer, instructs constables in the proper action to be taken under varying circumstances in all branches of police work, have been revised, and copies in English, Sinhalese, and Tamil issued.

Training in Musketry.—With a view to improving the standard of musketry in the Force, special courses have been held periodically at headquarters for training instructors. The system of training is based on the Army system, but is confined to what is applicable and essential for work required of the police.

A system of training in revolver shooting has been introduced, and classes of instruction for Officers, Inspectors, European Police Sergeants, and Sub-Inspectors were held during the year.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Discipline.—Many acts of bravery and prompt action displayed in arresting armed criminals and saving life from drowning were reported during the year.

Imperial Service Medal.—Police Constable Zain Amath of the Colombo Division and Police Constable Shaik Usuff of the Central Province were awarded the Imperial Service Medal by His Majesty the King for long, good, and meritorious service.

First Aid to the Injured.—Every Officer, Inspector, Sub-Inspector, and Sergeant is required to hold a First-aid Certificate. No constable is promoted to the rank of sergeant until he has obtained a First-aid Certificate. A certain number of intelligent constables hold First-aid Certificates ; the remainder are trained to act under a Sub-Inspector, Inspector, or Officer holding a First-aid Certificate, of whom there will always be at least one in every police station in the Island. A sergeant or constable on receiving a service badge after three years' efficient service is awarded a special grant of Rs. 10 per annum, which he continues to draw so long as he remains efficient. On his being awarded a medal after fifteen years' efficient service, a grant to him of Rs. 2·50 per mensem has been sanctioned by Government.

At stations in the sea coast all ranks are specially instructed and kept up to the mark in rendering first-aid and artificial respiration to persons rescued from drowning.

In the course of the year many cases were recorded and reported by Medical Officers in which life was saved as a result of first-aid rendered by the police.

A new pattern stretcher and a first-aid box and hamper containing all necessary first-aid materials have been supplied to every police station in the Island.

Institutions of the Force include a Pensioners' Corps, which secures employment for men no longer physically fit for active police duty, and a Boys' Brigade in which sons of police officers are trained from the age of 5 upwards.

The object of the Pensioners' Corps is to assist police pensioners to supplement their pension by obtaining posts as watchers, doorkeepers, &c., on retirement, and to assist the public by providing men of a reliable type and long service in Government for posts which require a steady and reliable man. The pensioners are given a uniform by Government, and the pay they receive in private employ is of great assistance to them. These men have a pension

to lose if they commit an offence of dishonesty, and this fact and their long service and training in the Force makes their services valuable to the private employer.

Pensioners of the Corps not in private employ are called out to assist the police at times of outbreak of plague, cholera, &c., when they are particularly useful in guarding and watching houses and contacts. When so called out they are paid for the number of days so employed. There are 155 pensioners in the Corps.

The object of the Boys' Brigade is to provide healthy exercise and recreation for the sons of police officers and pensioners, and to educate and train them to become useful men. Between the ages of 5 and 13 the boy is put into uniform, and not only attends school, but is drilled in squad drill, physical exercises, and boxing. In school the boy is taught reading, writing, and general knowledge, which will fit him for employment. On parades, in boxing, and games he is taught discipline, kept hard and fit, taught to keep his temper, and learns to keep himself and his uniform clean. Between the ages of 14 and 17 he continues to attend school and parade for half the day, and during the other half he attends a police office as a messenger, working under the eye of an officer, for which he is paid from Rs. 7·50 a month at the age of 14 to Rs. 15 a month at the age of 17. At this stage the boy learns regular and punctual attendance for duty, good manners, and activity, and the importance of steady work if he is to get on in the world. At the age of 18 he is eligible for enlistment in the Force. There are 73 senior and 382 junior boys in the Brigade.

Seven boys of the Brigade were enlisted in the Force during the year, and there are now 56 men in the Force who started in the Brigade, three of whom have already been promoted to the rank of sergeant. This shows that the training and discipline of the Boys' Brigade is of value to the boy on enlistment, and of value to the Force and to the Government in making a well-disciplined and efficient policeman.

Justices of the Peace.—Justices of the Peace have continued to render good service, not only in being available in time of emergency, but in visiting police stations, attending drills, and in supervising musketry. The fact of a resident of standing being in a position to take charge of any station and direct action in the event of any disturbance, fire, serious accident, or any other calamity is of value, not only to the police, but also to the owners of property, shopkeepers, householders, and the public generally. In a large and scattered district it is not possible for the Government Agent, Police Magistrate, or Superintendent of Police to get to the scene in time to prevent trouble in the great majority of cases.

Many Justices of the Peace have been mentioned as having rendered good service, and from the police point of view their interest in the Force and the men in their district is very much appreciated.

General steps taken towards the Improvement of the Force in 1921.—(*a*) *Dispensaries in Colombo stations* opened in 1920 proved a great success. The regular daily visit by the Assistant Medical Officer securing prompt treatment at an early stage, thereby saving time and duty previously lost in a man walking to the Police Hospital and being incapacitated for a number of days as a result of not getting treatment at an early stage.

(*b*) *Venereal Disease, New Order by Government.*—Regulations regarding the grant of leave to men reporting sick from venereal disease have been amended. Such men are now treated in the same way as men reporting sick of any other disease, and granted leave on full-pay against full-pay leave to which a man is entitled.

(*c*) Funds have been voted for making a start in the matter of proper dental treatment for police.

(*d*) Funds have been earmarked out of Loan Funds for starting the new Training School for recruits next to the Police Recreation Ground at Bambalapitiya.

PRISONS.

There was a decrease of 2,001 in the total number of admissions of convicted prisoners of Ceylon during the year 1921, excluding Road Ordinance defaulters, of whom there were 347, as against 410 in 1920. The figures are as follows :—

1920	..	14,429	1921	..	12,428

The number of prisoners sentenced to death was 63, as against 50 in 1920. There were 49 executions during the year, as against 40 in 1920. Of the 49 whose capital sentences were carried out, 42 were Sinhalese and 7 Tamils. Of the number executed, 3 had been sentenced in 1920, and of the number sentenced to death, 2 were executed in 1922. There were 3 escapes and 3 recaptures during the year.

The total number of deaths in jail was 233, as against 213 in 1920, and the death-rate per 1,000 of the admissions during the year was 11·40, as against 9·30 in 1920 and 14·08 in 1919. The number of punishments inflicted during the year for prison offences was 1,715, as against 2,481 in 1920 and 2,057 in 1919. There were 30 cases of corporal punishments, as against 47 in 1920.

Prisoners are in all prisons employed upon works of public utility and remunerative industrial labours. At Welikada and Bogambra Jails various trades are taught, such as carpentry, blacksmith and tinsmith's work, boot-making, tailoring, the making of cane furniture, matting, coir brooms, rugs, mats, coal and tea leaf bags, ropes, strings, bamboo tats, laundry work, printing, bookbinding, and mason works.

During the year 1,697 articles of wooden furniture were turned out by prison labour for various Government Departments. Owing to the increased demand for furniture, brooms, mats, tats, door rugs, and other articles, the industrial working parties at Bogambra Jail have been largely increased. Machinery for cutting, planing, &c., of timber was received from England during the year, and is now in use. The Government Printing Office continues to employ a daily average of 234 prisoners from Welikada Jail. This jail also continues to wash all soiled linen from the Medical and Railway Departments, as well as the Lunatic Asylum; 774,508 pieces being dealt with during the year. 10,713 articles of clothing and bedding were made up for the Colonial Storekeeper, and 41,957 yards of cloth woven for prison use.

The prisoners at Mahara are exclusively employed in the quarries on account of the Harbour Works and Public Works Departments. 5,224 cubes of hand rubble, 5,377 cubes of 2-inch metal, 1,187 cubes pitching stones, 71 cubes ¼-inch metal, 749 cubes ⅝-inch metal, and 40 stone setts were despatched to Colombo Harbour Works. 9,585 cubes hand rubble, 1,244 cubes of 2-inch metal, 34,184 stone setts, 183 cubes pitching stones, 9,585 cubes hand rubble, and 570 cubes quarry scrapings were stocked in the quarry, while the Public Works Department were supplied with 6,828 cubes of 2-inch metal, 386 cubes of hand rubble, and 28 ashlar stones, at a total estimated value of Rs. 201,944·25.

The Karaiyur reclamation at Jaffna continues to make good progress.

Metal continues to be supplied to the Public Works Department from Bogambra, Anuradhapura, Tangalla, Galle, Chilaw, and Badulla prisons.

A tract of land about 10 acres in extent adjoining Welikada Jail was planted with various kinds of vegetables by prison labour, and the amount credited to revenue by sale of its produce during the year was Rs. 2,561·17.

Further accommodation was provided at Anuradhapura Jail for 100 prisoners, who are engaged in preparing ground, &c., for the Agricultural Department at the Experimental Station.

The daily average attendance at the schools opened in August, 1917, was 147 during the year.

XI.—POST AND TELEGRAPHS.

On December 31, 1921, 566 offices were open for transaction of postal business. Of these, 171 were offices dealing with all classes of postal work, mail and parcel work, registration and insurance of postal articles, savings bank work, money order and postal order work, and telegraph work; at 29 all classes of postal business were transacted, except telegraph work; at 6 sub-offices mail, parcel, registration, and postal order work only was transacted; while at 317 village receiving offices mail work only was conducted; there were also 43 railway receiving offices.

There were additions of 3 telegraph offices, 3 post offices, 6 sub-offices, and 14 village receiving offices during the year.

Mail Services.

Foreign.—A regular weekly mail service was maintained during 1921 between the United Kingdom and Ceylon. In all 56 letter mails were received from London, of which 39 were carried by vessels of the P. & O. Steam Navigation Company. Of these, 22 were landed at Bombay and brought overland to Colombo, the remaining 17 arriving by sea. Seventeen mails arrived by vessels of the Orient line, 12 by the regular monthly London to Australia vessels, and 5 by intermediate ones.

6,426 bags of correspondence and 4,015 bags of parcels were received from London in 1921.

In the reverse direction 77 mails were despatched to London by vessels of the P. & O. (50 mails), Orient (14), Messageries Maritimes (12), and Bibby (1) lines.

There was an improvement in the average time occupied in transit, which was generally 18 to 19 days.

A regular monthly service to Australian ports was maintained both by the P. & O. and the Orient lines.

Fairly regular and frequent services to the Straits and the Far East were available by vessels of the British India, Messageries Maritimes, and Japanese lines.

The B. I. steamers carried mails between Ceylon and Mauritius, and the Indian and African lines between Ceylon and South Africa at irregular intervals.

The vessels of the Pacific Mail line were used for carrying direct mails to Manila and San Francisco, and those of the Ossen Shosen Kaisha line for direct mails to the Argentine *viâ* South Africa.

Inland Mails.—Inland mails were carried generally by the Ceylon Government Railway, and from the railway stations either by Government or contract motor mail services, or by contract horse or bullock coach, or by runner services.

The most important improvements in 1921 were the substitution of motor coach services between Haputale and Moneragalla (47 miles) and Opanake and Balangoda (8½ miles) for the previous runner services, and the substitution of a motor coach service for the bullock coach service between Mankulam and Mullaittivu (30 miles).

The longest motor coach services are between Demodera and Batticaloa (111 miles), Anuradhapura and Trincomalee (67 miles), both performed by the Ceylon Government Railway, Matara and Hambantota (52 miles), Matara and Deniyaya (37 miles), and Chilaw and Puttalam (32 miles), undertaken by private contractors.

Hackery services replaced runner services between Galle and Baddegama, and between the stations and post offices at Kurunegala and Ratnapura.

The mail services, generally speaking, worked satisfactorily. Owing to floods and washaways on the railway the Ceylon-Indian service was interrupted for short periods in January and December, and the Batticaloa and Trincomalee services also suffered from floods for a few days at the end of the year.

Postage Rates.

The rates of foreign postage were revised under the provisions of the Madrid Convention, and 20 cents was adopted as the initial rate for 1 oz. or under, and 10 cents per additional oz., on letters to foreign countries; for places within the British Empire a preferential initial rate of 12 cents (which may be considered equivalent to 2*d.*) was adopted.

The post card rate was fixed at 12 cents to foreign and 10 cents to British countries.

On printed matters a rate of 4 cents per 2 oz. was adopted, with minima of 8 cents on samples and 10 cents on business papers.

The foreign registration fee was raised from 15 to 20 cents.

The rates on foreign parcels had to be altered in accordance with increased credits required by administrations to make the service self-supporting, and the ultimate rates are now roughly double the pre-war rates; the scale to England being, up to 3 lb. Re. 1·50, up to 7 lb. Rs. 2·75, and up to 11 lb. Rs. 4.

The inland postage rates and the rates to India remained unchanged.

The telegraph rates, 40 cents for the first ten words, including address, and 5 cents for each additional two words (inland), Re. 1 ordinary (Rs. 2 for urgent) first twelve words, and 10 cents and 15 cents, respectively, for each additional word to India, remain unchanged. The cable rate to the United Kingdom continued to be Re. 1·25 per word ordinary, and 65 cents per word deferred.

Mail Statistics.

The total number of postal articles, exclusive of parcels, which passed through the post in 1921 is estimated at nearly 54 millions, as against 49 millions in 1920. The increase was practically wholly in inland correspondence, which totalled 42¾ millions (letters 30, post cards 5¼, printed matter and samples, &c., 7½ millions).

The total number of parcels dealt with was 831,577, an increase of 35,541 over the 1920 total. Inland and Indian "ordinary" accounted for over half the total (439,763), and Inland and Indian value-payable 307,205.

25,785 parcels were despatched to and 37,938 received from the United Kingdom. Of the latter, 2,754 were sent under the Cash on Delivery system.

Money and Postal Orders.

The total value of foreign money orders issued in Ceylon was Rs. 8,736,450. The bulk—value Rs. 8,590,794—consisted of remittances to India, principally from immigrant coolies ; this total being about the same as in 1920. Orders on other countries, especially to the United Kingdom, showed a falling off, owing to trade conditions, the less favourable rates of exchange ruling than in 1920, and the use of the Cash on Delivery system instead of sending money orders with orders for goods.

There was an increase in the total of foreign orders paid in the Colony from Rs. 2,268,228 to Rs. 2,817,413. The orders from India, valued at Rs. 1,215,841, showed a falling off of Rs. 174,837 ; while there was a large increase in orders from the Straits Settlements and the Federated Malay States (the value of which was abnormally low in 1920) from Rs. 550,551 to Rs. 1,379,016 ; orders from the United Kingdom totalled Rs. 94,952, as against Rs. 56,575 in 1920.

The value of local postal orders issued was Rs. 573,746, as compared with Rs. 535,116 in 1920. There was a considerable reduction both in issues and payments of British postal orders, probably owing to exchange fluctuations and the use of money orders in their place by remitters from the Federated Malay States. 9,949 British postal orders valued at £5,333 were issued, and 9,316 valued at £7,339 paid.

The telegraphic money order system already in force between Ceylon and the United Kingdom and India was extended to the Federated Malay States.

There was some falling off in the inland money order business. 619,642 orders were issued for a total of Rs. 24,188,154 ; Rs. 604,849 less than in 1920.

The revenue from money order commission amounted to Rs. 356,333.

The Post Office Savings Bank.

The business of the bank (transacted at 199 offices) continued to expand during 1921, the deposits, which amounted to Rs. 3,688,409, exceeding the withdrawals during the year by Rs. 567,101·25. On December 31 the total to the credit of 136,636 depositors was Rs. 4,867,039.

The rate of interest continued to be 2·40 per cent. to 2 cents per month for each completed Rs. 10.

Any sums not less than 25 cents are accepted for deposit up to a nett maximum of Rs. 7·50 per annum, and an interest-bearing total of Rs. 3,000. Deposits may be made by means of stamped slips. One withdrawal on demand of a sum not exceeding Rs. 10 is allowed in any one week.

The Telegraph System.

All the important towns in the Island are served by Government telegraph system. 171 postal telegraph offices were open for public traffic on December 31, 1921, besides several railway telegraph offices. Three new telegraph offices were opened during the year.

There are two telegraph circuits working between Ceylon and India, on one of which the Baudot machine is employed in duplex working.

Ceylon is connected with the West and East by direct cables of the Eastern Telegraph Company *viâ* Aden and Penang, respectively.

A Government wireless station at Colombo of 5-kilowatt power has a normal daylight range of about 400 miles, and is open to traffic of all kinds.

The total number of telegrams handled during 1921 was roughly the same as in 1920, and amounted to a little under 1½ million messages. The average time taken in transmission of an inland telegram was 14 minutes.

The total number of telegrams despatched to India (152,958) showed an increase of 31,642, but the number received from India (139,142) showed a falling off of 6,570 compared with the 1920 figures.

87,790 private messages were despatched to and 80,178 messages received from "other countries."

The Colombo Wireless Station dealt with 6,938 messages during the year, an increase of 678 over 1920.

The revenue from telegrams was Rs. 751,543.

The Telephone System.

Generally speaking, the larger towns are served by Government exchanges and rural areas by private licensed exchanges, linked together by Government trunk and junction lines.

The principal Government exchange is at Colombo. There were 1,930 subscribers to this at the end of 1921, an increase of 253 over the previous year; and owing to the difficulty in obtaining plant there were 338 applicants awaiting connection at the end of the year. The next largest Government exchanges are at Kandy (142 subscribers), Nuwara Eliya (117), Galle (78), Kurunegala (48), Negombo (45), and Kalutara (34).

No charge for installation is made for connection to Government exchanges, and a flat rate of subscription is charged for an unlimited service. Subscriptions were raised in the large towns during the year to Rs. 120 and Rs. 180 per annum, respectively, for the initial rate (covering premises within 2 miles of the exchange) for private and business, premises, respectively.

At the Colombo exchange the service is continuous throughout the year, and it is estimated that 11½ million calls were dealt with in 1921, as compared with 10 millions in 1920. The average speed of answer during the day was 6·5 seconds, and 88·3 per cent. of calls were answered within 10 seconds.

The estimated number of trunk and junction calls was 221,520, nearly 10 per cent. more than in 1920. The trunk fees are fixed on a 1-cent-per-mile basis.

Telephonic receipts amounted to Rs. 453,135 in 1921.

The principal trunk telephone lines are:—

	Miles.
(1) Colombo-Kandy-Gampola-Hatton-Nuwara Eliya	132
(2) Gampola-Pussellawa-Nuwara Eliya	34
(3) Colombo-Kalutara-Galle	71
(4) Colombo-Avissawella-Ratnapura	64
(5) Colombo-Polgahawela-Kurunegala	59
(6) Colombo-Negombo	23
(7) Kandy-Wattegama-Matale	21

The extension of the trunk line from Avissawella to Ratnapura was completed during 1921; also that from Pussellawa to Nuwara Eliya and a junction line from Matale to Lochnagar.

The Government telephone system at the end of 1921 comprised 2,616 miles of overhead wire and 10,470 miles of underground wire; and the total wire mileage of the telegraph system rose to 7,815.

The revenue in 1921 is estimated at, roughly, Rs. 4,320,000, an increase of about Rs. 370,000, principally upon postage. The expenditure was Rs. 3,529,000. These figures do not include either invisible revenue in the shape of work done free for other Government Departments or invisible expenditure in the shape of work done free for the Post Office by other Government Departments, *e.g.*, the Railway, and Post Office charges not debited to the Post Office vote, *e.g.*, temporary increases of salary.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

Public Works Department.

The total expenditure of the Public Works Department has increased from Rs. 3,437,862 in 1896 to Rs. 13,235,221 in 1921, the latter figure showing an increase of Rs. 460,166 over 1920. The average annual expenditure during the past twenty-six years has been Rs. 6,800,869.

The total length of roads maintained by the Public Works Department during the year was 4,086 miles, of which 3,848 miles are cart roads and 238 miles are bridle roads.

Amongst the more important works carried out or in course of construction may be mentioned the following :—

General.—Science block, University College ; new Government dairy at Narahenpita ; new Royal College, Colombo ; magazine for storage of detonators at Welikada ; alterations to Council Chamber, Colombo ; offices and store for Telegraph and Telephone Engineering Staff, Kandy ; works for Agricultural Department, Peradeniya, comprising Entomological Laboratory, quarters for three Research Officers, quarters for three clerks, water supply, &c. ; powder magazine at Nalanda ; extension of and improvements to the Agricultural School, Peradeniya ; quarters for Assistant Veterinary Surgeon, Nuwara Eliya ; Post Office at Kotmale ; quarters for clerks, Nuwara Eliya ; improvements to Public Works Department clerks' and overseers' quarters, Nuwara Eliya ; clerks' quarters at Hambantota ; new Customs buildings at Talaimannar ; Government Technical Schools, Jaffna ; Experimental Station and Agricultural School, Jaffna ; repairs to bungalow for Divisional Irrigation Engineer, Batticaloa ; building a paddy store at Vakaneri ; quarters for the conductor and permanent cooly lines at Experimental Station, Anuradhapura ; clerks' quarters, Anuradhapura ; new bungalow for the District Judge, Chilaw ; clerks' quarters, Diyatalawa ; Forest Ranger's quarters at Lunugala ; additions and improvements to Survey Camp, Diyatalawa ; quarters at Bandarawela for police constables ; improvements to Bandarawela water supply ; quarters for the District Engineer, Pelmadulla ; powder magazines at Ratnapura, Pelmadulla, and Avissawella ; Forest Ranger's quarters, Rakwana ; extensions to court-house, Ratnapura.

Medical Buildings.—New lunatic asylum, Angoda ; new chapel for Religious Sisters, General Hospital, Colombo ; dispensary and quarters for apothecary, Kalatuwana ; additions to the tuberculosis hospital at Ragama and the Kandana sanatorium ; new infectious diseases hospital, Colombo ; dispensary at Elkaduwa ; additions to Kandy hospital, Deltota hospital, and Matale hospital ; apothecary's quarters, Mulhalkele hospital ; additions to Ramboda hospital ; additions and improvements to Nawalapitiya hospital and Uda Pussellawa hospital ; hospital for Udugama ; hospital at Elpitiya ; quarters for apothecary, Balapitiya hospital ; additions to Deniyaya hospital ; dispensary and quarters for apothecary, Elephant Pass, quarters for attendants, Mantota hospital ; dispensary at Punakari ; hospital at Kilinochchi ; Leper Asylum, Batticaloa ; additions to Batticaloa hospital and Kalmunai hospital ; apothecary's quarters at Ratmale, Nachchaduwa ; Ridigama hospital ; additions to Puttalam hospital ; hospital at Madulsima ; quarters for second apothecary, Moneragala hospital ; infectious diseases hospital, Koslanda ; quarters for steward, Aranayaka hospital ; additions to Rakwana hospital, Eheliyagoda hospital, and Kahawatta hospital ; dispensary at Kaltota.

Police Buildings.—Police Training School, Bambalapitiya ; police barracks at the Royal College site ; additions and improvements to Kandy police station ; police station and barracks, Ginigathena.

Progress was also made with the Colombo Lake Development project ; construction of the quarantine camp at Mandapam, South India ; Karaiyur reclamation, Jaffna ; Digarolla bridge, Moratuwa ; Gampola bridge ; Kaluganga

bridge; reconstructing Badalgama bridge, Negombo-Giriulla road; reconstruction of the Hulu-ganga bridge; renewing Pol-oya bridge, Galle District; rebuilding bridge, Galle-Akuressa road; widening bridge over Kepu-ela, Galle; Tripichang-oya bridge, Kurunegala-Puttalam road; coast protection works, Colombo-Galle road; improvements to Nawalapitiya town.

Investigations have been continued in connection with the production of hydro-electric power for general and industrial purposes, and a scheme for the utilization of the upper waters of the Kelani-ganga has been designed for an ultimate development of 105,000 kilowatts in four stages, the first stage being for 22,500 kilowatts, at a capital cost of Rs. 375 per kilowatt at the power station.

IRRIGATION.

The total expenditure of the Irrigation Department for the financial year 1920–21 was Rs. 1,077,690·59.

The schemes under construction were: Karachchi (irrigation works and agricultural roads), Kanukkeni tank, Kirindi-oya (right bank), Unnichchai (distribution channels and agricultural roads), Tabbowa, Nachchaduwa (distribution channels and agricultural road), Kalawewa (channels), Minneri (restoration of main channels).

The work on the Minneri channels was stopped during the year, as the Minneri Development Company terminated their operations at the farm.

Very heavy floods occurred in January at irrigation works in the Eastern and North-Central Provinces; at Giritale tank the flood rose to a height of 8 feet 9 inches above the level of the spill.

Surveys and investigations were made in connection with the following schemes:—Bolgoda lake, Colombo flood protection scheme, Walawe (left bank), flood schemes, Matara District, Karachchi, Kanukkeni, Iratperiyakulam, Giant's tank, Unnichchai, Tabbowa, Minneri, Kalawewa, and Nachchaduwa. Gaugings and other observations were taken at Bolgoda lake, Mahaweliganga, Polwatta-ganga, Vadamarachchi lagoon, Elephant Pass, and Virgil-aru.

The number of Crown irrigation works is 184, and under these works about 144,000 acres are irrigated for paddy. In order to encourage the cultivation of foodstuffs, these lands will pay no irrigation rates until 1925 if cultivated for paddy or other foodstuffs. In addition to the Crown works, there are approximately 5,200 village tanks and elas (small channels) in operation, with an approximate area of 190 000 acres of land cultivated for paddy. About 1,679 village works are under restoration by the villagers. Approximately 20,000 acres of undeveloped irrigable land suitable for paddy cultivation is available under the existing Crown irrigation works.

SURVEY DEPARTMENT.

The operations of the Survey Department for the period under reveiw comprised 65,856 acres of block surveys, 2,350 acres of irrigation surveys, and 1,863 acres of town surveys.

The number of block survey preliminary plans issued was 89, containing 4,260 lots, covering an area of 43,686 acres. One irrigation survey plan, containing 325 lots, covering an area of 3,700 acres, was issued.

New town survey plans for the whole of Ella, Talawakele, Nawalapitiya, Galle, with the southern half of Colombo city and portions of Trincomalee and Matara, were issued.

Final village plans to the number of 153 were issued.

The total area now covered by block surveys is 2,348,642 acres, topographical surveys 1,093,380 acres, forest reserve surveys 587,276 acres, irrigation surveys 38,765 acres, and town surveys 13,625 acres, making a total of 4,081,688 acres.

Final Village Plans.—153 final village plans for 217,161 acres in 5, lots were issued to the Government Agents and Assistant Government Agents during the year. The total area covered by the final plans in the hands of the Government Agents and Assistant Government Agents now stands at 1,477,277 acres, contained in 49,569 lots on 2,611 plans.

Preliminary Plans.—1,205 preliminary plans for 22,767 acres in 7,157 lots were forwarded to the Government Agents, Assistant Government Agents, and the Settlement Officer.

Supplementary Surveys in Final Village Plans and existing Preliminary Plans.—677 supplementary surveys, consisting of 2,899 lots, covering 15,626 acres, were made and inserted on already issued final village plans and preliminary plans.

Applications.—1,412 applications, covering 7,384 acres, were surveyed under Government Circular No. 36 of April 15, 1920, by which the Government allows an applicant for irrigable Crown land for the cultivation of paddy to take immediate possession of the land free of rent for a period of three years. After the expiration of this period, the sale or lease of the land to the cultivator is to be considered. In the event of sale, the sale price may be paid, if desired, in yearly instalments over a period of not more than ten years. The object of this is to increase the production of rice in the Island.

Nature of Applications.—1,161 applications, covering 3,650 acres, were surveyed for paddy; 31 applications, covering 1,316 acres, for tea; 119 applications, covering 1,277 acres for rubber; 5 applications, covering 435 acres, for tea and rubber; 360 applications, covering 1,476 acres, for coconuts; 20 applications, covering 198 acres, for rubber and coconuts; 817 applications, covering 3,575 acres, for native cultivation; and 523 applications, covering 825 acres, for building purposes.

Acquisition Surveys.—Many surveys were carried out for acquisition in connection with important public purposes, such as the proposed quarters for Colombo Government clerks at Ganemulla, and in connection with salterns for the improved production of salt in the Southern and North-Western Provinces. In addition to the above, the acquisition surveys for the new Maho-Batticaloa and Trincomalee Railway were pushed on with.

Acquisition preliminary plans to the number of 222 for 673 acres in 1,899 lots were forwarded to the Hon. the Colonial Secretary.

Railway Department.

Open Line.

The length of the line opened for traffic on September 30 was 831¼ miles.

The receipts for the year amounted to Rs. 20,743,281, as against Rs. 21,122,104 in 1920, or a decrease of Rs. 378,823.

The number of passengers conveyed was 11,262,657, or an increase of 866,653 as compared with the previous year.

Season ticket and parcels traffic have increased to the extent of 15,756 and 124,428, respectively, in number. Foreign cooly traffic showed a decrease of 27,390.

The total tonnage of goods carried was 997,548, or a decrease of 170,467 as compared with the previous year. The following are the principal decreases and increases :—

Decrease.	Tons.	Increase.	Tons.
Rubber	5,160	Rice	7,631
Tea	23,327	Coconut produce ..	19,787
Fruit and vegetable ..	3,631	Foreign goods ..	3,894
Tea and rubber packing ..	4,976		
Plumbago	1,567		
Liquid fuel	4,167		
Manure	129,422		
Other goods	50,684		

The total expenditure for the year amounted to Rs. 14,521,077, or Rs. 80,151 less than the comparative figures of the previous year.

The capital cost of the Railway, including additional accommodation and improvements, to September 30, 1921, was Rs. 149,224,077, as compared with Rs. 144,026,601 in 1920.

Colombo Stations Extensions.—This large work is now approaching completion. It consists of :—

(*a*) New loco yard, Dematagoda (completed).
(*b*) New Railway stores and stores yard (completed).
(*c*) The construction of a new up-to-date passenger station at the Fort, replacing the old Fort and Pettah stations (three-fourths finished).
(*d*) The erection of three large goods sheds, broad gauge, two narrow gauge sheds, plumbago sheds, &c., and yards connected therewith at Maradana, and the complete remodelling of Colombo goods yard (seven-eighths finished).
(*e*) The duplication of the Railway between Dematagoda and Slave Island, and the extension of the narrow gauge to the new Fort station (completed).
(*f*) Overbridge and approaches, Parson's road (completed).
(*g*) The rebuilding of Maradana station (finished).
(*h*) The reclamation of over 80 acres of swamp and lake, and the construction of two large lake basins (finished).
(*i*) The construction of a goods sorting yard at Weragoda.

During the year work has been confined to the construction of the arrival platform at the Fort station, and to the remodelling of the Colombo goods yard. A start has been made on the sorting yard at Weragoda.

The new arrival platform is 1,200 feet long, 70 feet in width, with a 30-foot carriage drive in the centre, having an entrance and exit from the new McCallum road. The platform is roofed for 400 feet. It is hoped that this work will be completed and opened for traffic about the middle of 1922.

" Track circuiting " is being installed in this station.

During the year a transfer shed and sidings connected thereto for transferring goods from the broad gauge to the narrow gauge and *vice versâ* has been opened for traffic.

Four new sorting sidings have been constructed in Captain's garden.

The new " West Signal Cabin " at the Fort station has been constructed.

The vote allowed for the year is Rs. 508,305, the estimate for the whole work is Rs. 9,535,323, out of which Rs. 8,682,513 has been expended to the end of the year.

Badulla Railway Extension.—This line is an extension of the Main line north of Bandarawela to Badulla. The line traverses hilly and very rough country, necessitating several high viaducts and the construction of six tunnels. Bandarawela is 4,013 feet above mean sea level, and Badulla 2,226 feet. It is necessary to adopt the steep gradient of 1 in 44 for the greater part of the distance. The length of the line is 21·08 miles. It has been found necessary in four cases to utilize curves of 5 chains in radius. The line is a standard gauge 5 feet 6 inches, the rails utilized being 88 lb. to the yard. All curves under 7 chains are checked, the check rails weighing 71 lb. per lineal yard.

The work was started in November, 1913, near Bandarawela. During the war, funds for the construction of the line were limited, and this, together with the difficulty in obtaining materials, accounts for the whole line not yet being opened.

The portion of the Railway between Bandarawela and Ella was opened for traffic in July, 1918. This section is 7½ miles in length. A further section of Railway up to Demodera, 4½ miles in length (or 11½ miles from Bandarawela), was opened for traffic on March 21 1921.

Between Demodera and Badulla work is in a forward state. All masonry in viaducts and bridges, with the exception of one pier of the "Rossett viaduct," is completed. Retaining walls are approaching completion, and the earthwork being pushed forward as fast as possible.

The Badulla Terminus is half completed. A large engine shed is now in the course of erection.

The line passes through valuable estates, mostly tea, and when completed will serve the large tea districts of Badulla, Passara, and Lunugala.

The total estimated cost of construction of this heavy work is Rs. 9,261,223, and the expenditure to date is Rs. 9,182,697. The work is now being completed out of loan funds.

Main Line Duplication.—This work includes the duplication of the Main line north of Ragama station to Rambukkana. A total length of 43 miles 24 chains. It also includes improvements to the gradients of the Main line of all gradients steeper than 1 in 132, and the construction of new up-to-date stations at Mirigama and Ambepussa, and a very large new station and yard at Rambukkana, with improvements to Alawwa and Polgahawela stations. Up to the middle of last year the work was seriously held up owing to lack of funds. This construction is, however, now being placed on loan funds, and the progress is greatly improved. All sub-grade works are completed between Ragama and Veyangoda, and nearly completed up to Mirigama. Rails have been indented for up to Polgahawela, and the first consignment is expected in the Island shortly. All steelwork for the superstructure of the bridges and culverts has been indented for. Masonry work is completed or nearly so up to the 36th milepost. The construction of the new bridge carrying the duplicated line over the Maha-oya is nearly finished. Good progress is now being made in the construction of the duplicate tunnel at Mirigama, pneumatic drilling plant being installed there.

The new stations at Mirigama and Ambepussa are in hand.

The total estimate for the work is Rs. 8,360,824, out of which Rs. 3,421,346 has been spent to date. The yearly vote is Rs. 1,890,122.

Puttalam Railway Extension.—This is an extension of the Chilaw line northward to Puttalam, a total length of 32 miles 69 chains, and the work was commenced in November, 1920. The line is standard gauge, 80-lb. rails being used and angle fish plate, six bolts to each pair of fish plates.

The line passes through very rich coconut lands, and serves the large salt industry of Puttalam. The steepest gradient on the line is 1 in 198. All stations will be fully signalled and interlocked.

The line necessitates heavy bridging for the first 12 miles of its length, including a bridge over the Deduru-oya, 4 miles north of Chilaw, of No. 5 spans of 150 feet.

A temporary timber bridge over this river has been constructed to permit of laying permanent way north, and the rails have now reached a point 8¾ miles north of Chilaw. When a further consignment of rails arrive, which is now expected, rail head will be pushed further at once.

Intermediate stations are being provided at Bangadeniya, Battuluoya, Mundel, Madurankuli, and Palavi.

The total estimate for the work is Rs. 8,428,834, out of which Rs. 1,266,007 have been spent to date. The yearly vote is Rs. 2,146,215.

All bridges and culverts up to 6½ miles are completed or approaching completion, except the large bridge over the Deduru-oya, which has been started, the work at present awaiting further consignments of cylinder segments, which are now coming from home.

Connected with this work a branch line has been surveyed to a proposed Public Works Department quarry at Kalladi near Palavi. This line is approximately 4½ miles long. The opening of this quarry and the construction

of the branch line is at present under consideration by Government. Stone is exceedingly scarce in the Puttalam District, large sums at present being expended in its supply.

Batticaloa and Trincomalee Light Railway.—These lines combined are approximately 182½ miles in length. They are built to the standard 5 ft. 6 in. gauge, 46¼ lb. per yard rails being used. During 1921 the survey of the full line was completed. Construction was started late in 1920, but no marked progress was made till May, 1921. Rail head is now at 32 miles from Maho, the junction with the main line (86½ miles north of Colombo on the Northern Railway). The country through which the lines pass is varied, heavy work being met with in the vicinity of Maho and Habarana. Three large rivers have to be bridged, viz., the Kala-oya, Mahaweli-ganga, and the Valaichchenai estuary, but otherwise the work of bridging, &c., is light. The railway is constructed with fairly heavy gradients where the line crosses ridges of hills, the steepest being 1 in 60. No curves occur under 20 chains in radius. More than half the clearing for the line is now completed, and the earthworks in hand for about 80 miles. All bridges and culverts are completed for 20 miles, and those are in hand between 20 miles and 30 miles, as well as some culverts and bridges in the Trincomalee District and a flood outlet bridge near Valaichchenai. Batticaloa station buildings are also in hand.

Large saw mills are in the course of erection at Palugaswewa, 40 miles from Maho, and another will be put in hand at Gal-oya on the Trincomalee branch. Smaller saw mills are erected and working at Siyambalagama, Minneriya, and Punanai.

171 miles of rails and fastenings have been received in the Island.

The steelwork for the superstructure of the bridges over the Mahaweli-ganga and the Valaichchenai river (which will form combined road and railway bridges) is on order.

The country through which the line passes is most feverish during the rains in the north-east monsoon, the worst months being November, December, and January. During these months little progress can be relied on, most of the labour leaving the district.

Fully-equipped hospitals are provided for the staff (temporary) at Maho, Kantalai, Topawewa, and Odaimavadai, and temporary dispensaries erected at rail head, Habarana and Cod Bay (Trincomalee).

The total approximate estimate is Rs. 13,724,400, out of which Rs. 6,818,158 has been spent to date.

Harbour Rail Extension.—This work provides for making a rail connection from the Main line at Urugodawatta direct to the Harbour in the vicinity of the Graving Dock, connecting the railway sidings south of the new lake and harbour canal with the lines to the north thereof, remodelling the present Wharf station, and abolishing the existing connection between the Wharf station and the Fort station *viâ* Galle Face. It also provides for new exchange yard for the exchange of wagons between the Ceylon Government Railway and the Port premises.

Over-bridges are provided for Victoria Bridge road, Alutmawata road, Bloemendahl road, and Tanque Salgado road.

A large area originally forming compounds to "Summer Hill" and "Uplands" bungalows is being lowered to the level of the top of the Graving Dock.

The work is in a forward state. Urugodawatta junction and sidings connected therewith are completed. The over-bridges are nearly finished, and the laying of the new line well in hand.

A large area of land known as St. Thomas's College grounds, Mutwal, was purchased, and now forms part of the Port Commission premises.

The total estimate for the work is Rs. 3,822,768, out of which Rs. 3,083,883 have been spent to the end of September 1921.

Kolonnawa Oil Branch.—This short line connects the new oil installation premises with the Main line at Urugodawatta. The work is completed, and the maintenance is being taken over by the open line of railway on February 1 next.

Matara, Tangalla, and Hambantota Survey.—This proposed line passes through a very populous district as far as Tangalla. The survey between Tangalla and Hambantota was started in November last, fair progress being made. An immediate start is being made on the survey of the line between Matara and Tangalla.

The sum of Rs. 20,000 has been voted during the present year to cover the cost of the work.

XIII.—EXCISE.

The Excise Department has now been nine years in existence. It is governed by Excise Ordinance, No. 8 of 1912, and the amending Ordinance, No. 25 of 1914.

New notifications were passed for improving the sanitary arrangements of distilleries, and regulating the conduct of local option ballots. The ballot rules have not taken final shape; various proposals regarding the composition of the lists of voters, the percentage required for abolition, the method of voting, the area affected, &c., have been put forward, and are still *sub judice*. Statistics *re* local option appear below.

The sanctioned strength of the Department in 1921 was:—1 Excise Commissioner;* 1 Deputy Commissioner of Excise; 4 Assistant Commissioners of Excise; 2 Superintendents of Excise; 15 Assistant Superintendents of Excise; 101 Excise Inspectors; and some 229 Excise peons, in addition to a clerical staff.

Departmental examinations continue to be held twice each year.

The regulations affecting the importation, sale, and possession of cocaine continue in force. There have been a few breaches of the law, but in each case the breach was not wilful.

The use of the hemp plant (*Cannabis indica* or *sativa*), of ganja and of bhang calls for continued vigilance. The drug is smuggled into north Ceylon from India, and from the north into other parts by rail. Its suppression is difficult, because the habit, once formed, is practically ineradicable, and its importers derive considerable profit from this traffic, despite the heavy penalties imposed.

The following prosecutions were entered in 1921:—

Number of cases decided	236
Number of persons convicted	206
Total fines and forfeitures	Rs. 22,454·51

In the detection of Excise offences also Excise officers have been equally energetic. 4,528 cases of offences against Excise law were detected in 1921, of which number 1,284 cases were disposed of departmentally by the levy of composition fines, totalling Rs. 18,124. The prosecutions in courts resulted in fines and forfeitures amounting to Rs. 114,847·94, exclusive of other punishment, such as imprisonment, &c. The corresponding figures for 1920 show a total of 3,980 cases (1,338 cases compounded for Rs. 21,809·50, and Rs. 90,546·75 recovered by fines and forfeitures in court).

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* From April 23, 1914, this post was vacant, but a Deputy was appointed from May 16, 1921.

Rewards paid during the year amounted to Rs. 22,180, or one-sixth the amount of the fines recovered.

The bids for the various arrack and toddy rents for the financial year 1921–22 as compared with the two preceding years are as follows :—

	Arrack.		Toddy.	
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
1921–22	6,668,049	50* ..	1,801,329	75
1920–21	7,937,130	0† ..	1,952,330	23
1919–20	7,432,429	0 ..	2,008,832	0

The fees obtained during the financial year 1921–22 from the issue of foreign liquor licenses amounted to Rs. 96,751·01. The revenue derived from this source in 1920–21 was Rs. 95,598·51. The increase may be ascribed to higher assessment. Assessment is now based more precisely on the amount of gallonage or business done. The consumption of gin has appreciably increased.

Some slight amendments and alterations were made in the arrack and toddy rent sale conditions for 1921–22. Separate sets of conditions were drawn up for the Northern Province and the Province of Uva, into which the " Contract Supply System " has been introduced.

The consumption of arrack and toddy in 1921 as compared with 1919 and 1920 appears thus :—

	Arrack. Gallons consumed.	Toddy. Gallons consumed.
1921	848,376 ..	4,443,800
1920	1,019,370 ..	4,752,605
1919	1,029,269 ..	4,570,296

There is a marked fall in the consumption of arrack in 1921 as compared with the year 1920. This was due principally to the slump in rubber and tea and the high prices of foodstuffs.

122 private distilleries were licensed in the year 1921–22, as against 135 licensed in 1920–21. The number of stills worked in 1921 were 170; 196 were at work in 1920.

In accordance with the recommendation of the Excise Commission (*vide* Sessional Paper IX. of 1917) certain rules have been passed in order to place the toddy-arrack distilleries and wholesale warehouses in a condition that will satisfy sanitary, analytical, and Excise requirements. The rules *re* sanitary requirements came into force from May 1, 1921, and those *re* analytical and Excise requirements will be brought into operation as from January 1, 1924. The latter involve a big change, almost a revolution, in the Distillery Circle. From an Excise point of view the substitution of large stills conforming to modern methods in place of a number of scattered small stills of the old fashioned type will make for a far more satisfactory control of output. Distillers of the old school are reluctantly coming into line, but they recognize that the change is salutary and inevitable.

There were 188 successful prosecutions in 1921, as compared with 125 in 1920, by officers of the Distillery Circle. The fines imposed by courts in these cases amounted to Rs. 9,353·50. There were also 116 offences compounded for Rs. 1,868 in the Distillery Circle.

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* Do not include Jaffna, Mannar, Mullaittivu, and Badulla rents, which are sold under the " Contract Supply System."

† These figures do not include Jaffna, Mannar, and Mullaittivu, which were sold under the " Contract Supply System."

Contract Supply System.—The contract supply system is now being worked in the Northern and Uva Provinces. The consumption in the Northern Province fell in 1920–21 by 33 per cent., but the revenue rose by 5 per cent. The fall in consumption was due chiefly to the high price of arrack sold, viz., Rs. 16 per gallon, and to the comparatively high price of rice. There is also small doubt that arrack was smuggled from neighbouring districts into this Province owing to the abnormally high price ruling there. But for October to December last, consumption has risen by 42 per cent. and revenue by 75 per cent. over the average for the corresponding period to the four preceding years. In short, the new system is a great success.

This system was introduced into Uva from October, 1921, during which year there has been a reduced consumption and a loss of revenue. This was the case even in the Northern Province during the first year of its working there, but the fall in consumption in Uva was due to other causes, viz., fall in the wages and spending power of coolies owing to the (1) general depression in the rubber market; (2) finer plucking of tea and consequent reduced earnings. Short measure has also played its part in diminishing the revenue derivable from the rent.

The arrack sold in the contract supply area is being manufactured at the Government Distillery, Kalutara. The profits accruing on the working of this distillery in 1921 amount to Rs. 122,056·33 on 85,237 gallons of toddy spirit outturned at 27° under proof. A very small quantity of molasses spirit was also manufactured in 1921 at the distillery.

In 1920 26,358 gallons of toddy spirit at 27° under proof were manufactured, showing a profit of Rs. 36,117·55, and 3,898 gallons of molasses spirit at 27° under proof at a profit of Rs. 3,140·57.

The arrack distilled in 1921 is intended also for sale and consumption in the Uva rent area.

Bonuses were paid to the Distillery Officer and his staff.

Brands of Spirit.—All the brands of spirit which have hitherto been approved by the Excise Commissioner for sale in the Island were revised, embodied in one list, and published in the shape of a notification under the Excise Ordinance in October, 1920. Since then two further lists have been published in April and October, 1921, respectively.

It was originally decided to publish lists of approved brands only once a year; but since it was found to inconvenience the trade, the waiting period has been reduced to one of six months.

The prohibition of "off sales" is being continued for the third year in the Jaffna and Chilaw Districts, but with little success. In spite of the prohibition of "off sales," the arrack consumption in Chilaw District shows an increase of about 10,400 gallons over the 1918–19 rent period, when "off sales" were not prohibited. The consumption in the Jaffna District, however, fell by about 12,600 gallons, but this was due (1) to the high prices of rice and arrack; (2) to the closure of certain taverns. To meet the wishes of the Temperance Associations, it has been decided to try this experiment in two other districts, viz., Kurunegala and Ratnapura, as from October next. "Off sales" will be prohibited from all taverns in these four districts from October, 1922, and not in respect of a few selected taverns only as has been the rule hitherto.

Most of the other recommendations of the Excise Commission were given effect to in 1918, the principle of local option, however, being restricted to foreign liquor taverns and arrack taverns only. In 1919 this was extended to the other classes of taverns, viz., toddy taverns and places licensed for the sale of beer and porter. The privilege of local option is now being exercised in regard to all classes of taverns.

The following statement shows the result of local option ballots held in 1921 in respect of arrack taverns, toddy taverns, foreign liquor taverns, and beer and porter shops :—

	Arrack Taverns.	Toddy Taverns.	Foreign Liquor Taverns.	Beer and Porter.
Number of ballots held ..	92 ...	89 ..	12 ..	1
Number where more than 75 per cent. of the tax-paying inhabitants voted for abolition of taverns ..	49 ..	60 ..	7 ..	—

Since the privilege of local option was conceded some 125 arrack taverns, 130 toddy taverns, and 10 foreign liquor taverns in all have been or are to be closed under the local option rules. Since October, 1919, the whole of the North-Central Province has been " dry " in respect of arrack and toddy. It has unfortunately been found that dry areas now supply themselves with gin, or with arrack from taverns in the next area, and from illicit sources of supply.

Excise Advisory Committees have assisted the Government Agents and Assistant Government Agents in fixing the number and the sites of taverns. Unofficial Excise Officers have in some places given valuable aid. All have shown a lively interest in the cause of temperance. But it is realized that the rise of illicit booths goes hand-in-hand with the suppression of taverns, and in order to suppress these illicit sales unofficial Vigilance Committees are being formed.

Excise learners are appointed on the results of a competitive examination held by the Director of Education. Exceptions were made for the admission of a few returned soldiers into the class. Excise clerks can also be admitted into it in accordance with the rules governing the admission of learners. The learners are trained in the Head Office or at the Headquarters of an Assistant Commissioner of Excise or Assistant Superintendent of Excise, and in the course of six months those who have made good progress are fit to take up appointments as Inspectors. There is, however, no training depôt, and no suitable provision at Headquarters for bringing Inspectors together, and inculcating and developing a spirit of camaraderie and *esprit de corps*. It may be possible to bring this about when times are better.

C. H. COLLINS,
Second Assistant Colonial Secretary.

April 22, 1922.

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H. R. COTTLE, GOVERNMENT PRINTER, COLOMBO, CEYLON.

Diagram No. 1.

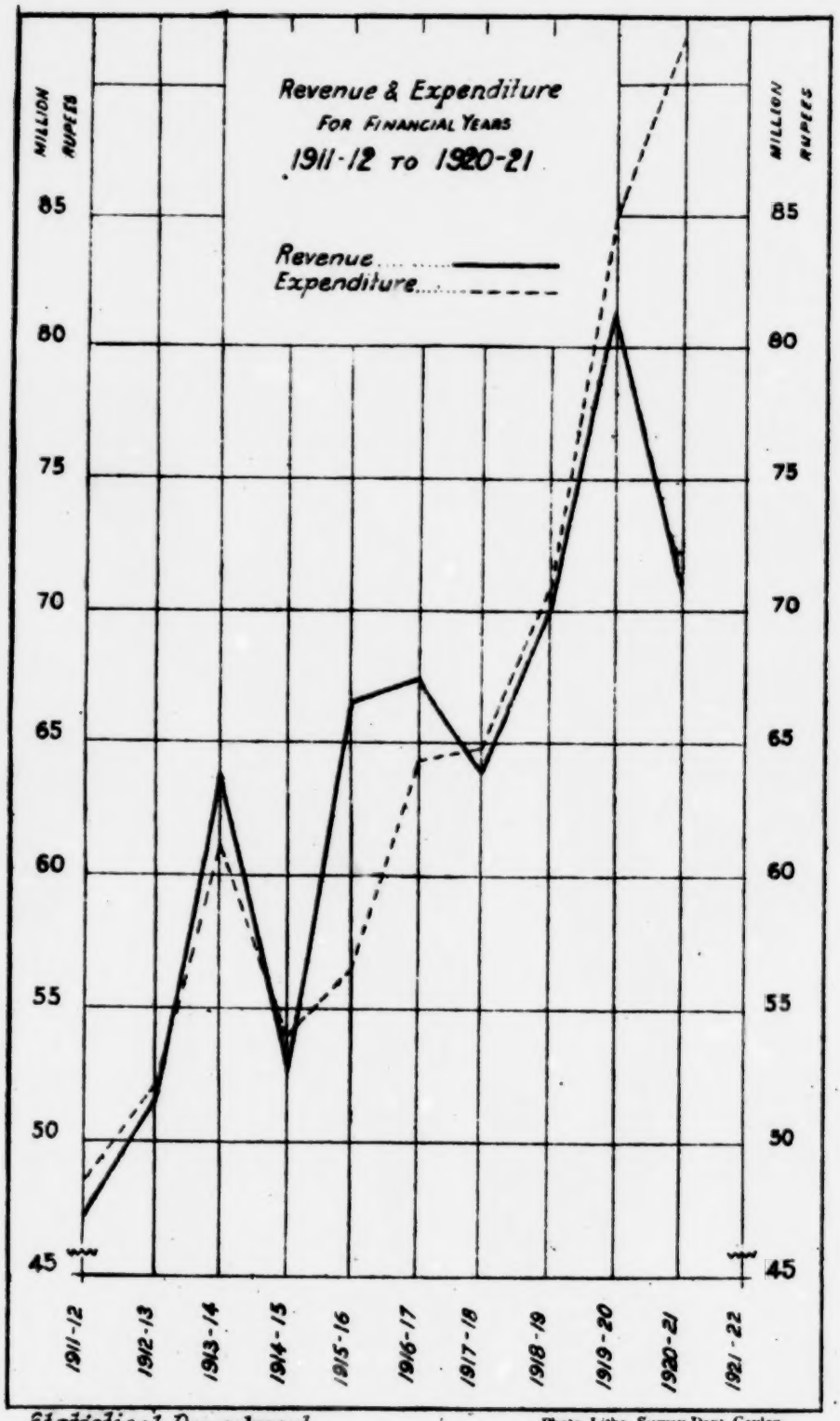

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Diagram No.2.

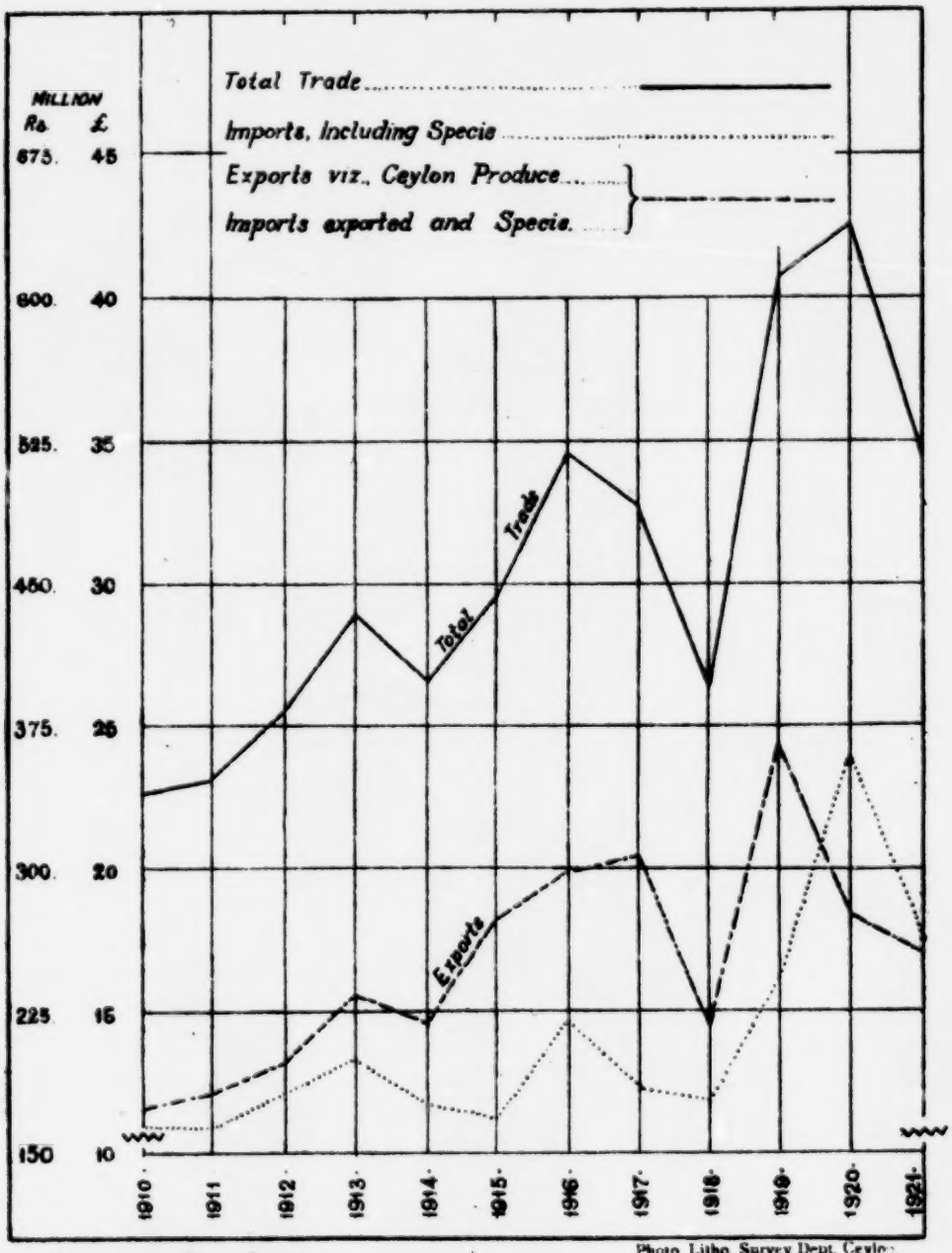

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Diagram No. 3.

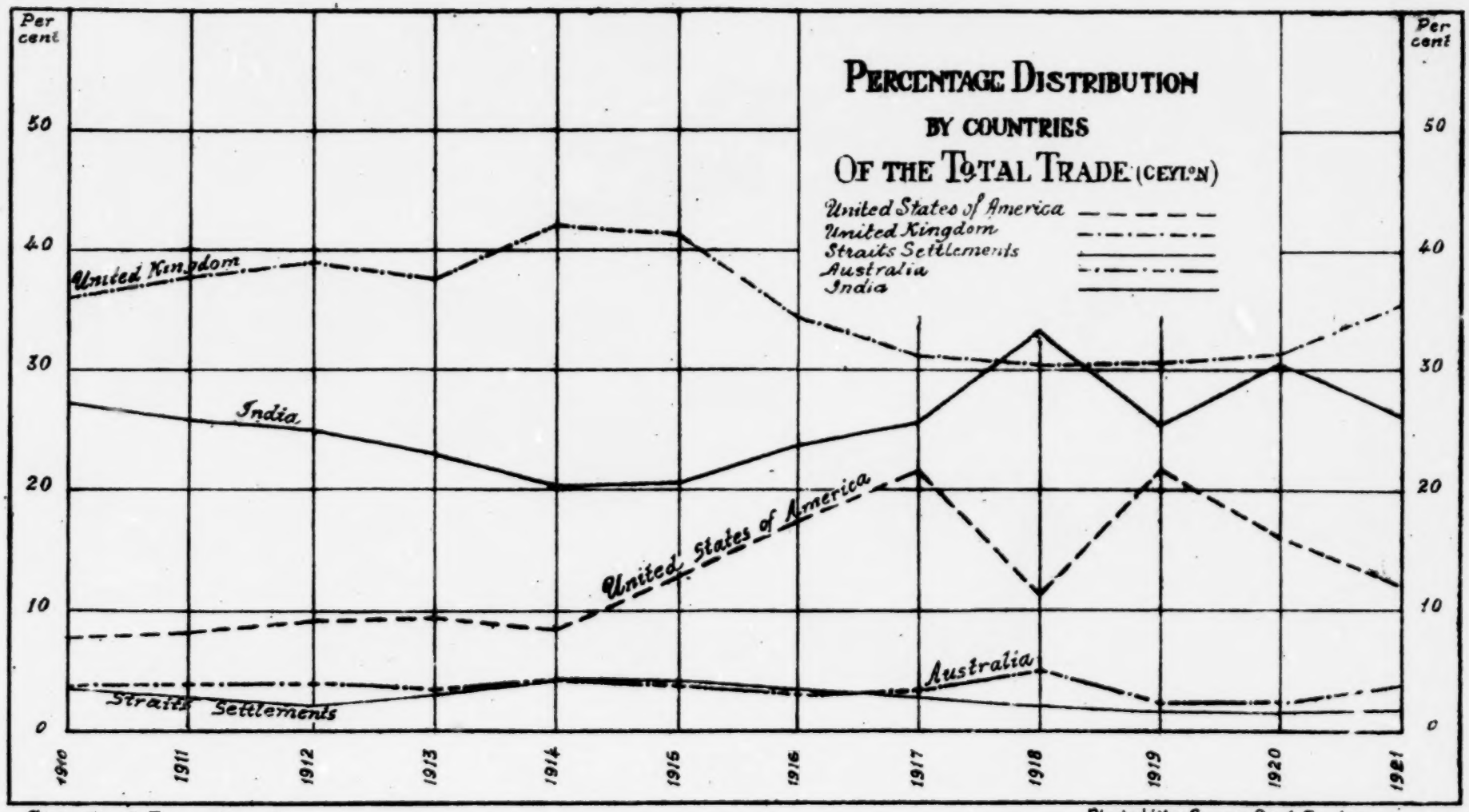

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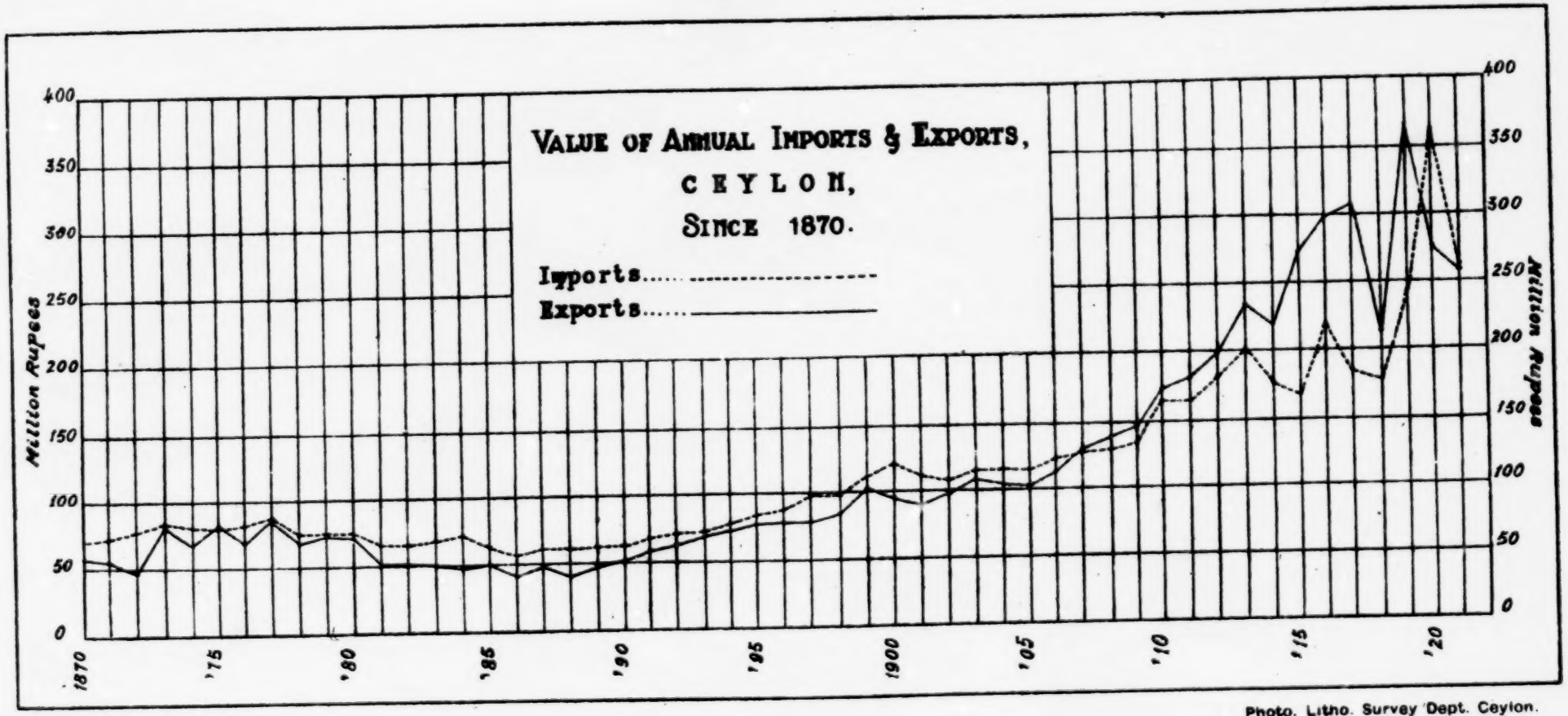
Diagram No. 4.



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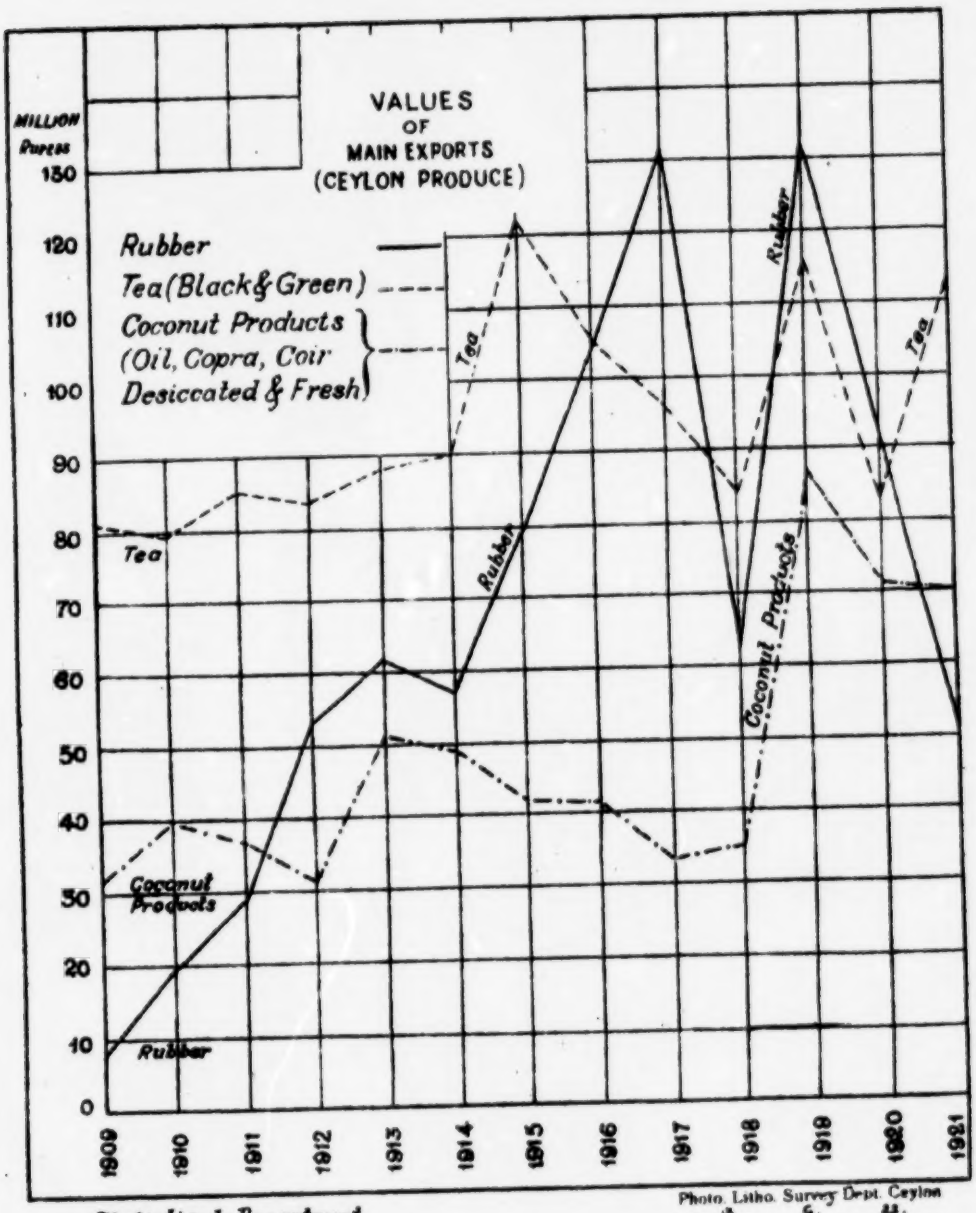

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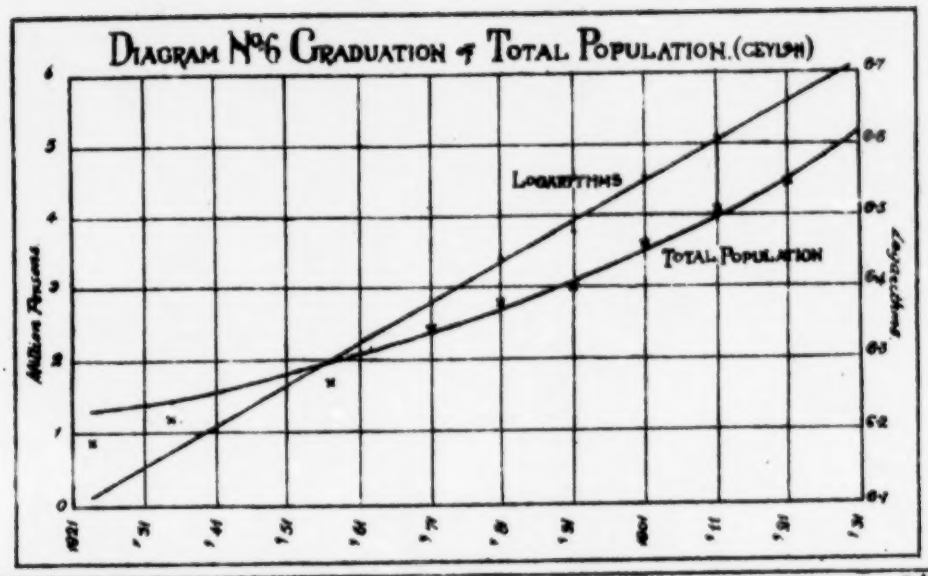

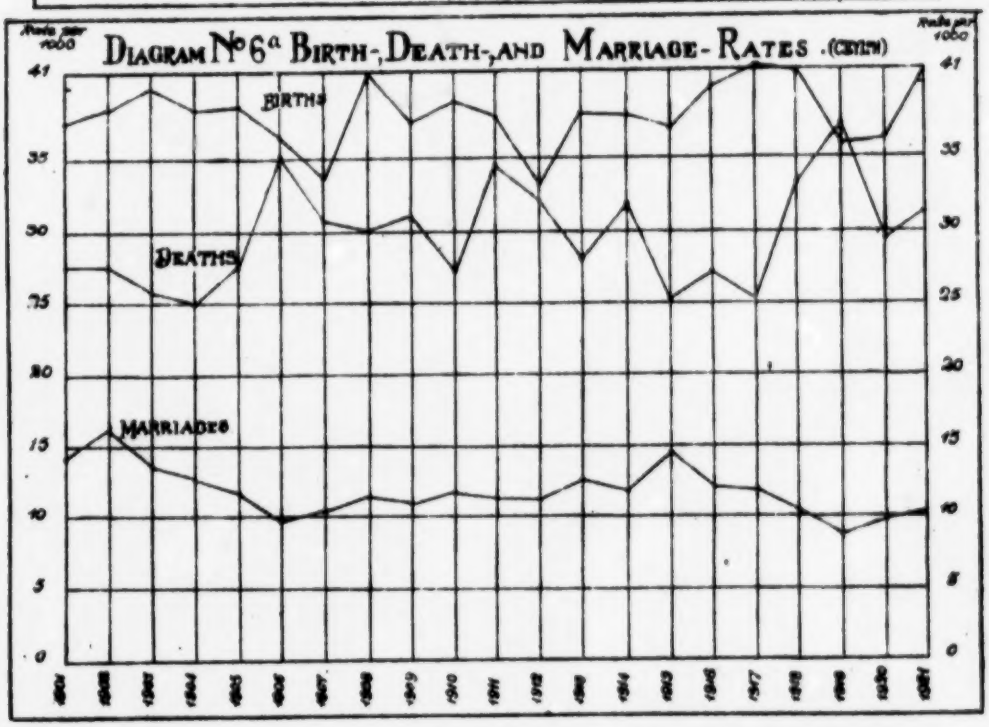

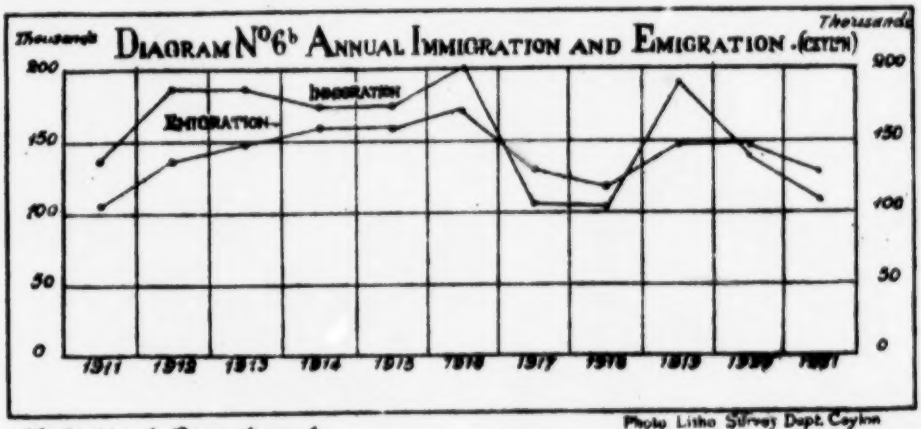

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COLONIAL REPORTS, ETC.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Year.*
1104	Turks and Caicos Islands	1920
1105	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	,,
1106	Seychelles	,,
1107	Ashanti	,,
1108	Hongkong	,,
1109	British Gu ana	,,
1110	British Honduras	,,
1111	Malta	1920–1921
1112	Uganda	1920
1113	Leeward Islands	1920–1921
1114	Nigeria	1921
1115	Mauritius	1920
1116	Jamaica	1921
1117	Cyprus	,,
1118	Weihaiwei	,,
1119	Gold Coast	1920
1120	Gambia	,,
1121	Gambia	1921
1122	Kenya Colony and Protectorate	1920–1921
1123	British Guiana	1921
1124	Grenada	,,
1125	Zanzibar	,,
1126	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	,,
1127	Gibraltar	,,
1128	St. Vincent	,,
1129	St. Helena	,,
1130	Fiji	,,
1131	Basutoland	1921–1922
1132	Bermuda	1921
1133	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1921–1922
1134	Barbados	,,
1135	Trinidad and Tobago	1921
1136	British Honduras	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Subject.*
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oil-seeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.
93	Pitcairn Island	Report on a visit by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

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COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1172.

CEYLON.

REPORT FOR 1922.

(For Report for 1921 see No. 1137.)

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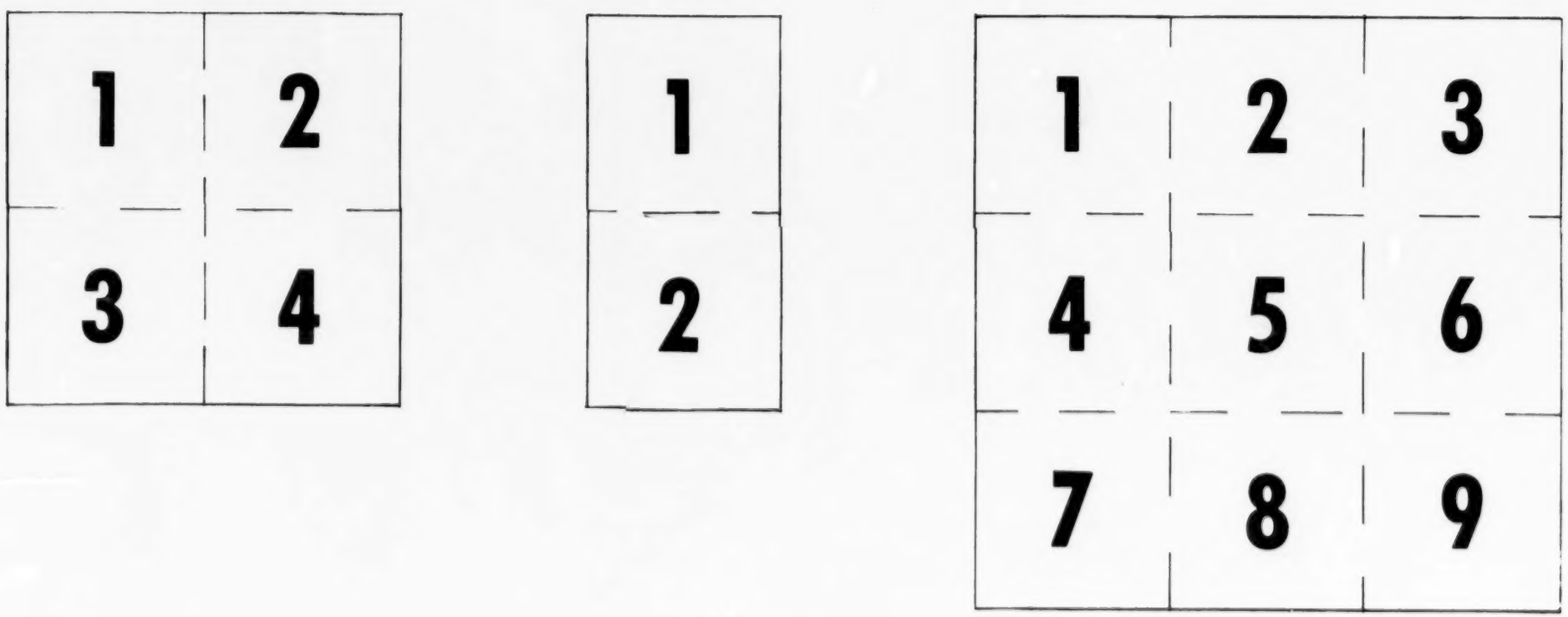
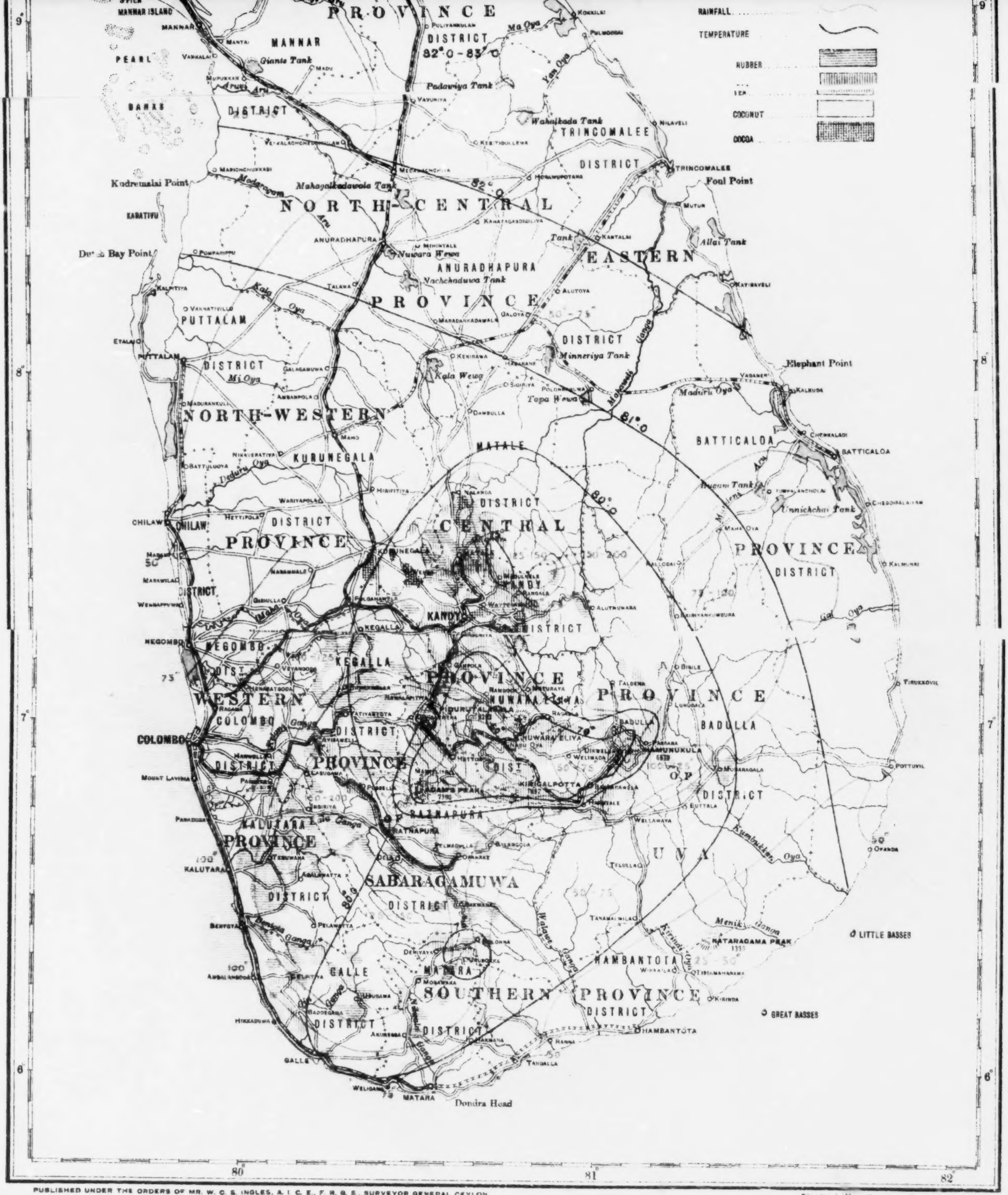


CEYLON
Scale, 24 Miles to an Inch
MILES 24 18 12 6 0 24 MILES
REFERENCE
ROADS
RAILWAY EXISTING
DO UNDER CONSTRUCTION
DO UNDER SURVEY
RAINFALL
TEMPERATURE
RUBBER
TEA
COCONUT
COCOA
NORTHERN PROVINCE
JAFFNA DISTRICT
MANNAR DISTRICT
MULLAITTIVU DISTRICT
TRINCOMALEE DISTRICT
EASTERN PROVINCE
NORTH-CENTRAL PROVINCE
ANURADHAPURA DISTRICT
PUTTALAM DISTRICT
NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCE
KURUNEGALA DISTRICT
CENTRAL PROVINCE
MATALE DISTRICT
KANDY DISTRICT
BATTICALOA DISTRICT
PEARL BANKS
Devils Point
Kudremalai Point
Dutch Bay Point
Foul Point
Elephant Point
Giants Tank
Padaviya Tank
Wahalkada Tank
Mahagalkadawala Tank
Nuwara Weva
Nachchaduwa Tank
Minneriya Tank
Kala Weva
Topa Weva
Allai Tank
Unichchai Tank
Mi Oya
Kala Oya
Deduru Oya
Malwatu Oya
Madurla Oya
Ma Oya
Yan Oya
Aruvi Aru
Modaragam Aru
Parangi Aru
RAMESWARAM
MANNAR ISLAND
KARAITIVU
VELANAI
PUNKUDUTIVU
DELFT
KACHCHATIVU
MULLAITTIVU
PUTTALAM
KURUNEGALA
CHILAW
KANDY
BATTICALOA
TRINCOMALEE



PUBLISHED UNDER THE ORDERS OF MR. W. C. S. INGLES, A. I. C. E., F. R. G. S., SURVEYOR GENERAL CEYLON.

Photo-Litho Survey Dept. Ceylon

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR 1922.

I.—GENERAL.

SIR WILLIAM HENRY MANNING, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., C.B., Governor, left the Colony on an official visit to India on January 30 and returned on February 3, 1922. During His Excellency's absence Sir Graeme Thomson, K.C.B., administered the Colony, and Mr. B. Horsburgh, C.M.G., acted as Colonial Secretary. Sir W. H. Manning again left the Colony for England on leave on October 23, 1922, and resumed the administration on February 12, 1923. During this period Mr. B. Horsburgh, C.M.G., V.D., administered the Government from October 23 to November 5, 1922, and Mr. C. Clementi, C.M.G., from November 6, 1922, to February 12, 1923, Mr. Horsburgh reverting to the post of Acting Colonial Secretary.

Sir Graeme Thomson, Colonial Secretary, who went on leave on April 9, was selected by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for appointment as Governor of British Guiana, and was succeeded by Mr. C. Clementi, C.M.G., Colonial Secretary, British Guiana.

The Companionship of St. Michael and St. George was conferred on Mr. R. B. Hellings, retired Ceylon Civil Servant, and the Companionship of the Imperial Service Order was conferred on Mr. C. Suntheram, Ceylon Civil Service.

Mr. W. T. Porter, Puisne Justice, Gold Coast, assumed duties as a Puisne Justice of this Colony.

Dr. P. J. Kelly, Registrar, Medical College, was appointed Surgeon-General of British Guiana.

Mr. W. W. Woods, Colonial Treasurer, was appointed to the Executive Council in succession to Mr. Bernard Senior, retired.

The death of Mr. Arthur Alvis, Burgher Member in the Legislative Council, is recorded with regret. Mr. H. A. Loos was appointed to the vacancy. Mr. Graeme Sinclair, European (Rural) Member, resigned, and was succeeded by Mr. T. Y. Wright.

The following territorial members resigned their seats and were re-elected :—

The Rev. Mr. W. E. Botejue, Messrs. H. L. De Mel, W. Duraiswamy, D. H. Kotalawala, James Peiris, E. W. Perera, W. M. Rajapakse, E. R. Tambimuttu, O. C. Tillekeratne, A. C. G. Wijeyekoon, C. E. Corea and S. D. Krisnaratna.

The following retired from the Public Service during the year :—Mr. Bernard Senior, C.M.G., I.S.O., Colonial Treasurer ; Mr. C. S. Vaughan, Ceylon Civil Service; Mr. A. L. Crossman, Ceylon Civil Service ; Major A. W. de Wilton, Inspector-General of Prisons ; Mr. Herman A. Loos, District Judge, Colombo ; Mr. A. E. Caldicott, Assistant Director of Public Works ; Mr. R. G. Carte, Provincial Engineer, Public Works Department ; Doctors C. de Vos and W. T. Ohlmus, Provincial Surgeons.

The following deaths are recorded with regret :—Lieut-Commander C. E. Stainer, Master Attendant ; Dr. Allan Kidd, Superintendent, General Hospital ; Mr. H. Thornhill, Superintendent of Police ; Mr. N. Marshall of the Department of Agriculture ; Mr. G. A. Joseph, Librarian, Colombo Museum ; Keppitipola Dissawa ; Sir William Twynam, K.C.M.G., retired Ceylon Civil Servant ; Mr. J. H. Templer, retired District Judge, Kandy; Major F. Knollys, retired Inspector-General of Police.

25-23-1,001

The general condition of the Colony may be considered to have been fairly satisfactory on the whole during the year. Tea retained the strong position it had assumed towards the end of the previous year, and the market for the various coconut products was good. The depression in the rubber industry, however, was very marked during the greater part of the year, though estates were able to continue their operations, making the same economies as were practised during the previous year. A system of rubber restriction, however, was introduced during the last quarter of the year, of which details will be found under the heads "Legislation" on page 35, and "Agriculture" (rubber) on page 7 below. It was too early at the end of the year to forecast with precision the results of the introduction of compulsory restriction of the sale of rubber, but prices rose very considerably, and the outlook is very encouraging. Plumbago, though slightly better than in 1921, had another bad year, and there are few signs yet of a revival in this industry. Prices generally have remained fairly stationary at the high level of the previous year, showing but a slight tendency to fall. Rice, however, was reasonable in price throughout the year. Exchange remained almost stationary at about 16*d.* to the rupee, a state of affairs very helpful to estates and exporters.

The condition of the people was, as in 1921, fairly satisfactory throughout, and there was very little real distress. The fall in the price of Indian rice that occurred in 1921, and the moderate level of the price of this commodity in 1922 have benefited the poorer classes, particularly in the towns, and the concession of the free carriage of locally-grown rice by rail was continued during the year. The only parts of the country in which relief works were necessary, were in the Bintenna district and in the Koralai pattu, Manmunai north, and Samanturai pattu of the Eastern Province, where a shortage of food occurred.

Weather conditions were fair. There were heavy floods in February, which did a great deal of damage, particularly in the Mannar and Mullaittivu Districts, causing roads, tanks, and the railway to be breached. The south-west monsoon failed over a considerable part of the Island, particularly in the paddy growing North-Central Province, which suffered from drought. Health conditions were fairly satisfactory throughout the greater part of the Island. There was an outbreak of plague in Galle town, and of smallpox at Kalmunai in the Eastern Province. Malaria was prevalent, particularly in Anuradhapura and Uva, during the latter portion of the year. As regards the general condition of the Colony, reference is invited to the remarks under Section IV. (Trade) on page 21, where the conclusion is drawn that "on the whole it may be said that, even after due allowance has been made for the decreased purchasing power of the rupee, the (trade) returns indicate very clearly a consistent and increasing diffusion of prosperity." Criminal statistics show a general improvement, though there is still a great amount of crime in the country.

The efforts to increase the amount of foodstuffs produced in the Colony, referred to in the last report, were continued during the year. The "colonies" of paddy cultivators established under certain of the large tanks have made some progress. The Ratmale colony, in the North-Central Province, under the Nachchaduwa tank continued its operations. The Government Agent reports satisfactory progress at the smaller colonies at Tempitiya and Lahugala in the Eastern Province, where paddy cultivation has taken a firm hold, though these are not "colonies" in the sense that people have been induced to reside permanently on the land. The colonies at Unnichchai and Vakaneri have been unsuccessful. Attempts to grow paddy on a large scale by capitalists have not proved successful in Ceylon. A further illustration of this was given during the year, when the Ceylon Mills Company abandoned its concession of 5,000 acres under the Kalawewa tank in the North-Central Province. As the Government Agent of the Province states, it appears to be now well established that it is only the small holder who can grow paddy successfully.

In the Eastern Province the policy of assisting the peasant cultivator by affording him capital on easy terms through the agency of the Paddy Bank was maintained, but a change in the system by which the loans are made was introduced in June, by the adoption of a system of issuing the loans through Co-operative Credit Societies, instead of dealing directly with the cultivators. Some twenty-two new societies were formed with this object in view, and a new constitution for the Bank was under consideration at the end of the year.

Further encouragement was given to food production by the operations of the Agricultural Department, in maintaining experimental and demonstration gardens, by distributing seeds and leaflets, by lectures, and by the work of the Divisional Officers of the Department and the special Inspectors working under them.

As regards new products, Sisal hemp has been shown to grow well in the Anuradhapura District, and it is hoped that the opening of the light railway from Maho to Trincomalee will lead to further developments in the cultivation of this fibre, and help to solve the problem of finding a suitable product to be grown in the drier low-country. Cotton growing has been experimented with with promising results in the Hambantota District. There has been a demand for land for papaw cultivation in the Kegalla District.

In regard to Local Government and the public health, two Urban District Councils (Negombo and Ratnapura) were established from January 1 under the Local Government Ordinance, No. 11 of 1920. These Councils have taken the place of the older Local Boards, and have elected Chairmen and a majority of elected members, with extensive powers as regards public health, roads, resthouses, and local matters generally. Preliminary steps were also taken to create similar Councils at Chilaw, Jaffna, Kalutara, Matale, Matara, and Panadure as from January 1, 1923, in place of the existing Local Boards, and in the case of Panadure in place of control by the Sanitary Board of the Kalutara District. These steps have been taken in response to a demand for the establishment of such bodies at these places. No Rural or General District Councils have yet been established, but a scheme is under contemplation for the extension of the principles of the Ordinance to all parts of the Colony with certain modifications to render it suitable to the varying needs of the different districts.

An important event of the year was the passing of the Salaries' Scheme for Government servants, with effect from October 1. Prior to this, Government servants' salaries were based on the schemes of 1912 and 1905, with certain temporary increases intended to assist them during the war period. These salaries were in practically all cases inadequate, and very few officers of the service were able to live on their pay. The efficiency of the services was bound to be effected by this state of affairs, and the permanent settlement of the question became a matter of paramount importance. The object of the new scheme was to put the salaries and the conditions of service of all classes and grades of the Public Service on a satisfactory footing. The scheme was introduced and passed in connection with the appropriation bill for the financial year 1922–23, and met with considerable opposition, especially from the territorially elected members of the Legislative Council, particularly as at the same time it was found necessary to raise new money for this and other public purposes. The territorial members left the Chamber during the debate, and afterwards resigned their seats. They were all subsequently re-elected to the Council. The additional revenue referred to was obtained chiefly by an increase in the Customs tariff, by means of a carefully considered scheme, which was calculated to throw the least possible burden on the poorer part of the community. Railway rates were increased at the same time, in view of the fact that expenditure on this service had necessarily increased very heavily, and higher rates were necessary if the Railway was to be maintained as a revenue-producing concern.

The most important of the special events of the year was the visit of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales to Ceylon from March 21 to March 25. His Royal Highness was accorded a warm welcome by all communities. He visited Colombo and Kandy, and was received everywhere with enthusiasm and loyalty.

The following are some of the principal Committees appointed during the year :—

Further to investigate the question of the improvement of the San Sebastian canal with a view to the prevention of pollution of water in the harbour.

For the caring for and erecting of permanent memorials on all war graves in the Island.

To consider and report what measures should be taken with regard to destitute persons not permanently domiciled in the Colony, and to advise Government as to the possibility of preventing the entry into Ceylon of persons who have no definite guarantee of obtaining employment and who are not in possession of funds sufficient for their support during their stay in the Island.

To inquire into the circumstances connected with the admission of the late Mr. W. H. Digby into the General Hospital on April 28, 1922, and his treatment therein.

To hold an independent inquiry into and report upon the origin of the fire which occurred in the rope shed in the Colombo Harbour Works yard on the night of January 5, 1922.

To examine the representations which have been made to Government regarding the new Salaries Scheme as amended, and generally to advise the Government as to the best method of bringing the approved proposals into force.

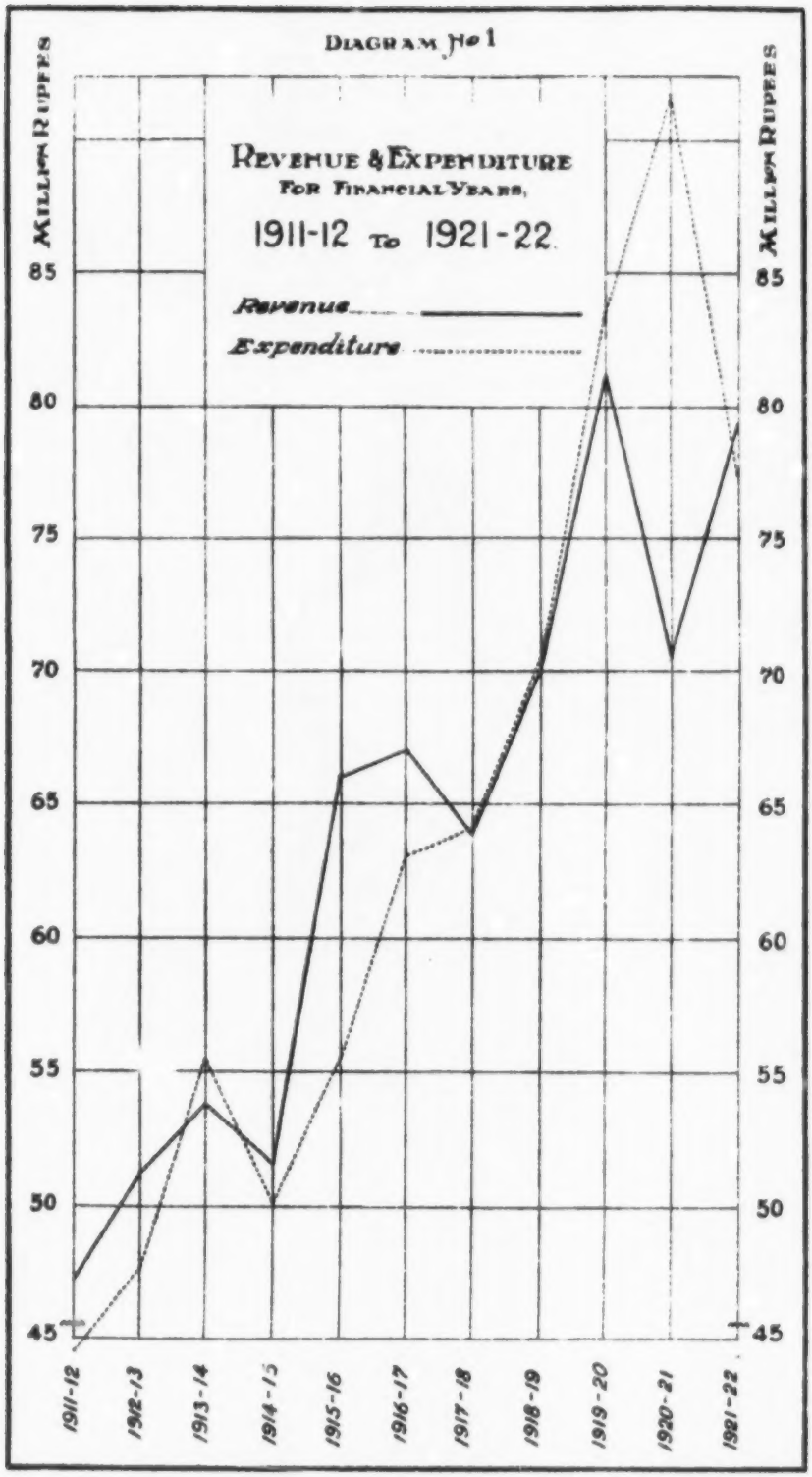
To formulate for the consideration of the Government a scheme for the scholarships to be awarded to local students in engineering to enable them to complete their professional training in the United Kingdom or elsewhere.

The Retrenchment Commission, appointed in 1921, to inquire into and report whether it would be possible to reduce expenditure in public departments by the reduction of the staffs of these departments, continued its sittings, and had not presented its report at the end of the year.

II.—FINANCIAL.

REVENUE.

The revenue collected during the financial year ended September 30, 1922, amounted to Rs. 79,270,116·72, which was Rs. 3,365,066·72 more than the estimate and Rs. 8,651,055·66 more than the amount collected in the previous financial year. Customs and Railway receipts, stamp duties, and interest on cash balances were mainly responsible for the increase over the previous financial year. The increase under Customs receipts was Rs. 3,394,163, under Railway receipts Rs. 2,767,184, and under interest Rs. 1,608,678. The increased Railway and Customs receipts are an indication of somewhat improved trade conditions, while the increase under interest was due to the accumulation of large cash balances, when the second moiety of the loan under Ordinance No. 6 of 1921 was raised, and to the diversion of interest on currency investments from the currency reserve to revenue rendered possible by the improvement in the market value of the investments.



Statistical Department.

Photo: The Survey Dept. Calcutta

EXPENDITURE.

The expenditure for the financial year ended September 30, 1922, which was estimated at Rs. 76,488,523 amounted to Rs. 77,359,068·48, being in excess of the estimate by Rs. 870,545·48 and less than the expenditure of the previous financial year by Rs. 14,408,622·87. The decreases, as compared with the previous year, are mainly under Miscellaneous Services, Exchange, Public Works and Railway Works Extraordinary, and Colombo Port Commission.

In the previous financial year there had been a loss of about Rs. 3,750,000 on the purchase of rice by the Food Controller (due to rice being sold under cost as an act of policy), and a loss on exchange of Rs. 6,750,000, as compared with Rs. 2,750,000 in the year 1921–22. There was a general retrenchment of expenditure in the year under review.

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

The assets of the Colony on September 30, 1922, were Rs. 59,808,056, and the liabilities Rs. 46,380,657, showing an excess of assets over liabilities of Rs. 13,427,399. The assets consisted of cash in fixed deposits and current accounts in the local and Indian banks and with the Crown Agents in London, unissued stores, investments in rupee and sterling gilt edged securities, and and advances to local bodies. The main liabilities represent amounts due to the Widows' and Orphans' Pension Fund, to loan account, and to suitors and other depositors in the Treasury and local Kachcheries. The cash balances available amounted to Rs. 35,099,681. The accumulated surplus on September 30, 1922, was in excess of that on September 30, 1921, by a sum of Rs. 1,911,048.

CURRENCY.

On September 30, 1922, the value of currency notes in circulation amounted to Rs. 39,286,499. The Currency Commissioners on the same date held silver rupees to the extent of Rs. 14,863,581 and Rs. 28,231,777 (market value) or Rs. 25,145,724 (purchase price) in British, Indian, and Colonial securities. The value of the reserve on September 30, 1922, was thus in excess of the value of notes in circulation by Rs. 3,808,860.

The following denominations of subsidiary coins were in circulation in the Colony on September 30, 1922 :—

	Rs.
50 cents (silver)	3,451,000
25 cents (silver)	2,758,000
10 cents (silver)	2,775,211
5 cents (nickel)	575,000
1 cent (copper)	782,237
½ cent (copper)	318,068

PUBLIC DEBT.

The nett sterling debt of the Colony on September 30, 1922, stood at £10,389,986 and the rupee debt at Rs. 2,007,884.

The above sum of £10,389,986 includes the loan of £6,212,993 authorized by Ordinance No. 6 of 1921, of which £3,212,993 was raised in 1920–21 and £3,000,000 in 1921–22. The rate of interest on this loan is 6 per cent. The nett public debt of the Colony on September 30, 1922, was approximately twice the revenue for 1921–22, calculating the sterling amount of the debt at fifteen rupees to the pound sterling.

Death Duties.

Estates of persons whose deaths occurred on or after July 1, 1919, are chargeable with duty under the Estate Duty Ordinance, No. 8 of 1919, which came into operation as from that date.

During the financial year 1921-22 a sum of Rs. 1,069,960 was collected as estate duty on 1,811 estates, as against Rs. 939,821 collected during the previous year on 980 estates. The largest estate dealt with was of the value of Rs. 1,183,279, and the amount of duty paid thereon was Rs. 96,177.

The total amount of penalties recovered under the Ordinance in respect of 183 cases was Rs. 1,610.

The total duty collected under the Ordinance is nearly three times the amount of stamp duty formerly collected on probates and letters of administration.

Ceylon Savings Bank.

The Ceylon Savings Bank had a sum of Rs. 4,619,561 to credit of 42,194 depositors on December 31, 1922, against Rs. 4,503,592 to credit of 41,608 depositors on December 31, 1921. The amount of the banks invested funds on December 31, 1922, was Rs. 5,162,578, which include investments made from the reserve fund of Rs. 726,322. Interest was allowed at the rate of 4 per cent. on sums of Rs. 1,000 and under, and 3 per cent. on sums above Rs. 1,000.

Note.—See page 69 for a report of the work of the Post Office Savings Bank.

III.—AGRICULTURE, MANUFACTURES, AND INDUSTRIES.

Tea.

The exports of black tea during 1922 amounted to 169,689,389 lb., as against 159,302,769 lb. shipped during the previous year. The quantity of green tea exported was 2,118,192 lb., as against 2,308,197 lb. exported in 1921. These exports are below the average, and the shortage is due in part to the fine plucking which is now generally practised on estates, but mainly to the unfavourable weather conditions. The first quarter of the year was very dry. The south-west monsoon was early, and was severe in some districts, while the north-east monsoon was particularly light. Uva suffered from a severe drought during the third quarter of the year. The quality of the teas produced has been exceptionally good, and record prices have been realized. Greater care is now taken in plucking the leaf, and many improvements have been made in manufacture in the factories. Many estates are continuing to install new machinery in their factories, and there is little doubt that increased profits will result in marked improvements in tea factories during the next year or so. Cultivation is improving upon all estates where labour is adequate, and manuring programmes have been liberal. As a result, tea at the close of the year was in healthy and vigorous growth, and showed a marked improvement over the years of war, when cultivation and manuring had to be restricted.

The area under tea is about 418,000 acres, of which 274,000 acres is in the Central Province.

Pests and diseases continue to be given close attention, and the investigations of the Department of Agriculture are closely followed by the planting community. Shot-hole Borer is not so prevalent as it was some years previously, but the occurrence of termites on tea estates appears to be on the increase. A new caterpillar pest has occurred in the Ramboda district during the year, and attention has been drawn to the leaf disease which is spreading on some estates up-country where acacias are grown for fuel or as green manure.

As the result of the changes passed by the Legislature in regard to labour, considerable difficulty was experienced by many tea estates early in the year, but the situation was met, and labour soon became settled under the new conditions. Wages have been increased, and the number of immigrants from Madras was satisfactory during the latter part of the year. The conditions under which the emigration of labour from Madras to Ceylon will be allowed to continue have been the subject of careful consideration during the year.

RUBBER.

The exports of Ceylon grown rubber amounted to 104,595,278 lb., as against 88,125,425 lb. in 1921. The voluntary restriction scheme, which was in force for part of the previous year, was not continued in 1922, and estates which were able to make satisfactory profits at the low prices that ruled for all grades of rubber produced their full output. The prices were, however, so low that some estates had to stop tapping entirely, especially in localities unfavourably situated in regard to transport. Much of the scrap rubber produced or estates continued to be burnt.

About 390,000 acres, mostly in the Western and Sabaragamuwa Provinces, are cultivated with this product.

With effect from November 1 the scheme of compulsory restriction accepted by the Secretary of the State for the Colonies became law, and thereafter prices began to improve. Whilst Ceylon rubber producers were some two years ago generally opposed to any compulsory scheme of restriction, it was found that the scheme, when brought into force in 1922, was recognized as affording a means of saving the rubber industry of the East from disaster. There was some criticism of the scheme, but the improvement in price has so far justified the opinions of those who were in favour of compulsory restriction, and the smooth working of the scheme up to the end of the year was recognized by all. Small holders were hoping to receive more liberal treatment, and their position, as also the position of newly planted estates, were being carefully investigated by the Rubber Advisory Board.

Many estates during the year had been compelled to reduce their expenditure on the treatment of pests and diseases, but when better prices began to be realized after restriction was decided upon, this work was again taken in hand, attention also being given to manuring and cultivation. Pod disease and leaf fall was very prevalent in some districts in the low-country as the result of the excessively damp months of May and June. Brown bast continues to be common, and is probably responsible for more anxiety at the present time than any pest or disease. It appears to be associated with excessive tapping, and although Ceylon has not suffered as severely as some other rubber producing countries, the amount of brown bast in Ceylon is still considerable. It is under investigation by officers of the Rubber Research Scheme. Vegetative propagation of rubber has received attention during the year, and lectures and demonstrations given by the Department of Agriculture have resulted in fair numbers of budded plants being raised upon several estates. Local trials of rubber upon roads have been continued, but have not been successful so far exports of special sole-rubber for shoes have increased, and trial shipments of rubber latex for paper making have been made. The preservation of rubber latex for shipment continues to be investigated. It is possible that amounts of ammonia smaller than those originally suggested may be employed with safety.

CACAO.

The exports of cacao were 83,210 cwt., as against 62,244 cwt. in 1921. This was the record crop since 1915. The spring crop was a very good one. The autumn crop was also promising, but dry weather in September followed by

heavy rains in November resulted in loss of crop and a high percentage of diseased pods. Prices ranged from Rs. 45 to Rs. 60 for No. 1 cacao, but the market was generally dull throughout the year. The Peradeniya Chooclate Company continued operations throughout the year, and its products commanded a ready sale.

The area under cacao is 33,230 acres, mostly in the Central Province.

COCONUTS.

The exports of coconut products during 1922 were as follows :—

Coconuts	No.	22,317,747
Copra	Cwt.	1,686,589
Desiccated	Cwt.	768,215
Oil	Cwt.	554,626
Fibre	Cwt.	319,125

The large export in the number of fresh nuts in 1921 was maintained during 1922, the same being sent mainly to the United Kingdom and Holland. Desiccated nut exports were somewhat below the exports of the previous year, the reduction in export being due to the low prices which ruled throughout the year. The total coconut crop in 1922 was good, particularly in those districts which normally receive abundant rainfall, but by reason of the severe drought which prevailed during the early part of the year throughout the coconut districts crops for 1923 will be short. Pests of coconuts have received close attention by the Entomological division of the Department of Agriculture during the year. Considerable damage has continued to be occasioned in the Batticaloa District by the caterpillar pest, and small outbreaks of the same pest have occurred in the Western, Sabaragamuwa, and North-Western Provinces. Leaflets have been prepared on this pest and on the beetle and weevil pests of coconuts, both in English and in the vernaculars, and have been widely distributed. The necessity for an improvement of the plant pest and disease legislation has become apparent, and the revision of the Ordinances and regulations on this subject is being undertaken by the Attorney-General's Department and the Department of Agriculture, with the advice of the Board of Agriculture. Nut-fall caused by fungus disease has not been common during the year, and the physiological causes which can also give rise to nut-fall have been investigated.

The area under coconuts is about 820,000 acres, of which 335,000 acres are in the North-Western Province and 286,000 in the Western Province.

CARDAMOMS.

The export for 1922 amounted to 4,096 cwt., as against 4,512 cwt. in 1921, the largest quantity being sent to British India. The demands from the United States of America increased considerably during the year, and it is expected that these demands will increase in the future. The price for green cured cardamoms was high in comparison with the value of the bleached product. Prices have been satisfactory, and increasing attention is being given to this cultivation.

CINNAMON.

The exports of this product were as follows :—

Cinnamon quills	lb.	3,516,912
Cinnamon chips	lb.	1,296,176

The exports in quills were in excess of those of the previous year. Prices, on the whole, were satisfactory, and keener interest is again being shown in this crop, the area under which is about 25,000 acres, mostly in the Western and Southern Provinces.

CITRONELLA.

The exports of citronella oil amounted to 1,299,889lb., as against 1,160,555lb. during the previous year. Prices improved during the year, and resulted in keener competition amongst buyers. Over 50 per cent. of the exports were shipped to the United States of America. The citronella industry is confined at present to the Southern Province, but small experimental plantations are now being opened in the drier parts of the Province of Sabaragamuwa. Some complaints were made during the year in regard to adulteration.

FIBRES.

The Government experiments with cotton cultivation in the Hambantota District of the Southern Province have been very successful, and as a result of these experiments nearly 300 acres will be planted with cotton in this district for the 1922–23 season. Long-stapled cottons gave satisfactory results, and experiments with these cottons are being continued. The bulk of the acreage has, however, been planted with Cambodia—an American upland variety, which gives good results in South India. Small trials of cotton are also being made in other districts, and favourable results are being reported from the North-Western Province and from the drier parts of the Province of Sabaragamuwa.

Interest in sisal and other fibres of a similar character continues. The growth at Maha Iluppallama and Anuradhapura has been most satisfactory, and the results obtained from the small decorticator recently erected by Government at the Experiment Station, Anuradhapura, are awaited. Some further plantings on a small scale have been made in the North-Western and North-Central Provinces during the year.

The exports of kapok amounted to 6,619 cwt., as against 4,122 cwt. the previous year. There was a strong demand for kapok during the year, particularly from Holland, to which country more than half the exports were sent. Prices rose, and competition amongst buyers was very keen. If these prices are maintained, the cultivation of kapok will be profitable. Already regular planting has begun in a small scale, and some selected seed has been imported from Java for this purpose.

TOBACCO.

The season has not been a good one for the tobacco industry, and much of the crop remains unsold. An increase in the duty on Ceylon tobacco imported into Travancore has resulted in large stocks being unsold in Jaffna, and consequently the market for tobacco grown in other districts has been dull. The White Burley tobacco grown by the Department of Agriculture in Jaffna continues to command a ready sale on the English market, and several growers are now experimenting with its cultivation. Experiments are also being continued with different types of cigar tobaccos at Teldeniya.

FOODSTUFFS.

The first crop of paddy was about normal on the whole, but owing to drought the yala crop was considerably below the average. In many districts the yala crop failed completely owing to shortage of water, and even in the wetter parts of the Island the sowing of the maha crop for the 1922–23 season was delayed, and short-aged paddies had to be grown. The drought in the North-Central Province was very severe, and in the Northern Province the bringing under irrigation of lands, which had been cleared in previous years, was delayed. The Food Production Companies have not been able to grow paddy with profit, and it is evident that increase of output must depend upon

cultivation by small growers and upon the increase of yields from existing fields. Financial assistance given to paddy growers by the Batticaloa Paddy Bank has been of material assistance in the opening of the new lands with paddy, and the demands by growers of paddy on the Trincomalee Co-operative Society are increasing. The area under paddy is estimated at 850,000 acres, and there are about 120,000 acres cultivated under other grains.

Co-operative Societies.

Thirty-four new societies were registered during the year, principally from the Batticaloa District. The total number of societies is now 198, and the share capital of existing societies on April 30, 1922, was Rs. 150,350, as against Rs. 122,071 in the previous year, and the Reserve funds Rs. 25,057, as against Rs. 20,523. The total number of members was 19,957. Manure to the value of Rs. 29,561 was distributed. The distribution of manure was less than in previous years, due to the relative high cost of manure in comparison with the low values for paddy and other products of the small cultivator.

Board of Agriculture.

Meetings of the Board of Agriculture and of its different Committees were held regularly, and many questions affecting the agricultural industries were dealt with. A revision of the legislation relating to the control of plant pests and diseases is being undertaken, and the two new laboratories which were being erected for the Mycological and Entomological Divisions of the Department of Agriculture were completed during the year.

Veterinary.

Diseases of Animals.

During the greater part of the year the health of stock was good. Both rinderpest and foot-and-mouth disease, however, re-appeared towards the close of the year, the former chiefly in Colombo town. The latter occurred in all Provinces during the year, and in epizootic form in Colombo and the Western Province generally in November–December.

Rinderpest.—After an interval of almost a year, during which the Colony was free of the disease, fifteen cases occurred in the Western Province, of which 11 died, 3 recovered, and 1 was shot. Eleven of the above cases occurred in one outbreak at Wellampitiya in May, which was suppressed without spreading. About the same time twelve cases occurred in the Quarantine Station amongst cattle imported from India.

In the Central Province an outbreak occurred in September and October in Nuwara Eliya town and Mahagastota estate. Thirty-three cases were reported, of which 29 died and 4 recovered, and the outbreak was suppressed. The source of infection is believed to have been through cattle conveyed to Nuwara Eliya by butchers for slaughter. All other Provinces remained free during the year.

In Colombo town, outside the Cattle Quarantine Station, 150 cases were reported, especially in November–December, and caused loss in local dairies.

Amongst the cattle imported from India outbreaks occurred during the year in May, September, October, and November. Seventy-five cases in all occurred in the Cattle Quarantine Station during the year.

Foot-and-Mouth Disease.—During the year this disease occurred in all the Provinces. In the town of Colombo and Western Province generally the disease was wide spread at the close of the year.

In all 3,490 cases were reported, of which 3,220 recovered, 27 died, and 243 remained ill at the close of the year.

In Colombo town 274 cases were reported, especially in the local dairies, and much inconvenience and loss was caused as regards the milk supply. Amongst the cattle imported from India, 51 cases occurred in the Cattle Quarantine Station.

Anthrax.—Seventeen deaths were reported; 10 deaths in the Central Province, 3 in Uva, and 2 each in the Southern and North-Central Provinces.

Amongst the sheep and goats imported from India, 202 deaths occurred in the Quarantine Station.

Rabies.—Sixty-eight suspected cases were examined by the Director of the Bacteriological Institute, 31 of which were from Colombo town. Thirty-four gave a positive and 22 a negative result. Twelve were received unfit for examination.

Two hundred and seven persons underwent treatment at the Pasteur Institute in Colombo during the year. Five additional cases were reported from the Western Province and 12 cases from Kegalla District.

Hæmorrhagic Septicæmia.—Seventy-one cases were reported, against 20 in the previous year. Seven cases from the Western Province, 37 from the Southern Province, 16 from Uva Province, and 11 from the Sabaragamuwa Province. Of these cases, 59 died and 12 recovered.

Piroplasmosis.—Thirty-three cases were reported. Twenty-four cases from the Eastern Province, 7 in the Central, and 2 in the Uva Provinces. Of these, 19 died and 14 recovered.

Surra.—No cases of this disease were detected during the year.

Swine Diseases.—No outbreak during the year.

Equine Diseases.—The only disease that caused loss was Osteoporosis. Two cases of Demodectic Mange were observed.

General.—Many cases of Distemper amongst dogs were reported, generally over the Island.

Cases of mange in buffaloes were reported chiefly from the Central Province. Skin scrapings examined at the Laboratory were confirmatory of Sarcoptic Mange.

SALT.

The manufacture, collection, and sale of Ceylon salt are a Government monopoly, which is protected by a duty of Rs. 3 per cwt. on all imported salt. The amount realized by its sale in 1922 was Rs. 1,472,692·93, as against Rs. 1,911,157·42 in 1921, and Rs. 1,988,278·53 in 1920. The decrease in 1922 is partly accounted for by the fact that 55,000 cwt. of salt in Hambantota District were sold at Rs. 2·70 instead of at Rs. 3 per cwt., and partly owing to imports of salt from India, on which Rs. 177,336·75 was credited to Customs revenue in 1922, as against Rs. 3,270·64 in 1921.

The local production of salt was satisfactory, and the weather did not interfere with the manufacture. The total yield for the Island during 1922 was 779,943 cwt., as against 294,135 cwt. in 1921. The distribution of the harvest was as follows :—

	Cwt.
Hambantota District	280,380
Puttalam District	277,301
Trincomalee District	74,618
Northern Province	66,644
Elephant Pass (Government Saltern)	30,000
Palavi (Government Saltern)	51,000
	779,943

This output represents a little more than the annual consumption of the Island.

The usual selling price at the Government salt stores is Rs. 3 per cwt., except at the Government check stores at Haputale and Galle, where the salt is sold in limited quantities at Rs. 5·25 and Rs. 4 per cwt., respectively. Owing to the shortage of stocks in Puttalam District during 1922, the restrictions on the sales of salt from Puttalam to the Western Province had to be continued throughout the year. Issues from the Tondaimannar Stores (Northern Province) were confined to Beruwala only, and the price raised from Rs. 3 to Rs. 3·35 per cwt. to prevent unfair competition with the sale of Hambantota salt in Colombo. Sales in Colombo were carried out on behalf of Government by a contractor who undertook to purchase salt in Hambantota District at Rs. 2·70 to Rs. 3·25 per cwt., and to transport and sell it to the public in Colombo at a price not exceeding Rs. 4·25 per cwt. This measure was in force during 1922, but it is hoped that it will be possible to withdraw all restrictions from May 1, 1923. There will then be sufficient stocks in Puttalam to justify the resumption of normal sales to Colombo and to continue such sales if there is a normal salt season at Puttalam.

The total stocks in the Island at the end of 1922 amounted to 927,989 cwt. or about eighteen months' supply. In view of the increased output expected from the two Government salterns, it is hoped that there will be no necessity to impose any restrictions or import any quantities of salt into the Island after 1923.

The reorganization of the Salt Department under the direction of the Salt Adviser was continued during 1922. Marked progress was made in the construction work at the two Government salterns—one at Elephant Pass (Jaffna District) and the other at Palavi (Puttalam District), as well as in putting up officers' buildings and storage platforms for the storage of salt, in uniform heaps of 5,000 cwt. each. All the salt which formed in the Elephant Pass saltern could not be collected before the break of the north-east monsoon owing to unseasonable rains and lack of cooly labour. The total yield at Elephant Pass for the season amounted to 30,000 cwt. At Palavi a yala harvest of 3,000 cwt. was gathered in April, and a further quantity of 48,000 cwt. was scraped and stored in heaps of 5,000 cwt. each., making a total of 51,000 cwt. for the year. Tenders were invited for the purchase of the salt manufactured by the Salt Adviser at Palavi saltern in 1921, and the highest offer received was Rs. 3·62 per cwt., as against Rs. 3, the average selling price of the ordinary Ceylon salt ; and a sum of Rs. 43,440 was realized during 1922 by the sale of 12,000 cwt. of this salt. The expenditure for the financial year 1921–22 on these salterns was as follows :—

	Rs.	c.
Elephant Pass	174,796	81
Palavi	43,076	39
Total ..	217,873	20

Crown Land.

The total area of Crown land sold and settled (exclusive of settlements under the Waste Lands Ordinance) was 10,371 acres, as against 9,098 acres in 1921 and 10,069 acres in 1920.

The average price per acre varied from Rs. 207 in the Western Province to Rs. 22 in the Northern Province.

There was a demand for land for the extension of tea estates, particularly in Uva, but little suitable land for the cultivation of this product remains. The demand for land for rubber was smaller, and the lull in the demand was particularly noticeable in the Province of Sabaragamuwa. Land was in request for the extension of paddy cultivation, particularly in the Hambantota and Jaffna (Karachchi Scheme) Districts, and to some extent for coconuts.

Land Settlement.

Despite the continued progress in land development for the last hundred years, a large proportion of the total area of the Island is still unoccupied and uncultivated. In general, the title to such unoccupied areas is in the Crown, but the Crown has in the past, by custom and by enactment, recognized various claims of private title to land unoccupied or only recently occupied and developed.

The majority of the claims are extremely indefinite, and many are based on tradition alone or on ancient grants the meaning and scope of which is frequently in doubt. Adjudication on such claims is further complicated by the nature of the law of inheritance in Ceylon and the system of undivided shares in land, so that the work of dealing with these claims is a matter of some complexity demanding much time and infinite patience.

This state of affairs has done much to retard the development of the Island, neither the Crown nor the claimants being in a position to give clear title or quiet possession to parties desirous of developing unoccupied land until all claims have been defined and adjudicated on.

Several attempts have been made to find a method of speedy adjudication on such claims, and finally in 1897 the Waste Lands Ordinance was passed, which gave to specially appointed officers of the Crown powers to inquire into claims and agree with claimants as to their settlement. This Ordinance contains provisions ensuring that all possible claims will be discovered, and further makes the final orders embodying the agreements arrived at instruments conferring title on the claimant or the Crown, as the case may be, while it is only where the Special Officer and the claimant fail to agree that the claim is referred to the ordinary courts for adjudication.

A few years after the passing of this Ordinance the Land Settlement Department was formed with a view to the systematic settlement of all classes of land where title is in dispute between the Crown and the subject. As the question of title is involved, accurate survey and frequent re-surveys are necessary, and the immediate settlement of the whole Island is therefore a task beyond the resources of the Colony. It has been necessary accordingly to concentrate the trained officers available on these districts where there is a demand for land, and settlement is therefore urgent, and in general, also more complicated and difficult ; while at the same time officers are being trained in areas, such as the dry zones of the north, where land is of little value, and claims are few and comparatively simple, these areas being selected as far as possible where land development may be expected in the future.

This system, evolved by experience, has been found to work well, and the Department, by insisting on its officers inspecting every plot of land which they settle and, in general, doing their work on the land, has gained the confidence and good-will of the people. During the year under review 98,253 acres of all classes of land have been settled, and only two claims have had to be referred to the courts for adjudication. This area is considerably below the average outturn of the Department, the shortage being due mainly to the lack of trained officers resulting from the depletion of the Department during the war, while much of the area represents settlements begun and temporarily abandoned owing to the war, which, when taken up again, were, by this delay, rendered still more complicated and difficult.

Since 1901 settlement surveys covering an area of 3,662,842 acres have been issued to the Department, and the settlement of 3,424,807 is complete, leaving a balance of 238,035 acres in hand. This total of 3,662,842 acres covers areas in all the nine Provinces and in all the districts, except the Nuwara Eliya District of the Central Province and the Batticaloa District of the Eastern Province. The area of 238,035 acres under settlement lies mainly in the

Ratnapura District of the Province of Sabaragamuwa, in the Kurunegala and Puttalam Districts of the North-Western Province, in the Matale District of the Central Province, and in the North-Central Province and the Province of Uva, with small areas in the Colombo and Kalutara Districts of the Western Province, the Kandy District of the Central Province, the Kegalla District of the Province of Sabaragamuwa, and the Hambantota District of the Southern Province.

The Department is now being gradually brought up to full strength, and it is hoped that in a few years it will be possible to frame a programme of survey and settlement which will cover within a reasonable period of years all the districts where there are any considerable areas of undeveloped land.

FORESTS.

Re-afforestation.—During the year 1922 the area of plantations was increased from 8,501 acres and 4 perches to 9,636 acres and 4 perches.

Exploitation.—Public Departments were supplied during the year 1922 with 35,161 broad gauge and 14,032 narrow gauge sleepers, 324,096 cubic yards of firewood, 125,408 cubic feet of timber, 239,851 pieces of small round timber and other minor produce, chiefly stone, sand, gravel, &c. The value of these supplies amounted Rs. 1,353,514, as against Rs. 1,351,181 for the previous year and Rs. 1,595,633 for the year 1920.

Since 1906 the Forest Department has supplied the Railway Department with 958,336 broad gauge and 367,354 narrow gauge sleepers at an average cost of Rs. 3·77 and Re. 1·74, respectively. Thus, a very large saving over the cost of imported sleepers has been effected in obtaining these local supplies of indigenous material of a more durable nature than imported supplies of the kind.

The revenue received from the public on account of timber, fuel, and minor forest produce during the year 1922 was Rs. 392,102, as against Rs. 340,961 during the year 1921. The miscellaneous revenue provided a sum of Rs. 24,892, as against Rs. 31,341 during the year 1921.

Considerable attention was given to the report of the Forest Adviser, 1921, during the year, and in the deliberations of the Forest Committee practical proposals were drawn up for making a start in various directions. The principle was accepted that with the speeding up of reservation of Crown forests, Province by Province, the Forest Department should assume control over the state forests intended for systematic management, improvement, and exploitation, and that unproductive areas and areas not required for reservation should be relinquished by the Department and revert to provincial administration by the Revenue Department. A start was made in the Southern Province, where areas were selected for immediate exploitation for firewood and commercial reforestation of mahogany.

Provision was included and sanctioned in the estimates for the treatment of hora forests, and for the improvement of the better productive forests of the dry zone by means of regenerative fellings, and for coppice regeneration of areas cleared for Railway fuel supplies, the raising of exotic species giving place, except in up-country areas, to the growing of valuable indigenous timbers in accessible areas by means of assisted natural regeneration.

Progress was made with the investigation of the subject of impregnation as an outlet for the utilization of the less valuable timbers of Ceylon, and in view of the urgent necessity of saving the more valuable species from conversion into railway sleepers, and at the same time maintaining adequate supplies of sleepers from the forests of the country, the subject is of the greatest possible importance. Trials are now being made of the effect of various processes on native timbers, and on their conclusion no time should be lost in developing the

selected process, as there are vast areas of moderately productive forests in the dry zone awaiting systematic exploitation, which will be rendered more practicable by the new railways under construction.

The strength of the Department was increased by the arrival during the year of four home trained officers, and the Department is now only short of its sanctioned strength by two officers. With the added staff, more systematic and thorough exploration of the forests should be rendered possible, with a view to the selection of suitable reserves for correct management, and the possible rejection of unproductive areas which it is impracticable or unnecessary to place under management. More concentrated management on less unrestricted areas is being aimed at, with due regard to the accessibility of workable forests to outlets and means of communication.

With this in view, the reorganization of the various Forest Divisions is being put in hand, commencing with the present Southern Division, which it is proposed to divide, with headquarters at Galle and Matara, and in which it is intended to increase the number of range units, for the purpose of the better protection of valuable forests (which are being pilfered for the tea box trade), and increased revenue by sale of timber, the commercial reforestation of mahogany in A reserves, and the exploration, enumeration, and exploitation of the larger B reserves for supplies to Government departments. The proposals are now assuming definite shape, but it will probably be found necessary to depute a special officer to take up the work of re-modelling and re-select on Province by Province.

The question of placing various Ceylon timbers on the European markets is arousing attention, but no success has been met with the trial of wira wood as a box wood substitute. The latest reports indicate that it is quite unsuitable for the purpose on account of its tendency to split, but interest has not been entirely lost in the subject, and it is expected that further trials will be made.

Endeavour is being made to plant extensive areas with the valuable timbers of jak and nedun, which are practically eliminated from the Crown forests of Ceylon. The former has been found suitable for chena reforestation areas of not too large extent, and the latter can be introduced successfully, in suitable localities under forest shade, at low cost, and regenerates profusely under seed bearers on prepared ground.

The possibilities of forestry on correct lines in Ceylon are great. Many of the timbers are of considerable value, and while this is so it is undesirable to replace them by questionable exotics, and highly necessary to replace the general wastage caused by unregulated exploitation in the past by reforestation and regeneration on carefully planned lines in accessible areas. When these areas have commenced to give a satisfactory return on the working, it will be time to deal with the remoter and less accessible forests at greater expense and with slower returns.

Mines and Mining.

Plumbago Mining, though showing a slight improvement on the previous year's position, was still in a most unsatisfactory state. Very few mines were working, the number being 16 at the end of the year, employing about 711 men, as against 26 at the end of 1921, employing about 874 men. There are still very considerable stocks of plumbago in store in Colombo, and until these have been very much reduced it is not likely that many mines will be re-opened. The total quantity of plumbago exported was 216,999 cwt., valued at Rs. 1,631,087, as against 87,060 cwt., valued at Rs. 806,903, exported during 1921.

Gems are found in many parts of the Island, but the principal districts in which gemming is carried on are the Kukulu and Nawadun korales of the Ratnapura District. This remained mainly in the hands of the Sinhalese,

the cutting of the gems and the marketing of them being practically a monopoly of the Moors. The Government Agent, Sabaragamuwa, dealt with 389 applications for gemming licenses during the year, and the Government Agent, Central Province, with four.

Mica is found in Ceylon in considerable quantities. A small industry sprang up during the war, but the demand for Ceylon mica has now disappeared almost entirely. 20 cwt. only, valued at Rs. 4,050, were exported during the year.

Mineral Survey.

The greater part of the year was spent in an exhaustive examination by means of boreholes of the deposits underlying the salt lagoons of the Hambantota District. This work was undertaken to decide certain questions of importance in connection with the future development of the salt industry. The observations prove that no deposits of solid salts exist beneath the surface, and that the salt that forms during the dry season is derived from sea water.

Prospecting for the source of the gem-stones found in the alluvial gravels of the Ratnapura District was continued, without arriving at any definite conclusion.

The monazite deposits near Bentota were worked till the end of September, with an output of 42 tons of refined sand. The works were then closed down, pending the renewal of contracts for the purchase of the sand.

Inquiries were received for ilmenite, which is a by-product in the refining of monazite sand, and exists in large quantity on various parts of the coast. At current prices the production of the refined mineral is barely profitable, but the industry may develop in the future.

An application for a concession to search for petroleum in Ceylon has been received, and the terms of the concession are under discussion. No indications of the existence of mineral oil have so far been observed, but the sedimentary rocks of certain areas have been shown to belong to the Miocene, which is the principal petroliferous horizon in Eastern Asia.

Industries and Manufactures.

The industries and manufactures of Ceylon are mostly connected with the products of agriculture, such as the manufacture of tea, rubber, copra, coconut oil, desiccated coconut, coir, &c. There are large engineering works in Colombo, Kandy, and other parts of the country, particularly in the planting districts, engaged in the repair of machinery and agricultural implements. Colombo also contains fully-equipped engineering works capable of carrying out repairs to ships, &c., and there are also lead-rolling mills which prepare lead for tea chests, &c., for Ceylon and South India.

The Colombo Spinning and Weaving Mills, the only institution of its kind in Ceylon, opened enlarged and improved works during the year. A rubber mill in Colombo is engaged in the manufacture of rubber articles, and factories exist for the supply of rubber soles for boots, &c.

The "cottage" industries of Ceylon have, on the whole, had a successful year. The Kandyan Arts Association, which has done much, at first with Government assistance, but latterly on a self-supporting basis, to revive and organize the local industries in Kandyan Districts in gold, silver, brass, ivory, and lacquer work, reports a satisfactory year's work. The Kalutara Basket Association has also continued its useful work, acting as a buying and distributing agency, &c., for Kalutara hat and basketware, which is now a firmly established industry. Its products, besides having a large local sale, are exported to England and Australia and other countries, and find a ready market. The articles are mostly made by women in their own homes, with

locally-grown cane, dyed with locally-produced dyes. The Batticaloa Cloth Association, referred to in last year's report, is engaging in a struggle for existence, but it is hoped that through its efforts this old industry of the Eastern Province will be revived and firmly established. There are other home industries, such as coir rope-weaving in the Southern Province, cloth making in various parts of Ceylon, lacquer work, &c. A new association termed "The Ceylon Cottage Industries Association" has been formed in Colombo to foster and encourage these industries, and a special sales room was opened in Colombo for this purpose towards the end of the year.

Preliminary investigations were continued in connection with the proposed Hydro-Electric Scheme for Ceylon, the proposal being to utilize the Laxapana Falls in the Province of Sabaragamuwa and carry the current to Colombo and Kandy in the first instance. The scheme, if given effect to, will make a large quantity of power available for the establishment of new industries and manufactures at a very low rate.

Factories.

There has been a nett increase of 27 in the total number of factories compared to that of 1921, or just over 2 per centum. The actual number of new factories registered during the year was 31, and 4 ceased work permanently. The increases comprise 4 tea, 4 rubber, 1 cacao, 5 desiccating, 5 fibre, 3 engineering, 3 sowing, 1 aerated water, 1 manure, and 4 petroleum storage factories; the decreases, 2 tea, 1 rubber, and 1 tea and rubber factories.

The first complete compilation of factories was made at the end of 1908, the total then was 1,025; at the end of 1922 it is 1,326, an increase of 301, or 29·36 per cent. in 14 years. This rate has been maintained during 1921 and 1922, and should indicate a comparatively prosperous condition of the Island's industries.

The number of factories in which steam power is used has increased by one—this is unusual, and is due to the fact that many of the new factories are using this power. In every other year since 1908 the number has shown an annual decline; for instance, at the end of 1908 it was 482, and at the end of 1921 it was 295.

Electric lighting installations have increased by nine, or just 7 per cent. since the last report.

Fisheries.

Pearl Banks.—Practically the whole of the shallow water region of the west coast of Ceylon from Negombo to the head of the Gulf of Mannar may be regarded as potential pearl oyster ground, but the famous fishing centres are more or less restricted to the shallow water plateau of the north-eastern corner of the gulf, with occasional fisheries off Chilaw and off Dutch Bay. With the exception of a short period from 1905–12, when the banks were leased to a private company, the pearl fisheries have been in Government hands. Previous to British occupation the fisheries were carried on by the Dutch.

The pearl fisheries have not been continuous from year to year, but have been interrupted by barren periods of a varying number of years, chief among which are :—

1815–1827, inclusive, 13 years.	1892–1902, inclusive, 11 years.
1838–1854, inclusive, 17 years	1908 to present day.
1864–1873, inclusive, 10 years.	

The most profitable series of fisheries were from 1903–1907, when the value of the 1905 fishery alone reached a record figure of 3½ millions of rupees.

Oysters normally occur on rocky outcrops or rocky regions that are strewn with coral débris, nullipore, or other suitable anchorage. The sandy areas are never profitable fishing grounds.

The condition of the pearl banks is now most interesting and promising. Previous to 1919 the banks had been barren of oysters for a period of 11 years, but in 1919 oysters began to appear in small scattered bunches on the main oyster bearing paars, particularly the True Venkalai. In 1920 these oysters gave rise to millions of young that were distributed over the sandy stretches between the rocky areas ; very few occurred on rock, excepting on the True Venkalai Paar and the eastern portion of the Periya Paar. The inspection of this year has revealed a spat fall which has occurred not only on the already occupied sandy stretches but on the rocky areas where fisheries have been periodically conducted from early times. This spat fall covered the West Cheval Paar, the Periya Paar Karai, the whole of the True Venkalai Paar, and the eastern portion of the Periya Paar in countless millions. Later on in the year it was found that the paars off Negombo, Chilaw, and Dutch Bay were also sprinkled with young oysters. The position now is that there are at least three generations of oysters on the banks ; namely, the spat fall of 1919, the spat fall of 1920, and the spat fall of 1921. The 1919 oysters, which must be assumed to be the resident parent bed, are so few that they can be dismissed from a possible fishery. Of the 1920 oysters, those situated on the True Venkalai Paar may provide a subsequent fishery, although there are indications that they will be swamped by succeeding generations. The 1921 oysters are, however, most promising, and they will undoubtedly give rise to lucrative fisheries.

The northern paars of the pearl banks now covered with oysters of all generations, have a rocky area alone of more than 15 square miles, exclusive of the Periya Paar, which has a somewhat erratic fishery record.

An important and far-reaching discovery was made during this year, in that oysters can be successfully transplanted from one area to another. It was further ascertained that oysters become sexually mature during their first year.

Careful records are being accumulated regarding the weights and measurements of each stage of oyster dredged.

Oceanographical work in the Gulf of Mannar.—The movements of water in the Gulf of Mannar and the various conditions of temperature and salinity which are likely to have a bearing on the productivity of the pearl oyster are subjects which are receiving the attention of the Fisheries Department, and during the last few years considerable data has been collected. A series of stations have been charted in the deep water of the Gulf of Mannar. These stations are visited during April, August, and November when temperatures, salinities, and currents are recorded at depths from surface to 300 meters. Drift bottles are liberated during these cruises, and a reward is paid for their recovery. The results of this work are being carefully recorded, and it is expected that they will give very definite information regarding the physical conditions of the Gulf of Mannar, which may determine the productivity of the pearl banks.

Window-pane Oyster Fishery.—This fishery, situated at Lake Tamblegam, near Trincomalee, has a small local value. It has, however, been dormant for the last few years. There are now indications that oysters are increasing, although a fishery cannot be expected for some years.

Food Fisheries and the Marine Biological Survey.—The marine fisheries are carried on by native fishermen fishing from catamarans and outrigger canoes by line and by net. Considerable shore and estuarine fishing is carried on round the coast. The fish caught are sent to Colombo for distribution either packed in ice or dried. No development of these fisheries has been attempted, and no statistics are available regarding the details of these fisheries. This is a work that cannot be attempted by a small department, and it is doubtful whether the figures, if collected, would be sufficiently reliable to have much

value ; in any case, it is a work that can only be made possible through the co-operation of the different officials of the various districts. Tables of imports are, however, available, and are given below. These figures are significant, and show the very considerable value of fish goods, particularly cured fish, that are being imported into a Colony having a continuous sea border.

Value of Imports of Fish Goods into Ceylon.

Year.	Cured Fish. Rs.	Tinned Fish. Rs.	Fish Manure. Rs.	Guano. Rs.	Fish Oil. Rs.	Total. Rs.
1921	7,058,148	97,495	370,738	230,279	2,105	7,758,765
1920	4,508,568	230,147	1,338,411	1,967,961	2,775	8,047,862
1919	3,849,420	79,956	1,357,273	1,446,696	4,635	6,737,980
1918	4,463,125	62,386	1,067,381	777,396	840	6,371,128
1917	4,121,258	80,345	502,959	165,906	2,100	4,872,568
1916	4,482,770	184,468	713,808	196,369	3,738	5,581,153
1915	4,237,500	147,437	223,990	6,740	1,845	4,617,512
1914	3,679,338	152,078	262,756	316,395	2,433	4,413,000
1913	4,467,725	166,661	1,167,687	358,275	1,213	6,161,561
1912	4,228,690	149,636	757,113	140,595	5,507	5,281,541
1911	4,339,008	135,177	1,077,073	17,956	948	5,570,162
1910	4,233,363	105,240	1,174,889	17,732	1,030	5,532,254

The Marine Biological Survey has for its purpose an inquiry into the fish resources of the inshore waters with a view to a possible development of a fish trawling industry. The survey has revealed the presence of two excellent fish banks ; the Pedro bank off the north of the Island and the Wadge bank off Cape Comorin due west of Colombo. The former has been carefully surveyed, but the latter only partially. The work of this survey has been seriously interrupted this year by necessary economy, by bad weather, and by breakdowns of the trawler due to engine trouble. An attempt made in April last at a thorough survey of the Wadge bank had to be abandoned, owing to the two latter of these causes. The investigation is, however, of the first importance, and will be continued at the first favourable opportunity. The survey is providing a mass of material, and data which will form the basis for a comprehensive report dealing very fully with the possibilities of a trawling industry that may increase the economic resources of the Colony.

A few experiments with drift nets were made during the year, these will be continued.

Edible Oyster Fisheries.—Experiments have been made at Weligama in restricting the fishing of edible oysters. These have had distinctly beneficial results, and it is proposed to make experiments of a similar nature at Bentota. Investigations are being made with regard to the breeding season of the edible oyster.

Chank Fisheries and Bêche-de-mer.—A chank fishery near the islands of the Palk Strait is controlled by the Government Agent of the Northern Province, and Government derives a small but steady income therefrom. 1,988,310 chanks and 413 cwt. of bêche-de-mer were exported from the Northern Province during the year.

IV.—TRADE.

The year 1922 has been, on the whole, satisfactory as far as the trade of the Colony is concerned. The number of steamers calling at the port of Colombo with cargo or in ballast increased by about 10 per cent., as compared with 1921. For reasons to be explained later the number of ships calling at the port to coal decreased by about 30 per cent. The total number of ships calling was almost exactly the same as in 1921.

If coal and liquid fuel supplied to steamers are included (both in imports and exports), the value of the total trade shows an increase of about 10 per cent. on the previous year, while the volume of trade as represented approximately by the gross tonnage of all cargoes decreased by just over 1 per cent. There was, however, a marked fall in the quantity of coal supplied to steamers, the total being nearly 120,000 tons, or nearly 20 per cent. less than in 1921. This was due partly to the increased use of liquid fuel in place of coal and partly to the fact that during the earlier part of the year, owing to lack of freight, many steamers found it economical to carry coal in their cargo space, and consequently required less bunkers at intermediate ports. The quantity of liquid fuel supplied to steamers increased by over 3½ million gallons, or some 22 per cent.

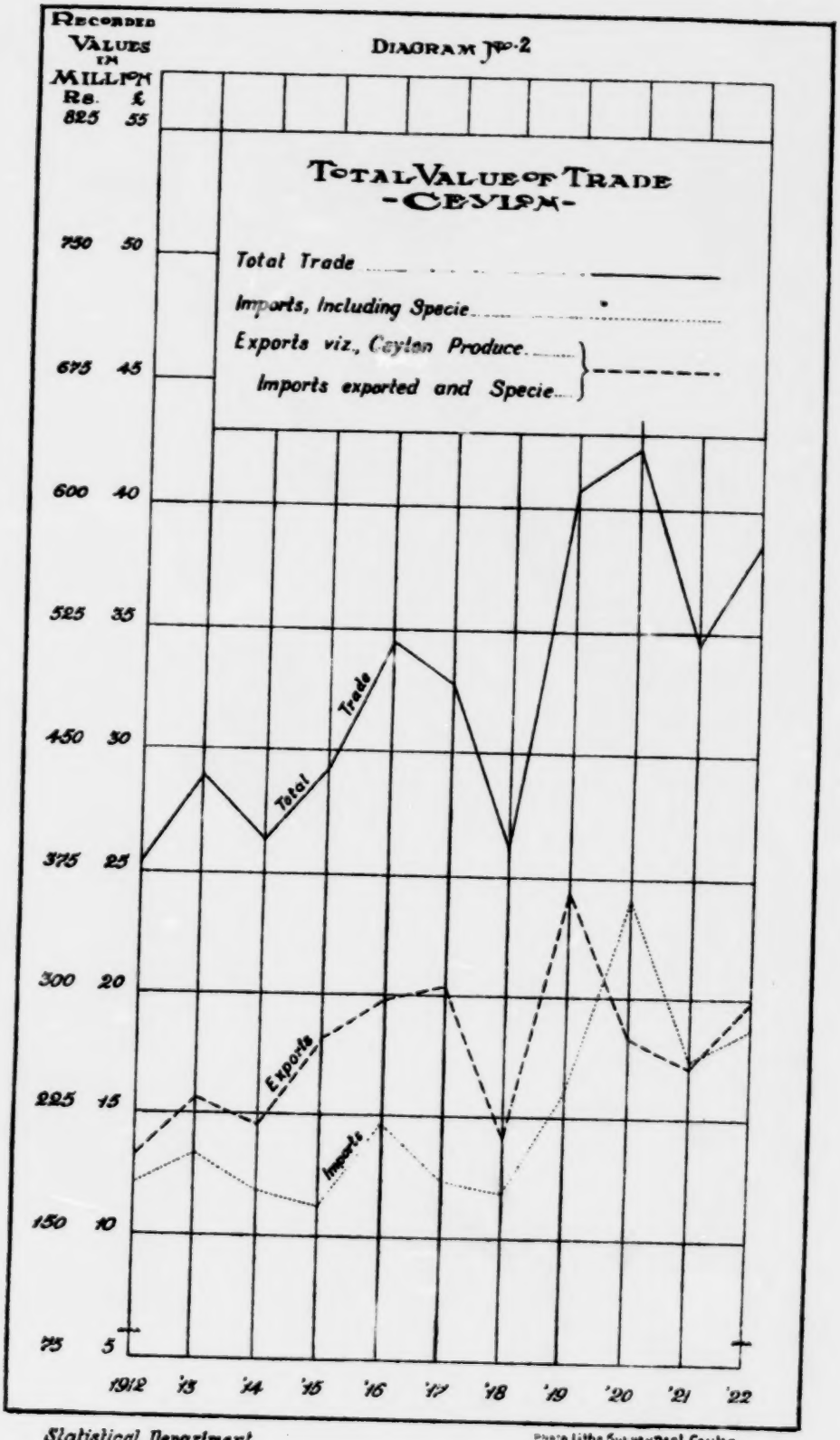
A truer indication of the trade of the year is to be obtained by excluding from the total of imports and exports the cost of fuel supplied to steamers. If this is done the imports for the year show an increase of 13 per cent. in value and 18 per cent. in volume, and exports an increase of nearly 16 per cent. in value and about 8 per cent. in volume, while the total trade shows an increase of about 15 per cent. in value and about 14 per cent. in volume. The tonnage of exports from the port of Colombo, viz., 592,751, constitutes a record.

It will be seen that in the case of imports the increase in volume exceeds the increase in value, while in the case of exports the reverse is the case, or, in other words, that the tendency has been towards a decline in the average market value of imported articles and an increase in the average value of the Colony's products.

An indication of increasing trade activity is the continued increase in the number of commercial travellers coming to the Island. The number of such travellers making declarations during the year was 121, as compared with 93 in the previous year. This number, however, still falls far short of the pre-war average, which was over 200. Of the 121 declarations made during the year, 80 were for goods of British firms. The accumulations of stocks of merchandise, which resulted from the general slump in trade and the rapid fall in the exchange in 1920, now appear to have been disposed of, and purchases by indenting firms have resumed their normal volume. Owing to the abuse of the system of delivery against acceptance and to the number of supplying firms, who lost heavily on goods supplied to Ceylon during 1920, business is conducted almost entirely upon the delivery against payment system, and Ceylon traders now find it difficult, if not impossible, in most cases, to secure any credit.

As in 1921, three-fourths of Ceylon's imports were supplied by the United Kingdom, British India, and Burma, but while the trade with British India has remained stationary, Burma, owing to its exports of rice, now heads the list, relegating the United Kingdom to the third place. Natal and Java still occupy the same places, owing to their supplies of coal and sugar, respectively. The most notable improvements are Germany, which has gained seven places since 1921, and Belgium and South Australia which have gone up six and five places, respectively. The chief examples of a decline are other British Possessions in Africa, China, and Canada.

Germany continues to maintain the improved position she assumed in 1921 as the largest foreign buyer, with the exception of the United States of America, but there is a large gap between the United States and Germany. In the two years before the war, Germany occupied practically the same relative position, but her percentage of trade in 1912–13 was 9·4, as compared with 3·80 in 1922. Italy, Canada, New Zealand, South America, and the Philippines are the principal countries whose position is improved, as compared with 1921, while a lower place in the list is this year occupied by British India, Denmark, Holland, Victoria, and Queensland.



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A marked increase in private buildings is shown by the importation of cement for private use, which increased, as compared with 1921 by 67 per cent. Government importations of cement fell by 25 per cent.

The quantity of spirits cleared for home consumption was practically the same as in the previous year. Gin increasing by 33 per cent., while whisky and brandy decreased by 13 per cent. and 15 per cent., respectively.

A detailed comparison of the import returns with those of 1911 shows that the remarkable increase in the purchasing power of the population of the country or in their spending proclivities, which took place in the decade 1901–11, has been continued to a degree almost equally remarkable in the last decade. The figures of the census taken in 1921 show that during the decade 1911–21 the population of the Island increased by 9½ per cent. In the year under review, as compared with 1911, the value of the imports of various articles, many of which fall almost entirely within the category of luxuries, shows an increase out of all proportion to the increase in the population. The value of cigarettes has increased by 700 per cent. since 1911 (in quantity 200 per cent). Sewing machines by 347 per cent., made up apparel 226 per cent., cotton goods 99 per cent., kerosine oil 237 per cent., toys 106 per cent., soap 38 per cent., and perfumery 121 per cent.

The quantity of rice imported in 1922 is almost the same as that imported in 1911. The estimated increase in local production during the same period is in the neighbourhood of 900,000 cwt. Taking this into consideration the total consumption of rice would appear to have increased by about 10 per cent., or roughly in the same proportion as the population. This is in spite of an increase in the price of rice of approximately 100 per cent., and shows clearly that a very considerable rise in the price of rice has not had any effect in decreasing the consumption.

On the whole, it may be said that even after due allowance has been made for the decreased purchasing power of the rupee, the returns indicate very clearly a consistent and increasing diffusion of prosperity.

Total Trade and Customs Revenue.

The total value of Ceylon trade in 1922, omitting specie, but including the value of coal supplied to steamers, amounted to Rs. 594,477,826, as compared with Rs. 545,136,333 in 1921. The following table shows the value of the trade in lakhs of rupees for the past ten years :—

Year.	Lakhs of Rupees.	Year.	Lakhs of Rupees.
1913	4,329½	1918	4,065¼
1914	4,022¼	1919	6,392¾
1915	4,495½	1920	6,263¾
1916	5,212¾	1921	5,451¼
1917	4,983¼	1922	5,944¾

The gross Customs revenue for 1922 was Rs. 32,515,263·30, compared with Rs. 26,152,640·62 in 1921. There were increases under every head of import duties, and also increases under every head of exports, with the exception of desiccated coconuts.

The amount of duty collected under the main heads of imports and exports during 1921 and 1922 was :—

Heads of Receipts.	1921.		1922.	
Import Duties.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Cotton manufactures	1,267,888	43	1,413,696	67
Grain	5,249,461	78	7,606,703	49
Kerosine oil	1,708,592	3	1,942,366	2
Spirits and cordials	1,473,264	50	1,588,063	10
Sugar	1,212,792	55	1,688,659	33
Other goods	6,037,046	75	7,282,298	55

Heads of Receipts.	1921.	1922.
Export Duties.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Cacao	94,335 74	125,330 89
Coconut, desiccated	617,264 91	590,632 62
Coconut, fresh	52,153 9	55,278 87
Coconut oil	386,539 45	438,102 2
Copra	568,364 34	829,279 0
Plumbago	22,706 10	48,756 33
Rubber	2,035,439 62	2,157,841 90
Tea	2,191,065 66	3,113,932 22
Other	13,427 53	42,893 21
Total	22,930,342 48	28,923,834 22

The following table shows the annual value of imports and exports for a period of ten years, excluding the value of specie and the value of coal and liquid fuel supplied for the use of steamers :—

Year.	Imports. Rs.	Exports. Rs.	Total. Rs.
1913	186,073,086	232,986,954	419,060,040
1914	172,317,549	218,363,846	390,681,395
1915	163,637,758	273,375,987	437,013,745
1916	211,500,753	297,505,905	509,006,658
1917	184,123,986	304,160,457	488,284,443
1918	177,716,763	211,325,334	389,042,097
1919	239,323,731	367,054,779	606,378,570
1920	321,275,652	268,462,183	589,737,835
1921	260,897,161	256,600,413	517,497,574
1922	280,414,704	297,753,215	578,167,919

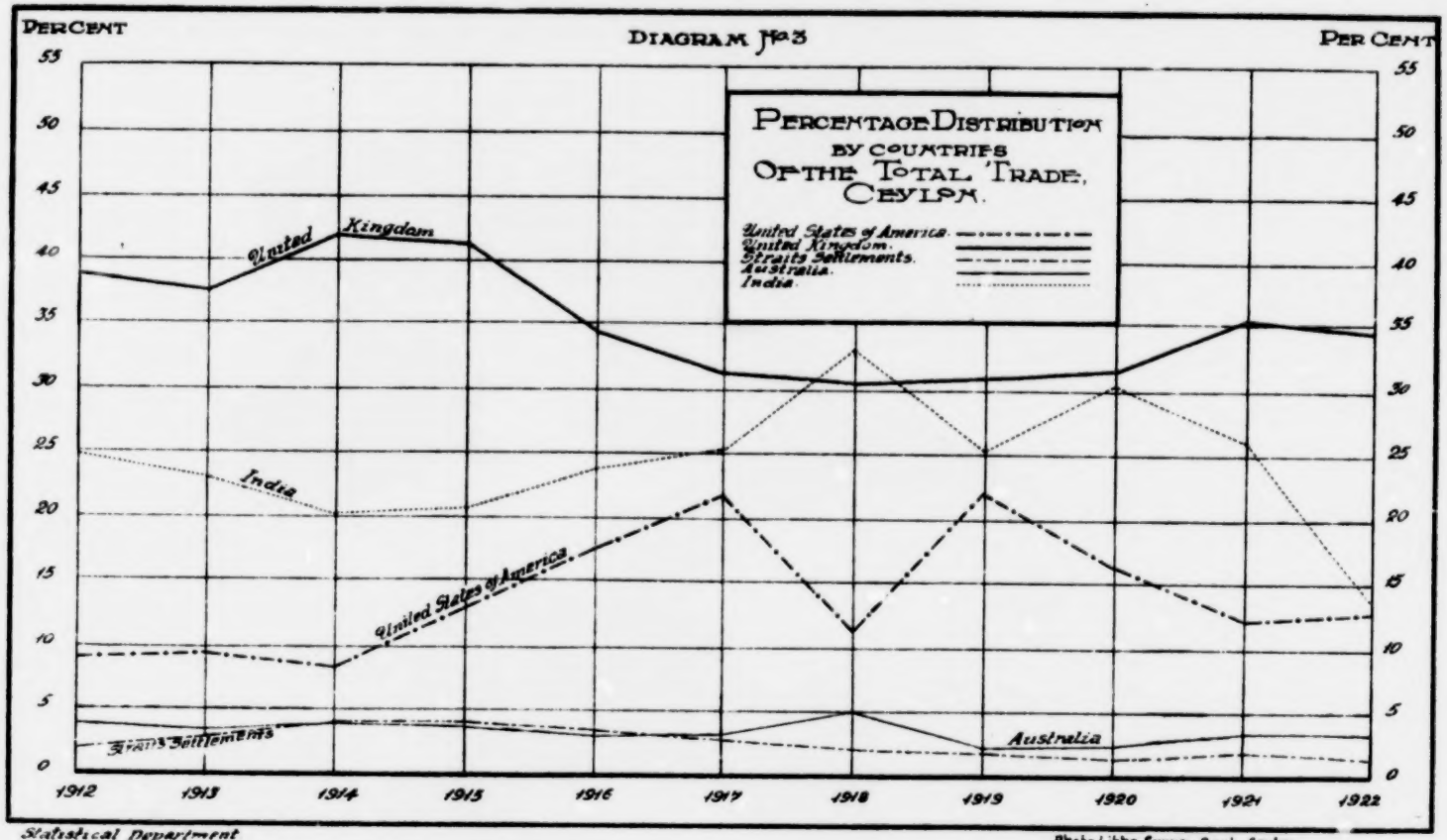
The gross tonnage of cargoes imported and exported at the port of Colombo (exclusive of transhipments) during the same years was as follows :—

Year.	Tonnage of Goods Imported.	Tonnage of Goods Exported.*	Tonnage of Coal Imported.
1913	1,056,705	508,886	744,529
1914	849,952	517,373	612,018
1915	945,114	532,567	522,673
1916	991,940	501,412	467,873
1917	776,723	450,010	318,613
1918	803,929¾	476,992¾	262,174¼
1919	1,073,350	562,184	686,077
1920	890,800	524,773	751,927
1921	719,475	546,735	724,308
1922	836,791	592,751	561,956

* Exclusive of coal and liquid fuel supplied to steamers.

The value of imports in 1922 is the second highest on record, the value in 1920 being the highest. The value of exports in 1922 is second only to that in 1919. The total value of both imports and exports was considerably higher than in the previous year, but less than the total of either 1919 or 1920. The following table shows the percentages of imports, exports, and total trade for the United Kingdom, British Possessions, and Foreign Countries during the last three years. The table excludes the value of specie, of imported rubber, and of coal and liquid fuel exported for the use of steamers :—

Imports.	1920. Per Cent.	1921. Per Cent.	1922. Per Cent.
From the United Kingdom	24·46	25·32	22·42
From British Possessions	59·72	58·76	59·63
From Foreign Countries	15·82	15·92	17·95
	100	100	100



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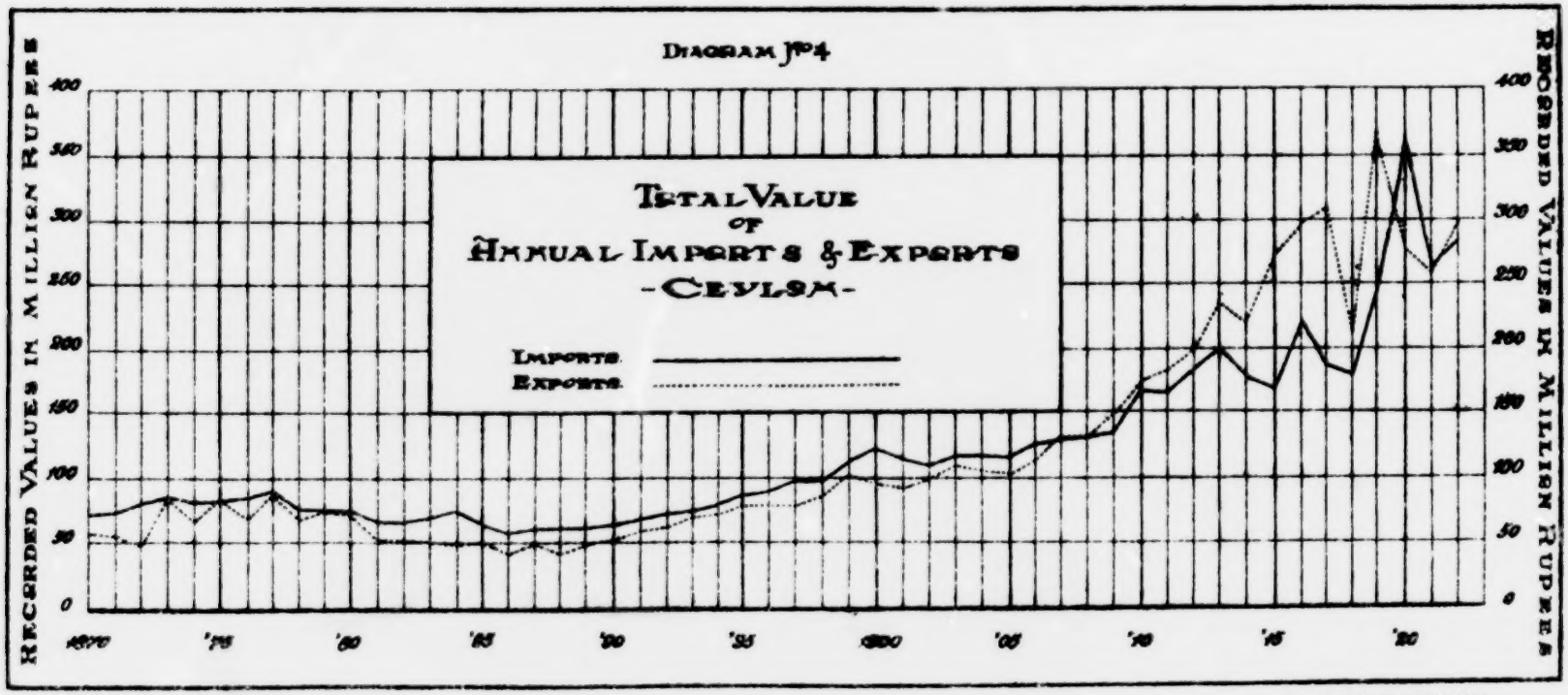

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Exports.	1920. Per Cent.	1921. Per Cent.	1922. Per Cent.
To the United Kingdom	46·06	46·22	46·27
To British Possessions	15·34	16·38	16·36
To Foreign Countries	38·60	37·40	37·37
	100	100	100
Total Trade.			
From and to United Kingdom	34·38	35·74	34·78
From and to British Possessions	39·35	37·64	37·21
From and to Foreign Countries	26·27	26·62	28·01
	100	100	100

The share of the United Kingdom in respect of imports declined slightly, while that of British Possessions and Foreign Countries increased. With regard to exports, the relative positions occupied in 1921 remained practically the same. In total trade, Foreign Countries took a slightly larger share, at the expense of a slight decline in the position of both the United Kingdom and British Possessions.

IMPORTS.

There were increases under many important heads of imports.

Wheat Flour.—Imports show a decrease from 291,028 cwt. in 1921 to 240,524 cwt. in 1922. The quantities obtained from British India dropped from 198,090 cwt. to 140,028 cwt., and those from Australia increased from 92,847 cwt. in 1921 to 100,353 cwt. in 1922.

India and Australia supplied all the flour, with the exception of 141 cwt. from Straits Settlements and 2 cwt. from the United Kingdom.

Rice.—Government control was removed in October, 1921, and importation was carried out throughout 1922 without restriction. The quantity imported from British India rose from 946,247 cwt. in 1921 to 1,443,618 cwt. in 1922, and Burma supplied 5,568,218 cwt., against 4,561,527 during 1921. The removal of the restrictions imposed by the Indian Government resulted in an increase in the quantity of South Indian and Burma rice imported, at the expense of the less popular Singapore rice, the Straits Settlements in 1922 sending only 87,118 cwt., as opposed to 263,364 cwt. in the previous year when Indian rice was controlled.

The total imports were 7,209,157 cwt., an increase of 1,249,200 cwt. over the figure for 1921.

Other Grains.—The total imports fell from 1,324,895 cwt. in 1921 to 956,488 cwt. in 1922, the principal decrease being under the heads of paddy and miscellaneous. The cause of this was the removal by the Indian Government of restrictions on the export of rice, a plentiful supply of rice resulting in a decrease in the import of other foodstuffs which were freely imported when rice was scarce.

The figures of the last ten years of rice and other foodstuffs are of interest as showing the fluctuations in the consumption :—

Year.	Rice. Cwt.	Other Grains. Cwt.
1913	7,533,555	955,462
1914	7,400,269	913,462
1915	7,173,778	937,703
1916	8,073,964	1,117,413
1917	7,754,121	1,102,566
1918	6,472,152	815,161
1919	5,342,575	1,433,295
1920	5,788,730	1,310,996
1921	5,859,957	1,324,895
1922	7,209,157	956,488

Sugar.—The imports of sugar rose from 450,964 cwt. in 1921 to 571,073 cwt. in 1922. The chief source of supply is Java, which sent three-fourths of the total importations. Hong Kong is the next largest supplier with 51,690 cwt., but the Straits Settlements, which in 1921 held the third place, sent only one-third of the amount it supplied in that year, and its place was taken by Mauritius, with 28,820 cwt. to its credit.

Manufactured Tobacco, Cigars, and Cigarettes.—The quantities of each cleared for home consumption during the last four years have been :—

Year.	Cigars.	Cigarettes.	Manufactured Tobacco.	Total.
	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.
1919	11,820	303,142	13,625	328,587
1920	12,198	371,575	29,034	412,807
1921	8,092	319,005	23,330	350,427
1922	8,883	330,071	21,429	360,383

The general consumption was greater than it has ever been, with the exception of the year 1920, and the increase is still greater when beedies are taken into consideration. The figures for beedies, which are excluded from the above statement, are 27,553 lb. in 1922 and 15,157 lb. in 1921.

Cigars are imported chiefly from British India, Holland, and the Philippines, which together supply about four fifths of the total. Cigarettes came almost exclusively from the United Kingdom ; Egypt sent 1,087 lb.

Of the tobacco, 20,696 lb. came from the United Kingdom, while Aden and the United States of America sent 416 and 200 lb., respectively.

Spirits.—The quantity cleared for home consumption was practically the same as in 1921, the importations of gin increasing at the expense of brandy and whisky. The quantity of the three chief kinds cleared during the last three years is as follows :—

	Proof Gallons.		
	1920.	1921.	1922.
Brandy	21,601	24,269	20,509
Gin	33,989	34,131	45,387
Whisky	58,903	62,885	54,477

Cotton Manufactured and Raw.—There was, again, a decrease in the value of cotton goods imported, the figures dropping from Rs. 32,927,654 in 1920 to Rs. 25,594,269 in 1921, and Rs. 23,000,071 in the year under review. There was a noticeable decline in the demand for dyed piece goods, and an increase in that for lace, net, and embroideries. The importations of raw cotton and cotton waste were more than double those of 1921.

The value of imports from the United Kingdom declined from Rs. 14,916,801 in 1921 to Rs. 12,034,177 in 1922, while foreign countries sent imports to the value of Rs. 2,459,706 and Rs. 2,854,364 in these two years, respectively.

Coal.—The decreasing quantities imported shown in the report for 1921 continued, and the figures for this year declined to 523,100 tons from 640,961 tons in 1921. The pre-war figure was 744,529 tons.

British India sent only 14,000 tons, as against 200,000 tons in 1921, owing to the control maintained throughout the year by the Indian Government over the exports of this commodity. Japan's trade also declined, and the imports from the United Kingdom increased from 129,568 tons in 1921 to 240,516 tons in 1922. 25,027 tons were imported from Mozambique. The total value as entered by the importer was Rs. 21,272,107, compared with Rs. 29,268,364 in the previous year. A small quantity of coke was imported, viz., 452 tons.

Manure.—The importations of manure rose to 1,196,161 cwt. in 1922 from 343,568 cwt. in the previous year. In 1921 the variety most in demand was bone meal, the next greatest demand being for fish manure and groundnut poonac. In 1922 groundnut poonac was the chief kind imported, bone meal and fish guano also being brought in fair quantities. The value is estimated at Rs. 8,435,388, compared with Rs. 2,254,899 in 1921. As usual, British India was our chief source of supply.

The total quantity and value of manure imported during the last five years, as compared with the pre-war returns are:—

Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1913	1,612,329	7,406,917
1918	1,307,676	6,537,263
1919	1,552,192	10,110,972
1920	1,813,021	13,141,891
1921	343,568	2,254,899
1922	1,196,161	8,435,388

These figures show the manner in which a period of depression in agricultural industries led to a reduction in expenditure on this item.

Kerosine Oil in Bulk and in Cases.—The total imports rose from 4,307,378 gallons in 1921 to 7,092,990 in 1922. The bulk oil came from Persia and Sumatra, and the case oil all came from the United States of America, with the exception of small quantities from Sumatra. The quantities of case oil imported were much less than in 1921, while bulk oil increased to nearly double the figure of that year.

The following tables show the total quantity of kerosine oil imported during the last ten years, and the sources of supply for the last five years, of bulk and case oil, respectively:—

Year.	Gallons.	Year.	Gallons.
1913	4,693,366	1918	3,612,695
1914	5,186,153	1919	5,290,046
1915	5,675,959	1920	5,106,100
1916	4,960,786	1921	4,307,378
1917	4,288,547	1922	7,092,990

Imports according to Countries, 1918–1922.

Country of Origin.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.
Bulk Oil.	Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.
United Kingdom	—	206	—	—	—
Borneo (excluding British)	1,054,609	—	—	—	—
Persia	—	3,630,702	3,449,223	2,930,155	4,264,860
Sumatra	1,851,261	502,914	—	577,085	2,478,504
United States of America	—	474,508	—	—	—
Total	2,905,870	4,608,330	3,449,223	3,507,240	6,743,364
Case Oil.					
British India	—	4	—	8	4
Borneo (excluding British)	3,960	—	—	—	—
Sumatra	282,848	41,073	—	—	792
United States of America	420,017	640,639	1,656,877	800,130	348,830
Total	706,825	681,716	1,656,877	800,138	349,626

Petrol.—Imports since 1916 have been—

Year.	Gallons.	Year.	Gallons.
1916	776,092	1920	988,427
1917	884,093	1921	1,381,671
1918	680,395	1922	1,389,363
1919	1,175,784		

All the imports in 1922 were from Sumatra, except 9,750 gollons imported by Government from the Straits Settlements. Importations of petrol since 1918 have been as follows :—

Country of Origin.	1918. Gallons.	1919. Gallons.	1920. Gallons.	1921. Gallons.	1922. Gallons.
Borneo (excluding British)	199,988	65	16,250	—	—
Japan	—	587	—	—	—
Sumatra	455,830	1,167,212	972,157	1,381,671	1,379,613
United States of America	24,577	7,920	20	—	—
Straits Settlements	—	—	—		9,750
Total	680,395	1,175,784	988,427	1,381,671	1,389,363

The increase in the consumption of petrol has been rapid, and the amount imported in 1922 was a record.

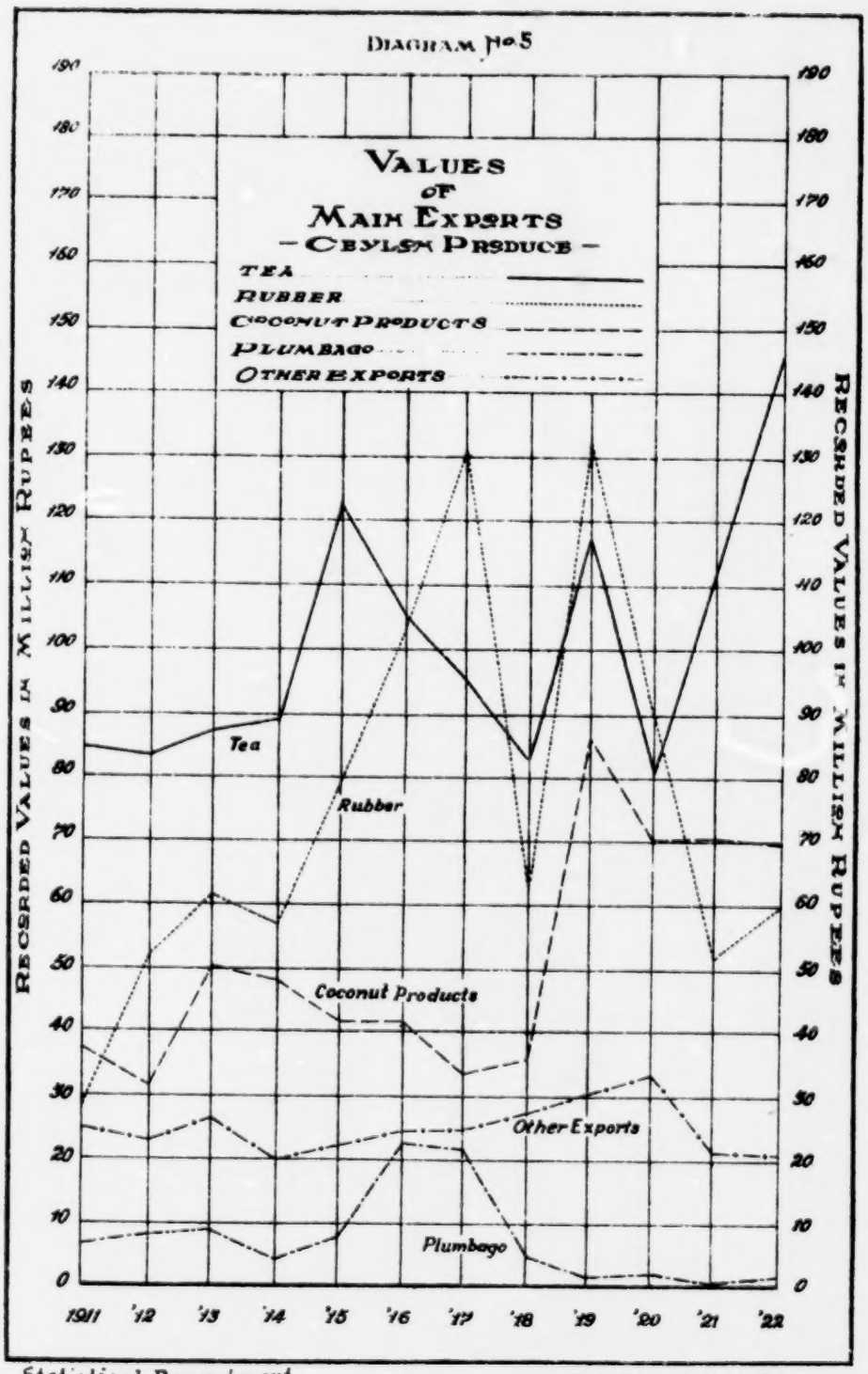
Liquid Fuel.—The quantity of liquid fuel imported yearly during the past six years is as follows :—

Country of Origin.	1917. Gallons.	1918. Gallons.	1919. Gallons.	1920. Gallons.	1921. Gallons.	1922. Gallons.
British North Borneo	—	—	—	—	851,867	—
Borneo (excluding British)	5,122,843	5,227,891	13,806,566	18,333,354	12,890,186	21,479,616
Sumatra	1,531,463	6,585,490	979,055	—	—	—
Persia	—	—	—	756,278	3,746,672	4,319,386
Total	6,654,306	11,813,381	14,785,621	19,089,632	17,488,725	25,799,002

The importations in 1922 constitute a record. An increasing quantity is imported for the use of steamers, the amount so used in the last three years being, respectively, 14 million gallons, 15 millions, and 19 million gallons. The quantity cleared for local consumption rose from two and a third million gallons in 1921 to over seven millions in 1922.

Horses.—Importations fell off in 1922, declining from 317 in 1920 to 188 in 1921, and 127 in the year now under review. The decrease is shared by the United Kingdom, Australia, and British India.

Motor Cars.—The number of cars imported in 1921, namely, 387, rose to 487 in 1922. There was a decrease in the number imported from every country, except Italy and the United States of America. English cars fell from 72 to 61, Canadian from 86 to 17, and German from 10 to 3, while Italian cars rose



Statistical Department.

Photo Litho. Survey Dept, Ceylon
28. 3. 23.

from 30 to 40, and the importations from the United States of America numbered 351, more than twice the number in the previous year. The number of lorries and chassis imported is still decreasing, the total falling from 174 in 1920 to 76 in 1921 and 44 in 1922. The majority of these were from the United States of America.

Metals and Metalware.—The value of these imports rose from Rs. 8,628,902 in 1921 to Rs. 10,483,699 in 1922, the increase being mainly in imports from Burma, Germany, Belgium, and other foreign countries in Europe. Imports from the United Kingdom also showed a slight increase, and still constitute over 50 per cent. of the total supplies. The actual percentages of the principal suppliers are United Kingdom 55 per cent., Burma 20 per cent., Germany 10 per cent., British India 5 per cent., and United States of America 4 per cent., the last country dropping to this figure from 14 per cent. in 1921. The imports of hoop iron, pig lead, and tea lead showed large increases, the last two being imported in nearly twice the 1921 quantity.

Cement.—Imports by private firms increased from 193,192 cwt. in 1921 to 322,685 cwt. in 1922, the bulk of the imports in both years coming from the United Kingdom. The next largest supplier was Germany, which sent 93,965 cwt., over three times the quantity she supplied in the previous year. Belgium, Denmark, and Italy also sent greatly increased quantities, while supplies from Japan disappeared.

Government imports fell this year, the figures for the last three years showing :—

Year.	Cwt.
1920	92,687
1921	181,646
1922	137,647

Exports.

The staple products exported from Ceylon in order of value are as follows :—

	Lakhs of Rupees.			
	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.
1. Tea	1,165	808	1,127	1,460
2. Rubber	1,321	900	516	570
3. Copra	323	284	243	288
4. Coconut, desiccated	249	183	266	202
5. Coconut oil	257	199	150	149
6. Arecanuts	30	29	33	33
7. Cacao	31	25	20	31
8. Cinnamon	37	21	18	20
9. Coconut, fresh	3	10	24	18
10. Coir fibre	17	16	11	18
11. Citronella oil	9	11	11	16
12. Plumbago	17	21	8	16
13. Coir yarn	11	8	6	13
14. Tobacco, unmanufactured	6	8	6	10
15. Poonac (coconut)	5	6	9	8
16. Skin (dressed and undressed)	10	9	6	6
17. Cardamoms	9	5	5	5

The improvement in the state of the tea industry is still maintained, while the figures reflect the depression in rubber. Tea fetched very high prices during the latter part of the year, and the average for the whole period, about 85 cents was 15 cents higher than in 1921. There has been an improvement in cacao and even more noticeably in coir. The exports of plumbago rose to double the quantity for 1921.

A table is also annexed showing the quantities of the several products exported during these years :—

			1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.
1.	Tea	lb.	208,560,943..	184,770,231..	161,610,966..	171,807,581
2.	Rubber ..	Cwt.	900,197..	790,648..	786,834..	933,886
3.	Copra ..	Cwt.	1,759,525..	1,357,870..	1,367,431..	1,686,589
4.	Coconut, desiccated ..	Cwt.	675,060..	518,735..	870,515..	768,215
5.	Coconut oil ..	Cwt.	675,999..	507,527..	484,724..	554,626
6.	Arecanuts ..	Cwt.	150,457..	124,048..	131,045..	133,531
7.	Cacao ..	Cwt.	58,884..	56,397..	62,245..	83,210
8.	Cinnamon ..	Cwt.	68,755..	35,121..	45,364..	42,974
9.	Coconut, fresh ..	No.	3,390,710..	9,776,479..	23,738,542..	22,317,747
10.	Coir fibre ..	Cwt.	239,391..	252,568..	202,267..	319,125
11.	Citronella oil ..	lb.	992,850..	1,022,809..	1,160,555..	1,299,889
12.	Plumbago ..	Cwt.	133,428..	184,100..	86,996..	216,999
13.	Coir yarn ..	Cwt.	112,076..	72,438..	60,710..	102,688
14.	Tobacco, unmanufactured ..	lb.	1,739,392..	3,590,474..	2,411,419..	4,334,595
15.	Poonac ..	Cwt.	87,341..	92,452..	160,699..	115,479
16.	Skins (dressed and undressed) ..	Cwt.	12,899..	12,925..	8,353..	9,061
17.	Cardamoms ..	Cwt.	4,870..	3,754..	4,512..	4,096

The principal countries buying Ceylon produce and manufactures are given in the following table, with the percentage of value taken by each :—

		1920. Per Cent.	1921. Per Cent.	1922. Per Cent.
1.	United Kingdom ..	47·59 ..	47·47 ..	47·40
2.	United States of America ..	22·8 ..	22 ..	22·32
3.	Germany	1·55 ..	4·05 ..	3·80
4.	Italy	·71 ..	1·91 ..	3·29
5.	Canada	1·78 ..	1·73 ..	2·39
6.	British India	3·92 ..	3·12 ..	2·20
7.	New South Wales ..	1·74 ..	2·19 ..	2·18
8.	New Zealand	1·17 ..	1·45 ..	1·75
9.	Denmark	1·7 ..	2·14 ..	1·60
10.	Holland	5·3 ..	3·01 ..	1·55
11.	Egypt	1·47 ..	1·31 ..	1·46
12.	Victoria	1·26 ..	1·8 ..	1·42
13.	Norway	1·31 ..	1·13 ..	1·19
14.	Belgium	2·14 ..	1·09 ..	1·15
15.	Natal	·32 ..	·72 ..	1·00
16.	Cape Colony	·42 ..	·7 ..	·81
17.	France	1·71 ..	·58 ..	·71
18.	Straits Settlements ..	·39 ..	·39 ..	·41
19.	Japan	·37 ..	·47 ..	·40
20.	South America (excluding Chile)..	·27 ..	·19 ..	·34
21.	Philippine Islands ..	·32 ..	·25 ..	·28
22.	Sweden	·19 ..	·37 ..	·28
23.	South Australia	·3 ..	·34 ..	·27
24.	Spain (excluding Gibraltar) ..	·13 ..	·29 ..	·22
25.	West Australia	·19 ..	·26 ..	·20
26.	Other British Possessions in Africa	·16 ..	·14 ..	·20
27.	Queensland	·12 ..	·27 ..	·19
28.	Newfoundland	·12 ..	·1 ..	·17

Tea.—The quantities exported during the past seven years are shown below in million of pounds :—

Year.	Million Pounds.	Year.	Million Pounds.
1916	203	1920	184
1917	195	1921	161
1918	180	1922	172
1919	208		

The average price of tea rose from 43 cents per lb. in 1920 to 70 cents in 1921 and to 85 cents in 1922.

Exports steadily declined from 1915, but in 1919, with the removal of tea control and of export restrictions, they rose. The figures of the next two years reflect the crisis through which the trade passed for reasons which have previously been outlined, and the exports for 1922 indicate a return to more normal conditions.

The distribution among the principal countries, with their increases or decreases, is shown in the following table :—

	1922. lb.	1921. lb.	Increase. lb.	Decrease. lb.
United Kingdom	117,537,328	110,887,396	6,649,932	—
British Possessions.				
British India	994,165	1,590,404	—	596,239
Canada	6,762,025	4,408,819	2,353,206	—
Cape Colony	2,446,319	2,278,375	167,944	—
Egypt	2,579,687	1,788,067	791,620	—
Hong Kong	198,548	151,269	47,279	—
Mauritius	382,324	191,965	190,359	—
Natal	3,145,645	2,341,862	803,783	—
Newfoundland	564,592	333,903	230,689	—
New South Wales	6,265,604	6,943,631	—	678,027
New Zealand	5,599,804	4,725,983	873,821	—
Other British Possessions in Africa	669,698	450,412	219,286	—
Other British Possessions in Asia	100,549	16,456	84,093	—
Queensland	494,351	841,579	—	347,228
South Australia	793,451	1,039,836	—	246,385
Straits Settlements	937,359	774,815	162,544	—
Victoria	3,971,054	5,215,823	—	1,244,769
Western Australia	585,937	730,434	—	144,497
Zanzibar	127,325	50,253	77,072	—
Other British Possessions	176,207	196,800	—	20,593
	36,794,644	34,070,686	6,001,696	3,277,738
		Deduct Decrease	3,277,738	
		Nett Increase	2,723,958	
Foreign Countries.				
France	1,163,966	515,160	648,806	—
Germany	177,400	68,447	108,953	—
Holland	138,374	96,017	42,357	—
Japan	263,660	234,964	28,696	—
Mozambique	104,684	83,508	21,176	—
South America (excluding Chile)	713,077	357,463	355,614	—
Turkey in Asia	134,457	61,250	73,207	—
United States of America	13,956,861	14,611,334	—	654,473
Other Foreign Countries	823,130	624,741	198,389	—
	17,475,609	16,652,884	1,477,198	654,473
		Deduct Decrease	654,473	
		Nett Increase	822,725	
Total	171,807,581	161,610,966	10,196,615	—

It will be observed that there have been increased exports to most countries, particularly to the United Kingdom. The chief exception is in the case of Australia, which took nearly three million pounds less than in the previous year. Other countries absorbing decreased quantities are British India and the United States of America.

Coconuts.—The exports of the three principal products of the coconut palm for the past six years have been :—

Year.	Desiccated Coconut. Cwt.	Copra. Cwt.	Coconut Oil. Cwt.
1917	272,059	1,078,704	434,699
1918	203,366	1,272,321	527,481
1919	675,060	1,759,525	675,999
1920	518,735	1,357,870	507,527
1921	870,515	1,367,431	484,724
1922	768,215	1,686,589	554,626

In each case, the quantity exported is the second highest on record, the highest being desiccated coconuts in 1921, and copra and coconut oil in 1919. Both the latter products show an increase compared with the previous year.

Desiccated Coconut.—Of the total quantity, about three-fourths went to the United Kingdom and the United States of America, the former taking 38 and the latter 35 per cent. In 1921, the respective figures were 31 and 42. Germany continues to be our third best buyer, taking about 11 per cent. of the total, but this was slightly less than she took in 1921. Australia, Canada, Spain, and Belgium have increased their demands. The average price was 32 cents per lb. in 1920, 28 cents in 1921, and 23 in 1922, but it must be observed that these are the values entered by the exporters.

Copra.—The principal importers of copra from Ceylon were, in order of importance, Italy, Denmark, United Kingdom, Holland, Germany, and Norway. Exports to Italy were more than double what they were in 1921, and the same observation applies to the United Kingdom. Holland, in 1922, took considerably less than in 1921. The average value entered by exporters was Rs. 17·08 per cwt., as against Rs. 17·77 in the previous year and Rs. 20·92 in 1920.

Coconut Oil.—As in previous years, the bulk of the exports went to the United Kingdom, which absorbed nearly three-fifths of the total. The outstanding feature of this trade is the improved position of Germany, which purchased 105,290 cwt., as against 25,036 in 1921. Exports to Belgium and Holland dropped considerably.

The effect of the new tariff in the United States of America may be seen in the following figures showing exports to that country :—

Year.	Cwt.	Year.	Cwt.
1919	147,031	1921	2,006
1920	29,267	1922	500

Rubber.—The total quantity exported was 104,595,278 lb., the figure for the two previous years being about 88 millions in each. By far the largest buyer was America, which took 74,715,753 lb. ; an increase of nearly 50 per cent. over her demand in 1921. Canada's demand also increased from 501,125 lb. to 699,168 lb. The United Kingdom, Belgium, and Denmark took less than in 1921, while the demand increased from Italy and Holland.

The price went down considerably, until the end of the year, when it rose in consequence of Government restriction of exports. This control, however, became effective too late to produce any effect on the quantity exported during the year.

V.—SHIPPING.

3,658 vessels entered the various ports of the Island, as against 3,621 in 1921, the tonnage, respectively, was 9,087,732 and 9,134,066, the following table shows a classification under four general heads :—

	1921.		1922.	
	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.
Merchant vessels (with cargo and in ballast)	2,030	6,551,830	2,209	7,297,713
Merchant vessels (called to coal)	639	2,205,698	454	1,401,750
Native sailing vessels	881	91,590	915	93,231
Warships and transports*	71	284,948	80	295,038
	3,621	9,134,066	3,658	9,087,732

* Warships' displacement tonnage.

The following table shows the comparative distribution of merchant vessels, including those which called only for the purpose of coaling :—

	1921.		1922.	
Nationality.	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.
British	1,925	6,023,414	1,894	5,740,260
British Colonial	881	91,590	915	93,231
Total British Vessels	2,806	6,115,004	2,809	5,833,491
American	51	191,617	32	127,992
Austrian	1	2,261	4	11,279
Belgian	—	—	—	—
Brazilian	1	4,964	—	—
Chinese	4	12,001	2	7,739
Czecho Slovakian	1	3,523	2	5,445
Danish	18	28,761	18	45,556
Dutch	169	745,638	209	862,416
French	109	494,228	115	506,446
German	21	81,978	74	288,846
Greek	3	6,447	1	2,581
Italian	77	271,046	55	184,971
Japanese	208	711,067	173	719,258
Norwegian	38	66,459	51	105,468
Portuguese	3	8,349	—	—
Russian	1	3,147	—	—
Siamese	—	—	—	—
Spanish	11	26,098	12	27,402
Swedish	28	76,530	21	63,804
Total Foreign Vessels	744	2,734,114	769	2,959,203

Excluding warships, transports, and merchant vessels which called only to coal, the distribution according to flag is shown below :—

Nationality.	1921. Number.	1921. Tons.	1922. Number.	1922. Tons.
British	1,474	4,448,308	1,535	4,618,671
British Colonial	881	91,590	915	93,231
Total British Vessels	2,355	4,539,898	2,450	4,711,902
American	35	133,521	26	109,467
Austrian	—	—	1	4,015
Belgian	—	—	—	—
Chinese	1	3,871	—	—
Danish	14	19,871	13	38,176
Dutch	129	601,723	179	759,523
French	85	392,393	99	457,130
German	20	81,414	72	281,358
Greek	1	1,881	—	—
Italian	51	178,488	47	165,734
Japanese	169	588,958	164	693,923
Norwegian	25	31,169	44	86,571
Portuguse	1	2,404	—	—
Russian	—	—	—	—
Spanish	11	26,098	12	27,402
Swedish	14	41,731	17	55,743
Total Foreign Vessels	556	2,103,522	674	2,679,042

The total number of ships entering the various ports of the Island exceeded the 1921 figure, while the tonnage showed a slight reduction. The most notable feature of the table is the increase from 20 to 72 in the number of ships flying the German flag. America shows a falling off, and the United Kingdom and Colonies a rise.

Colombo Port Commission.

The development of the warehouse area projected in 1912, the construction of the railway connecting the harbour with the main line, the lake to harbour canal, and the scheme for the storage of oil in bulk and for facilitating bunkering of ships with oil were brought to practical completion during the year. The dredging of the harbour to a depth of 36 feet was sufficiently advanced to enable the berthing of H. M. S. " Renown " in Colombo Harbour during the visit of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, and before the end of the year it was possible to announce that vessels drawing 33 feet can enter the harbour at all times of the tide.

Although the revival of trade was very apparent towards the close of the year, the warehousing accommodation is still amply sufficient for the trade of the port ; it can be supplemented, if necessary, but it seems probable that the direct shipment of produce from the merchants' stores situated round the lake through the lake to harbour canal will minimize the demands made upon the warehouses on the harbour front. On the other hand, it is hoped, that a larger proportion of the exports will be sent to the wharf direct by railway when the harbour rail connection is opened to traffic on March 15, 1923.

Oil Installation.—The oil installation was inaugurated for use on Ferbuary 15, 1922, and the development of the trade is so marked that it is probable that early steps will have to be taken to duplicate the pipeline or otherwise increase existing facilities.

There can be no doubt that the geographical situation of Colombo must make it a favourite port for bunkering, even in the case of oil. The advantages of

this fuel in tropical seas are so marked that its use is certain to increase, and therefore, the scheme as planned by Mr. A. D. Prouse, the Harbour Engineer, provides space for future developments.

Ships carrying oil in bulk discharge at a special jetty constructed to the northward of the Graving Dock Guide Pier, or at the Guide Pier itself, while bunkering is carried out at two jetties constructed for the purpose abutting on the North-east Breakwater. A boosting pump is installed on the foreshore and the oil is conveyed to the tanks in the main installation at Kolonnawa by means of a 10-inch pipe in the case of liquid fuel and an 8-inch pipe in the case of kerosine and benzine. These pipes run along the harbour railway embankment.

The Asiatic Petroleum Company, Limited, the Anglo-Persian Oil Company, Limited, and the Standard Oil Company of New York have erected storage sufficient for 24,000 tons of fuel oil and 16,000 tons of kerosine at Kolonnawa. The Asiatic Petroleum Company, Limited, and the Standard Oil Company of New York have also installed the necessary machinery and buildings for the manufacture of kerosine oil tins and filling them with oil.

Railway sidings run into each of the private installations and facilities for direct loading of the oil into railway trucks are provided.

The Admiralty have taken up a section of the land at Kolonnawa, and are erecting tanks for liquid fuel, while the Asiatic Petroleum Company, Limited, are about to commence the erection of an installation in the dangerous section for benzine.

There is also a pumping station at Kolonnawa for pumping the oil for bunkering ships from Kolonnawa to Bloemendahl, where the Anglo-Persian Oil Company, Limited, and the Asiatic Petroleum Company, Limited, have measuring tanks and pumps. From there to the bunkering jetties these companies have laid down their own pipes. In addition to the tanks, &c., the companies have built bungalows for the supervising staff in their premises at Kolonnawa, while a complete system of electric lighting, telephone, and water supply has been installed as part of the Common Facilities Scheme.

During the year 23 vessels discharged the following quantities of oil :—

	Tons.
Liquid fuel	103,196
Kerosine	28,260
Petrol and Benzine	5,401

and 187 vessels were bunkered with a total quantity of 77,676 tons of liquid fuel, while 16,095 tons were transhipped at the port.

Harbour Railway.—The work of constructing the harbour railway is approaching completion, and it is hoped that it may be taken over by the Port Commission for traffic early in 1923.

The railway consists of two branches, one from the Main line at Sedawatta to the Kolonnawa Oil Installations Depôt, and the other from the same place running westward across the Bloemendahl swamp to the harbour area, which it enters at the head of the Graving Dock. In connection with this scheme the Ceylon Government Railway has arranged to locate on the line near the junction the goods marshalling yards, thus facilitating through goods traffic between the harbour and the Main line. Within the harbour area, besides the running line, sidings are being provided where required, and there are already signs that the possibilities of development of this method of transport to the wharf are appreciated.

Lake to Harbour Canal.—The lake to harbour canal, lakeside warehouses and locks were opened for barge traffic on November 1, 1922, and from the beginning of 1923 the Colombo Port Commission have taken over the maintenance and administration of the canal, lakeside warehouses, and locks.

The dredging of the channels in the lake to the various godowns has been sufficiently advanced to permit 40-ton harbour barges going alongside private quays.

By these two schemes the Colombo streets have been relieved of a certain proportion of the traffic which has hitherto encumbered them. The consequent economy in upkeep must be appreciable.

Deepening of the Harbour.—As already stated the programme providing for the dredging of the main area of the harbour to a depth of 36 feet below low water was considerably advanced during the year, and it is now possible to berth vessels of greater draft than are yet allowed to pass through the Suez Canal; the Canal Company's programme providing for the passage of ships of 33 feet being only due for completion in 1924.

Apart from this, the dredgers were also engaged in deepening the area in the neighbourhood of the oil jetties, and it is now possible to berth a vessel drawing 27 feet laden at the outer oil jetty as well as at the discharge jetty, and, it is hoped, that it will be possible to increase this to 30 feet early in the ensuing year.

The nett tonnage of vessels (sailing and steam), which visited Colombo Harbour in 1922, amounted to 8,416,373 tons; in addition, 80 warships and transports with a gross tonnage of 295,038, and coasting vessels with a nett tonnage of 14,176, entered the port.

Twenty-seven vessels were docked during the year, and 38 vessels were taken on the Patent Slip; 13 vessels were fumigated.

The receipts from the Graving Dock and Patent Slip brought to account during the year 1922 show a considerable decrease, being Rs. 82,828·65 and Rs. 8,060·83, respectively, against Rs. 135,894·05 and Rs. 46,242·93 in the previous year. The decsease in the dock revenue is due to less number of ships docked than in the previous year. A sum of about Rs. 40,000 recovered from the Indian Government in 1921 for slipping the Dredger "Manaar" accounts for the decrease in the receipts of the Patent Slip. Rs. 2,642·50 was received in respect of fumigation, as against Rs. 6,619·50 in 1921.

The total expenditure of the Colombo Port Commission for the financial year 1921–1922, including Rs. 297,280·06 chargeable to Loan Account in respect of the Oil Installation Scheme, was Rs. 2,582,570·32. Of this amount, Rs. 4,491·85 was expended by the Public Works Department on work for this Department, and the sum of Rs. 73,226·28 expended by the Colombo Port Commission on account of other departments. The nett expenditure on Colombo Port Commission services (inclusive of Loan Expenditure) was Rs. 2,509,344·04. The revenue during the same period was Rs. 2,213,325·32.

VI.—LEGISLATION.

Twenty-five Ordinances were passed during the year 1922; but of these a large proportion were merely to effect amendments of no very great importance in existing Ordinances.

2. Of the more important Ordinances calling for special mention, the following may be particularized :—

The Public Trustee Ordinance, No. 1 of 1922.—This Ordinance provides for the setting up of a public officer, who is to be called the public trustee, and is to be capable of being appointed and of acting (*a*) as an ordinary trustee, (*b*) as collector of estates under an order to collect, and (*c*) as a custodian trustee. There are various provisions dealing with the manner of his appointment and the way of carrying out his duties and the responsibilities imposed upon him. The expense of carrying out the Ordinance is to be met, so as far as may be, by fees which are to be charged either by way of percentage on the value of

the estate administered, or otherwise as may be prescribed under the Ordinance. There is no intention that any public profit should be derived under the Ordinance; but a special direction is contained in section 38 that fees are to be so arranged as to produce an amount sufficient to discharge the salaries and all other expenses incidental to the working of the Ordinance.

The public revenue of the Colony is made liable to discharge all claims against the public trustee which, if he had been a private trustee, he would have been liable to discharge. In order to allow of proper control over the moneys entrusted to the public trustee there are special provisions in sections 40 to 43 dealing with the audit of his accounts.

The Naturalization (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 5 of 1922.—This Ordinance amends "The Naturalization Ordinance, 1890," by providing a means of cancelling local Letters of Naturalization on lines similar to those which are laid down for the cancellation of Imperial Letters of Naturalization under the Naturalization Act, 1914, of the Imperial Parliament.

The Former Enemy Aliens (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 13 of 1922.—The principal Ordinance, No. 19 of 1919, prohibits the landing of former enemy aliens in the Colony without the permission of the Colonial Secretary. By section 8 of that Ordinance its duration was limited to three years from the passing of the Ordinance, *i.e.*, it would have ceased to operate on August 29, 1922. By section 2 of the amending Ordinance, it is provided that the duration of the Ordinance shall be extended to August 29, 1923, and further that by a resolution of the Legislative Council it may be further continued in operation for a period to be mentioned in the resolution, but in no case is that extended period to exceed one year at any one time.

The Customs (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 17 of 1922.—This Ordinance provides a new tariff based on more scientific principles than any of the preceding tariffs. It also provides further and improved machinery for the purposes of Customs administration.

The Rubber Restriction Ordinance, No. 24 of 1922.—This is the most important Ordinance passed during the year, and is intended to restrict the production and export of rubber by imposing graduated duties on licenses to export.

Provision is made for the appointment of a Rubber Controller and of a Rubber Restriction Board, whose duty it is to advise the Controller in all such matters as he may refer to them for advice, to decide appeals made to the Board in respect of the assessment of the amount of rubber which can be exported at the minimum rate of duty, and generally to assist the Controller in carrying out his duties and using his powers.

Provision is made in section 6 for assessing what is called the "standard production" of each estate, the standard production being defined as the amount equivalent to the actual output of rubber during the twelve months commencing the first day of November in one year and ending the thirty-first day of October in the next year, and being fixed by the Controller, subject to appeal to the Rubber Restriction Board. The "standard production" for an estate having been fixed, the duty is thrown on the Controller of issuing, as soon as may be after the first day of each month, a "certificate of production" which is to state the "exportable maximum" (section 11). This "exportable maximum" is by section 3 of the Ordinance directed to be ascertained monthly and is to be taken to be an amount equivalent to 60 per cent. of one-twelfth of the standard production; and upon tendering the certificate of production, the proprietor of an estate is entitled

to receive a license to export this exportable maximum at the minimum rate of duty (section 11). But a very important provision appears in section 3 empowering the Governor in Executive Council to increase or reduce the exportable maximum with special regard to the price of " smoked sheet " in London for three consecutive months.

Special provisions appear in the Ordinance for ascertaining and assessing the amount of rubber in stock in Ceylon on or about November 10, 1922; and as soon as this assessment is made the Controller must issue a stock certificate to the owner of the rubber, and on production of the certificate a license to export at the minimum rate of duty will be issued to the applicant (sections 9 and 10). The export of an amount in excess of the exportable maximum is not absolutely forbidden under the Ordinance, but the rate of duty increases very rapidly in the case of increasing excess exportation (see the Schedule to the Ordinance).

VII.—EDUCATION.

University College.

The University College, which was opened in January, 1921, was formed with the idea that it should, in due course, be incorporated into a University. It was decided at the end of 1921 that in the meanwhile it should continue to prepare students for the London degrees until it was able to formulate a full scheme for degrees of its own. Hence, in 1922 it continued to prepare students for the following examinations:—Intermediate and Final Arts and Science and Science (Economics) and First M.B. (London). It also prepared students for the First Professional Examination of the Ceylon Medical College. Instruction is offered in the following subjects:—

English	Tamil	Chemistry
Latin	French	Physics
Greek	German	Mathematics
Sanskrit	History	Botany
Pali	Economics	Zoology
Sinhalese	Philosophy	

In October, 1922, Honours classes were formed in classics and mathematics, the University of London having authorized the holding of external examinations in Honours in the main branches of study.

Admission to the full course is confined to students who have been registered as matriculated students of the University of London. Students are permitted to attend single courses under certain conditions, and on the payment of an admission fee of Rs. 10 for the year in addition to the fee prescribed for the course. In October, 1922, 196 students of all classes were admitted.

In October, 1922, special classes were formed in Sinhalese and Tamil, to which external students who have not been registered as matriculated students of the University are admitted, provided they satisfy certain conditions. Courses of lectures on subjects of general interest are given periodically by members of the College staff and are thrown open to the public.

In October and November, 1922, three hostels were opened, a Christian hostel organized by the Young Men Christian Association on behalf of the Representative Council of Missions (Protestant) capable of holding 35 students, a Roman Catholic hostel capable of holding 22 students, and a non-Christian hostel capable of holding 35 students. These hostels receive grants in aid from Government, and are subject to any hostel regulations which the Council may from time to time prescribe. Each hostel is in the charge of a Warden.

The College Union Society, of which every under-graduate student is necessarily a member, conducts the following societies and clubs:—Literary and Debating

Society, a Reading Room, Cricket, Rugby Football, Association Football, and Tennis.

The University College Council appointed a large and representative Academic Committee and a Constitutional Committee to draw up recommendations for the formation of a degree granting University. When the final plan is complete it will be presented to Government for approval.

The first College Prospectus appeared in September, 1922, and will be published annually.

Schools Generally.

Schools in Ceylon may be broadly divided into three classes: English, Anglo-vernacular, and vernacular. The vernacular schools are attended by about 90 per cent. of the school-going population. The English and Anglo-vernacular schools provide elementary education, leading up to the English School-leaving Certificate Examination. Secondary English schools provide an education leading up to the Cambridge Senior School Certificate Examination and the London University Matriculation Examination. There are also classes for commercial subjects in some of the larger schools. There is an increasing demand for English, and an attempt has been made to meet this demand by a scheme of Government Central English and Anglo-vernacular schools for rural districts, where children may receive an English education. Such schools have been opened at Henaratgoda, Piliyandala, Veyangoda, Kadawatta, Udugampola, Bomiriya, Beruwala, and Wadduwa in the Western Province; at Induruwa, Hikkaduwa, Ahungalla, Godauda, and Mirissa in the Southern Province; and at Puttalam in the North-Western Province. The inclusion of Sinhalese and Tamil in the London Matriculation and Intermediate Arts Examinations and the Cambridge Examinations has given a stimulus to the study of the vernacular languages. Several secondary schools are now teaching Sinhalese and Tamil. English has suffered in the past from Latin being taught in the schools to boys from Sinhalese and Tamil-speaking homes who have not acquired a sound knowledge of English, and have little facility in expressing themselves in any but their own language.

Vernacular Education.

In 1922 there were 1,017 Government vernacular schools, with an attendance of 107,224 boys and 41,875 girls. There were also 1,856 aided schools, with an attendance of 125,596 boys and 80,772 girls. Of these, 276 were estate schools, with an attendance of 10,092 boys and 1,964 girls. A school for the deaf and blind started in 1912 receives grant at the rate of Rs. 5 per mensem per child on the average number of children on the roll during the year.

The total sum expended by Government on vernacular education in 1922 was Rs. 2,211,048·84, of which approximately three-sevenths was spent on Government schools and four-sevenths on aided schools.

The Rural Schools Ordinance is now in force in all districts of the Island. The Town Schools Ordinance is in force in the following towns :—

Municipalities ..	Colombo, Kandy, and Galle
Local Board Towns, Urban District Councils, &c. :—	
Western Province ..	Kalutara, Moratuwa, and Negombo
Central Province ..	Gampola, Hatton-Dikoya, Matale, Nawalapitiya, and Nuwara Eliya
Province of Sabaragamuwa.	Kegalla and Ratnapura
North-Central Province ..	Anuradhapura
North-Western Province ..	Kurunegala and Chilaw
Eastern Province ..	Batticaloa and Trincomalee
Northern Province ..	Jaffna
Southern Province ..	Matara

The Education Ordinance of 1920 has not been proclaimed yet; but Parts I. and II. of the Ordinance with certain exceptions were brought into operation by Ordinance No. 15 of 1920, with a view to enabling the Director of Education to summon the Board of Education and to frame the Education Code with the advice of that body.

"The Code for Assisted English Schools" and "the Code for Assisted Vernacular Schools and Anglo-Vernacular Schools" were revised by the Board and submitted to Government for final sanction. Steps are being taken to proclaim the Ordinance at an early date.

Schools Teaching English.

In 1922 there were 305 English and Anglo-vernacular schools attended by 57,804 pupils, of whom 36,614 were boys and 21,190 girls. There is one Government secondary school in Colombo, with an average attendance of 528. The cost to Government of this school for the year was Rs. 60,570·54, and the fees recovered amounted to Rs. 38,801.

There were 27 assisted secondary schools, particulars of which are shown below :—

Return of Secondary Schools, 1922.

Province and Management.	Name of School.	Number of Pupils on Roll, and Average Attendance on March 31, 1922.			
		Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Average Attendance.
Western.					
Church of England	St. Thomas's College B	732	8	740	633
Do.	Bishop's College G	22	174	196	170
Church Missionary Society	C. M. S. Ladies' College G	54	240	294	248
Private	Panadure, St. John's M	140	29	169	163
Roman Catholic	St. Joseph's College B	754	—	754	611
Do.	St. Benedict's College B	1,142	—	1,142	835
Do.	St. Bridget's Convent G	72	286	358	305
Do.	Bambalapitiya Convent G	95	374	469	392
Do.	Kotahena Convent G	56	698	754	589
Wesleyan	Wesley College	400	—	400	359
Do.	Methodist College G	22	301	[illegible]3	235
Government	Royal College B	578	—	578	528
Buddhist	Ananda College B	1,262	—	1,262	925
Southern.					
Roman Catholic	St. Aloysius' College B	495	—	495	423
Do.	Galle Convent G	45	202	247	195
Wesleyan	Richmond College B	378	2	380	344
Do.	Galle Wesleyan G	44	197	241	203
Buddhist	Mahinda College B	641	—	641	469
Central.					
Church Missionary Society	Trinity College B	636	8	644	546
Church of England	Kandy Hillwood G	19	103	122	101
Roman Catholic	St. Anthony's College B	605	—	605	520
Do.	Kandy Convent G	63	270	333	270
Wesleyan	Kandy G	51	237	288	224
Northern.					
American	Jaffna College B	453	—	453	369
Do.	Uduvil G	29	249	278	221
Church Missionary Society	Chundikuli G	15	34	49	35
Do.	St. John's College	475	—	475	390
Roman Catholic	St. Patrick's College B	623	—	623	554
Wesleyan	Jaffna Central College B	373	—	373	321
Do.	Hartley College B	363	—	363	312
Hindu	Ramanathan College G	—	138	138	100
Do.	Parameshwara College B	554	—	554	311*
Do.	Jaffna Hindu College B	535	—	535	465

* Attendance on August 31, 1922.

In most of the larger schools candidates are prepared for the Senior and Junior Cambridge School Certificate Examinations. In 1921 the number of candidates who presented themselves and the results obtained were :—

	Candidates.	Honours.	Other Passes.
Senior	.. 809 ..	82 ..	227
Junior	.. 1,052 ..	107 ..	524

There are special syllabuses for Ceylon students in English, Science, and Needlework, special stress being laid on the necessity for obtaining a high standard in English.

The results of the London University Examinations in 1922 showed that 490 candidates from Ceylon presented themselves for the Matriculation Examination, 129 of whom passed. Nine candidates passed the First Examination for Medical degrees and 7 the Second Examination, Part I. Ninety-three candidates presented themselves for the Intermediate Examination in Arts, 39 of whom passed. Fifty-three candidates took up the Intermediate Examination in Science, 29 of whom passed. Four candidates presented themselves for the Intermediate Examination in Laws, 2 of whom passed. Two out of the three candidates who took up the L.L.B. Examination passed. Ten candidates presented themselves for the B.A. degree, 3 for the B.Sc., but the results of these examinations had not yet reached Ceylon at the end of the year. In 1921 six obtained the B.A. degree and two the B.Sc.

The encouragement offered by Government takes the form of grants or scholarships. In the majority of the assisted English schools grants are paid on the average attendance as laid down in the schedules of the Code. Special grants are paid on account of buildings and equipment.

Three Government scholarships are now offered : one on the results of the Final Examination in Arts of the London University, and two on the results of the Final Examination in Science. The scholarships are tenable for two years, and are of the value of £300 per annum, with free passages and £50 outfit allowance. The holders may join any British University or any recognized engineering institution in the United Kingdom. The third scholarship is awarded on condition that the holder studies agriculture or forestry. An exhibition of Rs. 250 or Rs. 300 a year has been offered by the Hon. Sir H. M. Fernando, Member of the Executive and Legislative Councils, to the Ceylon student who obtains the highest marks in botany and either chemistry or agricultural science in the Cambridge Senior School Certificate Examination. The exhibition for 1921 was awarded to Mr. C. Amirthalingam of the University College.

The following is the scale of fees charged in the various classes of Government English and Anglo-vernacular schools in the Island :—

Government English Schools.	Per Mensem. Rs. c.
Preparatory Classes	2 0
First Year Class	2 50
Second Year Class	3 0
Standard V.	3 50
Standard VI.	4 0
Standard VII.	4 50
English School-leaving Certificate Class	5 0
Anglo-Vernacular Schools.	
Stage I.	0 50
Stage II.	0 75
Stage III.	1 0
Stage IV.	1 25
Stage V.	1 50
Stage VI.	2 0
Standard VII.	3 0
Standard VIII. (Elementary School-leaving Certificate Class) ..	4 0

A revised scale of fees for assisted elementary schools is under consideration in connection with the new Education Code, which is now before Government.

Government Training College.

The Government Training College consists of three departments: English (men and women), Sinhalese (men), and Sinhalese (women). The object is to supply trained teachers for aided English schools and Government Anglo-vernacular and vernacular schools. At the beginning of 1922 the number of students in training was on the English side 33 men and 47 women, on the Sinhalese side 33 men and 30 women.

Arrangements are being made to open a Tamil Training School at Jaffna. The building is nearing completion. Trained teachers at present command good salaries, and there is a good demand for their services.

A class of 20 boys under eleven years of age at the time of admission was formed in 1918 from boys in vernacular schools. Further classes of 20 each were formed in 1919 and 1920. The board and lodging of these boys are paid by public subscriptions. Their tuition is free. The boys of the first batch are now up to the average of Standard VIII., and are much in advance of boys of their own age who have been learning English for several years. These boys knew no English when they joined. No class was formed either in 1921 or 1922 owing to want of accommodation and funds. Twenty teachers are being trained in the Henaratgoda Garden School for Anglo-vernacular schools.

Industrial Schools.

In 1922 the aided industrial schools, which are 34 in number, received grants amounting to Rs. 21,590. The trades taught were carpentry, dressmaking, tailoring, lace-making, embroidery, gardening, cookery, weaving, shoemaking, and smithy work. The most important of these schools is the Maggona Certified Industrial School, which is utilized by Government as a reformatory for youthful offenders.

It is managed by the Roman Catholic Mission. This institution has an estate of some 300 acres and excellent buildings, towards the cost of which Government has contributed. 334 youthful offenders are at present receiving instruction in this school, and an allowance is paid by Government for the maintenance of each offender. The amount so paid in the year 1922 was Rs. 45,046·31. Another important industrial school is that at Wellawatta, Colombo, under the management of the Wesleyan Mission. The amount of grant paid to this institution in 1921 amounted to Rs. 4,800.

An impetus was given to home industries, which are taught in different parts of the Island, by the appointment of two Inspectors of Industries—one for weaving schools and one for carpentry and general industrial work. Carpentry is taught in 25 schools, and 24 schools have carpentry sheds with instructors attached. Thirty-two schools are engaged in cloth-weaving, of which 5 are Government schools. Printing and bookbinding are taught in 6 schools, shoemaking in one, and smithy work in 3 schools. Cane and rattan work in 3 schools. Three schools are equipped for lacquer work. One school is equipped for pottery work. Basket-making and mat-weaving are taught in several schools. Hat-making is making good progress in the Kalutara District, and in 25 schools there are classes in basket-making for children.

Agricultural Instruction in Schools.

Elementary agricultural instruction is given by a scheme of school gardens conducted in connection with Government schools. The gardens are under the supervision of the Department of Agriculture. There is a Superintendent of School Gardens, who is assisted by three Inspectors. The total number of registered Government school gardens at the end of 1922 was 479. The number of gardens attached to grant-in-aid schools was 95. 150 school

gardens are awaiting registration. Seeds and implements are supplied by the Department of Agriculture, and prizes are offered for competition.

Twelve Government teachers underwent a special course of training at Peradeniya. The scheme has been supplemented by the establishment of home gardens in large numbers, seeds being provided for boys who undertake to plant up vegetables in their home compounds.

TECHNICAL.

In addition to night classes in building construction, mechanical engineering, electric wiring, carpentry and joinery, drawing classes for carpenters, motor drivers, and mechanics, the following classes are held :—English, shorthand, typewriting, bookkeeping, accountancy, method of business, and commercial arithmetic. These classes are well attended.

The Jaffna Technical School was opened on October 8, 1921. There were 28 students at the end of the year. Sixty-three scholarships have been promised, of which 13 have been paid in full, and in the case of 42 scholarships the first instalment of Rs. 100 has been paid. Twelve of the donors have paid the second instalment as well. The total amount collected is Rs. 11,878·66. Manual training, woodwork, and drawing are taught in this school.

DOMESTIC SCIENCE.

Domestic science is now being introduced as one of the subjects in the curriculum for girls' schools. A qualified Supervisor of Domestic Science assumed duties on May 12, 1920, and classes were started in the Domestic Science rooms, especially remodelled and equipped for the purpose, at the Government Training College.

VIII.—PUBLIC HEALTH, VITAL STATISTICS, AND METEOROLOGY.

The health of the Colony was generally fairly satisfactory during the year. There were no further bad outbreaks of influenza, the position in regard to this disease being similar to that in 1921, and very much better than in the years 1919 and 1920. There was a good deal of malarial fever in various parts of the Island, the North-Central Province being exceptionally bad in this respect, especially in Anuradhapura town, where the position was complicated by an outbreak of dysentery and pneumonia. In Uva there was a severe epidemic of malaria towards the end of the year. Other districts, however, generally report more satisfactory health conditions, except in Galle town, where there was an outbreak of plague, which is referred to below, and at Kalmunai in the Eastern Province, where there was a somewhat severe outbreak of smallpox.

Parangi is still prevalent in many parts of the Island, but is less common than it was some years ago, the position having been very much improved by the restoration of many village tanks and the establishment of dispensaries. Special efforts have been made of late years to deal with the disease, which is treated with salvarsan in many district hospitals, and three special Itinerating Medical Officers have been appointed for work in selected areas. Special mention may be made of the very praiseworthy work of a private medical practitioner, who has treated a large number of parangi patients free in a number of villages in the North-Western Province, using drugs supplied by Government, with most encouraging results.

The campaign against anchylostomiasis, carried on conjointly by the Rockefeller Foundation and the Ceylon Government, has been continued during the year. Arrangements were made for training a number of Inspectors for work in this department. The campaign is at present being carried out in the village areas of Mirigama, Veyangoda, and Henaratgoda in the Western

Province, known as the "Triangular area." In addition there are two itinerating officers who are conducting campaigns, in connection with which hospitals and dispensaries are visited in turns.

PLAGUE.

The incidence of plague in the Island showed a decrease during the year, compared with 1920 and 1921. There were only 160 cases with 150 deaths in the whole Island, as against 355 cases with 321 deaths and 188 cases with 174 deaths in 1920 and 1921, respectively. The only epidemic of importance during the year was an outbreak of plague in Galle, where 16 cases occurred with 13 deaths, but the outbreak was quickly suppressed by the Sanitary Department. There were 8 cases with 7 deaths in other outstations, but these were for the most part isolated cases, which had contracted the disease in Colombo.

Plague at Galle.—The earliest cases of plague at this town are believed to have occurred about July 21, the outbreak being due most probably to an infected rat introduced into the town in a consignment of rice received direct from South India by sea. There were several cases of illness during August, which were probably plague, but it was not till September 4 that plague was definitely reported, and the Assistant Sanitary Commissioner proceeded to Galle and took charge. The disease broke out in one of the most insanitary and congested areas in the bazaar and China garden. A "diseased locality" was proclaimed, and entrance to this locality was forbidden except on permit, and a segregation camp was opened at Dadalla. The total number of persons segregated and kept under observation was 570. In the worst parts it was found necessary to evacuate and close up the whole area. A rat campaign was started, and the rats caught were examined for plague. After the trapping the houses and boutiques were emptied of their contents and disinfected, and rat breeding places were dealt with. The total number of rats destroyed was 2,304, including 119 rats found dead. In many cases the walls of the buildings were in such a ruinous state that it was necessary to demolish the buildings, but they were saved where possible. Some infected rats were also found in the Fort, where the position was complicated by the existence of a series of underground sewers dating from Dutch times. Here all openings of house drains into the sewer were protected with wire netting or iron grating, and the main sewers leading out of the infected area were similarly protected by means of iron gratings. There were 16 human cases during the outbreak, of which 6 were of the bubonic and 10 of the septicæmic type. Three of the former recovered, but all the septicæmic cases proved fatal. Twenty-five plague-infected rats were found, many others found dead being unfit for examination. The distribution of infection among the different varieties of rats in Galle was :—

Mus rattus or black rat	.. 15, or 60 per cent.	of infected rate
Gunomys gracilis or small bandicoot	.. 5, or 20 per cent.	do.
Mus musculus or mouse	.. 3, or 12 per cent.	do.
Mus decumanus or brown rat	.. 2, or 8 per cent.	do.
Crocyduru cocrulea or musk rat	.. —	

The last case of human plague occurred on October 15. Measures for the improvement of the infected area were recommended to the Municipal Council.

Plague in Colombo.—136 cases of plague, with 131 deaths, occurred during the year, as against 184 cases and 170 deaths during 1921. The case mortality rates were 96·3 per cent. for all cases, as against the average of 93·6, 100 per cent. for septicæmic cases, which is the same as the average, and 93·8 per cent. for bubonic cases, as against the average of 86·3 per cent.

The bubonic case mortality was the highest yet recorded. The weekly incidence of the disease remained for the most part well below the average until the middle of December, when coincidently with a sharp drop in the temperature, it suddenly rose to above the normal. The majority of the

cases occurred, as usual, between the ages of 15 and 25, and 115 males and 21 females were attacked. The Sea street and Pettah areas were, as usual, the chief centres of infection, there being small localized outbreaks at Nagalagam, Grandpass, and Dawson street. Only a few sporadic cases occurred in other parts of the town.

Rat Plague.—33,827 rats were examined at the laboratory, 57 of which or 0·17 per cent. were found to be infected, as against an infection rate of 0·20 in 1921.

Rat Destruction.—A total of 175,577 rats was accounted for during the year, of which 172,429 were trapped, 2,738 were killed by the Clayton fumigators and their bodies recovered, 358 were found dead prior to claytonizing, 206 of which latter were in a mumified condition. In view of the fact that only a small proportion of the rat runs which are fumigated are opened up and searched after fumigation, the total number of rats killed in this manner must, it is believed, be very large. The number of poisoned baits placed was 1,376,400, of which 71,259 were removed or eaten by rats. The number of dead rats found was 52.

Prevention.—The same preventive measures as hitherto were carried out during the year.

Plague.

	1914.	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	Average 1914 to 1921.	1922.
Total cases	413	139	291	207	70	87	235	184	203	136
Total deaths	381	128	273	196	69	82	223	170	190	131
Septicæmic cases	247*	81*	159	124	41	50	93	70	108	57
Septicæmic deaths	246	80	159	124	41	50	93	70	108	57
Bubonic cases	166	58	132	83	29	37	142	114	95	79
Bubonic deaths	135	48	114	72	28	32	130	100	82	74
	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.
Total case mortality	92·2	92·8	93·8	94·7	98·6	94·3	94·9	92·4	93·6	96·3
Septicæmic case mortality	99·6	98·7	100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0
Bubonic case mortality	81·3	82·7	86·4	86·7	96·6	86·5	91·5	87·7	86·3	93·8

* The cases for 1914 and 1915 each include one septicæmic recovery, but the diagnosis was not in either case confirmed bacteriologically, and may have been erroneous.

Monthly Incidence of Plague Cases.

	1914.	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	Average 1914 to 1921.	1922.
January	4	19	17	25	13	—	25	65	21	13
February	67	6	18	40	18	1	20	53	28	10
March	58	3	18	61	10	3	3	27	23	6
April	28	3	14	34	11	—	3	7	12	2
May	29	3	11	11	2	—	4	2	8	7
June	49	1	36	3	9	—	3	1	13	8
July	47	5	43	6	2	—	12	3	15	10
August	40	20	35	1	1	2	7	2	13	7
September	18	21	25	3	—	5	18	2	11	7
October	23	24	24	7	—	18	28	9	17	14
November	24	10	25	10	2	34	34	4	18	19
December	26	24	25	6	2	24	78	9	24	33
Total for the year	413	139	291	207	70	87	235	184	203	136
Monthly mean	34·4	11·6	24·2	17·2	5·8	7·2	19·6	15·3	16·9	11·3

SMALLPOX.

337 cases of smallpox with 43 deaths were recorded during the year, as against 18 cases with 3 deaths during 1921 ; of these, 231 cases with 23 deaths occurred in Eastern Province. The cause of the epidemic in this place was due to a Moorman, who had lately arrived from India. The chief infected area being a small but congested Moorish village named Kalmunaikudy, where 229 cases occurred.

There were also outbreaks of smallpox in various centres of Northern Province, where 37 cases occurred with 5 deaths, and the infection was due to a woman, who was a recent arrival from an infected part of Southern India.

The following is a list of smallpox cases that occurred in Ceylon during the year :—

Smallpox.

	Cases.	Deaths.
Colombo town	34	7
Colombo Fort from steamers	7	1
Province of Sabaragamuwa.		
Galatura	3	1
Pindeniya	1	—
Rambukkana up to December 31, 1922	6	1
Southern Province.		
Watugedera, Balapitiya	1	1
Weligama	1	—
North-Central Province.		
Anuradhapura	1	1
Eastern Province.		
Kalmunai	229	23
Kattankudy	1	—
Paradilikokmaduwa	1	—
Central Province.		
Dimbula	3	1
Rositta	2	—
Wattegama	9	2
Western Province.		
Walgama	1	—
Northern Province.		
At several centres in the Province	37	5
	337	43

CHOLERA.

Four deaths from cholera were registered, all in the Central Province.

MALARIA.

The following is a summary of work performed during 1922 by the Government Malariologist :—During the past year the investigations into malaria commenced subsequent to June, 1921, have been completed or continued, and additional lines of research work undertaken. With the extension of the field staff in November, 1922, work of a more specific nature was instituted in some of the larger towns. Temporary laboratories at Anuradhapura, Kurunegala, Badulla, and Jaffna have been opened in this connection. No large scale anti-malaria works have yet been inaugurated, but anti-mosquito measures have been introduced at Mahara Jail and Kurunegala. It is hoped shortly, in conjunction with the local authorities, to extend this work in the above-mentioned towns.

The work during 1922 may be classed under three heads according as it relates to (A) malaria in Ceylon generally, (B) malaria in certain towns, and (C) malaria in particular places or areas.

Work under head (B) might strictly be included under head (A), since it forms part of the general inquiry, and will be extended to other towns as early as possible. Work under head (C) was of a special and more limited nature, and was undertaken at the request of Government.

(A) *Work relating to the Malaria problem in general:* (*a*) *Incidence of Malaria.*—Spleen and blood examinations of children and adults were made throughout the Island, and maps showing the results in detail and the approximate zones of incidence (at intervals of 10 per cent.) prepared. In all, 39,417 children, 4,732 adults, and 3,120 blood films were examined. The average prevalence of malaria, as indicated by spleen rates in children under 12 years of age, in the different Provinces was: North-Central, 51·2; North-Western, 33·3; Northern, 23·8; Eastern, 18·9; Uva, 12·1; Sabaragamuwa, 11·4; Central, 8·1; Southern, 7·8; Western, 1·1. Blood examinations showed that Benign Tertian malaria was the most prevalent type, being responsible for 77 per cent. of infections; sub-tertian (malignant) malaria was responsible for 16 per cent., and quartan malaria for 7 per cent. Increased prevalence of sub-tertian malaria was observed in the North-Central (25 per cent.) and Northern (22 per cent.), and of quartan malaria in the Northern (18 per cent.), and Southern (25 per cent.) Provinces.

(*b*) *Anopheles Mosquitoes.*—Fifteen different species of Anopheles have so far been found in Ceylon, and methods of indentifying them in both adult and larval stages elaborated. Named and mounted collections have been made for purposes of reference, teaching, and exhibition. Considerable data and information relating to the distribution, bionomics, and economic importance of the commoner species have been obtained and recorded. Of the indigenous Anopheles, only five or six species appear to be associated with the maintenance and spread of malaria, and of these *A. culicifacies*, *A. listoni*, and *A. maculatus* are the most important. *A. culicifacies* and *A. listoni* are indicated as the chief carriers of malaria in the low-country—the former mainly in the dry zones—and *A. maculatus* in the hill country up to altitudes of 2,000–3,000 feet.

(*c*) *Paddy Cultivation and Malaria.*—Investigations, qualitative and quantitative in nature, are being made at Jaffna, Anuradhapura, Kurunegala, Polgahawela, Chilaw, Kadugannawa, Rambukkana, Gampola, Nawalapitiya, Badulla, Batticaloa, Matara, and Minuwangoda. This work was commenced in August, 1922, and will be continued for at least one year in order that all conditions, *e.g.*, seasonal changes, methods of cultivation, periods of growth of the crops, water supply, &c., likely to influence the breeding habits of the paddy field Anopheles may be examined. In each of the above towns three blocks of paddy fields situated in different localities are under observation; in all, 106 fields are examined every month. Anopheles breed in all these fields and form from 60 per cent. to 90 per cent. of the mosquitoes present. *A. rossi* and *A. sinensis* have so far being found to predominate, but there is considerable variation in different places, *A. listoni* is abundant in fields at Anuradhapura, and may form as much as 40 per cent. of the Anopheles present; *A. maculatus* occurs in many fields at elevations over 400 feet.

The incidence of malaria among persons living near paddy fields at the above towns is being investigated in this connection. At present a total of 1,147 children and 243 blood films have been examined.

(*d*) *Larvivorous Fish.*—Collections of larvivorous fish from different parts of the Island have been made and submitted to Mr. H. Malpas for identification. Particular attention has been paid to the species, *Haplochilus lineatus*, common in the Western Province; and its exact distribution and correlation, if any, with the incidence of malaria is being determined. Results at present obtained indicate that it does not occur far north of the Maha-oya or east of Ratnapura, and that as it becomes less abundant malaria increases; it extends at least

as far south as Kalutara. Attempts are being made to establish the above indigenous species, and the West Indian "Millions" (*Gambusia affinis*) in districts in which malaria is intense and larvivorous fish relatively scanty. Nurseries have been formed at Talaimannar, Ratmale Colony, Anuradhapura, Kurunegala, and Mahara Jail; and "Millions" have also been introduced into wells at the Quarantine Camp, Mandapam, South India.

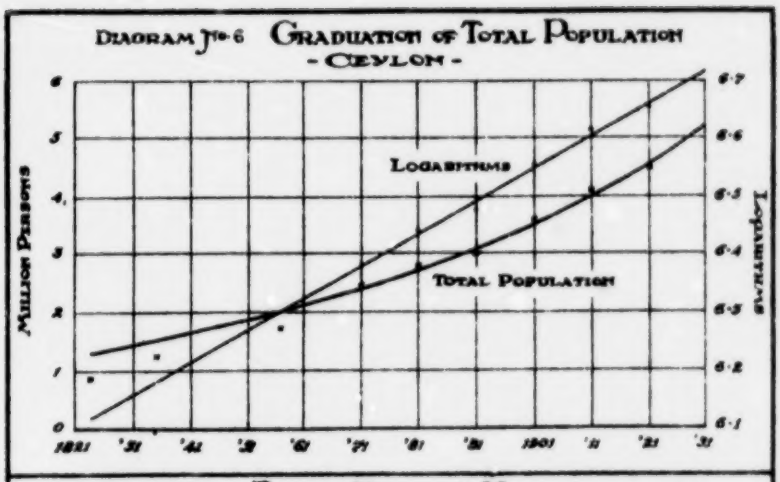
(B) *Malaria in Towns.*—Detailed malaria surveys in relation to local conditions are being made at Anuradhapura (including the Colony at Ratmale), Kurunegala, Badulla, and Jaffna. Work at Anuradhapura was commenced in April, and at the remaining towns in November, 1922. At each of these centres surveys for breeding places of Anopheles mosquitoes have been made; The larvæ obtained from each breeding place have been identified, and the results plotted on maps. The survey of Anuradhapura is completed, and all breeding places of dangerous Anopheles recorded; in the remaining places from one-half to three-quarters of the town areas have been surveyed. The determination, by examination of the resident population, of the malarial incidence and its localized distribution has also been made at each town. These and other lines of work relating to the bionomics of the malaria carrying mosquitoes have involved the examination of 5,028 persons, 2,300 collections of water, 25,000 mosquitoes and their larvæ, and 1,238 blood films. At Kurunegala the local authorities have organized mosquito brigades which work in conjunction with this office. Reports on the malaria problem in each of these towns, with recommendations for prevention, will shortly be submitted to Government; that relating to Anuradhapura is now in course of preparation.

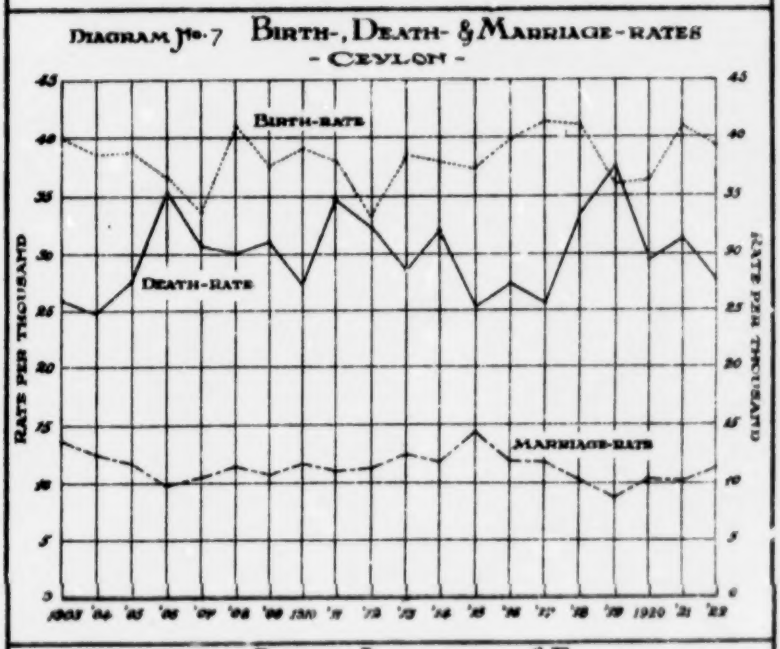
(C) *Malaria in particular Areas.*—Investigations into malaria have been made at Talaimannar, Mahara Jail, and Mandapam Camp, South India, and reports submitted to Government. At Mahara, malaria in an intense form was found to be practically confined to the jail area, and to be largely due to (1) the presence and close association of a large body of prisoners, many of whom had malaria parasites in their blood, and (2) the prolific breeding of two dangerous malaria carrying mosquitoes in an adjoining quarry. Investigations made indicate that successful malaria control can be obtained without great difficulty. All breeding places of Anopheles were located and control measures instituted the more permanent of these works will, it is hoped, be completed in the course of the next few months.

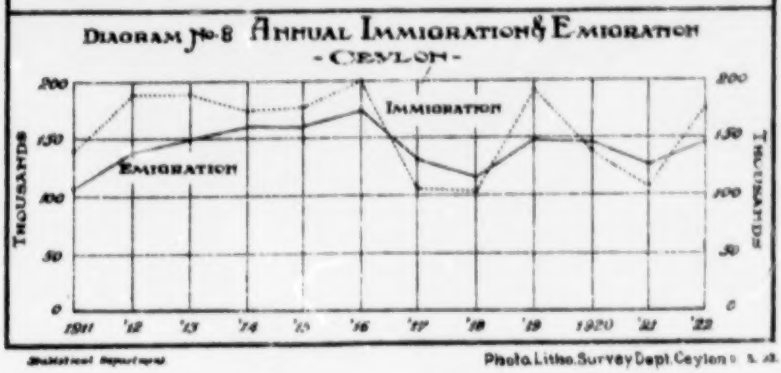
Medical Institutions.

All parts of Ceylon are well supplied with hospitals and dispensaries, most of which have been supplied by Government and are supported by public funds. Ceylon possesses a lunatic asylum and two leper asylums, one at Hendala in the Western Province, and the other at Mantivu in the Eastern Province, a tuberculosis sanatorium at Kandana in the Western Province, and 91 other Government hospitals, including a hospital for chronic cases of tuberculosis equipped with modern hospital furniture and surgical appliances. Of these hospitals, three were recently opened at Henaratgoda in the Western Province, at Elpitiya and at Udugama in the Southern Province. The number of beds in the institutions ranges from 12 to 711, while the number accommodated in the Lunatic Asylum averaged 1,095. In additions to the hospitals there are 472 central and branch dispensaries, including a central institute in Colombo for tuberculosis cases, this last is fitted up with an up-to-date X'ray apparatus. The owners of estates have provided 64 estate hospitals, which received a rebate on export duty, and 542 estate dispensaries receiving drugs free from Government to the value of 50 cents per labourer per annum.

The general rebuilding scheme in contemplation for the rebuilding of the Ceylon Medical College remained deferred. The full course of training at the College is five years for the medical students and two years for the apothecary







Statistical Department

Photo. Litho. Survey Dept. Ceylon

students. A diploma in medicine, surgery, and midwifery (which can be registered in the United Kingdom) is granted to the successful medical students. The apothecary students are employed by Government after they qualify in the final examination.

The following were the attendances and passes during the last two years:—

	Attendances.		Passes.	
	Medical.	Apothecary.	Medical.	Apothecary.
1920, October, to 1921, March ..	226	62	3	3
1921, May, to 1921, July ..	203	53	7	15
1921, October, to 1922, March ..	219	47	9	9
1921, May, to 1922, July ..	197	33	5	8

Colombo possesses a Bacteriological Institute, a Pasteur Institute, a General Hospital of 711 beds, and Opthalmic Hospital, a Lying-in Home, a Hospital for Women and Children, and a Hospital for Infectious Diseases. There are special dispensaries at Kandy and Galle for the treatment of eye diseases.

Asylums.

The Lunatic Asylum contained 1,097 inmates on December 31, 1922; the new asylum buildings at Angoda, 6 miles from Colombo, are still in progress, and when completed will have accommodation for 1,000 patients and for the necessary staff and servants. At present about 150 lunatic patients are accommodated in a temporary asylum at Matara, owing to insufficient accommodation in the Colombo asylum. The number of patients treated in the asylum during 1922 was 1,443 (868 males and 575 females). The number discharged was 256 (192 males and 64 females). These figures include those of the House of Observation.

Of the two leper asylums that at Hendala, 6 miles from Colombo, contained 455 patients at the end of the year, and the total number treated during 1922 was 551. The other asylum at Mantivu contained 116 lepers at the end of the year; the total treated during 1922 being 129.

A Home for Incurables of 80 beds is administered by a Committee of Government officials and representatives of the public.

Vital Statistics.

Population.—Estimated on the basis of the Census of March 18, 1921, the population of the Island, exclusive of the military and the shipping on December 31, 1922, was 4,621,147 persons, as against 4,539,279 at the end of 1921. The population increased by 81,868 persons or 1·8 per cent. during the year. The increase was due to an excess of 53,036 births over deaths and 28,832 arrivals over departures. The total number of arrivals in the year amounted to 174,569, of which 77,414 were estate labourers and 80,616 miscellaneous passengers from India, and 16,539 passengers from other countries. The number of departures amounted to 145,737, which included 37,629 estate labourers, 95,289 miscellaneous passengers to India, and 12,819 passengers to other countries.

The race constitution of the population and the proportion of each race per 1,000 of the total population were as follows:—

Race.	Estimated Population on December 31, 1922.	Proportion per 1,000 of the the Total Population.
Europeans ..	9,100	2·0
Burghers and Eurasians ..	30,250	6·6
Sinhalese ..	3,087,308	668·0
Tamils ..	1,134,083	245·4
Moors ..	288,644	62·5
Malays ..	13,721	3·0
Others ..	26,453	5·7
Number (excluding Europeans) of arrivals over departures since March 18, 1921 ..	31,588	6·8

Marriages.—The number of marriages, exclusive of Muhammadan, registered in 1922 amounted to 24,306, of which 19,221 were under the General Marriages Ordinance and 5,085 under the Kandyan. The total number shows an increase of 1,206 marriages over the previous year, and is higher than that recorded in any year since 1918. The average number of marriages for the past decade was 23,515. The number of persons married in the year corresponds to a rate of 11·4 per mille of the estimated population, as against 11·0 in the previous year and 11·4 the average rate for the past decade. The number of Muhammadan marriages registered in 1922 amounted to 829. Information as to the number of marriages registered in the principal towns in which one or both the parties have been residents therein was collected for the first time in 1922. In the 33 principal towns of the Island, there were 4,039 marriages during the year, of which 3,436 were under the General Marriages Ordinance, 39 under the Kandyan, and 564 under the Muhammadan. In the city of Colombo there were 1,523 marriages, of which 1,159 were General and 364 Muhammadan.

Births.—The births registered during the year numbered 179,857, the number of male children born being 91,823 and female 88,034. The total number of births is 4,060 less than in the previous year, but is considerably higher than in the years 1919 and 1920. The birth-rate of the year was 39·4 per mille. It is 1·4 less than that of the previous year, but is 1·5 more than the average rate of the preceding ten years. Though the birth-rate for the year is slightly less than in 1921, it is one of the highest on record, having been exceeded in only four years since 1887. The proportion of male to female children was 1,043 to 1,000, which is 8 more than in the previous year.

The number of births registered on estates was 24,527, as against 22,660 in the previous year. The number of estate births in the past ten years has ranged from 26,785 in 1918 to 16,738 in 1912. Owing to the difficulty of estimating the population on estates accurately for want of reliable figures as to the actual number of labourers either joining or leaving the several estates in the Island annually, it has been decided to discontinue the calculation of the birth- and death-rates of the estate population, until such time as more trustworthy figures are available.

In the 33 principal towns, the births registered numbered 19,022, as against 21,908 in the previous year. The birth-rate for the year was equivalent to 31·5 per mille of the urban population and was 5·2 less than in the previous year. Compared with the average rate of the past ten years the increase during the year was 3·2. The number of births registered in the city of Colombo was 6,882 or 1,803 births less than in the previous year. The birth-rate was 27·8, as against 35·6 in the previous year and 23·7 the mean rate for the past ten years.

Deaths.—The number of deaths registered in the Island during the year amounted to 126,821, of which 64,009 were of males and 62,812 of females. The total number was less than that registered in any of the previous four years, but more than in the years 1915–1917. The death-rate was equal to 27·8 per mille of the estimated population, as against 31·2 in the previous year and 30·0 the mean rate for the past ten years. The highest death-rate during the year was 39·5, which was recorded in the North-Central Province; the next highest rate was 35·5 in the Eastern Province. The Western Province recorded the lowest rate, 23·0, as in the previous years.

Estate Deaths.—The number of deaths registered on the estates was 14,764, as against 18,073 in the previous year. The estate mortality has considerably improved during the year, the number of deaths being the lowest registered within the last ten years.

Urban Deaths.—In the 33 principal towns 21,118 deaths were registered during the year. This number is 3,286 less than in the previous year, and

2,111 less than in 1920. The deaths of town residents alone numbered 16,724, which was equivalent to a standardized rate of 30·1 per mille as against 34·7 in the previous year and 29·8 the average rate of the past decade. In the city of Colombo the deaths numbered 7,705, of which 6,498 were residents. The death-rate of the city was 30·4, which is an appreciable improvement on the rate of the previous year, 33·3, though somewhat above the average rate, 27·8, of the past ten years.

Infant Mortality.—The mortality of children under one year of age amounted to 33,803 and corresponded to 26·7 per cent. of the total deaths during the year. Calculated on the number of births registered during the year, the infant mortality rate was equivalent to 188 per mille, as against 192 in the previous year and 182 in 1920. It may be noted that this year's rate of infant mortality is a slight improvement on the average rate, 193, of the past decade. The deaths of infants under one year on the estates numbered 4,725 or 32 per cent. of the total deaths. The corresponding mortality rate per 1,000 births was 193, as against 203 in the previous year and 224 in 1920. The average infant mortality on the estates in the decade 1913–1922 was 226, which is considerably higher than the mean rate for the whole Island for the similar period. The estate infant mortality rate, though high, has been improving within the last two years, and the calculated rate in 1922 is the lowest since 1913.

In the principal towns there were 4,574 deaths of children under one year corresponding to a rate of 240 per 1,000 births, which is higher than both the Island and the estates' rate. In the previous year the urban rate of infant mortality was 243, and the decennial mean rate was 251. It is remarkable that the infant mortality in the towns should be so high, in spite of the fact that in these places medical aid and other similar conveniences are readily available. In the city of Colombo there were 1,695 infant deaths, which yield a rate, 246 per 1,000 births, as against 240 in the previous year and 233 in 1920. Compared with the average rate of the past decade, there is a noticeable improvement of 17 per 1,000 births.

Causes of Death.—The causes of death in the Island are classified according to the international or Bertillon system, which has been in vogue here since 1911. An important improvement in the classification of causes of death by distinguishing them according to the sex of the deceased person was effected this year on the suggestion of the Superintendent of Census, in order to bring our tabulation in line with most of the European countries. The deaths registered from all causes during the year numbered 126,821. About a sixth of this number was attributed to pyrexia, a term signifying fever. Infantile convulsions and diarrhœa also contributed to a considerable mortality during the year. The death-rate from some of the principal causes per million of the population in 1922 and 1921 are given below :—

	1922.	1921.
Pyrexia	4,422	4,746
Infantile convulsions	3,028	3,215
Diarrhœa	2,127	2,791
Pneumonia	1,640	1,489
Phthisis	681	699
Dysentery	551	945
Influenza	525	663
Malaria and malarial cachexia	449	436
Anchylostomiasis	410	650
Premature birth and congenital defects	363	350
Puerperal septicaemia	338	370
Bronchitis	290	278
Enteric fever	119	148
Cancer	101	96

From the above list it will be seen that, with the exceptions of pneumonia, malaria, premature birth, bronchitis, and cancer, which showed slight increases, the rate of mortality in the case of the rest was lower than in the previous year. This may be taken as an indication that the health of the population in 1922 was better than in 1921, or in any year since the outbreak of the influenza pandemic in 1918.

Influenza.—The deaths attributed to influenza during the year numbered 2,395, of which 1,235 were males and 1,160 females. This number is the lowest recorded since the pandemic broke out in 1918, when it was 19,102. In the following year the number rose to 22,814, and then it declined considerably in the subsequent two years to 3,643 and 2,986, respectively. The deaths from pneumonia, which since the outbreak of the influenza pandemic have been fairly high, amounted to 7,479 (4,156 males and 3,323 females). There is an increase of 771 deaths over the previous year and 813 over 1920. But compared with the years 1918 and 1919 the mortality from pneumonia also is considerably less. It is likely that the increase over the previous two years of the deaths from pneumonia is due to a slight recrudescence of influenza in the second and third quarters of the year.

Plague.—The number of deaths from plague registered in the year was 143, of which as many as 120 were males and only 23 females. In the previous year the number was 187. It is now nine years since the plague broke out in the Island, and within this period there have been only two years, viz., 1915 and 1919, in which the mortality from the disease was less than in this year. As usual, by far the greater number of deaths occurred within the Municipality of Colombo, where were registered 127 events (111 males and 16 females). In Galle there were 13 deaths (6 males and 7 females), in Kandy 1, in Kegalla 1, and in Colombo District outside the Municipal limits 1, all three of males. About half the number of deaths occurred within the last four months of the year, the mortality in Galle being entirely confined to the months of September, October, and November. In the month of April the the number of deaths registered was 3, which was the lowest.

Smallpox.—The deaths registered from smallpox during the year numbered 40, of which 18 were of males and 22 of females. Twenty-three deaths were registered in the Batticaloa District, due to an outbreak of the epidemic in a village called Kalmunaikudi, about the middle of the year. Six deaths were registered in the Colombo District, 5 in Jaffna, 3 in Kandy, and 1 each in Anuradhapura, Nuwara Eliya, and Ratnapura. In the previous year the number of deaths from smallpox was only 7.

Cholera.—Four deaths (3 males and 1 female) from cholera were registered during the year, as against 3 in the previous one. All the deaths were registered in the Kandy District, and the source of infection was not stated.

Accidents and Other Affections produced by External Causes.—To these were attributed 1,982 deaths (1,467 males and 515 females), as against 2,151 in 1921, and 2,498 in 1920. It would appear that along with other diseases cases of accident also had diminished in 1922. 471 of the accidental deaths were returned as due to fall from trees, and of the number, strange as it may appear, 5 were females. Drowning was ascribed as the cause of death in 413 cases (males 243, females 170); deaths from burns numbered 207 (104 of males and 103 females). Of the deaths due to burns, 27 were ascribed to the bottle lamp. The deaths caused by the bottle lamp have shown a marked fall in this as well as in the previous year.

Snake Bite.—The deaths from snake bite in 1922 numbered 249. Of this number, 167 were males and 82 were females. In the previous year the total number of deaths from snake bite was one less.

Homicide.—217 deaths were attributed to homicide, as against the same number in the previous year and 227 in 1920. 160 of the deaths during the year were of men and 57 of women. In the previous year the numbers were 168 and 49, respectively. The death-rate per million persons from homicide was 48, and is comparatively high.

Suicide.—The deaths from suicide numbered 232, as against 244 in the pevious year and 249 in 1920. The men who committed suicide were far in excess of the women, the number of males being 167 and females 65. In the previous year there were 159 men and 85 women, whose deaths were returned as due to suicide. The suicide rate per million persons in Ceylon in 1922 was 51, as against 54 in the previous year.

Executions.—During the year there were 35 cases of judicial hanging or execution, as against 49 in the previous year.

Causes of Death on Estates.—Of the 14,764 deaths registered from all causes on the estates, the highest number (2,315) was from pneumonia, which showed an increase over the previous year. Debility of children under three months came next, with 2,257 deaths. Infantile convulsions caused 1,207 deaths, anchylostomiasis 1,095, diarrhœa 860, and dysentery 852. From debility of persons over three months there were 689 deaths, and from prematurity and congenital defects 506 deaths. The deaths from influenza numbered 463, and were 84 in excess of the previous year. Phthisis was returned as the cause of death in 253 cases, and malaria in 260 cases. There were 34 deaths from suicide and 16 from homicide, as against 44 and 11, respectively, in the previous year.

Causes of Death in Towns.—The deaths registered from all causes in the towns in 1922 were 21,118. The principal causes were pneumonia, which caused 2,965 deaths, infantile debility 1,481 deaths, convulsions 1,442 deaths, phthisis 1,168 deaths, diarrhœa 1,030 deaths, and malaria and malarial cachexia 969 deaths. The deaths attributed to anchylostomiasis were 828, to enteritis 819, to dysentery 792, and to Bright's disease and nephritis 687. There were 413 deaths from bronchitis, 404 from influenza, 358 from enteric fever, and 284 from puerperal septicæmia. The number of deaths from cancer was 155. There were also registered 38 deaths from suicide, 53 from homicide, and 345 from all forms of accident.

METEOROLOGY.

General Remarks.—There is a marked variation in climate between the different parts of Ceylon. In the low-country, with a mean temperature of the order of 80° F., a noticeable feature is the small range of both temperature and pressure. There is, however, wide divergence between the moist conditions in the south-west of the Island, where the average annual rainfall varies from 100 to 200 inches, and the dry zone areas of the north, north-west, and south-east.

Altitudes up to 8,200 feet occur inland, and there the temperature is cooler, and shows a bigger range. There is a corresponding change in vegetation, and the conditions are altogether more akin to those in the temperate zone.

Rainfall.—The areas, whose total rainfall for the year was above average, include most of the east and north-east coast and most of the west coast from Kalutara to Mannar, except the neighbourhood of Chilaw. Inland there was an area above average stretching north-eastward from Negombo to Kurunegala, and also a strip on the exposed south-west face of the main hills, although there was a deficit on both sides of this strip, *i.e.*, in the low-country of Sabaragamuwa and among the central ranges. Another district where

averages were reached was in the extreme south-east of the hill country near Koslanda. In the remainder of the Island—which amounts to a good deal more in extent than the areas mentioned above—the rainfall of 1922 was below average.

During the south-west monsoon the wind was rather above normal strength, and for those months there was a marked excess of rain on a narrow belt on the south-west face of the hills, and a marked deficit in most of the remainder of the Island amounting at some places to a severe drought. Turning to questions of absolute quantity, the new station at Blackwater estate (Nawalapitiya) heads the list with 228·4 inches on 217 rainy days, Carney estate (Ratnapura) being second with 221·7 inches on 230 rainy days and an average of 215·8 on 227 days. At the other end, Hambantota (33·6 on 101 days) and Ambalantota (27·6 inches on 72 days) were the lowest, though Marichchukkaddi, which recorded 39·9 inches on 53 days this year, still holds the lowest average, namely, 33·6 inches in 56 days. The longest period of consecutive wet days was 47 at Elpitiya. Several stations in the north, north-west, and south-east of the Island recorded hardly anything during the south-west monsoon, but it is hard to give figures with confidence for the precise number of consecutive days without any rain.

The rainfall at Colombo (Cinnamon Gardens) was 87·82 inches in 169 days, or 8·31 inches above average. At Kandy 79·35 inches registered in 184 days, while the rainfall at Nuwara Eliya was 92·47 inches in 219 days.

Temperature.—The station showing the highest mean shade temperature for the year was Trincomalee with 83·0° F., and the lowest Nuwara Eliya with 59·6° F. The figures for Colombo and Kandy were 80·70° F. and 76·4° F., respectively.

The highest shade temperature recorded during the year was 101·3° F. at Kurunegala on April 1. The highest on record is 103·7° F. at Trincomalee on May 12, 1890. The lowest this year was 31·5° F. at Nuwara Eliya (6,000 feet above sea level), on February 24 at which station 27·1° F. was recorded in 1914. The highest shade temperature at Colombo in 1922 was 95·5° F. on April 5, and the lowest 65·1° F. on December 10 and 13.

The mean daily range, *i.e.*, the difference between the mean of the maximum and the mean of the minimum was highest at Badulla, 18·6° F., and the lowest at Galle, 8·1° F. At Colombo and Kandy it was 12·2° F. and 15·5° F., respectively. The absolute range for the year, *i.e.*, the difference between the highest and the lowest readings actually recorded at any one station, was greatest at Nuwara Eliya (46·7° F.) and lowest at Galle (22·9° F.).

The mean annual temperatures were a trifle below average at the west coast stations and a trifle above elsewhere. Galle—(0·6° F.) was the only station whose offset for the year in either direction was so much as half a degree. In January no station was below its average, and in December all stations were below—in most cases by about a degree.

IX.—ARCHÆOLOGY, &c.

Archæological Survey.

This is the first complete year since the present Commissioner has had charge of the Survey. As the financial situation of the Colony has not improved, it was necessary to keep the expenditure down. The total estimates amounted to Rs. 92,122, besides an apportionment of Rs. 2,200 placed at the disposal of the Department by the Government Agent, North-Central Province, from the vote allotted to him for clearing and maintaining Crown reservations,

Expenditure and Revenue.

Of the Archæological vote a sum of Rs. 5,500 was transferred to meet the cost of an expedition to the Maldives, undertaken by Mr. H. C. P. Bell, late Archæological Commissioner. The nett expenditure of the Department has therefore been Rs. 86,702·30. Revenue collected from the sale of photographic prints and other miscellaneous items is Rs. 223·98.

Donation.

Rev. N. K. Sri Bharatindra of Senanayaka Mudalindaramaya, Ambepussa, donated a sum of Rs. 100 to aid the conservation work of the Department. In the history of the Department this is believed to be the first time such a donation was ever received from the general public.

Scholarships.

Scholarships have been sanctioned for study in India under the direction of the Director-General of Archæology in India, who has kindly consented to supervise their training. The examination which was held in September in Colombo revealed no talent for history or for architecture among those who took up the excavation and the architectural papers. The epigraphical examination was more satisfactory, but it was used chiefly as a means of elimination; a definite recommendation will be made after a few selected candidates have been tried at work in Anuradhapura in January, 1923.

Guards.

Owing to the numbers of beggars squatting on the ruins it was found necessary to appoint a guard for the Anuradhapura reservations. The experiment has proved satisfactory; cattle has been less in evidence, and cases of damage or trespass have been duly reported.

A second guard has been appointed at Sigiriya in order to keep a continuous watch on the gallery, and prevent further acts of vandalism.

Labour.

It has been found necessary to secure overseers of a higher standard of education than the Department hitherto possessed in order to carry out satisfactorily the conservation work. The experiment is also being tried of training apprentices as young as possible.

All coolies of the labour force are now registered.

Quarters.

The total cost of building additional quarters for draughtsmen in Polonnaruva, new cooly lines consisting of 21 rooms in Anuradhapura, and 6 temporary rooms with leaf walls in Polonnaruva, and new lines with leaf walls in Sigiriya, and of repairs to other quarters, has been Rs. 7,050·60.

Publication.

Owing to the stringency of finance, funds have not been available for the publication of the late Mr. Ayrton's memoirs, but arrangements are, however, being made to have them published at the earliest opportunity.

Library.

The Department has allowed responsible persons to borrow books from the library from last year. But there have been only a few more borrowers this year. On the whole, very little use is made of the library by persons outside the Department.

Photography.

Authority has been obtained for the sale of photographs, with a view to turn to profit the photographer's slack periods, should there be any, while at the same time making records available to those who are interested among the general public.

Collections.

As there were no excavations, new specimens have been few, but these formed the beginnings of a properly ordered collection. Among them the following deserved notice :—

(i.) A pot found underneath a balustrade of the Polonnaruva period at the so-called Dhatu Mandiraya, opposite Ruvanvalisaya. It contained 107 coins mostly of Sahassa Malla and Lilavati. The pot also contained a round brass box, in which were two gold wedges which appear to have been used as currency.

(ii.) A clay pot which contained fragments of bones, a clay lamp, both from Dhatu Mandiraya, and a clay lamp from Polonnaruva.

(iii.) A brick from Ruvanvalisaya.

The coin collection, though it has improved, is still inadequate.

Reservations.

All the reservations that were cleared last year have been cleared again this year. In addition, Sigiriya, which had not been cleared since 1913, was cleared round the rock and at Mapagala.

At Polonnaruva paths 3 feet wide have been cleared to all the ruins.

Erection of a gate at the entrance of the gallery at Sigiriya has been sanctioned in order to control the visitors and prevent further acts of vandalism.

Arrangements are being made to reserve Arankale, north of Kurunegala, in the North-Western Province. It is a complete monastic settlement of the style of Manakanda and Ritigala, but completely untouched and picturesquely situated.

Conservation.

The conservation of Dhatu Mandiraya was taken in hand as a beginning, and the task was satisfactorily accomplished. The work consisted mainly in pointing brick work with lime, and laying the top bricks in cement and pudlow to make them waterproof. The stone platform, which forms the oldest building in the monastery, has been levelled up and fitted together. An inscription in characters of the 12th century, which has not yet been deciphered, was found here built into the side of a drain.

Attention was next turned to the Sela Caitiya, which is a favourite stupa with pilgrims. All the stones forming the retaining wall of the platforms were replaced in position with a backing of cement concrete, and most of the dome was pointed. The work was interrupted in order to begin the year's campaign in Polonnaruva.

Pointing was carried out on the brick work of the so-called Elephant Stables, as it was much exposed to damage by cattle, and it was desirable to preserve as much as possible Mr. Ayrton's careful excavation.

The Kiri Vehera was the first undertaking in Polonnaruva. The work consisted almost entirely in pointing the joints and edging the plaster so as to make the structure waterproof.

The Demala Maha Saya presented more serious problems as the exterior east corner of the north wall of the shrine was in a very delicate condition. The facing of the wall was built up so as to hold up the tottering mass above, and tying up that mass with iron cramps to the building. The arch over the tunnel in the north wall had to be completed in order to save what was left.

On the advice of the Archæological Survey of India some of the frescoes were washed with spirit of turpentine and bee's wax. This brightens them up very much, and brings out details.

The outer wall of the Lankatilaka was pointed.

Research.

No further progress has been made in Epigraphy. Estampages and eye-copies of four new inscriptions were taken and despatched to the Government Epigraphist in England.

The lack of funds and the continued necessity for systematizing did not allow of any excavations beyond a small venture at the Thuparama well. But the results were disappointing, as it had been previously excavated by the Department. A harvest of recent British coins thrown in since the excavation was reaped ; then one or two Dutch coins were found.

Information was received of a large pot underneath the slab of the Ambastale at Mihintale. It was removed ; but it appears probable that the contents had been plundered. The Sinhalese coins in the pot could not therefore be taken as a certain indication of date.

Further information was gained about the Lankatilaka at Polonnaruva : a plaster floor was discovered in the alley between the Lankatilaka and Kiri Vehera and also between the Lankatilaka and the square platform opposite the main porch. A copy of the painting over the north porch of the Lankatilaka was made.

Journeys of exploration were undertaken :—

(*a*) To Piduragala north of Sigiriya ; where there is a colossal brick Buddha. The brick walls of the cell would appear from the pilasters on them to belong somewhen about the 10th century. If this could be confirmed it would be of considerable interest, as well characterized brick work before the 12th century is rare ;

(*b*) In the area between Anuradhapura, Mannar, and Puttalam. The environs of Madavacciya were first explored, but yielded little of interest. Then a visit was paid to Tantrimalai, which made up for the poor results round Madavacciya. It is the only place known to the Archæological Commissioner where rude stone platforms are fairly well preserved so that one gets some idea of their size.

(*c*) At Mr. John Still's suggestion a visit was paid to Kurundanmalai, in the Mullaittivu District of the Northern Province, where an important centre existed about the 12th century ;

(*d*) Some ancient remains round Kantalai were inspected at the suggestion of Mr. G. S. S. Gordon, Assistant Railway Construction Engineer. It is interesting to note that there is much slag and iron ore along the canal.

A register of monuments has been started with particulars as to the locality and description of the monument, with references to literature, the number of plan, the numbers of inscriptions and negatives, and remarks. As the register becomes more complete it should become of administrative value : distant inspections have often to be undertaken in answer to applications for leave to restore.

Treasure Trove.

Three applications to dig for treasure have been received. No objections were raised, except in one case, where it seemed the cave which it was wished to excavate might contain objects of interest ; it was therefore stipulated that the work should be carried out under the supervision of the Department according to its instructions. Eventually, however, the treasure hunters failed to raise the necessary funds.

The Department is far from having attained that state of organization which is being aimed at, but some progress has been made in that direction. The co-operation of workers outside the Department can help considerably.

COLOMBO MUSEUM.

The Colombo Museum is a Government institution founded in 1877 by H. E. Sir William Gregory. It is a two-storied building of imposing appearance standing in spacious grounds. The Museum contains a valuable collection of archæological and ethnological exhibits, as well as representative collections dealing with the Zoology and Mineralogy of Ceylon. In all instances the Museum deals only with exhibits from Ceylon and the Maldives. A library is attached to the Museum, the zoological section of which, in particular, is very valuable. Over 200,000 people visit the Museum annually.

X.—POLICE, CRIME, AND PRISONS.

POLICE.

Strength.—The strength of the Force on December 31, 1922, provided for in the Estimates was :—

Inspector-General	1
Deputy Inspectors-General ..	2
Superintendents	11
Assistant Superintendents and Probationers	24
Inspectors	45
Sub-Inspectors	124
Sergeants	353
Constables	2,449

European Police Force.

Inspector	1
Sub-Inspectors	3
Sergeants	31
Total of all ranks ..	3,044

The total strength of the Force was short by 36 on December 31, 1922. The Force was kept up to strength of sergeants and constables throughout the year, the actual strength of sergeants and constables on December 31, 1922, being only 12 short of the sanctioned (2,802).

The shortage was due to the fact that an increase to the strength of 3 sergeants and 42 constables had been sanctioned from October 1, and men to complete this strength had not all been enlisted by December 31 owing to the limited accommodation available at the Training School.

There are a large number of approved applicants awaiting enlistment.

Cost.—The cost of the Force was Rs. 2,746,750 approximately. The cost of police per man is Rs. 902·35 per annum. The cost per head of population is 61 cents or 10*d*.

CRIME.

Crime committed during the Year.—There was a decrease in crime in 1922, as compared with the years 1920 and 1921, as the following statement shows :—

	1920.	1921.	1922.
Homicide	176	221	202
Attempted homicide ..	43	43	58
Grievous hurt	770	714	718
Hurt with dangerous weapons ..	1,009	1,025	1,097
Burglary	2,144	1,908	1,682
Theft of cattle and prædial produce	1,068	1,036	810
Other offences	2,979	2,693	2,478
Total ..	8,189	7,640	7,045

The steady decrease under the head " Burglary " and " Theft of cattle and prædial produce " is a noticeable feature.

The following table shows under separate heads " Offences against the person " which are not directly preventable by the police and " Offences against property " which are classed as " Preventible crime." The police cannot prevent offences against the person in villages :—

Year.	Total Crime.	Offences against the Person.	Preventible Crime (Offences against Property).	Offences against the State.
1919 ..	8,577 ..	2,045 ..	6,506 ..	26
1920 ..	8,189 ..	2,107 ..	6,055 ..	27
1921 ..	7,640 ..	2,122 ..	5,494 ..	24
1922 ..	7,045 ..	2,212 ..	4,805 ..	28

It will be seen that whereas the number of offences against the person has remained at about the same figure in the region of 2,100 since 1919, there has been a steady decrease over the same period in offences against property.

The marked decrease in preventible crime is a satisfactory feature.

Prior to the establishment of additional police in the Western, Southern, and North-Western Provinces in 1906, the regular police were practically confined to the principal towns and planting districts, where they were invariably paid for, in whole or in part, by the population requiring their services.

In the really criminal districts there were no police. Regular police went out from the nearest large station to murders, but otherwise crime in the villages was left to the headmen, who had multifarious duties to perform and who, when cases of crime were frequent, could not possibly cope with them ; with the result that a very great number of cases went undetected. The opening up of various parts of the Island by railways and better roads had caused an influx of strangers and bad characters from the towns to districts so developed. The headmen had not the same control over these strangers as over their own villagers, while bad characters were afforded increased facilities for absconding and for moving about from place to place to commit crime.

It was specially to secure the better investigation of cases of serious crime that in 1906 police were introduced into Provinces which had become criminal owing to the opening up and development of the country.

The Western, Southern, and North-Western Provinces were the first to be policed in this way, and, later, the system was extended to the Provinces of Sabaragamuwa and Uva, as they were opened up by new railways.

The only Provinces into which police have not been introduced are the Northern, Eastern, and North-Central Provinces, where conditions have changed least. In these Provinces police are only established in the principal town of the Province, with the exception of the quarantine duty police at Kayts, Kankesanturai, Point Pedro, and Talaimannar in the Northern Province.

The introduction of police into Provinces has in no way lessened the part played by the headmen in maintaining order and in reducing crime. The police do not take the place of, but rather supplement the work of, the headmen, and a sound system of co-operation and a good understanding between the two are the most important points in provincial police administration.

Distribution of Crime.—The following table shows the distribution of crime :—

Province.	Homicide.	Attempted Homicide.	Grievous Hurt.	Hurt with Dangerous Weapons.	Burglary.	Theft of Cattle and Prædial Produce.	Other Offences.	Total.
Western	59	25	238	298	368	219	382	1,589
Southern	43	7	109	261	319	245	293	1,277
North-Western	33	12	93	112	230	119	362	961
Central	16	1	81	103	259	39	298	797
Sabaragamuwa	26	6	48	74	226	90	196	666
Colombo City	9	—	56	76	65	4	348	558
Northern	8	1	61	91	39	28	281	509
Uva	4	5	14	32	119	55	157	386
Eastern	3	1	16	40	24	10	73	167
North-Central	1	—	2	10	33	1	88	135
Total	202	58	718	1,097	1,682	810	2,478	7,045

Comparing the number of serious offences committed with the population, it is found that—

In the Colombo City	there is 1 case of crime to every	460	persons.
In the North-Western Province	do.	512	do.
In the Southern Province	do.	526	do.
In the Province of Uva	do.	606	do.
In the Western Province	do.	623	do.
In the Province of Sabaragamuwa	do.	708	do.
In the North-Central Province	do.	715	do.
In the Northern Province	do.	736	do.
In the Central Province	do.	900	do.
In the Eastern Province	do.	1,155	do.

The proportion of serious crime to population in Ceylon is 1 case of serious crime per annum to every 638 persons. The proportion of murders to population in Ceylon is 4·49 per 100,000 persons, compared with ·4 per 100,000 persons in England and Wales.

There was an increase of crime in the Northern (39 per cent.) and North-Central (42 per cent.) Provinces.

There was a decrease in the Province of Uva (30 per cent.) and the Central (14 per cent.), Sabaragamuwa (12 per cent.), Southern (10 per cent.), North-Western (9 per cent.), Western (9 per cent.) Provinces, and a slight decrease in the Colombo city (2 per cent.).

Crime in the Eastern Province was normal, showing a slight increase of 4 per cent.

The very noticeable decrease in the Province of Uva is very satisfactory, and can be attributed to the special action taken to deal with crime by increasing the strength of the police in the Province and by opening new stations. In 1921 Uva headed the list of Provinces placed in order of proportion of serious crime to population with 1 case of crime to every 425 persons. The proportion in 1922 has been reduced to 1 case of crime to every 606 persons.

The most criminal districts of the Island in 1922 were :—

The Chilaw District.
The Colombo City.
The Matara District.
The Tangalla District.
The Kurunegala District.
The Galle District.
The Badulla District.
The Colombo District, Western Province.
The Kalutara District.
The Matale District.

The most noticeable feature is the improved state of order of the Kalutara District. For several years prior to and including 1920, Kalutara headed the list of criminal districts. In 1921 Kalutara was seventh in the list, and is now, in 1922, ninth in the list.

The improvement effected since the year 1918 is most marked. Comparison of the number of true cases of crime committed in each year 1918–1922 shows that there has been a 66 per cent. drop in serious crime since 1918, when special action to deal with crime in the Kalutara District was started, and it will be seen that the record of detection shows an equally marked improvement.

Year.	True Cases of Crime.	Percentage of Convictions to Total True Cases.
1918	695	30
1919	497	51
1920	377	57
1921	283	60½
1922	232	65½

The most striking feature of this return is that the decrease in crime has occurred in offences against property which the police can deal with. Offences against the person show very little change, 131 true cases in 1918, 106 in 1922. Offences against property show a marked decrease :—

	Number of True Cases.	
	1918.	1922.
Burglary	265	59
Cattle stealing	112	19
Robbery	26	9
Theft of property over Rs. 20 in value	144	35

The detection of offences against property in 1922 has been very good :—

Cattle stealing	16 convictions obtained in	19 cases.
Robbery	9 do.	9 cases.
Theft	22 do.	35 cases.

In 1915 the Panadure District was separated from the Kalutara District, and a separate Assistant Superintendent allotted to each to provide for better supervision of the very heavy crime in these two districts. The crime in the Panadure District was itself heavy, and for several years Panadure has been high in the list of criminal districts. The absence of Panadure from among the ten most criminal districts in 1922 and the good state of the Kalutara District has justified the action taken.

In 1921 and in 1922 the Kegalla District which was hitherto classed as a criminal district has not been placed among the ten most criminal districts. Eight years ago there was only one police station in the Kegalla District. Additional stations were opened to deal with crime in the district, and there are now ten stations in the Kegalla District.

The number of cases of serious crime has steadily dropped from 608 in 1919 to 392 in 1922, representing a decrease in three years of 35 per cent.

The most criminal outstation police areas in Ceylon are the following :—

Kamburupitiya station with 102 cases of serious crime in the year.
Kurunegala District station with 90 cases of serious crime in the year.
Jaffna station with 84 cases of serious crime in the year.
Kuliyapitiya station with 78 cases of serious crime in the year.

Action taken to deal with Crime.—Steps taken to deal with crime during the year were :—

(1) *Strength.*—The strength of the Force was increased by 5 sub-inspectors, 3 sergeants, and 42 constables for the investigation of crime.

(2) *Means of Communication.*—Funds were provided for connecting up by telephone more police stations with headquarters of the Province or district.

(3) *Province of Uva.*—Additional police stations were established at Haputale, Passara, and Demodera to deal with the crime and the changed conditions consequent on the extension of the railway to Badulla, and the strength of the Force in Uva has been specially increased by 1 sub-inspector and 11 constables.

(4) *Ratnapura District.*—An additional police station was opened at Nivitigala, and the strength of the Force has been increased by 3 sub-inspectors and 2 constables.

(5) *Kalutara District.*—The improvement in the state of crime in the Kalutara District dates from 1919, attention was concentrated on police co-operation with the headmen, activity of police by day and night, raiding gaming places, arresting absconders. The 1919 and 1920 returns of crime showed the first marked improvement.

The further advance in the good order of the district in 1921 and 1922 is due to the closer supervision of dangerous criminals.

It may be stated that the Kalutara District to-day is in very good order, and that there is a marked decrease of the spirit of lawlessness which previously existed.

(6) *Kegalla District.*—An additional police station was established at Mawanella, because the amount of crime in the large area previously policed by the Rambukkana Police could not be effectually dealt with from one station.

(7) *Northern Province.*—A punitive police force was established at Urumpirai on July 16, 1922, for six months on account of the increase of serious crime in that locality.

(8) *Eastern Province.*—An additional police station was opened at Eravur, and a punitive police force at Kattankudy was established on June 26, 1922, for twelve months to deal with the increase of crime.

(9) *Central Province.*—A new police station was opened at Mahawela in the Matale District to deal with crime outside Matale town.

(10) *Gang Robberies.*—Particular attention was paid to gang robberies, a class of crime very prevalent in the North-Western Province, where 21 cases occurred in 1922, and very rare in other Provinces.

Close Supervision of Dangerous Characters.—Special attention is being given to the close supervision of dangerous characters as opposed to the general supervision of all " Re-convicted Criminals."

The term " Re-convicted Criminal " has now been adopted by the police with reference to any person twice or more frequently convicted of crime, who was previously wrongly named " Habitual Criminal."

Beside the re-convicted criminal there is another class of persons who require to be specially watched by the police. These may have only one conviction, but the fact that they show system and method in committing crime and a distinctly criminal mind, signals them out to be specially watched and supervised by the police.

The worst criminals of both these classes are regarded as dangerous criminals. They are known to the police as " Dangerous Characters " and receive special supervision above the ordinary, and steps are being taken to have them photographed.

Co-operation of Headmen with Police.—In all Provinces headmen have co-operated very heartily with the police, and improved relations between headmen and police is having good effect, as is shown in the case of the Kalutara District.

In districts where there are police stations the headmen have patrolled regularly by night with the police, and in some cases organized their own patrols.

In many districts the police regularly attended the Chief Headmen's monthly division days, which enables the headmen to hear of any new points which have come to light affecting the work of the district and on what new lines the police are working.

Co-operation by the Railway Staff and by the Public.—The railway staff have been particularly helpful in bringing to notice and detecting persons committing theft from passengers on the railway, and ten cases have been brought to the notice of the General Manager in which observation and prompt action by an officer of the railway staff had resulted in the detection of crime. The officers were in each case rewarded.

There were several instances during the year of members of the public rendering assistance to the police in the prevention of crime and in saving life. In some districts, notably the Panadure District and the Kegalla District, village protection societies have been formed by villagers to patrol the district and prevent crime, and the many cases reported of offenders detected by these patrols prove the value of such societies.

Prevention of Crime.—The attention of the police is being specially directed to the prevention of crime. By co-operating with the headmen and the public and securing their help and interest; by knowing the worst characters, and knowing the method and system by which each criminal commits crime; by constant patrolling, raiding gaming places, and police keeping on the move as much as possible in each station area, crime can be prevented, and this has been the subject of special training.

Special attention has been given to the training of all ranks on more skilled and well thought-out lines in order to supply the counter thrust to the ingenuity of the professional criminal, who, as he becomes better educated, is more skilled.

The increase in the number of cases of a fraudulent nature, investigated by the Criminal Investigation Department, and the remarkable ingenuity displayed in their commission or attempted commission is clearly evidence of the increasing skill of the criminal in Ceylon.

Further Action necessary to deal with Crime.

Dealing with Youthful Offenders.—It has been mentioned in previous reports that one of the greatest needs of the Colony is the treatment of youthful offenders on sound practical lines in order to prevent a youth becoming an habitual criminal. Ceylon offers an exceptional field for work, such as this to be started. The volume of crime is very heavy.

The record of criminals in Ceylon shows that a very large proportion of the habitual criminals come from the towns, and their history almost invariably starts with petty thefts in the streets committed at the age of 15 to 21.

The object of a sound police and prison system is to prevent, so far as possible, a person from becoming a habitual criminal. Nothing can be done with a hardened criminal; it is useless teaching him a trade, for on release from prison he will, from sheer force of habit, in almost every case return to his former state and live on the proceeds of crime committed.

Being a port of call, the streets of Colombo are infested with boys who plague and molest passengers. Such boys are continually being prosecuted. They are fined small amounts or given cuts with a cane and return to the streets. Living such a life a boy cannot but become a criminal. It is just this type of boy who might be turned into a decent man in a Borstal Institution.

A Committee appointed by Government to consider the need of a Borstal Institution in Ceylon, under the Presidentship of the Chief Justice, has reported a Borstal Institution is very necessary. A capital site in the country

at Urugasmanhandiya has been suggested, where the boys can be employed both in trade and agriculture and gardening, and all that is required is the provision of funds.

As it is improbable that a Borstal Institution will be started for some years, a start has been made by the police to improve the conditions in which these boys live by providing them with opportunity for games and recreation. The police are in the best position to approach these boys, and it is through games that that they can be appealed to. It cannot be denied that surroundings are the predominant influence in the making of the man. The boy in the street in evil, unhealthy surroundings will grow into the evil, unhealthy minded young criminal. It is to improve the surroundings of the boys in the streets of Colombo that a start has been made by the police to give them an interest in games and to appeal to the best in them through sport and recreation.

The police in Colombo have in this way got the names of over 200 boys, who live in the streets. Some have no homes or parents, few have been to school, while all are dirty, illclad, and badly nourished.

Games are organized for them, and the materials are provided. In some station areas residents have come forward with offers of clothing and food, and money to purchase materials for recreation.

These boys, it should be mentioned, are untouched by any other existing organization.

Supervision of Aliens, Strangers, and Travellers.

In addition to the ordinary work of the police, certain extra duties, initiated shortly after the outbreak of war in 1914, have been continued throughout 1922. Of these, the most important are :—

(1) Enforcement of legislation that no person may embark on any ship in the harbour unless he is in possession of a passport and steamer ticket or holds a special permit from the Chairman, Plague Committee, to do so. This regulation necessitates the Harbour Police checking all persons attempting to board a vessel.

(2) Examining and stamping on board ship the passports of all steamer passengers who wish to land in Colombo.

(3) Registering and supervising all Indians arriving by steamer *en route* to India *viâ* Talaimannar.

(4) Registering and supervising alien commercial travellers and missionaries arriving in the Colony by steamer or from India *viâ* Talaimannar.

(5) The general surveillance of all other aliens arriving in the Colony and of all aliens resident in the Colony.

(6) Correspondence with the United Kingdom, India, South Africa, all Eastern Colonies, and Foreign Countries regarding suspicious aliens, anti-British persons, &c.

Situated as Ceylon is on the main route to the Far East and Australia and in close proximity to India, a very large number of persons pass through Colombo, and the Ceylon Police are constantly being requested by police of other countries to mark down, arrest, or report on the movements of an undesirable or fugitive offender who is believed to be on his way to India, Australia, or the Far East. A complete list of all persons disembarking from or embarking on ships in the ports of Ceylon is kept, together with a record of all persons stopping at hotels, boarding houses, and resthouses, so that any information required can be given at short notice. In this way the Criminal Investigation Department of Ceylon acts as a clearing house and does a considerable amount of work for the police of other countries.

LEGISLATION DEALING WITH THE REGULATION OF TRAFFIC.

Motor Vehicles.—The system of control of all motor vehicles by one registering authority (Inspector-General of Police) continues, and the examination of applicants for and the issue of licenses to drive motor vehicles are being carried out by the police.

The motor by-laws were revised and brought up to date. The by-laws introduced in previous years were added to in the course of the year to provide for the following :—

(*a*) A driving license being in force for 12 months from the date of issue instead of to December 31 of the year of issue.

(*b*) Prohibiting the use of motor vehicles exceeding 2 tons in weight when fully loaded and equipped on any road which the Governor in Executive Council may declare unsuitable for such traffic.

(*c*) Authorizing the use of motor lorries, 7 feet 2 inches in width, on roads outside the Municipal limits of Colombo, Kandy, and Galle.

(*d*) Dispensing with the requirement that every lorry be capable of being turned within a circle of 45 feet in diameter.

(*e*) Punishment of the driver using a motor lorry on any road that has not been declared suitable for use by lorries, or on any road which has been declared suitable under modified conditions.

(*f*) Regulating the speed limit to 12 miles an hour for motor buses and lorries within the Municipal limits of Kandy.

In the Municipality of Colombo there were 246 accidents caused by motor vehicles, compared with 323 in 1921. Of these, only 5 proved fatal. There were 8 fatal accidents in 1921. The number of fatal accidents in 1922 caused by carts was 4.

The decreasing number of motor accidents and the very small proportion of fatal accidents, which scarcely exceed those caused by carts, speaks well for the average driver of a motor vehicle in streets which, with few exceptions, are not provided with pavements for foot passengers, and for the efficiency of traffic control.

TRAINING.

General.—Special attention has been given to the training of all men of the Force in the duty of preserving order and in the prevention and investigation of crime.

From the start the training is made as practical as possible. A room at the Training School has been fitted up as a police station, and contains the same books and records as a police station.

Newly joined sub-inspectors, constables under training for the rank of sergeant, and English-speaking recruits receive practical training in this way in the method of keeping the station books, dealing with complaints, and reports of crime.

Crimes are re-constructed and dealt with at this model station from the receipt of the serial report from the headmen up to the stage when investigation is complete and the plaint has been drafted. Recruits who speak only vernacular languages take part in these demonstrations, which include the searching of houses, method of making arrests, and executing warrants, and every branch of police work which can be practically demonstrated.

Before being posted to a station every recruit receives practical instruction in the streets, under supervision, in " Point duty " and the control of traffic.

All ranks are instructed in matters affecting their particular district on first arrival in that district.

In addition to the weekly issue to all stations of orders relating to new Ordinances, by-laws, regulations, in which all ranks are regularly instructed

and questioned, notes and hints on incidents and cases which have actually occurred are published for general information and guidance.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Discipline.—Many acts of bravery and cases of prompt action displayed in arresting armed criminals and saving life from drowning and instances of individual good work were reported during the year.

Imperial Service Medal.—Police Sergeant M. L. D. Cornelis of the Criminal Investigation Department and Police Constable Bakkim Abdulla of the Colombo Division were awarded the Imperial Service Medal by His Majesty the King for long, good, and meritorious service.

First Aid to the Injured.—The Ceylon Police Corps of the St. John Ambulance Brigade has increased from 132 members in 1912 to 760 members in 1922.

A new pattern stretcher and a first aid box and hamper containing all necessary first aid materials form part of the equipment of every police station in the Island.

As a result of the instruction given in first aid every man is now out to assist the injured in cases of accident and stabbing and to render artificial respiration to persons rescued from drowning, and to do so with effect. Medical Officers are constantly reporting that life has been saved by the prompt and efficient first aid rendered at the scene, or in the police station, by the police. In the course of the year 1922 many such cases were recorded.

Instruction in first aid has therefore not only had a practical but a moral effect in intimating to police of all ranks their duty towards their neighbour, and it has brought about a good feeling between police and villagers. When a constable came to a village it was generally to arrest an offender and a police officer was regarded as the common enemy. By attending to the injured and by saving life in cases of drowning and serious injury, good relations between the police and the public are secured.

Institutions of the Force include a Pensioners' Corps, which secures employment for men no longer physically fit for active police duty, and a Boys' Brigade in which sons of police officers are trained from the age of 5 upwards.

The object of the Pensioners' Corps is to assist police pensioners to supplement their pension by obtaining posts as watchers, doorkeepers, &c., on retirement, and to assist the public by providing men of a reliable type with long service under Government for posts which require a steady and reliable man. The pensioners are given a uniform by Government, and the pay they receive in private employ is of great assistance to them. These men have a pension to lose if they commit an offence of dishonesty, and this fact and their long service and training in the Force make their service valuable to the private employer.

Pensioners of the Corps not in private employ are called out to assist the police at times of outbreak of plague, cholera, &c., when they are particularly helpful in guarding and watching houses and contacts. When so called out they are paid for the number of days so employed. There are 201 pensioners in the Corps.

The object of the Boys' Brigade is to provide healthy exercise and recreation for the sons of police officers and pensioners, and to educate and train them to become useful men. Between the ages of 5 and 13 the boy is put into uniform, and not only attends school, but is drilled in squad drill, physical exercise, and boxing. In school the boy is taught reading, writing, and general knowledge which will fit him for employment. On parades, in boxing and games, he is taught discipline, kept hard and fit, taught to keep his temper, and to keep himself and his uniform clean. Between the ages of 14 and 17 he continues

to attend school and parade for half the day, and during the other half he attends a police office as a messenger, working under the eye of an officer, for which he is paid from Rs. 7·50 a month at the age of 14 to Rs. 15 a month at the age of 17. At this stage the boy learns regular and punctual attendance for duty, good manners, and activity, and the importance of steady work if he is to get on in the world. At the age of 18 he is eligible for enlistment in the Force. There are senior and junior boys in the Brigade.

Thirteen boys of the Brigade were enlisted in the Force during the year, and there are now 68 men in the Force who started in the Brigade, 5 of whom have already been promoted to the rank of sergeant.

Justices of the Peace.—Justices of the Peace have continued to render good service, not only in being available in time of emergency, but in visiting police stations, attending drills, and in supervising musketry. The fact of a resident of standing being in a position to take charge of any station and direct action in the event of any disturbance, fire, serious accident, or any other calamity is of value, not only to the police, but also to the owners of property, shopkeepers, householders, and the public generally.

General steps taken towards the Improvement of the Force: (a) Improved conditions in the Kurunegala District.—One of the greatest difficulties which arose when police were introduced into the Provinces was that of obtaining suitable healthy quarters. Good quarters were particularly needed in Provinces where malarial fever was prevalent.

The police in the North-Western Province were for some years the worst housed in the Island. New barracks for the men in Kurunegala town were built by Government in 1917, and better accommodation was later secured for the police at Naramala, Warakapola, Mawatagama, Hettipola, and Pannala, and at these stations the men are now housed in good healthy barracks. A private individual has, at the request of the Superintendent, put up on a healthy site a type plan administration block and barracks to house the entire Force at Kuliyapitiya, where the conditions were particularly bad and the accommodation insanitary. At Polgahawela, barracks for the men are being built on a healthy site by a new landlord. At Alawwa the landlord is putting up new sergeants' quarters, at Giriulla the Superintendent is in negotiation with a landlord to put up a new building for the police. When this has been done the whole Force in the Kurunegala District will be very well housed in barracks. The result has been to not only improve the health and physique of the Force, but to instil an entirely new and good spirit into the men.

(b) Dispensaries.—The system by which an Assistant Police Surgeon visits police stations in Colombo daily to attend to cases which can be dealt with at a small dispensary at the police station continues to work satisfactorily.

Regular daily visits are paid by the Medical Officer, who attends to the sick, and holds inspection of the men for dental, skin, and other minor ailments, which would otherwise be neglected. There has been an appreciable decrease in the number of admissions to hospital for skin diseases. This is obviously due to the fact that the most trivial cases are seen and treated at an early stage.

Dental Treatment.—Funds were voted to provide proper dental treatment for police.

Training School.—Money has been voted from Loan Funds, and a start has been made on the new Training School for recruits next to the police recreation ground at Bambalapitiya.

The housing and training of recruits in healthy surroundings with the means of recreation ready at hand should have good results. It is hoped to be able to house the officers of the Force in Colombo near to the recruits, so that recruits

will come under the constant influence of officers both in work and play. This should go far towards establishing and maintaining a high standard of conduct and efficiency throughout the Force.

PRISONS.

There was a decrease of 1,843 in the total number of admissions of convicted prisoners of Ceylon during the year 1922, excluding Road Ordinance defaulters, of whom there were 275, as against 347 in 1921. The figures are as follows :—

1921	..	12,428	1922	..	10,585

The number of prisoners sentenced to death was 49, as against 63 in 1921. There were 36 executions during the year, as against 49 in 1921. Of the 36, whose capital sentences were carried out, 32 were Sinhalese, 3 Tamils, and 1 Moor. Of the number executed, 2 had been sentenced in 1921 ; and of the number sentenced to death, 3 were executed on 1923. There were 3 escapes and 3 re-captures during the year.

The total number of deaths in jails was 123, as against 233 in 1921 ; and the death-rate per 1,000 of the admissions during the year was 7·57, as against 11·40 in 1921 and 9·30 in 1920.

The number of punishments inflicted during the year for prison offences was 1,067, as against 1,715 in 1921 and 2,481 in 1920.

Prisoners are in all prisons employed upon works of public utility and remunerative industrial labour. At Welikada and Bogambra Jails various trades are taught, such as carpentry, blacksmith and tinsmith work, boot-making, tailoring, the making of cane furniture, matting, coir brooms, rugs, mats, coal and tea leaf bags, ropes, strings, bamboo tats, laundry work, printing, bookbinding, and masonry works.

During the year under review 1,472 articles of wooden furniture were turned out by prison labour for various Government Departments. For making up furniture for the Government, the Forest Department supplied 3,336 cubes of various timber in logs ; cutting, planing, &c., of timber was done by the machinery which was received from England last year.

The Government Printing Office continues to employ a daily average of 224 prisoners from Welikada Jail. This jail also continues to wash all soiled linen from the Medical and Railway Departments, as well as the Lunatic Asylum ; 791,562 pieces being dealt with during the year.

12,663 articles of clothing and bedding were made up for the Colonial Storekeeper, and 36,332¾ yards of cloth woven for prison use.

All the ordinary prisoners employed in the industrial working parties at Bogambra Jail were removed to Welikada Jail in December this year, and were replaced by preventive detention prisoners from Welikada Jail.

The prisoners at Mahara are exclusively employed in the quarries on account of Harbour Works and Public Works Department. 182 cubes of hand rubble, 2,011 cubes of 2-inch metal, 18 cubes of ⅝-inch metal, and 3,600 stone setts were despatched to Colombo Harbour Works, 105¼ cubes of 2-inch metal and 224 cubes hand rubble stacked in the quarry, while the Public Works Department were supplied with 4,599·45 cubes of metal, 1,606·80 cubes of hand rubble, and 48·50 cubes of grit, at a total estimated value of Rs. 62,396·78.

The Karaiyur reclamation works at Jaffna continues to make good progress. The daily average number of prisoners employed on this work during the year was 118, and extent of land reclaimed 3 acres 15 perches. Out of the 64½ acres to be reclaimed, about 58½ acres have now been completed.

Metal continues to be supplied to the Public Works Department from Bogambra, Anuradhapura, Tangalla, Galle, and Badulla Prisons.

At Anuradhapura a party of 20 prisoners is daily employed by the Forest Department on reafforestation. Twelve prisoners are employed in reclamation

works—11 prisoners in the rice mills, while a daily average of 67 prisoners is employed in paddy cultivating, clearing jungle, &c., at Dry Zone Experimental Gardens, Puliyankulam.

Land, about 12 acres in extent, situated behind Welikada Jail, was planted with various vegetables by prison labour, and a sum of Rs. 2,564·48 was credited to revenue by sale of its produce during the year.

The schools at Welikada, Kandy, Mahara, and Jaffna for the instruction of prisoners of the age of 23 years and under on admission to jail, and who have a sentence of six months and over, make satisfactory progress; the daily average attendance being 117 during the year.

The "All-Ceylon Malay Association" formed a "Discharged Prisoners Aid Society" for the help of all Muhammadan prisoners, which commenced work at the Welikada Prison on October 1, 1922; up to the end of the year 13 prisoners passed through their hands, of whom none has been re-convicted.

The Boy Scouts Association have undertaken work at Welikada Prison amongst first offenders under the age of 23 years, and also amongst specially selected habitual criminals under the age of 25 years. Since the commencement of this work on October 1, 1922, they have had a daily average of 44 first offenders and 17 habitual criminals through their hands, and it is hoped to increase this number during the course of this year. This work is having great moral effect amongst this class of prisoners.

Girl Guides started work amongst the women prisoners at Welikada Prison on December 17, 1922. Amongst other things all the female prisoners are being taught needlework, &c., which will be useful to them on their leaving prison.

The Salvation Army took 9 prisoners over during the year, of whom only one was re-convicted. It is hoped that their Prison Gate Work may be greatly increased in the future.

XI.—POST AND TELEGRAPHS.

On December 31, 1922, 590 offices were open for the transaction of postal business. Of these, 172 were offices dealing with all classes of postal business, viz., mail and parcel work, registration and insurance of postal articles, money order, postal order and savings bank work, and telegraph business; at 29 offices all such business, except telegraph work, was transacted.

At 20 sub-offices mail, parcel, registration, and postal order work only was transacted, while at 327 village receiving offices mail work only was conducted; there were also 42 railway receiving offices.

Mail Services.

(A) *Foreign.*—A regular weekly mail service between Ceylon and the United Kingdom was maintained during 1922, and a total of 7,548 bags of correspondence and 4,606 bags of parcels arrived from London.

Fifty-two letter mails were received from London; of these, 39 were carried by vessels of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company, of which 23 were landed at Bombay and brought overland to Colombo and 16 were brought by sea to Colombo, and 13 were carried by vessels of the Orient line.

In the homeward direction 85 mails were despatched to Europe by vessels of the Peninsular and Oriental (52 mails), Orient (15), Messageries Maritimes (17), and Bibby (1), lines. The average time occupied in transit was 18 to 19 days.

The decision of the Indian Government to stop the running of the special Madras Bombay mail trains necessitated the earlier despatch by one day of

the mails sent *viâ* Bombay, and Tuesday had to be substituted for Wednesday as the regular day of closing the mail. This change entailed considerable inconvenience on the mercantile community, as the outward mail not infrequently did not arrive until Tuesday morning. A step taken to minimize the inconvenience was the extension of the hour up to which letters were received for despatch on payment of late fees.

Between Australia and Ceylon a regular monthly mail service was maintained, both by the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company and the Orient Company, and the vessels of the Commonwealth line provided a supplementary service.

Fairly regular and frequent services to the Straits Settlements and the Far East were available by the vessels of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company, British India Steam Navigation Company, Messageries Maritimes Company, and the Nippon Yusen Kaisha lines. The B. I. service between Negapatam and the Straits, of which use was also made by Ceylon, was reduced from a weekly to a fortnightly one.

The B. I. steamers carried mails between Ceylon and Mauritius, and the Natal direct and Indian African lines between Ceylon and South Africa at irregular intervals.

Vessels of the Ossen Shosen Kaisha line carried direct mails to the Argentine *viâ* South Africa, but the service afforded by the Pacific Mail line between Ceylon, Manila, and San Francisco ceased in April.

With India there is a daily service in each direction by train with ferry between Talaimannar and Dhanushkodi.

(B) *Inland Mails.*—Inland mails are carried generally by the Ceylon Government Railway, and from railway stations either by Government or contract motor mail services, or by contract horse or bullock coach, or by runner services.

The principal motor coach services are :—

Demodera to Batticaloa	111 miles
Anuradhapura to Trincomalee	67 miles

(both performed by the Ceylon Government Railway.)

Matara to Hambantota	52 miles
Haputale to Moneragala	47 miles
Matara to Deniyaya	37 miles
Puttalam to Chilaw	32 miles

undertaken by private contractors.

The inland mail services worked satisfactorily throughout the year, save when interrupted for short periods by floods and washaways.

Mail Statistics.

The total number of postal articles, exclusive of parcels, which passed through the post in 1922 is estimated at 57¾ million, about 4 million more than in 1921. The increase was principally in inland correspondence, which comprised over 79 per cent. of the total, and accounted for 3 million of the increase. Correspondence exchanged with India formed nearly 12½ per cent. of the total, with the United Kingdom about 4 per cent., and with other countries nearly 4½ per cent.

Letters received from the United Kingdom showed a small increase in number, but there was a considerable falling off in postcards, owing to the increase in the postage on these under the Madrid Convention. Printed matter, samples, &c., from the United Kingdom showed an increase of over 20 per cent., compared with 1921.

The total number of parcels dealt with was 871,426, an increase of some 40,000 over the 1921 total. Of these, 66,508 were received from the United

Kingdom—a small increase—231,842 from India, and 20,714 from other countries. 4,636 parcels were received under the Cash on Delivery service from the United Kingdom.

Postage Rates.

The rates for foreign postage fixed under the Madrid Convention continued in operation, the rate on letters to British Possessions being 12 cents for the first oz. and 10 cents for each subsequent oz., while the postage on postcards was 10 cents; to foreign countries the corresponding rates were 20 cents, 10 cents, and 12 cents. On printed matter the initial rate of 4 cents per 2 oz. was uniform, with minima of 8 cents on samples and 20 cents on business papers.

The inland rates of postage and the rates to India remained unchanged—initial letter rate 6 cents per 4 oz., postcard rate 3 cents, and printed matter 3 cents for 2 oz.

A new 20 cents stamp was introduced, and the colours of the 15, 6, and 3 cents changed to conform with the requirements of the Postal Union Convention.

The total value of stamps sold by the Department in 1922 was Rs. 5,952,000.

The inland telegraph rate, 40 cents for the first ten words, including address and 5 cents for each additional two words, remained unchanged, as did the rates on telegrams to India, for first twelve words ordinary Re. 1, express Rs. 2, with 10 and 15 cents, respectively, for each additional word.

In view of the continued low rate of exchange, cable rates had to be slightly increased in April, when the rate to the United Kingdom was fixed at Re. 1·35 per word ordinary and 70 cents per word deferred.

Money and Postal Orders.

The total value of money orders handled in 1922 was Rs. 36,359,328, of which inland orders amounted to Rs. 24,686,967, of the balance the business with India formed the largest percentage, orders issued payable in India totalling over 9 million rupees—half a million more than in 1921—a fair proportion of which was due to savings remitted by Indian immigrant coolies.

The business in money orders between Ceylon and the United Kingdom was small—6,692 orders of a total value Rs. 303,838. Of this, Rs. 215,528 represented orders payable in the United Kingdom.

There was an increase in the value of local postal orders issued, Rs. 666,509, compared with Rs. 573,746 in 1921, and a small increase in the number of British postal orders paid, which, however, only amounted to £7,826.

Considerable use was made of the telegraph money order service between Ceylon and India, remittances totalling Rs. 3,189,196 being so sent to India and Rs. 581,599 drawn by Indian remitters on Ceylon. Comparatively little use, however, was made of the services between Ceylon and the United Kingdom (207 telegraph orders were sent to the United Kingdom and 48 received therefrom) and Ceylon and the Federated Malay States (17 orders only being sent and 393 orders received), owing probably due to the higher telegraph costs.

The revenue from money order commission reached Rs. 354,976.

Post Office Savings Bank.

The business of the bank transacted at 201 offices continued to expand during 1922, the deposits, which amounted to Rs. 4,136,182, exceeding withdrawals during the year by Rs. 607,539.

On December 31, 1922, the total to the credit of 147,359 depositors was Rs. 5,584,518.

The rate of interest continued to be 2·40 per cent.—2 cents per month for each completed Rs. 10.

Any sums not less than 25 cents are accepted for deposits up to net maxima of Rs. 750 per annum, and an interest bearing total of Rs. 3,000.

Deposits may be made by means of stamped slips. One withdrawal on demand of a sum not exceeding Rs. 10 is allowed in any one week.

Telegraph System.

All the important towns in the Island are served by the Government telegraph system. 172 postal telegraph offices were open for public traffic on December 31, 1922, besides several railway telegraph offices, and one new telegraph office was opened during the year.

There are two telegraph circuits between Ceylon and India, on one of which the Baudot machine is employed in duplex working.

Ceylon is connected with the West by direct cables of the Eastern Telegraph Company to Aden and the Seychelles, and to the East with Singapore.

The Government wireless station at Colombo of 5-kilowatt power has a normal daylight range of about 400 miles, and is open to traffic of all kinds.

The total number of telegrams handled in 1922 was a little over 1½ million messages, some 66,000 more than in 1921. The average time taken in transmission of an inland telegram was 14 minutes.

The total number of messages despatched to India, 194,818, showed an increase of some 10,000, and the number received from India, 145,694, was some 16,000 more than in 1921.

81,726 private cable messages were despatched to and 85,408 received from other countries.

The Colombo Wireless Station dealt with 7,426 messages containing 92,616 words during the year.

The revenue from telegrams was roughly Rs. 750,000, and the value of free telegraph services rendered to other departments was estimated at Rs. 58,000.

The Telephone System.

Speaking generally, the larger towns are served by Government exchanges (35 in number), and rural areas by private licensed local exchanges, linked together by Government junction and trunk lines.

The principal Government exchange is at Colombo, which is served by underground cables as far as possible. There were 2,125 subscribers to this on December 31, 1922, and 109 applications for service were outstanding.

The next largest Government exchanges are at Kandy (146 subscribers), Nuwara Eliya (117), Galle (78), Kurunegala (55), Negombo (51), Panadure (37), Kalutara (35), and Matale (31).

No charge for installation is made for connection to Government exchanges, and a flat rate of subscription is charged for an unlimited service within the prescribed hours.

The minimum subscriptions, applicable to premises within 2 miles of the exchange, are Rs. 180 per annum for business and Rs. 120 for residential connections in the larger towns.

At the Colombo exchange the service is continuous throughout the year, and it is estimated that a little over 12 million calls were dealt with there in 1922, ½ million more than in 1921.

The average speed of answer during the day was 5·2 seconds, and 94·5 per cent. of calls were answered within 10 seconds.

There were 66 Government call offices in use during the year, and the number of telephone stations reached 5,353. The estimated number of trunk line calls was 225,576 and junction line calls 161,616, a slight increase on the 1921

figures. The trunk and junction line fees are fixed on a 1-cent-per-mile basis. Receipts from telephones totalled Rs. 547,081 in 1922, while the value of telephone services rendered free to other Government Departments was estimated at Rs. 82,970.

The principal trunk telephone lines are :—

	Miles.
(1) Colombo-Kandy-Gampola-Hatton-Nuwara Eliya ..	132
(2) Gampola-Pussellawa-Nuwara Eliya	34
(3) Colombo-Kalutara-Galle-Matara	99
(4) Colombo-Avissawella-Ratnapura	64
(5) Colombo-Polgahawela-Kurunegala	59
(6) Colombo-Ragama-Negombo	23
(7) Kandy-Wattegama-Matale	21
and an extension, Nuwara Eliya-Haputale-Diyatalawa, is in course of construction..	32

The Government telephone system at the end of 1922 comprised 9,256 miles of overhead and 12,627 miles of underground wire.

There are 23 licensed exchanges, and the largest private systems are :—

(*a*) The Norwood-Maskeliya-Bogawantalawa system, with exchanges at those places having 38, 51, and 30 subscribers, respectively ;

(*b*) The Talawakele-Tillicoultry and Agrapatana system, with exchanges at those places having 35, 28, and 27 subscribers, respectively ; and

(*c*) The Galaha-Hewaheta system, with 65 and 5 subscribers, respectively.

The Neboda private system serves 36 subscribers.

The revenue of the Department in 1922 is estimated at roughly Rs. 4,860,000. The principal increases were under the heads of Postage (some Rs. 200,000) and Telephone Receipts (some Rs. 94,000).

The value of free services rendered to other Government Departments, not included in these totals, was estimated at Rs. 782,000, but no reliable estimate can be framed of the value of free services rendered by them to the Postal Department.

The total expenditure from the votes of the Postal Department was Rs. 2,962,676, but the temporary increases to salaries totalling Rs. 678,615 were paid for in addition from the Treasurer's vote ; a further sum of Rs. 761,237 was charged to Loan Account for works of telephone development.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

Public Works Department.

The total expenditre of the Public Works Department has increased from Rs. 3,437,862 in 1896 to Rs. 9,794,565 in 1922, the latter figure showing a decrease of Rs. 3,440,656 from that of 1921. The average annual expenditure during the past twenty-seven years has been Rs. 6,911,747.

The total length of roads maintained by the Public Works Department during the year was 4,094 miles, of which 3,858 miles are cart roads and 236 miles are bridle roads.

Amongst the more important works carried out or in course of construction may be mentioned the following :—

General.—Government bungalows and clerks' quarters, Colombo ; Forest Ranger's quarters, Waga ; powder magazines at Madampella quarry and Alutapola quarry ; buildings for the Agricultural Department, Peradeniya, viz., Entomological Laboratory ; quarters for three officers and main administration block and Mycological Laboratory ; special repairs to the District

Engineer's bungalow, Pussellawa ; quarters for the Assistant Veterinary Surgeon, Nuwara Eliya ; Kotmale Post Office and Postmaster's quarters ; special repairs to the District Engineer's quarters, Norwood ; special repairs to Survey bungalow, Jaffna, and District Engineer's bungalow, Pallai ; new Customs buildings at Talaimannar ; Experimental Station and Agricultural School, Jaffna ; Training School, Kopay ; repairs to Residency, Anuradhapura ; Forest Ranger's quarters, Lunugala ; special repairs to the Badulla Survey Office and bungalow, Badulla District Court and Kachcheri, and Koslande Forest Ranger's quarters ; quarters for the District Engineer, Pelmadulla ; powder magazine, Ratnapura ; Extension to court-house, Ratnapura.

Medical Buildings.—Dispensary at Kalatuwana ; infectious diseases hospital, Neboda ; additions to the hospital and medical officer's quarters at Ragama, Anti-tuberculosis Sanatorium at Kandana, and the hospital at Kalutara ; quarters for the medical officer and apothecary at Mulhalkele hospital ; new dispensary and quarters for apothecary at Elkaduwa ; additions to the hospitals at Kandy and Matale ; special repairs to the hospital, Lindula ; additions to Ramboda hospital ; improvements to Dimbula hospital ; additions to Apothecary's quarters, Dolosbage hospital ; medical buildings at Elpitiya ; Udugama hospital ; additions to the hospitals at Galle and Deniyaya ; special repairs to Puloli hospital ; dispensary and quarters for apothecary, Elephant Pass ; dispensary at Punakari ; hospital at Kilinochi ; additions and improvements to Batticaloa hospital ; additions to Puttalam hospital ; additions and improvements to Kurunegala hospital ; Ratmalai dispensary ; improvements to Mihintale hospital ; improvements to Medagama hospital ; additions to apothecary's quarters, Haputale ; dispensary at Kaltota ; improvements to Karawanella hospital ; additions to the hospitals at Kahawatte, Eheliyagoda, and Rakwana ; improvements to medical officer's quarters, Balangoda.

Police Buildings.—Special repairs to police station, Gampola ; police station and barracks, Ginigathena ; special repairs to police barracks, Jaffna ; new police station, Haputale ; special repairs to police station, Ratnapura.

Bridges.—Digarolla bridge ; Gampola bridge ; Ratnapura bridge ; Elephant Pass bridge ; Tummodera bridge, Dankotuwa-Madampe road ; re-building Weli-oya bridge, Haputale-Halpe road ; renewing Pol-oya bridge, Bentota-Goiyapana road.

Progress was also made with the Colombo Lake Development project ; construction of the quarantine camp at Mandapam, South India ; Karaiur reclamation, Jaffna ; Jaffna Drainage Scheme ; prevention of sea erosion at Negombo ; improvements to Nawalapitiya town ; coast protection works on the Bentota-Goiyapana road and at Matara town.

Investigations in connection with the proposed Hydro-Electric Scheme at Laxapana have been continued.

IRRIGATION.

The total expenditure of the Irrigation Department for the financial year 1921–22 was Rs. 1,154,547·07, as compared with Rs. 1,077,690·59 in the year 1920–21.

The usual work of maintenance was carried out during the year, and amongst the more important works constructed or in course of construction, the following may be mentioned :—

Karachchi.—(Construction of agricultural roads, channels, and masonry works). A total acreage of 7,706 acres has now been taken up, and there is every prospect that there will be a good demand for available irrigable land under the scheme in the future.

Kanukkeni Tank.—(Masonry works).

Giant's Tank.—(Masonry and earth work). A very heavy flood occurred in the catchment area of the Malwatte-oya, Northern Province, on the night of February 12, 1922. The rainfall registered at Vengalachcheddikulam for the 24 hours ending 9 A.M., February 13, was 11·01 inches, the greater portion of which fell during the night of the 12th. Cheddikulam tank bund breached, and considerable damage was caused to Giant's tank works.

Unnichchai.—(Agricultural roads and distribution channels).

Chadayantalawa Tank.—(Raising of Chadayantalawa tank spill). This will increase the amount of water available, and enable an additional area of about 950 acres to be cultivated under the scheme.

Lahugala Tank.—(Construction of inlet channel).

Kanthalai Extension Scheme.—(Construction of regulator and channel).

Kirinde-oya Scheme.—(Channel construction in extension of the distribution system).

Walawe Left Bank Scheme.—This scheme includes the construction of a storage tank and the usual masonry works, channel system, &c. When completed these works will irrigate 7,638 acres. The constructional work has been commenced, and satisfactory progress is being made.

Tabbowa Tank.—(Restoration of tank and construction of the concrete spill).

Kalawewa Scheme.—(Channel construction).

Nachchaduwa Scheme.—(Construction of agricultural roads and extension of distribution channels).

Hinguruarawewa.—(Construction of masonry sluice). The principal works of surveys and investigations or demarcations carried out during the year were in connection with the following schemes :—Bolgoda Lake Scheme, Kelani Flood Prevention Scheme, Walawe Left Bank Scheme, Karachchi Scheme, Unnichchai Scheme, Pattipolai-aru, Virgil-aru gaugings, Kanthalai, Deduru-oya Scheme, Tabbowa, Kalawewa Scheme, Minneri, Hambegamuwa.

The number of Crown irrigation works is 184, under which 144,273 acres are at present irrigated.

During the year large plots of irrigable land under several of the larger schemes have been selected. These plots are to be advertised, and will be leased under special terms to intending cultivators ; they are in close proximity to roads and where irrigation facilities already exist. This has been done with a view to encouraging small capitalists, who may have difficulty in deciding where to apply for irrigable land. Intending cultivators will thus have definite information of lands which are available for purchase.

Many improvements have been carried out to village works during the year under review. There are now approximately 5,200 village tanks and elas in operation, and a further number of 1,702 village tanks are being restored.

Approximately 192,000 acres are being cultivated for paddy under village works.

SURVEY DEPARTMENT.

The principal operations of the Survey Department for the period under review comprised block application, topographical, irrigation, and town surveys.

Block Surveys.—These consisted of 89,694 acres of new work and 311,880 acres of settlement on topographical surveys. They include 2,294 acres of acquisition surveys in the North-Central Province and Eastern Province for

the new Batticaloa-Trincomalee Light Railway trace. The surveyed length of this trace totals 74 miles of double traverses with the necessary connections. This completes the acquisition survey for this railway trace through the block survey areas in these Provinces, with the exception of small surveys, which often become necessary for extra land, for diversion of track. This survey was carried out in difficult country, as also was the inset work in the topographical plans.

The following plans were issued during the year :—Block survey plans of 88 villages, containing 6,342 lots, covering an area of 55,438 acres.

Surveys of 121 settlement and demarcation questions, together with the surveys of 229 Settlement Officer's applications were completed, and plans sent to the Settlement Officer.

Ninety-four advance extract plans, consisting of 526 lots and covering an area of 1,447 acres, were issued in connection with the surveys of Crown requisitions and applications in block survey areas.

The total area now covered by block surveys is 2,438,336 acres, settlement on topographical plans 1,405,260 acres, and forest reserve surveys 587,276 acres.

Application Surveys.—Final village plans to the number of 71, for 30,479 acres in 2,962 lots, were issued to the Government Agents and Assistant Government Agents during the year. The total area covered by the final plans in the hands of the Government Agents and Assistant Government Agents now stands at 1,507,756 acres, contained in 52,531 lots on 2,682 plans.

Preliminary plans to the number of 2,098, for 24,078 acres in 9,907 lots, were forwarded to the Government Agents, Assistant Government Agents, and the Settlement Officer.

Supplementary surveys to the number of 704, consisting of 3,203 lots covering 33,754 acres, were made and marked on final village plans and preliminary plans already issued.

Applications totalling 1,032, covering 5,553 acres, were surveyed for the increased production of foodstuffs on permits free of rent for three years.

Applications to the number of 1,361, covering 4,414 acres, were surveyed for paddy ; 19 applications, covering 1,150 acres, for tea ; 30 applications, covering 313 acres, for rubber ; 5 applications, covering 120 acres, for tea and rubber ; 330 applications, covering 1,192 acres, for coconuts ; 11 applications, covering 177 acres, for rubber and coconuts ; 834 applications, covering 2,228 acres, for native cultivation ; and 451 applications, covering 696 acres, for building purposes.

Many surveys have been carried out for acquisition in connection with important public purposes, and 194 acquisition preliminary plans for 1,169 acres in 1,815 lots were forwarded to the Colonial Secretary.

Surveys have also been made in connection with the Palavi Saltern, Puttalam, and the proclamation of areas under the Small Towns Sanitary Ordinance.

Topographical Surveys.—These consisted of contour surveys and revision of the old flat map over 3,662 square miles in the south-east portion of the Island. The total area now contoured is 12,902 square miles. This portion of the Island is very sparsely populated and includes many large tracts of jungle altogether uninhabited and consequently very difficult of access. The archæological remains found therein prove that it was not always thus. The so-called Veddah country is included in the area surveyed during the year.

Irrigation Surveys.—An irrigation plan of Maha Uswewa, North-Western Province, containing 351 lots, covering an area of 2,339 acres, was made.

The total area now covered by irrigation surveys amounts to 38,765 acres.

Town Surveys.—New town plans were issued during the year for the whole of Madampe and Nattandiya, as well as the centre portion of Colombo city,

seven divisions of Trincomalee, the remainder of Matara, and a portion of Batticaloa towns.

The total area of town survey work amounts to 14,290 acres.

RAILWAY DEPARTMENT.

Open Line.

The length of the line opened for traffic on September 30, 1922, was 732¼ miles.

The receipts for the year amounted to Rs. 21,923,237, or an increase of Rs. 1,507,421, as compared with the previous year.

The number of passengers conveyed was 12,189,263, or 962,252 in excess of last year.

Under season tickets there was an increase of 8,561 in number and Rs. 31,655 in fares.

In foreign cooly traffic there was an increase of 48,270 coolies.

Parcels traffic, too, showed an increase of 194,232 parcels with freight Rs. 102,880.

The total tonnage of goods carried was 1,132,126, or an increase of 141,172 tons over the previous year, the principal increases and decreases are as follows :—

Increases.	Tons.	Decreases.	Tons.
Kerosine oil	1,411	Rice (other than Indo-Ceylon Route)	4,015
Rubber	7,622	Coconut produce ..	11,706
Tea	5,962		
Cacao	1,708		
Tea and rubber packing ..	2,330		
Liquid fuel	2,329		
Manure	56,996		
Salt	2,296		
Sundry goods ..	11,766		
Foreign traffic ..	20,468		

The total expenditure for the year amounted to Rs. 14,658,972, or Rs. 178,340 less than that of the previous year.

The capital cost of the Railway, including additional accommodations and improvements, on September 30, 1922, was Rs. 152,750,716, as compared with Rs. 149,224,077 in 1921.

Colombo Stations Extensions.—This extensive work is nearing completion. It consists of :—

(*a*) The construction of a new up-to-date passenger station at the Fort, replacing the old Fort and Pettah stations. This work is practically finished.

(*b*) The erection of three large broad gauge goods sheds, two narrow gauge sheds, plumbago sheds, &c., and yards connected therewith at Maradana (completed), and the complete remodelling of Colombo goods yard (nearing completion).

(*c*) The construction of a goods sorting yard at Weragoda.

And the following works which were completed as reported in my report of last year :—

(*d*) New locomotive yard Dematagoda.

(*e*) New Railway stores and store yard.

(*f*) The duplication of the railway between Dematagoda and Slave Island and the extension of the narrow gauge line to the new Fort station.

(*g*) Overbridge and approaches, Parson's road.

(*h*) The rebuilding of Maradana station.

(*i*) The reclamation of over 80 acres of swamp and lake, and the construction of two large lake basins.

During the year work has been chiefly confined to the construction of the arrival platform Fort (now completed), and to the remodelling of the Colombo goods yard, which will be completed this year. Work is proceeding on the sorting yard at Weragoda, where earthwork is being tipped.

The new arrival platform is 1,200 feet long and 70 feet wide, with a 30-feet carriage drive in the centre, having an entrance and exit from the new McCallum road. The platform roof 400 feet long is completed, and the remainder of the work is practically finished.

"Track circuiting" is being installed in this station.

The transfer shed and sidings for transferring goods from the broad gauge to the narrow gauge and *vice versâ* has been handed over to the Traffic Department, and is now open for traffic.

The four new sorting sidings constructed in Captain's Garden have been finished and handed over to the Traffic Department.

The new "West Signal Cabin" at the Fort station has been finished, and is now opened and in use.

The rail connections at the west end of Fort station have had to be remodelled to suit open line requirements, this work is now being done.

The vote allowed for the year is Rs. 678,000, the estimate for the whole work is Rs. 9,535,324, out of which Rs. 9,284,668·59 have been expended to the end of this year.

Badulla Railway Extension.—The line is an extension of the Main line north of Bandarawela to Badulla. The line traverses hilly and very rough country, necessitating several high viaducts and the construction of six tunnels. Bandarawela is 4,013 feet above mean sea level, and Badulla 2,226 feet. It is necessary to adopt the steep gradient of 1 in 44 for the greater part of the distance. The length of the line is 21·08 miles. It was found necessary to utilize curves of 5 chains (in four cases only). The line is standard gauge 5 feet 6 inches. The rails utilized being 88 lb. to the yard. All curves under 8·19 chains are checked, the check rails weighing 71 lb. per lineal yard.

The work was started in November, 1913, near Bandarawela. During the war funds for the construction of the line were limited, and this, together with the difficulty in obtaining materials, accounts for the whole line not being yet opened. It was anticipated that the line would be opened about the end of February, 1923, but owing to the unfortunate accident at Rossett viaduct on October 19, the opening will be delayed for at least six months.

The portion of the railway from Bandarawela to Ella was opened for traffic in July, 1918. A further section of railway to Demodera, 4½ miles in length (or 11½ miles from Bandarawela), was opened for traffic on March 21, 1921.

Nearly all work, except platelaying and ballasting and a few details at Badulla and Dikwella which necessitate transporting heavy material over the completed railway, is practically finished, but it is not possible, except at a very high cost, to transport the permanent way material required for the platelaying beyond Rossett viaduct until it is completed.

Badulla terminus is nearly completed, and the large engine shed is built. The engine pits are now being constructed.

The line passes through valuable estates, mostly tea, and when completed will serve the large tea districts of Badulla, Passara, and Lunugalla.

The total estimated cost of construction of this heavy work is Rs. 9,261,223, and the expenditure to date is Rs. 9,237,102·02. The work is now being completed out of loan funds.

Main Line Duplication.—This work includes the duplication of the Main line north of Ragama station to Rambukkana. The total length is 43 miles 24 chains. It also includes improvements to the gradients of the existing Main line of all gradients steeper than 1 in 132, and to curves sharper than

20 chains in radius, and the construction of new up-to-date stations at Mirigama and Ambepussa and a large new station and yard at Rambukkana, with improvements at Alawwa and Polgahawela stations. All subgrade works between Ragama and Mirigama are completed and in hand up to the 49th milepost from Colombo or 3 miles west of Rambukkana. Linking has been done as far as 26 miles 50 chains. Rails have been indented for up to Rambukkana. All steelwork for the superstructure of bridges, culverts, roof work, and watering arrangements have been indented for. Masonry work is practically completed as far as Alawwa. The construction of the masonry work of the new bridge carrying the duplicated line over the Maha-oya at 36 miles 5 chains is finished, except the ballast walls . The erection of the superstructure of this bridge is well in hand, and should be completed about the middle of 1923. Good progress has been made in the construction of the duplicate tunnel at Mirigama, and the heading is now through.

Work on the new stations at Mirigama, Ambepussa, and Alawwa is progressing satisfactorily.

The total estimate for the work is Rs. 8,360,824, out of which Rs. 3,731,179·53 has been spent to date. The yearly vote is Rs. 2,125,000.

Puttalam Railway Extension.—This is an extension of the Chilaw line northward to Puttalam, a total length of 32 miles 69 chains. The work was commenced in November, 1920. The line is standard gauge, rails 80 lb. to the yard being used and angle fish plates, six bolts to each pair of fish plates.

The line passes through very rich coconut lands, and serves the large salt industry of Puttalam. The steepest gradient on the line is 1 in 198. All stations will be fully signalled and interlocked.

The line necessitates heavy bridging for the first 12 miles of its length, including a bridge over the Deduru-oya, four miles north of Chilaw, of No. 5 spans of 150 feet. Cylinder sinking is now in progress for the permanent bridge.

Temporary bridges over the Deduru-oya, Sengal-oya, Pheni-ebba, and Battulu-oya have been constructed to permit of laying permanent way, and rails have now reached a point 19 miles 55 chains north of Chilaw.

Intermediate stations are being provided at Bangadeniya, Battulu-oya, Mundel, Madurankuli, and Palavi.

The total estimate for the work is Rs. 8,428,834, out of which Rs. 3,644,010·84 have been spent to date. The yearly vote is Rs. 3,195,000.

All bridges, with the exception of the Deduru-oya bridge, have been completed up to 8½ miles, and from here to the bridge at 23 miles 48 chains they are in hand, except one 20-feet span bridge at 18 miles 39 chains and another at 22 miles 35 chains.

All culverts between Chilaw and 16 miles are in hand or completed.

All roads between Chilaw and 14 miles are in hand and nearly completed.

The buildings at all stations are in hand, and some of them are completed.

Batticaloa and Trincomalee Light Railway.—These lines combined are approximately 182½ miles in length. They are built to the standard gauge 5 feet 6 inches, 46¼ lb. per yard rails being used.

At the end of the year rail head was at 46 miles 71 chains from Maho. The country through which the line passes is varied, heavy work being met with in the vicinity of Maho and Habarana. Three large rivers have to be bridged, viz., the Kala-oya, Mahaweli-ganga, and the Valaichchenai estuary. The masonry work of the Kala-oya bridge is practically finished. A temporary bridge is being erected over the Mahaweli-ganga, and cylinders for the permanent bridge over the Valaichchenai estuary are being sunk. All piles for the flood outlet bridge near Valaichchenai have been driven, and the superstructure

work is in hand. The bridges over the Mahaweli-ganga and the Valaichchenai river will form combined road and railway bridges. Some of the steelwork for the superstructure of these two bridges have arrived in the Island, and the remainder is being sent out.

Where the line crosses ridges of hills fairly heavy gradients occur, the steepest being 1 in 60, there are no curves under 20 chains radius. Practically all the clearing for the line is now completed, with the exception of private coconut estates in the Kalkudah to Batticaloa section. All earthworks are in hand up to Gal-oya, and from there to Batticaloa (except for a few odd miles here and there) and between 66 miles and Trincomalee. All bridges, and most culverts, are completed or in hand for 40 miles, as well as some bridges and culverts in the Trincomalee and Kalkudah-Vaganeri districts, and the first and second Minneriya spills. Batticaloa station building and Station Master's bungalow are completed. Permanent cooly lines are in hand on all sections of the line.

The large saw mill at Palugaswewa, 40 miles from Maho, has been erected, and has been working most of the year. Another is in course of erection at Gal-oya on the Trincomalee branch. Smaller saw mills are erected and working at Siyambalangomuwa, Minneriya, and Punanai.

The country through which the line passes is very feverish during the rains in the north-east monsoon, the worst months being November, December, and January. During these months little progress can be made, as most of the labour leaves the district.

Temporary hospitals are provided for the staff and labour force fully equipped at Maho, Kantalai, Topawewa, and Oddaimavadai, and temporary dispensaries erected at Railhead, Habarana, and Cod Bay (Trincomalee).

The total estimate for the work is Rs. 14,575,197, of which Rs. 10,638,062·66 has been expended to the end of the financial year. The vote allowed for the year is Rs. 4,500,000.

Harbour Rail Extension.—This work provides for making a rail connection from the Main line at Urugodawatta direct to the harbour in the vicinity of the Graving Dock, connecting the railway sidings south of the new Lake and Harbour Canal with the lines north thereof, remodelling the present Wharf station, and abolishing the existing connection between the Wharf station and the Fort station *viâ* Galle Face. It also provides for a new exchange yard for the exchange of wagons between the Ceylon Government Railway and the port premises.

Overbridges have been built for Victoria Bridge road, Bloemendahl road, Alutmawata road, and Tanque Salgado road.

The large area which formed compounds to Summer Hill and Uplands still being lowered, the latter to the level of the top of the Graving Dock.

All work is in a forward state, and the line should be open for traffic in April, 1923.

The large area of land known as St. Thomas's grounds, Mutwal, was purchased, and now forms part of the Port Commission premises.

The total estimate for the work is Rs. 3,822,768, out of which Rs. 3,397,524 have been expended to the end of the financial year. The vote allowed for the year is Rs. 445,000.

Kolonnawa Oil Branch.—This short line connecting the new oil installation premises with the Main line at Urugodawatta has been completed, and the maintenance taken over by the open line of Railway.

Matara, Tangalla, and Hambantota Survey.—This proposed line passes through a very populous district as far as Tangalla. The survey was commenced in November, 1921, and completed in November, 1922. The estimate for the construction of the line is now being framed.

The estimate for the whole survey is Rs. 37,000, out of which Rs. 31,938 was expended to the end of the financial year. The vote allowed for the year was Rs. 32,000.

XIII.—EXCISE.

The Excise Department has now been ten years in existence. The sanctioned strength of the Department is 1 Excise Commissioner, 1 Deputy Excise Commissioner, 4 Assistant Commissioners of Excise, 2 Superintendents of Excise, 15 Assistant Superintendents of Excise, 101 Excise Inspectors, also Excise peons and clerical staff.

From November 26, 1922, the Assistant Commissioner, Southern Division, was authorized to remove his headquarters from Galle to Kalutara, which is the most central spot in the division and the most important, because the distilleries are located there. He is now in a position to check the big expenditure required to extend the Contract Supply System.

The headquarters of the Assistant Superintendent of Excise, Badulla, were removed on September 3, 1922, from Badulla to Bandarawela, the post of Warehouse Officer having been abolished, and the Assistant Superintendent of Excise henceforward performing the duties of Warehouse Officer in addition to his own. The effect is a reduction of expenditure.

Contract Supply System.—This system of arrack renting was introduced first into the Northern Province in 1920, in Uva in 1921, and in the Central Province in 1922. In the Northern and Central Provinces the taverns are sold separately ; but in Uva one renter holds all the taverns of the district.

The revenue derived is as follows :—

	Average Annual Revenue for Four Years, 1915–1919.		1921–22.		Three Months. October to December, 1922.	
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Northern Province ..	333,129	0	535,195	51	115,400	29
Uva ..	314,835	0	204,794	92	52,707	48
Central Province ..	1,337,028	0	1,178,880	0	341,442	11

The revenue of the Northern Province in 1922 exceeded the average revenue of 1915–1919 by over 30 per cent. and exceeded the revenue of the previous year 1920–21 by more than 40 per cent ; but from October, 1922, this increase has been reduced by the introduction of total prohibition of "off" sales. At its start in each district the Contract Supply System passes through a severe test. Stringent measures are necessary to suppress short measure, and prevent smuggling from other areas into the contract supply area.

The revenue in Uva is less than in 1915–1919, because the closure of various important arrack taverns has transferred custom from arrack to gin.

The revenue for the Central Province in October to December, 1922, is greater that the revenue for a similar period in 1921 by over 15 per cent., and is greater than the average revenue in 1915 to 1919 by a small amount, in spite of the fact that reduced prosperity and closure of many important taverns have greatly diminished consumption.

In short, the Contract Supply System is a moderate success in Uva, and a big success in the Northern and Central Provinces.

Excise Revenue from Country Liquor.—The total revenue for arrack during the year under review amounted to Rs. 7,418,062 :—

In 1919–20 arrack revenue amounted to Rs. 7,432,429.
In 1920–21 arrack revenue amounted to Rs. 8,313,022.
In 1921–22 arrack revenue amounted to Rs. 7,418,062.

Toddy revenue for the same period amounted to—

Year.	Rs.	c.
1919–20	2,008,832	0
1920–21	1,952,330	23
1921–22	1,801,879	75

The number of taverns during this period was :—

Year.	Arrack.	Toddy.
1919–20	566 ..	667
1920–21	521 ..	590
1921–22	452 ..	474

This indicates a reduction in two years by 21 per cent. in the number of arrack taverns and of 29 per cent. in the case of toddy taverns. About two-thirds of the reductions are the result of local option ballots, and mark the progress of the temperance campaign. The cost price of arrack rose from Rs. 250 to Rs. 320 per leaguer at the beginning of 1920 to Rs. 345 at the end of the year, and then fell considerably in 1921, so that arrack renters were able to purchase at Rs. 150 to Rs. 180 per leaguer. The difference on the one hand between consumption in the years 1920 and 1921 and on the other between production in 1921 and 1922, is approximately 200,000 gallons ; or, roughly, a drop of 20 per cent. The 20 per cent. fall in consumption is mainly due to depression in rubber and plumbago, and in a small measure due to closure of arrack taverns and resort to gin.

The following comparative figures of consumption of arrack and toddy are recorded :—

(*a*) For the calendar year—

	Arrack. Gallons.	Toddy. Gallons.
1920	1,019,370 ..	4,752,605
1921	848,376 ..	4,443,850
1922	805,692 ..	4,291,012

(*b*) For the rent year—

	Arrack. Gallons.	Toddy. Gallons.
1919–20..	1,026,050 ..	4,747,909
1920–21..	887,918 ..	4,678,282
1921–22..	834,225 ..	4,278,586

Licensed distilleries numbered 114, as against 122 in 1921 and 135 in 1920. The number of stills working were 150 in 1922, 170 in 1921, 196 in 1920. The output from these stills varied correspondingly thus :—

Year.	Gallons.
1920	1,121,555
1921	957,131
1922	691,749

The revenue derived from foreign liquor during the said period was stable, and shows a slight increase :—

Year.	Rs.	c.
1919–20	90,638	50
1920–21	95,598	51
1921–22	96,751	1
1922–23	97,099	25

Any restriction on the sale of country liquor will foster the increase of revenue from foreign liquor, but not in equal proportion to the loss incurred on country liquor.

The Government Distillery, in charge of Mr. D. A. Wijewardene, at Kalutara North, continued to supply arrack for the Northern Province and Uva rents, but arrack for the Central Province was purchased from contractors, who tendered to supply the arrack to Government at rates varying from Re. 1·53 to Re. 1·73 per gallon. An additional store was rented at Kalutara as well as a warehouse at Kandy. The output of the Government Distillery in the year was 64,388·1 proof gallons, or 91,983 gallons at 30 degrees under proof at a cost of Re. 1·65 per gallon ; in 1921 the output was over 70,000 gallons, costing Rs. 2·07 per gallon. The profit realized was Rs. 170,258·41 in 1922, Rs. 121,775·95 in 1921.

Thirty-nine private warehouses or godowns were licensed in 1922, as against 48 in 1921 and 52 in 1920.

Excise Crime.—The numerous distilleries continue to be a source of illicit supply.

Statistics of Excise crime are as follows :—

(*a*) *In the Distillery Area.*

Year.	Successful Prosecutions in the Distillery Circle. Prosecutions.	Total Number of Fines. Rs.	c.
1922	255 ..	7,465	0
1921	188 ..	9,353	50
1920	125 ..	8,369	41

Year.	Offences compounded in Distillery Circle. Number of Offences Compounded.	Total Number of Fines. Rs.	c.
1922	127 ..	1,328	0
1921	116 ..	1,868	0
1920	120 ..	1,872	0

(*b*) *For the whole Island.*

Year.	Number of Cases.	Persons Convicted.	Amount of Fines. Rs.	c.
1922	3,415 ..	3,192 ..	113,900	0
1921	3,244 ..	2,994 ..	114,777	50
1920	2,834 ..	2,642 ..	90,511	25

Year.	Number of Cases Compounded.	Fines Recovered. Rs. c.
1922	1,566	33,258 50
1921	1,284	18,124 0
1920	1,338	21,809 50

Excise Law.—New rules were introduced favourable to the exercise of local option. Stringent regulations are necessary to put down corruption and false personation at ballots.

A new Notification (131) was passed regulating control of the importation of cocaine in accordance with the directions of the Hague Convention.

The following table gives particulars of "ganja" cases tried in the various courts of the Island during the year:—

Year.	Number of Ganja Cases.	Persons Convicted.	Amount of Fines. Rs. c.
1922	268	244	18,030 50

A number of new brands of spirit was added to the list of approved brands. Brands below the prescribed strength, or which were pronounced to be spurious, were rejected. There were a few infringements of the rule, but importers are now well acquainted with it and, on the whole, readily comply with it.

The vote for rewards was inadequate for the purpose and had to be doled out with the most rigid economy. An additional sum of Rs. 5,000 was allowed for the current year.

Seven learners were selected and sent to various circles for training.

C. H. COLLINS,
Second Assistant Colonial Secretary.

April 19, 1923.

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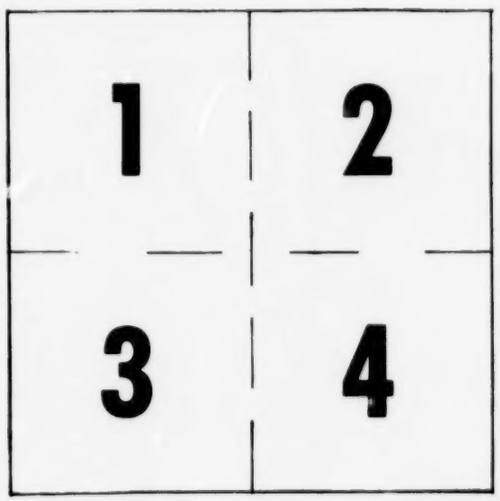

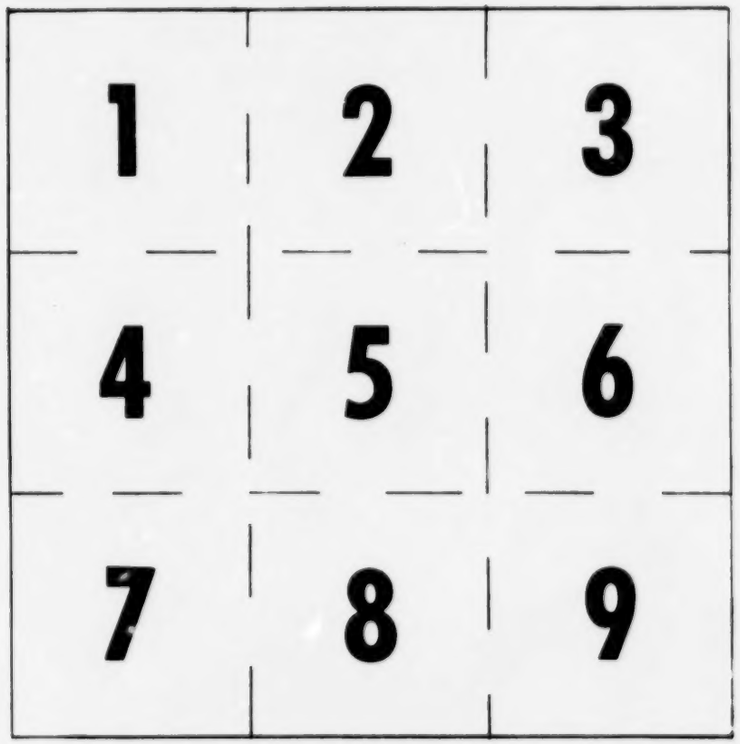

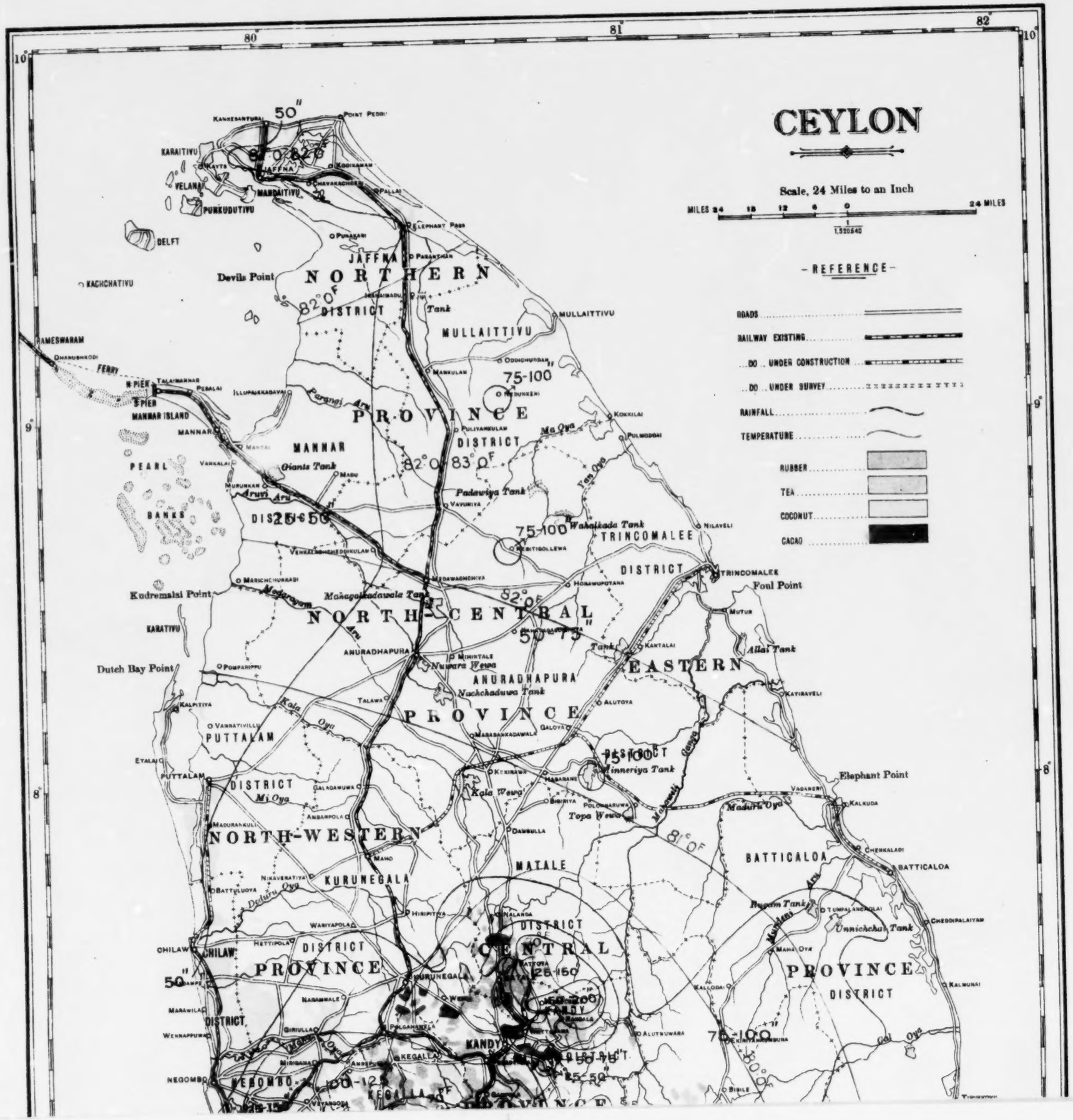
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NORTHERN PROVINCE
JAFFNA DISTRICT
MANNAR DISTRICT
MANNAR ISLAND
PEARL BANKS
TRINCOMALEE DISTRICT
EASTERN PROVINCE
BATTICALOA DISTRICT
NORTH-CENTRAL PROVINCE
ANURADHAPURA DISTRICT
NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCE
PUTTALAM DISTRICT
KURUNEGALA DISTRICT
CENTRAL PROVINCE
KANDY DISTRICT
MATALE DISTRICT
NUWARA ELIYA DISTRICT
BADULLA DISTRICT
MONARAGALA DISTRICT
Devils Point
Kudremalai Point
Dutch Bay Point
Foul Point
Elephant Point
Pamban Channel
Palk Strait
Gulf of Manar
Bay of Bengal
Indian Ocean
Mahaweli Ganga
Kala Oya
Mi Oya
Deduru Oya
Maha Oya
Gal Oya
Kala Weva
Topa Weva
Nuwara Weva
Nachchaduwa Tank
Mahagalkadawala Tank
Giants Tank
Padaviya Tank
Wahalkada Tank
Minneriya Tank
Allai Tank
Nilaveli
Trincomalee
Batticaloa
Kalmunai
Kalkuda
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Point Pedro
Karaitivu
Velanai
Punkudutivu
Delft
Kachchativu
Rameswaram
Dhanushkodi
Talaimannar
Pesalai
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Kokkilai
Pulmoddai
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Anuradhapura
Mihintale
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Puttalam
Chilaw
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Vaganeri
Kayiraveli
Mutur
Galoya
Galgamuwa
Ambanpola
Madurankuli
Mahawilachchiya
Medawachchiya
Horowupotana
Galoya
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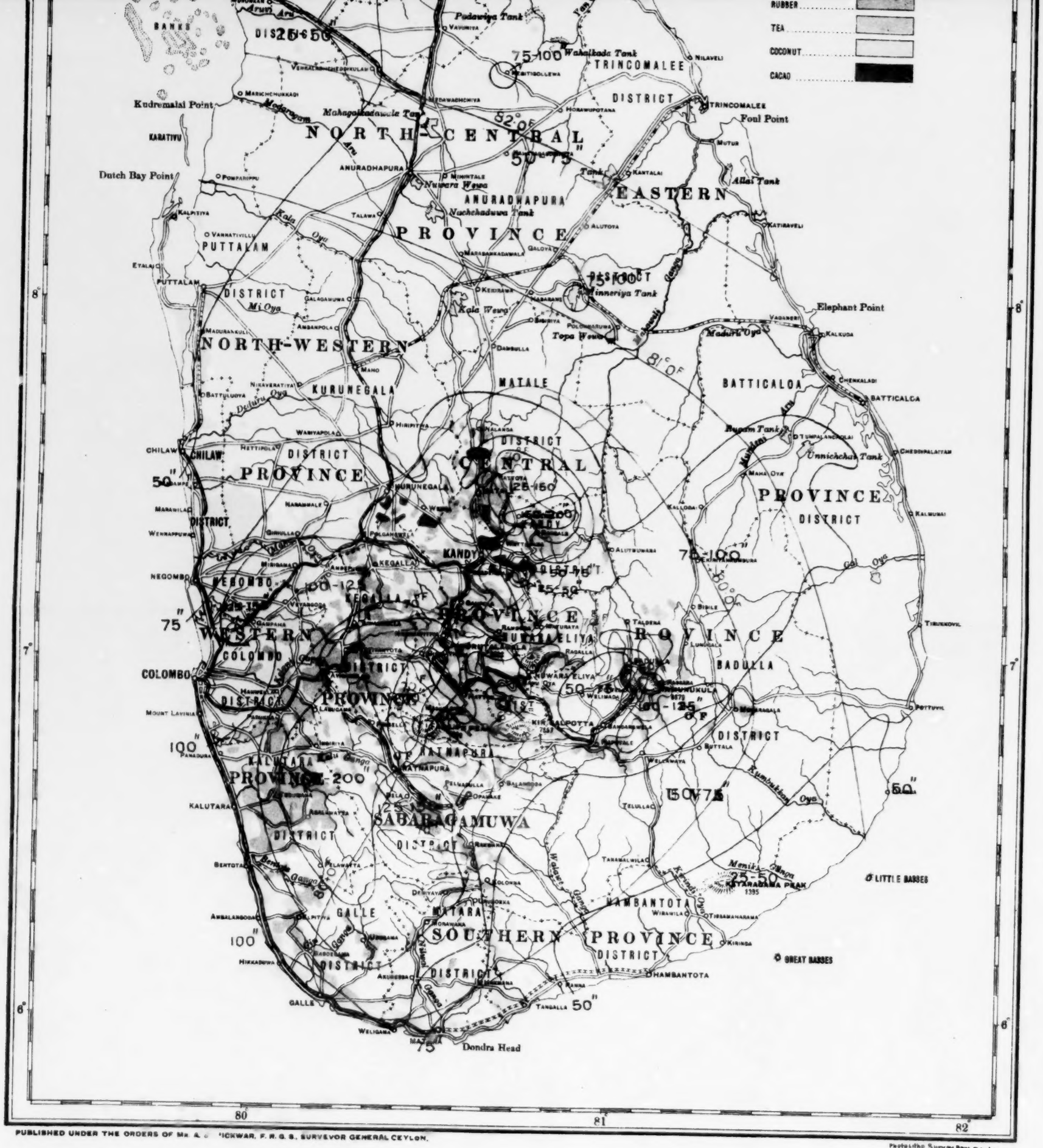

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Photo. at the Survey Dept. Ceylon
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Annual General Report for 1923.

I.—General Summary.

IN spite of the general trade depression in Europe and the somewhat eccentric behaviour of the monsoons, 1923 was in most respects a decidedly prosperous year for Ceylon. Both Import and Export trade achieved record figures, and by the end of the financial year 1922–23 revenue showed a surplus of Rs. 5,000,000 over estimated expenditure. This pleasing result was due in the main to the satisfactory condition of the tea industry, on which the Colony so largely (perhaps too largely) depends. It would nevertheless be a mistake to suppose that prosperity was confined to those directly interested in tea. On the contrary the Customs Import returns indicate a wide diffusion of wealth. All classes were spending money freely on imported goods and on luxuries as well as necessities of life.

Rubber, though by no means restored to the position it held in 1918, made an encouraging recovery as the result of restriction; most companies were able to pay moderate dividends on the year's working. The coconut industry was less fortunate; it suffered from the unusually dry weather which occurred towards the end of 1922. Yet the value of coconut products exported was very nearly up to the average for the last five years. Plumbago showed no recovery from the depression which overtook the trade in 1917, nor have the Ceylon merchants yet succeeded in regaining the ground lost in consequence of the revised American tariff and competition from Madagascar.

Weather conditions, while contributing to a record yield of tea, were, on the whole, unfavourable to other crops. Both monsoons brought an unusually heavy rainfall, yet in the "dry zone" (shielded from the south-west) there was a long drought from February to October. Paddy crops suffered alike from this and from the rains, failing completely in certain areas, as, for instance, in the Eravur Koralai of the Eastern Province, where a plague of caterpillars engendered by the drought, demolished what was left by the floods. In this case it was necessary to afford relief by a Government grant and through the local Co-operative Credit Societies. Drought also affected both paddy and chena crops in the North-Central Province and the Mullaittivu District of the Northern Province.

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To the weather may be ascribed, in a great part, the very high rate of sickness which prevailed during the year. Particularly severe outbreaks of malaria and dysentery occurred in various parts of the Island, and there was much infant mortality. The heaviest incidence of malaria was in the North-Central Province, where there was an actual decrease of population in most of the villages. Intensive campaigns against this pernicious disease, the greatest curse of Ceylon as of other tropical countries, were carried out within the towns of Trincomalee and Anuradhapura and at Talaimannar. Active propaganda was organized in the villages, and particularly among school children. Unfortunately the villager is, as a general rule, only interested in the disease when he is actually suffering from it himself; yet it is obviously upon his intelligent co-operation that the success of the efforts put forward by Government must ultimately depend.

There is good reason to expect that the opening up of the Eastern Province and Tamankaduwa by the Batticaloa and Trincomalee Railways will have a salutary effect on malaria in those districts, and it is possible that the same result may be achieved by reclamation of land in the dry zone for new staple crops.

Marked success has attended the treatment of "parangi" ("Framboesia" or "Yaws") by salvarsan injections. The treatment is given without charge by itinerating officers of the Medical Department.

As for the social and moral condition of the people, it is impossible to speak in any but the most general terms. There is a strong tendency among the more wealthy classes to adopt Western customs and costumes, and, on the whole, it may be said that people are becoming more sophisticated.

In the more developed Provinces a new and important factor has appeared which is having a marked effect in this direction. Hundreds of motor buses are now plying for hire wherever they can find roads to carry them and passengers to be carried. Urban influences are thus being rapidly extended to villages which two years ago were remote from the outer world.

Education is undoubtedly gaining ground. In 1923 there was the usual increase in the number of schools and in the number of scholars attending them. The demand for "English" education was very pronounced. Unfortunately the practical results of this eagerly acquired knowledge are apt to be disappointing. The Inspector-General of Police reports that the professional burglar is learning to appreciate the advantages which a liberal education can afford him in the finer branches of his

art. Moreover, the only serious unemployment in the Island is to be found among the educated and semi-educated classes from which clerks are drawn.

Probably these somewhat disquieting symptoms are inevitable at the stage which has been reached by education in Ceylon and in countries similarly situated; they should probably be regarded as in the nature of "growing pains" destined to become less obtrusive in the course of time. Or it may be that future developments will be along the lines lately indicated by the establishment of technical schools, where instruction is given in handicrafts, agriculture, and various trades.

Crime, on the whole, appears to be decreasing, thanks to an efficient police force, yet the Ceylon figures would still be regarded with alarm in most European countries.

The temperance movement is making considerable headway. It is strongly supported by Ceylonese social reformers and politicians as well as by English and American missionaries. As to its general merits opinions are naturally divided. It is clear that it has as yet brought about no marked decrease in crime, but the temperance workers may fairly claim that this is because no restriction has yet been placed on foreign liquor shops (except in the Jaffna District). Elsewhere gin has largely taken the place of native spirits.

In some districts arrack taverns have entirely disappeared owing to the combined action of the Excise Committees and "local option" polls, and in others "off sales" have been prohibited.

A good idea of the progress made in provincial administration was provided by the "Festival" held during July at Gampaha in the Western Province. The programme embraced such varied subjects as town sanitation, physical training, paddy cultivation, and bee-keeping. Demonstrations were given of those and numerous other arts. Gampaha itself is one of the "model" towns designed by Sir John Fraser (for many years Government Agent of the Western Province). These towns are laid out on a plan which makes ample allowance for future development; they have broad streets lit by electric light, spacious markets, schools, and public parks. Electric light has been installed in five towns in the Western Province, and the plant has been designed to fit in with the Government Hydro-electric Scheme when that is completed.

The general prosperity of the Island was reflected in the demand for Crown land, which was manifested in almost every district, not only in the tea-growing area, but also, for instance,

in the Southern Province (for planting citronella) and in the Matale District (for tobacco cultivation). In the Eastern Province the land already allotted for paddy cultivation was found to be sufficient for legitimate demands, and the policy of Government was mainly directed towards consolidating the areas already under development. A new system of land tenure designed to protect the small holder was proposed and is under consideration.

The experimental plantation of cotton in the Hambantota District has given very encouraging results, and may in time lead to the establishment of an important industry. There are large tracts in the " dry zone " which would appear to be suitable for cotton growing, notably along the Batticaloa Railway in the Eastern Province and in the Kolonna korale of Sabaragamuwa.

The plantation of Sisal hemp near Anuradhapura is said to be flourishing. The first harvest is expected in 1924.

A remarkable discovery of sapphires was reported from Pelmadulla in the Ratnapura District. Of the many stones found, the largest weighed over 1,000 carats and was sold in the rough for Rs. 50,000. It is said that dealers have paid about Rs. 500,000 in all for stones found in one paddy field.

Two interesting schemes prepared by the Irrigation Department were under the consideration of Government at the end of the year, and will probably be carried through. These are designed to protect certain low-lying areas in and around Colombo from floods brought down by the Kelani river. It is expected that a large extent of land now either permanently water-logged or subject to inundation can be made available for building sites, thus relieving the congestion which is at present a serious impediment to the health of the city.

A rather serious strike among daily paid labourers occurred in Colombo early in the year. The movement began in the Railway workshops and spread to other Government Departments. The labour force employed by certain private firms was also affected. The men who came out made no attempt at a formal statement of grievances, nor did they ask for redress on any particular point. During the period of the strike the workmen gave very little trouble and behaved well. There were very few cases of assault or disorder in the streets.

Apart from these incidents the political situation throughout the year was tranquil.

SISAL HEMP : ANURADHAPURA.

II.—Finance.

Revenue.

THE revenue collected during the financial year ended September 30, 1923, amounted to Rs. 93,720,169·33, which was Rs. 5,094,869·33 more than the estimate and Rs. 14,450,052·61 more than the amount collected in the previous financial year. Customs, harbour dues, revenues of oil installations, arrack, estate duties, commission on money orders, Railway receipts, interest on public funds invested, abatements under Ordinance No. 13 of 1906 (pensions to widows and orphans), and profit on new coins were mainly responsible for the increase over the previous financial year. The increase under Customs receipts was Rs. 5,925,519, under port and harbour Rs. 1,193,558, under arrack Rs. 1,574,362, under estate duties Rs. 452,362, under commission on money orders Rs. 234,734, under Railway receipts Rs. 2,562,391, under interest Rs. 164,848, under abatements (Ordinance No. 13 of 1906) Rs. 240,348, and under profit on new coins Rs. 741,892. The increases under Customs and Railway receipts and port and harbour dues are an indication of improved trade conditions.

Expenditure.

The expenditure for the financial year ended September 30, 1923, which was estimated at Rs. 91,141,611, amounted to Rs. 85,583,909·72, the saving on the estimate being Rs. 5,557,701·28. This expenditure exceeded that of the previous financial year by Rs. 8,224,841·24. The increase, as compared with the previous year, is due mainly to the increased salaries to Government officers, more liberal provision for expenditure under the following heads: Excise, Post Office, Education, Railway Department, Railway Extraordinary Works, Public Works Annually Recurrent, Public Works Extraordinary (Flood Damages), and Military Expenditure. The latter head included expenditure on the provision of accommodation for a pack battery of artillery and the payment of a sum of £14,803 underpaid as military contribution for 1920–21.

Assets and Liabilities.

The assets of the Colony on September 30, 1923, were Rs. 62,255,044, and the liabilities Rs. 40,691,385, showing an excess of assets over liabilities of Rs. 21,563,659. The assets consisted of cash in fixed deposits and current accounts in the local and Indian banks and with the Crown Agents in London, unissued stores, investments in rupee and sterling gilt

edged securities, and sundry recoverable advances. The main liabilities represent amounts due to the Widows' and Orphans' Pension Fund, to the loan account, and to suitors and other depositors in the Treasury and local Kachcheries. The cash balances available amounted to Rs. 45,922,472. The accumulated surplus on September 30, 1923, was in excess of that on September 30, 1922, by a sum of Rs. 8,136,260.

Currency.

On September 30, 1923, the value of currency notes in circulation amounted to Rs. 39,704,944. The Currency Commissioners on the same date held silver rupees to the extent of Rs. 15,272,715, and Rs. 28,560,352 (market value) or Rs. 26,238,318 (purchase price) in British, Indian, and Colonial securities. The value of the reserve on September 30, 1923, was thus in excess of the value of notes in circulation by Rs. 4,128,123.

During the year silver rupees to the extent of Rs. 409,134 were received from the banks in Colombo for exchange of currency notes.

The following denominations of subsidiary coins were in circulation in the Colony on September 30, 1923 :—

			Rs.
50 cents (silver)	..	..	3,755,000
25 cents (silver)	..	..	2,790,750
10 cents (silver)	..	..	2,851,461
5 cents (nickel)	..	..	595,600
1 cent (copper)	..	..	821,637
½ cent (copper)	..	..	318,068

Public Debt.

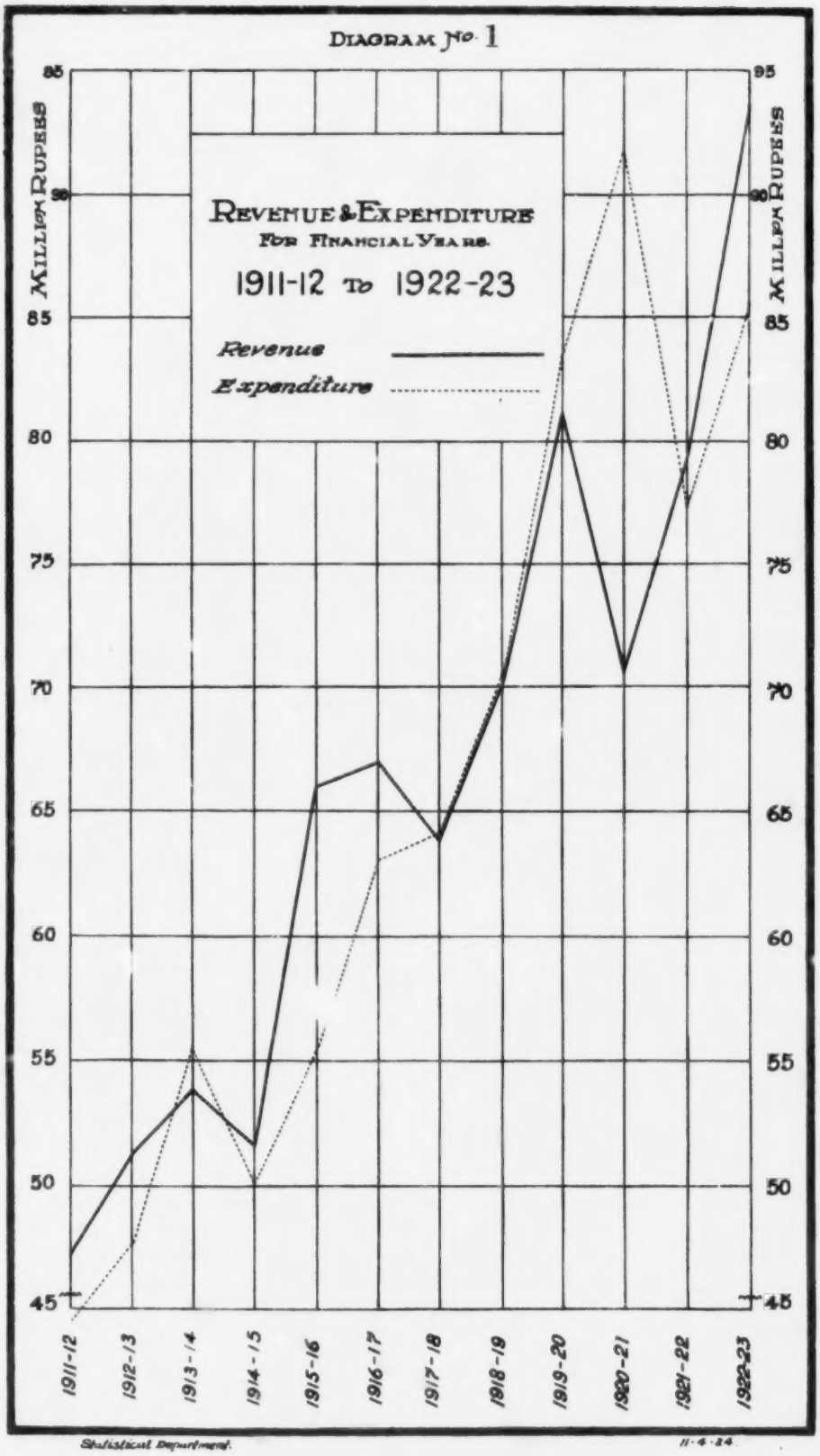
The nett sterling debt of the Colony on September 30, 1923, stood at £10,174,239, and the rupee debt at Rs. 1,952,584.

The nett total public debt is less than two years' revenue, calculating the nett sterling debt at fifteen rupees to the pound sterling.

Ceylon Savings Bank.

The Ceylon Savings Bank had a sum of Rs. 4,903,716 to credit of 43,504 depositors on December 31, 1923, against Rs. 4,619,561 to credit of 42,194 depositors on December 31, 1922. The amount of the bank's invested funds on December 31, 1923, was Rs. 5,487,728, which include investments made from the reserve fund of Rs. 743,657. The interest paid to depositors amounted to Rs. 155,045. Interest was allowed at the rate of 4 per cent. on sums of Rs. 1,000 and under, and 3 per cent. on sums above Rs. 1,000.

The rules of the bank were amended in September, 1923, so as to afford an opportunity to those residing outside the Colony to continue their deposits without loss of interest after one year,



Statistical Department. 11-4-24.

or to become new depositors, and to provide for the opening of the bank on Saturdays for public business. Accounts may be opened with a minimum deposit of 50 cents; and not more than Rs. 1,000 can be deposited in one year irrespective of withdrawals. The maximum sum that a depositor may have to his credit is Rs. 3,000.

Charitable institutions or societies may deposit Rs. 2,500 per annum up to Rs. 7,500.

Death Duties.

Estates of persons whose deaths occurred on or after July 1, 1919, are chargeable with duty under the Estate Duty Ordinance, No. 8 of 1919, which came into operation as from that date.

During the financial year 1922–23 a sum of Rs. 1,505,022·28 was collected as estate duty on 1,938 estates, as against Rs. 1,069,960·40 collected during the previous year on 1,811 estates. In addition to this, a sum of Rs. 31,197·50 was paid as stamp duty on probates and letters of administration in respect of the estates of persons who died before July 1, 1919. The largest estate dealt with was of the value of Rs. 1,656,634·32, and the amount of duty paid thereon was Rs. 165,663·43.

The total amount of penalties recovered under the Ordinance in respect of 214 cases was Rs. 1,965.

The total duty collected under the Ordinance is over four times the stamp duty formerly collected on probates and letters of administration.

III.—Trade and Shipping.

General Review.

THE year 1923 showed a general increase in the trade of Ceylon as compared with 1922. The marked depression in trade in the United Kingdom and elsewhere appears to have had little effect upon Ceylon. In fact, the total trade of the Island increased in value by nearly 65 million rupees or 10·7 per cent. as compared with the previous year, and reached the figure of Rs. 666,529,000, the highest recorded in the history of the Island's trade.

As compared with 1922, the value of total imports increased by 3·7 per cent. to Rs. 292,159,000 and the value of exports by 17 per cent. to Rs. 374,370,000. Both these figures constitute records.

The increases in volume, as represented approximately by the total tonnage of cargoes, were: imports 5·8 per cent., exports ·6 per cent., and total trade 2·9 per cent.

If we exclude both from imports and exports coal and liquid fuel which was supplied to steamers, we find that remaining imports increased by 3·5 per cent. in value and 4·9 per cent. in volume, whilst exports increased by 17·7 per cent. in value and decreased by 8·9 per cent. in volume, total trade showing an increase of 11 per cent. in value and a decrease of 1·2 per cent. in volume.

The number of steamers entering Colombo harbour with cargo or in ballast increased from 1,754 to 1,897, or 8·1 per cent., with an increase in tonnage from 6,984,128 to 7,693,948, or 10·2 per cent. The number of steamers calling to coal or oil only fell from 453 to 384, a decrease of 18 per cent. in number and 8·9 per cent. in tonnage. The number of sailing ships entering the harbour increased by 10 per cent. to 282. The average tonnage of all steamers was just under 4,000 tons.

Increased trade activity is also reflected in the number of commercial travellers coming to the Island, which rose from 121 in 1922 to 161 during the year under review. Of these, 110 represented British firms.

The following table shows the annual value of imports and exports for a period of ten years, excluding the value of specie and the value of coal and liquid fuel supplied to steamers:—

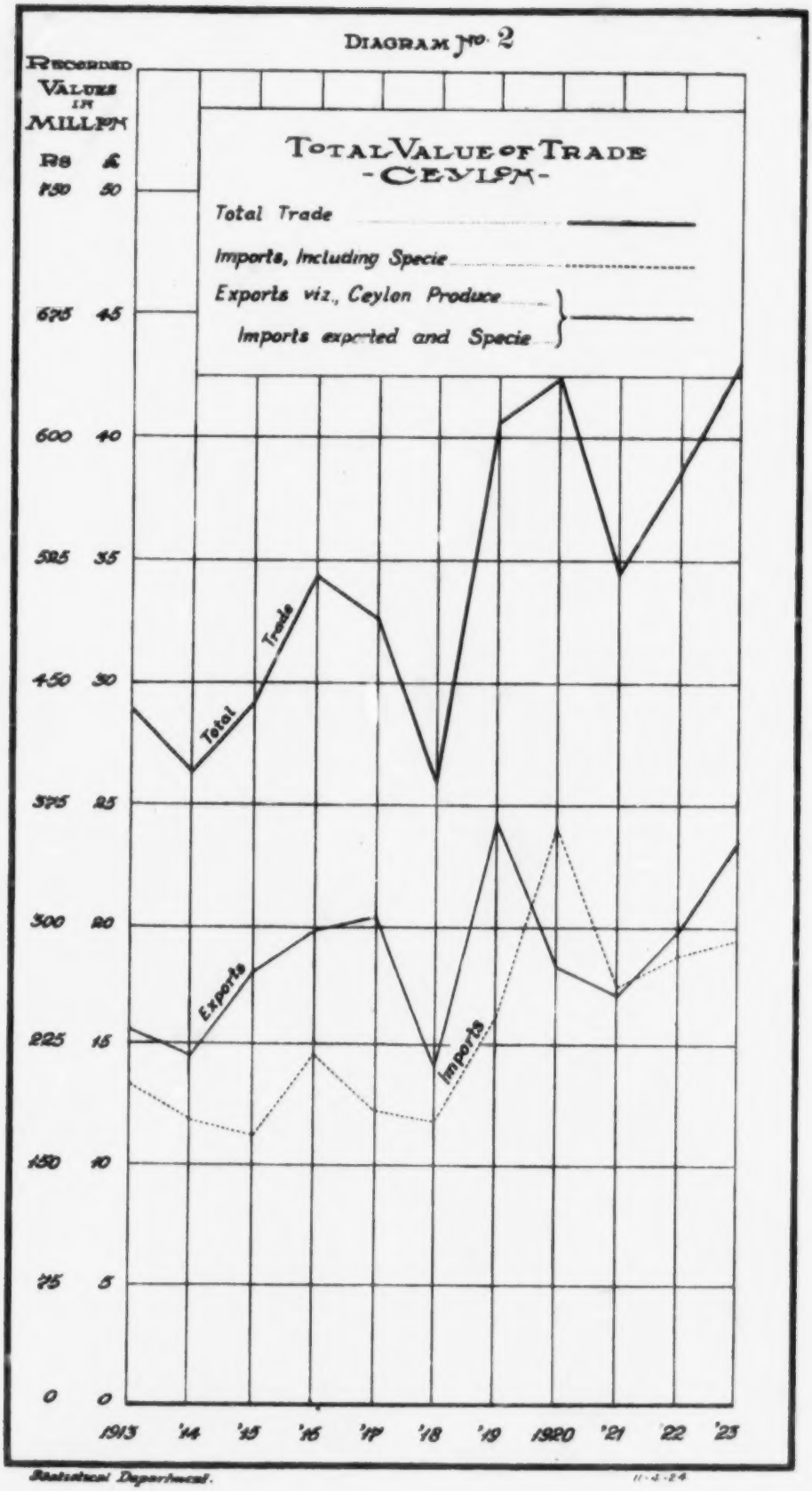
Year.	Imports. Rs.	Exports. Rs.	Total. Rs.
1914	172,317,549	218,363,846	390,681,395
1915	163,637,758	273,375,987	437,013,745
1916	211,500,753	297,505,905	509,006,658
1917	184,123,986	304,160,457	488,284,443
1918	177,716,763	211,325,334	389,042,097
1919	239,323,731	367,054,779	606,378,570
1920	321,275,652	268,462,183	589,737,835
1921	260,897,161	256,600,413	517,497,574
1922	280,414,704	297,753,215	578,167,919
1923	287,947,472	351,035,248	638,982,720

The values of coal and liquid fuel supplied to steamers since 1918 are as follows:—

Year.	Value of Coal supplied to Vessels. Rs.	Value of Liquid Fuel supplied to Vessels. Rs.
1918	17,479,335	515,123
1919	32,899,550	2,869,327
1920	36,638,574	2,733,738
1921	27,638,759	3,030,034
1922	16,309,907	3,720,575
1923	13,551,793	7,576,801

The total values of Ceylon trade for the last six years, excluding specie but including coal and liquid fuel supplied to steamers, is as follows:—

Year.	Lakhs of Rupees.	Year.	Lakhs of Rupees.
1918	4,070¼	1921	5,481¾
1919	6,421½	1922	5,982
1920	6,291	1923	6,601



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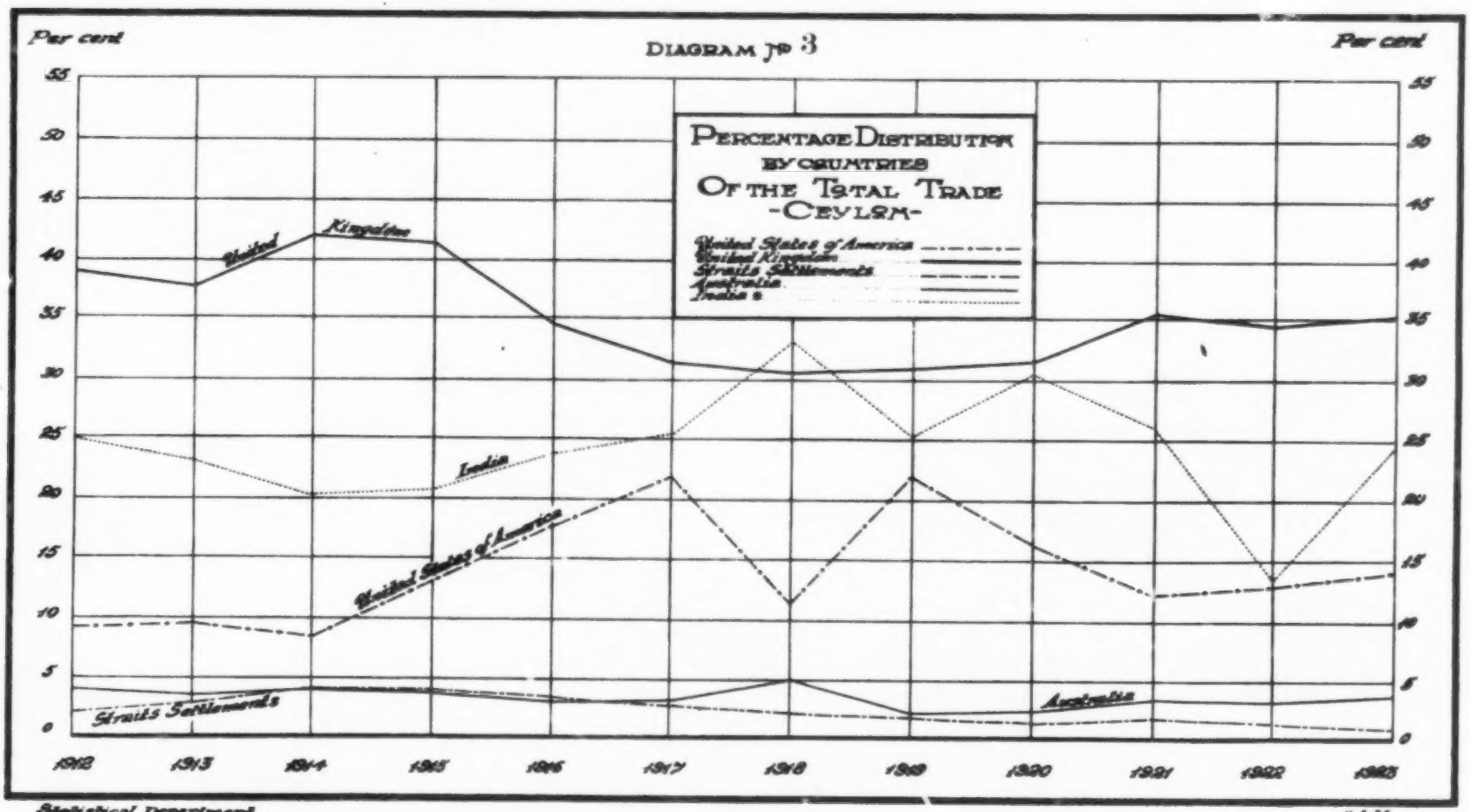

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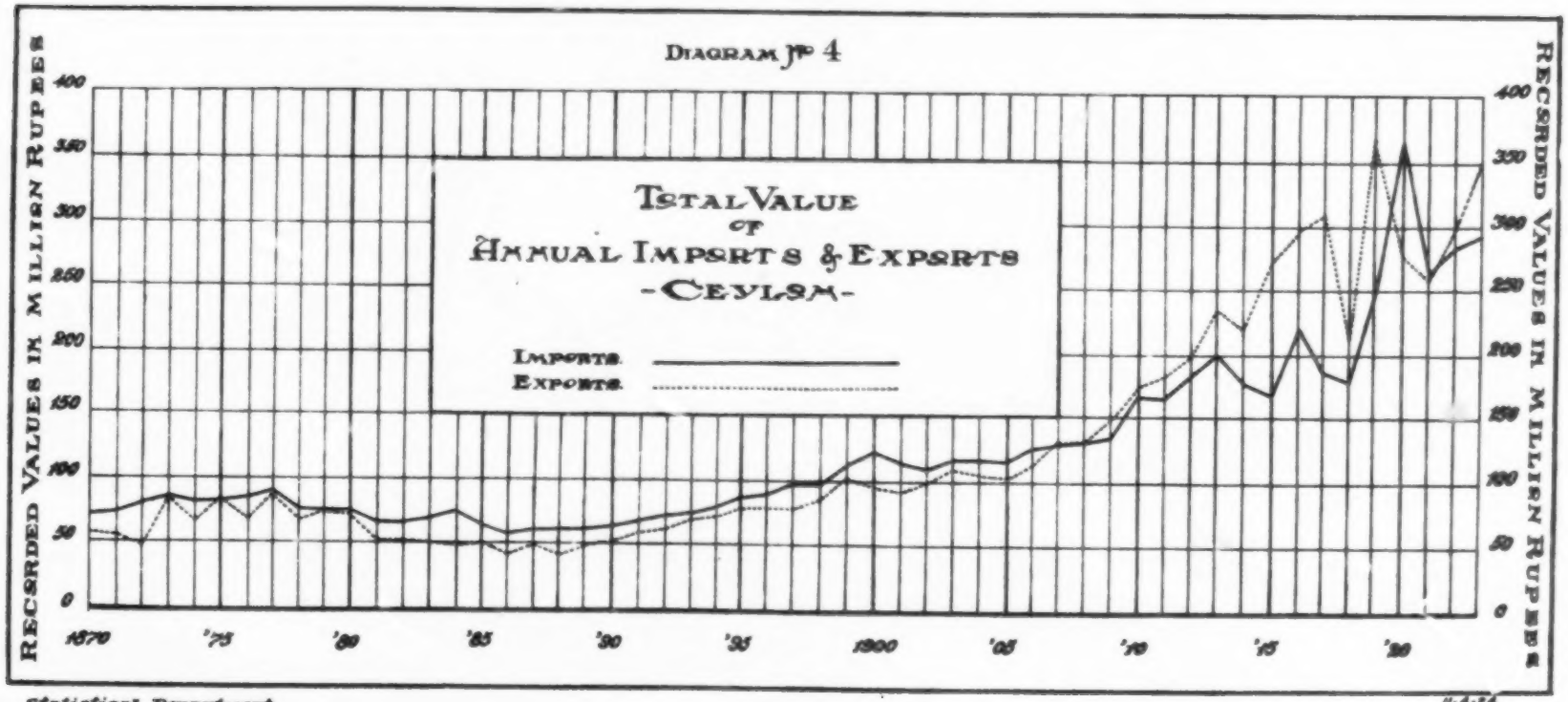
* British India, including Burma



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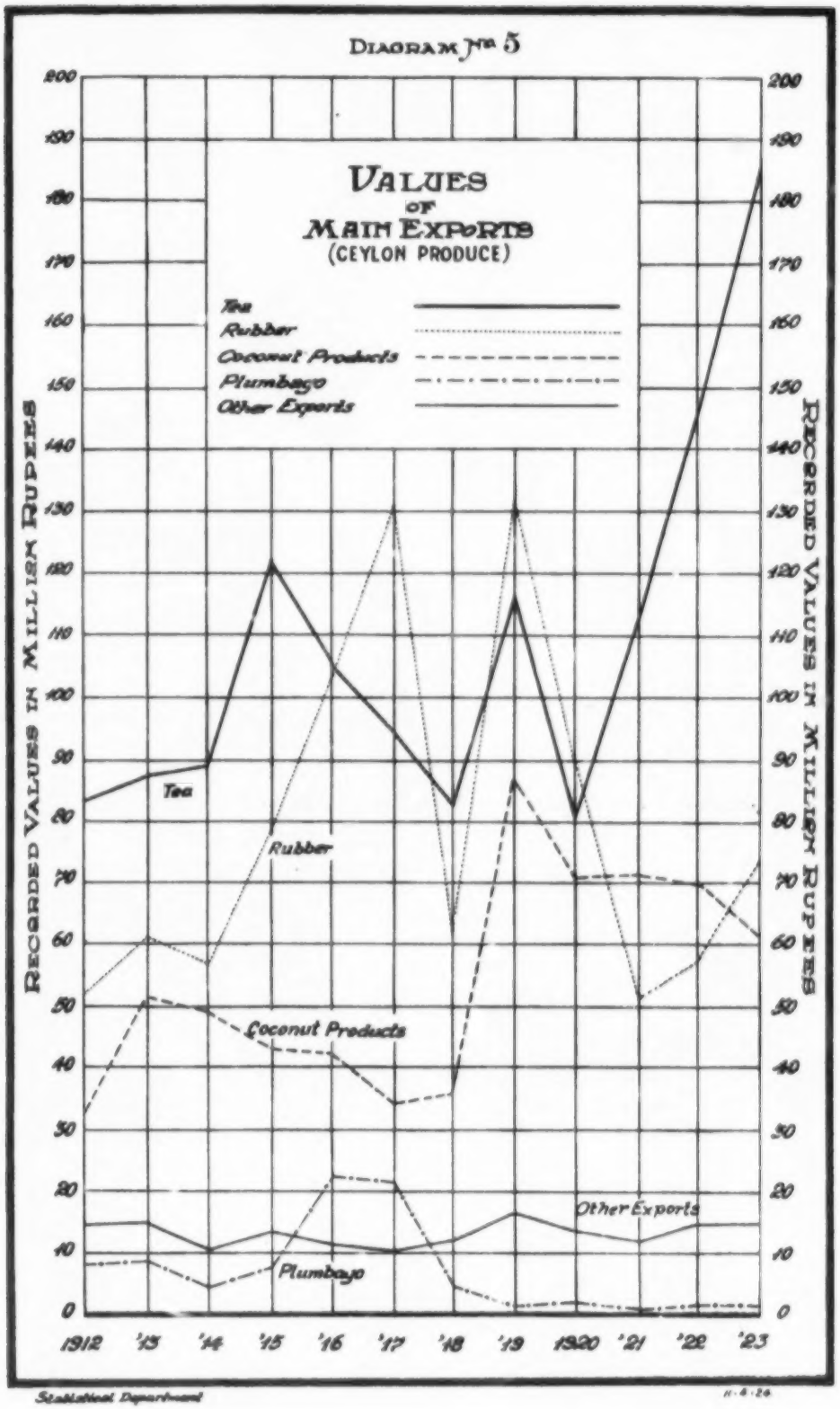
Diagram No. 5
Values of Main Exports
(Ceylon Produce)
Tea
Rubber
Coconut Products
Plumbago
Other Exports
Recorded Values in Million Rupees
0
10
20
30
40
50
60
70
80
90
100
110
120
130
140
150
160
170
180
190
200
1912
'13
'14
'15
'16
'17
'18
'19
1920
'21
'22
'23
Statistical Department
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Customs Revenue.

The total revenue collected by the Department during the year amounted to Rs. 38,725,231·42, a figure which exceeds the previous highest (1922) by Rs. 5,286,204·79, or 15·8 per cent.

The revenue from import duties increased, as compared with the previous year, by Rs. 3,350,567, or 15·6 per cent., while the revenue from export duties increased by Rs. 1,181,615, or 16·1 per cent.

A new tariff was brought into force from October 1, 1922, under which both import and export duties of many articles were increased, and the figures of revenue for 1923 are of particular interest as showing the results of these increases.

The following table shows the revenue collected at the several ports of the Island under the main heads during the years 1922 and 1923, with the percentage of increase under each head and the principal alterations in duty.

[For Table see pages 10 and 11.]

Generally speaking, it seems clear that the Customs duties in Ceylon are still far from having reached that point where an increase in duty imposes a check upon consumption, or in other words, that the prices of imported articles, both necessaries and luxuries, are still well within the means of their normal purchasers.

In the only case where the duty on an essential foodstuff was increased, namely, paddy, where the duty was raised from 33 cents per cwt. to 66 cents per cwt., to bring it into line with the duty on rice, imports increased from 629,996 cwt. to 723,973 cwt., or some 15 per cent. In the case of spirits, where the maximum duty was increased by 30 per cent. the revenue increased by over 50 per cent., the total quantity imported increasing by more than 30 per cent.

In only one instance does consumption appear to have been checked by increase of duty, namely, perfumed spirits. The duty on perfumed spirits was increased from Rs. 18·75 per gallon to Rs. 30 per gallon, and the result has been a considerable diminution in importation and a slight decrease in the revenue derived from the duty. The figures are as follows :—

	1922. Gallons.	1923. Gallons.
Quantity imported	1,818	1,755
Quantity cleared for home consumption	2,089	1,623
	Rs.	Rs.
Value	139,506	113,635
Duty	52,503	52,112

Revenue collected during the Years 1922 and 1923 classified according to Main Heads.

	1922.		1923.		Percentage of Increase or Decrease.	Remarks.
Import Duties.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.		
Cotton Manufactures	1,409,836	78	1,496,341	33	+ 6	Unchanged. 5½ per cent.
Grain	7,603,990	23	8,169,047	23	+ 7	Duty on paddy increased from 33 to 66 cents.
Kerosine Oil	1,899,873	60	2,406,435	91	+ 26	Unchanged 30 cents per gallon.
Spirits and Cordials	1,585,278	24	2,389,693	2	+ 50	Minimum duty increased from Rs. 9·60 to Rs. 12·50.
Sugar	1,686,488	63	1,757,395	56	+ 4	Duty increased from Rs. 3 to Rs. 3·50.
Other Goods	7,194,060	98	8,511,182	5	+ 18	Duty increased from 7½ per cent. to 10 per cent.
(*a*) Total Import Duties	21,379,528	46	24,730,095	10	+ 15	
Export Duties.						
Cacao	124,896	56	92,099	56	— 26	Unchanged. Re. 1·50 per 100 lb.
Coconut, desiccated	587,193	72	689,920	87	+ 17	Duty increased from 70 cents to 84 cents.
Coconuts, fresh	54,889	5	47,662	85	— 13	Duty increased from Rs. 2 to Rs. 3.
Coconut Oil	436,273	13	359,578	87	— 17	Unchanged. 75 cents per cwt.
Copra	821,340	30	610,091	65	— 25	Duty increased from 40 cents to 60 cents.
Plumbago	48,572	15	46,322	89	— 4	Unchanged. 3 per cent. *ad valorem*.
Poonac	—		37,101	56	—	Duty free, now 35 cents per cwt.
Rubber	2,149,556	88	1,464,196	67	— 31	Duty reduced from Rs. 3 to Rs. 2·50.
Tea	3,105,241	45	5,181,806	54	+ 66	Duty increased from Re. 1·50 to Rs. 3.
Other	33,370	24	14,167	10	— 57	Unchanged.
(*b*) Total Export Duties	7,361,333	48	8,542,948	56	+ 16	
Sundries	35,774	45	38,868	58	+ 8	—
Grand Total	28,776,636	39	33,311,912	24	+ 15	

Revenue of Colombo Harbour.

Harbour Dues	1,892,089 86	2,373,360 35	+ 25	—
Warehouse Rent	497,376 98	605,555 99	+ 21	—
Lake to Harbour Dues	522 17*	8,498 28	15·27	—
Other Rents	326,409 91	333,840 95	+ 2	—
Pilotage	146,006 24	190,156 24	+ 30	—
Railway Traffic	28,727 82	31,771 84	+ 10	—
Other Harbour Collections	138,647 19	103,583 54	— 25	—
Revenue of Oil Installations	464,240 5	†725,590 98	+ 56	—

Dues leviable at Outports.

Port Dues	25,193 30	29,601 56	+ 17	—
Warehouse Rent	61,176 7	80,130 7	+ 31	—
Others	12,384 0	13,442 0	+ 8	—
Grand Total	3,592,773 59	4,495,531 80	+ 25	

Medical Aid (Export Duties)	1,064,059 5	912,169 75	— 14	—
Sundries	5,557 60	5,617 63	+ 1	—
Grand Total	1,069,616 65	917,787 38	— 14	

* Total for one month.

† Total for eleven months.

Distribution of Trade and Foreign Competition.

The percentage of the Island's imports supplied by Foreign Countries rose in value from 17·95 in 1922 to 19·75 in the year under review. The percentage supplied by the United Kingdom was 22·39, almost the same as in 1922, whilst British Colonies and Possessions supplied 57·86 per cent., as compared with 59·63 per cent. in the previous year. 72 per cent. in value of the total imports came from the United Kingdom, British India, and Burma. British India replaced Burma as the chief supplier, owing to increase in the imports of rice and of fish guano and manure from that country. Australia advanced from 8th to 5th place, owing mainly to imports of railway sleepers, whilst Natal went down from 4th to 9th. Germany occupied 12th place, with supplies amounting to 1·37 per cent. of the total.

As purchasers of the Colony's exports, the first four countries in order of the value of their purchases remain the same, the percentage for 1923 being as follows :—

	Per Cent.
United Kingdom	47·28
United States of America	23·36
Australia	3· 8
Germany	2·72

Italy dropped from 5th to 10th place.

In the value of total trade both the United Kingdom and Foreign Countries show a slight increase in percentage at the expense of British Possessions; in both cases the increase is due to a decline in the imports from British Possessions.

Comparative percentages for the last three years of the value of imports, exports, and total trade are as follows. The figures are exclusive of imported rubber and of coal, liquid fuel, and other ships' stores :—

	1921. Per Cent.	1922. Per Cent.	1923. Per Cent.
Imports—			
United Kingdom	25·32	22·42	22·39
British Possessions	58·76	59·63	57·86
Foreign Countries	15·92	17·95	19·75
Exports—			
United Kingdom	46·22	46·27	46·64
British Possessions	16·38	16·36	17·01
Foreign Countries	37·40	37·37	36·35
Total Trade—			
United Kingdom	35·74	34·78	35·81
British Possessions	37·64	37·21	35·25
Foreign Countries	26·62	28·01	28·94

The principal countries from which Ceylon's imports are obtained, with the percentage of the total value supplied by each for the last three years, are shown in the following table :—

		1921. Per Cent.	1922. Per Cent.	1923. Per Cent.
1.	British India	24·51	24·24	29·06
2.	United Kingdom	25·08	22·14	22
3.	Burma	23·01	26·95	20·59
4.	Java	3·04	2·68	3·29
5.	Australia	2·32	1·82	2·94
6.	Borneo (excluding British)	1·48	2·3	2·7
7.	United States of America	2·72	2·39	2·24
8.	Japan	1·57	1·85	1·89
9.	Natal	3·4	2·73	1·69
10.	Holland	1·06	1·13	1·55
11.	Maldive Islands	1·06	1·29	1·41
12.	Germany	·56	1·32	1·37
13.	Straits Settlements	2·7	1·56	1·27
14.	Persia	1·53	1·73	1·02
15.	Sumatra	·9	·63	·88
16.	Belgium	·16	·37	·61
17.	Russia in Asia	—	—	·61
18.	France	·74	·78	·58
19.	Canada	·27	·13	·55
20.	Italy	·45	·48	·5
21.	India, excluding British	·04	·21	·49
22.	Hong Kong	·58	·52	·44
23.	Mozambique	—	·31	·33
24.	Switzerland	·19	·13	·32
25.	Other British Possessions in Africa	1·06	·49	·27
26.	China	·31	·18	·25
27.	Sweden	·25	·24	·21
28.	Mauritius	—	·22	·14
29.	Aden	·04	·12	·13
30.	Norway	·06	·13	·12

The values of the staple products exported from Ceylon during the last five years are as follows :—

		Lakhs of Rupees.				
		1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.
1.	Tea	1,165	808	1,127	1,460	1,857
2.	Rubber	1,321	900	516	570	736
3.	Coconut, desiccated	249	183	266	202	227
4.	Copra	323	284	242	288	181
5.	Coconut oil	257	199	150	149	139
6.	Arecanuts	30	29	33	33	35
7.	Coir fibre	17	16	11	18	24
8.	Cacao	31	25	20	31	22
9.	Citronella oil	9	11	11	16	21
10.	Cinnamon	37	21	18	20	21
11.	Coir yarn	11	8	6	13	20
12.	Plumbago	17	21	8	16	15
13.	Coconuts, fresh	3	10	24	18	13
14.	Tobacco, unmanufactured	6	8	6	10	7
15.	Skins (dressed and undressed)	10	9	6	6	7
16.	Poonac (coconut)	5	6	9	8	6
17.	Cardamoms	9	5	5	5	6

Exports of Ceylon Staple Products, 1919-1923.

The quantities exported during the same years are :—

			1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.
1.	Tea	lb.	208,560,943	184,770,231	161,610,966	171,807,581	181,939,731
2.	Rubber	cwt.	900,197	790,648	786,834	933,886	748,359
3.	Coconut, desiccated	cwt.	675,060	518,735	870,515	768,215	818,793
4.	Copra	cwt.	1,759,525	1,357,870	1,367,431	1,686,589	1,015,465
5.	Coconut oil	cwt.	675,999	507,527	484,724	554,626	480,543
6.	Arecanuts	cwt.	150,457	124,048	131,045	133,531	160,578
7.	Coir fibre	cwt.	239,391	252,568	202,267	319,125	359,082
8.	Cacao	cwt.	58,884	56,397	62,245	83,210	60,904
9.	Citronella oil	lb.	992,850	1,022,809	1,160,555	1,299,889	1,121,271
10.	Cinnamon	cwt.	68,755	35,121	45,364	42,974	44,984
11.	Coir yarn	cwt.	112,076	72,438	60,710	102,688	105,088
12.	Plumbago	cwt.	133,428	184,100	86,996	216,999	213,383
13.	Coconuts, fresh	No.	3,390,710	9,776,479	23,738,542	22,317,747	15,963,670
14.	Tobacco, unmanufactured	lb.	1,739,392	3,590,474	2,411,419	4,334,595	2,951,094
15.	Skins (dressed and undressed)	cwt.	12,899	12,925	8,353	9,061	8,605
16.	Poonac (coconut)	cwt.	87,341	92,452	160,699	115,479	116,549
17.	Cardamoms	cwt.	4,870	3,754	4,512	4,096	2,788

The principal countries buying Ceylon produce and manufactures are given in the following table, with the percentage of value taken by each :—

		1921. Per Cent.	1922. Per Cent.	1923. Per Cent.
1.	United Kingdom	47·47	47·40	47·28
2.	United States of America	22	22·32	23·36
3.	Australia	4·87	4·27	3·8
4.	Germany	4·05	3·8	2·72
5.	Canada	1·73	2·39	2·65
6.	British India	3·12	2·2	2·2
7.	Egypt	1·31	1·46	2·18
8.	New Zealand	1·45	1·75	2·03
9.	Norway	1·13	1·19	1·88
10.	Italy	1·91	3·29	1·57
11.	Denmark	2·14	1·6	1·16
12.	Natal	·72	1	1·11
13.	France	·58	·17	1·02
14.	Belgium	1·09	1·15	·96
15.	Cape Colony	·7	·81	·9
16.	Holland	3·01	1·55	·86
17.	South America (excluding Chili)	·19	·34	·53
18.	Japan	·47	·4	·51
19.	Other British Possessions in Asia	·03	—	·49
20.	Sweden	·37	·28	·42
21.	Straits Settlements	·39	·41	·41
22.	Spain (excluding Gibraltar)	·29	·22	·31
23.	Philippine Islands	·25	·28	·29
24.	Newfoundland	·[illegible]	·17	·19
25.	Other British Possessions in Africa	·14	·2	·18
26.	Turkey in Asia	·02	·05	·15

Notes on the Principal Imports.

Wheat Flour (no change in duty).—Imports increased from 240,524 cwt. in 1922 to 275,395 cwt. in 1923. As in the previous year, the imports from Australia showed an increase, while those from British India declined. There were no imports from the United Kingdom, and a negligible quantity only from Burma.

Rice (no change in duty).—The rice trade of the Island has settled down again after the severe shortage which necessitated the imposition of food control in 1920, and competition amongst merchants produced a fall in prices. Imports increased, as compared with the previous year, by 214,676 cwt., or 3 per cent., to a total of 7,423,833 cwt. The average market value fell from Rs. 18·39 a cwt. to Rs. 11·35 a cwt. Imports from British India were 2,720,670 cwt., or nearly double the imports in the previous year. Imports from Burma, on the other hand, decreased by a million cwt. to 4,567,744 cwt. There were no imports from Siam.

Other Grains (duty on paddy increased from 33 cents a cwt. to 66 cents a cwt., other duties unchanged).—The total imports increased from 956,559 cwt. in 1922 to 1,134,443 cwt. in 1923, or some 16·5 per cent. Imports of paddy rose from 629,996 cwt. to 723,973 cwt., an increase of 15 per cent. The figures for the last ten years of rice and other grains are as follows :—

Imports during the Period 1914–23.

Year.	Rice. Cwt.	Other Grains. Cwt.	Year.	Rice. Cwt.	Other Grains. Cwt.
1914	7,400,269	913,462	1919	5,342,575	1,433,295
1915	7,173,778	937,703	1920	5,788,730	1,310,996
1916	8,073,964	1,117,413	1921	5,859,957	1,324,895
1917	7,754,121	1,102,566	1922*	7,209,157	956,550
1918	6,472,152	815,161	1923*	7,423,833	1,134,443

* Includes imports by Government and private firms.

Sugar (duty on refined sugar increased from Rs. 3 per cwt. to Rs. 3·50 a cwt., duty on unrefined sugar unchanged).—The imports of sugar showed a decrease of 3 per cent., the total imports in 1922 being 571,073 cwt. and in 1923 553,191 cwt. As in the previous year, the bulk of the imports of refined sugar was obtained from Java, whilst unrefined sugar and jaggery came almost exclusively from British India.

Manufactured Tobacco, Cigars, and Cigarettes. (The duties were increased as follows :—Manufactured tobacco and cigars, Rs. 3 a lb. to Rs. 4 a lb. ; cigarettes, Rs. 4 a lb. to Rs. 5 a lb.).—The quantities of each cleared for home consumption during the last five years and in 1913 have been as follows :—

Year.	Cigars. lb.	Cigarettes. lb.	Manufactured Tobacco. lb.	Total. lb.
1913	22,051	318,955	48,258	389,264
1919	11,820	303,142	13,625	328,587
1920	12,198	371,575	29,034	412,807
1921	8,092	319,005	23,330	350,427
1922	8,883	330,071	21,429	360,383
1923	7,387	327,482	21,354	356,223

As in previous years, cigarettes and manufactured tobacco were imported almost exclusively from the United Kingdom, whilst cigars came mainly from the Philippines, British India, and Holland.

Spirits (minimum duty increased from Rs. 9·60 a proof gallon to Rs. 12·50 a proof gallon).—159,047 proof gallons of spirits of all kinds were cleared for home consumption during the year, as compared with 120,373 proof gallons in the previous year, an increase of over 32 per cent.

The number of proof gallons of whisky imported was almost exactly the same as in the previous year. In the case of brandy there was an increase of 55·7 per cent., and in the case of gin of 42·2 per cent. In both these latter cases the increase was mainly in the cheaper varieties. Whisky was obtained exclusively from the United Kingdom, the bulk of the brandy came from France, whilst the United Kingdom supplied one-sixth of the gin imported and Holland the remainder.

The quantities of the three chief kinds cleared for home consumption during the last three years are as follows :—

	Proof Gallons.		
	1921.	1922.	1923.
Brandy.. ..	24,269	20,509	33,893
Gin	34,131	45,387	67,252
Whisky.. ..	62,885	54,477	57,902
Total ..	121,285	120,373	159,047

Cotton, Manufactured and Raw (cotton yarn and twist, bleached, dyed, gray, and other, and cotton piece goods, duty unchanged ; other cotton goods increased from 5½ per cent. to 10 per cent.).—The total value of imports of cotton goods was Rs. 26,954,348, an increase of 16 per cent. upon the previous year's imports. Government imports were valued at Rs. 254,287, as against Rs. 149,276. The imports of piece goods of all kinds were to the value of Rs. 23,655,863, an increase of nearly 19 per cent. over the previous year.

Bleached yarn and twist : Imports rose from 12,829 lb. valued at Rs. 17,284 in 1922 to 62,356 lb. valued at Rs. 28,631 in 1923. In 1922 the value of imports from British India was double those from the United Kingdom, whereas in the year under review imports from British India were valued under Rs. 3,000, whilst those from the United Kingdom were valued at over Rs. 25,000.

Yarn and twist, dyed : Imports decreased by 24,000 lb., or about 17 per cent., the bulk of the imports, as in the previous year, coming from British India.

Piece goods, bleached : The value of imports was Rs. 6,740,549, an increase of Rs. 2,141,000 over the previous year. The increase was mainly in the imports from the United Kingdom, which supplied Rs. 6,144,000 out of the total.

Piece goods, dyed : Imports increased in value by Rs. 2,222,000, and reached the total value of Rs. 11,308,725. Imports from the United Kingdom doubled in value, whilst those from British India showed a considerable decrease. British India, however, still remains the largest supplier, with about four-elevenths of the total. Other increases were Holland (the third largest supplier) and Japan.

Piece goods, gray: Imports showed an increase of over half a million rupees, and came mainly from the United Kingdom. Imports from the United States of America decreased, whilst those from Japan increased, so that Japan now takes the place of the United States of America as the second largest supplier.

Piece goods, printed: These are imported almost exclusively from the United Kingdom, and show a small increase.

Piece goods, muslin: The value of imports decreased by about 10 per cent., but whilst in 1922 British India supplied about three-fourths of the total and the United Kingdom about one-fifth, in 1923 62 per cent. of the imports came from the United Kingdom, 27 per cent. from Switzerland, and only 11 per cent. from British India.

Lace and net: The value of imports decreased slightly. Imports from the United Kingdom and from Germany increased, whilst those from Switzerland and British India decreased.

Embroidery: The value of imports increased by 50 per cent. Out of a total value of Rs. 233,000, Switzerland supplied Rs. 214,000 and the United Kingdom Rs. 15,000.

Coal (duty free).—Imports decreased from 581,716 tons valued at Rs. 22,215,006 in 1922 to 544,548 tons valued at Rs. 16,844,433 in 1923. The average value of coal was Rs. 38·36 a ton in 1922 and Rs. 30·93 in 1923. Imports from British India, Mozambique, and Australia increased, whilst those from the United Kingdom, Natal, and other British Possessions in Africa decreased.

Imports from Natal now exceed those from the United Kingdom, whilst British India come third. Government imports increased from 58,616 tons to 196,660 tons. 447,041 tons of coal were supplied to ships for bunkers during the year.

Liquid Fuel (duty free).—Imports during 1923 were 32,179,572 gallons, or, at 250 gallons to a ton, 128,718 tons, an increase of over 24 per cent. on the previous year. Nearly five-sixths of the total imports came from the British and the Dutch Indies, the remaining one-sixth came from Persia. A little more than 124,000 tons were supplied to ships for bunkers.

Kerosine Oil (duty unchanged).—Imports fell by approximately 1¼ million gallons to 5,841,000. This fall is due, not to a decrease in consumption, but to the comparatively large stocks held in the Island at the end of the previous year. Of the total imports, about 5¼ million gallons were imported in bulk, importations in case being only a little over a quarter of a million gallons.

The largest supplier of bulk oil in 1923 was Russia in Asia, which supplied nearly 2 million gallons out of the total. Persia

supplied a little less, and the remainder came from the United States of America, from which country came also the bulk of the case oil.

Petrol (duty unchanged).—Imports increased by over half a million gallons, as compared with 1922; the imports for the last five years being as follows :—

Year.	Gallons.	Year.	Gallons.
1919	.. 1,175,784	1922	.. 1,389,363
1920	.. 988,427	1923	.. 1,959,474
1921	.. 1,381,671		

As in the last two years, petrol was obtained almost exclusively from Sumatra, other imports amounting only to 6,504 gallons.

Manure (duty free).—Increased expenditure upon the cultivation of estates is reflected in the increased importations of manure, which in 1923 reached the total of 1,520,719 cwt., an increase of 27 per cent. on 1922.

The chief kind imported was bone meal (293,000 cwt.), groundnut poonac being a close second (282,000 cwt.), and fish guano third (252,000 cwt.). As in previous years, British India was the chief source of supply. The total value of imports in 1923 is estimated at Rs. 9,226,386, as compared with Rs. 8,435,388 in 1922.

Horses (duty in 1922 was 7½ per cent. on animals valued at over Rs. 1,000, now free).—161 horses were imported, as compared with 127 in 1922. 71 came from the United Kingdom, 56 from Australia, and 27 from India.

Motor Cars (duty increased from 7½ per cent. to 10 per cent.) and *Motor Lorries* (duty 7½ per cent. unchanged).—The number of motor cars imported during 1923 was very nearly double that of 1922, the actual figures being 968 cars in 1923 and 487 in 1922. The value of the cars imported in 1923 was Rs. 2,473,439, as compared with Rs. 1,603,555 in 1922.

The average value of the British cars imported in 1923 was Rs. 4,092, whilst the average value of the cars imported from the United States of America and Canada is Rs. 2,278.

The number of British cars imported rose from 61 to 108, whilst the number of American cars (imported from the United States of America or Canada) rose from 368 to 765. Only 13 cars were obtained from Italy, as against 40 in the previous year, whilst French cars numbered 80, as against 13. The imports of chassis for motor cars, which in 1922 were 53, fell in 1923 to 6.

There is a remarkable increase in the number of motor lorries (including chassis) imported, the number rising from 44 in 1922 valued at Rs. 204,236 to 318 in 1923 valued at Rs. 891,689.

Twenty-three came from the United Kingdom, one each from Italy and Germany, and the remainder from the United States of America or Canada.

Metals and Metalware : Ferrous Metals (changes in duty too various to indicate in detail).—The value of imports rose from Rs. 7,863,131 to Rs. 9,085,375. Government imports declined from Rs. 2,952,680 to Rs. 1,459,137. The total imports show a decrease of Rs. 271,299.

The more important increases are in galvanized iron sheets (both flat and corrugated), tubes, pipes and fittings, barbed wire, wire nails, steel bars, rods, angles, shapes, &c., and kitchen utensils, whilst the more important decreases are noted in iron bars, rods, angles, shapes, &c., hoop iron, and plain wire.

The first five sources of supply of ferrous metals in order of value remain the same as in the previous year, and are as follows :—

(1) United Kingdom.
(2) Germany.
(3) Belgium.
(4) United States of America.
(5) British India.

The total value of imports from the United Kingdom was Rs. 8,542,446.

Non-ferrous Metals and Manufactures thereof (changes in duty too various to indicate in detail).—The value of total imports was Rs. 4,756,194, as compared with Rs. 4,360,859 in 1922. As in 1922, Burma still heads the list as the chief sources of supply, though the value of the imports from that country shows a slight decrease, whilst the value of imports from the United Kingdom has increased and is now very close to the Burma figure.

Cement (duty changed from 20 cents a cwt. to 30 cents a cwt.).—Imports by private firms increased from 322,685 cwt. in 1922 to 462,122 cwt. in 1923. The Government imports fell from 137,647 cwt. to 59,215 cwt. The average value of the total imports fell from Rs. 28·88 to Rs. 20·49.

Momi and other Tea Chests.—Importations of Momi and other chests rose to just under 2 million chests, as compared with 1,122,000 in the previous year. Of this, 1½ million valued at nearly 24 lakhs of rupees came from Japan and 372,000 valued at 11½ lakhs of rupees from the United Kingdom. It is estimated that roughly 3 million cases were used in Ceylon during the year for the export of rubber, tea, and desiccated coconut. This rough estimate is based upon the quantities of these products exported. It will thus be seen that, roughly, two imported cases were used to one case of local production.

Notes on Principal Exports.

Tea (duty increased from Re. 1·50 per 100 lb. to Rs. 3 per 100 lb.).—The quantities exported during the last seven years are shown below in millions of pounds. The average price rose from 85 cents in 1922 to Re. 1·02 in 1923. The total value of tea exported rose from 146 million rupees to 185½ million rupees :—

Year.	Million Pounds.	Year.	Million Pounds.
1917	195	1921	161
1918	180	1922	172
1919	208	1923	182
1920	184		

The distribution among principal countries with their increases or decreases is shown in the following table. It will be seen that the largest increase in exports are to Egypt and other British Possessions in Asia and the United States of America, whilst the largest decrease is in the case of Australia :—

	1923. lb.	1922. lb.	Increase. lb.	Decrease. lb.
United Kingdom	119,768,283	117,537,328	2,230,955	—
British Possessions.				
Australia	10,815,635	12,129,042	—	1,313,407
British India	1,854,021	994,165	859,856	—
Canada	7,261,404	6,762,025	499,379	—
Cape Colony	2,556,179	2,446,319	109,860	—
Egypt	4,899,968	2,579,687	2,320,281	—
Hong Kong	203,480	198,548	4,932	—
Mauritius	231,401	382,324	—	150,923
Natal	3,232,364	3,145,645	86,719	—
Newfoundland	648,616	564,592	84,024	—
New Zealand	6,386,188	5,599,804	786,384	—
Other British Possessions in Africa	580,162	669,698	—	89,506
Other British Possessions in Asia	1,600,377	100,549	1,499,828	—
Straits Settlements	897,605	937,359	—	39,754
Zanzibar	145,781	127,325	18,456	—
Other British Possessions	192,507	157,562	34,945	—
	41,505,718	36,794,644	6,304,664	1,593,590
		Deduct Decrease	1,593,590	
		Nett Increase	4,711,074	

Foreign Countries.	1923. lb.	1922. lb.	Increase. lb.	Decrease. lb.
Chili	237,119 ..	52,369 ..	184,750 ..	—
China (excluding Hong Kong) ..	114,235 ..	77,511 ..	36,724 ..	—
Denmark ..	110,878 ..	95,388 ..	15,490 ..	—
France	1,244,839 ..	1,163,966 ..	80,873 ..	—
Germany ..	119,463 ..	177,400 ..	— ..	57,937
Italy	188,949 ..	92,489 ..	96,460 ..	—
Japan	372,552 ..	263,660 ..	108,892 ..	—
Mozambique ..	107,206 ..	104,684 ..	2,522 ..	—
Other Foreign Countries in Africa ..	161,306 ..	88,170 ..	73,136 ..	—
South America (excluding Chili)	317,446 ..	713,077 ..	604,369 ..	—
Turkey in Asia ..	450,152 ..	134,457 ..	315,695 ..	—
Turkey in Europe ..	118,709 ..	40,676 ..	78,033 ..	—
United States of America	15,550,436 ..	13,956,861 ..	1,593,575 ..	—
Other Foreign Countries ..	538,893 ..	514,901 ..	23,992 ..	—
	20,632,183	17,475,609	3,214,511	57,937
		Deduct Decrease ..	57,937	
		Nett Increase ..	3,156,574	
Ships' stores * ..	33,547 ..	— ..	33,547	—
Total ..	181,939,731	171,807,581	10,132,150	

* In 1922 the quantity supplied to vessels has been included in the respective countries according to the destination of the vessel.

Coconuts.—The exports of the three principal products of the coconut palm for the past five years have been—

Year.	Desiccated. Coconut. Cwt.	Copra. Cwt.	Coconut Oil. Cwt.
1919 ..	675,060 ..	1,759,525 ..	675,999
1920 ..	518,735 ..	1,357,870 ..	507,527
1921 ..	870,515 ..	1,367,431 ..	484,724
1922 ..	768,215 ..	1,686,589 ..	554,626
1923 ..	818,793 ..	1,015,465 ..	480,543

The total value of these three products as entered by the exporters fell from 64¾ million rupees in 1922 to 54¾ million rupees in 1923. It will be seen that the only increase is in the case of desiccated nuts; copra and coconut oil both showing considerable decreases. This decrease is to be attributed to unusual dry weather at the end of 1922.

Desiccated Coconuts (duty increased from 70 cents to 84 cents per cwt.).—Of the total quantity exported a little more than one-third went to the United States of America, and very nearly the same quantity to the United Kingdom. Of the 818,793 cwt., 336,000 went to the United States of America and 284,000 cwt. to the United Kingdom, the next largest purchaser being Germany with 53,500 cwt. (a considerable decrease from 1922).

The average price per lb. as entered by the exporters was 23 cents, the same as in the previous year.

Copra (duty increased from 40 cents to 60 cents a cwt.).—Norway, which in 1922 was only the sixth largest buyer, was the largest buyer in 1923, taking 262,482 cwt., Italy being second with 219,471 cwt., and Denmark third with 198,883 cwt.

Exports to the United Kingdom dropped from 253,143 cwt. to 71,437 cwt., and exports to the United States of America from 60,000 cwt. to 6,000 cwt.

Coconut Oil (duty unchanged).—The United Kingdom was still the largest purchaser, but the quantity taken fell to 153,347 cwt., or a little more than half that taken in the previous year. Germany with 142,615 cwt. was second on the list, as in 1922, and Egypt third with 64,929 cwt.

Rubber (duty decreased from Rs. 3 to Rs. 2·50 per 100 lb.).—The effects of restriction are seen in the decrease in the total exports from 104,595,278 lb. in 1922 to 83,816,228 lb. in 1923. With the rise in price due to the same cause, however, the value of rubber exported in 1923 was Rs. 73,594,349, as against Rs. 56,970,218 in 1922.

The United States of America is again by far the largest buyer, taking two-thirds of the total quantity exported. Exports to the United Kingdom show a very slight increase, and represent a quarter of the total. Exports to France were nearly treble of last year's exports, whilst exports to Germany fell to less than half of the previous year's figure.

SHIPPING.

3,677 vessels entered the various ports of the Island, as against 3,658 in 1922. The tonnage respectively was 9,602,984 and 9,087,732. The following table shows the classification under four general heads:—

	1922.		1923.	
	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.
Merchant vessels (with cargo and in ballast)	2,209	7,297,713	2,339	8,052,459
Merchant vessels (called to coal and oil)	454	1,401,750	387	1,285,004
Native sailing vessels ..	915	93,231	901	91,529
Warships and transports * ..	80	295,038	50	173,992
	3,658	9,087,732	3,677	9,602,984

* Warships' displacement tonnage.

The following table shows the comparative distribution of merchant vessels, including those which called only for the purpose of coaling:—

Nationality.	1922.		1923.	
	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.
British ..	1,894	5,740,260	1,906	6,115,626
British Colonial ..	915	93,231	901	91,529
Total British Vessels ..	2,809	5,833,491	2,807	6,207,155
American ..	32	127,992	18	72,641
Austrian ..	4	11,279	—	—
Chinese ..	2	7,739	—	—
Czecho-Slovakian .	2	5,445	—	—
Danish ..	18	45,556	20	53,306
Dutch ..	209	862,416	189	746,584
Finish ..	—	—	2	4,984
French ..	115	506,446	122	574,372
German ..	74	288,846	108	430,725
Greek ..	1	2,581	—	—
Italian ..	55	184,971	60	223,853
Japanese ..	173	719,258	183	852,739
Norwegian ..	51	105,468	80	148,602
Panamanian ..	—	—	1	7,990
Russian ..	—	—	1	4,160
Spanish ..	12	27,402	16	33,895
Swedish ..	21	63,804	20	67,986
Total Foreign Vessels ..	769	2,959,203	820	3,221,837

Excluding warships, transports, and merchant vessels which called only to coal, the distribution according to the flag is shown below:—

Nationality.	1922.		1923.	
	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.
British	1,535	4,618,671	1,592	5,064,929
British Colonial	915	93,231	901	91,529
Total British Vessels	2,450	4,711,902	2,493	5,156,458
American	26	109,467	15	60,079
Austrian	1	4,015	—	—
Danish	13	38,176	16	46,216
Dutch	179	759,523	168	676,117
French	99	457,130	121	569,362
German	72	281,358	97	388,039
Italian	47	165,734	57	213,383
Japanese	164	693,923	175	829,233
Norwegian	44	86,571	64	109,870
Spanish	12	27,402	16	33,895
Swedish	17	55,743	18	61,336
Total Foreign Vessels	674	2,679,042	747	2,987,530

Colombo Oil Installations Scheme.

The Oil Installations Scheme as originally designed is now complete, and has been working satisfactorily since the opening of the depôt at Kolonnawa in February, 1922. There has been a rapid increase in the use of oil fuel for bunkers, and Colombo has become one of the most important oil bunkering ports in the East. The demand on the facilities afforded by the single fuel oil pipeline has been so great that steps are now being taken to duplicate the pipeline at the earliest possible date. As regards the depôt itself, the three leading oil companies have now completed the full equipment of their respective installations in the non-dangerous section.

In the dangerous section, the Asiatic Petroleum Company, Limited, has completed the construction of two 3,000-ton tanks and the other buildings necessary for the importation of petrol in bulk. Two shipments of petrol in bulk were discharged at the port during the year under review. A new company, styled the Pennsylvania Oil Company of Ceylon, has also taken a lease of 2½ acres of land in the dangerous section, and has completed the construction of a storage shed for the storage of kerosine in drums.

Great difficulty and delay have been caused in the dredging at the oil jetties, owing to the discovery of patches of rock or hard material in the approach channels. Dredging work is now being concentrated on the approach channel to the Graving Dock Guide Pier to make this available at any state of the tide for vessels of 30 feet draught; thereafter the work will be carried on towards the bunkering jetties.

During the year 1923 32 vessels discharged the following quantities of oil :—

	Tons.
Liquid fuel	128,669
Kerosine	22,228
Petrol and Benzine	4,853

and 242 vessels were bunkered with a total quantity of 125,281 tons of liquid fuel.

To provide efficient lighting to enable vessels to be placed alongside after dark, electric lighting was extended to the Graving Dock Guide Pier and to the Oil Discharge Jetty.

Harbour Railway.—Work in connection with the Harbour Rail Connection was practically completed during the year, and the new railway was opened for traffic on July 23, 1923. The maintenance of the railway track from the Wharf Station to the Bloemendhal exchange sidings has been taken over by the Port Commission.

Lake to Harbour Canal.—All the construction works connected with the Lake to Harbour Canal, with a few minor exceptions, were completed in 1923. Deep dredging in the canal was also completed, as also deep dredging in the channels leading to the various mills on the lakeside. Thus it is now possible for practically all millowners on the lake to use 40-ton harbour barges for the transport of produce direct from mill to harbour, warehouse, or ship. The work of fendering the quay walls is almost complete. The Lake to Harbour Canal, including the locks, has been provided with the necessary electric lighting.

The Lake to Harbour Canal, locks, and lakeside warehouses were formally taken over by the Colombo Port Commission in January, 1923.

The goods traffic since the opening of the locks on November 1, 1922, has been as follows :—

	Tons.
November and December, 1922	2,054
January to December, 1923	28,328

A total number of 3,686 lighters, motor launches, and other small craft also passed through the Lake to Harbour Canal in 1923.

Deepening of the Harbour.—The work of deepening the harbour to 36 feet was proceeded with during the year 1923, and already ships with a draught of 33 feet can enter the harbour at any state of the tide. Two berths for vessels of this draught are expected to be completed shortly, in addition to the one already available. One has in fact been dredged, but the depth has not yet been proved. The programme for the deepening of the Suez Canal is being carefully watched with a view to the provision of berths in Colombo harbour deep enough to take any vessel able to pass through the canal.

The port authorities have also given particular attention to the problem of dealing with the large vessels which are now appearing on the Eastern and Australasian run, and with the still larger vessels likely to appear in the immediate future.

A new scheme of moorings for larger ships in Colombo harbour has accordingly been prepared by the Harbour Engineer, Mr. A. D. Prouse, and has been under the consideration of the Port Commission and the Consulting Engineers in England for some time.

The nett tonnage of vessels (sailing and steam) which visited Colombo harbour in 1923 amounted to 9,006,640 tons; in addition, 50 warships and transports with a gross tonnage of 173,982 tons, and coasting vessels with a nett tonnage of 47,801 tons, entered the port. During the past year there has been a considerable increase in shipping visiting the port, which is rapidly reaching its pre-war standard. The number of merchant ships of all nationalities and their tonnage visiting the port in 1913, 1922, and 1923, were as follows:—

	Number of Vessels.	Tonnage.
1913	2,979 ..	9,475,893
1922	2,463 ..	8,416,373
1923	2,563 ..	9,006,640

Twenty-three vessels were docked during the year, and 37 vessels were taken on the Patent Slip; 6 vessels were fumigated.

The receipts from the Graving Dock and Patent Slip brought to account during the year 1923 show a decrease, being Rs. 46,202·40 and Rs. 7,844·43, respectively, against Rs. 82,828·65 and Rs. 8,060·83 in the previous year. The decrease in the number of ships docked was, as far as can be ascertained, purely accidental. Rs. 1,657·50 was received in respect of fumigation, as against Rs. 2,642·50 in 1922.

The total expenditure of the Colombo Port Commission for the financial year 1922–1923, including Rs. 395,630·25 chargeable to Loan Account in respect of the Oil Installations Scheme, Dredging Colombo Harbour, and Government Housing Scheme,

was Rs. 2,457,351·75. Of this amount, Rs. 1,412·70 was expended by the Public Works Department on work for this Department, and a sum of Rs. 47,543·34 was expended by the Colombo Port Commission on account of other Departments. The nett expenditure on Colombo Port Commission services (inclusive of Loan expenditure) was Rs. 2,409,908·41. The revenue during the same period was Rs. 4,393,186·17.

Factories.

There was an increase of 43 in the total number of factories compared to that of 1923, or just over 3 per cent. The actual number of new factories registered during the year was 45, and 2 ceased work permanently. New factories included 11 tea, 8 rubber, 5 tea and rubber, 4 desiccating, 12 fibre, 1 engineering, 2 sawing, 1 aerated water, and 1 grain crushing factories; 1 tea and 1 rubber factories were closed down. The first complete compilation of factories was made at the end of 1908, and the total then was 1,025, at the end of November, 1923, it was 1,369, an increase of 344, or 33·56 per cent. in fifteen years; the number of cases in which steam power is used has been increased by five. It would seem that this power is becoming a favourite prime mover again. Electric lighting installations have increased by one.

IV.—Land.

Land Settlement Department.

THE year 1923 was exceptional on account of unseasonable rain, which not only interfered with fieldwork, but also was the chief cause of an unusual amount of sickness among the staff of the Department. In spite of these difficulties the work was well up to date at the end of the year, and the outturn of settled acreage for the year was only 5½ per cent. short of the estimate.

Since 1901 settlement surveys covering an area of 3,940,209 acres have been issued to the Department, and the settlement of 3,577,994 is complete, leaving a balance of 362,215 acres in hand. Of this balance area, approximately 68,000 acres lie in the Ratnapura District, 228,000 in the North-Central Province, 35,000 in the North-Western Province, and 22,000 in the Southern Province, with small areas in the Kegalla, Colombo, Kandy, Matale, and Trincomalee Districts. The large area in the North-Central Province includes 189,000 acres in the Tamankaduwa division, which has been taken up in connection with

the new Batticaloa-Trincomalee Light Railway. This almost uninhabited area has been surveyed on topographical plans and can be speedily settled. The bulk of the acreage in the Southern Province represents a new settlement area in the Bentota-Walallawiti korale of Galle District, the plans of which were received at the end of the year. This area was taken up in connection with the Climatic Forest Reserve, and its settlement presents no great difficulties. The real work, therefore, lies in the Ratnapura District and the North-Western Province, where land is in demand for tea and rubber, and in the North-Western Province for coconut cultivation. The result of the strengthening of the Survey Department is now beginning to be felt, nearly 88,000 acres of new block surveys and 189,000 acres of topographical surveys having been issued during 1923 for settlement purposes; the Land Settlement Department is being correspondingly strengthened, and a gradual but steady increase in the area settled annually can be expected in the future.

FORESTS.

Reforestation.—During the year 1923 the area of plantations was increased from 9,636 acres and 4 perches to 11,151 acres and 4 perches.

Exploitation.—Public Departments were supplied during the year 1923 with 22,065 broad gauge and 11,706 narrow gauge sleepers, 281,004 cubic yards of firewood, 131,839 cubic feet of timber, 202,207 pieces of small round timber and other minor produce, chiefly stone, sand, gravel, &c. This is exclusive of produce utilized by the Public Works, Irrigation, and Chief Construction Engineer's Departments from forest land within their jurisdiction without permits from this Department. The value of these supplies amounted to Rs. 1,574,406, as against Rs. 1,353,514 for the previous year and Rs. 1,351,181 for the year 1921.

Since 1906 the Forest Department has supplied the Railway Department with 980,401 broad gauge and 379,060 narrow gauge sleepers at an average rate of Rs. 3·82 and Re. 1·77, respectively. In this way a very large saving over the cost of imported sleepers has been effected, and the indigenous material has proved more durable than imported supplies.

The revenue received from the public on account of timber, fuel, and minor forest produce during the year 1923 was Rs. 428,714, as against Rs. 392,102 during the year 1922. The miscellaneous revenue amounted to Rs. 31,707, as against Rs. 24,892 in 1922.

The most notable features of the year's working were—

(1) Coppicing in clear felling fuel contracts in dry zone forests.

(2) Stock taking in a part of Kanthalai Reserve in the Trincomalee Division for the purpose of considering the future treatment of dry zone forests for the production of large-sized valuable timber, and for impregnation of inferior species, and for the re-organization of supplies to Public Departments.

(3) The preparation of a working plan report for the conversion of up-country forests for the supply of chests for the tea and rubber industries.

(4) The lease of 1,000 acres of wet zone forests on easy terms for the production of native tea and rubber chests.

(5) The afforestation of the Uva patanas for timber and fuel.

(6) The preparation of a report for the utilization of forests in the vicinity of the main line between Veyangoda and Polgahawela for fuel supplies and reforestation.

(7) The development of plantations of jak and nedun in suitable localities with a view to securing a sustained output of these most valuable timbers.

(8) The establishment of arboreta and central nurseries in up-country reforestation.

(9) A proposal to develop plantations of Australian wattles for the tanning bark industry.

(10) Afforestation of patana by estates.

(1) *Coppice felling* has already proved highly successful in the wet zone forests of the Southern Division, and is combined with the planting of mahogany (*S. Macrophylla*) among the coppice regrowth. The cut material is utilized for railway firewood, and will continue to be so used until ousted by the mahogany, which will supply the necessary wood from clearings and early thinnings. This work is well established, the only hindrance being the increasing rates for fuel as areas under treatment become more remote for exploitation. It is hoped to counteract this by means of water transport, which is available to some extent. In the dry zone large continuous blocks of forests are being sought out for permanent fuel supplies by means of simple coppice, with the introduction, when required, of coppicing species. In the Northern Province, where fuel is plentiful, better class forests are selected, and the fuel fellings are intended to serve as regeneration fellings, blanks being filled in artificially, and sufficient cover of valuable and inferior species being left for the protection of seedlings.

In up-country forests, where exotics take the place of indigenous forests, clear felling and burning is resorted to, and no change in this method is indicated. Attempts to reforest dry zone areas by clear felling and burning have been definitely abandoned, but the new work is still experimental.

(2) *The exploration of typical reserved forest in the dry zone* was undertaken primarily for the purpose of ascertaining the probable yield of timber for impregnation purposes. This has proved disappointing, and will probably mean the rejection for the time being of any large exploitation schemes for this purpose. Nevertheless the research has proved of great value in indicating the possibilities which exist for sustained exploitation of dry zone forests and the production therein of good timber. It is tentatively held, pending gradual exploration and enumeration in detail, that not more than 15 per cent. of such areas is capable of benefiting from operations for the improvement of the growing stock, while all large-sized timber is rapidly becoming over-mature. At the same time, within the small extent of productive forest occur good specimens of valuable timber in descending age classes. It is, therefore, proposed to work over the reserves systematically by area, exploit their valuable over-mature contents, and, during exploitation, to select and demarcate improvement areas. These will be periodically treated for the encouragement of their valuable species, and for further exploitation after forty to forty-five years, some areas containing as many as forty valuable stems per acre, now suppressed and hampered by creepers. In addition, it is proposed to stock the more accessible areas, after removal of creepers and dead and dying material, with strong transplants of valuable species up to 100 plants per acre, gradually admitting light as the plants become established and require assistance. This work is also experimental, but preliminary reports are encouraging. The result of exploitation by area, instead of according to indent, will result in the selection of large-sized, sound timber for log supplies and the accumulation of stocks of seasoned wood, while supervision in concentrated areas will be facilitated and the forests duly explored in due course. All material not required for log supplies will be converted into sleepers, and only the best and largest logs brought to depôts. When this work is in force in all divisions, the management of Crown forests will be greatly simplified, and there should be a sustained, approximately even outturn of timber, leading to greater concentration in future rotations, if improvement fellings and planting can be provided for.

As regards impregnated species, if an impregnation scheme for railway sleepers is adopted, a central plant should be

established in the vicinity of Colombo, to which supplies can be drawn by rail from the respective divisions operating in the annual felling areas.

(3) *Plan for Supply of Tea Chests from Up-country Forests.*—The proposal is to convert about 14,000 acres of indigenous jungle and patana into coniferous forests, for a permanent supply of tea and rubber chests, on account of which some 2½ million rupees now leave the country annually. The proposed period of rotation is eighty years, but this data may be reduced when full data are available. Indigenous jungle will be utilized for firewood and local timber requirements, and the existing license system will be superseded. In this connection the introduction of arboreta and central nurseries is receiving close attention, and seed of numerous coniferous and other species has already been imported.

As regards (4), Government has, with the approval of the Secretary of State, granted a lease for the systematic working of 1,000 acres of wet zone forest to a company under European management. It is hoped that results will justify the extension of the scheme and lead to the gradual supersession of the license system for supplies of raw timber.

(5) *Afforestation of Patanas in the Province of Uva.*—A working plan report is in course of preparation for the increased planting of timber Eucalypts in association with coniferous species.

(6) *Utilization of Forests near the Main Line between Veyangoda and Polgahawela.*—A general inspection has been carried out, and a report submitted on the extent of suitable Crown land available in the area mentioned for the permanent supply of firewood either to the Railway or to a sale depôt in Colombo with a view to the reforestation of the areas either with valuable timber or fuel species. Only some 13,000 acres in all are available, and the report, which has not yet been dealt with, is not very encouraging, especially as the forest areas are isolated, and there are no very large compact blocks, while the question of transport presents difficulties. The important point is, however, that all land in this vicinity is suitable for reforestation, provided an outlet can be found for the existing material to cover the cost of planting and maintenance. The scheme awaits the duplication of the Railway and the selection of a suitable depôt in Colombo.

(7) *Jak and Nedun Plantations.*—It is hoped to sustain an annual planting programme of 100 acres for each of these most valuable species. Already 600 acres of jak have been partially planted, under chena agreements, at Mirigama, and these are now being developed so as to form six annual coupes. Further land can be made available if the scheme outlined under the

preceding head materializes, or can be found in other districts where river transport is available. As regards nedun, an experimental area of 50 acres of this most valuable species, planted under tall cover of softwood trees in a medium wet zone, is fulfilling expectations and is capable of development up to 2,000 acres in the same locality. Plantations formed of these two species, which are in perpetual demand for building purposes or furniture, would be a highly profitable investment. The work is not difficult, and is fairly inexpensive. At present supplies are met from dwindling private sources, and the excessive felling of jak in village compounds is attracting notice, in view of the consequent reduction of food supplies.

(8) The establishment of arboreta and central nurseries has been dealt with above.

(9) *Proposed Plantation of Wattle.*—Notice has recently been brought to bear on the possibilities of planting acacias for the tanning industry, and representations have been made by interested parties from England and Australia. It is believed that, with cheap labour available, Ceylon can enter this field of commercial enterprise successfully, while there are large extents of suitable patana land in up-country districts if this can be put at the disposal of the Department. The difficulty is that this land is claimed, or will probably be claimed, for village cattle grazing.

(10) Sanction has recently been received from the Secretary of State to lease suitable Crown land adjoining tea estates for afforestation with fuel species in view of the shortage of fuel up-country. If this scheme develops it may be possible to combine the estate fuel supplies with the commercial planting of acacias for the tanning industry. The scheme is yet in its infancy.

A screen of specimens of the better known timbers of Ceylon was in course of preparation for the Empire Exhibition, but owing to the latenesss of Ceylon's entry into the Exhibition it was not possible to secure seasoned specimens of all the timbers required, and existing samples had to be used mainly; certain species were thus inevitably omitted.

SALT.

The manufacture, collection, and sale of Ceylon salt constitute a Government monopoly, which is protected by a duty of Rs. 3 per cwt. on all imported salt. The amount realized by its sale in 1923 was Rs. 1,767,421·82, as against Rs. 1,472,692·93 in 1922 and Rs. 1,911,157·42 in 1921. The increased revenue in 1923 is due to the fact that importations of salt from India ceased, and also that it was possible to revert to normal sales owing to a good salt harvest in 1922.

The local production of salt was satisfactory, and the manufacture was not impaired by the weather, except at Hambantota, where nothing was collected during the "maha" season owing to unseasonable rains. The total yield for the Island during 1923 was 565,576 cwt., as against 779,943 cwt. in 1922. The distribution of the harvest was as follows :—

	Cwt.
Hambantota District (yala collection)	63,889
Puttalam District	223,141
Trincomalee District	79,476
Northern Province	46,520
Elephant Pass (Government Saltern)	112,100
Palavi (Government Saltern)	40,450
Total ..	565,576

The figures for Puttalam District are based on estimates of unweighed salt in manufacturers' kottus, and an increase of 25 to 30 per cent. may be expected on these estimated figures. Even with this expected increase the total output represents slightly less than one year's supply for the Island's consumption.

The usual selling price at the Government salt stores is Rs. 3 per cwt., except at the Government check stores at Haputale and Galle, where the salt is sold in limited quantities at Rs. 5·25 and Rs. 4 per cwt., respectively, to pay for cost of transport from the nearest centre of production. Salt is also sold to retail dealers and fish curers at a uniform price of Rs. 3·36 per cwt. *ex* Government stores at Batticaloa, Kalmunai, Akkarai pattu, and Pottuvil in the Eastern Province. As anticipated in last year's report, the stocks at Puttalam were found sufficient to meet the requirements of the Colombo dealers. All restrictions on the issue of salt from Puttalam to the Western Province and from Tondaimannar store (Northern Province) were withdrawn as from May 1; normal sales were resumed at all Government stores.

The total stocks in the Island at the end of 1923 amounted to 1,047,118 cwt., including the unweighed salt at Puttalam referred to above, or, roughly, about 1,100,000 cwt. This should be quite sufficient to meet the demands of the public for over 18 months, and in view of the increasing output at the Government salterns, it is hoped that there will be no necessity to import any more salt into the Island.

The re-organization of the Salt Department under the direction of the Salt Adviser was continued during 1923. Substantial progress was made towards completing the construction of the Government salterns—one at Elephant Pass (Jaffna District) and the other at Palavi (Puttalam District)—and in building additional quarters for officers. Until the beginning

GOVERNMENT SALTERN : ELEPHANT PASS.

of the salt season all the available labour was concentrated on levelling ponds, laying of trolley track, flood diversion bunds, improvements to storage platforms, and other construction work. The total yield at Elephant Pass for the year amounted to 112,100 cwt. At Palavi a "yala" harvest of 5,000 cwt. was secured in March, and a further quantity of 35,450 cwt. was scraped during the "maha" harvest, making a total of 40,450 cwt. for the year. This salt was all stored in open platforms in heaps of 5,000 cwt. each by cubic measurement. In July sales of salt from the Elephant Pass platform at Rs. 3 per cwt. were begun by the Salt Adviser, and 35,499 cwt. were sold up to December 31, a sum of Rs. 106,497 being realized by these sales. The total expenditure on these salterns, including capital works and manufacturing charges during the financial year 1922–23, was as follows :—

	Rs.	c.
Elephant Pass	107,847	81
Palavi	43,536	22
Total ..	151,384	3

Mineral Survey.

Fieldwork was restricted during the first half of the year, the Government Mineralogist having been appointed to the charge of the Salt Department while the Salt Adviser was on leave. The investigations undertaken were (1) mapping of the boundaries of the sedimentary rocks in the north-west part of the Island ; (2) the possibility of artesian water supplies in the Mannar District ; (3) examination of water-supply areas for Tangalla town and the Palavi and Elephant Pass salterns.

Active prospecting for the source of the gem-stones found in the Ratnapura District was discontinued, but localities that seemed to show any promise were examined as information was received about them.

Inquiries continue to arrive for ilmenite sand in large quantities, and at prices which would probably leave a fair margin of profit if the operations were carried out on a large scale.

SURVEY DEPARTMENT.

The principal operations of the Survey Department for the period under review comprised block, application, topographical, irrigation, forests, and town surveys.

Block Surveys.—These consisted of 153,865 acres of new work, 563,723 acres of topographical inset surveys, and 3,592 acres of town surveys.

The following plans were issued during the year :—Block survey plans of 110 villages, containing 10,852 lots, covering an area of 87,751 acres. Two topographical preliminary plans, containing 741 lots, covering an area of 189,014 acres.

Surveys of 84 settlement and demarcation questions, together with the surveys of 372 Settlement Officer's applications, were completed and plans sent to the Settlement Officer.

Ninety-nine advance extract plans, consisting of 929 lots and covering an area of 3,004 acres, were issued in connection with the surveys of Crown requisitions and applications in the block survey areas.

The total area now covered by block survey is 2,592,201 acres, topographical inset surveys 1,968,983 acres.

Application Surveys.—Final village plans to the number of 109, for 88,366 acres in 3,671 lots, were issued to the Government Agents and Assistant Government Agents during the year. The total area covered by the final plans in the hands of the Government Agents and Assistant Government Agents now stands at 1,596,122 acres, contained in 56,202 lots on 2,791 final plans.

Preliminary plans to the number of 1,360, for 19,335 acres in 6,485 lots, were forwarded to the Government Agents, Assistant Government Agents, and the Settlement Officer.

Supplementary surveys to the number of 593, consisting of 2,614 lots covering 10,417 acres, were made and marked in final village plans and preliminary plans already issued.

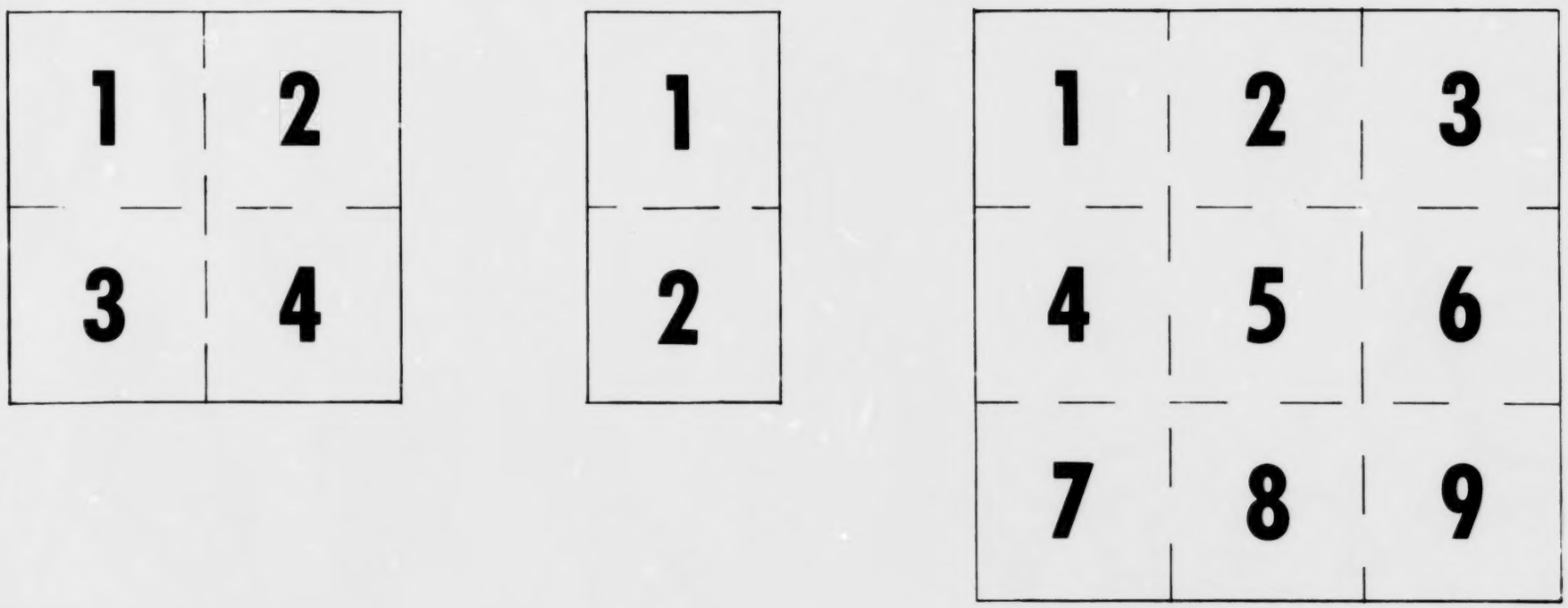
Applications totalling 345, covering 8,761 acres, were surveyed for the increased production of foodstuffs on permits free of rent for three years.

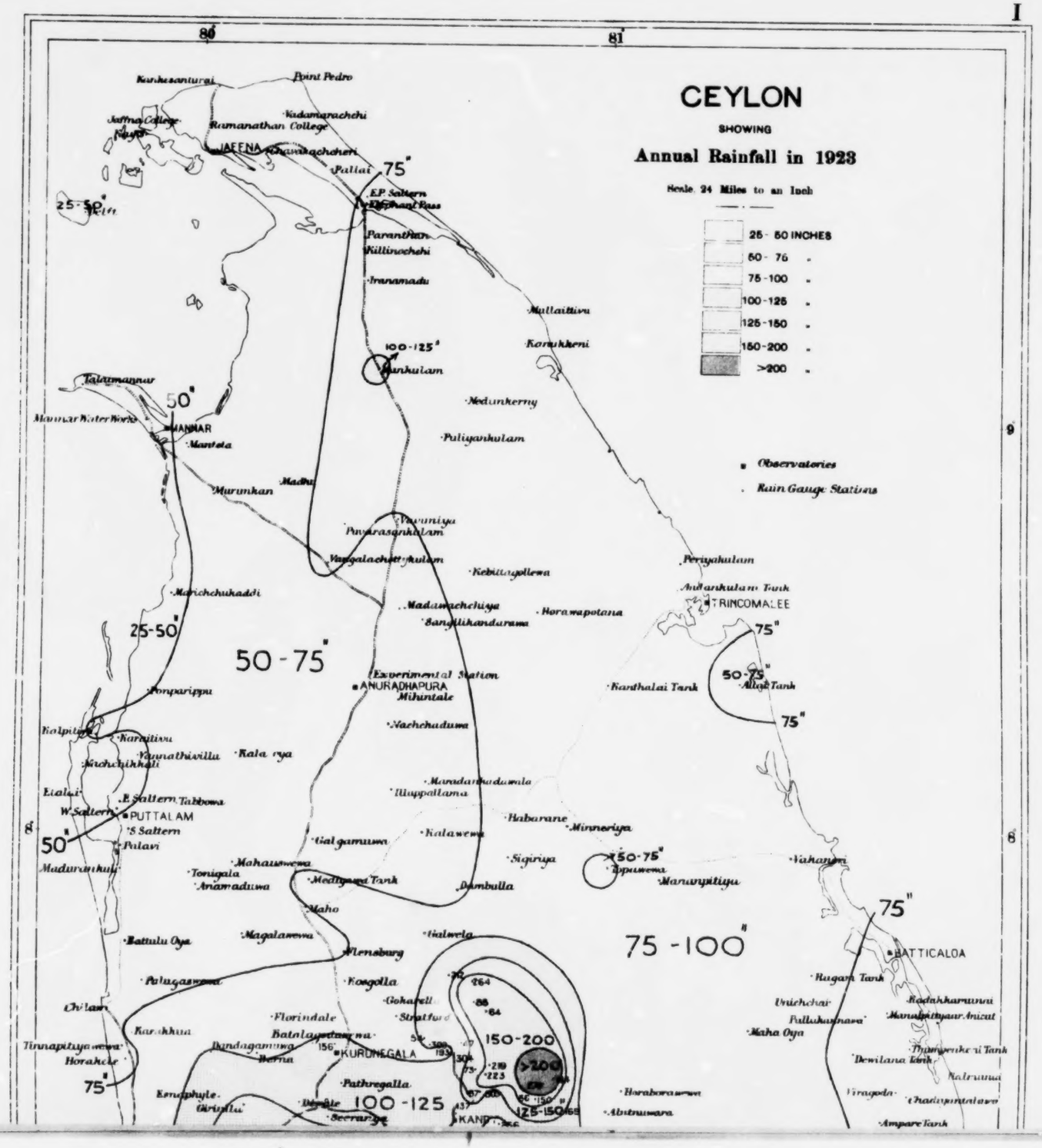
Applications to the number of 806, covering 2,467 acres, were surveyed for paddy ; 77 applications, covering 1,497 acres, for tea ; 20 applications, covering 336 acres, for rubber ; 451 applications, covering 1,975 acres, for coconuts ; 10 applications, covering 194 acres, for rubber and coconuts ; 660 applications, covering 2,665 acres, for native cultivations ; and 314 applications, covering 509 acres, for building purposes. There has been an increased demand for land during the year, particularly in the Southern, Uva, and North-Central Provinces.

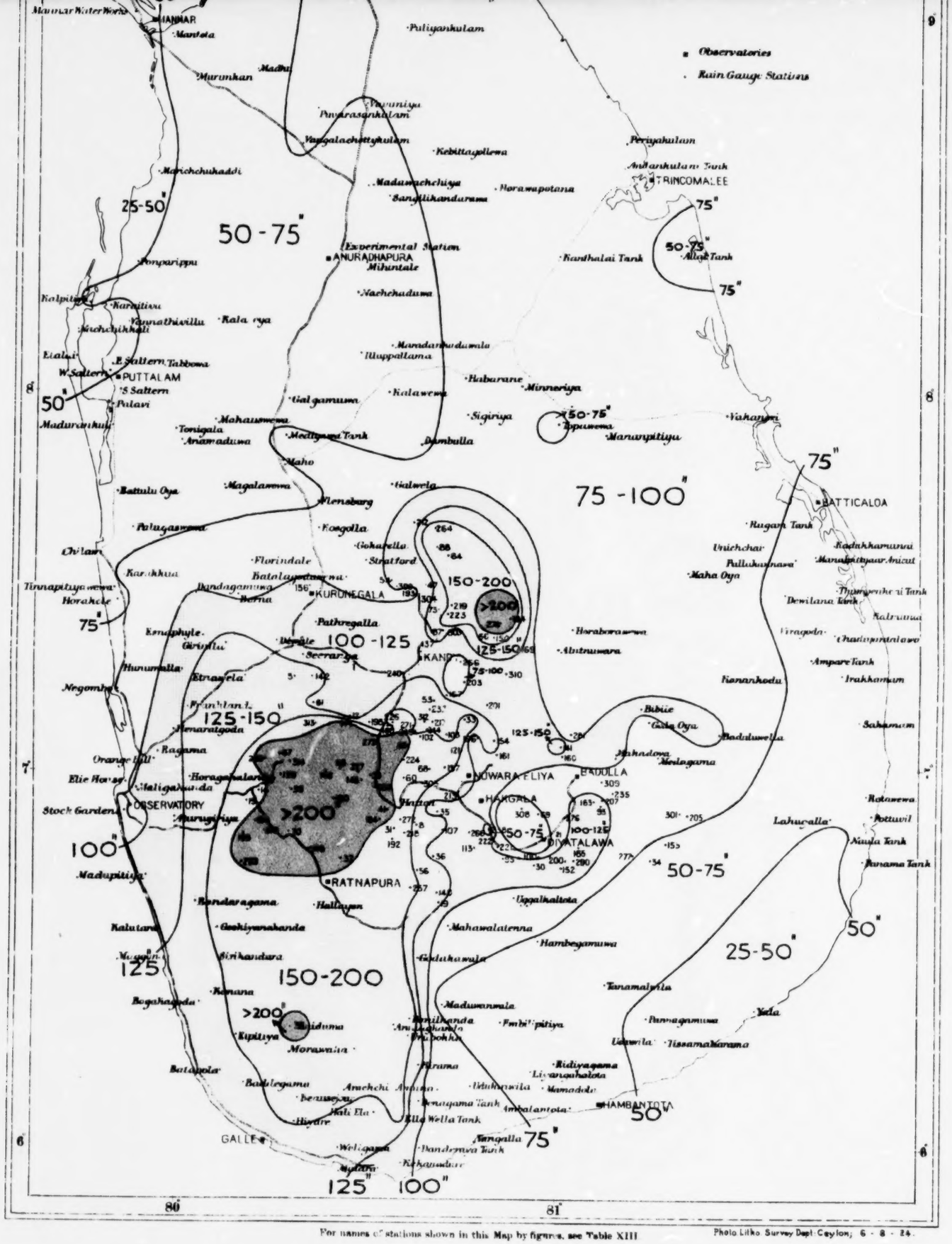
Numerous surveys have been carried out for acquisition in connection with important public purposes, and 163 acquisition preliminary plans for 1,161 acres in 1,159 lots were forwarded, including lands required for the Trincomalee, Batticaloa, and Badulla Railway Extensions.

Topographical Surveys.—The area covered up to date by contour surveys is 21,789 square miles, of which 8,887 square

Maps on this order too large to be entirely included in one exposure are filmed clockwise beginning in the upper left hand corner, left to right and top to bottom as many frames as required. The following diagrams illustrate the method.




CEYLON
SHOWING
Annual Rainfall in 1923
Scale 24 Miles to an Inch
25 - 50 INCHES
50 - 75 "
75 - 100 "
100 - 125 "
125 - 150 "
150 - 200 "
>200 "
Observatories
Rain Gauge Stations
80°
81°
9°
8°
Kankesanturai
Point Pedro
Jaffna College
Ramanathan College
JAFFNA
Kudamarachchi
Pallai
75"
E.P. Saltern
Elephant Pass
25-50"
Paranthan
Killinochchi
Iranamadu
Mullaittivu
Karuhkeni
100-125"
Kankulam
Talaimannar
50"
Mannar Water Works
MANNAR
Mantota
Nedunkerny
Puliyankulam
Madhu
Murunkan
Vavuniya
Pavarasankulam
Vaigalachchi Kulam
Kebittigollewa
Periyakulam
Andankulam Tank
TRINCOMALEE
Marichchukaddi
Madawachchiya
Horawapotana
Sangilikandurawa
25-50"
50 - 75"
Experimental Station
ANURADHAPURA
Mihintale
Kantalai Tank
50-75"
Alut Tank
75"
Pomparippu
Kalpitiya
Karaitivu
Nachchaduwa
Yannathivillu
Kala Oya
Nichchikkali
Maradankadawala
Etalai
E. Saltern
Tabbowa
Illuppallama
W. Saltern
PUTTALAM
S. Saltern
Habarana
Minneriya
50"
Pulavi
Galgamuwa
Kalawewa
Madurankuli
Mahauswewa
Sigiriya
50-75"
Dipawewa
Vahaneri
Tonigala
Ariamaduwa
Medirigiriya Tank
Dambulla
Manuwpitiya
Maho
75"
Battulu Oya
Magalawewa
Galewela
75 - 100"
HATTICALOA
Mensburg
Palugaswewa
Kongolla
Rugam Tank
Gokarella
Uruchchai
Madakkaruwwi
Chilaw
Stratford
Pullukunawa
Manampitiyaur Anicut
Florindale
Maha Oya
Karadkhua
Batalagoda Oya
150-200
Tinnapitiya Oya
Bundagamuwa
KURUNEGALA
>200
Dewilana Tank
Horakele
Berna
156"
Pathregalla
Kalutara
75"
Esnaphyle
100 - 125
125-150
Horaboraswa
Virapola
Chandrapitalawa
Girindu
Seerangu
KANDY
Abitnuwara
Ampare Tank


Observatories
Rain Gauge Stations
MANNAR
Mannar Water Works
Mantota
Puliyankulam
Murunkan
Madu
Pavunriya
Pavarasankulam
Vavuniya
Vavuniyagalachettykulam
Kebittagollewa
Periyakulam
Andankulam Tank
TRINCOMALEE
Marichchukaddi
Madumachchiya
Horawapotana
Sanghikandurama
25-50"
50-75"
Experimental Station
ANURADHAPURA
Mihintale
Kanthalai Tank
Allai Tank
75"
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Kalpitiya
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Vannathivillu
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Minneriya
Galgamuwa
Kalawewa
Sigiriya
Topawewa
Manampitiya
Vakarai
Madurankuli
Mahauswewa
Tonigala
Anamaduwa
Medigawewa Tank
Dambulla
Maho
Battulu Oya
Magalawewa
Galewela
Nenebang
Palugasewa
Kosgolla
Gokarella
Strathford
Florindale
Batalagodawatta
Chilaw
Karambua
Tinnapitiyawewa
Horahale
Dandagamuwa
Bema
KURUNEGALA
Pathregalla
Ensiphyle
Giriulu
Dewale
Seerarigya
Hunumalla
Etrawala
Negombo
Frankland
Nanaraigoda
Ragama
Orange Hill
Elie House
Haliganda
Horagolla
Stock Gardens
OBSERVATORY
Anuruddhapura
Madupitiya
Bandaragama
Hallagan
Kalutara
Geshiyanahanda
Morawaka
Bogahagoda
Kenana
Kipitiya
Batapola
Baddegama
Hiyare
GALLE
Weligama
Mulatana
Kekanadure
Dandeniya Tank
Mangalla
Hambantota
Ambalantota
Tissamaharama
Yala
Lunawila
Bundunwila
Mamadala
Ridiyagama
Liyangahalota
Madunmala
Embilipitiya
Punnagamuwa
Tanamalwila
Uppalkalota
Mahawalatenna
Hambegamuwa
Godahanwila
Hanilkanda
Ambagahawila
Pelebokka
Pitama
Udukawila
Ambagama Tank
Kita Wella Tank
Uppalkandure
Hatton
HAPUTALE
BADULLA
NUWARA ELIYA
HAKGALA
DIYATALAWA
Lahugalla
Rotawewa
Pottuvil
Nuula Tank
Panama Tank
Badulwella
Mahadowa
Meelagama
Bibile
Galla Oya
Kanankodu
Irakkamam
Sakkamam
Ampare Tank
Chadayanalawa
Virapola
Kalmunai
Dewilana Tank
Thumpankeni Tank
Maha Oya
Pallukkunawa
Unichchai
Kadakkamunai
Manampitiyaur Anicut
Rugam Tank
BATTICALOA
Vakarai
Horabawewa
Abinnawara
Kandy
Galagedara
Ratnapura
Kuruwita
Ratnapura
Morawaka
Ruwanwella
Kosgama
Ambalangoda
Hikkaduwa
Galle
Matara
Tangalla
Hambantota
Batticaloa
Trincomalee
Mullaitivu
Jaffna
Mannar
Puttalam
Anuradhapura
Kurunegala
Kandy
Nuwara Eliya
Badulla
Batticaloa
Trincomalee
Hambantota
Galle
Matara
Ratnapura
Colombo
Negombo
Chilaw
Kalutara
Bentota

miles were completed during 1923. The uncontoured area of Ceylon amounts to 3,543 square miles, and this will be surveyed in 1924.

Irrigation and Forest Surveys.—Large forest reserves and irrigation surveys are in hand, but are not completed. The total area now covered by forest reserve surveys is 587,276 acres and irrigation surveys 38,765 acres, exclusive of incomplete plans.

Town Surveys.—New town plans were issued during the year for the northern portion of Colombo town, the one-chain area of Anuradhapura town, the remainder (four divisions) of Trincomalee town, and the centre portion of Batticaloa town.

The total area of town survey work amounts to 17,882 acres.

METEOROLOGY.

General Remarks.—There is a marked variation in climate among the different parts of Ceylon. In the low-country, with a mean temperature of 80° F., a noticeable feature is the small range of both temperature and pressure. There is, however, wide divergence between the moist conditions in the south-west of the Island, where the average annual rainfall varies from 100 to over 200 inches, and the dry zone areas of the north, north-west, and south-east.

Altitudes up to 8,000 feet occur inland, and there the temperature is cooler, and shows a more extensive range. There is a corresponding change in vegetation, and the conditions are altogether more akin to those in the temperate zone.

Rainfall.—The year was one of exceptionally heavy rainfall. This was most noticeable during the south-west monsoon at the stations on the west and south-west sides of the Island. Carney estate (between Ratnapura and Adam's Peak) had again the distinction of the highest rainfall for the year, viz., 319·3 inches on 280 days, or 93·1 inches and 47 days above its own average. A group of stations in the Ambegamuwa district were not far behind, and include Blackwater 313·6 and Kenilworth 295·3 inches, while Watawala 288·1, Ingoya 282·9, and Kellie estate (Dolosbage) 271·8 inches are all noteworthy.

The exceptional activity of the south-west monsoon on the windward side was associated with exceptionally complete shielding, so far as rain was concerned, on the lee side, but, nevertheless, the rainfall totals for the year were in most cases above average on that side too, thanks to heavy rain in January and December. St. Martin's estate (Rangalla) had the highest total on the eastern side, namely, 209·4 inches, or 27·0 inches above its own average. At the other extreme Marichchukkadi still holds the record for the lowest annual average, namely, 34 inches. Its total this year was 46·3, which is slightly above

the totals at two other stations immediately south of it, namely, the Puttalam eastern saltern and Ponparippu resthouse, where the 1923 totals were 45·9 and 39·5, respectively. Colombo (Observatory), Kandy, and Nuwara Eliya recorded 95·4, 116·5, and 127·9 inches, respectively, which give excesses of 14·9, 32·7, and 34·8 inches above their respective averages. The longest drought occurred at Paranthan Railway Station, lasting for 191 days, March 15 to September 21. The longest wet period occurred at Labugama, lasting for 133 days, May 26 to October 5.

Temperature.—The station showing the highest mean shade temperature for the year was Trincomalee with 82·8° F., and the lowest Nuwara Eliya with 59·8° F. The figures for Colombo and Kandy were 80·5° F. and 76·5° F., respectively.

The highest shade temperature in air recorded during the year was 99·9° F. at Trincomalee on May 8. The highest record is 103·7° F. at Trincomalee on May 12, 1890. The lowest this year was 32·9° F. at Nuwara Eliya (6,000 feet above sea level) on February 17, at which station 27·1° F. was recorded in 1914.

The highest shade temperature at Colombo in 1923 was 92·5° F. on March 24, and the lowest 65·5° F. on February 7.

The mean daily range, *i.e.*, the difference between the mean of the maximum and the mean of the minimum, was the highest at Badulla 17·7° F., and the lowest at Galle 8·2° F. At Colombo and Kandy it was 12·2° F. and 15·0° F., respectively. The absolute range for the year, *i.e.*, the difference between the highest and the lowest readings actually recorded at any one station was greatest at Nuwara Eliya (45·7° F.) and lowest at Galle (20·2° F.)

V.—Agriculture.

Tea.

THE total exports of tea during 1923 amounted to 181,939,731 lb. of a value of Rs. 185,686,387, as against 171,807,581 lb. of a value of Rs. 146,036,443 during 1922. This increase over the previous year was brought about by the more favourable weather conditions. The early part of the year was dry in some districts, but the south-west monsoon rains began early in June, and were exceptionally heavy over the greater part of the "tea growing area" on the south-west side of the Island. These rains were continuous, and many tea estates registered record rainfalls during the year. The severity of the monsoon retarded field operations, and in some areas considerably handicapped plucking, but in others plucking was not seriously affected, and increased crops were secured. The tea of the Island is now

looking extremely vigorous on the whole as the result of liberal cultivation and manuring programmes, and yields are steadily increasing again. Tea cultivation at the present prices is yielding good profits, and estates are spending considerable sums upon the improvement of factories and on provision of improved housing accommodation for labourers. The quality of the teas produced has remained high, and a continuous good demand for Ceylon teas at high prices was a feature of the tea market during the year under review.

No serious outbreaks of pests or diseases occurred. Shot-hole Borer is less prevalent upon estates where good cultivation and liberal manuring has been practised, and the investigations of the Department of Agriculture have clearly demonstrated that this pest can be definitely controlled by applications of good quantities of manures—thereby ensuring satisfactory and vigorous growth. The termites attacking tea are becoming more noticeable, more especially the scavengers which follow attacks of branch canker. Some estates are conducting experiments in spraying for the control of this disease, and it is anticipated that this procedure may in time be recognized as a necessary regular estate practice, and that thereafter the effects of the scavenging termites will not be so noticeable. The termites affecting the living bush are being investigated, and experiments are being made with methods of control. A kind of "witches broom" disease has been under observation in small areas in several districts during the year, and its complete investigation is shortly to be undertaken by the Department of Agriculture. The question of soil erosion has also been considered during the year, and most estates are now endeavouring to minimize, as far as possible, the losses of soil which usually occur. Experimental trials with new types of green manures are being continued.

There was some extension of the area planted with tea during the year, but there was difficulty with supplies of tea seed. Owing to the wet year only poor crops of seed were secured, and the demand considerably exceeded the supply. Small growers have improved their tea gardens very considerably. They have paid more careful attention to cultivation and to weeding, and have planted up quite a number of new areas. In fact, the demand for small areas of land by small growers was very noticeable, especially in the Central Province.

Rubber.

The exports of Ceylon-grown rubber amounted to 83,816,228 lb. of a value of Rs. 73,594,349, as against 104,595,278 lb. of a value of Rs. 56,970,218 in 1922. The output of rubber was

restricted throughout the year—a 60 per cent. output being allowed for three-quarters of the year and a 65 per cent. output for one-quarter. The result of restriction was an increase in values sufficient to make the industry profitable enough to provide funds for cultivation and manuring and to make provision for closer attention to the treatment of diseases. The standard of quality of the crêpe turned out during the year was high, but many consignments of sheet rubber were irregular and mildewed as the result of the excessively wet weather during the latter half of the year. This excess of rain seriously interfered with tapping, and it was not uncommon to find estates whose crops were considerably reduced in consequence.

In spite of the excessive rain bark diseases were not more common than usual. Most estates now take adequate precautions by means of disinfectants to prevent the occurrence of these diseases of the bark, but on the properties of small owners little is yet being done to control them. Pod disease and leaf fall was not more serious than in previous years. It was worse in the Ratnapura District, but less severe in the Kelani Valley and the Kalutara Districts. Investigations are being made in order to ascertain if this disease can be controlled or influenced to any extent by means of manuring. Brown bast has not become more prevalent, and it is expected that with restricted tapping this disease will gradually become reduced. It has been found that its prevalence depends on local conditions, some areas being more heavily affected than others.

Useful work has been done by the Rubber Research Scheme during the year in its investigations on the preservation of latex, the cause and prevention of rust on sheet rubber, the use of disinfectants against bark diseases, and the prevalence of brown bast, while the continued investigations of the Department of Agriculture into the questions of tapping and of the yields of individual trees are giving valuable results. It is evident that the yield of a rubber tree is an inherent character, and that a good yielder is always a good yielder provided it is healthy and in vigorous growth. A few experiments continue to be made in the budding of rubber, but only small areas have yet been planted out with budded rubber in Ceylon.

Cacao.

The exports of cacao were 60,904 cwt., as against 83,210 cwt. in 1922. The crop, following upon the record crop of the previous year, was a small one, and in some areas the autumn crop was a very poor one. This was consequent upon the excessive wet weather during the middle of the year. The crop did not set

well, and the quantity of diseased pods was in excess of normal. Prices ruled low during the year, and in the latter part of the year quality was affected upon some estates by reason of the wet weather. The Peradeniya Chocolate Company continued operations during the year and has expanded its business.

COCONUTS.

The exports of coconut products and their values during 1923 were as follows :—

			Value. Rs.
Coconuts, fresh	No.	15,693,670	1,338,533
Copra	Cwt.	1,015,465	18,123,143
Desiccated	Cwt.	818,793	22,716,338
Oil	Cwt.	480,543	13,935,486
Fibre, bristle	Cwt.	126,311	1,830,156
Fibre, mattress	Cwt.	232,771	558,673

The export in fresh nuts fell during the year. The largest number was exported to the United Kingdom, whilst Egypt took the second largest quantity. The copra exports were materially lower than in the previous year, as also were the exports of oil. Desiccated exports were in excess of the exports of the previous year, and there was a slight increase in the exports of fibre.

The coconut crop was, on the whole, a poor one in all districts, particularly during the early part of the year. This was the result of short rainfall during the previous year, but with the abundant rainfall of 1923 excellent crops during 1924 are anticipated. Prices were satisfactory throughout, and showed improvement in the latter part of the year. Pests and diseases continue to receive attention by the Department of Agriculture. The coconut caterpillar continues to be a serious pest in the Batticaloa District, and has been found to have become established in other localities in the North-Western and Western Provinces. The attention of growers has been directed to the pest, and an organized campaign against it will probably have to be undertaken at an early date. A small outbreak of black beetle and red weevil became noticeable in the Matara District, and special attention was given to it by inspecting officers of the Department of Agriculture and by the Revenue Officers. These pests have been brought under control, and another area in the same district is now being worked at. Continued attention is being given to the cultivation and manuring of coconuts, and there is an increasing demand for scientific information regarding this crop.

CARDAMOMS.

The exports for 1923 amounted to 2,788 cwt., as against 4,096 cwt. during the previous year. The season was a bad one, the excessive wet weather being unfavourable to the crop. The United Kingdom was the largest purchaser, the quantity being sent to British India being materially less than during the previous year. Prices were satisfactory, and the quality of the crop fairly good.

CINNAMON.

The exports of this product were as follows :—

	Cwt.
Cinnamon quills	32,587
Cinnamon chips	12,397

These exports were in excess of the exports during the previous year, and prices were, on the whole, satisfactory.

CITRONELLA.

The exports of citronella oil amounted to 1,121,271 lb. of a value of Rs. 2,130,283. These exports were in excess of those of the previous year, while the value improved considerably. Prices ruled high throughout the year, and this has resulted in fairly considerable amounts of new areas being planted up, particularly around Tangalla in the West Giruwa pattu of the Southern Province. Considerable difficulty was experienced by some exporters to America by reason of adulterations of the citronella by means of cheap alcohol. Several consignments were refused, and others were confiscated. The high price of the oil and the difficulty in detecting alcohol in certain quantities lead to the adulteration, and a chemical examination is now being made by shippers of all exports. This question of adulteration of citronella received the consideration of the Low-country Products Association and of the Board of Agriculture during the year.

FIBRES.

The experiments with cotton in the Hambantota District were a continued success, and good yields have also been secured from small plots in the Province of Uva and in other districts. A total of 600 acres is being cultivated in cotton for the 1923–24 season, and fully 1,500 acres would have been grown if the weather during the planting season had not been so wet as to

1. COTTON CROP AT HAMBANTOTA. 2. DRYING THE RAW COTTON.

prevent the burning off and preparation of the land. All the 1922-23 crop was bought locally by the Spinning and Weaving Mills of Colombo, and this same company is treating for the purchase of the 1923–24 crop. The quality of the cotton was good, and remunerative prices were obtained.

The exports of kapok amounted to 6,517 cwt. of a value of Rs. 429,084. There was a strong demand for this fibre at high prices, and the exports were slightly in excess of those of the previous year. Small areas were planted up with this fibre.

Tobacco.

The season was not a very good one for tobacco, and prices were not high. An official visit was made to Travancore with a view to securing concessions of duty on the Jaffna crops. The Island was also visited during the year by representatives of the Imperial and British-American Tobacco Companies, and the various experiments with other than the local types of tobacco closely investigated. The White Burley type was favourably reported upon, and an extension of the area under this tobacco will take place during the 1923–24 season.

Papain.

The exports during the year amounted to 342 cwt. of a value of Rs. 220,901. The estate-grown papain of Ceylon is of very good quality, and fetches high prices in the world's markets.

Foodstuffs.

The paddy crops were considerably below normal, and in some districts failed completely. Much damage to ripening yala crops was done by the excessive rains, and considerable areas of ripening paddy crops were flooded, had to be cut while under water, and carried to higher lands to dry before threshing could be undertaken. The quality of the grain was in consequence very poor, and much of it unsuitable for seed purposes. In the Batticaloa District much damage to crops was done by floods in December, while at Trincomalee and at Tissamaharama areas were devastated by the swarming caterpillar pest. Many of the competitions and demonstrations conducted during the past few years by the Department of Agriculture are beginning to bear fruit, and increasing areas of transplanted, weeded, and manured paddy are now being grown by village growers. Financial assistance through co-operative societies is also being continued.

Co-operative Societies.

Thirty-one new societies were registered during the year, and the total of societies now number 227. The paid-up share capital of working societies at the end of the co-operative year on April 30, 1923, was Rs. 188,689·50, as against Rs. 150,355 in the previous year; and the Reserve Fund amounted to Rs. 32,038, against Rs. 25,057. The total number of members of these societies is now 23,052, and manure to the value of Rs. 26,422 was distributed to members during the year. These societies are making steady progress, and in some of them the increase in co-operation is steadily advancing. Training classes for secretaries and treasurers continue to be held at various centres throughout the Colony, and some improvement in the working of societies can be seen as the result of these classes.

General.

Meetings of the Board of Agriculture and of its various Committees have been held regularly. The amendment of plant pest and disease legislation has been before the Legislative Council, and consideration given to proposals for research schemes for the tea and for the coconut industries. The Experiment Station, Anuradhapura, continued its experiments with sisal hemp, and good work has been done at the Jaffna Experiment Station in connection with the question of growing fodder for cattle in the Northern Province.

Infective Diseases of Animals.

Except for Colombo and the Western Province the health of stock was good. Rinderpest, which continued to a small extent from 1922, assumed during 1923 an epizootic form in Colombo town, and in a lesser degree in the Western Province during October, November, and December. Infection of the North-Western Province was seriously threatened by the spread of the disease from the Western Province, but this was fortunately prevented.

Altogether 429 cases of this disease occurred in the Western Province, outside Colombo, and of the beasts infected 316 died, 78 recovered, 23 were shot, and 12 remained under treatment at the end of the year.

In the North-Western Province 8 animals were infected, of which 5 died and 3 were shot. In the Province of Sabaragamuwa there were 7 cases, of which 3 died, 2 recovered, and 2 were shot. All other Provinces remained free during the year.

In Colombo town, outside the Quarantine Station, there were 604 cases, of which 452 died and 152 recovered.

In the Quarantine Station, amongst cattle imported from India, 31 cases occurred: 13 died and 18 recovered. Of these, 28 cases were in January—a fresh importation from India.

Foot-and-Mouth Disease. — This disease prevailed in all Provinces, especially the Western and Sabaragamuwa; only the Eastern Province remained free.

In all 8,955 cases occurred, of which 8,809 recovered, 111 died, 2 were shot, and 33 remained on hand at the close of the year.

In Colombo town there were 87 cases: 85 recovered and 2 died. In the Quarantine Station, Colombo, 22 cases occurred: 21 recovered and 1 died.

Anthrax. — Forty-three cases were reported: 27 in the Sabaragamuwa, 11 in the Central, and 5 in the North-Western Provinces. One case occurred in Colombo town. Amongst the sheep and goats imported from India, 193 cases occurred in the Quarantine Station, Colombo.

Rabies.—Fifty-seven suspected cases were examined by the Director of the Pasteur Institute, Colombo, of which 33 gave positive and 11 negative results. Thirteen were received unfit for examination. Twenty-two of the cases were from Colombo.

Three hundred and thirty-six persons underwent treatment at the Pasteur Institute, Colombo, during the year.

Hæmorrhagic Septicæmia.—Twenty-nine cases were reported: 15 in Uva, 12 in Sabaragamuwa, and 2 in the Western Provinces.

Black Quarter (Quarter Ill).—Thirty-five cases were reported: 18 in the Central, 11 in Uva, and 6 in the Southern Provinces. Of these, 32 died and 3 recovered.

Piroplasmosis (Bovine).—Ten cases were reported: 6 in the North-Central, 3 in Uva, and 1 in the Central Provinces.

Surra.—Nine cases were reported: all from the Eastern Province.

Tuberculosis (Bovine).—One case occurred in Province of Uva Diagnosis was confirmed both by the Director of the Bacteriological Institute, Colombo, and the Government Veterinary Surgeon. The infected animal was destroyed.

Swine Disease.—Twenty-five young pigs, the property of one owner in the Western Province, died in November, probably from swine septicæmia. As the outbreak was unreported diagnosis is uncertain.

Equine Disease.—No epizootic during the year. Osteoporosis continues to be the chief cause of loss.

General.—Twenty-four cases of sarcoptic mange amongst buffaloes were reported from the Central Province. Diagnosis was confirmed by the British Museum authorities.

VI.—Public Works.

Public Works Department.

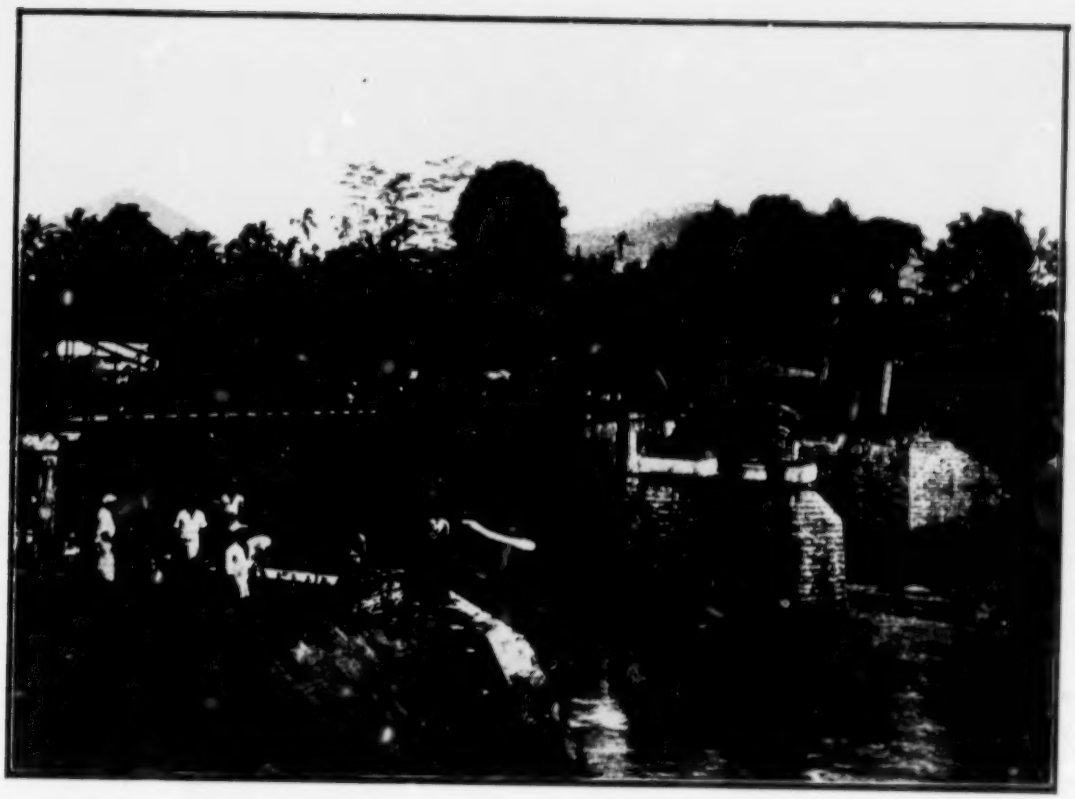
THE total expenditure of the Public Works Department has increased from Rs. 3,437,862 in 1896 to Rs. 11,380,248 in 1923, the latter figure showing an increase of Rs. 1,585,683 over that of 1922. The average annual expenditure during the past twenty-eight years has been Rs. 7,071,336.

Roads.—The total length of roads maintained during the year was 4,106 miles, of which 3,871 miles were cart roads and 235 miles bridle roads.

Amongst the more important works carried out or in course of construction may be mentioned the following :—

General.—Government bungalows and clerks' quarters, Colombo ; new Royal College, Colombo ; additions to Wireless Station, Welikada, and to the quarters of the officer in charge ; improvements to Chalmers Granaries ; additions to the Surveyor-General's Office, Colombo ; clerks' quarters, Nalanda ; junior clerks' quarters, Nuwara Eliya ; clerks' quarters, Hambantota ; new Customs buildings at Talaimannar ; Experimental Station and Agricultural School, Jaffna ; Training School, Kopay ; quarters for the Police Magistrate, Dandagamuwa ; junior clerks' quarters, Anuradhapura ; store for the Economic Botanist, Anuradhapura ; additions to Postmaster's quarters, Lunugala ; accommodation for the Pack Battery Artillery Unit, Diyatalawa.

Medical Buildings.—Infectious diseases hospital, Neboda ; improvements to Civil Medical Stores ; new Lunatic Asylum, Angoda ; new Seamen's Ward, General Hospital ; improvements to Police Hospital and Lady Havelock and Lady Ridgeway Hospitals, Colombo ; additions to the Anti-tuberculosis Sanatorium at Kandana and the hospitals at Kalutara, Ingiriya, Kandy, and Dambulla ; quarters for the Medical Officer at Mulhalkele hospital ; additions to Dolosbage hospital ; improvements to Nawalapitiya hospital ; medical buildings at Elpitiya ; Udugama hospital ; additions to the hospitals at Deniyaya and Galle ; dispensary at Punakari ; quarters for the Medical Officer at Killinochchi hospital ; additions and improvements to Kurunegala hospital ; improvements to Madawachchiya dispensary ; additions to Ratmale dispensary ; additions and improvements to Koslanda hospital ; quarters for steward, Kitulgala hospital ; improvements, Karawanella hospital ; additions to the hospitals at Balangoda, Eheliyagoda, and Kahawatta.



NEW BRIDGE ACROSS THE MAHAWELI-GANGA AT GAMPOLA : IN COURSE OF CONSTRUCTION.

Police Buildings.—Police Training School, Bambalapitiya; additions to police barracks, Jaffna.

Bridges.—Rebuilding Kosgama bridge, Colombo-Avissawella road; Talatu-oya bridge; strengthening Mahacoodagala bridge, Brookside-High Forest road; renewing Pol-oya bridge, Bentota-Goiyapana road; renewing bridges on the Punnalai and Mannar causeways and on the Kaitadi-Mankulam road; rebuilding bridge on the 3rd mile, Central road to Mullaittivu (new trace); bridge over Kalu-ganga, Ratnapura; Gampola bridge; Elephant Pass bridge.

Progress was also made with the Colombo Lake Development project; improvements to Nawalapitiya town; Karaiur reclamation, Jaffna; flood discharge channels, Jaffna peninsula; coast protection works on the Bentota-Goiyapana road; coast protection works at Duwa and Negombo

IRRIGATION.

Irrigation works in Ceylon are classified as—

(*a*) Major works.
(*b*) Village works.

Major works are all maintained and supervised by the staff of the Director of Irrigation from Government funds, and are liable to irrigation rates of some kind or another.

The financing of the construction of these works has been done originally by Government, but in the case of some works (which are termed "Aided Works") the arrangement was that the actual cost of construction should be repaid to Government by instalments over a series of years, and the maintenance rate for these works is assessed quinquennially. In the case of the other major works termed, "Perpetuity Rate Works," the construction cost was unreservedly met by Government, and an irrigation rate in perpetuity imposed on the lands, which rate when imposed was intended to cover the cost of maintenance of the works and also repay something in the shape of interest on the construction costs.

Village works are in the charge of the Government Agents, who have a number of field staff officers of the Irrigation Department lent to them to assist them with the technical supervision; the maintenance as regards earthwork and clearing jungle and silt, &c., is done on a sharing system by the landholders under each work and regulated by special village works rules. The maintenance of the masonry works of village works is done from a Government vote to the Director of Irrigation, which is distributed to the different Provinces, and the work carried out by the village tank staff (advised by the

Divisional Irrigation Engineers), unless the work is of considerable magnitude, when it would be done by the Director's staff.

The bunds of village works have in most cases been constructed by villagers themselves supervised by Government Agents' staff under different forms of permit, in many cases the people being allowed land under the works in proportion to the earthwork done; sluices (whether masonry or pipes) are provided from Government votes, and also masonry spills where they exist.

Landowners under village works pay no irrigation rates. Occasionally arrangements are made by agreement between Government and the proprietors by which a village work becomes a major work or *vice versâ*, but instances of this are not frequent.

Under the Irrigation Ordinance of 1917 the control of paddy cultivation under all classes of works is in the hands of Government Agents.

The total expenditure of the Department for the financial year 1922–23 was Rs. 1,205,938·34, as compared with Rs. 1,154,547·07 in the previous year.

The usual work of maintenance was carried out during the year, and amongst the more important works constructed or in course of construction the following may be mentioned :—

Walawe Left Bank Scheme is estimated to cost Rs. 920,618 and to irrigate 7,638 acres of land on the left bank of the Walawe-ganga in the Hambantota District, Southern Province. Work is now proceeding on the construction of the main storage tank, on the supply channel to it from the river, and on the necessary surveys for channels.

Unnichchai Scheme.—Construction of agricultural roads and distribution channels.

Chadayantalawa Tank.—Raising of right and left bank spills completed.

Batticaloa Lake Flood Bunding Scheme.—Further areas protected from salt-water floods.

Kanthalai Extension Scheme.—Construction of Per-aar regulator and channel work.

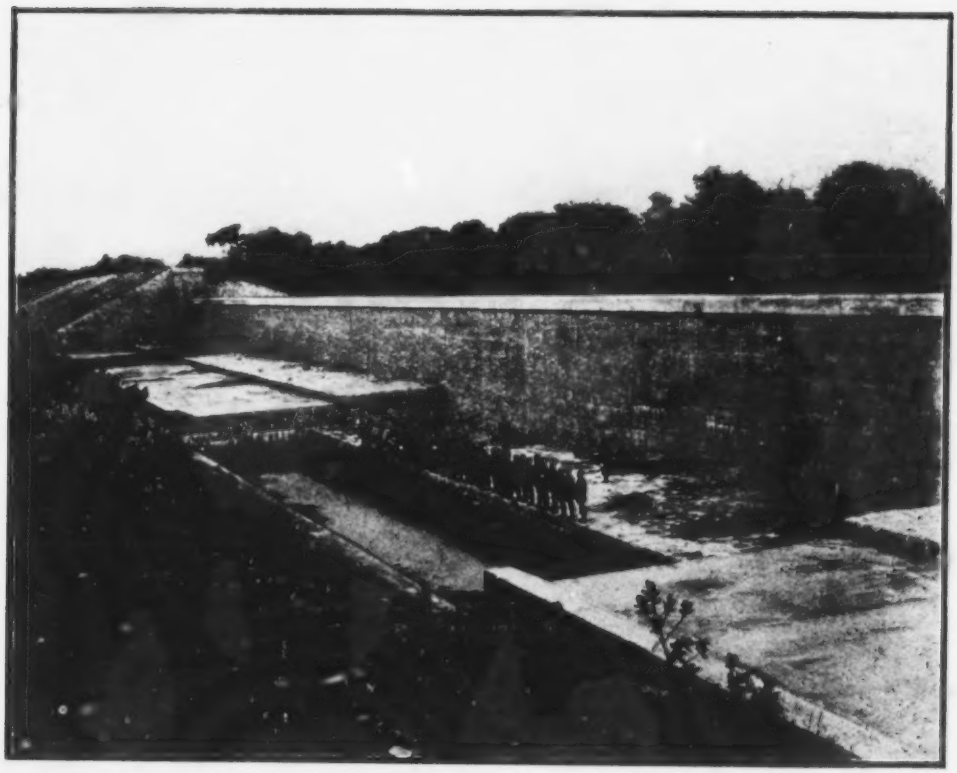
Allai Extension Scheme.—Construction of Velli-aar flood regulator and improvements to roads.

Pattipolai-aru Scheme.—Construction of Velatapitty channel.

Tabbowa.—Construction of spill continued, the right bank sluice partly built, and repairs to old embankment of tank.

Deduru-oya Scheme.—Improvements to inlet channel of Batalagoda tank.

TABBOWA SPILL, FROM RIGHT BANK. FEBRUARY, 1922.



TABBOWA SPILL, FROM LEFT BANK. DECEMBER, 1923.

Nachchaduwa.—Distribution channels and agricultural roads.

Kalawewa Tank.—Channel construction.

Karachchi Scheme.—The provision of the necessary roads of access and irrigation facilities to the irrigable area was proceeded with.

Village Works.—A sum of Rs. 46,848·14 was expended on maintenance and constructional work. An Irrigation Engineer was appointed in October to investigate the condition of village tanks in the catchment areas draining across the Northern and Mannar Railways.

Surveys and Investigations.—The principal surveys, investigations, or demarcations carried out were—Tabbowa right and left bank channels, Pattipolai-aru Scheme Velatapitty channel, Unnichchai left bank channel, Vadamaradchchi lagoon gaugings, Karachchi Scheme distribution channels and agricultural roads, Walawe Left Bank Scheme channels, Kongahawewa restoration, Weligama flood outlet gaugings, Bolgoda lake gaugings, Colombo flood prevention surveys, Kumbukkan Scheme extension of channels, Uma-ela channel.

The number of Crown irrigation works is 184, under which 145,093 acres are at present irrigated, an increase of 820 acres on previous year.

Many improvements have been carried out to village works; at present there are approximately 5,250 village tanks and elas in operation, and a further number of 1,680 village tanks are being restored.

Approximately 194,400 acres are being cultivated for paddy under village works.

Colombo Flood Protection Schemes.

For the protection of the low-lying land in the neighbourhood of Colombo two schemes have been devised, and for ease of reference have been termed the Colombo South Flood Scheme and the Colombo North Flood Scheme.

The Colombo South Scheme.

The preliminary investigations and designs for this scheme were completed during the early part of the year, and the construction of the scheme having been sanctioned by Government in October work was commenced at once. The estimated cost is Rs. 350,000.

This scheme will protect 8,000 acres (12 square miles) of land from the floods of the Kelani river. The protected area comprises the whole of the southern portion of Colombo city and all the southern suburbs.

The possibility of such a scheme became apparent as a result of an investigation by the Department of the entire hydrographic area which drains into the Kelani river through Colombo and its suburbs. This survey was originally undertaken at the time of the food crisis of 1920 with the object of ascertaining if it was possible to effect any improvement in the conditions of the outlying rice-growing areas in the neighbourhood of Colombo, which suffers severely from frequent floods.

The investigation brought to light the fact that the whole of the flooded area to the south of Colombo was in reality enclosed by high ridges, with the exception of two small gaps, by means of which the river floods obtained access to the large enclosed area.

The accompanying map shows clearly the state of affairs, the area coloured pink being high ridge and the dotted black line enclosing the pink area being the crest of the ridges which form the boundary of the watershed draining through Colombo and its suburbs into the Kelani river. The flooded area is coloured blue, its outer contour being at the level of the flood of 1913, which is the highest flood of which definite gaugings are available (*i.e.*, since 1883). The two gaps by which Kelani floods have access to this area are shown on the map at A and B, the one at A being called the Kolonnawa gap and that at B being called the Dematagoda gap. It will also be observed that the area has two sea outlets at C and D.

The sea outlets at C and D were originally cut many years ago with the idea of mitigating the Kelani floods, but have produced no appreciable effect on flood level, since the water from the river comes in more rapidly through the gaps than it can escape by the sea outlets. Under the new scheme these sea outlets become of great value, since they provide, ready made, a separate means of draining the Colombo South area after it has been protected from Kelani floods.

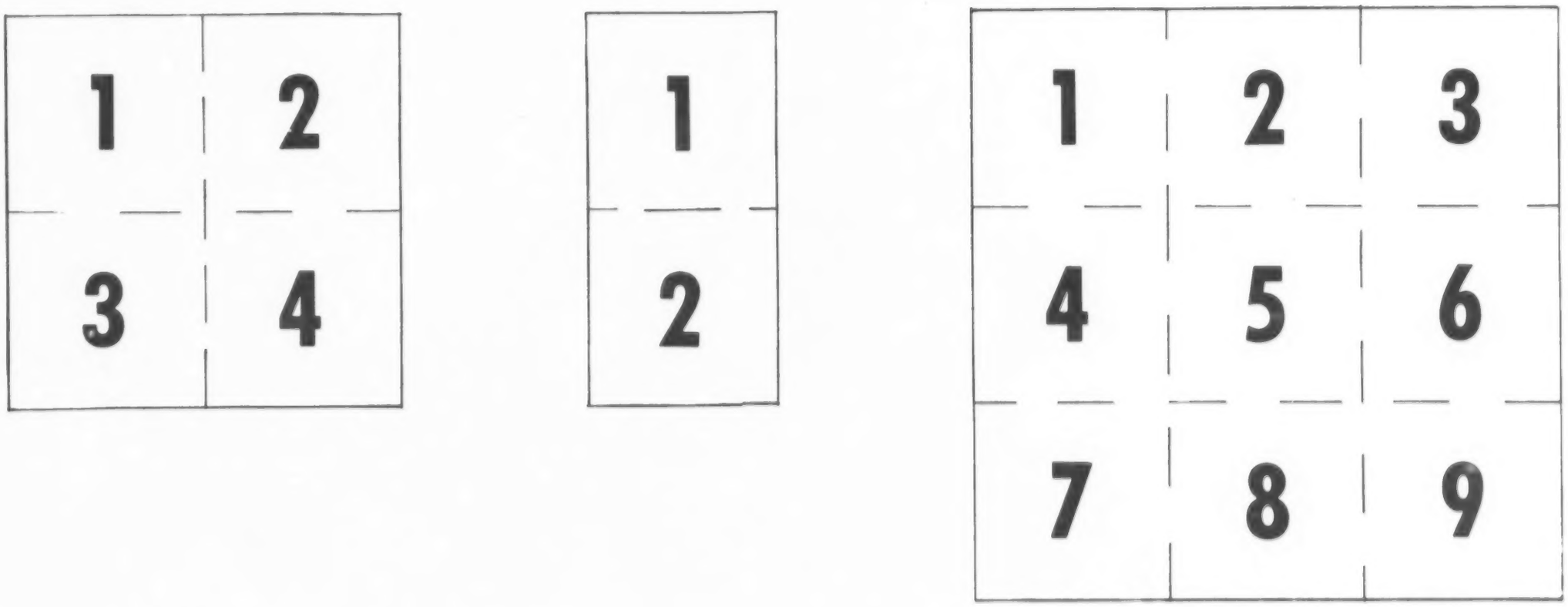
The work now being carried out for the protection of this area may be divided into three parts—

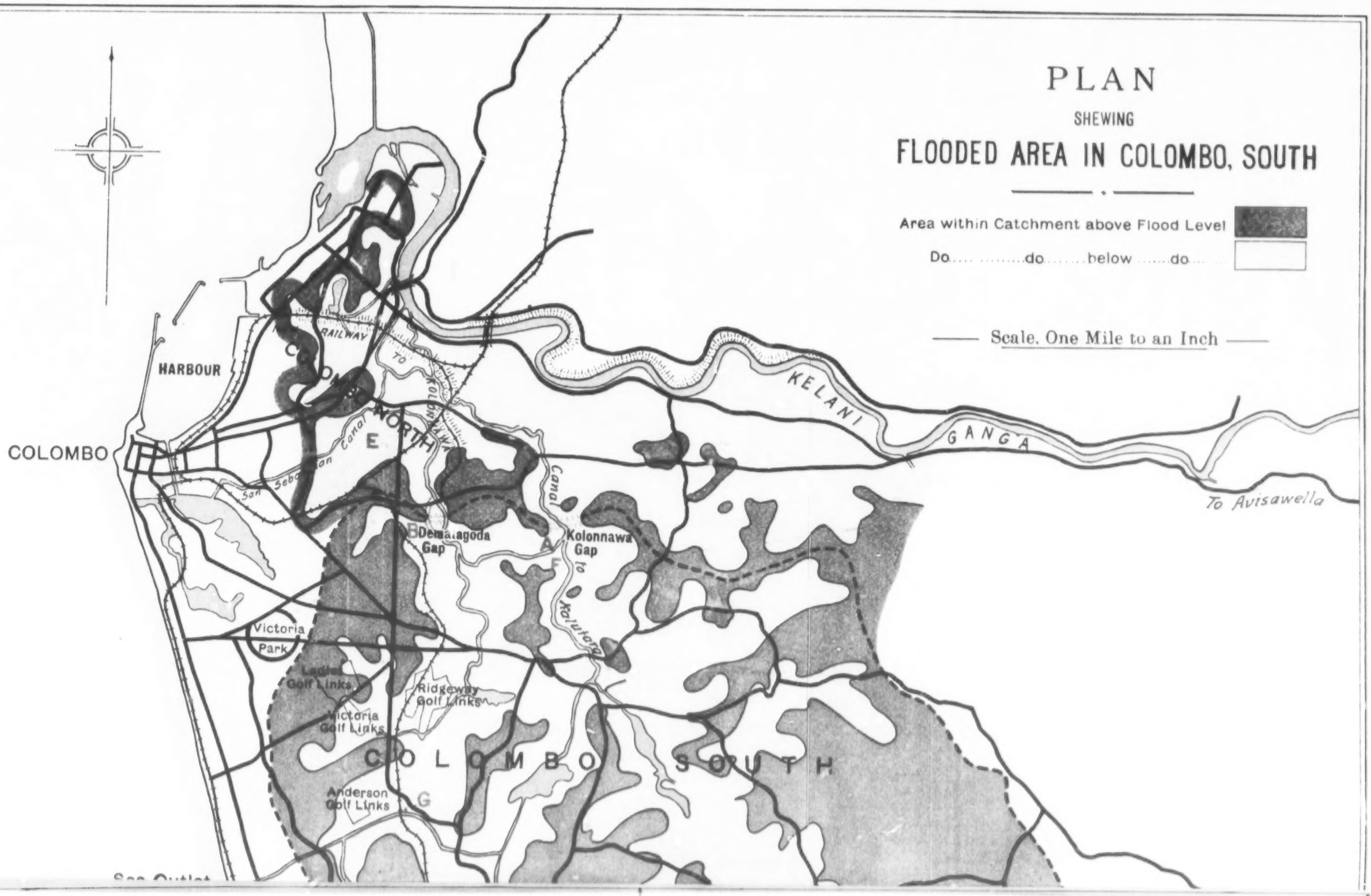
(i.) The complete closing of the Kolonnawa gap by a flood bank.

(ii.) The construction of a canal lock in the Dematagoda gap and the closing of the gap by a flood bank.

(iii.) The deviation of the Kalutara canal, which at present passes through the Kolonnawa gap, along the line E B F on the map, so that it will pass through the Dematagoda gap.

Maps on this order too large to be entirely included in one exposure are filmed clockwise beginning in the upper left hand corner, left to right and top to bottom as many frames as required. The following diagrams illustrate the method.




PLAN
SHEWING
FLOODED AREA IN COLOMBO, SOUTH
Area within Catchment above Flood Level
Do.....do.....below.....do.....
Scale, One Mile to an Inch
HARBOUR
COLOMBO
RAILWAY
To Kolonnawa
COLOMBO NORTH
San Sebastian Canal
KELANI GANGA
To Avisawella
Canal to Kalutara
Demanagoda Gap
Kolonnawa Gap
Victoria Park
Ladies Golf Links
Ridgeway Golf Links
Victoria Golf Links
Anderson Golf Links
COLOMBO SOUTH
Sea Outlet

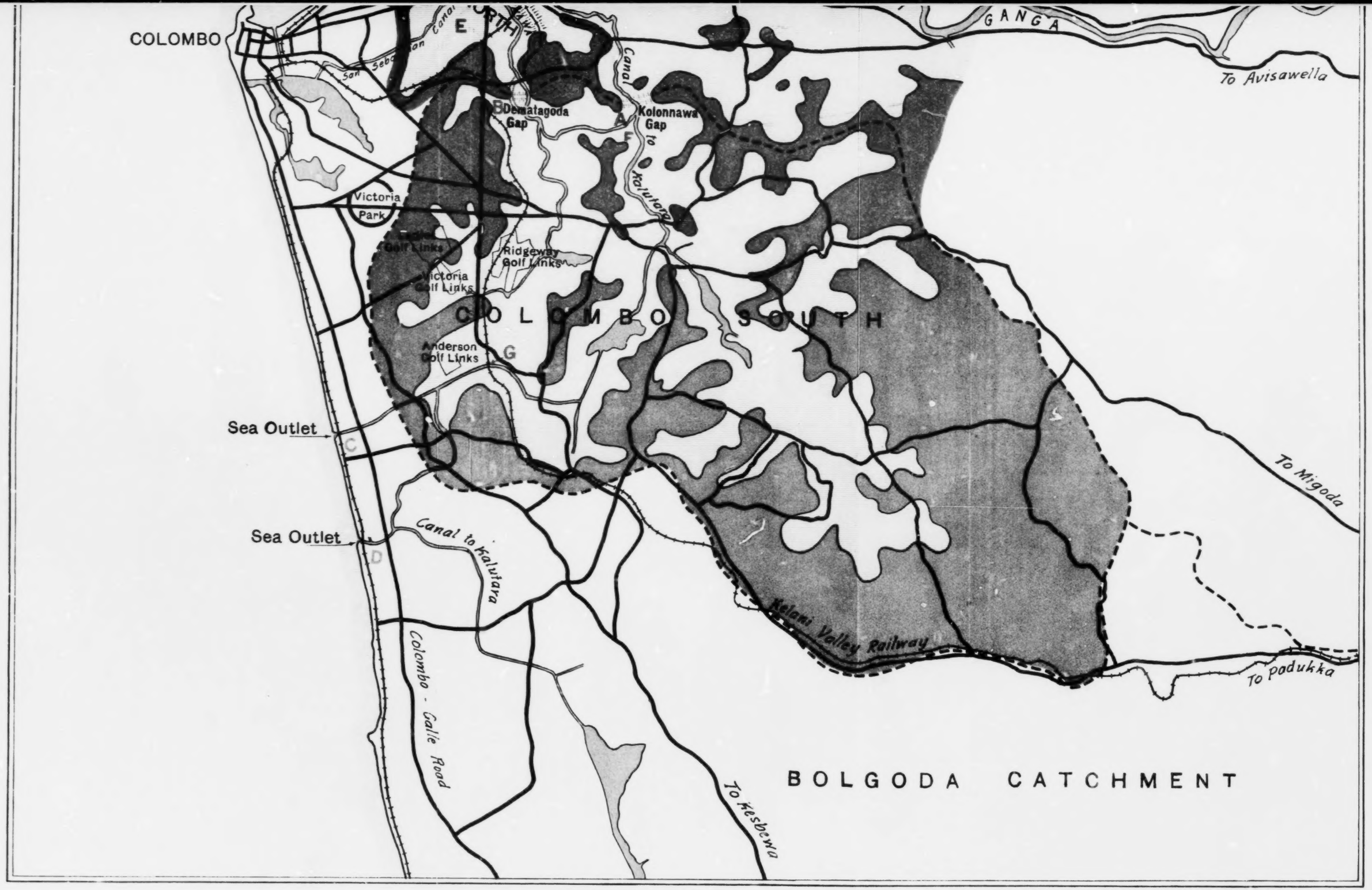


Photo. Litho, S.G.O. 8 · 8 · 24.

The reasons for the first two of these works are obvious, since they are the fundamental works required to prevent floods entering the area to be protected. The reason for diverting the canal traffic through the Dematagoda gap is that such a diversion is necessary for the subsequent construction of the scheme for the protection of Colombo North from Kelani floods.

The protected area, 8,000 acres in extent, may be divided into two classes of land—

(i.) Land which is more than 3 feet above sea level, 5,000 acres in extent, which will become immediately available for building purposes or for park or garden land.

(ii.) Land which is less than 3 feet above sea level, 3,000 acres in extent, most of which is at present used for growing grass or paddy, but part of which is permanent swamp. This area will require gradual improvement after it has been protected from floods. Such improvement will naturally take place in the gradual process of city development.

The rainfall catchment which drains into the protected area is 28 square miles in extent, and during times of low river drainage from it will still be allowed to flow into the Kelani by the Dematagoda canal. When, however, a rise in the river necessitates closing the canal lock drainage from this area will be discharged direct into the sea through the two sea outlets (C and D on the map). The fact that the main Kalutara canal, which is also the main drain of the Colombo South watershed, is dead flat with its bed level at about 4 feet below sea level throughout renders this complete reversal of the direction of flow possible.

It is anticipated that the works will be completed early in 1925, the final closure of the Kolonnawa gap being effected immediately after the north-east monsoon floods of 1924 are finished. It is not safe to endeavour to make this final closure at any other time of year owing to the grave risk of being caught by a flood in the middle of the operation.

The Colombo North Scheme.

The preliminary investigations and the preparation of the detailed plans for this scheme were completed during the year and were submitted for the consideration of Government.

RAILWAY DEPARTMENT.

Open Line, 1923.

The length of the line open for traffic on September 30, 1923, was 734 miles.

The receipts for the year amounted to Rs. 24,597,590, or an increase of Rs. 2,674,353 as compared with the previous year.

The number of passengers conveyed was 11,109,251, as against 12,189,263 in the preceding year, or a decrease of 1,080,012.

Under season tickets there was an increase of 17,587 in number and Rs. 71,625 in receipts.

In foreign cooly traffic there was an increase of 26,922 coolies.

Parcels traffic showed a decrease of 55,808 in the number of parcels conveyed, but an increase of Rs. 111,250 in freight receipts.

The total tonnage of goods carried was 1,157,886 tons, or an increase of 25,760 tons over previous year, the principal increases and decreases are as follows :—

Increase.	Tons.	Decrease.	Tons.
Rice	1,236	Rubber	7,494
Tea	5,669	Cacao	1,387
Plumbago ..	2,051	Coconut produce ..	12,749
Bulk petroleum ..	1,143	Fruits and vegetables ..	3,512
Liquid fuel ..	1,391	Tea and rubber packing..	1,265
Manure	20,952	Foreign traffic ..	8,449
Salt	6,472		
Sundry goods ..	20,367		

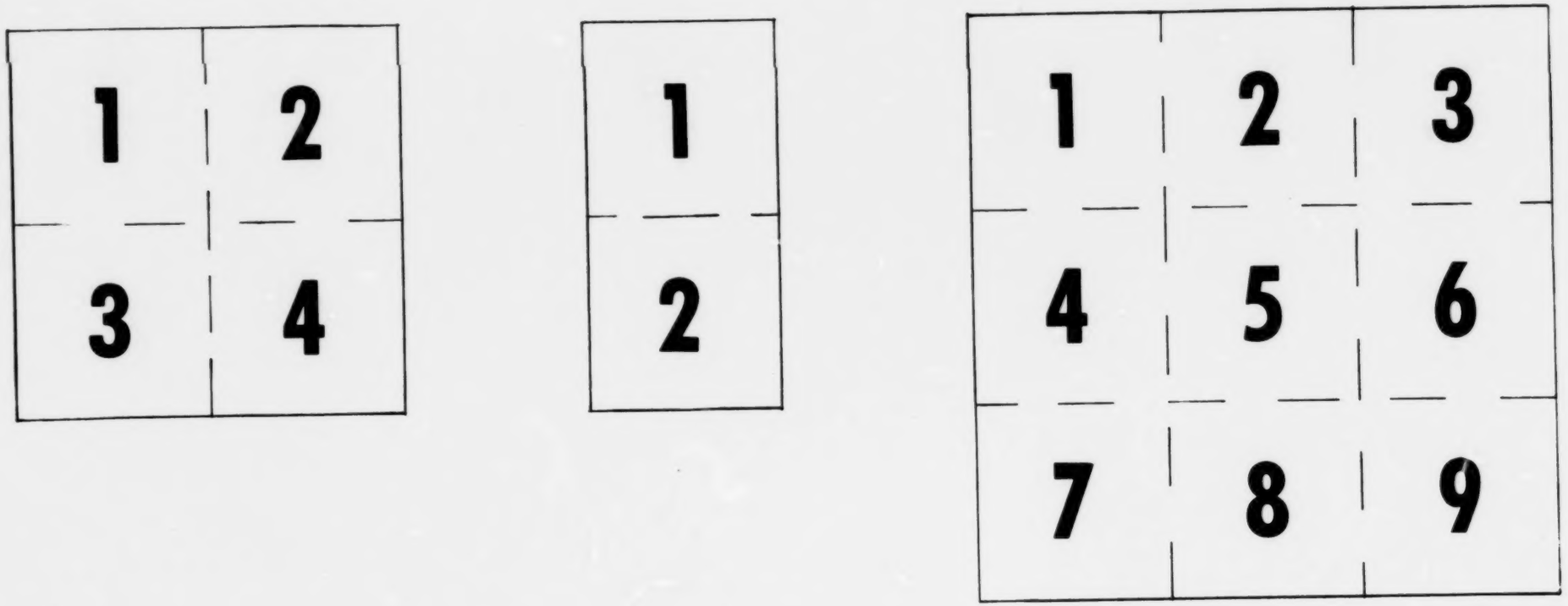
The total expenditure for the year amounted to Rs. 16,108,248, as against Rs. 14,658,972 in the previous year.

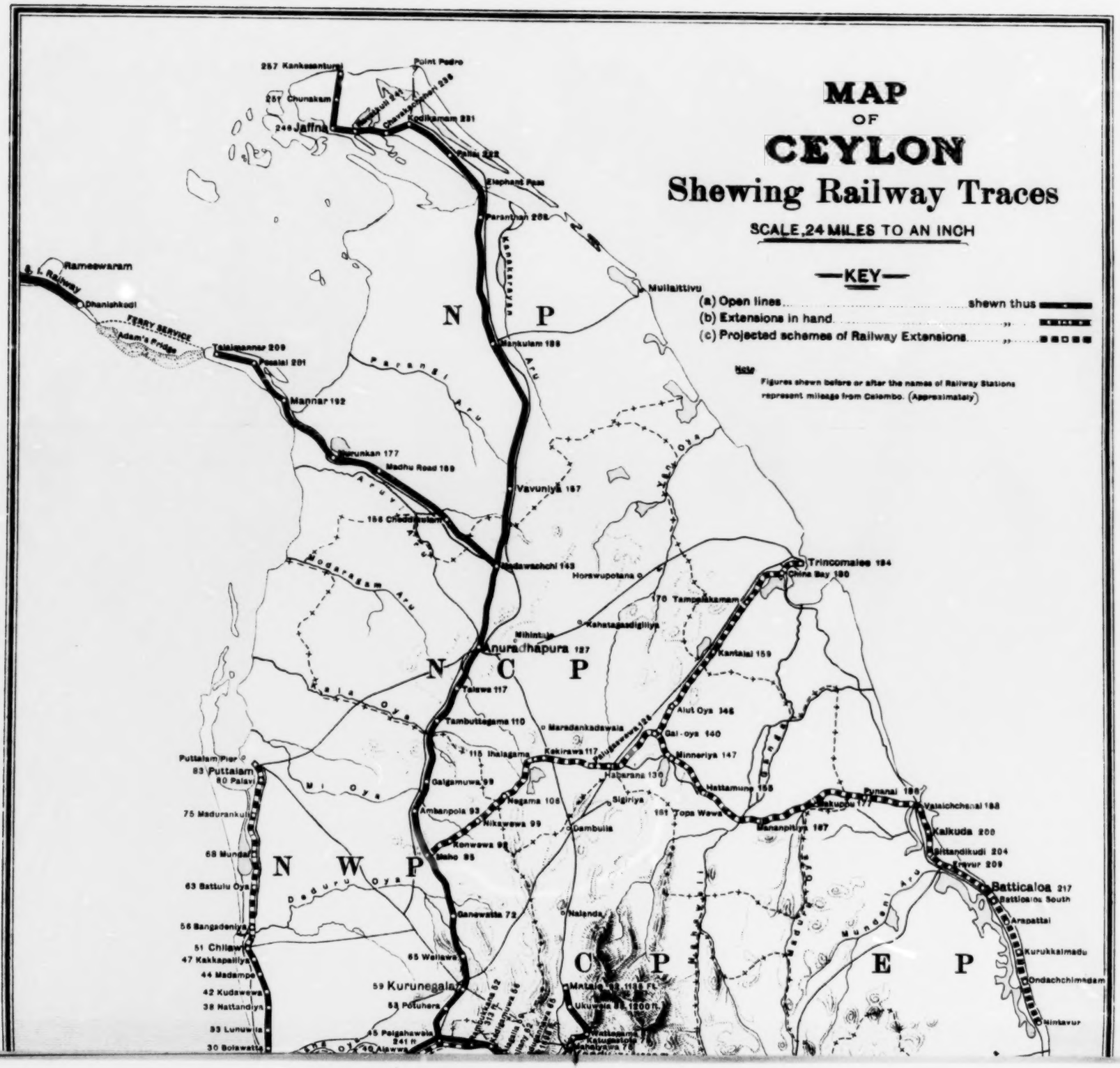
The capital cost of the Railway, including additional accommodation and improvements up to September 30, 1923, was Rs. 156,269,364, as compared with Rs. 152,750,716 in 1922.

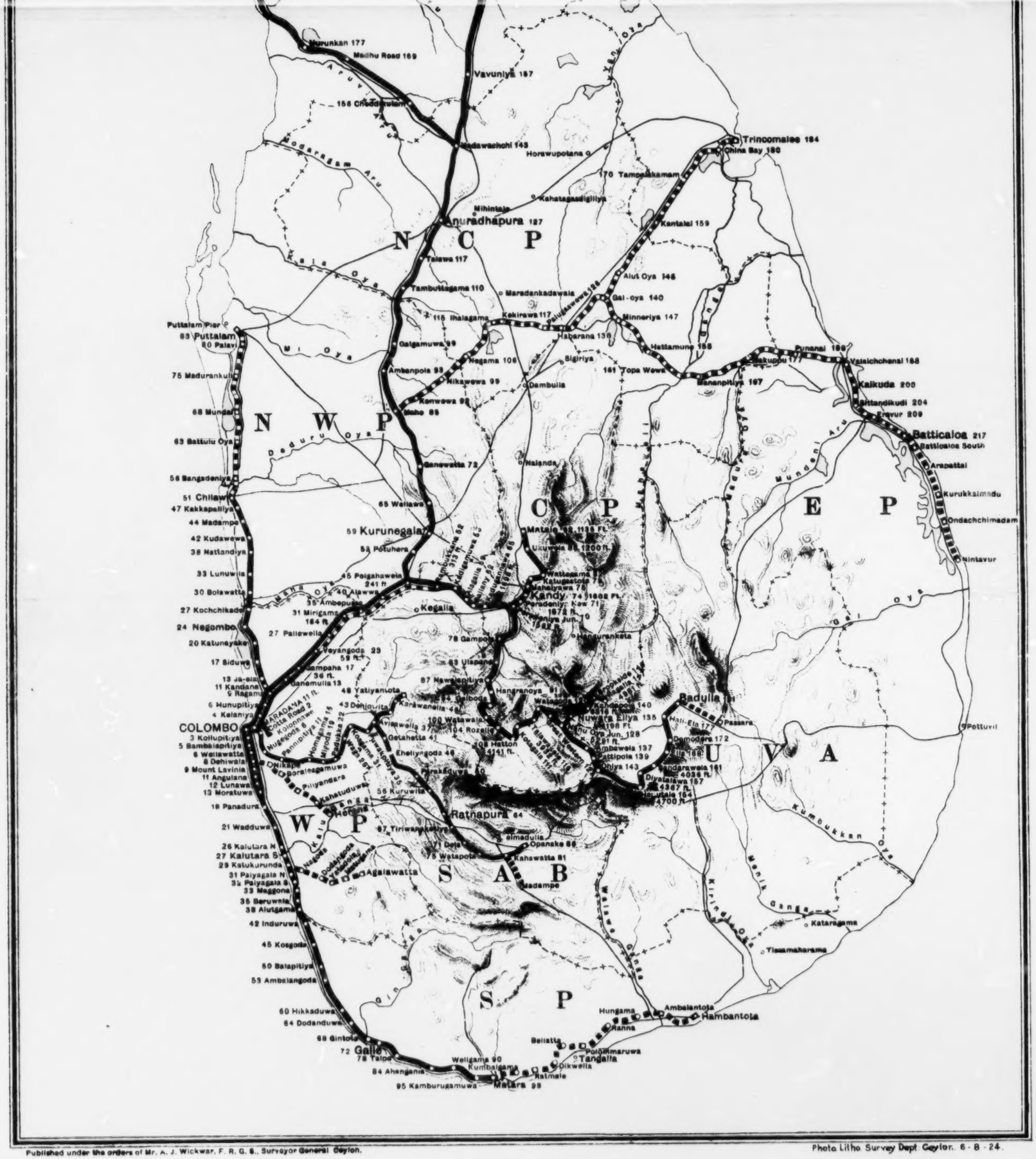
Colombo Stations Extensions.

This large work is approaching completion. The new Fort station additions, consisting of an arrival platform 70 feet wide and 1,200 feet long and a footbridge at the east end of the station, have been completed and handed over to the open line. Sanction during the year has been given for the construction of a similar bridge at the west end of the station, and indents have been sent home for the steelwork required. This new bridge will be connected with all platforms in the station, and will provide an additional exit to Norris road.

Maps on this order too large to be entirely included in one exposure are filmed clockwise beginning in the upper left hand corner, left to right and top to bottom as many frames as required. The following diagrams illustrate the method.




MAP
OF
CEYLON
Shewing Railway Traces
SCALE, 24 MILES TO AN INCH
—KEY—
(a) Open lines ..... shewn thus
(b) Extensions in hand ..... ,,
(c) Projected schemes of Railway Extensions ..... ,,
Note
Figures shewn before or after the names of Railway Stations represent mileage from Colombo. (Approximately)
257 Kankesanturai
Point Pedro
257 Chunakam
246 Jaffna
Kodikamam 231
Elephant Pass
Paranthan 208
Mullaitivu
Mankulam 188
Rameswaram
S. I. Railway
Dhanishkodi
FERRY SERVICE
Adam's Bridge
Talaimannar 209
Pesalai 201
Mannar 192
Murunkan 177
Madhu Road 169
Vavuniya 157
Medawachchi 143
Horawupotana
Trincomalee 184
China Bay 180
Tampalakamam
Kahatagasdigiliya
Mihintale
Anuradhapura 127
Kantalai 159
Talawa 117
Tambuttegama 110
Maradankadawala
Alut Oya 346
Gal-oya 140
Minneriya 147
Habarana 130
Kekirawa 117
Galgamuwa 99
Nagama 108
Ambanpola 93
Nikaweva 99
Konwewa 95
Maho 85
Sigiriya
Dambulla
Hattamuna 155
Punanai 186
Valaichchenai 188
Kalkuda 200
Batticaloa 217
Batticaloa South
Arapattai
Kurukkalmadu
Ondachchimadam
Nintavur
Puttalam Pier
83 Puttalam
80 Palavi
75 Madurankuli
68 Mundel
63 Battulu Oya
56 Bangadeniya
51 Chilaw
47 Kakkapalliya
44 Madampe
42 Kudawewa
38 Hattandiya
33 Lunuwila
30 Bolawatta
Ganewatta 72
65 Wellawa
59 Kurunegala
53 Potuhera
Nalanda
Ukuwela
Watagama
Katugastota
Mahaiyawa
Mi Oya
Deduru Oya
Kala Oya
Maha Oya
Mundeni Aru
Parangi Aru
Aruvi Aru
Modaragam Aru
N P
N C P
N W P
C P
E P


N C P
N W P
C P
E P
W P
S A B
S P
U V A
Anuradhapura 127
Trincomalee 184
China Bay 180
Puttalam Pier
83 Puttalam
80 Palavi
75 Madurankuli
68 Mundel
63 Battulu Oya
56 Bangadeniya
51 Chilaw
47 Kakkapalliya
44 Madampe
42 Kudawewa
38 Nattandiya
33 Lunuwila
30 Bolawatta
27 Kochchikade
24 Negombo
20 Katunayake
17 Siduwa
13 Ja-ela
11 Kandana
9 Ragama
6 Hunupitiya
4 Kelaniya
COLOMBO
3 Kollupitiya
5 Bambalapitiya
6 Wellawatta
8 Dehiwala
9 Mount Lavinia
11 Angulana
12 Lunawa
13 Moratuwa
18 Panadura
21 Wadduwa
26 Kalutara N
27 Kalutara S
29 Katukurunda
31 Paiyagala N
34 Paiyagala S
33 Maggona
36 Beruwala
38 Alutgama
42 Induruwa
45 Kosgoda
50 Balapitiya
53 Ambalangoda
60 Hikkaduwa
64 Dodanduwa
68 Ginton
72 Galle
78 Talpe
84 Ahangama
95 Kamburugamuwa
Matara 99
Wellama 90
Kumbalgama
Dikwella
Ratmale
Polgammaruwa
Tangalla
Balatta
Hungama
Ranna
Ambalantota
Hambantota
Kataragama
Tissamaharama
Pottuvil
Passara
Badulla
Nuwara Eliya 135
Kandy
Matale
Ratnapura 64
Galle
Kurunegala
Batticaloa 217
Batticaloa South
Arapattai
Kurukkaimadu
Ondachchimadam
Nintavur
Kalkuda 200
Pottandikudi 204
Eravur 209
Valaichchenai 188
Punanai 186
Kantalai 159
Trincomalee 184
Vavuniya 157
Madawachchi 143
Horawupotana
Kahatagasdigiliya
Nihintale
Galgamuwa 99
Ambanpola 93
Nikaweva 99
Kanwewa 95
Maho 85
Ganewatta 73
Wellawa
Polgahawela 241 ft
Alawwa
Ambepussa
Mirigama 184 ft
Pallewela
Veyangoda 23
Gampaha 17
Ganemulla 13
Yatiyantota
Kegalla
Gampola
Ulapane
Nawalapitiya
Hanguranketa
Hatton 4141 ft
Rozella
Watawala
Ehetuyagoda 46
Parakaduwa
Kuruwita
Elmadulla
Opanake 66
Kahawatta 81
Madampe
Agalawatta
Tiriwanagaliya
Deiyandara
Kahatuduwa
Hokandara
Nugegoda
Dodangoda
Yatadana
Bandarawela 161
Diyatalawa 167
Haputale 164
4700 ft
Ohiya 143
Lipatipola 139
Ambawela 137
Hali-Ela 172
Demodara 172
Ella 168
Haputale 164
Mahiyanganaya
Kotmale
Kandaketiya
Bibile
Mahiyanganaya
Kotmale
Kandaketiya
Bibile
Kotmale
Kandaketiya
Bibile
Kotmale
Kandaketiya
Bibile

Accommodation has been made on the new arrival platform for a 30 feet roadway for vehicles to meet all the principal incoming trains, with entrance and exit to and from the new McCallum road.

During the year the portion of McCallum road which is situated in "Captain's Garden" was under construction by the Railway Extension Department has been completed. The road is 80 feet wide exclusive of footpaths.

Work on remodelling the siding accommodation in the goods yard in Colombo is in hand. The whole remodelling of these yards will be completed during the coming year.

Work is also being carried out on the sorting sidings at Weeragoda. The swamp has been reclaimed and filled to a level above the highest flood. All that remains is to lay the sidings themselves, and this work will be taken in hand when the settlement in the large embankment has ceased.

The following works have already been completed under the Stations Extensions Scheme and handed over to traffic :—

(*a*) Maradana station and sidings, &c., connected therewith.

(*b*) New locomotive sheds, offices, &c., at Dematagoda.

(*c*) New Maradana overbridge.

(*d*) Duplication of main lines from Dematagoda to Slave Island, including the deviation across the lake (reclaimed) between Sutherland road and the Parsons road.

(*e*) Extension of the narrow gauge from Maradana to the new Fort station.

(*f*) Remodelling completely the Colombo goods yard and extensive alterations thereto, including three large new goods sheds each 750 feet in length, manure and plumbago sheds, &c., and sett paved cart areas and sidings connected with same.

(*g*) New inward and outward narrow gauge goods yards sidings, road areas (sett paved), and transfer shed (broad to narrow gauge and *vice versâ*).

(*h*) New Railway Stores, &c.

(*i*) Reclamation of 80 acres of swamp land and lake for Railway purposes.

The total estimate for the Stations Extensions complete is Rs. 9,693,543, out of which Rs. 9,537,253·19 was spent up to the end of 1923, leaving a balance of Rs. 156,289·81 to complete the work.

Badulla Railway Extension.

This line is an extension of the main line north of Bandarawela to Badulla. The line traverses hilly and very rough country, necessitating the construction of several high viaducts and five tunnels. Bandarawela is 4,013 feet above mean sea level and Badulla 2,226 feet. The ruling gradient is 1 in 44, and it was found necessary to adopt this gradient for the greater part of the distance. The length of the line is 21·08 miles. In four cases it was found necessary to adopt curves of 5 chains radius. The line is standard broad gauge (5 feet 6 inches). The rails utilized are 88 lb. per yard. All curves under 8·19 chains radius are checked, the check rails weighing 71 lb. per yard.

The work was started in November, 1913, near Bandarawela. During the war funds for the construction of the line were limited, and this, together with the difficulty in obtaining materials from home, accounts for the delay in completion of the work. Delay was also caused by the very unfortunate accident at Rossett on October 19, 1922, in which the Head Bridge Erector and two of his bridge staff lost their lives. Steelwork for two 80 feet main girders was damaged beyond repair, and girders to replace them were not received in the Colony till last June.

The portion of the line between Bandarawela and Ella was opened for traffic in 1918. From Ella to Demodera (11½ miles from Bandarawela) was opened on March 21, 1921.

Nearly all work between Demodera and Badulla is completed, this section forming the heaviest part of the construction, and probably the heaviest section of railway in the whole system of the Ceylon Government Railway. It is hoped to open the full line about the end of February.* The rails in Badulla station are being laid, and the completion of this station, the strengthening of some of the high embankments, and the completion of the ballasting beyond Rossett are the only large works which remain to be done. Rossett viaduct, the highest in the Colony, is completed.

A relief model of the Demodera "loop" was made by the Surveyor-General and sent home to the British Empire Exhibition.

The line passes through valuable estates mostly planted in tea, and when completed will serve the large tea districts of Badulla, Passara, and Lunugala.

The station previously known as "Dikwella" has been re-named "Hali-ela."

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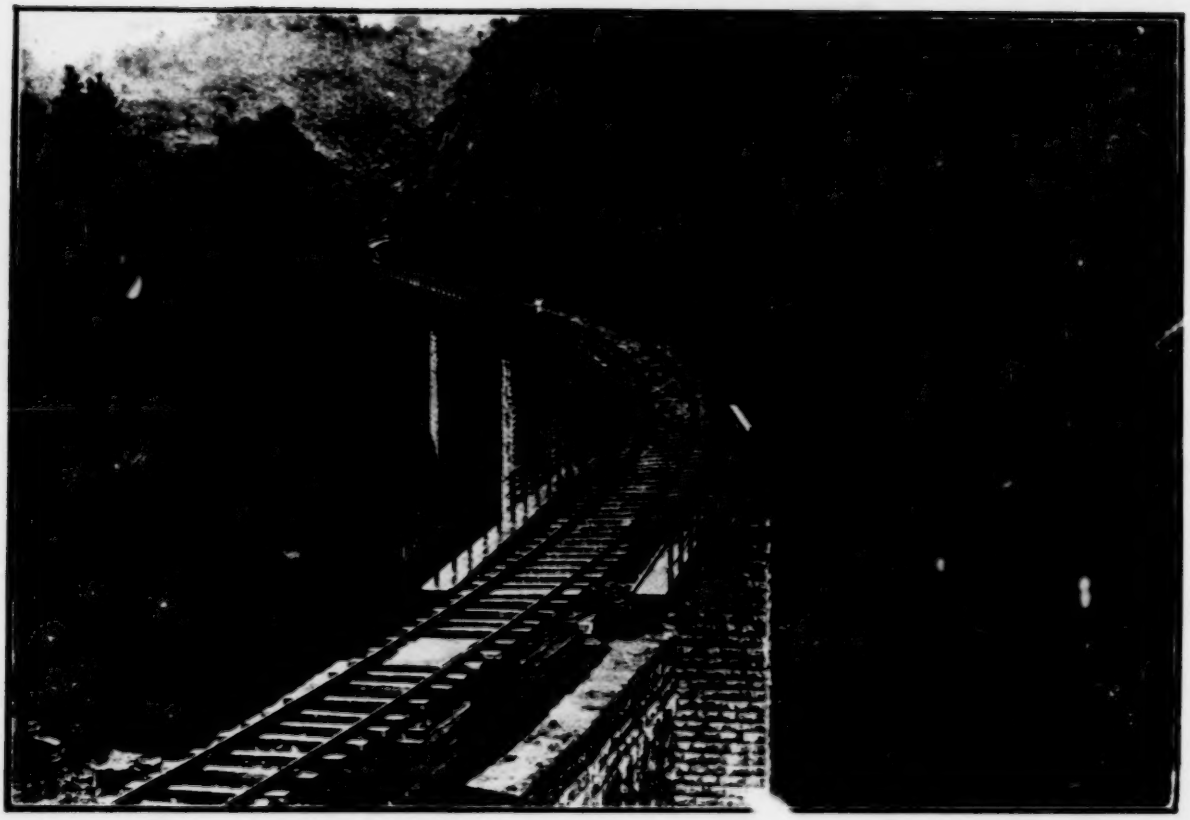
* This was written in January, 1924. The Badulla Extension was actually opened by His Excellency the Governor on April 5.



ROSSETT VIADUCT, BADULLA RAILWAY EXTENSION.

The total estimate of the cost of construction is Rs. 9,759,401. The expenditure to the end of 1923 was Rs. 9,526,406·79, leaving a balance of Rs. 232,994·21 to complete. The work is being completed out of loan funds.

Main Line Duplication.

This work includes the doubling of the main line of railway from Ragama to Rambukkana, a length of 43 miles 24 chains. It also includes the improvement of the gradients on the existing line. All existing gradients steeper than 1 in 132 are being flattened to 1 in 132, the radius of all sharp curves increased to 20 chains, and "reverse curves" abolished.

New and up-to-date stations are being constructed at Mirigama and Ambepussa, and a very large new station and yard at Rambukkana, with new engine shed, coal stage, &c. Alawwa and Polgahawela stations are being extended and improved. The "subgrade" works have been pushed forward rapidly during the past year, and, with the exception of two bridges between Polgahawela and Rambukkana and the earthwork for Rambukkana station yard, the work is approaching completion as far as the duplicated line is concerned. Linking of the duplicated line is completed up to Mirigama station and in hand between Mirigama and Ambepussa and Alawwa and Polgahawela. Mirigama new station construction is in a forward state, and work is now in full swing at Alawwa, Polgahawela, Ambepussa, and Rambukkana stations. Steelwork for all the bridges has arrived in the Island, and the large bridge over the Maha-oya to carry the duplicated line is finished. Excepting for certain points and crossings all permanent way is in the Island. The duplicated tunnel 2 miles north of Mirigama station is completed and will shortly be put into use.

Double line working between Ganemulla and Gampaha was installed on August 26, 1923.

Between Gampaha and Veyangoda all main line traffic has been turned over the future "up" line, and the gradients on the old line are being lowered. An extra span of 60 feet is being added to the old bridge over the Attanagalla-ganga. This work is approaching completion. It is hoped that the double line working will be installed between these two stations about the end of February, 1924.

The total estimate for the work is Rs. 7,368,876, out of which Rs. 5,400,725·78 has been spent to the end of 1923, leaving a balance of Rs. 1,968,150·22 to complete the work.

Puttalam Railway Extension.

This is an extension of the Chilaw line north of Chilaw to Puttalam. The total length is 32 miles 69 chains, and the work was commenced in November, 1920 (application for the necessary land required). The line is built to the standard gauge (5 feet 6 inches), rails 80 lb. per yard being used with angle fish plates, six bolts to each pair of fish plates.

The line passes through very rich coconut lands and will serve the large salt industry of Puttalam.

The steepest gradient is 1 in 198.

All stations are interlocked.

The line necessitates heavy bridges for the first 12 miles of its length. These include the bridge over the Deduru-oya, 4 miles north of Chilaw, which consists of five spans of 150 feet, the longest continuous bridge constructed up to date in Ceylon. The foundations of this bridge are cast iron cylinders and, with the exception of two south abutment cylinders, all have been founded (twelve in all). The depth these cylinders were sunk varies from 50 to 55 feet below ground level. The superstructure is now being erected. On the date of completion of this bridge the opening of the railway depends, and every effort is being made to push the work forward. The valley of the Deduru-oya is, however, very feverish indeed, and the health of the bridge staff and labour has been considerably affected.

A temporary bridge, which can be used during normal floods, has been erected across this river. Rails and all permanent way material required for the line further north have been transported over this bridge, as well as over the temporary bridges crossing the Sengal and Battulu-oyas.

The line has been laid up to a point 1 mile south of Puttalam station, and linking should be complete in about two months' time.

Bangadeniya station, 6 miles north of Chilaw, and Battulu-oya station, 11½ miles, are nearly complete. Work on all other stations is in hand.

Owing to scarcity of suitable ballast near this line gneiss stone metal ballast is being transported from the Railway Extension quarries at Ragama, an approximate average haul of 56 miles.

The total estimated cost of this line is Rs. 7,334,480, out of which Rs. 4,808,809·22 has been expended to date, leaving the sum of Rs. 2,525,670·78 to complete the work.

Heavy dredging has yet to be undertaken in the Puttalam lake so as to allow dhoneys and other boats to reach a special siding to take the traffic from the Etalai and Kalpitiya districts.

Batticaloa and Trincomalee Light Railways.

The combined length of these lines is 182½ miles. They are built to the 5 feet 6 inches gauge, 46¼ lb. per yard rails being used.

The line necessitates heavy bridging, especially in the Kala-oya, Mahaweli-ganga, and Valaichchenai districts.

The bridge crossing the Kala-oya (eight spans of 26 feet and two spans of 16 feet) is finished.

In order to push the work forward beyond the Mahaweli-ganga towards Batticaloa, and to assist in the erection of the main bridge over the Mahaweli-ganga, a temporary bridge constructed to carry a train has been built across the main stream of the river. This temporary timber bridge consists of seventy-eight spans of 12 feet, and has just been completed. The main permanent bridge over this river will consist of six spans of 150 feet.

The valley of the Mahaweli-ganga is exactly 3 miles wide (area inundated) in heavy floods. In addition to the six spans of 150 feet the plan provides for the following flood outlets :—

One span of 150 feet.
Sixty-three spans of 30 feet at different mileages in the valley.
Four spans of 12 feet.

The foundations of the permanent bridge are cylinders, and a start has been made in sinking these.

The bridge over the Valaichchenai estuary will consist five spans of 150 feet founded on cylinders. Ten out of the 12 cylinders have been sunk.

This bridge as well as the bridge over the Mahaweli-ganga is designed to take both road and railway.

In addition to these large bridges several smaller waterways and valleys have to be crossed, the most important being the Horavilla-oya, Habarana-oya, Gal-oya, Alut-oya, Palampatti-aru, Minneriya-oya. All these bridges are in hand, and most of them approaching completion.

The land traversed is, generally speaking, flat, but heavy work is encountered near Maho, Habarana, Minneriya hills, and near Trincomalee, the line having to cross ridges of hills running generally speaking north and south.

The heaviest gradient on the line is 1 in 60, and the sharpest curve 20 chains in radius.

Sleepers for the construction of the line, which will number close on 400,000, are being supplied locally, except for 60,000 jarrah sleepers which have been imported during the year from Australia at a cost of Rs. 8·25 each. Local sleepers are hand sawn and mill sawn. Four well-equipped mills having been put up for the purpose.

The country traversed, particularly near Gal-oya (the junction of the Batticaloa and Trincomalee lines), is very feverish, especially from November to April. It is also subject to droughts from May to the end of September. During the former months the labour force is greatly depleted by sickness.

To deal with this, fully-equipped hospitals have been erected at Maho, Kantalai, Topawewa, and Valaichchenai, and dispensaries at railheads, Habarana, Mahaweli-ganga, and Gal-oya.

All material for bridges and permanent way is in the Island.

Work is being pushed forward as fast as circumstances will allow, and considering the great difficulties encountered the progress may be considered as fair. It must be remembered that these lines run for the most part through feverish and deserted jungles.

The total estimated cost of the work is Rs. 17,627,973, out of which Rs. 13,916,240·91 was spent up to end of 1923, leaving a balance of Rs. 3,711,732·09 to complete.

Kalladi Bridge.

The construction of this bridge (to consist of six spans of 150 feet and to carry a road and railway over the Batticaloa lake) was sanctioned during the year.

Indents were dispatched for cast iron cylinders, and steelwork superstructure was indented for, but no steelwork has yet been received in the Island. The total estimated cost of the bridge is Rs. 1,096,971, out of which Rs. 400,000 has been voted for the present year to cover the cost of the steelwork indented for, and which may arrive in the Island during the year.

This bridge when completed will connect the populous area south of Batticaloa with Batticaloa town.

Kalmunai Extension Survey.

A vote of Rs. 9,000 was sanctioned to cover the cost of the survey of the proposed railway from Batticaloa to Kalmunai and Nintavur. The proposed length of this line is 26 miles, and the country to be traversed very densely populated. The line would be carried over the Batticaloa lake on the Kalladi bridge mentioned in the last paragraph of this report.

Harbour Rail Extension.

This scheme provides for making a rail connection from the main line at Urugodawatta direct to the harbour in the vicinity of the Graving Dock, connecting the railway sidings south of the

" Lake to Harbour Canal " with the lines to the north, remodelling the Wharf station, and abolishing the existing line connecting between the Wharf and the Fort station *viâ* Galle Face. It also provides for the new exchange sidings for the exchange of wagons between the Ceylon Government Railway and the premises of the Colombo Port Commission.

All works in connection with this large undertaking were completed, excepting the road approaches to the Prince of Wales avenue and Bloemendahl road bridges. These approaches are well in hand.

The whole work, excepting the " Kandy Loop," was handed over to the Traffic Department, Ceylon Government Railway, and to the Port authorities for traffic on September 1, 1923.

The " Kandy Loop " was completed towards the end of the year.

Matara-Tangalla and Hambantota Extension.

During the past year the estimate of cost of this proposed extension was completed, and a detailed estimate and report on the line was forwarded to Government.

VII.—Excise.

FROM October, 1923, the Matara Circle was amalgamated with the Galle Circle and placed in charge of the Assistant Superintendent of Excise, Galle.

Contract Supply System.

This system has been explained in previous reports. Government manufactures part of the arrack at its own distillery at Kalutara, and purchases the rest by contract from private distillers. On this arrack the renter pays cost price, duty, and a lump sum as rent per gallon, and retails the arrack in his tavern. His profits really consist of a commission on sales, and the Excise policy is not to accept too high a tender, as in order to increase this commission the renter is tempted to indulge in short measure, dilution, and other illicit practices. This system has been tried in five Provinces: in 1920–21 in the Northern Province, in 1921–22 in Northern and Uva Provinces, 1922–23 in Central Province, and 1923–24 in Western and Sabaragamuwa Provinces.

Revenue from these Provinces is shown as follows :—

Province or District.	1919-20.	1920-21.	1921-22.	1922-23.	October to December, 1923.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Northern Province	404,665	375,892	535,195	486,582	157,088
Province of Uva	313,496	289,750	204,794	249,976	97,487
Central Province	1,648,800	1,599,060	1,178 880	1,478,320	459 950
Western Province	3,119,604	3 456,487	3,107,359	3 245,980	753,504
Province of Sabaragamuwa	700,482	880,796	612 248	371,077	166,150

Total Revenue from Arrack, &c.

The total revenue from arrack during the year under review amounted to Rs. 7,300,064 :—

In 1920–21 arrack revenue amounted to Rs. 8,313,022.
In 1921–22 arrack revenue amounted to Rs. 7,418,062.
In 1922–23 arrack revenue amounted to Rs. 7,300,064.

Toddy revenue for the same period amounted to—

	Rs.	c.
1920–21	1,952,330	23
1921–22	1,801,879	75
1922–23	1,853,546	0

The number of taverns during the same period was—

	Arrack.	Toddy.
1920–21	521	590
1921–22	452	474
1922–23	379	395

This indicates a reduction in two years by 27 per cent. in the arrack taverns and 33 per cent. in the case of toddy taverns. The reduction of arrack revenue has been 2 per cent., but toddy shows an increase of 3 per cent. on 1922.

The cost price of arrack remained between Rs. 180 to Rs. 200 at the beginning of the year, and went down to between Rs. 140 to Rs. 160 in the latter part of the year.

The following comparative figures of consumption of arrack and toddy are recorded :—

(*a*) For the calendar year—

	Arrack. Gallons.	Toddy. Gallons.
1921	848,376	4,443,800
1922	807,387	4,291,012
1923	726,172	4,143,801

(*b*) For the rent year—

1920–21	888,918	4,678,282
1921–22	834,225	4,278,586
1922–23	716,445	4,069,516

Foreign Liquor.

Sales of foreign liquor show an increase everywhere. This is no doubt due to the reduced strength of arrack and to the fact that rival tradesmen have made capital of this reduction to push the sale of foreign liquor. The demand for cheap gin and brandies increased proportionately, but the indications are that their advantage will only be temporary.

Licensed distilleries number 93, as against 114 in 1922 and 122 in 1921. The number of stills working were 117 in 1923, 150 in 1922, and 170 in 1921. The output from these stills varied correspondingly thus:—

	Gallons.
1921	957,131
1922	691,749
1923	531,174

The revenue derived from foreign liquor during the following period was stable and shows a slight increase:—

	Rs.	c.
1920–21	95,598	51
1921–22	96,751	1
1922–23	97,099	25
1923–24	110,971	51

The Government Distillery at Kalutara North continued to supply arrack for the Northern Province and Uva rents, but arrack for the Central, Western, and Sabaragamuwa Provinces was purchased from contractors, who tendered to supply the arrack to Government at rates varying from Re. 1·18 to Re. 1·75 per gallon. Two additional stores were acquired by Government at Kalutara. The output of the Government Distillery in the year was 60,069·9 proof gallons or 85,814·1 gallons at 30 degrees under proof at a cost of Re. 1·48 per gallon. The profit realized was Rs. 173,298·04 in 1923, Rs. 170,258·41 in 1922.

Thirty-seven private warehouses or godowns were licensed in 1923, as against 39 in 1922 and 48 in 1921.

The numerous small distilleries continued to be a source of illicit supply, but they were closed down from December, 1923. They will be replaced by larger distilleries on the model of the Government Distillery at Kalutara.

Excise Law, Tavern Closure, &c.

Excise Notification No. 135 was passed in July, 1923, regulating the control of the importation of *Cannabis indica* (Indian hemp, or "ganja") and limiting the issue of licenses to qualified doctors. Under this regulation the drug is stocked and distributed by the Principal Civil Medical Officer.

Besides those taverns closed by local option, many taverns were closed on the advice of the Excise Department from time to time and by the Advisory Boards. By these agencies the number of taverns was reduced from 989 in 1913–14 rent period to 321 in the 1923–24 period. At the beginning of the present rent period the following closures were effected :—

	Arrack Taverns.	Toddy Taverns.
Colombo Revenue District ..	12 ..	13
Galle	5 ..	2
Matara	13 ..	22

These large closures, however, have not been marked by a proportionate drop in consumption. Arrack taverns have been reduced 18 per cent., toddy taverns 19 per cent. Consumption of toddy has remained almost unaffected, but arrack consumption has dropped 11 per cent.

The following figures show the consumption of arrack and toddy and the imports of foreign liquor for the last five years :—

Year.	Number of Gallons of Foreign Liquor Imported.	Number of Gallons Consumed.	
		Arrack.	Toddy.
1919	54,057	1,029,269	4,570,395
1920	135,588	1,019,370	4,752,605
1921	101,598	848,376	4,443,800
1922	120,563	807,387	4,291,012
1923	150,415	726,172	4,143,801

The fall in the consumption of country liquor can be attributed partly to trade depression, to enhanced cost of living, and partly to temperance.

Government has from time to time taken other measures favourable to temperance, for instance, by restricting removal of arrack to two bottles and removal of toddy to one gallon, by enhancing the duty on foreign liquor, increasing minimum and maximum selling price of arrack, reducing the strength of arrack, and prohibiting off sales in certain areas. Consumption and distribution will be further controlled by the establishment of six central distilleries in place of the two hundred odd small stills which existed formerly, from which the distillery area used to be flooded with arrack during and at the end of each distilling season. Where toddy taverns have been closed, tapping in these tavern areas for other taverns is as a rule not allowed.

Off sales prohibition cannot be said to have produced satisfactory results. It caused great dissatisfaction in Kurunegala and Chilaw Districts, it was rejected in Ratnapura, and in Jaffna it is only to a small extent effective.

VIII.—Post and Telegraphs.

ON December 31, 1923, 607 offices were open for the transaction of postal business; of these, 175 (excluding the Central Telegraph Office) were offices dealing with all classes of postal business, viz., mail and parcel work, registration and insurance of postal articles, money order, postal order, and savings bank work, and telegraph business; at 28 offices all such business, except telegraph work, was transacted.

At 19 sub-offices mail, parcel, registration, and postal order work only was transacted, while at 344 village receiving offices mail work only was conducted; there were also 40 railway receiving offices.

Mail Services.

A.—*Foreign.*

A regular weekly mail service between Ceylon and the United Kingdom was maintained during 1923, and 9,156 bags of correspondence and 5,465 bags of parcels arrived from London; while 2,869 bags of correspondence and 1,807 bags of parcels were dispatched to London.

Fifty-three letter mails were received from London; of these, 40 were carried by vessels of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company—of which, 26 were landed at Bombay and brought overland to Colombo and 14 were brought by sea to Colombo—and 13 were carried by vessels of the Orient line.

In the homeward direction 92 mails were dispatched to Europe by vessels of the Peninsular and Oriental (52 mails), Orient (13), Messageries Maritimes (13), Bibby (1), Nippon Yusen Kaisha (1), Rotterdam Lloyd (5), and Stoomvaart Maatschappij Nederland (7), lines. The average time occupied in transit was 17 to 19 days. The running of the ordinary trains in place of the special Madras-Bombay mail trains stopped on May 1, 1922, continued during 1923, and Tuesday continued to be the regular day of closing the European mail. This change entailed considerable inconvenience on the mercantile community on occasions when the outward mail did not arrive until Tuesday morning. A step taken to minimize the inconvenience was the extension of the hours up to which letters were received for dispatch on payment of late fees: 6 cents up to 5 P.M., 10 cents up to 6 P.M., and 15 cents up to the time the train left Fort station at 7.35 P.M. But with the starting time put back to 6.55 P.M., the late fee paid letters were received for dispatch with 6 cents up to 5 P.M., 10 cents up to 6 P.M., and 15 cents up to 6.30 P.M.

Between Australia and Ceylon a regular monthly mail service was maintained, both by the Peninsular and Oriental Steam

Navigation Company and the Orient Company ; and the vessels of the Commonwealth line provided a supplementary service, 13 mails being dispatched for Australia by this means during the year.

Regular and frequent services to the Straits Settlements and the Far East were available by the vessels of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company, Messageries Maritimes Company, the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, Rotterdam Lloyd, Stoomvaart Maatschappij Nederland, and Compania Transatlantica lines. The British India Steam Navigation Company's service between Negapatam and the Straits, of which use was also made by Ceylon, continued in 1923 to be a fortnightly one.

The British India Steam Navigation Company's steamers carried mails from Ceylon to Mauritius eight times during the year at irregular intervals, the longest interval being between July 13 and October 9 ; and the Natal direct, Indian African, and Osaka Shosen Kaisha lines and British India Steam Navigation Company's steamers from Bombay carried 43 mails from Ceylon to South Africa.

Vessels of the Osaka Shosen Kaisha line carried direct mails to the Argentine *viâ* South Africa.

With India the daily service in each direction by train, with ferryboat plying between Talaimannar and Dhanushkodi, was maintained, except when interrupted by washaways. Such an interruption lasted from February 1 to March 15, when a day train service between Colombo and Talaimannar took the place of the night service.

B.—*Inland Mails.*

Inland mails are carried generally by the Ceylon Government Railway, and from Railway stations by private contract motor mail services, bullock coach, or by runner services.

The principal motor mail services are—

	Miles.
Demodera to Batticaloa	111
Anuradhapura to Trincomalee	67
Matara to Hambantota	52
Haputale to Moneragala	47
Matara to Deniyaya	37
Puttalam to Chilaw	32
Mullaittivu to Mankulam	30
Jaffna to Point Pedro	20
Jaffna to Kayts	18
Kodikamam to Point Pedro	11
Kurunegala to Madampe	40
Hatton Bogawantalawa to Maskeliya	20
Matale to Dambulla	28
Talawakele to Agrapatna	14
Opanake to Balangoda	9
Gampola to Ramboda	20
Panadure to Horana	12
Kiriella to Ratnapura	12

The inland mail services worked satisfactorily throughout the year, save when interrupted for short periods by floods and washaways.

Mail Statistics.

The total number of postal articles, exclusive of parcels, which passed through the post in 1923 is estimated at $60\frac{3}{4}$ million, about 3 million more than in 1922. The increase was principally in inland correspondence, which comprised over $80\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. of the total. Correspondence exchanged with India formed nearly $12\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. of the total, with the United Kingdom about $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., and with other countries nearly 3 per cent.

Letters received from the United Kingdom showed an increase of 23 per cent. in number, but there was a considerable falling off in post cards, owing to the increase in the postage on these under the Madrid Convention. Printed matter, samples, &c., from the United Kingdom showed an increase of over 36 per cent., compared with 1922.

The total number of parcels dealt with was 921,150, an increase of some nearly 50,000 over the 1922 total. Of these, 50,024 were received from the United Kingdom, 183,960 from India, and 22,590 from other countries. 9,028 parcels were received under the Cash on Delivery service from the United Kingdom, an increase of 4,392 over the last year's total.

Postage Rates.

The rates for foreign postage fixed under the Madrid Convention continued in operation, the rate on letters to British Possessions being 12 cents for the first oz. and 10 cents for each subsequent oz., while the postage on post cards was 10 cents; to foreign countries the corresponding rates were 20 cents, 10 cents, and 12 cents. On printed matter the initial rate of 4 cents per 2 oz. was uniform, with minima of 8 cents on samples and 20 cents on business papers.

The inland rates of postage and the rates to India remained unchanged—initial letter rate 6 cents per 4 oz., post card rate 3 cents, and printed matter 3 cents for 2 oz.

The total value of stamps sold by the Department in 1923 was Rs. 6,640,600.

The inland telegraph rate, 40 cents for the first ten words, including address, and 5 cents for each additional two words, remained unchanged, as did the rates on telegrams to India, for first twelve words, ordinary Re. 1, express Rs. 2, with 10 and 15 cents, respectively, for each additional word.

Money and Postal Orders.

The total value of money orders handled in 1923 was Rs. 40,567,757, of which inland orders amounted to Rs. 28,387,526; of the balance the business with India formed the largest percentage, orders issued payable in India totalling over 9½ million rupees—half a million more than in 1922—a fair proportion of which was due to savings remitted by Indian immigrant coolies.

The business in money orders between Ceylon and the United Kingdom was small—8,397 orders of a total value of Rs. 351,606.

There was an increase in the value of local postal orders issued, Rs. 771,584, compared with Rs. 666,509 in 1922, and a small increase in the number of British postal orders paid, which, however, only amounted to £10,407.

Considerable use was made of the telegraph money order service between Ceylon and India, remittances totalling Rs. 3,548,673 being so sent to India and Rs. 582,434 drawn by Indian remitters on Ceylon. Comparatively little use, however, was made of the services between Ceylon and the United Kingdom (280 telegraph orders were sent to the United Kingdom and 72 received therefrom) and Ceylon and the Federated Malay States (13 orders only being sent and 701 orders received), owing probably to the higher telegraph costs.

The revenue from money order commission reached Rs. 434,258.

Post Office Savings Bank.

The business of the bank transacted at 203 offices continued to expand during 1923, the deposits, which amounted to Rs. 5,102,415, exceeding withdrawals during the year by Rs. 991,741.

On December 31, 1923, the total to the credit of depositors was Rs. 6,701,840.

The rate of interest continued to be 2·40 per cent.—2 cents per month for each complete Rs. 10.

Any sums not less than 25 cents are accepted for deposits up to nett maxima of Rs. 750 per annum and an interest bearing total of Rs. 3,000.

Deposits may be made by means of stamped slips. One withdrawal on demand of a sum not exceeding Rs. 10 is allowed in any one week.

Telegraph System.

All the important towns in the Island are served by the Government telegraph system.

177 postal telegraph offices were open for public traffic on December 31, 1923, besides several railway telegraph offices. Five new telegraph offices were opened during the year.

There are two telegraph circuits between Ceylon and India, on one of which the Baudot printing machine is employed in duplex working.

Ceylon is connected with the West by direct cables of the Eastern Telegraph Company to Aden and the Seychelles, and to the East with Singapore.

The Government wireless station at Colombo of 5-kilowatt power has a normal daylight range of about 400 miles, and is open to traffic of all kinds.

The total number of telegrams handled in 1923 was a little over $1\frac{3}{4}$ million messages, some 228,000 more than in 1922. The average time taken in transmission of an inland telegram was 15 minutes.

The total number of messages dispatched to India, 190,190, showed a slight decrease of some 4,628, and the number received from India, 156,128, was some 10,434 more than in 1922.

89,188 private cable messages were dispatched to and 87,770 received from other countries.

The Colombo Wireless Station dealt with 8,585 messages containing 104,908 words during the year.

The revenue from telegrams was, roughly, Rs. 816,341, and the value of free telegraphic services rendered to other Departments was estimated at Rs. 60,060.

The Telephone System.

Speaking generally, the larger towns are served by Government exchanges (46 in number), and rural areas by private licensed local exchanges, linked together by Government junction and trunk lines.

The principal Government exchange is at Colombo, which is served by underground cables as far as possible. There were 2,301 subscribers to this on December 31, 1923, and 6 applications for service were outstanding.

Other large Government exchanges are at Kandy (153 subscribers), Nuwara Eliya (122), Galle (79), Kurunegala (57), Negombo (45), Kalutara (40), Panadure (38), and Matale (31).

No charge for installation is made for connection to Government exchanges, and a flat rate of subscription is charged for an unlimited service within the prescribed hours.

The minimum subscriptions, applicable to premises within 2 miles of the exchange, are Rs. 180 per annum for business and Rs. 120 for residential connections in the larger towns.

At the Colombo exchange the service is continuous throughout the year, and it is estimated that a little over 13 million calls were dealt with in Ceylon in 1923—1 million more than in 1922. The figure furnished in 1922 represented the traffic for the whole Island.

The average speed of answer during the day in Colombo was 4·8 seconds, and 95·8 per cent. of calls were answered within 10 seconds.

There were 83 Government call offices in use during the year, and the number of telephone stations reached 5,765. The estimated number of trunk line calls was 243,960 and junction line calls 182,412, an increase on the 1922 figures. The trunk and junction line fees are fixed on a 1-cent-per-mile basis. Receipts from telephones totalled Rs. 619,228 in 1923, while the value of telephone services rendered free to other Government Departments was estimated at Rs. 83,780.

The principal trunk telephone lines are—

	Miles.
(1) Colombo-Kandy-Gampola-Hatton-Nuwara Eliya ..	132
(2) Gampola-Pussellawa-Nuwara Eliya	34
(3) Colombo-Kalutara-Galle-Matara	99
(4) Colombo-Avissawella-Ratnapura	64
(5) Colombo-Polgahawela-Kurunegala	59
(6) Colombo-Ragama-Negombo	23
(7) Kandy-Wattegama-Matale	21
(8) Nuwara Eliya-Hapitale-Diyatalawa-Bandarawela ..	36

The Government telephone system at the end of 1923 comprised 9,813 miles of overhead and 16,028 miles of underground wire.

There are 25 licensed exchanges, and the largest private systems are—

(*a*) The Norwood-Maskeliya-Bogawantalawa system, with exchanges at those places having 40, 51, and 31 subscribers, respectively;

(*b*) The Talawakele-Tillicoultry and Agrapatna system, with exchanges at those places having 36, 29, and 27 subscribers, respectively; and

(*c*) The Galaha-Hewaheta system, with 60 and 5 subscribers, respectively.

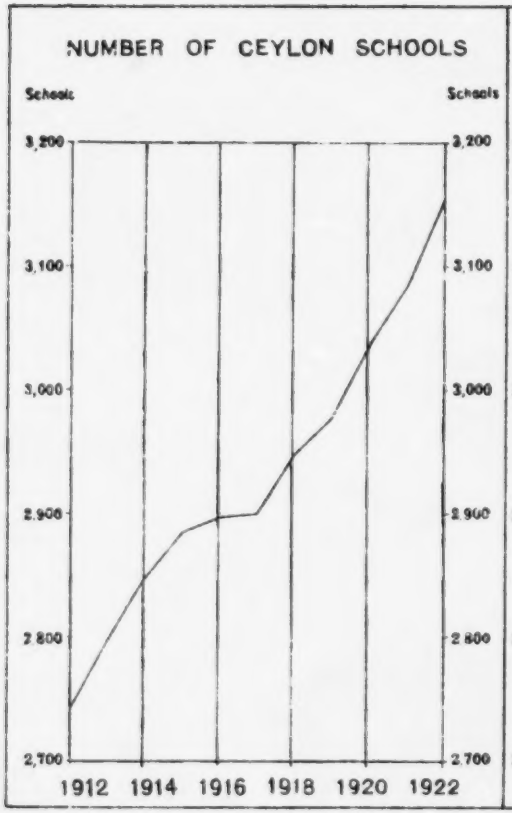
The Neboda private system serves 35 subscribers.

The revenue of the Department in 1923 is estimated at, roughly, Rs. 5,274,071. The principal increases were under the heads of Postage (some Rs. 233,000) and Telephone Receipts (some Rs. 72,000).

The value of free services rendered to other Government Departments, not included in these totals, was estimated at Rs. 800,000, but no reliable estimate can be framed of the value of free services rendered by them to the Postal Department.

The total expenditure from the votes of the Postal Department was Rs. 3,671,720, but the temporary increases to salaries totalling Rs. 518,354 were paid up to end of September, 1923, in addition from the Treasurer's vote; and a further sum of Rs. 321,150 was charged to the Loan Account for works of telephone development.

FIG. 1



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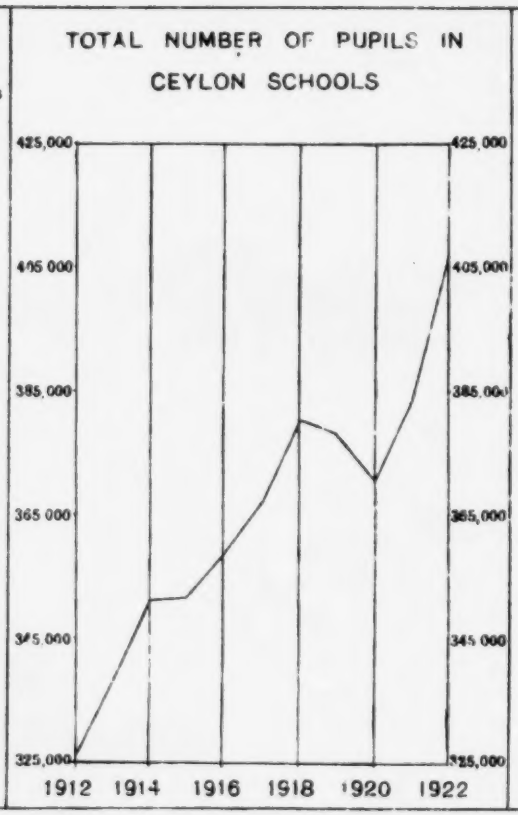

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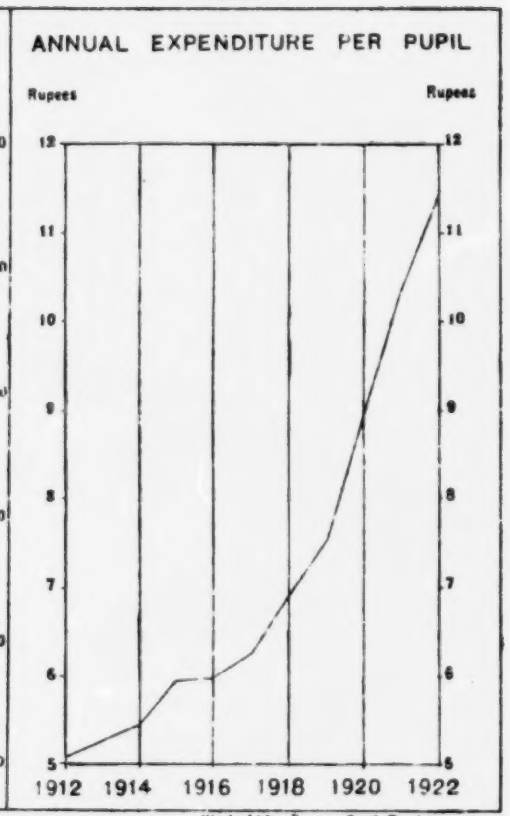


Photo Litho. Survey Dept. Ceylon.

IX.—Education.

Schools Generally.

SCHOOLS in Ceylon may be broadly divided into three classes : English, Anglo-vernacular, and vernacular. The vernacular schools are attended by about 85 per cent. of the school-going population. The English and Anglo-vernacular schools provide elementary education leading up to the English School-leaving Certificate Examination. Secondary English schools provide an education leading up to the Cambridge Senior School Certificate Examination and the London University Matriculation Examination. There are also classes for commercial subjects in some of the larger schools. There is an increasing demand for English, and an attempt as been made to meet this demand by a scheme of Government Central English and Anglo-vernacular schools for rural districts, where children may receive an English education. Such schools have been opened at Henaratgoda, Piliyandala, Veyangoda, Kadawata, Udugampola, Bomiriya, Beruwala, and Wadduwa in the Western Province ; at Induruwa, Hikkaduwa, Ahungalla, Godauda, and Mirissa in the Southern Province ; and at Puttalam in the North-Western Province. The inclusion of Sinhalese and Tamil in the London Matriculation and Intermediate Arts Examinations and the Cambridge Examinations has given a stimulus to the study of the vernacular languages. Several secondary schools are now teaching Sinhalese and Tamil. English has suffered in the past from Latin being taught in the schools to boys from Sinhalese- and Tamil-speaking homes, who have not acquired a sound knowledge of English, and have little facility in expressing themselves in any but their own language.

Vernacular Education.

In 1923 there were 1,039 Government vernacular schools, with an attendance of 105,916 boys and 45,299 girls. There were also 1,826 schools, with an attendance of 125,930 boys and 81,152 girls. Of these, 260 were estate schools, with an attendance of 8,949 boys and 1,583 girls. A school for the deaf and blind started in 1912 receives grant at the rate of Rs. 5 per mensem per child on the average number of children on the roll during the year.

The total sum expended by Government on the vernacular education in 1922–23 was Rs. 2,532,787·97, of which approximately 2/5ths was spent on Government schools and 3/5ths on aided schools.

The Code for Assisted English Schools and the Code for Assisted Vernacular and Anglo-vernacular Schools, framed under the Education Ordinance, No. 1 of 1920, came into force on February 10, 1923. The Education Ordinance has been proclaimed with effect from January 1, 1924, and steps are being taken to form Education District Committees under the Ordinance.

Schools Teaching English.

In 1923 there were 301 English and Anglo-vernacular schools attended by 61,003 pupils, of whom 47,349 were boys and 13,654 girls. There is one Government secondary school in Colombo, with an average attendance of 503. The cost to Government of this school for the year was Rs. 91,424·21, and fees recovered amounted to Rs. 37,787.

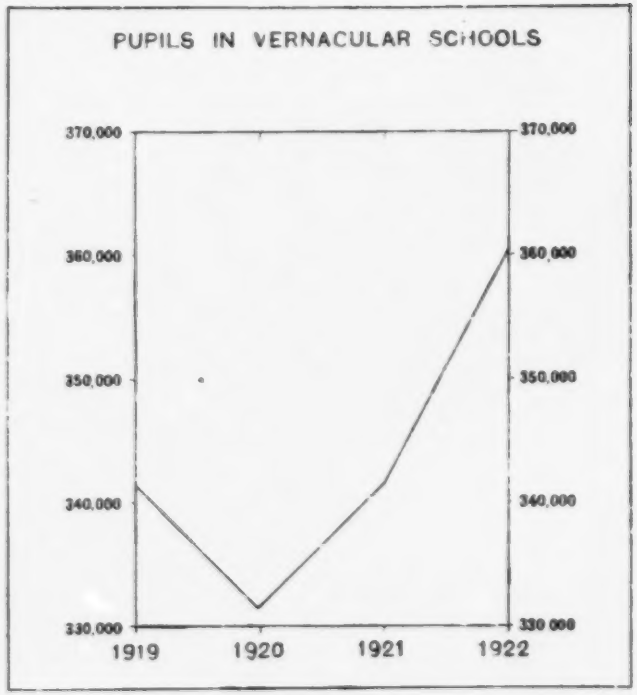
There were 39 secondary schools, the total average attendance at which was 14,694.

In most of the larger schools candidates are prepared for the Senior and Junior Cambridge School Certificate Examinations. In 1922 the number of candidates who presented themselves and the results obtained were—

	Candidates.	Honours.	Other Passes.
Senior ..	1,046	84	257
Junior ..	1,285	110	558

There are special syllabuses for Ceylon students in English, Science, and Needlework, special stress being laid on the necessity for obtaining a high standard in English. The results of the London University Examinations in 1923 showed that 498 candidates from Ceylon presented themselves for the Matriculation Examination, 75 of whom passed. Eight candidates passed the First Examination for Medical degrees and 6 the Second Examination, Part I. Ninety-two candidates presented themselves for the Intermediate Examination in Arts, 39 of whom passed. Sixty-nine candidates took up the Intermediate Examination in Science, 25 of whom passed. Six candidates entered for the Inter. Science Economics, 2 of whom passed. One entered for the Inter. Science Agriculture and passed. Two candidates presented themselves for the Intermediate Examination in Laws, none passed. Three out of the 5 candidates who took up the LL.B. Examination passed. Twenty-nine candidates presented themselves for the B.A. degree, 20 for the B.Sc., 1 for the B.A. Honours degree in History and English, and 1 for the B.Sc. Honours in Anthropology, but the results of these examinations had not reached at the end of the

FIG. 4



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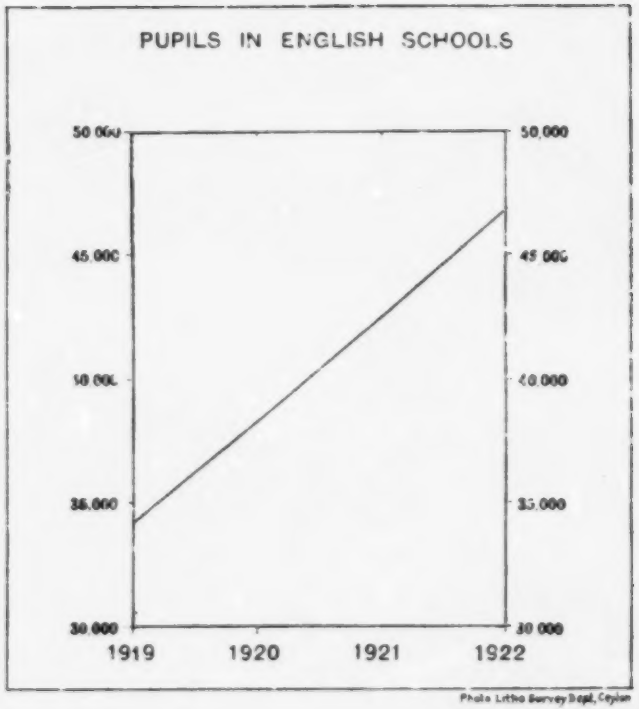


Photo Litho Survey Dept, Ceylon

FIG. 6

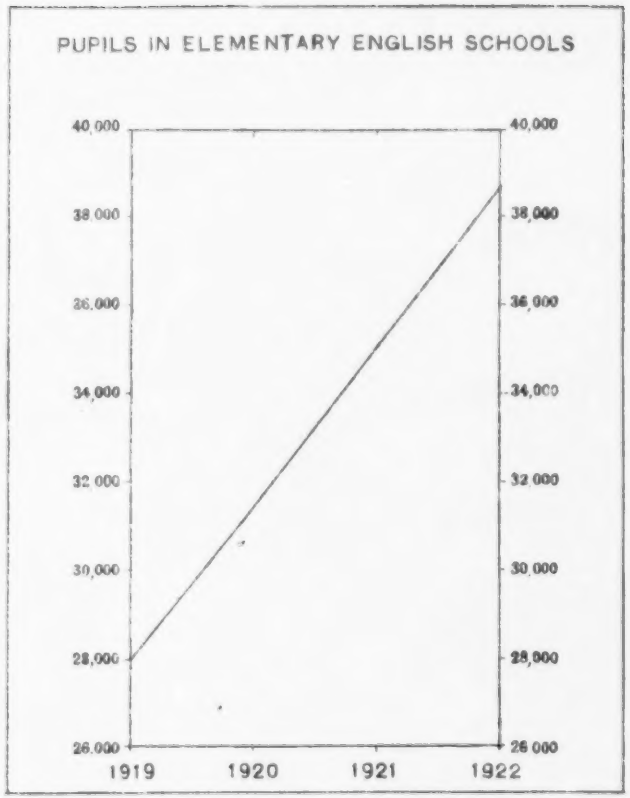


FIG. 7

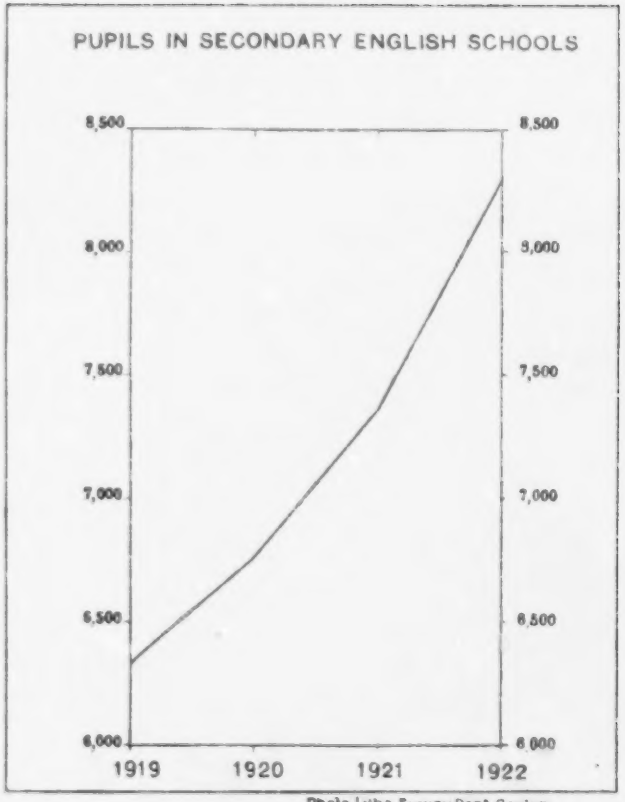


Photo. Litho Survey Dept. Ceylon

year. In 1922 7 obtained the B.A. degree and 6 the B.Sc. The encouragement offered by Government takes the form of grants or scholarships. In the majority of the assisted English schools grants are paid on the average attendance, as laid down in the schedules of the Code. Special grants are paid on account of buildings and equipment.

Five Government scholarships are now offered: one on the results of the Final Examination in Arts of the London University and one on the results of the Final Examination in Science. A third scholarship is awarded on the results of the Final Examination in Science on condition that the holder studies Agriculture and Forestry. Two more scholarships are awarded on the results of the Final Examination in Science on condition that the selected candidate pursue a course of studies in Engineering. The first three scholarships are tenable for two years, and the two Engineering scholarships for three years. The scholarships are of the value of £300 per annum, with free passage and outfit allowance of £50. The holders may join any British University or any recognized engineering institution in the United Kingdom.

An exhibition of Rs. 250 or Rs. 300 a year has been offered by the Hon. Sir H. M. Fernando, Member of the Executive and Legislative Councils, to the Ceylon student who obtains the highest marks in botany and either chemistry or agricultural science in the Cambridge Senior School Certificate Examination.

The following is the scale of fees charged in the various classes of Government English and Anglo-vernacular schools in the Island :—

Government English Schools.	Per Mensem. Rs. c.
Preparatory Classes	2 0
First Year Class	2 50
Second Year Class	3 0
Standard V.	3 50
Standard VI.	4 0
Standard VII.	4 50
English School-leaving Certificate Class	5 0

Anglo-vernacular Schools.	
Stage I.	0 50
Stage II.	0 75
Stage III.	1 0
Stage IV.	1 25
Stage V.	1 50
Stage VI.	2 0
Standard VII.	3 0
Standard VIII. (Elementary School-leaving Certificate Class)	4 0

The 1923 Code for Assisted English Schools lays down the following minimum scale of fees for elementary schools :—

Grade I. Schools.

In Provinces other than the Northern, Eastern, and North-Central Provinces.

	Per Mensem. Rs.	c.
Lower Kindergarten	1	0
Upper Kindergarten	1	50
Standard II.	2	0
Standard III.	2	50
Standard IV.	3	0
Standard V.	3	50
Standard VI.	4	0
Standard VII.	4	50
Elementary School-leaving Certificate Class ..	5	0

In the Northern, Eastern, and North-Central Provinces.

Lower Kindergarten	1	0
Upper Kindergarten	1	50
Standard II. and III.	2	0
Standard IV.	2	50
Standard V.	3	0
Standard VI.	3	50
Standard VII. and Elementary School-leaving Certificate Class	4	0

Grade II. Schools.

Kindergarten and Standard II.	1	0
Standard III., IV., and V.	2	0
Standard VI., VII., and Elementary School-leaving Certificate Class	3	0

Government Training College.

The Government Training College consists of three departments: English (men and women), Sinhalese (men), and Sinhalese (women). The object is to supply trained teachers for aided English schools and Government Anglo-vernacular and vernacular schools. At the beginning of 1923 the number of students in training was on the English side 35 men and 44 women, on the Sinhalese side 43 men and 40 women.

A training school for Tamil teachers was opened at Kopay, Jaffna, in October, 1923. Fifty-three students have been admitted.

A class of 20 boys under eleven years of age at the time of admission was formed in 1918 from boys in vernacular schools. Further classes of 20 each were formed in 1919 and 1920. The board and lodging of these boys are paid by public subscriptions. Their tuition is free. The boys of the first batch are now up to the average of Cambridge Senior Form, and are much in advance

PILIYANDALA GOVERNMENT ENGLISH MIXED SCHOOL.

of boys of their own age who have been learning English for several years. These boys knew no English when they joined. No class was formed either in 1921 or 1922 owing to want of accommodation and funds. The 12 best students out of the first batch were given scholarships at the Royal College in May, 1923. The 20 teachers who were in training at the Henaratgoda Garden Schools for Anglo-vernacular teachers having passed out, another batch of 20 teachers was admitted in 1923.

Industrial Schools.

In 1923 the aided industrial schools, which are 33 in number, received grants amounting to Rs. 31,674·33. The trades taught were carpentry, dressmaking, tailoring, lacemaking, embroidery, gardening, cookery, weaving, shoemaking, and smithy work. The most important of these schools is the Maggona Certified Industrial School, which is utilized by Government as a reformatory for youthful offenders.

This institution is managed by the Roman Catholic Mission. It has an estate of some 300 acres and excellent buildings, towards the cost of which Government has contributed. 277 youthful offenders are at present receiving instruction in this school, and an allowance is paid by Government for the maintenance of each offender. The amount so paid in the year 1922–23 was Rs. 43,482·30. Another important industrial school is that at Wellawatta, Colombo, under the management of the Wesleyan Mission. The amount of grant paid to this institution in 1923 amounted to Rs. 4,800.

An impetus was given to home industries, which are taught in different parts of the Island, by the appointment of two Inspectors of Industries—one for weaving schools and one for carpentry and general industrial work. Carpentry is taught in 32 schools, and 21 schools have carpentry sheds with instructors attached. Thirty-two schools are engaged in cloth-weaving, of which 5 are Government schools. Printing and bookbinding are taught in 56 schools, shoemaking in 1, and smithy work in 2 schools. Cane and rattan work in 4 schools. Three schools are equipped for lacquer work. One school is equipped for pottery work. Basket-weaving and mat-weaving are taught in several schools, hat-making in the Kalutara District, and in 25 schools there are classes in basket-making for children.

Agricultural Instruction in Schools.

Elementary agricultural instruction is given by a scheme of school gardens conducted in connection with Government

schools. The gardens are under the supervision of the Department of Agriculture. There is a Superintendent of School Gardens, who is assisted by three Inspectors. The total number of registered school gardens at the end of 1923 was 548. The number of gardens attached to grant-in-aid schools was 96. 106 school gardens are awaiting registration. Seeds and implements are supplied by the Department of Agriculture, and prizes are offered for competition. Twelve Government teachers underwent a special course of training at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Peradeniya. The scheme has been supplemented by the establishment of home gardens in large numbers, seeds being provided for boys who undertake to plant up vegetables in their home compounds.

TECHNICAL.

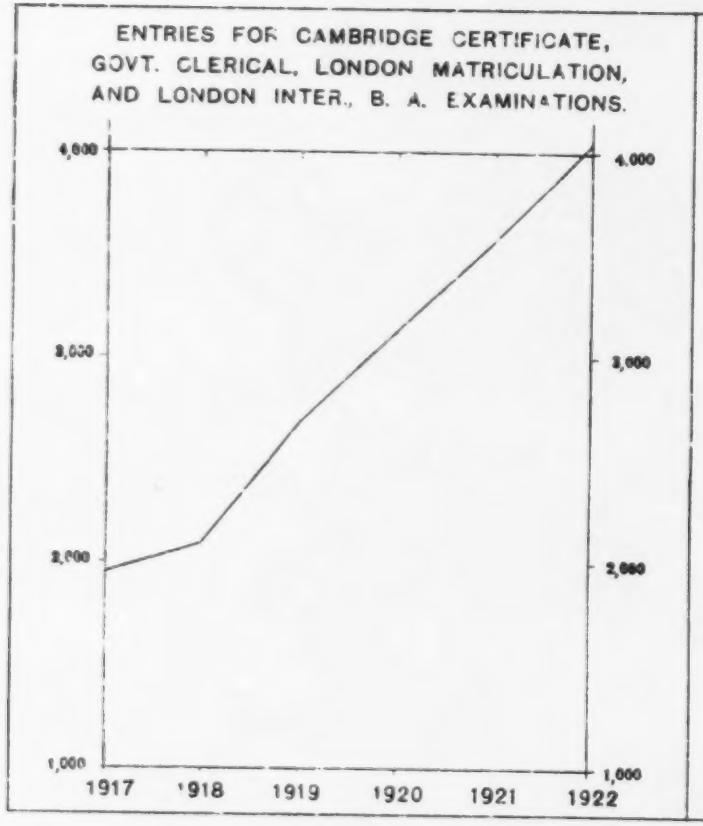
Government Technical Schools, Colombo.—A reorganization scheme was put into operation at the Government Technical Schools, Colombo, in May of this year, and the work of the schools was divided into three branches, viz. : Technical, Commercial, and Art. There are full-time courses in telegraph and telephone engineering and signalling. In addition, evening classes are held in building construction, mechanical engineering, electric wiring, carpentry, and joinery, there are also drawing classes for carpenters, motor drivers, and mechanics.

Commercial classes are held in English, typewriting, shorthand, bookkeeping, business routine, commercial arithmetic, and commercial geography. Art classes are held in drawing (for teachers), painting, and geometrical drawing.

The fees for a part-time course average Rs. 15 per annum, apprentices being charged half rate. The full-time courses and some commercial classes form part of the training provided by Government for apprentices and clerks in training in the Postal and Railway Services, and these students receive a maintenance allowance. An important innovation is being tried in conjunction with the Government workshops whereby apprentices attend the school for technical instruction during two full days per week.

The Jaffna Technical School was opened on October 8, 1921. There were 38 students at the end of the year. Sixty-three scholarships have been promised. Manual training, woodwork, and drawing are taught in this school.

FIG. 8



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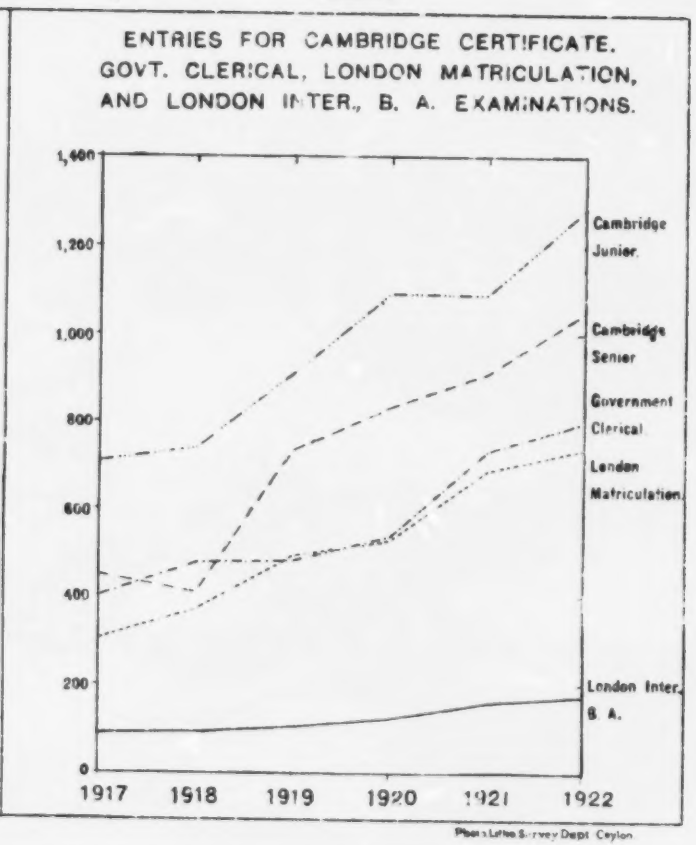


Photo Litho Survey Dept Ceylon

University College.

The University College continues for the present to prepare students in Ceylon for the B.A., B.Sc., and B.Sc. (Economics) Examinations of London University.

The number of new students admitted in October, 1923, the beginning of the academic year 1923–24, was 118, and the total number of students in attendance was 234.

Instruction is offered in English, Latin, Greek, French, German, Sanskrit, Pali, Sinhalese, Tamil, History, Logic, Philosophy, Geography, Economics, Pure Mathematics, Applied Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Botany, and Zoology.

There are Honours classes in Classics, Mathematics, and Chemistry. Additions to the staff, which have been sanctioned this year, will make possible Honours classes in Botany also.

The results of the Final Examinations held in October, 1922, and published in 1923 were at their announcement marked by the congratulations of the Registrar of London University.

The results of the Intermediate Examination received at the end of the year show an increase in the percentage of passes over the year previous, and compare favourably with the percentages of students for the London external examinations conducted in England.

Recent changes in the curriculum of the Ceylon Medical College have caused the introduction of a Pre-Registration Examination, almost identical with the London Intermediate. Preparation for this Pre-Medical Examination is one of the courses offered at University College.

Courses of lectures open to the public, somewhat on the lines of University extension, were given in Philosophy, History, English, and on scientific subjects by members of the staff during the year.

In October the buildings till then occupied by the Royal College were transferred to University College. All lectures, save those in science, are now given in this ampler accommodation, while the library enriched by the purchase of books to the amount of the Government grant (Rs. 20,000) is expanding through the upper half of College House, the original building.

The three hostels continue to be fully occupied, showing the need and value of such institutions.

The Academic Committee held a number of sessions through the year to consider the report of its Sub-Committee on Degree Courses presented at the end of 1922. At these sessions it passed a virtually complete series of recommendations for the degree courses of the future University.

Archæological Commission.

The estimate for this year was cut down by Rs. 9,000 in order to provide funds for the publication of the late Mr. Ayrton's memoirs. The total estimates, including an apportionment of Rs. 2,500 from the Government Agent's vote under clearing and maintaining Crown reservations, amounted to Rs. 87,209.

Expenditure and Revenue.

The nett expenditure of the Department has been Rs. 82,595·69. Revenue collected from the sale of photographic prints, rent of Government quarters, and other miscellaneous items is Rs. 1,519·78.

Library.

Considerable additions have been made to the library.

The accumulated arrears of binding have been very much reduced.

The library has been finally put in order, and it remains only to issue a catalogue for the information of the public and that of other libraries so as to avoid overlapping.

The ola manuscripts have been arranged and indexed.

All the old squeezes that could be identified have been numbered, and the total number of inscriptions registered is now 289.

Collections.

The small excavation at Talgasväva produced a varied collection of pots and figurines similar to the Puttalam finds discovered last year.

The old collection has been overhauled, and all the objects that could be identified have been numbered and entered.

Reservation.

No progress has been made in defining the Anuradhapura reservations, as the town survey is yet incomplete.

Signposts have been put up in Polonnaruwa which will enable visitors to dispense with a guide, who knows neither English nor the monuments.

The whole of the railing, the iron platform, and the iron steps at Sigirya have been cleaned and painted with bituminous solution.

The Kusta Rája Gala at Väligama has been definitely acquired and enclosed.

The survey of Arankäle has been completed, and it merely remains to proclaim it.

Conservation.

At *Anuradhapura.*—The Selacaitiya had been completed last year, except for the laying of the pavement slabs on the platform. This was completed this year.

The pointing at " Elephant Stables " was also completed.

The Government having rescinded the offer to the Atamasthana Committee of the area round Thúparama, it became possible to proceed with the work on this temple. This consisted mostly in pointing the walls of the temple and the outer wall.

The Gedige has long been in a delicate condition ; in fact the three piers of brickwork which alone remained of the superstructure were only supported by banyans which at the same time were eating into them. In order to interfere as little as possible with a picturesque ruin, which could only lose by conservation, the tops of the trees had been lopped off to check their progress, but the result was to kill them and thus to weaken the support they gave. Collapse was therefore bound to ensue sooner or later, and there was no alternative but to take it in hand.

The work was undertaken and carried out along the lines suggested by the Architectural Assistant to the Public Works Department by " the rebuilding of walling at the sides and in between the piers from the basement level upwards, thus forming buttresses." The piers were re-faced and brought out to their original surface with old bricks cemented together and carefully pieced on to and bonded in with the old coursing. All the new courses were strengthened with hoop iron, vertical iron girders let into the sides of the old brickwork, and the new brickwork was tied to the old with round irons. The basement was cleaned up and pointed, and what door and window frames could be identified were put back into position. The result appears to be less regrettable than might have been expected.

In *Polonnaruwa* the work at the Demala Maha Säya was completed. This consisted mainly in clearing the wall tops of rubbish and making them waterproof. The whole building was pointed. The doorways on the tops of the walls were put back in position. The plaster floor was repaired by filling in the holes: this new flooring marks an improvement on that we put in at the Lankatilaka in 1921, which was not a success from the point of view of appearance.

Having put in order two specimens of the Polonnaruwa brick temple and one stupa, it was decided to take in hand a specimen of secular building. Work was therefore started on the King's Palace : the restoration found necessary consisted almost entirely

in pointing and here and there building up the sides of the platform where the rains were washing it down. The walls were rent with cracks, not immediately dangerous but requiring attention: these were filled in, tied with iron cramps, and re-faced. The outbuildings were also taken in hand.

After the close of the Polonnaruwa season, work was begun on the Nakha Vehera: a good deal of this building had already fallen down since it was first excavated; nevertheless, it remains one of the most considerable brick buildings in Anuradhapura apart from the stupas.

There is at *Mihintale* near Kaludiya Pokuna a small cave temple with stone portico. The whole structure had been pushed over by the pressure of the earth on the east side and the attacks of a banyan tree from the rock above, that it was thought advisable to prop it up last year. This year it has been dismantled, and the work is now in progress.

Research.

A survey of ancient roads has been undertaken, but it has not been possible as yet to extend operations outside the immediate neighbourhood of Anuradhapura. It is hoped at some date to follow up these roads towards the coast, a difficult undertaking in a jungle country: the most that can be hoped for is to pick up sections and infer the rest. Much information could thus be gathered about ancient routes and harbours.

Colombo Museum.

The Colombo Museum is a Government institution founded in 1877 by His Excellency Sir William Gregory. It is a two-storied building of imposing appearance standing in spacious grounds about 3 miles from the Fort or business centre. The Museum contains a valuable collection of archæological, ethnological, zoological, and mineralogical exhibits restricted to Ceylon and the Maldive Islands. A valuable reference library is attached to the Museum. Readers are permitted to consult books in the library, but books cannot be removed. Over 200,000 people visit the Museum annually.

During 1923 a very important departure in the publication on scientific literature has been made.

The *Ceylon Journal of Science* has been established by the Ceylon Government for the publication of scientific and other researches dealing with Ceylon. In the first instance the journal will consist of seven sections, and each section will be virtually a separate publication with its own editor. Further, each section will have its own system of paging and will appear independently of other sections. Only for purposes of general administration and to ensure uniformity will the various sections be controlled by a general Editorial Board.

FISHERIES.

Marine Fisheries.—These are carried on entirely by the local fishermen in their primitive catamarans and outrigger canoes. All the fishing appliances used are most primitive, the most effective kind being undoubtedly the long lines. In the inshore waters nets of various kinds are used, but in the open sea line fishing only is practised with any success.

It is a noteworthy fact that the fishermen have no means of trawling for fish in deep water. Such a method demands enterprise and a considerable outlay of money. There can be no doubt that the fisheries of Ceylon are not exploited as they ought to be. At present the distribution of the fish obtained is governed by the position of the coast railways. Roughly speaking, it may be said that the local fishing grounds cover an area of some 7,000 square miles, about half of which is within reach of the railway, and here the fish are put on ice and sent to the big centres of population. The fish caught in the other half are either consumed locally or are dried for export to other parts of the Island.

It is interesting to note that these 7,000 square miles include no suitable trawling grounds of any commercial value, but it seems likely that if the mid-water seine net, which is now being used so extensively and successfully in Northern Europe, were introduced it might prove to be the best means of increasing the production of food fish. Mention has been made in previous reports of the trawling experiments. About 4,000 square miles of trawling ground have been surveyed, viz., the Point Pedro bank off the north-east corner of Ceylon and the Wadge bank off Cape Comorin. It is important to note that neither of these banks is being fished over by the native fishermen, and after a very careful examination of the results obtained in the experimental operations it seems certain that in due course a successful trawling industry will be established. During 1923 the Marine Biological Survey was suspended for reasons of economy, so that the survey of the new fishing grounds is still incomplete.

The following are the returns of fish imports from 1920–1923* :—

Year.	Cured Fish. Rs.	Tinned Fish. Rs.	Fish Manure. Rs.	Fish Guano. Rs.	Fish Oil. Rs.	Total. Rs.
1923	8,095,475	197,103	799,039	1,476,107	2,553	10,570,277
1922	7,627,882	131,882	599,515	1,061,245	1,651	9,422,175
1921	7,058,148	97,495	370,738	230,279	2,105	7,758,765
1920	4,508,568	230,147	1,338,411	1,967,961	2,775	8,047,862

Pearl Banks.—Inspections were made in March and November of the year under review, and new spat-falls were recorded. The tendency has been for the successive spat-falls on the northern paars to encroach upon the East Cheval Paar, that is to say, the area covered by oysters has increased in a south-easterly direction.

In March, 1923, the following approximate calculations were made :—

(1) *Cheval Group.*

1920–21 Oysters	115 millions
1921–22 Oysters	" hundreds of millions "
1922–23 Oysters	" thousands of millions "

(2) *Mutturaratu Group.*

1921–22 Oysters	30 millions
1922–23 Oysters	500 millions

(3) *Chilaw Group.*

1922–23 Oysters	100 millions

The brief inspection in November showed that a further spat-fall had taken place and that the oysters previously discovered were thriving. It is expected that the 1920–21 oysters on the Cheval Group will be ready for fishing in March, 1925, and successive batches should be ready in the following years.

Hydrographical Work in the Gulf of Mannar.—This work, to which reference was made in the last report, was continued during 1923, and a paper summarizing the results of all the investigations made up to the present is in course of preparation.

Window-pane Oyster Fishery.—A spat-fall occurred during 1923, and it is hoped that this will prove the starting point of another series of fisheries.

Edible Oyster Fisheries.—Owing to the continuous wet weather from May to November the flourishing bed of edible oysters in the estuary at Weligama was completely destroyed, and our oyster investigations have had to be suspended in consequence.

* Import duty on fish goods was raised from 6 per cent. to 10 per cent. in 1923.

Bulletins of the Ceylon Fisheries.—The first part of this new publication appeared in 1923. It contained the following papers :—

Bulletin No. 1.—" Hydrographical Investigations at Lake Tamblegam."

Bulletin No. 2.—" Statistics Dealing with the Growth-rate. &c., of *Placuna placenta.*"

Bulletin No. 3.—" Fishing Appliances in Ceylon."

X.—Medical.

Medical Department.

I.—*Hospitals and other Medical Institutions.*

THERE are 91 Government hospitals in the Island, including the General Hospital, Colombo, with 711 beds, and a hospital for tuberculosis equipped with modern hospital furniture and appliances. The total of admissions into all Government hospitals during the year was 34,522 ; there were 568 deaths. There are 472 central and branch dispensaries, including a central institute in Colombo for tuberculosis cases (fitted with X'ray apparatus).

The owners of estates have provided 78 estate hospitals, which receive a rebate of export duty on estate produce, and 565 estate dispensaries, to which drugs are issued free up to the value of 50 cents per annum for every labourer employed.

(2) *Asylums, &c.* — The Lunatic Asylum contained 1,204 inmates on December 31, 1923. The new asylum buildings at Angoda, 6 miles from Colombo, is still in progress, and when completed will have accommodation for 1,500 patients and for the necessary staff and servants. At present about 150 lunatic patients are lodged in a temporary asylum at Matara owing to insufficient accommodation in the Colombo asylum. The number of patients treated in the asylum during 1923 was 1,556 (944 males and 612 females). The number discharged was 225 (156 males and 69 females). These figures include those of the House of Observation. Of the two Leper Asylums, one is at Hendala, 6 miles from Colombo, and contained 516 patients at the end of the year. The total treated during 1923 numbered 647. The other at Mantivu contained 114 lepers at the end of the year; the total treated during 1923 was 174. A Home for Incurables of 80 beds is administered by a Committee of Government officials and representatives of the public.

There are in Colombo a Bacteriological Institute, a Pasteur Institute, an Opthalmic Hospital, a Lying-in Home, a Hospital

for Women and Children, and a Hospital for Infectious Diseases. There are special dispensaries at Kandy and Galle for the treatment of eye diseases.

(3) *Medical College.*—The full course of training at the College is five years for the medical students and two years for the apothecary students. A diploma in medicine, surgery, and midwifery (which can be registered in the United Kingdom) is granted to successful medical students. The apothecary students are employed by Government after they qualify in the final examination.

The following were the attendances and passes during the last two years :—

	Attendances		Passes.	
	Medical.	Apothecaries.	Medical.	Apothecaries.
1921, October, to 1922, March	219	47	9	9
1922, May, to 1922, July	197	33	5	8
1922, October, to 1923, March	215	46	2	6
1923, May, to 1923, July	167	33	3	6
December, 1922, Extra Final Examination	—	—	7	—

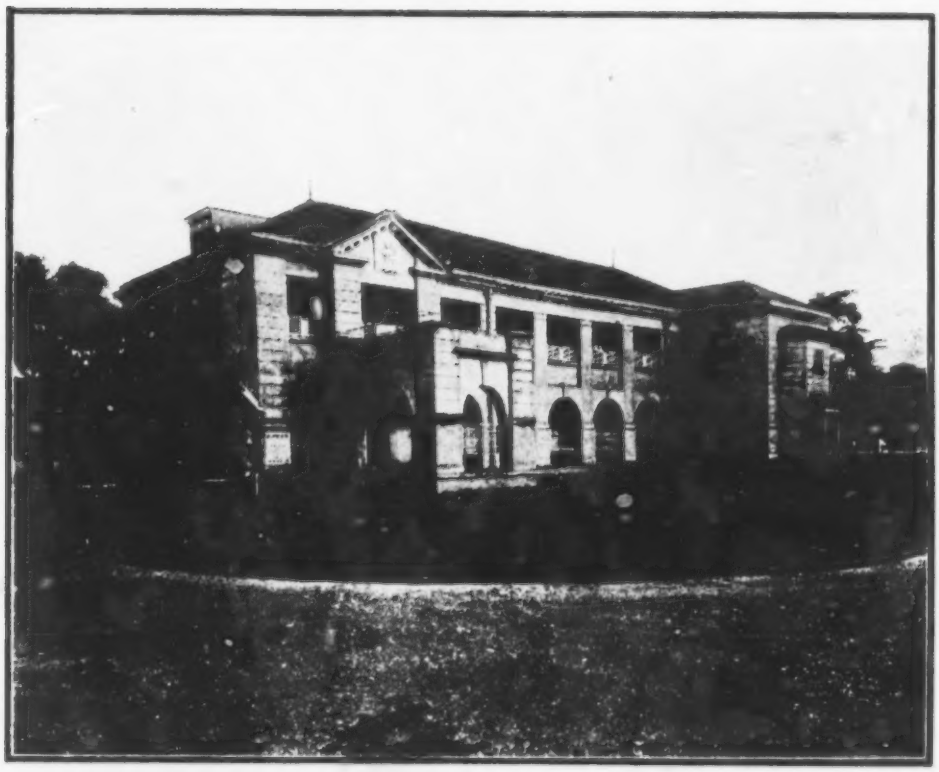
II.—*Work of the Sanitary Department during the Year.*

(1) *Insanitary Premises.*—During the year 300,214 premises were inspected, of which 68,919 were found insanitary, and necessary action was taken. 3,693 prosecutions were entered for breaches of sanitary rules and regulations, and in the majority of cases convictions were obtained. The fines recovered amounted to Rs. 10,451·95. 15,653 notices were served calling upon householders to remedy sanitary defects ; in the case of 8,622 of these the requirements of the notices were voluntarily complied with, while in the case of the rest persuasion was required.

(2) *New Buildings.* — The Department dealt with 2,211 building applications in all, and approved plans for 769 new buildings as conforming to requirements of Housing Ordinance. The largest number of applications came from the small towns of the Western Province.

(3) *Infectious Diseases.*—The following infectious diseases were reported, and the necessary action was taken in regard to prevention :—

Chickenpox	2,123
Diphtheria	7
Dysentery	1,649
Enteric fever	709
Measles	575
Mumps	12
Phthisis	62
Plague	6
Smallpox	65



NEW SEAMEN'S WARD, GENERAL HOSPITAL, COLOMBO.

The Department was also concerned with the inspection and construction of public and private latrines, with the domestic water supply in Local Board and Sanitary Board towns, with the supervision of licensed trades, and with scavenging arrangements. Type-plans were designed for a public market comprising boutiques, meat stalls, vegetable stalls, and fish stalls, a public laundry, a pit latrine for estates, and school lavatory.

Lithograph copies of these type-plans have been prepared by the Surveyor-General's Department. It is gratifying to note that applications for these type-plans are being received in increasing numbers from Chairmen of Urban District Councils, Local Boards, and Sanitary Boards.

There was a Public Health Section at the Gampaha Floral Festival which was held from July 7 to 14, 1923. Leaflets in English and the vernaculars in regard to the various preventible diseases in Ceylon were distributed among visitors. During the period of the festival a course of seven lectures in practical sanitation and demonstrations was given in Sinhalese by the Sanitary Superintendent to police headmen from various parts of the Island. The course was well attended, and keen interest was taken in the subjects dealt with.

III.—*Special Measures taken during the Year with regard to certain Diseases.*

(1) *Malaria.*—In November, 1923, the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council approved the extension for one year of the office of Government Malariologist in order that certain lines of research could be completed and a detailed report issued on the subject of malaria control in Ceylon.

Education and Propaganda.—Public lantern lectures in English and the vernaculars have been given at Anuradhapura, Badulla, Trincomalee, and Gampaha, and lantern lectures and demonstrations at schools at Badulla and Trincomalee. An extensive series (about eighty) of lantern slides of local application and several posters, illustrating the more important facts and principles underlying modern methods of prevention and control, have been prepared during the past two years. Several thousand pamphlets and handbills on malaria have been distributed to towns and villages in various parts of the Island.

Malaria Research and Control.—Detailed malaria surveys of the four centres mentioned above, and of Trincomalee, were completed, and further inquiries instituted into the bionomics and seasonal prevalence of Anopheles and other factors influencing the incidence and spread of the disease at these towns.

Other investigations included continuance of the work on paddy cultivation and malaria, and an attempt to determine the reasons for the relatively low incidence of malaria in the south-west portion of the Island.

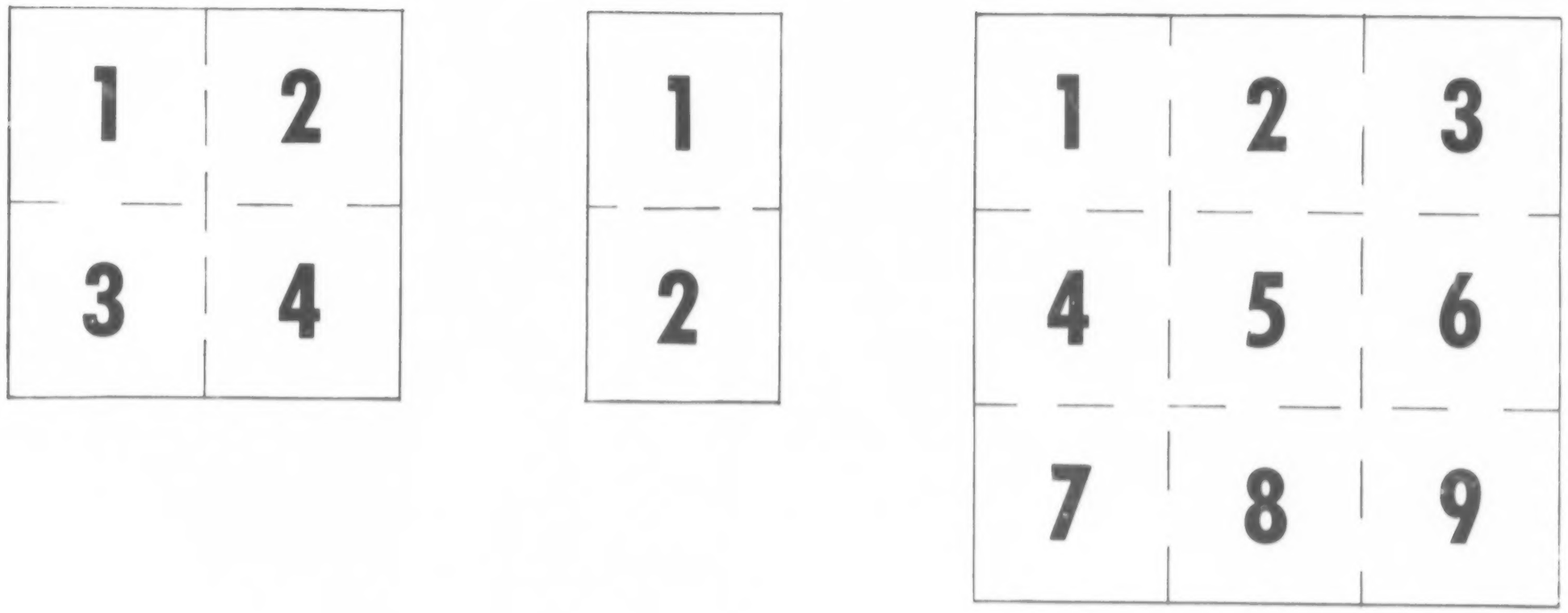
Larvivorous Fish.—Further collections of larvivorous fish have been made and are awaiting identification. *Haplochilus lineatus*, the species occurring so abundantly in the swampy areas of the Western and Southern Provinces, has now been found in large numbers in swamps and flooded paddy fields on the east coast in the Batticaloa, Trincomalee, and Mullaittivu Districts; with the exception of the last-named places, the species has been rarely found in the dry zone of Ceylon. Attempts to establish it in nurseries, for subsequent distribution to wells and non-permanent pools in districts where malaria is intense and larvivorous fish relatively scanty, have not proved very successful. Much more promising results have been obtained with the West Indian species, *Gambusia affinis*—" Millions "—which is not only more voracious and prolific, but less susceptible to changes of environment. With care and attention " Millions " should eventually become established throughout the greater part of the Island, and their periodical distribution to wells and non-permanent pools should then afford a valuable measure of control. Additional nurseries for both species were opened at Jaffna in September; *Gambusia* increased sufficiently in numbers to allow of their initial distribution in November to wells in which *Anopheles* were breeding. Distribution of " Millions " to wells and pools was also carried out at Talaimannar and Trincomalee during the last few months of the year.

(2) *Anchylostomiasis.* — The International Health Board (Rockefeller Foundation) continued the campaign against this disease. The Director for Ceylon was advised by the Anchylostomiasis Campaign Committee consisting of the Colonial Secretary, the Principal Civil Medical Officer, the Sanitary Commissioner, representatives of Provincial Governments, Estates, and Agents, and the Senior Members of the Anchylostomiasis Staff.

Extent of Operations.—The intensive village treatment campaign carried out in 1923 was confined solely to the Western Province, and to areas selected and sanitated by the Sanitary Commissioner six months before the commencement of treatment measures. The districts treated were Siyane korale east, the northern half of Hapitigam korale, and Mahara district.

Apart from this work in villages, a scheme for instructing medical officers and apothecaries in Government medical institutions was carried out, and an important demonstration of anchylostomiasis control on estates was given in the North

Maps on this order too large to be entirely included in one exposure are filmed clockwise beginning in the upper left hand corner, left to right and top to bottom as many frames as required. The following diagrams illustrate the method.



INCIDENCE OF MALARIA.

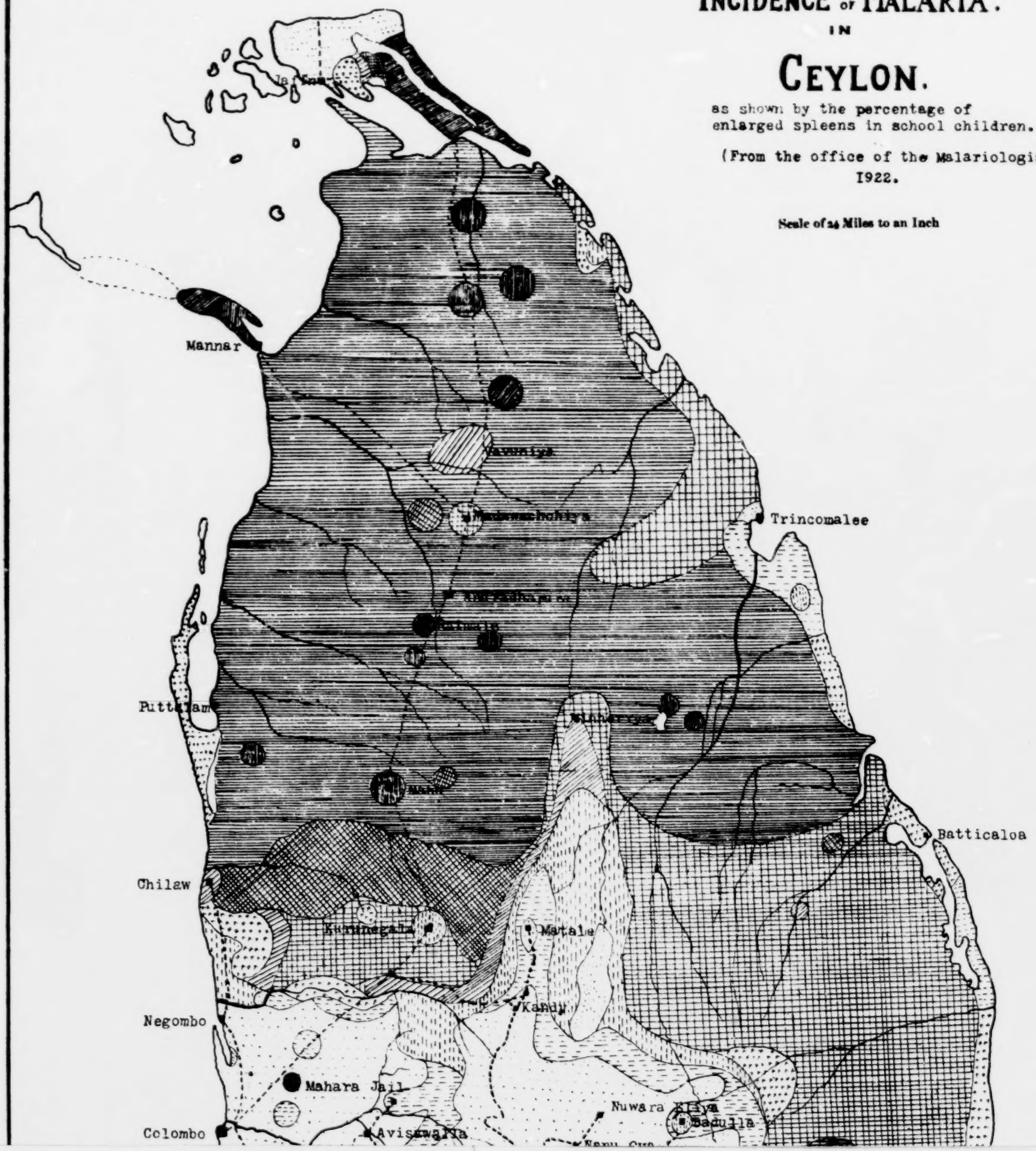
IN

CEYLON.

as shown by the percentage of
enlarged spleens in school children.

(From the office of the Malariologist.)
1922.

Scale of 24 Miles to an Inch



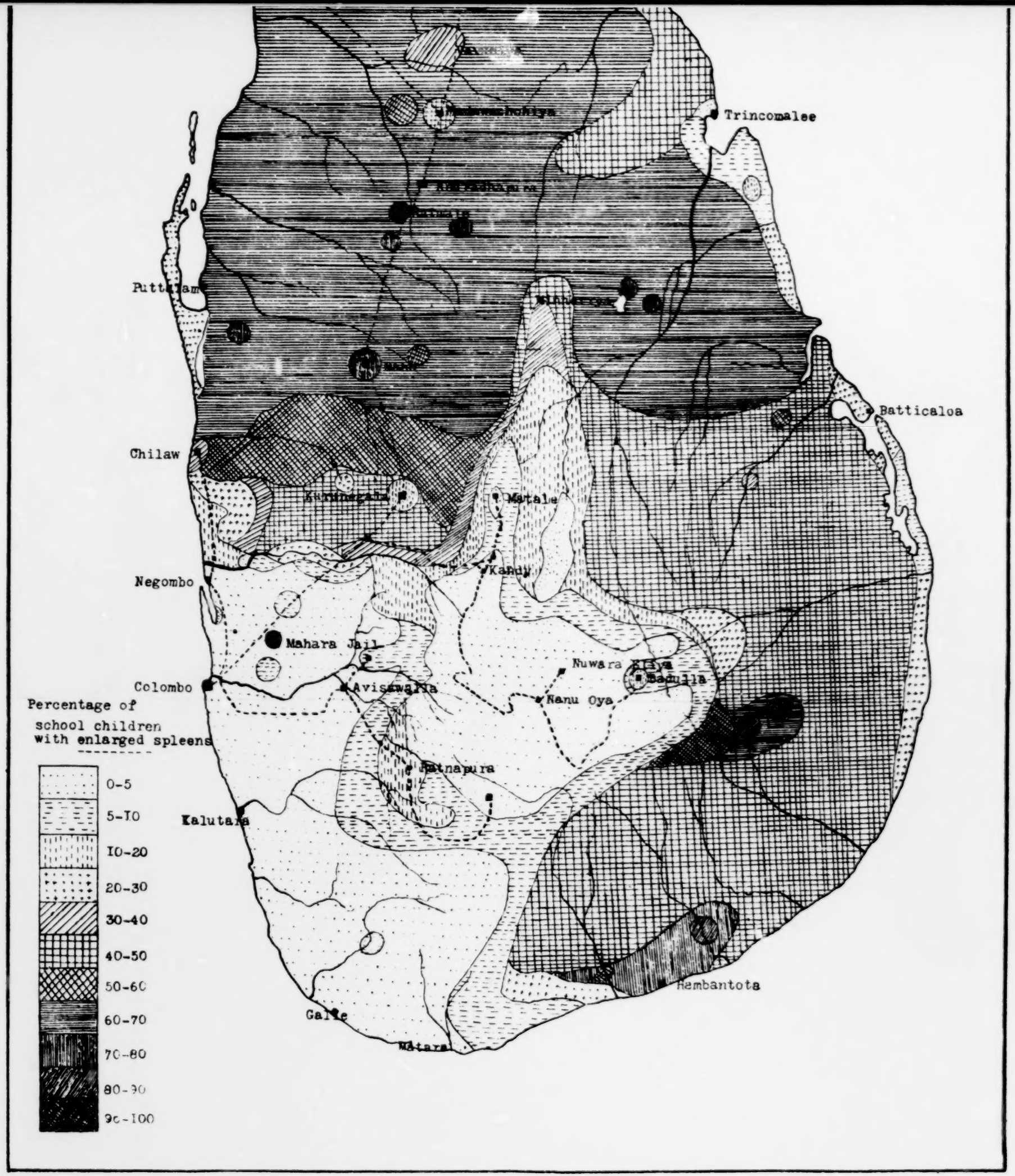


Photo Litho Survey Dept Ceylon.
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Matale Group. All areas selected for intensive treatment were dealt with by the Sanitary Department before operations were started. In the majority of the up-country tea estates lines, latrines, and compounds have been remodelled according to approved plans, and the progress made is most encouraging. The expenditure by estates or their agents during 1923 in improving the health of the cooly is estimated at approximately 15 million rupees.

(3) *Parangi* (Frambœsia, or Yaws).—The number of hospital admissions was 9,748 with 32 deaths, as against 13,545 admissions in 1922. The decrease in the number of hospital cases during the year was due to intensive campaigns carried out by three Itinerating Medical Officers, and the treatment by modern methods every week of a large number of outpatients at dispensaries and the outpatient departments of hospitals. The distribution of the disease judged from hospital returns is shown in the following table :—

	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.
General Hospital, Colombo	102	267	306	436
Western Province	601	1,096	1,499	770
Central Province	1,275	1,202	1,312	1,194
Northern Province	157	102	504	387
Eastern Province	749	791	646	465
Southern Province	783	1,093	5,085	2,672
North-Western Province	659	711	784	645
North-Central Province	301	374	594	696
Province of Uva	733	684	594	731
Province of Sabaragamuwa	824	1,841	2,221	1,741
Railway Extensions	—	—	—	11
Total	6,184	8,161	13,545	9,748

The dispensary cases according to Provinces were as follows :—

Western	3,393
Central	2,942
Northern	866
Eastern	5,050
Southern	8,501
North-Western	12,254
North-Central	19,185
Uva	1,871
Sabaragamuwa	2,397

The three Itinerating Medical Officers were on parangi duty in the Southern Province, the Western Province, the Kuruwiti korale of Sabaragamuwa, and in the Eastern Province, and treated 16,815 cases. A large number of these patients attended a second and a third time, and a total number of 30,139 injections were given during the campaign in 1923.

The incidence of parangi is very large, the disease is scattered over all the Provinces, and a census showed that about 150,000 cases have to be dealt with.

Six Itinerating Medical Officers have been provided for in the 1923–24 Estimates, and it is hoped that in a few years all these patients will have received proper treatment.

Plague and Quarantine.

Plague.—230 cases of plague, with 209 deaths, occurred during the year, as against 136 cases and 131 deaths during 1922. The case mortality rates were 90·9 per cent. for all cases, as against the average of 93·8 ; 100 per cent. for septicæmic cases, which is the same as the average, and 87·2 per cent. for bubonic cases, as against the average of 87·1 per cent.

The bubonic case mortality was slightly higher than the average.

The majority of the cases occurred, as usual, between the ages of 15 and 25 ; 197 males and 33 females were attacked.

In Colombo the Sea street and Pettah areas were, as usual, the chief centres of infection, there being small localized outbreaks at Slave Island, Second Division, Maradana, and Silversmith street. Only a few sporadic cases occurred in other parts of the town.

Rat Plague.—29,312 rats were examined at the laboratory, 153 of which, or 0·52 per cent., were found to be infected, as against an infection rate of 0·17 in 1922.

Rat Destruction.—A total of 137,645 rats was accounted for during the year, of which 133,684 were trapped, 3,319 were killed by the Clayton fumigators and their bodies recovered, 642 were found dead prior to Claytonizing, 283 of which latter were in a mummified condition. In view of the fact that only a small proportion of the rat runs which are fumigated are opened up and searched after fumigation, the total number of rats killed in this manner must, it is believed, be very large. The number of poison baits placed was 1,693,285, of which 80,296 were either eaten or removed by rats. It is impossible to conjecture the number poisoned.

Prevention.—The usual preventive measures were carried out during the year.

Monthly Incidence of Plague Cases.

	1914.	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	Average, 1914 to 1922.	1923.
January	4	19	17	25	13	—	25	65	13	20	28
February	67	6	18	40	18	1	20	53	10	26	32
March	58	3	18	61	10	3	3	27	6	21	11
April	28	3	14	34	11	—	3	7	2	11	17
May	29	3	11	11	2	—	4	2	7	8	9
June	49	1	36	3	9	—	3	1	8	12	10
July	47	5	43	6	2	—	12	3	10	14	21
August	40	20	35	1	1	2	7	2	7	13	23
September	18	21	25	3	—	5	18	2	7	11	26
October	23	24	24	7	—	18	28	9	14	16	12
November	24	10	25	10	2	34	34	4	19	18	13
December	26	24	25	6	2	24	78	9	33	25	28
Total for the year	413	139	291	207	70	87	235	184	136	195	230
Monthly mean	34·4	11·6	24·2	17·2	5·8	7·2	19·6	15·3	11·3	16·2	19·2

Plague.

Total cases	413	139	291	207	70	87	235	184	136	195	230
Total deaths	381	128	273	196	69	82	223	170	131	183	209
Septicæmic cases	247*	81*	159	124	41	50	93	70	57	102	66
Septicæmic deaths	246	80	159	124	41	50	93	70	57	102	66
Bubonic cases	166	58	132	83	29	37	142	114	79	93	164
Bubonic deaths	135	48	114	72	28	32	130	100	74	81	143
Total case mortality, per cent	92·2	92·8	93·8	94·7	98·6	94·3	94·9	92·4	96·3	93·8	90·9
Septicæmic case mortality, per cent.	99·6	98·7	100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0
Bubonic case mortality, per cent.	81·3	82·7	86·4	86·7	96·6	86·5	91·5	87·7	93·8	87·1	87·2

* The cases for 1914 and 1915 each includes one septicæmic recovery, but the diagnosis was not in either case confirmed bacteriologically, and may have been erroneous.

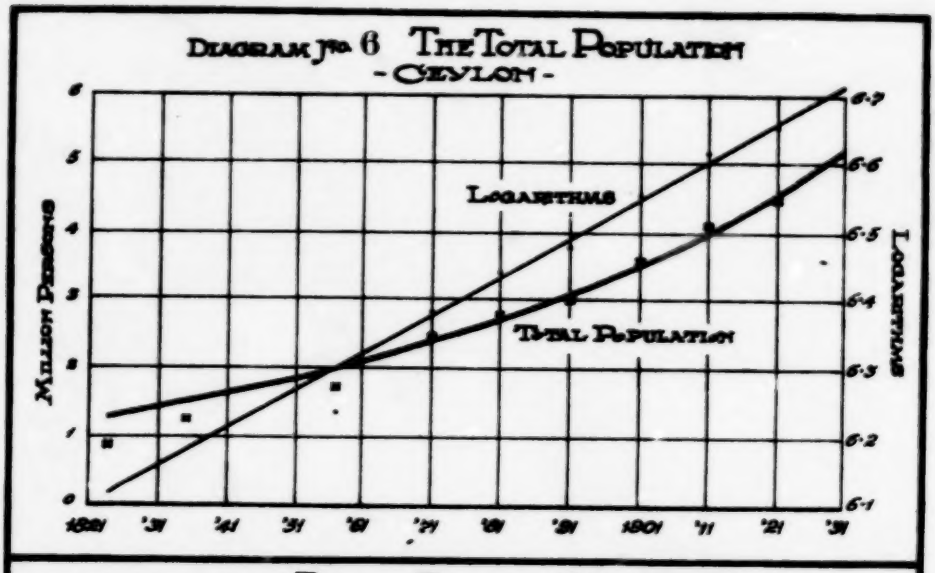
Plague, Smallpox, and Cholera, 1923.

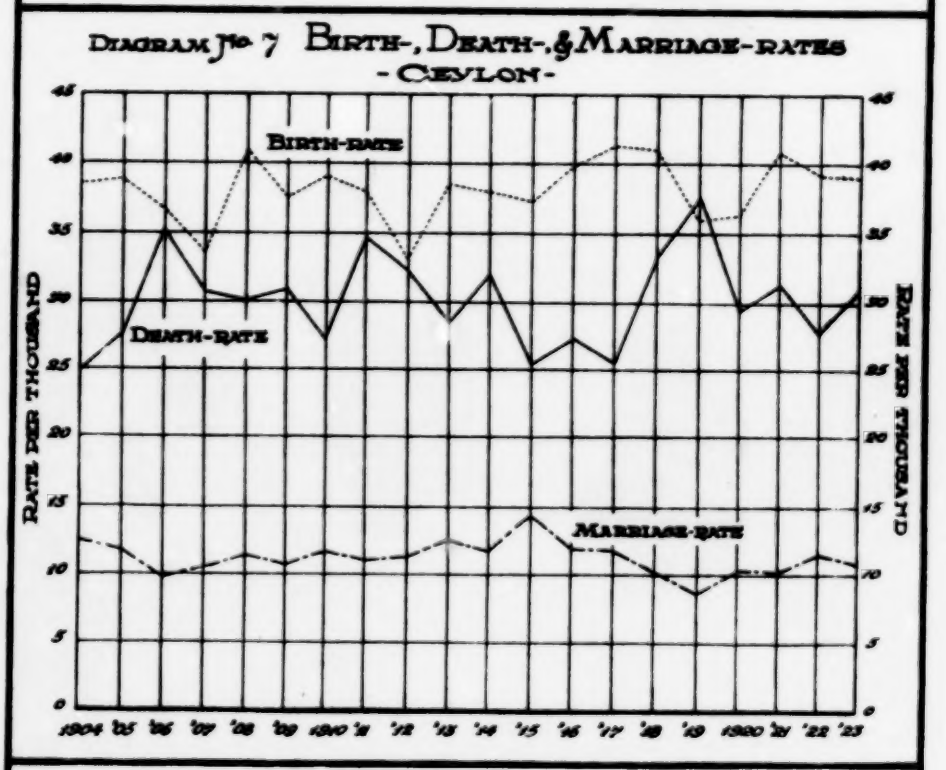
Plague.	Cases.	Deaths.
Colombo town	230	209
Talaimannar	1	1
Wellampitiya	1	1
Total	232	211
Smallpox.		
Colombo town	3	1
Colombo Port from steamers	5	—
Province of Sabaragamuwa :—		
Rambukkana (continued from 1922)	4	1
Sitawaka estate	1	—
North-Western Province :—		
Yogiyana	1	—
Western Province		
Hokandara	1	—
Horetuduwa	19	1
Pamunugama	4	—
Kananwila	1	—
Willegoda	1	1
Central Province		
Kandy	70	9
Wattegama	27	5
Matale	10	—
Galagedara	5	—
Peradeniya	25	4
Uduwawala	3	2
Udangomuwa	3	—
Galaha	10	1
Dehianga	25	6
Gampola	1	—
Moolgama	15	4
Old Medagama estate	4	—
Talankanda estate	1	—
Lindula	1	—
	240	35
Cholera.	—	—

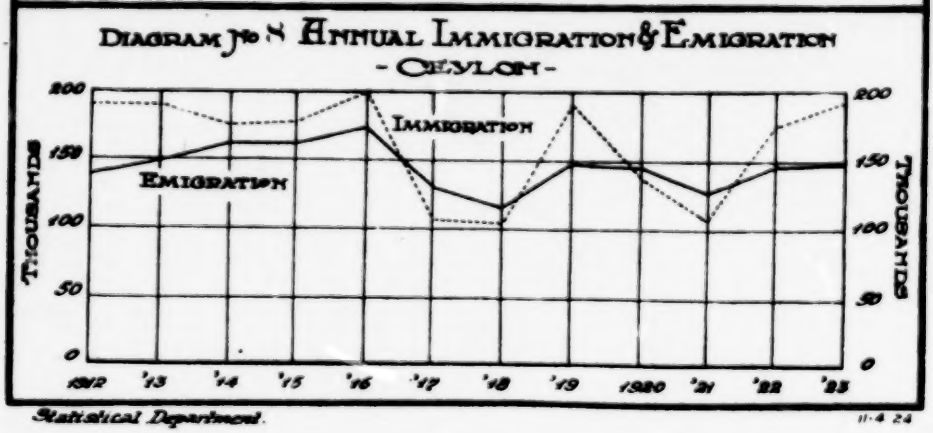
VITAL STATISTICS.

Population.—At the Census of Ceylon taken on the night of March 18, 1921, the population, exclusive of the military and the shipping, was enumerated at 4,498,605 persons. Estimated on this basis the population on December 31, 1923, was 4,703,344, as against 4,621,145 at the end of 1922. The increase was due to an excess of 39,547 births over deaths, as well as to an excess of 42,652 immigrants over emigrants.

Migration.—The total number of arrivals during the year amounted to 190,512 persons, and the departures 147,860 persons. Of the arrivals, 169,607 persons were from India and 20,905 persons were from other countries. The departures included







Statistical Department.

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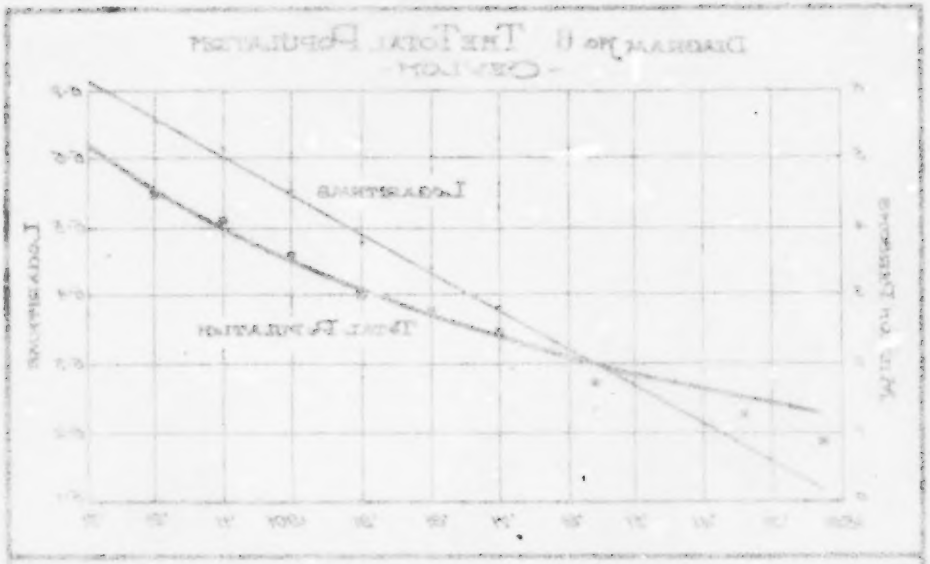
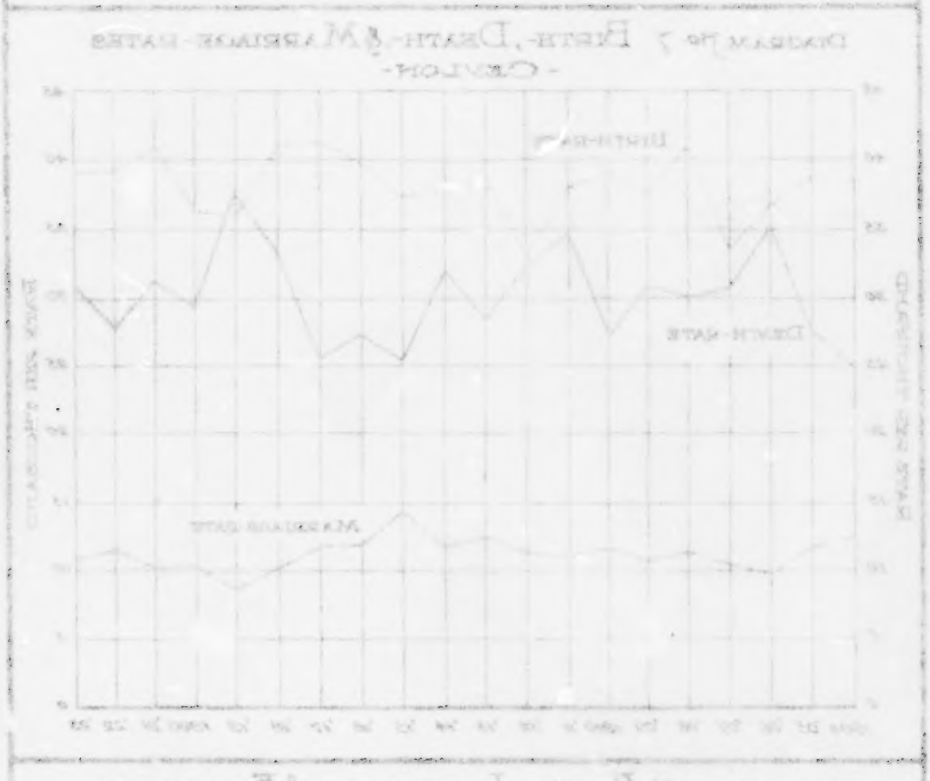
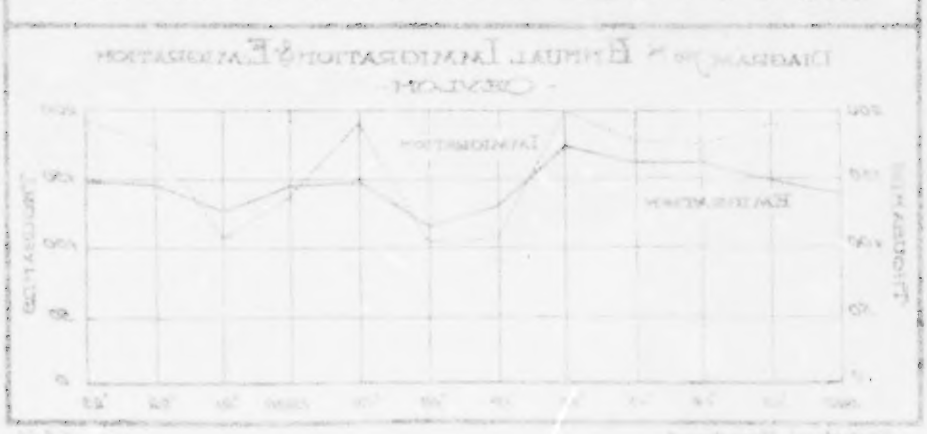

LABARTHIAS
TOTAL POPULATION


BIRTH-RATE
DEATH-RATE
MARRIAGE-RATE


IMMIGRATION
EMIGRATION

130,406 persons who left Ceylon for India and 17,454 persons who left for other countries. There was a noticeable increase in the excess of arrivals over departures during the year as compared with the previous one, the excess being 42,652 in 1923, as against 28,832 in 1922.

Race Constitution of the Population.—The population of the principal races of the Island as estimated to the end of the year and the proportion of each race per 1,000 of the total population are as follows :—

Races.	Estimated Population on December 31, 1923.	Proportion of each Race per 1,000 of the Total Population.
Europeans	9,370 ..	2·0
Burghers and Eurasians ..	30,645 ..	6·5
Sinhalese	3,118,434 ..	663·0
Tamils	1,141,601 ..	242·7
Moors	289,068 ..	61·5
Malays	13,834 ..	2·9
Others	26,316 ..	5·6
Excess of immigrants over emigrants (exclusive of Europeans) since March 19, 1921	74,076 ..	15·8

Marriages.—The number of marriages, exclusive of Muhammadan, registered in 1923 was 23,329, of which 18,492 were under the General Marriages Ordinance and 4,837 were under the Kandyan. The total number was 977 less than in 1922, but higher than in any of the preceding four years. The rate of persons married per 1,000 of the estimated population was equal to 10·8, as against 11·4 the rate in the previous year and the average for the past decade.

The number of Muhammadan marriages registered amounted to 838, as against 829 in the previous year.

Of the total number of marriages registered in the Island, the marriages in which one or both the parties have been residents of the proclaimed towns were estimated at 3,843. Of this number, 3,201 were marriages under the General Marriages Ordinance, 42 under the Kandyan, and 600 under the Muhammadan.

Births.—The number of births registered in 1923 amounted to 181,441, of which 92,409 were males and 89,032 were females. The total number, which showed an increase of 1,585 births over the previous year, corresponded to a rate of 39·1 per mille of the estimated population, as against 39·4 in 1922 and 38·5 the average for the past ten years. The highest birth-rate was 45·5 per mille in the Central Province, and the lowest, 34·9, in the Western.

The proportion of male to female children born during the year was 1,038 to 1,000, as against 1,043 in the previous year.

The births registered on the estates scheduled under the Medical Wants Ordinance numbered 26,921 (13,629 males and 13,292 females), and showed an increase of 2,394 over the previous year. The number registered during the year is also higher than that registered in any of the previous fifteen years.

In the 33 principal towns the number of births registered was 19,664, an increase of 642 over 1922. The birth-rate per mille of the urban population was 32·2, as against 31·5 in the previous year and 28·7 the average for the past decade. In the city of Colombo 7,106 births were registered during the year, and the corresponding rate per mille of the population was 28·4. In the previous year the rate was 27·8, and the average rate for the past decade was 24·2.

Deaths.—The deaths of 141,894 persons (71,577 males and 70,317 females) were registered in 1923. With three exceptions, viz., 1911, 1918, and 1919, the number of deaths registered during the year is the highest ever recorded. It has exceeded the previous year's figure by 15,074 deaths, and the past decennial average number by 10,047 deaths. The death-rate calculated per 1,000 of the estimated population was equal to 30·6, as against 27·8 in 1922. The highest death-rate was 58·5 in the North-Central Province, and the lowest was 25·0 in the Western. The increased mortality is shared by all the Provinces, the rates in each of them being higher than in the previous year.

The number of deaths registered on the estates scheduled under the Medical Wants Ordinance was 17,551 (8,530 males and 9,021 females). It exceeded the previous year's number by 2,787 deaths, but showed a considerable improvement over the average number of deaths in the past decade.

In the 33 principal towns the number of deaths registered was 23,360. Of this number, 18,801 were of town residents, and the corresponding standardized rate was 33·3 per mille, as against 29·9 in the previous year and 29·8 the average for the past ten years. In the city of Colombo the total number of deaths registered was 8,894, of which 7,664 were of residents. The standardized death-rate per mille of the population was 35·2, and was 5·0 per mille over the previous year. The average rate for the past decade was 28·0.

Infant Mortality.—The mortality of children under one year amounted to 38,467, and represented 27 per cent. of the total deaths. Calculated on the number of births registered during the year, the rate was 212 per 1,000—considerably higher than the rates in any of the three previous years. This year's rate has been exceeded only twice during the past ten years, viz., in 1914, when the mortality of infants was equal to 213 per 1,000 births, and in 1919, when it was 223.

On the estates the number of children who died under one year of age was 5,969, and corresponded to a third of the mortality at all ages. The death-rate calculated on the births registered during the year was equal to 222 per 1,000, as against 193 in the previous year and 203 in 1921. The average rate for the past ten years was 226.

The mortality of infants under one year in the 33 principal towns was 5,073, and corresponded to a rate of 258 per 1,000 births registered, and was 18 per 1,000 higher than in 1922. With the exception of the rate (259) recorded in 1919, this year's rate is the highest since 1913. The average rate of infant mortality in the towns for the past ten years was 242. In the city of Colombo the infant death-rate was 270 per 1,000 births, and is markedly above the previous year's rate (246) and the past decennial average rate (252).

Causes of Death.—The deaths registered from all causes during the year numbered 141,894. The highest number, as usual, was attributed to pyrexia (fever). Infantile convulsions and diarrhœa are also assigned as the cause of considerable mortality. The rate of mortality per million of the estimated population from certain selected causes registered in the Island in this and the previous year is shown below :—

	1922.	1923.
Pyrexia	4,422 ..	5,024
Infantile convulsions	3,028 ..	3,481
Diarrhœa	2,126 ..	2,345
Pneumonia	1,640 ..	1,921
Phthisis	681 ..	715
Dysentery	551 ..	716
Influenza	525 ..	508
Malaria and malarial cachexia ..	449 ..	573
Premature birth and congenital defects	363 ..	432
Anchylostomiasis	410 ..	400
Puerperal septicæmia	338 ..	338
Bronchitis	290 ..	293
Enteric fever	119 ..	129
Cancer	101 ..	93

It will be seen from the above that most of the principal diseases were the cause of more deaths than in the previous year, notable exceptions being influenza, anchylostomiasis, and cancer.

Influenza.—The number of deaths attributed to influenza during the year was 2,358 (1,204 males and 1,154 females), as against 2,395 in the previous year—the lowest figure recorded since the outbreak in 1918.

Pneumonia.—There were registered during the year 8,921 deaths (4,956 males and 3,965 females) from pneumonia, as against 7,479 in the previous year. The number is higher than in any of the previous three years.

Plague.—213 deaths (179 males and 34 females) were registered from plague during the year, showing an increase of as many as 70 over the previous year. In the city of Colombo, which is the chief stronghold of the disease, 205 deaths were registered (172 males and 33 females). Of the remaining 8 deaths, 3 were registered in Mannar District, 2 each in Negombo and Galle, and 1 in Colombo (outside the Municipal limits). Deaths from plague were spread over all months of the year, the incidence ranging from 30 in February to 8 in June.

Smallpox.—Thirty-four deaths (17 males and 17 females) were registered from smallpox, as against 40 in the previous year. Twenty-six deaths were registered in the first quarter of the year, 5 in the second, 2 in the third, and 1 in the fourth. In Kandy District 26 deaths were recorded, in Kegalla 4, in Kalutara 3, and in Colombo 1.

Cholera.—The deaths from cholera registered during the year numbered 8 (3 males and 5 females), as against 4 deaths in the previous year. All the deaths, excepting 1 in Matale, were registered in Kandy District.

Accidents and other Affections produced by External Causes.—Of the 1,948 total deaths under this heading, 1,424 were of males and 524 of females. In 1922 there were 1,982 deaths ascribed to this head. Of the total number of accidental deaths during the year, 439 were due to drowning and 411 to fall from trees, 172 of the former and 2 of the latter being females. Burns caused 181 deaths (91 males and 90 females). Of this, 28 deaths were due to the upsetting of bottle lamps. Snake-bite caused 263 deaths (175 males and 88 females), as against 249 in the previous year.

Suicide.—There were 207 cases of suicide (149 males and 58 females), as against 232 in 1922.

Homicide.—238 deaths (179 males and 59 females) were returned from homicide, as against 217 in 1922.

Executions.—Forty-two men underwent the extreme penalty of the law during the year. The number was 7 more than in the previous year.

Causes of Death on Estates.—Of the 17,551 deaths registered on estates no less than 3,558 were attributed to debility ; that of infants under three months alone numbering 2,854. Pneumonia caused 2,932 deaths, and showed a considerable increase over the previous year. 1,554 deaths were registered from infantile convulsions, 1,248 from dysentery, 1,099 from anchylostomiasis, and 972 from diarrhœa. Under premature birth and congenital defects were classified 686 deaths, under influenza 477, under bronchitis 411, under malaria and malarial cachexia 411, and under phthisis 278. There were 24 cases of suicide and 12 of homicide, as against 34 and 16, respectively, in the previous year.

Causes of Death in Towns.—The deaths registered from all causes in the principal towns numbered 23,360. Pneumonia, as usual, caused the highest mortality, there having been 3,485 deaths, as against 2,965 in 1922. 1,745 deaths were attributed to convulsions, 1,586 to debility of infants, 1,378 to phthisis, and 1,263 to malaria and malarial cachexia. There were 1,069 deaths from diarrhœa, 1,043 from dysentery, 860 from enteritis, 766 from anchylostomiasis, and 698 from Bright's disease and nephritis. Deaths from enteric fever numbered 417, from plague 208, from influenza 441, from cancer 130, from bronchitis 443, and from puerperal septicæmia 293. Accidental deaths numbered 380. There were 42 deaths from suicide and 80 from homicide.

XI.—Law and Justice.

Legislation, 1923.

TWENTY Ordinances were passed during the year. Of these, the more important are—

No. 1, relating to Labour.—The law was amended to give statutory effect to certain conditions laid down by the Indian Government under the Indian Emigration Act, 1922, as being essential before allowing emigration of labourers to this country ;

No. 4, relating to Prisons, to allow of criminal prisoners not subject to hard labour being employed, and to introduce a form of imprisonment corresponding to the Second Division in England ;

No. 6, relating to Employment of Women, Young Persons, and Children, to modify, in their application to this country, the terms of the conventions adopted by the International Labour Organization of the League of Nations, at Washington on November 28, 1919, and at Genoa on July 9, 1920 ;

Nos. 7 and 8, relating to the issue of Treasury Bills in London and in the Colony, respectively ;

No. 10, relating to Telegraphy, with a view to providing for the recent developments in wireless telegraphy and telephony ;

No. 18, relating to Married Women's Property, to bring the law on the subject into practical accord with the law of England ;

No. 20, to provide for requiring passports of persons entering or departing from the Colony.

THE SUPREME COURT.

The work of the Supreme Court falls into two main divisions. The first of these is the decision of appeals, and the second is the trial of serious crimes under its original jurisdiction on circuit. The trial of these cases on circuit constitute the first charge upon the time of the court. The surplus, when these are disposed of, represents the time available for appeals.

Appeal Jurisdiction.

The appeal work may be classified under two main divisions. The first consists of (A) District Court Criminal Appeals ; (B) Police Court Appeals ; (C) Court of Requests Appeals. These are generally referred to as minor appeals. They are disposed of by a single Judge, and the rate of disposal during the year was 7·6 per day. This is somewhat below what used to be considered the average rate, which was 9 per day. The other main division consists of what are generally described as major appeals, namely, appeals from District Courts. These are subdivided into interlocutories and final appeals, and the interlocutories are again subdivided into special appeals which deal with points arising in partition cases, testamentary cases, and other matters, where the appeal is often in the nature of a final appeal, and ordinary interlocutory appeals on points of procedure. These appeals require a court of at least two Judges, and the average rate at which they are disposed of is about 3 per day. The year's working discloses a position of equilibrium. During the year 1,253 minor appeals were received, and 1,262* were disposed of. 698 major appeals were received, and 699 were disposed of. The total number of appeals decided was thus 1,961. But, in addition to these appeals, the court and the Judges have to deal with a great number of incidental applications and petitions. The figures with regard to these are as follows :—

Applications for leave to appeal in Court of Requests cases disposed of during the year	102
Applications for sole testamentary jurisdiction ..	141
Miscellaneous applications	461
Habeas corpus petitions	267
Other petitions	363
	1,334

* Including a number of appeals standing over from previous year.

The disposal of the civil work of the court is shown in the following table :—

Disposal of Work for the Year ending December 31, 1923.

(1) Number of major appeals disposed of during the year 1923—		
(1) Finals—		
Money	213	497
Land	284	
(2) Interlocutories—		
Ordinary	108	202
Special	94	
		699
(2) Number of minor appeals disposed of during the year 1923—		
(1) District Court criminal		116
(2) Police Courts		792
(3) Courts of Requests		354
		1,262

An important part of the appeal work of the court consists of the decision of those cases which are referred to courts of three or four Judges; generally, though not quite accurately, described as Full Court cases. The number of these cases referred during the year was 15, and the number of days occupied in their consideration was 12.

The results of the appeals decided by the court are shown in the following table :—

Note.—Including 3 references under section 355 of the Criminal Procedure Code, 4 courts of five Judges, 5 courts of three Judges.

	Appeals Allowed.	Appeals Dismissed.	Appeals made the Subject of Intermediate Orders.	Total.
Major Appeals.				
Finals ..	80 ..	323 ..	94 ..	497
Interlocutories ..	69 ..	86 ..	47 ..	202
				699
Minor Appeals.				
District Court criminal ..	22 ..	70 ..	24 ..	116
Police Courts ..	220 ..	410 ..	162 ..	792
Courts of Requests	86 ..	213 ..	55 ..	354
				1,262

Trials on Circuit.

The total number of cases tried at criminal sessions throughout the Colony during the year 1923 was 325, and the days consumed in disposing of them were 411. The comparative figures for the last few years are as follows :—

	Cases Disposed of.	Days Consumed.
1920	338 ..	417
1921	402 ..	445
1922	296 ..	357
1923	325 ..	411

These cases were distributed among the circuits in the following proportions :—

Western Circuit	133
Midland Circuit	102
Southern Circuit	68
Northern Circuit	14
Eastern Circuit	8
	325

The cases committed to the Supreme Court consists usually of crime of the following categories:—

(1) Murder.
(2) Attempted murder.
(3) Grave cases of grievous hurt.
(4) Gang robbery.
(5) Offences against women and children.
(6) Occasional cases of forgery, and various forms of fraud.

Members of the criminal classes very seldom come before the Supreme Court, all habitual criminals being dealt with by the District Courts.

The most striking feature of the Supreme Court criminal sessions is undoubtedly the large preponderance of cases of homicide. Out of 325 cases dealt with by the court during the year 1923, no less than 212 or 65·23 per cent. consisted of cases of homicide of some form or other and attempted murder.

The significance of these figures will be realized from the following percentages :—The number of cases of homicide actually reported to the police during the year 1923 was 189. (The comparative figures for the last few years are as follows : 1922, 202 ; 1921, 221.) The number of indictments presented was 153. Thus (allowing for the fact that homicides are committed in one year and tried in another) the percentage of cases in which the alleged murderer or killer was brought before the court was 80·9 per cent. Of these trials, 37·25 per cent. ended in a conviction for murder, 36·6 per cent. ended in a conviction for some minor offence, and 26·14 per cent. in an acquittal.

There is at first sight a striking difference between the Sinhalese and the Tamil Provinces. Out of the 153 cases, 137 or 89·5 per cent. of the whole were tried on the Western, Southern, and Midland Circuits. Only 16 or 10·5 per cent. of the whole were tried on the Northern and Eastern Circuits. But this difference is more apparent than real. The proportion of cases to the population is 1 per 28,700 persons in the first case, and 1 per 35,500 persons in the second case.

The result of these cases for the whole Colony is shown in the following table :—

Murder Cases.

	Midland.		Western.		Southern.		Northern and Eastern.		Total.	
	No.	Per Cent.	No.	Per Cent.	No.	Per Cent.	No.	Per Cent.	No.	Per Cent.
Number of cases ..	42	—	64	—	31	—	16	—	153	—
Number of cases in which all or any of the accused were convicted of murder	16	38	28	43·75	11	35·5	2	12·5	57	37·25
Number of cases in which none of the accused were convicted of murder, but in which all or any were convicted of some minor charge ..	16	38	19	29	12	38·7	9	56·25	56	36·6
Number of cases in which all the accused were acquitted ..	10	23·33	17	26·56	8	25·8	5	31·25	40	26·14

The prevalence of murder is so marked a feature in the local life of Ceylon, that it may be of interest to make a closer analysis of these cases.

The total number of cases in which capital sentences were reported to the Governor by the Judges in 1923 was 60. Excluding 8 cases of insanity (a very high proportion), 5 cases of infanticide, 3 cases of mere brutal degeneracy, 1 case of hired assasination, and 5 cases of too accidental and miscellaneous a character to be specially classified, there remain 38 cases of ordinary murders arising of quarrels. No less than 17 of these or nearly 45 per cent. may be described as domestic murders, arising out of the relationship of husband and wife, or of couples united in a less regular relationship. These cases, year after year, form a conspicuous standing feature of the work of the Assizes. A man stabs his wife because, owing to estrangement she takes refuge with her family or refuses to move to another village, or does not cook his meals to his satisfaction, or out of morbid jealousy, because, often without any foundation, he suspects her of irregular intimacy. A man stabs his mistress because she desires to discontinue the relationship. Sometimes the person murdered is some member of the woman's family who intervenes. In one case in 1923 a man killed two women, his wife and his mistress, because he was tired of both. One case classified as domestic murder was of a special character. A man killed his daughter because she went to live with a low caste man and refused to return home. The weapon in all these cases is without exception a knife. Where the relationship is an irregular one, the murder is often committed with the grossest barbarity. The act seems to be the act, not of a civilized man, but of a demented savage. In these cases the knife is often brought ready for the murder in case the woman should decline to obey the man's summons. It would appear that a high proportion of murders of this description are committed, not by villagers, who have a home in the village and live upon their lands, but by landless and homeless men—coolies, casual labourers, and the like.

With regard to the remaining 21 murders, 8 were cases of premeditation, where the murderer has been brooding on some quarrel, wrong, or insult. In some of these cases the weapon was a firearm and not a knife. Five cases were cases of quarrels arising out of disputes as to property, 8 were the result of sudden quarrels arising from some trivial cause or from pre-existing grievances. Practically in every case the weapon was a knife On the other hand, it may be said that practically in every case the knife so used was not a weapon carried for the purpose of offence, but was a clasp knife, a table knife, or a knife carried for some legitimate purpose. It would appear that among the

population of this country there has not been developed that strong instinctive repugnance to the use of the knife in quarrels which exists in England. The villager, when excited, thinks of the knife as the natural instrument to express his resentment. The moral would appear to be that every possible means should be used to bring home to the villager the dangerous and reprehensible character of his action even when the use of the knife results in only a trivial wound.

Frequent as murders are in Ceylon, their frequency is nothing to that which obtains in the United States of America. In that country there is one person murdered to every 12,000 of the population. In Ceylon the figures are 1 person in 22,000. In England the figures are 1 in 412,000.

With regard to crimes other than murder and attempted murder, the most serious crime with which the Supreme Court has to deal is that of gang robbery. Only 4 cases came before the court in the year 1923, and 3 ended in convictions. It is, however, the practice to commit very many of these cases for trial by District Courts. It is by no means certain that this is the most expedient method of dealing with them, since there is no crime which requires a more rigorous and deterrent sentence.

With regard to other crimes, one that often attracts notice is infanticide. It is a comparatively rare occurrence in this country. Only 6 cases of this kind were tried during the year 1923.

With regard to offences against women and children, the figures are as follows :—

Western Circuit	12
Southern Circuit	14
Midland Circuit	13
Northern and Eastern Circuits	1
	40

These figures cannot be considered very high, regard being had to the population. They are certainly not more numerous than similar cases on any circuit in any English industrial district.

Court Inspection.

During the year 1922 a complete system for the inspection of Police Courts and Courts of Requests was worked out, and during the year 1923 the following courts were inspected:—

Chilaw ..	District Court. Police Court. Court of Requests.

Tangalla	..	Court of Requests. Police Court.
Puttalam	..	District Court. Court of Requests. Police Court.
Matara	..	Court of Requests. Police Court.
Galle	..	Police Court.

It is much to be desired that all the minor courts of the Colony should be regularly visited, but at present the calls upon the time of the court do not allow of such a complete visitation. A scheme of District Court inspection remains to be worked out.

DISTRICT COURTS, POLICE COURTS, AND COURTS OF REQUESTS.

Criminal.

There are 36 Police Courts in the Island and 3 Municipal Courts. 72,914 cases were instituted in the Police Courts during the year 1923, and 73,259 persons were brought up before the Magistrates on summonses or warrants. Of these, 43,690 persons were convicted, 27,531 persons acquitted or discharged, and 2,038 persons committed to superior courts.

There are 21 District Courts in the Island having criminal jurisdiction. During the year under review 1,194 cases were committed before such courts, and 1,753 persons were charged. Of the persons committed for trial, 513 were acquitted, 1,174 convicted, and 22 persons dealt with otherwise. On December 31, 1923, there were still 44 persons awaiting trial.

Civil.

In the 21 District Courts of the Island there were pending on January 1, 1923, 10,519 suits. 11,193 suits were instituted during the year, making a total of 21,712 suits. Of these, 3,562 were disposed of on evidence, 6,752 were otherwise disposed of, *i.e.*, on admissions, &c., making a total of 10,314, and on December 31, 1923, there were 11,398 suits awaiting disposal.

In the 41 Courts of Requests in the Island there were pending on January 1, 1923, 6,169 suits. 26,242 suits were instituted during the year, making a total of 32,411 suits. Of these, 4,369 suits were disposed of on evidence, 21,041 were otherwise disposed of, *i.e.*, by default, &c., making a total of 25,410, and on December 31, 1923, there were 7,001 suits pending.

POLICE.

Strength of the Force, &c.

Strength.—The strength of the Force on December 31, 1923, provided for in the Estimates was—

Inspector-General	1
Deputy Inspectors-General	2
Superintendents and Assistant Superintendents ..	32
Probationers	3
Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors	170
Sergeant-Major	1
Native Sergeants	352
Native Constables	2,448

European Police Force.

Inspectors	1
Sub-Inspectors	3
Sergeants	30
Total of all ranks ..	3,043

The total strength of the Force was short by 44 on December 31, 1923. The Force was kept up to the sanctioned strength of sergeants and constables for the greater part of the year, the actual strength of sergeants and constables on December 31, 1923, being only 21 short.

Expenditure.—The cost of the Force was Rs. 2,973,695 approximately. The cost of police per man is Rs. 977·22 per annum, the cost per head of population is 66 cents or 11*d*.

Crime.

Crime committed during the Year.—There was a further decrease in crime in 1923 as compared with previous years, as the following statement shows:—

	1921.	1922.	1923.
Homicide	221	202	189
Attempted homicide ..	43	58	51
Grievous hurt	714	718	730
Hurt with dangerous weapons ..	1,025	1,097	921
Burglary	1,098	1,682	1,681
Theft of cattle and prædial produce	1,036	810	605
Other offences	2,693	2,478	2,320
Total ..	7,640	7,045	6,497

The following table shows under separate heads "Offences against the Person," which are not directly preventable by the police, and "Offences against Property," which are classed as "Preventable Crime." The police cannot prevent offences against the person in villages :—

Year.	Total Crime.	Offences against the Person.	Preventable Crime (Offences against Property).	Offences against the State.
1919	8,577	2,045	6,506	26
1920	8,189	2,107	6,055	27
1921	7,640	2,122	5,494	24
1922	7,045	2,212	4,805	28
1923	6,497	2,020	4,444	33

It will be seen that whereas the number of offences against the person has remained at about the same figure in the region of 2,100 since 1919, there has been a steady decrease over the same period in offences against property. This steady decrease in preventable crime is a satisfactory feature. The decrease under the head "Theft of Cattle and Prædial Produce" is most marked, 1,068 cases in 1920 and 605 cases in 1923. The decrease is noticeable all over the Island and particularly in the Sabaragamuwa, the Southern, and Uva Provinces.

It has been clearly shown that as a Province or district is opened up by the extension of the railway, roads, telegraphs, telephone, and increased communication generally, the headmen who can perfectly well control their own villages cannot deal unaided with bad characters from other districts, of whom they have no knowledge. Hence there is usually an increase in crime, and the call comes from the Government Agent and the people for the establishment of police stations to assist the local authorities.

It was to secure the better investigation of cases of serious crime that in 1906 police were introduced in Provinces which had become criminal owing to the opening up and development of the country. The only Provinces into which police have not been introduced are the Northern, Eastern, and North-Central. In these Provinces police are only established in the principal towns, and certain quarantine duty police in the Northern Province ports.

The establishment of police in the Provinces has in no way lessened the part played by the headmen in maintaining order and in reducing crime. The police do not take the place of, but rather supplement the work of, the headmen, and a sound system of co-operation and a good understanding between the two are the most important points in provincial police administration.

In many districts the police regularly attend the monthly division days at which the chief headmen appear before the Government Agent or his Assistant. At these meetings the state of crime in the locality, the behaviour of dangerous criminals and bad characters, and the possibility of tracing absconders are discussed. The headmen are told of any new points which have come to light effecting the work of the district and on what new lines the police are working. Instances of good work by headmen of the district are announced.

Distribution of Crime. — The following table shows the distribution of crime throughout the Island:—

Province.	Homicide.	Attempted Homicide.	Grievous Hurt.	Hurt with Dangerous Weapons.	Burglary.	Theft of Cattle an Pradial Produce.	Other Offences.	Total.
Western	36	14	192	259	474	197	363	1,535
Southern	43	17	131	214	309	168	265	1,147
North-Western	42	8	81	100	217	101	329	878
Central	12	2	87	98	238	19	315	771
Sabaragamuwa	20	5	48	73	195	50	213	604
Colombo City	8	—	75	72	74	3	320	552
Northern	12	1	66	54	59	23	279	494
Uva	5	4	20	15	53	23	123	243
Eastern	6	—	20	30	33	14	59	162
North-Central	5	—	10	6	29	7	54	111
Total	189	51	730	921	1,681	605	2,320	6,497

Comparing the number of serious offences committed with the population as given in the 1921 Census report, it is found that—

In Colombo City there is 1 case of crime to every		465	persons.
In the North-Western Province	do.	560	do.
In the Southern Province	do.	585	do.
In the Western Province	do.	645	do.
In the Northern Province	do.	759	do.
In the Province of Sabaragamuwa	do.	781	do.
In the North-Central Province	do.	870	do.
In the Central Province	do.	931	do.
In the Province of Uva	do.	962	do.
In the Eastern Province	do.	1,190	do.

The proportion of serious crime to population in Ceylon is 1 case of serious crime per annum to every 692 persons. The proportion of murders to population is 4·2 per 100,000 persons, compared with ·4 per 100,000 in England and Wales. In 49 cases women were murdered.

Crime in the Colombo city and the Eastern Province was normal. In every other Province there was a decrease of crime, viz., Province of Uva, 59 per cent. ; North-Central, 22 per cent. ; Southern, 11 per cent. ; Sabaragamuwa, 10 per cent. ; North-Western, 9 per cent. ; Western, Central, and Northern, 3 per cent.

The very noticeable decrease in the Province of Uva can be attributed to the special action taken to deal with crime in 1921, by increasing the strength of police in the Province and by opening new stations. In 1921 Uva headed the list of Provinces placed in order of proportion of serious crime to population, with 1 case of crime to every 425 persons. The proportion in 1923 has been reduced to 1 case of crime to every 962 persons.

The Province of Uva constitutes a striking example of the effect of opening up a Province by railway, and equally well illustrates the value of introducing regular police to deal with the consequent increase of crime.

The most criminal districts of the Island in 1923 were—

Colombo City.	The Kurunegala District.
The Chilaw District.	The Galle District.
The Kalutara District.	The Matale District.
The Matara District.	The Colombo District, Western Province.
The Tangalla District.	The Panadure District.

Action taken to deal with Crime: (1) *Means of Communication.*—Funds were provided for extending the telephone connection between outlying police stations and the headquarters of the Province or district. By the opening of a telegraph office at Talaimannar telegrams for the Talaimannar police now go direct to the Talaimannar telegraph office instead of being telephoned through from Mannar.

(2) An additional police station was opened in Badulla in the Province of Uva to deal with crime on the outskirts of the town, and the strength of the Force in Uva has been specially increased.

(3) *Gang Robberies.*—Special attention was paid to the crime of gang robbery, a most deliberate and premeditated form of crime still occurring in the North-Western and Southern Provinces. The number of cases in the North-Western Province was reduced from 21 in 1922 to 11 in 1923. In other Provinces it is almost unknown, or very rare. In most cases it appeared that persons belonging to the particular locality supplied information and assisted in the crime, but the real robbers came from a distance. The method of tracing the offenders which has proved most effective is that of tracing the disposal of any property stolen. This necessitates a system of co-operation between stations and districts adjoining that in which the robbery has occurred. The system has been successfully tried in both the Kurunegala and Galle Districts.

(4) *Tea Thefts.*—Special measures were taken to deal with the increased number of tea thefts due to the high prices offered for tea. Notices were posted in prominent places setting forth the provisions and penalties of Ordinance No. 38 of 1917 ("The

Protection of Produce Ordinance "), and the provision of this Ordinance was enforced which makes it an offence for any person to be in possession of tea leaf, seed, &c., under circumstances that there is reason to suspect that the same is not honestly in his possession, unless he is able to give to the court before whom he is tried a satisfactory account of his possession thereof. These measures have had a very noticeable effect.

(5) *Close Supervision of Dangerous Characters.* — Special attention is being given to the close supervision of dangerous characters as opposed to the general supervision of all " Re-convicted Criminals."

Beside the re-convicted criminal, there is another class of persons who require to be specially watched by the police. These may have only one conviction, but the fact that they show system and method in committing crime and a distinctly criminal mind indicates the need of special supervision.

The worst criminals of both these classes are regarded as dangerous criminals. They are specially watched by the police. The majority have been photographed.

The great majority of cases of crime, particularly burglary and fowl stealing, are committed, not by several persons, but by a few dangerous criminals known to the police, and a great deal can be done to prevent crime by marking down and supervising these dangerous criminals from the moment they leave jail. This has been most clearly proved in Colombo in the last three years on two occasions. During the last three years there have been two epidemics of burglary in Colombo. In 1921 the criminal concerned was Endoris, a man with nine convictions for similar offences. On his arrest the burglaries ceased. In 1923 25 cases of theft of silver articles were reported from the residential quarters of Colombo between July 27 and November 8. A dangerous criminal named Raphiel, with five previous convictions, was caught red-handed on November 8. With his arrest there were no further cases, and there is no doubt that he and his confederates were responsible for every one of the 25 cases.

(6) *Co-operation by the Railway Staff and by the Public.*—The Railway staff have been particularly helpful in bringing to notice and detecting persons committing theft from passengers on the Railway, and 19 cases have been brought to the notice of the General Manager in which observation and prompt action by an officer of the Railway staff had resulted in the detection of crime. The officers were in each case rewarded.

There were several instances during the year of members of the public rendering assistance to the Police in the prevention of crime and in saving life.

(7) *Prevention of Crime.*—Special attention has been given to the training of all ranks in the most modern and effective methods in order to supply a counter thrust to the ingenuity of the professional criminal, who is profiting by the improved educational facilities now open to him.

During 1923 the Criminal Investigation Department dealt with over 60 cases of forgery and cheating, in many of which considerable ingenuity was displayed by the forgers, and the increasing skill of the Ceylon criminal was clearly shown. Such offences are usually committed by men of some education.

Further Action necessary to deal with Crime.

Youthful Offenders. — It has been mentioned in previous reports that one of the greatest needs of the Colony is the treatment of youthful offenders on sound practical lines in order to prevent a youth becoming an habitual criminal. Ceylon offers an exceptional field for such work. The volume of crime is very heavy.

The record of criminals in Ceylon shows that a very large proportion of the habitual criminals come from the towns, and their history almost invariably starts with petty thefts in the streets committed at the age of 15 to 21.

The existing Reformatory at Maggona deals only with boys under 16, and there is evident need for an institution which will take charge of offenders aged from 16 to 21, and give them a chance of becoming decent citizens. Two schemes for such an institution have been put forward and are being considered by Government. One is for a Borstal Institution at Urugasmanhandiya in the Southern Province, the other, originating from the Salvation Army, is for an industrial colony at Medagama in the Kalutara District. If funds can be made available it is possible that the two schemes may be run independently: the Borstal Institution dealing with youths committed by an order of court, and the Salvation Army colony active with youths who may be persuaded voluntarily to join the colony and learn a trade.

Towards the end of 1922 a start was made by the police in Colombo to improve the surroundings and lives of the boys in the streets of Colombo by giving them an interest in games. It has been possible in this way, in the course of 1923, to get in touch with some 250 boys. Means of recreation have been provided for them, and every encouragement given them to play games and take an interest in healthy sport. Those of school age have been assisted in attending school by being provided

with books, and those urgently in need of clothes have been provided with them. In many cases also employment has been obtained for these boys.

It has been possible, with the aid of subscription from the public, to start a Street Boys' Club in the Pettah, the most crowded and criminal district of Colombo. There are 70 members of this club ranging in age from 7 to 17. Forty-five are absolutely homeless, and except for this club have no interest in life other than the fight for existence on the streets. The club has become their home, and they sleep there. Free medical attendance and medicine have been voluntarily given. The club is run by a committee of which the boys appoint their own members.

Similar work has been done in the larger towns in the Provinces. In the Southern Province, for instance, by the co-operation of the headmen and police an industrial school for boys under 17 has been started at Welitara, which has always been a particularly criminal village. The school is now flourishing, and appears to be having an excellent effect on crime in the district generally.

Supervision of Aliens, Strangers, and Travellers.

In addition to the ordinary work of the police, certain extra duties, initiated shortly after the outbreak of war in 1914, have been continued throughout 1923. Of these, the most important are—

(1) Enforcement of the order prohibiting any person from embarking on any ship in the harbour unless he is in possession of a valid passport and steamer ticket, or holds a special permit from the Chairman, Plague Committee, to do so. All persons attempting to board a vessel are checked by the Harbour Police.

(2) Examining and stamping on board ship the passports of all steamer passengers who wish to land in Colombo.

(3) Registering and supervising alien commercial travellers and missionaries arriving in the Colony by steamer or from India *viâ* Talaimannar.

(4) The general surveillance of all other aliens arriving in the Colony and of all aliens resident in the Colony.

Situated as Ceylon is on the main route to the Far East and Australia and in close proximity to India a very large number of persons pass through Colombo, and the Ceylon Police are

constantly being requested by police of other countries to mark down, arrest, or report on the movements of an undesirable or fugitive offender who is believed to be on his way to India, Australia, or the Far East. A complete list of all persons disembarking from or embarking on ships in the ports of Ceylon is kept, together with a record of all persons stopping at hotels, boarding houses, and resthouses, so that any information required can be given at short notice. In this way the Criminal Investigation Department of Ceylon acts as a clearing house, and does a considerable amount of work for the police of other countries.

During the year 133 destitute persons or undesirable aliens were prevented from entering the Island by the police at Colombo Harbour and Talaimannar.

Motor Traffic.

The system of control of all motor vehicles by one registering authority (Inspector-General of Police) continues, and the examination of applicants for and the issue of licenses to drive motor vehicles are being carried out by the police.

The whole of the Vehicles Ordinance and Motor By-laws are now under revision.

There are 5,244 registered motor cars and 2,044 motor cycles in the Island. Of these, 481 motor cars are registered for trade purposes and 1,247 as public conveyances. There are in the Island 459 motor buses for conveying passengers for hire ; the number of motor buses is on the increase, the number in 1922 being 217. The use of motor buses is growing, and is particularly appreciated on routes not served by the railway and on roads where a quicker and simpler journey can be made by bus than by train. The number of motor vehicles in the Island has increased from 745 in 1911 to 7,288 in 1923. There are 7,787 persons licensed to drive motor vehicles.

The consideration of the best and most practicable means of making the roads safer for motorists and foot passengers has been receiving great attention. The authorities in England seem agreed that it is not the possibly timid person learning to drive who is the greatest danger on the road, but the careless and inconsiderate driver who, while quite efficient, is reckless as to the speed at which he drives and the risks he takes. The common object of owners and drivers of motor vehicles, road authorities, and police officers must be to try and secure greater safety on the road for motor vehicles and foot passengers.

It was therefore decided that the most practical steps to secure greater safety on the roads in Ceylon would be—

(*a*) The improvement of roads where the alignment or insufficient width of the thoroughfare is a danger to motor traffic, and the removal of obstructions to clear the view at dangerous places ;

(*b*) The provision of pavements for foot passengers in towns wherever possible ;

(*c*) To bring to the notice of drivers certain simple rules for safe driving ;

(*d*) To press for deterrent punishment in all cases where reckless driving is proved.

Of these, the last, dealing with the reckless driver, is the most important.

The police in every district have been instructed to bring to the notice of the authorities thoroughfares which need improvement to make them safe for motor traffic, and places on the road where obstruction of view renders the road dangerous.

Hints for safe driving are now printed in every driving license, and all examiners have been requested to test applicants for licenses on these points when examining them. With these hints printed in the driver's license, which the driver is always required to have with him when driving, there will be no excuse for a driver who neglects to take notice of these hints, and who causes damage or injury as a result of his negligence. Further, the Magistrate and the courts will see, when they are inquiring into a case in which damage or injury has been caused by the neglect of these simple rules, that the driver had these hints prominently brought to his notice and neglected to observe them.

There were 1,685 prosecutions under the Motor By-laws. Of these, 189 were for reckless or careless driving. The number of serious accidents caused by motor vehicles throughout the Island was 79, of which 36 proved fatal.

Training.

Special attention has been given to the training of all men of the Force in the duty of preserving order and in the prevention and investigation of crime, and from the start the training is made as practical as possible. Before being posted to a station every recruit receives practical instruction in the streets, under supervision, in "Point Duty" and the control of traffic. All ranks are instructed in matters affecting their particular district on first arrival in that district.

Any matter of general interest and any case from which there is some point to be learned is published in the weekly "Police Gazette." All ranks of the Force are instructed on these points, and orders relating to new Ordinances, by-laws, and regulations are explained to them, so that training and instruction continues throughout a man's service. All recruits who are unable to swim on joining receive instruction in swimming.

In many districts voluntary classes have been formed at which constables learn to speak, read, and write English. A knowledge of English in a Colony in which English is so much spoken, and through which passengers are continually travelling, is of great value to a constable both in his work and as a qualification for promotion.

Miscellaneous.

First Aid to the Injured.—The Ceylon Police Corps of the St. John Ambulance Brigade was increased from 132 members when the corps was formed in 1912 to 797 in 1923. Every police station in the Island is equipped with a stretcher and first aid box and hamper containing all necessary first aid materials.

Field dressings, the same as those supplied to the Army on active service during the war, have been issued to officers to be carried on their cars or motor cycles. Wherever an officer is, he may suddenly come across an accident, and with these dressings he can at least bandage some of the injuries and so effect temporary relief until the injured person can be attended to by a doctor.

Until recently first aid instruction and practice had been carried out on the lines of the correct treatment of a known injury. The instruction has now been made more progressive. An injured man found in the streets or brought to the police station is often unconscious and unable to say or indicate where he has hurt himself, and before first aid can be rendered the police officer must first diagnose the case and decide for himself what injury or injuries the patient is suffering from. It is the diagnosis of an injury which is of the first importance before movement or treatment is attempted ; to the layman diagnosis presents the greatest difficulty.

Great attention has also been paid to instruction in methods of improvising first aid materials from any article at hand at the place of accident. A police officer called upon to render first aid will not always have a first aid hamper with him, yet a lot can be done for the patient by improvising splints, pads, and bandages from any articles which are available if the police officer has been trained to make the best use of what he can find in the street, jungle, house, or boutique, as the case may be.

Instruction in the method of rendering artificial respiration to drowned persons has been extended to every member of the Force, and is not confined to men holding first aid certificates.

Many instances in which life was saved by the prompt rendering of first aid in cases of accident and drowning were reported during the year.

Institutions of the Force include a Pensioners' Corps, which secures employment for men no longer physically fit for active police duty, and a Boy's Brigade in which sons of police officers are trained from the age of 5 upwards.

The object of the Pensioners' Corps is to assist police pensioners to supplement their pension by obtaining posts as watchers, doorkeepers, &c., on retirement, and to assist the public by providing men of a reliable type with long service under Government for posts which require a steady and reliable man. The pensioners are given a uniform by Government, and the pay they receive in private employ is of great assistance to them. These men have a pension to lose if they commit an offence of dishonesty, and this fact and their long service and training in the Force make their service valuable to the private employer.

Pensioners of the Corps not in private employ are called out to assist the police at times of outbreak of plague, cholera, &c., when they are particularly helpful in guarding and watching houses and contacts. When so called out they are paid for the number of days so employed. There are 238 pensioners in the Corps.

The object of the Boys' Brigade is to provide healthy exercise and recreation for the sons of police officers and pensioners, and to educate and train them to become useful men. Between the ages of 5 and 13 the boy is put into uniform, and not only attends school, but is drilled in squad drill, physical exercise, and boxing. In school he is taught reading, writing, and general knowledge which will fit him for employment. On parades, in boxing, and games he is taught discipline, kept hard and fit, taught to keep his temper, and to keep himself and his uniform clean. Between the ages of 14 and 17 he continues to attend school and parade for half the day, and during the other half he attends a police office as a messenger, working under the eye of an officer, for which he is paid from Rs. 7·50 a month at the age of 14 to Rs. 15 a month at the age of 17. At this stage the boy learns regular and punctual attendance for duty, good manners, and activity, and the importance of steady work if he is to get on in the world, at the age of 18 he is eligible for enlistment in the Force. There are 67 senior and 399 junior boys in the Brigade.

Sixteen boys of the Brigade were enlisted during the year, and there are now 79 men in the Force who started in the Brigade, 6 of whom have already been promoted to the rank of sergeant.

Sixty-two of these men can read and write English. It is of interest to note that of these 79 men, the great-grandfathers of 9 were in the Ceylon Rifle Regiment, the grandfathers of 19 were in the Force, the fathers of 29 were in the Force, showing that service in the police has become a family tradition.

The Kandy Police Boys' School was taken over by the Education Department from the beginning of the year in the same way as the Depôt and Slave Island Boys' Schools in Colombo were taken over in 1921.

Justices of the Peace.—Justices of the Peace have continued to render good service, not only in time of emergency, but in visiting police stations, attending drills, and in supervising musketry. The fact of a resident of standing being in a position to take charge of any station and direct action in the event of any disturbance, fire, serious accident, or any other calamity is of value, not only to the police, but also to the owners of property, shopkeepers, householders, and the public generally. In a large and scattered district it is not possible for the Government Agent, Police Magistrate, or Superintendent of Police to get to the scene in time to prevent trouble in the great majority of cases.

The *Health of the Force* during the year was very satisfactory; there was a marked decrease in the number of men admitted to hospital. Arrangements were made for proper dental treatment, woollen socks were issued to prevent boot cuts and sores, and mosquito curtains were provided at malarial stations. The result of these special measures was in each case an improvement in health.

Training School.—The work on the building of the new Training School for recruits next to the police recreation ground at Bambalapitiya from Loan Funds is progressing. The housing and training of recruits in healthy surroundings with the means of recreation ready at hand should have good results. The officers of the Force in Colombo are housed near this site, so that the recruit will come under the constant influence of officers both in work and play. This should go far towards establishing and maintaining a high standard of conduct and efficiency throughout the Force.

Pettah Barracks.—Funds have also been voted to continue the work on the building of barracks for the Pettah police, who are at present living in rented houses (which they find great difficulty in securing) scattered all over the town, at a distance from their work, and frequently in the immediate neighbourhood of criminals and bad characters. The Pettah is the most disorderly, the most criminal, and one of the most important parts of the town, containing as it does much valuable property,

the principal markets, and native provision stores. In times of disturbance it is generally the scene of the original and most serious outbreak. It is therefore obviously important that men should be housed in barracks near at hand, so that they can turn out at a moment's notice in the event of trouble.

PRISONS.

The twelve prisons in the Island may be divided as follows :—

(*a*) Central Prisons : Welikada (Colombo), Bogambra (Kandy), Mahara (14 miles east of Colombo).

(*b*) Local Prisons : Anuradhapura, Badulla, Batticaloa, Galle, Jaffna, and Negombo.

(*c*) Remand Prisons : Hulftsdorp (Colombo), Old Prison (Kandy).

(*d*) Main Prison Hospital : Borella (Colombo).

Imprisonment and Treatment.

This may be divided into three classes : Rigorous, simple, and preventive detention.

(*a*) *Rigorous.*—During the first month all prisoners perform penal stage work, that is to say, either husk-beating for manufacturing coir or metal-breaking for the Public Works Department, Local Boards, &c. After this they are, with the exception of short-sentenced prisoners (who perform domestic duties in the prisons), employed on industrial work, for instance, as carpenters, blacksmiths, shoemakers, tailors, tinsmiths, laundrymen, dhobies, rattan workers, mat-makers, weavers. They also carry out anti-malarial work under Medical Department, agricultural work under Agricultural Department, and re-afforestation under the Forest Department.

Prisoners are also employed in the Government Printing Office in Colombo on clerical work, bookbinding, paper-folding and cutting, ruling and numbering machines, packing, and dispatching. It is to the Government Printing Office that the majority of the better educated prisoners are sent, as they are more usefully employed there, and a greater return to Government is ensured than would be the case if they were distributed elsewhere.

At Mahara re-convicted prisoners are employed in quarrying metal for the Public Works Department and Harbour Works, while at Jaffna re-convicted prisoners and a certain class of first

offenders are employed in reclamation work. These are the only two prisons where the labour can really be looked upon as rigorous.

(*b*) *Simple Imprisonment.*—All prisoners undergoing simple imprisonment are located either in Welikada or Bogambra, and are usually employed in the services of the prison or put to some other form of labour more suitable.

(*c*) *Preventive Detention.*—Habitual criminals are frequently ordered by the courts to undergo a further period of detention "not exceeding five nor less than three years" after their sentence of imprisonment has elapsed.

Such prisoners are at present lodged at Bogambra Prison, Kandy, and as far as is possible kept entirely apart from all other prisoners. They are taught some trade, which it is hoped may enable them to take up useful work on their discharge. During their period of preventive detention they are able to earn a monthly gratuity and good conduct pay. Of this, they are allowed to spend a portion of each week in the purchase of additions to their diets, should they so desire, or they may send it to their families, or let it accumulate, to be paid to them on discharge.

The object aimed at in preventive detention is both to reform the prisoner and to give him on his discharge a good chance to start off again in life.

All prisoners are interviewed individually on admission, and again after the completion of their penal stage, when it is determined to what branch of industry or prison service they should be assigned. All first offenders and specially selected re-convicted prisoners, with the exception of short-sentenced prisoners, are given their choice of a trade. No long-sentence prisoner is employed in prison service, but every endeavour is made to teach him something which may be of use to him on his discharge. Age, education, antecedents, &c., have to be taken into consideration.

Female prisoners are taught sewing by hand and machine, to make their own clothes and those of the male prisoners, to make string bags for the use of the Treasury, lace, pillow slips, mosquito curtains, &c.

No work other than prison service is performed on Saturday afternoons or Sundays.

At Welikada (Colombo) specially chosen first offenders between the ages of 16 and 21 and re-convicted prisoners between 16 and 25 years form a Boy Scout Troop. Under the guidance of the

Boy Scouts Association they are taught scout work on Wednesdays, Saturdays, and Sundays each week. The Girl Guide Association undertake the same work amongst the female prisoners. Both experiments are proving a great success. In addition, special lectures and English evening classes are held under the direction of the Royal College, Colombo, for all educated Ceylonese prisoners and Prison Scouts. From these also the results are most encouraging. An open air gymnasium for the Prison Scouts and lecture and reading room and library are now in use at this prison for educated Ceylonese prisoners.

Remission.

All prisoners whose sentences exceed twelve months can, by good conduct and industry, earn 25 per cent. remission after the first year.

Prisoners are punished by—

(1) Forfeiture of remission marks.

(2) Reduction in diet.

(3) Forfeiture of P. O. Badge (Good Conduct Badge).

(4) Corporal punishment.

Religious Instruction.

Every facility is granted to representatives of all denominations, and nearly all are represented each Sunday. In addition, the following days are observed as holidays by prisoners of the denomination concerned:—

Christmas Day and Good Friday, all prisoners.

Wesak, for Buddhists.

Hadji, for Muhammadans.

Hindu New Year, for Hindus.

Medical Attention.

A Medical Officer is attached to each prison, and all parties of prisoners are visited at least once daily. Prisoners requiring treatment or attention at other times are sent to the dispensary, or during the hours of night either the Medical Officer or the dispenser is called in.

System of Payment of Prisoners.

The following are the rates paid, and all payments are made to prisoners on discharge :—

Prison Orderlies (Good Conduct Badge): Re. 1 per mensem.

Prisoners in Classes I. or II., *i.e.*, either 3rd year or 4th year of imprisonment: cents 50 per mensem if employed as artisans, sledgers, or miners; cents 30 per mensem if not so employed.

The total amount earned by the prisoners is Rs. 4,008·75.

There was a decrease of 658 in the total number of admissions of convicted prisoners during the year 1923, excluding Road Ordinance defaulters, of whom there were 221, as against 275 in 1922.

The figures are as follows :—

1922	10,585
1923	9,927

The number of prisoners sentenced to death was 56, as against 49 in 1922. There were 41 executions during the year, as against 36 in 1922.

Of the 41 whose capital sentences were carried out, 36 were Sinhalese and 5 Tamils.

Of the number executed, 3 had been sentenced in 1922; and of the number sentenced to death, 2 were executed in 1924.

There were 8 escapes and 6 re-captures during the year.

The total number of deaths in prisons was 102, as against 123 in 1922, and the death-rate per 1,000 of the admissions during the year was 6·01, as against 7·57 in 1922 and 11·40 in 1921.

The number of punishments inflicted during the year for prison offences was 895, as against 1,067 in 1922 and 1,715 in 1921.

Prisoners are in all prisons employed upon works of public utility and remunerative industrial labour. At Welikada and Bogambra prisons various trades are taught, such as carpentry, blacksmith, and tinsmith work; boot-making; tailoring; the making of cane furniture, matting, coir brooms, rugs, mats, coal and tea leaf bags, ropes, strings, bamboo tats; laundry work; printing; bookbinding; and mason work.

During the year under review 1,403 articles of wooden furniture were turned out by prison labour for various Government Departments. For making up furniture for the Government, the Forest Department supplied 14,892 cubes of various timbers in logs. Cutting, planing, &c., of timber was done by the machinery which was received from England in 1921.

The Government Printing Office continues to employ a daily average of 208 prisoners from Welikada Prison. This prison also continues to wash all soiled linen from the Medical and Railway Departments as well as Lunatic Asylum. 743,171 pieces being dealt with during the year.

15,275 articles of clothing and bedding were made up for the Colonial Storekeeper, and 34,633 yards of cloth woven for prison use.

The prisoners at Mahara Prison are exclusively employed in the quarries on account of Harbour Works and Public Works Department. A daily average of 187 prisoners were employed in the Harbour Works quarry during the year as blacksmiths, carpenters, platelayers, stone dressers, metal breakers, and on excavating and other works in connection with the working of the quarry. 371 tons of hand rubble and 13,881 tons of 2-inch metal were dispatched to Colombo Harbour Works. For the Public Works Department a daily average of 175 prisoners were employed in the Public Works Department quarry as metal breakers, and turned out 4,099·96 cubes of 2-inch metal.

The Karaiyur reclamation works at Jaffna continues to make good progress. The daily average number of prisoners employed on this work during the year was 86. The extent of land reclaimed, 1 acre 3 roods and 34 perches. Out of the 64½ acres to be reclaimed, about 60½ have now been completed.

Metal is supplied to the Public Works Department from Bogambra, Anuradhapura, Tangalla, Galle, and Badulla prisons.

At Anuradhapura a party of 20 prisoners is daily employed on account of Forest Department in clearing jungle and planting teak and margosa trees, &c. Twelve prisoners are employed in reclamation work on account of Local Board and 12 prisoners in the rice mill, and 25 to 30 prisoners are employed in paddy cultivating, clearing jungle, &c., at Dry Zone Experimental Garden, Puliankulam. Thirty prisoners are employed on account of anti-malarial campaign in filling up the pools of the town, weeding, clearing, &c.

Land, about 12 acres in extent, situated behind Welikada Prison, was planted with various vegetables by prison labour, and a sum of Rs. 2,263·95 was credited to revenue by sale of its produce during the year.

The schools at Welikada, Kandy, and Mahara for the instructions of prisoners of the age of 23 years and under on admission to prisons, and who have a sentence of six months and over, make satisfactory progress—the daily average attendance being 102 during the year.

On September 30, 1923, prisons at Tangalla, Trincomalee, Chilaw, and Kegalla were closed, and the prisoners and officers were transferred to other prisons.

Sixty-four prisoners passed through the All-Ceylon Malay Association formed for aiding discharged Muhammadan prisoners, of whom 5 were re-convicted.

The Boy Scouts Association have had a daily average of 45 first offenders under 23 years of age and 16 re-convicted prisoners under 25 years of age in their hands. This work is continuing to have great moral effect amongst this class of prisoners.

166 prisoners as given in the statement below were assisted on their discharge by the different aid societies, and only 11 of them have been re-convicted :—

Name of Association.	Number assisted.	Of these, Number re-convicted.
Central Association	72 ..	2
All-Ceylon Malay Association ..	64 ..	4
Boy Scouts Association	30 ..	4
Total ..	166	11

The "Girl Guides Association" began work in the female prison at Welikada on December 17, 1922; satisfactory progress is being made.

A daily average of 688 prisoners worked at the Railway running shed, Customs, Wharf, and coal sheds at Mutwal and Kochchikadde during the strike from February 27, 1923, to March 20, 1923.

Buddhist Wesak Day, Muhammadan Hadji Day, and the Hindu New Year were observed as holidays by the prisoners of the respective religions.

XII.—Local Government.

IN addition to the two Urban District Councils established at Negombo and Ratnapura as from January 1, 1922, similar Councils were created for Chilaw, Jaffna, Kalutara, Matale, Matara, and Panadure as from January 1, 1923. On March 20, 1923, a motion, introduced by an elected member, was unanimously accepted by the Legislative Council that Government should take all such steps as may be necessary to bring into operation throughout Ceylon the Local Government Ordinance of 1920 at an early date. Accordingly an amending Ordinance was introduced whereby the principle of "local option" was to be repealed; and it was intended forthwith to divide the Island into suitable areas for Urban, General, and Rural District Councils and to take all action necessary to constitute such Councils. Provision was made whereby it would be possible, only in such areas as refused to assume their responsibilities, and purely as a temporary measure, to appoint a Commissioner with all the powers of a District Council to set up the necessary administrative machinery ready to be handed over to the Council as soon as the inhabitants were prepared to undertake the task of managing their own local affairs. When the second reading of the Ordinance was taken up on November 15, 1923, a proposal was put forward by the unofficial members that it should be postponed until the Legislative Council had information regarding the divisions of the Island proposed for Councils; the areas in which Commissioners would be appointed; and the manner in which the existing revenue and administrative system would be effected by the passing of the Ordinance. This resolution was accepted by Government, and steps are being taken to obtain the information desired.

XIII.—Control of Indian Immigrant Labour.

DURING the year under review the Controller was chiefly concerned with the organization of his Department, which was designed to meet the requirements of the Ceylon Labour Ordinance, No. 1 of 1923. This Ordinance in its turn is the outcome of conditions and regulations framed under the Indian

Emigration Act, No. VII. of 1922. The latter Act came into force on March 5, 1922, but under section 32 its provisions were not to apply to Ceylon or Malaya until twelve months from the date of commencement of the Act.

The Ordinance provides for the appointment of a Controller of Indian Immigrant Labour and the organization of his Department.

The Controller is to be assisted by an advisory " Board of Indian Immigrant Labour " appointed by the Governor.

The sections dealing with the " Immigration Fund " provide that it shall be collected and administered by the Controller, subject to the control of the Governor.

The actual basis on which the fund should be assessed and raised was left to be prescribed by regulations made by the Governor in Executive Council and laid before the Legislative Council.

The supervision and control of recruiting in India and the transport of assisted immigrants to the port of embarkation is entrusted to an Emigration Commissioner appointed by the Governor.

After careful consideration of the question by the Board Government decided that the fund should be raised by an acreage tax on estates employing Indian immigrant labour, and regulations were drafted to this effect. Under these regulations the tax is payable in quarterly instalments by such estates with 10 acres or more planted in tea, or with 30 acres or more planted in rubber, cacao, or cardamoms. The rate payable per quarter is fixed from time to time by the Governor in Executive Council. The assessment payable by each estate is made by the Controller on returns furnished by the estates and scrutinized in the Controller's office. Estates paying acreage fees are entitled to recruit under the fund without further payment. Employers who do not pay acreage fees and who wish to recruit unskilled labour in India may receive recruiting licenses on depositing (or furnishing the requisite guarantee for) a sum sufficient to meet the expenses of registering and bringing over the number of labourers whom they require.

An agreement with the Coast Agency of the Planters' Association was subsequently drawn up, by which the Labour Commission, while still preserving its identity, as soon as the fund came into operation placed the whole of its organization at the disposal of the Emigration Commissioner. Under his control and in due conformity with the requirements of the

Indian and Ceylon Governments it undertakes the supervision of recruiting with the registration, subsistence, and transport, as far as the house of accommodation at the port of embarkation, of all "assisted" unskilled Indian immigrant labour destined for Ceylon.

Outside the actual "conditions" governing emigration the Government of India requested this Government to inquire into the question of work and wages on estates, child labour on estates, and the repatriation (apart from condition 5 reproduced in section 22 of Ordinance No. 1 of 1923) of Indians who are unable through disease or infirmity to maintain themselves, or who are thrown out of work and unable to find further employment.

As to the work and wages on estates an exhaustive report was prepared by the Department of Statistics, which clearly indicated that the cooly was getting a very comfortable livelihood. The immigration figures for the year show that 90,000 Indian recruits came to Ceylon estates during the year, and that of this total more than 46,000, or over 50 per cent., were old immigrants returning to Ceylon for a second or subsequent period. These figures are the best proof that work in Ceylon, with present wages and under present conditions, is not unpopular with a large class in the agricultural districts of South India.

In considering the question of the employment of children on estates, it must be remembered that all over the East the children of agricultural workers, in their home villages, habitually assist their parents. It is also obvious that light weeding and other similar tasks, performed in the open air and out of school hours, do not fall into the same category as child labour under factory conditions in large manufacturing industries. While employers are ready to stop the employment of children under a certain age on estates, it was felt that such a prohibition would be very unpopular with the labourers themselves, and before any definite action is taken the question is being investigated, especially from the labourer's point of view, by the Agent in Ceylon of the Indian Government.

With regard to the repatriation of sick and indigent Indian immigrants of whatever description, a scheme was drawn up by the end of the year and has been brought into operation in the early part of 1924. Any Indian immigrant labourer certified by a District Medical Officer to be permanently unfit for further work by reason of disease or infirmity and unable to maintain himself is repatriated free of charge to his home in India. Indian immigrant vagrants are collected in all towns, and on

being certified as vagrants are sent to the "House of Detention," *i.e.*, depôt for vagrants, in Colombo. Here either a suitable situation is found for them, or they are sent back to their homes in India. The cost of the scheme is defrayed partly from general revenue and partly by the fund.

Meanwhile in South India the Emigration Commissioner took steps to bring the system into conformity with the Indian regulations. As stated above, the staff and organization required were already in existence, and the changes called for were largely details of administration and registration.

The recruiting districts in South India were divided into circles, and the necessary appointments as Inspectors of Emigration for each circle were made from the higher staff of the Labour Commission.

On June 1, 1923, a resident Protector of Emigrants was appointed for Mandapam by the Madras Government, and from that date the complete system of registration and inspection required at the port of embarkation has been carried out.

On October 1, 1923, the Immigration Fund came into operation, and the expenses—heretofore borne by individual employers—were charged to the fund.

Immigration and Emigration during 1923.

Immigration from India into Ceylon falls into two main classes: the assisted immigration of unskilled agricultural labour for employment on estates, and the free immigration of those engaged in trade and other urban employment. There are two routes used: the Tuticorin-Colombo route, a sea passage of about 15 hours, on which the traffic is maintained by a steamer running twice a week in either direction, and the daily mail route *viâ* Dhanushkodi and Talaimannar, in which the sea-crossing takes only about 2 hours.

The intercourse between Tuticorin and Colombo is largely of a local character, and is drawn mainly from the Tinnevelly district. The passenger traffic figures give a total for the year of 40,836 passengers to Colombo, as against 35,140 in 1922, while 41,105 passengers returned from Colombo to Tuticorin. Of the passengers to Colombo, 31,000 came from Tinnevelly district and over 2,000 from each of the three districts of Malabar, Travancore, and Cochin. Again, 18,594 of the passengers described themselves as petty traders. A very large proportion of the remainder come over to Colombo to find work in Ceylon as domestic servants, rickshaw coolies, or for other urban employments.

About half the total imports of Ceylon come from India, and not only the import trade from India, but also the petty distributing trades in Colombo are largely in Indian hands. In consequence about a quarter of the population of Colombo hails from South India, has intimate connections with India, and passes freely to and fro. In short, Colombo is a large urban centre which attracts a free influx of trade and labour from the nearest districts in South India, just as any similar focus of trade and population attracts trade and labour from surrounding districts.

The immigration of assisted unskilled labour was throughout the year brought in by the Dhanushkodi-Talaimannar route, which also conveys practically all the passenger traffic coming from districts in India other than those adjacent to Tuticorin. The districts from which our immigrant agricultural labour is drawn lie for the most part between Madura and Chingleput, and would naturally use this route.

The total number of persons entering Ceylon by this route during the year was 132,709, of whom, according to the Board of Immigration and Quarantine statistics, 90,289 were estate labourers and 42,420 miscellaneous passengers. The corresponding figures for 1922 are 78,106 estate labourers and 47,740 miscellaneous passengers.

From the more detailed figures of the emigration and immigration of unskilled immigrant labour, it will be seen that recruiting during the year was heavy: 90,289 recruits having been dispatched, as against 77,636 in 1922 and only 22,365 in 1921.

In ordinary years recruiting depends largely on two main factors: the prosperity of the tea and rubber industries in Ceylon and the seasonal agricultural conditions in South India. For the year under review there was the possibility that the more complicated routine under the new regulations might to some extent temporarily dislocate the flow of recruiting. Events, however, proved that such a fear was unfounded.

The demand in Ceylon was good, with the advent of restriction the rubber outlook was fair, and there was a moderate demand for labour on rubber estates. The tea industry was in an exceedingly flourishing condition, good prices ruled throughout the year, wages generally increased, and there was a heavy demand for labour. At the same time agricultural conditions in South India were not very favourable. This stimulated the supply of recruits.

During the last seven months of the year, when recruiting was distinctly heavy, no less than 44 per cent. of the total dispatches consisted of "non-emigrants," *i.e.*, of labourers who

have lived more than five years in Ceylon, and their dependents. The Protector of Emigrants at Mandapam has also taken records, for several months, of the recruits, who, though classed as "emigrants," have been to Ceylon before. He estimates that these account for 10 per cent. of the "emigrants," or just over 5 per cent. of the total dispatches. In other words, about 50 per cent. of our unskilled immigrants are people returning for a second or subsequent period.

During the same period 51,762 estate labourers and their dependents left Ceylon for India. In other words, the exodus of estate labourers was very nearly made good by the return of former employees after a holiday, and the majority of new recruits came over, not to replace wastages from all causes, but to increase the immigrant labour force, which, owing to the heavy demand on tea estates, was distinctly short at the beginning of the year.

These figures show that emigration to Ceylon is by no means of the same character as emigration to a distant country. There, owing to the long journey, the emigrant either remains in the new country for good, or returns to India, once for all, after a certain number of years. Here, owing to the short journey, the emigrant passes to and fro, fairly freely, at intervals for a holiday. Many even of those who are born and bred on estates in Ceylon pay occasional visits to their relations in India, and, on their return, receive an assisted passage. It would appear from the figures that the men come and go more frequently than their women folk.

Looked at from another point of view, these figures are the best possible proof that with present wages and conditions estate life in Ceylon is by no means unpopular with a large number of immigrants. Otherwise few would return for a second period.

Health Conditions at Mandapam.

It may be said with confidence that the Ceylon Quarantine Station at Mandapam Camp, which is also the place of accommodation for the port of Dhanushkodi, will bear comparison with any similar institution in the East. Every visitor to the camp remarks on the completeness of the hospital and sanitary arrangements and on the excellence of the accommodation and food provided.

The Emigration Commissioner reports that of 91,129 recruits and their dependents who passed through his hands, or through the hands of the Labour Commissioner in the early months of the year, 89,859 were dispatched to Ceylon, and 1,270 fell out after their registration at the up-country agencies and before embarkation.

Labour Conditions on Estates.

No strikes or labour troubles of any serious nature occurred in any of the planting districts. The chief difficulty experienced by employers was the movement of labourers from estate to estate, frequently without giving notice; but employers by improving their lines and paying attention to the welfare of their labour force are doing all they can to render their labour contented and unwilling to move. The movement is more noticeable among labourers newly arrived from the coast; after a while they settle down.

On tea estates the high prices prevailing throughout the year caused a great demand for labour, and there is no doubt that the daily average of wages rose. In fact at the end of the year the labour forces generally were in as prosperous a condition as they have been for a long time; the fact is reflected in the abnormal rate of immigration, and especially in the high percentage of old employees returning.

Departmental Inspection of Estates.

As soon as the fund came into operation two Inspectors were appointed to assist in the inspection of estates. The supervision of housing and sanitary conditions remains in the hands of the Principal Civil Medical Officer, and inspections by the Immigrant Labour Department are undertaken mainly to determine or verify the acreage liable for assessment, to inquire into complaints and petitions from labourers, and to see that the proper books are kept in connection with the registration and payment of the labour force.

At the same time, whenever any estate is inspected, the lines and general sanitary conditions are examined; any defects are noted and referred to the Principal Civil Medical Officer for necessary action. Forty-eight estates were inspected during the last quarter of the year, mainly in connection with questions of assessment.

Outside of the estates Indian immigrant labour finds employment chiefly in certain Government Departments and with the various engineering firms, mills, &c., in Colombo. This labour is practically all engaged locally. Vacancies as they occur are filled from either Ceylonese on immigrant applicants, and the labour market in Colombo appears to attract an influx of free immigration. There is little or no recruiting, except in the case, now and again, of a few road coolies in the planting districts.

The rates of pay for manual labour in Colombo among the Government Departments and the larger private firms have for the last two years been looked into by a Labour Advisory Board, which consists of representatives from the Government Departments and private employers. In accordance with the recommendations of this Board uniform scales of pay have been fixed for all daily paid hands in the Ceylon Government Railway, the Railway Extensions, and the employees in Colombo of all Government Departments.

The pay in the larger private firms in most cases conforms with, or closely approximates to, these rates.

W. E. HOBDAY,
Second Assistant Colonial Secretary.

July 1, 1924.

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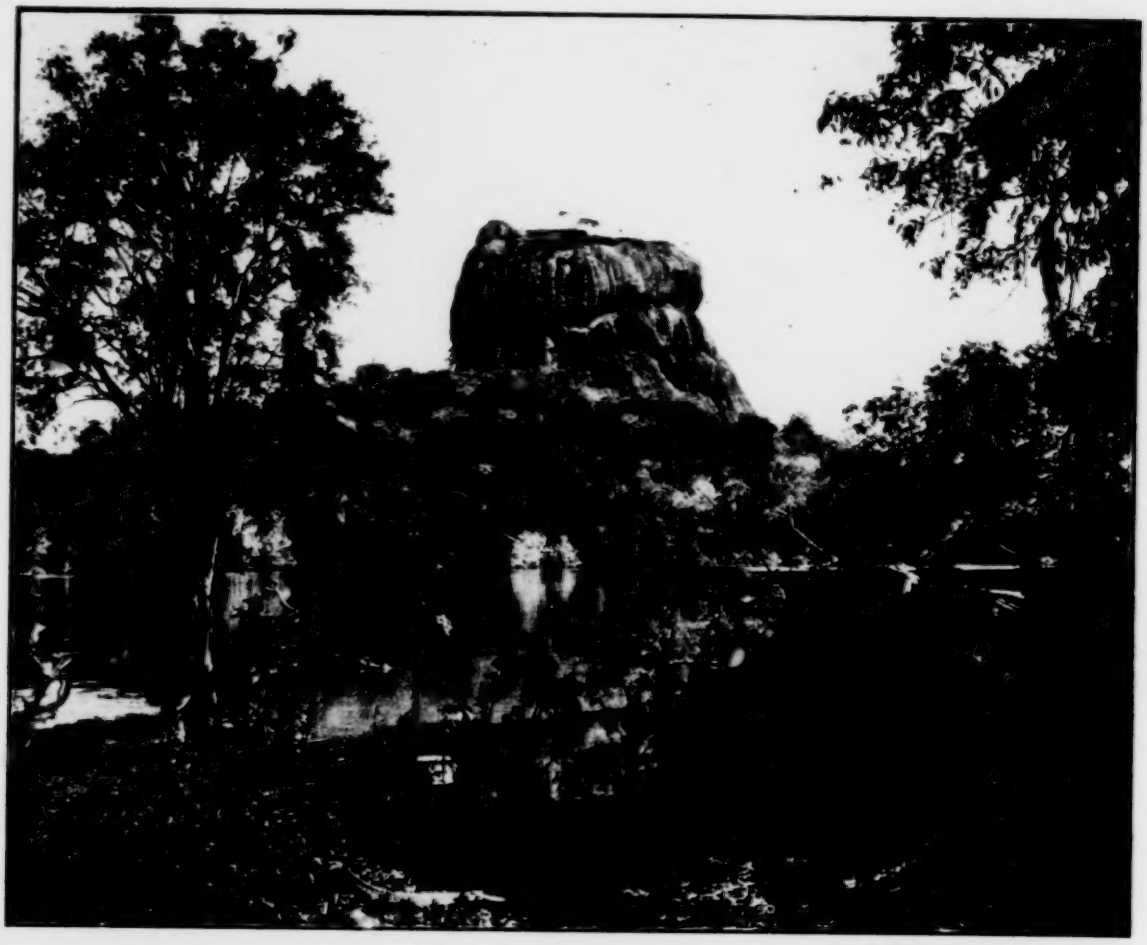

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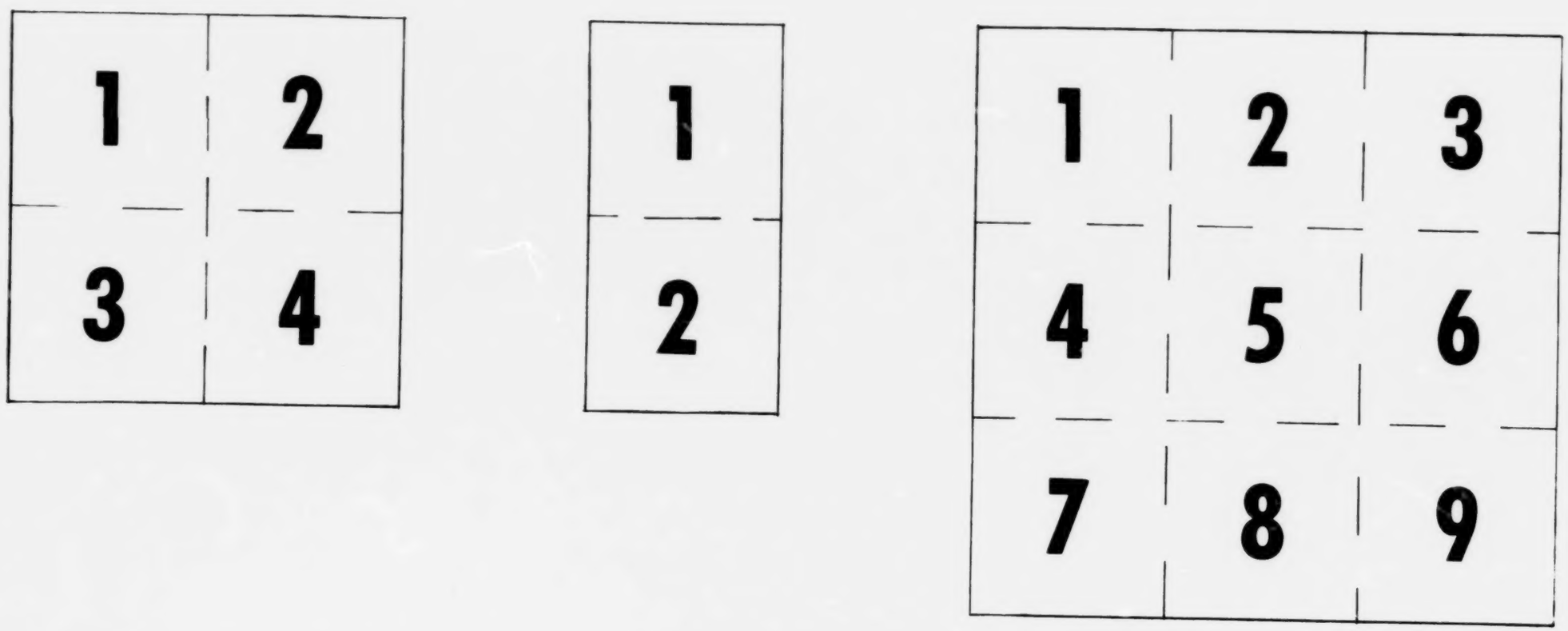

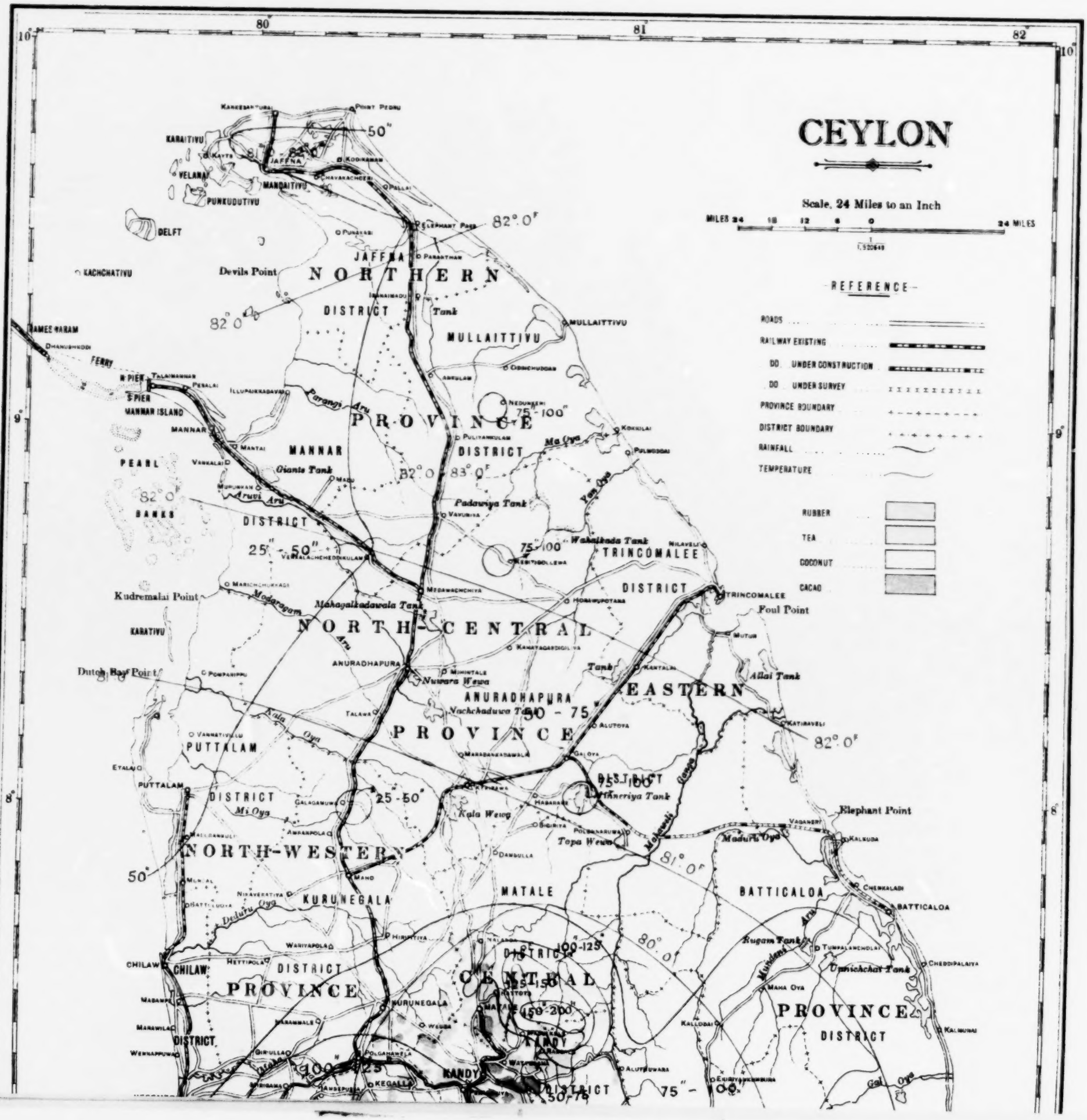

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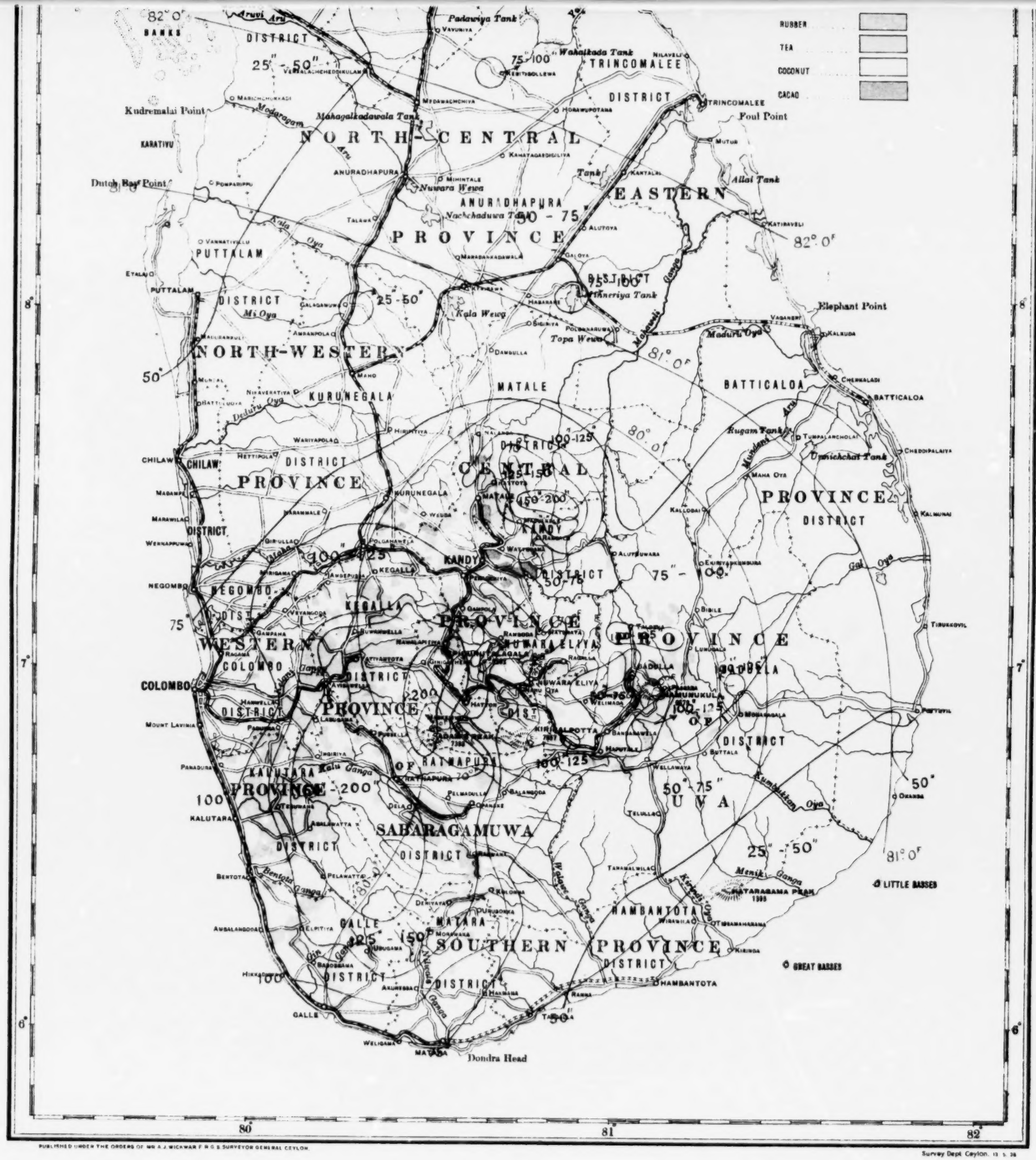
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Annual General Report for 1924.

I.—GENERAL SUMMARY.

TO attempt to set out any general summary of the condition and progress of Ceylon during any year is a matter of considerable difficulty. This is due to the wide divergence of conditions, not only between the rural and urban areas, but between the wet and dry zones. It is, however, possible by a study of the trade returns of the Island, the vital statistics and health returns, the reports on education and agriculture, and of the reports received of the general progress of the different Provinces to arrive at certain generalizations which, though not applicable uniformly throughout the Island, may be taken as broadly correct as regards the Island as a whole. A review of these reports for 1924 shows that the year was generally one of exceptional prosperity.

The trade of Ceylon had a very prosperous year in 1924. The combined value of exports and imports exceeded those of any previous year by Rs. 50,000,000. This was mainly due to the value of the exports, which was the highest on record. Imports exceeded those of any previous year except 1915. The increase in the value of the imports was fairly uniformly distributed over the different dutiable articles and indicates a general increase in the spending capacity of the Island.

The agricultural industries as a whole had another good year. A satisfactory feature was that not only was the prosperity of the tea industry maintained, but the coconut industry made a marked recovery from the comparative depression in 1923. The exports of rubber fell slightly during the year. There was a fall in price till about the middle of the year, but thereafter the price rose continuously, with the result that estates were able to show a small margin of profit on the year's working and the future of the industry was much

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more promising. As regards tea, it is satisfactory to note that not only was the area under cultivation by small holders increased during the year, but in certain areas the number of Sinhalese employed on tea estates increased. In regard to rubber it is also worthy of mention that there were 24,432 estates of under 10 acres and that the total acreage of such estates was 45,870 acres. Paddy cultivation had a more or less successful year. In certain areas, however, the weather conditions were bad. In the Eastern Province, for example, considerable loss of crops was caused first by a serious drought and a consequent caterpillar pest, and later by excessive rain and floods. Towards the end of the year, however, the prospects in the Province improved considerably. In spite of rather adverse weather conditions cotton cultivation in the Hambantota District was on the whole successful and gave considerable relief to one of the poorest areas in that district. In the North-Central Province the venture in cultivation of Sisal hemp gave signs of promise. The reports from the English markets on the quality of hemp produced were most encouraging. In spite of the general prosperity in the agricultural industries local food shortage was experienced in certain areas, but fortunately this shortage was not widespread and the necessary relief measures were taken.

The demand for further educational facilities continued unabated throughout the year. To meet this demand the expenditure on education was increased from Rs. 2,532,787 in 1923 to Rs. 3,244,742 in 1924—an increase of roughly 28 per cent. There was a continued demand, as in past years, for English education, but this was accompanied by an increased study of the vernacular languages due partly to the inclusion of Sinhalese and Tamil in the curricula of the London Matriculation, Intermediate Arts, and the Cambridge Examinations.

The general health of Ceylon during 1924 was better than in 1923. Though there was a fall in the number of births this was outweighed by the drop in the death rate from 30.6 per thousand in 1923 to 25.7 per thousand in 1924. The number of deaths from all the main diseases was reduced with the exception of enteric fever and dysentery. The highest death rate was again in the North-Central Province, but in that Province the death rate per thousand was reduced from 58.5 in 1923 to 46.7 in 1924. The campaigns against malaria in Anuradhapura, Trincomalee, and Mahara Prison were continued with success, notably in the case of Mahara Prison. All that is required in these areas for further success is further co-operation of the inhabitants with the Medical authorities. The success recorded in the previous year in the combating of

parangi was continued throughout 1924. The villagers are reported to have been convinced of the efficacy of the treatment given by the Itinerating Medical Officers and the success of this campaign seems assured.

Crime during 1924 was in excess of 1923. This increase was almost entirely in respect of crimes of violence. The movement started by the Education Department for the teaching of boxing in schools in order to wean the villager from the use of the knife as the appropriate means of settling disputes made progress during the year. It is hoped that the extension of this movement and the prompt investigation and punishment of this form of crime will have satisfactory results.

The activities of the temperance party were continued throughout the year. The number of closures effected by local option was not quite so numerous as in the preceding few years. This was partly due to the large number of closures in previous years which necessarily reduced the field for further activities and partly to the interest of the public being largely centred on the General Election for the new Legislative Council.

During the year there was a considerable extension and improvement of communications. Reports from the Provinces again call attention to the great development in motor bus traffic. This traffic will necessitate a large increase in the cost of maintaining the roads opened to bus traffic. On the other hand there can be no doubt of the great convenience afforded by this traffic to large sections of the public. Not only have passenger facilities been improved, but the increasing motor traffic greatly facilitates the transport of goods in certain districts. It is reported that certain local industries are being stimulated by the faster and cheaper methods of transport—for example, the growing of vegetables up-country and in the Eastern Province a local venture in the supply of iced fish.

Perhaps the most interesting event of the year was the General Election for the reformed Legislative Council. The increase in the number of constituencies and the widening of the franchise necessitated the preparation of revised Voters' Lists at very short notice. An immense amount of work was involved in the preparation of these lists. The General Election was held towards the end of the year. A very keen and widespread interest was taken in the elections—the great majority of the seats were contested. A healthy sign was the large percentage of the total number of voters who recorded their votes. The new Council was formally opened by Sir William Manning in October, and a new stage in Ceylon's political development then inaugurated.

II.—FINANCE.

Revenue.

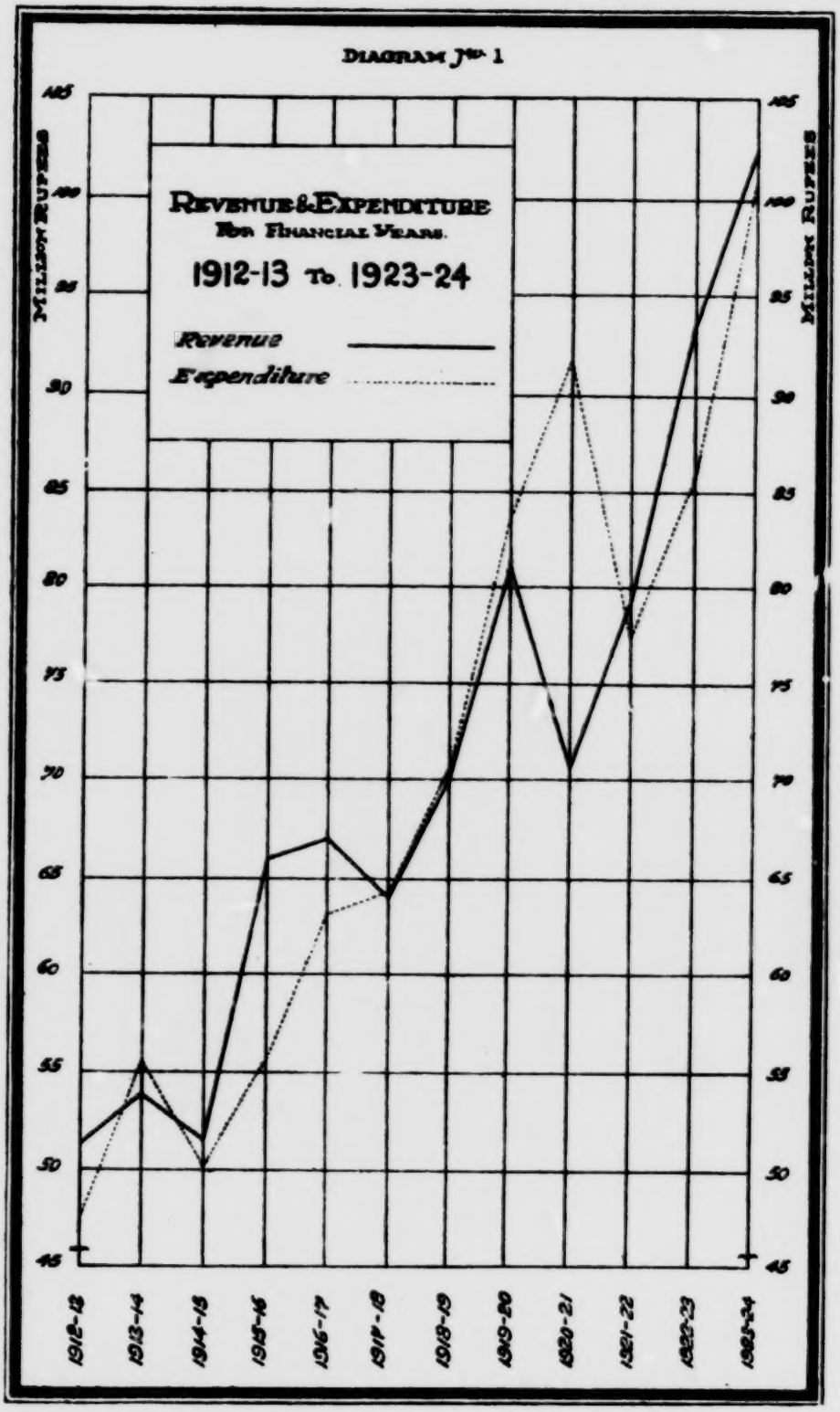
THE revenue collected during the financial year ended September 30, 1924, amounted to Rs. 102,363,115.67, which was Rs. 9,065,115.67 more than the estimate and Rs. 8,642,946.34 more than the amount collected in the previous financial year. Customs, harbour dues, revenue of oil installations, Railway receipts, interest on public funds invested, miscellaneous receipts, and land sales were mainly responsible for the increase over the previous financial year. The principal increases were under Customs Rs. 3,900,272, port and harbour Rs. 787,953, Railway receipts Rs. 2,386,222, interest Rs. 1,148,636, miscellaneous receipts Rs. 997,822, and land sales Rs. 306,576. The increased Customs and Railway receipts and port and harbour dues are an indication of improved trade conditions.

Expenditure.

The expenditure for the financial year ended September 30, 1924, which was estimated at Rs. 96,816,816, amounted to Rs. 100,713,868.77, the excess on the estimate being Rs. 3,897,052.77. This expenditure exceeded that of the previous financial year by Rs. 15,129,959.05. The increase as compared with the previous year is due to a variety of causes, including more liberal provision for expenditure under Education, Railway Department, Railway Extraordinary Works, Public Works Annually Recurrent, and Public Works Extraordinary; the payment of four instalments of £100,000 each of Ceylon's war contribution to the Imperial Government, instead of the two instalments which actually fell due; the grant of Rs. 3,000,000 to the Ceylon University Building and Equipment Fund; a special grant in aid of Rs. 450,000 to the Local Loans and Development Fund; and the return to 1*s.* 4*d.* as the official rate of exchange for conversion of sterling into rupees (the 2*s.* rate adopted during 1920-21 to 1922-23 having been abandoned).

Assets and Liabilities.

The assets of the Colony on September 30, 1924, were Rs. 62,739,336, and the liabilities Rs. 39,526,430, showing an excess of assets over liabilities of Rs. 23,212,906. The assets consisted of cash in fixed deposits and current accounts in the local and Indian banks and with the Crown Agents in London,



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unissued stores, investments in rupee and sterling gilt edged securities, and sundry recoverable advances. The main liabilities represent amounts due to the Widows' and Orphans' Pension Fund, the Ceylon University Building and Equipment Fund, the loan account, and suitors and other depositors in the Treasury and local Kachcheries. The cash balances available amounted to Rs. 40,438,651. The accumulated surplus on September 30, 1924, was in excess of that on September 30, 1923, by a sum of Rs. 1,649,247.

Currency.

On September 30, 1924, the value of currency notes in circulation amounted to Rs. 47,002,025. The Currency Commissioners on the same date held silver rupees to the extent of Rs. 22,569,795, and British, Indian, and Colonial securities amounting to Rs. 30,336,302 (cost price) or Rs. 27,914,646 (market price) on August 31, 1924. The value of the reserve on September 30, 1924, was thus in excess of the value of notes in circulation by Rs. 5,904,072.

During the year silver rupees to the extent of Rs. 7,324,000 were received from the banks in Colombo in exchange for currency notes.

The following denominations of subsidiary coins were in circulation in the Colony on September 30, 1924 :—

	Rs.
50 cents (silver)	4,050,000
25 cents (silver)	2,806,750
10 cents (silver)	2,932,461
5 cents (nickel)	634,800
1 cent (copper)	865,737
½ cent (copper)	318,068

Public Debt.

On September 30, 1924, the sterling debt of the Colony stood at £12,738,293 and the rupee debt at Rs. 3,000,000, towards redemption of which were held securities and moneys amounting to £2,824,569 and Rs. 1,311,828, respectively.

Setting off the securities against the debts and effecting the conversions at Rs. 15 to the pound sterling, the nett total public debt of the Colony amounts to Rs. 150,394,032, which is slightly less than 1½ times the revenue for the year ended September 30, 1924.

Ceylon Savings Bank.

The Ceylon Savings Bank had a sum of Rs. 5,188,687.90 to credit of 44,742 depositors on December 31, 1924, against Rs. 4,903,716.88 to credit of 43,504 depositors on December 31,

1923. The amount of the bank's invested funds on December 31, 1924, was Rs. 5,771,461.35, which include investments made from the reserve fund of Rs. 770,078.46. The interest paid to depositors amounted to Rs. 162,000. Interest was allowed at the rate of 4 per cent. on accounts of Rs. 1,000 and under, and 3 per cent. on accounts above Rs. 1,000.

Accounts may be opened with a minimum deposit of 50 cents, and not more than Rs. 1,000 can be deposited in one year irrespective of withdrawals. The maximum sum that a depositor may have to his or her credit is Rs. 3,000.

Charitable institutions or societies may deposit Rs. 2,500 per annum up to Rs. 7,500.

Death Duties.

Estates of persons whose deaths occurred on or after July 1, 1919, are chargeable with duty under the Estate Duty Ordinance, No. 8 of 1919, which came into operation as from that date.

During the financial year 1923-24 a sum of Rs. 1,516,217.41 was collected as estate duty on 2,623 estates, as against Rs. 1,505,022.28 collected during the previous year on 1,938 estates. In addition to this, a sum of Rs. 27,519 was paid as stamp duty on probates and letters of administration in respect of the estates of persons who died before July 1, 1919. The largest estate dealt with was of the value of Rs. 847,278.84, and the amount of duty paid thereon was Rs. 59,592.70.

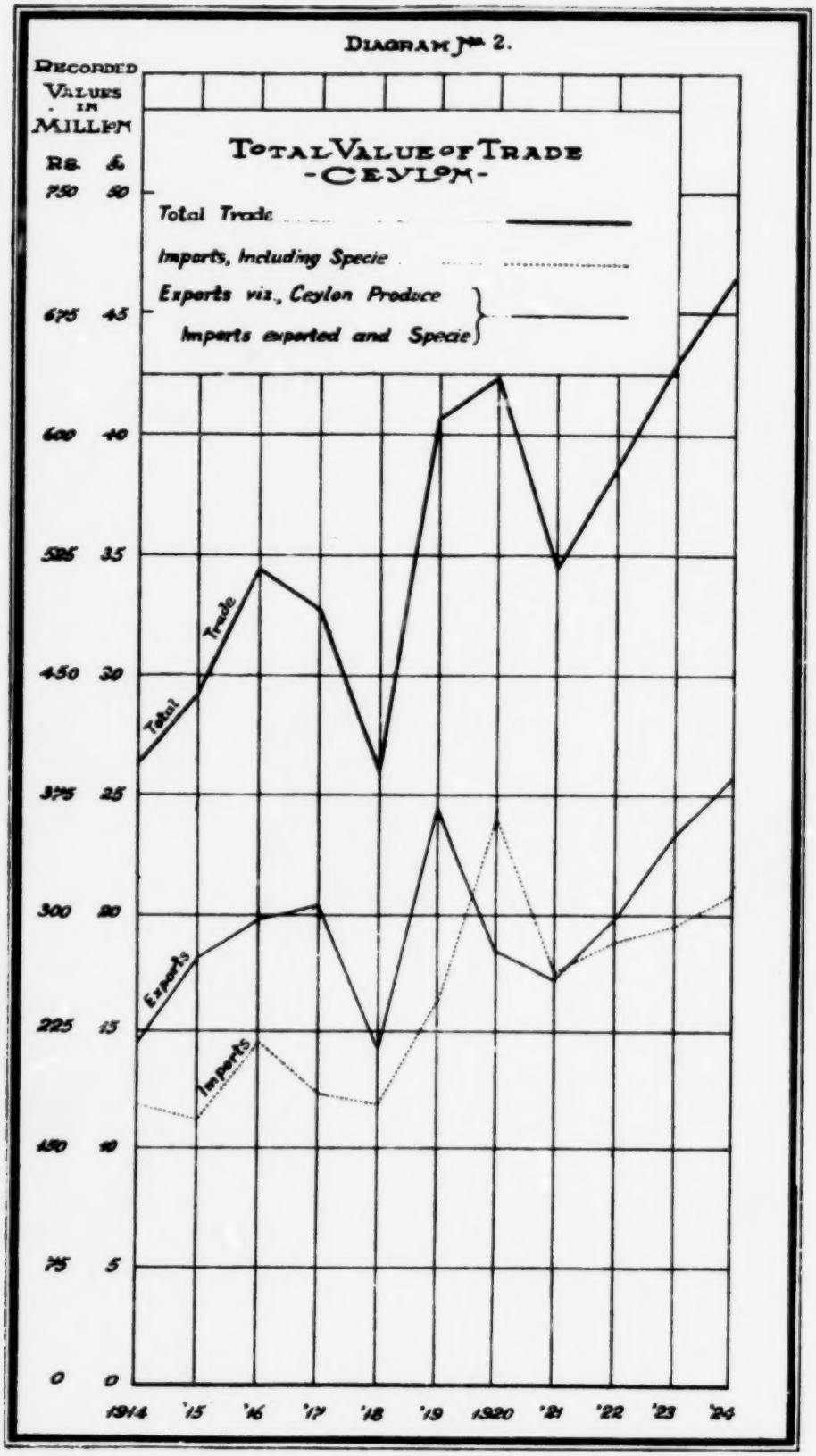
The total amount of penalties recovered under the Ordinance in respect of 335 cases was Rs. 2,952.84.

The total duty collected under the Ordinance is nearly five times the stamp duty formerly collected on probates and letters of administration.

III.—TRADE AND SHIPPING.

General Review.

THERE has again been a marked increase in the trade of Ceylon in 1924. Only once before—in 1920—have this year's import figures been exceeded, while the export figures are in excess of those of any previous year, and the combined total exceeds the previous best (1923) by nearly Rs. 50,000,000.



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The increase in value of exports was largely attributable to the firmness of the tea market. In 1923 some 182 million pounds of tea were exported at an average price of Re. 1.02 per lb., whereas in 1924 205 million pounds yielded Rs. 215,000,000, or an average of just under Re. 1.05 per lb. The increased production stimulated by high prices, combined with the slight increase in selling price resulted in a rise of the total export value by some three crores of rupees, or roughly 60 per cent. of the total increase in trade for the year. Second only to the increase in tea export, and even greater in proportion was the increase both in volume and in value of the copra exported. From a total in 1923 of 1,015,465 cwt. at an average price of Rs. 17.82 per cwt., the export of copra in 1924 rose to 1,769,189 cwt. at an average price of Rs. 17.51 per cwt., the value of exports increasing by approximately Rs. 1.3 crores or over 25 per cent. of the total increase in trade. Exports of tea and copra thus account together for 85 per cent. of the total increase in the value of the year's trade. Rubber export decreased slightly from 748,359 cwt. to 740,722 cwt., the average price falling from 88 cents to 77 cents per pound.

The number of vessels entering Ceylon ports in 1924 was 3,858 and their tonnage 10,649,557 tons, as compared with 3,677 vessels and 9,602,984 tons in 1923. Deducting the number and tonnage of warships and transports the percentage of increase in 1924 over 1923 is 4.8 per cent. in number and 11 per cent. in tonnage. There was a slight decrease in the number of vessels calling for coal and oil only and a falling off also of the number and tonnage of sailing vessels.

The value of coal supplied to steamers had fallen by annual stages from Rs. 36,638,574 in 1920 to Rs. 13,551,793 in 1923. In 1924, however, the figures again took an upward turn to Rs. 15,088,683. The steady increase in the value of liquid fuel supplied during the past seven years is a notable sign of the times.

The following table shows the annual value of imports and exports for a period of ten years, excluding the value of specie and the value of coal and liquid fuel supplied to steamers :—

Year.	Imports. Rs.	Exports. Rs.	Total. Rs.
1915	163,637,758	273,375,987	437,013,745
1916	211,500,753	297,505,905	509,006,658
1917	184,123,986	304,160,457	488,284,443
1918	177,716,763	211,325,334	389,042,097
1919	239,323,731	367,054,779	606,378,570
1920	321,275,652	268,462,183	589,737,835
1921	260,897,161	256,600,413	517,497,574
1922	280,414,704	297,753,215	578,167,919
1923	287,947,472	351,035,248	638,982,720
1924	302,734,490	385,354,418	688,088,908

The values of coal and liquid fuel supplied to steamers since 1918 are as follows :—

Year.			Value of Coal supplied to Vessels. Rs.		Value of Liquid Fuel supplied to Vessels. Rs.
1918	...	...	17,479,335	...	515,123
1919	...	...	32,899,550	...	2,869,327
1920	...	...	36,638,574	...	2,733,738
1921	...	...	27,638,759	...	3,030,034
1922	...	...	16,309,907	...	3,720,575
1923	...	...	13,551,793	...	7,576,801
1924	...	...	15,088,683	...	8,773,710

The total values of Ceylon trade for the last six years, excluding specie, but including coal and liquid fuel supplied to steamers, are as follows :—

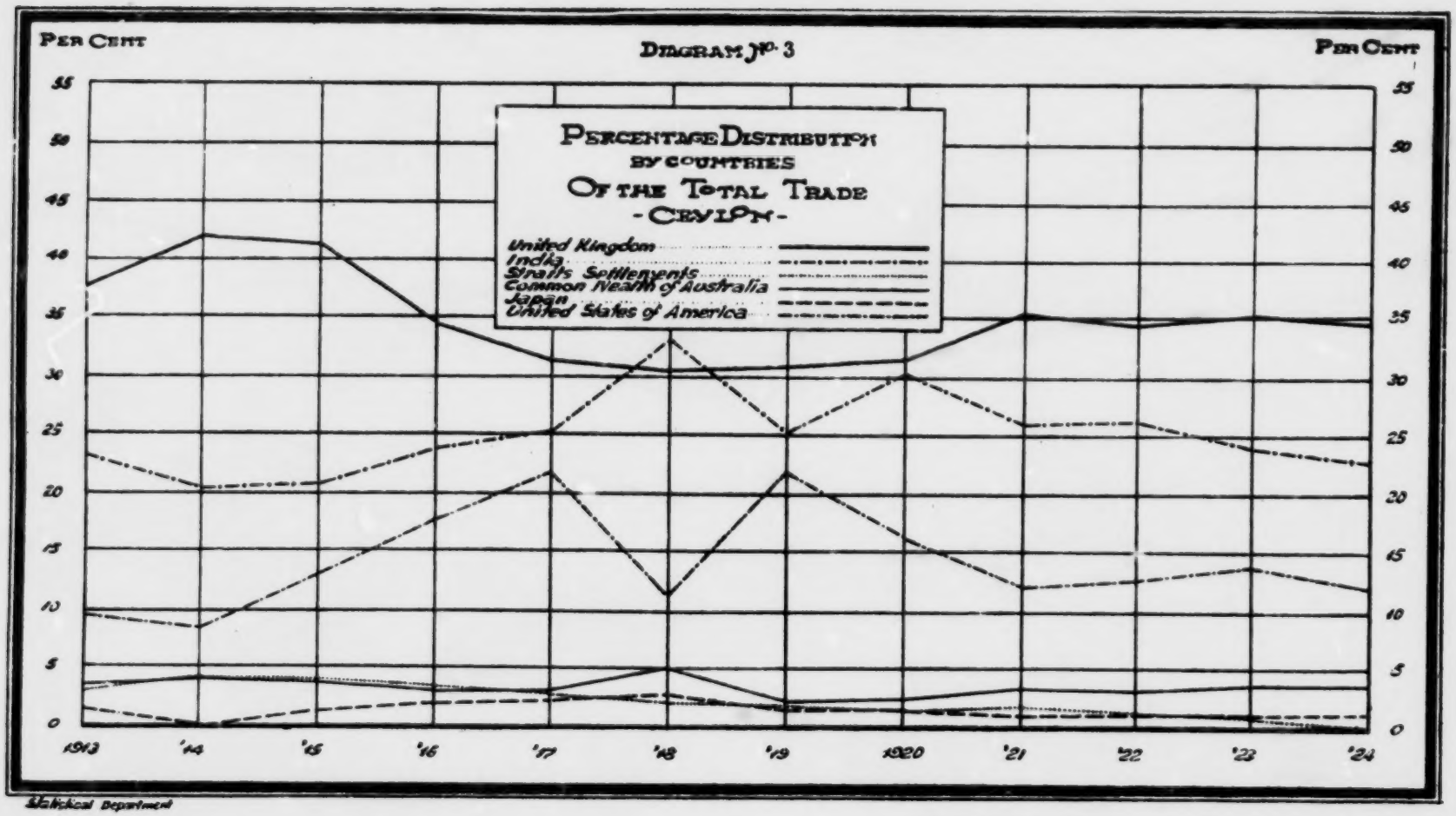
Year.		Lakhs of Rupees.	Year.		Lakhs of Rupees.
1918	...	4,070¼	1922	...	5,982
1919	...	6,421½	1923	...	6,601
1920	...	6,291	1924	...	7,119½
1921	...	5,481¾			

Distribution of Trade.

The percentage of the United Kingdom's share in imports into Ceylon was slightly larger than that of 1922 or 1923, but was still behind that of 1921. Imports from foreign countries again made headway at the expense of those from British Possessions, the turnover from one to the other amounting to about 4 per cent. There was a falling off of about 2 per cent. in exports to the United Kingdom which was divided between British Possessions and Foreign Countries.

There were few changes of any importance in the source of imports to the Colony. The most important was the falling off of imports from Burma from 20 per cent. of the total to 15 per cent., due almost entirely to the successful competition of Calcutta in the rice trade. The average price of rice imported from British India proper was considerably less than that of Burma rice. Of the other larger importers Java and the United States gained a fair amount of ground. Others whose trade slightly increased were Borneo, Japan, Natal, and Germany, while the trade of Australia, Holland, and Persia fell off.

While the United Kingdom remained *facile princeps* among the Colony's customers, the percentage of exports to her account fell off slightly, after remaining stationary for three



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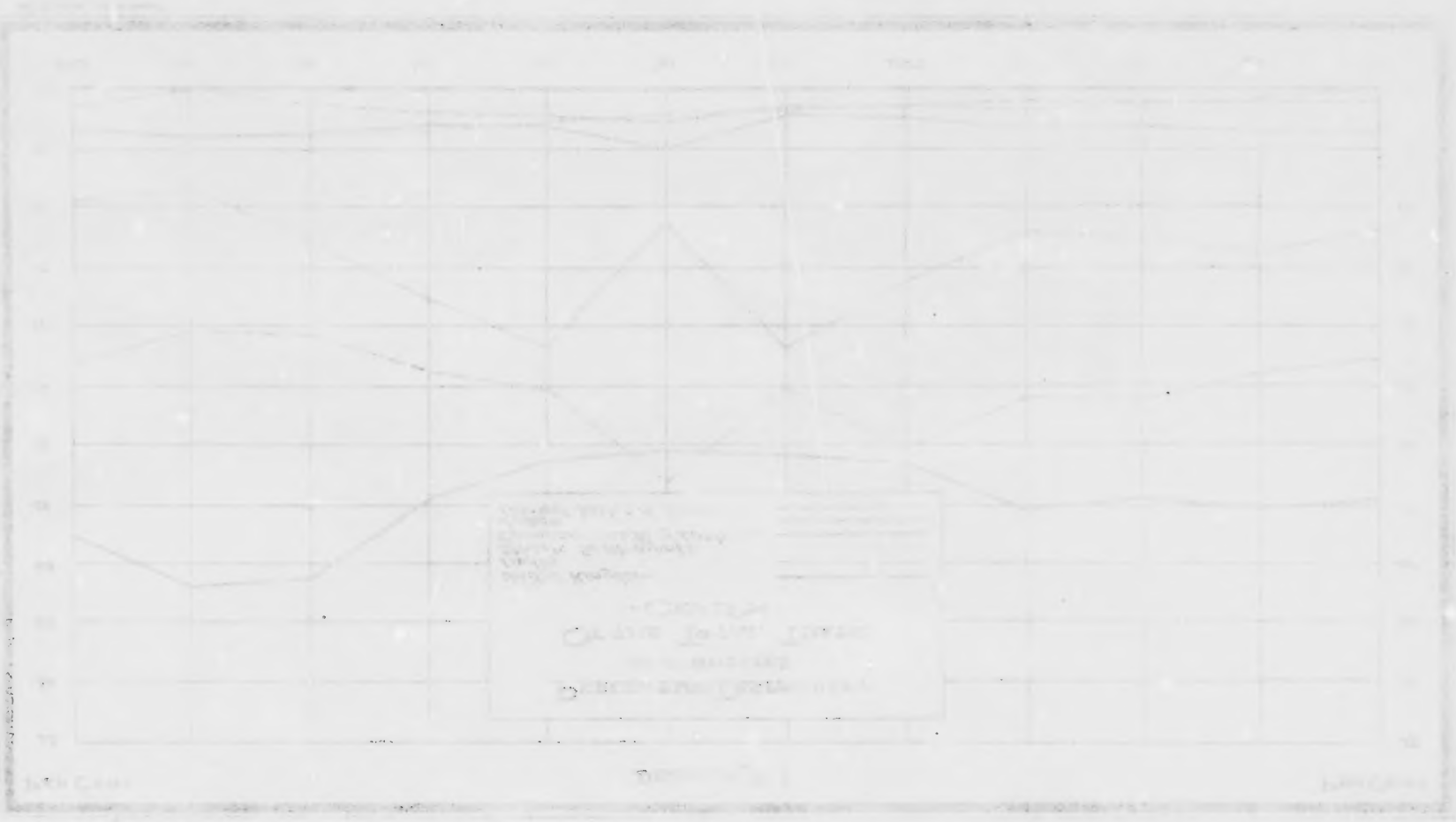


years. More considerable was the decrease in the purchases of the United States, which took 18.68 per cent. of the total, as against 23.36 per cent. in the previous years, *i.e.*, a drop of 4.68 per cent. on the whole exports. Other countries which failed to maintain their percentage—though in a much less degree—were Canada, Egypt, New Zealand, and France. On the other hand Australia, Germany, and Denmark, showed increased figures, while the off-fall noticed in 1923 in the purchases of Italy and Holland was to a great extent made good in 1924.

The following table shows the comparative percentages for the last three years of the value of imports, exports, and total trade. The figures are exclusive of imported rubber, and of coal, liquid fuel, and other ships' stores :—

Imports—	1922. Per Cent.	1923. Per Cent.	1924. Per Cent.
From the United Kingdom	22.42	22.39	23.06
From the British Possessions	59.63	57.86	53.76
From the Foreign Countries	17.95	19.75	23.18
	100	100	100

Exports—	1922. Per Cent.	1923. Per Cent.	1924. Per Cent.
To the United Kingdom	46.27	46.64	44.72
To the British Possessions	16.36	17.01	18.02
To the Foreign Countries	37.37	36.35	37.08
	100	100	100

Total Trade—			
From and to United Kingdom	34.78	35.81	35.29
From and to British Possessions	37.21	35.25	33.69
From and to Foreign Countries	28.01	28.94	31.02
	100	100	100

The principal countries from which Ceylon's imports are obtained, with the percentage of the total value supplied by each for the last three years, are shown in the following table :—

		1922. Per Cent.	1923. Per Cent.	1924. Per Cent.
1.	British India	24.24	29.06	31.09
2.	United Kingdom	22.14	22	22.64
3.	Burma	26.95	20.59	15.2
4.	Java	2.68	3.29	3.88
5.	United States of America	2.39	2.24	2.95
6.	Borneo (excluding British)	2.3	2.7	2.91
7.	Japan	1.85	1.89	2.12
8.	Natal	2.73	1.69	1.93
9.	Germany	1.32	1.37	1.79
10.	Australia	1.82	2.94	1.7
11.	Sumatra	.63	.88	1.37
12.	Holland	1.13	1.55	1.35
13.	Straits Settlements	1.56	1.27	1.33
14.	Maldive Islands	1.29	1.41	1.31
15.	Russia in Asia	—	.61	1.06
16.	Belgium	.37	.61	.89
17.	Persia	1.73	1.02	.66
18.	Italy	.48	.5	.66
19.	Other British Possessions in Africa	.49	.27	.64
20.	Switzerland	.13	.32	.63
21.	France	.78	.58	.63
22.	Hong Kong	.52	.44	.6
23.	Canada	.13	.55	.57
24.	India (excluding British)	.21	.49	.48
25.	China	.18	.25	.21
26.	Sweden	.24	.21	.2
27.	Other Foreign Countries in Europe	.05	.07	.16
28.	Austria	.02	.04	.13
29.	Siam	.5	.09	.11
30.	South America (excluding Chili)	—	—	.1

The values of the staple products exported from Ceylon during the last five years are as follows :—

		Lakhs of Rupees.				
		1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.
1.	Tea	808	1,127	1,460	1,857	2,150
2.	Rubber	900	516	570	736	637
3.	Copra	284	242	288	181	310
4.	Coconut, desiccated	183	266	202	227	220
5.	Coconut Oil	199	150	149	139	158
6.	Arecanuts	29	33	33	35	33
7.	Coir Fibre	16	11	18	24	29
8.	Citronella Oil	11	11	16	21	29
9.	Cinnamon	21	18	20	21	29
10.	Coconuts, fresh	10	24	18	13	25
11.	Cacao	25	20	31	22	25
12.	Coir Yarn	8	6	13	20	21
13.	Plumbago	21	8	16	15	13
14.	Tobacco unmanufactured	8	6	10	7	10
15.	Poonac (coconut)	6	9	8	6	9
16.	Cardamoms	5	5	5	6	7
17.	Skins (dressed and undressed)	9	6	6	7	6

Exports of Ceylon Staple Products, 1920-1924.

The quantities exported during the same years are :—

			1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.
1.	Tea	lb.	184,770,231	161,610,966	171,807,581	181,939,731	204,930,307
2.	Rubber	cwt.	790,648	786,834	933,886	748,359	740,722
3.	Copra	cwt.	1,357,870	1,367,431	1,686,589	1,015,465	1,769,189
4.	Coconut, desiccated	cwt.	518,735	870,515	768,215	818,793	871,341
5.	Coconut Oil	cwt.	507,527	484,724	554,626	480,543	552,633
6.	Arecanuts	cwt.	124,048	131,045	133,531	160,578	130,904
7.	Coir Fibre	cwt.	252,568	202,267	319,125	359,082	480,492
8.	Citronella Oil	lb.	1,022,809	1,160,555	1,299,889	1,121,271	1,433,381
9.	Cinnamon	cwt.	35,121	45,364	42,974	44,984	47,484
10.	Coconuts, fresh	No.	9,776,479	23,738,542	22,317,747	15,963,670	29,121,041
11.	Cacao	cwt.	56,397	62,245	83,210	60,904	69,351
12.	Coir Yarn	cwt.	72,438	60,710	102,688	105,088	117,199
13.	Plumbago	cwt.	184,100	86,996	216,999	213,383	193,017
14.	Tobacco, unmanufactured	lb.	3,590,474	2,411,419	4,334,595	2,951,094	4,158,880
15.	Poonac (coconut)	cwt.	92,452	160,699	115,479	116,549	156,251
16.	Cardamoms	cwt.	3,754	4,512	4,096	2,788	2,667
17.	Skins (dressed and undressed)	cwt.	12,925	8,353	9,061	8,605	10,685

The principal countries buying Ceylon produce and manufactures are given in the following table, with the percentage of value taken by each :—

		1922. Per Cent.	1923. Per Cent.	1924. Per Cent.
1.	United Kingdom	47.4	47.28	45.78
2.	United States of America	22.32	23.36	18.68
3.	Australia	4.27	3.8	4.92
4.	Germany	3.8	2.72	4.41
5.	Denmark	1.6	1.16	2.76
6.	Italy	3.29	1.57	2.58
7.	Canada	2.39	2.65	2.46
8.	British India	2.2	2.2	2.4
9.	Egypt	1.46	2.18	1.88
10.	Norway	1.19	1.88	1.85
11.	New Zealand	1.75	2.03	1.71
12.	Holland	1.55	.86	1.46
13.	Other British Possessions in Asia	—	.49	1.26
14.	Belgium	1.15	.96	1.2
15.	Natal	1	1.11	1.01
16.	Cape Colony	.81	.9	.94
17.	France	.71	1.02	.94
18.	South America (excluding Chili)	.34	.53	.52
19.	Japan	.4	.51	.51
20.	Straits Settlements	.41	.41	.41
21.	Sweden	.28	.42	.27
22.	Turkey in Asia	.05	.15	.23
23.	Spain (excluding Gibraltar)	.22	.31	.23
24.	Philippine Islands	.28	.29	.22
25.	Newfoundland	.17	.19	.19
26.	Other British Possessions in Africa	.2	.18	.18

Notes on the Principal Imports.

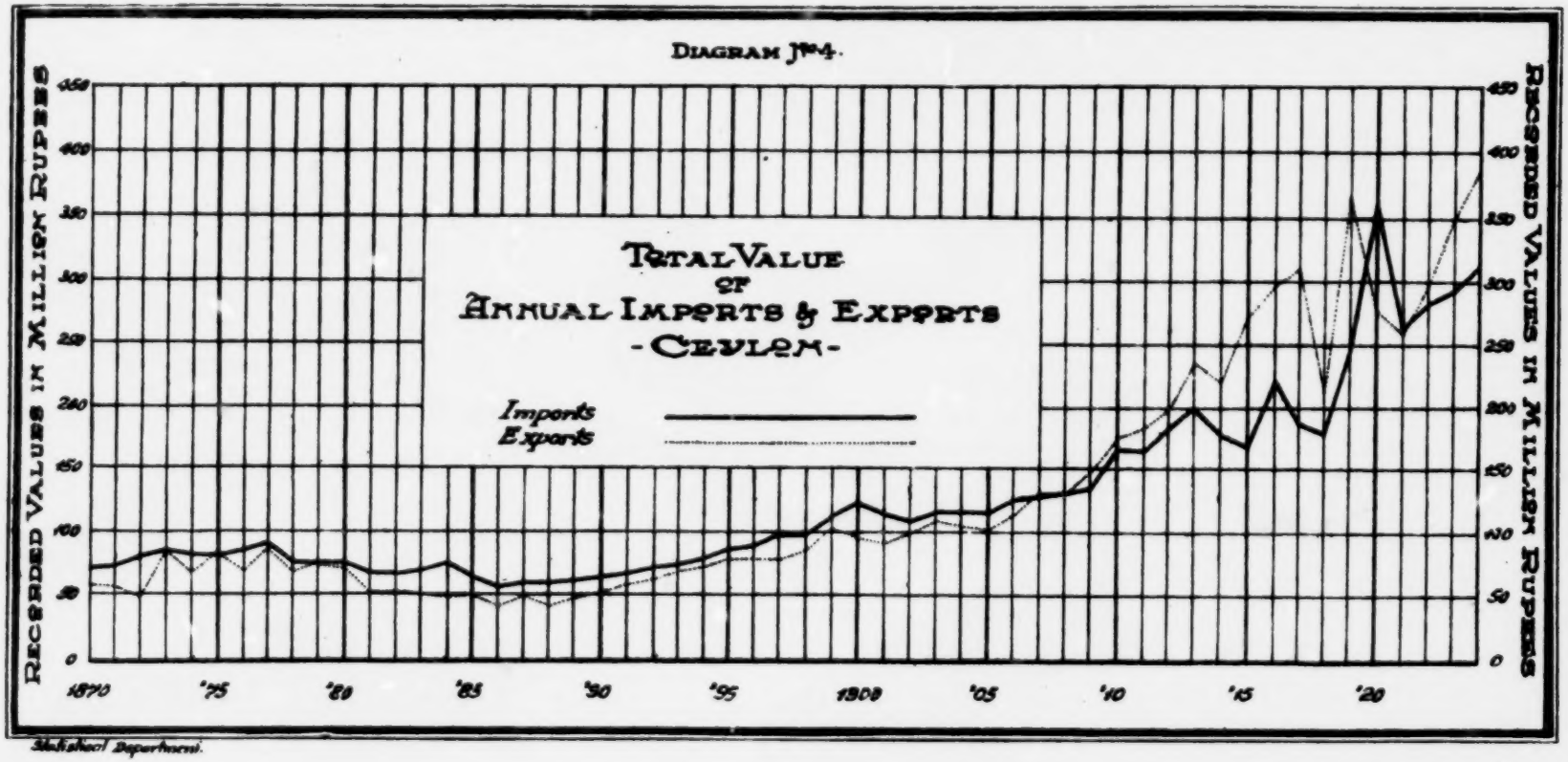
Flour and Meal.—Australian flour competed even more successfully than in 1923 with Indian for the Ceylon market. There was practically no other competitor in the field.

Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1923	275,395	3,370,742
1924	320,074	3,312,873

Rice.—Slight increase in the quantity imported, average drop of 12 per cent. in value. The most notable change is the alteration in the direction of flow. In 1924 more rice was imported from British India proper than from Burma.

Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1923	7,423,833	83,424,898
1924	7,519,186	76,749,249

Other Grains.—There was a considerable falling off in imports of other grains. The decrease in paddy (30 per cent.) was a marked feature, and was no doubt largely attributable to the change in the source of Ceylon's main food supply from the East to the North.



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Imports during the Period 1915-1924.

Year.	Rice. Cwt.	Other Grains. Cwt.	Year.	Rice. Cwt.	Other Grains. Cwt.
1915	7,173,778	937,703	1920	5,788,730	1,310,996
1916	8,073,964	1,117,413	1921	5,859,957	1,324,895
1917	7,754,121	1,102,566	1922*	7,209,157	956,550
1918	6,472,152	815,161	1923*	7,423,833	1,134,443
1919	5,342,575	1,433,295	1924*	7,519,186	965,469

* Includes imports by Government, 83 cwt. Other Grain in 1924.

Sugar.—Imports of refined sugar increased by about 25 per cent. Of the total amount imported, Java supplied five-sixths, as against four-fifths in 1923. Imports from Hong Kong and the Straits Settlements also increased, India only shipped 40 per cent. of her last year's total, but maintained her place as a supplier of coarse sugar.

Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1923	553,191	12,295,164
1924	691,294	14,834,906

Manufactured Tobacco, Cigars, and Cigarettes.—The import of cigars was stationary, as was that of tobacco. The "cigarette habit" however made a great stride, figures showing an increase of 23 per cent. The main source of supply remained unchanged. "Beedies" increased by about 15 per cent.

The quantities of each cleared for home consumption during the last six years have been as follows :—

Year.	Cigars. lb.	Cigarettes. lb.	Manufactured Tobacco. lb.	Total. lb.
1913	22,051	318,955	48,258	389,264
1920	12,198	371,575	29,034	412,807
1921	8,092	319,005	23,330	350,427
1922	8,883	330,071	21,429	360,383
1923	7,387	327,482	21,354	356,223
1924	7,272	403,370	20,379	431,021

Spirits.—There was again a very large increase (15 per cent.). While whisky, the quality and price of which do not vary greatly in different brands, fell off very slightly, there was a large increase in imports of gin and brandy, particularly the latter, of which a very large proportion is now imported at an extremely low price. The brandy came from France and the bulk of the gin from Holland.

The quantities of the three chief kinds cleared for home consumption during the last three years are as follows :—

	Proof Gallons.		
	1922.	1923.	1924.
Brandy	20,509	33,893	44,089
Gin	45,387	67,252	83,487
Whisky	54,477	57,902	55,887
Total	120,373	159,047	183,463

Cotton Manufactured and Raw.

Year.					Value. Rs.
1923	...	...	...	...	26,954,348
1924	...	...	...	...	27,021,596

Raw Cotton.—Decrease of 15 per cent. Imports almost entirely from British India. The value rose from Rs. 65 to Rs. 93 per cwt.

Bleached Yarn and Twist.—Imports fell off by 62 per cent. The United Kingdom dropped out of the market almost entirely, while supplies from British India rose from three thousand to over twenty-three thousand lb. There was a remarkable increase in price from 45 cents per lb. to Re. 1.56 per lb.

Dyed Yarn.—Here again there was a large off-fall in imports (40 per cent.), and the United Kingdom almost dropped out of the market. Imports from India fell off by over 30 per cent. Prices were rather lower.

Grey Yarn.—Great decrease in quantity. Some decrease in price.

Piece Goods.—These, of course, form the bulk of the imports of cotton into Ceylon. There was a decrease in imports to the extent of about two million yards or 5 per cent. Of the various subdivisions decreases were shown in imports of bleached, grey, and " other piece goods " and of muslin. On the other hand there were increases in imports of dyed and printed piece goods, possibly indicating a movement towards a " Brighter Ceylon," so far at any rate as dress is concerned. There was practically no change in prices.

Except in the dyed goods market, where India again takes premier place, the United Kingdom maintained her predominance, but by a decreased majority. In printed goods alone did she exhibit any increase. India on the other hand made considerable headway in every branch except muslin and " other piece goods." Imports from Holland fell off greatly in every branch. Japan and Switzerland made noticeable progress in the market. There were few other changes of note.

Lace and Nets and Embroidery.—There was little change in quantity or value. Imports from the United Kingdom fell off slightly, those from British India considerably; Switzerland, with greatly increased imports, took third place to the United Kingdom, which still retained three-fourth of the market; importations from Germany showed an appreciable increase (25 per cent.). Switzerland again improved her position as an exporter of embroidery, of which she supplies over six-sevenths of Ceylon's demands.

Thread.—The demand for thread increased by one-third. The United Kingdom again supplied five-sixths of the total imported.

Articles manufactured of Cotton not elsewhere specified.—There was an increase of imports under this head, accompanied however by a diminution in value. The United Kingdom supplied the great bulk of the imports, but the value of Indian imports, which were only a fractional part of the United Kingdom share in quantity, was proportionately very much higher, amounting to nearly one-fourth of the whole value of goods imported under this head.

Coal.—The increase in imports of coal has already received mention elsewhere. Imports from the United Kingdom were slightly larger in quantity and about the same in total value. Both Natal and India sent increased quantities to Ceylon. The shares of the respective countries were: United Kingdom, 27 per cent.; Natal, 34 per cent.; British India, 25 per cent.

Year.	Quantity. Tons.	Value. Rs.
1923	544,548 ...	16,844,436
1924	675,136 ...	19,052,471

Liquid Fuel.—The increase in the demand for this fuel has already received notice. The increase in imports was about 30 per cent. Of the total imports more than three-quarters was re-exported in the form of ships' stores. Borneo, the largest supplier, sent about twice as much as Persia, but fell short by 20 per cent. of her record of 1923. Persia supplied 66 per cent. more than last year. The others who furnished considerable amounts were Sumatra and the United States of America.

Year.	Quantity. Gallons.	Value. Rs.
1923	32,179,572 ...	8,976,552
1924	42,332,008 ...	11,574,023

Kerosine Oil.—Imports of bulk oil fell off by 18 per cent. Over three-quarter of the year's supply was received from Asiatic Russia, as against just over one-third in 1923. There were no imports from Persia, and those from the United States of America fell off by over 45 per cent. The latter again supplied the bulk of the case oil, though in diminished quantities.

Year.	Quantity. Gallons.	Value. Rs.
1923	5,841,059 ...	5,309,732
1924	4,698,101 ...	4,254,985

Petrol.—The enormous increase (nearly 100 per cent.) in imports of this commodity must be largely attributed to the rapid increase in the number of motor omnibuses placed on the

roads in 1924. Borneo entered the lists as a strong competitor against Sumatra, the proportion sent by the latter being roughly 53 per cent. of the total imports, as against 47 per cent by the former.

Imports during the last five years were as follows :—

Year.	Gallons.	Year.	Gallons.
1920 ...	... 988,427	1923* ...	... 1,959,474
1921 ...	... 1,381,671	1924* ...	... 3,749,236
1922* ...	... 1,389,363		

* Includes Government imports, 40,000 gallons in 1924.

Manure.—Importations of manure increased by 10 per cent. Groundnut poonac and fish guano displaced bone meal at the head of the imports, the latter commodity showing a decrease of 21 per cent. In each case the bulk of the imports were from British India, nitrolim and nitrate of soda showed considerable increases, as did also sulphate of ammonia and potash and blood meal.

Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1923	... 1,520,719 ...	9,226,386
1924	... 1,672,017 ...	9,823,580

Horses.—111 horses were imported, as against 161 in 1923. Two-thirds came from the United Kingdom, twenty-seven came from India, and two from Natal. There were no imports from Australia.

Motor Cars and Lorries.—Increase of over 20 per cent. in the number of cars imported. Increase in number of cars imported from United Kingdom nearly 150 per cent., 40 per cent. increase in number imported from the United States of America. Canada alone showed a considerable off-fall, both in quantity and value, and now ranks second to the United States in numbers and third in value of imports. The average value of American cars imported was Rs. 2,732, of English cars Rs. 3,573.

There was an enormous increase (over 150 per cent.) in the number of lorries imported; imports from the various countries increased by the following percentages :—Canada, 128 per cent.; United States of America, 174 per cent.; United Kingdom, 187 per cent.

Motor Cars—	Number	Value. Rs.	Lorries—	Number.	Value. Rs.
1923 ...	968 ...	2,473,439	1923 ...	318 ...	891,689
1924 ...	1,175 ...	3,157,734	1924 ...	800 ...	2,168,158

Metals and Metalware.—Imports of ferrous metals and metalware rose in 1924 by 30 per cent. in value and 34 per cent. in quantity. Once more the United Kingdom supplied the bulk of the imports, the value of her share being 76 per cent. of the

total. The next largest exporters were Germany (10 per cent.) and Belgium (9 per cent.), both of whom considerably increased their consignments. The United States was the only other competitor who supplied as much as 2 per cent., this representing a falling off from 1923 of 14 per cent. Government imports revived somewhat in value.

Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1923	624,104 ...	9,087,050
1924	839,483 ...	11,876,465

The largest single sub-head was "Iron and Ironware Unenumerated," which showed an increase of over 30 per cent. Nine-tenths of the imports under this sub-head were from the United Kingdom. Other large items were iron bars and rods (60 per cent. increase), corrugated iron sheets (20 per cent. increase).

Non-ferrous Metals and Manufactures thereof.—As in the case of ferrous metals, the year's imports showed a large increase over 1923, the percentage of increase in value being nearly 22 per cent. Of the various importing countries, two alone supply four-fifths of the total, namely, the United Kingdom and Burma. In 1923 Burma had a slight preponderance, in 1924 the pendulum had swung a trifle the other way; broadly speaking, there was an equal division between them in both years. British India absorbed one-tenth of the market, the remaining tenth being divided between twenty-two other countries.

Year.	Value. Rs.
1923	4,756,194
1924	5,774,905

Aluminiumware.—The chief feature was the 300 per cent. increase in imports from the United Kingdom, which leapt from a poor fourth to an easy first, at the expense of her three successful rivals of 1923. Otherwise the respective positions of British India, Germany, and Switzerland remained unchanged.

Brass Alloys of Copper.—There were large increases in every sub-head. The United Kingdom maintained her complete predominance as a supplier of screws, nails and wire, tubes, and unworked metal. Germany headed the list of suppliers of brass rods and sheets, while India again furnished the largest share (nearly 50 per cent.) of other unclassified brass manufactures, the United Kingdom being a good second, and the rest nowhere.

Plate and Nickel Plate.—Germany supplied the greater quantity, but the imports from the United Kingdom were double the value.

Pig Lead.—Burma again supplied the bulk. The total increase was about 20 per cent.

Tea Lead.—Increase of 20 per cent. in value to the advantage of the United Kingdom. Imports from India decreased by 50 per cent.

Tin Slab.—Slight increase; United Kingdom made headway (150 per cent.) at the expense of the Straits Settlements, which however still supplied 75 per cent. of the total.

Cement.—Imports increased by 193,477 cwt., *i.e.*, 37 per cent. over 1923 figures. Of this large increase, 90,000 cwt. were due to increased imports by Government. Imports from the United Kingdom, still the largest supplier, rose by 20 per cent. Supplies from Germany rose by over 100 per cent., and those from Denmark by over 20 per cent. Import from other countries were negligible.

Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1923	521,337	1,232,304
1924	714,814	1,547,184

Tea Shooks.—Increase of 18 per cent. in importations. Japan supplied three-quarters of the total imports. Most of the rest came from the United Kingdom. According to the rough estimate of cases used, the proportion of imported to home-manufactured cases (two to one) has altered very little.

Year.	Number of Chests.	Value. Rs.
1923	1,963,982	3,570,699
1924	2,328,477	4,157,865

Diamonds and Precious Stones.—The duty recovered on the imports of diamonds and precious stones during 1924 was Rs. 147,910 on a value of Rs. 1,479,098. Of this duty, Rs. 126,230 was refunded on subsequent re-exportation—the nett recoveries being thus Rs. 21,680.

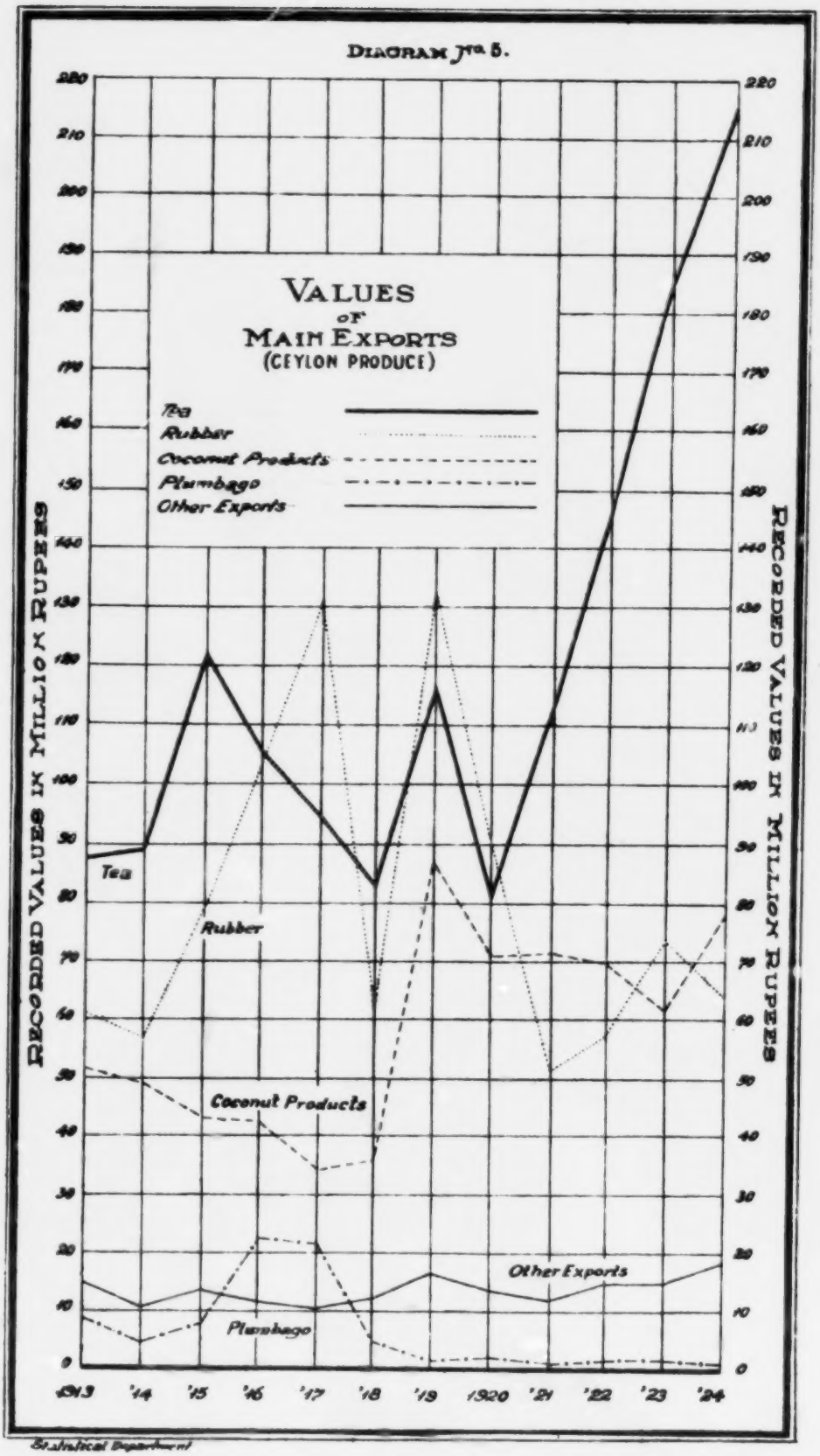
The value of precious stones brought to Ceylon by commercial travellers amounted to Rs. 1,421,619, whilst imports by local merchants were valued at Rs. 57,479.

Notes on the Principal Exports.

Tea.—The distribution of the Colony's tea output is set out in tabular form below :—

Year.	Million Pounds.	Year.	Million Pounds.
1918	180	1922	172
1919	208	1923	182
1920	184	1924	205
1921	161		

DIAGRAM No. 5.



Statistical Department

Printed. Survey Dept. Ceylon. 8. 6. 25

	1924. lb.	1923. lb.	Increase. lb.	Decrease. lb.
United Kingdom	132,886,382	119,768,283	13,118,099	—
British Possessions.				
Australia	15,460,636	10,815,635	4,645,001	—
British India	1,575,906	1,854,021	—	278,115
Canada	7,963,614	7,261,404	702,210	—
Cape Colony	2,958,063	2,556,179	401,884	—
Egypt	4,494,973	4,899,968	—	404,995
Hong Kong	159,928	203,480	—	43,552
Mauritius	349,538	231,401	118,137	—
Natal	3,096,665	3,232,364	—	135,699
Newfoundland	689,060	648,616	40,444	—
New Zealand	5,884,136	6,386,188	—	502,052
Other British Possessions in Africa	653,929	580,192	73,737	—
Other British Possessions in Asia	4,591,331	1,600,377	2,990,954	—
Straits Settlements	976,775	897,605	79,170	—
Zanzibar	133,015	145,781	—	12,766
Other British Possessions	230,263	192,507	37,756	—
	49,217,832	41,505,718	9,089,293	1,377,179
		Deduct Decrease	1,377,179	
		Nett Increase	7,712,114	
Foreign Countries.				
Chile	204,225	237,119	—	32,894
China (excluding Hong Kong	136,985	114,235	22,750	—
Denmark	185,792	110,878	74,914	—
France	927,362	1,244,839	—	317,477
Germany	695,132	119,463	575,669	—
Italy	264,213	188,949	75,264	—
Japan	465,875	372,552	93,323	—
Mozambique	154,087	107,206	46,881	—
Other Foreign Countries in Africa	295,774	161,306	134,468	—
Russia in Europe	110,691	—	110,691	—
South America (excluding Chile)	1,399,780	1,317,446	82,334	—
Sweden	106,699	82,017	24,682	—
Turkey in Asia	770,216	450,152	320,064	—
Turkey in Europe	162,622	118,709	43,913	—
United States of America	16,309,413	15,550,436	758,977	—
Other Foreign Countries	569,826	456,876	112,950	—
	22,758,692	20,632,183	2,476,880	350,371
		Deduct Decrease	350,371	
		Nett Increase	2,126,509	
Ships' Stores	67,401	33,547	33,854	—
Total	204,930,307	181,939,731	22,990,576	—

After the United Kingdom, which absorbs two-thirds of the total, the United States and Australia are Ceylon's best customers, and while the increase in purchases by the former amounted only to some 5 per cent., there was a very large rise in

volume of exports to the latter, amounting to nearly 42 per cent. Other important customers whose demand increased were Canada (10 per cent.) and Cape Colony (16 per cent.), while the countries grouped (for want of a more concise term) as " Other British Possessions in Asia " purchased 187 per cent. more than in 1923. The more important decreases were in exports to Egypt, British India, New Zealand, Natal, and France. The percentage of increase in volume of total exports was 12 per cent., that of exports to the United Kingdom 11 per cent.

Other Exports.—These have been broadly dealt with elsewhere in the report. Some of the more important figures are given below.

Products of the coconut show a satisfactory increase in each of the three main branches. It is probably correct to say that the figures appended show that 1924 was the most productive year on record since 1919. In the latter year the figures of coconut oil were higher, but those for the desiccated nut were considerably less, while copra was practically the same. No doubt the unusual rainfall in 1924 had much to do with this.

Year.	Desiccated Coconuts.	Copra.	Coconut Oil.
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.
1919	675,060	1,759,525	675,999
1920	518,735	1,357,870	507,527
1921	870,515	1,367,431	484,724
1922	768,215	1,686,589	554,626
1923	818,793	1,015,465	480,543
1924	871,341	1,769,189	552,633

Desiccated Coconuts.—The United Kingdom took slightly less desiccated nut, the United States considerably less (25 per cent.). On the other hand exports to Germany went up by 164 per cent.

Copra.—Purchases by the United Kingdom were somewhat less. There was however a large increase in the demand from British India, Denmark, Germany, Holland, and Italy.

Coconut Oil.—The United Kingdom took much less—about 60 per cent. of the 1923 supplies. Germany too showed a diminished demand for this product, those who manifested an increased interest in this market were British India, Italy (who ranked second to the United Kingdom in 1924), Denmark, who, entering the market after a complete absence in 1923 ran Italy close for second place, and Sweden.

Rubber.—The existence of rubber control naturally renders figures of production and export of rubber of little use for purposes of comparisons. The United Kingdom took just under 25 per cent. of the whole, and her purchases decreased by

about 11 per cent. The United States took over two-thirds of the whole, her proportion and the volume of her purchases being about the same as last year. Germany took twice as much as last year; other changes were slight.

Year.	Quantity. lb.	Value. Rs.
1923	83,816,228 ...	73,594,349
1924	82,960,851 ...	63,749,711

SHIPPING.

3,858 vessels entered the various ports of the Island, as against 3,677 in 1923. The tonnages were 10,649,557 and 9,602,984, respectively. The following table shows the classification under four general heads :—

	1923.		1924.	
	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.
Merchant vessels (with cargo and in ballast) ...	2,339 ...	8,052,459 ...	2,599 ...	9,196,469
Merchant vessels (called to coal and oil) ...	387 ...	1,285,004 ...	365 ...	1,195,543
Native sailing vessels ...	901 ...	91,529 ...	836 ...	81,131
Warships and transports*	50 ...	173,992 ...	58 ...	176,414
	3,677	9,602,984	3,858	10,649,557

* Warships' displacement tonnage.

The following table shows the comparative distribution of merchant vessels, including those which called only for the purpose of coaling :—

Nationality	1923.		1924.	
	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.
British	1,906 ...	6,115,626 ...	2,051 ...	6,678,281
British Colonial ...	901 ...	91,529 ...	836 ...	81,131
Total British Vessels ...	2,807	6,207,155	2,887	6,759,412
American ...	18 ...	72,641 ...	40 ...	205,407
Danish	20 ...	53,306 ...	21 ...	58,651
Dutch	189 ...	746,584 ...	204 ...	872,278
Finnish	2 ...	4,984 ...	— ...	—
French	122 ...	574,372 ...	134 ...	631,935
German	108 ...	430,725 ...	143 ...	565,888
Greek	— ...	— ...	1 ...	2,946
Italian	60 ...	223,853 ...	90 ...	336,154
Japanese	183 ...	852,739 ...	175 ...	804,112
Norwegian ...	80 ...	148,602 ...	69 ...	124,369
Panamanian ...	1 ...	7,990 ...	1 ...	7,990
Russian	1 ...	4,160 ...	2 ...	7,113
Spanish	16 ...	33,895 ...	16 ...	38,021
Swedish	20 ...	67,986 ...	17 ...	58,867
Total Foreign Vessels ...	820	3,221,887	913	3,713,731

Excluding warships, transports, and merchant vessels which called only to coal, the distribution according to the flag is shown below :—

Nationality.	1923.		1924.	
	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.
British ...	1,592	5,064,929	1,768	5,732,009
British Colonial ...	901	91,529	836	81,131
Total British Vessels ...	2,493	5,156,458	2,604	5,813,140
American ...	15	60,079	38	197,543
Danish	16	46,216	19	53,721
Dutch	168	676,117	181	785,155
French	121	569,362	133	631,527
German	97	388,039	129	514,071
Italian	57	213,383	76	288,394
Japanese	175	829,233	170	789,885
Norwegian ...	64	109,870	51	98,854
Panamanian ...	—	—	1	7,990
Russian	—	—	1	2,953
Spanish	16	33,895	16	38,021
Swedish	18	61,336	16	56,346
Total Foreign Vessels ...	747	2,987,530	831	3,464,460

Customs Revenue.

The total duties collected by the Department in 1924 amounted to Rs. 36,859,240.89, exceeding the total of the previous year—in itself a record—by Rs. 3,547,328.65, an increase of 10.6 per cent. The increase is made up as follows :—

	Total of Increase.		Percentage of Increase.
	Rs.	c.	
Imports	2,254,001	37	9.1
Exports	1,278,997	8	14.9
Sundries	14,330	20	26.8

While the percentage increase is less than that of 1923 over 1922, *i.e.*, 10.6, as against 15.8 per cent., it must be noted that the increase in 1924 is due to purely natural causes, *i.e.*, there were no increases in tariff duties in 1924, whereas the 1923 increase was helped by additions to the duties on spirits, paddy, sugar, tea, and "other goods." Against this increase in duties must of course be off-set the decrease in rubber duty, but this latter was insufficient to counterbalance the advantage to 1923 revenue gained by the doubling of the duty on tea alone, the latter producing in 1923 an increase of two million odd rupees, as compared with a falling off on rubber of about Rs. 700,000. Tables are appended showing the increase in revenue collected at the several ports in the Island under the

main heads during the years 1923 and 1924, with the percentage of increase under each head :—

Statement of Nett Customs Revenue collected at the several Ports in the Island of Ceylon from January 1 to December 31, 1924.

Heads of Receipts.	Total Collections, 1923. Rs. c.	Total Collections, 1924. Rs. c.	Increase (+), Decrease (—), as compared with previous Year. Rs. c.	
HEAD I.—CUSTOMS.				
Import Duties.				
Cotton Manufactures	1,496,341 33	1,493,415 12	— 2,926 21	— 0.19
Grain	8,169,047 23	8,101,856 53	— 67,190 70	— 0.82
Kerosine Oil	2,406,435 91	2,522,271 71	+ 115,835 80	+ 4.8
Spirits and Cordials	2,389,693 2	2,854,249 73	+ 464,556 71	+19.4
Sugar	1,757,395 56	2,216,706 54	+ 459,310 98	+26.1
Other Goods	8,511,182 5	9,795,596 84	+1,284,414 79	+15.0
(*a*) Total Import Duties	24,730,095 10	26,984,096 47	+2,254,001 37	+ 9.1
Export Duties.				
Cacao	92,099 56	105,073 70	+ 12,974 14	+14.0
Coconut, desiccated	689,920 87	734,471 81	+ 44,550 94	+ 6.4
Coconuts, fresh	47,662 85	87,314 68	+ 39,651 83	+83.1
Coconut Oil	359,578 87	418,242 73	+ 58,663 86	+16.2
Copra	610,091 65	1,059,715 84	+ 449,624 19	+73.7
Plumbago	46,322 89	39,873 73	— 6,449 16	—13.9
Poonac	37,101 56	54,919 57	+ 17,818 1	+48.0
Rubber	1,464,196 67	1,452,003 80	— 12,192 87	— 0.83
Tea	5,181,806 54	5,852,533 3	+ 670,726 49	+12.9
Other	14,167 10	17,796 75	+ 3,629 65	+25.6
(*b*) Total Export Duties	8,542,948 56	9,821,945 64	+1,278,997 8	+14.9
Sundries	38,868 58	53,198 78	+ 14,330 20	+26.8
Grand Total	33,311,912 24	36,859,240 89	+3,547,328 65	+10.6
HEAD II.—PORT, HARBOUR, WAREHOUSE, AND OTHER DUES.				
Revenue of Colombo Harbour.				
Harbour Dues	2,373,360 35	2,724,849 3	+ 351,488 68	
Warehouse Rent	605,555 99	646,908 68	+ 41,352 69	
Lake to Harbour Dues	8,498 28	11,706 86	+ 3,208 58	
Other Rents	333,840 95	327,977 18	— 5,863 77	
Pilotage	190,156 24	217,278 69	+ 27,122 45	
Railway Traffic	31,771 84	65,480 90	+ 33,709 6	
Other Harbour Collections	103,583 54	187,491 5	+ 83,907 51	
Revenue of Oil Installations	725,590 98	1,106,440 53	+ 380,849 55	
Dues leviable at Outports.				
Port Dues	29,601 56	33,803 78	+ 4,202 22	
Warehouse Rent	80,130 7	72,241 36	— 7,888 71	
Other	13,442 0	14,707 50	+ 1,265 50	
Grand Total	4,495,531 80	5,408,885 56	+ 913,353 76	+23.1
HEAD IV.—FEES OF COURT OR OFFICE.				
Medical Aid (Export Duties)	912,169 75	941,989 31	+ 29,819 56	
Sundries	5,617 63	5,420 21	— 197 42	
Grand Total	917,787 38	947,409 52	+ 29,622 14	+ 3.2

The only two main import heads which have remained more or less stationary are cotton manufactures and grain, both of which show a decrease by a fractional percentage. These are off-set by large increases in the duty derived from sugar (26 per cent.), spirits and cordials (19.4 per cent.), and " other goods " (15 per cent.).

Turning to exports, large increases will be noticed under the heads coconuts fresh (83 per cent.), copra (73 per cent.), and poonac (48 per cent.). Rubber, as could only be expected under the present artificial conditions of export, remained practically stationary, while tea, which furnishes over half the export revenue, showed a satisfactory increase of nearly 13 per cent. Cacao (14 per cent.) and coconut oil (16.2 per cent.) also improved upon last year's figures. Plumbago alone fell off (by 13 per cent.).

The revenue would have been greater but for the rise in the rate of exchange during the latter half of the year from about 1*s*. 4½*d*. to 1*s*. 6*d*. which materially affects the recoveries of *ad valorem* duties on goods from the United Kingdom and foreign countries.

The continued increase in the revenue derived from spirits and cordials, not attributable in any way this year to an increase in duty, is significant in view of the closing of arrack and toddy taverns throughout the Colony.

Oil Facilities at Colombo.—The oil trade continues to improve, and the number of ships calling at Colombo for oil fuel bunkers has increased rapidly. The pipes for the duplication of the 10-inch fuel oil pipeline are on order, and the work of laying the pipes will be commenced as soon as they are received. It is anticipated that this additional facility will be available in about twelve months. Two new steam-driven pumps are being ordered to replace the present fuel oil and kerosine and petrol pumps at the Boosting Station at the Graving Dock.

Owing to complaints received from the oil companies regarding the inadequacy of the accommodation for the storage of fuel oil allowed to them at Bloemendahl, the Imperial Government has approved of permission being granted to each oil company to erect two or more measuring tanks at Bloemendahl, provided that the total capacity of the tanks does not exceed 5,000 tons, and that the quantity stored at any one time, except with special permission, does not exceed 3,000 tons.

The question of making the Outer Oil Bunkering Jetty and the Oil Discharge Jetty fully usable during both monsoons has engaged the attention of the Colombo Port Commission during the year, and it is hoped shortly to arrive at a satisfactory

solution of the difficulties encountered. The work of dredging the approach channel to the Graving Dock Guide Pier and Oil Discharge Jetty to 33 feet below L.W.O.S.T. made good progress. One of the dredgers was continuously employed on this work. All rock in the vicinity of the Graving Dock Guide Pier is now believed to have been removed with a few minor exceptions, and the proving of the depth by sweeping is now in progress.

During the year 1924, 55 vessels discharged the following quantities of oil :—

	Tons.
Liquid fuel	235,758
Kerosine	26,198
Benzine and petrol	14,997

and 253 vessels were bunkered with a total quantity of 137,597 tons of liquid fuel.

During the year the following reductions in the Port oil charges were made :—

(*a*) The maintenance charge was reduced from 75 cents per ton (Rs. 3 per 1,000 gallons) to 65 cents per ton (Rs. 2.60 per 1,000 gallons) with effect from October 1, 1924.

(*b*) The special charges for mooring and unmooring oil vessels at the Graving Dock Guide Pier and at the oil jetties were also abolished with effect from October 1, 1924.

Lake to Harbour Canal.—The canal, locks, and warehouses were maintained satisfactorily during the year. The fendering of quay walls is almost complete. The connecting channel between the Main Line Basin and the East Lake for 40-ton harbour barges was tested during the year with a fully loaded barge, and the depth was found to be sufficient. Mill owners on the Lake have been informed that, if they intend to make use of 40-ton harbour barges, loading stages will have to be erected, and, if they point out the positions selected for these stages to the Engineer-in-Charge, Lake Development Scheme, the latter will carry out the necessary buoying and dredging.

The traffic on the canal is gradually increasing. The total traffic since the opening of the locks in November, 1922, has been as follows :—

	Tons.
November and December, 1922	2,054
January to December, 1923	28,328
January to December, 1924	38,139

A total number of 4,662 lighters, motor launches, and other small craft passed through the Lake to Harbour Canal in 1924, as against 3,686 in 1923.

The receipts from the lock charges, Lake to Harbour Canal, during the year were Rs. 11,807.36.

Deepening of the Harbour.—In view of a scheme adopted by the Suez Canal authorities in 1921 by which vessels of 35 feet draught will ultimately be allowed to pass through the canal, the question of the advisability of adopting a further programme of deepening Colombo Harbour was referred by Government to the Imperial Shipping Committee in England. This Committee considered the matter from the point of view of the likelihood of ships with a draught exceeding 33 feet being built for the Eastern and Australian trades *viâ* the Suez Canal within the next 15 to 20 years. In the report of the Imperial Shipping Committee, which has already been published, the Committee expressed the opinion that ships with a greater draught than 33 feet are not likely to be built for the Eastern and Australian trades in the next ten years. They therefore saw no present justification for a general deepening of the Colombo Harbour, if it should appear that the cost is likely to be very large. The utmost which the present outlook would, in their opinion justify, is a programme limited to one or two deeper berths, if they can be provided at a cost which will not involve any increase in the dues. The Colombo Port Commission does not anticipate any difficulty at present in providing one or two berths for ships drawing 35 or 36 feet to keep abreast of the Suez Canal programme. One such berth can be made available in about two years, without any very considerable additional cost.

The present programme of the Colombo Port Commission is to deepen the outer portion of the harbour to 36 feet, and the areas near the foreshore to 33 feet and 30 feet respectively. All the berths in the 36-feet area are expected to be available in about 8 years, but the deepening of the northern entrance will take longer. The Colombo Port Commission is well abreast of the Suez Canal Scheme, as ships with a draught of 33 feet can already be accommodated in the harbour. There are at present two berths in each monsoon available for vessels of 33 feet, and it is hoped that three more berths in each monsoon for vessels of this draught will be available in another eighteen months. The authorized draught of vessels passing through the Suez Canal is now 32 feet.

Moorings for Larger Ships.—The new scheme of moorings for larger ships drawn up by Mr. A. D. Prouse, late Harbour Engineer, was held over till the arrival of the new Master Attendant, as both the new Harbour Engineer and the Acting Master Attendant considered that several modifications would be required before it could be adopted. The question whether it would be desirable to alter the present moorings to the extent contemplated by this scheme was also considered. The question is still being investigated. In the meantime work is proceeding

on the scheme drawn up by the Consulting Engineers in 1922, which provides for 2 berths for 600 feet vessels, two berths for 700 feet vessels, and one berth for vessels of unlimited length—all in both monsoons. There will also be an extra berth for 600 feet vessels in the north-east monsoon. This scheme is considered adequate to meet present requirements.

New Custom House at the Passenger Jetty.—The final plans of the new Customs House at the Passenger Jetty are now being prepared by the Director of Public Works. A sum of Rs. 200,000 has been provided by Government in the current financial year's Budget, and a start is just about to be made with the work. It will be necessary to demolish two bays of Fort 1 (imports) warehouse, and another part of Fort 1 warehouse will be adapted as a temporary baggage office during the work of construction.

Quarters and Housing of Labour.—Owing to the necessity for adequately housing the Port Commission and Customs officers a scheme was drawn up in 1923 for providing quarters for these officers. Five bungalows for officers of the Harbour Engineer's Department have so far been built on the site of the old St. Thomas's College. Two bungalows for Customs Preventive Officers and two sets of quarters for watchers of the Customs Preventive Staff have also been erected near Fisher's Hill, Mutwal. Another bungalow for the use of the Charges Officer, Customs, was completed in December last on the site of old "Cliff House," near the fishery harbour. A further scheme is now being considered, and a scheme for the housing of the labour employed on the harbour works who live in the slums of Kochchikadde is being drawn up.

The nett tonnage of vessels (sailing and steam) which visited Colombo Harbour in 1924 amounted to 10,013,951 tons; in addition 58 warships and transports with a gross tonnage of 176,414 tons, and 61 coasting vessels with a nett tonnage of 64,212 tons, entered the port.

The number of merchant ships of all nationalities and their tonnage visiting the port in 1913, 1923, and 1924 were as follows :—

	Number of Vessels.	Tonnage.
1913	2,979 ...	9,475,893
1923	2,563 ...	9,006,640
1924	2,773 ...	10,013,951

Graving Dock and Patent Slip.—Thirty-six vessels were docked during the year, and 37 vessels were taken on the Patent Slip; 9 vessels were fumigated.

The receipts from the Graving Dock and Patent Slip brought to account during the year 1924 were Rs. 130,782.09 and Rs. 5,354.22 respectively. The former shows an increase of Rs. 84,579.69 over the previous year's figure, Rs. 46,202.40, and was due to the increase in the number of ships docked during 1924. The Patent Slip was used in 1924 by a less number of vessels than in the previous year, and this accounts for the decrease of Rs. 2,490.21 in the receipts, as compared with Rs. 7,844.43 received in the previous year. Rs. 2,495 was received in respect of fumigation, as against Rs. 1,657.50 in 1923.

The total expenditure of the Colombo Port Commission for the financial year 1923-1924, including Rs. 337,336.65 chargeable to Loan Account in respect of the Oil Installations Scheme, Dredging Colombo Harbour, and Government Housing Scheme, was Rs. 2,638,310.51. Of this amount Rs. 5,333.60 was expended by the Public Works Department on work for this Department, and a sum of Rs. 90,754.88 was expended by the Colombo Port Commission on account of other Departments. The nett expenditure on Colombo Port Commission services, inclusive of loan expenditure, was Rs. 2,542,222.03. The revenue during the same period was Rs. 5,157,984.53, inclusive of Rs. 1,083,458.04 from the oil charges levied at the port and rent of the oil depôts.

IV.—LAND.

Land Settlement Department.

DURING the year under review 87,762 acres of all classes of land have been settled and only three claims have had to be referred to the courts for adjudication.

Since 1901 settlement surveys covering an area of 4,785,858 acres have been issued to the Department and the settlement of 3,666,537 acres is complete, leaving a balance of 1,119,321 acres in hand. Of this balance area approximately 739,000 acres lie in the North-Central Province, 80,000 in the Ratnapura District, 53,000 in the North-Western Province, 213,000 in the Southern Province, and 18,000 in Uva, with smaller areas in Kegalla, Kalutara, Colombo, Matale, and Trincomalee Districts. The large area in the North-Central Province includes 707,000 acres in the Tamankaduwa division, which has been taken up in connection with the Batticaloa-Trincomalee Light Railway. This area has been surveyed on topographical plans and can be speedily settled. The bulk of the acreage in the

Southern Province, apart from 155,000 acres in the Hambantota District done on topographical plans, lies in the Bentota-Walallawiti korale and presents no great difficulties. The real work lies in the Ratnapura District and the North-Western Province where land is in demand for tea and rubber and in the North-Western Province for coconut cultivation. Nearly 145,570 acres of new block surveys and 700,635 acres of topographical surveys were issued during 1924 for settlement purposes. The Settlement Department will have to be strengthened to cope with this increased output.

FORESTS.

Reforestation.—During the year 1924 the areas under planting operations were increased from 11,151 acres to 12,973 acres. These include 458 acres of teak plantations formed by means of chena reforestation in the Eastern Division (south), 385 acres partly patana planting and partly on areas felled for fuel supplies in the Uva Division, 261 acres of coppice fellings, into which mahogany is introduced, in the Southern Division (west), 184 acres of mahogany and nedun plantations and coppice fellings in the North-Western Division, and 275 acres of gum and cypress plantations in the Central Division. The Eastern Division (south) excluded 608 acres of old chena reforestation areas, according to instructions issued to strike off, after detailed inspection, areas which are incapable of improvement, in order that correct estimates may be prepared for the improvement and management of productive areas. These plantations were formed at no cost, the work being done by cultivators in return for permission to practice chena cultivation.

Exploitation.—The value of supplies extracted by Departmental Agency, for Government Departments, for which the Department receives paper credit only, was Rs. 1,452,637, against Rs. 1,574,406 for the previous year. These supplies include 21,881 broad gauge sleepers and 21,048 narrow gauge sleepers, 407,770 cubic yards of firewood for the Railway, and 145,401 cubic feet of timber (hardwoods) delivered to the Railway Department, the Harbour Engineer's Department, the Postal Department, and the Government Factory. 173,399 pieces of small round timber were removed by Public Departments on licences, as well as minor forest produce, in addition to material extracted by the Public Works Department, the Irrigation and Railway Construction Departments, from forest land within their permanent or temporary jurisdiction, without Forest Department permits.

The number of Railway sleepers supplied by the Department since 1906 is 1,002,282 broad gauge at an average cost of Rs. 3.86, and 400,108 narrow gauge sleepers at an average of Re. 1.84. These have been extracted by means of unregulated exploitation, for the most part outside the Reserves and Proposed Reserves, which it is now intended to bring under systematic working, on an area basis. The cost of Departmental extraction is considerably higher at the present time than the average shown above, but the Department is still able to effect considerable reduction on the cost of imported sleepers, and as soon as systematic exploitation has become general in the divisions which supply this material, a larger outturn may be expected at somewhat lower rates than those obtained in the present methods of unregulated exploitation, with a multiplicity of larger or smaller contracts.

The revenue received from the public on account of timber, fuel, and minor produce during the year was Rs. 558,103, an appreciable increase over the sum realized in 1923, viz., Rs. 428,714, and an estimated revenue of Rs. 450,000 for the year under review. The increase is mainly due to the revival of the market for satinwood for export, and the high prices obtained for timber of good quality, the Central Timber Depôt returning a revenue of Rs. 128,732.04, against Rs. 50,515.63 in 1923. This revenue would have been larger had it been possible to stock the depôt and hold regular monthly sales, and every endeavour is now being made to have timber available for the advertisement of 40 logs per mensem for public auction. The best timber for sale purposes is obtained from the Eastern Division (south), which is the most remote division from Colombo, and at present not connected by rail, and extraction and shipment is a long and difficult process.

Comments on Features of the 1923 Report.

(1) Coppicing in clear felling contracts in the dry zone has not proved sufficiently successful to re-stock these areas for future fuel supplies, without the introduction, by artificial means, of coppicing species. The forests are too old for coppice regeneration. The areas are therefore dealt with in one of two ways. Where there is a permanent demand for firewood and available forest is limited, natural coppice is assisted by the introduction of species known to coppice successfully, and such areas are fully stocked. Where large forest areas exist, and no necessity arises of regenerating them for fuel supplies, natural regeneration of valuable timber species is aimed at, by methods which are not yet sufficiently advanced to be standardized, but which have proved very successful locally. The method roughly follows the European methods of

regeneration fellings, the cover being removed gradually over a given period of time, standards of valuable and inferior species being retained so as to provide uniform light cover. The removal of weed and grass is combined with a soil wounding operation carried out at the time of the seedfall, and where seedbearers of valuable species are plentiful, results have followed which entirely justify the procedure, and the most valuable hardwoods of satinwood, palu, ranai, and milla are making their appearance freely. A period of five years is tentatively being allotted to secure complete regeneration, after which artificial stocking will supply the remaining vacancies. This method is in furtherance of a project to assemble the valuable species in centralized accessible areas, and to lay the foundations of perennial supplies under fixed working plans, when the large tracts of forest land, with their low contents of valuable timber, have been systematically worked over. Where fuel is required, the preliminary opening of the cover is effected by fuel extraction, under regulated management, without cost to the Department, subsequent attention involving very low expenditure on the planting vote. Where fuel cannot be extracted, the whole cost of the operation falls on the Departmental vote, with the additional disadvantage that felled material lies on the ground without disposal or removal.

In fuel areas in the wet zone, coppice fellings combined with the planting of mahogany have continued to be successful, but the presence of the mahogany borer has already been detected, and it will be necessary, if the attack becomes general, to have another, safe, species on which to fall back. For this purpose Pehimbiya (*Filicium decipiens*), is indicated and will be tried experimentally.

(2) Stock taking in the Kanthalai Reserve of the Eastern Division (north) was followed by a more elaborate scheme of demarcation and enumeration of felling coupes in the Omunugala Proposed Reserve of the Eastern Division (south) for purposes of immediate exploitation, which is now commencing, improvement, and regeneration. During the year six square miles of forest were demarcated into rectangular coupes of half a square mile, and enumerated in the following classes :—

A.—*Trees over 5 Feet in Girth at Breast Height.*

First Class.

I. Satinwood for export sale at the Central Timber Depôt.

II. Satinwood, palu, halmilla, ranai, and milla for supplies of timber in the log for Government Departments or for sale purposes.

III. The same species for sleeper supplies.

The results were as follows :—

I. 273 logs = 16,571 cubic feet valued at Rs. 13 per cubic foot in Colombo.

II.

Satinwood	..	549	= 1,000 logs = 43,086 cubic feet.
Halmilla	..	134	
Milla	..	119	
Ranai	..	198	

III.

Satinwood	..	689	= 1,939 logs = 54,882 cubic feet with an estimated outturn of 10,180 broad gauge and 2,893 narrow gauge sleepers.
Milla	..	755	
Ranai	..	440	
Palu	..	55	

B.—*Trees from 3 Feet to 5 Feet Girth at Breast Height.*

Satinwood	..	..	1,843
Halmilla ..	..	..	2,374
Ranai ..	..	..	2,426
Milla ..	..	..	983
		Total ..	7,626 trees

The combined yield of A and B is thus 11,111 trees over an area of six square miles, or slightly under one exploitable tree per acre now, and two per acre in the second felling rotation, the rotation being tentatively fixed at 40 years. Much of the satinwood enumerated for extraction for export sales is of very large size. Logs are being sent to Colombo up to 10 to 12 feet in girth. If these turn out to be flowered logs, fantastic prices will be realized, Rs. 35 per cubic foot being frequently offered for the best flowered logs. Such timber is fast reaching the point of over-maturity, and it is necessary that expenditure should be incurred for complete enumeration of the productive forests without delay, the cost of such work being incorporated gradually in the cost of supplies delivered, to which it adds an insignificant trifle, the work undertaken during the year adding 5 cents to the cost of a sleeper and less than 1 cent per cubic foot to the cost of timber in the log.

(3) *Plan for Supply of Tea Chests from Up-country Forests.*—The expenditure required for the erection of plant for the conversion of indigenous timber to be removed from the forests, to render the scheme feasible, was withdrawn from the Estimates for 1924-25, owing to discrepancies in the estimated outturn of such material, and conflicting views regarding its marketability. It was accordingly decided that as the proportion of utilizable material in the forests is very low, compared with tree growth which would have to be destroyed, in order to clear the areas, it would be preferable to endeavour to sell the valuable material standing, rather than to incur the cost and risk of establishing a large depôt. In addition, further time and experience is required to test the growth of the exotic conifers intended to be introduced, and final proposals are being postponed pending the collection of reliable data regarding their success or failure.

(4) The lease of 1,000 acres of wet zone forests on easy terms for the production of native tea and rubber chests, though signed, was not taken up, and lapsed through default.

(5) *Afforestation of the Uva Patanas for Timber and Fuel.*—Progress was made in securing patana land for afforestation, rendering a planting programme feasible for 15 years, at the rate of 200 acres per annum. Little difficulty is anticipated in securing additional land at the end of this period, but it has not yet been made available, and the question will depend on the success of the undertaking. The planting of areas required for fuel supplies will be completed in 1925, after which the timber areas will be commenced.

(6) *Utilization of Forests in the Vicinity of the Main Line between Polgahawela and Veyangoda for Fuel Supplies and Reforestation.*—This has not been developed, mainly owing to the drop in the price of coal, and the tendency of the Railway Department to discontinue the use of wood fuel. The areas are also not yet in requisition for reforestation, as jak planting at Mirigama is not yet complete.

(7) The development of jak and nedun plantations is proceeding satisfactorily. In addition to the main jak area at Mirigama which comprises the planting of 200 acres per annum, it is hoped to arrange for the creation of small jak plantations in proximity to small towns, for local sale only, thereby enabling local purchasers to secure their supplies as cheaply as possible without long rail transport.

(8) The establishment of arboreta and central nurseries at Nuwara Eliya has been dropped for the time being, owing to local opposition.

(9) The proposal to develop plantations of Australian wattles for the tanning bark industry is also in abeyance, as land cannot be made available for the purpose up-country. Experiments are being conducted with the required species in other localities, but results are not yet to hand.

(10) *Afforestation by Estates.*—The facilities granted by Government, with the sanction of the Secretary of State, to lease suitable Crown land adjoining tea estates for afforestation with fuel species, have so far met with no response, and no application for such land has yet been received.

(11) A Development Branch has been opened in the Office of the Conservator of Forests during the year. Preliminary work in this branch has consisted of a general survey of reforestation already carried out, and the introduction of better

means of control of expenditure and preparation of estimates, and this branch will later take up the detailed planning of commercial reforestation, in its various forms, and exploitation.

SALT.

The manufacture, collection, and sale of Ceylon salt are a Government monopoly, which is protected by a duty of Rs. 3 per cwt. on all imported salt. The amount realized by its sale in 1924 was Rs. 1,746,585.90, as against Rs. 1,767,421.82 in 1923 and Rs. 1,472,692.93 in 1922.

2. The local production of salt was very unsatisfactory. The salt pans at Chiviyateru in the Northern Province were closed down owing to the consistently bad quality of the salt manufactured. Unseasonable rains prevented any collection of salt at all at the Hambantota Lewayas, and only a few manufacturers at Puttalam took out licences. The above causes resulted in a very poor crop. The total yield for the Island during 1924 was only 185,261 cwt., as against 565,576 cwt. in 1923 and 779,943 cwt. in 1922. The distribution of the harvest was as follows :—

	Cwt.
Puttalam District	8,622
Jaffna District	29,522
Elephant Pass (Government Saltern)	144,375
Palavi (Government Saltern)	2,742
Total ...	185,261

The figures for Puttalam District are based on estimates of inweighed salt in manufacturers' kottus and the usual increase of 25 to 30 per cent. which may be expected on these estimates will not materially affect the total output, which represents less than one-third of a year's supply for the Island's consumption.

3. The usual selling price at the Government salt stores is Rs. 3 per cwt., except at the Government check stores at Haputale and Galle, where the salt is sold in limited quantities at Rs. 5.25 and Rs. 4 per cwt., respectively, to pay for cost of transport from the source of supply. Salt is also sold to retail dealers and fish curers at a uniform rate of Rs. 3.36 per cwt. *ex* Government stores at Batticaloa, Kalmunai, Akkarai pattu, and Pottuvil in the Eastern Province.

4. The total stocks in the Island at the end of 1924 amounted to 641,998 cwt. including 80,818 cwt. of unweighed salt at Puttalam, referred to in paragraph 2 above, or roughly about 663,000 cwt.

5. The reorganization of the Salt Department under the direction of the Salt Adviser was continued during 1924. A large amount of construction work was done at Elephant Pass, mainly to increase the size of the storage platform and the area of the crystallizing beds and to instal mechanical appliances for transport and stacking of salt. The saltern is now nearly completed. The manufacturing season was very favourable and the crop harvested amounted to 144,375 cwt. At Palavi, construction work was continued in enclosing the brine reservoir with a permanent bund and in providing quarters for officers. The manufacturing season was very unfavourable, showers falling at short intervals during the usually dry months, and the crop harvested was only 2,472 cwt. Sales of salt from the Elephant Pass and Palavi platforms to the public were continued by the Salt Adviser throughout the year and 136,859 cwt. were sold up to December 31, a sum of Rs. 410,577 being realized by these sales.

Mineral Survey.

An exhaustive examination was made during the early part of the year of laterite deposits, as a possible raw material for the manufacture of alum. The amount of material available is practically unlimited. Alumina can be extracted by simple digestion with sulphuric acid, but it remains to be proved whether the process can be worked economically.

A shipment of 25 tons of monazite sand was made in April and some trial consignments of ilmenite sand, containing 50 per cent. of titanium dioxide, have been sold for the production of titanium pigments.

Prospecting for the source of the gems in the Ratnapura alluvial gravels was continued with inconclusive results.

In July the offices of Government Mineralogist and Salt Adviser were amalgamated and the necessity of frequent inspections of the Government Salterns restricted field work.

SURVEY DEPARTMENT.

The principal operations of the Survey Department for the period under review comprised Block, Application, Topographical, Irrigation, Forest and Town Surveys, and Levelling operations.

Block Surveys.—These consisted of 169,561 acres of new work, 103,966 acres of topographical inset surveys, and 1,784 acres of town surveys.

The following plans were issued during the year :—

Block survey plans of 188 villages, containing 20,256 lots covering an area of 156,948 acres. Six topographical preliminary plans, containing 1,592 lots covering an area of 700,636 acres.

Surveys of 103 settlement and demarcation questions, together with the surveys of 418 Settlement Officer's applications were completed and sent to the Settlement Officer.

Seventy-nine advance extract plans consisting of 442 lots and covering an area of 2,541 acres were issued in connection with the surveys of Crown requisitions and applications in the block survey areas.

The total area now covered by block surveys is 2,761,762 acres, topographical inset surveys 2,072,949 acres.

Application Surveys.—Final village plans to the number of 140 for 297,378 acres in 5,734 lots were issued to the Government Agents and Assistant Government Agents during the year. The total area covered by the final plans in the hands of the Government Agents and Assistant Government Agents now stands at 1,893,500 acres, contained in 61,936 lots on 2,931 final plans.

Preliminary plans to the number of 1,447 for 37,384 acres in 7,401 lots were forwarded to the Government Agents, Assistant Government Agents, and the Settlement Officer.

Supplementary surveys to the number of 545 consisting of 3,338 lots covering 14,522 acres have been made and marked on final village plans and preliminary plans already issued.

Applications to the number of 795, covering 2,371 acres, were surveyed for paddy; 194 applications, covering 3,775 acres, for tea; 63 applications, covering 291 acres, for rubber; 22 applications, covering 1,304 acres, for tea and rubber; 30 applications, covering 3,852 acres, for rubber and coconuts; 469 applications, covering 1,876 acres, for coconuts; 899 applications, covering 4,327 acres, for native cultivations; 413 applications, covering 687 acres, for building purposes; and 65 applications, covering 981 acres, for citronella.

There has been a slight increase in the demand for land during the year.

Numerous surveys have been carried out for acquisitions in connection with important public purposes, and 177 acquisition preliminary plans for 332 acres in 1,042 lots were forwarded to the Hon. the Colonial Secretary.

Topographical Surveys.—During the year under review the topographical contour survey of the Island has been completed, with the exception of a few small islands in the north, which will be completed early next year. The area covered this year amounts to 4,151 square miles. The completion of this work will enable the Survey Department to issue the first Layer Map of Ceylon to the public in the near future.

Forest Surveys.—Forest surveys work was carried out in the Southern and Eastern Provinces during 1924.

In the Southern Province surveys were carreid out of the following forests :—Panilkanda (1,505 acres), Olebedda (943 acres), and Yakkatuwa (1,033 acres), and the plans are in course of preparation.

In addition, the surveys of Polhunnawa and Urugaha forests were taken up and are still in hand.

In the Eastern Province the boundaries of Nuwaragala and Omunagala reserves, covering about 280,000 acres, were defined with 500 landmarks and the plans are in course of preparation.

Irrigation Surveys.—Irrigation surveys were carried out in the Eastern Province.

1. Unichchai Scheme :—The surveys of the whole area, covering about 9,500 acres, were completed and the plans are in course of preparation.

2. Kantalai Scheme :—The plans of about 500 acres under the Kantalai left bank scheme, which were surveyed in 1923, were forwarded to the Assistant Government Agent, Trincomalee, this year.

Town Surveys.—New town plans were issued for the remainder of Colombo town, the two-chain area of Anuradhapura town, and the north-central portion of Batticaloa town.

The total area of town survey work now amounts to 19,666 acres.

Levelling.—The levelling operations consisted of new precise levels of the Colombo-Puttalam line and the Bibile-Chenkaladi line.

Bench Marks.—Fundamental bench marks, of a design similar to that adopted by the British Ordnance Survey, were constructed at Diyatalawa, Bibile, Alut-oya, Batticaloa, Anuradhapura, and Kandy. It is intended to establish these bench marks at distances of roughly 30 miles along the main lines of the new net to be levelled. Intermediate bench marks (concrete blocks at mile stones and surface marks at half-mile stones) were constructed along 210 miles of road, and the bench marking of 362 miles of road, to be relevelled for inclusion in the level net, was supplemented with new type bench marks.

METEOROLOGY.

General Remarks.—There is a marked variation in climate between the different parts of Ceylon. In the low-country with a mean temperature of the order of 80° F, a noticeable feature is the small range of both temperature and pressure. There is,

however, wide divergence between the moist conditions in the south-west of the Island, where the average annual rainfall varies from 100 to over 200 inches, and the dry zone areas of the north, north-west, and south-east.

Altitudes up to 8,000 feet occur inland, and there the temperature is cooler, and shows a bigger range. There is a corresponding change in vegetation, and the conditions are altogether more akin to those in the temperate zone.

Rainfall.—The area in which the total rainfall of 1924 was above average included practically all the south-west quadrant of the Island, and extended along the south coast, and also up the west coast nearly to Puttalam. It also included an appreciable area north of the main hill country (*e.g.*, Nalanda, Dambulla) and parts of the Eastern Province (notably in the south of that Province). In the central hills there were variations both above and below average with a slight preponderance of the latter. Practically the whole of the north of the Island and the greater part of the east side had deficient rainfall, comprising in all an area about equal to that in which the rain was above average. As regards individual stations, Carney (Adam's Peak) once again leads with 288.7 inches, Kenilworth being next with 233.1. At the former station the average is 231.8, so that the offset is 56.9 inches above it. Other stations with offsets of over 50 inches were Aningkanda and Urubokka, while offsets of over 40 inches were recorded at Labugama, Keragala, and Panilkanda. The offset at Colombo was within a few points of 40 inches, and though not quite so great as those mentioned above caused sufficient inconvenience to attract some attention.

September 29-30 holds the record for the highest fall in 24 hours, a list of 46 stations at which over 5 inches fell on that day being headed by Maliboda and Carney with approximately 12 inches each.

At the other extreme Marichchukkaddi (the Pearl Fishery station) still holds the minimum average (34.3), but the lowest totals for the year were recorded rather further north. Elephant Pass Saltern (22.9) leads from the Elephant Pass Public Works Department station (28.2). Other stations under 40 inches were Killinochchi, Pallai, and (in the south-east area) Panama.

Temperature.—In 1924 only one station, Nuwara Eliya, had a mean temperature that differed by as much as a degree from its own average, namely, 60.4 or 1.2° F above its average of 59.2. This station is the highest at which regular observations are made (6,000 feet) and hence is usually the one at which the lowest temperatures are recorded. This year its air

temperature on one occasion got below freezing point (31.6° on December 28), and the surface thermometer, which is usually a trifle lower than the air thermometers, got below 32° F on nine occasions. Its record minimum air temperature is 27.1° F, which was recorded on February 8, 1914. At the other extreme Trincomalee holds the records both for highest average shade temperature (82.9° F) and highest shade temperature on record (103.7° F on May 12, 1890). The corresponding figures at that station for 1924 were 82.8 and 97.6, though the highest shade temperature recorded in the Island during the year was 98.9 at Anuradhapura on September 7.

At Colombo the mean temperature of the year was 81.0° or 0.2 above its average of 80.8°. The extreme readings were 93.5 and 66.7—both recorded during March.

The mean daily range, *i.e.*, the difference between the mean of the maximum and the mean of the minimum, was highest at Badulla (17.6° F) and lowest at Galle (7.8° F). At Colombo and Kandy it was 11.9° F and 16.0° F respectively. The absolute range for the year, *i.e.*, the difference between the highest and the lowest readings actually recorded at any one station was greatest at Nuwara Eliya (47.5° F) and lowest at Galle (19.3° F).

V.—AGRICULTURE.

Tea.

THE tea industry has had another exceedingly prosperous year. Crops have been good and high prices have been maintained. The teas have been carefully manufactured and good quality has been maintained. The total exports amounted to 203,278,476 lb. of black tea and 1,651,831 lb. of green tea of a total value of Rs. 204,930,307, as against a total export of 181,939,731 lb. of a value of Rs. 185,686,387 during 1923.

Tea throughout the Island is looking healthy and vigorous as the result of liberal cultivation and manuring programmes which have been adopted during the past three years. Pests and diseases associated with defective cultivation have become less troublesome and crop yields are steadily increasing. Every endeavour is being made to enforce fine plucking, and careful attention continues to be given to manufacture in the factories in order that the high quality of Ceylon tea may be maintained. Considerable sums continue to be spent upon the improvement of factories and material improvements in the

housing accommodation for labourers continue to be made. The industry is endeavouring so to improve its buildings and factories as to comply with all the demands of modern requirements.

No very serious outbreaks of pests or diseases occurred during the year. Shot-hole borer is considerably less prevalent upon estates where good cultivation and liberal manuring has been practised, and the latest results of the investigations being made into this pest confirm that it can be controlled by the applications of manure which ensure vigorous growth of the tea bushes. Tea termites continue to be the most serious pests of tea in some districts and appear to be on the increase. Experiments are being made with fumigants. Tea tortrix was markedly prevalent in some districts and a systematic collection of egg-masses was carried out. An outbreak of nettle grub occurred in the Morawak korale towards the end of the year. Investigations into the "Witches broom" disease have been continued, and it appears probable that this disease is due to physiological causes connected with the physical or chemical composition of the soil. A larger number of diseased tea seedlings have been submitted to the Department of Agriculture for examination, and in all cases the trouble has been caused by soil organisms.

The total number of tea plants sold under permit during the year was 2,755,116—sufficient to plant up nearly 900 acres. There have also been some extensions of area which have been planted up from nurseries established upon the properties themselves. In the Central Province there has been a demand for small areas of land by small growers for tea cultivation. Lectures to small growers have been held by officers of the Agricultural Department in the Central Province at various centres, and there is no doubt that the result of these lectures is being shown in better and cleaner cultivation by the small growers and by a better comprehension of the regulations governing the control of pests and diseases.

The question of soil erosion which was brought to the notice of the agricultural industries in 1923 has received careful consideration during the year under review. There is no doubt that this is a question of outstanding importance to the Colony's planting industries and that it requires the most careful consideration. Losses of soil fertility from erosion have in the past been very considerable, but estates are endeavouring to prevent it as far as possible. Drains are receiving careful attention and their edges are being planted with close growing grasses, contour hedges are being established, and the use of leguminous cover crops tried. There

RUBBER TAPPING.

Plâté, Limited, Colombo.

has been an increased demand for seed of the new types of green manure and cover plants, and imports of seed from other countries have been made by estate agencies and proprietors.

RUBBER.

The output of rubber was restricted throughout the whole year, the export percentages of standard output being 60 per cent. from January to July, 55 per cent. from August to October, and 50 per cent. for the months of November and December. The total export of Ceylon-produced rubber was 37,036 tons of a value of Rs. 63,749,711, as against 37,070 tons of a value of Rs. 73,594,349 in 1923. During the months of November and December 26,545 gallons of fluid rubber latex were exported, as against negligible quantities during the first ten months of the year, and it was therefore thought desirable to bring rubber latex exports under the effects of the Rubber Restriction Ordinance. The total number of rubber estates at the end of 1924 was 4,250 above 10 acres in extent and 24,432 under 10 acres. Their acreage amounted to 461,025 acres as follows :—

			Acres.
Estates of 10 acres and over	...	...	415,155
Estates of under 10 acres	...	...	45,870

It is estimated that 65 per cent. of the whole acreage is under European ownership and management.

The average price at local auctions was 75 cents per lb. for the whole year. In January and February the prices for top grades ranged around 78 cents per lb., but the prices declined to 52½ cents. per lb. for smoked sheet and 54½ cents. for contract crêpe in the month of June. Thereafter prices showed a continuous rise, until at the end of the year sales at Re. 1 per lb. were recorded. Throughout the year crêpe rubber has obtained a small premium over sheet rubber and fair exports of sole crêpe have been made.

Most estates continue to give close attention to diseases and make use of disinfectants for the prevention of those affecting the bark. Small growers, however, still pay out little attention to these diseases unless their properties border upon larger estates or they have been influenced by the Plant Pest and Disease Inspecting Officers of the Department of Agriculture. The manurial experiments being carried out with a view to ascertaining if pod and leaf disease can be controlled or influenced by means of manuring have been continued and investigations into brown bast are still being undertaken. Little interest has been shown during the year in the budding of rubber, but the Department of Agriculture and the Rubber Research Scheme hope to be able to induce estates to take the

preliminary steps of ascertaining their best yielding trees and of determining the constancy of the yield of such trees. The second year's examination of the yields of individual rubber trees of known parentage has been completed at the Experiment Station, Peradeniya, and the results have been published for general information. The Rubber Research Scheme has continued to do good work, which is appreciated by the industry, and it is hoped that it may be possible for this scheme at an early date to undertake detailed investigations in the budding of rubber and into the use of leguminous cover crops.

Coconuts.

The exports of coconut products and their value during 1924, were as follows :—

			Value. Rs.
Coconuts, fresh	No.	29,121,041	2,499,088
Copra	Cwt.	1,769,189	31,008,191
Desiccated coconuts	Cwt.	871,341	21,963,695
Oil	Cwt.	552,633	15,826,782
Poonac	Cwt.	156,251	942,685
Fibre, bristle	Cwt.	168,247	2,024,939
Fibre, mattress	Cwt.	312,245	922,671
Coir yarn	Cwt.	117,199	2,140,753

These exports show a large increase on the previous year. Exports of nuts showed a marked increase, there being a very keen demand from the United Kingdom and from Germany. Copra and coconut oil exports were considerably in excess of the 1923 figures, but were only slightly greater than the exports of the previous year. The exports of desiccated coconuts considerably increased, especially to Germany, Holland, and Australia. Exports of all grades of fibre also show increases.

The prices for coconut products were satisfactory, and the industry can be said to have had a favourable and prosperous year.

The coconut caterpillar—*Nephantis serinopa*—has been recorded from a large number of districts during the year but does not, at present, occasion serious damage in the wetter areas. Black beetle and red weevil continue to be prevalent in certain areas and active steps were taken during the year against these pests in the Matara District. Bud rot appear to be on the increase on some estates but is not very general. Leaf disease occurred on badly cultivated estates, but nutfall was considerably less during the year.

Tobacco.

The tobacco season was a favourable one, but difficulties were experienced in regard to the disposal of the chewing type in India. In consequence, a large number of growers in the

CEYLON COCONUT ESTATE.

Plate, Limited, Colombo.

Jaffna peninsula have decided to turn their attention to the cultivation of the Burley type for export to Europe, which has been experimented with for several years by the Department of Agriculture. Sixty-six growers have this year undertaken the growth of this tobacco, and the total acreage is approximately 40 acres. The prices for crop shipped to England during the year were satisfactory. This type of tobacco is well thought of on the English market and a constant demand appears to be assured. A Government purchase scheme has been inaugurated in connection with the growing of this Burley tobacco, but it is hoped before long to convert this into a co-operative agency amongst the growers themselves. It is probable that this type of tobacco can be grown in other parts of the Island, and now that its cultivation appears to have been established in the Jaffna peninsula trials will be made in other districts.

Cacao.

The exports of cacao were 69,351 cwt., valued at Rs. 2,464,103, as against 60,904 cwt. in 1923. The season was a fairly satisfactory one, and most estates harvested crops in excess of those obtained in the previous year. The weather conditions were on the whole rather too wet for cacao and a large amount of canker was in evidence in certain months. The percentage of " black " cacao although high was less than during the previous year. The quality of the first grades were up to the usual high standard of Ceylon cacaos. Further experiments on the fermentation of cacao were made during the year, and the resulting cacaos were examined by the scientific department of Messrs. Cadbury & Co. These experiments indicated that Ceylon cacaos are considered underfermented by some manufacturers, but that they command high prices on the world's markets by reason of their good appearance and uniform grading. The Peradeniya Chocolate Company continued operations during the year.

Cardamoms.

The weather conditions were favourable to this crop, but the exports amounted to only 2,667 cwt., as against 2,788 cwt. in 1923 and 4,096 cwt. during 1922. There is evidence that some of the cardamom plantations have declined in productivity and there is a tendency to replace with tea areas which are not yielding well. It is unlikely that there will be any extension of the area under cardamoms and exports are not expected to increase. Prices were steady throughout the first nine months

of the year, but during the last three months there was a marked rise in value. A very keen demand for this product was evident.

FIBRES.

The experiments with cotton in the Hambantota District were a continued success. A total crop of 733 cwt. of seed cotton was obtained from cotton grown by small growers and sold at Rs. 25 per cwt. to the Spinning and Weaving Mills of Colombo. For the 1924-25 crop an area of 1,500 acres of cotton in the Hambantota District were being grown by small growers and in other districts further trials are being continued. The quality of the cotton was quite satisfactory.

During the year the opening of the sisal factory at Mahailluppalama took place and production of sisal began to be regularly made. The small sisal mill at the Experiment Station, Anuradhapura, has also worked during the year. Good quality fibre has been prepared and it has been very favourably reported upon by buyers in London. A price of £44. 15*s*. per ton was received from the Experiment Station fibre, and even higher prices have been obtained from the Mahailluppalama estate. There appears to be good prospects before sisal in Ceylon and further extension may be looked for.

The exports of Kapok amounted to 6,270 cwt. of a value of Rs. 350,604. Prices were lower than during the previous year.

CINNAMON.

The exports of this product were as follows :—

	Cwt.
Cinnamon quills	34,547
Cinnamon chips	12,937

The export of quills was nearly 2,000 cwt. in excess of the exports of the previous year. Prices were good and the demand for this product was keen. Methods of cultivation do not change and there is no extension of the planted area.

CITRONELLA.

The exports of citronella oil amounted to 1,433,381 lb. of a value of Rs. 2,941,291, as against 1,121,271 lb. of a value of Rs. 2,130,283 during 1923. The exports were the highest since 1915. The prices were fairly steady throughout the year, but showed a marked reduction on the prices of the previous year. The difficulties experienced in 1923 by reason of heavy adulterations with alcohol have started inquiries being made for guaranteed pure oil. This is, however, difficult to secure as adulteration with kerosene by the small middle man appears to be general.

Papain.

The exports during the year amounted to 457 cwt. of a value of Rs. 317,893. The demand for Ceylon papain remained steady and satisfactory prices ruled during the year.

Foodstuffs.

The paddy crops were about average throughout the Island, but in some districts considerable damage was done by flooding. Prices ruled high during the middle of the year in consequence of the serious floods in South India, but towards the end of the year the price of rice fell considerably.

The selection of high-yielding pure line strains of paddy by the Department of Agriculture has been continued, and some of the trials of these varieties which have been made by growers have been successful. An extension of these trials is likely to take place as a number of high-yielding types are now available for distribution. The competitions and demonstrations organized by the Department of Agriculture are becoming more and more popular and the areas of well cultivated paddy lands are gradually increasing.

Co-operative Societies.

Financial aid to paddy growers and to village cultivators is being continued through co-operative societies. Twenty-four new societies were registered during the year, and the total of societies now registered number 237. The paid-up share capital of societies at the end of the co-operative year on April 30, 1923, was Rs. 238,607, as against Rs. 188,689.50 in the previous year; and the reserve funds amount to Rs. 44,603.64, as against Rs. 32,142.88. The total number of members of societies is now 26,757. Training classes for secretaries and treasurers were held at Kandy, Matale, Kegalla, Colombo, Galle, Kalutara, Matara, Kurunegala, Trincomalee, Ratnapura, and Batticaloa during the year.

The co-operative movement is making progress amongst paddy growers in the Batticaloa District, and it has been decided to endeavour to extend the co-operative movement generally. For this purpose a Civil Servant will be seconded solely for co-operative work and he will work in close co-operation with the Director of Agriculture.

General.

The legislative enactments dealing with the control of plant pests and diseases were revised and consolidated during the year, and fresh regulations issued after consultation with the Board of Agriculture and sanction of the Legislature for the

appointment of a Plant Pest and Disease Inspector for the North-Western Division was secured. A Divisional Agricultural Officer for the North-Western Division was appointed during the year and the organization of agricultural work in that division begun. A new Chemical Laboratory has been built and it is proposed to appoint a whole-time Agricultural Chemist to the staff of the Department of Agriculture.

A beginning has been made of an agricultural survey of the lands through which the Railway extension to Batticaloa passes, so as to enable Government to decide upon a policy of development of these lands which are now made accessible for closer settlement.

Infective Diseases of Animals.

Rinderpest.—The epizootic of rinderpest which began in October, 1923, assumed serious proportions during the early part of the year. The centre of the outbreak was Colombo, and from there it spread to the Western, North-Western, Southern, and Sabaragamuwa Provinces. In spite of all efforts to check its progress the disease spread southwards as far as Matara, northwards to Chilaw, and eastward to Ratnapura.

Inoculation of Contacts.—Where it has been employed serum inoculation has been of the greatest service in preventing spread of the disease among contacts. The measure has not, however, been generally employed on account of the refusal of many owners to pay the cost of the serum. Many owners refuse to allow their cattle to be inoculated, preferring to trust to charming ceremonies and to the treatment of the local vederala. On the other hand, a number of cases have been met with where owners appreciate the value of inoculation, but on account of the cost, which where a number of animals are involved is not inconsiderable, have been obliged to forego inoculation.

As a consequence of the serious nature of the epidemic, a Committee, of which the Government Veterinary Surgeon was a member, was appointed by Government to inquire into the causes of the repeated outbreaks of rinderpest, and a report has been submitted to Government.

Foot-and-Mouth Disease.—This disease occurred from time to time throughout the Island. In native and Indian cattle the disease is of a mild type and mortality is practically nil. Owing to the mild type of the disease which leads to the cattle owners regarding it lightly and failing to report outbreaks and also to its extremely infectious nature the task of eradication

of the disease is difficult. While the loss from deaths due to foot-and-mouth disease is low, yet the indirect losses from loss of work and interference with trade caused by restrictions on the movement of cattle in an affected area are considerable.

Very heavy losses are caused in dairies of good milking English and Australian cattle. In such cattle there is great loss of condition, complete cessation of milk supply during the acute stages, and greatly diminished yield subsequently.

The efforts of the department have been directed towards limiting spread of the disease and preventing outbreaks becoming generalized. In this direction considerable success has been attained.

Ostitis Fibrosa (commonly known as Osteoporosis).—This disease continues to be the most serious source of loss to horse owners. Until the cause of this baffling disease has been definitely determined little progress can be made in combating it.

Piroplasmosis or Red-Water.—This disease does not cause serious loss as the majority of animals become affected while young and recover and so gain a permanent immunity. Losses never occur among cattle reared at the Government Dairy; but six cases occurred among cattle bought up-country and brought to the dairy. These animals had been housed all their lives and had apparently escaped infection when young. They became seriously affected when turned out to graze at the dairy, and three died in spite of treatment. The organism in these cases was piroplasma bigemium. Trypon blue was found of value in cutting short an attack if given in the early stages.

Cases of piroplasmosis are common among imported dogs in Ceylon. It is probable that the majority of pariah dogs act as carriers. Trypon blue is very successful in treatment.

No cases of piroplasmosis in the horse have been recorded in Ceylon.

Surra.—No cases occurred during the year.

Tuberculosis.—No cases occurred during the year among cattle. A dead turkey sent for post-mortem examination was extensively diseased; the liver, spleen, and intestines being involved.

Coccidiosis.—Three cases were diagnosed in young calves, of which two died and one recovered. This is the first time this disease has been diagnosed in Ceylon.

Anthrax.—Forty-two cases occurred in cattle, and one in a dog which had eaten a portion of an anthrax carcass.

227 cases were reported among the sheep and goats at the Quarantine Station, Colombo.

Hæmorrhagic Septicæmia.—Twenty-four cases occurred in cattle, 22 of which ended fatally. Ninety-eight cases were reported from the Northern Province in goats with 95 deaths.

Black Quarter or Quarter Ill.—Twenty-six cases occurred in the Province of Uva. All proved fatal.

VI.—PUBLIC WORKS.

Public Works Department.

THE total expenditure of the Public Works Department has increased from Rs. 3,437,862 in 1896 to Rs. 12,960,076 in 1924, the latter figure showing an increase of Rs 1,579,828 over that of 1923. The average annual expenditure during the past twenty-nine years has been Rs. 7,470,324.

The total length of roads maintained by the Public Works Department during the year was 4,118 miles, of which 3,883 miles are cart roads, and 235 miles are bridle roads.

Amongst the more important works carried out or in course of construction may be mentioned the following :—

General.—Government bungalows and clerks' quarters, Colombo; new Royal College, Colombo; Public Works Department buildings, Veyangoda; carpentry and fitting shops, Technical Schools, Colombo; improvements to Physics Laboratory and playground, University College, Colombo; preliminary operations in connection with the new Council Chamber and Secretariat; improvements to Government Dairy, Narahenpita; special repairs to Queen's House, Colombo; improvements to Central Timber Depôt, Colombo; special repairs to the Jails at Welikada and Mahara; improvements to the Office of the Sanitary Commissioner, Colombo; Chemical Laboratory, Peradeniya; bungalows for staff officers of the Agricultural Department, Peradeniya; additions to the Agricultural School, Peradeniya; junior clerks' quarters, Nuwara Eliya; additions and improvements to Queen's Cottage, Nuwara Eliya; clerks' quarters, Hambantota; Survey Office, Galle; new Customs buildings at Talaimannar; Experimental Station and Agricultural School, Jaffna; Training School, Kopay; clerk's quarters, Pallai; additions to Customs buildings, Point Pedro; quarters for the Police Magistrate, Dandagamuwa; clerks' quarters, Anuradhapura; quarters for

Forest Department Clerks and Foresters, Anuradhapura; Telegraph Inspector's quarters, Anuradhapura; rat proof store for Economic Botanist, Anuradhapura; Post Office at Koslanda; accommodation for the Pack Battery Artillery Unit, Diyatalawa; quarters for the District Engineer, Pelmadulla.

Medical Buildings.—New Lunatic Asylum, Angoda; new Convict Hospital, Borella; Infectious Diseases Hospital, Angoda; new Seamen's Ward, General Hospital; Tuberculosis Hospital, Ragama; additions and improvements to Civil Medical Stores, Colombo; special repairs to Negombo hospital; additions and improvements to Jail dispenser's quarters, Negombo, and Lady Manning's Hospital, Gampaha; extension to Skinner's Ward, General Hospital; additions and improvements to hospitals at Matale and Mulhalkele; Apothecary's quarters, Dikoya; hospitals at Gampola and Bogawantalawa; additions to the hospitals at Dimbula, Lindula, Pussellawa, Dolosbage, Galle, and Deniyaya; hospital at Chavakachcheri; additions to Leper Asylum, Mantivu; additions and improvements to hospitals at Kurunegala and Anuradhapura, and Ratmalai dispensary; District Medical Officer's quarters, Alutnuwara; improvements to Moneragala hospital; dispensary and ward at Embilipitiya; quarters for Apothecary and District Medical Assistant, Kahawatta hospital; quarters for Steward, Kitulgala hospital; improvements, Karawanella hospital.

Police Buildings.—Police Training School, Bambalapitiya; police barracks, Pettah; police station, Kalawellawa; married quarters for constables at Mahara; special repairs to police barracks, Slave Island; quarters for the Superintendent of Police, Badulla.

Bridges.—Rebuilding Kosgama bridge, Colombo-Avissawella road; strengthening Bolgoda bridge; rebuilding bridge No. 34, Colombo-Galle road; Talatu-oya bridge; Gampola bridge; rebuilding bridges on the 69th and 85th miles, Bentota-Goiyapana road; Elephant Pass bridge; improvements to bridge on 21st mile, Mannar-Madawachchiya road; rebuilding bridge on 3rd mile, central road to Mullaittivu; bridges, Chilaw-Hettipola road; strengthening and renewing iron bridges, Puttalam-Battulu-oya road; bridges on Bevilla-Digowa estate cart road and Kukul korale road.

Progress was also made with the Colombo Lake Development project; Hydro-Electric Scheme; improvements to Nawalapitiya town; coast protection works on the Bentota-Goiyapana-Tangalla road; Karaiur reclamation, Jaffna; flood discharge channels, Jaffna peninsula; preliminary operations in connection with the proposed Pearl Fishery, Marichchikaddai; latrine

accommodation for Public Works Department cooly lines; electric lighting scheme, Angoda; Puttalam and Matale lighting schemes; Galle electric lighting; investigations for the Kurunegala, Weligama, Nawalapitiya, and Ambalangoda lighting schemes.

IRRIGATION.

Irrigation works in Ceylon are classified as—

(*a*) Major works.
(*b*) Village works.

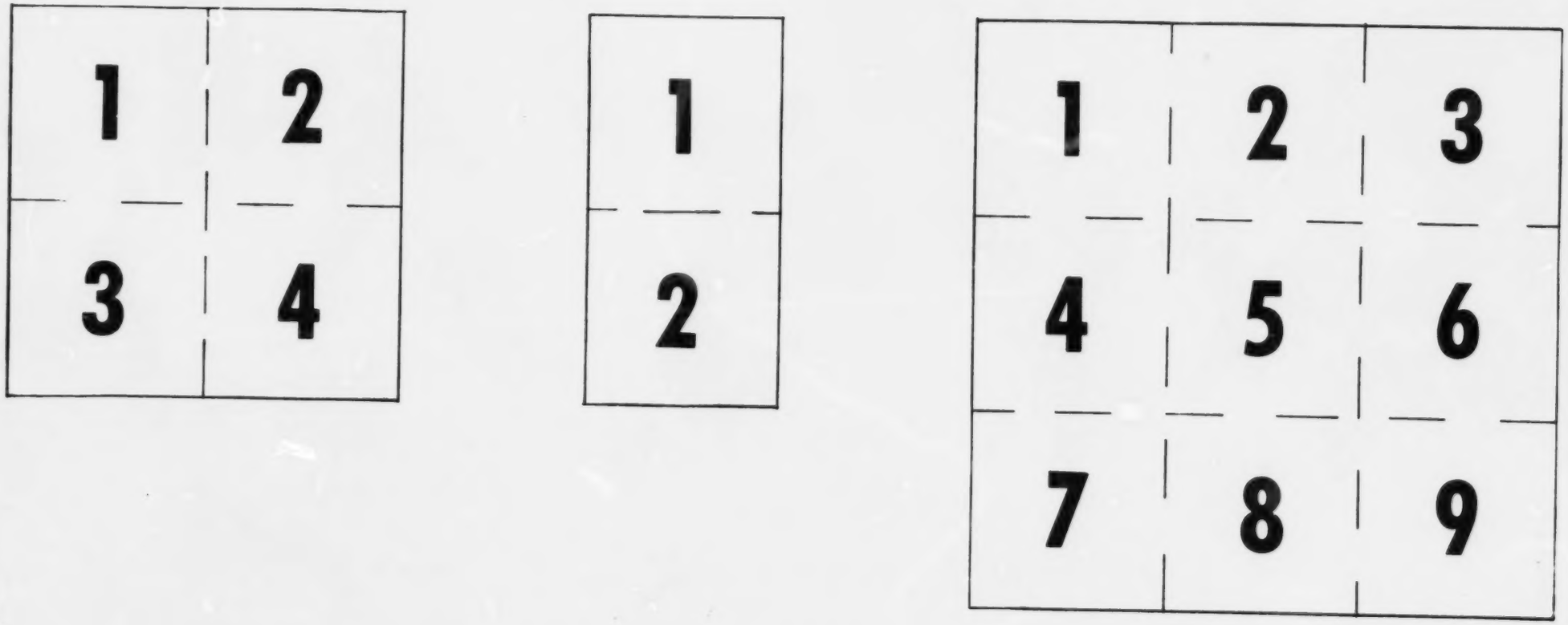
Major works are all maintained and supervised by the staff of the Director of Irrigation from Government funds, and are liable to irrigation rates of some kind or another.

The financing of the construction of these works has been done originally by Government, but in the case of some works (which are termed " Aided Works ") the arrangement was that the actual cost of construction should be repaid to Government by instalments over a series of years, and the maintenance rate for these works is assessed quinquennially. In the case of the other major works termed " Perpetuity Rate Works," the construction cost was unreservedly met by Government, and an irrigation rate in perpetuity imposed on the lands, which rate when imposed was intended to cover the cost of maintenance of the works and also repay something in the shape of interest on the construction costs.

Village works are in the charge of the Government Agents, who have a number of field staff officers of the Irrigation Department lent to them to assist them with the technical supervision; the maintenance as regards earthwork and clearing jungle and silt, &c., is done on a sharing system by the landholders under each work and regulated by special village works rules. The maintenance of the masonry works of village works is done from a Government vote to the Director of Irrigation, which is distributed to the different Provinces, and the work carried out by the village tank staff (advised by the Divisional Irrigation Engineers), unless the work is of considerable magnitude, when it would be done by the Director's staff.

The bunds of village works have in most cases been constructed by villagers themselves supervised by Government Agents' staff under different forms of permit, in many cases the people being allowed land under the works in proportion to the earthwork done; sluices (whether masonry or pipes) are provided from Government votes, and also masonry spills where they exist.

Maps on this order too large to be entirely included in one exposure are filmed clockwise beginning in the upper left hand corner, left to right and top to bottom as many frames as required. The following diagrams illustrate the method.



PLAN SHEWING FLOODED AREA IN COLOMBO NORTH.

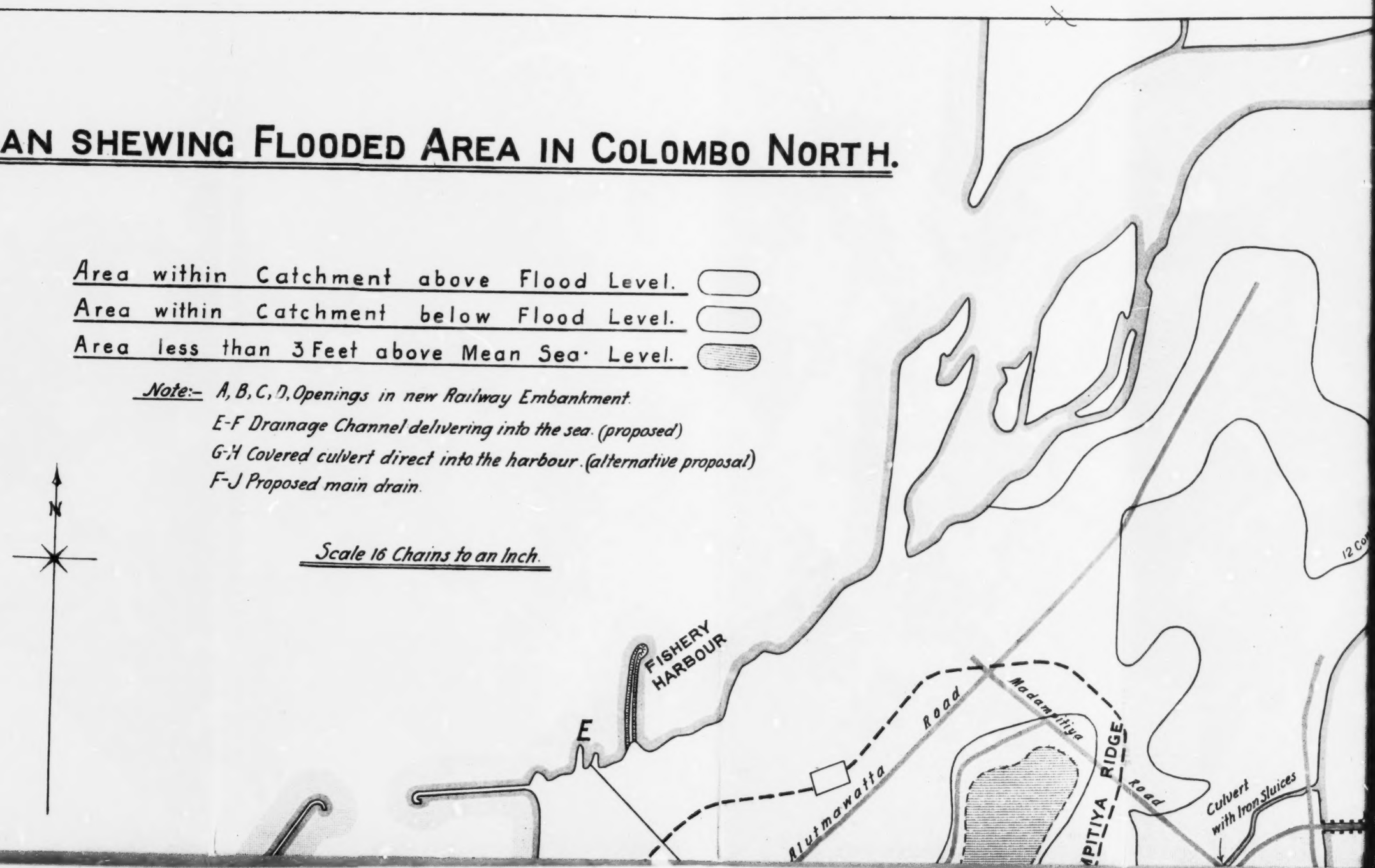
Area within Catchment above Flood Level.

Area within Catchment below Flood Level.

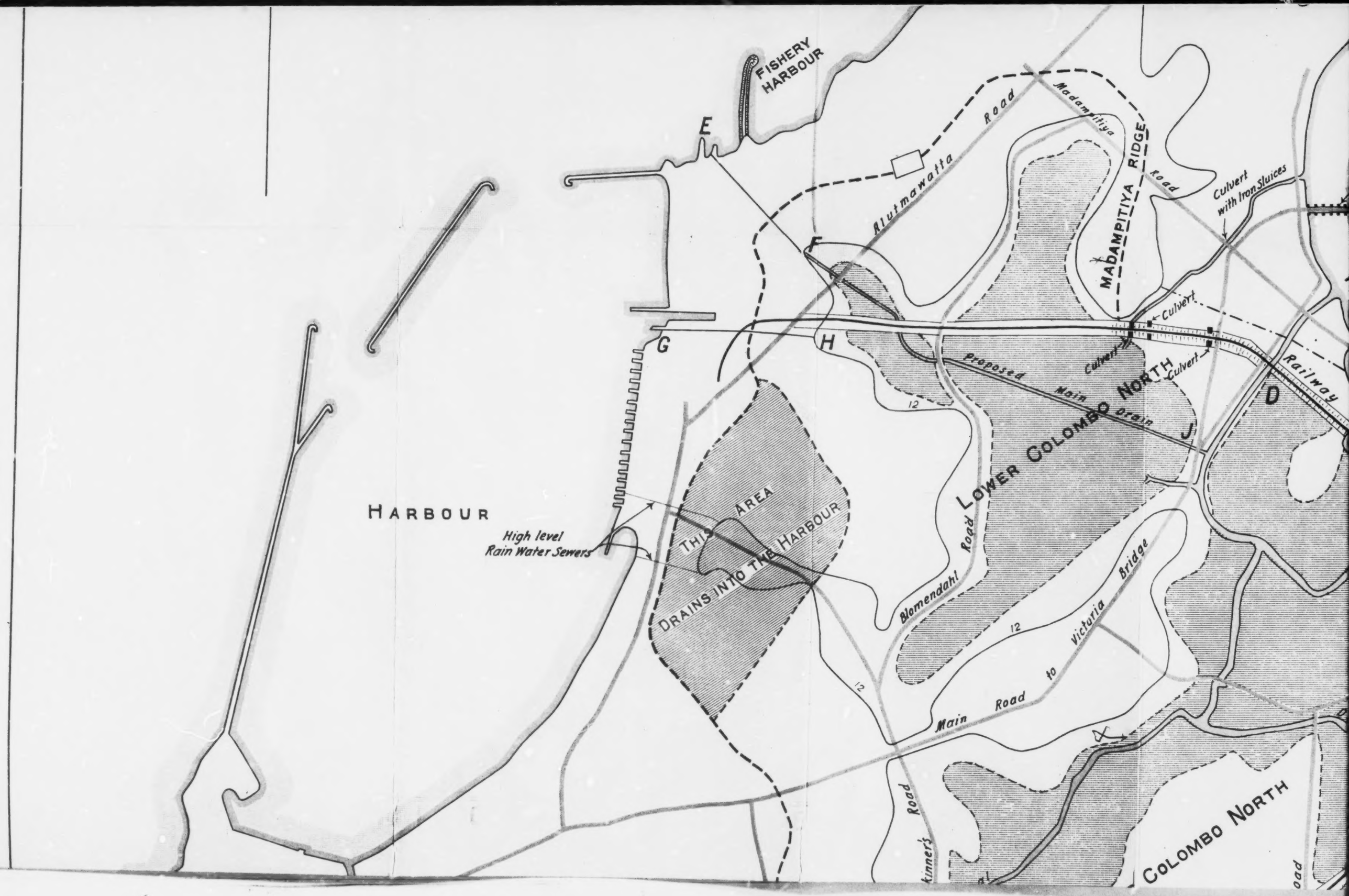
Area less than 3 Feet above Mean Sea· Level.

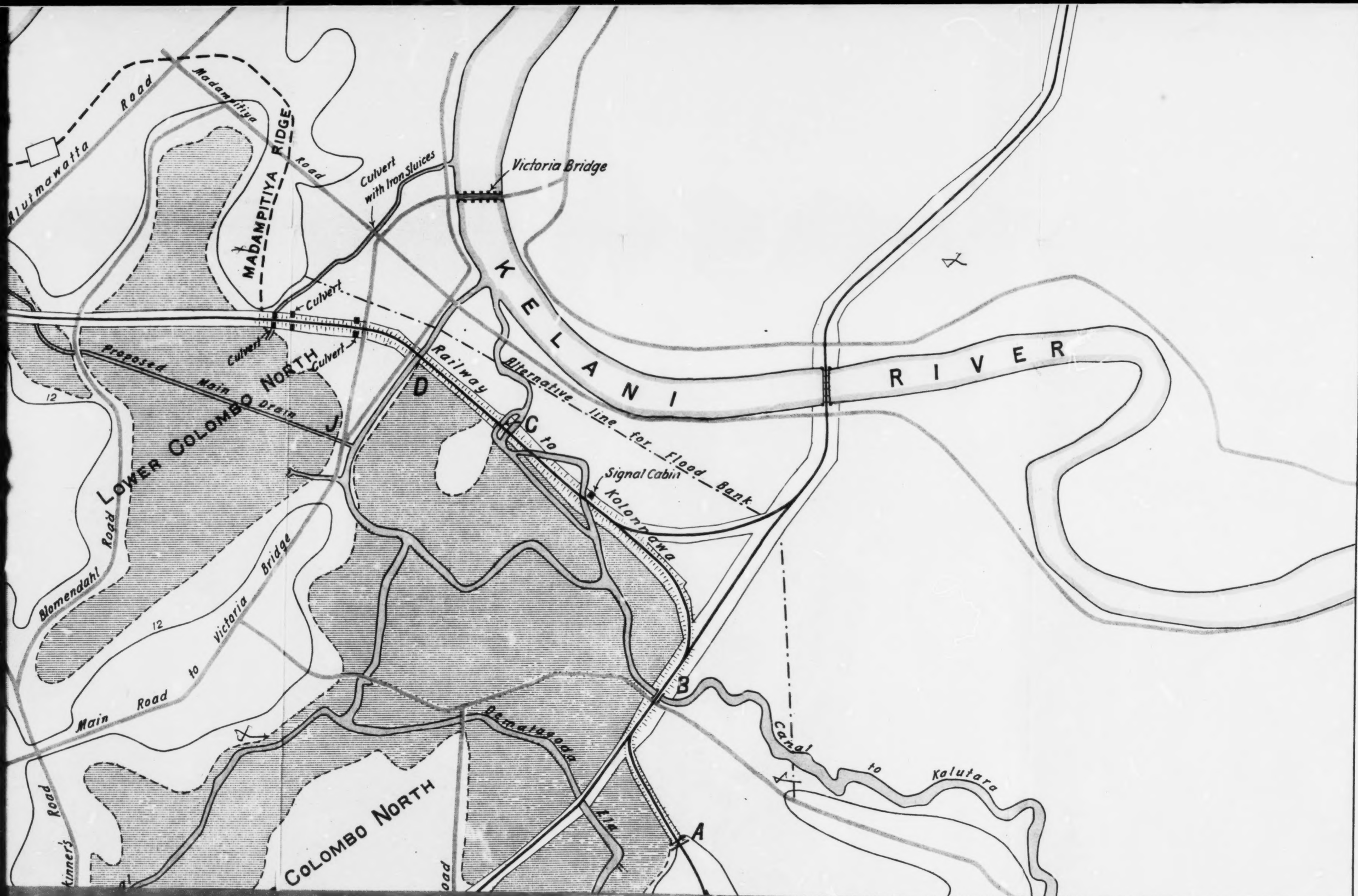
Note:- *A, B, C, D, Openings in new Railway Embankment.*
E-F Drainage Channel delivering into the sea. (proposed)
G-H Covered culvert direct into the harbour. (alternative proposal)
F-J Proposed main drain.

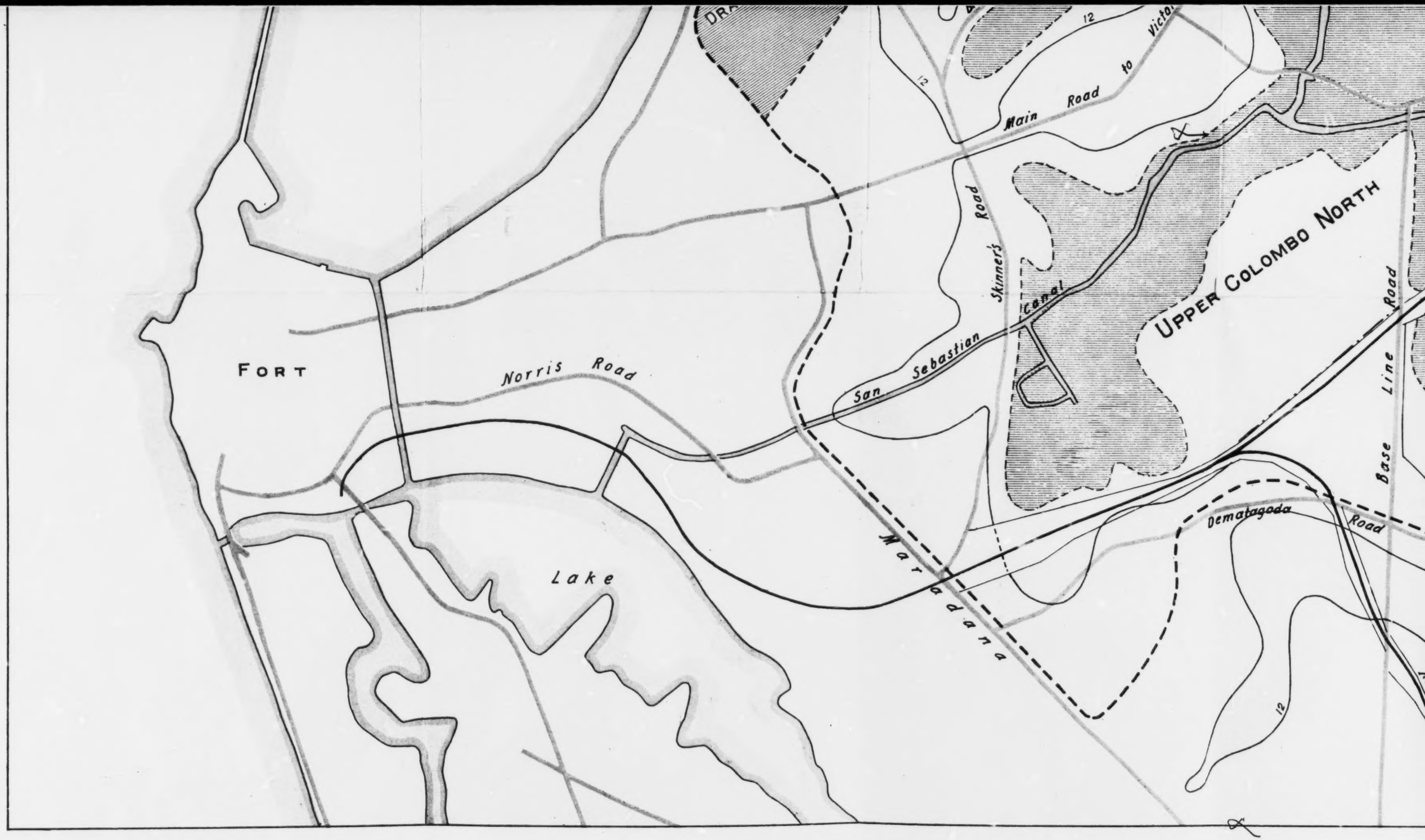
Scale 16 Chains to an Inch.

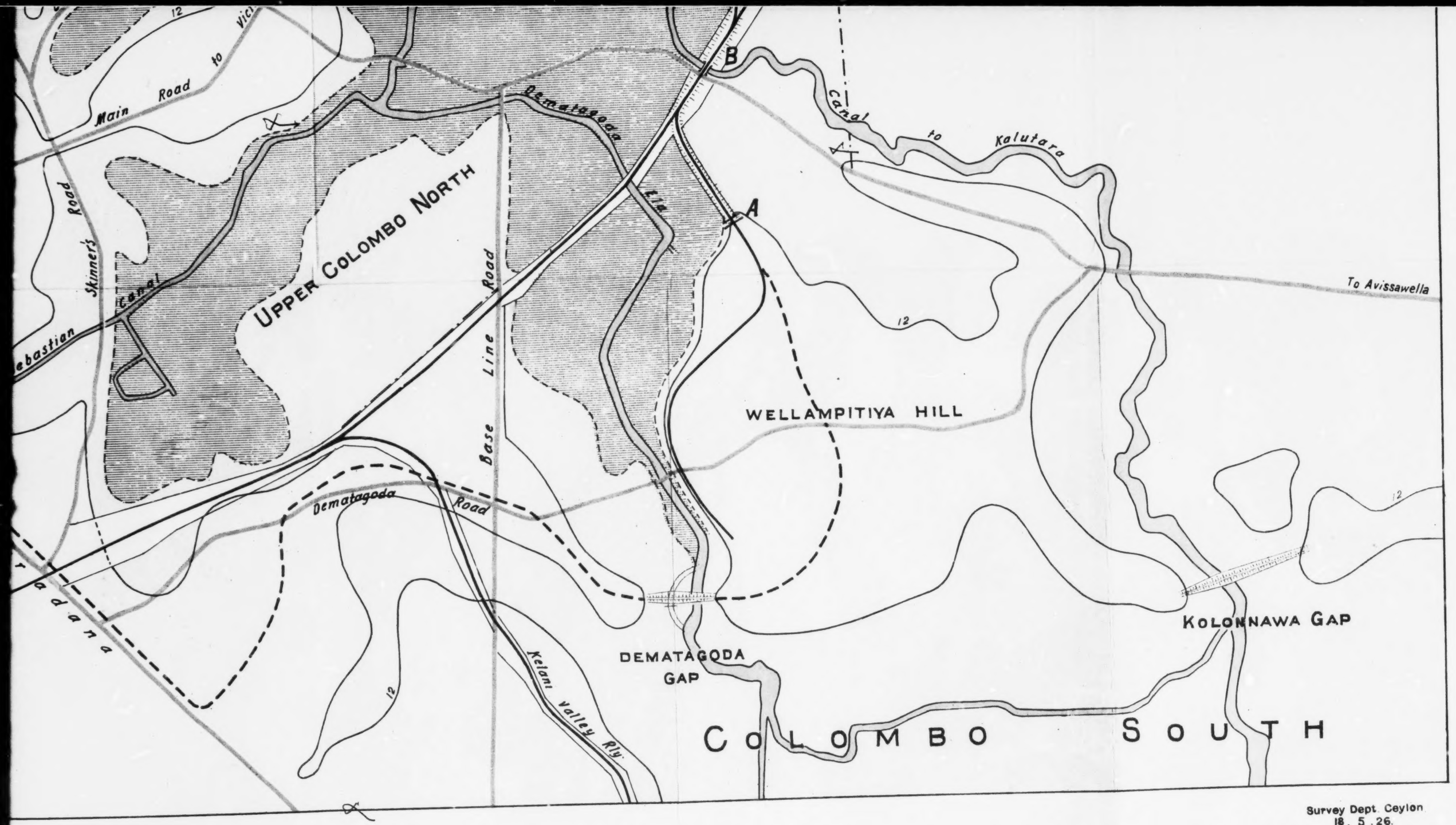


NORTH.
Railway to Kandy
12 Contour
Alutmawatta Road
Madampitiya Road
MPITIYA BRIDGE
Culvert with Iron Sluices
Victoria Bridge


FISHERY HARBOUR
E
F
G
H
D
Alutmawatta Road
Madampitiya Road
MADAMPITIYA RIDGE
Culvert with Iron Sluices
Culvert
Culvert
Culvert
Railway
Proposed Main Drain
LOWER COLOMBO NORTH
HARBOUR
High level Rain Water Sewers
THIS AREA DRAINS INTO THE HARBOUR
Blomendahl Road
Victoria Bridge
Main Road to
Kinner's Road
COLOMBO NORTH
12
12
12


Alutmawatta Road
Madampitiya Road
MADAMPITIYA RIDGE
Culvert with Iron Sluices
Victoria Bridge
KELANI RIVER
Culvert
Culvert
Culvert
Proposed Main Drain
LOWER COLOMBO NORTH
Railway
Alternative line for Flood Bank
D
C to
Signal Cabin
Kolonnawa
Blomendahl Road
Main Road to Victoria Bridge
12
12
B
Canal to Kalutara
Denatagoda Ela
A
COLOMBO NORTH
Kinner's Road


Fort
Lake
Norris Road
San Sebastian Canal
Skinner's Road
Main Road to Victo
Upper Colombo North
Base Line Road
Demataagoda Road
Maradana
12
12
12



Survey Dept. Ceylon
18. 5. 26.

Landowners under village works pay no irrigation rates. Occasionally arrangements are made by agreement between Government and the proprietors by which a village work becomes a major work or *vice versa*, but instances of this are not frequent.

Under the Irrigation Ordinance of 1917, the control of paddy cultivation under all classes of works is in the hands of Government Agents.

The total expenditure of the Department for the financial year 1923-24 was Rs. 1,529,001.91, as compared with Rs. 1,205,914.26 for the previous year.

The usual work of maintenance was carried out during the year, and amongst the more important works constructed or in course of construction, the following may be mentioned :—

Walawe Left Bank Scheme.—Construction of the main bund was proceeded with, difficulty being experienced in excavating the puddle trench through a stratum of fine sand requiring close timbering. Work was continued on the cutting of the inlet channel from river to tank, supply channels, and spill, in addition to survey work for channels and agricultural roads.

Tabbowa Scheme.—The main wall of the spill and the right and left bank sluices were completed and the masonry protection of the spill slopes, cutting of supply channels, and raising of the main Puttalam-Anuradhapura road where it crosses the tank bed were taken in hand.

Karachchi Scheme.—Work was continued on the auxiliary works on the channel system and on the construction of the necessary roads of access to the irrigable tract.

Colombo South Flood Protection Scheme.—The Dematagoda lock and bund were completed and the bund across the Kolonnawa gap was advanced so far as to prevent any further floods passing to the low-lying lands.

Colombo North Flood Protection Scheme.—Investigations were completed and the Scheme approved. The estimated cost of the Scheme is Rs. 450,000, and when completed it will protect from floods some 1,460 acres of low-lying lands.

This area consists of all the low-lying land to the west and south of the new Kolonnawa railway line between Wellampitiya hill and Madampitiya ridge, beyond which point the

flooded land on both sides of the new railway line will be protected. The Scheme is bounded on the south by the Maradana-Dematagoda road, and the canal system is connected with that of the Colombo South Scheme by the lock at Dematagoda.

The new railway embankment will be used as a flood bank between Wellampitiya hill and Madampitiya ridge, beyond which points the Kelani floods are excluded by natural high ridges. The southern boundary of the area is all natural high ridge, excepting the Dematagoda gap, which has been closed in the Colombo South Scheme.

The total area of 1,460 acres which will be protected by this Scheme is divided as follows :—

(i.) Land more than 3 feet above mean sea level, which will immediately become available for first class building land—620 acres.

(ii.) Land which at present is less than 3 feet above mean sea level and is being used as grass or paddy land—840 acres.

Part of this area will require a certain amount of improvement before being used for building purposes. A considerable portion of it, however, will be available for building purposes as soon as it is drained.

The only works of importance which are needed for the exclusion of floods are those required to convert the railway embankment into a flood bank and the provision of a canal lock on the main canal.

The works required for the efficient rain water drainage are briefly :—

(i.) The construction of a tunnel to the sea outfall.

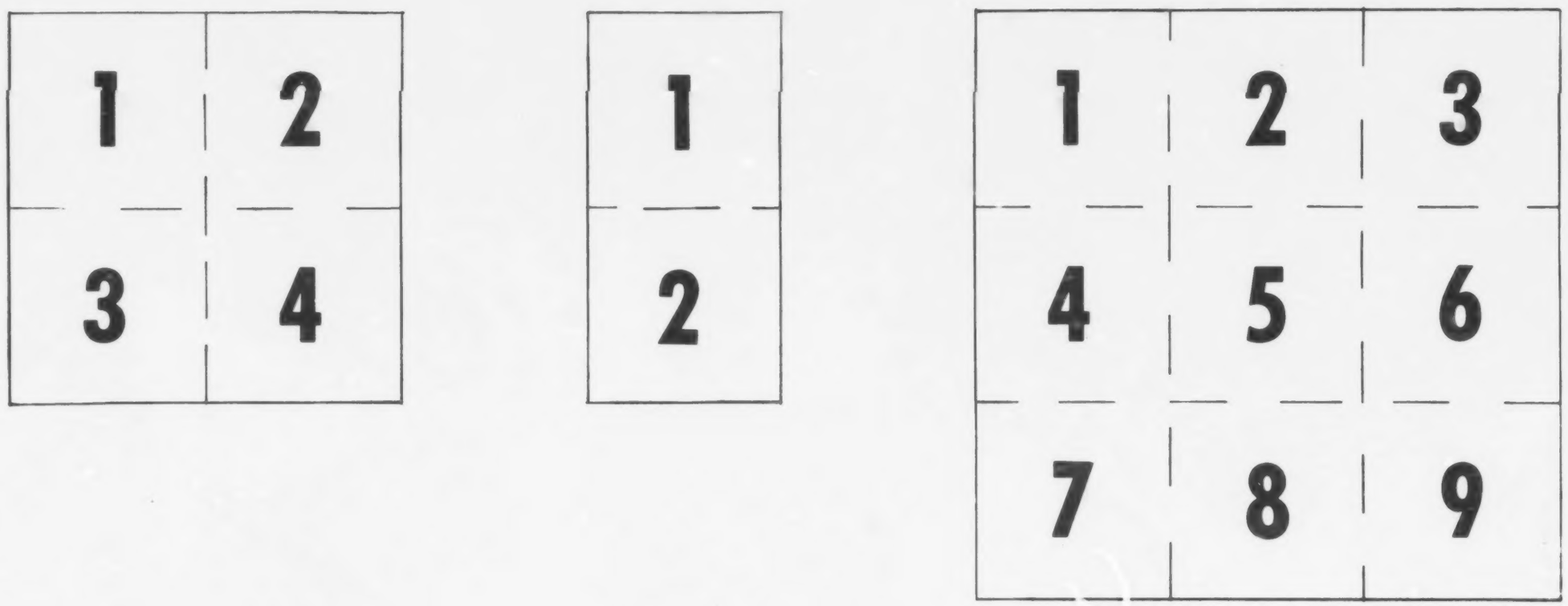
(ii.) The construction of a main drain from the canal at the junction of Victoria Bridge street and Prince of Wales' avenue to the tunnel intake.

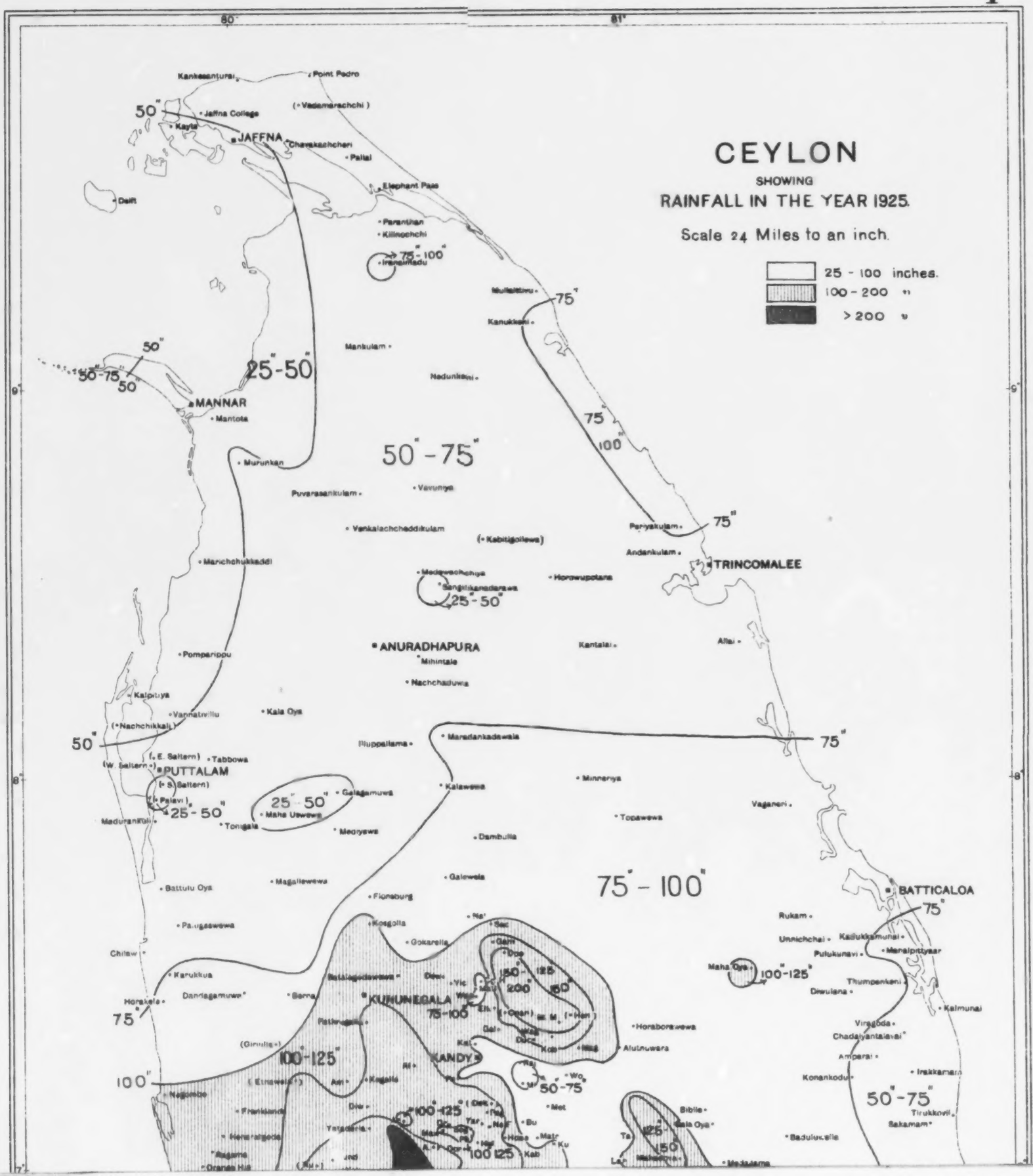
(iii.) The construction of culverts under Victoria Bridge road, Bloemendahl road, and Alutmawata road, and the lowering of the culvert under the Kolonnawa railway line where the main drain crosses it.

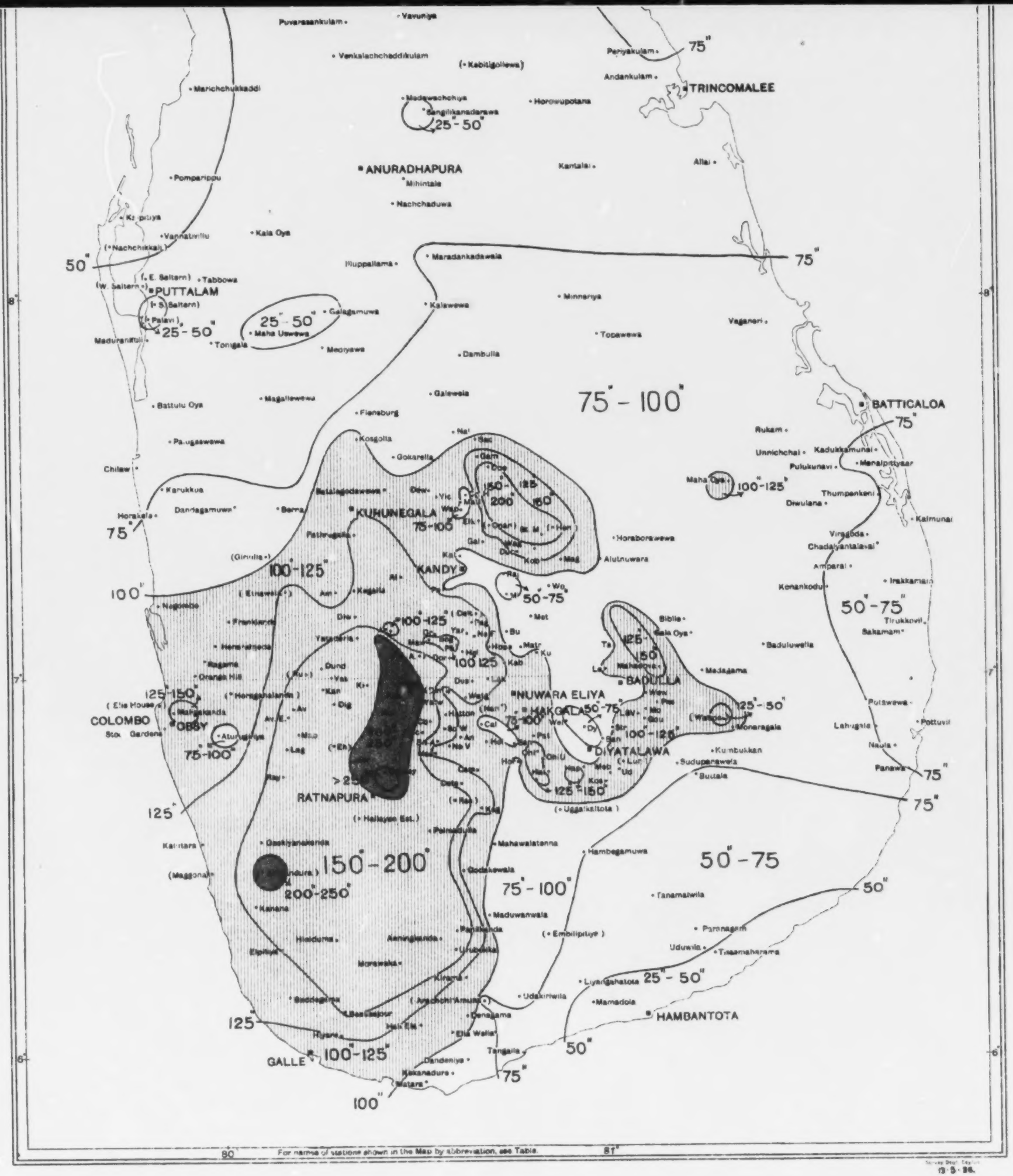
The more important benefits that will accrue are as follows :—

(i.) The elimination of a large, unsightly and unhealthy swamp area on the outskirts of the most densely populated part of the city.

Maps on this order too large to be entirely included in one exposure are filmed clockwise beginning in the upper left hand corner, left to right and top to bottom as many frames as required. The following diagrams illustrate the method.




CEYLON
SHOWING
RAINFALL IN THE YEAR 1925.
Scale 24 Miles to an inch.
25 - 100 inches.
100 - 200 "
> 200 "
JAFFNA
MANNAR
PUTTALAM
ANURADHAPURA
TRINCOMALEE
BATTICALOA
KANDY
KUHUNEGALA
50"
25"-50"
50"-75"
75"-100"
100"-125"
75"
100"
Point Pedro
Jaffna College
Kayts
Delft
Elephant Pass
Mantota
Mullaitivu
Kanukkeni
Mankulam
Nadunkerni
Murunkan
Puvarasankulam
Vavuniya
Vankalachchaddikulam
Periyakulam
Andankulam
Horowupotana
Mihintale
Nachchaduwa
Kantalai
Allai
Pomparippu
Kala Oya
Iluppallama
Maradankadawala
Minneriya
Vaganeri
Kalawewa
Galagamuwa
Maha Uswewa
Tonigala
Medawachchiya
Dambulla
Galewela
Topawewa
Battulu Oya
Magallewewa
Fionebung
Kosgolla
Gokarella
Pallegodawewa
Karukkua
Dandagamuwa
Horakela
Nagollo
Frankland
Yatagalla
Horana
Rukam
Unnichchai
Pulukunavi
Thumpenkeni
Diwulana
Kalmunai
Virapoda
Chadayantalavai
Amparai
Konankodu
Irakkamam
Tirukkovil
Sakamam
Badulugalle
Medagama
Alutnuwara
Horaborawewa
Maha Oya
Bibile
Kala Oya
Madurankuli
Chilaw
Mihintale



For names of stations shown in the Map by abbreviation, see Table.

Survey Dept. Ceylon
13-5-36.

(ii.) The provision of a large area for immediate expansion in a position where it is most urgently required for providing accommodation for the working population.

(iii.) The prevention of flood damage in this area.

(iv.) The North Scheme in conjunction with the South Scheme will ultimately enable a far-seeing town planning policy to be adopted.

Unnichchai Scheme.—Construction of agricultural roads and improvements to channels.

Chadayantalawa Scheme.—Provision of buttresses to right bank spill and construction of anicut.

Puluganavi Tank.—Construction of anicut.

Pattipolai-aru Scheme.—Completion of Velattapitty channel and construction of Malwatte-Malliativu agricultural road.

Kirinde-oya Right Bank Scheme.—Construction of agricultural road and further irrigation facilities.

Nachchaduwa Scheme.—Distribution channels and agricultural roads.

Kalawewa Scheme.—Construction of additional channels.

Sudupanawila-ela.—Construction of agricultural road.

Village Works.—A sum of Rs. 53,890.34 was expended upon maintenance and improvements, construction work being carried out on 50 tanks.

Surveys and Investigations.—The principal surveys, investigations, or demarcations carried out were in connection with the following schemes:—Colombo north flood protection, Bowetenne, Walawe left bank and right bank, Kirinde-oya right bank, Vadamarachchi lagoon, Karachchi, Unichchai, Allai extension, Pattipolai-aru, Tabbowa, and Nachchaduwa. In addition, investigations regarding village tanks in the catchment areas draining across the Northern and Mannar Railways were continued.

The number of Crown Irrigation Works is 184, under which 145,133 acres are at present irrigated.

Many improvements have been carried out to village works, and at present there are approximately 2,695 village tanks and elas in operation, a further number of 1,625 village tanks being under restoration.

Approximately 196,851 acres are cultivated for paddy under village works.

RAILWAY DEPARTMENT.

Open Lines, 1924.

The total length of the open line on September 30, 1924, was 742 miles—an increase in open line mileage of 8 miles.

The receipts for the year amounted to Rs. 27,188,145, as against Rs. 24,597,590, an increase of Rs. 2,590,555.

The number of passengers conveyed has increased by 212,526, the total for the year being 11,321,777.

Under season ticket traffic, the number of season ticket holders increased to the extent of 13,242, the total number issued during the year being 170,211.

The number of parcels conveyed during the year was 1,465,369, an increase of 59,289.

The tonnage of goods carried has risen from tons 1,157,886 to tons 1,303,777, the most noticeable increases and decreases being :—

Increases.	Tons.	Decreases.	Tons.
Sundry goods ...	35,738	Rubber ...	4,441
Coconut produce ...	21,035	Plumbago ...	682
Manure ...	20,118		
Rice ...	15,529		
Tea ...	12,732		
Copra ...	7,325		
Tea and rubber packing ...	6,588		
Paddy ...	2,586		
Foreign goods ...	8,460		
Liquid fuel ...	2,034		
Petroleum ...	1,472		

The total expenditure for the year was Rs. 17,614,067, an increase of Rs. 1,505,819 made up of Rs. 282,009 personal emoluments, Rs. 1,128,792 other charges, Rs. 47,018 new works (maintenance), and Rs. 48,000 pensions and gratuities.

The total capital cost of the Railway amounted to Rs. 160,369,876, the capital account having been increased during the year by Rs. 4,100,512 by the inclusion of the following additional capital charges, viz. :—

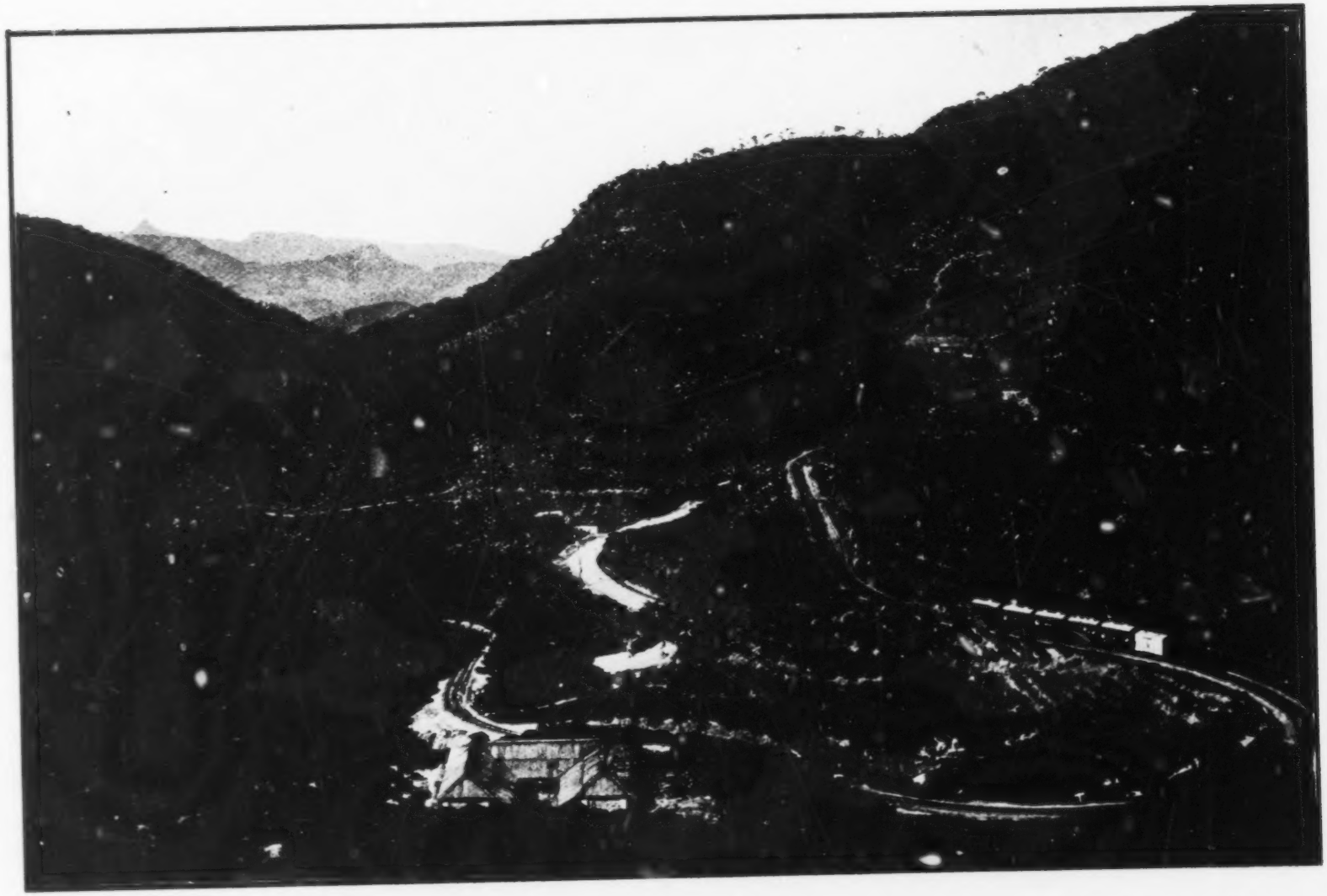
	Rs.
Badulla Railway	202,799
Harbour Rail Connection	1,617,922
Main Line Duplication	965,518
Stations Extension	90,831
Rolling Stock	61,892
New and Minor Works	1,105,055
Chief Construction Engineer's and Assistant's Salaries ...	56,495

Note.—The increases or decreases are based on the corresponding figures for the previous year (1923).

Colombo Station Extensions.

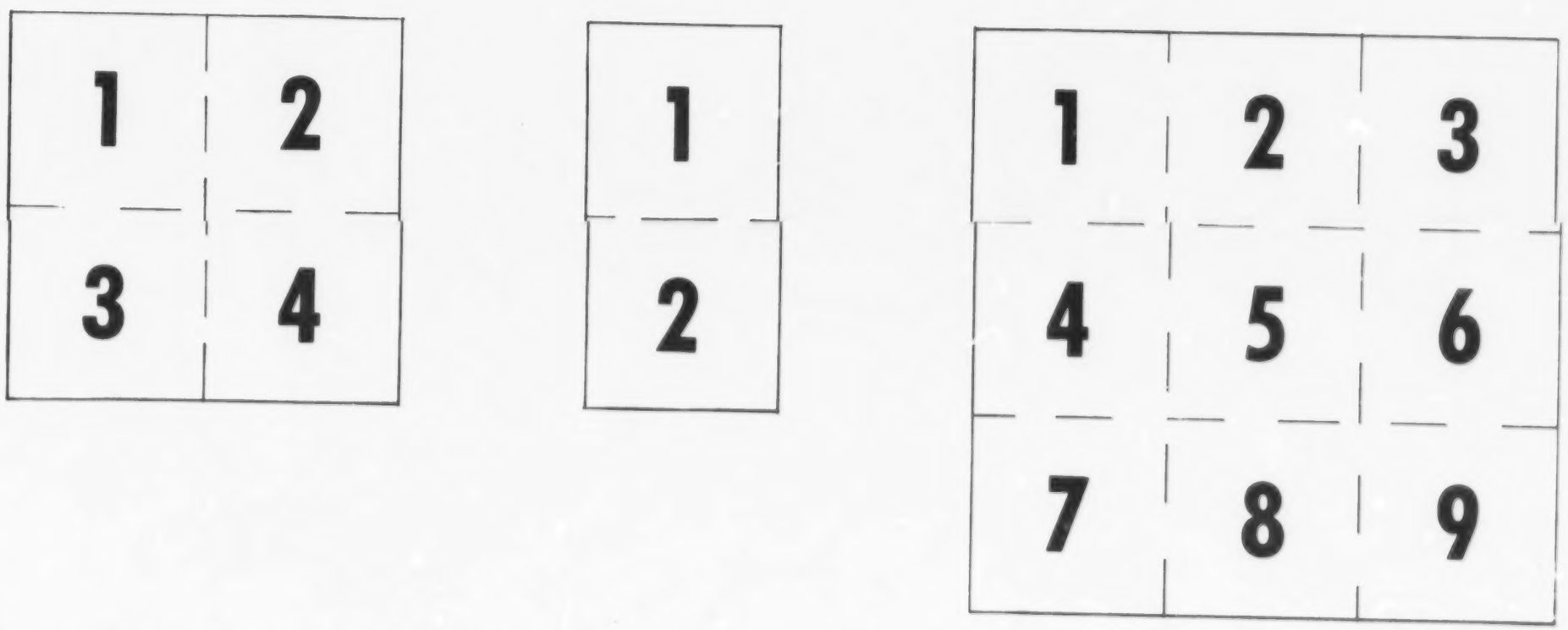
This work which involves a complete remodelling and extension of railway premises in Colombo is now approaching

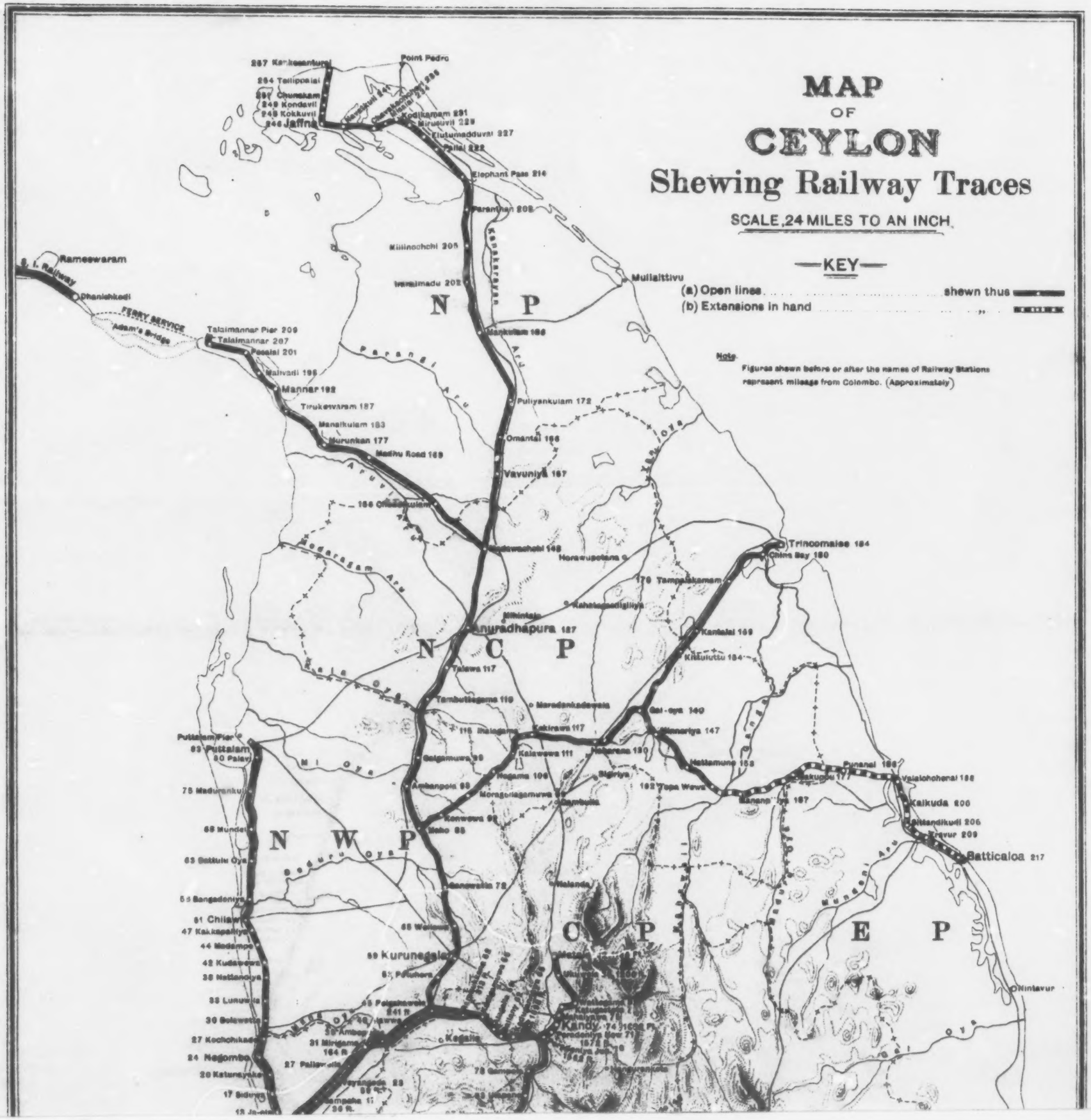
CEYLON GOVERNMENT RAILWAY (UP-COUNTRY).



Plâté, Limited, Colombo.

Maps on this order too large to be entirely included in one exposure are filmed clockwise beginning in the upper left hand corner, left to right and top to bottom as many frames as required. The following diagrams illustrate the method.





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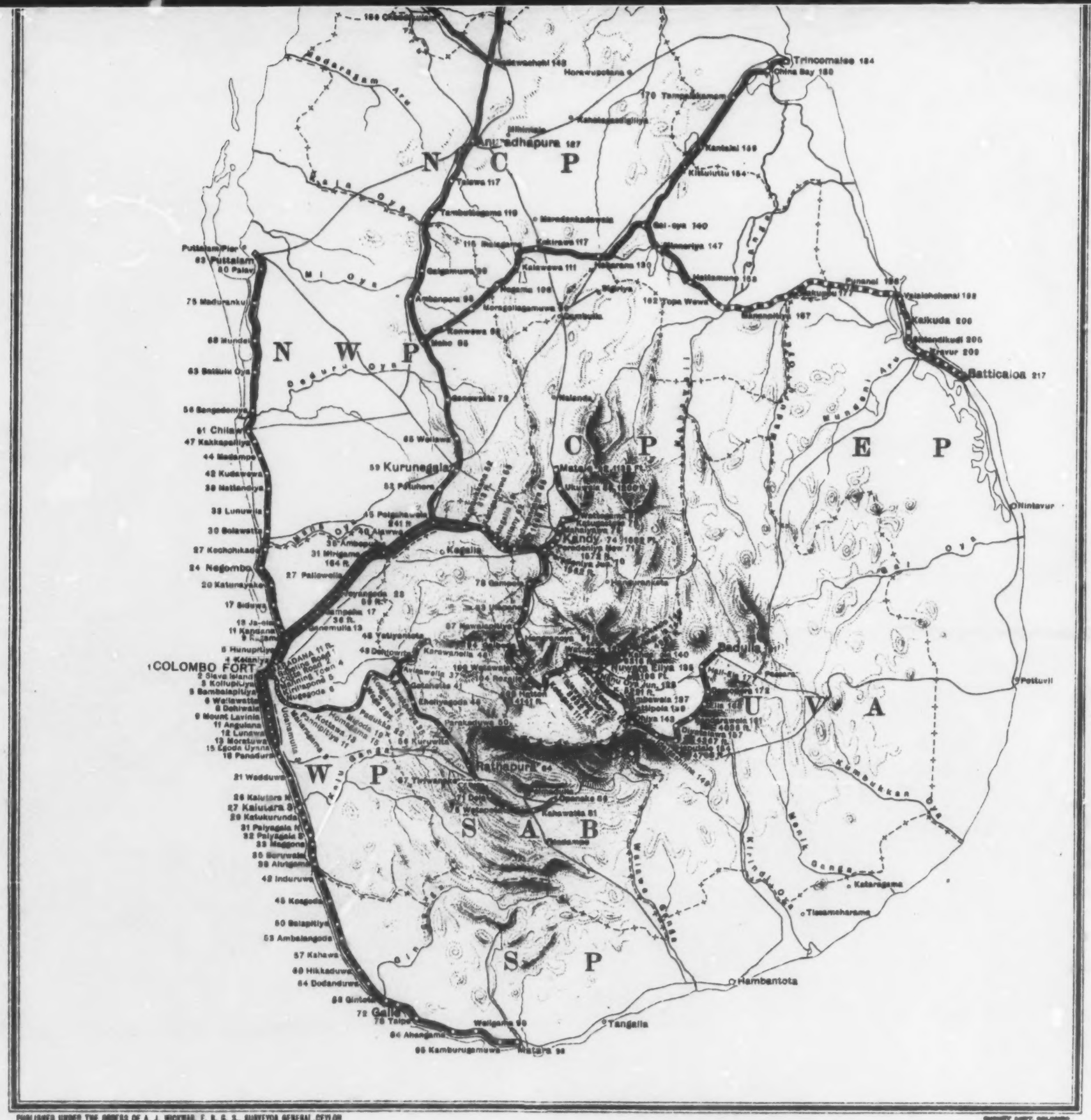

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SURVEY DEPT. COLOMBO
15 . 5 . 26

completion. The estimate for the whole undertaking is Rs. 9,779,623, of which Rs. 9,664,923.52 had been spent by the end of December, 1924.

The total estimate includes seems for additional work not provided for in the original estimate.

The steelwork for the footbridge at the west end of the Fort station had not arrived by the end of the year.

The remodelling of the Colombo goods yard was practically completed within the year. The Waragoda sorting sidings were completed and handed over to the open lines.

Colombo Harbour Rail Extension.

This work has been completed, with the exception of the approach roads to the two overhead bridges carrying Bloemendahl road and Victoria bridge road over railway.

The total estimate is Rs. 3,822,767.34, of which Rs. 3,799,671.20 had been spent by December 31, 1924.

Main Line Duplication.

The double line between Ragama and Pallewela and Alawwa and Polgahawela is now open. The section between Pallewela and Mirigama will shortly be opened and the remaining sections will be opened this year. The total estimate is Rs. 7,368,875.53, of which Rs. 6,545,088.22 had been spent by December 31, 1924.

Puttalam Extension.

The line between Chilaw and Mundel was opened by His Excellency the Governor on January 19, 1925. Work between Mundel and Puttalam was well advanced by the end of the year and this remaining portion of the line should be opened before the end of 1925.

The total estimate is Rs. 7,334,480, of which Rs. 5,802,837.12 had been spent by December 31, 1924.

Batticaloa-Trincomalee Light Railway.

Rails had by the end of the year been laid into Trincomalee, and as far as the Mahaweli-ganga on the Batticaloa branch. Rails have also been laid from the Valaichenai estuary westwards for a distance of five miles.

The line between Maho and Kekirawa, a distance of 32 miles, was opened for traffic on January 5, 1925, and it is expected that by the end of the year it will be opened between Kekirawa and Trincomalee and Gal-oya and Polonnaruwa.

Batticaloa-Nindur Railway Survey.

The survey has been completed and an estimate of the cost of the extension made.

Kalladi Bridge.

The steelwork and cylinders have arrived and a start has been made on the cylinder sinking.

VII.—EXCISE.

Distillery System.

THE year 1924 saw the completion of one chapter and the beginning of another in the history of Excise policy. By Notification No. 101 of November 20, 1919, the owners of the old pot stills had been warned that their licences would not be renewed in January, 1924, and it was decided to replace them by a few large distilleries to be worked on the same lines as the Government distillery at Kalutara North. Contracts to supply arrack to Government were entered into in 1923, and six new distilleries for the production of this arrack were built by private owners. The contract rate was Rs. 2.25 a gallon, and the period of the contract five years. By May, 1924, nearly all the six distilleries, one of them a French patent still of the Barbet type, were ready to work. The Government distillery was closed down during 1924, in order to give the holders of arrack made at the old distilleries a chance to dispose of their surplus stocks, but by July the Government was assured of a sufficient supply to meet the demands of the coming year.

Contract Supply System.

This system has been described in previous reports. Introduced first in 1920 into the Northern Province, it has gradually been extended to Uva in 1921-22, to the Central Province in 1922-23, to the Western and Sabaragamuwa Provinces in 1923-24, and finally from October, 1924, it was brought into operation over the whole Island. The essence of the new policy is that henceforth the absolute control of all arrack manufactured in the country is in the hands of Government.

To ensure this control a new supervising staff was appointed, consisting of the following :—

An Inspecting Officer of Distilleries (I.O.D.), of the rank of Assistant Superintendent.

A Checking Officer (to assist the I.O.D.), of the rank of Inspector.

Fourteen Distillery Inspectors, and 14 peons.

At every distillery one Inspector and peon are always on duty, and no arrack can be removed without the permit of the Inspector in charge.

Consumption and Revenue Figures.

I. Figures as regards consumption of arrack, toddy, and importation of foreign liquor for the calendar years 1920 to 1924 are given below—

	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.
Arrack	1,019,370	848,376	807,387	726,172	754,587
Toddy	4,752,605	4,443,800	4,291,012	4,143,801	4,460,519
Foreign liquor	303,523	203,708	268,629	228,750	371,169

II. The number of taverns for the same years was—

	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.
Arrack	521	452	379	321	298
Toddy	590	474	395	330	310
Foreign liquor	74	71	61	57	55

III. The revenue derived for the financial years 1920-21 to 1923-24 was as follows :—

	1920-21. Rs.	1921-22. Rs.	1922-23. Rs.	1923-24. Rs.
Arrack	8,313,022	7,439,553	7,300,064	7,626,504
Toddy	1,952,330	1,801,879	1,853,546	1,950,374
Foreign liquor	1,670,409	1,398,601	2,286,083	2,911,331

Temperance.

The number of taverns closed during 1924 was considerably less than during 1922 and 1923. Seventeen toddy taverns were closed as against 65 in 1923 and 79 in 1922; 23 arrack taverns were closed as against 58 in 1923 and 73 in 1922. The reduction is accounted for partly by the large number of closures in previous years, partly by the fact that in the Colombo Municipality there was temporarily no recognized electorate during the year as a result of the abolition of the poll tax in Colombo, and probably partly to the fact that interest throughout the country was largely centred on the elections to the Reformed Legislative Council. It is of interest to note that the number of arrack taverns is now 1.26 for every 100 square miles, and that only 8 drams of arrack per annum are consumed per head of population.

Excise Offences and Dry Areas.

With the closure of taverns the number of Excise offences has risen. These offences are statutory offences. The number has risen from 3,244 in 1921 to 3,946 in 1924. Serious crime in dry areas has increased from 1,525 offences in 1921 to 2,968 in 1922 and 3,124 in 1923.

VIII.—POST AND TELEGRAPHS.

ON December 31, 1924, 626 offices were open for the transaction of postal business: of these 181 (excluding the Central Telegraph Office) were offices dealing with all class of postal business, viz., mail and parcel work, registration and insurance of postal articles, money order, postal order and savings bank work, and telegraph business; at 25 offices all such business except telegraph work was transacted.

At 28 sub-offices mail, parcel, registration, and postal order work only was transacted, while at 355 village receiving offices mail work only was conducted; there were also 37 railway receiving offices.

Mail Services.

A.—*Foreign.*

A regular weekly mail service between Ceylon and the United Kingdom was maintained during 1924, and 10,345 bags of correspondence and 6,277 bags of parcels arrived from London; while 3,351 bags of correspondence and 2,331 bags of parcels were despatched to London.

Fifty-two letter mails were received from London; of these 40 were carried by vessels of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company, of which 24 were landed at Bombay and brought overland to Colombo and 16 were brought by sea to Colombo, and 12 were carried by vessels of the Orient line.

In the homeward direction 112 miles were despatched to Europe by vessels of the Peninsular and Oriental (51 mails), Orient (12), Messageries Maritimes (19), Nippon Yusen Kaisha (1), Rotterdam Lloyd (22), and Stoomvaart Maatschappy Nederland (7) lines. The time occupied in transit was 16 to 19 days from Colombo to London and 16 to 18 days from London to Colombo—average 17½ and 17 days respectively. The running of the ordinary trains in place of the special Madras-Bombay mail trains stopped on May 1, 1922, continued during 1924, and Tuesday continued to be the regular day of closing the European mail. This change entailed considerable inconvenience on the mercantile community on occasions when the outward mail did not arrive until Tuesday morning. A step taken to minimize the inconvenience was the extension of the hours up to which letters were received for despatch on payment of late fees: 6 cents up to 5 P.M., 10 cents up to 6 P.M., and 15 cents up to the time the train left Fort station at 7.35 P.M. But with the starting time put back to 7 P.M., the late fee paid letters were received for despatch with 6 cents up to 5 P.M. for all places, 10 cents up to 6 P.M., and 15 cents up to 6.30 P.M. for United Kingdom only.

Between Australia and Ceylon a regular monthly mail service was maintained, both by the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company and the Orient Company; and the vessels of the Australian Commonwealth line provided a supplementary service, 15 mails being despatched for Australia by this means during the year.

Regular and frequent services to the Straits Settlements and the Far East were available by the vessels of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company, Messageries Maritimes Company, the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, Rotterdam Lloyd, Stoomvaart Maatschappy Nederland, and Compania Transatlantica lines.

The British India Steam Navigation Company's steamers carried mails from Ceylon to Mauritius seven times during the year at irregular intervals. A fortnightly mail service from Colombo to Mauritius *viâ* Bombay, Aden, and Djibouti was started in February, and by this means 17 mails were despatched to Mauritius. The Natal direct, Indian African, Ossen Shosen Kaisha lines and British India Steam Navigation Company's steamers from Bombay carried 37 mails from Ceylon to South Africa.

Vessels of the Ossen Shosen Kaisha line carried direct mails to the Argentine *viâ* South Africa.

With India the daily service in each direction by train with ferryboat plying between Talaimannar and Dhanushkodi was maintained. A regular bi-weekly service was also maintained during 1924 between Colombo and Tuticorin by steamers of the British India Steam Navigation Company.

B.—*Inland Mails.*

Inland mails are carried generally by the Ceylon Government Railway, and from railway stations by private contract motor mail services, bullock coach, or by runner services.

The principal motor mail services are :—

	Miles.
Badulla to Batticaloa	102½
Anuradhapura to Trincomalee	65¼
Matara to Hambantota	51
Haputale to Moneragala	48
Matara to Deniyaya	43
Mundel to Puttalam	16
Mankulam to Mullaittivu	29½
Jaffna to Point Pedro	20½
Jaffna to Kayts (*viâ* Karainagar)	21¾
Kodikamam to Valvettiturai	16
Kurunegala to Madampe	39½
Hatton to Bogawantalawa	14¼
Norwood to Maskeliya	5½
Matale to Dambulla	27½
Talawakele to Agrapatna	14
Opanake to Balangoda	9
Gampola to Ramboda	20

				Miles.
Panadure to Ratnapura	...	...	...	42½
Kahawatta to Rakwana	...	...	...	12
Polgahawela to Kegalla	...	...	...	8¼
Puttalam to Kalpitiya	...	...	...	28
Halgranoya to Uda Pussellawa	...	...	...	6
Nuwara Eliya to Welimada	...	...	...	16
Hambantota to Tissamaharama	...	...	...	21
Nawalapitiya to Kotmale	...	...	...	8
Batticaloa to Akkaraipattu	...	...	...	38

The inland mail services worked satisfactorily throughout the year save when interrupted for short periods by floods and washaways.

Mail Statistics.

The total number of postal articles exclusive of parcels which passed through the post in 1924 is estimated at 68 million, about 7¼ million more than in 1923. The increase was principally in inland correspondence, which comprised over 82 per cent. of the total. Correspondence exchanged with India formed nearly 10 per cent. of the total, with the United Kingdom about 4 per cent., and with other countries nearly 4 per cent.

Letters received from the United Kingdom showed an increase of 102,500 compared with 1923. Printed matter, samples, &c., from the United Kingdom showed a decrease of about 100,000 compared with 1923.

The total number of parcels dealt with was 1,019,429, an increase of over 98,000 over the 1923 total. Of these, 57,984 were received from the United Kingdom, 212,646 from India, and 10,458 from other countries. 16,752 parcels were received under the Cash on Delivery service from the United Kingdom, an increase of 7,724 over the last year's total.

Postage Rates.

The rates for foreign postage fixed under the Madrid Convention continued in operation; the rate on letters to British Possessions being 12 cents for the first oz. and 10 cents for each subsequent oz., while the postage on post cards was 10 cents; to foreign countries the corresponding rates were 20 cents, 10 cents, and 12 cents. On printed matter the initial rate of 4 cents per 2 oz. was uniform, with minima of 8 cents on samples and 20 cents on business papers.

The inland rates of postage and the rates to India remained unchanged—initial letter rate 6 cents per 4 oz., post card rate 3 cents, and printed matter 3 cents for 2 oz.

The total value of stamps sold by the Department in 1924 was Rs. 6,849,206.

The inland telegraph rate, 40 cents for the first 10 words, including address, and 5 cents for each additional 2 words,

remained unchanged, as did the rates on telegrams to India, for first 12 words, ordinary Re. 1, express Rs. 2, with 10 and 15 cents respectively, for each additional word.

Money and Postal Orders.

The total value of money orders handled in 1924 was Rs. 43,823,874. of which inland orders amounted to Rs. 29,887,301; of the balance, the business with India formed the largest percentage, orders issued payable in India totalling over 10½ million rupees—one million more than in 1923—a fair proportion of which was due to savings remitted by Indian immigrant coolies.

The business in money orders between Ceylon and the United Kingdom was small—9,261 orders of a total value of Rs. 370,139.

There was an increase in the value of local postal orders issued, Rs. 822,264, compared with Rs. 771,584 in 1923, and a small increase in the number of British postal orders paid, which, however, only amounted to £10,618.

Considerable use was made of the telegraph money order service between Ceylon and India, remittances totalling Rs. 4,111,407 being so sent to India and Rs. 549,167 drawn by Indian remitters on Ceylon. Comparatively little use, however, was made of the services between Ceylon and the United Kingdom (377 telegraph orders were sent to the United Kingdom and 82 received therefrom) and Ceylon and the Federated Malay States (26 orders only being sent and 974 orders received), owing probably to the higher telegraph costs.

The revenue from money order commission reached Rs. 475,823.

Post Office Savings Bank.

The business of the bank transacted at 206 offices continued to expand during 1924, the deposits which amounted to Rs. 5,413,199 exceeding withdrawals during the year by Rs. 754,392.

On December 31, 1924, the total to the credit of depositors was Rs. 6,701,840.

The rate of interest continued to be 2.40 per cent.—2 cents per month for each complete Rs. 10.

Any sums not less than 25 cents are accepted for deposits up to nett maxima of Rs. 750 per annum and an interest bearing total of Rs. 3,000.

Deposits may be made by means of stamped slips. One withdrawal on demand of a sum not exceeding Rs. 10 is allowed in any one week.

Telegraph System.

All the important towns in the Island are served by the Government telegraph system.

180 postal telegraph offices were open for public traffic on December 31, 1924, besides several Railway telegraph offices. Two new telegraph offices were opened during the year.

There are two telegraph circuits between Ceylon and India, on one of which the Baudot printing machine is employed in duplex working.

Ceylon is connected with the West by direct cables of the Eastern Telegraph Company to Aden and the Seychelles, and to the East with Singapore.

The Government Wireless Station at Colombo of kilowatt power has a normal daylight range of about 400 miles, and is open to traffic of all kinds.

The total number of telegrams handled in 1924 was 1,727,322, some 27,500 more than in 1923. The average time taken in transmission of an inland telegram was 16 minutes.

The total number of messages despatched to India 225,290, showed an increase of some 35,000, and the number received from India, 149,663, was some 6,500 less than in 1923.

113,724 private cable messages were despatched to and 99,581 received from other countries.

The Colombo Wireless Station dealt with 9,918 messages containing 117,385 words during the year.

The revenue from telegrams was, roughly, Rs. 835,500, and the value of free telegraphic services rendered to other departments was estimated at Rs. 57,500.

The Telephone System.

Speaking generally, the larger towns are served by Government exchanges (50 in number), and rural areas by private licensed local exchanges, linked together by Government junction and trunk lines.

The principal Government exchange is at Colombo, which is served by underground cables as far as possible. There were 2,460 subscribers to this on December 31, 1924, and three applications for services were outstanding.

The next largest Government exchanges are at Kandy (166 subscribers), Nuwara Eliya (125), Galle (86), Kurunegala (58), Negombo (48), Kalutara (47), Panadure (44), and Matale (34).

No charge for installation is made for connection to Government exchanges, and a flat rate of subscription is charged for an unlimited service within the prescribed hours.

The minimum subscriptions, applicable to premises within 2 miles of the Exchange, are Rs. 180 per annum for business and Rs. 120 for residential connections in the larger towns.

At the Colombo exchange the service is continuous throughout the year, and it is estimated that a little over 14½ million calls were dealt with in Ceylon in 1924—nearly 1½ million more than in 1923.

The average speed of answer during the day in Colombo was 4.7 seconds, and 96.3 per cent. of calls were answered within 10 seconds.

There were 98 Government call offices in use during the year, and the number of telephone stations reached 6,448. The estimated number of trunk line calls was 277,992 and junction line calls 196,560, an increase on the 1923 figures. The trunk and junction line fees are fixed on a cent per mile basis. Receipts from telephones totalled Rs. 619,228 in 1924, while the value of telephone services rendered free to other Government Departments was estimated at Rs. 102,500.

The principal trunk telephone lines are :—

	Miles.
(1) Colombo-Kandy-Gampola-Hatton-Nuwara Eliya ...	132
(2) Gampola-Pussellawa-Nuwara Eliya	34
(3) Colombo-Kalutara-Galle-Matara	99
(4) Colombo-Avissawella-Ratnapura	64
(5) Colombo-Polgahawela-Kurunegala	59
(6) Colombo-Ragama-Negombo	23
(7) Kandy-Wattegama-Matale	21
(8) Nuwara Eliya-Haputale-Diyatalawa-Bandarawela ...	36
(9) Colombo-Negombo-Chilaw	51

The Government telephone system at the end of 1924 comprised 10,455 miles of overhead and 20,027 miles of underground wire.

There are 28 licensed exchanges, and the largest private systems are :—

(*a*) The Norwood-Maskeliya-Bogawantalawa system, with exchanges at those places having 39, 48, and 31 subscribers, respectively;

(*b*) The Talawakele-Tillicoultry and Agrapatna system, with exchanges at those places having 35, 29, and 27 subscribers, respectively; and

(*c*) The Galaha-Hewaheta system, with 60 and 5 subscribers, respectively.

The Neboda private system serves 35 subscribers.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue of the Department in 1924 is estimated at, roughly, Rs. 5,786,188. The principal increases were under the heads of Postage (some Rs. 340,500), Telephone receipts (some Rs. 56,500), and other collections Rs. 86,000.

The value of free services rendered to other Government Departments, not included in these totals, was estimated at Rs. 930,500, but no reliable estimate can be framed of the value of free services rendered by them to the Postal Department.

The total expenditure from the votes of the Postal Department was Rs. 4,802,615. A further sum of Rs. 491,529 was charged to the Loan Account for works of telephone development.

IX.—EDUCATION.

General.

SCHOOLS in Ceylon may be broadly divided into three classes: English, Anglo-vernacular, and vernacular. The vernacular schools are attended by about 85 per cent. of the school-going population. The English and Anglo-vernacular schools provide elementary education leading up to the English School-leaving Certificate Examination. Secondary English schools provide an education leading up to the Cambridge Senior School Certificate Examination and the London University Matriculation Examination. There are also classes for commercial subjects in some of the larger schools. There is an increasing demand for English, and an attempt has been made to meet this demand by a scheme of Government Central English and Anglo-vernacular schools for rural districts, where children may receive an English education. Such schools have been opened at Gampaha, Piliyandala, Veyangoda, Kadawata, Udugampola, Bomiriya, Beruwala, and Wadduwa in the Western Province; at Induruwa, Hikkaduwa, Ahungalla, Godauda, and Mirissa in the Southern Province; and at Puttalam in the North-Western Province. The inclusion of Sinhalese and Tamil in the London Matriculation and Intermediate Arts Examinations and the Cambridge Examinations has given a stimulus to the study of the vernacular languages. Several secondary schools are now teaching Sinhalese and Tamil. English has suffered in the past from Latin being taught in the schools to boys from Sinhalese- and Tamil-speaking homes, who have not acquired a sound knowledge of English, and have little facility in expressing themselves in any but their own language.

Vernacular Education.

In 1924 there were 1,080 Government vernacular schools, with an attendance of 110,818 boys and 48,932 girls. There were also 1,811 assisted schools, with an attendance of 128,087 boys and 82,678 girls. Of these, 275 were estate schools, with an attendance of 9,915 boys and 1,700 girls. A school for the

deaf and blind started in 1912 receives grant at the rate of Rs. 5 per mensem per child on the average number of children on the roll during the year.

The total sum expended by Government on the vernacular education in 1923-24 was Rs. 3,244,742, of which Rs. 1,473,719 was spent on Government schools and Rs. 1,771,023 on aided schools.

The Education Ordinance was proclaimed with effect from January 1, 1924, and Education District Committees have been formed in the following areas :—

1. Colombo Municipality.
2. Kandy Municipality.
3. Galle Municipality.
4. Kalutara Urban District.
5. Negombo Urban District.
6. Panadure Urban District.
7. Matale Urban District.
8. Jaffna Urban District.
9. Matara Urban District.
10. Chilaw Urban District.
11. Ratnapura Urban District.
12. Nuwara Eliya Revenue District, including Board of Improvement.
13. Mannar Revenue District.
14. Trincomalee Revenue District.

English Education.

In 1924 there were 306 English and Anglo-vernacular schools attended by 61,393 pupils, of whom 47,541 were boys and 13,852 girls. There is one Government secondary school in Colombo, with an average attendance of 566. The cost to Government of this school for the year was Rs. 113,895, and fees recovered amounted to Rs. 39,669.

There were 40 assisted secondary schools, the total average attendance at which was 15,567.

In most of the larger schools candidates are prepared for the Senior and Junior Cambridge School Certificate Examinations and the London Matriculation Examination. In 1923 the number of candidates who presented themselves for the Cambridge School Certificate Examinations and the results obtained were—

	Candidates.	Honours.	Other Passes.
Senior	1,132 ...	84 ...	287
Junior	1,229 ...	103 ...	491

There are special syllabuses for Ceylon students in Science and Needlework. The results of the London University Examinations in 1924 showed that 459 candidates from Ceylon

presented themselves for the Matriculation Examination, 95 of whom passed. Six candidates passed the First Examination for Medical degrees and 11 the Second Examination, Part I. One hundred and nine candidates presented themselves for the Intermediate Examination in Arts, 38 of whom passed. Seventy-six candidates took up the Intermediate Examination in Science, 34 of whom passed. Seven candidates entered for the Inter. Science Economics, 1 of whom passed. Five entered for the Inter. Science Agriculture and none passed. Seven candidates presented themselves for the Intermediate Examination in Laws, 2 of whom passed. One candidate presented himself for the LL.B. Examination, but he failed to pass. Two candidates presented themselves for the Inter. Divinity Examination, and one passed. One entered for Inter. Commerce and he failed to pass. Twenty-seven candidates presented themselves for the B.A. degree, 11 of whom passed. Fourteen entered for the B.Sc., and 7 passed. One candidate presented himself for Honours in Classics and was awarded Second Class Honours. Two candidates presented themselves for Honours in English, of whom one was awarded Third Class Honours. One candidate presented himself for Honours in History Branch III. and was awarded Third Class Honours.

The encouragement offered by Government takes the form of grants or scholarships. The assisted English schools grants are paid on average attendance of pupils, as laid down in the schedules of the Code. Special grants are paid on account of buildings and equipment.

Five Government scholarships are now offered: one on the results of the Final Examination in Arts of the London University, and one on the results of the Final Examination in Science. A third scholarship is awarded on the results of the Final Examination in Science on condition that the holder studies Agriculture and Forestry. Two more scholarships are awarded on the results of the Final Examination in Science on condition that the selected candidate pursue a course of studies in Engineering. The first three scholarships are tenable for two years, and the two Engineering scholarships for three years. The scholarships are of the value of £300 per annum, with free passage and outfit allowance of £50. The holders may join any British University or any recognized engineering institution in the United Kingdom.

An exhibition of Rs. 250 or Rs. 300 a year has been offered by the Hon. Sir H. M. Fernando, Member of the Executive and Legislative Councils, to the Ceylon student who obtains the highest marks in botany and either chemistry or agricultural science in the Cambridge Senior School Certificate Examination.

The following is the scale of fees charged in the various classes of Government English and Anglo-vernacular schools in the Island :—

Government English Schools.

	Per Mensem. Rs. c.
Preparatory	2 0
First Year Class	2 50
Second Year Class	3 0
Standard V.	3 50
Standard VI.	4 0
Standard VII.	4 50
English School-leaving Certificate Class	5 0

Anglo-Vernacular Schools.

Stage I.	0 50
Stage II.	0 75
Stage III.	1 0
Stage IV.	1 25
Stage V.	1 50
Stage VI.	2 0
Standard VII.	3 0
Standard VIII. (English School-leaving Certificate Class) ...	4 0

The 1923 Code for Assisted English Schools lays down the following minimum scale of fees for elementary schools :—

Grade I. Schools.

In Provinces other than the Northern, Eastern, and North-Central Provinces :—

	Per Mensem. Rs. c.
Lower Kindergarten	1 0
Upper Kindergarten	1 50
Standard II.	2 0
Standard III.	2 50
Standard IV.	3 0
Standard V.	3 50
Standard VI.	4 0
Standard VII.	4 50
Elementary School-leaving Certificate Class	5 0

In the Northern, Eastern, and North-Central Provinces :—

Lower Kindergarten	1 0
Upper Kindergarten	1 50
Standard II. and III.	2 0
Standard IV.	2 50
Standard V.	3 0
Standard VI.	3 50
Standard VII. and English School-leaving Certificate Class ...	4 0

Grade II. Schools.

Kindergarten and Standard II.	1 0
Standard III., IV., and V.	2 0
Standard VI., VII., and English School-leaving Certificate Class...	3 0

Training of Teachers.

The Government Training College consists of three departments: English (men and women), Sinhalese (men), and Sinhalese (women). The object is to supply trained teachers for aided English schools and Government English, Anglo-vernacular, and vernacular schools. At the beginning of 1924 the number of students in training was on the English side 36 men and 40 women, on the Sinhalese side 40 men and 41 women.

A training school for Tamil teachers was opened at Kopay, Jaffna, in October, 1923, and 53 students were admitted. Of

these, 22 students left the school in August 1, 1924, after passing the final examination. Twenty-two new students were admitted in October, 1924.

Besides these Government institutions there are ten assisted training schools for the training of teachers for vernacular schools. The students go through a two years' course of training and pass an examination at the end of each year's course. On the results of the second year's examination a Second Class Teachers' Certificate is issued to the successful students. One hundred and twenty-two students successfully completed their course in 1924, and obtained Second Class Teachers' Certificates.

Third Class Teachers' Certificates are issued to all monitors and pupil teachers, who have successfully gone through a three years' course of training in a Government or assisted vernacular or Anglo-vernacular school and have passed the prescribed examinations. These certificates are issued provisionally to all the monitors and pupil teachers on their passing the Third-Year Examination and are confirmed when they have completed three years' satisfactory service as a teacher. Holders of Third Class Teachers' Certificates are eligible for admission to Assisted Training Schools.

Industrial Schools.

The full-time system introduced in 1923 effected considerable improvement in Government Industrial Schools. There was no difficulty in forming classes from boys who had passed the fifth standard and who were over 14 years of age. The work done by them was naturally more satisfactory than the work previously done by younger boys who were still attending the vernacular schools. Moreover, the fact that a boy joins the full-time class is evidence that he intends to try to learn some industry which he wishes to continue in after life, so that the training now being given is clearly of practical value.

The want of better teachers has been felt, especially in carpentry schools. To remedy this defect a class of 8 boys is being trained in the Technical Schools to be instructors in carpentry schools. The training being given should produce a much better type of instructor than can be obtained at present.

In 1924 the aided industrial schools, which are 35 in number, received grants amounting to Rs. 23,640. The trades taught were carpentry, dressmaking, tailoring, lacemaking, embroidery, cookery, weaving, shoemaking, and smithy work. The most important of these schools is the Magonna Certified Industrial School, which is utilized by Government as a reformatory for youthful offenders.

This institution is managed by the Roman Catholic Mission. It has an estate of some 300 acres and excellent buildings, towards the cost of which Government has contributed. 235 youthful offenders are at present receiving instruction in this school, and an allowance is paid by Government for the maintenance of each offender. The amount so paid in the year 1923-24 was Rs. 40,081.77. Another important industrial school is that at Wellawatta, Colombo, under the management of the Wesleyan Mission. The amount of grant paid to this institution in 1924 amounted to Rs. 4,800.

An impetus was given to home industries, which are taught in different parts of the Island, by the appointment of two Inspectors of Industries—one for weaving schools and one for carpentry and general industrial work. Carpentry is taught in 36 schools. Thirty-two schools are engaged in cloth-weaving, of which 8 are Government schools. Printing and bookbinding are taught in 12 schools, shoemaking in 1, and smithy work in 4 schools. Cane and rattan work in 4 schools. Three schools are equipped for lacquer work. One school is equipped for pottery work. Basket-weaving and mat-weaving are taught in several schools, hat-making in the Kalutara District, and in 25 schools there are classes in basket-making for children.

Agricultural Instruction in Schools.

Elementary agricultural instruction is given by a scheme of school gardens conducted in connection with Government schools. The gardens are under the supervision of the Department of Agriculture. There is a Superintendent of School Gardens, who is assisted by three Inspectors. The total number of registered school gardens at the end of 1924 was 543. The number of gardens attached to grant-in-aid schools was 79. 100 school gardens are awaiting registration. Seeds and implements are supplied by the Department of Agriculture, and prizes are offered for competition. Twelve Government teachers underwent a special course of training at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Peradeniya. The scheme has been supplemented by the establishment of home gardens in large numbers, seeds being provided for boys who undertake to plant up vegetables in their home compounds.

Technical.

Government Technical Schools, Colombo.—A reorganization scheme was put into operation at the Government Technical Schools, Colombo, in May, 1923, and the work of the schools was divided into three branches, viz. : Technical, Commercial, and Art. There are full-time courses in telegraph and telephone engineering and signalling. In addition, evening

classes are held in building construction, mechanical engineering, electric wiring, carpentry, and joinery, there are also drawing classes for carpenters, motor drivers, and mechanics.

Commercial classes are held in English, typewriting, shorthand, bookkeeping, business routine, commercial arithmetic, and commercial geography. Art classes are held in drawing (for teachers), painting, and geometrical drawing.

The fees for a part-time course average Rs. 15 per annum, apprentices being charged half rate. The full-time courses and some commercial classes form part of the training provided by Government for apprentices and clerks in training in the Postal and Railway Services, and these students receive a maintenance allowance. An important innovation is being tried in conjunction with the Government workshops whereby apprentices attend the school for technical instruction during two full days per week.

The Jaffna Technical School was opened on October 8, 1921. There were 30 students at the end of the year. Manual training, woodwork, metal work, and drawing are taught in this school.

University College.

1. *Numbers.*—The number of students on the rolls in August, 1924, the beginning of the academic year 1924-25, was 261. At the beginning of the previous academic year, October, 1923, there were 217 on the rolls.

2. *Courses.*—The B.A., B.Sc., and B.Sc. (Econ.) Examination of London University continue for the present to be taken; also the Pre-Registration Examination of the Ceylon Medical College. Instruction is offered in English, Latin, Greek, French, German, Sanskrit, Pali, Sinhalese, Tamil, History, Logic, Philosophy, Geography, Economics, Pure Mathematics, Applied Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Botany, and Zoology. There are Honours classes in Classics, Mathematics, Chemistry, and Botany.

3. *Examination Results.*—One student, the first to sit in Ceylon, passed the Honours Examination in Classics, being placed in the Second Class. For the B.A. (Pass) Examination, 11 students sat, of whom 9 passed. For the B.Sc. (Pass) Examination, 8 students sat, of whom 7 passed. For the Intermediate Examination in Arts, 41 sat (including a few "referred" in single subjects from the 1923 Examination), of whom 26 passed. For the Intermediate Examination in Science, 43 (including those referred) sat, of whom 28 passed.

4. *Additions to the Staff.*—The posts of Professor of Botany, Lecturer in Zoology, and Lecturer in Economics, were

filled during this year. An additional Lecturer in Classics was sanctioned, and appointed. The posts of Professor of Education and Lecturer in Psychology remained vacant.

5. *Prospectus.*—The third issue of the College prospectus, carefully revised and enlarged, appeared in July, 1924.

6. *The Library.*—The library, which is constantly expanding, consists of some 7,000 volumes (exclusive of journals, annually bound) of which about one-third concern science, and are housed in the Science buildings. The remainder are at College House, where much progress in cataloguing and arranging has been made during the year. The number of students using this part of library has increased, the maximum for a day having been 75.

7. *Student Activities.*—These have shown a marked increase in every direction. The cricket field has been greatly improved at considerable cost, and matches have been more frequent. The three tennis courts have been constantly occupied. Athletics have been practised, and representatives of the College did well at the annual sports of the Ceylon Amateur Athletic Association. The College also plays rugby and association football and has a boxing club.

Debates and Lectures in English, Sinhalese, and Tamil are regular; and the Reading and Dramatic Society has been rehearsing, and hopes to stage, a modern play. The first number of the University College Magazine appeared.

8. *Hostels.*—The three hostels continued full, and the acquisition of a fourth (since opened) was under consideration during the year, showing the need and value of such institutions.

9. *University College Council.*—This council, which had been somewhat reduced by death, and the absence of members from the Island, was reconstituted during the year, and consists of 20 members, of whom a considerable proportion are members of the Legislative Council of Ceylon, some being members of the Finance Committee also.

10. *Progress of the University Project.*—The decisive event of the year 1924 was the assigning of a site of 95 acres, and the voting by the Legislative Council in February of a sum of Rs. 3,000,000 for University buildings.

Boards of studies in the various faculties were constituted early in the year, and met repeatedly for the purpose of drawing up syllabuses to suit the Degree courses worked out by the Academic Committee in 1923. Conferences were held, and careful consideration was given by those concerned to the question of the relation of Law studies to the future University.

Archæological Commission.

A more favourable financial situation has made it possible to increase the total allotted to the Archæological Department by Rs. 16,541. The total estimates, including an apportionment of Rs. 2,500 from the Government Agent, North-Central Province's vote for clearing and maintaining Crown reservations, amounted to Rs. 108,666.69. The expenditure of the department has been Rs. 102,687.23. The revenue collected from the sale of photographic prints and other miscellaneous items was Rs. 302.14.

Publications.

The year under review has inaugurated a new era in the matter of publications. The following official publications have proceeded from the department, viz. : the late Mr. E. R. Ayrton's memoirs and the Archæological section of the new Ceylon Journal of Science, besides seven unofficial publications, all by the Archæological Commissioner.

Library.

A large number of books have been added this year.

Collections.

The coin collection has received a valuable addition of 12 gold coins from a treasure trove at Allaipitti, Jaffna. The coins were identified as Gajapati pagodas. A set of South Indian coins has also been added. The excavations at Veherabändigala added little else than potsherds, tiles, nails, and so forth. It seems to be the exception to find anything else in excavations in Ceylon. A large pot was brought from Pomparippu in the Puttalam District in fragments.

Reservations.

Application has been made for a survey of Mihintale reservation. Application has also been made for the proclamation of the area of Galgane at Dondra under the Waste Lands Ordinance. All the iron work at Polonnaruwa has been re-coated with bituminous solution. The wire ladder at Sigiriya has been put up and the frescoes have been found in excellent order, but required edging round the bottom. The frescoes are too valuable to be made accessible without control and the guard has been instructed to admit no one without a pass.

Conservation.

The work at Nakha Vehera has been completed. It suffers from the defects inherent in all conservation of brickwork. Portion of the upper structure which could have been saved if taken in hand immediately after excavation have since fallen down. The building is doubtless a square relic-house and is thus to be classed with the so-called tomb of Dutthagámani at

Anuradhapura, and the so-called mausoleum at Polonnaruwa. The work at monastery " C " has been completed and " I " of the same series is in progress. The reason for taking successively two buildings of the same type is that the north side of the east platform seemed in some danger : it rests on a stone pier; some of the stones resting on the pier were already broken. The undertaking proved to be much greater than had been anticipated.

The work on the cave at Kaludiyapokuna and the Iñdikatu Säya at Mihintale have also been completed.

Research.

The fifth part of the second volume of Epigraphia Zeylanica has made its appearance.

The Puttalam-Mannar coast was attacked this year from Puttalam as far as Pomparippu. It has been decided to dig up next year, if possible, a site near Pomparippu, so that that region may thus be further explored under more favourable circumstances from the excavation camp as a base. The site in question is a burial ground. Last year a site yielding chert implements was found on the northern stretch so that this coast exploration has added two new lines to the researches of the department apart from the opportunity of studying examples of types already known.

COLOMBO MUSEUM.

The Colombo Museum is a Government institution founded in 1877 by His Excellency Sir William Gregory. It is a two-storied building of imposing appearance standing in spacious grounds about 3 miles from the Fort or business centre. The Museum contains a valuable collection of archaeological, ethnological, zoological, and mineralogical exhibits restricted to Ceylon and the Maldive Islands. A valuable reference library is attached to the Museum. Readers are permitted to consult books in the library, but books cannot be removed. Over 200,000 people visit the Museum annually.

The *Ceylon Journal of Science* has been established by the Ceylon Government for the publication of scientific and other researches dealing with Ceylon. In the first instance the journal will consist of seven sections, and each section will be virtually a separate publication with its own editor. Further, each section will have its own system of paging and will appear independently of other sections. Only for purposes of general administration and to ensure uniformity will the various sections be controlled by a general Editorial Board.

FISHERIES.

Marine Fisheries.—Ceylon is admirably situated for an extensive development on modern lines of her sea fishing

industry, but so far enterprise has been notably lacking and the methods now in practice have remained primitive and inefficient. This industry gives employment to thousands of the poorer inhabitants, largely Roman Catholic Sinhalese in the south, and Hindu Tamils and Moormen (Ceylon-born Muslims) in the north and east. Sea fishing is carried on all round the coast, particularly from the more thickly populated areas of the coastal towns and villages. The craft employed are outrigger canoes and catamarans; the former being the favoured type. The larger outrigger canoes, fitted with a considerable spread of square cotton sail, are reliable and speedy, as much as 8 knots being developed under favourable conditions of wind. Small fleets of these vessels often work at distances of 20 miles from the shore, where they engage principally in line fishing for seer and other mid-water fishes. The catamaran is a small raft-shaped craft which is made up of three or four roughly shaped logs lashed together. These little vessels with their short masts and large triangular sails, though not altogether comfortable, are a handy and picturesque craft. They are used for inshore work with nets in the south, while in the Jaffna District they replace the outrigger canoe.

On account of the north-east and south-west monsoon periods, when heavy seas are running on the east and west coasts respectively, the fishing seasons of these coasts alternate. That of the west coast is more or less restricted to the north-east monsoon period—November to May—while that of the east coast flourishes during the south-west monsoon—May to December—and many fishermen, particularly the west coast Sinhalese, avail themselves of these seasons and migrate accordingly from one coast to the other. The fishes caught are largely mid-water fishes of the mackerel family, amongst which is the highly esteemed seer (*Scomberomorus guttatum*), a huge mackerel which reaches a length of three feet, and the bonitos and tunny fishes, while sword fishes and monster sharks and rays are caught in moderate numbers. Ground-feeding fishes, such as rock-cod and rock-perch, are also obtained. Shore fishing by large seine nets is practised at all parts of the coast, and at certain periods of the year large quantities of sardines are captured in this way.

Within the limits of the Ceylon Government Railway, fresh fish is transported in ice and sent to Colombo for distribution; elsewhere it is salted or dried and sent by sailing boats or carts to various parts of the Island. Practically no fish is exported from Ceylon, but considerable quantities of fish goods, now amounting to over 10 millions annually, are imported into the Island—largely from the Maldive Islands and South India.

The following are the returns of fish imports from 1920-23 :—

Year.	Cured Fish. Rs.	Tinned Fish. Rs.	Fish Manure. Rs.	Fish Guano. Rs.	Fish Oil. Rs.	Total. Rs.
1920	4,508,568	230,147	1,338,411	1,967,961	2,775	8,047,862
1921	7,058,148	97,495	370,738	230,279	2,105	7,758,765
1922	7,627,882	131,882	599,515	1,016,245	1,651	9,522,175
1923	8,095,475	197,103	799,039	1,476,107	2,553	10,570,277

These imports are increasing year by year. Further, although no figures are available with regard to actual numbers of fishermen employed and the weights of local fish landed, there is an appreciable decline in the quantity of available fish. This decline is the direct result of a decrease in the fisher community brought about by the natural desire of the present generation to avoid as a means of livelihood an occupation which is poorly paid and which is carried on under severe and trying conditions. Contractors who control and finance the trade make no efforts to improve either condition of production. Consequently, with a rapidly increasing population, the fish supply is becoming more and more unsatisfactory. In view of this the Ceylon Government sanctioned a 3 years' Biological Survey of the costal waters of the Island with the object of making a thorough investigation into the question of available fish supply and the suitability of Ceylon waters for trawl fishing. During this investigation two large fish banks—the Pedro Bank and the Wadge Bank—have been examined, and we are now in a position to present a preliminary report of these operations.

These two fishing banks are outside territorial waters and are as accessible from the Indian coast as from Ceylon. The Pedro Bank could be fished from Negapatam or Madras and the Wadge Bank from Tuticorin, but there is no port in India from which both banks could be worked. On the other hand, Colombo is very favourably situated in this respect and could conveniently form the headquarters of fishing operations on both banks. The Pedro Bank is 6 hours' steaming (mean distance) from Kankesanturai, and that port is 14 hours from Colombo by rail. The Wadge Bank is about 18 hours' steaming from Colombo. Investigations of the possibility of establishing a successful trawling industry will be continued next year. There seems every reason to anticipate success.

Pearl Banks.—In view of the possibility of a Pearl Fishery in 1925, inspections were made in March and November-December. At the March inspection no considerable deposit of spat so far as the fishable paars were concerned was discovered. The position had however changed materially, in that there had been a reduction in the number of oysters and a reduction in the area occupied by them as compared with 1923.

The following comparative table will give some idea of the change as regards the Northern Paars.

	March, 1923.			March, 1924.		
	2nd Year.	1st Year and Younger.	Rock Area. Square Mile.	2nd and 3rd Year.	1st Year and Younger.	Rock Area. Square Mile.
West Cheval—						
South-east ...	—	334,000,000	$\frac{1}{2}$	10,670,000	43,000,000	$\frac{1}{16}$
South-west ...	—	1,081,500,000	$1\frac{3}{8}$	19,530,000	25,360,000	$\frac{3}{8}$
North-east ...	39,010,000	100,000,000	$\frac{1}{2}$	25,940,000	55,000,000	$\frac{5}{8}$
Mid-north ...	32,970,000	200,000,000	$1\frac{5}{8}$	36,200,000	150,000,000	$\frac{15}{16}$
North-west ...	15,910,000	100,000,000	$1\frac{1}{8}$	16,420,000	21,400,000	$\frac{9}{16}$
East Cheval—						
South-east ...	—	—	—	—	150,000,000	$\frac{1}{2}$
South-west ...	—	246,000,000	$\frac{5}{8}$	1,500,000	44,000,000	$\frac{1}{2}$
Mid-south ...	—	18,000,000	$\frac{1}{25}$	—	117,000,000	$\frac{3}{8}$
North-east ...	—	—	—	—	107,500,000	$\frac{5}{16}$
Mid-north ...	—	44,000,000	$\frac{5}{16}$	1,340,000	180,000,000	1
North-west ...	—	298,000,000	$\frac{7}{16}$	27,310,000	15,000,000	$\frac{11}{16}$
North Cheval—						
North-east ...	—	—	—	—	3,700,000	$\frac{1}{16}$
East ...	—	72,000,000	$\frac{1}{2}$	5,330,000	2,500,000	$\frac{1}{4}$
Mid ...	4,080,000	150,000,000	1	15,270,000	148,000,000	$\frac{13}{16}$
West ...	3,550,000	50,000,000	$\frac{7}{16}$	6,580,000	26,000,000	$\frac{1}{4}$
South-east Cheval ...	—	—	—	—	205,000,000	$\frac{5}{8}$
Moderagam ...	—	—	—	—	67,500,000	$\frac{3}{16}$
Periya Paar Karai ...	21,000,000	83,000,000	1	9,850,000	55,000,000	$\frac{9}{16}$
True Venkalai ...	5,280,000	200,000,000	$1\frac{1}{4}$	—	—	—
Twynam's Paar (new paar) ...	—	—	—	15,600,000	36,530,000	$\frac{15}{16}$

The reduction is especially apparent on the West Cheval, the Periya Paar Karai, and the True Venkalai Paars, and is—

West Cheval Paar, approximately 80 per cent.
Periya Paar Karai, approximately 40 per cent.
True Venkalai, total loss.

This in spite of the November Spatfall of 1923, which added millions of oysters to the 1923 estimate. Sargassum weed has contributed very largely to this loss on the West Cheval and Periya Paar Karai, and is wholly responsible for the loss on the True Venkalai Paar. The growth of this weed is, perhaps, the greatest menace we have to face, for it produces stagnation of the bottom layers of water, and oysters are thus unable to obtain their normal supply of food consisting of minute floating organisms. It is probable that the weed does not actually kill oysters, but drives them away. This forced migration is fatal if, as frequently happens, the oysters are obliged to migrate on to sand.

Other agencies which have contributed to the reduction are—

(1) Diseases in the tissues of the oyster.
(2) Attacks of predaceous fishes.
(3) Movement of sand.

A diving inspection of those paar areas on which the oldest oysters were present was held from November to December. The weather conditions were very unfavourable and the results obtained are perhaps not too reliable. They are given below and are compared with those of March, 1924.

Paar.	Number of Old Oysters, March, 1924.	Number of Old Oysters, December, 1924.	Present Age.
			Years.
West Cheval—			
North-west area	16,420,000	7,400,000	2¾—4
Mid-north area	36,200,000	14,160,000	2¾—3¼
North-east area	25,940,000	27,930,000	2¾
South-west area	19,530,000	22,970,000	2¾
South-east area	10,670,000	5,810,000	2¾
Periya Paar Karai	9,850,000	4,470,000	2¾—4
Twynam's Paar	15,600,000	4,840,000	2¾—4
North Cheval—			
West area	6,580,000	2,580,000	2¾
Mid area	15,270,000	9,290,000	2¼
East area	5,300,000	2,580,000	2¼

Even allowing for the unsatisfactory weather conditions obtaining during this inspection the oysters on north-west area of West Cheval and on the Periya Paar Karai would appear to be dying off rapidly. It was imperative, therefore, that they shall be fished in March, 1925, together with the oysters on

Twynam's Paar. With this object in view the following oysters were lifted for the purpose of pearl valuation :—

Twynam's Paar	...	1,830 (weather conditions too bad to collect a larger sample)
Periya Paar Karai	...	10,000
North-west of West Cheval	...	8,000
South-west of West Cheval	...	9,000

These oysters were fished by Government divers from the inspection boats on December 9, 10, 11, and 12. The oysters were taken to the " Nautilus " immediately they were fished and there counted, bagged, and sealed. They were brought to Colombo on December 13, 1924, and washed in a specially prepared enclosure at Waters' Meet, Mutwal. The pearls were submitted to five merchants for valuation. Their valuations varied considerably, but the averages were as follows :—

		Rs. c.	
Twynam's Paar	...	17 10	per 1,000 oysters.
Periya Paar ...	...	22 46	
West Cheval (north-west)	...	17 52	
West Cheval (south-west)	...	16 92	

The valuations were known to be conservative. In order to ascertain from this valuation what prices might be expected at the Fishery, the statistics of the eleven fisheries ending with that of 1906 were examined. It was found that as in the past the November valuation had been exceeded by the actual prices at the fishery by an average of 62 per cent.

The intention was to fish in March, 1925, the following quantities :—

		Millions.
Twynam's Paar	...	5
Periyar Paar Karai	...	7
West Cheval (north-west)	...	8
West Cheval (south-west)	...	10
Total	...	30

Taking a mean of the valuation of each paar the following would be the value of 30 millions :—

				Rs.
Twynam's Paar	...	...	...	85,000
Periya Paar Karai	...	...	...	157,220
West Cheval Paar (north-west)		...	...	146,160
West Cheval Paar (south-west)		...	...	169,200
			Total ...	557,580

Allowing 62 per cent. increase on this valuation, the fishery of 1925 was thus estimated to produce Rs. 893,559, of which two-thirds would be the property of Government, namely, a sum of Rs. 595,706.

The prospects of a successful fishery in 1925 seemed good.

X.—MEDICAL.

Medical Department.

I.—*Hospitals and other Medical Institutions.*

THERE are a Lunatic Asylum, and two Leper Asylums, one at Hendala in the Western Province and the other at Mantivu in the Eastern Province, a Tuberculosis Sanatorium at Kandana in the Western Province, and 91 other Government Hospitals, including a hospital for chronic cases of pulmonary tuberculosis equipped with modern hospital furniture and medical and surgical appliances. The number of beds in the institutions ranges from 12 to 711. In addition to the hospitals there are 533 central and branch dispensaries, including a central institute in Colombo for tuberculosis cases, this last is fitted up with an up-to-date X-ray apparatus. The owners of estates have provided 78 estate hospitals, which received a rebate on export duty, and 593 estate dispensaries, receiving drugs free from Government to the value of 50 cents per labourer per annum.

The general rebuilding scheme in contemplation for the rebuilding of the Ceylon Medical College remained deferred. The full course of training at the College is five years for the medical students and two years for the apothecary students. A diploma in medicine, surgery, and midwifery (which can be registered in the United Kingdom) is granted to the successful medical students. The apothecary students are employed by Government after they qualify in the final examination.

The following were the attendances and passes during the last two years :—

	Attendances.		Passes.	
	Medical.	Apothecary.	Medical.	Apothecary.
1922, October, to 1923, March	215	46	2	6
1923, May, to 1923, July	167	33	3	6
1923, October, to 1924, March	185	26	12	5
1924, May, to 1924, July	173	31	8	4

There are in Colombo a Bacteriological Institute, a Pasteur Institute, a General Hospital of 711 beds, an Opthalmic Hospital, a Lying-in Home, a Hospital for Women and Children, and a Hospital for Infectious Diseases. There are special dispensaries at Kandy, Galle, and Jaffna for the treatment of eye diseases.

The Lunatic Asylum contained 1,287 inmates on December 31, 1924. The new asylum buildings at Angoda, 6 miles from Colombo, are still in progress of construction, and when

completed will have accommodation for 1,500 patients and for the necessary staff and servants. At present about 150 lunatic patients are accommodated in a temporary asylum at Matara owing to insufficient accommodation in the Colombo asylum. The number of patients treated in the asylum during 1924 was 1,666 (1,039 males and 627 females). The number discharged was 298 (196 males and 102 females). These figures include those admitted to the House of Observation.

Of the two Leper Asylums, one is at Hendala, 6 miles from Colombo, and contained 523 patients at the end of the year. The total treated during 1924 numbered 651. The asylum at Mantivu contained 119 lepers at the end of the year; the total treated during 1924 was 162.

A Home for Incurables of 89 beds is administered by a Committee of Government officials and representatives of the public.

II.—*Work of the Sanitary Department.*

(1) *Insanitary Premises.*—391,617 premises were inspected, of which 97,887 were found insanitary, and necessary action was taken.

5,395 prosecutions were entered for breaches of sanitary rules and regulations, and 3,865 convictions were obtained. 16,880 notices were served calling upon householders to remedy sanitary defects; in 13,107 cases the notices were voluntarily complied with—in the rest persuasion was required.

(2) *Buildings, New and Reconstructed.*—2,640 building applications were dealt with, and plans for 984 new buildings were passed as conforming to the requirements of the Housing Ordinance. Most applications came from small towns in the Western Province.

(3) *Infectious Diseases.*—The following cases were reported and the necessary preventive measures taken :—

Chickenpox	1,834
Diphtheria	2
Dysentery	1,086
Enteric fever	963
Measles	934
Mumps	30
Phthisis	116
Plague	16
Smallpox	29
Cholera	17

The Department as in previous years was also engaged in supervising the construction of latrines both public and private, the arrangements made in the small towns for scavenging, the control of licensed trades, the domestic water supplies, and the milk supply.

Sanitary propaganda was carried out by means of lantern lectures at various centres and by organizing Public Health Sections at Agricultural Shows.

III.—*Special Measures taken with regard to certain Diseases.*

(1) *Malaria.*—The office of Government Malariologist was continued throughout the year.

Education and Propaganda.—Public lantern lectures in English and the vernaculars have been given at Anuradhapura, Trincomalee, Mullaittivu, Mannar, and Erukkulampidi, and lantern lectures and demonstrations at colleges and schools at Kandy and most of the above towns. Additions to the series of lantern slides and posters relative to the subject have been made, and on a few occasions selected slides have been loaned for propaganda purposes. Many thousands of pamphlets and handbills on malaria and mosquitoes have been distributed to towns and villages in various parts of the Island and at Anuradhapura and Trincomalee in connection with the anti-malaria campaigns.

A course of lectures and demonstrations on malaria and its control was given during July and August to the Training Class for Sanitary Inspectors held by the Sanitary Branch of the Medical Department.

With a view to encouraging medical officers and others to take up the study of the indigenous anopheline mosquitoes, a paper on the differential characters of the larvæ and adults of the species known to occur in Ceylon has been prepared by the Malariologist. Endeavour has been made to render this article as comprehensive as possible, in order that the student may be relieved of the necessity of consulting text-books and original papers relating to the subject. This paper will be published in the Ceylon Journal of Science (Section D: Medical Science, at an early date, and reprints will be distributed to hospitals and the larger dispensaries.

Malaria Research.—As in previous years, these investigations have involved the examination of very large numbers of specimens, chiefly blood films and the larvæ and adults of anopheline mosquitoes; during the year 3,091 blood films and 34,020 anopheline larvæ collected in the field were prepared and examined at the Colombo and Trincomalee laboratories.

Certain of the investigations mentioned in the report for the previous year have been completed; others are in progress, including those initiated during the year. Of the latter, the

more important are inquiries into the hydrogen Ion content of various types of natural waters with reference to the breeding and relative prevalence of anopheles, and the seasonal periodicity of the different species of malaria parasites in various districts.

Larvivorous Fish.—The lines on which larvivorous fish may be utilized as a measure of mosquito control have been indicated in previous reports. The practical value of these fish is more limited than is generally supposed, and it is a mistake to imagine that under natural conditions they are of equal importance in all types of mosquito breeding places, or that they can be used to supplant the more laborious and costly methods of reduction at present adopted. Normally, their beneficial action is much restricted by nature's barriers, and it is doubtful whether, without human assistance, their presence in natural waters has any notable effect upon the prevalence of mosquitoes. Under artificial conditions—or in mosquito breeding places which are of a temporary nature only—they, however, afford an important measure of control; and it is in this connection that their exploitation in Ceylon should ultimately prove of value. Especially should this be so in those parts of the dry zone where indigenous species do not appear to be abundant, and where innumerable confined and temporary collections of water occur during the rainy season. The formation of nurseries and systematic distribution of these fish at the onset of the monsoon to such situations as rain pools, borrow pits, wells, &c., should form part of any campaign against malaria in these districts.

The nurseries of *Gambusia affinis* (? *Lebistes reticulatus*)—" Millions "—mentioned in earlier reports have been maintained, and except in one case where contamination with oil occurred, have proved very satisfactory. The fish have increased greatly in numbers, the nurseries being well stocked even although extensive distribution to wells and pools has taken place in certain districts. In some parts of the dry zone, however, it has been found necessary to protect the nurseries with netting or cadjans owing to the prevalence of kingfishers; these birds have frequently been observed feeding on the fish, more especially during the dry season when their ordinary sources of food supply are limited.

The attempts to establish *Haplochilus lineatus* in nurseries have again proved disappointing, and it is probable that the practical value of this fish will be restricted to those regions in which it is indigenous, and where distribution to confined or temporary breeding places of mosquitoes can be made from natural reservoirs.

(2) *Anchylostomiasis.*—The campaign against anchylostomiasis for the year was confined to sanitated village areas, viz. :—Homagama, Peradeniya, Matale, Dimbula, Mirigama-Minuwangoda-Veyangoda, Mahara, Jaffna Peninsula, and Weligama.

The total number of persons treated amounted to 157,864. During the year voluntary treatment of estate labourers at Mandapam Camp was started.

(3) *Parangi (Frambœsia, or Yaws).*—The number of hospital admissions was 6,149 with 18 deaths, as against 9,748 admissions with 32 deaths in 1923. The decrease in the number of admissions to hospitals during the year was due to intensive campaigns by seven Itinerating Medical Officers in the Central, Southern, Eastern, North-Western, North-Central, Uva, and Sabaragamuwa Provinces, and the treatment of a large number of out-patients brought by headmen to and voluntarily seeking treatment at dispensaries and the out-patient departments of hospitals.

The distribution of the disease judged from hospital returns is shown in the following table :—

	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.
General Hospital, Colombo	267	306	436	445
Western Province	1,096	1,499	770	485
Central Province	1,202	1,312	1,194	911
Northern Province	157	102	504	367
Eastern Province	749	791	646	404
Southern Province	1,093	5,085	2,672	1,123
North-Western Province	711	784	645	400
North-Central Province	374	594	696	584
Province of Uva	684	594	731	370
Province of Sabaragamuwa	1,841	2,221	1,741	1,058
Railway Extensions	—	—	11	2
Total	8,161	13,545	9,748	6,149

The dispensary cases as regards Provinces were as follows :—

	1923.	1924.
Western	3,393	2,701
Central	2,942	2,812
Northern	866	818
Eastern	5,050	4,066
Southern	8,501	6,006
North-Western	12,254	13,023
North-Central	19,185	17,748
Uva	1,871	1,011
Sabaragamuwa	2,397	2,051

The seven Itinerating Medical Officers treated a total number of 17,852 cases, and a large number of these patients attended

a second and a third time, and 33,052 injections were given during the campaign in 1924, as against 16,815 cases and 30,139 injections in 1923.

Dr. J. A. E. Corea, a private practitioner, visited Kanjukkulia, Hettipola, and Bingiriya in the Chilaw District, and treated 147 cases of parangi during the year with drugs supplied by Government.

Plague and Quarantine.

Cases	153
Deaths	145

Of these, five cases and deaths were reported from outstations as follows :—

	Cases.	Deaths.
Kalutara	1	1
Talaimannar	1	1
Peliyagoda	1	1
Talawakele	2	2

Plague, for all practical purposes, is confined to Colombo.

Plague in Colombo.

Human Plague.—148 cases and 140 deaths from plague occurred during the year 1924, the case mortality being thus 94.5 per cent. The corresponding figures for 1923 were 230 cases, and 209 deaths, representing a case mortality of 90.9 per cent.

For the first time in the history of plague in Colombo, primary pneumonic plague appeared during the month of March. A series of seven cases occurred : a father, his three sons, a priest who visited one of the sons, the priest's father, and the servant who attended upon the priest, being the victims. The first case occurred on March 23 and the last on April 13. 98 bubonic and 47 septicaemic cases occurred, the case mortality being 91.5 and 100 per cent., respectively. Young adult males, as usual, were the chief sufferers. The chief centres of infection were St. Paul's, Pettah, and San Sebastian, the incidence in other parts of the town being sporadic.

Rat Plague.—Exclusive of 120 rats found in a mumified condition, most, if not all, of which had probably died of plague, 87 infected rats were found amongst 29,429 examined at the Laboratory, the infection rate being 0.29 per cent., as compared with an infection rate of 0.52 during 1923.

Annual Incidence of Plague Cases in Colombo.

	1914.	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	Average, 1914 to 1923.	1924.
Total cases	413	139	291	207	70	87	235	184	136	230	199	148
Total deaths	381	128	273	196	69	82	223	170	131	209	186	140
Septicaemic cases	247	81	159	124	41	50	93	70	57	66	99	47
Septicaemic deaths	246	80	159	124	41	50	93	70	57	66	99	47
Bubonic cases	166	58	132	83	29	37	142	114	79	164	100	94
Bubonic deaths	135	48	114	72	28	32	130	100	74	143	87	86
Pneumonic cases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	17
Pneumonic deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7
Total case mortality, per cent.	92.2	92.8	93.8	94.7	98.6	94.3	94.9	92.4	96.3	90.9	93.5	94.5
Septicaemic case mortality, per cent.	99.6	98.7	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Bubonic case mortality, per cent.	81.3	82.7	86.4	86.7	96.6	86.5	91.5	87.7	93.8	87.2	87.3	91.5
Pneumonic case mortality, per cent.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	100.0

The cases for 1914 and 1915 each includes one septicaemic recovery, but the diagnosis was not in either case confirmed bacteriologically, and may have been erroneous.

Only two out of the seven cases were definitely diagnosed as pneumonic, the other five cases were, however, on clinical and epidemiological grounds undoubtedly cases of primary pneumonic plague.

Monthly Incidence of Plague Cases in Colombo.

Month.	1914.	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	Average, 1914 to 1923.	1924.
January	4	19	17	25	13	—	25	65	13	28	21	46
February	67	6	18	40	18	1	20	53	10	32	27	22
March	58	3	18	61	10	3	3	27	6	11	20	7
April	28	3	14	34	11	—	3	7	2	17	12	24
May	29	3	11	11	2	—	4	2	7	9	8	9
June	49	1	36	3	9	—	3	1	8	10	12	6
July	47	5	43	6	2	—	12	3	10	21	15	11
August	40	20	35	1	1	2	7	2	7	23	14	5
September	18	21	25	3	—	5	18	2	7	26	12	3
October	23	24	24	7	—	18	28	9	14	12	16	3
November	24	10	25	10	2	34	34	4	19	13	17	8
December	26	24	25	6	2	24	78	9	33	28	25	4
Total for the year	413	139	291	207	70	87	235	184	136	230	199	148
Monthly mean	34.4	11.6	24.2	17.2	5.8	7.2	19.6	15.3	11.3	19.2	16.6	12.3

Plague in Colombo, Distribution by Wards.

Wards.	Cases.	Deaths.
Fort	—	—
Pettah	24	24
San Sebastian	17	16
St. Paul's	29	28
Kotahena	9	8
Mutwal	7	7
New Bazaar	17	15
Maradana North	4	2
Maradana South	4	4
Dematagoda	6	6
Slave Island	15	15
Kollupitiya	2	2
Cinnamon Gardens	—	—
Bambalapitiya	1	1
Timbirigasyaya	4	4
Wellawatta	—	—
Untraced	9	8
Total	148	140

Rat Destruction in Colombo, All Sources, 1924.

Number of rats trapped	134,248
Number of dead rats found by Veterinary Surgeon	50
Number of dead rats found by Plague Inspector	123
Number of rats killed by Clayton machine	2,865
Number of mummified rats found	120
Total	137,406
Number of poison baits placed	1,782,000
Number of poison baits removed	76,690

Plague in Colombo.

Statement showing Rats Examined at the Laboratory, Number found Infected, and Percentage Infection.

Month.	Number of Rats Examined.	Number Infected.	Percentage Infection.
January	2,471	21	0.85
February	2,700	8	0.29
March	2,793	15	0.54
April	2,101	4	0.19
May	2,399	12	0.5
June	2,331	1	0.04
July	2,622	3	0.11
August	2,777	20	0.72
September	2,506	—	—
October	2,381	—	—
November	2,460	1	0.04
December	1,888	2	0.1
	29,429	87	0.29

Seventy-three specimens of musk rat " Crocydura coerulea " brought to the laboratory were examined. This number and 124 mummified rats received in the laboratory are not included in the above figures.

Plague Cases in Colombo in 1924.

Distribution by Race, Age, and Sex.

Race.	Sex.	0 to 5 Years.	5 to 10 Years.	10 to 15 Years.	15 to 20 Years.	20 to 25 Years.	25 to 30 Years.	30 to 35 Years.	35 to 40 Years.	40 to 50 Years.	50 to 60 Years.	60 Years and Over.	All Ages.	Total of each Race.	Case Rate per 1,000 Population.	Deaths.	Case Mortality Per Cent.	Death Rate per 1,000 Population.
All Races	M	1	2	17	31	18	21	11	8	10	4	4	127	148	0.58	140	94.5	0.55
	F	—	4	4	2	4	2	3	—	1	1	—	21					
Burghers	M	—	—	1	2	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	5	7	0.45	7	100.0	0.45
	F	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2					
Sinhalese	M	1	2	6	8	3	3	2	1	2	3	1	32	38	0.32	36	94.7	0.30
	F	—	1	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	6					
Tamils	M	—	—	4	12	9	9	3	6	3	—	2	48	58	1.03	55	94.8	0.98
	F	—	1	2	1	2	1	2	—	1	—	—	10					
Moors	M	—	—	6	6	4	7	4	1	5	—	1	34	37	0.90	35	94.6	0.85
	F	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3					
Malays	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—					
Others	M	—	—	—	3	2	1	2	—	—	—	—	8	8	0.63	7	87.5	0.56
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—					
Total both Sexes		1	6	21	33	22	23	14	8	11	5	4	148					

Plague, Smallpox, and Cholera in Ceylon in 1924

Plague.	Cases.	Deaths.
Colombo town	148 ...	140
Colombo Port	— ...	—
Kalutara	1 ...	1
Talaimannar	1 ...	1
Peliyagoda	1 ...	1
Talawakele (Holyrood Bazaar)	2 ...	2
Total ...	153	145
Smallpox.		
Colombo town	4 ...	—
Colombo Port	4 ...	—
Admitted to Infectious Diseases Hospital, Colombo, from outside Colombo	8 ...	4
North-Western Province :—		
Marawila	1 ...	—
Province of Sabaragamuwa :—		
Ratnapura	1 ...	—
Central Province :—		
Adamspeak estate	1 ...	—
Northern Province :—		
Jaffna District	26 ...	5
	45	9
Cholera.		
Colombo town	1 ...	1
Colombo Port	1 ...	—
Kurunegala	1 ...	1
Pussellawa	1 ...	—
Balangoda (Rye estate)	1 ...	1
Maskeliya (Cleveland estate)	3 ...	3
Namunukula (Kandahena estate)	3 ...	2
Passara Hospital	1 ...	1
Badulla District	5 ...	5
	17	14
Typhus fever (Colombo Port—steamer) ...	1 ...	1
Cerebro spinal fever (Colombo Port—steamer) ...	1 ...	1
Diphtheria (Moratuwa)	1 ...	—

Vital Statistics.

Population.—The estimated population on December 31, 1924, was 4,861,670, as against 4,703,343 at the end of 1923, and 4,498,605 at the Census of March 18, 1921. The increase of 158,327 persons over the population of the previous year was due to an excess of 55,907 births over deaths, and an excess of 102,420 immigrants over emigrants.

Migration.—The total number of arrivals during the year amounted to 258,943 persons, and the departures 156,523 persons. Of the arrivals 237,287 persons were from India and 21,656 from other countries. The departures included 137,292 persons to India and 19,231 to other countries. The excess of arrivals over departures from India is remarkably high this

year, and is over twice as much as that of the previous year, and about four times as much as that in 1922. The heavy influx of immigrants from India may be largely due to the prosperity of the tea industry in Ceylon and the unfavourable agricultural conditions in South India.

Race Constitution of the Population.—The population of the principal races of the Island as estimated to the end of the year, and the proportion of each race per 1,000 of the total population are as follows :—

Races.	Estimated Population on December 31, 1924.	Proportion of each Race per 1,000 of the Population
Europeans	10,005 ...	2.1
Burghers and Eurasians	31,067 ...	6.4
Sinhalese	3,167,988 ...	651.6
Tamils	1,146,058 ...	235.7
Moors	290,254 ...	59.7
Malays	14,078 ...	2.9
Others	26,288 ...	5.4
Excess of immigrants over emigrants (exclusive of Europeans) since March 18, 1921 ...	175,932 ...	36.2

Race Constitution of the Population.—The population of the registered in 1924 was 27,117, of which 20,911 were under the General Marriages Ordinance and 6,206 under the Kandyan. The total number was the highest since 1915, and was 3,789 marriages more than that in the previous year. The rate of persons married per 1,000 of the estimated population was 12.1, as against 10.8, the rate in the previous year and 11.3 the average for the past decade. This would point to better social and economic conditions now prevailing in the country.

The number of Muslim marriages registered amounted to 854, as against 838 in the previous year.

Of the total number of marriages registered in the Island, the marriages in which one or both the parties have been residents of the proclaimed towns were estimated at 4,124. Of this number, 3,469 were marriages under the General Marriages Ordinance, 54 under the Kandyan, and 601 under the Muslim.

Births.—The total number of births registered during the year was 178,866, of which 91,199 were males and 87,667 females. The number showed a decrease of 2,571 births over that in the previous year, and corresponded to a rate of 37.3 per mille of the estimated population, as against 39.1 in 1923 and 38.5 the average for the past decennium. The highest birth-rate was 44.6 per mille in the Province of Uva, and the lowest 32.1 in the Western.

The proportion of male to female children born during the year was 1,040 to 1,000, as against 1,038 in the preceding year.

The births registered on the estates scheduled under the Medical Wants Ordinance numbered 24,230 (12,322 males and 11,908 females), showing a decrease of 2,691 births relative to the previous year. In the 33 principal towns the number registered was 18,674, and was 990 births less than in 1923. The birth-rate per mille of the urban population was 30.3, as against 32.2 in 1923 and 29.1 the average for the past decade. In the city of Colombo 6,887 births were registered during the year and the corresponding rate per mille of the population was 27.2, as against 28.4 in the previous year and 24.6 the average for the past decennium.

Deaths.—The deaths of 122,959 persons (62,440 males and 60,519 females) were registered in 1924. The number is the lowest registered since 1917 and is 11,076 deaths less than the past decennial average. The death-rate calculated per 1,000 of the estimated population was equal to 25.7, as against 30.6 in 1923. The highest death-rate recorded was 46.7 in the North-Central Province, and the lowest 19.9 in the Western. The improvement in the mortality was shared by all the Provinces except the Eastern. The North-Western and the North-Central Provinces which are regarded as unhealthy districts showed decidedly improved rates, the former 22.7 and the latter 46.7, as against 38.0 and 58.5 respectively in the preceding year.

The number of deaths registered on the estates scheduled under the Medical Wants Ordinance was 20,542 (9,984 males and 10,558 females), which is 2,992 deaths in excess of the number in 1923 and 177 in excess of the past decennial average. In the 33 principal towns the number of deaths registered was 20,519. Of this, 16,245 deaths were of town residents, and the corresponding standardized rate was 28.5 per mille, as against 33.3 in the previous year and 30.2 the average for the past ten years. In the city of Colombo 7,432 deaths were registered, of which 6,324 were of residents. The standardized death-rate per mille of the population was 28.8 and was 6.4 per mille less than that of the previous year. The average rate for the past decade was 28.7.

Infant Mortality.—The mortality of children under one year amounted to 33,348, and represented 27 per cent. of the total deaths as in the previous year. Calculated on the number of births registered during the year, the rate was 186 per 1,000. The rate is the lowest since 1919 and is an improvement on the average for the last decennium (193).

On the estates the number of children who died in the first year of life was 6,193, and amounted to 30 per cent. of the estate mortality at all ages. The death-rate calculated on the

births registered during the year was equal to 256 per 1,000, as against 222 in the previous year and 224 the average rate for the past ten years. The mortality of infants under one year in the 33 principal towns was 4,385 and corresponded to a rate of 235 per 1,000 births registered, and was 23 per 1,000 lower than the rate in 1923. With the exception of the rate (228) recorded in 1920, this year's rate is the lowest since 1917, the average rate for the past decade being 243. In the city of Colombo the infant death-rate was 240 per 1,000 births, as against 270 in the preceding year and 254 the average for the past decade.

Causes of Death.—Of the 122,959 deaths registered from all causes during the year, the highest number, as usual, was attributed to pyrexia (fever), which owing to the ignorance of rural registrars of correct diagnosis includes a good many deaths from various other causes. Infantile convulsions, diarrhoea, and pneumonia were also returned as the cause of considerable mortality. The rate of mortality per million of the estimated population from certain selected causes registered in the Island in this and the previous year is shown below :—

	1923.	1924.
Pyrexia	5,023	3,694
Infantile convulsions	3,481	2,901
Diarrhoea	2,345	1,884
Pneumonia	1,921	1,741
Phthisis	717	675
Dysentery	716	852
Influenza	508	360
Malaria and malarial cachexia	573	360
Premature birth and congenital defects ...	427	427
Anchylostomiasis	400	387
Puerperal septicaemia	338	276
Bronchitis	293	266
Enteric fever	129	170
Cancer	93	99

The above rates would indicate that the decrease in the total mortality of the Island was shared by most of the principal diseases, the notable exceptions being dysentery and enteric fever.

Influenza.—1,725 deaths (891 males and 834 females) were registered from influenza during the year, as against 2,358 in the previous year. The number which is the lowest since its outbreak in 1918 would suggest that it is now a spent force in this country.

Pneumonia.—There were registered during the year 8,339 deaths (4,596 males and 3,743 females) from pneumonia and broncho-pneumonia, as against 8,921 in the previous year. The number is higher than the average for the past decade.

Plague.—154 deaths (132 males and 22 females) were registered from plague this year, reducing the number in 1923 by 59 cases.

In the city of Colombo, where the disease is most rife, 140 deaths were registered (119 males and 21 females). Of the rest, 7 were registered in Kalutara District, 2 in Nuwara Eliya, and 1 each in Colombo, Kandy, Galle, Mannar, and Ratnapura Districts. Deaths from plague were spread over all the months, with a maximum of 44 in January and a minimum of 3 in October.

Smallpox.—The number of deaths registered from smallpox amounted to 8 (5 males and 3 females) a remarkably low number when compared with 33 in the previous year and 44 the decennial average. Of these, 3 cases were registered in the first quarter of the year and 5 in the fourth. Jaffna town recorded 5 deaths and Colombo town 3.

Cholera.—Twenty deaths (9 males and 11 females) from cholera were registered during the year, as against 8 in the preceding year. 16 of these deaths were recorded in Kandy District, and 1 each in Colombo, Kurunegala, Badulla, and Ratnapura Districts.

Affections produced by External Causes.—The total number of deaths tabulated under this head was 2,492 (1,828 males and 664 females), as against 2,435 in 1923. Of this, the total number of deaths from accidents and other external violence was 2,014. 429 were due to drowning and 418 to falls from trees, 185 of the former and 3 of the latter being females. Burns caused 190 deaths (93 males and 97 females), 31 of which were due to the upsetting of bottle lamps. Snake-bite caused 255 deaths (172 males and 83 females), as against 263 in the preceding year.

Suicide.—There were 230 cases of suicide (166 males and 64 females), as against 207 in the previous year.

Homicide.—207 deaths (145 males and 62 females) were returned from homicide, as against 238 in 1923. The knife was the instrument employed in many of the cases.

Executions.—Forty-one men underwent the extreme penalty of the law during the year, as against 42 in 1923.

Causes of Deaths on Estates.—Of the 20,542 deaths registered on estates no less than 4,050 were attributed to debility, that of infants under three months alone numbering 2,997. Pneumonia caused 2,990 deaths, as against 2,932 in 1923. There were registered from infantile convulsions 1,636 deaths, from dysentery 2,402, and from anchylostomiasis 1,240. Diarrhoea caused 1,495 deaths, exceeding the number in 1923 by as much as 523 deaths. Under premature births and congenital defects were classified 772 deaths, under influenza 410, under bronchitis 424, under malaria and malarial cachexia

203, and under phthisis 317. There were 30 cases of suicide and 16 of homicide, as against 24 and 13 respectively in the previous year.

Causes of Death in Towns.—The deaths registered from all causes in the 33 principal towns numbered 20,519. Pneumonia, as usual, exacted the highest toll of 2,951 lives, as against 3,485 in 1923. 1,497 deaths were attributed to debility of infants, 1,406 to convulsions, and 1,286 to phthisis. There were 947 deaths from diarrhœa, 945 from dysentery, 879 from malaria and malarial cachexia, 751 from enteritis, 616 from anchylostomiasis, 617 from Bright's disease and nephritis, and 555 from enteric fever. Deaths from bronchitis numbered 359, from puerperal septicaemia 287, from influenza 283, from cancer 178, and from plague 142. Accidents in 406 deaths. There were 47 deaths from suicide and 60 from homicide.

XI.—LAW AND JUSTICE.

LEGISLATION.

TWENTY-FIVE Ordinances were passed during the year, some of them being amending Ordinances which call for no special comment.

The more important new Ordinances are—

Ordinance No. 2.—This Ordinance was passed in order to amend the constitution of the governing body of the town of Nuwara Eliya by the granting of more popular control over the administration of the town to the inhabitants. The position of Nuwara Eliya as a sanatarium to which many persons, not only from the Colony, but also from many other parts of the world, resorted had been recognized by the special enactment, Ordinance No. 26 of 1896, and the inhabitants were satisfied with an amendment of that Ordinance as the most desirable form of administration for the town.

Ordinance No. 3.—The objects of this Ordinance were to raise the rate of interest legally payable on moneys of the Widows' and Orphans' Pension Fund invested with the Government, to make it lawful to apply new pension tables on the basis of the higher rate of interest, to remove a maximum limit of pension payable and to bring the provisions of the law in regard to certain technical matters into line with existing practice.

Ordinance No. 4.—This Ordinance was enacted to provide machinery for working flood protection schemes. It deals with the steps which have to be taken for the preparation, consideration, and execution of any scheme that may be prepared to deal with the flood problem in any part of the Island.

Ordinance No. 5.—The Ceylon Penal Code was amended in several respects by this Ordinance. Criminal conspiracy was for the first time made a penal offence. A new chapter was added to the Penal Code making bribery, undue influence and personation at elections, and the making of false statements in connection with elections, offences punishable under the ordinary penal law. Acts of gross indecency between male persons were made a penal offence, and certain minor amendments were effected.

Ordinance No. 9.—This Ordinance consolidated the law relating to Village Communities. Most of the principles laid down in the Ordinance of 1889 have been maintained.

Ordinance No. 10.—The object of this Ordinance was to consolidate the law dealing with the control of weeds and pests in the Colony.

Ordinance No. 24.—This Ordinance constituted a Medical Council for Ceylon to deal with the registration of medical practitioners, and all questions as regards professional conduct.

THE SUPREME COURT.

During the year 1,235 minor appeals (*i.e.*, District Court Criminal Appeals, Police Court Appeals, and Court of Requests Appeals) were received and 1,265 were disposed of. 614 major appeals (*i.e.*, appeals from District Court) were received and 596 were disposed of. The total number of appeals decided was thus 1,861. But in addition to these appeals, the court and the Judges have to deal with a great number of incidental applications and petitions. The figures with regard to these are as follows :—

Applications for leave to appeal in Court of Requests cases disposed of during the year	122
Applications for sole testamentary jurisdiction	192
Miscellaneous applications	356
Habeas corpus petitions	388
Other petitions	334
	1,392

The disposal of the civil work of the court is shown in the following table :—

Disposal of Work for the Year ending December 31, 1924.

(1) Number of major appeals disposed of during the year 1924—

(1) Finals—			
Money	... ...	168	387
Land	... ...	219	
(2) Interlocutories—			
Ordinary	... ...	110	209
Special	... ...	99	
			596

With regard to the interval at which appeals are disposed of, the facts are as follows :—

Criminal appeals are generally disposed of within about a month of their receipt at the Registry. Court of Requests Appeals are generally disposed of within about six weeks. Ordinary Interlocutory Appeals are generally disposed of within a month, Special Interlocutories within two months. District Court finals, however, which constitute the main work of the court, still require in ordinary cases from six to seven months to be brought to trial, although in certain exceptional cases the interval is much shorter.

Number of minor appeals disposed of during the year 1924—

(1) District Court criminals	... ...	130
(2) Police Courts ...	... ...	780
(3) Courts of Requests	... ...	355
		1,265

An important part of the appeal work of the court consists of the decision of those cases which are referred to courts of three or five Judges, generally, though not quite accurately described as Full Court cases. The number of these cases referred during the year was 11 and the number of days occupied in their consideration was 16.*

The results of the appeals decided by the court are shown in the following table :—

	Appeals Allowed.	Appeals Dismissed.	Appeals made the Subject of Intermediate Orders.	Total.
Major Appeals.				
Finals	91 ...	215 ...	81 ...	387
Interlocutories ...	74 ...	89 ...	46 ...	209
				596
Minor Appeals.				
District Court criminals...	20 ...	89 ...	21 ...	130
Police Courts ...	214 ...	440 ...	126 ...	780
Courts of Requests ...	92 ...	202 ...	61 ...	355
				1,265

* *Note* :—Including 3 references under Section 355, Criminal Procedure Code.
14 courts of three Judges.
2 courts of five Judges.

Trials on Circuit.

The total number of cases tried at Criminal Sessions throughout the Colony during the year 1924 was 354, and the days consumed in disposing of them were 442. The comparative figures for the last five years are as follows :—

	Cases Disposed of.	Days Consumed.
1920	338 ...	417
1921	402 ...	445
1922	296 ...	357
1923	325 ...	411
1924	385 ...	475

These cases were distributed among the circuits in the following proportions :—

Western Circuit	212
Midland Circuit	95
Southern Circuit	57
Northern Circuit	14
Eastern Circuit	7
	385

POLICE.

Part I.—The Force.

I. *Strength.*—The strength of the Force on December 31, 1924, provided for in the Estimates was—

Inspector-General	1
Deputy Inspectors-General	2
Superintendents and Assistant Superintendents, and Probationers	35
Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors	171
Serjeants-Major	2
Sergeants	352
Constables	2,466
European Police Force.	
Inspectors	1
Sub-Inspectors	3
Sergeants	30
Total of all ranks ...	3,063

The total strength of the Force was short by 62 on December 31, 1924.

The greatest care is taken in selecting the right class of man for enlistment, and since the operation of the new Salaries Scheme a higher standard of education and intelligence has been aimed at.

II. *Expenditure.*—The cost of the Force was Rs. 3,176,175 approximately. The cost of police per man is Rs. 1,037 per annum. The cost per head of population is 70 cents or 11½ pence.

Part II.—Crime.

III. *Crime committed during the Year.*—The following is a comparison of the figures for the last three years :—

	1922.	1923.	1924.
Homicide	202 ...	189 ...	217
Attempted homicide	58 ...	51 ...	77
Grievous hurt	718 ...	730 ...	877
Hurt with dangerous weapons ...	1,097 ...	921 ...	1,101
Burglary	1,682 ...	1,681 ...	1,713
Theft of cattle and praedial produce ...	810 ...	605 ...	472
Other offences	2,478 ...	2,320 ...	2,476
Total ...	7,045	6,497	6,933

Classifying crime under three main heads, we get the following figures for the last six years. "Offences against the Person," which are not directly preventable by police action are here shown separately from "Offences against Property," which is classified as "Preventable Crime."

Year.	Total Crime.	Offences against the Person (excluding Robbery).	Preventable Crime, Offences against Property (including Robbery).	Offences against the State.
1919 ...	8,577 ...	2,045 ...	6,506 ...	26
1920 ...	8,189 ...	2,107 ...	6,055 ...	27
1921 ...	7,640 ...	2,122 ...	5,494 ...	24
1922 ...	7,045 ...	2,212 ...	4,805 ...	28
1923 ...	6,497 ...	2,020 ...	4,444 ...	33
1924 ...	6,933 ...	2,433 ...	4,469 ...	31

From these tables it will be seen that, whereas the number of cases of preventable crime in 1924 is less than that in any previous year, with the exception of 1923, and may be called "normal," the number of offences against the person in 1924 is the highest figure recorded in the last six years.

Crimes of Violence.—The prevalence of murder and the large number of other crimes of violence is a marked feature of the crime statistics of the Colony. The 217 murders committed in 1924 compared with the population averages 1 murder to every 20,700 persons. In 121 murders a knife was the weapon used, and the same high proportion applies to cases of grievous hurt and hurt with dangerous weapons.

Offences against Property.—A satisfactory feature of the year's work is the decrease in cattle thefts. Cattle stealing in Ceylon has always been a common form of crime owing to the number of cattle, the similarity in appearance, and the unconfined manner in which they graze at large, all of which help to make theft simple and detection difficult. A special effort has been made in recent years by enforcing the law relating to the branding, sale, transfer, and slaughter of cattle to place

difficulties in the way of the cattle lifter. The following are the figures for the last six years. With cattle theft is included theft of praedial produce :—

Year.	No. of Cases.
1919	1,325
1920	1,068
1921	1,036
1922	810
1923	605
1924	472

IV. *Distribution of Crime.*—The following table shows the distribution of crime :—

Province.	Homicide.	Attempted Homicide.	Grievous Hurt.	Hurt with Dangerous Weapons.	Burglary.	Theft of Cattle and Praedial Produce.	Other Offences.	Total.
Western	69	32	249	317	437	174	428	1,706
North-Western	32	16	125	151	247	94	323	988
Southern	35	13	136	200	247	79	210	920
Central	19	7	126	128	251	21	357	909
Sabaragamuwa	23	8	56	92	264	32	245	720
Colombo City	16	—	70	107	87	2	384	666
Northern	11	—	67	61	56	25	272	492
Uva	4	—	22	19	60	22	130	257
Eastern	4	—	22	22	27	19	85	179
North-Central	4	1	4	4	37	4	42	96
Total	217	77	877	1,101	1,713	472	2,476	6,933

Comparing the number of serious offences committed with the population (as given in 1921 Census Report) it is found that—

In the Colombo City there is 1 case of crime to every		386	persons.
In the North-Western Province	do.	498	do.
In the Western Province	do.	580	do.
In the Province of Sabaragamuwa	do.	655	do.
In the Southern Province	do.	730	do.
In the Northern Province	do.	762	do.
In the Central Province	do.	790	do.
In the Province of Uva	do.	910	do.
In the North-Central Province	do.	1,005	do.
In the Eastern Province	do.	1,077	do.

The proportion of serious crime to population in Ceylon is 1 case of serious crime per annum to every 649 persons.

Preventable crime (*i.e.*, offences against property, including robbery) in the Western, Northern, North-Western, Uva, and North-Central Provinces was normal. There was a decrease in crime in the Southern Province of 30 per cent. There was an increase of crime in the Eastern Province, 24 per cent.; Colombo city, 17 per cent.; in the Province of Sabaragamuwa, 14 per cent.; and in the Central Province, 10 per cent.

In the Eastern Province it will be seen that since the starting of the work on the new railway to Trincomalee and Batticaloa crime has increased. The call has already come from the

Eastern Province for more police to deal with the increased crime consequent on the influx of bad characters from other Provinces to work on the new railway. This is a typical example of how, from a hitherto peaceful Province in which the headmen could perfectly well maintain order amongst their own people, the call comes for police as the development of the Provinces attracts strangers over whom the local headmen have no control.

The most criminal districts in the Island in 1924 were Colombo city and the Kalutara, Ratnapura, Chilaw, and Tangalla Districts.

V. *Action taken to deal with Crime:* (1) *Means of Communication.*—Funds were provided for extending the telephone connection between outlying police stations and the headquarters of the Province or district. Of the 160 police stations in the Island, 104 are now on the telephone. Prompt means of communication is of the greatest assistance in police work, and many cases were recorded during the year in which the arrest of the offender or the tracing of stolen property would not have been possible but for the immediate use of the telegraph or telephone.

(2) Funds have been provided for the opening up of a new police station at Welimada to deal with crime in the area which lies between Badulla, Nuwara Eliya, and Bandarawela, and is at present unpoliced.

(3) *Gang Robberies.*—The crime of gang robbery which is unknown in some Provinces has always called for special preventive measures in the Kurunegala and Galle Districts. Of the 35 cases reported to the police during the year, 11 were committed in the Galle District and 12 in the Kurunegala District. In most cases it appeared that persons belonging to the particular locality supplied information or assisted in the crime, but that the real robbers came from a distance. The method of tracing the offenders which has proved most effective is that of tracing the disposal of any property stolen. This necessitates a system of co-operation between stations and districts adjoining that in which the robbery has occurred. It has been found that gang robberies are frequently committed on the borders of two police station areas or of two districts, and special steps have been taken to organize inter-station and inter-district patrols to secure co-operation of neighbouring stations and districts in preventing and detecting this form of crime.

(4) *Tea Thefts.*—In the tea planting districts, within the last few years the system of buying green leaf has considerably developed and several factories are working almost entirely on

bought leaf. The ready market and the high prices realized for green leaf makes it necessary for special measures to be taken to prevent theft of green leaf. The increasing number of tea gardens in villages and small plantations opened a market for stolen tea stumps and plants, and particularly in the Province of Sabaragamuwa thefts of tea stumps were becoming common. Notices were distributed to be prominently posted in which the provisions and penalties of Ordinance 38 of 1917 (Protection of Produce Ordinance) were set forth in English, Sinhalese, and Tamil, and this action together with the enforcing of the Ordinance has had effect in preventing thefts of green leaf. The enforcing of regulations 6 and 9 framed in 1921 under Ordinance 5 of 1901, which prohibit the removal of tea stumps and tea plants without a permit provide a check on the theft of tea stumps and a copy of these regulations was included in the notices distributed.

Seventy-two prosecutions in the Central Province and 22 in the Province of Sabaragamuwa were entered during the year.

(5) *Close Supervision of Dangerous Characters.*—Special attention is being given to the close supervision of dangerous characters as opposed to the general supervision of all "Re-convicted Criminals." Besides the re-convicted criminal there is another class of persons who require to be specially watched by the police. These may have only one conviction, but the fact that they show system and method in committing crime and a distinctly criminal mind signals them out to be specially watched and supervised. The worst criminals of both these classes are regarded as dangerous criminals and the majority have been photographed.

A new system of photographing re-convicted criminals on the Monday prior to their release from jail was introduced early in the year. Constables who have been specially detailed to supervise criminals attend when the photographs are taken and criminals who are considered dangerous and who have a marked *modus operandi* are specially pointed out.

A central bureau for the card-indexing of all dangerous criminals who display a marked *modus operandi* and are known to operate or to be likely to operate in and around Colombo has now been started. The Criminal Investigation Department, the Finger Print Bureau, *Modus Operandi* Card Index, and Photographic Branch are now all under one roof and in a case of crime all can be consulted at one visit.

(6) *Legislation in regard to Female Offenders.*—The amendment of the rules made under "The Habitual Criminals and Licensed Convicts Ordinance, No. 32 of 1914," was found necessary in order to empower the police to take the finger

prints of women and obtain deterrent punishment in the case of incorrigible offenders. Hitherto the police were unable to prove in court the previous convictions of a female offender as finger prints were not taken. Since the rules were amended in July, 213 finger print slips of females accused of crime were received for search and four women were traced as having been previously convicted.

(7) *Co-operation by the Railway Staff and by the Public.*—The Railway staff have been particularly helpful in bringing to notice and detecting persons committing theft from passengers on the Railway, and 29 cases have been brought to the notice of the General Manager in which observation and prompt action by an officer of the Railway staff had resulted in the detection of crime. The officers were in each case rewarded.

There were several instances during the year of members of the public rendering assistance to the police in the prevention of crime and in saving life.

(8) *Prevention of Crime.*—The importance of dealing with crime—both prevention and detection—with methods based on a knowledge of the manner in which criminals keep to one *modus operandi* and class of crime, and a knowledge of the fact that the greater part of crime is committed by criminals of this class, has been made a subject for instruction of all ranks. It is being continually proved that epidemics of crime of one class are almost invariably the work of one criminal or one gang. This applies in particular to burglary where the area over which the gang operates usually embraces several Police stations. By tabulating and mapping all cases as they are reported the officer in charge of a district can usually get a clear indication as to where the offenders are most likely to be found and as to what action will be most likely to prevent further cases or bring about the detection of the offenders.

The working of such a system depends on co-operation between stations and districts, the interchange of information and details of cases and concerted action such as inter-station and inter-district patrolling. The need for such co-operation is repeatedly impressed on all ranks.

Part III.—Further Action necessary to deal with Crime.

VI. *Dealing with Youthful Offenders.*—It has been mentioned in previous reports that one of the greatest needs of the Colony is the treatment of youthful offenders on sound practical lines in order to prevent a youth becoming an habitual criminal. Ceylon, where the volume of crime is very heavy, offers an exceptional field for work such as this to be started.

At the end of 1924 there were no less than 9,322 re-convicted criminals in Ceylon and the fact that in 1915 there were 5,318 shows that this already considerable figure is yearly increasing. The record of these criminals shows that a very large proportion come from the towns, and their history almost invariably starts with petty thefts in the streets committed at the age of 15 to 21. A recent instance, one of many, may be mentioned. A youth of 17, first convicted in 1923 has since, in the space of 12 months, been convicted three times for theft. The punishment of 10 cuts on first conviction and 10 cuts for the second offence committed only two days later had had no effect. After serving one month's rigorous imprisonment for a third offence this youth is now again in jail serving two years' rigorous imprisonment for house-breaking, a class of crime confined almost entirely to the hardened and practised criminal.

The object of a sound Police and Prison system is to prevent, so far as possible, a person from becoming an habitual criminal. Nothing can be done with a hardened criminal; it is useless teaching him a trade, for on release from prison he will, from sheer force of habit, in almost every case return to his former state and live on the proceeds of crime. The fact that in 1923 the Borstal Institution in England claimed that 75 per cent. of boys and 85 per cent. of girls who had passed out of these institutions were not re-convicted proves that if juvenile offenders are taken in hand in the right way when they are still young it is not then too late to prevent them becoming habitual criminals.

The existing Reformatory at Maggona deals only with boys under 16 and there is evident need for an institution which will take charge of offenders aged from 16 to 21 and give them a chance of becoming good citizens.

Schemes for the establishment of a Borstal Institute and for the founding of an industrial colony under the supervision of the Salvation Army have been put forward. The provision of funds and the enactment of the necessary legislation are under consideration.

The movement undertaken by the Police in 1922 of taking an interest in homeless boys in the streets of towns by providing means of recreation, school books, and essential needs has had most encouraging results. The Pettah Street Boys' Club which was started in 1922 affords a striking example of what can be done by bringing these boys under the influence of healthy surroundings and interests. Out of a membership of 64, only one boy has given trouble. The remainder not only support themselves by honest work and attend schools or night classes, but every boy subscribes towards the expenses of the

club. Eight members have accounts in the Post Office Savings Bank; one boy who started saving in May, 1924, has already fifty-five rupees in the bank.

The committee consists of the boys themselves, and they have been encouraged to manage their own affairs and so acquire self-respect and a sense of responsibility.

A club on similar lines to the Pettah club was opened at Galle during the year with 45 members. Twelve of these boys had been convicted of offences before joining the club, but no member of the club has been convicted since.

In other towns and in other parts of Colombo, where the number of boys in the streets is not so great as in the case of the Pettah and Galle and the establishment of a club is not necessary, the Police have got into touch with such boys as there happen to be. Games and means of recreation are provided at the Police Station and assistance is given to enable them to attend school and get work.

At Colombo Police Stations, other than Pettah, 160 boys have been taken in hand; 23 boys at Kurunegala and 10 at Panadure.

Part IV.—Supervision of Aliens, Strangers, and Travellers.

VII. In addition to the ordinary work of the Police, certain extra duties, initiated shortly after the outbreak of War have been continued throughout 1924. Of these the most important are :—

(1) The keeping of a record of all persons entering or leaving the Colony.
(2) The special registration of foreigners and Alien Commercial Travellers and Missionaries arriving in the Colony by steamer or from India *viâ* Talaimannar.
(3) The general surveillance of all aliens resident in the Colony.

Since the relaxation of the rules prohibiting the landing in Ceylon of *ex*-enemy aliens, the work of supervision and registration of aliens has greatly increased.

Situated as Ceylon is on the main route to the Far East and Australia and in close proximity to India, a very large number of persons pass through Colombo, and the Ceylon Police are constantly being requested by Police of other countries to mark down, arrest, or report on the movements of an undesirable or fugitive offender who is believed to be on his way to India, Australia, or the Far East. A complete list of all persons disembarking from or embarking on ships in the ports of Ceylon is kept, together with a record of all persons stopping

at hotels, boarding houses, and resthouses, so that an information required can be given at short notice. In this way the Criminal Investigation Department of Ceylon act as a clearing house and do a considerable amount of work for the Police of other countries.

During the year 176 destitute persons or undesirable aliens were prevented from entering the Island by the Police at Colombo Harbour and Talaimannar. Eighty-nine persons without health passes were prevented from entering the Island at Talaimannar.

Part V.—Motor Traffic.

VIII. The system of control of all motor vehicles by one registering authority (Inspector-General of Police) continues, and the examination of applicants and the issue of licences to drive motor vehicles is being carried out by the Police.

There are 9,029 motor vehicles registered in the Island as follows :—

Motor cars registered for private use	4,209
Motor cars registered for conveyance of passengers for hire ...	1,072
Motor buses and lorries registered for conveyance of passengers for hire	884
Lorries registered for conveyance of goods, private and hire ...	718
Motor cycles	2,146

The number of motor vehicles on the roads is rapidly increasing. In 1911 there were only 745 motor vehicles in the Island, and at the close of 1924 there were 9,029. During 1924 cars and motor cycles were being imported at the rate of 145 a month.

The number of motor buses on the roads appears to be doubling every year. In 1922 there were 217 buses, 459 in 1923 and 884 in 1924. These buses which are now plying for hire wherever they can find roads to carry them are much appreciated on routes not served by the Railway and on roads where a quicker and simpler journey can be made by bus than by train.

Inasmuch as the roads were not built to carry motor traffic the responsibilities and duties of the Police have been considerably added to.

The reckless driver is the offender who most endangers the roads, for he not only endangers the occupants of the car he is driving but all users of the road. The Police alone cannot deal with this class of offence. The co-operation of the public by reporting to the Police all cases of reckless driving which are noticed and the co-operation of the courts in severely dealing with all persons who are proved to have driven to the danger of the public is necessary. Hints for safe driving are printed in

every driving licence and there is no excuse for the driver who causes damage or injury by his negligence in ignoring these hints. The Magistrates in the Municipal and most Police Courts have undertaken to give consideration to busy members of the public, who take the trouble to go to court and give evidence in these cases, by hearing the case at a time convenient to the witness.

The improvement of roads where the nature of the thoroughfare is a danger to motor traffic is a matter which the Police in every district have been instructed to take up with the road authorities by bringing to their notice thoroughfares unsafe for motor traffic, dangerous corners, and places where the obstruction of view renders the road dangerous. Members of the public can help considerably by similarly reporting to the local authority or to the Police any place on the roads which they know from their experience is dangerous. During the year, it was arranged with the Public Works Department for danger signals to be erected at places on the roads which could not be rendered safe; for instance, a very steep hill, or hill with a sharp turn at the bottom, or a dangerous double bend. These danger signals are conspicuous and are fixed at a height from the ground which will catch the eye of a driver with the hood of the car up. There are six signs and each clearly indicates the actual nature of the danger of which warning is given.

The provision of pavements for foot passengers is necessary to render the road safe in towns. Wherever such pavements have been provided special action is taken by the Police to keep foot passengers to the pavements.

A " Safety First " Campaign Committee appointed by the Automobile Club of Ceylon have done excellent work towards ensuring the safety of the road. Reflecting mirrors have been erected at five dangerous corners. Arrangements have been made for the distribution among the vernacular schools of suitable hints to children and for 10,000 coloured posters for general use throughout the Island. Further, every member of the club has been supplied with forms and addressed envelopes for reporting to the authorities cases of rash or negligent driving.

There were 4,631 prosecutions under the Motor By-Laws. Of these, 488 were for reckless or careless driving. The number of fatal accidents caused by motor vehicles throughout the Island was 69.

In the Nuwara Eliya District there were no fatal accidents. This speaks well for the control of motor traffic in this district where the roads are hilly, narrow, and winding and where a large number of motor lorries are in use conveying estate produce.

Part VII.—Training.

X. Special attention has been given to the training of all ranks in the varied duties of Police work on practical and up-to-date lines. Wherever possible instruction takes the form of demonstration which leaves a permanent impression on the mind of the recruit. On satisfactorily completing his course of training at the Training School the recruit receives instruction in point and beat duty in the streets under supervision. On being posted to a station he is instructed in local conditions and the methods, character, and habits of dangerous criminals, who are pointed out to him.

It is generally admitted that in dealing with crime no stereotyped methods can be employed, and that to deal with the modern criminal a police officer of any rank must use his imagination, "Police Sense," and initiative. Accounts of new methods of preventing and detecting crime which have proved successful and details of cases in which ingenuity has been displayed by the criminal are published every week in the "Police Gazette," in which new regulations and by-laws are also printed. All ranks are instructed and questioned in the "Police Gazette" at regular weekly instruction class and when resting on parade. Thus progressive and continuous instruction throughout a man's service, which keeps him up to date in all matters affecting his work, is provided.

Another part of each man's training of equal if not greater importance, namely, instruction in his duty as a police officer and conduct towards the public is given the utmost attention, and for some years past a constructive policy has been followed in order to aim at and secure a high standard. From the date of joining the newly enlisted police officer receives advice and warnings in regard to the duties and responsibilities which lie before him. He at once learns that in cases involving dishonesty or malice on the part of a police officer the severest punishment is inflicted for the first offence and that a police officer who has proved himself to be dishonest cannot be trusted and is a danger to the public.

He receives the most definite orders in the matter of the necessity for keeping himself well under control however much he may be abused and insulted when doing his duty. This is obviously a lesson which every police officer has to learn, for the very nature of his duties, which require him to make arrests and search houses, renders him liable to abuse. When, in addition, there is a tendency in this country to commit assault in the heat of the moment, as the very large number of quite unpremeditated murders and crimes of violence indicate, it will be realized that the lesson is not one which can be taught in a day or in a year.

Part VIII.—Miscellaneous.

First Aid to the Injured.—The Ceylon Police Corps of the St. John Ambulance Brigade was increased from 132 members when the Corps has formed in 1912 to 937 in 1924. Every police station in the Island is equipped with a stretcher and first aid box and hamper containing all the necessary first aid materials. The police have also been placed in charge of two motor ambulances belonging to the Colombo Municipality which are available for use in the city of Colombo. A knowledge of first aid is particularly useful to police in criminal districts where so many cases of serious injuries from personal violence occur at places far distant from a hospital. In cases brought to police stations of assault and accident in which bones are fractured and punctured wounds caused, there can be no question but that the cleaning of the wound, stoppage of bleeding, or application of splints, before the long journey of anything up to 15 miles in a cart is undertaken, must cause great relief to the patient and prove of value in the subsequent treatment.

Special attention has been paid to instruction in diagnosing injuries and in improvising first aid materials from any article at hand at the place of accident.

In a country which is surrounded by sea, is liable to floods, and has many rivers, tanks, lakes, and wells, drowning cases are very frequent, and a police officer of any rank may at any time find himself faced with the necessity of trying to save the life of a person rescued from drowning, and the importance of a thorough knowledge of the method of rendering artificial respiration cannot be over-estimated. Schäfer's method of rendering artificial respiration has been selected as the simplest and easiest method of rendering artificial respiration, and every man in the Force is frequently practised in it.

As a result of the instruction given in first aid every man is now out to assist the injured in cases of accident and stabbing and to render artificial respiration to persons rescued from drowning, and to do so with effect. Medical officers are constantly reporting that life has been saved by the prompt and efficient first aid rendered at the scene, or in the police station, by the police.

Instruction in first aid has therefore not only had a practical but a moral effect in intimating to police of all ranks their duty towards their neighbour, and it has brought about good feeling between police and villagers. When a constable came to a village it was generally to arrest an offender, and a police officer was regarded as a common enemy. By attending to the injured and by saving life in cases of drowning and serious injury good relations between the police and the public are secured.

XIII. *Pensioners' Corps and Boys' Brigade.*—Institutions of the Force include a Pensioners' Corps which secures employment for men no longer physically fit for active police duty and a Boys' Brigade in which sons of police officers are trained from the age of 5 upwards.

The pensioners are given a uniform by Government, and the pay they receive in private employ is of great assistance to them. These men have a pension to lose if they commit an offence of dishonesty, and this fact and their long service and training in the Force make their service valuable to the private employer. There are 293 pensioners in the Corps.

The Boys' Brigade provides healthy exercise, recreation, and education for the sons of police officers and pensioners and educates and trains them to become useful men. At the age of 14 the boy continues attending parades and school and is employed for half the day as office messenger or similar duty for which he is paid from Rs. 7.50 a month to Rs. 15 at the age of 17. At the age of 18 he is eligible and fit for enlistment in the Force. Ninety-four men now serving in the Force started in the Boys' Brigade, 10 of these are now sergeants, in one case promotion to sergeant being earned within 3½ years of enlistment, indicating that the early training in the Boys' Brigade is of direct value to a man as a police officer on joining the Force. There are 100 senior and 376 junior boys in the Brigade.

Apart from the value of these two institutions to the boys and pensioners is the value of their indirect influence on the sergeants and constables serving in the Force itself. By keeping a good record a sergeant or constable provides for his future with the certainty of pension and employment obtained through the Pensioners Corps. At the same time his sons have the advantage of serving and being educated in the Boys' Brigade. On the other hand, a man who misbehaves loses the pay he is drawing, a house, pension, the possibility of future employment as a pensioner, and the privilege of having his sons educated and trained. This is found to have a great effect in encouraging men in the Force to work to a high standard as regards their personal conduct and character.

There are many instances of men serving in the Force, their fathers serving in the Pensioners' Corps, and sons in the Boys' Brigade; three generations thus serving Government at the same time. It is of interest to note that of the 94 men serving in the Force who started in the Boys' Brigade, the grandfathers of 16 were in the Ceylon Rifle Regiment, the grandfathers of 21 were in the Force, the fathers of 86 were, or are, serving in the Force. This shows that service in the police has become a family tradition.

XIV. *Justices of the Peace.*—Justices of the Peace have continued to render good service, not only in being available in time of emergency, but in visiting police stations, attending drills, and in supervising musketry. The fact of a resident of standing being in a position to take charge of any station and direct action in the event of any disturbance, fire, serious accident, or any other calamity is of value, not only to the police, but also to the owners of property, shopkeepers, householders, and the public generally. In a large and scattered district it is not possible for the Government Agent, Police Magistrate, or Superintendent of Police to get to the scene in time to prevent trouble in the great majority of cases.

XV. *Health of the Force.*—The provision of mosquito curtains and issue of quinine at stations where malaria is prevalent has had, in every instance, a most beneficial effect on the health of the men of the stations concerned. At Talaimannar and certain stations in the North-Western Province and Kegalla District in particular, where previously the number of men reporting sick with malarial fever affected the efficiency of the Force, the issue of mosquito curtains has been a great boon.

The issue of woollen socks, commenced in 1923, was continued, and has to a considerable extent prevented boot cuts and sores, previously such a common reason for men reporting sick.

XVI. *Rules for a Police Savings Association* were drawn up and with the approval of Government, the scheme has been brought into operation. The main object of the proposed Savings Association is to provide a man with a sum of money on retirement to enable him to settle down comfortably or set up a business. This Savings Association is not intended to take the place of the Widows' and Orphans' Pension Fund or the Compassionate Fund, which exist to benefit the dependents of a contributor, but is intended to supplement them and benefit the man himself during his lifetime. The scheme is being very well supported and a large proportion of all ranks have opened accounts from January, 1925.

XVII. Pettah Barracks.—The work on the building of barracks for the Pettah police which was discontinued in the year 1921 after the foundations were laid on account of the financial depression and the necessity for retrenchment was recommenced in the financial year 1923-24 when a sum of Rs. 100,000 was voted. A further sum of Rs. 275,000 was voted for the financial year commencing October 1, 1924, and the barracks will shortly be ready for occupation.

PRISONS.

There was a decrease of 740 in the total number of admissions of convicted prisoners of Ceylon during the year 1924, excluding Road Ordinance defaulters, of whom there were 170, as against 221 in 1923.

The figures are as follows :—

1923	9,927
1924	9,187

The number of prisoners sentenced to death was 63, as against 56 in 1923. There were 41 executions during the year, the same as in the previous year.

Of the 41 whose capital sentences were carred out, 31 were Sinhalese, 9 Tamils, and 1 Cochin.

Of the number executed, 2 had been sentenced in 1923, and of the number sentenced to death 1 was executed in 1925.

There were 7 escapes and 6 re-captures during the year.

The total number of deaths in prisons was 105, as against 102 in 1923, and the death-rate per 1,000 of the admissions during the year was 6.74, as against 6.01 in 1923 and 7.57 in 1922.

The number of punishments inflicted during the year for prison offences was 1,175, as against 895 in 1923 and 1,067 in 1922.

Prisoners are in all prisons employed upon works of public utility and remunerative industrial labour. At Welikada and Bogambra prisons various trades are taught, such as carpentry, blacksmith, and tinsmith work; boot-making, tailoring, the making of cane furniture, matting, coir brooms, rugs, mats, coal and tea leaf bags, ropes, strings, bamboo tats, laundry work, printing, bookbinding, and mason work.

During the year under review 2,370 articles of wooden furniture were turned out by prison labour for various Government Departments. For making up furniture for Government, the Forest Department supplied 13,081½ cubes of various timber in logs. Cutting, planning, &c., of timber was done by machinery.

The Government Printing Office continues to employ a daily average of 219 prisoners from Welikada prison. This prison also continues to wash all soiled linen from the Medical and Railway Departments, as well as Lunatic Asylum, 884,814 pieces being dealt with during the year.

2,797 articles of clothing and bedding were made up for the Colonial Storekeeper, and 32,095½ yards of cloth woven for prison use.

The prisoners at Mahara prison are exclusively employed in the quarries on account of Habour Works and Public Works Departments. A daily average of 200 prisoners were employed in the Harbour Works quarry during the year as blacksmiths, carpenters, stone-dressers, platelayers, stone-breakers, on excavating, and other works in connection with the working of the quarry. The following quantity of metal has been dealt with—2-inch metal broken 1,205½ cubes, rubble 1 to 5 tons, turned out 75 tons, hand rubble 6,355 tons, stone sets made 8,800, pitching issued 15, cut-stones made 130½ lineal feet. A daily average of 40 prisoners has also been employed in cutting earth and laying a Railway trace to the Colombo Harbour Works new quarry.

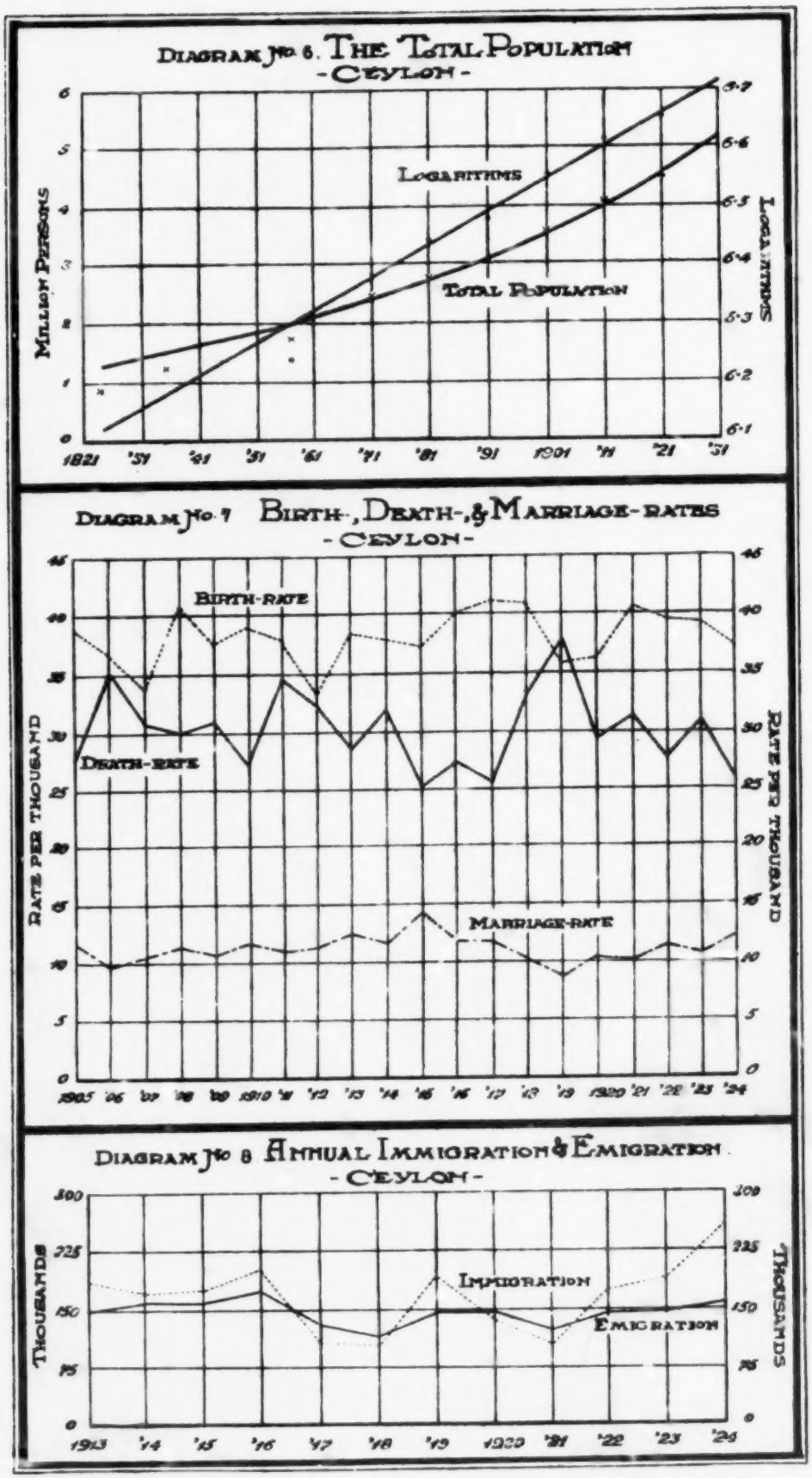
For the Public Works Department a daily average of 209 prisoners were employed in the Public Works Department quarry as metal-breakers and turned out 4,611.25 cubes of 2-inch metal. The Public Works Department was also supplied with a total of 1,833 cubes of metal during the year from various prisons, namely, Kandy 959, Galle 735, Anuradhapura 25½, and Badulla 113½.

The Karayoor reclamation works at Jaffna continues to make good progress. The daily average number of prisoners employed on the work during the year was 75. The extent of land re-claimed was 3 roods 17.28 perches. Out of 64 acres to be re-claimed 61½ acres have now been completed.

At Anuradhapura six to twenty prisoners are daily employed on account of Forest Department in clearing jungle and planting teak and margosa trees, &c. Eight to twelve prisoners are daily employed in the rice mill, and forty to sixty prisoners are employed in paddy cultivating, clearing jungle, &c., at the Dry Zone Experimental Garden, Puliyankulam. Thirty to forty prisoners are daily employed on account of anti-malarial campaign in filling up pools of the town, weeding, clearing jungle, &c.

Out of about 10 acres of land situated behind Welikada prison, which was being planted with various vegetables, about 5 acres have been utilized for the construction of the new Convict Hospital. The amount credited to revenue by sale of the produce of the remaining 5 acres was Rs. 959.06 during the year.

The schools at Welikada, Kandy, and Mahara for the instruction of prisoners of the age of 23 years and under on admission to prison and who have a sentence of 6 months and over make satisfactory progress, the daily average attendance being 84.26 during the year.



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XII.—LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

THERE was no further demand for the establishment of District Councils and therefore no new Councils were constituted beyond the two Urban District Councils constituted for Negombo and Ratnapura as from January 1, 1922, and the six similar Councils constituted for Chilaw, Jaffna, Kalutara, Matale, Matara, and Panadure, as from January 1, 1923. The existing Councils continued to function satisfactorily. In response to the proposal put forward by the Unofficial Members of the Legislative Council on November 15, 1923 (when the second reading of an Amending Ordinance to extend the operation of local government was taken up), a detailed report was submitted to Government by the Local Government Board on November 26, 1924, dealing with the following points :—

(1) The manner in which the Island will be divided into areas for the carrying out of the provisions of this Ordinance;

(2) The approximate extent and population of each area;

(3) What areas are proposed to be placed under Commissioners;

(4) The manner in which the existing revenue and administrative system will be affected by the application of the Ordinance.

XIII.—INDIAN IMMIGRANT LABOUR.

A DESCRIPTION of the formation and organization of the Department of Indian Immigrant Labour was given in the Annual General Report for 1923. The departmental organization for carrying out the provisions of the Indian Emigration Act and the Ceylon Labour Ordinance completed its first full year of working in 1924.

Notwithstanding the new formalities which accompanied the recruiting of agricultural labour in South India for work on estates in Ceylon, the number of labourers recruited in 1924 surpassed all former records. During the year 153,989 labourers and their dependents were despatched to Ceylon.

The two main causes of this boom were the unfavourable seasonal prospects in South India and the appreciation of the improved conditions in Ceylon.

The failure of the north-east monsoon in South India at the end of 1923 resulted in considerable distress over many of the recruiting districts. Dry crops were severely affected and wet crops were very much below the average. In consequence many agricultural labourers failed to find work in their own villages and came over to Ceylon to earn their living.

At the same time there is no doubt that intending immigrants to Ceylon appreciate the improved conditions both with regard to recruiting and on the estates. All recruits now are transported free of cost to themselves. No advances made to them in India to enable them to emigrate are recoverable in Ceylon, and all the expenses of transport and subsistence during their journey are borne by the Immigration Fund.

The conditions on the estates in Ceylon have also been improved as will be seen below.

Of the 153,989 immigrants, 62,474 labourers and their families were persons returning to Ceylon after a holiday, or to take up new employment for a second period in the Island. This return of old immigrants alone more than balanced the exodus of Indian estate labourers from Ceylon to India, which totalled 56,118. A considerable number of recruits returned to the Island, after spending several years at their homes in India, either from want of work in their villages or attracted by the improved conditions here.

The Ceylon Labour Commission in South India carries out under the control of the Emigration Commissioner the supervision of all recruiting and the transport of all recruits as far as the Houses of Accommodation and Quarantine Station at Mandapam.

The resources of the Labour Commission and of the authorities in charge at Mandapam were fully tested by the large influx of recruits, but were in all respects equal to the strain, and the machinery worked smoothly under conditions of great pressure.

Recruiting was abnormal even in the earlier months of the year, and rose to a great height during the usual busy season in May, June, and July. During June there was a sudden strike on the South Indian Railway which caused considerable congestion in the traffic. As soon as this difficulty had been overcome disastrous floods in South India caused the Cauvery to overflow its bank. Bridges, roads, and railway embankments were swept away, and for some weeks, owing to lack of

communications, all recruiting north of Trichinopoly was brought practically to a standstill. By the time communications were restored to some degree of normality the height of the busy season was over and thereafter recruiting continued at a quieter rate.

Conditions on Estates in Ceylon.

The rubber industry is still under the Rubber Restriction Scheme, and although work on rubber estates is popular there was naturally no great demand for fresh labour. Tea, on the other hand, enjoyed a year of great prosperity, and the large number of recruits was easily absorbed by the demand for labour on tea estates, which at the beginning of the year were short of labour.

The condition of estate labourers throughout the planting districts continues to show improvement. The great majority of estates have in hand programmes for the building of new and improved lines, improvements in the water supply, and the provision of adequate latrine accommodation. Many piece-workers, especially pluckers, on tea estates earned comparatively large wages. In general wages showed a fair level, and there were no serious labour troubles. There is, however, still a considerable amount of movement from estate to estate, though this was less noticeable at the end of the year than at the beginning. Health and sanitary conditions on the estates are under the supervision of Inspecting Medical Officers belonging to the Ceylon Medical Department and under the control of the Principal Civil Medical Officer who reports that there is a general improvement in housing and sanitary conditions and an increased attention paid to the labourers and their families by the estate management. A special campaign against anchylostomiasis is being carried out in several districts, and arrangements were also considered for the treating of this disease among recruits during their quarantine period at Mandapam.

The actual treatment, on a voluntary basis, at Mandapam was approved of by the Madras Government at the very end of the year, and was not started until early in 1925.

During the year further investigations into the wages and earnings of estate labourers were undertaken jointly by the Director of Statistics and the Agent of the Government of India in Ceylon. The investigations were not, however, completed by the end of the year.

The Government of Ceylon has expressed to the Government of India its assent to the proposal that children under ten years of age should not be employed as labourers on estates.

Revenue and Expenditure of the Department.

The salaries and allowances of the Controller's staff in Ceylon are met out of the general revenue of the Colony, and the expenditure under this head during the financial year, October 1, 1923, to September 30, 1924, was Rs. 67,326.14. All the other expenses of the Department, including the transport and subsistence of recruits, recruitment allowances, overhead charges paid to the Labour Commission, &c., are paid out of the Immigration Fund, which is levied by means of acreage fees paid quarterly by estates planted in tea, rubber, cocoa, and cardamoms, and employing Indian immigrant labour.

The rate for the first three quarters of the financial year 1923-24 was fixed at Rs. 1.50 per acre for tea estates and 50 cents per acre on the others. During the fourth quarter, owing to the tremendous rush of recruits, it was deemed advisable to provide against all contingencies by doubling the rate.

The total revenue for the year was Rs. 3,756,901.48 (of which Rs. 3,614,330.14 was on account of acreage fees) and the expenditure Rs. 3,217,988.91, leaving a balance in reserve of Rs. 538,912.57.

J. A. MAYBIN,
Second Assistant Colonial Secretary.

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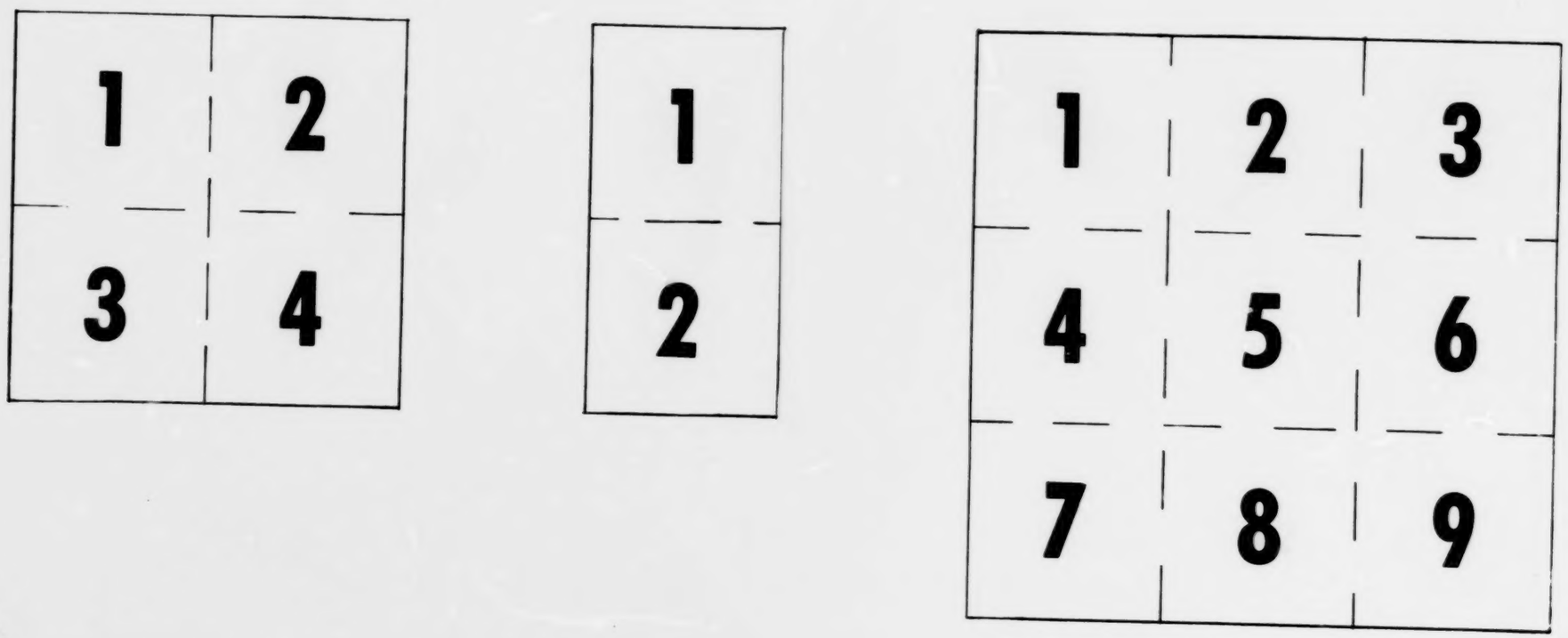

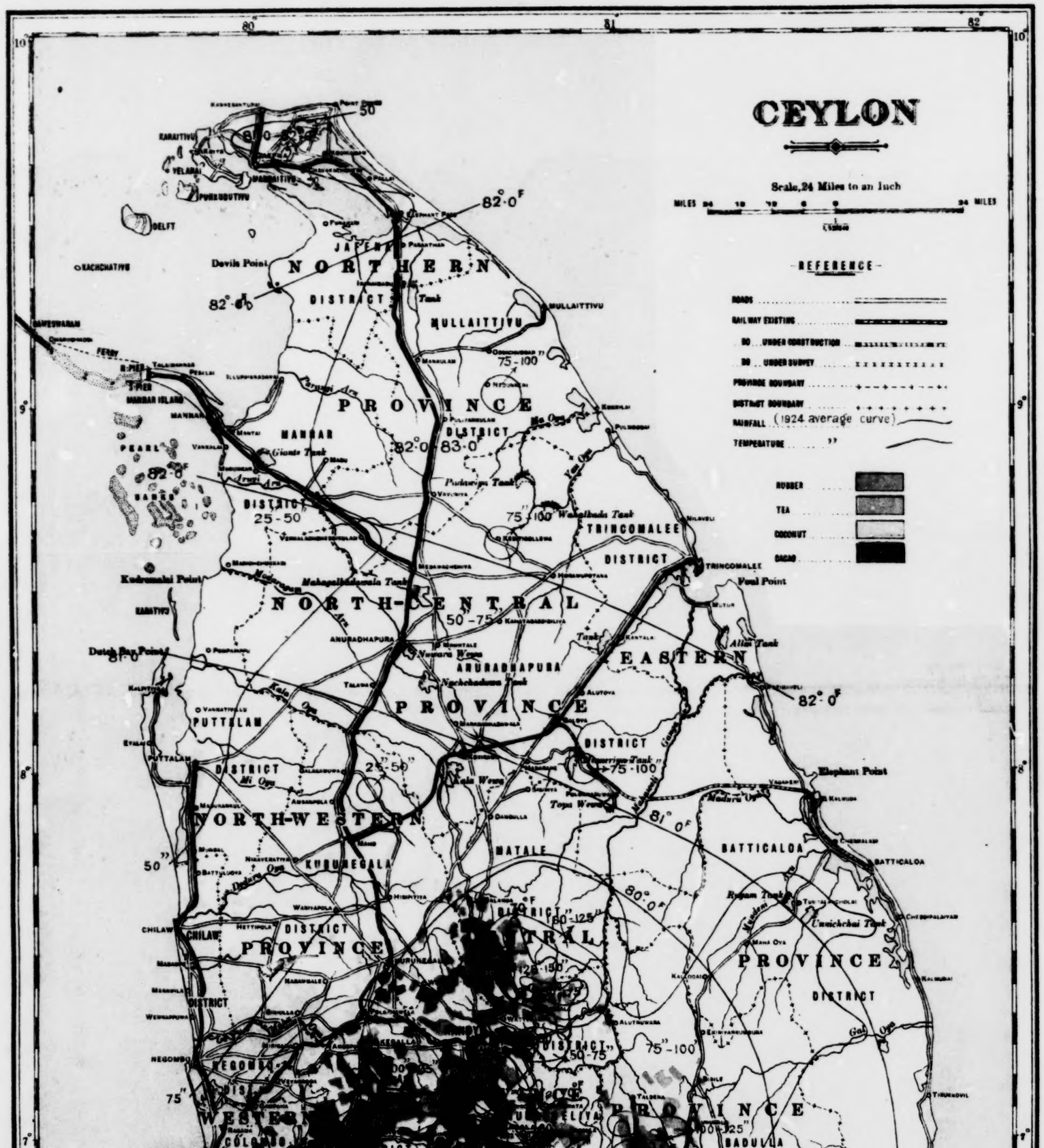
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Foul Point
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Nuwara Wewa
Nachchaduwa Tank
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Giants Tank
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Arippu Aru
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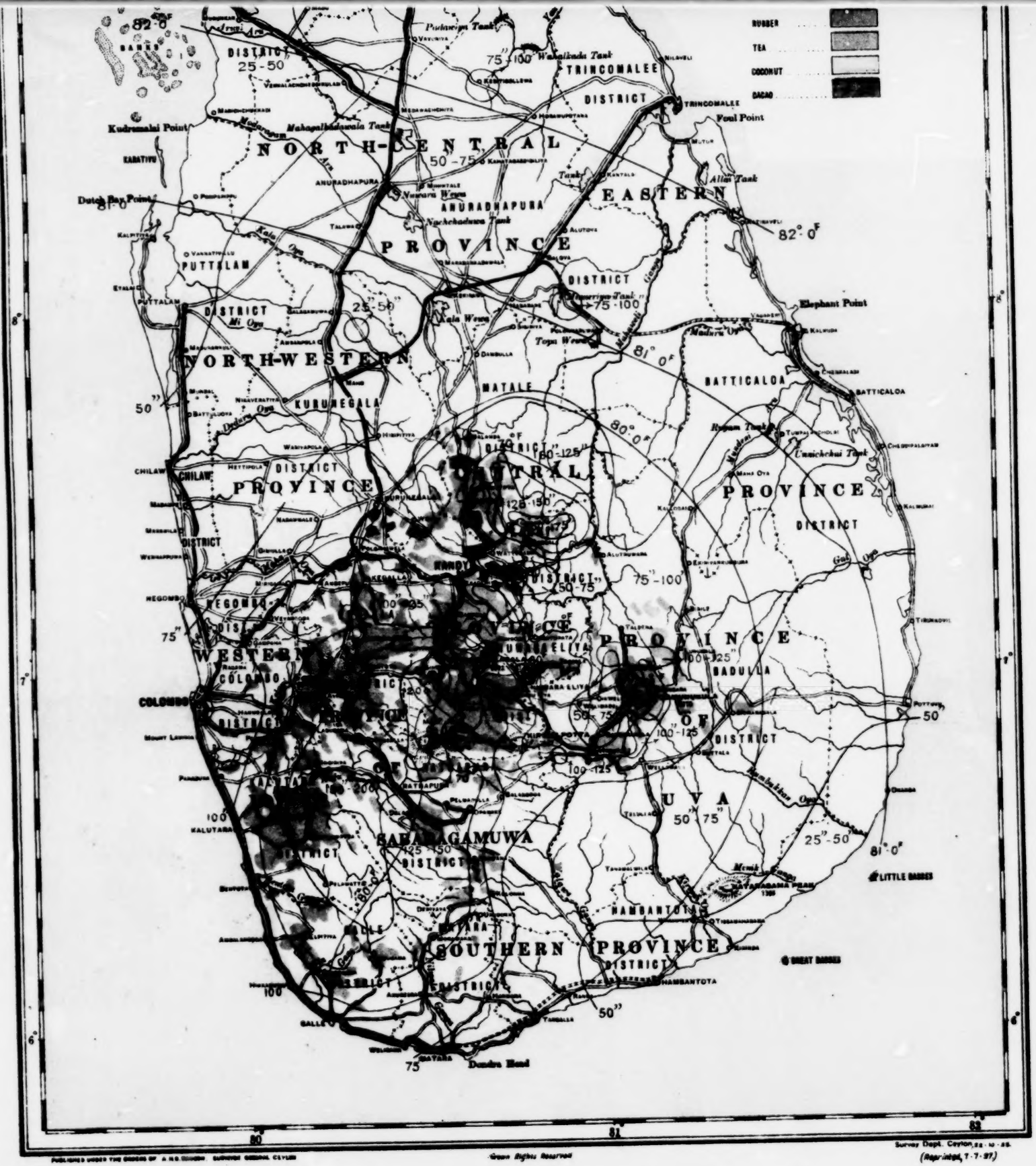

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O 241/27.

Annual General Report for 1925.

I.—General Summary.

THE year 1925 was one of unexampled trade prosperity in Ceylon. Imports and exports reached record figures.

The total trade of the Colony was, in nominal value, double that of 1913, in which the highest prewar figure of total trade was reached. Even allowing for the fall in the purchasing value of money, the trade of the Colony in 1925 was greater in real value than in any previous year. This trade prosperity was reflected in the Revenue for the year, which amounted to Rs. 115,539,669·56, and exceeded that of the previous year, which was the highest figure previously reached, by Rs. 13,176,553·88.

The most satisfactory feature of the year was that prosperity was not confined to one of the three main products of the Colony—tea, coconuts, and rubber—but was spread in varying degrees over all three products. Tea had another excellent year. The crop exceeded that of 1924, though, owing to a fall in prices, the total value was rather less. The fortunes of the coconut industry were rather varied. While copra and, in a slightly lesser degree, coconut oil had a successful year, the last of the three main branches of the industry—desiccated coconuts—was severely hit by competition from the Philippine Islands, with the result that for part of the year prices barely covered the cost of production. The staple industry which made the greatest relative advance during the year was rubber growing. The Restriction Scheme was in force throughout the year. The percentage of the standard production authorized for export rose, with a rise in prices, from 50 per cent. at the beginning of the year to 85 per cent. in November. The exports exceeded those of 1924 by 23 per cent. in weight and 167 per cent. in total value.

As regards the minor products, for example cacao, citronella, and cinnamon, the year was not quite so successful as 1924. The cacao crop was adversely affected during the last months of the year by unfavourable weather. The price of citronella

27–27–1,000

fell during the year, partly owing to complaints of adulteration with alcohol. The cotton crop in the Hambantota District was badly hit by heavy rain in January. In spite of that, the experiments in cotton growing have good prospects, and the money obtained by the growers of cotton has done much to alleviate poverty in one of the poorest districts in the Island. The cultivation of sisal hemp in the North-Central Province made a considerable advance. The exports were more than three times those of the previous year, and the prices remained satisfactory.

The paddy crops were only moderate. Once more the cultivator suffered from the capriciousness of the rainfall. Serious damage was caused in certain areas by floods, due to excessive rainfall, while in other areas the loss was no less serious owing to drought.

The health of the population during the year was, on the whole, satisfactory. The birth rate was 39·2 per 1,000 of the estimated population, as compared with 37·3 in 1924 and 38·4 the average for the ten years 1915–1924. The death rate was 23·9 per 1,000, as compared with 25·7 in 1924. It is satisfactory to note that the death rate was the lowest recorded in the Island since 1897. With the exception of the Western Province, the death rate in all Provinces was an improvement on that of the previous year. The highest death rate was again recorded in the North-Central Province, but the drop from 58·5 in 1923 to 42·7 per 1,000 in 1925 was satisfactory. There were during the year serious outbreaks of cholera at Trincomalee and in the North-Central Province. The results of these outbreaks were serious, but would have been much worse but for the thorough and energetic measures taken by the officers of the Sanitary Branch of the Medical Department, to whom great credit is due. The measures taken against parangi and malaria continued to have good results. Shortage of food was experienced in the Vavuniya district and in the North-Central Province. Prompt steps were taken to deal with these cases by relief works in the Vavuniya district and the advance of seed paddy in the North-Central Province.

It is impossible to deal with the moral and social condition of the population except on very broad lines. No very marked development was noted during the year, though the improvement in communications effected by the rapid development of motor traffic throughout the Island is reported to be changing the conditions in the more isolated districts to a very considerable extent. Not only has it opened up markets for a number of minor industries, such as fishing in the Eastern Province and vegetable growing in the Central and Uva Provinces, but by

making travel cheap and fast it affords far greater facilities than were formerly available for the village population to visit the towns, and in certain Provinces urban influences are beginning to be noticeable in the village areas. Education continues to make steady progress. The popularity of English education was as pronounced as in former years. The question of developing the vernacular languages as media of instruction in advanced studies arose during the year, and is at present under consideration by a Committee of the Legislative Council. The temperance movement continued to make progress during the year. The local option rules were considerably amended, and the desirability of still further extending the scope of local option polls has been referred to a Commission for investigation.

The crime figures for the year show an unfortunate increase both in crimes against the person and in offences against property. As regards crimes of violence, the policy adopted in previous years of trying gradually to educate the people in self-control and to wean them from the use of the knife by the teaching of boxing in schools was continued during the year. A sum of Rs. 3,500 was voted with a view to encouraging the practice of boxing in villages. The increase in offences against property is due to a variety of causes, not least among which are the economic development of the country and the improvement in communications. It would appear that the Ceylon criminal is in no way behind his European fellow-craftsman in his quickness to appreciate the value to him of the faster means of travelling afforded by the development of motor bus traffic. The works of development in progress in the different Provinces give the criminal the chance of getting a footing in areas where he is unknown, and consequently unwatched. As was stated in a previous report, the general improvement in education and intelligence has had one unfortunate result, in the improved methods adopted by criminals. To counteract these causes and check the increase in crime the Police have found it necessary to make a corresponding improvement in preventive measures and methods of detection. Prompt steps have been taken to that end by the development of the system of patrolling, the establishment of a photographic and footprint bureau, of a special crime police branch in Colombo, the careful analysis of the *modus operandi* adopted by known criminals, and the dissemination throughout the Force of the information obtained by these means. It is hoped that the energetic steps taken will have an early effect.

During the year the Governor, Sir William Manning, retired, and was succeeded towards the end of the year by His Excellency Sir Hugh Clifford.

II.—Finance.

Revenue.

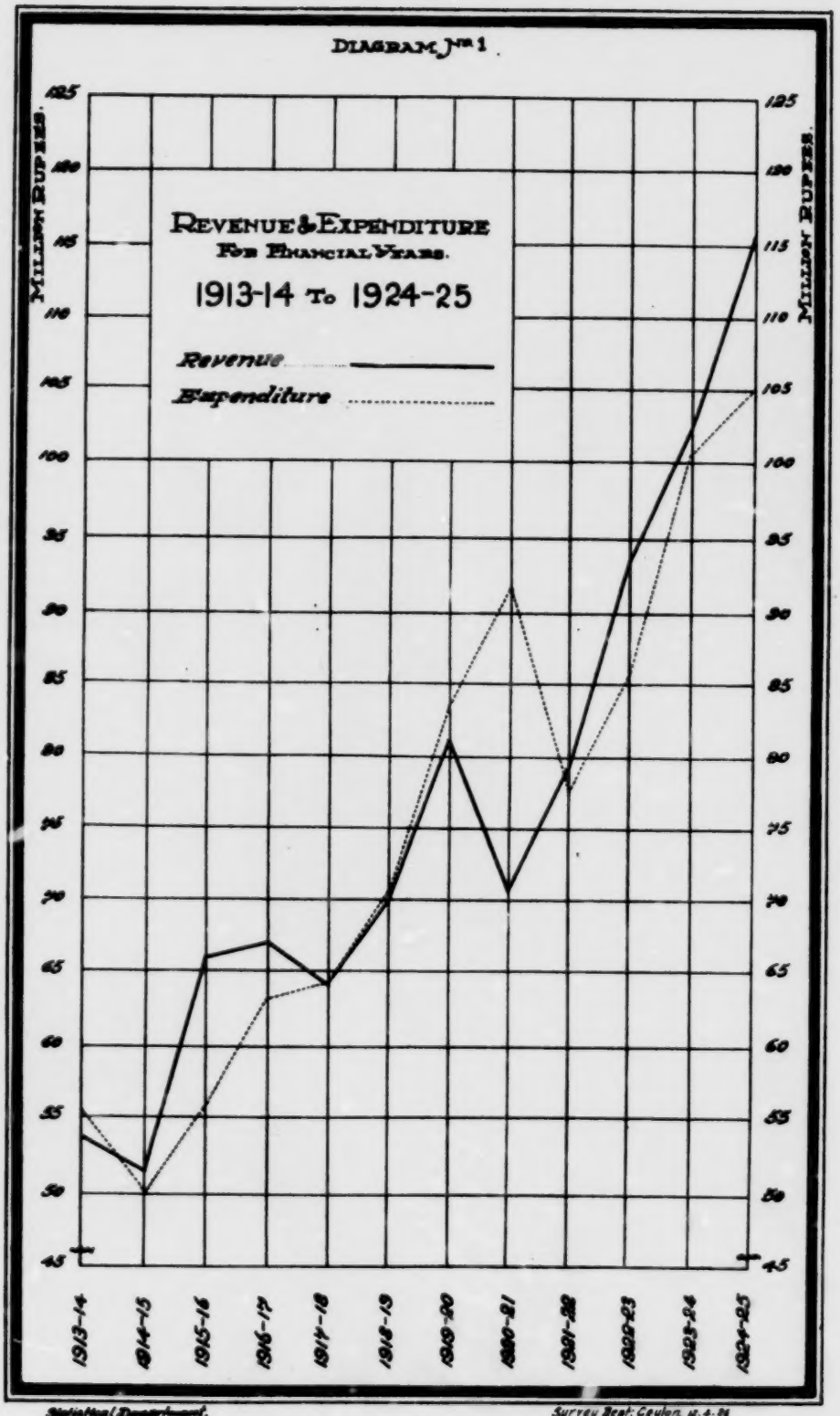
THE revenue collected during the financial year ended September 30, 1925, amounted to Rs. 115,539,669·56, which was Rs. 13,539,669·56 more than the estimate and Rs. 13,176,553·88 more than the amount collected in the previous financial year. The principal increases over the previous financial year were under Customs Rs. 3,922,525, Port and Harbour Rs. 235,700, Arrack Rs. 915,221, Estate Duties Rs. 1,382,225, Assets of the Ceylon Disabled Men's Fund Rs. 1,003,332, Post and Telegraph collections Rs. 641,480, Railway receipts Rs. 630,614, Miscellaneous receipts Rs. 2,550,468, and Land Sales Rs. 1,514,271. The increase in Customs and Railway receipts and Port and Harbour dues are an indication of improved trade conditions.

Expenditure.

The expenditure for the financial year ended September 30, 1925, which was estimated at Rs. 111,387,428, amounted to Rs. 106,365,684·84, which includes a sum of Rs. 1,361,336·67 on account of expenditure on works temporarily chargeable to Revenue pending raising of Loan Funds. This expenditure exceeded that of the previous financial year by Rs. 5,651,816·07. The increase, as compared with the previous year, is due mainly to more liberal provision for expenditure under Colombo Port Commission, Medical, Education, Railway Department, Railway Extraordinary Works, Irrigation Extraordinary Works, Public Works Annually Recurrent, Public Works Extraordinary, the payment of Sinking Fund on loan of £6,000,000 raised under Ordinance No. 6 of 1921, and the expenditure incurred on new Railway Workshops and Hydro-Electric Scheme Works chargeable to Revenue pending raising of Loan Funds.

Assets and Liabilities.

The assets of the Colony on September 30, 1925, were Rs. 65,054,372, and the liabilities Rs. 32,667,482, showing an excess of assets over liabilities of Rs. 32,386,890. This accumulated surplus on September 30, 1925, was in excess of that on September 30, 1924, by a sum of Rs. 9,173,985. To this surplus of Rs. 32,386,890 must be added a sum of Rs. 1,379,492, representing recoverable expenditure incurred on works temporarily chargeable to Revenue pending raising of Loan Funds. The assets consisted of cash in fixed deposits and current accounts in the local and Indian banks and with



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the Crown Agents in London, unissued stores, investments in rupee and sterling gilt-edged securities, and sundry recoverable advances. The main liabilities represent amounts due to the Widows' and Orphans' Pension Fund, the Ceylon University Building and Equipment Fund, the Loan account, and suitors and other depositors in the Treasury and local Kachcheries. The cash balances available amounted to Rs. 42,862,139.

Currency.

On September 30, 1925, the value of the currency notes in circulation amounted to Rs. 52,976,615. The Currency Commissioners on the same date held silver rupees to the extent of Rs. 22,549,551. Cash-at-call at London amounting to Rs. 3,008,192, and British, Indian, and Colonial securities amounting to Rs. 33,467,466 (cost price) or Rs. 31,054,213 (market price).

The value of the reserve on September 30, 1925, was thus in excess of the value of notes in circulation by Rs. 3,635,341.

During the year a sum of Rs. 6,000,000 was received from the Imperial Bank in exchange for currency notes. Of this amount, a sum of Rs. 2,991,808 was utilized in the purchase of British, Indian, and Colonial securities, and the balance is held at present as "Cash-at-call London" pending investment.

The following denominations of subsidiary coins were in circulation in the Colony on September 30, 1925 :—

			Rs.
50 cents (silver)	..	..	4,321,000
25 cents (silver)	..	..	3,140,750
10 cents (silver)	..	..	3,072,212
5 cents (nickel)	..	..	675,500
1 cent (copper)	..	..	917,737
½ cent (copper)	..	..	318,068

Public Debt.

On September 30, 1925, the sterling debt of the Colony stood at £12,704,293 and the rupee debt at Rs. 3,000,000, towards redemption of which were held securities and moneys amounting to £3,164,900 and Rs. 1,414,077 respectively.

Setting off the securities against the debts and effecting the conversions at Rs. 15 to the pound sterling, the nett total Public Debt of the Colony amounts to Rs. 144,676,818, which is slightly over 1¼ times the revenue for the year ended September 30, 1925.

Ceylon Savings Bank.

The Ceylon Savings Bank had a sum of Rs. 6,547,687 to credit of 48,008 depositors on December 31, 1926, against Rs. 5,739,538 to credit of 45,880 depositors on December 31, 1925. The amount of the bank's invested funds on December 31, 1926, was Rs. 7,125,471, which include investments made from the reserve of Rs. 820,765. The interest paid to depositors amounted to Rs. 201,977—interest was allowed at the rate of 4 per cent. on accounts of Rs. 1,000 and under and 3 per cent. on accounts above Rs. 1,000.

Accounts may be opened with a minimum deposit of 50 cents ; and not more than Rs. 1,000 can be deposited in one year irrespective of withdrawals. The maximum sum that a depositor may have to his or her credit is Rs. 3,000—charitable institutions or societies may deposit Rs. 2,500 per annum up to Rs. 7,500.

Parents or legal guardians may make deposits on behalf of their minor children and have control over the accounts until the minors attain majority.

The necessary legislation with a view to raise the limit of deposits fixed by section 19 of Ordinance No. 12 of 1859 is now under consideration of Government. If the amendment is passed by the Legislative Council, it will admit of a sum of Rs. 2,500 being deposited in one year up to a maximum of Rs. 6,000 for three years by individual depositors, and in the case of charitable institutions or societies of a sum of Rs. 3,000 up to a maximum sum (including interest) of Rs. 9,000 for three years.

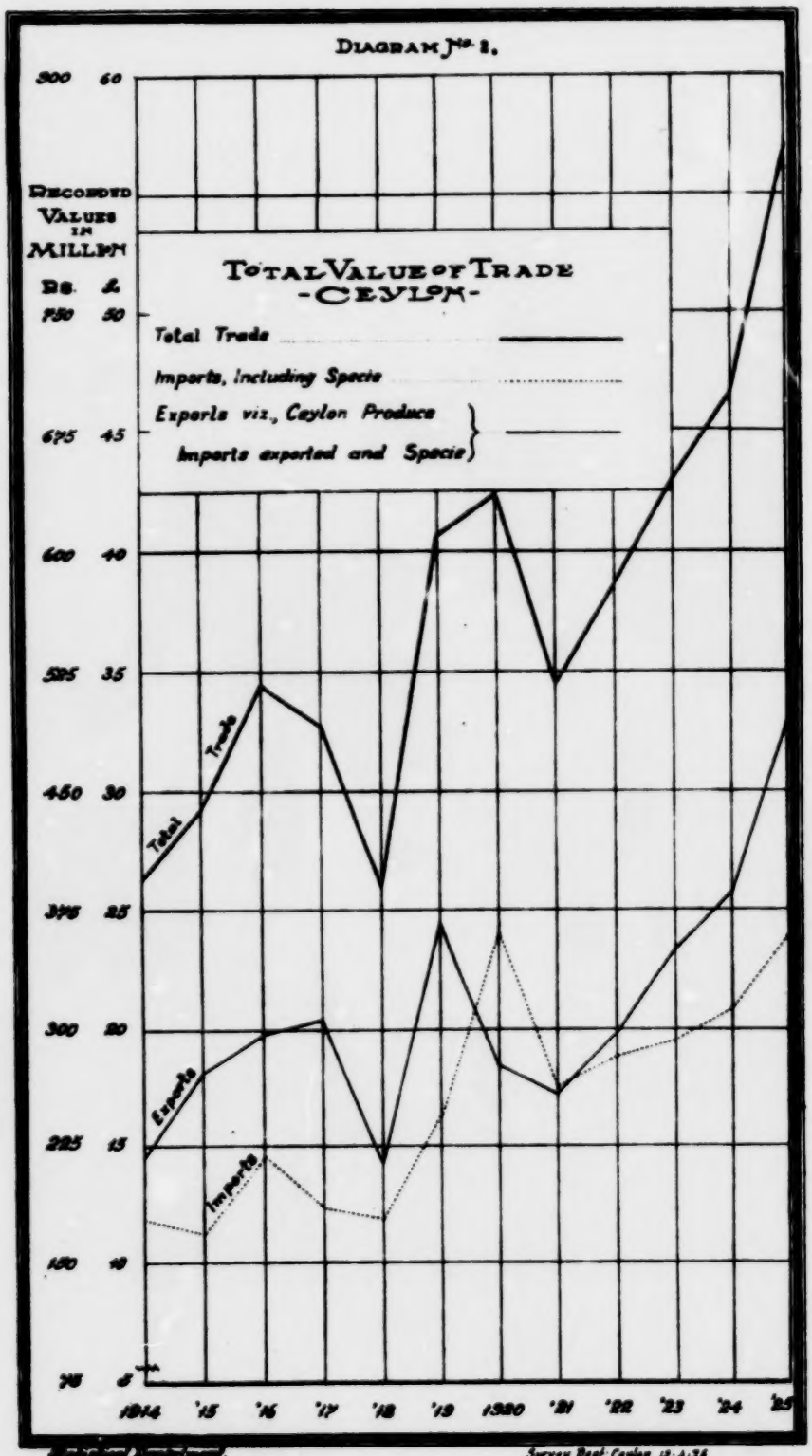
The bank lends money on the primary mortgage of house property within the Municipal limits of Colombo to the extent of half of its appraised value at 7 and 8 per cent. interest.

Borrowers are required to pay a fee of Rs. 21 for the examination of the title, to execute a mortgage bond and warrant of attorney to confess judgment, and to effect a fire insurance policy over the property mortgaged for the total amount of the loan.

Death Duties.

Estates of persons whose deaths occurred on or after July 1, 1919, are chargeable with duty under the Estate Duty Ordinance, No. 8 of 1919, which came into operation as from that date.

During the financial year 1924–25 a sum of Rs. 3,021,150·48 was credited as estate duty on 2,285 estates, as against Rs. 1,516,217·41 collected during the previous year on 2,623



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estates. In addition to this, a sum of Rs. 15,660 was paid as stamp duty on probates and letters of administration in respect of the estates of persons who died before July 1, 1919, as against Rs. 27,519 paid during the previous year. The large increase on estate duty is due to the fact that no less than a sum of Rs. 1,833,265·31 was paid in respect of a single death. It is improbable that such a large windfall will be received again.

The total amount of penalties recovered under the Ordinance in respect of 369 cases was Rs. 3,075·50, as against Rs. 2,952·84 recovered during the previous year in 335 cases.

The total amount of duty collected under the Ordinance is nearly ten times the stamp duty formerly collected on probates and letters of administration, the large amount paid in the single case referred to above being responsible for this high ratio.

III.—Trade and Shipping.

General Review.

THE year 1925 was a record year, both as regards the total volume of the trade of the Colony and as regards imports and exports. The total trade of the Island increased by Rs. 155,037,873 over the figure for 1924—itself a record—and reached the large amount of Rs. 866,989,174. The figure, excluding value of coal and liquid fuel supplied to vessels, is Rs. 843,817,998. It is interesting to compare this figure with that for 1913 (the year before the outbreak of the World War), which was Rs. 432,952,760, or excluding coal and fuel supplied to vessels Rs. 419,060,040. This was itself a record, and at the time of the outbreak of war the Colony was enjoying a period of considerable prosperity. The trade of 1925 was thus almost exactly double in value that of 1913. Allowance has of course to be made for the great decrease in the purchasing power of money, which may roughly be stated to be somewhere about 60 per cent. to 70 per cent., so that it may safely be said that the trade of the Colony is greater in real value than it was before the war, and that the Colony has more than regained the measure of prosperity which it enjoyed at that time. The figures of the total trade of the Colony since 1913 are interesting, as indicative of the periods of depression through which the Colony has passed and of the recovery which has

been made. After a fall in 1914, trade improved, and a total of Rs. 509,006,658 * was reached in 1916. There was then a period of depression, and the total fell to the very low figure of Rs. 389,042,097 in 1918. In 1919 there was a rise to Rs. 606,378,570, but the improvement was not maintained, and the figure fell to Rs. 517,497,574 in 1921. Since that time, however, there has been a considerable improvement each year, but the percentage of increase was larger in 1925 than in any previous year. Owing to price fluctuations during the war and afterwards the tonnage figures for imports and exports afford a clearer indication of the volume of trade than is given by the values. Tonnage figures show that the 1925 figures—imports and exports (exclusive of coal) 1,218,549 tons and 722,390 tons respectively, total 1,940,939 tons—are the highest on record, exceeding 1924 (the next highest year, 1,821,323 tons) by 119,616 tons. The next highest figures were 1919, 1,635,534 tons, and 1913, 1,565,591 tons.

Imports increased from Rs. 302,734,490 in 1924 to Rs. 351,328,702 in 1925, an increase of 16 per cent. Exports increased from Rs. 385,354,418 to Rs. 492,489,296, an increase of 28 per cent., to which the increase of rubber contributed largely.

The monthly figures of exports show that in January the exports amounted to about 34½ millions of rupees. In February there was a fall to 27½ millions. There was a progressive increase during the next six months, and in August a figure of about 49½ millions of rupees was reached. In September there was a slight drop of about a million rupees, followed by a rise to 55 million in October, a fall to 47 million in November, and then an increase to nearly 63 million in December. There was thus a very considerable and almost continual increase in the export trade of the Island throughout the year.

The import trade shows greater fluctuations. Commencing with a total of about 31 million rupees in January, there was a fall to 26½ million in February, due to the usual depression after the Christmas activities. The March figure was about the same as that for January, whilst in April a total of 32½ million rupees was reached. This was followed by a fall to 27½ million in May, a figure which continued with little improvement until October, when the value of imports began to increase rapidly, and progressively, and continued to increase to the end of the year, the December total being about 33 millions.

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* This and the following figures are exclusive of the value of coal and liquid fuel supplied to steamers.

The depression between May and September is attributed partly to the failure of an important Chetty firm and of several smaller ones, with a consequent general restriction of credit, and to a tightness of the money market, which resulted in the cancellation by cable of many orders already placed. This position of affairs was reflected in the Customs Department by the demand for extra bonding warehouse accommodation, and one of the import warehouses was handed over for this purpose. Trade later began to show signs of a general improvement; exports were good, and with the assistance of the banks the import trade also improved. Fresh orders were given and goods were removed from bond, so much so that the extra bonding warehouse was no longer required, and reverted to its original use in December.

One result of the great increase in the volume of the trade passing through the Colombo Customs has been to show that import warehouse accommodation is becoming more and more insufficient for the needs of the port. At some period of the year, and particularly during November and December, the congestion was very great, and a stage has now been reached at which the provision of fresh warehouse accommodation has become imperative.

Turning now to particular industries, the most remarkable point in connection with the Colony's trade has probably been the recovery of the rubber market. The price of rubber during the first half of the year was comparatively low, but rose considerably in July. After a sharp drop, it rose again during the latter half of the year. Rubber remained under restriction throughout the year, but the increased prices offered caused a boom in the industry, and had much to do with bringing about the general state of prosperity so apparent towards the end of the year. Tea continued to maintain, and indeed to improve, its position, a feature of the year being the re-entry of Russia into the market. The coconut industries, except desiccated nut, generally maintained their position as regards quantities exported, with a considerable increase in the quantity of copra. Prices generally ruled lower than last year.

The plumbago market also improved very much during the latter part of the year, there being increased demand from the United States of America (our best customer), from Germany (a good customer before the war), and also from the United Kingdom. The increase was from 9,650 tons in 1924 to 15,400 tons in 1925, whilst the average price has risen from Rs. 138 per ton in 1924 to Rs. 193 per ton in 1925. The export duty on plumbago was removed on October 3, 1925.

The following table shows the annual value of imports and exports for a period of ten years, excluding the value of specie and the value of coal and liquid fuel supplied to steamships :—

Year.	Imports. Rs.	Exports. Rs.	Total. Rs.
1916	211,500,753	297,505,905	509,006,658
1917	184,123,986	304,160,457	488,284,443
1918	177,716,763	211,325,334	389,042,097
1919	239,323,731	367,054,779	606,378,570
1920	321,275,652	268,462,183	589,737,835
1921	260,897,161	256,600,413	517,497,574
1922	280,414,704	297,753,215	578,167,919
1923	287,947,472	351,035,248	638,982,720
1924	302,734,490	385,354,418	688,088,908
1925	351,328,702	492,489,296	843,817,998

The values of coal and liquid fuel supplied to steamships since 1918 are as follows :—

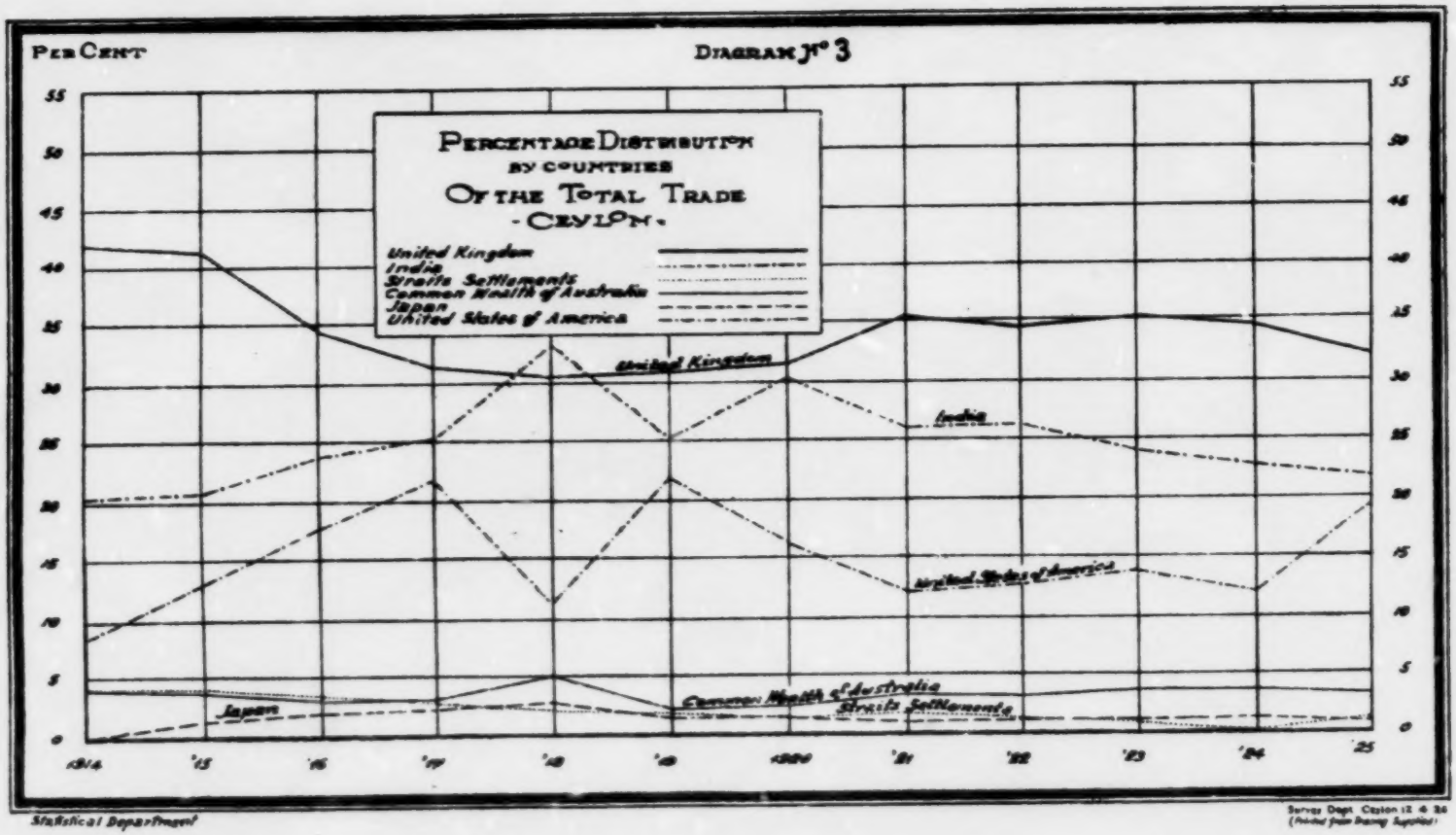
Year	Value of Coal supplied to Vessels. Rs.	Value of Liquid Fuel supplied to Vessels Rs.
1918	17,479,335	515,123
1919	32,899,550	2,869,327
1920	36,638,574	2,733,738
1921	27,638,759	3,030,034
1922	16,309,907	3,720,575
1923	13,551,793	7,576,801
1924	15,088,683	8,773,710
1925	14,138,321	9,032,355

The total value of Ceylon Trade for the last eight years, excluding specie but including coal and liquid fuel supplied to steamships, is as follows :—

Year.	Lakhs of Rupees.	Year.	Lakhs of Rupees.
1918	4,070¼	1922	5,982
1919	6,421½	1923	6,601
1920	6,291	1924	7,119½
1921	5,481¾	1925	8,669¾

Distribution of Trade.

There was again a slight increase in the percentage of the Island's imports supplied by the United Kingdom. The percentage supplied by Foreign Countries though higher than in 1923 was lower than in 1924. This loss by Foreign Countries was gained by the British Possessions.



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Of the principal sources of supply, Burma has improved considerably owing to successful competition with Calcutta in the rice trade, while Australia has advanced from the tenth to the sixth place with supplies amounting to 2·1 per cent. of the total, the advance being chiefly in wheat flour. Among the larger foreign suppliers, Java, the United States of America, Dutch Borneo, Japan, and Germany all show decreases. Sumatra shows a small increase, while the percentage of imports from Holland was practically the same as last year.

As purchasers of the Colony's exports, the first two countries in order of the value of their purchases remain the same, the percentage for 1925 being as follows :—

	Per Cent.
United Kingdom	39·54
United States of America	29·86

Germany has now become the third buyer of Ceylon produce with a percentage of 4·06½ per cent. This position was held by Australia last year, which now takes the fourth place, being beaten by Germany by a narrow margin. Similarly there has been a change of places between Denmark and Italy, the latter being now fifth, the position held by Denmark last year.

In the value of total trade both the United Kingdom and British Possessions show a decrease in percentage and the Foreign Countries an increase.

Comparative percentages for the last three years of the value of imports, exports, and total trade are as follows. The figures are exclusive of imported rubber and of coal, liquid fuel, and other ships' stores :—

	1923. Per Cent.	1924. Per Cent.	1925. Per Cent.
Imports—			
From the United Kingdom ..	22·39	23·06	23·23
From the British Possessions..	57·86	53·76	55·23
From the Foreign Countries ..	19·75	23·18	21·54
	100	100	100
Exports—			
To the United Kingdom ..	46·64	44·72	38·29
To the British Possessions ..	17·01	18·2	15·08
To the Foreign Countries ..	36·35	37·08	46·63
	100	100	100
Total Trade—			
From and to United Kingdom	35·81	35·29	32·18
From and to British Possessions	35·25	33·69	31·37
From and to Foreign Countries	28·94	31·02	36·45
	100	100	100

The principal countries from which Ceylon's imports are obtained, with the percentage of the total value supplied by each for the last three years, are shown in the following table :—

		1923. Per Cent.	1924. Per Cent.	1925. Per Cent.
1.	British India	29·06	31·09	24·84
2.	Burma	20·59	15·2	23·57
3.	United Kingdom	22	22·64	22·21
4.	Java	3·29	3·88	3·15
5.	United States	2·24	2·95	2·53
6.	Australia	2·94	1·7	2·1
7.	Straits Settlements	1·27	1·33	2·09
8.	Borneo, excluding British	2·7	2·91	2·05
9.	Japan	1·89	2·12	2·03
10.	Natal	1·69	1·93	1·82
11.	Sumatra	·88	1·37	1·71
12.	Germany	1·37	1·79	1·62
13.	Holland	1·55	1·35	1·36
14.	Maldive Islands	1·41	1·31	1·3
15.	Russia in Asia	·61	1·06	1·08
16.	Persia	1·02	·66	·95
17.	Belgium	·61	·89	·84
18.	Italy	·5	·66	·78
19.	France	·58	·63	·75
20.	Canada	·55	·57	·52
21.	Other British Possessions in Africa	·27	·64	·36
22.	Hong Kong	·44	·6	·34
23.	Siam	·09	·11	·29
24.	Sweden	·21	·2	·26
25.	Switzerland	·32	·63	·24
26.	China, excluding Hong Kong	·25	·21	·17
27.	Other Foreign Countries in Europe	·07	·16	·17
28.	India, excluding British	·49	·48	·16
29.	Egypt	·09	·05	·11

The values of the staple products exported from Ceylon during the last five years are as follows :—

		Lakhs of Rupees.				
		1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.
1.	Tea	1,127	1,460	1,857	2,150	1,997
2.	Rubber	516	570	736	637	1,700
3.	Copra	242	288	181	310	383
4.	Coconut, desiccated	266	202	227	220	188
5.	Coconut oil	150	149	139	158	168
6.	Arecanuts	33	33	35	33	40
7.	Cinnamon	18	20	21	29	32
8.	Plumbago	8	16	15	13	30
9.	Cacao	20	31	22	25	23
10.	Citronella oil	11	16	21	29	23
11.	Coir yarn	6	13	20	21	21
12.	Coconuts, fresh	24	18	13	25	19
13.	Coir fibre	11	18	24	29	19
14.	Cardamoms	5	5	6	7	11
15.	Poonac (coconut)	9	8	6	9	11
16.	Skins (dressed and undressed)	6	6	7	6	7
17.	Tobacco, unmanufactured	6	10	7	10	7

The quantities exported during the same years are—

			1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.
1.	Tea	lb.	161,610,966	171,807,581	181,939,731	204,930,307	209,791,384
2.	Rubber	cwt.	786,834	933,886	748,359	740,722	912,370
3.	Copra	cwt.	1,367,431	1,686,589	1,015,465	1,769,189	2,273,717
4.	Coconut, desiccated	cwt.	870,515	768,215	818,793	871,341	794,161
5.	Coconut oil	cwt.	484,724	554,626	480,543	552,633	616,917
6.	Arecanuts	cwt.	131,045	133,531	160,578	130,904	154,291
7.	Cinnamon	cwt.	45,364	42,974	44,984	47,484	42,360
8.	Plumbago	cwt.	86,996	216,999	213,383	193,017	308,523
9.	Cacao	cwt.	62,245	83,210	60,904	69,351	68,788
10.	Citronella oil	lb.	1,160,555	1,299,889	1,121,271	1,433,381	1,415,639
11.	Coir yarn	cwt.	60,710	102,688	105,088	117,199	131,387
12.	Coconuts, fresh	No.	23,738,542	22,317,747	15,963,670	29,121,041	23,288,786
13.	Coir fibre	cwt.	202,267	319,125	359,082	480,492	460,245
14.	Cardamoms	cwt.	4,512	4,096	2,788	2,667	3,302
15.	Poonac (coconut)	cwt.	160,699	115,479	116,549	156,251	168,839
16.	Skins (dressed and undressed)	cwt.	8,353	9,061	8,605	10,685	11,443
17.	Tobacco, unmanufactured	lb.	2,411,419	4,334,595	2,951,094	4,158,880	2,851,568

The principal countries buying Ceylon produce and manufactures are given in the following table, with the percentage of value taken by each :—

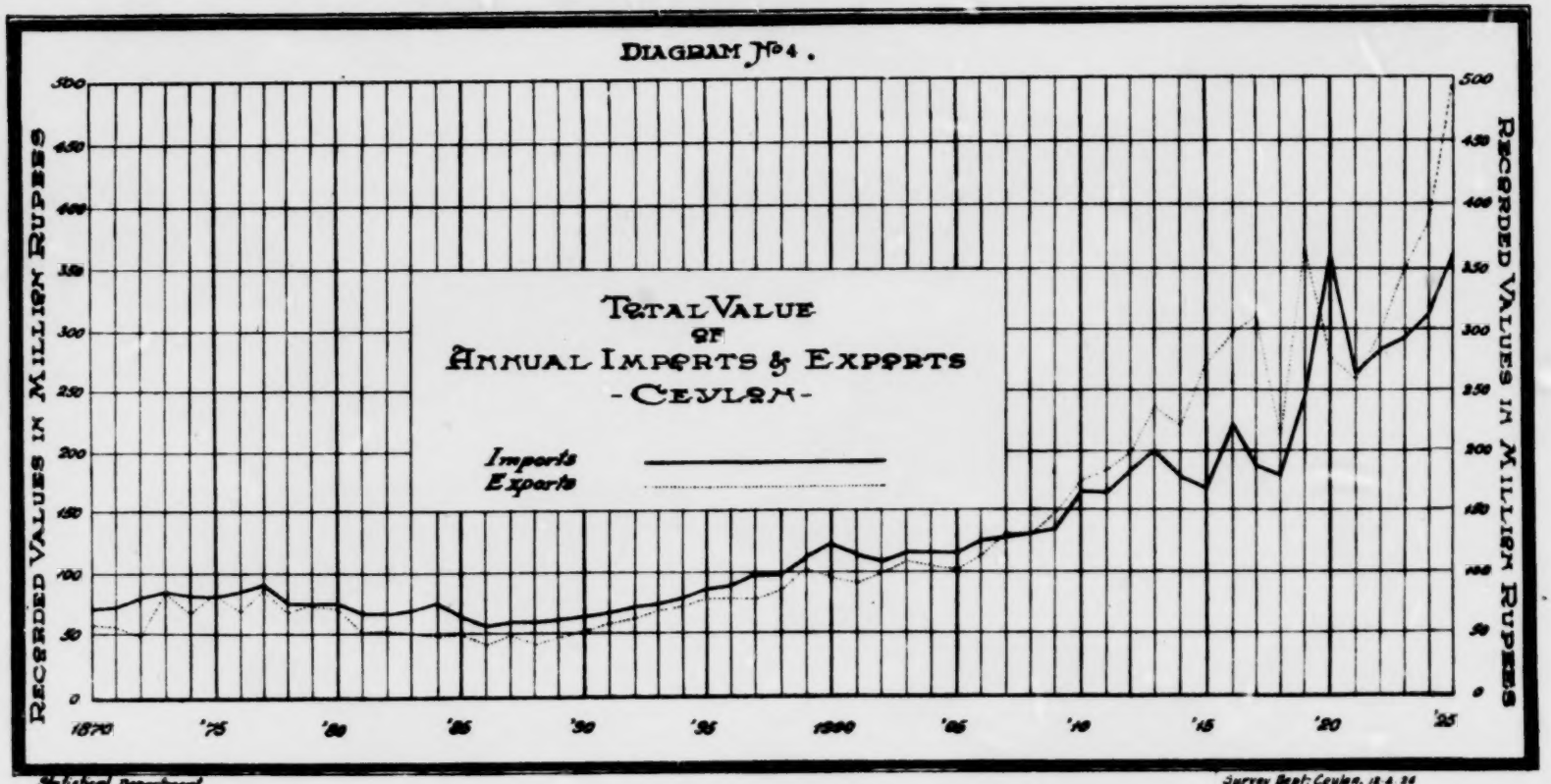
		1923. Per Cent.	1924. Per Cent.	1925. Per Cent.
1.	United Kingdom	47·28	45·78	39·54
2.	United States of America	23·36	18·68	29·86
3.	Germany	2·72	4·41	4·06
4.	Australia	3·8	4·92	4·04
5.	Italy	1·57	2·58	2·71
6.	Denmark	1·16	2·76	2·43
7.	British India	2·2	2·4	2·18
8.	Egypt	2·18	1·88	2·06
9.	New Zealand	2·03	1·71	1·5
10.	Canada	2·65	2·46	1·48
11.	Norway	1·88	1·85	1·46
12.	Other British Possessions in Asia	·49	1·26	1·21
13.	Holland	·86	1·46	1
14.	Natal	1·11	1·01	·86
15.	France	1·02	·94	·81
16.	Belgium	·96	1·2	·73
17.	Cape Colony	·9	·94	·51
18.	South America (excluding Chili)	·53	·52	·35
19.	Straits Settlements	·41	·41	·34
20.	China (excluding Hong Kong)	·05	·05	·3
21.	Russia in Europe	—	·03	·27
22.	Sweden	·42	·27	·27
23.	Japan	·51	·51	·27
24.	Spain (excluding Gibraltar)	·31	·23	·27
25.	Philippine Islands	·29	·22	·19
26.	Newfoundland	·19	·19	·14
27.	Other British Possessions in Africa	·18	·18	·11
28.	Other Foreign Countries in Africa	·05	·09	·11

Notes on the Principal Imports.

Wheat Products, Flour and Meal.—These products are obtained almost entirely from Australia and British India. The quantity received from the former country is gradually increasing, whilst that from British India shows a gradual decrease. In 1925 Australia supplied 234,211 cwt. and British India 85,817 cwt. In 1924 the figures were 189,715 and 130,356 respectively.

The following table shows the total quantities and values imported in 1924 and 1925 :—

Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1924	320,074	3,312,873
1925	320,088	4,801,335



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Rice.—There was a very considerable increase in the quantity and value of rice imported, the figures being—

Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1924	7,519,186	76,749,249
1925	8,321,381	94,082,942

The year was marked by a very large increase in the quantity of rice imported from Burma and a very large fall in that imported from British India. In 1924 3,992,791 cwt. valued at Rs. 35,935,106 were imported from British India and 3,397,864 cwt. valued at Rs. 39,169,728 from Burma. In 1925 the figures were 1,884,175 cwt. valued at Rs. 17,899,640 from British India and 6,351,534 cwt. valued at Rs. 75,124,917 from Burma.

Other Grains.—There was a small increase in the quantity of other grains imported, but the figure was still below the average.

The following table shows the quantities of rice and other grains imported during the period 1916–1925 :—

Year.	Rice. Cwt.	Other Grains. Cwt.	Year.	Rice. Cwt.	Other Grains. Cwt.
1916	8,073,964	1,117,413	1921	5,859,957	1,324,895
1917	7,754,121	1,102,566	1922*	7,209,157	956,550
1918	6,472,152	815,161	1923*	7,423,833	1,134,443
1919	5,342,575	1,433,295	1924*	7,519,186	965,469
1920	5,788,730	1.310,996	1925*	8,321,381	1,014,297

* Includes imports by Government, 41 cwt. other grain in 1925.

Sugar.—The quantity of refined sugar imported increased from 635,448 cwt. in 1924 to 794,267 cwt. in 1925, an increase of 25 per cent. Unrefined sugar and jaggery fell from 55,846 cwt. to 41,827 cwt. The bulk of the refined sugar came, as usual, from Java, the imports from that country being 678,066 cwt. or nearly seven-eighths of the whole as against five-eighths in 1924. It is interesting to note that the small imports of sugar which were received in 1924 from Belgium (9,351 cwt.), Germany (2,000 cwt.), Austria (2,808 cwt.), Holland (486 cwt.), and Switzerland (472 cwt.) ceased altogether in 1925.

Manufactured Tobacco, Cigars, and Cigarettes.—Cigarettes and manufactured tobacco were imported almost exclusively from the United Kingdom, as usual; cigars mainly from the Philippines, Holland, British India, and Hong Kong; whilst beedies were imported exclusively from British India. The import of cigarettes amounted to 415,082 lb., very slightly

less than the figure for 1924. Manufactured tobacco decreased from 21,179 lb. to 18,464 lb., cigars decreased from 7,272 lb. to 7,075 lb., whilst beedies increased from 37,530 lb. to 43,726 lb.

The quantities of each cleared for home consumption during the last seven years are as follows :—

Year.	Cigars.	Cigarettes.	Manufactured Tobacco.	Total.
	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.
1913	22,051	318,955	48,258	389,264
1920	12,198	371,575	29,034	412,807
1921	8,092	319,005	23,330	350,427
1922	8,883	330,071	21,429	360,383
1923	7,387	327,482	21,354	356,223
1924	7,272	403,370	20,379	431,021
1925	7,075	447,998	19,364	474,437

Spirits.—There was again a very considerable increase in the quantity of spirits imported. The import of gin increased by 21 per cent., brandy by 27 per cent., and whisky by 15 per cent. The quantities cleared for home consumption during the last three years is shown in the following table in proof gallons :—

	Proof Gallons.		
	1923.	1924.	1925.
Brandy	33,893	44,089	59,815
Gin	67,252	83,487	104,537
Whisky	57,902	55,887	60,206
	159,047	183,463	224,558

The brandy came almost entirely from France, the gin from Holland (86 per cent.) and the United Kingdom (14 per cent.), and the whisky from the United Kingdom.

Cotton, Manufactured and Raw.—Raw Cotton came almost entirely from British India. There was an increase in the quantity imported from 17,750 cwt. to 21,456 cwt. (21 per cent.), but the value decreased from Rs. 1,659,873 to Rs. 1,432,300 (13·7 per cent.).

Cotton Waste showed a slight fall in quantity (5 per cent.) and value (9 per cent.). Rather more than half came from British India. The remainder almost entirely from the United Kingdom.

Bleached Yarn and Twist came almost exclusively from British India. The quantity imported increased from 23,483 lb. valued at Rs. 36,818 in 1924 to 52,114 lb. valued at Rs. 50,056 in 1925.

Dyed Yarn and Twist came mostly from British India. The quantity from United Kingdom fell very considerably, only 400 lb. valued at Rs. 683 being imported from the United Kingdom out of a total of 79,216 lb. valued at Rs. 85,533.

Gray Yarn and Twist showed an increase in quantity from 3,095 lb. to 4,770 lb. and in value from Rs. 4,189 to Rs. 5,807. The United Kingdom, which dropped out in 1924, again appeared as a supplier with an import of 1,200 lb. valued at Rs. 1,924.

Piece Goods.—The greater part of the cotton imports into Ceylon is in the form of piece goods. There was a very large increase generally in practically every class of piece goods except muslins. The total increase was about 11,600,000 yards, or over 25 per cent. The biggest increase was in the bleached goods market, where the quantity imported rose from 10,057,789 yards valued at Rs. 5,619,711 in 1924 to 17,001,289 yards valued at Rs. 8,303,702 in 1925. There was also a large increase in printed piece goods, the imports rising from 5,545,385 yards valued at Rs. 2,998,185 in 1924 to 8,027,567 yards valued at Rs. 3,779,681 in 1925. Muslin fell from 36,637 yards valued at Rs. 16,744 in 1924 to 20,388 yards valued at Rs. 10,204 in 1925. In all 54,468,017 yards of piece goods were imported in 1925.

As regards countries of production, this large increase of imports was due mostly to greater imports from the United Kingdom. There was very little change as regards the position of British India. The imports from Holland of bleached and dyed piece goods show large increases, but generally speaking rather smaller quantities of cotton goods were imported from continental countries than in the previous year. The most striking increase was that of bleached piece goods from the United Kingdom. In 1924 8,790,720 yards valued at Rs. 4,601,538 were imported from the United Kingdom. In 1925 these figures increased to 15,551,629 yards valued at Rs. 7,460,059.

The increase in the imports from the United Kingdom is attributed to the general prosperity and increased purchasing power of the country, which created a larger demand, and to the entering into the trade during the year of a number of firms dealing for the first time in the cotton goods import business. The stationary position of the import trade with India may be due to some extent to the increased output of goods similar to those usually imported from India by the Ceylon Spinning and Weaving Mills.

The following tables show the quantities of each kind of piece goods imported and the chief countries of supply :—

Nature of Goods.	Year.	Quantity. Yards.	Value. Rs.	Country.	Chief Supplier's Percentage of Total Value.
Bleached Piece Goods	1924	10,057,789	5,619,711	United Kingdom	82
				Switzerland	9
	1925	17,001,289	8,303,702	United Kingdom	90
				Holland	6
Dyed Piece Goods	1924	22,494,961	12,285,511	British India	48
				United Kingdom	22
				Holland	18
				Japan	7
	1925	23,568,522	12,277,703	British India	48
				United Kingdom	24
				Holland	21
				Japan	6
Gray Piece Goods	1924	3,923,765	1,684,472	United Kingdom	63
				United States of America	14
				Japan (about)	14
				British India	9
	1925	4,782,948	1,907,080	United Kingdom	75
				United States of America	11
				British India	7
				Japan (about)	7
Printed Piece Goods	1924	5,545,385	2,998,185	United Kingdom	97
				Japan	2
	1925	8,027,567	3,779,681	United Kingdom	86
				Japan	13
Muslin	1924	36,637	16,744	United Kingdom	99
	1925	20,388	10,204	United Kingdom	97
Other Piece Goods	1924	756,377	579,752	United Kingdom	34
				British India	24
	1925	1,067,303	664,103	United Kingdom	43
				British India	25

Lace and Nets and Embroidery.—Lace and nets came chiefly from the United Kingdom, and embroidery from Switzerland. Their total value fell from Rs. 519,101 in 1924 to Rs. 409,839 in 1925.

Thread.—A small decrease in quantity and value. The United Kingdom again supplied five-sixths of the total imported.

Articles manufactured of Cotton not elsewhere specified.—There was an increase in the value under this head from Rs. 468,211 in 1924 to Rs. 543,719 in 1925. The United Kingdom supplied the bulk of the imports valued at Rs. 335,351, as against Rs. 295,850 in 1924. The value of imports from Japan was nearly double that of last year, while British India showed a small decrease. The latter country, however, continues to occupy the second place.

The following table shows the total value of imports from the United Kingdom, from the remainder of the British Empire, and from Foreign Countries :—

	1924. Rs.	1925. Rs.
United Kingdom	12,834,246	16,682,732
British Empire	8,424,196	8,161,806
Foreign Countries	5,763,154	5,583,245
	27,021,596	30,427,783

Coal.—The quantity of coal imported during the year was 672,154 tons valued at Rs. 17,617,176, as against 675,136 tons valued at Rs. 19,052,471 in 1924. The quantity, therefore, is only very slightly less than in the previous year, but a fall in price has resulted in the total value of the imports being less by Rs. 1,435,295. The largest supplier was Natal, as in the previous year, but British India displaced the United Kingdom from the second place. The imports from the United Kingdom decreased from 182,037 tons in 1924 to 141,337 tons in 1925, whilst those from British India increased from 167,890 tons to 204,680 tons. The imports from Natal increased from 231,684 tons to 274,082 tons.

Liquid Fuel.—There was a slight decrease in the quantity imported, as shown in the following table. Two-fifths of the total quantity imported came from Persia, and the remainder from Dutch Borneo. 34,741,750 gallons were supplied to ships for bunkers, as against 34,404,750 gallons in 1924 :—

Total Imports.

Year.	Gallons.	Value. Rs.
1924	42,332,008	11,574,023
1925	39,637,400	10,321,286

Kerosine Oil.—There was a large increase in the import of kerosine oil, both in bulk and in cases. Imports of bulk oil increased by 50 per cent., and case oil by nearly 30 per cent. Russia supplied 63 per cent. of the bulk oil, the United States of America 22 per cent., and Sumatra 15 per cent. Two-thirds of the case oil came from the United States of America, and the remainder practically all from Sumatra

The imports were as follows :—

Year.	Bulk Oil. Gallons.	Case Oil. Gallons.
1924	4,497,598	200,503
1925	6,721,001	260,054

Petrol.—The quantity imported still continues to increase, and the consumption now is very nearly one gallon per head of population per year. 63,871 gallons came from the United States of America this year, and the remainder from Sumatra. Dutch Borneo, which supplied 47 per cent. of the total in 1924, did not supply any petrol in 1925.

The imports for the last six years have been—

Year.		Gallons.	Year.		Gallons.
1920	..	988,427	1923*	..	1,959,474
1921	..	1,381,671	1924*	..	3,749,236
1922*	..	1,389,363	1925*	..	4,085,370

* Includes imports by Government.

Manures.—The flourishing condition of the major agricultural industries of the Island is reflected in the great increase (25 per cent.) in the quantities of manure imported. The chief kinds imported and the countries from which they were mainly derived were—

		Cwt.		
Groundnut poonac	..	541,858	..	(British India)
Bone meal ..	..	320,930	..	do.
Fish guano ..	..	185,965	..	do.
Sulphate of ammonia	..	133,521	..	(United Kingdom)
Muriate of potash	..	120,394	..	(Germany)

The most valuable manures were nitrate of soda from Chile and Belgium and refuse of saltpetre from British India :—

Year.			Quantity. Cwt.		Value. Rs.
1924	..	..	1,672,017	..	9,823,580
1925	..	..	2,088,526	..	12,744,286

Horses.—197 horses were imported, as against 111 in 1924 and 161 in 1923. 78 came from the United Kingdom, 4 from Australia, 74 from British India, and 41 from British South Africa.

Motor Cars and Lorries.—The number of cars imported during the year increased by 40 per cent. and the import of lorries by 37 per cent. The United Kingdom for the first time headed the list with 530 cars, as against 261 in 1924. 486 Canadian cars were imported, as against 358 in 1924, whilst the number from the United States of America decreased from 423 in 1924 to 395 in 1925. 104 cars were imported from Italy, and the

same number from France, as against 30 and 99 respectively in 1924. The average value of the cars from the various countries is as follows :—

	Rs.
United Kingdom	2,954
Canada	1,632
United States of America	2,862
Italy	3,310
France	2,252

A striking feature of the imports this year was the great increase in the number of lorries from the United States of America, the total being 607 as against 299 in 1924. 279 lorries were imported from Canada as against 421 in 1924, and 158 from the United Kingdom as against 66 in 1924.

Year.	No.	Value. Rs.
Motor Cars—		
1924	1,175 ..	3,157,734
1925	1,654 ..	4,236,827
Lorries—		
1924	800 ..	2,168,158
1925	1,096 ..	3,176,435
Chassis for Cars—		
1924	9 ..	72,199
1925	8 ..	14,780

Cement.—Imports increased by 235,279 cwt., or nearly 33 per cent. The imports from the United Kingdom totalled two-thirds of the whole, and showed an increase of some 43 per cent. above that for 1924. Germany took second place with 26 per cent. of the total and an increase of 20 per cent. over the figure for 1924.

The Government imports, which came entirely from the United Kingdom, increased from 150,123 cwt. in 1924 to 226,529 cwt. in 1925.

Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1924	714,814 ..	1,547,184
1925	950,093 ..	1,968,786

Metals and Metalware (*Ferrous*).—The import of ferrous metals and metalware rose by about 12 per cent. in quantity, but the value of the imports remained almost unchanged. The imports from the United Kingdom were slightly less in value than in 1924, but she was still by far the largest supplier, with nearly 75 per cent. of the total. Germany and Belgium come next, with about 9 per cent. each.

British Indian imports improved, and now hold the fourth place with 3½ per cent. France holds the next place with a little over 1 per cent.—an improvement on last year. The United States of America supplied rather less than France—a falling off from last year, when she supplied 2 per cent. In 1923 she supplied 2·6 per cent.

Year.			Quantity. Cwt.		Value. Rs.
1924	..	..	839,483	..	11,876,465
1925	..	..	932,860	..	11,845,579

Non-ferrous Metals and Manufactures thereof.—There was a slight increase both in quantity and value under this head. As in previous years, the bulk of the trade was shared between Burma and the United Kingdom. Burma came first with 46 per cent. The United Kingdom had 37 per cent. British India came third with 9 per cent. The remaining 8 per cent. was shared between 19 countries.

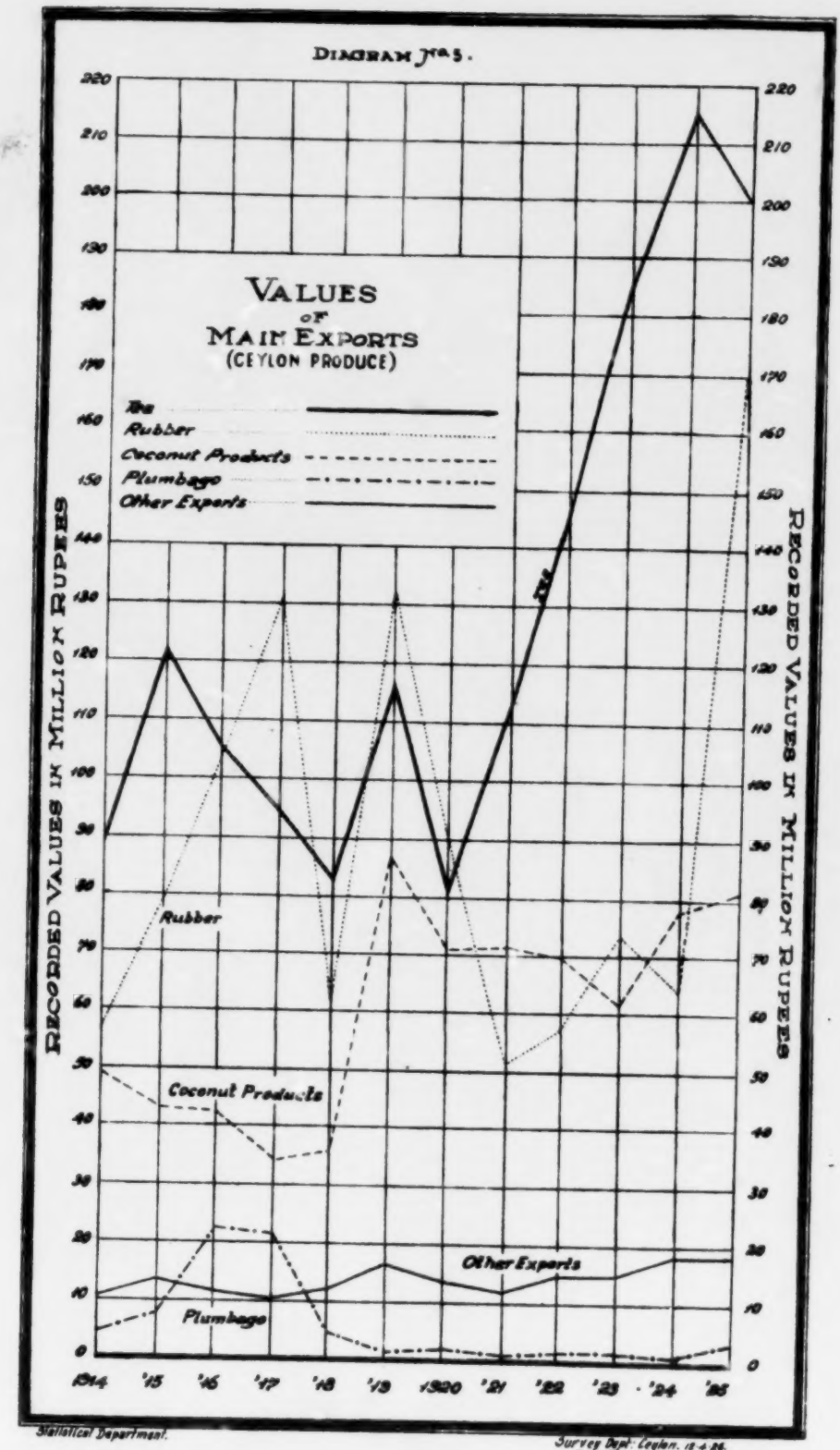
Year.			Quantity. Cwt.		Value. Rs.
1924	..	..	166,564	..	5,774,905
1925	..	..	170,952	..	6,281,736

Aluminiumware.—The United Kingdom improved her position, supplying 877 cwt. valued at Rs. 112,709 as against 483 cwt. valued at Rs. 70,820 in 1924, British India sent 206 cwt. as against 225 cwt. in 1924, Germany sent 204 cwt. as against 153 cwt. in 1924, and Switzerland sent 57 cwt. as against 51 cwt. in 1924.

Brass Alloys of Copper showed a slight decrease. The United Kingdom was a long way ahead of all other countries under all sub-heads except unspecified brass or copper manufactures, where British India led the way, with the United Kingdom close behind. The imports from Foreign Countries were mostly small, the only considerable import being of brass and copper rods, sheets, and strips from Germany. She, however, did not retain the first place under this sub-head, which she held in 1924. In 1925 Ceylon received 1,013 cwt. from the United Kingdom, 989 cwt. from Germany, and 199 cwt. from other countries.

Plate, Electro and Nickel.—In 1924 Germany supplied the greater quantity, though the United Kingdom led as regards value. In 1925 Germany fell back as regards quantity also, and the United Kingdom completely dominated the market.

Pig Lead.—Burma again supplied the bulk, the quantity imported from Burma being 115,041 cwt. valued at Rs. 2,880,430 out of a total import of 116,253 cwt. valued at Rs. 2,921,755.



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Tea Lead came mostly from the United Kingdom, but there was a decline from 16,301 cwt. to 13,368 cwt. from Great Britain. British India increased from 1,358 cwt. to 1,920 cwt.

Tin, Block and Slab, came mostly from the Straits Settlements.

Tin Manufactures not elsewhere specified came almost exclusively from the United Kingdom.

Tea and other Chests.—The number of chests imported increased by about 35 per cent. Japan supplied over three-fourths of the total imports, and the greater part of the rest came from the United Kingdom. Apparently fewer locally-made chests were used this year, most of the requirements being met by imported chests.

Year.	No.	Value. Rs.
1924	2,328,477	4,157,865
1925	3,138,944	4,209,147

Precious Stones.—The duty recovered on the import of diamonds during 1925 was Rs. 220,675·42 on a value of Rs. 2,206,753·97. Of this duty Rs. 185,787·72 was refunded on subsequent re-exportation, the nett gain to revenue being thus Rs. 34,887·70.

Notes on the Principal Exports.

Tea.—The following table shows the quantities of tea exported during the last seven years in millions of pounds.

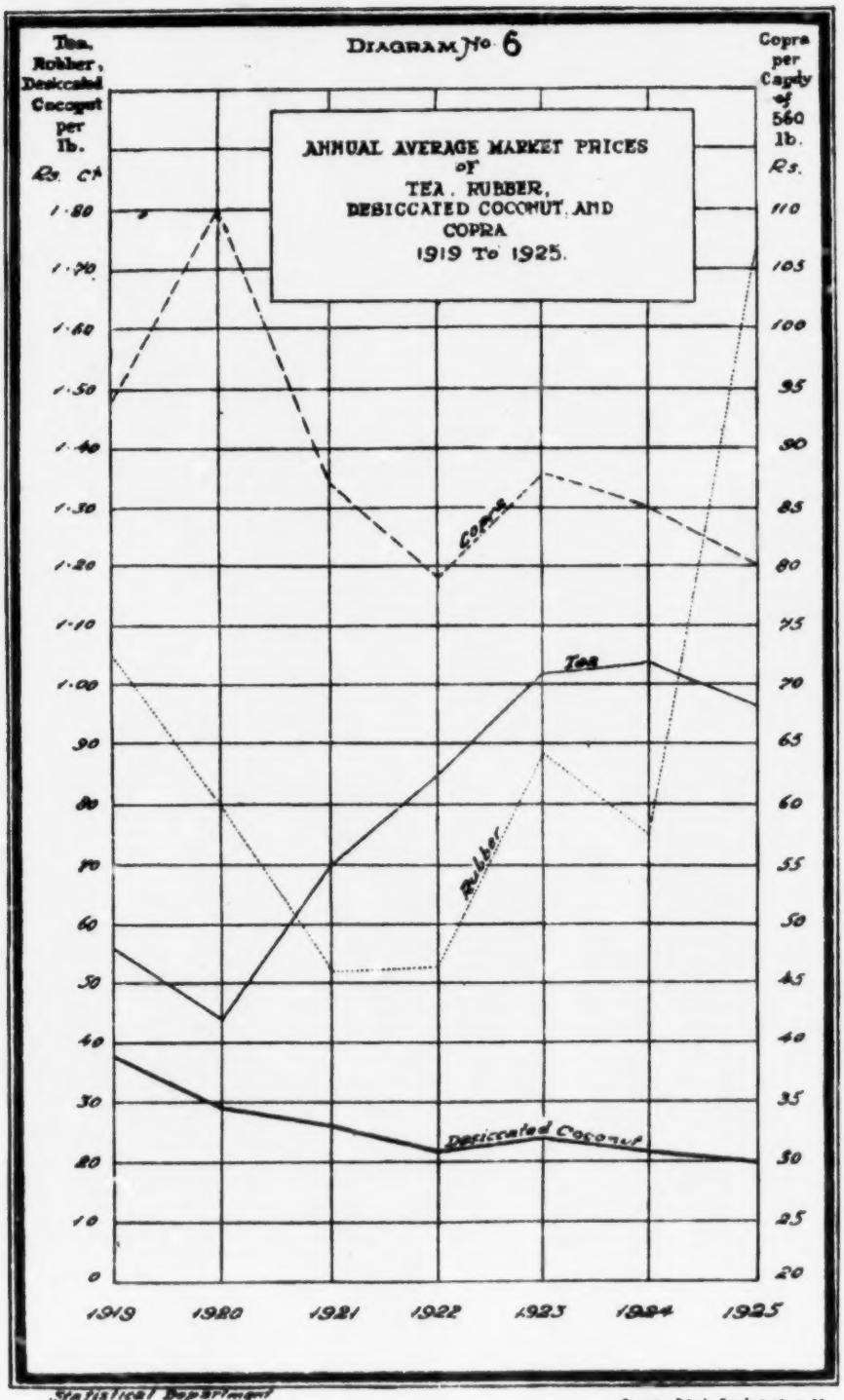
Though the quantity exported increased in 1925, the total value fell from Rs. 214,965,266 in 1924 to Rs. 199,697,534 in 1925. This was due to a fall in price, the average price for 1924 being Re. 1·05 a lb. and in 1925 95 cents a lb. The total export of tea in 1925 constitutes the second highest export on record, the highest being 215,632,727 lb. in 1915, but in that year the value was only Rs. 122,457,825 :—

Year.	Million Pounds.	Year.	Million Pounds.
1919	208	1923	182
1920	184	1924	205
1921	161	1925	210
1922	172		

The United Kingdom took two-thirds of the total exports. After the United Kingdom, Australia and the United States of America are Ceylon's two best customers, each taking about 7½ per cent. The exports to New Zealand increased considerably, and she was Ceylon's fourth largest customer. There was a slight fall in the export to Canada, which receded from the fourth to the fifth place. A notable feature of the year was the re-entry of Russia into the market as a considerable purchaser of Ceylon tea. In 1924 Russia took 110,691 lb. only. In 1925

the quantity increased to 1,335,092 lb., and she became Ceylon's largest foreign buyer apart from the United States of America.

	1925. lb.	1924. lb.	Increase. lb.	Decrease. lb.
United Kingdom	134,163,128	132,886,382	1,276,746	—
British Possessions.				
Australia	15,344,990	15,460,636	—	115,646
British East Africa	167,946	81,987	85,959	—
British India	1,287,072	1,575,906	—	288,834
Canada	6,571,768	7,963,614	—	1,391,846
Cape Colony	2,012,429	2,958,063	—	945,634
Egypt	6,254,409	4,494,973	1,759,436	—
Hong Kong	209,815	159,928	49,887	—
Malta	116,630	79,935	36,695	—
Mauritius	339,379	349,538	—	10,159
Natal	3,699,441	3,096,665	602,776	—
Newfoundland	673,962	689,060	—	15,098
New Zealand	7,017,024	5,884,136	1,132,888	—
Other British Possessions in Africa	524,796	653,929	—	129,133
Other British Possessions in Asia	5,539,741	4,591,331	948,410	—
Straits Settlements	1,161,491	976,775	184,716	—
Zanzibar	229,512	133,015	96,497	—
Other British Possessions	89,227	68,341	20,886	—
	51,239,632	49,217,832	4,918,150	2,896,350
		Deduct Decrease	2,896,350	
		Nett Increase	2,021,800	
Foreign Countries.				
Chili	125,510	204,225	—	78,715
China (excluding Hong Kong)	1,263,723	136,985	1,126,738	—
France	915,020	927,362	—	12,342
Germany	726,189	695,132	31,057	—
Italy	258,558	264,213	—	5,655
Japan	170,614	465,875	—	295,261
Mozambique	207,069	154,087	52,982	—
Other Foreign Countries in Africa	520,755	295,774	224,981	—
Persia	326,065	6,925	319,140	—
Roumania	237,180	78,433	158,747	—
Russia in Asia	154,608	20,492	134,116	—
Russia in Europe	1,335,092	110,691	1,224,401	—
South America (excluding Chili)	1,100,971	1,399,780	—	298,809
Turkey in Asia	286,466	770,216	—	483,750
Turkey in Europe	229,007	162,622	66,385	—
United States of America	15,836,819	16,309,413	—	472,594
Other Foreign Countries	604,233	756,467	—	152,234
	24,297,879	22,758,692	3,338,547	1,799,360
		Deduct Decrease	1,799,360	
		Nett Increase	1,539,187	
Ships' stores	90,745	67,401	23,344	
Total	209,791,384	204,930,307	4,861,077	



Statistical Department

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Rubber.—Rubber remained under control throughout the year, and the export consequently depended on the quantity released. At the beginning of the year the authorized export was 50 per cent. of the standard production. This was successively increased to 55 per cent. in February, 65 per cent. in May, 75 per cent. in October, and to 85 per cent. in November. The total export of rubber increased by nearly 23 per cent. over the figure for 1924 to 102,185,442 lb., whilst the value of the exports increased by about 167 per cent. The year has, therefore, been a remarkable one for the industry, which at its conclusion was in a very prosperous condition. The principal buyers were the United States of America, which took about two-thirds of the whole, and the United Kingdom, which took about one-quarter. Germany took the third place with 3½ per cent. of the total. Australia shows a noticeable increase from 343,395 lb. in 1924 to 2,022,183 lb. in 1925, and she now occupies the fourth place.

Year.	Quantity. lb.	Value. Rs.
1924	82,960,851	63,749,711
1925	102,185,442	169,992,247

Rubber latex, which is exported almost exclusively to the United Kingdom, shows a great falling off. 26,545 gallons were exported in 1924, but only 6,748 gallons were exported in 1925.

Coconut Products.—The exports of the three principal coconut products during the past six years have been—

Year.	Desiccated Coconut. Cwt.	Copra. Cwt.	Coconut Oil. Cwt.
1920	518,735	1,357,870	507,527
1921	870,515	1,367,431	484,724
1922	768,215	1,686,589	554,626
1923	818,793	1,015,465	480,543
1924	871,341	1,769,189	552,633
1925	794,161	2,273,717	616,917

The values entered for these three products in 1924 and 1925 were as follows :—

Year.	Desiccated Coconut. Cwt.	Copra. Cwt.	Coconut Oil. Cwt.
1924	21,963,695	31,008,191	15,826,782
1925	18,777,509	38,267,912	16,812,750

The total value of the exports of these three products, therefore, amounted to Rs. 73,858,171 in 1925 as against Rs. 68,798,668 in 1924, an increase of over 7 per cent.

The industry, as a whole, enjoyed a fair measure of prosperity, but the millers of desiccated nut and oil suffered from the preference given to copra.

Desiccated Coconuts.—The fall in quantity exported was due to decreased buying in the three chief purchasing countries: the United Kingdom, the United States of America, and Germany. The figures for these countries are: 1925, United Kingdom 275,594 cwt., United States of America 207,335 cwt., Germany 118,440 cwt.; 1924, United Kingdom 282,156 cwt., United States of America 251,759 cwt., Germany 140,864 cwt. The average price was 21 cents per lb. in 1925 and 23 cents per lb. in 1924. This industry has been carried on with considerable difficulty during the year. The market in the United States of America is being captured by the Philippine Islands, with whom Ceylon finds it difficult to compete. This, coupled with over-production consequent on the reaction after the post-war boom and other causes, resulted in a fall in prices until the commodity barely realized the cost of production. Application was made to Government with a view to devising some measure of relief, and the matter has been referred to the Taxation Commission now sitting.

Copra.—Italy took the place of Denmark as the largest buyer with 598,852 cwt., Denmark took 457,061 cwt., Germany 418,075 cwt., Norway 328,987 cwt., Holland 202,316 cwt. No other country took more than 90,000 cwt. The United Kingdom only took 37,699 cwt., as against 69,719 in 1924.

The average price was Rs. 16·83 per cwt., as against Rs. 17·53 in 1924.

The large increase in the exports of copra has reacted on the exports of desiccated nut and fresh nuts.

Coconut Oil.—The United Kingdom remained the largest purchaser of coconut oil, taking 137,618 cwt., an increase of 43,006 cwt. over the figure for 1924. Denmark took second place with 105,048 cwt., British India was third with 90,019 cwt., a large increase over the amount taken in 1924, Egypt took 66,432 cwt., Italy 57,794 cwt., Norway 41,603 cwt., and Sweden 30,823 cwt.

The average price was Rs. 27·25 per cwt. in 1925 and Rs. 28·64 per cwt. in 1924.

Other Coconut Products.

Fresh Coconuts.—There has been a considerable fall in the number and value of fresh coconuts exported. Ceylon's chief customer was again the United Kingdom, which took slightly more than 9¼ million nuts, as against rather less than 12½ millions last year. Egypt took the second place, which was

held by Germany last year with nearly 7¾ million nuts, an increase from 4¾ millions last year. Germany dropped from 7¾ million to 3¼ millions.

Year.			Quantity. No.		Value. Rs.
1924	..	..	29,121,041	..	2,499,088
1925	..	..	23,288,786	..	1,940,622

Coir Rope.—The only country taking any considerable quantity of coir rope was the Straits Settlements. In 1925 this country received 19,738 cwt. valued at Rs. 274,738 out of a total export of 20,123 cwt. valued at Rs. 280,145. The total exports for 1924 were 19,502 cwt. valued at Rs. 272,983.

Coconut Poonac.—The greater part of the export of coconut poonac goes to Belgium and Germany. Belgium dropped from 132,816 cwt. in 1924 to 93,013 cwt. in 1925, whilst Germany increased from 22,610 cwt. in 1924 to 71,988 in 1925.

Year.			Quantity. Cwt.		Value. Rs.
1924	..	..	156,251	..	942,685
1925	..	..	168,839	..	1,135,084

Coir Fibre Bristles.—The chief purchasers of this commodity were, as in 1924, Japan with 41 per cent. of the total export, Belgium 19 per cent., France 15 per cent., Germany 9 per cent., United Kingdom 8 per cent.

Year.			Quantity. Cwt.		Value. Rs.
1924	..	..	168,247	..	2,024,939
1925	..	..	160,104	..	1,227,726

Coir Mattress Fibre.—Of the total quantity of 300,141 cwt. exported, United Kingdom took 28 per cent., Australia 12 per cent., Germany 12 per cent., Natal 10 per cent., Belgium 9 per cent.

Year.			Quantity. Cwt.		Value. Rs.
1924	..	..	312,245	..	922,671
1925	..	..	300,141	..	712,521

Coir Yarn.—Nearly half of the total export went to the United Kingdom and nearly quarter to Germany.

Year.			Quantity. Cwt.		Value. Rs.
1924	..	..	117,199	..	2,140,753
1925	..	..	131,387	..	2,142,128

Cacao.—The two chief purchasers of this product are the United Kingdom and the Philippine Islands, with the United States of America as third, but far below. The Philippine

Islands superseded the United Kingdom for the first place this year, taking 36½ per cent. of the total export. The United Kingdom took 34 per cent. and the United States of America 10½ per cent.

Year.			Quantity. lb.		Value. Rs.
1924	..	..	7,767,320	..	2,464,103
1925	..	..	7,704,253	..	2,318,579

Cinnamon.—There was a decrease of 11 per cent. in the quantity exported, but better prices were realized, and the total value of the export exceeded that of the previous year by nearly 9 per cent. The United States of America was the best customer, as in 1924, with 10,136 cwt., a decrease of 2,196 cwt. from the previous year. Spanish purchases increased from 5,964 cwt. to 8,302 cwt., and she took Germany's place as the second largest customer. Germany took 4,864 cwt. as against 8,824 cwt. in 1924, and the United Kingdom took 4,396 cwt. as against 6,966 cwt. in 1924.

Year.			Quantity. Cwt.		Value. Rs.
1924	..	..	47,484	..	2,905,175
1925	..	..	42,360	..	3,167,982

Citronella Oil.—There was a decrease of a little over 1 per cent. in quantity exported and of 23 per cent. in value, showing a considerable fall in price. The United States of America remained the best customer, with 44 per cent. of the total export. The United Kingdom, Germany, and Australia were the next best customers, taking 23 per cent., 8 per cent., and 6½ per cent. respectively.

Year.			Quantity. lb.		Value. Rs.
1924	..	..	1,433,381	..	2,941,291
1925	..	..	1,415,639	..	2,259,465

Arecanuts.—The export of arecanuts increased by about 18 per cent. in quantity and 23 per cent. in value over the figures for 1924. As usual, the bulk of the export was to British India, which took 143,537 cwt. valued at Rs. 3,768,731, as against an export of 120,411 cwt. valued at Rs. 3,014,784 in 1924. The only other considerable export was to the Maldive Islands, which took 5,112 cwt. valued at Rs. 121,705.

Year.			Quantity. Cwt.		Value. Rs.
1924	..	..	130,904	..	3,294,961
1925	..	..	154,291	..	4,046,244

Sisal Hemp.—Almost all the sisal hemp exported went to the United Kingdom, as in previous years.

Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1924	1,037	37,330
1925	3,422	87,181

Plumbago.—There has been a large increase in the demand for Ceylon plumbago, and exports this year were nearly 60 per cent. in excess of those in 1924, whilst the total value of the export has increased by 124 per cent. The average value per ton as declared by shippers has increased from Rs. 138 in 1924 to Rs. 193 a ton. The rise in the quantity of plumbago exported was due to increased demands from the three chief importing countries, as indicated in the following table :—

	1924.		1925.	
	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
All countries	193,017	1,329,125	308,523	2,983,389
United States of America	67,685	412,222	117,364	1,073,980
Germany	49,256	444,401	86,796	937,598
United Kingdom	28,248	142,981	51,064	475,870

The depression in this important industry has been made the subject of special investigations, the results of which were published in Sessional Papers V. and XII. of 1925. To give assistance to the industry, the export duty of 3 per cent. *ad valorem* and the import duties on certain explosives used largely in plumbago mining were removed as from October 3, 1925, on the understanding that the duties might be restored at some future date if the prosperity of the industry justified such action.

SHIPPING.

4,112 vessels entered the various ports of the Island, as against 3,858 in 1924. The tonnages were 11,517,519 and 10,649,557 respectively. The following table shows the classification under the four general heads :—

	1924.		1925.	
	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.
Merchant vessels (with cargo and in ballast)	2,599	9,196,469	2,677	9,671,318
Merchant vessels (called to coal and oil)	365	1,195,543	460	1,549,560
Native sailing vessels	836	81,131	918*	78,623
Warships and transports†	58	176,414	57	218,018
	3,858	10,649,557	4,112	11,517,519

* Includes 174 vessels with a tonnage of 4,513 tons that entered Pukulam, a temporary port opened during the pearl fishery.

† Warships' displacement tonnage.

The following table shows the comparative distribution of merchant vessels, including those which called only for the purpose of taking bunkers:—

Merchant Vessels, including those which called to Coal.

Nationality.	1924. Number.	1924. Tons.	1925. Number.	1925. Tons.
British	2,051	6,678,281	2,142	7,101,023
British Colonial	836	81,131	918	78,623
Total British Vessels	2,887	6,759,412	3,060	7,179,646
American	40	205,407	40	253,432
Danish	21	58,651	22	57,288
Dutch	204	872,278	217	948,402
Finnish	—	—	—	—
French	134	631,935	146	716,886
German	143	565,888	165	664,221
Greek	1	2,946	8	22,440
Italian	90	336,154	109	398,168
Japanese	175	804,112	186	835,278
Jugo-Slavian	—	—	3	7,033
Norwegian	69	124,369	63	112,465
Panamanian	1	7,990	—	—
Russian	2	7,113	1	2,604
Spanish	16	38,021	14	33,099
Swedish	17	58,867	21	68,539
Total Foreign Vessels	913	3,713,731	995	4,119,855

Excluding warships, transports, and merchant vessels which called only for bunkers, the distribution according to flags is as follows:—

Merchant Vessels, excluding those which called only to Coal or Oil.

Nationality.	1924. Number.	1924. Tons.	1925. Number.	1925. Tons.
British	1,768	5,732,009	1,805	5,956,258
British Colonial	836	81,131	918	78,623
Total British Vessels	2,604	5,813,140	2,723	6,034,881
American	38	197,543	39	248,671
Danish	19	53,721	20	51,672
Dutch	181	785,155	187	846,306
French	133	631,527	131	658,163
Greek	—	—	2	6,175
German	129	514,071	144	583,300
Italian	76	288,394	87	332,039
Japanese	170	789,885	180	815,866
Norwegian	51	98,854	49	79,167
Panamanian	1	7,990	—	—
Russian	1	2,953	—	—
Spanish	16	38,021	14	33,099
Swedish	16	56,346	19	60,602
Total Foreign Vessels	831	3,464,460	872	3,715,060

Colombo Oil Installation Scheme.

The percentage of oil-burning vessels calling at Colombo has shown an appreciable increase. A total of 388 steamers burning oil called during the year, as against 43 steamers burning oil or coal. In 1924 382 oil-burning steamers called at the port, as compared with 92 steamers burning oil or coal.

Part of the pipes and fittings for the duplication of the 10-inch pipe line from the harbour to the Kolonnawa Oil Depôt arrived in the Colony in December ; on receipt of the remainder of the material, expected to arrive in a short time, the work of the duplication will be commenced.

The two new steam-driven pumps ordered to replace the present fuel oil and kerosine and petrol pumps at the Boosting Station at the Graving Dock have not yet arrived, but it is understood that they will be delivered in the Colony in a short time. Pipe trenches for the supply of steam to these pumps from the Dock boilers have been partially constructed.

The three new oil-fired boilers for the Graving Dock were shipped in England at the end of December and arrived here on January 25, 1926. The work in connection with these boilers has now been taken in hand.

As the method of supplying electricity to the Kolonnawa Oil Depôt was unsatisfactory, the whole of the electric system at Kolonnawa was connected to the city mains at a cost of Rs. 10,860. The system is working satisfactorily.

A scheme to extend the electric lighting service to the unlighted coaling area, from the Admiralty Coal Sheds to the Block Jetty, is under the consideration of Government. It is expected that the scheme will be put through shortly. The work connected with the electric lighting of the coaling grounds between the Barge Repairing Basin and the Graving Dock has been completed.

During the year the following reductions in the Port Oil Charges were made :—

(*a*) The charge of Rs. 12 per 1,000 gallons on all petroleum imported or transhipped was reduced to Rs. 9 per 1,000 gallons. The new charge took effect from October 1, 1925.

(*b*) The working and maintenance charge of Rs. 2·60 per 1,000 gallons was reduced to Rs. 2·20 per 1,000 gallons. The reduced charge took effect from January 1, 1926.

The following amended charge was also introduced with effect from January 1, 1926 :—

"Vessels discharging or bunkering petroleum in bulk at the Oil Jetties, and at the same time unloading or loading any other cargo on, to, or from the Jetties will be liable to an additional charge at the rate of 5 cents per package unloaded or loaded."

During the year 1925 43 vessels discharged the following quantities of oil :—

	Tons.
Liquid fuel	175,415
Kerosine oil	18,256
Petrol	16,077

Two hundred and forty-one vessels were bunkered with a total quantity of 138,443 tons of oil.

Out of the 643 acres of low water area of the harbour, 110 acres have been dredged to 36 feet and over, 152 acres to between 36 feet and 33 feet, 138 acres to between 33 feet and 30 feet, and the remaining area of 243 acres has a depth of less than 30 feet.

There are three berths available at all seasons of the year for vessels drawing up to 33 feet, and it is hoped to increase this number to five shortly.

Deepening is at present being effected to 36 feet below low water ordinary spring tide for vessels drawing up to 33 feet of water.

The nett tonnage of vessels that entered the port of Colombo in 1925 amounted to 10,858,324 ; in addition, 57 warships and transports with a gross tonnage of 218,018 and 48 coasting vessels with a nett tonnage of 55,270 entered the port during the year.

The number of merchant ships of all nationalities visiting the port in 1913, 1923, 1924, and 1925, and their tonnage were as follows :—

Year.	Number of Vessels.	Tonnage.
1913	2,979 ..	9,475,893
1923	2,563 ..	9,006,640
1924	2,773 ..	10,013,951
1925	2,953 ..	10,858,324

The canal and the locks were maintained in good order during the year. The work of fixing fenders to the quay walls was completed. A new pair of inner lock gates was fitted during the year.

The lakeside warehouse was being used during the year by the Chief Engineer of Telegraphs for storing telegraph materials, as also a portion of the open ground adjacent to the warehouse.

The space under the two culverts connecting the Lakeside Store with the Lake Basin was used for a short period by the Colonial Storekeeper for stacking barrels of asphaltum.

The Director of Public Works anticipates that the San Sebastian Canal will be available for barges by about the end of September, 1926.

The traffic through the Lake to Harbour Canal has been increasing. The total number of lighters, launches, &c., passing through the canal during the year was 4,820, as against 4,662 in 1924.

The goods traffic for 1925 amounted to 3,947 tons of import cargo and 40,929 tons of export cargo, as against 3,020 tons of import cargo and 35,119 tons of export cargo in 1924.

The temporary Customs Offices which are to be used by the Customs Officers till the completion of the Customs House were taken over from the Public Works Department by the Harbour Engineer in October, 1925.

The work on the new Customs House at the Passenger Jetty was in progress throughout the year. The work is being carried out by the Public Works Department.

In connection with the Government Housing Scheme, it has been decided to put up four senior clerks' quarters and two junior clerks' quarters at the "Hill House" site at Mutwal at an estimated cost of Rs. 97,000. The building of these quarters will be proceeded with shortly. The erection of nine blocks of quarters for workmen, with three blocks of latrines at Bloemendahl road, Bloemendahl, is about to be commenced.

Two stretchers and a sling crate for use on board ships in the harbour have been provided at the Passenger Jetty. An ambulance for dealing with cases in the harbour is being constructed and will shortly be available for use.

A new Foreshore Police Station was opened at Kochchikade on December 1, 1925. All Police duties on the foreshore will now be dealt with from this station.

Graving Dock and Patent Slip.—Thirty-three vessels were docked during the year, and 57 vessels were taken on the Patent Slip; 26 vessels were fumigated.

The receipts from the Graving Dock and Patent Slip brought to account during the year 1925 were Rs. 116,370·26 and Rs. 7,753·50 respectively. The former shows a decrease of Rs. 14,411·83 below the previous year's figure (Rs. 130,782·09), but this was due to four of the ships docked in 1924 occupying the dock for long periods and paying more revenue. The Patent Slip was used in 1925 for longer periods by some vessels than in the previous year, and this accounts for the increase

of Rs. 2,399·28 in the receipts, as compared with Rs. 5,354·22 received in the previous year. Rs. 2,746·25 was received in respect of fumigation, as against Rs. 2,495 in 1924.

Finance.—The total expenditure of the Colombo Port Commission for the Financial Year 1924–25, including Rs. 54,762·84 chargeable to Loan Account in respect of the Oil Installations Scheme, Dredging Colombo Harbour, and Government House Scheme, was Rs. 2,674,289·34. Of this amount Rs. 26,472·40 was expended by the Public Works Department on work for this Department, and a sum of Rs. 118,821·53 was expended by the Colombo Port Commission on account of other Departments. The nett expenditure on Colombo Port Commission Services, inclusive of loan expenditure, was Rs. 2,555,467·81. The revenue during the same period was Rs. 5,400,575·15, inclusive of Rs. 857,217·68 from the Oil Charges levied at the port and from the rent of the Oil Depôts.

IV.—Land.

Land Settlement Department.

DESPITE the continued progress in land development for the last hundred years, a large proportion of the total area of the Island is still unoccupied and uncultivated. In general the title to such unoccupied areas is in the Crown, but the Crown has in the past, by custom and by enactment, recognized various claims of private title to land unoccupied or only recently occupied and developed.

The majority of these claims are extremely indefinite, and many are based on tradition alone, or on ancient grants the meaning and scope of which is frequently in doubt. Adjudication on such claims is further complicated by the nature of the law of inheritance in Ceylon and the system of undivided shares in land, so that the work of dealing with these claims is a matter of some complexity demanding much time and infinite patience.

This state of affairs has done much to retard the development of the Island, neither the Crown nor the claimants being in a position to give clear title or quiet possession to parties desirous of developing unoccupied land until all claims have been defined and adjudicated on.

Several attempts have been made to find a method of speedy adjudication on such claims, and finally in 1897 the Waste Lands Ordinance was passed, which gave to specially appointed officers of the Crown powers to inquire into claims and agree with claimants as to their settlement. This Ordinance contains provisions ensuring that all possible claims will be

discovered, and further, makes the final orders embodying the agreements arrived at instruments conferring title on the claimant or the Crown, as the case may be, while it is only where the Special Officer and the claimant fail to agree that the claim is referred to the ordinary courts for adjudication.

A few years after the passing of this Ordinance the Land Settlement Department was formed with a view to the systematic settlement of all classes of land where title is in dispute between the Crown and the subject. As the question of title is involved, accurate survey and frequent re-surveys are necessary, and the immediate settlement of the whole Island is therefore a task beyond the resources of the Colony. It has been necessary accordingly to concentrate the trained officers available on those districts where there is a demand for land, and settlement is therefore urgent, and in general also more complicated and difficult, while at the same time officers are being trained in areas, such as the dry zones of the north where land is of little value, and claims are few and comparatively simple, these areas being selected as far as possible where land development may be expected in the future.

This system, evolved by experience, has been found to work well, and the Department, by insisting on its officers inspecting every plot of land which they settle, and in general doing their work on the land, has gained the confidence and goodwill of the people. During the year under review 270,071 acres of all classes of land have been settled, and only four claims have had to be referred to the court for adjudication.

Since 1901 settlement surveys covering an area of 5,019,073 acres have been issued to the Department, and settlement of 3,920,284 acres is complete, leaving a balance of 1,098,789 acres in hand. Of this balance area, approximately 563,000 acres lie in the North-Central Province, 42,000 acres in the Galle District, 265,000 acres in the Hambantota District, 62,000 acres in the Kurunegala District, 106,000 acres in the Ratnapura District, 21,000 acres in the Kalutara District, and 27,000 acres in the Province of Uva, with smaller areas in Puttalam, Colombo, Trincomalee, and Matale Districts. The large areas in the North-Central Province and in Hambantota District include extents of 516,000 acres and 250,000 acres which have been surveyed on topographical plans and can be speedily settled. The real work lies mainly in the Ratnapura District and the North-Western Province. Nearly 145,522 acres of new block surveys and 92,198 acres of topographical surveys were issued during 1925 for settlement purposes. To deal with this increased output of plans a corresponding increase in the strength of the Settlement Department is required.

FORESTS.

Revenue.—The cash revenue of the Department, on account of timber, fuel, and minor produce, realized Rs. 656,192, against Rs. 558,103 in 1924 and Rs. 423,174 in 1923. This satisfactory progressive increase is derived mainly from the sale of satinwood for export at the Central Timber Depôt, Colombo, the transactions at which amounted to Rs. 199,068·50, a figure never before approached, and due mainly to the careful selection of logs sent to Colombo. More important, as indicating the stability of the local timber trade, if properly catered for, were the transactions of the Jaffna Depôt, amounting to Rs. 145,453, due mainly to the popularity of regular auction sales of palu (*Mimusops hexandra*), the only timber which commands a ready sale in the peninsula. At Trincomalee an increased demand for satinwood for shipment to South India improved the prospects of holding regular auction sales and developing trade with South India.

From inquiries made in England, it was ascertained that no reliance can be placed on a permanent demand for satinwood, though finely flowered logs would always be likely to find a ready market. America is, however, almost the only buyer at present, and the fashion changes for ornamental woods as for other things. Large stocks of satinwood are held in London, in transit, while there is private competition in Ceylon. These sales may therefore not hold, and though high prices are at present realized for this satinwood, it is deemed more essential to find local markets and so to develop them as to ensure a steadily increasing demand.

Exploitation.—The major exploitation of the Department was, as usual, carried out on behalf of other Departments, to which the following supplies were made over :—21,198 broad gauge and 21,594 narrow gauge sleepers and 225,869 cubic yards of firewood for the Railway Department, 57,234 cubic feet of sawn timber and 206,699 cubic feet of timber in the log to various Departments, which also removed small round timber to the number of 148,857 on licences. The value of these supplies amounted to Rs. 923,023·12 actual cost and Rs. 408,319·13 royalty, in all Rs. 1,435,148·23, against Rs. 1,452,637 in the previous year.

The depletion of the non-reserves, which were overworked in the early days of the sleeper supply, has brought to an end the prospects of any further large supplies of this material. Although the Department has up to date supplied close on 1½ million sleepers to the Railway Department, it is no longer possible, without subjecting the reserves to the same treatment

as the non-reserves, to supply more than one-tenth of the railway requirements, a quantity which makes no appreciable set-off against the cost of imported sleepers. In addition, the indents for log supplies are yearly on the increase, and the exploitation of reserved forests has now commenced on that account. The sleeper supply has therefore become a minor supply, combined with operations for log supplies, and must continue so to remain until the antiseptic treatment of timber becomes established in Ceylon. The non-reserves are now so depleted that supplies from them result in the delivery of much immature wood, and heavy rejections are made.

For the purpose of assessing the annual yield from the reserves under regulated management, stock mapping and enumeration are being pushed on as rapidly as circumstances permit, and exploitation on systematic lines has commenced in some of the reserves, regular cuttings being aimed at, by means of which the Department holds stocks of timber in readiness for delivery against requisition, instead of waiting for indents before making arrangements for felling contracts. This has proved highly advantageous to the Department and to indenting departments, while systematic enumeration has resulted in a better quality of timber being turned out.

Reforestation.—An addition of 2,082½ acres was made to regular plantations during the year, the chief contributors being the Uva Division with 385 acres, mainly patana, and the Eastern Division (South), which took over 453 acres of chena plantations from cultivators. Against this 815 acres were excluded, of which 608 acres were unsuccessful teak chena plantations in the Eastern Division (South), which had cost the Department nothing. The total area of regular plantations on December 31, 1925, was thus 11,986·50 acres. This area, however, includes much old scattered reforestation, not forming part of any definite progressive schemes, which are best indicated by the up-country fuel plantations, particularly Ohiya, the mahogany planting scheme in the Southern Division (East), the jak areas of the Western Division and Sabaragamuwa, the teak chena reforestation in the Southern Division (East), and nedun planting in the North-Western Division. In addition to the formation and maintenance of new areas, much work of a purely experimental nature has been carried out under the Development Branch, which has been formed for the purpose of co-ordinating the work of reforestation and laying the foundations of properly organized commercial planting schemes. Experimental work has hitherto been absent from the operations of the Department, and is considered to be of the utmost importance and urgency in

formulating reconstructive schemes for the future. All divisions participated in the work, and results to date, both positive and negative, are satisfactory.

The Tea Chest Industry.—The local tea chest trade is greatly depressed owing to outside competition, and by the end of the year had practically ceased to exist. The Department had made every effort to assist the industry by arranging a lease, on exceptionally favourable terms, for the commercial utilization of 1,000 acres of suitable forest, which, if successful, it was intended to expand and extend to other large blocks, for the exploitation of their natural contents, with provision for forest improvement and regeneration. This has failed to materialize through default of the lessee. The question is being considered from two aspects, viz., from the point of view of employment—by the Unemployment Committee—and from that of growing suitable timbers within the country. While time is being given to test the acclimatization of coniferous softwoods up-country, it is intended to formulate a low-country scheme for indigenous softwoods, accessible, where possible, to river transport. Experiments are in progress to test the germinating powers of suitable species and the correct method of growing them in association with other species, clearfelling operations being avoided.

Navigability of the Mahaweli-ganga.—As the result of an inquiry from South India for the sustained output, on a large scale, of firewood for a number of years, authority was obtained to send an officer to South India to inquire into the needs of various towns on the coast, in respect of timber and firewood. Arrangements have been made for a detailed inspection of forests in the Mahaweli-ganga basin for the preparation of a report on the question of floating supplies to Trincomalee and organizing trade with South India on a large scale. The full results will appear in the 1926 Report.

Regeneration of the Dry Zone Hardwood Forests.—The artificial regeneration of the dry zone forests is the most difficult sylvicultural problem which the Department has to face. Good progress is being made with the stock mapping and enumeration of reserves and proposed reserves, which it should be possible to continue at the rate of 100 square miles per annum, but whereas these forests, or the better stocked portions of them, may under treatment yield adequate supplies of hardwoods for two felling rotations, the lower age classes are, in most cases, hardly represented at all, and the rebuilding of selected portions of these forests with concentrated stands for future exploitation presents unique difficulties which will not be solved without patient and prolonged experiment.

The methods so far tried have proved far too costly, except in cases where inferior species can be removed for fuel, and natural regeneration can be obtained. Such cases are, however, rare. In the majority of cases re-stocking can only be effected by artificial means, while the dangers of drought, cattle grazing, weeds, and wild animals cannot be over-estimated, and thinnings will for the most part be unremunerative.

The Forest Committee.—The Forest Committee held four sittings during the year. The Acting Conservator of forests forwarded a report which dealt with outstanding Forestry questions for the information of the Committee in their final deliberations on the 1921 report of the Forest Adviser. This memorandum deals with the economic objects for which state and communal reserves are to be formed and managed, the future sylvicultural treatment as affecting the reselection of the reserves, with the classes and quantities of timber eventually to be produced, aiming at an ultimate total output of 20,000,000 cubic feet of commercial timbers ; the reselection of the reserves, the administration of other Crown forests, the augmentation of superior and subordinate staff necessary for carrying out the policy, if adopted, and the financial forecast, outlining the great economic gain which would result to the Colony. The Conservator of Forests is of opinion that if the proposals are adopted and funds are provided for the necessary staff and the carrying out of the programme, a long period of great activity and intensity lies in front of the Department, which eagerly awaits the advent of constructive forestry, as opposed to present non-intensive forest conservancy. The full report of the Committee is expected to be issued in 1926, and should be of the greatest interest.

The Development Branch of the Department was unable to function regularly for the greater part of the year, as the officer in charge was called upon to administer the Department from April to the end of the year. As far as practicable, development work was combined with administrative duty, but experience shows that work of this nature cannot make progress unless freed from administrative routine.

Salt.

The manufacture, collection, and sale of Ceylon salt constitute a Government monopoly, which is protected by a duty of Rs. 3 per cwt. on all imported salt. The amount realized by its sale from Government depôts during 1925 was Rs. 1,345,658·26. To this figure should be added the sum of Rs. 471,408·25 credited to revenue under Head 1 "Customs" as duty on

Indian salt imported into Ceylon during the second half-year, so that the actual revenue derived by Government from salt was Rs. 1,817,066·51, as against Rs. 1,746,585·90 in 1924 and Rs. 1,767,421·82 in 1923.

The local production during the year was under the average. The salt pans at Chiviyateru in the Northern Province were closed in 1924 on account of the inferior nature of the salt produced there, and no salt was harvested in that Province except that manufactured in the Government Saltern at Elephant Pass and a small quantity collected at the Karanavai Lewayas. At Puttalam, the largest producing centre, where the salt pans are privately owned, the output was very small, as only a few pan owners took out licences to manufacture. The harvest at Hambantota during this Maha season proved disappointing on account of unseasonable rains. The total yield for the Island during 1925 was 405,267 cwt., as against 185,261 cwt. in 1924 and 565,576 cwt. in 1923. The distribution of the harvest was as follows :—

	Cwt.
Puttalam District (estimated)	22,599
Hambantota District	94,082
Jaffna District	6,641
Trincomalee District	65,067
Elephant Pass (Government Saltern)	181,556
Palavi (Government Saltern)	35,322
Total ..	405,267

The figures for Puttalam District are based on estimates of unweighed salt in manufacturer's kottus, and the usual increase of 25 to 30 per cent. which may be expected on these estimates when the salt is received on to the platform will not materially affect the total output, which represents less than two-thirds of a year's supply for the Island's consumption.

The normal production and distribution of salt in the Island was considerably affected by the refusal of the larger pan owners at Puttalam to manufacture at the usual rate of 40 cents offered by Government per cwt. and the disappointing harvest at the Hambantota Lewayas. The stocks at Puttalam and Hambantota, two of the largest distributing centres, were consequently very low, and, as it was considered advisable to conserve the stocks elsewhere, it was decided by Government to permit Indian merchants to import salt from Tuticorin and sell in Colombo to the wholesale traders after paying the usual import duty of Rs. 3 per cwt. The stocks at Hambantota had also to be supplemented by salt shipped from Trincomalee. In order to prevent Ceylon salt from underselling imported Indian salt in the south-western portion of Ceylon, restrictions were placed on the issue of Ceylon salt, to those districts,

from their usual sources of supply. It was also necessary to raise the selling price of Ceylon salt slightly at these centres in order to discourage evasion of the restrictions. The price charged for salt issued to retail dealers and fish-curers *ex* Government stores at Batticaloa, Kalmunai, Akkaraipattu, and Pottuvil in the Eastern Province was not affected by these measures. When the stocks in the Island have increased sufficiently to justify the stoppage of imports from India, it will be possible to revert to normal prices and methods of distribution.

The total stocks in the Island at the end of 1925 amounted to 619,767 cwt., including the 22,599 cwt. of unweighed Puttalam salt referred to above, or, roughly, about 626,000 cwt. This will be barely sufficient to meet the demands of the public for 12 months, and it is hoped that the present period of conservation of stocks and the increasing output at the Government Saltern at Elephant Pass will in due course make the Island independent of imported salt.

The reorganization of the Salt Department under the direction of the Salt Adviser was continued during 1925. The construction of the Elephant Pass Saltern was completed. The manufacturing season was generally favourable at both the Government Salterns, and the output was much larger than in the previous year. The construction of a permanent bund at Palavi to enclose a large area of the Puttalam lake reservoir to serve as a condenser was carried on throughout the dry weather. The bund is expected to be completed in 1926, when the output at the Palavi Saltern will be materially increased with corresponding reduction in cost. Sales of salt from the Elephant Pass and Palavi platforms to the public were continued until August, after which sales from Palavi were discontinued altogether, the new harvest being kept in reserve. Sales from Elephant Pass were restricted to retail dealers in the Northern and North-Central Provinces only. A total of 205,288 cwt. of salt was thus sold from these salterns realizing Rs. 625,128·40. The Salt Adviser was also engaged during the latter part of the year in constructing two storage platforms at Nilaveli in Trincomalee District on the same plan as the one at Puttalam. These when completed will replace the old salt stores, which do not afford adequate protection against wastage.

Survey Department.

The principal operations of the Survey Department for the period under review comprised block, application, topographical, irrigation, forest, and town surveys and levelling operations.

Block Surveys.—These consisted of 144,884 acres of new work, and 79,150 acres of topographical inset surveys.

The following plans were issued during the year :—

Block survey plans of 278 villages containing 22,326 lots covering an area of 144,890 acres. Two topographical preliminary plans, containing 87 lots covering an area of 92,198 acres.

Surveys of 94 settlement and demarcation questions, together with the surveys of 411 Settlement Officer's applications, were completed and plans sent to the Settlement Officer.

Forty-nine advance extract plans consisting of 328 lots and covering an area of 787 acres were issued in connection with the surveys of Crown requisitions and applications in the block survey areas.

The total area now covered by block surveys is 2,906,646 acres, and topographical inset surveys 2,152,099 acres.

Application Surveys.—139 final village plans for 67,970 acres in 5,116 lots were issued to the Government Agents and Assistant Government Agents during the year. The total area covered by the final village plans in the hands of the Government Agents and Assistant Government Agents now stands at 1,961,470 acres contained in 67,052 lots on 3,070 final village plans. 1,255 preliminary plans for 18,695 acres in 6,575 lots were forwarded to the Government Agents, Assistant Government Agents, and the Settlement Officer. 599 supplementary surveys consisting of 3,331 lots covering 12,782 acres have been made and inserted on final village plans and preliminary plans already issued. 786 applications covering 2,737 acres were surveyed for paddy, 148 applications covering 4,701 acres for tea, 51 applications covering 564 acres for rubber, 40 applications covering 1,893 acres for tea and rubber, 377 applications covering 1,140 acres for coconuts, 915 applications covering 3,072 acres for native cultivation, 435 applications covering 763 acres for building purposes, 38 applications covering 838 acres for citronella, and 1 application covering 40 acres for fuel.

There has been a further increase in the demand for land during the year.

258 acquisition preliminary plans, including supplementaries to final village plans, for 948 acres in 1,622 lots were forwarded to the Hon. the Colonial Secretary.

Topographical Surveys.—The survey of the small islands in the north, which was all that remained to complete the topographical survey of Ceylon, was carried out early in the year and the first layer map of Ceylon has now been issued.

Forest Surveys.—Five forest survey preliminary plans for 13,379 acres in 194 lots were issued during the year. Three forest reserve topographical plans covering an area of 257,218 acres were issued in addition to the above.

Irrigation Surveys.—One irrigation preliminary plan for 710 acres in 657 lots was issued during the year.

Town Surveys.—The principal operations for the period under review comprised 2,356 acres. A further extent of 1,360 acres of town survey detail was completed by plane table for the issue of a small scale plan. Three town survey preliminary plans for 1,031 acres in 640 lots were issued.

New skeleton town plans were issued during the year for Matale, the northern portion of Batticaloa, Eravur, and Trincomalee.

Triangulation.—Local schemes of minor triangulation were completed over areas in three Provinces totalling about 550 square miles.

Three to five triangulators were employed during the year. They used 5 in. Micrometer Watt's Theodolites (reading by interpolation to 1 second of arc).

Levelling.—The new precise levelling of Ceylon will consist of about 28 closed figures, of an average perimeter of 120 to 150 miles.

The construction of 31 fundamental bench marks was carried out during the year, which, with 6 constructed in 1924, leaves 23 to be still completed. Of these 23, sites have been selected for 9, and it is intended to complete the construction of all the fundamental bench marks required during 1926.

In addition, the intermediate bench marking and revision of 722 miles of roads was completed during the year, 1,235 bench marks having been constructed. It is expected that levelling will be re-started in 1926.

Tide Gauges.—A site for a tidal observatory has been selected at Trincomalee. It is intended to utilize the Harbour Works automatic tide gauge at Colombo for a re-determination of mean sea level at that port.

Meteorology : General Remarks.—There is a marked variation in climate between the different parts of Ceylon. In the low-country, with a mean temperature of the order of 80° F., a noticeable feature is the small range of both temperature and pressure. There is, however, wide divergence between the moist conditions in the south-west of the Island, where the average annual rainfall varies from 100 to over 200 inches, and the dry zone areas of the north, north-west, and south-east.

Altitudes up to 8,000 feet occur inland, and there the temperature is cooler, and shows a bigger range. There is a corresponding change in vegetation, and the conditions are altogether more akin to those in the temperate zone.

Rainfall.—The rainfall of 1925 was above the annual average over about three-quarters of the Island, though variations,

whether above or below, were in general smaller than in 1924. Three depressions that occurred in January, March, and November respectively were chiefly responsible for this result, as the rainfall during the south-west monsoon was on the whole below its average in the areas where the averages are highest.

The chief areas in which the averages for the year were not reached were—

(1) On the south-west shoulder of the main hills round Hatton and extending north-eastward to Hewaheta and northward to Ambegamuwa and thence westward to the northern part of the Kelani Valley to include Kitulgala, &c. ;

(2) A group of stations due south of Batticaloa ;

(3) A fairly wide strip of low-country extending on both sides of a line from Tabbowa (near Puttalam) through Anuradhapura to Trincomalee. Carney once again heads the list with 251·7 inches, or 18·2 inches above its own average, followed by Watawala 241·7, Ingoya 224·0, and Kenilworth 221·6. At the other limit, Ponparippu 38·2 was just below Mannar Waterworks 39·4, while the lowest average is still held by Marichchukkadi (34·5) with Ponparippu next (37·2).

Temperature.—Nuwara Eliya and Hakgala were the only stations whose mean temperatures for the year differed from their annual average by more than half a degree. The stations showing the highest mean shade temperature for the year was Trincomalee 83·1° F., and the lowest Nuwara Eliya with 59·9° F. The figures for Colombo and Kandy were 80·6° F. and 76·3° F. respectively.

The highest shade temperature in air recorded during the year was 99·6° F. at Batticaloa on August 28. The highest on record is 103·7° F. at Trincomalee on May 12, 1890. The lowest this year was 29·6° F. at Nuwara Eliya (6,000 feet above sea level) on February 20, at which station 27·1° F. was recorded in 1914.

The highest shade temperature at Colombo in 1925 was 92·3° F. on March 5, and the lowest 63·4° F. on February 21.

The mean daily range, *i.e.*, the difference between the mean of the maximum and the mean of the minimum, was highest at Badulla 18·2° F., and the lowest at Galle 8·0° F. At Colombo and Kandy it was 11·9° F. and 15·9° F. respectively.

The absolute range for the year, *i.e.*, the difference between the highest and the lowest readings actually recorded at any one station, was greatest at Nuwara Eliya 46·1° F., and lowest at Galle 19·6° F.

V.—Agriculture.

Tea.

THE tea industry has had a prosperous year. In the centre of the Island satisfactory crops were secured, and this was especially so in wet districts on the south-west side of the Island, as the south-west monsoon was exceptionally mild. Uva suffered from a severe and prolonged drought, and crops in this part of the Island were in consequence short. The total exports amounted to 208,464,971 lb. of black tea and 1,326,413 lb. of green tea of a total value of Rs. 199,697,534, as against an export of 203,278,476 lb. of black tea and 1,651,831 lb. of green tea of a total value of Rs. 214,930,307 in 1924. Prices were lower than during the previous year, and averaged in local sales 96 cent per lb. as against Re. 1·04. Prices declined during the early part of the year owing to large offerings of tea from India and Java, but improved from May onwards, particularly for high quality teas. A very high average standard of quality has been maintained during the second half of the year, and in consequence prices for Ceylon teas have stood at a higher average than those of other tea-producing areas.

Tea generally looks vigorous throughout the Island, and determined efforts are now being made upon estates to tackle the problem of soil erosion. Liberal cultivation and manuring programmes are generally adopted by all estates.

The shot-hole borer pest is less prevalent than it was some years ago, but is reported as being prevalent in some fields in a few areas. It has been demonstrated that the damage done by this pest can be repaired by liberal cultivation, and that nitrogenous manures give the best results. Several complaints have been received in regard to Tea Tortrix, but opinions on this pest differ very considerably. There are many estate superintendents who contend that this pest is less serious than it was years ago, while there are others who feel that it is on the increase. There would appear to be evidence that the area affected with Tea Tortrix has extended, and a survey is being carried out by the Entomological Division of the Department of Agriculture. Tea termites are also being investigated by the Department of Agriculture, as these pests are considered to be the most serious, affecting tea at the present time. The green bug was prevalent on some estates near Haputale and Bandarawela towards the end of the year, and this pest is likewise under investigation. The leaf disease caused by *Cercosporella theae* was the cause of the loss of a considerable amount of flush upon several estates in the Nuwara Eliya

District during the wet weather of the south-west monsoon. Branch cankers have also been under investigation, and a number of estates are testing the efficacy of various coverings or fillings. Further extensions of the area under tea have taken place during the year, and there has been a keen demand for tea seed at high prices. Permits were issued during the year by the Department of Agriculture for the removal of 4,020,253 plants.

Improvements continue to be made to factories and the programme of improvement of the labourers' housing accommodation. The Medical Inspectors report that a number of estates have reached the standard required, and that in a few years it is hoped that all housing of labourers will be up to the required standard. Very considerable sums of money have been spent in recent years upon the improvement of housing accommodation, and the fullest co-operation exists between the estate authorities and the Government medical service. There has also been during the year a substantial increase in the provision of latrine accommodation and improvement in water supplies. Infant welfare work has also been begun, and it is hoped that with the establishment of clinics infantile mortality will be reduced.

The Ordinance incorporating the Tea Research Institute was passed by the Legislature in October, and the collection of cess authorized by this Ordinance commenced as from November 12.

RUBBER.

The exports of rubber were restricted in accordance with the Stevenson Restriction Scheme during the year. The exportable maximum varied as follows :—January 50 per cent., February to April 55 per cent., May to July 65 per cent., August to October 75 per cent., and November-December 85 per cent. of standard production. The exports of rubber amounted to 45,618 tons of a value of Rs. 169,992,247, as against 37,036 tons of a value of Rs. 63,749,711 in 1924. The exports of latex amounted to 6,748 gallons of a value of Rs. 27,364, as against 26,545 gallons during the previous year. Stocks in godowns of members of the Colombo Rubber Traders' Association at the end of the year amounted to 4,421 tons. America and Canada still continue to be the largest purchasers of Ceylon rubber. The year saw the vindication of the Restriction Scheme with an average price at the Colombo auctions of Re. 1·73 per lb., as against 75 cents during the previous year. A marked rise in price took place early in May, and in July local sales were effected at Rs. 2·83 per lb. In August prices dropped, but later a steady rise occurred until the first sale in

December, when a price of Rs. 2·80 was secured for standard grades. The market was affected throughout the year by the speculative element, and considerable dealings in "Forward" deliveries were made. The steadily increasing demand for rubber with increasing prices has resulted in renewed confidence of all in the future of the rubber industry, which has again been re-established on a prosperous basis.

The qualities of both crepe and smoked sheet have been well maintained, and with the recovery of prices the manufacture of sole crepe and sole sheet has been reduced considerably. Less complaints are now being made in regard to "rust" on sheet, and in fact, there is, at present, no reason why this "rust" should exist. Mouldy sheet still occurs frequently, but this can be overcome completely by the use of paranitrophenol, and can be largely prevented by a modification in the process of smoking. The use of formic acid as a coagulant instead of acetic acid was begun during the year with a consequent reduction in the cost of coagulation.

The occurrence of an abnormal leaf fall occasioned by a species of Oidium has to be recorded. This disease, which has received the name "Hevea mildew," had not previously been recorded in Ceylon, although it had been reported from Java and Sumatra. The unusually wet weather in the early part of the year was possibly an important factor favouring the occurrence of disease. Leaf fall and pod disease occurred with the heavy rains of the south-west monsoon, but was not very severe. The treatment of root and bark diseases is becoming more and more general, and these diseases are now generally well under control. Brown-bast has become less prevalent, as the result of the conservative tapping carried on during the period of restriction.

Most estates are again adopting manuring programmes for rubber, and although increased yields are not generally directly resultant from these manurial applications, improved health and vigour is apparent in the trees, and evidence has been secured that a greater amount of leaf remains on the trees in manured areas after a serious attack of leaf disease than in the non-manured areas.

The Department of Agriculture made during the year various investigations in regard to Oidium leaf disease, and has assisted in popularizing the use of creeping green manure crops as a preventive against soil erosion and as a means of increasing the fertility of the soil. The Rubber Research Scheme has also done very useful work during the year in all its branches, and particularly in regard to the use of paranitrophenol and of formic acid, and in regard to the treatment and control of

various diseases. The members subscribing to this scheme at the end of the year numbered 199, and the total acreage represented over 60 per cent. of the total rubber area. With the improved outlook generally estates are arranging for further provision for better housing and sanitation for labour.

COCONUTS.

The exports of coconut products and their value during 1925 were as follows :—

			Value. Rs.
Coconuts, fresh	No.	23,288,786	1,940,622
Copra	Cwt.	2,273,717	38,267,912
Desiccated	Cwt.	794,161	18,775,509
Oil	Cwt.	616,917	16,812,750
Poonac	Cwt.	168,839	1,135,084
Fibre, bristle	Cwt.	160,104	1,227,726
Fibre, mattress	Cwt.	300,141	712,521
Coir yarn	Cwt.	131,387	2,142,128

The coconut industry had a prosperous year in 1925, and all exports were in excess of those of 1924, except fresh nuts, desiccated nut, and fibre. Prices, however, did not rule so high in 1925 as during the previous year. A marked increase in the export of copra is to be recorded, but complaints have been received from certain quarters in respect of the quality of this product. These complaints are under investigation, and it is to be hoped that an improvement in quality will be effected. A marked drop in the value of bristle fibre occurred during the year, as also in the prices realized for desiccated nut. As a consequence of the latter fall in price many mills were closed during the year and many of those changed hands. At certain times of the year the prices realized were hardly more than the cost of production, and, in consequence, this section of the coconut industry appealed to Government for a revision of the export duties leviable on this product. No material changes in methods of cultivation were effected during the year, and pests and diseases were generally not excessive. The outbreak of the coconut caterpillar in the Eastern Province has considerably lessened, and some useful work has been done by the Department of Agriculture in several districts through its Plant Pests and Diseases Division to control pests and to educate small growers in methods of estate sanitation.

CACAO.

The export of cacao amounted to 68,788 cwt. of a value of Rs. 2,318,579, as against 69,351 cwt. of a value of Rs. 2,464,103 during the previous year. The spring crop was small, but the autumn crop was above the average, and would have realized

good prices except for unfavourable weather conditions, which resulted in a high percentage of " Blacks." Prices were steady during the year, except during the last months of the year.

CARDAMOMS.

The exports amounted to 3,302 cwt. of a value of Rs. 1,149,192, as against 2,667 cwt. of a value of Rs. 197,139 during 1924. Prices were the highest reached for many years, and upon some estates considerable areas have been replanted.

CITRONELLA.

Exports amounted to 1,415,639 cwt. of a value of Rs. 2,259,465, as against 1,433,301 cwt. of a value of Rs. 2,941,291 during the previous year. Prices in the early part of the year were fairly high, but they declined in the later months. Inquiries continue for pure oil, but the bulk of the exports of Ceylon oil were of average quality. The question of adulteration has again been considered, but it is felt that this question must be left to the shippers.

CINNAMON.

Exports amounted to 30,244 cwt. of quills of a value of Rs. 2,967,153 and 12,136 cwt. of chips of a value of Rs. 200,829. These exports show a further decrease, which is the result of considerable areas of cinnamon being uprooted and the land planted with coconuts or rubber. Prices throughout the year were satisfactory.

FIBRES.

Exports of sisal hemp amounted to 3,422 cwt. of a value of Rs. 87,181. These were more than three times the amount of the exports of the previous year, and were the produce of the sisal plantation at Maha Iluppallama and the Government's experimental area at Anuradhapura in the North-Central Province.

The exports of kapok amounted to 3,966 cwt. of a value of Rs. 214,963—a considerable falling off in respect of the previous year.

Cotton cultivation in the Hambantota District is continuing to be fostered by Government, and a total of 1,293 cwt. of seed cotton was grown. This would have been very considerably higher if it had not been for heavy unseasonable rains during the month of January. The whole of this product was sold locally to the Colombo Spinning and Weaving Mills.

Miscellaneous.

Increasing demands for high grade papain continue, and extension of this cultivation has occurred in the Teldeniya area of the Central Province. Efforts to extend the cultivation of White Burley Tobacco in the Jaffna District were continued, and the exports of this product amounted to 15,057 lb.

The paddy crops were average, but in some areas considerable damage was done by floods. The question of a necessity for the improvement of drainage channels was prominent during the year and received the attention of the Legislative Council. The difficulties of cultivators under the Karachchi Irrigation Scheme were also carefully investigated, and several flood protection schemes in the Western Province advanced. Crops in the Batticaloa District were not very good during the year, and some distress occurred in the North-Central Province and in the Mullaittivu District of the Northern Province.

Co-operative Societies.

Financial aid to paddy growers and to village cultivators is being continued through co-operative societies. Sixty new societies were registered—the largest increase in any one year—and the total number of societies at the end of the year amounted to 299. There was a total of 33,630 members, and their paid-up share capital amounted to Rs. 333,299·12 and their deposits to Rs. 31,853·88. The amount standing to the credit of the reserve funds of all societies was Rs. 65,161·99 at the end of the co-operative year, April 30, 1925. Financial assistance from Government continues to be given to deserving societies, and 35 societies were assisted with loans amounting to Rs. 61,500 during the year. This is the largest amount lent by Government in any one year, and the amount of Rs. 108,900·96 loaned to 74 societies was outstanding at the end of the year, in addition to Rs. 93,574·73 issued by the Batticaloa Paddy Bank.

A markedly increasing interest was shown in the co-operative movement during the year, and there are signs that further progress may shortly be expected.

Infective Diseases.

Rinderpest.—The outbreak of rinderpest, which prevailed to a large extent in the Western Province during the previous year, continued to exist in Alutkuru korale north in Negombo District until April 18, when Siringapathe estate, the last place to be affected, was declared free.

The whole Island, except Alutkuru korale north, was thought to be free from rinderpest during January, but the disease broke out in February in Atakalan korale in Ratnapura District. The source of infection was not traced, and it is probable that the disease had remained in some part of the district, possibly in the jungle, since the outbreak there in November, 1924—an extension from the Western Province caused by transport cattle.

In June the infection spread to Hambantota District and three places in Uva. In Hambantota District the disease assumed serious proportions and infected the Game Sanctuary. At the close of the year the Eastern Province was threatened. Mr. Crawford, Deputy Government Veterinary Surgeon, was detailed on special duty, at the request of the Government Agent, Eastern Province, to supervise measures carried out on Pottuvil-Wellawaya and Wellawaya-Kirinda roads and at Kumbukkan-oya to prevent the Eastern Province from infection from the Southern Province.

During the year three outbreaks of rinderpest (11 cases) occurred in Colombo Town, the source of infection could not be traced.

Inoculation.—At Siringapathe estate, the last place where the disease existed in Western Province, 674 head of cattle, the property of villagers, were inoculated with anti-rinderpest serum at Government expense between March 13 and 16. As a further case of rinderpest occurred in one of the inoculated batches, 334 animals had to be re-inoculated between March 26 and 28, also free of cost.

After the second inoculation no cases occurred, which clearly demonstrated the value of serum inoculation.

Total number of cases for the year: 2,113 attacks, 1,699 deaths, 90 recoveries, 324 shot.

The following is a statement of serum issued free during the year :—

Province.	District.	Number of Animals inoculated.	Cubic Centimetres of Serum used.	Remarks.
Western	Negombo	1,008	30,500	—
Sabaragamuwa	Ratnapura	160	7,550	—
Southern	Hambantota	81	4,000	—
Uva	Badulla	116	3,615	—
		1,365	45,665	

Foot-and-Mouth Disease.—This disease occurred from time to time throughout the Island, except in the Northern Province. There were, however, 14 cases amongst cattle imported from India at the Quarantine Station at Kayts.

Although the loss from deaths due to foot-and-mouth disease is very low, yet the indirect losses from loss of work and interference with trade caused by restrictions on the movement of cattle in an affected area are considerable. The effects of the disease are disastrous to dairy cattle; after-effects may be loss of milking capacity, small calves at birth, growth of long hair, and general unthriftiness, and in many instances the sores are the seat of infection by the disease "Streptotricosis" or "Cattle Farcy," in which slow-forming cold abscesses form in various parts of the body, often associated with lameness and overgrowth and distortion of the hoofs and permanent disablement.

During the year 7,157 cases of the disease occurred in the Island, of which 99 died, 7,027 recovered, and 31 animals remained ill at the end of the year.

Osteitis Fibrosa (commonly known as *Osteoporosis*) continued to be a heavy source of loss to horse owners. Every opportunity was taken of studying the disease, but no connected work could be completed on account of interruptions caused by the pressure of administrative and other work.

Six ponies were procured from Delft island, where the disease does not occur, and these are the subject of a feeding experiment designed to test the theory that the disease is due to a deficiency of calcium or to lack of balance between calcium and phosphoric acid in diet, and also to determine whether it is possible to compensate for such deficiency by addition of organic and inorganic compounds of calcium, such as bone meal and calcium lactate.

Sufficient time has not yet elapsed to allow of any results being obtained from this experiment.

From post-mortem examinations of 8 horses it was found that 5 had ulceration of the stomach due to *Habronema muscae*, 3 of these had in addition gastric tumors due to *Habronema megastoma*. The ulcerations in all cases were very marked—a considerable proportion of glandular mucous membrane in the vicinity of the cuticular ridge being involved. There can be little doubt that such a condition by causing digestive disturbances and also by the toxic absorption which must have been considerable from such large areas would predispose the affected horses to *Osteitis Fibrosa*.

Piroplasmosis or "Red Water."—A few sporadic cases of the disease occurred in the Western Province and the Central Province among cattle. Cases of *Piroplasmosis* are common amongst imported dogs. Trypan Blue is very successful in the treatment of the disease.

Surra.—The disease occurred at Timitar estate in the Batticaloa District and in the Hambantota District during the year. There were 32 and 41 deaths in the two districts respectively. In Hambantota there was infection by both rinderpest and surra.

Tuberculosis.—Two cases in turkeys occurred during the year. No cases were detected in bovines or other animals. Forty-four cows were tested by the subcutaneous and opthalmic tests with a negative result in every case.

Haemorrhagic Septicaemia.—Ten cases in the Central and 8 in the Sabaragamuwa Provinces occurred during the year.

Coccidiosis.—No cases were met with during the year.

Anthrax.—At the Quarantine Station, Colombo, there were 263 cases of the disease among imported sheep and goats. In the Central Province the disease broke out among cattle in several places during the year. There were in all 40 deaths. The inoculation of contacts at several places proved to be effective in cutting short the spread of the disease. The disease in up-country estates is suspected to be due to the free use of bone meal as a manure on estates.

Rabies.—Eleven positive cases in the Western Province outside Colombo Municipal limits, 38 cases within Municipal limits of Colombo, 12 in the Central, 2 in Sabaragamuwa, 1 in North-Central, and 1 in North-Western Provinces were recorded.

The following statement has been supplied by the Director of the Pasteur Institute :—

Towns from which the Specimens were sent.	Number of Cases examined at the Pasteur Institute.	Number Positive.	Number Negative.	Unfit for Examination.
Colombo ..	68	38	20	10
Kandy ..	19	9	4	6
Kalutara ..	13	10	—	3
Ratnapura ..	5	1	—	4
Matale ..	3	2	1	—
Kurunegala	3	1	1	1
Nuwara Eliya	3	1	2	—
Galle ..	3	—	1	2
Nawalapitiya	2	—	1	1
Panadure ..	1	1	—	—
Kegalla ..	1	1	—	—
Avissawella ..	1	1	—	—
Anuradhapura	1	1	—	—
Matara ..	1	—	1	—
Chilaw ..	1	—	—	1
Jaffna ..	1	—	—	1
Total ..	126	66	31	29

510 persons were treated at the Pasteur Institute, Colombo, during the year 1925.

VI.—Public Works.

Public Works Department.

THE total expenditure of the Public Works Department has increased from Rs. 3,437,862 in 1896 to Rs. 19,308,974 in 1925, the latter figure showing an increase of Rs. 6,348,898 over that of 1924. The average annual expenditure during the past thirty years has been Rs. 7,864,945.

The total length of roads maintained by the Public Works Department during the year was 4,127 miles, of which 3,892 miles are cart roads and 235 miles are bridle roads.

Amongst the more important works carried out or in course of construction may be mentioned the following :—

General.—New Council Chamber and Secretariat ; " A " type Government bungalows (two) ; new Customs House at the Passenger Jetty ; extension to Government Printing Office ; additions to Colombo Museum ; improvements to Training College, Welikada Jail, and Hulftsdorp Law Courts ; new factory at Kolonnawa ; Chemical Laboratory, Peradeniya ; quarters for the subordinate officers of the Agricultural Department, Peradeniya ; main administration block, Peradeniya ; clerks' quarters, Nuwara Eliya ; improvements to Colonial Secretary's residence, Nuwara Eliya ; improvements to Public Works Department buildings at Hawa Eliya and Bambarakelle ; quarters for Salt Storekeeper, Kirinda ; additions and improvements to clerks' quarters, Hambantota ; extension to No. 3 Jetty, Galle Harbour ; Experiment Station and Agricultural School, Jaffna ; new Customs buildings, Talaimannar ; new arrack warehouse, Vavuniya ; salt stores, Trincomalee ; clerks' quarters, Kalmunai ; clerks' quarters at Chilaw, Kurunegala, and Puttalam ; bungalow for Manager, Experiment Station, Anuradhapura ; clerks' quarters, Anuradhapura ; Post Office, Koslanda ; clerks' quarters, Badulla ; quarters for the town overseer, Badulla ; improvements to Survey Camp and Ceylon Defence Force Camp buildings, Diyatalwa ; new bungalow for the Provincial Engineer, Ratnapura ; improvements to District Court, Kegalla.

Medical Buildings.—New Convict Hospital behind Welikada Jail ; new infectious diseases hospital, Colombo ; new Lunatic Asylum, Angoda ; additional accommodation, Medical Stores ; temporary office for the Director of Medical and Sanitary

Services; additions and improvements to Ceylonese nurses' quarters, General Hospital and Female Branch Hospital, Borella; improvements to the De Soysa Lying-in Home; new children's ward, Kandy hospital; additions and improvements to the hospitals at Matale and Madulkele; hospitals at Gampola and Bogawantalawa; apothecary's quarters at Dimbula and Uda Pussellawa hospitals; additions and improvements to the hospitals at Lindula, Dolosbage, and Nawalapitiya; additions and improvements to Galle hospital and Deniyaya hospital; hospitals at Chavakachcheri and Killinochchi; additions, Mannar hospital; new hospital, Trincomalee; new dispensary and quarters, Horowapotana; improvements to Anuradhapura hospital; District Medical Officer's quarters, Alutnuwara; additions and improvements to the hospitals at Koslanda and Lunugala; additions and improvements to the hospitals at Karawanella and Kitulgala.

Police Buildings.—Barracks for Pettah Police; barracks at Kochchikade for Foreshore Police; Police Training School, Bambalapitiya; police station at Talawakele; barracks for single men, Galle; quarters for the Superintendent of Police, Badulla.

Bridges.—Reconstructing bridges on 17th mile, Colombo-Galle road, and 16th mile, Panadure-Nambapana road; reconstructing Kotugoda bridge on 17th mile, Ja-ela-Kotadeniya road; rebuilding Mabole bridge; Gampola bridge; rebuilding bridges on the 69th and 85th miles, Bentota-Goiyapana road; rebuilding bridge on 3rd mile, Central road to Mullaittivu; rebuilding bridge on 7th mile, Puttalam-Kalaoya road; reconstructing bridge on the 5th mile, Bandarawela-Leangahawela road; bridges, Bevilla-Digowa estate cart road; renewing bridges on the 10th mile, Pindeniya road, and 40th and 41st miles, Avissawella-Ginigathena road; bridge over Kalu-ganga, Ratnapura.

Progress was also made with the Colombo Lake Development project; Hydro-Electric Scheme; improvements, Nawalapitiya town; Karaiur reclamation, Jaffna; drainage system, Jaffna town; Kurunegala water supply; raising road routes to Colombo above flood level; China Bay development; Matale, Puttalam, Galle, and Wattegama electric lighting; investigations for the Nawalapitiya, Trincomalee, Hatton-Dikoya, Jaffna, Peradeniya, Matara, Weligama, Gampola, Panadure, Moratuwa, Kurunegala, Ratnapura, Anuradhapura, Badulla, Ambalangoda, Mannar, Kegalla, Batticaloa, Rambukkana, and Kalutara electric lighting schemes; investigations for Chilaw and Negombo water supply and electric lighting schemes.

IRRIGATION.

Irrigation works in Ceylon are classified as—

(*a*) Major works.
(*b*) Village works.

Major works are all maintained and supervised by the staff of the Director of Irrigation from Government funds, and are liable to irrigation rates of some kind or another.

The financing of the construction of these works has been done originally by Government, but in the case of some works (which are termed " Aided Works ") the arrangement was that the actual cost of construction should be repaid to Government by instalments over a series of years, and the maintenance rate for these works is assessed quinquennially. In the case of the other major works termed " Perpetuity Rate Works," the construction cost was unreservedly met by Government, and an irrigation rate in perpetuity imposed on the lands, which rate when imposed was intended to cover the cost of maintenance of the works and also repay something in the shape of interest on the construction costs.

Village works are in the charge of the Government Agents, who have a number of field staff officers of the Irrigation Department lent to them to assist them with the technical supervision ; the maintenance as regards earthwork and clearing jungle and silt, &c., is done on a sharing system by the landholders under each work and regulated by special village work rules. The maintenance of the masonry works of village works is done from a Government vote to the Director of Irrigation, which is distributed to the different Provinces, and the work carried out by the village tank staff (advised by the Divisional Irrigation Engineers), unless the work is of considerable magnitude, when it would be done by the Director's staff.

The bunds of village works have in most cases been constructed by villagers themselves supervised by Government Agents' staff under different forms of permit, in many cases the people being allowed land under the works in proportion to the earthwork done; sluice (whether masonry or pipes) are provided from Government votes, and also masonry spills where they exist.

Landowners under village works pay no irrigation rates. Occasionally arrangements are made by agreement between Government and the proprietors by which a village work becomes a major work or *vice versa*, but instances of this are not frequent.

Under the Irrigation Ordinance of 1917 the control of paddy cultivation under all classes of works is in the hands of Government Agents.

The total expenditure of the Department for the financial year 1924–25 was Rs. 1,718,023·27, as compared with Rs. 1,529,203·03 for the previous year.

The usual work of maintenance was carried out during the year, and amongst the more important works constructed or in course of construction the following may be mentioned :—

Walawe Left Bank Scheme.—Work was continued on the construction of the bund of the main storage tank and the supply channel to the tank from the river. The tank sluice and the spill were completed and work was commenced on the site of the head sluice. The scheme is estimated to cost Rs. 920,618 and to irrigate 7,638 acres.

Tabbowa Scheme.—The raising of a portion of the main Puttalam-Anuradhapura road is nearing completion. The work of restoration of the tank and storage works is now practically complete. During the year work was mainly concentrated on the closing of the breach in the tank bund.

Karachchi Scheme.—Work was continued on the construction of the agricultural roads, and considerable progress was made on the auxiliary works on the channel system.

Neethaikulam.—The restoration of this abandoned tank was completed.

Unnichchai Scheme.—Construction of agricultural roads is in progress, and a start was made to protect the inside slope of Unnichchai tank bund with stone pitching.

Kirinde-oya Right Bank Scheme.—The improvement of irrigation facilities and construction of agricultural roads.

Dekinde-oya Anicut.—Masonry anicut and earth bank completed.

Nuwarawewa.—The extension of the right bank channel.

Bowetenne.—Improvements to channel and construction of an anicut across the Amban-ganga.

Nachchaduwa Scheme.—Construction of agricultural roads and improvement of irrigation facilities.

Sudupanawila-ela.—Construction of an agricultural road.

Kelani River Bund.—The work of raising and strengthening the bund was commenced.

Tangalla.—A new bungalow for the Divisional Irrigation Engineer was completed.

Pattipolai-aru Scheme.—Construction of agricultural road, including cart bridges.

Kalmunai.—Bungalow for the Irrigation Engineer.

Kalawewa Scheme.—Construction of channels.

Colombo South Flood Protection Scheme.—The closing of the bund at the Kolonnawa Gap in April completed the work of protection of Colombo South from Kelani river floods. The rainfall in Colombo during the year was exceptionally heavy, being much above the average, and the newly completed scheme was subjected to severe tests during the high floods of October and November, but no flooding was experienced within the protected area except that due to local rainfall.

Colombo North Flood Protection Scheme.—Considerable progress has been made with this work, which was commenced in January. The 6 large lock-gates, the necessary steel and iron work, and all 30 ft. piles are now on the site. The harbour railway embankment has been strengthened for 2 miles, and 2 railway bridge gaps filled in with earth. The work on the drainage tunnel to the outfall in fishery harbour is being carried on day and night, the tunnel being driven from both ends. Considerable difficulty has been met with in driving certain portions of the tunnel. Main drains have been dredged or excavated.

Village Works.—A sum of Rs. 54,863·09 was expended on maintenance, improvements, and construction.

Surveys and Investigations.—The principal surveys, investigations, or demarcations carried out were—Surveys in connection with Colombo Flood Protection schemes, investigations of tanks affecting the Ceylon Government Railways in the North and North-Central Provinces, Walawe Left Bank Scheme contours and tracing channels, Karachchi Scheme channels, survey of a new channel in connection with the Kirinde-oya left bank scheme and contouring of new land, Kirinde-oya Right Bank Scheme zone surveys, Tabbowa Scheme demarcating reservations and tracing channels, observations at Vadamaradchchi lagoon, Bowetenne channel survey, Kidavarankulam tank preliminary surveys, Giant's Tank Scheme agricultural roads and drainage, Walawe Right Bank Scheme surveys.

The number of Crown irrigation works is 184, under which 150,458 acres are at present irrigated.

Many improvements have been carried out to village works, and at present there are approximately 2,716 village tanks and elas in operation, a further number of 1,604 village tanks being under restoration.

Approximately 198,337 acres are cultivated for paddy under village works.

RAILWAY DEPARTMENT.

Open Lines, 1925.

The total length of the open line on September 30, 1925, was 791 miles—an increase in open line mileage of 49 miles.

The receipts for the year amounted to Rs. 27,730,332 as against Rs. 27,188,145, an increase of Rs. 542,187.

The number of passengers conveyed has decreased by 1,120,604, the total for the year being 10,201,173.

Under season ticket traffic the number of season ticket holders increased to the extent of 10,034, the total number issued during the year being 180,245.

The number of parcels conveyed during the year was 1,517,844, an increase of 52,475.

The tonnage of goods carried has risen from tons 1,303,777 to tons 1,404,195, the most noticeable increases and decreases being—

	Increases. Tons.		Decreases. Tons.
Kerosine oil ..	1,202	Rice	2,434
Rubber	3,205	Coconut produce ..	11,848
Tea	3,640	Foreign traffic ..	4,025
Copra	10,047		
Liquid fuel ..	2,809		
Petrol	9,632		
Manure	25,645		
Salt (country) ..	3,287		
Bricks and tiles ..	5,266		
Sundry goods ..	12,619		

The total expenditure for the year was Rs. 18,468,527, an increase of Rs. 854,460, made up of Rs. 422,478 Personal Emoluments, Rs. 430,795 Other Charges, Rs. 61,000 Pensions and Gratuities, and a decrease of Rs. 59,813, New Works (Maintenance).

The total capital cost of the Railway amounted to Rs. 189,952,013, the capital account having been increased during the year by Rs. 29,482,137 by the inclusion of the following additional capital charges, viz. :—

	Rs.
Badulla Railway	29,531
Batticaloa-Trincomalee Railway	19,775,881
Puttalam Railway	6,711,681
Main Line Duplication	871,412
Stations Extension	123,424
New and Minor Works	2,105,149
C. C. E.'s and Assistants' Salaries	100,590
	29,717,668
Less cost of section of the line from Fort to Wharf *viâ* Galle Face, where the line has been removed and Wharf lines, buildings, and cranes taken over by the Port Commission	235,531
	29,482,137

Note.—The increases or decreases are based on the corresponding figures for the previous year (1924).

Colombo Stations Extensions.

This work was started in 1905, and comprises a complete remodelling and extension of railway premises in Colombo, and is now approaching completion. The estimate for the whole undertaking is Rs. 9,779,623, out of which Rs. 9,772,875·23 had been spent by the end of December, 1925.

Since my last report the boundary wall and fencing round Colombo Goods Yard and Fort Station and additional sett paving in Colombo Goods Yard have been completed, and the erection of the footbridge at the west end of Fort Station has been put in hand. This is the only work remaining uncompleted.

Colombo Harbour Rail Extension.

This work provides a rail connection from the Main Line at Urugodawatta to the harbour in the vicinity of the Graving Dock. It also includes the remodelling of the Wharf Station, and connection of same to the harbour sidings, and abolition of the existing connection between the Fort Station and Wharf Station *via* the Galle Face.

The only work remaining to be done now is the completion of the approach roads to the overhead bridges at Bloemendahl road and Victoria Bridge road.

The total estimate for the work is Rs. 3,902,768, out of which Rs. 3,869,926·65 had been spent by the end of December, 1925.

Main Line Duplication.

This work provides for doubling the Main Line between Ragama and Rambukkana, a distance of 43 miles, with improvements to grades and curves of the existing line, and new stations at Mirigama, Ambepussa, and Rambukkana, and improvements to stations at Alawwa and Polgahawela. Double line is now open between Ragama and Mirigama and between Alawwa and Polgahawela.

The total estimate for the work is Rs. 7,368,876, out of which Rs. 7,363,244·90 had been spent by the end of December, 1925.

Puttalam Extension.

This is an extension of the Chilaw Line northwards to Puttalam, a distance of 32 miles 9 chains. The line between Chilaw and Mundel, a distance of 17 miles, was opened on January 19, 1925. The line between Mundel and Puttalam is well in hand and will be opened early in 1926. The total estimate for the work is Rs. 6,994,325·53, out of which Rs. 6,816,545·08 had been spent by the end of December, 1925.

Batticaloa-Trincomalee Light Railway.

This extension joins the Northern Line at Maho and runs to Gal-oya, where the line branches: one branch going to Trincomalee and the other branch to Batticaloa. Rails are now laid in to Trincomalee and to Valaichchenai, with the exception of about 7 miles still to be laid on the east side of the Mahaweli-ganga.

The line between Maho and Kekirawa, a distance of 31 miles 6 chains, was opened for traffic on January 5, 1925, and it is expected to open between Kekirawa and Trincomalee and Gal-oya and Polonnaruwa early in 1926.

All the cylinder foundations for the Mahaweli-ganga bridge have been sunk, and erection of the steelwork will commence when the north-east rains and floods cease. Valaichchenai bridge is practically completed.

The total estimate for the extension is Rs. 20,391,021, out of which Rs. 20,133,784·65 had been spent by the end of December, 1925.

Kalladi Bridge.

The sinking of the cylinders for the foundations of this bridge is well in hand, and part of the steelwork has been transported to the site by sea.

VII.—Excise.

WITH the closure of the year 1925 the Department completed the fourteenth year of its existence.

Consumption.

The following quantities of liquor were consumed in Ceylon in 1924, 1925, 1918, and 1914: the latter two years are annexed for the sake of comparison :—

Foreign Liquor Imports.

	Spirits.	Malts.	Wines.	Total.	Arrack consumed, in Gallons.	Toddy consumed, in Gallons.
1914 Bulk ..	315,346..	152,557..	67,899..	456,965..	1,422,305..	2,922,421
In proof gallons	236,509..	— ..	— ..	— ..	— ..	—
1918 ,, ..	66,659..	68,019..	26,799..	161,477..	1,015,386..	4,736,016
1924 ,, ..	184,390..	133,291..	53,488..	371,169..	754,587..	4,460,519
1925 ,, ..	225,251..	141,110..	58,560..	424,921..	772,067..	4,736,440

As compared with 1924, 1925 shows a slight rise in country liquor sales, because rubber and plumbago have done better; and it shows a rise of 14 per cent. in foreign liquor demand, partly because purchasing power has revived and partly because the cost of gin and brandy have fallen. As compared with 1918, foreign liquor imports have risen by over 300 per cent. The first reason for this remarkable increase is that in 1918 the cheaper brands of gin and brandy cost Rs. 4·50 per bottle,

while in 1925 they cost about Rs. 3 per bottle. The second reason is that peace has revived prosperity. While the war lasted many consumers of foreign liquor resorted to country liquor. Many have now returned to the more fashionable drink. A third and equally effective cause is the multiplication of dry areas, where all country liquor shops have closed but foreign liquor shops remain open.

As compared with 1914 and 1918, there has been a marked fall in the consumption of arrack. There are a number of reasons for this fall. The price rose from Re. 1·50 per bottle in 1914 to Re. 1·86 in 1918, and has risen to Rs. 2·50 in 1925. In certain areas where the fall is most marked the cause is probably due to decrease in employment of the arrack consuming public. An instance of this is found in Colombo, where the fall is probably due in part to the decrease in the number of coolies employed in the harbour compared to some years ago when all ships used coal as their fuel. Cheap foreign liquor has taken the place of arrack in certain areas where the arrack taverns have been closed and the foreign liquor shops remain open. The cheap price of toddy and the improvements in the organization for its supply are further contributing causes.

Toddy consumption has steadily risen during the last ten years, partly for the reasons given above. It is probable, however, that the apparent increase is partly accounted for by the fact that the detective activities of the Excise Department by checking unlicensed and unrecorded sales have increased the sales recorded in the tavern books.

REVENUE.

The 1925 revenue shows a rise all round. This arrack revenue has been got in spite of the fact that the cost price of arrack from the distilleries is now over 60 cents higher per gallon than it used to be in the days of the old renting system. Apart from this rise in cost price, 1925 arrack revenue would have been higher than it is by Rs. 500,000.

	Foreign Liquor Customs Duties. Rs.	Arrack Revenue. Rs.	Toddy Revenue. Rs.
1913–14	2,045,214*	5,784,964	1,098,024
1917–18	772,136*	7,814,121	1,648,506
1923–24	2,911,331	7,626,504	1,950,374
1924–25	3.458,378	7,879,137	2,226,470

* For calendar year.

These round figures do not throw clear light on the effect of the Contract Supply System on arrack revenue. It is necessary to analyse the figures for the various Provinces. In eight districts, viz., Jaffna, Uva, Kandy, Matale, Nuwara Eliya, Mullaittivu, Ratnapura, and Trincomalee, the 1925

arrack revenue is the highest on record, and the first named five are the districts into which the present system was first introduced. This record revenue is not the result of increased sales; in all these districts, except Mannar and Mullaittivu, there has often been higher consumption than in 1925.

In spite of the fall of revenue in Colombo and the low level of recent Ceylon consumption, the new system has raised the Ceylon arrack revenue above that of recent years and above all previous years, except 1920–21, a year of overbids.

Arrack Rent Revenue.

	Rs.
1913–14	5,784,964
1918–19	7,387,850
1920–21	8,313,022
1921–22	7,439,552
1922–23	7,300,064
1923–24	7,626,504
1924–25	7,879,137

It has, moreover, raised the revenue yield per rupee spent by the public in much greater degree.

	1. Average Selling Price. Rs. c.	2. Average Revenue per Gallon sold. Rs. c.	Average Percentage which Column 2 is of Column 1.
1914	9 70	4 75	49
1915	9 67	6 2	62
1918	11 89	7 64	64
1925	15 0	10 22	68

Temperance and Local Option.

Temperance workers in the Legislative Council have secured certain modifications in the Option Rules which facilitate the closure of taverns—

(1) In Colombo 51 per cent. of the voters on the list are to be sufficient for closure.

(2) "Estate" taverns have been made closable by ballot, but after closure may be reopened on estates subject to prohibition of sale except to coolies.

(3) Hotel public bars are now closable by ballot.

(4) Applications for ballots may be for joint or separate ballots, as the applicants think fit.

(5) If any poll succeeds, no new licence can be granted in the area affected save after another poll.

Various religious bodies, and in particular the Young Men's Christian Association, the Young Men's Buddhist Association, and the Maradana Workmen's Resort, have continued their excellent work.

The campaign of tavern abolition has kept up its usual pace and secured decisions to close the following drink shops from October 1, 1925 :—

	Arrack.	Toddy.	Foreign Liquor.	Total.
By local option ..	14 ..	28 ..	2 ..	44
By Advisory Committees ..	12 ..	1 ..	— ..	13
	26	29	2	57

The present distribution of drink shops is one arrack tavern per 16,536 persons, one toddy tavern per 16,007 persons, one foreign liquor licence per 6,634 persons.

The consumption of arrack per head of the present population is ·17 of one gallon per year, of foreign liquor ·13 of one gallon, and of toddy 1·10 gallon per year.

If these statistics are compared with those of other civilized countries, Ceylon will be found to be a sober land.

Distilleries.

The arrack distilled at the new distilleries attains a greater purity than was ever found in the product of the old stills; and the new distilleries are under proper control. We hear no more of arrack being smuggled out of distilleries and no such arrack is ever seized. While, however, illicit white arrack has been eliminated from the list of Excise problems, illicit toddy at the distillery topes remains a live difficulty.

Excise Crime.

The total number of prosecutions in 1925 was 4,687, as against 3,946 in 1924. In obedience to the wish of the Finance Committee the use of decoys has been abandoned for one year, beginning on October 1, 1925.

The experiment has not been in force for a sufficient period to judge its results, but detections of unlicensed sale of arrack have already suffered a considerable fall.

Three-fourths of Excise detective work centres round illicit toddy. In all dry areas where kitul trees abound illicit traffic continues to prevail. It is impossible, in the opinion of the Excise Department, for 80 Inspectors to suppress this traffic. For every offender detected there are a few more who escape the eye of the preventive officer. Even after detection and prosecution most offenders resume their operations, because the profits are quick and big.

Dangerous Drugs.

No illicit traffic in cocaine has been discovered, but in ganja there is a large illicit trade. The first source of illicit supply is secret cultivation in the forests of Ceylon, especially Uva, the North-Central Province, and Hambantota. Detection is

exceedingly difficult. It is understood that wild animals do not eat the ganja plant. The illicit grower has therefore only to till a plot of land in the depths of the jungle, water it for a short period, and return to reap it when it is ripe. The second, and probably the chief, source of supply is importation from India. It is impossible for the Excise, Police, and Customs officers to prevent smuggling at one part or another of the coast. The difficulties of stopping the traffic in this dangerous drug are largely due to the belief—which is unfortunately widespread in Ceylon—that it is of great medicinal value. Until this belief is eradicated, it will be useless to expect the demand for it to cease or the co-operation of the villager in the steps taken for the suppression of this illicit traffic. All possible steps for the detection and prosecution of dealers in this drug are being taken by the officers of the Excise and Police Departments. The only real hope of successfully suppressing its use lies, however, in propaganda directed to convince its users of the dangerous nature of the drug. The necessary steps to this end are at present under consideration.

VIII.—Post and Telegraphs.

ON December 31, 1925, 649 offices were open for the transaction of postal business. Of these, 188 (excluding the Central Telegraph Office) were offices dealing with all classes of postal business, viz., mail and parcel work, registration and insurance of postal articles, money order, postal order and savings bank work, and telegraph business; at 29 offices all such business, except telegraph work, was transacted.

At 41 sub-offices mail, parcel, registration, and postal order work only was transacted, while at 358 village receiving offices mail work only was conducted; there were also 36 railway receiving offices.

Mail Services.

A.—*Foreign.*

A regular weekly mail service between Ceylon and the United Kingdom was maintained during 1925, and 11,739 bags of correspondence and 8,171 bags of parcels arrived from London; while 3,460 bags of correspondence and 2,875 bags of parcels were despatched to London.

Fifty-two letter mails were received from London; of these, 38 were carried by vessels of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company—of which 12 were landed at Bombay and brought overland to Colombo and 26 were brought by sea to Colombo; and 14 were carried by vessels of the Orient Line.

In the homeward direction 94 mails were despatched to Europe by vessels of the Peninsular and Oriental (54 mails), Orient (9), Messageries Maritimes (13), and Rotterdam Lloyd (18) lines. The time occupied in transit was 16 to 19 days from Colombo to London and 16 to 18 days from London to Colombo. Average, 17½ and 17 days respectively.

Between Australia and Ceylon an almost regular weekly mail service was maintained by the use of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company and the Orient Company; and the vessels of the Australian Commonwealth line provided a supplementary service, 6 mails being despatched for Australia by this means during the year.

Regular and frequent services to the Straits Settlements and the Far East were available by the vessels of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company, Messageries Maritimes Company, the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, Rotterdam Lloyd, Stoonmvaart-Maatschappij Nederland, and Compania Transatlantica lines.

The British India Steam Navigation Company's steamers carried mails from Ceylon to Mauritius nine times during the year at irregular intervals. A fortnightly mail service from Colombo to Mauritius *viâ* Bombay, Aden, and Djibouti was started in February, 1924, and by this means 15 mails were despatched to Mauritius. The Natal Direct, Indian-African, and Ossen Shosen Kaisha lines and British India Steam Navigation Company's steamers from Bombay carried 38 mails from Ceylon to South Africa.

Vessels of the Ossen Shosen Kaisha line carried direct mails to the Argentine *viâ* South Africa.

With India the daily service in each direction by train with ferryboat plying between Talaimannar and Dhanushkodi was maintained. A regular bi-weekly service was also maintained during 1925 between Colombo and Tuticorin by steamers of the British India Steam Navigation Company.

B.—*Inland Mails.*

Inland mails are carried generally by the Ceylon Government Railway, and from railway stations by private contract motor mail services, bullock coach, or by runner services.

The principal motor mail services are—

	Miles.
Polgahawela-Kegalla	8¼
Kurunegala-Madampe	39½
Ratnapura-Kiriella	12
Panadure-Horana (2 services)	12
Gampola-Pussellawa-Ramboda (2 services) ..	20
Anuradhapura-Trincomalee	65¼
Badulla-Batticaloa	102½

	Miles.
Anuradhapura Railway Station-Post Office ..	1½
Opanake-Balangoda	9
Kalpitiya-Puttalam	28
Kahawatta Railway Station-Post Office-Rakwana (2 services)	12½
Horana-Kiriella	18½
Matara-Deniyaya	43
Halgranoya-Uda Pussellawa	6
Kodaikamam-Point Pedro-Valvettiturai	16
Jaffna Railway Station-Post Office-Point Pedro ..	20½
Hambantota-Tissamaharama	21
Jaffna-Kayts	21¾
Nawalapitiya-Kotmale	8
Colombo Town Mail Service: parcel delivery, collection of letters, parcels, mails, &c.	235·3* 35·2†
Colombo Town Mail Service: Railway Station-Jetty, &c.	74·6* 22·4†
Matale-Dambulla	27½
Nuwara Eliya Railway Station-Post Office-Welimada ..	16
Mundel Railway Station-Post Office-Puttalam (2 services) ..	16
Batticaloa-Akkaraipattu	38
Kalutara-Neboda (2 services)	12
Matale-Rattota (2 services)	7
Batticaloa-Trincomalee	87
Ella-Namunukula	9
Matara-Hakmana	15
Kandy-Rangala	22
Kandy-Hewaheta	23¾
Passara-Madulsima	11
Kurunegala-Rambodagalla	14
Kurunegala-Nikaweratiya	25
Mankulam-Mullaittivu	29½
Kekirawa-Polonnaruwa	49½
Neboda-Mahagama (2 services)	17
Ambalangoda-Elpitiya	8½
Haputale-Moneragala	48
Matara-Hambantota (2 services)	51
Hatton-Maskeliya-Bogawantalawa (2 services) ..	20¾
Kandy-Kurunegala	26½
Kadugannawa-Aranayake	13
Talawakele Railway Station-Post Office-Agrapatana (2 services)	14½

The inland mail services worked satisfactorily throughout the year, save when interrupted for short periods by floods and washaways.

Mail Statistics.

The total number of postal articles, exclusive of parcels, which passed through the post in 1925 is estimated at 79 million, about 11¼ million more than in 1924. The increase was principally in inland correspondence, which was over 80½ per cent. of the total. Correspondence exchanged with India formed nearly 11¾ per cent. of the total, with the United Kingdom about 4 per cent., and with other countries nearly 3¾ per cent.

* Week days. † Sundays.

Letters received from the United Kingdom showed a decrease of 12,500 compared with 1924. Printed matter, samples, &c., from the United Kingdom showed an increase of about 376,000 compared with 1924.

The total number of parcels dealt with was 1,081,329, an increase of over 61,900 over the 1924 total. Of these, 68,331 were received from the United Kingdom, 255,084 from India, and 11,474 from other countries. 26,663 parcels were received under the Cash on Delivery service from the United Kingdom, an increase of 9,911 over the last year's total.

Postage Rates.

The rates for foreign postage fixed under the Madrid Convention continued in operation; the rate on letters to British Possessions being 12 cents for the first oz. and 10 cents for each subsequent oz., while the postage on post cards was 10 cents; to foreign countries the corresponding rates were 20 cents, 10 cents, and 12 cents. On printed matter the initial rate of 4 cents per 2 oz. was uniform, with minima of 8 cents on samples and 20 cents on business papers.

Articles printed in relief for the special use of the blind were transmitted at a specially reduced rate of 4 cents per 2 lb.

The inland rates of postage and the rates to India remained unchanged—initial letter rate 6 cents per 4 oz., post card rate 3 cents, and printed matter 3 cents for 2 oz.

The total value of stamps sold by the Department in 1925 was Rs. 7,215,173.

The inland telegraph rate, 40 cents for the first 10 words, including address, and 5 cents for each additional 2 words, remained unchanged, as did the rates on telegrams to India—for first 12 words: ordinary Re. 1, express Re. 2, with 10 and 15 cents respectively for each additional word.

Money and Postal Orders.

The total value of money orders handled in 1925 was Rs. 46,950,663, of which inland orders amounted to Rs. 31,198,222; of the balance, the business with India formed the largest percentage, orders issued payable in India totalling nearly 11½ million rupees—1 million more than in 1924—a fair proportion of which was probably due to savings remitted by Indian immigrant coolies.

The business in money orders between Ceylon and the United Kingdom was small, 10,308 orders of a total value of Rs. 389,737.

There was an increase in the value of local postal orders issued, Rs. 888,172, compared with Rs. 822,264 in 1924, and a small decrease in the number of British postal orders paid, which, however, only amounted to £10,178.

Considerable use was made of the telegraph money order service between Ceylon and India, remittances totalling Rs. 4,442,115 being so sent to India and Rs. 580,546 drawn by Indian remitters on Ceylon.

Comparatively little use, however, was made of the services between Ceylon and the United Kingdom (383 telegraph orders were sent to the United Kingdom and 105 received therefrom) and Ceylon and the Federated Malay States (27 orders only being sent and 1,042 orders received) owing probably to the higher telegraph costs.

The revenue from money order commission reached Rs. 509,389.

Post Office Savings Bank.

The business of the bank transacted at 212 Post Offices and 36 Sub-Post Offices continued to expand during 1925, the deposits, which amounted to Rs. 6,745,605, exceeding withdrawals during the year by Rs. 1,516,426.

On December 31, 1925, the total to the credit of depositors was Rs. 9,228,443.

The rate of interest continued to be 2·4 per cent., 2 cents per month for each complete Rs. 10.

Any sums not less than 25 cents are accepted for deposits up to nett maxima of Rs. 750 per annum, and an interest bearing total of Rs. 3,000.

Deposits may be made by means of stamped slips. One withdrawal on demand of a sum not exceeding Rs. 10 is allowed in any one week.

Telegraph System.

All the important towns in the Island are served by the Government telegraph system.

189 postal telegraph offices were open for public traffic on December 31, 1925, besides several railway telegraph offices. Ten new telegraph offices were opened during the year.

There are two telegraph circuits between Ceylon and India, on one of which the Baudot printing machine is employed in duplex working

Ceylon is connected with the West by direct cables of the Eastern Telegraph Company to Aden and the Seychelles, and to the East with Singapore.

The Government wireless station at Colombo is open to all classes of traffic. The station normally transmits on 600 metres "interrupted continuous wave" and has a daylight

range of approximately 600 miles. Each even hour "Greenwich mean time" transmissions are made on 2,300 metres continuous wave, whilst incoming traffic at these periods is received at 2,100 metres. The duration of this period is approximately 15 minutes, depending entirely on the amount of traffic available.

International time-signals are broadcast at 6.0 hours G.M.T. on 2,300 metres continuous wave, and again at 19.00 hours G.M.T. on 600 metres I.C.W.

A telephone broadcasting service on 800 metres has also been opened, and regular daily broadcasts are made at noon and 4.45 Indian standard time.

The total number of telegrams handled in 1925 was 1,965,656, some 238,334 more than in 1924. The average time taken in transmission of an inland telegram was 20 minutes.

The total number of messages despatched to India, 261,872, showed an increase of some 36,582, and the number received from India, 162,165, was some 12,502 less than in 1924.

126,594 private cable messages were despatched to and 113,308 received from other countries.

The Colombo wireless station dealt with 12,364 messages containing 203,005 words during the year.

The revenue from telegrams was, roughly, Rs. 936,085, and the value of free telegraphic services rendered to other Departments was estimated at Rs. 67,340.

The Telephone System.

Speaking generally, the larger towns are served by Government exchanges (46 in number) and rural areas by private licensed local exchanges linked together by Government junction and trunk lines.

The principal Government exchange is at Colombo (with a sub-exchange at Havelock Town), which is served by underground cable as far as possible. There were 2,625 subscribers to this on December 31, 1925. The sub-exchange at Havelock Town was opened in October on the central battery system, and serves the south of Colombo city, covering the area from Station road, Bambalapitiya, as far as the Dehiwala bridge. Subscribers within these limits, numbering 160, have been transferred to that exchange. There is no charge on calls between subscribers to the Central exchange in the Fort and those connected to the Havelock Town exchange, but a surtax is levied to cover the cost of junction service.

The next largest Government exchanges are at Kandy (186 subscribers), Nuwara Eliya (133), Galle (95), Kurunegala (59), Negombo (46), Kalutara (48), Panadure (45), and Matale (35).

No charge for installation is made for connection to Government exchanges, and a flat rate of subscription is charged for an unlimited service within the prescribed hours.

The minimum subscriptions applicable to premises within 2 miles of the exchange are Rs. 180 per annum for business and Rs. 120 for residential connections in the larger towns.

At the Colombo Fort and Havelock Town exchanges the service is continuous throughout the year. It is estimated that a little over 15½ million calls were dealt with in Ceylon in 1925, over ¾ million more than in 1924.

The average speed of answer during the day in Colombo was 4·7 seconds, and 96·8 per cent. of calls were answered within 10 seconds.

There were 115 Government call offices in use during the year, and the number of telephone stations reached 7,086. The estimated number of trunk line calls was 329,472 and junction line calls 257,088, an increase on the 1924 figures. The trunk and junction line fees are fixed on a cent-per-mile basis. Receipts from telephones totalled Rs. 834,180 in 1925, while the value of telephone services rendered free to other Government Departments was estimated at Rs. 112,750.

The principal trunk telephone lines are—

	Miles.
(1) Colombo-Kandy-Gampola-Hatton-Nuwara Eliya ..	132
(2) Gampola-Pussellawa-Nuwara Eliya	34
(3) Colombo-Kalutara-Galle-Matara	99
(4) Colombo-Avissawella-Ratnapura	64
(5) Colombo-Polgahawela-Kurunegala	59
(6) Colombo-Ragama-Negombo	23
(7) Kandy-Wattegama-Matale	21
(8) Nuwara Eliya-Haputale-Diyatalawa-Bandarawela ..	36
(9) Colombo-Negombo-Chilaw	51

The Government telephone system at the end of 1925 comprised 11,344 miles of overhead and 22,196 miles of underground wire.

There are 30 licensed exchanges, and the largest private systems are—

(*a*) The Norwood-Maskeliya-Bogawantalawa system, with exchanges at those places having 40, 47, and 31 subscribers respectively.

(*b*) The Talawakele-Tillicoultry and Agrapatana system, with exchanges at those places having 37, 29, and 28 subscribers respectively.

(*c*) The Galaha-Hewaheta system, with 67 and 5 subscribers respectively.

The Neboda private system serves 34 subscribers.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue of the Department in 1925 is estimated at, roughly, Rs. 6,877,019. The principal increases were under the heads of Postage (some Rs. 676,000), Telephone receipts (some Rs. 158,000), Telegraph receipts (Rs. 100,500), and Money Order commission (some Rs. 55,000).

The value of free services rendered to other Government Departments, not included in these totals, was estimated at Rs. 1,023,500, but no reliable estimate can be framed of the value of free services rendered by them to the Postal Department.

The total expenditure from the votes of the Postal Department was Rs. 4,968,651. A further sum of Rs. 450,927 was charged to the Loan Account for works of telephone development.

IX.—Education.

General.

SCHOOLS in Ceylon may be broadly divided into three classes: English, Anglo-vernacular, and vernacular. The vernacular schools are attended by about 85 per cent. of the school-going population. The English and Anglo-vernacular schools provide elementary education leading up to the English School-Leaving Certificate Examination. Secondary English schools provide an education leading up to the Cambridge Senior School Certificate Examination and the London University Matriculation Examination. There are also classes for commercial subjects in some of the larger schools. There is an increasing demand for English, and an attempt has been made to meet this demand by a scheme of Government Central English and Anglo-vernacular schools for rural districts, where children may receive an English education. Such schools have been opened at Gampaha, Piliyandala, Veyangoda, Kadawata, Udugampola, Bomiriya, Beruwala, Wadduwa, and Homagama in the Western Province; at Induruwa, Hikkaduwa, Ahungalla, Godauda, and Mirissa in the Southern Province; and at Talawakele in the Central Province. The inclusion of Sinhalese and Tamil in the London Matriculation and Intermediate Arts Examinations and the Cambridge Examinations has given a stimulus to the study of the vernacular languages. Several secondary schools are now teaching Sinhalese and Tamil.

VERNACULAR EDUCATION.

In 1925 there were 1,121 Government vernacular schools, with an attendance of 118,061 boys and 53,296 girls. There were also 1,771 assisted schools, with an attendance of 126,273 boys and 80,270 girls. Of these, 265 were estate schools, with an attendance of 9,543 boys and 1,520 girls. A school for the deaf and blind started in 1912 receives grant at the rate of Rs. 6 per mensem per child on the average attendance during the year.

The total sum expended by Government on the vernacular education in 1924–25 was Rs. 3,256,644, of which Rs. 1,408,932 was spent on Government schools and Rs. 1,847,712 on aided schools.

The Education Ordinance was proclaimed with effect from January 1, 1924, and Education District Committees have been formed in the following areas :—

(1) Colombo Municipality.
(2) Kandy Municipality.
(3) Galle Municipality.
(4) Kalutara Urban District.
(5) Negombo Urban District.
(6) Panadure Urban District.
(7) Matale Urban District.
(8) Jaffna Urban District.
(9) Matara Urban District.
(10) Chilaw Urban District.
(11) Ratnapura Urban District.
(12) Nuwara Eliya Revenue District, including Board of Improvement.
(13) Mannar Revenue District.
(14) Trincomalee Revenue District.

The following revenue districts, which had not already been brought under the operation of Ordinance No. 1 of 1920 at the beginning of the year 1924, were proclaimed education districts under section 17 (*d*) of the said Ordinance with effect from October 16, 1925, and new Education District Committees have now been formed in each of the districts in place of the old District School Committees :—

(1) The Revenue District of Colombo, including the Moratuwa Local Board but excluding the Municipal area of Colombo and the Urban District Council area of Negombo.
(2) The Revenue District of Kalutara, excluding the areas of the Kalutara and Panadure Urban District Councils.

(3) The Revenue District of Kegalla, including the Local Board area.

(4) The Revenue District of Matara, excluding the Urban District Council area.

(5) The Revenue District of Ratnapura, excluding the Urban District Council area.

(6) The Revenue District of Kandy, including Gampola, Nawalapitiya, and Hatton-Dikoya Local Board areas but excluding the Kandy Municipal area.

(7) The Revenue District of Galle, excluding the Municipal area.

(8) The Revenue District of Hambantota.

(9) The Revenue District of Matale, excluding the Urban District Council area.

(10) The Revenue District of Kurunegala, including the Local Board area.

(11) The Revenue District of Anuradhapura, including the Local Board area.

(12) The Revenue District of Jaffna, excluding the Urban District Council area.

(13) The Revenue District of Mullaittivu.

(14) The Revenue District of Batticaloa, including the Local Board area.

(15) The Revenue District of Puttalam, including the Local Board area.

(16) The Revenue District of Chilaw, excluding the Urban District Council area.

(17) The Revenue District of Badulla, including Badulla and Bandarawela Local Board areas.

English Education.

In 1925 there were 298 English and Anglo-vernacular schools attended by 59,122 pupils, of whom 45,730 were boys and 13,392 girls. There is one Government secondary school in Colombo, with an average attendance of 522. The cost to Government of this school for the year was Rs. 168,143, and fees recovered amounted to Rs. 48,189.

There were 40 assisted secondary schools, the total average attendance at which was 15,582. The cost to Government was Rs. 569,122.

In most of the larger schools candidates are prepared for the Junior and School Certificate Examinations of the Cambridge University and the London Matriculation Examination. In

1924 the number of candidates who entered for the Cambridge Junior and School Certificate Examinations and the results obtained were—

	Candidates.	Honours.	Other Passes.
School Certificate Examination ..	1,335 ..	55 ..	267
Junior	1,077 ..	86 ..	470

The results of the London University Examinations in 1925 showed that 541 candidates from Ceylon entered for the Matriculation Examination, 87 of whom passed. Four candidates passed the First Examination for Medical Degrees, and 5 the Second Examination, Part I. 112 candidates presented themselves for the whole of the Intermediate Examination in Arts, 21 of whom passed and 14 were "referred" in one subject. Of the 16 "referred" candidates who presented themselves for the examination in one subject 11 passed. Of the 66 candidates who took up the whole of the Intermediate Examination in Science 20 passed and 15 were "referred" in one subject. Of the 14 "referred" candidates who presented themselves for examination in one subject 13 passed. Eight candidates presented themselves for the whole examination in Inter-Science Economics, 1 of whom passed and 3 were "referred." The 1 candidate who presented for re-examination in his "referred" subject passed. Three entered for the whole examination in Inter-Science Agriculture and none passed. The 2 "referred" candidates who entered for re-examination in their "referred" subjects passed. Five candidates presented themselves for the whole of the Intermediate Examination in Laws, 2 of whom passed. One candidate who had been "referred" at the previous examination presented himself, and he passed. Three candidates presented themselves for Inter-Science Engineering, but none passed. Two entered for Inter-Commerce, and 1 was successful in Part I. Forty-two candidates presented themselves for the B.A. degree, 14 of whom passed. Thirty-three entered for the B.Sc., and 17 passed. Two candidates presented themselves for the LL.B. examination, but both failed. Two candidates presented themselves for Honours in Classics, and 1 was awarded Third Class Honours. Two candidates presented themselves for Honours in English, of whom 1 was awarded Third Class Honours. One candidate presented himself for Honours in History, Branch III., and was awarded Second Class Honours. Two candidates presented themselves for Honours in Philosophy, and 1 was awarded Second Class and the other Third Class Honours. Two candidates presented themselves for Honours in Mathematics, and 1 was awarded First Class Honours in Parts 1 and 2.

Grants paid to the assisted English schools are based on the salaries paid to the staff according to the approved scales. A fixed contribution from the Manager towards the salary of each teacher is required. This fixed contribution is a definite percentage of the teacher's mean salary over a period of years. Special grants are paid on account of buildings and equipment.

The encouragement offered by Government takes the form of scholarships. Five Government scholarships are now offered: one on the results of the Final Examination in Arts of the London University and one on the results of the Final Examination in Science. A third scholarship is awarded on the results of the Final Examination in Science on condition that the holder studies Agriculture or Forestry. Two more scholarships are awarded on the results of the Final Examination in Science on condition that the selected candidate pursue a course of studies in Engineering. The first three scholarships are tenable for two years, and the two Engineering scholarships for three years. The scholarships are of the value of £300 per annum, with free passage and outfit allowance of £50. The holders may join any British University or any recognized Engineering institution in the United Kingdom.

A scholarship of Rs. 300 a year has been offered by the Hon. Sir H. M. Fernando, Member of the Executive Council, to the Ceylon student who obtains the highest marks in Botany and either Chemistry or Agricultural Science at the Cambridge School Certificate Examination, and also at the same time gains exemption from the London Matriculation Examination.

The following is the scale of fees charged in the various classes of Government English and Anglo-vernacular schools in the Island :—

Government English Schools.

	Per Mensem. Rs.	c.
Preparatory	2	0
First Year Class	2	50
Second Year Class	3	0
Standard V.	3	50
Standard VI.	4	0
Standard VII.	4	50
English School-Leaving Certification Class ..	5	0

Anglo-vernacular Schools.

Stage I.	0	50
Stage II.	0	75
Stage III.	1	0
Stage IV.	1	25
Stage V.	1	50
Stage VI.	2	0
Stage VII.	3	0
Standard VIII. (Elementary School-Leaving Certificate Class)	4	0

The 1923 Code for Assisted English Schools laid down the following minimum scale of fees for elementary schools, but in the present revised Code there is no minimum scale demanded from schools :—

Grade I. Schools.

In Provinces other than the Northern, Eastern, and North-Central Provinces.

	Per Mensem. Rs. c.
Lower Kindergarten	1 0
Upper Kindergarten	1 50
Standard II.	2 0
Standard III.	2 50
Standard IV.	3 0
Standard V.	3 50
Standard VI.	4 0
Standard VII.	4 50
Elementary School-Leaving Certificate Class ..	5 0

In the Northern, Eastern, and North-Central Provinces.

	Per Mensem. Rs. c.
Lower Kindergarten	1 0
Upper Kindergarten	1 50
Standard II. and III.	2 0
Standard IV.	2 50
Standard V.	3 0
Standard VI.	3 50
Standard VII. and English School-Leaving Certificate Class	4 0

Grade II. Schools.

Kindergarten and Standard II.	1 0
Standard III., IV., and V.	2 0
Standard VI., VII., and the English School-Leaving Certificate Class	3 0

Training of Teachers.

The Government Training College consists of four departments : English (men and women), English Kindergarten (women), Sinhalese (men), and Sinhalese (women). The object is to supply trained teachers for Government and assisted English schools and Government vernacular schools. At the beginning of 1926 the number of students in training was on the English side 34 men and 44 women, on the Sinhalese side 41 men and 40 women.

The Government Training School at Gampaha provides a two-year course for 20 men students, who will become teachers in Government and assisted Anglo-vernacular schools.

A training school for Tamil teachers was opened at Kopay, Jaffna, in October, 1923, and 53 students were admitted. Of these, 22 students left the school in August 1, 1924, after passing the final examination. 22 new students were admitted in October, 1924.

Besides these Government institutions there are 10 assisted training schools for the training of teachers for vernacular schools. The students go through a two-year course of training, and pass an examination at the end of each year's course. On the results of the second year's examination a Second Class Teachers' Certificate is issued to the successful students. 122 students successfully completed their course in 1924 and obtained Second Class Teachers' Certificate.

Third Class Teachers' Certificates are issued to all monitors and pupil teachers who have successfully gone through a three years' course of training in a Government or assisted vernacular or Anglo-vernacular school, and have passed the prescribed examinations. These certificates are issued provisionally to all the monitors and pupil teachers on their passing the Third Year Examination, and are confirmed when they have completed three years' satisfactory service as a teacher. Holders of Third Class Teachers' Certificates are eligible for admission to assisted training schools.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS.

The full-time system introduced in 1923 effected considerable improvement in Government industrial schools. There was no difficulty in forming classes from boys who had passed the fifth standard and who were over 14 years of age. The work done by them was naturally more satisfactory than the work previously done by younger boys who were still attending the vernacular schools. Moreover, the fact that a boy joins the full-time class is evidence that he intends to try to learn some industry which he wishes to continue in after life, so that the training now being given is clearly of practical value.

The want of better teachers has been felt, especially in carpentry schools. To remedy this defect 8 boys were trained in the Technical Schools to be instructors in carpentry schools. The training being given should produce a much better type of instructor than can be obtained at present.

In 1925 the aided industrial schools, which are 38 in number, received grants amounting to Rs. 21,660. The trades taught were carpentry, dressmaking, tailoring, lacemaking, embroidery, cookery, weaving, shoemaking, and smithy work.

The most important of these schools is the Maggona Certified Industrial School, which is utilized by Government as a reformatory for youthful offenders. This institution is managed by the Roman Catholic Mission. It has an estate of some 300 acres and excellent buildings, towards the cost of which Government has contributed. 235 youthful offenders are at present receiving instruction in this school, and an allowance is paid by Government for the maintenance of each offender. The amount so paid in the year 1924–25 was Rs. 36,227.

Another important industrial school is that at Wellawatta, Colombo, under the management of the Wesleyan Mission. The amount of grant paid to this institution in 1925 amounted to Rs. 4,800.

An impetus was given to home industries, which are taught in different parts of the Island, by the appointment of two Inspectors of Industries—one for weaving schools and one for carpentry and general industrial work. Carpentry is taught in 36 schools. Thirty-two schools are engaged in cloth-weaving, of which 8 are Government schools. Printing and bookbinding are taught in 12 schools, shoemaking in 1, and smithy work in 4 schools. Cane and rattan work in 4 schools. Three schools are engaged in lacquer work and 1 school in pottery work. Basket-weaving and mat-weaving are taught in several schools, and hat-making in the Kalutara District.

Agricultural Instruction in Schools.

Elementary agricultural instruction is given by a scheme of school gardens conducted in connection with Government schools. The gardens are under the supervision of the Department of Agriculture.

The work of these gardens is carried on under the instruction of the Division Agricultural Officers assisted by Inspectors of School Gardens, and by Senior Agricultural Instructors, who are also Inspectors of School Gardens. The total number of registered school gardens at the end of 1925 was 664. The number of gardens attached to grant-in-aid schools was 82. Fifty-five school gardens are awaiting registration. Seeds and implements are supplied by the Department of Agriculture, and prizes are offered for competition. Twelve teachers from Government schools underwent a special course of training at the School of Tropical Agriculture, Peradeniya. The scheme has been supplemented by the establishment of home gardens in large numbers, seeds being provided for children who undertake to plant up vegetables in their home compounds.

Technical.

Government Technical Schools, Colombo.—The reorganization scheme which was put into operation in May, 1923, has now been running two years, and 12 students have completed their course of study. Although the number of students completing courses is small, the innovation of "courses of study" has been beneficial to the students as a whole, and there is no doubt that greater numbers per annum will qualify for the full certificate as time goes on.

The change made in the Mechanical Engineering Day Course from three afternoons per week to two full days per week has been found very satisfactory, as it enables the apprentices to get four unbroken days in the workshop per week.

The concession of free tuition during the third term to students satisfactorily attending the first and second terms has undoubtedly helped to maintain a satisfactory average attendance.

The Jaffna Technical School was opened on October 8, 1921. There were 6 students at the end of 1925. Manual training, woodwork, metalwork, and drawing are taught in this school.

University College.

Numbers.—The number of students on the rolls in July, 1925, the beginning of the Academic Year 1925–26, was 255, as against 261 in August, 1924.

Courses.—The B.A., B.Sc., B.Sc. (Econ.), and 1st M.B. Examinations of London University continue for the present to be taken ; also the Pre-Registration Examination of the Ceylon Medical College.

Instruction is offered in English, Latin, Greek, French, German, Sanskrit, Geography, Tamil, Pali, Sinhalese, History, Logic, Philosophy, Economics, Pure Mathematics, Applied Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Botany, and Zoology.

There are Honours Classes in Classics, Mathematics, English, History, Chemistry, and Botany.

Examination Results.—London Examinations are held in Ceylon in the months of June and July, at the close of the University College year ; and the results are known shortly after the commencement of the Academic Year following.

As a result of the examinations in June, 1925, 9 students graduated in Arts and 17 in Science, bringing the total of graduates since the inception of the College in 1921 to 76. Of the 9 students in Arts, 1 obtained Third Class Honours in Classics and 1 Second Class Honours in History ; while of those who passed, 2 were placed in the First Division. Of the 17 students in Science, 1 obtained a First Class in Honours Mathematics, Parts I. and II., and 6 were placed in the First Division of the Pass Examination.

Two women students, the first from Ceylon, obtained their degree this year 1 in Arts, (Pass, Second Division) and 1 in Economics.

Additions to the Staff.—Lecturers in English, Classics, and Botany, and a Librarian were appointed and assumed duties this year.

The sanctioned posts of Professor of Education and Lecturer in Psychology remain vacant.

Prospectus.—The fourth issue of the College Prospectus, revised and enlarged, appeared in July, 1925.

The Library.—Over a thousand new books have been purchased. Among donations received during the year is one of very great value from Mrs. Rhys Davids, consisting of the major portion of the library of the late Professor T. W. Rhys Davids, the well-known Oriental Scholar.

With the appointment of a Librarian much progress has been made in classifying and arranging the books, and the production of a printed catalogue is in progress. About a thousand books are taken out each month by students.

Student Activities.—These have been well maintained in all directions. Hockey has been introduced, and the Reading and Dramatic Society has added Music to its sphere of operations, disclosing a very considerable amount of talent.

Hostels.—There are now four hostels. All are full, showing the need and value of such institutions.

University College Council.—This Council consists of 20 members, of whom a considerable proportion are Members of the Legislative Council of Ceylon. Statutory meetings are held monthly.

University Project.—Plans are well advanced for the establishment of the Ceylon University.

Archaeological Commissioner.

The total vote for this Department for the financial year 1924–25 was Rs. 127,432. This included an apportionment of Rs. 2,500 from the Government Agent, North-Central Province, for clearing Crown reservations.

Provision was made in this amount for training two scholars in India prior to their appointment as Architectural and Epigraphical Assistants to this Department, and an additional sum of Rs. 10,000 was included in the vote for conserving ancient monuments, chiefly to meet the cost of conserving Häta-dá-gé at Polonnaruva.

Expenditure and Revenue.

The nett expenditure for the year has been Rs. 92,962·07. A larger sum would have been expended but for the difficulty of securing sufficient numbers of suitable men for the specialized work of conservation, and the extra time which has been required for the publication of the sixth part of the second volume of the "Epigraphia Zeylanica."

The Archaeological Department is not a revenue-earning department. The total amount collected from the sale of photographic prints and other miscellaneous items was Rs. 523·86.

Publications.

With regard to publications, this has proved a most satisfactory year. The Archaeological Section of the Ceylon Journal of Science, Volume I., Part II., was produced. The first volume of the Archaeological Survey Memoirs (containing Mr. E. R. Ayrton's papers), which had been delayed on account of printing difficulties, was finally published in January, 1925, and Volume II. is already in the hands of the Printer. Three unofficial publications also proceeded from the Department, all by the Archaeological Commissioner.

A pocket plan of Anuradhapura and Environs showing ancient ruins, &c., has been printed. Judging by the demand for copies by visitors, this has proved a very popular publication

Library.

The rooms used as a library are inadequate to hold the increasing number of books and publications, and it is becoming extremely difficult in such circumstances to differentiate the various sections satisfactorily.

A large number of books was added to the library during this year, and the "Exchange List" with other societies has greatly increased since the production of the Ceylon Journal of Science and the Archaeological Survey Memoirs, which, it is hoped, will be annual publications.

Collections.

A few additions were made during the year in the form of beads and earthenware found near Monastery "I" and Hätadá-gé.

Most of the old specimens have now been identified, and complete registers have been made of coins and other specimens.

Conservation.

The work at Monastery "I" at Anuradhapura has been completed. In the course of the work it became apparent that the ancient builders were not so exact as one might suppose at first. Their stones were sometimes cut short and a gap resulted. This happened in the shrine of the main building, where there must have been a gap between the coping stones in order to fit the cyma plinth.

The Häta-dá-gé at Polonnaruva was next taken in hand.

Here again difficulty was experienced, and there can be no doubt that a mistake was made by the original builders, who cut the north wall stones 6½ inches too short.

It is anticipated that this work will be finally completed by about the middle of 1926.

A mass of brick on the second floor at the corner of the Satmahal Prasada next to the Häta-dá-gé was threatening to fall and break the lower part of the building. An iron collar was therefore put round the second floor, and the whole building was pointed.

The pointing of the West Entrance to the Quadrangle has been practically completed, and under-pinning has been done to the hataraskotuva of Rankot Vehera.

A plaster of Paris model was prepared of a conserved monastery on the Arippu road. This has been presented to the Victoria and Albert Museum, London, where it has been included in the collection of Indian and Sinhalese architecture. It is hoped that it will be of considerable value to students in England.

Research.

A small excavation had been projected near Pomparippu, but had to be cancelled owing to the difficulties at Häta-dá-gé which made it impossible to remain so long out of touch with Polonnaruva.

A small expedition was undertaken to Galbäñdi Níravia in the heart of the Vilpattu Game Sanctuary. There is an extensive site covered with platforms, some of which are obviously double. It is impossible to see whether the others are single or double without excavating. Almost all are rubble, as at Veherabañdigala.

A trace was made of an ancient road from Anuradhapura to Mannar, which the villagers still point out and call Randóli Para. Reports were made at the same time on the ruins in the neighbourhood of Villacci korale.

It is hoped to follow up more of these roads, though in many cases it will only be possible to pick out small sections in such thick jungle country and infer the rest.

Fisheries.

Food Fisheries.—Local fishing industries are still dependent on primitive methods of fishing: by line from outrigger canoes and catamarans, by line and net from catamarans and the shore. These industries provide the only source of fresh fish supply for the Island (except for an almost negligible quantity of imported frozen fish). Unhappily it is not possible to collect figures which would show the extent and value of the local fisheries, but the quantities produced, although considerable, are not sufficient to satisfy local demands, which are being met by the importation of increasing quantities of fish goods into the Island. Of these imports, consisting of dried and salted fish, Maldive fish (a variety of cured fish), tinned fish, fish manure, fish guano, and fish oil, dried and salted fish and Maldive fish are by far the most valuable, and make up approximately 80 per cent. of the total

imports. From 1911 to 1920, inclusive, the imports of dried and salted fish and Maldive fish were more or less constant in weight and value, being an average of 320,904 cwt. (16,045 tons) valued at Rs. 4,227,074 (£241,805). In 1921, however, these imports increased to 363,453 cwt. valued at Rs. 7,058,148, an increased weight of 13 per cent. and an increased value of 67 per cent. The greater proportional increase in value was due to the price per cwt. being raised from Rs. 13·95 to Rs. 19·41, due to a greater demand brought about largely through a scarcity of rice during this year. From 1921 to 1924 the imports of cured and salted fish and Maldive fish steadily increased, and in 1924 stood at 371,344 cwt. valued at Rs. 8,009,375 (£530,620), or Rs. 21·59 per cwt. Corresponding with the increase of fish imports, census figures show (1) a steady decline in the numbers of the fisher community and (2) a steady increase in the native and European population.

The situation, therefore, calls for immediate attention if Ceylon is to reap the harvest of her seas, and either an improvement in fishing methods must be introduced, or a rapid increase in the number of the fisher community must be affected. The latter is clearly impossible. The introduction of modern fishing methods is obviously the solution.

The Fisheries Department, under the direction of the Director, Colombo Museum, and Marine Biologist, has devoted considerable attention to the problem of improving fishing methods, and with the approval of Government has made a trawling survey of the coastal waters of Ceylon. This survey, the results of which have been recently published, has shown the presence of two very profitable trawl fishing banks, the one off Point Pedro, named Pedro Bank, and the other off Cape Comorin, Southern India, named Wadge Bank, which can be fished from Colombo as a distributing base. The results of trawls taken on these two banks are set forth in a paper published by the Fisheries Department dealing with the possibilities of commercial trawling in Ceylon waters.

The recent purchase of a new fisheries vessel, ss. "Nautilus," which is equipped with a direct expansion ammonia refrigerating plant and a cold storage chamber of about 4 tons capacity, has made it possible to carry out further investigations into the commercial possibilities of trawling. These experiments were made in September and November of this year and were very successful. Their purpose was briefly—

(*a*) To ascertain whether frozen fish could be transported in good marketable condition by rail from Kankesanturai to Colombo (256 miles).

(*b*) To test the demand for trawled fish in the local market.

The results were highly satisfactory. The frozen fish travelled well in ordinary gunpowder trucks to Colombo, where they arrived in excellent condition and commanded a ready sale to wholesale buyers at 25 cents per lb. for the first three consignments of 11,882 lb., and later at 30 cents per lb. for 11,622 lb.

Further experiments in this direction will be made during the coming year.

The Pearl Fishery.—After a lapse of sixteen years, during the greater part of which period the pearl banks in the Gulf of Mannar were barren of oysters, a fishery was held this year from February 27 to April 16, inclusive.

The fishery camp was again at Marichchukaddi, which in a few days was transformed from a desolate site, to a small town of cadjan huts, and was the scene of much animation and excitement.

Prior to the commencement of the fishery an inspection of the paars it was expected to fish was made, and it was then estimated that the following fishable oysters were present :—

	Million.
West Cheval Paar	70
Periya Paar Karai	1½
Twynam's Paar	13½

It was therefore decided to fish about 30 millions of these oysters, leaving the remainder for a fishery in 1926. The fishery had not proceeded very far, however, before it was evident that great changes had occurred since the inspection a few weeks earlier. Of the 70 million oysters on the West Cheval a compact bed of some 27 millions had completely disappeared. Twynam's Paar and other areas of the West Cheval were similarly depleted, and the nett result of the fishery was that only 15½ million oysters were fished, namely :—

	Million.
West Cheval	12
Periya Paar Karai	1½
Twynam's Paar	2

There are many agencies at work which may contribute to this mortality, the two most important of which are the ravages of oyster-eating fishes, such as large rays, which swarm on the banks, and the effects of silting sand. The result, however, is yet another instance of the uncertain nature of Ceylon pearl fisheries.

Divers from Ceylon, India, and the Persian Gulf were engaged in the fishery. They brought their own boats and boats' crew to the fishery, or hired them from local contractors. The greatest number of divers on any one day was 1,908, fishing from 125 boats.

The general routine of the fishery was that the fleet left the fishing camp in the early mornings, and when the wind was favourable sailed to the fishing ground. On days when the wind was contrary or the fishing ground distant from the camp the

boats were towed by Government vessels. Fishing proceeded each day (except Sundays) until about 12 noon, when a "cease fishing" signal was given. The divers worked generally in pairs, one pair to a stone, and generally kept their catch separate from other divers in the same boat. This catch they divided into three equal parts, which were bagged, and as soon as the "cease fishing" signal was given each bag was sealed with a lead seal by special fishery officers before the boats left the fishing grounds.

Bagging and sealing was introduced to prevent pilfering of oysters during the return of the boats to the fishery camp and was found to be very effective. On arrival of the boats at Marichchukaddi the oysters were taken to the Government enclosure and there divided into three parts, one of which was given to the divers in lieu of payment and the other two parts were retained by Government to be sold by auction the same evening. Oysters were auctioned each evening, generally about 9 P.M., by the Camp Superintendent.

Government share of oysters fished was 10,372,817, which realized Rs. 461,887·17, that is an average price of Rs. 45 per thousand. The highest price per thousand oysters was Rs. 81, and the lowest price Rs. 22. The gross receipts of the fishery from various sources were Rs. 512,946·36. Pearl merchants in the camp who purchased oysters erected small cadjan enclosures on sites auctioned by Government, where they carried out the rotting and washing of oysters. Divers quickly disposed of their share of oysters each day by retailing them in camp at prices varying from 50 cents to 5 cents each oyster.

Immediately the fishery was ended an inspection of those paars not fished, namely, the North-east and South-east Chevals, was made. This inspection disclosed the fact that the disappearance of oysters was general throughout the northern paar areas, and whereas in March, 1924, there were some thousand million oysters on these paars, there were in March, 1925, but a very few millions remaining. A later inspection in November of this year over the paar areas fished failed to reveal any traces of the missing oysters, so that prospects of further fisheries, at least for another few years, are remote.

Window-pane Oyster Fishery.—An inspection during January of this year of Lake Tamblegam, Trincomalee, where the window-pane oyster commonly occurs, revealed a large bed of oysters, which should provide lucrative fisheries in 1926 and 1927. Government, therefore, called for tenders for the lease of these waters for a period of three years, and the successful tenderer will pay Rs. 7,000 for 1925, Rs. 9,000 for 1926 and 1927, Government reserving the right to control the fishery in so far as selecting the portion of the lake to be fished.

Pearls from the window-pane oyster *Placuna placenta*, although more abundant than those found in the pearl oyster *Margaritifera vulgaris*, are commonly of irregular shape and poor lustre, they are therefore very much less valuable than pearls from the Gulf of Mannar.

Publications of the Fisheries Department.—The following publications were issued from the Fisheries Department during 1925:—

(1) Marine Biological Survey of the Littoral Waters of Ceylon (in the Press).
(2) Commercial Possibilities of Trawl Fishing in the Sea around Ceylon.
(3) Ceylon Government Fisheries Vessel "Nautilus" (in the Press).
(4) Ceylon Administration Report for 1924—Marine Biology.
(5) Sessional Paper—Marine Biologist's Report on the Pearl Fishery 1925 (in the Press).

Publications (1), (2), and (3) are contained in Volume II., Fisheries Section, Ceylon Journal of Science; (4) and (5) issued were separately by order of Government.

X.—Medical.

Medical Department.

THERE are a Lunatic Asylum and two Leper Asylums—one at Hendala in the Western Province and the other at Mantivu in the Eastern Province, a Tuberculosis Sanatorium at Kandana in the Western Province, and 93 other Government hospitals, including a hospital for chronic cases of pulmonary tuberculosis equipped with modern hospital furniture and medical and surgical appliances. The number of beds in the institutions ranges from 12 to 720, while the number accommodated in the Lunatic Asylum averaged 1,320. In addition to the hospitals there are 537 central and branch dispensaries, including a central institute in Colombo for tuberculosis cases, this last has an up-to-date X'ray apparatus. The owners of estates have provided 79 estate hospitals, which receive a rebate on export duty, and 690 estate dispensaries receiving drugs free from Government to the value of 50 cents per labourer per annum.

The general rebuilding scheme in the Ceylon Medical College remained deferred. It is hoped that provision will be made for a new Physiological Laboratory and new offices in 1926–27. The full course of training at the College is five years for the medical students and two years for the apothecary students. A diploma in medicine, surgery, and midwifery (which can be

registered in the United Kingdom) is granted to successful medical students. The apothecary students are employed by Government after they qualify in the final examination.

The following were the attendances and passes during the last two years :—

	Attendances.		Passes.	
Sessions ending	Medical.	Apothecary.	Medical.	Apothecary.
March, 1924	185	26	12	5
July, 1924	173	31	8	4
March, 1925	92	21	38	12
July, 1925	123	20	48	14

There are in Colombo a Bacteriological Institute, a Pasteur Institute, a General Hospital of 720 beds, an Opthalmic Hospital, a Lying-in Home, a hospital for women and children and a hospital for infectious diseases. There are special dispensaries at Kandy, Galle, and Jaffna for the treatment to eye diseases.

The Lunatic Asylum contained 1,291 inmates on December 31, 1925. The new asylum buildings at Angoda, 6 miles away from Colombo, were completed and occupied on February 1, 1926, it has accommodation for 1,500 inmates and for the necessary staff and servants. The number treated in the asylum during 1925 was 1,768 (1,120 males and 648 females). The numbers discharged were 228 males and 98 females. These figures include those admitted to the House of Observation.

Of the two Leper Asylums, one is at Hendala, 6 miles from Colombo, and contained 541 patients at the end of the year. The total treated during 1925 numbered 663. The asylum at Mantivu contained 131 lepers at the end of the year, the total treated during 1925 was 158. A Home for Incurables of 89 beds is administered by a Committee of Government officials and representatives of the public. The campaign against anchylostomiasis for the year was confined to sanitated village areas, viz.:—

Siyane korale west and Alutkuru korale north.
Gampaha-Veyangoda.
Homagama (Hewagam korale).
Padukka (Hewagam korale).
Horana (Rayigam korale).

The total number of persons treated amounted to 61,181.

Academical.

During the year 28 students obtained the L.M.S. Ceylon, qualifying them to practise medicine, surgery, and midwifery ; and 13 new students joined the College as medical students ; at the end of the year the various classes were distributed as follows:—

1st year	13
2nd year	2
3rd year	39
4th year	25
5th year	72
	151

The results of the various professional examinations were as follows :—

	December.		March.		July.		Total.	
	Sat.	Passed.	Sat.	Passed.	Sat.	Passed.	Sat.	Passed.
Final	23	9	26	7	35	12	84	28
3rd Professional	—	—	35	17	31	19	66	36
2nd Professional	—	—	16	8	30	11	46	19
1st Professional	—	—	5	2	3	1	(June)	3

The following scholarships, medals, and prizes were awarded :—

October, 1924—A. Rustomjee Jamsetjee Jeejeebhoy Scholarship—E. T. Samuel.
December, 1924—Dadabhoy Gold Medal for Medicine—A. S. Gunawardene.
March, 1925—Perry Exhibition—M. V. P. Peries.
June, 1925—Entrance Scholarship, Pre-Medical Medal, Lucy de Abrew Medal—R. D. de A. Seneviratne.
July, 1925—2nd Professional Scholarship—S. Aryaratnam.
2nd Professional Medal—A. E. Koch.
Chalmers Gold Medal for Anatomy—S. Aryaratnam.
De Heer Gold Medal for Physiology—H. V. R. de Silva.
Mathew Gold Medal for Medical Jurisprudence—W. Wickremasinghe.
The Vanderstraaten Medal for Hygiene—R. G. Perera.
The Rockwood Gold Medal for Surgery, the Garvin Gold Medal for Operative Surgery, the Dadabhoy Gold Medal for Medicine, the Diploma Medal, the Rutherford Gold Medal for Tropical Medicine—M. V. P. Peries.
July, 1925—1st Apothecaries' Medal—B. A. Vanderkoon.
July, 1925—Vanderstraaten Certificate for Hygiene—A. D. S. Cyril.
March, 1925—Perry Exhibition—P. S. K. Peter.

The Rutherford Gold Medal for Tropical Medicine is awarded by the Council in honour of Dr. G. J. Rutherford, who for ten years was Principal Civil Medical Officer and Principal of the College.

In the apothecary section 13 new students joined the College and 14 passed out as qualified apothecaries. At the two examinations 18 candidates sat for the 1st Apothecary Examination and 12 passed, while 23 sat for the Final Apothecary Examination and 14 passed.

One apothecary student was discontinued, as he had failed to pass the Apothecary Final in the scheduled time.

Administrative Changes.

Of these, the most important is the reconstruction of the Medical College Council under Ordinance No. 25 of 1924. Under this Ordinance the members representing the medical profession at large in Ceylon and the British Medical Association disappear, and the Council will henceforth consist only of nominated representatives of the teaching staff and certain officials, *ex officio*, as follows :—

The Director of Medical and Sanitary Services.
The Assistant or Deputy Director of Medical and Sanitary Services.
The Senior Military Medical Officer, Colombo.
The Registrar of the Medical College.
One Lecturer in Pre-Medical subjects.
One Lecturer in 1st Professional subjects.
One Lecturer in 2nd Professional subjects.
One Lecturer in final subjects.

The first meeting of the new Council was held on September 18, 1925. The following are the members :—

The Hon. Dr. J. F. E. Bridger, Director of Medical and Sanitary Services.
Dr. G. Thornton, Deputy Director of Medical and Sanitary Services.
Lieut.-Colonel N. Dunbar Walker, O.B.E., R.A.M.C., Senior Military Medical Officer, Colombo, and Government Assessor.
Dr. F. O'B. Ellison, Registrar, Ceylon Medical College.
Dr. Lucian de Zilwa, Final Lecturer.
Dr. Joseph de Silva, 2nd Professional Lecturer.
Dr. Gunaratnam Cooke, 1st Professional Lecturer.
Professor W. N. Rae, M.A., F.I.C., Pre-Medical Lecturer.

The following changes were made in the teaching staff during the year :—

D. F. O'B. Ellison resigned the acting Lecturership in Medical Electricity. Dr. H. O. Gunewardene, Radiologist to the General Hospital, was appointed permanently to this post.

Dr. S. T. Gunasekera was appointed Lecturer in Hygiene in place of Dr. Bridger, promoted to be P.C.M.O.

During the month of January, 1925, Dr. S. Somasunderam was absent on account of illness. Dr. E. M. Wijerama acted as Demonstrator of Anatomy and Physiology and Lecturer in Practical Pathology and Elementary Anatomy and Physiology in his place.

During the absence of Dr. V. Gabriel, on leave, Dr. E. C. Alles acted as Lecturer in Operative Surgery during the short session, and Dr. G. Cooke acted as Clinical Lecturer in the Out-Patient Surgical Department.

During the absence of Dr. E. C. Spaar, on leave, Dr. W. L. de Silva acted as Lecturer on Diseases of Children and on Elementary Medicine.

New Appointments.

Provision was made in the Budget for the appointment of an assistant to the Professor of Physiology, an extra Grade II. Medical Officer to be provided in the Civil Medical Department, and the selected officer to be posted for whole-time duty in the Medical College, to receive his grade salary plus an allowance, with increments annually, and permission to take pupils for coaching in Physiology if he so desire. Dr. S. S. Selladurai was recommended for the posts by the Professor of Physiology, but the formal appointment with the approval of the Council had not been made at the close of the academic year.

The extra equipment for the Physiology Department provided for last year has now been received, and the standard of teaching, both theoretical and practical, has been much improved in consequence.

In particular, the illustration of lectures is much better, and the practical work more in conformity to modern requirements, while the students' practical work shows great improvement owing to the apparatus employed being now in a proper state of repair.

The revenue of the College amounted to Rs. 37,992, showing an increase of Rs. 7,968 owing to the increased scale of fees now in force.

Expenditure amounted to Rs. 82,809.

Plague and Quarantine.

Plague in 1925.

Cases.	Deaths.
68	66

Of these, 4 cases and deaths were reported from outstations as follows :—

Kalutara, 3 cases and 3 deaths.
Galle, 1 case and 1 death

Plague for all practical purposes is confined to Colombo.

Plague in Colombo.

Human Plague.—Sixty-four cases and 58 deaths occurred during the year, this being the lowest number of cases or deaths recorded since Plague first appeared in Ceylon in 1914. The case mortality was 90·6 per cent., which is also the lowest on record. The corresponding figures for 1924 were 148 cases and 140 deaths, representing a case mortality of 94·5 per cent.

Eighteen of the cases were of the "Septicaemic," 45 of the "Bubonic," and 1 of the somewhat rare "Cutaneous" type. As usual, all the Septicaemic cases proved fatal. Forty of the Bubonic cases died. The Cutaneous case recovered.

The chief centres of infection, as usual, coincided generally with the distribution of X. Cheopis as ascertained by Dr. Hirst, viz., St. Paul's, Pettah, and New Bazaar wards. No case of human plague occurred in the South Maradana Cheopis area. Young males between the ages of 10 and 25 were, as before, the chief sufferers.

Rat Plague.—24,372 rodents, including rats, mice, and bandicoots, were examined at the laboratory, with the result that 13 rats and 2 mice were found infected, the infection rate being 0·06 per cent. as compared with the rate 0·29 in 1924.

Preventive Measures.—The usual preventive measures were adopted, with the important addition that special attention was devoted to deratization and flea destruction in the localities where X. Cheopis was proved, as the result of Dr. Hirst's flea survey, to occur.

Annual Incidence of Plague Cases.

	1914.	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	Average. 1914 to 1924.	1925.
Total cases	413	139	291	207	70	87	235	184	136	230	148	173	64
Total deaths	381	128	273	196	69	82	223	170	131	209	140	162	58
Septicaemic cases	247*	81*	159	124	41	50	93	70	57	66	47	79	18
Septicaemic deaths	246	80	159	124	41	50	93	70	57	66	47	79	18
Bubonic cases	166	58	132	83	29	37	142	114	79	164	94	93	45
Bubonic deaths	135	48	114	72	28	32	130	100	74	143	86	83	40
Pneumonic cases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	?	—
Pneumonic deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	?	—
Cutaneous cases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Cutaneous deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total case mortality, per cent.	92·2	92·8	93·8	94·7	98·6	94·3	94·9	92·4	96·3	90·9	94·5	93·6	90·6
Septicaemic case mortality, per cent.	99·6	98·7	100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0
Bubonic case mortality, per cent.	81·3	82·7	86·4	86·7	96·6	86·5	91·5	87·7	93·8	87·2	91·5	89·2	88·9
Pneumonic case mortality, per cent.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	100·0	100·0	—

* The cases for 1914 and 1915 each include one septicaemic recovery, but the diagnosis in either case was not confirmed bacteriologically, and may have been erroneous.

Monthly Incidence of Plague Cases.

January	4	19	17	25	13	—	25	65	13	28	46	25	5
February	67	6	18	40	18	1	20	53	10	32	22	22	6
March	58	3	18	61	10	3	3	27	6	11	7	15	8
April	28	3	14	34	11	—	3	7	2	17	24	12	6
May	29	3	11	11	2	—	4	2	7	9	9	6	1
June	49	1	36	3	9	—	3	1	8	10	6	8	10
July	47	5	43	6	2	—	12	3	10	21	11	11	8
August	40	20	35	1	1	2	7	2	7	23	5	10	8
September	18	21	25	3	—	5	18	2	7	26	3	11	5
October	23	24	24	7	—	18	28	9	14	12	3	14	1
November	24	10	25	10	2	34	34	4	19	13	8	16	5
December	26	24	25	6	2	24	78	9	33	28	4	23	1
Total for the year	413	139	291	207	70	87	235	184	136	230	148	173	64
Monthly mean	34·4	11·6	24·2	17·2	5·8	7·2	19·6	15·3	11·3	19·2	12·3	14·4	5·3

Plague, Cholera, and Smallpox, 1925.

Plague.

	Cases.	Deaths.
Western Province :—		
Colombo town	64	62
Kalutara	3	3
Southern Province :—		
Galle	1	1

Cholera.

Western Province :—		
Colombo town	*5	5
Colombo port	1	1
Eastern Province :—		
Trincomalee District	130	76
Batticaloa District	5	3
Northern Province :—		
Marichchukaddi	2	2
Murunkan	6	6
Jaffna Town Jail	1	1
Talaimannar	1	1
Province of Uva :—		
Alutnuwara hospital	1	1
Province of Sabaragamuwa :—		
Kegalla hospital	2	2
Central Province :—		
Dikoya	2	2
Pata Dumbara, Kandy	1	1
North-Central Province :—		
Angoda	2	1
Mavil	37	17
Tirukonamadu	36	17
Gangapola	1	1
Minnerioya	44	28
Galella	1	1
Minneriya	2	2
Meneville	4	2
Muthugala	1	1
Meegaswewa	1	1
Nugagahadamina	4	4
Sungaville	8	5
Mulwatta	3	1
Kitulutu	1	1
64th mile, railway	2	2
Kanderuwala	1	1

* Two cases admitted to Infectious Diseases Hospital, Colombo, came from India *viâ* Mandapam.

Smallpox.

	Cases.	Deaths.
Western Province :—		
Colombo town	1 ..	—
Colombo port	22 ..	1
Province of Sabaragamuwa :—		
Minuwangoda, Kegalla	1 ..	1
Northern Province :—		
Talaimannar	1 ..	—
Province of Uva :—		
Lower Viharagalle estate, Haputale ..	2 ..	—
Central Province :—		
Kotagala	1 ..	1

VITAL STATISTICS.

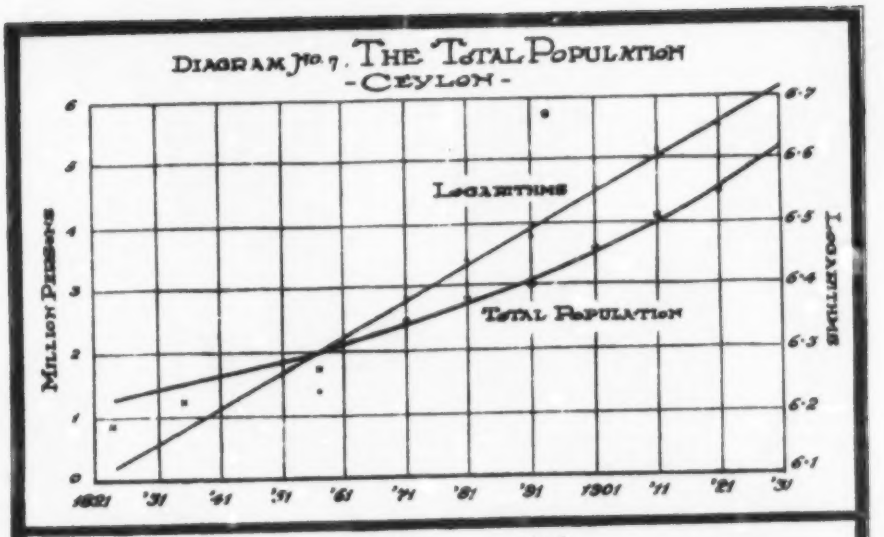
Population.—The estimated population of Ceylon on December 31, 1925, was 5,009,503 persons, as against 4,861,672 at the end of 1924 and 4,498,605 at the Census of March 18, 1921. The increase of 147,831 persons over the population of the preceding year was due to an excess of 75,719 births over deaths and an excess of 72,112 arrivals over departures.

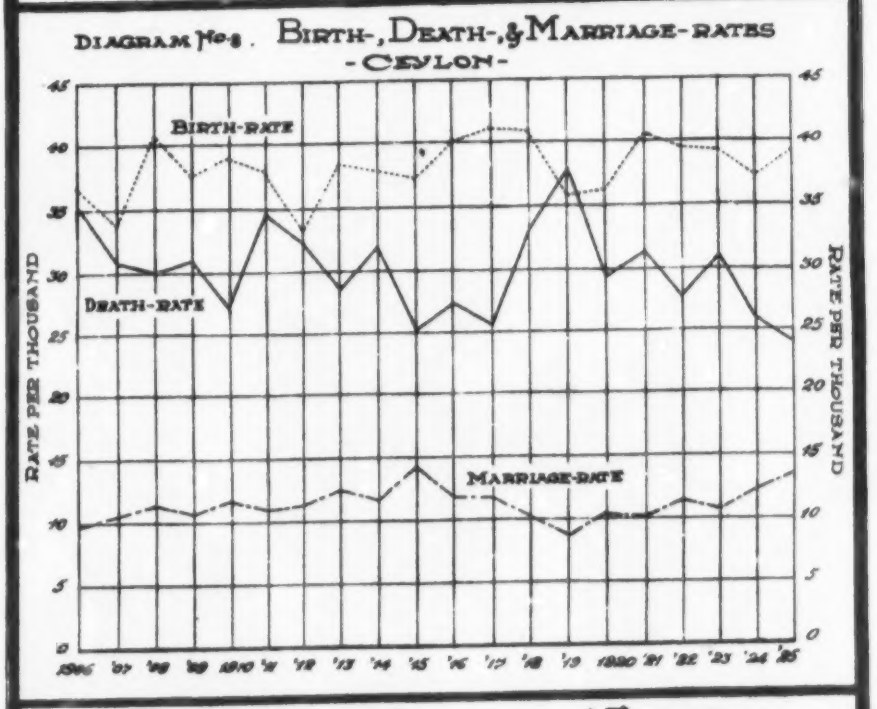
Migration.—During the year under review 251,908 persons arrived in the Island and 179,796 persons left it; of the arrivals, 229,065 persons were from India and 22,843 from other countries; of the departures, 156,334 persons were bound for India and 23,462 for other countries. The excess of immigrants over emigrants from India reached the unprecedentedly high figure of 99,995 last year, but it has fallen this year to 72,731, which is nevertheless the second highest figure on record.

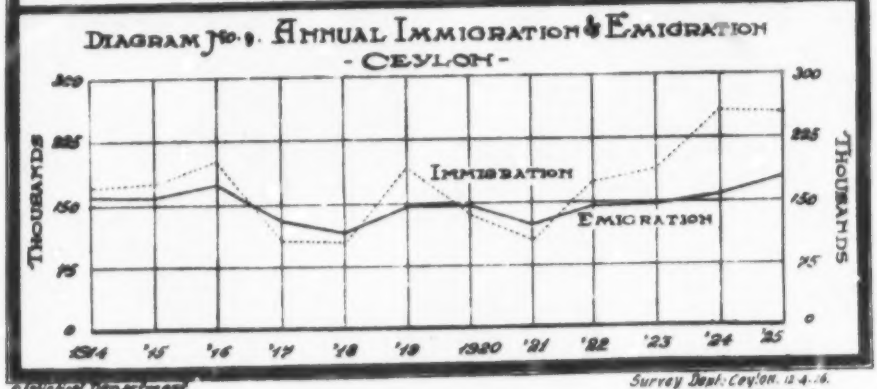
Race Constitution of the Population.—The population of each of the principal races of the Island as estimated to the end of the year and the proportion of each race per 1,000 of the total population are as follows :—

Race.	Estimated Population on December 31, 1925.	Proportion of each Race per 1,000 of the Total Population.
Europeans	10,212 ..	2·0
Burghers and Eurasians ..	31,532 ..	6·3
Sinhalese	3,232,736 ..	645·3
Tamils	1,152,996 ..	230·2
Moors	293,406 ..	58·6
Malays	14,403 ..	2·9
Others	26,338 ..	5·2
Excess of immigrants over emigrants (exclusive of Europeans) since March 18, 1921	247,880 ..	49·5

Marriages.—The number of marriages (exclusive of Muslim) registered in 1925 was 31,331, of which 24,778 were under the General Marriages Ordinance and 6,553 under the Kandyan.







Statistical Department

Survey Dept: Ceylon. 12.4.16.
From Tracing Supplied.

The total number registered was the highest since 1899, and was 4,213 marriages higher than in the previous year. The rate of persons married per 1,000 of the estimated population was 13·6, as against 12·1 in 1924 and 11·3 the average for the past decade. The improvement in the rate points to the satisfactory social and economic conditions now prevailing in the country.

The number of Muslim marriages registered amounted to 863, as against 854 in the foregoing year.

Of the total number of marriages registered in the Island, the marriages in which one or both parties were residents of the proclaimed towns amounted to 4,402, of which 3,738 were marriages under the General Marriages Ordinance, 60 under the Kandyan, and 604 under the Muslim.

Births.—The total number of births registered during the year was 193,262, of which 98,707 were males and 94,555 females. The number is the highest on record, and is 14,396 births more than the number registered in 1924. The resulting rate is 39·2 per 1,000 of the estimated population, as against 37·3 in the year preceding and 38·4 the average for the decennium 1915–1924. The highest birth rate was experienced in the Province of Uva (48·5), and the lowest (33·4) in the Western. All the Provinces have improved remarkably on their respective rates in the previous year.

The proportion of male to female children born during the year was 1,044 to 1,000, as against 1,040 in the preceding year.

The births registered on the estates scheduled under the Medical Wants Ordinance numbered 23,428 (11,875 males and 11,553 females), which is 802 births less than in the foregoing year.

In the 33 principal towns the number registered was 20,401, which corresponded to a birth rate of 32·8 per 1,000 of the urban population, as against 30·3 in 1924 and 29·4 the average for the past decade.

In the city of Colombo 7,661 births were registered during the year, and the corresponding rate was 29·9, against 27·7 in the previous year and 25·1 the average for the decennium ending 1924.

Deaths.—The deaths of 117,543 persons (60,003 males and 57,540 females) were registered in the Island in 1925. The number is the lowest registered since 1917, and is 15,104 deaths less than the average for the years 1915–24. The death rate calculated per 1,000 of the estimated population was 23·9, as against 25·7 in the preceding year. The death rate recorded this year is the lowest experienced in the Island since 1897. All the Provinces have improved on their rates last year, with

the exception of the Western Province, where the rate has slightly risen from 19·9 in 1924 to 20·3 this year. The rate was highest in the North-Central Province (42·7) and lowest in the Western.

The number of registered deaths on estates scheduled under the Medical Wants Ordinance amounted to 19,643 (9,651 males and 9,992 females), which is 899 deaths less than the number registered in 1924 and 603 less than the past decennial average. In the 33 principal towns the number of deaths registered was 20,317, of which 15,778 were of town residents, corresponding to a standardized rate of 27·4 per mille, as against 28·5 in the preceding year and 29·9 the average for the past ten years. In the city of Colombo 7,739 deaths were registered, of which 6,402 were of residents, corresponding to a standardized death rate of 28·8 per 1,000 of its population, as in the previous year, against 28·9 the average rate for the decade 1915–24.

Infant Mortality.—The mortality of infants under one year of age amounted to 33,221, and represented 28 per cent. of the total mortality at all ages. The infant mortality rate, calculated on the number of births registered during the year, was 172. As the birth rate of this year is somewhat higher than that of 1924, the correct infant mortality rate should be in the region of 176, which is a noteworthy improvement over the rate in the year previous (186) and over the average in the last decennium (190).

On the estates the number of children who died in the first year of life was 5,170, and amounted to 26 per cent. of the total estate mortality, as against 30 per cent. in the foregoing year. The infant death rate per 1,000 estate births registered during the year was 221, which compares favourably with the rate in the previous year (256) and the average for the last decade (224).

In the 33 principal towns the deaths of 4,403 infants under one year were registered. The number corresponded to a rate of 216 per 1,000 births registered during the year, and was 19 per 1,000 lower than the rate in 1924. The rate experienced this year is the lowest on record. In the city of Colombo the infant death rate per 1,000 births of the year fell from 240 in 1924 to 221 this year, the average for the decade 1915–1924 being 252.

Causes of Death.—Of the 117,543 deaths registered from all causes during the year, the highest number (15,707) was attributed to the ill-defined cause pyrexia (fever), which is returned as a cause of death invariably by the rural registrars, who are laymen, owing to defective death certification by unqualified native physicians in the rural areas. Infantile

convulsions, diarrhoea, and pneumonia were also returned as causes of considerable mortality. The rate of mortality per million of the estimated population from certain selected causes registered in the Island is shown below :—

	1924.	1925.
Pyrexia	3,694	3,188
Infantile convulsions	2,901	2,642
Diarrhoea	1,884	1,652
Pneumonia	1,741	1,496
Dysentery	852	756
Phthisis	675	658
Anchylostomiasis	387	430
Premature birth and congenital defects	427	419
Influenza	360	311
Puerperal septicaemia	276	278
Malaria and malarial cachexia	360	267
Bronchitis	266	196
Enteric fever	170	146
Cancer	99	82

The above rates would indicate that the decrease in the total mortality of the Island was shared by most of the principal diseases, with the exceptions of anchylostomiasis and puerperal septicaemia.

Influenza.—1,532 deaths (784 males and 748 females) were registered from influenza during the year, as against 1,725 in the preceding year. The number registered this year being the lowest since its outbreak in 1918, would raise the expectation of its speedy disappearance from this country.

Pneumonia.—The deaths of 7,371 persons (4,133 males and 3,238 females) were assigned to pneumonia and broncho-pneumonia this year, as against 8,339 in the previous year and 7,972 the average for the decade ending 1924. The mortality from these two causes were fairly evenly distributed in the first three quarters of the year and declined somewhat in the last.

Plague.—Sixty-four deaths (57 males and 7 females) were registered from plague this year, reducing the number last year by as many as 90 deaths. In the city of Colombo, which is the stronghold of this disease, 60 deaths were registered, and of the rest 3 were registered in Kalutara and 1 in Galle. The deaths were spread over all the months of the year, with a maximum of 9 in both February and March to a minimum of 1 in October.

Smallpox.—During the year 3 deaths (1 male and 2 females) were registered from smallpox, and this number is remarkably low when compared with 8 in the previous year and 35 the average for the years 1915–1924. The three deaths were registered in Colombo town and Nuwara Eliya and Mannar Districts.

Cholera.—This year as many as 189 deaths (118 males and 71 females) were registered from cholera, as against 20 in 1924 and 65 the average for the decennium 1915–1924. This excessive mortality was due to several outbreaks during the year, two of which occurred in Trincomalee District in January and April, with a loss of 92 lives, one in Mannar District during the pearl fishery season, with a loss of 10 lives, and one in Anuradhapura District in June, resulting in 71 deaths. The second outbreak at Trincomalee appears to have spread to Batticaloa District as well, where 6 deaths from cholera were registered. The mortality from these epidemics would have been very much heavier if not for the timely and effective preventive measures adopted by the Government Sanitary Department.

Affections produced by External Causes.—The total number of deaths tabulated under this head was 2,562 (1,864 males and 698 females), as against 2,492 in the year preceding. Of this number, 447 deaths were due to accidental drowning and 416 (411 males and 5 females) to falls from trees. Burns caused 241 deaths (122 males and 119 females), of which 43 were due to the upsetting of the bottle lamp, as against 31 in 1924. Snake-bite caused 262 deaths, or 1 less than in the previous year.

Suicide.—There were 235 cases of suicide (154 males and 81 females) registered this year, or 5 more than the number last year.

Homicide.—The deaths of 209 persons (161 males and 48 females) were attributed to homicide, as against 207 in 1924. The knife was the instrument of attack employed in many of these cases.

Executions.—Twenty-seven men, or 14 less than in the previous year, underwent this year the extreme penalty of the law.

Causes of Death on Estates.—Of the 19,643 estate deaths registered, no less than 3,517 or 18 per cent. were assigned to debility, that of infants under 3 months alone numbering 2,570. Dysentery caused 2,470 deaths, or 68 more than last year, and pneumonia caused 2,454 deaths, or 536 less than last year. The deaths of 1,501 persons were returned from anchylostomiasis, and of 1,442 from diarrhoea. The mortality from infantile convulsions came down from 1,636 deaths last year to 1,386 this year, a very satisfactory improvement. Under premature birth and congenital defects were tabulated 767 deaths, under bronchitis 358, under phthisis 320, under influenza 294, under malaria and malarial cachexia 179. There were 32 cases of suicide and 8 of homicide, as against 30 and 16, respectively, of the year preceding.

Causes of Death in Towns.—In the 33 towns 20,317 deaths were registered from all causes. Pneumonia, as usual, exacted the highest toll of 2,854 lives, or 97 less lives than last year. Convulsions followed with 1,467 deaths, against 1,406 in 1924; debility of infants with 1,387, against 1,497 in 1924; and phthisis with 1,309, against 1,286 in 1924. Diarrhoea caused 886 deaths and dysentery 872. There were 745 deaths registered from enteritis, 674 from anchylostomiasis, 652 from Bright's disease and nephritis, 646 from malaria and malarial cachexia, and 517 from enteric fever. Influenza claimed 411 deaths, bronchitis 398, puerperal septicaemia 299, and cancer 150. The deaths of 64 persons were registered from plague and of 52 persons from cholera. Accidents resulted in 466 deaths, or 60 more than last year. There were 41 deaths from suicide and 56 from homicide.

XI.—Law and Justice.

Legislation.

SIXTEEN Ordinances were passed during the year, some of them being amending Ordinances, which call for no special comment.

The more important new Ordinances are—

Ordinance No. 1.—The object of this Ordinance was to provide for the transfer of the assets and liabilities of the Disabled Ceylon Men's Fund to Government and to repeal Ordinance No. 31 of 1916, under which the Fund was originally incorporated. The Standing Committee of the Fund had been compelled to reduce the amount of the pensions and allowances payable under the Ordinance on account of the inadequacy of the funds at their disposal. This Ordinance provided for the payment of pensions and allowances by the Government at the full rates as from October 1, 1924.

Ordinance No. 2.—The primary object of this Ordinance was to confer on the Government the necessary powers for the proper administration of pearl fishery camps. The opportunity was taken to revise and consolidate the whole law relating to pearl fisheries, which was contained in no fewer than five Ordinances.

Ordinance No. 6.—This Ordinance was enacted to legalize an arrangement made between the Government and the Local Board of Batticaloa for the former to take over the management and control of the Batticaloa Waterworks.

Ordinance No. 7.—This Ordinance incorporated the Board of Directors of the Parameshvara College, Jaffna.

Ordinance No. 9.—This Ordinance amended the Road Ordinance, 1861, and the Road Ordinance, 1861, Amendment Ordinance, 1884, by providing that in future all labour or commutation money shall be devoted exclusively to minor roads and resthouses.

Ordinance No. 12.—The object of this Ordinance was to make provision for the establishment of a Tea Research Institute for the purpose of research into and investigation of all problems and matters relating to tea and the provision and publication of information relating to the same and the provision of facilities for the education of students in tea research. It also incorporates the Board of Management of the Institute.

Ordinance No. 13.—This Ordinance amended the Maintenance Ordinance, 1889, by making provision for the awarding of costs of an application or appeal to the successful party and also by providing a time limit for the filing of petitions of appeal.

Ordinance No. 14.—The object of this Ordinance was to make provision for the collection of revenue in money instead of by stamps where it is more convenient to do so.

Ordinance No. 15.—This Ordinance consolidated and amended the law relating to trade marks, with the object of bring it up to date and into conformity with the law of England.

POLICE.

Part I.—The Force.

Strength.—The strength of the Force provided for in the Estimates was on December 31—

Inspector-General	1
Deputy Inspectors-General	2
Superintendents, Assistant Superintendents, and Probationers	35
Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors	171
Sergeants-Major	2
Sergeants	352
Constables	2,482
European Police Force.	
Chief Inspector	1
Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors	4
Sergeants	28
Total of all ranks ..	3,078

The total strength of the Force was short by 136 on December 31. This shortage, which is double that at the end of 1924, occurs principally in the rank of constable, in which there was a shortage of 106. This is due to two causes, viz. :—

(*a*) *The higher standard of work and conduct required*, which has led to the dismissal and discharge of 162 men in 1925 as against 82 in 1924.

Every man on appointment to the Force, whatever his rank, is now most definitely informed that evidence scientifically proved is of more value than a forced confession, and that the finger-print, foot-print, and photographic systems and the employment of experts, such as the Government Analyst and Medical Jurists, are more effective means of detecting crime than cruelty to and intimidation of a prisoner or witness. There is no doubt that, in the past, many misdemeanours were not reported, but as the public has become more educated, abuse of power and unlawful assaults are far more quickly noted and reported than was the case twenty-five years ago, with a consequent increase in the number of dismissals.

(*b*) *The higher standard of Education required.*—During the year 379 men left the Force for various reasons, as against 288 in 1924, and the strength of the Force was increased by 16. We, therefore, were set the task of enlisting 395 men. We were only able to enlist 300. As the Island is becoming more advanced and the people more educated it is necessary that the Police should also be better educated in order to keep pace with the changing conditions. The higher standard of education in all classes in the Colony necessitates a higher standard of education in a police constable. In recent years the increase in the number of cases of a fraudulent nature and the remarkable ingenuity displayed by the offenders both in these cases and in the ordinary cases of burglary and theft is clear evidence of the increasing skill of the criminal in Ceylon. The increasing skill on the part of the criminal is a noticeable result of the better education of all classes, and the Police must aim at a higher standard to supply the counterthrust to his ingenuity. In particular, a knowledge of English is essential for the control of motor traffic, and with the large and daily increasing number of motor vehicles the control of motor traffic is a branch of Police work that every constable must be capable of carrying out, and the time has come when every constable must have a knowledge of English when he joins the Force, or acquire it after enlistment.

Prior to the introduction of the new Salaries Scheme in 1922 it was possible to attract a number of men who could read and write English by enlisting them in a higher grade. This was

necessary in view of the fact that it was impossible for a man to get promotion to the 2nd Class within five years of enlistment in the 3rd Class. There were formerly only three classes of constable, and promotion depended upon the occurrence of vacancies. The new Salaries Scheme has provided 14 grades of constable, with annual increments from the lowest grade to the 1st Class 2nd Grade in eight years' service, by which time a man of intelligence can become a sergeant. There is thus no longer any danger of a block in promotion during the first eight years of a man's service, and every constable has to enlist in the 3rd Class 3rd Grade on Rs. 27 a month. Thus a man enlisted with a knowledge of English or not has to start on the minimum pay of Rs. 27, with the result that a recruit who has passed the 6th or 7th standard in English receives no recompense whatever for the expense he has been put to in learning English. This has been the main cause for a number of resignations among English-knowing recruits recently, and the following suggestions have been drawn up for consideration to attract men with a knowledge of English into the Force and to encourage men who cannot read and write English to learn to do so :—

(*a*) In the case of a recruit who has passed the 5th standard in English an allowance of Rs. 3 per mensem to be paid to him until he becomes a sergeant. Once he has risen to the rank of sergeant there are ample opportunities for him to rise. It is during the first few years he must necessarily serve as a constable before promotion to the rank of sergeant that he needs encouragement.

(*b*) In the case of a recruit who has passed the 7th standard in English an allowance of Rs. 5 to be paid to him until promotion to the rank of sergeant.

(*c*) In the case of a man already in the Force who has passed the 5th or 7th standard in English the above allowance to be granted to him in recognition of his special knowledge and in consideration of the expense he has been put to in learning English.

(*d*) In the case of a man already in the Force who has not passed the 5th or 7th standard the allowance to be granted to him on his qualifying for the allowance at an examination to be held by the Education Department.

The cost per annum to pay these allowances at the present time would, it is estimated, be Rs. 31,800. It has also been suggested that the good conduct allowance, which have remained the same since first started in the year 1909 (first good conduct

allowance 50 cents a month after two years' good conduct), should now be increased. By this means it is confidently hoped that in future it will be possible to keep the Force up to strength while still preserving a high standard both of conduct and education.

Expenditure.—The cost of the Force was Rs. 3,025,202. The cost of Police per man is Rs. 983 per annum. The cost per head of population is 67 cents or 11*d.*

Part II.—Crime.

Crime committed during the Year.—The following is a comparison of the figures for the last three years :—

	1923.	1924.	1925.
Homicide	189	217	184
Attempted homicide ..	51	77	89
Grievous hurt	730	877	880
Hurt with dangerous weapons ..	921	1,101	1,299
Burglary	1,681	1,713	2,010
Theft of cattle and praedial produce	605	472	485
Other offences	2,320	2,476	2,703
Total ..	6,497	6,933	7,650

The statistics of crime for the last six years classified under the three main heads are as follows :—

"Offences against the Person," which are not directly preventable by direct Police action, are shown separately from "Offences against Property," which are shown under the head "Preventable Crime" :—

Year.	Total Crime.	Offences against the Person (excluding Robbery).	Preventable Crime, Offences against Property (including Robbery).	Offences against the State.
1920 ..	8,189 ..	2,107 ..	6,055 ..	27
1921 ..	7,640 ..	2,122 ..	5,494 ..	24
1922 ..	7,045 ..	2,212 ..	4,805 ..	28
1923 ..	6,497 ..	2,020 ..	4,444 ..	33
1924 ..	6,933 ..	2,433 ..	4,469 ..	31
1925 ..	7,650 ..	2,668 ..	4,947 ..	35

From these tables it will be seen that the number of cases of offences against the person has still further increased and is the highest recorded in the last six years, while the number of cases of preventable crime has also increased and is the highest figure recorded in the last four years.

Crimes of Violence.—A striking feature of crimes of violence in Ceylon is the complete loss of self-control on the part of the assailant. Each year is marked by a number of brutal and senseless murders, of which examples are quoted in this report. The great majority of crimes of violence are due to a sudden loss

of self-restraint and are unpremeditated, and there can be little doubt that any means that are effective in increasing the self-control of the people will be correspondingly effective in reducing the number of crimes of violence. During the year there was one crime of violence to every 1,805 persons.

In a previous report it was pointed out that the offence of causing hurt with a knife, which description covers half the crimes of violence, is not an offence which can be prevented by headmen and police patrolling villages and towns as they do to prevent burglary and theft. In the great majority of cases the use of the knife is unpremeditated. It is due primarily to loss of self-control, and is marked by a complete disregard for the consequences.

The passing of words and abuse must frequently end in a fight all the world over. The only difference between all the countries in the world lies in the weapon used, and whereas in England two men fighting make use of their fists, and there is consequently little risk of serious injury being caused, in Ceylon the knife is used, and the danger of serious injury is great.

The only sound way, therefore, to bring about a change in the method of fighting in Ceylon is to teach boys to use their fists, and it has been suggested that the best method of effecting this is to give every possible encouragement to the teaching of boxing in school and so training the younger generation to use their fists. A particular point has been made of encouraging boxing in the Police Boys' Brigade and teaching all boys to use their fists, and boxing has also been introduced in the Pettah Street Boys' Club. If this was done in every school in Ceylon men and boys would in course of time become accustomed to using their fists. With a view to encouraging boxing a sum of Rs. 3,500 has been voted for the encouragement of boxing in villages.

The following statement is of interest as showing the distribution of crimes of violence, classified according to the different sections of the population :—

Section of the Population.	Total Crimes of Violence.	Population according to the Census of 1921.	Crime of Violence per Population.
Low-country (Western, North-Western, and Southern Provinces and Colombo City)	1,686 ..	2,410,166 ..	1 to every 1,429 persons
Kandyan (Central, North-Central, Uva, and Sabaragamuwa Provinces)	571 ..	1,519,844 ..	1 to every 2,663 persons
Tamil (Northern and Eastern Provinces)	195 ..	567,676 ..	1 to every 2,911 persons

It will be seen that it is in the low-country Provinces that the teaching of self-control is most needed in schools.

Offences against Property.—The increase in offences against property is by no means confined to Ceylon. It has been experienced almost all over the world. There has been an increase of burglary in the London Metropolitan Police area and of offences against property in England generally, and the report on crime in South Australia for the year ending June 30, 1925, showed an increase of 16 per cent. in crime with a 13 per cent. increase in housebreaking and theft.

There can be no doubt that the opening up of the country and the more speedy means of communication afford opportunities and facilities for bad characters travelling to and committing crime in districts in which they are not known. The opening up of a new district necessitates the construction of new roads and railways, and these works draw people from other districts, and are particularly attractive to criminals, to whom they extend opportunities of work in districts where they are unknown and consequently not subjected to the supervision which can be exercised over them in their own villages.

The criminal is clearly alive to the advantages to be gained by making use of the improved means of communication throughout the Island. Every year sees an increase in the number of motor buses on the roads. From the point of view of the criminal the motor bus possesses advantages which the railway does not. It can stop anywhere or at any time, and its halting places are not invariably connected by telegraph, as is the case of a train. Numerous instances have been reported during the year illustrating how criminals make use of the motor bus to commit crimes in another district and return with their plunder. It is interesting to note that exactly the same state of affairs exist in England and Wales, where the criminals have used motor cars to facilitate their operations in certain classes of offences against property, and crimes of this nature have increased so extensively as to raise considerably the total of all offences. The village headman cannot be expected to exercise the same control over strangers to the village as over villagers who have been known to one another for generations, and as a district is opened up and strangers and bad characters from other parts are attracted by new works the headman need assistance. The remedy lies in introducing Police in such districts to supplement the work of the headman and encouraging hearty co-operation between such Police and the headmen and close co-operation between Police of different districts in the exchange of information as regards the movements of criminals. Closer supervision over dangerous criminals and over motor buses, especially at night, is necessary, and special action is being taken on these lines.

Distribution of Crime.—The following table shows the distribution of crime :—

Province.	Homicide.	Attempted Homicide.	Grievous Hurt.	Hurt with Dangerous Weapons.	Burglary.	Theft of Cattle and Praedial Produce.	Other Offences.	Total.
Western	51	16	228	376	488	147	476	1,782
North-Western	34	23	89	195	382	106	382	1,211
Southern	35	19	136	229	260	88	232	999
Central	12	8	121	119	266	79	371	916
Sabaragamuwa	20	11	80	112	310	50	276	859
Colombo City	9	5	91	150	104	8	477	844
Northern	10	—	69	41	73	24	236	453
Uva	5	1	32	31	73	27	97	266
Eastern	5	4	27	39	24	13	123	235
North-Central	3	2	7	7	30	3	33	85

Comparing the number of serious offences with the population (given in the 1921 Census Report) it is found that—

In the Colombo City there is 1 case of crime to every		304	persons.
In the North-Western Province	do.	406	do.
In the Province of Sabaragamuwa	do.	549	do.
In the Western Province	do.	556	do.
In the Southern Province	do.	672	do.
In the Central Province	do.	784	do.
In the Eastern Province	do.	822	do.
In the Northern Province	do.	827	do.
In the Province of Uva	do.	879	do.
In the North-Central Province	do.	1,136	do.

The proportion of serious crime to population in Ceylon is 1 case of serious crime per annum to every 588 persons.

Preventable crime (*i.e.*, offences against property, including robbery) in the Western, Central, Uva, and Southern Provinces was normal. There was a decrease of crime in the North-Central Province of 20 per cent. There was an increase of crime in the Colombo City, 27 per cent.; North-Western Province, 38 per cent.; Province of Sabaragamuwa, 17 per cent.; and Eastern Province, 16 per cent.

The most criminal outstation Police areas in Ceylon are Kurunegala District Station with 154 true cases and Kuliyapitiya with 87 true cases of crime in the year.

Action taken to deal with Crime: (*a*) *Means of Communication.*—Out of the 160 stations in the Island 107 are on the telephone. Now that the criminal has begun to avail himself of the cheap and speedy travelling facilities it is more than ever essential that the Police should be provided with the means of prompt communication.

(*b*) *Appointment of an Assistant Superintendent at Avissawella.*—The Province of Sabaragamuwa and the Western Province between them contribute one-third of the total crime of the Island. The Kegalla District in the Province of Sabaragamuwa is the heaviest policed district in the Island, and

situated as it is, 61 miles from the headquarters of the Province, it is not possible for the Kegalla Police to co-operate effectively with the Ratnapura Police. Kegalla is 65 miles and Ratnapura is 56 miles from the office of the Superintendent of Police, Western Province, so co-operation between these two districts with the Western Province Police, which experience has proved to be very necessary, is also impracticable. The proposal has, therefore, been made to station an Assistant Superintendent at Avissawella. Avissawella is 35 miles from Kegalla, 30 miles from the office of the Superintendent of Police, Western Province, and 26 miles from Ratnapura, and is therefore admirably situated to assist co-operation between the Police of the Western and Sabaragamuwa Provinces.

(*c*) *Close Supervision of Dangerous Criminals.* — Special attention is given to the close supervision of dangerous criminals as opposed to the general supervision of all re-convicted criminals. These may have only one conviction and therefore not be classed as " re-convicted criminals," but the fact that they show system and method of committing crime and a distinctly criminal mind renders their close supervision necessary.

(*d*) *Special Instruction to all Ranks.*—Details of new methods which have proved successful in dealing with crime and matters of police interest are published weekly in the " Police Gazette." The " Police Gazette " is issued to every station in the Island, and these reports have a marked effect in keeping Police Officers up-to-date and in keeping their " Police sense " alive.

All ranks are instructed in the " Police Gazette " at regular weekly instruction classes and their knowledge tested by questioning. Thus instruction is regular and progressive throughout a man's service. In addition, at Galle and Kurunegala a weekly circular entitled " Police News " is issued. In this circular mention is made of items of general interest to the Province concerned, but which are not of interest to other Provinces, and all Police Officers are encouraged to contribute articles and observations.

Experience has shown that practical demonstration leaves a more permanent impression on a man's mind than mere instruction, and instruction is therefore made as practicable as possible. Training does not consist merely of verbal instruction. In order to teach a man how to do a thing in a particular way, it is essential that he should not only be told how to do it, but that he should also be shown how to do it, and if possible told the reason for a thing being done in a particular way. For instance, men are taught practically how to perform patrols. They are sent out of the station in the uniform they would wear and with the articles they would carry on patrol. Other

men are posted in the grounds, and the constables are taught to question them, and, when necessary, to search them for house-breaking implements, stolen property, and weapons, precisely as they would have to do on night patrol. The class is held under the supervision of an Officer or Sub-Inspector, who correct faults. This form of instruction leaves a far more lasting impression on a young constable's mind than mere verbal instruction, and when he is sent out on patrol he has a sound practical knowledge of what he has to do and how to do it.

(*e*) *Co-operation with Headmen.*—The headmen for many years carried out with success the functions now discharged by the Police, who formerly were practically confined to the larger towns. The establishment of Police Stations in country districts has, however, been rendered necessary during the last twenty years by the opening up of the country and the development of cheap and rapid communication.

The Police can be of great assistance to the headmen in the investigation of difficult cases, the pursuit of absconders, and the supervision of the travelling criminal, and the headman on his part can render valuable assistance to the Police by sending them prompt information of the commission of a crime, sending injured persons to hospital, and detaining the offender in custody. The headman is usually the first person in authority to arrive at a scene of crime, and his action and evidence have a considerable bearing on the subsequent prosecution of the case.

The headman is in a far better position than the Police are to obtain and supply local information and to control the conduct of the villager, and close co-operation between the headman and the Police is therefore a matter of absolute necessity.

Every effort, therefore, is made to impress on all ranks the necessity of maintaining the closest co-operation and friendly relations with the headman. The proper method of addressing headmen of various grades is a subject of frequent instruction, and Police Officers regularly attend Chief Headmen's monthly division days, and at these meetings the state of crime in the locality, the behaviour of dangerous criminals and bad characters, and the whereabouts of absconders are discussed, and instances of good work by headmen are announced.

(*f*) *Co-operation by the Railway Staff and the Public.*—With the large number of passengers travelling on the railway, the co-operation of the Railway staff is most useful, not only in the detection of persons committing offences on the railway, but also in marking down absconders and persons who should be watched.

Fourteen cases have been brought to the notice of the General Manager in which observation and prompt action by an officer of the Railway staff resulted in the detection of crime. The officers were in each case rewarded.

The co-operation of the public is more necessary to the Police than to almost any other department of the Public Service, and many instances have occurred in which members of the public have rendered valuable assistance to the Police, and the members of the Force very much appreciate and value such co-operation when it is afforded.

(*g*) *Prevention of Crime by Patrolling.*—It is becoming more and more obvious that epidemics of crime of a particular class are due to a limited number of professional criminals, and that such criminals usually work on a definite system. The methods of these criminals do not vary to any great extent, and the success of the Police in dealing with offences against property depends very largely on a proper study of the system and methods employed, particularly in cases of burglary. By tabulating and mapping all cases as they are reported, the officer in charge of a district can usually get an indication as to how the offenders are most likely to be traced and as to what action will be most likely to prevent further cases. The activities of a Police Station are usually confined to the boundaries of that station area, but these boundaries do not exist for the criminal, and it is only by close co-operation between the Police of different stations and districts that the criminal can be circumvented. The study of the details and peculiarities shown in different cases of crime is now receiving close attention on the part of officers in charge of districts. In addition to the ordinary reports of crime which are sent in by Police Stations, the peculiarities of each case are specially reported to the officers in charge of the district, who is responsible for the tabulation and mapping of crime. As a result of these tables and maps much useful information has been obtained, and officers in charge of districts are in a much better position to take effective steps for the prevention of crime.

It has been definitely established that offences against property, such as burglary and cattle stealing, can be prevented by thorough and systematic patrolling, for dangerous criminals know at once whether the Police of a station are moving about their area and naturally avoid station areas where a sound and efficient patrol system is in force. There can be no doubt that a good patrol system is one of the best methods of preventing crime. Numerous cases have occurred in which patrols have arrested offenders in the art of committing crime or leaving

the scene of crime with stolen property or housebreaking implements on their person, which but for the patrol system would possibly never have been detected.

(*h*) *Institution of the Photographic Branch and Footprint Bureau.*—All criminals on being convicted a second time are photographed on the Monday prior to their discharge from jail. Constables who have been specially detailed to supervise criminals attend when these photographs are taken, and dangerous criminals and criminals who have a marked *modus operandi* are specially pointed out. A careful record is kept of all criminals photographed, and their names and registered number are card-indexed for purposes of ready reference. A system of issuing group photographs of criminals has been introduced. Criminals of a similar type, *e.g.*, criminals who commit the same crime or are employed in the same locality are photographed in groups and copies issued to officers interested.

During the year a Footprint Bureau was started on the same lines as the Fingerprint Bureau. This system of identification, which has not been developed in Europe, where boots are generally worn, is peculiarly suitable for an Eastern country, where the majority of people go barefoot, and in Ceylon, where burglary, cattle thefts, and thefts, which, as a rule, necessitate entry into buildings and other premises, are so common, it is probable that in the future it will be possible to state, from the examination of the ridges on a footprint, that it is the footprint of a particular person. Such evidence should be of the greatest value to the Police and to the court investigating the case.

(*i*) *Measures taken to deal with Crime in Colombo.*—The increasing skill and ingenuity of the criminal, due to the spread of education, has rendered the institution of a special plain clothes force in Colombo for the purpose of investigating all cases of grave crime from one central headquarters a matter of necessity. Under present conditions the officer in charge of a station is responsible for the investigation of all crime within his station area, he supervises all dangerous criminals, and must see that all absconders, persons wanted, &c., are sought for in a thorough manner. He is held responsible for the whole interior economy of his station and for the efficient control of traffic in his area on all occasions.

It is therefore natural that all his energies are confined to his station and to the area for which he is held responsible, and that he will pay little attention to the movements and activities of criminals in other parts of Colombo. It is clear, therefore, that in consequence a criminal can act in several

station areas and employ the same system and method of committing crime without arousing the attention that would be aroused if all crime were investigated and dealt with from one central headquarters. In practically in all cases a Police Officer, whatever his rank, shows a particular aptitude for one definite branch of Police work, and a Police Officer who may be a thoroughly sound and efficient investigator of crime may prove a most inefficient controller of traffic at a busy junction.

The Criminal Investigation Department is a small special branch, which is responsible for the investigation of complicated and intricate criminal offences, chiefly those of forgery, cheating, defalcation, and criminal misappropriation, and for rendering assistance in difficult cases. This branch also keeps a record of all persons entering or leaving the Colony, and keeps in touch with the Police of the United Kingdom, British Colonies, and foreign countries with regard to the movements of bad characters.

This department cannot, and should not, attend to cases of theft and the ordinary crime investigated by the Colombo Police.

With the rapid increase of motor traffic (in 1911 there were 745 motor vehicles in the Island, but at the end of 1925 the number was 11,773, and motor vehicles are at present being imported into the Island at the rate of 274 a month) the time has come for the traffic and crime work in Colombo to be separated in exactly the same way as has already been done in London. In London there is at Scotland Yard a Central Investigation Department, which corresponds to all intents and purposes to the Criminal Investigation Department in Colombo, and in each division there is also a small body of plain clothes men who deal with thefts and the ordinary crime such as is reported daily to Police Stations.

A Special Crimes Branch has, therefore, been formed in Colombo which will deal with all crimes reported and have the effect of increasing the efficiency of and reducing the delay in the investigation of crime. The branch consists of 1 European Sub-Inspector, 1 European Sergeant, 8 Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors, and 68 Sergeants and Constables. They will perform their duties in plain clothes and work under the direct control of 2 Assistant Superintendents. The result should be an improvement both in the investigation and prevention of crime and in the control of traffic.

Cocaine, Opium, and Ganja smuggling.—There were 129 prosecutions by the Police for illicit possession of opium : 54¼ pounds in all being seized. There were 128 prosecutions by the Police for illicit possession of ganja : 18 pounds in all being seized. No cases of illicit possession of cocaine were detected during the year.

The usual method of smuggling opium and ganja is by native vessels from India. The drugs are not, as a rule, brought into port, but passed on to a catamaran out at sea off a deserted part of the coast to be conveyed ashore. This method of smuggling makes detection exceedingly difficult, and in 1924 a system of co-operation with the Indian Authorities was started to deal it.

Part III.—Further Action necessary to deal with Crime.

Dealing with Youthful Offenders.—The problem of the treatment of the youthful offender is a most urgent one, for it is the crux of the whole question of dealing with crime, and one of the greatest needs of the Colony is an institution where youthful offenders can be treated on sound practical lines to prevent them becoming habitual criminals. There has been an almost yearly increase in the number of re-convicted criminals, from 5,318 in 1915 to 8,944 in 1925. A study of the records of these criminals shows that the bulk of them come from the towns. Their criminal history frequently starts with petty thefts committed between the ages of 12 to 14. A sentence of 6 cuts is followed by sentences of 10 cuts, detention in Maggona Reformatory, and finally imprisonment, after which they settle down to a life of crime.

Of the 648 first offenders who were re-convicted during 1925, 134, or 20 per cent., were between the ages of 15 and 21.

The object of a sound Police and Prison system is to prevent, as far as possible, a person from becoming an habitual criminal. In 1923 the Borstal Institute in England claimed that 75 per cent. of the boys and 85 per cent. of the girls who passed through the institution were not re-convicted, thus proving that juvenile offenders can be reformed if taken in hand in the right way.

The existing reformatory at Maggona deals only with boys under 16, and an institution is needed which will take charge of offenders aged from 16 to 21.

A movement was undertaken by the Police in 1922 to reclaim homeless boys in the streets of towns by providing means of recreation, school books, and essential needs. The Pettah Street Boys' Club affords a striking example of the success of this movement. Every boy subscribes towards the rent and lighting of the club, and each boy maintains himself by the wages he receives. The fact that they belong to a club, and have therefore a permanent address, has rendered it possible for them to obtain employment. Thrift is encouraged, and many of them have saved considerable amounts. One boy has savings amounting to Rs. 171 in the Post Office Savings Bank, and several others have smaller sums.

The club is managed by a committee of the boys themselves, and rules have been laid down governing the conduct and behaviour of the members.

Boxing is taught, and games regularly played.

A club on similar lines was opened at Galle during the year 1924. The club has been most successful, and an industrial school has been added to it for the purpose of teaching boys a trade, for there are less opportunities for boys to obtain employment at Galle than in Colombo.

In other towns and other parts of Colombo where the need of a club is not so great as in the Pettah and Galle, the Police have got into touch with such boys as there happen to be.

Part IV.—Supervision of Aliens, Strangers, and Travellers.

The Criminal Investigation Department includes the *Modus Operandi* Bureau, Finger-print and Foot-print Bureau and Photographic Branch, the Talaimannar Train Police, Harbour Police, and Foreshore Police.

Principal Duties of the Criminal Investigation Department.—The following are the principal duties of the Criminal Investigation Department :—

(1) The investigation of complicated and intricate criminal offences, chiefly those of forgery, cheating, defalcations and criminal misappropriation, and rendering assistance to the Provincial Police in difficult cases.
(2) Keeping a record of persons entering or leaving the Colony.
(3) The special registration of foreigners and alien commercial travellers and missionaries.
(4) All matters dealing with passports.
(5) Correspondence with the United Kingdom, British Colonies, and foreign countries.
(6) Dealing with political matters and seditious publications.
(7) The examination of local English and vernacular newspapers, magazines, &c.
(8) The supervision of public meetings and street preaching.
(9) Card indexing of suspicious characters and undesirable persons in the Colony and of persons and subjects coming under inquiry.
(10) Supervision over explosive licences and firearms.

Situated as Ceylon is on the main route to the Far East and Australia and in close proximity to India, a very large number of persons pass through Colombo, and the Ceylon Police are constantly being requested by the Police of other countries to mark down, arrest, or report on the movements of an undesirable

character or fugitive offender who is on his way to India, Australia, or the Far East. A complete list of all persons disembarking from or embarking on ships in the ports of Ceylon is kept, together with a record of all persons stopping at hotels, boarding houses, or resthouses, so that any information required can be given at short notice. In this way the Criminal Investigation Department of Ceylon acts as a clearing house, and does a considerable amount of work for the Police of other countries.

Record of Persons entering and leaving Ceylon.—During the year 180,803 persons arrived in and 121,339 left Ceylon *viâ* Talaimannar, as against 199,198 arrivals and 107,193 departures in 1925. The excess of arrivals over departures is an indication of prosperity in the Island.

The total arrivals and departures of passengers by all routes during the year were—

Arrivals	236,766
Departures	175,279
Excess of arrivals over departures	61,487

In 1924 arrivals numbered 248,053 and departures 155,529.

Seventy-two destitute immigrants were prevented from landing in Colombo harbour and 26 by the Train Police at Talaimannar; 34 stowaways were prosecuted by the Harbour Police and 166,510 persons disinfected under their supervision during the year. Seventy-nine persons without health passes were prohibited by the Train Police from landing at Talaimannar.

Repatriation of Indigent Indian Immigrants.—Indian immigrant labourers not actually sick but no longer fit for work and consequently destitute and indigent are dealt with by the Police and repatriated through the House of Detention. 1,029 were repatriated during the year.

Part V.—Motor Traffic.

The system of control of all motor vehicles by one Registering Authority (the Inspector-General of Police) continues, and the examination of applicants and the issue of licences to drive motor vehicles is being carried out by the Police.

There were 11,733 vehicles in the Island on December 31 registered as follows :—

Motor cars registered for private use, 5,379.

Motor cars registered for the conveyance of passengers for hire, 1,209.

Motor buses and lorries registered for the conveyance of passengers for hire, 1,647.

Lorries registered for the conveyance of goods, private, and for hire, 1,066.

Motor cycles 2,472.

The number of motor buses appears to be almost doubling every year. In 1923 there were 459 motor buses registered, 884 in 1924, and 1,444 in 1925. Motor buses are now running in every district in the Island, and are in many places more popular than the railway, for they possess advantage of being able to stop at any place or at any time.

The number of motor vehicles in the Island has increased enormously of late years. In 1917 the number of motor vehicles in the Island was 3,983. At the end of 1925 the number was 11,733, and motor vehicles are being imported into the Island at the rate of 274 a month.

The increase in the number of accidents due to the development and increase of fast-moving traffic in Ceylon is a matter which calls for stringent measures.

There were 8,613 prosecutions under the Motor By-laws during the year throughout the Island. Of these, 1,259 were for exceeding the speed limit, 830 for reckless or careless driving, 202 for driving without carrying the licence to drive on the vehicle, 23 for not reporting at the nearest Police Station accidents involving serious injury, and 1,455 for overloading motor buses.

The number of serious accidents caused by motor vehicles throughout the Island in 1925 was 230, of which 73 proved fatal. Of these 230 cases it was found that—

(*a*) In 71 cases the accident was due to carelessness on the part of pedestrians.

(*b*) In 74 cases motor vehicles collided.

(*c*) In 40 cases the condition of the road was the cause or a contributory cause of the accident.

From these figures it will be seen that the proportion of accidents to population in Ceylon is—

One serious accident to every 19,600 persons.

One fatal accident to every 61,600 persons.

In the United States of America there were during the year 1924, 450,000 serious accidents, of which 19,000 proved fatal. With a population of 95,000,000 the proportion of accidents to population in the United States therefore is—

One serious accident to every 210 persons.

One fatal accident to every 5,000 persons.

These figures are very much in favour of Ceylon. Special action has been taken on the following lines:—

Drivers.—No person is allowed to drive a motor vehicle without a licence, which is only issued after the applicant has been examined by an examiner of drivers of the district in which he resides and found fit to drive a motor vehicle. Applicants are

examined both orally in the rules of the road and practically, and a brief and lucid note on hints for safe driving is pasted into his licence when it is issued to him.

Traffic Signals.—Applicants for driving licences have to satisfy an examiner that they know and thoroughly understand traffic signals, and Police Officers are constantly instructed in a practical manner, both on special parades and instruction classes, regarding their duties under this order. Particular attention is given to this branch of instruction at the Police Training School. As it has been found in enforcing the Motor By-laws that Police motor work has become highly technical, classes have been arranged in Colombo for Police Officers from Provinces and districts, who are put through a special course of instruction.

Instruction in Rules of the Road.—It has been realized that the most elaborate arrangements for dealing with traffic are of little use unless they are clearly understood by the public. In the year 1919 the Director of Education arranged that instruction in the rules of the road should be given in all schools. Children are taught in a practical manner to walk on the right hand side of the road, and the reason for this is explained to them. Ignorance of the rules of the road on the part of pedestrians is responsible for a considerable number of accidents every year, and it is hoped that by this means the number of accidents due to ignorance will be materially reduced.

Co-operation of the Public.—The co-operation of the public is a necessary adjunct to the work of the Police in dealing with traffic. The public have been requested to report motor offences to the Police, and all such complaints receive prompt attention. A " Safety First " Campaign Committee has been appointed by the Automobile Club of Ceylon, and excellent work has been done by this Committee towards ensuring safety of the road. Arrangements have been made for the distribution of suitable hints to children in vernacular schools, and every member of the club has been supplied with forms and addressed envelopes for reporting to the authorities cases of rash or negligent driving. The Magistrates in the Municipal and most Police Courts have undertaken to give consideration to busy members of the public who take the trouble to go to the court to give evidence in these cases, by hearing the case at a time convenient to the witness, and a model street with models of vehicles and pedestrians has been provided in the Colombo Municipal Court to enable witnesses in motor cases to demonstrate their evidence.

Roads.—The chief difficulty lies in the fact that majority of the roads of the Colony were built to carry a very limited amount of slow-moving traffic, and were never intended to carry fast-moving motor vehicles. Much good work has been done by

Municipalities and the Public Works Department by rounding off dangerous corners, widening roads, and the provision of pavements in towns, but a great deal still remains to be done. In Colombo white lines have been provided marking the middle of the road, particularly at dangerous corners, and blind corners have been cut away in many places so as to give a clear view of the road.

New danger signals of exactly the same pattern as those adopted by the Ministry of Transport in England are being put up throughout the Colony.

Control of Speed.—Until funds can be provided for the roads of the Colony to be widened, the control of speed is, as has been proved in Colombo, effective in preventing fatalities. The reduction of the speed limit on the Galle road in Colombo had marked effect, as is shown by the decrease in the number of fatalities in Colombo, and the total absence of any fatality in the area where speed had been reduced. Special attention was given throughout the year to the control of motor traffic, and had effect as shown by the following figures. The increase in the number of motor vehicles is 27 per cent. over 1924, but the increase in fatalities is only 5½ per cent:—

Year.	No. of Motor Vehicles on the Register.	Serious Accidents.
1923	7,288	82, of which 38 proved fatal
1924	9,029	171, of which 69 proved fatal
1925	11,497	230, of which 73 proved fatal

Overloading Buses.—Special attention has been given to the overloading of buses, and there were 1,455 convictions in 1925, as against 1,025 in 1924.

Part VI.—Training.

Training School.—Prior to 1925 recruits lived in buildings which had been condemned as unhealthy and insanitary, and in every way unsuitable, being situated in the Pettah, with no instructors or officers living on the premises or in the vicinity, with no ground or space for recreation, and with every possible temptation and opportunity for a recruit finding trouble in the streets, into which he had of necessity to go from his class room to get air and exercise.

The Police Training School was moved from the old premises in the Pettah to the new buildings at Bambalapitiya on March 26, 1925. It has always been felt that at no time in a Police Officer's career does environment influence him so much as when he first joins the Force as a recruit, and it is hoped that the new Training School will bring about a general improvement in the health, morale, education, and *esprit de corps*, which should go a long way towards establishing and maintaining a high standard of conduct and efficiency throughout the Force.

The school is conducted on the public school "house" system. There are four houses, each in charge of prefects, who are recruits ; a senior prefect being in charge of the whole. All games and work are carried out and judged on the "house" system, marks being allotted and deducted from the "house" and not the individual. The inter-house competitive spirit is introduced into all branches of work and play. The object of this is to encourage the "team" spirit in all work and play and to decentralize responsibility from instructors to prefects, who are responsible for the good reputation of their "house." Prefects pick their own sides for games, organize work in the garden, and help men of their own "house" in the English classes at night school just as would be done in a public school. The name of the best "house" each month is inscribed on a cup with the name of the prefect.

Practical demonstration is the keynote of all instruction. Motor By-laws, for instance, and the parts of a motor car are taught practically by means of demonstration on an actual car. The method of sending and receiving a telephone message is taught on an actual telephone, which runs from the guard room to a class room. Beat and point duty and traffic signals, the identification of accused persons and of lost or stolen property, the giving of evidence, patrolling, plan drawing, the method of dealing with a case of electric shock from an overhead wire, Schafer's method of artificial respiration, the method of taking casts of foot impressions from mud, sand, cement, &c., are all not only practically demonstrated, but are actually performed by every recruit, so that he leaves the school with a practical knowledge in all branches of his duties. In order to enlarge the outlook and general knowledge of a man, who has, as a general rule, come straight to the Training School from a village, visits are paid to places of interest, such as the Municipal Workshop, the Museum, the Government Printing Works, the Spinning and Weaving Mills, Gas Works, Power Station, Wireless Station, Maligakanda Reservoir, the War Memorial, and (by the kind permission of the Officers Commanding) to His Majesty's ships in harbour. On return each recruit records in his note book what he has noted. In the case of European Sergeants and Sub-Inspectors an observation book is kept, in which each officer records daily what new things he has observed in the past 24 hours. Mount Lavinia is visited every Sunday by all recruits, who are taught swimming and are put through practical instruction in Schafer's method of artificial respiration to the drowned. That the instruction given is practical is proved by the reports received of life saved by Recruits Silva and Haniffa of Kurunegala.

Daily classes in English are held for those recruits who know no English when they enlist and for those who join with a slight knowledge of English. Fifty-two constables are attending night school from 7 to 8 P.M. daily. The curriculum is that of the Education Department for Standards I. to VII. House prefects, for whom a good working knowledge of English is a qualification for appointment as prefect, assist the English Master in teaching the men of their houses.

Lectures by experts are regularly given on the proper handling and packing of productions, on blood tests, identification of hair, paper, cloth, bullets, poison, circumstantial evidence, handwriting, forged currency notes and counterfeit coins, the interception of letters and sealed packets, cocaine, ganja, *cannabis indica*, opium, personal hygiene, plague, cholera, malaria, rabies, discipline, and the duties of a policeman.

A better class of man is being attracted into the Force, physique has improved, and with the adoption of the "house" and "prefect" system traditions are being established, and there are distinct indications that recruits leave the school, not only with a knowledge of the duties which they will be called upon to fulfil, but what is of far greater importance, a greater sense of duty, of responsibility, and of the importance of "team" work, than it was possible to instil into recruits under the unhealthy and restricted conditions of the old school in the Pettah.

First Aid to the Injured.—The Ceylon Police Corps of the St. John Ambulance Association was formed in 1912. Prior to that date cases used frequently to occur where injured persons bled to death on the scene of assaults, accidents, or during the journey to the hospital for lack of proper attention. Many cases must have occurred in which ignorance of elementary methods of stopping bleeding resulted in loss of life, and it was the realization of this state of affairs which led to the formation of the Ceylon Police Corps.

The Ceylon Police Corps has increased in number from 132 members in 1912 to 1,175 in 1925. Every station in the Island is equipped with a stretcher and first aid materials, and the Police are also in possession of two motor ambulances belonging to the Police (Municipality), which are available for use in the city of Colombo. These ambulances were made use on 373 occasions during the year.

A knowledge of first aid is particularly valuable to the Police in a country where crimes of violence are so common, and when the scene of the assault is frequently a considerable distance from the nearest hospital. The rendering of first aid by the Police in such cases must cause great relief to the injured person

and materially assist the subsequent treatment. Special attention is given to instruction in diagnosing injuries, and to teaching men to improvise first aid materials from any articles at hand at the scene of an accident or injury.

In a country like Ceylon, surrounded by the sea and containing a large number of rivers, tanks, and wells, drowning cases frequently occur, and a knowledge of artificial respiration is particularly useful to a Police Officer, who may at any time find himself faced with the necessity of trying to save the life of a person from drowning. Schafer's method has been selected as the simplest and most effective method of rendering artificial respiration, and all ranks, whatever their knowledge of first aid, are regularly practised in it.

Whereas prior to 1912 an injured person seldom if ever received any medical assistance until his arrival in hospital, it is now a comparatively common occurrence for reports to be received from Medical Officers that life has been saved by first aid treatment rendered by the Police.

As a result of the instruction given in first aid, every man realizes that it is his duty to assist persons injured in cases of assault and accident. This instruction in first aid has the effect, not only of impressing upon all ranks an important part of their duty towards the public, but has improved the relations between the public and the Police, for whereas formerly a Police Officer coming to a village was regarded as a common enemy, in that he generally came to arrest an offender, it is now realized that he is ready and willing to render assistance in cases of injury.

Part VII.—Miscellaneous.

Pensioners' Corps and Boys' Brigade.—Institutions of the Force include a Pensioners' Corps, which secures employment for men no longer physically fit for active police duty, and a Boys' Brigade, in which sons of police officers are trained from the age of 5 upwards.

The pensioners are given a uniform by Government, and the pay they receive in private employ is of great assistance to them. These men have a pension to lose if they commit an offence of dishonesty, and this fact and their long service and training in the Force make their service valuable to the private employer. There are 340 pensioners in the Corps.

The Boys' Brigade provides healthy exercise, recreation, and education for the sons of police officers and pensioners and trains them to become useful men. The Brigade has now been in existence for several years and forms a valuable recruiting ground for the Force. Between the ages of 5 and 13 the boy is put into uniform, and not only attends school, but is trained

in squad drill, physical exercises, and boxing. At school he is taught reading and writing and general knowledge to fit him for employment, and on parade and in his recreation he is taught discipline and self-control, to keep himself and his uniform clean, and to keep fit. At the age of 14 he continues to attend school, parade, and recreation, and is employed as office messenger for half the day. He is paid from Rs. 7·50 a month to Rs. 15 a month at the age of 17, and at the age of 18 he is eligible for enlistment in the Force. There are 69 senior and 358 junior boys in the Brigade.

Twenty-five boys of the Brigade were enlisted during the year, and there are now 117 men in the Force who started in the Brigade, 17 of whom have already reached the rank of sergeant, in one case within 3¼ years of enlistment, showing that the early training in the Boys' Brigade is of direct value to a man joining the Force.

Apart from the value of these two institutions to the boys and pensioners, there is the value of their indirect influence on the sergeants and constables serving in the Force itself. By keeping a good record a sergeant or constable provides for his future, with the certainty of pension and employment obtained through the Pensioners' Corps. At the same time his sons have the advantage of serving and being educated in the Boys' Brigade. On the other hand, a man who misbehaves loses the pay he is drawing, a house, pension, the possibility of future employment as a pensioner, and the privilege of having his sons educated and trained. This is found to have a great effect in encouraging men in the Force to work to a high standard as regards their personal conduct and character.

There are many instances of men serving in the Force, their fathers serving in the Pensioners' Corps, and sons in the Boys' Brigade.

Justices of the Peace.—Justices of the Peace are of great assistance to officers in charge of districts by being available in times of emergency and by visiting police stations and supervising musketry.

In a large district it is not always possible for an officer to visit police stations frequently, and the fact that a station is liable to be visited at any time by a Justice of the Peace has a good effect.

The men themselves regard the Justices of the Peace who visit their station with respect, and feel that they have an authority on the spot whom they can consult in matters of difficulty.

Health of the Force.—The issue of woollen socks to sergeants and constables has to a great extent prevented boot

cuts and sores, and the provision of mosquito curtains and the issue of quinine at stations where malaria is prevalent has had a beneficial effect on the health of the men. Drying rooms are provided at several stations for drying uniform in wet weather. The Inspector-General, however, has urged the necessity of a new Police Hospital.

Police Saving Association.—This association was formed during 1924, with the approval of Government, with the object of encouraging thrift among members of the Force. The main object of the association was to provide a man on retirement with a sum of money to enable him to settle down comfortably or set up a business. A man serving on a fixed salary and with the prospect of a pension at the end of his service does not, as a rule, save. The amount he can save each month is small, and he cannot invest small amounts.

Pettah Barracks.—The work of building barracks for the Pettah Police, which was held up from 1921 to 1923 owing to financial depression, was continued during 1925, and at the end of the year the barracks were nearly ready for occupation. For lack of ground space the married quarters have been built in a four-storey block. This is the first time that small quarters of this kind have been built off the ground in Ceylon.

Prisons.

There was a decrease of 247 in the total number of admissions of convicted prisoners of Ceylon during the year 1925, excluding Road Ordinance defaulters, of whom there were 121, as against 170 in 1924.

The figures are as follows :—

1924	9,187
1925	8,940

The number of prisoners sentenced to death was 59, as against 63 in 1924. There were 33 executions during the year, as against 41 in 1924.

Of the 33 whose capital sentences were carried out, 29 were Sinhalese, 3 Tamils, and 1 Malayalee.

Of the number executed 1 had been sentenced in 1924, and of the number sentenced to death 2 were executed in 1926.

There were 3 escapes and 6 recaptures during the year.

The total number of deaths in prisons was 79, as against 105 in 1924, and the death rate per 1,000 of the admissions during the year was 5·06, as against 6·74 in 1924 and 6·01 in 1923.

The number of punishments inflicted during the year on prisoners for prison offences was 1,057, as against 1,175 in 1924 and 895 in 1923.

Prisoners are in all prisons employed upon work of public utility and remunerative industrial labour. At Welikada and Bogambara prisons various trades are taught, such as carpentry, blacksmith and tinsmith work, bootmaking, tailoring, the making of cane furniture, matting, coir brooms, rugs, mats, coal and tea leaf bags, ropes, strings, bamboo tats, laundry work, printing, bookbinding, and mason works.

During the year under review 1,642 articles of wooden furniture were turned out by prison labour for various Government Departments. For making up furniture for the Government the Forest Department supplied 10,052 cubic feet of various timber in logs. Cutting, planing, &c., of timber was done by machinery.

The Government Printing Office continues to employ a daily average of 224 prisoners from Welikada Prison. This prison also continues to wash all soiled linen from the Medical and Railway Departments, 945,565 pieces being dealt with during the year.

21,431 articles of clothing and bedding were made up for the Colonial Storekeeper and 35,312½ yards of cloth woven for prison use.

The prisoners at Mahara Prison are exclusively employed in the quarries on account of Harbour Works and Public Works Department.

A daily average of 192 prisoners were employed in the Harbour Works quarry during the year as blacksmiths, carpenters, platelayers, stone dressers, stone breakers, and excavation and other works in connection with the working of the quarry. The following quantity of metal, &c., have been dealt with :—

2-inch metal broken	..	..	927½ cubes
Rubble turned out	..	..	5 tons
Hand rubble turned out	..	..	4,125 tons
Stone setts made	..	..	4,162
Curb stones made	..	..	20 lineal feet
⅝-inch chips turned out	..	..	2 barrels

A daily average of 40 prisoners have also been employed in cutting earth and laying a railway trace to the Colombo Harbour Works new quarry.

A daily average of 244 prisoners were employed in the Public Works Department quarry as metal breakers.

The Karayoor Reclamation works at Jaffna continue to make good progress. The daily average number of prisoners employed on the works was 139·67. The extent of land reclaimed was 1 acre 1 rood 30 perches, and land to the extent of 1 acre 23 perches was levelled at an average depth of 3 feet. Out of the 64½ acres to be reclaimed about 63 have now been completed.

At Anuradhapura 4 to 20 prisoners are daily employed in clearing jungle and planting teak and margosa trees, &c., for the Forest Department.

Twelve prisoners are daily employed in the rice mill, and 42 on the Anti-malarial Campaign in filling up pools in the town, weeding, clearing jungle, &c.

The schools at Welikada and Mahara for prisoners of the age of 23 years and under on admission to prison having a sentence of 6 months and over made satisfactory progress, the daily average attendance being 104 during the year.

XII.—Local Government.

THE councils at present in existence are the two Urban District Councils of Negombo and Ratnapura constituted as from January 1, 1922, and the six similar councils of Chilaw, Jaffna, Kalutara, Matale, Matara, and Panadure constituted as from January 1, 1923. No new councils were established in 1924 or 1925. Applications dated March 26 and June 22, 1925, were received from the Ambalangoda Association and the Chinafort Muslim Association of Beruwala respectively for the establishment of Urban District Councils for those towns in place of the control by the existing Sanitary Boards. As regards the first application, it was decided in September to let the matter lie over pending a decision by the Legislative Council in regard to the amending Ordinance (put forward in 1923) to extend the operation of local government throughout the Island. With regard to the other application, the Local Government Board on December 3 recommended to Government the publication of a preliminary notice under section 9 (2) of "The Local Government Ordinance, No. 11 of 1920," with a view to the establishment of an Urban District Council for Beruwala. On June 26 an Unofficial Member of the Legislative Council gave notice of a motion regarding the re-introduction in Council of the amending Ordinance referred to above, which at its second reading on November 15, 1923, was postponed till certain information was collected regarding the divisions of the Island proposed for District Councils. The required information was furnished by the Local Government Board on November 26, 1924, and subsequently published as a Sessional Paper (IV. of 1925). The motion has not yet, however, been dealt with by the Legislative Council.

J. A. MAYBIN,
Second Assistant Colonial Secretary.

Colombo, February 1, 1927.

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CEYLON.

REPORT FOR 1926.

(For Reports for 1924 and 1925 see Nos. 1349 and 1361, respectively (Price 5s. each).)

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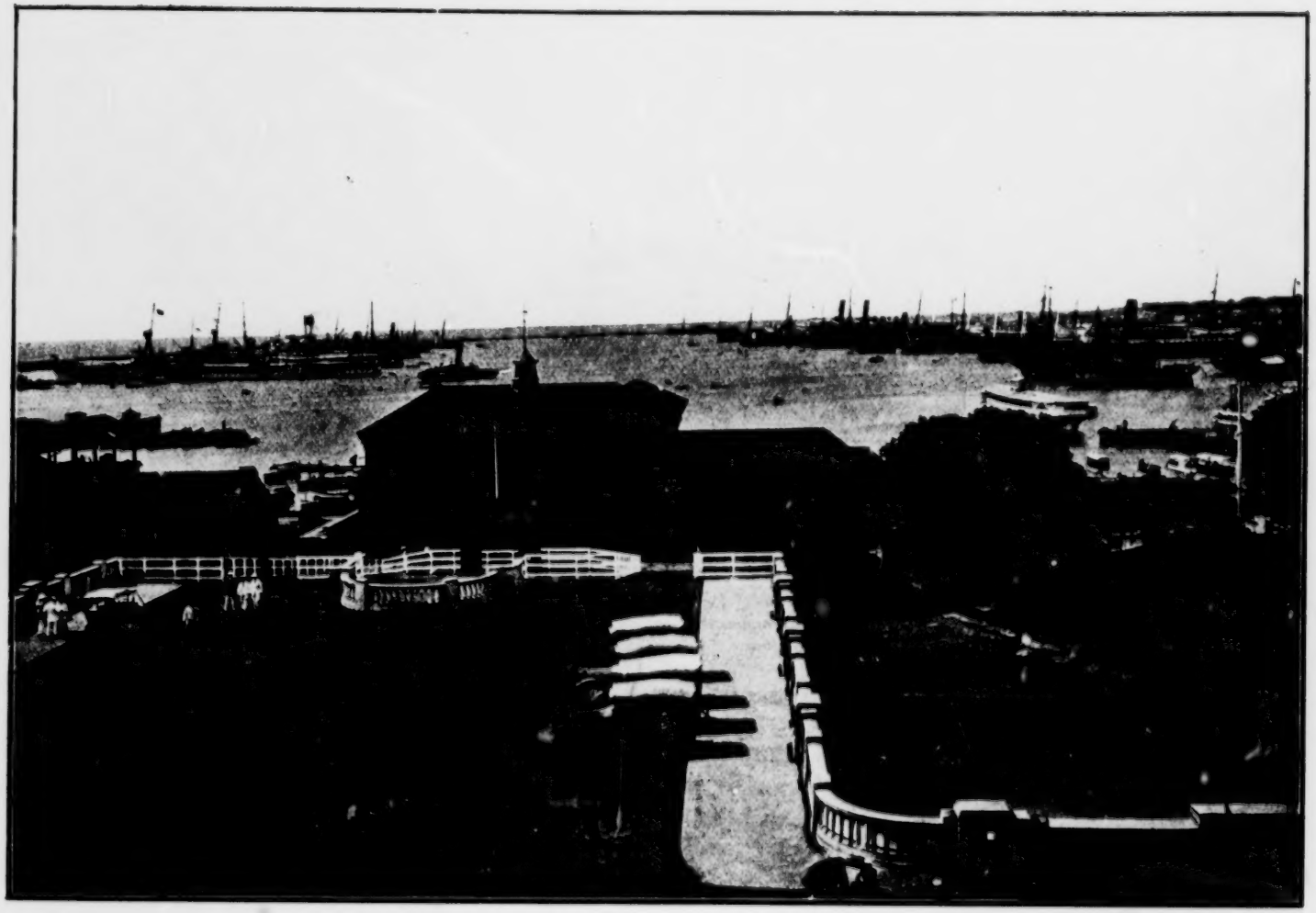

Plâté, Limited, Colombo.

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Annual General Report for 1926.

I.—General Summary.

THE year 1926 was an exceptionally prosperous one. On September 30, the revenue of the Colony showed an excess of Rs. 11,572,333 over its expenditure—the highest on record—and the assets were Rs. 43,959,224 in excess of the liabilities.

The value of total trade during the year rose to the unprecedented figure of Rs. 921,673,555.* The imports were 11 per cent. more than in the previous year and showed, in general, an expansion under all heads. There was a noteworthy increase in the imports of luxuries—a probable indication of the general prosperity—in spite of an increase in the duties in July on some of the articles. The value of total exports showed an appreciable increase over the previous year. The condition of the tea industry was very satisfactory. The total value of exports were Rs. 213,163,883,† as against Rs. 199,697,534† in 1925. The Rubber Restriction Scheme was in operation throughout the year, but prices of rubber declined although the quantity exported showed a large excess over that of the previous year. There was no improvement in the exports of the products of the coconut palm excepting copra. In the export of plumbago there was a further decline this year in spite of the removal of export duty.

Paddy and other cultivations which are dependent on weather conditions were generally satisfactory throughout the Island except in some of the "dry zone" areas, where the rainfall was not so satisfactory as in the previous year. In one instance (Vavuniya North) relief works were started on tanks and roads, and payments made in rice and money. Abundance of rain in a few districts permitted cultivation during both "Maha" and "Yala" seasons, the latter in places where there had been no "Yala" cultivation for several years before. Increasing

* Excluding postal articles, ships' stores, and specie, but including liquid fuel supplied to steamships.

† Including value of ships' stores.

12(38)27-1,000

attention has been paid to improved methods of agriculture, and experiments with selected seed have shown very satisfactory results. It is, however, a matter of some difficulty to persuade the conservative villager to change his *modus operandi*. He carries on paddy cultivation as a matter of course, and is generally content as long as he can produce just sufficient for the needs of himself and his family.

Cotton cultivation in the Hambantota District is reported to be profitable and is becoming more popular. The experiments in Uva have also yielded encouraging results. The villagers seem to be very much interested in this new product, as it gives them a much more remunerative return than is derived from garden or chena products. There is every indication that cotton cultivation will become well established in Lower Uva. An attempt has also been made to encourage the villagers in Kolonna Korale of Ratnapura District in this cultivation by offering them Crown Land on easy terms.

There was a keen demand for land in most of the districts for the cultivation of tea, rubber, and coconut. The revival of the rubber industry after a setback of some duration induced villagers and capitalists to acquire land, especially in Kalutara and Ratnapura Districts, and the high price which tea attained last year and continues to maintain has given an impetus to open up more land under this product. The price of Crown Land sold in some districts was considerably higher than in the previous year.

Both the Kalutara basket and hat industry and the Kandyan Art Association, (which specializes in brass and silver wares) have had successful years. Orders for these goods are received from all parts of the world.

The general health of the people throughout the year was satisfactory except for the general prevalence of malaria in the "dry zones," and is possibly, to a large extent, due to the determined efforts made of recent years to improve sanitary condition and to counteract the ill effects of malaria and anchylostomiasis.

There were two serious outbreaks of cholera, one in the Jaffna District from March to May and the other in Tamankaduwa in the Anuradhapura District in February. The prompt measures taken by the Sanitary Department arrested the spread of the disease. An epidemic of smallpox in the Galle Town, which caused some degree of alarm to the residents, was stamped out in its early stages. There was also a severe outbreak of malaria, sore eyes, chickenpox, and dysentery in parts of Matale South in May and June when rain succeeded the unusual drought of April.

The number of births during 1926 was 206,895, the largest on record. This exceeded the number of deaths by 82,006.

The section of Railway from Mundel to Puttalam of the North Coast Line serving the rich coconut districts of Chilaw and Puttalam was opened in May. The Batticaloa-Trincomalee Railway was opened for traffic as far as Polonnaruwa in July. Work on the Batticaloa branch of this line progressed steadily, and by the end of the year the railhead had reached within about 15 miles of Batticaloa. It is anticipated that trade and agriculture will develop considerably in these areas as a result of the opening of this railway.*

The timely completion during the year of the work of the Colombo South Flood Protection Scheme saved the protected area from a very heavy flood.

Education has made steady progress during the year. The number of schools and scholars showed a large increase over the previous year. There is an increasing demand for the teaching of English which has received the particular attention of the Education Department. At the same time the study of Vernacular languages has been stimulated by the inclusion of Sinhalese and Tamil in some of the London and Cambridge Examinations.

An examination of the statistics relating to crime shows that offences against the person and against property have increased of recent years. Numerous instances have been reported of criminals making use of motor buses to facilitate their operations in offences against property, and to cope successfully with the quick method of transport adopted by the criminals the more general use of motor vehicles by the police and the extension of telephone facilities to more police stations have been found indispensable. The number of cases of gang robbery has decreased considerably during the year under review.

Twenty-four arrack taverns, 28 toddy taverns, and 1 foreign liquor shop were abolished during the year by advisory committees and by local option polls. Jaffna was made an entirely dry area as the result of successful local option polls. By similar means 5 arrack taverns, 5 toddy taverns, and 6 foreign liquor shops were closed in Colombo town. Previous polls against these taverns had been a complete failure. The alteration in the voting franchise consequent on the abolition of poll tax may have accounted for this year's success.

There was a slight decrease in the consumption of toddy, chiefly due to the abolition of some of the toddy taverns, but the consumption of arrack and foreign liquor increased to a great extent, viz., 9·5 and 5·6 per cent. respectively.

* The section from Galoya junction to Trincomalee was opened on May 2, 1927.

Smuggling has been a characteristic feature in the "dry" areas, especially in the Northern, Western, and Central Provinces. As a result the Excise Department has been strengthened by the recruitment of many extra Inspectors and Guards for detective work in these Provinces.

Consequent on the abolition of toddy taverns in the Jaffna District special efforts have been made by the Agricultural Department to encourage the manufacture of jaggery from sweet toddy.

As in previous years, there was an increase in the number of motor vehicles in use, particularly of buses and lorries which ply for hire. These have indirectly contributed to the prosperity of the people in remote villages inaccessible by the railway in affording them an easy means of transport by which they could dispose of their produce to advantage at important trade centres.

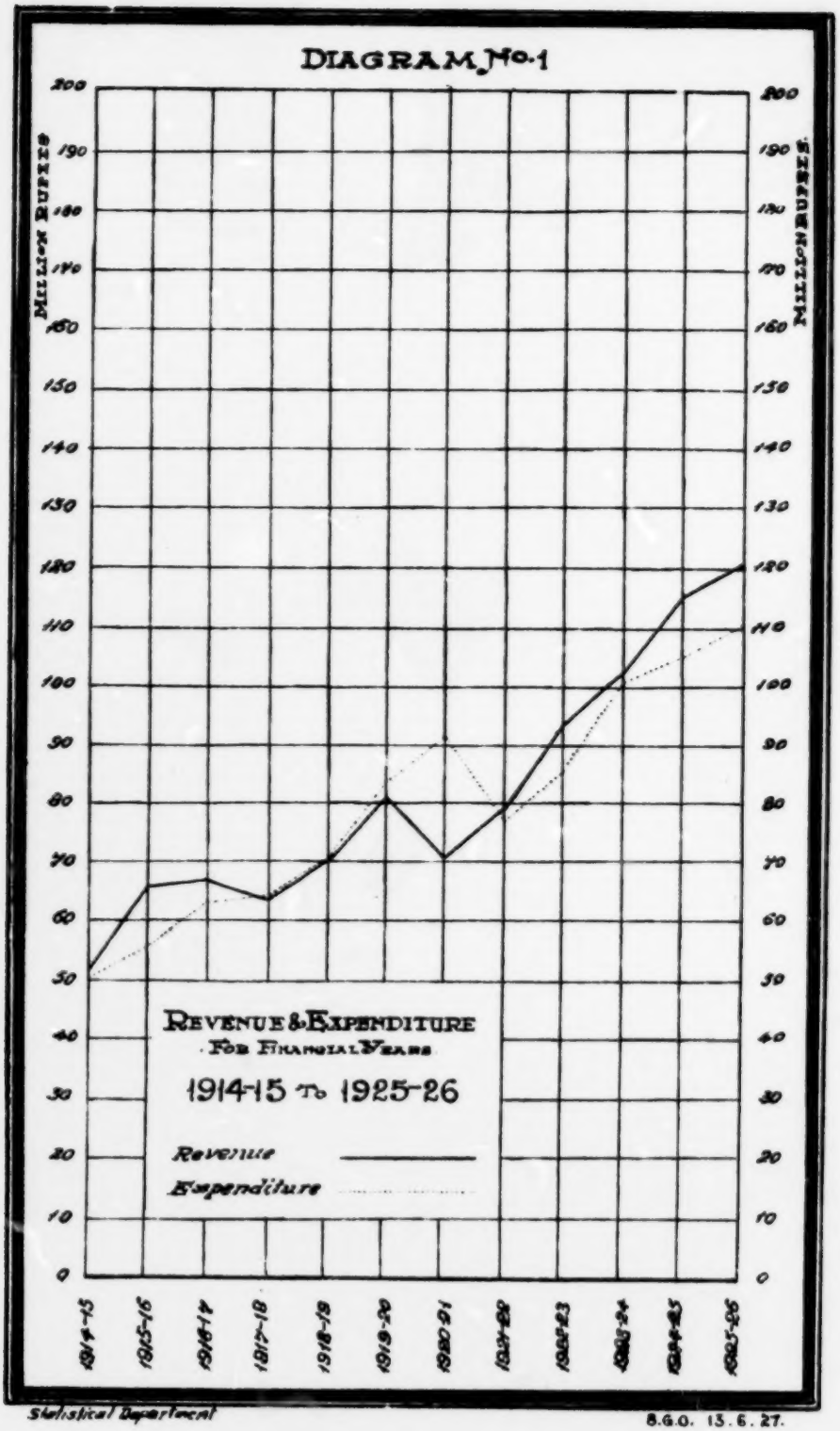
Although the taxes on some of the foodstuffs consumed by the permanent population were reduced during the latter half of the year there has been no appreciable difference in the cost of living. The standard of living in many districts seems to have risen owing to their increasing prosperity.

II.—Finance.

Revenue.

THE revenue collected during the financial year ended September 30, 1926, amounted to Rs. 124,516,155·04, which was Rs. 19,616,155·04 more than the estimate and Rs. 8,976,485·48 more than the amount collected in the previous financial year. The principal increases over the previous financial year were, under Customs Rs. 7,578,989, Port and Harbour Rs. 212,376, Arrack Rs. 624,688, Stamps Rs. 1,336,724, Export Duties under the Medical Wants Ordinance Rs. 232,956, Post and Telegraph Collections Rs. 199,163, Railway Receipts Rs. 1,558,221, Interest Rs. 382,003, and Land Revenue Rs. 158,170. Against these increases the following sums representing decreases should be deducted:—Salt Rs. 703,892, Estate Duties Rs. 1,064,938, Assets of the Disabled Ceylon Men's Fund Rs. 1,003,332, Profit on New Coins Rs. 387,195, and Land Sales Rs. 226,653, aggregating Rs. 3,386,010.

The increased Customs and Railway Receipts and Port and Harbour dues indicate improved trade conditions.



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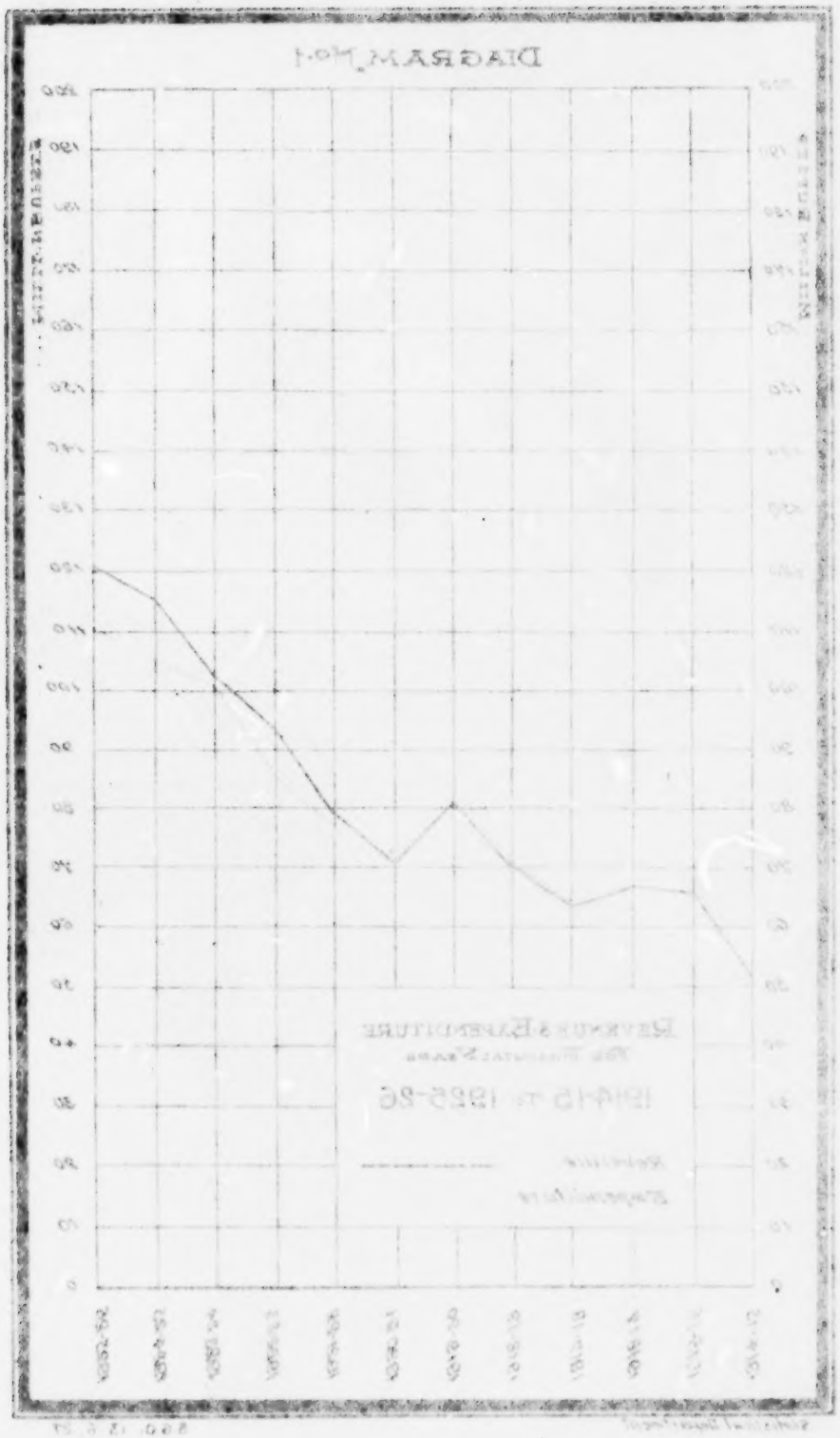


Expenditure.

The expenditure for the financial year ended September 30, 1926, which was estimated at Rs. 117,253,495, amounted to Rs. 112,943,821·68, which includes a sum of Rs. 2,947,486·05 on account of expenditure on works temporarily chargeable to Revenue pending raising of Loan Funds. This expenditure exceeded that of the previous financial year by Rs. 6,578,136·84. The increase was mainly due to increased expenditure under the following heads:—Commissioners of Currency, Colombo Port Commission, Post Office and Telegraphs, Medical, Education, Railway, Railway Extraordinary Works, Public Works Annually Recurrent, and Pensions; and to the expenditure incurred on the new Railway Workshops, the Hydro-Electric Scheme, and the Batticaloa-Maho and Trincomalee Light Railway chargeable to Revenue pending raising of Loan Funds. Against the increases under these heads decreases occurred under the following heads:—Public Works Extraordinary Rs. 1,547,139 and Miscellaneous Services Rs. 2,808,496, total Rs. 4,355,635.

Assets and Liabilities.

The assets of the Colony on September 30, 1926, were Rs. 72,783,586·09, and the liabilities Rs. 28,824,362·33, showing an excess of assets over liabilities of Rs. 43,959,223·76. This accumulated surplus was in excess of the surplus shown on September 30, 1925, by a sum of Rs. 11,572,333·36. The assets consisted of cash in fixed deposits and current accounts in local and Indian banks and with the Crown Agents in London, unissued stores, investments in rupee and sterling gilt-edged securities, and Sundry recoverable advances. The main liabilities represent amounts due to the Widows' and Orphans' Pension Fund, Ceylon University Building and Equipment Fund, the Loan Account, and Court Suitors and other depositors in the Treasury and local Kachcheris. The cash balances available amounted to Rs. 43,501,395.

Currency.

On September 30, 1926, the value of the currency notes in circulation amounted to Rs. 61,726,615. The Currency Commissioners on the same date held silver rupees to the extent of Rs. 24,299,551, cash at call in London pending investment to the extent of Rs. 2,000,000, and British, Indian, and Colonial securities amounting to Rs. 42,583,468 (cost price) or

Rs. 40,862,847 (market price). The value of the reserve on September 30, 1926, was thus in excess of the value of notes in circulation by Rs. 5,435,783.

During the year silver rupees to the extent of Rs. 2,000,000 were received from the Imperial Bank of India in exchange for currency notes.

The following amounts of the various denominations of subsidiary coin were in circulation in the Colony on September 30, 1926 :—

			Rs.
50 cents (silver) ..	..	..	4,766,000
25 cents (silver) ..	..	..	3,353,750
10 cents (silver) ..	..	..	3,298,212
5 cents (nickel) ..	..	..	719,600
1 cent (copper) ..	..	..	983,637
½ cent (copper) ..	..	..	318,068

Public Debt.

On September 30, 1926, the sterling debt of the Colony stood at £12,666,893 and the rupee debt at Rs. 3,000,000, towards redemption of which were held securities and moneys amounting to £3,522,195 and Rs. 1,512,386 respectively.

Setting off the securities against the debts and effecting conversion at Rs. 15 to the pound sterling, the nett total Public Debt of the Colony amounts to Rs. 138,658,084, which is less than 1⅛ times the revenue for the year ended September 30, 1926.

The Ceylon Savings Bank.

The Ceylon Savings Bank had a sum of Rs. 6,547,687 to credit of 48,008 depositors on December 31, 1926, as against Rs. 5,739,662 to credit of 45,880 depositors on December 31, 1925. The amount of the Bank's invested funds on December 31, 1926, was Rs. 7,125,471, which include investments made from the reserve fund of Rs. 820,761. The interest paid to depositors amounted to Rs. 201,977. Interest was allowed at the rate of 4 per cent. on accounts of Rs. 1,000 and under, and 3 per cent. on accounts above Rs. 1,000.

Accounts may be opened with a minimum deposit of 50 cents; and not more than Rs. 1,000 can be deposited in one year irrespective of withdrawals. The maximum sum that a depositor may have to his or her credit is Rs. 3,000. Charitable institutions or societies may deposit Rs. 2,500 per annum up to a maximum of Rs. 7,500.

Parents or legal guardians may make deposits on behalf of their minor children and have control over the accounts until the minors attain majority.

With a view to raise the limit of deposits fixed by section 19 of Ordinance No. 12 of 1859, an amending Ordinance is now in the hands of the Attorney-General. If the proposed amendment is passed by the Legislative Council, it will admit of a sum of Rs. 2,000 being deposited in one year up to a maximum of Rs. 6,000 in three years by individual depositors, and in the case of charitable institutions or societies of a sum of Rs. 3,000 up to a maximum sum including interest of Rs. 9,000 in three years.

The Bank lends money on the primary mortgage of house property within the Municipal limits of Colombo to the extent of half its appraised value at a flat rate of interest of 7 per cent. per annum.

Stamp Duties.

(*a*) During the financial year 1925–26 a sum of Rs. 9,756,198·31 was credited to revenue by the sale of stamps, as against Rs. 8,419,474·62 credited during 1924–25. These figures represent the revenue derived from stamps used for postal, telegraphic, and judicial purposes, for payment of duties on instruments, and for payment of certain licence fees. No separate figures are available in respect of each of these sources of revenue as the same series of stamps are used in the Colony for all purposes.

(*b*) The stamp duties on bank cheques and share certificates are, under section 5 of the Stamp Ordinance, No. 22 of 1909, payable in cash as a composition duty by banks and companies authorized in that behalf by the Governor in Executive Council. The revenue so derived during the year under review amounted to Rs. 247,893·07, as against Rs. 186,935·45 during the previous year.

Estate Duties.

Estates of persons whose deaths occurred on or after July 1, 1919, are chargeable with duty under the Estate Duty Ordinance, No. 8 of 1919, which came into operation as from that date.

During the financial year 1925–26 a sum of Rs. 1,935,317·24 was collected as estate duty, as against Rs. 3,000,255·05 in the previous year. The decrease is due to the fact that the revenue for 1924–25 was abnormally high owing to a sum of no less than Rs. 1,833,265·51 having been paid in respect of a single death. With the exception of the year 1924–25, the revenue for the year under review is the highest since the commencement of the Ordinance, the next highest being Rs. 1,618,030·23 for 1923–24.

In respect of deaths which had occurred prior to the commencement of the Ordinance, a sum of Rs. 12,358 was collected as

stamp duty on probates and letters of administration during the financial year 1925-26, as against Rs. 15,660 during the previous year.

The total amount of penalties recovered under the Ordinance in respect of 282 cases was Rs. 2,030, as against Rs. 3,075·50 recovered during the previous year in 369 cases.

III.—Trade and Shipping.

General Review.

THE trade in the year 1926 was larger than any previous year in the Colony's history, both imports and exports showing increases over the previous year, itself a record.

The total trade of the Colony, excluding specie, exceeded that of the previous year by Rs. 54,684,381 and that of 1924 by Rs. 209,722,254 ; the total figure for 1926 being Rs. 921,673,555, or Rs. 898,506,730 excluding value of coal and liquid fuel supplied to steamers for bunkers. These figures show that the wave of prosperity which started about the year 1921 has continued up to date, and the Island's trade is in a very satisfactory state. The imports of the Colony increased from Rs. 351,328,702 in 1925 to Rs. 395,244,241 in 1926, an increase of 11 per cent. Exports increased from Rs. 492,489,296 in 1925 to Rs. 503,262,489 in 1926.

The monthly figures of exports show that the best month was March, when the exports amounted to nearly Rs. 52,000,000. The succeeding months, however, showed a more or less progressive fall, the lowest month being December, with less than Rs. 39,000,000. March was also the best month with regard to imports, the figures being over Rs. 38,000,000. This fell to just below Rs. 32,000,000 in April, after which the figure remained fairly steady, with a gradual improvement to nearly Rs. 35,000,000 in December. The trade generally was steadier and more evenly distributed throughout the year than in 1925. There were no crises or periods of depression as in 1925, and the year was unmarked by any special features, except that of general prosperity.

The great expansion of trade in late years has taxed to the utmost the landing and warehouse facilities in the Customs premises. Steps have been taken to deal with this situation. A large new landing area has been brought into use between the Lotus road and the Lake to Harbour canal, a new covered yard in the Delft area was put to use, and a new and large warehouse is in course of construction in the Pettah area. The

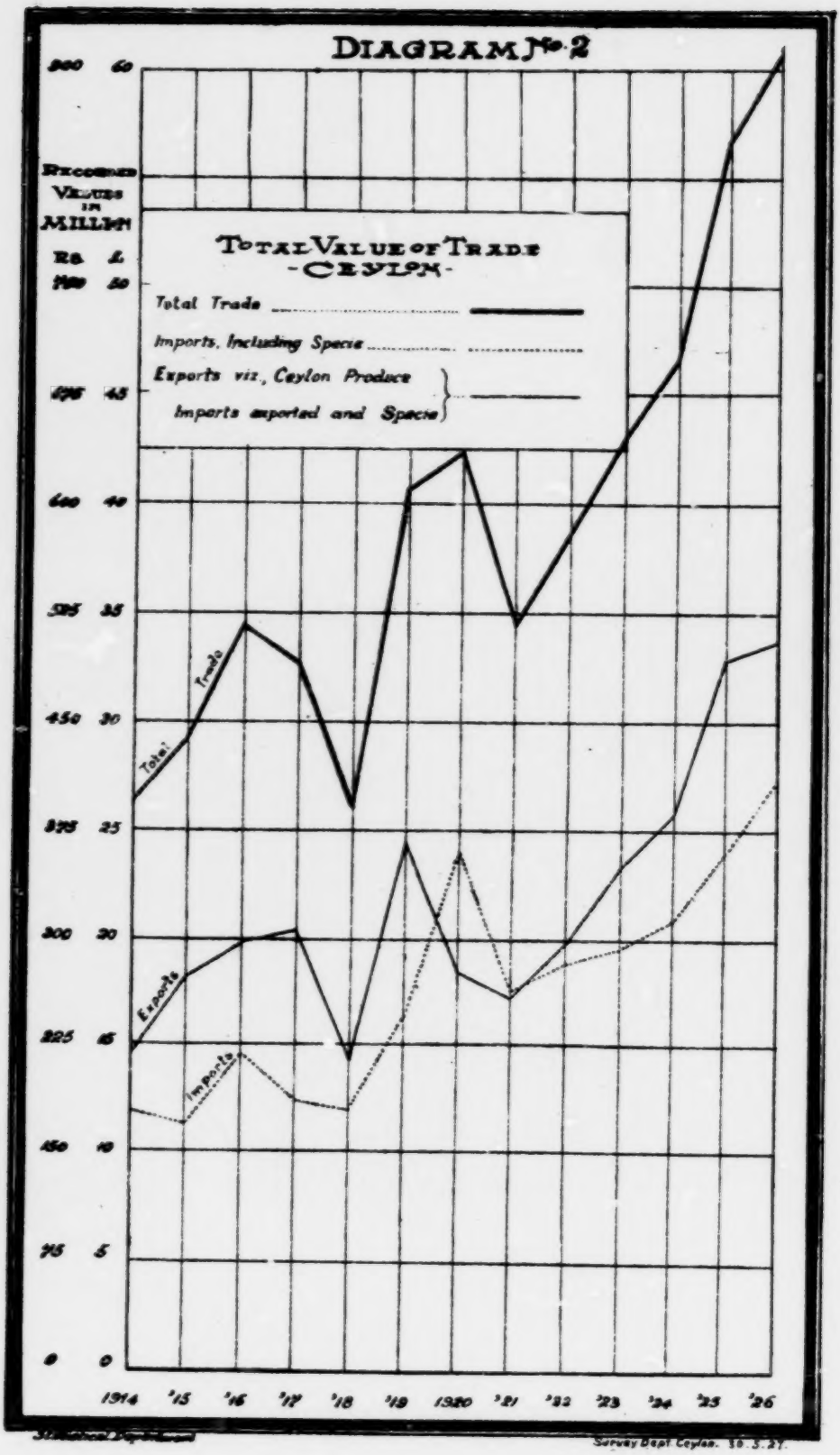
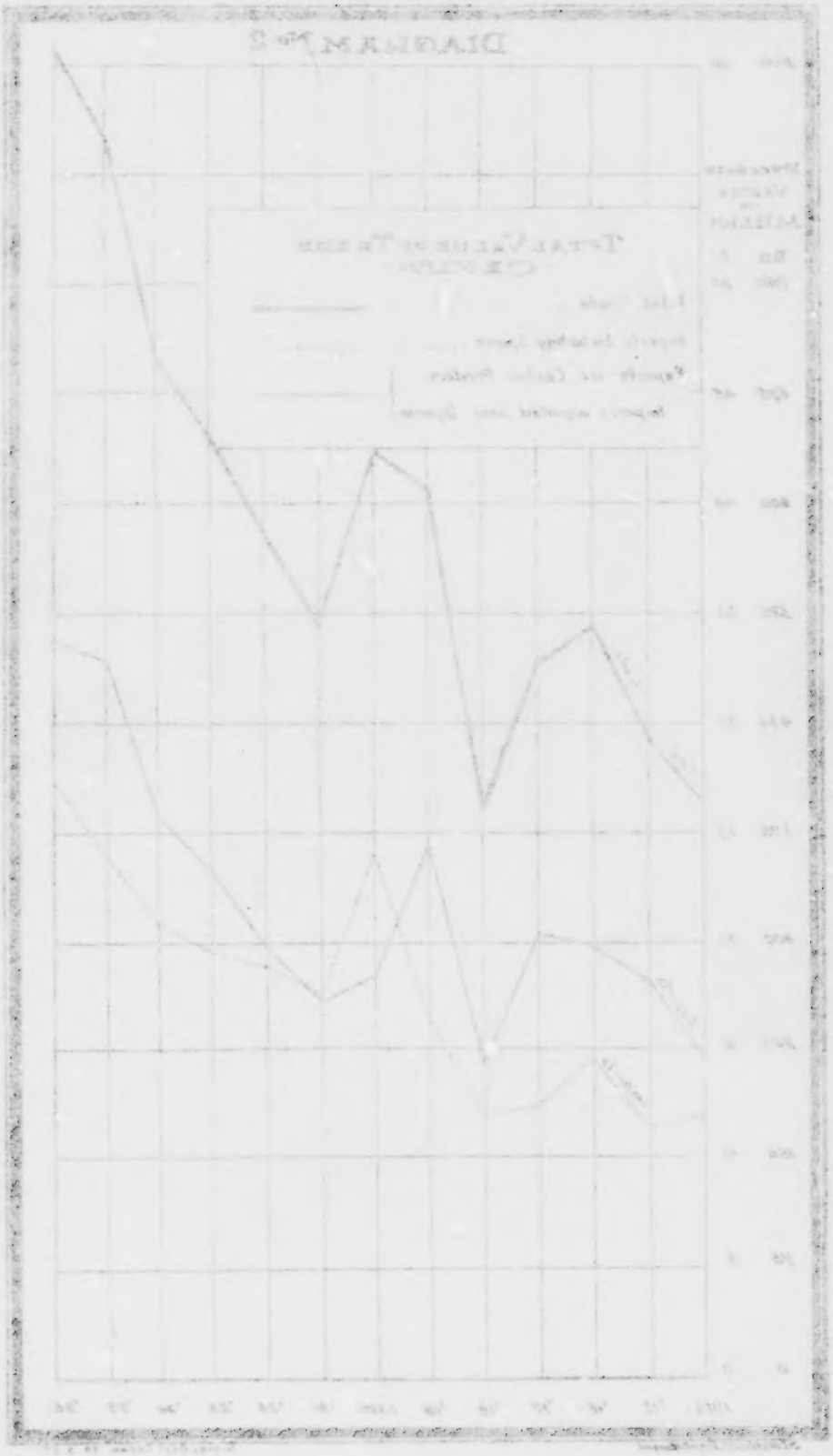


DIAGRAM No. 2
TOTAL VALUE OF TRADE
-CEYLON-
Total Trade
Imports, Including Specie
Exports viz., Ceylon Produce
Imports exported and Specie
Total Trade
Exports
Imports
Recorded Values in Millions
Rs. £
900 60
1080 50
675 45
600 40
525 35
450 30
375 25
300 20
225 15
150 10
75 5
0 0
1914 '15 '16 '17 '18 '19 1920 '21 '22 '23 '24 '25 '26
Survey Dept Ceylon. 30. 5. 27.



work on the new Customs House at the Passenger Jetty is progressing, and when that is finished the warehouse at present occupied by the Baggage Office will revert to its legitimate use.

Notes on the principal imports and exports will be found below. In general, imports showed an expansion under all heads, which may be considered to be an indication that the general prosperity is widely diffused. As regards exports, the main industries of tea and rubber continued to show improvement. Among the coconut industries, copra improved, apparently at the expense of coconut oil and desiccated nut. The latter industries are not in a very flourishing condition, and the exports of coconut oil fell off very considerably towards the end of the year. Cacao does not show any improvement. Plumbago, which showed a satisfactory improvement in 1925, fell back in 1926, and the removal of the export duty in October, 1925, does not appear to have led to any increase in the demand.

The following table shows the annual value of imports and exports for a period of ten years, excluding the value of postal articles, ships' stores, and specie :—

Year.	Imports. Rs.	Exports. Rs.	Total. Rs.
1917	184,123,986	304,160,457	488,284,443
1918	177,716,763	211,325,334	389,042,097
1919	239,323,731	367,054,779	606,378,570
1920	321,275,652	268,462,183	589,737,835
1921	260,897,161	256,600,413	517,497,574
1922	280,414,704	297,753,215	578,167,919
1923	287,947,472	351,035,248	638,982,720
1924	302,734,490	385,354,418	688,088,908
1925	351,328,702	492,489,296	843,817,998
1926	395,244,241	503,262,489	898,506,730

The total value of Ceylon trade for the last eight years, excluding specie, postal articles, and ships' stores, but including coal and liquid fuel supplied to steamships, are as follows :—

Year.	Lakhs of Rupees.	Year.	Lakhs of Rupees.
1919	6,421½	1923	6,601
1920	6,291	1924	7,119½
1921	5,481¾	1925	8,670
1922	5,982	1926	9,216¾

The value of coal and liquid fuel supplied to steamships since 1919 are as follows :—

Year.	Value of Coal supplied to Vessels. Rs.	Value of Liquid Fuel supplied to Vessels. Rs.
1919	32,899,550	2,869,327
1920	36,638,574	2,732,738
1921	27,638,759	3,020,034
1922	16,309,907	3,720,575
1923	13,551,793	7,576,801
1924	15,088,683	8,773,710
1925	14,138,321	9,032,855
1926	12,824,935	10,341,890

Customs Revenue.

The total revenue collected during the year at the ports of the Colony was Rs. 56,337,612·15, an increase of Rs. 7,751,471·33 or 15·9 per cent. above the figure for 1925. The estimated revenue for the year was Rs. 45,527,250, and the actual revenue exceeded that amount by Rs. 10,810,362·15. The growth of the revenue collected by the Customs Department is shown in the following table :—

Year.		Rs.	c.	Year.		Rs.	c.
1911	..	14,576,438	62	1923	..	37,326,845	87
1913	..	16,996,677	0	1924	..	41,296,160	12
1916	..	25,488,407	47	1925	..	46,907,450	17
1919	..	23,601,952	45	1926	..	56,337,612	15

The total revenue of the Colony for 1926 was Rs. 126,566,466, and it will be seen that the revenue collected at the ports amounted to 44·5 per cent. of the total.

In pursuance of the recommendation of the Taxation Commission several changes were made in the Customs Tariff with effect from July 22. The more important of these are the following :—

The Customs duty was removed from curry stuffs; dried, salted, and Maldive fish ; milk ; and exercise books in paper covers. The duty on kerosine oil was reduced from 30 cents to 15 cents per gallon.

The duty on jewellery was increased from 10 per cent. to 15 per cent., and on playing cards from 10 per cent. to 20 per cent. The duty on motor cars was increased from 10 per cent. to 20 per cent., and on motor lorries to 12½ per cent. The duty on manufactured tobacco and cigars was raised from Rs. 4 to Rs. 4·50 a lb., and on cigarettes and beedies from Rs. 5 to Rs. 6 a lb.

As regards export duties, the duty on cacao was reduced from Re. 1·50 to Re. 1 per 100 lb., that on desiccated coconut from 84 cents to 70 cents per cwt., and that on fresh nuts from Rs. 3 to Rs. 2 per 1,000. The duty on copra was reduced from 60 cents to 50 cents per cwt. The duty on rubber was raised from Rs. 2·50 to Rs. 4 per 100 lb.

It has not been possible to state what the effect of these changes in the total revenue has been, as some of the items affected are not separately classified, but speaking generally, it is probable that the increases have off-set the decreases in such a way that the total effect in revenue has not been great.

It appears, therefore, that the increase in revenue is due to natural causes, as in the preceding two years, and the increase of Customs duties since the war has not had the effects of causing any serious check to the importation of luxuries or necessities.

The following statment shows the nett Customs revenue : —

Revenue collected during the Years 1925 and 1926 classified according to Main Heads.

	1925.		1926.		Percentage of Increase or Decrease.
Import Duties.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	
Cotton, manufactures	1,511,818	31	1,510,755	71	— ·07
Grain	8,956,782	63	9,422,076	82	+ 4·93
Kerosine oil	3,076,663	77	3,540,921	8	+ 13·11
Spirits and cordials	3,455,977	49	4,573,897	39	+ 24 44
Sugar	2,767,194	78	3,220,656	85	+ 14·07
Other goods	11,637,389	80	15,085,249	62	+ 22·85
(*a*) Total Import Duties	31,405,826	78	37,353,557	47	+ 15·92
Expo. Duties.					
Cacao	103,835	93	84,504	86	— 20·50
Coconut, desiccated	666,059	65	579,902	6	— 14·85
Coconuts, fresh	70,205	97	42,185	16	— 66·42
Coconut oil	457,845	78	428,014	96	— 6·96
Copra	1,367,794	74	1,327,896	88	— 3·00
Plumbago	62,548	48	—		Duty removed
Poonac	61,927	96	45,143	77	— 37·17
Rubber	1,820,284	2	3,185,044	29	+ 42·84
Tea	5,943,387	93	6,195,391	20	+ 4·06
Other	9,308	51	12,083	22	+ 22·96
(*b*) Total Export Duties	10,563,198	97	11,900,166	40	+ 11·23
Sundries	52,370	77	71,491	73	+ 26·74
Grand Total	42,021,396	52	49,325,215	60	+ 14·81
Revenue of Colombo Harbour.					
Harbour Dues	2,941,950	64	3,149,280	74	+ 6·58
Lake to Harbour Dues	13,497	66	14,286	10	+ 5·51
Warehouse Rent	724,915	27	847,088	10	+ 14·42
Other Rents	328,668	12	343,822	21	+ 4·41
Pilotage	221,150	4	239,068	76	+ 7·49
Railway Traffic	56,176	71	57,786	8	+ 2·78
Other Harbour Collections	188,505	7	135,610	36	— 39·00
Revenue of Oil Installations	869,604	21	758,006	15	— 14·72
Dues leviable at Outports.					
Port Dues	31,132	10	32,733	98	+ 4·92
Warehouse Rent	75,214	29	84,897	35	+ 11·40
Others	14,586	50	14,420	0	— 1·15
Grand Total	5,465,400	61	5,676,999	83	+ 3·72
Medical Aid (Export Duties)	1,092,011	92	1,325,771	30	+ 17·62
Sundries	7,331	77	9,625	42	+ 23·82
Grand Total	1,099,343	69	1,335,396	72	+ 17·60

Distribution of Trade and Foreign Competition.

The percentage of imports supplied by the United Kingdom was slightly lower than in the previous year, as is that from British Possessions, whilst the percentage from Foreign Countries has shown a considerable increase. Germany, United States of America, Japan, and France have all shown considerable increases.

British India still supplies the largest percentage of imports, but the United Kingdom is second this year, exchanging places with Burma, which is now third. Germany has improved from the 12th to the 7th place. There has been no large falling off in actual quantities in any countries, but the increase has been greater in the countries named above than in most others.

The principal countries as regards exports have again been the United Kingdom and the United States of America, the percentages for each being as follows :—

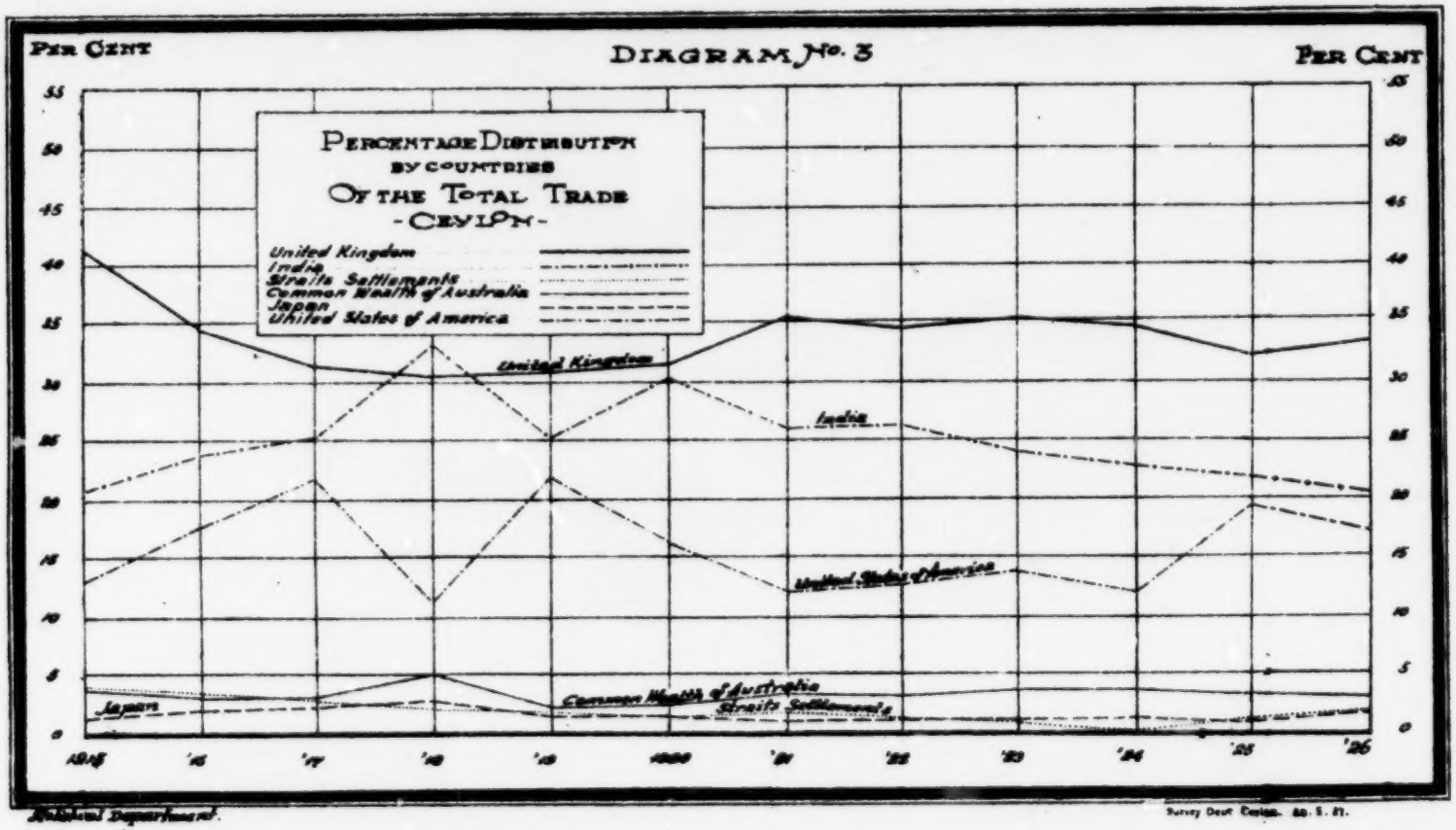
	1925.	1926.
United Kingdom	39·54	42·58
United States of America	29·86	27·50

The position of the United Kingdom has been stronger, and the percentage taken by the United States of America has shown a small decline. There has been no noteworthy change in regard to other countries.

In regard to total trade, the proportion of the United Kingdom showed an increase while that of the British Possessions showed a decrease, which is noticeable both in imports and exports. The proportion of Foreign Countries was practically the same as last year.

Comparative percentages for the last three years of the value of imports, exports, and total trade are as follows. The figures are exclusive of imported rubber, and of coal, liquid fuel, and other ships' stores :—

Imports.	1924. Per Cent.	1925. Per Cent.	1926. Per Cent.
United Kingdom	23·06	23·23	22·77
British Possessions	53·76	55·23	51·39
Foreign Countries	23·18	21·54	25·84
Exports.			
United Kingdom	44·72	38·29	41·40
British Possessions	18·20	15·08	14·03
Foreign Countries	37·08	46·63	44·57
Total Trade.			
United Kingdom	35·29	32·18	33·36
British Possessions	33·69	31·37	30·14
Foreign Countries	31·02	36·45	36·50



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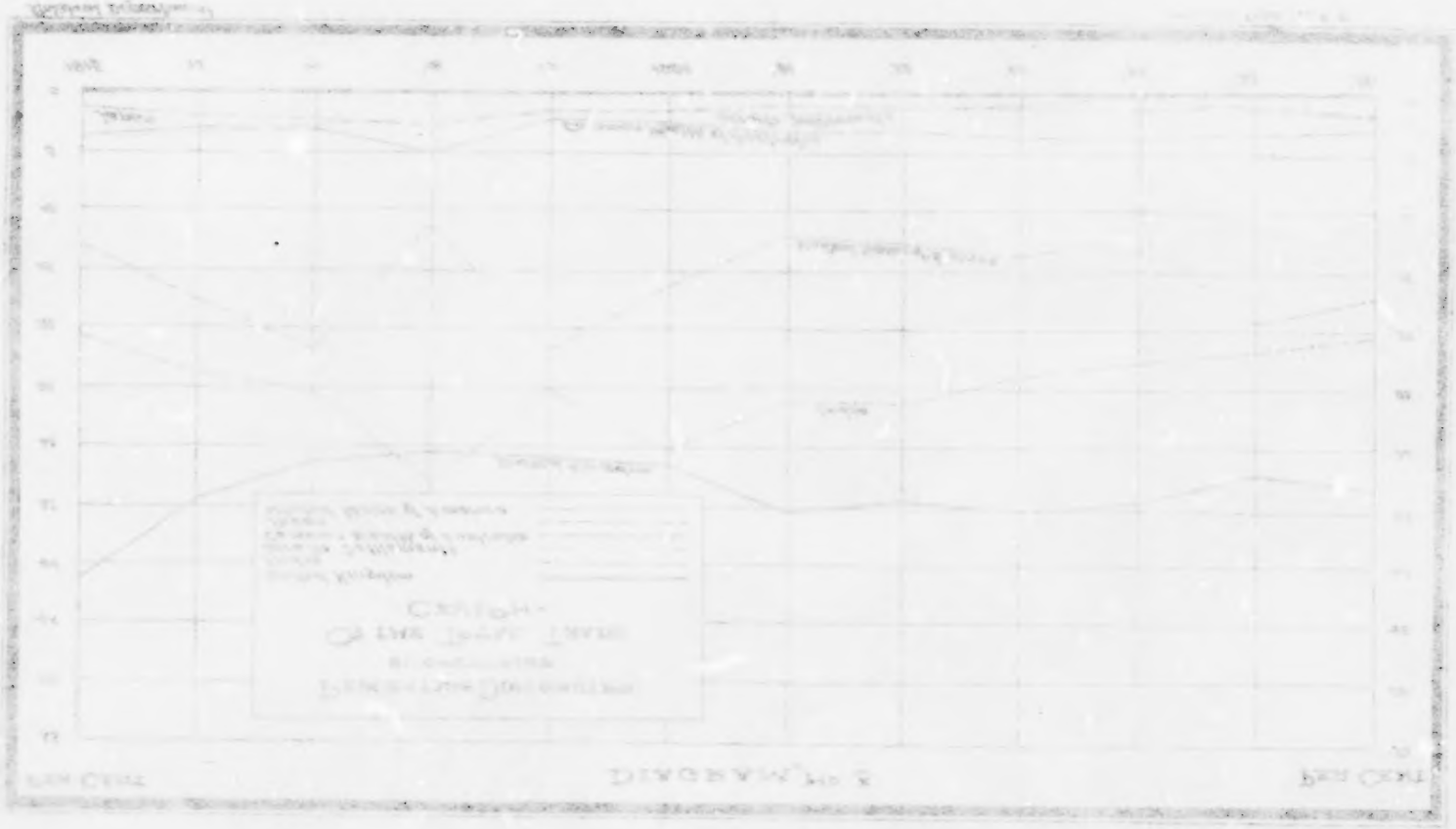

The principal countries from which Ceylon's imports are obtained, with the percentage of the total value supplied by each for the last three years, are shown in the following table :—

		1924. Per Cent.	1925. Per Cent.	1926. Per Cent.
1.	Brltish India ..	31·09	24·84	23·95
2.	United Kingdom	22·64	22·21	21·99
3.	Burma ..	15·02	23·57	19·82
4.	Java ..	3·88	3·15	3·39
5.	United States of America	2·95	2·53	3·24
6.	Straits Settlements	1·33	2·09	2·78
7.	Germany ..	1·79	1·62	2·62
8.	Japan ..	2·12	2·03	2·47
9.	Sumatra ..	1·37	1·71	2·43
10.	Persia ..	·66	·95	2·25
11.	Australia ..	1·70	2·10	2·02
12.	British South Africa	2·58*	2·19*	1·85
13.	Holland ..	1·35	1·36	1·52
14.	Borneo (excluding British)	2·91	2·05	1·29
15.	Maldive Islands	1·31	1·30	1·26
16.	France ..	·63	·75	1·16
17.	Italy ..	·66	·78	1·05
18.	Belgium ..	·89	·84	1·03
19.	Canada ..	·57	·52	·59
20.	Siam ..	·11	·29	·37
21.	Switzerland ..	·63	·24	·33
22.	Hong Kong ..	·60	·34	·29
23.	Sweden ..	·20	·26	·27
24.	India (excluding British)	·48	·16	·23
25.	China (excluding Hong Kong)	·21	·17	·23
26.	Czechoslovakia	—†	—†	·22
27.	Egypt ..	·05	·11	·17
28.	Chili ..	·09	·07	·17
29.	Aden ..	·09	·05	·13
30.	Finland ..	—†	—†	·13
31.	British East Africa	—	—	·13
32.	Austria ..	·13	·07	·11

* Cape Colony, Natal, and other British Possessions in Africa.
† No heading.

The values of the staple products exported from Ceylon during the last five years are as follows :—

	Lakhs of Rupees.				
	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.
Tea ..	1,460	1,857	2,150	1,997	2,132
Rubber ..	570	736	637	1,700	1,701
Copra ..	288	181	310	383	398
Coconut, desiccated	202	227	220	188	173
Coconut oil ..	149	139	158	168	155
Arecanuts ..	33	35	33	40	42
Cinnamon ..	20	21	29	32	42
Plumbago ..	16	15	13	30	26
Coir fibre ..	18	24	29	19	21
Cacao ..	31	22	25	23	20
Coir yarn ..	13	20	21	21	18
Citronella oil	16	21	29	23	18
Coconuts, fresh	18	13	25	19	14
Skins (dressed or undressed)..	6	7	6	7	13
Poonac (coconut)	8	6	9	11	9
Cardamoms..	5	6	7	11	8

Exports of Ceylon Staple Products, 1922–1926.

The quantities exported during the same years are :—

	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.
Tea (lb.)	171,807,581	181,939,731*	204,930,307*	209,791,384*	217,183,666*
Rubber (cwt.)	933,886	748,359	740,722	912,370	1,177,147
Copra (cwt.)	1,686,589	1,015,465	1,769,189	2,273,717	2,419,398
Coconut, desiccated (cwt.)	768,215	818,793	871,341	794,161	754,367
Coconut oil (cwt.)	554,626	480,543	552,633	616,917	570,463
Arecanuts (cwt.)	133,531	160,578	130,904	154,291	165,475
Cinnamon (cwt.)	42,974	44,984	47,484*	42,360*	43,115*
Plumbago (cwt.)	216,999	213,383	193,017	308,523	232,453
Coir fibre (cwt.)	319,125	359,082*	480,492*	460,245*	457,234*
Cacao (cwt.)	83,211	60,904	69,351	68,788	64,751
Coir yarn (cwt.)	102,688	105,088	117,199	131,387	107,885
Citronella oil (lb.)	1,299,889	1,121,271	1,433,381	1,415,639	1,431,351
Coconuts, fresh (No.)	22,317,747	15,693,670	29,121,041	23,288,786	16,951,368
Skins (dressed or undressed) (cwt.)	9,061	8,605	10,685	11,443	13,637
Poonac (coconut) (cwt.)	115,479	116,549	156,251	168,839	160,277
Cardamoms (cwt.)	4,096	2,788*	2,667*	3,302*	2,848*

* Including ships' stores.

The principal countries buying Ceylon produce and manufactures are given in the following table, with the percentages of value taken by each :—

		1924. Per Cent.	1925. Per Cent.	1926. Per Cent.
1.	United Kingdom	45·78	39·54	42·58
2.	United States of America	18·68	29·86	27·30
3.	Germany	4·41	4·06	4·96
4.	Australia	4·92	4·04	4·15
5.	Italy	2·58	2·71	2·65
6.	New Zealand	1·71	1·50	1·79
7.	Denmark	2·76	2·43	1·60
8.	British South Africa	(New heading from 1926)		1·59
9.	British India	2·40	2·18	1·48
10.	Egypt (including Anglo-Egyptian Soudan)	1·88	2·06	1·41
11.	Canada	2·46	1·48	1·34
12.	Norway	1·85	1·46	1.29
13.	Holland	1·46	1·00	1·25
14.	France	·94	·81	·85
15.	Belgium	1·20	·73	·83
16.	Iraq	(Not shown separately)		.73
17.	China (including Hong Kong)	·05	·30	·39
18.	Straits Settlements	·41	·34	·35
19.	Sweden	·27	·27	·34
20.	Japan	·51	·27	·33
21.	Argentine Republic	(Not shown separately)		·33
22.	Spain (including Gibraltar)	·23	.27	.32
23.	Anglo-Egyptian Soudan	(Included under Egypt)		.24
24.	Persia	—	·07	.18
25.	Philippine Islands	·22	·19	·17
26.	Newfoundland	·19	·14	·15
27.	Russia in Europe	·03	·27	·14
28.	Central America	·08	·07	·13
29.	Other Foreign Countries in Africa	·09	·11	·11

RECORDED VALUES IN MILLION POUNDS
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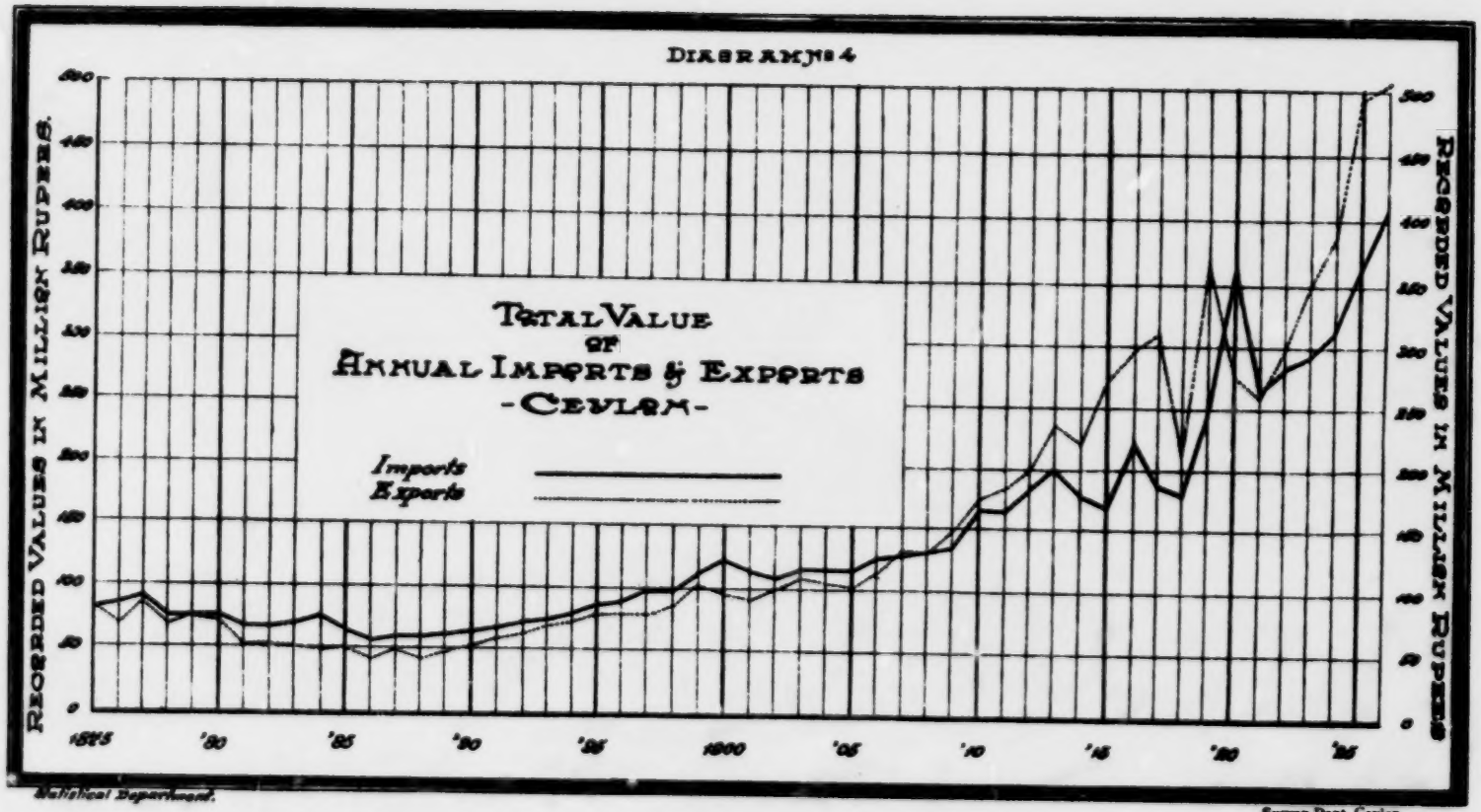
HUMAN-LAUNCH
TRANSIT
-CENTAUR-
STANDARD EXPORT
Reference
Value



Statistical Department.

Survey Dept. Ceylon.
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Notes on the Principal Imports.

Wheat Products, Flour and Meal.—As in previous years, the supplies have come almost entirely from Australia and British India, and the tendency which was shown in previous years to obtain larger quantities from Australia at the expense of India has continued. In 1926 Australia supplied 278,904 cwt. and India 79,703 cwt. In 1925 the figures were 234,211 cwt. and 85,817 cwt., respectively. The price of wheat flour has fallen somewhat.

The following table shows quantities and values imported in 1924, 1925, and 1926 :—

Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1924	320,074	3,312,873
1925	320,088	4,801,335
1926	359,062	4,307,895

Rice.—The quantity imported showed a nominal increase, and prices remained about the same as in the previous year. British India and Burma supplied the bulk of rice as usual, but the proportion received from the former was larger than in 1925. There was a considerable increase of rice imported from the Straits Settlements, some of which was no doubt of Siamese origin. The imports for 1925 and 1926 from the chief supplying countries are shown in the following table :—

	1925.		1926.	
	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
Total	8,321,381	94,082,942	8,794,947	98,061,620
British India	1,884,175	17,899,640	2,406,552	22,895,267
Burma	6,351,534	75,124,917	5,922,919	70,211,510
Straits Settlements	58,894	637,455	412,418	4,164,999
India (excluding British)	25,705	411,011	50,840	766,491
Other	1,073	9,919	2,218	23,353

Other Grains.—The total imports increased from 1,014,297 cwt. in 1925 to 1,125,130 cwt. in 1926. Of the three principal kinds included under "other grains," paddy and peas showed increases while imports of gram showed a decrease.

The following table shows the quantity of rice and other grains imported during the period 1917–1926 :—

Imports of Rice and Other Grains during the Period 1917 to 1926.

Year.	Rice. Cwt.	Other Grains. Cwt.	Year.	Rice. Cwt.	Other Grains. Cwt.
1917	7,754,121	1,102,566	1922*	7,209,157	956,550
1918	6,472,152	815,161	1923*	7,423,833	1,134,443
1919	5,342,575	1,433,295	1924*	7,519,186	965,469
1920	5,788,730	1,310,996	1925*	8,321,381	1,014,297
1921	5,859,957	1,324,895	1926*	8,794,947	1,125,130

* Includes imports by Government.

Sugar.—The consumption of sugar appears to be increasing rapidly. The quantity of refined sugar of all kinds imported in 1926 was 952,263 cwt., the imports for the two previous years being 794,267 cwt. in 1925 and 635,448 cwt. in 1924. The increase on the figure for 1925 is therefore about 20 per cent. Java contributed 801,307 cwt., *i.e.*, over eight-ninths, as against seven-eighths in 1925 and five-sixths in 1924. The quantity of unrefined sugar and jaggery imported, the greater part of which came from British India, is small—only 39,249 cwt. being imported in 1926.

Manufactured Tobacco, Cigars, and Cigarettes. — As in previous years, cigarettes and manufactured tobacco were imported almost exclusively from the United Kingdom. Cigars came chiefly from the Philippines, Holland, British India, and the United Kingdom. Beedies were imported exclusively from British India. All kinds of tobacco showed an increase.

The quantities of each cleared for home consumption during the past seven years are as follows :—

Year.	Manufactured Tobacco.	Cigars.	Cigarettes.
	lb.	lb.	lb.
1920	29,034	12,198	371,575
1921	23,330	8,092	319,005
1922	21,429	8,883	330,071
1923	21,354	7,387	327,482
1924	20,379	7,272	403,370
1925	19,364	7,075	447,998
1926	21,082	7,474	511,011

Spirits.—The increase in the quantity imported of each kind of spirits has again been very considerable. The import of brandy increased from 64,467 imperial gallons in 1925 to 103,426 imperial gallons in 1926, or 60 per cent. Gin increased from 120,349 gallons to 156,505 gallons, or 30 per cent. The import of whisky increased from 79,446 gallons in 1925 to 93,914 gallons in 1926.

The quantities cleared for home consumption during the past three years is shown in the following table in proof gallons :—

Quantities of Spirits cleared for Home Consumption.

	Proof Gallons.		
	1924.	1925.	1926.
Total	183,463	224,558	307,746
Brandy	44,089	59,815	96,448
Gin	83,487	104,537	140,192
Whisky	55,887	60,206	71,106

Cotton, Manufactured and Raw.—The total value of imports for 1926 under this head is Rs. 30,748,741. This is an increase of Rs. 320,958 above the figure for 1925. The following table shows the distribution :—

	1925. Rs.	1926. Rs.
Total ..	30,427,783	30,748,741
United Kingdom	16,682,732 ..	15,282,001
British Empire	8,161,806 ..	9,099,844
Foreign Countries	5,583,245 ..	6,366,896

Raw Cotton: With the exception of 455 cwt. from the United Kingdom, all the raw cotton imported, 18,501 cwt., came from British India. The value of the cotton was Rs. 948,704. The corresponding figure for 1925 was 21,456 cwt. valued at Rs. 1,432,300, so that there has been a considerable decrease in the quantity imported.

Cotton Waste comes almost entirely from British India (2,373 cwt. valued at Rs. 69,447) and the United Kingdom (1,774 cwt. valued at Rs. 58,372). Total imports were 4,148 cwt. valued at Rs. 127,908.

Bleached Yarn and Twist: Of the total of 31,648 lb. valued at Rs. 26,168, 27,638 lb. came from British India and the remainder from the United Kingdom. In 1925 52,114 lb. valued at Rs. 50,056 were imported.

Dyed Yarn and Twist: 75,239 lb. valued at Rs. 61,323 came from British India out of a total of 77,447 lb. valued at Rs. 66,053. The United Kingdom contributed 1,808 lb. and Germany became a supplier with 400 lb.

Gray Yarn and Twist: 4,000 lb. were imported valued at Rs. 4,142. Of this, 1,200 lb. came from the United Kingdom and 2,800 lb. from British India.

Piece Goods form, of course, the greater part of the cotton imports into Ceylon. There was a large increase again in all kinds of piece goods, except bleached piece goods. In all 60,916,571 yards valued at Rs. 27,422,082 were imported in 1926. In 1925 54,468,017 yards valued at Rs. 26,942,473 were imported. The total increase was therefore 6,448,554 yards or 12 per cent. The import of bleached goods, which showed the biggest increase last year, dropped from 17,001,289 yards to 13,208,994 yards. The biggest increase was in dyed goods, the 1925 figure of 23,568,522 yards rising to 28,950,433 yards valued at Rs. 13,891,530. Printed piece goods also showed a large increase, the figures being 8,027,567 yards in 1925 and 11,815,844 yards valued at Rs. 5,218,301 in 1926.

As regards country of origin, the United Kingdom, which showed a very considerable increase in 1925, went back slightly in 1926. This was due largely to a decrease in the total

quantity of bleached piece goods brought in. The United Kingdom showed increases under every other head. British India is by far the largest supplier of dyed piece goods and showed an increase under this head from 12,734,914 yards in 1925 to 15,714,375 yards in 1926. Holland more than held its own in the dyed piece goods market, the imports being 4,659,226 yards in 1926 and 3,572,577 yards in 1925. Japan is also an important supplier of dyed and of printed piece goods. The import of the latter from Japan increased from 1,640,004 yards in 1925 to 3,589,505 yards in 1926.

Lace, Net, and Embroidery.—Lace and net came chiefly from the United Kingdom, and embroidery from Switzerland. Both showed a considerable increase, particularly embroidery from Switzerland, which rose from 1,811,219 yards in 1925 to 3,250,446 yards in 1926.

Thread.—Imports showed some increase, the total being 208,439 lb. valued at Rs. 817,777, as against 184,825 lb. valued as Rs. 782,533 in 1925. The United Kingdom supplied about five-sixths as usual.

Cotton Manufactures not elsewhere specified again showed an increase, the total value being Rs. 682,182 in 1926 and Rs. 543,719 in 1925. The chief sources of supply were the United Kingdom, British India, and Japan.

Coal.—The quantity of coal imported showed a small decrease from 672,154 tons valued at Rs. 17,617,176 in 1925 to 663,385 tons valued at Rs. 16,324,703 in 1926. British South Africa again supplied about half the imports, and British India supplied about one-third. The imports from the United Kingdom decreased from 141,337 tons in 1925 to 76,397 tons in 1926. A new source of supply was British East Africa, with 19,732 tons valued at Rs. 493,300.

Liquid Fuel.—The quantity imported has shown a very considerable increase, due largely to Admiralty importation from Persia. The supplies were drawn exclusively from Persia and Dutch Borneo, the former supplying 13,485,388 gallons and the latter 13,851,581 gallons. Dutch Borneo supplied 23,287,851 gallons in 1925 and Persia 16,349,549. The quantity imported from Persia has shown a large increase each year since 1921, whilst that from Dutch Borneo has shown a very considerable decrease. 39,776,500 gallons were supplied for bunkers in 1926, against 34,741,750 in 1925.

The imports were—

Year.	Gallons.	Value. Rs.
1925	39,637,400	10,321,286
1926	48,336,969	11,955,424

Kerosine Oil.—Imports fell slightly from 6,981,055 gallons in 1925 to 6,880,841 gallons in 1926. Russia in Asia, which supplied over 4,000,000 gallons of bulk oil last year, dropped out as a source of supply, and new sources of supply were found in Dutch Borneo (595,906 gallons) and Persia (1,235,796 gallons). The United States of America took first place as a supplier of bulk oil with 3,168,094 gallons.

Petrol.—Imports still continue to increase rapidly, those for the last seven years being as follows :—

Year.		Gallons.	Year.		Gallons.
1920	..	988,427	1924	..	3,749,236*
1921	..	1,381,671	1925	..	4,085,370*
1922	..	1,389,363*	1926	..	6,308,256*
1923	..	1,959,474*			

* Includes imports by Government.

The increase this year was over 50 per cent. Practically the whole supply now comes from Sumatra.

Manures.—The total quantity imported was 2,579,085 cwt. valued at Rs. 15,993,939 in 1926, as against 2,088,526 cwt. valued at Rs. 12,744,286 in 1925. This shows a large increase, as might be expected from the flourishing state of tea, rubber. and coconut industries. The increase in quantity was 23 per cent. and that in value 25 per cent. The increase was general, but was perhaps more marked as regards the valuable manures than in the case of the less costly manures. There was little alteration in the chief sources of supply.

The chief kind imported was groundnut poonac (647,516 cwt. valued at Rs. 4,056,711), bonemeal being second (377,391 cwt. valued at Rs. 1,903,996), and fish guano third (189,328 cwt. valued at Rs. 1,417,363). As in previous years, British India was the chief source of supply.

Horses.—162 horses were imported, as against 197 in 1925 and 111 in 1924. Of these, 65 came from the United Kingdom and 91 from British India.

Motor Cars.—The number of motor cars imported in 1926 was 2,570 valued at Rs. 6,471,196, as compared with 1,654 valued at Rs. 4,236,827 in 1925. This shows an increase of 27 per cent. The United States of America headed the list this year, displacing the United Kingdom, with 812 cars valued at Rs. 2,222,435. The United Kingdom came second with 724 cars valued at Rs. 2,136,961. Canada sent 636 cars valued at Rs. 1,042,511. Italy 206 cars valued at Rs. 534,651, and France 173 cars valued at Rs. 439,974. Ten cars were imported from Germany and 9 from Belgium.

Motor Lorries.—The number of motor lorries imported in 1926 was 948 valued at Rs. 2,597,550, which shows a slight decrease when compared with 1,096 lorries valued at Rs. 3,176,435 imported in 1925. The United States of America headed the list again with 467 lorries valued at Rs. 1,600,311. This was, however, a decrease of 140 as compared with 1925. 343 came from Canada valued at Rs. 396,354, and 97 came from the United Kingdom valued at Rs. 460,715. The imports from other countries were, France 22, Germany 10, and Italy 9.

Cement.—Imports showed an increase of 198,757 cwt. or 21 per cent., as compared with an increase of nearly 33 per cent. in 1925 over the figure for 1924. The United Kingdom contributed a little over one-half and Germany one-third of the total. The total quantity imported in 1926 was 1,148,850 cwt. valued at Rs. 2,321,835, as compared with 950,093 cwt. valued at Rs. 1,968,786 in 1925.

Metals and Metalware: Ferrous Metals.—The quantity imported was 38 per cent. greater than in 1925. 1,285,060 cwt. valued at Rs. 14,452,910 were imported in 1926, as compared with 932,860 cwt. valued at Rs. 11,845,579 in 1925. The United Kingdom was, as usual, by far the largest supplier, the value of the imports from that country in 1926 being Rs. 9,967,324. The only other countries with imports valued at over Rs. 1,000,000 were Germany (Rs. 1,865,495) and Belgium (Rs. 1,534,424). France came next with imports valued at only Rs. 192,042. The improvement in the imports was general, all kinds of ironware showing an increase.

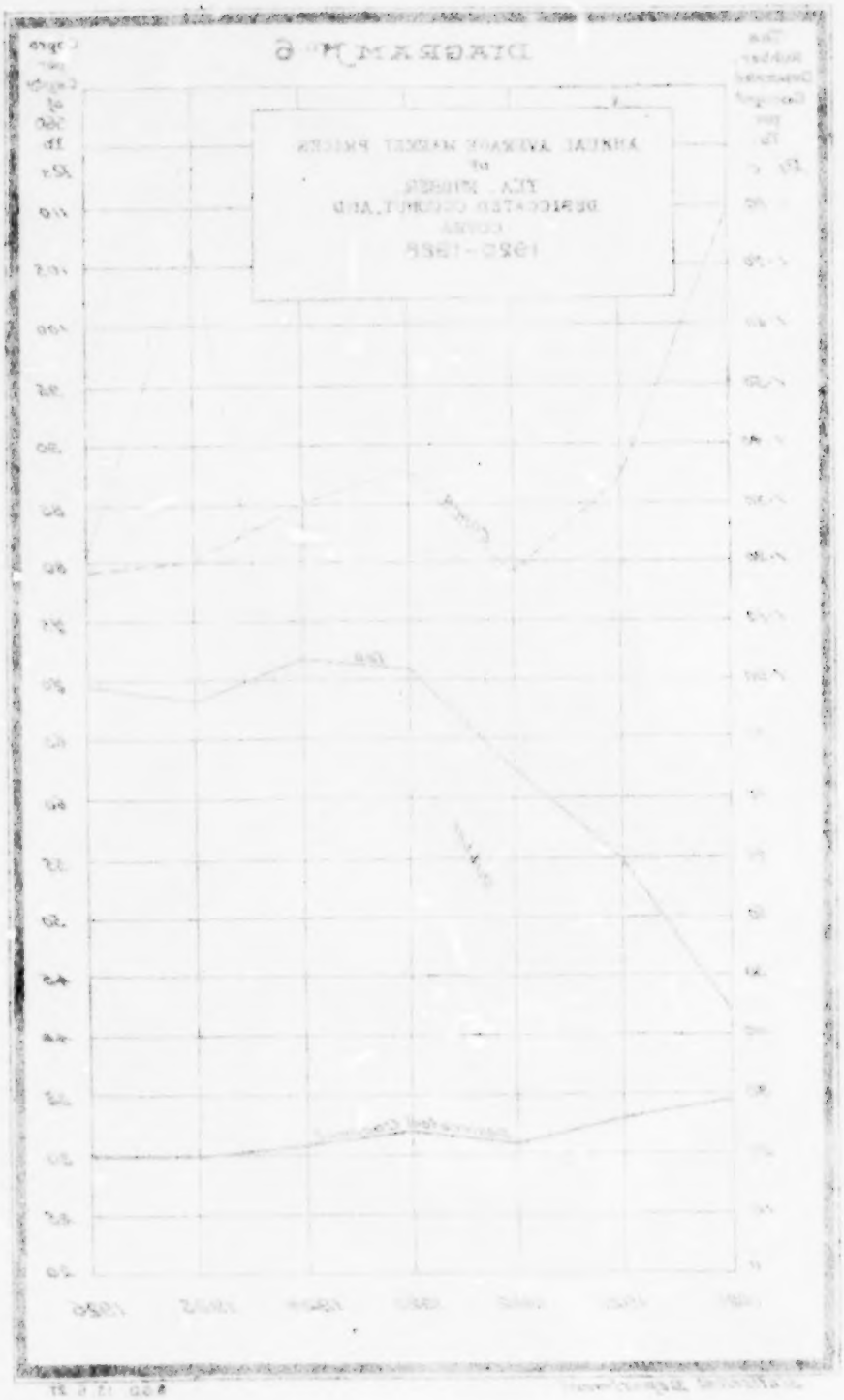
Non-Ferrous Metals and Manufactures thereof.—The value of total imports was Rs. 6,932,869, as compared with Rs. 6,281,736 in 1925. The United Kingdom ousted Burma from the first place.

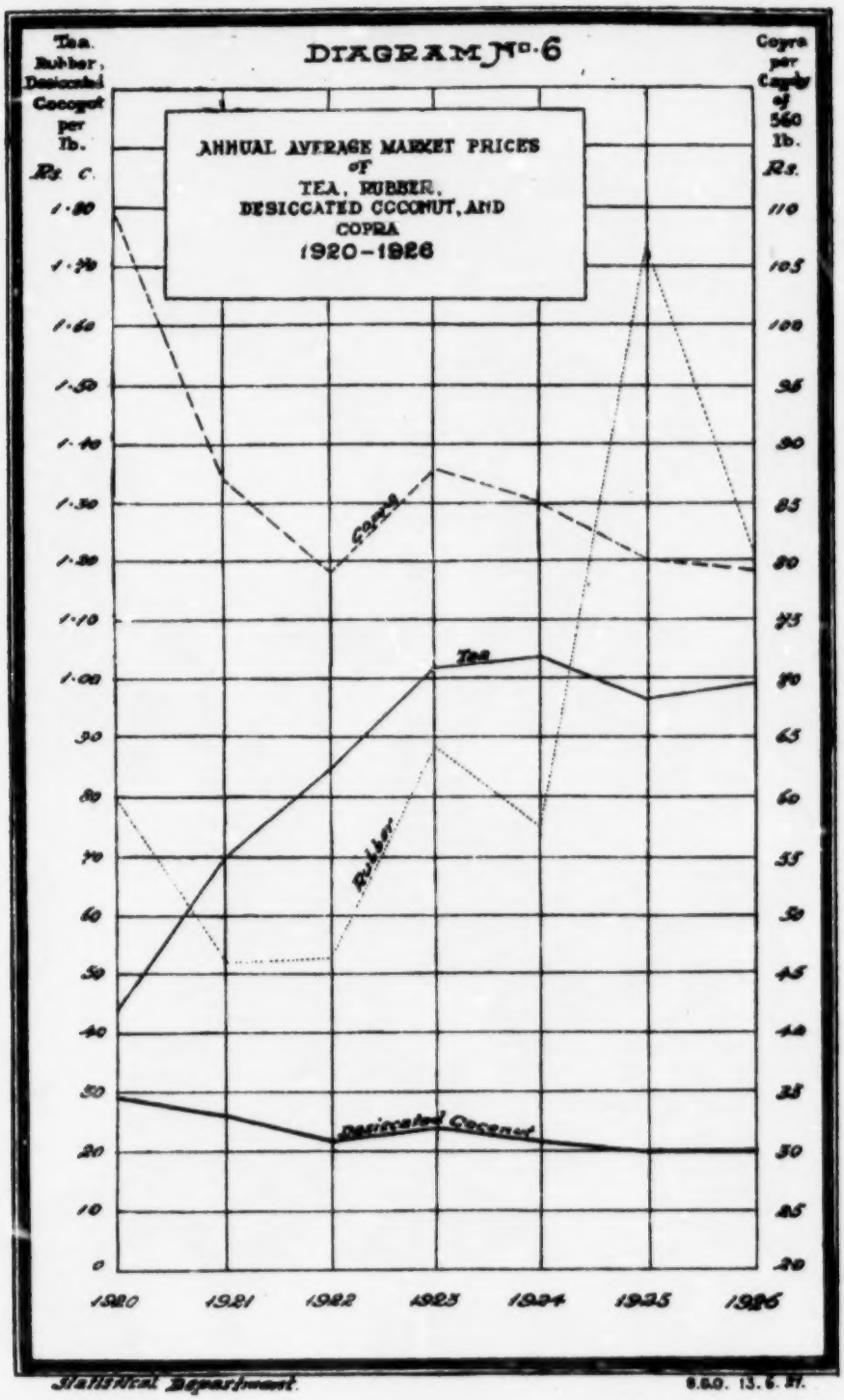
Aluminiumware.—The United Kingdom showed a large increase, the figures being 1,663 cwt. valued at Rs. 212,941 in 1926 and 877 cwt. valued at Rs. 112,709 in 1925. The second and third places were taken by British India with 521 cwt. and Germany with 294 cwt. respectively.

Pig Lead.—105,005 cwt. were imported valued at Rs. 2,299,587, of which 104,045 cwt. came from Burma. The imports in 1925 were 116,253 cwt. valued at Rs. 2,921,755.

Tea Lead.—The value of total imports was Rs. 842,991, as compared with Rs. 567,603 in 1925. The United Kingdom came first, while British India took the second place.

Tea and Other Chests.—The number imported was 3,811,539, as compared with 3,138,944 in 1925. Japan with 2,751,047





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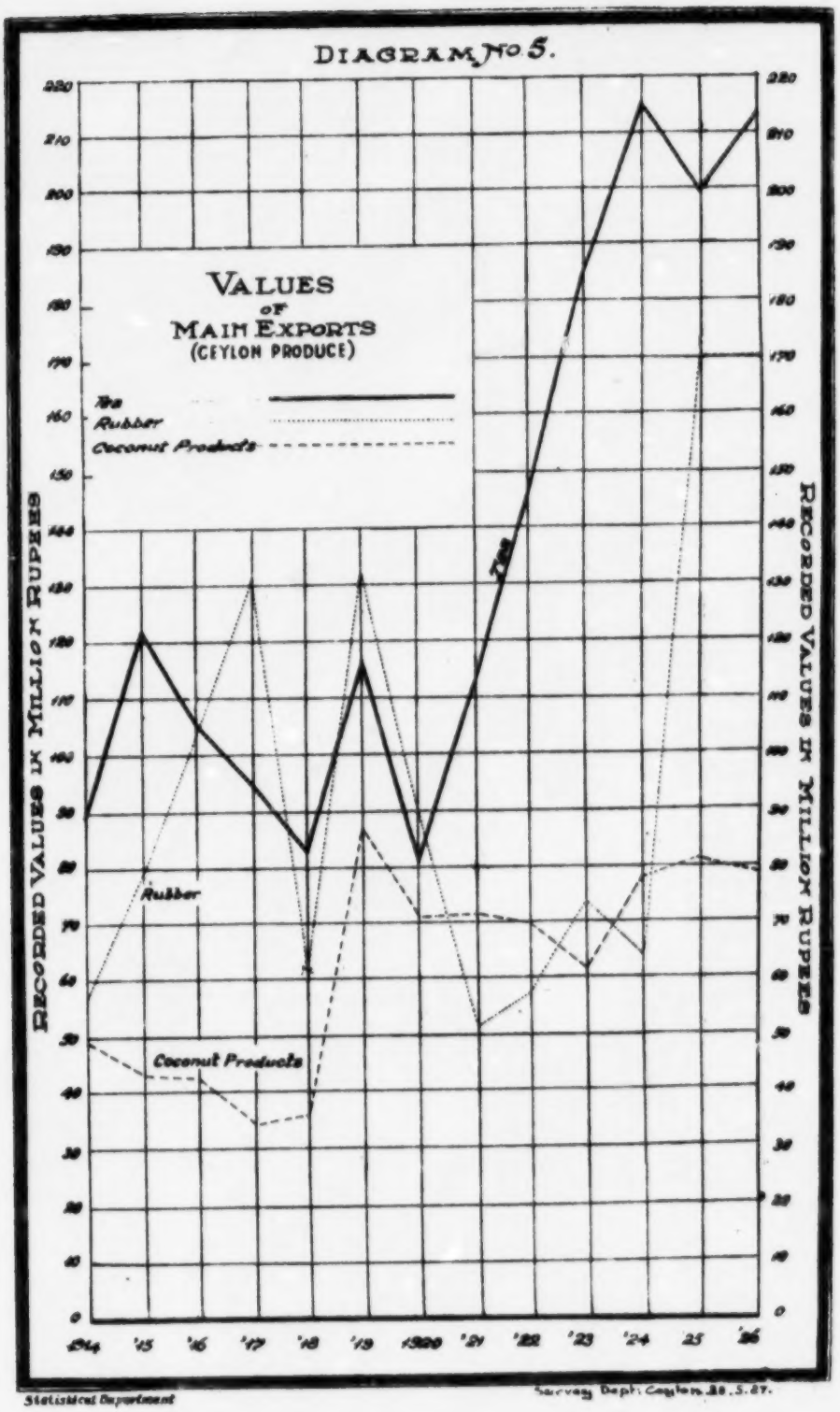

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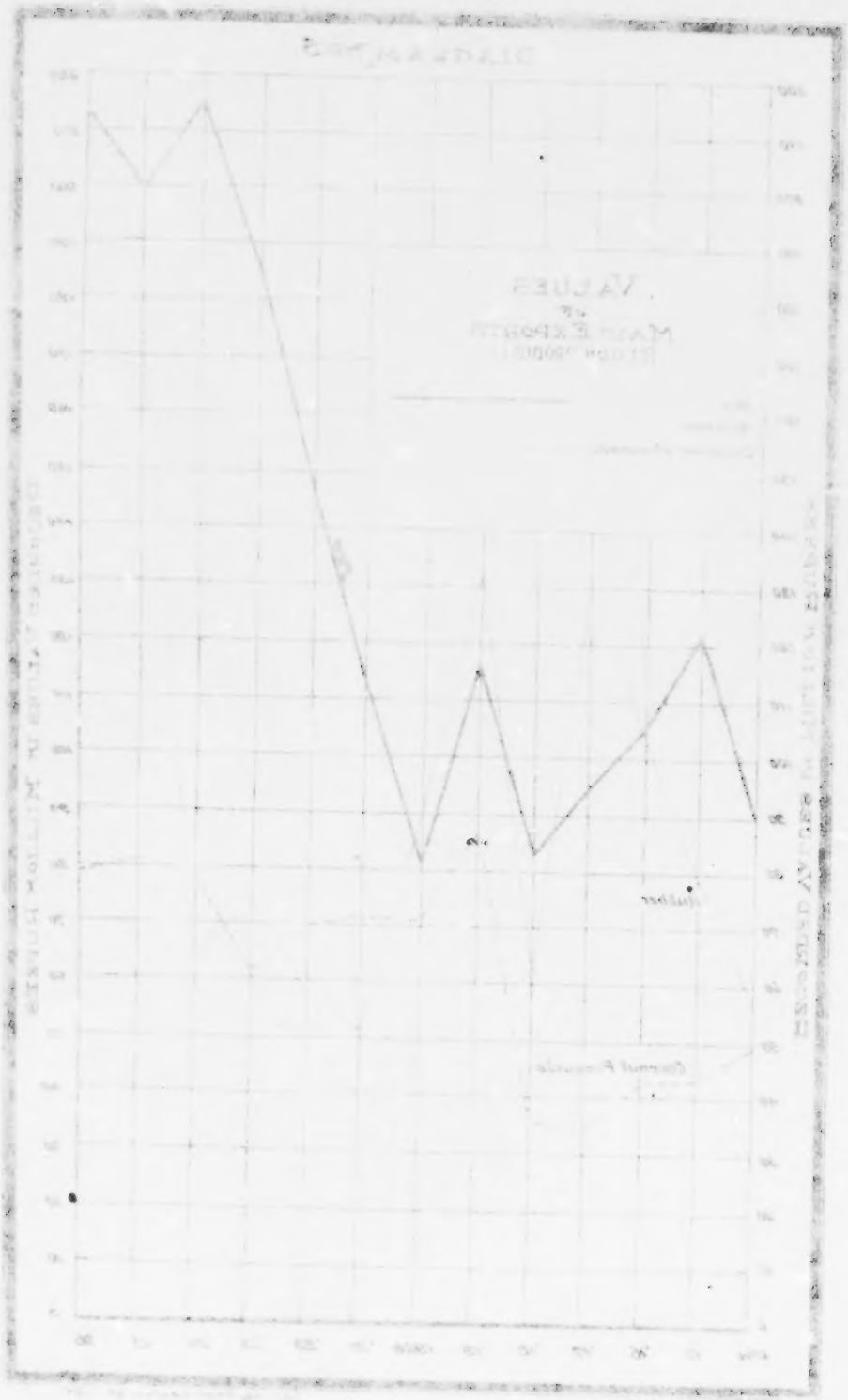


was, as usual, the largest supplier, while the United Kingdom was second with 688,668 and Finland third with 280,893.

Notes on the Principal Exports.

Tea.—The following table shows the quantities of black and green tea exported each year for the last seven years in millions of pounds :—

Year.	Millions of Pounds.	Year.	Millions of Pounds
1920	185	1924	205
1921	162	1925	210
1922	172	1926	217
1923	182		

The actual quantity exported was 217,183,666 lb., which is the highest on record. The value of the tea exported in 1926 was Rs. 213,163,883, or an average of 98 cents per lb., as compared with 95 cents in 1925 and Re. 1·05 in 1924.

The following table shows the exports in 1925 and 1926 to the United Kingdom, British Possessions, Foreign Countries, and as ships' stores :—

	1926. lb.	1925. lb.	Increase. lb.	Decrease. lb.
United Kingdom	141,681,033	134,163,128	7,517,905	—
British Possessions	51,158,205	51,239,632	—	81,427
Foreign Countries	24,243,410	24,297,879	—	54,469
Ships' Stores	101,018	90,745	10,273	—
	217,183,666	209,791,384	7,528,178	135,896
		Deduct decrease	135,896	
		Nett increase	7,392,282	

As usual, the United Kingdom took about two-thirds of the total exports. Australia and the United States of America took second and third places respectively.

Rubber.—The Rubber Restriction Scheme remained in operation throughout the year, and the quantity exported was, of course, regulated by the percentage released under the scheme. At the beginning of the year the authorized export was 85 per cent. of the standard production. This was increased to 100 per cent. in February and was reduced to 80 per cent in November. The export of rubber increased by 29 per cent., but the value of the exports was almost stationary owing to the fall in the price. The principal purchaser was the United States of America with 81,625,410 lb. valued at Rs. 107,921,698, as against 66,804,907 lb. valued at Rs. 116,009,616 in 1925.

The United Kingdom showed a similar increase from 27,208,009 lb. valued at Rs. 42,887,386 in 1925 to 40,806,644 lb. valued at Rs. 50,582,612 in 1926. Germany with 3½ million pounds, France with just over 1½ million pounds, and Australia with 2½ million pounds were the only other countries taking over 1,000,000 lb.

Coconut Products.—The exports of the three principal products of the coconut palm during the last six years have been—

Year.	Desiccated Coconut.	Copra.	Coconut Oil.
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.
1921	870,515	1,367,431	484,724
1922	768,215	1,686,589	554,626
1923	818,793	1,015,465	480,543
1924	871,341	1,769,189	552,633
1925	794,161	2,273,717	616,917
1926	754,367	2,419,398	570,463

The total value* of the exports of these three products fell from Rs. 73,858,171 in 1925 to Rs. 72,613,783 in 1926.

Desiccated Coconut.—The quantity exported fell from 794,161 cwt. valued at Rs. 18,777,509 to 754,367 cwt. valued at Rs. 17,275,984. The three largest purchasers were, as usual, the United Kingdom (244,429 cwt.), the United States of America (188,554 cwt.), and Germany (126,872 cwt.).

Copra.—Germany advanced from the third to the first place with 787,960 cwt., Italy was second with 645,782 cwt., and Norway third with 320,867 cwt.

Exports to Denmark decreased from 457,061 to 183,797 cwt. Holland took 234,735 cwt., Belgium 132,197 cwt., and the United Kingdom 74,047 cwt.

Coconut Oil.—The total exports fell from 616,917 cwt. valued at Rs. 16,812,750 to 570,463 cwt. valued at Rs. 15,489,320. The largest purchasers were Denmark with 149,490 cwt. and the United Kingdom with 134,575 cwt.

Plumbago.—The exports fell from 308,523 cwt. valued at Rs. 2,983,389 in 1925 to 232,453 cwt. valued at Rs. 2,616,994 in 1926. America remained the chief purchaser with 90,081 cwt. valued at Rs. 856,760, as against 117,364 cwt. valued at Rs. 1,073,980 in 1925. The United Kingdom, however, showed a considerable improvement, the imports being 58,395 cwt. valued at Rs. 772,024 in 1926 and 51,064 cwt. valued at Rs. 475,870 in 1925. Germany decreased from 86,796 cwt. in 1925 to 35,086 cwt. in 1926.

* Including value of ships' stores.

SHIPPING.

4,053 vessels with a total tonnage of 11,875,547 tons entered the ports of the Island in 1926, as against 4,112 vessels with a tonnage of 11,517,519 in 1925.

The following table shows the classification under the four general heads :—

	1925.		1926.	
	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.
Merchant vessels (with cargo and in ballast)	2,677	9,671,318	2,765	10,149,934
Merchant vessels (called to coal and oil)	460	1,549,560	369	1,294,201
Native sailing vessels ..	918	78,623	843	83,093
Warships and transports * ..	57	218,018	76	348,319
	4,112	11,517,519	4,053	11,875,547

* Warships' displacement tonnage.

The following table shows the distribution of merchant vessels, including vessels which called only for bunkers :—

	1925.		1926.	
Nationality.	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.
British ..	2,412	7,101,023	2,093	7,072,449
British Colonial ..	918	78,623	843	83,093
Total British Vessels ..	3,060	7,179,646	2,936	7,155,542
American ..	40	253,432	45	241,470
Belgian ..	—	—	3	9,539
Danish ..	22	57,288	35	111,731
Dutch ..	217	948,402	199	919,561
Finnish ..	—	—	6	15,187
French ..	146	716,886	152	774,582
German ..	165	664,221	187	740,122
Greek ..	8	22,440	2	4,407
Italian ..	109	398,168	105	389,236
Japanese ..	186	835,278	214	943,239
Jugo-Slavian ..	3	7,033	—	—
Norwegian ..	63	112,465	60	128,218
Panamanian ..	—	—	—	—
Russian ..	1	2,604	—	—
Spanish ..	14	33,099	12	28,449
Swedish ..	21	68,539	21	65,945
Total Foreign Vessels ..	995	4,119,855	1,041	4,371,686

Excluding warships, transports, and merchant vessels which called only for bunkers, the distribution according to flags was as follows :—

Nationality.	1925. Number.	1925. Tons.	1926. Number.	1926. Tons.
British	1,805	5,956,258	1,828	6,149,067
British Colonial	918	78,623	843	83,093
Total British Vessels	2,723	6,034,881	2,671	6,232,160
American	39	248,671	43	232,288
Belgian	—	—	2	8,216
Danish	20	51,672	33	106,619
Dutch	187	846,306	181	842,279
Finnish	—	—	3	7,809
French	131	658,163	136	711,582
Greek	2	6,175	—	—
German	144	583,300	160	646,431
Italian	87	332,039	87	335,972
Japanese	180	815,866	205	904,130
Norwegian	49	79,167	55	114,409
Panamanian	—	—	—	—
Russian	—	—	—	—
Spanish	14	33,099	12	28,449
Swedish	19	60,602	20	62,683
Total Foreign Vessels	872	3,715,060	937	4,000,867

Colombo Oil Installations Scheme.

During 1926 there has been a marked increase in the number of oil-burning vessels visiting the port of Colombo as against those burning oil or coal. The following are the figures for the last three years :—

Year.	Number of Vessels burning Oil only.	Number of Vessels burning Oil or Coal.
1924	382	92
1925	388	43
1926	457	26

The laying of the duplicate 10-inch pipe line for fuel oil from the harbour to Kolonnawa Oil Depôt has been completed. The total length of the line is approximately 7,700 yards. The final test prior to putting the new service into commission has been made, and it is expected that the new line will be in use shortly.

The two new steam-driven pumps, to replace the present fuel oil and kerosine and petrol pumps at the Boosting Station at the Graving Dock, have now been installed and tested; both pumps are working fully up to specification as regards output and speed.

The installation of three out of the six new oil-fired boilers and auxiliary plant at the Graving Dock was completed early in the year; the installation of the second three boilers was completed later in the year. A few minor details only remain to be dealt with. The extension of the boiler house and the erection of a new store were also finished during the year.

The following reductions in the Oil Charges were made during the year :—

(*a*) The charge of Rs. 9 per 1,000 gallons on all petroleum imported or transhipped was reduced to Rs. 7 per 1,000 gallons. The new charge took effect from August 1, 1926.

(*b*) The working and maintenance charge of Rs. 2·20 per 1,000 gallons was reduced to Re. 1·60 per 1,000 gallons. The reduced charge took effect from August 1, 1926.

During the year 54 vessels discharged the following quantities of oil :—

	Tons.
Liquid fuel	193,347
Kerosine oil	27,523
Petrol	22,691

273 vessels were bunkered with a total quantity of 172,891 tons of fuel oil.

The following table shows the number and tonnage of vessels that entered the port during the year :—

	Number.	Tonnage.
Vessels (exclusive of men-of-war, merchant vessels on transport service, and coasting vessels) ..	2,982 ..	11,054,248 (nett)
Merchant vessels on transport service	24 ..	106,933 (gross)
Coasting vessels	53 ..	53,258 (nett)
Men-of-war	52 ..	247,635 (displacement)

The number of merchant ships of all nationalities visiting the port in 1913, 1923, 1924, 1925, and 1926, and their nett tonnage were as follows :—

Year.	Number of Vessels.	Nett Tonnage.
1913	2,979 ..	9,475,893
1923	2,563 ..	9,006,640
1924	2,773 ..	10,013,951
1925	2,953 ..	10,858,324
1926	2,982 ..	11,054,248

Lake to Harbour Canal.—The record of traffic through the Lake to Harbour canal shows a steady increase. The total number of lighters, launches, &c., passing through the canal during the year was 5,056, as against 4,820 in 1925 and 4,662 in 1924.

The goods traffic for 1926 amounted to 3,325 tons of import cargo and 41,956 tons of export cargo, as against 3,947 tons of import cargo and 40,927 tons of export cargo in 1925.

The dredging of the San Sebastian canal to make it navigable by 40-ton barges is expected to be completed in July, 1927.

The four senior clerks' quarters and the two junior clerks' quarters being erected at Mutwal are expected to be ready for occupation during the first quarter of 1927.

The erection of nine blocks of quarters for workmen at Bloemendhal road, with three blocks of latrines attached, was completed during the year.

Plans and specifications are being prepared for a new tug for harbour work. It will be of the ocean-going type, and will be fitted with the necessary towing and other appliances required for rendering assistance to disabled ships at sea.

New Warehouse in the Pettah.—A new warehouse is being erected in the Pettah area. It is being constructed as a single-storeyed building, giving a floor area of 31,755 square feet, but capable of carrying a second storey to be added later when required.

Additional Quay Frontage.—The strip of land along the western bank of the Lake to Harbour canal is being adapted for the handling of imports and exports; this scheme, when fully completed, will render available for use an additional quay frontage of 850 lineal feet, with warehouse accommodation giving a floor area of 46,300 square feet, served by four or more steam travelling cranes. As only rough cargo will be dealt with in this area, no warehouses will be erected for some time until the extent to which the area is being made use of is gauged.

New Customs House.—The construction of the new Customs House at the Passenger Jetty is in progress.

Deepening of the Harbour.—Dredging was continued during the year in the area to be deepened to 36 feet, and five berths are now available for vessels drawing up to 33 feet during the south-west monsoon and six during the north-east monsoon. The 33-feet area was further extended shoreward, and the depths in the 33- and 30-feet areas maintained. The removal of rock above dredging limits in the approach channel to the Graving Dock and the Guide Pier was practically completed during the year. Several other outcrops of rock have been located by the dredging between the oil berths, but these have not yet been dealt with.

During the year a total number of 31 vessels were docked, 62 vessels were taken on the Patent Slip, and 12 vessels were fumigated. The Graving Dock and the Patent Slip were out of commission for a period of about three months, owing to the Dock Caisson having been taken on the Patent Slip for repairs and renewal of stems, the Dock and Slip were again available for use from October 7, 1926.

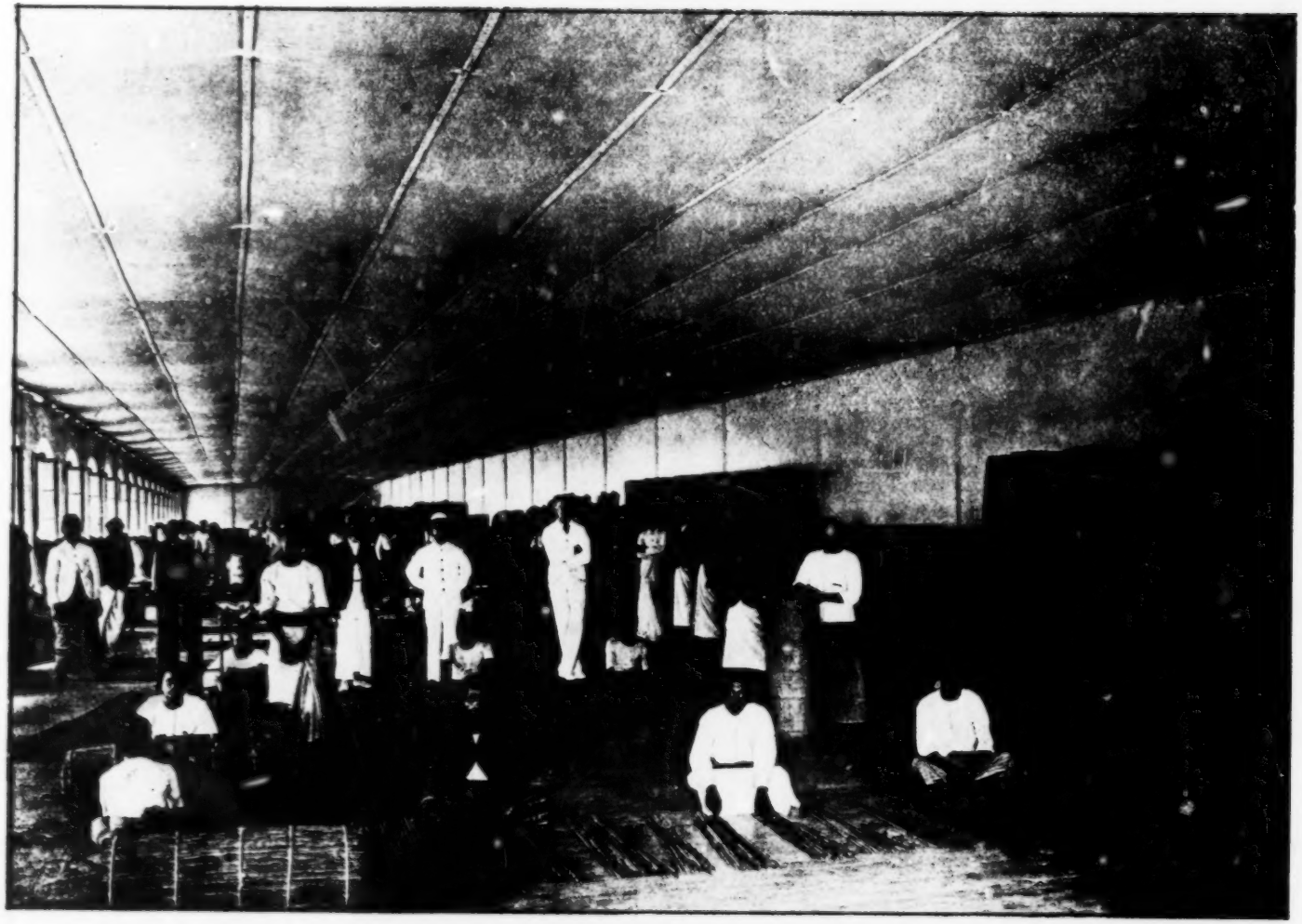
No. 2.

CACAO FACTORY : GRADING BEFORE BAGGING.

Plâté, Limited, Colombo.

No. 3.

CINNAMON FACTORY : SORTING AND PACKING.



Plâté, Limited, Colombo.

With a view to improving the supply of electric lighting and power to vessels lying in the Graving Dock or alongside the Guide Pier, arrangements have been made for two steam-driven dynamos to be installed at the Graving Dock.

The receipts from the Graving Dock and Patent Slip brought to account during the year 1926 were Rs. 63,320·65 and Rs. 9,669·93 respectively. The former shows a decrease of Rs. 53,049·61 below the previous year's figure, Rs. 116,370·26, but this was due to the less number of ships docked in 1926 consequent on the Dock being out of use while the Caisson was under repair.

The Patent Slip was used in 1926 by a larger number of ships than in the previous year, and this accounts for the increase of Rs. 1,916·43 in the receipts, as compared with Rs. 7,753·50 received in the previous year. Rs. 2,646·25 was received in respect of fumigation, as against Rs. 2,746·25 in 1925.

Finance.—The total expenditure of the Colombo Port Commission for the Financial Year 1925–26, including Rs. 437,978·63 chargeable to Loan Account in respect of the Oil Installations Scheme, Dredging Colombo Harbour, and Government Housing Scheme, was Rs. 3,609,554·36. Of this amount, Rs. 85,953·05 was expended by the Public Works Department on work for this Department, and a sum of Rs. 140,371·01 was expended by the Colombo Port Commission on account of other Departments. The nett expenditure on Colombo Port Commission services, inclusive of Loan expenditure, was Rs. 3,469,183·35. The revenue during the same period was Rs. 5,588,672·43, inclusive of Rs. 826,062·44 from the Oil Charges levied at the port and from the rent of the Oil Depôts.

Factories.

There was an increase of 37 in the total number of factories as compared with 1925, or just over 2·5 per cent. The actual number of new factories registered during the year was 42, and 5 ceased work permanently. New factories included 13 tea, 3 rubber, 1 tea and rubber, 1 desiccating, 6 fibre, 2 engineering, 1 sawing mill, 1 aerated waters, 4 distilleries, 5 plumbago, 1 confectionery, 2 rice mills, 1 oil produce, and 1 coir yarn; 1 tea, 1 rubber, 1 fibre, 1 sawing mill, and 1 brickworks were closed down. The first complete compilation of factories was made at the end of 1908, and the total then was 1,025; at the end of December, 1926, it was 1,458, an increase of 433, or about 42 per cent. in eighteen years; the number of cases in which steam power is used has been increased by 13. Electric lighting installations have increased by 2.

IV.—Land.

LAND SETTLEMENT DEPARTMENT.

DESPITE the continued progress in land development for the last hundred years, a large proportion of the total area of the Island is still unoccupied and uncultivated. In general the title to such unoccupied areas is in the Crown, but the Crown has in the past by custom and by enactment recognized various claims of private title to land unoccupied or only recently occupied and developed.

The majority of these claims are extremely indefinite, and many are based on tradition alone or on ancient grants the meaning and scope of which are frequently in doubt. Adjudication on such claims is further complicated by the nature of the law of inheritance in Ceylon and the system of undivided shares in land, so that the work of dealing with these claims is a matter of some complexity demanding much time and infinite patience.

This state of affairs has done much to retard the development of the Island, neither the Crown nor the claimants being in a position to give clear title or quiet possession to parties desirous of developing unoccupied land until all claims have been defined and adjudicated on.

Several attempts have been made to find a method of speedy adjudication on such claims, and finally in 1897 the Waste Lands Ordinance was passed which gave to specially appointed officers of the Crown powers to inquire into claims and agree with claimants as to their settlement. This Ordinance contains provisions ensuring that all possible claims will be discovered, and further, makes the final orders embodying the agreements arrived at instruments conferring title on the claimant or the Crown, as the case may be, while it is only where the Special Officer and the claimant fail to agree that the claim is referred to the ordinary courts for adjudication.

A few years after the passing of this Ordinance the Land Settlement Department was formed with a view to the systematic settlement of all classes of land where title is in dispute between the Crown and the subject. As the question of title is involved accurate survey and frequent re-surveys are necessary, and the immediate settlement of the whole Island is therefore a task beyond the resources of the Colony. It has been necessary accordingly to concentrate the trained officers available on those districts where there is a demand for land and settlement is therefore urgent, and in general also more complicated and difficult, while at the same time officers are being trained in areas, such as the dry zones of the north, where land is of little

value and claims are few and comparatively simple, these areas being selected as far as possible where land development may be expected in the future.

This system, evolved by experience, has been found to work well, and the Department, by insisting on its officers inspecting every plot of land which they settle, and in general doing their work on the land, has gained the confidence and good-will of the people. During the year under review 378,971 acres of all classes of land have been settled, and only two claims have had to be referred to court for adjudication.

Since 1901 settlement surveys covering an area of 5,335,285 acres have been issued to the Department and settlement of 4,321,479 acres is complete, leaving a balance of 1,013,806 acres in hand. Of this balance area, approximately 291,000 acres lie in the North-Central Province, 256,000 in the Hambantota District, 122,000 in the Ratnapura District, 95,000 in the Kurunegala District, 79,000 in the Province of Uva, 64,000 in the Kalutara District, 61,000 in the Trincomalee District, and 38,000 in the Galle District, with small areas in Puttalam, Colombo, and Matale Districts. Large areas in the North-Central and Uva Provinces and in Hambantota and Kalutara Districts, with extents of 248,000 acres, 60,000 acres, 250,000 acres, and 26,000 acres, respectively, have been surveyed on topographical plans and can be speedily settled. The real work lies mainly in the Ratnapura, Kurunegala, Kalutara, and Galle Districts. Nearly 144,099 acres of new block surveys, 149,631 acres of topographical surveys, and 2,856 acres of forest surveys have been issued during 1926 for settlement purposes. To deal with the increased output of plans by the Survey Department the staff of this Department has been brought up to pre-war strength.

FORESTS.

Revenue.—The cash revenue of the Department on account of sale of timber, fuel and minor produce, realized Rs. 647,228, against Rs. 656,192 for the year 1925. Figures for the financial year, however, show a steady improvement, and the temporary falling off shown above is due to the sale of export satinwood being restricted in the latter part of the calendar year. The sale of satinwood for export was not, however, maintained at the same level as in 1925, recoveries being Rs. 154,772·25 against Rs. 199,068·50, and this is probably due to the fact that plain or unflowered logs were available from other sources at lower rates. Flowered logs reached the record price of Rs. 53·75 per cubic foot, but comparatively few supplies were brought down for sale during the year.

The only other regular timber sale depôt in the Island, at Jaffna, increased its sales by 1,295 cubic feet over the previous year, at slightly lower average prices, while sales from the up-country firewood depôts at Nuwara Eliya, Diyatalawa, Bandarawela, and Badulla remained constant, or improved slightly. It is believed that the three last named, which are of recent origin, will be capable of absorbing double the present quantity supplied as soon as more economical rates can be obtained from the Railway Department, which transports it.

Good progress was made with the sale of fuel and timber coupes in the densely populated Southern Division (West), the advantage of this system being the elimination of the formalities and delays of the licence system from the point of view of purchasers, and, from that of the Department, the complete utilization of material on advertised coupes, and facilities for systematic replanting. The Southern Division (West) recovered Rs. 7,764·50 from this system, which was successfully introduced into the Western Division during the year, and will be extended wherever the demand for firewood and small timber renders it possible. Tenders for purchase of sale coupes are invited by advertisement in the *Government Gazette.*

These sales, and the sale of timber on licences, balanced the shortage on depôt sales, and there appears to be an improvement in the local demand for building timbers, as the local tea chest industry, which brought in considerable revenue in certain divisions, has practically gone out of existence. Provided that the methods of marketing timber and fuel can be simplified and rendered more attractive to buyers, there is every reason to believe that the facilities for building up trade are far greater than they have previously been held to be, and, with the opportunities lately afforded to extract and sell timber at its market value, the Department will concentrate on the development of local timber markets, served at first by saleable material in accessible but unproductive Crown jungle, the operations extending to reserves and proposed reserves, as trade becomes sustained and prices improve. There are vast quantities of valuable and saleable timber thinly scattered over enormous extents of Crown jungle which cannot be reserved or improved, but sale methods up to date, and rigid adherence to prescribed royalty rates for standing trees, no matter what the difficulty of extraction and distance of transport for purchasers may be, have resulted in the deliberate refusal on the part of buyers to purchase timber from Crown forests if they can obtain it from private sources. It is possible to predict that the inquiry by Government into

the question of the market value of timber, for which demand exists, may, in due course, completely revolutionize the local commercial aspects of the forest asset in the country, and enable systematic exploitation to be more widely introduced to meet a constant demand with a constant and improving yield, which will be finally concentrated in forests under intensive management.

Exploitation.—The major exploitation work of the Department carried out on behalf of other Government Departments yielded the following:—8,247 broad gauge and 4,732 narrow gauge sleepers, 202,776 cubic yards of firewood, 23,602 cubic feet of sawn timber, and 215,088 cubic feet of timber in the log, while small round timber, to the number of 213,836, were removed by other Departments on licences. The value of these supplies amounted to Rs. 738,471·49, actual cost adjusted by Treasury transfer, and Rs. 448,373·94 royalty, for which the Department took paper credit, in all Rs. 1,186,845·43, against Rs. 1,435,148·23 in the previous year.

The major supply in these operations is that of timber in the log, which is steadily on the increase, while the supply of sleepers and firewood is steadily on the decline, sufficient timber being unavailable to meet a large log and sleeper supply, while in the case of firewood the tendency is generally to replace it with coal, and a very much larger decrease may be looked for in 1927. The main supply, for which systematic working and continuity of management are essential, is, therefore, that of log timber, which is, for the most part, converted at Colombo in the saw mills of the indenting Departments. The Forest Department is now making progress in the direction of ascertaining the extent of forest required for the sustained output of these timber supplies and carrying out systematic enumerations in forests to be dedicated to this purpose, together with the investigation of the means and methods whereby these forests may be improved and regenerated, so that they may become permanently productive. All such forests are, comparatively speaking, very poorly stocked with the species in demand, enumerations over large areas showing that in the best, and hitherto unexploited forests, the yield of Class I. trees is rarely more than one per acre, and of Class II. two to three, while the lower age classes are often not represented at all. By the systematic exploitation of 12 square miles per annum in six divisions, it is hoped to maintain a yield of between 6,000–7,000 Class I. stems, or 150,000 cubic feet per annum, the exploited areas being thereafter out of working for a period of forty years, during which

the second age class will be improved and brought to maturity, and a commencement made with the establishment of the lower age classes.

This is the method to be adopted for the main exploitation work of the Department, *i.e.*, the supply of timber to other Government Departments, which has to be secured. This involves the exploitation of the best, and incidentally, the most remote, forests. In the remainder, *i.e.*, the more accessible but previously exploited reserves, it is intended to cater for public demand, and, by the adoption of similar methods of improvement and regeneration, over smaller extents of forest, gradually to bring a larger number of reserves into systematic working. This depends entirely on the marketability of their present contents, and revised sale prices adjusted for the purpose of capturing the demand which is known to exist. Until this demand is met by marketing timber in attractive form, and at moderate prices, the existing reserves and proposed reserves are likely to remain in their present state, and to stand as inert forest capital, unutilized and unimproved.

Reforestation.—This may be stated to fall under the following heads :—

(*a*) Up-country reforestation, consisting of the sowing and planting of clearfelled areas, exploited for railway fuel, the species introduced being exotics, intended for the purpose of raising fuel and timber crops, on a short rotation, for the supply of timber for general and local use, and the sale of firewood at local depôts.

(*b*) Coppice fellings in the low-country, in districts where firewood is in demand, valuable timber species being interplanted among the resulting coppice.

(*c*) The planting of valuable timbers, like Nedun, in selected localities, under a shelterwood, which is gradually thinned out as the new crop becomes established.

(*d*) The improvement and regeneration of large forest blocks in the dry zone, now under systematic exploitation.

(*e*) Chena reforestation in both the dry and wet zones in the low-country.

(*f*) Regeneration of Hora (*Dipterocarpus Zeylanicus*) by natural and assisted reproduction.

(*a*) *Up-country reforestation* involves some 10,000 acres of land, including patana, and extending adjacent to the railway, from Kandapola, near Nuwara Eliya, to Bandarawela and

Ella in the Uva Division. These forest areas were freely exploited for railway fuel during the war, and after trial with various species, which in some cases were not very successful, were planted with fast-growing Eucalypts, in order to ensure adequate and permanent railway fuel supplies. The objects of management have now become modified, and, setting aside certain limited areas for permanent fuel supplies for sale depôts, it is intended to develop the balance areas for future timber yields, with suitable exotic conifers, with or without mixture with timber Eucalypts, fuel supplies, if required, being obtained from thinnings. The most suitable species appear at present to be, of Eucalypts, *E. rostrata*, and of conifers, *Cupressus Lawsoniana*, a valuable timber, *Cedrus deodara*, and *Pinus excelsa*, while experiments are continuing with other coniferous species, *Cupressus macrocarpa* always being available to fall back upon. Matters are sufficiently advanced to lay down a tentative programme for a period of ten years provided that it is not interrupted by the termination of railway fuel supplies, which are tending to decrease rapidly.

(*b*) *Coppice fellings* are confined at present to fuel coupes in the Southern Division (West) and Western Division, the introduced species being Jak (*Artocarpus integrifolia*), the universal timber species of Ceylon, which has now become exceedingly scarce, and should be grown on a large scale. Results to date are quite satisfactory, and it is hoped, by this means, and by means of chena reforestation, to add several hundred acres yearly to this scheme. The present extent of Jak plantations is 2,193 acres, in somewhat scattered form. This is unavoidable, as no large forest blocks are left in localities most suited to the species. New areas elsewhere, coming under more systematic exploitation, will, however, admit of greater concentration in future working.

(*c*) The existing area of *Nedun plantations* is 450 acres, in three centres, and they are very successful. The species is planted out 10 feet by 10 feet, under shade, the forest canopy being reduced from time to time as required, while it is intended to interplant the Nedun with Na (*Messua ferrea*). The two areas, viz., Dikkele and Kankanimulla Reserves, in the North-Western Division, which are most suitable for this purpose, are very limited in extent, but it is expected that, if a selected area in the Southern Division (West) is found to be equally suitable, it will be possible to extend this scheme up to 10,000 acres, which is an adequate extent for this precious timber. On an eighty-year rotation, this would yield 200,000 cubic feet per annum, in final and preliminary fellings, while the species is, to the last degree, capable of natural regeneration.

The same method applies to Pehimbiya (*Filicium decipiens*), which is being introduced on a small scale at Kandy, for the purpose of town firewood supplies, and is a fast-growing species, with excellent powers of reproduction from coppice. Other coppicing species are being introduced experimentally at other centres, to meet definite requirements in wood fuel.

(*d*) *The regeneration of dry zone forests* is very difficult, and much experimental work is required before definite data can be laid down. The species concerned are Satinwood, Palu, (*Mimusops hexandra*), Milla (*Vitex altissima*), Ranai (*Alseodaphne semicarpifolia*), Ebony (*Diospyros Ebenum*), Halmilla (*Berriya Ammonilla*) and a few others, which are all valuable timbers, and grow in association in dry zone forests. They all reach large girth dimensions, but are slow-growing, and mixed with a bewildering array of inferior species. Apart from danger from wild animals, these species are very difficult to establish, on account of drought, it being found that where natural regeneration occurs, some 2 per cent. only survives the first year. The establishment of these species is therefore a matter of great difficulty, as is the formation which the forest should assume, it being economically impossible to cut out all the inferior species, and essential to retain a suitable mixture. The matter is under close investigation, and some slight success has been achieved locally, the most favoured method to date being direct sowing of some of these species, with very deep holing, and limited stocking per acre. It may be stated that in such selected areas, *i.e.*, the main exploitation areas, controlled chena cultivation cannot be permitted, as the areas contain a considerable number of standards of Class II., which can be brought to maturity by correct silvicultural treatment.

(*e*) *Chena reforestation*, or the control of shifting cultivation by combination with the growth of forest crops, is possibly the most suitable and effective method of reforestation to be employed in both the wet and dry zones of the low-country. In the wet zone it has been employed extensively and successfully for raising pure stands of Jak, for which a suitable understorey is likely to be found in Na (*Messua ferrea*) and Pehimbiya (*Filicium decipiens*). Elsewhere the method was largely practised in the Eastern Division (South) in the past for the production of Teak, and it is only due to the inability of Teak to reach large-sized timber that the species gave place to the introduction of local indigenous hardwoods of the species mentioned above. The results of this work to date are strikingly successful, and the growth of all species, introduced by direct sowing, phenomenal. In this district this form of

forestation has been understood by cultivators for many ears, and no great difficulty is experienced in inducing them stay on the areas, and tend them properly, with the result at it is hoped to extend these operations up to 500 acres nnually, in high forest, depleted in the past of its valuable ontents, and highly suitable for this form of reforestation, hich is rendered the more valuable, in that the best hardwoods the country are now found to be capable of introduction its means. The system should be introduced into other rovinces, in which shifting cultivation is practised.

(*f*) *Hora Regeneration.*—This is a matter of great ease and mplicity, and only awaits the larger utilization of this species, hich is favourably reported on by Dehra Dun for use as ilway sleepers, after impregnation.

The total area of plantations in charge of the Department the end of the year was 13,534·66 acres, or 105·55 acres ss than in the previous year. Additions during the year ere 1,492·65 acres, but 1,598·2 acres were struck off during e period, of which 964 acres consisted of abandoned Teak the Eastern Division (South), and 329 acres were composed open patana in the Southern Division (West) which defied efforts to plant up. The total expenditure on new areas, aintenance, and experiments was Rs. 110,824·96. This penditure was adequately controlled in every detail by the evelopment Branch.

The prevalence of the Mahogany borer (*Hypsipyla robusta*) s rendered it imprudent to proceed with this exotic species til more adequate means of combating the borer have been scovered. This outbreak occurs wherever Mahogany *wietenia macrophylla*) is grown in the open, and the species now giving place to Jak in such areas, but may be successlly grown, at wide intervals, under a shelterwood. It may found possible to grow *Swietenia mahogani* in mixture with her species in the dry zone, both in improvement areas and chena reforestation.

The Tea Chest Industry.—The local tea chest industry pears to be virtually dead, and all the large mills to have osed down. The Department is anxious to bring into istence large areas of Lunumidella (*Melia dubia*) for this and her purposes, but so far little progress has been made, ccessful germination of the seed being the main difficulty. central nursery was opened near Polgahawela during the ar, for distribution of plants to working areas, but there is ll a good deal of uncertainty regarding this scheme.

It is satisfactory to record that the reforestation and ploitation policy is beginning to assume more definite shape,

and the former to concentrate on the Island's main timber requirements. There are vast areas of forests which can never be developed, but in which large quantities of timber, much scattered, are now being put to no use. It is therefore possible, with careful attention to local demand, to utilize for long periods the natural contents of forests, which will otherwise go into decay, while future supplies are concentrated in carefully selected areas, under close management, and the policy of the Department should be to find markets for this class of material, for the purpose of increasing forest revenue, and bringing larger areas under improvement and regeneration.

Navigability of the Mahaweli-ganga.—The inspections and investigations referred to in the previous year bore no fruit, as the anticipated order for fuel from South India failed to materialize, and the prospects for permanent trade in timber with South Indian ports were reported to be unfavourable. Supplies of merchantable material on either side of the Mahaweli-ganga were found to be deficient. The inspection of the river, however, and the adjacent forest on both sides, to an extent of some 20 square miles, indicated that the depth of soil was admirably suited to the growth of Teak, and the facilities for such an undertaking are under consideration.

The Forest Committee held seven meetings during the year, dealing mainly with the question of the future staff of the Department, the recommendations provide for improved salaries in the Forester and Ranger Grades, and for a new graded staff of Forest Overseers, to incorporate and replace the present temporary staff. The Committee's report was printed at the end of the year, but had not been submitted to Government.

SALT.

The manufacture, collection, and sale of Ceylon salt constitute a Government monopoly, which is protected by a duty of Rs. 3 per cwt. on all imported salt. The amount realized by its sale from Government depôts during 1926 was Rs. 939,577·60 approximately. To this figure should be added the sum of Rs. 1,057,546·23 credited to revenue under Head 1, " Customs " as duty on Indian salt imported into Ceylon. The total revenue derived by Government from salt in 1926 was, therefore, Rs. 1,997,123·83 approximately, as against Rs. 1,817,066·61 in 1925 and Rs. 1,746,585·90 in 1924.

In consequence of adverse weather conditions the local production during the year was below the average. Collections of naturally formed salt took place at the Karanavai lewayas and Marichchikaddi Odai in the Northern Province, and at

Hambantota in the Southern Province; while salt was manufactured at the Government salterns at Elephant Pass and Palavi, and at the privately owned pans at Puttalam, which is the largest producing centre in the Island. At all these centres the output proved disappointing owing to unseasonable rains, which destroyed the salt formations. The total yield for the Island during 1926 was approximately 319,230 cwt., as against 414,698 cwt. in 1925. The distribution of the harvest was as follows :—

	Cwt.
Puttalam District (estimated)	31,317
Hambantota	97,210
Jaffna	34,820
Elephant Pass (Government saltern)	151,203
Palavi (Government saltern)	4,680
	319,230

The total output for the year represents less than half the quantity annually consumed in the Island, which is roughly estimated at 700,000 cwt.

Owing to the deficiency in the harvest for 1925 the local stocks ran low, and in July, 1925, it had been found necessary to supplement them by the importation of salt from India by private traders on their own account. This arrangement had to be continued throughout 1926 owing to the failure of the harvest again. Imported salt is subject to an import duty of Rs. 3 per cwt., so that no loss of revenue was involved. In order to prevent Ceylon salt from underselling imported Indian salt in the Western and Central Provinces and in the Galle District, the issue of Ceylon salt from the usual sources to any destination within these districts was prohibited. The selling price of Ceylon salt was also slightly raised at these centres to discourage any attempts at evasion of the restrictions. The price charged for salt issued to retail dealers and fish-curers *ex* Government stores at Batticaloa, Kalmunai, Akkaraipattu, and Pottuvil in the Eastern Province were not affected by these measures. The issue of Ceylon salt was confined mainly to the areas in the neighbourhood of the salterns, and to outlying districts where high transport costs would have rendered the price of Indian salt prohibitive. No restrictions were imposed on such issues, except in the North-Central Province and the Kurunegala District, to which the issues were made on licences only. It is to be hoped that the harvests of 1927 and 1928 will be sufficiently large to build up an adequate reserve of stocks of local salt, which will make Ceylon self-dependent in the matter of this essential commodity, and bring about the return to normal prices and methods of distribution.

At the beginning of 1926 the total stocks of Government salt in Ceylon amounted to 619,767 cwt. approximately. At the end of the year the stocks stood at 636,826 cwt., including 31,317 cwt. (estimated) of unweighed Puttalam salt. This will not suffice to meet the requirements of consumers for 1927, and the importation of Indian salt, combined with the methods of conservation and distribution of the stocks of Ceylon salt begun in July, 1925, will have to be continued until the results of the 1927 harvest show whether a modification is possible.

During the year some minor improvements at the Hambantota lewayas and the Karanavai pans were carried out, and the construction of a permanent bund at the Government saltern at Palavi in the Puttalam District was completed. This bund, which encloses an area of 250 acres of the lagoon and provides an adequate condensing reservoir, replaces the temporary bunds which have hitherto been built at the beginning of each harvest season. The construction of modern storage platforms at Nilaveli, begun in 1925, was continued during the year, but was not completed.

MINERALOGICAL DEPARTMENT.

No field work was done during the year, as the Government Mineralogist was absent on vacation leave.

The necessary steps were taken to empower Government to lease the mining rights over the deposits of ilmenite sand on the coast by Ordinance No. 6 of 1926. It is probable that certain areas will be proclaimed open for exploitation next year.

SURVEY DEPARTMENT.

The principal operations of the Survey Department for the period under review comprised block, application, irrigation, forest, and town surveys, and levelling.

Block Surveys.—These consisted of 135,267 acres of new work and 19,940 acres of topographical inset surveys.

The following plans were issued during the year:—Block survey plans of 355 villages containing 28,000 lots covering an area of 144,130 acres. Eight topographical plans containing 2,894 lots covering an area of 149,631 acres.

Surveys of 102 settlement and demarcation questions, together with the surveys of 487 Settlement Officer's applications, were completed and sent to the Settlement Officer. 43 extract plans, consisting of 211 lots and covering an area of 1,073 acres, were issued in connection with the surveys of Crown requisitions and applications in the block survey area.

The total area now covered by block surveys is 3,041,913 acres and topographical inset surveys 2,172,039 acres.

Application Surveys.—160 final village plans for 232,195 acres in 5,865 lots were issued to the Government Agents and Assistant Government Agents during the year. The total area covered by the final village plans in the hands of Government Agents and Assistant Government Agents now stands at 2,193,665 acres, contained in 72,917 lots in 3,230 final village plans.

1,222 preliminary plans for 16,270 acres in 6,084 lots were forwarded to the Government Agents, Assistant Government Agents, and the Settlement Officer.

584 supplementary surveys consisting of 3,276 lots covering 13,436 acres have been made and inserted on final village plans and preliminary plans already issued. 764 applications covering 2,137 acres were surveyed for paddy, 173 applications covering 3,680 acres for tea, 242 applications covering 2,883 acres for rubber, 53 applications covering 4,943 acres for tea and rubber, 1,362 applications covering 4,739 acres for coconut, 1,520 applications covering 4,932 acres for native cultivation, 787 applications covering 1,213 acres for building purposes, 26 applications covering 416 acres for citronella, 13 applications covering 36 acres for cardamoms, and 16 applications covering 228 acres for rubber and coconut.

There has been a still further increase in the demand for land during the year.

268 acquisition preliminary plans including supplementaries to final village plans for 458 acres in 1,641 lots were forwarded to the Hon. the Colonial Secretary.

Forest Surveys.—Three forest survey plans for 2,856 acres in 859 lots, and 2 forest reserve topo plans covering an area of 112,210 acres, were issued during the year.

Irrigation Surveys.—One irrigation preliminary plan for 7,315 acres in 310 lots was issued during the year.

Town Surveys.—No new town surveys were made this year, but arrangements have been made for a staff of ten surveyors next year to take up town surveys in a systematic manner, starting with Negombo and Chilaw. Plans of the following were issued during the year:—Anuradhapura (detail survey), Matale (detail survey), Matale (wall map on 8-chain scale), Colombo (revision survey).

Triangulation, &c.—Local schemes of minor triangulation for the control of block survey traverses were completed over areas in the Central, Sabaragamuwa, and Uva Provinces, totalling about 350 square miles. Prospection was also carried out

for minor triangulation in an area of about 100 square miles in the Western Province.

Precise Levelling : Benchmarking.—The construction of the fundamental benchmarks required for the level net was completed. In addition, the intermediate benchmarking of 720 miles of roads was carried out. Permanent intermediate benchmarks have been provided at mile intervals. The level net comprises 87 lines, forming 26 closed figures, at the junctions of which 63 fundamental benchmarks have been constructed. The whole length of the lines of the net is about 2,400 miles. Only about 250 miles remain to be benchmarked, and the task will be completed early in 1927.

Levelling.—The outturn during the field season (February to November) was nearly 500 miles of double levelling comprising 18 lines. The area covered is bounded by the Puttalam-Anuradhapura road on the north, the Anuradhapura-Kandy road on the east, the Kandy-Kegalla-Ambepussa-Kurunegala-Chilaw roads on the south, and the Chilaw-Puttalam road on the west. In addition, lines from Kandy to Gampola and Madugoda have been levelled.

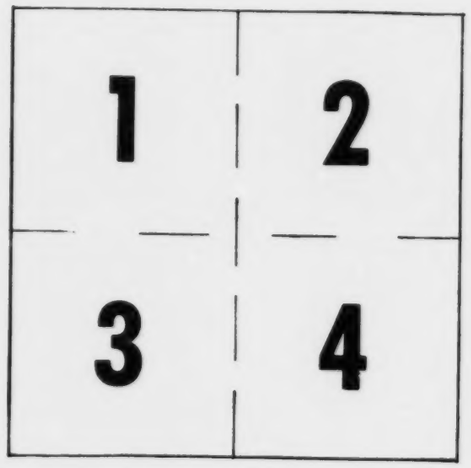
Tidal Observatories.—The utilization of the Harbour Works automatic tide gauge for a re-determination of mean sea level has presented difficulties, which it could hardly be claimed had been fully overcome at the end of the year. Further experiments have yet to be made before the chart readings can be used for an accurate determination of mean sea level, but a daily record is now being received at the Trigonometrical Office and the determination may be said to have begun.

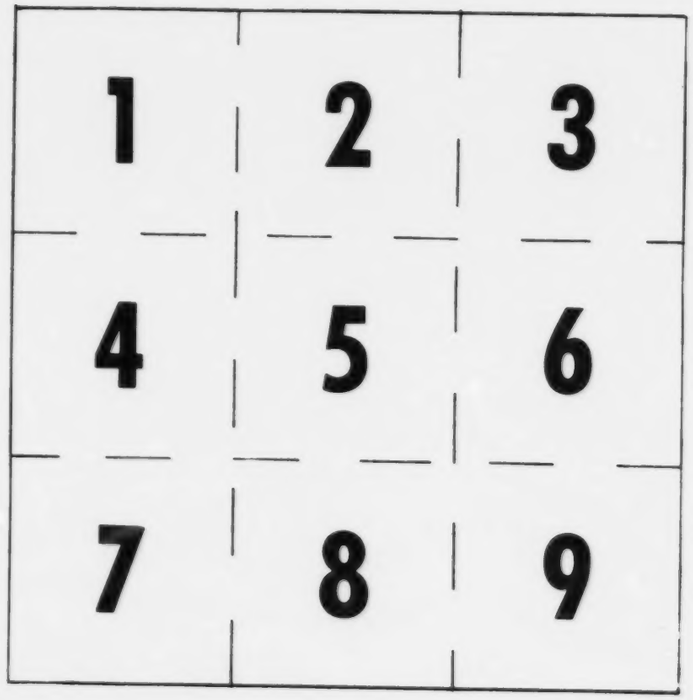
METEOROLOGY.

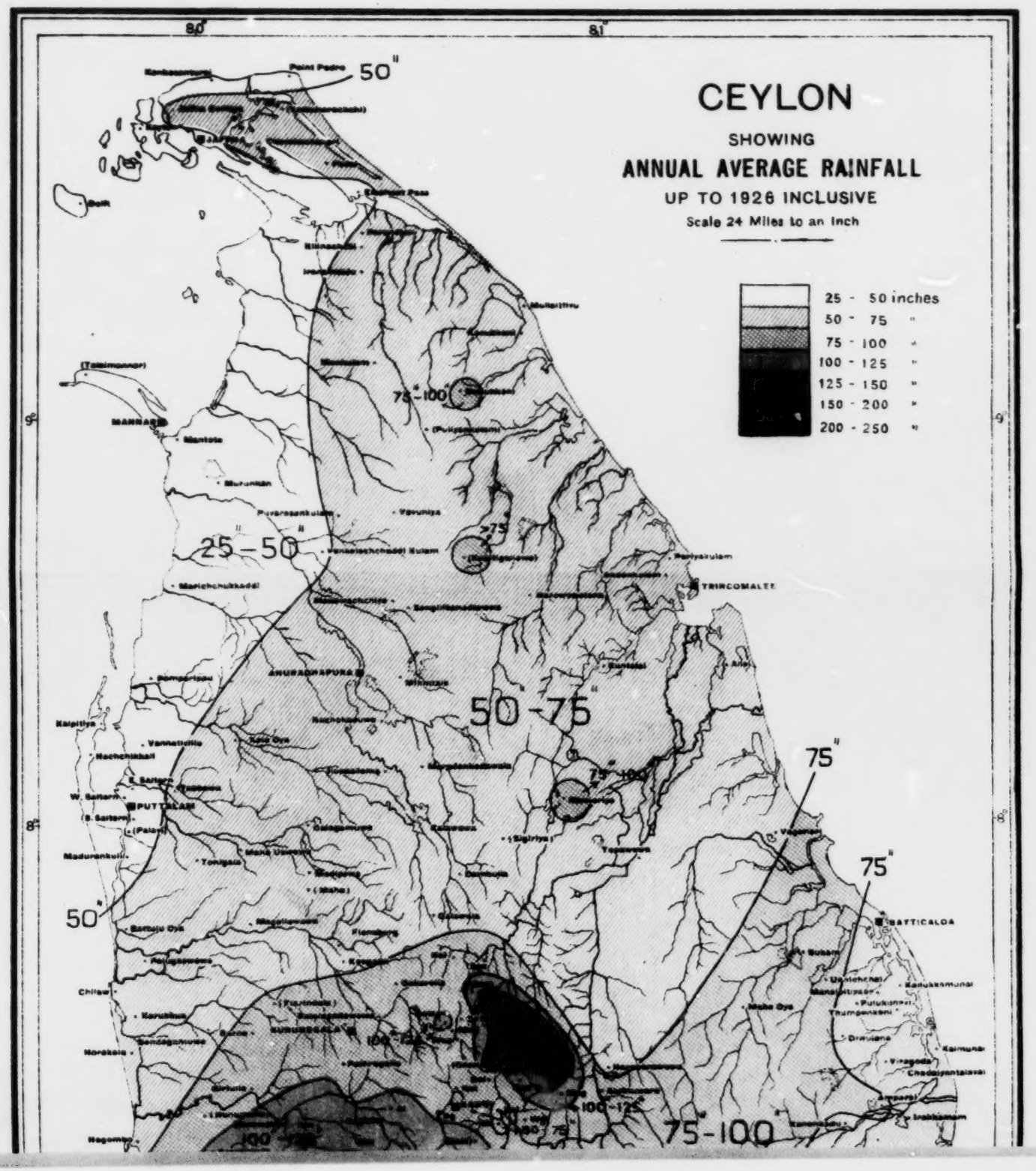
General Remarks.—There is marked variation in climate among the different parts of Ceylon. In the low-country, with a mean temperature of 80° F., a noticeable feature is the small range of both temperature and pressure. There is, however, wide divergence between the moist conditions in the south-west of the Island, where the average annual rainfall varies from 100 to over 200 inches, and the dry zone areas of the north, north-west, and south-east.

Altitudes up to 8,000 feet occur inland, and there the temperature is cooler, and shows a more extensive range. There is a corresponding change in vegetation, and the conditions are altogether more akin to those in the temperate zone.

Maps on this order too large to be entirely included in one exposure are filmed clockwise beginning in the upper left hand corner, left to right and top to bottom as many frames as required. The following diagrams illustrate the method.







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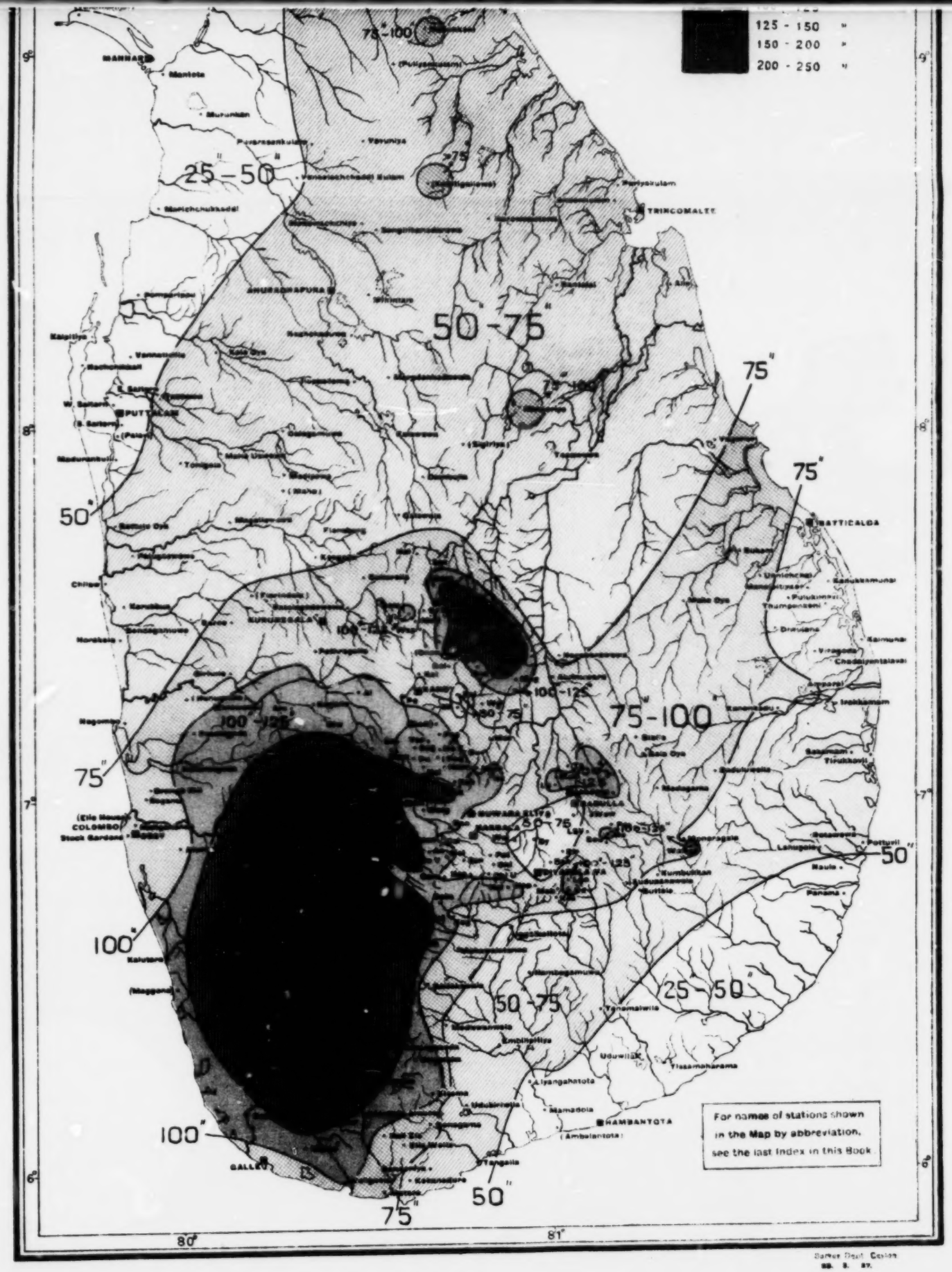
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MANNAR
Mantota
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TRINCOMALEE
Kantale
Kalmunai
Ampara
Batticaloa
Trincomalee
ANURADHAPURA
Mihintale
Kekirawa
Galgamuwa
Kala Oya
Vanathavilluvu
Puttalam
Chilaw
Negombo
Kurunegala
Kandy
Gampola
Nuwara Eliya
Badulla
Bandarawela
Hambantota
Tangalle
Galle
Matara
Hakmana
Ratnapura
Balangoda
Avissawella
Colombo
Kalutara
Panadura
Moratuwa
Ratmalana
Kosgoda
Hikkaduwa
Ambalantota
Tissamaharama
Yala

Rainfall.—A rough summary of rainfall in 1926 can be given by saying that the south-west monsoon was above the average, while the inter-monsoon periods and north-east monsoon were below the average. As a result the totals for the year will be found to be above the average at most stations on the west side and below the average on the east side and centre. The chief exceptions to this generalization were that in the extreme south the area of deficient rainfall extended westward to include the Galle District, while several stations on or near the east coast (*e.g.*, Mullaittivu, Trincomalee, Rugam) did just reach their average, even though others, a trifle more inland, were in deficit.

As regards actual figures, Kenilworth 268·5 inches, Ingoya 258·5, and Carney 253·3 head the list, and are in excess of their own averages, due to heavy south-west monsoon rain. At the other extreme, totals of less than 40 inches occurred throughout the south-east of the Island from Tissamaharama to Pottuvil, and in a more irregularly defined area roughly describable as south and south-east of Mannar. The former included Udawila 28·3 and Tanamalwila 33·5, and the latter Murunkan 37·65, Nachchakali 37·1, while an isolated reading of 24·4 at Sangilikandarawa may be considered with this group.

Temperature.—Temperatures were decidedly above the average in March and April of 1926, and largely as a result of this the mean temperatures for the year were above the average at all stations.

Trincomalee again had the highest mean temperature for the year with 83·6° F. or 0·7 above its own average, while at the other extreme, Nuwara Eliya, with 59·3° F., was 1·2 above its average. At Colombo and Kandy the figures were 81·3° F. and 77·5° F.

The highest shade temperature in air recorded during the year was 100·3° F. at Anuradhapura on April 22, and the lowest 30·8° F. at Nuwara Eliya on January 21, both of which are well within the absolute records of 103·7° F. at Trincomalee on May 12, 1890, and 27·1° F. at Nuwara Eliya in 1914. The extremes at Colombo in 1926 were 93·4° F. on February 15 and 66·0° F. on January 19.

The mean daily range, *i.e.*, the difference between the mean of the maxima and mean of the minima, was highest at Nuwara Eliya (18·4) and lowest at Galle (8·3). The extreme values of the absolute range, *i.e.*, the difference between the highest and lowest readings, recorded at any one station occurred at the same places, viz., 46·9° F. at Nuwara Eliya and 20·4° F. at Galle.

V.—Agriculture.

Tea.

THE tea industry has had another prosperous year. The total exports amounted to 215,819,449* lb. of black tea and 1,364,217 lb. of green tea of a total value of Rs. 213,163,883,* as against an export of 208,464,971* lb. of black tea and 1,326,413 lb. of green tea of a total value of Rs. 199,697,534* in 1925. This increase in export is due to increased attention to cultivation methods, to the adoption of liberal manuring programmes, and to a mild south-west monsoon on the wet side of the Island. On the Uva side rainfall was very short, particularly in the latter part of the year. Prices in the early part of the year were high, but they fell during the second half of the year on account of heavy crops in Northern India. The average price for local sales was 99 cents per lb., as against 96 cents per lb. during the previous year. The quality of teas was not so high as that of 1925, but every effort is being made to maintain quality throughout. Improvements in factories continue, and special attention is being given to controlled withering. This is assisting in improving quality and has already attracted the attention of tea interests of India.

Tea generally looks healthy and vigorous, but there are, however, certain areas which could be improved, particularly if the planting of leguminous shade trees were undertaken. Interest in soil erosion continues to be taken, and the trial of various methods to prevent further loss of top soil are under trial. The demand from the Department of Agriculture for cuttings of green manure plants and for seed of cover crops continues to increase, and keen interest is being taken in the experiments which are being carried out at the Central Experiment Station at Peradeniya.

The shot-hole borer pest is causing no trouble at present in consequence of improved cultivation and manuring being given to tea in all districts. Tea tortrix occurred during the year in various districts, but the damage is not reported as having been greater than usual. The termites attacking tea are receiving special attention, as there is little doubt that these pests constitute the most serious field problem which the industry has to face at the present time. The prevention of an extension of the area attacked is being arrived at. This involves a closer and more careful attention to the treatment of wounds with a view to the prevention of wood rot. *Cercosporella theae* caused a leaf disease which occasioned some damage again on certain estates, and is being further investigated by the Tea Research Institute.

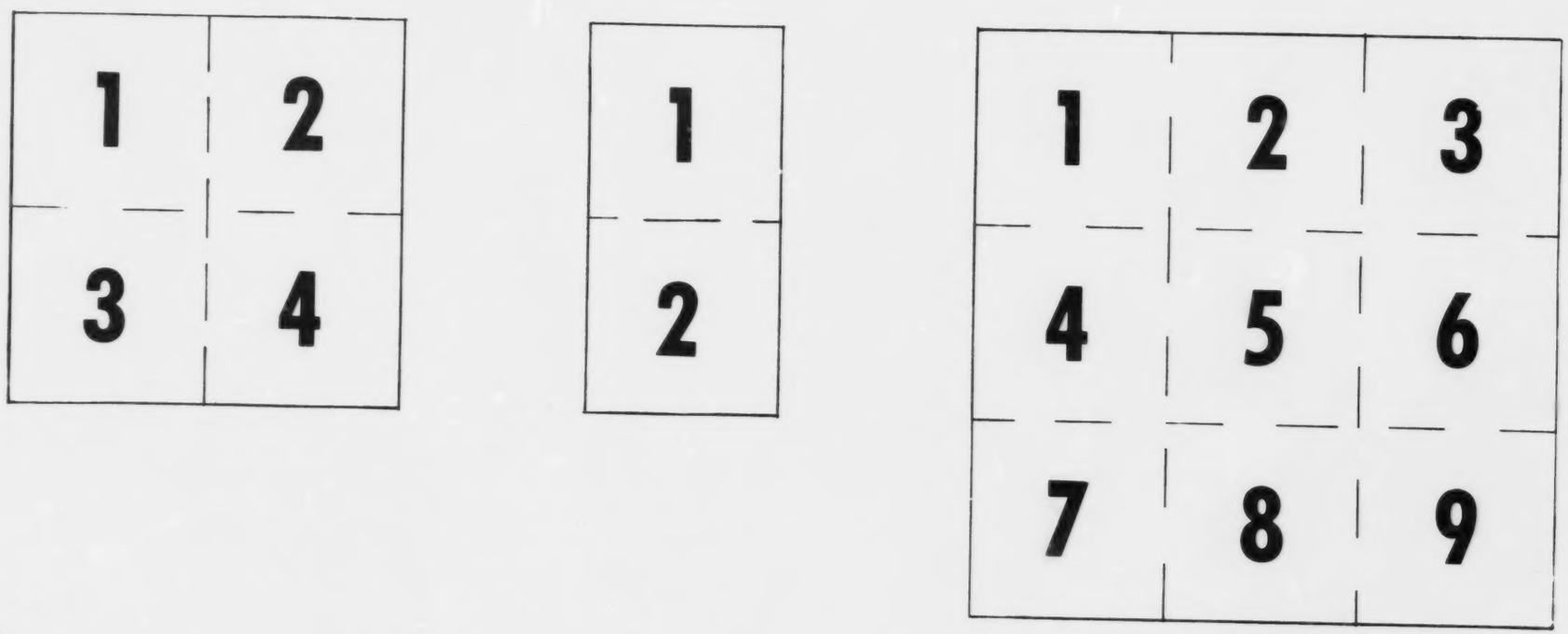
* Including ships' stores.

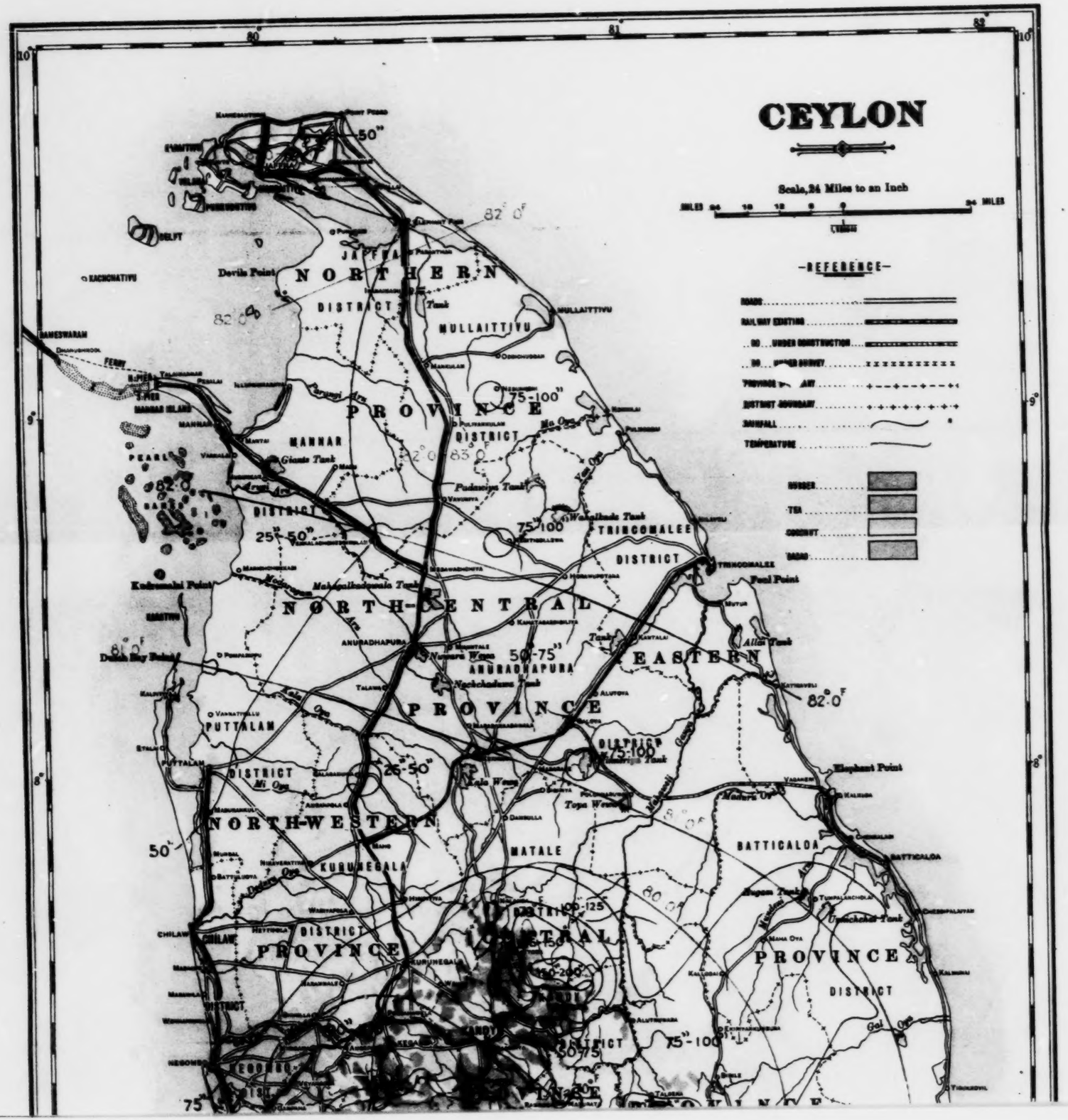
No. 4.

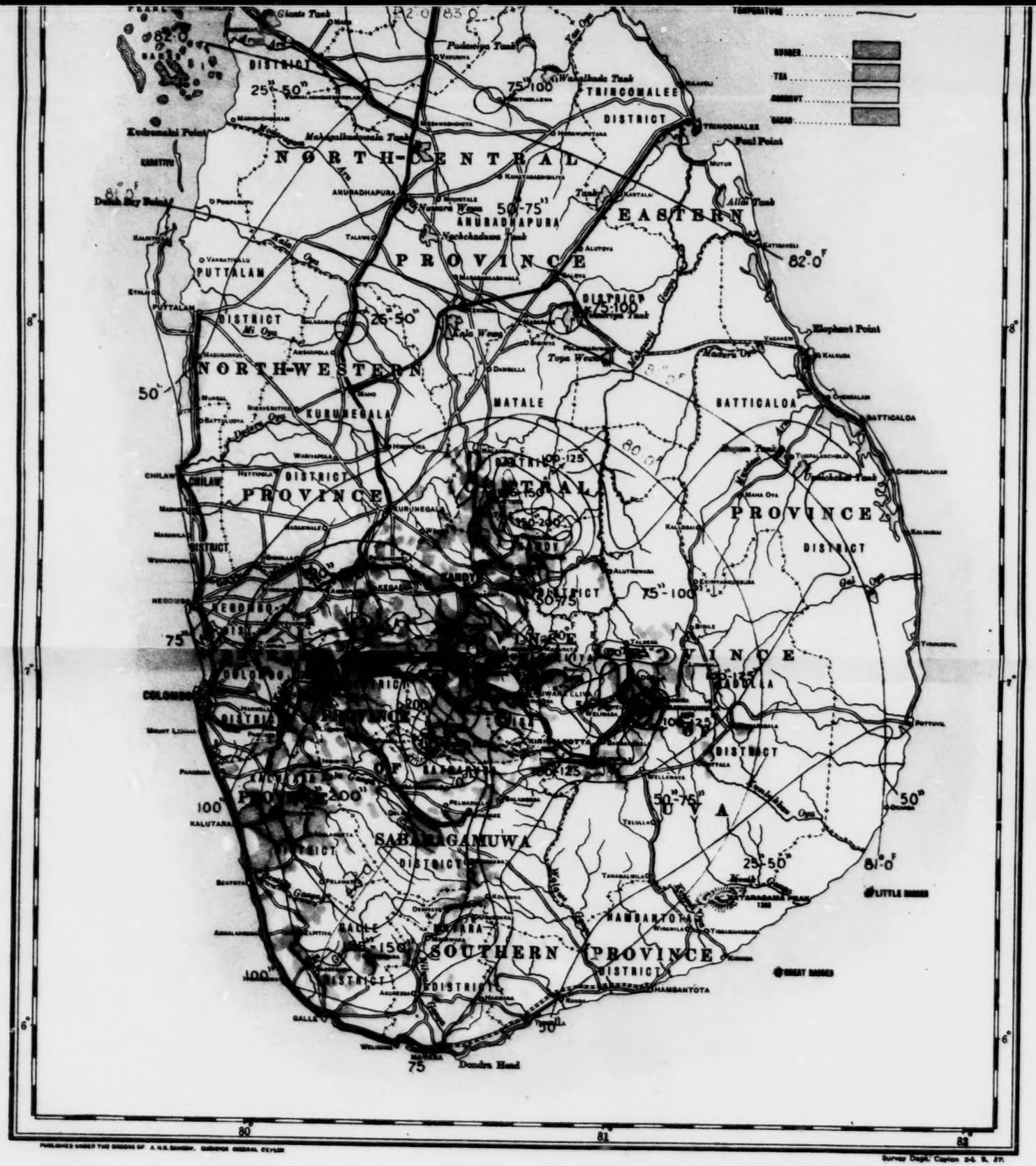
PLUCKING TEA.

Plate, Limited, Colombo.

Maps on this order too large to be entirely included in one exposure are filmed clockwise beginning in the upper left hand corner, left to right and top to bottom as many frames as required. The following diagrams illustrate the method.




CEYLON
Scale, 24 Miles to an Inch
REFERENCE
ROADS
RAILWAY EXISTING
UNDER CONSTRUCTION
UNDER SURVEY
PROVINCE BOUNDARY
DISTRICT BOUNDARY
RAINFALL
TEMPERATURE
RUBBER
TEA
COCONUT
PADDY
NORTHERN PROVINCE
JAFFNA DISTRICT
MULLAITTIVU DISTRICT
MANNAR DISTRICT
TRINCOMALEE DISTRICT
NORTH-CENTRAL PROVINCE
ANURADHAPURA DISTRICT
EASTERN PROVINCE
PUTTALAM DISTRICT
NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCE
KURUNEGALA DISTRICT
MATALE DISTRICT
BATTICALOA DISTRICT
Devils Point
Fool Point
Elephant Point
Kokkumbi Point
Giants Tank
Padaviya Tank
Wahalkada Tank
Mahagalkadawala Tank
Nachchaduwa Tank
Allis Tank
Tops Weva
Unichchai Tank
Mi Oya
Kala Oya
Deduru Oya
Maha Oya
Gal Oya
50"
25"-50"
50"-75"
75"-100"
100"-125"
125"-150"
150"-200"
82° 0'
83° 0'
80° 0'
81° 0'
82° 0' F



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Survey Dept. Ceylon 24. 5. 27.

No. 5.

TAPPING RUBBER.

Plâté, Limited, Colombo.

Extension of the tea-growing area continues, particularly in the Province of Uva and in the Balangoda area of the Province of Sabaragamuwa. The total number of tea plants transferred under permit from the Department of Agriculture during the year was 4,451,877, as against 4,020,253 during the previous year.

The organization of the Tea Research Institute was begun during the year. Certain scientific officers have been procured and are working in temporary laboratories pending the purchase of a tea estate by the Institute for experimental work.

Tea estates, combined with a large number of rubber estates, have conjointly established a scheme for the control of malaria on estates and a medical adviser on malaria has been engaged.

RUBBER.

The Stevenson Restriction Scheme was in operation throughout the year, and exports during January were on the basis of 85 per cent., from February to November on the basis of 100 per cent., and from November to the end of the year on the basis of 80 per cent. of standard production. The exports amounted to 63,621 tons of a value of Rs. 184,423,215, as against 45,618 tons of a value of Rs. 169,992,247 in 1925. The export of latex amounted to 11,896 gallons of a value of Rs. 41,803, as against 6,748 gallons of a value of Rs. 27,364 in the previous year. Stocks in godowns of members of the Colombo Rubber Traders' Association amounted at the end of the year to 5,090 tons. The average price of top grades for local sales was Re. 1·21, as against Re. 1·73 during the previous year. Prices were low in the first four months of the year, but then recovered until August, when they again declined. The quality of both crepe and sheet rubber was well maintained and any undesirable features were, on the weak market, scrutinized carefully by buyers. Rust on sheet is now rarely seen on first class estate rubber on account of greater care being given to the ventilation of smoke houses and to the drying of the rubber. Mould on sheet is also becoming much less common since the use of paranitrophenol has become general. Formic acid has replaced acetic acid as a coagulant in several factories and is proving to be quite satisfactory.

Only one estate during the year reported any considerable amount of leaf fall from *Oidium*, but secondary leaf fall caused by *Phytophthora* was considerable in the Kalutara and Kelani Valley districts. Spraying for secondary leaf fall, which has been widely adopted in South India, was experimented with on a number of estates in Ceylon during the year, and several demonstrations of spraying were given by officers of the Rubber Research Scheme. The results of the first year's experiences

are not very encouraging, and further trials will have to be made with improved pumps. Manuring of rubber was again generally resorted to, and manured areas appear to maintain a thicker foliage on them after an outbreak of secondary leaf fall than unmanured areas. Root diseases are now kept under satisfactory control, and bark diseases are kept in check by the application of disinfectants on the surfaces of the tapped sections. Brown bast has shown an increase, particularly in the drier areas, and it is possible that this increase may have in part been brought about by the return during the year to the 100 per cent. of standard production. Several areas which were considerably affected by this disease have been treated by the scraping method combined with isolation and are showing a satisfactory recovery. Continued attention has been given on rubber estates to the prevention of soil erosion and to building up the soil of washed areas. Good results have followed the covering of exposed roots by terracing, and interest is shown in the experimental use upon one estate of controlled floods in the " warping " of lands which were low-lying and showing considerable root exposure. The use of *Vigna oligosperma* as a cover crop for rubber is being taken up, and the system of platform terracing is finding acceptance by a number of estates and a considerable number of young clearings of rubber are being opened on this system.

Attention has been drawn during the year to the importance of bud-grafting as a means of selection, and certain proposals have been formulated by the Board of Agriculture and placed before Government. A large number of estates are now taking yield records preparatory to commencing budding, and the demand for selected seed from high-yielding trees on the Experiment Stations and in the Botanic Gardens of the Department of Agriculture was greatly in excess of the supply. The Rubber Research Scheme continues to receive increasing support, the number of subscribers being 211 at the end of 1926 as against 199 the previous year.

Coconuts.

The exports of coconut products and their value during 1926 were as follows :—

	Quantity.	Value. Rs.
Coconuts—fresh ..	16,951,368 nuts ..	1,393,682
Copra	2,419,398 cwt. ..	39,848,479
Desiccated	754,367 ,, ..	17,275,984*
Oil	570,463 ,, ..	15,489,320
Poonac	160,277 ,, ..	869,011
Fibre—bristles ..	154,132 ,, ..	1,149,866
Fibre—mattress ..	303,102* ,, ..	927,823*
Coir yarn	107,885 ,, ..	1,831,138

* Including ships' stores.

No. 6.

CHEKKU : MILL FOR EXTRACTING COCONUT OIL.

Plâté, Limited, Colombo.

These exports were on the whole slightly lower than during the previous year. Exports of fresh nuts showed a marked decline, but the exports of copra were in excess of those of the previous year. Complaints continue to be received regarding the quality of Ceylon copra and are being investigated. Prices for coconut products were generally satisfactory—the highest prices being obtained in June. Prices for desiccated coconut were, however, low throughout, and as a consequence the export duty on this product was reduced.

Cultivation methods remain about the same. There has been some increase in ploughing in certain areas, and the use of leguminous green manures continues to show some increase. Pests and diseases were not more prevalent than usual, but increased attention is being paid to them—particularly in the North-Western Province.

Paddy.

The north-east season paddy crops were on the whole satisfactory, but suffered in certain areas in the east and north-eastern parts of the Island from floods. Harvesting of this crop was somewhat interfered with by rains in the Kegalla and Ratnapura Districts. The south-west monsoon was early and good areas under the yala crop was sown. In fact many areas in the Central Province grew yala crops on lands which had not been so cultivated for several years and the yala crops were generally very satisfactory. The north-east monsoon rains were late and short. In consequence the prospects for the end of the year maha crop are not promising. In many districts insufficient water was present in the tanks, and cultivation had to be delayed, and in some instances abandoned altogether. The prospects for the crop to be reaped in the early part of 1927 are decidedly below normal.

Progress has been made with the establishment of seed stations for the supply of selected and tested seed. Nineteen of such stations have already been started, and yields of from 10 to 22 per cent. above the average yield of the crops of mixed types in the locality have been secured in the first series of field trials.

Cacao.

The exports of cacao amounted to 64,751 cwt. of a value of Rs. 1,953,684, as against 68,788 cwt. of a value of Rs. 2,318,579 during the previous year. The spring crop was satisfactory, but the autumn crop was small owing to the dry weather conditions which prevailed. The quality of the crop was very good, but prices ruled low throughout the year. The replacement of cacao in some areas by rubber still continues and the acreage under the crop continues to decline.

CARDAMOMS.

The exports amounted to 2,848* cwt. of a value of Rs. 842,318,* as against 3,302* cwt. of a value of Rs. 1,149,192* during 1925. The crop was reduced somewhat on account of dry conditions and prices were irregular. On the whole the prices realized, especially for the bleached product, were satisfactory and certain new clearings were planted out with this crop during the year.

CITRONELLA.

Exports amounted to 1,431,351 lb. of oil of a value of Rs. 1,774,326, as against 1,415,639 lb. of a value of Rs. 2,259,465 during the previous year. Prices declined during the early part of the year and thence onwards remained at a low level which moved in sympathy with the prices quoted for Java oils.

CINNAMON.

The exports of cinnamon quills were 31,241* cwt. of a value of Rs. 3,985,238* as against 30,244* cwt. of a value of Rs. 2,967,153* during the previous year, and of cinnamon chips were 11,874 cwt. of a value of Rs. 225,012, as against 12,136 cwt. of a value of Rs. 200,829. The exports showed some increase, largely as the result of keener demand at comparatively high prices during the middle of the year, and some interest is being shown in the planting of small amounts of new areas. These plantings do not, however, make up for the cinnamon areas which are being regularly replaced by coconuts and rubber, and in consequence the acreage under cinnamon continues to decrease.

FIBRES.

The exports of sisal hemp amounted to 5,236 cwt. of a value of Rs. 167,700, as against 3,422 cwt. of a value of Rs. 87,181. The quality of the fibre produced was good, but prices were slightly lower than during the previous year.

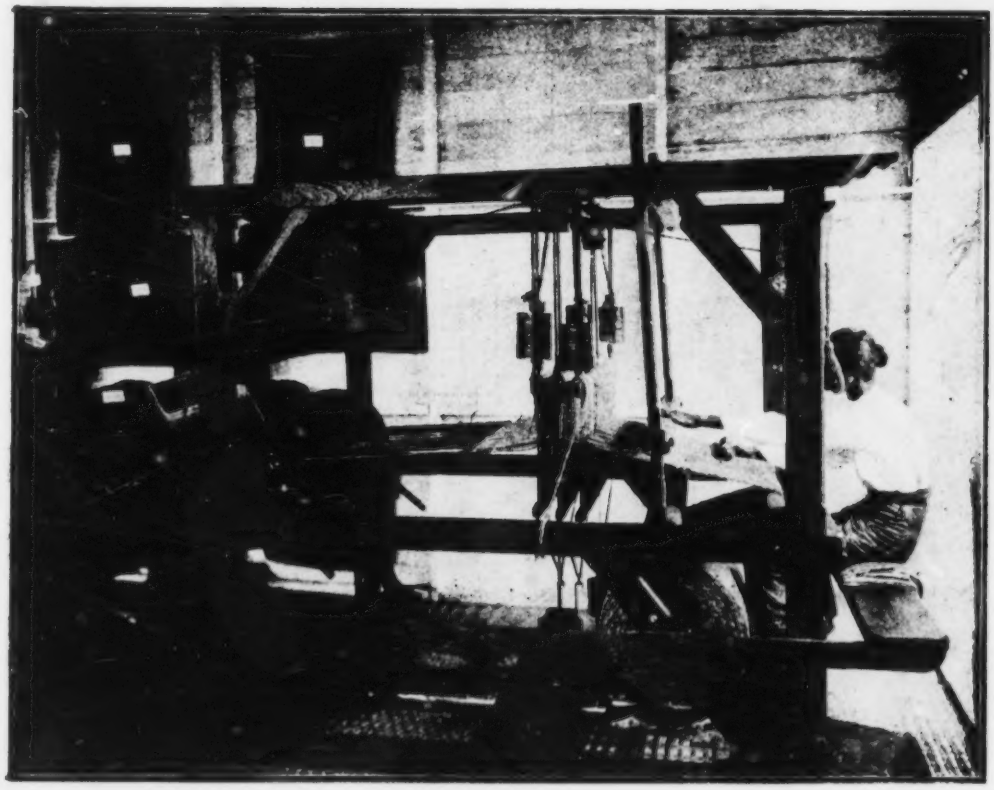
The exports of kapok amounted to 6,045 cwt. of a value of Rs. 411,953, as against 3,966 cwt. of a value of Rs. 214,963 during the previous year.

Cotton cultivation continued to be assisted by Government, and a total crop of 3,000 cwt. of seed cotton was produced during the year. Of this, 2,700 cwt. were grown in the Hambantota District. All this cotton was purchased by the Spinning and Weaving Mills at Colombo, and only 20 cwt. were exported during the year. The small holders in the Hambantota District are taking a keen interest in this crop. Mr. Hilson, Cotton Specialist

* Including ships' stores.

No. 7.

WEAVING COIR MATTING.



Plâté, Limited, Colombo.

to the Government of Madras, visited the cotton growing areas and advised generally on the lines of development which should be followed. Separate rotation stations have been commenced in the cotton growing areas as the result of his visit.

Papaine.

The exports of papaine amounted to 73,624 lb. of a value of Rs. 621,384. Prices for a high grade papaine ruled high during the year and increasing interest is being taken in this product.

Arecanuts.

The exports of arecanuts during the year amounted to 165,475 cwt., as against 154,291 cwt. in the previous year. One fairly large acreage was opened under this product in the Southern Province during the year.

Tobacco.

The exports of White Burley tobacco from the Jaffna District under the Department of Agriculture purchase scheme amounted to 18,826 lb. and realized prices ranging from 1*s.* 5½*d.* to 2*s.* per lb. on the London market. The prices realized averaged about 1*d.* per lb. in excess of those realized during the previous year and the market reports continue to be encouraging.

Co-operative Societies.

A satisfactory increase in the number of societies took place during the year. Forty new societies were registered, whilst the registration of 10 was cancelled. The total number of societies at the end of the year was 329. There was a total of 37,425 members, and their paid-up share capital amounted to Rs. 423,613·88 and their deposits to Rs. 60,125·20. The amount standing to the credit of reserve funds of all societies was Rs. 73,183·39 at the end of the co-operative year, April 30, 1926. Financial loans from Government funds amounting to Rs. 52,000 were granted during the year, making a total of Rs. 142,715·12 outstanding.

The supervising and directing staff has been strengthened, and classes for the training of office-bearers of societies were held at four centres during the year. Recoveries of loans are in some cases rather slow, but in certain districts improvements have been effected.

Infective Diseases of Animals.

Rinderpest.—The disease continued from the previous year in Hambantota and Ratnapura Districts. The outbreak in Ratnapura District was suppressed by the latter part of May, and the district was free during the remainder of the year. In the Hambantota District the disease was widespread in the early part of the year and wild buffaloes in the Game Sanctuary became infected.

Methods of suppression among the wild buffaloes consisted of shooting and burning all sick observed, and searching for and burning the carcases of the dead. To prevent spread of infection from the Game Sanctuary into the adjacent Eastern Province a line of watch-huts, stretching for 12 miles along the Kumbukkan-oya, was erected and a system of patrols instituted between the huts at night. Fires were lighted between the huts at night.

The measures were successful in preventing wild buffaloes crossing the river into the Eastern Province.

The outbreak in the Game Sanctuary had subsided by the end of April. The disease continued to exist in parts of the Hambantota District until the end of the year. The remainder of the Island was free from rinderpest during the year.

Foot-and-Mouth Disease.—This disease occurred from time to time in all the Provinces save the Northern, Southern, and Sabaragamuwa. There were in all 1,155 cases, of which 16 died. The majority of the cases occurred in the Eastern Province.

Osteitis Fibrosa or Osteoporosis.—This continued to be the chief source of loss to horse owners. A feeding experiment commenced in 1925 is still being carried on. Evidence in support of the theory that the disease is due to a deficiency of calcium in the diet has already been obtained. It is hoped to complete the experiment and issue a report in 1927.

Piroplasmosis.—Sporadic cases occurred from time to time among cattle and dogs.

Coccidiosis.—This was met with in cattle and poultry. In cattle, contrary to experience in European countries, the majority of the cases occurred in young calves under 3 months of age.

Surra.—Three cases were confirmed from the Southern Province during the year. One of these cases was a wild buffalo in the Game Sanctuary.

Tuberculosis.—No cases were reported during the year.

Anthrax.—Anthrax was proved by microscopic and cultural tests to be the cause of death of two horses, two cows, and one goat. The Veterinary Surgeon to the Colombo Municipal Council reported 1,138 deaths from anthrax at the Colombo Quarantine Station in goats imported from India and Aden.

Rabies.—Rabies showed a considerable increase over last year. 86 cases occurred in the Western Province. The Director of the Pasteur Institute, Colombo, reports that of 195 cases examined 114 gave positive results. 957 persons underwent protective treatment at the Pasteur Institute, Colombo.

VI.—Public Works.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

THE total expenditure of the Public Works Department has increased from Rs. 3,437,862 in 1896 to Rs. 19,554,506 in 1926, the latter figure showing an increase of Rs. 245,532 over that of 1925. The average annual expenditure during the past thirty-one years has been Rs. 8,242,028.

Roads.—The total length of roads maintained by the Public Works Department during the year was 4,146 miles, of which 3,942 miles are cart roads and 204 miles are bridle roads.

Amongst the more important works carried out or in course of construction may be mentioned the following :—

General.—New Council Chamber and Secretariat ; addition of a new wing to the Surveyor-General's Office ; new Customs House at the Passenger Jetty ; new residence for the Colonel Commandant ; quarters for Forest Range Officer at Ratnapura ; clerks' quarters, Nuwara Eliya, Dikoya, Anuradhapura, Mihintale, Maradankadawala, Kurunegala, Puttalam, Chilaw, and Badulla ; additions and improvements to clerks' quarters in Colombo and Hambantota ; new sheds for Government Dairy ; additional office accommodation, Colombo Museum ; converting portion of Old Lunatic Asylum into Public Works Department Offices ; special repairs to Welikada Jail ; new Factory, Kolonnawa ; quarters for the subordinate officers of the Agricultural Department, Peradeniya ; main administration block, Agricultural Department, Peradeniya ; Experiment Station and Agricultural School, Jaffna ; new Customs buildings, Talaimannar ; new arrack warehouse, Vavuniya ; new jetty at Kankesanturai ; improvements to Point Pedro port ; improvements to Land Registry Office, Kurunegala ; bungalow for Manager, Experimental Station, Anuradhapura ; Post Office, Koslanda ; new survey huts, Diyatalawa ; new bungalow for the Provincial Engineer, Province of Sabaragamuwa ; additions and improvements to Kegalla Kachcheri ; No. 3 Jetty, Galle harbour.

Medical Buildings.—Operating Theatre, Lady Havelock Hospital ; three-storey block, General Hospital ; Dental Institute, Colombo ; improvements to Sanitary Commissioner's Office and De Soysa Lying-in Home ; improvements to the X'ray Department, General Hospital ; new children's ward, Kandy hospital ; quarters for apothecary, Dimbula hospital ; new hospital, Watawala ; Chavakachcheri hospital ; Kilinochchi hospital ; Giriulla hospital ; Uggalkaltota hospital ;

additions and improvements to Uda Pussellawa, Dimbula, Lindula, Agrapatana, Galle, Deniyaya, Puloli, Puttalam, Passara, Kitulgala, and Kahawatta hospitals; quarters for matron and nurses, Mannar hospital; apothecary's quarters, Heripitiya dispensary; dispensary and apothecary's quarters, Kunchikulam; dispensary and apothecary's quarters, Horawapotana; additional ward, Lunugala hospital; infectious diseases ward, Haputale hospital.

Police Buildings.—Converting Borella Convict hospital into Police Station and barracks; Police Station at Talawakele; barracks for single men, Galle; quarters for the Superintendents of Police, Kurunegala and Badulla; quarters for Pettah and Chilaw Police.

Bridges.—Bridge for Kahatuduwa-Pokunuwita road; bridge on 20th mile, Colombo-Avissawella road; Kalu-ganga bridge; bridge on Ekala-Gampaha road; reconstruction of 2 bridges on the 16th mile, Panadure-Nambapana road; Kotagoda bridge on 17th mile, Ja-ela-Kotadeniya road; reconstruction of bridge on the Kalawellawa-Bellapitiya road; Idalawella bridge; Welipane bridge; bridge on Etanamadu-Jawatta road; reconstruction of Kotugoda bridge; Gampola bridge; reconstruction of bridge on Kandy-Horagama-Kurundu-oya road; Tientsin bridge; bridge at Andaluwa on the Mulatiyana-Urubokka road; bridge at Halpatota; rebuilding bridges on the Bentota-Goiyapana road; Galle-Baddegama road bridges; converting 6 wooden bridges into iron ones in the Kalmunai district; bridge for Madurankuli-Koddayamottai road; strengthening, improving, and renewing bridge No. 19 on the 7th mile, Puttalam-Kala-oya road; Chilaw bridge; bridge for Polonnaruwa-Topawewa road; renewing 7 bridges between the 117th and 128th mile, Haldumulla-Wellawaya road; reconstructing bridge, 10th mile, Badulla-Batticaloa road; bridge at Arandara; renewing bridge on 10th mile, Peradeniya road; renewing 2 bridges on Avissawella-Ginigathena road.

IRRIGATION.

Irrigation works in Ceylon are classified as—

(*a*) Major works.
(*b*) Village works.

Major works are all maintained and supervised by the staff of the Director of Irrigation from Government funds, and are liable to irrigation rates of some kind or another.

The financing of the construction of these works has been done originally by Government, but in the case of some works (which are termed "Aided Works") the arrangement was

that the actual cost of construction should be repaid to Government by instalments over a series of years, and the maintenance rate for these works is assessed quinquennially. In the case of the other major works termed "Perpetuity Rate Works," the construction cost was unreservedly met by Government; and an irrigation rate in perpetuity imposed on the lands, which rate when imposed was intended to cover the cost of maintenance of the works and also repay something in the shape of interest on the construction costs.

Village works are in the charge of the Government Agents, who have a number of field staff officers of the Irrigation Department lent to them to assist them with the technical supervision; the maintenance as regards earthwork and clearing jungle and silt, &c., is done on a sharing system by the landholders under each work and regulated by special village works rules. The maintenance of the masonry works of village works is done from a Government vote to the Director of Irrigation, which is distributed to the different Provinces, and the work carried out by the village tank staff (advised by the Divisional Irrigation Engineers), unless the work is of considerable magnitude, when it would be done by the Director's staff.

The bunds of village works have in most cases been constructed by villagers themselves supervised by Government Agents' staff under different forms of permit, in many cases the people being allowed land under the works in proportion to the earthwork done; sluices (whether masonry or pipes) are provided from Government votes, and also masonry spills where they exist.

Landowners under village works pay no irrigation rates. Occasionally arrangements are made by agreement between Government and the proprietors by which a village work becomes a major work, or *vice versâ*, but instances of this are not frequent.

Under the Irrigation Ordinance of 1917 the control of paddy cultivation under all classes of works is in the hands of Government Agents.

The total expenditure of the Department for the financial year 1925–26 was Rs. 1,730,006·41, as compared with Rs. 1,717,924·26 for the previous year.

The usual work of maintenance was carried out during the year, and amongst the more important works constructed or in course of construction were the following:—

Karachchi Scheme.—The distribution channel system was extended and improved, and the agricultural roads were improved by metalling and gravelling.

Giant's Tank Scheme.—Six distribution gates for improving the water distribution and work for improving the drainage of a portion of the fields at Nedunkandal were carried out.

Nachchaduwa Scheme.—The distribution system has been extended and improved, and 1 mile of the agricultural feeder road was completed.

Tabbowa Scheme.—The breach earthwork has been made up and protected by stone pitching, and the raising of the portion of the Puttalam-Anuradhapura road has been completed.

Colombo (South) Flood Scheme.—The work on this was completed and strengthening done as indicated by experience from recent big floods.

Colombo (North) Flood Scheme.—The most important work done during the year was the construction of the canal lock and the flood bund near Grandpass. This work was carried out with extraordinary rapidity and completed in May only just in time to save the protected area from one of the biggest floods experienced during the past fourteen years.

The work on the main drainage tunnel to the sea was continued, but as the material met with has proved very difficult to work in, progress has not been as rapid as was hoped. Other work done included closing up the opening under a railway bridge, and widening and improving the main drain from Kolonnawa railway line to the tunnel intake, constructing the head and side walls of the intake portal of tunnel and the head and side walls of the outfall portal of tunnel.

Kelani River Right Bank Flood Bund.—The old flood bank along the north edge of the Kelani river was raised and improved throughout for a distance up the river of about 5 miles from the junction of the Kandy and Biyagama roads.

Kalu-oya-Muturajawela Flood Protection Scheme.—Work on the flood bund between Ja-ela Resthouse and the Pamunugama road was practically completed.

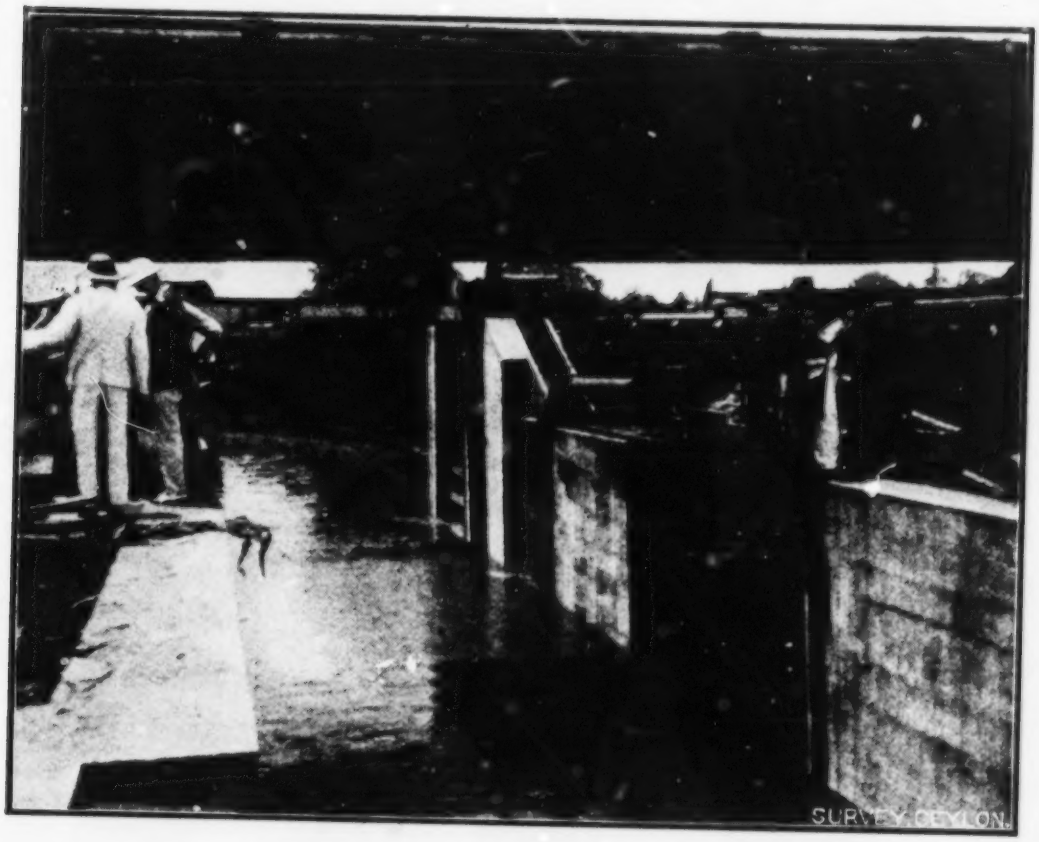
No 8.

CANAL LOCK, COLOMBO NORTH FLOOD PROTECTION SCHEME FROM SOUTH END :

CONCRETING OF EAST WALL IN PROGRESS. MARCH 27, 1926.

No. 9.

CANAL LOCK, COLOMBO NORTH FLOOD PROTECTION SCHEME FROM DOWN STREAM:



FILLING IN PROGRESS. MAY 9, 1926.

Walawe Left Bank Works.—Work was chiefly concentrated on the main bund for the tank and about 17,000 cubes of puddle or earthwork was done. Two-thirds of the length of the bund has been completed, and of the remaining portion more than half the earthwork has been done. The excavation for the head sluice on the inlet channel near the Walawe river was taken out.

Kirindi-oya Right Bank Scheme.—Additional distribution and drainage channels have been cut, and about 2 miles of new agricultural roads were constructed.

Unnichchai Scheme.—Steady progress was made with the stone pitching on the water face of the bund. Improvements were made to the spill. The agricultural roads were slightly extended and a bridge over the Kanthiriyan Odai constructed.

Pandarakattu Anicut, Rugam Scheme.—Work was started on this by preparing stone and metal, but as the steel sheet piling ordered from England could not be despatched owing to the Coal Strike no further progress could be made.

Verugal Anicut, Allai Scheme.—Excavation for foundation of the anicut and for a portion of the bed of the " new cut " for the river was done and a considerable amount of concrete metal and stone for pitching was prepared.

New Buildings.—The following new buildings were completed during the year :—

Bungalow for the Irrigation Engineer, Kalmunai.
Office for the Divisional Irrigation Engineer, Central Division.
Bungalow for Irrigation Sub-Inspector, Mihintale.
Bungalow for Cultivation Officer at Tissamaharama.
Bungalow for Clerk at Tissamaharama.
Bungalow for Clerk at Kurunegala.
Bungalow for Clerk at Bandarawela.
Bungalow for Guardian at Ma-ela.

Considerable progress was made with clerks' bungalows at Killinochchi and Anuradhapura, Irrigation Engineer's bungalow at Anuradhapura, offices at Batticaloa and Kalmunai, and quarters for Guardians at Mahauswewa, Uma-ela, and Batugedara.

Village Works.—A sum of Rs. 70,305·43 was expended on improvements and construction and maintenance of masonry works.

Surveys and Investigations.—The principal surveys, investigations, or demarcations carried out were:—Kurai tank surveys for restoration of tank; Akathimurippu Scheme; Tabbowa works, survey for agricultural road and also for blocking out tract No. 2; Kalu-oya-Muturajawela Flood Protection Scheme, survey to protect 13,200 acres; Matara District and Southern Province flood protection investigations; Walawe left bank works, contour survey to define irrigable tracts and to locate distribution and drainage channels; Vadamaradchi Scheme observations. In addition to this, a very large amount of investigation and survey work has been carried out, chiefly in connection with improvements to village tanks and elas or in connection with flood protection schemes.

Railway Waterways.—During the year reports on the discharging capacity of the waterways of two sections of the Northern Railway and of one section of the Mannar Railway were sent to the General Manager of Railways for his information and consideration.

The number of Crown irrigation works is 184, under which 150,600 acres are at present irrigated.

At present there are approximately 2,744 village tanks and elas in operation, and a further 1,586 are under restoration.

Approximately 200,921 acres are cultivated for paddy under village irrigation works.

RAILWAY DEPARTMENT.

Open Line, 1926.

The total length of the open line on September 30, 1926 was 851 miles.

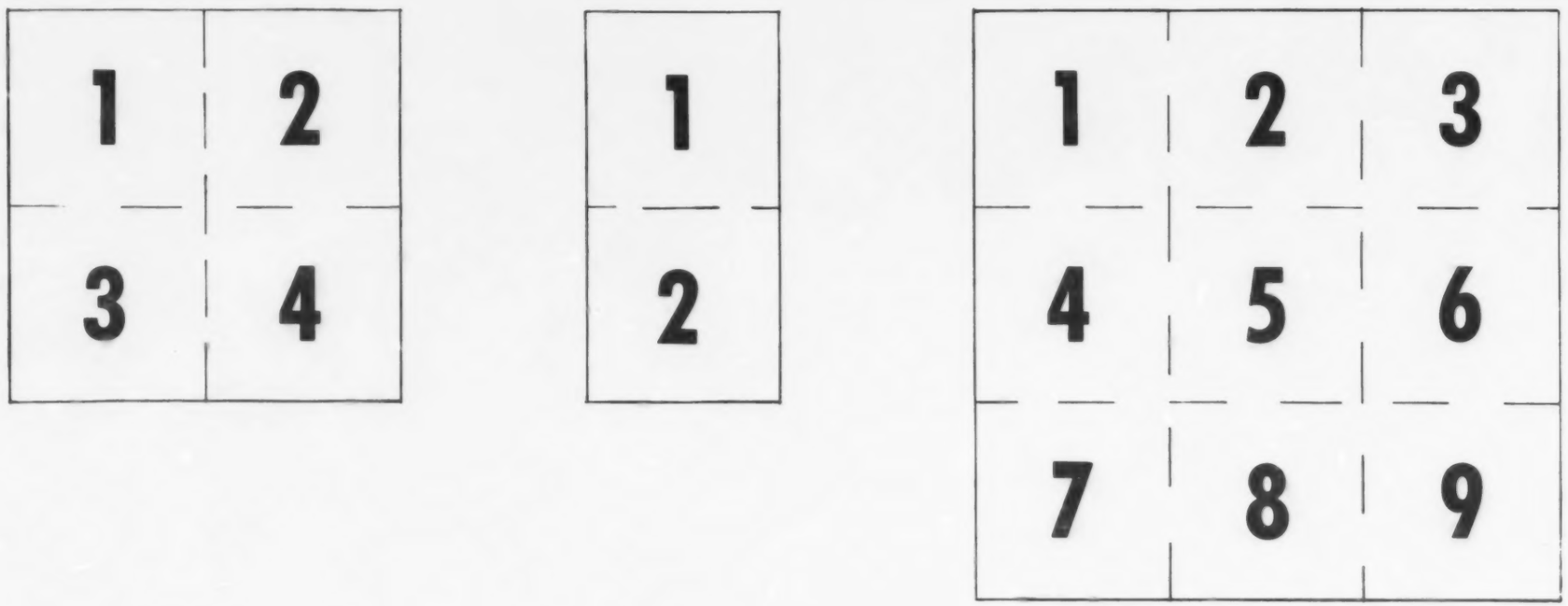
The receipts for the year amounted to Rs. 29,236,369, as against Rs. 27,730,332 in the preceding year, or an increase of Rs. 1,506,037.

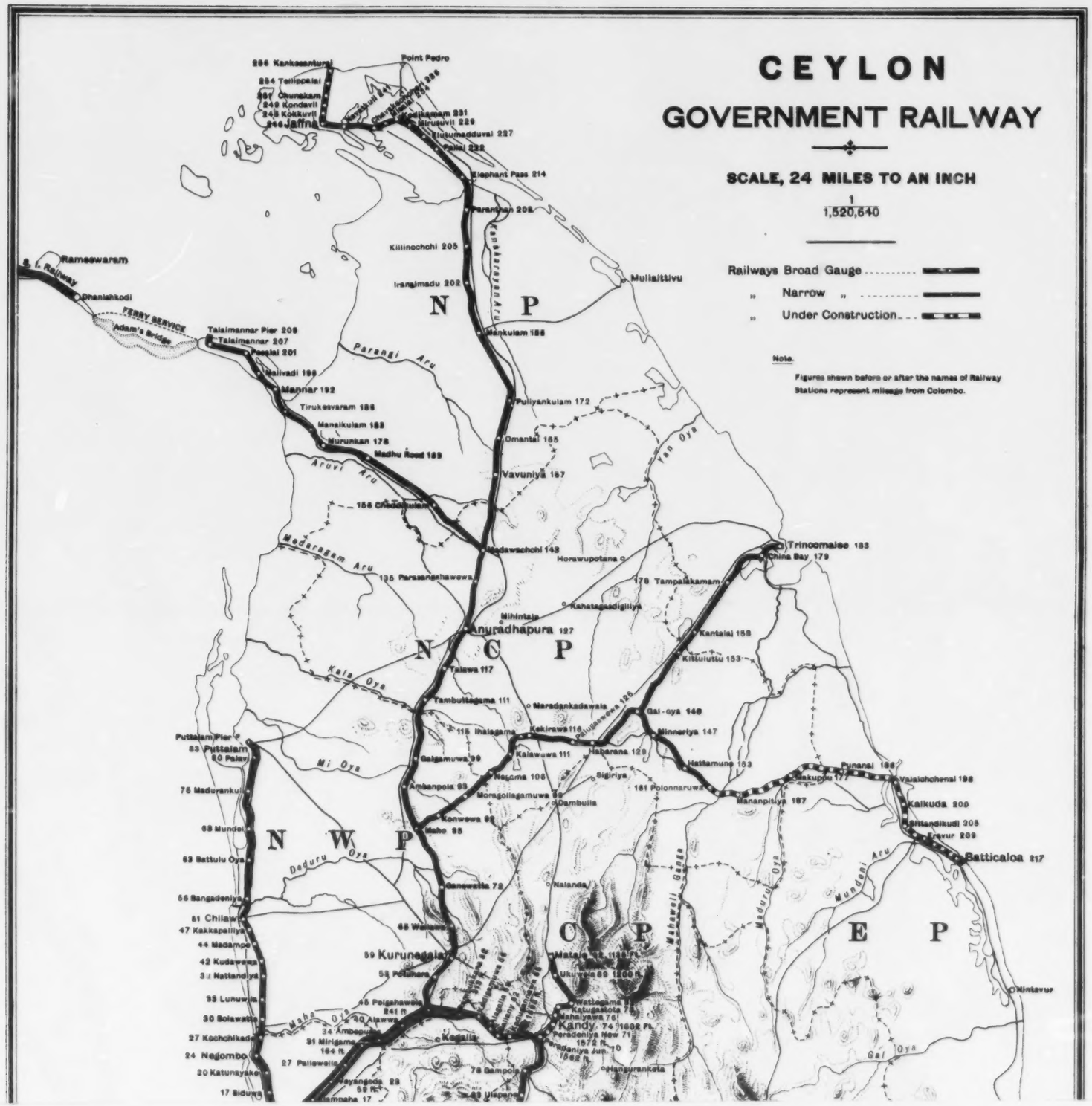
The number of passengers conveyed has increased by 2,351,061, the total conveyed during the year being 12,552,234.

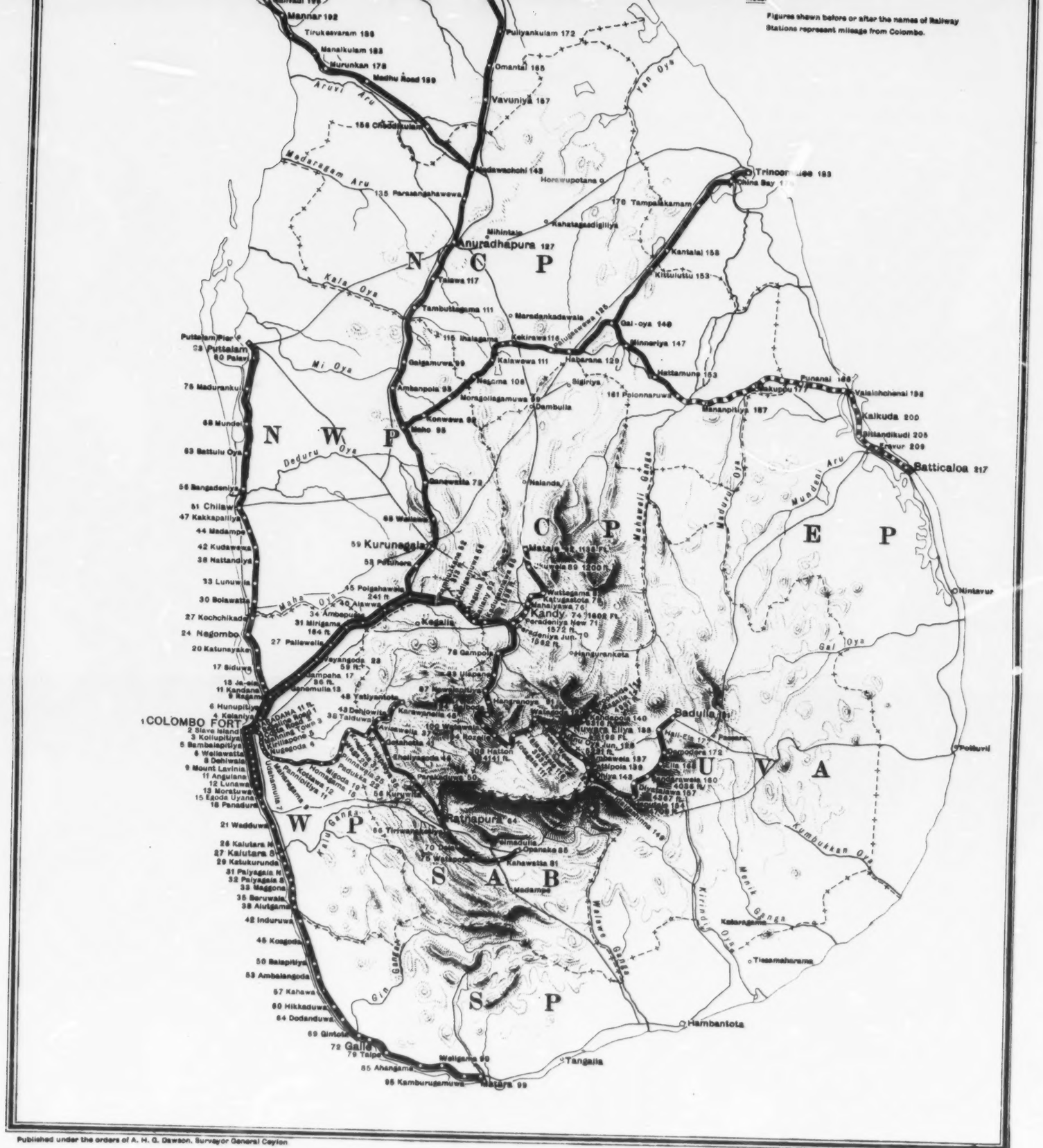
Under season tickets the number of ticket holders has increased to the extent of 13,826, the total number of season tickets issued during the year being 194,071.

The number of parcels conveyed during the year was 1,642,193, or an increase of 124,349 parcels.

Maps on this order too large to be entirely included in one exposure are filmed clockwise beginning in the upper left hand corner, left to right and top to bottom as many frames as required. The following diagrams illustrate the method.




CEYLON
GOVERNMENT RAILWAY
SCALE, 24 MILES TO AN INCH
1/1,520,640
Railways Broad Gauge
" Narrow "
" Under Construction
Note.
Figures shown before or after the names of Railway Stations represent mileage from Colombo.
Point Pedro
Jaffna
Elephant Pass 214
Mullaittivu
Rameswaram
S. I. Railway
Dhanishkodi
FERRY SERVICE
Adam's Bridge
Talaimannar Pier 209
Talaimannar 207
Mannar 192
Tirukesvaram 186
Manaikulam 183
Murunkan 178
Madhu Road 169
Mankulam 156
Puliyankulam 172
Omantai 165
Vavuniya 157
Trincomalee 183
China Bay 179
Anuradhapura 127
Kurunegala
Kegalla
Kandy
Batticaloa 317
Puttalam
Chilaw
Negombo
N P
N C P
N W P
C P
E P


Figures shewn before or after the names of Railway Stations represent mileage from Colombo.
N C P
N W P
C P
E P
W P
S A B
S P
U V A
COLOMBO FORT
Puttalam
Kurunegala
Kandy
Anuradhapura
Trincomalee
Batticaloa
Badulla
Ratnapura
Galle
Hambantota
Tangalla
Mannar 192
Tirukesvaram 188
Manalkulam 183
Murunkan 178
Madhu Road 169
Pallyankulam 172
Omantai 165
Vavuniya 157
Madawachchi 143
Horowupotana
Tampalakamam
Kantalai 158
Kittuluttu 153
Gal-oya 140
Minneriya 147
Hattamuna 153
Punani
Valaichchenai 198
Kalkuda 200
Batticaloa 217
Mihintale
Kahatagasdigiliya
Talawa 117
Tambuttegama 111
Galgamuwa 99
Ambanpola 93
Konwewa 88
Maho 95
Ganewatta 78
Nalanda
Dambulla
Sigiriya
Kekirawa 116
Kalawewa 111
Habarana 129
Nagoma 108
Moragollagamuwa 99
Polonnaruwa
Mananpitiya 157
Nintavur
Kegalla
Gampola
Hanguranketa
Nuwara Eliya 188
Haputale
Bandarawela 160
Diyatalawa 167
Passara
Potuvil
Kataragama
Tissamaharama
Weligama 90
Matara 99
Puttalam Pier
Madurankuli
Mundel
Battulu Oya
Bangadeniya
Chilaw
Kakkapalliya
Madampe
Kudawewa
Hettandiya
Lunuwila
Bolawatte
Kochchikade
Negombo
Katunayake
Siduwa
Kandana
Hunupitiya
Kelaniya
Sieve Island
Kollupitiya
Bambalapitiya
Wellawatte
Dehiwala
Mount Lavinia
Angulana
Lunawa
Moratuwa
Egoda Uyana
Panadura
Wadduwa
Kalutara N
Kalutara S
Katukurunda
Paiyagala N
Paiyagala S
Maggona
Beruwala
Aluthgama
Induruwa
Kosgoda
Balapitiya
Ambalangoda
Kahawa
Hikkaduwa
Dodanduwa
Ginthota
Talpe
Ahangama
Kamburugamuwa
Aruvi Aru
Madurasam Aru
Kala Oya
Mi Oya
Deduru Oya
Maha Oya
Yan Oya
Mahaweli Ganga
Madura Oya
Mundeni Aru
Gal Oya
Kumbukkan Oya
Menik Ganga
Kirindi Oya
Weliweru Ganga
Kalu Ganga
Gin Ganga
Published under the orders of A. H. G. Dawson, Surveyor General Ceylon.
Survey Dept. Ceylon. 31 5 37.

The tonnage of goods carried has arisen from 1,404,195 tons to 1,522,573 tons. The noticeable increases and decreases being :—

Increases.	Tons.	Decreases.	Tons.
Rubber	7,776	Cacao	1,718
Paddy	1,107	Coconut produce (excluding copra)	5,305
Rice	2,150	Fruits and vegetables ..	2,350
Tea	1,528		
Copra	2,948		
Tea, rubber, and desiccated coconut packing ..	1,114		
Plumbago.. ..	2,465		
Petrol	4,030		
Bulk petroleum ..	1,994		
Liquid fuel ..	2,347		
Manure	41,089		
Bricks and tiles ..	2,224		
Foreign traffic ..	17,456		
Sundry goods ..	18,286		

The total expenditure for the year was Rs. 20,362,664, or an increase of Rs. 1,894,137 over that for the previous year.

The total capital cost of the Railway amounted to Rs. 195,545,018, the capital account having been increased during the year by Rs. 5,693,005 by the inclusion of the following :—

	Rs.
Batticaloa-Trincomalee Railway	1,511,285
Puttalam Railway	273,120
Main line duplication	257,015
Stations extensions	38,194
New and minor works	3,601,329
Chief Construction Engineer's and Assistants' salaries ..	97,062
	5,778,005
Less value of land and building known as the Bandarawela Hotel sold by Government	85,000
	5,693,005

Note.—The increases or decreases are based on the corresponding figures for the previous year (1925).

Colombo Stations Extensions.

This work was started in 1905 and comprises a complete remodelling and extension of Railway premises in Colombo.

The estimate for the whole undertaking is Rs. 9,803,123, out of which Rs. 9,793,977 has been spent up to the end of December, 1926.

All works on the Stations Extensions are now completed, and will not be referred to again in the yearly report.

Colombo Harbour Rail Extension.

This work provides a rail connection from the main line at Urugodawatta to the harbour in the vicinity of the Graving Dock. It also included the remodelling of the Wharf Station and connection of same to the harbour sidings, and abolition of the existing connection between the Fort Station and Wharf Station *viâ* the Galle Face.

Owing to the continued sinking of the approaches to the overhead bridge at Bloemendhal road no further work has been done on this until settlement ceases. The approaches to the overhead bridge at Victoria Road bridge have been bottomed and metalled and are now being consolidated and will be ready for traffic early in 1927.

The total estimate for the work is Rs. 3,921,768, out of which Rs. 3,911,983 has been spent up to the end of December, 1926.

Main Line Duplication.

This work provides for doubling the main line between Ragama and Rambukkana, a distance of 43 miles, with improvements to grades and curves of the existing line, and new stations at Mirigama, Ambepussa, and Rambukkana, and improvements to stations at Alawwa and Polgahawela. Double line working was instituted between Mirigama and Alawwa on March 7, 1926, and between Polgahawela and Rambukkana on December 12, 1926. Rambukkana Station was also opened on the latter date. The only work remaining in the hands of the Construction Department now is the completion of the sidings to engine shed, coal stage and turntable, and completion of a few details at the engine shed and erection of roof over the coal stage. These works are all in hand and will be completed early in 1927.

The total estimate for the work is Rs. 7,533,876, out of which Rs. 7,519,780 has been spent up to the end of December, 1926.

Puttalam Extension.

This is an extension of the Chilaw line northwards to Puttalam, a distance of 32 miles 9 chains.

The line between Mundel and Puttalam was opened for passenger traffic on May 12, 1926, and this work is now entirely completed.

The total estimate for the work is Rs. 6,994,325, out of which Rs. 6,985,767 was spent up to the end of December, 1926.

Batticaloa and Trincomalee Light Railway.

Since the last report the line between Kekirawa, Gal-oya, and Polonnaruwa was opened for passenger traffic on July 12, 1926.

The bridge over the Mahaweli-ganga is finished and carrying ballast trains, only a little rivetting on the top wind bracings remaining to be done.

The bridge over the Valaichchenai-aru is completed.

The extra flood openings provided at Mahaweli-ganga are well in hand and approaching completion.

The total estimate for this line is Rs. 22,972,761, out of which Rs. 21,608,037 has been spent up to the end of December, 1926.

Kalladi Bridge.

The sinking of the cylinders for the foundations of this bridge is completed. These cylinders had to be sunk under compressed air and were founded on rock bottom. The rock was of a particularly hard variety and very difficult of removal.

The total estimate for the work is Rs. 957,970, out of which Rs. 757,055 has been spent up to the end of December, 1926.

VII.—Excise.

WITH the closure of the year 1926 the Department completed the fifteenth year of its existence.

Consumption and Temperance.

The following statement shows in gallons the quantities of foreign liquor imported during the years 1914, 1918, 1922, 1925, and 1926, and to it are added the figures regarding the quantities of arrack and toddy consumed during the same years :—

	Malt.	Wine.	Whisky.	Brandy.	Gin.	Total.	Arrack consumed.	Toddy consumed.
1914	152,557	67,899	*104,759	*72,601	*137,986	456,965	1,422,305	2,922,421
1918	68,019	26,799	48,869	9,239	8,551	161,477	1,015,386	4,736,016
1922	102,856	45,210	56,054	19,297	45,212	268,629	807,387	4,291,012
1925	141,110	53,560	61,947	57,976	105,328	424,921	772,067	4,736,440
1926	211,567	69,311	73,351	94,052	136,371	584,652	846,085	4,264,516

* Bulk gallons.

The chief increases in arrack consumption in 1926 over 1925 were in the Western, Southern, Eastern, and Northern Provinces and in Sabaragamuwa and Uva. In the Northern Province arrack sales rose by 11,828 gallons because the abolition of toddy taverns put down sales of toddy. In the Eastern

Province sales rose by 2,403 gallons because railroad construction and good paddy crops increased demand. In the rest, 1926 was a good year for rubber, and in some an improved year for plumbago. Sales have risen because these Provinces prospered. Closure of taverns has failed to reduce consumption.

In Ceylon there is one arrack tavern per 16,600 inhabitants, one toddy tavern per 17,500 inhabitants, one foreign liquor licence per 7,600 inhabitants.

Ceylon annually consumes ·19 gallon of arrack per head of population, ·95 gallon of toddy, and ·16 gallon of foreign liquor.

Altogether, then, drink shops are few as compared with other countries and consumption per man is low.

The most effective way to make consumption still lower is to put up the price of liquor.

Local Option and Advisory Committees.

The following numbers of taverns and other drink licences were abolished in 1926 :—

	Arrack.	Toddy.	Foreign Liquor.	Total.
Total ..	24	28	1	53
By Option ..	17	19	1	37
By Committees ..	7	9	—	16

The most remarkable event of the year was the abolition of drink shops in Jaffna. So far as can be found, genuine temperance enthusiasm was the cause of that success.

The next most remarkable was the successful polls against the drink shops in Wellawatta, Bambalapitiya, Maradana, and Dematagoda. These polls will abolish 5 arrack taverns, 5 toddy taverns, and 6 foreign liquor shops, which in 1926 sold 54,449 gallons of arrack, 541,651 gallons of toddy, 14,761 gallons of foreign liquor. Previous polls against these taverns had been a complete failure. The 1926 success is a result of the alteration in the voting franchise consequent on abolition of the poll tax. By this alteration the only voters are the persons entitled to vote at Legislative and Municipal Council elections. The resultant number of voters shown in the present lists is here compared in parallel columns with the number of voters shown at the previous polls in January, 1926, and in 1923:—

Ward.	Date of Poll.	Number of Voters.	Number voted for Abolition.	Percentage for Abolition.
Maradana..	June, 1923 ..	12,883 ..	6,473 ..	50·2
	December, 1923..	16,892 ..	632 ..	3·4
	January, 1926 ..	6,400 ..	2,169 ..	33·84
	November, 1926..	3,098 ..	2,021 ..	65
Wellawatta	June, 1923 ..	7,636 ..	12 ..	·16
	January, 1926 ..	3,206 ..	978 ..	30·5
	November, 1926..	1,690 ..	968 ..	57

The total population of these wards together is 84,157 persons. The number of persons who voted for closure is 2,989, or 4 per cent. of the population. That is to say, these polls were decided, not by the people, but by a small minority of the people. The Excise Commissioner has all along urged that these rules are an unsatisfactory makeshift. Manhood suffrage is the only reasonable franchise for local option polls.

Dry Areas and Drink.

	Former Arrack Sales.	Sales of Foreign Liquor in Year before Arrack Taverns closed.	Sales of Foreign Liquor in 1924–25.	Sales of Foreign Liquor in 1925–26.
	Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.
Total ..	79,576	25,956	91,257	96,193*
Anuradhapura ..	9,713	1,051	9,692	11,489
Bandarawela ..	4,070	4,062	10,448	10,139
Dimbula ..	3,069	214	2,354	2,564
Galagedara ..	602	114	527	763
Galle† ..	Wet	4,488	6,860	13,906
Henaratgoda ..	1,725	621	1,965	2,300
Horana ..	4,704	325	1,615	3,120
Katugastota ..	1,680	133	575	633
Matale ..	7,048	4,897	4,897	9,022
Matara ..	3,264	1,080	10,620	11,855
Nawalapitiya ..	6,304	2,178	4,758	5,181
New Bazaar Ward ..	15,805	5,981	27,312	13,502
Passara ..	5,016	191	1,763	2,350
Talawakele ..	16,576	621	7,871	9,369

* This figure is arrived at as follows :—29,709 gallons malt, 3,565 gallons wines, and 62,919 gallons spirits.

† One arrack tavern remains open in Galle Municipality.

Excise Revenue.

	Foreign Liquor Customs Duties.	Arrack Revenue.	Toddy Revenue.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1913–14 ..	2,045,214*	5,784,964	1,098,024
1917–18 ..	772,136*	77,814,121	1,648,506
1923–24 ..	2,911,331	7,626,504	1,950,374
1924–25 ..	3,458,378	7,879,137	2,226,470
1925–26 ..	4,517,996	8,932,025	2,434,841

* For calendar year.

1925 was a record arrack and toddy revenue year. 1926 has beaten it by over one million rupees. The arrack revenue comes on a rough calculation to 68 cents per rupee spent by the public in 1926, as compared with an average of about 50 cents per rupee spent in the days of the renting system.

Dry Areas and Crime.

It has been strongly urged on Government that firm action should be taken to make the " dry " areas dry in fact as they are in name. The Excise Department has been blamed for failure to keep them " dry." That accusation is extraordinarily unjust. There is no area in Ceylon where possession of drink is an offence. If the country is determined to carry further by legislation its efforts to reduce the consumption of drink, the soundest policy is to raise the price of drink.

The Distilleries.

The 1926 output of arrack was 624,470 gallons. That is decidedly short of the contracts. Rain at untimely moments did heavy damage to trees, and in some months toddy supply fell seriously short. Many distillers, too, had trouble with their contractors and tappers. It is a common custom for tappers to abscond and take service under the next distiller. There seems to be no permanent remedy for this except in the organization of a combine. It would greatly cheapen and ensure output if all the distillers set up a joint stock company and made all the arrack jointly at one distillery or at two. As it was, the situation, so far as adequacy of supply is concerned, was saved by the existence of Tambarawila Distillery, where toddy supply has been ample. When that closes, the existing distilleries will not produce enough to meet the present demand.

There was in 1926 much trouble with the re-appearance of copper in the arrack of four distilleries. Some of the press were misled by interested parties and published alarming accounts of the poisonous character of the arrack being made. In fact, however, the copper content found was between $\frac{1}{4}$ and $\frac{3}{4}$ of a grain per gallon. This is a great improvement on the old arrack like Mr. Wijewardene's, which contains 3 grains per gallon but about which no one ever made a fuss.

The arrack made at Tambarawila has been free of copper. That made at Rocklands has been, except in one sample, free of copper. The re-appearance of copper is due to the wearing away of the lining of tin inside the worms. The distillers have been called on to re-line the worms before they receive their licences for 1927, and the Excise Commissioner proposes to have this repeated every year or every other year instead of having it done, as at first projected, once in three years.

Excise Crime.

The following statement shows the various offences committed in 1918, 1922, and 1926 :—

Nature of Offence.	1918.	1922.	1926.
Total ..	2,624	3,415	4,873
Illicit distillation	65	15	10
Illicit sale of arrack	236	229	150
Illicit sale of toddy	138	520	463
Other illicit arrack (transport, possession, &c.)	142	220	222
Other illicit toddy (transport, possession, &c.)	1,354	1,977	3,263
Ganja and hemp	291	268	399
Other offences	398	186	357

These figures are conclusive proof that many officers have done genuine work. In the Northern, Western, and Southern Provinces there is a vast amount more to detect, which grows as more and more taverns close. Twenty extra Inspectors and 40 Guards were recruited recently, and most of them have been stationed for detective work in these Provinces.

Sweet Toddy.

The trees licensed for sweet toddy in the last six years stand as follows : —

1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.
159,196	154,442	145,666	130,069	140,745	118,890

It is becoming more generally known than before that the Excise Department does not generally prosecute for drawing sweet toddy without a licence. Fewer people therefore apply for licences. There is no clear ground for inferring that less jaggery is made in the genuine jaggery localities. But the profits are small and imported sugar is cheap. There is no prospect of any big prosperity for this industry in the face of competition.

VIII.—Post and Telegraphs.

On December 31, 1926, 708 offices were open for the transaction of postal business. Of these, 200 (excluding the Central Telegraph Office) were offices dealing with all classes of postal business, viz., mail and parcel work, registration and insurance of postal articles, money order, postal order, savings bank work, and telegraph business ; at 17 offices all such business except telegraph work was transacted.

At 11 sub-post offices, mail, parcel, registration, money order, postal order, savings bank, and telephone-telegram work was transacted ; at 79 sub-post offices all such business except telephone-telegram work was transacted ; while at 1 sub-post office, 365 village receiving offices, and 35 railway receiving offices mail work only was conducted.

Mail Services.

A.—*Foreign.*

A regular weekly mail service between Ceylon and the United Kingdom was maintained during 1926, and 13,519 bags of correspondence and 10,110 bags of parcels arrived from London, while 3,650 bags of correspondence and 3,348 bags of parcels were despatched to London.

Fifty-two letter mails were received from London; of these, 33 were carried by vessels of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company, of which 7 were landed at Bombay and brought overland to Colombo and 26 were brought by sea to Colombo; and 19 were carried by vessels of the Orient Line.

In the homeward direction 85 mails were despatched to Europe: by vessels of the Peninsular and Oriental (52 mails), Orient (16), and Rotterdam Lloyd (17) Lines. The time occupied in transit was 16–19 days from Colombo to London and 16–18 days from London to Colombo. Average, 17½ and 17 days respectively.

Between Australia and Ceylon an almost regular weekly mail service was maintained by the use of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company and the Orient Company; and the vessels of the Australian Commonwealth Line provided a supplementary service, 3 mails being despatched for Australia by this means during the year.

Regular and frequent services to the Straits Settlements and the Far East were available by the vessels of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company, Messageries Maritimes Co., and the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, Rotterdam Lloyd, Stoonmvaart-Maatschappii Nederland, and Companis Transatlantica Lines.

The British India Steam Navigation Company's steamers carried mails from Ceylon to Mauritius 9 times during the year at irregular intervals. A fortnightly mail service from Colombo to Mauritius *viâ* Bombay, Aden, and Djibouti was started in February, 1924. And another service *viâ* Bombay by B. I. steamers was started in August, 1926, and by this means 12 and 8 mails respectively were despatched to Mauritius. The Natal Direct, Indian-African, and Ossen Shosen Kaisha Lines and British India Steam Navigation Company's steamers from Bombay carried 41 mails from Ceylon to South Africa.

Vessels of the Ossen Shosen Kaisha Line carried direct mails to the Argentine *viâ* South Africa.

With India the daily service in each direction by train with ferryboat plying between Talaimannar and Dhanushkodi

was maintained. A regular bi-weekly service was also maintained during 1926 between Colombo and Tuticorin by steamers of the British India Steam Navigation Company.

B.—*Inland Mails.*

Inland mails are carried generally by the Ceylon Government Railway, and from railway stations by private contract motor mail services, bullock coach, or by runner services.

The principal motor mail services are—

	Miles.
Polgahawela-Kegalla	8¼
Kurunegala-Madampe	39½
Panadure Railway Station-Post Office-Ratnapura ..	42½
Panadure Railway Station-Post Office-Ingiriya (2 services) ..	
Gampola-Pussellawa-Ramboda (2 services)	20
Anuradhapura-Trincomalee	65¼
Badulla-Batticaloa	102½
Anuradhapura Railway Station-Post Office	1
Opanake-Balangoda	9
Kalpitiya-Puttalam	28
Kahawatta Railway Station-Post Office-Rakwana (2 services)	12
Matara-Deniyaya	43
Halgranoya-Uda Pussellawa	6
Kodikamam-Point Pedro-Valvettiturai	16
Jaffna Railway Station-Post Office-Point Pedro ..	20½
Hambantota-Tissamaharama	21
Jaffna-Kayts	21¾
Nawalapitiya-Kotmale	8
Colombo Town Mail Service-Railway Station-Jetty, &c. ..	74·6*
	22·4†
Matale-Dambulla	27½
Nuwara Eliya Railway Station-Post Office-Welimada ..	16
Colombo Town Mail Service—parcel delivery, collection of letters, parcels, mails, &c.	235·3*
	35·2†
Batticaloa-Akkaraipattu	38
Kalutara-Neboda (2 services)	12
Matale-Rattota (2 services)	7
Batticaloa-Trincomalee	87
Ella-Namunukula	9
Matara-Hakmana	15
Kandy-Rangala	22
Kandy-Hewaheta	23¾
Passara-Madulsima	11
Kurunegala-Rambodagalla	14
Kurunegala Railway Station-Post Office	1
Akkaraipattu-Pottuvil	29½
Galle-Udugama	25
Wattegama-Madulkelle	7
Puttalam Railway Station-Post Office-Nikaweratiya ..	28½
Nanu-oya Railway Station-Nuwara Eliya Post Office ..	4½
Kurunegala-Nikaweratiya	25
Mankulam-Mullaittivu	29½
Neboda-Mahagama (2 services)	17
Ambalangoda-Elpitiya	8½
Haputale-Monaragala	48
Matara-Hambantota (2 services)	51
Hatton-Maskeliya-Bogawantalawa (2 services) ..	20¾
Kandy-Kurunegala	26½
Kadugannawa-Aranayaka	13
Talawakele Railway Station-Post Office-Agrapatana (2 services)	14½

* Week days. † Sundays.

The inland mail services worked satisfactorily throughout the year save when interrupted for short periods by floods and washaways.

Mail Statistics.

The total number of postal articles, exclusive of parcels, which passed through the post in 1926 is estimated at 89½ million, about 10 million more than in 1925. The increase was principally in inland correspondence, which comprised over 78½ per cent. of the total. Correspondence exchanged with India formed nearly 12½ per cent. of the total, with the United Kingdom about 5 per cent., and with other countries nearly 4 per cent.

Letters received from the United Kingdom showed an increase of 250,000 compared with 1925. Printed matter, samples, &c., from the United Kingdom showed an increase of about 550,000 compared with 1925.

The total number of parcels dealt with was 1,197,383, an increase of over 110,000 over the 1925 total. Of these, 71,234 were received from the United Kingdom, 271,171 from India, and 15,686 from other countries. 26,557 parcels were received under the Cash on Delivery Service from the United Kingdom, a decrease of 106 on the last year's total.

Postage Rates.

The rates for foreign postage fixed under the Madrid Convention continued in operation up to May 31, 1926. With effect from June 1, 1926, the rate on letters to the United Kingdom and British Possessions, including Egypt, was reduced to 9 cents per ounce or part of that weight. Postage on post cards was reduced from 10 cents to 6 cents each, and on printed matter from 4 cents per 2 ounces to 3 cents per 2 ounces. The rates for foreign countries remained the same, viz., 20 cents for the first ounce and 10 cents for every additional ounce.

Articles printed in relief for the special use of the blind are transmitted at a specially reduced rate of 4 cents per 2 lb.

The inland rates of postage and the rates to India remained unchanged up to end of November, 1926—initial letter rate 6 cents per 4 ounces, post card rate 3 cents, and printed matter 3 cents for 2 ounces. With effect from December 1, 1926, the inland rates of postage on letters and the rates to India were reduced from 6 cents to 5 cents for every 2 ounces or part of that weight, and printed matter from 3 cents to 2 cents for every 2 ounces.

The total value of stamps sold by the Department in 1926 was Rs. 9,554,763.

The inland telegraph rate, 40 cents for the first 10 words including address and 5 cents for each additional 2 words, remained unchanged, as did the rates on telegrams to India—for first 12 words, ordinary Re. 1, express Rs. 2, with 10 and 15 cents respectively for each additional word.

Money and Postal Orders.

The total value of money orders handled in 1926 was Rs. 49,635,376, of which inland orders amounted to Rs. 33,341,675; of the balance, the business with India formed the largest percentage, orders issued payable in India totalling nearly 12½ million rupees—1 million more than in 1925—a fair proportion of which was due to savings remitted by Indian immigrant coolies.

The business in money orders between Ceylon and the United Kingdom was small—10,671 orders of a total value of Rs. 401,881.

There was an increase in the value of local postal orders issued, Rs. 908,978, compared with Rs. 888,172 in 1925, and a large decrease in the number of British postal orders paid, which, however, only amounted to Rs. 8,667.

Considerable use was made of the telegraph money order service between Ceylon and India, remittances totalling Rs. 4,718,004 being so sent to India and Rs. 593,894 drawn by Indian remitters on Ceylon.

Comparatively little use, however, was made of the services between Ceylon and the United Kingdom (485 telegraph orders were sent to the United Kingdom and 126 received therefrom), Ceylon and the Federated Malay States (32 orders only being sent and 1,296 orders received), Ceylon and Singapore (22 orders were sent to Singapore and 265 were received therefrom), and Ceylon and Kedah (no orders sent but 10 received) owing probably to the higher telegraph costs.

The revenue from money order commission reached Rs. 546,722.

Post Office Savings Bank.

The business of the Bank transacted at 216 post offices and 90 sub-post offices continued to expand during 1926, the deposits which amounted to Rs. 7,834,253 exceeding withdrawals during the year by Rs. 1,833,768.

On December 31, 1926, the total to the credit of depositors was Rs. 11,368,099.

The rate of interest continued to be 2·4 per cent.—2 cents per month for each complete Rs. 10.

Any sums not less than 25 cents are accepted for deposits up to nett maxima of Rs. 750 per annum, and an interest bearing total of Rs. 3,000.

Deposits may be made by means of stamped slips. One withdrawal on demand of a sum not exceeding Rs. 10 is allowed in any one week.

Telegraph System.

All important towns in the Island are served by the Government telegraph system.

212 postal telegraph offices were open for public traffic on December 31, 1926, besides several railway telegraph offices. 23 new telegraph offices were opened during the year.

There are 2 telegraph circuits between Ceylon and India, on one of which the Baudot printing machine is employed in duplex working.

Ceylon is connected with the West by direct cables of the Eastern Telegraph Company to Aden and the Seychelles and to the East with Singapore.

The Government Wireless Station at Colombo is open to all classes of traffic. The station normally transmits on 600 metres "interrupted continuous wave" and has a daylight range of approximately 600 miles. Each even hour "Greenwich mean time" transmissions are made on 2,300 metres continuous wave, whilst incoming traffic at these periods is received at 2,100 metres. The duration of this period is approximately 15 minutes, depending entirely on the amount of traffic available.

International time-signals are broadcast at 6.0 hours G. M. T. on 2,300 metres continuous wave, and again at 19.0 hours G. M. T. on 600 metres I. C. W.

A telephone broadcasting service on 800 metres has also been opened, and regular daily broadcasts are made at noon, every evening, and on Sundays.

The total number of telegrams handled in 1926 was 1,999,972, some 34,316 more than in 1925. The average time taken in transmission of an inland telegram was 20 minutes.

The total number of messages despatched to India, viz., 235,560, showed a decrease of 26,312 over the previous year, but the number received from India, viz., 259,900 showed an increase of 97,735.

127,582 private cable messages were despatched to and 127,149 received from other countries.

The Colombo Wireless Station dealt with 12,136 messages containing 273,070 words during the year.

The revenue from telegrams was, roughly, Rs. 1,004,824, and the value of free telegraphic services rendered to other departments was estimated at Rs. 59,098.

The Telephone System.

Speaking generally, the larger towns are served by Government exchanges (54 in number) and rural areas by private licensed local exchanges linked together by Government junction and trunk lines.

The principal Government exchange is at Colombo (with a sub-exchange at Havelock Town), which is served by underground cable as far as possible. There were 2,745 subscribers to this on December 31, 1926. There is no charge on calls between subscribers to the Central exchange in the Fort and those connected to the Havelock Town sub-exchange, but a surtax is levied to cover the cost of junction service.

The next largest Government exchanges are at Kandy (194 subscribers), Nuwara Eliya (142), Galle (105), Jaffna (64), Kurunegala (55), Negombo (48), Kalutara (54), Panadure (53), Hatton (44), Ratnapura (44), and Gampola (42).

No charge for installation is made for connection to Government exchanges, and a flat rate of subscription is charged for an unlimited service within the prescribed hours.

The minimum subscriptions applicable to premises within 2 miles of the exchange are Rs. 180 per annum for business and Rs. 120 for residential connections in the larger towns.

At the Colombo Fort and Havelock Town exchanges the service is continuous throughout the year, and it is estimated that a little over 17 million calls were dealt with in Ceylon in 1926—over 1½ million more than in 1925.

The average speed of answer during the day in Colombo was 5·1 seconds, and 94·5 per cent. of calls were answered within 10 seconds.

There were 146 Government call offices in use during the year, and the number of telephone stations reached 7,496. The estimated number of trunk line calls was 329,472, the same as last year, and junction line calls amounted to 315,744, an increase over the 1925 figures. The trunk and junction line fees are fixed on a cent per mile basis. Receipts from

telephones totalled Rs. 834,657 in 1926, while the value of telephone services rendered free to other Government Departments was estimated at Rs. 124,025.

The principal trunk telephone lines are—

	Miles.
(1) Colombo-Kandy-Gampola-Hatton-Nuwara Eliya ..	132
(2) Gampola-Pussellawa-Nuwara Eliya	34
(3) Colombo-Kalutara-Galle-Matara	99
(4) Colombo-Avissawella-Ratnapura	64
(5) Colombo-Polgahawela-Kurunegala	59
(6) Colombo-Ragama-Negombo	23
(7) Kandy-Wattegama-Matale	21
(8) Nuwara Eliya-Haputale-Diyatalawa-Bandarawela ..	36
(9) Colombo-Negombo-Chilaw	51
(10) Kandy-Kurunegala-Anuradhapura-Trincomalee ..	163

The Government telephone system at the end of 1926 comprised 13,274 miles of overhead and 25,251 miles of underground wire.

There are 31 licensed exchanges, and the largest private systems are—

(*a*) The Norwood-Maskeliya-Bogawantalawa systems, with exchanges at those places having 40, 49, and 31 subscribers respectively ;

(*b*) The Talawakele-Tillicoultry and Agrapatana systems, with exchanges at those places having 37, 28, and 27 subscribers respectively ; and

(*c*) The Galaha-Hewaheta systems, with 67 and 5 subscribers respectively.

The Neboda private system serves 34 subscribers.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue of the Department in 1926 is estimated at, roughly, Rs. 8,652,966. The principal increases were under the head of Postage (some Rs. 1,400,000) and Money Order Commission (some Rs. 77,000).

The value of free services rendered to other Government Departments not included in these totals was estimated at Rs. 1,367,000, but no reliable estimate can be framed of the value of free services rendered by them to the Postal Department.

The total expenditure from the votes of the Postal Department was Rs. 5,987,897. A further sum of Rs. 249,325 was charged to the Loan Account for works of telephone development.

IX.—Education.

General.

SCHOOLS in Ceylon may be broadly divided into three classes: English, Anglo-vernacular, and vernacular. The vernacular schools are attended by about 85 per cent. of the school-going population. The English and Anglo-vernacular schools provide elementary education leading up to the English School-Leaving Certificate Examination. Secondary English schools provide an education leading up to the Cambridge Senior School Certificate Examination and the London University Matriculation Examination. There are also classes for commercial subjects in some of the larger schools. There is an increasing demand for English, and an attempt has been made to meet this demand by a scheme of Government Central English and Anglo-vernacular schools for rural districts, where children may receive an English education. Such schools have been opened at Gampaha, Piliyandala, Veyangoda, Kadawata, Udugampola, Bomiriya, Beruwala, Wadduwa, Homagama, and Alutgamwidiya in the Western Province; at Induruwa, Hikkaduwa, Ahungalla, Godauda, and Mirissa in the Southern Province; and at Talawakele in the Central Province. The inclusion of Sinhalese and Tamil in the London Matriculation and Intermediate Arts Examinations and the Cambridge Examinations has given a stimulus to the study of the vernacular languages. Several secondary schools are now teaching Sinhalese and Tamil.

Vernacular Education.

In 1926 there were 1,101 Government vernacular schools, with an attendance of 113,137 boys and 54,778 girls. There were also 1,823 assisted schools, with an attendance of 130,101 boys and 88,302 girls. Of these, 294 were estate schools, with an attendance of 10,369 boys and 2,028 girls. A school for the deaf and blind started in 1912 receives grant at the rate of Rs. 7·50 per mensem per child on the average attendance during the year.

The total sum expended by Government on the vernacular education in 1925–26 was Rs. 3,644,272·51, of which Rs. 1,393,094·86 was spent on Government schools and Rs. 2,251,177·65 on aided schools.

The Education Ordinance was proclaimed with effect from January 1, 1924, and Education District Committees have been formed in the following areas :—(1) Colombo Municipality,

(2) Kandy Municipality, (3) Galle Municipality, (4) Kalutara Urban District, (5) Negombo Urban District, (6) Panadure Urban District, (7) Matale Urban District, (8) Jaffna Urban District, (9) Matara Urban District, (10) Chilaw Urban District, (11) Ratnapura Urban District, (12) Nuwara Eliya Revenue District, including Board of Improvement, (13) Mannar Revenue District, (14) Trincomalee Revenue District.

The following Revenue Districts, which had not already been brought under the operation of Ordinance No. 1 of 1920 at the beginning of the year 1924, were proclaimed Education Districts under section 17 (*d*) of the said Ordinance with effect from October 16, 1925, and new Education District Committees have now been formed in each of the districts in place of the old District School Committees :—

(1) The Revenue District of Colombo, including the Moratuwa Local Board but excluding the Municipal area of Colombo and the Urban District Council area of Negombo.

(2) The Revenue District of Kalutara, including the areas of the Kalutara and Panadure Urban District Councils.

(3) The Revenue District of Kegalla, including the Local Board area.

(4) The Revenue District of Matara, excluding the Urban District Council area.

(5) The Revenue District of Ratnapura, excluding the Urban District Council area.

(6) The Revenue District of Kandy, including Gampola, Nawalapitiya, and Hatton-Dikoya Local Board areas but excluding the Kandy Municipal area.

(7) The Revenue District of Galle, excluding the Municipal area.

(8) The Revenue District of Hambantota.

(9) The Revenue District of Matale, excluding the Urban District Council area.

(10) The Revenue District of Kurunegala, including the Local Board area.

(11) The Revenue District of Anuradhapura, including the Local Board area.

(12) The Revenue District of Jaffna, excluding the Urban District Council area.

(13) The Revenue District of Mullaittivu.

(14) The Revenue District of Batticaloa, including the Local Board area.

(15) The Revenue District of Puttalam, including the Local Board area.

(16) The Revenue District of Chilaw, excluding the Urban District Council area.

(17) The Revenue District of Badulla, including Badulla and Bandarawela Local Board areas.

English Education.

In 1926 there were 339 English and Anglo-vernacular schools attended by 71,367 pupils, of whom 55,217 were boys and 16,150 girls. There is one Government secondary school in Colombo, with an average attendance of 527. The cost to Government of this school for the year was Rs. 116,981·64, and fees recovered amounted to Rs. 47,203·25.

There were 44 assisted secondary schools, the total average attendance at which was 17,029. The cost to Government was Rs. 680,088·72.

In most of the larger schools candidates are prepared for the Junior and Senior School Certificate Examinations of the Cambridge University and the London Matriculation Examination. In 1925 the number of candidates who entered for the Cambridge Junior and Senior School Certificate Examinations and the results obtained were—

	Candidates.	Honours.	Other Passes.
Junior School Certificate Examination ..	1,147	56	418
Senior School Certificate Examination ..	1,599	80	312

The results of the London University Examinations in 1926 showed that 560 candidates from Ceylon entered for the Matriculation Examination, 79 of whom passed. Six candidates passed the First Examination for Medical Degrees and 5 the Second Examination, Part I. 146 candidates presented themselves for the whole of the Intermediate Examination in Arts, 35 of whom passed and 19 were "referred" in one subject. Fifteen "referred" candidates presented themselves for the examination in one subject and all passed. Of the 67 candidates who took up the whole of the Intermediate Examination in Science, 17 passed and 8 were "referred" in one subject. Of the 14 "referred" candidates who presented themselves for examination in one subject 13 passed. Three candidates presented themselves for the whole examination in Inter-Science Economics, all of whom failed. Out of the 2 candidates who presented for re-examination in their "referred" subjects 1 passed. Three entered

for the whole examination in Inter-Science Agriculture, of whom 2 failed and 1 was "referred. Six candidates presented themselves for the whole of the Intermediate Examination in Laws, 1 of whom passed and 3 were "referred." Three candidates presented themselves for Inter-Science Engineering and 1 passed. Two entered for Inter-Commerce, and 1 was successful in Part II. and thereby completing the Examination. Thirty-three candidates presented themselves for the B.A. Pass Examination, 12 of whom passed. Thirty-two entered for the B.Sc. General, and 17 passed. Four candidates presented themselves for the LL.B. Examination, of whom 2 passed. Two candidates presented themselves for Honours in Classics, and 1 was awarded Second Class Honours and the other Third Class Honours. One candidate presented himself for Honours in English, but he did not reach the Honours standard. One candidate presented himself for Honours in History, Branch III., but he failed. Two candidates presented themselves for Honours in History, Branch II., and 1 was awarded Third Class Honours while the other failed. One entered for B.Sc. Special Examination, and he obtained Second Class Honours. Three candidates presented themselves for Honours in Mathematics, Part I., and 2 were awarded Honours—1 a First Class and the other a Second Class. One entered for the B.D. Pass, and he was successful.

Grants paid to the assisted English schools are based on the salaries paid to the staff recognized for grant according to the approved scales. A fixed contribution from the Manager towards the salary of each teacher is required. This fixed contribution is a definite percentage of the teacher's mean salary over a period of years. Special grants are paid on account of building and equipment.

The encouragement offered by Government takes the form of scholarships. Five Government scholarships were offered; one on the results of the Final Examination in Arts of the London University and one on the results of the Final Examination in Science. A third scholarship is awarded on the results of the Final Examination in Science on condition that the holder studies Agriculture or Forestry. Two more scholarships are awarded on the results of the Final Examination in Science on condition that the selected candidates pursue a course of studies in Engineering. The first three scholarships are tenable for two years, and the two Engineering scholarships for three years. The scholarships are of the value of £300 per annum, with free passage and outfit allowance of £50. The holders may join any British University or any recognized Engineering Institution in the United Kingdom.

A scholarship of Rs. 300 a year has been offered by the Hon. Sir H. M. Fernando, Member of the Executive Council, to the Ceylon student who obtains the highest marks in Botany and either Chemistry or Agricultural Science at the Cambridge School Certificate Examination and also at the same time gains exemption from the London Matriculation Examination.

Five scholarships of the value of Rs. 200 per annum tenable at the Government Training College or any assisted English school are offered every year for children attending Government and assisted Anglo-vernacular and vernacular schools.

The following is the scale of fees charged in the various classes of Government English and Anglo-vernacular schools in the Island :—

Government English Schools.

	Per Mensem. Rs. c.
Preparatory	2 0
First Year Class	2 50
Second Year Class	3 0
Standard V.	3 50
Standard VI.	4 0
Standard VII.	4 50
English School-Leaving Certificate Class ..	5 0

Anglo-Vernacular Schools.

Stage I.	0 50
Stage II.	0 75
Stage III.	1 0
Stage IV.	1 25
Stage V.	1 50
Stage VI.	2 0
Stage VII.	3 0
Stage VIII.	4 0

The 1923 Code for Assisted English Schools laid down minimum scales of fees for elementary schools, but the new method of assessment of grant has made this requirement unnecessary.

Training of Teachers.

The Government Training College consists of four departments: English (men and women), English Kindergarten (women), Sinhalese (men), and Sinhalese (women). The object is to supply trained teachers for Government and assisted English schools and Government vernacular schools. At the beginning of 1927 the number of students in training was on the English side 39 men and 43 women, on the Sinhalese side 41 men and 40 women.

The Government Training School at Gampaha provides a two-year course for 20 men students who will become teachers in Government and assisted Anglo-vernacular schools.

A training school for Tamil teachers was opened at Kopay, Jaffna, in October, 1923, and there are 60 students in training at present.

Besides these Government institutions, there are 12 assisted training schools for the training of teachers for vernacular schools. The students go through a two-year course of training, and pass an examination at the end of each year's course. On the results of the second year's examination a Second Class Teachers' Certificate is issued to the successful students. 195 students successfully completed their course in 1925 and obtained Second Class Teachers' Certificates.

Third Class Teachers' Certificates are issued to all Monitors and Pupil Teachers who have successfully gone through a three years' course of training in a Government or assisted vernacular or Anglo-vernacular school and have passed the prescribed examinations. These certificates are issued provisionally to all the Monitors and Pupil Teachers on their passing the Third Year Examination and are confirmed when they have completed three years' satisfactory service as a teacher. Holders of Third Class Teachers' Certificates are eligible for admission to assisted training schools.

Industrial Schools.

The full-time system introduced in 1923 effected considerable improvement in Government industrial schools. There was no difficulty in forming classes from boys who had passed the fifth standard and who were over 14 years of age. The work done by them was naturally more satisfactory than the work previously done by younger boys who were still attending the vernacular schools. Moreover, the fact that a boy joins the full-time class is evidence that he intends to try to learn some industry which he wishes to continue in after life, so that the training now being given is clearly of practical value.

In 1926 the aided industrial schools, which are 41 in number, received grants amounting to Rs. 22,925. The trades taught were carpentry, dressmaking, tailoring, lacemaking, embroidery, cookery, weaving, shoemaking, and smithy work. The most important of these schools is the Maggona Certified Industrial School, which is utilized by Government as a reformatory for youthful offenders.

This institution is managed by the Roman Catholic Mission. It has an estate of some 300 acres and excellent buildings, towards the cost of which Government has contributed. 242 youthful offenders are at present receiving instruction in this school, and an allowance is paid by Government for the maintenance of each offender. The amount so paid in the

year 1925–26 was Rs. 36,468·96. Another important industrial school is that at Wellawatta, Colombo, under the management of the Wesleyan Mission. The amount of grant paid to this institution in 1926 amounted to Rs. 4,800.

Two Inspectors—one for weaving schools and one for carpentry and general industries—are in charge of the industrial work. Thirty-seven schools are engaged in cloth-weaving, of which 13 are Government schools. Printing and bookbinding are taught in 12 schools, shoemaking in 1, and smithy work in 4 schools, cane and rattan work in 4 schools. Three schools are engaged in lacquer work, and 1 school in pottery work. Basket-weaving and mat-weaving are taught in several schools, and hat-making in the Kalutara District.

Agricultural Instruction in Schools.

Elementary agricultural instruction is given by a scheme of school gardens conducted in connection with Government schools. The gardens are under the supervision of the Department of Agriculture.

The work of these gardens is carried on under the instruction of the Divisional Agricultural Officers, assisted by the Inspectors of School Gardens and by Senior Agricultural Instructors, who are also Inspectors of School Gardens. The total number of registered school gardens at the end of 1926 was 739 ; 62 school gardens are awaiting registration.

Seeds and implements are supplied by the Department of Agriculture and prizes are awarded for competition. The scheme has been supplemented by the establishment of home gardens in large numbers, seeds being provided for children who undertake to plant up vegetables in their home compounds.

Twelve teachers from Government vernacular schools attended a special course of training at the Farm School, Peradeniya.

Technical.

Government Technical Schools, Colombo.—The reorganization scheme which was put into operation in May, 1923, has now been running three years and 19 students have completed their course of study. Although the number of students completing courses is small, the innovation of "courses of study" has been beneficial to the students as a whole, and there is no doubt that greater numbers per annum will qualify for the full certificate as time goes on.

The change made in mechanical engineering day course from three afternoons per week to two full days per week has been found very satisfactory, as it enables the apprentices to get four unbroken days in the workshop per week.

The concession of free tuition during the third term to students satisfactorily attending the first and second terms has undoubtedly helped to maintain a satisfactory average attendance.

The Jaffna Technical School was opened on October 6, 1921. There were 6 students at the end of 1925. Manual training, wood work, metal work, and drawing are taught in this school. All the students passed the final examination which was held in August. No new admissions were made during 1926, and the reorganization of the Technical School, Jaffna, is under consideration.

University College.

Numbers.—The number of students on the roll in July, 1926, the beginning of the academic year 1926–27 was 313, including 15 women students. The figures for 1921–25 were as follows : —

1921	166	1924	262
1922	217	1925	256
1923	262		

Courses.—The College offers instruction in Latin, Greek, Sanskrit, Pali, English, Sinhalese, Tamil, French, German, Logic, Philosophy, History, Geography, Economics, Pure Mathematics, Applied Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Botany, and Zoology.

Honours courses are provided for in Classics, English, History, Mathematics, Chemistry, Botany, and Zoology.

The College course is normally one of three years. At the end of the first year students take the (External) Intermediate Arts, Science, and Economics Examinations of the University of London conducted in Ceylon. At the end of the third year they take the Final Examinations for the B.A. (Pass), B.A. (Honours), B.Sc. (General), B.Sc. (Special), and B.Sc. (Economics) Degrees of the same University.

Students who intend to join the medical profession are given one year's course of instruction in Physics, Chemistry, and General Biology, at the end of which they take either the First M.B. Examination of the University of London or the Pre-Registration Examination of the Ceylon Medical College, or both.

Graduates.—On the results of the examinations held in June, 1926, the following numbers qualified for Final Degrees of the University of London :—

B.A. (Pass): Seven (one being placed in the First Division).
B.A. (Honours in Classics): One (Second Class).
B.Sc. (General): Eighteen (three obtained First Class Honours and seven obtained Second Class Honours).

B.Sc. (Honours in Machematics): Two (one obtained First Class and the other Second Class).

B.Sc. (Honours in Chemistry): One (Second Class).

The total number of graduates from the University College from the time of its inception in 1921 is 99.

Additions to the Staff.—An additional Lecturer in Mathematics and a permanent Senior Demonstrator in Chemistry were appointed during the year. The sanctioned post of Lecturer in History remains vacant.

Prospectus.—The fifth issue of the College Prospectus appeared in July, 1926.

The Library.—The library has continued to expand during the year. Over a thousand new volumes are being added every year. During the year a valuable donation of sets of the Proceedings of the Institute of Civil and Mechanical Engineers has been received from Mr. P. V. Appleby of London.

Hostels.—Most of the students not living with their parents or relations are residing in four hostels affiliated to the College and subject to the College rules and regulations. These hostels are administered by extra-university bodies and are subsidized by the Government.

Student Activities.—The usual activities of the College Union Society have been maintained. Athletics, cricket, rugger, soccer, hockey, tennis, and boxing find their proper place in the field of sports. The Union has a Debating Society. Besides the Union Society, to which all undergraduate members of the College belong, there are the following societies:—English Study Circle, Dramatic and Musical Society, Sinhalese Society, Tamil Society, Biological Society, Physical and Chemical Society.

The University College Council.—This Council, which consists of 20 members nominated by His Excellency the Governor, continue to advise the Principal of the College in matters relating to the administration of the College and the preparations for its conversion into a University.

The University Project.—Progress in the steps which were being taken towards the inauguration of the University has been checked owing to a renewed controversy as to the most suitable location for a University in Ceylon.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL COMMISSION.

The total amount voted for this year, with supplementary provision, amounted to Rs. 129,189, showing an increase of Rs. 4,157, a very small sum considering the abundance

of revenue. Of that increase Rs. 3,557 went to personal emoluments to meet increments and the salaries of two new assistants. The expenditure of the Department has been Rs. 117,675·69. Revenue collected from the sale of photographic prints and other miscellaneous items is Rs. 1,076·10.

Offices and Quarters.

Rs. 9,000 was sanctioned for a brick house for an overseer and a set of cooly lines. The house is practically complete. A temporary building had to be put up to supplement the existing store rooms which were quite inadequate to house all the material. In Polonnaruva additional accommodation had to be provided for the increase of labour that came in the last quarter.

Publications.

The third part of the first volume of the Ceylon Journal of Science, Section G, was ready in June, 1925, but its appearance has been delayed by the exhaustion of funds provided for that publication. The Editor-in-Chief has applied for supplementary provision. Volume II. of the Memoirs was issued in March, 1926. Its first part contains an account of the Thuparama, Lankatilaka, and Northern Temple, the three chief temples at Polonnaruva.

These were originally excavated by Mr. H. C. P. Bell, but no systematic account of them existed, and it was thought desirable to place such an account at the disposal of the public. The second part describes the results of some small excavations at Veherabäñdigala. These deal with an earlier type of the monuments described by Mr. Ayrton in the first volume under Western Monasteries. The pocket plan of Anuradhapura has been sold out and another lot has been printed. The issuing of a similar plan for Polonnaruva has been sanctioned.

Library.

The Archaeological Commissioner availed himself of his leave to make numerous purchases for the library. The difficulty of shelf space still continues, and very soon it will be a question of room space, as room cannot be found for more than one book case. The Department has become a member of the following societies:—Royal Asiatic Society, London; Egypt Exploration Society, London; Pali Text Society, London; Société Asiatique, Paris; Kern Institute, Leiden.

Collections.

The collections have been considerably increased by the excavations at Mantai, which have yielded some examples of rare coins, interesting specimens of pottery, and various sorts of beads.

Reservations.

Definite boundaries have been proposed for the Anuradhapura reservations, but the final settlement still awaits the conclusion of the town survey. The reservation at the Mihintalé Kanda has been definitely settled. Applications for reservation have been made for the following sites:—Galge near Dondra in the Southern Province, Tantrimalai, Veherabäñdigala, Manakanda, and Ritigala in the North-Central Province. Attention was drawn by the Government Agent, North-Western Province, and by Members of the Legislative Council to Agalakäle *alias* Panduvasnuvara which affords an example of a mediaeval fortress, and therefore is a place which ought to be reserved. These new reservations are part of a policy of reserving the areas that appear to be of greatest archaeological value, and abandoning all the rest to restorers if any present themselves. The register of ruins in the Island is making steady progress.

Conservation.

The conservation work at Häta-da-ge has been completed, and adds considerably to the interest of the quadrangle. The mass of bricks that was threatening to break away from the third storey of the Satmahalprasada has been dealt with. This was done by cutting out part of the mouldings underneath, removing the loose brickwork from inside, raising the mass of brick one foot and filling the hollow underneath with solid brickwork, tied to the old brickwork by an iron cramp. Pointing has been completed on the east porch of the quadrangle and has begun on the socalled Ata-da-ge and on the building facing it. The northern gate of the citadel has also been pointed, and when labour could be spared parts of the adjoining citadel wall have been uncovered, thus making the whole picture clearer.

At Anuradhapura there was not much work done, as the main gang was working at Polonnaruva. The walls surrounding the Thuparama have been pointed, and the work done in previous years at Dhatumandiraya, Selacetiya, and Elephant Stables have been gone over.

Research.

The first excavations on a large scale since 1914 were begun at Mantai. As this was the first stratified site the coolies had worked on, it was considered advisable to begin with a small gang of 50 men, which could be more easily controlled. Therefore little more than scratching the surface could be done this year. However, it was possible to date that stratum within fairly narrow limits, thanks to some coins found, and we have a good idea now of the pottery and beads between the XIIth and XIVth centuries, whereas we knew nothing before. There was very little else on the site. No time was left in the dry season for systematic exploration circuits, but a number of interesting ruins were inspected. For instance, Agalakäle near Hettipola which is now being surveyed and Ambäkka and the cave at Kirindi-oya which should throw light on the maritime pre-historic remains. Some of the modern temples visited, such as Nikaväratiya and Dambadeniya, were found to throw an interesting light on ancient buildings. At Dambadeniya, Professor Geiger found the Thupagahara or Dagäba house over which he has long puzzled.

The plans of the Temple of the Tooth are being completed, and thanks are due to the priests of Malwatta and Asgiriya for the assistance they have given in studying the ritual.

COLOMBO MUSEUM.

The Colombo Museum is a Government institution founded in 1877 by His Excellency Sir William Gregory. It is a two-storied building of imposing appearance standing in spacious grounds about 3 miles from the Fort or business centre. The Museum contains a valuable collection of archaeological, ethnological, zoological, and mineralogical exhibits restricted to Ceylon and the Maldive Islands. A valuable reference library is attached to the Museum. Readers are permitted to consult books in the library, but books cannot be removed. Over 200,000 people visit the Museum annually.

The Ceylon Journal of Science.—The Ceylon Journal of Science, which has been established by the Ceylon Government for the publication of scientific and other research dealing with Ceylon, consists of seven sections:—(A) Annals of Botany; (B) Spolia Zeylanica; (C) Fisheries; (D) Medical; (E) Mathematics; (F) Chemistry; and (G) Archaeology.

The following parts were issued during 1926:—

Section A.—Botany: (Annals of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Peradeniya), Vol. X., Part 1, 144 pages and 2 plates.

Section B.—Zoology and Geology: (Spolia Zeylanica), Vol. XIII., Part 3, 77 pages, 12 plates, and 1 map;

Section C.—Fisheries: (Bulletin of the Ceylon Fisheries), Vol. II., 165 pages and 4 plates;

Section D.—Medical Science: Vol. I., Part 4, 122 pages, 8 plates, and 3 text figures;

Section E.—Mathematics, Physics, and Meteorology: Vol. I., Part 1, 58 pages and 25 plates;

(in all 566 pages, 51 plates, 1 map, and 3 text figures).

In addition to the above, the following parts were in the hands of the printers:—

Section A.—Vol. X., Parts 2 and 3.
Section B.—Vol. XIV., Part 1.
Section D.—Vol. I., Part 5; Vol. II., Part 1.
Section G.—Vol. I., Part 3.

Atlas of Ceylon Birds.—An atlas of coloured drawings of the endemic species of Ceylon birds is now under preparation. It is proposed to issue this atlas in three sections: one section yearly, each to contain 16 plates. The first section is now in the press and will be isued by July 1, 1927.

FISHERIES.

Food Fisheries.—The local fishing industry, excluding an almost negligible quantity of imported frozen fish, is the only source of supply of fresh fish for the Island. This industry has undergone very little development, and the methods of fishing remain primitive. The boats employed are of two types: (*a*) catamaran, (*b*) outrigger canoe, from which various nets and lines are used. The catamaran—Tamil cattumaram, literally logs tied together—is the most primitive type of fishing craft used in Ceylon. It is virtually a raft made up of three or four roughly shaped logs about 25 feet long lashed together with coir yarn. It is fitted with a short mast and carries a large triangular cotton sail. These crafts are commonly used on the north coast of Ceylon and on the south coast of India, where they replace the outrigger canoe. Elsewhere the catamaran is used for inshore fishing with net. The outrigger canoe is a dugout canoe made from the trunk of the jak tree. It carries an outrigger or balance, generally on the starboard side, attached to the boat by two ribs. A large square sail is used, and in a favourable wind a speed of 6–7 knots can be developed.

The inshore waters of Ceylon abound in both surface and bottom feeding food fishes. The former are caught by line and net and the latter by line. The fishing boats, however, generally make poor catches on account of their small size and inability to carry long lengths of line or net. The average catch per boat working off Colombo during 1926 was only 35 lb. valued at Rs. 16·50 for line fishing and 80 lb. valued at Rs. 13 for net fishing; and although the quantity of fish caught all round the coast is considerable, it is totally inadequate to meet the demands of a steadily increasing population. As a consequence the value of the imports of dried and salted fish goods into the Island, chiefly from southern India, has increased considerably during the last few years. From 1910–1920 inclusive the value of these imports remained fairly constant and averaged Rs. 4,227,074 (£241,805). In 1921, however, there was a local shortage of rice and the value jumped to Rs. 7,058,148. In 1925 it reached Rs. 8,048,297 (£536,553). Corresponding with the increase in the value of fish imports, there has been (1) a steady decline in the fisher community and (2) a steady increase in the population. Thus the local fishing industry is slowly on the decline, and unless something is done to improve matters Ceylon will lose the harvest of her coastal waters. Either a rapid increase in the fisher community must be brought about, or improved methods of fishing must be introduced. The former is clearly impossible. The latter is the obvious solution.

The fisheries department under the direction of the Government Marine Biologist, who is also Director of the Colombo Museum, has devoted considerable attention to improving fishing methods, and with the approval of Government has made a complete trawling survey of the coastal waters. The results of this survey, which have been published, have revealed the presence of two large and profitable trawling banks: the one off Point Pedro named the Pedro Bank, and the other off Cape Comorin, named the Wadge Bank. Numerous trawling experiments on these two areas have shown them to offer excellent prospects for commercial exploitation by steam trawler. Experiments have also been made with the Fisheries vessel "Nautilus," which is fitted with a direct expansion ammonia refrigerating plant, to demonstrate the marketable value of fishes trawled on these two banks. Several tons of trawled fish have been frozen on board and have been delivered from the Wadge Bank direct by sea and from the Pedro Bank by rail to Colombo and have commanded an immediate sale at a wholesale rate of cents 30 (5½*d.*) per lb. During 1926 a six weeks' trawling survey of the Pedro Bank was undertaken

and large catches of excellent edible fishes were made. These catches included hauls of 1,972 lb., 1,826 lb., 1,342 lb., 1,328 lb., &c., for two-hour trawls. As a direct result of these investigations a Trawling Company registered in Colombo has been formed. This Company will start trawling operations on the Wadge and Pedro banks early in 1927. In the first instance this Company will work with one trawler only. The effect of its activities on the local market will, therefore, be almost negligible. It would require 40 trawlers working at full pressure during the year to catch the equivalent imports of dried and salted fish only. The large imports of Maldive fish, which is a cured fish prepared from a species of "tunny" numerous in Ceylon waters during the north-east monsoon, would be entirely unaffected. The introduction of vessels of the fishing smack type, which are capable of working a three-mile length of drift net and which would replace the small outrigger canoe now used, would do much to enable the local fishing industry to meet the existing demand for fish goods. The introduction of such fishing boats should be a very profitable undertaking.

Pearl Fisheries.—No pearl fishery was held during 1926, but a bed of some 30,000,000 mature oysters was located in March, 1926, and it was hoped that these oysters would provide a small fishery in 1927. In November, 1926, however, an inspection of this bed showed that oysters were disappearing rapidly, and as it was very uncertain that a fishery in 1927 would be worth while, all preparations for a fishery were suspended. As the fishery, in any event, would have been a small one, a proposal was before Government to run it as a purely private undertaking, Government to wash the oysters and to sell the pearls obtained, instead of selling the oysters, as at other fisheries. This experiment would have been an interesting one, as it would have demonstrated the value of a fishery based on the pearls obtained and not on the oysters sold.

Window-pane Oyster Fishery.—The window-pane oyster, which is fished for its pearls, commonly occurs in a shallow water almost landlocked bay at Trincomalee known as Lake Tamblegam. When oysters are present in this lake it is the practice of Government to lease the fishery for a period of three years. The present lessee, who took over the lease in 1925 at Rs. 7,000 for the first year and Rs. 9,000 for the second and third years, was permitted to fish a portion of the lake in 1926. Fishing commenced on March 3 with 26 boats and 82 divers, and the first day's catch was 14,600 oysters. The second day 69 boats with 285 divers took part, and the day's catch realized 51,250 oysters. Thereafter the number of boats

and divers increased, and on April 1 a maximum of 110 boats and 440 divers was reached. The fishery ended on April 13.

Diving is carried on from small dugout canoes by local Moormen from the villages of Kinniyai and Tamblegam. These men, who work in shallow water of not more than 2 fathoms, are not skilled divers such as Arab divers of the Persian Gulf and Tamil divers of South India, who fish the pearl oyster (*Margaritifera vulgaris*) in the Gulf of Mannar from a depth of 5–10 fathoms. Tamblegam divers remain under water a short time only, they have no stone sinker, and carry no net. When working in shallow water of 5 feet and under, they feel about in the mud with their feet and pick up shells with their toes.

In deeper water they make short dives to the bottom bringing up two or three shells each dive. These they hold in one hand, making successive dives until they have accumulated about one dozen oysters, when they return to their boat, deposit their oysters, and after a rest continue diving. At the end of the day's fishing, usually midday, all the boats return to the shore with their catch, which they deposit in the lessee's private enclosure, retaining one-third of their catch in lieu of pay, as in the Gulf of Mannar fisheries.

From returns made by the lessee it would appear that about two million oysters were fished during this fishery. These were stacked on the shore and opened by women, who picked out the pearls. It is not the custom to rot these oysters and search for pearls in the washings, as is done at Marichchukaddi with the pearl oyster.

As the fishery was conducted on private account by the lessee it is difficult to assess its value. The lessee has paid rental of Rs. 18,000, and it is stated that his returns from the fishery were between one and two lakhs of rupees, but the sum was more probably nearer Rs. 50,000.

The lease of the fishery continues for another year, and unless abnormal floods occur in the Trincomalee District during January and February another fishery should be possible in 1928. The lessee has therefore the very pleasing anticipation of making another handsome profit next year.

The pearls obtained from the window-pane oyster, although much more numerous than those occurring in the Gulf of Mannar pearl oyster (*Margaritifera vulgaris*), are of an irregular shape and of an inferior lustre, consequently they have no European market. They find a ready market, however, both in India and in Ceylon, where they are used in the manufacture of cheap native jewellery. In some parts of India they are ground

to powder and are used medicinally. It is stated that a large number of the pearls obtained from the Tamblegam fishery were exported to Japan, some of which doubtless found their way to the Japanese pearl culture workers to be used as nuclei in pearl culture.

Chank Fisheries.—Chank fisheries in Ceylon waters are confined to the shallow water area north of Adam's Bridge known as the Palk Strait. They occur in great abundance off the Jaffna islands and north of Adam's Bridge.

The Ceylon chank fisheries were a Government monopoly until 1856, when the monopoly was abolished and fishing boats were then licensed paying one-tenth of the value of chanks fished to Government. At the present time, the only revenue accruing to Government is collected from an export duty of from Rs. 2 to Rs. 6 per 1,000 chanks exported from the Island. Fishing takes place each year during May–October, and is carried on by about 400 divers, who mostly hail from Pamban, Rameswaram, and Kilakarai. The average number of chanks fished during the last ten years is 2,408,022 per year, and the revenue Rs. 11,626·70. Chanks also occur on the pearl banks, particularly in the shallow inshore waters, but fishing in this area is prohibited on account of the pearl oyster fishery.

Chanks have a considerable commercial value in India, where they are in great demand for the purpose of the manufacture of bangles, &c. Some specimens of these bangles are most beautifully carved.

Publications of the Fisheries Department.—The following publications were issued from the Fisheries Department during 1926 :—

(1) Marine Biological Survey of the Littoral Waters of Ceylon.

(2) Ceylon Government Fisheries Vessel " Nautilus."

(3) Ceylon Administration Report for 1925—Marine Biology.

(4) Sessional Paper XIV., 1926. Prospects of Trawling in Ceylon.

(5) Sessional Paper XV., 1926. Marine Biologist's Report on Pearl Fishery, 1925.

Publications (1) and (2) are contained in Vol. II.—Fisheries, Section (C), Ceylon Journal of Science ; (3), (4), and (5) were issued separately by order of Government.

X.—Medical.

Medical Department.

Asylums, Hospitals, &c.

THERE is a Lunatic Asylum at Angoda, 6 miles from Colombo; 2 Leper Asylums, 1 at Hendala in the Western Province and the other at Mantivu in the Eastern Province ; a Tuberculosis Sanatorium at Kandana in the Western Province ; and 95 other Government hospitals, including a hospital for chronic cases of pulmonary tuberculosis equipped with modern hospital furniture and medical and surgical appliances. The number of beds in the institutions ranges from 8 to 720, while the number accommodated in the Lunatic Asylum averaged 1,402. In addition to the hospitals there are 543 central and branch dispensaries. These include a central institute in Colombo for tuberculosis cases fitted up with an up-to-date X'ray apparatus and 2 dispensaries which have hospital wards attached. The owners of estates have provided 80 estate hospitals which receive a rebate on export duty, and 645 estate dispensaries receiving drugs free from Government to the value of 50 cents per labourer per annum.

There are in Colombo a Bacteriological Institute, a Pasteur Institute, a General Hospital of 720 beds, an Opthalmic Hospital, a Lying-in Home, and a hospital for women and children. The hospital for infectious diseases was recently removed from Colombo to Angoda. There are special dispensaries at Kandy, Galle, Jaffna, and Batticaloa for the treatment of eye diseases.

The Lunatic Asylum contained 1,657 inmates on December 31, 1926. The new asylum buildings at Angoda were completed and occupied on February 1, 1926. The number treated in the Asylum during 1926 was 1,993 (1,324 males and 669 females). The number discharged were 186 males and 73 females. In the House of Observation 646 persons were dealt with, of whom 549 were discharged.

The Leper Asylum at Hendala contained 549 patients at the end of the year. The total treated during 1926 numbered 712. The asylum at Mantivu contained 135 lepers at the end of the year, the total treated during 1926 was 170. A Home for Incurables of 89 beds is administered by a Committee of Government officials and representatives of the public. The campaign against anchylostomiasis was continued during the year, and treatment was given in village areas, schools, estates, Mandapam Camp, hospitals and dispensaries, the Bogambra Jail, and in the central office.

The Ceylon Medical College.

Provision is being made for a new Physiological Laboratory, and new offices to the Ceylon Medical College are under

construction. The full course of training at the College is five years for the medical students and two years for the apothecary students. A diploma in medicine, surgery, and midwifery (which can be registered in the United Kingdom) is granted to successful medical students. The apothecary students are employed by Government after they qualify in the final examination.

The following were the attendances and passes during the last two years:—

Sessions ending	Attendances. Medical.	Attendances. Apothecary.	Passes. Medical.	Passes. Apothecary.
March, 1925	92	21	38	12
July, 1925	123	20	48	14
December, 1925	27	—	12	—
March, 1926	78	11	32	10
July, 1926	102	31	36	19
December, 1926	27	5	5	4

Plague and Quarantine.

Plague.—Sixteen cases of plague, with 15 deaths, occurred during the year. Of these, 3 cases and 3 deaths were reported from outstations as follows:—Kandana in Western Province, 1 case and 1 death; Puttalam in North-Western Province, 2 cases and 2 deaths.

Plague for all practical purposes is confined to Colombo.

Plague in Colombo.

Human Plague.—Thirteen cases, 12 of which proved fatal, occurred during the year, this being much the lowest number of cases or deaths recorded since plague first appeared in 1914. The case mortality was thus 92·3 per cent. The figures in 1925, which then held the record, were 64 cases with 58 deaths, representing a case mortality of 90·6 per cent. Eleven of the cases in 1926 were bubonic and 2 were septicaemic. One of the bubonic cases had an eruption which was mistaken for and notified as chickenpox. This case was the only one that recovered.

The incidence of the cases by date of onset was as follows:—

Month.	Human Cases.	Rat Cases.
January	1	1
February	5	2
March	1	—
April	1	—
May	1	—
June	—	—
July	—	—
August	—	—
September	—	1
October	1	—
November	1	3
December	2	1

Rat Plague.—22,701 rodents, including rats, bandicoots, and mice, were examined at the laboratory, with the result that only 7 rats and 1 mouse were found to be infected.

In view of the absence of either rat or human plague during June, Dr. Hirst, the City Microbiologist, conducted a special intensive search for plague amongst rats during July and August, with, however, entirely negative results. Although, therefore, the failure to find either rat or human plague, although specially searched for, during the thirteen weeks, from June 2 to September 3, may not be regarded as absolute proof that plague was completely eradicated from Colombo during the off season of 1926, it is believed that this is in fact the case, and that the disease was reintroduced, probably by fleas amongst imported grain, about the end of August or the beginning of September. This conclusion appears to be strengthened by the fact that of the total of 5 cases of rat plague recorded during the last ten months of the year, all of which occurred during the last four months, 1 was found in a grain barge in the harbour, 1 in the Customs warehouse, and the other 3 in localities adjacent to the harbour.

Preventive Measures.—The usual preventive measures were adopted, special attention being paid to destruction of rats and fleas in the *X. Cheopis* infected areas defined by Dr. Hirst as the result of the elaborate flea survey conducted by him.

Monthly Incidence of Plague Cases.

Months.	1914.	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	Average, 1916–1925.	1926.
January ..	4	19	17	25	13	—	25	65	13	28	46	5	24	1
February ..	67	6	18	40	18	1	20	53	10	32	22	6	22	4
March ..	58	3	18	61	10	3	3	27	6	11	7	8	15	2
April ..	28	3	14	34	11	—	3	7	2	17	24	6	12	1
May ..	29	3	11	11	2	—	4	2	7	9	9	1	6	—
June ..	49	1	36	3	9	—	3	1	8	10	6	10	9	1
July ..	47	5	43	6	2	—	12	3	10	21	11	8	12	—
August ..	40	20	35	1	1	2	7	2	7	23	5	8	9	—
September ..	18	21	25	3	—	5	18	2	7	26	3	5	9	—
October ..	23	24	24	7	—	18	28	9	14	12	3	1	12	—
November ..	24	10	25	10	2	34	34	4	19	13	8	5	15	2
December ..	26	24	25	6	2	24	78	9	33	28	4	1	21	2
Total for year ..	413	139	291	207	70	87	235	184	136	230	148	64	165	13
Monthly mean ..	34·4	11·6	24·3	17·3	5·8	7·3	19·6	15·3	11·3	19·2	12·3	5·3	13·8	1·1

Annual Incidence of Plague Cases.

	1914.	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	Average, 1916–1925.	1926.
Total cases ..	413	139	291	207	70	87	235	184	136	230	148	64	165	13
Total deaths ..	381	128	273	196	69	82	223	170	131	209	140	58	155	12
Septicaemic cases	274*	81*	159	124	41	50	93	70	57	66	47	18	73	2
Septicaemic deaths	246	80	159	124	41	50	93	70	57	66	47	18	73	2
Bubonic cases ..	166	58	132	83	29	37	142	114	79	164	94	45	92	11
Bubonic deaths ..	135	48	114	72	28	32	130	100	74	143	86	40	82	10
Pneumonic cases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	—	—
Pneumonic deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	—	—
Cutaneous cases ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Cutaneous deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total case mortality, per cent. ..	92·2	92·8	93·8	94·7	98·6	94·3	94·9	92·4	96·3	90·9	94·5	90·6	93·9	92·3
Septicaemic case mortality, per cent. ..	99·6	98·7	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Bubonic case mortality, per cent. ..	81·3	82·7	86·4	86·7	96·6	86·5	91·5	87·7	93·8	87·2	91·5	88·9	89·1	90·9
Pneumonic case mortality, per cent. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	100	—	100	—

* The cases for 1914 and 1915 each include 1 septicaemic "recovery," but the diagnosis in each case was not confirmed bacteriologically, and may have been erroneous.

Plague, Cholera, and Smallpox, 1926.

	Cases.	Deaths.
Plague.		
Western Province :—		
Colombo town	13 ..	12*
Kandana	1 ..	1
North-Western Province :—		
Puttalam	2 ..	2
Cholera.		
Western Province :—		
Avissawella	1 ..	1
Province of Uva :—		
Badulla	5 ..	1
Northern Province :—		
Pesalai	1 ..	1
Karaiyoor	14 ..	13
Kayts	2 ..	2
Jaffna jail	17 ..	16
Jaffna town	3 ..	3
Rathaladi	1 ..	1
Chulipuram	6 ..	4
Tholpuram	4 ..	4
Vedataltivu	1 ..	1
Achchuvely	1 ..	—
Smallpox.		
Western Province :—		
Colombo town	10 ..	1
Colombo port	9 ..	—
Southern Province :—		
Galle town	44 ..	3
Galle port	2 ..	—

* Including 4 deaths at the Infectious Diseases Hospital.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Population.—The estimated population of Ceylon on December 31, 1926, was 5,124,992 persons, as against 5,009,501 at the end of 1925 and 4,498,605 at the Census of March 18, 1921. The increase of 115,491 persons over the population of the preceding year was due to an excess of 82,006 births over deaths and an excess of 33,485 arrivals over departures.

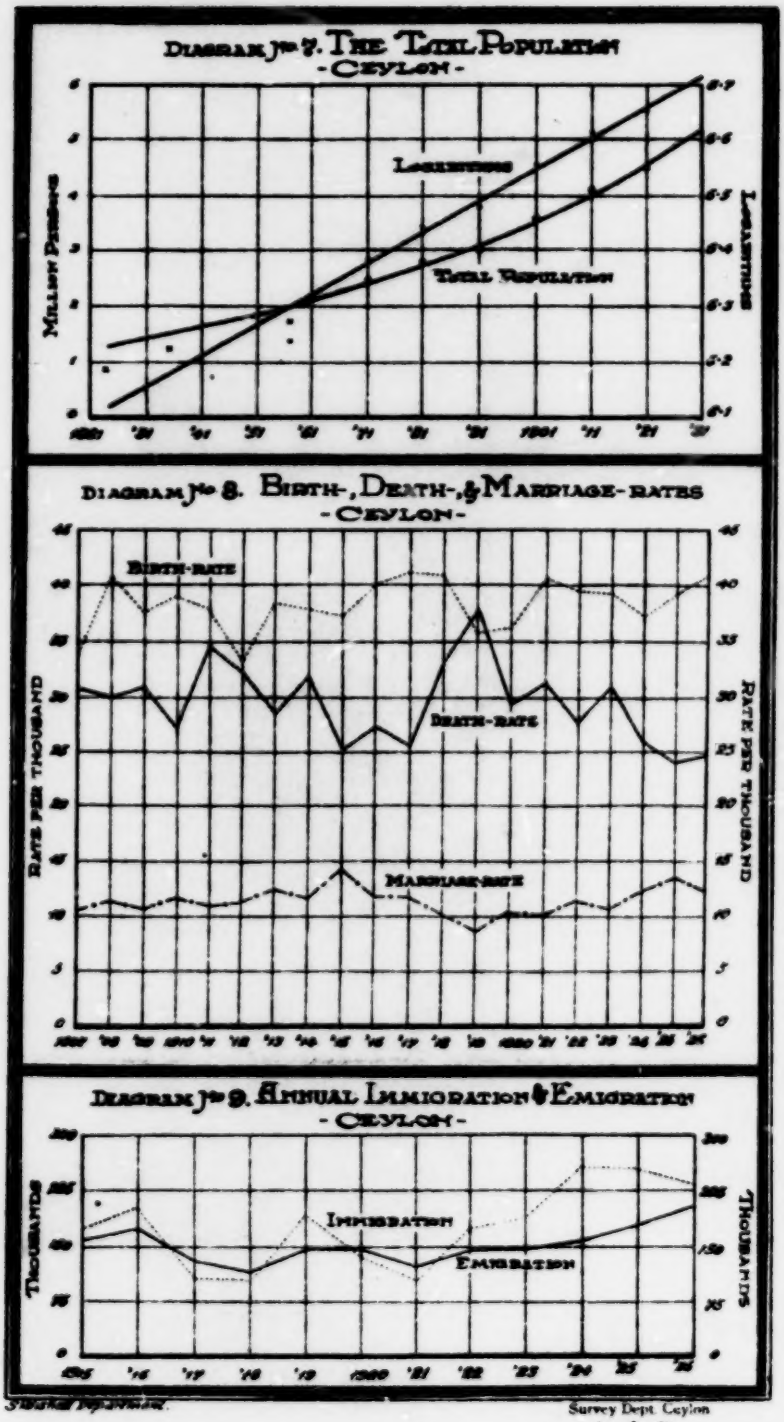
Migration.—During the year under review 234,538 persons arrived in the Island and 201,053 persons left it ; of the arrivals 208,239 persons were from India and 26,299 from other countries ; of the departures 176,824 persons were bound for India and 24,229 for other countries. The excess of immigrants over emigrants from India reached the unprecedentedly high figure of 99,995 in 1924, declined to 72,731 in 1925, and at the end of 1926 sank further to 31,415. This year's inward balance of migration of estate coolies (40,481 persons) is, however, the fifth highest for the decade ending 1926.

Race Constitution of the Population.—The population of each of the principal races of the Island as estimated to the end of the year and the proportion of each race per 1,000 of the total population are as follows :—

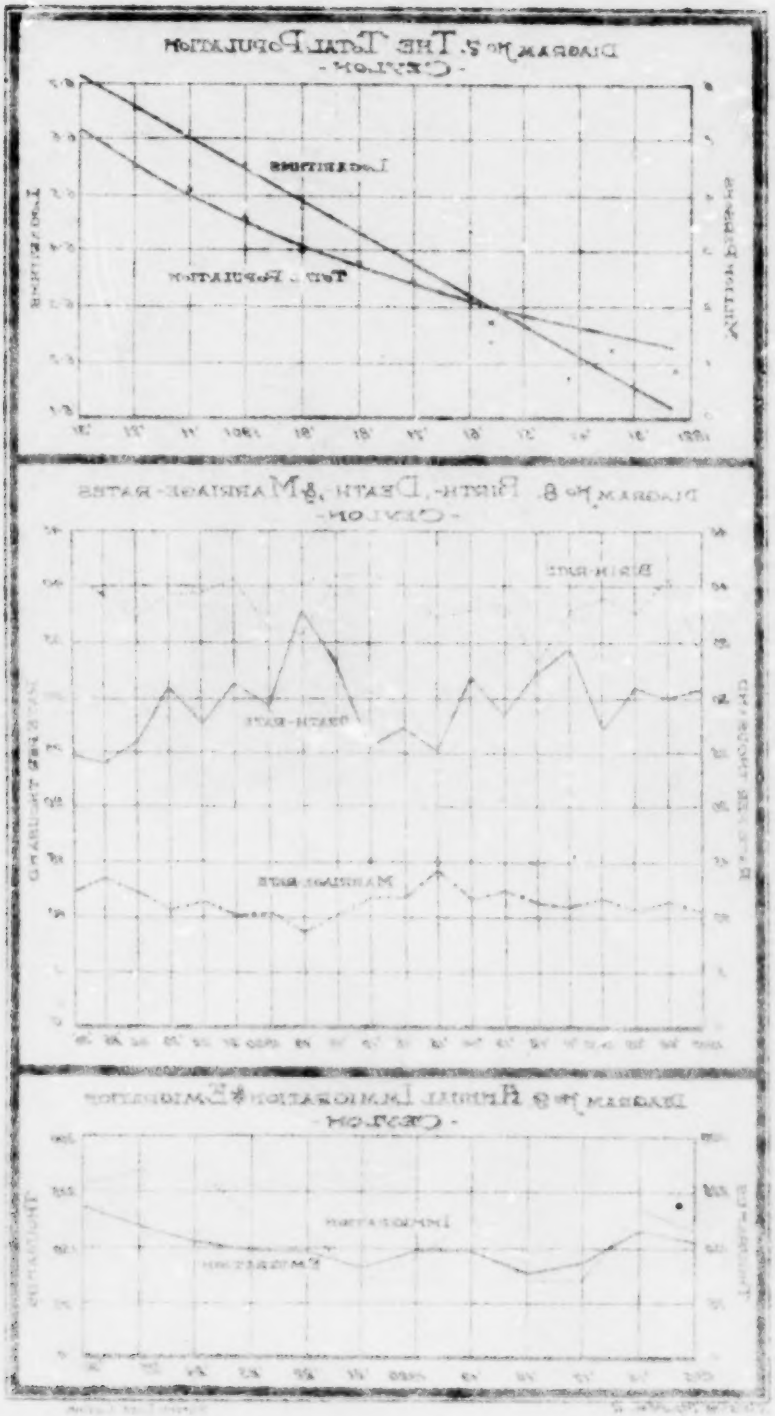
Race.	Estimated Population on December 31, 1926.	Proportion of each Race per 1,000 of the Total Population.
Europeans	10,834	2·1
Burghers and Eurasians	32,029	6·3
Sinhalese	3,298,657	643·6
Tamils	1,164,431	227·2
Moors	297,048	57·9
Malays	14,723	2·9
Veddahs	4,501	·9
Others	21,918	4·3
Excess of immigrants over emigrants (exclusive of Europeans) since March 18, 1921	280,851	54·8

Marriages.—The number of marriages (exclusive of Muslim) registered in 1926 was 28,756, of which 22,918 were under the General Marriage Ordinance and 5,838 under the Kandyan. The total number registered was 2,575 marriages, less than in 1925, but is the third highest on record since 1915. The rate of persons married per 1,000 of the estimated population was 12·2, as against 13·6 in 1925 and 11·2 the average for the past decade.

The number of Muslim marriages registered amounted to 996, as against 863 in the preceding year.



Survey Dept. Ceylon



Of the total number of marriages registered in the Island, the marriages in which one or both parties were residents of the proclaimed towns amounted to 4,605, of which 3,850 were marriages under the General Marriage Ordinance, 59 under the Kandyan, and 696 under the Muslim.

Births.—The total number of births registered during the year was 206,895, of which 105,212 were males and 101,683 females. The number is the highest on record, and is 13,634 births more than the number registered in 1925. The resulting rate is 41·0 per 1,000 of the estimated population, as against 39·2 in the year preceding and 38·7 the average for the ten years 1916–1925. The Central Province experienced the highest birth rate (51·2), and the Western Province the lowest (35·9). All the Provinces, except the Northern, North-Western, and North-Central Provinces, have improved on their rates in 1925. The rise in the Central Province is striking, and the fall in the three Provinces is not very significant.

The proportion of male to female children born during the year was 1,035 to 1,000, as against 1,044 in 1925.

The births registered on estates scheduled under the Medical Wants Ordinance numbered 30,274 (15,205 males and 15,069 females), or 6,843 more than in the preceding year.

In the 33 principal towns the number registered was 21,831, which corresponded to a birth rate of 34·6 per 1,000 of the urban population, as against 32·8 in the previous year and 30·0 the average for the decade 1916–1925.

In the city of Colombo 8,115 births were registered during the year, corresponding to a rate of 31·3, against 29·9 in 1925 and 25·9 the average for the years 1916–1925.

Deaths.—The deaths of 124,889 persons (62,901 males and 61,988 females) were registered in the Island in 1926, or 7,346 deaths more than in 1925. The number is the third lowest registered since 1918 and is 8,531 less than the average for the decennium 1916–1925. The death rate calculated per 1,000 of the estimated population was 24·7, as against 23·9 in 1925 and 29·0 the average for the decade ending 1925. The death rate recorded this year is the same as that for 1917 and is the second lowest experienced in the Island since 1897. The rates in the Central, Southern, Northern, Eastern, North-Western, and Uva Provinces are higher than their respective rates in 1925, but it should be remembered that 1925 was an exceptionally healthy year. Compared with the average for the decade 1916–1925, all the Provinces show decidedly improved rates. The death rate was at a maximum in the North-Central Province (41·5) and at a minimum in the Western (19·8).

The number of deaths registered on estates scheduled under the Medical Wants Ordinance amounted to 20,734 (10,165 males and 10,569 females), which is 1,091 deaths more than the number registered in 1925 and 163 more than the past decennial average.

In the 33 principal towns the deaths of 20,775 persons were registered, 15,544 of whom were town residents. The number corresponded to a standardized rate of 24·7 per mille, as against 27·4 in the preceding year and 29·8 the average for the last ten years.

In the city of Colombo 7,466 deaths were registered, of which 5,941 were of residents, corresponding to a standardized death rate 23·0 per 1,000 of its population, as against 28·8 in 1925 and 29·0 the average for the years 1916–1925.

Infant Mortality.—The mortality of infants under one year of age amounted to 36,011, and represented 29 per cent. of the total mortality at all ages. The infant mortality rate calculated on the number of births registered during the year was 174, as against 172 the crude and 176 the corrected rate in the year preceding. The improvement of the rate this year over the average for the last ten years (190) is very gratifying, and is the result of the increased attention now paid to child welfare work in this country.

On the estates the number of children who died before completing the first year was 6,471, or 1,300 more than in 1925, and amounted to 31 per cent. of the total estate mortality, as against 26 per cent. in the preceding year. The infant death-rate per 1,000 estate births registered during the year was 214, which compares favourably with the rate in the previous year (221) and the average for the last decade (225).

In the 33 principal towns the deaths of 4,545 infants under one year were registered, corresponding to a rate of 208 per 1,000 births registered during the year and was 8 per 1,000 lower than the rate in 1925. The rate recorded this year is the lowest on record. In the city of Colombo, where the deaths of 1,657 infants were registered, the rate fell from 221 in 1925 to 204 in 1926 and the average rate being 247. This year's rate is the lowest on record and is very encouraging. The steady decline of the rate within recent years reflects the efficiency with which the sanitary service of the metropolis is organized, especially in regard to child welfare.

Causes of Death.—The highest number of deaths (17,798) was attributed to the ill-defined cause pyrexia (fever), which is returned as a cause of death by rural registrars, who are laymen, owing to defective death certification by unqualified native physicians who practise largely in the rural areas as

"vedaralas." A good percentage of the deaths returned under "pyrexia" are cases of malaria or malarial cachexia. Infantile convulsions, diarrhoea, and pneumonia were also returned as causes of a heavy mortality as in the previous years. The rate of mortality per million of the estimated population from certain selected causes registered in the Island appears below :—

Causes of Death.	1925.	1926.
Pyrexia	3,188 ..	3,526
Infantile convulsions	2,642 ..	2,971
Diarrhoea	1,652 ..	1,703
Pneumonia	1,496 ..	1,511
Dysentery	756 ..	696
Phthisis	658 ..	655
Premature birth and congenital defects	419 ..	446
Anchylostomiasis	430 ..	420
Malaria and malarial cachexia ..	267 ..	322
Influenza	311 ..	315
Puerperal septicaemia . ..	278 ..	304
Bronchitis	196 ..	212
Enteric fever	146 ..	108
Cancer	82 ..	101

Influenza.—The deaths of 1,590 persons (810 males and 780 females) were registered from influenza during the year, as against 1,532 in the previous year. The mortality this year is the second lowest since the outbreak in 1918. The highest number of deaths from this disease was registered in the third quarter of the year.

Pneumonia.—The deaths of 7,627 persons (4,302 males and 3,325 females) were due to pneumonia and broncho-pneumonia this year, as against 7,371 in 1925 and 8,283 the average for the decade 1916–1925. The mortality from these two causes were fairly evenly distributed in the first three quarters of the year and declined considerably in the last.

Plague.—The deaths of 16 persons only (all males) were registered from plague this year, as against 64 in the previous year and 182 the average for the decade ending 1925. The city of Colombo is the stronghold of the disease, and of the decedents this year 13 were temporary or permanent residents of the city. Of the rest, 2 were from Puttalam and 1 from Galle. The deaths occurred in all the months of the year except in May, July, and September, with a maximum of 4 in April, and a minimum of 1 in January, March, June, August, October, and November.

Smallpox.—The deaths of 4 persons (2 males and 2 females) were registered from smallpox, as against 3 in the year preceding and 19 the average for the years 1916–1925. Three of the deaths were registered in Galle District, and the other in Colombo District.

Cholera.—During the year under study 54 deaths (42 males and 12 females) were registered from cholera, as against 189 in 1925 and 33 the average for the decade 1916–1925. The high mortality this year was due to the outbreak in Jaffna District, which commencing in March had by May exacted no less than 38 lives. There was also an outbreak in Tamankaduwa, Anuradhapura District, in February, resulting in 10 deaths. The prompt segregation of contacts and other preventive measures effectively carried out by the Government Sanitary Department minimized the mortality from the outbreaks, which threatened to assume epidemic proportions.

Suicide.—There were 282 cases of suicide (184 males and 98 females) registered this year, or 47 more than in 1925. In most cases hanging or strangulation, drowning, and poison were resorted to as the means of self-destruction.

Homicide.—The deaths of 281 persons (203 males and 78 females) were attributed to homicide, as against 209 in the preceding year. The knife was the instrument of attack employed in many of these cases.

Executions.—This year 44 men, or 12 more than in 1925, underwent the extreme penalty of the law.

Accidents and other External Violence.—Out of the 1,970 deaths (1,397 males and 573 females) tabulated under this heading, 482 were due to accidental drowning, 367 (363 males and 4 females) to falls from trees. Burns caused 177 deaths, 25 of which were due to the upsetting of the bottle lamp, as against 43 in 1925. Snake-bite resulted in 237 deaths, or 25 less than in the previous year.

Causes of Death on Estates.—Out of the 20,734 estate deaths registered no less than 4,108 or 20 per cent. were attributed to debility, that of infants under 3 months alone numbering 3,225. Dysentery caused 2,132 deaths, or 338 less than last year; and pneumonia caused 2,310 deaths, or 144 less than in 1925. The deaths of 1,474 persons were assigned to anchylostomiasis, against 1,501 in 1925, and 1,440 to diarrhoea. The mortality from infantile convulsions rose from 1,636 last year to 1,739 this year. Under premature birth and congenital defects were returned 908 deaths, under bronchitis 361, under phthisis 388, under influenza 257, under malaria and malarial cachexia 266. There were 34 cases of suicide and 14 of homicide, as against 32 and 8 respectively of the preceding year.

Causes of Death in Towns.—In the 33 towns 20,775 deaths were registered from all causes, pneumonia, as usual, exacting the highest toll of 2,829 lives, or 25 less lives than in 1925. Convulsions followed next with 1,599 deaths, against 1,467

in 1925, debility of infants under 1 year with 1,353 against 1,387 in 1925, and phthisis with 1,259 against 1,309 last year. Diarrhoea was assigned as the cause of 894 deaths, and malaria and malarial cachexia of 892. There were 859 deaths registered from enteritis, 745 from dysentery, 710 from Bright's disease and nephritis, 693 from anchylostomiasis. Bronchitis accounted for 431 deaths, puerperal septicaemia for 418. Enteric caused 408 deaths and influenza 406. The deaths of 35 persons were registered from cholera and 11 persons from plague. Accidents resulted in 454 deaths, or 12 less than last year. There were 58 deaths from suicide and 91 from homicide.

XI.—Law and Justice.

Legislation, 1926.

TWENTY-TWO Ordinances were passed during the year, some of them being amending Ordinances, which call for no special comment.

The more important Ordinances are—

The Telegram Copyright Ordinance, No. 1 of 1926.—This Ordinance extends the protection given to the right of property in press messages received from overseas by " electric telegraph " to messages received by wireless telegraphy or telephony.

The Prevention of Crimes Ordinance, No. 2 of 1926.—This Ordinance repeals the Habitual Criminals Ordinance, No. 32 of 1914, and re-enacts it with modifications. The principal amendments are—

(*a*) The term " habitual criminal " is eliminated from the Ordinance.

(*b*) The photographing of criminals and the taking of suitable measures to insure their identification are provided for.

(*c*) In non-summary cases the accused's finger prints may not be taken for the purpose of ascertaining previous convictions until after committal.

(*d*) In non-summary cases any evidence taken in the Police Court regarding previous convictions will be kept separate from the record and will not be placed before the trial judge until after conviction.

(*e*) In summary cases the accused's finger prints may not be taken for the purpose of ascertaining previous convictions until the prosecution has been closed and the Police Magistrate considers that there is a *primâ facie* case against the accused.

(*f*) In summary cases no proof of an accused's previous conviction is permitted until after conviction, unless the previous convictions are at least two in number and the sentences amount in the aggregate to at least one year's rigorous imprisonment.

(*g*) The requisite aggregate sentence essential to authorize an additional term of rigorous imprisonment is raised from six months' to one year's rigorous imprisonment.

(*h*) A sentence of police supervision may in future be no longer than two years where the trial is in the Police Court and four years where it is in any other court, and additional rigorous imprisonment specially authorized by the Ordinance may not hereafter exceed two years in duration.

(*i*) The minimum aggregate sentence before a sentence of preventive detention can be imposed is one year's rigorous imprisonment.

The Widows' and Orphans' Pension Fund Ordinance, No. 3 of 1926.—This Ordinance exempts from estate duty the pensions given to widows and orphans.

The Ceylon Telegraph Ordinance, No. 4 of 1926.—This Ordinance gives power to the Governor in Executive Council to make regulations as to the use of wireless telegraphy on foreign ships and aircraft in the ports and territorial waters of Ceylon.

The Heavy Mineral Sand Ordinance, No. 6 of 1926.—This Ordinance confers power on the Governor to grant licences for the removal of ilmenite sand from the foreshore. Ilmenite is a valuable mineral which is believed to exist in large quantities on the shores of Ceylon. Its chief use is for the manufacture of titanium figments.

The foreshore being *res communis* under the Roman-Dutch Law, licences to remove sand therefrom cannot be granted without legislation.

The expression "heavy mineral sand" is used in the Ordinance instead of "ilmenite sand" as other minerals, such as monazite, zircon, and magnetite, which have a commercial value, are found mixed with ilmenite.

The Ceylon Post Office Ordinance, No. 14 of 1926.—This Ordinance amends the Ceylon Post Office Ordinance, 1908, in two respects—

(*a*) Under the present law the postage due on articles must be paid by affixing postage stamps of the right value thereto.

Sections 2, 3, and 4 of this Ordinance permit the prepayment of postage in money and provide for the suitable marking of articles on which postage is so paid.

(*b*) By rules made under the Post Office Ordinance the importation into Ceylon by foreign letter post of articles liable to Customs duty is prohibited. It is intended to amend these rules so as to admit the importation of dutiable articles by letter post. Section 5 of the Ordinance legalizes the Customs examination of such letters.

The Carriage of Goods by Sea Ordinance, No. 18 of 1926.—This Ordinance enacts in Ceylon the provisions of the Carriage of Goods by Sea Act, 1914, of the Imperial Parliament (14 & 15 Geo. V. Ch. 22).

The Ceylon Penal Code Ordinance, No. 19 of 1926. This Ordinance amends the Ceylon Penal Code so as to enable a jury to return a verdict of culpable homicide not amounting to murder in cases of infanticide committed by the mother whilst the balance of her mind is disturbed by reason of her not having fully recovered from the effect of the birth.

THE SUPREME COURT.

The work of the Supreme Court falls into two main divisions. The first of these is the decision of appeals, and the second is the trial of serious crimes under its original jurisdiction on circuit. The trial of these cases on circuit constitutes the first charge upon the time of the court. The surplus, when these are disposed of, represents the time available for appeals.

Appeal Jurisdiction.

During the year 1,244 minor appeals (*i.e.*, District Court Criminal Appeals, Police Court Appeals, and Court of Requests Appeals) were received and 1,197 were disposed of. 695 major appeals (*i.e.*, appeals from District Courts) were received and 609 were disposed of. The total number of appeals decided was thus 1,806. But in addition to these appeals, the court and the Judges have to deal with a great number of incidental applications and petitions. The figures with regard to these are as follows :—

Applications for leave to appeal in Court of Requests cases disposed of during the year	78
Applications for sole testamentary jurisdiction ..	165
Miscellaneous applications	305
Habeas corpus petitions	487
Other petitions	372
	1,407

The disposal of the civil work of the court is shown in the following table :—

Disposal of Work for the Year ending December 31, 1926.

Number of major appeals disposed of during the year 1926—

(1) Finals—		
Money	.. 137	390
Land	.. 253	
(2) Interlocutories—		
Ordinary	.. 141	219
Special	.. 78	
		609

With regard to the interval at which appeals are disposed of the facts are as follows:—Criminal appeals are generally disposed of within about a month of their receipt at the Registry. Court of Requests appeals are generally disposed of within about six weeks. Ordinary interlocutory appeals are generally disposed of within a month, special interlocutories within two months. District Court finals, however, which constitute the main work of the court, still require in ordinary cases from six to seven months to be brought to trial, although in certain exceptional cases the interval is much shorter.

Number of minor appeals disposed of during the year 1926—

(1) District Court criminals	109
(2) Police Courts	831
(3) Court of Requests	257
	1,197

An important part of the appeal work of the court consists of the decision of those cases which are referred to courts of three or more Judges, generally, though not quite accurately, described as Full Court cases. The number of these cases referred during the year was 6, and the number of days occupied in their consideration was 13.

Note.—Including 1 reference under section 355 of the Criminal Procedure Code, 3 courts of three Judges, 1 court of four Judges, 1 court of five Judges.

Trials on Circuit.

The total number of cases tried at Criminal Sessions throughout the Colony during the year 1926 was 407, and the days

consumed in disposing of them were 548. The comparative figures for the last seven years are as follows: —

Year.	Cases disposed of.	Days consumed.
1920	338	417
1921	402	445
1922	296	357
1923	325	411
1924	385	442
1925	373	483
1926	407	548

These cases were distributed among the circuits in the following proportions: —

Western Circuit	194
Midland Circuit	120
Southern Circuit	77
Northern Circuit	16
Eastern Circuit	—
	407

The cases committed to the Supreme Court consist usually of crime of the following categories: —

(1) Murder.
(2) Attempted murder.
(3) Grave cases of grievous hurt.
(4) Gang robbery.
(5) Offences against women and children.
(6) Occasional cases of forgery, and various forms of fraud.

Members of the criminal classes very seldom come before the Supreme Court, all habitual criminals being dealt with by the District Courts.

DISTRICT COURTS, POLICE COURTS, AND COURTS OF REQUESTS.

Criminal.

There are 36 Police Courts in the Island and 3 Municipal Courts. 84,967 cases were instituted in the Police Courts during the year 1926, and 80,153 persons were brought up before the Magistrates on summonses or warrants. Of these, 46,257 persons were convicted, 31,728 persons acquitted or discharged, and 2,168 persons committed to superior courts.

There are 21 District Courts in the Island having criminal jurisdiction. During the year under review 1,229 cases were committed before such courts, and 1,751 persons were charged. Of the persons committed for trial, 495 were acquitted, 1,204 convicted, and 6 persons dealt with otherwise. On December 31, 1926, there were still 46 persons awaiting trial.

Civil.

In the 21 District Courts of the Island there were pending on January 1, 1926, 12,718 suits. 12,288 suits were instituted or restored during the year, making a total of 25,006 suits. Of these, 4,580 were disposed of on evidence, 5,913 were otherwise disposed of, *i.e.*, on admissions, &c., making a total of 10,493, and on December 31, 1926, there were 14,513 suits awaiting disposal.

In the 41 Courts of Requests in the Island there were pending on January 1, 1926, 8,814 suits. 25,608 suits were instituted during the year, making a total of 34,422 suits. Of these, 2,764 suits were disposed of on evidence, 22,060 were otherwise disposed of, *i.e.*, by default, &c., making a total of 24,824, and on December 31, 1926, there were 9,598 suits pending.

POLICE.

Strength of the Force, &c.

Strength.—The strength of the Force on December 31 provided for in the Estimates was—

Inspector-General	1
Deputy Inspectors-General	2
Superintendents, Assistant Superintendents, and Probationers	35
Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors	174
Sergeants-Major	2
Sergeants	352
Constables	2,497
European Police Force.	
Inspector	1
Sub-Inspectors	4
Sergeants	28
Total of all ranks ..	3,096

The total strength of the Force was short by 195 on December 31. This shortage occurs almost entirely in the rank of constables, in which there was a shortage of 178. The failure to keep the Force up to strength in constables is due to three causes:—

(*a*) The higher standard of work and conduct required.

(*b*) The conditions of service for the man who remains a constable are not sufficiently attractive.

(*c*) The higher standard of education demanded of applicants to join the Force.

While punishment for misconduct has increased in severity according to the recommendations of the Select Committee of the Legislative Council appointed in 1924, the conditions of service remained unaltered until October 1, from which date an allowance to English-speaking constables was granted.

The Select Committee realized that, in demanding a higher standard of work and conduct, it would also be necessary to improve the conditions of service. That there is direct connections between the shortage in strength of constables and the severity of punishment inflicted is shown by the following figures: —

Year.	Dismissed or Discharged the Force.	Shortage of Strength of Constables on December 31.
1923 ..	74	16
1924 ..	82	22
1925 ..	161	106
1926 ..	127	178

It is the constable of ten years' service and over who is the backbone of the Force. He has learnt his work by experience and has survived the many temptations that beset the career of a constable. It is obvious that he is of more use to Government, and more to be relied on, than a man of shorter service. But whereas a constable obtains annual increments during his first eight and a half years' service, he, under present conditions, can only draw four more increments during the course of his service, and the maximum salary to which he can rise is Rs. 45, to obtain which he must have at least twenty-five years' service.

There is no doubt that this fact is realized by recruits and intending recruits, who also fully understand that, as constables, their duties are more arduous and their hours of duty longer than in any other walk of life. A constable has no fixed hours for his work. In addition to a minimum of eight hours' ordinary duty daily, he is liable to be called out at any time of the day or night and in all weather. Unless conditions are improved for the man who has served Government for ten years or more, such a man's prospects in the future are not attractive, and to remedy this salaries should be made incremental throughout the course of a man's services, so that a man may have some improvement in his pay to look forward to every year. That the prospects are not attractive is borne out by the increasing number of resignations and retirements. In 1925, 98 men resigned and 87 retired, while in 1926 131 men resigned and 128 retired. The reason is that, with the Colony in its present prosperous condition, employment, and well-paid employment, is very easy to find; for instance, a car driver's monthly wages are on an average Rs. 60 or more

The position is becoming acute, in that with a shortage of 178 constables it is not possible to cover fixed points, night patrols, and supply men for the regulation of traffic and the prevention of crime. The large volume of crime in the Island permits of no relaxation in police activity, both as regards the prevention of crime against property by a system of night patrols, and as

regards the detection of crime by the prompt arrival of a police officer on the scene.

Motor traffic in the Island is increasing daily. While there has been an increase of 66 per cent. in the number of motor vehicles in the Island in the last two years, there are, as a result of the increased number of dismissals, discharges, and resignations, fewer constables on duty in the streets than there were in 1924. Increase in motor traffic obviously necessitates an increase in the number of police required to deal with it, and constant applications are being received from the larger towns for more police.

Expenditure.—The cost of the Force was Rs. 3,136,361·28. The cost of police per man is Rs. 1,013·03 per annum. The cost per head of population is 70 cents or 11¼*d*.

Crime.

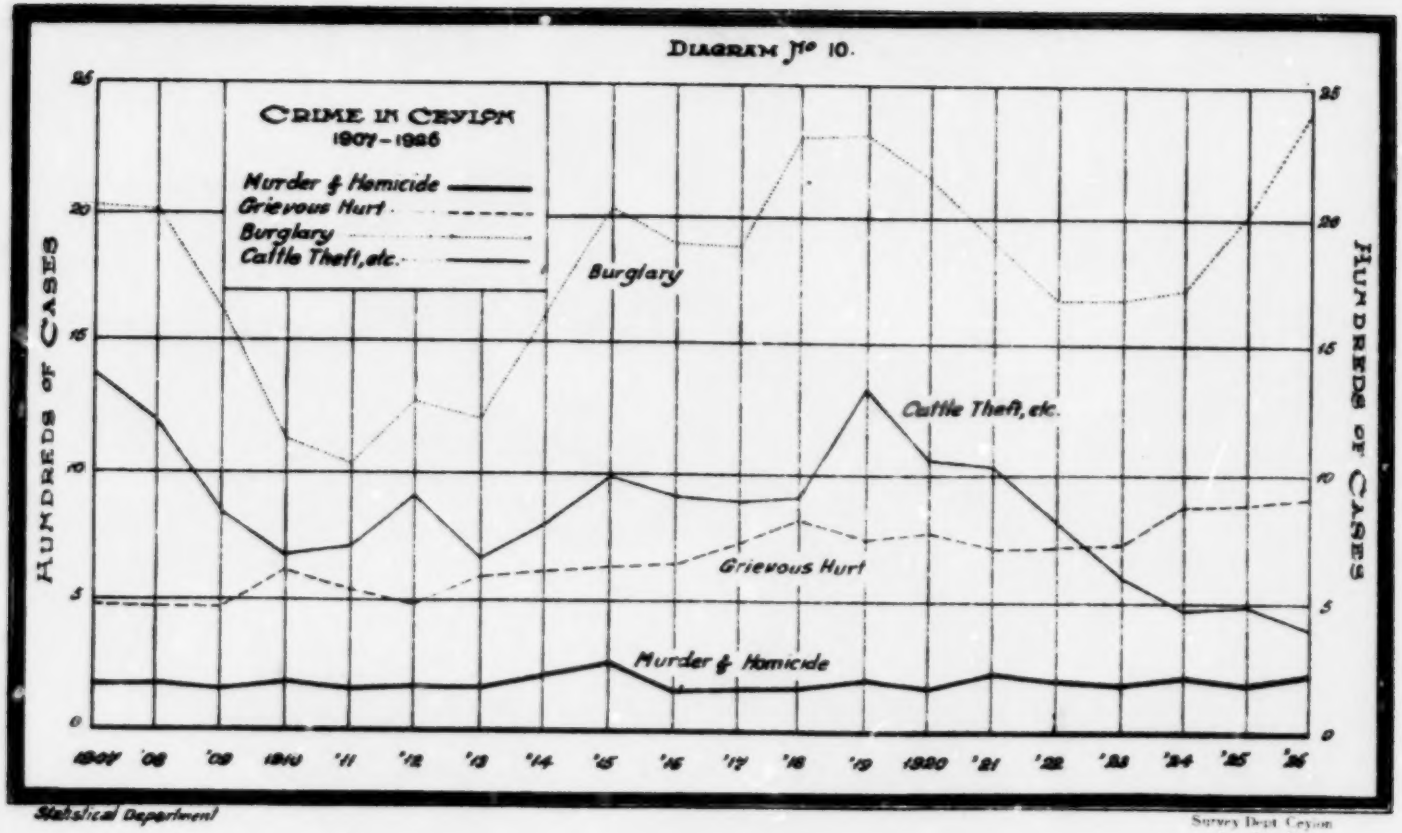
Crime committed during the Year.—The following statement shows the number of cases of crime disposed of as true by the courts during the last three years :—

	1924.	1925.	1926.
Total ..	6,933	7,650	8,707
Homicide	217	184	223
Attempted homicide ..	77	89	88
Grievous hurt	877	880	909
Hurt with dangerous weapons ..	1,101	1,299	1,363
Burglary	1,713	2,010	2,405
Cattle stealing ..	472	485	424
Other offences ..	2,476	2,703	3,295

The statistics of crime for the last six years under the three main heads are as follows :—" Offences against the Person," which are not directly preventable by police action, are shown separately from " Offences against Property," which are shown under the head " Preventable Crime."

Year.	Total Crime.	Offences against the Person (excluding Robbery).	Preventable Crime (Offences against Property, including Robbery).	Offences against the State.
1920 ..	8,189 ..	2,107 ..	6,055 ..	27
1921 ..	7,640 ..	2,122 ..	5,494 ..	24
1922 ..	7,045 ..	2,212 ..	4,805 ..	28
1923 ..	6,497 ..	2,020 ..	4,444 ..	33
1924 ..	6,933 ..	2,433 ..	4,469 ..	31
1925 ..	7,650 ..	2,668 ..	4,947 ..	35
1926 ..	8,707 ..	2,755 ..	5,914 ..	38

From these tables it will be seen that the number of cases of offences against the person and cases of preventable crime have increased and are the highest recorded in the last six years.



Statistical Department

Survey Dept. Ceylon
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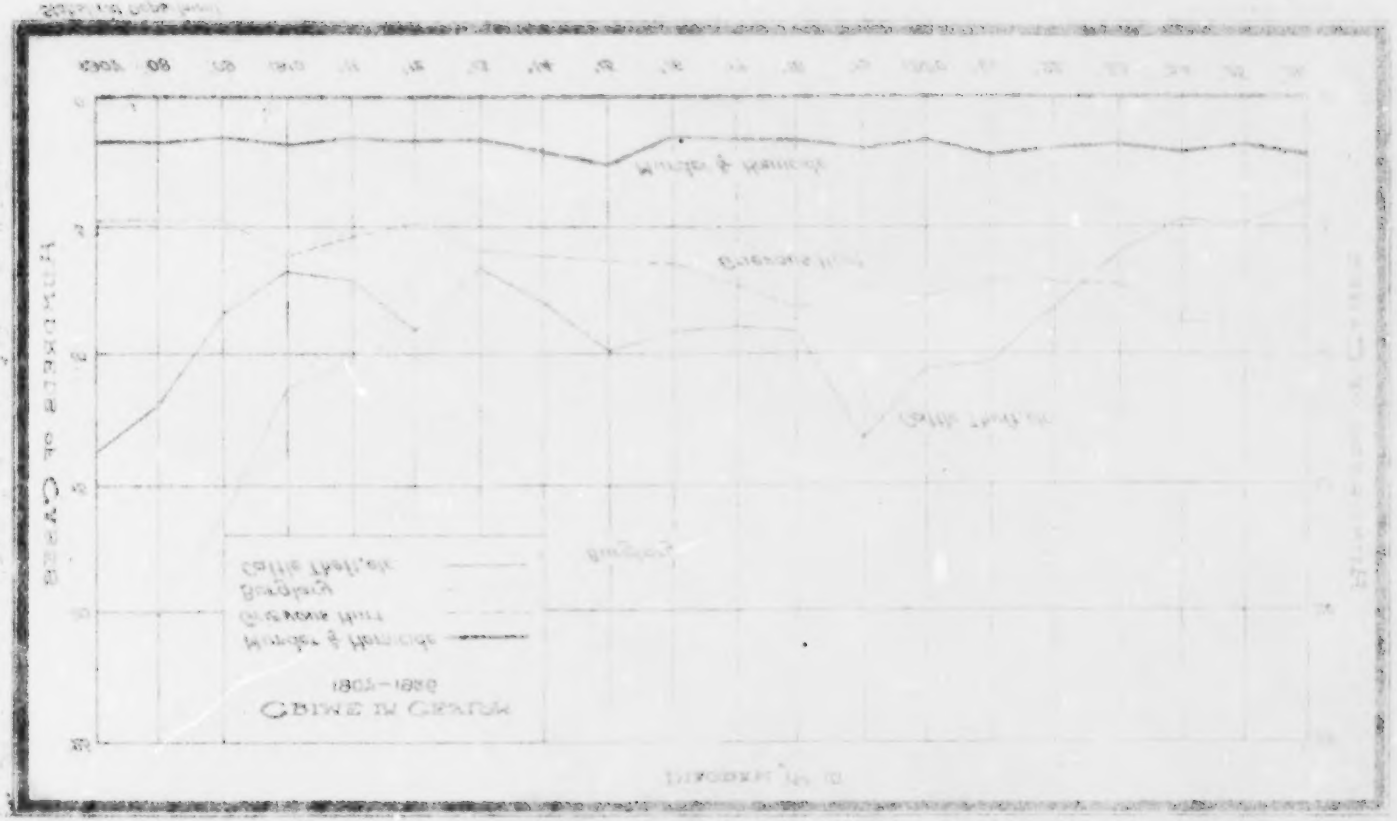
CRIME IN GRATON
1895–1898
Winter & Hartridge
Graham Hills
Graham Hills
Graham Hills
Number of Cases
Winter & Hartridge

Crimes of Violence.—There was an increase in crimes of violence during 1926.

During the year steps have been taken to ensure that parties concerned in crimes of violence, especially in cases of hurt by knife, which constitute the major portion of crimes of violence, are promptly produced by the police before court, and that the cases are disposed of as expeditiously as possible by the Magistrates. The unpremeditated use of the knife cannot be prevented by police activity, all that can be done with the adult offender is to ensure that he is dealt with promptly so that ill-will is not fostered between the parties for an unnecessary length of time. Quarrels occur suddenly and are soon over; punishment of the offender should be meted out with equal promptness. By training the youth of the country in lessons of self-control so as to discourage the use of the knife crimes of violence should in course of time decrease.

A great deal is being done to instil self-control into the rising generation by teaching boxing in schools. A special annual grant is made by Government to the Education Department for this purpose. Boxing is also encouraged in the Pettah, Kandy, Galle, and Panadure Street Boys' Clubs.

Murder and Gang Robbery.—While there has been no decrease in the number of cases of murder committed, it is satisfactory to be able to record a marked decrease in the crime of gang robbery. The majority of murders are unpremeditated and are due almost entirely to lack of self-control.

The following statement shows the number of cases of gang robbery committed in each district :—

North-Western Province	2
Colombo District (Western Province)	1
Kalutara	1
Panadure	1
Southern Province	1
Central Province, ...	1
Province of Uva	1
Province of Sabaragamuwa	1
Total ..	9

Gang robbery is the worst type of crime with which the police have to deal. It is a premeditated crime, frequently accompanied by cold-blooded murder and rape, although the latter is seldom admitted by the victims. Gang robbery is most prevalent in the Kurunegala and Galle Districts. Stringent steps have

been taken to try to eradicate this type of crime. That the action taken has been successful is proved by the following figures :—

Number of Cases of Gang Robbery.

	North-Western Province.	Southern Province.
1922	21	9
1923	11	10
1924	12	14
1925	13	4
1926	2	1

The large drop from 13 cases in 1925 to 2 cases in 1926 in the North-Western Province is chiefly attributed to the exemplary punishment meted out to gang robbers by the District Judge at Kurunegala. The maximum punishment, four years' rigorous imprisonment together with a sentence of 20 lashes, was invariably awarded. The principle adopted was that violence must be met by violence.

The closer supervision exercised over well known gang robbers and the distribution of their photographs to neighbouring districts, as well as the organization of special inter-district patrols, has undoubtedly assisted in bringing about a reduction in this type of crime.

Offences against Property.—The increase in offences against property is by no means confined to Ceylon. In England there has been a very large increase in offences against property and a reduction in the number of cases involving violence.

Forgery and cheating, which are crimes unaccompanied by violence, are yearly becoming more common both in England and in Ceylon. Not only are offences against property increasing, but they are no longer confined to a few criminal areas. Criminals in Ceylon, as in other countries, have not been slow to appreciate the value of motor vehicles as a rapid and convenient method of travelling from place to place and as an easy means of transporting stolen goods. Numerous instances have been reported during the year illustrating how criminals make use of motor vehicles to facilitate their operations in offences against property. The more rapid the mode of conveyance used by criminals, the quicker must be the means of communication used by the police.

The recovery of stolen property invariably involves a search. Searches are best made immediately after the commission of an offence, and before the offender has had time to dispose of the property. As a rule, several officers are required for each search. Increasing use has been made during the year of motor cars by officers in charge of stations in making searches. The results have been very satisfactory. The advantage of using a motor

car is that a number of officers can be taken together; simultaneous searches can then be made of several different houses, a most important point, and, owing to the rapid and easy method of transport, a large number of places can be visited in a short space of time. New facts elicited can be verified at once without correspondence with other station areas.

Distribution of Crime.—The following table shows the distribution of crime disposed of by the courts as true cases :—

Province.	Homicide	Attempted Homicide.	Grievous Hurt.	Hurt with Dangerous Weapons.	Burglary.	Cattle Stealing.	Other Offences.	Total.
Total	223	88	909	1,363	2,405	424	3,295	8,707
Western	51	23	272	408	690	129	509	2,082
Colombo City	15	3	82	140	297	13	939	1,489
Southern	43	16	128	239	323	117	295	1,161
North-Western	39	12	115	155	292	69	351	1,033
Central	16	8	128	133	285	17	415	1,002
Sabaragamuwa	36	16	73	117	327	34	290	893
Northern	11	5	58	68	70	15	222	449
Uva	3	3	21	34	72	17	139	289
Eastern	2	—	27	61	18	11	106	225
North-Central	7	2	5	8	31	2	29	84

Comparing the number of serious offences with the population (given in the 1921 Census Report) it is found that—

In the Colombo City there is 1 case of crime to every		172	persons.
In the Western Province	do.	476	do.
In the North-Western Province	do.	476	do.
In the Province of Sabaragamuwa	do.	528	do.
In the Southern Province	do.	578	do.
In the Central Province	do.	716	do.
In the Province of Uva	do.	809	do.
In the Northern Province	do.	835	do.
In the Eastern Province	do.	857	do.
In the North-Central Province	do.	1,149	do.

The proportion of serious crime to population in Ceylon is 1 case of serious crime per annum to every 517 persons.

Preventable crime (*i.e.*, offences against property, including robbery) was normal in the North-Central Province. Decreases of 7, 15, and 17 per cent. were recorded in the Northern, Eastern, and North-Western Provinces respectively. Colombo city with 118 per cent., the Western Province with 22 per cent., the Southern Province with 30 per cent., the Province of Uva with 15 per cent., and the Province of Sabaragamuwa with 3 per cent., all showed an increase in preventable crime. The most criminal districts in the Island during 1926 were Colombo city, Kalutara, Panadure, Ratnapura, Chilaw, and Tangalla. The most criminal outstation police areas were Panadure station with 121 and Kurunegala District station with 120 true cases of crime in the year.

Action taken to deal with Crime : (a) Means of Communication.—Telephonic communication with police stations daily becomes more important. During the year 4 police stations were connected by telephone. Out of the 168 police stations in the Island 57 are still unconnected by telephone.

Now that criminals use motor vehicles to travel from place to place or to remove stolen property, some equally quick method of transport is indispensable to a police officer. Motor cars are supplied to officers in charge of Provinces and motor cycles to officers in charge of districts. Every police station is supplied with 1 or more bicycles. 255 bicycles in all have been supplied to stations and offices all over the Island.

(*b*) *Appointment of an Assistant Superintendent at Avissawella.*—The Sabaragamuwa and Western Provinces contribute one-third of the total crime of the Island. Co-operation between the Kegalla and Ratnapura Districts is difficult owing to the headquarters of these two districts being 61 miles apart. Similarly, as the offices of the Superintendents at Kegalla and Ratnapura are 65 and 56 miles respectively from the office of the Superintendent, Western Province, co-operation between these two districts and the Western Province is impracticable. Avissawella is an important centre, and the motor traffic on the roads branching off at Avissawella for Ratnapura, the Kelani Valley, and up-country is increasing each year, motor traffic in this district requires more control. A proposal has, therefore, been made to station an Assistant Superintendent at Avissawella. The Ratnapura, Kegalla, and Western Province Districts all meet at Avissawella. It is 35 miles from Kegalla, 30 miles from the office of the Superintendent, Western Province, and 26 miles from Ratnapura, and is, therefore, admirably situated to assist co-operation between the police of the Western and Sabaragamuwa Provinces.

(*c*) *Co-operation by the Railway Staff and the Public.*—The Railway staff have been of great assistance to the police in the detection of persons committing offences on the railway and in marking down absconders and suspects travelling on trains. Eighteen cases in which observation and prompt action by an officer of the Railway staff resulted in the detection of crime or arrest of an absconder were brought to the notice of the General Manager of the Railway. The officers in each case were rewarded.

Co-operation of the public is essential if successful police work is to be achieved. Many instances have occurred in which members of the public have assisted the Force by giving information, arresting offenders, and by helping to recover stolen property. Their assistance is very much appreciated.

(*d*) *Prevention and Detection of Crime.*—A special study has been made of the dangerous criminals in every district resulting in their closer supervision. Their photographs have been taken and circulated. Juveniles have been taken in hand at almost all the big towns in the Island, and Street Boys' Clubs have been started at Colombo, Kandy, Galle, and Panadure. In almost every instance it will be found that the hardened criminal started his life of crime while still a boy. Motor buses, so frequently used in the commission of crime, particularly thefts of rubber, have been specially watched. Up-to-date methods applicable to Ceylon have been adopted in the investigation of crime, and increasing use has been made of the circumstantial evidence which the Government Analyst is frequently able to adduce. Offences against property constitute approximately two-thirds of the total crime of Ceylon. The detection and conviction of the perpetrator of an offence against property does not necessarily ensure that the stolen property will be recovered. The main test, therefore, of the efficiency of a Police Force must always be judged by the success achieved in the prevention rather than in the detection of crime. A good patrol system is one of the best methods of preventing crime. Numerous cases have occurred in which patrols have arrested persons with house-breaking implements or stolen property, or persons in the act of committing crime, who, but for the patrol system, would possibly never have been caught. Special attention has been paid to inter-station and inter-district patrols, and to the patrolling of areas where houses are temporarily vacated while their occupants attend the local weekly or monthly market. Ambush patrols on roads or paths likely to be frequented by thieves have proved successful in the arrest of persons attempting to escape with stolen property and in the arrest of absconders. Good results have been obtained by watching well known criminals' houses at night. Steps have been taken to see that men who have to go on night patrol have proper sleep during the day. Checks of all descriptions have been devised to ensure that patrols are honestly done. Burglary and theft are crimes which can be kept in check by effective preventive measures. The methods adopted to prevent these crimes vary according to the particular type of burglary and theft which has to be dealt with. Burglary is a specialized type of crime, and is practically confined to professional criminals. Suppression and detection of burglary, therefore, chiefly depends on an intimate knowledge of burglars, their relations and associates. Any peculiarities a burglar may have, either as regards his *modus operandi* in committing crime or in his habits, are soon learnt if he has been closely supervised. The knowledge so gained is invaluable in the detection of a case of burglary, for the peculiarities of the criminal are often stamped

on the crime he commits. It is therefore possible at times to identify a burglary as the work of a certain criminal. The difficulty arises when burglaries are committed which are obviously not the work of any known burglar. Mapping the burglaries and making a careful study of each case sometimes reveals the centre from which the criminal is working. It will often be found that the really clever burglar, the " brains " of a gang, has never been to prison at all, and is unsuspected even by his neighbours. This is the man who should be tracked down and supervised, even if there is no definite evidence to connect him with any particular case. By keeping a close watch on the movements and associates of such a man an outbreak of burglary will often be found suddenly to cease.

In the past, owing to the various police station areas into which Colombo was divided, there was no co-ordination in the inquiries into crime. Officers in charge of stations visited the scenes of burglary in their station areas only, and knew nothing of what was taking place in the adjoining area. By having one central authority for all crime in Colombo, and by making officers specialize in one or two types of crime only, it is now possible for the same officer to visit scenes of burglary in every station area. He is then in a position to be able to judge whether a burglary is the work of a well known burglar, and whether burglaries in several different areas have been committed by one man or one gang of men. The same difficulty arises in a Province which is divided up into police station areas. Frequent consultations between the officers in charge of neighbouring stations is the only solution. An outbreak of burglary in some particular area can be dealt with by sending a specially picked body of men to track down the burglars working in that area.

The prevention of thefts depends upon a study of the type of theft being committed. Thefts from verandahs in a town obviously require different preventive action from thefts of tea stumps from an estate. The advantage of taking up minor offences, such as unlawful gaming, transporting cattle without vouchers, having no permit to remove tea stumps, &c., has frequently been pointed out. Successful investigations of both burglaries and thefts depends, as a rule, either on information received through informants, or else on the identification of stolen property. The importance of keeping in touch with informants and of supervising receivers or suspected receivers of stolen property cannot be over-estimated. In a town such as Colombo success in the detection of burglary and theft has been achieved on many occasions by detailing plain clothes men to watch well known receivers of stolen property immediately a case of theft or burglary is reported.

(*e*) *The Photographic and Foot Print Bureaux.*—Photography is a branch of science which is daily becoming more important in police work. Not only is it useful for recording the features of criminals, but it affords a means of obtaining indisputable evidence as to the position of various objects at the scene of a crime or accident as well as showing their actual condition at the time. Apart from the evidence it affords, the production of a photograph saves a great deal of time to a court inquiring into the case. The Judge can visualize the scene by examining the photograph of a motor accident, for instance, far quicker than he can by questioning witnesses only.

It is not always possible to produce in court all articles found which are required as evidence. Photography enables us, not only to keep a permanent record of something which might become damaged or obliterated, but obviates the necessity of producing some awkward object in court, *e.g.*, it is impracticable to break up a cement floor in order to produce a foot print found on it in court. Many things which are invisible to the naked eye become perfectly clear in an enlarged photograph. For this reason photography is of particular use in cases of forgery and in other cases in which the evidence is chiefly circumstantial.

The Foot Print Bureau, started in 1925, has already proved a success. There were 12 cases in which foot print ridges were found, 2 cases in which the ridges found were identified, and 1 case in which this evidence of identification was not used as the offender pleaded guilty. In the 2 cases in which the ridges were identified the guilt of the accused was proved solely on this evidence.

(*f*) *Measures taken to deal with Crime in Colombo.*—On account of the ever-increasing volume of motor traffic in Colombo and the more scientific methods adopted by the criminal, it was found impossible to utilize the same officers for both traffic duty and the investigation of crime. The control of traffic is a specialized study, as is the investigation of crime. These two branches of police work therefore had to be separated, and on February 15 a special body of men known as the "Colombo Crime Police" were detailed for the investigation of all grave crime and thefts. The Crime Police has its own central authority and office.

In the past there has been a tendency to regard each station as a separate area, so that if burglaries were committed in three station areas three different officers in charge of stations would visit the scenes and there would be nothing to show that all the three burglaries were committed by the same

criminal. The main objects aimed by the institution of the Crime Police are therefore —

(1) Increased efficiency and more effective investigation by having a central office to collect and tabulate systems of committing crime and to treat Colombo as one complete area rather than 12 disconnected units.

(2) Reduction in the delay in the investigation of crime, due to inter-station correspondence regarding inquiries to be made, search for absconders, persons wanted, movements of criminals.

(3) The specialization by each officer in the particular branch of crime, in the investigation of which he shows the greatest aptitude.

(4) Central supervision of all dangerous and re-convicted criminals.

(5) Making greater and more effective use of the criminal records, *Modus Operandi* Bureau, and information available in the main Criminal Investigation Department Office.

The Crime Police are subdivided into four branches, viz., Theft, Burglary, Violence, and Special.

Thefts in the Customs premises and rowdiness in the Kochchikade area have to a great extent been suppressed by the opening of the Foreshore Police Station.

Cocaine, Opium, and Ganja Smuggling.—There were 165 prosecutions by the police for illicit possession of opium. 255½ lb. of opium were seized. The number of prosecutions in 1925 was 120, and the weight of opium seized 54½ lb. 139 prosecutions were entered for illicit possession of bhang and ganja. The weight of ganja seized was 113¼ lb. No cases of illicit possession of cocaine were detected.

Prior to 1910 no restriction was placed on the consumption of opium in Ceylon. Since that date the importation and distribution of opium has been carried out by Government. 24,205 licences were issued in 1911 to those persons who had already acquired the habit of consuming opium. No new licences have since been issued. The number of registered consumers is bound to decrease each year with the death of some of the original licensees. On December 31 the number was 6,583. Unregistered consumers have been in the habit of purchasing opium from registered consumers. The amount available for such sale is decreasing annually. The amount of opium sold by the Medical Department has dropped from 10,886 lb. in 1911 to 3,995 lb. in 1926, and will finally cease,

except for the small amount required for medical purposes, on the death of the last registered consumer. Unregistered consumers must, therefore, obtain opium imported illicitly, and each year increased effort on the part of the smugglers must be expected and guarded against. The police are doing everything in their power in this respect as the increase in seizures in 1926 indicates, but to deal with the increase in the smuggling of opium the assistance of the Excise Department is essential. Under the law at present in force Excise Officers are not legally empowered to search for and seize opium. The amendment of the law to extend the power of search to Excise Officers is being considered by Government. There is no evidence that opium is smuggled into Ceylon from any country other than India. Ganja is smuggled into Ceylon from India and is grown illicitly in certain parts of the Island, especially in the Provinces of Sabaragamuwa and Uva.

Further Action Necessary to deal with Crime.

Dealing with Youthful Offenders.—A training school where youthful offenders can be taught a trade and brought up to be useful citizens instead of becoming re-convicted criminals is one of the greatest needs of the Colony. There has been a yearly increase in the number of re-convicted criminals. On December 31 there were 9,872 re-convicted criminals. This is almost double the number registered up to 1915. A study of the records of these criminals shows that the majority of them come from towns. Their criminal history usually starts with petty thefts committed between the ages of 12 and 14. A sentence of 6 cuts for the first offence is followed by one of 10 cuts and detention at Maggona Reformatory for subsequent offences. Finally imprisonment is awarded, after which a boy settles down to a life of crime. During the last two years 1,284 first offenders were re-convicted. Of these 20 per cent. were youths between the ages of 15 and 21. By taking boys in hand before they become hardened to a life of crime and training them to lead honest lives the problem of reducing crime settles itself.

A boy who has learnt no honest way of earning a living continues to adopt the dishonest method which from the time of his youth he has found the easiest. This method is, as a rule, petty theft, frequently of poultry which can be caught straying on the roadside.

The movement, started by the police in 1922, of reclaiming homeless boys continues to make steady progress. Clubs for street boys have been started at the Pettah in Colombo, and at Galle, Kandy, and Panadure. Membership of a club at

once induces self-respect, and the fact that a boy is able to give the club as his permanent address assists him to obtain employment. No person is likely to give employment to a boy who has no credentials and who sleeps in a park or in the verandahs of houses. Boys admitted to these clubs are taught to keep themselves clean, to be active, and to keep themselves physically fit. Initiative is encouraged by making the boys serve on the various committees of the clubs. Arrangements are made for their education and, as far as possible, for their employment. Every boy is expected to maintain himself in food and clothing; the club merely provides him with a home, where he can sleep, play, and keep his private possessions. The small amounts which the boys subscribe themselves towards the rent and upkeep of the club is supplemented by the donations of well-wishers. Good results have already been achieved by these clubs, and in a number of cases boys have opened accounts with the Post Office Savings Bank. Since the Galle Street Boys' Club was started there has been a decrease in crime committed by juveniles in that town. By starting an "Old Boys' Section" for these clubs it is hoped to keep in touch with boys who have passed through the club and settled down to permanent employment. A great deal has been done by the police in parts of Colombo other than the Pettah and in various towns in the Island in addition to Galle, Kandy, and Panadure, by encouraging boys to attend school and to play games and by helping them to obtain employment.

Supervision of Aliens, Strangers, and Travellers.

The Criminal Investigation Department includes the Harbour Police, the Foreshore Police, the Train Police, the Photographic Branch, and the Finger Print and *Modus Operandi* Bureaux.

Situated as Ceylon is on the main route to the Far East and Australia and in close proximity to India, a very large number of persons pass through its chief port, Colombo, and the Ceylon Police are constantly being requested by the police of other countries to mark down, arrest, or report on the movements of an undesirable character or fugitive offender who is on his way to India, Australia, or the Far East. A complete list of all persons disembarking from or embarking on ships in the ports of Ceylon is kept, together with a record of all persons stopping at hotels, boarding houses, or resthouses, so that any information required can be given at short notice. In this way the Criminal Investigation Department acts as a clearing house and does a considerable amount of work for the police of other countries. During the year persons of fifty-one different nationalities passed through the port of Talaimannar.

229 destitute immigrants were prevented from landing at Talaimannar, and 116 such persons were prevented from landing at Colombo. In 1925 the figures were 26 and 72 respectively.

Repatriation of Indigent Indian Immigrants. — Indian immigrant labourers, not actually sick but no longer fit for work and consequently destitute, are dealt with by the police and are repatriated through the House of Detention. 739 were repatriated during the year.

Motor Traffic.

Central Registering Authority.—The system of control of all motor vehicles by one Registering Authority (the Inspector-General of Police) continues, and the examination of applicants and the issue of licences to drive motor vehicles are being carried out by the police. The total number of motor vehicles in the Island in 1918 was 3,773. The number rose to 9,029 in 1924, to 11,773 in 1925, and to 14,947 on December 31, 1926. There has been a 66 per cent. increase in motor vehicles in the past two years. During the year 1924 new motor vehicles were registered at the rate of 189 a month; in the year 1925 the number rose to 274 a month, and in 1926 to 351. The following figures give a good idea of the rapidity with which motor vehicles are being imported :—

In 1922 there was 1 motor vehicle to every 757 persons in the Island.
In 1924 there was 1 motor vehicle to every 498 persons in the Island.
In 1926 there was 1 motor vehicle to every 301 persons in the Island.

The number of motor driving licences shows a corresponding increase from 9,621 in 1924 to 16,964 on December 31, 1926. During the year 1926 new motor driving licences were being issued at the rate of 322 a month. At the present rate of increase in the work in the Motor Office the time is fast approaching when the licensing of motor vehicles and drivers will have to be undertaken by a Central Traffic Authority as recommended by the Committee appointed in 1915 to report on transport in Ceylon.

New Legislation.—In 1923 a new Ordinance was drafted to eliminate defects in the present motor by-laws and to provide for heavier punishments for offences under the Vehicles Ordinance. The need for the amended and additional provisions in the law is daily increasing, and it is hoped that the new Ordinance will be enacted at an early date.

Registration of Motor Vehicles and Drivers.—The 14,947 motor vehicles in the Island on December 31 were registered as follows:—

Motor cars registered for private use	7,249
Motor cars registered for conveyance of passengers for hire ..	1,350
Motor buses and lorries registered for the conveyance of passengers for hire	2,146
Lorries registered for the conveyance of goods—private and for hire	1,390
Motor cycles	2,812

The greatest increase has been in the registration of buses and lorries for the conveyance of passengers for hire from 356 in 1923 to 2,146 in 1926. Motor buses are now running in every district in the Island and are very popular. On the first day of the Madhu Festival in the Mannar District of the Northern Province 160 buses were plying for hire between Madhu Camp and Madhu Road Railway Station, where up to a few years ago a motor car had never been seen.

Regulation and Control of Motor Traffic.—There were 12,920 prosecutions under the motor by-laws during the year throughout the Island. Of these, 1,913 were for exceeding the speed limit, 984 for reckless or careless driving, 245 for driving without carrying the licence to drive on the vehicle, 32 for not reporting at the nearest police station accidents involving serious injury, and 2,116 for overloading buses. In 1925 the number of prosecutions under the motor by-laws was 8,613. The number of accidents caused by motor vehicles throughout the Island was 1,824, 258 were serious, 109 of them proving fatal. Of these 258 cases it was found that—

(*a*) In 101 cases the accident was due to carelessness on the part of pedestrians.
(*b*) In 65 cases motor vehicles collided.
(*c*) In 44 cases the condition of the road was the cause or a contributory cause of the accident.

While there has been an increase in the number of accidents due to carelessness on the part of pedestrians, there has actually been a decrease in the number of accidents in which motor vehicles have collided, 65 such cases having been recorded in 1926 compared with 175 in 1925. People in Ceylon have been used to walking or to travelling on the roads in slow-moving vehicles for so many generations that they are unable suddenly to become accustomed to the fast-moving motor vehicle. Many accidents are due to pedestrians overestimating the time a motor vehicle will take to reach a certain point. The human angle of vision is not very great, consequently a person stepping on to a road from a boutique may not notice a motor car 20 yards

away approaching him, and unless used to fast-moving traffic does not realize that a motor car travelling at 20 miles an hour will reach the place where he is walking by the time he has taken two steps. Motor car drivers too, unused to driving fast-moving vehicles, take some time to acquire a sense of speed and distance. This sense is very necessary, not only for the actual control of the vehicle being driven, but for the purpose of being able to judge accurately the position another vehicle or person or animal will occupy at a given instant. It is the sense of being able to anticipate the movement of other vehicles or of persons on the road which makes the difference between a good and an indifferent driver. There has been a noticeable improvement in the driving of motor vehicles during the last few years. The improvement in motor bus drivers has been most marked. A great deal has been done to make motoring safer in many towns and districts by widening roads, straightening out bad corners or bends, and by removing obstructions to clear vision, such as trees growing on a corner.

As the number of fatal motor accidents is increasing it is very necessary that the police should continue to take special steps to ensure that the motor regulations which were made for the protection of the public are strictly enforced. The control of motor traffic is a specialized branch of police work, and a special division of police has been formed in Colombo to deal with traffic. Similar action will have to be taken in the near future in some of the larger towns, such as Kandy and Galle. During the year selected outstation officers have attended special courses of training in Colombo in motor regulations and traffic control. It has been found in other countries that the only method of dealing effectively with motor traffic is to have a mobile body of men who can patrol the roads, check speed, and generally supervise motor vehicles. The system has been started by the Superintendent, Province of Sabaragamuwa, at Ratnapura, and has proved a success. The extension of this system to other districts is being considered.

Co-operation of the Public.—Ignorance of the rules of the road on the part of pedestrians is responsible for a considerable number of accidents. Since the year 1919 instruction in the rule of the road has been given in all schools. It is hoped that by means of this instruction the number of accidents due to ignorance will gradually be reduced.

Many witnesses to motor offences or accidents are unwilling to come forward to give evidence, either on account of the inconvenience experienced in attending court, or on account of the expense involved in travelling to a court situated at a considerable distance from the witness' home. The Magistrates

in the Municipal Court of Colombo and in most Police Courts have undertaken to consider the convenience of members of the public who take the trouble to go to the court to give evidence in these cases by hearing such cases at times convenient to the witnesses. In view of the fact that half the fines inflicted may be awarded to persons who give information of offences under the motor regulations, arrangements have been made that in deserving cases a proportion of the fine will be paid to witnesses towards the defrayal of their expenses.

Control of Speed.—Speed is an inevitable result of improvement in the design of motor vehicles. The seriousness of an accident is, as a rule, directly proportional to the speed of the vehicle. It is speed that kills, and it will be found all over the world that in the majority of motor accidents the vehicle responsible for the accident was being driven at an excessive speed. Prevention is the best method of dealing with all things; little is gained by waiting until an accident has occurred and then prosecuting the offender. It is not suggested that a very fast driver is a danger to the public. A fast driver with sound judgment is as a rule of less danger to the public than a slow driver who has little judgment, but drivers of this description are in the minority. Preventive action must be taken against the majority, and the only feasible method of minimizing reckless driving is by keeping down speed.

The following figures show the action taken in the past four years to prevent reckless driving, and the proportion of serious accidents to motor vehicles on the road :—

Year.	Number of Motor Vehicles on the Road.	Fatal Accidents only.	Total Serious Accidents.	Number of Prosecutions for exceeding the Speed Limit.
1923 ..	7,288	38	82	235
1924 ..	9,029	69	171	709
1925 ..	11,773	73	230	1,259
1926 ..	14,947	109	258	1,913

The police do not confine themselves to instituting prosecutions for exceeding the speed limit. A special effort has been made to deal with persons who drive in a rash and negligent manner. There were 984 prosecutions for reckless or careless driving in 1926, 830 in 1925, and 438 in 1924.

While the increase in motor vehicles during the year has been 27 per cent., there has been a 49 per cent. increase in fatalities. The police cannot, therefore, afford to relax the steps which are being taken to deal with motor traffic. While no attempt is made to favour any particular class of motorist, greater attention must necessarily be paid by the police to hiring motor cars and buses. Hiring motor cars and buses are public conveyances,

and every person travelling in a public conveyance has a right to expect that all precautions will be taken for his safety. In the case of a motor bus, an accident, unlike the case of an ordinary touring car, may involve serious injury to as many as 40 persons. Special attention has been paid to the prevention of the overloading of buses. The following cases are good illustrations of the necessity for exercising the closest supervision over motor buses :—

A bus conveying a party of pilgrims was driven in a reckless manner, ran off the road, and capsized. Twenty-two persons, including the driver, were injured, and one died subsequently. The driver was under the influence of liquor.

In another case a bus carrying pilgrims was driven at a high speed and upset owing to its failure to negotiate a curve in the road. One person was killed and 8 were injured.

Motor Vehicles and Crime.—The use of motor vehicles in the commission of crime is yearly becoming more common both as a mode of conveyance to and from the scene of crime and as an easy and rapid means of removing stolen property. As instances of this the following cases are quoted :—

A man was murdered near Jaffna, his body was conveyed in a motor car to a jungle 45 miles away, where it was hanged on a tree to make it appear that he had committed suicide. The corpse was not discovered for several weeks.

In the Kegalla District an outbreak of burglaries occurred at places situated on the main Colombo-Kandy road. The burglaries stopped when special supervision over motor buses and lorries which used to halt for the night on the wayside was started. This shows that the burglars were travelling in these conveyances.

In the Tangalla District, during the search of a man's house letters were found asking him to go by bus from Tangalla to Wirawila, a distance of 40 odd miles, to bring house-breaking implements and to come after dark.

The supervision of motor vehicles, from the point of view of the increasing use that is being made of them for the commission of crime, is a matter requiring careful attention. The appointment of a mobile body of men in each district to regulate traffic and to supervise motor vehicles appears to be the best solution to the difficulty.

PRISONS.

There was a decrease of 816 in the total number of admissions of convicted prisoners of Ceylon during the year 1926, excluding Road Ordinance defaulters, of whom there were 47, as against 121 in 1925.

The figures are as follows : —

1925	8,940
1926	8,124

The number of prisoners sentenced to death was 68, as against 59 in 1925. There were 45 executions during the year, as against 33 in 1925.

Of the 45 whose capital sentences were carried out, 42 were Sinhalese, 2 Tamils, and 1 Muslim Bengalee.

Of the number executed 2 had been sentenced in 1925; and of the number sentenced to death 2 were executed in 1927.

There were 5 escapes and 4 recaptures during the year.

The total number of deaths in prisons was 78, as against 79 in 1925; and the death rate per 1,000 of the admissions during the year was 5·60, as against 5·06 in 1925 and 6·74 in 1924.

The number of punishments inflicted during the year on prisoners for prison offences was 698, as against 1,057 in 1925, and 1,175 in 1924.

Prisoners are in all prisons employed upon work of public utility and remunerative industrial labour. At Welikada and Bogambra prisons various trades are taught, such as carpentry, blacksmith and tinsmith work, bootmaking, tailoring, the making of cane furniture, matting, coir brooms, rugs, mats, coal and tea leaf bags, ropes, strings, bamboo tats, laundry work, printing, bookbinding, and masonry works.

During the year under review 2,183 articles of wooden furniture were turned out by prison labour for various Government departments. For making up furniture for the Government, the Forest Department supplied 5,938 cubic feet of various timber in logs and the Government Stores 140 cubic feet of Rangoon teak. Cutting, planing, &c., of timber was done by machinery.

The Government Printing Office continues to employ a daily average of 180 prisoners from Welikada prison. This prison also continues to wash all soiled linen from the Medical and Railway Departments, &c., 1,028,769 pieces being dealt with during the year.

14,551 articles of clothing and bedding were made up for the Colonial Storekeeper, and 38,870 yards of cloth woven for prison use.

The prisoners at Mahara prison are exclusively employed in the quarries on account of Harbour Works and Public Works Department.

A daily average of 212 prisoners were employed in the Harbour Works quarry during the year as blacksmiths, carpenters, platelayers, stone dressers, stone breakers, and on excavation and other works in connection with the working of the quarry.

The following quantities of metal have been dealt with : –

2-inch metal broken	..	..	51,539 bushels
Hand rubble turned out	..	..	4,657 tons
Stone setts made	..	..	7,612 setts
5/8 chips turned out	..	..	294 barrels

A daily average of 278 prisoners were employed in the Public Works Department quarry as metal breakers, and they turned out 5,045 cubes of 2-inch metal.

A daily average of 50 prisoners has also been employed in cutting and removing the over burden and uncovering the rock for blasting operations.

The Karaiyoor reclamation works at Jaffna continue to make good progress. The daily average number of prisoners employed on the works was 158. The extent of land reclaimed was 7 acres 2 roods and 24 perches.

At Anuradhapura 42 prisoners are daily employed on account of Anti-Malarial Campaign in filling up pools of the town, weeding, clearing jungle, &c.

Prisoners are employed at Palugama in clearing jungle and planting teak, margosa, rosewood, &c., for the Forest Department. They were also employed in breaking metal for the Local Board.

The schools at Welikada and Mahara for prisoners of the age of twenty-three years and under on admission to prison having a sentence of six months and over made satisfactory progress, the daily average attendance being 93 during the year.

XII.—Local Government.

DURING 1926 (as during the two preceding years) no new District Councils were established. The eight existing Urban District Councils, viz., those of Negombo and Ratnapura constituted as from January 1, 1922, and those of Chilaw, Jaffna, Kalutara, Matale, Matara, and Panadure constituted as from January 1, 1923, continued to carry on the administration of their respective towns. On March 4, the Legislative Council concluded its debate (begun on February 12) on the motion re-introducing in Council the amending Ordinance to extend the operation of local government throughout the Island. (This Ordinance was postponed at its second

reading on November 15, 1923, pending the collections of certain information, which was subsequently furnished by the Local Government Board and published as a Sessional Paper (IV. of 1925).) The debate resulted in the acceptance by Government of an amendment of the original motion providing for the appointment of a Select Committee of the Legislative Council " to consider the working of Ordinances relating to District Councils, Local Boards, Sanitary Boards, and Village Committees, and to make such recommendations as will make it possible to extend local self-governing institutions throughout the country." The report of the Committee which was appointed at a later stage of the meeting is awaited. In consequence of this development no further action was taken with regard to the application received in 1925 for the establishment of an Urban District Council for Ambalangoda. As regards the request of the Chinafort Muslim Association (also made in 1925) for the constitution of an Urban District Council for Beruwala, Government decided, in view of the strong representations put forward against the proposal and of the inadequacy of the revenue of the town, not to take action at present under the Local Government Ordinance.

XIII.—Control of Indian Immigrant Labour.

BY Ordinance No. 1 of 1923 Government control over the immigration of Indian emigrants was established, the Controller of Indian Immigrant Labour being in charge of the Department concerned, while the Emigration Commissioner with a large staff was appointed as the Controller's representative in India. His headquarters are at Trichinopoly, the chief centre of recruitment of Indian emigrants engaged to work on Ceylon estates.

The Board of Indian Immigrant Labour composed of officials and unofficials advises the Controller.

The Controller collects acreage fees from estates employing Indians to the extent of about Rs. 3,000,000 a year to finance the transport, repatriation, and general protection of Indian immigrant labour, this labour being distinct from ordinary Indian labour which enters Ceylon unassisted in search of a livelihood.

Fees are levied at present only on tea, rubber, cacao, and cardamom estates employing Indians, though about 30,000 Indian labourers now work on coconut estates. The rate is levied quarterly, and amounts annually as a rule to Rs. 5·25 per acre for tea and Re. 1·75 per acre for rubber, cacao, or

cardamom. Estates employing a scanty Indian labour force are assessed, not on an acreage, but on a *per capita* basis, which is cheaper than the former. Tea is assessed at three times the rate of the other products referred to, as tea planting requires about three times as much labour as the other products.

It costs the Labour Department about Rs. 20·27 per head annually to recruit, repatriate, and protect Indian assisted labour. All the expenses of recruitment are met free of cost to the labourers, and no advances made to them in consideration of recruitment are recoverable at law in India or Ceylon.

There are about 7,500 to 10,000 estates over 10 acres in extent in the planting districts in Central and South Ceylon, and Indians are employed on 1,788 of these, the rest being worked by indigenous labour. Nearly all the largest estates, however, are worked wholly or partially by Indian labour, coconut estates excepted.

There is no indentured labour in Ceylon; all labour as a rule is employed at daily rates or contract rates and paid monthly on a civil contract of hire and service.

The following figures illustrate the movement of Indians into and from Ceylon:—

	Entering Ceylon.			Leaving Ceylon for India.
	Unassisted.	Assisted.	Total.	
1922	85,071	77,636	162,707	145,363
1923	83,256	89,859	173,115	128,172
1924	88,787	153,989	242,776	139,877
1925	101,324	125,585	226,909	158,457
1926	110,853	101,746	212,599	241,607

Of those estate labourers entering Ceylon the following assisted emigrants had been in Ceylon before:—

1924.	1925.	1926.
62,474	57,570	51,330
41 per cent. of whole	45 per cent. of whole	50 per cent. of whole

These figures prove how attractive Ceylon estates are to the rural workers in South India, who find in Ceylon better economic, climatic, and social conditions than they experience in their own villages.

Labourers entering Ceylon from India undergo quarantine in India at Mandapam or Tataparai.

In 1926 there were probably about 820,000 Indians in Ceylon, or nearly one-sixth of the total population. There were 666,931 on estates: 226,680 men, 219,540 women, and 220,711 children.

Assisted Indians are recruited by kanganies on licences issued by the Controller, and their activities are supervised from first to last.

The recruiting areas of Trichinopoly, Salem, Madura, and Vellore are covered with agencies where advice, help, and supervision are administered as the recruits are presented by kanganies. The labourers are transported by rail or omnibus to Trichinopoly, the headquarters camp—a model institution, laid out architecturally on modern town planning lines, with electric lights, water carriage drainage, and every modern comfort. Thence the assisted labourers proceed to Mandapam Camp, another model institution; and there are smaller model resting camps in Ceylon at Polgahawela and Colombo.

These labourers, from the moment they enter an agency, are provided free of cost with cooked food or travelling rations, drink, lodging, medical treatment, vaccination, hookworm cure, baths, lights, fares, escort, and, where needed, free clothes and blankets, and even pocket money, until they arrive on the estate, where work is guaranteed to them by law for six days a week.

Indians unable to work and fit to travel home and Indian vagrants are, if they so desire, repatriated to India at the expense of the Ceylon authorities and escorted to their homes. Special cheap fares are allowed on the Ceylon Government Railway to Indian estate labourers returning to India. The numbers repatriated at public expense in recent years were :—1924, 571; 1925, 1,851; 1926, 2,442.

Indians enjoy in Ceylon all the political and legal rights enjoyed by other races. They have two special Indian seats in the Legislative Council, and an Indian Emigration Agent stationed in Ceylon to look after their interests.

There is no law fixing hours of work for Indian or other labour.

The clauses of the Washington Convention of 1919 regarding the protection of female and child labour are legally enforceable in Ceylon.

Assisted Indian immigrants are almost entirely estate labourers who are housed free of cost on estates; the average number occupying a room 12 feet by 10 feet and a verandah 10 feet by 6 feet being about 3·8. From 1921 to 1926, on estates employing Indians there have been erected 96,755 rooms for labourers at a cost of Rs. 32,944,818, and this great scheme of agricultural housing reform is still in progress.

These rooms are built to Government specification and under Government supervision, and the regulations insist on adequate light, air, ventilation, drainage, &c. Latrines and protected water supply are also insisted on. There are 43,913 latrines on estates employing Indians, while 92,008 rooms have a pipe-borne water supply. There are 78,056 garden plots allotted to labourers on these estates.

The birth-rate on estates employing Indians in 1926 was 43·1 per 1,000, as compared with the general Ceylon rate of 41. The death-rate was 30 per 1,000, as compared with the general Ceylon rate of 24·7. The birth- and death-rates of Indian estate labourers is steadily improving every year.

In the planting districts proper—about 10,000 square miles in extent—there are 77 Government hospitals, 237 Government dispensaries, 78 estate hospitals, and 645 estate dispensaries. In few countries in the world is such a generous or magnificent provision made for the health of labourers, and that free of all cost to them.

There are no epidemics as a rule on Ceylon estates, and there is little malaria. There is a great deal of avoidable disease and premature mortality, due to the ignorance of mothers in the care of children, the prevalence of venereal disease, and the general insanitary habits, ignorance, and recklessness of Indian immigrants. But there is a steady improvement annually, and the present standard of health on Ceylon estates is rarely equalled in the East.

There is little serious crime amongst Indians on Ceylon estates. The labourers are a law-abiding, industrious people. Strikes are practically unknown. The chief disturbance is the futile movement of labour caused by employers offering cash inducements to labourers through kanganies to commit breach of their monthly contracts of hire and service.

Indians on Ceylon estates receive in real wages, cash, free houses, free firewood, free medical aid, maternity benefit, free rice when ill, often free meals for children and gifts at festivals, &c. (of clothes or money), and rice below cost price. These real wages are between 50 and 100 per cent. higher than what Indian rural labourers receive in India. Cash wages are paid for time work, task work, piece work, &c., and range from about 50 cents a day to over one rupee on the average.

A bill to secure a legal minimum rate of wages for Indians on Ceylon estates had passed its second reading at the end of 1926. It is also proposed to prohibit legally the employment of Indian children under 10 years of age on estates.

The immigration of Indians into Ceylon has been going on for centuries as there is great commercial intercourse between the two countries and as the superior climatic and economic conditions of Ceylon attract Indian traders and labourers.

The immigration of Indians to Ceylon estates has been going on for nearly a century, and the system now in vogue is a credit to all concerned and an object lesson in immigration.

There is almost complete absence of deceit or malpractices, though the labourers are generally a docile, illiterate, depressed class. They are as a rule recruited in families, neither the old nor the young dependents being rejected. There is practically an equal number of men and women. Work is guaranteed for the immigrants, and on arrival on Ceylon estates they find there relatives and friends from their villages, as each estate keeps up a labour connection with certain villages.

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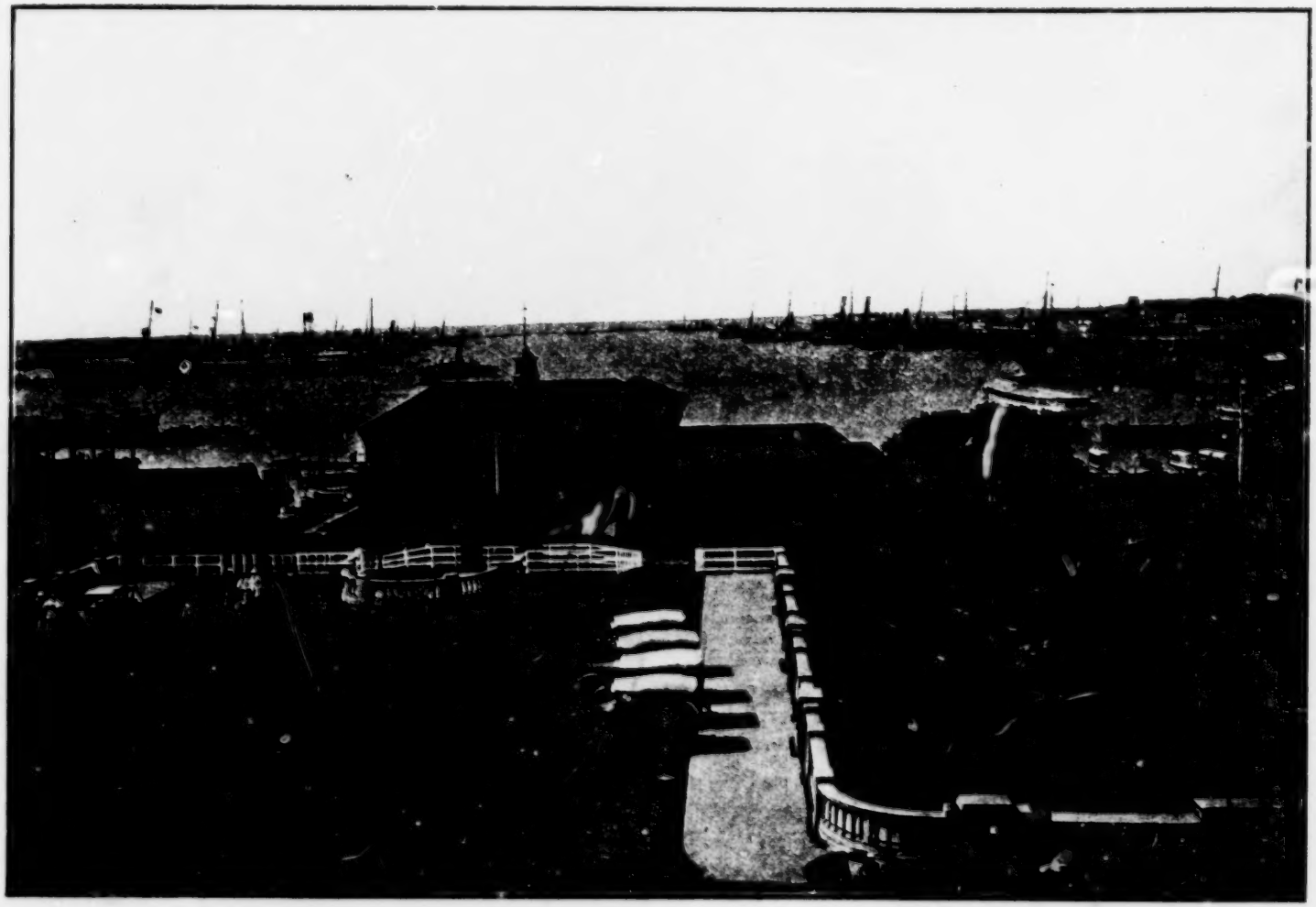

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Annual General Report for 1927.

Prefatory Note.

Geography.

CEYLON, the ancient Taprobane, is an Island in the Indian Ocean, off the southern extremity of the Indian peninsula, lying between 5° 55′ and 9° 50′ N. latitude and 79° 42′ and 81° 53′ E. longitude. Situated on the direct route from Europe to Australia and the Far East, roughly halfway between Arabia and China, it has been known from very early times as an important trade centre in the East. It is in very close proximity to India, and from an economic point of view has always been considered a part of it. The greatest length of the Island from north to south, *i.e.*, from Point Palmyra to Dondra Head, is 270 miles; its greatest width 140 miles, from Colombo on the west coast to Sangamankanda on the east. Its area is 25,332 square miles, nearly the same as that of Holland and Belgium, or about half the size of England.

The northern and north-central parts of the Island form one great plain from sea to sea, only occasionally broken by a spur of undenuded rock. The maritime districts consist of similar level or undulating stretches, but the centre of the southern half of the Island is filled by a circular mountainous area almost equidistant from the two seas. This mountainous region is intersected by deep valleys, which tend to run roughly north-east and south-west. The height of the intervening ridges increases gradually from the coast, and culminates in Pidurutalagala at an elevation of 8,292 feet.

The sea coast of Ceylon has a very irregular outline, lakes and lagoons having been formed, in many parts of it by the throwing up of sand barriers through the interaction of the rivers and the sea. There are only three real harbours, those of Colombo, Trincomalee, and Galle. The first is a capacious artificial harbour constructed out of an insecure anchoring place by the building of extensive breakwaters. The second is a magnificent land-locked basin, but situated on the less accessible, populous, and fertile eastern side of the Island. The third was, at one time, the premier harbour of Ceylon, but on the completion of the Colombo breakwaters in 1885 it ceased to be a calling place for East Indiamen and ships of war.

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History.

The authentic history of the Island begins at the sixth century B.C., when an Aryan invasion from the north of India under the leadership of Vijaya overcame the aborigines and established the Sinhalese dynasty. Early attention appears to have been paid by the invaders to irrigation works, agricultural development, and other branches of civil administration, and by the end of the third century A.D. a comparatively advanced stage of civilization had been reached.

The history of Ceylon down to the sixteenth century may be divided into two parts, viz., the period of the Sinhalese *Mahavansa*, *circa* 500 B.C. to 300 A.D., and that of the *Suluvansa*, from *circa* 300 A.D. onwards. The first period is one of increasing development and expanding civilization, connected chiefly with the extension of Buddhism, which was introduced about 247 B.C. The second period is one of ever-increasing pressure from the Tamils, Pandyans, and Cholas from India, with occasional successes on the part of the Sinhalese, particularly during the reign of their famous king, Parakrama Bahu I. (1153 to 1186 A.D.).

In the sixteenth century the Portuguese formed settlements on the west and south of the Island; in the next century they were dispossessed by the Dutch. In 1796 the British took possession of the Dutch settlements in the Island, which were then annexed to the Presidency of Madras, but five years later, in 1802, Ceylon was constituted a separate Crown Colony. In 1815, the districts of the interior, which had maintained their independence under the kings of Kandy, were acquired by Great Britain as the result of a rebellion against the Kandyan king, and the whole Island was thus united under the British rule.

Ceylon is noted for chronicles of great age and high authenticity. The ruins of numerous stately buildings and vast irrigation works remain as relics of a high standard of ancient civilization. It now ranks as the premier Crown Colony and has attained a state of great prosperity.

Principal Languages.

Sinhalese and Tamil are the two chief vernacular languages in the Island, the former belonging to the Sinhalese who chiefly inhabit the western, central, and southern portions of the Island, and the latter to the Tamils inhabiting the northern and eastern parts and to the immigrant estate population. English is the language in general use among the people of the upper and the middle classes of all communities.

CURRENCY.

The monetary unit in Ceylon is the Indian silver rupee, which is divided into 100 cents. The following fractions of the rupee are coined :—(1) Silver, 50-cent piece; 25-cent piece; and 10-cent piece; (2) nickel, 5-cent piece; (3) copper, 1-cent piece and ½-cent piece.

The chief medium of exchange in Ceylon is the currency notes issued by the Government of Ceylon. They are of the following values :— Rs. 1,000, Rs. 500, Rs. 100, Rs. 50, Rs. 10, Rs. 5, Rs. 2, and Re. 1. The last two notes were issued during the war to release the silver rupee for export to India to pay for imports, chiefly of rice, and very few silver rupees are now to be seen in use in Ceylon.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

The standard measure of weight is the Imperial standard pound avoirdupois, the standard linear measure is the Imperial yard, and the standard measure of capacity is the Imperial gallon.

In measuring the weight of copra and cinnamon the " candy " (= 560 lb. or ¼ ton) is commonly used.

In measuring distance and length, the " fathom " (= 6 feet), and the " cubit " (= 18 inches) are also commonly used in addition to the mile, chain, yard, foot, and inch which are in general use.

In measuring capacity, the principal dry measure is the English bushel, but in conjunction with this is used a number of local measures, of which the connotation is sometimes uncertain and the usage variable. For measuring liquid capacities, the English measures of the gallon, the quart, and the pint are in general use. The " bottle "—6 to the gallon—is a common measure of milk, and kerosine, coconut, and citronella oils.

In measurements of area, the acre, rood, and perch are in general use, but the Ceylonese practice of using the dry measures also to denote the area of lands which can be sown with that quantity of seed is still common. Thus, the amunam, besides being a dry measure of about 5 bushels, will represent the acreage which could be sown with that amount of seed. This is evidently a somewhat varying amount, but is generally taken for mud land at 2 to 2½ acres and for high land at 4 to 5 acres, according to the practice prevailing in each district.

I.—General.

THE year under review, though not characterized by any particular boom in the staple industries of the Island, was generally a very satisfactory one. The revenue collected during the financial year ending September 30, 1927, amounted to Rs. 129,358,916—nearly five million rupees in excess of the figure for the previous financial year, which was in itself a record. The expenditure during the same period was Rs. 123,621,897—Rs. 10,678,075 more than that for the previous financial year. On September 30 the assets of the Colony showed an excess of Rs. 49,696,243 over its liabilities. This accumulated surplus is in excess of the surplus shown on September 30, 1926, by nearly 5¾ million rupees.

The value of total trade during the calendar year amounted to Rs. 854,399,419 (excluding postal articles, ships' stores, and specie). This figure shows a decrease of Rs. 44,107,271 when compared with the figure for 1926, but is larger than that of any other year in the history of the Colony. The total imports amounted to Rs. 406,663,779, an increase of Rs. 11,419,538 over the figure for the previous year. The total exports amounted to Rs. 447,735,640, which is Rs. 55,526,849 less than the figure for 1926, and Rs. 44,753,656 less than that for 1925. Thus the imports of the Colony have shown an increase and the exports a decrease, but the exports still exceed the total imports.*

As in the last few years there has been an expansion under most heads of imports, and the export trade continued in a flourishing state. The tea industry had a very prosperous year, the total exports of black and green tea (including ships' stores) amounting to a little over 227 million lb., which is nearly 10 million lb. more than the figure for 1926. This increase of crop was partly due to a generally favourable season, but also largely to the continued attention paid to improved methods of cultivation and to the continuance of liberal manuring programmes. On the other hand, the ruling prices during the year were somewhat lower than those of 1926, the average price for local sales being 94 cents per lb., as against 99 cents during the previous year. Thus the total value of exports amounted to Rs. 213,774,632, which shows an increase of only Rs. 610,749 over the figure for the previous year.

The Stevenson Scheme of Rubber Restriction was in operation throughout the year, the percentages of release (during the restriction period, November 1, 1926, to October 31, 1927)

* Notes on the principal import and exports will be found in Chapter IV., pages 48–59.

being 80 for the first quarter, 70 for the second quarter, and 60 for the third and fourth quarters. The prices of rubber have shown a gradual decline, although the ruling rates have been more or less uniform during the year. There were periods of slight fluctuations, but the tone of the market on the whole was weak and uncertain throughout the year. The total value of the exports amounted to a little over 129¾ million rupees, as against nearly 184½ million rupees during the previous year.

The total value of the exports of coconut products amounted to nearly 76¾ million rupees or a little over 2 million rupees less than the figure for 1926. This decrease is accounted for mainly by a short-fall in crops, particularly in the second part of the year, as the result of an insufficient rainfall during the previous twelve months. This fall in exports attracted attention and resulted in an investigation being made of the exports of coconut products during the past sixteen years. Statements showing the results of this investigation appear on pages 19–20. With effect from January 16, 1927, the export duty on desiccated coconut was reduced from 70 to 65 cents per cwt. and that on coconut oil from 75 to 65 cents per cwt.

Cacao and cinnamon showed considerable improvement both in the quantities as well as the values of the exports. But the year was a most disappointing one for citronella growers. The prices ruled low, and for some time it was difficult to dispose of stocks at remunerative prices.

As regards plumbago there was a noticeable increase in the quantity exported, while the value of the exports was even less than that of the previous year, the average price per ton being Rs. 196 in 1927, as against Rs. 225·20 in 1926.

Paddy and other cultivations which are dependent on weather conditions were generally satisfactory throughout the Island, except in some of the dry zone areas, where the rainfall was not satisfactory. Unseasonable rains are reported to have had an adverse effect on paddy cultivation in Mullaittivu, Batticaloa, Trincomalee, and Kurunegala Districts. In Hambantota District shortage of buffaloes and adverse weather conditions resulted in a reduction of the area cultivated with paddy. In Anuradhapura District the second or "yala" chena crops were spoilt by unseasonable rains. The Agricultural District Committees have made continued efforts to increase the production of foodstuffs and to encourage the adoption of improved methods of cultivation.

The cotton cultivation introduced into Hambantota District some years ago is now carried on on a fairly large scale by villagers, chiefly on Crown land leased to them on a nominal

rent. This cultivation is also being taken up on a small scale, with encouraging results in the Wellassa, Wellawaya, Bintenna, and Viyaluwa divisions of the Province of Uva and at Embilipitiya in Ratnapura District.

The growing of papaw as a catch crop is increasing in Kurunegala and Kegalla Districts.

The turn-over of the Kalutara Basket Society has shown a marked drop after last year's record figures. The decrease in business is probably due to the competition of Colombo dealers, who buy direct from the makers and demand a less high standard of quality.

Education has made steady progress during the year. There were noteworthy increases in the numbers of Government, as well as assisted, schools, and they showed a corresponding increase in the number of pupils attending them. There was an increase of 766 in the number of teachers employed during the year over the figure for 1926. The nett cost to Government of subsidizing education in the Island during the year was Rs. 8,040,798. The total number of pupils attending Ceylon schools in 1927 is reported to have been approximately 58 per cent. of the number of children of school-going age at the last Census. There remains much to be done in the matter of equipment, &c., in English schools. The permanent accommodation provided in vernacular schools has not kept pace with the increasing attendance, temporary buildings being necessary in many cases to relieve the congestion.

As in previous years, the Government offered five scholarships on the results of the B.A. and B.Sc. Examinations of the University of London. These scholarships are of the value of £300 per annum each, with free passage and outfit allowance of £50, tenable at any British University or any recognized Engineering Institution in the United Kingdom. It was also decided during the year to offer, for the first time, two scholarships—one to a boy and the other to a girl—for competition annually among the children of garrison ranks who are entitled to free education in the British Army School in Ceylon.

Although malaria is still prevalent in the dry zone, there was an improvement in the general health of the people throughout the year, due possibly to a large extent, to determined efforts made of recent years to improve sanitary conditions and to counteract the ill-effects of malaria and anchylostomiasis.

There were mild outbreaks of sore-eyes, dysentery, chicken-pox, influenza, and measles in some districts. In Colombo there were 83 cases of plague with 76 deaths, as against 13 cases

with 12 deaths in 1926. This increase is probably due to fresh infection from abroad. There was also an outbreak of plague in Kandy town during the latter part of the year. The disease was stamped out within three months by the prompt measures taken.

Parangi ("Framboesia" or "Yaws") is being steadily eradicated by the patient efforts of Itinerating Medical Officers.

The number of births registered during the year was 205,470; the number of deaths was 113,007; the latter is the lowest annual figure on record since 1916.

An examination of the statistics relating to crime shows that offences against the person (excluding robbery) have increased of recent years. A characteristic feature in offences against property during the year was the increased use made of rapid means of conveyance, chiefly motor vehicles, and of the use of electric torches by burglars and other criminals. The number of cases of gang robbery committed during the year was 21, compared with 9 in 1926 and 26 in 1925.

Seventy-three arrack taverns, 72 toddy taverns, 15 foreign liquor shops, 6 hotel bars, and 1 beer and porter tavern were abolished during the year by local option polls. The Hambantota District has been made an entirely "dry area" owing to the successful activities of the temperance workers. The consumption of arrack in Ceylon in 1927 was 752,031 gallons; of toddy, 4,501,608 gallons. The figures in 1926 were 846,085 gallons and 4,264,516 gallons respectively. 224,093 gallons of malt liquor, 61,205 gallons of wines, and 343,270 gallons of spirits were imported during the year, while the Nuwara Eliya Brewery manufactured 164,447 gallons of beer. The drink bill of Ceylon for 1927 is estimated to be a little over 28 million rupees.

4,244 vessels with a total tonnage of 12,719,600 tons entered the ports of the Island in 1927, as against 4,053 vessels with a tonnage of 11,875,547 in 1926.

On September 30, 1927, there were 895 miles of railways open for traffic—an increase of 44 miles over the previous year. The light railway from Maho on the Northern line to Batticaloa and Trincomalee on the east coast of the Island has now been completed. The last section of this line, viz., that from Polonnaruwa to Batticaloa, was opened for goods traffic on January 4, 1928, and for all traffic on March 12, 1928.

The total length of roads maintained by the Public Works Department was 4,238 miles. Of these, 3,644 miles were metalled roads, 390 miles gravelled roads, and 204 miles natural roads.

In February about 5,000 coolies working in Colombo Harbour and wharves struck work as their demands for higher wages were refused. They remained on strike for nearly three weeks. The strike was eventually terminated by a settlement brought about by an Arbitration Board on an improved basis of payment.

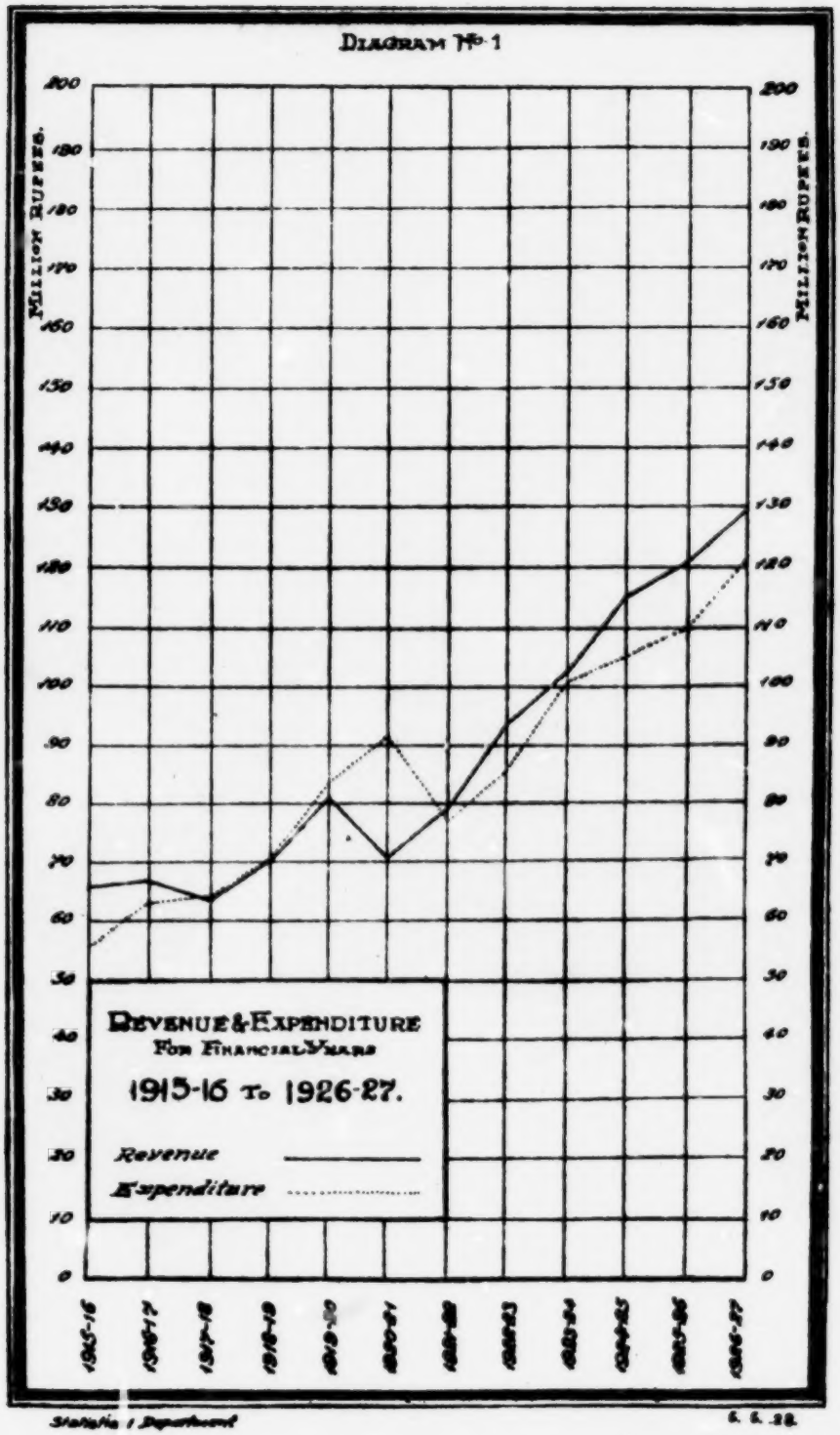
An event of great importance in the political history of the Island was the arrival of a Special Commission to inquire into the working of the existing Constitution and to advise the Secretary of State for the Colonies in what direction and to what extent the Order-in-Council of 1924 should be amended. The personnel of the Commission comprised the Right Honourable the Earl of Donoughmore, K.P., P.C. (Chairman), the Right Honourable Sir Matthew Nathan, G.C.M.G., P.C., Sir Geoffrey Butler, K.B.E., M.P., and Dr. Drummond Shiels, M.C., M.P., whilst Mr. P. A. Clutterbuck, M.C., acted as Secretary. The decision of the Commission to hold public sittings was welcomed by all interested parties. The Commission left Ceylon early in 1928, having spent a little over two months in this Island and having obtained evidence in Colombo, Galle, Kandy, Jaffna, and Batticaloa.

II.—Finance.

Revenue.

THE revenue collected during the financial year ended September 30, 1927, amounted to Rs. 129,358,916·31 which was Rs. 14,358,916·31 more than the estimate, and Rs. 4,842,761·27 more than the amount collected in the previous financial year. The principal increases over the previous financial year were under Customs Rs. 3,086,313, Harbour Dues Rs. 210,590, Warehouse Rent Rs. 107,963, Salt Rs. 179,334, Arrack Rs. 1,909,916, Estate Duties Rs. 186,736, Railway Receipts Rs. 953,028, and Interest Rs. 562,354, aggregating Rs. 7,196,234. Against these increases the following sums representing decreases should be deducted: —Revenue of Oil Installations Rs. 228,087, Miscellaneous Receipts, Sundries (gain on exchange) Rs. 1,379,705, and Land Sales Rs. 751,084, aggregating Rs. 2,358,876.

The increased Customs and Railway Receipts and Port and Harbour Dues indicate improved trade conditions.



Statistical Department

E. E. 28.

During the year under review the rates of duty payable on estates not exceeding Rs. 75,000 in value under the Estate Duty Ordinance, No. 8 of 1919, were reduced. The "Ceylon Post Office Ordinance, 1908," was amended, reducing the rates of postage on letters, printed matter, and open packets. Railway fares on first class tickets were also reduced during the year.

The revenue for the last five financial years is as follows :—

1922–23.	1923–24.	1924–25.	1925–26.	1926–27.
Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
93,720,169 33 ..	102,363,115 67 ..	115,539,669 56 ..	124,516,155 4..	129,358,916 31

Expenditure.

The expenditure for the financial year ended September 30, 1927, which was estimated at Rs. 131,155,438, amounted to Rs. 123,621,897·04, which includes a sum of Rs. 2,575,597·43 on account of expenditure on works temporarily chargeable to Revenue pending raising of Loan Funds. This expenditure exceeded the expenditure of the previous financial year by Rs. 10,678,075·36. The increase was mainly due to larger expenditure under the following heads :—Survey, Colombo Port Commission, Excise, Post Office and Telegraphs, Department of Medical and Sanitary Services, Education, Railway, Public Works Department, Public Works Extraordinary, Pensions, and Miscellaneous Services ; and to the expenditure incurred on the new Railway workshops chargeable to Revenue pending raising of Loan Funds. Against the increases under these heads decreases occurred under the following heads :—Treasury, Commissioners of Currency, Railway Extraordinary Works, Public Debt, and on the Hydro-Electric Scheme.

The expenditure incurred during the last five financial years is as follows :—

	1922–23.	1923–24.	1924–25.	1925–26.	1926–27.
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Expenditure chargeable to General Revenue, including accumulated Surplus Balances ..	85,583,909 72	100,695,713 5	105,004,348 17	109,996,335 63	121,046,299 61
Expenditure chargeable to Revenue pending raising of Loan Funds	—	18,155 72	1,361,336 67	2,947,486 5	2,575,597 43
	85,583,909 72	100,713,868 77	106,365,684 84	112,943,821 68	123,621,897 4

Assets and Liabilities.

The assets of the Colony on September 30, 1927, were Rs. 79,475,507·92, and the liabilities Rs. 29,779,264·88, showing an excess of assets over liabilities of Rs. 49,696,243·03. This accumulated surplus was in excess of the surplus shown on

September 30, 1926, by a sum of Rs. 5,737,019·27. The assets consisted of cash in fixed deposits and current accounts in local and Indian banks and with the Crown Agents in London, unissued stores, investments in rupee and sterling gilt-edged securities, and sundry recoverable advances. The main liabilities represent amounts due to the Widows' and Orphans' Pension Fund, Ceylon University Building and Equipment Fund, the Loan Account, and Court Suitors and other depositors in the Treasury and local Kachcheries. The cash balances available amounted to Rs. 49,232,423·81.

CURRENCY.

On September 30, 1927, the value of the currency notes in circulation amounted to Rs. 62,474,607. The Currency Commissioners on this date held silver rupees to the extent of Rs. 25,047,543, and British, Indian and Colonial Securities amounting to Rs. 44,836,101 (cost price), or Rs. 42,572,209 (market price). The value of the reserve on September 30, 1927, was thus in excess of the value of notes in circulation by Rs. 5,145,145.

During the year silver rupees to the extent of Rs. 1,200,000 were received from the Imperial Bank of India in exchange for currency notes.

The following amounts of the various denominations of subsidiary coin were in circulation in the Colony on September 30, 1927 :—

	Rs.
Fifty-cent (silver)	5,059,000
Twenty-five cent (silver)	3,393,750
Ten-cent (silver)	3,373,212
Five-cent (nickel)	747,200
One-cent (copper)	1,044,137
Half-cent (copper)	325,469

PUBLIC DEBT.

On September 30, 1927, the sterling debt of the Colony stood at £12,657,393 and the rupee debt at Rs. 3,000,000, towards redemption of which were held securities and moneys amounting to £3,903,841 and Rs. 1,600,637, respectively.

Setting off the securities against the debts and effecting conversion of Rs. 15 to the pound sterling, the nett total Public Debt of the Colony amounts to Rs. 132,702,643, which is more than the revenue for the year ended September 30, 1927, by Rs. 3,343,727.

A statement of the loan position of the Colony as it stood on September 30, 1927, is annexed.

Summary of the Public Debt, 1926–27.

Description of Loan.	Amount.	Equivalent at £1 = Rs. 15.	Investments held on behalf of the Sinking Fund.		Amounts in Deposit with Westminster Bank and Balance in hand pending Investment.	Total (of Columns 5 and 6).	Equivalent at £1 = Rs. 15.
			Face Value of Securities.	Purchase Price.			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	£. s. d.	Rs. c.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	Rs. c.
Debentures unredeemed ..	18,300 0 0	274,500 0	—	—	3,445 8 2	3,445 8 2	51,681 12
4 per cent. Inscribed Stock (Debentures converted), 1934 ..	1,076,100 0 0	16,141,500 0	1,049,350 11 1	988,890 13 11	3 12 0	938,894 5 11	14,833,414 44
3 per cent. Inscribed Stock, 1940 ..	2,850,000 0 0	42,750,000 0	1,803,371 6 1	1,658,572 12 4	4,564 1 2	1,663,136 13 6	24,947,050 12
3½ per cent. Inscribed Stock, 1959 .	1,500,000 0 0	22,500,000 0	369,096 17 1	311,147 18 10	76 16 6	311,224 15 4	4,668,371 50
4 per cent. Inscribed Stock, 1959 ..	1,000,000 0 0	15,000,000 0	157,465 16 7	130,187 6 2	7 4 0	130,194 10 2	1,952,917 63
6 per cent. Inscribed Stock, 1936–51	6,212,993 8 4	93,194,901 25	467,603 6 2	482,791 8 11	48,856 8 9	531,647 17 8	7,974,718 25
	12,657,393 8 4	189,860,901 25	3,846,887 17 0	3,571,590 0 2	56,953 10 7	3,628,543 10 9	54,428,153 6
per cent. Ceylon Inscribed Stock. 1944	—	3,000,000 0	53,265 16 10	53,721 18 7	—	53,721 18 7	805,828 94
			Rs. 800,600·00	Rs. 981,535·76	Rs. 1,049·52	Rs. 982,585·28	982,585 28
		192,860,901 25					56,216,567 28

Ceylon Savings Bank.

The Ceylon Savings Bank had a sum of Rs. 6,944,531* to credit of 50,086 depositors on December 31, 1927, as against Rs. 6,547,687 to credit of 48,008 depositors on December 31, 1926. The amount of the Bank's invested funds on December 31, 1927, was Rs. 7,611,030, which include investments made from the Reserve Fund of Rs. 858,443.* The interest paid to depositors amounted to Rs. 216,228.* Interest was allowed at the rate of 4 per cent. on accounts of Rs. 1,000 and under, and 3 per cent. on accounts above Rs. 1,000.

Accounts may be opened with a minimum deposit of 50 cents, and not more than Rs. 1,000 can be deposited in one year irrespective of withdrawals. The maximum sum that a depositor may have to his or her credit is Rs. 3,000. Charitable institutions or societies may deposit Rs. 2,500 per annum up to a maximum of Rs. 7,500.

Parents or legal guardians may make deposits on behalf of their minor children and have control over the accounts until the minors attain majority.

The amending Ordinance to raise the limit of deposits fixed by section 19 of Ordinance No. 12 of 1859, referred to in the last report, is still in the hands of the Attorney-General. If the proposed amendment is passed by the Legislative Council, it will admit of a sum of Rs. 2,000 being deposited in one year up to a maximum of Rs. 6,000 in three years by individual depositors, and in the case of charitable institutions or societies of a sum of Rs. 3,000 up to a maximum, including interest, of Rs. 9,000 in three years.

The Bank lends money on the primary mortgage of house property within the Municipal limits of Colombo to the extent of half its appraised value at a flat rate of 7 per cent. interest per annum. Borrowers are required to pay a fee of Rs. 21 for the examination of title, and to execute a mortgage bond and warrant of attorney to confess judgment, and to effect a fire assurance policy over the property mortgaged for the total extent of the loan. Easy terms of repayment are allowed, and borrowers have the advantage of not being charged with stamp duty on the bond, &c., in terms of the Bank's Ordinance.

The business hours of the Bank are between 10 A.M. and 3 P.M. on week days and 10 A.M. and 1 P.M. on Saturdays. Deposits and withdrawals may be made between 10 A.M. and 2 P.M. on week days and 10 A.M. and 12 noon on Saturdays.

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*Approximate.

Stamp Duties.

(*a*) During the financial year 1926–27 a sum of Rs. 8,905,735·25 was credited to revenue by the sale of stamps, as against Rs. 9,756,198·31 credited during 1925–26. Of this a sum of Rs. 4,687,658·53 represents stamps sold for postal purposes, and the balance, Rs. 4,218,076·72, stamps issued for revenue purposes, such as payments of stamp duties on instruments, duties on legal proceedings, and licence fees. The decrease is probably due to the effect of Ordinance No. 14 of 1925, which authorizes the collection of revenue in cash instead of stamps. With regard to certain items the Post Office itself makes its collection in cash, and not in stamps.

(*b*) Stamp duties on bank cheques and share certificates are, under section 5 of the Stamp Ordinance, No. 22 of 1909, payable in cash, as composition duty, by banks and companies authorized in that behalf by the Governor in Executive Council. The revenue so derived during the year 1926–27 amounted to Rs. 230,565·59, as against Rs. 247,893·07 during the previous year.

(*c*) 4,179 instruments executed outside the Colony, but requiring to be stamped in Ceylon under section 42 of the Stamp Ordinance, were stamped during the year 1927, as against 4,175 during the previous year, and the revenue derived from this source out of the total sum mentioned in paragraph (*a*) above is Rs. 44,106·27, as against Rs. 42,284·73 during the previous year.

Estate Duties.

Estates of persons whose deaths occurred on or after July 1, 1919, are chargeable with duty under the Estate Duty Ordinance, No. 8 of 1919. During the financial year 1926–27 a sum of Rs. 2,122,053·14 was collected as estate duty, as against Rs. 1,935,317·24 in the previous year. With the exception of the year 1924–25, in which the revenue, Rs. 3,000,255·05, was abnormally high owing to a sum of Rs. 1,833,265·51 having been paid in respect of a single death, the revenue for the year under review is the highest since the commencement of the Ordinance. In respect of deaths which had occurred prior to the commencement of the Ordinance a sum of Rs. 7,310 was collected as stamp duty on probates and letters of administration during the financial year 1926–27, as against Rs. 12,358 during the previous year.

The total amount of penalties recovered under the Ordinance, in respect of 213 cases, was Rs. 1,522·50, as against Rs. 2,030 recovered during the previous year in 282 cases. This is a favourable sign, indicating that the Ordinance has always been worked without overmuch resort to penal measures.

III.—Production.

AGRICULTURE.

Tea.

THE total exports of tea amounted to 225,045,992* lb. of black tea and 1,991,864* lb. of green tea of a total value of Rs. 213,774,632,* as against an export of 215,819,449* lb. of black tea and 1,364,217* lb. of green tea of a total value of Rs. 213,163,883* in 1926. This further increase of crop was due to a generally favourable season, but more largely to the continued attention to cultivation methods and to the continued adoption of liberal manuring programmes. A marked feature in recent years has been the gradually increasing crops secured from all well-managed estates as the result of improvements in cultivation. These larger crops have been secured without any fall in quality, and particular attention continues to be given to the production of fine teas of high quality. Prices were somewhat lower than in 1926, the average price for local sales being 94 cents per lb., as against 99 cents per lb. during the previous year. High-grown teas have throughout the year commanded a ready sale at good prices, but prices for low-grown teas were at times lower than during the previous year. In the last quarter of the year there was a general increase in the prices of all grades, and confidence in the continued prosperity of the industry is undiminished. New lands are being opened up, but the areas of such new lands are restricted in extent. Factory improvements continue to be made, and engineering firms have had a busy year in re-modelling and enlarging existing factories and in the erection of new ones. Controlled withering still continues to receive special attention, and this is assisting in maintaining an even wither and in improving qualities of teas. Numerous visitors from the tea-growing districts in North India visited Ceylon factories during the year, with a view to adapting some of the Ceylon factory methods to Indian conditions.

Tea generally looks healthy and vigorous. Certain changes are being tried in the treatment of young tea, and pruning systems are the subject of experiment. There is a growing tendency towards favouring a lighter system of pruning, and manuring is now being carried out at more frequent intervals. These changes seem to be resulting in increases of crops, and the trials that are being made on a considerable number of estates are being watched with interest. The attention of the industry is also being directed to the experiments being carried on by the Department of Agriculture in growing creeping cover crops in

*Including ships' store.

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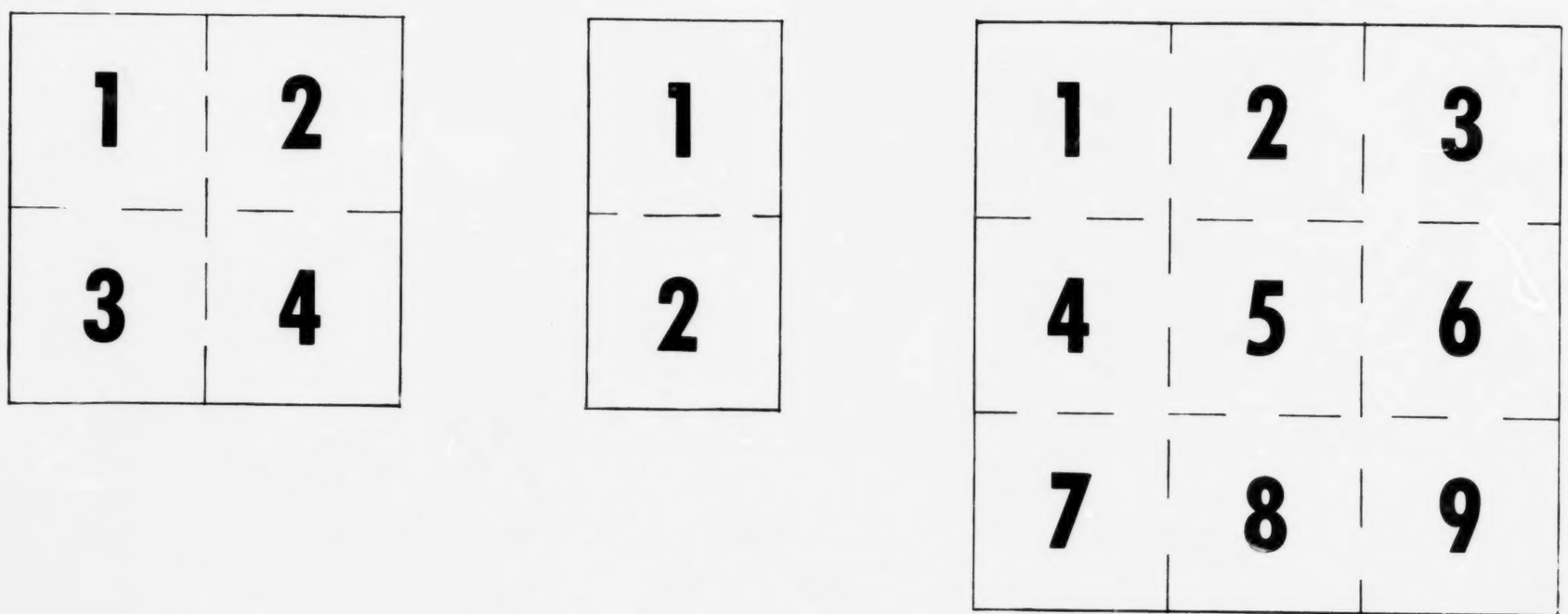

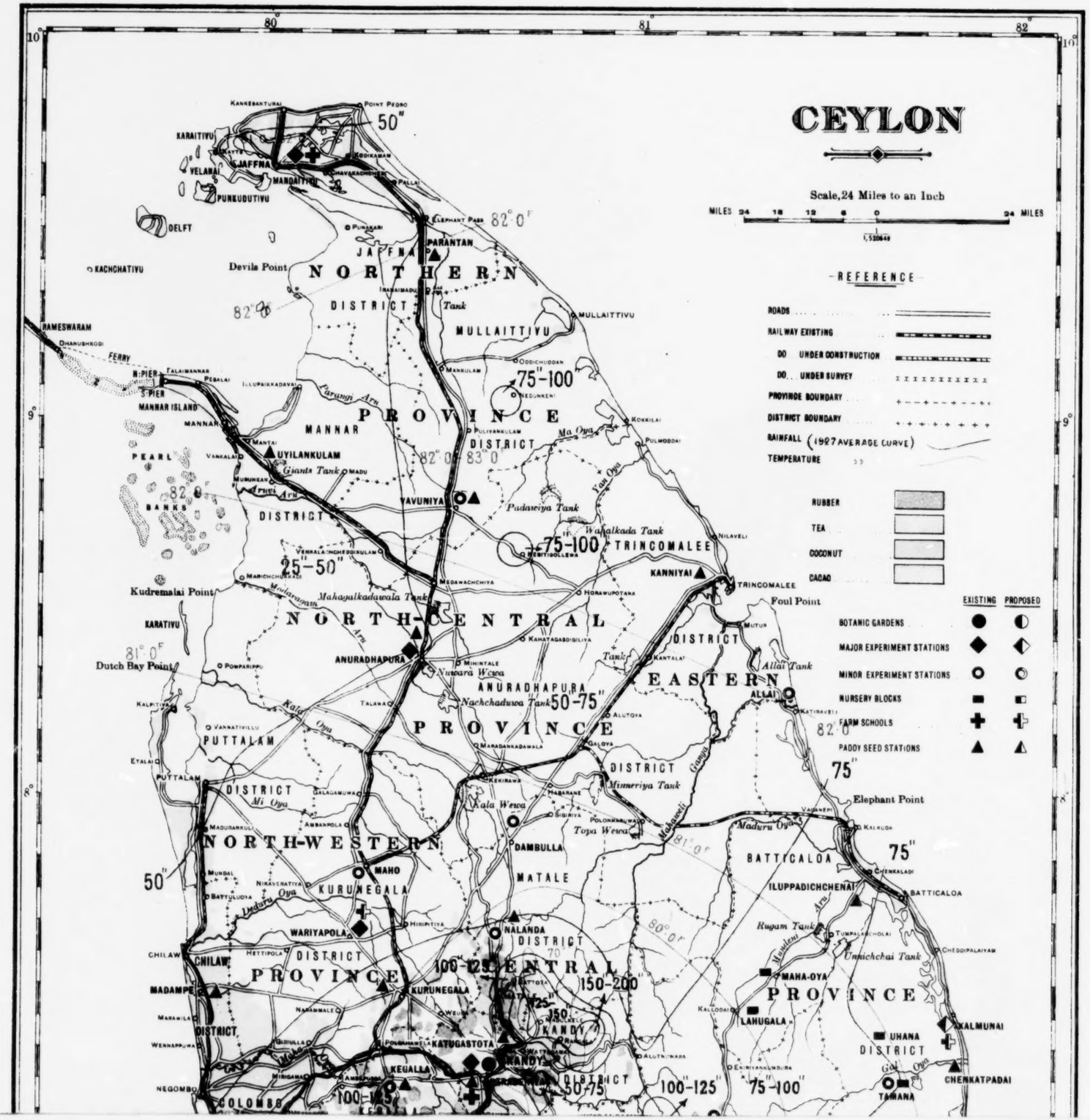

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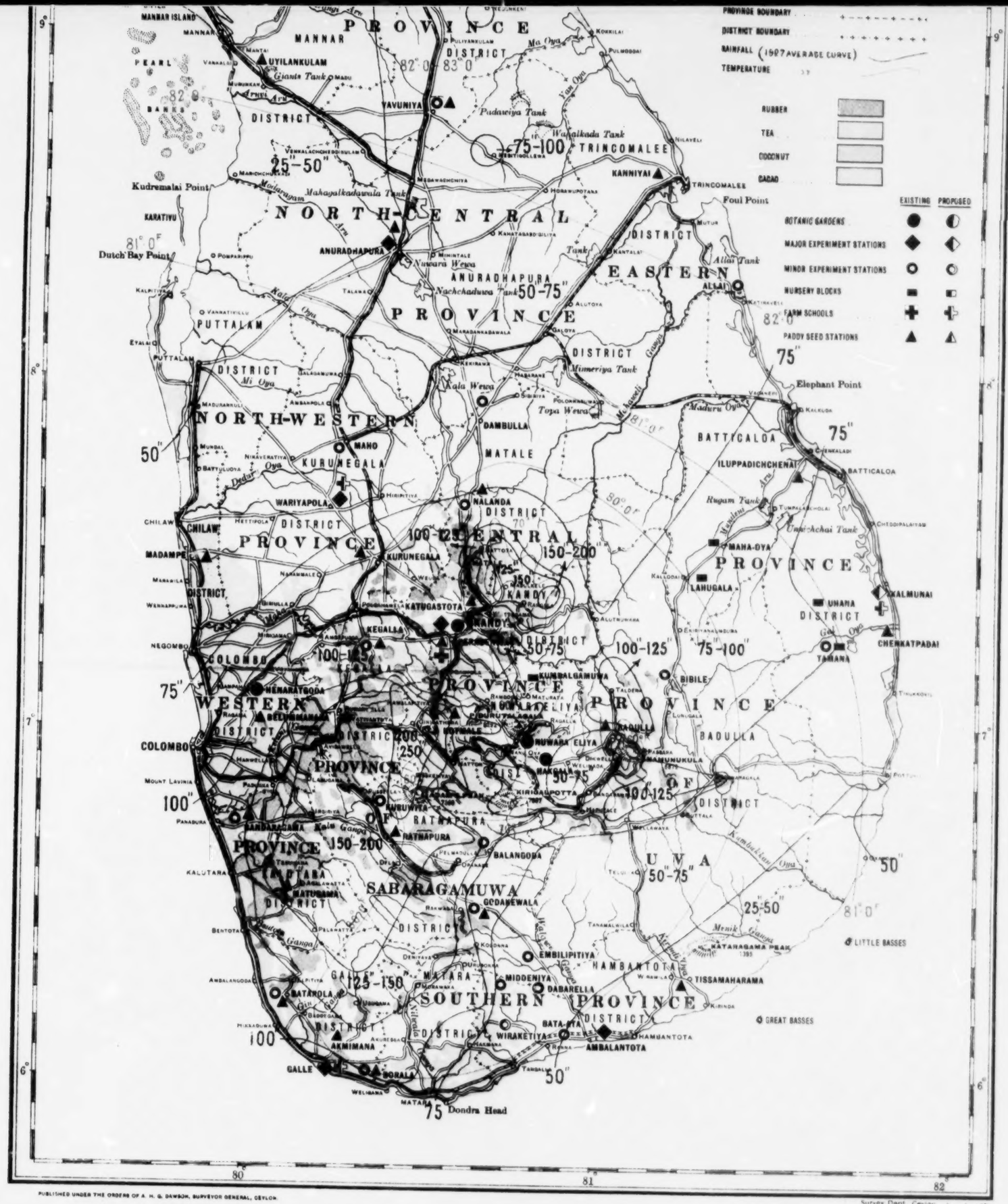

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Survey Dept. Ceylon

tea as a preventive of soil erosion, and a number of estates are now making similar trials. There is little doubt that the future stability of the industry from an agricultural point of view depends upon the solution of the soil erosion problem and the increase of the organic matter in the soils.

Tea Tortrix was severe in its attacks during the year, and it was decided to have this pest scheduled, and the collection of egg-masses, larvae, and pupae made compulsory. Tea termites are still under investigation. These pests have caused considerable damage in some areas, and their treatment constitutes a serious problem. It is probable that by the treatment of wounds, with a view to prevention of wood rot, and by the stimulation of callus formation by liberal manuring around the time of pruning the solution of the problem may be found. Various trials are being made, but nothing definite has yet been ascertained. The leaf disease caused by *Cercosporella theae* was serious in some areas, and estates in the "mist-zone" have been recommended to remove the acacias which they were growing as green-manure plants on account of the frequency of the spread of the disease from them to the tea. Root diseases still continue under investigation, and further data in regard to the distribution of *Rhizoctonia* have been secured. Soil investigations continue to be made, and research work on the leaching of manures and the nitrification of nitrogenous fertilizers and of green manures is being carried on.

The total number of tea plants transferred under permit from the Department of Agriculture during the year was 4,555,479, as against 4,451,877 during the previous year.

The housing of estate labour continues to be improved, and during the year Ordinance No. 27 of 1927 amending "the law relating to Indian labourers" was passed by the Legislature. This Ordinance prescribes for a standard wage of Indian immigrant labour and for a regulation of their conditions of labour. Infant welfare work on estates continues to progress, and the education of children of estate labourers is receiving attention. The anti-malarial work by the medical adviser, supported by tea and rubber estates, has made progress and some interesting results secured.

The Tea Research Scheme has not yet been able to secure an estate for experimental purposes, and in consequence its work has had to be carried on in temporary quarters.

Rubber.

The exports of rubber amounted 60,728 tons of a value of Rs. 129,757,640, as against 63,621 tons of a value of Rs. 184,423,215 during 1926. The export of latex amounted to 250 gallons of a value of Rs. 997.

The Working of the Rubber Restriction Ordinance during the Restriction Period, Novemeber 1, 1926, to October 31, 1927.

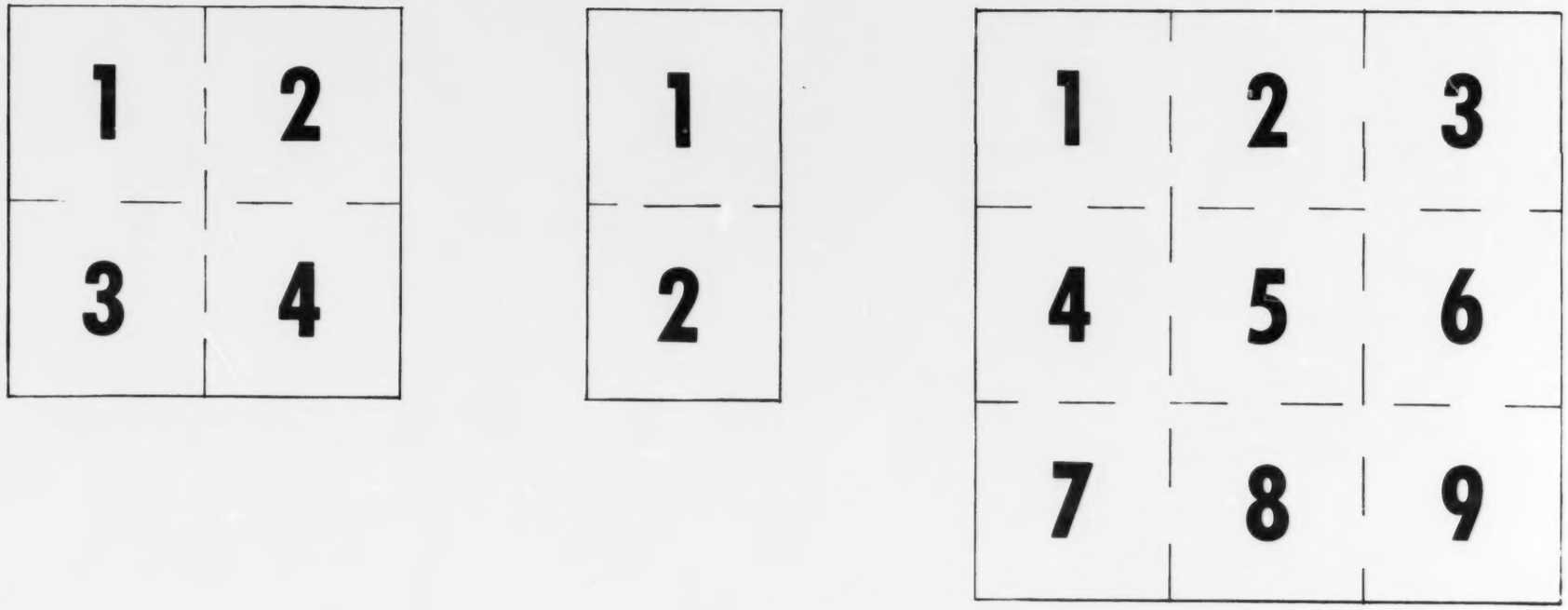
The restriction scheme continued to be in force throughout the year, and the percentages of release for the various quarters were—

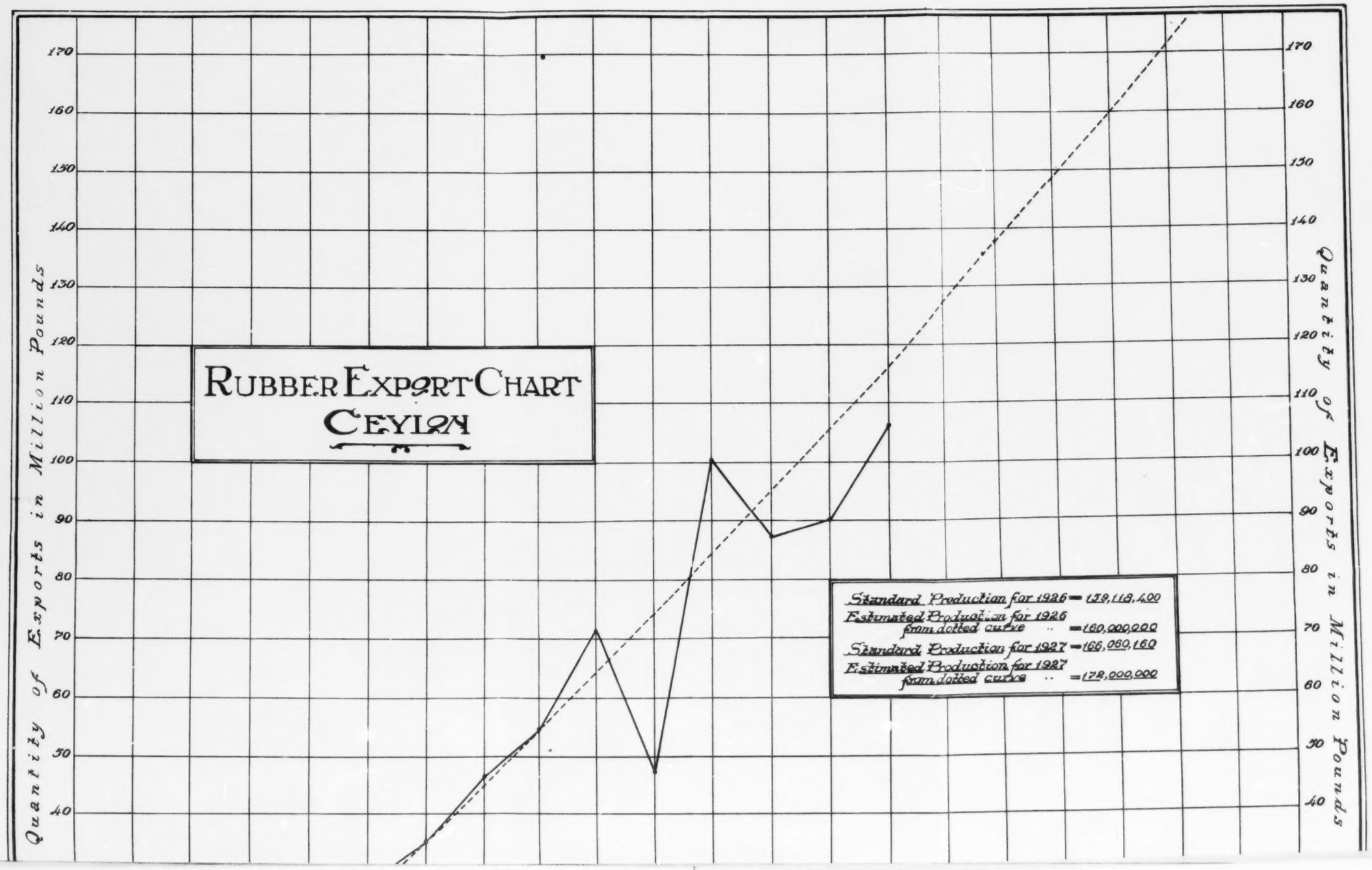
1st quarter 80 per cent.	3rd quarter 60 per cent.
2nd quarter 70 per cent.	4th quarter 60 per cent.

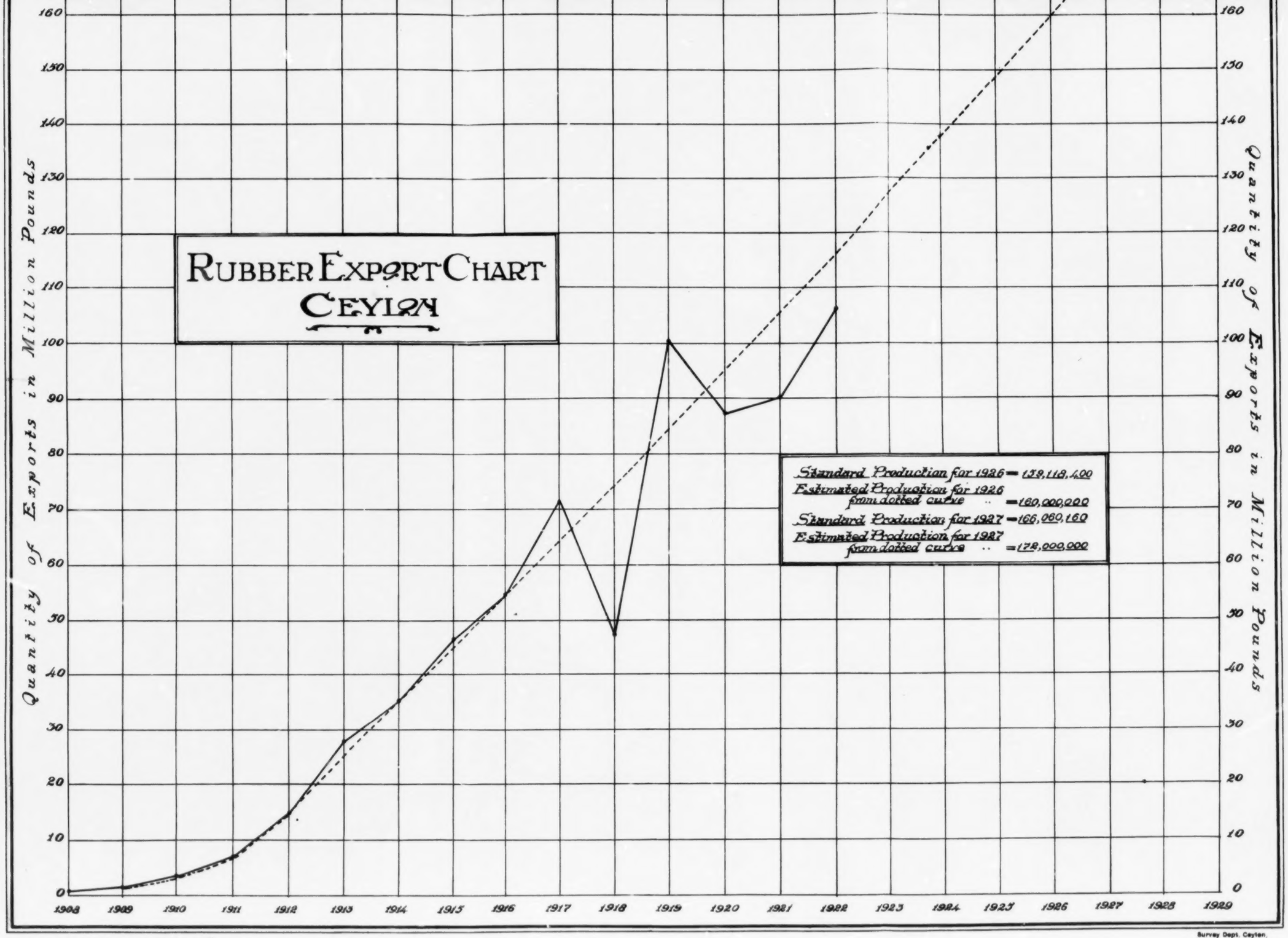
The total standard production for the rubber estates in Ceylon was 73,839 tons, and the exportable maximum for the year amounted therefore to 49,842 tons. The quantity actually exported was 57,875 tons, a quantity much in excess of the exportable maximum, and the necessary export certificates were obtained by the use of the unused certificates outstanding at the end of the previous restriction year. The quantity of unused certificates outstanding on October 31, 1927, was 7,558 tons, and by January 31, 1928, was further reduced to 6,29[illegible] tons. The accumulation of unused certificates during 1926 has given rise to a general impression that the rubber estates in Ceylon have been over-assessed. In this connection it is interesting to consider the figures of production since 1909 and attempt to discover what the figures ought to have been had restriction not intervened. The chart facing this page shows the actual export figures from 1909–1922, and the dotted line shows the form the curve would have taken in the ordinary course. It will be seen that the export figures for 1926 would have been 160,000,000 lb. as compared with a standard production of 159,118,400 lb., and for 1927 172,000,000 lb. as compared with a standard production of 160,060,160 lb. The surprisingly close agreement of the two sets of figures needs no emphasis. It is evident that in 1926 the estates, after years of restriction, could not immediately jump to full production, and, moreover, after only nine months on 100 per cent. production restriction was enforced again. The charge of failure on the part of Ceylon in the administration of the scheme based on the evidence of the accumulation of certificates in 1926 has not been substantiated. This charge is based on the conception that the rubber-producing areas are of the nature of a capacious urn, from which in any quarter 100 per cent. or 60 per cent. of full production can be drawn at will—a conception which it is unnecessary to emphasize is not in accord with the facts.

The acreage under rubber is now estimated at 498,662 acres, of which 433,662 acres are in estates over 10 acres in extent and 65,000 acres under 10 acres. The figures showing the number of registered estates and their acreage for the previous years are

Maps on this order too large to be entirely included in one exposure are filmed clockwise beginning in the upper left hand corner, left to right and top to bottom as many frames as required. The following diagrams illustrate the method.




RUBBER EXPORT CHART
CEYLON
Quantity of Exports in Million Pounds
170
160
150
140
130
120
110
100
90
80
70
60
50
40
Standard Production for 1926 = 139,118,400
Estimated Production for 1926 from dotted curve .. = 160,000,000
Standard Production for 1927 = 166,060,160
Estimated Production for 1927 from dotted curve .. = 178,000,000



Statistical Department.

Survey Dept. Ceylon.
8.4.28.

as follows, and it will be seen that the acreage under rubber has increased considerably since the introduction of restriction, especially in the case of the estates under 10 acres in extent :—

Number of registered estates—

	1922–23.	1923–24.	1924–25.	1926.	1927.
Over 10 acres	3,944	4,250	4,325	4,536	4,840
Under 10 acres	20,354	24,432	25,340	33,355	34,637
	24,294	28,682	29,665	37,891	39,477

Acreage—

	1922–23.	1923–24.	1924–25.	1926.	1927.
Over 10 acres	404,297	415,155	418,908	425,904	433,662
Under 10 acres	38,814	45,870	48,522	59,790	65,000
	443,111	461,025	467,430	485,694	498,662

During the year the sale of rubber without certificates was made illegal, previously only the sale of certificates without rubber had been illegal. The question of limiting the period of validity of the certificates was carefully considered, and was not adopted, as has been done in Malaya. The circumstances in Malaya, where Singapore and Penang are free ports, are very different from those obtaining in Ceylon.

An important amendment of the Ordinance was made during the year, which provided for the immediate allocation of the surplus of the Rubber Restriction Fund for purposes connected with the furtherance and development of the plantation rubber industry. This amendment will enable a sum of about Rs. 300,000 to be applied immediately to schemes for the furtherance and development of the plantation rubber industry.

Prices of rubber were more or less uniform during the year. There were periods of slight fluctuations, but the tone of market on the whole was weak throughout and uncertain.

The quality of both crêpe and sheet rubber was well maintained, and most of the usual blemishes, such as rust and mould, are now much less frequent on account of greater care being given to the methods of manufacture and of drying. The use of paranitrophenol as a preventive of mould in sheet continues to extend, and formic acid has been found to be satisfactory as a coagulant and is replacing acetic acid.

Secondary leaf-fall caused by *Phytophthora* was much less common during the year and in no case was serious. On the other hand, the leaf-fall caused by *Oidium*, especially in the drier areas, was much more common and is causing some concern to a few estates. Practically no spraying was done for secondary leaf-fall. It is believed that the weather conditions

were not favourable to this disease, and it is possible that manuring has also had some influence upon the incidence of this disease. It is hoped that *Oidium* and leaf-fall may likewise be rendered less severe by liberal manuring with nitrogenous fertilizers. Brown bast continues to show an increase in the drier areas, and the percentage of affected trees on some estates is now high. The scraping method of treatment has proved to be satisfactory, and bark renewal after treatment has come up to expectations. There is, however, little doubt that the prevalence of brown bast will be a factor of importance and crop yields in the drier areas will be reduced by it.

The control of soil erosion has received further attention, and the spread of *Dolichos Hosei* as a cover crop has been considerable. This plant has shown itself to be well suited for growth under the shade of rubber and is now employed over considerable areas. The agricultural treatment of this plant is the subject of experiment, and there is little doubt that its use will extend when its value and treatment agriculturally has been further demonstrated.

Continued interest has also been taken in the selection of high-yielding strains of rubber. Plans for a definite programme of work has been elaborated during the year and several estates have combined in a programme of investigation and experiment. Yield records have been taken and steps taken for the testing of high-yielding trees as mother trees. The industry, however, favours the use of selected seed rather than bud-grafting, and during the year the Department of Agriculture had a demand for its selected seed from high-yielding trees greatly in excess of the supply.

The Rubber Research Scheme had 214 subscribers at the end of 1927, as against 211 the previous year. Its work is being increasingly appreciated by the industry.

Coconuts.

The exports of coconut products and their values during 1927 were as follows :—

		Rs.
Coconuts—fresh	18,875,750 nuts	1,515,087
Copra	1,982,154 cwt.	31,844,823
Desiccated	872,833 cwt.	20,481,761
Oil	673,162 cwt.	16,567,773
Poonac	173,155 cwt.	1,24[illegible],983
Fibre—bristle	170,728 cwt.	1,569,904
Fibre—mattress	356,121 cwt.*	1,313,404*
Coir yarn	130,821 cwt.	2,177,824

*Including ships' stores.

These figures show a total fall in the value of exports of Rs. 2,072,744. This is accounted for mainly by a short-fall in crops, particularly in the second part of the year, as the result of short rainfall during the previous twelve months. This fall in exports attracted attention and resulted in an investigation being made of the exports of coconut products during the past sixteen years. This investigation gave the following results :—

Year.	Oil. Tons.	Copra. Tons.	Desiccated. Tons.	Fresh Coconuts.
1911	25,251	41,091	14,610	15,723,393
1912	20,089	30,704	13,940	16,010,809
1913	27,349	55,865	15,190	16,861,324
1914	24,314	70,597	15,593	11,429,594
Total	97,003	198,257	59,333	60,025,120
1915	25,075	60,426	17,450	5,827,669
1916	16,151	65,497	15,307	4,694,297
1917	21,735	53,935	13,603	5,289,481
1918	26,374	63,616	10,168	6,553,278
Total	89,335	243,474	56,528	22,364,725
1919	33,800	87,976	33,753	3,390,710
1920	25,376	67,893	25,937	9,776,479
1921	24,236	68,372	43,526	23,738,542
1922	27,731	84,329	38,411	22,317,747
Total	111,143	308,570	141,627	59,223,478
1923	24,027	50,773	40,940	15,693,670
1924	27,631	88,459	43,567	29,121,041
1925	30,890	113,686	39,708	23,288,786
1926	28,523	120,970	37,718	16,951,368
Total	111,071	373,888	161,933	85,054,865

Mr. Rutherford adopted for his conversion of oil, copra, and desiccated coconuts the following data :—

1 ton of oil = 8,125 nuts
1 ton of copra = 5,000 nuts
1 ton of desiccated = 6,900 nuts

Similar data have been adopted in this survey and the following figures are obtained:—

Statement showing the Annual Quantity of Coconuts utilized in the various Products exported from Ceylon.

Year.	Oil.	Copra.	Desiccated.	Fresh Nuts.	Total.
1911	205,164,375	205,455,000	100,809,000	15,723,393	527,151,768
1912	163,223,125	153,520,000	95,186,000	16,010,809	427,939,924
1913	222,210,625	279,325,000	104,811,000	16,861,324	623,207,949
1914	197,551,250	352,985,000	107,591,700	11,429,524	669,557,474
Total	788,149,375	991,285,000	408,397,700	60,025,050	2,247,857,115
Average per annum	197,037,344	247,821,250	102,099,425	15,006,262	561,964,281

Year.	Oil.	Copra.	Desiccated.	Fresh Nuts.	Total.
1915	203,734,375	302,130,000	120,405,000	5,827,669	632,097,044
1916	131,226,875	327,485,000	105,618,300	4,694,297	569,024,472
1917	176,596,875	269,675,000	93,860,700	5,289,481	545,422,056
1918	214,288,750	318,080,000	70,159,200	6,553,278	609,081,228
Total	725,846,875	1,217,370,000	390,043,200	22,364,725	2,355,624,800
Average per annum	181,461,719	304,342,500	97,510,800	5,591,181	588,906,200
1919	274,625,000	439,880,000	232,895,700	3,390,710	950,791,410
1920	206,180,000	339,465,000	178,965,000	9,776,479	734,386,779
1921	196,917,500	341,860,000	300,329,400	23,738,542	862,345,442
1922	225,314,375	421,645,000	265,035,900	22,317,747	934,313,022
Total	903,036,875	1,542,850,000	977,226,300	59,223,478	3,482,336,653
Average per annum	225,759,219	385,712,500	244,306,575	14,805,869	870,584,163
1923	195,219,375	253,865,000	282,486,000	15,693,670	747,264,045
1924	224,501,875	442,295,000	300,612,300	29,121,041	996,630,216
1925	250,981,250	568,430,000	273,985,200	23,288,786	1,116,685,236
1926	231,749,375	604,850,000	260,254,200	16,951,368	1,113,804,943
Total	902,451,875	1,869,440,000	1,117,337,700	85,054,865	3,974,284,440
Average per annum	225,612,969	467,360,000	279,334,425	21,263,716	993,571,110

The total nuts exported during the four-yearly periods specified above have been as follows:—

1911–1914	..	2,247,856,125	=	100
1915–1918	..	2,355,624,800	=	105
1919–1922	..	3,482,336,653	=	155
1923–1926	..	3,974,284,440	=	177

The war period shows but slight increases, undoubtedly due to shortage of freight and to increased local consumption during this period. It is possible that the export averages for the period 1919–1922 were higher than they would have been normally owing to the clearing out of stocks after the termination of war, but it is significant that the average export of coconut products for the four-yearly period 1923–1926 was 77 per cent. higher than for the four-yearly period 1911–1914. Mr. Rutherford, in 1922, in his calculations eliminated the year 1914 and based his percentage increases upon the average of the three years 1911–1913. He found that the production for export had shown an increase at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum, or 60 per cent. in the twelve years. Using the same basis of calculation, it is found that the average annual export for the period 1923–1926 was 189 per cent. in excess of the basic averages, or a rate of increase equal to 5·6 per cent. per annum

This steady increase is due to young plantations coming into bearing and to a higher state of cultivation. If the rate is to be continued, there is little doubt that more widespread attention must be given to better cultivation and manuring. If the total acreage of Ceylon coconuts was highly cultivated, very marked increase in exports would be possible.

Values.

It may now be interesting to take a survey of the values of the exports over similar periods. They are as follows :—

Period.	Total Values. Rs.	Average Value per Annum. Rs.
1911–1914	155,440,085	38,860,021
1915–1918	146,694,681	36,673,670
1919–1922	284,832,849	71,203,212
1923–1926	277,217,501	69,304,375

The ratios of these are as follows :—

1911–1914	=	100	1919–1922	=	183
1915–1918	=	94	1923–1926	=	178

These figures show clearly the higher values for coconut products in the years immediately following the termination of the war period and a return during the period 1923–1926 to what may be considered normal—the value being only 1 per cent. in excess of the amounts of the exports.

The local consumption of coconuts is not known with accuracy, but there is every reason to believe that it is annually increasing. Prices for coconut products were on the whole steady throughout the year, and there was a slight revival in the desiccated product and in consequence an increase in exports. As from January 16, 1927, the export duty on desiccated coconut was reduced to 65 cents per cwt. (from 70 cents) ; for coconut oil, to 65 cents per cwt. (from 75 cents).

Cultivation methods show little change. The system of monthly harrowings is now giving place to a system of less frequent cultivation with a burial of weeds and green crops. It was found that frequent harrowings showed a tendency towards the depletion of the soils of their organic matter and that crops eventually showed some reduction thereby. Trials with creeping cover crops have been begun, and there is little doubt that the use of such plants as *Dolichos Hosei* will eventually become general in the best cultivated estates. Pests and diseases call for little comment. Caterpillar was common in some parts of the North-Western Province, but was effectively controlled by the local parasites, which are being specially investigated. The Department of Agriculture issued during

the year three coloured posters dealing with coconut pests and diseases. These were widely distributed throughout the coconut-growing districts and were also supplied to schools.

Paddy.

The north-east monsoon rains of 1926 were late and short. In consequence a short maha crop was reaped. This crop was further damaged by most unseasonal rains during the harvest season. These rains ruined much of the crop and rendered the grain largely unfit for seed purposes. In fact it was the exception rather than the rule for growers to secure their crops in a fit condition for storage for seed purposes. The yala season was, however, more satisfactory and good average crops were secured. The north-east monsoon rains at the end of 1927 were short and late. In considerable tracts, particularly in the Northern Province and in the North-Central Province, irrigation tanks were short of water, and in some areas no cultivation for the maha crop was possible. In the Northern Province rain-fed lands were sown early with the earliest showers, but, following upon these early showers there was a long severe drought and large areas of paddy crops which made an encouraging beginning died out for shortage of water. The result will be a complete failure of crops in considerable areas and the consequent shortage of the principal foodstuff.

Progress with the work being carried on by the Department of Agriculture in the production of pure-line strains of paddy is continued, and at the present time a number of selected and tested types are beginning to be available for the use of cultivators in several localities. There is a gratifying demand for these paddies, and if a satisfactory system of seed storage and distribution can be built up there is every reason to anticipate satisfactory increases in crops as the result of the use of better seed.

Cacao.

The exports of cacao amounted to 80,798 cwt. of a value of Rs. 2,747,247, as against an export of 64,750 cwt. of a value of Rs. 1,953,684 in 1926. The year was a good one for cacao, and increased crops were obtained in all areas under this product. Prices were at a higher level than during the previous year, but did not come up to those obtained in 1925. The replacement of cacao by rubber took place on a few estates during the year.

Cardamoms.

The exports amounted to 3,177* cwt. of a value of Rs.850,355,* as against 2,848* cwt. of a value of Rs. 842,318* during the

* Including ships' stores.

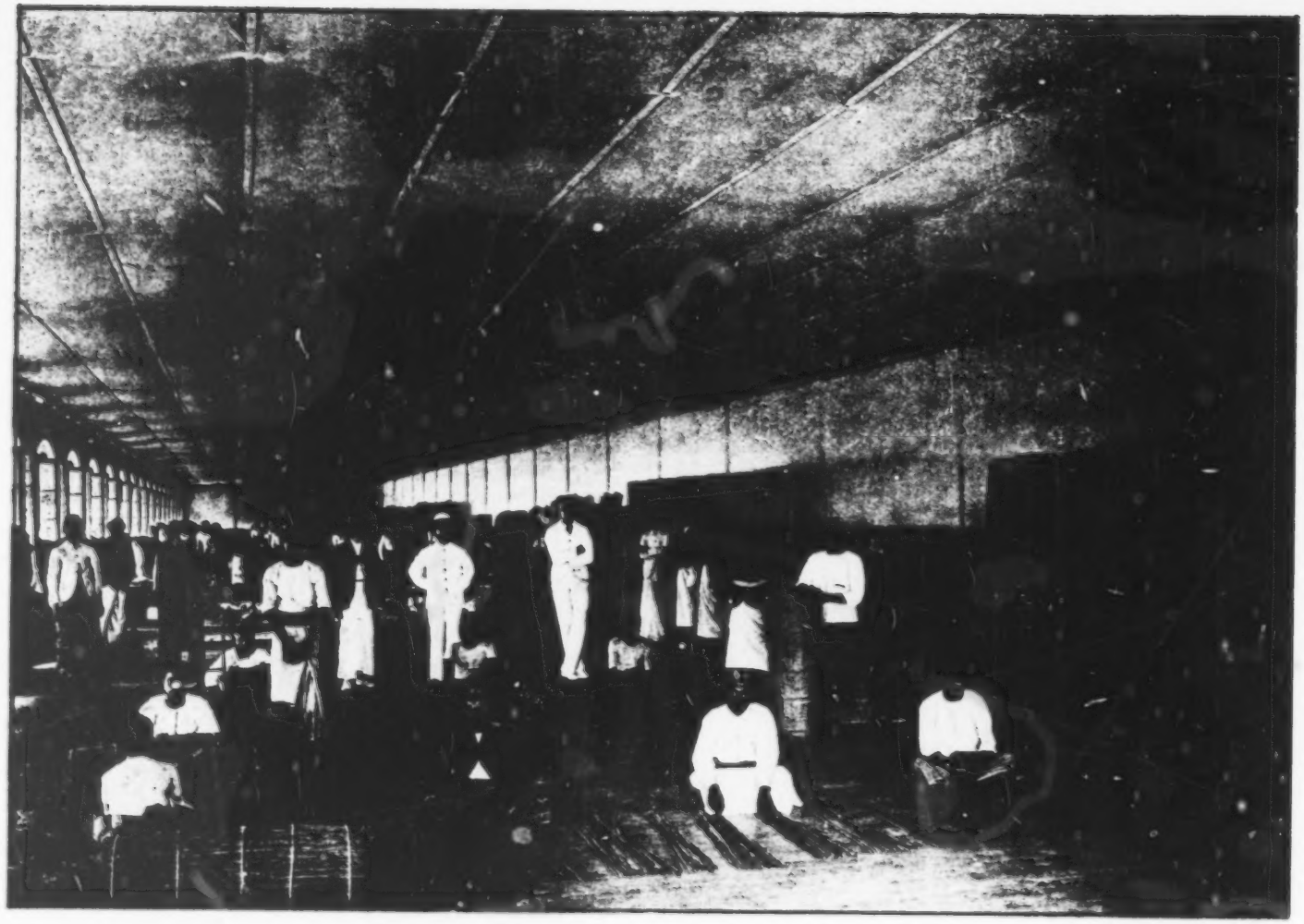
No. 2.

CACAO FACTORY : GRADING BEFORE BAGGING.

Plate, Limited, Colombo.

No. 3.

CINNAMON FACTORY : SORTING AND PACKING.



Plate, Limited, Colombo.

previous year. The prices were at a lower level during the year and the increased interest which was being shown in this product was not maintained.

Citronella Oil.

The exports amounted to 1,358,191 lb. of a value of Rs. 1,264,745, as against 1,431,351 lb. of a value of Rs. 1,774,326 in 1926. Prices were at a low level and for a certain time it was difficult to dispose of stocks at remunerative prices. The whole year was a most disappointing one for citronella growers.

Cinnamon.

This product, on the other hand, had a very good year indeed. High prices ruled over a considerable period and have stimulated again an interest in the planting of cinnamon. The exports of quills amounted to 31,301* cwt. of a value of Rs. 4,558,632,* as against 31,241* cwt. of a value of Rs. 3,985,238* during the previous year; and of chips to 11,114 cwt of a value of Rs. 227,611, as against 11,874 cwt. of a value of Rs. 225,012.

Fibres.

The exports of sisal hemp amounted to 4,140 cwt. of a value of Rs. 120,781, as against 5,236 cwt. of a value of Rs. 167,700 during the previous year. This reduction was due to the closing down of the Maha Illupallama estate. The Government Exepriment Station at Anuradhapura produced 220 cwt. of fibre during the year, but it was unable to work for more than half the season on account of water shortage. These experiments on a small scale on the Experiment Station have been sufficiently satisfactory to warrant further trials being made in villages where dry land cultivation of a more or less permanent character is desirable.

The exports of kapok amounted to 3,320 cwt. of a value of Rs. 235,248, as against 6,045 cwt. of a value of Rs. 411,953 during 1926. The crop was considerably shorter than the previous year, but was approximately equal to that of 1925. The trials made with the best Java type of kapok have been satisfactory, and an effort is being made to establish kapok as a money crop for the village populations in the more sparsely populated areas of the dry zone.

Cotton cultivation, owing to the break in the world's prices, had to be assisted by Government. A subsidy of Rs. 5·50 per cwt. was paid by Government on all seed cotton produced. The crop, which was considerably damaged by the heavy unseasonal rains during the harvesting period, only amounted to 2,000 cwt. of seed cotton. Arrangements were made by

* Including ships' stores.

Government to purchase the crop on behalf of the Spinning and Weaving Mills at Colombo, and the establishment of three buying stations and stores was completed in the Hambantota District during the year. Three special rotation stations were established and produced their first crops during the year, whilst work on two others was undertaken and crops in them sown for the first time with the north-east rains.

Papain.

The exports of papain amounted to 83,416 lb. of a value of Rs. 670,974. as against 73,624 lb. of a value of Rs. 621,384 in 1926. Prices ruled high in the earlier part of the year, but they broke towards the middle and showed a considerable fall. The interest which has been stimulated in this crop is, however, being maintained.

Arecanuts.

The exports of arecanuts during the year amounted to 118,278 cwt., as against 165,475 cwt. during the previous year.

Tobacco.

The exports of White Burley tobacco from the Jaffna District under the Department of Agriculture purchase scheme amounted to 13,328 lb. of cured tobacco and realized prices round 1*s.* 5*d.* per lb. on the London market. These prices were lower than those realized during the previous year as the crop was during 1927 badly sun-spotted.

Co-operation.

With the increase in the directing and supervising staff a certain amount of overhaul of the weaker societies has been possible, and a number of societies covering too large areas for their operation has been split into smaller ones. Societies which showed no response to additional attention and supervision have been liquidated. Ninety-six new societies were registered during the year, whilst the registration of 65 was cancelled, and at the end of the Co-operative year on April 30 the total number of working societies was 354. These had a membership of 35,112 with a paid-up share capital of Rs. 430,311·38 and deposits of Rs. 67,689·23. The amount standing to the credit of reserve funds of all societies was Rs. 91,421·32, and loans from Government funds amounting to Rs. 55,500 were granted during the year, making a total of Rs. 158,208·62 outstanding. Recoveries of loans have continued to show improvement, and it is to be expected that with increased inspection and supervision considerable progress should be possible.

FORESTS.

Revenue.—The total cash revenue recovered by the Department in 1927, on account of timber and fuel and minor produce, and including miscellaneous revenue, rose to Rs. 873,867·72 from Rs. 699,630 in 1926 and Rs. 693,079 in 1925. It is satisfactory to note that this very substantial increase was only partly due to higher prices realized for export satinwood at the Central Timber Depôt, transactions which give a by no means definite guarantee of continuity, and is mainly attributable to the pronounced encouragement given by the Department to buyers in the Provinces by more attractive methods of sale, which are beginning sensibly to supersede the licence system, and, more important, show every sign of continuity and development on much wider lines, as facilities come to be given for the rational exploitation, under systematic management, of the reserves and proposed reserves, which exist, or ought to exist, for the benefit of the community. The sale of individual trees, on the licence system, and fixed royalty rates, is thus giving place to the sale of the coupe, for which competition is invited, and wherever this system, applied at present mainly to forests within reasonable access of Colombo, the main consumer of timber and firewood, has been introduced, it has sprung into instant popularity and created active demand for further forest blocks. As soon as it is realized that such coupes will only be advertised once annually, and that the licence system will be suspended in forests in which the new system operates, there is no doubt that excellent prices will be realized, and that the Department will be called upon to apply the same methods in all forest areas which cater for a large demand, and are capable of being worked systematically. Four centres in the Western Division have now been added to the scheme, which has been in working for some few years in the Southern Division (West), and it is hoped in 1928 to add three fresh areas in the North-Western Division. Under the method referred to, the whole of the existing forest crop is removed and utilized, and an area made available for reforestation, either by means of coppice fellings, or planting in combination with field crops.

In addition to the development of such methods, considerable business was done by means of well advertised sales of collections of timber in local depôts, apart from the very successful year which the established sale depôts of the Department experienced. There are everywhere indications of steadily increasing demand, due entirely to improved business methods, rendering purchase more attractive, and the Department looks forward with greater confidence to sustained and continually increasing

demand, which alone permits of the regulated management of its forests, under correct methods of exploitation and improvement, or regeneration. The revenue derived from the sale of forest produce in 1927 is more than three times that of 1917, when the only method of sale was the inelastic licence system, and it may be safely predicted that the present revenue should easily be more than doubled in the next decade, given staff and funds for development.

The Department would far prefer the development of forest exploitation to meet the needs of the local population, than to depend on such sources of revenue as the highly artificial value of satinwood, placed on the market for export sales. During the year slightly less than 10,000 cubic feet of this material were sold, realizing the large sum of Rs. 190,758·75, or an average of Rs. 19·94 per cubic foot, while well flowered logs reached the fancy figure of Rs. 86·25 per cubic foot. At present demand appears to be sustained, and the Department will take advantage of the large resulting revenue, but it is to be feared that the prices ruling at the present day will inevitably kill the trade in due course, and it is vastly preferable to develop a steady demand for timber in ordinary use, at moderate prices, and unless this is done there may be a considerable drop in revenue in any year. The bulk of the satinwood sold finds its way to America, where flowered satinwood veneer is at the moment in great demand. The supply of this material is by no means easy. Logs of the dimensions required are only found after protracted search, and methods of extraction are primitive, while 50 per cent. of the trees, the dimensions of which are suitable for this supply, may be expected to be hollow or unsound through age. The cost of supply delivered in Colombo is in the region of Rs. 3 per cubic foot, a rate which in the case of other hardwoods is prohibitive for the purpose of local sale and local use, imported teak being preferred, or Australian hardwoods.

Regular monthly auction sales of ebony were also held at the Central Timber Depôt, Rs. 25,322 being recovered for 653 logs weighing 128 tons 8 cwt., at an average of Rs. 197·50 per ton, the highest price realized being Rs. 650 per ton. There appears to be little demand for ebony for export purposes.

By far the largest of any local transactions during the year were those at Jaffna, where the demand for firewood and building timbers realized the large sum of Rs. 170,113·55, an improvement of over Rs. 45,000 on the previous year. All material for this depôt is supplied on departmental contracts, and the division was at times hard pressed to meet the demand for firewood, which rose from 6,904 tons in 1926 to 11,363 tons in 1927. Regular monthly auctions of palu (*Mimusops*

hexandra) were held throughout the year, resulting in the disposal of 1,211 palu logs, or 19,539 cubic feet, at an average rate of Re. 1·94 per cubic foot. Moderate upset prices were fixed, and this timber did not suffer at all from competition with Indian and Burma teak, which was imported in considerable quantity by private enterprise.

A further noticeable feature of the year's working has been the expansion of trade in timber and firewood up-country, reflected in the transactions of the sale depôts in the Uva Division, which realized Rs. 53,008·48, or an increase of Rs. 23,449·94 over the previous year. With regard to firewood, the Department is in this division hardly affected by the sudden decision of Government to replace wood fuel with coal, while the demand for good local building timbers is likely to be only limited by the capacity of the Department to supply. It is slowly but surely coming to be realized that twenty years' concentration on supplies to Government Departments spent by the Department in the capacity of unpaid contractors to those Departments has ignored the essential requirements of the local population, which should, admittedly, claim prior attention. The Uva Division has now followed the example of a few other divisions, and, by dint of unremitting zeal, has made a solid advance in capturing local demand, by means of retail sale, at easy prices, and on fixed orders, which it is intended shortly to replace by regular auction sales, now that it is known what dimensions of sawn timber are in demand. The only apprehension felt is that the valuable timber contents of fuel areas, cut over and to be cut over, by means of clear fellings, for reforestation with timber species, will prove insufficient to meet the growing demand, before plantation grown timber can be placed on the market.

In the division referred to Departmental operations will be the order of the day, as supplies to consuming centres involve long rail transport, which can best be handled by the Department. Wherever possible, exploitation will elsewhere be carried out by purchasers, especially where navigable rivers are available In such localities the value of forest produce may be appreciated from the sale of a coupe of 50 acres in Mitirigala reserve, adjacent to the Kelani-ganga, with direct access to Colombo. This coupe, the first of its kind in the locality, realized Rs. 11,111, or well over Rs. 200 per acre, and, in contrast to the licence system, will render a compact annual area available for reforestation. As stated, it is hoped to extend the method rapidly.

Exploitation.—Apart from Departmental extraction for the stocking of established depôts, the major exploitation work of

the Department was carried out, on the usual lines, to meet the requirements of other Government Departments, and consisted of the following :—7,734 broad gauge and 6,306 narrow gauge sleepers, 145,725 cubic yards of firewood, 34,520 cubic feet of sawn timber, and 180,916 cubic feet of timber in the log, while 136,230 pieces of small round timber were extracted on licences. These supplies represent a value of Rs. 678, 924·73 actual cost and Rs. 368,496·79 royalty, in all Rs. 1,116,414·80, against Rs. 1,186,845·43 in the previous year. Such supplies are, thus, still the bulk of the work of the Department. Apart, however, from timber supplied in the log, and sawn bridge planks for the Public Works Department, the scope of these supplies is gradually diminishing. The sleeper supply represents balances on existing contracts only, and it is doubtful whether future exploitation will include any of these supplies, while the firewood supply to the Railway is now under constant annual reduction, and is expected to disappear almost entirely in a few years.

During the year the financial methods which have for twenty years governed the nature of supplies to Government Departments, which have hitherto secured only paper credit, at royalty rates, for the Department, came under considerable notice, in connection with certain tenders for a large contract for this purpose, with the result that a Departmental Committee has been formed to go into the whole question of placing the Department on a commercial basis, in respect of these supplies. It is perhaps not generally known that the question of supplies to Government Departments will find an important place in the deliberations of the Forestry Conference in Australia and New Zealand in 1928, at which, so far as is known at present, Ceylon is not to be represented. Much good work has been done in the way of concentrating supplies to Government Departments in selected exploitation areas, worked on an area basis, and, as far as possible, such supplies will be confined to forest areas from which timber cannot readily be marketed.

It is considered that such areas should be the only areas exploited by Government Agency for this purpose and that the rest should be reserved for competitive exploitation by purchasers, which, it is considered, is bound to come provided it receives sufficient encouragement. At present private enterprise is strangled by lack of markets.

It is plainly desirable that private enterprise should be encouraged, and it is considered that much more could be done to provide an outlet for material purchased from areas under exploitation, while it is plainly to the advantage of the Department to dispose of utilizable standing material by sale rather

than by Departmental contracts, which everywhere create embarrassment. If therefore the present method of Departmental extraction of timber for other Government Departments persists, it is considered that the Department should undertake to supply only a percentage of these requirements, and that local enterprise should be given the opportunity of supplying the balance, by the institution of the practice of calling for tenders by indenting Departments for the balance from local sources, before purchasing requirements from abroad. This would tend both to provide the Forest Department with a definite and sustained demand, and encourage local enterprise by giving an outlet for the timber, which, it is hoped, will in course of time be readily purchased from the Department.

In one instance, if not in all, timber is not supplied to contractors for the construction of Government buildings, with the result that they have to obtain their requirements from outside sources. This is usually done by entering into sub-contracts with local contractors, who apply to the Forest Department for licences to cut a few trees, in the hope of being able to obtain their balance requirements illicitly. Since the Department has, however, in the particular instance, commenced stocking and selling sawn timber of standard dimensions, such contractors are beginning to obtain their requirements from the Department direct, which is as it should be.

It is certainly preferable that the Department should confine itself to wholesale trade, where possible, and allow the retail trade to be conducted by the purchasers of coupes, and there seems to be little difficulty in this provided that such purchasers are, if necessary, given a guarantee that the Department will buy back an arranged percentage of their extracted material, for supplies to Government Departments, until they have developed sustained local markets for their purchases.

There are differences of opinion regarding the question of commercialization, but it hardly needs a second glance to realize that the present methods whereby the eyes of the forests are picked out to meet exacting Government requirements, without recovering value for such material, are not in the real interests of the country, while this single form of supply makes no attempt to cater for local requirements. In addition, as reserved forests are coming under regular exploitation, the forest capital of the country is being encroached upon, and, such supplies being on a non-payment basis, the Department is unable to obtain the necessary funds for the improvement and regeneration of the exploited areas. The Department is now going through a difficult but interesting phase, and, in order to

support its contentions, is able to produce figures showing the recent increase in trade with the public by means of more attractive methods of marketing.

Reforestation.—This term has been used to cover all operations for the improvement of the forest asset, and it is inadequate, inasmuch as forest management is dependent on a large variety of operations other than reforestation. Reforestation, *per se*, implies a waiting period of some 60–100 years, and great faith is required to vote large sums of money for such a purpose. While the initiation of large planting schemes, with a definite objective, is an admitted necessity in certain localities, in others the present use and improvement of existing forests, by other means than planting proper, are of equal, if not greater importance, and often vastly more difficult. In any large exploitation programme, the proportion of hollow and unsound trees may be anything up to 50 per cent., and simple extraction from these overmature forests is not, in itself, in any way harmful, even if the areas receive no subsequent attention. This will not, however, suffice for the reserves which are intended to yield annual supplies in perpetuity. Thus the Department at present has to meet the demand for some 30,000 cubic feet of palu annually at the Jaffna depôt, to say nothing of the 200,000 cubic feet of hardwoods required annually for Government Departments. The future of these supplies does not depend, to anything like the same extent, on reforestation, as it does on the correct forest management of the existing forest area dedicated to such supplies. The Department does not yet know with any degree of certainty how long such supplies will continue, and still cuts according to demand, and not according to the capacity of the forests. Forest management involves the detailed enumeration of the forests, after blocking them out into workable units, and placing them under systematic treatment, which will ensure no loss of forest capital, but merely the utilization of the forest increment, which can only be ascertained by very careful investigation, and by knowledge of the sylvicultural requirements of each species, whether grown pure or in association, the forest being gradually trained so as eventually to reach its maximum yield and thereafter to maintain it. Here reforestation proper plays the smaller part, the development of the forest depending rather on natural regeneration and the timely removal of the forest growth which chokes and suppresses valuable species in mixed forest. Such work makes no great show, but if it keeps pace with exploitation, it results in a continuous yield from a definite area, instead of mere destructive exploitation, which visits an area only once. The Department has made a tentative

commencement in this direction, and achieved some solid progress in blocking out selected forest areas which are intended to fall under annual exploitation. If any real progress, however, is to be made, additional staff is urgently required, in order that trained officers may be placed in charge of field operations.

A full description of operations in connection with reforestation was given in the last report. The up-country programme is necessarily modified by the decision of the Railway Department, to replace wood fuel with coal, and it will now be necessary to convert the existing fuel plantations into timber areas, and to carry out further experiments with exotic species to ascertain which of these are best adapted to the localitiy. In the meantime, *Cupressus Lawsoniana* has been introduced very successfully, but is considered to be incapable, alone, of meeting future up-country requirements, which are now met, to a limited extent, from the small remaining supply of indigenous species, on areas awaiting conversion.

The up-country reforestation areas in Uva and the Central Division have now been formed into a Reforestation Division, in charge of a separate officer, and good results are expected therefrom as soon as details regarding staff have been placed on a satisfactory basis, particularly in respect of clerical staff.

In the coppice fellings of the Southern Division (West) jak will not in future be introduced, the protection which this species requires rendering the work expensive and uneconomical. In its place local species, suitable for firewood or timber, will be introduced, jak itself being confined to chena reforestation, in which it is in many instances highly successful. The extent of such areas is now 3,053 acres.

Nedun plantations were extended to 593 acres. Owing to the failure of the south-west monsoon many casualties were experienced in the North-Western Division, but older plants continue to thrive under the system adopted.

The regeneration of dry zone forests:—Forest treatment has been applied in one centre only, in the large exploitation area in Omanagala reserve in the Eastern Division (South), cultural operations being carried out fairly successfully in the first two half-square-mile compartments at a cost of Re. 1·15 per acre for about 600 acres. In the North-Central Division a large block of forest known as the Anaolundawewa proposed reserve was selected, and detailed enumeration, for exploitation in 1928, carried out over 2 square miles. The yield therefrom

of trees of the valuable species of exploitable dimensions was as follows :—

		Cubic feet.
Satin *Chloroxylon Swietenia* ..	277	12,970
Ebony (*Ebenum*) ..	256	—
Palu (*Mimusops hexandra*) ..	307	12,028
Ranai (*Alseodaphne Semicarpifolia*)	86	3,524
Halmilla (*Berrya Ammonilla*) ..	205	4,588
Hulanhik (*Chickrassia tabularis*)	12	583
Milla (*Vitex altissima*) ..	46	1,588
Etamba (*Mangifora Zeylanica*)..	12	1,696
Mi (*Bassia longifolia*) ..	8	585
Pehimbiya (*Filicium decipiens*)	1	60

The work will be continued in 1928, with a trained officer in charge, who will take up the detailed enumeration of the area and improvement fellings, on completion of the major fellings, and carry on the enumeration of the third and fourth blocks and the demarcation of a further 2 square miles, for purposes of exploitation. Extraction from the forest will be to Kanthalai, and will feed the new Trincomalee Railway, further concentrations of timber lying at Trincomalee and Habarane awaiting despatch. In the Northern Division, experimental sowing and planting of valuable species was carried out over 80 acres of the Chamalankulam reserve in the Mullaittivu District, under the shelter of the existing jungle, which will be cleared back as occasion requires, to make room for the new crop. This work was rendered very difficult by the exceptional weakness of the north-east monsoon.

Attention was turned during the year to the necessity of commencing systematic planting operations in the Northern Division for the purpose of safeguarding the future firewood requirements of Jaffna town, which are rapidly reaching the large outturn of 15,000 tons per annum. Work was entirely experimental, and consisted of direct sowing of five species, which can be relied upon to coppice successfully and produce a good fuel. They are *Tamarindus Indica*, Kon (*Schleichera trijuga*), Chadavakku (*Walsura Piscidia*), Tammana (*Mischodon zeylanicus*), and Vitpani (*Pityranthe verucosa*). The sowing patches were deep holed and filled with leaf mould and humus. 10 to 15 seeds being used per patch, at a spacing of 8 ft. by 8 ft. 1¼ acres were treated under full light conditions, and a similar extent under partial shade. The area was not fenced. Unusually unfavourable conditions obtained for germination. Out of 882 sowing patches in each area, germination took place in 414 under full light conditions, with a survival of 260 at the end of the year, and 439 under partial shade, with 323 survivals. Tammana did not germinate at all. It is now necessary to watch results during the first

year in this very dry region, to compare the advantage of full light or partial shade conditions, and to observe the damage from forest pests, and the benefit of deep holing, which, it is feared, is in any case too expensive for practice over a large area. As, however, the existing firewood supply at Kilinochchi cannot last more than another twenty years, it is necessary to lose no time in making preparations for fresh supplies. In the same division careful experiments, with satisfactory results to date, were made with *Casuarina Equisetifolia*, for the introduction of which large areas of waste land are available.

Chena reforestation with valuable indigenous species was continued in the Eastern Division (South), and experiments made with cover crops, for the purpose of keeping out illuk grass in young plantations. Work was considered fairly satisfactory, but there is still a difference of opinion as to whether teak should be abandoned in favour of indigenous species for this purpose, particularly as early teak thinnings have been found to sell at a remunerative figure.

Mention may be made of the very successful jak plantations which are being brought into being in the Kegalla District in conjunction with papaw cultivation. In view of the large profits derived from the latter, the Department can afford to be very exacting in its requirements. One such area, of more than 200 acres, taken up by European enterprise, revealed, on inspection, a magnificent stand of jak, the tending of which left nothing to be desired. It is hoped shortly to introduce this method of reforestation, on a competitive basis, in one or two of the smaller reserves in the locality.

The aim of the Department has thus, during the period under review, been the greater concentration of work, particularly in respect of exploitation and regeneration, and the marketing of forest produce on more attractive lines and favourable terms, with results which have added considerably to forest revenue. The development of the coupe system, with which it is intended, where possible, to replace sale by individual trees on licences, appears to coincide more or less with the exhaustion of private timber supplies in districts where there is a large demand, and it is expected to become popular rapidly.

FISHERIES.

Fresh Fish.—Except for an almost negligible quantity of imported frozen fish, all fresh fish, consumed in the Colony is obtained by the local Sinhalese and Tamil fishermen fishing from their catamarans and outrigger canoes in the coastal waters. There are, unhappily, no reliable statistics available regarding the quantity of fish caught annually or of the number of boats

and men engaged in the industry, but from inquiries made by the Fisheries Department it would appear that some 15,000 tons of fish valued at Rs. 7,500,000 are carried to Colombo annually by rail from all parts of the Island. A great part of this fish is consumed in Colombo, the remainder is redistributed to up-country districts.

The methods of fishing practised fall, roughly, into three categories :—

(*a*) Net fishing from the shore.
(*b*) Net fishing from catamarans.
(*c*) Line fishing from outrigger canoes.

(*a*) In this method a large shore seine net is employed, which is operated in much the same way as the Danish seine in European waters. One rope of the net is attached to a shore mooring and the net is laid in a semi-circle of radius about 1 mile from the shore from a flat-bottomed, punt-like boat propelled by oar. After the net is laid the other rope is carried ashore and the net is then pulled in by hand, from 6 to 10 men on each rope. The fishes caught in this net, which is small-meshed, are mostly of the sardine type, big catches of which are often made during their migratory period, namely, from August to April, when they appear in very large shoals.

(*b*) The second method, net fishing from catamarans, is employed mostly in shallow water round the coast, and more particularly off the north coast of the Island, where catamarans replace the more serviceable outrigger canoe. Catamarans are a species of raft made up of 3 or 4 roughly shaped logs about 25 feet long lashed together by coir yarn and fitted with a short mast carrying a large triangular cotton sail. These boats are the most primitive type of fishing boat used in Ceylon. The nets used from these craft are mostly short lengths of drift net. Fair catches of surface fishes are obtained by the use of these nets, but as the catamaran has a very small carrying power the length of net it is possible to use is necessarily very limited.

(*c*) The third method, line fishing from outrigger canoes, is that most commonly practised. The outrigger canoe is a dugout canoe made from the trunk of the jak tree. It carries an outrigger or balance, generally on the starboard side, attached to the boat by two ribs, also a large square sail. These boats are capable of developing a speed of 6–7 knots in a favourable wind, and while not able to withstand a heavy sea are moderately seaworthy. In fair weather they venture far out to sea. They fish mostly when running under sail, and catch principally seer (a large mackerel of large size), which is much esteemed, and various fishes of the tunny family.

Despite the fact that the inshore waters round Ceylon abound in both surface and bottom feeding fishes, the average daily catches of both catamarans and outrigger canoes are poor, due to their inability to carry long lines or nets. Off Colombo the former average only 80 lb. per boat valued at Rs. 13, while the latter average 35 lb. per boat valued at Rs. 16·50.

Cured Fish.—The total quantity of fish caught round the coast, although considerable, is totally insufficient to meet the steadily increasing demands for fish goods. No locally caught fish is now available for the preparation of dried and salted fish, and in consequence this industry, which before the advent of rail and motor transport was in a flourishing condition, has now almost completely died out and only survives in the remote districts where transport is unobtainable. As a consequence of the loss of this industry and of the demand for fish goods, the value of the imports of dried fish goods into the Island have shown a surprising increase during the last few years. In 1920 their value was Rs. 4,508,568, in 1921 it rose to Rs. 7,058,148, and in 1926 it stood at Rs. 8,769,698. That is, the value of these imports has doubled itself within six years. The actual quantity imported in 1920 was 331,646 cwt. and in 1926 421,991 cwt., so that while the cost has risen by 100 per cent. the weight has increased by only about 25 per cent.

Trawling.—An unsatisfactory feature of the fishing industry of Ceylon is, that corresponding with the increase in exports, there is a decrease in the number of the fishing community, brought about by a not unnatural desire of the younger of these men to forsake a calling which is somewhat hazardous and badly paid for more lucrative and congenial employment. It is clear, therefore, that steps must be taken to improve the prospects of the local fishing industry to make it more attractive to the fisher community if the industry is to be of benefit to the Colony.

The obvious step towards such an improvement is the introduction of improved fishing methods. This has been the aim of the Fisheries Department since its inception in 1920. This Department, under the direction of the Government Marine Biologist, who is also Director of the Colombo Museum, has devoted considerable attention to this subject, and after making a complete trawling survey of the coastal waters, during which two valuable trawl fishing banks were found, is now engaged in a fishing and hydrographical survey of these banks for the purpose of chart making to aid their commercial exploitation.

The two banks in question are the Wadge bank off Cape Comorin and the Pedro bank off the north-east corner of the Island. The former has an area of over 4,000 square miles, and the latter of 1,000 square miles. Numerous experimental trawls have been taken from these banks which have demonstrated their suitability to steam trawling. These trawls have been taken by the Government Fisheries vessels " Lilla " and " Nautilus," both North Sea trawlers of the Castle type. The latter, which has now replaced the former, is fitted with a direct expansion ammonia refrigerating plant and a cold storage chamber of about 4 tons capacity. Several tons of fish trawled from both banks have been frozen on board the " Nautilus " and have been put on to the Colombo market, where they have commanded a ready sale at a wholesale rate of 30 cents per lb. (5½*d.*).

A trawling company formed in 1926 to work these two banks will commence trawling operations, with in the first instance, one trawler, on the arrival of this vessel which is now under construction in England. The effect of this vessel's activities on the local market will be almost negligible, as it would require 40 trawlers working at full pressure during the year to catch the equivalent of imported dried and salted fish only. The Fisheries Department have also under consideration a scheme for investigating the waters other than those suitable for trawling, using a small vessel of the fishing smack type to replace the outrigger canoe. These investigations are with a view to the introduction of long lining and drift net fishing for surface water fishes generally and particularly seer and tunny fishes. The imports of Maldive fish into the Island during 1926 were valued at Rs. 5,038,176. This cured product, which is imported largely from Southern India, is prepared from tunny fishes which abound in these waters from August-April. Small auxiliary vessels of the smack type should do much to place the local fishing industry on a more satisfactory footing which would result in more adequate supplies to meet the existing demand for fish goods.

Pearl Fishery.—No fishery has been held since 1925. Thirty million oysters which were present on Donnan's Muthuvarattu Paar in 1926, and which were expected to yield a fishery in 1927, became so reduced in numbers by November, 1926, that preparations for a fishery were abandoned, and it is unlikely that sufficient oysters will remain to provide a fishery in 1928.

Window-pane Oyster Fishery.—The window-pane oyster, which is fished for its pearls, commonly occurs in the mud of the shallow almost landlocked bay at Trincomalee known as Lake Tamblegam. Government control the waters of this

lake, and when fishable oysters are present it is the custom to lease the fishing rights for a period of three years to the highest bidder.

The present lessee, who took over the lease in 1925 at Rs. 7,000 for the first year and Rs. 9,000 for the second and third years, held fisheries in 1926 and 1927. According to his returns he fished approximately two million oysters in 1926 and obtained 472·26 rupees' weight of pearls. In 1927 he fished approximately one million oysters and obtained 263·72 rupees' weight of pearls. His lease terminates at the end of the year.

The fishery is carried on from small dugout canoes by local Moormen from the neighbouring villages of Kinniyai and Tamblegam. These men, who work in shallow water of not more than 2 fathoms, are not skilled divers, such as the Arab divers of the Persian Gulf or the Tamil divers of South India, who fish the pearl oyster of the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Mannar from a depth of 2 to 10 fathoms. They remain under water a short time only, have no stone sinker, and carry no net. When working in shallow water of 5 feet and under, they feel about in the mud with their feet and pick up shells with their toes In deeper water they make short dives to the bottom, bringing up 2 or 3 shells each dive. These they hold in one hand until they have collected about one dozen oysters, when they return to their boat, deposit the oysters, and after a short rest resume diving. At the end of the day's fishing, usually midday, all the boats return to the shore with their catch, which they deposit in the lessee's private enclosure, retaining one-third of the oysters in lieu of pay as in the Gulf of Mannar fisheries. The oysters are stacked on shore and are opened by women, who pick out the pearls. It is not the custom to rot these oysters and search the washings for pearls, as is the practice at Marichchukaddi with the Ceylon pearl oyster.

The pearls obtained from this oyster although much more numerous than those which are obtained from the Gulf of Mannar pearl oyster are of an irregular shape, brittle, and of an inferior lustre; consequently they have no European market, but are readily purchased in India and in Ceylon, where they are used for the manufacture of cheap jewellery. In some parts of India they are ground into powder and used medicinally.

Chank Fisheries.—Chank fisheries in Ceylon waters are confined to the shallow water area north of Adam's Bridge known as the Palk Strait, where chanks occur in great abundance, principally off the Jaffna islands. These mollusc shells have considerable value in India, where they are cut and carved

into bangles. 3,270,409 shells were exported from the Island during the year, and a revenue of Rs. 163,511 collected as export duty was obtained.

Chanks also occur in some quantity in the inshore waters of the pearl banks area, where fishing is prohibited. The question of opening this area to chank fishing is now receiving the attention of Government.

Publications.—The following publication was issued during the year :—

Ceylon Administration Report for 1926, Marine Biology.

The following are ready for publication :—

(1) Surface Currents of the Gulf of Mannar, based on Drift Bottle Experiments.
(2) Salinities and Temperatures of the Gulf of Mannar.
(3) Cured Marine Products of Ceylon.

SALT.

The manufacture, collection, and sale of Ceylon salt constitute a Government monopoly, which is protected by the imposition of a duty of Rs. 3 per cwt. on imported salt. The Controller of Revenue has general supervision over the administration of the excise of salt revenue throughout Ceylon

The amount realized by the sale of Ceylon salt issued from Government depôts during 1927 was approximately Rs. 1,106,034·10. To this figure should be added the sum of Rs. 821,233·47 credited to revenue under Head 1, Customs, as duty on salt imported into Ceylon. The total revenue derived by Government from salt in 1927 was, therefore, Rs.1,927,267·57, as against Rs. 1,817,066·61 in 1925 and Rs. 1,997,123·83 in 1926.

The manufacture of salt at Chiviyateru in the Jaffna District, which had been discontinued since 1923, was resumed experimentally in 1926 under the supervision of an Assistant Salt Superintendent, trained under the Salt Adviser, whose services have been lent to the Government Agent, Northern Province. The salt produced showed a decided improvement in quality as compared with the salt obtained previously to 1923.

Adverse weather conditions and shortage of labour are the main factors which operate against the successful collection of salt. Collections of naturally formed salt took place at the Karanavai lewayas and Marichchukaddi Odai in the Northern Province and at Hambantota in the Southern Province ; salt was manufactured at the Government salterns at Elephant Pass

and Palavi, and at the privately owned salt pans at Nilaveli, Chiviyateru, and Puttalam. Although the harvest in 1927 was more satisfactory than that of 1926, the quantity collected was below the normal standard capacity of production of the various salterns and salt pans in the Island. The total yield during 1927 was approximately 513,366 cwt., as against 414,697 cwt. in 1925 and 319,230 cwt. in 1926. The distribution of the harvest was as follows :—

	Cwt.
Hambantota	151,218
Puttalam (excluding Palavi)	31,750
Jaffna (excluding Elephant Pass)	43,924
Mannar	4,293
Trincomalee	57,847
Elephant Pass	188,984
Palavi	35,350

The total output for the year represents a little under five-sixths of the quantity annually consumed in the Island, which is estimated at about 620,000 cwt.

It has not been found possible during the past two years to build up the desired reserve of local salt and to bring about a return to normal prices and methods of distribution. Traders continue to import salt from India on their own account to supplement the local supply. No loss of revenue is involved as the salt imported is subject to an import duty of Rs. 3 per cwt.

The measures which were adopted in July, 1925, to supplement Ceylon salt by the importation of Indian salt and to prevent Ceylon salt from underselling imported salt have been continued. The issues of Ceylon salt were confined mainly, as in the previous year, to the areas in the neighbourhood of the salterns and salt pans, and to outlying districts where high transport charges would have rendered the price of Indian salt prohibitive.

At the beginning of 1927 the total stocks of salt in the various Government depôts amounted to 636,826 cwt. At the end of the year the stocks stood at 802,760 cwt. The question of a return to normal distribution of Ceylon salt will depend on the results of the 1928 harvest.

The experiments at Elephant Pass on the treatment of bitterns for the recovery of by-products were continued on a larger scale during the year, but the abnormal weather prevented much progress being made.

The permanent bund at Palavi to enclose the primary condensing area was completed in January. The construction at Nilaveli in the Trincomalee District of storage platforms to accommodate 115,000 cwt. of salt was continued under the supervision of the Salt Adviser. They will replace the previously existing temporary salt stores.

MINERALOGICAL DEPARTMENT.

The field work of the Department has been confined to the examination of certain areas in connection with water supply problems of only local interest.

The question of opening the extensive deposits of ilmenite sand on the east coast of the Island for exploitation has been under consideration during the year under review.

EXCISE.

With the closure of the year 1927 the Department completed the sixteenth year of its existence.

Arrack.

The distillation of arrack is carried on at eight large distilleries under close Excise supervision. Seven of these were constructed by private enterprise. The eighth, the Government Distillery, had been leased out to a private contractor, whose lease was terminated at the end of 1927.

The production of arrack during the year was 680,936 proof gallons. The figure is considerably higher than 1926, due to the fact that 1927 was particularly dry and was therefore a good distilling year.

Distribution and Storage.

The Excise Department has built up, since the present system of contract supply was introduced first in the Northern Province in 1920 and throughout the Island in 1924, a large organization to control the storage and distribution of arrack. It was considered advisable to allow the raw arrack produced in the new distilleries to mature in bond for at least one year before it is issued for consumption. At the end of 1927 there were 16 warehouses in the Island and the stock of arrack carried was 617,767 gallons.

This close Government control of the supply of arrack has proved a success, though it has been criticised on two grounds: (i.) that Government should not engage in the liquor trade, and (ii.) that private enterprise should be encouraged. The answer to these criticisms is that Governments all over the world have found it increasingly necessary to assume control of the liquor trade, and that it is generally regarded that state management or disinterested management is the best method of promoting temperance.

Consumption.—The arrack consumption in 1927 was 752,031 gallons, which shows a decrease of 94,054 gallons on the 1926 figure. The number of arrack taverns in 1925–26 was 272, and

in 1926–27 was 255. The arrack revenue for the two financial years was Rs. 8,932,025 and Rs. 8,539,136, which is equivalent to Re. 1·99 and Re. 1·90, respectively, per head of population. The arrack consumption per head of population was ·19 gallon in 1925–26 and ·17 in 1926–27. The arrack revenue per gallon was Rs. 10·59 in 1925–26 and Rs. 10·84 in 1926–27.

Fermented Toddy.

Fermented toddy can be drawn only on licence and sold only in a tavern. In practice licences are issued only on the application of the tavern renters, distillers, and in a few cases of vinegar manufacturers. In Jaffna and Matara Districts and in the North-Central Province there are no taverns, distilleries, or vinegar licences. In those districts no fermented toddy can be legally drawn.

Consumption.—In the " wet " districts where toddy taverns still exist the licit consumption was 4,501,608 gallons in 1927, as against 4,264,516 gallons in 1926.

The toddy consumption per head of population in 1925–26 was ·98 gallon and in 1926–27 ·99 gallon. The toddy revenue was Rs. 2,434,841 and Rs. 2,626,119, and the revenue per head 50 cents and 58 cents, respectively. The revenue per gallon of toddy consumed was 49 and 59 cents, respectively.

Sweet Toddy.

The number of trees licensed for sweet toddy is coconut 68,835, palmyra 2,152, and kitul 44,159. The Districts of Galle, Matara, Jaffna, the Pasdun korale east in Kalutara, and various villages in Kegalla, Ratnapura, and Badulla Districts are exempted from the necessity of taking out sweet toddy licences. This exemption has added to the opportunities of a growing illicit sale of fermented toddy in these districts without apparently helping the jaggery industry, which was the original object of the exemption. Except in certain parts of the Jaffna District, there is practically no jaggery industry worthy of the name.

Foreign Liquor.

The licensing revenue from foreign liquor during the financial year 1926–27 was Rs. 146,709·75. The imports of foreign liquor in 1927 were as follows :—224,093 gallons malt liquor, 61,205 gallons wines, and 343,270 gallons spirits. The total quantity of beer outturned by the Nuwara Eliya Brewery in 1927 was 164,447 gallons.

The revenue derived from foreign liquor, including Customs duty and licence fees is, as follows :—

	Rs.	c.
Total foreign liquor revenue ..	5,039,586	0
Revenue per head	1	12
Revenue per gallon	5	90

Excise Revenue and Expenditure.

The total revenue for the financial year 1926–27 was Rs. 11,340,051, made up as follows :—

	Rs.
Arrack (nett revenue)	8,543,136
Toddy	2,626,119
Foreign liquor licences	146,709
Composition fees	24,087
	11,340,051

To this should be added Police Court Fines Rs. 290,394 and Foreign Liquor Imports (Customs Revenue) Rs.4,892,877, making a grand total of Rs. 16,523,322 of revenue directly connected with excisable articles. The expenditure on the Excise Department, including salaries of Civil Servants, all Excise Department Officers, and all other charges which were not incurred under the Contract Supply System, amounts approximately to Rs. 907,450, *i.e.*, between 5 and 6 per cent. of the revenue including Customs Duties and about 8 per cent. of the revenue excluding Customs Duties. If Police Court Fines are deducted, the expenditure is still under 10 per cent. of the revenue. It cannot be said that the Department is expensive or has failed to justify its existence. It is a matter for congratulation that with such an inadequate staff it has accomplished so much.

Local Option.

The following taverns will be closed from October 1, 1928, as the result of local option polls :—Arrack 73, Toddy 72, Foreign Liquor Taverns 15, Hotel Bar 6, and Beer and Porter 1. Total 167.

Intoxicating Drugs.

Ganja and opium are smuggled in from India by sailing vessels and catamarans by a well organized syndicate which has ramifications all over the Island for transport and retail. The Customs, Police, and Excise have all been successful in making large seizures. The traffic is increasing notwithstanding this.

Excise Offences.

The total detections for 1927 amount to 7,289, as against 5,046 in 1926. Of the 128 Inspectors sanctioned, 24 are engaged on distillery and warehouse work, so that these 7,200 and odd detections are the work of, roughly, 100 men. This averages 6 cases per month per Inspector, and is highly creditable to the Department.

Assaults on Excise Officers.

Cases of obstruction and assault are becoming increasingly frequent. There were 49 cases in 1927, as against 30 in 1926 and 16 in 1925. The question of arming all Excise Inspectors needs consideration in view of the growing disregard of Excise offenders for law and order in Hanwella, Panadure, Kalutara, Galle, and Jaffna Districts.

The drink bill of Ceylon for 1927 is estimated to be as follows: —

	Total. Rs.	Per Head. Rs. c.
Arrack	11,230,330	2 50
Toddy	4,198,023	0 93
Malt liquor	1,160,669	0 26
Wines	1,065,186	0 24
Spirits	10,487,158	2 33
Total	28,141,366	6 26

The revenue per rupee spent by the consumer on arrack is 76 cents, on toddy 62 cents, and on foreign liquor is 39 cents.

IV.—Trade and Economics.

GENERAL REVIEW.

THE total trade of the Colony, excluding postal articles, ships' stores, and specie, in the year 1927 amounted to Rs. 854,399,419. This figure is smaller by Rs 44,107,311 than the figure for 1926, but is larger than that for any other year in the history of the Colony. The total imports amounted to Rs. 406,663,779, an increase of Rs. 11,419,538 over the figure for 1926. The total exports amounted to Rs. 447,735,640. This figure is Rs. 55,526,849 less than that for 1926, and Rs. 44,753,656 less than that for 1925. Thus the imports of

the Colony have shown an increase and the exports a decrease, but exports still exceed the total imports, the difference being Rs. 41,071,861.

The strike in the harbour during the month of February affected both imports and exports seriously, and consequently the month of February was the worst month with regard to both imports and exports and the month of March the best. There was a lull again in April and May, and a progressive improvement in both imports and exports up to October, with a slight fall in exports during the last three months of the year. The trade on the whole has been steady and while there was no " boom, " it may be considered that generally the position was satisfactory.

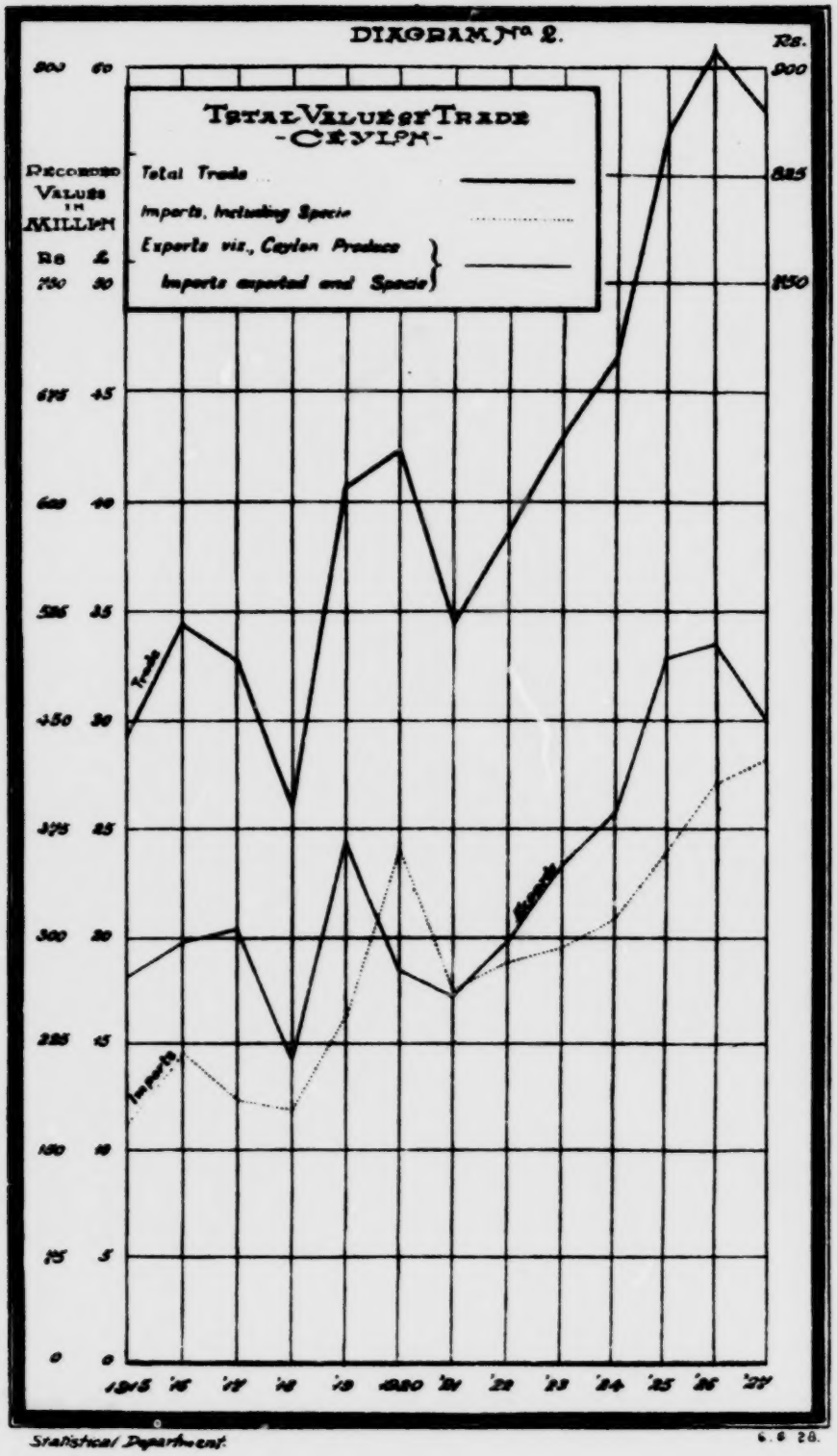
Notes on the principal imports and exports will be found below. As in the last few years, there has been a general expansion under most heads of imports, showing again that prosperity is general. As regards exports, trade continued in a very flourishing condition. Tea and the coconut industries had a satisfactory year, but the rubber industry showed a considerable fall, the total value of rubber exports being Rs. 119,175,344, as against Rs. 170,120,022 in the previous year. Cacao showed some improvements. Plumbago improved as regards quantity, but prices ruled low, and the actual value of the exports was less than in the previous year.

The following table shows the annual value of imports and exports for a period of ten years, excluding the value of postal articles, ships' stores, and specie :—

Year.	Imports. Rs.	Exports. Rs.	Total. Rs.
1918	177,716,763	211,325,334	389,042,097
1919	239,323,731	367,054,779	606,378,570
1920	321,275,652	268,462,183	589,737,835
1921	260,897,161	256,600,413	517,497,574
1922	280,414,704	297,753,215	578,167,919
1923	287,947,472	351,035,248	638,982,720
1924	302,734,490	385,354,418	688,088,908
1925	351,328,702	492,489,296	843,817,998
1926	395,244,241	503,262,489	898,506,730
1927	406,663,779	447,735,640	854,399,419

The total values of Ceylon trade for the last eight years, excluding specie, postal articles, and ships' stores, but including coal and liquid fuel supplied to steamships, are as follows :—

Year.	Lakhs of Rupees.	Year.	Lakhs of Rupees.
1920	6,291	1924	7,119½
1921	5,481¾	1925	8,670
1922	5,982	1926	9,216¾
1923	6,601	1927	8,798¼



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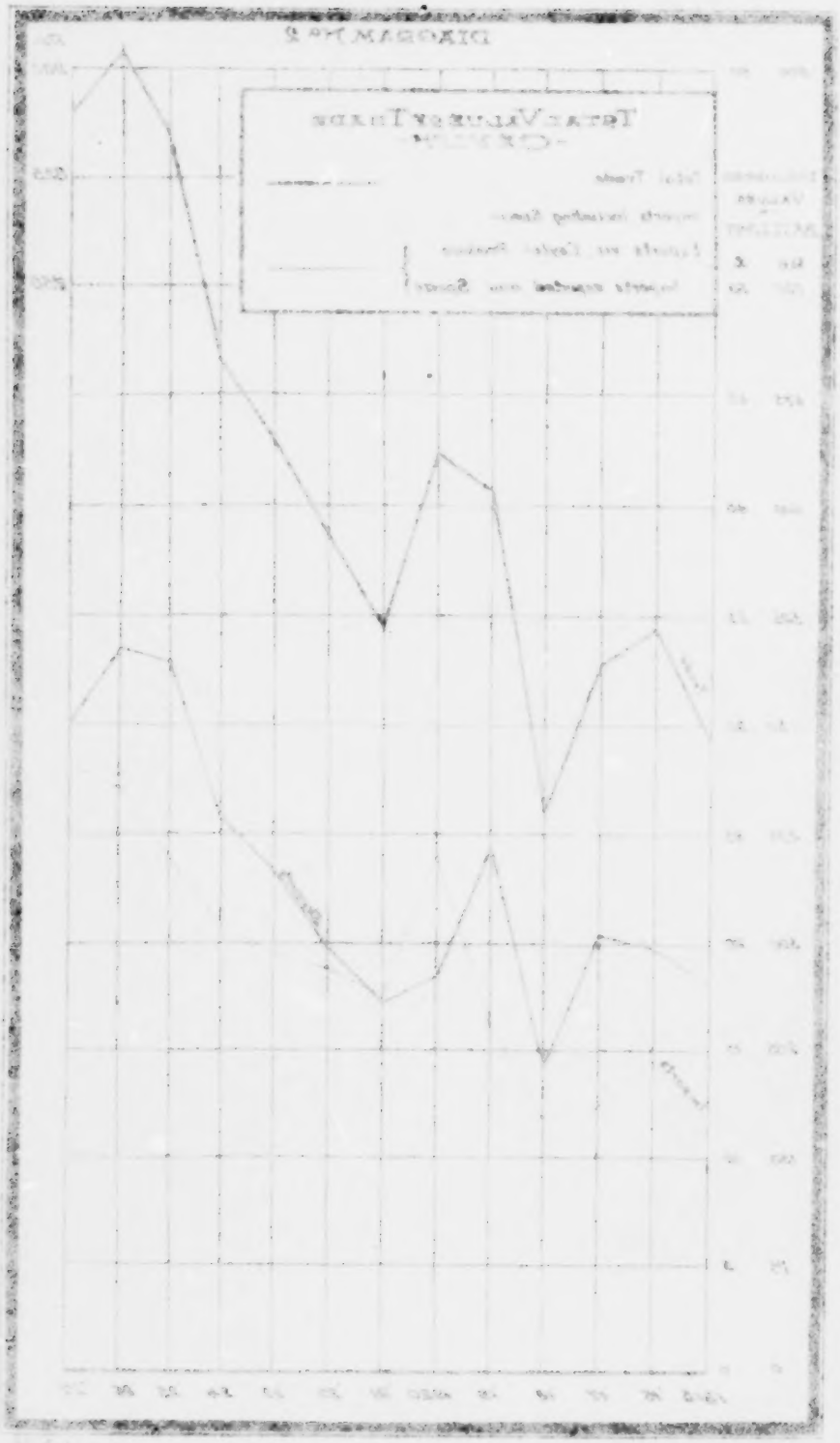


The values of coal and liquid fuel supplied to steamships since 1919 are as follows :—

Year.	Value of Coal supplied to Vessels. Rs.	Value of Liquid Fuel supplied to Vessels. Rs.
1919	32,899,550	2,869,327
1920	36,638,574	2,733,738
1921	27,638,759	3,030,034
1922	16,309,907	3,720,575
1923	13,551,793	7,576,801
1924	15,088,683	8,773,710
1925	14,138,321	9,032,855
1926	12,824,935	10,341,890
1927	13,809,874	11,605,425

DISTRIBUTION OF TRADE.

There was little change in the distribution of trade, but imports from foreign countries have improved very slightly at the expense of imports from the United Kingdom and British Possessions. The percentages for the chief countries show little change from last year.

The largest suppliers by far are British India, United Kingdom, and Burma, and these countries between them supplied 65 per cent. of the total imports.

The principal countries as regards exports have again been the United Kingdom and the United States of America, the percentages for each being as follows:—

	1926.	1927.
United Kingdom	42·58	42·96
United States of America	27·5	23·04

The position of the United Kingdom has thus improved, whilst that of the United States of America has shown a further decline. The change with regard to the countries have been slight.

British Possessions (mainly India, including Burma) has shown an increase in total trade of 2·75 per cent., whilst Foreign Countries have shown a drop of 2·11 per cent. The total trade with the United Kingdom has shown a small fall (0·59 per cent.).

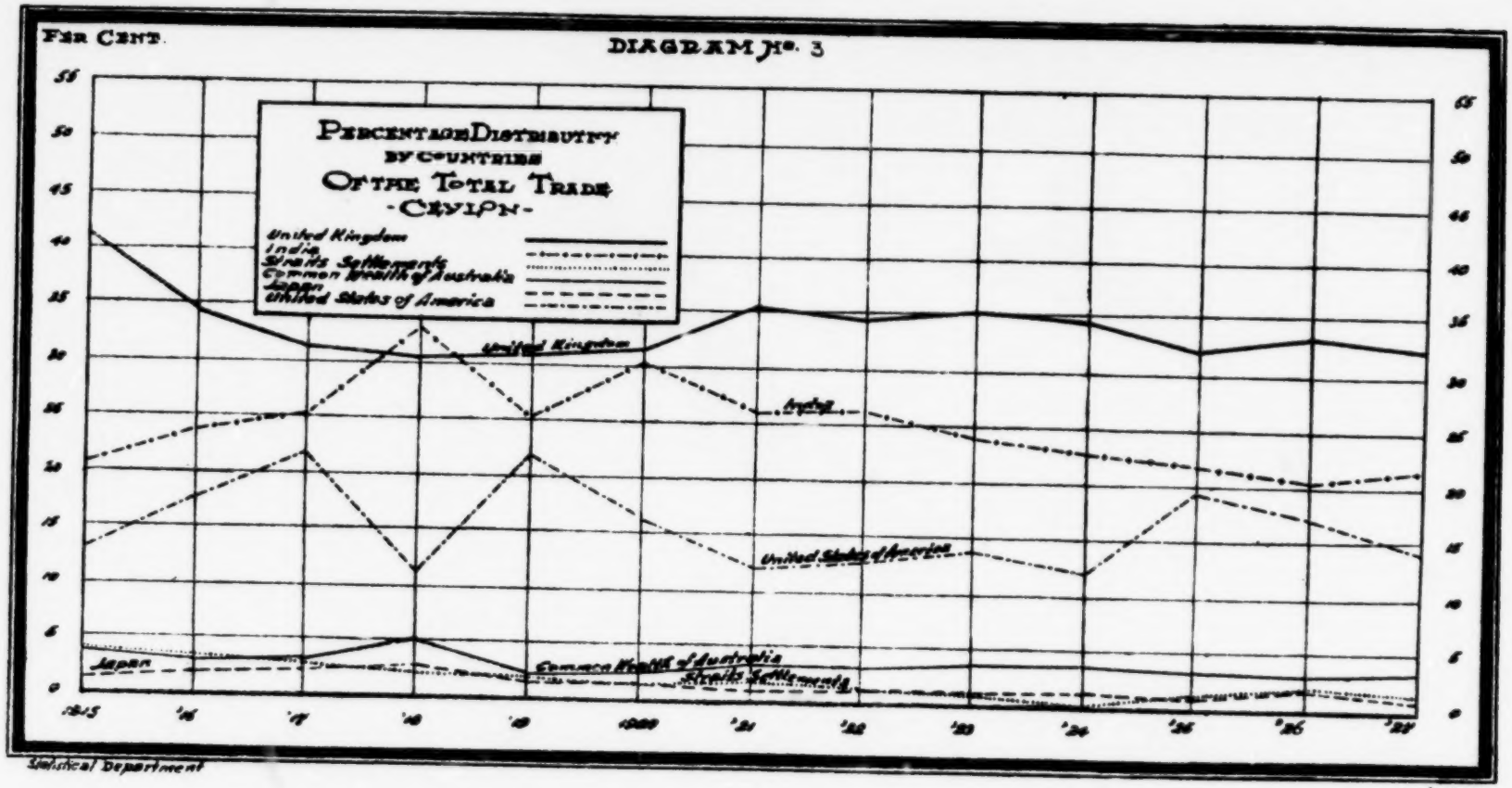
Comparative percentages for the last three years of the value of imports, exports, and total trade are as follows. The figures are exclusive of imported rubber, and of coal, liquid fuel, and other ships' stores :—

	1925. Per Cent.	1926. Per Cent.	1927. Per Cent.
Imports.			
From the United Kingdom	23·23	22·77	22·58
From the British Possessions	55·23	51·39	51·05
From the Foreign Countries	21·54	25·84	26·37
Exports.			
To the United Kingdom	38·29	41·4	41·77
To the British Possessions	15·08	14·03	16·84
To the Foreign Countries	46·63	44·57	41·39
Total Trade.			
From and to United Kingdom	32·18	33·36	32·77
From and to British Possessions	31·37	30·14	32·89
From and to Foreign Countries	36·45	36·5	34·34

The principal countries from which Ceylon's imports are obtained, with the percentage of the total value supplied by each for the last three years, are shown in the following table :—

	Country.	1925. Per Cent.	1926. Per Cent.	1927. Per Cent.
1.	British India	24·84	23·95	23·08
2.	United Kingdom	22·21	21·99	21·97
3.	Burma	23·57	19·82	20
4.	Java	3·15	3·39	3·55
5.	United States of America	2·53	3·24	3·48
6.	Straits Settlements	2·09	2·78	3·34
7.	Sumatra	1·71	2·43	2·93
8.	Borneo (excluding British)	2·05	1·29	2·92
9.	Japan	2·03	2·47	2·28
10.	Germany	1·62	2·62	2·19
11.	Australia	2·1	2·02	1·94
12.	British South Africa*	2·19	1·85	1·81
13.	Holland	1·36	1·52	1·6
14.	France	·75	1·16	1·23
15.	Maldives	1·3	1·26	1·2
16.	Persia	·95	2·25	1·06
17.	Belgium	·84	1·03	1·02
18.	Italy	·78	1·05	·88
19.	Siam	·29	·37	·38
20.	Hong Kong	·34	·29	·36
21.	Sweden	·26	·27	·3
22.	Canada	·52	·59	·29
23.	Switzerland	·24	·33	·28
24.	China (exluding Hong Kong)	·17	·23	·27
25.	Finland	—†	·13	·21
26.	Egypt	·11	·17	·21
27.	Chile	·07	·17	·18
28.	Czecho Slovakia	—†	·22	·16
29.	Austria	·07	·11	·15
30.	Morocco	—	—	·1

* Cape Colony, Natal, and other British Possessions in Africa.
† No heading.



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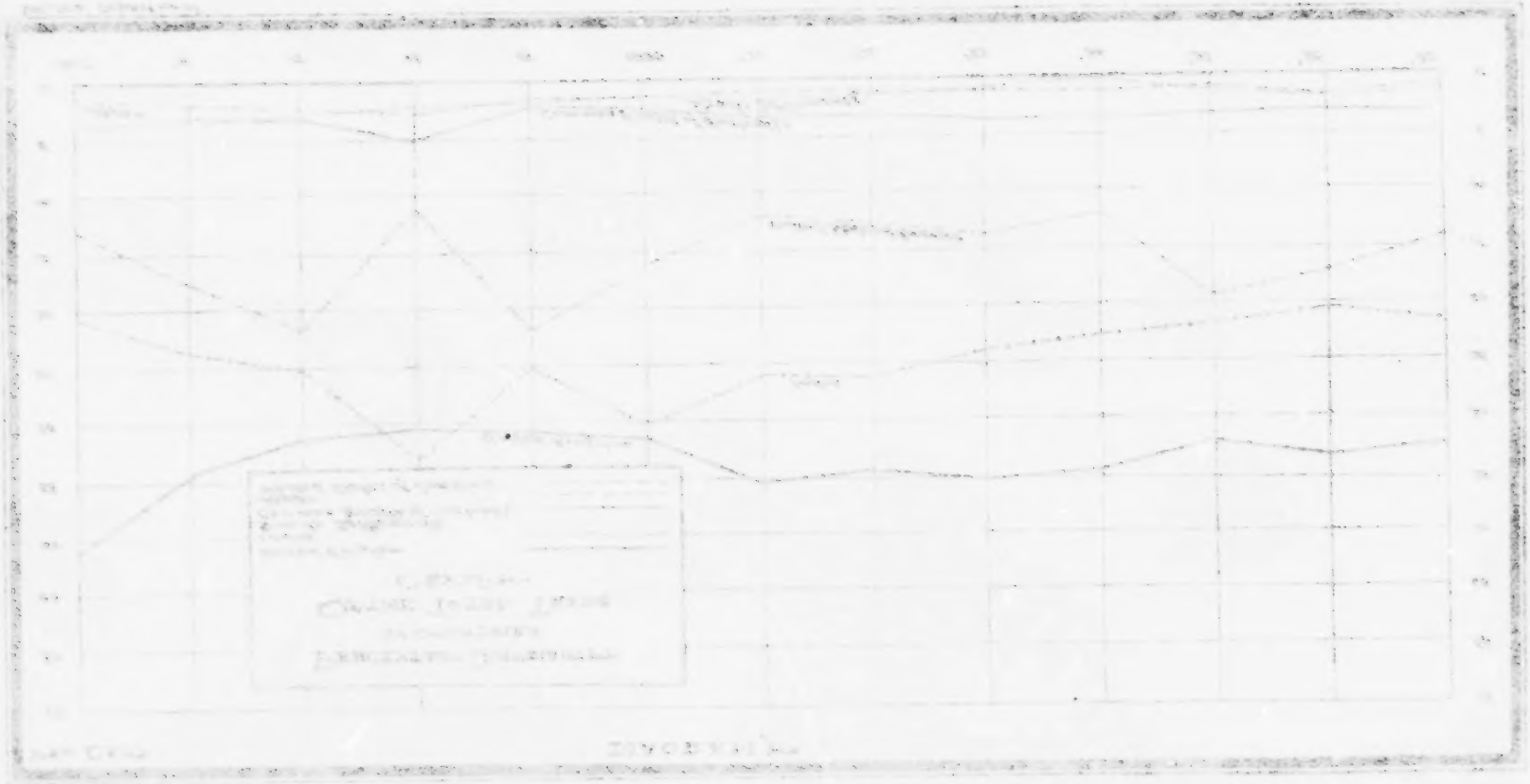


The values of the staple products exported from Ceylon during the last five years are as follows :—

		Lakhs of Rupees.				
		1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.
1.	Tea ..	1,857	2,150	1,997	2,132	2,137
2.	Rubber	736	637	1,700	1,701	1,191
3.	Copra ..	181	310	383	398	318
4.	Coconut desiccated	227	220	188	173	204
5.	Coconut oil	139	158	168	155	165
6.	Cinnamon	21	29	32	42	47
7.	Arecanuts	35	33	40	42	30
8.	Coir fibre	24	29	19	21	28
9.	Cacao ..	22	25	23	20	27
10.	Plumbago	15	13	30	26	25
11.	Coir yarn	20	21	21	18	21
12.	Skins, dressed and undressed	7	6	7	13	16
13.	Coconuts, fresh	13	25	19	14	15
14.	Citronella oil	21	29	23	18	12
15.	Coconut poonac	6	9	11	9	8
16.	Cardamoms	6	7	11	8	8
17.	Papain..	—	—	—	—	6

The quantities exported during the same years are—

	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.
1 Tea (lb.)	181,929,731*	204,930,307*	209,791,384*	217,183,666*	227,037,856*
2 Rubber (cwt.)	748,359..	740,722..	912,370..	1,177,147..	1,116,630
3 Copra (cwt.)	1,015,465..	1,769,189..	2,273,717..	2,419,398..	1,982,154
4 Coconut, desiccated (cwt.)	818,793..	871,341..	794,161..	754,367..	872,833
5 Coconut oil (cwt.)..	480,543..	552,633..	616,917..	570,463..	673,153
6 Cinnamon (cwt.) ..	44,578..	47,484*	42,360*	43,115*	42,415*
7 Arecanuts (cwt.) ..	160,578..	130,904..	154,291..	165,475..	118,278
8 Coir fibre (cwt.) ..	359,082*	480,492*	460,245*	457,234*	535,849*
9 Cacao (cwt.) ..	60,904..	69,351..	68,788..	64,751..	80,797
10 Plumbago (cwt.) ..	213,383..	193,017..	308,523..	232,453..	257,686
11 Coir yarn (cwt.) ..	105,088..	117,199..	131,387..	107,885..	130,821
12 Skins, dressed and undressed (cwt.)	8,605..	10,685..	11,443..	13,637..	17,177
13 Coconuts, fresh (No.) ..	15,963,670..	29,121,041..	23,288,786..	16,951,368..	18,875,750
14 Citronella oil (lb.)..	1,121,271..	1,433,381..	1,415,639..	1,431,351..	1,358,191
15 Coconut poonac (cwt.) ..	116,549..	156,251..	168,839..	160,277..	173,155
16 Cardamoms (cwt.)	2,788*	2,667*	3,302*	2,848*	3,177*
17 Papain (lb.) ..	—	—	—	—	83,416

* Including ships' stores.

The principal countries buying Ceylon produce and manufactures are given in the following table, with the percentage of value taken by each :—

	Country.	1925. Per Cent.	1926. Per Cent.	1927. Per Cent.
1.	United Kingdom	39·54	42·58	42·96
2.	United States of America	29·86	27·3	23·04
3.	Australia	4·04	4·15	5·13
4.	Germany	4·06	4·96	4·91
5.	Italy	2·71	2·65	2·52
6.	British South Africa	—*	1·59	2·05
7.	British India	2·18	1·48	2·05
8.	New Zealand	1·5	1·79	1·93
9.	Egypt†	2·06	1·41	1·66
10.	Canada	1·48	1·34	1·51
11.	Denmark	2·43	1·6	1·43
12.	Norway	1·46	1·29	1·37
13.	Holland	1	1·25	1·15
14.	France	·81	·85	·83
15.	Belgium	·73	·83	·82
16.	China (excluding Hong Kong)	·3	·39	·8
17.	Iraq	—‡	·73	·64
18.	Russia in Europe	·27	·14	·64
19.	Argentine Republic	—‡	·33	·45
20.	Straits Settlements	·34	·35	·44
21.	Japan	·27	·33	·39
22.	Spain (excluding Gibraltar)	·23	·27	·36
23.	Sweden	·27	·34	·33
24.	Other Foreign Countries in Africa§	·09	·11	·3
25.	Phillipine Islands	·19	·17	·21
26.	Russia in Asia	·03	·01	·16
27.	Greece	·01	·07	·15
28.	Roumania	·08	·05	·14
29.	Portuguese East Africa	‖	·07	·14
30.	Newfoundland	·14	·15	·14
31.	Hong Kong	·06	·07	·12
32.	Mexico	—*	·05	·11
33.	Anglo-Egyptian Soudan	—¶	·24	·11
34.	Mauritius	·07	·08	·10
35.	Fiume	—*	·06	·10

* New heading from 1926.
† Figure for 1925 includes Anglo-Egyptian Soudan.
‡ Not shown separately.
§ Figure for 1925 includes Portuguese East Africa.
‖ Included under other foreign countries.
¶ Included under Egypt.

NOTES ON THE PRINCIPAL IMPORTS.

Wheat Products, Flour and Meal.—The whole supply came from Australia and British India, the former being the main supplier. In 1927 313,265 cwt. came from Australia and 76,627 cwt. from British India. In 1926 the figures were 278,904 cwt. and 79,703 cwt.

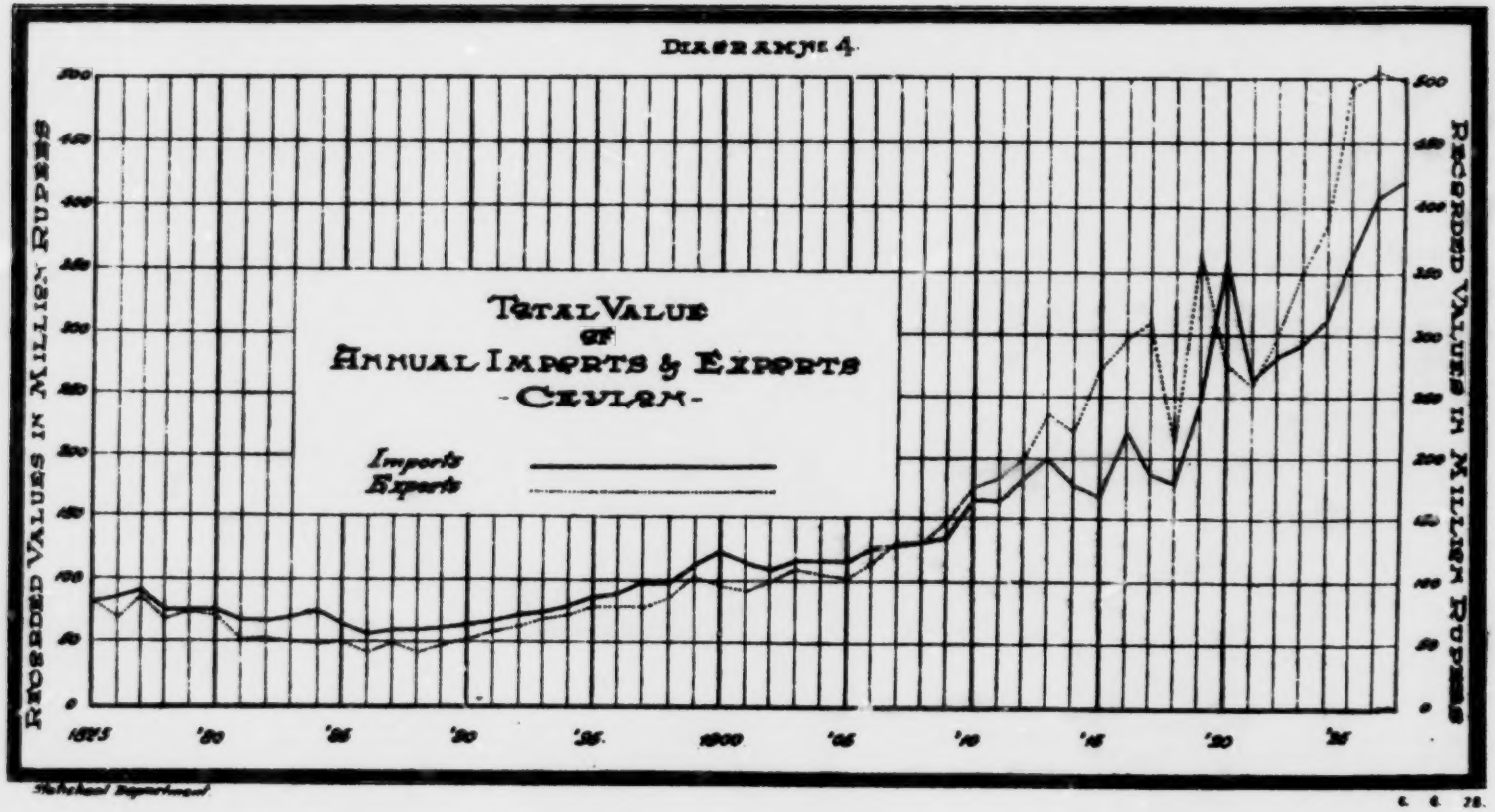


DIAGRAM No. 4.
TOTAL VALUE
OF
ANNUAL IMPORTS & EXPORTS
- CEYLON -
Imports
Exports
RECORDED VALUES IN MILLION RUPEES
RECORDED VALUES IN MILLION RUPEES
500
450
400
350
300
250
200
150
100
50
0
1875
'80
'85
'90
'95
1900
'05
'10
'15
'20
'25

RECORDED VALUES IN MILLION POUNDS
RECORDED VALUES IN MILLION POUNDS
HYDROGEN & STORAGE
CENTER
Actual
Forecast
DATE
Actual

The following table shows quantities and value imported in 1925, 1926, and 1927 :—

	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1925	320,088	4,801,335
1926	359,062	4,307,895
1927	389,892	4,678,723

Rice.—The quantity imported showed a slight increase, but not sufficient to indicate any further substitution of imported rice for locally grown rice. The position of Burma as the chief source of supply improved at the expense of British India, but larger quantities arrived from the Straits Settlements, much of which appears to be originated in Siam. The imports for 1926 and 1927 from the chief supplying countries are shown in the following table :—

	1926.		1927.	
	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
Total	8,794,947	98,061,620	9,087,264	102,851,651
British India	2,406,552	22,895,267	1,899,281	18,992,810
Burma	5,922,919	70,211,510	6,379,440	76,020,598
Straits Settlements	412,418	4,164,999	783,254	7,588,805
India (excluding British)	50,840	766,491	7,951	67,796
Siam	25	240	14,984	157,500
Other	2,193	23,113	2,354	24,142

Other Grains.—The import of "other grains," of which the most important are paddy, peas, and gram, showed a slight fall. Gram and paddy came in in smaller quantities, but peas showed a considerable increase.

Imports for 1926 and 1927 are shown below :—

	1926. Cwt.	1927. Cwt.
Paddy	650,964	481,642
Peas	267,148	351,412
Gram	130,032	111,660

The following table shows the quantity of rice and other grains imported during the period 1918–1927 :—

Imports : Rice and "Other Grains" during the Period 1918–1927.

Year.	Rice. Cwt.	Other Grains. Cwt.	Year.	Rice. Cwt.	Other Grains. Cwt.
1918	6,472,152	815,161	1923*	7,423,833	1,134,443
1919	5,342,575	1,433,295	1924*	7,519,186	965,469
1920	5,788,730	1,310,996	1925*	8,321,381	1,014,297
1921	5,859,957	1,324,895	1926*	8,794,947	1,125,130
1922*	7,209,157	956,550	1927*	9,087,264	1,013.840

* Includes imports by Government.

Feeding Stuffs for Animals.—The most important feeding stuff for animals imported is gingelly poonac, of which 383,843 cwt. were imported, all except 877 cwt. from the Straits Settlements coming from British India.

Sugar.—The imports of sugar again showed a large increase, Java being by far the largest source of supply. The total value of sugar imported is now nearly Rs. 15,000,000. Refined sugar other than in lumps and loaves, which is the principal form in which sugar is imported, increased from 951,119 cwt. in 1926 and 793,463 cwt. in 1925 to 1,057,046 cwt. in 1927, of which 921,804 cwt. came from Java.

Manufactured Tobacco, Cigars, and Cigarettes.—There has been an increase under all heads except cigars, and the consumption of tobacco, particularly cigarettes, is obviously increasing among all classes. Practically all the cigarettes imported, except a few pounds from Egypt, came from the United Kingdom, and the same applies to manufactured tobacco. Of 7,106 lb. of cigars imported, 2,940 lb. came from the Phillipines, 1,597 lb. from Holland, and 1,234 lb. from British India. The importation of beedies from British India has shown a progressive increase, the figures for the years 1925, 1926, and 1927 being 43,726 lb., 58,467 lb., and 75,687 lb., respectively.

The quantities of each cleared for home consumption during the past eight years are as follows :—

Year.	Cigars.	Cigarettes.	Manufactured Tobacco.	Total.
	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.
1920	12,198	371,575	29,034	412,807
1921	8,092	319,005	23,330	350,427
1922	8,883	330,071	21,429	360,383
1923	7,387	327,482	21,354	356,223
1924	7,272	403,370	20,379	431,021
1925	7,075	447,998	19,364	474,437
1926	7,474	511,011	21,082	539,567
1927	7,106	568,109	26,078	601,293

Spirits.—Very considerable increases have again been shown under the heads of brandy and gin, but whisky has shown a slight decrease. Brandy comes almost entirely from France, gin mainly from Holland, but 15,675 gallons of good quality gin came from the United Kingdom. The whisky came from the United Kingdom. The values of all three classes kept up, showing that there was no general decrease in quality.

The quantities cleared for home consumption during the years 1925, 1926, and 1927 are shown in the following table :—

Quantities of Spirits cleared for Home Consumption.

	Proof Gallons.		
	1925.	1926.	1927.
Total ..	224,558	307,746	333,072
Brandy ..	59,815	96,448	122,905
Gin	104,537	140,192	151,987
Whisky.. ..	60,206	71,106	58,180

Cotton, Manufactured and Raw.—The total value of imports for 1927 under this head is Rs. 29,277,969, a decrease of Rs. 1,470,772 below the figure for 1926. The decrease is general and effects all markets and appears to have been due to overbuying in previous years. The following table shows the distribution :—

	1926. Rs.	1927. Rs.
Total ..	30,748,741	29,277,969
United Kingdom	15,282,001	14,583,873
British Empire	9,099,844	8,400,736
Foreign Countries	6,366,896	6,293,360

Raw Cotton.—The bulk of the raw cotton imported, 23,670 lb. valued at Rs. 1,094,121, came, as usual, from British India, but this year the United States of America entered the market with 3,201 lb. valued at Rs. 126,797. The quantity imported in 1926 was 18,501 lb. valued at Rs. 984,704.

Cotton Waste.—Of 4,096 lb. valued at Rs. 111,164, 1,668 lb. came from the United Kingdom and 2,421 lb. from British India.

Bleached Yarn and Twist.—16,470 lb. valued at Rs. 13,870 were imported, of which 15,871 lb. came from British India. This was a considerable decrease in the figures for 1926, when 31,648 lb. valued at Rs. 26,168 was imported.

Dyed Yarn and Twist.—80,086 lb. valued at Rs. 57,611 were imported, mainly from British India. In the previous year 77,447 lb. valued at Rs. 66,053 were imported.

Piece Goods.—The import of cotton piece goods is very large in 1927. The total imports amounted to 62,800,468 yards valued at Rs. 25,908,998—an increase of 1,883,897 yards or 3 per cent. over the figures for 1926, which were 60,916,571 yards valued at Rs. 26,943,473. There was thus a fall in value of about Rs. 1,000,000. Bleached piece goods, which showed a considerable fall in 1926, or below the high figure for 1925, rose

again in 1927 to 16,086,358 yards valued at Rs. 6,020,176, which is still nearly 1,000,000 yards behind the quantity imported in 1925. Dyed piece goods, which showed the biggest increase in 1926, when the figure of 28,950,433 yards valued at Rs. 13,891,530 was reached, fell to 26,640,275 yards valued at Rs. 11,851,559. This figure is still over 3,000 yards in excess of the figure for 1925. Printed piece goods showed a large increase from 11,815,844 yards valued at Rs. 5,218,301 in 1926 to Rs. 15,600,061 valued at Rs. 6,374,092 in 1927.

As regards country of origin, the United Kingdom more than kept her lead. In bleached piece goods the decrease shown in 1926 gave place to a large increase in 1927, the figure being 11,178,952 yards in 1926 and 14,274,744 yards in 1927. British India still led in dyed piece goods with 14,777,223 yards, as against 15,714,375 yards in 1926. Holland showed a considerable increase under this head, from 4,659,226 yards in 1926 to 6,228,594 yards in 1927.

Lace and Net showed a considerable increase in quantity but a decrease in value. In 1926 2,338,426 yards valued at Rs. 207,748 were imported. The figures for 1927 were 2,869,004 yards valued at Rs. 176,829. The United Kingdom was the chief supplier with 1,755,889 yards, but France increased from 126,426 yards in 1926 to 568,866 yards in 1927. Switzerland sent 348,100 yards.

Embroidery came mainly from Switzerland, which, however, showed a drop from 3,250,446 yards in 1926 to 1,895,217 yards in 1927. The total import was 2,204,933 yards valued at Rs. 199,083 in 1927 and 4,075,134 yards valued at Rs. 375,925 in 1926.

Thread, as usual, came mostly from the United Kingdom, which supplies five-sixths of the import. 222,456 lb. valued at Rs. 821,871 were imported.

Coal.—The import of coal showed an increase from 663,385 tons valued at Rs. 16,324,703 in 1926 to 742,387 tons valued at Rs. 18,954,938 in 1927. British India resumed the first place with 337,400 tons, as against 224,137 tons imported in 1926. British South Africa receded to the second place with 260,831 tons, the import in 1926 from this country being 326,929 tons. The imports from the United Kingdom showed an increase from 76,397 tons in 1926 to 113,710 tons in 1927.

Liquid fuel has shown a progressive increase for a number of years and reached this year the figure of Rs. 54,154,070 gallons. This is more than twice the quantity imported in 1922. The largest source of supply this year was Dutch Borneo, which replaced Persia, the leading supplier last year. Borneo supplied

26,182,633 gallons against 13,851,581 gallons in 1926. Persia supplied 21,092,310 gallons against 34,485,388 gallons in 1926. The United States of America came into the field with 5,251,166 gallons. The total imports for 1926 and 1927 were—

Year.	Gallons.	Value. Rs.
1926	48,336,969	11,955,424
1927	54,154,070	14,209,092

44,636,500 gallons of liquid fuel were exported as ships' stores.

Kerosine Oil.—The total imports of bulk oil increased from 6,708,153 gallons in 1926 to 8,539,307 in 1927, and further considerable changes occurred in the source of supply. Sumatra was the leading supplier with 4,074,526 gallons against 1,711,357 in 1926. Dutch Borneo took the second place with 2,679,629 gallons against 592,906 gallons in 1926. The United States of America, which held the first place in 1926 with 3,168,094 gallons, fell to the third place in 1927 with 1,785,152 gallons. Case oil imports fell from 172,688 gallons to 58,302, the United States of America taking the first place.

Total imports of bulk and case kerosine oil were—

	Gallons.
1926	6,880,841
1927	8,597,609

Petrol.—This article showed an increase to 6,946,194 gallons in 1927 from 6,308,256 gallons in 1926. The increase is not so large as in 1926, but the total quantity is very considerable and indicates how far the mechanization of transport has gone in Ceylon. The whole supply except 757,068 gallons from Dutch Borneo came from Sumatra.

The imports for the last seven years have been—

Year.	Gallons.	Year.	Gallons.
1921	1,381,671	1925	4,085,370*
1922	1,389,363*	1926	6,308,256*
1923	1,959,474*	1927	6,946,194
1924	3,749,236*		

* Includes imports by Government.

Manures.—The total quantity of manure imported showed an increase in quantity and value, which may be taken as an indication of the satisfactory condition generally of the main crops throughout the greater part of the year. There were not many large changes on the main sources of supply, but a large increase in the supply of fish guano from South Africa and of sulphate of ammonia from British India may be noted. The

chief kinds of manures and countries from which they were mainly derived are shown in the following table :—

Kind.	Cwt.	Value. Rs.
Groundnut poonac (British India)	658,182	3,638,453
Bone meal (British India)	336,474	1,716,071
Sulphate of ammonia (United Kingdom)	257,048	2,012,519
Fish guano (British South Africa and British India)	206,388	1,528,224
Muriate of potash (Germany)	148,572	831,573
Nitrate of soda (Chile and United Kingdom)	125,850	1,024,503
Superphosphate (Belgium)	117,719	542,741
Fish manure (British India)	114,791	692,632
Refuse of saltpetre (British India)	96,539	969,769
Blood meal (United States of America and United Kingdom)	78,176	932,074
Basig slag (Belgium)	64,967	151,510
Nitrolim (Czecho Slovakia and Italy)	53,736	354,510
Castor seed (United Kingdom)	47,237	179,109

The total imports during the last three years are as follows :—

Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1925	2,088,526	12,744,286
1926	2,579,085	15,993,939
1927	2,744,197	16,437,307

Tea and Other Chests.—The number of chests imported in 1927 showed a slight increase over the figure for 1926. The chief supplier was Japan with 2,511,115 chests, a decrease of 239,932 below the figure for 1926. The United Kingdom sent 887,458, an improvement on the 1926 figure of 688,668. The only other supplier of importance is Finland, with 462,150 chests in 1927 and 280,893 in 1926. The imports for the last three years are as follows :—

Year.	No.	Value. Rs.
1925	3,138,944	4,209,147
1926	3,811,539	5,896,219
1927	3,930,987	4,668,596

Horses.—213 horses were imported in 1927, as against 162 in 1926, 197 in 1925, and 111 in 1924. Of these, 100 came from the United Kingdom, 75 from British India, 35 from British South Africa, and 3 from Australia.

Cattle, Buffaloes, Goats, and Sheep for food came mostly from British India. The following table gives the number and value of these animals imported in 1926 and 1927 :—

	1926.		1927.	
	No.	Value. Rs.	No.	Value. Rs.
Cattle	7,428	222,840	7,931	243,930
Buffaloes	2,364	70,920	2,426	72,780
Sheep	15,516	155,160	18,160	181,600
Goats	95,435	954,350	99,661	993,610

Motor Cars and Lorries.—Slightly fewer cars were imported in 1927 than in 1926. The United States of America again headed the list as regards number of cars and the United Kingdom as regards value. Both countries show an increase in number, the United States of America with 845 cars valued at Rs. 1,963,893 as against 812 cars valued at Rs. 2,222,435 in 1926, and the United Kingdom with 775 cars valued at Rs. 2,090,646 as against 724 cars valued at Rs. 2,136,961 in 1926. Canadian-made cars fell from 630 in 1926 to 440 in 1927, French increased from 173 to 207, and Italian decreased from 206 to 184.

The United States of America increased its lead as regards lorries, the figures being 467 in 1926 and 495 in 1927. The United Kingdom sent 110 lorries in 1927 and 97 in 1926. Canada decreased from 343 lorries in 1926 to 132 in 1927.

The following table shows the imports for 1926 and 1927 :—

Year.	Number.	Value. Rs.
Motor Cars—		
1926 ..	2,570	6,471,196
1927 ..	2,481	6,021,954
Lorries—		
1926 ..	948	2,597,550
1927 ..	761	1,916,770
Chassis for cars—		
1926 ..	1	2,539
1927 ..	1	3,615

Cement.—The quantity of cement imported increased by 18·8 per cent. over the already large figure for 1926, indicating great building activity and an increased use of this material for building. The two largest suppliers were, as usual, the United Kingdom with 793,213 cwt. and Germany with 407,823 cwt. The imports for the last five years are as follows :—

Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1923 ..	521,337	1,232,304
1924 ..	714,814	1,547,184
1925 ..	950,093	1,968,786
1926 ..	1,148,850	2,321,835
1927 ..	1,364,018	2,799,035

Metal and Metalware, Ferrous.—The imports of ferrous metals showed an increase of 8·9 per cent. in quantity and 7 per cent. in value above the figure for 1926. The United Kingdom continued to be by far the main supplier with imports to the value of Rs. 10,880,374 or 70·3 per cent. of the total, an increase of 9·1 per cent. on the figure for the previous year. Belgium took the second place with imports to the value of Rs. 1,632,903, *i.e.*, 10·5 per cent. of the total, an increase of 6·4 per cent. on the figure for 1926. Germany receded to the third place with imports to the value of Rs. 1,448,593, a drop of 22·3 per cent. below the figures for 1926. The total imports during the last five years are as follows :—

Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1923 ..	624,104	9,087,050
1924 ..	839,483	11,876,465
1925 ..	932,860	11,845,579
1926 ..	1,285,060	14,452,910
1927 ..	1,399,714	15,467,704

Non-Ferrous Metal and Manufactures thereof.—The total imports amounted to Rs. 5,761,948. The United Kingdom was the chief supplier with Rs. 2,677,572, a slightly smaller figure than last year, but she took 47 per cent. of the trade as compared with 42 per cent. last year. Burma supplied only about half the quantity she supplied in 1926, the amount being Rs. 1,189,475. The imports from British India increased by 15 per cent. to Rs. 1,138,992. The total imports for 1926 and 1927 are as follows :—

Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1926 ..	179,936	6,932,869
1927 ..	146,849	5,761,948

NOTES ON THE PRINCIPAL EXPORTS.

Tea.—The following table shows the quantities of tea exported each year for the last eight years in millions of pounds :—

Year.	Million Pounds.	Year.	Million Pounds.
1920 ..	184	1924 ..	205
1921 ..	161	1925 ..	210
1922 ..	172	1926 ..	217
1923 ..	182	1927 ..	227

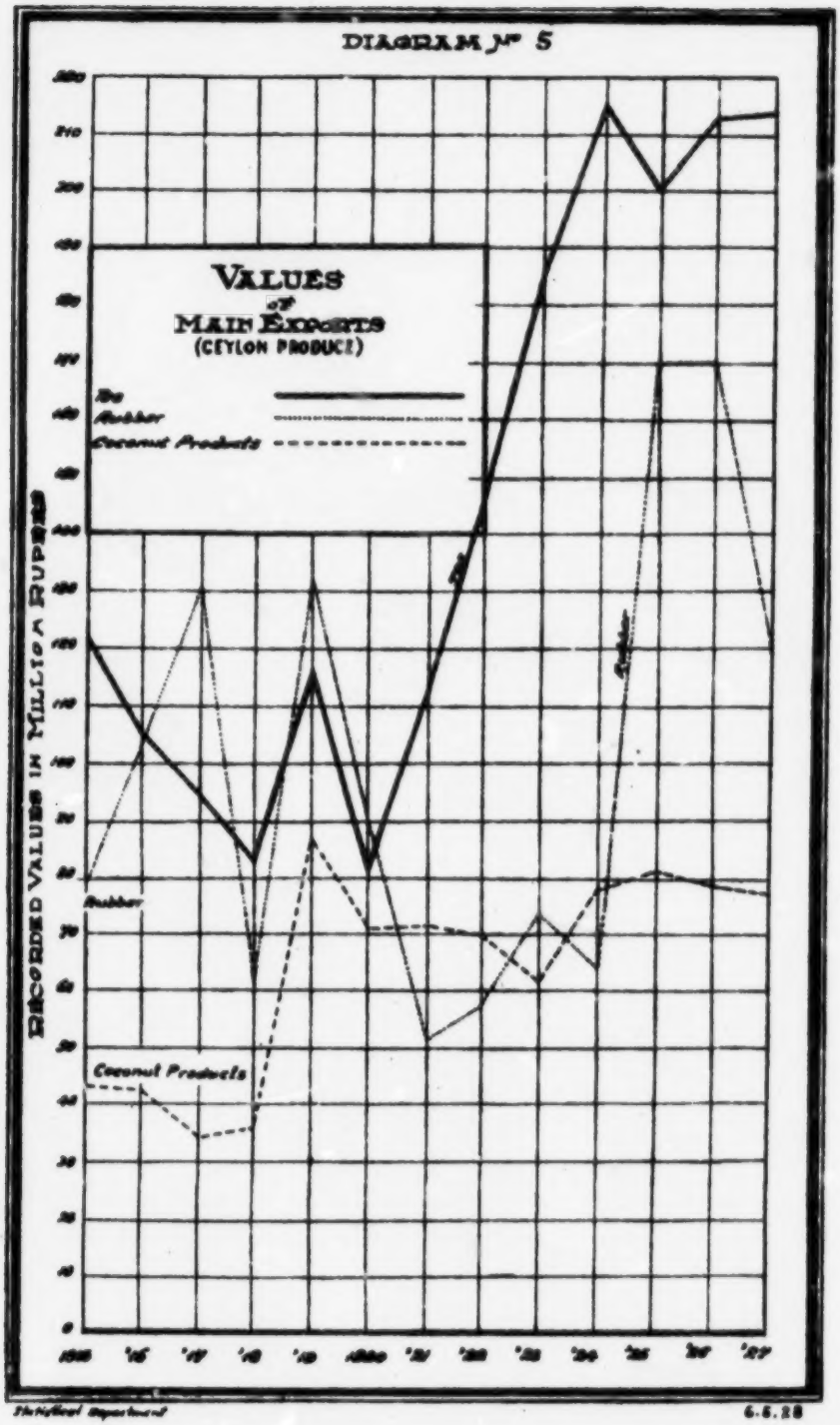


DIAGRAM No 5
VALUES
OF
MAIN EXPORTS
(CEYLON PRODUCE)
Tea
Rubber
Coconut Products
RECORDED VALUES IN MILLION RUPEES
Tea
Rubber
Rubber
Coconut Products
6.6.28

No. 4.

PLUCKING TEA.

Pláté, Limited, Colombo.

No. 5.

TAPPING RUBBER.

Plâté, Limited, Colombo.

The export of tea thus forms a new record for the Island. The actual exports were 227,037,856 lb.* valued at Rs. 213,774,632. The average price was thus 94½ cents per lb. The averages in previous years were Re. 1·05 in 1924, 95 cents in 1925, and 98 cents in 1926.

The following table shows the exports in 1926 and 1927 to the United Kingdom, British Possessions, Foreign Countries, and as ships' stores :—

	1927. lb.	1926. lb.	Increase. lb.	Decrease. lb.
United Kingdom	144,905,844	141,681,033	3,224,811	—
British Possessions	53,798,064	51,158,205	2,639,859	—
Foreign Countries	28,246,151	24,243,410	4,002,741	—
Ships' Stores	87,797	101,018	—	13,221
	227,037,856	217,183,666	9,867,411	13,221
		Deduct decrease	13,221	
		Nett increase	9,854,190	

There was little change in the distribution of the tea exported. The United Kingdom continued to take about two-thirds of the total. Australia, the second largest consumer, increased her imports of Ceylon tea from 16,088,648 lb. (7½ per cent.) to 18,062,969 lb., thus taking nearly 8 per cent. of the whole. The United States of America decreased from 15,390,854 lb. (7 per cent.) to 13,782,638 lb. (6 per cent.). New Zealand with 4 per cent. declined from 8,611,762 lb. to 8,437,874 lb. British South Africa took 7,975,795 lb., and Canada and Egypt each took over 5,000,000 lb.

Rubber.—The exports of rubber were again regulated by the Rubber Restriction Scheme, which remained in force throughout the year. The authorized export at the beginning of the year was 80 per cent. of the standard production. From February to April inclusive the figure was 70 per cent. This was reduced to 60 per cent. on May 1, and remained at this figure for the rest of the year. There was naturally a fall in the total export, 125,062,578 lb. valued at Rs. 119,174,347 being exported as against 131,840,505 lb. valued at Rs. 170,078,219. The average price per lb. was 95 cents. In 1925 it was Re. 1·66, and in 1926 Re. 1·29. The United States of America remained the principal purchaser with 78,985,455 lb. valued at Rs. 76,163,302. In 1926 they took 81,625,410 lb. valued at Rs. 107,985,455. The United Kingdom took 34,580,864 lb. valued at Rs. 32,279,131, a considerable fall on the figures for 1926, which were 40,806,644 lb. valued at Rs. 50,582,613. Germany imported 4,833,190 lb., Australia took 3,612,350 lb., and France 1,360,745 lb.

* Including ships' stores.

Coconut Products.—The exports of the three chief coconut products during the last six years have been—

Year.	Desiccated Coconut. Cwt.	Copra. Cwt.	Coconut Oil. Cwt.
1922	768,215	1,686,589	554,626
1923	818,793	1,015,465	480,543
1924	871,341	1,769,189	552,633
1925	794,161	2,273,717	616,917
1926	754,367	2,419,398	570,463
1927	872,833	1,982,154	673,153

The values of these products for 1926 and 1927 were—

Year.	Desiccated Coconuts. Rs.	Copra. Rs.	Coconut Oil. Rs.
1926	17,275,984	39,848,479	15,489,320
1927	20,481,761	31,844,823	16,567,551

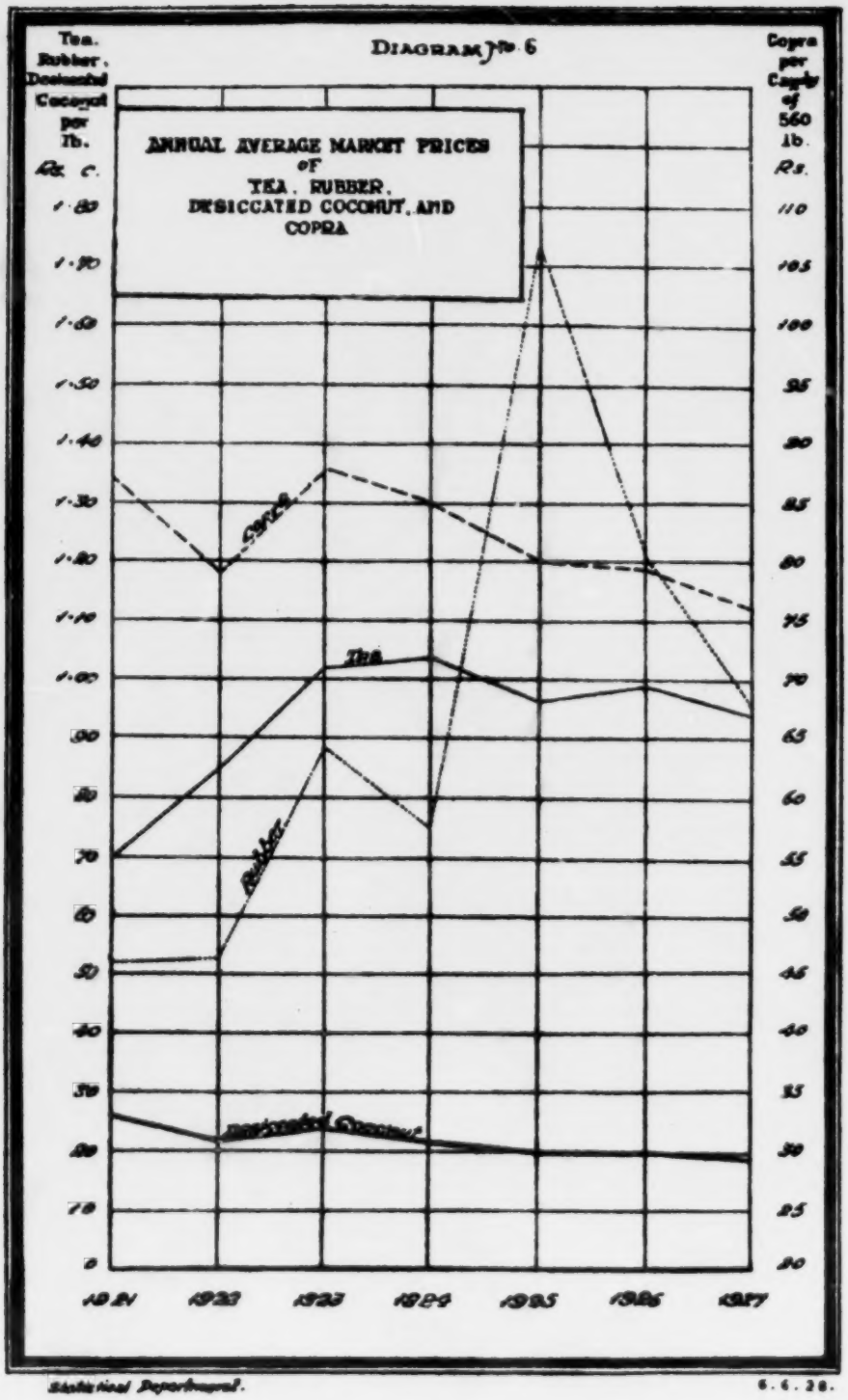
The total quantity exported in 1927 was therefore 3,528,540 cwt. valued at Rs. 68,894,135.

Desiccated Coconut.—has shown a considerable increase. The average price was Rs. 23.47 per cwt. The largest buyers were as usual the United Kingdom with 290,118 cwt., the United States of America with 206,116 cwt., and Germany with 136,481 cwt. All these showed an improvement on the figures for 1926.

Copra did not maintain the improvement of the last two years. Germany retained her position she gained in 1926 as the chief purchaser with 565,660 cwt., which was however a fall of 222,900 cwt. compared with the figure for 1926. Italy took 483,559 cwt., showing a similar reduction on the figure for 1926. Norway took 328,024 cwt., Denmark 229,912 cwt., and Holland 171,625 cwt. The exports to the United Kingdom fell from 74,047 cwt. in 1926 to 21,575 cwt. in 1927. The average price in 1927 was Rs. 16·06 per cwt. In 1926 the average price was Rs. 16·47 per cwt., and in 1925 Rs. 16·83 per cwt.

Coconut Oil showed a considerable improvement, the total export being 673,163 cwt. valued at Rs. 16,567,773. The distribution was, as usual, very wide, the chief purchaser being the United Kingdom with 176,479 cwt. valued at Rs. 4,307,872. British India took the second place this year with 85,761 cwt., Denmark took 79,912 cwt., a big drop from 149,490 cwt., with which she headed the list last year. Italy took 66,300 cwt., Egypt 60,760 cwt., and Sweden 42,748 cwt. The average price was Rs. 24·63 per cwt.

Fresh Coconuts.—The number exported showed an increase, mainly in the increase to the United Kingdom, which took 7,840,346 nuts against 5,733,798 nuts in 1926. Egypt fell from 6½ millions to 4¾ millions, Germany increased from 2½ millions to



Statistical Department.

6.6.28.

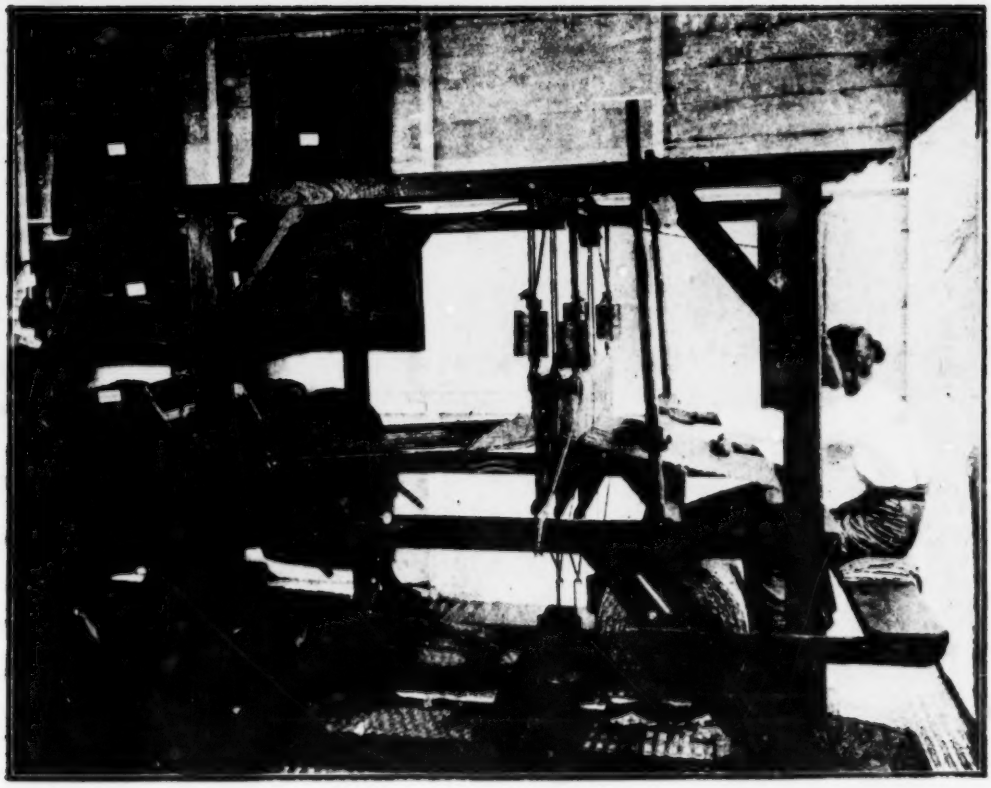
No. 6.

CHEKKU : MILL FOR EXTRACTING COCONUT OIL.

Plâté, Limited, Colombo.

No. 7.

WEAVING COIR MATTING.



Plâté, Limited, Colombo.

3¼ millions, and Holland rose from just over a million to nearly 1½ millions. The total exports for 1926 and 1927 are as follows :—

Year.	Number.	Value. Rs.
1926	16,951,368	1,393,682
1927	18,875,750	1,515,087

Other Coconut Products.

Coir Yarn.—Exports decreased from 107,885 cwt. valued at Rs. 1,831,138 in 1926 to 105,754 cwt. valued at Rs. 1,766,723 in 1927. The United Kingdom took 43,563 cwt. and Germany 29,116 cwt. The average price was Rs. 16·74 per cwt.

Coir Rope.—21,123 cwt. were exported, of which 20,812 cwt. went to the Straits Settlements.

Bristle Fibre.—170,728 cwt. valued at Rs. 1,569,904 were exported, the average price thus being Rs. 8·26 per cwt. Japan with 79,637 cwt. and Belgium with 41,337 cwt. were the chief buyers, each showing a considerable increase.

Mattress Fibre.—365,121 cwt. valued at Rs. 1,313,404 were exported in 1927. In 1926 303,102 cwt. valued at Rs. 927,823 were exported. The average price in 1927 was Rs. 3·58 per cwt. The chief purchasers were the United Kingdom with 106,752cwt. British South Africa with 64,200 cwt., Germany with 47,891 cwt., Belgium with 37,871 cwt., and Australia with 37,155 cwt.

Coconut Poonac.—173,155 cwt. valued at Rs. 1,241,983 were exported, of which 91,131 cwt. went to Germany and 79,577 cwt. went to Belgium.

Plumbago.—The quantity of plumbago exported rose from 232,453 cwt. in 1926 to 257,686 cwt. in 1927. The total value of the exports, however, fell from Rs. 2,616,994 in 1926 to Rs. 2,525,700 in 1927. The average price was thus Rs. 9·80 per cwt. in 1927 and Rs. 11·26 per cwt. in 1926. The United States of America was the best market with 95,840 cwt., a slight increase over the quantity taken in 1926, 90,081 cwt., but still well below that taken in 1925, 117,364 cwt. Germany took 61,946 cwt. in 1927, 35,086 cwt. in 1926, and 86,796 cwt. in 1925. The United Kingdom's imports in 1927 amounted to 26,370 cwt., which was less than half the quantity imported in 1926, 58,395 cwt.

Factories.

There was an increase of 23 in the total number of factories as compared with 1926, or just over 1·4 per cent. The actual number of new factories registered during the year was 79, and 56 ceased work permanently. New factories included 9 tea, 6 rubber, 9 desiccating, 34 fibre, 1 saw mill, 1 tobacco (cigarette), 5 paddy-husking and oil-pressing, 2 plumbago, 1 printing, timber-sawing, and watering, 1 rice mill, 4 aerated waters, 1 aerated

water and rice-hulling, 1 aerial ropeway worked by oil engine, 1 bottle-washing machine, 1 ice and aerated waters, and 2 electric installations. The first complete compilation of factories was made at the end of 1908, and the total then was 1,025; at the end of December, 1927, it was 1,642, an increase of 617, or about 60 per cent. in nineteen years. Steam power has been used at 309 factories at the end of 1927.

V.—Communications.

SHIPPING.

4,244 vessels with a total tonnage of 12,719,600 tons entered the ports of the Island in 1927, as against 4,053 vessels with a tonnage of 11,875,547 in 1926.

The following table shows the classification under the four general heads :—

	1926.		1927.	
	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.
Merchant vessels (with cargo and in ballast)	2,765	10,149,934	2,882	10,683,555
Merchant vessels (called to coal and oil)	369	1,294,201	413	1,412,691
Native sailing vessels	843	83,093	848	85,108
Warships and transports *	76	348,319	101	538,246
	4,053	11,875,547	4,244	12,719,600

* Warships' displacement tonnage.

The following table shows the distribution of merchant vessels, including vessels which called only for bunkers :—

	1926.		1927.	
Nationality.	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.
British	2,093	7,072,449	2,249	7,585,186
British Colonial	843	83,093	848	85,108
Total British Vessels	2,936	7,155,542	3,097	7,670,294
American	45	241,470	50	260,634
Belgian	3	9,539	7	20,215
Danish	35	111,731	20	63,399
Dutch	199	919,561	207	985,901
Finnish	6	15,187	—	—
French	152	774,582	145	796,863
Greek	2	4,407	3	7,988
German	187	740,122	185	772,895
Italian	105	389,236	111	439,803
Japanese	214	943,239	197	884,188
Jugo-Slavian	—	—	4	12,946
Norwegian	60	128,218	88	171,341
Spanish	12	28,449	6	14,898
Swedish	21	65,945	23	79,989
Total Foreign Vessels	1,041	4,371,686	1,046	4,511,060

Excluding warships, transports, and merchant vessels which called only for bunkers, the distribution according to flags was as follows :—

Nationality.	1926. Number.	1926. Tons.	1927. Number.	1927. Tons.
British	1,828	6,149,067	1,937	6,506,068
British Colonial	843	83,093	848	85,108
Total British Vessels	2,671	6,232,160	2,785	6,591,176
American	43	232,288	50	260,634
Belgian	2	8,216	2	5,970
Danish	33	106,619	17	56,656
Dutch	181	842,279	192	927,342
Finnish	3	7,809	—	—
French	136	711,582	135	750,469
Greek	—	—	—	—
German	160	646,431	166	714,812
Italian	87	335,972	87	363,154
Japanese	205	904,130	192	864,084
Jugo-Slavian	—	—	—	—
Norwegian	55	114,409	76	142,348
Spanish	12	28,449	6	14,898
Swedish	20	62,683	22	77,120
Total Foreign Vessels	937	4,000,867	945	4,177,487

The Colombo Port Commission.

The number of oil-burning vessels which call at Colombo is steadily increasing, as will be seen from the following figures for the last four years :—

Year.	Number of Vessels burning Oil only.	Number of Vessels burning Oil or Coal.
1924	382	92
1925	388	43
1926	457	26
1927	534	41

The largest number of oil-burning vessels which have called at Colombo in any one month since the Oil Facilities were made available in February, 1922, was 57 in May, 1927.

The installation of the six new oil-fired boilers at the Graving Dock was completed in February, and all the boilers have been adapted for coal firing. The installation appears to be most satisfactory, and is now able to meet any likely demands for steam both for Dock and Oil Facilities services for some time to come.

The duplicate 10-inch pipe line for fuel oil from the harbour to Kolonnawa is working very satisfactorily.

The pump house at the Kolonnawa Oil Depôt was enlarged during the year, and a new boosting pump was installed.

The connection of the Kolonnawa Oil Depôt to the general drainage system has been decided upon, and the laying of the sewer in the Depôt will be started as soon as the material has been received from England.

During the year 52 vessels discharged the following quantities of oil :—

	Tons.
Liquid fuel	216,616
Kerosine oil	34,390
Petrol	27,581

as compared with the following figures for 1926 :—

	Tons.
Liquid fuel	193,347
Kerosine oil	27,523
Petrol	22,691

313 vessels were bunkered with a total quantity of 189,889 tons of fuel oil, as compared with 273 vessels and 172,891 tons of fuel oil in 1926.

The following table shows the number and tonnage of vessels that entered the port during the year :—

	Number.	Tonnage.
Vessels (exclusive of men-of-war, merchant vessels on transport service, and coasting vessels) ..	3,108 ..	11,673,308 (nett)
Merchant vessels on transport service	39 ..	304,692 (gross)
Coasting vessels	51 ..	60,600 (nett)
Men-of-war	62 ..	233,554 (displacement)

The numbers of merchant ships of all nationalities which called at the port in 1913 and 1923–1927, and their nett tonnage, were as follows :—

Year.	Number of Vessels.	Nett Tonnage.
1913	2,979 ..	9,475,893
1923	2,563 ..	9,006,640
1924	2,773 ..	10,013,951
1925	2,953 ..	10,858,324
1926	2,982 ..	11,054,248
1927	2,777 ..	11,631,245

Lake to Harbour Canal.—There has been an appreciable increase in the traffic through the Lake to Harbour canal. The total number of lighters, launches, &c., which passed through the canal during the year was 5,623, as against 5,056 in 1926. The goods traffic for 1927 amounted to 11,817 tons of import cargo and 47,458 tons of export cargo, as against 3,325 tons and 41,956 tons, respectively, in 1926. The largest quantity exported *viâ* the Lake to Harbour Canal in any one month since the opening of the locks in November, 1922, was 5,223 tons in July, and the largest quantity imported in any one month was 1,987 tons in September.

The whole of the San Sebastian canal is navigable by 40-ton harbour barges drawing not more than 4 feet of water, and it is anticipated that the dredging of the canal to 5 feet of water at mean sea level will be completed by the end of February, 1928.

The dredging of the 36 feet area in the harbour as laid down in the programme approved in September, 1924, was completed during the year, and a new programme of work was approved. By this programme the 33 feet area at the Coal Jetties will first be dredged, after which the 36 feet area will be extended through the northern entrance.

Of the 643 acres of low water area of the harbour, 178 acres have been dredged to 36 feet and over, 137 acres to a depth varying between 36 feet and 33 feet, and 139 acres to between 33 feet and 30 feet. The remaining 189 acres have a depth of less than 30 feet.

Six berths are available in both monsoons for vessels drawing up to 33 feet of water. This number will be increased by the addition of two more berths to accommodate vessels of this draft. A safety margin of 3 feet for the berthing of ships has now been introduced. No ship is to be navigated or lie within the harbour with less than 3 feet of water under her bottom, except with the special sanction of the Master Attendant.

Specification and plans for a powerful sea-going tug capable of large towing and salvage work outside the harbour were prepared during the year, and tenders called for, but, as certain alterations have since been made in the original specification, an amended specification is being prepared, and fresh tenders are being called for. On receipt of the tenders an order will be placed for the tug.

It has been decided to provide an ambulance launch for the conveyance of sick and injured persons between ship and shore. One of the Customs launches will be converted to make it suitable for this work. The engine required for the purpose has been ordered, and on its receipt the conversion of the launch will be taken in hand.

A new fumigatorium for the disinfection of plants and seeds imported was erected on the site immediately to the north of the Battery Commander's Post in Commissariat street, and it was brought into use with effect from October 1, 1927.

The construction of the new warehouse (giving an additional warehouse floor area of 31,755 square feet) in the Pettah Warehouse Area was completed in October last. The other two existing warehouses in this area, which are 100 feet wide,

are being enlarged to 130 feet, *i.e.*, the same width as the new warehouse. This enlargement will provide an additional warehouse floor area of 12,000 square feet.

The development of the area between the Lake to Harbour Canal and the Lotus road for the landing of heavy cargo was completed, and an open shed was also erected in the yard. The traffic in this yard is considerable, and steps have therefore been taken for metalling the area round the open shed and flooring the open shed.

The construction of the new Customs House at the Passenger Jetty was continued during the year, and it is anticipated that the building will be completed by the latter part of 1928.

Two steam-driven dynamos were installed at the Graving Dock with a view to increasing the supply of electric light and power at the Graving Dock and Guide Pier, and in order to carry this extra load arrangements are being made to double the mains to the Guide Pier and Dock.

A scheme for the connection of the latrines, bathrooms, &c., for the use of the officers and crews of ships while in Dock to sewers in the same way as other large latrines in the port has been approved, and the materials are on order.

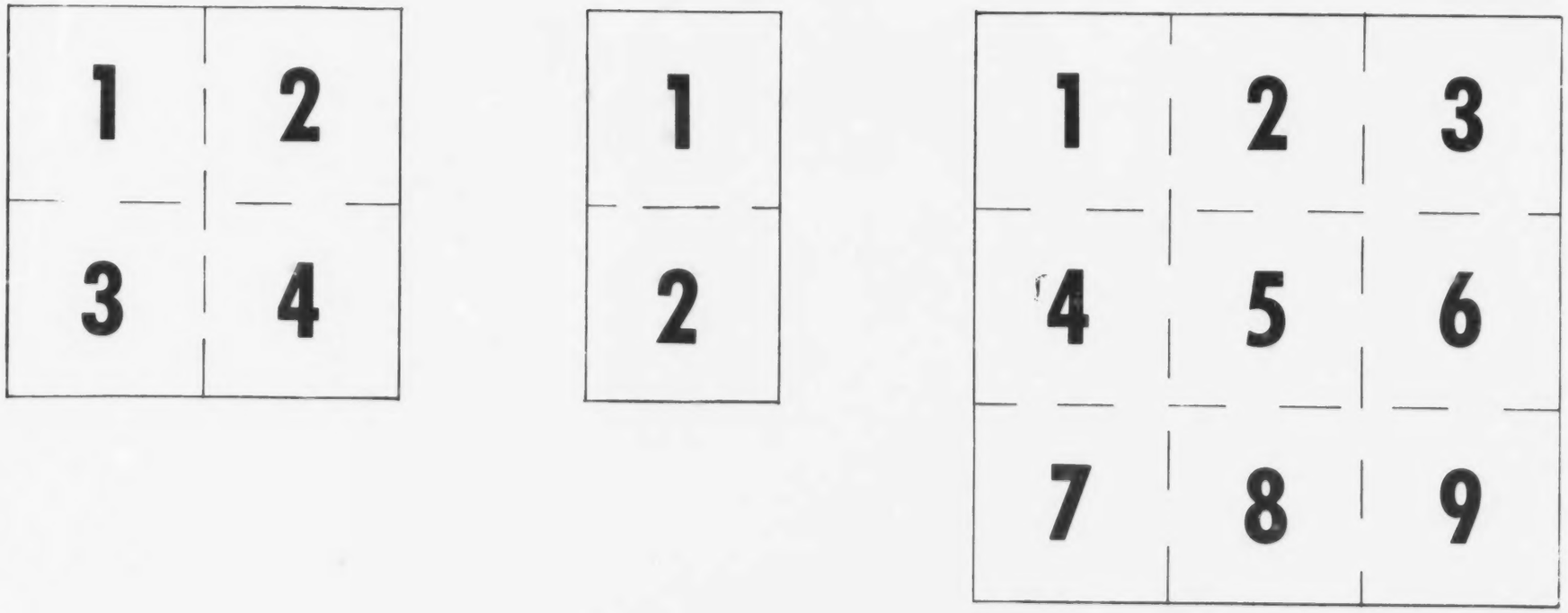
During the year a total number of 26 vessels were docked, 62 vessels were taken on the Patent Slip, and 17 vessels were fumigated.

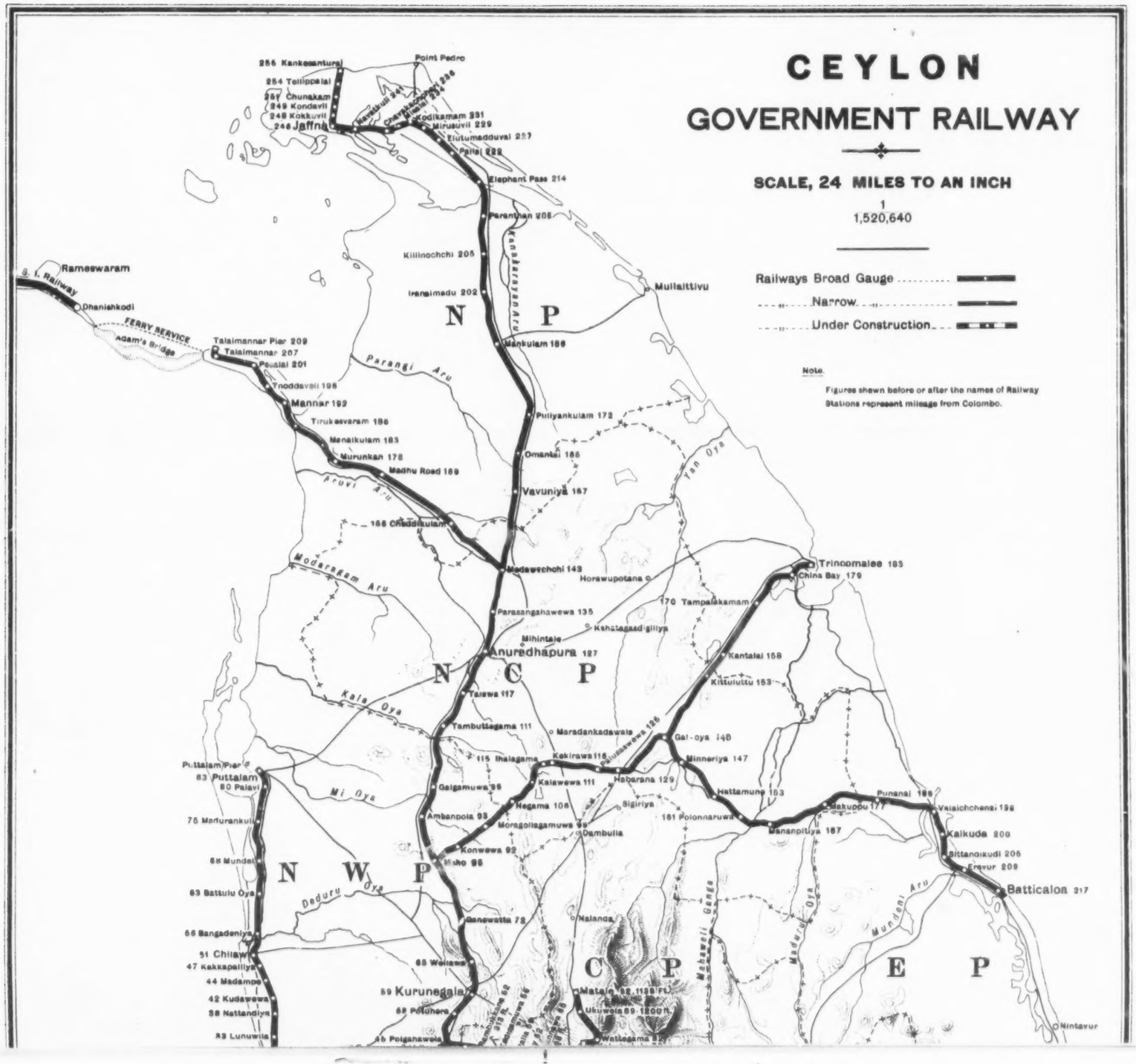
The receipts from the Graving Dock and Patent Slip brought to account during the year 1927 were Rs. 63,068·03 and Rs. 9,074, respectively, as compared with the previous year's figures, viz., Rs. 63,320·65 and Rs. 9,669·93, respectively. The recoveries on account of the fumigation of vessels during 1927 amounted to Rs. 4,699·53, as against Rs. 2,646·25 in 1926; the increase of Rs. 2,053·28 in the receipts is due to the larger number of vessels fumigated during the year.

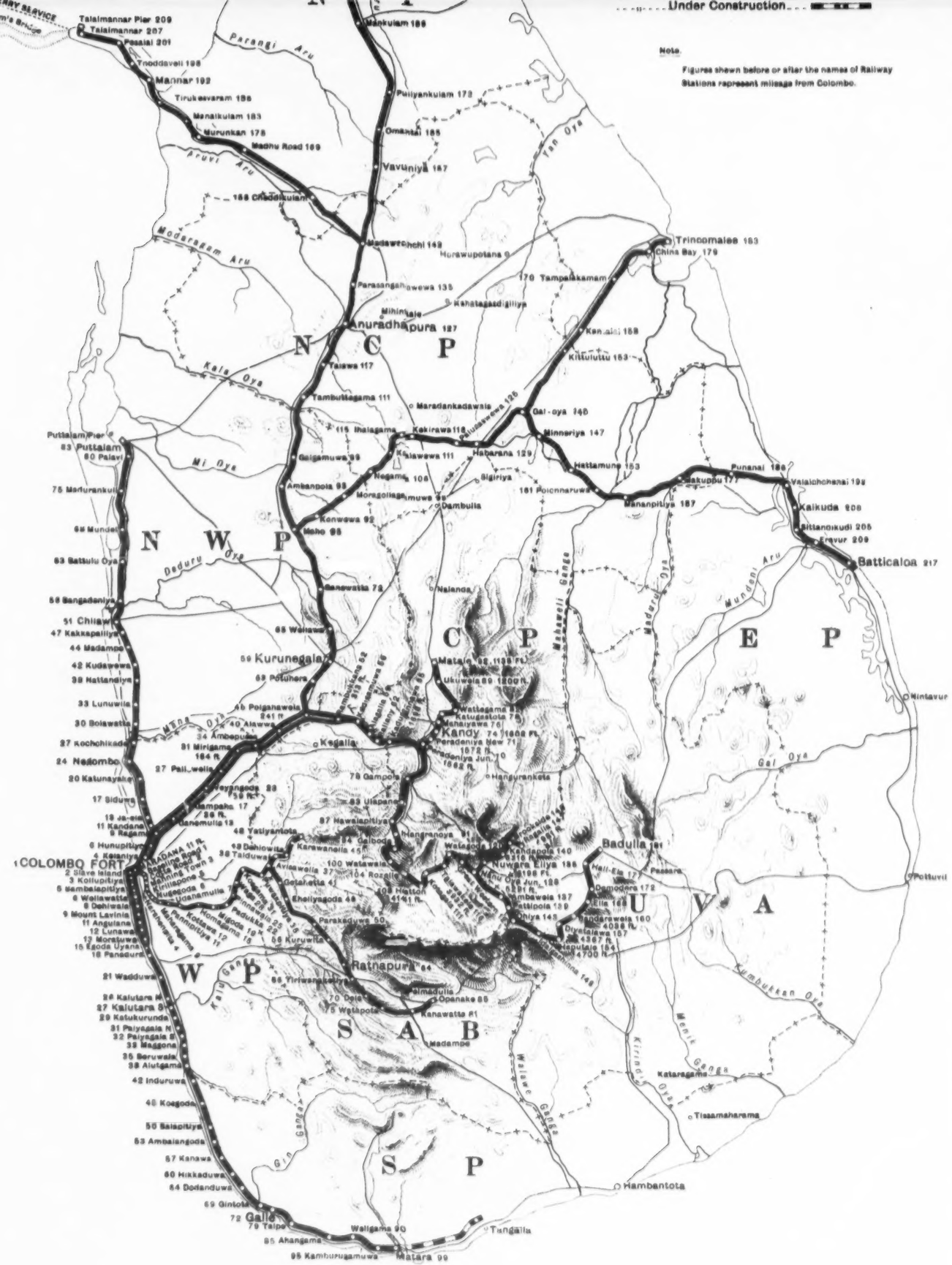
Finance.—The total expenditure of the Colombo Port Commission for the Financial Year 1926–27, including Rs. 193,388·36 chargeable to Loan Account in respect of the Oil Facilities Scheme and the Government Housing Scheme, was Rs. 3,656,889·96. Of this amount Rs. 158,258·98 was expended by the Public Works Department on work for the Colombo Port Commission, and a sum of Rs. 191,502·82 was expended by the Colombo Port Commission on account of other Departments. The nett expenditure on Colombo Port Commission services, inclusive of expenditure from Loan Funds, was Rs. 3,465,387·14.

The revenue during the same period was Rs. 5,693,310·01, inclusive of Rs. 597,975·51 from the Oil Charges levied at the port and from the rent of the Oil Installations Depôt.

Maps on this order too large to be entirely included in one exposure are filmed clockwise beginning in the upper left hand corner, left to right and top to bottom as many frames as required. The following diagrams illustrate the method.




CEYLON
GOVERNMENT RAILWAY
SCALE, 24 MILES TO AN INCH
1
1,520,640
Railways Broad Gauge
Narrow
Under Construction
Note.
Figures shewn before or after the names of Railway Stations represent mileage from Colombo.
Point Pedro
256 Kankesanturai
254 Tellippalai
251 Chunakam
249 Kondavil
248 Kokkuvil
246 Jaffna
Kodikamam 231
Mirusuvil 229
Elutumadduval 227
Palai 222
Elephant Pass 214
Paranthan 208
Killinochchi 205
Iranaimadu 202
Mullaittivu
Mankulam 186
Pulliyankulam 172
Omantai 166
Vavuniya 157
Madawachchi 143
Horawupotana
Trincomalee 185
China Bay 179
170 Tampalakamam
Parasangahawewa 135
Kahatagasdigiliya
Mihintale
Anuradhapura 127
Kantalai 158
Kittuluttu 153
Talawa 117
Tambuttegama 111
Maradankadawala
Galoya 140
Minneriya 147
Kekirawa 118
Habarana 129
Kalawewa 111
Galgamuwa 96
Negama 106
Sigiriya
Hattamuna 153
Punanai 186
Valaichchenai 198
Kalkuda 200
Bittangikudi 206
Eravur 209
Batticaloa 217
Ambanpola 98
Moragollagamuwa 96
Dambulla
181 Polonnaruwa
Manampitiya 187
Konwewa 92
Mako 86
Ganewatta 78
Nalanda
Matale 88 1125 ft
Ukuwela 89 1500 ft
Wattegama
Kurunegala
Polgahawela
Puttalam Pier
83 Puttalam
80 Palavi
75 Madurankuli
68 Mundel
63 Battulu Oya
56 Bangadeniya
51 Chilaw
47 Kakkapalliya
44 Madampe
42 Kudawewa
38 Nattandiya
33 Lunuwila
Rameswaram
S. I. Railway
Dhanushkodi
FERRY SERVICE
Adam's Bridge
Talaimannar Pier 209
Talaimannar 207
Pesalai 201
Mannar 192
Tirukesvaram 186
Menaikulam 183
Murunkan 178
Madhu Road 169
Chedikulam
Mullaitivu
Yan Oya
Pruvi Aru
Modaragam Aru
Kala Oya
Mi Oya
Deduru Oya
Parangi Aru
Mahaweli Ganga
Madura Oya
Mundeni Aru
Nintavur
N C P
N W P
C P
E P


Under Construction
Note.
Figures shown before or after the names of Railway Stations represent mileage from Colombo.
FERRY SERVICE
Adam's Bridge
Talaimannar Pier 209
Talaimannar 207
Pesalai 201
Mannar 192
Tirukesvaram 186
Madhu Road 169
Mankulam 189
Pulliyankulam 173
Omantai 165
Vavuniya 157
Madawachchi 149
Horawupotana
Parasangahawewa 135
Mihintale
Anuradhapura 127
Trincomalee 183
China Bay 179
Tampalakamam
Kantale 158
Kitulutu 153
Galoya 140
Minneriya 147
Habarana 129
Hattamuna 153
Punanai 186
Valaichchenai 192
Kalkuda 200
Batticaloa 217
Maradankadawala
Tambuttegama 111
Puttalam Pier
Puttalam
Palavi
Marichchikatti
Mundel
Battulu Oya
Bangadeniya
Chilaw
Kakkapalliya
Madampe
Kudawewa
Hettandiya
Lunuwila
Bolawatta
Kochchikade
Negombo
Katunayake
Siduwa
Kandana
Hunupitiya
Kelaniya
COLOMBO FORT
Slave Island
Kollupitiya
Bambalapitiya
Wellawatte
Dehiwala
Mount Lavinia
Angulana
Lunawa
Moratuwa
Egoda Uyana
Panadura
Wadduwa
Kalutara N
Kalutara S
Katukurunda
Beruwala
Aluthgama
Induruwa
Koggala
Balapitiya
Ambalangoda
Kanawa
Hikkaduwa
Dodanduwa
Gintota
Galle
Talpe
Ahangama
Kamburugamuwa
Matara
Wellawatta
Tangalla
Hambantota
Kataragama
Tissamaharama
Wintavur
Potturil
Badulla
Nuwara Eliya
Kandapola
Hatton
Ratnapura
Almadulla
Kanawatta
Madampe
Kurunegala
Polgahawela
Alawwa
Kegalle
Mirigama
Pallewela
Ambepussa
Gampaha
Veyangoda
Ganemulla
Yatiyantota
Karawanella
Avissawella
Kosgama
Ingiriya
Bulathsinhala
Horana
Panadura
Moratuwa
Kottawa
Maharagama
Homagama
Pelmadulla
Kuruwita
Eheliyagoda
Parakaduwa
Polonnaruwa
Dambulla
Sigiriya
Galgamuwa
Ambanpola
Mahawa
Kekirawa
Kalawewa
Negama
Moragollagamuwa
Konwewa
Maho
Ganewatta
Nalanda
Matale
Ukuwela
Wattegama
Katugastota
Mahaiyawa
Kandy
Peradeniya New
Peradeniya Jun.
Hanguranketa
Hanwella
Avissawella
Ratmalana
Dehiwala
Mount Lavinia
Kelani Ganga
Kalu Ganga
Gin Ganga
Nilwala Ganga
Walawe Ganga
Kirindi Oya
Menik Ganga
Kumbukkan Oya
Gal Oya
Mahaweli Ganga
Maduru Oya
Mundani Aru
Deduru Oya
Mi Oya
Kala Oya
Modaragam Aru
Pruvi Aru
Parangi Aru
Yan Oya
Mata Oya
N C P
N W P
C P
E P
U V A
W P
S A B
S P

RAILWAYS.

Open Line, 1927.—The total length of the open line on September 30, 1927, was 895 miles, an increase in open line mileage of 44 miles.

The receipts for the year amounted to Rs. 30,111,991, as against Rs. 29,236,369 in the preceding year, or an increase of Rs. 875,622.

The number of passengers conveyed has increased by 4,396,421, the total conveyed during the year being 16,948,655.

Under season tickets the number of ticket holders has increased to the extent of 14,152, the total number of season tickets issued during the year being 208,223.

The number of parcels conveyed during the year was 1,821,640, or an increase of 179,447 parcels.

The tonnage of goods carried has risen from tons 1,522,573 to tons 1,621,636, the noticeable increases and decreases being—

Increases.	Tons.	Decreases.	Tons.
Coconut produce ..	16,537	Copra	11,931
Bricks and tiles ..	5,043	Paddy	2,822
Fruits, vegetables, food, cereals and other agricultural produce (locally grown) ..	2,157	Plumbago ..	2,446
Liquid fuel	3,582		
Manure	13,529		
Petrol	2,853		
Sundry goods ..	13,538		
Foreign traffic ..	18,973		
Special train traffic ..	4,365		

The total expenditure for the year was Rs. 20,518,804, or an increase of Rs. 156,140, made up of Personal Emoluments Rs. 975,624, Other Charges Rs. 37,328, Pensions and Gratuities Rs. 22,000, and a decrease under New and Minor Works (maintenance) of Rs. 878,812.

The total capital cost of the Railway amounted to Rs. 200,885,771, the capital account having been increased during the year by Rs. 5,340,753 by the inclusion of the following :—

	Rs.
Batticaloa-Trincomalee Railway	1,039,538
Puttalam Railway	4,178
Main line duplication	73,673
Stations extensions	5,629
New and minor works	4,389,296
Chief Construction Engineer's and Assistant's salaries ..	94,148
	5,606,462
Less value of Railway property sold and transferred to other departments	265,709
	5,340,753

Note.—The increases and decreases are based on the corresponding figures for the previous year (1926).

Colombo Harbour Rail Connection.

This work provides a rail connection from the main line at Urugodawatta to the harbour in the vicinity of the Graving Dock. It also includes the remodelling of the Wharf station yard and connection of the same to the harbour sidings, and the abolition of the old connection between the Fort station and Wharf station *viâ* the Galle Face.

All work is now completed, with the exception of Bloemendahl road bridge approaches, carrying Bloemendahl road over the railway. The completion of this work has been delayed by very heavy subsidences owing to the marshy ground it is constructed upon, and it has been decided to leave the completion of the work until settlement appears to have ceased.

The total estimate of the work is Rs. 3,921,768, out of which Rs. 3,917,024·80 has been spent to the end of December, 1927.

It will be necessary to provide further funds for the completion of Bloemendahl road.

Main Line Duplication.

This work provides for doubling the main line between Ragama and Rambukkana, a distance of 43 miles, with improvements of the grades and curves of the existing line to a maximum grade of 1 in 132 and to a minimum curve of 20 chains radius, new stations at Mirigama, Ambepussa, and Rambukkana, improvements to Alawwa and Polgahawela stations, and remodelling of the station yards at Mirigama, Ambepussa, Polgahawela, and Rambukkana. The work is now completed, and will not be referred to again in the yearly report.

The total estimate for the work is Rs. 7,576,208, out of which Rs. 7,570,342·93 has been spent.

Puttalam Extension.

The extension of the Chilaw line to Puttalam is completed, and will not be referred to again in the yearly report.

The total estimate for the work is Rs. 6,994,325, out of which Rs. 6,988,978·34 has been spent.

Batticaloa and Trincomalee Light Railway.

This extension is a light railway laid with 46¼ lb. rails, a maximum gradient of 1 in 60, and curves of a minimum of 19·10 chains radius.

Since the last report the line has been opened between Gal-oya and Trincomalee for goods on January 19 and for all traffic on May 2.

The whole line is now approaching completion and will be opened for goods traffic on January 4, 1928—the date for opening for all traffic cannot yet be decided.*

The total estimate for the work is Rs. 22,972,761·36, out of which Rs. 22,454,324·54 has been spent to the end of December.

Kalladi Bridge.

This bridge consists of six spans of 150 feet and connects the district south of Batticaloa with the terminus of the Batticaloa and Trincomalee Light Railway. The bridge is constructed both for road and rail traffic and will have a footway for pedestrians on one side of the bridge outside the main girder. In the event of the railway being extended southwards to Kalmunai or Nintavur, it will make use of this bridge.

Three of the spans are now erected.

The total estimate for the work is Rs. 957,970, out of which Rs. 865,083·01 has been spent to the end of December.

ROADS.

The total length of roads maintained by the Public Works Department during the year was 4,238 miles, of which 3,644 miles are metalled roads, 390 miles are gravelled roads, and 204 miles are natural roads.

POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICE.

On December 31, 1927, 752 offices were open for the transaction of postal business. Of these, 211 (excluding the Central Telegraph Office) were offices dealing with all classes of postal business, viz., mail and parcel work, registration and insurance of postal articles, money order, postal order, and Savings Bank work and telegraph business; at 14 offices all such business except telegraph work was transacted.

At 14 sub-post offices, mail, parcel, registration, money order, postal order, Savings Bank, and telephone-telegram work was transacted; at 112 sub-post offices all such business except telephone-telegram work was transacted; while at 1 sub-post office, 383 village receiving offices, and 17 railway receiving offices mail work only was conducted.

Mail Services.

A.—*Foreign.*

A regular weekly mail service between Ceylon and the United Kingdom was maintained during 1927, and 15,547 bags of correspondence and 10,580 bags of parcels arrived from London, while 4,043 bags of correspondence and 3,863 bags of parcels were despatched to London.

* The whole line has been open for all traffic with effect from March 12, 1928.

Fifty-four letter mails were received from London ; of these, 34 were carried by vessels of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company—of which 7 were landed at Bombay and brought overland to Colombo and 27 were brought by sea to Colombo ; and 20 were carried by vessels of the Orient Line.

In the homeward direction 92 mails were despatched to Europe by vessels of the Peninsular and Oriental (61 mails), Orient (14), and Rotterdam Lloyd (17) Lines. The time occupied in transit was 16–19 days from Colombo to London and 16–18 days from London to Colombo ; average 17½ and 17 days, respectively.

Between Australia and Ceylon an almost regular weekly mail service was maintained by the vessels of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company and the Orient Company ; and the vessels of the Australian Commonwealth Line provided a supplementary service, 5 mails being despatched for Australia by this means during the year.

Regular and frequent services to the Straits Settlements and the Far East were available by the vessels of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company, Messageries Maritimes Company, and the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, Rotterdam Lloyd, and Stoonmvaart-Maatschappij Nederland Lines.

The British India Steam Navigation Company's steamers carried mails from Ceylon to Mauritius eight times during the year at irregular intervals. A fortnightly mail service from Colombo to Mauritius *viâ* Bombay, Aden, and Djibouti was started in February, 1924. And another service *viâ* Bombay by B. I. steamers was started in August, 1926, and by this means 5 and 21 mails, respectively, were despatched to Mauritius. The Natal Direct, Indian-African, and Ossen Shosen Kaisha Lines and British India Steam Navigation Company's steamers from Bombay carried 51 mails from Ceylon to South Africa.

Vessels of the Ossen Shosen Kaisha Line carried direct mails to the Argentine *viâ* South Africa.

With India the daily service in each direction by train with ferryboat plying between Talaimannar and Dhanushkodi was maintained. A regular bi-weekly service was also maintained during 1927 between Colombo and Tuticorin by steamers of the British India Steam Navigation Company.

A direct parcel post service with Germany was sarted from December 5, 1927. The first mail was despatched per D. A. D. G. " Hannover " on December 27, 1927.

B.—*Inland Mails.*

Inland mails are carried generally by the Ceylon Government Railway, and from railway stations by private contract motor mail services, bullock coach, or by runner services.

The principal motor mail services are—

	Miles.
Kegalla-Undugoda	9½
Polgahawela-Kegalla (2 services)	8¼
Kurunegala-Madampe	39½
Panadure Railway Station-Post Office-Ratnapura .. / Panadure Railway Station-Post Office-Ingiriya (2 services) ..	42½
Gampola-Pussellawa-Ramboda (2 services)	20
Anuradhapura-Trincomalee	65¼
Badulla-Batticaloa	102½
Opanake-Balangoda	9
Kalpitiya-Puttalam	28
Kahawatta Railway Station-Post Office-Rakwana (2 services)	12
Galle-Deniyaya	50½
Halgranoya-Uda Pussellawa..	6
Kodikamam-Point Pedro-Valvettiturai	16
Jaffna Railway Station-Post Office-Point Pedro ..	20½
Matara-Hambantota-Tissamaharama	71
Jaffna-Kayts	16¼
Jaffna-Pandateruppu	10
Nawalapitiya-Kotmale	8
Colombo Town Mail Service-Railway Station-Jetty, &c.	74·6* / 22·4†
Matale-Dambulla-Kekirawa	43½
Nuwara Eliya Railway Station-Post Office- Welimada ..	16
Colombo Town Mail Service—parcel delivery, collection of letters, parcels, mails, &c.	235·3* / 35·2†
Batticaloa-Akkaraipattu-Pottuvil	67½
Kalutara-Neboda-Mahagama (2 services)	29
Matale-Rattota (2 services)	7
Batticaloa-Trincomalee	87
Ella-Namunukula	9
Matara-Hakmana	15
Kandy-Rangala (2 services	22
Kandy-Hewaheta	23¾
Passara-Madulsima	11
Kurunegala Railway Station-Post Office	1
Galle-Udugama	25
Wattegama-Madulkele	7
Puttalam Railway Station-Post Office-Nikaweratiya-Kurunegala	53½
Mankulam-Mullaittivu	29½
Ambalangoda-Elpitiya	8½
Haputale-Monaragala	48
Hatton-Maskeliya-Bogawantalawa (2 services) ..	20¾
Kandy-Kurunegala	26½
Kadugannawa-Aranayaka	13
Talawakele Railway Station-Post Office-Agrapatana (2 services)	14½
Hewaheta-Padiyapelella	16
Nawalapitiya-Dolosbage	12
Mirigama-Pannala	14½
Galle-Baddegama	12½
Watagoda-Pundul-oya	7½
Nawalapitiya-Yatiyantota	30
Anuradhapura-Puttalam	45
Matale-Galewela	23
Galle Post Office-Railway Station	½

* Week days. † Sundays.

The inland mail services worked satisfactorily throughout the year, save when interrupted for short periods by floods and washaways.

Mail Statistics.

The total number of postal articles, exclusive of parcels, which passed through the post in 1927 is estimated at 101,357,000, about 11 million more than in 1926. The increase was principally in inland correspondence, which comprised over 76½ per cent. of the total. Correspondence exchanged with India formed nearly 13¼ per cent. of the total, with the United Kingdom about 5½ per cent., and with other countries nearly 4¾ per cent.

Letters received from the United Kingdom showed an increase of 562,000 compared with 1926. Printed matter, samples, &c., from the United Kingdom showed an increase of about 135,000 compared with 1926.

The total number of parcels dealt with was 1,394,638, an increase of over 197,000 over the 1926 total. Of these, 76,857 were received from the United Kingdom, 273,960 from India, and 15,219 from other countries. 28,279 parcels were received under the Cash on Delivery Service from the United Kingdom, an increase of 1,722 on the last year's total.

Postage Rates.

The rates of postage to the United Kingdom and British Possessions, including Egypt, as revised in 1926 continued in operation during the year, viz., 9 cents per ounce or part of that weight for letters, 6 cents each for post cards. and 3 cents per 2 ounces for printed papers. The rates for foreign countries remained the same, viz., 20 cents for the first ounce and 10 cents for every additional ounce, 12 cents each for post cards, and 4 cents per 2 ounces for printed papers.

Articles printed in relief for the special use of the blind are transmitted at a specially reduced rate of 4 cents per 2 lb.

The inland rates of postage on letters, post cards, and printed matter and the rates to India remained unchanged—initial letter rate 5 cents per 2 ounces or part of that weight, post card rate 3 cents, and printed matter 2 cents for every 2 ounces. With effect from April 22, 1927, postage on registered newspapers was reduced from 3 cents to 2 cents without limit of weight.

The total value of stamps sold by the Department in 1927 was Rs. 7,553,397.

The unit rate for inland telegrams was reduced to 30 cents for the first 10 words, including address, from August 1, 1927; the rate for additional words remaining the same, *i.e.*, 5 cents for every 2 words or less.

The rates on telegrams to India remained the same—for first 12 words: ordinary Re. 1, express Rs. 2; with 10 and 15 cents, respectively, for each additional word.

Money and Postal Orders.

The total value of money orders handled in 1927 was Rs. 51,533,038, of which inland orders amounted to Rs. 34,720,658. Of the balance, the business with India formed the largest percentage, orders issued payable in India totalling nearly 13½ million rupees—1 million more than in 1926—a fair proportion of which was due to savings remitted by Indian immigrant coolies.

The business in money orders between Ceylon and the United Kingdom was small—13,563 orders of a total value of Rs. 506,944.

There was an increase in the value of local postal orders issued, Rs. 968,268, compared with Rs. 908,978 in 1926, and an increase in the number of British postal orders paid, which amounted to £8,797. 14*s*. 6*d*.

Considerable use was made of the telegraph money order service between Ceylon and India, remittances totalling Rs. 5,154,924 being so sent to India and Rs. 610,098 drawn by Indian remitters on Ceylon.

Comparatively little use, however, was made of the services between Ceylon and the United Kingdom (681 telegraph orders were sent to the United Kingdom and 133 received therefrom), Ceylon and the Federated Malay States (41 orders only being sent and 1,424 orders received), Ceylon and Singapore (35 orders were sent to Singapore and 342 were received therefrom), and Ceylon and Kedah (1 sent, 15 received).

The revenue from money order commission reached Rs. 539,605.

Post Office Savings Bank.

The business of the Bank transacted at 225 post offices and 126 sub-post offices continued to expand during 1927, the deposits, which amounted to Rs. 7,818,060, exceeding withdrawals during the year by Rs. 698,539.

On December 31, 1927, the total to the credit of depositors was Rs. 12,323,627.

The rate of interest continued to be 2·4 per cent.—2 cents per month for each complete Rs. 10.

Any sums not less than 25 cents are accepted for deposits up to a nett maximum of Rs. 750 per annum and an interest-bearing total of Rs. 3,000.

Deposits may be made by means of stamped slips. One withdrawal on demand of a sum not exceeding Rs. 10 is allowed in any one week.

Telegraph System.

All important towns in the Island are served by the Government telegraph system.

226 postal telegraph offices were open for public traffic on December 31, 1927, besides several railway telegraph offices. 14 new telegraph offices were opened during the year.

There are 2 telegraph circuits between Ceylon and India, on one of which the Baudot printing machine is employed in duplex working.

Ceylon is connected with the West by direct cables of the Eastern Telegraph Company to Aden and the Seychelles, and to the East with Singapore.

The Government Wireless Station at Colombo is open to all classes of traffic. The station normally transmits on 600 metres "Interrupted Continuous Wave" and has a daylight range of approximately 600 miles. Each even hour "Greenwich Mean Time" transmissions are made on 2,300 metres continuous wave, whilst incoming traffic at these periods is received at 2,100 metres. The duration of this period is approximately 15 minutes, depending entirely on the amount of traffic available.

International time-signals are broadcast at 6·0 hours G. M. T. on 2,300 metres continuous wave, and again at 17·0 hours G. M. T. on 600 metres I. C. W.

A telephone broadcasting service on 800 metres has also been opened and regular daily broadcasts are made at noon, every evening, and on Sundays.

The total number of telegrams handled in 1927 was 2,157,048, some 158,076 more than in 1926. The average time taken in transmission of an inland telegram was 27 minutes.

The total number of messages despatched to India, viz., 273,936, showed an increase of 38,376 over the previous year, but the number received from India, viz., 176,800, showed a decrease of 83,100.

137,692 private cable messages were despatched to and 132,143 received from other countries.

The Colombo Wireless Station dealt with 13,856 messages containing 158,421 words during the year.

The revenue from telegrams was, roughly, Rs. 990,950, and the value of free telegraphic services rendered to other departments was estimated at Rs. 59,757.

The Telephone System.

Speaking generally, the larger towns are served by Government exchanges and rural areas by private licensed local exchanges linked together by Government junction and trunk lines.

The principal Government exchange is at Colombo (with a sub-exchange at Havelock Town), which is served by underground cable as far as possible. There were 3,037 subscribers to this on December 31, 1927. There is no charge on calls between subscribers to the Central exchange in the Fort and those connected to the Havelock Town sub-exchange, but a surtax is levied to cover the cost of junction service.

The next largest Government exchanges are at Kandy (205 subscribers), Nuwara Eliya (152), Galle (118), Jaffna (71), Kurunegala (63), Negombo (55), Kalutara (65), Panadure (68), Hatton (45), Ratnapura (48), and Gampola (46).

No charge for installation is made for connection to Government exchanges, and a flat rate of subscription is charged for an unlimited service within the prescribed hours.

The minimum subscriptions applicable to premises within 2 miles of the exchange are Rs. 180 per annum for business and Rs. 120 for residential connections in the larger towns.

At the Colombo Fort and Havelock Town exchanges the service is continuous throughout the year, and it is estimated that nearly 18½ million calls were dealt with in Ceylon in 1927, *i.e.*, 1½ million more than in 1926.

The average speed of answer during the day in Colombo was 4·8 seconds, and 96·6 per cent. of calls were answered within 10 seconds.

There were 176 Government call offices in use during the year, and the number of telephone stations reached 8,383. The estimated number of trunk line calls was 385,944, an increase over last year; and junction line amounted to 389,376, also an increase over the 1926 figures. The trunk and junction line fees are fixed on a cent per mile basis. Receipts from telephones totalled Rs. 939,873 in 1927, while the value of telephone services irendered free to other Government Departments was estimated at Rs. 136,427.

The principal trunk telephone lines are—

	Miles.
(1) Colombo-Kandy-Gampola-Hatton-Nuwara Eliya ..	132
(2) Gampola-Pussellawa-Nuwara Eliya	34
(3) Colombo-Kalutara-Galle-Matara	99
(4) Colombo-Avissawella-Ratnapura	64
(5) Colombo-Polgahawela-Kurunegala	59
(6) Colombo-Ragama-Negombo	23
(7) Kandy-Wattegama-Matale	21
(8) Nuwara Eliya-Haputale-Diyatalawa-Bandarawela ..	36
(9) Colombo-Negombo-Chilaw-Puttalam ..	85
(10) Kandy-Kurunegala-Anuradhapura-Trincomalee ..	163

The Government telephone system at the end of 1927 comprised 14,645 miles of overhead and 26,604 miles of underground wire.

There are 35 licensed exchanges, and the largest private systems are—

(*a*) The Galaha, Maskeliya, and Norwood systems, with exchanges at those places having 70, 49, and 40 subscribers, respectively ;

(*b*) The Talawakele, Bogawantalawa, and Agarapatana systems, with exchanges at those places having 36, 26, and 26 subscribers, respectively ; and

(*c*) The Tillicoultry and Kotagala systems, with 26 and 19 subscribers, respectively.

The Neboda private system serves 32 subscribers.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue of the Department in 1927 is estimated at, roughly, Rs. 9,399,151. The principal increases were under the head of Postage (some Rs. 548,622) and Money Order Commission (some Rs. 4,084).

The value of free services rendered to other Government Departments, not included in these totals, was estimated at Rs. 1,459,500, but no reliable estimate can be framed of the value of free services rendered by them to the Postal Department.

The total expenditure from the votes of the Postal Department was Rs. 6,943,107.

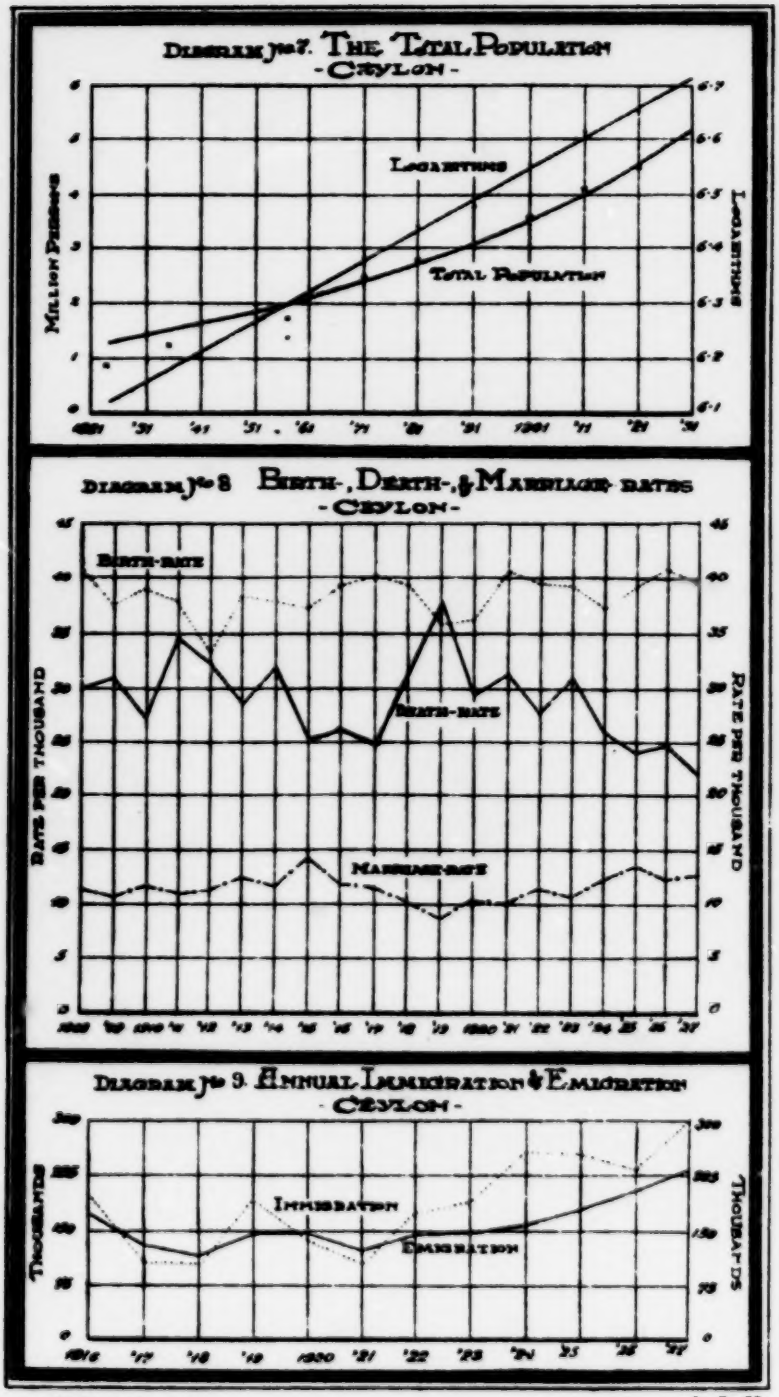
VI.—Justice, Police, and Prisons.

THE SUPREME COURT.

THE work of the Supreme Court falls into two main divisions. The first of these is the decision of appeals, and the second is the trial of serious crimes under its original jurisdiction on circuit. The trial of these cases on circuit constitutes the first charge upon the time of the court. The surplus, when these are disposed of, represents the time available for appeals.

Appeal Jurisdiction.

During the year 1,322 minor appeals (*i.e.*, District Court Criminal Appeals, Police Court Appeals, and Courts of Requests Appeals) were received and 1,297 were disposed of. 726 major appeals (*i.e.*, appeals from District Courts) were received and 798 were disposed of. The total number of appeals decided was thus 2,095. But in addition to these appeals, the court



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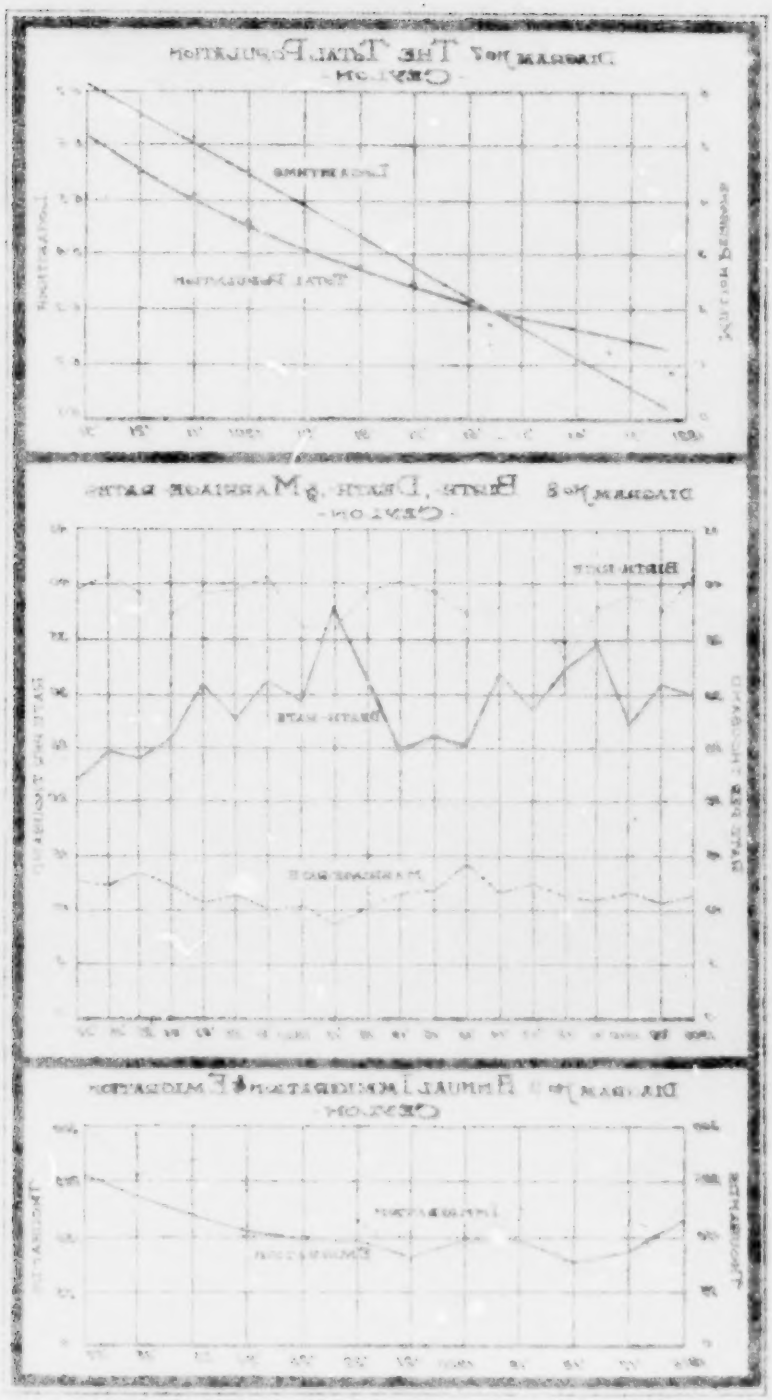


and the Judges have to deal with a great number of incidental applications and petitions. The figures with regard to these are as follows : —

Applications for leave to appeal in Courts of Requests cases disposed of during the year	84
Applications for sole testamentary jurisdiction ..	166
Miscellaneous applications	494
Habeas corpus petitions	574
Other petitions	472
	1,790

The disposal of the civil work of the court is shown in the the following table : —

Disposal of Work for the Year ending December, 1927.

Number of major appeals disposed of during the year 1927—

(1) Finals—		
Money	208	563
Land	355	
(2) Interlocutories—		
Ordinary	178	235
Special	57	
		798

With regard to the interval at which appeals are disposed of the facts are as follows :—Criminal appeals are generally disposed of within about a month of their receipt at the Registry. Courts of Requests appeals are generally disposed of within about six weeks. Ordinary interlocutory appeals are generally disposed of within a month, special interlocutories within two months. District Court finals, however, which constitute the main work of the court, require in ordinary cases from six to seven months to be brought to trial, but this interval has now been reduced to four months, while in certain exceptional cases the interval is shorter.

Number of Minor Appeals disposed of during the Year 1927.

(1) District Court criminals	131
(2) Police Courts	894
(3) Courts of Requests	272
	1,297

An important part of the appeal work of the court consists of the decision of those cases which are referred to courts of three or more Judges, generally, though not quite accurately, described as Full Court cases. The number of these cases referred during the year was 10, and the number of days occupied in their consideration was 9.

Note.—Including 1 reference under section 19 of the Courts Ordinance, 1889 ; 1 reference under section 355 of the Criminal Procedure Code ; 9 courts of three Judges.

Trials on Circuit.

The total number of cases tried at Criminal Sessions throughout the Colony during the year 1927 was 447, and the days consumed in disposing of them were 632. The comparative figures for the last seven years are as follows :—

Year.	Cases disposed of.	Days consumed.
1921	402	445
1922	296	357
1923	325	411
1924	385	442
1925	373	483
1926	407	548
1927	447	632

These cases were distributed among the circuits in the following proportions :—

Western Circuit	182
Midland Circuit	155
Southern Circuit	74
Northern Circuit	27
Eastern Circuit	9
	447

The cases committed to the Supreme Court consist usually of crime of the following categories :—

(1) Murder.
(2) Attempted murder.
(3) Grievous cases of grievous hurt.
(4) Gang robbery.
(5) Offences against women and children.
(6) Occasional cases of forgery, and various forms of fraud.

Members of the criminal classes very seldom come before the Supreme Court, all habitual criminals being dealt with by the District Courts.

DISTRICT COURTS, POLICE COURTS, AND COURTS OF REQUESTS.

Criminal.

There are 36 Police Courts in the Island and 3 Municipal Courts. 89,341 cases were instituted in the Police Courts during the year 1927, and 86,285 persons were brought up before the Magistrates on summonses or warrants. Of these, 50,856 persons were convicted, 33,126 persons acquitted or discharged, and 2,303 persons committed to superior courts.

There are 22 District Courts in the Island having criminal jurisdiction. During the year under review 1,152 cases were committed before such courts, and 1,840 persons were charged. Of the persons committed for trial, 583 were acquitted, 1,152 convicted, and 8 persons dealt with otherwise. On December 31, 1927, there were still 97 persons awaiting trial.

Civil.

In the 22 District Courts of the Island there were pending on January 1, 1927, 14,862 suits. 13,037 suits were instituted or restored during the year, making a total of 27,899. Of these, 4,565 were disposed of on evidence, 7,592 were otherwise disposed of, *i.e.*, on admission, &c. making a total of 12,157, and on December 31, 1927, there were 15,742 suits awaiting disposal.

In the 41 Courts of Requests in the Island there were pending on January 1, 1927, 9,659 suits. 26,335 suits were instituted or restored during the year, making a total of 35,994. Of these, 2,747 suits were disposed of on evidence, 22,806 were otherwise disposed of, *i.e.*, by default, &c., making a total of 25,553, and on December 31, 1927, there were 10,441 suits pending

POLICE.

Strength of the Force, &c.

The following table gives the sanctioned and actual strength of the Force on December 31 :—

	Sanctioned.	Actual.
Inspector-General	1 ..	1
Deputy Inspectors-General	2 ..	2
Superintendents, Assistant Superintendents and Probationers	36 ..	34
Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors ..	181 ..	179
Sergeants-Major	2 ..	1
Sergeants	364 ..	351
Constables	2,498 ..	2,512
European Police Force,		
Chief Inspector	1 ..	1
Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors ..	4 ..	4
Sergeants	28 ..	26

On April 12 the Force was short by 194 Constables.

It was mentioned in the Police Administration Report of 1926 that, with a shortage of 178 Constables on December 31, 1926, the position was becoming acute, and that the solution to the difficulty was to give effect to the recommendations of the Select Committee of the Legislative Council appointed to inquire into the conditions of service in the Police Force. The recommendations of the Committee were finally given effect to on March 1, and from that date every Constable was placed

on an annual incremental scale of salary; good conduct allowances were increased, and the issue of khaki uniform and free cleaning materials approved. These improvements in the conditions of service were brought to the notice of the public by illustrated recruiting posters and the co-operation of all ranks of the Force and of headmen in obtaining recruits was sought. The improvements in the conditions of service had the anticipated effect, and on December 31 the Force was fully up to strength, and a better type of recruits than has been enlisted in the past has been attracted to the Force.

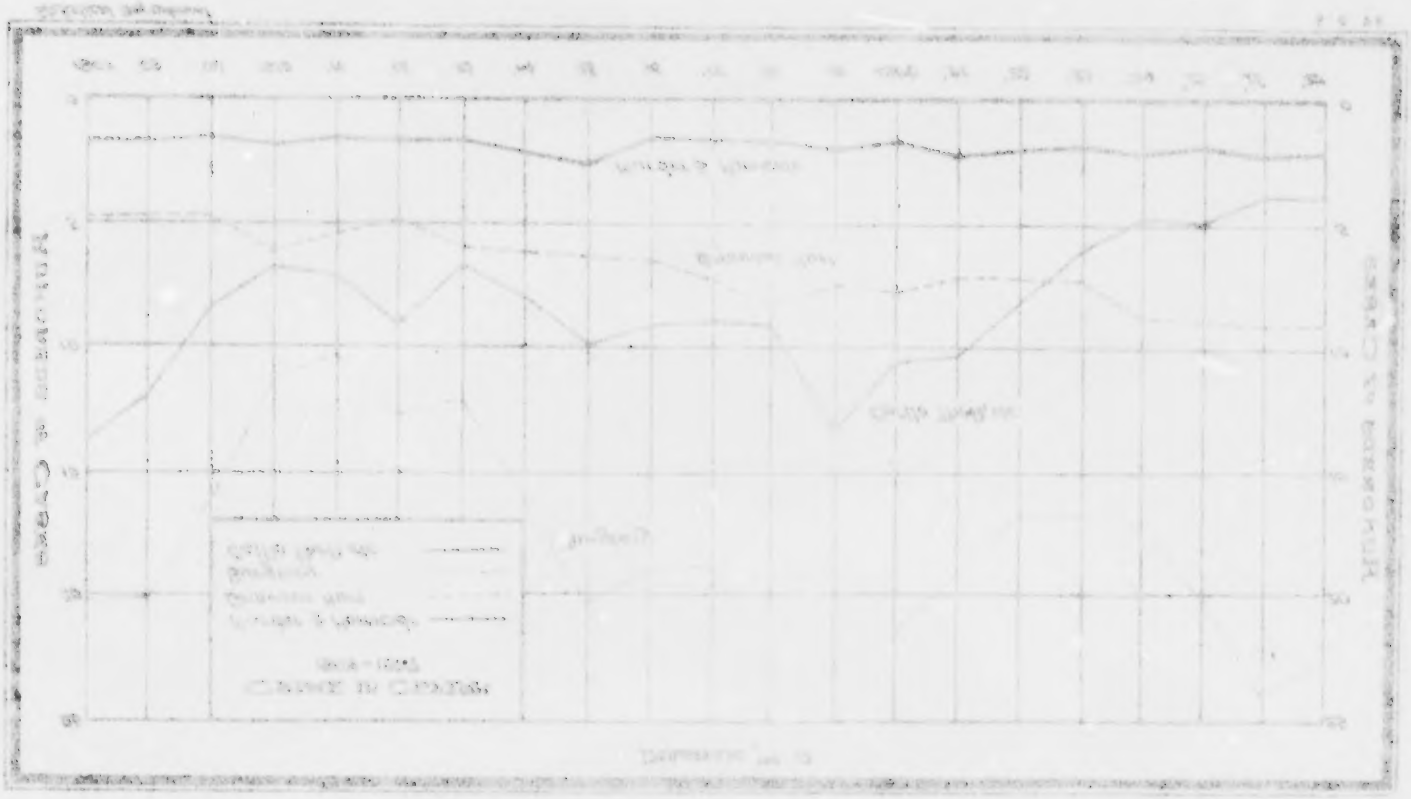
During the year 2,920 applications for enlistment as Constables were received. Of this number 542 or 21½ per cent. were enlisted. 1,978 applicants were personally examined at the Training School. 51 *ex* Constables re-applied for enlistment, of whom 24 were enlisted; of these, 8 were recruits who had resigned during the year. 22 boys were enlisted from the Police Boys' Brigade on reaching the age required for enlistment in the Force.

544 applications for enlistment as Sub-Inspectors were received; 20 Sub-Inspectors were enlisted; this is equivalent to 3½ per cent. only of those who applied for enlistment.

There are in the Force 15 officers who have risen from the rank of Inspector, Sub-Inspector, or European Sergeant, and 33 Inspectors or Sub-Inspectors who have risen from the rank of Sergeant or Constable. There are 4 Inspectors, 18 Sub-Inspectors, 77 Sergeants, and 210 Constables whose fathers have been or are still in the Force.

Education.—Of the Sergeants and Constables, 42 per cent. can read and write English and 52 per cent. can speak English. These figures compare very favourably with those for 1921, viz., 33 per cent. and 43 per cent., respectively. 15 Sergeants and Constables are unable to read or write any language; these men were all enlisted many years ago, and their number is annually diminishing owing to men being pensioned or otherwise leaving the Force. In 1921 30 Sergeants and Constables were unable to read or write any language.

The granting of an allowance of Rs. 5 per mensem to Constables who have passed the VII. or a higher standard in English, and Rs. 3 per mensem to those who have passed the V. or VI. standard, has had good effect in inducing men to learn English. 253 Constables are drawing Rs. 5 per mensem, and 197 Constables are drawing Rs. 3 per mensem English allowance. Special classes are held at the Training School and at almost every Police Station in the Island for teaching English. The monthly average number of men who attended the English class at the Training School was 98. In some cases the Constables engage



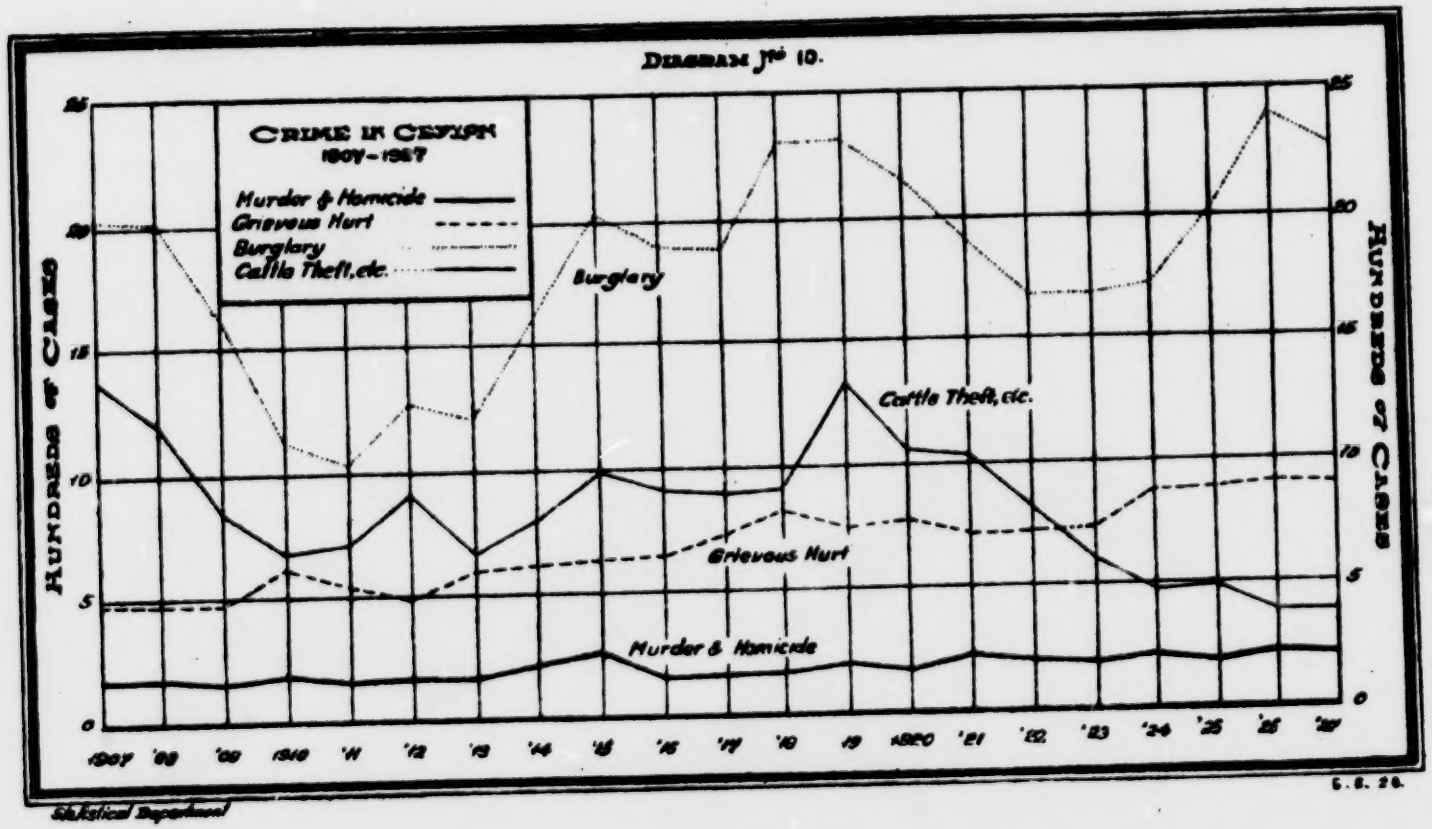


Diagram No 10.
Crime in Ceylon
1907-1927
Murder & Homicide
Grievous Hurt
Burglary
Cattle Theft, etc.
Burglary
Cattle Theft, etc.
Grievous Hurt
Murder & Homicide
Hundreds of Cases
Hundreds of Cases
0
5
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25
1907
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1910
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a teacher themselves, in other cases Police Officers in charge of Stations and Sergeants or Constables who have a good knowledge of English have taken classes. Many Constables who have passed examinations entitling them to draw the smaller allowance have continued to learn English and have become entitled to the higher allowance by passing the necessary examination. Many Constables who could not read or write English on enlistment have since passed the necessary examinations and are drawing English allowance.

Of the 419 Recruit Constables who passed out of the Training School during the year, 76 had passed the VII. or a higher standard and 59 the V. standard in English. 60 per cent. of recruits who passed out of the Training School could read and write English. Of the Constables enlisted during the year, 1 had passed the Cambridge Junior Examination and 7 had passed the Elementary School-leaving Certificate Examination.

Crime.

General.—Offences against the Penal Code dealt with during the year numbered 16,044. Of these, 11,658 were disposed of by the courts as true cases.

The following statement shows the number of cases of crime disposed of, as true, by the courts during the last three years :—

	1925.	1926.	1927.
Homicide	184	223	208
Attempted homicide ..	89	88	107
Grievous hurt	880	909	899
Hurt with dangerous weapons	1,299	1,363	1,407
Burglary	2,010	2,405	2,272
Theft of cattle.. ..	485	385	388
Other offences.. ..	2,703	3,334	3,336
Total ..	7,650	8,707	8,617

The statistics of crime for the last six years under the three main heads: "Offences against the Person" (which are not directly preventable by Police action), "Offences against Property," and "Offences against the State" (riot, &c.) are as follows :—

Year.	Total Crime.	Offences against the Person (excluding Robbery).	Preventable Crime, Offences against Property (including Robbery).	Offences against the State.
1921	7,640	2,122	5,494	24
1922	7,045	2,212	4,805	28
1923	6,497	2,020	4,444	33
1924	6,933	2,433	4,469	31
1925	7,650	2,668	4,947	35
1926	8,707	2,755	5,914	38
1927	8,617	2,798	5,760	59

From these figures it will be seen that there has been very little alteration in the state of crime during the last two years.

Offences against Property.—Offences against property can, to a great extent, be prevented by a thorough system of Police patrols and beats, and by a careful supervision over the well-known criminals or suspected criminals. A feature of crime of this nature during the year was the increased use made of rapid means of conveyance, chiefly motor vehicles, and of the use of electric torches by burglars and other criminals. The Ceylon criminal is quick to adapt himself to modern conditions, and the use of electric torches in the commission of crime is a striking illustration of this fact.

Comparing the number of serious offences with the population (4,497,686—1921 Census Report) it will be found that--

In the Colombo City there is 1 case of crime to every		173	persons.
In the Western Provice	do.	480	do.
In the North-Western Province	do.	486	do.
In the Province of Sabaragamuwa	do.	542	do.
In the North-Central Province	do.	558	do.
In the Central Province	do.	660	do.
In the Southern Province	do.	723	do.
In the Northern Province	do.	763	do.
In the Province of Uva	do.	829	do.
In the Eastern Province	do.	853	do.

The proportion of serious crime to population in Ceylon is 1 case of serious crime per annum to every 522 persons.

Murder.—The following statement shows the incidence of true cases of murder disposed of in 1927 compared with the two previous years :—

1925.		1926.		1927.
184	..	223	..	208

The proportion of murders to population in Ceylon is 1 per 21,623 persons, as against 1 per 67,000 persons in Kenya and 1 per 13,000 persons in Cyprus.

Gang Robbery.—The following statement shows the number of cases of gang robbery committed during the last three years :—

1925.		1926.		1927.
26	..	9	..	21

Gang robbery is the worst type of crime with which the Police have to deal. It is a premeditated crime, at times accompanied by cold-blooded murder and rape, although the latter is seldom admitted by the victims.

Burglary.—The figures for the last three years are as follows :—1925, 2,010 ; 1926, 2,405 ; 1927, 2,272. Burglary constitutes almost one-fourth of the total serious crime in the Island. The offences are usually committed on dark nights so that eye-witnesses are seldom available ; detection is, therefore, difficult. Burglary is a premeditated crime committed almost exclusively by the professional criminal.

Theft.—The following are the figures showing the number of cases disposed of by the courts as true cases :—

Year.				Theft.
1925	..	..	..	1,896
1926	..	..	..	2,569
1927	..	..	..	2,524

Thefts of tea, green tea leaf, and tea stumps have been prevalent in the tea planting districts, but a great deal has been done to prevent them by adopting a system of preventive measures specially applicable to this type of crime; 101 prosecutions were entered by the Police of the Central Province alone for illegal possession of leaf, removing tea plants without a permit, &c.

Thefts of rubber have decreased from 336 cases in 1926 to 127 in 1927 ; of the 336 thefts of rubber in 1926, 120 cases were reported from the Kalutara District, but as a result of rounding-up a gang of rubber thieves thefts of rubber in the Kalutara District were reduced to 36 cases in 1927.

Municipal and Statutory Offences.—These cases constitute all offences against the law, except cases such as theft, murder, house-breaking, &c., which have been classified under the head "Crime." The following statement shows the action taken to deal with such offences :—

Year.			Total Prosecutions		Total Convictions.
1920	..	..	24,429	..	22,178
1923	..	..	30,540	..	27,362
1926	..	..	45,482	..	38,985
1927	..	..	51,191	..	44,518

Firearms.—658 prosecutions were entered under the Firearms Ordinance. These figures include the prosecutions of 8 unlicensed firearm repairers and 4 unlicensed manufacturers.

The number of new firearms purchased has increased annually during recent years.

Gun licences were issued as follows :—

1925.		1926.		1927.
56,251	..	59,911	..	66,268

The following figures show the number of cases in which persons have been injured by firearms :—

Year.				Cases.
1923	..	..	..	61
1924	..	..	..	54
1925	..	..	..	67
1926	..	..	..	80
1927	..	..	..	93

During 1927 30 cases of murder were committed by the use of firearms.

Cocaine, Opium, and Ganja Smuggling.—335 prosecutions were entered by the Police for the illegal possession of opium. 84½ pounds of opium was seized. The number of prosecutions in 1926 was 165, and 255½ pounds of opium were seized. It has been pointed out in reports of previous years, that in view of the fact that the amount of opium which can be obtained through licensed consumers annually becomes less, as no new licences to consume opium have been issued since 1910, an increase must be expected in the amount of opium which is illicitly imported for consumption by unlicensed consumers. The increase in the number of prosecutions entered by the Police for illegal possession of opium compared with previous years is an indication of the effort which is being made to prevent the importation and illegal possession of opium. The amendment of the law, which will enable Excise Officers to search for and seize opium, is at present being considered by the Legislative Council; under the existing law the Police only have power to search for and seize opium. 376 prosecutions were entered by the Police for the illegal possession of bhang, ganja, and *Cannabis Indica*. In 1926 there were 189 such prosecutions. 237 pounds of ganja was seized in 1927, compared with 113¼ pounds in 1926.

There were no prosecutions for illegal possession of cocaine, neither is there any evidence to prove that this drug is at the present time being imported into Ceylon.

Youthful Offenders.—A training school where youthful offenders can be taught a trade and brought up to be useful citizens instead of becoming re-convicted criminals is one of the greatest needs of the Colony. The question of starting a "Training School for Youthful Offenders" was raised first in 1911; and in 1913 an officer of the Ceylon Civil Service was deputed to visit the Borstal Institute in England and report on the working of the institution. The outbreak of war, however, and the necessity of retrenchment prevented further progress with the subject. The question of starting a Borstal Institute was again raised in 1920, when a Committee was appointed by Government to report on the practicability and advisability of starting such an institution; but, owing to lack of funds, Government was unable to give effect to the recommendations of the Committee. In 1923 the Salvation Army offered to start a Borstal Institute on a small scale, provided the cost of putting up the buildings was met by Government. The Finance Committee of the Legislative Council were, however, of opinion that such an institution should be maintained and managed entirely by the State; and the scheme was dropped. In November, 1927, a Committee (which is at present sitting)

was again appointed by Government to consider the various schemes for the reform of juvenile criminals and to recommend which system should be adopted. During the year 4,441 first offenders were convicted of serious crime. Of these, 1,663 or 37 per cent. were youths between the ages of 15 and 21. 371 youths were re-convicted during the year. The fact that of the serious crime committed in the Island 2,034 (39 per cent.) out of the 5,192 persons convicted were youths between the ages of 15 and 21 is clear proof of the urgent need for a training school.

It seldom, if ever, happens that a youth commits an offence such as gang robbery or cattle stealing; neither do we find youths committing forgery or counterfeiting coins; these are offences which require premeditation, and which youths are physically or mentally incapable of committing. Crime committed by youths is practically confined to petty theft; in many cases articles are stolen with the one desire to obtain food and clothing; an entirely different criminal instinct to the premeditated act of a clerk who already has employment and a good salary and who falsifies account books or forges his master's signature in order to obtain wealth.

It is agreed by all who have had experience of maintaining and managing Borstal institutes and reformatories for youths that, in spite of the fact that the percentage of youths who after release turn out good citizens, it is in every way better that steps should be taken to try to prevent youths ever coming before the courts and ever being sent to a Borstal or other similar institute. The fact that a man was once an inmate of a penal institution may, at any stage of his career, be brought up against him by some vindictive person.

A great deal can and is being done to obtain employment for homeless youths. By finding employment for a youth the necessity for stealing in order to obtain food and clothing is automatically removed, and provided the youth has no real criminal instincts he will not again commit crime.

Clubs for street boys are maintained in the Pettah, Colombo, and in Galle, Kandy, and Panadure. A club for working boys has also been started at Slave Island in Colombo. The police at the majority of headquarter stations have got into touch with homeless and destitute boys, and have helped the boys by finding employment for them and by encouraging them to attend school, to play games, and generally to lead an honest life.

The combination of the clubs for homeless boys, the efficient working of a probation system, the maintenance of a training school for youthful offenders, and the after-care by an association which will provide for the supervision of boys released

on licence from the training school should do a great deal towards solving the problem of the youthful offender in Ceylon. The problem cannot be dealt with by adopting only one or two of these measures; they are all essential and supplement each other. It is hoped that provision will be made at an early date for a good "Probation System" and for starting a "Training School for Youthful Offenders."

Control of Traffic.

Central Registering Authority for Motor Vehicles.—Under the old law the owner of a motor car had to pay his tax to one authority and register the vehicle and obtain a driving licence from another authority, viz., the Registrar of Motor Cars, which appointment was held by the Inspector-General of Police. The examination of vehicles plying for hire and the testing of applicants for driving licences was carried out by local authorities without co-ordination. It was recommended by a committee appointed in 1925 to report on traffic in Ceylon that there should be one central authority for the registration, taxation, and licensing of all motor vehicles and drivers. This recommendation has been carried into effect by the new Motor Ordinance, which provides for a separate Registrar of Motors under the Department of the Registrar-General, and takes effect from January 1, 1928. The police will, therefore, be relieved of their responsibilities of examining and licensing motor vehicle drivers and of registering motor vehicles from that date.

The total number of motor vehicles in the Island in 1918 was 3,773; on December 31 there were 17,340 motor vehicles, they were registered as follows:—

Motor cars registered for private use	9,071
Motor cars registered for the conveyance of passengers for hire	1,339
Motor buses and lorries registered for the conveyance of passengers for hire	2,331
Lorries registered for the conveyance of goods, private and for hire	1,676
Motor cycles	2,923
	17,340

The following figures show the increase in the last seven years in motor buses and lorries licensed for the conveyance of passengers for hire:—

1920	72
1923	356
1926	2,146
1927	2.331

The following figures give a good idea of the rapidity with which motor vehicles are being imported :—

In 1922 there was 1 motor vehicle to every 757 persons in the Island.

In 1926 there was 1 motor vehicle to every 498 persons in the Island.

In 1927 there was 1 motor vehicle to every 259 persons in the Island.

The number of motor driving licences shows a corresponding increase, from 9,621 in 1924 to 22,090 on December 31.

Regulation and Control of Motor Traffic.—There were 15,955 prosecutions under the motor by-laws. In 1923 only 1,685 prosecutions were entered. This large increase in the number of prosecutions is an indication of the extra work imposed on the Police and on the courts by the increase in motor traffic. Of the 15,955 prosecutions, 2,487 were for exceeding the speed limit, 1,084 for reckless or careless driving, 322 for driving without carrying on the vehicle the licence to drive, 27 for not reporting at the nearest police station accidents involving serious injury. It is satisfactory to note that in spite of the increase in the number of accidents there has been a decrease in the number of accidents which have not been reported immediately at the nearest police station.

The number of accidents caused by motor vehicles throughout the Island was 2,087 ; 292 of these were serious accidents, of which 107 proved fatal. In 1926 there were 258 serious accidents, of which 109 proved fatal. In view of the large increase in motor traffic during the year it is satisfactory to note that there has been very little increase in the number of serious accidents and that there were fewer fatal accidents. In spite of the small percentage (13 per cent.) of motor buses compared with other motor vehicles, 56 per cent. of the serious accidents caused by motor vehicles in the Provinces only and 30 per cent. for the whole Island were caused by motor buses. 18 per cent. of the serious accidents caused by motor buses proved fatal. The following figures show the action taken to control the speed of motor vehicles and to check rash and negligent driving :—

Year.	Number of Motor Vehicles on the Road.	Number of Prosecutions for exceeding the Speed Limit.	Number of Prosecutions for Reckless or Careless Driving.	Fatal Accidents only.	Total Serious Accidents, including Fatal Accidents.
1923	7,288	235	189	38	82
1924	9,029	709	438	69	171
1925	11,773	1,259	830	73	230
1926	14,947	1,913	984	109	258
1927	17,340	2,487	1,084	107	292

Of the 292 serious accidents it was found that—

(*a*) In 138 cases the accident was due to carelessness on the part of pedestrians.

(*b*) In 120 cases motor vehicles collided.

(*c*) In 57 cases the condition of the road was the cause or a contributory cause of the accident.

It is satisfactory to note that the number of serious and fatal accidents have not increased in the same proportion as the increase in the number of vehicles.

The control of motor traffic on the important main roads has got beyond that which can adequately be exercised by the police in the ordinary course of their duty, and it has been found necessary to start special police patrol cars. Three such motor patrols were started in December on the Colombo-Kandy, Avissawella-Colombo, Panadure-Colombo, and Panadure-Kalutara roads. The duties of these police patrol parties will be to prevent and inquire into all motor offences and accidents on these beats.

Motor Vehicles and Crime.—The use of motor vehicles in the commission of crime is yearly becoming more common, both as a mode of conveyance to and from the scene of crime and as an easy and rapid means of removing stolen property. As instances of this the following cases are quoted :—

In a case of gang robbery, which occurred at Yapame in the Province of Uva, the robbers came in a bus from Panadure—a distance of 190 miles. In three large tea thefts, which occurred in the Central Province, the culprits were caught while removing the tea in hiring motor cars. A number of cases are reported from various parts of the Island in which motor cars have been used in order to abduct girls. In one case a girl was abducted by motor car and taken to a village 85 miles away from her home. Motor cars are frequently used for the conveyance of illicitly imported opium from Jaffna and Chilaw to Colombo. In the Kalutara District motor buses owned by a private individual were used for the conveyance of stolen rubber in a large number of cases.

Control of Bullock Cart Traffic.—In order to minimise accidents on the narrow winding roads of this Island it is essential that attention should be paid to obstruction and other offences committed by the drivers of bullock carts and other slow-moving vehicles. During the year 8,804 prosecutions were entered against the drivers or owners of such vehicles.

With a view to minimising accidents in towns all available police are detailed for duty once a fortnight in the city of Colombo, and at regular intervals in the case of some of the

larger towns, to make pedestrians walk on the right of the road so that they see and meet face to face all traffic approaching them.

In towns where there is a large volume of motor traffic broad pavements for the use of pedestrians are essential. Since 1919 instruction in the rule of the road has been given in all schools.

Criminal Investigation Department.

The Criminal Investigation Department includes the Harbour Police, the Foreshore Police, the Train Police, the Photographic Branch, and the Finger Print and *Modus Operandi* Bureaus.

Police Forces of other countries are continually asking the Ceylon Criminal Investigation Department to report on travellers who may pass through Colombo owing to its position as the central port of the East. The Criminal Investigation Department, therefore, keeps records of all persons arriving in and leaving Ceylon, all persons staying in hotels, boarding houses, and resthouses, and of all foreigners.

Modus Operandi Bureau.—The *Modus Operandi* Bureau, which was started three years ago for the purpose of registering and card-indexing the methods employed by criminals in committing crime, is still in its infancy. Only crimes which show that a definite *modus operandi* has been employed are classified.

The Photographic Branch.—The importance of photographic work in the investigation of crime is becoming more apparent every day, and the work of this branch is increasing rapidly.

Finger Print and Foot Print Bureaus.—During the year 4,441 finger print slips of first offenders were added to the collection. 15,562 finger print slips of persons were received for identification, and of these 2,838 were identified as having been previously convicted, namely, 18 per cent. 69,337 finger print slips of males and 823 of females are on record in the bureau.

There are 10,376 re-convicted male criminals and 27 female criminals in the Island. 751 male offenders and 10 female offenders were re-convicted in the course of the year. 970 re-convicted criminals were under police supervision by order of court, and 332 re-convicted criminals were at large on order of licence on December 31.

Every man sentenced to imprisonment for burglary and dangerous criminals who have been sentenced to imprisonment for cattle theft or theft from a dwelling are foot printed before being discharged from prison. 548 foot print slips are on record; of these 133 slips were taken during the year.

Strikes.—In February about 5,000 coolies working in Colombo harbour and wharves struck work as their demands for higher wages were refused. They remained on strike for nearly three weeks. The strike was eventually terminated by a settlement brought about by an Arbitration Board. A great deal of extra work was thrown on the police by the strike. A strong party of sergeants and constables was posted in the strike area for duty day and night, labour was requisitioned from the jails, and police escorts were supplied to all who desired to work.

Registration of Servants.—The police attend to the registration of servants at Colombo, Kandy, Nuwara Eliya, and Matale. During the year 2,164 applications for registration were received and 3,665 new engagements were recorded. Further registration was stopped in the case of three servants who were convicted of crime. Of the servants who applied for registration, previous convictions were traced in 56 cases by reference to the Finger Print Bureau.

First Aid to the Injured.—The Ceylon Police Corps of the St. John Ambulance Association was formed in 1912. A sound knowledge of first aid is essential to police in a country where crimes of violence, especially "hurt by knife," are so common.

The Ceylon Police Corps has increased from 132 members in 1912 to 1,363 in 1927. In an Island like Ceylon, surrounded by the sea, with rivers frequently in flood, and where the majority of the inhabitants bathe in lakes and rivers drowning cases are frequent, and it is essential that every police officer should have a knowledge of swimming and a knowledge of how to render artificial respiration. All ranks passing through the Training School are taught to swim, and no man is passed out of the school until he has learnt to do so. All ranks of the Force, whether in possession of First Aid Certificates or not, are required to be able to render artificial respiration.

Police Boys' Brigade.—The Police Boys' Brigade, composed of the sons and relatives of the members of the Force, has on its strength 68 senior and 358 junior boys. It was instituted to provide healthy exercise, recreation, and education for the sons and relations of police officers and pensioners and to train them to become useful men. The brigade has been in existence for a number of years and forms a valuable recruiting ground for the Force.

Pensioners' Corps.—The corps was instituted in 1908 to assist men of good conduct who are no longer fit for active duty in the Force to supplement their pension on retirement by

obtaining posts as watchers and caretakers, and provides the public with a supply of steady, reliable men for positions of trust. There are 322 pensioners in the corps.

Cost.—The cost of the Force for the year was Rs. 3,326,512. The cost of police per man is Rs. 1,067, and the cost per head of population is 74 cents or 11¾*d*. The cost of the police per head of population in Ceylon is low compared with the cost in other countries, *e.g.*, Mauritius Rs. 2·53, Cyprus 4*s*. 7*d*., Western Australia 10*s*. 11*d*., and £1. 0*s*. 2¾*d*. throughout England and Wales. In the Metropolitan Police the cost per man is £363 a year, in Kenya £55. 11*s*. 0*d*., in Cyprus £95, while in Ceylon the cost is £80. 5*s*. 0*d*. The proportion of police to population is 1 police officer to 1,446 persons, which is low compared with 1 to 279 in the Straits Settlements, 1 to 335 in the Federated Malay States, 1 to 465 in Cyprus, 1 to 259 in Mauritius, and 1 to 759 in Western Australia.

Police Stations and Offices.—There are 164 Police Stations and 27 Police Offices in the Island.

PRISONS.

There was an increase of 87 in the total number of admissions of convicted prisoners of Ceylon during the year 1927, excluding Road Ordinance defaulters, of whom there were 4, as against 47 in 1926.

The figures are as follows :—

1926	8,124
1927	8,211

The number of prisoners sentenced to death was 55, as against 68 in 1926. There were 38 executions during the year, as against 45 in 1926.

Of the 38 whose capital sentences were carried out, 30 were Sinhalese, 5 Tamils, 1 Malayalee, 1 Malay, and 1 Moor.

Of the number executed, 2 had been sentenced in 1926 ; and of the number sentenced to death, 2 were executed in 1928.

There were 9 escapes and 8 recaptures during the year.

The total number of deaths in prisons was 43, as against 78 in 1926 ; and the death rate per 1,000 of the admissions during the year was 3·05, as against 5·60 in 1926, and 5·06 in 1925.

The number of punishments inflicted during the year on prisoners for prison offences was 764, as against 698 in 1926 and 1,057 in 1925.

Prisoners are in all prisons employed upon work of public utility and remunerative industrial labour. At Welikada and Bogambra prisons various trades are taught, such as carpentry, blacksmith, goldsmith, and tinsmith work, bootmaking,

tailoring, the making of cane furniture, matting, coir brooms, rugs, mats, coal and tea leaf bags, ropes, strings, bamboo tats, laundry work, printing, bookbinding, and masonry works.

During the year under review 2,369 articles of wooden furniture were turned out by prison labour for various Government Departments. For making up furniture for the Government the Forest Department supplied 12,945 cubic feet of various timber in logs. Cutting, planing, &c., of timber was done by machinery.

The Government Printing Office employed a daily average of 100 prisoners from Welikada Prison, and this was discontinued on instructions from Government as from August 25, 1927. This prison also continues to wash all soiled linen from the Medical and Railway Departments, &c., 1,256,649 pieces being dealt with during the year.

16,561 articles of clothing and bedding were made up for the Colonial Storekeeper, and 37,721½ yards of cloth woven for prison use.

The prisoners at Mahara Prison are exclusively employed in the quarries on account of Harbour Works and Public Works Department.

A daily average of 196 prisoners were imployed in the Harbour Works quarry during the year as blacksmiths, carpenters, platelayers, stone dressers, stone breakers, excavation and other works in connection with the working of the quarry.

The following quantity of metal have been dealt with :—

2-inch metal broken	..	..	44,735 bushels
¼-inch metal broken	..	..	931½ barrels
¾-inch metal broken	..	..	707 barrels
⅝-inch metal broken	..	..	1,159 barrels
Hand rubble turned out	..	..	4,762 tons
Stone setts made	..	..	15,620 setts
⅝ chips turned out	..	..	568 barrels

The Karaiyoor reclamation works at Jaffna continue to make good progress. The daily average number of prisoners employed on the works was 165·08. The extent of land reclaimed was 2 roods and 16 perches. Re-levelled 5 acres 3 roods and 10 perches.

At Anuradhapura 42 prisoners are daily employed on account of anti-malarial campaign in filling up pools of the town, weeding, clearing jungle, &c.

For the Forest Department prisoners are employed in clearing jungle and planting teak, margosa, rosewood, &c., at Palugama. Also for the Local Board prisoners were employed in breaking metal.

The schools at Welikada and Mahara for prisoners of the age of 23 years and under on admission to prison having a sentence of six months and over make satisfactory progress, the daily average attendance being 105 during the year.

VII.—Public Works.

THE total expenditure of the Public Works Department has increased from Rs. 3,437,862 in 1896 to Rs. 21,562,759 in 1927, the latter figure showing an increase of Rs. 2,008,253 over that of 1926. The average annual expenditure during the past thirty-two years has been Rs. 8,658,301.

Amongst the more important works carried out or in course of construction may be mentioned the following :—

General.—New Council Chamber and Secretariat ; new bungalows for the Principal and the Vice-Principal, Government Training College ; extensions to the Surveyor-General's Office ; Biological Laboratory, University College ; new Customs House at Passenger Jetty, Colombo ; improvements to Colombo Museum ; improvements to Welikada Prison ; additions and alterations to the premises vacated by the Colombo and Pettah Libraries ; improvements to District Court, Colombo ; new Factory, Kolonnawa ; extensions to Record Room, Registrar-General's Office ; Police Magistrate's quarters, Panadure ; new court-house, Panadure ; extensions of warehouse No. 2, Kalutara ; additions to Ambepussa Farm ; new library, Peradeniya Gardens ; new Residency, Matara ; new Supreme Court and District Court, Galle ; additions to Galle Kachcheri ; additions and improvements to jetties, Galle harbour ; additions and improvements to Land Registry, Matara ; conversion of Rice Mill building, Anuradhapura, into quarters ; new quarters for Police Magistrate, Point Pedro ; new Customs buildings, Talaimannar ; quarters for District Judge, Anuradhapura ; Land Registry and Office for the Provincial Registrar, Anuradhapura ; new Post Office, Kahatagasdigiliya ; new court-house and quarters for staff, Kalmunai ; additional Government bungalow, Kurunegala ; Telegraph Inspector's office, store, and bungalow, Maho ; quarters for Supervisor, Eastern Saltern, Puttalam ; quarters for Salt Inspectors, Puttalam ; improvements to Land Registry, Kurunegala ; extension of Kurunegala Kachcheri ; improvements to Puttalam Kachcheri ; new Post Office, Bandarawela ; Survey Office, Diyatalawa ; Excise Office, Badulla ; quarters for Surveyors, Diyatalawa ; additions and improvements to Survey huts, Diyatalawa ; additions and

improvements to Ceylon Defence Force Camp buildings, Diyatalawa ; Government quarters, Ratnapura ; extensions to Land Registry and Assistant Provincial Registrar's Office, Kegalla ; conversion of Provincial Engineer's bungalow, Ratnapura, into Post Office and quarters ; Range Forest Officers' quarters at Matugama, Mirigama, Karandeniya, Uragaha, Deniyaya, and Ratnapura ; clerks' quarters, Kalutara, Negombo, Panadure, Matale, Mannar, Anuradhapura, Mihintale, Maradankadawala, Puttalam, Chilaw, Badulla, and Ratnapura.

Medical Buildings.—New infectious diseases hospital, Colombo ; three-storey block, annexe to Out-patients' Department and 2 additional wards, General Hospital ; Dental Institute, Colombo ; extensions to Angoda Lunatic Asylum ; Physiological block, new Medical College ; Operating Theatre, Lady Havelock Hospital ; new wards and quarters for Religious Sisters, Anti-Tuberculosis hospital, Ragama ; maternity ward, Ingiriya hospital ; new children's ward, Kandy hospital ; maternity wards at Madulkelle, Maturata, Deltota, Monaragala, and Undugoda hospitals ; new hospitals at Watawala, Kayts, Kilinochchi, Anamaduwa, Giriulla, Madulsima, Tanamalwila, and Uggalkaltota ; additions to hospitals at Dolosbage, Uda Pussellawa, Dimbula, Galle, Puloly, Puttalam, Passara, Badulla, Kitulgala, and Kahawatta ; female ward and maternity annexe, Tangalla hospital ; female ward, Mihintale hospital ; improvements to Anuradhapura hospital ; 2 permanent wards, Buttala hospital ; store and dressing rooms, Mantivu Leper Asylum ; quarters for Medical Officer, Tirukovil dispensary, 2nd apothecary, Batticaloa hospital, apothecary, Hiripitiya dispensary, District Medical Officer, Koslanda hospital, and additional apothecary, Balangoda hospital ; dispensaries and apothecaries' quarters at Eriyagama, Puwarasankulam, Kunchikulam, Kebitigollowa, Ichchilampattai, Anamlundawa, Ratmalagahawewa, Uhana, Gomarankadawela, and Nivitigala.

Police Buildings.—Alterations and improvements to police station, Aturugiriya ; barracks for police constables, Matale and Galle ; improvements to Hatton police station ; improvements to quarters of Assistant Superintendent of Police, Tangalla ; quarters for Superintendent of Police, Kurunegala ; conversion of Chilaw jail into quarters for police ; new police station and barracks, Haputale ; quarters for Inspector of Police, Kegalla.

Bridges.—Construction of bridge at Andaluwa on the Urubokka-Mulatiyana road, Chilaw bridge, Arandara bridge, Kaluwamodera bridge, Idalawella bridge, Mannar bridge, and Halpatota bridge ; renewal of Welipana bridge, Anguruwatota-Alutgama road, bridge on 7th mile, Colombo-Avissawella road,

Rattota bridge, bridges on Kandy-Haragama-Kurunduoya road, and Puttalam road junction bridge; strengthening of Kirindi-oya bridge, bridges on the Haldummulla-Wellawaya road, and Badulla-oya bridge; reconstruction of bridge No. 275, Kalawellawa-Bellapitiya road, Kotugoda bridge, Ja-ela-Kotadeniya road, 2 bridges, 16th mile, Panadure-Nambapana road, bridge No. 310 on 30th mile, Kallawella-Bellapitiya road, Tientsin bridge, bridges on Duckwari-Cottaganga road, 6 bridges along Punnalai causeway, bridge on 1st mile, Kuliyapitiya-Hettipola road, 3 bridges on the Narammala-Kuliyapitiya road, bridge on 10th mile, Badulla-Batticaloa road, and Getahetta bridge; conversion of wooden bridges on Kalmunai-Akkaraipattu-Sagamam road and on Verugal-Kandy road into iron ones.

Miscellaneous.—Karaiyoor reclamation, Jaffna; flood discharge channels, Jaffna; China Bay development scheme; protection of bank, Toppu-Puttalam canal at Walahapitiya; Kurunegala waterworks.

IRRIGATION.

Irrigation works in Ceylon are classified as—

(*a*) Major works.
(*b*) Village works.

Major works are all maintained and supervised by the staff of the Director of Irrigation from Government funds, and are liable to irrigation rates of some kind or another.

The financing of the construction of these works has been done originally by Government, but in the case of some works (which are termed "Aided Works") the arrangement was that the actual cost of construction should be repaid to Government by instalments over a series of years, and the maintenance rate for these works is assessed quinquennially. In the case of the other major works termed "Perpetuity Rate Works," the construction cost was unreservedly met by Government, and an irrigation rate in perpetuity imposed on the lands, which rate when imposed was intended to cover the cost of maintenance of the works and also repay something in the shape of interest on the construction costs.

Village works are in the charge of the Government Agents, who have a number of field staff officers of the Irrigation Department lent to them to assist them with the technical supervision; the maintenance as regards earthwork and clearing jungle and silt, &c., is done on a sharing system by the landholders under each work and regulated by special village works rules. The maintenance of the masonry works of village works is done from a Government vote to the Director of Irrigation, which is

distributed to the different Provinces, and the work carried out by the village tank staff (advised by the Divisional Irrigation Engineers), unless the work is of considerable magnitude, when it would be done by the Director's staff.

The bunds of village works have in most cases been constructed by villagers themselves supervised by Government Agents' staff under different forms of permit, in many cases the people being allowed land under the works in proportion to the earthwork done; sluices (whether masonry or pipes) are provided from Government votes, and also masonry spills where they exist.

Landowners under village works pay no irrigation rates. Occasionally arrangements are made by agreement between Government and the proprietors by which a village work becomes a major work or *vice versâ*, but instances of this are not frequent.

Under the Irrigation Ordinance of 1917 the control of paddy cultivation under all classes of works is in the hands of Government Agents.

The total expenditure of the Department for the financial year 1926–1927 was Rs. 1,741,574·82, as compared with Rs. 1,730,006·41 for the previous year.

The usual work of maintenance was carried out during the year, and amongst the more important works constructed or in course of construction are—

Karachchi Scheme.—This scheme was further developed by cutting new distribution channels and completing and improving agricultural roads. The work on roads included construction of bridges and culverts.

Nachchaduwa Scheme.—The distribution channel system was improved. Increased activity was noticeable all over the scheme, and a considerable area of land is being cleared for development.

Giant's Tank Scheme.—The tank bund, inlet channel, and system of distribution channels for this extensive scheme were improved.

Tabbowa Scheme.—The left bank main sluice was completed as regards approach and pitching, and a spill regulator was constructed ¼ mile down the channel.

Diyaturai Anicut.—Work commenced on this scheme was delayed somewhat by an epidemic of fever and unseasonal occurrence of minor floods.

Walawe Left Bank Scheme.—The sinking of the puddle trench, which has been delaying work on the main embankment, has now been completed. Satisfactory progress has been made on the inlet channel and intake sluice.

Walawe Right Bank Scheme.—The agricultural road from Mamadola to Walawe estate was completed and work started on the Hatagala-Etbatuwa road.

Unnichchai Scheme.—The upper portion of the stone protection of the water face of the bund was practically completed and work on the lower level is proceeding.

Pandarakattu Anicut, Rugam Scheme.—A start has been made and all sheet piling has been driven and the concrete apron is now complete. Concrete foundations of both left bank and right bank abutments are in place, and about 40 per cent. of the concrete work of the left bank abutment completed before river floods caused the abandonment of the season's operations.

Verugal Anicut, Allai Scheme.—Unanticipated floods in the early part of the year delayed work considerably, but later on good progress was made with concrete and earthwork.

Village Works.—Satisfactory progress has been made during the year on village works, the expenditure having been Rs. 107,073, of which Rs. 92,516 represents work on improvements and repairs to 133 village irrigation schemes.

Surveys and Investigations.—The principal surveys, investigations, or demarcations carried out were Walawe Left Bank Scheme, survey of the irrigable area and channel system ; Karachchi Scheme, contour surveys of irrigable lands for setting out distributaries, field channels, and drainage lines and for blocking out land into suitable lots ; Akathimurippu Scheme ; Mahakandiyawewa surveys and Kathiraveli investigation surveys. In addition to these, a large number of surveys have been carried out in connection with improvements to village tanks and elas.

New Buildings.—The following new buildings were completed huring the year :—

Bungalow for clerk at Bandarawela.
Bungalow for overseer at Uma-ela.
Bungalow for overseer at Soraborawewa.
Bungalow for overseer at Batugedera.
Bungalow for guardian at Maha Uswewa.
Bungalow for clerk at Kalmunai.
Office and store for Irrigation Engineer, Kalmunai.
Office for Divisional Irrigation Engineer at Batticaloa.
Bungalow for clerks at Killinochchi.
Bungalow for clerk at Anuradhapura.
Bungalow for Irrigation Engineer, Anuradhapura.
Bungalow for Irrigation Sub-Inspector at Habarana.
Bungalow for Irrigation Sub-Inspector at Talawa.
Bungalow for Irrigation Superintendent at Uyilankulam.
Bungalow for clerk at Tangalla.

Considerable constructional progress was made with the following buildings :—

Divisional Irrigation Engineer's Bungalow, Bandarawela.
Bungalows at Badulla for Irrigation Sub-Inspector, Village Works, and Subdivisional Irrigation Officer.
Draughtsman's bungalow and Irrigation Engineer's Office, Anuradhapura.

General.—The number of Crown irrigation works is 184, under which about 150,600 acres are at present irrigated.

There are approximately 2,789 village tanks and elas in operation and a further 1,560 under restoration.

Approximately 201,853 acres are cultivated for paddy under village irrigation works.

Flood Protection.

The Irrigation Department is also responsible for the investigation and construction of flood protection schemes, and during the year has carried out investigation surveys as to the

possibility of protecting certain low-lying areas in the Southern and Western Provinces, and has also in hand the following work :—

Colombo (North) Flood Scheme.—The drainage tunnel at Mutwal was completed and placed in operation from August and has since reduced the level of water in Bloemendhal swamp by as much as 10 inches below mean sea level. By raising a portion of the railway bank west of Nagalagam street and by controlling the one remaining culvert under the railway by means of an automatic self-closing sluice the strengthening of the whole railway bank was completed. This scheme is now complete except for a few minor details.

Colombo (South) Flood Scheme has continued to function satisfactorily and maintenance operations only were undertaken.

Kalu-oya-Muturajawela Flood Protection Scheme.—The flood bund and sluice protecting the northern boundary of the low-lying area to be protected from Ja-ela to the Pamunugama road were constructed.

VIII.—Public Health.

THERE are few countries in the world in which medical aid is more generously distributed by the State than Ceylon. There are 96 Government hospitals with provision for 7,747 beds.

In Colombo are situated a General Hospital with 839 beds, an Opthalmic Hospital, a Lying-in Home, a hospital for women (Lady Havelock Hospital), a hospital for children (Lady Ridgeway Hospital), a Bacteriological Institute, a Pasteur Institute, and a Dental Institute. At Angoda, 6 miles from Colombo, there is a hospital for infectious diseases with 154 beds. There are special dispensaries at Kandy, Galle, Jaffna, and Batticaloa for the treatment of eye diseases.

As regards asylums, there is a Lunatic Asylum at Angoda, 6 miles from Colombo, and there are two Leper Asylums, one at Hendala in the Western Province and one at Mantivu in the Eastern Province. The Lunatic Asylum contained 1,752 inmates on December 31, 1927. The number treated in the Asylum during 1927 was 2,225 (1,471 males and 754 females). The number discharged was 254 males and 95 females. In the House of Observation 864 persons were dealt with of whom 725 were discharged. The Leper Asylum at Hendala contained

591 persons at the end of the year. The total treated during 1927 was 729. The Asylum at Mantivu contained 141 lepers at the end of the year, the total treated during 1927 was 154.

There is a Home for Incurables at Colombo with 100 beds, which is administered by a Committee of Government officials and representatives of the public.

As regards the prevention of tuberculosis, in Colombo there is the King Edward VII. Anti-Tuberculosis Institute, at Kandana there is a sanatorium of 72 beds, and at Ragama there is a hospital for chronic cases.

In addition to Government hospitals, the owners of estates have provided 80 estate hospitals, which receive a rebate on the export duty on tea, rubber, coffee, cacao, and cardamoms.

In addition to the hospitals, there are 543 central and branch dispensaries provided by Government. There are 651 estate dispensaries, which receive free drugs from Government to the value of 50 cents per labourer per annum.

The campaign against anchylostomiasis was continued during the year and treatment was given in all estates and in the schools, hospitals, and dispensaries of every Province in the Island.

The chief centres of activity of the anti-malaria campaign were Anuradhapura, Trincomalee, Chilaw, and Kurunegala. At Trincomalee and Anuradhapura the measures that had been adopted in previous years were continued, viz., dealing with anopheline breeding places by means of oiling and Paris Green distribution, filling, and minor drainage. The success of these measures is shown by a reduction of the spleen rates, in the case of Anuradhapura from 41 per cent. in 1922 to 18·1 per cent. in 1927 and in the case of Trincomalee from 40 per cent. in 1922 to 9 per cent. in 1927. Work of a preliminary nature was carried out at Chilaw and Kurunegala.

Quinine was distributed very widely throughout the Island, not only through hospitals and dispensaries, but also through schools and headmen. The value of quinine distributed in the financial year October 1, 1926, to September 30, 1927, was Rs. 183,004·50.

The Sanitary Engineering Division started to function from August 15, 1927, and the following subjects were dealt with :—

Malaria.—Investigations and reports were made upon the feasibility of malaria drainage at Trincomalee, Kurunegala, Chilaw, and Anuradhapura.

Waterworks.—Investigations and reports were made upon existing or proposed waterworks in Ragama and Tangalla.

General Drainage.—Investigations and reports were made upon drainage in Weligama, Kurunegala, Chilaw, and Trincomalee. Investigations were made *re* drainage of Kalutara South.

Infectious Diseases.

Plague.—The following is a list of plague cases and deaths in Ceylon in 1927 :—

	Cases.	Deaths.
Western Province—		
Colombo town	83	76*
Avissawella	2	2
Attygalle, Hanwella	1	1
Buthgamuwa	1	1
North-Western Province—		
Hinduranpitiya in Wellawaya (removed to Infectious Diseases Hospital, Kurunegala) ..	1	1
Central Province—		
Bopitiya, Deltota	1	1
Mulhalkele	1	1
Uduwella estate, Uduwella	1	1
Kotabogoda, Kadugannawa	1	1
Kandy	25	21

* Including 28 deaths at the Infectious Diseases Hospital.

Plague in Colombo.

Human Plague.—There were 83 cases of human plague during 1927 with 76 deaths representing a case mortality of 91·6, as against 13 cases with 12 deaths in 1926. The larger number of cases during the year under review is believed to be due to the re-importation of fresh infection from abroad in September, 1926.

Of the 83 cases, 32 were septicaemic in type with 32 deaths representing a case mortality of 100 per cent. and 51 were bubonic in type with 44 deaths representing a case mortality of 86·3 per cent. There were seven recoveries. No less than 18 out of the 83 cases occurred in the Pettah ward, the chief grain centre of the city. Next came the adjoining ward of St. Paul's with 13 cases and Maradana South, another ward with a considerable grain trade, with 11 cases.

Fifty-six cases occurred during the first four months of the year, namely, 13 in January, 12 in February, 19 in March, and 12 in April ; then there was a gradual decline in the number of cases each month.

Racially the Tamils were affected most, there being 34 cases amongst them, with the Coast Moors next with 21 cases, and the Sinhalese third with 17 cases.

As usual, more males than females were attacked. Out of the 83 cases, 72 were males and 11 females.

Rat Plague.—25,329 rats from all parts of the town were examined at the Municipal laboratory and 39 or 0·15 per cent. of them were found infected. The largest number of infected rats being found in the month of February.

Out of the 39 cases of rat plague no less than 21 were found from the Pettah ward, and of these 7 came from the Chalmers Granaries. Five cases were from the Customs premises, and the rest were from San Sebastian, St. Paul's, New Bazaar, and Maradana wards.

Species of Rats.—Of the 25,329 rats examined at the laboratory, 17,824 belonged to the species *R. Rattus*, with a percentage infection of 0·11 ; 6,244 belonged to the species *R. Norvegicus*, with a percentage infection of 0·27 ; 1,259 to the species *M. Musculus*, with a percentage infection of 0·16 ; and 2 were Bandicoots, with a percentage infection of nil.

Rat Destruction.—During the year altogether 148,280 were accounted for as follows :—

Number of rats trapped	.. ..	145,732
Number of rats killed by fumigators	.. ..	2,293
Number of rats found dead	.. ..	255
	Total ..	148,280

Preventive Measures.—The usual preventive measures were adopted, special attention being paid during the off season to the Cheopis infected areas mapped out by the City Microbiologist.

Plague in Kandy.

On telegraphic information received by the Acting Medical Officer of Health, Municipal Council, Kandy, on October 24, 1927, from the District Medical Officer, Deltota, that a boy named Abdul Cader, a resident of 78/79, Colombo street, had died of plague, immediate action was taken to segregate the contacts and the disinfection of the houses.

Subsequently, when information was received from Mulhalkele that one Hinniappu, another resident of 69, Colombo street, died suddenly, as one of the contacts of Abdul Cader developed plague in the segregation camp and as a Brahmin boy of the Kataragama Dewale died of plague, it was decided to adopt drastic measures to prevent the further spread of the disease by evacuation of a whole block of buildings and segregation of the contacts.

The area evacuated was bounded as follows :—On the north by Colombo street, east by Castle Hill street, west by Brownrigg street, and south by Ward street.

A tagaram fence was put round this area, as it was found very effective in the last outbreak of plague in 1920.

There were no other cases of plague in this block, but the next case of plague was in Getambe, 3 miles away from the infected area. On further inquiries it was found that the boutique in Colombo street had had dealings with the boutique in Getambe. Possibly some infected goods might have been taken to this boutique from the Colombo street boutique, where the first case occurred. This area was responsible for 12 cases of plague, and the infection in every case was traced to the boutique in Getambe.

There was a lull from November 13 to 23, when a case occurred, emanating from the Kandy Club. Since then there have been further cases, mostly emanating from Castle Hill street and Colombo street. The first case of plague was reported on October 24, 1927, and the last case for the year was reported on December 23. In all there were 23 cases of bubonic plague, 2 cases of septicaemic plague, and 1 suspected case of plague in the person of a Muslim woman, who died suddenly, and no post-mortem was held as she was a Muslim.

Cholera.—The following is a list of cholera cases and deaths in Ceylon in 1927 :—

	Cases.	Deaths.
Northern Province—		
Achchuvely	1	1
Karativu	2	2
Province of Uva—		
Dyraba estate, Welimada	1	1
Koslanda estate, Koslanda ..	3	1
Iriwandumpola	4	1
Total ..	11	6

During the preceeding year there were 56 cases of cholera and 47 deaths.

Smallpox.—The following is a list of smallpox cases and deaths in Ceylon in 1927 :—

	Cases.	Deaths
Western Province—		
Colombo town	2	1
Colombo Fort	7	2
Southern Province—		
Galle port . ..	1	—
Central Province—		
Nuwara Eliya	2	—
Bandarapola Group, Matale ..	1	—
Kotagaloluwa, Gampola	12	2
Yarrow estate, Pussellawa ..	1	—
North-Western Province—		
Kurunegala	1	—
Total ..	27	5

During the preceeding year there were 65 cases of smallpox with 4 deaths.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Population. — The estimated population of Ceylon on December 31, 1927, was 5,288,792 persons, as against 5,124,990 at the end of 1926—an increase during the year of 163,802 persons, representing a rate of 3·2 per cent. The increase was made up of an excess of 92,463 births over deaths, and of 71,339 more arrivals than departures. The estimated population, which at the end of the year stood at a little over five millions and a quarter, has increased by nearly 800,000, or to the extent of 17·5 per cent., since the last Census was taken.

Migration.—During the year under review 303,167 persons arrived in Ceylon and 231,828 persons left her shores, the number in each case being higher than in any year since 1911. The migration is mainly from India; and the estate labourers from that country numbered among the arrivals 159,399 and the departures 87,481. The miscellaneous passengers to and from India amounted to120,566 arrivals and 120,078 departures during the year. 23,202 persons arrived in the Island from other countries, and 24,269 persons left for other countries. The excess in arrivals this year, as in the past, is chiefly due to estate labour, who added 71,918 persons to the Island population. The incoming and the outgoing populations from other sources have very nearly balanced.

Race Constitution of the Population.—The population of the principal races as estimated to the end of 1927, and the proportion of each race per 1,000 of the total population, are as follows :—

Race.	Estimated Population on December 31, 1927.	Proportion of each Race per 1,000 of the Total Population
Europeans	11,447 ..	2·2
Burghers and Eurasians ..	32,561 ..	6·1
Sinhalese	3,375,655 ..	638·3
Tamils	1,174,020 ..	222·0
Moors	301,823 ..	57·0
Malays	15,098 ..	2·8
Veddas	4,518 ..	·9
Others	22,000 ..	4·2
Excess of immigrants over emigrants (exclusive of Europeans) since March 18, 1921	351,670 ..	66·5

Marriages.—The number of general and Kandyan marriages registered during the year was 30,566, of which 23,676 were under the General Marriages Ordinance and 6,890 under the Kandyan. The total number is 1,810 more than in the preceding year, and is the second highest on record since 1900, the highest number registered being 31,331 in 1925. The number of persons

married corresponded to a rate of 12·6 per 1,000 of the estimated population, as against 12·2 in the preceding year and 11·2 the average for the ten years 1917–1926.

The number of marriages registered among Muslims was 960. This is an improvement on the average number (864) of the past ten years, but a fall compared with the number (996) registered in 1926.

Of the total number of marriages registered in the Island, 5,125 were those in which one or both the parties were residents of the principal towns. The number, which was 520 more than in the preceding year, included 4,346 general marriages, 52 Kandyan, and 727 Muslim. It will be observed that out of the 960 Muslim marriages registered in the whole Island, no fewer than 727 were in urban areas, indicating that Muslims in the towns are more alive to registration than their brethren in the country.

Divorces.—Divorces under the General Marriages Ordinance are granted by the District Courts, and those under the Kandyan by the Government Agents and their Assistants. The divorces granted in 1927 under the General Marriages Ordinance numbered 75, or 38 less than in 1926. The Kandyan divorces, on the other hand, numbered 705 and showed a noticeable increase on the number (526) in the preceding year. The facilities under the Kandyan law for obtaining a divorce account in no small measure for this preponderance of Kandyan divorces as compared with the general. No record of Muslim divorces is available.

Births.—The number of births registered during the year was 205,470 (104,951 males and 100,519 females), and is the second highest on record, the highest number registered in any year being 206,888 in 1926. The birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated population was 39·5, as against 41·0 in the preceding year and 38·9 the average for the ten years 1917–1926. The highest birth rate during the year was 50·9 per 1,000 in the North-Central Province, which in 1926 ranked seventh in order, with a rate of 43·0. The Province of Uva, as in the previous year, retained the second place, but with a slightly higher rate (50·7) than in 1926. The Eastern Province with a rate of 48·7 and the North-Western with a rate of 44·8 also recorded increases during the year. In the other five Provinces the birth rates were lower than in 1926, and ranged from 46·6 in the Central to 34·7 in the Western. The rise, as compared with the previous year, of 7·9 per 1,000 in the birth-rate of North-Central Province and the fall of 4·6 per 1,000 in that of the Central Province were pronounced features in the birth statistics of the Provinces in the year under review.

The number of births on estates scheduled under the Medical Wants Ordinance was 26,543, of which 13,408 were of males and 13,135 of females. The total number is 3,731 less than that registered in 1926, in which year, on the estates as elsewhere in the Island, the number of births registered constituted a record. The number of births on estates was equivalent to nearly 13 per cent. of the total births registered in the Island.

In the 33 proclaimed towns in the Island the number of births registered amounted to 21,775, of which 11,143 were of males and 10,632 of females. The number in the previous year was 21,830. The urban births this year, which formed nearly 11 per cent. of the total births, corresponded to a rate of 34·2 per 1,000 of the estimated population of the towns, as against 34·6 in 1926 and 30·7 the average for the decade 1917–1926.

In the city of Colombo the births registered numbered 8,491. There was an increase of 376 as compared with the previous year. The birth-rate was 32·4, as against 31·3 in 1926 and 26·9 the average for the past decade. The proportion of male children whose births were registered in the Island in 1927 to every 1,000 such females was 1,044, as against 1,035 in 1926.

Deaths.—The deaths of 113,007 persons (56,784 males and 56,223 females) were registered in the Island in 1927. The number, which is the lowest on record since 1916, corresponded to a rate of 21·7 per 1,000 of the estimated population. There has been no year since 1884 in which the general mortality rate of this Island was so satisfactory. This year's rate shows an improvement of 3·0 per mille on the preceding year and of 7·1 on the average of the past ten years. The freedom from any serious epidemics and the increasing activity manifested in the sanitation of the country may be said to be largely responsible for the comparatively low death rate recorded in the Island in the year under review. The improvement in the general death rate of the Island has been shared by all the Provinces, except the Province of Sabaragamuwa, which recorded the same rate as in the previous year. As usual, the North-Central Province recorded the highest rate, viz., 32·9, and the Western Province the lowest, viz., 18·9. The death rate in the North-Central Province shows, however, a considerable improvement on the preceding year's rate (41·4) and on the average of the past ten years. Equally marked is the improvement in the North-Western Province, whose rate this year was 22·1, as against 31·4 in 1926. The Southern Province and the Province of Sabaragamuwa have exchanged places—the former, which in point of health was third in order in 1926, has gained one place higher with an improved rate of 21·1, while the latter which was second in 1926, goes one place lower down. The fourth place is

taken by the North-Western Province, which in the previous year was sixth in order with a much higher rate. The Northern Province and the Central Province, which occupied the fourth and the fifth places in 1926, take the fifth and the sixth places respectively, this year. The last three places are held by the Eastern Province, the Province of Uva, and the North-Central Province, as in the previous year. As already stated, all the Provinces, with one exception, had improved rates.

The number of deaths on estates scheduled under the Medical Wants Ordinance amounted in the year under review to 21,239, of which 10,188 were of males and 11,051 of females. This was 19 per cent. of the total deaths registered in the Island during the year. The total number is 505 more than that of the preceding year and 543 more than the average number of the past decade. The small increase in the number of estate deaths during the year notwithstanding a decrease for the whole Island, need not be taken as representing unfavourable conditions on the estates. It is mainly ascribable to the large addition of population to labour force, which naturally affected the number of deaths on estates.

In the 33 proclaimed towns there were registered during the year 19,280 deaths, of which 10,228 were of males and 9,052 of females. The deaths of residents only numbered 14,511, which corresponded to a standardized rate of 24·7 per 1,000, as against 26·7 in the preceding year and 29·7 the average for the past ten years. In the city of Colombo, which is by far the largest and most important, 7,217 deaths were registered, of which 5,640 were of residents. The standardized death rate calculated on the deaths of residents was equal to 24·8 per 1,000, as against 26·4 in the preceding year and 28·9 the average for the past ten years.

Infant Mortality.—The deaths of infants under 1 year of age amounted in the year under review to 32,961 and represented 29 per cent. of the total deaths. In the previous year too the percentage of infant deaths to the total number was 29. The mortality rate of infants was equivalent to 160 per 1,000 births registered during the year, and showed an appreciable improvement over the previous year's rate (174) and the average (189) of the past decade. There has been a gradual improvement in the infant mortality rate of the Island during the past few years, and the rate recorded in 1927 is the lowest since 1898. This is a proud record for this country, and speaks well of the general health of the inhabitants and their economic welfare. The steady and cumulative effect of the various methods employed to save infant lives and the growing enlightenment, first of the mother, and secondly of the public, in matters relating to infant

care and management have no doubt been the main factors in bringing this improved state of affairs. It is hoped that future years will show still better results.

On the estates the number of children who died before completing the first year was 6,340, and was 131 fewer than in the preceding year. The percentage of infant deaths to the total number of deaths on estates during the year was 30, as against 31 in the preceding year. The mortality rate of infants on estates was equal to 239 per 1,000 births, and compares somewhat unfavourably with the previous year's rate, which was only 214, and the average rate of the past ten year's, viz., 224. It is regrettable that the improvement recorded this year in the infant mortality rate of the Island as a whole has not been shared by the estates. In the 33 principal towns the deaths of 4,159 children under 1 year were registered, corresponding to a rate of 191 per 1,000 births. The improvement noticed in the Island rate is also evidenced in the urban areas, for the rate is 17 per 1,000 less than in 1926 and 46 per 1,000 less than the average of the ten years 1917-1926.

In the city of Colombo the rate was 187 per 1,000 births, as against 204 in the preceding year and 244 the average for the past ten years.

Causes of Death.—The deaths registered in 1927 from most of the principal causes were less than in 1926. Under pyrexia, a term denoting fever not otherwise defined, a very large number of deaths are usually classified. During the year under review there were attributed to this cause 13,502 deaths, representing 12 per cent. of the total deaths. Another frequent cause of mortality is infantile convulsions, which this year has outstripped even pyrexia and claimed 13,687 victims, or another 12 per cent. of the total. The rates per million of the estimated population for 1926 and 1927 from some of the principal causes are subjoined:—

Causes.	Rate per Million of the Estimated Population	
	1926.	1927.
Infantile convulsions	2,971	2,630
Pyrexia	3 526	2 595
Diarrhoea and enteritis	1,963	1,597
Pneumonia	1,511	1,538
Phthisis	656	644
Dysentery	696	604
Premature birth and congenital defects	446	410
Anchylostomiasis	420	373
Influenza	315	338
Puerperal septicaemia	304	256
Malaria and malarial cachexia	322	255
Bronchitis	212	211
Cancer	101	104
Enteric fever	108	98

Smallpox.—Five deaths (4 of males and 1 of a female) from smallpox as against 4 in 1926 were registered during the year. Of the number, 3 were registered in Kandy District and 2 in Colombo.

Influenza.—The number of deaths registered from influenza in 1927 was 1,756 (911 males and 845 females). There was a slight increase during the year as compared with the three preceding years. More deaths were registered in the third quarter of the year than in any of the other three quarters, similar to the experience in 1926.

Pneumonia.—The total number of deaths registered from pneumonia in its various forms was 8,004 (4,226 males and 3,778 females). In the case of pneumonia too there was an increase in 1927 as compared with the years 1925 and 1926. The increase was more in evidence in the latter than in the earlier half of the year. The figures of the mortality from influenza and pneumonia seem to suggest a slight influenzal wave in the middle and latter parts of the year.

Cholera.—Except for 3 deaths, 2 of which were registered in Badulla and 1 in Jaffna, the country was immune from cholera during the year. In 1926 and 1925 there were 54 and 188 deaths respectively.

Plague.—100 deaths from plague were registered in 1927 as against only 16 in 1926 and 64 in 1925. Out of the deaths in Colombo District, 47 were registered within Colombo town and 29 outside the town limits. These latter were mainly at the Infectious Diseases Hospital at Angoda, whence patients from the city are removed for segregation and treatment. Colombo may be said to have been practically plague-free in the last three months of the year, the majority of the deaths having occurred there earlier in the year, particularly between the months January and May. An outbreak in October of the year was responsible for 22 deaths in Kandy. How the infection was carried to Kandy, which was free from plague for the past few years, is not definitely ascertainable yet. The surmise is that rats were infected first before any human cases of plague were discovered. One death from plague in Kurunegala and another in Anuradhapura were also registered.

The Puerperal State.—The deaths resulting from childbirth are comparatively numerous in this country. During the year as many as 3,595 or 3·2 per cent. of the total deaths were due to diseases consequent on child birth, as against 3,951 in 1926. The death rate of parturient women in the year under review was equivalent to 17 per 1,000 births, though high, the rate shows a fall of 2 per 1,000 as compared with the rate of the previous year.

Suicide.—263 deaths during the year were ascribed to suicide. The number, which is 19 less than in 1926, consisted of 182 men and 81 women. The rate per million persons was 51, as against 56 in the preceding year. The commonest methods of self-destruction employed in this country are hanging and drowning.

Homicide.—The number of deaths attributed to homicide in 1927 was 206, of which 157 were of males and 49 of females, and corresponded to a rate of 40 per million of the estimated population. In the previous year the number of homicide cases was 280. Cutting or piercing instruments (mainly the knife) are the weapons commonly employed. Firearms are also used, but less frequently.

Execution.—During the year 39 men underwent the extreme penalty of the law, as against 44 in the previous year and 32 in 1925.

Accidents and other External Violence.—There were 2,024 deaths (1,444 of males and 580 of females) registered in 1927 under this heading as against 1,970 in 1926. The number registered in 1927 includes among others 468 deaths from drowning, 381 from falls from trees, 235 from snake bite, and 217 from burns. The deaths which resulted from motor accidents numbered 110, and those from railway accidents 60.

Causes of Death on Estates.—Out of the 21,239 deaths registered on scheduled estates during the year, 3,225 or 15 per cent. were attributed to debility of children under 1 year, which usually levies a heavy toll on estates. Pneumonia, also a prolific cause of death on estates, caused 2,979 deaths, or 669 more than in the previous year; and dysentery 2,023, as against 2,132 in 1926. There were 1,773 deaths from diarrhoea and enteritis, 1,753 from infantile convulsions, and 1,321 from anchylostomiasis, as against 1,892, 1,739, and 1,474, respectively, in the preceding year. 931 deaths were due to premature birth and congenital defects, as against 908 in 1926, and 485 to bronchitis. Deaths from phthisis numbered 425, 37 more than in 1926, and those from influenza increased to 421, from 257 in 1926. Malaria, which is less frequent on estates, was ascribed as the cause of death in 297 cases, a slight increase over the number in 1926. 43 cases of suicide and 8 of homicide were registered on estates, an increase of 9 and a decrease of 6, respectively, as compared with the figures for 1926. Three estate labourers were executed during the year.

Causes of Death in Towns.—The number of deaths registered in the 33 principal towns in 1927 was 19,280 of which 2,788 or 14 per cent. were due to pneumonia, which in the previous year levied 2,828 lives. Debility of infants claimed 1,429 lives, 76

more than in 1926. Convulsions caused 1,292 deaths, and the number was 307 less than in 1926. Tuberculosis of lungs, which was ascribed as the cause of death in 1,169 cases, was 90 less than the number in 1926. Diarrhoéa was assigned as the cause in 741 deaths and enteritis in 694, the number in each case being less than in 1926. Dysentery caused 677 deaths, as against 744 in 1926, and anchylostomiasis 632 and Bright's disease and nephritis 607. Deaths due to malaria numbered 634, and those due to influenza 330. Enteric fever claimed 338 lives, or 71 less than in 1926. Bronchitis and puerperal septicaemia was each assigned as the cause of death in 364 and 341 cases. Cancer accounted for 187 deaths, 8 more than the number registered in the previous year. There were no deaths from smallpox or cholera, but from plague there were 69 deaths and from chicken-pox 1 death. Accidents resulted in 454 deaths, and deaths from homicide and suicide numbered 84 and 53, respectively. In the previous year there were 450 deaths from accidents, 92 from homicide, and 58 from suicide.

IX.—Education.

Schools.—The total number of schools in the Island in 1927 was 4,495; of these, 1,268 were Government schools, 2,222 were assisted schools, and 1,005 were unaided schools. There was an increase during the year of 43 Government schools and 70 assisted schools.

Pupils.—The total number of pupils on the roll was 195,649 in Government schools and 293,562 in assisted schools, showing an increase of 22,516 over the number of pupils attending schools in 1926. The total number of pupils attending Ceylon schools in 1927 was approximately 58 per cent. of the number of children of school-going age at the last Census in 1921.

Teachers.—The number of teachers employed during the year was 4,173 in Government schools and 10,125 in assisted schools, showing an increase of 766 teachers over the number employed in 1926 in both Government and assisted schools.

Expenditure.—The total expenditure of the Department for the period October 1, 1926, to September 30, 1927, was Rs. 8,242,723·89. The nett cost to Government of subsidizing education in the Island during the year, after deducting sums credited to revenue on account of school fees, &c., was Rs. 8,040,798·23.

English Education.

There were 255 English schools in 1927 as compared with 247 in 1926, of which 238 were assisted schools and 17 were Government schools. These schools were attended by 39,733 boys and 11,548 girls, showing an increase in the attendance of boys over that in 1926 by 2,222 and a decrease in the attendance of girls by 156.

The classification of the 238 assisted schools for 1927 as compared with that for 1926 was as follows :—

	1926.	1927.
Secondary Schools	44	46
Higher Grade Schools	25	35
Elementary Schools	148	145
Night Schools	13	12

The Royal College, with an average attendance during the year of 546, is the only secondary Government school in the Island under the management of the Education Department. Such changes are made in the curriculum of the school as are necessary to conform to the requirements of secondary education in the Colony.

With the exception of a few schools, the assisted English schools continue to have sufficient accommodation for their pupils, while steady improvement in these schools has also been made during the year in school furniture. Much, however, remains to be done in the matter of school equipment. Such equipment is satisfactory only in the case of a few large secondary schools. While general improvement has been reported in the provision and use of class libraries, there continues to be, in the majority of schools, a general lack of teaching apparatus and of facilities for the teacher to keep himself in touch with educational progress.

The general standard of work in English schools is greatly handicapped by the restricted character of the curriculum, which is not yet based on the needs of the pupils or the economic conditions of the Island. New syllabuses for primary and elementary schools will be introduced in 1928, which, it is hoped, will enable such schools to give a practical bias to the education given to the pupil above the age of 11 or 12.

In 1926 the number of candidates who presented themselves for the Cambridge Junior and School Certificate Examinations and the results obtained were—

	Candidates.	Honours.	Other Passes.
Senior School Certificate Examination	1,626	72	265
Junior	1,291	57	453

338 candidates from Ceylon presented themselves for the London Matriculation Examination in 1927, of whom 67 passed.

The following is a statement showing the number of candidates who presented themselves for the various other examinations during the year 1927 and the number of them who secured passes :—

Examination.	Number of Candidates.	Number of Passes.
Inter-Mediate (Arts)	134	32
Inter-Mediate (Science)	70	14
Inter-Science (Economics)	1	1
Inter-Mediate (Laws)	3	—
Inter-Commerce	2	1
B.Sc. General	35	14
B.Sc. Special	3	2
LL.B.	1	1
B.A. Examination	32	12
B.A. (Honours)	6	3

Government continues to offer encouragement in the form of scholarships, including five yearly scholarships of the value of £300 per annum each, with free passage and outfit allowance of £50, tenable at one of the Universities in the United Kingdom. It was also decided during the year to offer, for the first time, two scholarships for competition annually among the children of garrison ranks who are entitled to free education in the British Army School in Ceylon. These scholarships will be of the value of Rs. 240 per annum each, and will be awarded after examination, one to a boy and the other to a girl.

Vernacular Education.

In 1927 there were 1,199 Government vernacular and Anglo-vernacular schools with an attendance of 132,370 boys and 59,862 girls. There were also 1,918 assisted schools with an attendance of 142,416 boys and 94,581 girls. Of these, 304 were estate schools, as compared with 294 in 1926. A number of new estate school buildings erected in 1927 will be registered in 1928. The 2 Estate School Inspectors employed by the Department visited over 650 estates during the year and travelled more than 9,000 miles by road and path.

The school at Mount Lavinia for the deaf and blind, started in 1912, continues to do good work. During the year 25 new pupils were admitted, bringing the total number of deaf and blind in the school up to 213.

During the year several new vernacular school buildings were constructed and existing buildings extended. Eighteen mixed schools were separated into boys' schools and girls' schools. The permanent accommodation provided, however,

has not kept pace with the increasing attendance, temporary buildings having had to be erected in many cases to relieve the congestion.

A recent undertaking has been the education of Vedda children in the Eastern Province. The Veddas seem greatly to appreciate this attempt to extend to their children the benefits of education, but the difficulties that lie in the way of furthering this object are many, *e.g.*, the undeveloped nature of the country, the absence of proper roads, the situation of the schools in the midst of jungles infested with dangerous wild animals, and the great distances that separate populous villages.

As regards estate schools, a type plan of an inexpensive but satisfactory building was prepared during the year and copies of it distributed. The general standard of buildings is satisfactory, but an effort is being made to have all schools brought up to the standard of the type plan. A number of temporary buildings still exist, but they are gradually being replaced by permanent ones.

The system of paying grants in respect of Estate schools was revised during the year, the most important item being the abolition of the restriction of any one grant to a maximum of Rs. 400. Grants are now paid on a basis of attendance and results combined, and under the new rules it should be possible for a keen Superintendent to run an estate school without any expense whatsoever to the estate.

Education District Committees.

Of the 31 Education District Committees in existence which have been constituted under the Education Ordinance, 13 have unofficial Chairmen. The members nominated to Committees in 1925 on the first establishment of these Committees vacated their seats at the end of the year, their appointment being for a term of three years.

Government decided during the year that funds at the disposal of the Committees should be used for the benefit of Government schools only, all grants to assisted schools being made as hitherto by the Education Department, thus preventing overlapping. The grant voted by the Legislature for the year for allocation to the various Committees was Rs. 600,000, Rs. 100,000 being voted for repairs to existing schools and Rs. 500,000 for the establishment of new Government schools.

Though subject to a very general control by the Department, Education District Committees are practically self-contained, and overhead charges vary considerably.

Training of Teachers.

The Government Training College, consisting of four Departments—English (men and women), English Kindergarten (women), Sinhalese (men) and Sinhalese (women)—supplies trained teachers for Government and Assisted English Schools and Government Vernacular Schools.

The number of students entered for each of the different courses in the English Department at the beginning of the year was as follows :—

1st Year men ..	.. 18	2nd Year men ..	.. 18
1st Year women	.. 11	2nd Year women	.. 12
1st Year kindergarten	.. 8	2nd Year kindergarten	.. . 12

Seventy-one students—34 men and 37 women—were in residence during the year.

The 20 students who were admitted in January, 1926, to the Gampaha Training School completed their course in December, 1927. Eighteen of these have already been appointed Assistant Masters in Government English and Anglo-Vernacular Schools, the other two having secured places in Assisted Schools. During the year 9 of the 10 students who sat for the 3rd Class Vernacular Teachers' Certificate Examination obtained certificates.

There were 60 students at the beginning of the year at the Jaffna Training School. Of the 20 second year students who completed their course in September, 17 were awarded 2nd class certificates and 2 provisional 2nd class certificates. 135 candidates presented themselves for the entrance examination held in August, 1927. Thirty-five of these were selected for the First Year Class, bringing the total number of students in training at this school up to 75.

Industrial Schools.

In 1927 there were 108 Industrial Schools in the Island, of which the most important are the Maggona Certified Industrial School managed by the Roman Catholic Mission, and the Wellawatta Industrial School under the management of the Wesleyan Mission. The former institution is specially meant for the reception of juvenile offenders, the Government contributing towards the cost of their maintenance at the Reformatory. At the beginning of the year, there were 242 juvenile offenders at the Reformatory and 111 were admitted in the course of the year, while 87 were discharged during the year having served their full terms of detention.

Subjoined is a statement showing some of the industries taught, with the number of schools engaged in giving instruction in them noted against each :—

Name of Industry.	Number of Schools.
Carpentry ..	31 Government schools and 8 Assisted schools
Lacquer Work ..	3 Government schools
Rattan Work ..	2 Government schools and 1 Assisted school
Basket-making ..	47 schools—as a part-time subject
Printing ..	7 Assisted schools
Blacksmith's Work and Fitting	2 Assisted schools
Weaving ..	14 Government, 10 Assisted, and a number of other schools

There are two Inspectors employed by the Department in connection with this branch of education, one of whom has charge of Weaving Schools and the other the Carpentry and other Industrial schools.

An effort was made during the year to encourage the use of Co-operative Societies among the students of the Weaving Schools in order to enable them to start weaving in their homes after their course of training.

Agricultural Instruction in Schools.

Elementary agricultural instruction continues to be given by a scheme of school gardens conducted in connection with schools under the supervision of the Department of Agriculture.

There were at the end of the year 748 gardens attached to Government schools and 99 gardens attached to Assisted schools, of which 57 of the former and 7 of the latter were registered during the year. With a view to hastening the registration of these school gardens, the Department of Agriculture allocated funds for supplying implements to 26 of the 57 Government school gardens registered during the year, the rest being provided from funds placed at the disposal of the Department by the various Education District Committees.

To secure more efficient teaching of nature knowledge and agriculture in the Vernacular schools for Vernacular Agricultural Instructors (who had been teachers before) were given a special training at the Farm School, Peradeniya, and appointed to various centres. In each of the areas served by these centres 8 schools were selected within easy reach of one another, and the instructors visited and conducted both outdoor work in the school gardens and indoor lessons with the classes as provided for in the syllabus.

Most of the school gardens have done very good work during the year, the work done at schools where there are agriculturally trained teachers showing a marked superiority.

Some enterprising Estate Superintendents have also opened gardens attached to their Estate schools, and have had them registered by the Department of Agriculture.

TECHNICAL.

Government Technical Schools, Colombo.—The work of the schools is increasing rapidly, and it has been found necessary to provide additional staff in order to carry on satisfactorily the work in hand. A special class in Electricity and Magnetism and Practical Mathematics was started during the year.

The Jaffna Technical Schools opened in 1921 were closed during the year, and the buildings were used by the students of the Jaffna Training School.

MEDICAL INSPECTION OF SCHOOLS.

There are four Medical Officers, including a lady Doctor, at present engaged in the medical inspection of children attending Ceylon schools. This work was started early in 1919 with a single Medical Officer appointed to visit schools and examine children, treatment clinics being opened for minor ailments. Work, in the first instance, was confined to schools in Colombo, but was later extended throughout the Island with Medical Officers stationed also at Kandy and Jaffna.

From the very commencement the schools were wholeheartedly in support of pupils being medically examined ; and the pupils themselves, after the first medical examination, began to welcome it. The only difficulty experienced was in the response of parents : defects or disabilities were noted in their children of which they took no notice because they had never come under their personal observation and apparently did no harm; or the cost of ameliorative measures was prohibitive; or, again, the prejudice against modern and scientific methods of treatment was deep rooted.

These obstacles, however, are being gradually surmounted, and work during the year progressed satisfactorily, including the work of " following up " children by visits to their homes and interviews with their parents.

Provision was made during the year, for the first time, for the supply of glasses at Government expense to children with defective eye-sight whose parents cannot afford the expense of purchasing glasses, the concession being restricted for the present to those children whose probable occupations after leaving school will necessitate the use of glasses.

Physical Training and Boxing in Schools.

Steady progress in physical training was maintained during the year. Most of the schools introduced the Syllabus of Physical Training by the Board of Education, England. A suitable text-book in the vernaculars, the want of which had hitherto been a drawback in Vernacular schools, was supplied towards the end of the year by the translation of the above-mentioned syllabus into Sinhalese and Tamil.

During the year four Vernacular Teachers' Physical Training Classes were held, and nearly 400 teachers were trained according to the new system of physical training. There was also held a Physical Training Class for female students. It is proposed to introduce physical training gradually into girls' Vernacular schools.

Boxing was introduced into schools in the latter part of 1925, and has made fair progress. During the year there were 20 schools where boxing was taught and over 800 pupils received lessons. There are two Boxing Instructors employed by the Department.

Boxing classes in advanced schools are conducted by the Boxing Instructor and teachers competent to teach boxing. With a view to raising the standard of boxing among teachers, a Saturday Class was commenced with Veyangoda, in the Colombo District, as centre. The teachers and monitors of the schools within the area served by this centre receive their training at these Saturday Classes. Teachers thus qualified will finally be allowed to conduct boxing classes, their schools being inspected by the Instructor periodically.

The University College.

Numbers.—The number of students on the roll in July, 1927, the beginning of the academic year 1927–28, was 279, including 17 women students. The figures for 1921–26 were as follows :—

1921	..	166	1924	..	262
1922	..	217	1925	..	256
1923	..	262	1926	..	313

Courses.—The College offers instruction in Latin, Greek, Sanskrit, Pali, English, Sinhalese, Tamil, French, German, Logic, Philosophy, History, Geography, Economics, Pure Mathematics, applied Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Botany, and Zoology.

Honours courses are provided in Classics, English, History, Mathematics, Chemistry, Botany, and Zoology.

The College course is normally one of three years. At the end of the first year students take the (External) Intermediate

Arts, Science, and Economics examinations of the University of London conducted in Ceylon. At the end of the third year they take the final examinations for the B.A. (Pass), B.A. (Honours), B.Sc. (General), B.Sc. (Special), and B.Sc. (Economics) Degrees of the same University.

Students who intend to join the medical profession are given one year's course of instruction in Physics, Chemistry, and General Biology, at the end of which they take either the First M.B. Examination of the University of London or the Pre-Registration Examination of the Ceylon Medical College, or both.

Graduates.—On the results of the examinations held in June, 1927, the following numbers qualified for Final Degrees of the University of London :—

B.A. (Pass) : Three (including one woman).
B.A. (Honours in Classics) : One (Second Class).
B.A. (Honours in Mathematics) : One (First Class).
B.Sc. (General) : Thirteen (including four who obtained Second Class Honours).
B.Sc. (Special—Mathematics) : Two (one First Class Honours and one Second Class Honours).

The total number of graduates from the University College from the time of its inception in 1921 is 117.

Additions to the Staff.—A Lecturer in Physics, a Lecturer in History, and an Additional Lecturer in Oriental Languages were added to the staff, and the officers appointed assumed duties during the year. Since the resignation of the Professor of Classics and Philosophy, it has been decided to separate the Department of Philosophy from that of Classics. The post of Professor of Classics is at present vacant. It will be necessary to add a Lecturer in Philosophy to the staff. The sanctioned post of Additional Lecturer in Zoology remains vacant.

Prospectus.—The College Prospectus was revised and issued in June, 1927.

The Library.—The library has continued to expand, and more accommodation is required.

Hostels.—Most of the students not living with their parents or relations are residing in four hostels affiliated to the College and subject to the College rules and regulations. These hostels are administered by extra-university bodies and are subsidized by the Government.

Students' Activities.—The usual activities of the College Union Society have been maintained. Athletics, cricket, rugger, soccer, hockey, tennis, and boxing find their proper place in the

field of sports. The Union has a Debating Society. Besides the Union Society, to which all undergraduate members of the College belong, there are the following societies : English Study Circle, Dramatic and Musical Society, Sinhalese Society, Tamil Society, Biological Society, Physical and Chemical Society.

University College Council.—This Council, which consists of twenty members nominated by His Excellency the Governor, continue to advise the Principal of the College in matters relating to the administration of the College, and the preparation for its conversion into a University.

The University Project.—Progress in the steps which were being taken towards the inauguration of the University has been checked owing to a renewed controversy as to the most suitable location for a University in Ceylon.

The Ceylon Medical College.

The Ceylon Medical College provides the complete course of instruction required for the practice of Modern Medicine, Surgery, and Midwifery. Including the course of preliminary or pre-registration work in Physics, Chemistry, and Biology, which is provided by arrangement at the University College, Colombo, the whole course takes six years. At the end the Diploma in Medicine, Surgery, and Midwifery is conferred and under the designation of L.M.S. (Ceylon) is recognized by the General Medical Council of the United Kingdom and entitles the holder to be registered and to practise his profession in Great Britain and throughout the British Empire.

In addition to the complete Medical Curriculum the College provides a course of instruction for a minor grade of Medical Practitioners known as Apothecaries. These receive a two years' course of instruction in Anatomy, Physiology, Chemistry, Pharmacy, Pharmacology and Dispensing, Elementary Medicine, Surgery, and Midwifery, both theoretical and clinical, and Surgical Dressing, and in Hygiene and Public Health. They receive free instruction, and on passing the two Apothecary Examinations are employed by the Government to take charge of the Government dispensaries and some small hospitals in the remote rural areas and country villages, but are only permitted to practise while so employed in Government service, and are subject to the control of the District Medical Officers.

These Apothecaries to a large extent provide for the medical treatment of the poor villagers in remote districts and where fully qualified Medical Practitioners are not available.

Details of staff, fees, courses of study, and rules for students and the history of the College are embodied in the Annual Calendar, copies of which are sent free to Medical Schools in Great Britain, Principal Educational Institutions, and to Government Departments in the Colony.

GENERAL.

The chief events of interest in connection with the College are the following :—

The building of the new 3-storey block was begun, to accomodate the entire Physiology Department, College Offices, Library, and Students' Common Room. The convenience of having all these under one roof during rainy weather, from the point of view of the Registrar and Professor of Physiology, will be very great. When this work is completed the Anatomy and Physiology equipment will be entirely modern, and with whole-time professional teachers in both subjects will provide facilities for the instruction of students in these subjects comparing favourably with any to be encountered East of Suez.

Owing to the increasing demand of the Department of Medical and Sanitary Services for qualified Apothecaries, and the very restricted accomodation available in the existing Chemistry and Pharmacy Laboratory, it was found necessary to duplicate the classes in these subjects, and Government sanction was obtained to incur the necessary expenditure on teaching and equipment. About 50 students are now in training in this class.

Under the scheme for Free Bursaries for poor students set up last year four appointments were made in September, 1927; three of the successful candidates are at present studying in the Pre-medical Class in University College and one entered the Medical College on October 1.

A whole-time Professor of Anatomy has been appointed on a salary of £800—£1,150 sterling, and Archibald Gordon Smith, M.B. (Glas.), F.R.C.S. (Eng.), selected for the post by the Secretary of State, took up duties early in January, and already a notable advance in the teaching of Anatomy has resulted.

ACADEMICAL.

Seventeen students passed and qualified for L.M.S. Diploma during the year 1926–27, and 18 new students were admitted on passing the Pre-medical Examination.

Distribution of Medical Students.

	October, 1926.	May, 1927		October, 1926.	May, 1927.
1st year ..	15	18	4th year ..	21	20
2nd year..	24	23	5th year ..	53	45
3rd year ..	2	5			
			Total ..	115	111

Results of Examinations.

	December, 1926.		March, 1927.		July, 1927.		Total.	
	Sat.	Passed.	Sat.	Passed.	Sat.	Passed.	Sat.	Passed.
Final ..	27	5	31	5	31	7	89	17
2nd Professional	—	—	14	8	19	6	33	14
1st Professional	—	—	14	6	15	7	29	13
					September.			
Pre-medical	—	—	35	11	30	7	65	18

Apothecary Students.

Admitted during the year October 1926–27 : 19.

Classes.

	October.	May.		October.	May.
1st year..	29	27	2nd year..	23	33

Results of Examinations.

	December, 1926.		March, 1927.		July, 1927.		Total.	
	Sat.	Passed.	Sat.	Passed.	Sat.	Passed.	Sat.	Passed.
2nd Apothecaries	5	4	6	3	18	14	29	21
1st Apothecaries	—	—	25	17	9	3	34	20

Finance.

	Rs.
Revenue received during the year ..	36,120
Expenditure incurred	87,556

X.—Lands and Survey.

LAND SETTLEMENT DEPARTMENT.

DESPITE the continued progress in land development for the last hundred years, a large proportion of the total area of the Island is still unoccupied and uncultivated. In general the title to such unoccupied areas is in the Crown, but the Crown has in the past by custom, and by enactment, recognized various claims of private title to land unoccupied or only recently occupied and developed.

The majority of these claims are extremely indefinite, and many are based on tradition alone or on ancient grants the meaning and scope of which are frequently in doubt. Adjudication on such claims is further complicated by the nature of the law of inheritance in Ceylon and the system of undivided shares

in land, so that the work of dealing with these claims is a matter of some complexity demanding much time and infinite patience.

This state of affairs has done much to retard the development of the Island, neither the Crown nor the claimants being in a position to give clear title or quiet possession to parties desirous of developing unoccupied land until all claims have been defined and adjudicated on.

Several attempts have been made to find a method of speedy adjudication on such claims, and finally in 1897 the Waste Lands Ordinance was passed, which gave to specially appointed officers of the Crown powers to inquire into claims and agree with claimants as to their settlement. This Ordinance contains provisions ensuring that all possible claims will be discovered, and further makes the Final Orders embodying the agreements arrived at instruments conferring title on the claimant or the Crown, as the case may be, while it is only where the Special Officer and the claimant fail to agree that the claim is referred to the ordinary Courts for adjudication.

A few years after the passing of this Ordinance the Land Settlement Department was formed with a view to the systematic settlement of all classes of land where title is in dispute between the Crown and the subject. As the question of title is involved accurate survey and frequent resurveys are necessary, and the immediate settlement of the whole Island is therefore a task beyond the resources of the Colony. It has been necessary accordingly to concentrate the trained officers available on these districts where there is a demand for land and settlement is therefore urgent, and in general also more complicated and difficult, while at the same time officers are being trained in areas such as the dry zones of the north where land is of little value, and claims are few and comparatively simple, these areas being selected as far as possible where land development may be expected in the future.

This system, evolved by experience, has been found to work well, and the Department, by insisting on its officers inspecting every plot of land which they settle and in general doing their work on the land, has gained confidence and goodwill of the people. During the year under review 427,097 acres of all classes of land have been settled, and 5 claims have had to be referred to Court for adjudication.

Since 1901 settlement surveys covering an area of 5,444,241 acres have issued to the Department, and settlement of 4,737,267 acres is complete, leaving a balance of 706,974 acres in hand awaiting settlement. Of this balance area approximately 177,000 acres lie in the Ratnapura District, 94,000 acres in the Kurunegala District, 86,000 acres in the Kalutara District,

71,000 acres in the Province of Uva, 59,000 acres in the Trincomalee District, 49,000 acres in the North-Central Province, and 35,000 acres in the Galle District, with small areas in Nuwara Eliya, Matale, and Colombo Districts. Large areas in the Hambantota, Trincomalee, Kalutara, and Nuwara Eliya Districts and in the Province of Uva and the North-Central Province with extents 174,000 acres, 58,000 acres, 37,000 acres, 2,600 acres, 52,000 acres and 10,000 acres respectively have been surveyed on topographical plans, and can be speedily settled. The real work lies mainly in the Ratnapura, Kurunegala, Kalutara, and Galle Districts. Nearly 110,494 acres of new block surveys and 14,059 acres of topographical surveys have been issued during 1927 for settlement purposes.

SURVEY DEPARTMENT.

The principal operations of the Survey Department for the period under review comprised block, application, forest, town surveys, and levelling.

Block Surveys.—These consisted of 129,845 acres of new work and 15,130 acres of topographical inset surveys.

The following plans were issued during the year :—

(*a*) Block survey plans of 230 villages covering an area of 110,354 acres, containing 18,163 lots.

(*b*) Two topographical plans containing 559 lots, covering an area of 14,059 acres.

Surveys of 144 requisitions for settlement and demarcation surveys together with the surveys of 586 applications were completed and sent to the Settlement Officer.

Extract Plans.—115 extract plans consisting of 865 lots covering an area of 1,651 acres were issued in connection with the surveys of Crown requisitions and applications in the block survey area.

The total area now covered by block survey is 3,171,758 acres and topographical inset surveys 2,187,169 acres.

Application Surveys : Final Village Plans.—85 plans for 128,743 acres in 2,830 lots were issued to the Government Agents and Assistant Government Agents during the year. The total area covered by the final village plans in the hands of Government Agents and Assistant Government Agents now stands at 2,322,408 acres contained in 75,747 lots on 3,315 final village plans.

Peliminary Plans.—1,582 plans for 18,545 acres in 8,682 lots and 4 miscellaneous plans for 577 acres in 245 lots, making a total of 1,586 plans for 19,122 acres in 8,927 lots, were forwarded to Government Agents, Assistant Government Agents, the Settlement Officer, and the Director of Irrigation.

Supplementary Surveys.—838 supplementary surveys consisting of 5,871 lots covering 15,002 acres have been made and marked on preliminary plans and final village plans already issued.

Acquisition Plans.—277 acquisition preliminary plans and supplementary final village plans for 1,410 acres in 1,831 lots were forwarded to the Hon. the Colonial Secretary.

Applications.—1,099 applications covering 3,254 acres were surveyed for paddy, 125 applications covering 2,308 acres for tea, 107 applications covering 1,157 acres for rubber, 1,192 applications covering 3,211 acres for coconut, 1,212 applications covering 1,807 acres for building purposes, 1,508 applications for 3,710 acres for garden cultivation, 12 applications covering 36 acres for rubber and coconut, 18 applications covering 493 acres for tea and rubber, 12 applications covering 153 acres for citronella, and 1 application covering 4 acres for cardamoms.

There has been a 7 per cent. further increase in the demand for land during the year. This increase would have been higher still had it not been for the restriction of applications to areas under 20 acres.

Forest Surveys. —Five forest survey plans for 10,379 acres in 1,893 lots were issued during the year.

Town Planning and Assessmnt Surveys. —Ten surveyors were engaged upon these surveys. Negombo was completed, and plans will shortly be issued. Chilaw and Jaffna were commenced.

Precise Levelling : Levelling.—The outturn during the field season (mid January to mid November) was nearly 600 miles of double levelling, comprising 22 lines. Rather more than half of this levelling was carried out along hilly roads up-country and in mid-country. The following circuit has now been completed and has been subdivided by lines from Gampola to Nuwara Eliya, Uraniya to Badulla, and Badulla to Bibile :—Kandy - Gampola - Ginigathena - Nuwara Eliya - Badulla - Diyatalawa - Wellawaya - Muppane - Bibile - Uraniya - Madugoda - Kandy. A circuit, Bibile-Batticaloa-Pottuvil-Muppane-Bibile, has also been levelled, and in addition the Colombo road from Haputale to Pelmadulla.

Tidal Observatories.—Observations for an accurate redetermination of mean sea level at Colombo are awaiting the construction of a new well for the Harbour Works Automatic

Tide Gauge. Permission has been obtained from the Admiralty to erect an observatory in the Royal Naval Dock Yard at Trincomalee. An automatic tide gauge has been ordered from England, and will arrive early in 1928. In the meantime a well for the tide gauge has kindly been constructed by the Civil Engineer in charge of works, who has also undertaken to build a shelter.

METEOROLOGY.

General Remarks.—There is marked variation in climate among the different parts of Ceylon. In the low-country, with a mean temperature of 80° F., a noticeable feature is the small range of both temperature and pressure. There is, however, wide divergence between the moist conditions in the south-west of the Island, where the average annual rainfall varies from 100 to over 200 inches, and the dry zone areas of the north, north-west, and south-east.

Altitudes up to 8,000 feet occur inland, and there the temperature is cooler, and shows a more extensive range. There is a corresponding change in vegetation, and the conditions are altogether more akin to those in the temperate zone.

Rainfall.—The rainfall of 1927 was above average in most of Uva and the Eastern and Southern Provinces and in rather more than half of the Western and Central Provinces. Deficits preponderated slightly in the North-Western Province and rather more definitely in the North-Central Province, while they were very marked in the Northern Province and the northern and central parts of Sabaragamuwa.

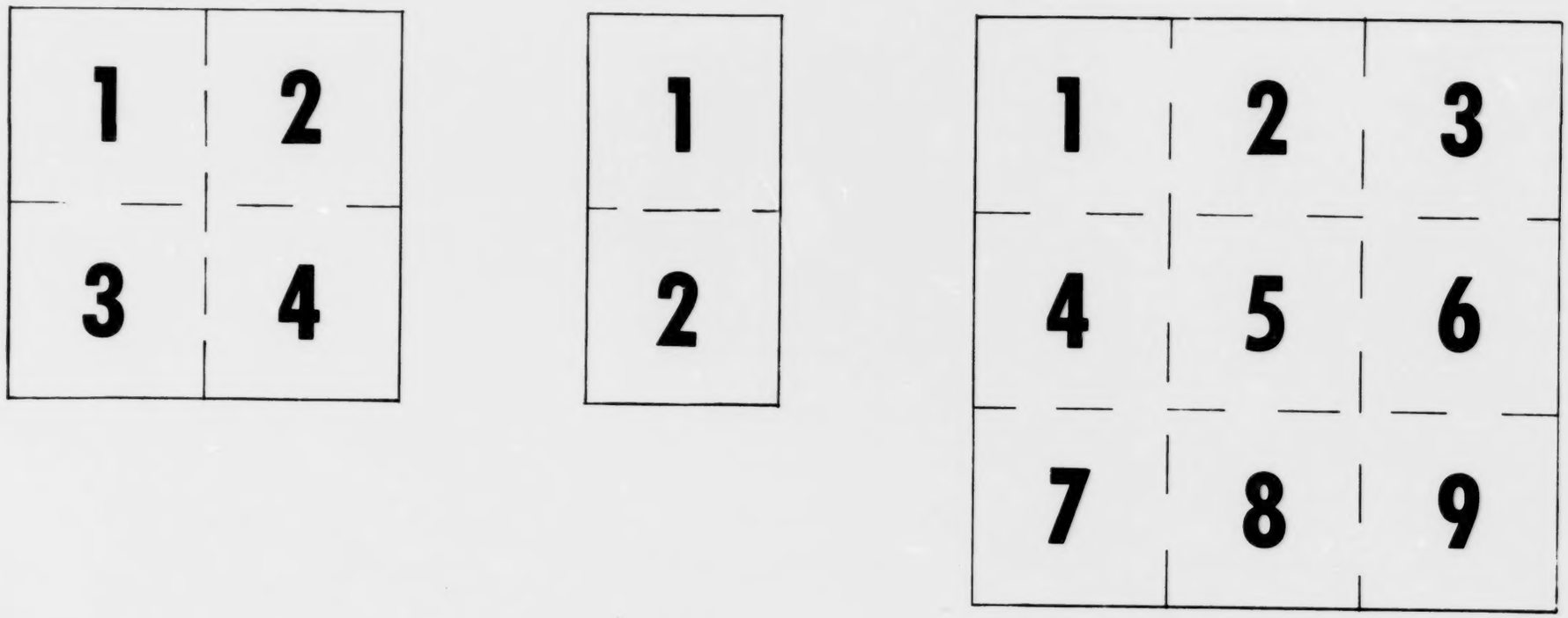
Padupola heads the list with 233·6 inches or 14·1 above its own average, Watawala being next with 227·7 inches. Carney, Ingoya, and Blackwater, which are the stations with the highest averages, failed to reach their averages this year, though all three recorded over 200 inches. The biggest offsets above their average were at stations on the other side of the hills, at which the north-east monsoon forms the more important factor.

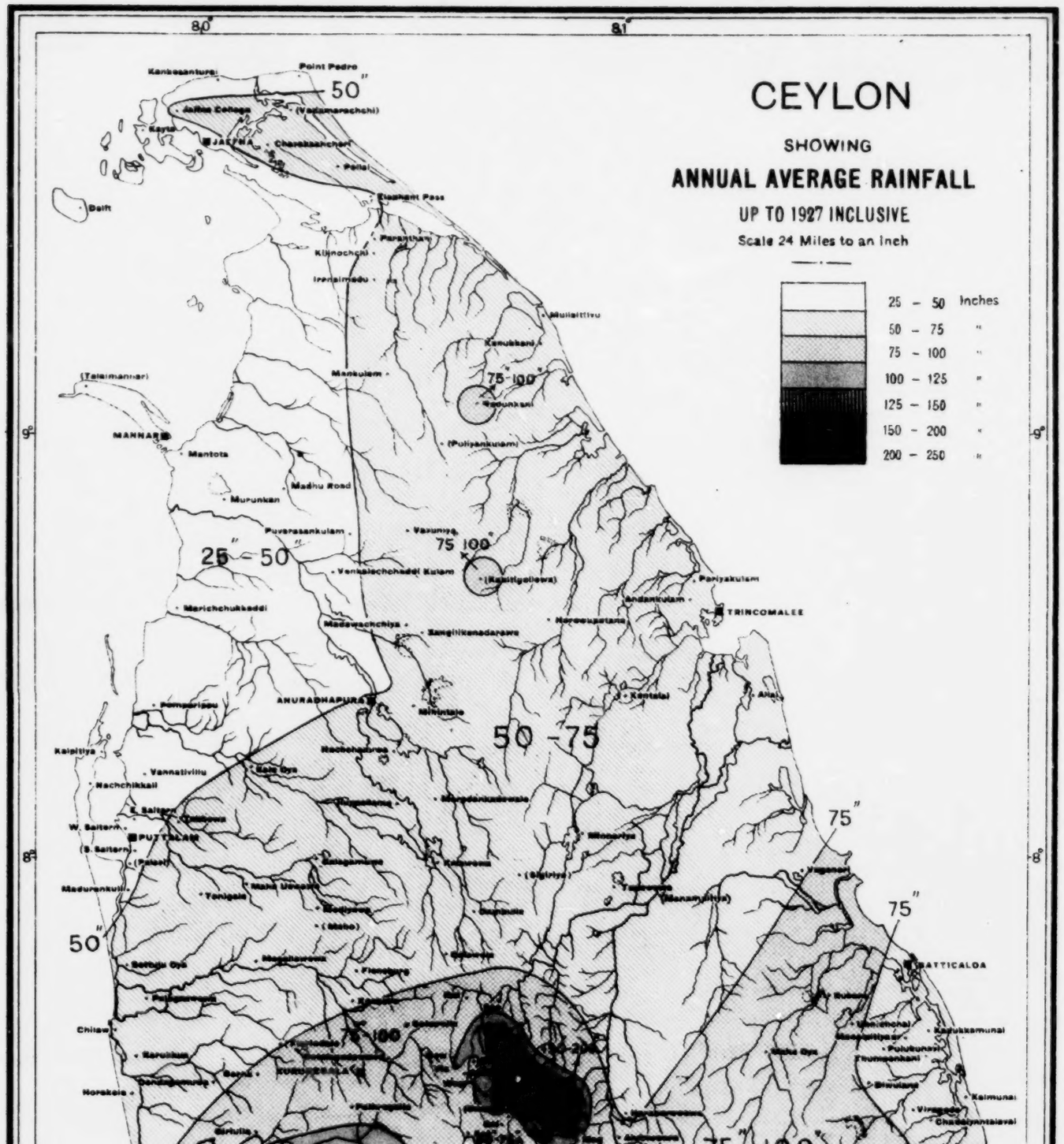
At the other extreme Mannar waterworks only recorded 24·68, closely followed by Elephant Pass saltern 25·15 and Ponparippu 25·6. Marichchukkadi had 31·4 this year and still holds the lowest average, namely, 34·6.

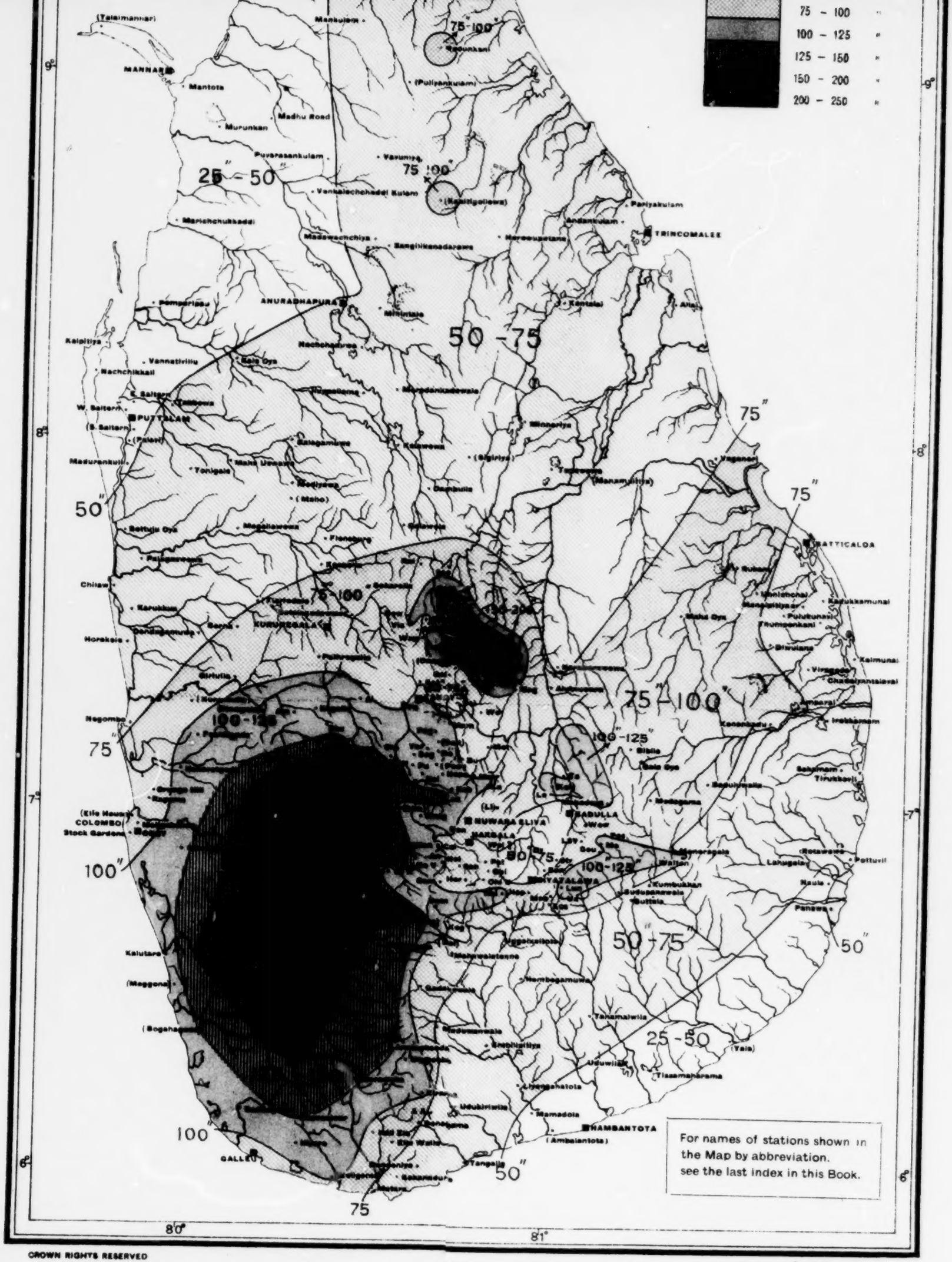
The chief features of the distribution through the year were the unusually heavy rain of March and the deficiency in October. The south-west monsoon after a very wet beginning in May and early June gave less than average rainfall in July and August.

Temperature.—Temperature variations were not particularly well marked in 1927. In most cases the maxima were a trifle lower, and the minima a trifle higher than those in 1926.

Maps on this order too large to be entirely included in one exposure are filmed clockwise beginning in the upper left hand corner, left to right and top to bottom as many frames as required. The following diagrams illustrate the method.




CEYLON
SHOWING
ANNUAL AVERAGE RAINFALL
UP TO 1927 INCLUSIVE
Scale 24 Miles to an Inch
25 - 50 Inches
50 - 75 "
75 - 100 "
100 - 125 "
125 - 150 "
150 - 200 "
200 - 250 "
80°
81°
9°
8°
Point Pedro
Kankesanturai
Jaffna College
(Vaddumarachchi)
Kayts
JAFFNA
Charabachchai
Pallai
Elephant Pass
Delft
Paranthan
Kilinochchi
Iranaimadu
Mullaitivu
Kanukeni
Mankulam
(Talaimannar)
MANNAR
Mantota
Madhu Road
Mupunkan
Puvarasankulam
Vavuniya
Vankalachchadai Kulam
(Kantalai)
Periyakulam
Andankulam
TRINCOMALEE
Marichchukaddi
Madawachchiya
Kantalai
ANURADHAPURA
Mihintale
Kalpitiya
Nachchikkali
Vannativilu
W. Saltern
PUTTALAM
(S. Saltern)
Madurankuli
Chilaw
Horakele
Batticaloa
Kalmunai
25" - 50"
50 - 75
75 - 100
50"
75"



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Nuwara Eliya showed the biggest variation (+0·8), a nominally greater value at Hakgala being not truly comparable owing to a recent change in the site of the shed.

The station showing the highest mean shade temperature for the year was Trincomalee 82·9° F., and lowest Nuwara Eliya with 60·1° F. The figures for Colombo and Kandy were 81·0° F. and 77·0° F. respectively.

The highest shade temperature in air recorded during the year was 98·2° F. at Anuradhapura on September 3. The highest on record is 103·7° F. at Trincomalee on May 12, 1890. The lowest this year was 34·6 at Nuwara Eliya (6,000 feet above sea level) on April 13, at which station 27·1° F. was recorded in 1914. The highest shade temperature in Colombo in 1927 was 91·4° F. on April 20, and the lowest 66·9° F. on January 10.

The mean daily range, *i.e.*, the difference between the mean of the maximum and the mean of the minimum, was highest at Badulla, 17·5° F., and lowest at Galle, 8·0° F. At Colombo and Kandy it was 12·0° F. and 14·8° F., respectively. The absolute range for the year, *i.e.*, the differnece between the highest and the lowest readings actually recorded at any one station, was greatest at Nuwara Eliya, 42·3° F. and lowest at Galle, 18·0° F.

XI.—Labour.

THE Ordinance under which Indian Immigrant Labour was placed under the control of a Government department was Ordinance No. 1 of 1923. The bill to secure a legal minimum rate of wages for Indians employed on Ceylon estates which was introduced in 1926 became law in 1927. The Ordinance provides for the establishment of Estates Wages Boards for the various districts and among other provisions prohibits the employment of children under 10 years of age and limits the time of employment to 9 hours per day (including time not exceeding 1 hour taken for the midday meal). The Wages Boards have not yet fixed the wages for any area, but through them a settlement arrived at between the Governments of India and Ceylon will be given effect to. The cash rates proposed for time work are :—

	Men. Cents.	Women. Cents.	Children. Cents.
Low-country	50	40	30
Mid-country	52	41	31
Up-country	54	43	32

Rice of good quality and unblended is to be issued at rates not exceeding Rs. 6·40 per bushel, a price generally below the market price.

In addition, a free issue of rice is to be made to meet the needs of widows and non-workers, or possibly free meals will be given for non-working children.

The work of the Department in India is controlled by an Emigration Commissioner with a large staff at Trinchinopoly.

The Board of Indian Immigrant Labour composed of officials and unofficials advises the Controller.

The funds required for the administration of the department are obtained from acreage fees collected from tea, rubber, cacao, and cardamom estates employing Indians supplemented by a grant from Government. The rate is levied quarterly, and amounts annually as a rule to Rs. 5·25 per acre for tea and Re 1·75 per acre for rubber, cacao, or cardamom. Estates employing a small Indian labour force are assessed, not on an acreage, but on a *per capita* basis, which is cheaper than the former. Tea is assessed at three times the rate of the other products referred to, as tea planting requires about three times as much labour as the other products. The present system excludes coconut estates although about 30,000 Indian labourers now work on coconut estates.

It costs the Labour Department about Rs. 19·97 per head annually to recruit, repatriate, and protect Indian assisted labour. All the expenses of recruitment are met free of cost to the labourers, and no advances made to them in consideration of recruitment are recoverable at law in India or Ceylon.

There are about 7,500 to 10,000 estates over 10 acres in extent in the planting districts in Central and South Ceylon, and Indians are employed on 1,852 of these, the rest being worked by indigenous labour. Nearly all the largest estates, however, are worked wholly or partially by Indian labour, coconut estates excepted.

There is no indentured labour in Ceylon ; all labour as a rule is employed at daily rates or contract rates and paid monthly on a civl contract of hire and service.

The following figures illustrate the movement of Indians into and from Ceylon :—

	Entering Ceylon.			Leaving Ceylon
	Unassisted.	Assisted.	Total.	for India.
1922	85,071	77,636	162,707	145,363
1923	83,256	89,859	173,115	128,172
1924	88,787	153,989	242,776	139,877
1925	101,324	125,585	226,909	158,457
1926	110,853	101,746	212,599	241,607
1927	124,895	159,398	284,293	298,543

Of those estate labourers entering Ceylon the following assisted emigrants had been in Ceylon before : —

1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.
62,474	57,570	51,330	66,055
41 per cent. of whole	45 per cent. of whole	50 per cent. of whole	41 per cent. of whole

These figures prove how attractive Ceylon estates are to the rural workers in South India, who find in Ceylon better economic, climatic, and social conditions than they experience in their own villages. The figures for 1927 constitute a record.

Labourers entering Ceylon from India undergo quarantine in India at Mandapam or Tataparai.

In 1927 there were probably about 885,000 Indians in Ceylon or nearly one-sixth of the total population. There were 719,552 on estates : 241,200 men, 234,131 women, and 244,221 children.

Assisted Indians are recruited by kanganies on licences issued by the Controller, and their activities are supervised from first to last.

The recruiting areas of Trichinopoly, Salem, Madura, and Vellore are covered with agencies where advice, help, and supervision are administered as the recruits are presented by kanganies. The labourers are transported by rail or omnibus to Trichinopoly, the headquarters camp—a model institution, laid out architecturally on modern town planning lines, with electric lights, water carriage drainage, and every modern comfort. Thence the assisted labourers proceed to Mandapam Camp, another model institution ; and there are smaller model resting camps in Ceylon at Polgahawela and Colombo.

These labourers, from the moment they enter an agency, are provided free of cost with cooked food or travelling rations, drink, lodging, medical treatment, vaccination, hookworm cure, baths, lights, fares, escort, and, where needed, free clothes and blankets, and even pocket money until they arrive on the estate, where work is guaranteed to them by law for six days a week.

Indians unable to work and fit to travel home and Indian vagrants are, if they so desire, repatriated to India at the expense of the Ceylon authorities and escorted to their homes. Special cheap fares are allowed on the Ceylon Government Railway to Indian estate labourers returning to India. The numbers repatriated at public expense in recent years were : 1924, 571 ; 1925, 1,851 ; 1926, 2,442 ; 1927, 2,302.

Indians enjoy in Ceylon all the political and legal rights enjoyed by other races. They have two special Indian seats in the Legislative Council, and an Indian Emigration Agent stationed in Ceylon to look after their interests.

The clauses of the Washington Convention of 1919 regarding the protection of female and child labour are legally enforceable in Ceylon.

Assisted Indian immigrants are almost entirely estate labourers who are housed free of cost on estates; the average number occupying a room 12 feet by 10 feet and a verandah 10 feet by 6 feet being about 3·8. From January, 1922, to end of 1927 on estates employing Indians there have been erected 134,047 rooms for labourers at a cost of Rs. 48,847,836, and this great scheme of agricultural housing reform is still in progress.

These rooms are built to Government specification and under Government supervision, and the regulations insist on adequate light, air, ventilation, drainage, &c. Latrines and protected water supply are also insisted on. There are 52,280 latrines on estates employing Indians, while 116,821 rooms have a pipe-borne water supply. There are 84,159 garden plots allotted to labourers on these estates.

The birth rate on estates employing Indians in 1927 was 34·8 per 1,000 as compared with the general Ceylon rate of 39·5. The death rate was 28·2 per 1,000 as compared with the general Ceylon rate of 21·7. The birth- and death- rates of Indian estate labourers is steadily improving every year.

The planting districts proper are well served with hospitals and dispensaries, both Government and estates owned. In few countries in the world is such generous provision made for the health of labourers, and that free of all cost to them.

There are no epidemics as a rule on Ceylon estates, and there is little malaria. There is a great deal of avoidable disease and premature mortality, due to the ignorance of mothers in the care of children, the prevalence of venereal disease, and the general insanitary habits, ignorance, and recklessness of Indian immigrants. But there is a steady improvement annually, and the present standard of health on Ceylon estates is rarely equalled in the East.

There is little serious crime amongst Indians on Ceylon estates. The labourers are a law-abiding industrious people. Strikes are practically unknown. The chief disturbance is the futile movement of labour caused by employers offering cash inducements to labourers through kanganies to commit breach of their monthly contracts of hire and service.

Indians on Ceylon estates receive in real wages, cash, free houses, free firewood, free medical aid, maternity benefit, free rice when ill, often free meals for children and gifts at festivals, &c. (of clothes or money), and rice below cost price. These real wages are between 50 and 100 per cent. higher than what Indian

rural labourers receive in India. Cash wages are paid for time work, task work, piece work, &c., and range from about 50 cents a day to over one rupee on the average.

The immigration of Indians into Ceylon has been going on for centuries as there is great commercial intercourse between the two countries and as the superior climatic and economic conditions of Ceylon atract Indian traders and labourers.

The immigration of Indians to Ceylon estates has been going on for nearly a century, and the system now in vogue is a credit to all concerned and an object lesson in immigration. That this is the view of those best qualified to judge is shown by the following opinions.

Remarks made by the Hon. Sir Muhammad Habibullh, K.C.S.I., K.C.I.E., Kt., Member, Viceroy's Executive Council (1927).

Trichinopoly Depôt.

" Through the courtesy of Mr. Bowden I was taken round the Depôt and shown the system in vogue in handling the emigrants from the moment of their arrival until their departure by train to Mandapam. I also saw the cooking arrangements, the hospital, and other amenities. The object of my visit was to gain first-hand knowledge, and I am indeed grateful to Mr. Bowden for having enabled me to do so. The new colony is in course of construction, and after completion it will be self-contained in every respect. The site is excellent, and the colony when it springs into existence should be most attractive.

" I ought to add that, besides the emigrants who were returning to Ceylon after spending some time in this country, those who were proceeding thither for the first time appeared to view with satisfaction their future in that country.

"The staff employed at the Depôt were very kind and considerate to the emigrants."

Mandapam Camp.

" It afforded me the greatest pleasure to go round the camp this day in the company of Mr. Bowden and the officers responsible for its upkeep. Its lay-out, the scrupulous attention paid to its sanitation, the care bestowed towards the comforts, conveniences, and health of the emigrants who are collected here prior to embarkation rouse one's admiration. A fairly large number of emigrants whom I had seen in the Trichinopoly Camp yesterday arrived this morning, and I watched with interest the various stages for their examination and verification prior to their admission, including that by the Protector of

Emigrants. It is no exaggeration to say that this Camp may well claim to be the best in the matter of organization and thoroughly satisfactory management.

Mandapam Camp School.

"I was indeed very glad to visit the school maintained for the benefit of the children of the staff employed in the Camp. There are also two trained female teachers employed in the institution, and I regard this as a special feature over which the management might well be congratulated. I put a few questions to the Scouts, who answered them very intelligently, and thus gave me the impression that young though they are they have already conceived a commendable spirit of 'service.' The drill by the boys was most interesting. They seemed to evince the greatest pride in their performance. The students seemed to be very intelligent and highly enjoyed the instruction imparted to them."

REMARKS MADE BY MAJOR J. R. WEBB WHO ACCOMPANIED A PARTY OF HEALTH OFFICERS UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS (1928).

Trichinopoly Depôt and Ceylon Emigration Commissioner's Head Office.

"The party of 18 participants of the Health Interchange of the League of Nations, who represent eleven different countries of the Far East, spent a most instructive hour and a half looking round this institution. It was most interesting to many who have to deal with the medical aspect of such work in other parts of the Far East. The participants all agreed that the institution was a finely built one and very well organized one. The points which attracted most attention were: the history, the finance, the recruiting, the medical examination, and preliminary treatment of emigrants with essential oils, which treatment was seen; the kitchen and feeding arrangements and the hospital."

XII.—Miscellaneous.

LEGISLATION, 1927.

TWENTY-SEVEN Ordinances were passed during the year, some of them being amending Ordinances which call for no special comment.

The more important Ordinances are—

The Naval and Military Goods (Exemption from Customs) Ordinance, No. 3 of 1927.—This Ordinance re-enacts in a consolidated and amended form the provisions of Ordinances No. 20 of 1892 and No. 22 of 1896, which relate to the exemption from

customs duty in certain cases of articles imported for the use of His Majesty's Regular Naval and Military Forces. The new Ordinance extends the exemption to exports and also to articles imported or exported for the use of the Royal Air Force.

The Obscene Publications Ordinance, No. 4 of 1927.—This Ordinance gives effect to the International Convention for the Suppression of the Circulation of and Traffic in Obscene Publications which was signed at Geneva on September 12, 1923.

The School Teachers' Pension Ordinance, No. 6 of 1927.—This Ordinance enables rules to be made for the granting of pensions to teachers in assisted schools.

The Waste Land Ordinance, No. 8 of 1927.—This Ordinance was introduced in accordance with the recommendations contained in the First Interim Report of the Land Commission (Sessional Paper XVIII. of 1927). Its object is to prevent the improvident alienation by villagers of their claims to unsettled land.

The Young Men's Buddhist Association, Colombo, Ordinance, No. 11 of 1927.—This Ordinance incorporates the Young Men's Buddhist Association, Colombo.

The Stamp Ordinance, No. 19 of 1927.—This Ordinance amends the duties in schedule B of the Stamp Ordinance, 1909, in accordance with the recommendations contained in the Second Interim Report of the Taxation Commission (Sessional Paper XX.—1927).

The Motor Car Ordinance, 1927 (No. 20 of 1927).—This Ordinance reproduces in a consolidated and amended form the substance of those parts of the Vehicles Ordinance, No. 4 of 1916, which relate to motor cars, and also the numerous regulations on the subject which have from time to time been made under that Ordinance.

The more important alterations in the law made by the new Ordinance are as follows:—

(i.) Under Ordinance No. 4 of 1916 all motor cars are taxed by weight, the tax on cars licensed to be used for fee or reward being double the tax on private cars. Under the new Ordinance, while the tax on private passenger cars remains the same, the tax on passenger cars to be used for hire will be determined by the number of passengers to be carried. Under the old law the tax on cars used for carrying goods for fee or reward is double the tax on the same cars if kept exclusively for the owner's use. Under the new Ordinance the tax on both classes of cars is the same, viz., the tax now charged on cars used for fee or reward. The duty on a licence for a motor car not equipped with rubber tyres is doubled.

(ii.) Under the new Ordinance all cars are required to take out a licence.

(iii.) Considerable atlerations have been made under the law as to registration of motor cars.

(iv.) By the new Ordinance the old system of annual driving licences is abolished. In lieu thereof, a driver of a motor car is required to hold a certificate of competence which will be issued after a driving test. When once issued, a certificate of competence will continue in force until revoked by a court after conviction. A certificate of competence will only authorize the holder to drive the class of car named therein. A certificate of competence to drive a car granted under any Order-in-Council made under the (Imperial) Motor Car (International Circulation) Act, 1909, is to be deemed to be a certificate of competence granted under the new Ordinance.

(v.) Licences for motor ploughs and harrows and motor cars used exclusively for hauling ploughs and harrows are exempted from duty.

(vi.) Cars having left hand steering are prohibited, but cars imported before the commencement of the Ordinance are exempted from this provision.

(vii.) The owner of a hiring car or lorry has either to insure against third party risks or to deposit a sum with the licensing authority as security for the payment of any compensation which he or the driver of the motor car may become liable on account of any injury to person or property caused by the motor car. This portion of the Ordinance has not yet come into operation.

2. Part 1 of the Fourth Schedule to the Ordinance contains detailed provisions as to omnibuses. Part II. of that schedule requires motor cabs plying for hire in Colombo to be fitted with taximeters and contains detailed provisions as to the conduct of taxi-cab drivers and the scale of fees to be charged.

The Mortgage Ordinance, No. 21 of 1927.—This Ordinance amends and consolidates certain laws relating to mortgages.

The Rubber Restriction Ordinance, No. 22 of 1927.—Under section 3 of this Ordinance provision is made for enabling a portion of the surplus of the Rubber Restriction Fund to be utilized for rubber research and propaganda.

The Registration of Documents Ordinance, No. 23 of 1927.—This Ordinance reproduces in an amended and consolidated form the substance of the Land Registration Ordinance, 1891, as amended by Ordinances Nos. 13 of 1908, 29 of 1917, 21 of 1918, 11 of 1919, and 22 of 1921, and Ordinances Nos. 8 and 21 of 1871 relating to the registration of bills of sale.

2. The new Ordinance does not make any fundamental alteration in the present law, but introduces a large number of alterations in detail.

3. The most important alterations are—

(*a*) Section 8 widening the class of instruments which will require registration so as to include all instruments which can possibly affect a subsequent purchaser, but introducing exceptions in the favour of letters of administration to the estate of an intestate, decrees where the action has been registered as a *lis pendens*, appointments of an assignee in insolvency debentures and similar documents, and monthly tenancies ;

(*b*) Section 9 discontinuing the separate register of seizure notices kept under section 237 of the Civil Procedure Code and requiring such notices to be registered under this Ordinance.

(*c*) Section 10 providing, in effect, that an unregistered will shall not be defeated by a disposition by the heir unless at the date of such disposition, being not less than one year after the death of the testator, letters of administration granted on the footing that the testator died intestate have been registered ;

(*d*) Section 11 enabling a *lis pendens* to be registered as soon as the plaint has been accepted by the court, but before it has been served on the defendant ;

(*e*) Section 12 making registration of a partition action as a *lis pendens* compulsory ;

(*f*) Section 17 (2) excepting a contract of sale of goods made in the ordinary course of business from the requirement of registration as a bill of sale ;

(*g*) Section 21 legalizing bills of sale of future or after acquired movable property ;

(*h*) Section 30 introducing the system of " priority notices " whereby an intending purchaser or mortgagee can obtain priority of registration for his deed by registering a priority notice of his intention to register the deed, the registration of the deed then relating back to to the date of the priority notice or of the deed, whichever is the later ;

(*i*) Section 32 revising the law as to caveats; and
(*j*) Section 35 enabling the Registrar-General to make corrections in the registers, subject to appeal to the District Court.

The Bills of Exchange Ordinance, 1927 (No. 25 of 1927).—This Ordinance reproduces the provisions of the Bills of Exchange Act, 1882, of the Imperial Parliament. Under section 2 of Ordinance No. 5 of 1852 this Act is in force in Ceylon. But it was considered desirable that the law should be reproduced in a local enactment.

The Medical Ordinance, 1927 (No. 26 of 1927).—This Ordinance amends and consolidates the law relating to the Department of Medical and Sanitary Services, the Ceylon Medical College, the Ceylon Medical Council, medical practitioners, dentists, midwives, and pharmacists.

The Indian Labour Ordinance, No. 27 of 1927.—This Ordinanace makes provision for the introduction of minimum rates of wages for Indian labourers.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

During 1927 (as during the three preceding years) no new District Councils were established. The eight existing Urban District Councils, viz., those of Negombo and Ratnapura, constituted as from January 1, 1922, and those of Chilaw, Jaffna, Kalutara, Matale, Matara, and Panadure constituted as from January 1, 1923, continued to carry on the administration of their respective towns. On March 4 the Legislative Council concluded its debate (begun on February 12) on the motion reintroducing in Council the amending Ordinance to extend the operation of local government throughout the Island. (This Ordinance was postponed at its second reading on November 15, 1923, pending the collection of certain information, which was subsequently furnished by the Local Government Board and published as a Sessional Paper (IV. of 1925) The debate resulted in the acceptance by Government of an amendment of the original motion providing for the appointment of a Select Committee of the Legislative Council "to consider the working of Ordinances relating to District Councils, Local Boards, Sanitary Boards, Village Committees, and to make such recommendations as will make it possible to extend local self-governing institutions throughout the country." The report of the Committee, which was appointed at a later stage of the meeting, is awaited. In consequence of this development no further action was taken with regard to the application

received in 1925 for the establishment of an Urban District Council for Ambalangoda. As regards the request of the China-fort Muslim Association (also made in 1925) for the constitution of an Urban District Council for Beruwela, Government decided, in view of the strong representations put forward against the proposal and of the inadequacy of the revenue of the town, not to take action at present under the Local Government Ordinance.

In the course of 1927 Government gazetted a preliminary notice under section 9 (2) of " The Local Government Ordinance, No. 11 of 1920," with a view to the establishment of an Urban District Council for the important and populous Sanitary Board area of Dehiwala-Mount Lavinia, including a portion of the village Ratmalana South ; and the Local Government Board recommended to Government that similar action should be taken with regard to the Local Board town of Moratuwa. These preliminary steps are intended to ascertain the wishes of the inhabitants in the areas concerned and do not necessarily result in the constitution of Councils.

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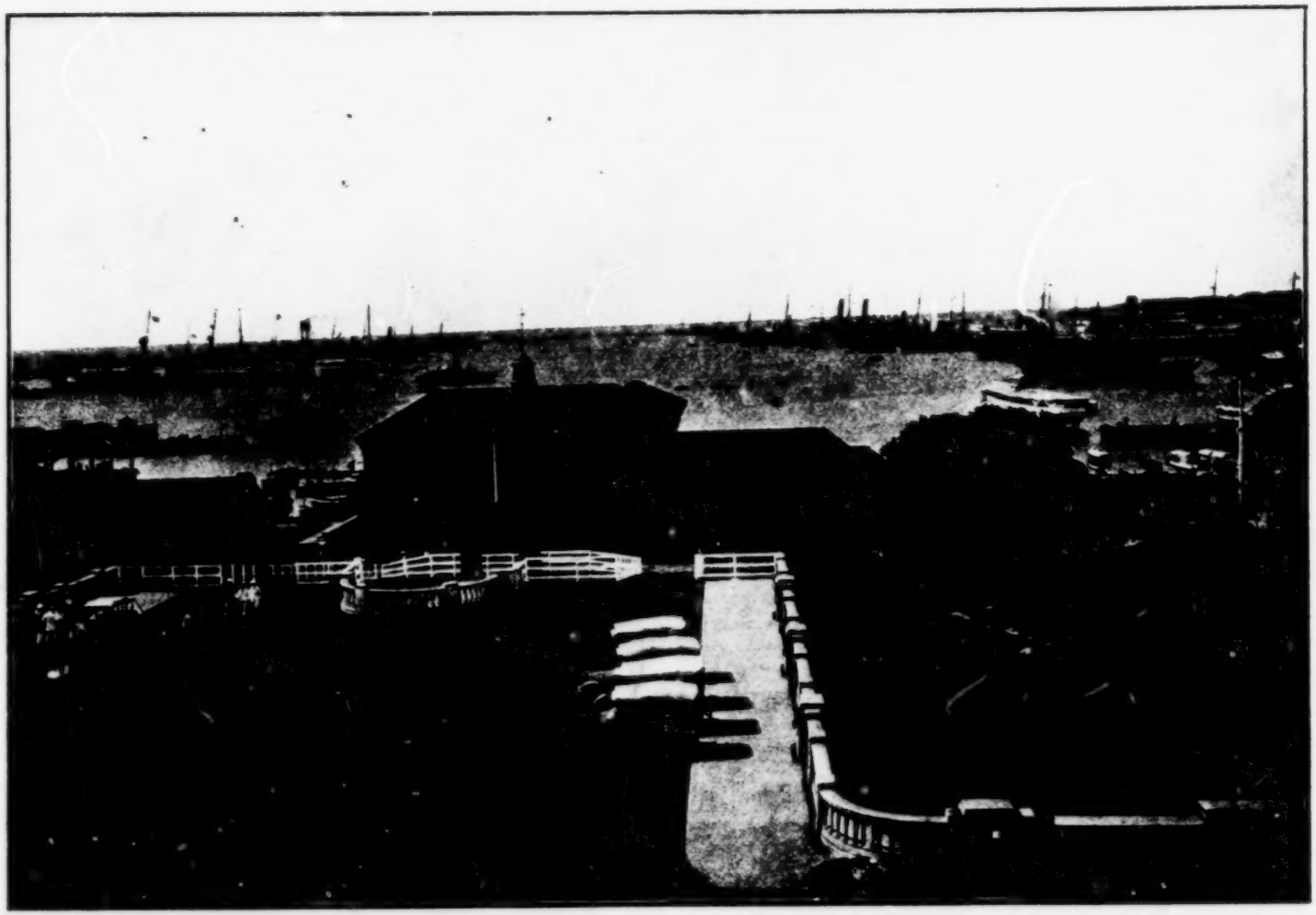

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(SEE TABLE No I)

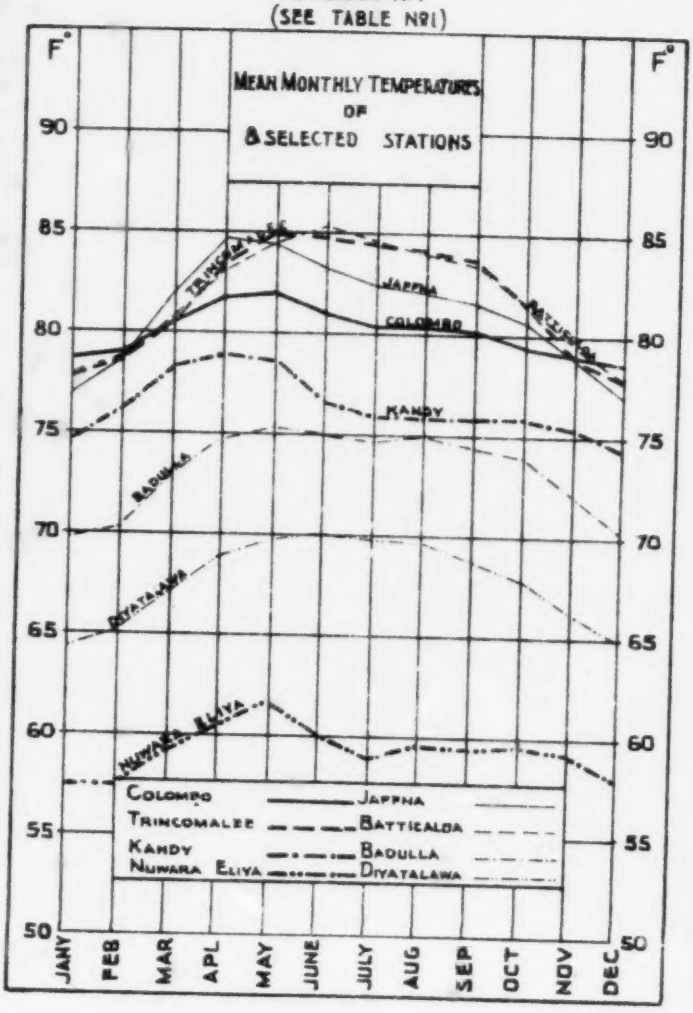


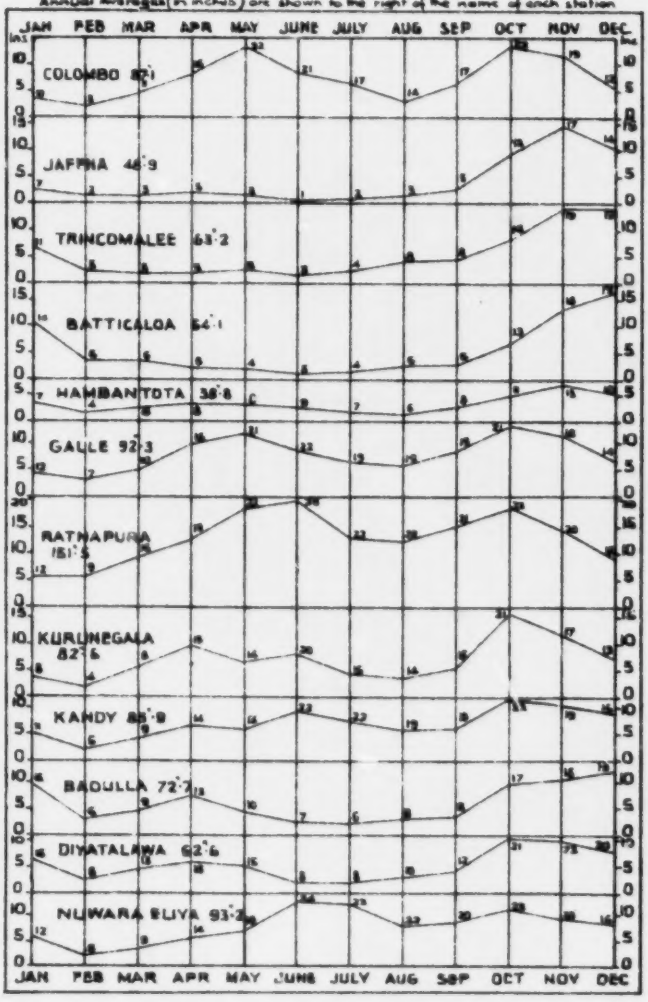
Diagram No 2
See Table No 2

Mean Monthly Rainfall

of 12 selected stations

Figures along the curve denote the number of wet days

Annual Averages (in inches) are shown to the right of the name of each station



Annual General Report for 1928.

I.—Prefatory Note.

Geography.

CEYLON is an Island in the Indian Ocean, off the southern extremity of the Indian peninsula, lying between 5° 55′ and 9° 50′ N. latitude and 79° 42′ and 81° 53′ E. longitude. Situated on the direct route from Europe to Australia and the Far East, roughly halfway between Arabia and China, it has been known from very early times as an important trade centre in the East. It is in very close proximity to India, and from an economic point of view has always been considered a part of it. The greatest length of the Island from north to south, *i.e.*, from Point Palmyra to Dondra Head, is 270 miles; its greatest width 140 miles, from Colombo on the west coast to Sangamankanda on the east. Its area is 25,332 square miles, nearly the same as that of Holland and Belgium, or about half the size of England.

The northern and north-central parts of the Island form one great plain from sea to sea, only occasionally broken by a spur of rock. The maritime districts consist of similar level or undulating stretches, but the centre of the southern half of the Island is filled by a circular mountainous area almost equidistant from the two seas. This mountainous region is intersected by deep valleys, many of which run roughly north-east and south-west. The height of the intervening ridges increases gradually from the coast, and culminates in Pidurutalagala at an elevation of 8,292 feet.

The sea coast of Ceylon, as shown on a large scale map, has an irregular outline, lakes and lagoons having been formed in many parts of it by the sand barriers thrown up through the interaction of the rivers and the sea. There are only three real harbours, those of Colombo, Trincomalee, and Galle. The first is a capacious artificial harbour constructed out of an insecure anchoring place by the building of extensive breakwaters. The second is a magnificent land-locked basin, but situated on the eastern side of the Island which is less accessible, populous, and fertile than the western. The third was, at one time, the premier harbour of Ceylon, but on the completion of the Colombo breakwaters in 1885 it ceased to be a calling place for East Indiamen and ships of war.

History.

The history of the Island begins at the sixth century B.C., when an Aryan invasion from the north of India under the leadership of Vijaya overcame the aborigines and established the Sinhalese dynasty. Early attention

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appears to have been paid by the invaders to irrigation works, agricultural development, and other branches of civil administration, and by the end of the third century A.D. a comparatively advanced stage of civilization had been reached.

The history of Ceylon down to the sixteenth century may be divided into two parts, viz., the period of the Sinhalese *Mahavansa*, *circa* 500 B.C. to 300 A.D., and that of the *Suluvansa*, from *circa* 300 A.D. onwards. The first period is one of increasing development and expanding civilization, connected chiefly with the extension of Buddhism, which was introduced about 247 B.C. The second period is one of ever-increasing pressure from the Tamils, Pandyans, and Cholas from India, with occasional successes on the part of the Sinhalese, particularly during the reign of their famous king, Parakrama Bahu I. (1153 to 1186 A.D.).

In the sixteenth century the Portuguese formed settlements on the coasts of the Island; in the next century they were dispossessed by the Dutch. In 1796 the British took possession of the Dutch settlements in the Island, which were then annexed to the Presidency of Madras, but five years later, in 1802, Ceylon was constituted a separate Crown Colony. In 1815, the districts of the interior, which had maintained their independence under the kings of Kandy, were acquired by Great Britain as the result of a rebellion against the Kandyan king, and the whole Island was thus united under the British rule.

Ceylon is noted for chronicles of great age and high authenticity. The ruins of numerous stately buildings and vast irrigation works remain as relics of a high standard of ancient civilization. It now ranks as the premier Crown Colony and has attained a state of great prosperity.

Constitution.

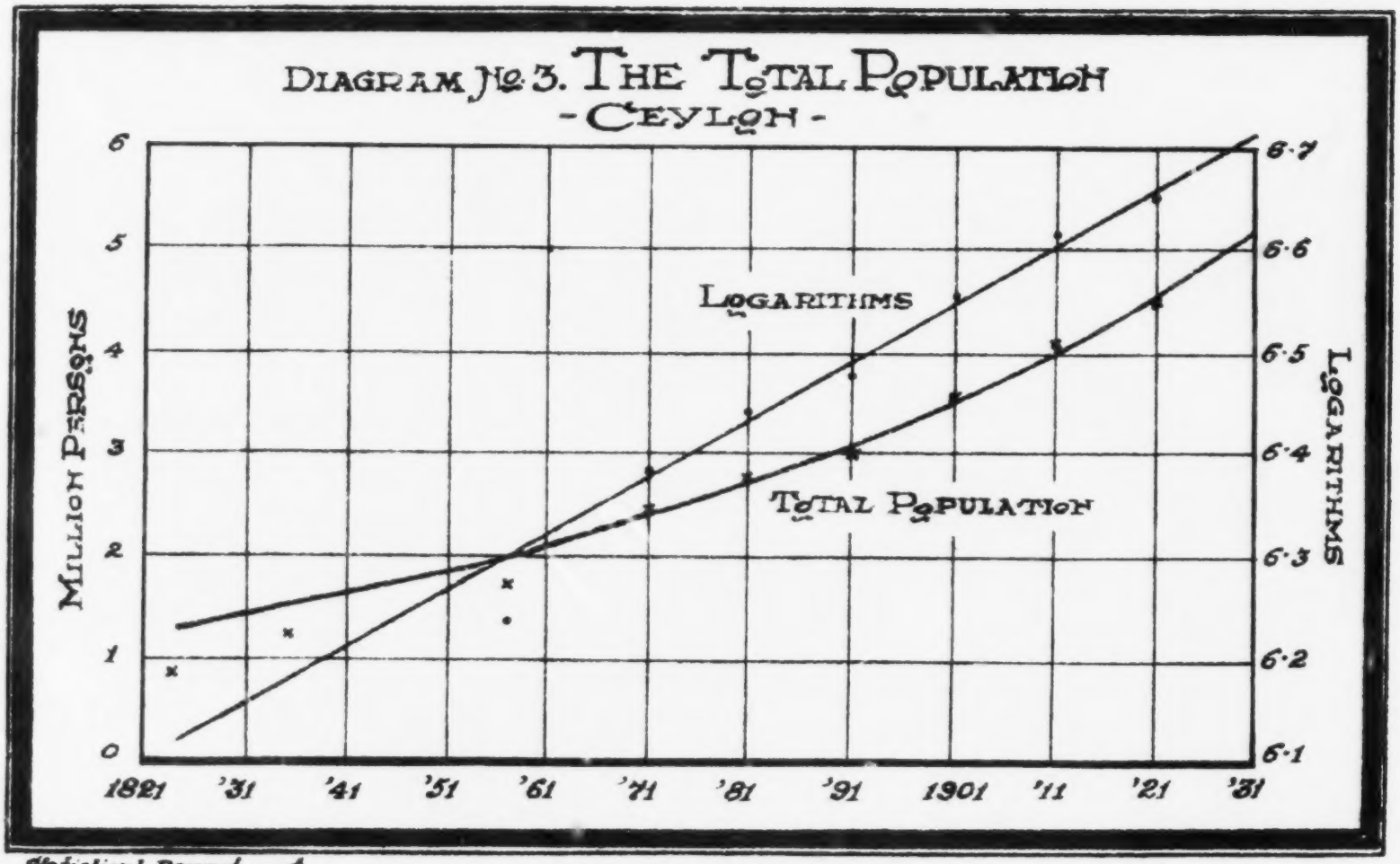
The Administrative Government is vested in the Governor, who holds office for a term of six years. He is assisted by an Executive Council, over which he presides, and by a Legislative Council, which is ordinarily presided over by an elected Vice-President and, on special occasions, by the Governor.

The Executive Council.

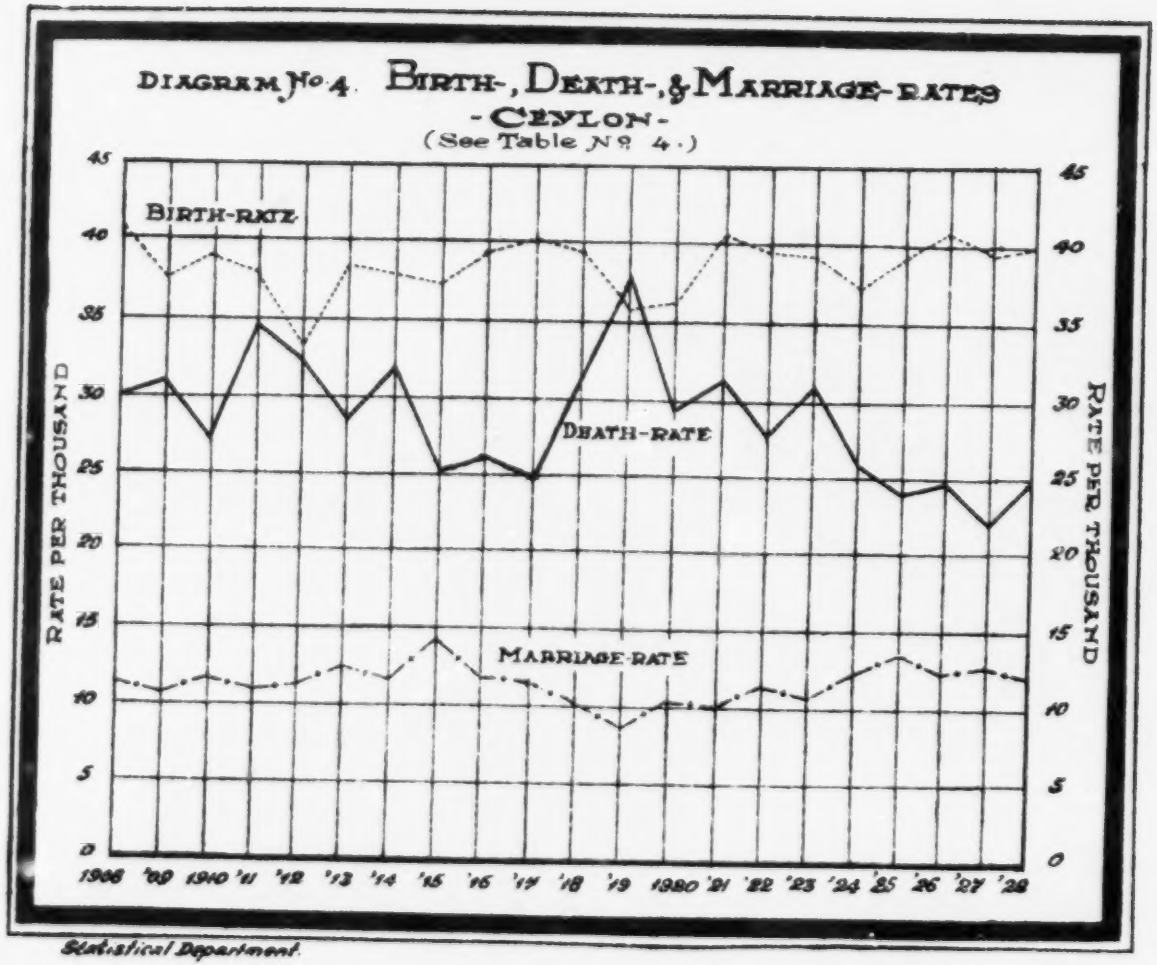
The Executive Council is composed of 9 Members, 5 Official and 4 Unofficial. Of the 5 Official Members, 4 are *ex officio* Members, viz., the Colonial Secretary, the Attorney-General, the Controller of Revenue, and the Colonial Treasurer. The remaining Official Member and the Unofficial Members are persons appointed by the Governor in pursuance of instructions from His Majesty the King. The duties of the Executive Council are advisory, and the Governor, though he consults them, is at liberty to disregard their advice, but in such cases he is expected at once to report the question at issue to the Secretary of State.

The Legislative Council.

The Legislative Council consists of 49 Members, 12 Official and 37 Unofficial. The 12 Official Members consist of 5 *ex officio* Members—the Senior Military Officer, the Colonial Secretary, the Attorney-General, the Controller of Revenue, and the Treasurer—and 7 other Nominated Members holding public office under the Crown. The 37 Unofficial Members consist of 34 Elected Members, 23 of whom represent territorial divisions, and 3 Nominated Members not holding public office.



Statistical Department



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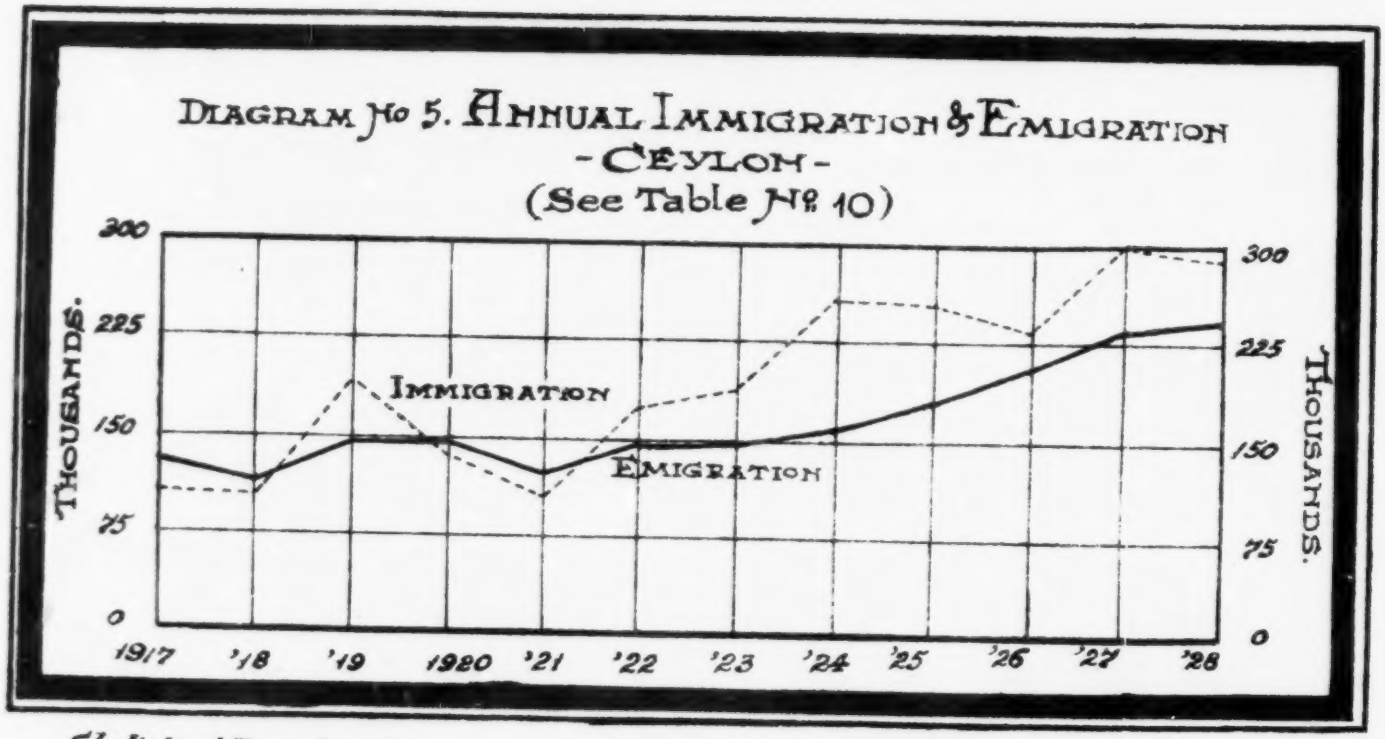


Statistical Department.

Full details can be obtained from "The Ceylon (Legislative Council) Order in Council, 1923," published in *Government Gazette Extraordinary* No. 7,376 of February 16, 1924, and "The Ceylon (Legislative Council) Amendment Order in Council, 1924," published in *Government Gazette Extraordinary* No. 7,393 of May 17, 1924.

The report of the Special Commission on the Constitution appointed in 1927 was issued to the public in July, 1928. This formed the subject of a series of debates in the Legislative Council.

Principal Languages.

Sinhalese and Tamil are the two chief vernacular languages in the Island, the former belonging to the Sinhalese who chiefly inhabit the western, central, and southern portions of the Island, and the latter to the Tamils inhabiting the northern and eastern parts and to the immigrant estate population. English is the language in general use among the people of the upper and the middle classes of all communities.

Currency, &c.

The monetary unit in Ceylon is the Indian silver rupee, which is divided into 100 cents. The following fractions of the rupee are coined:—(1) Silver, 50-cent piece; 25-cent piece; and 10-cent piece; (2) nickel, 5-cent piece; (3) copper, 1-cent piece and ½-cent piece.

The chief medium of exchange in Ceylon is the currency notes issued by the Government of Ceylon. They are of the following values:—Rs. 1,000 Rs. 500, Rs. 100, Rs. 50, Rs. 10, Rs. 5, Rs. 2, and Re. 1.

Weights and Measures.

The standard weights and measures are the English units. In conjunction with these many local weights and measures are used which cannot be enumerated here.

II.—Finance.

Revenue.

THE revenue collected during the financial year ended September 30, 1928, amounted to Rs. 134,134,952.93, which was Rs. 6,479,952.93 more than the estimate and Rs. 4,776,036.62 more than the amount collected in the previous financial year. The principal increases over the previous financial year were under Customs (import) duties Rs. 2,297,371, Revenues of Oil Installations Rs. 127,842, Salt Rs. 153,899, Postal Revenue Rs. 934,665, Railway Receipts Rs. 3,314,289, Electric Light and Power Rs. 1,154,105, Miscellaneous Receipts, Sundries (gain on exchange) Rs. 328,675, and Receipts Forest Department Rs. 275,369, aggregating Rs. 8,586,215. Against these increases the following sums representing decreases should be noted:—

Customs (export) duties Rs. 447,613, Arrack Rs. 1,790,047, Stamps Rs. 737,568, Estate Duties Rs. 870,854, Profit on New Coins Rs. 197,357, and Land Sales Rs. 420,342, aggregating Rs 4,463,781.

The Import duties and Railway Receipts show that trade conditions were generally satisfactory, notwithstanding the depressed state of the rubber industry. Electric Light and Power is a new source of revenue.

The revenue for the last five financial years is as follows:—

1923–24.	1924–25.	1925–26.	1926–27.	1927–28.
Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
102,363,115 67	115,539,669 56	124,516,155 4	129,358,916 31	134,134,952 93

Expenditure.

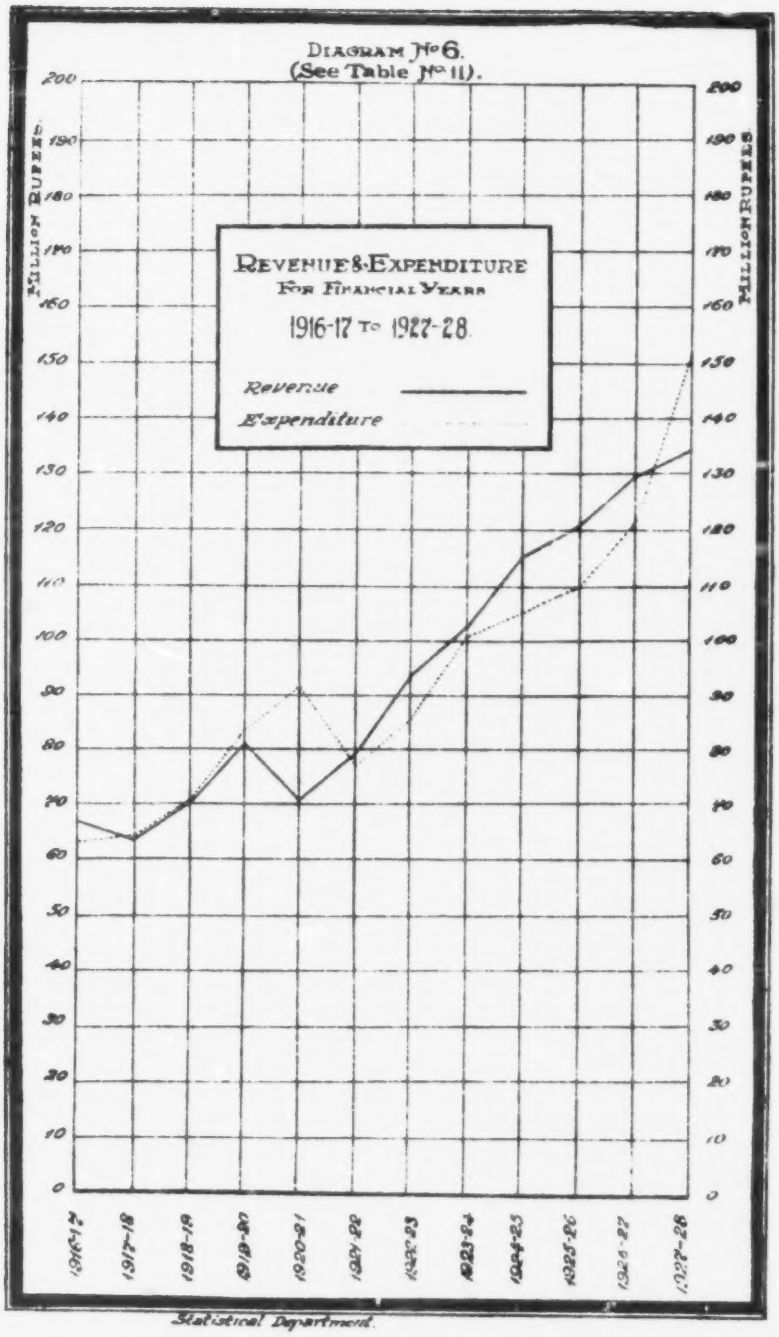
The expenditure for the financial year ended September 30, 1928, which was estimated at Rs. 157,122,293 amounted to Rs. 152,107,200.15. This expenditure exceeded the expenditure of the previous financial year by Rs. 28,485,303.11. This increase was mainly due to larger expenditure under the following heads:—Provincial Administration, Local Government Board, Colombo Port Commission, Post Office and Telegraphs, Police, Medical, Education, Agriculture, Railway, Railway Extraordinary Works, Public Works Recurrent, Public Works Extraordinary, Electrical Department, Electrical Undertakings Recurrent, Electrical Undertakings Extraordinary, Military Expenditure, Pensions, and Miscellaneous Services. Against the main increases under the heads detailed above the only large decrease occurred under the heads, Irrigation Extraordinary and Expenditure chargeable to Revenue pending raising of Loan Funds. There was no expenditure in 1927-28 under the latter head, provision having been made for the New Railway Workshops and the Batticaloa-Maho and Trincomalee Light Railway under Head 52, Railway Extraordinary Works, and for the Hydro-Electric Scheme under Head 61, Electrical Undertakings Extraordinary.

The expenditure incurred during the last five financial years is as follows:—

	1923–24.	1924–25.	1925–26.	1926–27.	1927–28.
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Expenditure chargeable to General Revenue, including accumulated Surplus Balances ..	100,695,713 5	105,004,348 17	109,996,335 63	121,046,299 61	152,107,200 15
Expenditure chargeable to Revenue pending raising of Loan Funds ..	18,155 72	1,361,336 67	2,947,486 5	2,575,597 43	--
	100,713,868 77	106,365,684 84	112,943,821 68	123,621,897 4	152,107,200 15

Assets and Liabilities.

The assets of the Colony on September 30, 1928, were Rs. 62,588,463.46, and the liabilities Rs. 30,864,467.65, showing an excess of assets over liabilities of Rs. 31,723,995.81. This surplus was less than the surplus shown on September 30, 1927, by a sum of Rs. 17,972,247.22. The assets consisted of cash in fixed deposits and current accounts in local and Indian Banks and with the Crown Agents in London, unissued stores, investments in rupee and sterling gilt-edged securities, and sundry recoverable advances. The main liabilities represent amounts due to the Widows' and Orphans'



Statistical Department.

Pension Fund, Ceylon University Building and Equipment Fund, the Loan Account, and Court Suitors and other depositors in the Treasury and local Kachcheries. The cash balances available amount to Rs. 26,620,375.79.

CURRENCY.

On September 30, 1928, the value of the currency notes in circulation amounted to Rs. 57,436,500. The Currency Commissioners on this date held silver rupees to the extent of Rs. 22,509,460, and British Indian and Colonial Securities amounting to Rs. 42,477,039 (cost price), or Rs. 40,172,391 (market price).

The value of the reserve on September 30, 1928, was thus in excess of the value of notes in circulation by Rs. 7,549,999.

The amount of notes in circulation on December 31, 1928, was—

	Rs.		Rs.
1,000-rupee notes ..	6,582,000	2-rupee notes	3,513,522
500-rupee notes ..	74,500	1-rupee notes	4,735,418
100-rupee notes ..	3,420,650		
50-rupee notes ..	5,020,000	Total ..	57,416,500
10-rupee notes ..	20,696,455		
5-rupee notes ..	13,373,955		

During the year silver rupees to the extent of Rs. 2,642,000 were issued to the Banks and the public in exchange for currency notes, while Rs. 104,000 were received from the Mercantile and Hong Kong and Shanghai Banks.

The following amounts of the various denominations of subsidiary coin were in circulation in the Colony on September 30, 1928:—

	Rs.		Rs.
Fifty-cent (silver) ..	5,318,231	Five-cent (nickel)	770,900
Twenty-five cent (silver) ..	3,384,219	One-cent (copper)	1,089,637
Ten-cent (silver)	3,406,511	Half-cent (copper)	332,968

EXCHANGE.

The rates of exchange on London on December 31, 1928, were as follows:—

Selling demand, 1*s* 6 3/32*d*.; selling T. T., 1*s*. 6 1/16*d*.; buying demand, 1*s*. 6 5/32*d*.

PUBLIC DEBT.

On September 30, 1928, the sterling debt of the Colony stood at £12,650,893 and the rupee debt at Rs. 3,000,000, towards redemption of which were held securities and moneys amounting to £4,302,120 and Rs. 1,719,886 respectively.

Setting off the securities against the debts and effecting conversion at Rs. 15 to the pound sterling, the nett total Public Debt of the Colony amounts to Rs. 126,511,709, which is less than the revenue for the year ended September 30, 1928, by Rs. 7,623,244.

A statement of the loan position of the Colony as it stood on September 30, 1928, is annexed.

Summary of Public Debt, 1927-28.

Description of Loan.	Amount (*vide* Columns 8 and 9 of preceding Statment).	Equivalent at £1 = Rs. 15.	Investment held on behalf of the Sinking Fund. Face Value of Securities.	Purchase Price.	Amounts in Deposit with Westminster Bank and Balance in Hand pending Investment.	Total (of Columns 5 and 6).	Equivalent at £1 = Rs. 15.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	£. s. d.	Rs. c.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	Rs. c.
Debentures unredeemed ..	11,800 0 0	177,000 0	—	—	3,500 5 1	3,500 5 1	52,503 81
4 per cent. Inscribed Stock (Debentures converted), 1934 ..	1,076,100 0 0	16,141,500 0	1,092,445 3	1,037,735 1 6	—	1,037,735 1 6	15,566,026 13
3 per cent. Inscribed Stock, 1940 ..	2,850,000 0 0	42,750,000 0	1,928,093 16 2	1,768,539 10 10	6 4 1	1,768,545 14 11	26,528,186 19
3½ per cent. Inscribed Stock, 1959 ..	1,500,000 0 0	22,500,000 0	406,961 4 9	341,888 18 8	—	341,888 18 8	5,128,334 0
4 per cent. Inscribed Stock, 1959 ..	1,000,000 0 0	15,000,000 0	178,116 0 8	147,008 10 1	7 4 0	147,015 14 1	2,205,235 56
6 per cent. Inscribed Stock, 1936–51 ..	6,212,993 8 4	93,194,901 25	692,932 14 1	722,078 8 5	57 9 8	722,135 18 1	10,832,038 56
	12,650,893 8 4	189,763,401 25	4,298,549 2 11	4,017,250 9 6	3,571 2 10	4,020,821 12 4	60,312,324 25
4 per cent. Ceylon Inscribed Stock 1944	—	3,000,000 0	56,385 1 10 Rs. 870,500 0	56,678 1 0 Rs. 1,055,23 8	— Rs. 3,609 58	56,678 12 0 Rs. 1,058,848 16	850,179 0 1,058,848 16
		192,763,401 25					62,221,351 41

THE CEYLON SAVINGS BANK.

The Ceylon Savings Bank had a sum of Rs. 7,331,346* to credit of 51,900 depositors on December 31, 1928, as against Rs. 6,947,424 to credit of 50,085 depositors on December 31, 1927. The amount of the Bank's invested funds on December 31, 1928, was Rs. 8,080,906, which include investments made from the Reserve Fund of Rs. 951,727*. The interest paid to depositors amounted to Rs. 224,986*. Interest was allowed at the rate of 4 per cent. on accounts of Rs. 1,000 and under, and 3 per cent. on accounts above Rs. 1,000.

Accounts may be opened with a minimum deposit of 50 cents, and not more than Rs. 2,000 can be deposited in one year irrespective of withdrawals. The maximum sum that a depositor may have to his or her credit is Rs. 6,000. Charitable institutions or societies may deposit Rs. 3,000 per annum up to a maximum of Rs. 9,000.

The Bank receives deposits from or for the benefit of minors subject to the same regulations as to deposits made by others. Cash, Cheques, Money Orders, Postal Orders, Dividend Warrants, Drafts, &c., are accepted for deposit purposes.

Loans are granted on the primary mortgage of house property within the Municipal limits of Colombo to the extent of half the appraised value of the property at a flat rate of 7 per cent. interest per annum. Borrowers are required to pay a fee of Rs. 21 for the examination of title, and to execute a mortgage bond and warrant of attorney to confess judgment and to effect a fire insurance policy over the property mortgaged for the total extent of the loan. Easy terms of repayment are allowed, and borrowers have the advantage of not being charged with stamp duty on the bond, &c., in terms of the Bank's Ordinance.

The Bank is open daily between 9 A.M. and 1 P.M. on Saturdays and 9 A.M. and 3 P.M. on other working days. Deposits and withdrawals may be made between the hours of 10 A.M. and 12 noon on Saturdays and 10 A.M. and 2 P.M. on other working days.

STAMP DUTIES.

(*a*) During the financial year 1927-28 a sum of Rs. 9,102,830 was credited to revenue by the sale of stamps, as against Rs. 8,905,735 credited during 1926-27. It is estimated that of this, a sum of Rs. 5,622,323 represents stamps sold for postal purposes, and the balance Rs. 3,480,507 stamps sold for revenue purposes, such as payments of stamp duties on instruments, duties on legal proceedings, and licence fees.

(*b*) Stamp duties on Bank cheques and share certificates are, under section 5 of the Stamp Ordinance, No. 22 of 1909, payable in cash, as composition duty, by banks and companies authorized in that behalf by the Governor in Executive Council. The revenue so derived during the year 1927-28 amounted to Rs. 313,802, as against Rs. 230,566 during the previous year.

(*c*) With a view to reducing as far as possible the opportunities for the fraudulent use of cleaned stamps, a stamp impressing machine, similar to those used in the United Kingdom, was installed in the Stamp Office and has been in use since the latter half of July, 1928. During the period ended December 31, 1928, *i.e.*, about six months, 3,435 instruments, consisting mostly of share transfers, have been dealt with, the value of stamps impressed being Rs. 83,258.

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* Approximate.

Estate Duties.

Estates of persons whose deaths occurred on or after July 1, 1919, are chargeable with duty under the Estate Duty Ordinance, No. 8 of 1919. During the financial year 1927-28, a sum of Rs. 1,251,199 was collected as estate duty, as against Rs. 2,122,053 in the previous year. The falling off is chiefly due to the raising of the duty payable limit at the lower end of the scale from Rs. 1,500 to Rs. 5,000, and the reduction of the rates of duty on estates up to Rs. 50,000 in value by Ordinance No. 20 of 1926. Of the kinds of property which paid duty, immovable property was by far the largest in value and represented 58.11 per cent. of the total value. Shares in companies registered in Ceylon come second with 20.68 per cent. of the total value.

887 estates under Rs. 25,000 in value paid only 7.33 per cent. of the total duty, while 15 estates between Rs. 300,000 and Rs. 600,000 in value paid 23.27 per cent. These figures would appear to show that the new rate of 1 per cent. on all estates below Rs. 25,000 is too liberal.

Thirty-five per cent. of the duty was paid on the estates of persons domiciled out of the Island. In most of these cases the parties are entitled to a refund from the estates duty paid in the countries in which they are domiciled.

In respect of deaths which had occurred prior to the commencement of the Ordinance, a sum of Rs. 3,896 was collected as stamp duty on probates and letters of administration during the financial year 1927-28, as against Rs. 7,310 during the previous year. The total amount of penalties recovered under the Ordinance, in respect of 159 cases, was Rs. 1,100, as against Rs. 1,522 during the previous year in respect of 213 cases.

III.—Production.

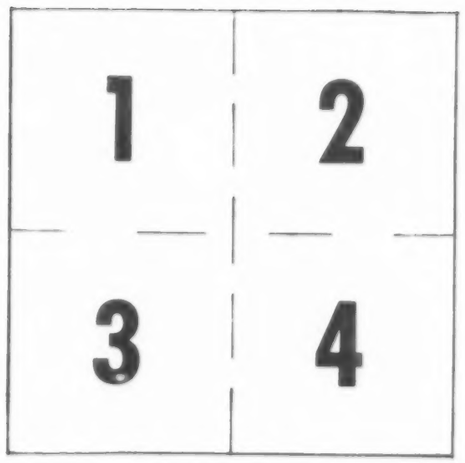
AGRICULTURE.

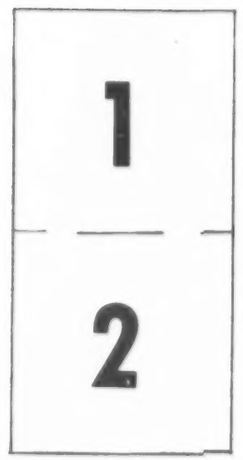
Tea.

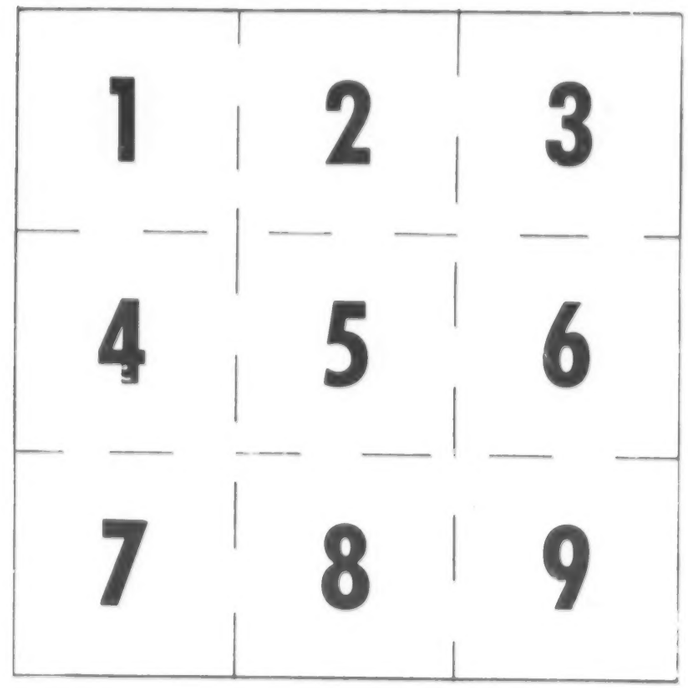
EXPORTS of tea during 1928 show an increase over the previous year in the case of black tea and a decrease in the case of green tea. The average price per pound was lower than that obtained in 1927 despite the fact that demand for Ceylon tea was steady. Tea growing, however, remained remunerative, and it has to be recorded that the quality of the better grades of tea has been maintained at its former high level and has not failed to secure the higher prices it deserves. While the coming into bearing of new areas of tea accounts for a part of the increase of the exports of 1928, continued attention to cultivation and manuring has also played a part.

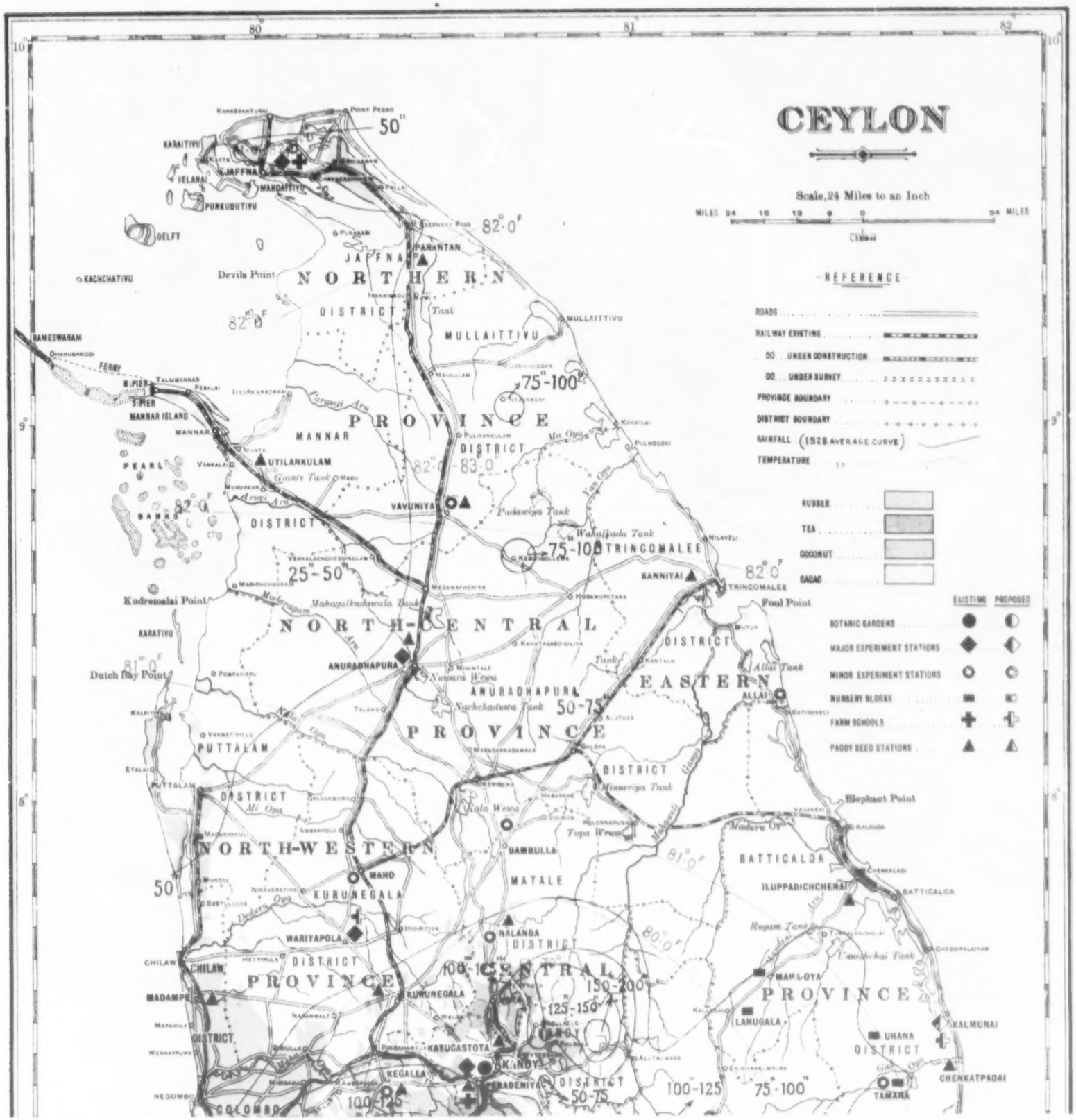
On the whole tea in Ceylon continues to present the appearance of a crop which is well cared for and is grown under favourable conditions. While losses from root and other diseases have occurred in 1928, and, while it is difficult to make a general statement to the effect that the losses were less than in previous years, it is certain that on the whole there was no increase in the losses due to disease. Climatic conditions in 1928 were less favourable to tea than in previous years, but crops were satisfactory. Activity in the building and bringing up to date of factories continued, and visitors from other tea growing countries continued to be interested in Ceylon tea factories and factory methods.

Maps on this order too large to be entirely included in one exposure are filmed clockwise beginning in the upper left hand corner, left to right and top to bottom as many frames as required. The following diagrams illustrate the method.





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DISTRICT BOUNDARY
RAINFALL (1928 AVERAGE CURVE)
TEMPERATURE
RUBBER
TEA
COCONUT
CACAO
EXISTING
PROPOSED
BOTANIC GARDENS
MAJOR EXPERIMENT STATIONS
MINOR EXPERIMENT STATIONS
NURSERY BLOCKS
FARM SCHOOLS
PADDY SEED STATIONS
NORTHERN PROVINCE
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MANNAR DISTRICT
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EASTERN PROVINCE
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PUTTALAM DISTRICT
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CENTRAL PROVINCE
KANDY DISTRICT
BATTICALOA DISTRICT
UVA PROVINCE
BADULLA DISTRICT
COLOMBO DISTRICT
NEGOMBO DISTRICT
GALLE DISTRICT
MATARA DISTRICT
HAMBANTOTA DISTRICT
RAMESWARAM
Devils Point
Kudremalai Point
Dutch Bay Point
Foul Point
Elephant Point
KANKESANTURAI
POINT PEDRO
KARAITIVU
VELANAI
PUNKUDUTIVU
DELFT
KACHCHATIVU
JAFFNA
PARANTAN
MULLAITTIVU
MANNAR ISLAND
MANNAR
PEARL BANKS
UYILANKULAM
VAVUNIYA
TRINCOMALEE
KANNIYAI
ANURADHAPURA
PUTTALAM
DAMBULLA
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Giants Tank
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Wahalkada Tank
Mahapalkadawala Tank
Nuwara Weva
Nachchaduwa Tank
Minneriya Tank
Kala Weva
Topa Weva
Rugam Tank
Unichchai Tank
Allai Tank
Mahaweli Ganga
Mi Oya
Deduru Oya
Kala Oya
Maha Oya
Madura Oya
Uma Oya
Kala Oya
Arugi Aru
Mullaitivu Aru
Iluppaikkadavai
Pallai
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Puttalam
Etalai
Kalpitiya
Kottiyar
Trincomalee
Batticaloa
Kokkilai
Pulmoddai
Mullaitivu
Mannar
Vankalai
Murungan
Madu
Vavuniya
Medawachchiya
Mihintale
Anuradhapura
Galgamuwa
Ambanpola
Maho
Kurunegala
Wariyapola
Nalanda
Dambulla
Matale
Kandy
Katugastota
Peradeniya
Kegalla
Chilaw
Madampe
Colombo
Negombo
Galle
Matara
Hambantota
Badulla
Bandarawela
Nuwara Eliya
Ratnapura
Kalutara
Galle
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Hambantota
Ratnapura
Bandarawela
Badulla
Nuwara Eliya
Kalutara
Chenkalady
Batticaloa
Chedipalayam
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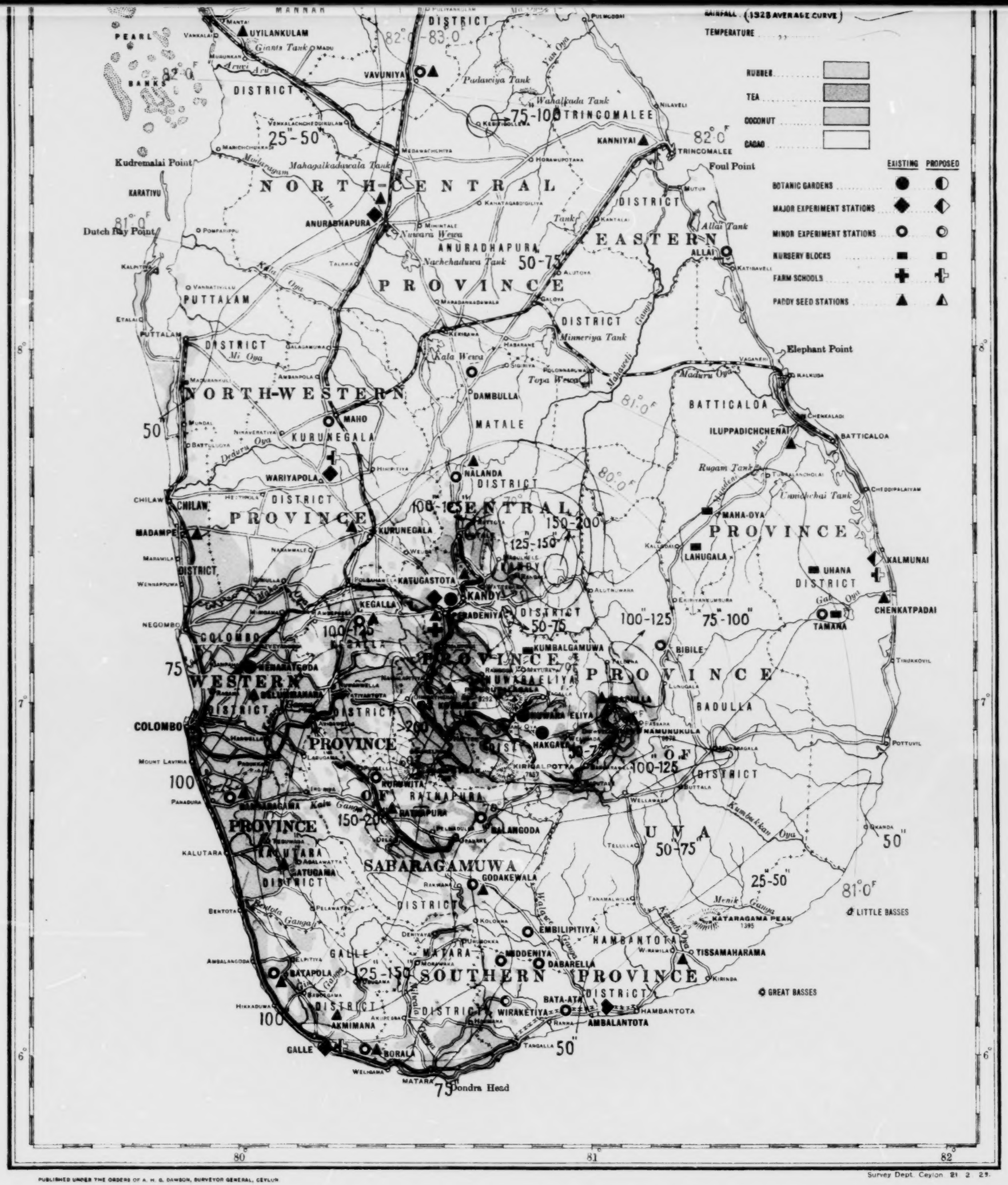
RAINFALL (1928 AVERAGE CURVE)
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Kala Wewa
Minneriya Tank
Toya Wewa
Allai Tank
Rugam Tank
Unichchai Tank
Menik Ganga
Kumbukkan Oya
Madu Oya
Mahaweli Ganga
Kala Oya
Mi Oya
Deduru Oya
Kelani Ganga
Nilwala Ganga
Gin Ganga
Bentota Ganga
Kalu Ganga
Walawe Ganga
Kirindi Oya
Gal Oya
Yan Oya
Malwatu Oya
Aruvi Aru
Modaragam Aru
Kala Oya
Mahaweli Ganga
Kala Oya
Kumbukkan Oya
Menik

Further attention has been directed to the question of soil erosion, and great interest has been shown in systems for the prevention of wash. Particular mention may be made of the work of Mr. E. O. Felsinger and Mr. C. C. du Pré Moore, and it is desirable that other practical agriculturists should give accounts of their methods and results. Despite the wide interest in the question, the fact remains that the necessity for preventive and curative measures has not yet been realized in full, and that much good land is being subjected unnecessarily to a washing-out process that is avoidable at least in part. The use of green manures or cover plants has not extended as some would wish, but it has to be remembered that the ideal cover plant for tea has not yet been found. *Indigofera endecaphylla* has been and is still recommended. It continues to give encouraging results and it is of value as an improver of the soil, but it is liable to harbour snakes, a consideration that must be taken into account. The movement towards lighter pruning has continued to gain ground, and the number of tea small-holdings has increased during the year, especially in the Central Province. The demand of small-holders for plants has led to the establishment of numerous nurseries in the Central Division and to the necessity for continued inspection of the nurseries and continued efforts to prevent dissemination of the shot-hole borer. Regulations passed during 1928 require that all nurseries which sell tea plants shall be registered and graded. The removal of plants by permit is now restricted according to the class of nursery from which the plants are sold. Nurseries are divided into five classes. Plants from nurseries of class A may be moved throughout the Island; from class B within infested areas; from class C within the revenue district in which the nurseries are situated; from class D within the Chief Headman's division in which the nurseries are situated. In the case of class E no movement of plants is allowed. It has also been ordered during 1928 that permits must accompany plants to their destination, and that no plants shall be accepted by the railway for transport unless they are supplied with a permit. It is hoped that these new regulations will result, not only in a better control of the movement of shot-hole borer-infested plants, but also in an improvement of the stock of the nurseries. The number of permits issued and of plants removed by permits in 1928 were respectively 1,018 and 8,373,978, both numbers showing large increases over the figures for 1927. Twenty-eight permits for 252,000 plants were refused.

It was decided in 1927 that Tea Tortrix should be declared a pest, and collection and destruction of egg-masses were made compulsory from October, 1927. The returns provided by estates show that millions of egg-masses have been destroyed during 1928, and a comparison of the figures available in another twelve months with the figures already obtained will show whether the measures of destruction have had an influence on the prevalence of the pest. A year's quarterly returns from Tortrix-infected districts do not show a progressive diminution in the number of egg-masses destroyed, but it is too early to judge of the success or failure of the scheduling of Tortrix. The Entomologist of the Tea Research Institute has continued his work on the biological control of Tortrix. Interesting work on the termites of tea plants and buildings has been done by the Assistant Entomologist of the Department of Agriculture with regard to tea termites which, it is well known, are regarded as pests of major importance, useful information concerning their bionomics, distribution and host plants has been obtained, and control experiments in which Paris green has been used have given promising results. The fear has been expressed that the use of Paris green in living bushes may lead to the presence of arsenic in the leaf and in the made tea, but analyses made by the Government Analyst have shown conclusively that arsenic is not present in the product of Paris green-treated

bushes. The Department of Agriculture is much indebted to Mr. C. T. Symons for his help in this matter. His analytical work is being continued until July, 1929. In discussing the measures to be adopted against tea termites the Assistant Entomologist had laid stress on the necessity for measures of prevention of attack.

No new diseases of tea have been reported to the Department of Agriculture during 1928. Modern methods of pruning, cultivation, and manuring tend to reduce the incidence of wood rot or branch canker. Attention has been given to the problem of wood rot by the Tea Research Institute, and the Mycologist of the Institute is engaged in an investigation into tea disease and loss of bushes caused by a deficiency of food reserves in the tissues. The Mycological Division of the Department of Agriculture continued its work on root disease of tea and other plants with particular reference to *Rhizoctonia bataticola* and reached the stage of disclosing the presence of *Rhizoctonia* in small rootlets and in larger roots of apparently healthy bushes. The exact significance of these facts is not known, and investigation is being continued; the facts may prove to have a bearing on the question of the causation of root disease.

Rubber.

Exports of rubber were restricted to 60 per cent. of standard production during the first ten months of the year, that is, while restriction remained in force. It was intimated in April that restriction would be removed at the end of October, and the removal was awaited with a certain amount of trepidation. It was feared that a sudden rise in the amount of stocks in London would affect the market adversely, but it was found that the amount of rubber exported during the first ten months of the year was smaller than in 1927, and that the amounts consumed by America and the continent of Europe had shown an increase. Stocks accumulated in producing countries were not as large as they were expected to be, and it therefore turned out that there was no sudden rise of stocks in London and no sudden collapse of prices. London prices fell from 1*s*. 7⅞*d*. in January to 1*s*. 1¾*d*. in February. In April prices fell much lower and remained in the neighbourhood of 8-9*d*. until the end of the year.

Factory preparation of sheet and crêpe has continued to be of a high standard. Much attention has been devoted to the question of soil erosion, but many estates have taken no steps to conserve soil and prevent further losses. Similarly, many estates have not yet begun to use cover crops and green manure, the advantages and benefits of which appear to be obvious and to outweigh the disadvantages. A note of warning regarding the influence of cover crops on the presence and development of fungi causing root disease has been sounded by the Mycologist of the Rubber Research Scheme, and experiments in the control of the Kalutara snail, which has been destructive to large areas of Vigna (*Dolichos Hosei*) under rubber, are in progress. Mr. H. W. Roy Bertrand of Govinna estate reported successful control of the snail with the use of Atlas preservative, and promising results have been obtained from the use of Bordeaux mixture. A rust of Vigna leaves which may prove to be harmful was found simultaneously by the Mycologists of the Department of Agriculture and the Rubber Research Scheme and is under study by the latter office.

During 1928 money was provided from the Rubber Restriction Fund for the prosecution of budding and selection work. Steps were taken to open up an undeveloped part of the Experimental Station, Peradeniya, now known as the Iriyagama Division, and to plant it with rubber seedlings in preparation for budding and the subsequent testing of clones of budded trees for high yield. A first area of 10 acres was planted, terraced, and supplied with

Centrosema pubescens as a cover plant, and two large nurseries have been laid down for multiplication of budwood and the supply of stocks. Further work was included, the clearing, holing, and planting of another 40 acres. The Experiment Station, Peradeniya, possesses only one plot of budded rubber which has reached the stage of testing by tapping. Tapping was commenced in May, and results show that none of the clones give promise of high yields. The mother trees from which the buds were derived were not high class yielders and, in any case, the number of trees in each clone is insufficient to provide a reliable test. No large areas of budded rubber have been put down by planters during the year, but the necessity for the selection of mother trees has been realized in part and many estates are now keeping accurate records of high-yielding trees. In this connection, the following figures of yields of the five best trees at Henaratgoda are of interest. Budwood taken from these trees (and others) will be used on the Iriyagama Division :—

April, 1927-March, 1928.

No. of Tree in order of Merit.	Girth at 3 ft.	Measurement of cut in Inches.	Mean No. of Latex Vessel Rows.	Yield for 1 Year		Equivalent in lbs.			
				Biscuit.	Scrap.	Biscuit.		Scrap.	
				Grms.	Grms.	lb.	oz.	lb.	oz.
2	10 ft. 9 in.	46 in.	54.7	22,250	786	49	2	1	1
24	6 ft. 6 in.	26 in.	23.7	20,159	2,213	44	3	4	1
400	9 ft.	35½ in.	41.0	19,840	663	43	12¾	1	7½
401	7 ft. 11 in.	32 in.	32.3	16,337	443	36	1	—	15¾
445	9 ft. 10 in.	39½ in.	28.7	16,101	410	35	8¼	—	14½

April, 1928-January, 1929.

Yield in Grammes.

	No. 2.		No. 24.		No. 400.		No. 401.		No. 445.	
	Bisc.	Scrap.	Bisc.	Scrap.	Bisc.	Scrap.	Bisc.	Scrap.	Bisc.	Scrap.
1928—										
April	1,212	102	1,167	192	1,620	135	982	15	895	37
May	1,234	100	1,227	170	1,319	53	1,011	50	972	49
June	1,060	75	1,057	175	1,104	68	960	50	865	45
July	1,019	118	1,000	119	1,025	58	917	45	1,002	80
August	1,356	147	1,248	140	1,401	160	1,158	50	1,312	103
September	1,223	145	1,102	110	1,357	92	1,105	42	1,212	58
October	1,042	120	830	92	732	60	516	36	555	52
November	1,220	166	1,052	57	1,535	105	997	42	1,082	52
December	1,311	138	1,160	88	1,498	140	1,033	51	1,140	65
1929—										
January	1,377	190	1,224	105	1,577	147	985	58	1,302	89

Oidium leaf disease has continued to cause anxiety at certain elevations. There is little doubt that continued attacks of *Oidium* are harmful, and that the area affected by the fungus is larger than in previous years. It is thought that the control of *Oidium* can best be attempted by indirect means, such as manuring, and experiments in manuring have been taken in hand. At the same time, efforts are being made by the Mycologist of the Rubber Research Scheme to test spraying as a method of control. Secondary or *Phytophthora* leaf-fall, in fact *Phytophthora* diseases in general, caused little or no anxiety during 1928, and there is nothing of particular interest to report regarding root disease. The scraping and isolating treatment of brown bast advocated by Mr. Mitchell of the Rubber Research Scheme and demonstrated by him on various estates has been employed with success, in fact, scraping appears to induce such a good renewal of cortical tissues that an experiment is in progress to show whether it can be employed to induce a quicker renewal of the ordinary tapped surface than occurs in certain cases.

The Physiological Botanist of the Rubber Research Scheme has devoted his time to budding and vegetative propagation of rubber on the Nivitigalakelle Station, to the rubber manuring experiment at Arapolakande, to continued work on brown bast and examination of high-yielding trees. The Chemist of the Scheme has investigated the efficiency of rubber factory machines, and the results of his inquiry are in the Press. Experiments have been carried out in the use of sodium silicofluoride as a coagulant, and Mr. O'Brien has shown that spots and superficial mould of crepe can be prevented by the use of paranitrophenol.

The number of subscribers to the Rubber Research Scheme at the end of 1928 was 222. The corresponding number for 1927 was 214. Local subscriptions amounted to Rs. 34,527.53 and the Scheme received the usual grants of Rs. 67,500 from the Government of Ceylon and £2,000 from the Rubber Growers' Association. The laboratories were visited by the Right Honourable W. G. A. Ormsby Gore, M.P. (Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies),* Dr. A. W. Hill, C.M.G., F.R.S. (Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew), Sir Edward Rosling, Major B. J. Eaton (Chief Chemist, Rubber Research Institute of Malaya), and by many local planters. The principal problem under investigation by the officers of the Scheme in London was the cause of variation in the plasticity of plantation rubber, in connection with which attention has been given to the effects of storage under temperate conditions. A report on recent work on the effect of organic accelerators on variability is in preparation.

Coconuts.

Fresh coconuts, copra, desiccated coconut, and coir yarn show a decrease in production, while coconut oil, poonac, and fibre show an increase over the figures for 1927. Prices remained steady for part of the year but showed a general decline towards the end of 1928.

A few enterprising coconut planters have experimented with new methods of cultivation, particularly the use of green manures and mulching, but adoption of green manuring has not been general. A movement towards the use of both green and artificial manures has taken place among villagers in the Southern Province.

The passing of the Coconut Research Ordinance took place towards the end of 1928, and steps were taken at once to bring into being the Board of Management of the Scheme. It should be possible to call the Board together for its first meeting early in 1929, and the end of the year should see progress made in the establishment of the Scheme.

Investigation of the Eulophid parasite of the coconut caterpillar (*Nephantes serinopa*) has been carried out by the Entomological Division and the Plant Pest Inspector of the North-Western Division. It was proved that the parasite attacked the caterpillar during the pupal stage of the latter. Experiments carried out showed that the use of cyanogas in the control of black beetle and red weevil was not practicable. The Acting Mycologist has continued his investigation of coconut root disease and has performed inoculations of palms with fungi isolated from cases of disease. As far as coconuts in the field are concerned, it may still be said that the incidence of disease of fungus origin is very small and that losses from disease are of little consequence.

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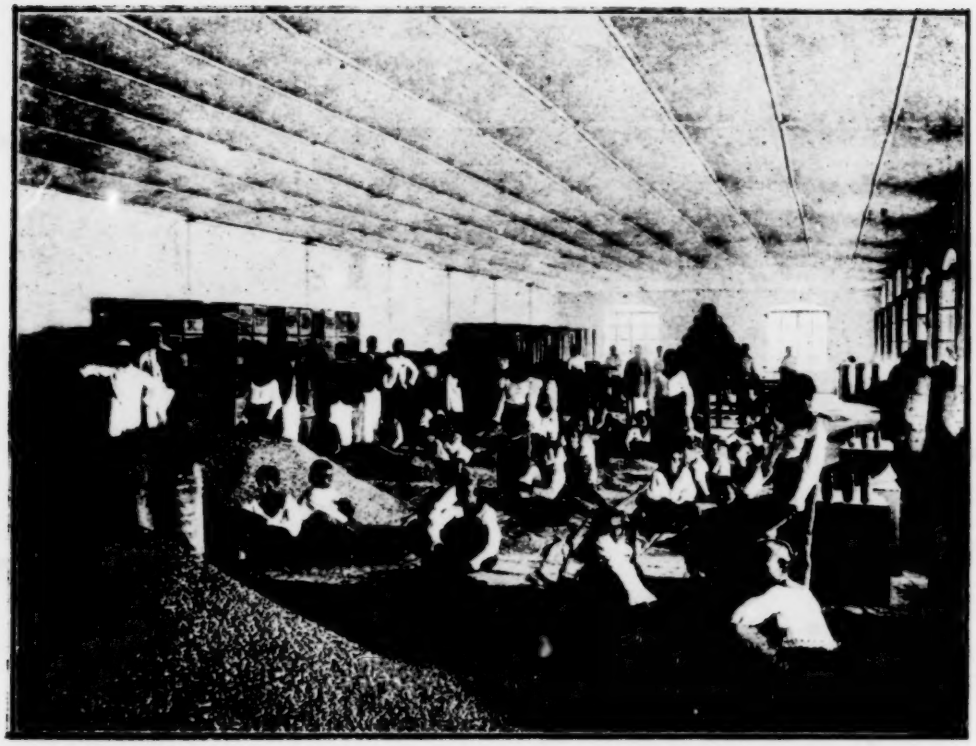
* A report by the Right Honourable W. G. A. Ormsby Gore, M.P. (Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies) on his visit to Malaya, Ceylon, and Java was published towards the end of 1928. (Cmd. 3235 obtainable from H. M. Stationery Office, London. Price 4*s*. 6*d*.)

No. 2.

CACAO FACTORY : GRADING BEFORE BAGGING.



Plâté, Limited, Colombo.

Paddy.

There has been a welcome movement among cultivators towards the improvement of methods of cultivation by weeding, transplanting, thinning, and manuring, and there has also been an increase of interest in the pure-line work of the Department of Agriculture. The Economic Botanist has opened new central areas at Galle and Wariyapola, and the paddy seed stations in the charge of district officers now number twenty-three. The larger central areas are engaged in the initial testing of selections and the paddy seed stations in varietal trials and seed-multiplication. Progress has been made in the direction of determining a few outstanding selections and confining yield trials to them. On the whole the maha and yala tests of selections in the divisions were very successful. The first paddy manurial experiments of real value to local cultivators have been conducted. The work is incomplete and is being continued but results already obtained are promising. Success attended the experiment of giving manures to cultivators for field trials in the North-Western Division, and it is encouraging to note that manures are being bought by co-operative societies for the use of members. Green manuring experiments at Peradeniya were not attended with success, and further investigation is in hand. The Economic Botanist has also in hand a study of the flowering of paddy. An interesting development was the use in the Central Division of a paddy threshing machine of Japanese origin. Cultivators took a great interest in the machine, and further trials are to be made in 1929.

Cacao.

Cacao yields seem to be dependent on climatic conditions in part, and it is possible that the smaller amount exported in 1928 was due to less favourable conditions than those of the previous year. Ceylon cacao has continued to hold its high place in the market and to have great care devoted to its preparation.

Cardamoms.

Conditions were favourable for cardamoms, but it is not to be expected that the acreage under the crop will increase while prices continue to fall. Certain small areas of cardamoms in the Central Province have been replaced by tea.

Citronella.

Prices of citronella oil fell from Re. 1.22 in June to about 90 cents at the end of the year. Citronella growing has suffered a setback. There is little doubt that the area under citronella is decreasing, particularly in the Southern Province, which grows more than half the citronella in Ceylon. Improvement of the conditions under which the crop is grown and of the method of distilling the oil is required, and it is hoped to begin investigational work next year in the Southern Province.

Fibres.

Exports of sisal fibre amounted to only 114½ cwt. of a value of Rs. 1,587. 4,140 cwt. were exported in 1927. The amount of graded fibre produced on the Anuradhapura Experiment Station was 5 tons 2 cwt. 2 qr. 19 lb. Sale was effected in Colombo at Rs. 300-350 per ton of first quality. Plants were provided by the Department of Agriculture for cultivation at Rambewa, a village in the North-Central Province, and an area has been chosen for sisal growing in the Southern Division.

Kapok to the value of Rs. 200,402 was exported during the year, the weight being 3,522 cwt. The figures for 1927 were Rs. 235,248 and 3,320 cwt. The demand for seed of Java kapok continued and every effort was made to supply it.

The export of cotton from Ceylon is of small amount, the crop being bought and used locally. The past year saw a slight increase in the area under cotton but no corresponding increase in yield owing to the ravages of elephants and adverse weather conditions. Local Cambodia seed was distributed, and yields varied from 1 cwt. to 4 cwt. per acre and averaged about 2 cwt. per acre. The quality of the cotton was not as good as that of 1927. As in various years, the crop was bought by departmental officers acting for the Spinning and Weaving Company. The price paid was Rs. 17 per cwt. at all buying points except Middeniya where Rs. 16 was paid. A reduced Government subsidy was required.

Papain.

The exports of papain again showed a large increase, the figures for 1928 being 125,684 lb. of a value of Rs. 922,529, against 83,416 lb. and Rs. 670,974 in 1927. Interest in the crop continued and more care and attention have been given to the preparation of the product.

Arecanuts.

There was a steady local demand for arecanuts during 1928. In the Central Province prices rose to Rs. 50 per cwt. Exports amounted to 123,338 cwt. of a value of Rs. 3,247,198.

Tobacco.

Exports of tobacco during 1928 were as follows:—

	lb.	Valued at Rs
Manufactured	9,968	11,109
Unmanufactured	1,643,441	390,512

The tobacco crops of the Northern and Central Divisions were good. In the latter division, Adcock cigarette tobacco did well at Dumbara and Nalanda.

Continued attention was given to the growing of white Burley tobacco in the Jaffna District. The officers of the department distributed over 37,000 seedlings and 143½ oz. of seed, and the crop obtained was more than double that of 1927. The following figures show the growth of the industry between 1923 and 1928:—

Year.	Number of Cultivators.	Production of Cured Leaf in lb.	Year.	Number of Cultivators.	Production of Cured Leaf in lb.
1923	27	801	1926	219	18,826
1924	66	3,864	1927	166	13,378
1925	268	14,131	1928	250	28,386

The cured tobacco was delivered by the cultivators at the Experiment Station, and the sum of Rs. 21,133.16 was paid for 28,386 lb. The tobacco was sent to the Crown Agents for the Colonies and the sale of the first consignment realized 1*s*. 3*d*. per lb. Improvement in the curing of the tobacco is required but, on the whole, results have been encouraging.

FORESTS.

Revenue.—The cash revenue of the Department on account of timber and fuel and minor forest produce, including miscellaneous revenue, improved to Rs. 1,044,394.99, from Rs. 873,867.72 in 1927 and Rs. 699,630 in 1926. To this increase the sale of satinwood for export at the Central Timber Depôt contributed about one lakh, the balance being made up from local sales in the divisions, in some of which demand has been stimulated by offering lots of timber for competition at moderate upset prices, in preference to retail sales at fixed royalty rates added to cost of extraction.

These figures of revenue are closely connected with the subject of commercialization, as only a 10 per cent. increase in revenue is now needed to equalize revenue and voted expenditure, and the Department should shortly be in a position to dispense with the paper credit for royalty on supplies to public departments hitherto necessary to balance its budget. The proposed commercialization of these supplies has so far proved very difficult, as it does not appear practicable to compete with imported material, and the Department would at present have no other outlet for material extracted departmentally, if it were unable to secure the custom of those departments which it has hitherto been in the habit of supplying. It is therefore proposed that other Government departments should be encouraged to obtain their requirements from imported sources for the time being, and that departmental supplies, which have necessarily to be extracted in advance, in anticipation of the requirements of other departments should be discontinued, forest exploitation being handed over to private enterprise, which will in due course bring local timbers on the market, enabling Government departments to purchase from stock instead of indenting on the Department and paying merely the cost price of material. This complete alteration of existing methods will undoubtedly require time, before private enterprise is prepared to purchase and extract timber on a large scale for an indefinite market, but the proposals conform with the decision of the Imperial Forestry Conference that commercial relations must be adopted with other departments of Government. The present time, when the Department does not need to rely on revenue obtained from other departments to the same extent as in the past, is undoubtedly the most opportune for introducing commercial undertakings with those departments, which, after early recourse to imported timbers, may be expected in due course to revert to local supplies.

Exploitation.—Supplies to Government departments which, as before, comprised the major exploitation programme of the Department, consisted of the following:—2,399 broad gauge sleepers, 7,129 narrow gauge sleepers, 89,465 cubic yards firewood, 14,011 cubic feet sawn timber, 170,432 cubic feet timber in the log, while small round timber to the number of 132,510 was recovered on licences. The value of all these supplies was Rs. 505,346.11 actual cost and Rs. 353,240.25 royalty, a total of Rs. 858,586.36, against Rs. 1,116,414.80 in the previous year. The largest consumer is the commercialized Railway Department, which already obtains very much larger supplies from imported sources.

The next largest item is that of the sales at the Central Timber Depôt, which recovered Rs. 321,690.35, as against Rs. 216,917.15 in 1927, and Rs. 154,772.25 in 1926. This is entirely due to the increasing demand for satinwood for export, 363 logs = 14,373 cubic feet, realizing Rs. 292,301.75 or Rs. 20.33 per cubic foot. Finely figured logs realized anything from Rs. 50 to Rs. 100 per cubic foot. These high prices are due, not to the limited quantity of timber available for sale, but to trade rivalry, and the practice adopted by some buyers of running the material sold at the depôt

up to the highest possible prices, which they themselves level by cheaper purchases from other sources, and thus succeed in underselling those buyers whose transactions are with the depôt only. A fictitious value has thus been gained by satinwood sold at the depôt, but there is no uncertainty about the demand for this timber, of which the Department should take full advantage while it continues, and arrangements are in hand for the extraction of considerably larger quantities in 1929. The transactions of the established local depôts maintained by the Department at Jaffna, Nuwara Eliya, and depôts in the Uva Division and Eastern Division (North) amounted to Rs. 320,519.14 from the sale of timber, both in the log and sawn, and firewood. Thus the total revenue realized from departmental extraction was Rs. 642,209.49, against expenditure of Rs. 258,358.53, a sufficiently profitable undertaking, which justifies in many instances the continuance of departmental operations.

The sale of forest produce on licences realized Rs. 303,856.31, which includes Rs. 32,778.66 for the purchase of timber and firewood under the coupe system, which is being quietly extended wherever there appears to be demand for the utilization of the whole of the standing crop as opposed to individual species. This occurs mainly on the western side of the Island, and is applicable to forests from which firewood can be drawn off by purchasers to Colombo and other large towns. The advantage of the system lies in the fact that it makes clearfelled areas available for reforestation in localities where the climate and rainfall are most suited to the production of timbers for which there is known to be a sustained future demand.

Reforestation.—The area added to plantations during the year was 2,337 acres, making a total of 21,438.59 acres. Work in this connection is not sufficiently co-ordinated, owing to lack of working plans staff, but the direction which further efforts should take is indicated by the experience gained as a result of the Imperial Forestry Conference held in Australia and New Zealand during the year, at which the Forest Department was represented. In the latter country a vast programme of reforestation has been undertaken, for the production of softwood timbers in concentrated areas specially suited for the purpose, while the large and often inaccessible natural forests are merely placed under regulated exploitation, experiments being carried out on a small scale to investigate the best method of future treatment. In other words, the easiest work is undertaken first, and on such a sensationally large scale as to be one of the topics of the hour, while the more remote areas of natural forests, consisting of a large variety of species, known and unknown to use, are at present recognized as being unresponsive to treatment on any large scale, and are merely worked on the basis of a limited outturn, to meet demand until artificially created forests are ready for exploitation.

Similar conditions apply to Ceylon, in which by far the largest forest area lies in the dry zone and is not amenable to treatment, owing to climatic conditions, the isolated occurrence of merchantable species, and the high cost of their extraction, in addition to the remoteness of these forests from centres of consumption. Opposed to these are the wet zone forests, of limited extent, which are suited for the production of such valuable timbers as jak, nedun, milla, and lunumidella, for all of which there is perennial demand, on a large scale, while the utilization of the whole of the existing standing crop makes areas available for annual planting. The future policy outlined is accordingly the intensive reforestation of such areas, on the basis of a fixed annual acreage, and the regulated exploitation of the dry zone forests with their low yield of merchantable species, reforestation being confined to experimental work for the time being, until definite silvicultural results have been gained.

As far as possible, all reforestation, except in up-country areas, will be combined with the growing of field crops, and will be carried out either by cultivators, if reliable persons can be found, or departmentally, the cost of departmental operations being reimbursed by the sale of agricultural crops. Successful work has been carried out in this direction in the Northern Province on an experimental scale, in connection with the regeneration of palu, the timber in universal demand at Jaffna, while it is the recognized method of establishing jak plantations in the wet zone. Elsewhere, in the Eastern Division (South), good progress has been made with chena reforestation, in which all the valuable hardwoods of the dry zone are represented.

It is regrettably recorded that serious irregularities have occurred in the Forest Department during the period under review, involving the interdiction from duty of a Divisional Officer and a senior subordinate officer, and necessitating the intervention of the Criminal Investigation Department. These irregularities have seriously dislocated the work of the Department and necessitated the appointment on special duty of an officer, who could ill be spared, to assist the Criminal Investigation Department.

The report of the Forest Committee was printed as Sessional Paper I. of 1928, and was under general consideration by Government during the year. In deference to the views of Members of the Legislative Council minor items of minor forest produce were made free to collectors, in lieu of the monopolies previously sold for the collections of such items.

The principal event of the year is the substantial increase in forest revenue, which is principally due, apart from the satinwood trade, to the effort made to ascertain the true market value of timber, by means of advertised sales and moderate upset prices, as opposed to the arbitrary rates of royalty which were included in the upset prices of material sold from depôts a few years ago.

FISHERIES.

Sea Fisheries.—The fishing industries of the Island until the advent of a trawling company which started operations early this year were entirely confined to the activities of Sinhalese and Tamil fishermen fishing from their catamarans (Tamil kattu maram, literally logs tied together), and outrigger canoes.

The method of fishing fall, roughly, into three classes:—

(*a*) Net fishing from the shore in which large seine-nets are employed.
(*b*) Net fishing from catamarans. A simplified form of drift net is used for this purpose.
(*c*) Line fishing from outrigger canoes.

Cured Fish.—Previous to the extension of the railway throughout the Island a greater part of the fish caught could not be transported in a fresh condition and the cured fish industry then prospered, but this industry decreased rapidly after the development of the railway and the introduction of motor transport when the demand for fresh fish so greatly exceeded the supply that no surplus fish was available for curing. It has now practically died out.

Trawling.—Within the last few years the demand for fish goods has so greatly exceeded the supply that imports mainly from southern India have shown an astonishing increase. In 1920, for example, fish goods to the value of Rs. 4,638,715 were imported, whereas in 1926 the value had grown to the considerable sum of Rs. 9,704,557 (approximately £73,000) or rather more than the whole output of the Island. This, despite the fact that the Island

has a coast line of some 600 miles and that the waters abound in both surface and bottom feeding fishes of high edible value. This failure in the local fishing industry to meet increasing demands is attributable to two primary causes:—

(1) The total inadequacy of the catamaran and outrigger canoe to the application of modern fishing methods, and (2) the steady decline in the personnel of the fisher community due very largely to the laudable desire of the younger generations to forsake their parents' calling for more lucrative and possibly more congenial employment.

Since its inception in 1920 the Fisheries Department has been alive to this decline, and under the direction of the Marine Biologist, who is also Director, Colombo Museum, it has devoted considerable attention to the modernization of the industry. In the first instance it has concentrated on a fisheries survey of the coastal waters with the object of ascertaining the fish fauna and also of inquiring into the suitability of the introduction of trawl fishing. This work has met with signal success. Two very extensive fishing banks have been discovered which are practically virgin ground. They are the Pedro bank off the north-east corner of the Island, with an approximate area of 1,000 square miles, and the Wadge bank off Cape Comorin, Southern India, with an area of over 4,000 square miles. Sample trawls taken on these banks have shown excellent catches of good edible fishes, and the results obtained have attracted the interest of a local company which commenced trawling operations in the early part of the year, in the first instance with one trawler, the "Bul Bul," built to the company's order in England, and latterly with a second trawler, the "Tongkol," purchased from the Malay Government, by whom this vessel was used for prospecting work in Malayan waters. Fish caught is landed at Colombo, where it is auctioned.

The Pedro and the Wadge banks are almost entirely uncharted, and the Fisheries Department is at present engaged in a detailed survey of both banks for the purpose of preparing accurate fishng charts which will greatly facilitate their commercial exploitation. Work on the Pedro bank is almost completed. Work on the Wadge bank has made fair progress and will be completed in about five years. Progress reports on the work of these two banks are to be found in the Department's administration reports for 1925-1928, while the preliminary survey is dealt with in Ceylon Journal of Science, section C (Fisheries), Vol. I., Part II.

Inshore Fisheries.—In addition to the above investigations the Department has under consideration the development of a small type of fishing craft to replace the obsolete catamaran and outrigger canoe. The problem is not a simple one as the boat will need to be designed to meet the peculiar conditions of fishing in tropical waters. It should be inexpensive to build and to operate and easily handled. It will in the first instance be used to test the four principal methods of fishing—(*a*) drift-net, (*b*) Danish seine, (*c*) long-lining, (*d*) beam trawl—in order to ascertain which of these methods are most suitable for these waters. It is anticipated that the most satisfactory for general fishing will be drift-net and long-lining. The beam trawl and the Danish seine are likely to be more profitable in confined areas, such as the Palk Strait.

Pearl Fishery.—The Ceylon pearl oyster, the fisheries of which have been famous for many centuries, is to be found in the area known as the Ceylon Pearl Banks lying off the west coast of Ceylon and extending from Puttalam to Adam's Bridge. The banks are under Government control and the fishing rights are held by Government. No fishery has been held since 1925, but the banks are now being gradually restocked with young oysters. Recently

a large extension of oyster bearing ground covering an area of about 30 square miles was discovered. Young oysters lie thick over the whole of this area and the prospects of future fisheries about 1930 are very favourable.

Chank Fisheries.—The chank which has considerable value in India, where it is cut and curved into bangles, is fished annually in the shallow water area north of Adam's Bridge known as the Palk Strait where it occurs in great abundance. The fishery is not controlled by Government but a duty is charged on all chanks exported. According to Customs' returns for 1928, 3,130,865 shells were exported and a revenue of Rs. 164,670 was collected as export duty.

Marine Aquarium.—A proposal to erect a Marine Aquarium with a Marine Biological Laboratory in Colombo has been examined by a Committee appointed by the Governor. This Committee has reported favourably on the proposal which has been approved by Government and the preparation of plans and estimates is under consideration.

Publications.—The following publications were issued during the year:—

Ceylon Administration Report for 1927, Marine Biology.

Report of the Committee appointed to consider the erection of a Marine Aquarium and Marine Biological Laboratory in Colombo. (Sessional Paper XII. of 1928.)

SALT.

The manufacture, collection, and sale of salt constitute in Ceylon a Government monopoly, which is protected by an import duty. The monopoly is administered by the Controller of Revenue through the Salt Adviser and the Revenue Officers.

The year under review has been a particularly good one for the industry, as is shown by the following comparative figures of collections in 1927 and 1928 respectively:—

	1927.	1928.	Percentage of Increase.
Government salterns—			
Elephant Pass (Northern Province) ..	188,984 ..	309,867 ..	64
Palavi (Puttalam)	35,350 ..	89,136 ..	152
Privately-owned salt pans, and collections of naturally formed salt—			
Northern Province	48,217 ..	77,609 ..	60
Puttalam	31,750 ..	97,269* ..	206
Hambantota	151,218 ..	239,017 ..	58
Trincomalee	57,847 ..	58,615 ..	1
Total ..	513,366	871,513	70

* Estimated.

The abnormally large crop at Elephant Pass (the largest since the saltern was opened) is attributable to the unusually favourable weather. At Palavi, too, the season was, after a bad opening, fairly good, but the increase in the crop is attributable to enlargement of the crystallizing area. The crop from the privately-owned salt pans at Puttalam represents but a fraction of what could be produced if the pans were fully worked. The return from the extent worked this year would however have been much greater had it not been for the destruction by unseasonable rains in July of an amount estimated at 75,000 cwt. The practically static condition of the industry at Trincomalee is the result of policy: the collections there are limited to first scrapings. The total yield for the year, as shown in the above table, was approximately 871,513 cwt.

The total yield for 1928 exceeded by 251,513 cwt. the estimated annual consumption of 620,000 cwt.

The restrictions placed in July, 1925, on the distribution of locally produced salt when, in view of inadequate production and depleted stocks, it was necessary to encourage the importation of Indian salt were continued during the year under review, and the distribution of local salt was, as in the previous year, mainly confined to the areas in the neighbourhood of salterns and salt pans and to outlying districts where high transport charges would have made the imported Indian salt prohibitively costly. The import duty of Rs. 3 per cwt. obviated any loss of revenue in respect of the imported salt. All restrictions on the distribution of salt from Elephant Pass were withdrawn in August in view of the large harvest there and the inadequacy of storage accommodation. The withdrawal of the restriction did not result in increased sales, and the Western Province, which is the largest consuming area, continued to be supplied by Indian salt up to the end of the year.

At the beginning of the year the total stock of salt in the Government salterns and salt stores amounted to 802,760 cwt. By the end of the year the total had risen to 1,268,915 cwt., equal to two years' supply for the Island, which is considered a sufficient reserve against failures of harvests. Government was thus in a position to consider the question of restricting the imports of salt from India to enable the local salt to circulate freely and so to bring about a return to normal prices and methods of distribution. At the time of writing the Customs duty on imported salt has been raised to Rs. 4 per cwt. and all restrictions on the sale of local salt have been removed.

The amount realized during the year by sale of local salt from the Government depôts was Rs. 1,294,666. The total revenue derived from salt, including a sum of Rs. 721,120 collected as duty on imported salt, was Rs. 2,015,786. The total revenue derived from salt during each of the two preceding years was—

	Rs. c.		Rs. c.
1926 ..	.. 1,997,123 83	1927 ..	.. 1,927,267 57

Owing to the more or less static consumption and the equalizing effect of the import duty the revenue from salt does not show a large percentage of variation from year to year.

MINERALOGICAL DEPARTMENT.

The principal field work undertaken by the Department was the examination of areas in the dry zone of the Southern Province in search of underground water supplies which would be useful in the agricultural development of the area. The results were entirely negative.

A number of samples of colourless quartz were collected and examined as possibly suitable for use in optical instruments or for the manufacture of silica ware. The general conclusion was that translucent quartz found locally is unsuitable for fused quartz ware, and that the clear specimens suitable for optical work command a higher price locally than that offered in England.

It was decided that the deposits of ilmenite sand at Pulmoddai and Tirukkovil on the east coast should be proclaimed open for prospecting; that applications for prospecting licences be entertained up to the end of August, 1929, and that after January 1, 1930, the Government would be prepared to consider tenders for a concession to work one or both of the deposits on a royalty basis.

EXCISE.

With the closure of the year 1928 the Excise Department completed the seventeenth year of its existence.

Arrack.

Arrack was distilled at seven distilleries under close Excise supervision. The Government Distillery was not leased during 1928 owing to repairs to the plant. The results of distillation show a slight improvement in outturn in 1928. The number of gallons distilled during the last three years is as follows:—

	Gallons (proof).		Gallons (proof).
1926	589,105	1928	579,215
1927	640,144		

The corresponding outturn for the three years were 11.67, 11.66, and 11.92 respectively.

The consumption of arrack in 1928 was 704,849 gallons, a decrease of 47,182 gallons on the 1927 figure.

The number of arrack taverns in 1926-27 was 255 and in 1927-28 was 225. The estimated nett revenue after deducting expenses of the distribution and storage system was Rs. 8,069,937 in 1926-27 and Rs. 7,941,553 in 1927-28, which is equivalent to Re. 1.80 and Re. 1.76 respectively per head of population. The arrack consumption per head of population was ·17 gallon in 1926-27 and ·16 gallon in 1927-28. The arrack revenue (nett) per gallon was Rs. 10.25 in 1926-27 and Rs. 11.01 in 1927-28. The nett revenue shows a decrease, consequent on the falling consumption of a lakh and a quarter, though the nett revenue per gallon consumed shows an increase of 76 cents.

Toddy.

The toddy consumption in 1926-27 was 4,452,566 gallons and in 1927-28 was 4,217,439, the average consumption per head of population being .99 and .94 gallons respectively. The actual toddy revenue collected in the two financial years was Rs. 2,616,510 in 1926-27 and Rs. 2,207,568 in 1927-28, the revenue per head being 58 and 49 cents, and the revenue per gallon of toddy consumed 59 and 52 cents respectively. In 1928-29 the rents of the remaining 159 toddy taverns were sold for Rs. 2,336,602, an increase of over one lakh of rupees over the rent sale figures of the 221 taverns for the financial year 1927-28.

Vinegar Manufacture.

In 1924 special licences were first issued to vinegar manufacturers in the Western and Southern Provinces with a view to encourage the manufacture of toddy vinegar as a local industry. The number of licences issued is restricted, and a tax of 50 cents per tree tapped is levied. Rules were passed in 1926 to control these vinegar stores. The results of the experiment have been very satisfactory.

The manufactories are run by respectable people and great care is taken in issuing licences.

Vinegar is sold at a wholesale rate of 45 to 70 cents a gallon, and most of it is bought by retail dealers in Colombo who retail it at 50 cents a bottle.

There is evidence of a considerable demand for toddy vinegar, and the present supply is insufficient to meet the demand.

The statistics for the last four years are as follows:—

	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
Number of trees licensed	2,302	2,723	2,615	3,264
Yield of toddy (gallons)	62,015	73,507	92,344	94,927
Vinegar outturn (gallons)	55,388	66,213	75,107	76,438

All manufactories are under close Excise supervision, and the regulations passed in 1926 have enabled the Department to exercise closer control, as the figures of yield and outturn indicate. This local industry is profitable and deserves every encouragement.

Foreign Liquor.

The imports of foreign liquor in 1928 were as follows:—335,565 gallons malt liquor, 76,232 gallons wines, 81,767 proof gallons whisky, 104,916 proof gallons brandy, and 120,638 proof gallons gin. These figures are mainly remarkable for the drop in the imports of gin and brandy since the duty was raised in March on all gins and on brandies which cannot produce certificates of genuineness and maturity. No brandies are now imported which are not distilled from the fruit of the grape and matured for at least three years. The result has shown a great improvement in the quality of the brandies imported. The imports of beer have gone up by about 50 per cent. and are an indication that this form of liquor is replacing toddy and spirits. The total quantity of beer outturned by the Nuwara Eliya Brewery in 1928 was 171,496 gallons.

The revenue derived from foreign liquor during the year 1927-28, including Customs duty and Excise licensing fees, is as follows:—

	Rs.	c.		Rs.	c.
Total foreign liquor revenue	5,314,916	0	Revenue per gallon	6	6
Revenue per head	1	18			

Liquor Consumption.

The following table shows the consumption of liquor in Ceylon in terms of London proof during each of the years 1913, 1918, 1926, 1927, and 1928:—

	1913.	1918.	1926.	1927.	1928.
Malt liquor	14,743	6,905	31,639	39,377	46,620
Wines	16,187	7,048	12,052	13,418	15,034
Spirits	278,116	77,517	314,947	344,629	274,813
Total foreign liquor	309,046	91,470	358,638	397,424	336,467
Arrack (licitly manufactured)	1,134,814	741,231	575,237	511,381	486,346
Toddy (sold in taverns)	310,477	473,601	426,451	450,160	412,359
Total	754,337	1,306,302	1,360,426	1,358,965	1,235,172
Total proof gallons consumed per head of population	.39	.29	.30	.30	.27

The table shows that there has been a distinct decrease in the consumption of alcohol in 1928, and indicates that the policy of controlling consumption by increasing the duty is successful.

The following statement shows the estimated drink bill of Ceylon in 1927 and 1928:—

	1927. Expenditure.		1928. Expenditure.	
	Total 1927. Rs.	Per Head. 1927. Rs. c.	Total. 1928. Rs.	Per Head. 1928. Rs. c.
Arrack	11,230,330	2 50	11,066,145	2 46
Toddy	4,198,023	0 93	3,840,032	0 86
Malt liquor	1,160,669	0 26	1,432,632	0 32
Wines	1,065,186	0 24	1,167,696	0 26
Spirits	10,487,158	2 33	10,579,563	2 35
Total	28,141,366	6 26	28,086,068	6 25

The revenue for 1928 per rupee spent on the various kinds of liquor is 72 cents in respect of arrack, 58 cents in respect of toddy, and 40 cents in respect of foreign liquor. The corresponding figures for 1927 were 71, 62, and 39 cents respectively.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The total liquor revenues for the financial years 1926-27 and 1927-28 were as follows:—

Excise Revenue.	1926–27. Rs.	1927–28. Rs.	*Customs Revenue.*	1926–27. Rs.	1927–28. Rs.
Arrack	8,069,937	7,941,553	Foreign liquor import duties	4,892,877	5,151,353
Toddy	2,616,510	2,207,568	Police Court fines	290,394	233,517
Foreign liquor licences	146,709	171,562			
Compos tion fines	24,087	29,026			
Total Excise	10,857,243	10,349,709	Total revenue directly connected with excisable articles	16,040,514	15,734,579

The expenditure on the Excise Department, including salaries of Civil Servants and all Excise Department Officers and all other charges (not already deducted from the gross arrack revenue to obtain the nett revenue), amounted to Rs. 960,861. This is only 6 per cent. of the total above calculated and 9 per cent. of the Excise revenue.

Local Option.

The following table shows the result of local option polls in 1928:—

	Arrack Taverns.	Toddy Taverns.		Arrack Taverns.	Toddy Taverns
Number of premises to be closed	16	24	Number of premises to be reopened	2	6

Excise Offences.

The following is a statement of Excise detections in the three years 1926, 1927, and 1928:—

Year.	Foreign Liquor.	Arrack.	Toddy.	Intoxicating Drugs.	Short Measure.	Others.	Total.
1926	22	397	3,884	255	108	378	5,044
1927	106	526	5,605	309	192	549	7,287
1928	98	521	5,325	477	134	362	6,967

The most remarkable increases occur under illicit distillation, illicit transport of toddy, and under cultivation, sale, and possession of intoxicating drugs.

IV.—Trade.

THE total trade of the Colony, excluding value of ships' stores and postal articles, in the year 1928 amounted to Rs. 804,689,614. This figure is smaller by Rs. 65,712,106 than the figure for 1927. The total imports amounted to Rs. 412,119,639, a decrease of Rs. 9,008,337, as compared with 1927, and an increase of Rs. 4,252,530 over the figure for 1926. The total exports amounted to Rs. 392,569,975. This figure is Rs. 56,703,769 less than that for 1927, and Rs. 111,079,015 less than that for 1926. Thus both imports and exports of the Colony have shown a decrease. A noteworthy feature this year is the excess of imports over exports, the difference being Rs. 19,549,664.

There was little change in the distribution of trade, but imports from foreign countries have improved very slightly at the expense of imports from the United Kingdom and British Possessions.

The largest suppliers by far are British India, United Kingdom, and Burma, and these countries between them supplied 62.3 per cent. of the total imports.

The principal countries as regards exports have again been the United Kingdom and the United States of America, the percentages for each being as follows:—

	1927.	1928.		1927.	1928.
United Kingdom	41.62	39.10	United States of America	23.95	19.03

The percentage of total trade with British Possessions (mainly India, including Burma) has increased from 34.23 in 1927 to 34.58 in 1928, and that with foreign countries from 33.34 to 34.79. The total trade with the United Kingdom has shown a fall from 32.43 to 30.63 per cent.

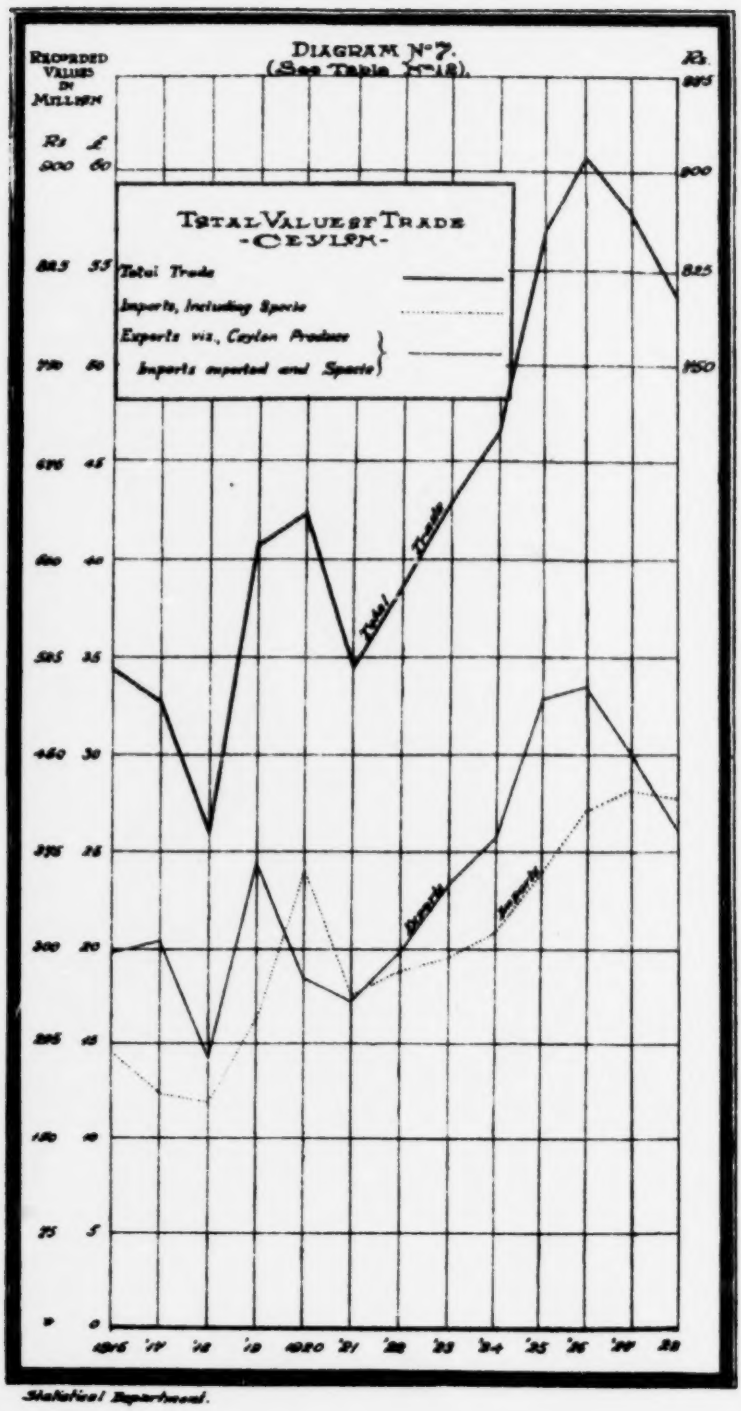
Comparative percentages for the last three years of the value of imports, exports, and total trade are as follows. The figures are exclusive of the value of ships' stores and postal articles:—

	1926.	1927.	1928.
Imports.			
From the United Kingdom	23.32	22.62	22.57
From the British Possessions	52.49	52.48	49.19
From the Foreign Countries	24.18	24.90	28.23
Exports.			
To the United Kingdom	41.36	41.62	39.10
To the British Possessions	14.10	17.12	19.24
To the Foreign Countries	44.54	41.25	41.67
Total Trade.			
From and to United Kingdom	33.29	32.43	30.63
From and to British Possessions	31.28	34.23	34.58
From and to Foreign Countries	35.43	33.34	34.79

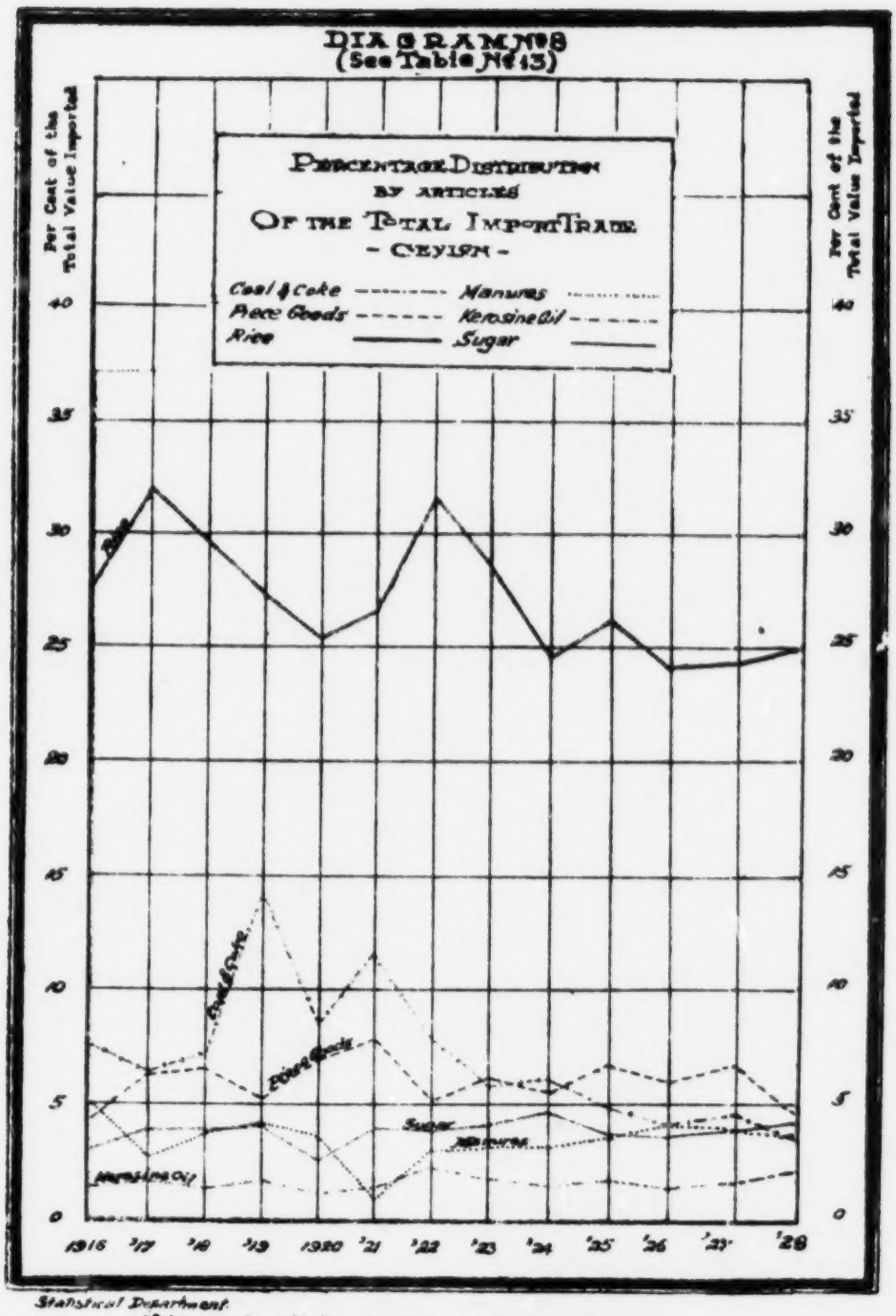
The principal countries from which Ceylon's imports are obtained, with the percentage of the total value supplied by each for the last twelve years, are shown in table No. 15 of the Appendix.

The values of the staple products exported from Ceylon during the last five years are as follows:—

	Lakhs of Rupees.				
	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
1. Tea	2,150	1,997	2,132	2,138	1,997
2. Rubber	637	1,700	1,701	1,192	740
3. Copra	310	383	398	318	318
4. Coconut, desiccated	220	188	173	205	198
5. Coconut oil	158	168	155	166	193
6. Cinnamon	29	32	42	48	50
7. Arecanuts	33	40	42	30	32
8. Cacao	25	23	20	27	28
9. Plumbago	13	30	26	25	27
10. Coir fibre	29	19	21	28	26
11. Coconut poonac	9	11	9	12	20
12. Coir yarn	21	21	18	22	16
13. Coconuts, fresh	25	19	14	15	14
14. Skins, dressed and undressed	6	7	13	16	13
15. Citronella oil	29	23	18	13	10
16. Papain	3	4	6	7	9
17. Cardamoms	7	11	8	9	8



Statistical Department.



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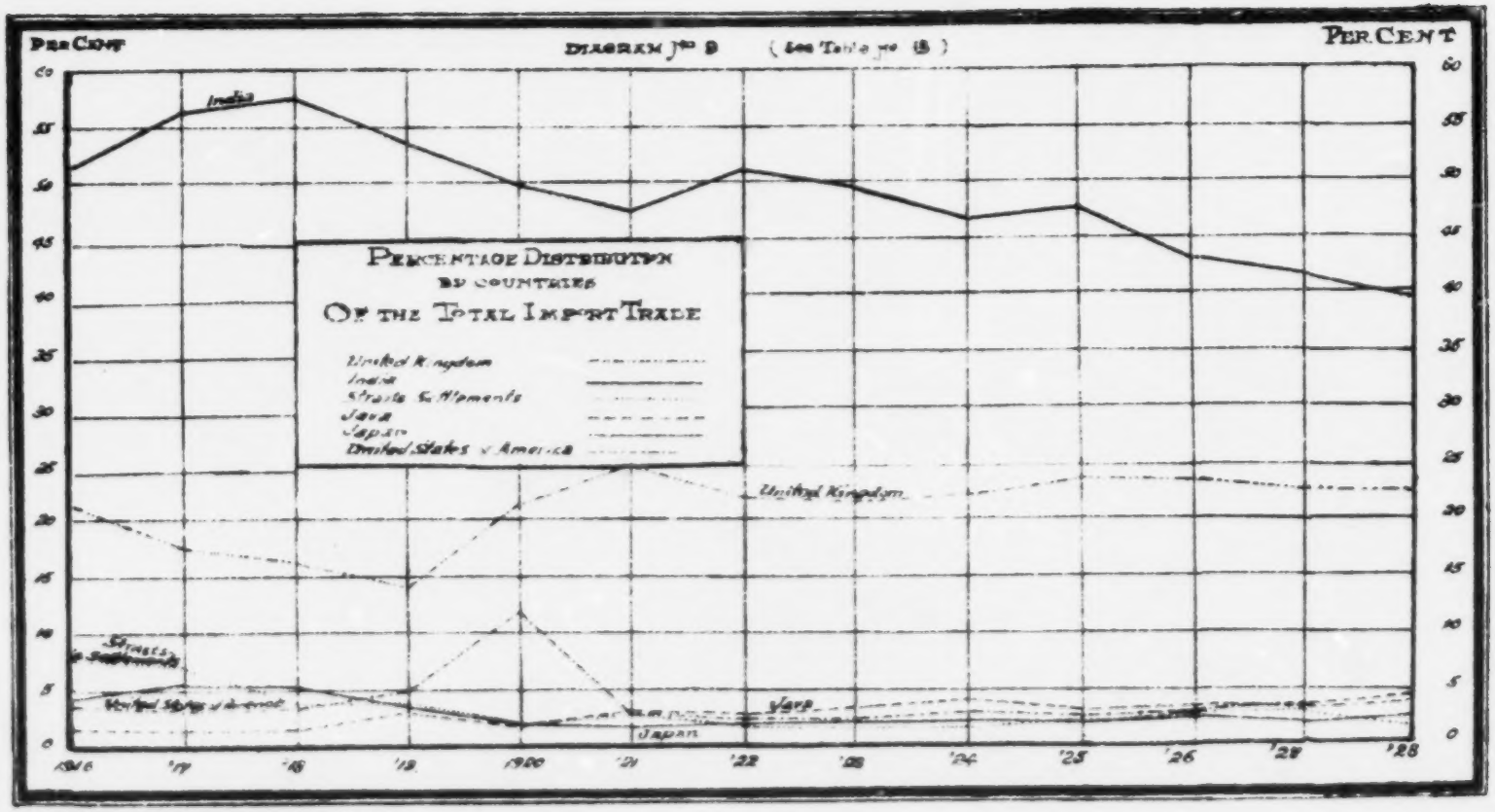
Note.- Only articles of which considerable quantities were imported have been selected.



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NOTES ON THE PRINCIPAL IMPORTS.

Rice.—The quantity imported showed a slight increase, but not sufficient to indicate any further substitution of imported rice for locally grown rice. As in previous years British India and Burma were the chief sources of supply. The imports from Burma and the Straits have decreased, while those from foreign countries have slightly increased. Cochin-China entered the field as a new competitor with imports valued at over 4 million rupees. Table No. 50 in the Appendix shows the quantity and value of the imports of rice from British India, Burma, and other countries for the last ten years.

Other Grains.—Of the imports of "other grains," of which the most important are paddy, peas, and gram, the last showed a slight fall, while the two former showed a considerable increase, the imports of paddy being almost double those of 1927.

The imports for 1926, 1927, and 1928 are shown below:—

	1926. Cwt.	1927. Cwt.	1928. Cwt.		1926. Cwt.	1927. Cwt.	1928. Cwt.
Paddy	650,964	481,642	802,428	Gram	130,032	111,660	101,964
Peas	267,148	351,412	357,590				

Wheat Products, Flour, and Meal.—Practically the whole supply came from Australia and British India, the former being the main supplier. In 1928 357,076 cwt. came from Australia and 51,963 from British India. In 1927 the figures were 313,265 cwt. and 76,627 cwt.

The following table shows quantities and value imported in 1926, 1927, and 1928:—

	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.		Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1926	359,062	4,307,895	1928	409,738	5,067,002
1927	389,892	4,678,723			

Feeding Stuffs for Animals.—The most important feeding stuff for animals imported is gingelly poonac, of which 380,678 cwt. were imported. The imports from British India amounted to 377,899 cwt.

Sugar.—The imports of sugar again showed a large increase, Java being by far the largest source of supply. The total value of sugar imported exceeds Rs. 17,000,000. Refined sugar other than in lumps and loaves, which is the principal form in which sugar is imported, increased from 1,057,046 cwt. in 1927 and 951,119 cwt. in 1926 to 1,192,505 cwt. in 1928, of which 1,131,158 cwt. came from Java.

Manufactured Tobacco, Cigars, and Cigarettes.—There has been an increase under all heads except cigars, and the consumption of tobacco, particularly cigarettes, is obviously increasing among all classes. Practically all the cigarettes imported, except a few pounds from Egypt, came from the United Kingdom, and the same applies to manufactured tobacco. Of 6,817 lb. of cigars imported 2,524 lb. came from the Phillipines, 1,824 lb. from Holland, and 1,000 lb. from British India. The importation of beedies from British India has shown a progressive increase, the figures for the years 1926, 1927, and 1928 being 58,467 lb., 75,687 lb., and 76,895 lb., respectively.

Spirits.—In March the import duty was raised on all gins and brandies which cannot produce certificates of genuineness and maturity. Consequently, there has been a remarkable drop in the imports of these liquors. The imports of whisky on the other hand have shown a large increase. Brandy comes almost entirely from France, gin mainly from Holland, but 16,754 gallons of good quality gin originned in the United Kingdom. The whisky came from the United Kingdom.

The quantities cleared for home consumption during the years 1926, 1927, and 1928 are shown in the following table:—

Quantities of Spirits cleared for Home Consumption.

	Proof Gallons.		
	1926.	1927.	1928.
Total ..	307,746	333,072	293,098
Brandy	96,448	122,905	104,916
Gin	140,192	151,987	106,415
Whisky	71,106	58,180	81,767

Cotton, Manufactured and Raw.—The total value of imports for 1928 under this head is Rs. 24,503,257, a decrease of Rs. 4,732,712 below the figure for 1927. The decrease is general and effects the United Kingdom and other British Possessions as shown in the following table regarding the distribution:—

	1927. Rs.	1928. Rs.
Total ..	29,235,969	24,503,257
United Kingdom	14,541,873	11,562,132
British Empire	8,400,736	7,420,410
Foreign Countries	6,293,360	6,520,715

Raw Cotton.—The imports in 1928 amounted to 20,995 cwt. valued at Rs. 1,158,791, of which 20,899 cwt. valued at Rs. 1,152,079 came from British India. The imports from the United States of America went down to 94 cwt. valued at Rs. 6,493 from 3,201 cwt. valued at Rs. 126,797 in 1927.

Cotton Waste.—Of 4,444 cwt. valued at Rs. 119,045, 1,608 cwt. came from the United Kingdom and 2,836 cwt. from British India.

Bleached Yarn and Twist.—4,316 lb. valued at Rs. 3,984 were imported, of which 3,516 lb. came from British India. This was a considerable decrease from the figures for 1927, when 16,470 lb. valued at Rs. 13,870 were imported.

Dyed Yarn and Twist.—55,611 lb. valued at Rs. 41,975 were imported, mainly from British India. In the previous year 80,086 lb. valued at Rs. 57,611 were imported.

Piece Goods.—There was a general decrease in the imports of cotton piece goods of all kinds. The total imports amounted to 55,417,414 yards valued at Rs. 21,061,219, a decrease of 7,383,054 yards or about 12 per cent. when compared with the figures for 1927, which were 62,800,468 yards valued at Rs. 25,908,998. There was thus a fall in value of about Rs. 4,848,000. Bleached piece goods which showed a considerable increase in 1927 fell to 14,025,619 yards valued at Rs. 5,766,578. Dyed piece goods which showed the biggest increase in 1926, when the figure of 28,950,433 yards valued at Rs. 13,891,530 was reached, fell to 26,640,275 yards valued at Rs. 11,851,559 in 1927 and 26,138,654 yards valued at Rs. 9,736,934 in 1928. Printed piece goods showed a large decrease from 15,600,061 yards valued at Rs. 6,374,092 in 1927 to 11,356,853 yards valued at Rs. 4,130,880 in 1928.

As regards country of origin, the United Kingdom more than kept her lead. In bleached piece goods the increase shown in 1927 gave place to a slight decrease in 1928, the figures being 14,274,744 yards in 1927 and 12,721,743 yards in 1928. British India still led in dyed piece goods with 16,544,192 yards, as against 14,777,223 yards in 1927. Holland showed a considerable decrease under this head, from 6,228,594 yards in 1927 to 5,070,147 yards in 1928. The imports from the United Kingdom decreased from 4,177,424 yards in 1927 to 3,035,485 yards in 1928.

Lace and Net showed a considerable increase, the total imports being 2,869,004 yards valued at Rs. 176,829 in 1927 and 5,919,071 yards valued at Rs. 224,222 in 1928. The United Kingdom was the chief supplier with 5,005,443 yards. The imports from Switzerland increased from 348,100 yards in 1927 to 414,909 yards in 1928, and those from France decreased from 568,866 yards in 1927 to 359,828 yards in 1928.

Embroidery.—The imports from Switzerland increased from 1,895,217 yards in 1927 to 3,164,987 yards in 1928. The total import was 4,079,039 yards valued at Rs. 289,347 in 1928 and 2,204,933 yards valued at Rs. 199,083 in 1927.

Thread, as usual, came mostly from the United Kingdom, which supplies about five-sixths of the import. 194,948 lb. valued at Rs. 766,009 were imported.

Coal.—The import of coal showed a drop from 742,387 tons valued at Rs. 18,954,938 in 1927 to 644,980 tons valued at Rs. 14,312,310 in 1928. British India took the first place with 335,194 tons, as against 337,400 tons imported in 1927. British South Africa remained in the second place with 203,026 tons, the import in 1927 from this country being 260,831 tons. The imports from the United Kingdom dropped again from 113,710 tons in 1927 to 81,716 tons in 1928.

Liquid Fuel (Crude Petroleum) has shown a progressive increase for a number of years till 1927 when the figure of 54,154,070 gallons was reached, which was more than twice the quantity imported in 1922. The imports in 1928, however, went down to 52,930,008 gallons. Persia resumed the first place this year with 32,229,029 gallons, as against 21,092,310 gallons supplied in 1927. Dutch Borneo reverted to the second place with 15,298,298 gallons, as against 26,182,633 gallons supplied last year. The imports from United States of America increased from 5,251,166 gallons in 1927 to 5,402,681 gallons in 1928.

Kerosine Oil.—The total imports of bulk oil dropped from 8,539,307 gallons in 1927 to 8,496,158 gallons in 1928, and further considerable changes occurred in the source of supply. Sumatra again became the leading supplier with 5,720,702 gallons against 4,074,526 gallons in 1927. The United States of America, which held the first place in 1926 with 3,168,094 gallons, and the third place in 1927 with 1,785,152 gallons, came second in 1928 with 2,755,528 gallons. Dutch Borneo took the third place with 19,928 gallons against 2,679,629 gallons in 1927. Case oil imports rose from 58,302 gallons to 96,121, the United States of America taking the first place.

Petrol.—This article showed an increase to 8,349,092 gallons in 1928 from 6,946,194 gallons in 1927. The imports this year amount to nearly double the quantity imported in 1925 and indicate how far the mechanization of transport has gone in Ceylon. The whole supply, except 913,213 gallons from Dutch Borneo, came from Sumatra.

The imports for the last eight years have been—

Year.	Gallons.	Year.	Gallons.
1921	1,381,671	1925	4,085,370*
1922	1,389,363*	1926	6,308,256*
1923	1,959,474*	1927	6,946,194
1924	3,749,236*	1928	8,349,092

* Includes imports by Government.

Manures.—The total quantity of manure imported showed a decrease in quantity and value. There were not many large changes on the main sources of supply, but a large increase in the supply of sulphate of ammonia

from United Kingdom and of fish manure from British India may be noted. The chief kinds of manures and countries from which they were mainly derived are shown in the following table:—

Kind.	Cwt.	Value Rs.
Groundnut poonac (British India)	570,917	3,220,418
Bone meal (British India)	278,144	1,382,512
Sulphate of ammonia (United Kingdom)	275,912	2,038,093
Fish guano (British India and British South Africa)	162,329	1,492,348
Muriate of potash (Germany)	146,988	833,513
Fish manure (British India)	143,208	824,577
Superphosphate (Belgium)	110,558	559,110
Blood meal (United States of America and United Kingdom)	74,001	1,020,865
Refuse of saltpetre (British India)	68,993	671,747
Basic slag (Belgium)	62,519	132,893
Nitrolim (Jugo-Slavia and Czecho Slovakia)	60,229	367,109
Nitrate of Soda (United Kingdom)	56,121	395,310
Castor seed poonac (United Kingdom)	54,603	220,957

The total imports during the last three years are as follows:—

Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.	Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1926	2,579,085	15,993,939	1928	2,522,787	14,899,088
1927	2,742,197	16,437,307			

Tea and Other Chests.—The number of chests imported in 1928 showed an increase over the figures for 1927. The chief supplier was Japan with 2,502,174 chests, a decrease of 8,941 below the figure for 1927. The United Kingdom sent 1,131,309 an improvement on the 1927 figure of 887,458. The only other supplier of importance is Finland, with 421,540 chests in 1928 and 462,150 chests in 1927. The imports for the last three years are as follows:—

Year.	No.	Value. Rs.	Year.	No.	Value. Rs.
1926	3,811,539	5,896,219	1928	4,132,646	5,595,590
1927	3,930,987	4,668,596			

Horses.—198 horses were imported in 1928, as against 213 in 1927, 162 in 1926, and 197 in 1925. Of these, 89 came from British India, 76 from the United Kingdom, and 29 from Australia.

Cattle, Buffaloes, Goats, and Sheep for food came mostly from British India. The following table gives the number and value of these animals imported in 1927 and 1928:—

	1927		1928.	
	No.	Value Rs.	No.	Value Rs.
Cattle	7,931	243,930	5,164	154,920
Buffaloes	2,426	72,780	2,029	60,770
Sheep	18,160	181,600	21,271	212,710
Goats	99,661	996,610	99,967	999,670

Motor Cars and Lorries.—The number of cars imported in 1928 was slightly larger than in 1927. The United States of America again headed the list as regards number of cars and the United Kingdom as regards value. Both countries show an increase in number, the United States of America with 1,014 cars valued at Rs. 2,214,903, as against 845 cars valued at Rs. 1,963,893 in 1927, and the United Kingdom with 830 cars valued at Rs. 1,963,973, as against 775 cars valued at Rs. 2,090,646 in 1927. Canadian-made cars increased from 440 in 1927 to 450 in 1928, Italian decreased from 184 to 121, and French from 207 to 116.

The United States of America increased its lead as regards lorries, the figures being 495 in 1927 and 688 in 1928. The United Kingdom sent 97 lorries in 1928 and 110 in 1927. Canada increased from 132 lorries in 1927 to 152 in 1928. The following table shows the imports for 1927 and 1928:—

Year	No.	Value. Rs.	Year.	No.	Value. Rs.
		Motor Cars.			
1927	2,481	6,021,954	1928	2,557	5,658,676
		Lorries.			
1927	761	1,916,770	1928	948	2,243,692
		Chassis for Cars.			
1927	1	3,615	1928	1	3,266

Cement.—The quantity of cement imported increased by 17 per cent. over the already large figure for 1927, indicating great building activity and an increased use of this material for building. The two largest suppliers were, as usual, the United Kingdom with 1,017,196 cwt. and Germany with 432,664 cwt. The imports for the last five years are as follows:—

Year.	Quantity Cwt.	Value. Rs.	Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1924	714,814	1,547,184	1927	1,364,018	2,799,035
1925	950,093	1,968,786	1928	1,595,506	3,193,648
1926	1,148,850	2,321,835			

Metal and Metalware, Ferrous.—The imports of ferrous metals showed a decrease of 8.6 per cent. in quantity and 12.5 per cent. in value below the figure for 1927. The United Kingdom continued to be by far the main supplier with imports to the value of Rs. 9,370,947 or 69.2 per cent. of the total, a decrease of 13.9 per cent. on the figure for the previous year. Belgium took the second place with imports to the value of Rs. 1,279,279, *i.e.*, 9.45 per cent. of the total, a decrease of 21.7 per cent. on the figure for 1927. Germany remained in the third place with imports to the value of Rs. 1,269,543 or 9.38 per cent. of the total, a drop of 12.4 per cent. below the figures for 1927. The total imports during the last five years are as follows:—

Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.	Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1924	839,483	11,876,465	1927	1,399,714	15,467,704
1925	932,860	11,845,579	1928	1,278,670	13,538,206
1926	1,285,060	14,452,910			

Non-Ferrous Metal and Manufactures thereof.—The total imports amounted to Rs. 4,984,534. The United Kingdom was the chief supplier with Rs. 2,069,442 or 41.5 per cent. of the trade as compared with 46.5 per cent. last year. The imports from British India increased from Rs. 1,138,992 in 1927 to Rs. 1,245,877 in 1928. Burma supplied a little less than the quantity she supplied in 1927, the amount being Rs. 971,477. The total imports for 1927 and 1928 are as follows:—

Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.	Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1927	146,849*	5,761,948	1928	149,929†	4,984,534

* Excludes 5 lb. gold leaf, 8,053 silver or silver gilt plates, 67,981 electroplates, and 53,196 nickle plates.
† Excludes 6,868 silver or silver gilt plates, 46,647 electroplates, and 101,319 nickel plates.

NOTES ON THE PRINCIPAL PRODUCTS.

Tea.—The following table shows the quantities of tea exported each year for the last eight years in millions of pounds:—

Year.	Million Pounds.	Year.	Million Pounds.	Year.	Million Pounds.
1921	161	1924	205	1927	227
1922	172	1925	210	1928	237
1923	182	1926	217		

The actual exports during the year were 236,719,384 lb.* valued at Rs. 201,311,006.* Thus the quantity exported was nearly 10 million lb. in excess of that of 1927 while the value went down nearly 13 million rupees below that of the previous year. The average price was 85 cents per lb. as compared with 94 cents per lb. in 1927.

The following table shows the exports in 1927 and 1928 to the United Kingdom, British Possessions, Foreign Countries, and as ships' stores:—

	1927.	1928.	Increase. lb.	Decrease. lb.
United Kingdom	144,905,844	139,715,169	—	5,190,675
British Possessions	53,798,064	57,110,539	3,312,475	—
Foreign Countries	28,246,151	39,805,892	11,559,741	—
Ships' Stores	87,797	87,784	—	13
	227,037,856	236,719,384	14,872,216	5,190,688
		Deduct decrease	5,190,688	
		Nett increase	9,681,528	

There was little change in the distribution of the tea exported. The United Kingdom continued to take about 60 per cent. of the total. Australia, the second largest consumer, increased her imports of Ceylon tea from 18,062,969 lb. to 19,744,738 lb., thus taking a little over 8 per cent. of the whole. The United States of America increased from 13,78[illegible],638 lb. (6 per cent.) to 15,462,447 lb. (6.5 per cent.), New Zealand from 8,437,874 lb. to 9,728,065 lb. (4 per cent.), Egypt took 8,476,480 lb., Canada 7,397,225 lb., and British South Africa 7,223,933 lb.

The local market in 1928 opened with a sale average of 90 cents, and declined steadily until the end of June, when 73 cents, the lowest average for the year, was recorded. Prices thereafter gradually improved and offerings for the last sale of the year realized an average of 89 cents.

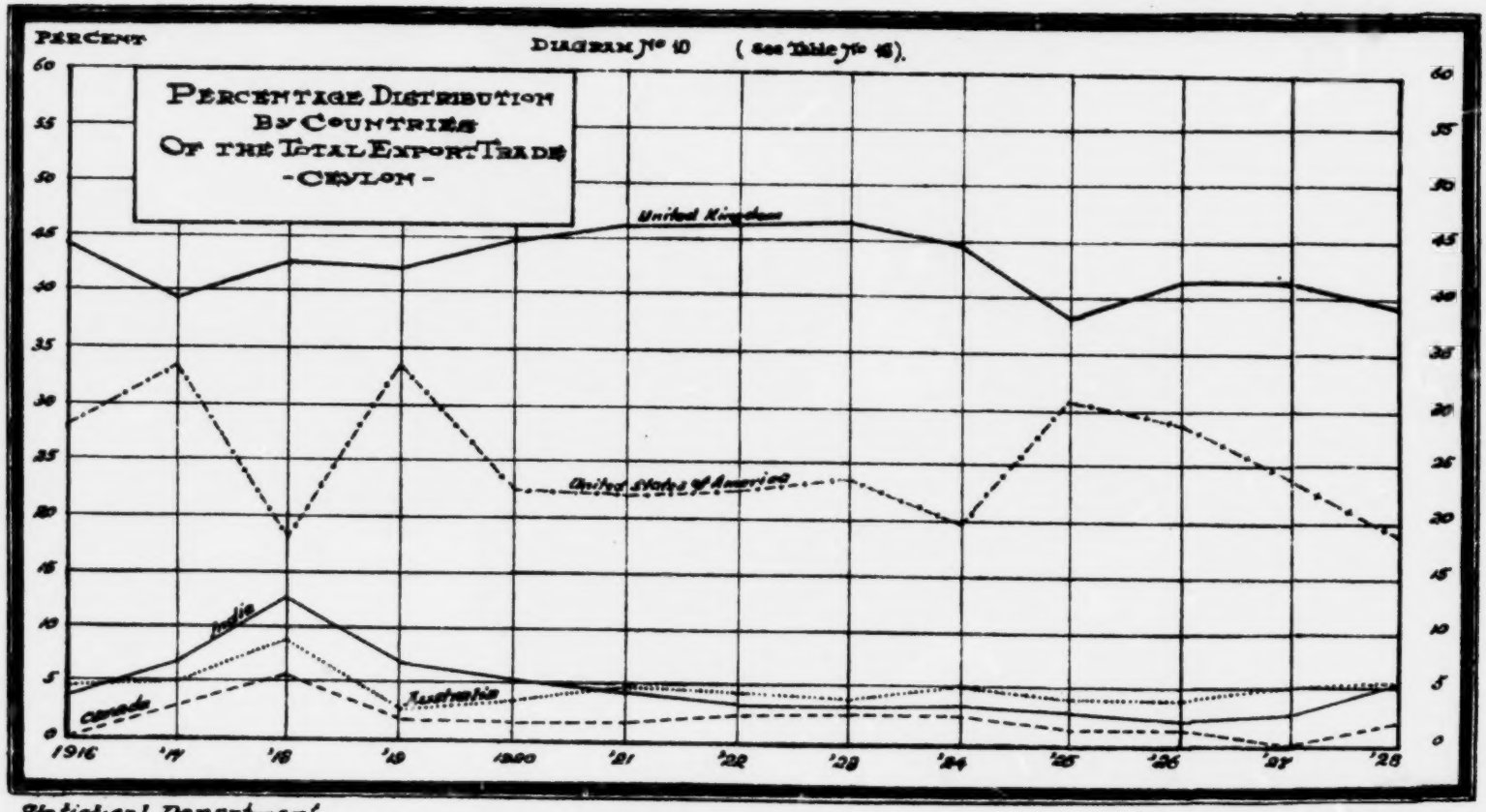
The annual average market prices† in certain years were:—1919, 55.86 cents per lb.; 1920, 43.72 cents; 1921, 70 cents; 1922, 85 cents; 1923, Re. 1.02; 1924, Re. 1.04; 1925, 96 cents; 1926, 99 cents; 1927, 94 cents; 1928, 85 cents (see Diagram No. 12).

Rubber.—The outstanding event in the rubber market for 1928 was the abolition of the Restriction Scheme in November, and the consequent drop in prices in April following this announcement to a level which left only a small margin over cost of production. The exports during the year amounted to 128,326,444 lb. valued at Rs. 73,985,953, as compared with 125,062,578 lb. valued at Rs. 119,174,347 in 1927. The average price per lb. was 58 cents. In 1926 it was Re. 1.29 and in 1927 95 cents. The United States of America remained the principal purchaser with 83,701,218 lb. valued at Rs. 47,756,193. In 1927 she took 78,985,455 lb. valued at Rs. 76,163,302. The United Kingdom took 29,423,315 lb. valued at Rs. 17,995,685, a considerable fall on the figures for 1927, which were 34,580,864 lb. valued at Rs. 32,279,131. Germany improved to 6,835,211 lb., France 3,057,879 lb., and Australia 2,852,975 lb.

Demand was steady throughout and the variations in rates from the middle of April were only very slight, the highest price for standard grades being 50 cents and the lowest 39½ cents.

* Including ships' stores.

† According to local weekly sale average.



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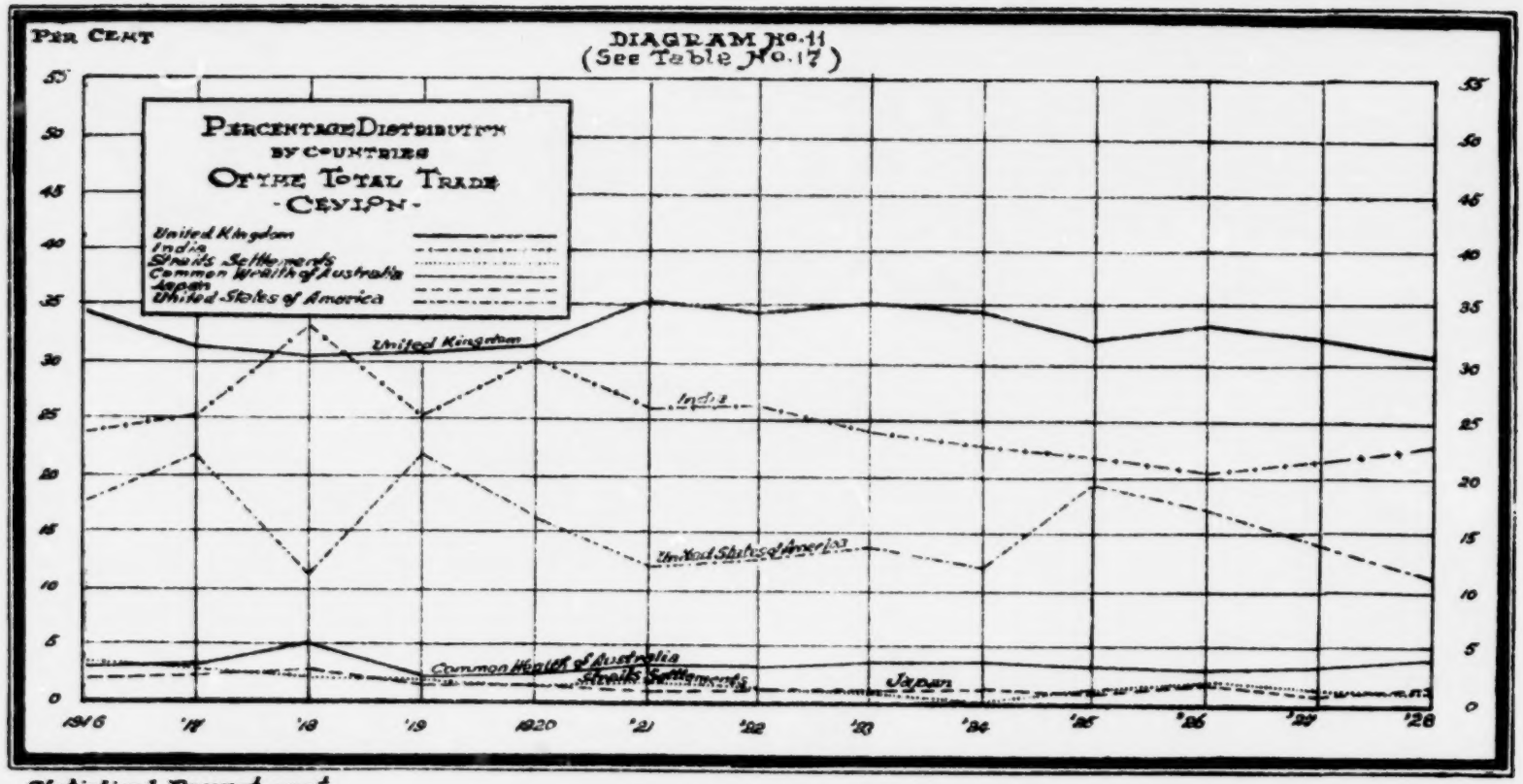

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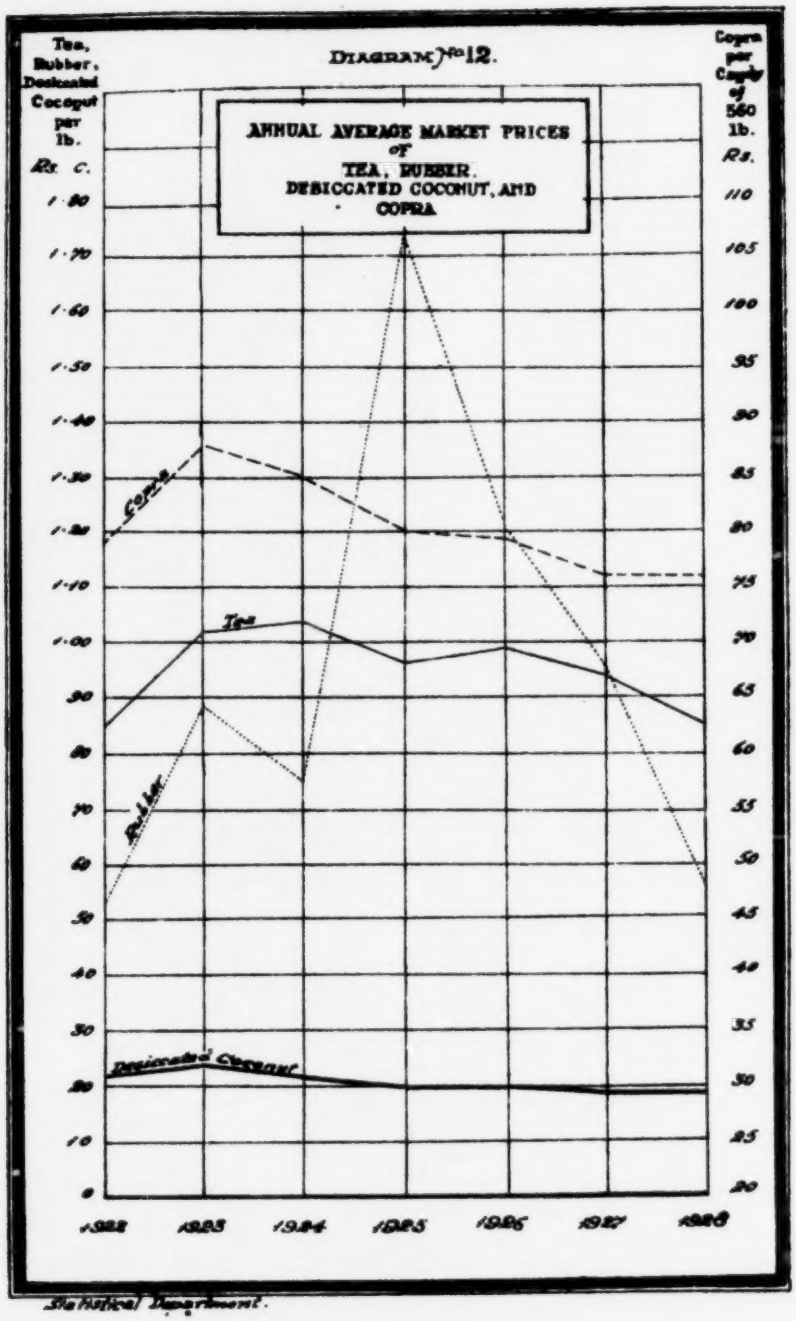

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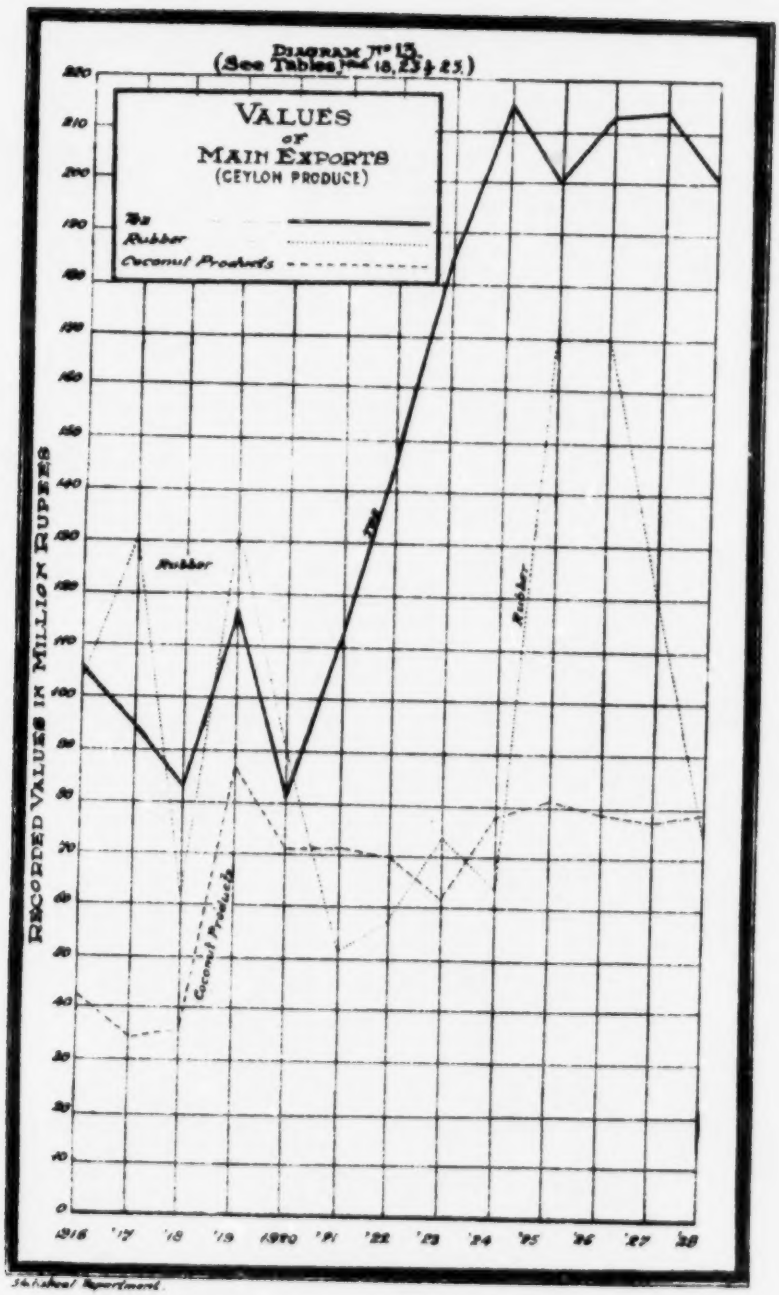
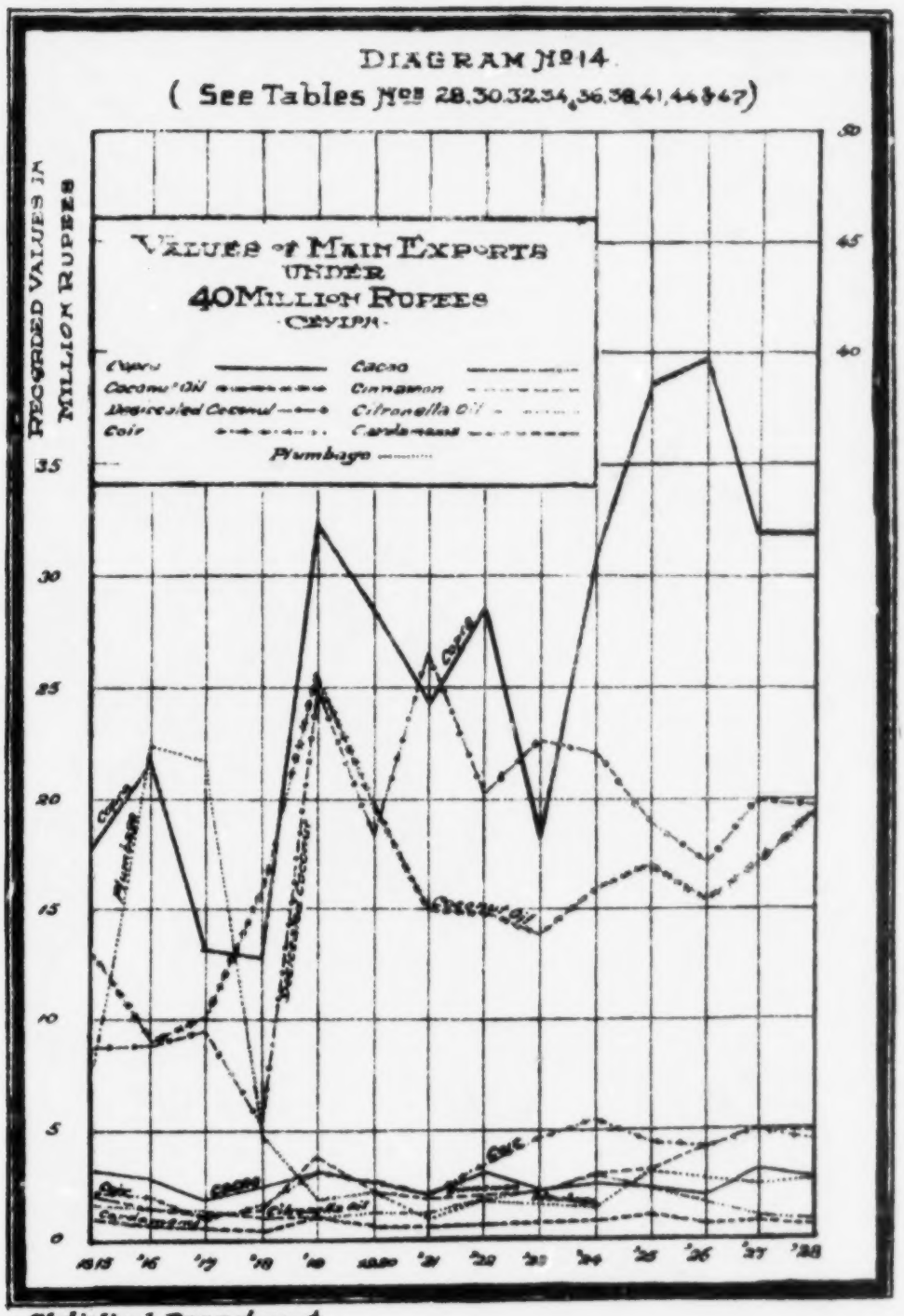


DIAGRAM No 13.
(See Tables Nos 18, 23 & 25.)
VALUES
OF
MAIN EXPORTS
(CEYLON PRODUCE)
Tea
Rubber
Coconut Products
RECORDED VALUES IN MILLION RUPEES
Rubber
Tea
Rubber
Coconut Products
1916
'17
'18
'19
1920
'21
'22
'23
'24
'25
'26
'27
'28
Statistical Department.



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There was a reduction in the Ceylon export duty in July from 4 cents to 2¼ cents per lb., but the market was scarcely affected as the anticipated reduction was gradually discounted by buyers. The larger quantity available in November was quite freely taken up. As in the case of the previous year, prices in the local market were consistently higher than those ruling on the London market, and all grades of rubber were readily taken, including the larger quantity of inferior sorts which were available at the close of the year.

The annual average market prices* in certain years were the following:—1919, Re. 1.05 per lb.; 1920, 80 cents; 1921, 52 cents; 1922, 53 cents; 1923, 88 cents; 1924, 75 cents; 1925, Re. 1.73; 1926, Re. 1.21; 1927, 95 cents; 1928, 55 cents (see Diagram No. 12).

Coconut Products: Desiccated Coconut has shown a considerable increase. The average price was Rs. 25.22 per cwt. The largest buyers were as usual the United Kingdom with 295,097 cwt., Germany with 124,880 cwt., and the United States of America with 115,577 cwt. The United Kingdom showed some improvement on the figures for 1927, while Germany and the United States both showed a considerable decrease.

The opening price in 1928 was 19 cents per lb., which continued with practically no fluctuation until September, when there was an easier tendency and prices dropped to 18 cents. From September to the end of the year there was a further decline in values and the market closed at 17¼ to 17¾ cents.

The annual average market prices in certain years were:—1919, 38 cents per lb.; 1920, 29 cents; 1921, 26 cents; 1922, 22 cents; 1923, 24 cents; 1924, 22 cents; 1925, 20 cents; 1926, 20 cents; 1927, 19 cents; 1928, 19 cents (see Diagram No. 12).

Copra showed no improvement during the year. Italy gained the position of chief purchaser with 593,685 cwt., an increase of over 112,000 cwt. over the previous year. Germany took 457,659 cwt. against 565,660 in 1927. Norway took 357,978 cwt., Denmark 177,030 cwt., and Belgium 127,955 cwt. The average price in 1928 was Rs. 16.09 per cwt. compared with Rs. 16.07 in 1927.

The market opened, in 1928, at Rs. 80 per candy and remained steady until the middle of February, when there was a slight advance and prices touched Rs. 81. This was not maintained, and the market declined to Rs. 80 per candy, and continued at about this level until June, when prices dropped to Rs. 79 per candy and gradually declined for the rest of the year, closing at Rs. 70.50 per candy.

The annual average market prices† from 1919 were:—1919, Rs. 94.13 per candy (560 lb.); 1920, Rs. 109.53; 1921, Rs. 87.16; 1922, Rs. 78.52; 1923, Rs. 87.61; 1924, Rs. 85.42; 1925, Rs. 80.36; 1926, Rs. 79.40; 1927, Rs. 76.88; 1928, Rs. 76.22 (see Diagram No. 12).

Coconut Oil showed a considerable improvement, the total export being 779,112 cwt. valued at Rs. 19,265,529. The distribution was, as usual, very wide, the chief purchaser being British India with 185,644 cwt. The United Kingdom showed a slight drop from 176,479 cwt. to 174,871 cwt. Italy took 78,662 cwt., Egypt 63,125 cwt., Denmark showed a big drop from 79,912 cwt. to 45,996 cwt. The average price was Rs. 24.73 per cwt.

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* Averages for top grades only (ribbed smoked sheet and contract crêpe) at local weekly sales.

† The average prices for 1927-28 are for top grades only. Averages for other years represent the lowest and highest overall weekly quotations received for all grades.

Opening at Rs. 500 per ton in 1928, the prices touched Rs. 510 in February and continued steady at about this figure until July. The market then dropped to Rs. 485 and continued in a gradual decline until August, when the price stood at Rs. 467.50. In September there was a slight reaction to Rs. 475, but the price then fell away again to Rs. 460 and continued quiet until the end of the year, closing at that figure.

The annual average market prices from 1919 were:—1919, Rs. 759.60 per ton f.o.b.; 1920, Rs. 782.75; 1921, Rs. 629.03; 1922, Rs. 538.13; 1923, Rs. 584.05; 1924, Rs. 574.11; 1925, Rs. 543.17; 1926, Rs. 539.36; 1927, Rs. 491.73; 1928, Rs. 489.02.

Fresh Coconuts.—The number exported showed a slight decrease, mainly in the decrease to the United Kingdom, which took 7,405,991 nuts against 7,840,346 nuts in 1927. Egypt increased from 4¾ millions to nearly 5½ millions. Germany fell from 3¼ millions to 3 millions and Holland from nearly 1½ millions to nearly 1⅛ millions. The total exports for 1927 and 1928 are as follows:—

Year.	Number.	Value.	Year.	Number.	Value.
1927	18,875,750	1,515,087	1928	18,016,191	1,424,287

Other Coconut Products: Coir Yarn.—Exports further decreased from 105,754 cwt. valued at Rs. 1,766,723 in 1927 to 92,162 cwt. valued at Rs. 1,635,827 in 1928. The United Kingdom took 33,886 cwt. and Germany 27,014 cwt. The average price was Rs. 17.75 per cwt.

Coir Rope.—19,086 cwt. were exported, of which 18,460 cwt. went to the Straits Settlements.

Bristle Fibre.—182,241 cwt. valued at Rs. 1,527,879 were exported, the average price thus being Rs. 8.38 per cwt. Japan with 82,883 cwt. and Belgium with 42,529 cwt. were the chief buyers, each showing some increase.

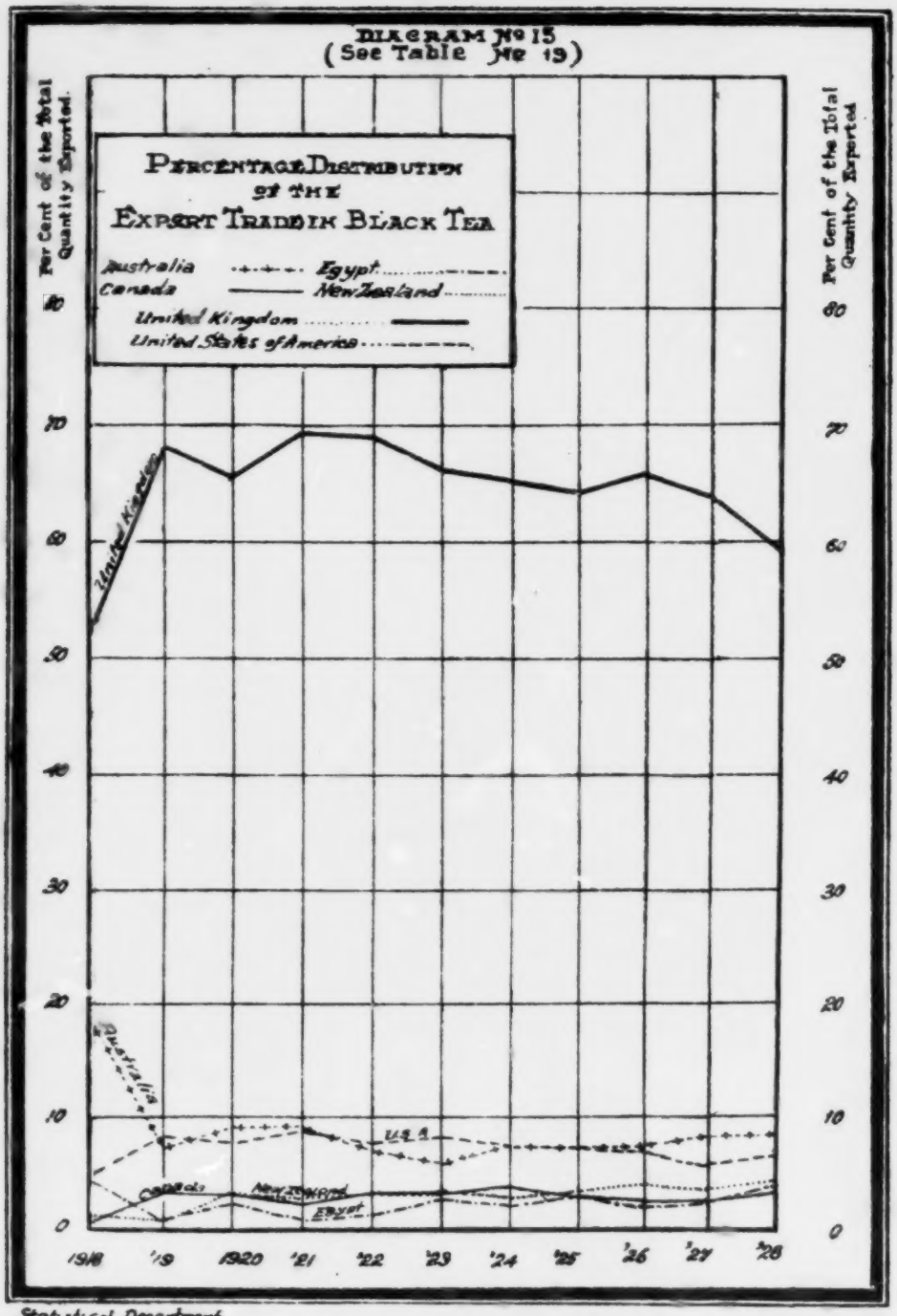
Mattress Fibre.—387,036 cwt. valued at Rs. 1,051,933 were exported in 1928. In 1927 365,121 cwt. valued at Rs. 1,313,404 were exported. The average price in 1928 was Rs. 2.72 per cwt. The chief purchasers were the United Kingdom with 92,762 cwt., British South Africa with 71,557 cwt., Belgium with 48,661 cwt., Germany with 39,762 cwt., and Australia with 37,010 cwt.

In 1928 the market for bristle fibre opened at Rs. 8 per cwt. and there was very little change during the year. Prices fluctuated between Rs. 8 and Rs. 9 per cwt. and closed steadily at the latter figure. The market for mattress fibre opened at Rs. 2.75 per cwt. and advanced to Rs. 3 in March. From then onwards to September the market remained steady at this figure, but declined gradually to Rs. 2.50, closing the year at that price.

The annual average market prices in certain years for bristle fibre were:—1919, Rs. 14.08 per cwt.; 1920, Rs. 15.10; 1921, Rs. 10.27; 1922, Rs. 13.39; 1923, Rs. 14.46; 1924, Rs. 12.10; 1925, Rs. 7.62; 1926, Rs. 7.46; 1927, Rs. 8.37; 1928, Rs. 8.53. For mattress fibre*:—1919, Re. 1.90 per cwt.; 1920, Re. 1.77; 1921, Re. 1.40; 1922, Re. 1.65; 1923, Rs. 2.38; 1924, Rs. 2.95; 1925, Rs. 2.38; 1926, Rs. 3.08; 1927, Rs. 3.67; 1928, Rs. 3.07. For coir yarn*:—1919, Rs. 9.80 per cwt.; 1920, Rs. 10.64; 1921, Rs. 10.55; 1922, Rs. 12.68; 1923, Rs. 18.63; 1924, Rs. 18.32; 1925, Rs. 16.26; 1926, Rs. 15.15; 1927, Rs. 16.75; 1928, Rs. 17.45.

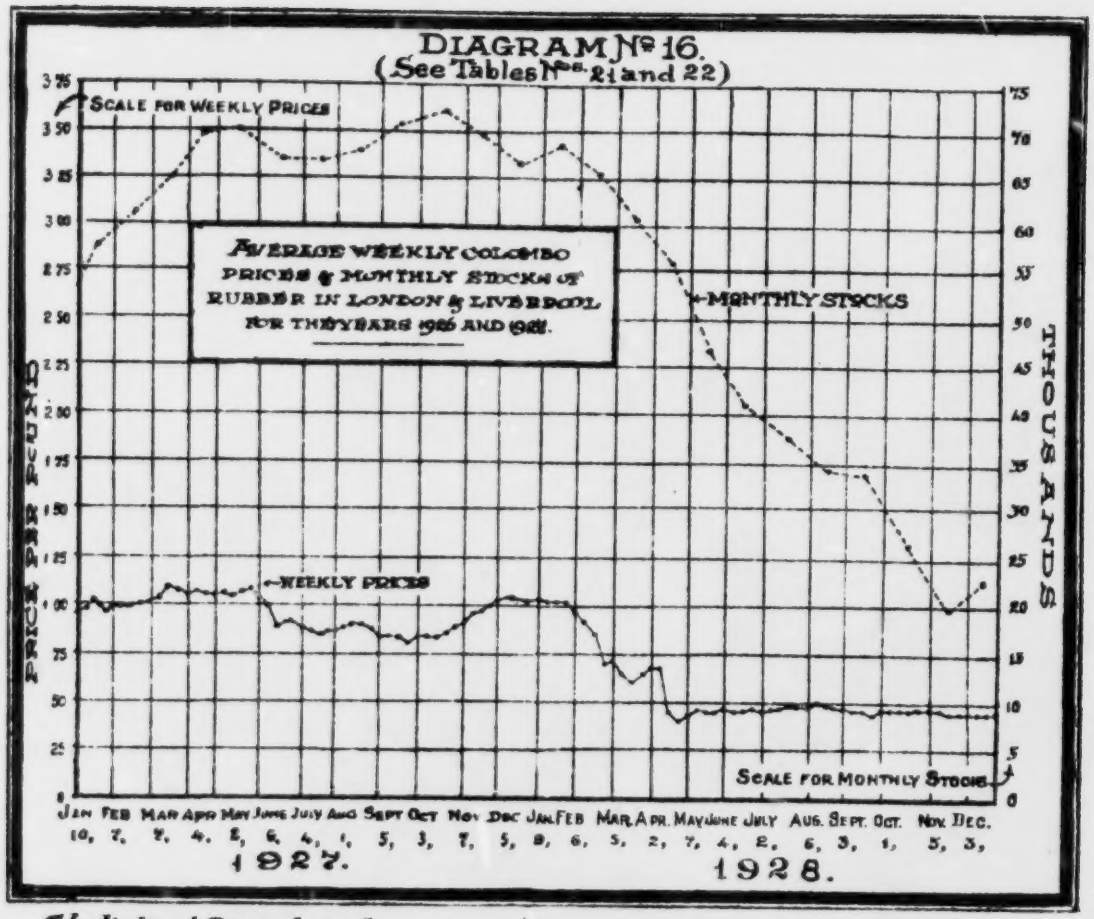
Coconut Poonac.—291,514 cwt. valued at Rs. 2,018,407 were exported, of which 153,773 cwt. went to Belgium and 119,701 cwt. went to Germany.

* The average price for 1928 is for top grades only. Averages for other years represent the lowest and highest overall weekly quotations received for all grades.

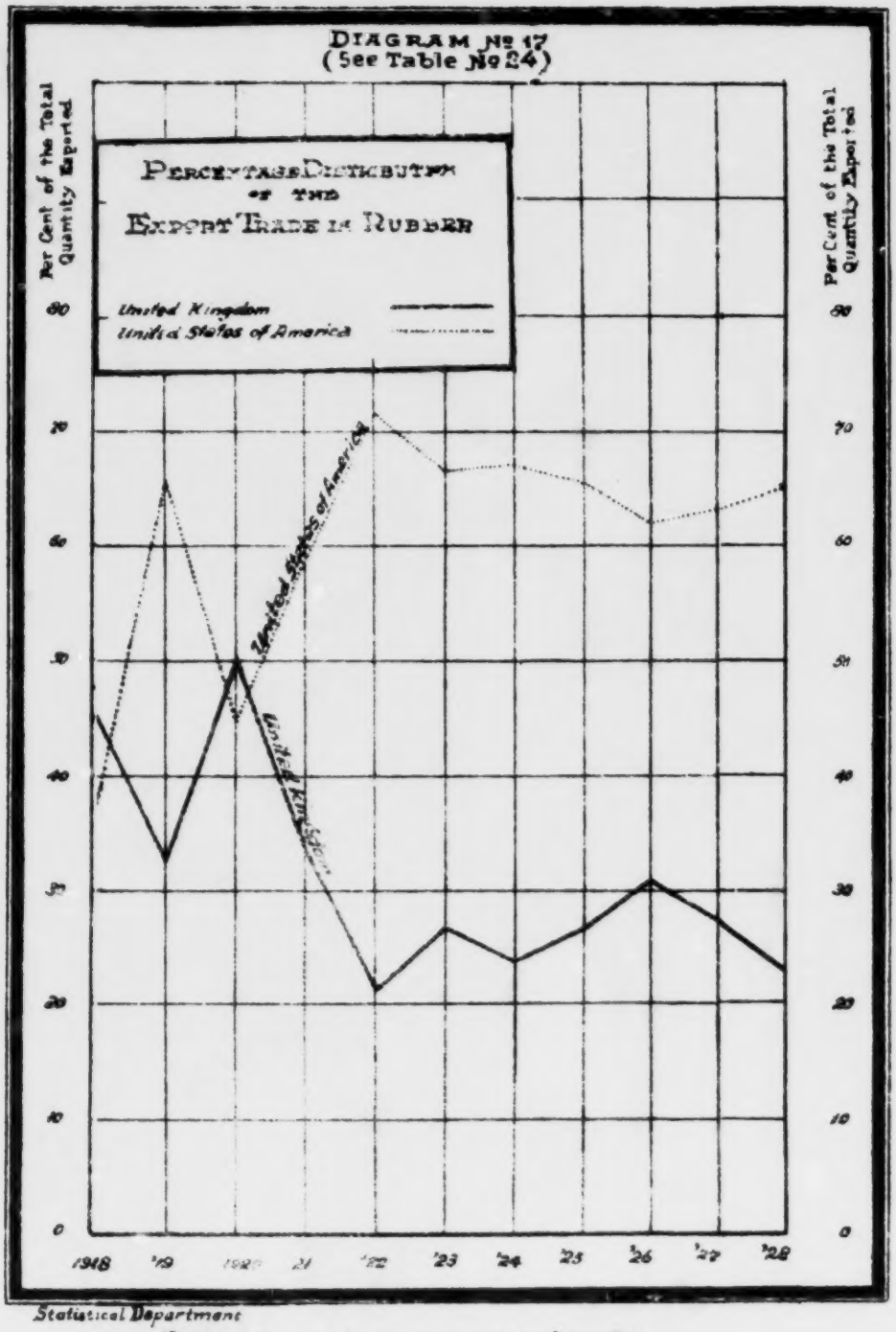


Statistical Department

Note:- Only countries to which considerable quantities were exported have been selected



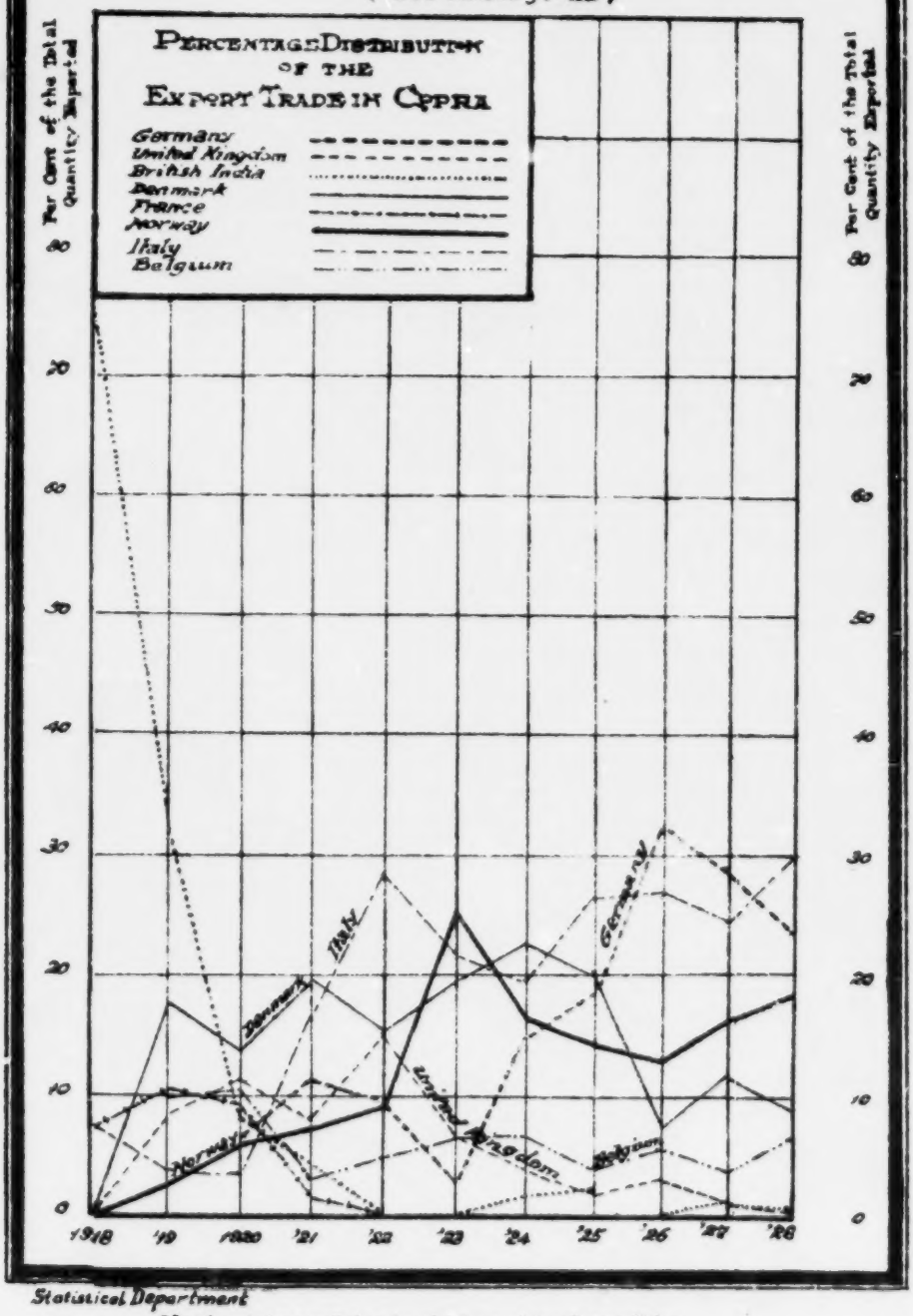
Statistical Department.



Statistical Department

NOTE.. Only countries to which considerable quantities were exported have been selected

DIAGRAM No 18
(See Table No 29)

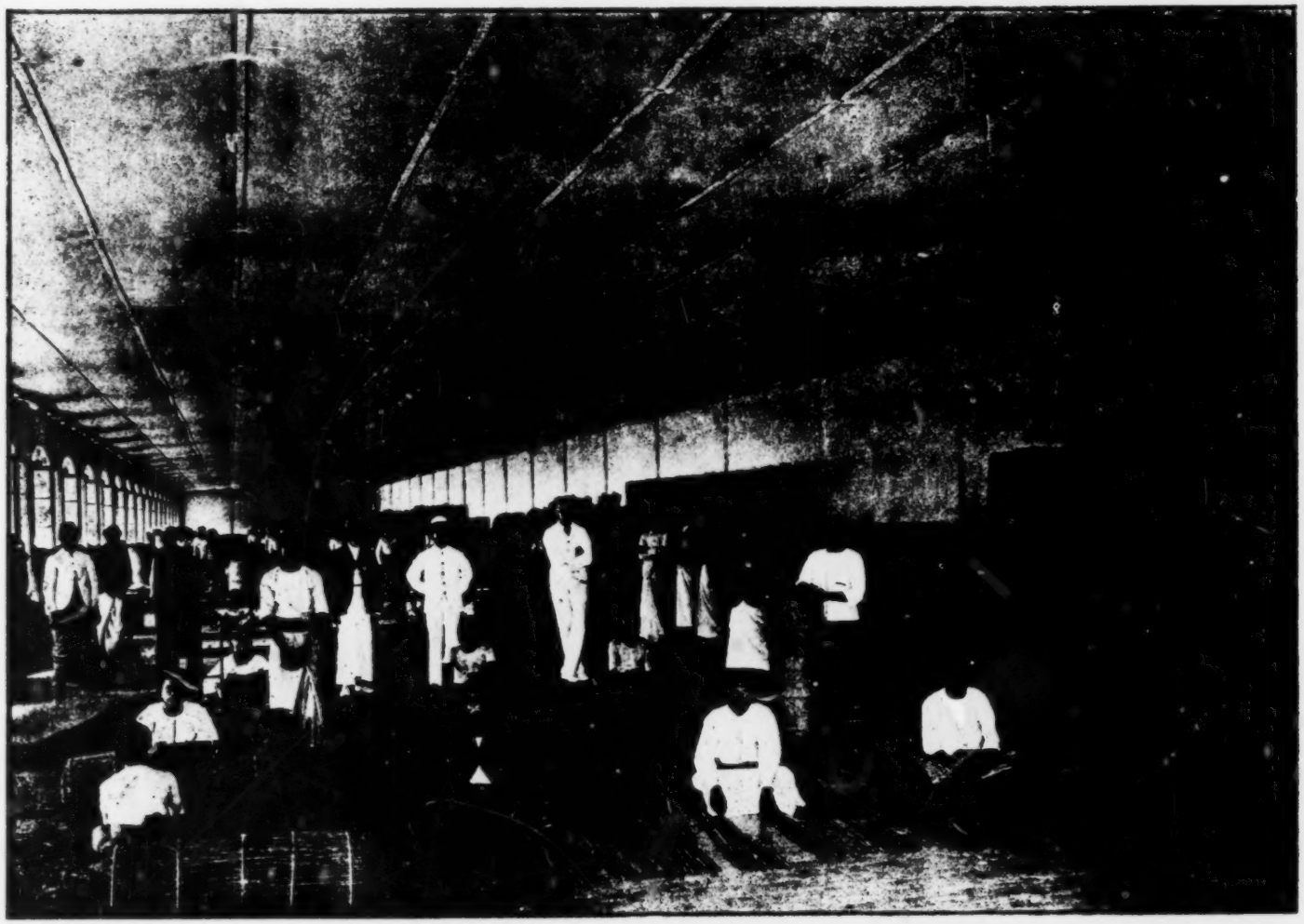


Statistical Department

NOTE.- Only countries to which considerable quantities were exported have been selected.

No. 3.

CINNAMON FACTORY : SORTING AND PACKING.



Plâté, Limited, Colombo.

Plumbago.—The quantity of plumbago exported rose from 257,686 cwt. in 1927 to 286,931 cwt. in 1928. The total value of the exports rose from Rs. 2,525,700 in 1927 to Rs. 2,704,359 in 1928. The average price, however, fell from Rs. 9.80 per cwt. in 1927 to Rs. 9.43 per cwt. in 1928. The United States of America was the best market with 138,942 cwt., a large increase over the quantity taken in 1927, 95,840 cwt. Germany took 54,267 cwt. in 1928, 61,946 cwt. in 1927, and 35,086 cwt. in 1926. The United Kingdom's imports in 1928 amounted to 30,404 cwt., which was a little larger than the quantity imported in 1927, 26,370 cwt.

The demand during 1928 was principally for carbon lump plumbago and chips, dust, and flying dust. There was a little demand for high grade crucible plumbago. This was no doubt due to the large supplies exported from Madagascar, where improved methods of treating the ore makes it possible to supply plumbago suitable for most kinds of crucibles at a much lower rate than the best grades of Ceylon plumbago. Although the exports of plumbago from Ceylon during 1928 showed an increase of 1,440 tons over 1927 the average price realized was less by Rs. 7.49 per ton.

The annual average market prices* from 1919 for large and ordinary lumps were:—1919, Rs. 435.65. 1920, grade XB, Rs. 333.68; grade B, Rs. 263.04; grade BE, Rs. 185.20. 1921, grade XB, Rs. 304.50; grade B, Rs. 234.75; grade BE, Rs. 172,50. 1922, grade XB, Rs. 269.39; grade B, Rs. 203.78; grade BE, Rs. 142.86. 1923, grade XB, Rs. 227.70; grade B, Rs. 175.30; grade BE, Rs. 127.10. 1924, grade XB, Rs. 208.24; grade B, Rs. 157.94; grade BE, Rs. 111.33. 1925, grade XB, Rs. 259.85; grade B, Rs. 217.06; grade BE, Rs. 155.84. 1926, grade XB, Rs. 289.50; grade B, Rs. 241.95 grade BE, Rs. 177.95. 1927, grade XB, Rs. 386.80†; grade B, Rs. 326.79; grade BE, Rs. 232,69.† 1928, Rs. 188.51.

Tariff Changes.—The following changes have been introduced into the tariff. In March the duty was raised in respect of all whiskies which are not certified by a Government authority in the exporting country as being at least three years old, and upon all brandies in respect of which a certificate cannot be produced to show that the spirit is distilled from pure grape juice and is not less than three years old. The increase was from Rs. 14.50 per proof gallon to Rs. 22 per proof gallon. At the same time the duty on all gin was raised from Rs. 14.50 to Rs. 22 per proof gallon irrespective of its origin, age, or quality. In this connection, the increase in the rate of duty was of a moral rather than of a fiscal nature, in that it was imposed, not for the purpose of raising additional revenue, but in furtherance of a policy connected with the habits of the people, the prevalence of illicit sales of liquor, and the growing consumption of cheap imported spirits consequent upon the closure of taverns which used to sell country liquor. From the Customs point of view, there is obviously a point in the raising of a duty at which the increase affects the price and hence the consumption to such an extent as to result in an actual loss of revenue. In the case of spirits and gin, it seems probable that the point is about to be reached, if it has not already been reached, at which a further increase in the duty will involve a loss of revenue.

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* According to lowest and highest overall quotations received for all grades.

† Average for top grades only.

The export duty on rubber was reduced in June from Rs. 4 per 100 lb. to Rs. 2.25.

Customs Revenue.—The total revenue collected during the calendar year at the several ports in the Colony was Rs. 58,855,070.80, a decrease of Rs. 4,250.67 compared with revenue for 1927. These figures include not only Customs duties, but also Port, Harbour, Warehouse, and other dues, and export duties under the Medical Wants Ordinance. The estimated revenue for 1928 was Rs. 55,195,644, which was less by Rs. 3,659,426.80 than the revenue actually collected. This was largely due to increases in import duty on grain, spirits, and sugar, and in the export duty on tea. The chief decreases are found under the heads of Cotton Manufactures (imports), and Desiccated Coconuts, Copra, and Rubber (exports). There was an increase of eleven lakhs under the head of Grain, due partly to the unusually large importations necessitated by poor harvests in Ceylon. The excess in the duty collected on sugar was due not so much to unusually large importations as to a somewhat conservative estimate. The enhancement of the duty on spirits accounts for the excess under this head. The percentage of the increase however is not large and is set off by a considerable reduction in the imports of gin and cheap brandy. It is clear that from the revenue point of view the duties on spirits are at present close to the level of maximum production. Any further substantial rise in duty would probably so decrease consumption as to lower the total revenue derived therefrom.

The annual revenue collected by the Customs Department at selected intervals during the last sixteen years is shown in the following table:—

		Rs.			Rs.			Rs.
1913	..	16,996,677	1923	..	37,326,845	1926	..	56,337,612
1916	..	25,488,407	1924	..	41,296,160	1927	..	58,859,321
1919	..	23,601,952	1925	..	46,907,450	1928	..	58,855,070

It is clear from these figures that the rapid expansion which set in as soon as the Colony recovered from the post-war depression has reached its peak, and until the rubber market improves no immediate great increase can be expected. As approximately half the revenue of the Colony—the actual percentage for the financial year 1927-28 was 43.9—is collected by the Customs Department, the state of the Customs revenue is a fair indication of the prosperity of the Island. It is true that taken all round the trade of the Colony has not decreased in volume. The import duties show an increase of nearly ten lakhs, or 2.5 per cent. over the figures for 1927. This however is almost exactly balanced by a decrease of almost the same amount in the export duties, a decrease wholly due to the reduction in the rate of the export duty on rubber which brought in thirteen lakhs less than in the preceding year. Analyzing the figures, the increase in import duties is chiefly due to kerosine oil, the revenue from this source being 15 per cent. greater than in the previous year. Sugar also produced a considerably larger revenue, and there were increases all round except in the case of cotton manufactures and other goods. This last item accounts for nearly 40 per cent. of the total revenue from import duties and includes an infinite variety of commodities. More detailed comments on the principal items will be found below.

As noted above, export duties show a decline of over one million rupees and produced more than 8 per cent. less than in 1927. Tea, which accounts for more than half the total, showed an increase of nearly three lakhs, but the receipts from rubber, the next most important item, fell from over four million to two and three-quarter million rupees.

Coconut products, which account for about two million rupees, showed a slight decline of Rs. 25,000.

In spite of the considerable decrease in the figures from exports the total revenue from all Customs duties is within one lakh of the figures for the previous year.

The total collections at the Baggage Office show an increase over those for previous years, though there is an appreciable decrease under the head of import duty. This may be due partly to a slight falling off in the passenger traffic, and partly to the concessions allowed in the matter of free allowances. The total collections amounted to Rs. 145,681.37, including Rs. 73,804.85 recovered as deposits upon samples imported by commercial travellers, the major portion of the latter amount being refunded on re-export of the samples. The sum of Rs. 73,804.85 does not actually represent the volume of this business in travellers' samples, as in many cases duty is covered, not by a cash deposit, but by a bank letter of guarantee, or in the cases of precious stones by deposit of the duty in kind. No fewer than 230 travellers took advantage of the facilities offered for the full refund, on export, of the duty paid upon imported samples. The number of travellers in the last five years has been, respectively, 174, 179, 188, 219, and 230.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

The Principal Collector of Customs is the Honorary Imperial Trade Commissioner of the Board of Trade for Ceylon, and in this capacity afforded all possible assistance in the furtherance of British and Ceylon trade. This assistance takes the form of placing British exporters in communication with local importers, and at the same time introducing Ceylon exporters to outside markets.

On several occasions the Customs Department has been visited by representatives of British firms introduced by the Department of Overseas Trade and all available information has been placed at their disposal, such as import statistics and the names of local firms likely to be interested.

A visit to Colombo was paid about the end of the year by Mr. Thomas M. Ainscough, M.B.E., H. M.'s Trade Commissioner for India and Ceylon, who came over from Calcutta on a periodical tour. Mr. Ainscough was particularly interested in several outstanding matters, including the important question of the establishment of a Trade Information Bureau and Museum in Ceylon and a Ceylon Bureau in London.

PARCEL POST.

The number of parcels imported continues to increase, the number for 1928 exceeding that of 1927 by 8,878.

The number of parcels imported during 1928 was 374,914, compared with 366,036 in the previous year. The duty collected amounts to Rs. 942,788 (approximately). Included in the above figures were 25,238 c.o.d. parcels from the United Kingdom, as against 28,279 in 1927. The total value of goods received under the c.o.d. system amounted to about Rs. 838,000.

The number of dutiable packets received by letter mail and dealt with by the Customs Department was as follows:—

	Registered Packets.		*Ordinary Letter Packets.*	
	Number of Packets.	Duty. Rs. c.	Number of Packets.	Duty. Rs. c.
1927	23,691	37,644 52	29,344	5,994 8
1928	19 644	30,843 81	31 383	6,385 36

The following is a comparative statement showing the number of parcels and packets dealt with by this branch and amounts collected as duty thereon during the last five years:—

	Parcels.	Duty. Rs. c.	Registered Packets.	Duty. Rs. c.	Ordinary Letter Packets.	Duty. Rs. c.
1924	278,494	657,089 72	17,766	15,726 94	17,375	3,848 50
1925	334,899	687,907 84	20,412	10,576 47	21,565	4,277 39
1926	358,091	820,648 13	21,349	14,814 65	27,201	5,162 17
1927	366,036	922,386 49	23,691	37,644 52	29,344	5,994 8
1928	374,914	942,788 57	19,644	40,843 81	31,383	6,385 36

Though the number of registered packets dealt with in 1928 has decreased by 4,047 the duty recovered has increased by Rs. 3,199.29. This is due to the appointment of an Appraiser at the General Post Office for the purpose of selecting parcels for detention and subsequently examining them at the depôt. It is well known that closer inspection results in increased revenue.

FACTORIES.

There was an increase of 34 in the total number of factories as compared with 1927, or just over 2 per cent. The actual number of new factories registered during the year was 66, and 32 ceased work permanently. New factories included 31 tea, 8 rubber, 3 tea and rubber, 1 cacao, 1 rubber and cacao, 4 coconut, 3 fibre, 1 plumbago, 2 rice mills, 1 oil mill, 1 motor repairing works, and 1 workshop. The first complete compilation of factories was made at the end of 1908, and the total then was 1,025; at the end of December, 1928, it was 1,676, an increase of 651 or about 64 per cent. in twenty years. Steam power has been used at 243 factories at the end of 1928.

V.—Communications.

SHIPPING.

4,161* vessels with a tonnage of 12,791,408* tons entered the ports of the Island in 1928, as against 4,143* vessels with a tonnage of 12,181, 354* tons in 1927.

Registration of Ships.—At the beginning of the year there were 28 vessels (3,042 tons) on the ships' register of the Colombo port. During the course of the year 2 vessels (201 tons) were added to the register, but the registry of one of 25 tons was closed, bringing a total on the register to 29 vessels (3,218 tons).

The Colombo Port Commission.

The trade—imports and exports—of the port of Colombo dealt with in 1928 amounted to 1,932,803 tons (1,200,374 tons imports and 732,429 tons exports), as compared with 1,845,512 tons (1,149,454 tons imports and 696,058 tons exports) handled in 1927.

The following table shows the number and tonnage of vessels that entered the port during the year:—

	No.	Tonnage.
Vessels (excluding men-of-war, merchant vessels on transport service, and coasting vessels)	3,238	12,233,784 (nett)
Merchant vessels on transport service	10	86,741 (gross)
Coasting vessels	18	13,171 (nett)
Men-of-war	62	243,233 (displacement)

* Exclusive of warships and transports but inclusive of steamers which called to coal and oil.

The number of merchant ships of all nationalities which called at the port in 1913 and 1923-1928, and their nett tonnage, were as follows:—

Year.	Number of Vessels.	Nett Tonnage.	Year.	Number of Vessels.	Nett Tonnage.
1913	3,310	9,510,532	1926	2,982	11,054,248
1923	2,563	9,006,640	1927	3,108	11,673,308
1924	2,773	10,013,951	1928	3,238	12,233,784
1925	2,953	10,858,324			

The number of oil-burning vessels which call at Colombo continues to increase from year to year, as will be seen from the following figures for the last five years:—

Year.	Number of Vessels burning Oil only	Number of Vessels burning Oil or Coal.	Year.	Number of Vessels burning Oil only.	Number of Vessels burning Oil or Coal.
1924	382	92	1927	534	41
1925	388	43	1928	635	36
1926	457	26			

In November, 1928, 62 vessels burning oil only called at Colombo. This is the largest number of oil-burning vessels which have called at this port in any one month since the oil facilities were made available in February, 1922.

The need of a duplicate fuel oil pump having been felt since the duplication of the 10-inch pipe line for fuel oil from the harbour to the Kolonnawa Oil Depôt in 1926, a duplicate 10-inch fuel oil steam boosting pump was installed during the year at the Discharge Boosting Pump House.

A duplicate 10-inch Gynnes pump and Blackstone engine was also installed at the Kolonnawa Oil Depôt Transferring Pump House to serve as a stand-by in the case of an emergency, and also to enable full use to be made of the duplicate pipe line.

The connection of the Kolonnawa Oil Depôt to the general drainage system is nearing completion.

A new cookhouse with two kitchens was constructed during the year at the Graving Dock for the use of officers and crews of petroleum ships discharging at Colombo.

The working and maintenance charge in connection with the Oil Installations Scheme at Colombo was reduced from Re. 1.60 per 1,000 gallons to 80 cents per 1,000 gallons, with effect from March 1, 1928.

During the year 59 vessels discharged the following quantities of oil:—

	Tons.		Tons.
Liquid fuel	212,120	Petrol	39,546
Kerosine oil	28,049		

as compared with the following figures for 1927:—

	Tons.		Tons.
Liquid fuel	216,616	Petrol	27,581
Kerosine oil	34,390		

303 vessels bunkered with a total quantity of 186,602 tons of fuel oil, as compared with 313 vessels and 189,889 tons of fuel oil in 1927.

The construction of the new Customs House at the Passenger Jetty for dealing with passengers and their baggage is now nearly complete, and the building will be occupied in March. The Port Surgeon and Harbour Police will be housed in the new building, and a railway inquiry office and a post and telegraph office will also be provided. The present police hulk will be scrapped.

Of the 643 acres of low water area of the harbour, 186 acres have been dredged to a depth of 36 feet and over, 102 acres to a depth varying between 36 feet and 33 feet, and 147 acres to a depth between 33 and 30 feet; the

remaining 208 acres have a depth of less than 30 feet. Six berths are available for vessels drawing up to 33 feet during the south-west and north-east monsoons. One of these berths is available for vessels of unlimited length.

The new ocean-going tug "Hercules," which has just been built in England, is fitted with salvage appliances and machinery of over 2,000 horse power. The tug will be available for rendering assistance to vessels in distress within a considerable radius of the port. It is expected to arrive in the port in March.

The work of converting the launch "Sphinx" into an ambulance launch for the conveyance of sick and injured persons between ship and shore has been completed.

The development of the areas on the eastern and western banks of the Lake to Harbour Canal for the handling of heavy cargo for the Customs and the Colonial Stores has been completed, and has brought into use a length of 1,278 lineal feet of quayage. Shed accommodation with a floor area of 11,474 square feet has also been provided.

The enlargement of the two Pettah Warehouses Nos. 1 and 2 to 130 feet was carried on during the year. The former was completed in October, and work on the latter is still being carried on.

The total warehouse accommodation in the port is now 592,476 square feet, and the total length of quays and jetties is 14,543 lineal feet.

A scheme for the improvement of the Grain Sheds area at Kochchikade has been approved. By this scheme the warehouses will be moved forward so as to secure harbour frontage, and thus eliminate the present waste of time and labour in hauling cargo over a distance of about 125 feet. A roadway about 20 feet wide will be made in front of the warehouses, and the railway which now runs between the warehouses and the jetties will be moved back so as to run behind the warehouses. The work has been taken in hand, and good progress has been made.

With the improvement of the Grain Sheds area at Kochchikade, a new scheme has been prepared for setting apart an area to the north of the Grain Sheds for the landing of timber. The scheme provides for the erection of a concrete retaining wall on the ramp at Kochchikade 260 feet long, and it is hoped that it will be a great convenience to importers of timber and also relieve the congestion at the jetties.

Owing to the installation of two additional steam-driven dynamos at the Graving Dock to increase the supply of electric light and power at the Dock and Guide Pier, it became necessary to double the mains to the Dock and Guide Pier in order to carry the extra load. The laying of these additional mains was completed in September, 1928.

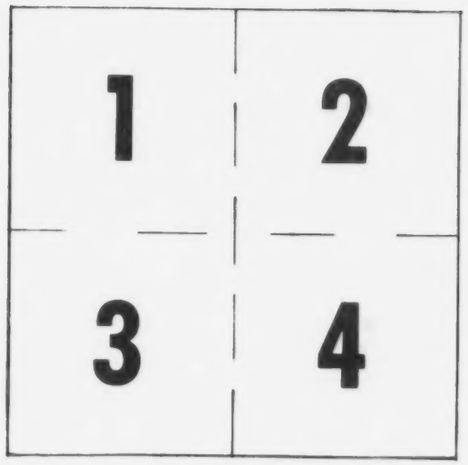
Arrangements have been made to instal a new telephone service for the use of Naval and Merchant vessels free of charge when they are at the Graving Dock Guide Pier or in Dock. It will not be available for trunk calls.

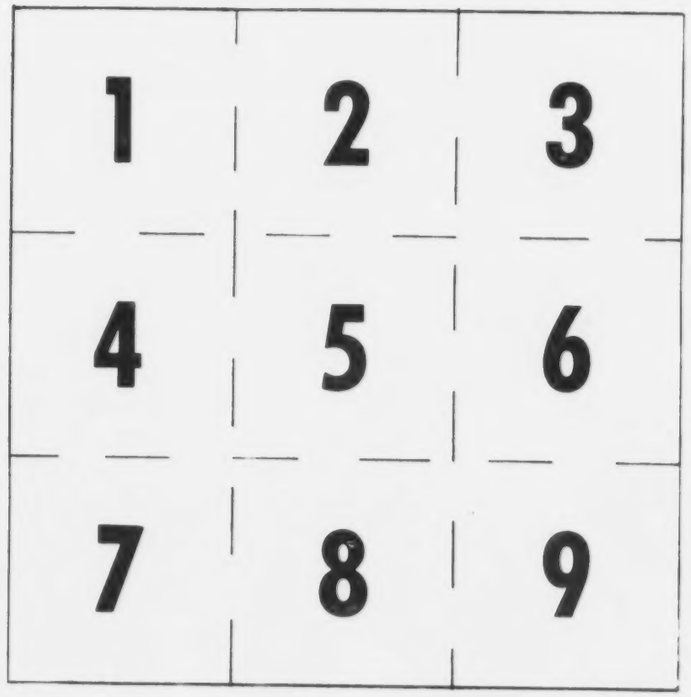
The work of connecting to the sewers the latrines, bathrooms, &c., for the use of the officers and crews of ships while in Dock was carried on during the year, and is expected to be completed shortly.

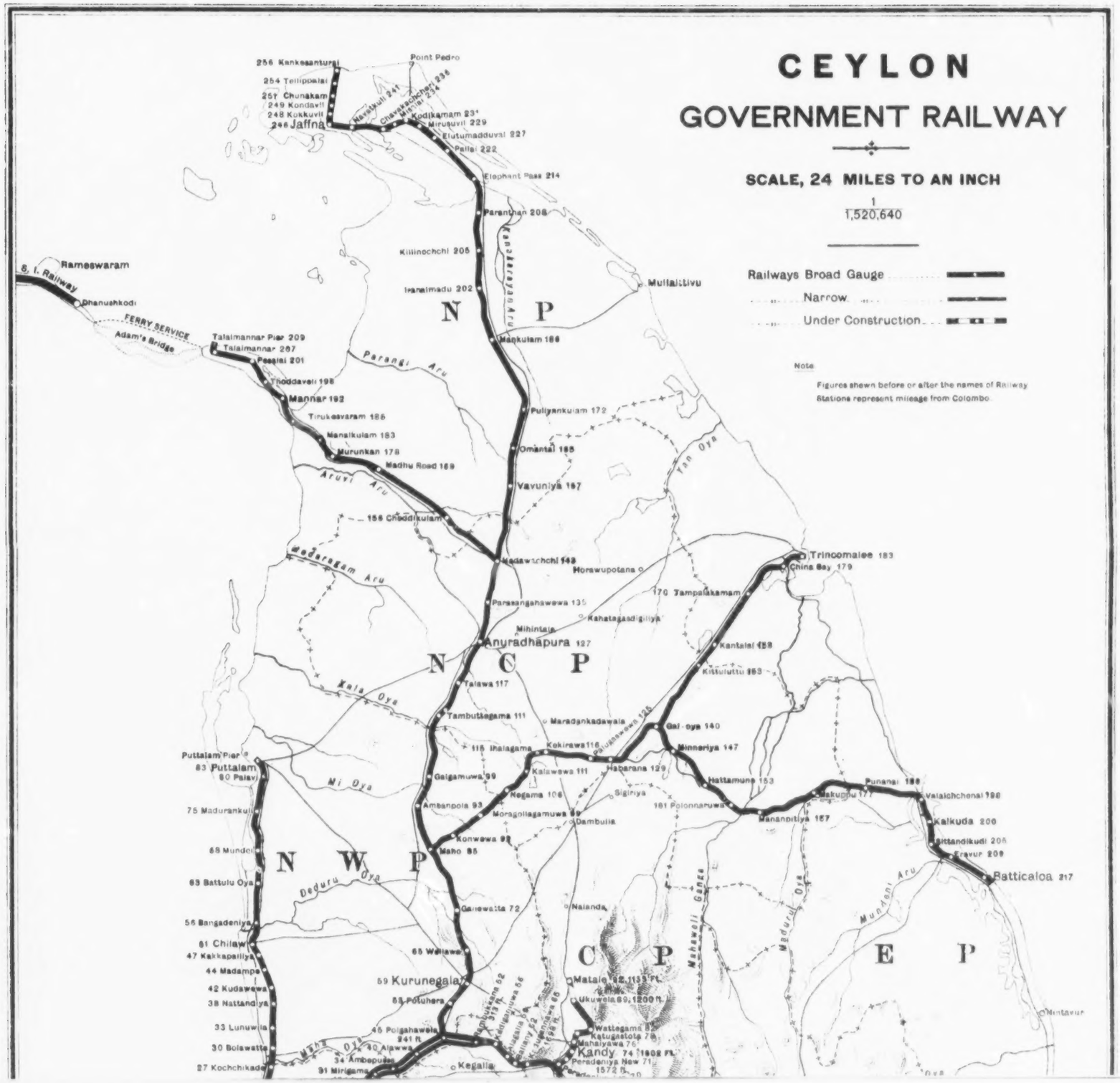
There has been a slight increase in the traffic through the Lake to Harbour Canal. The total number of lighters, launches, &c., which passed through the canal during the year was 5,776, as against 5,623 in 1927. The goods traffic for 1928 amounted to 17,150 tons of import cargo and 47,399 tons of export cargo, as against 11,817 tons and 47,458 tons, respectively, in 1927.

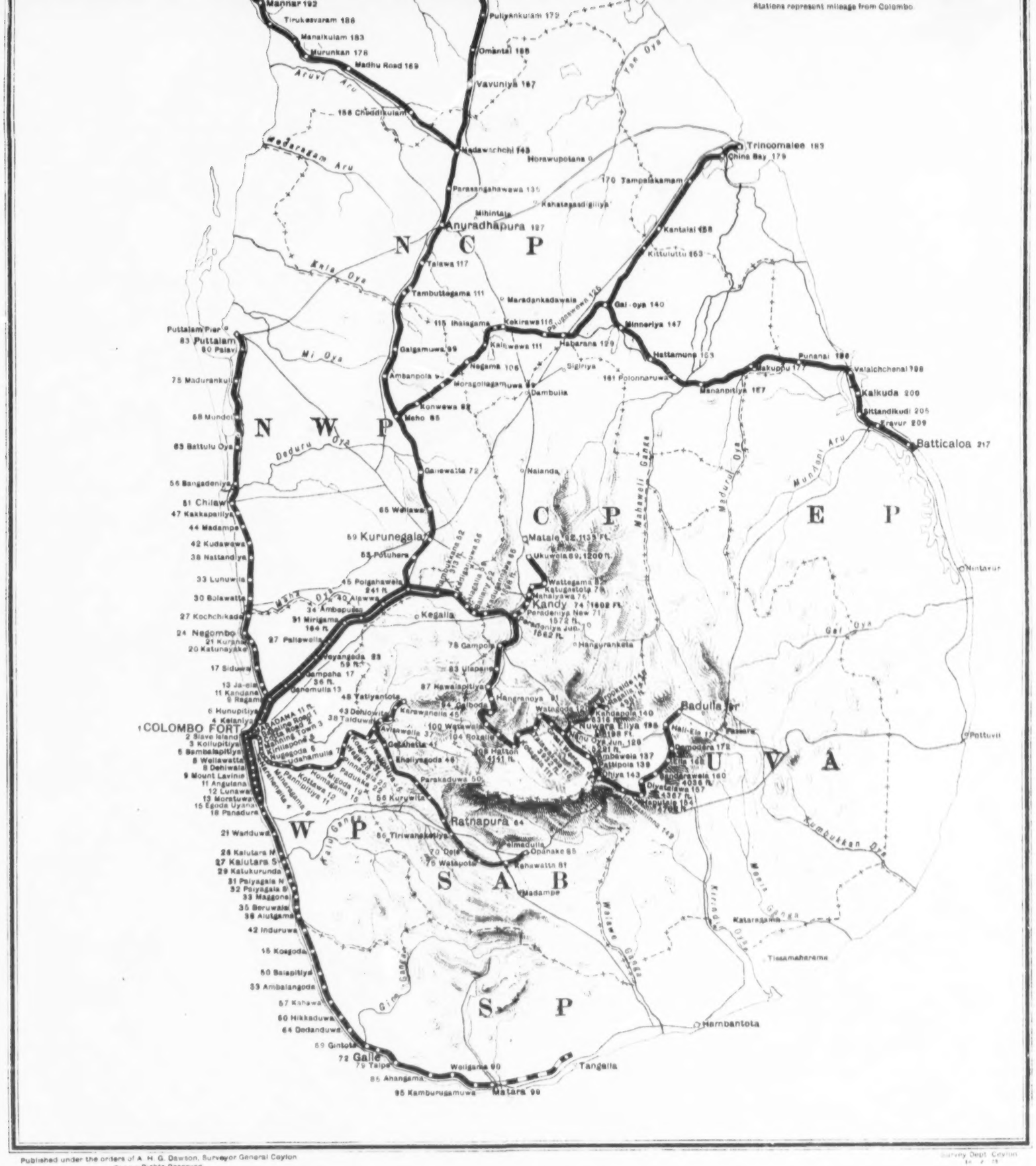
The dredging of the San Sebastian Canal to 5 feet of water at mean sea level has been completed.

Maps on this order too large to be entirely included in one exposure are filmed clockwise beginning in the upper left hand corner, left to right and top to bottom as many frames as required. The following diagrams illustrate the method.






CEYLON
GOVERNMENT RAILWAY
SCALE, 24 MILES TO AN INCH
1/1,520,640
Railways Broad Gauge
Narrow
Under Construction
Note
Figures shewn before or after the names of Railway Stations represent mileage from Colombo.
N P
N C P
N W P
C P
E P
Rameswaram
S. I. Railway
Dhanushkodi
FERRY SERVICE
Adam's Bridge
Talaimannar Pier 209
Talaimannar 207
Pesalai 201
Thoddaveli 198
Mannar 192
Tirukesavaram 186
Mansikulam 183
Murunkan 178
Madhu Road 169
Aruvi Aru
156 Chedikulam
Mullaitivu
Mankulam 186
Pulivankulam 172
Omantai 165
Vavuniya 157
Yan Oya
Trincomalee 183
China Bay 179
170 Tampalakamam
Kantalai 159
Kittuluttu 153
Gal-oya 140
Minneriya 147
Hattamuna 153
Punanai 188
Valaichchenai 198
Kalkuda 206
Eravur 209
Batticaloa 217
Mundani Aru
Madurui Oya
Mahaweli Ganga
Mintavur
Mihintale
Anuradhapura 127
Talawa 117
Tambuttegama 111
Galgamuwa 99
Ambanpola 93
Konwewa 90
Maho 85
Ganewatta 72
65 Wellawa
59 Kurunegala
53 Potuhera
45 Polgahawela 341 ft.
40 Alawwa
34 Ambepussa
31 Mirigama
Kegalla
Nalanda
Matale 52 1133 ft.
Ukuwela 69 1200 ft.
Wattegama 82
Katugastota 78
Mahaiyawa 76
Kandy 74 1502 ft.
Peradeniya New 71 1572 ft.
Kekirawa 116
Galkadawala
Habarana 129
Dambulla
Sigiriya
181 Polonnaruwa
Manampitiya 157
Kalkuda 206
Puttalam Pier
83 Puttalam
80 Palavi
75 Madurankuli
68 Mundel
63 Battulu Oya
56 Bangadeniya
51 Chilaw
47 Kakkapalliya
44 Madampe
42 Kudawewa
38 Nattandiya
33 Lunuwila
30 Bolawatta
27 Kochchikade
Dedurui Oya
Kala Oya
Mi Oya
Maha Oya
Modaragam Aru
Parangi Aru
Kanakarayan Aru



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During the year a total number of 26 vessels were docked, 39 vessels were taken on the Patent Slip, and 31 vessels were fumigated.

The receipts from the Graving Dock and Patent Slip during the year 1928 were Rs. 126,284.17 and Rs. 10,715.82 respectively, as compared with the previous year's figures, viz., Rs. 63,068.03 and Rs. 9,074 respectively. The recoveries on account of the fumigation of vessels during 1928 amounted to Rs. 9,127.50, as against Rs. 5,127.03 in 1927.

Finance.—The total amount expended by the Colombo Port Commission during the financial year 1927-1928, including Rs. 66,232.56 chargeable to Loan Account in respect of the Oil Facilities Scheme, the Harbour Rail Connection, and the Puttalam Railway Extension, was Rs. 4,279,166.06. Of this amount Rs. 271,334.83 was expended by the Director of Public Works and Rs. 17,203.92 by the Director of Electrical Undertakings on work for the Colombo Port Commission, and a sum of Rs. 153,613.24 was expended by the Colombo Port Commission on account of other departments. The nett expenditure on Colombo Port Commission services, inclusive of expenditure from Loan Funds on account of the Oil Facilities Scheme, was Rs. 4,125,552.82.

The revenue during the same period was Rs. 5,948,089.50, inclusive of Rs. 725,817.72 from the oil charges levied at the port and rent at the Kolonnawa Oil Installations Depôt.

RAILWAYS.

Open Line.—The total length of the open line on September 30, 1928, was 951 miles, an increase in open line mileage of 56 miles.

The receipts for the year amounted to Rs. 31,285,599, as against Rs. 30,111,991 in the preceding year, or an increase of Rs. 1,173,608.

The number of passengers conveyed has increased by 2,157,982, the total conveyed during the year being 19,106,637.

Under season tickets the number of ticket holders has increased to the extent of 5,655, the total number of season tickets issued during the year being 213,878.

The number of parcels conveyed during the year was 1,982,604 or an increase of 160,964.

The tonnage of goods carried has fallen off from 1,387,066 tons to 1,361,816 tons, the noticeable increases and decreases being—

	Increase. Tons.		Decrease. Tons.
Copra	6,929	Coconut produce	3,497
Fruits, vegetables, food cereals, and other agricultural produce (locally grown) ..	7,768	Manure	21,787
Liquid fuel	2,826	Rice	14,981
Tea	9,581	Rubber	6,385
Indo-Ceylon traffic	7,733		

The total expenditure for the year was Rs. 23,560,496, an increase of Rs. 3,041,692, made up of Personal Emoluments Rs. 853,505, Other Charges Rs. 712,086, Pensions and Gratuities Rs. 180,000, and an increase under New and Minor Works (maintenance) of Rs. 1,296,101.

The total capital cost of the Railway amounted to Rs. 211,052,467, the capital account having been increased during the year by Rs. 10,166,696.

Note.—The increases and decreases are based on the corresponding figures of last year.

Colombo Harbour Rail Connection.

This work remains in the same state as reported upon last year, *i.e.*, completed with the exception of Bloemendahl road bridge and approaches.

Batticaloa-Trincomalee Light Railway.

This extension is a light railway laid with 46¼ lb. rails, maximum gradients of 1 in 60, and curves of a minimum of 19.10 chains radius.

Since last reporting the line has been opened to Batticaloa for goods traffic on January 4 and for all classes of traffic on March 12.

The total estimate for this line is Rs. 22,972,761.36. and when all minor works, repairs to rolling stock, and other charges are effected, it is anticipated that there will be a saving of approximately Rs. 200,000.

Kalladi Bridge.

This bridge consists of six spans of 150 feet, designed to carry both road and rail traffic. It connects the district south of Batticaloa with the railway terminus at Batticaloa, and for wheeled traffic displaces the Kalladi ferry. It will carry the railway when it is extended south of Batticaloa.

The bridge and road approaches are completed and were opened by His Excellency the Governor on October 9. Owing to the heavy embankments being constructed during the dry season the late rains have done considerable damage to them and subsidences have been caused. The banks will continue to subside for some time and will need occasional repairing and maintenance. The pitching necessary to prevent scour and damage by wind slop has not yet been put in. The total estimate for the work is Rs. 1,061,301, out of which Rs. 1,009,786.65 has been to the end of December.

Kalladi Bridge Swamp.

This swamp, situated between Batticaloa Station and Kalladi Bridge, was during the wet season a very unsightly, malodorous, and unhealthy stagnant pool about 1,500 feet long, and it was decided that it should be filled in. The amount voted for this work is Rs. 46,380, and the amount spent to the end of December was Rs. 9,371.06.

ROADS.

The total length of roads maintained by the Public Works Department during the year was 4,213 miles, of which 3,713 miles are metalled roads, 372 miles are gravelled roads, and 128 miles are natural roads.

In the year 1928 there was a considerable extension in the mileage of roads tarred or otherwise surface treated. At the end of the year the length of metalled roads so treated was 1,399 miles, as against 736 miles at the end of the previous year.

POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICE.

[Full information on this subject is to be found in the "Ceylon Post Office Guide," obtainable from the Postmaster-General, Colombo, price 75 cents.]

The Postal, Telegraph, and Telephone Service is highly organized. There are 10,652 miles of telegraph wire (including telephone trunk and junction lines and Railway telegraph wires), and 33,781 miles of telephone wire for subscribers' circuits, of which 27,605 are laid underground (excluding private estate lines), 428 Post Offices (excluding the General Post Office, which does all kinds of postal and telegraph business, and the Central Telegraph Office, which does only telegraph business) for money and postal orders and postal savings bank business, 239 (including the General Post Office and the Central Telegraph Office) for telegraph business, and 191 (including the General Post Office and the Central Telegraph Office) telephone call offices.

On December 31, 1928, 815 offices were open for the transaction of postal business—of these 218 (excluding the Central Telegraph Office) were offices dealing with all classes of postal business, namely, mail and parcel work, registration and insurance of postal articles, money order, postal order, and savings bank work and telegraph business: at 13 offices all such business except telegraph work was transacted.

At 19 Sub-Post Offices mail parcel, registration, money order, postal order, savings bank, and telephone-telegram work was transacted; at 164 Sub-Post Offices all such business except telephone-telegram work was transacted; while at 1 Sub-Post Office, 385 Village Receiving Offices, and 15 Railway Receiving Offices mail work only was conducted.

Mail Service.

A.—*Foreign.*

A regular weekly mail service between Ceylon and the United Kingdom was maintained during 1928 and 16,937 bags of correspondence and 9,613 bags of parcels arrived from London while 4,137 bags of correspondence and 3,356 bags of parcels were despatched to London.

Fifty-two letter mails were received from London, of these 31 were carried by vessels of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company—of which 6 were landed at Bombay and brought overland to Colombo and 26 were brought by sea to Colombo; and 20 were carried by vessels of the Orient Line.

In the homeward direction 87 mails were despatched to Europe, by vessels of the Peninsular and Oriental (52 mails), Orient (15), Rotterdam Lloyd (18), Blue Funnel (1), and Nippon Yusen Kaisha (1) Lines. The time occupied in transit was 16-19 days from Colombo to London and 16-18 days from London to Colombo. Average, 17½ and 17 days respectively.

Between Australia and Ceylon an almost regular weekly mail service was maintained by the use of the vessels of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company and the Orient Company; and the vessels of the Australian Commonwealth Line, now known as Aberdeen and Commonwealth Line provided a supplementary service, 13 mails being despatched to Australia by this means during the year.

Regular and frequent services to the Straits Settlements and the Far East were available by the vessels of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company, Messageries Maritimes Company, and the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, Rotterdam Lloyd, and Stoommvaart-Maatschappij Nederland Lines.

The British India Steam Navigation Company's steamers carried mails from Ceylon to Mauritius nine times during the year at irregular intervals. A fortnightly mail service from Colombo to Mauritius *viâ* Bombay, Aden, and Djibouti was started in February, 1924, and another service *viâ* Bombay by B. I. steamers was started in August, 1926, by which services 5 and 20 mails respectively were despatched to Mauritius. The Natal Direct, Indian-African, and Ossen Shosen Kaisha Lines and British India Steam Navigation Company's steamers from Bombay carried 44 mails from Ceylon to South Africa.

Vessels of the Ossen Shosen Kaisha Line carried direct mails to the Argentine *viâ* South Africa and to Dar-es-Salaam. The service to the latter place started on February 24, 1928.

With India the daily service in each direction by train with ferryboat plying between Talaimannar and Dhanushkodi was maintained. A regular bi-weekly service was also maintained during 1928 between Colombo and Tuticorin by steamers of the British India Steam Navigation Company.

The direct Parcel Post Service with Germany which was started on December 5, 1927, was maintained.

B.—*Inland Mails.*

Inland mails are carried generally by the Ceylon Government Railways and from Railway Stations by private contract motor mail services, bullock coach, or by runner services. The total mileage of motor mail services is 1,763 miles.

The inland mail services worked satisfactorily throughout the year save when interrupted for short periods by floods and washaways.

Mail Statistics.

The total number of postal articles exclusive of parcels which passed through the post in 1928 is estimated at 112,496,000, about 11 million more than in 1927. The increase was principally in inland correspondence which comprised over 75.7 per cent. of the total. Correspondence exchanged with India formed nearly 13.83 per cent. of the total, with the United Kingdom about 6.49 per cent., and with other countries nearly 3.98 per cent.

Letters received from the United Kingdom showed an increase of 466,000 compared with 1927. Printed matter, samples, &c., from the United Kingdom showed an increase of about 354,000 compared with 1927.

The total number of parcels dealt with was 1,285,262, a decrease of 109,376 over the 1927 total. Of these 66,884 were received from the United Kingdom, 292,497 from India, and 15,533 from other countries. 25,238 parcels were received under the cash on delivery service from the United Kingdom.

Postage Rates.

The rates of postage to the United Kingdom and British Possessions, including Egypt, as revised in 1926 continued in operation during the year, viz., 9 cents per ounce or part of that weight for letters, 6 cents each for post cards, and 3 cents per 2 ounces for printed papers. The rates for foreign countries remained the same, viz., 20 cents for the first ounce and 10 cents for every additional ounce, 12 cents each for post cards, and 4 cents per 2 ounces for printed papers.

Articles printed in relief for the special use of the blind are transmitted at a specially reduced rate of 4 cents per 2 lb.

The inland rates of postage on letters, post cards, and printed matter and the rates to India remained unchanged—intial letter rate 5 cents per 2 ounces or part of that weight, post card rate 2 cents, printed matter 2 cents for every 2 ounces, and registered newspapers 2 cents without limit of weight.

The total value of stamps sold by the Department in 1928 was Rs. 7,984,250.

The inland telegraph rate, 30 cents for the first 10 words, including address, and 5 cents for each additional 2 words, remained unchanged, as did the rates on telegrams to India—for first 12 words, ordinary Re. 1, express Rs. 2, with 10 and 15 cents respectively for each additional word.

Money and Postal Orders.

The total value of money orders handled in 1928 was Rs. 56,317,892, of which inland orders amounted to Rs. 39,371,184; of the balance the business with India formed the largest percentage, orders issued payable in India totalling nearly 14 million rupees, a fair proportion of which was due to savings remitted by Indian immigrant coolies.

The business in money orders between Ceylon and the United Kingdom was small—12,450 orders of a total value of Rs. 508,532.

There was an increase in the value of local postal orders issued, Rs. 978,973—compared with Rs. 968,268 in 1927. The number of British postal orders paid amounted to £8,753. 16*s*. 0*d*.

Considerable use was made of the telegraph money order service between Ceylon and India, remittances totalling Rs. 5,198,212 being so sent to India and Rs. 689,998 drawn by Indian remitters on Ceylon.

Comparatively little use however was made of the services between Ceylon and the United Kingdom (803 telegraph orders were sent to the United Kingdom and 127 received therefrom), Ceylon and the Federated Malay States (65 orders only being sent and 1,688 orders received), Ceylon and Singapore (61 orders were sent to Singapore and 400 were received therefrom), and Ceylon and Kedah (none sent, 15 received).

The revenue from money order commission reached Rs. 567,332.

Post Office Savings Bank.

The business of the Bank transacted at 231 Post Offices and 183 Sub-Post Offices continued to expand during 1928, the deposits, which amounted to Rs. 7,922,450, exceeding withdrawals during the year by Rs. 245,775.

On December 31, 1928, the total to the credit of depositors was Rs. 12,895,499.

The rate of interest continued to be 2.4 per cent.—2 cents per month for each complete Rs. 10.

Any sums not less than 25 cents are accepted for deposits up to nett maximum of Rs. 750 per annum and an interest bearing total of Rs. 3,000.

Deposits may be made by means of stamped lists. One withdrawal on demand of a sum not exceeding Rs. 10 is allowed in any one week.

Telegraph System.

All important towns in the Island are served by the Government telegraph system.

238 Postal Telegraph Offices were open for public traffic on December 31, 1928, besides several Railway Telegraph Offices. Twelve new Telegraph Offices were opened during the year.

There are 2 telegraph circuits between Ceylon and India, on one of which the Baudot printing machine is employed in quadruplex working.

Ceylon is connected with the West by direct cables of the Eastern Telegraph Company to Aden, Suez, and the Seychelles, and to the East with Penang and Singapore.

The Government Wireless Station at Colombo is open to all classes of traffic. The station normally transmits on 600 metres "Interrupted Continuous Wave" and has a daylight range of approximately 600 miles.

A telephone broadcasting service on 800 metres is maintained and regular daily broadcasts are made at noon, every evening, and on Sundays.

The total number of telegrams handled in 1928 was 2,338,547. The average time taken in transmission of an inland telegram was 30 minutes.

The number of messages despatched to India was 263,692 and the number received from India was 202,277.

149,854 private cable messages were despatched to and 134,888 received from other countries.

The Colombo Wireless Station dealt with 14,372 messages during the year.

The revenue from telegrams was estimated at Rs. 965,555, and the value of free telegraphic services rendered to Government departments was Rs. 66,950.

The Telephone System.

Speaking generally, the larger towns are served by Government exchanges and rural areas by private licensed local exchanges linked together by Government junction and trunk lines.

The principal Government exchange is at Colombo (with a sub-exchange at Havelock Town), which is served by underground cable as far as possible. There were 3,117 subscribers to this on December 31, 1928. There is no charge on calls between subscribers to the Central exchange in the Fort and those connected to the Havelock Town sub-exchange, but a surtax is levied to cover the cost of junction service.

The next largest Government exchanges are at Kandy (208 subscribers), Nuwara Eliya (155), Galle (122), Jaffna (87), Panadure (70), Kurunegala (69), Kalutara (62), Gampola (56), Negombo (54), Ratnapura (53), and Hatton (49).

No charge for installation is made for connection to Government exchanges, but a flat rate of subscription is charged for an unlimited service within the prescribed hours.

The minimum subscriptions applicable to premises within 2 miles of the exchange are Rs. 180 per annum for business and Rs. 120 for residential connections in the larger towns.

At the Colombo Fort and Havelock Town exchanges the service is continuous throughout the year, and it is estimated that nearly 21½ million calls were dealt with in Ceylon in 1928.

The average speed of answer during the day in Colombo was 4.9 seconds, and 96.4 per cent. of calls were answered within 10 seconds.

There were 191 Government call offices open during the year, and the number of telephone stations reached 7,670. The estimated number of trunk line calls was 411,216, and junction line calls amounted to 464.568.

The trunk and junction line fees are fixed on a cent per mile basis. Receipts from telephones totalled Rs. 1,005,338 in 1928, while the value of telephone services rendered free to other Government departments was estimated at Rs. 150,069.

The Government telephone system at the end of 1928 comprised 16,828 miles of overhead and 27,605 miles of underground wire.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue of the Department in 1928 is estimated at, roughly, Rs. 9,251,334.

The value of free services rendered to other Government departments not included in these totals was estimated at Rs. 1,214,487, but no reliable estimate can be framed of the value of free services rendered by them to the Postal Department.

The total expenditure from the votes of the Postal Department was Rs. 7,944,724.

VI.—Justice, Police, and Prisons.

THE SUPREME COURT.

THE work of the Supreme Court falls into two main divisions. The first of these is the decision of appeals, and the second is the trial of serious crimes under its original jurisdiction on circuit. The trial of these cases on circuit constitutes the first charge upon the time of the court. The surplus, when these are disposed of, represents the time available for appeals.

Appeal Jurisdiction.

During the year 1,447 minor appeals (*i.e.*, District Court Criminal Appeals, Police Court Appeals, and Court of Requests Appeals) were received and 1,478 were disposed of, 208 having been carried over from 1927. 679 major appeals (*i.e.*, appeals from District Courts) were received and 707 were disposed of, 231 having been carried over from 1927. The total number of appeals decided was thus 2,185. But in addition to these appeals, the court and the Judges have to deal with a great number of incidental applications and petitions. The figures with regard to these are as follows:—

Applications for leave to appeal in Court of Requests cases disposed of during the year	107
Applications for sole testamentary jurisdiction	168
Miscellaneous applications	485
Habeas corpus petitions	580
Other petitions	519
	1,859

The disposal of the civil work of the court is shown in the following table:—

Disposal of Work for the Year ending December, 1928.

Number of major appeals disposed of during the year 1928—

(1) Finals—		
Money	207	485
Land	278	
(2) Interlocutories—		
Ordinary	158	222
Special	64	
		707

With regard to the interval at which appeals are disposed of the facts are as follows:—Criminal appeals are generally disposed of within about a month of their receipt at the Registry. Court of Requests appeals are generally disposed of within about six weeks. Ordinary interlocutory appeals are generally disposed of within a month, special interlocutories within two months. District Court finals, however, which constitute the main work of the court, require in ordinary cases from six to seven months to be brought to trial, but this interval has now been reduced to three and a half to four months, while in certain exceptional cases the interval is shorter.

Number of Minor Appeals Disposed of during the Year 1928.

(1) District Court criminals	186
(2) Police Courts	934
(3) Courts of Requests	358
	1,478

An important part of the appeal work of the court consists of the decision of those cases which are referred to courts of three or more Judges, generally, though not quite accurately, described as Full Court cases. The number of these cases referred during the year was 6, and the number of days occupied in their consideration was 17.

Note.—Including 2 references under section 19 of the Courts Ordinance, 1889; 1 reference under section 355 of the Criminal Procedure Code; 3 courts of three Judges.

Trials on Circuit.

The total number of cases tried at Criminal Sessions throughout the Colony during the year 1928 was 500, and the days consumed in disposing of them were 648.

The cases committed to the Supreme Court consist usually of crime of the following categories:—(1) Murder; (2) attempted murder; (3) grievous cases of grievous hurt; (4) gang robbery; (5) offences against women and children; (6) occasional cases of forgery; and various forms of fraud.

Members of the criminal classes very seldom come before the Supreme Court, all habitual criminals being dealt with by the District Courts.

DISTRICT COURTS, POLICE COURTS, AND COURTS OF REQUESTS.

Criminal.

There are 37 Police Courts in the Island and 3 Municipal Courts. 98,170 cases were instituted in the Police Courts during the year 1928, and 93,267 persons were brought up before the Magistrates on summonses or warrants. Of these, 56,238 persons were convicted, 34,298 persons acquitted or discharged, and 2,731 persons committed to superior courts.

There are 22 District Courts in the Island having criminal jurisdiction. During the year under review 1,314 cases were committed before such courts, and 2,134 persons were charged. Of the persons committed for trial, 708 were acquitted, 1,339 convicted, and 7 persons dealt with otherwise. On December 31, 1928, there were still 80 persons awaiting trial.

Civil.

In the 22 District Courts of the Island there were pending on January 1, 1928, 15,698 suits. 14,914 suits were instituted or restored during the year, making a total of 30,612. Of these, 5,406 were disposal of on evidence, 7,960 were otherwise disposed of, *i.e.*, on admission, &c., making a total of 13,366, and on December 31, 1928, there were 17,246 suits awaiting disposal.

In the 41 Courts of Requests in the Island there were pending on January 1, 1928, 10,303 suits. 29,424 suits were instituted or restored during the year, making a total of 39,727. Of these, 4,674 suits were disposed of on evidence, 23,589 were otherwise disposed of, *i.e.*, by default, &c., making a total of 28,263, and on December 31, 1928, there were 11,464 suits pending.

POLICE.

Strength of the Force, &c.

The following table gives the sanctioned and actual strength of the Force on December 31:—

	Sanctioned.	Actual.
Inspector-General	1	1
Deputy Inspectors-General	2	2
Superintendents, Assistant Superintendents, and Probationers	37	35
Chief Inspectors, Inspectors, and Sub-Inspectors	184	178
Sergeant-Majors	2	1
Sergeants	364	365
Constables	2,523	2,512
European Police Force.		
Chief Inspector	1	1
Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors	4	4
Sergeants	28	23
	3,146	3,122

Two Ceylonese probationary Assistant Superintendents were enlisted under the same conditions as those existing in England for European probationary Assistant Superintendents.

During the year 2,027 applications for enlistment were received, 12.97 per cent. being enlisted and 87.03 per cent. rejected. Of the 496 applicants as Sub-Inspectors only 13 answered requirements and were enlisted. At the school 1,649 applicants were examined by the Superintendent; 18 *ex*-constables applied for re-enlistment, 4 successfully, of whom 3 were recruits who had previously resigned from the school. The Boys' Brigade supplied 29 recruits. Of the recruits who applied through provincial officers, the Southern Province supplied 23. 179 recruits were enlisted on direct application to the Superintendent, 70 per cent. being Sinhalese.

Education.—Of the sergeants and constables, 42 per cent. can read and write English and 56 per cent. can speak English. In 1921 33 per cent. only could read and write English. A small number of sergeants and constables are unable to read or write any language; these men were enlisted many years ago and the number of illiterate men is decreasing as they retire on pension, or otherwise leave the Force. In 1921 30 sergeants and constables were unable to read or write any language.

The granting of an allowance of Rs. 5 a month to constables who have passed the seventh or a higher standard in English and Rs. 3 a month to those who have passed the fifth or sixth standard has had the effect of inducing men to learn English. 325 constables are drawing Rs. 5 a month and 175 are drawing Rs. 3 a month as English allowance. In 1927 the figures were respectively 253 and 197. The standard of education has advanced considerably. Special English classes are held at the Training School and at almost every Police Station in the Island. The monthly average number of men who attend the English class at the Training School is 76. In some cases constables engage a teacher themselves, in other cases police officers in charge of stations arrange for a teacher to hold the class or else themselves hold a class and instruct their men in English. Police clerks also have assisted in holding classes. A number of men who had passed the examination entitling them to draw the lesser allowance continued to learn English and have become entitled to draw the greater allowance by passing the necessary examination. Many constables who could not read or write English on enlistment have since passed the necessary examination and are drawing an English allowance.

Of the 298 recruit constables who passed out of the Training School during the year, 53 had passed the seventh or a higher standard and 35 the fifth and sixth standard in English. Sixty-four per cent. of recruits who passed out of the Training School could read and write English. Of the constables enlisted during the year, some had passed the Cambridge Junior Examination and the Elementary School-leaving Certificate Examination.

A working knowledge of English is essential in every province and district. A constable may be required at any time to direct a motorist or take down a statement from a witness who speaks English but knows no Sinhalese. Motor vehicles carry a large number of passengers, who know no vernacular languages, to all parts of the Island, and police of all ranks must have a knowledge of English in order to deal satisfactorily with complaints, &c., that may at any time be reported to them. Education alone, however, does not qualify a constable for promotion to the rank of sergeant. He must show qualities of leadership and initiative, both important parts of a police officer's training.

Conduct.—It is realized that, if the Police Force is to obtain all the assistance it requires from the general public, the conduct of its members must be exemplary, both in their dealings with the public and with persons who have committed or are suspected to have committed offences. All complaints by members of the public against police officers are promptly inquired into by an officer who is not below the rank of Assistant Superintendent: adequate punishment, if merited, is awarded, and the complainant is informed in writing of the result of the inquiry. Any member of the Force, charged with a crime for which a private individual would ordinarily be dealt with in a Court of Law, is prosecuted. In the case of petty assaults and other less serious offences committed by police officers, the complainant is required to state whether he wishes the offender to be prosecuted in court or the case heard departmentally.

Crime.

General.—Offences against the Penal Code, dealt with during the year, numbered 16,874. Of these, 11,936 were disposed of by the courts as true cases.

The following statement shows the number of cases of crime disposed of as true by the courts during the last three years:—

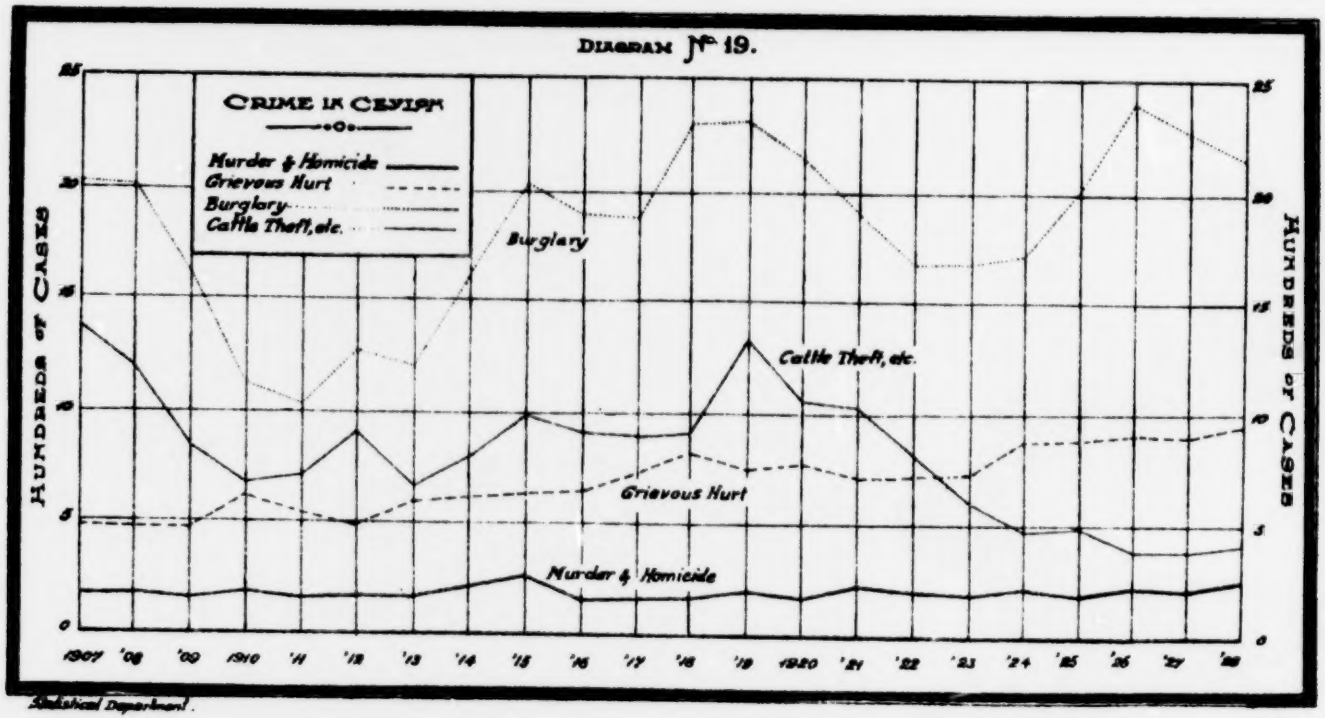
	1926.	1927.	1928.
Homicide	223	208	248
Attempted homicide	88	107	83
Grievous hurt	909	899	947
Hurt with dangerous weapons	1,363	1,407	1,436
Burglary	2,405	2,272	2,158
Theft of cattle	385	388	412
Other offences	3,334	3,336	3,525
Total	8,707	8,617	8,809

The statistics of crime for the last six years under the three main heads: "Offences against the person" (which are not directly preventable by police action), "Offences against property," and "Offences against the State" (riot, &c.), are as follows:—

Year.	Total Crime.	Offences against the Person (excluding Robbery).	Preventable Crime, Offences against Property (including Robbery).	Offences against the State.
1922	7,045	2,212	4,805	28
1923	6,497	2,020	4,444	33
1924	6,933	2,433	4,469	31
1925	7,650	2,668	4,947	35
1926	8,707	2,755	5,914	38
1927	8,617	2,798	5,760	59
1928	8,809	2,881	5,866	62

There has been very little change in the state of crime during the last three years.

Offences against the Person.—Most of the offences under this heading are cases of hurt by knife. The unpremeditated use of the knife cannot be prevented by police activity; all that can be done with an adult offender is to ensure that he is dealt with promptly so that ill-will is not fostered between the parties for an unnecessary length of time. Quarrels occur suddenly and are soon over; the punishment of the offender must be meted out with equal promptitude. Cases occurred during the year in which schoolboys of 8, 10, and 12 years stabbed other boys with a knife after a dispute in which any boy trained to use his fists would have done so. Efforts are being made by the police in conjunction with the Education Department to train the youth of the country in lessons of self-control, and so to discourage the use of the knife as a weapon of offence by teaching boys in the larger towns and in village schools to box and to play games. A special annual grant is made by Government to the Education Department for the purpose of teaching boxing in schools throughout the Island.



Statistical Department.

Offences against Property.—Offences against property can to a great extent be prevented by a thorough system of police patrols and beats and by a careful supervision over well known and suspected criminals. A feature of crime of this nature is the increasing use of rapid means of conveyance, chiefly motor vehicles, by thieves and other criminals. The criminal in Ceylon is quick to adapt himself to modern conditions, and it is only by police adopting up-to-date methods of prevention and detection of crime that offenders against property can be traced and brought to justice.

Murder.—The following statement shows the incidence of true cases of murder disposed of in 1928 compared with the two previous years:—

1926 ..	223	1927 ..	208	1928 ..	248

Gang Robbery.—The following statement shows the number of cases of gang robbery committed during the last three years:—

1926 ..	9	1927 ..	21	1928 ..	17

Gang robbery is the worst type of crime with which the police have to deal. It is a premeditated crime, at times accompanied by murder and rape, although the latter is seldom admitted by the victims. Gang robbers usually come from distant places so that there is little fear of their being recognized.

Burglary.—The number of cases during the last three years was as follows:—1926, 2,405; 1927, 2,272; 1928, 2,158. Burglary constitutes almost one-fourth of the total serious crime in the Island. Burglary is a premeditated crime committed almost exclusively by the professional criminal. In cases of causing hurt the offence is committed in the heat of the moment, and in the majority of such cases the offender has no criminal instinct. A person who commits burglary is, on the other hand, a danger to society.

Theft.—The following are the figures showing the number of cases disposed of by the courts as true cases:—

Year.	Theft.	Robbery.	Total.
1926 ..	2,569	370	2,939
1927 ..	2,524	399	2,912
1928 ..	2,620	477	3,097

Since the restriction on rubber production was removed during the year, thefts of rubber have increased: stolen rubber can be more easily disposed of now that no coupons are required before a sale of rubber can be effected. There were 4 cases of theft of motor cars: this form of theft tends to increase.

Municipal and Statutory Offences.—These cases constitute all offences against the law, except cases such as theft, murder, housebreaking, &c., which have been classified under the head "crime." The following statement shows the action taken to deal with such offences:—

Year.	Total Prosecutions.	Total Convictions.	Year.	Total Prosecutions.	Total Convictions.
1920 ..	24,429	22,178	1927 ..	51,191	44,518
1923 ..	30,540	27,362	1928 ..	57,579	48,413
1926 ..	45,482	38,985			

Firearms.—535 prosecutions were entered under the Firearms Ordinance. These figures include the prosecution of 7 unlicensed repairers and 2 unlicensed manufacturers. The number of new firearms purchased has increased in recent years.

Gun licences were issued during the past three years as follows:—

1926 ..	59,911	1927 ..	66,268	1928 ..	69,144

The following figures show the number of cases in which persons were injured by firearms:—

1923 ..	.. 61	1925 ..	.. 67	1927 ..	.. 93
1924 ..	.. 54	1926 ..	.. 80	1928 ..	.. 110

During 1928 39 cases of murder were committed by the use of firearms compared with 30 in 1927. There has been an increase each year in the number of persons injured by firearms. In view of this increase great care should be exercised in the issue of permits to possess firearms. As criminals become more educated they will make more use of firearms both as weapons of offence and of defence. The wider distribution of modern and other firearms tends to make their use in crimes of passion and premeditation more common every year.

Cocaine, Opium, and Ganja Smuggling.—There were 305 prosecutions by the police for illicit possession of opium. The weight of opium seized was 99 pounds 7 ounces: in 1927 84½ pounds were seized and in 1926 255½ pounds.

In view of the fact that the amount of opium which can be obtained through licensed consumers annually becomes less, as no new licences to consume opium have been issued since 1910, an increase must be expected in the amount of opium which is illicitly imported for consumption by unlicensed consumers. The amendment of the law which will enable excise officers to search for and seize opium is, at present, being considered by the Legislative Council: under the existing law the police only have power to search for and seize opium.

There were 338 prosecutions for illicit possession of bhang, ganja, and *cannabis indica* compared with 376 in 1927. The weight of ganja seized was 143 pounds. In Colombo Division alone there were 205 prosecutions. No cases of possession of cocaine were detected and there is no evidence that this drug is, at the present time, being imported into Ceylon.

Probation Officers.—Adults, although they may have no criminal instincts, at times commit offences owing to temptation or to necessity. In such cases, where there is no element of premeditation, it is undesirable that the offenders should be sentenced to imprisonment. In 1919 the law relating to the release on security bonds for good behaviour of persons convicted of offences was amended and wider powers in this connection were given to the courts. Provision was also made for the appointment of "Probation Officers" who are required to visit and receive the reports of persons released on probation, that is, on security bonds for good behaviour. A number of probation officers have been appointed, but in many cases these officers, who receive no remuneration for the work they are required to do, have little time or opportunity to help the offenders committed to their care. The following figures show the number of persons released on probation during the last five years:—

1924 ..	.. 44	1926 ..	58	1928 ..	.. 60
1925 ..	.. 93	1927 ..	49		

In Colombo the figures were—

1924 ..	.. 8	1926 ..	7	1928 ..	.. 21
1925 ..	.. 1	1927 ..	8		

Youthful Offenders.—A study of the records of re-convicted criminals in Ceylon shows that the majority of them come from the towns. Their criminal history usually starts with petty thefts committed between the ages of 12 and 14. A sentence of six cuts for the first offence is followed by one of ten cuts and detention in a reformatory for subsequent offences. Finally imprisonment is awarded and the boy settles down to a life of crime.

The following details of youthful offenders illustrate how youths have started to commit crime at an early age owing to evil surroundings and continue to do so after their first conviction owing to the absence of a Borstal Institution or Training School where they might have had an opportunity of learning to work and supporting themselves by honest means.

There has been a yearly increase in the number of re-convicted criminals in Ceylon. On December 31 there were 10,781, almost double the number registered up to 1915. During the year 1928 4,450 first offenders were convicted of serious crime. Of these 1,519 or 34 per cent. were youths between the ages of 15 and 21. During the last two years 8,891 first offenders were convicted. Of these 25 per cent. were youths between the ages of 15 and 21. Crime committed by youths is for the most part confined to petty thefts; articles are stolen with the one desire to obtain food and clothing. There is a reformatory at Maggona in the Western Province to which youthful offenders up to the age of 16 can be sent for training and detention. There is no institution to which a lad of over 16 years of age can be sent on conviction other than a jail. A Training School for youthful offenders between the ages of 16 and 21 is an urgent need. A Committee appointed by Government to consider the various schemes for the reform of juvenile criminals and to recommend which system should be adopted has recommended that a start should be made with a Training School for not more than 50 lads in order that full opportunity may be given and taken for personal knowledge by the Director and his staff of the history, character, and possibilities of each individual in the institution. It has been recommended that youths between the ages of 16 and 21 only should be admitted, and no inmate should be admitted for a shorter period than two years. Stress has been laid on the fact that in an agricultural country agricultural instruction should occupy the first place in the curriculum of the Training School. The mere training of a boy at a Training School is insufficient. It has been pointed out that after completing his period of training a boy should be released on licence to the care of an Association which will do its utmost to obtain work for him in surroundings which will assist him to keep clear of his former associates. This provision could be supplied by the creation locally of some body, such as the Borstal Association in England, which was founded for the purpose of taking charge of lads and girls on their discharge from Borstal Institutions.

Clubs for street boys are maintained in the Pettah, Colombo, and in Galle, Kandy, and Panadure. A club for working boys has also been started at Slave Island in Colombo. The police at the majority of headquarter stations have got into touch with homeless and destitute boys, and have helped the boys by finding employment for them and by encouraging them to attend school, to play games, and generally to lead an honest life.

The combination of the clubs for homeless boys, the efficient working of a probation system, the maintenance of a Training School for youthful offenders, and the after-care by an Association which will provide for the supervision of boys released, on licence, from the Training School, should do a great deal towards solving the problem of the youthful offender in Ceylon.

Means of Communication.—Of the 164 Police Stations in the Island 125 are on the telephone, and the extension of the telephone to 16 more stations has been sanctioned by Government.

Government sanctioned the installation of a "Morkrum" Teletype Machine which will connect Headquarters with the principal Police Statons in Colombo. Messages typed on the machine at Headquarters will automatically and simultaneously be recorded in type at each station. This will

eliminate delay and inaccuracy in important messages concerning absconders, property stolen, &c., which in an emergency should at once be communicated to every station in Colombo.

Stray Dogs and Rabies.—The following comparative statements show the number of stray dogs destroyed during the past four years and the number of persons admitted to the Pasteur Institute for treatment:—

Number of Dogs destroyed.

1925 ..	13,025	1926 ..	17,207	1927 ..	30,058	1928 ..	45,851

Number of Persons admitted to the Pasteur Institute for Treatment.

1925 ..	500	1926 ..	957	1927 ..	1,083	1928 ..	1,447

It will be seen that the majority of the persons admitted for treatment to the Pasteur Institute were from the Western, Central, and Southern Provinces, but these Provinces have the largest population. Compared with the number who attended for treatment in 1925 there was an increase in admission of 189 per cent. in 1928. The shooting of stray and rabid dogs has increased by 252 per cent. in 1928 compared with 1925. 75,909 stray dogs have been destroyed in the last two years. But in spite of increased activity in the destruction of dogs, there have been many more patients treated in the Pasteur Institute each year, and it is plain that rabies is increasing. Dogs are being bred in Ceylon faster than they can, at the present time, be destroyed.

A Select Committee of the Legislative Council has been appointed to consider the question of consolidating the existing Ordinances dealing with dogs with the object of introducing legislation similar to that in force in the Straits Settlements, authorizing the seizure and destruction of any dog found straying in a public place not actually in charge of or under the effective control of any person.

Control of Traffic.

On January 1 the registration and licensing of all motor vehicles and drivers came under the control of one Central Authority, the Registrar of Motor Cars, and the police were relieved of the responsibility of examining and licensing the drivers of motor vehicles, and of registering motor vehicles. Examiners of motor vehicles and drivers were appointed throughout the Island by the Registrar of Motor Cars.

Regulation and Control of Motor Traffic.—There were 20,287 prosecutions under the Motor Ordinance. In 1923 1,685 were entered. This increase illustrates the amount of extra work imposed on the police and on the courts by the increase in motor traffic. Of these 20,287 prosecutions, 1,061 were for exceeding the speed limit, 784 for reckless and negligent driving, 76 for causing death by a rash and negligent act, and 71 for causing serious injury. The number of accidents caused by motor vehicles throughout the Island was 2,387. 159 of these were serious accidents and 114 proved fatal. In 1927 there were 292 serious accidents and 109 proved fatal. A satisfactory decrease in serious accidents is noted, due in some measure to the improved skill of drivers as well as to the strict control of traffic by the police. In spite of the small percentage (11 per cent.) of motor buses compared with other motor vehicles, 42.5 per cent. of the serious accidents reported were caused by motor buses. 36.5 per cent. of serious accidents caused by motor buses proved fatal. In 42.5 per cent. of fatal serious accidents the fault lay chiefly with the pedestrian.

Correction Slip.

In line 1 of 4th paragraph, *for* " in December alone " *read* " during the year."

The following figures show the action taken to control the speed of motor vehicles and to check rash and negligent driving:—

Year.	Vehicles on the Road.	Number of Prosecutions for Reckless or Careless Driving.	Fatal Accidents.	Total Serious Accidents, including Fatal Accidents.
1923	7,288	189	38	82
1924	9,029	438	69	171
1925	11,773	830	73	230
1926	14,947	984	109	258
1927	17,340	1,084	107	292
1928	20,623	838	114	273

It is satisfactory to note that the number of serious and fatal accidents have not increased in the same proportion as the increase in the number of vehicles.

The total number of motor vehicles in Ceylon in 1918 was 3,773: on December 31, 1928, there were 20,623 registered as follows:—

(*a*) Motor cars registered for private use	11,231	(*f*) Motor trailers	101
(*b*) Motor cycles	3,190	(*g*) Tractors	21
(*c*) Motor cars registered for hiring purposes	1,428		
(*d*) Motor omnibuses	2,313		
(*e*) Motor lorries	2,339		20,623

The number of vehicles registered in December alone was 4,124. The number of vehicles on the road at the end of 1927 was 17,340 compared with 20,623 in 1928. At the end of the year 19,101 persons were in possession of Certificates of Competence to drive a motor vehicle.

The number of motor buses in use has increased from 72 in 1920 to 2,313 in 1928. The popularity of the bus as a rapid and cheap means of transport is illustrated by the fact that 178 buses were used by pilgrims at the annual festival at Madhu in the Northern Province to which but a few years ago the only approach was by bullock cart along a sandy track.

Control of Bullock Cart and other Traffic.—In order to minimize accidents on the narrow winding roads of this Island, it is essential that attention should be paid to obstruction and other offences committed by the drivers of bullock carts and other slow moving vehicles. During the year 12,386 prosecutions were entered against the drivers and owners of such vehicles.

Criminal Investigation Department.—The Criminal Investigation Department includes the Harbour Police, Foreshore Police, Train Police, the Photographic Branch, and the Fingerprint Bureau.

Inquiries are frequently made from the Ceylon Criminal Investigation Department by Police Forces of other countries with regard to travellers who might pass through Colombo owing to its position as the central port of the East. The Criminal Investigation Department, therefore, keeps records of all persons arriving in and leaving Ceylon, all persons staying in hotels, boarding houses, and resthouses, and of all foreigners. People of 49 different nationalities passed through Colombo by the Talaimannar route to and from India in the course of the year.

Modus Operandi Bureau.—The Bureau was started three years ago for the purpose of registering and card-indexing the methods employed by criminals in committing crime. The system employed at Scotland Yard was adopted and only crimes which showed a definite *modus operandi* were classified. As the Bureau grows it will become more useful to investigating officers. In 1928 the system was revised and 232 criminals are now on the register and their crimes classified.

Photographic Branch.—The photographic branch which began in 1924 on a small scale has developed in equipment and usefulness. It is now equipped, not only for the ordinary photographing of criminals and scenes of accidents, &c., but for more delicate work, such as the photographing and analyzing of fingerprints, poroscopic prints, footprints found at scenes of crime, and suspected forgeries.

Fingerprint Bureau.—There are on record 73,322 fingerprints of male offenders and 1,048 of female offenders.

During the year 4,222 fingerprint slips of first offenders were added to the existing collection. 16,053 slips were received for identification and of these 2,890 or 18 per cent. were identified as having been previously convicted. Ninety-six fingerprint slips were received from foreign countries for identification.

Re-convicted Criminals.—There are 10,781 re-convicted criminals in the Island. During the year 790 first offenders were re-convicted. 830 re-convicted criminals were under police supervision by order of court. 117 re-convicted criminals, while under sentence of police supervision, were convicted of crime, and 66 for failing to report themselves. 358 re-convicted criminals were at large on order of licence at the end of the year. Seven while being at large on order of licence were convicted of crime and 13 for violating the conditions of their licences. 422 re-convicted criminals were convicted in the District and Supreme Courts.

Footprint Bureau.—Everyone sentenced to imprisonment for burglary, and dangerous criminals who have been sentenced to imprisonment for cattle theft, or theft from a dwelling, are footprinted before being discharged from prison. Seventy-eight footprints of criminals were taken and classified during the year.

Censoring of Films.—The police carry out the preliminary censorship of bioscope films by perusing the synopsis of all films before exhibition and by occasionally visiting the Bioscope Halls when films are being shown to the public. Intimation as to the names of films prohibited in India and other countries is sent to the Criminal Investigation Department, Colombo. There are 291 prohibited films on the list.

Strikes.—There was a strike of motor drivers at Armstrong's Garage. Some of the strikers attacked a car driven by non-strikers at Mahara on the Kandy road and seriously injured a lady passenger, Mrs. Gibson of New South Wales. Mrs. Gibson lost one eye, and is permanently disfigured as a result of the assault. The offenders were sentenced to long terms of imprisonment.

There were minor clashes between the Indian Labour Union and the Ceylon Labour Union as the former would not contribute to the latter's funds.

There were at least 20 strikes or threats of strikes in Colombo during 1928, and there are signs that strikes are becoming more common every year. After going on strike, men who are accustomed to work all day stand idle about the streets. For lack of other occupation they abuse their employers and molest non-strikers and voluntary workers. When the police intervene in order to maintain order they in turn are met with abuse and resistance. The number of such strikes causes the number of occasions on which the police are called in to maintain order to be frequent. The police do not take the side of the employer or the employed but are merely present to maintain order. As a general rule the employer does not commit a breach of the peace, it is the idlers in the streets that cause trouble. The police have necessarily to arrest those who commit disorder, and as these persons are invariably workmen or their sympathizers the unfortunate impression is conveyed that the police are antagonistic to "Labour." This is not the case. The members of the Force are entitled to consider themselves labourers and in some instances possibly labour considerably harder than labourers in other employ. When the people of this country have complaints to make their procedure is to go to a Court of Law or to ask for

an inquiry. They have done this for generations, and the procedure is thoroughly understood. They understand how to give evidence and how to make a complaint. Arbitration is a matter which they thoroughly appreciate.

It is in direct keeping with their national habits that workmen who have disputes with their employers should submit their case for arbitration. To induce them to go on strike as a means of adjusting their grievances results in their idling in the streets. Idling in the streets is not conducive to good order, and strikers will always find sympathizers amongst the bad characters of the city. Apart from these frequent clashes between the police and Labour creating an unfortunate impression that the police are antagonistic to Labour the frequent demands on the police at times of strikes interfere with the ordinary duties of the police of preventing crime by patrolling at night, the arrest of offenders and recovery of stolen property, and the regulation of traffic. It is of the utmost importance for good order in the city that there should be legislation requiring disputes of workers to be submitted to arbitration and to prohibit Lightning Strikes and Sympathetic Strikes which have no bearing on the matter in dispute.

Vagrants: House of Detention.—This institution not only acts as a clearing house for vagrants found in the streets, but is also made use of for the repatriation of indigent Indian immigrants.

1,418 persons were admitted to the House of Detention compared with 974 in 1927 and 823 in 1926. The increase is due to the admission of many more indigent Indian immigrants than in previous years.

Since 1913, when the House of Detention was first opened, 11,303 vagrants have been admitted and dealt with. During 1928 26 women convicted as common prostitutes were remanded to the House of Detention and 17 women admitted as vagrants were found to be prostitutes. Forty-six vagrants were found dead in the streets compared with 7 in 1927. In 1913 the number was 109.

Home for Vagrants.—This institution is managed by an officer of the Salvation Army, and is intended for vagrants of Ceylon who are unfit for hard work and for whom employment cannot be found. 222 vagrants were sent there during the year from the House of Detention, and on December 31 there were 137 inmates.

Registration of Servants.—The police attend to the registration of servants at Colombo, Kandy, Nuwara Eliya, and Matale. During the year 2,332 applications for registration were received, and 3,489 new engagements were recorded.

First Aid to the Injured.—The Ceylon Police Corps of the St. John Ambulance Association was formed in 1912. A sound knowledge of first aid is essential to police in a country where crimes of violence are common.

The Ceylon Police Corps has increased from 132 members in 1912 to 1,464 in 1928. Every station in the Island is equipped with a stretcher, a first aid box, and a hamper containing the most necessary first aid materials.

The Training School has been affiliated to the Royal Life Saving Society and is now training instructors and recruits in saving life in cases of drowning, &c.

Ninety-five members of the Bridge possess the Service Medal of the Order of St. John awarded for having completed ten years' efficient service, and 3 members hold the Bar to the Service Medal for having completed fifteen years' efficient service in the Corps.

Police Boys' Brigade.—The Police Boys' Brigade, composed of sons and relatives of the members of the Force, has a strength of 69 senior and 314 junior boys.

The Brigade was formed to provide healthy exercise, recreation, and education for the sons and relatives of police officers and pensioners and to train them to become useful men. The Brigade is a valuable recruiting ground for the Force.

Boxing is an important part of a boy's training: such training teaches him some of the best lessons of life and helps him to acquire qualities which are of the greatest value to a police officer. At the annual boxing competition fifty-five boys from ten different provinces, districts, and divisions competed.

Pensioners' Corps.—The Corps was instituted in 1908 to assist men of good conduct, who are no longer fit for active duty in the Force, to supplement their pension on retirement by obtaining posts as watchers and caretakers, and provide the public with a supply of steady and reliable men for positions of trust. There are 384 pensioners in the Corps.

Police Stations and Offices.—There are 164 Police Stations and 27 Police Offices in the Island.

PRISONS.

There was an increase of 478 in the total number of admissions of convicted prisoners in Ceylon during the year 1928.

The figures are as follows:—

1927	..	.. 8,211	1928	..	.. 8,689

The number of prisoners sentenced to death was 75, as against 55 in 1927. There were 40 executions during the year, as against 38 in 1927.

Of the 40 whose capital sentences were carried out, 33 were Sinhalese, 4 Tamils, 1 Malayalee, and 2 Muslims.

Of the number executed 2 had been sentenced in 1927; and of the number sentenced to death 4 were executed in 1929.

There were 4 escapes and 4 recaptures during the year.

The total number of deaths in Prisons was 77, as against 43 in 1927, and the death rate per 1,000 of the admissions during the year was 8.86, as against 3.05 in 1927 and 5.60 in 1926.

The number of punishments inflicted during the year on prisoners for prison offences was 1,116, as against 764 in 1927, and 698 in 1926.

Prisoners are in all prisons employed upon work of public utility and remunerative industrial labour. At Welikada and Bogambra prisons various trades are taught, such as carpentry, blacksmith, goldsmith, and tinsmith work, bootmaking, tailoring, and making of cane furniture, matting, coir brooms, rugs, mats, coal and tea leaf bags, ropes, brushes, bamboo tats, laundry work, printing, bookbinding, masonry, soapmaking, &c.

The various industries in prisons are carried on under the Prisons Industries Advance Account.

During the year under review 3,188 articles of wooden furniture were turned out by prison labour for various Government departments, &c. Raw materials for furniture making are obtained from the Forest Department, the Colonial Storekeeper, and the Crown Agents for the Colonies, a total of 14,175 cubic feet of various varieties of timber in log form having been received. Cutting, planing, &c., of timber is done by machinery.

Welikada Prison continues to wash all soiled linen from the Medical and Railway Departments, &c., 1,333,760 pieces being dealt with during the year.

13,132 articles of clothing and bedding were made up for the Colonial Storekeeper, and 51,566¼ yards of cloth woven for prison use.

The prisoners at Mahara Prison are exclusively employed in the quarries on account of Harbour Works and Public Works Department.

A daily average of 186.03 prisoners were employed in the Harbour Works quarry during the year as blacksmiths, carpenters, platelayers, stone-dressers, stone breakers, excavators, and other works in connection with the working of the quarry.

A daily average of 201.88 prisoners were employed in the Public Works Department quarry, breaking metal, sledging, clearing, loading, &c., and 4,918.81 cubes of 2-inch metal were broken.

The Karayoor Reclamation Works at Jaffna continue to make good progress. The daily average number of prisoners employed was 133.17.

At Anuradhapura 42 prisoners are daily employed on account of work on the Anti-Malarial Campaign in filling up pools, spraying, weeding, clearing jungle, &c., in and around the vicinity of the town.

For the Forest Department prisoners are employed for reafforestation purposes in clearing jungle, planting teak, margosa, rosewood, &c., at Palugama, and on account of the Local Board prisoners were employed in breaking metal.

In Batticaloa Prison, prisoners are employed on anti-malarial work on account of the Local Board.

In Badulla and Galle Prisons, prisoners are employed in metal breaking for the Public Works Department.

Afternoon schools at Welikada, Kandy, and Mahara Prisons for prisoners of the age of 23 years and under are conducted by arrangement with the Education Department and continue to make satisfactory progress. In addition, evening classes for both male and female prisoners are conducted by various Social Service Organizations and individual workers in Welikada and Kandy Prisons, special facilities being allowed in the former prison for the study of commercial subjects for the benefit of the more educated prisoners.

Juvenile offenders in Welikada Prison are organized as a Rover Troop and receive a thorough training in Scout-craft and allied subjects, and in Colombo, Kandy, Jaffna, Galle, and Badulla Local Sub-Committees of the Ceylon Discharged Prisoners' Aid Association are in charge of the after-care of prisoners on discharge from prison, and work in close co-operation with the Prison Authorities.

VII.—Public Works.

THE total expenditure of the Public Works Department was Rs. 24,424,059 in the financial year 1927-28, as against Rs. 21,562,759 in the previous year and Rs. 3,437,862 in 1896.

During the year the following were among the larger works in course of construction:—

Buildings, New Works.—New Council Chamber and Secretariat; new Government Factory at Kolonnawa; General Hospital, three-storey block; new wards and quarters for religious sisters, Ragama Anti-Tuberculosis Hospital; new court-house, Panadure; new bungalows, extension, &c., Government Training College, Colombo; new extension, Angoda Lunatic

Asylum; new Medical College; one A class bungalow, Colombo; new hospital, Watawala; Walasmulla hospital; new Residency, Matara; new Supreme Court and District Court, Galle; Kayts hospital; new Custom building, Talaimannar; Anamaduwa hospital; Giriulla hospital; Polonnaruwa hospital; new hospital, Madulsima; two Government bungalows at Ratnapura.

Buildings, Additions and Improvements.—Two additional wards, General Hospital; improvements to Manning Market and Chalmers Granaries, Colombo; additions to religious sisters' quarters, General Hospital, Colombo; additions and improvements to Lunatic Asylum, Angoda; additional accommodation, Galle hospital; a female ward and maternity annexe, Tangalla hospital; additions and extensions to Galle Kachcheri; additions to Tissamaharama hospital; rebuilding Jetty No. 1, Galle; converting Chilaw Jail into quarters for Police; additions to Dandagamuwa hospital; quarters for officers, Anuradhapura hospital; lining and ceiling all huts, Ceylon Defence Camp, Diyatalawa.

Bridges.—Reconstruction of two bridges on 16th mile, Panadure-Nambapana road; Halpatota bridge; Mannar bridge; rebuilding bridge between 4¾ and 5 miles, Kuliyapitiya-Hettipola road; Alauwa bridge; Algoda bridge; Idalawella bridge; Kaluwamodera bridge; Welipane bridge; bridge on 15th mile, Panadure-Nambapana road; Tangalla bridge; Chilaw bridge; Palavi bridge; reconstructing bridges on Haldummulla-Wellawaya road; Belihul-oya bridge.

Miscellaneous.—Karaiur reclamation; Nayabedde scheme for Bandarawela water supply.

IRRIGATION.

Irrigation works in Ceylon are classified as:—(*a*) Major works, (*b*) village works.

Major works are all maintained and supervised by the staff of the Director of Irrigation from Government funds, and are liable to irrigation rates of some kind or another.

The financing of the construction of these works has been done originally by Government, but in the case of some works (which are termed "aided works") the arrangement was that the actual cost of construction should be repaid to Government by instalments over a term of years, and the maintenance rate for these works is assessed quinquennially. In the case of the other major works, termed "Perpetuity Rate Works," the construction cost was unreservedly met by Government, and an irrigation rate in perpetuity imposed on the lands, which rate when imposed was intended to cover the cost of maintenance of the works and also repay something in the shape of interest on the construction costs.

Village works are in the charge of the Government Agents, who have a number of field staff officers of the Irrigation Department lent to them to assist them with technical supervision; the maintenance as regards earthwork, clearing jungle, and silt, &c., is done on a sharing system by the landholders under each work and regulated by special village works rules. The maintenance of the masonry works of village works is done from a Government vote to the Director of Irrigation, which is distributed to the different Provinces, and the work carried out by the village tank staff (advised by the Divisional Irrigation Engineers), unless the work is of considerable magnitude, when it could be done by the Director's staff.

The bunds of village works have in most cases been constructed by villagers themselves, supervised by Government Agents' staffs under different forms of permit, in many cases the people being allowed land under the works in proportion to the earthwork done; sluices (whether masonry or pipes) are provided from Government votes, and also masonry spills where they exist.

Landowners under village works pay no irrigation rates. Occasionally arrangements are made by agreement between Government and the proprietors, by which a village work becomes a major work or *vice versâ*, but instances of this are not frequent.

Under the Irrigation Ordinance of 1917 the control of paddy cultivation under all classes of works is in the hands of Government Agents.

The total expenditure of the Department for the financial year 1927-28 was Rs. 1,553,549.82 as compared with Rs. 1,738,939.80 for the previous year.

The usual work of maintenance was carried out during the year, and amongst the more important works constructed or in course of construction are:—

Karachchi Scheme.—The scheme was further developed by extending and improving the system of distribution channels and agricultural roads.

Nachchaduwa Scheme.—The distribution channel system was further improved.

Akathimurippu Scheme.—This is in the initial stage of its construction. Satisfactory progress has been made on the cutting of the inlet channel, construction of the service road, and the necessary buildings.

Giant's Tank Scheme.—The system of distribution channels for this extensive scheme was further improved.

Tabbowa Scheme.—Works in connection with the development of Tract No. 2 for coconut cultivation are in progress.

Diyaturai Anicut.—A large portion of the construction work for this anicut is complete.

Walawe Left Bank Scheme.—This scheme was formally declared open by His Excellency the Governor in October.

Walawe Right Bank Scheme.—The Hatagala-Etbatuwa agricultural road was completed and work is in progress on road from Ambalantota to Walawe estate, thus providing an improved system of communications for this scheme. Improvements to the drainage of the Oluwila swamp were duly effected and completed.

Kirinde-oya Right Bank Scheme.—Good progress has been made with the development of the agricultural road system.

Unnichchai Scheme.—The stone protection of the water face of the bund on the lower level is nearing completion. Extensions to the distribution channel system are in hand.

Pandarakattu Anicut-Rugam Scheme.—This important construction unit has made good progress and is now rapidly being completed.

Verugal Anicut-Allai Scheme.—Is now completed and in operation, having been opened by His Excellency the Governor in October.

Tamblegam-Kinniyai Agricultural Road, Kanthalai Scheme.—Good progress has been made, although the work was delayed earlier in the year owing to the difficulty experienced in obtaining an adequate supply of labour.

Village Works.—The expenditure on village works during the year was Rs. 82,894.52, and satisfactory progress has been made on this most important item of development and improvement.

Surveys and Investigations.—The principal surveys, investigations, or demarcations carried out were:—(*a*) Walawe Left Bank Scheme, surveys of the irrigable area and channel system; (*b*) Urubokka-oya, surveys in connection with the proposed anicuts; (*c*) Karachchi Scheme, contour surveys of irrigable areas and setting out distributaries; (*d*) Vadamarchchi Lagoon Scheme, taking observations; (*e*) Heda-oya, investigation surveys; (*f*) Kathiraveli, investigation surveys; (*g*) Flood gaugings for (1) Kelani river, (2) Kalu-ganga, (3) Gin-ganga, (4) Nilwala-ganga.

In addition to these, a large number of surveys have been carried out in connection with village tanks improvements, elas, and small anicut schemes.

General.—The number of Crown irrigation works is 187, under which about 151,700 acres are at present irrigated.

There are approximately 2,804 village tanks and elas in operation and a further 1,564 under restoration.

Approximately 203,487 acres are cultivated for paddy under village irrigation works.

Flood Protection.

The Irrigation Department is responsible for the investigation and construction of Flood Protection Schemes, and during the year has carried out very important investigation surveys for the protection of lowlying areas in the Southern and Western Provinces, and has also in hand the following works:—

Colombo (North) Flood Scheme.—Except for minor details this scheme is practically complete.

Colombo (South) Flood Scheme.—Has continued to function successfully, and maintenance operations only were undertaken.

Kalu-oya-Mutturajawela Flood Protection Scheme.—The raising of the Hendala-Ja-ela bund is nearing completion, and construction is proceeding with the raising of the Tudella-Pamungama road. Contour surveys of the low lands within this scheme have been made.

Ambatalenpahala Minor Flood Scheme.—The railway bridge sluice and Ambatale sluice are under construction, good progress having been made towards the protection of this area from minor floods in the Kelani-ganga, and in addition improved drainage of this area.

Cutting New Mouth for the Kalu-ganga.—This work was undertaken on the urgent representation of the Chairman, Kalutara Urban District Council, and the Government Agent, Western Province, that north-east monsoon floods would cause great damage to Kalutara town unless the mouth of the Kalu-ganga was properly controlled.

The work was brought to successful completion in October and since then operations have been confined to detailed observations of the functioning of the new mouth.

Bolgoda Scheme.—This aims at the protection of the Bolgoda catchment from floods in the Kalu-ganga. No construction work has been taken up as yet pending Government sanction, although provision is made in the Supply Bill.

VIII.—Public Health.

Hospitals and Dispensaries.

THERE are few countries in the world in which medical aid is more generously distributed by the State than Ceylon. There are 101 Government hospitals and asylums with provision for 10,250 beds.

In Colombo are situated a General Hospital with 850 beds, an Ophthalmic Hospital, a Lying-in Home, a hospital for women (Lady Havelock Hospital), a hospital for children (Lady Ridgeway Hospital), a Bacteriological Institute, a Pasteur Institute, and a Dental Institute. At Angoda, 6 miles from Colombo, there is a hospital for infectious diseases with 122 beds. There are special dispensaries at Kandy, Galle, Jaffna, and Batticaloa for the treatment of eye diseases.

As regards asylums, there is a Lunatic Asylum at Angoda 6 miles from Colombo and there are two Leper Asylums, one at Hendala in the Western Province and one at Mantivu in the Eastern Province.

There is a Home for Incurables at Colombo with 90 beds which is administered by a Committee of Government officials and representatives of the public.

As regards the prevention of tuberculosis, in Colombo there is the King Edward VII. Anti-Tuberculosis Institute, at Kandana there is a sanatorium of 72 beds, and at Ragama there is a hospital for chronic cases.

In addition to Government hospitals, the owners of estates have provided 81 estate hospitals, which receive a rebate on the export duty on tea, rubber, coffee, cacao, and cardamoms.

In addition to the hospitals, there are 575 central and branch dispensaries provided by Government. There are also 684 estate dispensaries, which receive free drugs from Government to the value of 50 cents per labourer per annum.

Anchylostomiasis.

The campaign against Anchylostomiasis was carried on during the year and in addition to the treatment afforded to the general public at hospitals and dispensaries throughout the Island, 107,435 school children and 124,336 estate coolies were treated for Anchylostomiasis by Medical Officers of the Anchylostomiasis Campaign staff.

Anti-Malaria Campaign.

The activities of the Anti-Malaria Campaign were maintained at Chilaw, Kurunegala, Anuradhapura, and Trincomalee. It is proposed to extend anti-malaria activities to 3 other towns during 1929. An Ordinance for the prevention of mosquito-breeding has been submitted to Government for consideration and is now before the Legislative Council. Quinine was distributed very widely throughout the Island, not only through hospitals and dispensaries, but also through schools and headmen. The value of quinine distributed in the financial year, October 1, 1927, to September 30, 1928, was Rs. 313,957.

The Sanitary Engineering Division.

The Sanitary Engineering Division had a very active year. Its activities included preliminary, field, and office work for anti-malaria drainage at Kurunegala, Chilaw, Anuradhapura, Trincomalee, and Diyatalawa, the designing of water purification plants for Tangalla and Ramboda hospitals,

the investigations of water supplies at certain other places, field and offic work in connection with the general drainage of towns like Chilaw an Kurunegala, and the investigation of sanitary problems relating to (1) coconu desiccating mills and (2) pilgrimages.

Bacteriological Institute.

The number of specimens examined in 1928 was 16,649 and the fe received amounted to Rs. 5,379.

Pasteur Institute.

The number of persons treated during the year 1928 was 1,448 and th under (*a*) research, (*b*) malaria prevention, and (*c*) routine. was 386.

Medical Entomologist.

The chief work of this division during the year may be briefly summarize under (*a*) Research, (*b*) malaria prevention, and (*c*) routine.

(*a*) *Research.*—This included investigations into (1) the transmission malaria in nature by the indigenous Anopheline mosquitoes, (2) the season variations and breeding habits of Anophelines at certain stations, (2) tw epidemics of malaria in the neighbourhood of Colombo, (4) the efficiency ar methods of distributing the larvicide, Paris Green. The first investigatio involved the capture and dissection of mosquitoes from huts and houses various malarious districts, and at one station observations were made ea month throughout the year. A total of 1,627 Anophelines representing different species were dissected; malaria parasites were found in specimens, all of which were *A. culicifacies.*

(*b*) *Malaria Prevention.*—In association with control measures, detail mosquito surveys were made at Anuradhapura, Trincomalee, Diyatalaw and at a number of railway stations. The results of these surveys we indexed and plotted on maps.

(*c*) *Routine.*—Over 40,000 identifications, chiefly of mosquitoes, th larvae, and malaria parasites, were made. A considerable amount of ti was also given to the formation of a museum, and numerous specimen drawings, and photographs were prepared.

Estate Sanitation.

Attached to this Department are 3 Inspecting Medical Officers and thr Assistants who inspect estates throughout the Island. During the ye under review as many as 743 estates were inspected. In the course inspection, defects in the sanitary condition of estates are pointed out a suggestions to remedy and prevent them in future are put forward to t estate owners. Year by year the housing on estates and the sanita conditions on estates are improving.

Public Health.

In addition to the Inspecting Medical Officers of Estates, there were, 928, 26 Medical Officers of Health assisted by 235 Sanitary Inspectors w looked after the sanitary requirements of urban and rural areas. Th Health Units have, since 1926, been established at Kalutara, Kurunega and Matara respectively, and health work on intensive lines is being carri out at these centres.

Infectious Diseases.

Plague.—The following is a list of plague cases and deaths in Ceylon in 1928:—

	Cases.	Deaths.
Western Province—		
Colombo town	40	37
Beruwala	1	—
Peliyagoda	1	1
Dehiwala	1	1
Sedawatta	3	1
Central Province—		
Eriyagama	1	1
Kandy	8	5
Northern Province—		
Karaioor	2	2
Neeraviaddy	1	1
Tinnevelly	1	1
Valvettiturai	1	1
Talaimannar	—	1
Southern Province—		
Dondra	1	1
Tittagalla, Ahangama	1	1
Province of Sabaragamuwa—		
Dehiowita	6	6

Plague in Colombo.

Human Plague.—During the year 40 cases of plague, 37 of which were fatal, occurred in the city, this being the second lowest number of cases of deaths on record since the first appearance of plague in 1914.

The case mortality per cent. was 92.5, as against the average of 93.6 for the years 1918-1927.

Out of the 40 cases, 27 were of the bubonic type and 13 septicaemic. All the septicaemic cases proved fatal while the three recoveries were among those suffering from the bubonic type.

No pneumonic or cutaneous cases were reported during the year.

The highest number of cases occurred in Pettah Ward, the number being 11. The next in order were St. Paul's and Mutwal with 7 cases each, showing that out of the total number of 40 cases 62.5 per cent. occurred in these three wards.

Rat Plague.—22,660 rats were examined during the year by Dr. Hirst, the City Microbiologist, and 19 were found to be infected with plague, thus giving a percentage of 0.08, as against 0.15 in 1927. Out of the 19 infected rats 6 were found in the Customs premises and 5 in Pettah.

Preventive Measures.—The usual preventive measures were adopted, special attention being paid during the off season to those parts of the city where according to the City Microbiologist's flea survey *X. Cheopis* was shown to occur.

Plague in Kandy.

Plague broke out in Kandy in the last quarter of 1927, the first case occurring on October 23, 1927. Before the end of the year there were altogether 30 cases, of which 26 proved fatal.

By the beginning of the year 1928 the disease was got under control and there were unmistakable signs that it was dying out. In 1928 there were only 8 cases with 6 fatal terminations.

Though there were no cases of plague after February 25, 1928, the Health Department of the Municipal Council has been carrying on an extensive rat campaign throughout the year. Approximately 700 spring traps and 150 cage traps were set daily in the town, paying most attention to the congested and commercial areas where the recent outbreak of plague took place.

12,800 rats were caught during the year, and they were systematically examined microscopically for *bacillus pestis* at the office of the Health Department of the Municipal Council.

Systematic claytonizing and closing of rat holes has been carried out throughout the year.

Cholera.—The following is a list of cholera cases and deaths in Ceylon in 1928:—

	Cases.	Deaths.		Cases.	Deaths.
Western Province—			Central Province—		
Colombo town ..	1	.. —	Vellaioya estate, Hatton	1	.. 1
Raigama estate, Ingiriya	1	.. 1	Uva Province—		
			Alutnuwara ..	2	.. 2

This compares favourably with 11 cases and 6 deaths in 1927.

Smallpox.—The following is a list of smallpox cases and deaths in Ceylon 1928:—

	Cases.	Deaths.		Cases.	Deaths.
Western Province—			Central Province—		
Colombo port ..	2	.. —	Tennekumbura ..	2	.. 1
Colombo town ..	10	.. —	Province of Sabaragamuwa—		
			Nilagama estate, Kahawatta	4	.. —

This compares favourably with 27 cases and 5 deaths in 1927.

Vital Statistics.

Population.—The estimated population of Ceylon on December 31, 1928, was 5,421,861, as against 5,288,795 at the end of 1927. The increase during the year was 133,066 persons, of whom 80,974 represented the excess of births over deaths and 52,092 the excess of immigrants over emigrants. The population which, at the last census, was enumerated at 4,498,605 persons, exclusive of the military and the shipping, is estimated to have increased by 923,256 or 20.5 per cent. within a little less than eight years. During the year 1928 alone there has been an increase of 2.5 per cent. This increase is less than that recovered for 1927, viz., 3.2 per cent.

Migration.—The total number of arrivals during the year amounted to 289,762 and the departures to 237,670. The number of departures during the year is the highest on record, while the number of arrivals has been exceeded on one occasion only, viz., in 1927, when it was 303,167. The arrivals are more frequent in the second and third quarters of the year, and the departures in the first and second. Of the total arrivals during the year 268,957 persons or 93 per cent. came from India and 20,805 or 7 per cent. from other countries. Of the total departures 218,857 persons or 92 per cent. were bound for India and 18,813 or 8 per cent. to other countries. The Indian arrivals included 133,712 estate labourers and 135,245 miscellaneous passengers. Among the departures to India were 93,596 estate labourers and 125,261 miscellaneous passengers. The arrivals of estate labourers, the highest figures for which were recorded in 1927, have decreased by 25,687 persons during the year. The departures show, on the other hand, an increase of 6,115 persons. From India there were added to the Island population 50,100 persons during the year, of whom 40,116 persons represented estate labourers and 9,984 miscellaneous passengers. The gain to the population by arrivals from other countries was 1,992.

Race Constitution of the Population.—The population of the principal races at the census of 1921, and the proportion of each race per cent. of the total population, were as follows:—

Race.	Population at the Census of 1921.	Proportion Per Cent. of the Tota Population.	Race.	Population at the Census of 1921.	Proportion Per Cent. of the Total Population.
Europeans	8,118	.2	Tamils	1,120,059	24.9
Burghers and Eurasians	29,439	.7	Moors	284,964	6.3
Sinhalese	3,016,145	67.0	Malays	13,402	.3
			Others	26,469	.6

As already stated the population of the Island has shown an increase of 923,256 or 20.5 per cent. since the last census. Of this number 516,769 represents the excess of registered births over deaths and 406,487 the excess of immigrants over emigrants.

Marriages.—The number of General and Kandyan marriages registered during the year was 30,146, which is 422 less than in the preceding year. The General marriages alone numbered 23,781 and the Kandyan 6,365, the respective numbers for the previous year being 23,678 and 6,890. It will be seen that the total decrease during the year was due to a decrease in the number of marriages among the Kandyans, though the number of General marriages had shown a slight increase. The average number of General and Kandyan marriages registered during the past decade was 25,138. The number of persons married during the year both in the General and Kandyan communities was 60,292 which corresponded to a rate of 12.1, as against 12.6 in the previous year and 11.3 the average for the years 1918-1927. The marriages registered among the Muslims numbered 995—an increase of 35 on the number for the previous year. The average number of marriages per annum in the past decade was 873. The Muslim marriage rate was 5.5 and is comparatively low. This is due to a very considerable number of Muslim marriages not being registered according to law.

Divorces.—Divorces under the General Marriages Ordinance can be granted only by the District Court, while those under the Kandyan Ordinance are granted by Government Agents and their Assistants.

There were reported during the year 133 divorces under the General Marriages Ordinance and 625 under the Kandyan. The numbers during the preceding year were 75 and 705 respectively. There is always a much higher percentage of divorces to marriages in the Kandyan community than in the General; and this, in some measure, is due to the greater facilities for annulling the marriage tie afforded by the Kandyan law in comparison with the General law.

Births.—The number of births registered during the year amounted to 213,311 (108,841 males and 104,470 females), and is higher than the number registered in any previous year since registration of births was introduced. The nearest approach to this year's figure was in 1926, when the number of births was 206,888. The number in the year under review has thus exceeded the previous record by 6,423 births. Compared with the number for the preceding year this year's figure is 7,842 more. This is the third year in succession in which the number of births registered exceeded 200,000. In none of the years prior to 1926 was this figure reached.

The birth rate for the year was equal to 40.0 per 1,000 of the estimated population, as against 39.5 in the preceding year and 38.8 the average for the ten years 1918-1927.

Sex Proportion at Birth.—Of the births registered during the year the proportion of male children for every 1,000 female children was 1,042. In the preceding year there were 1,044 male children to every 1,000 female children.

Deaths.—The deaths of 132,337 persons (66,557 males and 65,780 females) were registered in 1928, as against 113,003 in 1927 and 133,853 the average for the ten years 1918-1927. There has been a marked increase in the mortality rate recorded during the year under review as compared with that in the preceding one. The death rate in that year was regarded as so satisfactory as to constitute a record. The death rate for the year under review was equal to 24.8 per 1,000 of the estimated population, and is 3.1 per 1,000 higher than that recorded in 1927 and is almost the same as that for 1926 (24.7). The average death rate for the past decade was 28.5. Compared with this, however, the rate for the year under review shows a great improvement.

Infant Mortality.—By infant mortality is meant the deaths of children under one year of age, and the rate is stated in terms of 1,000 births registered in that year. During the year under review the deaths of infants numbered 37,792, as against 32,962 in the preceding year and 34,335 the average for the past decade. The number of infant deaths, which represents 28.6 per cent. of the total deaths, was equal to a rate of 177 per 1,000 births, as against 160 in 1927 and 188 the average for the past decade. There has been a marked rise in the infant mortality rate during the year as compared with the preceding one, when the rate was regarded as the best for any year since 1898, and it was hoped that a stage had been reached, which would be maintained, if not improved, during subsequent years. The infant mortality rate has, however, again risen to a figure not only exceeding that recorded in 1927 but also exceeding the figures for 1925 and 1926, when the rates were 172 and 174 respectively. The birth rate in Ceylon is very high compared with that prevailing in some Western countries. The infant mortality rate is greatly influenced by the birth rate, so that it is not an unusual feature to find a high infant mortality rate in countries that have high birth rates, and a low infant mortality rate in countries that have low birth rates. Though the Ceylon rate when judged by the standard of advanced Western countries appears to be unsatisfactory, there is not much cause for apprehension when the climatic and other conditions in the Island are taken into account. There is, however, scope for improvement, and the medical and sanitary measures effected by Government and the general public are slowly but surely producing good results.

Causes of Deaths.—The classification of causes of deaths is based on the International or Bertillon System. This system was originally introduced into Ceylon in 1911 and has since undergone a revision. The revision, which is that of 1920, has been in use here for the last two years only. Owing to the absence of compulsory certification of causes of death among a very large section of the population, the statistics, particularly of diseases requiring scientific knowledge for diagnosis, are of doubtful value, but there is reason to believe that a definite though slow progress in accuracy is achieved every year. Owing to lack of certification, a very large number of deaths appears under the heading "Pyrexia," which is admittedly a vague cause of death. This cause, which includes all cases of fever not otherwise defined, was stated in the deaths of 18,954 persons—or 14 per cent. of the total deaths. In the previous year 13,502 deaths were registered under this cause. There is no doubt that, among the vast number of deaths from this vague cause, a considerable number are actually deaths from malaria, but, in the absence of their being so stated in the returns by village Registrars,

the deaths are classified under the general though vague heading " Pyrexia." Another prolific cause of death in the Island is Infantile Convulsions, from which during the year there were 16,042 deaths—or 12 per cent. of the total deaths. Experience shows that more than one-quarter of the deaths registered in the Island are attributed to Pyrexia and Convulsions—the latter among the infants and children of tender years. The death rates from some of the more important diseases registered in Ceylon in 1927 and 1928 as per million of the estimated population are given below :—

Causes.	Rate per Million. 1927.	1928.	Causes.	Rate per Million. 1927.	1928.
Pyrexia	2,595	3,553	Premature birth and congenital defects	410	419
Infantile convulsions	2,630	3,007	Anchylostomiasis	373	405
Pneumonia	1,538	1,658	Influenza	338	367
Diarrhoea and enteritis	1,597	1,655	Puerperal septicæmia	256	264
Dysentery	604	646	Bronchitis	211	239
Phthisis	644	634	Enteric fever	98	108
Malaria and malarial cachexia	255	420	Cancer	104	103

The mortality from most of the principal diseases was higher in 1928 than in 1927. The incidence of " pyrexia " in particular, which in 1927 was below normal, appears to have increased again and has contributed no small share to the heavier mortality during the year.

IX.—Education.

General.

THE system of education in Ceylon provides a course of education leading to University degrees in Medicine, Law, Arts, &c., but the following account refers only to education below the University Standard.

The schools of Ceylon are not divided on a basis of race or nationality. All schools which are maintained by Government or assisted by means of grants are compelled by law to admit pupils irrespective of race, nationality, or religion. There is thus no distinction between " native " schools and other types of schools. This fact leads to a considerable simplification of problems connected both with administration and medium of instruction.

Attendance at school between the ages of five and fourteen is compulsory, subject to a few exceptions. Such compulsion, however, applies only when school accommodation is provided within a reasonable distance of the residence of the pupil.

With regard to the administration of schools there are two distinct types of schools in Ceylon: schools administered directly by Government and schools indirectly administered by Government and under the immediate control of private managers.

Government Schools.

With regard to Government schools, of which there are 1,343, the arrangements for staffing are entirely in the hands of the Department of Education. All examinations for the issue of teachers' certificates and of otherwise testing efficiency are conducted by the Department, and all appointments, transfers, &c., are also dealt with by the Department.

The maintenance of school buildings, however, is under the direct control of a number of local authorities which are known as Education District Committees. These Committees are situated in the various towns and

Provinces of Ceylon and are financed by a grant from revenue based upon the requirements of each district. The duties of these Committees, of which there are 31, are the maintenance, repair, and equipment of Government schools, and they also forward recommendations to the Department on other matters which may be referred to them connected with the conduct and progress of education in their districts. Another important duty such Committees have to perform is the maintenance of attendance at schools in their districts. The Committees appoint for this purpose Attendance Officers, whose duty it is to see that all children, who are of school age and for whom accommodation has been provided, attend school. They are also entrusted with the duty of preparing a census of non-school-going children within their areas, in order to furnish Committees with the necessary data on which their programmes of building and extension can be based. The duties of these Committees with regard to attendance is not confined to Government schools, but applies—with certain reservations—to assisted schools.

Assisted Schools.

There are in Ceylon 2,278 assisted schools under the immediate control of private Managers. These schools are assisted in the sense that they receive an annual grant from the Education Department towards their maintenance. The system of grant which applies to such schools is controlled by the Department of Education and is of two kinds, according to whether the schools are English schools or vernacular schools. The basic principle on which the grant system depends is a standard salary scale for teachers according to qualifications. In the case of assisted vernacular schools, the annual grant from the Department is calculated as the total amount of the salaries paid to an efficient staff plus an additional amount for maintenance. No fees are charged in vernacular schools. In the case of the English schools, the system of grant is somewhat more complicated. In these schools fees are charged and from such fees the Manager has to provide a fixed sum towards the salary of each teacher he employs. The grant consists of the balance of such salaries. In the case of both English and vernacular schools, the number of teachers which is taken into account for the purpose of grant is based on the average attendance of the school during the previous year.

In addition to Government schools and assisted schools, there is in this Colony a certain number of private schools which are not assisted in any way from Government funds. Such schools are, however, subject to inspection by the Department, but are in no way a charge upon the revenue.

The type of instruction given in Ceylon schools can be considered under two main heading: (i.) Non-vocational instruction; (ii.) vocational instruction.

Non-vocational Instruction.

Under the heading of non-vocational instruction is included the type of instruction which is general and academic, and by far the large number of schools come under this class. These schools are classified partly according to the standard of academic education which they work up to and partly by the language or languages employed as media of instruction, as follows:—

English.	Anglo-vernacular.	Vernacular.
Secondary	Elementary	Classical
Higher Grade	Primary	Elementary
Elementary		Primary
Primary		

In the primary schools the course of instruction lasts usually six years, and in the elementary schools ten years. The period which may be spent in higher grade, secondary, or classical schools varies according to the ability of a student and the facilities afforded to him; but, generally, the course is one of two or three years.

In the secondary and higher grade schools the standard of instruction which is reached is the entrance examination to a University. The numbers, however, who proceed to this course are relatively small. The vast majority of students complete their education at the elementary stage. The instruction provided in these schools does not differ materially with the medium of instruction employed; for example, the subjects taught in an elementary school are the same subjects which are taught in an Anglo-vernacular or vernacular school—the difference being that the medium of instruction varies according to the home language of the pupil. In the classical schools, the ancient languages of the country—Pali and Sanskrit—are taught. These subjects are also taught in a number of temple schools known as Pirivenas. Such schools, however, are not included in the above classification because the course of instruction is primarily designed for the Buddhist priesthood and does not include many of the subjects which are dealt with in the ordinary schools.

With regard to the type of instruction given, those schools which have a course preparatory to the University are given considerable freedom to frame their own curriculum, but, in the case of the last two groups which form the major number of schools, a curriculum of work is drawn up by the Education Department. This curriculum includes courses in the following:—Language and Literature, Mathematics, History, Geography, Elementary Science, Rural Science, House Craft, Singing and Music, Drawing.

The method of instruction aims at relating all subjects to the conditions of life of the pupils and considerable emphasis is laid upon the practical application of the theoretical study. The detailed arrangements made to secure the relation of elementary education to the life of the people falls outside the scope of this report, but they are regarded as an essential part of the system of education in this Colony where a very large majority of people are engaged in agricultural pursuits.

Table No. 9 of the Appendix shows the number of non-vocational schools in the Island in 1928 classified according to their various types, and showing also the number of scholars—boys and girls being separately shown—who attended these schools during the year.

During the year under review six scholarships were awarded to Ceylon University College students on the results of the final examination of the University of London—one for Arts, one for Mathematics, one for Science (excluding Mathematics), one for Agriculture, and two for Engineering.

Vocational Schools.

Under the heading of vocational schools are those schools which give a specialized form of instruction. Apart from one Technical School referred to later, these can be divided into part-time schools and full-time schools. Under the heading of part-time instruction is included a variety of home industries which are taught to pupils in certain schools in addition to the ordinary academic course. Under the heading of full-time industrial schools come institutions for the training of teachers, technical schools, agricultural schools, and industrial schools. The course in training schools is usually one of two years. In technical schools it varies according to the subject which is studied. In agricultural schools courses are entirely for adults who

intend either to teach agricultural science or to become practical agriculturists. There are a variety of full-time industrial schools. The pupils of such schools are usually drawn from those who have undertaken a part-time course after they have reached an age when they are physically fit to handle the tools required. All industrial schools are conducted upon a profit-sharing principle, so that the pupils benefit by whatever articles they produce. The course is one of two or three years. The subjects in which instruction is given are: Carpentry, Weaving, Basket Work, Pottery, Printing, Lacquer Work, Blacksmith Work, and a few other minor industries. The purpose of these industrial schools is partly to train instructors in industry, but mainly to encourage pupils to take up the industry as a means of livelihood and, because of this fact, all instruction given in such schools is in the vernacular.

The Medium of Instruction.

The medium of instruction in schools varies according to the type of schools. For example, in vernacular schools the medium of instruction is entirely Sinhalese or Tamil. This group of schools includes 79.54 per cent. of all the school-going children in Ceylon.

In the Anglo-vernacular group of schools the vernacular language is the medium of instruction for the first four or five years of school life, after which a course of English is introduced which is entirely optional and for which fees are charged. This course extends to approximately five years and is designed to give pupils a good working knowledge of both written and spoken English. The vernacular, however, continues to be taught throughout the whole course.

In the case of the third group of schools, viz., English schools, two methods are employed in giving instruction in the English language.

In the first method pupils are admitted at the earliest stage of school life, viz., the kindergarten. Pupils admitted in this way have usually a working knowledge of English, so that their progress in mastering the language is very rapid.

The scond method employed is a two-year special course in English for pupils who transfer from vernacular schools to English schools. The pupils who enter this course are approximately nine years of age and have already received instruction in their own mother tongue in the primary standards of vernacular or Anglo-vernacular schools. This course is an intensive one in which the direct method of teaching a foreign language is employed. After completing this course pupils are able to enter the ordinary standards of the English school in which the medium of instruction is English. In the majority of such schools the vernacular languages continue to be taught throughout the upper classes although those languages are not the medium of instruction. Pupils recruited from vernacular and Anglo-vernacular schools in this way can attain a standard equal to the entrance examination of a University about their seventeenth or eighteenth year.

It will be seen, therefore, that in the system of instruction prevailing in Ceylon the pupils are given the following alternative courses:—(1) A full course of elementary instruction in the vernacular languages; (2) a full course of elementary instruction in the vernacular languages plus a working knowledge of English; and (3) a full course of instruction in English not merely for pupils whose mother tongue is English, but for those who at the beginning of school life have no knowledge of that language.

Estate Education.

Further progress was made during the year in estate education. Ninety-one new school buildings were provided, some of which replaced existing buildings and some of which were new schools. The total number of registered estate schools up to the end of 1928 was 364, as compared with 304 up to the end of 1927. The total number of children of school-going age at the end of September, 1928, was 81,858 (44,441 boys and 37,417 girls), of whom 37,404 (26,282 boys and 11,122 girls) were attending school —a percentage of 45.7.

Superintendents of estates continue to co-operate with the Department. In a number of cases keen interest in maintaining efficient estate schools has been shown. A comprehensive pamphlet entitled "Education in Estate Schools" was prepared in October, 1928, and distributed to Planters' Associations and individual Superintendents. The pamphlet, which dealt with the law, code of regulations, and administration relative to estate schools, was well received.

Training of Teachers.

The principal institution for the training of teachers is the Government Training College in Colombo. Thirty-eight men students for the 1st and 2nd year courses, 23 women students for the same courses, and 15 students for the 1st and 2nd year kindergarten courses were admitted at the beginning of the year. Thirty-seven 2nd year students and 2 one-year students completed their course successfully during the year and were awarded second class certificates.

There are also Training Schools at Gampaha and Jaffna which have now been in existence for nine and five years respectively. At the former school 20 students were selected at the beginning of the year for a two-year course in the school. The number of students in training at the school in Jaffna during the year was 74, of whom 39 completed their course in September last.

The introduction of the School Teachers' Pension Scheme during the year has been a source of great encouragement to teachers in assisted schools and serves as a stimulus to the recruitment of suitable members for the profession.

Technical Schools.

Instruction is given in the Technical Schools in Colombo in 18 different technical courses, 4 commercial courses, 2 courses in Art, and 1 industrial course. Nearly 550 students attended the various technical courses during the year, 110 students the commercial courses, 30 students the courses in Art, and 4 students an industrial course in pottery.

Thirty-two students passed in the City and Guilds of London Examinations; 16 students passed in commercial subjects; 56 students passed in the London Chamber of Commerce Examinations; and 177 passed in the various technical examinations held by the Technical Schools.

Agricultural Schools.

Schools for the training of adult pupils in agricultural science are under the control of the Director of Agriculture, but instruction of an elementary nature in this subject is given as a part-time occupation in many Government and assisted schools. There are 803 registered gardens attached to Government schools and 105 registered gardens attached to assisted schools.

Distributions of seeds and plants were made during the year to all registered school gardens, the distribution being made at definite times in order to ensure the planting of seed at the right time.

Instruction given in these schools consists chiefly of explanations of the lessons in the Junior and Senior Agricultural Readers, lessons in elementary agriculture, and lessons in nature study for younger children. Practical training in the cultivation of flowers, fruits, cereals, vegetables, curry stuffs, and medicinal herbs is also given, while paddy cultivation has been undertaken in a number of schools with special attention to seed-selection, manuring, and transplanting.

Physical Training and Boxing in Schools.

Steady progress in physical training was maintained during the year. Although many schools have obtained copies of the Board of Education Syllabus of Physical Training, some teachers have not yet realized the importance of the introduction of the graded exercises included in this book. The organization of the Physical Training Classes was better than in the previous year, and a large number of local games were introduced to schools during the year. The special feature of the year was the attention paid to the vernacular schools by the organization of Saturday classes for vernacular teachers in various parts of the Island.

Boxing is becoming more and more popular in Ceylon, and has made good progress since the commencement of its teaching in schools three years ago. In 1926 boxing was taught in 13 schools and over 500 students received instruction; in 1927 boxing was taught in 20 schools and over 800 students received instruction; while in 1928 boxing was taught in 42 schools with over 1,000 students receiving instruction.

Medical Inspection of Schools.

There are five Medical Officers, one of whom is a lady Doctor, employed in the medical inspection of schools. These officers periodically visit the schools in their respective areas, examine the pupils, and report to the Head of the School any defects found in the pupils for communication to their parents for necessary action.

During the year 76,800 pupils were examined by the School Medical Officers. The reports show a steady increase in some parts of the Island in the incidence of dental disease and defective vision, while a substantial measure of success has attended the treatment of hookworm.

The Ceylon University College.

Numbers.—The number of students on the roll in July, 1928, the beginning of the academic year 1928-29, was 315, including 22 women students. The figures for 1921-27 were as follows:—

1921	..	166	1923	..	262	1925	..	256	1927	..	279
1922	..	217	1924	..	262	1926	..	313			

Courses.—The College offers instruction in Latin, Greek, Sanskrit, Pali, English, Sinhalese, Tamil, French, German, Logic, Philosophy, History, Geography, Economics, Pure Mathematics, Applied Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Botany, and Zoology.

Honours courses are provided in Classics, English, Indo-Aryan (Sanskrit and Pali), History, Mathematics, Chemistry, Botany, and Zoology.

The College course is normally one of three years. At the end of the first year students take the (External) Intermediate Arts, Science, and Economics examinations of the University of London conducted in Ceylon. At the end of the third year they take the final examinations for the B.A., (Pass), B.A. (Honours), B.Sc. (General), B.Sc. (Special), and B.Sc. (Economics) Degrees of the same University.

Students who intend to join the medical profession are given one year's course of instruction in Physics, Chemistry, and General Biology, at the end of which they take either the First M.B. Examination of the University of London or the Pre-Registration Examination of the Ceylon Medical College, or both.

Graduates.—On the results of the examinations held in June, 1928, the the following numbers qualified for Final Degrees of the University of London:—

B.A. (Pass): Two.
B.A. (Honours) (Classics): Two (one Second Class Upper Division).
B.A. (Honour) (English): One (First Class).
B.A. (Honours) (History): Two (one Second Clas Upper Division)
B.Sc. (General) :Seven (including one First Class and Three Second Class Honours).
B.Sc. Special (Mathematics): Four (three First Class Honours).
B.Sc. Special (Chemistry): One.
B.Sc. Special (Zoology): Two (both Second Class Honours).

The total number of graduates from the University College from the time of its inception in 1921 is 132.

Additions to the Staff.—An additional Lecturer in Zoology, an Assistant Lecturer in Classics, and another in Chemistry were added during the year. The vacant post of Professor of Classics was filled in October, 1928.

Prospectus.—The College Prospectus was revised and issued in June, 1928.

The Library.—The Library has continued to expand, and more accommodation is required.

Hostels.—Most of the students not living with their parents or relations are residing in four hostels affiliated to the College and subject to the College rules and regulations. These hostels are administered by extra-university bodies and are subsidized by the Government.

Students' Activities.—The usual activities of the College Union Society have been maintained. Athletics, Cricket, Rugger, Soccer, Hockey, Tennis, and Boxing find their proper place in the field of sports. The Union has a Debating Society. Besides the Union Society, to which all undergraduate members of the College belong, there are the following societies:—English Study Circle, Dramatic and Musical Society, Sinhalese Society, Tamil Society, Biological Society, Physical and Chemical Society.

University College Council.—This Council, which consists of twenty members nominated by His Excellency the Governor, continue to advise the Principal of the College in matters relating to the administration of the College, and the preparation for its conversion into a University.

The University Project.—In March, 1928, the Legislative Council voted in favour of establishing a unitary and residential University at Kandy. Following upon this decision, His Excellency the Governor appointed a University Commission under the Chairmanship of Sir Walter Buchanan-Riddell, Bart., Principal of Hertford College, Oxford, to report on the various measures required to give effect to this decision. The Commission's recommendations were due to be published early in 1929.

THE CEYLON MEDICAL COLLEGE.

The Ceylon Medical College provides the complete course of instruction required for the practice of Modern Medicine, Surgery, and Midwifery. Including the course of preliminary or Pre-registration work in Physics, Chemistry, and Biology which is provided by arrangement at the University College, Colombo, the whole course takes six years. At the end the Diploma in Medicine, Surgery, and Midwifery is conferred and under the designation of L.M.S. (Ceylon) is recognized by the General Medical Council of the United Kingdom and entitles the holder to be registered and to practise his profession in Great Britain and throughout the British Empire.

In addition to the complete Medical Curriculum the College provides a course of instruction for a minor grade of Medical Practitioners known as Apothecaries. These receive a two years' course of instruction in Anatomy, Physiology, Chemistry, Pharmacy, Pharmacology, and Dispensing, Elementary Medicine, Surgery, and Midwifery, both theoretical and clinical, and Surgical Dressing and in Hygiene and Public Health. They receive free instruction and on passing the two Apothecary Examinations are employed by the Government to take charge of the Government Dispensaries and some small hospitals in the remote rural areas and country villages, but are only permitted to practise while so employed in Government Service and are subject to the control of the District Medical Officers.

These Apothecaries to a large extent provide for the medical treatment of the poor villagers in remote districts and where fully qualified Medical Practitioners are not available.

The College is staffed by two whole-time Professors in Anatomy and Physiology and a large number of part-time lecturers mostly drawn from the officers of the Department of Medical and Sanitary Services.

Details of staff, fees, courses of study and rules for Students and the history of the College are embodied in the annual calendar, copies of which are sent free to Medical Schools in Great Britain, Principal Educational Institutions, and to Government departments in the Colony.

GENERAL.

An important event which marks the year under review is the setting up of a Post-licentiate Scholarship by Government which is granted yearly to the best student of the final year who qualifies in the first class within the statutory period, to enable him to obtain British qualifications and also to pursue studies and research in some special subject. The value of the scholarship is £300 per annum for special study.

A small number of students generally discontinue study in the Ceylon Medical College and go to United Kingdom to complete their studies.

Results of Examinations (Medical).

	December, 1927.		March, 1928.		July, 1928.		Total.	
	Sat.	Passed.	Sat.	Passed.	Sat.	Passed.	Sat.	Passed.
Final	21	8	21	7	19	5	61	20
Second Professional	—	—	18	13	11	7	29	20
First Professional	—	—	11	5	12	8	23	13
	September, 1927.							
Pre-medical	23	7	40	14	—	—	63	21

Results of Examinations (Apothecary Students).

	December, 1927.		March, 1928.		July, 1928.		Total.	
	Sat.	Passed.	Sat.	Passed.	Sat.	Passed.	Sat.	Passed.
Second Apothecaries	3	2	15	10	9	5	27	17
First Apothecaries	—	—	21	17	31	20	52	37

X.—Lands and Survey.

LAND SETTLEMENT DEPARTMENT.

DESPITE the continued progress in land development for the last hundred years, a large proportion of the total area of the Island is still unoccupied and uncultivated. In general the title to such unoccupied areas is in the Crown, but the Crown has in the past by custom, and by enactment, recognized various claims of private title to land unoccupied or only recently occupied and developed.

The majority of these claims are extremely indefinite, and many are based on tradition alone or on ancient grants, the meaning and scope of which are frequently in doubt. Adjudication on such claims is further complicated by the nature of the law of inheritance in Ceylon and the system of undivided shares in land, so that the work of dealing with these claims is a matter of some complexity demanding much time and patience.

This state of affairs has done much to retard the development of the Island, neither the Crown nor the claimants being in a position to give clear title or quiet possession to parties desirous of developing unoccupied land until all claims have been defined and adjudicated on.

Several attempts have been made to find the method of speedy adjudication on such claims, and finally in 1897 the Waste Lands Ordinance was passed, which gave to specially appointed officers of the Crown powers to inquire into claims and agree with claimants as to their settlement. This Ordinance contains provisions ensuring that all possible claims will be discovered, and further makes the Final Orders embodying the agreements arrived at instruments conferring title on the claimant or the Crown, as the case may be, while it is only where the Special Officer and the claimant fail to agree that the claim is referred to the ordinary courts for adjudication.

A few years after the passing of this Ordinance the Land Settlement Department was formed with a view to the systematic settlement of all classes of land where title is in dispute between the Crown and the subject. As the question of title is involved accurate survey and frequent resurveys are necessary, and the immediate settlement of the whole Island is therefore a task beyond the resources of the Colony. It has been necessary accordingly to concentrate the trained officers available on these districts where there is a demand for land and settlement is therefore urgent, and in general also more complicated and difficult—while at the same time officers are being trained in areas, such as the dry zones of the north where land is of little value, and claims are few and comparatively simple, these areas being selected as far as possible where land development may be expected in the future.

This system, evolved by experience, has been found to work well, and the Department, by insisting on its officers inspecting every plot of land which they settle and in general doing their work on the land, has gained confidence and good-will of the people. During the year under review 82,247 acres of all classes of land have been settled, and nine claims have had to be referred to court for adjudication.

Since 1901 settlement surveys covering an area of 5,607,025 acres have been issued to the Department and settlement of 4,844,645 acres is complete, leaving a balance of 762,380 acres in hand awaiting settlement. Of this balance area, approximately 176,000 acres lie in the Hambantota District, 139,000 acres in the Ratnapura District, 114,000 acres in the

Kurunegala District, 101,000 acres in the Kalutara District, 78,000 acres in the Province of Uva, 61,000 acres in the North-Central Province, 49,000 acres in the Trincomalee District, 34,000 acres in the Galle District, with small areas in the Matale, Nuwara Eliya, and Puttalam Districts. Large areas in the Hambantota, Trincomalee, Kalutara, Nuwara Eliya, and in the Provinces of Uva and North-Central with extents 173,000 acres, 48,000 acres, 42,000 acres, 2,600 acres, 51,000 acres, and 12,000 acres, respectively, have been surveyed on topographical plans and can be speedily settled. The real work lies mainly in the Kurunegala, Ratnapura, Kalutara, and Galle Districts. Nearly 130,248 acres of new block surveys and 7,497 acres of topographical surveys have been issued during 1928 for settlement purposes.

SURVEY DEPARTMENT.

The principal operations of the Survey Department in 1928 comprised block, application, forest, town surveys, and levelling.

Block Surveys.—These consisted of 133,235 acres of new work and 21,820 acres of topographical inset surveys.

The following plans were issued during the year:—

(*a*) Block survey plans of 250 villages covering an area of 129,969 acres containing 21,696 lots.

(*b*) Two topographical plans containing 433 lots covering an area of 7,497 acres.

Surveys of 238 requisitions for settlement and demarcation surveys, together with the surveys of 429 applications, were completed and sent to the Settlement Officer.

Extract Plans.—Fifty extract plans consisting of 403 lots and covering an area of 184 acres were issued in connection with the surveys of Crown requisitions and applications in the block survey area.

The total area now covered by block surveys is 3,304,993 acres and topographical inset surveys 2,208,989 acres.

Application Surveys: Final Village Plans.—161 plans for 72,080 acres in 5,657 lots were issued to the Government Agents and Assistant Government Agents during the year. The total area covered by the final village plans in the hands of the Government Agents and Assistant Government Agents now stands at 2,394,488 acres contained in 81,404 lots on 3,476 final village plans.

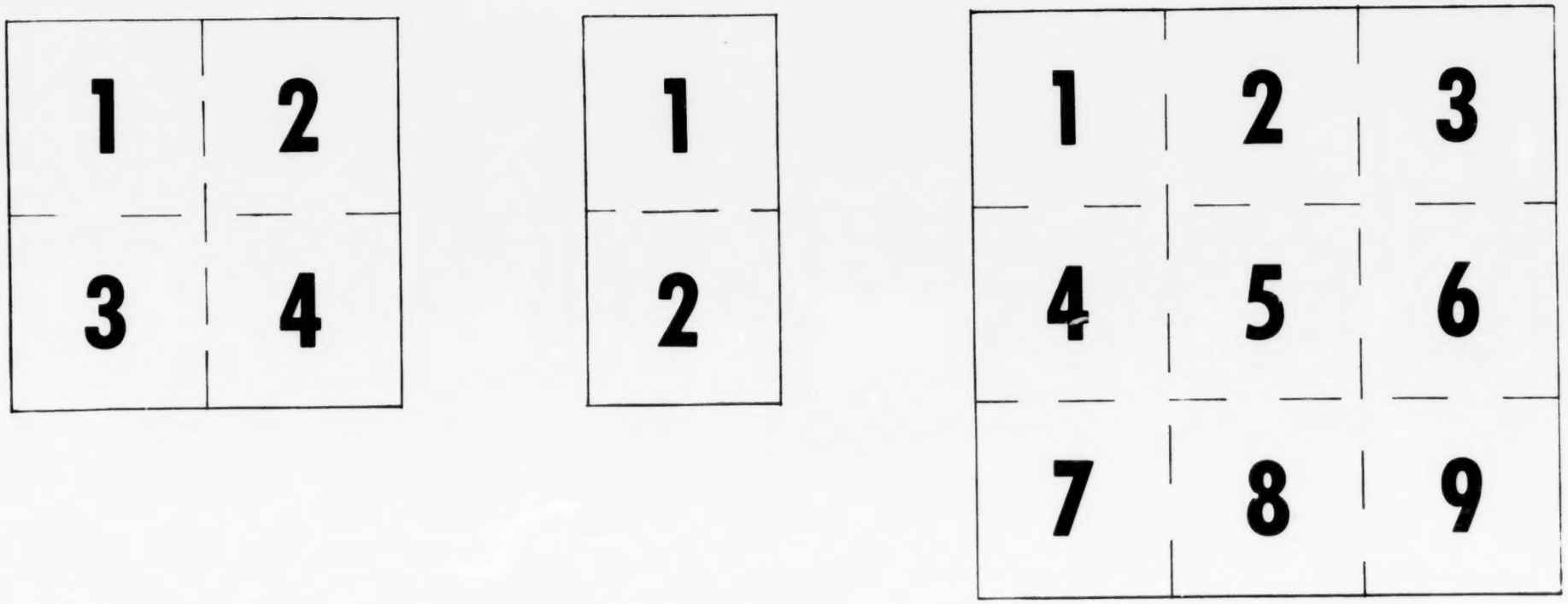
Preliminary Plans.—1,558 plans for 19,686 acres in 9,791 lots and 2 miscellaneous plans making a total of 1,560 plans for 19,686 acres in 9,791 lots were forwarded to the Government Agents, Assistant Government Agents, and the Settlement Officer.

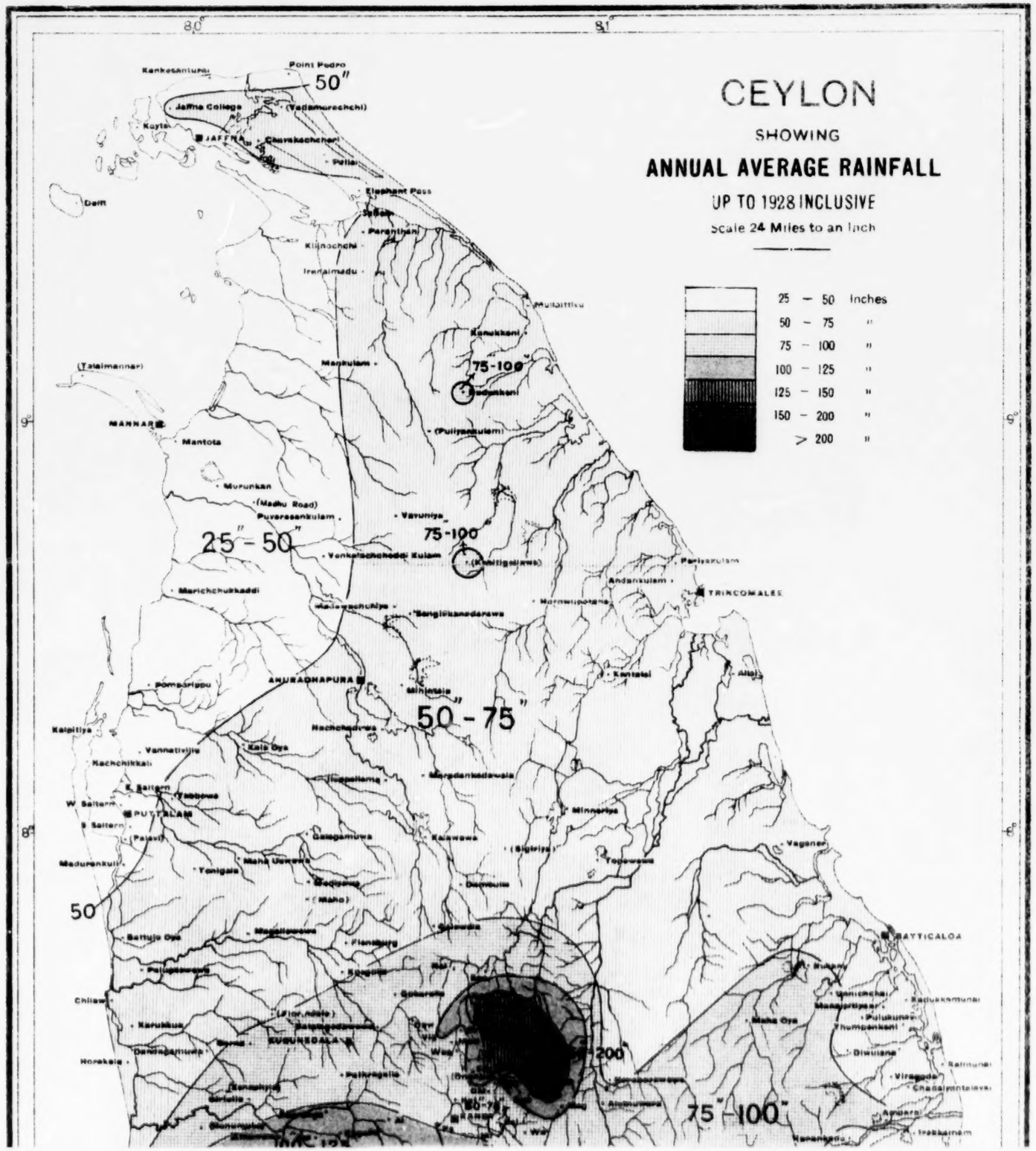
Supplementary Surveys.—779 supplementary surveys consisting of 7,807 lots covering 19,251 acres have been made and marked on preliminary plans and final village plans already issued.

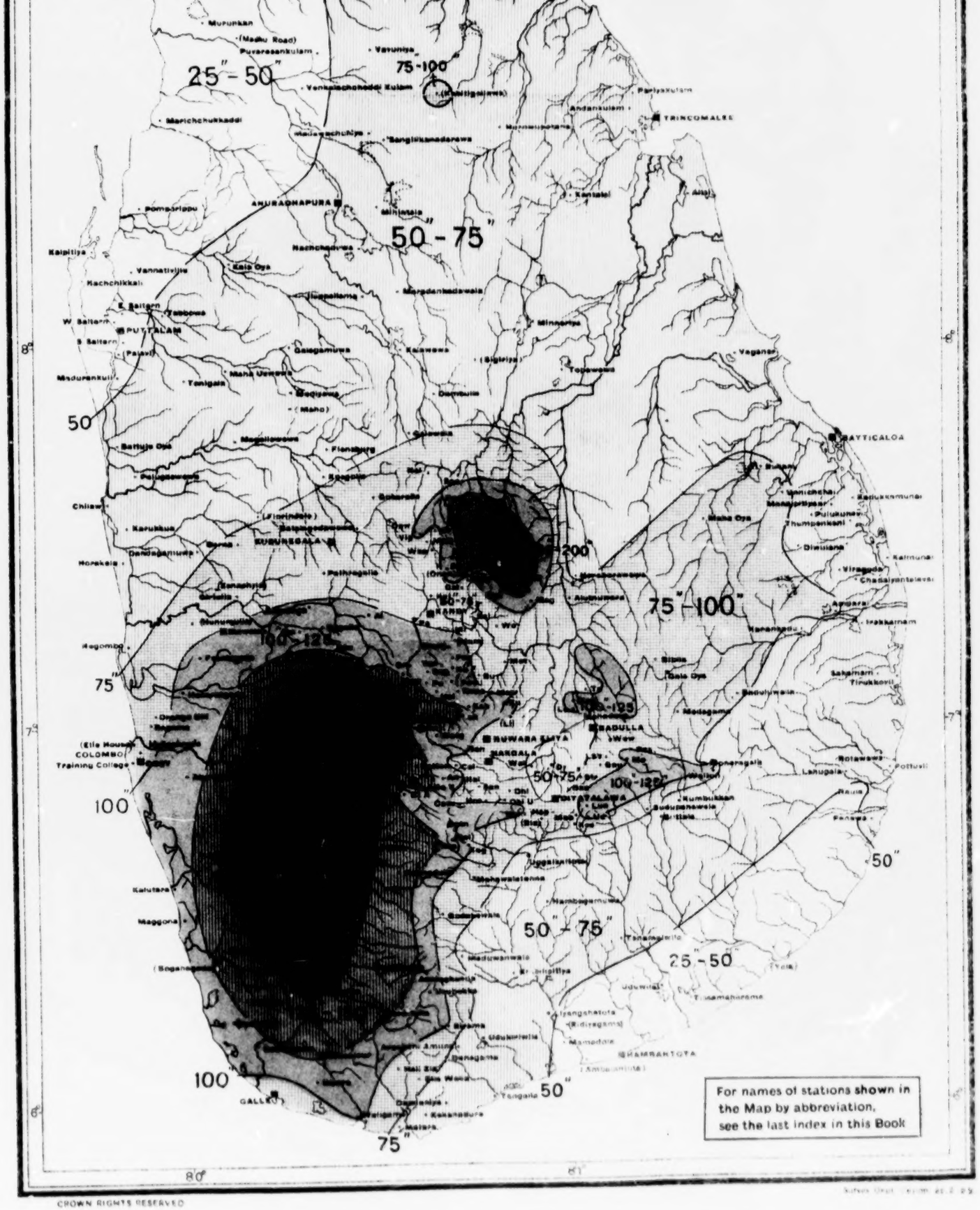
Acquisition Plans.—335 acquisition preliminary plans and supplementary final village plans for 694 acres in 2,747 lots were forwarded to the Hon. the Colonial Secretary.

Applications.—929 applications covering 2,670 acres were surveyed for paddy, 145 applications covering 1,255 acres for tea. Fifty-six applications covering 167 acres for rubber, 383 applications covering 1,643 acres for

Maps on this order too large to be entirely included in one exposure are filmed clockwise beginning in the upper left hand corner, left to right and top to bottom as many frames as required. The following diagrams illustrate the method.




CEYLON
SHOWING
ANNUAL AVERAGE RAINFALL
UP TO 1928 INCLUSIVE
Scale 24 Miles to an Inch
25 – 50 Inches
50 – 75 "
75 – 100 "
100 – 125 "
125 – 150 "
150 – 200 "
> 200 "
80°
81°
9°
8°
Point Pedro
50"
Jaffna College
(Vadamoreichchi)
Kayts
JAFFNA
Chavakachcheri
Pelliai
Elephant Pass
Delft
Paranthani
Kilinochchi
Iranaimadu
Mullaitivu
Kanukkeni
75-100"
Mankulam
(Talaimannar)
MANNAR
Mantota
(Puliyankulam)
Murunkan
(Madhu Road)
Puvarasankulam
Vavuniya
75-100
25" - 50"
Vankalachchoddi Kulam
(Kantigulawa)
Periyakulam
Andankulam
TRINCOMALEE
Marichchukkaddi
Nilaveli
Mullaitivu
Kantalai
Pomparipu
ANURADHAPURA
Mihintale
50 - 75"
Kalpitiya
Nachchadiwa
Vannativiliu
Kala Oya
Kachchikkali
Mandankadawala
Jaffna
W. Saltern
PUTTALAM
Minneriya
Galgamuwa
Kalawewa
(Sigiriya)
Vaganeri
Madurankuli
Mahaweweva
Yonigala
Dambulla
(Maho)
50
Battuja Oya
Mandiyawa
Flandiyu
Sigiriya
BATTICALOA
Pallegewela
Kegalle
Chilaw
Gokarella
Karukkua
(Pilor Road)
Pathragalla
KURUNEGALA
200
Mahaoya
Thumpankeni
Dimbulana
Horekela
Dambadeniwa
Pathragalla
Vilagoda
Chadaimantalava
Ampara
Inakkanam
Hanangala
75"-100"



CROWN RIGHTS RESERVED

coconut, 1,440 applications covering 2,069 acres for building purposes, 1,164 applications covering 3,381 acres for garden cultivation, 14 applications covering 164 acres for rubber and coconut, 6 applications covering 35 acres for tea and rubber, 4 applications covering 14 acres for citronella, and 1 application covering 3 acres for plumbago.

There has been a decrease of 22 per cent. in the number of applications for land, but this cannot be taken as a criterion of the demand as there has been an increase of 3½ per cent. in the number of Crown requisitions received, and many of these are for large extents for peasant leases.

Forest Surveys.—Four forest survey plans for 2,772 acres in 128 lots were issued during the year.

Town Planning and Assessment Surveys.—Ten Surveyors were engaged the relevelling of the line from Kurunegala to Ambepussa (19 miles). In nochchi were issued and the surveys of Jaffna, Matara, and Ratmalana completed. In addition, a start was made with Kalutara.

Levelling.—The outturn during the season was 634 miles which included the relevelling of the line from Kurunegala to Ambepussa (19 miles). In three years 1,690 miles of the net have been levelled leaving 723 miles to be done in 1929 to complete the work.

293 miles of levelling was carried out from Trincomalee as headquarters where considerable delay was caused by sickness among the levellers and coolies. On the Nasuvantivu-Trincomalee road the levels had to be carried across seven ferries. This was done by taking the simultaneous reciprocal observations with "twenty-one inch" instruments, the mean of a large number of observations being taken in each case—the longest sight was 1,200 feet. The work carried out from Colombo as headquarters amounted to 341 miles. The chief difficulty encountered was that caused by heavy traffic on narrow roads. In Colombo and its suburbs it was found necessary to carry out levelling operations by artificial light between the hours of 10 P.M. and 4 A.M., the staves being illuminated by electric torches. The results obtained were satisfactory.

Tidal Observatories.—The construction of the observatory in the Royal Naval Yard, Trincomalee, has been completed and the tide gauge erected. Observations were begun on August 3, and have been continuous since that date. A new well has been constructed for the Harbour Works tide gauge at Colombo and the instrument has been reset and started.

METEOROLOGY.

Rainfall.—The highest total was 246.3 inches at Kenilworth. Carney came next with 236.8, and still holds the highest average (233.6) among stations with over ten years' figures. Others with over 225 in 1928 were Ingoya and Maliboda.

The lowest figures were 25.80 at Puvarasankulam and 27.88 at Yala. Marichchukkadi still holds the lowest average (34.61) from which its total for this year differed by less than a tenth of an inch. Other gauges with averages of less than 40 are the three on Mannar Island, and Ponparippu.

The chief features of this year's rainfall were freedom from cyclonic activity (except for an interesting exception in July), a weak south-west monsoon, and well developed inter-monsoon local thunderstorms. The last named made the distribution of rain rather uneven, and difficult to summarize briefly. The average was passed at most stations in the Kelani Valley, the North-Western Province, the Jaffna Peninsula, and along the

north-east coast and at about half those in the remaining low-country areas. Deficits predominated in the North-Central Province, in the up-country areas and immediately south of the main hills. The most marked deficits were in the Rangala and Horton Plains Districts.

Temperature.—The temperature in 1928 was on the whole slightly above average. The offsets in Table II. are comparable between one station and another although some observations were made in sheds and others in screens, as in the latter cases the old shed averages have been adjusted to equivalent screen averages, by means of simultaneous readings in sheds and screens before the former were discontinued.

The station showing the highest mean shade temperature for the year was Mannar 83.1° F., and the lowest Nuwara Eliya with with 59.9° F. The figures for Colombo and Kandy were 80.8° F. and 77.2° F. respectively.

The highest shade temperature in air recorded during the year was 99.3° F. at Anuradhapura on March 26. The highest on record is 103.7° F. at Trincomalee on May 12, 1890. The lowest this year was 31.2 at Nuwara Eliya (6,000 feet above sea level) on February 20, at which station 27.1° F. was recorded in 1914. The highest shade temperature in Colombo in 1928 was 92. 0° F. on March 10, and the lowest 65.9° F. on February 27.

The mean daily range, *i.e.*, the difference between the mean of the maximum and the mean of the minimum, was highest at Badulla 18.2° F., and lowest at Galle 7.8° F. At Colombo and Kandy it was 11.0° F. and 15.0° F. respectively. The absolute range for the year, *i.e.*, the difference between the highest and the lowest readings actually recorded at any one station, was greatest at Nuwara Eliya 46.1° F. and lowest at Galle 20.4° F.

XI.—Labour.

WHEN Europeans began to open up the jungles, and to plant coffee there and later tea and rubber, local labour was not available on the spot and was unwilling to move to and work on the estates. In the Madras Presidency, however, there was a surplus of labour owing to the social habits of the Tamils and other races which resulted in keeping the population near to and sometimes below the subsistence limit. From 1825 or so the Ceylon planters drew on this labour reservoir and there has been a huge movement of Indian estate labour between Ceylon and India up to the present day. There has been a similar movement, but on a much smaller scale, of non-estate Indian labour, especially between Tuticorin and Colombo, the estate labour now entering and leaving Ceylon mainly using the rail and ferry route between Talaimannar and Dhanushkodi.

Indian estate labour in Ceylon has never been indentured.

In 1827 there were about 10,000 Indian estate labourers and their dependents in Ceylon, in 1846 there were about 80,000, and at the end of 1928 the number was 739,316. Of these probably more than half or possibly 70 per cent. are immigrants, who have been less than five years resident in Ceylon. These estate labourers are all called Indian, but many of them are practically Ceylonese owing to length of residence in the Island or because they were born in Ceylon.

In the year 1928, 271,869 Indians entered Ceylon while 216,061 left Ceylon for India. Of those entering the Island 133,712 were estate labourers. The Indian estate labour population is made up of 244,603 men, 236,304 women, and 258,409 children.

No. 4.

PLUCKING TEA.

Plate, Limited, Colombo.

The Department of Indian Immigrant Labour established in the year 1923 protects Indian estate labour which is assisted to emigrate from India at the expense of the Immigration Fund subscribed to by the estates employing Indian labour. This Department has fine labour depôts in India and Ceylon where Indian estate labourers travelling from India to Ceylon are provided free of cost with medical treatment, inoculation, food, lodging, rail, and steamer fares, baths, and guides, and where necessary with cloths, blankets, and pocket money. Since the establishment of government control in 1923 the estates in Ceylon for the first time in their history have had a permanent adequate supply of Indian labour. The cost to these estates of protecting, assisting, and repatriating Indian estate labour is about Rs. 3,000,000 a year.

Labour in Ceylon has little economic organization though unions have recently appeared, especially in workshop labour in Colombo. The Donoughmore Commission of 1928 has recommended adult suffrage, and labour in future will probably be a larger political force.

In 1928 a Commission appointed by the Government recommended that all labour in Ceylon should be protected and that a central labour board with arbitration boards in special trades composed of officials and representatives of employers and employees should be established with a view to removing the sweated conditions of unskilled labour which prevail in Colombo and other places. The legal establishment of minimum subsistence wages was also recommended where needed, a system which was enacted for Indian labour on the estates at the end of the year 1927.

Labour legislation in Ceylon is far behind that in Western or Australasian countries. There is no Ordinance dealing with the right of association or insurance against accidents, unemployment, or old age, old age pensions, or the like.

Section 3 of Ordinance No. 11 of 1865, which applies to all contracts for hire and service, reads:—

> "Every verbal contract for the hire of any servant, except for work usually performed by the day, or by the job, or by the journey, shall (unless otherwise expressly stipulated, and notwithstanding that the wages under such contract shall be payable at a daily rate) be deemed and taken in law to be a contract for hire and service for the period of one month, and to be renewable from month to month, and shall be deemed and taken in law to be so renewed, unless one month's previous notice or warning be given by either party to the other of his intention to determine the same at the expiry of a month from the day of giving such notice."

Contracts for hire and service must be in writing and signed before a Magistrate or Justice of the Peace, if the period for which they are made exceeds one month.

Section 27 dealing with illness reads:—

> "Any servant who shall be incapacitated by sickness from labour whilst in the service of any employer shall be entitled to lodging, food, as well as medical care, at the expense of such employer during such incapacity; provided that the employer shall not be bound to pay to the servant during such period his wages in addition: Provided further that nothing herein contained shall prevent the employer from determining the contract under the 10th section of this Ordinance in case the servant shall become permanently disabled from completing his contract."

In practice labourers who are ill receive free medical treatment at the Government hospitals and dispensaries. In the case of Indian estate labour, Ordinances Nos. 9 and 10 of 1912 impose on planters the legal duty of providing medical aid for such labour and free maternity benefit. Employers of Indian labourers on tea, rubber, and cacao estates alone pay for the medical wants of their labour, and these estates have contributed about Rs. 1,250,000 per annum through the following export duties:—A duty of 75 cents per 100 lb. on rubber, of 15 cents per 100 lb. on tea and cacao.

The housing of labour in Ceylon, except in the case of Indian estate labour, leaves much to the desired. Workers often live in overcrowded tenements in Colombo and other towns and in insanitary huts in the rural districts. The public authorities are gradually housing a part of their labour properly but private employers of the estates have done very little so far. In the rural districts the worker generally owns his hut or a share of it. There is no general scheme for promoting the erection of urban or rural workmen's dwellings, and over and above the usual financial difficulties there is the added one created by the low scale of wages paid to unskilled labour, a scale leaving little or no margin for the payment of a rent such as would give the minimum return on the capital needed to build a sanitary dwelling.

Estates employing Indians are bound by law to erect sanitary lines or living rooms made of permanent materials and properly drained, lighted, and ventilated, and Inspecting Medical Officers see that the law is obeyed. The result is that from 1922 to the end of 1927 about 135,000 rooms up to the Government standard were built on estates at a cost of about Rs. 49,000,000. The average number of residents per room on estate lines is now 3.8 and there is little overcrowding. There are about 55,000 latrines on estates employing Indians and a pipe-born water supply for about 117,000 rooms.

Ordinance No. 6 of 1923 legalizes in Ceylon the Washington Conventions regarding the employment of women, young persons, and children in industrial undertakings.

No Indian child under ten years of age can be lawfully employed to work on estates.

Indian labourers on estates must be paid overtime if they work more than eight hours a day, as they are allowed one hour for a mid-day in a working day of nine hours defined by law.

There is no law in Ceylon to regulate the hours of work save as mentioned above. The Labour Advisory Board set up by the Government, however, informally fixes rates of pay per hour in workshops and its ruling is generally acted upon.

The minimum daily wages fixed for Indian estate labour are—

	Men. Cents.	Women. Cents.	Children Cents
Low-country	50	40	30
Mid-country	52	41	31
Up-country	54	43	32

In addition a free meal a day is prescribed for all non-working children, and rice must be issued at not more than Rs. 6.40 a bushel, which is below cost price.

Higher cash wages than the above are frequently earned at piece work. Free houses, medical aid, and maternity benefit are part of the scheme. Unskilled labour other than Indian estate labour seldom secures much in the way of perquisites and the item of rent in towns is a serious drain owing to the shortage of tenements. A large percentage of such labour in towns is paid less than a bare subsistence wage.

No. 5.

TAPPING RUBBER.

Plate, Limited, Colombo.

The rates of wages fixed by the Labour Advisory Board in 1926 were as follows:—

		Rates per Diem.	
		Minimum. Rs. c.	Maximum. Rs. c.
Minor supervising grades	Class B I.	3 84	6 48
	Class B II.	2 48	5 4
Skilled labour	Class B III.	2 88	4 24
	Class B IV.	1 60	2 80
Semi-skilled labour	Class B V.	0 96	1 60
Unskilled labour	Class B VI.	0 64	1 12
Trade apprentices	Class B VII.	0 80	1 44
Women and boys	Class B VIII.	0 24	0 80

XII.—Miscellaneous.

Legislation, 1928.

Thirty-one Ordinances were passed during the year. Of these, the more important are—

No. 1, relating to Public and Bank Holidays;

No. 4, to incorporate the Ceylon Police Saving Association;

No. 12, relating to Naturalization, to provide that persons who have been granted certificates of local naturalization shall lose their local status as British subjects in the event of their obtaining naturalization in a foreign state;

No. 14, relating to the Ceylon Savings Bank, to increase the limits of deposits allowed for charitable societies and ordinary depositors to Rs. 3,000 in a year with Rs. 9,000 as a maximum and Rs. 2,000 in a year with Rs. 6,000 as a maximum, respectively;

No. 16, to extend the provisions of the Widows' and Orphans' Pension Fund Ordinance, 1898, to Muslim public officers;

No. 17, to exempt from Customs duty all articles imported for His Majesty's Regular Military Forces for use in their athletic sports or for the use of their messes and canteens in the Colony;

No. 21, to repeal the Rubber Restriction Ordinances;

No. 29, to provide for the establishment of a Coconut Research Scheme and for the incorporation of a Board of Management thereof;

No. 30, relating to Whaling Operations, to prohibit whaling operations in Ceylon without a licence and to provide for the regulation and control of such operations;

No. 31, to provide for the proper regulation of Botanic Gardens in Ceylon.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

In 1928, resulting from the preliminary notice gazetted in 1927 under section 9 (2) of "The Local Government Ordinance, No. 11 of 1920," an Urban District Council was constituted for the Sanitary Board area of Dehiwala-Mt. Lavinia, including a portion of the village Ratmalana South, as from January 1, 1929. This is the ninth Council of its kind, two similar Councils having been constituted as from January 1, 1922, and six others as from January 1, 1923. In the course of the year the usual preliminary notice was published with a view to the establishment of Urban District Councils for the Local Board areas of Moratuwa and Kurunegala. Definite requests for such Councils had been received from both these towns—in the case of Moratuwa for the third time, and in the case of Kurunegala for the

second time. There was again considerable opposition in Moratuwa to the proposal; but it came on this occasion almost entirely from the working classes and the less enlightened section of the population and was, as on the two previous occasions, noisy and utterly illogical. In view of the strong appeal in favour of the proposal made by the more intelligent inhabitants and by those with a stake in the area, Government in November (after the publication of the report of the Special Commission on the Constitution) decided to establish an Urban District Council for Moratuwa as from January 1, 1930. As regards Kurunegala, the Local Government Board in the following month, in the absence of any representations against the proposal, recommended to Government that a similar Council be constituted for that town—also as from January 1, 1930. In August the final report of the Select Committee of the Legislative Council on Local Government was published as a Sessional Paper (XXXVI. of 1928). This Committee, it will be recalled, had been appointed in 1927 " to consider the working of Ordinances relating to District Councils, Local Boards, Sanitary Boards, Village Committees, and to make such recommendations as will make it possible to extend local self-governing institutions throughout the country."

INFORMATION FOR VISITORS.

Hotel Accommodation.

The larger towns in Ceylon are well supplied with hotels. The rates are usually Rs. 9 per day and upwards, the average being probably about Rs. 15 a day.

In addition to hotels, there are about 170 " resthouses " in various parts of the Island, where accommodation and meals are provided. The cost per day is about Rs. 8 to Rs. 10. Rooms can be occupied generally for three days only unless the permission of the Road Committee has been obtained for a longer stay.

Means of Transport by Road.

The number of motor vehicles in Ceylon has been increasing very rapidly for some years, and on December 31, 1928, was 20,623. The average cost of running a small private car may be put at about 30 to 40 cents per mile, while larger cars may cost up to 60 cents per mile. Hiring cars are available in most parts of the Island and cost 40 cents to Re. 1 per mile. Drivers and mechanics for privately-owned cars can be obtained without any great difficulty, and all drivers must hold the Government certificate of competence, while many hold certificates from the Automobile Club of Ceylon. Numerous facilities for repairs exist in Colombo, Kandy, Nuwara Eliya, and most of the other towns. The Secretary of the Automobile Club in Ceylon will afford any information which may be desired.

Places of Interest.

Of the towns of Ceylon, the most important and progressive is the capital, Colombo. It is the main business centre of the Island, the seat of the Government and its principal officials, and the headquarters of the chief mercantile firms. It is consequently the most Westernized of all the towns, and possesses up-to-date hotels; electric light, fans, and tramways; and excellent water supply; an up-to-date system of water-borne drainage; and extensive shops of all kinds. It is also the distributing centre of the Island's import and export trade.

After Colombo, probably the most developed town is Kandy (72 miles from Colombo: 1,600 feet above sea level). It may be said to be the head-quarters of the main planting interests of the Island, and is an important distributing centre for the mid-country planting districts, besides being a place of great historic interest and the centre of Ceylon Buddhism. It was the capital of the last Kandyan king and is noted for the Dalada Maligawa or temple of the sacred tooth.

The Royal Botanic Gardens of Peradeniya are 4 miles from Kandy.

Nuwara Eliya, the sanatorium of the Island, is situated on the Uda Pussellawa line, about 134 miles from Colombo. Its elevation is about 6,200 feet and the mean temperature 59.2° F. It is well equipped with hotels, boarding houses, and bungalows. Close to it is Pidurutalagala, which presents a commanding view of the country all round.

The "Buried Cities" are worth seeing. Anuradhapura, on the northern line, about 126 miles from Colombo, was the capital and the residence of the Sinhalese kings for more than a thousand years and contains the remains of numerous sacred monuments. The Thuparama Dagoba, built by king Tissa about the year 307 B.C., is the oldest of the Dagobas in Ceylon, while the sacred bo tree—a branch of the tree under which the Buddha attained enlightenment—is another noteworthy relic of the same period and is said to be the oldest tree in the world.

Polonnaruwa, situated on the Batticaloa line, 161 miles from Colombo, became the capital of the Island after the fall of Anuradhapura about 729 A.D. It contains the ruins of numerous temples, shrines, and other buildings of great archæological and historic interest.

The first class single passenger fares from Colombo Fort to some of the places mentioned above are as follows:—

Name of Station.	Train Fare.		Name of Station	Train Fare.	
	Rs.	c.		Rs.	c.
Kandy	6	9	Anuradhapura ..	10	24
Nuwara Eliya	13	23	Polonnaruwa ..	13	4

APPENDIX.

TABLE No. 1.—Mean Monthly and Yearly Temperatures of Eight Selected Stations :—

(See Diagram No. 1.)

Station.	Elevation. Ft.	Jan. °	Feb. °	Mar. °	Apr. °	May. °	June. °	July. °	Aug. °	Sept. °	Oct. °	Nov. °	Dec. °	Year. °
Colombo ..	24	78·6	79·0	80·6	81·8	82·0	81·1	80·4	80·4	80·2	79·4	79·0	78·6	80·1
Jaffna ..	14	77·0	78·6	82·1	84·8	84·5	83·2	82·4	82·1	81·6	80·8	78·9	77·1	81·1
Trincomalee ..	99	77·8	78·6	80·7	83·4	85·0	84·9	84·5	84·2	83·7	81·5	78·9	77·9	81·8
Batticaloa ..	26	77·8	78·6	80·8	83·2	84·6	85·3	84·6	84·0	83·6	81·6	79·5	78·0	81·8
Kandy ..	1692	74·5	76·1	78·4	79·0	78·7	76·6	75·9	75·9	75·9	75·9	75·4	74·5	76·4
Badulla ..	2189	69·8	70·4	73·0	74·8	75·4	75·0	74·8	75·0	74·5	74·0	72·1	70·4	73·3
Diyatalawa ..	4096	64·4	65·2	67·2	69·0	69·8	70·1	69·8	69·7	68·8	67·8	66·2	64·9	67·7
Nuwara Eliya .	6170	57·5	57·5	59·2	60·5	61·8	60·1	59·0	59·6	59·5	59·6	59·2	58·0	59·3

TABLE No. 2.—Mean Monthly Rainfall of Twelve Selected Stations :—

(See Diagram No. 2.)

Station.	January. In.	Dys.	February. In.	Dys.	March. In.	Dys.	April. In.	Dys.	May. In.	Dys.	June. In.	Dys.	July. In.	Dys.
Colombo* ..	3·69	10	2·09	5	4·73	11	8·18	16	13·56	22	8·30	21	6·48	17
Jaffna† ..	2·67	7	1·32	2	1·20	3	1·97	5	1·69	3	0·64	1	0·89	2
Trincomalee† ..	6·62	11	2·19	5	1·75	5	1·98	5	2·45	5	1·24	3	2·06	4
Batticaloa† ..	10·40	14	3·42	6	3·19	6	1·89	5	1·75	4	0·94	3	1·23	4
Hambantota† ..	3·48	7	1·42	4	2·49	6	3·29	8	3·20	8	2·38	9	1·80	7
Galle† ..	4·21	12	2·87	7	4·67	10	9·68	16	11·49	21	8·35	22	6·14	19
Ratnapura† ..	5·49	12	4·45	9	9·05	16	12·29	19	18·25	22	19·89	25	12·76	22
Kurunegala‡ ..	3·84	8	1·69	4	5·26	8	9·71	15	6·59	14	8·00	20	4·16	15
Kandy† ..	5·31	11	2·28	5	4·07	9	6·76	14	5·75	13	9·35	22	7·55	22
Badulla† ..	9·76	15	2·94	6	4·60	9	7·38	13	4·56	10	2·20	7	2·05	6
Diyatalawa§ ..	6·19	15	2·35	6	4·32	13	5·67	16	5·17	15	1·95	8	2·04	8
Nuwara Eliya† .	5·84	12	2·03	6	3·49	9	5·59	14	6·82	16	12·59	24	12·03	23

* 21 years. † 56 years and over. ‡ Over 41 years. § 28 years.

TABLE No. 2.—Mean Monthly Rainfall of Twelve Selected Stations—*contd.* :—

(See Diagram No. 2.)

Station.	August. In.	Dys.	September. In.	Dys.	October. In.	Dys.	November In.	Dys.	December In.	Dys.	Annual Average. In.
Colombo* ..	3·06	14	6·28	17	13·50	22	11·78	19	5·46	12	87·12
Jaffna† ..	1·48	3	2·86	5	9·33	13	14·53	17	10·29	14	48·87
Trincomalee† ..	4·02	8	4·39	8	8·29	16	14·21	19	13·97	19	63·17
Batticaloa† ..	2·15	6	2·68	6	6·48	13	13·45	18	16·53	19	64·12
Hambantota† ..	1·22	6	2·47	8	4·79	11	6·92	13	5·28	10	38·75
Galle† ..	5·52	19	8·25	19	13·12	21	11·33	18	6·71	14	92·34
Ratnapura† ..	12·06	22	15·09	21	18·73	23	14·48	20	8·96	15	151·49
Kurunegala‡ ..	3·44	14	5·40	15	15·66	21	11·73	17	7·09	13	82·56
Kandy† ..	5·73	19	6·00	18	11·66	22	10·47	19	8·91	16	83·85
Badulla† ..	3·18	8	3·52	8	9·70	17	10·60	18	12·21	19	72·72
Diyatalawa§ ..	3·14	10	4·03	12	10·10	21	9·80	22	7·80	20	62·56
Nuwara Eliya† ..	8·00	22	8·41	20	11·00	23	9·07	20	8·34	16	93·22

* 21 years. † 56 years and over. ‡ Over 41 years. § 28 years.

TABLE No. 9.—Number of Schools and Scholars in 1928 :

Class of Schools.	English.				Anglo-Vernacular.			
	Number of Schools.	Boys.	Girls.	Total No. of Scholars.	Number of Schools.	Boys.	Girls.	Total No. of Scholars.
Total	314	42,914	12,991	55,905	160	30,483	6,882	37,365
Government	17	2,427	49	2,476	97	23,729	3,067	26,796
Assisted	241	38,424	12,708	51,132	49	5,587	3,770	9,357
Unaided	56	2,063	234	2,297	14	1,167	45	11,212

TABLE No. 9.—Number of Schools and Scholars in 1928—*contd.* :—

Class of Schools.	Vernacular.				Grand Total.			
	Number of Schools.	Boys.	Girls.	Total No. of Scholars.	Number of Schools.	Boys.	Girls.	Total No. of Scholars.
Total	3,583	265,622	161,701	427,323	4,057	339,019	181,574	520,593
Government	1,171	113,930	61,005	174,935	1,285	140,086	64,121	204,207
Assisted	1,914	138,319	93,237	231,556	2,204	182,330	109,715	292,045
Unaided	498	13,373	7,459	20,832	568	16,603	7,738	24,341

Note.—This table excludes figures for Training Schools, Technical Schools, Industrial Schools, Pirivenas, Classical, Special, and Pansala Schools.

TABLE No. 10.—Immigrants to, and Emigrants from, Ceylon, 1919-1928 :—

(See Diagram No. 5.)

Year.	Immigrants.			Emigrants. Total.	Year.	Immigrants.			Emigrants Total.
	Estate Labourers.	Miscellaneous Passengers.	Total.			Estate Labourers.	Miscellaneous Passengers.	Total.	
1919	112,391	78,737	191,128	147,465	1924	153,989	104,954	258,943	156,523
1920	45,946	90,753	136,699	146,247	1925	125,378	126,505	251,883	179,796
1921	25,496	81,102	106,598	127,107	1926	101,746	132,792	234,538	201,053
1922	77,414	97,155	174,569	145,737	1927	159,399	143,768	303,167	231,828
1923	89,607	100,905	190,512	147,860	1928	133,712	156,050	289,762	237,670

TABLE No. 12.—Value of the **Total Trade** of Ceylon, **Total Exports,** Exports of Ceylon Produce, Other Exports, and **Total Imports** for each Calendar Year since 1914 :—

(See Diagram No. 7.)

Year.	Total Trade.	Exports.			Imports, including Bullion and Specie
		Total	Ceylon Produce.	Other including Bullion and Specie.	
1	2	3	4	5	6
	Rs.	Rs	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1914	396,341,202	219,374,046	210,711,403	8,662,643	176,967,156
1915	441,823,218	273,377,180	265,733,258	7,643,922	168,446,038
1916	517,572,055	297,541,155	284,837,976	12,703,179	220,030,900
1917	492,091,178	306,944,957	292,625,008	14,319,949	185,146,221
1918	390,870,517	213,133,834	197,633,194	15,500,649	177,736,683
1919	609,777,169	367,057,479	353,767,924	13,289,555	242,719,690
1920	637,222,648	276,295,469	257,178,888	19,116,581	360,927,179
1921	518,656,123	256,600,413	248,120,500	8,479,913	262,055,710
1922	579,523,917	297,783,215	288,951,165	8,832,050	281,740,702
1923	643,358,532	351,198,748	336,785,210	14,413,538	292,159,784
1924	697,845,885	385,517,418	375,382,250	10,135,168	312,328,467
1925	852,996,747	492,616,430	471,866,380	20,750,050	360,380,317
1926	911,516,099	503,648,990	483,588,564	20,060,426	407,867,109
1927	870,401,720	449,273,744	431,221,584	18,052,160	421,127,976
1928	804,689,614	392,569,975	375,111,350	17,458,625	412,119,639

Note.—The figures in columns 2, 3, 4, and 5 exclude the value of ships' stores and postal articles

TABLE No. 13.—Percentage Distribution by Articles of the **Total Import* Trade** of the Colony for each Calendar Year since 1918 :—

(See Diagram No. 8.)

Articles.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
Coal and coke ..	7·2	14·4	8·5	11·6	7·9	5·8	6·1	4·9	4·0	4·5	3·5
Cotton manufactures :—											
Piece goods :—											
Bleached ..	2·5	1·4	2·1	2·0	2·0	2·3	1·8	2·3	1·4	1·4	1·4
Dyed ..	4·0	3·8	3·8	4·7	3·2	3·9	3·9	3·4	3·4	2·8	2·4
Printed ..	—	—	1·0	1·1	—	—	—	1·0	1·3	1·5	1·0
Cutlery and hardware ..	—	1·2	1·3	1·4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Curry stuffs ..	1·2	—	—	1·5	1·3	2·0	1·8	1·8	1·8	1·8	1·7
Fish, cured or salted ..	1·1	—	—	1·6	1·4	1·3	1·2	1·0	—	1·0	1·0
Grain and pulse :—											
Paddy ..	1·0	1·0	—	1·2	1·0	1·3	—	—	—	—	1·0
Rice ..	29·7	27·3	25·4	26·6	31·7	28·6	24·6	26·1	24·0	24·4	25·0
Other, including flour	1·6	4·5	3·9	3·3	2·7	2·6	2·4	2·4	2·2	2·4	2·4
Haberdashery ..	1·4	1·1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Machinery and mill work (including sewing machines) ..	—	1·0	1·4	2·1	1·7	1·5	1·6	1·7	1·8	1·8	2·0

* Including bullion and specie.

TABLE No. 13.—Percentage Distribution by Articles of the **Total Import* Trade** of the Colony for each Calendar Year since 1918—*contd.*:—

(See Diagram No. 8.)

Articles.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
Manures (including poonac used as manure)	3·7	4·2	3·6	—	3·0	3·2	3·1	3·5	3·9	3·9	3·6
Oil, kerosine	1·4	1·7	1·2	1·4	2·3	1·8	1·4	1·7	1·5	1·8	2·0
Poonac (excluding castor and rape seed poonac used as manure)	—	—	—	—	—	1·3	—	—	—	—	—
Railway plant and materials	—	—	—	2·2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·5
Sugar, raw and refined	3·9	4·1	2·6	4·0	3·9	4·2	4·7	3·7	3·7	3·8	4·1
Tea chests	—	—	—	—	—	1·2	1·3	1·2	1·4	1·1	1·4
Specie:—											
Gold	—	1·4	9·3	—	—	—	1·1	2·1	2·1	3·3	2·7
Silver	—	—	1·6	—	—	—	2·0	—	—	—	—
Other principal articles each generally less than 1 per cent. and minor articles not mentioned above	41·3	33·0	34·2	35·4	37·9	39·2	42·9	43·1	47·4	44·3	43·2

* Including bullion and specie.

TABLE No. 14.—Percentage Distribution by Articles of the **Total Export* Trade** of the Colony for each Calendar Year since 1918:—

Articles.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
Arecanuts	1·8	—	1·1	1·3	1·1	1·0	—	—	—	—	—
Cinnamon	—	1·0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·1	1·3
Cacao	1·1	—	—	—	1·1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Coconuts, desiccated	2·4	6·8	6·6	10·4	6·8	6·5	5·7	3·8	3·4	4·6	5·1
Coir and manufactures thereof	—	—	—	—	1·1	1·3	1·4	—	—	1·2	1·2
Copra	6·0	8·8	10·3	9·5	9·7	5·2	8·0	7·8	7·9	7·1	8·1
Oil, coconut	7·4	7·0	7·2	5·9	5·0	4·0	4·1	3·4	3·1	3·7	4·9
Plumbago	2·3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rubber	32·1	37·8	34·1	21·0	20·0	22·4	17·9	37·6	36·6	28·9	20·6
Tea	39·0	31·7	29·2	43·9	49·0	52·9	55·8	40·5	42·3	47·6	51·3
Specie, gold	—	—	2·8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other principal articles each less than 1 per cent. and minor articles not mentioned above	7·9	6·9	8·7	8·1	6·2	8·6	7·1	6·9	6·7	6·0	7·7

* Including imports exported, bullion, and specie, but excluding ships' stores and postal articles.

TABLE No. 15.—Percentage Distribution by Countries of the **Total Import* Trade** of the Colony for each Calendar Year since 1917:—

(See Diagram No. 9.)

	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
United Kingdom	17·6	16·1	14·0	21·5	25·0	22·0	21·7	22·2	23·5	23·3	22·6	22·6
British India (including Burma)	56·4	57·6	53·6	49·7	47·6	51·1	49·6	46·8	47·6	43·2	41·6	39·7
Maldive Islands	1·2	1·3	—	—	1·1	1·3	1·4	1·3	1·3	1·2	1·2	1·2
Straits Settlements	7·0	3·8	3·8	2·0	2·7	1·6	1·3	1·3	2·0	2·7	3·2	1·9
Commonwealth of Australia	—	—	1·7	1·8	2·5	2·1	3·7	2·4	2·1	2·0	1·9	2·9
British Possessions in Africa (excluding Mauritius)	—	4·3	2·6	—	4·4	3·2	1·9	2·5	2·1	2·3	3·7	2·5
Belgium	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·0	1·0	—
Cochin-China	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·1
France	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·1	1·2	1·2
Germany	—	—	—	—	—	1·3	1·4	1·7	1·6	2·5	2·1	2·4
Holland	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·5	1·5	1·2
Italy	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·0	—	—
Java	1·3	1·3	2·8	1·8	3·0	2·7	3·2	3·8	3·1	3·3	3·4	4·1
Borneo (excluding British)	1·7	1·2	2·5	1·5	1·5	2·3	2·7	2·8	2·0	1·2	2·8	1·6
Japan	5·4	5·1	3·5	1·9	1·6	1·8	1·9	2·1	2·0	2·4	2·2	2·4
Persia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2·2	1·0	1·9
Siam	—	—	3·9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·1
Sumatra	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2·4	2·8	3·6
United States of America	3·0	3·2	4·7	11·9	2·7	2·4	2·2	2·9	2·6	3·1	3·5	3·8
Others (each generally less than 1 per cent.)	6·4	5·9	7·1	8·0	8·0	8·2	9·1	10·2	10·1	3·6	4·2	4·7

* Including bullion and specie.

TABLE No. 16.—Percentage Distribution by Countries of the **Total Export* Trade** of the Colony for each Calendar Year since 1917 :—

(See Diagram No. 10.)

	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
United Kingdom ..	39·6	42·7	42·1	44·8	46·2	46·3	46·6	44·7	38·3	41·4	41·6	39·1
British India (including Burma)	6·7	12·6	6·9	5·4	4·4	3·2	3·1	3·2	2·8	2·1	3·3	5·2
Egypt	—	2·5	1·3	1·4	1·3	1·4	2·1	1·8	2·0	1·4	1·6	2·4
Commonwealth of Australia ..	4·9	8·7	2·7	3·4	4·7	4·2	3·7	4·8	3·9	4·0	5·0	5·2
Dominion of New Zealand ..	1·1	—	—	1·1	1·4	1·7	1·9	1·7	1·4	1·7	1·9	2·2
Dominion of Canada ..	3·0	5·6	1·8	1·7	1·7	2·3	2·5	2·4	1·4	1·3	1·4	1·8
Iraq (Mesopotamia) ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·3
British Possessions in Africa (excluding Mauritius) ..	—	1·6	—	—	1·6	2·0	2·2	2·2	1·5	1·9	2·2	2·3
Russia	2·6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·0
Denmark	—	—	1·6	1·6	2·1	1·6	1·1	2·7	2·3	1·5	1·4	1·2
Germany	—	—	—	1·5	3·9	3·7	2·7	4·4	4·0	4·8	4·8	4·9
Holland	—	—	1·3	4·9	2·9	1·5	—	1·4	—	1·2	1·1	1·0
Italy	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·5	2·5	2·6	2·6	2·4	3·3
Norway	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·8	1·8	1·4	1·2	1·3	1·6
Belgium	—	—	2·1	2·0	1·1	1·1	—	1·2	—	—	—	1·3
France	2·5	1·9	2·2	1·6	—	—	1·0	—	—	—	—	1·0
French Possessions† ..	—	—	—	2·8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
United States of America ..	33·3	18·1	33·5	22·4	21·9	22·4	23·6	19·4	31·1	28·5	23·9	19·0
Others (each generally less than 1 per cent.) ..	6·3	6·2	4·5	5·4	6·8	8·6	6·2	5·9	7·1	6·4	8·0	6·2

* Excluding ships' stores and postal articles, but including bullion and specie, and imports exported.
† Inclusive of all foreign possessions in India, whether French or otherwise.

TABLE No. 17.—Percentage Distribution by Countries of the **Total Trade*** of the Colony for each Calendar Year since 1917 :—

(See Diagram No. 11.)

	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
United Kingdom	31·3	30·6	30·9	31·6	35·5	34·5	35·3	34·6	32·0	33·3	32·4	30·6
British India (including Burma) ..	25·4	33·1	25·5	30·5	26·2	26·5	24·2	22·7	21·7	20·5	21·8	22·9
Egypt	—	1·4	—	—	—	—	1·2	1·0	1·2	—	—	1·3
Straits Settlements ..	2·9	2·1	1·8	1·4	1·8	1·3	—	—	1·1	1·4	1·8	1·2
Commonwealth of Australia ..	3·3	5·1	2·3	2·5	3·6	3·2	3·7	3·7	3·2	3·1	3·5	4·0
Dominion of Canada ..	1·9	3·1	1·1	—	—	1·3	1·6	1·6	1·0	—	—	1·2
New Zealand ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·1
British Possessions in Africa (excluding Mauritius) ..	—	2·8	1·5	—	3·0	2·6	2·1	2·3	1·8	2·0	2·9	2·4
Russia	1·6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Germany	—	—	—	—	2·2	2·5	2·1	3·2	3·0	3·8	3·5	3·6
Holland	—	—	—	2·6	2·0	1·3	1·2	1·4	1·1	1·3	1·3	1·1
Belgium	—	—	1·3	1·1	—	—	—	1·0	—	—	—	1·0
Denmark	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·5	1·4	—	—	—
Italy	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·1	1·7	1·8	1·9	1·7	2·0
France	1·7	1·3	1·6	1·1	—	—	—	—	—	1·0	1·0	1·1
French Possessions† ..	—	—	—	1·3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Japan	2·2	2·7	1·5	1·3	1·0	1·1	1·1	1·2	—	1·3	1·3	1·4
Java	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·5	1·7	1·3	1·5	1·7	2·1
Persia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·1	—	1·0
Sumatra	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·1	1·4	1·9
United States of America ..	21·9	11·3	22·0	16·4	12·2	12·7	13·9	12·0	19·1	17·1	14·0	11·2
Others (each generally less than 1 per cent.)	7·6	6·5	10·4	10·2	12·4	13·1	11·1	10·3	10·3	9·6	11·6	8·8

* Excluding ships' stores and postal articles.
† Inclusive of all foreign possessions in India, whether French or otherwise.

TABLE No. 18.—Quantity and Value of the Exports of **Black** and **Green Tea** (Ceylon Produce) :—

(See Diagram No. 13.)

Year.	Quantity. Black Tea lb.	Quantity. Green Tea. lb.	Total Value. Rs.	Year.	Quantity. Black Tea. lb.	Quantity. Green Tea. lb.	Total Value. Rs.
1919	205,773,988	2,786,955	116,502,140	1924	203,210,185	1,651,831	214,892,692
1920	181,566,097	3,204,134	80,781,537	1925	208,374,226	1,326,413	199,609,338
1921	159,302,769	2,308,197	112,707,687	1926	215,718,431	1,364,217	213,063,798
1922	169,689,389	2,118,192	146,036,443	1927	224,958,195	1,991,864	213,691,876
1923	179,596,993	2,309,191	185,652,324	1928	234,802,977	1,828,623	201,235,039

TABLE No. 19.—Annual Distribution by Countries of the Quantities of the Export Trade in **Black Tea** (shown as Percentages of the Total Annual Exports thereof) :—

(See Diagram No. 15.)

Country.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
United Kingdom	65·9	69·5	69·2	66·6	65·3	64·3	65·6	64·3	59.5
British Colonies :—									
Australia	9·2	9·3	7·1	6·0	7·6	7·4	7·5	8·0	8·4
British India	1·4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
*British South Africa	—	—	—	—	—	—	3·1	3·5	3·1
Canada	3·3	2·4	3·3	3·4	3·8	3·1	2·7	2·5	3·1
Cape Colony	1·1	1·4	1·4	1·4	1·5	—	—	—	—
*Iraq (Mesopotamia)	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·5	1·2	2·4
Natal	—	1·5	1·9	1·8	1·5	1·8	—	—	—
New Zealand	3·4	3·0	3·3	3·6	2·9	3·4	4·0	3·8	4·1
Foreign Countries :—									
China (excluding Hong Kong)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·5	—
Egypt	2·4	1·1	1·5	2·7	2·2	3·0	2·3	2·4	3·6
Russia in Asia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·0
United States of America	7·9	8·8	7·7	8·2	7·5	7·4	7·0	6·0	6·4
Others (each usually less than 1 per cent.)	5·4	3·1	4·4	6·3	7·7	9·7	6·4	6.7	8·4

* According to the new classification of countries from January 1, 1926.

TABLE No. 20.—Annual Distribution by Countries of the Quantities of the Export Trade in **Green Tea** (shown as Percentages of the Total Annual Exports thereof) :—

Country.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928
United Kingdom	—	4·5	4·8	8·5	10·0	4·6	1·4	9·4	—
British Colonies :—									
British India	51·3	37·2	3·5	4·0	9·7	13·6	12·7	9·6	20·9
Canada	34·9	28·2	51·8	51·0	18·2	9·9	8·3	5·1	5·2
Newfoundland	—	—	1·1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Foreign Countries :—									
China	—	—	—	—	—	32·1	—	—	—
Russia in Asia	—	—	—	—	—	5·7	—	1·0	—
Russia in Europe	—	—	—	—	—	—	53·0	64·0	53·0
United States of America	13·2	29·0	38·1	36·2	62·0	34·2	24·3	10·1	19·8
Others (each usually less than 1 per cent.)	·7	1·1	·7	·2	—	—	·2	·8	1·0

TABLE No. 21.—Average Weekly Prices of Rubber (Ribbed Smoked Sheet—Contract Quality ; and Contract Crêpe) realized at the Auction Sales held in the Chamber of Commerce, Colombo :—

(See Diagram No. 16.)

"Weekly Price Current" dated 1928.		Average Price per lb. Rs. c.	"Weekly Price Current" dated 1928.		Average Price per lb. Rs. c.	"Weekly Price Current" dated 1928.		Average Price per lb. Rs. c.
January	9	1 4	May	14	0 45	September	10	0 45
Do.	16	1 1	Do.	21	0 44	Do.	17	0 45
Do.	23	1 1	Do.	28	0 44	Do.	24	0 43
Do.	30	1 1	June	4	0 46	October	1	0 45
February	6	0 95	Do.	11	0 45	Do.	8	0 45
Do.	13	0 92	Do.	18	0 45	Do.	15	0 45
Do.	20	0 84	Do.	25	0 46	Do.	22	0 45
Do.	27	0 69	July	2	0 45	Do.	29	0 45
March	5	0 71	Do.	9	0 46	November	5	0 45
Do.	12	0 63	Do.	16	0 46	Do.	12	0 45
Do.	19	0 60	Do.	23	0 48	Do.	19	0 43
Do.	26	0 63	Do.	30	0 47	Do.	26	0 43
April	2	0 67	August	6	0 47	December	3	0 43
Do.	16	0 67	Do.	13	0 50	Do.	10	0 43
Do.	23	0 44	Do.	20	0 48	Do.	17	0 43
Do.	30	0 39	Do.	27	0 47	Do.	31	0 43
May	7	0 42	September	3	0 46			

TABLE No. 22.—Total Stocks of Rubber in the United Kingdom (London and Liverpool) at the end of each Month, 1926, 1927, and 1928:—

(See Diagram No. 16.)

	1926. Tons.	1927. Tons.	1928. Tons.		1926. Tons.	1927. Tons.	1928. Tons.
January	11,111	56,856	68,463	July	29,289	66,587	37,680
February	10,979	60,966	65,140	August	31,756	67,626	34,335
March	14,452	65,430	60,264	September	36,880	71,321	33,645
April	20,403	69,587	55,709	October	43,696	72,405	26,580
May	21,865	70,045	46,697	November	45,370	69,708	19,924
June	25,399	66,694	40,947	December	50,074	66,103	22,581

TABLE No. 23.—Quantity and Value of the Exports of **Rubber** (Ceylon Produce):—

(See Diagram No. 13.)

Year.	Quantity. lb.	Value. Rs.	Year.	Quantity. lb.	Value. Rs.
1919	100,822,149	132,071,409	1924	82,960,851	63,749,711
1920	88,552,542	89,961,103	1925	102,185,442	169,992,247
1921	88,125,425	51,601,518	1926	131,840,505	170,078,219
1922	104,595,278	56,970,218	1927	125,062,578	119,174,347
1923	83,816,228	73,594,349	1928	128,326,444	73,985,953

TABLE No. 24.—Annual Distribution by Countries of the Quantities of the Export Trade in **Rubber** (shown as Percentages of the Total Annual Exports thereof):—

(See Diagram No. 17.)

Country.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
United Kingdom	50·4	33·6	21·1	26·4	23·7	26·6	31·0	27·7	22·9
British Colonies:—									
Australia	—	—	1·1	—	—	2·0	1·9	2·9	2·2
Foreign Countries:—									
France	—	—	—	1·6	2·1	1·2	1·3	1·1	2·4
Germany	1·2	4·9	4·2	2·3	4·8	3·6	2·6	3·9	5·3
United States of America	44·5	58·8	71·4	66·6	67·2	65·4	61·9	63·2	65·2
Others (usually less than 1 per cent.)	3·9	2·8	2·2	3·1	2·2	1·2	1·4	1·4	1·9

TABLE No. 25.—Value of the Exports of the Products of the **Coconut Palm**:—

(See Diagram No. 13.)

Article.	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Total	**42,913,421**	**42,147,183**	**33,953,634**	**35,579,655**	**87,025,852**	**70,852,487**	**71,326,566**
Arrack	1,188	—	15,685	41,243	207,095	136,062	112,872
Coir—							
Bristle fibre	900,417	625,508	244,731	718,875	1,506,686	1,282,699	987,347
Mattress fibre		258,350	173,611	212,992	251,525	296,689	152,843
Mats and matting	5,417	5,746	1,205	4,483	2,615	9,829	12,871
Rope	214,910	151,090	141,400	238,404	172,956	185,033	44,808
Yarn	1,030,624	808,310	242,288	288,040	1,098,344	770,766	639,364
Other	284	1,265	2,412	5,973	16,945	11,499	18,223
Copra	17,656,852	21,868,455	13,215,495	12,757,641	32,357,044	28,405,273	24,304,484
Desiccated coconut	8,646,872	8,705,425	9,361,004	5,179,529	24,928,166	18,329,756	26,602,399
Fresh coconuts	505,813	417,905	320,991	391,803	292,623	974,114	2,361,983
Oil	12,959,018	8,934,650	10,080,669	15,692,559	25,674,442	19,864,606	15,024,501
Poonac	992,026	370,179	154,143	48,113	517,411	586,161	894,871

TABLE No. 25.—Value of the Exports of the Products of the **Coconut Palm**—*contd.*:—

Article.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Total ..	**69,840,446**	**61,419,960**	**77,636,986**	**81,355,740**	**79,146,085**	**77,048,541**	**78 875,126**
Arrack ..	60,931	35,355	18,785	26,487	29,650	12,545	7,530
Coir—							
Bristle fibre ..	1,422,888	1,830,156	2,024,939	1,227,726	1,149,866	1,569,904	1,527,879
Mattress fibre ..	351,226	558,673	922,145	712,397	927,515	1,313,164	1,051,874
Mats and matting ..	10,452	28,677	8,779	10,591	17,806	7,366	6,301
Rope ..	204,960	275,954	272,983	280,145	276,722	300,149	267,106
Yarn ..	1,302,087	1,957,251	2,140,753	2,142,128	1,831,138	2,177,824	1,635,827
Other ..	8,168	11,959	8,161	22,396	36,918	16,384	28,634
Copra ..	28,804,064	18,123,143	31,008,191	38,267,912	39,848,479	31,844,828	31,801,635
Desiccated coconut ..	20,159,183	22,716,338	21,963,695	18,777,502	17,275,978	20,481,761	19 840,117
Fresh coconuts ..	1,825,226	1,338,533	2,499,088	1,940,622	1,393,682	1,515,087	1,424 287
Oil ..	14,924,985	13,935,486	15,826,782	16,812,750	15,489,320	16,567,551	19,265,529
Poonac ..	766,276	608,435	942,685	1,135,084	869,011	1,241,983	2,018,407

TABLE No. 25*a*.—Quantity of **Coconuts** utilized in the various Products exported from Ceylon, 1919 to 1928:—

Data adoped for conversion :—

1 ton of oil = 8,125 nuts
1 ton of copra = 5,000 nuts
1 ton of desiccated = 6,900 nuts

Year.	Oil.	Copra.	Desiccated.	Fresh Nuts.	Total
1919 ..	274,625,000 ..	439,880,000 ..	232,895,700 ..	3,390,710 ..	950,791,410
1920 ..	206,180,000 ..	339,465,000 ..	178,965,000 ..	9,776,479 ..	734,386,779
1921 ..	196,917,500 ..	341,860,000 ..	300,329,400 ..	23,738,542 ..	862,845,442
1922 ..	225,314,375 ..	421,645,000 ..	265,035,900 ..	22,317,747 ..	934,313,022
1923 .	195,219,375 ..	253,865,000 ..	282,486,000 ..	15,693,670 ..	747,264,045
1924	224,501,875 ..	442,295,000 ..	300,612,300 ..	29,121,041 ..	996,630,216
1925	250,981,250 ..	568,430,000 ..	273,985,200 ..	23,288,786 ..	1,116,685,236
1926 ..	231,749,375 ..	604,850,000 ..	260,254,200 ..	16,951,368 ..	1,113,804,943
1927 ..	273,468,406 ..	495,538,000 ..	301,127,385 ..	18,875,750 ..	1,089,010,040
1928 ..	316,514,250 ..	494,164,000 ..	271,412,535 ..	18,016,191 ..	1,100,106,976

TABLE No. 26.—Quantity and Value of the Exports of **Fresh Coconuts** (Ceylon Produce) :—

Year.	Quantity. No. of Nuts.	Value. Rs.	Year.	Quantity. No. of Nuts.	Value. Rs.
1919 ..	3,390,710 ..	292,623	1924 ..	29,121,041 ..	2,499,088
1920 ..	9,776,479 ..	974,114	1925 ..	23,288,786 ..	1,940,622
1921 ..	23,738,542 ..	2,361,983	1926 ..	16,951,368 ..	1,393,682
1922 ..	22,317,747 ..	1,825,226	1927 ..	18,875,750 ..	1,515,087
1923 ..	15,693,670 ..	1,338,533	1928 ..	18,016,191 ..	1,424,287

TABLE No. 27.—Annual Distribution by Countries of the Quantities of the Export Trade in **Fresh Coconuts** (shown as Percentages of the Total Annual Exports thereof) :—

Count .	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
United Kingdo ..	49·0 ..	49·5 ..	51·4 ..	63·1 ..	42·4 ..	39·7 ..	33·8 ..	41·5 ..	41·1
British Colonie :—									
British India ..	2·7 ..	1·6 ..	1·2 ..	1·3 ..	— ..	1·6 ..	1·1 ..	1·8 ..	—
Foreign Countri :—									
Belgium	4·5 ..	1·7 ..	1·3 ..	1·5 ..	2·9 ..	3·5 ..	3·0 ..	3·4 ..	2·6
Egypt	34·4 ..	31·0 ..	32·3 ..	22·8 ..	16·8 ..	33·2 ..	38·9 ..	25·1 ..	30·0
Germany	— ..	4·9 ..	4·7 ..	5·7 ..	26·6 ..	14·0 ..	14·5 ..	17·2 ..	16·2
Holland	7·5 ..	10·8 ..	7·8 ..	4·0 ..	8·0 ..	5·7 ..	6·1 ..	7·9 ..	6·5
Italy	— ..	— ..	— ..	— ..	1·6 ..	1·6 ..	1·8 ..	2·1 ..	1·9
Others (each generally less than 1 per cent.) ..	1·9 ..	·6 ..	1·3 ..	1·6 ..	1·8 ..	·6 ..	·8 ..	·9 ..	1·7

No. 6.

CHEKKU : MILL FOR EXTRACTING COCONUT OIL.

Plate, Limited, Colombo.

TABLE No. 28.—Quantity and Value of the Exports of **Copra** (Ceylon Produce) :—

(See Diagram No. 14.)

Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.	Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1919	1,759,525	32,357,044	1924	1,769,189	31,008,191
1920	1,357,870	28,405,273	1925	2,273,717	38,267,912
1921	1,367,431	24,304,484	1926	2,419,398	39,848,479
1922	1,686,589	28,804,064	1927	1,982,154	31,844,823
1923	1,015,465	18,123,143	1928	1,976,656	31,801,635

TABLE No. 29.—Annual Distribution by Countries of the Quantities of the Export Trade in **Copra** (shown as Percentages of the Total Annual Exports thereof) :—

(See Diagram No. 18.)

Countries.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
United Kingdom	11·2	8·3	15·0	7·0	3·9	1·7	3·1	1·1	—
British Colonies :—									
British India	8·4	4·4	—	—	1·5	1·9	—	1·2	—
Foreign Countries :—									
Belgium	10·5	3·0	4·9	6·5	6·4	3·9	5·5	3·8	6·5
Denmark	13·8	19·8	15·3	19·6	22·6	20·1	7·6	11·6	9·0
Egypt	—	—	—	—	—	3·0	—	—	—
France	9·6	1·7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Germany	7·1	11·6	9·5	3·4	14·9	18·4	32·6	28·5	23·2
Greece	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·5	1·6
Holland	29·1	18·7	10·9	9·0	12·6	8·9	9·7	8·7	3·6
Italy	3·2	16·3	28·3	21·6	19·6	26·3	26·7	24·4	30·0
Norway	6·1	7·5	9·5	25·8	16·4	14·5	13·3	16·5	18·1
Sweden	—	1·6	1·8	6·2	—	—	—	—	—
United States of America	—	6·7	3·6	—	—	—	—	1·6	4·7
Others (each generally less than 1 per cent.)	·9	·3	1·2	·8	2·0	1·4	1·7	1·2	3·5

TABLE No. 30.—Quantity and Value of the Exports of **Coconut Oil** (Ceylon Produce) :—

(See Diagram No. 14.)

Year.	Quantity. Gallons.	Value. Rs.	Year.	Quantity. Gallons.	Value. Rs.
1919	8,412,432	25,674,442	1924	6,877,214	15,826,782
1920	6,315,892	19,864,606	1925	7,677,189	16,812,750
1921	6,032,121	15,024,501	1926	7,099,095	15,489,320
1922	6,902,012	14,924,985	1927	8,377,015	16,567,551
1923	5,980,091	13,935,486	1928	9,695,616	19,265,529

TABLE No. 31.—Annual Distribution by Countries of the Quantities of the Export Trade in **Coconut Oil** (shown as Percentages of the Total Annual Exports thereof) :—

Country.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
United Kingdom	41·9	55·3	54·4	31·9	17·1	22·3	23·6	26·2	22·4
British Colonies :—									
British India	2·4	1·5	—	—	7·3	14·6	1·9	12·7	23·8
*British South Africa	—	—	—	—	—	—	3·5	3·5	2·8
Burma	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·5	—
Canada	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·4	1·1	—
Cape Colony	—	—	—	1·1	1·0	1·5	—	—	—
Natal	—	—	—	1·7	1·8	1·8	—	—	—
Foreign Countries :—									
*Argentine Republic	—	—	—	—	—	—	2·1	3·6	5·1
Belgium	5·6	3·6	1·2	1·4	1·0	—	—	—	—
Denmark	—	—	—	—	15·4	17·0	26·2	11·9	5·9
Egypt	6·4	6·8	9·0	13·5	11·1	10·8	8·9	9·0	8·1
*Fiume	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·7	2·5	4·0
France	—	—	—	1·1	—	—	—	1·4	—
Germany	—	5·2	19·0	29·7	10·7	2·4	1·7	1·9	1·4
Holland	26·8	16·3	2·3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Italy	2·1	1·6	3·0	5·0	15·7	9·4	6·8	9·8	10·1
Mozambique	—	—	—	1·3	1·9	—	—	—	—
Norway	7·0	5·9	5·8	10·3	10·2	6·7	4.2	1·7	1·5
*Portuguese East Africa	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·1	2·7	2·8
Roumania	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·3
Sweden	—	2·4	1·6	—	2·9	5·0	9·2	6·4	4·4
Turkey in Europe	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2·2
United States of America	5·8	—	—	—	—	1·6	3·5	1·0	—
Others (each generally less than 1 per cent.)	2·0	1·3	3·7	2·9	3·9	6·8	4·2	3·1	4·1

* According to the new classification of countries from January 1, 1926.

TABLE No. 32.—Quantity and Value of the Exports of **Desiccated Coconut** (Ceylon Produce) :—

(See Diagram No. 14.)

Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.	Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1919	675,060	24,928,166	1924	871,341	21,963,695
1920	518,735	18,329,756	1925	794,161	18,777,502
1921	870,515	26,602,399	1926	754,367	17,275,978
1922	768,215	20,159,183	1927	872,833	20,481,761
1923	818,793	22,716,338	1928	786,703	19,840,117

TABLE No. 33.—Annual Distribution by Countries of the Quantities of the Export Trade in **Desiccated Coconut** (shown as Percentages of the Total Annual Exports thereof) :—

Country.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928
United Kingdom	35·3	31·3	37·8	34·7	32·4	34·7	32.4	33·2	37·5
British Colonies :—									
Australia	4·5	3·3	4·6	4·1	4·9	5·3	5·0	5·3	5·4
British South Africa	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·0
Canada	2·5	2·9	2·5	3·4	3·0	2·6	2·5	2·5	2·9
New Zealand	—	—	—	—	—	1·1	—	1·0	1·1
Foreign Countries :—									
Argentine Republic	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·2
Belgium	—	1·2	1·7	1·4	1·5	1·5	1·3	1·3	1·7
Denmark	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·1	1·2	1·2
France	—	—	1·2	1·4	1·4	1·4	1·5	1·7	2·3
Germany	4·8	11·3	10·8	6·5	16·2	14·9	16·8	15·6	15.9
Holland	1·5	2·8	—	—	3·3	4·0	4·8	5·5	6·8
Italy	—	—	—	—	1·5	1·8	1·6	1·8	2·1
South America	—	—	1·2	1·1	1.2	1·1	—	—	—
Spain	—	1·0	1·3	2·2	2·1	2·8	3·4	3·1	3·2
Sweden	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·0
United States of America	45·3	42·3	35·6	41·1	28·9	26·1	25·0	23·6	14·7
Others (each generally less than 1 per cent.)	6·2	3·8	3·3	4·0	5·0	2·9	4·5	4·1	2·1

TABLE No. 34.—Quantity and Value of the Exports of **Coir** (Ceylon Produce) :—

(See Diagram No. 14.)

Year.	Coir Fibre. Bristle. Cwt.	Coir Fibre. Mattress. Cwt.	Coir Rope. Cwt.	Coir Yarn. Cwt.	Coir Other.* Cwt.	Coir Other.* Rs.†
1919	107,009	132,382	14,413	112,076	477	3,046,456
1920	84,947	167,621	15,338	72,438	751	2,546,686
1921	93,437	108,830	16,830	60,710	889	2,010,585
1922	106,265	212,860	14,640	102,688	677	3,289,329
1923	126,311	232,685	19,716	105,088	537	4,633,820
1924	168,247	312,062	19,502	117,199	409	5,368,981
1925	160,104	300,086	20,123	131,387	1,231	4,384,792
1926	154,132	302,998	19,618	107,885	1,767	4,222,159
1927	170,728	365,056	21,123	130,821	696	5,377,425
1928	182,241	387,013	19,086	92,162	1,496	4,511,320

* Excluding coir mats and matting. † Total value.

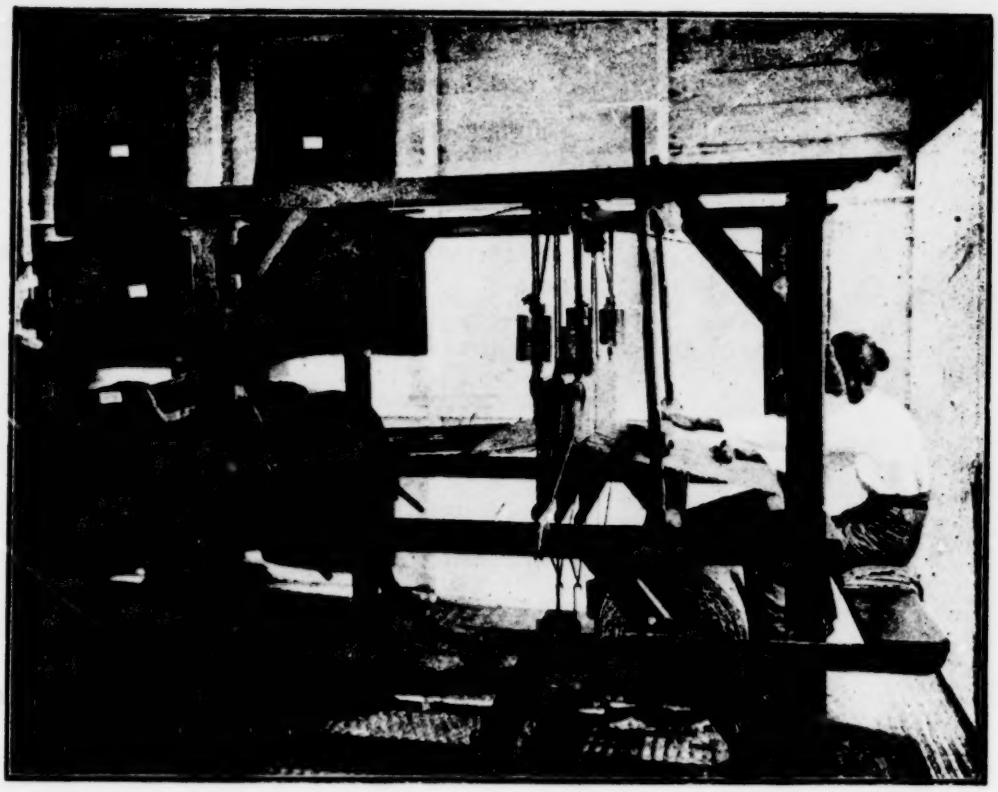
TABLE No. 35.—Annual Distribution by Countries of the Quantities of the Export Trade in **Coir** (Fibre, Coir (Bristle and Mattress); Coir Rope; Coir Yarn; and Coir, Other) (shown as Percentages of the Total Annual Exports thereof) :—

Country.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
United Kingdom	36.9	24·4	32·3	31·3	29·1	26·1	25·1	26·7	19·9
British Colonies :—									
Australia	8·9	6·0	5·7	6·7	6·6	7·1	7·0	6·4	6·3
British India	2·9	3·1	1·7	2·4	1·8	3·0	2·3	2·0	2·7
*British South Africa	—	—	—	—	—	—	9·8	9·3	10·5
Cape Colony	4·2	1·7	2·3	3·2	3·4	3·0	—	—	—
Natal	5·8	4·9	3·4	4·9	4·9	5·6	—	—	—
Straits Settlements	5·0	6·1	3·9	4·4	3·3	3·6	3·8	3·6	3·2
Foreign Countries :—									
Belgium	8·3	7·7	9·9	9·6	11·9	10·3	12·5	12·2	13·4
Denmark	—	1·4	1·0	1·3	1·7	1·9	1·0	—	1·1
France	1·8	1·8	2·7	4·5	4·2	5·4	4·4	3·9	5·8
Germany	3·8	10·4	17·7	9·7	11·6	13·9	11·4	13·4	12·1
Holland	5·1	3·2	1·8	1·8	1·8	1·6	1·6	1·4	1·0
Japan	9·1	22·0	12·3	12·7	12·4	12·9	14·0	14·0	15·0
Mozambique	1·5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Norway	2·0	1·1	—	—	1·2	—	—	—	—
United States of America	1·9	2·9	2·2	4·5	3·4	3·3	3·9	2·8	4·5
Others (each generally less than 1 per cent.)	2·6	4·6	4·1	4·3	4·4	2·9	3·3	4·3	4·4

* According to the new classification of countries from January 1, 1926.

No. 7.

WEAVING COIR MATTING.



Plâté, Limited, Colombo.

TABLE No. 36.—Quantity and Value of the Exports of **Cacao** (Ceylon Produce) :—

(See Diagram No. 14.)

Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.	Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1919	58,884	3,125,667	1924	69,351	2,464,103
1920	56,397	2,515,305	1925	68,788	2,318,579
1921	62,244	2,018,847	1926	64,751	1,953,684
1922	83,211	3,145,356	1927	80,798	2,747,247
1923	60,904	2,236,548	1928	73,618	2,818,361

TABLE No. 37.—Annual Distribution by Countries of the Quantities of the Export Trade in **Cacao** (shown as Percentages of the Total Annual Exports thereof) :—

Country.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
United Kingdom	45·6	27·6	24·1	20·3	36·4	34·3	18·2	20·4	14·8
British Colonies :—									
Australia	6·3	11·8	3·8	7·2	6·6	4·3	10·2	6·0	3·3
Canada	1·2	8·2	7·0	6·8	6·7	5·9	5·7	6·9	9·1
Cape Colony	—	—	1·8	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hong Kong	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·4	—
New Zealand	3·5	3·3	2·3	2·3	—	—	—	—	—
Straits Settlements	1·1	2·3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Foreign Countries :—									
*Argentine Republic	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·0	1·0
Belgium	—	—	1·8	—	1·5	1·3	1·5	1·7	—
Central America	—	—	—	—	—	2·1	4·3	—	—
Germany	—	3·9	3·4	3·8	1·7	1·3	2·8	5·9	2·5
Holland	—	—	—	2·0	1·3	—	—	3·3	—
Italy	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2·3	—
Japan	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mexico	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11·2
Norway	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·1	—
Philippine Islands	28·4	28·1	23·8	40·2	32·0	36·7	40·4	31·1	41·1
South America	—	—	—	—	—	1·5	—	—	—
United States of America	12·0	13·0	28·6	13·9	10·1	10·4	11·8	14·0	11·7
Others (each generally less than 1 per cent.)	1·9	1·7	3·4	3·6	3·7	2·2	5·1	4·9	5·2

* According to the new classification of countries from January 1, 1926.

TABLE No. 38.—Quantity and Value of the Exports of **Cinnamon Chips** and **Cinnamon Quills** (Ceylon Produce) :—

(See Diagram No. 14.)

Year.	Cinnamon Chips. Cwt.	Cinnamon Quills. Cwt.	Total Value. Rs.	Year.	Cinnamon Chips. Cwt.	Cinnamon Quills. Cwt.	Total Value. Rs.
1919	26,408	42,347	3,695,895	1924	12,937	34,545	2,905,014
1920	12,560	22,561	2,147,115	1925	12,136	30,220	3,167,684
1921	14,655	30,709	1,795,156	1926	11,874	31,238	4,209,771
1922	11,573	31,401	1,992,677	1927	11,114	31,300	4,786,093
1923	12,397	32,587	2,096,916	1928	11,023	34,699	4,994,544

TABLE No. 39.—Annual Distribution by Countries of the Quantities of the Export Trade in **Cinnamon Chips** (shown as Percentages of the Total Annual Exports thereof) :—

Country.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
United Kingdom	12·9	35·7	15·2	25·8	28·2	19·4	37·1	26·6	29·1
British Colonies :—									
Australia	12·8	12·5	13·6	10·9	13·3	12·6	16·1	16·5	17·3
British India	—	—	—	3·5	—	—	—	—	—
*British South Africa	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·7	—	—
Canada	—	1·4	1·8	—	—	—	—	—	—
New Zealand	1·8	—	1·4	1·7	2·0	1·3	1·5	2·1	1·8
Foreign Countries :—									
*Argentine Republic	—	—	—	—	—	—	6·2	8·1	6·7
Belgium	11·0	6·0	3·3	8·4	6·3	9·4	3·9	7·7	4·3
Denmark	—	1·1	—	—	1·5	—	—	1·6	—
France	28·3	—	—	1·6	3·7	4·5	2·8	3·3	5·3
Germany	9·5	26·4	6·6	17·1	19·0	15·0	7·0	4·7	7·9
Holland	1·9	7·8	9·8	8·3	6·7	9·2	2·8	8·2	3·7
Italy	12·2	2·2	—	3·1	3·2	4·2	4·4	3·1	3·1
Norway	2·3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
South America	4·6	1·4	10·6	5·9	2·6	10·3	—	—	—
Spain	—	1·8	2·8	8·4	11·9	13·1	15·2	16·3	15·2
Sweden	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
United States of America	1·0	1·7	2·6	4·0	—	—	—	—	2·9
Others (each generally less than 1 per cent.)	1·7	2·0	2·3	1·2	·7	1·0	1·3	1·8	2·6

* According to the new classification of countries from January 1, 1926.

TABLE No. 40.—Annual Distribution by Countries of the Quantities of the Export Trade in **Cinnamon Quills** (shown as Percentages of the Total Annual Exports thereof) :—

Country.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
United Kingdom	8·0	2·0	3·0	10·0	9·6	6·7	7·1	4·1	3·7
British Colonies—									
British India	1·2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hong King	—	—	—	1·2	—	—	—	1·4	—
Foreign Countries :—									
America—									
*Argentine Republic	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·7	1·7	1·8
Central America	—	—	2·7	7·5	10·0	9·4	12·4	—	—
Chile	—	—	2·1	2·5	—	1·1	—	1·4	2·8
Foreign West Indies	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·2
*Mexico	—	—	—	—	—	—	4·7	9·6	20·5
*Peru	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·4	1·4	2·0
South America	1·7	3·3	4·4	3·0	1·5	4·9	—	—	—
United States of America	54·4	34·2	39·7	35·4	35·5	33·5	30·4	38·1	26·6
Belgium	1·9	1·9	1·6	2·1	2·5	1·6	2·9	2·3	1·4
France	3·4	—	1·6	1·7	2·0	2·0	1·6	1·4	1·5
Germany	8·7	20·6	10·8	6·7	18·1	10·1	11·0	10·1	10·2
Holland	1·7	1·3	1·5	—	1·8	3·3	2·4	3·3	4·8
Italy	4·4	2·9	6·8	5·2	3·5	3·8	3·8	4·7	5·2
Spain	11·4	24·9	18·8	22·1	12·8	22·2	17·8	18·4	15·5
Others (each generally less than 1 per cent.)	3·2	9·8	6·7	2·7	2·7	1·4	2·8	2·2	2·9

* According to the new classification of countries from January 1, 1926.

TABLE No. 41.—Quantity and Value of the Exports of **Citronella Oil** (Ceylon Produce) :—

(See Diagram No. 14.)

Year.	Quantity. lb.	Value. Rs.	Year.	Quantity lb.	Value. Rs.
1919	992,850	896,243	1924	1,433,381	2,941,291
1920	1,022,809	1,141,528	1925	1,415,639	2,259,465
1921	1,160,555	1,093,817	1926	1,431,351	1,774,326
1922	1,299,889	1,638,242	1927	1,358,191	1,264,745
1923	1,121,271	2,130,283	1928	1,200,001	1,046,598

TABLE No. 42.—Annual Distribution by Countries of the Quantities of the Export Trade in **Citronella Oil** (shown as Percentages of the Total Annual Exports thereof) :—

Country.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
United Kingdom	23·4	20·1	23·8	34·7	38·0	23·0	29·6	20·9	27·2
British Colonies :—									
Australia	9·6	8·0	6·8	3·7	4·6	6·7	5·0	4·4	5·8
British India	3·8	4·7	2·3	1·4	2·3	3·9	2·5	4·0	3·7
Canada	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·0	—
Foreign Countries :—									
*Argentine Republic	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2·3	1·1
China	4·4	5·6	—	—	—	3·0	2·6	2·8	2·0
France	5·7	—	—	4·2	5·1	3·5	3·1	2·0	1·4
Germany	—	4·7	2·1	1·5	4·4	8·2	9·0	10·2	13·2
Holland	1·2	—	1·1	1·1	—	2·3	3·2	3·5	4·4
Italy	—	—	—	—	1·9	1·2	1·7	—	1·5
Japan	—	5·0	—	—	1·4	—	—	—	—
United States of America	47·8	50·3	58·7	50·5	39·9	44·8	40·2	44·1	35·5
Others (each generally less than 1 per cent.)	4·0	1·6	5·3	2·8	2·3	3·5	3·1	4·6	4·2

* According to the new classification of countries from January 1, 1926.

TABLE No. 43.—Quantity and Value of the Exports of **Tobacco** (Ceylon Produce) :—

Year.	Manufactured. Cigars. lb.	Manufactured. Other. lb.	Unmanufactured. Tobacco. lb.	Total Value. Rs.
1919	18,613	—	1,739,392	671,573
1920	11,366	1,234	3,590,474	793,272
1921	5,640	434	2,411,419	614,129
1922	8,027	54	4,334,595	971,746
1923	16,782	—	2,951,094	735,186
1924	12,894	10	4,158,880	985,656
1925	13,624	—	2,851,568	699,201
1926	13,762	—	1,972,754	456,717
1927	7,853	1,482,977	1,553,634	677,441
1928	6,490	—	1,643,441	395,878

TABLE No. 44.—Quantity and Value of the Exports of **Cardamoms** (Ceylon Produce) :—

(See Diagram No. 14.)

Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.	Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1919	4,870	908,500	1924	2,665	696,927
1920	3,754	493,438	1925	3,299	1,148,831
1921	4,512	516,530	1926	2,845	841,961
1922	4,096	549,669	1927	3,176	850,224
1923	2,784	563,557	1928	[illegible],337	790,341

TABLE No. 45.—Annual Distribution by Countries of the Quantities of the Export Trade in **Cardamoms** (shown as Percentages of the Total Annual Exports thereof) :—

Country.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
United Kingdom	35·9	23·8	22·8	38·6	55·8	50·0	45·2	33·3	31·0
British Colonies :—									
Aden	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·4	1·0
British India	19·1	31·8	45·3	16·0	7·5	6·8	—	—	3·9
Burma	—	—	1·2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Straits Settlements	—	—	—	1·4	—	—	—	—	—
Foreign Countries :—									
Belgium	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2·3	—
Denmark	—	—	—	—	—	2·0	3·9	6·1	7·6
Egypt	6·0	7·0	7·0	13·3	7·0	4·9	9·8	5·8	3·6
*Finland	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·5	6·2	1·6
France	2·3	1·2	—	2·2	—	—	1·3	—	—
Germany	4·7	1·4	—	1·8	6·5	8·5	8·6	17·3	17·7
Holland	1·0	—	—	—	—	1·3	—	3·2	1·6
Japan	—	5·5	3·1	6·4	2·8	4·4	2·9	4·4	3·3
Norway	1·2	—	—	1·8	3·5	1·3	6·4	3·7	2·6
Sweden	7·6	—	—	1·4	—	1·8	2·8	5·4	5·5
*Syria	—	—	—	—	—	—	2·4	1·2	1·0
Turkey in Asia	—	—	2·2	3·7	—	—	—	—	—
United States of America	20·9	26·0	15·2	12·1	13·3	15·0	12·1	5·9	16·8
Others (each generally less than 1 per cent.)	1·4	3·4	3·4	1·3	3·6	4·0	3·0	3·8	2·8

* According to the new classification of countries from January 1, 1926.

TABLE No. 46.—Quantity and Value of the Exports of **Arecanuts** (Ceylon Produce) :—

Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.	Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1919	150,457	3,059,158	1924	130,904	3,294,961
1920	124,048	2,923,822	1925	154,291	4,046,244
1921	131,045	3,303,073	1926	165,475	4,247,825
1922	133,531	3,331,148	1927	118,278	3,001,268
1923	160,578	3,544,212	1928	123,338	3,247,198

TABLE No. 47.—Quantity and Value of the Exports of **Plumbago** (Ceylon Produce) :—

(See Diagram No. 14.)

Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value Rs.	Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1919	133,428	1,732,080	1924	193,017	1,329,125
1920	184,100	2,100,114	1925	308,523	2,983,389
1921	86,996	757,917	1926	232,453	2,616,994
1922	216,999	1,631,087	1927	257,686	2,525,700
1923	213,383	1,548,877	1928	286,931	2,704,359

TABLE No. 48.—Annual Distribution by Countries of the Quantities of the Export Trade in **Plumbago** (shown as Percentages of the Total Annual Exports thereof) :—

Country.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
United Kingdom	20·1	7·6	9·7	11·0	14·6	16·6	25·1	10·2	10·6
British Colonies :—									
Australia	5·4	9·3	3·5	5·2	4·3	3·2	4·5	4·4	3·3
British India	1·4	4·2	2·4	3·1	2·8	1·4	2·2	3·6	3·0
Foreign Countries :—									
Belgium	2·3	—	—	—	—	1·1	1·7	1·9	1·2
Denmark	—	—	—	—	—	1·6	—	—	—
France	—	—	—	—	4·1	3·6	3·8	6·3	1·7
Germany	1·7	16·6	8·8	9·5	25·5	28·1	15·1	24·0	18·9
Italy	—	—	8·7	—	1·1	—	—	4·5	4·6
Japan	3·6	10·9	—	8·5	10·0	5·0	7·7	6·4	6·7
United States of America	65·1	49·5	64·6	61·5	35·1	38·0	38·8	37·2	48·4
Others (each generally less than 1 per cent.)	·4	2·0	2·2	1·3	2·5	1·5	1·2	1·3	1·6

TABLE No. 49.—Quantity and Value of the Exports of **Mica** (Ceylon Produce) :—

Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.	Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1919	167	23,036	1924	—	—
1920	296	36,523	1925	22	5,110
1921	92	15,103	1926	—	—
1922	20	4,050	1927	—	—
1923	17	2,630	1928	—	—

TABLE No. 50.—Quantity and Value of the Imports of **Rice** from Burma, India (excluding Burma), and other Countries :—

Year.	Total.		Burma.		British India (excluding Burma).		Other Countries.	
	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value Rs.
1919	5342575	66325439	3902052	51631658	862579	5581478	577944	9112303
1920	5788730	91667375	5537875	90032897	250226	1628216	629	6262
1921	5859957	69598165	4561527	52962233	946408	12303156	352022	4332776
1922	7209157	89337183	5568218	68223473	1472137	19179669	168802	1934041
1923	7423833	83424898	4567744	52188899	2806311	30687688	49778	548311
1924	7519186	76749249	3397864	39169728	4081851	37145810	39471	433711
1925	8321381	94082942	6351534	75124917	1909880	18310651	59967	647374
1926	8794947	98061620	5922919	70211510	2457392	23661758	414636	4188352
1927	9087264	102851651	6379440	76020598	1899281	18992810	808543	7838243
1928	9244691	103150832	6099281	72057192	1947198	19471989	1198212	11621651

TABLE No. 51.—Quantity and Value of the Imports of **Paddy** from Burma, India (excluding Burma), and other Countries :—

Year.	Total.		Burma.		British India (excluding Burma).		Other Countries.	
	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1919	751500	2483002	495685	1650887	255815	832115	—	—
1920	437072	1584672	425765	1547926	11307	36746	—	—
1921	903935	3172512	890488	3112036	16447	60476	—	—
1922	629996	2818846	590434	2581446	39560	237363	2	37
1923	723973	3661770	583564	2821430	140409	840340	—	—
1924	505672	2655147	415831	2208220	89841	446927	—	—
1925	536328	2528445	482857	2305595	53471	222850	—	—
1926	650964	3305624	600331	3060149	50633	245475	—	—
1927	481642	2228121	410116	1860487	71526	367634	—	—
1928	802428	4204947	630669	3231173	122771	679917	48988	293857

TABLE No. 52.—Quantity of **Salt** produced in Ceylon :—

Year.	Grand Total.	Jaffna District. Total.	Elephant Pass.	Other.	Year.	Grand Total.	Jaffna District. Total.	Elephant Pass.	Other.
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.		Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.
1919	434,270	75,204	—	75,204	1924	191,019	173,897	144,375	29,522
1920	331,486	99,871	—	99,871	1925	412,731	188,197	181,556	6,641
1921	311,675	38,440	1,188	37,252	1926	331,179	186,023	151,203	34,820
1922	921,966	92,220	30,000	62,220	1927	513,366	232,908	188,984	43,924
1923	579,533	158,620	112,100	46,520	1928	871,513	379,365	309,867	69,498

TABLE No. 52.—Quantity of **Salt** produced in Ceylon—*contd.* :—

Year.	Puttalam District. Total.	Palavi.	Other.	Mannar.	Mullaittivu.	Trincomalee.	Hambantota.
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.
1919	45,334	—	45,334	922	2,522	9,786	300,502
1920	—	—	—	—	1,100	64,271	166,244
1921	118,876	20,010	98,866	-	—	18,024	136,335
1922	470,302	51,000	419,302	—	4,446	74,618	280,380
1923	277,548	40,450	237,098	—	—	79,476	63,889
1924	17,122	2,742	14,380	—	—	—	—
1925	65,385	35,322	30,063	—	—	65,067	94,082
1926	43,664	4,680	38,984	4,282	—	—	97,210
1927	67,100	35,350	31,750	4,293	—	57,847	151,218
1928	186,405	89,136	97,269	8,111	—	58,615	239,017

TABLE No. 53.—Value of the Imports of **Fish Goods** into Ceylon :—

Year.	Total.	Fish Cured or Salted.	Fish Frozen.	Fish Maldive.	Fish Manure. Guano.	Other.	Fish Oil.	Fish Tinned.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1919	6737980	1721350	—	2128070	1446696	1357273	4635	79956
1920	8047862	1973379	—	2535189	1967961	1338411	2775	230147
1921	7767837	4168708	9072	2889440	230279	370738	2105	97495
1922	8423671	3904548	11877	3711457	1061245	599515	3147	131882
1923	10570619	3863476	34721	4197278	1476107	799039	2895	197103
1924	10166955	3756124	39990	4253251	1301252	677226	1955	137157
1925	9981365	3488187	47747	4559810	1216708	413560	5610	249443
1926	11148400	3731522	60137	5038176	1417363	596253	4303	300646
1927	11573297	3946406	64461	4865475	1528224	692632	10797	465302
1928	12029076	4298190	62211	5057778	1492348	824577	7594	286378

TABLE No. 53*a*.—Quantity and Value of the Exports of **Papaine** (Ceylon Produce) :—

Year.	Quantity. lb.	Value. Rs.	Year.	Quantity. lb.	Value. Rs.
1919	25,200	124,811	1924	51,235	317,893
1920	30,352	89,715	1925	60,995	434,458
1921	35,392	182,878	1926	73,624	621,384
1922	57,530	323,343	1927	83,416	670,974
1923	38,252	220,901	1928	125,684	922,529

TABLE No. 54.—Rates of Freight to the United Kingdom, 1924–1928 :—

Article.		January, 1924.		April, 1924.		July, 1924.		October, 1924.		January, 1925.		April, 1925.		July, 1925.		October, 1925.		January, 1926.		April, 1926.	
		s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Arecanuts, cacao, cardamoms	per ton	45	0	45	0	50	0	50	0	55	0	55	0	55	0	55	0	55	0	55	0
Cinnamon	do.	42	6	42	6	47	6	47	6	52	6	52	6	52	6	52	6	52	6	52	6
Citronella oil	do.	65	0	65	0	70	0	70	0	75	0	75	0	75	0	75	0	75	0	75	0
Coconut, desiccated	do.	40	0	40	0	45	0	45	0	50	0	50	0	50	0	50	0	50	0	50	0
Coconut, unhusked, loose	do.	20	0	20	0	25	0	25	0	30	0	40	0	40	0	40	0	40	0	40	0
Coconut, unhusked, in bags	do.	40	0	40	0	45	0	45	0	50	0	50	0	50	0	50	0	50	0	50	0
Coconut oil, in casks and steel cylinder packages	do.	47	6	47	6	47	6	47	6	47	6	52	6	47	6	47	6	47	6	47	6
Coir, in pressed bales	do.	40	0	40	0	45	0	45	0	50	0	50	0	50	0	50	0	50	0	50	0
Coir, in bundles	do.	20	0	20	0	25	0	25	0	30	0	30	0	30	0	30	0	30	0	30	0
Copra, cut, in bags	do.	42	6	42	6	47	6	40	0	45	0	45	0	45	0	45	0	45	0	45	0
Copra, uncut, in bags	do.	42	6	42	6	47	6	40	0	45	0	45	0	45	0	45	0	45	0	45	0
Plumbago	do.	35	0	35	0	35	0	35	0	40	0	40	0	40	0	40	0	40	0	40	0
Rubber	do.	52	6	52	6	57	6	57	6	62	6	62	6	72	6	77	6	77	6	77	6
Tea, in cases	do.	52	6	52	6	52	6	52	6	52	6	52	6	57	6	57	6	57	6	57	6
Tea sweepings	do.	52	6	52	6	52	6	52	6	52	6	52	6	57	6	57	6	57	6	57	6

Article.		July, 1926.		October, 1926.		January, 1927.		April, 1927.		July, 1927.		October, 1927.		January, 1928.		April, 1928.		July, 1928.		October, 1928.	
		s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Arecanuts, cacao, cardamoms	per ton	55	0	55	0	55	0	55	0	55	0	55	0	55	0	55	0	55	0	55	0
Cinnamon	do.	52	6	52	6	52	6	52	6	52	6	52	6	52	6	52	6	52	6	52	6
Citronella oil	do.	75	0	75	0	75	0	75	0	75	0	75	0	75	0	75	0	75	0	75	0
Coconut, desiccated	do.	45	0	45	0	45	0	45	0	45	0	45	0	45	0	45	0	45	0	45	0
Coconut, unhusked, loose	do.	40	0	40	0	40	0	40	0	40	0	40	0	40	0	40	0	40	0	40	0
Coconut, unhusked, in bags	do.	50	0	50	0	50	0	50	0	50	0	50	0	50	0	50	0	50	0	50	0
Coconut oil, in casks and steel cylinder packages	do.	37	6	37	6	37	6	37	6	37	6	37	6	40	0	40	0	40	0	40	0
Coir, in pressed bales	do.	50	0	50	0	50	0	50	0	50	0	50	0	50	0	50	0	50	0	50	0
Coir, in bundles	do.	30	0	30	0	30	0	30	0	30	0	30	0	30	0	30	0	30	0	30	0
Copra, cut, in bags	do.	37	6	37	6	37	6	37	6	37	6	37	6	40	0	40	0	40	0	40	0
Copra, uncut, in bags	do.	37	6	37	6	37	6	37	6	37	6	37	6	40	0	40	0	40	0	40	0
Plumbago	do.	40	0	40	0	40	0	40	0	40	0	40	0	40	0	40	0	40	0	40	0
Rubber	do.	77	6	77	6	70 to 77	0 6	70	0	70	0	70	0	70	0	70	0	65	0	65	0
Tea, in cases	do.	57	6	57	6	57	6	57	6	57	6	57	6	57	6	57	6	57	6	57	6
Tea sweepings	do.	57	6	57	6	57	6	57	6	57	6	57	6	57	6	57	6	57	6	57	6

TABLE No. 55.—Rates of Freight on all Articles to Countries other than the United Kingdom, 1924-1928 :—

Country.	January, 1924		April, 1924.		July, 1924.		October, 1924.		January, 1925.		April. 1925.		July, 1925.		October, 1925.		January, 1926.		April. 1926.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Antwerp, Amsterdam, Rotterdam, Hamburg, Bremen .. ..per ton	13 to 35	6 0	13 to 40	6 0	18 to 45	6 0	18 to 45	6 0	23 to 45	6 0	23 to 46	6 8	23 to 60	6 0	23 to 65	6 0	23 to 65	6 0	23 to 65	6 0
Beira, Delagoa Bay, and Durban* .. .. do.	62	0	62	0	62	0	62	0	62	0	62	0	62	0	62	0	62	0	62	0
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.												
Brisbane (direct) .. do.	52	72	52	72	52	72	52	72	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.												
Christiania and South Swedish Ports† .. do.	13 to 40	6 0	13 to 45	6 0	18 to 50	6 0	18 to 50	6 0	23 to 50	6 0	23 to 50	0 0	23 to 65	6 0	23 to 70	6 0	23 to 70	6 0	23 to 70	6 0
East London, Algoa Bay, Port Elizabeth do.	70	2	70	2	70	2	70	2	70	2	70	2	70	2	70	2	70	2	70	2
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Fremantle, Adelaide, Melbourne, and Sydney‡ .. do.	40 to 60	0 0	40 to 60	0 0	40 to 60	0 0	40 to 60	0 0	40 to 60	0 0	40 to 60	0 0	40 to 60	0 0	40 to 60	0 0	40 to 60	0 0	40 to 60	0 0
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Italian Ports .. do.	13 to 35	6 0	13 to 40	6 0	18 to 45	6 0	18 to 45	6 0	23 to 45	6 0	23 to 45	6 0	23 to 60	6 0	23 to 65	6 0	23 to 65	6 0	23 to 65	6 0
Marseilles .. .. do.	13 to 35	6 0	13 to 40	6 0	18 to 45	6 0	18 to 45	6 0	23 to 45	6 0	23 to 45	6 0	23 to 60	6 0	23 to 65	6 0	23 to 65	6 0	23 to 65	6 0
Mossel Bay, Cape Town do.	72	10	72	10	72	10	72	10	72	10	72	10	72	10	72	10	72	10	72	10
New York, Boston, Philadelphia (direct) do.	30	0	35	0	35	0	35	0	40	0	40	0	45	0	50	0	50	0	50	0

*Cargo to Beira and Delagoa Bay are subject to the landing charges of 9*s.* per ton of 50 cubic feet on Beira cargo, and 3*s.* per ton of 50 cubic feet on Delagoa Bay cargo.

† Read "Oslo and South Swedish Ports" from October, 1925. ‡ And Brisbane from January, 1925.

TABLE No. 55.—Rates of Freight on all Articles to Countries other than the United Kingdom, 1924-1928—*contd.* :—

Country.	July, 1926.		October, 1926.		January, 1927.		April, 1927.		July, 1927.		October, 1927.		January, 1928.		April, 1928.		July, 1928.		October, 1928.	
	s.	*d.*	*s.*	*d.*	*s.*	*d.*	*s.*	*d.*	*s.*	*d.*	*s.*	*d.*	*s.*	*d.*	*s.*	*d.*	*s.*	*d.*	*s.*	*d.*
Antwerp, Amsterdam, Rotterdam, Hamburg, and Bremen.. per ton	23 to 65	6 0	23 to 65	6 0	23 to 65	6 0	27 to 70	6 0	27 to 70	6 0	27 to 70	6 0	27 to 75	6 0	27 to 75	6 0	27 to 75	6 0	27 to 75	6 0
Beira, Delagoa Bay, and Durban* .. do.	62	0	62	0	62	0	62	0	62	0	62	0	62	0	62	0	62	0	62	0
Christiania and South Swedish Ports† .. do.	23 to 70	6 0	23 to 70	6 0	23 to 70	6 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	27 to 75	6 0	27 to 75	6 0	27 to 75	6 0	27 to 75	6 0
East London, Algoa Bay, Port Elizabeth do	70	2	70	2	70	2	70	2	70	2	70	2	70	2	70	2	70	2	70	2
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Fremantle, Adelaide, Melbourne, and Sydney‡ .. do.	40 to 60	0 0	40 to 60	0 0	40 to 60	0 0	40 to 60	0 0	40 to 60	0 0	40 to 60	0 0	30 to 60	0 0	30 to 60	0 0	30 to 60	0 0	30 to 60	0 0
	s.	*d.*	*s.*	*d.*	*s.*	*d.*	*s.*	*d.*	*s.*	*d.*	*s.*	*d.*	*s.*	*d.*	*s.*	*d.*	*s.*	*d.*	*s.*	*d.*
Italian Ports .. do.	23 to 65	6 0	23 to 65	6 0	23 to 65	6 0	27 to 70	6 0	27 to 70	6 0	27 to 70	6 0	27 to 75	6 0	27 to 75	6 0	27 to 75	6 0	27 to 75	6 0
Marseilles .. do.	23 to 65	6 0	23 to 65	6 0	23 to 65	0 0	27 to 70	6 0	27 to 70	6 0	27 to 70	6 0	27 to 75	6 0	27 to 75	6 0	27 to 75	6 0	27 to 75	6 0
Mossel Bay, Cape Town do.	72	10	72	10	72	10	72	10	72	10	72	10	72	10	72	10	72	10	70	10
New York, Boston, Philadelphia (direct)§ do.	50	0	50	0	60	0	50 to 60	0 0	50 to 60	0 0	50 to 60	0 0	50 to 60	0 0	By arrangement		25 to 60	0 0	25 to 60	0 0

* Cargo to Beira and Delagoa Bay are subject to the landing charges of 9*s.* per ton of 50 cubic feet on Beira cargo, and 3*s.* per ton of 50 cubic feet on Delagoa Bay cargo.
† Read "Oslo and South Swedish Ports" from October, 1925.
‡ And Brisbane from January, 1925.
§ And Baltimore from January, 1928.

TABLE No. 56.—Main Results of the Working of the Ceylon Government Railways, 1924-25 to 1927-28 :—

Particulars.	1924-25.	1925-26.	1926-27.	1927-28.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Total capital outlay	189,852,013	195,545,018	200,885,771	211,052,467
Gross earnings..	27,730,332	29,236,369	30,111,991	31,285,599
Total working expenses*	18,468,527	20,362,664	20,518,804	23,560,496
Nett revenue†	9,261,805	8,873,705	9,593,187	7,725,103
Percentage of nett revenue on total capital outlay..	4·88 p.c.	4·54 p.c.	4·77 p.c.	3·66 p.c.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Gross receipts from ordinary passengers and season tickets	10,259,245	11,003,990	11,436,726	12,087,692
Gross receipts from parcels, goods, &c. ..	17,471,087	18,232,379	18,675,265	19,197,907
Free traffic (excluding that for Railway Department included in gross receipts	2,393,731	2,274,537	2,251,945	Nil

* Maintenance and renewal of way and works and of rolling stock, locomotive running expenses, traffic expenses, general charges (including pensions and gratuities), and motor service.
† That is, "Gross earnings" less "Total working expenses."

TABLE No. 57.—Quantities and Value* of Principal Articles (including Bullion and Specie) **Imported** :—

Principal Articles.		1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
Total value of all articles imported (including bullion and specie) ..	£	**12,343,081**	**11,849,112**	**16,181,313**	**24,061,812**	**17,470,381**	**18,782,713**	**19,477,319**	**20,821,898**	**24,025,354**	**27,191,141**	**28,075,198**	**27,474,643**
Apparel (made up)	£	89,730	95,632	78,413	204,021	93,781	122,985	136,077	167,316	194,061	230,120	217,186	229,599
Beer, ale, and other malt liquors ..	gals.	86,271	68,019	52,167	116,779	70,821	102,856	95,417	133,291	141,110	211,567	223,775	335,565
	£	19,016	20,432	14,661	30,911	24,716	30,122	23,462	27,531	28,481	41,359	42,737	57,769
Casks, shooks, and staves ..	£	19,255	87,672	66,448	25,789	20,943	18,825	5,755	6,423	3,435	1,974	162	89
Coal and coke†	tons	396,547	273,955	736,122	809,141	715,714	582,344	545,813	675,586	672,831	664,654	743,458	646,023
	£	792,526	857,296	2,328,976	2,049,408	2,023,990	1,483,800	1,128,122	1,271,799	1,176,739	1,091,376	1,266,964	957,261
Cotton twist and yarn	£	16,492	16,656	18,455	22,761	13,623	20,424	13,389	8,691	9,606	6,447	5,360	3,836
Cotton manufactures :—													
Lace and net	£	11,118	10,698	6,045	28,461	6,460	11,491	11,245	11,602	11,232	13,850	11,789	14,948
Piece goods :—													
Bleached	£	261,126	295,185	219,706	512,411	345,929	373,279	449,370	374,647	553,580	379,228	401,345	384,439
Dyed	£	386,059	472,899	608,010	910,968	823,392	592,413	753,915	819,034	818,514	926,102	790,104	649,129
Gray	£	57,264	82,112	64,325	84,164	114,548	110,360	143,980	112,298	127,139	122,643	67,930	66,552
Muslin	£	1,152	2,133	1,594	5,238	6,480	5,163	4,687	1,116	680	1,381	801	301
Printed	£	139,305	100,802	140,952	243,405	187,255	176,735	187,750	199,879	251,979	347,887	424,939	275,392
Other	£	96,682	98,491	113,509	287,058	121,905	68,659	37,356	38,650	44,274	50,899	42,147	28,269
Thread	£	10,181	55,012	18,218	54,248	41,514	59,261	48,681	57,515	52,169	54,518	54,791	51,067
Cutlery and hardware	£	123,525	87,384	195,736	321,613	240,562	15,360	21,488	38,820	40,340	42,218	27,928	27,947
Curry stuffs	cwt.	212,092	201,223	197,847	217,556	244,254	228,665	253,665	251,198	279,953	316,939	335,572	365,069
	£	147,229	139,373	145,371	183,556	268,724	250,332	388,133	364,583	433,713	482,218	506,831	467,864
Fish, cured and salted	cwt.	231,608	243,505	214,411	245,448	296,244	264,372	284,050	301,398	339,454	355,737	380,757	426,264
	£	123,658	131,437	114,757	131,559	277,914	260,303	257,565	250,408	232,566	248,768	267,805	286,546
Grain and pulse :—													
Paddy	cwt.	782,062	542,762	751,500	437,072	906,935	629,996	723,973	505,672	536,328	650,964	481,642	802,428
	£	172,924	118,707	165,533	105,645	211,501	187,923	244,118	177,010	168,563	220,375	148,541	280 330
Rice	cwt.	7,754,121	6,472,152	5,342,575	5,788,730	5,859,957	7,209,157	7,423,833	7,519,186	8,321,381	8,794,947	9,087,264	9,244,691
	£	3,959,477	3,520,296	4,421,696	6,111,158	4,639,878	5,955,812	5,561,660	5,116,617	6,272,196	6,537,441	6,856,777	6,876,722
Other, including flour	£	238,384	187,482	734,507	936,845	382,584	486,725	485,596	491,982	588,331	603,539	680,690	671,019
Haberdashery	£	172,833	165,128	183,648	200,971	158,107	149,184	83,287	102,418	92,174	135,911	118,055	118,419
Iron, galvanized :—													
Barbed wire	tons	82	240	74	512	175	656	932	1,527	1,991	4,050	3,488	3,032
	£	1,400	10,001	2,593	17,720	4,993	15,430	19,444	28,681	32,877	62,525	53,631	44,570
Other kinds	tons	1,195	175	1,665	5,656	648	2,668	5,929	8,301	9,711	13,546	13,961	9,838
	£	46,027	11,051	62,132	234,170	34,878	56,620	129,719	164,233	172,686	241,792	230,024	146,147
Live stock :—													
Horned cattle	No.	5,781	5,218	9,831	12,155	15,884	12,758	8,841	7,731	7,618	10,513	12,214	8,106
	£	11,399	7,300	14,714	24,790	34,561	32,187	18,807	16,365	16,630	22,789	27,857	16,940
Sheep and goats	No.	73,563	66,225	68,157	57,675	56,940	58,951	62,857	71,421	85,528	110,951	117,830	121,303
	£	49,043	44,150	45,438	38,450	37,971	39,301	41,904	47,614	57,019	73,967	78,553	80,868
Machinery and mill work (including sewing machines) ..	£	153,070	78,059	169,389	348,151	363,438	320,433	285,640	342,019	413,862	500,016	516,625	551,061
Manures (including poonac used as manure)	£	334,649	435,818	674,065	876,126	150,540	562,359	615,092	654,905	849,619	1,066,263	1,095,820	993,273

* **Rate** of conversion = Rs. 15 to the £ sterling.

† Including "bunker coal" and patent fuel in all years.

TABLE No. 57.—Quantities and Value* of Principal Articles (including Bullion and Specie) **Imported**—*contd.* :—

Principal Articles.		1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
Oil :—													
Kerosine	gals.	4,288,547	3,612,695	5,290,046	5,110,852	4,313,826	7,092,990	5,841,059	4,698,161	6,981,055	6,880,841	8,597,609	8,592,279
	£	204,767	167,913	270,580	289,586	251,381	430,231	353,982	283 666	419,949	405,260	511,390	537,959
Petroleum, crude ..	gals.	6,654,306	11,813,381	14,785,621	19,089,632	17,488,725	25,799,002	32,179,572	42,332,008	39,637,400	48,336,969	54,154,070	52,930,008
	£	79,852	191,934	419,727	372,167	384,248	497,830	598,437	771,602	688,086	797,028	947,273	931,407
Onions	cwt.	292,095	270,626	242,932	299,343	314,757	356,973	361,409	394,393	434,020	432,905	523,856	5,231,558
	£	58,419	54,123	48,968	59,950	146,840	166,583	180,658	210,443	202,141	259,446	297,326	209,575
Opium	lb.	7,200	7,200	6,000	9,560	12,264	7,210	3,600	—	5,400	4,200	4,200	3,720
	£	12,929	13,571	12,067	20,267	19,467	16,007	8,000	—	12,000	9,333	9,333	10,267
Poonac (excluding poonac used as manure)	cwt.	444,886	349,680	327,924	338,255	356,718	368,680	373,483	384,572	399,290	382,599	384,333	381'364
	£	118,636	93,248	87,180	90,292	160,733	172,117	248,116	205,178	186,401	202,750	230,665	228,851
Potatoes	cwt.	98,171	77,459	55,223	84,717	95,389	123,482	154,038	186,743	232,422	347,191	257,580	250,089
	£	32,731	25,858	18,727	48,033	78,616	98,153	100,164	115,449	121,524	201,511	161,424	164,084
Railway plant and materials ..	£	29,605	9,821	50,717	124,477	375,882	25,438	11,408	44,965	80,098	124,520	170,680	414,488
Seeds, plants, and roots ..	£	29,065	27,036	22,209	20,566	36,036	47,404	45,475	40,324	34,655	25,609	37,634	33,949
Silk and satin manufactures ..	£	35,222	43,539	73,932	83,626	71,785	120,278	98,407	140,070	193,579	220,281	198,320	224,525
Spirits :—													
Brandy	gals.	17,327	10,828	15,725	27,909	24,177	24,332	35,049	50,706	64,467	103,426	131,188	119,251
	£	13,695	12,026	17 455	25,485	31,612	24,289	25,512	30,384	32,726	44,164	55,669	68,728
Gin	gals.	25,441	10,062	15,258	47,797	31,005	52,790	72,310	99,218	120,349	156,505	179,443	118,150
	£	12,503	9,505	11,386	31,070	23,137	35,368	43,834	57,206	65,556	84,286	97,424	60,250
Whisky	gals.	67,823	59,945	34,777	86,002	67,065	68,788	71,328	68,899	79,446	93,914	76,534	103,680
	£	48,935	63,248	39,180	74,567	84,801	86,917	86,544	83,108	90,995	103,050	135,715	114,638
Sugar :—													
Raw and refined ..	cwt.	365,652	358,880	390,208	289,639	399,747							
	£	480,795	458,799	655,864	624,686	704,125	cwt. 571,073	553,191	691,294	836,094	991,512	1,099,173	1,232,687
Palm and jaggery ..	cwt.	40,686	56,209	59,470	83,286	51,217	£735,624	819,678	988,994	877,411	1,006,747	1,063,647	1,134,912
	£	13,563	18,737	18,272	27,812	27,231							
Tea chests	£	358,599	108,361	149,509	184,145	122,659	163,828	238,047	277,191	280,610	393,081	311,240	373,039
Tea lead	tons	270	192	280	723	291	614	917	883	768	1,169	1,331	1,535
	£	13,109	10,951	10,037	27,331	11,667	25,940	39,603	41,735	37,840	56,199	55,818	59,965
Tobacco :—													
Cigars	lb.	36,418	33,990	11,820	12,198	9,485	8,990	7,326	7,272	7,075	7,474	7,106	6 817
	£	7,665	7,218	3,766	4,223	3,575	4,007	3,266	3,147	2,977	2,997	2,953	3,071
Cigarettes	lb.	313,761	338,921	144,971	416,259	319,456	341,165	307,763	420,229	415,082	571,139	505,569	574,277
	£	67,790	88,401	32,685	123,162	145,035	140,590	112,300	132,038	141,237	213,302	186,520	220,418
Other (except snuff) ..	lb.	18,135	20,280	13,751	39,448	35,739	53,305	58,109	61,079	64,963	82,973	115,261	206,168
	£	2,634	3,178	1,937	7,772	16,929	14,392	15,825	17,802	23,099	25,549	30,831	34,791
Umbrellas and parasols ..	£	31,202	20,235	17,854	43,749	27,985	24,991	49,981	62,415	43,170	76,748	62,582	51,246
Wine of all kinds	£	15,371	17,306	21,999	37,298	24,094	30,609	26,817	29,767	29,977	34,012	37,663	37,118
Wood and timber :—													
Teak	£	52,817	114,113	48,125	93,862	41,736	45,330	48,251	60,453	97,551	119,946	120,789	146,169
Woollen manufactures of all kinds..	£	31,965	28,745	22,574	76,667	37,973	45,561	63,525	73,250	76,328	99,036	76,595	89,686
Bullion and specie :—													
Bullion :—													
Gold	£	—	—	—	11,495	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Silver	£	6,500	—	—	—	4,141	10,148	12,330	24,104	28,320	32,415	37,106	28,007
Specie :—													
Gold	£	6,929	1,328	221,836	2,233,241	29,333	53,400	154,007	226,998	507,504	566,831	934,638	744,358
Silver	£	61,121	—	4,561	376,861	47,903	33,333	124,147	409,600	87,583	256,667	29,332	27,733

* Rate of conversion = Rs. 15 to the £ sterling.

TABLE No. 58.—Quantities and Value* of Principal Articles of Domestic and Other Produce (including Bullion and Specie) **Exported** :—

Principal Articles.		1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
Total value of all articles exported (including bullion and specie) ..	**£†**	**20,462,997**	**14,208,922**	**24,470,499**	**18,419,698**	**17,106,694**	**19,852,214**	**23,413,250**	**25,701,161**	**32,841,095**	**33,576,599**	**29,951,583**	**26,171,332**
Arecanuts	cwt.	154,000	214,780	150,488	124,048	131,045	133,531	160,578	130,904	154,291	165,475	118,278	123,338
	£	196,933	253,445	203,952	194,921	220,205	222,077	236,281	219,664	269,750	283,188	200,085	216,480
Cardamoms	cwt.	3,369	3,549	4,874	3,754	4,512	4,096	2,784	2,665	3,299	2,84[illegible]	3,176	3,337
	£	24,621	20,314	60,591	32,896	34,435	36,645	37,570	46,462	76,589	56,131	56,682	52,689
Cinchona bark .	lb.	9,689	13,980	47,624	377,525	182,581	103,152	64,512	70,000	18,592	19,936	18,256	27,664
	£	42	61	206	1,636	2,609	3,043	2,044	1,917	539	457	487	532
Cinnamon	cwt.	29,716	37,390	68,758	35,121	45,364	42,974	44,984	47,482	42,356	43,112	42,414	45,722
	£	64,518	89,967	246,394	143,141	119,677	132,845	139,794	193,668	211,179	280,651	319,073	332,970
Coal, coke, and patent fuel† ..	tons	123	—	—	34	1	—	1	16	—	—	—	—
	£	299	1	9	95	5	2	3	27	1	—	—	—
Cacao	cwt.	72,697	73,528	58,884	56,397	62,24[illegible]	83,211	60,904	69,351	68,788	64,751	80,798	73,618
	£	120,386	156,811	208,378	167,687	134,590	209,690	149,103	164,274	154,572	130,246	183,150	187,891
Coconuts, fresh ..	£	21,399	26,120	19,508	64,941	157,466	121,682	89,236	166,606	129,375	92,912	101,006	94,952
Coconuts desiccated ..	cwt.	272,059	203,366	675,060	518,735	870,515	768,215	818,793	871,341	794,161	754,367	872,833	786,703
	£	624,067	345,302	1,661,878	1,221,984	1,773,493	1,343,946	1,514,423	1,464,246	1,251,833	1,151,732	1,365,451	1,322,674
Coffee	cwt.	53	27	458	143	1,565	645	51	75	12	1,441	3,824	4,814
	£	203	103	1,756	280	3,066	1,264	246	330	91	4,499	9,831	14,543
Coir, and manufactures thereof	£	53,721	98,572	203,273	170,441	134,906	219,990	309,764	358,518	293,032	282,678	358,986	301,177
Copra	cwt.	1,078,704	1,272,321	1,759,525	1,357,870	1,367,431	1,686,589	1,015,465	1,769,189	2,274,453	2,419,398	1,982,154	1,976,656
	£	881,033	850,509	2,157,136	1,893,685	1,620,299	1 920,271	1,208,210	2,067,213	2,551,569	2,656,565	2,122,988	2,120,109
Kapok	lb.	154,805	169,958	390,660	301,743	461,652	741,328	729,904	702,240	444,192	677,040	371,840	394,464
	£	2,251	2,494	5,906	4,957	6,397	25,952	28,606	23,374	14,331	27,464	15,683	13,360
Oil :—													
Citronella	lb.	1,197,507	1,030,167	992,850	1,022,809	1,160,555	1,299,889	1,121,271	1,433,381	1,415,639	1,431,351	1,358,191	1,200,001
	£	78,211	58,337	59,750	76,102	72,921	109,216	142,019	196,086	150,631	118,288	84,316	69,773
Coconut	cwt.	434,699	527,481	675,999	507,527	484,724	554,626	480,543	552,633	616,917	570,463	673,162	779,112
	£	672,045	1,046,171	1,711,629	1,324,307	1,001,633	994,999	929,032	1,055,119	1,120,850	1,032,621	1,104,518	1,284,369
Plumbago	cwt.	523,940	304,340	133,428	184,100	86,996	216,999	213,383	193,017	308,523	232,453	257,686	286,931
	£	1,453,160	322,709	115,472	140,008	50,528	108,739	103,258	88,608	198,893	174,466	168,380	180,291
Poonac	cwt.	43,927	14,027	87,365	92,452	167,018	115,505	116,823	157,541	169,436	160,511	173,421	293,628
	£	10,298	3,208	34,518	39,077	61,968	51,093	40,711	63,216	75,939	58,045	82,918	135,658
Rubber	cwt.	676,620	454,774	948,132	831,851	820,970	979,517	799,442	799,969	991,316	1,272,421	1,214,561	1,247,476
	£	9,153,145	4,567,198	9,248,749	6,272,709	3,584,952	3,969,127	5,251,881	4,595,689	12,338,433	12,294,881	8,650,509	5,383,671
Skins of all kinds ..	cwt.	11,237	11,306	13,212	13,971	9,502	11,825	10,092	12,207	12,046	14,347	18,092	19,351
	£	60,968	1 ,216	71,862	70,925	44,140	54,416	51,637	50,158	53,687	91,245	117,835	92,206
Spirits : Arrack ..	gals.	4,932	18,796	27,589	36,059	30,885	22,297	13,088	7,585	5,203	4,750	4,095	2,600
	£	1,046	2,750	13,806	9,071	7,525	4,062	2,357	1,252	1,766	1,977	836	502
Tea	lb.	195,231,592	180,817,744	208,560,943	184,770,231	161,610,966	171,807,581	181,906,184	204,863,816	209,700,639	217,082,648	226,950,959	236,631,600
	£	6,377,565	5,545,077	7,766,809	5,385,436	7,518,846	9,735,763	12,376,822	14,326,215	13,307,289	14,204,253	14,246,125	13,415,669
Tobacco, unmanufactured ..	cwt.	30,763	42,293	15,530	32,058	21 531	38,702	26,403	37,133	25,460	17,614	13,872	14,674
	£	43,551	58,301	43,940	51,876	40,541	64,351	48,350	65,033	45,861	29,759	23,019	26,034
Wood and timber :— Timber ..	£	10,088	18,628	13,734	30,397	53,265	15,186	14,553	18,869	28,948	22,140	23,599	33,330
Bullion and specie :—													
Bullion :— Silver	£	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2,282	—	11
Specie :—													
Gold	£	60,000	—	180	522,219	—	—	—	—	309	—	81,140	85,000
Silver	£	125,633	120,567	—	—	—	2,000	10,900	9,333	8,167	25,767	21,400	181,500

* Rate of conversion = Rs. 15 to the £ sterling.
† The quantities and value of "bunker coal" shipped by steamers are not included in the figures given in the above table.

TABLE No. 59.—Total Value* of **Imports** (including Bullion and Specie) into Ceylon, distinguishing Principal Countries :—

Principal Countries of Production.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
Total imports (including bullion and specie)	£ **14,668,727**	£ **12,343,081**	£ **11,849,112**	£ **16,181,313**	£ **24,061,812**	£ **17,470,381**	£ **18,782,713**	£ **19,477,318**	£ **20,821,898**	£ **24,025,354**	£ **27,191,141**	£ **28,075,198**	£ **27,474,643**
United Kingdom	3,146,138	2,175,272	1,908,964	2,259,389	5,164,066	4,363,218	4,138,245	4,223,749	4,629,904	5,650,510	6,342,286	6,351,756	6,202,259
Total British Oversea Dominions and Protectorates	9,214,842	8,304,680	8,124,317	10,263,068	13,427,168	10,361,020	11,321,635	11,512,299	11,573,931	13,484,824	14,229,333	14,677,994	13,514,922
Total Foreign Countries ..	2,307,748	1,863,129	1,815,831	3,658,854	5,470,578	2,746,140	3,322,835	3,741,271	4,618,061	4,890,020	6,619,521	7,045,448	7,757,462
British Oversea Dominions and Protectorates :—													
India (including Burma) ..	7,548,885	6,964,610	6,824,032	8,670,403	11,962,227	8,312,467	9,604,138	9,657,989	9,746,140	11,433,789	11,745,450	11,677,083	10,918,288
Egypt	3,530	68,682	27,058	9,888	38,111	9,774			See under Foreign Countries.				
Mauritius	483	29	3	—	44	21	41,650	26,552	27,526	9,163	2,688	2,895	2,369
Maldive Islands	158,206	150,142	159,435	143,937	164,987	183,565	240,498	270,368	263,555	304,211	331,760	324,689	341,052
Straits Settlements ..	1,132,644	862,080	454,226	608,408	483,001	470,474	292,366	244,288	269,382	488,882	731,759	904,210	516,604
Hong Kong	120,821	57,714	50,551	124,379	123,682	100,172	96,879	85,202	120,768	80,384	76,750	96,786	85,870
Commonwealth of Australia ..	149,805	93,773	87,393	278,537	421,107	428,552	393,167	718,820	492,604	512,459	532,669	540,128	796,837
Dominion of New Zealand ..	2,047	7,500	4,310	4,138	3,876	5,997	1,304	969	91	1,060	627	1,441	3,067
Dominion of Canada ..	1,670	89	1,308	5,379	68,773	47,605	24,344	104,697	115,650	122,026	154,679	79,409	143,726
Other British Possessions in Africa†	93,974	97,826	513,913	412,696	155,123	776,228	602,673	578,331	518,343	512,632	614,421	1,029,283	693,016
Other British Oversea Dominions and Protectorates ..	2,777	2,235	2,088	5,303	5,237	26,165	24,616	25,083	19,872	20,217	38,529	22,070	14,094
Foreign Countries :—													
Russia	45,019	11,613	5	35,515	23,378	16,149	9,844	120,379	215,779	254,841	7,107	6,626	3,241
Sweden	40,438	40,304	41,849	12,871	44,204	43,057	45,796	40,806	41,027	60,150	71,779	80,443	69,186
Germany	2,831	763	9	131	57,503	97,586	246,528	263,461	361,777	380,101	690,031	593,650	666,687
Holland	109,652	74,649	30,973	54,919	208,325	183,953	210,760	297,577	273,177	317,888	401,352	434,649	329,864
Java	217,386	159,023	159,537	457,927	437,304	528,565	501,155	631,012	782,072	738,534	892,333	963,189	1,130,569
Borneo	180,997	206,003	142,840	400,253	354,480	257,022	429,592	518,165	586,511	481,084	339,389	792,723	448,075
Belgium	8,205	691	362	21,567	114,455	27,584	69,693	116,318	178,927	197,061	270,472	277,637	196,948
France	72,660	44,098	51,247	106,328	183,873	129,400	145,613	111,226	127,345	175,104	305,841	333,476	328,148
French Possessions‡ ..	56,149	34,011	50,795	5,688	16,595	7,324	47,022	99,106	98,071	41,983	72,315	47,440	336,199
Spain	6,151	2,529	2,600	8,248	10,290	5,086	8,721	6,806	13,142	10,651	17,898	15,319	18,048
Italy	32,261	16,179	8,696	11,011	76,721	77,836	90,444	96,765	133,161	181,695	275,986	237,918	201,607
Austria	1,916	109	12	8	3,936	3,516	3,622	7,625	25,680	17,535	29,150	41,418	40,983
Hungary											3,653	1,167	372
Egypt	See under British Oversea Dominions and Protectorates.						9,433	16,620	10,725	26,064	44,116	55,887	63,936
Switzerland	52,248	19,932	10,572	23,837	88,994	33,633	23,419	61,188	127,442	56,283	86,229	76,707	89,359
China	79,069	12,384	10,850	82,353	109,421	53,324	33,977	48,181	42,629	40,023	59,909	72,108	106,572
Japan	608,998	669,396	608,854	558,786	466,558	273,225	345,384	363,165	428,345	476,115	651,103	618,674	657,092
Siam	67,986	43,399	22,992	627,645	53,806	79,110	93,865	16,481	21,624	67,072	96,616	102,972	296,327
United States of America ..	515,690	372,001	376,734	758,319	2,853,003	477,381	446,295	430,943	612,020	630,564	853,362	979,067	1,047,255
Other Foreign Countries ..	210,092	156,045	296,904	493,448	367,732	452,399	561,676	495,447	538,583	737,272	1,461,159	1,314,381	1,726,990

* Rate of conversion = Rs. 15 to the £ sterling.
† British Possessions in Africa excluding Egypt and Mauritius from 1916 to 1921. British Possessions in Africa excluding Mauritius from 1922.
‡ The figures are inclusive of all foreign possessions in *India*, whether French or otherwise.

TABLE No. 60.—Total Value* of **Exports** of Domestic and Other Produce (including Bullion and Specie) from Ceylon, distinguishing Principal Countries :—

Principal Countries.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Total Exports (including Bullion and Specie)†	**19,836,077**	**20,462,997**	**14,208,922**	**24,470,499**	**18,419,698**	**17,106,694**	**19,852,214**	**23,413,250**	**25,701,161**	**32,841,095**	**33,576,599**	**29,951,583**	**26,171,332**
United Kingdom	8,781,215	8,098,340	6,068,422	10,309,435	8,244,031	7,906,480	9,184,671	10,913,694	11,488,152	12,572,811	13,888,261	12,467,170	10,231,954
Total British Oversea Dominions and Protectorates	2,502,092	3,853,331	4,789,440	3,578,588	2,753,588	2,802,120	2,961,356	3,502,276	4,217,027	4,301,586	4,277,784	4,653,152	5,034,330
Total Foreign Countries ..	8,552,769	8,511,325	3,351,058	10,582,475	7,422,077	6,398,095	7,706,187	8,997,281	9,995,982	15,966,698	15,410,555	12,831,261	10,905,049
British Oversea Dominions and Protectorates :—													
India (including Burma) ..	706,696	1,372,253	1,796,269	1,682,090	999,576	748,345	631,776	718,107	812,570	925,101	720,435	976,096	1,354,340
Egypt	240,330	156,577	349,826	315,256	258,749	223,351	See under Foreign Countries.						
Mauritius	5,649	5,251	10,192	4,190	11,587	11,399	22,595	17,294	25,254	24,348	26,056	30,654	21,093
Maldive Islands	18,384	23,395	21,584	17,622	20,929	15,012	26,480	36,948	34,574	43,355	56,782	50,943	49,897
Straits Settlements ..	63,216	88,282	84,645	120,113	132,338	164,147	195,672	130,715	114,208	120,221	138,989	158,568	124,869
Hong Kong	64,534	49,778	23,566	9,998	11,179	9,114	15,769	19,651	21,258	18,369	23,278	33,402	23,849
Commonwealth of Australia ..	884,921	1,000,503	1,239,768	658,135	622,825	806,477	824,709	856,044	1,233,215	1,290,259	1,349,335	1,493,636	1,348,270
Dominion of New Zealand ..	190,366	222,120	94,699	85,160	201,329	241,507	337,100	455,459	428,528	472,225	576,140	556,084	579,753
Dominion of Canada ..	169,376	623,192	796,316	437,389	305,229	291,494	462,741	594,448	616,928	469,420	433,755	434,086	479,274
Other British Possessions in Africa‡	124,389	181,598	228,038	212,514	160,540	265,858	401,575	509,573	553,546	497,756	627,833	658,945	603,807
Malta	5,677	114	20,741	1,849	1,830	137	539	4,608	5,662	7,510	14,848	10,578	12,290
Other British Oversea Dominions and Protectorates ..	29,454	129,768	123,796	34,272	27,477	25,278	42,418	159,429	371,284	433,024	310,332	250,162	436,889
Foreign Countries :—													
Russia	1,170,798	529,589	4,775	25,479	1	—	132	33	8,987	96,209	50,143	228,760	263,444
Denmark	269,965	74,387	—	391,177	292,360	354,367	308,254	260,504	691,070	765,693	516,000	411,878	313,683
Germany	—	—	—	4,484	268,434	675,271	738,448	620,521	1,122,414	1,311,582	1,624,166	1,448,316	1,277,138
Holland	—	97,872	—	327,518	908,617	498,105	298,890	196,512	367,732	318,274	406,923	330,203	259,035
Belgium	—	—	—	508,058	367,776	180,649	221,213	217,603	301,945	235,420	270,325	241,727	328,082
France	965,632	511,241	276,430	545,413	296,762	98,876	141,176	237,382	237,336	266,341	298,717	251,938	271,431
French Possesssions§ ..	6,403	4,543	2,520	8,049	522,656	17,063	12,500	13,579	18,163	9,862	15,656	13,050	14,399
Spain	24,013	3,821	3,380	26,413	21,871	49,329	43,135	69,907	56,530	83,575	103,137	104,216	102,538
Italy	33,156	77,140	73,773	124,779	121,802	316,166	632,958	360,642	647,530	860,024	860,822	727,723	875,926
Austria	—	—	—	—	1,573	63	127	—	2,660	10,283	322	622	1,712
Hungary											160	3,361	71
Egypt	See under British Oversea Dominions and Protectorates.						287,489	489,702	470,649	657,305	455,675	476,546	634,986
China	332,668	146,719	48,732	23,952	7,331	8,726	8,140	10,526	11,865	95,469	127,805	230,459	113,006
Japan	63,577	67,922	82,021	50,272	65,028	80,331	78,805	120,871	131,056	90,873	113,961	117,378	109,277
United States of America ..	5,571,214	6,814,455	2,575,907	8,204,102	4,131,550	3,750,110	4,444,396	5,532,011	4,991,187	10,224,151	9,552,860	7,173,050	4,981,518
Other Foreign Countries ..	115,343	183,636	283,520	342,779	416,316	369,039	490,524	867,488	936,858	941,636	1,014,072	1,072,034	1,358,802

* Rate of conversion = Rs. 15 to the £ sterling.
† Excluding the value of ships' stores and postal articles.
‡ British Possessions in Africa excluding Egypt and Mauritius from 1916 to 1921. British Possessions in Africa excluding Mauritius from 1922.
§ The figures are inclusive of all foreign possessions in *India*, whether French or otherwise.

TABLE No. 61.—Value* of the **Total Trade** of Ceylon, distinguishing Principal Countries :—

Principal Countries.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Total Trade	**34,504,804**	**32,806,078**	**26,058,034**	**40,651,812**	**42,481,510**	**34,577,075**	**38,634,928**	**42,890,569**	**46,523,059**	**56,866,450**	**60,767,740**	**58,026,781**	**53,645,975**
United Kingdom	11,927,353	10,273,612	7,977,386	12,568,824	13,408,097	12,269,698	13,322,916	15,137,443	16,118,056	18,223,321	20,230,546	18,818,926	16,434,213
Total British Oversea Dominions and Protectorates	11,716,934	12,158,011	12,913,757	13,841,656	16,180,756	13,163,138	14,282,992	15,014,575	15,790,962	17,786,410	18,507,116	19,331,146	18,549,251
Total Foreign Countries ..	10,860,517	10,374,454	5,166,889	14,241,329	12,892,655	9,144,239	11,029,020	12,738,550	14,614,042	20,856,719	22,030,078	19,876,709	18,662,510
British Oversea Dominions and Protectorates:—													
India (including Burma) ..	8,255,581	8,336,863	8,620,301	10,352,493	12,962,803	9,066,812	10,235,914	10,376,096	10,558,710	12,358,891	12,465,885	12,653,179	12,272,628
Egypt	243,860	225,259	376,884	325,144	296,860	233,125			See under Foreign Countries.				
Mauritius	6,132	5,280	10,195	4,190	11,631	11,419	64,245	43,847	52,780	33,511	28,744	33,549	23,462
Maldive Islands	176,590	174,037	181,019	161,559	185,916	198,758	266,978	307,317	298,129	347,566	388,542	375,633	390,949
Straits Settlements.. ..	1,195,860	950,362	538,871	728,521	615,339	634,622	488,039	375,002	383,590	609,103	870,749	1,062,778	641,472
Hong Kong	185,355	107,492	74,117	134,377	134,861	109,286	112,639	104,852	142,027	98,753	100,028	130,188	109,718
Commonwealth of Australia ..	1,033,826	1,094,276	1,327,161	936,672	1,043,932	1,235,028	1,217,867	1,574,864	1,725,819	1,802,717	1,882,004	2,033,764	2,145,107
Dominion of New Zealand ..	192,413	229,620	99,009	89,298	205,205	247,504	338,404	456,428	428,619	473,285	579,767	557,525	582,820
Dominion of Canada ..	171,046	623,281	797,624	442,768	374,002	339,099	487,085	699,145	732,579	591,445	588,434	513,495	622,999
Other British Possessions in Africa†	218,363	279,424	741,251	625,210	315,663	1,042,086	1,004,248	887,904	1,071,890	1,010,388	1,242,254	1,688,228	1,296,823
Other British Oversea Dominions and Protectorates	37,908	132,117	146,625	41,424	34,544	51,579	67,573	189,120	396,819	460,751	363,709	282,809	463,273
Foreign Countries:—													
Russia	1,215,817	541,202	4,780	60,994	23,379	16,149	9,976	120,412	224,765	351,050	57,250	235,386	266,686
Germany	2,831	763	9	4,615	325,937	772,857	984,976	883,982	1,484,191	1,691,683	2,314,197	2,041,966	1,943,825
Holland	109,652	172,521	30,973	382,437	1,116,942	682,059	509,650	494,089	640,909	636,163	808,274	764,853	588,899
Belgium	8,205	691	362	529,625	482,231	208,234	290,905	333,920	480,871	432,481	540,797	519,364	525,030
France	1,038,292	555,339	327,677	651,741	480,635	228,276	286,739	348,607	364,681	441,445	604,558	585,414	599,579
French Possessions‡ ..	62,552	38,554	53,315	13,737	539,251	24,386	59,521	112,684	116,258	51,844	87,971	60,490	350,598
Spain	30,164	6,350	5,980	34,661	32,161	54,415	51,856	76,713	69,673	94,226	121,035	119,535	120,586
Italy	65,417	93,319	82,469	135,790	198,523	394,001	723,402	457,408	780,691	1,041,719	1,136,808	965,640	1,077,532
Austria	1,916	109	12	8	5,509	3,579	3,749	7,625	28,340	27,818	29,472	42,039	42,695
Hungary											3,813	4,528	443
Egypt	See under British Oversea Dominions and Protectorates.						296,922	506,322	481,374	683,369	499,792	532,433	698,922
China	411,737	159,103	59,582	106,395	116,752	62,049	42,118	58,707	54,494	135,493	187,714	302,567	219,578
Japan	672,575	737,318	690,875	609,058	531,586	353,557	424,185	484,036	559,402	566,987	765,064	736,052	766,370
United States of America ..	6,086,904	7,186,456	2,952,641	8,962,421	6,984,553	4,227,491	4,890,691	5,962,954	5,603,207	10,854,715	10,406,222	8,152,117	6,028,773
Other Foreign Countries ..	1,154,455	882,729	958,214	2,749,937	2,055,196	2,117,186	2,454,280	2,891,091	3,725,186	3,847,725	4,477,577	4,814,326	5,432,995

* Rate of conversion = Rs. 15 to the £ sterling.
† British Possessions in Africa excluding Egypt and Mauritius from 1916 to 1921. British Possessions in Africa excluding Mauritius from 1922.
‡ The figures are inclusive of all foreign possessions in *India*, whether French or otherwise.

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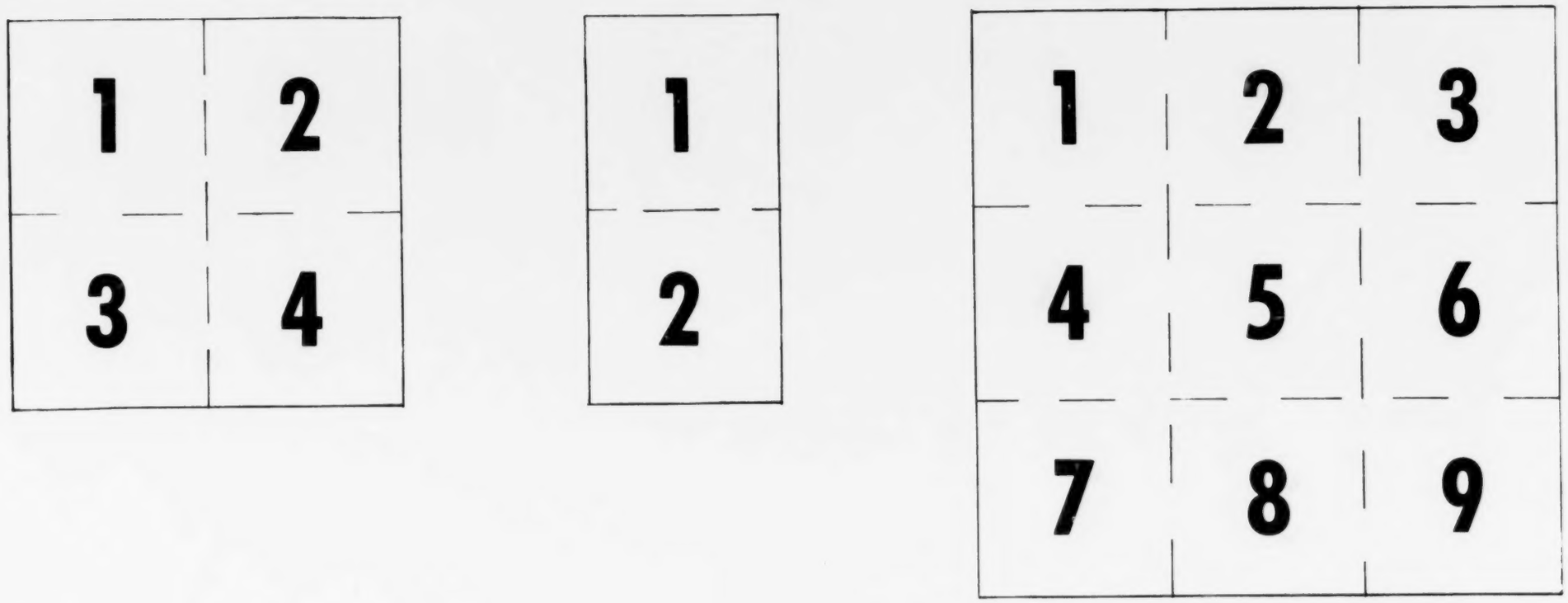

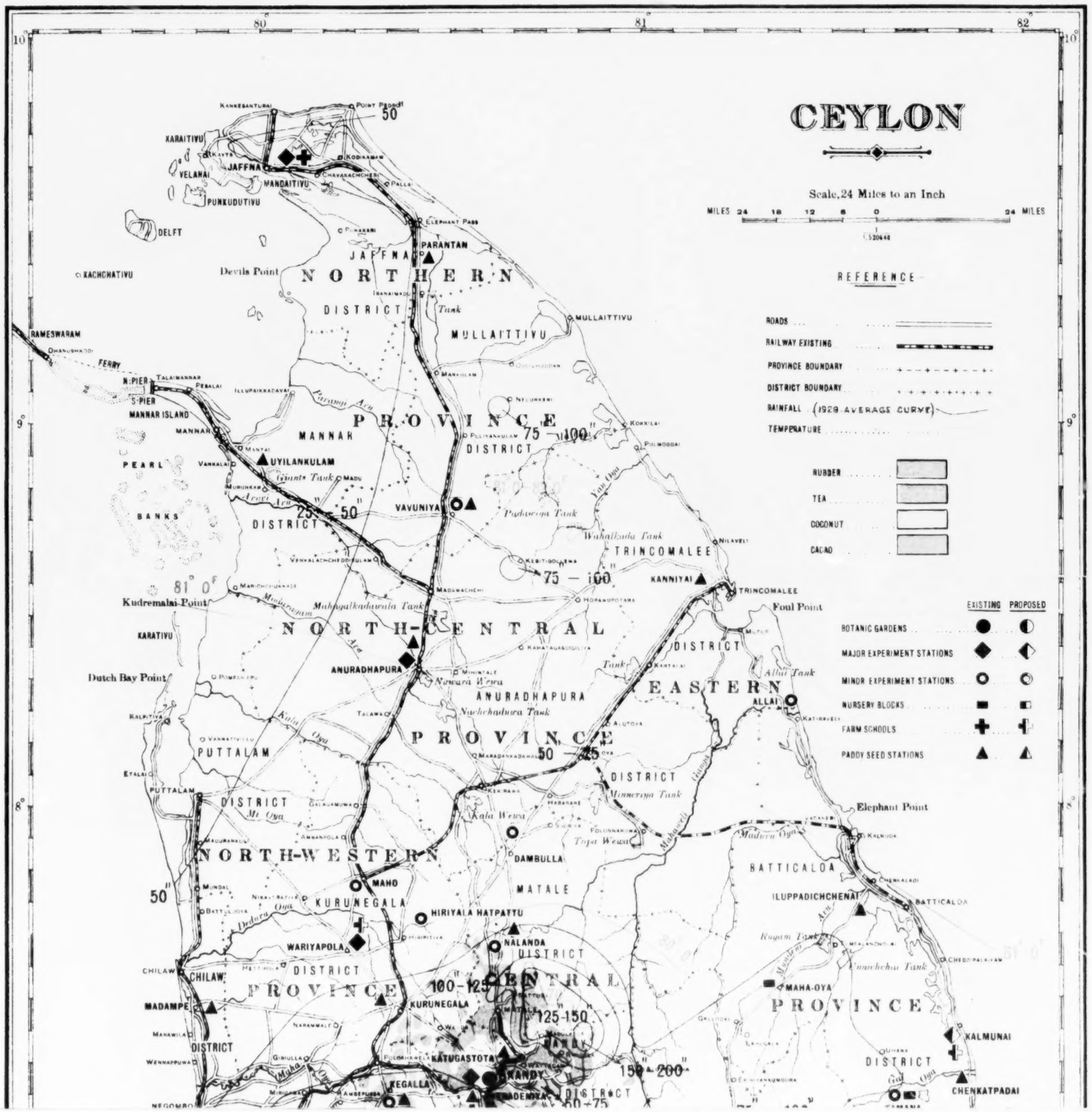
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COCONUT
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BOTANIC GARDENS
MAJOR EXPERIMENT STATIONS
MINOR EXPERIMENT STATIONS
NURSERY BLOCKS
FARM SCHOOLS
PADDY SEED STATIONS
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JAFFNA DISTRICT
MULLAITTIVU DISTRICT
MANNAR DISTRICT
NORTH-CENTRAL PROVINCE
ANURADHAPURA DISTRICT
EASTERN PROVINCE
TRINCOMALEE DISTRICT
BATTICALOA DISTRICT
NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCE
PUTTALAM DISTRICT
KURUNEGALA DISTRICT
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MATALE DISTRICT
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NUWARA ELIYA DISTRICT
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PARANTAM
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VELANAI
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VAVUNIYA
MULLAITTIVU
TRINCOMALEE
KANNIYAI
Foul Point
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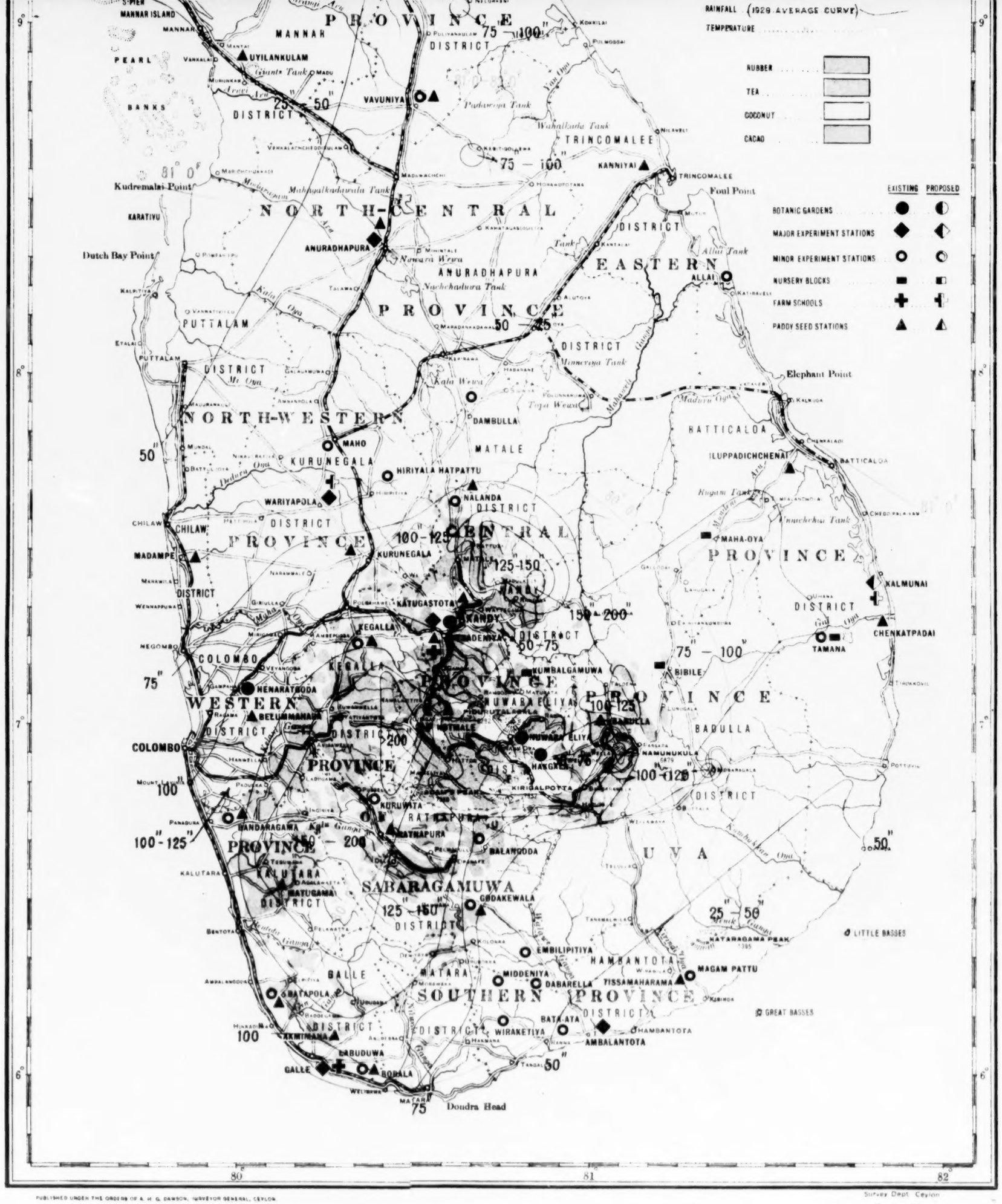
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Dondra Head
LITTLE BASSES
GREAT BASSES
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Annual General Report for 1929.

I.—Prefatory Note.

GEOGRAPHY.

CEYLON is an Island in the Indian Ocean, off the southern extremity of the Indian peninsula, lying between 5° 55′ and 9° 50′ N. latitude and 79° 42′ and 81° 53′ E. longitude. Situated on the direct route from Europe to Australia and the Far East, roughly halfway between Arabia and China, it has been known from very early times as an important trade centre in the East. It is in very close proximity to India, and from an economic point of view has always been considered a part of it. The greatest length of the Island from north to south, *i.e.*, from Point Palmyra to Dondra Head, is 270 miles; its greatest width 140 miles, from Colombo on the west coast to Sangamankanda on the east. Its area is 25,332 square miles, nearly the same as that of Holland and Belgium, or about half the size of England.

The northern and north-central parts of the Island form one great plain from sea to sea, only occasionally broken by a spur of rock. The maritime districts consist of similar level or undulating stretches, but the centre of the southern half of the Island is filled by a circular mountainous area almost equidistant from the two seas. This mountainous region is intersected by deep valleys, many of which run roughly north-east and south-west. The height of the intervening ridges increases gradually from the coast, and culminates in Pidurutalagala at an elevation of 8,292 feet.

The sea coast of Ceylon, as shown on a large scale map, has an irregular outline, lakes and lagoons having been formed in many parts of it by the sand barriers thrown up through the interaction of the rivers and the sea. There are only three real harbours, those of Colombo, Trincomalee, and Galle. The first is a capacious artificial harbour constructed out of an insecure anchoring place by the building of extensive breakwaters. The second is a magnificent land-locked basin, but situated on the eastern side of the Island which is less accessible, populous, and fertile than the western. The third was, at one time, the premier harbour of Ceylon, but on the completion of the Colombo breakwaters in 1885 it ceased to be a calling place for East Indiamen and ships of war.

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Climate.

On the whole, the climate of Ceylon is fairly good for the tropics. The accessibility of the hills is a great boon to the plain dwellers, and a change to the sea is beneficial to those who live in the hills. In the low-country, the districts which have been opened in rubber, coconuts, and other products are generally fairly healthy, but, in the unopened localities, malaria is common.

Temperature.—With regard to temperature, the range of variation at several stations is shown in diagram No. 1, facing this page, and in table No. 1 of the Appendix.

The low seasonal variations will be noted, but it will be seen that the differences between the temperatures of low-country and up-country stations are considerable. The highest shade temperature registered in Ceylon was 103.7° F. at Trincomalee in May, 1890, and the minimum air temperature 27.1° F. at Nuwara Eliya in February, 1914. A maximum temperature of 103.7° F. is not excessive, but the humidity is considerable, the annual average percentage saturation being 70-80 (Galle 80, Nuwara Eliya 79, Colombo and Jaffna 78, Kandy 75, Batticaloa 74, Trincomalee 71). At Colombo, the " hot weather " may be said to extend from March to May, and the " cold weather " from November to January. July and August are often cool, particularly on the west side of the Island. In general, the monsoon periods are comparatively cool, and intervals between them hot.

The climate also varies considerably at the same station at different times of the year, according to the direction and force of the monsoon winds, which, where their courses are impeded by the hills, deposit their moisture on the windward sides of them.

Rainfall.—The monthly and annual average rainfall is given for twelve stations in table No. 2 of the Appendix.

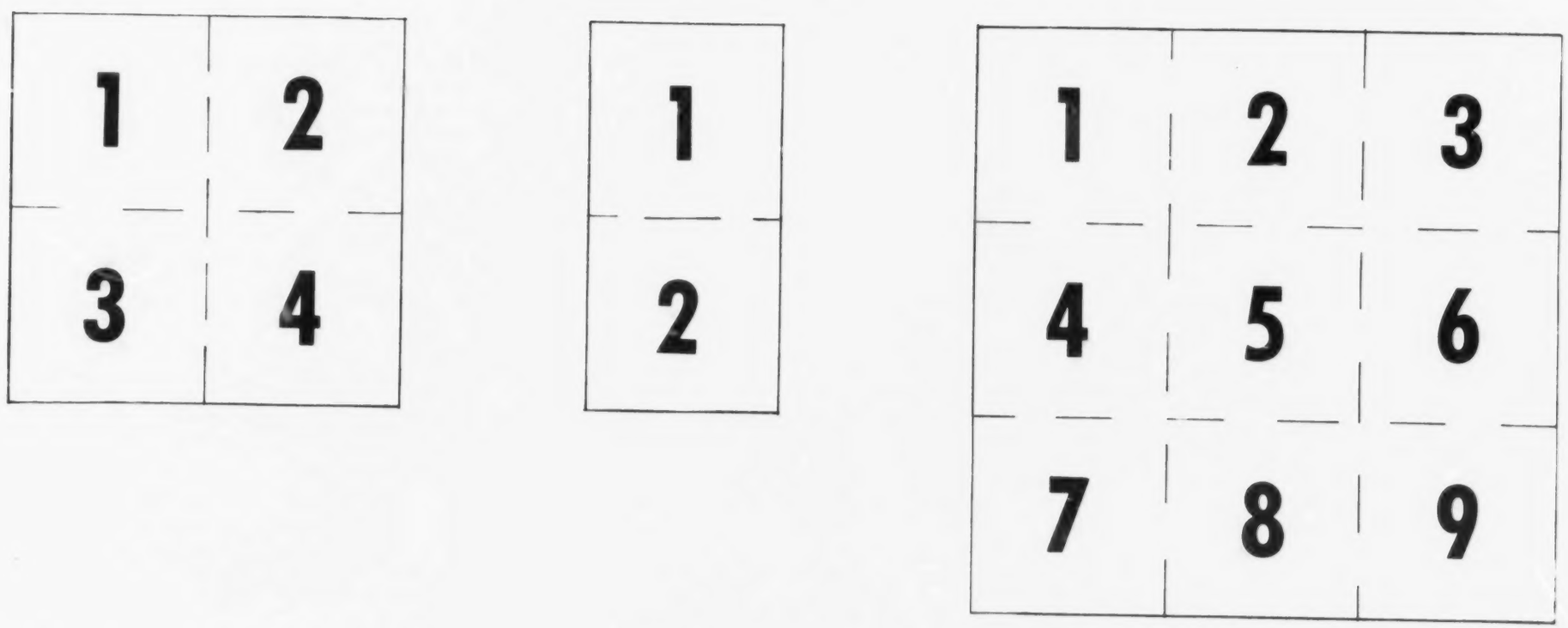
Rainfall Map.—A map of Ceylon giving the rainfall from the mean annual totals is shown facing this page. The annual average rainfall varies from about 35 inches in the north-west and the south-east to over 200 inches in some parts of the interior. The annual averages in 1928 were 87 inches at Colombo, 84 inches at Kandy, and 93 inches at Nuwara Eliya.

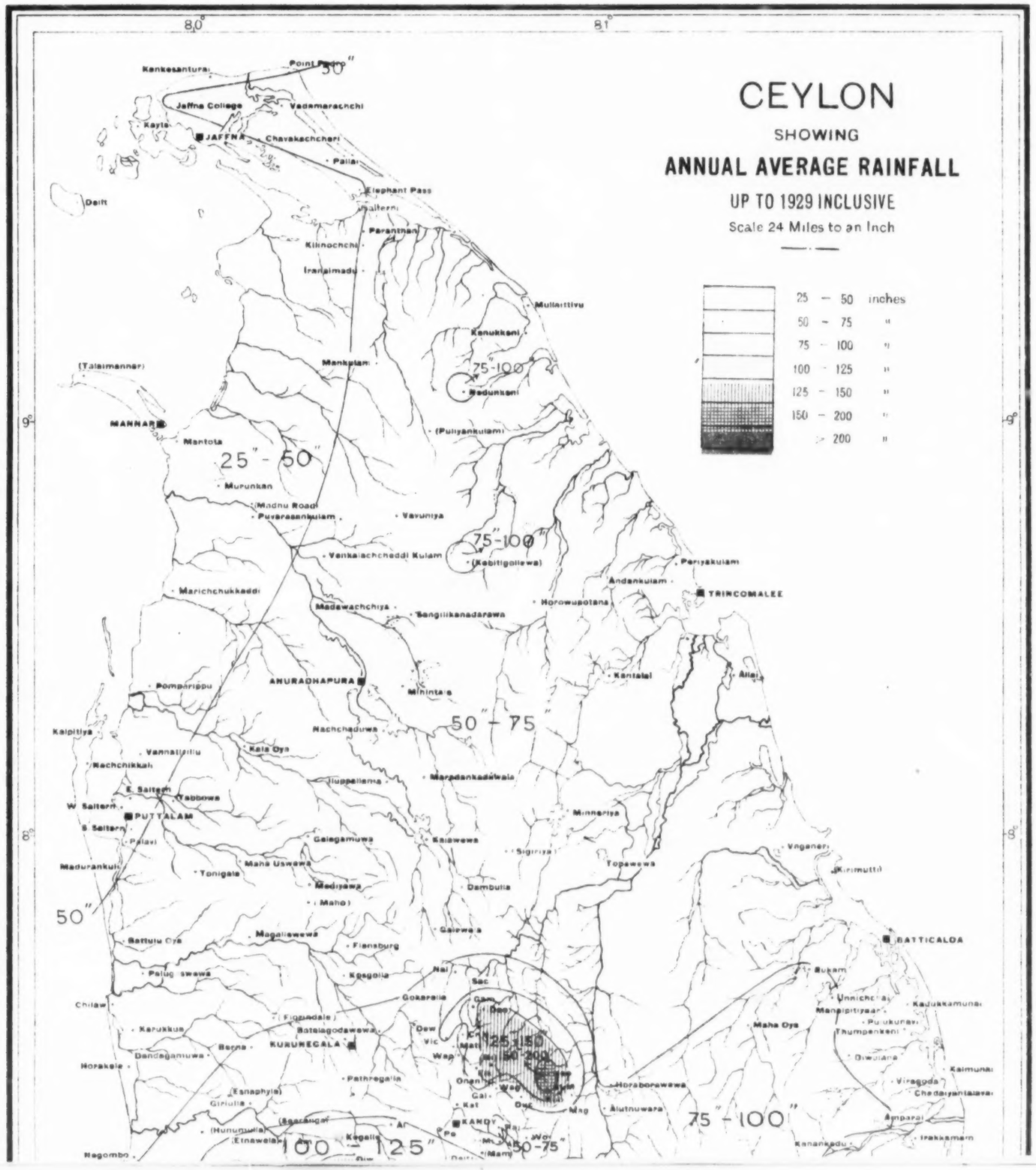
History.

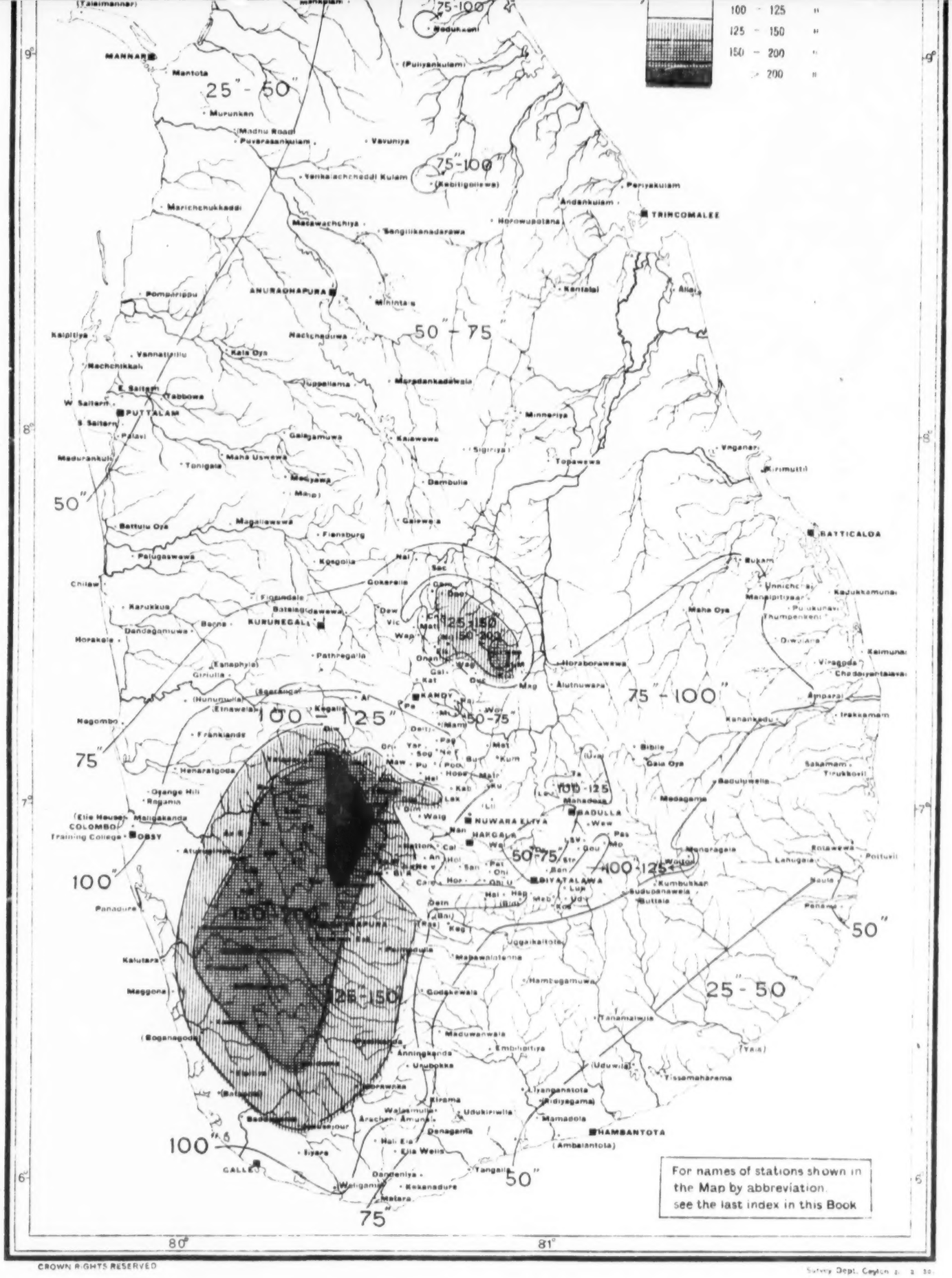
The history of the Island begins at the sixth century B.C., when an Aryan invasion from the north of India under the leadership of Vijaya overcame the aborigines and established the Sinhalese dynasty. Early attention appears to have been paid by the invaders to irrigation works, agricultural development, and other branches of civil administration, and by the end of the third century A.D. a comparatively advanced stage of civilization had been reached.

The history of Ceylon down to the sixteenth century may be divided into two parts, viz., the period of the Sinhalese *Mahavansa*, *circa* 500 B.C. to 300 A.D., and that of the *Suluvansa*, from *circa* 300 A.D. onwards. The first period is one of increasing development and expanding civilization,

Maps on this order too large to be entirely included in one exposure are filmed clockwise beginning in the upper left hand corner, left to right and top to bottom as many frames as required. The following diagrams illustrate the method.




CEYLON
SHOWING
ANNUAL AVERAGE RAINFALL
UP TO 1929 INCLUSIVE
Scale 24 Miles to an Inch
25 - 50 inches
50 - 75 "
75 - 100 "
100 - 125 "
125 - 150 "
150 - 200 "
> 200 "
8.0°
8.1°
9°
9°
JAFFNA
MANNAR
PUTTALAM
ANURADHAPURA
TRINCOMALEE
BATTICALOA
KURUNEGALA
KANDY
Kankesanturai
Point Pedro
Jaffna College
Vadamarachchi
Kayts
Chavakachcheri
Pallai
Elephant Pass
Delft
Paranthan
Kilinochchi
Iranaimadu
Mullaittivu
Kanukkeni
Mankulam
(Talaimannar)
Mantota
Murunkan
Madhu Road
Puvarasankulam
Vavuniya
Vankalachcheddi Kulam
(Kebitigollewa)
Periyakulam
Andankulam
Marichchukkaddi
Madawachchiya
Sangilikanadarawa
Horowupotana
Kantalai
Allai
Pomparippu
Mihintale
Kalpitiya
Nachchaduwa
Kala Oya
Vannathivilu
Nachchikkali
Iluppallama
Maradankadawala
E. Saltern
Yapahuwa
W. Saltern
S. Saltern
Palavi
Minneriya
Galegamuwa
Kalawewa
Sigiriya
Vaganeri
Kurimutti
Madurankuli
Mahe Uswewa
Tonigala
Medirigiriya
Dambulla
Topawewa
(Maho)
Galewela
Battulu Oya
Mogallewewa
Flensburg
Palugaswewa
Kegalla
Nal
Sec
Gam
Dec
Gokarella
Chilaw
Figgindale
Batelagodawewa
Karukkus
Berna
Dandaganiuwa
Horakele
Pathregalla
Dew
Vic
Mat
Wap
Kin
Onan
Cal
Wel
Kat
Dwe
Mag
Horaborawewa
Alutnuwara
(Esnaphyla)
Giriulla
(Hunumulla)
(Etnawela)
Negombo
Kegalla
Ar
Pe
Ra
Wor
Mr
(Mam)
Maha Oya
Diwulana
Viragoda
Kalmunai
Chedaiyantalawa
Amparai
Irakkamam
Kananadu
Bukam
Unnichchai
Manipitiyaar
Kaluvakkamunai
Puukunari
Thumpenkeni
125-150
150-200
100 - 125"
50-75
75 - 100"
75-100
25" - 50"
50" - 75"
50"
50"



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Survey Dept. Ceylon

DIAGRAM Nº1
(SEE TABLE Nº1)

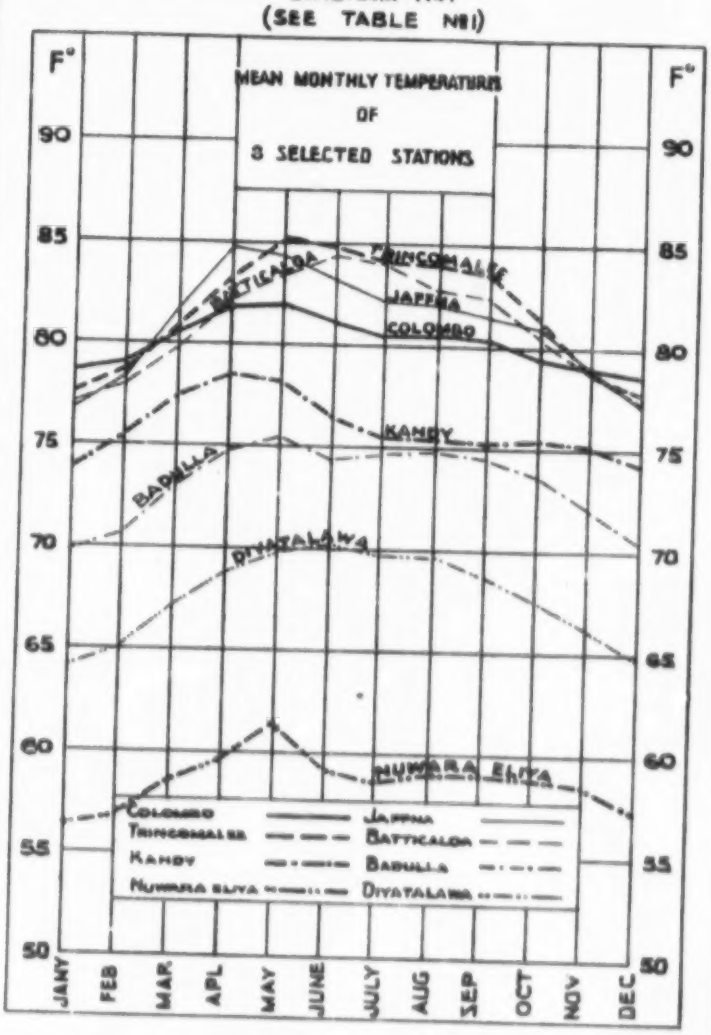


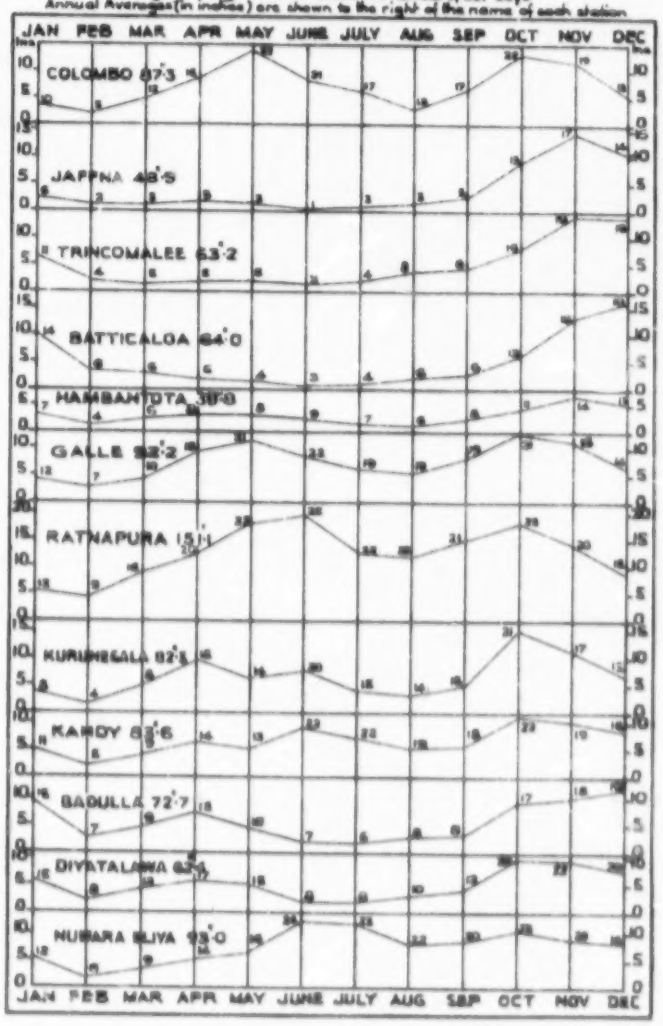
Diagram No 2
See Table No 2

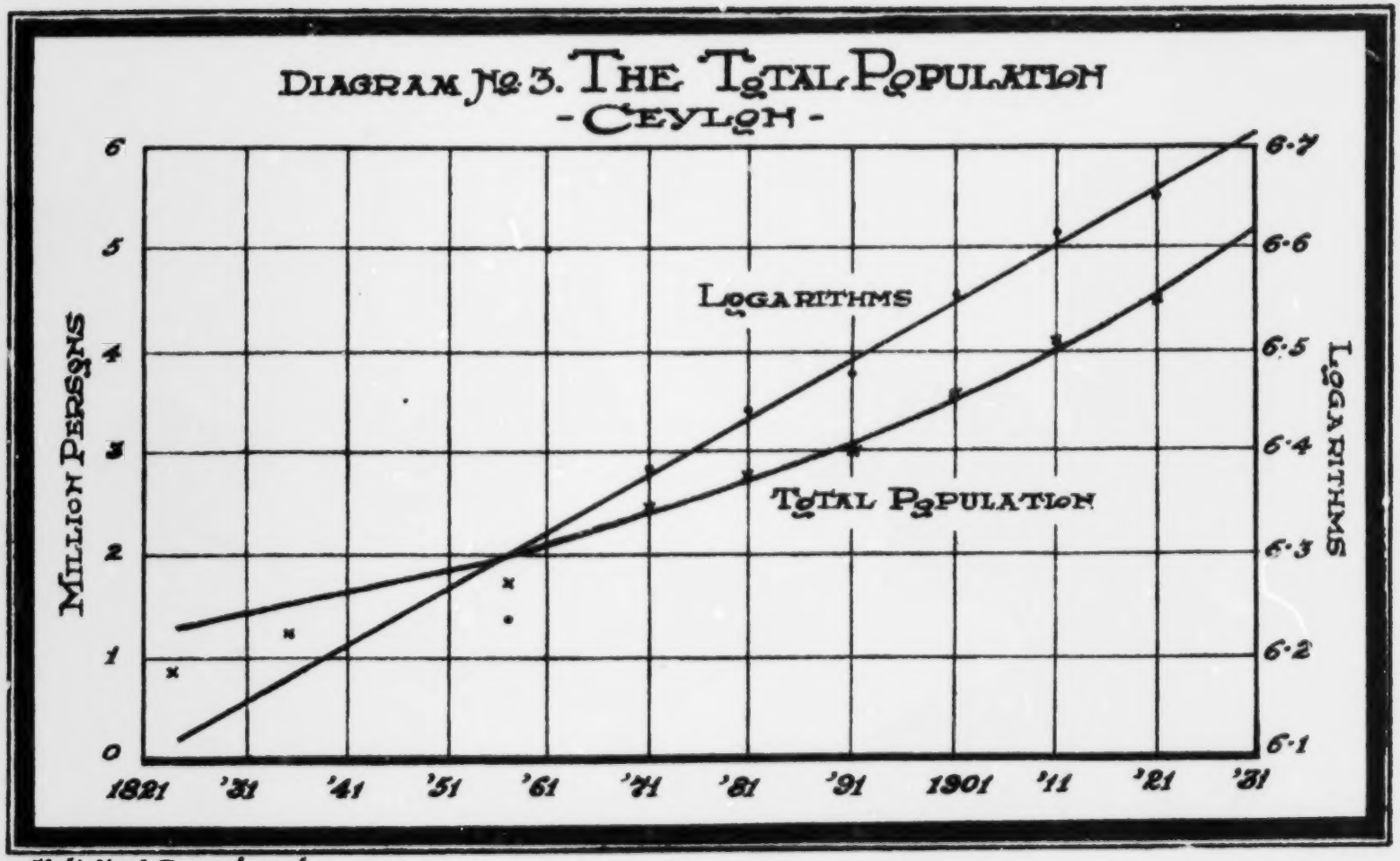
Mean Monthly Rainfall

for 12 selected stations

Figures along the curve denote the number of wet days

Annual Averages (in inches) are shown to the right of the name of each station





Statistical Department

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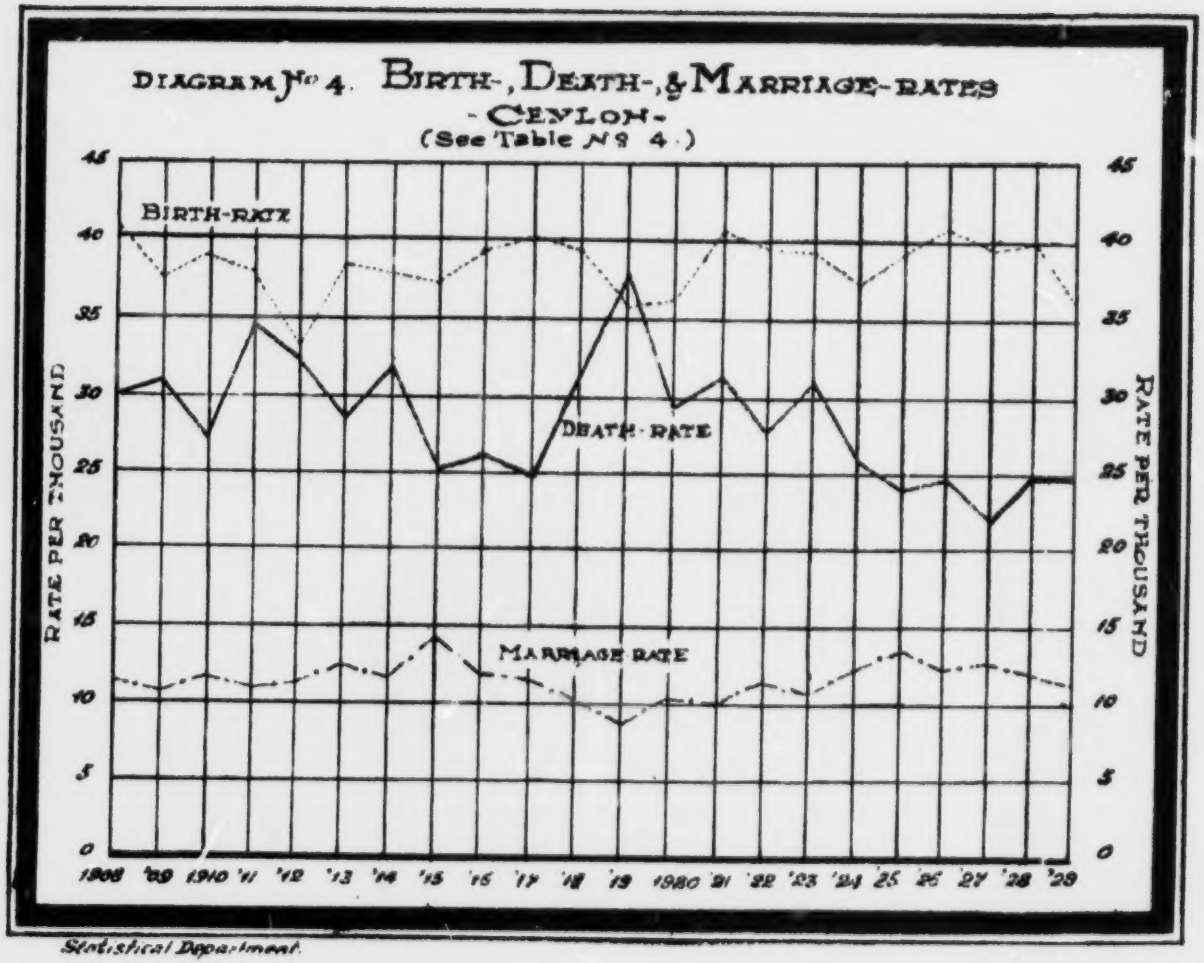

Statistical Department.

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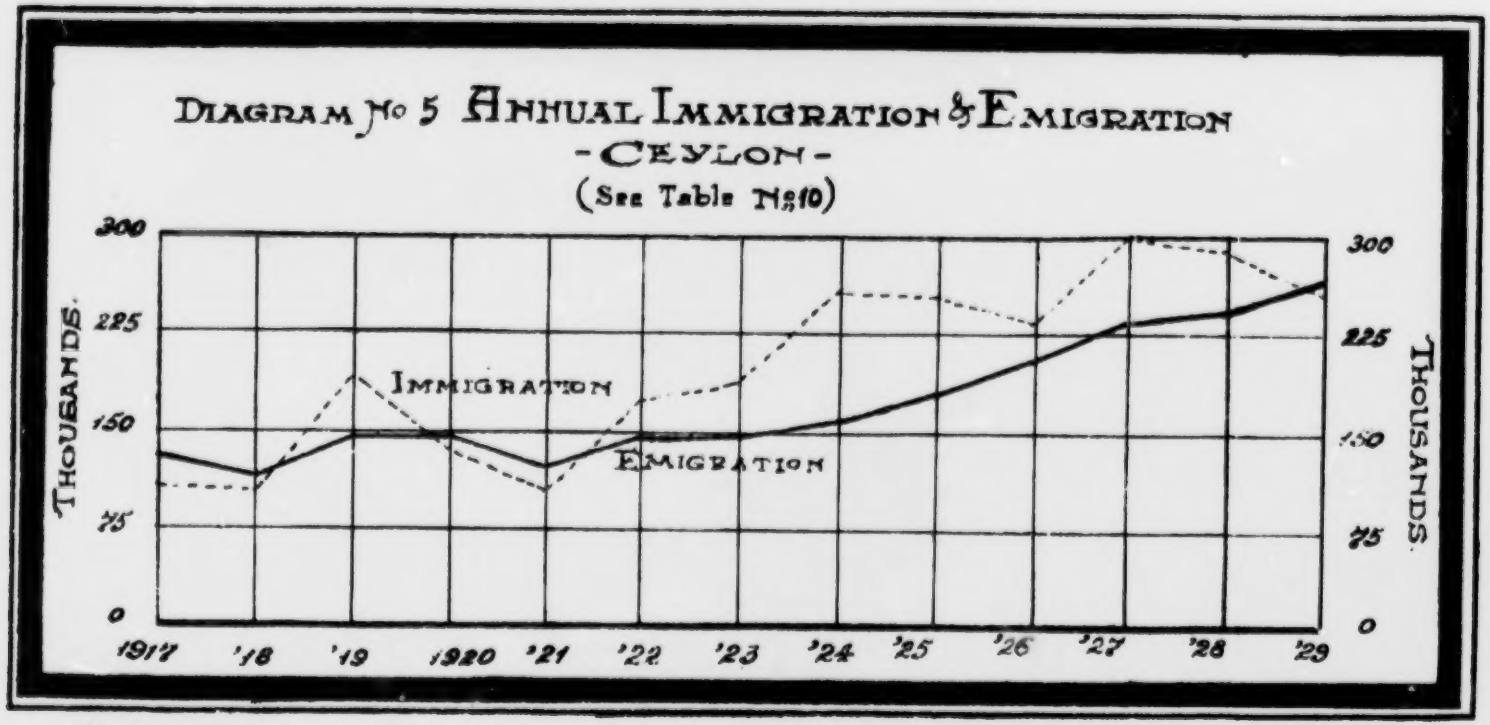

Statistical Department

(F)

connected chiefly with the extension of Buddhism, which was introduced about 247 B.C. The second period is one of ever-increasing pressure from the Tamils, Pandyans, and Cholas from India, with occasional successes on the part of the Sinhalese, particularly during the reign of their famous king, Parakrama Bahu I. (1153 to 1186 A.D.).

In the sixteenth century the Portuguese formed settlements on the coasts of the Island; in the next century they were dispossessed by the Dutch. In 1796 the British took possession of the Dutch settlements in the Island, which were then annexed to the Presidency of Madras, but five years later, in 1802, Ceylon was constituted a separate Crown Colony. In 1815, the districts of the interior, which had maintained their independence under the kings of Kandy, were acquired by Great Britain as the result of a rebellion against the Kandyan king, and the whole Island was thus united under the British rule.

Principal Languages.

Sinhalese and Tamil are the two chief vernacular languages in the Island, the former belonging to the Sinhalese who chiefly inhabit the western, central, and southern portions of the Island, and the latter to the Tamils inhabiting the northern and eastern parts and to the immigrant estate population. English is in general use among the people of the upper and the middle classes of all communities.

Currency, &c.

The monetary unit in Ceylon is the Indian silver rupee, which is divided into 100 cents. The following fractions of the rupee are coined:—(1) Silver, 50-cent piece; 25-cent piece; and 10-cent piece; (2) nickel, 5-cent piece; (3) copper, 1-cent piece and ½-cent piece.

The chief medium of exchange in Ceylon is the currency notes issued by the Government of Ceylon. They are of the following values:—Rs. 1,000, Rs. 500, Rs. 100, Rs. 50, Rs. 10, Rs. 5, Rs. 2, and Re. 1. The present value of the rupee is about 1*s.* 6*d.*

Weights and Measures.

The standard weights and measures are the English units. In conjunction with these many local weights and measures are used which cannot be enumerated here.

Information for Visitors.

See Chapter XII. at page 101.

II.—Finance.

Revenue.

THE revenue collected during the financial year ended September 30, 1929, amounted to Rs. 107,818,274.57, which was Rs. 4,925,274.57 more than the estimate and Rs. 26,316,678.36 less than the amount collected in the previous financial year; this, however, included Railway revenue of Rs. 31,203,723.86. If Railway revenue is not taken into account, the revenue for the financial year ended September 30, 1929, was therefore Rs. 4,887,045.50 more than the revenue of the previous financial year.

The principal increases were under Customs (imports) duties Rs. 442,713.15, Harbour Dues Rs. 331,049.76, Salt Rs. 517,997.51, Estate Duties Rs. 559,244.12, Licences—Sundries Rs. 114,126.98, Export Duties under the Medical Wants Ordinance Rs. 452,545.32, Teachers' Pension Scheme Rs. 179,392.31, Repayments by the Railway on account of Pensions, Passages, and Sundry Departmental Services Rs. 1,540,783.04 (new sub-head), Telegraph Revenue Rs. 365,791.55, Interest Rs. 5,149,758.29, Abatements under Ordinance No. 13 of 1906 towards Pensions to Widows and Orphans Rs. 113,677 and Receipts, Forest Department Rs. 236,065.05, aggregating Rs. 10,003,144.08. Against these increases the following sums representing decreases should be noted:—

Customs (export) duties Rs. 282,540.37, Arrack, Rum, and Toddy Rs. 1,117,274.87, Stamps Rs. 104,949.76, Postal Revenue Rs. 439,232.35, Electric Light and Power Rs. 687,141.91, Profit on new Coin Rs. 155,144.32, Miscellaneous Receipts—Sundries Rs. 2,186,879.46, and Land Sales, &c., Rs. 442,096.50, aggregating Rs. 5,415,259.54.

Customs duties on imports were increased by one-twentieth with effect from July 5, 1929.

The revenue for the last five financial years is as follows:—

1924–25.	1925–26.	1926–27.	1927–28.	1928–29.
Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
115,539,669 56	124,516,155 4	129,358,916 31	134,134,952 93	107,818,274 57*

* Decrease due to separation of Railway accounts from the Colony's Budget.

EXPENDITURE.

The expenditure for the financial year ended September 30, 1929, which was estimated at Rs. 135,390,397, amounted to Rs. 125,896,034.36. This expenditure was less than that of the previous financial year by Rs. 26,211,165.79, which is mainly attributable to the separation of Railway accounts from the Colony's Budget. There was an increase in expenditure under the following heads:—Clerical Service, Post Office and Telegraphs, Education, Public Works Department, Public Works Annually Recurrent, Public Works Extraordinary, Pensions, and Exchange. Under heads Electrical Undertakings Annually Recurrent, Electrical Undertakings Extraordinary, and Public Debt the expenditure was less than in the previous financial year.

The expenditure incurred during the last five financial years is as follows:—

	1924–25.	1925–26.	1926–27.	1927–28.	1928–29.
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Expenditure chargeable to General Revenue, including accumulated surplus balances ..	105,004,348 17	109,996,335 63	121,046,299 61	152,107,200 15	125,896,034 36*
Expenditure chargeable to Revenue pending raising of Loan Funds ..	1,361,336 67	2,947,486 5	2,575,597 43	—	—

* Decrease mainly owing to separation of Railway accounts from the Colony's Budget.

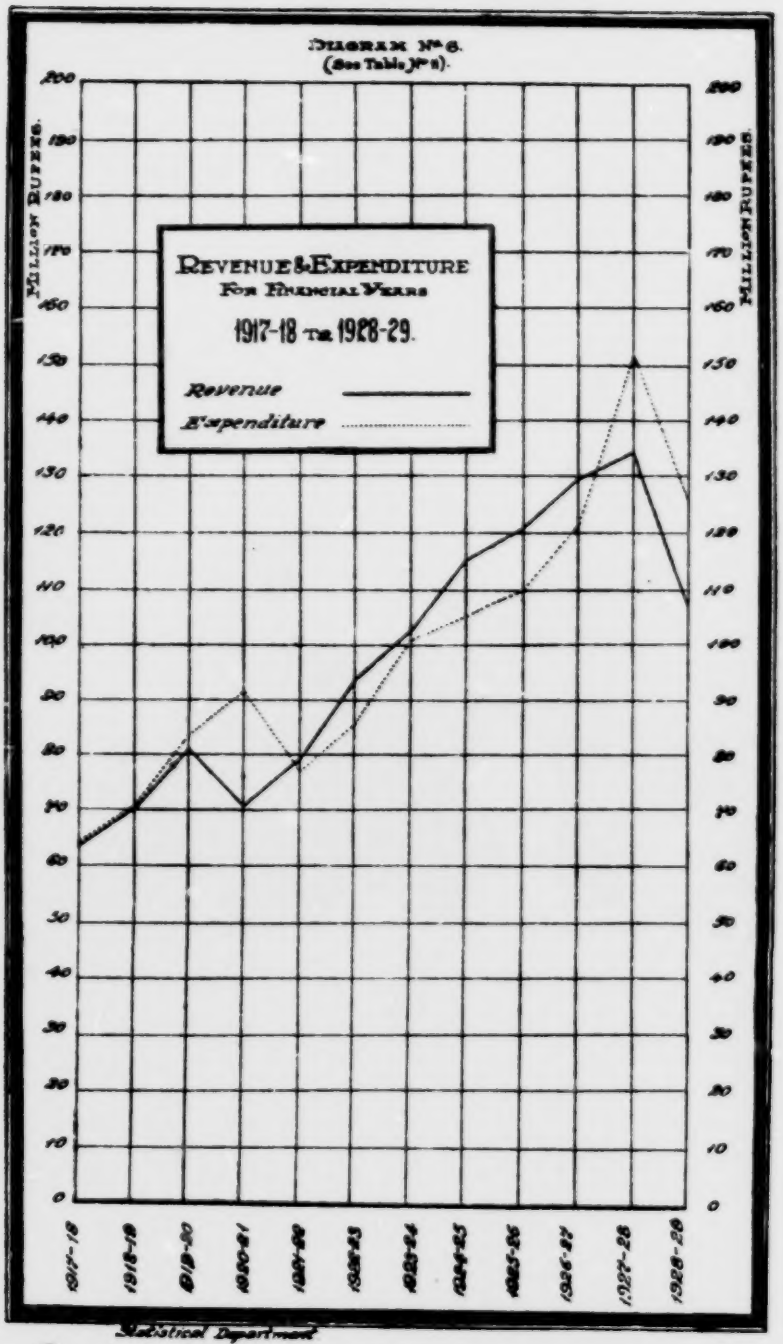
DIAGRAM No. 6.
(See Table No. 8).
REVENUE & EXPENDITURE
FOR FINANCIAL YEARS
1917-18 TO 1928-29.
Revenue
Expenditure
MILLION RUPEES.
MILLION RUPEES.
0
10
20
30
40
50
60
70
80
90
100
110
120
130
140
150
160
170
180
190
200
1917-18
1918-19
1919-20
1920-21
1921-22
1922-23
1923-24
1924-25
1925-26
1926-27
1927-28
1928-29
Statistical Department

(F)

Assets and Liabilities.

The assets of the Colony on September 30, 1929, amounted to Rs. 45,085,055.88 and the liabilities to Rs. 31,438,819.85, showing an excess of assets over liabilities of Rs. 13,646,236.02. This surplus was less than the surplus shown on September 30, 1928, by a sum of Rs. 18,077,759.79. The assets consisted of cash in fixed deposits and current accounts in local and Indian Banks and with the Crown Agents in London, unissued stores, investments in rupee and sterling gild-edged securities, advances to the General Manager of the Railway, and other recoverable advances. The main liabilities represent amounts due to the Widows' and Orphans' Pension Fund, Ceylon University Building and Equipment Fund, the Loan Account, Colombo Electricity Supply, and Court Suitors and other depositors in the Treasury and local Kachcheries. The cash balances available amounted to Rs. 17,218,166.15.

Currency.

On September 30, 1929, the value of the currency notes in circulation amounted to Rs. 57,328,493. The Currency Commissioners on this date held silver rupees to the extent of Rs. 22,401,456 and British, Indian, and Colonial securities amounting to Rs. 39,770,963 (cost price), or Rs. 38,703,789 (market price).

The value of the reserve on September 30, 1929, was thus in excess of the value of the notes in circulation by Rs. 4,843,926.

During the year silver rupees to the extent of Rs. 108,000 were issued to the public in exchange for currency notes.

Subsidiary coin of various denominations amounting in all to Rs. 14,406,167 was in circulation in the Colony on September 30, 1929.

Exchange.

The rates of exchange on London on December 31, 1929, were as follows:—

Selling Demand	.. 1*s.* 5 31/32*d.*	Buying Demand	.. 1*s.* 6 1/16*d.*
Selling Telegraphic Transfer	.. 1*s.* 5 15/16*d.*		

Public Debt.

On September 30, 1929, the sterling debt of the Colony stood at £12,644,193 and the rupee debt at Rs. 3,000,000, towards redemption of which were held securities and moneys amounting to £4,697,853 and Rs. 1,754,194 respectively.

Setting off the securities against the debt and effecting conversion at 1*s.* 6*d.* to the rupee, the nett total Public Debt of the Colony amounts to Rs. 107,197,006, which is slightly less than the revenue for the year ended September 30, 1929.

A statement of the loan position of the Colony as it stood on September 30, 1929, is annexed.

Summary of Public Debt, 1928-29.

Description of Loan.	Amount.	Equivalent at 1s. 6d. = Rs. 1.	Investments held on behalf of the Sinking Fund. Face Value of Securities.	Investments held on behalf of the Sinking Fund. Purchase Price.	Amounts in Deposit with Westminster Bank and Balance in Hand pending Investment.	Total (of Columns 5 and 6).	Equivalent at 1s. 6d. = Rs. 1
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	£ s. d.	Rs. c.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	Rs. c.
Debentures unredeemed ..	5,100 0 0 ..	68,000 0 ..	— ..	— ..	3,615 5 7 ..	3,615 5 7 ..	48,203 72
4 per cent. Inscribed Stock (Debentures converted), 1934	1,076,100 0 0 ..	14,348,000 0 ..	1,101,897 3 5 ..	1,087,716 9 4 ..	3,135 1 1 ..	1,090,851 10 5 ..	14,544,686 95
3 per cent. Inscribed Stock, 1940 ..	2,850,000 0 0 ..	38,000,000 0 ..	2,046,118 12 2 ..	1,878,648 17 10 ..	260 6 11 ..	1,878,909 4 9 ..	25,052,123 17
3½ per cent. Inscribed Stock, 1959 ..	1,500,000 0 0 ..	20,000,000 0 ..	441,244 7 3 ..	373,948 5 2 ..	44 2 2 ..	373,992 7 4 ..	4,986,564 89
4 per cent. Inscribed Stock, 1959 ..	1,000,000 0 0 ..	13,333,333 33 ..	197,361 12 2 ..	164,687 5 4 ..	29 14 0 ..	164,716 19 4 ..	2,196,226 22
6 per cent. Inscribed Stock, 1936–51 ..	6,212,993 8 4 ..	82,839,912 22 ..	903,100 6 9 ..	927,011 12 1 ..	1,046 16 1 ..	928,058 8 2 ..	12,374,112 11
	12,644,193 8 4	168,589,245 55	4,689,722 1 9 ..	4,432,012 9 9	8,131 5 10	4,440,143 15 7	59,201,917 6
4 per cent. Ceylon Inscribed Stock, 1944	—	3,000,000 0	59,312 12 2	59,801 15 6	—	59,801 15 6	797,357 0
			Rs. 962,400·0	Rs. 1,146,455·21	Rs. 958·93	Rs. 1,147,414·14	1,147,414 14
		171,589,245 55					61,146,688 20

Estate Duties.

Estates of persons, whose deaths occurred on or after July 1, 1919, are chargeable with duty under the Estate Duty Ordinance, No. 8 of 1919. During the financial year 1928-29, a sum of Rs. 1,606,822.94 was collected as estate duty, as against Rs. 1,251,199 in the previous year. Of the kinds of property which paid duty, immovable property was by far the largest in value and represented 65.74 per cent. of the total value. Other assets, which include property not otherwise classified, come second with 17.76 per cent. of the total value.

669 estates under Rs. 25,000 in value paid only 3.55 per cent. of the total duty, while 24 estates between Rs. 300,000 and Rs. 600,000 in value paid 19.66 per cent., 5 estates between Rs. 1,200,000 and Rs. 1,500,000 paid 16.21 per cent., and 2 estates between Rs. 3,000,000 and Rs. 3,750,000 paid 16.20 per cent. These figures show clearly that estate duty is a tax on the rich.

49.52 per cent. of the duty was paid on the estates of persons domiciled out of the Island. Of this, however, a sum of Rs. 2,903.31, representing .18 per cent. of the total duty paid, was refunded in respect of the estates of deceased persons domiciled in the British Dominions and Colonies, which do not include India. The total amount of duty paid in respect of the Colonies during the financial year 1928-29 was only Rs. 935.94. The amount refunded, however, is in respect of estate duty paid in previous years.

In most of these cases the parties are entitled to a refund from the estate duty paid in the countries in which they are domiciled.

Banks.

The following is a list of banks which have branches in Ceylon:—

Name of Bank	Imperial Bank of India
Address of Head Office ..	Calcutta Circle, Calcutta; Bombay Circle, Bombay; and Madras Circle, Madras
Branch in Ceylon	Prince street, Fort, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon	—
London Office	22, Old Broad street, London, E.C. 2

Name of Bank	National Bank of India, Ltd.
Address of Head Office ..	No. 26, Bishopsgate, London, E.C. 2
Branches in Ceylon ..	York street, Fort, Colombo; Ward street, Kandy; and Nuwara Eliya
Agents in Ceylon	Clark, Spence & Co., Galle
Bankers in the United Kingdom ..	The Bank of England; The National Provincial Bank, Ltd.; The National Bank of Scotland, Ltd.

Name of Bank	Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China
Address of Head Office ..	No. 38, Bishopsgate, London, E.C. 2
Branch in Ceylon	Queen street, Fort, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon	Mercantile Bank of India, Ltd., Galle
Bankers in the United Kingdom ..	The Bank of England; Midland Bank, Ltd.; Westminster Bank, Ltd.; National Provincial Bank, Ltd.; The National Bank of Scotland, Ltd;

Name of Bank	Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation
Address of Head Office ..	Hong Kong, China
Branch in Ceylon	No. 22, Prince street, Fort, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon	E. Coates & Co. (Galle), Ltd., Galle
Bankers in the United Kingdom ..	The Westminster Bank, Ltd.

Name of Bank	The Mercantile Bank of India, Ltd.
Address of Head Office ..	No. 15, Gracechurch street, London, E.C. 3
Branches in Ceylon ..	No. 2, Queen street, Fort, Colombo; Ward street, Kandy and Galle
Agents in Ceylon	—
Bankers in the United Knigdom ..	The Bank of England; Midland Bank, Ltd.

Name of Bank	The Eastern Bank, Ltd.
Address of Head Office ..	Crosby Square, London, E.C.
Branch in Ceylon	No. 75–77, Chatham street, Fort, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon	—
Bankers in the United Kingdom ..	The Bank of England; Westminster Bank, Ltd; The National Provincial Bank, Ltd.; The Bank of Scotland; Barclays Bank, Ltd.; Bank of Liverpool and Martin's, Ltd.

Name of Bank	The P. & O. Banking Corporation, Ltd. (with which is affiliated The Allahabad Bank, Ltd.)
Address of Head Office ..	117–122, Leadenhall street, London, E.C. 3
Branch in Ceylon	Victoria Arcade Buildings, York street, Fort, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon	—
Bankers in the United Kingdom ..	Lloyds Bank, Ltd.; Westminster Bank, Ltd.; The National Provincial Bank, Ltd.; Royal Bank of Scotland

Name of Bankers	Thos. Cook & Son (Bankers), Ltd.
Address of Head Office ..	Berkeley street, Piccadilly, London, W. 1.
Branch in Ceylon	York street, Fort, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon	—
Bankers in the United Kingdom ..	National Provincial Bank, Ltd.

Banking Agencies.

Name of Bank.	Agents in Ceylon.
Coutts & Co.	George Steuart & Co., Colombo
Bank of Liverpool and Martin's, Ltd. ..	do.
Ulster Bank, Ltd., Belfast	do.
Westminster Bank, Ltd.	do.
Bank of Montreal	do.
Charles Hoare & Co.	do.

Savings Banks.

There are two Savings Banks, viz., the Ceylon Savings Bank and the Post Office Savings Bank.

The Ceylon Savings Bank is a Government institution established in 1832.

Accounts may be opened with a minimum deposit of 50 cents, and not more than Rs. 2,000 can be deposited in one year irrespective of withdrawals. The maximum sum which a depositor may have to his or her credit is Rs. 6,000. Charitable institutions or societies may deposit Rs. 3,000 per annum up to a maximum of Rs. 9,000. The Bank allows interest at the rate of 4 per cent. on accounts of Rs. 1,000 and under, and 3 per cent. on accounts above Rs. 1,000.

The Post Office Savings Bank is managed by the Post and Telegraph Department. Deposits and withdrawals can be made at any of the Post Offices in the Island. The minimum amount that can be deposited is 25 cents, and the maximum per annum is Rs. 750 irrespective of withdrawals. The total amount which a depositor may have to his or her credit is Rs. 3,000. The rate of interest allowed is 2.4 per cent.—2 cents per month for each complete sum of Rs. 10.

III.—Production.

AGRICULTURE.

Tea.

OF the developed industries of the Colony probably the most characteristic of Ceylon is that of tea planting and manufacture. The young, tender shoots of the tea bush, *Camellia Thea*, after being withered, rolled, fermented, and dried or fired, constitute the manufactured article. It is turned out, in general, from factories on the estates.

No. 1.

PLUCKING TEA.

Plate, Limited, Colombo.

Acreage, &c.—Over 457,000 acres are planted in tea, consisting of about 1,230 estates, which are, for the most part, situated at elevations above 3,000 feet, nearly 80 per cent. of the total acreage in tea being in the Kandy, Nuwara Eliya, and Badulla Districts. Whole stretches of the country at the higher elevations are covered with tea, but it can also be, and is, grown at lower elevations, down almost to sea level.

Pruning and Plucking.—The object of tea cultivation is to secure the maximum quantity of the best quality of leaf. For this purpose the bushes are pruned periodically so as to ensure regular, frequent, and plentiful "flushes," or young, tender shoots on the tops of the bushes. The buds at the tip of the new shoot and two to three leaves below them are plucked by hand, generally by the women and children of the labour force.

Rainfall.—A fairly evenly distributed rainfall of 60 to 250 inches a year is required for tea.

Labour.—About 95 per cent. of tea estate labour consists of Tamils from India. In some districts plucking is done by Sinhalese on contract. The average labour force is generally calculated, for tea, at the rate of somewhat less than one labourer per acre. The average rates of pay may be said to vary from 40 to 75 cents per day. Women are generally employed on lighter work, such as plucking, while the men attend to the pruning, draining, &c.

Manufacture.—On being removed to the factory, the "leaf" is spread out to wither in special withering lofts for eighteen to twenty-four hours, and it is then passed through rolling machines for several specified periods. After this time the "roll" is dropped out, and appears as lumps of twisted green leaves hanging together in masses. These masses are then broken up by the "roll breaker" and the coarse leaf separated by a sifter, rolling and sifting being carried on alternately, say, for about two hours. The leaf is then spread on glass or wooden tables, or mats, with free access of cool air, to ferment or oxidize. In about two hours it assumes a copper colour, and develops a peculiar aroma. At a certain point, determined by experience, the fermentation is arrested, by placing the leaf in the firing or drying machines. These provide a hot air draught to convert the damp fermented leaf into the familiar dry and brittle black tea. This black tea is sifted into grades, of which samples are sent to Colombo for tasting by the brokers' and agents' experts and the assessing of the value. The grades are bulked separately, packed in lead-lined tea chests of about 100 lb. each, soldered up, labelled with the name of the estate, and despatched to Colombo for shipment. The grades of tea usually prepared in Ceylon are Broken Orange Pekoe, Broken Pekoe, Orange Pekoe, Pekoe, Pekoe Souchong, Dust, and Fannings.

Green Tea.—Green tea is prepared by steaming the green leaf, instead of withering as above described, and by omitting the fermenting process. It is graded as Young Hyson, Hyson 1 and 2, Gunpowder, and Dust. Green tea is drunk in Russia and America with lemon juice and sugar.

Manuring.—The yield of the tea plant is greatly increased by manuring. Green manure plants are grown between the rows of tea, and these are periodically lopped of their small twigs and branches, or are cut down for incorporation into the soil. The dadap is the most popular plant for growing amongst tea as a green manure, but does not grow at all elevations. Up-country the acacia is now being largely used, while other quick-growing

leguminous plants are grown among the tea and are buried when mature, with the object of improving the humus content of the soil and arresting soil erosion. The use of leguminous and non-leguminous ground-cover plants is extending.

Cultivation methods have greatly improved in recent years, and much greater attention is now given to systematic cultivation and to the application of manures. Prunings are buried with applications of basic slag and potash, while general mixtures are applied while the bushes are in growth.

Yields and Prices.—Yields vary greatly with soil, jât (variety), elevation, cultivation, manuring, &c., and the annual figures may be said to range from 300 to 1,200 lb. made tea per acre, 600 to 700 lb. being considered a good all-round yield.

For the first three months of the year 1929 local average prices were higher than the previous year; Re. 1 being recorded at the sale of February 12. During April the market began to decline owing to the heavy United Kingdom stock position and reached 71 cents at the end of June. Prices then partly recovered and sales averaged between 75 and 85 cents until the second week in November when prices fell steadily and closed the year at 59 cents which is the lowest average record since 1921.

Quality was particularly good for the first quarter of the year. Heavy crops during the last three months of the year were reflected in both quality and manufacture.

The annual average market prices* in certain years were:—1920, 43.72 cents per lb.; 1921, 70 cents; 1922, 85 cents; 1923, Re. 1.02; 1924, Re. 1.04; 1925, 96 cents; 1926, 99 cents; 1927, 94 cents; 1928, 85 cents; 1929, 81 cents (see Diagram No. 12).

The cost of production per pound may now be put at 45 to 55 cents.

Machinery.—The chief machinery in a tea factory is the rolling machinery, the roll breaker, and the drier. These are generally driven by overhead belting from a shaft driven by the power unit. This unit may be water-driven, as in the case of Pelton wheels or turbines, or it may consist of an oil, suction gas, or steam engine. Various driers are in use. The horse power required for a factory with an output of 400,000 lb. made tea per annum is about 50 h.p. For crops over 200,000 lb. the horse power required can be calculated at 10 to 12 h.p. per 100,000 lb.

The factory machinery has been designed as the result of years of investigation and experiment, and may generally be said to be efficient. The question is being considered as to whether firing or drying can be effected by electricity. Water power is available in many parts of the tea-growing area, and, if electricity can be used to a greater extent in the factories, economies may be effected. Firewood in some areas is becoming scarce, and liquid fuel more costly.

Capital Cost, Value, &c.—The capital cost of opening land for tea varies greatly, but may now be put at Rs. 1,000 and over with a probable average of Rs. 1,250 per acre. These figures would include the erection of a factory, with all necessary machinery, and all other works required for the running of the estate. The waiting period, before any return is received on the investment, may be put at four to five years. In purchasing a tea estate as a going concern, the purchase period is generally taken as ten years.

A good tea estate in full bearing can realize Rs. 2,250 to Rs. 3,000 per acre, say £168 15*s.* to £225, with the rupee at 1*s.* 6*d.*

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* According to local weekly sale averages.

The quantity and value of the exports of tea from Ceylon and the percentage distribution are shown in tables Nos. 18-20 of the Appendix and in Diagrams Nos. 13 and 15.

Outlook.—The world demand is put at about 735 million pounds, and the total supply from Ceylon, Java, India, Africa, Persia, Sumatra, China, &c., is estimated at 640 million pounds. In June, 1920, the unloading on the market of Government stocks created a heavy surplus supply, and prices fell far below cost of production, but improved conditions began to prevail in 1921.

Disease.—Fungus diseases of tea do not occasion any considerable damage. Of these, root diseases cause the greatest trouble and give rise to the loss of numbers of bushes from time to time. They are, however, well known, and control measures are applied immediately any occurrence of disease is noticed. Leaf diseases exist, but do not cause any appreciable loss of crop, although red rust is prevalent in some districts where bushes are not in a vigorous state of health. Insect pests are more troublesome, the Tea Tortrix being common in the Hatton area and periodically causing damage. Its life-history is well known and remedial and control measures have been worked out, and further investigations are still in hand. Shothole Borer is widespread, and does a certain amount of damage when good cultivation and manuring have not been carried out. Successful measures for the control of certain tea termites have been worked out by the Department of Agriculture.

Rubber.

Acreage.—The rubber industry in Ceylon, like tea, is highly organized. The cultivated acreage in the Island is about 534,000 acres, and the export value in 1929 was about 87 millions of rupees.

Introduction.—The Para rubber tree (*Hevea brasiliensis*) was introduced into the East by the Government of India in 1876, and the original plants received in Ceylon from the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, were planted out at Henaratgoda Botanic Gardens, 17 miles from Colombo. The original plantation can still be seen in these Gardens, and from these trees a large proportion of the rubber in the East is descended. Some of these trees have attained to a large size, and one of them has given extraordinarily high yields.

Latex.—Rubber is the coagulated latex of the tree, obtained by tapping the trunk. The latex running from the end of the cut—usually half circumference—is collected, removed to the factory, treated with acetic acid to cause coagulation, dried, crêped by machinery, or coagulated in sheets and smoked. It will be noted that tea is exported in a form ready for consumption, while the rubber exported has to be made into rubber goods before being put on the market.

Elevation and Rainfall.—The rubber tree flourishes at low elevations, generally below 2,000 feet, and it requires a well-distributed rainfall of not less than 80 inches per annum. These conditions mark out the districts of Kalutara, the Kelani Valley, and Sabaragamuwa as the leading rubber districts, though it is also grown with success in Kandy, Matale, Galle, and other districts.

Planting.—Rubber is, generally, propagated from seed, usually selected from heavy yielding trees, which, at the time the seed is taken, are not in tapping. This seed can then be planted out in prepared holes "at stake." Two to three seeds are usually planted at each stake. Seed is also sown in nurseries, and, when the nursery plants are eighteen months to two

years old, they are removed, have their tops cut off, and are planted into the new clearings as "stumps." Planting is carried out at varying distances, but 24 feet by 12 feet is a favourite of many growers, as this allows of ample plants for thinning from the third year. The tree grows to a height of 30 to 40 feet and develops a heavy foliage.

Thinning.—Much of the old rubber was originally planted too close. Wider planting is now adopted, the general practice being to plant about 120 trees to the acre, so that they may be eventually thinned to about 80 trees per acre. It has been necessary to reduce the number of trees per acre. This process of thinning is carried but gradually, all weakly or diseased trees being first removed, and later those which give poor yields. The result of thinning has been better average yields and a much better bark renewal.

Cultivation.—The best time for cultivation is considered to be just before the wintering commences. Cattle manures, green manures, and artificial manures are all used. The approximate quantity of artificial manure used per annum per acre is up to 1,000 lb. Cover plants are used for soil conservation.

Tapping.—Various systems of tapping are still in vogue. In the early days of the rubber industry a large number of cuts were made upon the trees usually either in the form of full or half herring-bone. These systems were gradually given up for the V-cut, the inverted V, two cuts, or the single cut, and the single cut (half-circumference) is now becoming universal. The frequency of tapping has also varied as experience has been gained. Daily tapping was formerly most common, but alternate day tapping is now generally popular, while tapping every third day is adopted upon some estates. Better bark renewal results if the interval between tappings is extended, but some loss of bark occurs in three-day tapping. Tapping generally commences when the trees are six to seven years of age, and upon trees whose girth at 3 feet above the ground has reached approximately 24 inches.

Manufacture.—The manufacture of rubber into the form in which it is put on the wholesale market is done in factories on the estates. A considerable quantity and variety of machinery is used, and it is, in general, efficient and economical. The manufacture is standardized, and the difference between the prices of the various grades is generally not very large.

Smoked Sheet.—Rubber is manufactured in two distinct ways: into (1) smoked sheet or (2) crêpe. To obtain smoked sheet the latex is first standardized by the addition of water, then panned or troughed for coagulation, each sheet weighing 1¼ to 1½ lb. dry weight after smoking. The rate of coagulation varies with the amount of acetic or formic acid used, slow coagulation making for resilience in the rubber and economy of acid. The coagulated rubber is then kneaded by hand and rolled in a smooth roller to extract the water in it, and is then put through a machine, which marks a diamond pattern on it in order to prevent the sheets sticking together and to accelerate drying. It is then cured by being put to dry in smoke in a specially constructed smoke room. After further drying for a period of seven to ten days the smoked sheet is ready for export. The grades are: best ribbed smoked sheet; inferior quality smoked sheet; plain smoked sheet.

Crêpe.—Crêpe is obtained in a different way. After coagulation the rubber is rolled into strips and then macerated by being put through crêping machines, which make the rubber into lace-like filaments. These are dried in a hot-air drier, and the filaments are then rolled together into

No. 2.

TAPPING RUBBER.

Plâté, Limited, Colombo.

blanket crêpe. Crêpe is ready for export in 24 hours if the weather is not excessively damp. The grades are: best pale from pure latex; mottled crêpe from washings. A very considerable quantity of shoe-sole crêpe is also turned out.

Scrap.—In addition to smoked sheet and crêpe, "scrap" rubber is also manufactured. Scrap includes the latex which has not flowed into the collecting cups, but has coagulated naturally on the cut; the cup scrapings; and the latex—"earth-scrap"—which has overflowed on to the ground. This is cleaned and made into scrap crêpe. The grades are: scrap crêpe from tree scrap; brown scrap crêpe inferior quality; black scrap crêpe from earth rubber.

Yield, Costs, &c.—The yield per acre varies considerably with the soil, age of the trees, rainfall, planting, treatment, &c., but may be said to range from 150 to 700 lb. per acre, 400 to 500 lb. per acre being considered a good all-round yield for an estate in full bearing. A very good tree over twelve years old will yield 10 lb. dry rubber per annum, while the average per tree in full bearing may be put at about 4 to 5 lb. per annum.

The price of standard crêpe and sheet in 1929 rose from 43 cents in January to 67 cents at the end of February. The market then developed a fluctuating decline which reduced the average for these grades to 50 cents by the beginning of May. During this month there was a brief rise to 59 cents owing to heavy United States of America consumption figures, but thereafter prices remained from 52 cents to 57 cents until the middle of August. The market then fell steadily away and standard grades averaged 38 cents at the last sale of the year.

The annual average market prices* in certain years were the following:—1920, 80 cents per lb.; 1921, 52 cents; 1922, 53 cents; 1923, 88 cents; 1924, 75 cents; 1925, Re. 1.73; 1926, Re. 1.21; 1927, 95 cents; 1928, 55 cents; 1929, 52 cents (see Diagram No. 12).

The cost of the production on an estate in full bearing, say, with 12-year old rubber, is about 40 cents per lb., at the present price of the materials, including tax.

The capital cost of opening land for rubber varies greatly, but may be put at anything up to Rs. 1,000 per acre, which may be taken to be spread over about six years, with greater cost in the fifth and sixth years for the erection of buildings. These figures would include the erection of a factory with all necessary machinery, and all the other works required for the running of the estate, as well as the cost of the land at, say, Rs. 150 per acre. The waiting period before any return is received may be put at six to seven years. In purchasing a rubber estate as a going concern, the purchase period is generally taken at seven years.

Disease.—The rubber tree is subject to various diseases, which are classified under (1) root diseases, (2) stem diseases, (3) leaf diseases.

Root diseases cause the loss of numbers of scattered trees. Badly cleared land often suffers severely from root diseases, and, if jungle stumps are not cleared out at the time of planting, losses from root diseases may be expected. The principal root diseases have been investigated, and the prevention of their spread is not difficult.

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* Averages for top grades only (Ribbed Smoked Sheet and Contract Crêpe) at local weekly sales.

Stem diseases occur throughout the rubber area, but methods for their control have been evolved. Stem canker and bark rot are the most common. They occur most commonly in the wet season of the monsoons, but can be kept in check by excision and by the application of disinfectants. Various methods of control have been tried, and these are generally known by all cultivators of rubber.

Leaf diseases are frequent. In very wet weather, the fall caused by *Phytophthora Faberi* and *Oidium* is common and may cause defoliation of the trees. Another leaf-fall caused by *Phytophthora Meadii* occasionally occurs in Ceylon, but is not common, and does not cause as much damage as in South India. These leaf diseases are being kept under careful observation, as under certain weather conditions they might become prevalent.

Pod disease is also caused by *Phytophthora Faberi*, and all diseased pods should be collected if the disease is to be fully controlled. Brown bast has been under investigation in recent years, and it seems probable that it is a physiological disorganization of the normal functions of the tree related in some manner with tapping. But further investigations are required before a definite decision can be come to. It does not appear to be so prevalent in Ceylon as in some other rubber-producing countries.

On the whole, although rubber has to be continually watched for disease which must be promptly treated when it is discovered, there is no reason to suppose that it will make any real headway against scientific supervision.

Labour.—The labour engaged is generally immigrant Tamil, but, in some cases, Sinhalese do good work as tappers, &c. The usual requirement of labour is one cooly to 3 acres of rubber.

Prospects.—The rubber industry is a comparatively recent one, the great boom having begun in 1908. A severe slump took place in 1920 and 1921, and the Rubber Restriction Ordinance was in operation from 1922 to 1928. The world supply from about 2½ million acres in Malaya, Java, Sumatra, Ceylon, &c., was estimated at about 400,000 tons. There seems to be little fear of synthetic rubber ever competing with the plantation article, owing to the high cost of production of the former, and its inferior durability.

Budding of Rubber.

Much attention has been given during 1929 to the budding of rubber. Large imports of budwood and budded stumps of proved foreign clones have been made and many estates have taken steps to find their high yielding trees with a view of using them as mother trees. Local mother trees are under test on the stations of the Department of Agriculture and the Rubber Research Scheme and every effort is being made to provide guidance to the planting community in this important matter. The work will eventually be extended to include seed-selection in specially isolated gardens.

Budding has rendered it possible to effect satisfactorily the selection of high-yielding stock and the isolation of it from the heterogenous mixture which exists in rubber estates to-day. By vigorous selection and testing, it should be possible to isolate strains of high-yielding trees and thereby assure that improved strains of plants and seeds should be available for future plantings. The planting of budded areas will probably increase rapidly in the next few years and is expected to lead to the rejuvenation of old areas, a problem that has already been tackled on certain estates.

Coconut.

Acreage.—Coconut palms are planted on about 1,100,000 acres in Ceylon, but only a part of this acreage is well cultivated on systematic lines. The coconut palm produces probably a greater variety of products than any other plant, and several industries are dependent upon it, but the degree of organization varies. Coconut planters have been affected during 1929 by a period of depression due to a fall in prices of coconut products and loss of markets.

Areas.—The palms are planted along the coast of the Western and Southern Provinces, mainly for the supply of toddy to the arrack distilleries, in the Veyangoda and Negombo districts of the Western Province for the production of copra, in the North-Western Province, on the coast of the Eastern Province, in the Jaffna peninsula, and elsewhere. The old idea was that coconuts grew best near the sea, but the tendency to plant coconuts inland is increasing, and it is, in fact, found that nuts grown inland hold as high a percentage of sodium chloride as those grown near the sea. They can be grown up to an elevation of 1,500 feet, but the nuts are smaller at the higher elevations. A well-distributed rainfall of 50 to 90 inches is required.

Cultivation.—Much can be done to increase the output of the tree by cultivation; by the use of concentrated manures containing nitrogen, potash, phosphoric acid, &c.; green manures, such as *Crotalaria;* cattle manure systematically collected; by the clean weeding of the whole estate, ploughing, and cultivation with modern implements, &c. Young coconuts systematically cultivated and manured come into bearing much earlier than coconuts which are not so treated.

Costs.—The cost of opening land for coconuts varies considerably, but it may be put on the average at Rs. 400 to Rs. 600 an acre. This may be taken to spread over ten years, the expenses being greater in the first three years. The waiting period may be put at ten years. Land is available to be opened in coconuts, but only in the out-districts, where a good deal of pioneering work, including the making of roads, combating wild animals, fever, &c., is necessary.

Labour.—The quantity of labour required for a coconut estate is generally worked out at one cooly for 4 or 5 acres. A small resident force of Tamils is often maintained for draining, manuring, and tillage, and on some estates the labour force consists of about half Tamil and half Sinhalese. Frequently the plucking of the nuts and the manufacture of copra are done by a contractor, who supplies his own labour.

Labour on coconut estates is paid at about the same rates as on tea and rubber properties, 40 to 75 cents a day. Plucking may cost 50 cents per 1,000 nuts.

Values.—Coconut cultivation is an ancient industry in Ceylon, and is considered to be a safe investment. Considerable capital, both European and Ceylonese, is interested in coconut properties, and especially in mortgages in these. Advances are given up to 50 per cent. of the value of the property, and interest recovered at 8 to 10 per cent. The purchase period of coconut property is put at twelve years. Its value varies according to the price of copra, but a good coconut estate, in full bearing, may be said to be worth Rs. 800 to Rs. 1,000 per acre on the average.

Table No. 25 of the Appendix shows the value of the exports of the products of the coconut palm for the last fourteen years.

The Nut.

The principal product, from a commercial point of view, is the nut composed of three parts, a husk an inch or more thick on the outside, then the shell, then the kernel. The nuts grow in bunches on short stalks at the top of the palm, the yield per palm on the average being about 40 nuts per annum. Without cultivation the yield is probably about 30 nuts per palm, with cultivation up to and over 80 may be secured. The number of palms to the acre may vary from 50 to 90, the average being about 65. The palms come into bearing in about six years with intensive cultivation, but more usually take up to ten years. The nuts are generally picked six times a year. They are made into copra upon the estate which produces them, but some of the smaller properties sell their nuts to manufacturers. Considerable quantities are exported when the demand for nuts for the manufacturing of desiccated coconut is keen. The price has risen owing to the increased demand for the manufactured products from Rs. 74 per 1,000 in 1913 to the maximum of Rs. 115 per 1,000 in 1920. The average price per 1,000 nuts in 1929 was Rs. 60.07. The quantity and value of the exports of fresh coconuts since 1919 and the percentage distribution are shown in tables Nos. 26 and 27 of the Appendix.

Copra.

The most important manufactured coconut product is copra. This is the dried kernel of the nut, and is used for the manufacture of coconut oil, which, again, is utilized for the production of margarine, soap, and other products. Poonac, a largely used cattle food, is the by-product in the manufacture of coconut oil from copra. The bulk of it is used locally, either as cattle food or as manure, but 333,424 cwt. valued at Rs. 2,114,898 were exported in 1929.

The number of nuts required to manufacture a candy (560 lb.) of copra varies from 900 to 1,500.

Manufacture, &c.—In Ceylon copra is sun dried as far as possible, as sun drying gives a better copra with a higher oil content, but the uncertainty of the weather makes it necessary to resort to artificial drying in certain areas. A usual method of doing this is the use of a somewhat crude grill consisting of a platform, on which the kernels, still within the shells, are put, and under which fires of coconut shells are lit 6 or 7 feet below the grill. There is scope for drying machines, somewhat on the principle of the tea drier, but machine drying is costly compared with grill drying. The usual practice on many estates is to have the copra dried by contract. The contractor is paid about Re. 1.50 per 1,000 dried nuts in husk supplied to him. He has to husk and split the nuts and take the kernel out of the shell when partially dry. It is then again dried on the "messa," or grill, and sorted into qualities 1, 2, and 3 in the estate sheds. The best quality is thick, clear, clean, and unbroken. The percentages of each kind are: 1, 95 per cent.; 2, 4 per cent.; 3, 1 per cent.

The quantity and value of the exports of copra since 1919 and the percentage distribution are shown in tables Nos. 28 and 29 and in Diagrams Nos. 14 and 18.

Prices.—The decline in price during the latter part of 1928 continued in 1929 until the end of June when the value was Rs. 59 per candy. The market then suddenly recovered and during July business was reported at Rs. 70 per candy. This advance was short-lived and before the end of July prices had declined to Rs. 63. From then onwards to the end of the year the market was very steady, and with minor fluctuations the year closed with prices at Rs. 64. Supplies during the last few months of the year were short.

No. 3.

CHEKKU : MILL FOR EXTRACTING COCONUT OIL.

Plâté, Limited, Colombo.

The annual average market prices* from 1920 were:—1920, Rs. 109.53 per candy (560 lb.); 1921, Rs. 87.16; 1922, Rs. 78.52; 1923, Rs. 87.61; 1924, Rs. 85.42; 1925, Rs. 80.36; 1926, Rs. 79.40; 1927, Rs. 76.88; 1928, Rs. 76.22; 1929, Rs. 64.47 (see Diagram No. 12).

Copra prices are liable to considerable fluctuation, according to the rates of freight and of exchange, &c. The market quotations are also liable to considerable variation, as regular public sales are not held as in the case of tea and rubber. The cost of production of a candy of copra may be put at about Rs. 25 to Rs. 40.

Coconut Oil.

Although a large quantity of copra is exported for the extraction of oil by the importers, a considerable quantity of coconut oil is prepared in Ceylon. The traditional method of extraction consists in grinding the copra in a "chekku" consisting of a large wooden pestle, which is revolved by bullock power in a kind of wood or stone mortar. This method is slow and wasteful, and modern mills are now working in Chilaw, Colombo, and other districts of Ceylon, hydraulic presses and expellers being in general use. Usually the locally manufactured coconut oil contains 1½ to 2 per cent. of fatty acid, and a further refinement is necessary in the consuming country. Experiments are being conducted in Ceylon regarding the production of "white" oil.

As mentioned, coconut oil is in considerable demand for the manufacture of soaps, margarine, edible fats and oils, &c. A gallon of coconut oil weighs 9 lb.

The quantity and value of the exports of coconut oil and the percentage distribution are given in tables Nos. 30 and 31 of the Appendix and in Diagram No. 14.

The exports to the United Kingdom in 1929 show that Ceylon coconut oil more than maintained its position in spite of the competition of European copra oil. Shipments to India have fallen short of 1928, but this country is still an important market of the Ceylon product. Prices which followed the fluctuations in the copra market opened at the beginning of the year at Rs. 450 per ton and closed in December at Rs. 400 per ton.

The annual average market prices from 1920 were:—1920, Rs. 782.75 per ton f.o.b.; 1921, Rs. 629.03; 1922, Rs. 538.13; 1923, Rs. 584.05; 1924, Rs. 574.11; 1925, Rs. 543.17; 1926, Rs. 539.36; 1927, Rs. 491.73; 1928, Rs. 489.02; 1929, Rs. 412.33.

The unit of shipment is the shipping ton varying from 14 to 15 cwt.

Thirty-two cwt. of copra yield, on crushing, 20 cwt. of oil and 10 cwt. of poonac. The cost of production of coconut oil varies greatly according to the method of extraction. The price of oil is somewhere about double that of copra.

Desiccated Coconut.

Desiccated coconut is also produced in Ceylon on a large scale, the conditions being favourable as the mills are either on the estates or easily accessible to them by water, road, or railway. The delivery of the fresh nuts, which are essential to the success of the manufacture, is thus a simple matter. Mills, many with elaborate machinery, have been erected in almost every district to cope with the demand. Some are capable of dealing with 50,000 nuts a day.

* The average prices for 1927 to 1929 are for top grades only. Averages for other years represent the lowest and highest overall weekly quotations received for all grades.

The process is briefly the following. The whole of the kernel is taken out of the shell, the brown outside shaved off, and the white kernel washed and put into a disintegrator and shredded. The product is then placed in siroccos for drying, thence removed to the cooling tables, and is finally sifted into fine, medium, or coarse, and packed in 130 lb. boxes lined with tea lead and packing paper.

The cost of production varies, but may be put at about 25 cents per pound or over, according to the price of fresh nuts. 1,000 nuts may be sufficient to produce 330 to 375 lb. desiccated coconut. The increased demand for desiccated coconut is said to be due to the " dry " campaign in America.

The quantity and value of the exports of desiccated coconut and the percentage distribution are given in tables Nos. 32 and 33 of the Appendix and in Diagram No. 14.

The market opened at 17½ cents per lb. in 1929, but prices steadily declined until June when the value was 14¾ cents. The improvement in the copra market created a good demand and the prices recovered to 16¾ cents in July. From then onwards the market declined, the closing price at the end of the year being 16¼ cents.

The annual average market prices in certain years were:—1920, 29 cents per lb.; 1921, 26 cents; 1922, 22 cents; 1923, 24 cents; 1924, 22 cents; 1925, 20 cents; 1926, 20 cents; 1927, 19 cents; 1928, 19 cents; 1929, 16 cents (see Diagram No. 12).

Information regarding the manufacture of alcohol, &c., is shown under " Excise," page 33.

Coir, &c.

An important but somewhat unorganized industry, also dependent upon the coconut tree, is the manufacture of coir, which consists of the stout fibres round the outside of the nut. These fibres are separated from the husk by rotting in water, or by special machinery. The fibres are then graded and used for making brushes, yarn, mats, rope, &c., according to their quality. In many parts of Ceylon the coir fibres are separated by village labour, chiefly of women, and sold by them to exporting firms.

Mills for the separation of the fibre by machinery have been established at several places in the Colombo, Negombo, and other districts. Much of the output is used locally, but there is considerable export of bristle fibre, mattress fibre, and coir yarn. The quantity and value of the exports of coir and the percentage distribution are shown in tables Nos. 34 and 35 of the Appendix and in Diagram No. 14.

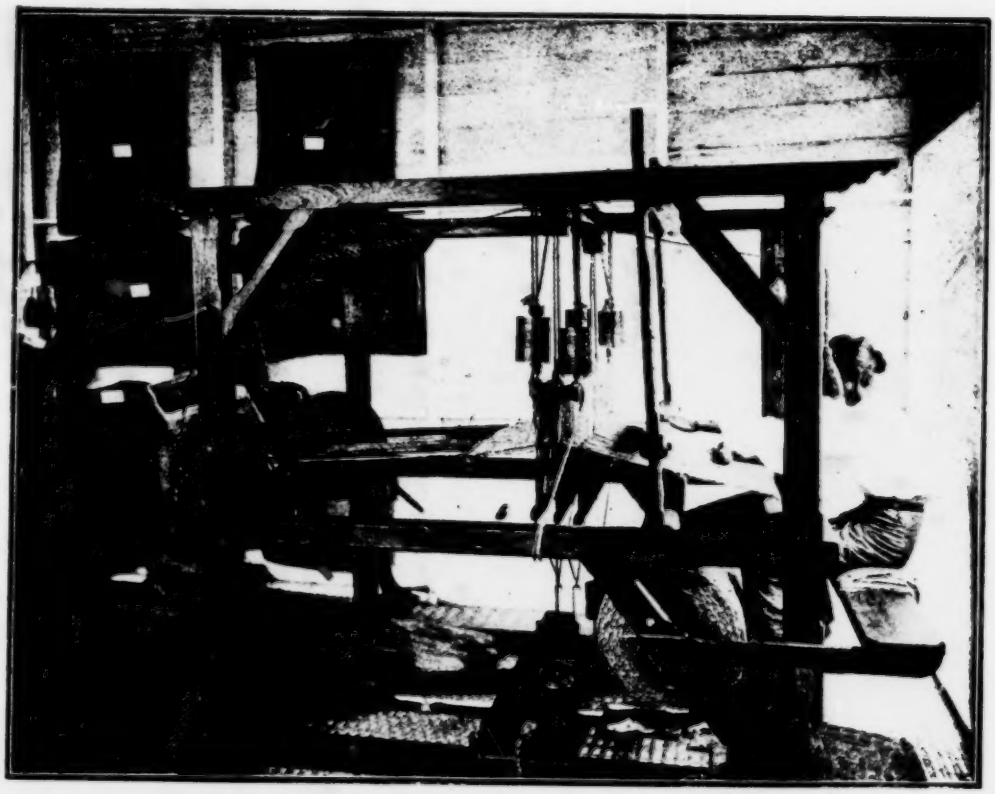
The market for bristle fibre in 1929 opened at Rs. 9 and continued steady at this figure for the whole of the year closing at about Rs. 9.25 per cwt. The market for mattress fibre opened at Rs. 2.50 per cwt. and remained around this figure until September when prices fell to Re. 1.75. From September to the end of the year the market continued weak and prices closed at Re. 1.40.

The annual average market prices* in certain years for bristle fibre were:—1920, Rs. 15.10 per cwt.; 1921, Rs. 10.27; 1922, Rs. 13.39; 1923, Rs. 14.46; 1924, Rs. 12.10; 1925, Rs. 7.62; 1926, Rs. 7.46; 1927, Rs. 8.37; 1928, Rs. 8.53; 1929, Rs. 9.01; for mattress fibre:—1920, Re. 1.77 per cwt.; 1921, Re. 1.40; 1922, Re. 1.65; 1923, Rs. 2.38; 1924, Rs. 2.95; 1925, Rs. 2,38; 1926, Rs. 3.08; 1927, Rs. 3.67; 1928, Rs. 3.07; 1929, Rs. 2.23; for coir yarn:—1920, Rs. 10.64 per cwt.; 1921, Rs. 10.55; 1922, Rs. 12.68; 1923, Rs. 18.63; 1924, Rs. 18.32; 1925, Rs. 16.26; 1926, Rs. 15.15; 1927, Rs. 16.75; 1928, Rs. 17.45; 1929, Rs. 14.34.

* The average prices for 1928 to 1929 are for top grades only. Averages for other years represent the lowest and highest overall weekly quotations received for all grades.

No. 4.

WEAVING COIR MATTING.



Plâté, Limited, Colombo.

Cacao.

Theobroma Cacao, the plant from the seeds of which the commercial cacao is produced, belongs to the natural order *Sterculiaceae*, and was first introduced into Ceylon by the Dutch.

Variety.—The cacao originally grown in Ceylon was the Venezuela Criollo type, generally known as the Old Red Ceylon. This variety produced a high grade product, but has gradually been replaced by the hardier and more prolific Forastero.

Forastero was first introduced about 1878. The change was probably due to the Old Red Ceylon being more susceptible to disease, and less able to withstand the long periods of drought which occur in the cacao-growing districts. Although the Old Red is a finer grade, and commands a higher price, the heavier yields from the Forastero compensate for lower market values. It should be mentioned that, although the Forastero in other countries is dark and strong, in Ceylon the cacao on account of hybridization, climatic conditions, methods of preparation, or other causes very closely resembles the Old Red type in producing a light-coloured product.

Elevation and Rainfall.—The amount of land suitable for cacao cultivation in Ceylon is limited, and there are about 34,000 acres under this crop. The product cannot be successfully grown below 500 feet or above 2,000 feet elevation, and an average rainfall of between 60 to 80 inches is required. The Kandy and Matale Districts, particularly the Dumbara Valley in the Kandy District, are the principal cacao localities in Ceylon.

Opening Land.—The capital cost of opening is about Rs. 400 to Rs. 450 per acre.

Labour.—The labour required for a cacao estate works out at about one cooly for two acres. Tamils generally form the bulk of the labour force, but Sinhalese are also employed for lopping, &c.

Planting.—The trees are generally planted 15 by 15 feet apart. Holes 3 feet deep by 1½ feet across are dug and filled with carefully prepared soil. Seed at stake or basket plants are generally used for planting. As the young plant requires to be carefully shaded, shade trees must be planted at the same time between the rows about the same distance apart as the cacao. The dadap has been found the most suitable.

Crops.—Cacao commences to bear fruit about the fifth year, two crops a year being then gathered. The " Spring " crop picked in May, June, and July is small. The main or " Autumn " crop is gathered in November, December, and January. The period from the blossom to the ripe pod is five months. The average crop per acre varies considerably in Ceylon. The general average is about 3½ to 4 cwt. per acre, although the yields from some well-cultivated estates have reached the very high annual average of 8½ cwt. per acre.

Cultivation.—The usual method of cultivation is to fork the soil every two years, followed two to three months later with an application of about 700 to 800 lb. per acre of artificial manures. The manure used is a general mixture containing nitrogen, phosphoric acid, and potash. Some favoured estates have cattle establishments, and are able to treat a part of the acreage with cattle manure. The higher average yields from these estates show that this procedure is a sound one.

Shade Regulation.—The dadap is a quick-growing tree, and it is necessary to keep the shade regulated so as to allow sufficient sunlight and air for the cacao. The dadap trees are treated to give as wide a spread as possible; in other words, to get the maximum amount of shade from the minimum

number of trees. If the trees have been properly grown, not more than about 40 to 50 trees to the acre will be required about six years after planting. These trees are not allowed to grow too large, and new shade is regularly obtained by replacing with fresh trees those that have to be cut out.

Pruning and Removing Suckers.—Suckers are removed as soon as they appear on the cacao trees, and periodical pruning is done when the foliage becomes too thick and heavy.

Weeding.—Cacao estates are kept clean weeded from the time of opening, the expenditure after the third or fourth year being very small on account of the shade. The average cost of weeding is about Rs. 6 per acre per annum.

Picking.—The flowers and fruit of the tree grow in a characteristic manner direct upon the trunk and branches of the trees. The fruit is ellipsoidal and of considerable size, and the beans are covered with pulp or mucilage. Ripening is generally indicated by a change of colour on the outside of the pods. The fruit on the stems and main branches is picked by means of an ordinary pruning knife, while that on the higher parts of the tree is dealt with by cacao hooks. The picking gang goes round as often as necessary, the period generally being between a fortnight and three weeks. The pods are cut down by men or boys, who are followed by women, who gather the pods and heap them together. The fruits are opened the same day, and the beans carted or carried to the fermenting shed. One cooly will pick 1 to 1½ bushels of wet beans per day. This is equal to about 37 lb. of the cured produce.

Fermentation.—At the fermenting shed the beans, covered with mucilage, are heaped into boxes or vats for fermentation. This process is accompanied by rise of temperature and by decomposition of the pulp surrounding the beans. During the fermentation the pulp becomes more liquid and gradually flows away, the bottom of the fermenting boxes being perforated and raised off the ground to admit of this. The period of fermentation in Ceylon is about 36 hours. After 12 hours the beans are given a light washing and turned over into another box. They are again given a heavier washing at the end of the fermenting period of 36 hours, when they are carried or carted to the barbacue or curing house.

Curing.—The best method of curing is the gradual drying of the beans in the sun on barbacues covered with coir matting. By this method the best quality is obtained. The period varies from five to seven days, according to the temperature. Most of the picking has, however, to be done during the wet season, and a greater part of the crop of Ceylon is cured by artificial means. The most popular curing house is a two- or three-floor building, the floors being constructed of strips of wood covered over with coir matting, on which the freshly-fermented beans are spread. The building is heated with hot air conducted by pipes placed under each floor, the hot air being obtained by means of a fan, which drives the air through the heating apparatus and then through the pipes. The temperature in the building during the curing process is kept between 110 and 120 degrees Fahrenheit.

Grading and Sorting.—After the beans are cured, they are sorted into different grades: first quality, which is composed of only the large round beans; second quality, flat and small beans; and third quality, known as garblings, consisting of the shells and broken beans.

No. 5.

CACAO FACTORY : GRADING BEFORE BAGGING.

Plate, Limited, Colombo.

Quality.—Well prepared first quality Ceylon cacao is graded as a " fine " sort, and fetches a high market price. Its aroma is not strong, but its general appearance is very pleasant. The beans are round and light-coloured. Their skins are smooth and uniform. This cacao has a light " break " and is used in high grade confectionery. All Ceylon cacao is not, however, first quality, and a quantity of inferior grades find their way to the markets.

Packing.—Cacao after grading is packed in bags (112 lb. to a bag), when it is ready for export. Most of the cacao from Ceylon is shipped in this form.

Cost of Production.—The cost of production ranges from Rs. 25 to Rs. 30 per cwt.

Prices.—The year 1929 opened with a strong demand for all descriptions at improved prices but offerings were light. Towards the middle of the year, however, demand was quieter and values weakened and the arrival of the big crops resulted in a further decline in prices.

The heavy stocks of Accras and other descriptions in the principal purchasing markets, and the general trade depression prevalent, tended to lower prices considerably and rates realized were the lowest for several years past. Towards the close of the year the market ruled irregular and values showed considerable fluctuation which resulted, however, in a small recovery on the low market prevailing.

The annual average market prices* from 1920 were:—1920, Rs. 44.60 per cwt.; 1921, Rs. 28.23; 1922, Rs. 37.77; 1923, Rs. 35.71; 1924, Rs. 33.30; 1925, Rs. 33.17; 1926, Rs. 30.41; 1927, Rs. 52.22; 1928, Rs. 58.89; 1929, Rs. 53.46.

Valuation of Estates.—The valuation of an estate with a 4-cwt. crop may be put at Rs. 800 to Rs. 1,100 per acre on the average. The waiting period is about five years; and the purchase period about seven years.

The quantity and value of the exports of cacao and the percentage distribution are shown in tables Nos. 36 and 37 of the Appendix and in Diagram No. 14.

Chocolate.—The manufacture of chocolate is carried out in Ceylon to a certain extent, and the process is worth brief mention. It consists, first, in roasting the beans, then in crushing them on a clean table to separate the cuticles from the kernels. The kernels are then ground in a hand mill, and a fatty mass is produced, which is melted in the sun, and solidified by being put in the shade.

In up-to-date factories these processes are carried out by machinery. The cleaning is done in a revolving cylinder of wire netting; boxes turning in hot air are used for the roasting; while the separation of the cuticles is done by a breaking machine. The selection and mixing of the various cacao is also a matter of importance if a palatable high grade manufactured product is to be secured.

In the manufacture of cacao powder, a great part of the cacao-fat is removed by strong hydraulic presses, which press out about 53 to 60 per cent. of the fat. The cacao is then made " soluble " by treatment with carbonate of magnesia, or potassium, or sodium, or ammonia, to render it more easily suspensible in water or milk.

* The average prices for 1927 to 1929 are for top grades only. Averages for other years represent the lowest and highest overall weekly quotations received for all grades.

The manufacture of sweet chocolate differs considerably from this process. After cleaning, breaking, and roasting, the cacao is warmed and mixed with sugar and other substances by special machines, and the air in the chocolate is drawn out by another machine. The many different sorts of chocolate are made by special methods and machinery.

Cacao butter is used again in the manufacture of chocolate, and is also of great value for the manufacture of unguents, pomades, and tooth pastes. The cuticles are sometimes used as a substitute for cacao, and are also used in the manufacture of different kinds of "coffee," and for making infusions. Mixed with straw they form a valuable food for cattle and sheep, and are sometimes used as manure.

Cinnamon.

Cinnamon, which was once the main export from the Island, still occupies a place—though a minor one—among the exports. Some 26,000 acres are under this cultivation, and the exports in 1929 were quills (37,059 cwt.) and chips (11,158 cwt.), valued at Rs. 3,784,427 in all.

The Tree.—The cinnamon tree may grow to the height of 20 to 30 feet, and the trunk may be upwards of 3 feet in circumference. The trees cultivated to produce the cinnamon of commerce are coppiced, and long willowy shoots are produced, growing to a height of about 10 feet and to the size of a fair-sized walking stick. The shoots are cut and the bark is peeled off, and rolled into quills, which constitute the cinnamon of commerce.

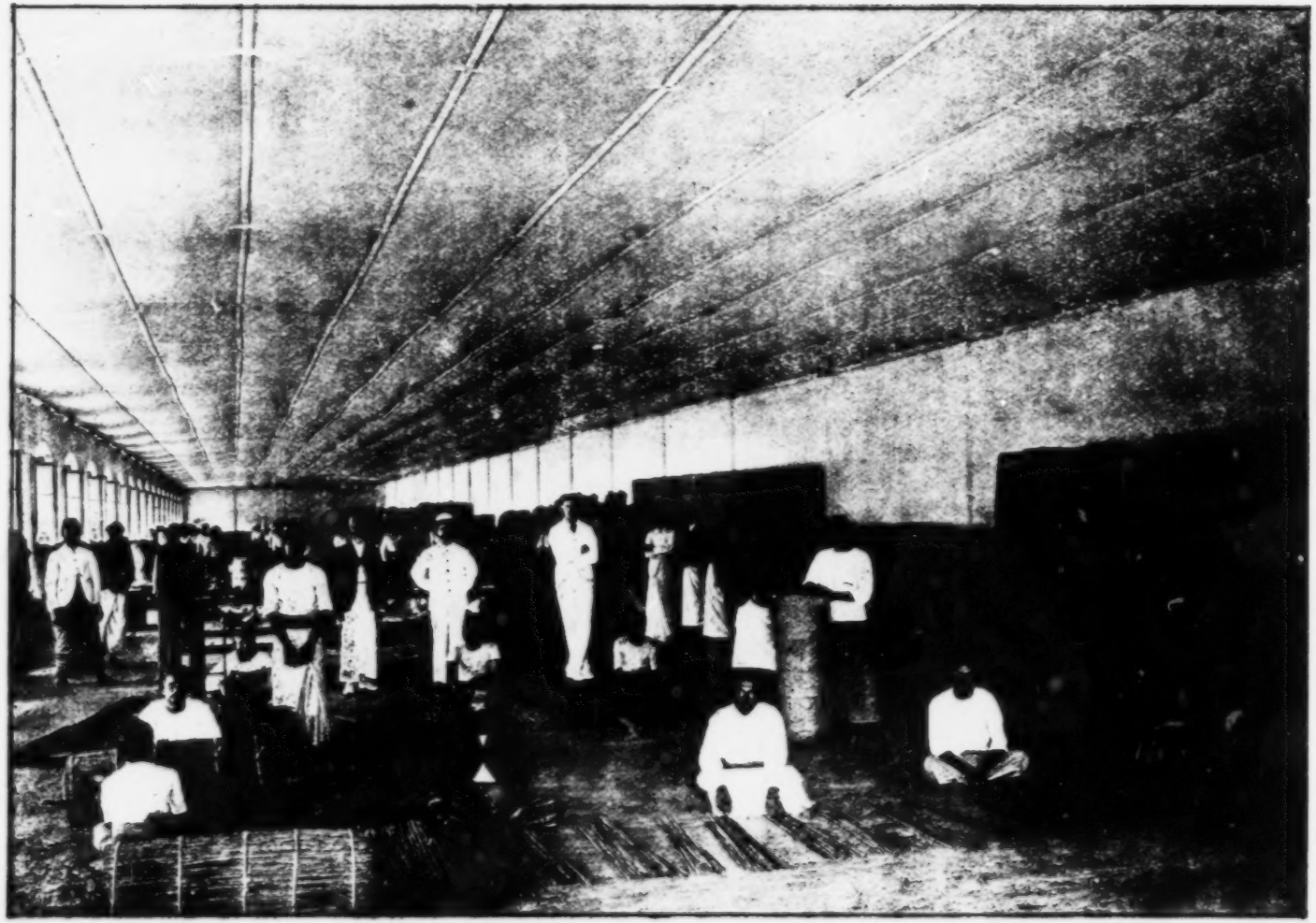
Cinnamon Cultivation.—If the soil is good, branches may be cut for barking from the fourth year. The tree blossoms in January, in April the fruit is ripe, and the cutting is done from May to October. When the tree is seen to bear fruit well it is in good health, and the bark will peel without difficulty. To prove whether it is ripe, the peeler strikes his hatchet obliquely into the branch; if on drawing it out the bark divides from the wood, the cinnamon has reached maturity; but if not, it must go on growing. The sticks are gathered by boys and tied into bundles with coir strings; they are then removed to the peeling stores.

Peeling.—The operation of peeling the sticks requires considerable skill. A knife with a blade of copper 2½ inches long, something like that used by shoemakers, sharp pointed and slightly hooked, is employed. The peeler, seated on the ground, makes two parallel cuts up and down the length of the bark, which he then loosens with the point of the knife. After that he strips off in one entire slip about half the circumference of the branch. If the bark does not come away easily, the sticks are rubbed vigorously with a round piece of hard wood, which has the effect of loosening it. The ultimate object of the methods employed is to make the bark up into quills, a quill being a rod of cinnamon resembling a thin cane 4 feet in length; the pieces of bark when stripped are therefore placed round the sticks, both with a view to preserving their shape and as a convenience for the next operation.

Skinning.—They are now allowed to remain for three to six hours, when fermentation takes place, and the bark is ready for skinning, which process is accomplished in the following manner. The peeler sits with one foot pressed against a piece of wood from which a round stick slopes towards his waist. Upon this stick he lays the slip of bark, keeps it steady with the other foot, and holding the handle of the knife in one hand and the point of it in the other, scrapes off the skin, which is very thin, of a brown colour on the outside and green within. This treatment of the bark leaves only that part which has the desired delicate taste; it is of a pale yellow colour

No. 6.

CINNAMON FACTORY : SORTING AND PACKING.



Plate, Limited, Colombo.

and a parchment-like texture. The bark is now left to ferment and dry, which if the weather be favourable takes about 30 minutes. The next process is that of forming the quills. The smaller pieces are inserted into the larger, and in the process of drying the quills form rods. They are afterwards rolled into shape and made up into bundles.

Cinnamon oil is distilled from the chips and trimmings of the quills.

The commercial cinnamon products are the quills, the chips, and the oil. There are nine grades of cinnamon: 00000, 0000, 000, 00, 0, and ordinary cinnamon, Nos. 1-4. The best quality is fine cinnamon prepared from tender bark.

The chips are prepared by scraping or chipping the bark after removing the outer bark.

The market for cinnamon quills steadily declined throughout 1929; the price of Hamburg No. 2, for example, opened at Re. 1.05 the closing price of this grade at the end of the year being 55 cents. Exports of cinnamon chips have shown a slight decrease on the previous year. Smaller Spanish and Italian purchases are mainly responsible for the shortage. The market opened at Rs. 95 per candy and declined throughout the year in sympathy with quills and closed at Rs. 70.

The annual average market prices* of quills from 1920 were:—1920, 77 cents per lb.; 1921, 48 cents; 1922, 53 cents; 1923, 54 cents; 1924, 70 cents; 1925, 88 cents; 1926, Re. 1.14; 1927, Re. 1.35; 1928, Re. 1.29; 1929, Re. 1.15; of chips: 1920, Rs. 80.20 per candy; 1921, Rs. 49.83; 1922, Rs. 55.61; 1923, Rs. 53.76; 1924, Rs. 67.95; 1925, Rs. 84.54; 1926, Rs. 93.79; 1927, Rs. 102.77; 1928, Rs. 105.72; 1929, Rs. 96.86. An acre will yield about 120 lb. quills. The cost of production of quills is about 30 cents per lb.

No fresh land is being opened in cinnamon, as the cultivation of other products is more profitable. The existing plantations are mostly the survivals of the old Government gardens, which in the early part of the nineteenth century supplied the world with cinnamon. The most satisfactory cultivations are chiefly located in the district of Negombo, but the area under cinnamon is being gradually reduced, as coconuts are being planted in old cinnamon lands.

Citronella Oil.

Citronella oil grass is a large coarse grass growing 3 to 4 feet high, cultivated in Ceylon (and of late years in Java) for its essential oil, which is obtained from the leaves by distillation. The grass grows in any ordinary soil, and thrives best in a moist and hot atmosphere. It flourishes up to 2,000 feet elevation, but its cultivation in Ceylon is confined to the south-west coast, where about 33,000 acres are under the product. The grass is readily propagated by division (seed being rarely produced), and may be planted about 2 by 3 feet apart in rows. Permanent shade is unnecessary, and the cultivation is very simple, weeding being the chief requirement. The clumps are ready for cutting in about eight months from time of planting. Two cuttings a year may be obtained, and about 40 lb. of marketable oil per acre is an estimated annual yield. The oil is of a strong aromatic odour; it is exported for use in scenting soaps, perfumery, &c., and is also an excellent preventive against the bites of mosquitoes and leeches.

* The average prices for 1927 to 1929 are for top grades only. Averages for other years represent the lowest and highest overall weekly quotations received for all grades.

Prices.—During 1929 there were the usual fluctuations in the price of citronella oil. Opening at 96 cents per lb. for f.a.q. oil the price rose steadily until it reached Re. 1.09 in March. There was a steady fall during the next three months, the price of f.a.q. oil at the end of June being 95 cents per lb. In July the market steadily improved again until at the beginning of November as much as Re. 1.30 per lb. was paid. After a sharp fall to Re. 1.10 the price firmed up again and the year closed with a strong market at Re. 1.20 per lb.

The annual average market prices from 1920 were:—1920, Re. 1.10 per lb.; 1921, 77 cents; 1922, Re. 1.30; 1923, Rs. 2.09; 1924, Rs. 2.03; 1925, Re. 1.37; 1926, 99 cents; 1927, 77 cents; 1928, 93 cents; 1929, Re. 1.06.

Tobacco.

Localities.—Tobacco is grown in almost all the Provinces. In some areas the industry is an important one. The largest area under tobacco is found in the Northern Province, mainly on the peninsula. It is the most important industry of the Jaffna cultivator, and great care is given to its cultivation and irrigation. The land is thoroughly tilled and manured, and after the tobacco crop is reaped it is sown with food grains and other food products. A cultivation similar to the Jaffna system is carried on in the Batticaloa and Trincomalee Districts and in parts of the North-Western Province (chiefly Kurunegala District), but the methods of manufacture differ. In the Central Province a higher grade of leaf is grown, particularly in the Kandy and Matale Districts. This type has been evolved to suit the conditions of the locality, and in favourable seasons good crops are secured.

The estimated acreage under tobacco in 1929 was about 14,000 acres.

Dumbara Tobacco.—The finest grade of Ceylon tobacco is grown in the Kandy District. The cultivation in this district begins with the slight showers of the early months of the year, and depends for its success upon the light rains which fall in April, May, and June with the advent of the south-west monsoon. Tobacco is rarely grown in this district upon the same land in two consecutive years, it being customary to cultivate the land in other crops and then to allow it to lie fallow for some years before another tobacco crop is taken off. In very dry weather, if water is available, hand watering is resorted to. Otherwise the crop depends entirely upon rainfall for its success, and is a speculative one. Fairly satisfactory attention is given by some growers to curing and fermentation, but a finer product would be procured if greater care were given to manufacture.

The leaves of the Dumbara tobacco burn with a good white ash, but they are too thick in texture and too unsatisfactory in flavour to be of value on the English tobacco markets. They are manufactured in the Colony into cigars, which command a ready sale, and would be in greater demand if they were more uniform in quality. A large portion of the Central Province crop is sold to local manufacturers of cigars for use as wrappers for the Jaffna types. The leaves are smaller and of finer texture than the Jaffna types, and have good burning qualities.

The Dumbara types of tobacco are also grown in other districts. The system of curing and fermenting differs somewhat in different areas, and the final product is not of such high quality as that produced in the Central Province.

Jaffna Tobacco.—The Jaffna types consist of two kinds. These are locally known as the smoking and chewing kinds. Both are large-leaved, coarse tobaccos, the chewing type being of more vigorous and coarse growth than the smoking type.

Jaffna Cultivation.—The cultivation of tobacco at Jaffna is an interesting study, and all visitors to this part of the Colony are filled with admiration for the strenuous and continuous work that the Jaffna cultivator puts into his tobacco fields. The lands are well ploughed and manured with cattle or sheep manure or with green leaves, and reduced to a fine tilth. Nurseries for seedlings are well prepared, and the seedlings planted out carefully and systematically. Work begins with the north-east rains, and during the early part of the growing period the rainfall may be sufficient to maintain satisfactory growth. During dry weather and from the end of December onwards the tobacco plants are irrigated by wells. In the middle of the growing season this irrigation has to be thoroughly carried out. It involves considerable labour, and the working of " well-sweeps " in the early hours of the morning and during the late afternoon forms a characteristic feature of the Jaffna landscape. During the early part of the growing period thorough cultivation of the land is carried on, so as to prevent its becoming " caked," and to allow of the maximum growth for the plants. All plants, except those required for seed purposes, are topped at a height of about 4 feet, and when they begin to yellow they are harvested. The whole plant is cut down and allowed to " quail " for a day in the sun. In the afternoon the plant is separated into individual leaves, each being left attached to a piece of the stem. These are then taken for withering in an open shady shed. Fermentation differs slightly in different localities in its details, and the curing of the smoking and chewing types requires different treatment. Chewing types are harvested by cutting off the leaves, commencing from the top of the plant. All inferior broken leaves and those portions of the stalks which are not attached to the leaves are either sold to the manufacturers for making nicotine extracts or are used for manurial purposes. Conditions of sale demand that portions of the stalk should be attached to the leaves in the majority of cases.

There are certain lands on which the chewing type alone can be cultivated, while others are well known for their production of high grade smoking types. Tobacco from certain localities always commands higher prices than the ruling market rates, while elsewhere only a low grade tobacco is produced. The smoking tobaccos are sold to manufacturers for the local manufacture of what is known throughout the whole of the Colony as the " Jaffna cheroot." Some of the chewing types are sold locally for chewing with betel leaf, lime, and arecanut, but the bulk of this type is exported to Travancore, where the Jaffna tobaccos are eagerly sought after.

The quantity and value of the exports of tobacco from Ceylon are shown in table No. 43 of the Appendix.

Over 98 per cent. of the unmanufactured leaf goes to British India and nearly all the rest of it is sent to the Straits Settlements and the United Kingdom. About 96 per cent. of the manufactured tobacco is sent to the Maldive Islands, the rest going to United Kingdom, Aden, British India, Straits Settlements, and Egypt.

The costs of cultivation of a tobacco crop in the Jaffna District are heavy, considerable sums being expended upon manures, cultivation, and irrigation. In seasonable years, when prices are high, the profits are large. In other years expenses are barely covered, but in general the better lands will average profits of between Rs. 300 to Rs. 450 per acre, while profits of Rs. 600 to Rs. 800 per acre have been secured in good years. The average price of the Jaffna product varies from Rs. 20 to Rs. 40 per 1,000 leaves.

The Travancore markets some fifteen years ago closed to Jaffna tobaccos, but were subsequently reopened. The critical situation demanded that experiments with other types of tobacco should be undertaken. These have been carried out upon a Government experiment station, and it has been

demonstrated that White Burley tobacco of good quality capable of realizing 1*s.* 6*d.* and 1*s.* 8*d.* per lb. on the London market can be satisfactorily grown. The Government has evolved a purchase scheme for White Burley tobacco which is exported to England, and the cultivation of this type is showing a gradual extension around the Tinnevelly experiment station in the Jaffna Peninsula. The exports of this tobacco have been as follows:—

Year.	lb.	Value. £ *s.* *d.*	Year.	lb.	Value. £ *s.* *d.*
1924	4,701	364 15 5	1927	13,328	848 10 3
1925	15,057	1,076 19 0	1928	30,688	1,644 7 7
1926	18,535	1,329 6 5	1929	25,312	Depends on the marke

Cardamoms.

Uses.—Cardamoms are of commercial value on account of the spice obtained from them, which is well known to cooks and confectioners. This spice is greatly used for flavouring Bologna sausages, liqueurs, &c.; in pharmacopoeia as a deadner of tastes, as well as a medicine; and its stimulative properties have led to its use in the preparation of drinks. The ground seeds can be used as a tooth powder and a snuff for headache.

Habitat, &c.—The commercial part of the plant lies in the fruit, which is borne on racemes rising from the ground. The plant itself—*Elettaria Cardamomum*—grows in stools or clumps under the shade of forest trees at elevations between 2,800 and 4,000 feet, with a rainfall of 115 to 150 inches a year. Two kinds are cultivated in Ceylon: (1) The Malabar variety has softly pubescent under surfaces to its leaves, and its flowering racemes are thrown out near to the surface of the ground; and (2) the Mysore variety has smooth glabrous leaves and almost upright flowering racemes. The Mysore variety has a more robust growth, and owing to its upright racemes is generally preferred for cultivation.

Manufacture.—The fruit is collected by women and children, and is manufactured into either (1) bleached or (2) green dried. In the former case the fruit is bleached, soaked, and dried in sulphur fumes, the process being repeated until the required pale colour is secured, and the ends are clipped off either by hand or by a clipping machine. In the latter case the fruits are merely dried in the sun.

Acreage.—The acreage under cardamoms in Ceylon is put at about 6,000 acres.

The quantity and value of the exports of cardamoms and the percentage distribution are shown in tables Nos. 44 and 45 of the Appendix and in Diagram No. 14.

Prices.—During 1929, offerings early in the year were light but the market ruled irregular with considerable variation in values. The bulk of the offerings were Greens, Bleached Mysores, and Malabars being scarce. During March and April prices showed a sharp advance and a very strong market prevailed for all descriptions at improved rates. Thereafter, however, while top qualities realized fair prices the market was irregular with a downward tendency for the rest of the year; medium and low grades being neglected, with the exception of Bold Bleached Mysores which were scarce owing to several estates making Greens.

The annual average market prices* in certain years were:—1920, Re. 1.44 per lb.; 1921, Re. 1.22; 1922, Re. 1.54; 1923, Rs. 2.41; 1924, Rs. 2.92; 1925, Rs. 3.42; 1926, Rs. 2.44; 1927, Rs. 2.54; 1928, Rs. 2.50; 1929, Rs. 2.22.

* The average prices for 1927 to 1929 are for top grades only. Averages for other years represent the lowest and highest overall weekly quotations received for all grades.

Arecanuts.*

Conditions.—The arecanut palm is grown in all village gardens in the wetter districts of the Colony. It is the commonest feature of village vegetation, and produces heavy crops of fruits, as well as providing straight stems, which are used for the erection of temporary structures. Pure cultivations of the palm similar to those to be found in Southern India are rarely seen in Ceylon, although in the Kegalla District there are some fairly extensive pure plantations. The area under arecanuts is about 69,000 acres.

There are several varieties of arecanuts grown, and the respective values of these are well known to the purchasers of fruits. Little care is, however, taken in the selection of fruits for planting, and no attempts have been made to improve the local types. Planting of arecanuts still continues in village holdings, but in many instances this palm is being replaced by the coconut, which at present is more profitable.

The Fruit.—The fruits of the arecanut palm are harvested when ripe, and are sold in their unhusked state in all the bazaars and markets of the Island. The dried product is also readily procurable in the majority of boutiques. It is cut into thin shavings, which are used for "chewing" with the betel leaf, lime, and, occasionally tobacco, by the greater portion of the village population of the Colony. The price of unhusked arecanuts is about 30 cents per hundred, of husked nuts 35 cents per hundred.

The quantity and value of the exports of arecanuts from Ceylon are shown in table No. 46 of the Appendix.

Arecanuts are generally exported to British India and the Maldive Islands, about 91 per cent. going to the former and about 5 per cent. to the latter.

Some inquiries have recently been made as to the prospects of plantations of this palm. It grows readily in all the damper districts below 2,500 feet elevation, and is free from serious pests and diseases. In South India the coconut is in many places replacing the arecanut, and it is possible that with this diminution of cultivated areas in India the future prospects of arecanut cultivation are worthy of investigation.

Foodstuffs.

Paddy or Rice.

If Hill Paddy (*Elvi*) is excluded, it may be said that the cultivation of paddy in Ceylon is based upon a plentiful supply of water. Not only are the plants dependent upon a good supply in all stages up to the ripening period, but the processes of cultivation in all parts of Ceylon, except some of the most northerly, are dependent upon it.

Rain Water Cultivation.—Cultivation without the help of irrigation is carried on, not only in dry districts like Jaffna, but also in wetter parts like the Kandy District. The success of the crop is entirely dependent upon a sufficient and reasonable rainfall, and upon the soil being capable of retaining the water for a fairly long period in order to tide over rainless intervals. Should the rains fail after the paddy has been sown the crop will perish, and then the cultivator must re-sow his field with a paddy which can mature in the remainder of the season, or lose the season entirely. Similarly, if the rains are late, the earlier maturing varieties of paddy must be sown.

* Although in point of value of exports arecanuts rank between rubber and cacao, this sub-section is inserted here, as the cultivation is not organized, and insufficient details are available regarding it.

Irrigation.—When paddy is grown under irrigation, the water may be supplied by springs, streams (*elas*), wells, tanks, or reservoirs. Cultivation under streams may be seen in the Central and Uva Provinces, and under tanks in the drier Eastern, Northern, and North-Central Provinces.

Asweddumization.—In all cases where a system of irrigation is employed, the land must be "asweddumized," or prepared for paddy. Should the paddy area not be level, it is necessary to terrace it so that the surplus water from the upper plots may flow down to the lower ones. This terracing is brought to a high level of perfection in the hilly districts. Distribution channels convey the irrigation water to the upper plots, and drains carry off the surplus water from the lowest.

Preparation for Sowing.—In the preparation for sowing, ploughing may be done in the dry, or if the rains fall or water is available, sufficient water may be allowed on to the field to soften the ground. This is then lightly ploughed by means of small wooden ploughs drawn by buffaloes or cattle. Small iron ploughs are also employed in some districts, and their use is slowly extending. In some districts and in some fields of considerable depth ploughing is not done, the preparation of the soil being carried out by puddling with buffaloes or by digging with hoes. During the first ploughing the weeds are partially buried. About ten to twenty days after the first ploughing a second ploughing is given. The weeds are then still further buried, and the ground made softer and muddier. Between the first and second ploughings in the Central Province green manuring is carried on. Leaves and twigs are buried at the second ploughing, and in some districts special green manure crops are grown for ploughing in. After a lapse of another week or ten days a third ploughing may be carried out. This is generally adopted in the Central Province, but in other Provinces this third ploughing is not general. By means of this ploughing the soil is converted into mud of the consistency desired for sowing upon. Instead of the plough, buffaloes are often employed to trample the muddy soil until the desired consistency is attained. The mudding is followed by a rough levelling by means of the "*poruwa*," a levelling board dragged along by a pair of buffaloes or by cattle. This does not leave the surface smooth enough for sowing, so that it is followed by work with hand levelling boards. At the same time shallow channels are made to conduct the surplus water from the surface, which is now quite smooth. The field is then ready for sowing.

Manuring.—In the Central, Southern, and Western Provinces artificial fertilizers, such as bone dust, bone meal, and fish guano, are after employed, more especially in districts served by railways and good roads. These are applied at the second or third ploughings or at the time of sowing.

Selection of Seed.—Before sowing the cultivator selects his seed carefully. He then tests a sample for its power of germination. Taking a handful, he begins by soaking it in water for 24-36 hours. He then wraps it in plantain leaves and places it under weights for two or three days. At the end of that time, if germination is satisfactory, the seed will have begun to sprout, and he then proceeds, on a larger scale, to treat the whole of his seed paddy similarly. The sprouted seeds are then separated from one another and sown broadcast on the field.

Although the advantages of transplanting paddy seedlings have been abundantly demonstrated, not very much transplanting is done in Ceylon, except in the Central Province and the Kegalla District of Sabaragamuwa. A beginning has also recently been made as the result of demonstrations by the Department of Agriculture in the North-Western Province. At present the cultivator prefers, in the majority of cases, to broadcast and then thin

out. When the seedlings are well established, *i.e.*, in about six weeks from sowing, the fields are weeded by the women. At the same time thinning out is done in places where the seedlings are too thick, some of those so removed being used to fill up gaps where the sowing has been too thin.

Transplanting.—In transplanting, the seeds are germinated as usual and then sown in specially prepared nurseries. When the seedlings are from four to six weeks old, they are removed from the nursery and planted at definite intervals from one another in the fields. Although the expenses of working are increased, this is much more than counterbalanced by the increased yields obtained. The plants tiller freely and weeds are partially smothered, any weeding necessary being very easily carried out. Transplanting cannot be carried out, however, when the water supply is not reliable.

The crop receives very little attention, apart from watering, weeding, and watching against birds until the approach of the ripening period. When the plants begin to mature, they first take on a yellow colour, and, at this point, the cultivator drains the water from the field and allows the paddy to ripen.

Reaping.—Reaping is always done with the sickle, and the result is that a long and ragged stubble is left on the field. This remains until it is time to prepare for the next crop. The sheaves of paddy are put on one side as they are reaped and allowed to dry. After this, they are carried to the threshing-floor, which has been carefully prepared in readiness.

Threshing.—Threshing methods vary in different districts. In general, the dried sheaves are spread out on the threshing-floor, and buffaloes or cattle yoked together are driven over them round and round until all the grains have been rubbed off the stalks. The straw is then raked off, the paddy collected and handed over to the winnowers, who separate the empty grains from the good ones.

Seasons.—There are two paddy-growing seasons, both of which are made use of for the cultivation of the same tract of fields when sufficient labour and water are available. The Maha crop is sown from the end of August to the middle of October, according to the district. The harvest from this crop is reaped in February or March. The Yala crop season commences with sowing in March-April, the harvest being reaped in July to September. The corresponding Tamil seasons are called Munmari and Pinmari and Kalapokam and Siropokam. Generally speaking, six and four months are required for the respective Maha and Yala crops. In some districts sowings take place between the Maha and Yala seasons for a *meda* or *iddi* (Tamil) crop.

Improvements.—Considerable improvements in paddy cultivation can be effected. Transplanting could become more general, and greater attention given to manuring and seed selection. The Government through the Department of Agriculture, has undertaken a considerable amount of research work in paddy in recent years and a number of pure-line strain have been evolved and are now being tested on a field scale and distributed to cultivators. Similarly, frequent demonstrations have been given in manuring and the organization of the supply of manures is now being investigated.

Varieties.—The varieties of paddy grown in Ceylon fall into three groups, according to the time necessary for their maturing. In the first group come those paddies such as Mavi, Hatiel, and Suduvi, which take at least six months to mature, while in the second group come varieties such as Danahala, Murungan, and Balavi, which mature in three months or less. An intermediate class contains those varieties which mature in four to five months.

The "age" of a particular variety, however, depends largely upon climatic factors, such as rainfall, temperature, and elevation, and it is quite a common thing to find the same variety requiring different maturing periods in different Provinces, or even in two different situations in the same district.

Diseases.—Diseases and pests causing extensive loss to paddy in Ceylon are few in number. Insects do the greatest amount of damage, the chief of these being—

(1) The Paddy Bug, which sucks the milky juices of the young grain, which, for this reason, never matures. This pest can be kept down by keeping the field and bunds clear of seeding grasses. If boys are employed to catch the bugs with nets, a good deal of the damage can be avoided.

(2) The Paddy Swarming Caterpillar also causes considerable damage on occasions, but can be readily controlled.

(3) The Paddy Stem Borer, a small light-coloured moth, which lays its eggs on the young paddy stems. When the caterpillars hatch out, they make their way into the stem and feed on the juices. When the time arrives for the caterpillar to become a pupa, it makes its way to a lower part of the stem, where it comes to rest, having first eaten into the side of the stem. The adult moth emerges from this opening and begins the same work over again. A stem which contains a borer grub can always be recognized by its peculiar white appearance, due to all the husks being quite empty. Such stalks should be cut close to the ground and burnt.

Rice.—Paddy is converted into rice by pounding in a mortar. This work is usually undertaken by women, who receive a share of the rice husked for their work. The milling of paddy by machinery has recently been undertaken as the result of the erection of a demonstration mill at the Anuradhapura jail. Several small mills have been erected in the past few years which have given fairly satisfactory results. It is possible for the milling of paddy in the Colony to extend.

Acreage and Supply.—The area under wet land paddy in Ceylon is about 800,000* acres, yielding, roughly, 12 to 13 million bushels per annum. The returns per acre are small compared with other rice-producing countries, and the profits previously made from paddy cultivation have been insufficient to attract capital and organization. Ceylon has become accustomed to draw the majority of her rice supplies from India, but the means of making Ceylon more self-supporting in its food supplies are being continually investigated. The total annual imports of rice and paddy from India and other countries are given in tables Nos. 50 and 51 of the Appendix.

Costs.—The cost of production of paddy in Ceylon per bushel may be said to range from Re. 1 to Rs. 2, according to yields and district. In 1920, when famine prices ruled for rice, the selling price for local paddy ranged from Rs. 2.50 to Rs. 6 per bushel.

Hill Paddy.—Hill Paddy or Elvi is grown upon dry lands. It is usually cultivated upon hilly lands in districts where an abundant rainfall cannot be relied upon or in chenas on lands which are somewhat lowlying. Hill Paddy is sown broadcast in lands which have been cleared and burnt. While the crop is growing the larger weeds are pulled out, otherwise no cultivation is carried on during its period of growth. Yields of Elvi, if seasons are favourable, are generally heavy, and the rice from this type of paddy is highly prized.

* The figures are of doubtful accuracy.

Other Food Crops.

Chenas.—Many other food grains are grown in the Colony. Except in the Northern Province, these are generally grown in chenas—areas of land covered with secondary forest or other vegetation, which are cleared and burned—which are either private or leased or granted by the Crown. The principal grains grown are kurakkan (*Eleusine coracana*) maize; Italian millet; *Paspalum* millet; and *Panicum* millet. Pulses are also grown in the chenas, the principal crops being green gram, horse gram, and black gram. Cowpeas are also grown, as well as various kinds of beans. Gingelly (*Sesamum indicum*) forms an important chena crop in some areas, and mustard is also commonly grown in small areas.

The chena system of cultivation is one of the most primitive. It exploits the capital of the soil of the country for the personal benefit of a small number of the population. An attempt is being made to ascertain whether rotations of crops can be cultivated in successive years in the dry areas where chenas are abundant.

Edible tubers grow in abundance. These are known in the Colony as yams, and include dioscorea yams, tannia yams, sweet potatoes, and manioc. Sweet potatoes are abundant in the Southern Province, while manioc or cassava has spread rapidly in all districts in recent years and constitutes a general food. The preparation of tapioca might be possible in some districts if a good supply of pure water were available.

Plantains (bananas) of various types are largely cultivated, and are to be found in all markets. The largest area of plantains is to be found between Polgahawela and Rambukkana, but in recent years the bunchy top disease has occurred and caused considerable damage. This disease now appears to be less virulent and areas which suffered severely some years ago are now giving good crops of fruit.

Jak and breadfruit are important foodstuffs, while raw sugar and jaggery is made from coconut, palmyra, or kitul palms. The coconut and palmyra palms also produce other foods.

Vegetables and curry plants are generally cultivated throughout the Island, and markets are well stocked. Dried chillies are prepared in the drier districts, while onions are largely grown in some localities. Pumpkins, gourds of various kinds, and cucumbers are largely grown and find a ready sale in the various towns and village markets of the country. In the hills, European vegetables thrive, and are largely grown for transport by rail to the principal centres of population and to the shipping in Colombo Harbour.

Miscellaneous.

Hemp.—Several fibres grow readily in the Colony, and are exploited on a small scale for local requirements. Several species of *Sansevieria* (bowstring hemp) grow commonly in many areas, and are utilized by the villagers. Mauritius hemp (*Furcræa gigantea*) was introduced into the Island in the early part of the nineteenth century, and is now to be seen in most districts in the form of hedges around small properties, in waste places, and along the railway line. It is only within the past few years that it has been exploited to any extent. The leaves of the wild plants are collected, the fibre beaten out by hand, and when dry it is made into twine or ropes, or is woven into thin mats or bags for domestic purposes. The villagers of the Dumbara Valley in the Central Province are the most interested in this

manufacture of fibre articles, and their products are generally well made and of pleasing design. The plants of Mauritius hemp to be seen growing along the sides of the main line of the Railway are the remains of systematic planting. The proposal was to transport the leaves from these plants to a central factory, but the venture did not materialize, and the greater part of the plants have now been cut out.

Sisal.—Sisal (*Agave rigida* var. *sisalana*) was first systematically grown on the Maha Iluppallama Experiment Station. Its growth was satisfactory, and upon the closing of this station a syndicate was formed and obtained a lease of Crown lands upon special terms for the cultivation of this fibre upon an extended area. Good progress has been made up to date, and a high grade fibre commanding top prices on the London market is being turned out by the company which has been formed. The prospects of Ceylon as a fibre-producing country are considerable. There are large areas of the so-called dry zones of the Colony which are uncultivated, and it is believed that these areas can be profitably utilized for growing sisal and possibly other fibres. In the northern part of the Colony and in certain other coastal areas Sunn hemp (*Crotolaria juncea*) is grown for its fibre. This is used locally, mainly for the manufacture of fishing nets, but it is possible that its production could be extended.

Exports of sisal fibre in 1929 amounted to 114 cwt. of a value of Rs. 1,600, as against 114½ cwt. valued at Rs. 1,587 in 1928. The amount of graded fibre produced on the Anuradhapura Experiment Station was 5 tons 14 cwt. Sale was effected in Colombo at Rs. 300 per ton of first quality. Plants were provided by the Department of Agriculture for cultivation at Rambewa, a village in the North-Central Province.

Cotton.—Experiments have been made with cotton in various parts of the Colony by Government, and in recent years considerable success has attained the efforts made to establish this industry in the Hambantota District.

The export of cotton from Ceylon is of small amount, the crop being bought and used locally. The past year saw an increase of over 1,000 acres in the area under cotton and a yield of 3,795½ cwt. Local Cambodia seed was distributed, and yields varied from 1 cwt. to 4 cwt. per acre and averaged about 2 cwt. per acre. The quality of the cotton was not as good as that of 1928. As in previous years the crop was bought by departmental officers acting for the Spinning and Weaving Company. The price paid was Rs. 15.50 per cwt. at all buying points except Middeniya and Liyangahatota where Rs. 14.40 was paid. No Government subsidy was required.

Fruits and Vegetables.—Fruits and vegetables are grown in quantity, and are to be found in all markets, but there are possibilities of improving supplies and methods of marketting. Many of the varieties of fruits and vegetables are capable of considerable improvement. Temperate zone vegetables grow well in the higher elevations and cultivation of them is increasing.

Papaine.—The fruit of the papaw tree on being tapped yields papaine in marketable quantities; the tree grows quickly and forms a suitable catch crop during the waiting period for return from tea or rubber. A period of good prices has been followed by a period of over-production and the extension of papaw growing which took place in 1926-28 has been slowed up.

The quantity and value of the exports of papaine are shown in table No. 53A of the Appendix.

EXCISE.

Toddy and Arrack.

The production of toddy and arrack form two important industries dependent on the coconut palm. The nuts are formed at the top of the tree on the stalks enclosed in spathes, and for the formation of these nuts a large quantity of saccharine juice is supplied by the tree to the stalks. If the spathe is " tapped " before the nuts mature, and a pot attached to it, a quantity of the juice, varying from 6 to about 12 drams per day, can be collected in the pot. If lime is not used to prevent fermentation, the action of yeasts, which are present in the air, or in the pot, will convert the sugar in the juice into alcohol, and the liquid will be converted into toddy, with an alcoholic strength of about 4 to 8 per cent. Toddy is also obtained similarly from the palmyra palm. It is sold in taverns under Government licence at rates varying from 65 cents to Re. 1.30 per gallon. A considerable industry depends upon the sale of toddy, and attracts many of the smaller Ceylonese capitalists. The cost price of toddy may probably be put at about 30 cents per gallon, and considerable profits are made when the sales are active.

The toddy consumption in 1928-29 was 4,092,561 gallons, compared with 4,217,439 gallons in 1927-28, the average consumption per head of population being .94 and .89 gallons respectively. The actual toddy revenue collected in the two financial years was Rs. 2,207,568 in 1927-28 and Rs. 2,325 346 in 1928-29, the revenue per head being 49 and 51 cents, and the revenue per gallon of toddy consumed 52 and 57 cents respectively. In 1929-30 the rents of the remaining 141 toddy taverns were sold for Rs. 2,236,681, a decrease of nearly one lakh of rupees over the rent sale figures of the 159 taverns for the financial year 1928-29.

By the distillation of coconut toddy, the local spirit known as " arrack " is produced, and this is sold, like toddy, in taverns licensed by Government. The whole of the toddy retail trade, of the distilling, and of the sale of arrack is in the hands of Ceylonese capitalists. Distillation of arrack prior to 1923 was carried on in about 250 small pot stills of the most primitive variety: it is now concentrated in eight large modern distilleries, the outturn capacity of each of which is not less than 60,000 gallons per annum. Three of the distilleries have installed " Barbet's " patent stills for continuous distillation, each capable of producing 1,000 gallons of arrack per day. Besides the Government Distillery there are seven private distilleries all situated in the Kalutara District. All distillery operations are carried on under the close supervision of the Excise Department. The arrack made at these distilleries is far purer and more free from copper than any arrack hitherto distilled from coconut toddy in Ceylon. These new private distilleries were started in April, 1924. They supply their arrack to Government at a fixed price under what is known as the " Contract Supply " system.

About 8 gallons of toddy are required to produce a gallon of arrack at proof strength, *i.e.*, the outturn in arrack (proof gallons) of a distillery is about 12.0 per cent. of the toddy distilled. The distiller's cost of production is about Re. 1.50 to Re. 1.75 per proof gallon. The distillers sell their arrack to Government at Rs. 2 to Rs. 2.25 per gallon at 27 degrees under proof. Government stores and matures the spirit in bond and carries on reducing, blending, and bottling operations. Before issue to the retailer, Government recovers a duty of Rs. 7, the selling price of Rs. 3 per gallon (plus Rs. 2 for bottled arrack) calculated to leave a slight profit on its

warehousing and bottling operations, and a varying tavern rent according to the profits accruing in each tavern. This " Rent " varies from Rs. 3 to Rs. 4. The renters (*i.e.*, retailers) cannot sell above the maximum price of Rs. 14.40 by the glass and Rs. 16.80 by the bottle.

The number of gallons of arrack distilled during the last three years is as follows:—

	Gallons (proof).		Gallons (proof).
1927	640,144	1929	497,451
1928	579,215		

The corresponding outturn for the three years were 11.66, 11.92, and 12.07 respectively.

The consumption of arrack in 1929 was 612,761 gallons, a decrease of 92,088 gallons on the 1928 figure.

The number of arrack taverns in 1927-28 was 225 and in 1928-29 was 148. The estimated nett revenue after deducting expenses of the distribution and storage system was Rs. 7,941,553 in 1927-28 and Rs. 6,787,826 in 1928-29, which is equivalent to Re. 1.76 and Re. 1.51 respectively per head of population. The arrack consumption per head of population was .16 gallon in 1927-28 and .14 gallon in 1928-29. The arrack revenue (nett) per gallon was Rs. 11.01 in 1927-28 and Rs. 11.04 in 1928-29. The nett revenue shows a decrease, consequent on the falling consumption of about a lakh, though the nett revenue per gallon consumed shows an increase of .03 cents.

Vinegar Manufacture.

Toddy vinegar is obtained from the acetic ization of fermented toddy, which takes place naturally after about 36 hours.

In 1924 special licences were first issued to vinegar manufacturers in the Western and Southern Provinces with a view to encourage the manufacture of toddy vinegar as a local industry. The number of licences issued is restricted, and a tax of 50 cents per tree tapped is levied. Rules were passed in 1926 to control these vinegar stores. The results of the experiment have been very satisfactory.

The manufactories are run by respectable people and great care is taken in issuing licences.

Vinegar is sold at a wholesale rate of 45 to 70 cents a gallon, and most of it is bought by retail dealers in Colombo who retail it at 50 cents a bottle.

There is evidence of a considerable demand for toddy vinegar, and the present supply is insufficient to meet the demand.

The statistics for the last four years are as follows:—

	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.
Number of trees licensed ..	2,723 ..	2,615 ..	3,264 ..	2,066
Yield of toddy (gallons) ..	73,507 ..	92,344 ..	94,927 ..	73,557
Vinegar outturn (gallons) ..	66,213 ..	75,107 ..	76,438 ..	63,568

All manufactories are under close Excise supervision, and the regulations passed in 1926 have enabled the Department to exercise closer control, as the figures of yield and outturn indicate. This local industry is profitable and deserves every encouragement.

Foreign Liquor.

The imports of foreign liquor in 1929 were as follows:—362,531 gallons malt liquor (beer and ale), 81,828 gallons wines, 71,491 proof gallons whisky, 135,794 proof gallons brandy, and 94,892 proof gallons gin. These figures are mainly remarkable for the drop in the imports of gin and whisky. The duty was raised in March, 1928, on all gins and on brandies which cannot produce certificates of genuineness and maturity. No brandies are now

imported which are not distilled from the fruit of the grape and matured for at least three years. The result has shown a great improvement in the quality of the brandies imported. The imports of beer have gone up by about 50 per cent. and are an indication that this form of liquor is replacing toddy and spirits. The total quantity of beer outturned by the Nuwara Eliya Brewery in 1929 was 161,452 gallons.

The revenue derived from foreign liquor during the year 1928-29, including Customs duty and Excise licensing fees, is as follows:—

	Rs. c.		Rs. c.
Total foreign liquor revenue ..	5,931,013 0	Revenue per gallon ..	6 28
Revenue per head ..	1 31		

The following statement shows the estimated drink bill of Ceylon in 1928 and 1929:—

	1928. Expenditure.		1929. Expenditure.	
	Total. 1928. Rs.	Per Head. 1928. Rs. c.	Total. 1929. Rs.	Per Head. 1929. Rs. c.
Arrack ..	11,066,145	2 46	9,908,519	2 20
Toddy ..	3,840,032	0 86	4,459,292	0 99
Malt liquor ..	1,432,632	0 32	1,800,072	0 40
Wines ..	1,167,696	0 26	1,057,596	0 23
Spirits ..	10,579,563	2 35	11,418,357	2 54
Total ..	28,086,068	6 25	28,643,836	6 36

The revenue for 1928-29 per rupee spent on the various kinds of liquor is 69 cents in respect of arrack, 53 cents in respect of toddy, and 42 cents in respect of foreign liquor. The corresponding figures for 1928 were 72, 58, and 40 cents respectively.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The total liquor revenue for the financial years 1927-28 and 1928-29 were as follows:—

	1927-28. Rs.	1928-29. Rs.
Excise Revenue.		
Arrack (Gross) ..	10,285,312	8,761,850
Toddy ..	2,207,568	2,325,346
Licensing fees ..	171,562	178,446
Composition fees ..	29,026	22,292
Total Excise Revenue ..	12,693,468	11,287,934
Other Revenue.		
Customs (import duties) ..	5,151,353	5,754,566
Police Court fines in Excise cases ..	233,517	292,407
Sale of confiscated articles ..	—	837
Total Revenue directly connected with excisable articles ..	18,078,338	17,335,744

The expenditure on the Excise Department, including the salaries of Civil Servants and all Excise Department officers and all other charges was Rs. 1,581,674 in 1928-29 and Rs. 1,535,115 in the previous financial year. This works out at 9.1 per cent. of the total revenue directly connected with excisable articles and 14 per cent. of the Excise revenue in 1928-29 and 8.5 per cent. and 12.1 per cent. respectively in 1927-28.

Local Option.

The following table shows the result of local option polls in 1929:—

	Arrack Taverns.	Toddy Taverns.	Foreign Liquor.		Arrack Taverns.	Toddy Taverns.
Number of premises to be closed ..	3	4	1	Number of premises to be reopened ..	2	3
				Number of estate canteens to be opened ..	3	2

Excise Offences.

The following is a statement of Excise detections in the three years 1927, 1928, and 1929:—

Year.	Foreign Liquor.	Arrack.	Toddy.	Intoxicating Drugs.	Short Measure.	Others.	Total.
1927 ..	106 ..	526 ..	5,605 ..	309 ..	192 ..	549 ..	7,287
1928 ..	98 ..	521 ..	5,325 ..	477 ..	134 ..	362 ..	6,967
1929 ..	98 ..	606 ..	4,510 ..	635 ..	145 ..	217 ..	6,211

The most remarkable increases occur under illicit distillation, illicit transport of toddy, and under cultivation, sale, and possession of intoxicating drugs.

FISHERIES.

Sea Fisheries.—The fishing industries of the Island until the advent of a trawling company which started operations early in 1928 were entirely confined to the activities of Sinhalese and Tamil fishermen fishing from their catamarans (Tamil kattu maram, literally logs tied together), and outrigger canoes.

The methods of fishing fall, roughly, into three classes:—

(*a*) Net fishing from the shore in which large seine-nets are employed.
(*b*) Net fishing from catamarans. A simplified form of drift net is used for this purpose.
(*c*) Line fishing from outrigger canoes.

Cured Fish.—Previous to the extension of the railway throughout the Island a greater part of the fish caught could not be transported in a fresh condition and the cured fish industry then prospered, but this industry decreased rapidly after the development of the railway and the introduction of motor transport when the demand for fresh fish so greatly exceeded the supply that no surplus fish was available for curing. It has now practically died out.

Trawling.—Within the last few years the demand for fish goods has so greatly exceeded the supply that imports mainly from Southern India have shown an astonishing increase. In 1920, for example, fish goods to the value of Rs. 4,638,715 were imported, whereas in 1929 the value had grown to the considerable sum of Rs. 12,777,467 (approximately £950,000) or rather more than the whole output of the Island. This, despite the fact that the Island has a coast line of some 800 miles and that the waters abound in both surface and bottom feeding fishes of high edible value. This failure in the local fishing industry to meet increasing demands is attributable to two primary causes:—

(1) The total inadequacy of the catamaran and outrigger canoe to the application of modern fishing methods, and (2) the steady decline in the personnel of the fisher community due very largely to the laudable desire of the younger generations to forsake their parents' calling for more lucrative and possibly more congenial employment.

Since its inception in 1920 the Fisheries Department has been alive to this decline, and under the direction of the Marine Biologist, who is also Director, Colombo Museum, it has devoted considerable attention to the modernization of the industry. In the first instance it has concentrated on a fisheries survey of the coastal waters with the object of ascertaining the fish fauna and also of inquiring into the suitability of the introduction of trawl fishing. This work has met with signal success. Two very extensive fishing banks have been discovered which are practically virgin ground. They are the Pedro bank off the north-east corner of the Island, with an approximate

area of 1,000 square miles, and the Wadge bank off Cape Comorin, Southern India, with an area of over 4,000 square miles. Sample trawls taken on these banks have shown excellent catches of good edible fishes, and the results obtained have attracted the interest of a local company which commenced trawling operations in the early part of 1928, in the first instance with one trawler, and latterly with a second trawler. Fish caught is landed at Colombo, where it is auctioned.

The Pedro and the Wadge banks are almost entirely uncharted, and the Fisheries Department is at present engaged in a detailed survey of both banks for the purpose of preparing accurate fishing charts which will greatly facilitate their commercial exploitation. Work on the Pedro bank is almost completed. Work on the Wadge bank has made fair progress and will be completed in about five years. Progress reports on the work of these two banks are to be found in the Department's administration reports for 1925-1928, while the preliminary survey is dealt with in Ceylon Journal of Science, section C (Fisheries), Vol. I., Part II.

Inshore Fisheries.—In addition to the above investigations the Department has under consideration the development of a small type of fishing craft to replace the old-fashioned catamaran and outrigger canoe. The problem is not a simple one as the boat will need to be designed to meet the peculiar conditions of fishing in tropical waters. It should be inexpensive to build and to operate and easily handled. It will in the first instance be used to test the four principal methods of fishing—(*a*) drift-net, (*b*) Danish seine, (*c*) long-lining, (*d*) beam trawl—in order to ascertain which of these methods are most suitable for these waters. It is anticipated that the most satisfactory for general fishing will be drift-net and long-lining. The beam trawl and the Danish seine are likely to be more profitable in confined areas, such as the Palk Strait.

Pearl Fishery.—The Ceylon pearl oyster, the fisheries of which have been famous for many centuries, is to be found in the area known as the Ceylon Pearl Banks lying off the west coast of Ceylon and extending from Puttalam to Adam's Bridge. The banks are under Government control and the fishing rights are held by Government. No fishery has been held since 1925, but the banks are now being gradually restocked with young oysters. Recently a large extension of oyster bearing ground covering an area of about 30 square miles was discovered. Young oysters lie thick over the whole of this area and the prospects of future fisheries about 1931 are very favourable.

Chank Fisheries.—The chank, which has considerable value in India, where it is cut and carved into bangles, is fished annually in the shallow water area north of Adam's Bridge known as the Palk Strait where it occurs in great abundance. The fishery is not controlled by Government but a duty is charged on all chanks exported. According to Customs returns for 1929, 1,155,090 shells were exported and a revenue of Rs. 19,952 was collected as export duty. Chanks also occur in some numbers in the shallow inshore area of the Pearl Banks but under the Chanks Ordinance, No. 18 of 1890, it was unlawful to fish chanks in this area. This Ordinance has now been amended and a rule has been passed making it lawful to fish for chanks between January 31 and April 30 in that area of the Pearl Banks lying between Mannar and Modaragam Point and within the three fathom line.

The fishing of this area will be opened for the first time in 1930 and will be regulated by the Department of Fisheries. It will be carried on under the same conditions as apply to Chank fishing in the Palk Strait.

SALT.

The manufacture, collection, and sale of salt constitute in Ceylon a Government monopoly, which is protected by an import duty. The monopoly is administered by the Controller of Revenue through the Salt Adviser and the Revenue Officers.

Ceylon consumes about 620,000 cwt. of common salt per annum. The greater part of this salt is manufactured or collected locally and any shortages due to failures of harvests are met by the importation of salt of similar quality from India. Salt is manufactured from sea water by solar evaporation at the Government Salterns at Elephant Pass in the Northern Province and at Palavi, near Puttalam, in the North-Western Province, and in the privately owned salt pans at Chiviyateru in the Northern Province, about four miles from Jaffna, at Puttalam, and at Nilaveli, eight miles north of Trincomalee. Spontaneously formed salt resulting from the natural evaporation of brine is collected from lagoons in the Hambantota District of the Southern Province and in the Jaffna peninsula in the Northern Province. The quantity of salt manufactured at Chiviyateru and at Nilaveli is small and the greater part of the local supply is derived from the Government Salterns, from the lagoons in the Hambantota District, and from the private salt pans at Puttalam. The total quantity of salt produced in Ceylon during the last ten years will be found in table No. 52 of the Appendix.

Exceptionally good harvests during 1928 made it desirable to prevent the further importation of Indian salt, which had been encouraged from July, 1925, in view of the then depleted stocks. The import duty on salt was accordingly raised to Rs. 4 per cwt. from February 1, 1930. The restrictions on the distribution of local salt were also modified.

The 1929 salt harvest was, elsewhere than at Elephant Pass and in the Hambantota District, disappointing.

Stocks at the beginning of 1929 amounted to 1,268,915 cwt. and at the end of the year to 1,185,748 cwt.

The amount realized during the year by sale of local salt from the Government depôts was Rs. 1,902,636. The total revenue derived from salt, including a sum of Rs. 79,754 collected as duty on imported salt, was Rs. 1,982,390. The total revenue derived from salt during each of the two preceding years was—

	Rs. c.		Rs. c.
1927 ..	.. 1,927,267 57	1928 ..	.. 2,015,786 0

Owing to the more or less static consumption and the equalizing effect of the import duty the revenue from salt does not show a large percentage of variation from year to year.

MINERALOGY.

Plumbago.

Occurrence.—Plumbago, or graphite, is the most important of the Ceylon minerals. It occurs in minute scattered crystals in some of the granulites and crystalline limestones, but it is only where it is found in veins that it is of any commercial importance. The veins or pockets vary from the smallest size up to a yard or more in width, and often consist of pure graphite unmixed with other minerals. Frequently quartz, mica, felspar, pyroxene, apatite, pyrite, &c., are associated with the graphite. The most frequent country rock is an acid granulite of the charnockite series.

Mines.—The deepest mines go to a depth of between 600 and 800 feet, while considerable quantities of the mineral are obtained very near the surface. Several of the largest mines are fitted with electric light and equipped with modern machinery, but in most of them the arrangements are very primitive. Seventy-four mines were reported to be working at the end of 1929 employing about 2,162 men, but it is possible that the number actually at work was less.

Prices and Grades.—Since 1919 prices have been nominal, there being practically no buyers. The majority of the mines were closed in 1920 and still remain closed.

The decrease in naval armaments had a direct effect on the demand for plumbago especially with regard to Ceylon as Ceylon flake was the best crucible plumbago used for this purpose. This is held to be the cause of the falling off in demand for these high grades and the demand throughout the year has been principally for carbon plumbago. With the present price ruling there seems to be no prospect of any extension of mining activities, and the big surface deposits in Madagascar who can now compete with most Ceylon grades for factory work offer little encouragement for new enterprise.

The annual average market prices* from 1920 for large and ordinary lumps were—

	Grade XB. Per Ton. Rs. c.	Grade B. Per Ton. Rs. c.	Grade B E. Per Ton. Rs. c.
1920	333 68	263 4	185 20
1921	304 50	234 75	172 50
1922	269 39	203 78	142 86
1923	227 70	175 30	127 10
1924	208 24	157 94	111 33
1925	259 85	217 6	155 84
1926	289 50	241 95	177 95
1927	386 80†	326 79	232 69†
		All Grades. Rs. c.	
1928	—	188 51	—
1929	—	214 28	—

Local Trade.—The mining for, and the local trade in, graphite remain chiefly in the hands of the Sinhalese. When the prices were up, plumbago, in the process of preparation for the market, could be seen at every village house in the plumbago areas. Large mines are worked both by Ceylonese capitalists and by tea estate owners on whose land plumbago is found. Some of the larger mines can turn out 100 tons a month, and Ceylon can, when required, produce 30,000 tons a year. During the years 1915, 1916, and 1917 over 15,000 skilled labourers were engaged in this industry.

Uses.—Plumbago is chiefly used in the manufacture of crucibles, furnace facings, electrodes, and stove polish, as well as for making lubricants, black paint, lead pencils, and in electroplating. During the war large quantities were required for the manufacture of munitions, and the exports in 1916 rose above the old maximum.

The quantity and value of the exports of plumbago and the percentage distribution are shown in tables Nos. 47 and 48 of the Appendix and in Diagram No. 14.

Other Economic Minerals.

Precious Stones.—Precious stones in large variety are found principally in the alluvial gravels of the Ratnapura District and the south-west portion of the Island. The most important are sapphire and ruby (varieties of corundum), chrysoberyl (including cat's-eye and the rare alexandrite), beryl or aquamarine, and the semi-precious stones, topaz, spinel, garnet, zircon, quartz of various colours (cairngorm, citrine quartz, amethyst), and moonstone.

* According to lowest and highest overall quotations received for all grades.
† Average for top grades only.

Mining for gems is carried on almost entirely by Sinhalese on a co-partn ship system. The stones are bought up by Moorish dealers to be cut a polished. Many of the best stones are exported to Europe and Americ but the inferior varieties are largely sold locally or in India. It is diffic to estimate the value of the annual output, but it may be put at somewh about Rs. 2,000,000.

With the exception of moonstone, which is mined from a band of a leptynite, and some garnet, the gem-stones are all obtained from alluv gravels. Sapphire and beryl have been discovered in abundance in p matite veins in the Matara and Kandy Districts, respectively, and the ot minerals named are probably derived from rocks of similar type.

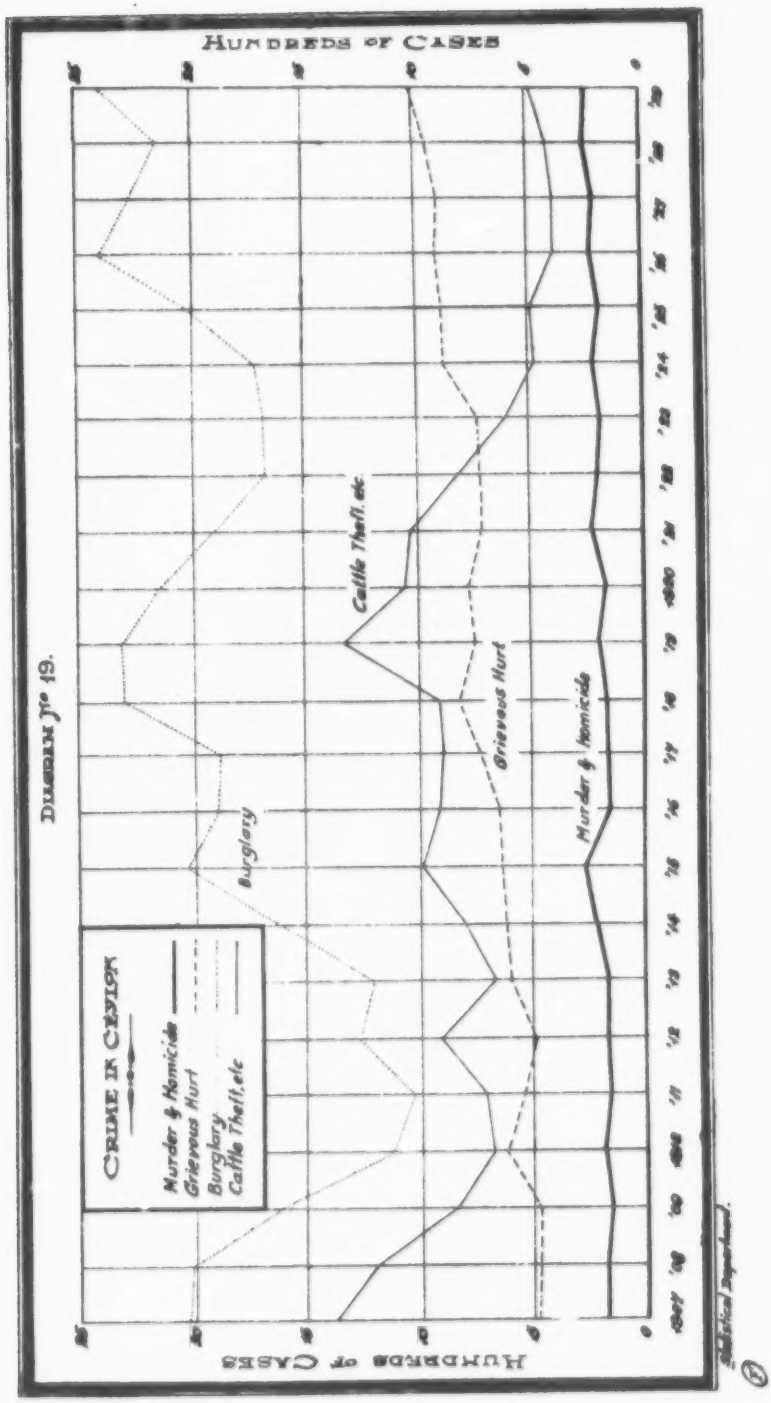
Monazite and Thoria-bearing Minerals.—A number of minerals contain thorium and uranium have been found both in alluvial gravels and in parent pegmatite veins. Thorianite, first discovered in Ceylon, and conta ing from 50 per cent. to 75 per cent. of thoria, and thorite with 80 per ce of thoria, were at one time produced in commercial quantities. In 1 monazite containing over 9 per cent. of thoria was discovered as a natu concentrate on the seabeach at several places on the west coast. Wo under the control of the Mineral Survey were erected near Bentota for treatment of the sand, but the heavy fall in price after 1921 made the ope tions unprofitable and they were abandoned in 1927. A first shipment 72 tons of refined sand valued at Rs. 40,000 was made in 1920. Anot small rich deposit is known to exist at Kudremalai, between Puttalam Mannar.

The mineral is a phosphate of cerium, thorium, and other rare ea metals. Its value depends on the proportion of thorium present, which used in the manufacture of incandescent gas mantles.

Ilmenite and other Heavy Sands.—Ordinance No. 6 of 1926 provides the granting of licences to remove heavy sands from the foreshore. natural concentrates of the seabeach are conveniently referred to as bl sands. The black colour is due to the predominance of ilmenite which i the form of shining black grains resembling coarse gunpowder. The exp tation of ilmenite may be said to be the chief reason for this Ordinance. is a titanate of iron and has come largely into use in the last few years source of titanium oxide, which can be used as a substitute for white or zinc in pigments and possesses certain advantages over these compou It is the natural concentrates of this mineral that are likely to prove commercial importance. Several large deposits of this concentrated bl sand, mostly composed of ilmenite, have been located, but the most imp ant is that at Pulmoddai, about 35 miles north of Trincomalee. It estimated that there is at least two million tons of ilmenite in this dep The present price of £4 per ton C. I. F. does not appear to hold out m promise.

Mica.—A small amount of mica is produced from deposits in pegma veins or on the boundary of limestone bands. The deposits are extrem irregular, the commercial mica occurring in bunches in the veins intervening barren ground. The principal localities are around Kandy Balangoda.

The only variety of commercial importance is phlogopite known in trade as "amber mica." It realizes good prices when properly prepa Table No. 49 of the Appendix shows the quantity and value of the exp of mica for the last ten years.



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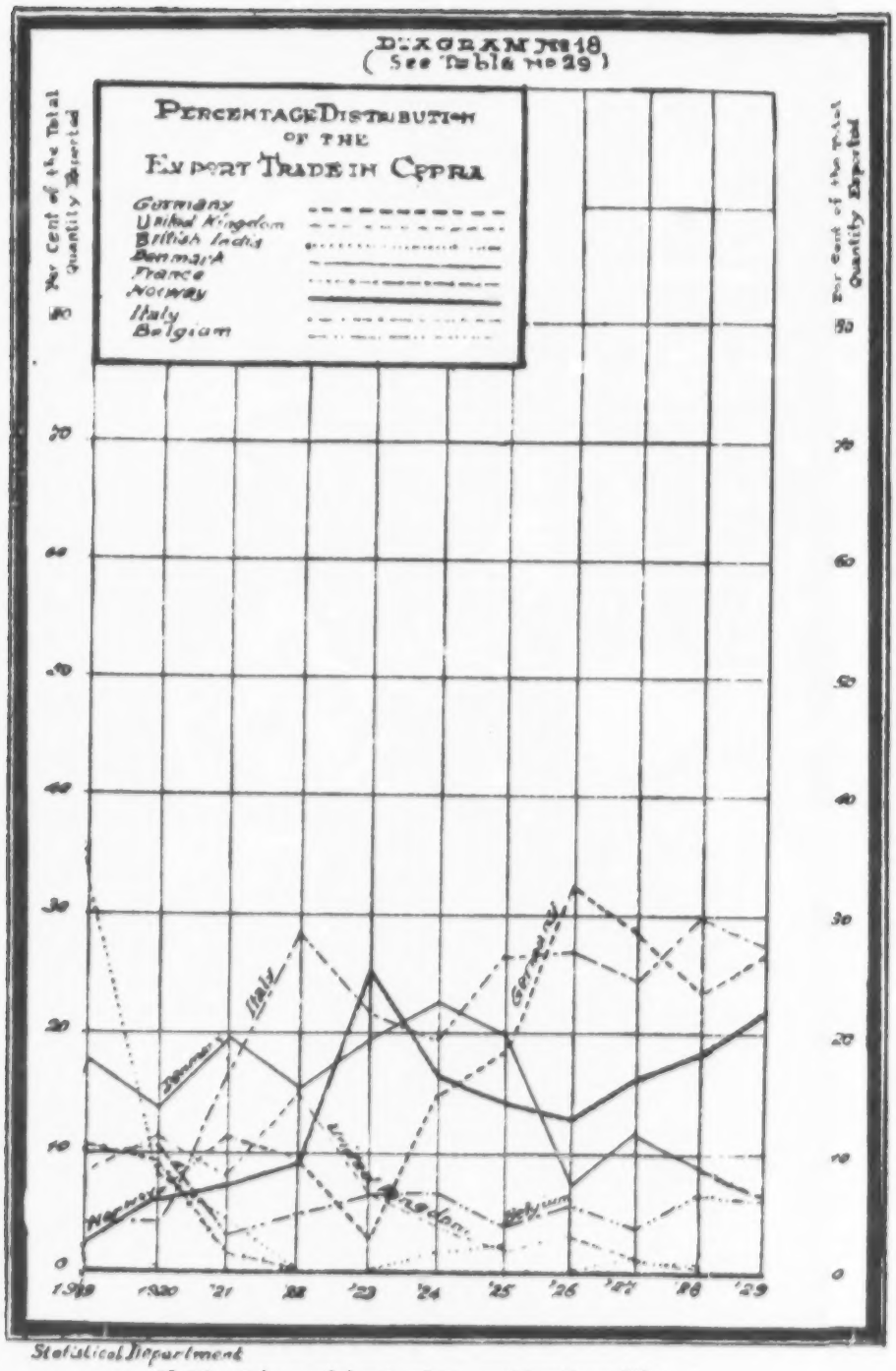
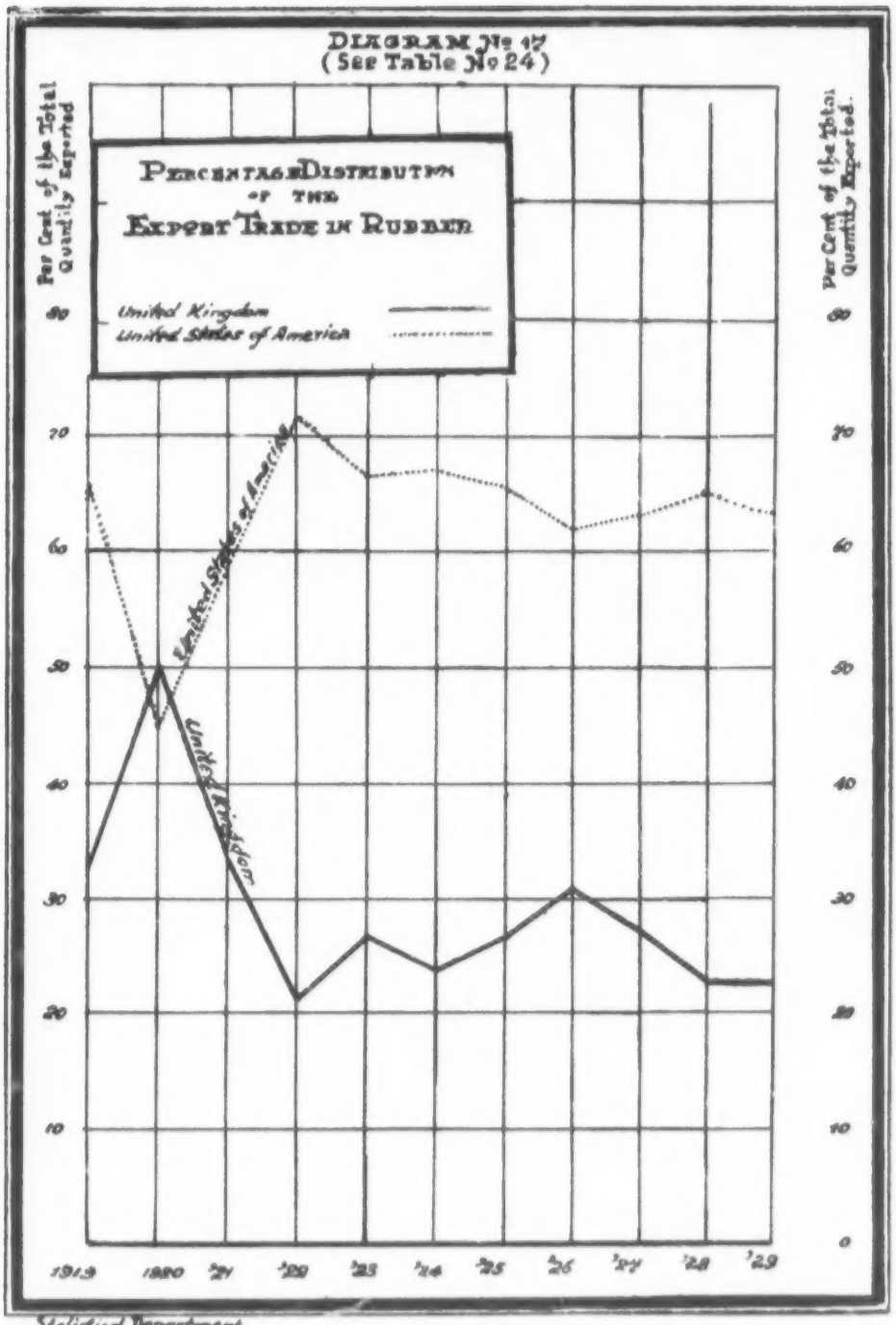


Statistical Department

NOTE. - Only countries to which considerable quantities were exported have been selected



Statistical Department.

NOTE.— Only countries to which considerable quantities were exported have been selected.

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DIAGRAM No 16.
(See Tables Nos. 21 & 22).

Statistical Department.

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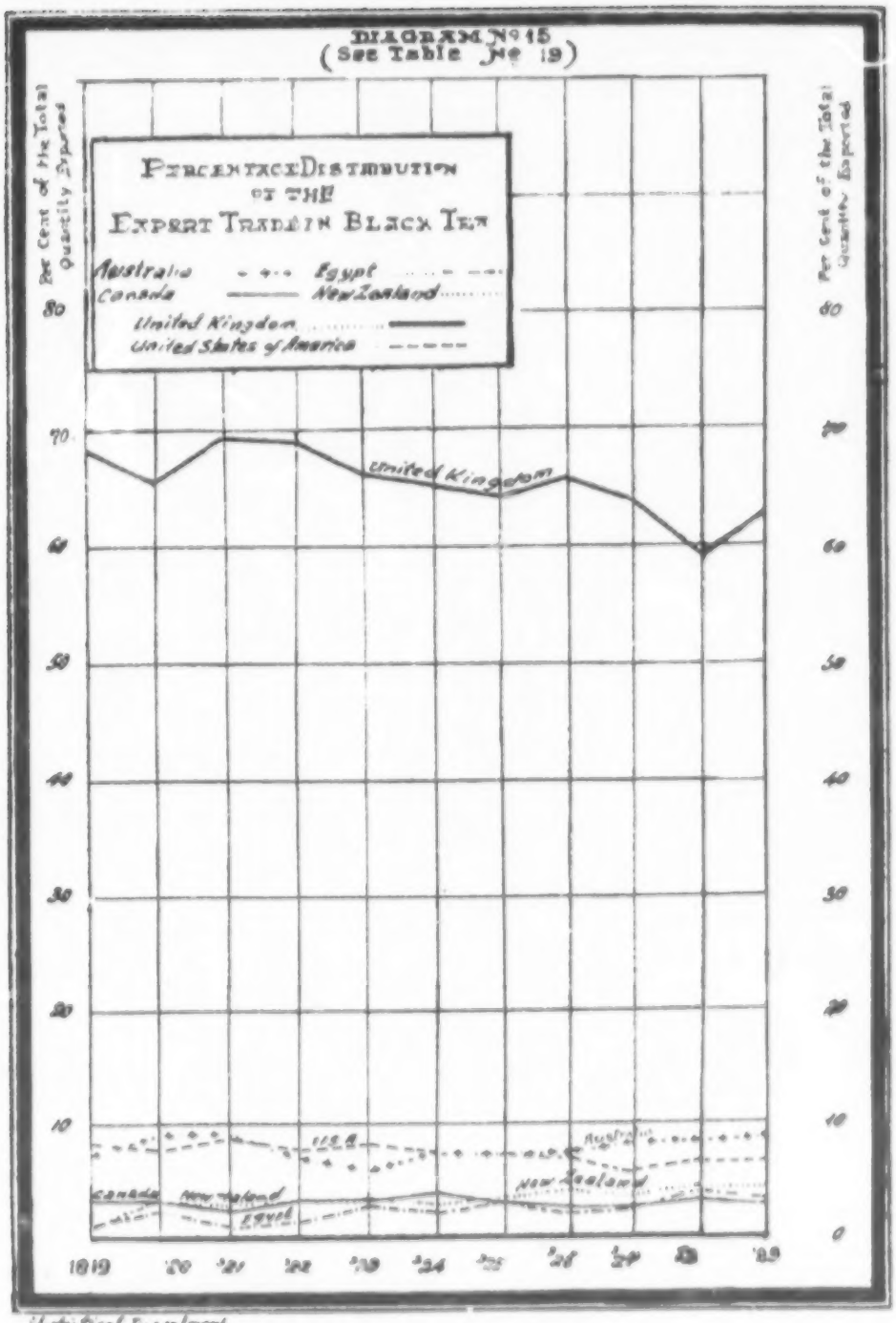
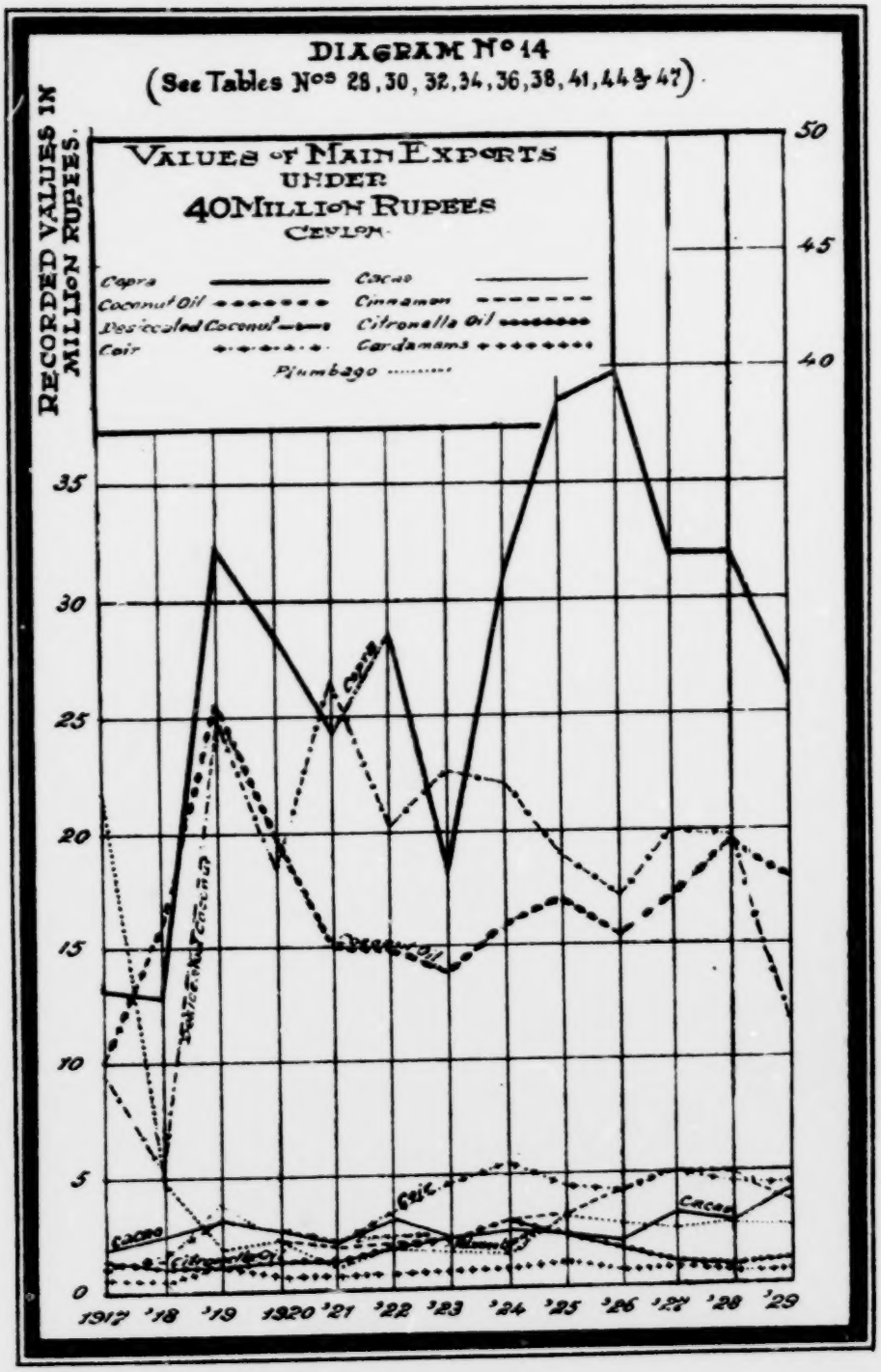


Statistical Department
Note: Only countries to which considerable quantities were exported have been selected.



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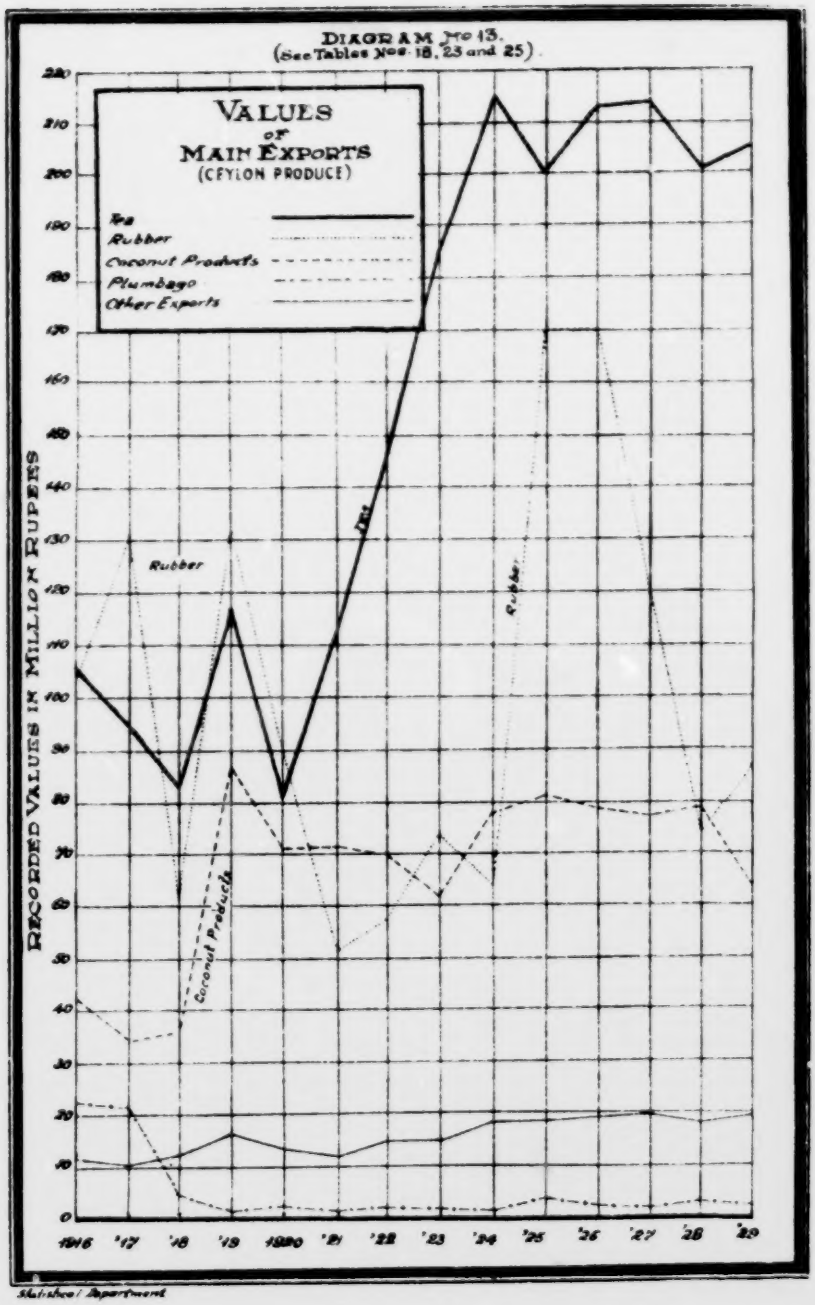

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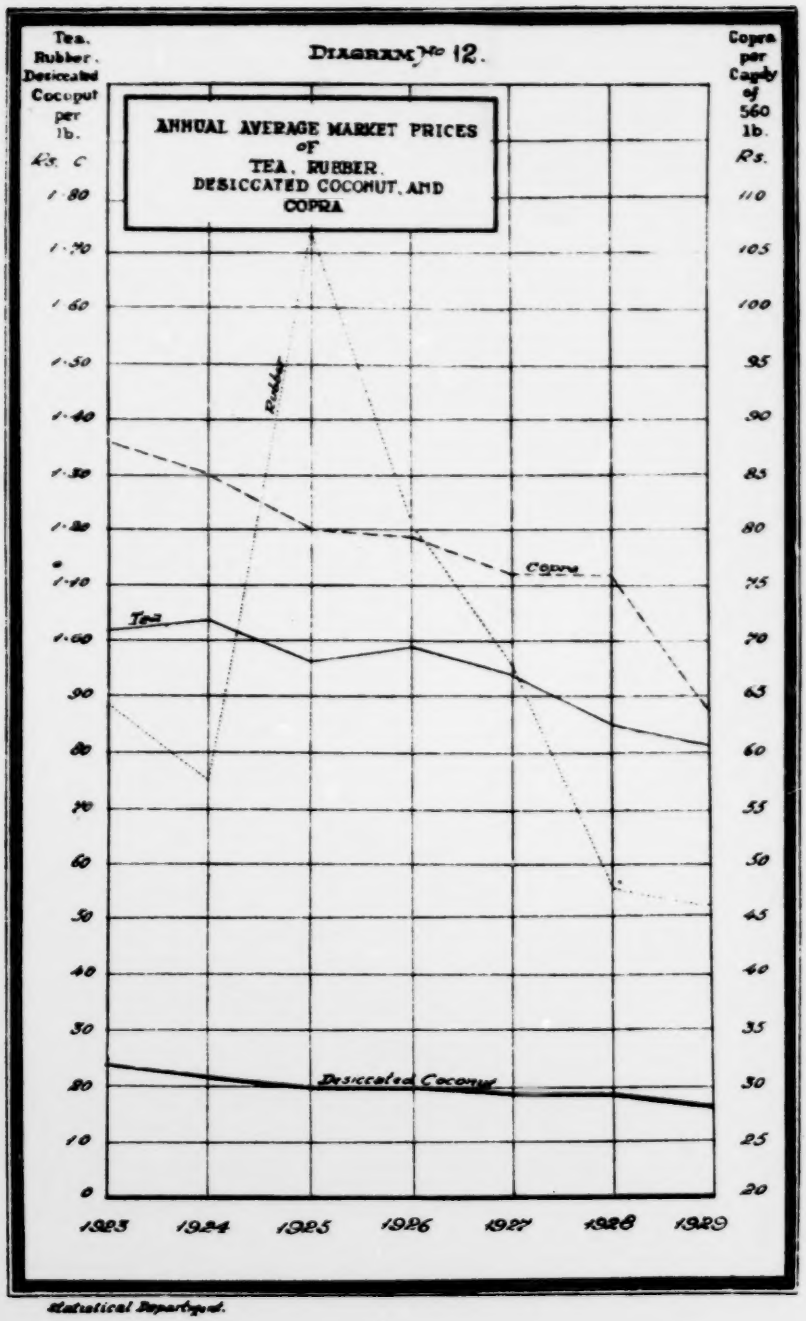

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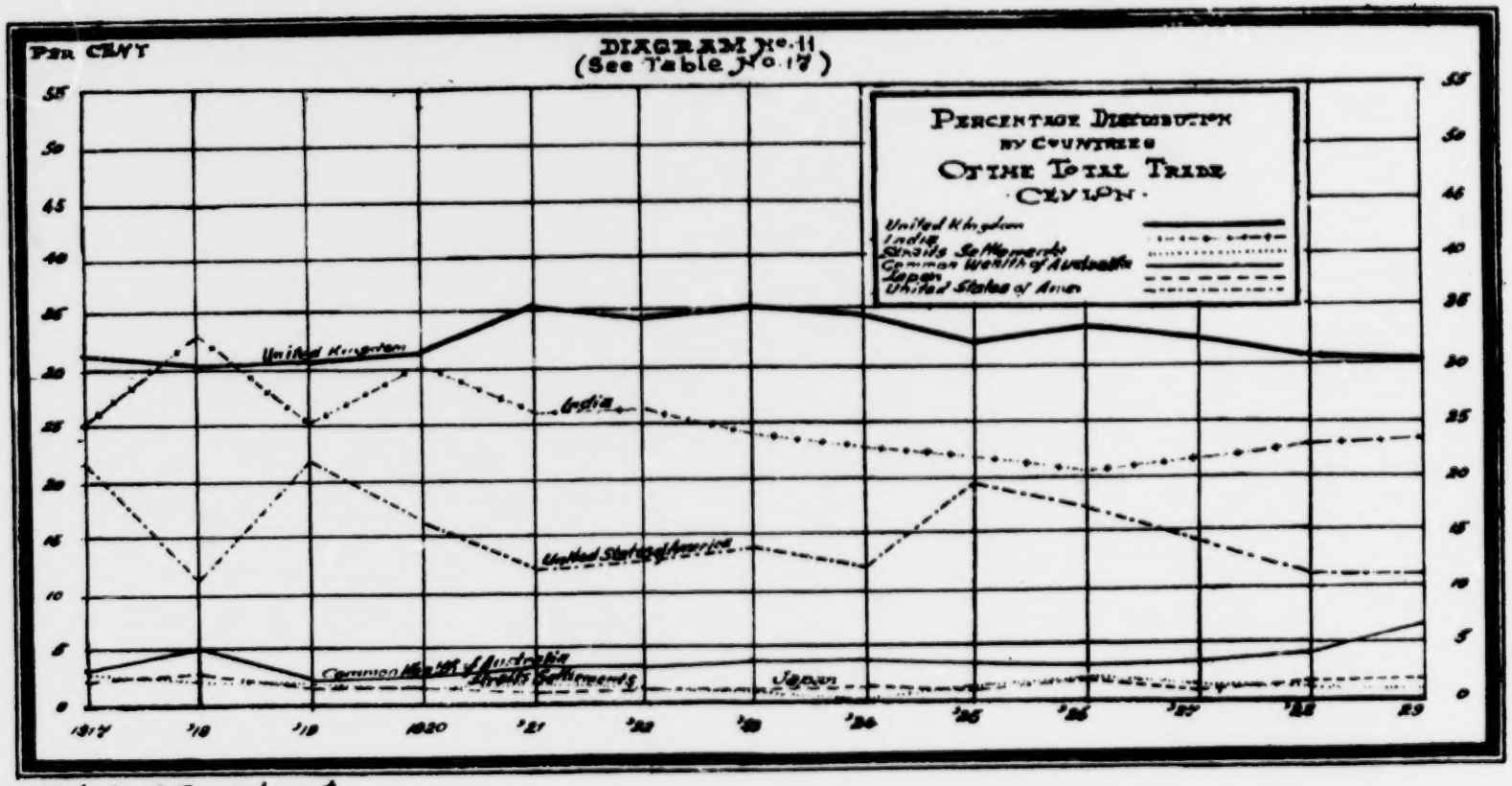

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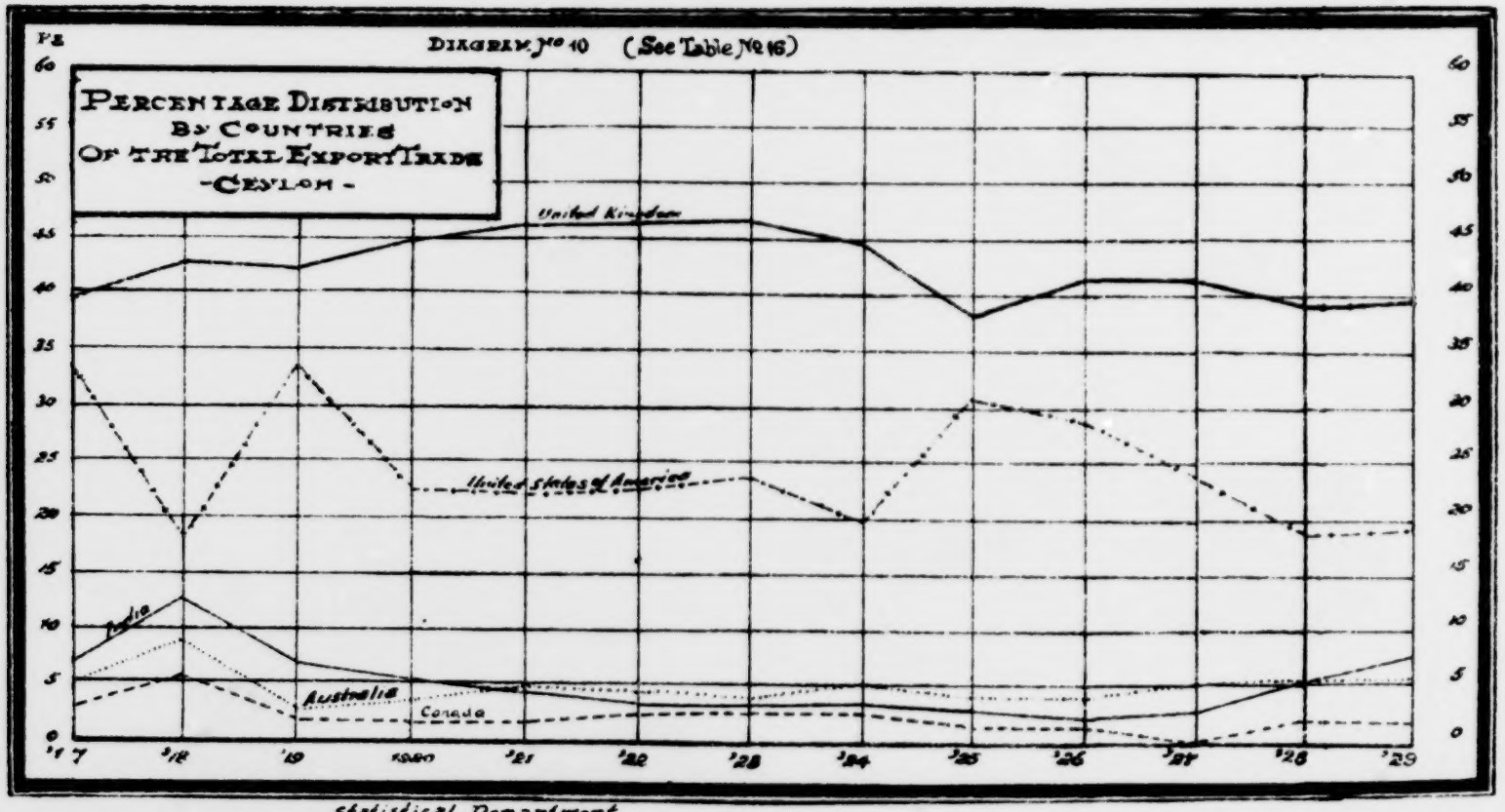

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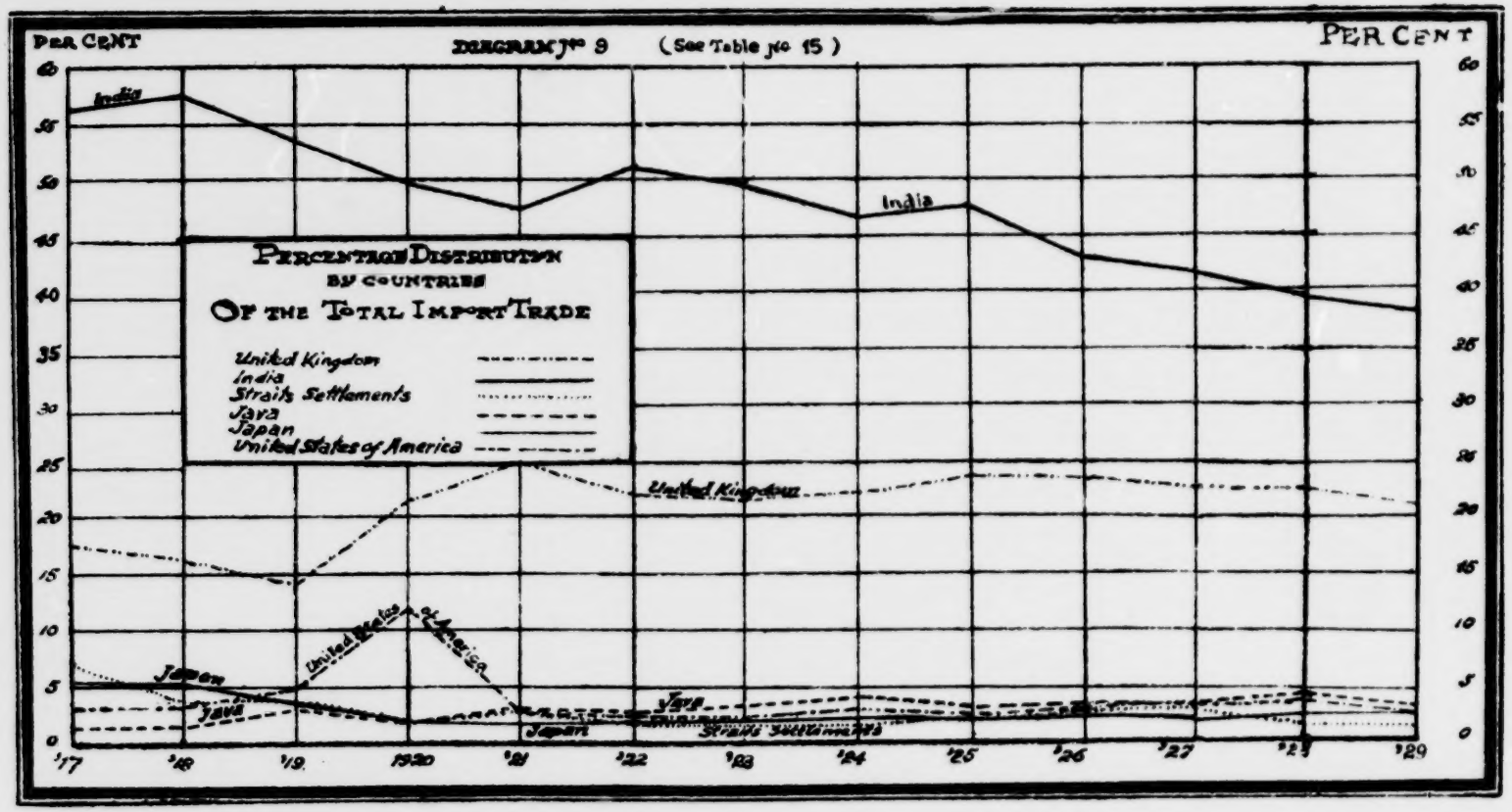

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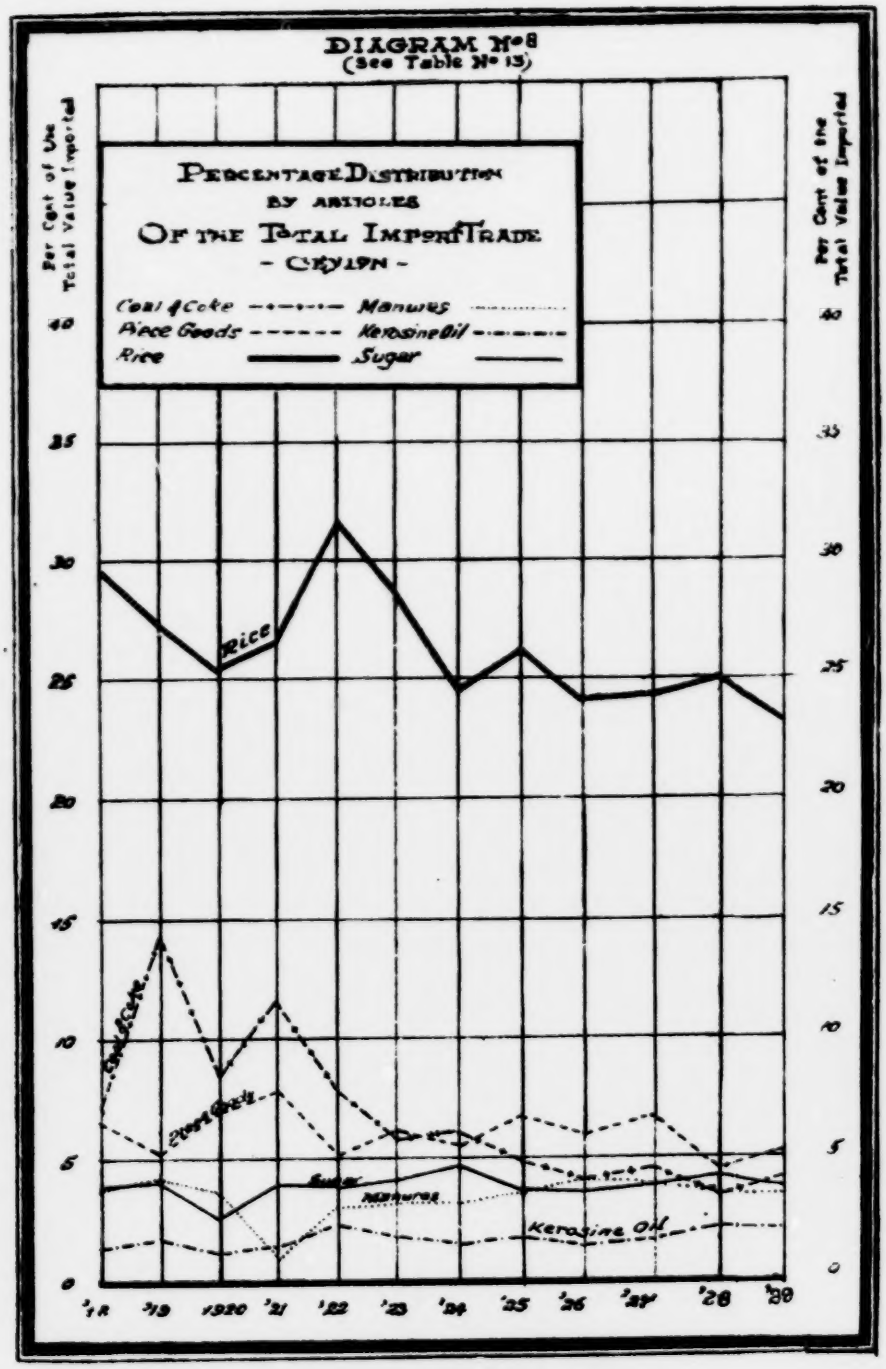
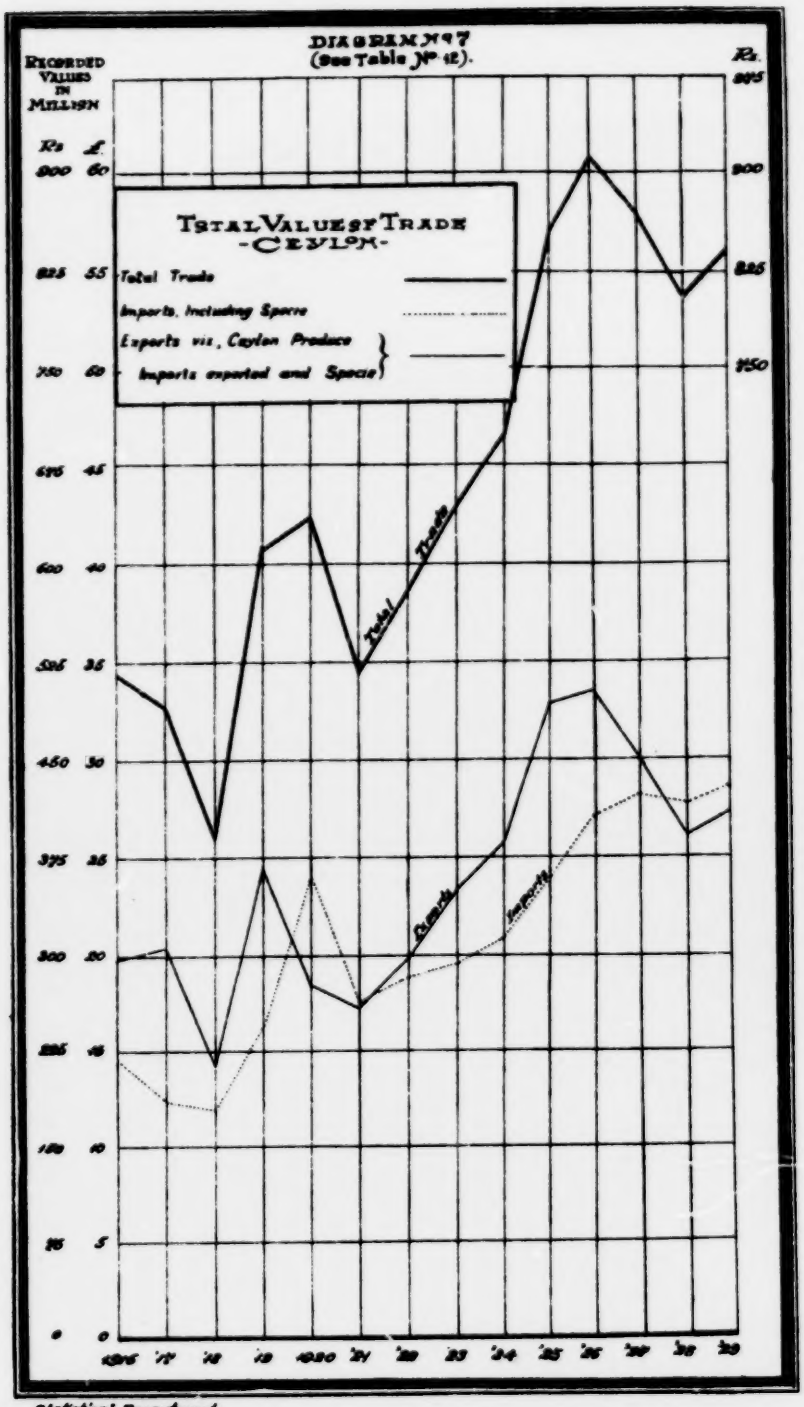


NOTE - Only countries to which considerable quantities were exported have been selected



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Other Mineral Products.—Other mineral products are the following:—

(1) Kaolin of good quality can be prepared from the decomposed felspar of granitic rocks free from iron minerals.

(2) White quartz sand suitable for the manufacture of the commoner kinds of glass occurs in places on the west coast and in the north near Point Pedro.

(3) Limestone of a high degree of purity suitable for use in the manufacture of cement is found in inexhaustible quantity in the Jaffna peninsula. The coral deposits of the coast are extensively burnt for lime. The crystalline limestones of the interior of the Island are almost all dolomitic and yield inferior lime.

(4) The gneisses and granulites of the charnockite series furnish useful building stones.

(5) Pottery clays of poor quality and brick-earth suitable for the manufacture of bricks and tiles are found in all the river valleys. Kabuk, which is the product of decomposition of the surface of the crystalline rocks, is extensively used for small buildings. When first opened up, it can be cut into slabs, which harden on exposure to the air.

IV.—Trade.

GENERAL STATEMENT.

CEYLON depends for its prosperity mainly upon agriculture and the development of its natural resources in this direction. There are few manufacturing industries, and those which exist are in their infancy, with the exceptions of the processes by which the three chief staple products —tea, rubber, and the produce of the coconut palm—are prepared for the market. The mineral resources of the Island, with the exception of plumbago, are not large, while the total absence of coal no doubt largely accounts for the lack of manufactures. Consequently, the trade of the Island is occupied with the export of the staple agricultural products and the import of the manufactured articles and finished materials required by the population, in addition to those foodstuffs which are not grown locally in sufficient quantities for local requirements.

Value.—The total value of the foreign trade of the Colony has risen during the last ten years from Rs. 506,400,000 or about £33,760,000 in 1919 to Rs. 836,700,000 or about £55,780,000 in 1929. The balance of trade was in favour of exports during the whole period, with the exception of 1920, 1921, 1928, and 1929. Ceylon is a debtor country, in the sense that many of the estates in the Island have been opened out with British capital, and a considerable part of the value of the exports goes to provide the interest on outside capital invested in Ceylon industries.

Trade with other Countries.—As regards trade relations with other countries, it may be said that, roughly, one-third of our total trade is with the United Kingdom, one-third with the British Possessions, chiefly British India and Burma, and one-third with Foreign Countries. The proportions, however, are not the same in the import trade as in the exports.

The total trade of the Colony, excluding value of ships' stores and postal articles, in the year 1929 amounted to Rs. 836,668,133. This figure shows an increase of Rs. 31,978,519 over the figure for 1928. The total imports amounted to Rs. 429,295,323, an increase of Rs. 17,175,684 over 1928 and

of Rs. 8,167,347 over 1927. The total exports amounted to Rs. 407,372,810. This figure is Rs. 14,802,835 more than that for 1928, and Rs. 41,900,934 less than that for 1927. This year too there is an excess of imports over exports, the difference being Rs. 21,922,513.

There was little change in the distribution of trade, but imports from foreign countries have increased very slightly at the expense of imports from the United Kingdom and British Possessions.

The largest suppliers by far are United Kingdom, British India, and Burma, and these countries between them supplied 62.7 per cent. of the total imports.

The principal countries as regards exports of Ceylon produce have again been the United Kingdom and the United States of America, the percentages for each being as follows:—

	1928.	1929.		1928.	1929.
United Kingdom	40.54	42.48	United States of America	18.61	19.42

The percentage of total trade with British Possessions (mainly India, including Burma) has increased from 34.58 in 1928 to 36.53 in 1929, and that with foreign countries has decreased from 34.79 to 33.33. The total trade with the United Kingdom has shown a fall from 30.63 per cent. to 30.14.

Comparative percentages for the last three years of the value of imports, exports, and total trade are as follows. The figures are exclusive of the value of ships' stores and postal articles:—

	1927.	1928.	1929.
Imports.			
From the United Kingdom	22.62	22.57	21.08
From the British Possessions	52.48	49.19	51.29
From the Foreign Countries	24.90	28.23	27.63
Exports.			
To the United Kingdom	41.62	39.10	39.71
To the British Possessions	17.12	19.24	20.95
To the Foreign Countries	41.25	41.67	39.34
Total Trade.			
From and to United Kingdom	32.43	30.63	30.14
From and to British Possessions	34.23	34.58	36.53
From and to Foreign Countries	33.34	34.79	33.33

The principal countries from which Ceylon's imports are obtained, with the percentage of the total value supplied by each for the last twelve years, are shown in table No. 15 of the Appendix.

The value of the staple products exported from Ceylon during the last five years are as follows:—

	Lakhs of Rupees.				
	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.
1. Tea	1,997	2,132	2,138	2,013	2,051
2. Rubber	1,700	1,701	1,192	740	933
3. Copra	383	398	318	318	263
4. Coconut oil	168	155	166	193	180
5. Coconut, desiccated	188	173	205	198	118
6. Cacao	23	20	27	28	42
7. Cinnamon	32	42	48	50	37
8. Plumbago	30	26	25	27	27
9. Arecanuts	40	42	30	32	26
10. Coir fibre	19	21	28	26	25
11. Coconut poonac	11	9	12	20	21
12. Coir yarn	21	18	22	16	18
13. Skins, dressed and undressed	7	13	16	13	17
14. Coconuts, fresh	19	14	15	14	13
15. Citronella oil	23	18	13	10	12
16. Cardamoms	11	8	9	8	6
17. Papaine	4	3	7	9	6

Rice (not in the Husk).—The quantity imported showed a slight increase, but not sufficient to indicate any further substitution of imported rice for locally grown rice. As in previous years British India and Burma were the chief sources of supply. The imports from Burma have increased, as also Cochin-China at the expense of the Straits Settlements and Siam. Cochin-China entered the field as a new competitor with imports valued at over 4 million rupees in 1928. Table No. 50 in the Appendix shows the quantity and value of the imports of rice from British India, Burma, and other countries for the last ten years.

Other Grains.—Of the imports of "other grains," of which the most important are peas, paddy, and gram, the last two showed a fall, while the former showed a slight increase.

The imports for 1926, 1927, 1928, and 1929 are shown below:—

	1926. Cwt.	1927. Cwt.	1928. Cwt.	1929. Cwt.
Paddy (rice in the husk)	650,964	481,642	802,428	710,882

	1926. Cwt.	1927. Cwt.	1928. Cwt.	1929. Cwt.
Peas	267,148	351,412	357,590	378,747
Gram	130,032	111,660	101,964	97,702

Wheat Products, Flour, and Meal.—Practically the whole supply came from Australia and British India, the former being the main supplier. In 1929 378,077 cwt. came from Australia and 18,548 from British India. In 1928 the figures were 357,076 cwt. and 51,963 cwt.

The following table shows quantities and value imported in 1926, 1927, 1928, and 1929:—

	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1926	359,062	4,307,895
1927	389,892	4,678,723
1928	409,738	5,067,002
1929	396,640	5,523,144

Feeding Stuffs for Animals.—The most important feeding stuff for animals imported is gingelly poonac, of which 358 880 cwt. were imported. The imports from British India amounted to 357,420 cwt.

Sugar.—The imports of sugar again showed a large increase, Java being by far the largest source of supply. The total value of sugar imported exceeds Rs. 15,000,000. Refined sugar other than in lumps and loaves, which is the principal form in which sugar is imported, increased from 1,192,505 cwt. in 1928 and 1,057,046 cwt. in 1927 to 1,249,389 cwt. in 1929, of which 996,032 cwt. came from Java.

Manufactured Tobacco, Cigars, and Cigarettes.—There has been an increase in the quantity cleared for home consumption under all heads except cigars, and the consumption of tobacco, particularly cigarettes, is obviously increasing among all classes. Practically all the cigarettes imported, except a few pounds from Egypt, came from the United Kingdom, and the same applies to manufactured tobacco. Of 5,853 lb. of cigars imported 2,635 lb. came from the Philippines, 1,119 lb. from Holland, and 952 lb. from British India. The importation of beedies from British India has shown a decrease, the figures for the years 1926, 1927, 1928, and 1929 being 58,467 lb., 75,687 lb., 76,895 lb., and 70,571 lb., respectively.

Spirits.—In March, 1928, the import duty was raised on all gins and brandies which cannot produce certificates of genuineness and maturity. Consequently, there has been a remarkable drop in the imports of gin. The imports of whisky on the other hand have shown a large increase in 1928 and 1929. Brandy comes almost entirely from France, gin mainly from Holland, but 16,489 gallons of good quality gin came from the United Kingdom. The whisky came from the United Kingdom.

The quantities cleared for home consumption during the years 1926, 1927, 1928, and 1929 are shown in the following table:—

Quantities of Spirits cleared for Home Consumption.

	Proof Gallons.			
	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.
Total ..	307,746	333,072	293,098	302,177
Brandy	96,448	122,905	104,916	135,794
Gin	140,192	151,987	106,415	94,892
Whisky	71,106	58,180	81,767	71,491

Cotton, Manufactured and Raw.—The total value of imports for 1929 under this head is Rs. 26,849,471, an increase of Rs. 2,346,214 over the figure for 1928. The increase is general and effects the United Kingdom and other British Possessions as shown in the following table regarding the distribution:—

	1928. Rs.	1929. Rs.
Total ..	24,503,257	26,849,471
United Kingdom	11,562,132	12,416,219
British Empire	7,420,410	8,928,963
Foreign Countries	6,520,715	5,504,289

Raw Cotton.—The imports in 1929 amounted to 19,387 cwt. valued at Rs. 975,525, of which 19,292 cwt. valued at Rs. 968,166 came from British India. There were no imports from the United States of America.

Cotton Waste.—Of 6,070 cwt. valued at Rs. 151,463, 2,752 cwt. came from the United Kingdom and 3,118 cwt. from British India.

Bleached Yarn and Twist.—31,276 lb. valued at Rs. 29,129 were imported, of which 27,409 lb. came from British India. This was a considerable increase from the figures for 1928, when 4,316 lb. valued at Rs. 3,984 were imported.

Dyed Yarn and Twist.—101,197 lb. valued at Rs. 71,524 were imported, mainly from British India. In the previous year 55,611 lb. valued at Rs. 41,975 were imported.

Piece Goods.—There was a general decrease in the imports of cotton piece goods of all kinds. The total imports amounted to 56,929,693 yards valued at Rs. 23,440,709, an increase of 1,512,229 yards or about 2.7 per cent. when compared with the figures for 1928, which were 55,417,414 yards valued at Rs. 21,061,219. Bleached piece goods rose from 14,025,619 yards valued at Rs. 5,766,578 in 1928 to 16,540,227 yards valued at Rs. 6,112,606. Dyed piece goods which showed the biggest increase in 1926, when the figure of 28,950,433 yards valued at Rs. 13,891,530 was reached, fell to 26,640,275 yards valued at Rs. 11,851,559 in 1927, 26,138,654 yards valued at Rs. 9,736,934 in 1928, and 23,268,297 yards valued at Rs. 11,110,243 in 1929. This shows an increase of Rs. 1,373,309 in the value of 1929 over the previous year. Printed piece goods showed an increase from 11,356,853 yards valued at Rs. 4,130,880 in 1928 to 12,789,947 yards valued at Rs. 4,647,179 in 1929.

As regards country of origin, the United Kingdom more than kept her lead. In bleached piece goods the slight decrease shown in 1928 gave place to an increase in 1929, the figures being 12,721,743 yards in 1928 and 14,286,364 yards in 1929. British India still led in dyed piece goods with

14,460,272 yards, as against 16,544,192 yards in 1928. Holland showed a considerable decrease under this head, from 5,070,147 yards in 1928 to 3,266,951 yards in 1929. The imports from the United Kingdom increased from 3,035,485 yards in 1928 to 3,396,900 yards in 1929.

Lace and Net showed a slight decrease in the quantity, the total imports being 5,919,071 yards valued at Rs. 224,222 in 1928 and 5,039,488 yards valued at Rs. 253,642 in 1929. The United Kingdom was the chief supplier with 3,280,005 yards. The imports from Switzerland decreased from 414,909 yards in 1928 to 33,556 yards in 1929, while those from France increased from 359,828 yards in 1928 to 1,454,658 yards in 1929.

Embroidery.—The imports from Switzerland slightly decreased from 3,164,987 yards in 1928 to 3,127,241 yards in 1929. The total import was 4,079,348 yards valued at Rs. 268,322 in 1929 and 4,079,039 yards valued at Rs. 289,347 in 1928.

Thread, as usual, came mostly from the United Kingdom, which supplies about 82 per cent. of the import. 197,986 lb. valued at Rs. 831,337 were imported.

Coal.—The import of coal showed a rise from 644,980 tons valued at Rs. 14,312,310 in 1928 to 812,545 tons valued at Rs. 17,646,324 in 1929. British India took the first place with 436,494 tons, as against 335,194 tons imported in 1928. British South Africa remained in the second place with 269,129 tons, the import in 1928 from this country being 203,026 tons. The imports from the United Kingdom rose from 81,716 tons in 1928 to 98,031 tons in 1929.

Liquid Fuel (Crude Petroleum) has shown a progressive increase for a number of years till 1927 when the figure of 54,154,070 gallons was reached, which was more than twice the quantity imported in 1922. The imports in 1928, however, went down to 52,930,008 gallons, but in 1929 the figures rose to 53,364,579. Persia resumed the first place this year with 45,488,333 gallons, as against 32,229,029 gallons supplied in 1928. Dutch Borneo retained the second place with 7,842,621 gallons, as against 15,298,298 gallons supplied last year. This year the United States of America did not enter the market at all although she supplied 5,402,681 gallons in 1928.

Kerosene Oil.—The total imports of bulk oil rose from 8,496,158 gallons in 1928 to 8,625,297 gallons in 1929. Sumatra kept the first place. Case oil imports dropped from 96,121 gallons in 1928 to 2,980 gallons in 1929.

Petrol.—This article rose from 8,349,092 gallons in 1928 to 10,501,597 gallons in 1929, an increase of nearly 26 per cent. over the figure for 1928. The imports this year amount to over two and a half times the quantity imported in 1925 and indicate how far the mechanization of transport has gone in Ceylon. The whole supply, except 329,462 gallons from Dutch Borneo, came from Sumatra.

The imports for the last eight years have been—

Year.	Gallons.	Year.	Gallons.
1922	1,389,363*	1926	6,308,256*
1923	1,959,474*	1927	6,946,194
1924	3,749,236*	1928	8,349,092
1925	4,085,370*	1929	10,501,597

* Includes imports by Government.

Manures.—The total quantity of manure imported showed an increase in quantity and value. There were not many large changes on the main sources of supply, but a slight decrease in the supply of sulphate of ammonia from United Kingdom and of fish manure from British India may be noted. The chief kinds of manures and countries from which they were mainly derived are shown in the following table:—

Kind.	Cwt.	Value. Rs.
Groundnut poonac (British India)	585,779	3,221,741
Sulphate of ammonia (United Kingdom)	328,884	2,282,822
Bone meal (British India)	289,995	1,482,451
Fish guano (British South Africa)	160,546	1,405,325
Fish manure (British India)	123,078	671,304
Muriate of potash (Germany)	112,519	630,908
Superphosphate (Belgium and Holland)	110,055	515,184
Nitrate of Soda (Chile)	99,716	681,086
Nitrolim (Jugo-Slavia)	83,552	506,336
Refuse of saltpetre (British India)	77,904	780,105
Blood meal (United States of America)	52,134	699,651
Basic slag (Belgium)	45,835	122,037
Castor seed poonac (British India)	38,355	163,214
Sylvinite (Germany)	33,320	92,225

The total imports during the last four years are as follows:—

Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.	Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1926	2,579,085	15,993,939	1928	2,522,787	14,899,088
1927	2,742,197	16,437,307	1929	2,614,696	15,168,863

Tea and Other Chests.—The number of chests imported in 1929 showed an increase over the figures for 1928. The chief supplier was Japan with 2,684,313 chests, an increase of 182,139 over the figure for 1928. The United Kingdom sent 1,374,973, an improvement on the 1928 figure of 1,131,309. The only other supplier of importance is Finland, with 650,565 chests in 1929 and 421,540 chests in 1928. The imports for the last four years are as follows:—

Year.	No.	Value. Rs.	Year.	No.	Value. Rs.
1926	3,811,539	5,896,219	1928	4,132,646	5,595,590
1927	3,930,987	4,668,596	1929	4,757,127	6,284,901

Horses.—154 horses were imported in 1929, as against 198 in 1928, 213 in 1927, and 162 in 1926. Of these, 70 came from British India, 61 from the United Kingdom, and 15 from Australia.

Cattle, Buffaloes, Goats, and Sheep for food came mostly from British India. The following table gives the number and value of these animals imported in 1928 and 1929:—

	1928.		1929.	
	No.	Value. Rs.	No.	Value. Rs.
Cattle	5,164	154,920	1,564	78,200
Buffaloes	2,029	60,770	508	25,400
Sheep	21,271	212,710	21,846	218,460
Goats	99,967	999,670	100,298	2,005,960

Motor Cars and Lorries.—The number of cars imported in 1929 was slightly larger than in 1928. The United States of America headed the list with 1,047 cars valued at Rs. 2,385,622, as against 1,014 cars valued at Rs. 2,214,903 in 1928, and the United Kingdom came second with 996 cars valued at Rs. 2,222,413, as against 830 cars valued at Rs. 1,963,973 in 1928. Canadian-made cars dropped from 450 in 1928 to 271 in 1929 and French from 116 to 90, while Italian cars rose from 121 to 145.

The United States of America increased its lead as regards lorries, the figures being 688 in 1928 and 1,086 in 1929. The United Kingdom sent 97 lorries in 1928 and 150 in 1929. Canada increased from 152 in 1928 to 162 in 1929. The following table shows the imports for 1928 and 1929.

Year.	No.	Value. Rs.	Year	No.	Value. Rs.
		Motor Cars.			
1928	2,557	5,658,676	1929	2,574	5,575,688
		Lorries.			
1928	948	2,243,692	1929	1,422	3,056,846
		Chassis for Cars.			
1928	1	3,266	1929	1	3,381

Cement.—The quantity of cement imported slightly increased over the already large figure for 1928 (indicating great building activity and an increased use of this material for building). The two largest suppliers were, as usual, the United Kingdom with 1,027,438 cwt. and Germany with 406,191 cwt. The imports for the last six years are as follows:—

Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.	Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1924	714,814	1,547,184	1927	1,364,018	2,799,035
1925	950,093	1,968,786	1928	1,595,506	3,193,648
1926	1,148,850	2,321,835	1929	1,608,844	3,215,561

Metal and Metalware, Ferrous.—The imports of ferrous metals showed an increase of 14.8 per cent. in quantity and 10.3 per cent. in value over the figure for 1928. The United Kingdom continued to be by far the main supplier with imports to the value of Rs. 9,642,069 or 64.6 per cent. of the total, an increase of 2.8 per cent. on the figure for the previous year. Belgium took the second place with imports to the value of Rs. 1,880,651, *i.e.*, 12.6 per cent. of the total, an increase of 47 per cent. on the figure for 1928. Germany remained in the third place with imports to the value of Rs. 1,298,544 or 8.7 per cent. of the total, a rise of 2.3 per cent. over the figures for 1928. The total imports during the last six years are as follows:—

Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.	Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1924	839,483	11,876,465		1,399,714	15,467,704
1925	932,860	11,845,579	1928	1,278,670	13,538,206
1926	1,285,060	14,452,910	1929	1,467,846	14,925,804

Non-Ferrous Metal and Manufactures thereof.—The total imports amounted to Rs. 5,599,486. The United Kingdom was the chief supplier with Rs. 2,575,763 or 4.6 per cent. of the trade as compared with 41.5 per cent. last year. The imports from British India decreased from Rs. 1,245,877 in 1928 to Rs. 1,175,892 in 1929. Burma supplied less than the quantity she supplied in 1928, the amount being Rs. 789,527. The total imports for 1928 and 1929 are as follows:—

Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.	Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1928	149,929*	4,984,534	1929	152,938†	5,599,486

* Excludes 6,868 silver or silver gilt plates, 46,647 electroplates, and 101,319 nickel plates.
† Excludes 9,191 silver or silver gilt plates, 43,504 electroplates, and 257,306 nickel plates.

NOTES ON THE PRINCIPAL PRODUCTS.

Tea.—The following table shows the quantities of tea exported each year for the last nine years in millions of pounds:—

Year.	Million Pounds.	Year.	Million Pounds.	Year.	Million Pounds.
1921	161	1924	205	1927	227
1922	172	1925	210	1928	237
1923	182	1926	217	1929	252

The actual exports during the year were 251,588,012 lb.* valued at Rs. 205,194,082.* Thus the quantity exported was nearly 15 million lb. in excess of the figure for 1927, while the value rose nearly 4 million rupees over that of the previous year. The average price was 82 cents per lb. as compared with 85 cents per lb. in 1928.

The following table shows the exports in 1928 and 1929 to the United Kingdom, British Possessions, Foreign Countries, and as ships' stores:—

	1928. lb.	1929. lb.	Increase. lb.	Decrease. lb.
United Kingdom	139,715,169	155,304,303	15,589,134	—
British Possessions	57,110,539	58,383,551	1,273,012	—
Foreign Countries	39,805,892	37,801,918	—	2,003,974
Ships' Stores	87,784	98,240	10,456	—
	236,719,384	251,588,012	16,872,602	2,003,974
		Deduct decrease	2,003,974	
		Nett increase	14,868,628	

Since 1921, when exports declined owing to the condition of the industry at that time, there has been a consistent rise in the exports of tea, and each year establishes a new record, the duty being collected upon the weight. There has been a corresponding increase in the revenue, although the average prices realized have been declining steadily. The average value of tea for each year since 1924 has been Re. 1.05. 95 cents, 98 cents, 94 cents, 85 cents, and in 1929 82 cents.

Last year it was observed that exports of tea to the United Kingdom had declined by some 3 per cent. compared with 1927. In 1929, however, there has been a very appreciable increase, amounting to some 11 per cent. above the 1928 exports. At the same time, there was a decline in the exports to foreign countries.

The United Kingdom, which is by far the largest consumer, took about 62 per cent. of the total exports, compared with 60 per cent. in 1928. Australia kept the second place with 22,020,032 lb., compared with 18,062,969 lb. in 1927 and 19,744,738 lb. in 1928. The United States of America, which is the next important buyer, increased her purchases from 15,462,447 lb. in 1928 to 16,764,776 lb. Next came New Zealand which rose from 9,728,065 lb. in 1928 to 10,270,944 lb. and British South Africa which rose from 7,223,933 lb. in 1928 to 8,636,115 lb. followed by Egypt which dropped from 8,476,480 lb. in 1928 to 7,548,383 lb., Canada which decreased from 7,397,225 lb. in 1928 to 6,563,734 lb., and Iraq which dropped from 5,646,259 lb. in 1928 to 3,796,856 lb. There has been a shady decrease in exports to China, which took only 119,403 lb., compared with 3,429,810 lb. in 1927 and 1,847,993 lb. in 1928, while Russia in "Asia" dropped from 2,234,468 lb. in 1928 to 179,721 lb., Anglo-Egyptian Soudan from 1,325,125 lb. in 1928 to 322,200 lb., and Argentine Republic from 1,590,796 lb. in 1928 to 1,182,315 lb. The other noteworthy increases were Russia in "Europe" from 2,316,411 lb. in 1928 to 3,399,127 lb., "Other foreign countries in Africa" from 1,500,802 lb. in 1928 to 2,561,714 lb., British India from 1,753,282 lb. in 1928 to 2,144,312 lb., and Straits Settlements from 1,495,503 lb. in 1928 to 1,641,253 lb.

Rubber.—The total exports during the year were 194,357,828 lb., of which 13,725,688 lb. were imported rubber re-exported. This is an increase of nearly 40 per cent. over the figure for 1928, viz., 139,717,324 lb. and nearly 43 per cent. or 136,030,810 lb. over the figure for 1927. The United States of America, our biggest buyer, purchased 125,050,035 lb., nearly 65 per cent.

* Including ships' stores.

of the total quantity exported, compared with 91,775,719 lb. in 1928 and 87,419,500 lb. in 1927. The United Kingdom increased her demand from 35,926,271 lb. in 1927 and 30,921,363 lb. in 1928 to 41,556,744 lb. in 1929, while Germany increased from 7,753,643 lb. in 1928 to 10,833,764 lb., Australia from 2,921,995 lb. in 1928 to 6,830,138 lb., France from 3,345,613 lb. in 1928 to 3,939,930 lb., Belgium from 848,281 lb. in 1928 to 1,354,799 lb., and Italy from 657,647 lb. in 1928 to 2,335,850 lb.

The average price of rubber for the year was 49 cents per pound, compared with Re. 1.66 in 1925, Re. 1.29 in 1926, 93 cents in 1927, and 58 cents in 1928.

Coconut Products: Desiccated Coconut has shown a further decrease in 1929. The average price was Rs. 17.29 per cwt. The largest buyers were, as usual, the United Kingdom with 267,697 cwt., Germany with 110,016 cwt., and the United States of America with 56,014 cwt. They have all showed a considerable decrease.

Copra showed some improvement during the year. Italy kept the position of chief purchaser with 558,141 cwt., a decrease of over 35,544 cwt. below the previous year. Germany took 536,696 cwt. against 457,659 in 1928. Norway took 436,000 cwt., Denmark 137,890 cwt., and Belgium 131,498 cwt. The average price in 1929 was Rs. 12.89 per cwt., compared with Rs. 16.09 in 1928.

Coconut Oil showed a considerable improvement, the total export being 878,523 cwt. valued at Rs. 18,024,359. The distribution was, as usual, very wide, the United Kingdom became the chief purchaser with 231,237 cwt. British India showed a slight drop from 174,871 cwt. to 136,352 cwt. Italy took 110,318 cwt., Egypt 67,508 cwt., Denmark showed a big drop from 45,996 cwt. to 4,966 cwt. The average price was Rs. 20.68 per cwt.

Fresh Coconuts.—The number exported showed an increase, mainly in the exports to British India, which took 1,274,567 nuts, as against 166,621 nuts in 1928. The United Kingdom increased from 7,405,991 to 7,746,867, Egypt from 5½ millions to nearly 5¾ millions, Germany from 3 millions to 3¼ millions, and Holland from nearly 1⅙ millions to nearly 1 3 5 millions. The average price was Rs. 62.06 per 1,000. The total exports for 1927, 1928, and 1929 are as follows:—

Year.	Number.	Value. Rs.	Year	Number.	Value. Rs.
1927	18,875,750	1,515,087	1929	20,821,284	1,281,910
1928	18,016,191	1,424,287			

Other Coconut Products: Coir Yarn.—Exports increased from 92,162 cwt. valued at Rs. 1,635,827 in 1928 to 100,635 cwt. valued at Rs. 1,837,568 in 1929. The United Kingdom took 37,245 cwt. and Germany 24,360 cwt. The average price was Rs. 14.34 per cwt.

Coir Rope.—14,955 cwt. were exported, of which 14,774 cwt. went to the Straits Settlements.

Bristle Fibre.—199,923 cwt. valued at Rs. 1,713,667 were exported, the average price thus being Rs. 8.57 per cwt. Japan with 86,445 cwt. and Belgium with 43,971 cwt. were the chief buyers, each showing some increase.

Mattress Fibre.—395,468 cwt. valued at Rs. 812,763 were exported in 1929, compared with 387,036 cwt. valued at Rs. 1,051,933 in 1928. The average price in 1929 was Rs. 2.08 per cwt. The chief purchasers were the

United Kingdom with 95,338 cwt., British South Africa with 66,206 cwt., Belgium with 50,256 cwt., Australia with 40,151 cwt., and Germany with 37,758 cwt.

Coconut Poonac.—333,424 cwt. valued at Rs. 2,114,898 were exported, of which 222,925 cwt. went to Belgium and 99,652 cwt. went to Germany.

Plumbago.—The quantity of plumbago exported fell from 286,931 cwt. in 1928 to 254,776 cwt. in 1929, but there was a slight rise in the total value of the exports from Rs. 2,704,359 in 1928 to Rs. 2,729,639 in 1929. The average price rising from Rs. 9.43 per cwt. in 1928 to Rs. 10.66 per cwt. in 1929. The United States of America was the best market with 134,631 cwt., a slight decrease below the quantity taken in 1928, 138,942 cwt. Germany took 35,980 cwt. in 1929, 54,267 cwt. in 1928, and 61,946 cwt. in 1927. The United Kingdom's imports in 1929 amounted to 31,244 cwt., which was a little larger than the quantity imported in 1928, 30,404 cwt.

Tariff Changes.—The export duty on rubber was reduced in June from Rs. 4 per 100 lb. to Rs. 2.25.

There were four changes in the tariff during the year. One of these was of a minor nature which had no appreciable effect upon the revenue, namely, the addition to the list of articles exempted from duty of poppies imported for sale in aid of the Poppy Day Fund. In February the duty on unrefined salt was raised from Rs. 3 to Rs. 4 with the object of protecting the Ceylon industry. In April the export duty on chanks was raised by varying amounts according to the value. On July 5 all import duties were increased by a surcharge of 5 per cent. of the duty. This surcharge was imposed as a temporary measure to provide additional revenue required pending revision of the tariff.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

The Principal Collector of Customs is the Honorary Imperial Trade Commissioner of the Board of Trade for Ceylon, and in this capacity afforded all possible assistance in the furtherance of British and Ceylon trade. This assistance takes the form of placing British exporters in communication with local importers, and at the same time introducing Ceylon exporters to outside markets.

On several occasions the Customs Department has been visited by representatives of British firms introduced by the Department of Overseas Trade and all available information has been placed at their disposal, such as import statistics and the names of local firms likely to be interested.

PARCEL POST.

The number of parcels imported during 1929 was 368,102, compared with 374,914 in the previous year. The duty collected amounts to Rs. 840,459 (approximately). Included in the above figures were 22,646 c.o.d. parcels from the United Kingdom, as against 25,238 in 1928. The total value of goods received under the c.o.d. system amounted to about Rs. 688,363.

The number of dutiable packets received by letter mail and dealt with by the Customs Department was as follows:—

	Registered Packets.		*Ordinary Letter Packets.*	
	Number of Packets.	Duty. Rs. c.	Number of Packets.	Duty. Rs. c.
1927	23,691	37,644 52	29,344	5,994 8
1928	19,644	40,843 81	31,383	6,385 36
1929	16,949	32,003 2	20,591	4,640 31

The following is a comparative statement showing the number of parcels and packets dealt with by this branch and amounts collected as duty thereon during the last five years:—

	Parcels.	Duty. Rs. c.	Registered Packets.	Duty. Rs. c.	Ordinary Letter Packets.	Duty. Rs. c.
1925	334,899	687,907 84	20,412	10,576 47	21,565	4,277 39
1926	358,091	820,648 13	21,349	14,[illegible]14 65	27,201	5,162 17
1927	366,036	922,386 49	23,691	37,644 52	29,344	5,994 8
1928	374,914	942,788 57	19,644	40,843 81	31,383	6,385 36
1929	956,092	956,092 10	16,949	32,003 2	20,591	4,640 31

The number of registered packets dealt with in 1929 has decreased by 2,695 and the duty recovered by Rs. 8,840 as compared with 1928.

V.—Communications.

SHIPPING.

Colombo Harbour.

Introduction.—Colombo is an artificial harbour constructed out of an open anchorage by the building of extensive breakwaters. Until these breakwaters were built, Galle was the chief port of call, but since the completion of the breakwaters it has lost its former importance.

Accommodation.—All types of ocean liners and cargo steamers trading in the East call at Colombo. A special feature of the port is the rapid discharge and loading of cargo, and it has excellent facilities for docking bunkering (oil and coal) and the supply of fresh water.

There is railway communication between Colombo and Southern India *viâ* Talaimannar. Most of the principal towns in Ceylon are easily reached from Colombo by rail.

Transhipment.—Special facilities are available for the transhipment of cargo. A small fee is payable for Customs supervision which is required in the case of direct transhipment from vessel to vessel. Cargo for reshipment can be brought ashore and deposited in a Transhipment Warehouse until it can be forwarded to its destination. No import or export duty is payable upon such cargo, and rent and harbour dues are payable at a reduced rate, amounting to 1/5th of the rate payable upon ordinary import cargo.

The volume of transhipment is not very large, but there is a steady traffic with Tuticorin and other South Indian ports of transhipment of cargo to and from the United Kingdom, America, Australia, the Far East, &c.

Depth.—The approach to the harbour is free from navigational dangers. Of the 643 acres of low water area of the harbour 186 acres have been dredged to 36 feet and over, 102 acres to a depth varying between 36 feet and 33 feet, and 147 acres to between 33 feet and 30 feet; the remaining 208 acres have a depth of less than 30 feet. There are six berths available for vessels drawing up to 33 feet of water.

Area, &c.—The harbour is enclosed on all sides, being bounded on the south and east by the land and north and west by massive breakwaters. The sheltered water area of the harbour amounts to 643 acres at low water, vessels drawing 33 feet can enter by the western entrance and vessels drawing 27 feet can enter by the northern entrance.

Channels.—The western entrance channel is 630 feet wide with a navigable depth of 36 feet L.W.O.S.T., and the northern entrance channel 550 feet wide with a navigable depth of 30 feet L.W.O.S.T.

Loading, &c.—Loading and discharging are done by lighters. The quays and jetties used by the lighters have a total length of 14,043 feet. The supply of labour is adequate. There are 12 electric cranes, 31 steam cranes, 14 hand cranes, 1 elephant hand crane, 1 hand derrick, 1 steam derrick, and 1 mobile crane operating on the jetties and quays. The largest lift which can be made is 35 tons.

Coaling.—There are seventeen coaling jetties for lighters, serving coaling areas let to the different Companies where large stocks of coal can be stored.

Oil.—A depôt over 91 acres in extent and about 3½ miles inland from the harbour front has been prepared at Kolonnawa for the storage and distributing tanks of the different Oil Companies with pipeline connection from the harbour. Three reinforced concrete jetties, two for bunkering purposes and one for discharge of oil tankers, have been provided. The Outer Oil Bunkering Jetty is capable of accommodating vessels of 500 feet length and 27 feet draught. The Inner Bunkering Jetty is used by barges for bunkering. Vessels of 500 feet length and 27 feet draught can be berthed at the Discharge Jetty, where the latest facilities for discharging oil ships are provided.

Warehouses.—There is ample warehouse accommodation (592,476 square feet) along the harbour front for dealing with imports, exports, and transhipment of cargo. Most of the warehouses have railway facilities and cranes are available where required.

Quarantine.—On entering the harbour each ship is visited by the Port Surgeon or his Assistant, and no person is allowed to board the ship or leave the ship till Pratique is granted. If there are cases of infectious diseases on board, such as plague, cholera, smallpox, yellow fever, or typhus, the ship is held in Strict Quarantine until all necessary measures, such as removal of the sick person, disinfection of the ship, vaccination, &c., as the case may be, are carried out. Thereafter the ship is allowed to be worked in restricted quarantine, any persons having business on board being allowed on special permits.

Graving Dock.—Length of floor, 723 feet; breadth of entrance—cope level, 85 feet; depth over sill at low water, 30 feet; depth over sill at high water, 32 feet. Docking can be carried out by day or night.

Patent Slip.—Length 800 feet; length of cradle 220 feet; breadth of cradle 40 feet; depth over keel blocks at lower end at low water, 21 feet 6 inches; depth over keel blocks at upper end at low water, 10 feet 6 inches; inclination 1 in 20. Capable of slipping a vessel of 1,200 tons dead weight.

Coal.—Large supplies can be procured, and steamers bunkered with good despatch at any hour of the day or night.

The types and prices are the following (December, 1929):—

Types and Prices of Coal at Colombo, December, 1929.

		s.	d.		s.	d.	
Welsh coal (Colliery screened large)	..				42	6	per ton F.O.B. and trimmed
Welsh coal (⅔ large, ⅓ small	..	39	6	at	40	0	do.
Natal coal ..	..	32	6	at	33	6	do.
Transvaal coal ..	..				32	6	do.
Indian coal ..	..				31	0	do.

Port Commission.—The Colombo Port Commission is composed of the following:—The Principal Collector of Customs (who is Chairman or Chief Port Commissioner); the Director of Medical and Sanitary Services; the General Manager of the Railway; the Chairman, Municipal Council, and Mayor of Colombo; the Deputy Collector of Customs; the Master Attendant, Colombo and Galle; the Harbour Engineer; six Unofficial Members nominated by the Chamber of Commerce to represent Import, Export, Shipping, Coaling, Oil, and Landing Agencies' Interests; one Unofficial Member nominated by His Excellency the Governor to represent Ceylonese interests.

The Consulting Engineers to the Port of Colombo are Messrs. Coode, Wilson, Mitchell, and Vaughan-Lee, M.M.I.C.E., Victoria street, London, S.W. 1.

Distances.—The approximate distances of Colombo, the chief port of Ceylon, from the other chief ports of the world on the various routes are as follows:—

Colombo to London.

	Nautical Miles.	Approximate Days' Journey.
Aden	2,100	8
Suez	3,407	12
Port Said	3,494	13
Marseilles	5,091	16
Gibraltar (*viâ* Marseilles)	5,690	19
Gibraltar (direct)	5,407	18
London (by sea *viâ* Marseilles)	7,005	24
London (by sea direct)	6,725	23
London (overland)	5,868	19

Colombo to India, &c.

	Nautical Miles.	Approximate Days' Journey.
Calcutta	1,260	7
Bombay	875	3
Rangoon	1,249	4½
Penang	1,276	6
Singapore	1,567	7
Hong Kong (touching at Singapore)	3,113	13
Shanghai (touching at Singapore and Hong Kong)	3,966	17
Yokohama (*viâ* Singapore and Hong Kong)	5,083	24

Colombo to Australia.

	Nautical Miles.	Approximate Days' Journey.
Fremantle	3,121	10
Albany	3,370	11
Adelaide (touching at Fremantle)	4,479	14
Melbourne (touching at Fremantle and Adelaide)	4,979	16
Sydney (touching at Fremantle, Adelaide, and Melbourne)	5,556	19

Colombo to South Africa, &c.

	Nautical Miles.	Approximate Days' Journey.
Mauritius	2,099	10
Durban (touching at South African ports)	3,680	18
Cape Town (touching at South African ports)	4,362	21–20

Passage Fares.

Colombo-London:—	
1st class single	£62 to £92
2nd class single	£50 to £62
Colombo-Sydney:—	
1st class single	£55
2nd class single	£32
Colombo-Melbourne:—	
1st class single	£53
2nd class single	£30
Colombo-Durban:—	
1st class single	£27½
Colombo-Singapore:—	
1st class single by P. & O.	£22
2nd class single by P. & O.	£12
Colombo-Hong Kong:—	
1st class single by P. & O.	£36
2nd class single by P. & O.	£20
Colombo-Yokohama:—	
1st class single by P. & O.	£46
2nd class single by P. & O.	£26
Colombo-Bombay:—	
1st class single	£10
2nd class single	£7
Colombo-Calcutta:—	
1st class single	£10
2nd class single	£8
Colombo-Rangoon:—	
1st class single	Rs.180
Colombo-Port Said:—	
1st class single	£41 to £72
2nd class single	£34 to £48
Colombo-Marseilles:—	
1st class single	£58 to £88
2nd class single	£47 to £60
Colombo-Boston and New York	£103 and £62

Baggage Allowances.—The usual baggage allowance is 3 cwt. in case of first class, and 1½ cwt. in the case of second class passengers.

Landing of Cargo.—The conveyance of cargo from the vessel to the wharf is carried out by recognized stevedores and Landing Companies who receive cargo from the ship's side and land it into the warehouse under contract with the steamer agents. The Landing Companies accept responsibility for any difference between the quantity received over the ship's side and the quantity actually landed on the wharf. After the cargo has been landed into the warehouse, no responsibility is accepted for any loss, and the goods lie at the risk of the importer.

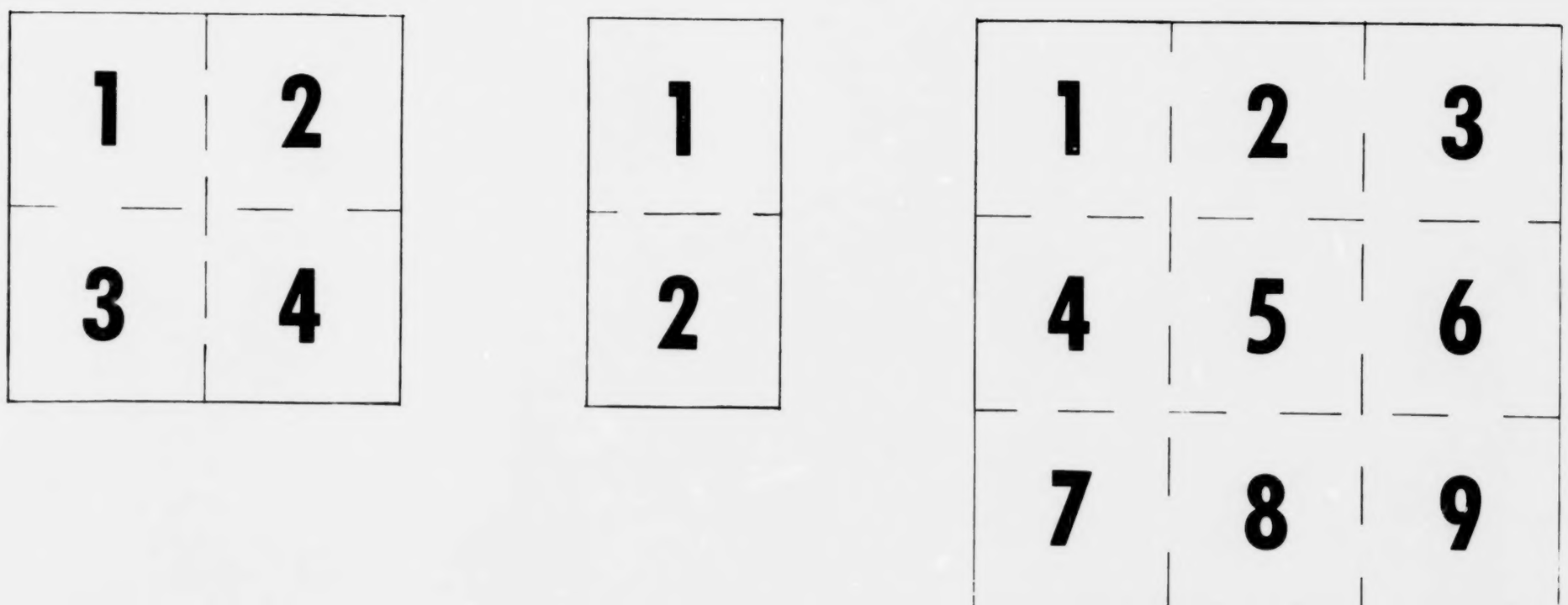
Clearing.—Goods may be cleared either by the importer himself or by any Landing Company or recognized clearing agency. Firms who import on a large scale find it convenient to keep their own staff of wharf clerks for the clearing of cargo and the passing of the necessary entries through the Customs. On the other hand, firms whose business is not so great as to justify the maintenance of such a staff, find it more convenient to clear their goods through the agency of a Landing Company.

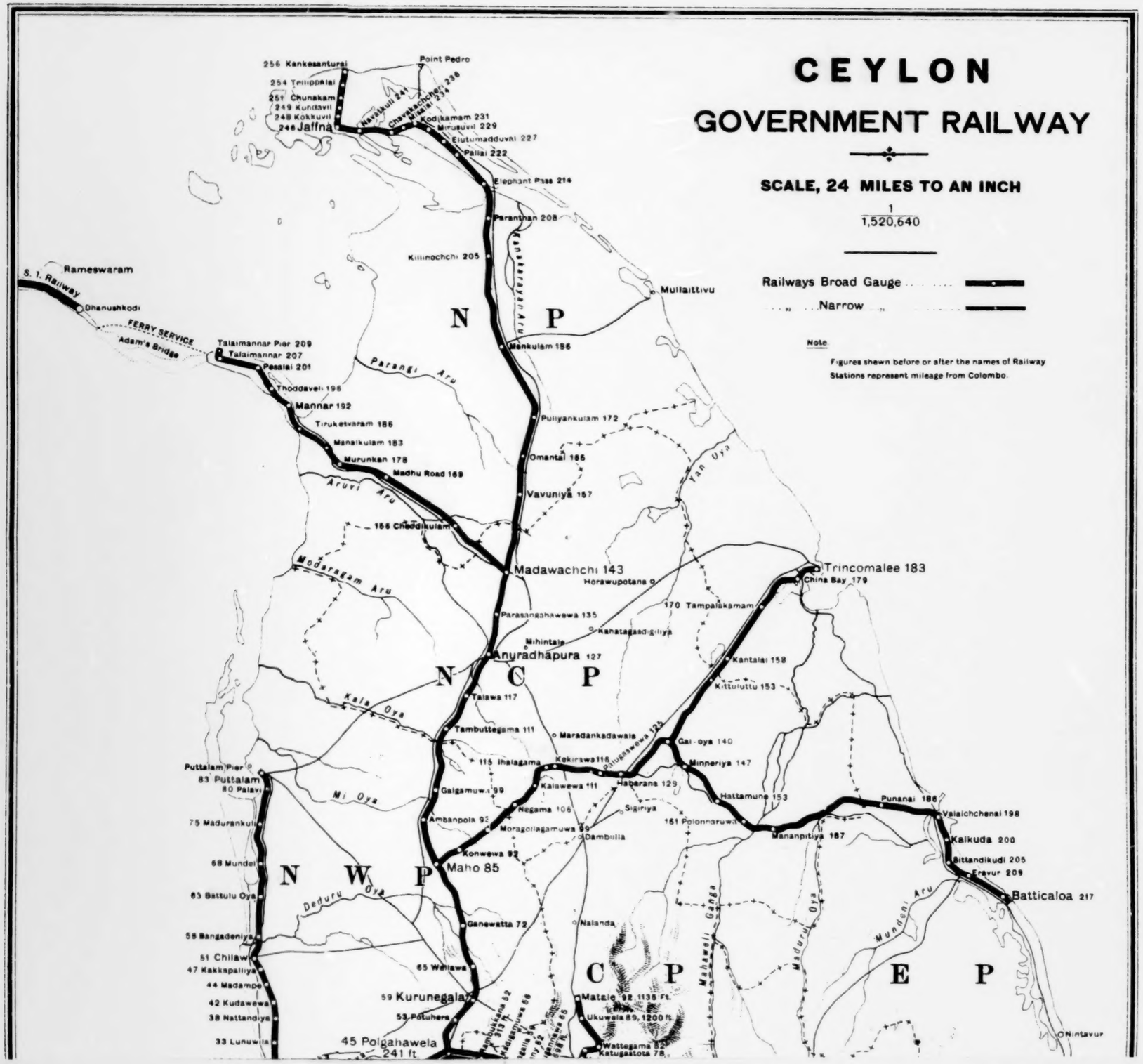
Warehouse rent and harbour dues are payable upon all goods landed at the wharf, and three clear days are allowed for the removal of the goods, exclusive of Sundays and Customs holidays, of which there are five in the year. On goods removed after the expiry of this period further *rent* and dues are payable in respect of each day inclusive of Sundays and Customs holidays. Special facilities are offered by the Customs for clearing goods prior to the passing of the entry and the payment of the duty, rent, and dues. The usual system is to place a cash deposit with the Customs, against which goods are removed after any examination found necessary, the importer guaranteeing to pass the necessary papers within a reasonable period. Special facilities are also given for the clearing of perishable goods and of consignments, such as rice and sugar which are landed in large quantities at a time.

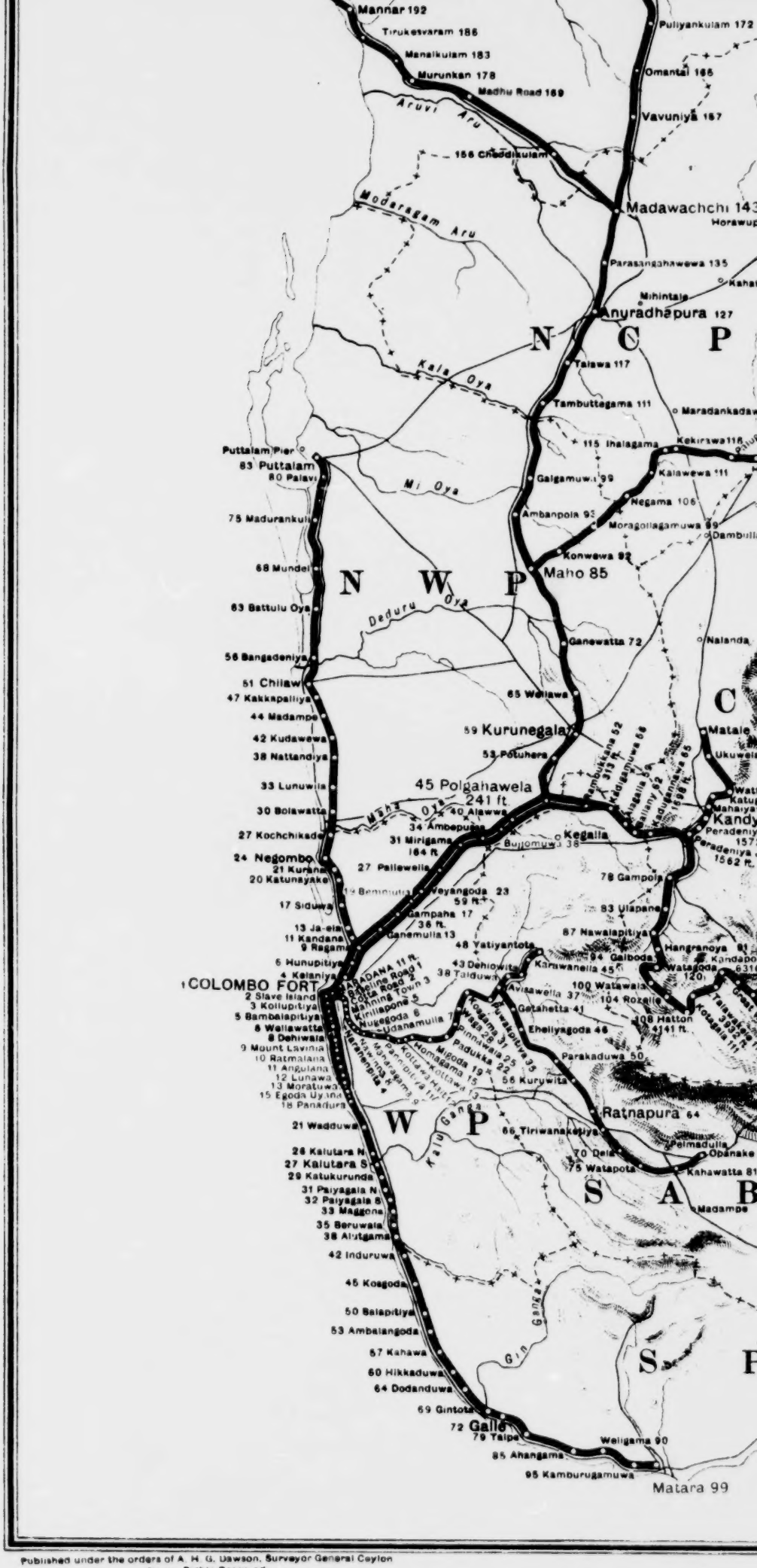
Exports.—Five warehouses are allotted for the accommodation of export cargo, in addition to an open shed used for the shipment of drums containing coconut oil and similar commodities, and another shed for rough cargo. The largest warehouse can accommodate 4,000 tons of tea packed in chests of the usual size. The other four warehouses can each accommodate from 2,500 to 3,000 tons.

Shipment.—Cargo for shipment is brought down to the warehouse by cart, lorry, train, or barge, carts being used in the majority of cases. Of the cargo brought by road, some 30 or 40 per cent. is brought by lorry. The Port Commission railway, which is connected with the main system of the Ceylon Government Railway, runs direct into the premises alongside three of the export warehouses. With regard to shipment, the same considerations apply as in the case of imports, some firms finding it more convenient to employ a clearing or shipping agency than to maintain their own staff. As in the case of import cargo, goods remain in the Government warehouse at the risk of the exporter, though losses from theft or pilfering are not of frequent occurrence. To suit the convenience of shippers who do not carry out their own shipments, landing and shipping companies are prepared to take over cargo at the shipper's stores for removal to the warehouse in the Company's own lorries. Export harbour dues are payable on all goods sent down to the warehouses or wharf, but if they lie there for more than three clear days, further dues are payable for each day, and in addition a similar sum by way of warehouse rent. Cargo is taken to the vessel by means of lighters. A good supply of labour is available.

Maps on this order too large to be entirely included in one exposure are filmed clockwise beginning in the upper left hand corner, left to right and top to bottom as many frames as required. The following diagrams illustrate the method.




CEYLON
GOVERNMENT RAILWAY
SCALE, 24 MILES TO AN INCH
1/1,520,640
Railways Broad Gauge
Narrow
Note.
Figures shewn before or after the names of Railway Stations represent mileage from Colombo.
256 Kankesanturai
Point Pedro
254 Tellippalai
251 Chunakam
249 Kondavil
248 Kokkuvil
246 Jaffna
Navatkuli 241
Chavakachcheri 238
Elalai 234
Kodikamam 231
Mirusuvil 229
Elutumadduvai 227
Pallai 222
Elephant Pass 214
Paranthan 208
Kanakarayan Aru
Killinochchi 205
Mullaittivu
Rameswaram
S. I. Railway
Dhanushkodi
FERRY SERVICE
Adam's Bridge
Talaimannar Pier 209
Talaimannar 207
Pesalai 201
Thoddaveli 196
Mannar 192
Tiruketeyaram 186
Manalkulam 183
Murunkan 178
Madhu Road 169
Aruvi Aru
156 Cheddikulam
Madagagam Aru
Madawachchi 143
Horawupotana
Parasangahawewa 135
Kahatagasdigiliya
Mihintale
Anuradhapura 127
Talawa 117
Kala Oya
Tambuttegama 111
Maradankadawala
115 Ihalagama
Kekirawa 116
Galgamuwa 99
Negama 106
Ambanpola 93
Moragollagamuwa 89
Dambulla
Konwewa 92
Maho 85
Mi Oya
Puttalam Pier
83 Puttalam
80 Palavi
75 Madurankuli
68 Mundel
65 Battulu Oya
56 Bangadeniya
51 Chilaw
47 Kakkapalliya
44 Madampe
42 Kudawewa
38 Nattandiya
33 Lunuwila
Deduru Oya
Ganewatta 72
65 Wellawa
59 Kurunegala
53 Potuhera
45 Polgahawela
241 ft.
Puliyankulam 172
Omantai 165
Vavuniya 157
Yan Oya
Trincomalee 183
China Bay 179
170 Tampalakamam
Kantalai 158
Kittuluttu 153
Gal-oya 140
Minneriya 147
Habarana 129
Kalawewa 111
Sigiriya
Hattamune 153
151 Polonnaruwa
Mananpitiya 187
Punanai 186
Valaichchenai 198
Kalkuda 200
Bittandikudi 205
Eravur 209
Batticaloa 217
Mundani Aru
Mahaweli Ganga
Madurui Oya
Nalanda
Matale 92 1136 Ft.
Ukuwela 89 1200 ft.
Wattegama 82
Katugastota 78
Nintavur
N P
N C P
N W P
C P
E P



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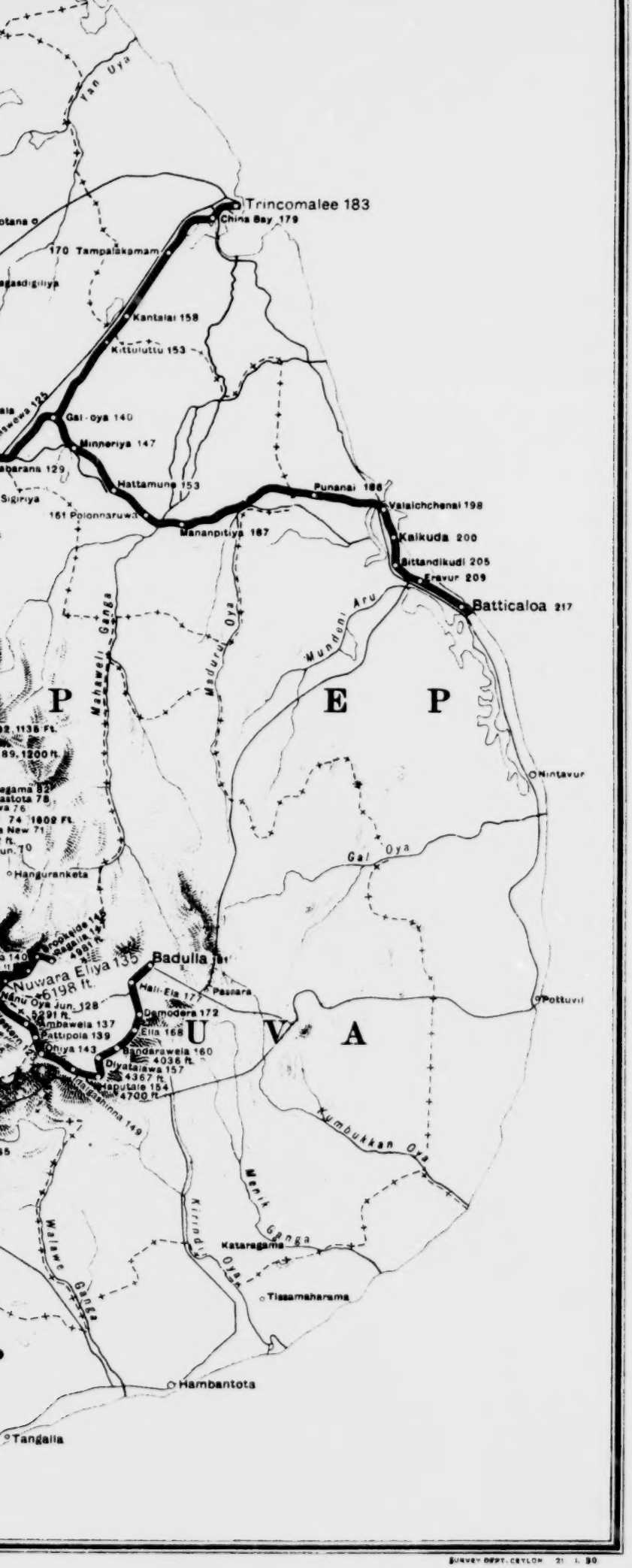

SURVEY DEPT. CEYLON 21 I. 50

Bonded Warehouses.—There are several bonded warehouses within the Customs premises, and certain firms have their own bonded warehouses outside the premises. Goods may be bonded for any period up to two years, after which they must either be removed or rebonded. All goods placed in bond are liable to the same rent and harbour dues as in the case of import cargo up to the time of bonding, after which no further dues are payable and bonded warehouse rent is recovered, the amount payable per week on bonded goods being the same as the charge per day on import cargo. No rent is payable to the Customs in the case of goods which lie in bonded warehouses belonging to private firms, though a charge is made for Customs supervision of deposits and removals.

The import and transhipment warehouses lie at the south-west corner of the harbour, in the area between the root of the south-west breakwater and the canal leading to the lake. Other import warehouses and landing areas are situated on either side of this canal, these being largely used for the landing of rough cargo, such as timber and metal. The export warehouses lie between the canal and the Block Jetty. Further north, three recently built warehouses are available at Kochchikade, where facilities are provided for transport by rail.

Passenger Jetty.—A new Baggage Office completed during the year 1929 contains excellent accommodation and spacious examination halls. There is a staff always on duty day and night, and baggage landed with passengers is passed without delay. There is also provision for the storage of such baggage as a passenger may wish to leave in the premises, a small storage rent being payable.

Lakeside Warehouses.—There is direct access from the harbour to the lake through the canal and locks, and several firms have their own warehouses and stores on the lakeside. Special facilities are given by the Customs for import cargo to be removed direct to these stores, and conversely, for the direct shipment of export cargo from the stores to the vessel. Rent and dues are payable as in the case of goods landed in the warehouse, but this direct traffic obviates the necessity for landing goods in a warehouse, and two additional handlings are thereby saved.

Railways.

From an economic point of view, the internal communications of Ceylon may be considered as consisting of a railway system of five lines radiating from Colombo, supplemented by feeder roads diverging from the various railway stations, and by canals in the Western and North-Western Provinces, &c.

All the railways in Ceylon are State-owned and Government-controlled, the management being vested in the Ceylon Government Railway Department.

The total length of line open at the end of September, 1928, was 951 miles, of which 834 miles are broad gauge (5½ feet gauge) and 117 miles narrow gauge (2½ feet gauge). A line to Horana and Agalawatta and lines to Hambantota, Nintavur, and Passara have been surveyed.

The railway map facing this page shows how the different lines radiate from Colombo.

The following table shows the distance from Colombo Fort to the more important stations on the different lines with the first class single passenger fare and the approximate time of journey:—

Colombo Fort to	Distance. M. C.	Train Fare. Rs. c.	Approximate Time of Journey. Hours.	Colombo Fort to	Distance. M. C.	Train Fare. Rs. c.	Approximate Time of Journey. Hours.
Peradeniya	71 62	5 76	3¼*	Polonnaruwa	162 1	13 4	8½*
Kandy	75 12	6 8	3¼*	Batticaloa	217 78	17 44	12
Nanu-oya	128 62	12 4	7½*	Trincomalee	184 25	14 80	9½
Nuwara Eliya	135 27	13 23	10*	Mount Lavinia	7 40	64	½*
Bandarawela	161 34	16 0	12*	Galle	70 38	5 68	2½*
Anuradhapura	127 31	10 24	5¼*				

* By express trains.

The main results of the working of the Ceylon Government Railway for the financial years 1925-26 to 1928-29 are shown in the following table:—

TABLE No. 56.—Main Results of the Working of the Ceylon Government Railways, 1925-26 to 1928-29.

Particulars.	1925–26. Rs.	1926–27. Rs.	1927–28. Rs.	1928–29. Rs.
Total capital outlay	195,545,018	200,885,771	211,049,795	217,574,271
Gross earnings	29,236,369	30,111,991	31,285,599	32,498,947
Total working expenses*	20,362,664	20,518,804	23,560,496	25,996,899
Nett revenue†	8,873,705	9,593,187	7,725,103	6,502,048
Percentage of nett revenue on total capital outlay	4·54 p.c.	4·77 p.c.	3·66 p.c.	2·99 p.c.
Gross receipts from ordinary passengers and season tickets	Rs. 11,003,990	Rs. 11,436,726	Rs. 12,087,692	Rs. 12,595,114
Gross receipts from parcels, goods, &c.	18,232,379	18,675,265	19,197,907	19,903 833
Free traffic (excluding that for Railway Department included in gross receipts)	2,274,537	2,251,945	Nil	Nil

* Maintenance and renewal of way and works and of rolling stock, locomotive running expenses, traffic expenses, general charges (including pensions and gratuities), and motor service.
† That is, "Gross earnings" less "Total working expenses."

The number of passengers conveyed has increased by 305,485, the total conveyed during the year being 19,412,122.

Under season tickets the number of ticket holders has increased to the extent of 1,662, the total number of season tickets issued during the year being 215,540.

The number of parcels conveyed during the year was 2,063,680, or an increase of 81,076.

The tonnage of goods carried has increased from 1,361,816 tons to 1,374,359 tons, the noticeable increases and decreases being—

	Increase. Tons.		Decrease. Tons.
Liquid fuel	2,967	Coconut produce	4,365
Manure	20,070	Rice	9,596
Petrol	2,638		
Rubber	14,290		
Salt (country)	8,721		
Indo-Ceylon traffic	5,201		

Note.—The increases and decreases are based on the corresponding figures of last year.

Passenger Fares.

The standard passenger fares are as follows:—Single fares: First Class, 8 cents per mile on all lines below Nawalapitiya, 12 cents per mile on Main Line above Nawalapitiya, and 17 cents per mile on Uda Pussellawa Line. Second Class, 5⅓ cents per mile on all lines below Nawalapitiya, 8 cents per mile on Main Line above Nawalapitiya, and 12 cents per mile on Uda Pussellawa Line. Third Class, 2⅔ cents per mile on all lines excepting

Uda Pussellawa Line, and 4 cents per mile on Uda Pussellawa Line. Return tickets are issued at one and half times the single fare, except in the case of Uda Pussellawa Line, on which section double the single fares are charged. Week-end tickets are issued between all stations distant 50 miles and over at single fare and a quarter for the double journey. The tickets are issued and are available for the outward journey on Thursdays from stations at which the Thursday Night Mail trains call only; on Fridays by all trains after 12 midnight Thursday; and on Saturdays by all trains, including Night Mails, for which trains tickets will be issued on Sunday mornings also, at stations where such trains call. They are available for return on Sundays by all trains after 12 midnight Saturday, and on Mondays by all trains, including the Night Mail trains and their direct connections. Reductions are made for children, pioneers, and coolies of any nationality, and for periodical tickets.

Sleeping Cars.

The sleeping cars which run on the Up and Down Night Mail trains between Colombo and Nanu-oya are provided with accommodation for twelve passengers, namely, two four-berth and two two-berth compartments, and lavatory accommodation. Each berth is numbered, and provided with pillows, sheets, blankets, and quilt, and an attendant accompanies each car. Berths will only be reserved on prepayment before 6.30 P.M. of the ordinary first class fare plus Rs. 5 for the sleeping berth.

In the Indo-Ceylon mail trains sleeping berths without bedding are provided for through first class passengers without any extra charge, but berths are not guaranteed unless the same have been reserved, for which a registration fee of Re. 1 per berth will be charged. If bedding is required Rs. 5 must be paid for each set of bedding at the time of booking, and a berth will be made up as a bed by the Car Attendant. In such cases no registration fee will be charged.

Applications for sleeping berths may be made at any station on the line not less than 3 hours before the booked time of departure of mail trains, but payment will not be accepted nor the accommodation promised until it has been ascertained from the starting stations that the required berths are available.

Should a sleeping berth be allotted in response to an application, the fee (Rs. 5) must be paid whether the berth is occupied or not, unless notice is given, three hours before the departure time of the train, cancelling the booking.

Restaurant Cars.

These are attached to the important trains on the Main and Northern Lines.

Restaurant Rooms.

These are provided at Maradana, Polgahawela, and Nanu-oya on the Main line, Colombo Fort and Alutgama on the Coast line, and Anuradhapura on the Northern line. Refreshments at these places are supplied at moderate prices. The Guard of the through Northern line day trains will telegraph free of charge for the provision of midday meals at Anuradhapura. Similarly, passengers by the morning train from Anuradhapura can, if sufficient notice be given, have breakfast put out for them at Polgahawela from the Restaurant Car on the 7.55 A.M. (on Sundays 7.25 A.M.) train from Colombo Fort, and forwarded free of charge to meet them at one of the wayside stations.

Refreshment Baskets.

Refreshment baskets can be supplied for any train from Colombo on giving 20 minutes' notice to the Manager, Restaurant Cars and Rooms, at their offices at Colombo Fort Station.

Luggage.

Each adult passenger is allowed, free of charge, the following weight of luggage:—

	lb.		lb.
First class	112	Third class	56
Second class . ..	84		

A free allowance of half these quantities is made for each child travelling with a half ticket. No luggage will be conveyed free for children under three years of age who travel free.

Roads.

Ceylon may be said to be very well roaded. The total mileage of roads and cart tracks is about 16,400, and that of the bridle paths 8,200.

The following statement shows the mileages of the different classes of roads in the Island maintained by the different authorities in 1926:—

Classes of Roads.

Authority Maintaining.	Total. Miles.	Metalled or Track Metalled.	Gravelled.	Natural Track.	Bridle Paths.
Total ..	24,588·26	5,260·48	2,539·66	8,577·38	8,210·74
Public Works Department ..	4,706·60*	4,064·34*	510·76*	131·50*	—
District Road Committees ..	4,434·06	697·79	771·45	1,434·45	1,530·37
Village Committees ..	14,468·98	29·33	765·46	6,993·82	6,680·37
Local bodies ..	553·52	253·40	282·51	17·61	—
Irrigation Department ..	71·00	32·00	39·00	—	—
Private parties ..	354·10	183·62	170·48	—	—

* Mileage in 1929.

Most of the metalled roads are maintained in good order, and, with but few exceptions, may be considered passable to all classes of traffic. Gravelled roads can be considered as dry weather roads only; in dry weather they are generally in fair order, but they cannot be relied upon to the extent of metalled roads. A large mileage of the principal roads is tarred or otherwise surface-treated. At the end of 1929 the length of metalled roads so treated was 2,186.

The only direct charge on road users is that for the use of ferry boats, but, on the main roads, the ferries have, in almost every case, been replaced by bridges. Indirect charges are made in the form of taxes on wheeled vehicles of every kind.

The distribution of the main roads, distances between the principal centres, &c., can be found in the Motor Map of Ceylon, obtainable from the Surveyor-General, Colombo, price Rs. 2.25.

The distances from Colombo to other chief towns by road (given to the nearest half mile) are shown in the following list:—

Colombo to	Miles.	Colombo to	Miles.
Galle	72½	Batticaloa (*vid* Badulla)	250
Peradeniya	68	Anuradhapura (*vid* Matale)	about 155
Kandy	72	Trincomalee (*vid* Kurunegala) ..	170
Nuwara Eliya (*vid* Peradeniya) ..	110	Anuradhapura	129
Nuwara Eliya (*vid* Ginigathena)	about 107		

Means of Transport by Road.

The number of motor vehicles in Ceylon has been increasing very rapidly for some years, and on December 31, 1929, was 23,565. The average cost of running a small private car may be put at about 30 to 40 cents per mile, while larger cars may cost up to 60 cents per mile. Hiring cars are available in most parts of the Island and cost 40 cents to Re. 1 per mile. Drivers and mechanics for privately-owned cars can be obtained without any great difficulty, and all drivers must hold the Government certificate of competence, while many hold certificates from the Automobile Club of Ceylon. Numerous facilities for repairs exist in Colombo, Kandy, Nuwara Eliya, and most of the other towns. The Secretary of the Automobile Club in Ceylon will afford any information which may be desired.

The index marks for the location of the place of registration of motor cars are shown in the following list:—

	Index Mark.	Address.
Western Province.		
Colombo District	A	Colombo
Kalutara District	B	Kalutara
Colombo Municipality	C, X	Colombo
Central Province.		
Kandy District	D	Kandy
Matale District	E	Matale
Nuwara Eliya District	F	Nuwara Eliya
Kandy Municipality	G	Kandy
Northern Province.		
Jaffna District	H	Jaffna
Mullaittivu District	I	Mullaittivu
Mannar District	J	Mannar
Southern Province.		
Galle District	K	Galle
Matara District	L	Matara
Hambantota District	M	Hambantota
Galle Municipality	N	Galle
Eastern Province.		
Batticaloa District	O	Batticaloa
Trincomalee District	P	Trincomalee
North-Western Province.		
Kurunegala District	Q	Kurunegala
Puttalam District	R	Puttalam
Chilaw District	S	Chilaw
North-Central Province.		
Anuradhapura District	T	Anuradhapura
Province of Uva.		
Badulla District	U	Badulla
Province of Sabaragamuwa.		
Ratnapura District	V	Ratnapura
Kegalla District	W	Kegalla

Tramways.

The only street tramways in Ceylon are those in the town of Colombo, the total length of double track being 7 miles. There are two nearly equal routes: one between the Fort and the Kelani river terminus, and one between the Fort and Borella, joined by a cross line between Maradana and Grandpass *viâ* Skinner's road and Armour street. The total number of passengers carried annually is estimated at about 13 millions.

There has been a very large increase recently in the numbers of motor omnibuses carrying passengers for hire and they now run on nearly every main road in the Island.

There is seating accommodation for 8 to 20 persons in a motor bus.

Personal luggage of small dimensions and light weight will be carried free of charge. Extra luggage will be carried only if there is room in the conveyances on payment of the prescribed charges.

Goods.—The chief means of transport of goods by road are the local bullock cart and the motor lorry. A double-bullock cart is capable of taking 1½ tons at a time, and travels at the average rate of about 2 miles an hour. The cost per ton per mile may be put at about 80 cents. There are about 34,000 single- and double-bullock carts in Ceylon, the majority of which are used in the transportation of village produce. Motor lorries are gradually replacing bullock carts in the movement of estates goods, and in other

industries. These vary in load capacity from 1 to 3 tons and travel about 8 miles an hour, this being the legal speed limit for such vehicles. They run on petrol or kerosene. In 1929 there were about 2,800 motor lorries in Ceylon. Experience has shown that excluding profit the running costs can be kept as low as 50 cents per ton per mile.

Canals.

The only artificial navigable waterways in Ceylon are a series of canals connecting a chain of lakes on the west coast—Bolgoda, Colombo, Negombo, Chilaw, Mundel, and Puttalam lakes—as also the estuaries of the Kalu-ganga, Kelani-ganga, Maha-oya, and Deduru-oya; thus forming a continuous waterway from Kalutara in the south to Puttalam in the north, a distance of approximately 120 miles.

In addition to the foregoing there are about 76 miles of channel maintained by dredging in the lagoons at Jaffna and Batticaloa—Jaffna 40 miles and Batticaloa 36 miles.

POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICE.

(Full information on this subject is to be found in the "Ceylon Post Office Guide," obtainable from the Postmaster-General, Colombo, price 75 cents.)

The Postal, Telegraph, and Telephone Service is highly organized. There are 11,646 miles of telegraph wire (including telephone trunk and junction lines and railway telegraph wires), and 39,240 miles of telephone wire for subscribers' circuits, of which 32,331 are laid underground (excluding private estate lines), 442 Post Offices (excluding the General Post Office, which does all kinds of postal and telegraph business and the Central Telegraph Office, which does only telegraph business) for money and postal orders and postal savings bank business, 248 (including the General Post Office and the Central Telegraph Office) for telegraph business, and 210 (including the General Post Office and the Central Telegraph Office) telephone call offices.

On December 31, 1929, 842 offices were open for the transaction of postal business, of these 221 (excluding the Central Telegraph Office) were offices dealing with all classes of postal business, namely, mail and parcel work, registration and insurance of postal articles, money order, postal order, and savings bank work and telephone business: at 19 offices all such business except telegraph work was transacted.

At 27 Sub-Post Offices, mail, parcel, registration, money order, postal order, savings bank, and telephone-telegram work was transacted; at 175 Sub-Post Offices all such business except telephone-telegram work was transacted; while at 1 Sub-Post Office, 392 Village Receiving Offices, and 8 Railway Receiving Offices mail work only was conducted.

In Colombo there is a Post Office at the Passenger Jetty where postal, telegraph, and telephone business can be transacted. The General Post Office is about five minutes' walk from the jetty.

Mail Service.

A regular weekly mail service is maintained between Ceylon and the United Kingdom and Ceylon and Australia. Regular and frequent services are also available to the Straits Settlements and the Far East. Mails from Colombo to Mauritius and South Africa *viâ* Bombay are despatched fortnightly. There is also a regular direct service three times a month between Ceylon and South Africa. The mail service by train is maintained

Inland mails are carried generally by the Ceylon Government Railways, and from Railway Stations by private contract motor mail services, bullock coach, or runner services.

Rates of Postage.

The Inland rates of postage and the rates to India are—

	Cents.
For letters, per 2 ounces or part of that weight	6
For post cards, each	3
For printed matter, per 2 ounces or part of that weight up to a maximum of 2 pounds ..	2
For registered newspapers, not weighing more than 2 pounds, for every 8 ounces ..	2
Rates to the United Kingdom, British Possessions, and Egypt.	
For letters, per ounce or part of that weight ..	9
For post cards, each	6
For printed papers, per 2 ounces or part of that weight	3

	Cents.
Rates for Foreign Countries (excluding Egypt).	
For letters, for the first ounce ..	20
For every additional ounce or part of that weight	10
For post cards, each	12
For printed papers, per 2 ounces or part of that weight	4

Inland Cash-on-Delivery System.

Postal articles can be transmitted by the Inland Post on the value-payable system provided that the amount payable is not less than 50 cents or more than Rs. 600. A posting and delivery fee of 5 to 15 cents, according to value, will be levied on every value-payable article.

Foreign Cash-on-Delivery System.

The Cash-on-Delivery Service is in operation between Ceylon and the United Kingdom, the Straits Settlements, the Federated Malay States, and Germany. The maximum value of a parcel that can be sent by Cash-on-Delivery System from the United Kingdom to Ceylon is £40, while the maximum value of a parcel from Ceylon to the United Kingdom is Rs. 250 and that of one between Ceylon and the Straits Settlements and Federated Malay States is Rs. 600 and that of a parcel between Ceylon and Germany is £20. The sender of a Cash-on-Delivery parcel must prepay, in addition to the ordinary postage and insurance fee, if any, a fee of 15 cents for each Rs. 15 or fraction of Rs. 15 of the value of the parcel, and a special posting fee of 10 cents. A delivery fee of 20 cents in addition to the amount due to the sender is collected from the addressee of a Cash-on-Delivery Parcel received from a place abroad, in addition to the usual Customs Duty.

Money Orders.

Money Orders can be obtained at any of the Post Offices payable at any of the others and in most foreign countries. The maximum for Inland Money Orders is Rs. 600 for Foreign Orders, £40. The rate of commission for Inland Money Orders is 10 cents for each complete sum of Rs. 10 and 10 cents for the remainder, and for Indian Money Orders 20 cents for each complete sum of Rs. 10 and 20 cents for the remainder. The rate for Foreign Money Orders is 25 cents on sums not exceeding £1, on sums exceeding £1 15 cents for each complete sum of £1 and 15 cents for the remainder.

Postal Orders.

Inland Postal Orders for fixed amounts ranging from 50 cents to Rs. 10

British Postal Orders.

There are 40 denominations of British Postal Orders ranging from 6*d*. to 21*s*., the difference between each being 6*d*. Commission is charged at the rate of 5 cents on each of the first three denominations, 10 cents on each of the next eighteen, and 15 cents on each of the next. A full list of the countries to which British Postal Orders can be sent is given in section 7 of the " Ceylon Post Office Guide."

Inland Telegrams.

The minimum charge for Inland telegrams is 30 cents for the first ten words, including address, and 5 cents for each additional two words or less. These telegrams can be sent from any one telegraph office to any other in the Island.

An Inland " Urgent " telegram service (including Telegraph Money Orders) is also available. The charges for an Inland " Urgent " Telegram between any two Postal Telegraph Offices in Ceylon are—

	Cents.
First 10 words	90
Each additional 2 words or less	15

Address charged for.

This class of Inland telegrams has precedence over all other classes of private telegrams. These telegrams are not accepted at or for Railway telegraph offices, the service being available between postal telegraph offices only.

Foreign and Colonial Telegrams.

The rates for telegrams to India (including Burma) are express Rs. 2, and ordinary Re. 1 for the first 12 words or less, and 15 cents and 10 cents respectively for each additional word.

Telegrams to places in other British Possessions and Foreign Countries can be sent on a minimum charge per word varying from 25 cents to Rs. 5.55 for ordinary, and from 20 cents to Rs. 2.80 for deferred telegrams, according to the distance of the place of destination, the route by which the telegram is to be sent, &c. A full list of places to which foreign and Colonial telegrams can be sent together with the rates charged is given in section 9 of the " Ceylon Post Office Guide."

Daily Letter Telegrams to Great Britain, Irish Free State, and other Countries.

Telegrams written in plain language only and known as " Daily Letter Telegrams " can be sent from Ceylon to Great Britain, Northern Ireland, and the Irish Free State at quarter rate with a minimum charge for 20 words, *i.e.*, Rs. 4 per message *viâ* I. R. T., Rs. 5 *viâ* Eastern and 20 or 25 cents for each word after the first twenty words which would include the chargeable indication D. L. T. These daily letter telegrams are accepted on any day with normal delivery after 48 hours.

A full list of places to which plain language daily letter service is available together with the corresponding charges will be found in section 9 of the " Ceylon Post Office Guide."

Week-end Letter Telegrams to Great Britain, Irish Free State, and other Countries.

A Week-end Letter Telegram Service is available between Ceylon on the one side and Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Irish Free State on the other *viâ* Eastern and *viâ* I. R. T. at the rate of Rs. 3.50 for a telegram of 20 words or under *viâ* I. R. T. and Rs. 3.80 for a telegram with a minimum charge for 20 words *viâ* Eastern, inclusive of the indication "W. L. T." which is inserted before the address and charged for as one word, and 20 cents for each word after the first 20 words. These Week-end Letter Telegrams are accepted on any week day up to Saturday, and are delivered the following Monday morning. In all other respects these telegrams are governed by the same conditions as those for Daily Letter Telegrams.

A full list of the places to which plain language week-end letter telegram service is available together with the corresponding charges will be found in section 9 of the "Ceylon Post Office Guide."

Radio Telegrams.

Radio Telegrams are accepted at any Postal Telegraph Office in Ceylon for transmission to ships equipped with radio-telegraph apparatus through the Coast Station in Colombo.

The charges are as follows:—

	Per Word. Cents.
British, Indian, or Colonial Government Telegrams to or from His Britannic Majesty's Ships of War	Free
Private Telegrams to or from His Britannic Majesty's Ships of War	40
All other Government or Private Telegrams ..	65

	Per Word Cents.
On Radio-Telegrams sent to—	
(*a*) Spanish and Swedish ships the charge is	60
(*b*) Finnish ships the charge is ..	50
The time range is about 30 hours.	

Telephone System.

Telephone communication exists between most of the principal towns. The larger towns are served by Government exchanges and rural areas by private licensed local exchanges linked together by Government junction and trunk lines.

The charge for the use of a public call box for six minutes or less is 10 cents, and for the use of the trunk and junction lines the charge is as follows:—

	Cents.
For 15 miles or under	15
Over 15 miles and not exceeding 32½ miles ..	25
Over 32½ miles and not exceeding 60 miles ..	50
Every additional 25 miles or part of a mile ..	25

The minimum annual rental of a telephone connection to a large town exchange is Rs. 180 for business or professional purposes and Rs. 120 for non-business or residential purposes, and that of a connection to a small town exchange Rs. 125 and Rs. 90 respectively.

The charge for the use of public call boxes is 10 cents and of the trunk or junction lines is generally 15 cents for 15 miles or under, and for longer distances a cent per mile, rounded off to the nearest multiple of 25. The annual rent of an instrument is Rs. 180 for large towns and Rs. 125 for small towns.

VI.—Administrative and Judicial System.

CONSTITUTION.

THE Administrative Government is vested in the Governor, who holds Office for a term of six years. He is assisted by an Executive Council, over which he presides, and by a Legislative Council, which is ordinarily presided over by an elected Vice-President and, on special occasions, by the Governor.

The ultimate authority, subject to the will of the Crown and the Houses of Parliament, rests with the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

The Executive Council.

The Executive Council is composed of 9 Members, 5 Official and 4 Unofficial. Of the 5 Official Members, 4 are *ex officio* Members, viz., the Colonial Secretary, the Attorney-General, the Controller of Revenue, and the Colonial Treasurer. The remaining Official Member and the Unofficial Members are persons appointed by the Governor in pursuance of instructions from His Majesty the King. The duties of the Executive Council are advisory, and the Governor, though he consults them, is at liberty to disregard their advice, but in such cases he is expected at once to report the question at issue to the Secretary of State.

The Legislative Council.

The Legislative Council consists of 49 Members, 12 Official and 37 Unofficial. The 12 Official Members consist of 5 *ex officio* Members—the Senior Military Officer, the Colonial Secretary, the Attorney-General, the Controller of Revenue, and the Treasurer—and 7 other Nominated Members holding public office under the Crown. The 37 Unofficial Members consist of 34 Elected Members, 23 of whom represent territorial constituencies and the remaining 11 special interests and communities, and 3 Nominated Members not holding public office.

The Franchise.—No person is qualified to vote for the election of members who is not a British subject or is a female; or is not of the age of 21 years; or is unable to read and write English, Sinhalese, or Tamil; or has not resided in the electoral district to which the register relates during the whole of a period of six months immediately prior to the commencement of the preparation of the register; or has been sentenced in any part of His Majesty's Dominions to death or penal servitude; or to imprisonment for an offence punishable with hard labour or rigorous imprisonment for a term exceeding twelve months; or has been adjudged by a competent court to be of unsound mind; or does not possess one of the following qualifications during the whole of a period of six months immediately prior to the commencement of the preparation of the register, viz.:—(i.) A clear annual income of not less than Rs. 600; (ii.) the ownership of immovable property, either in his own right, or in right of his wife (but not as lessee or usufructuary mortgagee), situate within the electoral district to which the register relates, the value of which, after allowing for any mortgage debts thereon, is not less than Rs. 1,500; (iii.) the occupation as owner or tenant of any house, warehouse, counting-house, shop, or other building, situate within the electoral district to which the register relates, of the annual value of not less than (*a*) Rs. 400 if situated within the limits of any Municipal, Local Board, or Sanitary Board town, or of any Urban District Council or of the Board of Improvement of Nuwara Eliya; (*b*) Rs. 200 if situated elsewhere.

Full details can be obtained from "The Ceylon (Legislative Council) Order in Council, 1923," published in *Government Gazette Extraordinary* No. 7,376 of February 16, 1924, and "The Ceylon (Legislative Council) Amendment Order in Council, 1924," published in *Government Gazette Extraordinary* No. 7,393 of May 17, 1924.

The New Constitution.

The recommendations of the Special Commission on the Constitution appointed in 1927, as amended by the Secretary of State for the Colonies in his Despatch to His Excellency the Governor dated October 10, 1929, were accepted in principle by the Legislative Council on December 12, 1929, by a majority of two votes. The Official Members of the Council took no part in the debate and did not vote.

The chief features of the new constitution are that the existing Legislative Council will be replaced by a State Council which will deal with administrative as well as legislative matters and will therefore sit in executive as well as legislative session; the control of departments will be decentralized and the existing Colonial Secretariat will be replaced by groups of departments in charge of ten Ministers, of whom seven will be elected members of the Council, the remaining three, to be called Officers of State, being the Chief (formerly Colonial) Secretary, the Attorney-General, and the Treasurer; in the administration of his departments each of the seven elected Ministers will be associated with a Standing Executive Committee of the State Council; communal representation will be abolished; and the territorial franchise, which was limited to adult males possessing certain literacy and property qualifications, will be extended—subject to certain specified qualifications—to adults of both sexes. The State Council will be composed of 50 members elected on a territorial basis, with 8 Nominated Unofficial Members, and the 3 Officers of State.

Further details are available in the "Report of the Special Commission on the Constitution, 1928," and the "Despatches relating to the Ceylon Constitution" (Sessional Paper XXXIV. of 1929), obtainable at the Government Record Office, Colombo.

The Colonial Secretary.—The Governor's orders to the Heads of Departments are communicated by the Colonial Secretary, who is the permanent head of the whole Public Service, and, particularly, of the Civil Service. The Colonial Secretary has, thus, important and wide powers of administration and control, and his office is the great office of record in the Island.

The Treasurer.—The appointment of Treasurer is the third of the staff appointments, the other two being the Colonial Secretary and the Controller of Revenue. The Treasurer takes charge of all public moneys, is Accountant-General, superintends the work of the Government Agents as sub-accountants, and deals with questions of finance and other matters affecting the revenue and expenditure of the Colony.

The Ceylon Civil Service.—The Ceylon Civil Service, recruited partly by examination on the same basis as the Indian Civil Service, and partly by local appointments, furnishes officers for the general administrative, and part of the judicial, work in the Colony. The senior officer of the Civil Service generally holds the office of Controller of Revenue, in which are vested certain general supervisory powers in revenue matters.

Revenue Districts.—For administrative purposes Ceylon is divided into nine Provinces, viz., the Western, the Central, the Southern, the Northern, the Eastern, the North-Western, the North-Central, Uva, and Sabaragamuwa. These, except the North-Central and Uva, are subdivided into districts, of which there are nineteen. The districts are Colombo, Kalutara; Kandy, Matale, Nuwara Eliya; Jaffna, Mannar, Mullaittivu; Galle, Matara, Hambantota; Batticaloa, Trincomalee; Kurunegala, Puttalam-Chilaw; Anuradhapura; Badulla; Ratnapura and Kegalla.

The Government Agents.—The important posts of Government Agents—one in each of the nine Provinces—are generally held by the next senior Civil Servants. To the Government Agents is entrusted the general administrative work of their Provinces, while their Kachcheries, or offices, are the provincial treasuries for the receipt of revenue and the payment of the local expenses of Government. The Government Agents are also *ex officio* Provincial Registrars; Fiscals; Chairmen of Local Boards, Provincial Road Committees, and District Road Committees; in the cases of Kandy and Galle, Chairmen of the Municipal Councils; and in the Northern, Southern, and Eastern Provinces, Collectors of Customs.

The Headmen.—The officer next subordinate to the Government Agent or Assistant Government Agent is the chief native headman, who is differently styled in different districts: "Mudaliyar" in the maritime Sinhalese districts; "Ratemahatmaya" in the Kandyan Districts; "Maniagar," "Adigar," and "Vanniya" in the Tamil districts. There are about 110 chief headmen in the Island. In some cases the Mudaliyar is assisted by one or more "Muhandirams." Next to the chief headman ranks the superior headman, called in the maritime Sinhalese districts "Vidane Arachchi," in the Kandyan Sinhalese districts the "Korala," and in the Tamil districts the "Udaiyar." There are about 613 superior headmen in Ceylon.

Lastly comes the village headman, who is in charge of one or more villages, and whose jurisdiction is the administrative unit. The number of village headmen is about 4,000. In addition, there are peace officers, irrigation headmen, and others appointed for special purposes.

Municipalities and Local Boards.—Each of the three principal towns (Colombo, Kandy, and Galle) has been created a Municipality, of which the affairs are administered by a body corporate consisting of a Chairman (who, in the case of Colombo, is a member of the Civil Service and nominated by the Governor, and in the cases of Kandy and Galle, the Government Agent) and a number of elected members and of nominees of the Governor. Every ratepayer who possesses a house of the annual value of Rs. 180, or every tenant who pays a monthly rental of Rs. 15, or is a graduate of a university, is qualified to vote for the election of a Councillor. In twelve of the smaller towns the administration has been entrusted to Local Boards of Health and Improvement, composed of the Government Agent or Assistant Government Agent or a person nominated by the Government Agent as Chairman, two other Official Members, and three Unofficial Members. The maintenance of roads other than main thoroughfares is the duty of the District Road Committees, while the administration of village affairs and the working of rules connected with irrigation are vested in Gansabhawas or Village Committees.

Local Government.—Ordinance No. 11 of 1920 provides for the establishment of District Councils throughout the Island to take charge of the sanitation, communications, and development of their districts. District Councils are to elect their own Chairman, and are debarred from electing

the Government Agent or his Assistant. Rural District Councils are to consist of 4 to 8 members nominated by the Governor, but Urban and General District Councils are to be composed of from 6 to 12 members, of whom two-thirds are to be elected by the inhabitants. These local bodies are to be supervised by a Local Government Board. This Board was established in June, 1921, and Urban District Councils have been formed for Chilaw, Dehiwala-Mount Lavinia, Jaffna, Kalutara, Kurunegala, Matale, Matara, Moratuwa, Negombo, and Ratnapura. These Councils will not be created in any area unless the people show a desire for them and preliminary notices are first issued to ascertain whether such desire exists.

Government Departments.—In addition to the Government Agents and Assistant Government Agents, the Civil Service also supplies officers for the appointments of Principal Collector of Customs and Assistants, Postmaster-General, Registrar-General, Land Settlement Officers, Excise Commissioner and Assistants, District Judges, Assistant Colonial Secretaries, Police Magistrates, Office Assistants to the Government Agents, &c.

Many of the Government departments have an obvious and direct relationship to the trade and economic activities of the Island, but, in this place, it is only possible to mention a few. The Department of Agriculture is, of course, prominent in a country whose industries are mainly agricultural; it carries out research and investigation both with regard to the established industries, and to the development of new products, and is a centre for general information both on local and other tropical industries, while attention is given to the training of agricultural students. The important matter of forest conservation is in the charge of the Forest Department, and its activities are now largely directed to the reafforestation and regeneration required after unsystematic exploitation in the past. The interests of commerce generally are in the hands of the Customs Department, at whose newly established Bureau information of various kinds is available. Industrial education has the attention of the Education Department, there being now in existence 81 industrial schools, either maintained by Government or subsidized by grants. In these schools, one or more of the following industries are taught: carpentry, basket-making, pottery, cloth-weaving, chalk-making, lacquer work, printing, binding, shoemaking, tailoring, blacksmith work, lace-making, dressmaking, embroidery, cooking, gardening. Commercial education also receives special attention at the Technical College in Colombo.

Judicial System.

The Courts Ordinance, 1889, is the principal enactment relating to the judicial system of Ceylon. The administration of justice is chiefly entrusted to the Supreme Court, the District Courts, the Courts of Requests, and the Police Courts. "Village Tribunals," which are regulated by Ordinance No. 9 of 1924, possess limited powers and jurisdiction to try petty crimes and civil claims.

Supreme Court.—The Supreme Court possesses three jurisdictions: (i.) an original, (ii.) an appellate, and (iii.) an admiralty jurisdiction. In its original jurisdiction it may try any crime or offence committed throughout the Island, and for the purpose of the exercise of this jurisdiction the Colony is divided into four circuits within which the Sessions are held at stated intervals throughout the year. The Supreme Court has, in general, no original civil

jurisdiction. In the exercise of its appellate* or revisional jurisdiction it is empowered to correct all errors, both of fact and of law, of the inferior courts in both civil and criminal cases. This jurisdiction is, as a general rule, exercised in Colombo. The admiralty jurisdiction of the Supreme Court is declared by section 2 of Ordinance No. 2 of 1891, and the Supreme Court enjoys the same powers which the High Court of England possesses in like matters, subject only to any provisions or limitations curtailing such powers contained in the Colonial Courts of Admiralty Act 1890. The Supreme Court is the only authority which can admit advocates and proctors (similar to barristers and solicitors in England) to practise before the various courts in the Colony, and it may remove them from office for misconduct. It may also issue writs in the nature of *habeas corpus*, *mandamus*, *quo warranto*, &c. It is composed of six Judges, namely, a Chief Justice and five Puisne Judges. The Governor is authorized by law to appoint a Commissioner of Assize, and such Judge when appointed has all the powers, rights, and privileges of a Judge of the Supreme Court. As in England, the Judges hold office during His Majesty's pleasure.

District Courts.—The District Courts have unlimited civil jurisdiction, and criminal jurisdiction over offences punishable with a term of imprisonment not exceeding two years or with a fine not exceeding Rs. 1,000. A District Court cannot, however, take cognizance of any offence, unless the accused person has been committed for trial by a Police Court, or unless the case has been transferred to it from some other court by order of the Supreme Court. The District Court has original jurisdiction also in revenue, matrimonial, insolvency, and testamentary matters, and over the persons and estates of lunatics, minors, and wards, and over guardians, trusts and trustees, &c. District Courts also have an admiralty jurisdiction, and a special jurisdiction to punish contempts of court committed in the presence of the court.

Courts of Requests.—The Courts of Requests are the minor civil courts, and have original jurisdiction to hear and determine (with some exceptions) all civil actions in which the value involved does not exceed Rs. 300.

Police Courts.—The Police Courts, in general, have jurisdiction to try and dispose summarily of all offences (other than those triable exclusively by the Village Tribunals) punishable with imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months or with a fine not exceeding Rs. 100, and to inquire into all grave offences preparatory to the committal of the accused to a higher court. In such cases it is for the Attorney-General to decide whether or not the accused is to be so committed.

Village Tribunals.—Village Tribunals have been established in most of the rural divisions. The President of a Village Tribunal—a paid Ceylonese officer appointed by the Governor—is empowered to hear and determine (with the assistance of three councillors having the prescribed qualifications and selected for each case from a panel of councillors) civil cases between inhabitants in the subdivision under its jurisdiction provided that the sum involved does not exceed Rs. 20, and (by special request of parties whether inhabitants in the subdivision or not) cases in which the sum involved exceeds Rs. 20 but does not exceed Rs. 100, and criminal cases of petty assaults and thefts and breaches of rules made by the Village Committees. In the case of any difference of opinion between the councillors and the President, the opinion of the President prevails. The highest punishment

* The Privy Council is the final court of appeal in all matters whether civil or criminal.

which a Village Tribunal is empowered to inflict is rigorous imprisonment for a term of two weeks, or a fine of Rs. 20. An appeal lies against the decision of a Village Tribunal to the Government Agent or Assistant Government Agent, and finally to the Governor in Executive Council.

Common-law of Ceylon.—The common-law of Ceylon may be said to be the Roman-Dutch law, which was in operation in the maritime districts when ceded by the Dutch to the British. But the law has been modified by local Ordinances and by the introduction of the English law in certain cases.

Codes.—The criminal law, law of civil and criminal procedure, and law of evidence of the Island were codified on the model of the Indian Codes in the Civil Procedure Code (Ordinances Nos. 2 of 1889 and 12 of 1895 and amending Ordinances), the Criminal Procedure Code (No. 15 of 1898 and amending Ordinances), the Penal Code (No. 2 of 1883 and amending Ordinances), and the Evidence Ordinance (No. 14 of 1895 and amending Ordinances).

Special Laws.—Certain sections of the community are subject to their own laws and customs regarding inheritance, adoption, gift, purchase, &c., so far as such customs have not been altered or repealed by statute. The Kandyan Sinhalese are governed by the Kandyan law under the Convention of March 2, 1815, made on the deposition of their King; the Tamils of the Northern Province by their customs called the Tesawalamai, which in 1706 were codified by order of the Dutch Government; the Muslims by ill-defined customs partly contained in the meagre code of August 5, 1806; and the Mukkuwas of the Batticaloa District by their vague customs called the "Mukkuwa law."

POLICE.

The regular Police Force of the Island was established and is regulated by the Police Ordinance, No. 16 of 1865, as amended by various subsequent Ordinances.

Before the Police Force was constituted the duties of the Police were attended to by the headmen. Regular Police have been gradually introduced to most parts of the Island since 1865 and at present there are 165 Police Stations and 29 Police Offices.

The Police Force is maintained by the Central Government. In towns a Police rate is levied, and in certain planting districts, where Rural Police have been established at the request of the owners of estates, half the cost is met by all estates in the area contributing a sum in proportion to their acreage.

Particulars regarding the strength of the force will be found below:—

Strength on December 31, 1929.

	Sanctioned.	Actual.
Inspector-General	1	1
Deputy Inspector-General	2	2
Superintendents, Assistant Superintendents and Probationers	39	37
Chief Inspectors, Inspectors, and Sub-Inspectors	186	185
Sergeants-Major	2	2
Sergeants	366	351
Constables	2,536	2,550

European Police Force.

Chief Inspector	1	1
Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors	4	4
Sergeants	28	27
	3,165	3,160

General.—The following statement shows the number of cases of crime disposed of as true by the courts during the last three years:—

	1927.	1928.	1929.
Homicide	208	248	243
Attempted Homicide	107	83	114
Grievous hurt	899	947	1,004
Hurt with dangerous weapons	1,407	1,436	1,427
Housebreaking	2,272	2,158	2,385
Theft of cattle	388	412	479
Other offences	3,336	3,525	3,437
	8,617	8,809	9,089

The statistics of crime for the last six years under the three main heads: "Offences against the person" (which are not directly preventable by police action), "Offences against property," and "Offences against the State" (riot, &c.) are as follows:—

Year.	Total Crime.	Offences against the Person (excluding Robbery).	Preventable Crime. Offences against Property (including Robbery).	Offences against the State.
1923	6,497	2,020	4,444	33
1924	6,933	2,433	4,469	31
1925	7,650	2,668	4,947	35
1926	8,707	2,755	5,914	38
1927	8,617	2,798	5,760	59
1928	8,809	2,881	5,866	62
1929	9,089	2,978	6,055	56

Offences against the Person.—The majority of offences under this heading are cases of causing various degrees of hurt with a knife. When a knife is drawn and deliberately used it is a matter of chance whether the offence committed will fall under the head of murder, attempted murder, grievous hurt, or hurt with a dangerous weapon. These crimes are unpremeditated and are often committed in the heat of a sudden quarrel. But too often the quarrel and the stabbing are the sequel to long-standing ill-feeling and long-nursed enmity. This enmity is to be found between adherents to different religions, between castes, between families, and often between the members of the same family.

Boxing is now being taught in most schools and scouting is flourishing in some districts. This should do much to teach the rising generations lessons of fair play, self-restraint, and public duty.

The closing of taverns has been responsible for increasing the number of crimes of violence in certain districts. There is no doubt that the closing of taverns tends to defeat its aim and objects by causing more crimes of violence than occurred where taverns existed and liquor of an approved quality was obtainable between fixed hours.

Offences against Property.—Offences against property can to a great extent be prevented by a thorough system of police patrols and beats and by a careful supervision over well known and suspected criminals. A feature of crime of this nature is the increasing use of rapid means of conveyance, chiefly motor vehicles, by thieves and other criminals. The criminal is quick to adapt himself to modern conditions, and it is only by police adopting up-to-date methods of prevention and detection of crime that offenders against property can be traced and brought to justice.

Murder.—The following statement shows the incidence of murder disposed of in 1929 compared with the two previous years:—

1927	208	1929	243
1928	248		

The proportion of murders to population is 1 per 18,500 persons. The knife is the weapon most often used to commit murder. In 34 cases murder was committed with a firearm.

Gang Robbery.—This is the worst type of crime with which the police have to deal. It is a deliberately premeditated crime often carried out with violence. Murder is not infrequently committed by the robbers to avoid identification.

The figures for the last three years are—

	Cases.		Cases.
1927	21	1929	20
1928	17		

Housebreaking and Burglary.—The number of cases during the last three years was—

1927	2,272	1929	2,385
1928	2,158		

In the majority of cases the building attacked was a mud and wattle dwelling house offering little protection against thieves.

Smuggling of Cocaine, Opium, and Ganja (Cannabis Indica).—There were 309 prosecutions by the police for illicit possession of opium. The weight of opium seized was 78 pounds 8 ounces. In 1928 99 pounds 7 ounces were seized and in 1927 84½ pounds. The largest number of prosecutions was entered in the North-Western Province, viz., 89 cases. In the Colombo division 75 cases were instituted for illicit possession of bhang and ganja (*cannabis indica*). There were 523 prosecutions as against 338 in 1928. The total weight of ganja, &c., seized during the year was 91½ pounds. The police in Colombo have been active in taking up ganja cases and there were no less than 383 prosecutions during the year. In the majority of cases the persons arrested were in possession of a small quantity of ganja or a cigarette containing the drug.

There were no prosecutions for possession of cocaine.

The police in the different Provinces co-operate and exchange information. They also keep in touch with the Ceylon Excise Department and the police in Southern India. The police of each district receive a copy of the *Excise Gazette*. This system of co-operation greatly assists in keeping in check the efforts of illicit traffickers and helps to expose the methods they employ. Opium and ganja are smuggled into Ceylon mostly by schooners from South India. The contraband is smuggled ashore all along the coast of the Northern Province in catamarans. Ships from South Indian ports, including the French ports of Pondicherry and Karikal, calling at Colombo Harbour also bring opium and ganja.

Criminal Investigation Department.

The Criminal Investigation Department includes the Harbour Police, the Foreshore Police, the Train Police, the Photographic Branch, and the Finger Print Bureau.

Inquiries are frequently made from the Criminal Investigation Department by police forces of other countries with regard to travellers who may pass through Colombo owing to its position as the central port of the East. The Criminal Investigation Department, therefore, keeps records of all persons

arriving in and leaving Ceylon, all persons staying in hotels, boarding houses, and resthouses, and all foreigners. People of 48 different races passed through Colombo by the Talaimannar route to and from India in the course of the year.

Probation Officers.—The report of the Central Probation Board which was appointed to frame a scheme for the more efficient working of the Probation System in Ceylon issued their report in January, 1930. The Board recommend the appointment of whole-time paid probation officers, commencing with two for Colombo and one each for Kandy and Kurunegala.

Youthful Offenders.—1,286 boys and youths between the ages of 15 and 21 were convicted of crime in 1929. Of these, 950 or 74 per cent. were first offenders and the remaining 336 (26 per cent.) were convicted for a second or subsequent offence. The number of juvenile offenders, 1,286, represents 24 per cent. of all convictions. The careers of hardened criminals begin with petty offences committed as boys or youths. The number of reconvicted criminals grows steadily larger each year. On December 31 there were 11,215, double the number registered in 1915.

The foregoing is sufficient evidence of the very great need for effective treatment of juvenile first offenders to prevent them developing into hardened criminals. The Probation System to which reference has been made in the preceding paragraph offers what should be a successful solution in a large number of cases, particularly if whole-time probation officers are available who can by strong personality exercise an influence over youths of weak character who, owing to bad surroundings or associations or other circumstances, have been led to commit crime.

Certain cases, however, require that the offender should be subjected to training in an institution. At present the only institution of this nature is the reformatory at Maggona in the Western Province, where young offenders up to the age of 16 can be sent for detention and training. A Training School for youthful offenders between the ages of 16 and 21 is an urgent need.

After completing his period of training a boy should be released on licence to the care of an association which will do its utmost to obtain work for him in surroundings which will assist him to keep clear of his former associates.

There is another aspect of the subject. Though the training and the formation of character in an institution of this nature may produce excellent results, it is infinitely more desirable that the youth should be prevented from ever arriving at the stage when such detention becomes necessary. However well he may turn out after his term of detention the stigma will remain and the reproach will be difficult to live down. To this end an effort was made in 1922 to get into touch with boys in the streets of towns, who by reason of the nature of their surroundings and homeless life are liable to drop easily into a life of crime. Since then clubs for such boys have been kept up by the police at Colombo, Galle, and Panadure, and two clubs, one at Kandy and one at Colombo, are run by "Toc H." These clubs aim at instilling first and foremost a sense of self-respect. They provide a home and assist the boys to obtain honest employment and generally to lead an honest life.

One of the most urgent needs in connection with dealing with the youthful offender is the constitution of juvenile courts where proceedings can be taken in simple form and language and in an atmosphere entirely different from that of the ordinary courts.

The combination of the clubs for homeless boys, the efficient working of a probation system, the constitution of juvenile courts, the maintenance of a training school for youthful offenders, and the after-care by an association which will provide for the supervision of boys released, on licence, from the training school, should do a great deal towards solving the problem of the youthful offender in Ceylon. The problem cannot be dealt with by adopting only one or two of these measures; they are all essential and supplement each other.

Regulation and Control of Motor Traffic.—There were 29,868 prosecutions under the Motor Ordinance. The increase in the work imposed on the police and on the courts by the present volume of motor traffic is illustrated by the fact that in 1923 there were only 1,685 prosecutions. Of the 29,868 prosecutions in 1929, 1,567 were for exceeding the speed limit and 1,139 for reckless or negligent driving. In addition 67 cases for causing death by a rash and negligent act and 87 for causing serious injury were instituted under the Penal Code in connection with motor accidents. 2,926 accidents caused by motor vehicles throughout the Island were reported to the police. Of these, 352 were of a serious nature and in 143 cases the injuries to persons proved fatal. In 1928 there were 114 fatal accidents. In 27 fatal accidents, 19 per cent. of the total, an omnibus was involved. Omnibuses compose 11 per cent. of the total of motor vehicles on the roads, and are therefore responsible for a number of fatal accidents out of proportion to their numbers. 131 persons were killed or injured in omnibus accidents. In 41 per cent. of fatal and serious accidents the fault lay chiefly with the pedestrian.

The following figures show the action taken in recent years to control the speed of motor traffic and to check rash or negligent driving:—

Year.	Motor Vehicles on the Road.	Number of Prosecutions for Reckless or Careless Driving.	Fatal Accidents.	Total Serious and Fatal Accidents.
1925	11,773	830	73	230
1926	14,947	984	109	258
1927	17,340	1,084	107	292
1928	20,623	838	114	273
1929	23,565	1,139	143	352

A system of special motor patrols was maintained to assist the local police in districts where motor traffic had become too difficult to be handled satisfactorily by small stations. Patrols of this nature worked in the Colombo, Panadure, and Kalutara Districts of the Western Province, in the Avissawella District of the Province of Sabaragamuwa, and in the Galle District of the Southern Province. In the first three districts named, Morris (Cowley) two-seater cars have been supplied and the patrol consists of a Sub-Inspector, a sergeant, and a constable. Besides dealing with offenders under the Motor Ordinance, the patrols were useful in examining the condition of omnibuses and reporting to the licensing authorities. The cars were also used to check night patrolling between stations and districts. In emergencies such as fire, riot, gang robbery, &c., the cars are available for prompt transport of a strong party of police to the scene. Motor patrols have often to inquire into cases that call for the subsequent production in court of a photograph of the scene. The patrols are supplied with cameras for use in these inquiries.

Control of Bullock Cart and other Traffic.—In order to minimize accidents on the narrow winding roads of this Island it is essential that attention should be paid to obstruction and other offences committed by the drivers of bullock carts and other slow-moving vehicles. During the year 7,983 prosecutions were entered against the drivers and owners of such vehicles.

In towns where there are pavements pedestrians were directed from time to time by special police patrols to keep off the road and use the pavements.

Examination of Bioscope Films.—The police are responsible for seeing that no film is shown which is indecent or suggestive of indecency or of a nature likely to cause ill-will between classes or likely to offend the religious susceptibilities of any community or which portrays the activities of criminals and degenerates in a manner calculated to exercise a harmful influence. A list of the films to be shown at any theatre each week is submitted beforehand to a Superintendent of Police together with a synopsis of the scenes depicted in the films, and only those films which he passes for public exhibition can be shown.

Maintenance of Order.—The maintenance of order is an important part of the duties of the police. The numerous processions occurring during the year are accompanied by police for this purpose and demonstrations of any size are policed. A heavy responsibility is placed on the police during labour demonstrations or strikes. In 1929 a serious situation was created by the tramway strike. At first there was very little trouble. The Labour Union organized a boycott of the trams, and in their duty of maintaining order the police came into frequent contact with strikers and their sympathizers. The unfortunate impression is gained by the ignorant that the police are on one side, *i.e.*, the side of the employer. Considerable feeling was worked up against the police culminating in rioting at Maradana on the evening of February 5. Every effort to disperse the unlawful assembly, which was demonstrating in front of Police Headquarters, by appealing to reason, failed. A gas main and a block of offices at police headquarters were set on fire by the mob. The Municipal fire engine was attacked and burnt to the ground. Only when the firemen and police on a second fire engine were attacked did the police open fire in self-defence. It is regretted that six persons lost their lives in the riot.

PRISONS.

There was a decrease of 58 in the total number of admissions of convicted prisoners in Ceylon during the year 1929. The figures are as follows:—

1928	..	..	8,689	1929	..	..	8,631

The number of prisoners sentenced to death was 75, as against 75 in 1928. There were 46 executions during the year, as against 40 in 1928.

Of the 46 whose capital sentences were carried out, 41 were Sinhalese, 4 Tamils, and a Moor.

Of the number executed 4 had been sentenced in 1928; and of the number sentenced to death 3 were executed in 1930.

There were 5 escapes and 6 recaptures during the year.

The total number of deaths in Prisons was 53, as against 62 in 1928, and the death rate per 1,000 of the admissions during the year was 3.33, as against 4.12 in 1928 and 3.05 in 1927.

The number of punishments inflicted during the year on prisoners for prison offences was 1,020, as against 1,116 in 1928 and 764 in 1927.

Prisoners are in all prisons employed upon works of public utility and remunerative industrial labour. At Welikada and Bogambara Prisons various trades are taught, such as carpentry; blacksmith, goldsmith and tinsmith work; boot-making, tailoring, the making of cane furniture, matting, coir brooms, rugs, mats, coal bags, brushes, bamboo tats, laundry work, printing, book-binding, masonry, soapmaking, &c.

The various industries in prisons are carried on under the Prisons Industries Advance Account.

During the year under review 5,814 articles of wooden furniture were turned out by prison labour for various Government departments, &c. Raw materials for furniture making are obtained from the Forest Department, the Colonial Storekeeper, and the Crown Agents for the Colonies, a total of 25,115 cubic feet of various varieties of timber in log form having been received. Cutting, planing, &c., of timber is done by machinery.

Welikada Prison continues to wash all soiled linen from the Medical and Railway Departments, Lunatic Asylum, &c., 1,547,785 pieces being dealt with during the year.

13,287 articles of clothing and bedding were made up for the Colonial Storekeeper and 15,994 yards of cloth woven for prison use.

The prisoners at Mahara Prison are exclusively employed in the quarries on account of Harbour Works and Public Works Department.

A daily average of 192.13 prisoners were employed in the Harbour Works Quarry during the year, as blacksmiths, carpenters, plate-layers, stone-dressers, stone-breakers, excavators, and other works in connection with the working of the quarry.

The following quantity of metal has been dealt with:—

Hand rubble	..	3,385 Tons	¾ in. Metal	..	4,856 Bushels
2 in. Metal	..	26,226 Bushels	⅝ in. Metal	..	3,455 Barrels

A daily average of 198.37 prisoners were employed in the Public Works Department quarry, breaking metal, sledging, clearing, loading, &c., and 5,067.86 cubes of 2-inch metal were broken.

The Karayoor Reclamation Works at Jaffna continue to make good progress. The daily average number of prisoners so employed was 164.12 in connection with the following works:—

		Sq. Ft.			Sq. Ft.
(1) Area reclaimed	..	18,000	(2) Area re-levelled	..	170,500

At Anuradhapura 34 prisoners are daily employed on account of work on the Anti-Malarial Campaign in filling up pools, weeding, clearing jungle, &c., in and around the vicinity of the town.

For the Forest Department 15 prisoners are daily employed in clearing jungle, planting teak, margosa, rosewood, &c., at Palugama, and on account of the Local Board, prisoners were employed in breaking metal.

In Batticaloa Prison, prisoners are employed on anti-malarial work on account of the Local Board.

In Badulla and Galle Prisons, prisoners are employed in metal breaking for the Public Works Department.

Afternoon schools at Welikada, Kandy, and Mahara Prisons for prisoners of the age of 23 years and under are conducted by arrangement with the Education Department and continue to make satisfactory progress. In addition evening classes for both male and female prisoners are conducted by various social service organizations and individual workers in Welikada and Kandy Prisons, special facilities being allowed in the former prison for the study of commercial subjects for the benefit of the more educated prisoners.

Juvenile offenders in Welikada Prison are organized as a Rover Troop and receive a thorough training in scout-craft and allied subjects, and in Colombo, Kandy, Jaffna, Galle, and Badulla, local sub-committees of the Ceylon Discharged Prisoners' Aid Association are in charge of the after-care of prisoners on discharge from prison and work in close co-operation with the prison authorities.

VII.—Public Works.

IRRIGATION.

Importance of Irrigation.—The importance of irrigation in Ceylon arises mainly from the fact that the staple food of the inhabitants is rice. Practically all rice is grown in water, and in areas where the ordinary rainfall is insufficient for the crop, artificial means have to be adopted to supplement the water supply. As far as possible water is diverted to the fields from natural water-courses, but in the dry zones of the Island where natural flow diminishes greatly or entirely ceases for considerable periods, it is often necessary to resort to the storage of water obtainable in the rainy season. The reservoirs or tanks in which water is stored are usually formed by the construction of embankments across the valley of a water-course, thus impounding the flow and securing a supply which can be issued when required for the cultivation operations by means of sluices and irrigation channels.

Historical.—Irrigation has been practised in Ceylon from very early times, and particularly in the low-country dry zones there are many evidences of the resource, skill, and industry of the people in the construction of storage tanks, masonry diversion dams, and extensive systems of irrigation channels. Ancient inscriptions have disclosed the fact that some of the irrigation works date back as far as 400 B.C. and that the construction of works throughout the Island proceeded until some time after the reign of Parakrama Bahu A.D. 1164-1197. One of the finest examples of ancient irrigation engineering is Minneriya tank in the North-Central Province, built by King Mahasena about A.D. 277. This tank dams the Minneriya-oya and has a bund (or embankment) $\frac{3}{4}$ mile in length. Traces of the ancient masonry sluice and spill still exist. As at present restored, the tank has a surface area of 7 square miles and holds up water to a depth of 33 feet, but it is evident from the great height of the bund and the ancient spill remains that it was designed to impound very much more water than it is now capable of holding.

Many other instances could be quoted of the magnitude of the irrigation works constructed by the ancient Sinhalese, and from the long channel systems still in existence below them it is evident that vast tracts of land were put under cultivation.

With the decay of the Sinhalese monarchy most of the irrigation works were neglected or intentionally breached during the ravages of war, the land became depopulated, and the tanks and fields were overgrown by forests.

There is little historical record of any irrigation work being undertaken in Ceylon between the time of the ancient Sinhalese Kings and the advent of the Dutch in 1656. The Dutch enforced the cultivation of some extent of land in the maritime provinces but appear to have devoted their influence chiefly to the development of trade. Irrigation and navigation canals in the western portion of the Island were their principal engineering achievements.

During the early occupation of Ceylon by the British, after A.D. 1796 attempts were made to restore some of the ancient irrigation works, but it was not until the time of Sir Emerson Tennant (1843-1850) that the problem was taken up seriously.

Sir Henry Ward in 1856 introduced his now well known Irrigation Ordinance based on the revival of the system of communal labour for the restoration of irrigation works.

In 1866 a Committee was appointed to ascertain where irrigation works could be beneficially carried out and in addition inquiries were made into irrigation generally. The main proposals emanating from the report were—

(i.) The earthwork of village tanks should be undertaken by the people.

(ii.) The execution of all irrigation works in the Island should be entrusted to a professional officer and staff.

The Central Irrigation Board, with subsidiary Provincial Boards, was established in 1887, and until 1900 all irrigation engineering work was carried out by engineers of the Public Works Department. A separate Irrigation Department was formed in 1900 and the Central Irrigation Board was abolished in 1906.

Current Irrigation Works.—Irrigation works in Ceylon at the present day are divided into " Major Works " and " Village Works." Major works are of two classes: A.—Perpetuity, B.—Aided:—

A.—Perpetuity works are those irrigation works for which rates in perpetuity are leviable. These rates may be fixed or variable.

The fixed rate is an agreed contribution towards the cost of construction or maintenance or both, and no alteration can be made to this rate without the consent of the proprietors.

The variable rate is an agreed contribution towards construction and maintenance costs, and is subject to change in accordance with the terms of variations approved by Government and agreed to by the proprietors.

B.—Aided works are those for which the proprietors have agreed to repay the whole or part of the cost of construction and to pay a maintenance rate until the construction cost contribution has been paid. The maintenance rate is subject to revision every five years. The proprietors, on repayment of the construction cost contribution, take over the work or elect to have the work maintained by Government on payment of a maintenance rate.

Class A consists chiefly of large restored storage tanks which supply water to village works and to lands irrigated direct from the supply channels. Some of these works were constructed by the old Kings for general benefit and have been restored solely at Government expense. Other works have been initiated and constructed by modern engineers, from funds either obtained by loan account or as a direct charge on the revenue of the Island.

The construction and maintenance of all major works is in the hands of the Irrigation Department, while minor works are attended to by the Provincial Administration with the assistance of Irrigation Officers seconded for the purpose.

A few details of some of the larger tanks now restored or of recent construction and in working order would be of interest at this stage, and a comparative table is given on next page.

Details of some of the Larger Major Works Restored, Constructed, and Maintained by the Irrigation Department.

Name of Tank.	Date of Restoration or Completion.	Surface Water Area.	Area of Catchment drained by the Tank.	Quantity of Water impounded (Millions of Gallons).	Length of Dam Embankment.	Capable of irrigating.	Remarks.
Minneri, (N.-C. P.)	1903	7 sq. miles (4,560 acres)	81¼ sq. miles	19,255 (70,726 ac. ft.)	¾ mile	11,000 acres	One of the finest of the restored tanks set in magnificent scenery. Sometimes calleed the "Killarney of the East" and is one of the most picturesque tanks in Ceylon
Iranamadu (N. P.)	—	8¾ sq. miles (5,620 acres)	227 sq. miles	15,284 (56,230 ac. ft.)	1¾ miles	20,000 acres	A good example of a tank constructed according to modern irrigation practice; the scheme laid out with access and feeder roads, supply and distribution channels, and ancillary works
Kalawewa (N.-C. P.)	1887	6¾ sq. miles (4,337 acres)	325 sq. miles	10,843 (39,840 ac. ft.)	3½ miles	13,000 acres	An ancient tank restored with a "Yodi Ela" or supply channel 54 miles long feeding 100 village tanks *en route* and affording the town of Anuradhapura a sure and certain water supply
Kanthalai (E. P.)	1876	5 sq. miles (3,263 acres)	77 sq. miles	10,007 (37,124 ac. ft.)	1¼ miles	6,244 acres	Top of bund is 60 feet wide and along which is constructed the main road to Trincomalee. An ancient tank restored. No record of it having breached since its construction by the ancient Kings
Nachchaduwa (N.-C. P.)	1914	6 sq. miles (3,920 acres)	236 sq. miles	8,678 (36,900 ac. ft.)	1 mile	7,000 acres	Masonry weir 467 feet long
Giant's Tank (N. P.)	1902	7 sq. miles (4,547 acres)	37½ sq. miles	7,189 (26,596 ac. ft.)	18½ miles	13,000 acres	Fed by masonry weir across the Aruvi-aru, one of the largest rivers in Northern Ceylon. An ancient tank restored. Feeds several village tanks
Unnichchai (E. P.)	—	3⅜ sq. miles (2,260 acres)	91½ sq. miles	6,973 (25,760 ac. ft.)	1¼ miles	13,000 acres	Of recent and modern construction. Masonry weir 700 feet long with arched foundation to provide against sliding
Rugam (E. P.)	1870	4 sq. miles (2,450 acres)	35 sq. miles	4,389 (16,120 ac. ft.)	1½ miles	7,000 acres	Masonry waste weir 1,036 feet long. Tank frequented by herds of elephants

A progressive policy has been adopted in recent years for systematizing the restoration and improvement of Village Irrigation Works, and the construction of spills, sluices, and other masonry works which are beyond the capacity of the villagers to build, is carried out by officers under the Director of Irrigation. The extent of land irrigated at present under major works is 153,680 acres and under restored village works 210,268 acres. The yield from major works alone was roughly 3,900,000 bushels during 1929.

There is great scope for further increase of cultivation and many new schemes and the restoration of ancient irrigation works are now under investigation.

Apart from the production of food there are numerous indirect benefits derived from irrigation. The felling of jungle and the opening up of the land brings about healthier conditions of life for the villagers and poverty is alleviated, and as irrigation and cultivation on scientific lines extend, the population and prosperity of low-country dry zone areas tend to increase.

Flood Protection Schemes.—Ceylon is a country subject to periods of intense rainfall, and at such times the rivers of the Island are liable to overflow their banks and cause damage to property and distress to the inhabitants of adjoining lands. For many years the havoc caused by floods in the vicinity of Colombo was a matter for serious consideration by Government and various schemes were evolved for keeping the floods in the Kelani-ganga under control. The expansion of Colombo has been greatly retarded as very large areas within the Municipal limits were liable to submerge several times a year.

In 1921 a scheme of Flood Protection designed by Mr. C. Harward of the Irrigation Department was formulated for protecting the Colombo South area and later a scheme for protecting the northern part of the City was prepared. Both these schemes have been carried out and the full benefits of flood protection are now being experienced in Colombo.

The success of these schemes has resulted in appeals for flood protection for many areas in the neighbourhood of Colombo and also in the vicinity of large rivers in the Western and Southern Provinces and in other parts of the Island.

Flood protection work is now an established branch of the activities of the Irrigation Department. Particulars of the schemes already completed are—

Colombo Schemes (North and South).—Protecting 9,500 acres of low-lying land.

Ambatalenpahala Scheme.—Protecting 900 acres of low-lying land.

Kalu-oya Muturajawela Scheme.—Protecting 8,888 acres of low-lying land.

A scheme for the protection of 9,200 acres of low-lying land in the Bolgoda area is under construction and several other schemes in the Western and Southern Provinces are under investigation.

The principal construction works on which the Irrigation Department was engaged during 1929, in addition to the maintenance of working schemes, were as follows:—

Irrigation Works.

Walawe Left Bank Scheme, Southern Province.

Walawe Right Bank Scheme Agricultural roads, Southern Province.

Kirindi-oya Right Bank Scheme Agricultural roads, Southern Province.

Akathimurippu Scheme, Northern Province.

Giant's Tank Scheme—Sinnaodaippu and Kuruvil channels and Agricultural roads, Northern Province.

Karachchi Scheme channels and Agricultural roads, Northern Province.

Unnichchai Scheme channels and Agricultural roads, Eastern Province.

Pattipolai-aru Scheme—Kallairichchal Anicut and Agricultural roads, Eastern Province.

Rotawewa Spill and Regulator, Eastern Province.

Tabbowa Works and Agricultural roads, North-Western Province.

Kantalai Scheme (Tamblegam-Kinniyai) Agricultural road, Eastern Province.

Diyaturai Anicut, North-Western Province.

Flood Protection Works.

Kalu-oya-Muturajawela Scheme.

Ambatalenpahala Area Scheme.

VIII.—Public Health.

Hospitals and Dispensaries.

THERE are few countries in the world in which medical aid is more generously distributed by the State than Ceylon. There are 102 Government hospitals and asylums with provision for 10,761 beds.

In Colombo are situated a General Hospital with 859 beds, an Ophthalmic Hospital, a Lying-in Home, a hospital for women (Lady Havelock Hospital), a hospital for children (Lady Ridgeway Hospital), a Bacteriological Institute, a Pasteur Institute, and a Dental Institute. At Angoda, 6 miles from Colombo, there is a hospital for infectious diseases with 168 beds. There are special dispensaries at Kandy, Galle, Jaffna, Batticaloa, and Badulla for the treatment of eye diseases. Treatment with radium is now available at the General Hospital, Colombo.

As regards asylums, there is a Lunatic Asylum at Angoda, 6 miles from Colombo, and there are two Leper Asylums, one at Hendala in the Western Province and one at Mantivu in the Eastern Province.

There is a Home for Incurables at Colombo with 90 beds which is administered by a Committee of Government officials and representatives of the public.

In connection with the prevention of tuberculosis, in Colombo there is the King Edward VII. Memorial Anti-Tuberculosis Institute, at Kandana there is a sanatorium of 72 beds, and at Ragama there is a hospital for chronic cases.

In addition to Government hospitals, the owners of estates have provided 85 estate hospitals, which receive a rebate on the export duty on tea, rubber, coffee, cacao, and cardamoms.

Besides the hospitals there are 601 central and branch dispensaries provided by Government. There are also 706 estate dispensaries, which receive free drugs from Government to the value of 50 cents per labourer per annum.

Campaigns.

Campaigns against malaria, ankylostomiasis, and parangi are carried out in various parts of the Island apart from treatment at hospitals and dispensaries. Itinerating Medical Officers take up areas for the treatment of ankylostomiasis, paying special attention to school children and estate labourers. Very marked results are shown by the decrease in the number of patients admitted to hospitals in the areas so treated. Success has also attended the efforts of the Itinerating Medical Officers appointed for the treatment of parangi.

Trained vaccinators are stationed in each Province. Primary vaccination against smallpox is compulsory, and secondary vaccination is carried out compulsorily among contacts when an outbreak of smallpox occurs.

Anti-Malarial Work.

Intensive anti-malaria work is done in the severely malarious town areas of Chilaw, Kurunegala, Anuradhapura, Trincomalee, Puttalam, and Badulla (work in the last two was begun during 1929) and along certain sections of the railway.

Schemes for malaria drainage of Anti-Malaria Campaign areas are drafted by the Sanitary Engineer. The Medical Entomologist checks the efficiency of larvicidal measures carried out by the Anti-Malaria Campaign staff and also investigates problems connected with malaria incidence in other parts of the Island.

Quinine is distributed in large quantities in malarious areas throughout the Island both for curative and prophylactic purposes; 14,186 lb. and 2,246,500 tablets have been issued during 1929.

Sanitary Engineering Division.

In addition to malaria drainage, this division deals with questions of general drainage in small towns and of water supplies and disposal of excreta.

Estate Sanitation.

Attached to the Department of Medical and Sanitary Services are three Inspecting Medical Officers and three Assistants who inspect estates throughout the Island. During the year under review as many as 731 estates were inspected. In the course of inspection, defects in the sanitary condition of estates are pointed out and suggestions to remedy and prevent them in future are put forward to the estate owners. Year by year the housing on estates and the sanitary conditions on estates are improving.

Public Health.

In addition to the Inspecting Medical Officers, there were, in 1929, 27 Medical Officers of Health assisted by 262 Sanitary Inspectors who looked after the sanitary requirements of urban and rural areas. Five Health Units have been established since 1926 at Kalutara, Kurunegala, Matara, Kegalla, and Trincomalee, and health work on intensive lines is being carried on in these centres. Public Health Nurses are being employed in increasing numbers in connection with clinics and child welfare centres.

Epidemics are promptly dealt with by the Medical Officers of Health and their staffs.

Ordinances.

An Anti-Malaria Ordinance is now before the Legislative Council, and an Ordinance controlling the sale and distribution of poisons and dangerous drugs was passed by the Legislature and will shortly be brought into operation.

Infectious Diseases.

Plague.—There have been in all during the year 80 cases of plague, of which 74 proved fatal, a fatality rate of 92.5 per cent.

The distribution of the cases according to locality is as follows:—

Locality.	Cases.	Deaths.	Locality.	Cases.	Deaths.
Colombo	40	36	Matale	1	1
Galaha	12	12	Matara Gravets	13	12
Galle	6	5	Naula	1	1
Horana	1	1	St. Margarets	2	2
Jaffna	1	1	Talaimannar	1	1
Kandy	2	2			

Plague in Colombo.

Human Plague.—There were 40 cases of human plague during 1929 with 36 deaths, representing a case mortality of 90 per cent. as against the same number in 1928 with 37 deaths and a case mortality of 92.5 per cent.

Of the 40 cases, 15 were septicaemic in type, all of which ended fatally, and 25 were bubonic with 21 deaths, representing a case mortality of 84 per cent. Four of the bubonic cases recovered. The case mortality per cent. was 90, as against the average of 93 for the period 1919-28.

Monthly Incidence.—The largest number of cases, namely, 26, occurred during the first four months of the year, the incidence being as follows:—

January	9	July	—
February	5	August	1
March	5	September	—
April	7	October	3
May	4	November	1
June	2	December	3

Sex Incidence.—Of the 40 cases, 36 were males and 4 females.

Race Incidence.—The Sinhalese had 15 cases, Tamils 11, Moors 7, and others 7. All four female cases occurred among the Sinhalese.

Distribution by Wards.—Pettah as usual had the highest number of cases, namely, 12; St. Paul's and Mutuwal Wards came next with 7 cases each.

Rat Plague.—24,609 rats as against 22,660 in 1928 were examined at the Laboratory, and 22 or 0.09 per cent. were found infected as against 0.08 in 1928. The infected rats were found in the following wards:—

Pettah	10	Dematagoda	1
St. Paul's	5		
Slave Island	4		22
Bambalapitiya	2		

Seven of the 10 infected rats found in Pettah ward came from the dry-fish boutiques in Market street.

No infected rats were found or reported from the Customs premises, warehouses, or granaries.

Rat Destruction.

Number of rats trapped in the City	124,512
Number of rats trapped in Chalmers Granaries	2,556
Number of rats trapped in Manning Market	902
	127,970
Number of rats killed by Fumigators	1,949
Number of rats found dead	141
Number of rats found mummified	15
Total ..	130,075

Preventive Measures.—The usual preventive measures were carried out, special attention being paid to the endemic areas.

Outside Colombo 2 epidemics occurred during the year, one at Galaha and the other at Galle and Matara Gravets. At Galaha the first case occurred on August 12 and the last on September 24 with a total of 12, all of which proved fatal. Of the 12 cases, 10 were of the bubonic variety and 2 of the septicaemic. Four of the cases were among the Sinhalese, 5 among Indian Tamils, and 3 among Muslims.

Ten infected rats were found, the last being on October 3.

The area involved was the Sanitary Board town of Galaha, the whole of which was evacuated to deal with the situation.

It is assumed that infection was introduced from Colombo in bags of rice.

Galle and Matara Gravets Outbreak.

The epidemic commenced first at Galle and a man with the disease taken to his home at Badahalgoda in the Matara Gravets within the Health Unit area caused an outbreak of pneumonic plague there. Two bubonic cases from Galle were also removed to Naimmana in the Matara Gravets. A case from Galle was also removed to Alutwela, a village in the Galle District.

The first known human case at Galle occurred on July 2 and the last on October 7, giving a total of 19 cases with 17 deaths, distributed as follows according to the locality in which they were discovered:—

Locality.	Cases.	Deaths.
Galle .. .	5 ..	4
Matara Gravets—		
Badahalgoda .. .	11 ..	11
Naimmana	2 ..	1
Alutwela	1 ..	1

Of the 19 cases, 5 were bubonic, 4 septicaemic, and 10 pneumonic, and all occurred among the Sinhalese.

The source of infection is believed to be direct from India as the rice to Galle is brought by ships.

Twelve rats were found positive for plague and a big mortality among them was noticed.

The last infected rat was found on October 20. There was no infection among the rats at Matara Gravets.

The area involved at Galle consisted of a row of buildings on the south side of the Galle-Matara road extending from Dixon road junction to Pettigalwatte road junction and a block of buildings in Dangedera road. The whole of this area was evacuated.

Cholera.—During the year there were 28 cases of cholera with 23 deaths, giving a fatality rate of 82.1 per cent.

Nearly all the cases occurred during the first quarter of the year as follows:—

	Cases.	Deaths.		Cases.	Deaths.
January	16	11	April	—	—
February	1	1	May	1	1
March	10	10			

With the exception of the case that occurred in May, the remainder of the cases occurred in two epidemics as follows:—

Sixteen cases with 11 deaths at Alutnuwera in the Province of Uva and 11 cases, all of which proved fatal, at Ratnapura.

The first case of the Alutnuwera outbreak was detected on December 24, 1928, and the last case on January 31, 1929.

In all there were 20 cases, of which 16 occurred in January.

The source of infection was not definitely discovered, but it was surmised that the infection was introduced from India as there is no endemic cholera in Ceylon.

The mode of transmission has been by contact and through the agency of flies. One of the fatal cases in this epidemic occurred in the person of a police sergeant who was there on duty. 246 persons were given anti-cholera inoculation. All the people who were attacked, with the exception of one Burgher, were Sinhalese.

The Ratnapura outbreak occurred with the first case on February 25 and terminated with the last case on March 27. In all there were 11 fatal cases. Of these, 4 occurred in Ratnapura town, while the remainder occurred in the surrounding villages. The source of infection of this outbreak could not be discovered and the mode of transmission was by contact. The people among whom the cases occurred, with the exception of 2 Tamil latrine coolies, were Sinhalese villagers.

The case of cholera that occurred in Colombo was an imported one in the person of a lascar on the ss. Medea which arrived from Calcutta on April 28, 1929.

Smallpox.—There were 5 cases with 4 deaths in 1928. There have been 8 cases with 1 death during the year. These occurred as follows:—

	Cases.	Deaths.		Cases.	Deaths.
January	1	—	March	1	—
February	5	1	December	1	—

at the following places:—

	Cases.	Deaths.		Cases.	Deaths.
Colombo	6	—	Kandy	2	1

Of the Colombo cases, 4 were brought by ship through the port and 2 from India through Mandapam Camp by the overland route.

Of the 4 port cases, 3 were among the European crew of steamers.

Of the 6 cases, 1 was discrete, 2 were modified, and 3 were confluent.

Of the 2 cases that occurred in Kandy, 1 was a fatal case of confluent smallpox in an American lady who had acquired her infection while touring in India.

This compares favourably with 18 cases and 1 death in 1928.

Vital Statistics.

Population.—The estimated population of Ceylon on December 31, 1929, was 5,478,581, as against 5,421,861 at the end of 1928. The increase during the year was 56,720 persons, the excess of births over deaths being 62,730, and a loss of 6,010 due to the excess of emigrants over immigrants. The population which, at the last census, was enumerated at 4,498,605 persons,

exclusive of the military and the shipping, is estimated to have increased by 979,976 or 21.8 per cent. within a little less than nine years. During the year 1929 alone there has been an increase of 1.0 per cent. This increase is less than that recovered for 1928, viz., 2.5 per cent.

Migration.—The total number of arrivals during the year amounted to 255,886 and the departures to 261,896. The number of departures during the year is the highest on record, while the number of arrivals is the fourth highest. The arrivals are more frequent in the second and third quarters of the year, and the departures in the first and second. Of the total arrivals during the year 237,343 persons or 93 per cent. came from India and 18,543 or 7 per cent. from other countries. Of the total departures 242,490 persons or 93 per cent. were bound for India and 19,406 or 7 per cent. to other countries. The Indian arrivals included 105,095 estate labourers and 132,248 miscellaneous passengers. The highest number of arrivals of estate labourers was recorded in 1927 (159,399), and the number during the year was 28,617 less than in 1928. The departures show, on the other hand, an increase of 7,632 persons. The population of the Island was reduced by 5,147 persons by migration to and from India during the year, a gain of 3,867 estate labourers being offset by a loss of 9,014 miscellaneous passengers. The loss to the population by departures to other countries was 863.

Race Constitution of the Population.—The population of the principal races at the census of 1921, and the proportion of each race per cent. of the total population, were as follows:—

Race.	Population at the Census of 1921.	Proportion per Cent. of the Total Population.	Race.	Population at the Census of 1921.	Proportion per Cent. of the Total Population.
Europeans ..	8,118 ..	.2	Tamils ..	1,120,059 ..	24.9
Burghers and Eurasians ..	29,439 ..	.7	Moors ..	284,964 ..	6.3
Sinhalese ..	3,016,145 ..	67.0	Malays ..	13,402 ..	.3
			Others ..	26,469 ..	.6

As already stated, the population of the Island has shown an increase of 979,976 or 21.8 per cent. since the last census. Of this number, 579,499 represents the excess of registered births over deaths and 400,477 the excess of immigrants over emigrants.

Marriages.—The number of General and Kandyan marriages registered during the year was 28,916, which is 1,230 less than in the preceding year. The General marriages alone numbered 23,068 and the Kandyan 5,848, the respective numbers for the previous year being 23,781 and 6,365. The average number of General and Kandyan marriages registered during the past decade was 25,934. The number of persons married during the year both in the General and Kandyan communities was 57,832, which corresponded to a rate of 11.4, as against 12.1 in the previous year and 11.5 the average for the years 1919-1928. The marriages registered among the Muslims numbered 1,028, an increase of 33 on the number for the previous year. The average number of marriages per annum in the past decade was 893. The Muslim marriage rate was 5.6 and is comparatively low. This is due to a very considerable number of Muslim marriages not being registered according to law.

Divorces.—Divorces under the General Marriages Ordinance can be granted only by the District Court, while those under the Kandyan Ordinance are granted by Government Agents and their Assistants.

There were reported during the year 125 divorces under the General Marriages Ordinance and 603 under the Kandyan. The numbers during the preceding year were 133 and 625 respectively. There is always a much higher percentage of divorces to marriages in the Kandyan community than in the General; and this, in some measure, is due to the greater facilities for annulling the marriage tie afforded by the Kandyan law in comparison with the General law.

Births.—The number of births registered during the year amounted to 198,007 (100,851 males and 97,156 females), and is the fourth highest number registered since registration of births was introduced. The nearest approach to this year's figure was in 1925, when the number of births was 193,261. Compared with the number for the preceding year this year's figure is 15,304 less.

The birth rate for the year was equal to 36.5 per 1,000 of the estimated population, as against 40.0 in the preceding year and 38.9 the average for the ten years 1919-1928.

Sex Proportion at Birth.—Of the births registered during the year the proportion of male children for every 1,000 female children was 1,038. In the preceding year there were 1,042 male children to every 1,000 female children.

Deaths.—The deaths of 135,277 persons (67,940 males and 67,337 females) were registered in 1929, as against 132,337 in 1928 and 132,146 the average for the ten years 1919-1928. The death rate for the year under review was equal to 24.9 per 1,000 of the estimated population, and is almost the same as that for 1928 (24.8). The average death rate for the past decade was 27.8.

Infant Mortality.—By infant mortality is meant the deaths of children under one year of age, and the rate is stated in terms of 1,000 births registered in that year. During the year under review the deaths of infants numbered 36,963, as against 37,792 in the preceding year and 34,670 the average for the past decade. The number of infant deaths, which represents 27.3 per cent. of the total deaths, was equal to a rate of 187 per 1,000 births, as against 177 in 1928 and 187 the average for the past decade. The infant mortality rate is the highest recorded since 1923. The birth rate in Ceylon is very high compared with that prevailing in some Western countries. The infant mortality rate is greatly influenced by the birth rate, so that it is not an unusual feature to find a high infant mortality rate in countries that have high birth rates, and a low infant mortality rate in countries that have low birth rates. Though the Ceylon rate when judged by the standard of advanced Western countries appears to be unsatisfactory, there is not much cause for apprehension when the climatic and other conditions in the Island are taken into account. There is, however, scope for improvement, and the medical and sanitary measures effected by Government and the general public are slowly but surely producing good results.

Causes of Deaths.—The classification of causes of deaths is based on the International or Bertillon System. This system was originally introduced into Ceylon in 1911 and has since undergone a revision. The revision, which is that of 1920, has been in use here for the last two years only. Owing to the absence of compulsory certification of causes of death among a very large section of the population, the statistics, particularly of diseases requiring scientific knowledge for diagnosis, are of doubtful value, but there is reason to believe that a definite though slow progress in accuracy is achieved every year. Owing to lack of certification, a very large number of deaths appears under the heading " Pyrexia," which is admittedly a vague

cause of death. This cause, which includes all cases of fever not otherwise defined, was stated in the deaths of 18,744 persons—or 14 per cent. of the total deaths. In the previous year 18,954 deaths were registered under this cause. There is no doubt that, among the large number of deaths from this vague cause, a considerable number are actually deaths from malaria, but, in the absence of their being so stated in the returns by village registrars, the deaths are classified under the general though vague heading "Pyrexia." Another prolific cause of death in the Island is infantile convulsions, from which during the year there were 16,738 deaths—or 12 per cent. of the total deaths. Experience shows that more than one-quarter of the deaths registered in the Island are attributed to Pyrexia and Convulsions—the later among the infants and children of tender years. The death rates from some of the more important diseases registered in Ceylon in 1928 and 1929 as per million of the estimated population are given below:—

Causes.	Rate per Million.		Causes.	Rate per Million.	
	1928.	1929.		1928.	1929.
Pyrexia	3,553	3,452	Premature birth and congenital defects ..	419	431
Infantile convulsions ..	3,007	3,082	Anchylostomiasis ..	405	460
Pneumonia ..	1,658	1,654	Influenza ..	367	353
Diarrhœa and enteritis ..	1,655	1,779	Puerperal septicæmia ..	264	270
Dysentery ..	646	784	Bronchitis ..	239	252
Phthisis	634	595	Enteric fever ..	108	136
Malaria and malarial cachexia	420	429	Cancer ..	103	83

IX.—Education.

General.

THE system of education in Ceylon provides a course of education leading to University degrees in Medicine, Law, Arts, &c., but the following account refers only to education below the University Standard.

The schools of Ceylon are not divided on a basis of race or nationality. All schools which are maintained by Government or assisted by means of grants are compelled by law to admit pupils irrespective of race, nationality, or religion. There is thus no distinction between "native" schools and other types of schools. This fact leads to a considerable simplification of problems connected both with administration and medium of instruction.

Attendance at school between the ages of six and fourteen is compulsory, subject to a few exceptions. Such compulsion, however, applies only when school accommodation is provided within a reasonable distance of the residence of the pupil.

With regard to the administration of schools there are two distinct types of schools in Ceylon: schools administered directly by Government and schools indirectly administered by Government and under the immediate control of private managers.

Government Schools.

There are 1,445 Government shools, the arrangements for staffing of which are entirely in the hands of the Department of Education. All examinations for the issue of teachers' certificates and of otherwise testing efficiency are conducted by the Department, and all appointments, transfers, &c., are also dealt with by the Department.

The maintenance of school buildings, however, is under the direct control of a number of local authorities which are known as Education District Committees. These Committees are situated in the various towns and Provinces of Ceylon and are financed by a grant from revenue based upon the requirements of each district. The duties of these Committees, of which there are 32, are the maintenance, repair, and equipment of Government schools; they also forward recommendations to the Department on other matters which may be referred to them concerning the conduct and progress of education in their districts. Another important duty such Committees have to perform is the maintenance of attendance at schools. The Committees appoint for this purpose Attendance Officers, whose duty it is to see that all children, who are of school age and for whom accommodation has been provided, attend school. They are also entrusted with the duty of preparing a census of non-school-going children within their areas, in order to furnish Committees with the necessary data on which their programmes of building and extension can be based. The duties of these Committees with regard to attendance is not confined to Government schools, but applies—with certain reservations—to assisted schools.

Assisted Schools.

There are in Ceylon 2,362 assisted schools under the immediate control of private managers. These schools are assisted in the sense that they receive an annual grant from the Education Department towards their maintenance. The system of grant which applies to such schools is controlled by the Department of Education, and is of two kinds, according to whether the schools are English schools or vernacular schools. The basic principle on which the grant system depends is a standard salary scale for teachers according to qualifications. In the case of assisted vernacular schools, the annual grant from the Department is calculated as the total amount of the salaries paid to an efficient staff plus an additional amount for maintenance. No fees are charged in vernacular schools. In the case of the English schools, the system of grant is somewhat more complicated. In these schools fees are charged and from such fees the manager has to provide a fixed sum towards the salary of each teacher he employs. The grant consists of the balance of such salaries. In the case of both English and vernacular schools, the number of teachers which is taken into account for the purpose of grant is based on the average attendance of the school during the previous year.

In addition to Government schools and assisted schools, there is in this Colony a certain number of private schools which are not assisted in any way from Government funds. Such schools are, however, subject to inspection by the Department, but are in no way a charge upon the revenue.

The type of instruction given in Ceylon schools can be considered under two main headings: (i.) non-vocational instruction; (ii.) vocational instruction.

Non-vocational Instruction.

Under the heading of non-vocational instruction is included the type of instruction which is general and academic, and by far the largest number of schools come under this class. These schools are classified partly by the standard of academic education up to which they work and partly by the language or languages employed as media of instruction, as follows:—

English.	Anglo-Vernacular.	Vernacular.
Secondary	Elementary	Classical
Higher Grade	Primary	Elementary
Elementary		Primary
Primary		

With the publication of the new Codes in the latter part of the year, a different classification of schools came into use.

In the primary schools the course of instruction lasts usually six years, and in the elementary schools ten years. The period which may be spent in higher grade, secondary, or classical schools varies according to the ability of a student and the facilities afforded to him; but, generally, the course is one of two or three years.

In the secondary and higher grade schools the standard of instruction which is reached is the entrance examination to a University. The numbers, however, who proceed to this course are relatively small. The vast majority of students complete their education at the elementary stage. The instruction provided in these schools does not differ materially with the medium of instruction employed; for example, the subjects taught in an elementary school are the same subjects which are taught in an Anglo-vernacular or vernacular school—the difference being that the medium of instruction varies according to the home language of the pupil. In the classical schools, the ancient languages of the country—Pali and Sanskrit—are taught. These subjects are also taught in a number of temple schools known as Pirivenas. Such schools, however, are not included in the above classification because the course of instruction is primarily designed for the Buddhist priesthood and does not include many of the subjects which are dealt with in the ordinary schools.

With regard to the type of instruction given, those schools which have a course preparatory to the University are given considerable freedom to frame their own curriculum, but, in the case of the last two groups which form the major number of schools, a curriculum of work is drawn up by the Education Department. This curriculum includes courses in the following:—Language and Literature, Mathematics, History, Geography, Elementary Science, Rural Science, House Craft, Singing and Music, Drawing.

The method of instruction aims at relating all subjects to the conditions of life of the pupils and considerable emphasis is laid upon the practical application of the theoretical study. The New Scheme of Studies which emphasizes this requirement was on the whole well received by the schools. The detailed arrangements made to secure the relation of elementary education to the life of the people falls outside the scope of this report, but they are regarded as an essential part of the system of education in this Colony where a very large majority of people are engaged in agricultural pursuits.

Table No. 9 of the Appendix shows the number of non-vocational schools in the Island in 1929 classified according to their various types, and showing also the number of scholars—boys and girls being separately shown—who attended these schools during the year.

During the year under review six scholarships were awarded to Ceylon University College students on the results of the final examination of the University of London—one for Arts, one for Mathematics, one for Science (excluding Mathematics), one for Oriental languages, and two for Engineering.

Vocational Schools.

Under the heading of vocational schools are those schools which give a specialized form of instruction. Apart from one Technical School referred to later, these can be divided into part-time schools and full-time schools. Under the heading of part-time instruction is included a variety of home industries which are taught to pupils in certain schools in addition to the ordinary academic course. Under the heading of full-time industrial schools come institutions for the training of teachers, technical schools, agricultural schools, and industrial schools. The course in training schools is usually

one of two years. In technical schools it varies according to the subject which is studied. In agricultural schools courses are entirely for adults who intend either to teach agricultural science or to become practical agriculturists. There are a variety of full-time industrial schools. The pupils of such schools are usually drawn from those who have undertaken a part-time course after they have reached an age when they are physically fit to handle the tools required. All industrial schools are conducted upon a profit-sharing principle, so that the pupils benefit by whatever articles they produce. The course is one of two or three years. The subjects in which instruction is given are: carpentry, weaving, basket work, pottery, printing, lacquer work, blacksmith work, and a few other minor industries. The purpose of these industrial schools is partly to train instructors in industry, but mainly to encourage pupils to take up the industry as a means of livelihood and, because of this fact, all instruction given in such schools is in the vernacular.

The Medium of Instruction.

The medium of instruction in schools varies according to the type of schools, for example, in vernacular schools the medium of instruction is entirely Sinhalese or Tamil. This group of schools include 89.76 per cent. of all the school-going children in Ceylon.

In the Anglo-vernacular group of schools the vernacular language is the medium of instruction for the first four of five years of school life, after which a course of English is introduced which is entirely optional and for which fees are charged. This course extends approximately to five years and is designed to give pupils a good working knowledge of both written and spoken English. The vernacular, however, continues to be taught throughout the whole course.

In the case of the third group of schools, viz., English schools, two methods are employed in giving instruction in the English language.

In the first method pupils are admitted at the earliest stage of school life, viz., the kindergarten. Pupils admitted in this way have usually a working knowledge of English, so that their progress, in mastering the language, is very rapid.

The second method employed is a two-year special course in English for pupils who transfer from vernacular schools to English schools. The pupils who enter this course are approximately nine years of age and have already received instruction in their own mother tongue in the primary standards of vernacular or Anglo-vernacular schools. This course is an intensive one in which the direct method of teaching a foreign language is employed. After completing this course pupils are able to enter the ordinary standards of the English school in which the medium of instruction is English. In the majority of such schools the vernacular languages continue to be taught throughout the upper classes although those languages are not the medium of instruction. Pupils recruited from vernacular and Anglo-vernacular schools in this way can attain a standard equal to the entrance examination of a University about their seventeenth or eighteenth year.

It will be seen, therefore, that in the system of instruction prevailing in Ceylon the pupils are given the following alternative courses:—(1) A full course of elementary instruction in the vernacular languages; (2) a full course of elementary instruction in the vernacular languages plus a working knowledge of English; and (3) a full course of instruction in English not merely for pupils whose mother tongue is English, but for those who at the beginning of school life have no knowledge of that language.

Estate Education.

There are 402 registered estate schools with an average attendance of 15,549. The Superintendents of estates co-operate with the Education Department to maintain these schools.

Training of Teachers.

The principal institution for the training of teachers is the Government Training College in Colombo. Forty men students for the 1st and 2nd year courses, 25 women students for the same courses, and 20 students for the 1st and 2nd year kindergarten courses were admitted at the beginning of the year. Forty 2nd-year students and one one-year student completed their course successfully during the year and were awarded second class certificates.

There are also Training Schools at Gampaha and Jaffna which have now been in existence for ten and six years respectively. At the former school 20 students were selected at the beginning of the year for a two-year course in the school. The number of students in training at the school in Jaffna during the year was 77, of whom 33 completed their course in September last.

The introduction of the School Teachers' Pension Scheme during the year 1928 has been a source of great encouragement to teachers in assisted schools and serves as a stimulus to the recruitment of suitable members for the profession.

Technical Schools.

Instruction is given in the Technical Schools in Colombo in 18 different technical courses, 3 commercial courses, 2 courses in art, and 1 industrial course. Nearly 615 students attended the various technical courses during the year, 85 students the commercial courses, 33 students the courses in art, and 5 students an industrial course in pottery.

Thirty-two students passed in the City and Guilds of London Examinations, 16 students passed in commercial subjects, 56 students passed in the London Chamber of Commerce Examinations, and 177 passed in the various technical examinations held by the Technical Schools.

Agricultural Schools.

Schools for the training of adult pupils in agricultural science are under the control of the Director of Agriculture, but instruction of an elementary nature in this subject is given as a part-time occupation in many Government and assisted schools. There are 803 registered gardens attached to Government schools and 105 registered gardens attached to assisted schools.

Distribution of seeds and plants were made during the year to all registered school gardens, the distribution being made at definite times in order to ensure the planting of seed at the right time.

Instruction given in these schools consists chiefly of explanations of the lessons in the Junior and Senior Agricultural Readers, lessons in elementary agriculture, and lessons in nature study for younger children. Practical training in the cultivation of flowers, fruits, cereals, vegetables, curry stuffs, and medicinal herbs is also given, while paddy cultivation has been undertaken in a number of schools with special attention to seed-selection, manuring, and transplanting.

Physical Training and Boxing in Schools.

Steady progress in physical training was maintained during the year. Although many schools have obtained copies of the Board of Education Syllabus of Physical Training, some teachers have not yet realized the importance of the introduction of the graded exercises included in this book. The organization of the Physical Training Classes was better than in the previous year, and a large number of local games was introduced to schools during the year. The special feature of the year was the attention paid to the vernacular schools by the organization of Saturday classes for vernacular teachers in various parts of the Island.

Boxing is becoming more and more popular in Ceylon, and has made good progress since the commencement of its teaching in schools three years ago. In 1927 boxing was taught in 20 schools and over 800 students received instruction; in 1928 boxing was taught in 42 schools with over 1,000 students receiving instruction; while in 1929 boxing was taught in 52 schools with over 1,600 students receiving instruction.

Medical Inspection of Schools.

There are five Medical Officers, one of whom is a lady doctor, employed in the medical inspection of schools. These officers periodically visit the schools in their respective areas, examine the pupils, and report to the head of the school any defects found in the pupils for communication to their parents for necessary action.

During the year 81,702 pupils were examined by the School Medical Officers. The reports show a steady increase in some parts of the Island in the incidence of dental disease and defective vision, while a substantial measure of success has attended the treatment of hookworm.

The Ceylon University College.

The University College was established in 1921 for the purpose of affording facilities for higher education to students in Ceylon.

Numbers.—The number of students on the roll in July, 1929, the beginning of the academic year 1929-30, was 338, including 24 women students. The figures for 1921-28 were as follows:—

1921	..	166	1923	..	262	1925	..	256	1927	..	279
1922	..	217	1924	..	262	1926	..	313	1928	..	315

Courses.—The College offers instruction in Latin, Greek, Sanskrit, Pali, English, Sinhalese, Tamil, French, German, Logic, Philosophy, History, Geography, Economics, Pure Mathematics, Applied Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Botany, and Zoology.

Honours courses are provided in Classics, English, Indo-Aryan (Sanskrit and Pali), History, Mathematics, Chemistry, Botany, and Zoology.

The College course is normally one of three years. At the end of the first year students take the (External) Intermediate Arts, Science, and Economics examinations of the University of London conducted in Ceylon. At the end of the third year they take the final examinations for the B.A. (Pass), B.A. (Honours), B.Sc. (General), B.Sc. (Special), and the B.Sc. (Economics) Degrees of the same University.

Students who intend to join the medical profession are given one year's course of instruction in Physics, Chemistry, and General Biology, at the end of which they take either the First M.B. Examination of the University of London or the Pre-Registration Examination of the Ceylon Medical College, or both.

Full information as to courses of study is available in the College Prospectus.

Graduates.—On the results of the examinations held in June, 1929, the following numbers qualified for Final Degrees of the University of London:—

B.A. (Pass): 4.
B.A. (Honours) (Classics): 2 (one First Class).
B.A. (Honours) (Indo-Aryan): 2 (both Second Class Upper Division).
B.A. (Honours) (History): 3 (one Second Class Upper Division).
B.Sc. (General): 5 (including two First Class and two Second Class Honours).
B.Sc. (Special) (Mathematics): 4 (two First Class Honours and two Second Class Honours).
B.Sc. (Special) (Chemistry): 1.
B.Sc. (Special) (Botany): 1.

The total number of graduates from the University College from the time of its inception in 1921 is 152.

Hostels.—Most of the students not living with their parents or relations are residing in four hostels affiliated to the College and subject to the College rules and regulations. These hostels are administered by extra-university bodies and are subsidized by the Government.

University College Council.—This Council, which consists of twenty members nominated by His Excellency the Governor, continue to advise the Principal of the College in matters relating to the administration of the College, and the preparation for its conversion into a University.

The University Project.—In March, 1928, the Legislative Council voted in favour of establishing a unitary and residential University at Kandy. The University Commission under the Chairmanship of Sir Walter Buchanan-Riddell, Bart., Principal of Hertford College, Oxford, has made a report on the various measures required to give effect to this decision. The report is still under consideration by Government.

THE CEYLON MEDICAL COLLEGE.

The Ceylon Medical College was established in 1870 in the form of a Medical School capable of affording a practical education on the principles of medicine and surgery, and especially midwifery, together with a practical knowledge of Anatomy, Physiology, Materia Medica Pharmaceutical Chemistry, and the art of dispensing. It had originally a principal and three lecturers and the whole course took only three years.

This course was later increased from time to time in order to keep abreast with the progress of Medical Science. In 1887 recognition was granted by the General Medical Council of the United Kingdom and the Diploma became registrable in Great Britain and all parts of the Empire.

In 1924 the complete extended curriculum of one year pre-medical study (Chemistry, Physics, and Biology) and five years medical work was adopted.

The College now provides the complete course of instruction required for the practice of Modern Medicine, Surgery, and Midwifery. Including the course of preliminary or Pre-registration work in Physics, Chemistry, and Biology which is provided by arrangement at the University College, Colombo, the whole course takes six years. At the end the Diploma in Medicine, Surgery, and Midwifery is conferred, and under the designation of L.M.S. (Ceylon) is recognized by the General Medical Council of the United Kingdom and entitles the holder to be registered and to practise his profession in Great Britain and throughout the British Empire.

In addition to the complete Medical Curriculum, the College provides a course of instruction for a minor grade of Medical Practitioners known as Apothecaries. These receive a two years' course of instruction in Anatomy, Physiology, Chemistry, Pharmacy, Pharmacology, and Dispensing, Elementary Medicine, Surgery, and Midwifery, both theoretical and clinical, and Surgical Dressing and in Hygiene and Public Health. They receive free instruction, and on passing the two Apothecary Examinations are employed by the Government to take charge of the Government Dispensaries and some small hospitals in the remote rural areas and country villages, but are only permitted to practise while so employed in Government Service and are subject to the control of the District Medical Officers.

These Apothecaries to a large extent provide for the medical treatment of the poor villagers in remote districts and where fully qualified Medical Practitioners are not available.

The College is staffed by two whole-time Professors in Anatomy and Physiology and a large number of part-time lecturers mostly drawn from the officers of the Department of Medical and Sanitary Services.

Details of staff, fees, courses of study, and rules for students and the history of the College are embodied in the annual calendar, copies of which are sent free to Medical Schools in Great Britain, Principal Educational Institutions, and to Government departments in the Colony.

GENERAL.

The Government has set up in 1928 a Post-licentiate Scholarship which is granted yearly to the best student of the final year who qualifies in the first class within the statutory period, to enable him to obtain British qualifications and also to pursue studies and research in some special subject. The value of the scholarship is £300 per annum for special study.

A small number of students generally discontinue study in the Ceylon Medical College and go to United Kingdom to complete their studies.

Results of Examinations (Medical).

	December, 1928.		March, 1929.		July, 1929.		Total.	
	Sat.	Passed.	Sat.	Passed.	Sat.	Passed.	Sat.	Passed.
Final	20	5	19	4	15	4	54	13
Second Professional	—	—	16	9	14	3	30	12
First Professional	—	—	12	8	10	8	22	16
					September, 1929.			
					Sat.	Passed.		
Pre-medical	—	—	56	24	29	12	85	36

Results of Examinations (Apothecary Students).

	December, 1928.		March, 1929.		July, 1929.		Total.	
	Sat.	Passed.	Sat.	Passed.	Sat.	Passed.	Sat.	Passed.
Second Apothecaries	4	2	19	5	33	14	36	21
First Apothecaries	—	—	12	10	26	19	38	29
							September, 1929.	
							Sat.	Passed.
Pharmacists	—	—	—	—	—	—	169	136

X.—Lands and Survey.

LAND.

IN considering the question of land the climatic divisions of the Island are of the greatest importance. The portion of the Island, roughly one-quarter of it, which receives the rain of the south-west monsoon is called the wet zone, the remaining three-quarters the dry zone. Enjoying a generous rainfall, land in the wet zone is far more productive; tea, rubber, coconuts, and other economic crops can profitably be grown; and village cultivation flourishes with less labour. The bulk of the population of the Island is located in the wet zone. Since the British occupation there has been steady development both in large estates as well as in village holdings, and the population has enormously increased. Fresh land for development, accessible to the means of communication, has in recent years become scarcer.

In the dry zone on the other hand the conditions of life are much more severe. The rainfall is scanty and uncertain and malaria in certain months almost universal. The village population, except on the coast, has a hard struggle for existence and does not tend to increase rapidly. The dry zone has at present little attraction for the agriculturalist desiring to open land in economic products and, except on the coast, is largely undeveloped.

Other divisions of the Island, important when the title to land is considered, are the maritime Provinces surrendered to the British in 1796 and the Kandyan Provinces which were taken over in 1815. In the maritime Provinces, which form roughly the coastal regions and the north of the Island, unoccupied land generally is admitted to be Crown. Title to land is mainly based on prescription or on purchase from the Crown. In the Kandyan Provinces title is also based on sannas or grants from the Kings of Kandy and receipts proving the payment of grain tax at private rate. Widespread claims are also made to lands " chenaed " or cultivated at intervals of several years after the jungle growth has been cut and burnt off.

To provide a means of final settlement of the title to land as between the Crown and private individuals, a special Ordinance was passed in 1897 and the Land Settlement Department came into existence shortly afterwards. The task of settlement is a complicated one and cannot be unduly hurried and large areas still remain to be dealt with. The lack of settlement in the Kandyan Provinces has inevitably tended to retard development and it is the aim of Government to push on with the work as fast as possible. Intending purchasers of undeveloped or recently planted agricultural land who are wise make sure that the title they are acquiring is based on purchase from the Crown or a settlement by the Land Settlement Department.

Till recent years, persons desirous of buying land from the Crown applied for and deposited Rs. 3 per acre towards the cost of survey. When surveyed the land or the lease of the land was put up to public auction. The drawbacks of this system were, from the point of view of applicants, that they had no guarantee that after waiting for survey they would be successful in securing the land. From the point of view of the Government, a too haphazard development of the Crown estate took place. There was also the criticism that under the application system there was a danger of the permanent interests of the village population being overlooked. The system has therefore been modified and a policy substituted under which all available Crown land is first roughly mapped out, and land for all village requirements, such as land for small village holdings, forests, and pasture, and State requirements, such as reserved forests, definitely reserved. Land then

found to be available for agricultural development by capitalists and larger holders is advertised for lease under Land Development Notices. The notice runs for a certain time, say, two to four months, and applications during that time are accepted. The lists are then closed and the land surveyed into blocks of suitable size. At the subsequent sale of the leases bidding is restricted to applicants under the notice. When land is scarce, Ceylonese applicants for smaller blocks—under 50 acres—are protected from competition with larger applicants.

Up till comparatively recently practically all land alienated for agricultural purposes by the Crown was sold outright. About 1918 a system of leasing was introduced, but outright sale was not entirely discontinued. It has now been definitely decided that all blocks of over 50 acres in extent shall be leased, outright sale being continued only in the case of smaller blocks.

With regard to the land reserved for peasant holdings in localities in which the peasants tend to part with their holdings to larger owners, small lots are now being given out on lease or on permits which contemplate a restricted tenure preventing such alienation.

With regard to further economic development, the opening up of the dry zone largely awaits the advance of science to indicate some economic use of these large areas with their scanty and uncertain rainfall, as well as some means of protection for the labourers against the scourge of malaria that can be carried out at a less prohibitive cost than the methods so far devised. There has, however, within recent years been a considerable advance of development in a northerly and easterly direction over the belt which lies between the two zones, and there is little doubt that both the pressure of population as well as scientific improvements in agriculture and prevention of disease will bring about a further advance in the future. With regard to the wet zone, it may be anticipated that the new policy of systematic mapping out and Land Development notices will facilitate the acquisition of land by those desirous of investing their capital or finding a livelihood by their labour in agriculture. Coupled with the improvement in the means of communication and advance of settlement, the new system will tend to accelerate development of the still considerable areas which remain yet undeveloped in the wet zone.

SURVEY.

The Survey Department.—As no land can be alienated or otherwise dealt with by the Crown until it has been surveyed and demarcated, the work of the Survey Department is of the greatest importance. Its chief activities in this connection may be summarized as follows:—

(*a*) Application surveys or surveys of blocks of land for sale, lease, &c.
(*b*) Block surveys or surveys of complete blocks of villages for settlement.
(*c*) Acquisition surveys or surveys of land to be acquired by the Crown for public purposes.
(*d*) Town and forest surveys, and isolated surveys for settlement and miscellaneous purposes.

Topographical Surveys.—In addition the Survey Department attends to the Topographical Survey of the Island. Maps on the scale of 1 in. to the mile can be obtained at the Surveyor-General's Office, Colombo, and numerous small scale maps are also published. The chief of these are—

4 in. and 8 in. to the mile maps of the Island.
8 in. to the mile motor map.

Other Work of the Survey Department.—The other work of the Survey Department is not directly connected with the subject of this chapter. It includes—

(1) Precise Levelling.
(2) Town Planning and Assessment Surveys.
(3) The Observatory and Meteorological Stations.

FORESTS.

The year under review is perhaps the most important in the history of the Forest Department to date, and marks the first step in the direction of a definite forest policy, aiming at the technical treatment of a suitable extent of reserved forest for the purpose of eventually rendering the Island self-supporting in the matter of timber and fuel supplies, and other essential forest produce, both by the systematic exploitation of existing natural resources and by the artificial reforestation of selected areas.

For this purpose it has been realized that in order to develop matters on sound technical and financial lines the Forest Department must be relieved as far as possible of the present meticulous but non-technical and unproductive forest administration work, covering vast areas of technically useless forest lands. With this in view, inquiry was conducted during the year to see in what way the overlapping of work presently carried out by the Forest Department and the Revenue Officers could be reduced, or eliminated, and how far such proposals would necessitate the amendment of the existing rules under the Ordinance.

A further advance in the same direction was the decision of Government, on the report of the Committee appointed to consider the commercialization of the department, to discontinue the system whereby the Forest Department supplies timber to other Government departments at cost price, and to encourage general trade in the Island's timber supplies on a larger scale, purchasers from the department being provided with an outlet for their purchases by direct dealings with other Government departments. This is already tending to relieve the department of a heavy burden, and will in due course enable it to withdraw staff from some districts which have been almost confined to this form of work, and to concentrate staff on the reservation, and systematic exploitation and regeneration of the productive forests of the Island.

In view of the appointment of the Land Commission, under the widest terms of reference, amounting to a mandate to consider the whole land policy, it was decided not to introduce the new Draft Forest Ordinance into the Legislative Council, as it was considered necessary first to lay down a sound policy in respect of land and forest administration, and then to consider the machinery necessary to carry out that policy.

The strength of the Forest Department is admitted to be inadequate, but owing to the necessity for general retrenchment, no immediate increase is in sight, and it will be necessary to see the general effect of the commercialization of the department and the proposed reorganization of work, which aims at the elimination of non-technical duties, in order to see clearly the minimum increase of staff required. Already with the elimination of supplies to Government departments it has been found possible to amalgamate two forest divisions, and to commence the reselection of reserves in two Provinces, and it is hoped to establish a permanent Development Branch in a few months, this being desired by Government even at the expense of other work.

The future policy to be aimed at in Ceylon is outlined in the report of the Committee appointed to consider the commercialization of the department, in which an analogy is drawn between conditions in Ceylon and New Zealand, as submitted by the officer who attended the Empire Forestry Conference in Australia and New Zealand in 1928. It was found that in the latter of these countries an extensive campaign had been launched to deal artificially with an area of 300,000 acres set aside for the purpose of reforestation, in highly concentrated and accessible areas, the large outlying area of natural forest, containing only a few species in regular demand, being merely subjected to regulated exploitation, pending the arrival at maturity of artificially formed forests, reconstruction being deliberately deferred in them until a later day, except for work of a purely experimental nature. Such forests are analogous to the dry zone forests of Ceylon, which almost defy sylvicultural treatment, and it is intended to exert the maximum effort of the department on the intensive reconstruction of the wet zone forests, where results are assured, and to produce timbers which are in the widest local demand.

The cash revenue of the department increased from Rs. 1,044,394.99 to Rs. 1,258,702.19 in 1929, due mainly to the large demand and high prices obtained for satinwood supplied to the Central Timber Depôt for export, the transactions of the depôt realizing Rs. 512,861.01, compared with Rs. 216,917.15 realized in 1927 and Rs. 321,690.35 in 1928. These high figures are not likely to be maintained, and there are indications of excess stocks being held in England, which are reflected in the smaller quantity of satinwood sold in the first part of the financial year 1929-30.

The major exploitation work of the department continued to be the supply of material made over to other Government departments, which consisted of the following:—

876 Broad Gauge sleepers	21,191 Cubic feet of sawn timber
6,145 Narrow Gauge sleepers	118,812 Cubic feet of timber in the log
80,918 Cubic yards of firewood	

The value of these supplies amounted to Rs. 467,233.88, actual cost, and Rs. 333,262.90 royalty, for which the department took paper credit. Supplies of this nature will cease in 1931, on the expiry of existing contracts entered into for this purpose, in accordance with the recommendations of the Committee appointed to consider the commercialization of the department.

Reforestation.—An addition of 1,433 acres was made to regular plantations, bringing up the total of these to 22,871.59 acres, the largest contributors being the Up-country Reforestation Division, with 353 acres, and the Southern Division (West), with 305 acres. It is considered essential that the annual planting operations should extend to a minimum of 2,500 acres, as soon as mapping out operations and forest reservation are complete in those areas in which the maximum effort of the department is to be concentrated.

In view of specific allegations made in the Legislative Council regarding the administration of the department in the Eastern Province, a Commission was appointed by the Governor, with terms of reference which necessitated a review of the events in that Province covering a period of four years. The work involved in furnishing the Commission with a complete history of the administration of the department was enormous, and had not been completed by the close of the year.

XI.—Labour.

WHEN Europeans began to open up the jungles, and to plant coffee there and later tea and rubber, local labour was not available on the spot and was unwilling to move to and work on the estates. In the Madras Presidency, however, there was a surplus of labour owing to the social habits of the Tamils and other races which, in combination with a meagre rainfall, resulted in keeping the population near to and sometimes below the subsistence limit. From about 1825 the Ceylon planters drew on this labour reservoir and there has been a huge movement of Indian estate labour between Ceylon and India from that time up to the present day. There has been a similar movement, but on a much smaller scale, of non-estate Indian labour, especially between Tuticorin and Colombo, the estate labour now entering and leaving Ceylon mainly using the rail and ferry route between Talaimannar and Dhanushkodi.

Indian estate labour in Ceylon has never been indentured.

In 1827 there were about 10,000 Indian estate labourers and their dependents in Ceylon, in 1846 there were about 80,000, and at the end of 1929 the number was 740,130. Of these, probably about half are immigrants who have been less than five years resident in Ceylon. These estate labourers are all called Indian, but many of them are practically Ceylonese owing to length of residence in the Island or because they were born in Ceylon.

In the year 1929 237,087 Indians entered Ceylon, while 241,972 left Ceylon for India. Of those entering the Island, 105,095 were estate labourers. The Indian estate labour population is made up of 242,161 men, 232,996 women, 264,973 children.

The Department of Indian Immigrant Labour established in the year 1923 protects Indian estate labour and assists it to emigrate from India at the expense of the Immigration Fund subscribed to by the estates employing Indian labour. This Department has fine labour depôts in India and Ceylon where Indian estate labourers travelling from India to Ceylon are provided free of cost with medical treatment, inoculation, food, lodging, rail and steamer fares, baths, and guides, and where necessary with cloths, blankets, and pocket money. Since the establishment of Government control in 1923 the estates in Ceylon for the first time in their history have had a permanent adequate supply of Indian labour. The cost to these estates of protecting, assisting, and repatriating Indian estate labour is about Rs. 3,000,000 a year.

Labour in Ceylon, Indian or otherwise, has little economic organization though unions have recently appeared, especially in workshop labour in Colombo. The Donoughmore Commission of 1928 has recommended adult suffrage, and labour in future will probably be a larger political force.

In 1928, a Commission appointed by the Government recommended that all labour in Ceylon should be protected and that a Central Labour Board with arbitration boards in special trades composed of officials and representatives of employers and employees should be established with a view to removing the sweated conditions of unskilled labour which prevail in Colombo and other places. The legal establishment of minimum subsistence wages was also recommended where needed, a system which was enacted for Indian labour on estates at the end of the year 1927.

Labour legislation in Ceylon is far behind that in Western or Australasian countries. There is no Ordinance dealing with the right of association or insurance against accidents, sickness, unemployment, or old age, old age pensions or the like.

It is not certain, however, that all modern social labour legislation is suitable for an agricultural, non-industrial country like Ceylon. In village agriculture, fishing, and other occupations the labourers are generally independent workers, not employees. Moreover, in some respects Ceylon labour is more generously treated by the Government than it is in Western countries. Every person whose earnings are less than Rs. 83.33 per month is entitled to unstinted free medical aid at the numerous Government hospitals and dispensaries with which the Island is liberally covered.

Indian estate labourers are entitled to six days work a week or wages in lieu thereof and cannot be discharged without a month's notice. Unemployment is practically unknown amongst them as the demand for such labour almost invariably exceeds or equals the supply. These labourers, moreover, enjoy the benefits of minimum wage, maternity benefit, special housing and other legislation. Labour legislation of a far-reaching character is being considered by the Government for all classes of labour.

Section 3 of Ordinance No. 11 of 1865, which applies to all contracts for hire and service, reads:—

> "Every verbal contract for the hire of any servant, except for work usually performed by the day, or by the job, or by the journey, shall (unless otherwise expressly stipulated, and notwithstanding that the wages under such contract shall be payable at a daily rate) be deemed and taken in law to be a contract for hire and service for the period of one month, and to be renewable from month to month, and shall be deemed and taken in law to be so renewed, unless one month's previous notice or warning be given by either party to the other of his intention to determine the same at the expiry of a month from the day of giving such notice."

Contract for hire and service must be in writing and signed before a Magistrate or Justice of the Peace, if the period for which they are made exceeds one month.

Employers of Indian labourers on tea, rubber, and cacao estates alone pay for the medical wants of their labour, and these estates have contributed about Rs. 1,250,000 per annum through the following export duties:—

> A duty of 75 cents per 100 lb. on rubber, of 15 cents per 100 lb. on tea and cacao.

The housing of labour in Ceylon, except in the case of Indian estate labour, leaves much to the desired. Workers often live in overcrowded tenements in Colombo and other towns and in insanitary huts in the rural districts. The public authorities are gradually housing a part of their labour properly but private employers, planters excepted, have done very little so far. In the rural districts the worker generally owns his hut or a share of it. There is no general scheme for promoting the erection of urban or rural workmen's dwellings, and over and above the usual financial difficulties there is the added one created by the low scale of wages paid to unskilled labour, a scale leaving little or no margin for the payment of a rent such as would give the minimum return on the capital needed to build a sanitary dwelling.

Estates employing Indians are bound by law to erect sanitary lines or living rooms made of permanent materials and properly drained, lighted, and ventilated, and Inspecting Medical Officers see that the law is obeyed. The result is that from 1922 to the end of 1928 about 156,000 rooms up to the Government standard were built on estates at a cost of about Rs. 60,000,000. The average number of residents per room on estate lines is now 3.63 and there is little overcrowding. There are about 63,000 latrines

on estates employing Indians and a pipe-born water supply for about 131,000 rooms, and these labourers have about 84,000 garden plots for their own use. Estate labourers, Indian and otherwise, are served by numerous estate hospitals and dispensaries, lying-in rooms and crêches. During the period 1919 to 1928 the death rate of Indian estate labourers has been reduced from 58.5 to 27.6. These figures reflect the revolution which has been effected by the planters as regards the health of their labourers since Governmental intervention was established.

Ordinance No. 6 of 1923 legalizes in Ceylon the Washington Conventions regarding the employment of women, young persons, and children in industrial undertakings.

No Indian child under ten years of age can be lawfully employed to work on estates.

Indian labourers on estates must be paid overtime if they work more than eight hours a day, as they are allowed one hour for a mid-day meal in a working day of nine hours.

There is no law in Ceylon to regulate the hours of work save as mentioned above. The Labour Advisory Board set up by the Government, however, informally fixes rates of pay per hour in workshops and its ruling is generally acted upon.

The minimum daily wages fixed for Indian estate labour are—

	Men. Cents.	Women. Cents.	Children. Cents.
Low-country	50	40	30
Mid-country	52	41	31
Up-country	54	43	32

In addition a free meal a day is prescribed for all non-working children, and rice must be issued at not more than Rs. 6.40 a bushel.

Higher cash wages than the above are frequently earned at piece work. Free houses, medical aid, and maternity benefit are part of the scheme. Unskilled labour other than Indian estate labour seldom secures much in the way of perquisites and the item of rent in towns is a serious drain owing to the shortage of tenements. A large percentage of such labour in towns is paid less than a bare subsistence wage.

Miscellaneous.—The rates of wages fixed by the Labour Advisory Board in 1926 were as follows:—

		Rates per Diem. Minimum. Rs. c.	Maximum. Rs. c.
Minor supervising grades	Class B I.	3 84	6 48
	Class B II.	2 48	5 4
Skilled labour	Class B III.	2 88	4 24
	Class B IV.	1 60	2 80
Semi-skilled labour	Class B V.	0 96	1 60
Unskilled labour	Class B VI.	0 64	1 12
Trade apprentices	Class B VII.	0 80	1 44
Women and boys	Class B VIII.	0 24	0 80

XII.—Miscellaneous.

INFORMATION FOR VISITORS.

THERE is no Government Tourist-Bureau in Ceylon to undertake the arrangement of tours, &c. The following tourist-agencies are in operation in Colombo apart from Thomas Cook's:—

(1) Pickford's Tours; Agent, A. E. B. Lover, Bristol building, Fort, Colombo.

(2) Armstrong's Tourist Agency; Proprietor and Manager, C. Dyson Armstrong, Galle Face Hotel, Colombo.

Fares on the Railway.

The first-class single fare on the railway amounts to 8 cents a mile on all lines below Nawalapitiya, 12 cents a mile on the main line (*i.e.*, the line from Colombo to Badulla) above Nawalapitiya, and 17 cents a mile on Uda Pussellawa line (Nanu-oya junction to Ragalla). The first-class single fares from Colombo Fort to some of the important stations are as follows:—

Name of Station.	Train Fare. Rs. c.*	Name of Station.	Train Fare. Rs. c.*
Kandy	6 9	Anuradhapura ..	10 24
Nuwara Eliya ..	13 23	Polonnaruwa ..	13 4

* 1 rupee = about 1 shilling and 6 pence.

Taxi-cab Fares.

The following is the scale of fares for taxi-cabs plying for hire in Colombo:—

(*a*) When a taxi-cab is carrying one or two passengers the fare shall not exceed 50 cents for the first half mile and 12½ cents for each subsequent 1/6th mile up to one mile, and 75 cents for every subsequent mile, provided the taxi-cab is hired between the hours of 6.30 A.M. and 9 P.M.; between the hours of 9 P.M. and 6.30 A.M., the fare shall not exceed 50 cents for the first 2/5th of a mile, 95 cents up to the first mile, and 90 cents for every subsequent mile.

(*b*) When the taxi-cab carries more than two passengers the fare of 50 cents shall be chargeable irrespective of distance for every passenger over two in number carried in the taxi-cab.

(*c*) When a taxi-cab is detained by the hirer, the hirer shall be liable to pay at a rate not exceeding Re. 1.75 per hour during which the taxi-cab is detained.

(*d*) A charge of 25 cents shall be payable by the hirer for each piece of luggage other than hand luggage carried in or on the taxi-cab.

(*e*) The above rates shall be registered on the taxi-meter by the driver before commencing the journey.

The above rates apply only to places within the Municipal limits of Colombo. For trips to places outside Colombo Municipality a special agreement should be come to *before starting*. The hiring-car fares to such places vary from 40 cents to Re. 1 per mile, with extra charges for detention.

Hotel and other Accommodation.

There are hotels in some of the larger towns in Ceylon. The rates are usually Rs. 9 a day and upwards, a usual charge for first class accommodation being Rs. 12 a day.

In addition to hotels, there are about 170 " resthouses " in various parts of the Island, where accommodation and meals are provided. The cost is about Rs. 8 to Rs. 10 a day. Rooms can be occupied generally for three days only unless the permission of the Road Committee has been obtained for a longer stay. It is generally advisable to book rooms in advance.

Places of Interest.

Most of the places of interest in the Island can be visited during a three weeks' stay in Ceylon. The more important of these are the following:—

Colombo.—The Grand Oriental Hotel is opposite the landing jetty. Any information desired can be obtained at the Post Office, Railway, and Municipal Bureaus, which have been opened at the jetty. The principal Government and mercantile offices are situated in the Fort within easy reach of the jetty. The General Post Office and the Central Telegraph Office are about five minutes' walk from it. Some of the other places of interest in Colombo are, the Colombo Museum, the Victoria Park, the European residential quarter known as Cinnamon Gardens, the Racecourse, the Galle Face Hotel, the Maligakanda Buddhist temple, and the Hindu temple in Sea street.

Kelaniya, noted for its Buddhist temple, is about four miles to the north-east of Colombo, and can be reached by train as well as by car.

Mount Lavinia and Negombo are two towns which attract visitors for sea-bathing. The former is about eight miles to the south of Colombo and has a good hotel by the side of the Railway Station, and the latter is about twenty-four miles to the north of Colombo and has a resthouse.

Galle, an important town 72 miles to the south of Colombo, was the chief port of call in Ceylon before the Colombo breakwaters were built. The ramparts of the Dutch fort are still standing.

Kandy, about 74 miles by rail from Colombo, was the capital of the Kandyan kingdom before it was acquired by the British in 1815. The chief attractions here are the temple of the Tooth Relic, and the "Perahera" in August.

Nuwara Eliya, the hill station, is about 135 miles from Colombo. Its elevation is about 6,200 feet and the mean temperature 59.3° F. It is well equipped with hotels, boarding-houses, and bungalows. Close to it is Pidurutalagala, which presents a commanding view of the country all round.

The "Buried Cities" are worth seeing. *Anuradhapura* on the Northern Line, about 127 miles from Colombo, was the capital and the residence of the Sinhalese kings for more than a thousand years and contains the remains of numerous sacred monuments. The Thuparama Dagoba, built by King Tissa about the year 247 B.C., is the oldest of the Dagobas in Ceylon, while the sacred Bo-tree—a branch of the tree under which the Buddha attained enlightenment—is another noteworthy relic of the same period and is said to be the oldest tree in the world.

Polonnaruwa, situated on the Batticaloa line, about 161 miles from Colombo, became the capital of the Island after the decline of Anuradhapura. It contains the ruins of numerous temples, shrines, and other buildings of great archæological and historic interest.

Trincomalee, situated on the north-east coast of the Island about 183 miles by rail from Colombo, possesses a magnificent natural harbour which is regarded as one of the finest in the world. It was at one time the Headquarters of the East Indies Squadron. Among the places of interest here are the Fort Frederick and the Sober Island. There is a fairly good resthouse.

The best time for a visit to Ceylon, from a climatic point of view, is from the latter part of November to middle of March. April and May are hot. From June to September is the period of the south-west monsoon, while October and November mark the beginning of the north-east monsoon.

Principal Languages.

See page 3.

Publications regarding Ceylon.

The Ceylon Blue Book and the Ceylon Annual General Report can be consulted at the Imperial Institute, and the British Museum, London.

APPENDIX.

TABLE No. 1.—Mean Monthly and Yearly **Temperatures** of Eight Selected Stations :—

(See Diagram No. 1.)

Station.	Elevation. Ft.	Jan. °	Feb. °	Mar. °	Apr. °	May. °	June. °	July. °	Aug. °	Sept. °	Oct. °	Nov. °	Dec. °	Year. °F
Colombo	24	78·6	79·0	80·6	81·8	82·0	81·1	80·4	80·4	80·3	79·4	79·0	78·6	80·1
Jaffna	14	76·8	78·3	81·8	84·8	84·4	83·1	82·2	82·0	81·7	80·9	79·0	77·2	81·0
Trincomalee	99	77·6	78·6	80·9	83·2	85·1	84·9	84·2	84·0	83·6	81·4	78·8	77·8	81·7
Batticaloa	20	77·0	78·0	79·9	82·2	83·4	84·4	84·0	82·8	82·4	80·4	78·7	77·3	80·9
Kandy	1611	73·8	75·4	77·4	78·4	78·2	76·4	75·6	75·4	75·3	75·4	75·1	74·2	75·9
Badulla	2189	69·8	70·6	73·0	74·8	75·4	74·4	74·7	74·9	74·5	73·7	72·0	70·4	73·2
Diyatalawa	4101	64·1	65·0	67·1	68·8	69·8	70·2	69·8	69·7	68·8	67·7	66·2	64·8	67·6
Nuwara Eliya	6170	56·4	56·8	58·5	59·6	61·4	59·3	58·6	59·0	59·0	58·8	58·5	57·2	58·6

TABLE No. 2.—Mean Monthly **Rainfall** of Twelve Selected Stations :—

(See Diagram No. 2.)

Station.	January		February.		March.		April.		May.		June.		July.	
	In.	Dys.	In.	Dys.	In.	Dys.	In.	Dys.	In.	Dys.	In.	Dys.	In.	Dys.
Colombo	3·82	10	2·08	5	4·82	12	8·66	16	13·65	22	8·36	21	6·28	17
Jaffna	2·64	6	1·30	2	1·18	3	2·04	5	1·67	3	0·63	1	0·87	2
Trincomalee	6·56	11	2·18	4	1·76	5	2·10	5	2·47	5	1·22	3	2·06	4
Batticaloa	10·24	14	3·48	6	3·19	6	1·92	5	1·73	4	0·93	3	1·21	4
Hambantota	3·43	7	1·42	4	2·52	6	3·33	8	3·17	8	2·36	9	1·78	7
Galle	4·16	12	2·91	7	4·67	10	9·67	16	11·38	21	8·32	22	6·10	19
Ratnapura	5·54	12	4·54	9	8·98	16	12·33	20	18·20	22	19·89	25	12·69	22
Kurunegala	3·78	8	1·66	4	5·24	8	9·98	15	6·53	14	7·92	20	4·11	15
Kandy	5·23	11	2·25	5	4·09	9	6·84	14	5·09	13	9·40	22	7·55	22
Badulla	9·60	15	2·93	7	4·68	9	7·45	13	4·65	10	2·18	7	2·03	6
Diyatalawa	5·99	15	2·33	8	4·34	13	5·77	17	5·16	15	1·89	8	1·99	8
Nuwara Eliya	5·75	12	2·03	6	3·53	9	5·66	14	6·83	16	12·54	24	11·98	23

TABLE No. 2.—Mean Monthly **Rainfall** of Twelve Selected Stations—*contd.* :—

(See Diagram No. 2.)

Station.	August.		September.		October.		November.		December.		Annua	Average.
	In.	Dys.	In.	Dys.	In.	Dys.	In.	Dys.	In.	Dys.	In.	Dys.
Colombo	2·94	13	6·45	17	13·10	22	11·67	19	5·44	13	87·26	187
Jaffna	1·46	3	2·88	5	9·29	13	14·58	17	10·31	14	48·85	75
Trincomalee	4·07	8	4·44	8	8·24	16	14·18	19	13·91	19	63·18	107
Batticaloa	2·16	6	2·76	6	6·44	13	13·44	18	16·55	19	64·04	104
Hambantota	1·22	6	2·55	8	4·73	11	6·97	14	5·34	11	38·81	98
Galle	5·47	19	8·34	19	13·01	21	11·47	18	6·74	14	92·24	198
Ratnapura	11·89	22	15·14	21	18·60	23	14·41	20	8·93	15	151·14	226
Kurunegala	3·39	14	5·43	15	15·43	21	11·78	17	7·02	13	82·27	164
Kandy	5·66	19	6·01	18	11·51	22	10·50	19	8·89	16	83·62	190
Badulla	3·17	8	3·63	8	9·55	17	10·60	18	12·23	19	72·70	136
Diyatalawa	3·15	10	4·17	12	9·87	20	9·81	22	7·92	20	62·39	167
Nuwara Eliya	7·92	22	8·45	20	10·86	23	9·09	20	8·38	16	93·03	206

TABLE No. 9.—Number of Schools and Scholars in 1929 :—

Class of Schools.	English.				Anglo-Vernacular.			
	Number of Schools.	Boys.	Girls.	Total No. of Scholars	Number of Schools.	Boys.	Girls.	Total No. of Scholars.
Total	322	45,240	14,665	59,895	192	36,119	9,558	45,677
Government	16	2,358	44	2,402	123	29,661	3,709	33,370
Assisted	251	40,710	14,376	55,086	56	5,763	5,682	11,445
Unaided	55	2,172	235	2,407	13	695	167	862

TABLE No. 9.—Number of Schools and Scholars in 1929—*contd.* :—

Class of Schools.	Vernacular.				Grand Total.			
	Number of Schools.	Boys.	Girls.	Total No. of Scholars.	Number of Schools.	Boys.	Girls.	Total No. of Scholars
Total	3,776	267,273	174,543	441,816	4,290	348,632	198,756	547,388
Government	1,199	111,870	64,825	176,695	1,338	143,889	68,578	212,467
Assisted	2,055	146,225	104,871	251,096	2,362	192,698	124,929	317,627
Unaided	522	9,178	4,847	14,025	590	12,045	5,249	17,294

Note.—This total excludes figures for Training Schools, Technical Schools, Industrial Schools, Pirivenas, Classical, Special, and Pansala Schools.

TABLE No. 10.—Immigrants to, and Emigrants from, Ceylon, 1920-1929 :—
(See Diagram No. 5.)

Year.	Immigrants.			Emigrants. Total.	Year.	Immigrants.			Emigrants Total.
	Estate Labourers.	Miscellaneous Passengers.	Total.			Estate Labourers.	Miscellaneous Passengers.	Total.	
1920	45,946	90,753	136,699	146,247	1925	125,378	126,505	251,883	179,796
1921	25,496	81,102	106,598	127,107	1926	101,746	132,792	234,538	201,053
1922	77,414	97,155	174,569	145,737	1927	159,399	143,768	303,167	231,828
1923	89,607	100,905	190,512	147,860	1928	133,712	156,046	289,758	237,670
1924	153,989	104,954	258,943	156,523	1929	105,095	150,791	255,886	261,896

TABLE No. 12.—Value of the **Total Trade** of Ceylon, **Total Exports**, Exports of Ceylon Produce, Other Exports, and **Total Imports** for each Calendar Year since 1914 :—
(See Diagram No. 7.)

Year.	Total Trade.	Exports.			Imports, including Bullion and Specie.
		Total.	Ceylon Produce.	Other, including Bullion and Specie.	
1	2	3	4	5	6
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1914	396,341,202	219,374,046	210,711,403	8,662,643	176,967,156
1915	441,823,218	273,377,180	265,733,258	7,643,922	168,446,038
1916	517,572,055	297,541,155	284,837,976	12,703,179	220,030,900
1917	492,091,178	306,944,957	292,625,008	14,319,949	185,146,221
1918	390,870,517	213,133,834	197,633,194	15,500,640	177,736,683
1919	609,777,169	367,057,479	353,767,924	13,289,555	242,719,690
1920	637,222,648	276,295,469	257,178,888	19,116,581	360,927,179
1921	518,656,123	256,600,413	248,120,500	8,479,913	262,055,710
1922	579,523,917	297,783,215	288,951,165	8,832,050	281,740,702
1923	643,358,532	351,198,748	336,785,210	14,413,538	292,159,784
1924	697,845,885	385,517,418	375,382,250	10,135,168	312,328,467
1925	852,996,747	492,616,430	471,866,380	20,750,050	360,380,317
1926	911,516,099	503,648,990	483,588,564	20,060,426	407,867,109
1927	870,401,720	449,273,744	431,221,584	18,052,160	421,127,976
1928	804,689,614	392,569,975	375,111,350	17,458,625	412,119,639
1929	836,668,133	407,372,810	377,925,168	29,447,642	429,295,323

Note.—The figures in columns 2, 3, 4, and 5 exclude the value of ships' stores and postal articles.

TABLE No. 13.—Percentage Distribution by Articles of the **Total Import* Trade** of the Colony for each Calendar Year since 1919 :—
(See Diagram No. 8.)

Articles.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.
Coal and coke ..	14·4	8·5	11·6	7·9	5·8	6·1	4·9	4·0	4·5	3·5	4·1
Cotton manufactures :—											
Piece goods :—											
Bleached ..	1·4	2·1	2·0	2·0	2·3	1·8	2·3	1·4	1·4	1·4	1·4
Dyed ..	3·8	3·8	4·7	3·2	3·9	3·9	3·4	3·4	2·8	2·4	2·6
Printed ..	—	1·0	1·1	—	—	—	1·0	1·3	1·5	1·0	1·1
Cutlery and hardware ..	1·2	1·3	1·4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Curry stuffs ..	—	—	1·5	1·3	2·0	1·8	1·8	1·8	1·8	1·7	1·4
Fish, cured or salted ..	—	—	1·6	1·4	1·3	1·2	1·0	—	1·0	1·0	—
Grain and pulse :—											
Paddy ..	1·0	—	1·2	1·0	1·3	—	—	—	—	1·0	1·0
Rice ..	27·3	25·4	26·6	31·7	28·6	24·6	26·1	24·0	24·4	25·0	23·2
Other, including flour	4·5	3·9	3·3	2·7	2·6	2·4	2·4	2·2	2·4	2·4	2·4
Haberdashery ..	1·1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Machinery and mill work (including sewing machines) ..	1·0	1·4	2·1	1·7	1·5	1·6	1·7	1·8	1·8	2·0	1·9

* Including bullion and specie.

TABLE No. 13.—Percentage Distribution by Articles of the **Total Import* Trade** of the Colony for each Calendar Year since 1919—*contd.* :—

(See Diagram No. 8.)

Articles.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.
Manures (including poonac used as manure) .	4·2	3·6	—	3·0	3·2	3·1	3·5	3·9	3·9	3·6	3·5
Oil, kerosene ..	1·7	1·2	1·4	2·3	1·8	1·4	1·7	1·5	1·8	2·0	1·8
Poonac (excluding castor and rape seed poonac used as manure) ..	—	—	—	—	1·3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Railway plant and materials	—	—	2·2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·5	—
Sugar, raw and refined ..	4·1	2·6	4·0	3·9	4·2	4·7	3·7	3·7	3·8	4·1	3·7
Tea chests ..	—	—	—	—	1·2	1·3	1·2	1·4	1·1	1·4	1·5
Specie :—											
Gold ..	1·4	9·3	—	—	—	1·1	2·1	2·1	3·3	2·7	5·9
Silver ..	—	1·6	—	—	—	2·0	—	—	—	—	—
Other principal articles each generally less than 1 per cent. and minor articles not mentioned above ..	33·0	34·2	35·4	37·9	39·2	42·9	43·1	47·4	44·3	43·2	44·7

* Including bullion and specie.

TABLE No. 14.—Percentage Distribution by Articles of the **Total Export* Trade** of the Colony for each Calendar Year since 1919 :—

Articles.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.
Arecanuts ..	—	1·1	1·3	1·1	1·0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cinnamon ..	1·0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·1	1·3	—
Cacao	—	—	—	1·1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·0
Coconuts, desiccated ..	6·8	6·6	10·4	6·8	6·5	5·7	3·8	3·4	4·6	5·1	2·9
Coir and manufactures thereof ..	—	—	—	1·1	1·3	1·4	—	—	1·2	1·2	1·1
Copra	8·8	10·3	9·5	9·7	5·2	8·0	7·8	7·9	7·1	8·1	6·5
Oil, coconut ..	7·0	7·2	5·9	5·0	4·0	4·1	3·4	3·1	3·7	4·9	4·4
Rubber ..	37·8	34·1	21·0	20·0	22·4	17·9	37·6	36·6	28·9	20·6	22·9
Tea	31·7	29·2	43·9	49·0	52·9	55·8	40·5	42·3	47·6	51·3	50·4
Specie, gold ..	—	2·8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4·0
Other principal articles each less than 1 per cent. and minor articles not mentioned above .	6·9	8·7	8·1	6·2	8·6	7·1	6·9	6·7	6·0	7·7	6·8

* Including imports exported, bullion, and specie, but excluding ships' stores and postal articles.

TABLE No. 15.—Percentage Distribution by Countries of the **Total Import* Trade** of the Colony for each Calendar Year since 1918 :—

(See Diagram No. 9.)

	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.
United Kingdom ..	16·1	14·0	21·5	25·0	22·0	21·7	22·2	23·5	23·3	22·6	22·6	21·1
British India (including Burma)	57·6	53·6	49·7	47·6	51·1	49·6	46·8	47·6	43·2	41·6	39·7	38·0
British Possessions in Africa (excluding Mauritius) ..	4·3	2·6	—	4·4	3·2	1·9	2·5	2·1	2·3	3·7	2·5	2·8
Commonwealth of Australia ..	—	1·7	1·8	2·5	2·1	3·7	2·4	2·1	2·0	1·9	2·9	7·2
Maldive Islands ..	1·3	—	—	1·1	1·3	1·4	1·3	1·3	1·2	1·2	1·2	1·5
Straits Settlements	3·8	3·8	2·0	2·7	1·6	1·3	1·3	2·0	2·7	3·2	1·9	1·1
Belgium ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·0	1·0	—	—
Borneo (excluding British) ..	1·2	2·5	1·5	1·5	2·3	2·7	2·8	2·0	1·2	2·8	1·6	—
Cochin-China ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·1	1·4
France ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·1	1·2	1·2	1·1
Germany ..	—	—	—	—	1·3	1·4	1·7	1·6	2·5	2·1	2·4	2·5
Holland ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·5	1·5	1·2	1·1
Italy ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·0	—	—	—
Japan ..	5·1	3·5	1·9	1·6	1·8	1·9	2·1	2·0	2·4	2·2	2·4	2·5
Java ..	1·3	2·8	1·8	3·0	2·7	3·2	3·8	3·1	3·3	3·4	4·1	3·2
Persia ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2·2	1·0	1·9	2·5
Siam ..	—	3·9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·1	—
Sumatra ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2·4	2·8	3·6	4·4
United States of America ..	3·2	4·7	11·9	2·7	2·4	2·2	2·9	2·6	3·1	3·5	3·8	3·2
Others (each generally less than 1 per cent.) ..	5·9	7·1	8·0	8·0	8·2	9·1	10·2	10·1	3·6	4·2	4·7	6·6

* Including bullion and specie.

TABLE No. 16.—Percentage Distribution by Countries of the **Total Export* Trade** of the Colony for each Calendar Year since 1918 :—

(See Diagram No. 10.)

	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.
United Kingdom ..	42·7	42·1	44·8	46·2	46·3	46·6	44·7	38·3	41·4	41·6	39·1	39·7
British India (including Burma)	12·6	6·9	5·4	4·4	3·2	3·1	3·2	2·8	2·1	3·3	5·2	7·5
British Possessions in Africa (excluding Mauritius) ..	1·6	—	—	1·6	2·0	2·2	2·2	1·5	1·9	2·2	2·3	2·1
Commonwealth of Australia ..	8·7	2·7	3·4	4·7	4·2	3·7	4·8	3·9	4·0	5·0	5·2	5·6
Dominion of Canada ..	5·6	1·8	1·7	1·7	2·3	2·5	2·4	1·4	1·3	1·4	1·8	1·6
Dominion of New Zealand ..	—	—	1·1	1·4	1·7	1·9	1·7	1·4	1·7	1·9	2·2	2·1
Iraq (Mesopotamia) ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·3	—
Belgium	—	2·1	2·0	1·1	1·1	—	1·2	—	—	—	1·3	1·2
Denmark	—	1·6	1·6	2·1	1·6	1·1	2·7	2·3	1·5	1·4	1·2	—
Egypt	2·5	1·3	1·4	1·3	1·4	3·1	1·8	2·0	1·4	1·6	2·4	2·1
France	1·9	2·2	1·6	—	—	1·0	—	—	—	—	1·0	1·0
French Possessions† ..	—	—	2·8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Germany	—	—	1·5	3·9	3·7	2·7	4·4	4·0	4·8	4·8	4·9	4·4
Holland	—	1·3	4·9	2·9	1·5	—	1·4	—	1·2	1·1	1·0	1·0
Italy	—	—	—	—	—	1·5	2·5	2·6	2·6	2·4	3·3	2·8
Norway	—	—	—	—	—	1·8	1·8	1·4	1·2	1·3	1·6	1·6
Russia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·0	—
United States of America ..	18·1	32·5	22·4	21·9	22·4	23·6	19·4	31·1	28·5	23·9	19·0	19·3
Others (each generally less than 1 per cent.) ..	6·2	4·5	5·4	6·8	8·6	6·2	5·9	7·1	6·4	8·0	6·2	8·0

* Excluding ships' stores and postal articles, but including bullion and specie, and imports exported.
† Inclusive of all foreign possessions in India, whether French or otherwise.

TABLE No. 17.—Percentage Distribution by Countries of the **Total Trade*** of the Colony for each Calendar Year since 1918 :—

(See Diagram No. 11.)

	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.
United Kingdom	30·6	30·9	31·6	35·5	34·5	35·3	34·6	32·0	33·3	32·4	30·6	30·1
British India (including Burma) ..	33·1	25·5	30·5	23·2	26·5	24·2	22·7	21·7	20·5	21·8	22·9	23·1
British Possessions in Africa (excluding Mauritius) ..	2·3	1·5	—	3·0	2·6	2·1	2·3	1·8	2·0	2·9	2·4	2·5
Commonwealth of Australia ..	5·1	2·3	2·5	3·6	3·2	3·7	3·7	3·2	3·1	3·5	4·0	6·4
Dominion of Canada ..	3·1	1·1	—	—	1·3	1·6	1·6	1·0	—	—	1·2	1·0
Dominion of New Zealand	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·1	1·0
Straits Settlements ..	2·1	1·8	1·4	1·8	1·3	—	—	1·1	1·4	1·8	1·2	—
Belgium	—	1·3	1·1	—	—	—	1·0	—	—	—	1·0	1·0
Denmark	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·5	1·4	—	—	—	—
Egypt	1·4	—	—	—	—	1·2	1·0	1·2	—	—	1·3	1·2
France	1·3	1·6	1·1	—	—	—	—	—	1·0	1·0	1·1	1·0
French Possessions† ..	—	—	1·3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Germany	—	—	—	2·2	2·5	2·1	2·2	3·0	3·8	3·5	3·6	3·4
Holland	—	—	2·6	2·0	1·3	1·2	1·4	1·1	1·3	1·3	1·1	1·1
Italy	—	—	—	—	—	1·1	1·7	1·8	1·9	1·7	2·0	1·8
Japan	2·7	1·5	1·3	1·0	1·1	1·1	1·2	—	1·3	1·3	1·4	1·5
Java	—	—	—	—	—	1·5	1·7	1·3	1·5	1·7	2·1	1·7
Persia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·1	—	1·0	1·3
Sumatra	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·1	1·4	1·9	2·2
United States of America ..	11·3	22·0	16·4	12·2	12·7	13·9	12·0	19·1	17·1	14·0	11·2	11·0
Others (each generally less than 1 per cent.)	6·5	10·4	10·2	12·4	13·1	11·1	10·3	10·3	9·6	11·6	8·8	8·6

* Excluding ships' stores and postal articles.
† Inclusive of all foreign possessions in India, whether French or otherwise.

TABLE No. 18.—Quantity and Value of the Exports of **Black** and **Green Tea** (Ceylon Produce) :—

(See Diagram No. 13.)

Year.	Quantity Black Tea. lb.	Quantity Green Tea. lb.	Total Value. Rs.	Year.	Quantity Black Tea. lb.	Quantity Green Tea. lb.	Total Value. Rs.
1920 ..	181,566,097 ..	3,304,134 ..	80,781,537	1925 ..	208,374,226 ..	1,326,413 ..	199,609,338
1921 ..	159,302,769 ..	2,308,197 ..	112,707,687	1926 ..	215,718,431 ..	1,364,217 ..	213,063,798
1922 ..	169,689,389 ..	2,118,192 ..	146,036,443	1927 ..	224,958,195 ..	1,991,864 ..	213,691,876
1923 ..	179,596,993 ..	2,309,191 ..	185,652,324	1928 ..	234,802,977 ..	1,828,623 ..	201,235,039
1924 ..	203,210,185 ..	1,651,831 ..	214,892,692	1929 ..	250,332,330 ..	1,157,442 ..	205,114,200

TABLE No. 19.—Annual Distribution by Countries of the Quantities of the Export Trade in **Black Tea** (shown as Percentages of the Total Annual Exports thereof) :—

(See Diagram No. 15.)

Country.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.
United Kingdom	69·5	69·2	66·6	65·3	64·3	65·6	64·3	59·5	62·0
British Possessions :—									
Australia	9·3	7·1	6·0	7·6	7·4	7·5	8·0	8·4	8·8
*British South Africa	—	—	—	—	—	3·1	3·5	3·1	3·4
Canada	2·4	3·3	3·4	3·8	3·1	2·7	2·5	3·1	2·6
Cape of Good Hope	1·4	1·4	1·4	1·5	—	—	—	—	—
*Iraq (Mesopotamia)	—	—	—	—	—	1·5	1·2	2·4	1·5
Nata	1·5	1·9	1·8	1·5	1·8	—	—	—	—
New Zealand	3·0	3·3	3·6	2·9	3·4	4·0	3·8	4·1	4·1
Foreign Countries :—									
China (excluding Hong Kong)	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·5	—	—
Egypt	1·1	1·5	2·7	2·2	3·0	2·3	2·4	3·6	3·0
Russia in Asia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·0	—
Russia in Europe	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·1
United States of America	8·8	7·7	8·2	7·5	7·4	7·0	6·0	6·4	6·6
Others (each usually less than 1 per cent.)	3·1	4·4	6·3	7·7	9·7	6·4	6.7	8·4	6·8

* According to the new classification of countries from January 1, 1926.

TABLE No. 20.—Annual Distribution by Countries of the Quantities of the Export Trade in **Green Tea** (shown as Percentages of the Total Annual Exports thereof) :—

Country.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.
United Kingdom	4·5	4·8	8·5	10·0	4·6	1·4	9·4	—	—
British Possessions :—									
British India	37·2	3·5	4·0	9·7	13·6	12·7	9·6	20·9	23·6
Canada	28·2	51·8	51·0	18·2	9·9	8·3	5·1	5·2	1·3
Newfoundland	—	1·1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Foreign Countries :—									
China	—	—	—	—	32·1	—	—	—	—
Russia in Asia	—	—	—	—	5·7	—	1·0	—	—
Russia in Europe	—	—	—	—	—	53·0	64·0	53·0	57·4
United States of America	29·0	38·1	36·2	62·0	34·2	24·3	10·1	19·8	17·6
Others (each usually less than 1 per cent.)	1·1	·	·2	—	—	·2	·8	1·0	—

TABLE No. 21.—Average Weekly Prices of Rubber (Ribbed Smoked Sheet—Contract Quality ; and Contract Crêpe) realized at the Auction Sales held in the Chamber of Commerce, Colombo :—

(See Diagram No. 16.)

"Weekly Price Current" dated 1929.		Average Price per lb. Rs. c.
January	7	0 43
Do.	14	0 45
Do.	21	0 53
Do.	28	0 53
February	4	0 53
Do.	11	0 56
Do.	18	0 57
Do.	25	0 63
March	4	0 67
Do.	11	0 66
Do.	18	0 64
Do.	25	0 57
April	8	0 58
Do.	15	0 56
Do.	22	0 53
Do.	29	0 50
May	6	0 50
May	13	0 55
Do.	20	0 59
Do.	27	0 58
June	3	0 54
Do.	10	0 54
Do.	17	0 54
Do.	24	0 53
July	1	0 53
Do.	8	0 54
Do.	15	0 58
Do.	22	0 54
Do.	29	0 54
August	5	0 55
Do.	12	0 52
Do.	19	0 53
Do.	26	0 50
September	2	0 52
September	9	0 51
Do.	16	0 51
Do.	23	0 51
Do.	30	0 50
October	7	0 48
Do.	14	0 50
Do.	21	0 49
Do.	28	0 48
November	4	0 46
Do.	11	0 41
Do.	18	0 39
Do.	25	0 40
December	2	0 39
Do.	9	0 39
Do.	16	0 40
Do.	23	0 38
Do.	31	—

TABLE No. 22.—Total Stocks of Rubber in the United Kingdom (London and Liverpool) at the end of each Month, 1927, 1928, and 1929 :—

(See Diagram No. 16.)

	1927. Tons.	1928. Tons.	1929. Tons.		1927. Tons.	1928. Tons.	1929. Tons.
January	56,856	68,463	28,844	July	66,587	37,680	34,608
February	60,966	65,140	29,544	August	67,626	34,335	43,005
March	65,430	60,264	32,406	September	71,321	33,645	52,067
April	69,587	55,709	35,816	October	72,405	26,580	61,564
May	70,045	46,697	35,667	November	69,708	19,924	69,971
June	66,694	40,947	35,425	December	66,103	22,581	73,133

TABLE No. 23.—Quantity and Value of the Exports of **Rubber** (Ceylon Produce) :—

(See Diagram No. 13.)

Year.	Quantity. lb.	Value. Rs.	Year.	Quantity. lb.	Value. Rs.
1920	88,552,542	89,961,103	1925	102,185,442	169,992,247
1921	88,125,425	51,601,518	1926	131,840,505	170,078,219
1922	104,595,278	56,970,218	1927	125,062,578	119,174,347
1923	83,816,228	73,594,349	1928	128,326,444	73,985,953
1924	82,960,851	63,749,711	1929	180,632,140	86,630,874

TABLE No. 24.—Annual Distribution by Countries of the Quantities of the Export Trade in **Rubber** (shown as Percentages of the Total Annual Exports thereof) :—

(See Diagram No. 17.)

Country.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.
United Kingdom	33·6	21·1	26·4	23·7	26·6	31·0	27·7	22·9	22·2
British Possessions :—									
Australia	—	1·1	—	—	2·0	1·9	2·9	2·2	3·5
Foreign Countries :—									
France	—	—	1·6	2·1	1·2	1·3	1·1	2·4	1·9
Germany	4·9	4·2	2·3	4·8	3·6	2·6	3·9	5·3	5·7
Italy	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·3
United States of America	58·8	71·4	66·6	67·2	65·4	61·9	63·2	65·2	63·3
Others (each usually less than 1 per cent.)	2·8	2·2	3·1	2·2	1·2	1·4	1·4	1·9	2·0

TABLE No. 25.—Value of the Exports of the Products of the **Coconut Palm** :—

(See Diagram No. 13.)

Article.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Total	**42,147,183**	**33,953,634**	**35,579,655**	**87,025,852**	**70,852,481**	**71,326,566**	**69,840,446**
Arrack	—	15,685	41,243	207,095	136,062	112,872	60,931
Coir—							
Bristle fibre	625,508	244,731	718,875	1,506,686	1,282,699	987,347	1,422,888
Mattress fibre	258,650	173,611	212,992	251,525	296,689	152,843	351,226
Mats and matting	5,746	1,205	4,483	2,615	9,829	12,871	10,452
Rope	151,090	141,400	238,404	172,956	185,033	44,808	204,960
Yarn	808,310	242,288	288,040	1,098,344	770,766	639,364	1,302,087
Other	1,265	2,412	5,973	16,945	11,499	18,223	8,168
Copra	21,868,455	13,215,495	12,757,641	32,357,044	28,405,273	24,304,484	28,804,064
Desiccated coconut	8,705,425	9,361,004	5,179,529	24,928,166	18,329,756	26,602,399	20,159,183
Fresh coconuts	417,905	320,991	391,803	292,623	974,114	2,361,983	1,825,226
Oil	8,934,650	10,080,669	15,692,559	25,674,442	19,864,606	15,024,501	14,924,985
Poonac	370,179	154,143	48,113	517,411	586,161	894,871	766,276

TABLE No. 25.—Value of the Exports of the Products of the **Coconut Palm**—*contd.*:—

Article.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Total ..	**61,419,960**	**77,636,986**	**81,255,740**	**79,146,085**	**77,048,541**	**78,875,126**	**64,278,097**
Arrack ..	35,355	18,785	26,487	29,650	12,545	7,530	68,976
Coir—							
Bristle fibre ..	1,830,156	2,024,939	1,227,726	1,149,866	1,569,904	1,527,879	1,713,667
Mattress fibre ..	558,673	922,145	712,397	927,515	1,313,164	1,051,874	812,763
Mats and matting ..	28,677	8,779	10,591	17,806	7,366	6,301	8,130
Rope ..	275,954	272,983	280,145	276,722	300,149	267,106	209,470
Yarn ..	1,957,251	2,140,753	2,142,128	1,831,138	2,177,824	1,635,827	1,837,568
Other ..	11,959	8,161	22,396	36,918	16,384	28,634	14,589
Copra ..	18,123,143	31,008,191	38,267,912	39,848,479	31,844,823	31,801,635	26,315,987
Desiccated coconut ..	22,716,338	21,963,695	18,777,502	17,275,978	20,481,761	19 840,117	11,875,780
Fresh coconuts ..	1,338,533	2,499,088	1,940,622	1,393,682	1,515,087	1,424 287	1,281,910
Oil ..	13,935,486	15,826,782	16,812,750	15,489,320	16,567,551	19,265,529	18,024,359
Poonac ..	608,435	942,685	1,135,084	869,011	1,241,983	2,018,407	2,114,898

TABLE No. 25*a*.—Quantity of **Coconuts** utilized in the various Products exported from Ceylon, 1920 to 1929 :—

Data adoped for conversion :—

1 ton of oil = 8,125 nuts
1 ton of copra = 5,000 nuts
1 ton of desiccated = 6,900 nuts

Year.	Oil.	Copra.	Desiccated.	Fresh Nuts.	Total.
1920 ..	206,180,000 ..	339,465,000 ..	178,965,000 ..	9,776,479 ..	734,386 779
1921 ..	196,917,500 ..	341,860,000 ..	300,329,400 ..	23,738,542 ..	862,845,442
1922 ..	225,314,375 ..	421,645,000 ..	265,035,900 ..	22,317,747 ..	934,313,022
1923 .	195,219,375 ..	253,865,000 ..	282,486,000 ..	15,693,670 ..	747,264,045
1924	224,501,875 ..	442,295,000 ..	300,612,300 ..	29,121,041 ..	996,630,216
1925 ..	250,981,250 ..	568,430,000 ..	273,985,200 ..	23,288,786 ..	1,116,685,236
1926 ..	231,749,375 ..	604,850,000 ..	260,254,200 ..	16,951,368 ..	1,113 804,943
1927 ..	273,468,406 ..	495,538,000 ..	301,127,385 ..	18,875,750 ..	1,089,010,040
1928 ..	316,514,250 ..	494,164,000 ..	271,412,535 ..	18,016,191 ..	1,100,106,976
1929 ..	356,899,969 ..	511,622,000 ..	238,211,805 ..	20,821,284 ..	1,127,555,058

TABLE No. 26.—Quantity and Value of the Exports of **Fresh Coconuts** (Ceylon Produce) :—

Year.	Quantity. No. of Nuts.	Value. Rs.	Year.	Quantity. No. of Nuts.	Value. Rs.
1920 ..	9,776,479 ..	974,114	1925 ..	23,288,786 ..	1,940,622
1921 ..	23,738,542 ..	2,361,983	1926 ..	16,951,368 ..	1,393,682
1922 ..	22,317,747 ..	1 825,226	1927 ..	18,875,750 ..	1,515,087
1923 ..	15,693,670 ..	1,338,533	1928 ..	18,016,191 ..	1,424,287
1924 ..	29,121,041 ..	2,199,088	1929 ..	20,821,284 ..	1,281,910

TABLE No. 27.—Annual Distribution by Countries of the Quantities of the Export Trade in **Fresh Coconuts** (shown as Percentages of the Total Annual Exports thereof) :—

Country.	1921.	1922.	1923	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.
United Kingdom ..	49·5 ..	51·4 ..	63·1 ..	42·4 ..	39·7 ..	33·8 ..	41·5 ..	41·1 ..	37·2
British Possessions :—									
British India ..	1·6 ..	1·2 ..	1·3 ..	— ..	1·6 ..	1·1 ..	1·8 ..	— ..	6·1
Foreign Countries :—									
Belgium	1·7 ..	1·3 ..	1·5 ..	2·9 ..	3·5 ..	3·0 ..	3·4 ..	2·6 ..	3·1
Egypt	31·0 ..	32·3 ..	22·8 ..	16·8 ..	33·2 ..	38·9 ..	25·1 ..	30·0 ..	27·4
Germany	4·9 ..	4·7 ..	5·7 ..	26·6 ..	14·0 ..	14·5 ..	17·2 ..	16·2 ..	15·7
Holland	10·8 ..	7·8 ..	4·0 ..	8·0 ..	5·7 ..	6·1 ..	7·9 ..	6·5 ..	7·9
Italy	— ..	— ..	— ..	1·6 ..	1·6 ..	1·8 ..	2·1 ..	1·9 ..	1·4
Others (each generally less than 1 per cent.) ..	·6 ..	1·3 ..	1·6 ..	1·8 ..	·6 ..	·8 ..	·9 ..	1·7 ..	1·1

TABLE No. 28.—Quantity and Value of the Exports of **Copra** (Ceylon Produce) :—

(See Diagram No. 14.)

Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.	Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1920	1,357,870	28,405,273	1925	2,273,717	38,267,912
1921	1,367,431	24,304,484	1926	2,419,398	39,848,479
1922	1,686,589	28,804,064	1927	1,982,154	31,844,823
1923	1,015,465	18,123,143	1928	1,976,656	31,801,635
1924	1,769,189	31,008,191	1929	2,042,488	26,315,987

TABLE No. 29.—Annual Distribution by Countries of the Quantities of the Export Trade in **Copra** (shown as Percentages of the Total Annual Exports thereof) :—

(See Diagram No. 18.)

Countries.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.
United Kingdom	8·3	15·0	7·0	3·9	1·7	3·1	1·1	—	—
British Possessions :—									
British India	4·4	—	—	1·5	1·9	—	1·2	—	—
Foreign Countries :—									
Belgium	3·0	4·9	6·5	6·4	3·9	5·5	3·8	6·5	6·4
Denmark	19·8	15·3	19·6	22·6	20·1	7·6	11·6	9·0	6·8
Egypt	—	—	—	—	3·0	—	—	—	2·3
France	1·7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Germany	11·6	9·5	3·4	14·9	18·4	32·6	28·5	23·2	26·3
Greece	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·5	1·6	1·2
Holland	18·7	10·9	9·0	12·6	8·9	9·7	8·7	3·6	5·6
Italy	16·3	28·3	21·6	19·6	26·3	26·7	24·4	30·0	27·3
Norway	7·5	9·5	25·8	16·4	14·5	13·3	16·5	18·1	21·3
Sweden	1·6	1·8	6·2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Turkey in Europe	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·1
United States of America	6·7	3·6	—	—	—	—	1·6	4·7	—
Others (each generally less than 1 per cent.)	·3	1·2	·8	2·9	1·4	1·7	1·2	3·5	1·6

TABLE No. 30.—Quantity and Value of the Exports of **Coconut Oil** (Ceylon Produce) :—

(See Diagram No. 14.)

Year.	Quantity. Gallons.	Value. Rs.	Year.	Quantity. Gallons.	Value. Rs.
1920	6,315,892	19,864,606	1925	7,677,189	16,812,750
1921	6,032,121	15,024,501	1926	7,099,095	15,489,320
1922	6,902,012	14,924,985	1927	8,377,015	16,567,551
1923	5,980,091	13,935,486	1928	9,695,616	19,265,529
1924	6,877,214	15,826,782	1929	10,932,731	18,024,359

TABLE No. 31.—Annual Distribution by Countries of the Quantities of the Export Trade in **Coconut Oil** (shown as Percentages of the Total Annual Exports thereof) :—

Country.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.
United Kingdom	55·3	54·4	31·9	17·1	22·3	23·6	26·2	22·4	26·3
British Possessions :—									
British India	1·5	—	—	7·3	14·6	1·9	12·7	23·8	15·5
*British South Africa	—	—	—	—	—	3·5	3·5	2·8	2·0
Burma	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·5	—	—
Canada	—	—	—	—	—	1·4	1·1	—	1·4
Cape of Good Hope	—	—	1·1	1·0	1·5	—	—	—	—
Natal	—	—	1·7	1·8	1·8	—	—	—	—
Foreign Countries :—									
*Argentine Republic	—	—	—	—	—	2·1	3·6	5·1	4·8
Belgium	3·6	1·2	1·4	1·0	—	—	—	—	—
Denmark	—	—	—	15·4	17·0	26·2	11·9	5·9	—
Egypt	6·8	9·0	13·5	11·1	10·8	8·9	9·0	8·1	7·7
*Fiume	—	—	—	—	—	1·7	2·5	4·0	3·9
France	—	—	1·1	—	—	—	1·4	—	—
Germany	5·2	19·0	29·7	10·7	2·4	1·7	1·9	1·4	2·5
Holland	16·3	2·3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Italy	1·6	3·0	5·0	15·7	9·4	6·8	9·8	10·1	12·6
Mozambique	—	—	1·3	1·9	—	—	—	—	—
Norway	5·9	5·8	10·3	10·2	6·7	4.2	1·7	1·5	2·3
*Portuguese East Africa	—	—	—	—	—	1·1	2·7	2·8	3·3
Roumania	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·3	3·8
Sweden	2·4	1·6	—	2·9	5·0	9·2	6·4	4·4	7·6
Turkey in Europe	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2·2	—
United States of America	—	—	—	—	1·6	3·5	1·0	—	—
Others (each generally less than 1 per cent.)	1·3	3·7	2·9	3·9	6·8	4·2	3·1	4·1	6·3

* According to the new classification of countries from January 1, 1926.

TABLE No. 32.—Quantity and Value of the Exports of **Desiccated Coconut** (Ceylon Produce) :—

(See Diagram No. 14.)

Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.	Year	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1920	518,735	18,329,756	1925	794,161	18,777,502
1921	870,515	26,602,399	1926	754,367	17,275,978
1922	768,215	20,159,183	1927	872,833	20,481,764
1923	818,793	22,716,338	1928	786,703	19,840,117
1924	871,341	21,963,695	1929	690,469	11,875,780

TABLE No. 33.—Annual Distribution by Countries of the Quantities of the Export Trade in **Desiccated Coconut** (shown as Percentages of the Total Annual Exports thereof) :—

Country.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.
United Kingdom	31·3	37·8	34·7	32·4	34·7	32.4	33·2	37·5	38·8
British Possessions :—									
Australia	8·3	4·6	4·1	4·9	5·3	5·0	5·3	5·4	5·7
*British South Africa	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·0	1·1
Canada	2·9	2·5	3·4	3·0	2·6	2·5	2·5	2·9	4·3
New Zealand	—	—	—	—	1·1	—	1·0	1·1	1·5
Foreign Countries :—									
*Argentine Republic	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·2	1 5
Belgium	1·2	1·7	1·4	1·5	1·5	1·3	1·3	1·7	2 4
Denmark	—	—	—	—	—	1·1	1·2	1·2	1·4
France	—	1·2	1·4	1·4	1·4	1·5	1·7	2·3	2·3
Germany	11·3	10·8	6·5	16·2	14·9	16·8	15·6	15·9	15·9
Holland	2·8	—	—	3·3	4·0	4·8	5·5	6·8	6·6
Italy	—	—	—	1·5	1·8	1·6	1·8	2·1	2·4
South America	—	1·2	1·1	1·2	1·1	—	—	—	—
Spain	1·0	1·3	2·2	2·1	2·8	3·4	3·1	3·2	3·5
Sweden	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·0	1·2
United States of America	42·3	35·6	41·1	28·9	26·1	25·0	23·6	14·7	8·1
Others (each generally less than 1 per cent.)	3·8	3·3	4·0	5·0	2·9	4·5	4·1	2·1	3·3

* According to the new classification of countries from January 1, 1926.

TABLE No. 34.—Quantity and Value of the Exports of **Coir** (Ceylon Produce) :—

(See Diagram No. 14.)

Year.	Coir Fibre. Bristle. Cwt.	Coir Fibre. Mattress. Cwt.	Coir Rope. Cwt.	Coir Yarn. Cwt.	Coir Other.* Cwt.	Coir Other.* Rs.†
1920	84,947	167,621	15,338	72,438	751	2,546,686
1921	93,437	108,830	16,830	60,710	889	2,010,585
1922	106,265	212,860	14,640	102,688	677	3,289,329
1923	126,311	232,685	19,716	105,088	537	4,633,820
1924	168,247	312,062	19,502	117,199	409	5,368,981
1925	160,104	300,086	20,128	131,387	1,231	4,384,792
1926	154,132	302,998	19,618	107,885	1,767	4,222,159
1927	170,728	365,056	21,123	130,821	696	5,377,425
1928	182,241	387,013	19,086	92,162	1,496	4,511,320
1929	199,923	395,468	14,955	100,635	833	4,588,057

* Excluding coir mats and matting. † Total value.

TABLE No. 35.—Annual Distribution by Countries of the Quantities of the Export Trade in **Coir** (Fibre, Coir (Bristle and Mattress); Coir Rope; Coir Yarn; and Coir, Other) (shown as Percentages of the Total Annual Exports thereof) :—

Country.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.
United Kingdom	24·4	32·3	31·3	29·1	26·1	25·1	26·7	19·9	20·4
British Possessions :—									
Australia	6·0	5·7	6·7	6·6	7·1	7·0	6·4	6·3	6·5
British India	3·1	1·7	2·4	1·8	3·0	2·3	2·0	2·7	2·7
*British South Africa	—	—	—	—	—	9·8	9·3	10·5	8·9
Cape of Good Hope	1·7	2·3	3·2	3·4	3·0	—	—	—	—
Natal	4·9	3·4	4·9	4·9	5·0	—	—	—	—
Straits Settlements	6·1	3·9	4·4	3·3	3·6	3·8	3·6	3·2	2·7
Foreign Countries :—									
Belgium	7·7	9·9	9·6	11·9	10·3	12·5	12·2	13·4	13·6
Denmark	1·4	1·0	1·3	1·7	1·9	1·0	—	1·1	—
France	1·8	2·7	4·5	4·2	5·4	4·4	3·9	5·8	6·6
Germany	10·4	17·7	9·7	11·6	13·9	11·4	13·4	12·1	11·2
Holland	3·2	1·8	1·8	1·8	1·6	1·6	1·4	1·0	1·4
Japan	22·6	12·3	12·7	12·4	12·9	14·0	14·0	15·0	15·9
Norway	1·1	—	—	1·2	—	—	—	—	1·0
United States of America	2·9	2·2	4·5	3·4	3·3	3·9	2·8	4·5	4·4
Others (each generally less than 1 per cent.)	4·6	4·1	4·3	4·4	2·0	3·3	4·3	4·4	4·7

* According to the new classification of countries from January 1, 1926.

TABLE No. 36.—Quantity and value of the Exports of **Cacao** (Ceylon Produce) :—

(See Diagram No. 14.)

Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.	Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1920	56,397	2,515,305	1925	68,788	2,318,579
1921	62,244	2,018,847	1926	64,751	1,953,684
1922	83,211	3,145,356	1927	80,798	2,747,247
1923	60,904	2,236,548	1928	73,618	2,818,361
1924	69,351	2,464,103	1929	82,680	4,236,136

TABLE No. 37.—Annual Distribution by Countries of the Quantities of the Export Trade in **Cacao** (shown as Percentages of the Total Annual Exports thereof) :—

Country.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.
United Kingdom	27·6	24·1	20·3	36·4	34·3	18·2	20·4	14·8	18·0
British Possessions :—									
Australia	11·8	3·8	7·2	6·6	4·3	10·2	6·0	3·3	5·3
Canada	8·2	7·0	6·8	6·7	5·9	5·7	6·9	9·1	6·7
Cape of Good Hope	—	1·8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hong Kong	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·4	—	—
New Zealand	3·3	2·3	2·3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Straits Settlements	2·3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Foreign Countries :—									
*Argentine Republic	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·0	1·0	1·2
Belgium	—	1·8	—	1·5	1·3	1·5	1·7	—	1·0
Central America	—	—	—	—	2·1	4·3	—	—	—
Germany	3·9	3·4	3·8	1·7	1·3	2·8	5·9	2·5	4·4
Holland	—	—	2·0	1·3	—	—	3·3	—	1·5
Italy	—	—	—	—	—	—	2·3	—	—
Japan	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mexico	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11·2	11·7
Norway	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·1	—	—
Philippine Islands	28·1	23·8	40·2	32·0	36·7	40·4	31·1	41·1	37·6
South America	—	—	—	—	1·5	—	—	—	—
United States of America	13·0	28·6	13·9	10·1	10·4	11·8	14·0	11·7	8·9
Others (each generally less than 1 per cent.)	1·7	3·4	3·6	3·7	2·2	5·1	4·9	5·2	3·8

* According to the new classification of countries from January 1, 1926.

TABLE No. 38.—Quantity and Value of the Exports of **Cinnamon Chips and Cinnamon Quills** (Ceylon Produce) :—

(See Diagram No. 14.)

Year.	Cinnamon Chips. Cwt.	Cinnamon Quills. Cwt.	Total Value. Rs.	Year.	Cinnamon Chips. Cwt.	Cinnamon Quills. Cwt.	Total Value. Rs.
1920	12,560	22,561	2,147,115	1925	12,136	30,220	3,167,684
1921	14,655	30,709	1,795,156	1926	11,874	31,238	4,209,771
1922	11,573	31,401	1,992,677	1927	11,114	31,300	4,786,091
1923	12,397	32,587	2,096,916	1928	11,023	34,699	4,994,543
1924	12,937	34,545	2,905,014	1929	11,158	37,059	3,784,424

TABLE No. 39.—Annual Distribution by Countries of the Quantities of the Export Trade in **Cinnamon Chips** (shown as Percentages of the Total Annual Exports thereof) :—

Country.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	**1928.**	1929.
United Kingdom	35·7	15·2	25·8	28·2	19·4	37·1	26·6	**29·1**	**32·3**
British Possessions :—									
Australia	12·5	13·6	10·9	13·3	12·6	16·1	16·5	**17·3**	**15·5**
British India	—	—	3·5	—	—	—	—	—	—
*British South Africa	—	—	—	—	—	1·7	—	—	**1·2**
Canada	1·4	1·8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
New Zealand	—	1·4	1·7	2·0	1·3	1·5	2·1	1·8	2·2
Foreign Countries :—									
*Argentine Republic	—	—	—	—	—	6·2	8·1	6·7	7·1
Belgium	6·0	3·3	8·4	6·3	9·4	3·9	7·7	4·3	6·1
Denmark	1·1	—	—	1·5	—	—	1·6	—	—
France	—	—	1·6	3·7	4·5	2·8	3·3	5·3	3·2
Germany	26·4	6·6	17·1	19·0	15·0	7·0	4·7	7·9	10·9
Holland	7·8	9·8	8·3	6·7	9·2	2·8	8·2	3·7	7·3
Italy	2·2	—	3·1	3·2	4·2	4·4	3·1	3·1	—
Mexico	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·1
South America	1·4	10·6	5·9	2·6	10·3	—	—	—	—
Spain	1·8	2·8	8·4	11·9	13·1	15·2	16·3	15·2	10·7
United States of America	1·7	2·6	4·0	—	—	—	—	2·9	—
Others (each generally less than 1 per cent.)	2·0	2·3	1·2	·7	1·0	1·3	1·8	2·6	2·4

* According to the new classification of countries from January 1, 1926.

TABLE No. 40.—Annual Distribution by Countries of the Quantities of the Export Trade in **Cinnamon Quills** (shown as Percentages of the Total Annual Exports thereof) :—

Country.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.
United Kingdom	2·0	3·0	10·0	9·6	6·7	7·1	4·1	3·7	1·9
British Possessions :—									
Hong Kong	—	—	1·2	—	—	—	1·4	—	—
Foreign Countries :—									
America—									
*Argentine Republic	—	—	—	—	—	1·7	1·7	1·8	1·9
Central America	—	2·7	7·5	10·0	9·4	12·4	—	—	2·1
Chile	—	2·1	2·5	—	1·1	—	1·4	2·8	1·8
Foreign West Indies	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·2	—
*Mexico	—	—	—	—	—	4·7	9·6	20·5	24·8
*Peru	—	—	—	—	—	1·4	1·4	2·0	2·0
South America	3·3	4·4	3·0	1·5	4·9	—	—	—	—
United States of America	34·2	39·7	35·4	35·5	33·5	30·4	38·1	26·6	18·4
Europe—									
Belgium	1·9	1·6	2·1	2·5	1·6	2·9	2·3	1·4	1·9
France	—	1·6	1·7	2·0	2·0	1·6	1·4	1·5	1·7
Germany	20·6	10·8	6·7	18·1	10·1	11·0	10·1	10·2	12·5
Holland	1·3	1·5	—	1·8	3·3	2·4	3·3	4·8	5·0
Italy	2·9	6·8	5·2	3·5	3·8	3·8	4·7	5·2	4·5
Spain	24·0	18·8	22·1	12·8	22·2	17·8	18·4	15·5	17·4
Others (each generally less than 1 per cent.)	9·8	6·7	2·7	2·7	1·4	2·8	2·2	2·9	4·1

* According to the new classification of countries from January 1, 1926.

TABLE No. 41.—Quantity and Value of the Exports of **Citronella Oil** (Ceylon Produce) :—

(See Diagram No. 11.)

Year	Quantity. lb.	Value. Rs.	Year.	Quantity lb.	Value. Rs.
1920	1,022,809	1,141,528	1925	1,415,639	2,259,465
1921	1,160,555	1,093,817	1926	1,431,351	1,774,326
1922	1,299,889	1,638,242	1927	1,358,191	1,264,745
1923	1,121,271	2,130,283	1928	1,200,001	1,046,598
1924	1,433,381	2,941,291	1929	1,183,239	1,226,452

TABLE No. 42.—Annual Distribution by Countries of the Quantities of the Export Trade in **Citronella Oil** (shown as Percentages of the Total Annual Exports thereof) :—

Country.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.
United Kingdom	20·1	23·8	34·7	38·0	23·0	29·6	20·9	27·2	25·9
British Possessions :—									
Australia	8·0	6·8	3·7	4·6	6·7	5·0	4·4	5·8	6·2
British India	4·7	2·3	1·4	2·3	3·9	2·5	4·0	3·7	2·7
Canada	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·0	—	—
Foreign Countries :—									
*Argentine Republic	—	—	—	—	—	—	2·3	1·1	1·8
China	5·6	—	—	—	3·0	2·6	2·8	2·0	1·1
France	—	—	4·2	5·1	3·5	3·1	2·0	1·4	2·4
Germany	4·7	2·1	1·5	4·4	8·2	9·0	10·2	13·2	11·5
Holland	—	1·1	1·1	—	2·3	3·2	3·5	4·4	5·0
Italy	—	—	—	1·9	1·2	1·7	—	1·5	2·7
Japan	5·0	—	—	1·4	—	—	—	—	—
Poland	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·2
United States of America	50·3	58·7	50·5	39·9	44·8	40·2	44·1	35·5	35·1
Others (each generally less than 1 per cent.)	1·6	5·3	2·8	2·3	3·5	3·1	4·6	4·2	—

* According to the new classification of countries from January 1, 1926.

TABLE No. 43.—Quantity and Value of the Exports of **Tobacco** (Ceylon Produce) :—

Year.	Manufactured. Cigars. lb.	Manufactured. Other lb.	Unmanufactured. Tobacco. lb.	Total Value. Rs.
1920	11,366	1,234	3,590,474	793,272
1921	5,640	434	2,411,419	614,129
1922	8,027	54	4,334,595	971,746
1923	16,782	—	2,951,094	735,186
1924	12,894	10	4,158,880	985,656
1925	13,624	—	2,851,568	699,201
1926	13,762	—	1,972,754	456,717
1927	7,853	1,482,977	1,553,634	677,441
1928	6,490	—	1,643,441	395,878
1929	8,469	—	3,193,567	631 485

TABLE No. 44.—Quantity and Value of the Exports of **Cardamoms** (Ceylon Produce) :—

(See Diagram No. 14.)

Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.	Year	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1920	3,754	493,438	1925	3,299	1,148,831
1921	4,512	516,530	1926	2,845	841,961
1922	4,096	549,669	1927	3,176	850,224
1923	2,784	563,557	1928	3,337	790,341
1924	2,665	696,927	1929	2,819	647,078

TABLE No. 45.—Annual Distribution by Countries of the Quantities of the Export Trade in **Cardamoms** (shown as Percentages of the Total Annual Exports thereof) :—

Country.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928	1929.
United Kingdom	23·8	22·8	38·6	55·8	50·0	45·2	33·3	31·0	24·2
British Possessions :—									
Aden	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·4	1·0	—
Anglo-Egyptian Soudan	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·1
British India	31·8	45·3	16·0	7·5	6·8	—	—	3·9	1·6
Burma	—	1·2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Straits Settlements	—	—	1·4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Foreign Countries :—									
Belgium	—	—	—	—	—	—	2·3	—	—
Denmark	—	—	—	—	2·0	3·9	6·1	7·6	6·1
Egypt	7·0	7·0	13·3	7·0	4·9	9·8	5·8	3·6	5·5
*Finland	—	—	—	—	—	1·5	6·2	1·6	2·9
France	1·2	—	2·2	—	—	1·3	—	—	—
Germany	1·4	—	1·8	6·5	8·5	8·6	17·3	17·7	17·7
Holland	—	—	—	—	1·3	—	3·2	1·6	—
Japan	5·5	3·1	6·4	2·8	4·4	2·9	4·4	3·3	7·6
Norway	—	—	1·8	3·5	1·3	6·4	3·7	2·6	6·0
Sweden	—	—	1·4	—	1·8	2·8	5·4	5·5	9·4
*Syria	—	—	—	—	—	2·4	1·2	1·0	1·2
Turkey in Asia	—	2·2	3·7	—	—	—	—	—	—
United States of America	26·0	15·2	12·1	13·3	15·0	12·1	5·9	16·8	13·0
Others (each generally less than 1 per cent.)	3·4	3·4	1·3	3·6	4·0	3·0	3·8	2·8	2·8

* According to the new classification of countries from January 1, 1926.

TABLE No. 46.—Quantity and Value of the Exports of **Arecanuts** (Ceylon Produce) :—

Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.	Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1920	124,048	2,923,822	1925	154,291	4,046,244
1921	131,045	3,303,073	1926	165,475	4,247,825
1922	133,531	3,331,148	1927	118,278	3,001,268
1923	160,578	3,544,212	1928	123,338	3,247,198
1924	130,904	3,294,961	1929	144,169	2,699,085

TABLE No. 47.—Quantity and Value of the Exports of **Plumbago** (Ceylon Produce) :—

(See Diagram No. 14.)

Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.	Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1920	184,100	2,100,114	1925	308,523	2,983,389
1921	86,996	757,947	1926	232,453	2,616,994
1922	216,999	1,631,087	1927	257,686	2,525,700
1923	213,383	1,548,877	1928	286,931	2,704,359
1924	193,017	1,329,125	1929	254,776	2,729,639

TABLE No. 48.—Annual Distribution by Countries of the Quantities of the Export Trade in **Plumbago** (shown as Percentages of the Total Annual Exports thereof) :—

Country.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.
United Kingdom	7·6	9·7	11·0	14·6	16·6	25·1	10·2	10·6	12·3
British Possessions :—									
Australia	9·3	3·5	5·2	4·3	3·2	4·5	4·4	3·3	3·2
British India	4·2	2·4	3·1	2·8	1·4	2·2	3·6	3·0	2·9
Foreign Countries :—									
Belgium	—	—	—	—	1·1	1·7	1·9	1·2	1·2
Denmark	—	—	—	—	1·6	—	—	—	—
France	—	—	—	4·1	3·6	3·8	6·3	1·7	1·0
Germany	16·6	8·8	9·5	25·5	28·1	15·1	24·0	18·9	14·1
Italy	—	8·7	—	1·1	—	—	4·5	4·6	2·6
Japan	10·9	—	8·5	10·0	5·0	7·7	6·4	6·7	9·3
United States of America	49·5	64·6	61·5	35·1	38·0	38·8	37·2	48·4	52·8
Others (each generally less than 1 per cen	2·0	2·2	1·3	2·5	1·5	1·2	1·3	1·6	·6

TABLE No. 49.—Quantity and Value of the Exports of **Mica** (Ceylon Produce) :—

Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.	Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1920	296	36,523	1925	22	5,110
1921	92	15,103	1926	—	—
1922	20	4,050	1927	—	—
1923	17	2,630	1928	—	—
1924	—	—	1929	12	60

TABLE No. 50.—Quantity and Value of the Imports of **Rice** from Burma, India (excluding Burma), and other Countries :—

Year	Total.		Burma.		British India (excluding Burma).		Other Countries.	
	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1920	5788730	91667375	5537875	90032897	250226	1628216	629	6262
1921	5859957	69598165	4561527	52962233	946408	12303156	352022	4332776
1922	7209157	89337183	5568218	68223473	1472137	19179669	168802	1934041
1923	7423833	83424898	4567744	52188899	2806311	30687688	49778	548311
1924	7519186	76749249	3397864	39169728	4081851	37145810	39471	433711
1925	8321381	94082942	6351534	75124917	1909880	18310651	59967	647374
1926	8794947	98061620	5922919	70211510	2457392	23661758	414636	4188352
1927	9087264	102851651	6379440	76020598	1899281	18992810	808543	7838243
1928	9244691	103150832	6099281	72057192	1947198	19471989	1198212	11621651
1929	9380556	99453563	6321497	72081223	2303715	20195110	755344	7177230

TABLE No. 51.—Quantity and Value of the Imports of **Paddy** from Burma, India (excluding Burma), and other Countries :—

Year.	Total.		Burma.		British India (excluding Burma).		Other Countries.	
	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1920	437072	1584672	425765	1547926	11307	36746	—	—
1921	906935	3172512	890488	3112036	16447	60476	—	—
1922	629996	2818846	590434	2581446	39560	237363	2	37
1923	723973	3661770	583564	2821430	140409	840340	—	—
1924	505672	2655147	415831	2208220	89841	446927	—	—
1925	536328	2528445	482857	2305595	53471	222850	—	—
1926	650964	3305624	600331	3060149	50633	245475	—	—
1927	481642	2228121	410116	1860487	71526	367634	—	—
1928	802428	4204947	630669	3231173	122771	679917	48988	293857
1929	710882	4082108	584204	3323291	125263	751638	1415	7179

TABLE No. 52.—Quantity of **Salt** produced in Ceylon :—

Year.	Grand Total. Cwt.	Jaffna District. Total. Cwt.	Jaffna District. Elephant Pass. Cwt.	Jaffna District. Other. Cwt.	Year.	Grand Total. Cwt.	Jaffna District. Total. Cwt.	Jaffna District. Elephant Pass. Cwt.	Jaffna District. Other. Cwt.
1920	331,486	99,871	—	99,871	1925	412,731	188,197	181,556	6,641
1921	311,675	38,440	1,188	37,252	1926	331,179	186,023	151,203	34,820
1922	921,966	92,220	30,000	62,220	1927	513,366	232,908	188,984	43,924
1923	579,533	158,620	112,100	46,520	1928	871,513	379,365	309,867	69,498
1924	191,019	173,897	144,375	29,522	1929	501,593	249,729	200,344	49,385

TABLE No. 52.—Quantity of **Salt** produced in Ceylon—*contd.* :—

Year.	Puttalam District. Total. Cwt.	Puttalam District. Palavi. Cwt.	Puttalam District. Other. Cwt.	Mannar. Cwt.	Mullaittivu. Cwt.	Trincomalee. Cwt.	Hambantota. Cwt.
1920	—	—	—	—	1,100	64,271	166,244
1921	118,876	20,010	98,866	—	—	18,024	136,335
1922	470,302	51,000	419,302	—	4,446	74,618	280,380
1923	277,548	40,450	237,098	—	—	79,476	63,889
1924	17,122	2,742	14,380	—	—	—	—
1925	65,385	35,322	30,063	—	—	65,067	94,082
1926	43,664	4,680	38,984	4,282	—	—	97,210
1927	67,100	35,350	31,750	4,293	—	57,847	151,218
1928	186,405	89,136	97,269	8,111	—	58,615	239,017
1929	22,430	9,097	13,333	—	—	11,637	217,797

TABLE No. 53.—Value of the Imports of **Fish Goods** into Ceylon :—

Year.	Total. Rs.	Fish Cured or Salted. Rs.	Fish Frozen. Rs.	Fish Maldive. Rs.	Fish Manure. Guano. Rs.	Fish Manure. Other. Rs.	Fish Oil. Rs.	Fish Tinned. Rs.
1920	8047862	1973379	—	2535189	1967961	1338411	2775	230147
1921	7767837	4168708	9072	2889440	230279	370738	2105	97495
1922	8423671	3904548	11877	3711457	1061245	599515	3147	131882
1923	10570619	3863476	34721	4197278	1476107	799039	2895	197103
1924	10166955	3756124	39990	4253251	1301252	677226	1955	137157
1925	9981365	3488487	47747	4559810	1216708	413560	5610	249443
1926	11148400	3731522	60137	5038176	1417363	596253	4303	300646
1927	11573297	3946406	64461	4865475	1528224	692632	10797	465302
1928	12029076	4298190	62211	5057778	1492348	824577	7594	286378
1929	12777467	3733723	96102	6535198	1405325	671304	2722	333093

TABLE No. 53*a*.—Quantity and Value of the Exports of **Papaine** (Ceylon Produce) :—

Year.	Quantity. lb.	Value. Rs.	Year.	Quantity. lb.	Value. Rs.
1920	30,352	89,715	1925	60,995	434,458
1921	35,392	182,878	1926	73,624	621,384
1922	57,530	323,343	1927	83,416	670,974
1923	38,252	220,901	1928	125,684	922,529
1924	51,235	317,893	1929	128,463	642,318

TABLE No. 54.—Rates of Freight to the United Kingdom, 1925–1929 :—

Article.		January, 1925.		April, 1925.		July, 1925.		October, 1925.		January, 1926.		April, 1926.		July, 1926.		October, 1926.		January, 1927.		April, 1927.	
		s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Arecanuts, cacao, cardamoms	per ton	55	0	55	0	55	0	55	0	55	0	55	0	55	0	55	0	55	0	55	0
Cinnamon	do.	52	6	52	6	52	6	52	6	52	6	52	6	52	6	52	6	52	6	52	6
Citronella oil	do.	75	0	75	0	75	0	75	0	75	0	75	0	75	0	75	0	75	0	75	0
Coconut, desiccated	do.	50	0	50	0	50	0	50	0	50	0	50	0	45	0	45	0	45	0	45	0
Coconut, unhusked, loose	do.	30	0	40	0	40	0	40	0	40	0	40	0	40	0	40	0	40	0	40	0
Coconut, unhusked, in bags	do.	50	0	50	0	50	0	50	0	50	0	50	0	50	0	50	0	50	0	50	0
Coconut oil, in casks and steel cylinder packages	do.	47	6	52	6	47	6	47	6	47	6	47	6	37	6	37	6	37	6	37	6
Coir, in pressed bales	do.	50	0	50	0	50	0	50	0	50	0	50	0	50	0	50	0	50	0	50	0
Coir, in loose ballots	do.	30	0	30	0	30	0	30	0	30	0	30	0	30	0	30	0	30	0	30	0
Copra, cut, in bags	do.	45	0	45	0	45	0	45	0	45	0	45	0	37	6	37	6	37	6	37	6
Copra, uncut, in bags	do.	45	0	45	0	45	0	45	0	45	0	45	0	37	6	37	6	37	6	37	6
Plumbago	do.	40	0	40	0	40	0	40	0	40	0	40	0	40	0	40	0	40	0	40	0
Rubber	do.	62	6	62	6	72	6	77	6	77	6	77	6	77	6	77	6	70 to 77	0 6	70	0
Tea, in cases	do.	52	6	52	6	57	6	57	6	7		57	6	57	6	57	6	57	6	57	6
Tea sweepings	do.	52	6	52	6	57	6	57	6	57	6	57	6	57	6	57	6	57	6	57	6

Article.		July, 1927.		October, 1927.		January, 1928.		April, 1928.		July, 1928.		October, 1928.		January, 1929.		April, 1929.		July, 1929.		October, 1929.	
		s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Arecanuts, cacao, cardamoms	per ton	55	0	55	0	55	0	55	0	55	0	55	0	55	0	55	0	55	0	55	0
Cinnamon	do.	52	6	52	6	52	6	52	6	52	6	52	6	52	6	52	6	52	6	52	6
Citronella oil	do.	75	0	75	0	75	0	75	0	75	0	75	0	75	0	75	0	75	0	75	0
Coconut, desiccated	do.	45	0	45	0	45	0	45	0	45	0	45	0	45	0	45	0	45	0	45	0
Coconut, unhusked, loose	do.	40	0	40	0	40	0	40	0	40	0	40	0	40	0	40	0	40	0	40	0
Coconut, unhusked, in bags	do.	50	0	50	0	50	0	50	0	50	0	50	0	50	0	50	0	50	0	50	0
Coconut oil, in casks and steel cylinder packages	do.	37	6	37	6	40	0	40	0	40	0	40	0	40	0	40	0	40	0	40	0
Coir, in pressed bales	do.	50	0	50	0	50	0	50	0	50	0	50	0	50	0	50	0	50	0	50	0
Coir, in loose ballots	do.	30	0	30	0	30	0	30	0	30	0	30	0	30	0	30	0	30	0	30	0
Copra, cut, in bags	do.	37	6	37	6	40	0	40	0	40	0	40	0	40	0	35	0	35	0	35	0
Copra, uncut, in bags	do.	37	6	37	6	40	0	40	0	40	0	40	0	40	0	35	0	35	0	35	0
Plumbago	do.	40	0	40	0	40	0	40	0	40	0	40	0	40	0	40	0	40	0	40	0
Rubber	do.	70	0	70	0	70	0	70	0	65	0	65	0	65	0	65	0	65	0	65	0
Tea, in cases	do.	57	6	57	6	57	6	57	6	57	6	57	6	57	6	57	6	57	6	57	6
Tea sweepings	do.	57	6	57	6	57	6	57	6	57	6	57	6	57	6	57	6	57	6	57	6

TABLE No. 55.—Rates of Freight on all Articles to Countries other than the United Kingdom, 1925-1929 :—

Country.	January, 1925.		April, 1925.		July, 1925.		October, 1925.		January, 1926.		April, 1926.		July, 1926.		October, 1926.		January, 1927.		April, 1927.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Antwerp, Amsterdam, Rotterdam, Hamburg, Bremen .. .. per ton	23 to 45	6 0	23 to 46	6 8	23 to 60	6 0	23 to 65	6 0	23 to 65	6 0	23 to 65	6 0	23 to 65	6 0	23 to 65	6 0	23 to 65	6 0	27 to 70	6 0
Beira, Delagoa Bay, and Durban* .. .. do.	62	0	62	0	62	0	62	0	62	0	62	0	62	0	62	0	62	0	62	0
Christiania and South Swedish Ports† .. do.	23 to 50	6 0	23 to 50	0 0	23 to 65	6 0	23 to 70	6 0	23 to 70	6 0	23 to 70	6 0	23 to 70	6 0	23 to 70	6 0	23 to 70	6 0	—	—
East London and Port Elizabeth .. do.	70	2	70	2	70	2	70	2	70	2	70	2	70	2	70	2	70	2	70	2
Fremantle, Adelaide, Melbourne, Sydney, and Brisbane .. do.	Rs. 40 to 60	c. 0 0	Rs. 40 to 60	c. 0 0	Rs. 40 to 60	c. 0 0	Rs. 40 to 60	c. 0 0	Rs. 40 to 60	c. 0 0	Rs. 40 to 60	c. 0 0	Rs. 40 to 60	c. 0 0	Rs. 40 to 60	c. 0 0	Rs. 40 to 60	c. 0 0	Rs. 40 to 60	c. 0 0
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Italian Ports .. do.	23 to 45	6 0	23 to 45	6 0	23 to 60	6 0	23 to 65	6 0	23 to 65	6 0	23 to 65	6 0	23 to 65	6 0	23 to 65	6 0	23 to 65	6 0	27 to 70	6
Marseilles .. .. do.	23 to 45	6 0	23 to 45	6 0	23 to 60	6 0	23 to 65	6 0	23 to 65	6 0	23 to 65	6 0	23 to 65	6 0	23 to 65	6 0	23 to 65	0 0	27 to 70	6 0
Mossel Bay, Cape Town do.	72	10	72	10	72	10	72	10	72	10	72	10	72	10	72	10	72	10	72	10
New York, Boston, Philadelphia (direct) do.	40	0	40	0	45	0	50	0	50	0	50	0	50	0	50	0	60	0	50 to 60	0 0

*Cargo to Beira and Delagoa Bay are subject to the landing charges of 9s. per ton of 50 cubic feet on Beira cargo, and 3s. per ton of 50 cubic feet on Delagoa Bay cargo.

† Read "Oslo and South Swedish Ports" from October, 1925.

TABLE No. 55.—Rates of Freight on all Articles to Countries other than the United Kingdom, 1925-1929—*contd.* :—

Country.	July, 1927.		October, 1927.		January, 1928.		April, 1928.		July, 1928.		October, 1928.		January, 1929		April, 1929.		July, 1929.		October, 1929	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Antwerp Amsterdam, Rotterdam, Hamburg, and Bremen..per ton	27 to 70	6 0	27 to 70	6 0	27 to 75	6 0	27 to 75	6 0	27 to 75	6 0	27 to 75	6 0	30 to 75	0 0	30 to 75	0 0	30 to 75	0 0	30 to 75	0 0
Beira, Delagoa Bay, and Durban* .. do.	62	0	62	0	62	0	62	0	62	0	62	0	62	0	62	0	62	0	62	0
Christiania and South Swedish Ports† .. do.	— —	— —	— —	— —	27 to 75	6 0	27 to 75	6 0	27 to 75	6 0	27 to 75	6 0	30 to 75	0 0	30 to 75	0 0	30 to 75	0 0	30 to 75	0 0
East London and Port Elizabeth .. do.	70	2	70	2	70	2	70	2	70	2	70	2	70	2	70	2	70	2	70	2
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Fremantle, Adelaide, Melbourne, Sydney, and Brisbane .. do.	40 to 60	0 0	40 to 60	0 0	30 to 60	0 0	30 to 60	0 0	30 to 60	0 0	30 to 60	0 0	30 to 60	0 0	30 to 60	0 0	30 to 60	0 0	30 to 60	0 0
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Italian Ports .. do.	27 to 70	6 0	27 to 70	6 0	27 to 75	6 0	27 to 75	6 0	27 to 75	6 0	27 to 75	6 0	30 to 75	0 0	30 to 75	0 0	30 to 75	0 0	30 to 75	0 0
Marseilles .. do.	27 to 70	6 0	27 to 70	6 0	27 to 75	6 0	27 to 75	6 0	27 to 75	6 0	27 to 75	6 0	30 to 75	0 0	30 to 75	0 0	30 to 75	0 0	30 to 75	0 0
Mossel Bay, Cape Town do.	72	10	72	10	72	10	72	10	72	10	70	10	72	10	72	10	72	10	72	10
New York, Boston, Philadelphia (direct)‡ do	50 to 60	0 0	50 to 60	0 0	50 to 60	0 0	By arrangement		25 to 60	0 0	25 to 60	0 0	25 to 60	0 0	25 to 60	0 0	25 to 60	0 0	25 to 60	0 0

* Cargo to Beira and Delagoa Bay are subject to the landing charges of 9s. per ton of 50 cubic feet on Beira cargo, and 3s. per ton of 50 cubic feet on Delagoa Bay cargo.
† Read "Oslo and South Swedish Ports" from October, 1925.
‡ And Baltimore from January, 1928.

[Table No. 56 is included under Railways at page 56.]

TABLE No. 57.—Quantities and Value* of Principal Articles (including Bullion and Specie) **Imported** :—

Principal Articles.		1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.
Total value of all articles imported (including bullion and specie) ..	£	**11,849,412**	**16,181,343**	**24,061,812**	**17,470,381**	**18,782,713**	**19,471,319**	**20,821,898**	**24,025,354**	**27,191,141**	**28,035,198**	**27,474,643**	**28,619,688**
Apparel (made up)	£	95,632	78,413	204,021	93,781	122,985	136,077	167,316	194,061	230,120	217,186	229,599	254,358
Beer, ale, and other malt liquors ..	gals.	68,019	52,167	116,779	70,821	102,856	95,417	133,291	141,110	211,567	223,775	335,565	362,531
	£	20,432	14,861	30,911	24,716	30,122	23,462	27,531	28,481	41,359	42,737	57,769	64,193
Casks, shooks, and staves ..	£	87,672	66,448	25,789	20,943	18,825	5,755	6,423	3,435	1,974	162	89	76
Coal and coke†	tons	273,955	736,122	809,141	715,714	582,344	545,813	675,586	672,831	664,654	743,458	646,023	813,654
	£	857,296	2,328,976	2,049,408	2,023,996	1,483,800	1,128,122	1,271,799	1,176,739	1,091,376	1,266,964	957,261	1,180,205
Cotton twist and yarn	£	16,656	18,455	22,761	13,623	20,424	13,389	8,691	9,606	6,447	5,360	3,836	7,151
Cotton manufactures :—													
Lace and net	£	10,698	6,045	28,461	6,460	11,491	11,245	11,602	11,232	13,850	11,789	14,948	16,909
Piece goods :—													
Bleached	£	295,185	219,706	512,411	345,929	373,279	449,370	374,647	553,580	379,228	401,345	384,439	407,507
Dyed	£	472,899	608,010	910,968	823,392	592,413	753,915	819,034	818,514	926,102	790,104	649,129	740,683
Gray	£	82,112	64,325	84,164	114,548	110,360	143,980	112,298	127,139	122,643	67,930	66,552	70,859
Muslin	£	2,133	1,594	5,238	6,480	5,163	4,687	1,116	689	1,381	801	301	173
Printed	£	100,802	140,952	243,405	187,255	176,735	187,750	199,879	251,979	347,887	424,939	275,392	309,812
Other	£	98,491	113,509	287,058	121,905	68,659	37,356	38,650	44,274	50,899	42,147	28,269	27,680
Thread	£	55,012	18,218	54,248	41,514	59,261	48,681	57,515	52,169	54,518	54,791	51,067	55,422
Cutlery and hardware	£	87,384	195,736	321,613	240,562	15,360	21,488	38,820	40,340	42,218	27,928	27,947	36,132
Curry stuffs	cwt.	201,223	197,847	217,556	244,254	228,665	253,665	251,198	279,953	316,939	335,572	365,069	325,174
	£	139,373	145,371	183,556	268,724	250,332	388,133	364,583	433,713	482,218	506,831	467,864	387,041
Fish, cured and salted	cwt.	243,505	214,411	245,448	296,244	264,372	284,050	301,398	339,454	355,737	389,757	426,264	372,188
	£	131,437	114,757	131,559	277,914	260,303	257,565	250,408	232,566	248,768	267,805	286,546	248,915
Grain and pulse :—													
Paddy	cwt.	542,762	751,500	437,072	906,935	629,996	723,973	505,672	536,328	650,964	481,642	802,428	710,882
	£	118,707	165,533	105,645	211,501	187,923	244,118	177,010	168,563	220,377	148,541	280,330	272,141
Rice	cwt.	6,472,152	5,342,575	5,788,730	5,859,957	7,209,157	7,423,833	7,519,186	8,321,381	8,794,947	9,087,264	9,244,691	9,380,556
	£	3,520,296	4,421,696	6,111,158	4,639,878	5,955,812	5,561,660	5,116,617	6,272,196	6,537,441	6,856,777	6,876,722	6,630,238
Other, including flour	£	187,482	734,507	936,845	382,584	486,725	485,596	491,982	588,331	603,539	680,690	671,019	677,064
Haberdashery	£	165,128	183,648	200,971	158,107	149,184	83,287	102,418	92,174	135,911	118,055	118,419	124,501
Iron, galvanized :—													
Barbed wire	tons	240	74	512	175	656	932	1,527	1,991	4,050	3,488	3,032	2,575
	£	10,001	2,593	17,720	4,993	15,430	19,444	28,681	32,877	62,525	53,631	44,570	39,821
Other kinds	tons	175	1,665	5,656	648	2,668	5,929	8,301	9,711	13,546	13,961	9,833	11,530
	£	11,051	62,132	234,170	34,878	56,620	129,719	164,233	172,686	241,792	230,024	146,147	172,700
Live stock :—													
Horned cattle	No.	5,218	9,831	12,155	15,884	12,758	8,841	7,731	7,618	10,513	12,214	8,106	2,584
	£	7,300	14,714	24,790	34,561	32,187	18,897	16,365	16,630	22,789	27,857	16,940	9,102
Sheep and goats	No.	66,225	68,157	57,675	56,940	58,951	62,857	71,421	85,528	110,951	117,830	121,303	122,172
	£	44,150	45,438	38,450	37,971	39,301	41,904	47,614	57,019	73,967	78,553	80,868	148,313
Machinery and mill work (including sewing machines)	£	78,059	169,389	348,151	363,438	320,433	285,640	342,019	413,862	500,016	516,625	551,061	540,774
Manures (including poonac used as manure)	£	435,818	674,965	876,126	150,540	562,359	615,092	654,905	849,619	1,066,263	1,095,820	993,273	1,011,258

* Rate of conversion = Rs. 15 to the £ sterling.

† Including "bunker coal" and patent fuel in all years.

TABLE No. 57.—Quantities and Value* of Principal Articles (including Bullion and Specie) **Imported**—*contd.*:—

Principal Articles.		1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.
Oil:—													
Kerosene	gals.	3,612,695	5,290,046	5,110,852	4,313,826	7,092,990	5,841,059	4,698,161	6,981,055	6,880,841	8,597,609	8,592,279	8,628,277
	£	167,913	270,580	289,586	251,381	430,231	353,982	283,666	419,949	405,260	511,390	537,959	509,809
Petroleum, crude ..	gals.	11,813,381	14,785,621	19,089,632	17,488,725	25,799,002	32,179,572	42,332,008	39,637,400	48,336,969	54,154,070	52,930,008	53,364,579
	£	191,934	419,727	372,167	384,248	497,830	598,437	771,602	688,086	797,028	947,273	931 407	849,141
Onions	cwt.	270,626	242,932	299,343	314,757	356,973	361,409	394,393	434,020	432,905	523,856	5,231,558	557,559
	£	54,123	48,968	59,950	146,840	166,583	180,658	210,443	202,141	259,446	297,326	209,575	223,079
Opium	lb.	7,200	6,000	9,560	12,264	7,210	3,600	—	5,400	4,200	4,200	3,720	3,240
	£	13,571	12,067	20,267	19,467	16,007	8,000	—	12,000	9,333	9,333	10,267	7,200
Poonac (excluding poonac used as manure)	cwt.	349,680	327,924	338,255	356,718	368,680	373,483	384,572	399,290	382,599	384,333	381,364	359,714
	£	93,248	87,180	90,292	160,733	172,117	248,116	205,178	186,401	202,750	230,665	228,851	191,804
Potatoes ..	cwt.	77,459	55,223	84,717	95,389	123,482	154,038	186,743	232,422	347,191	257,580	250,089	276,665
	£	25,858	18,727	48,033	78,616	98,153	100,164	115,449	131,524	201,511	161,424	164,084	189,768
Railway plant and materials ..	£	9,821	50,717	124,477	375,882	25,438	11,408	44,965	80,098	124,520	170,680	414,488	270,231
Seeds, plants, and roots ..	£	27,036	22,209	20,566	36,036	47,404	45,475	40,324	34,655	25,609	37,634	33,949	25,157
Silk and satin manufactures ..	£	43,539	73,932	83,626	71,785	120,278	98,407	140,070	193,579	220,231	198,320	224,525	246,342
Spirits:—													
Brandy	gals.	10,828	15,725	27,909	24,177	24,332	35,049	50,706	64,467	103,426	131,188	119,251	147,266
	£	12,026	17 455	25,485	31,612	24,289	25,512	30,384	32,726	44,164	55,669	68,728	89,768
Gin	gals.	10,062	15,258	47,797	31,005	52,790	72,310	99,218	120,349	156,505	179,443	118,150	105,620
	£	9,505	11,386	31,070	23,137	35,368	43,834	57,206	65,556	84,286	97,424	60,250	52,889
Whisky	gals.	59,945	34,777	86,002	67,065	68,788	71,328	68,899	79,446	93,914	76,534	103,680	93,415
	£	63,248	39,180	74,567	84,801	86,917	86,544	83,108	90,995	103,050	135,715	114,638	108,531
Sugar:—													
Raw and refined ..	cwt.	358,880	390,208	289,639	399,747								
	£	458,799	655,864	624,686	704,125	cwt. 571,073	553,191	691,294	836,094	991,512	1,099.173	1,232,687	1,290,028
Palm and jaggery ..	cwt.	56,209	59,470	83,286	51,217	£735,624	819,678	988,994	877,411	1,006,747	1,063,647	1,134,912	1,051,219
	£	18,737	18,272	27,812	27,231								
Tea chest	£	108,361	149,509	184,145	122,659	163,828	238,047	277,191	280,610	393,081	311,240	373,039	418,993
Tea lead	tons	192	280	723	291	614	917	883	768	1,169	1,331	1,535	1,837
	£	10,951	10,037	27,331	11,667	25,940	39,603	41,735	37,840	56,199	55,818	59,965	62,504
Tobacco:—													
Cigars	lb.	33,990	11,820	12,198	9,485	8,990	7,326	7,272	7,075	7,474	7,106	6,817	5,853
	£	7,218	3,766	4,223	3,575	4,007	3,266	3,147	2,977	2,997	2,953	3,071	2,818
Cigarettes	lb.	338,921	144,971	416,259	319,456	341,165	307,763	420,229	415,082	571,139	505,569	574,277	571,185
	£	88,401	32,685	123,162	145,035	140,590	112,300	132,038	141,237	213,302	186,520	220,418	230,801
Other (except snuff) ..	lb.	20,280	13,751	39,448	35,739	53,305	58,109	61,079	64,963	82,973	115,261	206,168	302,387
	£	3,178	1,937	7,772	10,929	14,392	15,825	17,802	23,099	25,549	30,831	34,791	35,679
Umbrellas and parasols ..	£	20,235	17,854	43,749	27,985	24,991	49,981	62,415	43,170	76,748	62,582	51,246	55,154
Wine of all kinds	£	17,306	21,999	37,298	24,094	30,609	26,817	29,767	29,977	34,012	37,663	37,118	37,164
Wood and timber:—													
Teak	£	114,113	48,125	93,862	41,736	45,330	48,251	60,453	97,551	119,946	120,789	146,169	125,439
Woollen manufactures of all kinds..	£	28,745	22,574	76,667	37,973	45,561	63,525	73,250	76,328	99,036	76,595	89,686	85,414
Bullion and specie:—													
Bullion:—													
Gold	£	—	—	11,495	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Silver	£	—	—	—	4,141	10,448	12,330	24,104	28,320	32,415	37,106	28,007	32,399
Specie:—													
Gold	£	1,328	221,836	2,233,241	29,333	53,400	154,007	226,998	507,504	566,831	934,638	744,358	1,700,353
Silver	£	—	4,561	376,861	47,903	33,333	124,147	409,600	87,583	256,667	29,333	27,733	16,667

* Rate of conversion = Rs. 15 to the £ sterling.

TABLE No. 58.—Quantities and Value* of Principal Articles of Domestic and Other Produce (including Bullion and Specie) **Exported** :—

Principal Articles.		1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926	1927.	1928.	1929
Total value of all articles exported (including bullion and specie) ..	**£†**	**14,208,922**	**24,470,499**	**18,419,698**	**17,106,694**	**19,852,214**	**23,413,250**	**25,701,161**	**32,841,095**	**33,576,599**	**29,951,583**	**26,171,332**	**27,158,187**
Arecanuts	cwt.	214,780	150,488	124,048	131,045	133,531	160,578	130,904	154,291	165,475	118,278	123,338	144,169
	£	253,445	203,952	194,921	220,205	222,077	236,281	219,664	269,750	283,188	200,085	216,480	179,939
Cardamoms	cwt.	3,549	4,874	3,754	4,512	4,096	2,784	2,665	3,299	2,845	3,176	3,337	2,851
	£	20,314	60,591	32,896	34,435	36,645	37,570	46,462	76,589	56,131	56,682	52,689	43,182
Cinchona bark .	lb.	13,980	47,624	377,525	182,581	103,152	64,512	70,000	18,592	19,936	18,256	27,664	23,408
	£	61	206	1,636	2,609	3,043	2,044	1,917	539	457	487	532	842
Cinnamon	cwt.	37,390	68,758	35,121	45,364	42,974	44,984	47,482	42,356	43,112	42,414	45,722	48,217
	£	89,967	246,394	143,141	119,677	132,845	139,794	193,668	211,179	280,651	319,073	332,970	252,295
Coal, coke, and patent fuel† ..	tons	—	—	34	1	—	1	16	—	—	—	—	—
	£	1	9	95	5	2	3	27	1	—	—	—	—
Cacao	cwt.	73,528	58,884	56,397	62,247	83,211	60,904	69,351	68,788	64,751	80,798	73,618	82,680
	£	156,811	208,378	167,687	134,590	209,690	149,103	164,274	154,572	130,246	183,150	187,891	282,409
Coconuts, fresh ..	£	26,120	19,508	64,941	157,466	121,682	89,236	166,606	129,375	92,912	101,006	94,952	85,461
Coconuts desiccated ..	cwt.	203,366	675,060	518,735	870,515	768,215	818,793	871,341	794,161	754,367	872,833	786,703	690,469
	£	345,302	1,661,878	1,221,984	1,773,493	1,343,946	1,514,423	1,464,246	1,251,833	1,151,732	1,365,451	1,322,674	791,719
Coffee	cwt.	27	458	143	1,565	645	51	75	12	1,441	3,824	4,814	4,803
	£	103	1,756	280	3,066	1,264	246	330	91	4,499	9,831	14,543	16,022
Coir, and manufactures thereof	£	98,572	203,273	170,441	134,906	219,990	309,764	358,518	293,032	282,6[illegible]8	358,986	301,177	306,005
Copra	cwt.	1,272,321	1,759,525	1,357,870	1,367,431	1,686,589	1,015,465	1,769,189	2,274,453	2,419,398	1,982,154	1,976,656	2,042,488
	£	850,509	2,157,136	1,893,685	1,620,299	1,920,271	1,208,210	2,067,213	2,551,569	2,656,565	2,122,988	2,120,109	1,754,399
Kapok	lb.	169,958	390,660	301,743	461,652	741,328	729,904	702,240	444,192	677,040	371,840	394,464	967,232
	£	2,494	5,906	4,957	6,397	25,952	28,606	23,374	14,331	27,164	15,683	13,360	37,498
Oil :—													
Citronella	lb.	1,030,167	992,850	1,022,809	1,160,555	1,299,889	1,121,271	1,433,381	1,415,639	1,431,351	1,358,191	1,200,001	1,183,239
	£	58,337	59,750	76,102	72,921	109,216	142,019	196,086	150,631	118,288	84,316	69,773	81,763
Coconut	cwt.	527,481	675,999	507,527	484,724	554,626	480,543	552,633	616,917	570,463	673,162	779,112	878,523
	£	1,046,171	1,711,629	1,324,307	1,001,633	994,999	929,032	1,055,119	1,120,850	1,032,621	1,104,518	1,284,369	1,201,624
Plumbago	cwt.	304,340	133,428	184,100	86,996	216,999	213,383	193,017	308,523	232,453	257,686	286,931	254,776
	£	322,709	115,472	140,008	50,528	108,739	103,258	88,608	198,893	174,466	168,380	180,291	181,976
Poonac	cwt.	14,027	87,365	92,452	167,018	115,505	116,823	157,541	169,436	160,511	173,421	293,628	334,459
	£	3,208	34,518	39,077	61,968	51,093	40,711	63,216	75,939	58,045	82,918	135,658	141,304
Rubber	cwt.	454,774	948,132	831,851	820,970	979,517	799,442	799,969	991,316	1,272,421	1,214,561	1,247,476	1,735,338
	£	4,567,198	9,248,749	6,272,709	3,584,952	3,969,127	5,251,881	4,595,689	12,338,433	12,294,881	8,650,509	5,383,671	6,221,172
Skins of all kinds ..	cwt.	11,306	13,212	13,971	9,502	11,825	10,092	12,207	12,046	14,347	18,092	19,351	19,574
	£	1,216	71,862	70,925	44,140	54,416	51,637	50,158	53,687	91,245	117,835	92,206	127,242
Spirits: Arrack ..	gals.	18,796	27,589	36,059	30,885	22,297	13,088	7,585	5,203	4,750	4,095	2,600	3,832
	£	2,750	13,806	9,071	7,525	4,062	2,357	1,252	1,766	1,977	836	502	4,598
Tea	lb.	180,817,744	208,560,943	184,770,231	161,610,966	171,807,581	181,906,184	204,863,816	209,700,639	217,082,648	226,950,959	236,631,600	251,489,772
	£	5,545,077	7,766,809	5,385,436	7,513,846	9,735,763	12,376,822	14,326,215	13,307,289	14,204,253	14,246,125	13,415,669	13,674,280
Tobacco, unmanufactured ..	cwt.	42,293	15,530	32,058	21,531	38,702	26,403	37,133	25,460	17,614	13,872	14,674	28,514
	£	58,301	43,940	51,876	46,541	64,351	48,350	65,033	45,861	29,759	23,019	26,034	38,147
Wood and timber :— Timber ..	£	18,628	13,734	30,397	53,265	15,186	14,553	18,869	28,948	22,140	23,599	33,330	54,162
Bullion and specie :—													
Bullion :—													
Silver	£	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2,282	—	11	—
Specie :—													
Gold	£	—	180	522,219	—	—	—	—	309	—	81,140	85,000	1,082,507
Silver	£	120,567	—	—	—	2,000	10,900	9,333	8,167	25,767	21,400	181,500	27,741

* Rate of conversion = Rs. 15 to the £ sterling.
† The quantities and value of "bunker coal" shipped by steamers are not included in the figures given in the above table.

TABLE No. 59.—Total Value* of **Imports** (including Bullion and Specie) into Ceylon, distinguishing Principal Countries :—

Principal Countries of Production.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Total imports (including bullion and specie)	**12,343,081**	**11,849,112**	**16,181,317**	**24,061,812**	**17,470,381**	**18,782,713**	**19,477,319**	**20,821,898**	**24,025,354**	**27,191,141**	**28,075,198**	**27,474,643**	**28,619,688**
United Kingdom	2,175,272	1,908,964	2,259,381	5,164,066	4,363,218	4,138,245	4,223,749	4,629,904	5,650,510	6,342,286	6,351,750	6,202,259	6,031,338
Total British Oversea Dominions and Protectorates	8,304,680	8,124,317	10,263,968	13,427,168	10,361,020	11,321,635	11,512,299	11,573,931	13,484,824	14,229,333	14,677,994	13,514,922	14,683,073
Total Foreign Countries ..	1,863,129	1,815,831	3,658,854	5,470,578	2,746,140	3,322,835	3,741,271	4,618,061	4,890,020	6,619,521	7,045,448	7,757,462	7,905,276
British Oversea Dominions and Protectorates :—													
Commonwealth of Australia ..	93,773	87,393	278,537	421,107	428,552	393,167	718,820	492,604	512,459	532,669	540,128	796,837	2,053,336
Dominion of Canada ..	89	1,308	5,379	68,773	47,605	24,344	104,697	115,650	122,026	154,679	79,409	143,726	116,730
Dominion of New Zealand ..	7,500	4,310	4,138	3,876	5,997	1,304	969	91	1,060	627	1,441	3,067	8,550
Egypt	68,682	27,058	9,888	38,111	9,774			See under Foreign Countries					
Hong Kong	57,714	50,551	124,379	123,682	100,172	879	85,202	120,768	80,384	76,750	96,786	85,870	76,008
India (including Burma) ..	6,964,610	6,824,032	8,670,403	11,963,227	8,312,467	9,604,138	9,657,989	9,746,140	11,433,789	11,745,450	677,083	10,918,288	10,869,060
Maldive Islands	150,142	159,435	143,937	164,987	183,565	240,498	270,368	263,555	304,211	331,760	324,689	341,052	441,931
Mauritius	29	3	—	44	21	41,650	26,552	27,526	9,163	2,688	2,895	2,369	1
Other British Possessions in Africa†	97,826	513,913	412,696	155,123	776,228	602,673	378,331	518,343	512,632	614,421	1,029,283	693,016	794,121
Straits Settlements ..	862,080	454,226	608,408	483,001	470,474	292,366	244,288	269,382	488,882	731,759	904,210	516,604	306,457
Other British Oversea Dominions and Protectorates ..	2,235	2,088	5,303	5,237	26,165	24,616	25,083	19,872	20,217	38,529	22,070	14,094	16,880
Foreign Countries :—													
Austria	109	12	8	3,936	3,510	3,622	7,625	25,680	17,535	29,150	41,418	40,983	36,364
Hungary										3,653	1,167	372	55,628
Belgium	691	362	21,567	114,455	27,584	69,693	116,318	178,927	197,061	270,472	277,637	196,948	238,877
Borneo	296,003	142,840	400,253	354,480	257,022	429,592	518,165	586,511	481,084	339,389	792,723	448,075	215,556
China	12,384	10,850	82,353	109,421	53,324	33,977	48,181	42,629	40,023	59,909	72,108	106,572	121,502
Egypt	See under British Oversea Dominions and Protectorates.						9,433	16,620	10,725	26,064	44,116	55,887	63,936	99,372
France	44,098	51,247	106,328	183,873	129,400	145,613	111,226	127,345	175,104	305,841	333,476	328,148	318,741
French Possessions‡ ..	34,011	50,795	5,688	16,595	7,324	47,022	99,106	98,071	41,983	72,315	47,440	336,199	433,233
Germany	763	9	131	57,503	97,586	246,528	263,461	361,777	380,101	690,031	593,650	666,687	701,422
Holland	74,649	30,973	54,919	208,325	183,953	210,760	297,577	273,177	317,888	401,352	434,649	329,864	325,786
Italy	16,179	8,696	11,011	76,721	77,836	90,444	96,765	133,161	181,695	275,986	237,918	201,607	222,892
Japan	669,396	608,854	558,786	466,558	273,225	345,38	363,165	428,345	476,115	651,103	618,674	657,092	716,852
Java	159,023	159,537	457,927	437,304	528,565	501,155	631,012	782,072	738,534	892,333	963,189	1,130,569	917,565
Russia	11,613	5	35,515	23,378	16,149	9,844	120,379	215,779	254,841	7,107	6,626	3,241	865
Siam	43,399	22,992	627,645	53,806	79,110	93,865	16,481	21,624	67,072	96,616	102,972	296,327	121,756
Spain	2,529	2,600	8,248	10,290	5,086	8,721	6,806	13,142	10,651	17,898	15,319	18,048	18,745
Sweden	40,304	41,849	12,871	44,204	43,057	45,796	40,806	41,027	60,150	71,779	80,443	69,186	87,647
Switzerland	19,932	10,572	23,837	88,994	33,633	23,419	61,188	127,442	56,283	86,229	76,707	89,359	103,428
United States of America ..	372,001	376,734	758,319	2,853,003	477,381	446,295	430,943	612,020	630,564	853,362	979,067	1,047,255	902,766
Other Foreign Countries ..	156,045	296,904	493,448	367,732	452,399	561,676	495,447	538,583	737,272	1,461,159	1,314,381	1,726,990	2,266,339

* Rate of conversion = Rs. 15 to the £ sterling.
† British Possessions in Africa excluding Egypt and Mauritius from 1917 to 1921. British Possessions in Africa excluding Mauritius from 1922.
‡ The figures are inclusive of all foreign possessions in *India*, whether French or otherwise.

TABLE No. 60.—Total Value* of **Exports** of Domestic and Other Produce (including Bullion and Specie) from Ceylon, distinguishing Principal Countries :—

Principal Countries.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Total Exports (including Bullion and Specie)†	**20,462,997**	**14,208,922**	**24,470,499**	**18,419,698**	**17,106,694**	**19,852,214**	**23,413,250**	**25,701,161**	**32,841,095**	**33,576,599**	**29,951,583**	**26,171,332**	**27,158,187**
United Kingdom	8,098,340	6,068,422	10,309,435	8,244,031	7,906,480	9,184,671	10,913,694	11,488,152	12,572,811	13,888,261	12,467,170	10,231,954	10,784,034
Total British Oversea Dominions and Protectorates	3,853,331	4,789,440	3,578,588	2,753,588	2,802,120	2,961,356	3,502,276	4,217,027	4,301,586	4,277,784	4,653,152	5,034,330	5,691,707
Total Foreign Countries ..	8,511,325	3,351,058	10,582,475	7,422,077	6,398,095	7,706,187	8,997,281	9,995,982	15,966,698	15,410,555	12,831,261	10,905,049	10,682,446
British Oversea Dominions and Protectorates :—													
Commonwealth of Australia ..	1,000,503	1,239,768	658,135	622,825	806,477	824,709	856,044	1,233,215	1,290,259	1,349,335	1,493,636	1,348,270	1,512,281
Dominion of Canada ..	623,192	796,316	437,389	305,229	291,494	462,741	594,448	616,928	469,420	433,755	434,086	479,274	425,637
Dominion of New Zealand ..	222,120	94,699	85,160	201,329	241,507	337,100	455,459	428,528	472,225	576,140	556,084	579,753	574,512
Egypt	156,577	349,826	315,256	258,749	223,351			See under Foreign Countries.					
Hong Kong	49,778	23,566	9,998	11,179	9,114	15,760	19,651	21,258	18,369	23,278	33,402	23,849	19,771
India (including Burma) ..	1,372,253	1,796,269	1,682,090	999,576	748,345	631,776	718,107	812,570	925,101	720,435	976,096	1,354,340	2,042,873
Maldive Islands	23,895	21,584	17,622	20,929	15,013	26,480	36,948	34,574	43,355	56,782	50,943	49,897	73 816
Malta	114	20,741	1,849	1,830	137	539	4,608	5,662	7,510	14,848	10,578	12,290	14,133
Mauritius	5,251	10,192	4,190	11,587	11,399	22,595	17,294	25,254	24,348	26,056	30,654	21,093	22,330
Other British Possessions in Africa‡	181,598	228,038	212,514	160,540	265,858	401,575	509,573	553,546	497,756	627,833	658,945	603,807	580,796
Straits Settlements ..	88,282	84,645	120,113	132,338	164,147	195,672	130,715	114,208	120,221	138,989	158,568	124,869	145,981
Other British Oversea Dominions and Protectorates ..	129 768	123,796	34,272	27,477	25,278	42,418	159,429	371,284	433,024	310,332	250,162	436,889	279,577
Foreign Countries: –													
Austria	—	—	—	1,573	63	127	—	2,660	10,283	322	622	1,712	36
Hungary										160	3,361	71	276
Belgium	—	—	508,058	367,776	180,649	221,213	217,603	301,945	235,420	270,325	241,727	328,082	320,274
China	146,719	48,732	23,952	7,331	8,726	8,140	10,526	11,865	95,469	127,805	230,459	113,006	16,882
Denmark	74,387	—	391,177	292,360	354,367	308,254	260,504	691,070	765,693	516,000	411,878	312,683	161,184
Egypt	See under British Oversea Dominions & Protectorates.					287,489	489,702	470,649	657,305	455,675	476,546	634,986	567,575
France	511,241	276,430	545,413	296,762	98,876	141,176	237,382	237,336	266,341	298,717	251,938	271,431	262,279
French Possesssions§ ..	4,543	2,520	8,049	522,656	17,063	12,500	13,579	18,163	9,862	15,656	13,050	14,399	10,509
Germany	—	—	4,484	268,434	675,271	738,448	620,521	1,122,414	1,311,582	1,624,166	1,448,316	1,277,138	1,199,512
Holland	97,872	—	327,518	908,617	498,105	298,890	196,512	367,732	318,274	406,923	330,203	259,035	264,535
Italy	77,140	73,773	124,779	121,802	316,166	632,958	360,642	647,530	360,024	860,822	727,723	875,926	773,502
Japan	67,922	82,021	50,272	65,028	80,331	78,805	120,871	131,056	90,873	113,961	117,378	109,277	136,998
Russia	529,589	4,775	25,479	1	—	132	33	8,987	96,209	50,143	228,760	263,444	197,260
Spain	3,821	3,380	26,413	21,871	49,329	43,135	69,907	56,530	83,575	103,137	104,216	102,538	79,647
United States of America ..	6,814,455	2,575,907	8,204,102	4,131,550	3,750,110	4,444,396	5,532,011	4,991,187	10,224,151	9,552,860	7,173,050	4,981,518	5,240,671
Other Foreign Countries ..	183,636	283,520	342,779	416,316	369,039	490,524	867,488	936,858	941,636	1,014,072	1,072,034	1,358,802	1,451,305

* Rate of conversion = Rs. 15 to the £ sterling.
† Excluding the value of ships' stores and postal articles.
‡ British Possessions in Africa excluding Egypt and Mauritius from 1917 to 1921. British Possessions in Africa excluding Mauritius from 1922.
§ The figures are inclusive of all foreign possessions in *India*, whether French or otherwise.

TABLE No. 61.—Value * of the **Total Trade** of Ceylon, distinguishing Principal Countries :—

Principal Countries.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Total Trade	**32,806,078**	**26,058,034**	**40,651,812**	**42,481,510**	**34,577,075**	**38,634,928**	**42,890,569**	**46,523,059**	**56,866,450**	**60,767,740**	**58,026,781**	**53,645,975**	**55,777,876**
United Kingdom	10,273,612	7,977,386	12,568,824	13,408,097	12,269,698	13,322,916	15,137,443	16,118,056	18,223,321	20,230,546	18,818,926	16,434,213	16,815,373
Total British Oversea Dominions and Protectorates	12,158,011	12,913,757	13,841,656	16,180,756	13,163,138	14,282,992	15,014,575	15,790,962	17,786,410	18,507,116	19,331,146	18,549,251	20,374,781
Total Foreign Countries ..	10,374,454	5,166,889	14,241,329	12,892,655	9,144,239	11,029,020	12,738,550	14,614,042	20,856,719	22,030,078	19,876,709	18,662,510	18,587,722
British Oversea Dominions and Protectorates:—													
Commonwealth of Australia ..	1,094,276	1,327,161	936,672	1,043,932	1,235,028	1,217,867	1,674,864	1,725,819	1,802,717	1,882,004	2,033,764	2,145,107	3,565,618
Dominion of Canada ..	623,281	797,624	442,768	374,002	339,099	487,085	699,145	732,579	591,445	588,434	513,495	622,999	542,367
Dominion of New Zealand ..	229,620	99,009	89,298	205,205	247,504	338,404	456,428	428,619	473,285	576,767	557,525	582,[illegible]	583,062
Egypt	225,259	376,884	325,144	296,860	233,125			See under Foreign Countries.					
Hong Kong	107,492	74,117	134,377	134,861	109,286	112,639	104,852	142,027	98,753	100,028	130,188	109,718	95,779
India (including Burma) ..	8,336,863	8,620,801	10,352,493	12,962,803	9,060,812	10,235,914	10,376,096	10,558,710	12,358,891	12,465,885	12,653,179	12,272,628	12 911,933
Maldive Islands	174,037	181,019	161,559	185,916	198,758	266,978	307,317	298,129	347,566	388,542	375,633	390,949	515,748
Mauritius	5,280	10,195	4,190	11,631	11,419	64,245	43,847	52,780	33,511	28,744	33,549	23,462	22,331
Other British Possessions in Africa†	279,424	741,251	625,210	315,663	1,042,086	1,004,248	887,904	1,071,890	1,010,388	1,242,254	1,688,228	1,296,823	1,374,917
Straits Settlements.. ..	950,362	538,871	728,521	615,339	634,622	488,039	375,002	383,590	609,103	870,749	1,062,778	641,472	452,437
Other British Oversea Dominions and Protectorates	132,117	146,625	41,424	34,544	51,579	67,578	189,120	396,819	460,751	363,709	282,809	463,273	310,590
Foreign Countries:—													
Austria	} 109	12	8	5,509	3,579	3,749	7,625	28,340	27,818	} 29,472	42,039	42,695	36,341
Hungary										3,813	4,528	443	55,904
Belgium	691	362	529,625	482,231	208,234	290,905	333,920	480,871	432,481	540,797	519,364	525 030	559,152
China	159,103	59,582	106,305	116,752	62,049	42,118	58,707	54,494	135,493	187,714	302,567	219,578	138,384
Egypt	See under British Oversea Dominions & Protectorates.					296,922	506,322	481,374	683,369	499,792	532,433	698,922	666,947
France	555,339	327,677	651,741	480,635	228,276	286,789	348,607	364,681	441,445	604,558	585,414	599,579	581,021
French Possessions‡ ..	38,554	53,315	13,737	539,251	24,386	59,521	112,684	116,258	51,844	87,971	60,490	350,598	443,742
Germany	763	9	4,615	325,937	772,857	984,976	883,982	1,484,191	1,691,683	2,314,197	2,041,966	1,943,825	1,900,934
Holland	172,521	30,973	382,437	1,116,942	682,059	509,650	494,089	640,909	636,163	808,274	764,853	588,899	590,322
Italy	93,319	82,469	135,790	198,523	394,001	723,402	457,408	780,691	1,041,719	1,136,308	965,640	1,077,532	996,394
Japan	737,318	690,875	609,058	531,586	353,557	424,185	484,036	559,402	566,987	765,064	736,052	766 370	853,850
Russia	541,202	4,780	60,994	23,379	16,149	9,976	120,412	224,765	351,050	57,250	235,386	266,686	198,125
Spain	6,350	5,980	34,661	32,161	54,415	51,856	76,713	69,673	94,226	121,035	119,535	120,586	98,391
United States of America ..	7,186,456	2,952,641	8,962,421	6,984,553	4,227,491	4,890,691	5,962 954	5,603,207	10,854,715	10,406,222	8,152,117	6,028 773	6,143,438
Other Foreign Countries ..	882,729	958,214	2,749,937	2,055,196	2,117,186	2,454,280	2,891,091	3,725,186	3,847,725	4,477,577	4,814,326	5,432 995	5,324,778

* Rate of conversion = Rs. 15 to the £ sterling.
† British Possessions in Africa excluding Egypt and Mauritius from 1917 to 1921. British Possessions in Africa excluding Mauritius from 1922.
‡ The figures are inclusive of all foreign possessions in *India*, whether French or otherwise.

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CEYLON

REPORT FOR 1930

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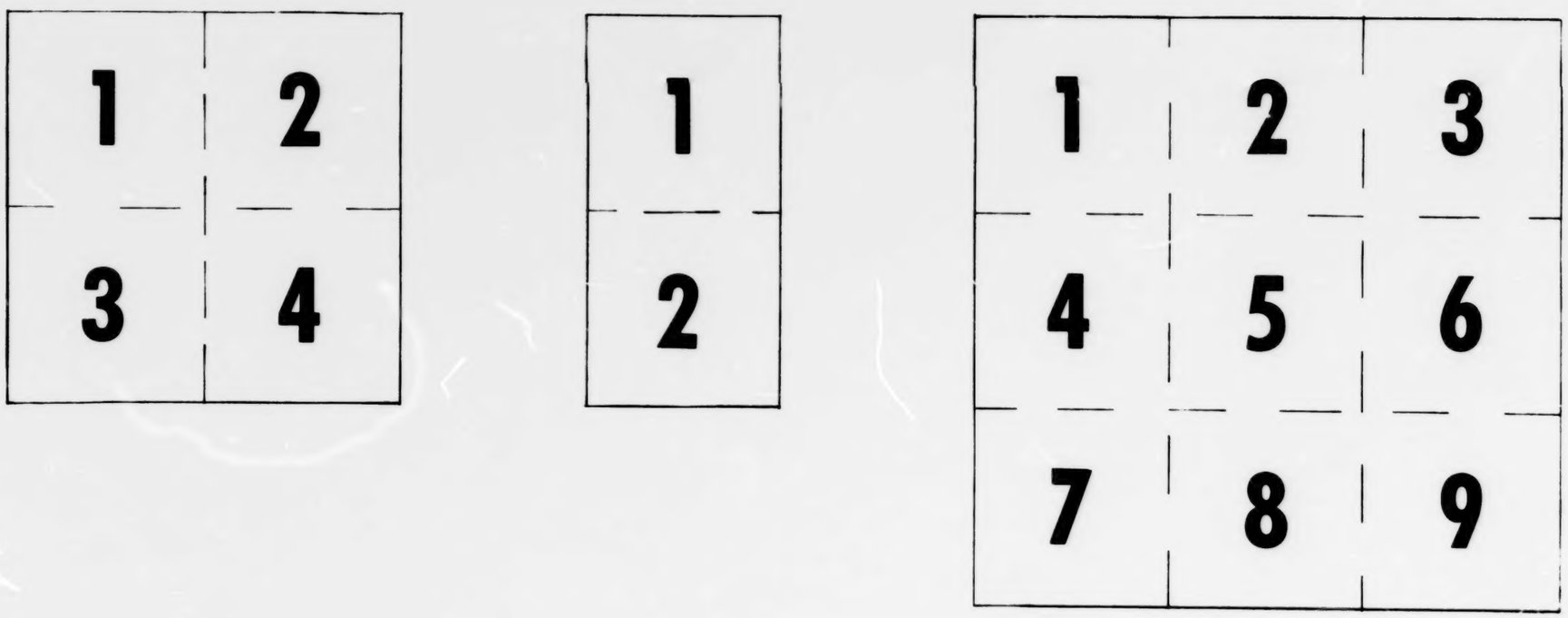

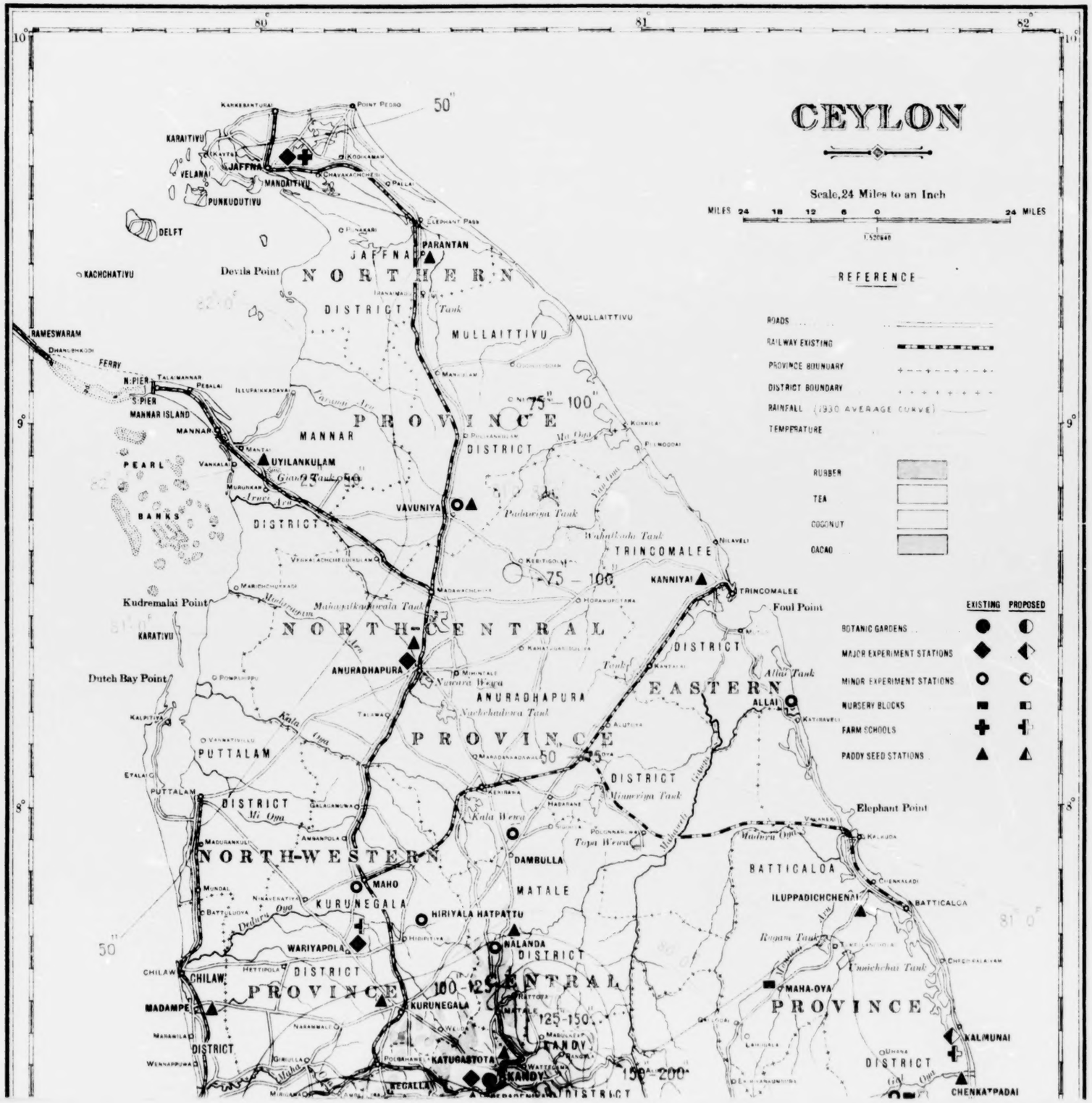
CEYLON
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RAILWAY EXISTING
PROVINCE BOUNDARY
DISTRICT BOUNDARY
RAINFALL (1930 AVERAGE CURVE)
TEMPERATURE
RUBBER
TEA
COCONUT
CACAO
EXISTING
PROPOSED
BOTANIC GARDENS
MAJOR EXPERIMENT STATIONS
MINOR EXPERIMENT STATIONS
NURSERY BLOCKS
FARM SCHOOLS
PADDY SEED STATIONS
NORTHERN PROVINCE
JAFFNA DISTRICT
MANNAR DISTRICT
MULLAITTIVU DISTRICT
NORTH-CENTRAL PROVINCE
ANURADHAPURA DISTRICT
EASTERN PROVINCE
TRINCOMALEE DISTRICT
BATTICALOA DISTRICT
NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCE
PUTTALAM DISTRICT
KURUNEGALA DISTRICT
CENTRAL PROVINCE
MATALE DISTRICT
NUWARA ELIYA DISTRICT
KANDY DISTRICT
MATARA DISTRICT
HAMBANTOTA DISTRICT
RATNAPURA DISTRICT
GALLE DISTRICT
COLOMBO DISTRICT
KALUTARA DISTRICT
PEARL BANKS
Devils Point
Kudremalai Point
Dutch Bay Point
Foul Point
Elephant Point
RAMESWARAM
KARAITIVU
VELANAI
PUNKUDUTIVU
DELFT
KACHCHATIVU
JAFFNA
PARANTAN
MANNAR ISLAND
MANNAR
UYILANKULAM
VAVUNIYA
TRINCOMALEE
KANNIYAI
ANURADHAPURA
ALLAI
DAMBULLA
MAHO
KURUNEGALA
HIRIYALA HATPATTU
NALANDA
WARIYAPOLA
CHILAW
MADAMPE
KATUGASTOTA
KANDY
MAHA-OYA
ILUPPADICHCHENAI
BATTICALOA
KALMUNAI
CHENKALADI
Mahaweliganga
Kala Oya
Deduru Oya
Malwatu Oya
Kala Weva
Topa Weva
Nuwara Weya
Nachchaduwa Tank
Mahawilkandawala Tank
Padaviya Tank
Wahalkada Tank
Allar Tank
Unichchai Tank
Rugam Tank
Giant Tank
Iruvi Aru
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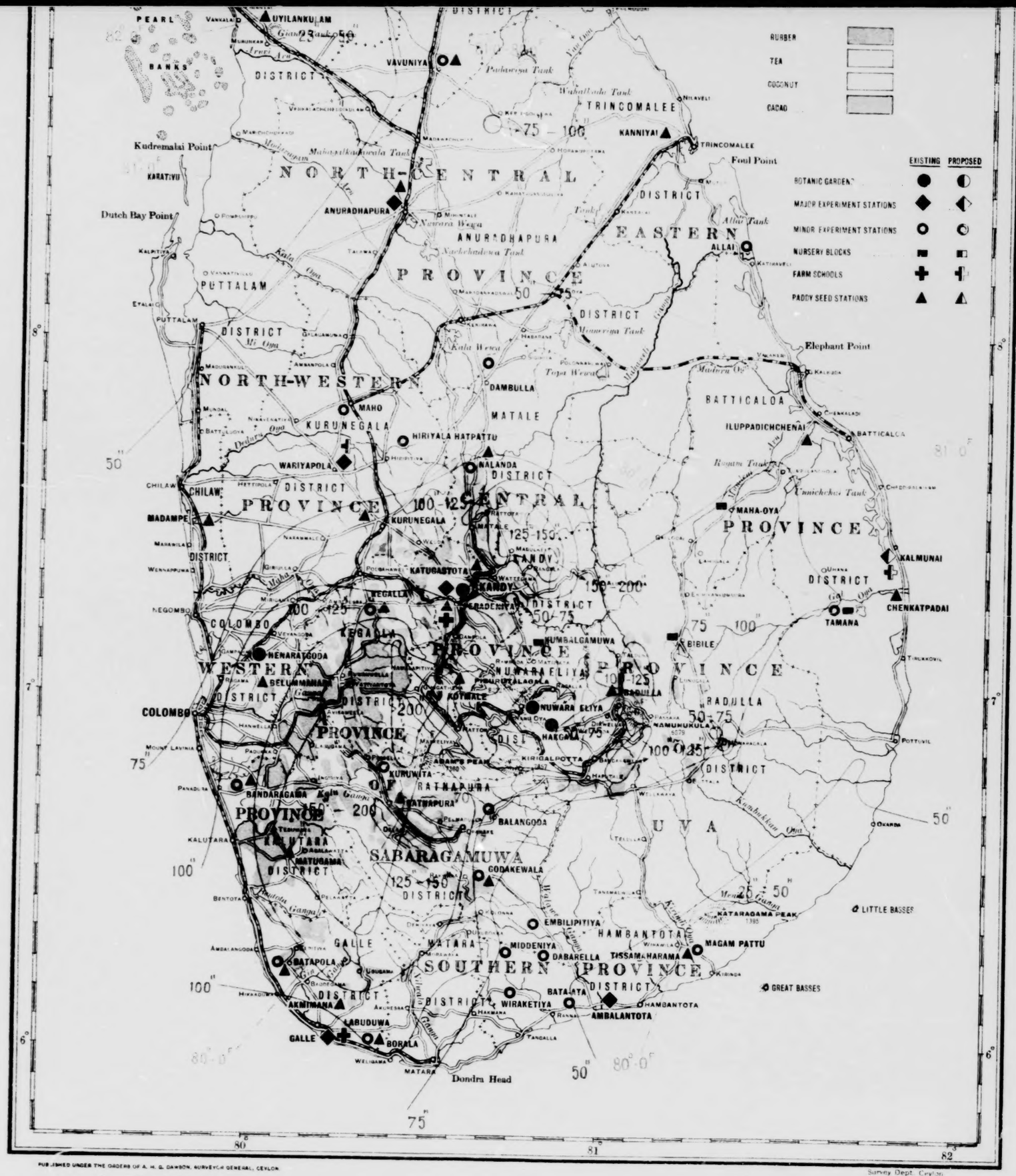
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GREAT BASSES
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NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCE
CENTRAL PROVINCE
EASTERN PROVINCE
WESTERN PROVINCE
SABARAGAMUWA PROVINCE
SOUTHERN PROVINCE
UVA PROVINCE
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PUTTALAM DISTRICT
TRINCOMALEE DISTRICT
BATTICALOA DISTRICT
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BADULLA DISTRICT
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HUMBALGAMUWA
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BATTICALOA
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HENARATGODA
BELLUMMAHARA
COLOMBO
NUWARA ELIYA
HAKGALA
BADULLA
NAMUNUKULA
KOTMALE
KIRIGALPOTTA
ADAM'S PEAK
KURUWITA
RATNAPURA
BANDARAGAMA
BALANGODA
KALUTARA
MATUGAMA
GODAKEWALA
EMBILIPITIYA
MIDDENIYA
DABARELLA
TISSAMAHARAMA
MAGAM PATTU
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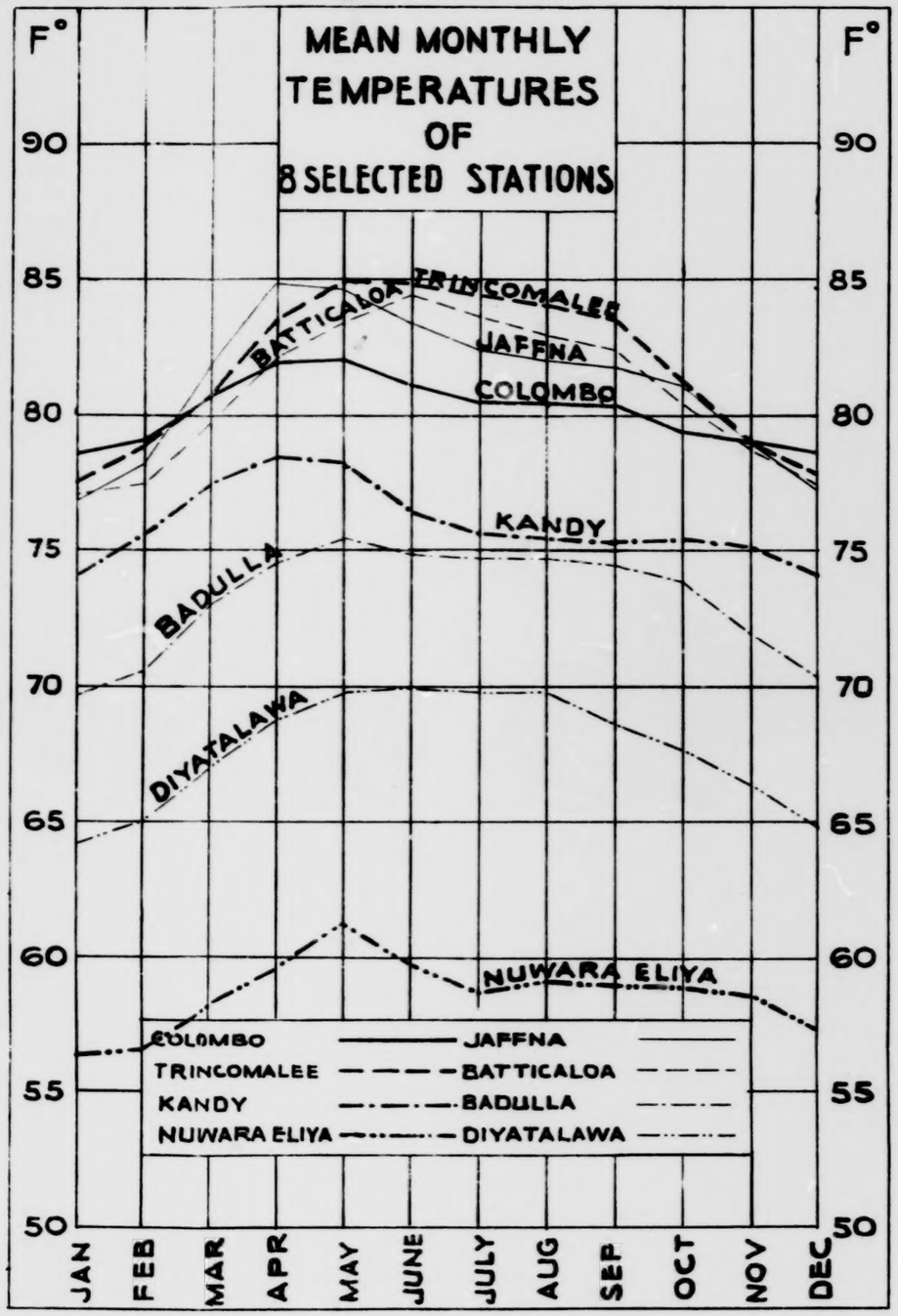
Yala Oya
Mahaweli Ganga
Madu

DIAGRAM Nº1.

SEE TABLE Nº1.



Annual General Report for 1930.

Prefatory Note.

Geography.

CEYLON is an Island in the Indian Ocean, off the southern extremity of the Indian Peninsula, lying between 5° 55′ and 9° 50′ N. latitude and 79° 42′ and 81° 53′ E. longitude. Situated on the direct route from Europe to Australia and the Far East, roughly halfway between Arabia and China, it has been known from very early times as an important trade centre in the East. It is in close proximity to India, and from an economic point of view has always been considered a part of it. The greatest length of the Island from north to south, *i.e.*, from Point Palmyra to Dondra Head, is 270 miles; its greatest width 140 miles, from Colombo on the west coast to Sangamankanda on the east. Its area is 25,332 square miles, nearly the same as that of Holland and Belgium, or about half the size of England.

The northern and north-central parts of the Island form one great plain from sea to sea, only occasionally broken by a spur of rock. The maritime districts consist of similar level or undulating stretches, but the centre of the southern half of the Island is filled by a circular mountainous area almost equidistant from the two seas. This mountainous region is intersected by deep valleys. The height of the intervening ridges increases gradually from the coast, and culminates in Pidurutalagala at an elevation of 8,292 feet.

The sea coast of Ceylon, as shown on a large-scale map, has an irregular outline, lakes and lagoons having been formed in many parts of it by the sand barriers thrown up through the interaction of the rivers and the sea. There are only three real harbours, those of Colombo, Trincomalee, and Galle. The first is a capacious artificial harbour constructed out of an insecure anchoring place by the building of extensive breakwaters. The second is a magnificent land-locked basin, but situated on the eastern side of the Island which is less accessible, populous, and fertile than the western. The third was, at one time, the principal harbour of Ceylon, but on the completion of the Colombo breakwaters in 1885 it ceased to be a calling place for East Indiamen and ships of war.

Climate.

On the whole, the climate of Ceylon is fairly good for the tropics. The accessibility of the hills is a great boon to the plain dwellers, and a change to the sea is beneficial to those who live in the hills. In the low-country, the districts which have been opened in rubber, coconuts, and other products are generally fairly healthy, but in the unopened localities malaria is common.

Temperature.—With regard to temperature, the range of variation at several stations is shown in diagram No. 1, facing this page.

The low seasonal variations will be noted, but it will be seen that the differences between the temperatures of low-country and up-country stations are considerable. The highest shade temperature registered in Ceylon was 103.7° F. at Trincomalee in May, 1890, and the minimum air temperature 27.1° F. at Nuwara Eliya in February, 1914. A maximum temperature of 103.7° F. is not excessive, but the humidity is considerable, the annual average percentage saturation being 70-80 (Galle 80, Nuwara Eliya 79, Colombo and Jaffna 78, Kandy 75, Batticaloa 74, Trincomalee 71). At Colombo, the "hot weather" may be said to extend from March to May, and the "cold weather" from November to January. July and August are often cool, particularly on the west side of the Island. In general, the monsoon periods are comparatively cool, and intervals between them hot.

The climate also varies considerably at the same station at different times of the year, according to the direction and force of the monsoon winds, which, where their courses are impeded by the hills, deposit their moisture on the windward sides of them.

Rainfall.—The annual average rainfall varies from about 35 inches in t west and the south-east to over 200 inches in some parts of the inte annual averages in 1928 were 87 inches at Colombo, 84 inches at Ka 93 inches at Nuwara Eliya.

History.

The history of the Island begins at the sixth century B.C., when an Aryan invasion from the north of India under the leadership of Vijaya overcame the aborigines and established the Sinhalese dynasty. Early attention appears to have been paid by the invaders to irrigation works, agricultural development, and other branches of civil administration, and by the end of the third century A.D. a comparatively advanced stage of civilization had been reached.

The history of Ceylon down to the sixteenth century may be divided into two parts, viz., the period of the Sinhalese *Mahavansa*, *circa* 500 B.C. to 300 A.D., and that of the *Suluvansa*, from *circa* 300 A.D. onwards. The first period is one of increasing development and expanding civilization, connected chiefly with the extension of Buddhism, which was introduced about 247 B.C. The second period is one of ever-increasing pressure from the Tamils, Pandyans, and Cholas from India, with occasional successes on the part of the Sinhalese, particularly during the reign of their famous king, Parakrama Bahu I. (1153 to 1186 A.D.).

In the sixteenth century the Portuguese formed settlements on the coasts of the Island; in the next century they were dispossessed by the Dutch. In 1796 the British took possession of the Dutch settlements in the Island, which were then annexed to the Presidency of Madras, but five years later, in 1802, Ceylon was constituted a separate Crown Colony. In 1815, the districts of the interior, which had maintained their independence under the kings of Kandy, were acquired by Great Britain as the result of a rebellion against the Kandyan king, and the whole Island was thus united under the British rule.

Principal Languages.

Sinhalese and Tamil are the two chief vernacular languages in the Island, the former belonging to the Sinhalese who chiefly inhabit the western, central, and southern portions of the Island, and the latter to the Tamils inhabiting the northern and eastern parts and to the immigrant estate population. English is in general use among the people of the upper and the middle classes of all communities.

Currency, &c.

The monetary unit in Ceylon is the Indian silver rupee, which is divided into 100 cents. The following fractions of the rupee are coined:—(1) Silver, 50-cent piece; 25-cent piece; and 10-cent piece; (2) nickel, 5-cent piece; (3) copper, 1-cent piece and ½-cent piece.

The chief medium of exchange in Ceylon is the currency notes issued by the Government of Ceylon. They are of the following values:—Rs. 1,000, Rs. 500, Rs. 100, Rs. 50, Rs. 10, Rs. 5, Rs. 2, and Re. 1. The present value of the rupee is about 1*s*. 6*d*.

Weights and Measures.

The standard weights and measures are the English units. In conjuction with these many local weights and measures are used which cannot be enumerated here.

Information for Visitors.

See Chapter XII. at page 66.

II.—Finance.

Revenue.

The revenue collected during the financial year ended September 30, 1930 (not including the sum of Rs. 7,418,932.41 recovered from loan, being expenditure met from surplus balances pending raising of loan), amounted to Rs. 103,507,931.06, which was Rs. 7,931.06 more than the estimate and Rs. 4,310,343.51 less than the

DIAGRAM Nº 2

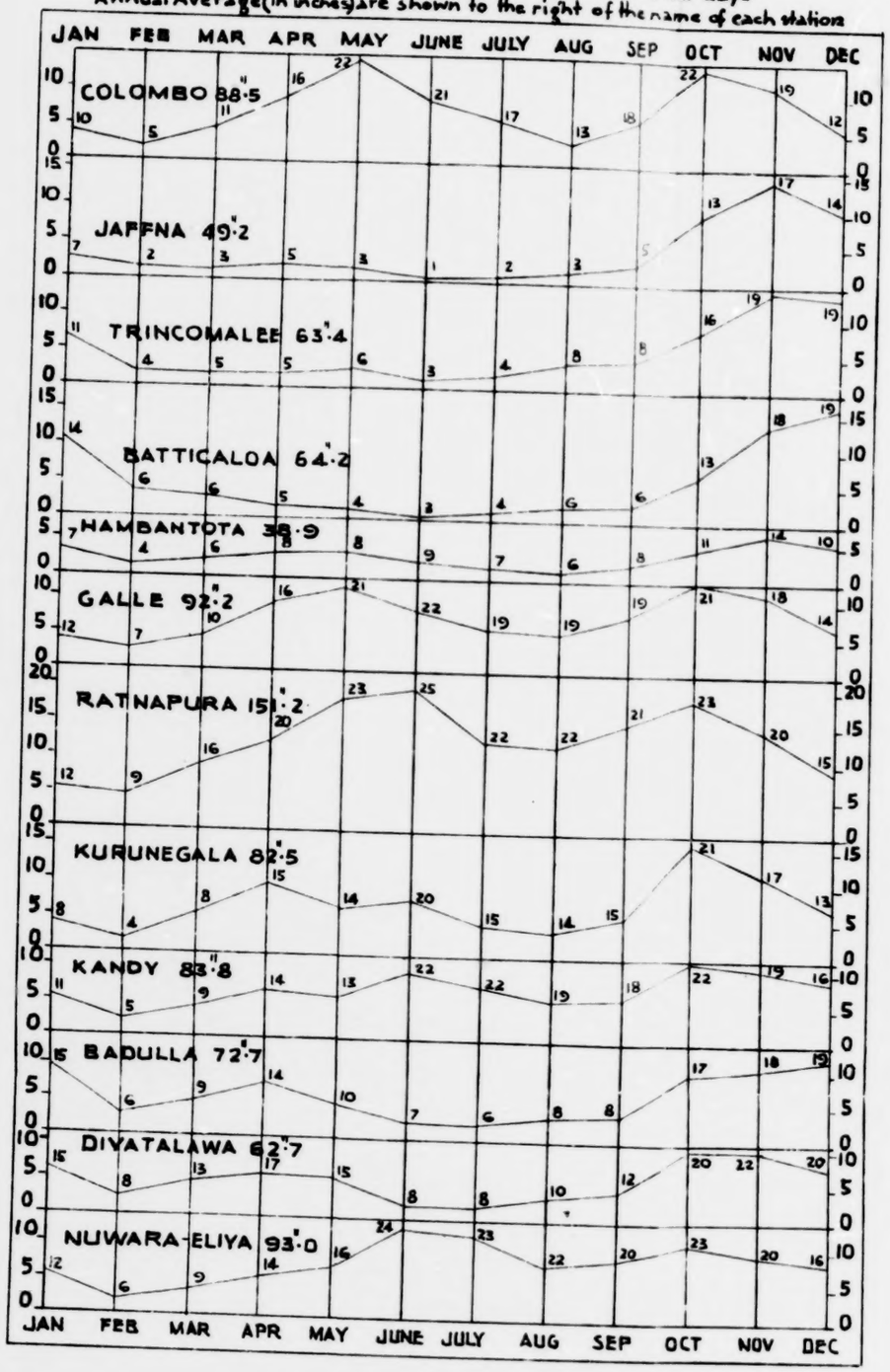
SEE TABLE Nº 2

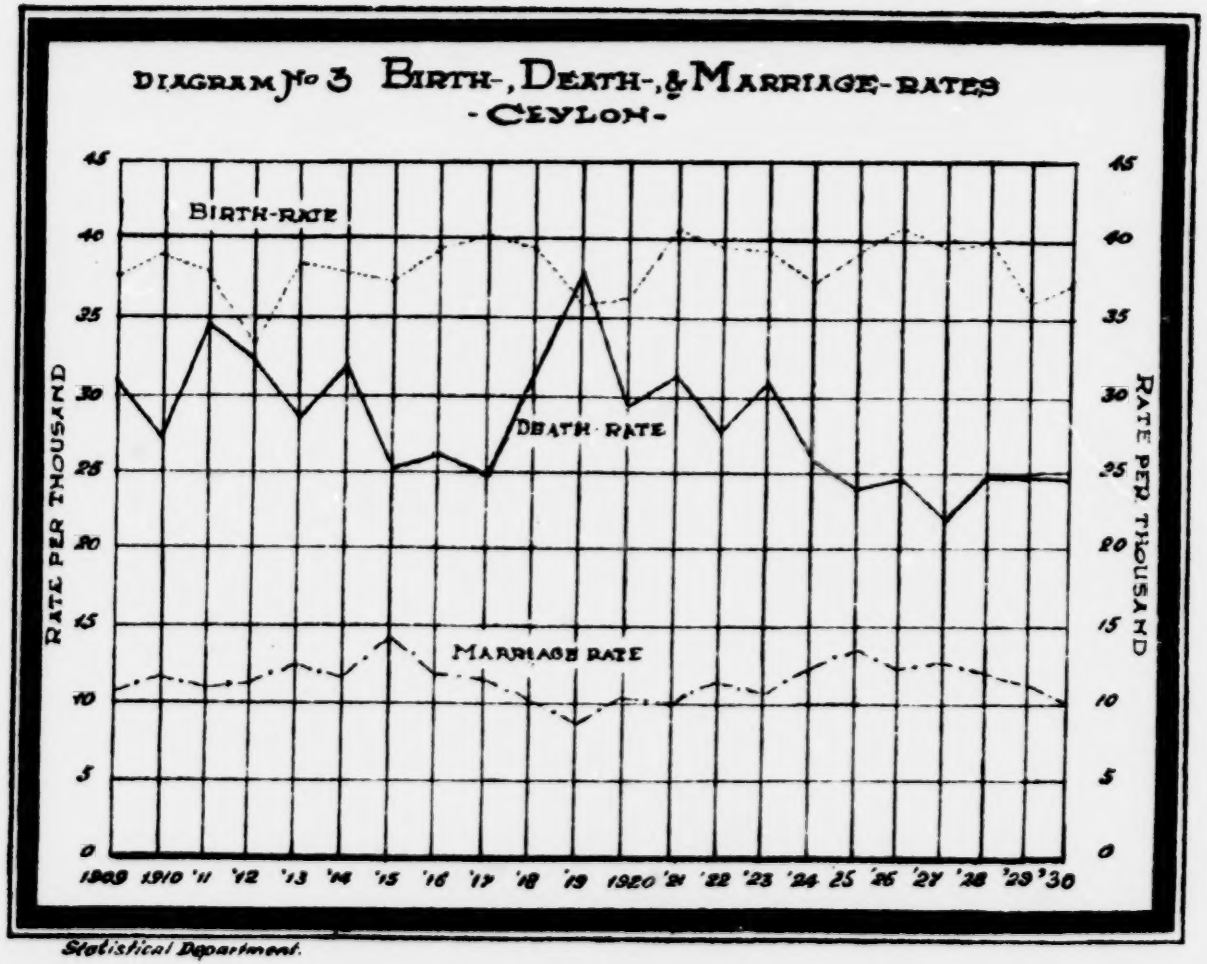
MEAN MONTHLY RAINFALL

OF 12 SELECTED STATIONS

Figures along the curve denote the number of wet days

Annual Average (in inches) are shown to the right of the name of each station





Statistical Department.

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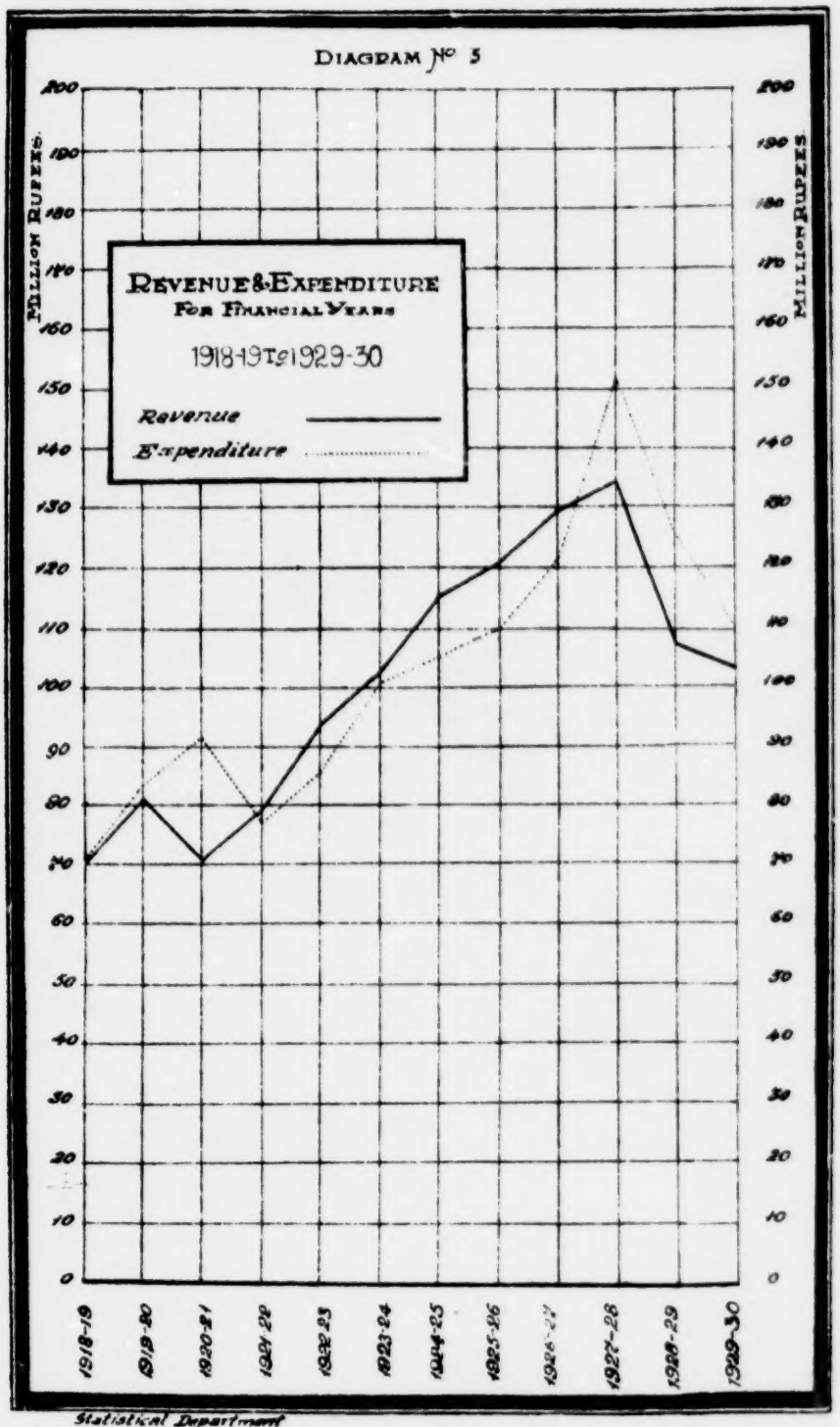

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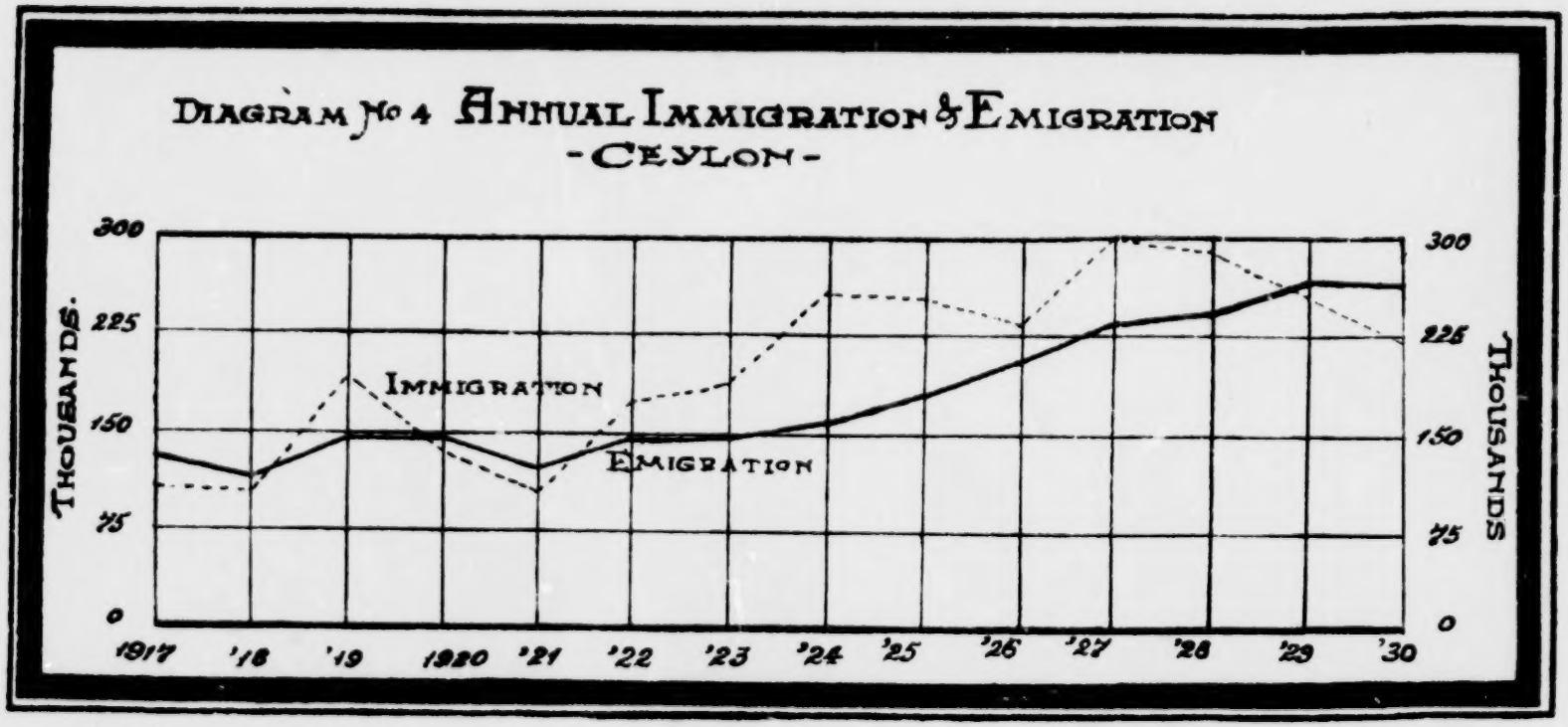

Statistical Department

(F)

amount collected in the previous financial year. The principal increases when compared with the revenue of the previous financial year were under Other Harbour Collections Rs. 174,408.94, Salt Rs. 204,415.92, Betting Tax (new sub-head) Rs. 116,435.11, Telegraph Revenue Rs. 178,216.38, and Profit on new coins Rs. 159,713.92, aggregating Rs. 824,190.27. Against these increases the following decreases should be noted:—Customs Import Duties Rs. 1,112,752.40, Export Duties Rs. 202,266.35, Harbour Dues Rs. 311,120.57, Warehouse Rent Rs. 111,131.91, Arrack, &c., Rs. 278,500.95, Stamps Rs. 455,375.09, Estate Duties Rs. 263,873.91, Repayments by the Railway on account of pensions, passages, and sundry departmental services Rs. 112,514.60, Electric Light and Power Rs. 207,663.87, Interest—Railway Rs. 858,466.38, Interest—Other Rs. 809,351.09, Miscellaneous Receipts, Sundries Rs. 202,497.43, Receipts, Forest Department Rs. 510,927.17, and Land Sales Rs. 161,525.47, aggregating Rs. 5,597,967.19.

The decreases under Customs Duties, Harbour Dues, Warehouse Rent, Stamps, Interest—Railway, and Land Sales, reflect the prevailing depression in trade.

During the year under review "The Ceylon Post Office Ordinance, 1908" was amended, increasing the rates of postage on letters and post cards with effect from October 1, 1929. By Ordinance No. 9 of 1930, Betting on Horse-racing (Taxation), a tax of 3½ per cent. on totalizator bets was introduced from August 1, 1930.

The revenue for the last five financial years is as follows:—

1925–26. Rs. c.	1926–27. Rs. c.	1927–28. Rs. c.	1928–29. Rs. c.	1929–30. Rs. c.
124,516,155 4 ..	129,358,916 31 ..	134,134,952 93 ..	107,818,274 57* ..	110,926,863 47†

Expenditure.

The expenditure chargeable to revenue for the financial year ended September 30, 1930, which was estimated at Rs. 114,518,510, amounted to Rs. 110,275,529.29. This expenditure was less than that of the previous financial year by Rs. 15,620,505.07. A sum of Rs. 7,095,640 was provided under Head 67, Loan Works, pending raising of loan funds, but, the loan having been raised during the course of the year and funds having become available therefrom, the expenditure chargeable to this loan, which amounted to Rs. 5,049,070.12, was debited direct to the Loan Account.

There was an increase in expenditure under the following heads:—Civil Service, Clerical Service, Secretariat—Printing Branch, Police, Department of Medical and Sanitary Services, Education, Public Debt, and Miscellaneous Services. Under Heads—Colombo Port Commission, Salt Establishment, Post Office and Telegraphs, Public Works Department, Public Works Annually Recurrent, Public Works Extraordinary, Electrical Undertakings Annually Recurrent, Electrical Undertakings Extraordinary, and Exchange, the expenditure was less than in the previous financial year.

The expenditure incurred during the last five financial years is as follows:—

	1925–26. Rs. c.	1926–27. Rs. c.	1927–28. Rs. c.	1928–29. Rs. c.	1929–30. Rs. c.
Expenditure chargeable to general revenue including accumulated surplus balances ..	109,996,335 63 ..	121,046,299 61 ..	152,107,200 15 ..	125,896,034 36* ..	110,275,529 29
Expenditure chargeable to revenue pending raising of loan funds ..	2,947,486 5 ..	2,575,597 43 ..	— ..	— ..	102,993 21

Assets and Liabilities.

The assets of the Island on September 30, 1930, amounted to Rs. 53,214,458.31 and the liabilities to Rs. 39,019,881.32, showing an excess of assets over liabilities of Rs. 14,194,576.99. This surplus was in excess of that on September 30, 1929,

---

* Decrease due to the separation of the Railway accounts from the general budget.

† Includes Rs. 7,418,932.41 recovered from loan, being expenditure met from surplus balances in previous years pending raising of loan.

by a sum of Rs. 548,340.97. The assets consisted of cash in fixed deposits and current accounts in local and Indian banks and with the Crown Agents in London, unissued stores, investments in rupee and sterling gilt-edged securities, advances to the General Manager of the Railway, and other recoverable advances. The main liabilities represent amounts due to the Widows' and Orphans' Pension Fund, Ceylon University Building and Equipment Fund, the Loan Account, Colombo Electricity Supply, and Court Suitors and other depositors in the Treasury and local Kachcheris. The cash balances available amounted to Rs. 25,565,241.05.

Currency.

On September 30, 1930, the value of the currency notes in circulation amounted to Rs. 57,219,339. The Currency Commissioners on this date held silver rupees to the extent of Rs. 22,292,302, and British, Indian, and Colonial securities amounting to Rs. 39,656,410 (cost price), or Rs. 39,304,523 (market price).

The value of the reserve on September 30, 1930, was thus in excess of the value of the notes in circulation by Rs. 4,729,373.

During the year silver rupees to the extent of Rs. 109,154 were issued to the public in exchange for currency notes.

Subsidiary coin of various denominations amounting in all to Rs. 13,890,067 was in circulation in the Island on September 30, 1930.

Exchange.

The rates of exchange on London on December 31, 1930, were as follows:—

Selling Demand	..	..	..	1*s.* $5\frac{13}{16}$*d.*
Selling Telegraphic Transfer	..	..	..	1*s.* $5\frac{27}{32}$*d.*
Buying Demand	..	..	..	1*s.* $5\frac{3}{32}$*d.*

Public Debt.

On September 30, 1930, the sterling debt of the Island stood at £15,639,693 and the rupee debt at Rs. 3,000,000, towards redemption of which were held securities and moneys amounting to £5,165,145 and Rs. 1,887,452 respectively.

Setting off the securities against the debts and effecting conversion at 1*s.* 6*d.* to the rupee, the nett total Public Debt of the Island amounts to Rs. 140,773,188, which is about 1 36/100 times the revenue for the year ended September 30, 1930.

A statement of the loan position of the Island as it stood on September 30, 1930, is annexed. (See page 5.)

Estate Duties.

Estates of persons, whose deaths occurred on or after July 1, 1919, are chargeable with duty under the Estate Duty Ordinance, No. 8 of 1919. During the financial year 1929-30, a sum of Rs. 1,451,944.78 was collected as estate duty, as against Rs. 1,606,822.94 in the previous year. Of the kinds of property which paid duty, immovable property was by far the largest in value and represented 56.94 per cent. of the total value. Other assets, which include property not otherwise classified, come second with 19.95 per cent. of the total value.

699 estates under Rs. 25,000 in value paid only 4.25 per cent. of the total duty, while 38 estates between Rs. 150,000 and Rs. 300,000 in value paid 17.30 per cent., 7 estates between Rs. 600,000 and Rs. 900,000 paid 16.70 per cent., and 4 estates between Rs. 900,000 and Rs. 1,200,000 paid 15.90 per cent. These figures show clearly that estate duty is a tax on the rich.

35.75 per cent. of the duty was paid on the estates of persons domiciled out of the Island. In most of these cases the parties are entitled to a refund from the estate duty paid in the countries in which they are domiciled. The total amount of duty paid in respect of the Colonies during the financial year 1929-30 was only Rs. 1,918.55.

Summary of Public Debt, 1929-30.

Description of Loan	Amount.	Equivalent at 1s. 6d. = Rs. 1.	Investments held on behalf of the Sinking Fund. Face Value of Securities.	Investments held on behalf of the Sinking Fund. Purchase Price.	Amounts in Deposit with Westminster Bank and Balance in Hand pending Investment.	Total (of Columns 5 and 6).	Equivalent at 1s. 6d. = Rs. 1.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	£ s. d.	Rs. c.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	Rs. c.
Debentures unredeemed ..	600 0 0	8,000 0	—	—	—	—	—
4 per cent. Inscribed Stock (Debentures converted), 1934	1,076,100 0 0	14,348,000 0	1,157,661 13 1	1,151,391 7 3	1,308 19 11	1,152,700 7 2	15,369,338 11
3 per cent. Inscribed Stock, 1940 ..	2,850,000 0 0	38,000,000 0	2,182,620 12 4	1,991,506 19 8	—	1,991,506 19 8	26,553,426 44
3½ per cent. Inscribed Stock, 1959 ..	1,500,000 0 0	20,000,000 0	488,393 12 4	407,762 4 10	—	407,762 4 10	5,436,829 89
4 per cent. Inscribed Stock, 1959 ..	1,000,000 0 0	13,333,333 33	220,659 0 2	183,129 2 11	—	183,129 2 11	2,441,721 94
6 per cent. Inscribed Stock, 1936–51 ..	6,212,993 8 4	82,839,912 22	1,114,067 16 1	1,153,494 0 4	433 8 3	1,153,927 8 7	15,385,699 6
5 per cent. Inscribed Stock, 1960–70 ..	1,250,000 0 0	16,666,666 67	—	—	—	—	—
4½ per cent. Inscribed Stock, 1965 ..	1,750,000 0 0	23,333,333 33	—	—	—	—	—
	15,639,693 8 4	208,529,245 55	5,163,402 14 0	4,887,283 15 0	1,742 8 2	4,889,026 3 2	65,187,015 44
4 per cent. Ceylon Inscribed Stock, 1944	— ..	3,000,000 0	62,924 7 11	63,055 3 1	—	63,055 3 1	840,735 39
			Rs. 1,047,300.00	Rs. 1,225,903.97	Rs. 1,159.98	Rs. 1,227,063.95	1,227,063 95
		211,529,245 55					67,254,814 78

BANKS.

The following is a list of banks which have branches in Ceylon:—

Name of Bank ..	Imperial Bank of India
Address of Head Office	Calcutta Circle, Calcutta; Bombay Circle, Bombay; and Madras Circle, Madras
Branch in Ceylon ..	Prince street, Fort, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon ..	—
London Office ..	22, Old Broad street, London, E.C. 2

Name of Bank ..	National Bank of India, Ltd.
Address of Head Office	26, Bishopgate, London, E.C. 2
Branches in Ceylon..	York street, Fort, Colombo; Ward street, Kandy; and Nuwara Eliya
Agents in Ceylon ..	Clark, Spence & Co., Galle
Bankers in the United Kingdom	The Bank of England; The National Provincial Bank, Ltd.; The National Bank of Scotland, Ltd.

Name of Bank ..	Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China
Address of Head Office	38, Bishopgate, London, E.C. 2
Branch in Ceylon ..	Queen street, Fort, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon ..	Mercantile Bank of India, Ltd., Galle
Bankers in the United Kingdom	The Bank of England; Midland Bank, Ltd.; Westminster Bank, Ltd.; National Provincial Bank, Ltd.; The National Bank of Scotland, Ltd.

Name of Bank ..	Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation
Address of Head Office	1, Queen's road, Hong Kong, China
Branch in Ceylon ..	22, Prince street, Fort, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon ..	E. Coates & Co. (Galle), Ltd., Galle
Bankers in the United Kingdom	The Westminster Bank, Ltd.

Name of Bank ..	The Mercantile Bank of India, Ltd.
Address of Head Office	15, Gracechurch street, London, E.C. 3
Branches in Ceylon..	2, Queen street, Fort, Colombo; Ward street, Kandy; and Galle
Agents in Ceylon ..	—
Bankers in the United Kingdom	The Bank of England; Midland Bank, Ltd.

Name of Bank ..	The Eastern Bank, Ltd.
Address of Head Office	2 and 3, Crosby Square, London, E.C. 3
Branch in Ceylon ..	75–77, Chatham street, Fort, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon ..	—
Bankers in the United Kingdom	The Bank of England; Westminster Bank, Ltd.; The National Provincial Bank, Ltd.; The Bank of Scotland; Barclays Bank, Ltd.; Bank of Liverpool and Martin's, Ltd.

Name of Bank ..	The P. & O. Banking Corporation, Ltd. (with which is affiliated The Allahabad Bank, Ltd.)
Address of Head Office	117–122, Leadenhall street, London, E.C. 3
Branch in Ceylon ..	Victoria Arcade Buildings, York street, Fort, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon ..	—
Bankers in the United Kingdom	Lloyds Bank, Ltd.; Westminster Bank, Ltd.; The National Provincial Bank, Ltd.; Royal Bank of Scotland

Name of Bankers ..	Thos. Cook & Son (Bankers), Ltd.
Address of Head Office	Berkeley street, Piccadilly, London, W. 1
Branch in Ceylon ..	York street, Fort, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon ..	—
Bankers in the United Kingdom	National Provincial Bank, Ltd.

BANKING AGENCIES.

Name of Bank.	Agents in Ceylon.
Coutts & Co. ..	George Steuart & Co., Colombo
Bank of Liverpool and Martin's, Ltd.	do.
Ulster Bank, Ltd., Belfast ..	do.
Westminster Bank, Ltd. ..	do.
Bank of Montreal ..	do.
Charles Hoare & Co. ..	do.

SAVINGS BANKS.

There are two Savings Banks, viz., the Ceylon Savings Bank and the Post Office Savings Bank.

The Ceylon Savings Bank is a Government institution established in 1832. Accounts may be opened with a minimum deposit of 50 cents, and not more than Rs. 2,000 can be deposited in one year irrespective of withdrawals. The maximum sum which a depositor may have to his or her credit is Rs. 6,000. Charitable institutions or societies may deposit Rs. 3,000 per annum up to a maximum of Rs. 9,000. The Bank allows interest at the rate of 4 per cent. on accounts of Rs. 1,000 and under, and 3 per cent. on accounts above Rs. 1,000.

The Post Office Savings Bank is managed by the Post and Telegraph Department. Deposits and withdrawals can be made at any of the Post Offices in the Island. The minimum amount that can be deposited is 25 cents, and the maximum per annum is Rs. 750 irrespective of withdrawals. The total amount which a depositor may have to his or her credit is Rs. 3,000. The rate of interest allowed is 2.4 per cent.—2 cents per month for each complete sum of Rs. 10.

III.—Production.

AGRICULTURE.

Tea.

OF the developed industries of the Island probably the most characteristic of Ceylon is that of tea planting and manufacture. The young, tender shoots of the tea bush, *Camellia Thea*, after being withered, rolled, fermented, and dried or fired, constitute the manufactured article. It is turned out, in general, from factories on the estates.

Acreage, &c.—Over 457,000 acres are planted in tea, consisting of about 1,230 estates, which are, for the most part, situated at elevations above 3,000 feet, nearly 80 per cent. of the total acreage in tea being in the Kandy, Nuwara Eliya, and Badulla Districts. Whole stretches of the country at the higher elevations are covered with tea, but it can also be, and is, grown at lower elevations, down almost to sea level.

Pruning and Plucking.—The object of tea cultivation is to secure the maximum quantity of the best quality of leaf. For this purpose the bushes are pruned periodically so as to ensure regular, frequent, and plentiful "flushes," or young, tender shoots on the tops of the bushes. The buds at the tip of the new shoot and two to three leaves below them are plucked by hand, generally by the women and children of the labour force.

Rainfall.—A fairly evenly distributed rainfall of 60 to 250 inches a year is required for tea.

Labour.—About 95 per cent. of tea estate labour consists of Tamils from India. In some districts plucking is done by Sinhalese on contract. The average labour force is generally calculated, for tea, at the rate of somewhat less than one labourer per acre. The average rates of pay may be said to vary from 40 to 75 cents per day. Women are generally employed on lighter work, such as plucking, while the men attend to the pruning, draining, &c.

Methods of Cultivation and Manuring.—Cultivation methods have greatly improved in recent years, and much greater attention is now given to systematic cultivation and to the application of manures. Prunings are buried with applications of basic slag and potash, while general mixtures are applied while the bushes are in growth.

Yields and Prices.—Yields vary greatly with soil, jât (variety), elevation, cultivation, manuring, &c., and the annual figures may be said to range from 300 to 1,200 lb. made tea per acre, 600 to 700 lb. being considered a good all-round yield.

The market throughout the year 1930 was steady, and prices showed less fluctuation than during 1929. The highest average price (90 cents) was realized in March, and the lowest figure touched (66 cents) was at the last two sales of the year. In 1929, the maximum average price was Re. 1 and the minimum 59 cents.

Quality throughout the year was well up to the average, and latterly the effect of restriction was noticeable in the smaller supplies of inferior teas, with a consequent improvement in the lowest average price realized, viz., 53 cents as compared with 52 cents for 1929.

The annual average market prices* in certain years were:—1921, 70 cents per lb.; 1922, 85 cents; 1923, Re. 1.02; 1924, Re. 1.04; 1925, 96 cents; 1926, 99 cents; 1927, 94 cents; 1928, 85 cents; 1929, 81 cents; 1930, 75 cents (see Diagram No. 7).

* According to local weekly sale averages.

Machinery.—The chief machinery in a tea factory is the rolling machinery, the roll-breaker, and the drier. These are generally driven by overhead belting from a shaft driven by the power unit. This unit may be water-driven, as in the case of Pelton wheels or turbines, or it may consist of an oil, suction-gas, or steam engine. Various driers are in use. The power required for a factory with an output of 400,000 lb. made tea per annum is about 50 h.p. For crops over 200,000 lb. the power required can be calculated at 10 to 12 h.p. per 100,000 lb.

Capital Cost, Value, &c.—The capital cost of opening land for tea varies greatly, but may now be put at Rs. 1,000 and over, with a probable average of Rs. 1,250 per acre. These figures include the erection of a factory, with all necessary machinery, and all other works required for the running of the estate. The waiting period, before any return is received on the investment, may be put at four to five years. In purchasing a tea estate as a going concern the purchase period is generally taken as ten years.

A good tea estate in full bearing can realize Rs. 2,250 to Rs. 3,000 per acre, say £168 15*s.* to £225, with the rupee at 1*s.* 6*d.*

The value of the exports of tea from Ceylon is shown in Diagram No. 8.

Outlook.—The world demand is put at about 735 million pounds, and the total supply from Ceylon, Java, India, Africa, Persia, Sumatra, China, &c., is estimated at 640 million pounds. In June, 1920, the unloading on the market of Government stocks created a heavy surplus supply, and prices fell far below cost of production, but improved conditions began to prevail in 1921.

Rubber.

Acreage.—The acreage planted in rubber is about 534,000 acres, and the export value in 1930 was 47 millions of rupees.

Latex.—Rubber is the coagulated latex of the para rubber tree (*Hevea brasiliensis*) obtained by tapping the trunk. The latex running from the end of the cut—usually half the circumference—is collected, removed to the factory, treated with acetic acid to cause coagulation, dried, and crêped by machinery, or coagulated in sheets and smoked. It will be noted that tea is exported in a form ready for consumption, while the rubber exported has to be made into rubber goods before being put on the market.

Elevation and Rainfall.—The rubber tree flourishes at low elevations, generally below 2,000 feet, and it requires a well-distributed rainfall of not less than 80 inches per annum. These conditions mark out the districts of Kalutara, the Kelani Valley, and Sabaragamuwa as the leading rubber districts, though it is also grown with success in Kandy, Matale, Galle, and other districts.

Planting.—Rubber is generally propagated from seed which is sown in nurseries, and, when the nursery plants are eighteen months to two years old, they are removed, have their tops and main roots cut back, and are planted into the new clearings as "stumps". Planting is carried out at varying distances, but 24 feet by 12 feet is a favourite of many growers, as this allows of ample plants for thinning from the third year. The tree grows to a height of 30 to 40 feet and develops a heavy foliage.

Cultivation.—The best time for cultivation is considered to be just before the wintering commences. Cattle manures, green manures, and artificial manures are all used. The approximate quantity of artificial manure used per annum per acre is up to 1,000 lb. Cover plants are used for soil conservation.

Tapping.—Various systems of tapping are still in vogue, but the single cut (half-circumference) is now becoming universal. The frequency of tapping has also varied as experience has been gained. Daily tapping was formerly most common, but alternate-day tapping is now generally popular, while tapping every third day is adopted upon some estates. Better bark-renewal results if the interval between tappings is extended, but some loss of bark occurs in three-day tapping. Tapping generally commences when the trees are six to seven years of age, and upon trees whose girth at 3 feet above the ground has reached approximately 24 inches.

Manufacture.—The manufacture of rubber into the form in which it is put on the wholesale market is done in factories on the estates. A considerable quantity and variety of machinery is used. The manufacture is standardized, and the difference between the prices of the various grades is generally not very large.

Yield, Costs, &c.—The yield per acre varies considerably with the soil, age of the trees, rainfall, planting, treatment, &c., but may be said to range from 150 to 700 lb. per acre, 400 to 500 lb. per acre being considered a good all-round yield for an estate in full bearing. A very good tree over twelve years old will yield 10 lb. dry rubber per annum, while the average per tree in full bearing may be put at about 4 to 5 lb. per annum.

The year 1930 was an exceptionally bad year for the rubber industry. The price of rubber, which was 35 cents per lb. in January, rose to 40 or 41 cents in February, but then fell steadily till October, when the record low price of 14½ to 15 cents was reached. Thereafter, the price rose to 22 cents, but fell again to 18½ or 19 cents at the close of the year.

In consequence of this fall of prices, drastic economies were effected, and the cost of production was reduced to an extent previously regarded as impracticable. In spite of this, the prices realized towards the end of the year were only slightly, if at all, above the cost of production. Some estates were actually running at a loss, and the question of closing them down has had to be seriously considered.

Rates of Freight.—The rate to the United Kingdom was decreased on March 22, 1930, from 65*s.* to 57*s.* 6*d.* and the rate to the United States of America was increased from 45*s.* to 47*s.* 6*d.* on May 1, 1930.

Export Duty.—The rubber export duty of 2¼ cents per lb. was increased by ⅛th of a cent being a Government cess to assist Rubber Research.

The annual average market prices* in certain years were the following:—1921, 52 cents per lb.; 1922, 53 cents; 1923, 88 cents; 1924, 75 cents; 1925, Re. 1.73; 1926, Re. 1.21; 1927, 95 cents; 1928, 55 cents; 1929, 52 cents; 1930, 27 cents (see Diagram No. 7).

Labour.—The labour engaged is generally immigrant Tamil, but, in some cases, Sinhalese do good work as tappers, &c. The usual requirement of labour is one cooly to 3 acres of rubber.

Budding of Rubber.

Much attention has been given since 1929 to the budding of rubber. Large imports of budwood and budded stumps of proved foreign clones have been made and many estates have taken steps to find their high-yielding trees, with a view to using them as mother trees. Local mother-trees are under test on the stations of the Department of Agriculture and the Rubber Research Scheme, and every effort is being made to provide guidance to the planting community in this important matter. The work will eventually be extended to include seed-selection in specially isolated gardens.

Budding has rendered it possible to effect satisfactorily the selection of high-yielding stock, and the isolation of it from the heterogenous mixture which exists in rubber estates to-day. By vigorous selection and testing it should be possible to isolate strains of high-yielding trees, and thereby assure that improved strains of plants and seeds should be available for future plantings.

Coconut.

Acreage.—Coconut palms are planted on about 1,100,000 acres in Ceylon, but only a part of this acreage is well cultivated on systematic lines. The coconut palm produces probably a greater variety of products than any other plant, and several industries are dependent upon it. Coconut planters have been affected during 1930 by a period of depression owing to a fall in prices of coconut products and loss of markets.

Areas.—The palms are planted along the coast of the Western and Southern Provinces, mainly for the supply of toddy to the arrack distilleries; in the Veyangoda and Negombo Districts of the Western Province for the production of copra,

* Averages for top grades only (Ribbed Smoked Sheet and Contract Crêpe) at local weekly sales

in the North-Western Province, on the coast of the Eastern Province, in the Jaffna peninsula, and elsewhere. The old idea was that coconuts grew best near the sea, but the tendency to plant coconuts inland is increasing. They can be grown up to an elevation of 1,500 feet, but the nuts are smaller at the higher elevations. A well-distributed rainfall of 50 to 90 inches is required.

Cultivation.—Much can be done to increase the output of the tree by cultivation: by the use of concentrated manures containing nitrogen, potash, phosphoric acid, &c.; green manures, such as *Crotalaria*; cattle manure; and occasional cultivation with modern implements. Young coconuts systematically cultivated and manured come into bearing much earlier than coconuts which are not so treated.

Costs.—The cost of opening land for coconuts varies considerably, but it may be put on the average at Rs. 400 to Rs. 600 an acre. This may be taken to spread over ten years, the expenses being greater in the first three years. The waiting period may be put at ten years. Land is available to be opened in coconuts, but only in the out-districts, where a good deal of pioneering work, including the making of roads, combating wild animals, fever, &c., is necessary.

Labour.—The quantity of labour required for a coconut estate is generally worked out at one cooly for 4 or 5 acres. A small resident force of Tamils is often maintained for draining, manuring, and tillage, and on some estates the labour force consists of about half Tamil and half Sinhalese. Frequently the plucking of the nuts and the manufacture of copra are done by a contractor, who supplies his own labour.

Labour on coconut estates is paid at about the same rates as on tea and rubber properties, 40 to 75 cents a day. Plucking may cost 50 cents per 1,000 nuts.

Values.—Considerable capital, both European and Ceylonese, is interested in coconut properties, and especially in mortgages in these. Advances are given up to 50 per cent. of the value of the property, and interest recovered at 8 to 10 per cent. The purchase period of coconut property is put at twelve years. Its value varies according to the price of copra, but a good coconut estate in full bearing may be said to be worth Rs. 800 to Rs. 1,000 per acre on the average.

The Nut.

The principal product, from a commercial point of view, is the nut. The yield per palm on the average is about 40 nuts per annum. Without cultivation the yield is probably about 30 nuts per palm, with cultivation up to and over 80 may be secured. The number of palms to the acre may vary from 50 to 90, the average being about 70. The palms come into bearing in about six years with intensive cultivation, but more usually take up to ten years. The nuts are generally picked six times a year. They are made into copra upon the estate which produces them, but some of the smaller properties sell their nuts to manufacturers. Considerable quantities are exported when the demand for nuts for the manufacturing of desiccated coconut is keen. The price rose owing to the increased demand for the manufactured products from Rs. 74 per 1,000 in 1913 to the maximum of Rs. 115 per 1,000 in 1920. The average price per 1,000 nuts in 1930 was Rs. 46.85.

Copra.

The most important manufactured product is copra. This is the dried kernel of the nut, and is used for the manufacture of coconut oil, which, again, is utilized for the production of margarine, soap, and other products. Poonac, a largely-used cattle food, is the by-product in the manufacture of coconut oil from copra. The bulk of it is used locally, either as cattle food or as manure, but 278,878 cwt. valued at Rs. 1,254,177 were exported in 1930.

The number of nuts required to manufacture a candy (560 lb.) of copra varies from 900 to 1,500.

The value of the exports of copra since 1918 is shown in Diagram No. 9.

Prices.—The shipments of copra in 1930 have decreased by 197,000 cwt. as compared with 1929. The market declined steadily throughout the year, opening at about Rs. 63.75 per candy nett and closing at about Rs. 39.75. Shipments to Germany and Holland have fallen, as these countries have taken larger quantities than usual of groundnuts and soya beans.

The annual average market prices* from 1921 were:—1921, Rs. 87.16 per candy (560 lb.); 1922, Rs. 78.52; 1923, Rs. 87.61; 1924, Rs. 85.42; 1925, Rs. 80.36; 1926, Rs. 79.40; 1927, Rs. 76.88; 1928, Rs. 76.22; 1929, Rs. 64.47; 1930, Rs. 52.36 (see Diagram No. 7).

Copra prices are liable to considerable fluctuation, according to the rates of freight and of exchange, &c. The market quotations are also liable to considerable variation, as regular public sales are not held as in the case of tea and rubber. The cost of production of a candy of copra may be put at about Rs. 25 to Rs. 40.

Coconut Oil.

Although a large quantity of copra is exported for the extraction of oil by the importers, a quantity of coconut oil is prepared in Ceylon. The traditional method of extraction consists in grinding the copra in a "chekku" consisting of a large wooden pestle, which is revolved by bullock-power in a kind of wood or stone mortar. This method is slow and wasteful, and modern mills are now working in Chilaw, Colombo, and other districts of Ceylon, hydraulic presses and expellers being in general use. Usually the locally manufactured coconut oil contains 1½ to 2 per cent. of free fatty acid, and a further refinement is necessary in the consuming country.

The value of the exports of coconut oil is shown in Diagram No. 9.

The market for coconut oil at the beginning of 1930 stood at around Rs. 390 per ton nett and steadily declined throughout the year to Rs. 280.

The decline in shipments to the United Kingdom is understood to be due to the combine between the Margarine Union and Messrs. Lever Bros., the latter taking copra oil manufactured by the Margarine Union in Holland and Germany instead of coconut oil shipped from Ceylon. There has also been a big falling off in shipments to India.

The annual average market prices from 1921 were:—1921, Rs. 629.03 per ton f.o.b.; 1922, Rs. 538.13; 1923, Rs. 584.05; 1924, Rs. 574.11; 1925, Rs. 543.17; 1926, Rs. 539.36; 1927, Rs. 491.73; 1928, Rs. 489.02; 1929, Rs. 412.33; 1930, Rs. 351.63.

Desiccated Coconut.

Desiccated coconut is produced in Ceylon on a large scale, the conditions being favourable as the mills are either on the estates or easily accessible to them by water, road, or railway. The delivery of the fresh nuts, which are essential to the success of the manufacture, is thus a simple matter. Mills, many with elaborate machinery, have been erected in almost every district to cope with the demand. Some are capable of dealing with 50,000 nuts a day.

The value of the exports of desiccated coconut is shown in Diagram No. 9.

Although exports show only an increase of 1,329,281 lb. over 1929, desiccated coconut has fully maintained its position where conditions of sale remained unchanged. The price has fallen from 16 cents at the beginning of the year to 10½ cents at the end.

The annual average market prices in certain years were:—1921, 26 cents per lb; 1922, 22 cents; 1923, 24 cents; 1924, 22 cents; 1925, 20 cents; 1926, 20 cents; 1927, 19 cents; 1928, 19 cents; 1929, 16 cents; 1930, 13 cents (see Diagram No. 7).

Information regarding the manufacture of alcohol, &c., is shown under "Excise," page 21.

Coir, &c.

An important but somewhat unorganized industry, also dependent upon the coconut tree, is the manufacture of coir, which consists of the stout fibres forming the husk of the nut. These fibres are separated by rotting the husks in water, or by special machinery. The fibres are then graded and used for making brushes, yarn, mats, rope, &c., according to their quality. In many parts of Ceylon the coir fibres are separated by village labour, chiefly women, and sold by them to exporting firms.

* The average prices for 1927 to 1930 are for top grades only. Averages for other years represent the lowest and highest overall weekly quotations received for all grades.

Mills for the separation of the fibre by machinery have been established at several places in the Colombo, Negombo, and other districts. Much of the output is used locally, but there is considerable export of bristle fibre, mattress fibre, and coir yarn. The value of the exports of coir is shown in Diagram No. 9.

The market for bristle fibre in 1930 opened at Rs. 9.40 per cwt. and dropped steadily to Rs. 6.50 per cwt. at the end of the year. The market for mattress fibre dropped steadily from Re. 1.40 per cwt. at the beginning of the year to 85 cents in October, but somewhat recovered thereafter, reaching Re. 1.35 per cwt. at the end of the year.

The annual average market prices* in certain years for bristle fibre were:—1921, Rs. 10.27 per cwt.; 1922, Rs. 13.39; 1923, Rs. 14.46; 1924, Rs. 12.10; 1925, Rs. 7.62; 1926, Rs. 7.46; 1927, Rs. 8.37; 1928, Rs. 8.53; 1929, Rs. 9.01; 1930, Rs. 8.23; for mattress fibre*:—1921, Re. 1.40 per cwt.; 1922, Re. 1.65; 1923, Rs. 2.38; 1924, Rs. 2.95; 1925, Rs. 2.38; 1926, Rs. 3.08; 1927, Rs. 3.67; 1928, Rs. 3.07; 1929, Rs. 2.23; 1930, Re. 1.40; for coir yarn*:—1921, Rs. 10.55 per cwt.; 1922, Rs. 12.68; 1923, Rs. 18.63; 1924, Rs. 18.32; 1925, Rs. 16.26; 1926, Rs. 15.15; 1927, Rs. 16.75; 1928, Rs. 17.45; 1929, Rs. 14.34; 1930, Rs. 12.73.

Cacao.

Commercial cacao is produced from the seeds of the plant *Theobroma cacao*. The variety now grown in Ceylon is the *Forastera*.

Elevation and Rainfall.—The amount of land suitable for cacao cultivation in Ceylon is limited, and there are about 34,000 acres under this crop. The product cannot be successfully grown below 500 feet or above 2,000 feet elevation, and an average rainfall of between 60 to 80 inches is required. The Kandy and Matale Districts, particularly the Dumbara Valley in the Kandy District, are the principal cacao localities in Ceylon.

Opening Land.—The capital cost of opening is about Rs. 400 to Rs. 450 per acre.

Labour.—The labour required for a cacao estate works out at about one cooly for two acres. Tamils generally form the bulk of the labour force, but Sinhalese are also employed for lopping, &c.

Planting.—The trees are generally planted 15 by 15 feet apart. Holes 3 feet deep by 1½ feet across are dug and filled with carefully prepared soil. Seed at stake or basket plants are generally used for planting. As the young plant requires to be carefully shaded, shade trees must be planted at the same time between the rows about the same distance apart as the cacao. The dadap has been found the most suitable.

Crops.—Cacao commences to bear fruit about the fifth year, two crops a year being then gathered. The "Spring" crop picked in May, June, and July is small. The main or "Autumn" crop is gathered in November, December, and January. The period from the blossom to the ripe pod is five months. The average crop per acre varies considerably in Ceylon. The general average is about 3½ to 4 cwt. per acre, although the yields from some well-cultivated estates have reached the very high annual average of 8½ cwt. per acre.

Cultivation.—The usual method of cultivation is to fork the soil every two years, and apply about 700 to 800 lb. per acre of artificial manures two to three months later. The manure used is a general mixture containing nitrogen, phosphoric acid, and potash.

Pruning and Removing Suckers.—Suckers are removed as soon as they appear on the cacao trees, and periodical pruning is done when the foilage becomes too thick and heavy.

Weeding.—Cacao estates are kept clean weeded from the time of opening. The average cost of weeding is about Rs. 6 per acre per annum.

Picking.—The flowers and fruit of the tree grow in a characteristic manner direct upon the trunk and branches of the trees. The fruit is ellipsoidal and of considerable size, and the beans are covered with pulp or mucilage.

* The average prices for 1928 to 1930 are for top grades only. Averages for other years represent the lowest and highest overall weekly quotations received for all grades.

Ripening is generally indicated by a change of colour on the outside of the pods. The fruit on the stems and main branches is picked by means of an ordinary pruning knife, while that on the higher parts of the tree is dealt with by cacao hooks. The picking gang goes round as often as necessary, the period generally being between a fortnight and three weeks. The pods are cut down by men or boys, who are followed by women, who gather the pods and heap them together. The fruits are opened the same day, and the beans carted or carried to the fermenting shed. One cooly will pick 1 to 1½ bushels of wet beans per day. This is equal to about 37 lb. of the cured produce.

Fermentation.—At the fermenting shed the beans, covered with mucilage, are heaped into boxes or vats for fermentation. This process is accompanied by rise of temperature and by decomposition of the pulp surrounding the beans. During the fermentation the pulp becomes more liquid and gradually flows away, the bottom of the fermenting boxes being perforated and raised off the ground to admit of this. The period of fermentation in Ceylon is about 36 hours. After 12 hours the beans are given a light washing and turned over into another box. They are again given a heavier washing at the end of the fermenting period of 36 hours, when they are carried or carted to the barbacue or curing house.

Curing.—The best method of curing is the gradual drying of the beans in the sun on barbacues covered with coir matting. By this method the best quality is obtained. The period varies from five to seven days, according to the temperature. Most of the picking has, however, to be done during the wet season, and a greater part of the crop of Ceylon is cured by artificial means. The most popular curing house is a two- or three-floor building the floors being constructed of strips of wood covered over with coir matting, on which the freshly-fermented beans are spread. The building is heated with hot air conducted by pipes placed under each floor, the hot air being obtained by means of a fan, which drives the air through the heating apparatus and then through the pipes. The temperature in the building during the curing process is kept between 110 and 120 degrees Fahrenheit.

Grading and Sorting.—After the beans are cured, they are sorted into different grades: first quality, which is composed of only the large round beans; second quality, flat and small beans; and third quality, known as garblings, consisting of the shells and broken beans.

Packing.—Cacao after grading is packed in bags (112 lb. to a bag), when it is ready for export. Most of the cacao from Ceylon is shipped in this form.

Cost of Production.—The cost of production ranges from Rs. 25 to Rs. 30 per cwt.

Prices.—The year 1930 opened with the price of Estate No. 1 cacao at about Rs. 45-Rs. 50, and during the early months offerings were light. Owing to the lack of demand prices generally receded during May.

In August, prices were very low, and further reductions were expected. Big crop supplies were available by October, and the competition for early arrivals tended to harden prices. Foreign demand too showed improvement and a generally healthier tone prevailed. This improvement, however, did not last long and, towards the end of the year, record low prices were established, the closing rates for Estate No. 1 cacao being Rs. 24-Rs. 30.

As regards quantity the year's crop was well up to the average, but there was some falling-off in the size of the beans and a larger proportion of medium and small in all offerings was noticed as compared with previous years.

The annual average market prices* from 1921 were:—1921, Rs. 28.23 per cwt.; 1922, Rs. 37.77; 1923, Rs. 35.71; 1924, Rs. 33.30; 1925, Rs. 33.17; 1926, Rs. 30.41; 1927, Rs. 52.22; 1928, Rs. 58.89; 1929, Rs. 53.46; 1930, Rs. 37.51.

Valuation of Estates.—The valuation of an estate with a 4-cwt. crop may be put at Rs. 800 to Rs. 1,100 per acre on the average. The waiting period is about five years; and the purchase period about seven years.

The value of the exports of cacao is shown in Diagram No. 9.

* The average prices for 1927 to 1930 are for top grades only. Averages for other years represent the lowest and highest overall weekly quotations received for all grades.

Cinnamon.

Cinnamon, which was once the main export from the Island, still occupies a place—though a minor one—among the exports. Some 26,000 acres are under this cultivation, and the exports in 1930 were quills (35,915 cwt.) and chips (8,234 cwt.), valued at Rs. 1,779,983 in all.

The Tree.—The cinnamon tree may grow to the height of 20 to 30 feet, and the trunk may be upwards of 3 feet in circumference. The trees cultivated to produce the cinnamon of commerce are coppiced, and long willowy shoots are produced, growing to a height of about 10 feet and to the size of a fair-sized walking stick. The shoots are cut and the bark is peeled off, and rolled into quills, which constitute the cinnamon of commerce.

Cinnamon Cultivation.—If the soil is good, branches may be cut for barking from the fourth year. The tree blossoms in January, in April the fruit is ripe, and the cutting is done from May to October. When the tree is seen to bear fruit well it is in good health, and the bark will peel without difficulty. The sticks are gathered by boys and tied into bundles with coir strings; they are then removed to the peeling stores.

The object of the methods employed is to make the bark up into quills, a quill being a rod of cinnamon resembling a thin cane 4 feet in length; the pieces of bark when stripped are therefore placed round the sticks, both with a view to preserving their shape and as a convenience for the next operation.

Skinning.—They are now allowed to remain for three to six hours, when fermentation takes place, and the bark is ready for skinning. This treatment of the bark leaves only that part which has the desired delicate taste; it is of a pale yellow colour and a parchment-like texture. The bark is now left to ferment and dry, which if the weather be favourable takes about 30 minutes. The next process is that of forming the quills. The smaller pieces are inserted into the larger, and in the process of drying the quills form rods. They are afterwards rolled into shape and made up into bundles.

Cinnamon oil is distilled from the chips and trimmings of the quills.

The commercial cinnamon products are the quills, the chips, and the oil. The best quality is fine cinnamon prepared from tender bark.

The chips are prepared by scraping or chipping the bark after removing the outer bark.

The market for cinnamon quills in 1930 declined throughout the year from an opening price for Hamburg No. 2 at 50 cents to a closing figure of 32 cents. The prices of other grades have fallen similarly. The exports of cinnamon chips show a decrease of 260,000 lb. as compared with the figure for 1929. The market opened at Rs. 70 per candy but declined steadily to Rs. 35 in October. The price improved to Rs. 45 in November, and remained at this level until the end of the year.

The annual average market prices* of quills from 1921 were:—1921, 48 cents per lb.; 1922, 53 cents; 1923, 54 cents; 1924, 70 cents; 1925, 88 cents; 1926, Re. 1.14; 1927, Re. 1.35; 1928, Re. 1.29; 1929, Re. 1.15; 1930, 59 cents; of chips: 1921, Rs. 49.83 per candy; 1922, Rs. 55.61; 1923, Rs. 53.76; 1924, Rs. 67,95; 1925, Rs. 84.54; 1926, Rs. 93.79; 1927, Rs. 102.77; 1928, Rs. 105.72; 1929, Rs. 96.86; 1930, Rs. 56.41. An acre will yield about 120 lb. quills. The cost of production of quills is about 30 cents per lb.

Citronella Oil.

Citronella oil grass is a large coarse grass growing 3 to 4 feet high, cultivated in Ceylon (and of late years in Java) for its essential oil, which is obtained from the leaves by distillation. The grass grows in any ordinary soil, and thrives best in a moist and hot atmosphere. It flourishes up to 2,000 feet elevation, but its cultivation in Ceylon is confined to the south-west coast, where about 33,000 acres are under the product. The grass is readily propagated by division (seed

* The average prices for 1927 to 1930 are for top grades only. Averages for other years represent the lowest and highest overall weekly quotations received for all grades.

being rarely produced), and may be planted about 2 by 3 feet apart in rows. Permanent shade is unnecessary, and the cultivation is very simple, weeding being the chief requirement. The clumps are ready for cutting in about eight months from time of planting. Two cuttings a year may be obtained, and about 10 lb. of marketable oil per acre is an estimated annual yield. The oil is of a strong aromatic odour; it is exported for use in scenting soaps, perfumery, &c., and is also a preventive against the bites of mosquitoes and leeches.

Prices.—The year 1930 opened with a strong demand at about Re. 1.22 per lb. in March, owing to shortage of crop, the market improved still more until it touched Re. 1.13 per lb. in April. From this point prices declined rapidly until the end of June, when Re. 1 per lb. was reached. There was little change until November when a small rise to about Re. 1.08 preceded a steady fall throughout December, and the year closed with a nominal quotation of 88 cents per lb. and a declining market.

The annual average market prices from 1921 were:—1921, 77 cents per lb.; 1922, Re. 1.30; 1923, Rs. 2.09; 1924, Rs. 2.03; 1925, Re. 1.37; 1926, 99 cents; 1927, 77 cents; 1928, 93 cents; 1929, Re. 1.06; 1930, Re. 1.12.

Tobacco.

Localities.—Tobacco is grown in almost all the Provinces. In some areas the industry is an important one. The largest area under tobacco is found in the Northern Province, mainly on the peninsula. It is the most important industry of the Jaffna cultivator, and great care is given to its cultivation and irrigation. The land is thoroughly tilled and manured, and after the tobacco crop is reaped it is sown with food grains and other food products. A cultivation similar to the Jaffna system is carried on in the Batticaloa and Trincomalee Districts and in parts of the North-Western Province (chiefly Kurunegala District), but the methods of manufacture differ. In the Central Province a higher grade of leaf is grown, particularly in the Kandy and Matale Districts. This type has been evolved to suit the conditions of the locality, and in favourable seasons good crops are secured.

The estimated acreage under tobacco in 1930 was about 14,000 acres.

Dumbara Tobacco.—The finest grade of Ceylon tobacco is grown in the Kandy District. The cultivation in this district begins with the slight showers of the early months of the year, and depends for its success upon the light rains which fall in April, May, and June with the advent of the south-west monsoon. Tobacco is rarely grown in this district upon the same land in two consecutive years, it being customary to cultivate the land in other crops and then to allow it to lie fallow for some years before another tobacco crop is taken off. In very dry weather, if water is available, hand watering is resorted to. Otherwise the crop depends entirely upon rainfall for its success, and is a speculative one. Fairly satisfactory attention is given by some growers to curing and fermentation, but a finer product would be procured if greater care were given to manufacture.

The leaves of the Dumbara tobacco burn with a good white ash, but they are too thick in texture and too unsatisfactory in flavour to be of value on the English tobacco markets. They are manufactured in the Island into cigars, which command a ready sale, and would be in greater demand if they were more uniform in quality. A large portion of the Central Province crop is sold to local manufacturers of cigars for use as wrappers for the Jaffna types. The leaves are smaller and of finer texture than the Jaffna types, and have good burning qualities.

The Dumbara types of tobacco are also grown in other districts. The system of curing and fermenting differs somewhat in different areas, and the final product is not of such high quality as that produced in the Central Province.

Jaffna Tobacco.—The Jaffna types consist of two kinds. These are locally known as the smoking and chewing kinds. Both are large-leaved, coarse tobaccos, the chewing type being of more vigorous and coarse growth than the smoking type.

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Jaffna Cultivation.—The cultivation of tobacco at Jaffna is an interesting study. The lands are well ploughed and manured with cattle or sheep manure or with green leaves, and reduced to a fine tilth. Nurseries for seedlings are well prepared, and the seedlings planted out carefully and systematically. Work begins with the north-east rains, and during the early part of the growing period the rainfall may be sufficient to maintain satisfactory growth. During dry weather and from the end of December onwards the tobacco plants are irrigated by wells. In the middle of the growing season this irrigation has to be thoroughly carried out. During the early part of the growing period thorough cultivation of the land is carried on, so as to prevent its becoming "caked," and to allow of the maximum growth for the plants. All plants, except those required for seed purposes, are topped at a height of about 4 feet, and when they begin to yellow they are harvested. The whole plant is cut down and allowed to "quail" for a day in the sun. In the afternoon the plant is separated into individual leaves, each being left attached to a piece of the stem. These are then taken for withering in an open shady shed. Fermentation differs slightly in different localities in its details, and the curing of the smoking and chewing types requires different treatment. Chewing types are harvested by cutting off the leaves, commencing from the top of the plant. All inferior broken leaves and those portions of the stalks which are not attached to the leaves are either sold to the manufacturers for making nicotine extracts or are used for manurial purposes. Conditions of sale demand that portions of the stalk should be attached to the leaves in the majority of cases.

There are certain lands on which the chewing type alone can be cultivated, while others are well known for their production of high grade smoking types. Tobacco from certain localities always commands higher prices than the ruling market rates, while elsewhere only a low grade tobacco is produced. The smoking tobaccos are sold to manufacturers for the local manufacture of what is known throughout the whole Island as the "Jaffna cheroot." Some of the chewing types are sold locally for chewing with betel leaf, lime, and arecanut, but the bulk of this type is exported to Travancore, where the Jaffna tobaccos are eagerly sought after.

Over 98 per cent. of the unmanufactured leaf goes to British India and about 96 per cent. of the manufactured tobacco is sent to the Maldive Islands.

The costs of cultivation of a tobacco crop in the Jaffna District are heavy, considerable sums being expended upon manures, cultivation, and irrigation. In seasonable years, when prices are high, the profits are large. In other years expenses are barely covered, but in general the better lands will average profits of between Rs. 300 to Rs. 450 per acre, while profits of Rs. 600 to Rs. 800 per acre have been secured in good years. The average price of the Jaffna product varies from Rs. 20 to Rs. 40 per 1,000 leaves.

The Travancore markets some fifteen years ago closed to Jaffna tobaccos, but were subsequently reopened. The critical situation demanded that experiments with other types of tobacco should be undertaken. These have been carried out upon a Government experiment station, and it has been demonstrated that White Burley tobacco of good quality capable of realizing 1*s.* 6*d.* and 1*s.* 8*d.* per lb. on the London market can be satisfactorily grown. The Government has evolved a purchase scheme for White Burley tobacco which is exported to England, and the cultivation of this type is showing a gradual extension around the Tinnevelly experiment station in the Jaffna Peninsula. The exports of this tobacco have been as follows:—

Year.	lb.	Year.	lb.	Year.	lb.
1924	4,701	1927	13,328	1929	25,312
1925	15,057	1928	27,688	1930	18,652
1926	18,535				

Cardamoms.

Uses.—Cardamoms are of commercial value on account of the spice obtained from them, which is well known to cooks and confectioners, and is used in pharmacopoeia as a deadner of tastes and a medicine.

Habitat, &c.—The commercial part of the plant lies in the fruit, which is borne on racemes rising from the ground. The plant itself—*Elettaria Cardamomum*—grows in stools or clumps under the shade of forest trees at elevations between 2,800 and 4,000 feet, with a rainfall of 115 to 150 inches a year.

Manufacture.—The fruit is collected by women and children, and is manufactured into either (1) bleached or (2) green dried. In the former case the fruit is bleached, soaked, and dried in sulphur fumes, the process being repeated until the required pale colour is secured, and the ends are clipped off either by hand or by a clipping machine. In the latter case the fruits are merely dried in the sun.

Acreage.—The acreage under cardamoms in Ceylon is about 6,000 acres.

The value of the exports of cardamoms is shown in Diagram No. 9.

Prices.—The supplies of cardamoms in 1930 were moderate early in the year, with an improvement in values, and bleached Mysore, which showed an improvement in quality, realized very full rates, the quotations recorded for the first week in January being Rs. 2-Rs. 2.10 for " all round parcel well bleached " per lb. In April values showed a further improvement. " Greens " advanced 10 to 15 cents per lb. Prices continued to advance steadily till July when the market developed a gradual decline. Towards the last quarter prices were extremely low, with hardly any demand, and sales were difficult to effect even at almost clearance rates. During this period there were heavy offerings of " Alleppey Greens " from India at very low prices, and this was fully reflected in local market conditions with the foregoing results. The year's closing price for " all round parcel well bleached " was Re. 1.65-Re. 1.85 per lb.

The annual average market prices* in certain years were:—1921, Re. 1.22 per lb.; 1922, Re. 1.54; 1923, Rs. 2.41; 1924, Rs. 2.92; 1925, Rs. 3.42; 1926, Rs. 2.44; 1927, Rs. 2.54; 1928, Rs. 2.56; 1929, Rs. 2.22; 1930, Re. 1.69.

Arecanuts.†

Conditions.—The arecanut palm is grown in all village gardens in the wetter districts of the Island. It produces heavy crops of fruits, and provides straight stems, which are used for the erection of temporary structures. Pure cultivations of the palm similar to those to be found in Southern India are rarely seen in Ceylon, although in the Kegalla District there are some fairly extensive pure plantations. The area under arecanuts is about 69,000 acres.

There are several varieties of arecanuts grown, and the respective values of these are well known to the purchasers of fruits. Little care is, however, taken in the selection of fruits for planting, and no attempts have been made to improve the local types. Planting of arecanuts still continues in village holdings, but in many instances this palm is being replaced by the coconut.

The Fruit.—The fruits of the arecanut palm are harvested when ripe, and are sold in their unhusked state in all the bazaars and markets of the Island. The dried product is also readily procurable in the majority of boutiques. It is cut into thin shavings, which are used for chewing with the betel leaf, lime, and occasionally tobacco, by most of the village population of the Island. The price of unhusked arecanuts is about 30 cents per hundred, of husked nuts 35 cents per hundred.

Arecanuts are generally exported to British India and the Maldive Islands, about 91 per cent. going to the former and about 5 per cent. to the latter.

Foodstuffs.

Paddy or Rice.

If Hill Paddy (*Elvi*) is excluded, it may be said that the cultivation of paddy in Ceylon is based upon a plentiful supply of water. Not only are the plants

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† Although in point of value of exports arecanuts rank between rubber and cacao, this sub-section is inserted here, as the cultivation is not organized, and insufficient details are available regarding it.

dependent upon a good supply in all stages up to the ripening period, but the processes of cultivation in all parts of Ceylon, except some of the most northerly, are dependent upon it.

Rain-water Cultivation.—Cultivation without the help of irrigation is carried on, not only in dry districts like Jaffna, but also in wetter parts like the Kandy District. The success of the crop is entirely dependent upon a sufficient and reasonable rainfall, and upon the soil being capable of retaining the water for a fairly long period in order to tide over rainless intervals. Should the rains fail after the paddy has been sown, the crop will perish, and then the cultivator must re-sow his field with a paddy which can mature in the remainder of the season, or lose the season entirely. Similarly, if the rains are late, the earlier maturing varieties of paddy must be sown.

Irrigation.—When paddy is grown under irrigation, the water may be supplied by springs, streams (*elas*), wells, or reservoirs (" tanks "). Cultivation under streams may be seen in the Central and Uva Provinces, and under tanks in the drier Eastern, Northern, and North-Central Provinces.

Asweddumization.—In all cases where a system of irrigation is employed, the land must be " asweddumized," or prepared for paddy. Should the paddy area not be level, it is necessary to terrace it. This terracing is brought to a high level of perfection in the hilly districts. Distribution channels convey the irrigation water to the upper plots, and drains carry off the surplus water.

Preparation for Sowing.—In the preparation for sowing, ploughing may be done in the dry, or if the rains fall or water is available, sufficient water may be allowed on to the field to soften the ground. This is then lightly ploughed by means of small wooden ploughs drawn by buffaloes or cattle. Small iron ploughs are also employed in some districts, and their use is slowly extending. In some districts and in some fields of considerable depth ploughing is not done, the preparation of the soil being carried out by puddling with buffaloes or by digging with hoes. During the first ploughing the weeds are partially buried. About ten to twenty days after the first ploughing a second ploughing is given. The weeds are then still further buried, and the ground made softer and muddier. Between the first and second ploughings in the Central Province green manuring is carried on. Leaves and twigs are buried at the second ploughing, and in some districts special green manure crops are grown for ploughing in. After a lapse of another week or ten days a third ploughing may be carried out. This is generally adopted in the Central Province, but in other Provinces this third ploughing is not general. By means of this ploughing the soil is converted into mud of the consistency desired for sowing upon. Instead of the plough, buffaloes are often employed to trample the muddy soil until the desired consistency is attained. The mudding is followed by a rough levelling by means of the " *poruwa*," a levelling board dragged along by a pair of buffaloes or by cattle. This does not leave the surface smooth enough for sowing, so that it is followed by work with hand levelling boards. At the same time shallow channels are made to conduct the surplus water from the surface, which is now quite smooth. The field is then ready for sowing.

Manuring.—Artificial fertilizers, such as bone meal, have been applied to a certain extent in the past, but the use of ammoniam compound of phosphoric acid is now being popularized. These are applied at the second or third ploughings or at the time of sowing.

Sowing.—Seed is prepared for sowing by soaking it in water for 24-36 hours. It is then placed in a flat heap on leaves of plantain or colocasia and covered so as to retain warmth and exclude air. At the end of two or three days, if germination is satisfactory, the seed will have begun to sprout. The sprouted seeds are then separated from one another and sown broadcast on the field.

Although the advantages of transplanting paddy seedlings have been abundantly demonstrated, not much transplanting is done in Ceylon, except in the Central Province and the Kegalla District of Sabaragamuwa. At present the cultivator prefers, in the majority of cases, to broadcast and then thin

out. When the seedlings are well established, *i.e.*, in about six weeks from sowing, the fields are weeded by the women. At the same time thinning out is done in places where the seedlings are too thick, some of those so removed being used to fill up gaps where the sowing has been too thin.

Transplanting.—In transplanting, the seeds are germinated as usual and then sown in specially prepared nurseries. When the seedlings are from four to six weeks old, they are removed from the nursery and planted at regular intervals in the fields. Although the expenses of working are increased, this is much more than counterbalanced by the increased yields obtained. The plants grow freely and weeds are partially smothered, and weeding necessary being very easily carried out. Transplanting cannot be carried out, however, when the water supply is not reliable, or when fields are excessively marshy.

The crop receives very little attention, apart from watering, weeding, and watching against birds, until the approach of the ripening period. When the plants begin to mature, they first take on a yellow colour, and, at this point, the cultivator drains the water from the field and allows the paddy to ripen.

Reaping.—Reaping is always done with the sickle, and the result is that a long and ragged stubble is left on the field. This remains until it is time to prepare for the next crop. The sheaves of paddy are put on one side as they are reaped and allowed to dry. After this, they are carried to the threshing-floor, which has been carefully prepared in readiness.

Threshing.—Threshing methods vary in different districts. In general, the dried sheaves are spread out on the threshing-floor, and buffaloes or cattle yoked together are driven over them round and round until all the grains have been rubbed off the stalks. The straw is then raked off, the paddy collected and handed over to the winnowers, who separate the empty grains from the good ones.

Seasons.—There are two paddy-growing seasons, both of which are made use of for the cultivation of the same tract of fields when sufficient labour and water are available. The Maha crop is sown from the end of August to the middle of October, according to the district. The harvest from this crop is reaped in February or March. The Yala crop season commences with sowing in March-April, the harvest being reaped in July to September. The corresponding Tamil seasons are called Munmari and Pinmari or Kalapokam and Siropokam. Generally speaking, six and four months are required for the respective Maha and Yala crops. In some districts sowings take place between the Maha and Yala seasons for a *meda* or *iddi* (Tamil) crop.

Improvements.—Considerable improvements in paddy cultivation can be effected. Transplanting could become more general, and greater attention given to manuring and seed selection. The Government, through the Department of Agriculture, has undertaken a considerable amount of research work in paddy in recent years, and a number of pure-line strains have been evolved and are now being tested on a field scale and distributed to cultivators. Similarly, frequent demonstrations have been given in manuring and the organization of the supply of manures is now being investigated.

Varieties.—The varieties of paddy grown in Ceylon fall into three groups, according to the time necessary for their maturing. In the first group come those paddies such as Mavi, Hatiel, and Suduvi, which take at least six months to mature, while in the second group come varieties such as Danahala, Murungan, and Balavi, which mature in three months or less. An intermediate class contains those varieties which mature in four to five months.

The "age" of a particular variety, however, depends largely upon climatic factors, such as rainfall, temperature, and elevation, and it is quite a common thing to find the same variety requiring different maturing periods in different Provinces, or even in two different situations in the same district.

Diseases.—Diseases and pests causing extensive loss to paddy in Ceylon are few in number. Insects do the greatest amount of damage, the chief of these being—

(1) The Paddy Bug, which sucks the milky juices of the young grain, which, for this reason, never matures.

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(2) The Paddy Swarming Caterpillar also causes considerable damage on occasions, but can be readily controlled.

(3) The Paddy Stem Borer, which feeds within the stem and prevents the grain from setting.

Rice.—Paddy is converted into rice by pounding in a mortar. This work is usually undertaken by women, who receive a share of the rice husked for their work. The milling of paddy by machinery has recently been undertaken as the result of the erection of a demonstration mill at the Anuradhapura jail. Several small mills have been erected in the past few years, which have given fairly satisfactory results. It is possible for the milling of paddy in the Island to extend.

Acreage and Supply.—The area under wet-land paddy in Ceylon is about 800,000* acres, yielding, roughly, 12 to 13 million bushels per annum. The returns per acre are small compared with other rice-producing countries, and the profits previously made from paddy cultivation have been insufficient to attract capital and organization. Ceylon has become accustomed to draw the majority of her rice supplies from India, but the means of making Ceylon more self-supporting in its food supplies are now receiving the attention of Government and the Department of Agriculture.

Costs.—The cost of production of paddy in Ceylon per bushel may be said to range from Re. 1 to Rs. 2, according to yields and district. In 1920, when famine prices ruled for rice, the selling price for local paddy ranged from Rs. 2.50 to Rs. 6 per bushel.

Hill Paddy.—Hill Paddy or *Elri* is grown upon dry lands. It is usually cultivated upon hilly lands in districts where an abundant rainfall cannot be relied upon or in "chenas" on lands which are somewhat low-lying. Hill paddy is sown broadcast in lands which have been cleared and burnt. While the crop is growing the larger weeds are pulled out, otherwise no cultivation is carried on during its period of growth. Yields of hill paddy, if seasons are favourable, are generally heavy, and the rice from this type of paddy is highly prized.

Other Food Crops.

Chenas.—Many other food grains are grown in the Island. Except in the Northern Province, these are generally grown in "chenas"—areas of land covered with secondary forest or other vegetation, which are cleared and burned—which are either private or leased or granted by the Crown. The principal grains grown are kurakkan (*Eleusine coracana*), maize, Italian millet, *Paspalum* millet, and *Panicum* millet. Pulses are also grown in the chenas, the principal crops being green gram, horse gram, and black gram. Gingelly (*Sesamum indicum*) forms an important chena crop in some districts, and mustard is also commonly grown in small areas.

Edible tubers grow in abundance. These are known in the Island as yams, and include dioscorea yams, tannia yams, sweet potatoes, and manioc. Sweet potatoes are abundant in the Southern Province, while manioc or cassava has spread rapidly in all districts in recent years, and constitutes a general food. The preparation of tapioca might be possible in some districts if a good supply of pure water were available.

Plantains (bananas) of various types are largely cultivated, and are to be found in all markets. The largest area of plantains is to be found between Polgahawela and Rambukkana, but in recent years the bunchy-top disease has occurred and caused considerable damage. This disease now appears to be less virulent, and areas which suffered severely some years ago are now giving good crops of fruit.

Jak and breadfruit are important foodstuffs, while raw sugar and "jaggery" are made from coconut, palmyra, or kitul palms.

Vegetables and curry plants are generally cultivated throughout the Island, and markets are well stocked. Dried chillies are prepared in the drier districts, while onions are largely grown in some localities. Pumpkins, gourds of various

* The figures are of doubtful accuracy.

kinds, and cucumbers are largely grown and find a ready sale in the various towns and village markets of the country. In the hills, European vegetables thrive, and are largely grown for transport by rail to the principal centres of population and to the shipping in Colombo Harbour.

Miscellaneous.

Hemp.—Several fibres grow readily in the Island, and are exploited on a small scale for local requirements. Several species of *Sansevieria* (bow-string hemp) grow commonly in many areas, and are utilized by the villagers. Mauritius hemp (*Furcræa gigantea*) was introduced into the Island in the early part of the nineteenth century, and is now to be seen in most districts in the form of hedges round small properties, in waste places, and along the railway line. It is only within the past few years that it has been exploited to any extent. The leaves of the wild plants are collected and the fibre beaten out by hand. When dry it is made into twine or ropes, or is woven into thin mats or bags for domestic purposes. The villagers of the Dumbara Valley in the Central Province are the most interested in this manufacture of fibe articles, and their products are generally well made and of pleasing design.

Cotton.—Considerable success has attained the efforts made in recent years to establish a cotton industry in the Hambantota District.

No cotton is exported, as the crop is bought by the Ceylon Spinning and Weaving Mills Co., and used locally. Local Cambodia seed was distributed, and yields varied from 1 cwt. to 4 cwt. per acre, averaging about 2 cwt. per acre. The area cultivated this year in the Hambantota District was 2,297 acres. Owing to depression of the market, the price paid by the mills was only Rs. 16 per cwt.

Fruits and Vegetables.—Vegetables are grown in quantity, and are to be found in all markets, but there are possibilities of improving supplies and methods of marketing. Fruit is, generally speaking, poor in quality, and the supply is irregular. Many of the varieties of fruits and vegetables are capable of considerable improvement. Temperate-zone vegetables grow well in the higher elevations, and cultivation of them is increasing.

Papaine.—The fruit of the papaw tree on being tapped yields papaine in marketable quantities; the tree grows quickly and forms a suitable catch crop during the waiting period for return from tea or rubber. A period of good prices has been followed by a period of over-production.

EXCISE.

Toddy and Arrack.

The production of toddy and arrack form two important industries dependent on the coconut palm. The nuts are formed at the top of the tree on the stalks enclosed in spathes, and for the formation of these nuts a large quantity of saccharine juice is supplied by the tree to the stalks. If the spathe is "tapped" before the nuts mature, and a pot attached to it, a quantity of the juice, varying from 6 to about 12 drams per day, can be collected in the pot. If lime is not used to prevent fermentation, the action of yeasts, which are present in the air or in the pot, will convert the sugar in the juice into alcohol, and the liquid will be converted into toddy, with an alcoholic strength of about 4 to 8 per cent. Toddy is also obtained similarly from the palmyra and kitul palms. It is sold in taverns under Government licence at rates varying from 65 cents to Re. 1.30 per gallon. A considerable industry depends upon the sale of toddy, which attracts many of the smaller Ceylonese capitalists. The cost price of toddy may probably be put at about 30 cents per gallon, and considerable profits are made when the sales are active.

The toddy consumption in 1929-30 was 4,143,374 gallons, compared with 4,092,561 gallons in 1928-29, the average consumption per head of population being .92 and .89 gallons respectively. The actual toddy revenue collected in the two financial years was Rs. 2,325,346 in 1928-29 and Rs. 2,233,822 in 1929-30, the revenue per head being 51 and 49 cents, and the revenue per

gallon of toddy consumed 57 and 53 cents respectively. In 1930-31 the rents of the remaining 138 toddy taverns were sold for Rs. 2,735,273, an increase of nearly five lakhs of rupees over the rent sale figures of the 141 taverns for the financial year 1929-30.

By the distillation of coconut toddy, the local spirit known as "arrack" is produced; and this is sold, like toddy, in taverns licensed by Government. The whole of the toddy retail trade, and of the distilling and sale of arrack, is in the hands of Ceylonese capitalists. Distillation of arrack prior to 1923 was carried on in about 250 small pot-stills of the most primitive variety: it is now concentrated in seven large modern distilleries situated in the Kalutara District, the outturn capacity of each of which is not less than 60,000 gallons per annum. Three of the distilleries have installed "Barbet's" patent stills for continuous distillation, each capable of producing 1,000 gallons of arrack per day. All distillery operations are carried on under the close supervision of the Excise Department. The arrack made at these distilleries is far purer and more free from copper than any arrack previously distilled from coconut toddy in Ceylon. These new private distilleries were started in April, 1924. They supply their arrack to Government at a fixed price under what is known as the "Contract Supply" system.

About 8 gallons of toddy are required to produce a gallon of arrack at proof strength, *i.e.*, the outturn in arrack (proof gallons) of a distillery is about 12.0 per cent. of the toddy distilled. The distiller's cost of production is about Re. 1.50 to Re. 1.75 per proof gallon. The distillers sell their arrack to Government at Rs. 2 to Rs. 2.40 per gallon at 27 degrees under proof. Government stores and matures the spirit in bond and carries on reducing, blending, and bottling operations.

Retailing is done by renters, who are usually those who offer the highest price for this privilege. In addition to paying this price irrespective of the volume of their sales, they pay for every gallon of arrack they obtain from a Government warehouse Rs. 7 as a duty and Rs. 3 (plus Rs. 2 for bottled arrack) to cover Government expenditure on purchasing, warehousing, and bottling arrack.

The number of gallons of arrack distilled during the last three years is as follows:—

	Gallons (proof).		Gallons (proof).
1928	579,215	1930	387,427
1929	497,451		

The corresponding outturn for the three years were 11.92, 12.07, and 12.08 respectively.

The consumption of arrack in 1930 was 521,382 gallons, a decrease of 91,379 gallons on the 1929 figure.

The number of arrack taverns in 1928-29 was 148 and in 1929-30 was 136. The estimated nett revenue after deducting expenses of the distribution and storage system was Rs. 6,787,826 in 1928-29, and Rs. 6,642,434 in 1929-30, which is equivalent to Re. 1.51 and Re. 1.47 respectively per head of population. The arrack consumption per head of population was .14 gallon in 1928-29 and .12 gallon in 1929-30. The arrack revenue (nett) per gallon was Rs. 11.04 in 1928-29 and Rs. 12.15 in 1929-30. The nett revenue shows a decrease, consequent on the falling consumption of 68,518 gallons, though the nett revenue per gallon consumed shows an increase of Re. 1.11.

Vinegar Manufacture.

Toddy vinegar is obtained from the aceticization of fermented toddy, which takes place naturally after about 36 hours.

In 1924 special licences were first issued to vinegar manufacturers in the Western and Southern Provinces, with a view to encourage the manufacture of toddy vinegar as a local industry. The number of licences issued is restricted, and a tax of 50 cents per tree tapped is levied. Rules were passed in 1926 to control these vinegar stores. The results of the experiment have been satisfactory.

The manufactories are run by respectable people, and great care is taken in issuing licences.

Vinegar is sold at a wholesale rate of 45 to 70 cents a gallon, and most of it is bought by retail dealers in Colombo, who retail it at 50 cents a bottle.

There is evidence of a considerable demand for toddy vinegar, and the present supply is insufficient to meet the demand.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The total liquor revenue for the financial years 1928-29 and 1929-30 were as follows:—

Excise Revenue.	1928-29. Rs.	1929-30. Rs.
Arrack (Gross)	8,761,850	8,363,736
Toddy	2,325,346	2,233,822
Licensing fees	178,446	184,183
Composition fees	22,292	18,114
Total Excise Revenue	11,287,934	10,799,855
Other Revenue.		
Customs (import duties)	5,754,566	4,294,900
Police Court fines in Excise cases	292,407	276,260
Sale of confiscated articles	837	245
Total Revenue directly connected with excisable articles	17,335,744	15,371,260

The expenditure on the Excise Department, including the salaries of Civil Servants and all Excise Department officers and all other charges, was Rs. 1,435,975 in 1929-30, being 13.3 per cent. of the Excise Revenue for the year, or 9.3 per cent of the Excise Revenue plus Customs duty on excisable articles and Police Court fines in Excise cases.

Excise Offences.

The following is a statement of Excise detections in the three years 1928, 1929, and 1930:—

Year.	Foreign Liquor.	Arrack.	Toddy.	Intoxicating Drugs.	Short Measure.	Others.	Total.
1928	98	521	5,325	477	134	362	6,967
1929	98	606	4,510	635	145	217	6,211
1930	83	517	5,439	780	88	220	7,127

The most remarkable increases occur under illicit distillation, illicit tapping, sale and transport of toddy, and under cultivation and sale of intoxicating drugs.

FISHERIES.

Sea Fisheries.—The fishing industries of the Island until 1928 were entirely confined to the activities of Sinhalese and Tamil fishermen fishing from their catamarans and outrigger canoes.

The methods of fishing fall roughly into three classes—

(*a*) Net fishing from the shore, in which large seine-nets are employed.

(*b*) Net fishing from catamarans. A simplified form of drift net is used for this purpose.

(*c*) Line fishing from outrigger canoes.

Cured Fish.—As a result of the increased demand for fresh fish, together with increased facilities for transporting fish in a fresh condition, the cured-fish industry has practically died out.

Trawling.—Within the last few years the demand for fish goods has so greatly exceeded the supply that imports, mainly from Southern India, have shown an astonishing increase. In 1920, for example, fish goods to the value of Rs. 4,638,715 were imported, whereas in 1930 the value had grown to the considerable sum of Rs. 12,362,206 (approximately £927,397) or rather more than the whole output of the Island. This, despite the fact that the Island has a coast-line of some 800 miles and that the waters abound in both surface and bottom feeding fishes of high edible value. This failure in the local fishing industry to meet increasing demands is attributable to two primary causes:—

(1) The inadequacy of the catamaran and outrigger canoe to the application of modern fishing methods, and (2) the steady decline in the personnel of the fisher community, due largely to the desire of the younger generations to forsake their parents' calling for more congenial employment.

Since its inception in 1920 the Fisheries Department has been alive to this decline, and under the direction of the Marine Biologist, who is also Director of the Colombo Museum, it has devoted considerable attention to the modernization of the industry. In the first instance it has concentrated on a fisheries survey of the coastal waters with the object of ascertaining the fish fauna and also of inquiring into the suitability of the introduction of trawl fishing. This work has met with signal success. Two extensive fishing banks have been discovered, which are practically virgin ground. They are the Pedro bank off the north-east corner of the Island, with an approximate area of 1,000 square miles, and the Wadge bank off Cape Comorin, Southern India, with an area of over 4,000 square miles. Sample trawls taken on these banks have shown excellent catches of good edible fishes, and the results obtained have attracted the interest of a local company, which commenced trawling operations in the early part of 1928. Fish caught is landed at Colombo, where it is auctioned.

The Pedro and the Wadge banks are almost entirely uncharted, and the Fisheries Department is at present engaged in a detailed survey of both banks for the purpose of preparing accurate fishing charts, which will greatly facilitate their commercial exploitation. Work on the Pedro bank is now completed and a full report is being prepared for publication in the "Ceylon Journal of Science," section C (Fisheries). Work on the Wadge bank has made fair progress, and will be completed in about five years. Progress reports on the work of this bank are to be found in the Department's administration reports for 1925-1928, while the preliminary survey is dealt with in the "Ceylon Journal of Science," section C (Fisheries), Vol. I., Part II.

Inshore Fisheries.—In addition to the above investigations the Department has under consideration the development of a small type of fishing craft to replace the catamaran and outrigger canoe and has submitted a scheme to Government for the purchase of a 45-foot fishing boat which will be used in the first instance to test the four principal methods of fishing—(*a*) drift-net, (*b*) Danish seine, (*c*) long-lining, (*d*) beam trawl—in order to ascertain which of these methods are most suitable for these waters. It is anticipated that the most satisfactory for general fishing will be drift-net and long-lining. The beam trawl and the Danish seine are likely to be more profitable in confined areas, such as the Palk Strait.

Pearl Fishery.—The Ceylon pearl oyster, the fisheries of which have been famous for many centuries, is to be found in the area known as the Ceylon Pearl Banks, lying off the west coast of Ceylon and extending from Puttalam to Adam's Bridge. The banks are under Government control, and the fishing rights are held by Government. No fishery has been held since 1925, and no fishable oysters are at present in the banks. There are no prospects therefore of immediate fisheries. Recently a large extension of oyster-bearing ground, covering an area of about 30 square miles, was discovered.

Chank Fisheries.—The chank, which has considerable value in India, where it is cut and carved into bangles, is fished annually in the shallow-water area north of Adam's Bridge known as the Palk Strait, where it occurs in great abundance. The fishery is not controlled by Government, but a duty is charged on all chanks exported. According to Customs returns for 1930, 2,193,967 shells were exported, and a revenue of Rs. 28,667 was collected as export duty. Chanks also occur in some numbers in the shallow inshore area of the Pearl Banks, but under the Chanks Ordinance, No. 18 of 1890, it was unlawful to fish chanks in this area. This Ordinance has now been amended, and a rule has been passed making it lawful to fish for chanks between January 31 and April 30 in that area of the Pearl Banks lying between Mannar and Modaragam Point and within the three-fathom line.

The fishing of this area was opened for the first time in 1930 and was regulated by the Department of Fisheries. It was carried on under the same conditions as apply to chank fishing in the Palk Strait. The results of this first fishery were moderate only, probably due to the absence of experienced chank-divers who were engaged in the more attractive fishery of the Palk Strait, which was being carried on at the same time.

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SALT.

The manufacture, collection, and sale of salt constitute in Ceylon a Government monopoly, which is protected by an import duty. The monopoly is administered by the Controller of Revenue through the Salt Adviser and the Revenue Officers.

Ceylon consumes about 660,000 cwt. of common salt per annum. The greater part of this salt is manufactured or collected locally, and any shortages due to failures of harvests are met by the importation of salt of similar quality from India. Salt is manufactured from sea water by solar evaporation at the Government Salterns at Elephant Pass in the Northern Province and at Palavi, near Puttalam, in the North-Western Province, and in the privately-owned salt pans at Chiviyateru in the Northern Province, about four miles from Jaffna, at Puttalam, and at Nilaveli, eight miles north of Trincomalee. Spontaneously-formed salt resulting from the natural evaporation of brine is collected from lagoons in the Hambantota District of the Southern Province and in the Jaffna peninsula in the Northern Province. The quantity of salt manufactured at Chiviyateru and at Nilaveli is small, and the greater part of the local supply is derived from the Government Salterns, from the lagoons in the Hambantota District, and from the private salt pans at Puttalam. The following statement shows the total quantity of salt produced in Ceylon during the year and the average of the ten years 1920-1929:—

Producing Centre.	Average for 1920–29.	1930.	Producing Centre.	Average for 1920–29.	1930.
Elephant Pass ..	146 624*	116 751	Trincomalee ..	42,955	—
Palavi ..	31,976*	19,336			
Hambantota ..	144,617	178	Total ..	514,464	190,659
Puttalam (excluding Palavi) ..	98,104	28,420			
Jaffna (excluding Elephant Pass)..	50,188	25,974			

Stocks at the beginning of 1930 amounted to 1,185,748 cwt. and at the end of the year had dwindled down to 697,024 cwt.

The amount realized during the year by sale of local salt from the Government depôts was Rs. 2,006,519 and the nett revenue Rs. 1,663,245.

Owing to the more or less static consumption and the equalizing effect of the import duty the revenue from salt does not show a large percentage of variation from year to year.

MINERALOGY.

Plumbago.

Occurrence.—Plumbago, or graphite, is the most important of the Ceylon minerals. It occurs in minute scattered crystals in some of the granulites and crystalline limestones, but it is only where it is found in veins that it is of any commercial importance. The veins or pockets vary from the smallest size up to a yard or more in width, and often consist of pure graphite unmixed with other minerals. Frequently quartz, mica, felspar, pyroxene, apatite, pyrite, &c., are associated with the graphite. The most frequent country rock is an acid granulite of the charnockite series.

Mines.—The deepest mines go to a depth of between 600 and 800 feet, while considerable quantities of the mineral are obtained very near the surface. Several of the largest mines are fitted with electric light and equipped with modern machinery, but in most of them the arrangements are very primitive. Fifty-two mines were reported to be working at the end of 1930 employing about 2,406 men, but it is possible that the number actually at work was less.

Prices and Grades.—Since 1919 prices have been nominal, there being practically no buyers. The majority of the mines were closed in 1920 and still remain closed.

The decrease in naval armaments had a direct effect on the demand for plumbago especially with regard to Ceylon as Ceylon flake was the best crucible plumbago used for this purpose. This is held to be the cause of the falling off in demand for these high grades and the demand throughout the year has

* With the exception of Palavi and the Northern Province, the harvest in 1930 was practically a failure.

The total quantity produced was 190,659 cwt., representing 38 per cent. of the average for the past ten years.

blishing company, inc.

been principally for carbon plumbago. With the present price ruling there seems to be no prospect of any extension of mining activities, especially in view of the big surface deposits in Madagascar, which can now compete with most Ceylon grades for factory work.

The average market prices for all grades for the last three years were as follows:—

1928, Rs. 188.51 per ton; 1929, Rs. 214.28 per ton; 1930, Rs. 203.50 per ton.

Local Trade.—The mining for, and the local trade in, graphite remain chiefly in the hands of the Sinhalese. Large mines are worked both by Ceylonese capitalists and by tea-estate owners on whose land plumbago is found. Some of the larger mines can turn out 100 tons a month, and Ceylon can, when required, produce 30,000 tons a year. During the years 1915, 1916, and 1917, over 15,000 skilled labourers were engaged in this industry.

Uses.—Plumbago is chiefly used in the manufacture of crucibles, furnace-facings, electrodes, and stove polish, and for making lubricants, black paint, and lead pencils, and in electroplating. During the war large quantities were required for the manufacture of munitions, and the exports in 1916 rose above the old maximum.

The value of the exports of plumbago is shown in Diagram No. 9.

Other Economic Minerals.

Precious Stones.—Precious stones in large variety are found principally in the alluvial gravels of the Ratnapura District and the south-west portion of the Island. The most important are sapphire and ruby (varieties of corundum), chrysoberyl (including cat's-eye and the rare alexandrite), beryl or aquamarine, and the semi-precious stones, topaz, spinel, garnet, zircon, quartz of various colours (cairngorm, citrine quartz, amethyst), and moonstone.

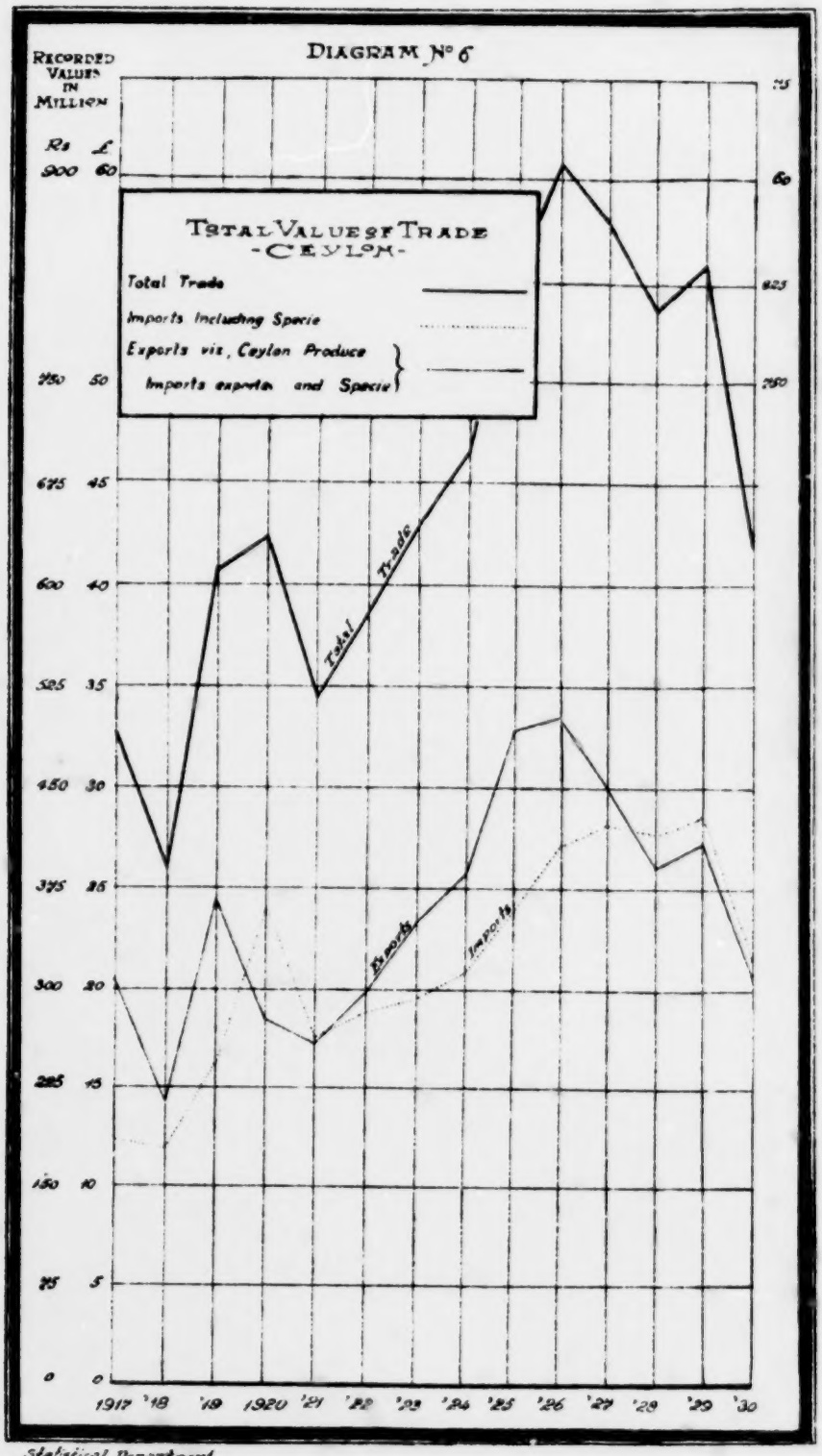
Mining for gems is carried on almost entirely by Sinhalese on a co-partnership system. The stones are bought up by dealers to be cut and polished. Many of the best stones are exported to Europe and America, but the inferior varieties are largely sold locally or in India. It is difficult to estimate the value of the annual output, but it may be put at somewhere about Rs. 2,000,000.

With the exception of moonstone, which is mined from a band of acid leptynite, and some garnet, the gem-stones are all obtained from alluvial gravels. Sapphire and beryl have been discovered in abundance in pegmatite veins in the Matara and Kandy Districts, respectively, and the other minerals named are probably derived from rocks of similar type.

Monazite and Thoria-bearing Minerals.—A number of minerals containing thorium anl uranium have been found both in alluvial gravels and in the parent pegmatite veins. Thorianite, first discovered in Ceylon, and containing from 50 per cent. to 75 per cent. of thoria, and thorite, with 80 per cent. of thoria, were at one time produced in commercial quantities. In 1915 monazite containing over 9 per cent. of thoria was discovered as a natural concentrate on the seabeach at several places on the west coast. Works under the control of the Mineral Survey were erected near Bentota for the treatment of the sand, but the heavy fall in price after 1921 made the operations unprofitable and they were abandoned in 1927. A first shipment of 72 tons of refined sand, valued at Rs. 40,000, was made in 1920. Another small rich deposit is known to exist at Kudremalai, between Puttalam and Mannar.

The mineral is a phosphate of cerium, thorium, and other rare earth-metals. Its value depends on the proportion of thorium present, which is used in the manufacture of incandescent gas mantles.

Ilmenite and other Heavy Sands.—Ordinance No. 6 of 1926 provides for the granting of licences to remove heavy sands from the foreshore. The natural concentrates of the seabeach are conveniently referred to as black sands. The black colour is due to the predominance of ilmenite which is in the form of shining black grains resembling coarse gunpowder. The exploitation of ilmenite may be said to be the chief reason for this Ordinance. It is a titanate of iron, and has come largely into use in the last few years as a source of titanium oxide,



Statistical Department

which can be used as a substitute for white lead or zinc in pigments, and possesses certain advantages over these compounds. It is the natural concentrates of this mineral that are likely to prove of commercial importance. Several large deposits of this concentrated black sand, mostly composed of ilmenite, have been located, but the most important is that at Pulmoddai, about 35 miles north of Trincomalee. It is estimated that there is at least two million tons of ilmenite in this deposit.

Mica.—A small amount of mica has been produced from deposits in pegmatite veins or on the boundary of limestone bands. The deposits are extremely irregular, the commercial mica occurring in bunches in the veins with intervening barren ground. The principal localities are around Kandy and Balangoda.

The only variety of commercial importance is phlogopite, known in the trade as " amber mica ". It realizes good prices when properly prepared.

Other Mineral Products.—Other mineral products are the following:—

(1) Kaolin of good quality can be prepared from the decomposed felspar of granitic rocks free from iron minerals.

(2) White quartz sand suitable for the manufacture of the commoner kinds of glass occurs in places on the west coast and in the north near Point Pedro.

(3) Limestone of a high degree of purity suitable for use in the manufacture of cement is found in inexhaustible quantity in the Jaffna peninsula. The coral deposits of the coast are extensively burnt for lime. The crystalline limestones of the interior of the Island are almost all dolomitic and yield inferior lime.

(4) The gneisses and granulites of the charnockite series furnish useful building stones.

(5) Pottery clays of poor quality and brick-earth suitable for the manufacture of bricks and tiles are found in all the river valleys. Kabuk, which is the product of decomposition of the surface of the crystalline rocks, is extensively used for small buildings. When first opened up, it can be cut into slabs, which harden on exposure to the air.

IV.—Trade.

GENERAL STATEMENT.

CEYLON depends for its prosperity mainly upon agriculture and the development of its natural resources in this direction. There are few manufacturing industries, and those which exist are in their infancy, with the exceptions of the processes by which the three chief staple products—tea, rubber, and the produce of the coconut palm—are prepared for the market. The mineral resources of the Island, with the exception of plumbago, are not large, while the total absence of coal no doubt largely accounts for the lack of manufactures. Consequently, the trade of the Island is occupied with the export of the staple agricultural products and the import of the manufactured articles and finished materials required by the population, in addition to those foodstuffs which are not grown locally in sufficient quantities for local requirements.

Value.—The total value of the foreign trade of the Island has risen during the last ten years from Rs. 629,400,000 or about £41,960,000 in 1920 to Rs. 634,500,000 or about £42,300,000 in 1930. The balance of trade was in favour of exports during the whole period, with the exception of 1920, 1921, 1928, 1929, and 1930.

Trade with other Countries.—As regards trade relations with other countries, it may be said that, roughly, one-third of the total trade is with the United Kingdom, one-third with the British Possessions, chiefly British India and Burma, and one-third with Foreign Countries. The proportions, however, are not the same in the import trade as in the exports.

The total trade of the Island, excluding the value of ships' stores and postal articles, in the year 1930 amounted to Rs. 634,527,676. This figure shows a decrease of Rs. 202,140,457 below the figure for 1929. The total imports amounted to Rs. 324,356,513, a decrease of Rs. 104,938,810 below 1929 and of Rs. 87,763,126

below 1928. The total exports amounted to Rs. 310,171,163. This figure is Rs. 97,201,647 less than that for 1929, and Rs. 82,398,812 less than that for 1928. This year too there is an excess of imports over exports, the difference being Rs. 14,185,350.

Under the head of imports, nearly 50 per cent. come from British Possessions, among which British India and Burma are the largest suppliers. Foreign countries send about 30 per cent. and the United Kingdom about 20 per cent. of the total imports of the Island.

Turning to exports, most Ceylon produce is shipped to the United Kingdom, which takes about 45 per cent. of the total. This shows an increase on the figures for 1929, and exports to foreign countries have declined correspondingly.

Ceylon has till recently obtained the largest portion of her imports from the United Kingdom, with British India a close second, but in 1930, with the decline in the importation of goods from the United Kingdom and with no corresponding decline in the case of India, British India overtook the United Kingdom, and is at the head of the list, with 23 per cent. of the total import trade.

The following are the comparative percentages for the last three years of the value of imports, exports, and total trade with the United Kingdom, British Possessions, and foreign countries. The figures are exclusive of imported rubber and of coal, mineral crude petroleum, and other ships' stores:—

	1928. Per Cent.	1929. Per Cent.	1930. Per Cent.
Imports—			
From the United Kingdom	22.75	22.68	21
From British Possessions	47.82	47.46	48.5
From Foreign countries	29.43	29.86	30.5
	100	100	100
Exports			
To the United Kingdom	39.5	41.41	45.61
To British Possessions	18.4	17.59	18.21
To Foreign countries	42.1	41	36.18
	100	100	100
Total Trade			
From and to the United Kingdom	30.81	31.96	33.32
From and to British Possessions	33.77	32.65	33.34
From and to Foreign countries	35.42	35.39	33.34
	100	100	100

Rice.—The imports were slightly less in 1930 than in 1929, though still higher than the 1928 figure. Burma remained the chief source of supply. There was a marked increase in the quantity imported from Siam, though it formed only a small fraction of the total imports. While the total imports remained roughly the same as in 1929, the value dropped considerably, the average price of Rangoon rice being about Rs. 4.90 per bushel, compared with about Rs. 5.70 in 1929. Thus, while the quantity of rice imported from Burma was actually higher in 1930 than in 1929, the importers paid nearly Rs. 8,000,000 less for it.

The imports in 1929 and 1930 from the chief supplying countries are shown in the following table:—

	1929.		1930.	
	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
Burma	6,321,497	57,525,622	6,387,723	49,724,261
British India	2,303,715	20,195,110	2,313,227	21,095,463
Cochin China	615,657	5,899,388	270,202	2,396,457
Siam	7,990	77,640	227,223	1,832,904
Straits Settlements	105,706	970,489	44,653	368,557
India (excluding British)	18,420	156,371	15,592	133,796
Other countries	7,571	73,342	1,253	13,264
	9,380,556	84,897,962	9,259,873	75,564,702

Paddy (rice in the husk) comes mainly from Burma. The amount imported in 1930 was 370,881 cwt., as against 710,882 cwt. in 1929 and 802,428 cwt. in 1928.

Peas and Gram.—Peas are imported mainly from British India and China, and gram from British India and Burma. The imports in 1928, 1929, and 1930 are shown below:—

	1928. Cwt.	1929. Cwt.	1930. Cwt.
Peas	357,590 ..	378,747 ..	433,425
Gram	101,964 ..	97,702 ..	84,561

NOTES ON THE PRINCIPAL IMPORTS.

Wheat Products, Flour and Meal.—The quantity imported remained normal, though the value showed an appreciable decline, falling by nearly Rs. 3 per cwt. on the average. Most of the flour came from Australia, from which 94 per cent. of the imports were obtained, compared with 95 per cent. in the previous year.

The following table shows the quantities and values of imports in 1928, 1929, and 1930:—

Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1928	409,738 ..	5,067,002
1929	396,640 ..	5,523,144
1930	400,867 ..	4,286,568

Feeding Stuffs for Animals.—The chief imports under this head are gingelly poonac and bran, which come from India. The imports of the former declined from 380,000 cwt. in 1928 to 359,000 cwt. in 1929 and 315,000 cwt. in 1930. The quantities of bran imported remained normal, the figures for the last 3 years being 145,000 cwt., 148,000 cwt., and 147,770 cwt.

Sugar.—Noticeable features of the trade in this commodity were the fall in price, and increased imports, which exceeded those of the previous years by nearly 14 per cent. The average C. I. F. price during 1930 was 8.9 cents per lb., compared with 10.7 cents per lb. in 1929, a decrease of some 16 per cent.

The quantity of sugar imported in 1930 was 1,430,396 cwt., as against 1,250,058 cwt. in 1929, and 1,193,588 cwt. in 1928.

Tobacco, Cigars, and Cigarettes, &c.—Since 1923 the imports of cigarettes have shown a general tendency to increase, and the 1929 figures constituted a record. In 1930, however, the imports fell by about 105 million cigarettes, and the total imports, viz., about 125 millions, were less than they have been at any time during the last ten years. In January, 1930, the duty on manufactured tobacco was increased by a greater proportion than the duty on cigarettes, and the disparity between these two rates of duty has led to a large increase in the importation of raw leaf to be manufactured locally into cigarettes, which sell for half the price of imported cigarettes. Imports of unmanufactured leaf have increased from less than 3,000 lb. in 1926 to over half a million pounds in 1930. The combined importation of leaf and cigarettes represent some 30 million more cigarettes in 1930 than in 1929, but the revenue derived from the importations is more than half a million rupees less than in 1929.

The quantities of each cleared for home consumption during the past three years are as follows:—

Year.	Unmanufactured Tobacco. lb.	Cigars. lb.	Cigarettes. lb.	Manufactured Tobacco. lb.	Total. lb.
1928	115,901 ..	6,817 ..	556,314 ..	13,952 ..	692,984
1929	217,495 ..	5,853 ..	584,227 ..	14,021 ..	821,596
1930	555,321 ..	4,275 ..	316,749 ..	12,326 ..	888,670

Spirits: Brandy, Whisky, Gin.—The total imports during 1930 fell below the 1929 figure by about 47 per cent. With the increase during 1928 in the duty on gin, there was a noticeable increase in the consumption of brandy, the cheaper brands of which began in 1928 to take the place of gin. The decreased consumption in 1930 affected all spirits, and this is mainly attributed to the general depression, which seriously affected the consumption of a luxury already heavily taxed.

The quantities cleared for home consumption during the last three years are shown in the following table:—

	Proof Gallons. 1928.	1929.	1930.
Brandy	104,916 ..	135,794	59,294
Gin	106,415 ..	94,892	55,612
Whisky	81,767 ..	71,491 .	43,167
	293,098	302,177	158,070

Cotton, Manufactured and Raw.—The total value of imports during 1930 unde this head was Rs. 18,532,673, as compared with Rs. 26,849,471 in 1929, showin a decrease of about 8¼ million rupees, or over 30 per cent.

Raw Cotton.—19,354 cwt., valued at Rs. 794,836, were imported in 1930, a against 19,387 cwt., valued at Rs. 975,525, in 1929, British India being the sol exporter.

Cotton Waste.—The imports of cotton waste fell from 6,070 cwt. in 1929 t 4,817 cwt. in 1930. Of this, 2,511 cwt. came from the United Kingdom an 2,306 cwt. from British India.

Bleached Yarn and Twist.—The importation of bleached yarn and twist increase from 31,276 lb. in 1929 to 46,040 lb. in 1930. The imports from British Indi rose from 27,409 lb. in 1929 to 42,573 lb. in 1930, while those from the Unite Kingdom fell from 3,867 lb. to 3,447 lb.

Dyed Yarn and Twist.—There has been an increase in the importation of dye yarn and twist, the figures for 1930 being 126,534 lb., valued at Rs. 72,518, a against 101,197 lb., valued at Rs. 71,524, in 1929.

Grey Yarn and Twist.—The importation of grey yarn and twist has increase from 4,728 lb. in 1929 to 44,782 lb. in 1930. British India supplied 42,382 lb in 1930, as against 3,128 lb. in 1929.

Piece Goods.—The total value of cotton piece goods imported during the las three years is:—

Year.	Rs.
1928	21,061,219
1929	23,440,709
1930	16,089,234

The effects of the trade depression are very noticeable, and the position ha been further complicated by the increased importations of Japanese goods. Th extent to which Japan has improved her position will be seen from the followin examples which show Japan's percentage of the total trade:—

	1929. Per Cent.	1930. Per Cent.		1929. Per Cent.	193 Per Cen
Bleached goods ..	.. 2	.. 14	Grey goods ..	.. Nil	.. 1
Dyed goods ..	.. 3	.. 7	Printed goods ..	.. 31	.. 3

The following table shows the quantities and values of each kind of piece good and the principal sources of supply:—

Nature of Goods.	Year.	Quantity, Yards.	Value, Rs.	Country of Production.	Approxima percentag of Total Value.
Bleached piece goods	1929	16,540,227	6,112,696	United Kingdom	85
				Holland	9
				Japan	2
	1930	12,544,368	4,112,182	United Kingdom	79
				Japan	14
				Holland	4
Dyed piece goods	1929	23,268,297	11,110,243	British India	67
				United Kingdom	16
				Holland	12
				Japan	3
	1930	21,803,323	7,326,533	British India	59
				United Kingdom	17
				Holland	15
				Japan	7
Grey piece goods	1929	3,596,103	1,152,884	United Kingdom	89
				United States of America	9
				Japan	—
	1930	3,329,021	839,817	United Kingdom	75
				Japan	12
				United States of America	11
Printed piece goods	1929	12,789,947	4,649,179	United Kingdom	63
				Japan	31
				Holland	5
	1930	12,620,562	3,605,962	United Kingdom	62
				Japan	35
				Holland	2
Other piece goods	1929	727,840	415,206	British India	37
				United Kingdom	31
				Switzerland	21
				Austria	5
	1930	345,289	173,511	British India	70
				United Kingdom	24
				United States of America	3
				Austria	1

Lace and Net.—The importation of lace and net showed a marked decline, the quantity imported in 1930 being 2,697,218 yards, as against 5,039,488 yards in 1929. The imports from the United Kingdom dropped from 3,380,005 yards in 1929 to 1,447,453 yards, and those from France from 1,454,658 yards to 1,162,146 yards.

Embroidery.—Here too the decrease is very marked, the figure for 1930 being 1,817,580 yards, compared with 4,079,348 yards in 1929. Switzerland, the main supplier, sent 1,357,385 yards, as against 3,127,241 in 1929.

Thread.—Of the total imports, which amounted to 163,319 lb., valued at Rs. 627,377, compared with 197,986 lb., valued at Rs. 831,337, the United Kingdom supplied 132,851 lb., valued at Rs. 578,487.

Coal.—The imports, which rose to 812,545 tons in 1929, dropped to 567,011 tons in 1930. British India and British South Africa maintained their places, supplying 295,386 tons and 167,830 tons, compared with 436,494 tons and 269,129 tons in 1929, respectively. The figure for United Kingdom showed a slight increase, her exports being 103,113 tons, as against 98,031 tons in 1929.

Liquid Fuel.—Imports have for many years been steadily increasing, the 1930 figures being more than double those of 1922. Of the total imports of some 57,000,000 gallons, over 45,000,000 gallons were exported for bunkers, leaving about 12,000,000 gallons for local consumption, compared with about 10,000,000 gallons in the previous year. Three-fourths of the total supplies came, as usual, from Persia, non-British Borneo supplying most of the remainder.

The total imports of liquid fuel during the last three years were:—

Year.	Gallons.	Value. Rs.
1928	52,930,008 ..	13,971,108
1929	53,364,579 ..	12,737,114
1930	57,458,471 ..	12,095,515

Kerosene Oil.—The imports for 1930 exceeded the 1929 figures by over 200,000 gallons. These figures, however, include not only the oil cleared for local consumption, but also what still remained in stock at the end of the year. The actual consumption, judging by the quantities still in bond at December 31, showed very little increase, if any, over the consumption for the previous year. About 70 per cent. of the total kerosene oil came from Sumatra, and about 30 per cent. from the United States of America.

The total imports of bulk and case kerosene oil were as follows:—

Year.	Gallons.	Value. Rs.
1928	8,592,279 ..	8,069,578
1929	8,628,277 ..	7,647,135
1930	8,853,891 ..	6,311,286

Petrol.—The total importation in 1930 exceeded the 1929 importations by over one million gallons, but the same consideration applies as in the case of kerosene oil, and stocks in hand must be considered in estimating the Island's consumption, which, while apparently still on the increase, is much less than the import figures denote.

The imports for the last three years, including importations by Government, have been as follows, Sumatra being practically speaking the sole source of supply:—

Year.	Gallons.
1928	8,349,092
1929	10,501,597
1930	11,446,509

Manures.—There was a decrease in the quantities imported during 1930 compared with previous years, although the decline is not so marked as might have been expected in view of the condition of the major industries.

The followng table shows the total imports during the last three years:—

Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1928	2,522,788 ..	14,899,088
1929	2,614,696 ..	15,168,863
1930	2,251,225 ..	11,698,382

The chief kinds of manures and the countries from which they were mainly imported are shown in the following table:—

Kind.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
Groundnut poonac (British India)	47[illegible],013	2,286,908
Sulphate of ammonia (United Kingdom)	32[illegible],566	1,928,515
Bone meal (British India)	25[illegible],610	1,181,151
Ephos basic phosphate (Egypt)	24[illegible],671	707,298
Fish Guano (British South Africa)	135,033	988,409
Superphosphate (Belgium and Holland)	108,599	530,408
Muriate of potash (Germany)	9[illegible],007	541,213
Nitrate of soda (Chile)	73,120	496,044
Calcium cyanamide (Canada, Jugo-Slavia)	62,[illegible]73	355,947
Refuse of saltpetre (British India)	56,[illegible]34	519,971
Blood meal (United States of America, Australia)	51,097	572,952
Fish manure (British India)	55,655	184,554

Tea and Other Chests.—The increase of recent years in the imports of tea chests ceased in 1930, when the importations dropped appreciably, the quantity imported during the year being nearly 20 per cent. below the 1929 figure. The number of patent chests imported from the United Kingdom dropped by about 520,000, while momi chests from Japan dropped by about 620,000.

The following table shows the imports, with values, for the last four years:—

Year.	Quantity. Number.	Value. Rs.	Year.	Quantity. Number.	Value. Rs.
1927	3,930,987	4,668,596	1929	4,757,127	6,284,901
1928	4,132,646	5,595,590	1930	3,810,939	4,912,32

Cattle, Buffaloes, and Goats.—The marked decline in the number of cattle and buffaloes imported is due to the quarantine restriction on the importation of these animals from Asiatic and African ports. There has also been a decrease in the number of sheep and goats imported.

The following table gives the number and value of importations in 1929 and 1930:—

	1929.		1930.	
	Number.	Value. Rs.	Number.	Value. Rs.
Cattle	2,020	108,335	452	34,070
Buffaloes	564	28,200	320	35,760
Sheep	21,846	218,460	18,537	275,055
Goats	100,326	2,006,240	72,134	1,442,680

Motor Vehicles.—The effects of the depression are clearly marked in the figures of importations of cars and lorries; the number of cars imported in 1930 showed a decrease of 55 per cent., as compared with 1929, and the number of lorries a decrease of 65 per cent.

The tendency of recent years towards the importation of cheaper cars has continued, and the average C.I.F. value per car has been as follows:—

	Rs.		Rs.
1927	2,420	1929	2,160
1928	2,210	1930	2,000

The number of American cars imported declined from 1,047 in 1929 to 333 in 1930, a drop of some 68 per cent. British cars on the other hand fell from 996 to 540, a drop of only 45 per cent. French cars fell from 90 to 64; Canadian from 271 to 168 and Italian from 145 to 71.

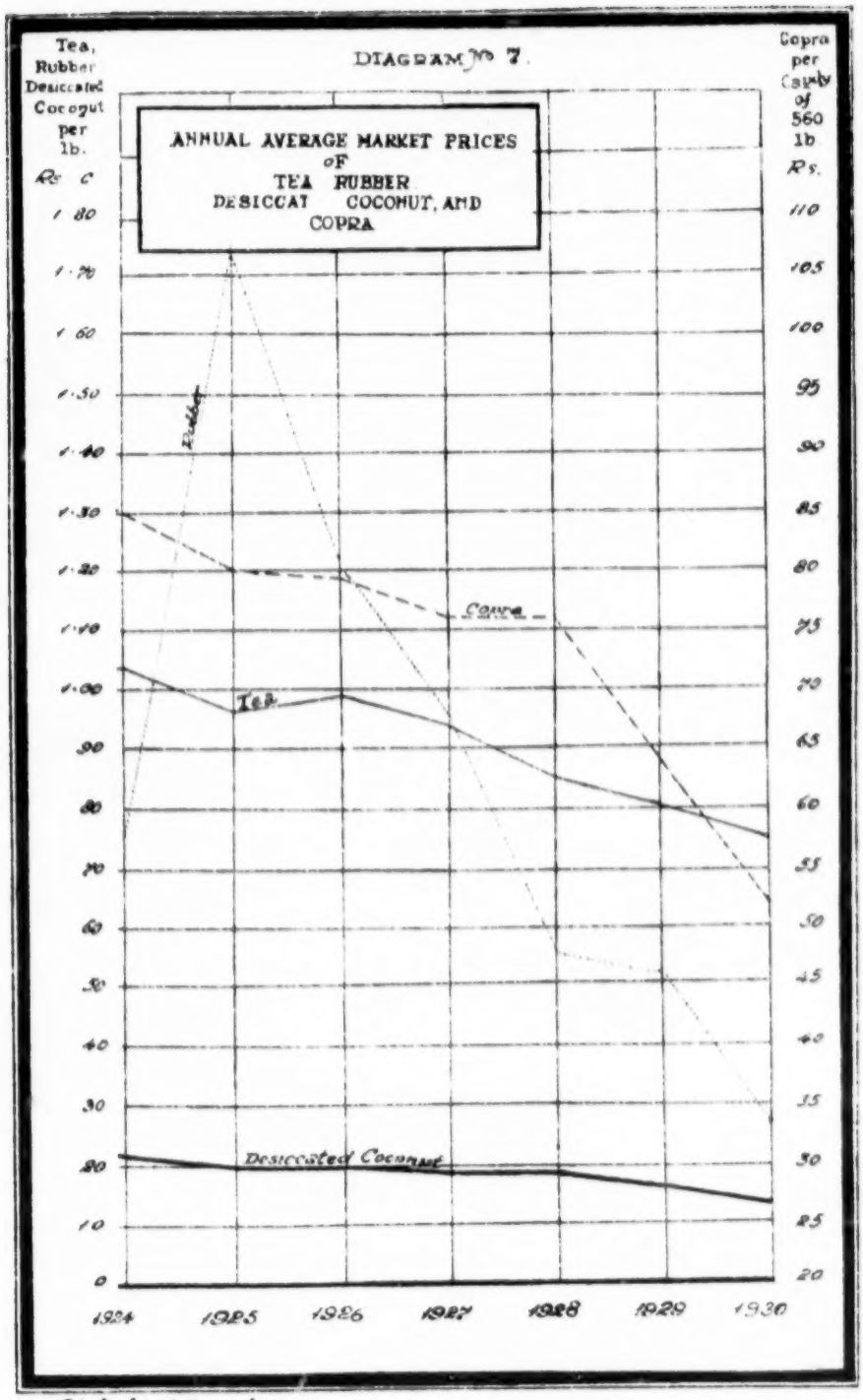
In the case of motor cycles, the United Kingdom is still without a competitor.

It is interesting to compare the import figures for motor cars with the number of cars in use at the end of 1929 and 1930 respectively. Whereas the importations of cars dropped by 55 per cent., the total number of cars registered was 4 per cent. greater in 1930 than in 1929. This would indicate that many motorists, being unable to afford a new car, are making their old cars last longer, and this tendency is more marked in the case of British cars.

The number of lorries imported has shown a very marked decline, the imports dropping from 1,422 in 1929 to 477 in 1930. America sent 330, compared with 1,086 in 1929, a drop of 70 per cent.; while the United Kingdom sent 43, compared with 53 last year, a drop of 19 per cent.

The following table shows the total number and value of cars and lorries imported during the last three years:—

Year.	Motor Cars. Number.	Motor Cars. Value. Rs.	Motor Lorries. Number.	Motor Lorries. Value. Rs.
1928	2,557	5,658,676	948	2,243,692
1929	2,574	5,575,688	1,422	3,056,,846
1930	1,182	2,359,359	477	948,937



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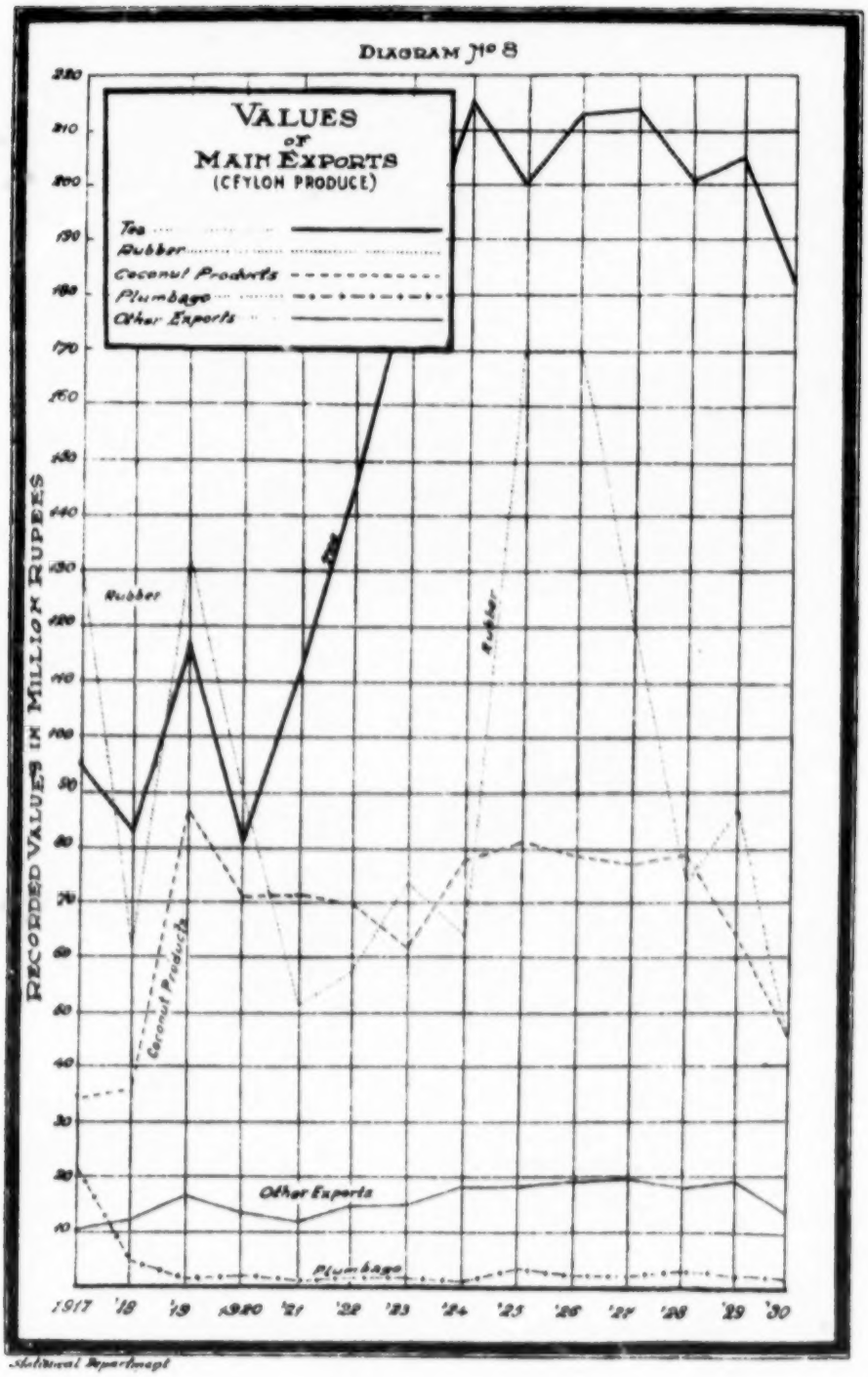

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ent.—The quantity imported declined by nearly 20 per cent., compared 929, the value per hundredweight remaining practically the same.
following table shows the imports during the last three years:—

ar.	Quantity Cwt.	Value. Rs.	Year.	Quantity Cwt.	Value. Rs.
28	1,595,506	3,193,648	1930	1,299,783	2,601,144
9	1,608,841	3,215,561			

l and Metalware, Ferrous.—The quantity imported, which rose to 346 cwt. in 1929, dropped to 860,666 cwt. in 1930, fall of over 40 per cent. nportations from the United Kingdom showed marked decreases under the ng heads:—

on and steel bars, &c., from 116,252 cwt. to 63,777 cwt.
eel girders, &c., from 63,957 cwt. to 34,772 cwt.
rrugated sheets from 179,662 cwt. to 93,905 cwt.
at sheets from 43,074 cwt. to 26,600 cwt.
bes, pipes, and fittings from 86,405 cwt. to 64,827 cwt.

ium, the largest foreign supplier, decreased her exports of bars, &c., from 0 cwt. to 57,340 cwt., and plates and sheets not galvanized from 113,3[illegible] 87,524 cwt. Luxemburg supplied 30,149 cwt. of bars and rods, &c., as ed with 61,060 cwt. in 1929.

ferrous Metal and Manufactures thereof.—The total imports amounted to 2 cwt., valued at Rs. 4,294,075, as compared with 152,938 cwt., valued at 99,486 in 1929. Pig-lead and tea lead are the chief articles included his head.

NOTES ON THE PRINCIPAL EXPORTS.

—Since 1921 there has been a consistent increase, year by year, in the ies of tea exported, until 1930, when there was a slight falling off. From wards the exports were less each month than for the corresponding month , and the difference was most marked in December. The total exports the year fell below the 1929 figure (the highest on record) by nearly 00 lb. or approximately 3 per cent.

average value of tea has shown a decline of recent years. The price in as 75 cents per lb., as against 82 cents in 1929.

exports of tea to the United Kingdom were about 1 per cent. less than previous year, the total quantity exported to England representing about cent. of the total exports. The chief buyers of Ceylon tea with the imate percentages taken by each are as follows:—

	1929. Per Cent.	1930. Per Cent.		1929. Per Cent.	1930. Per Cent.
ngdom	62	63	Canada	2.5	2.5
	8	9	Iraq	1.5	1
tes of America	6	7	Others	10	7.7
nd	4	3.5			
th Africa	3	4		100	100
	3	2.3			

following table shows the quantities of tea exported each year for the years in millions of pounds:—

Year.	Million Pounds.	Year.	Million Pounds.
1926	217	1929	251
1927	227	1930	243
1928	237		

following table shows the exports in 1929 and 1930 to the United Kingdom, Possessions, and Foreign Countries, and as ships' stores:—

	1929. lb.	1930. lb.	Decrease. lb.
United Kingdom	155,304,303	153,875,770	1,428,533
British Possessions	58,383,351	54,037,593	4,345,958
Foreign countries	37,801,918	35,107,885	2,694,033
Ships Stores	98,240	86,226	12,014
	251,588,012	243,107,474	8,480,538

Rubber.—The total quantity of rubber exported during 1930 was 182,306,460 lb., compared with 194,357,828 lb. in the previous year. Of this, over 11 million pounds were imported rubber re-exported. The largest buyer was the United States of America, which took 113,550,297 lb., representing nearly 60 per cent. of the total. The United Kingdom took 40,561,944 lb., compared with 41,556,744 lb. in 1929.

The average price realized at local sales was 28 cents per lb., compared with 49 cents in 1929 and 58 cents in 1928.

The value of rubber exported during 1930 was about 47,000,000 rupees, compared with 93,000,000 rupees in 1929, a drop of some 46,000,000 or nearly 50 per cent.

Coconut Products.—The exports of the three chief coconut products during the last three years have been:—

Year.	Desiccated Coconut. Cwt.	Copra. Cwt.	Coconut Oil. Cwt.
1928	786,704 ..	2,976,656 ..	779,112
1929	690,469 ..	2,042,486 ..	878,523
1930	704,690 ..	1,812,601 ..	763,779

The values of these exports in 1928, 1929, and 1930 were:—

Year.	Desiccated Coconut. Rs.	Copra. Rs.	Coconut Oil. Rs.
1928	19,840,117 ..	31,801,635 ..	19,265,529
1929	11,875,780 ..	26,315,987 ..	18,024,359
1930	10,035,931 ..	18,028,725 ..	13,189,849

Desiccated Coconuts.—The average price for the year fell to Rs. 14.45 per cwt., compared with Rs. 17.29 in 1929 and Rs. 23.46 in 1928. There was a slight increase, compared with 1929, in the quantities exported. The United Kingdom continued to be the largest purchaser, taking 291,885 cwt., compared with 267,697 in the previous year. The next largest buyer was Germany with 128,513 cwt., compared with 110,016 cwt. in 1929. Exports to America continue to decline, on account of the heavy protective duty in force in that country.

Copra.—Compared with 1929, the exports of copra dropped by about 10 per cent. The average price fell from Rs. 12.89 to Rs. 10.57 per cwt. The principal purchasing countries in 1929 were Italy, Germany, Norway, and Denmark, in that order, and they maintained their relative positions during 1930.

Coconut Oil.—The exports fell by about 13 per cent. below the figures for the previous year, and the average price declined to Rs. 17.67 per cwt., compared with Rs. 20.68 in 1929. The United Kingdom was again the biggest buyer, followed by Egypt, Italy, Sweden, and British India. The order in 1929 was United Kingdom, British India, Italy, Egypt, and Sweden.

Fresh Coconuts.—The exports remained steady, though the average price declined from Rs. 62.06 per thousand in 1929 to Rs. 49.06 in 1930. The United Kingdom took about one-third of the total quantity exported. British India took 950,000 nuts, compared with 1,250,000 nuts in 1929. Egypt, Germany, and Holland were, as in 1929, the next largest buyers.

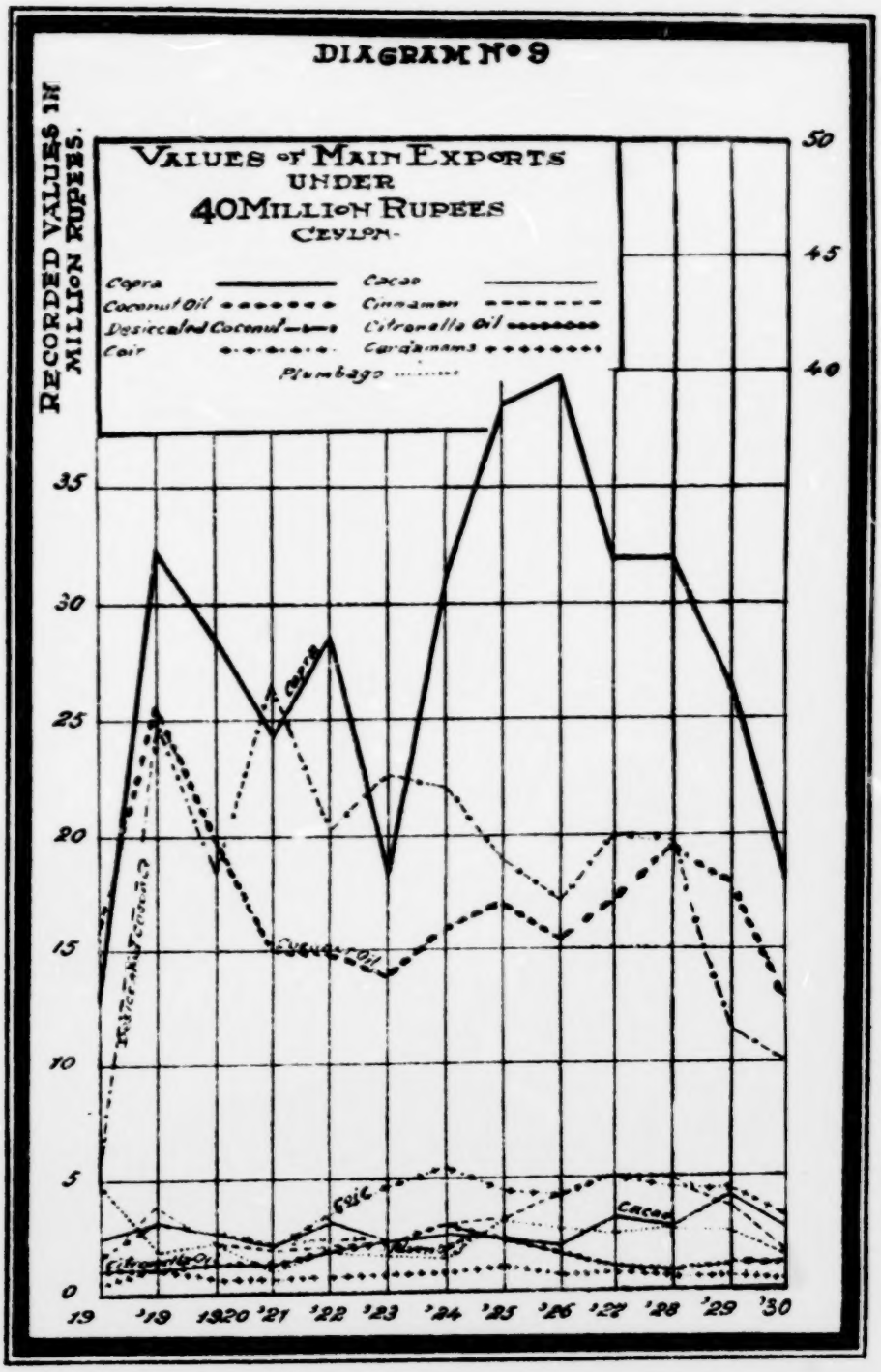
Total Exports for 1929 and 1930.

Year.	Number.	Value. Rs.
1929	20,821,284 ..	1,281,910
1930	20,750,337 ..	972,115

Coir Yarn.—The exports during 1930 amounted to 104,377 cwt., compared with 100,635 cwt. in the previous year. The average price, however, declined from Rs. 14.34 per cwt. to Rs. 12.76 per cwt. The principal buyers were the United Kingdom and Germany.

Coir Rope.—The exports of coir rope showed a further decline, the quantities exported during the last three years being 19,087 cwt., 14,995 cwt., and 11,880 cwt., respectively. The Straits Settlements were, as usual, the principal purchaser.

Bristle Fibre.—This commodity too fell in price from an average of Rs. 8.57 per cwt. in 1929 to Rs. 7.89 in 1930. The quantity exported fell from 199,923 cwt. to 171,217 cwt. Japan and Belgium were again the chief purchasers.



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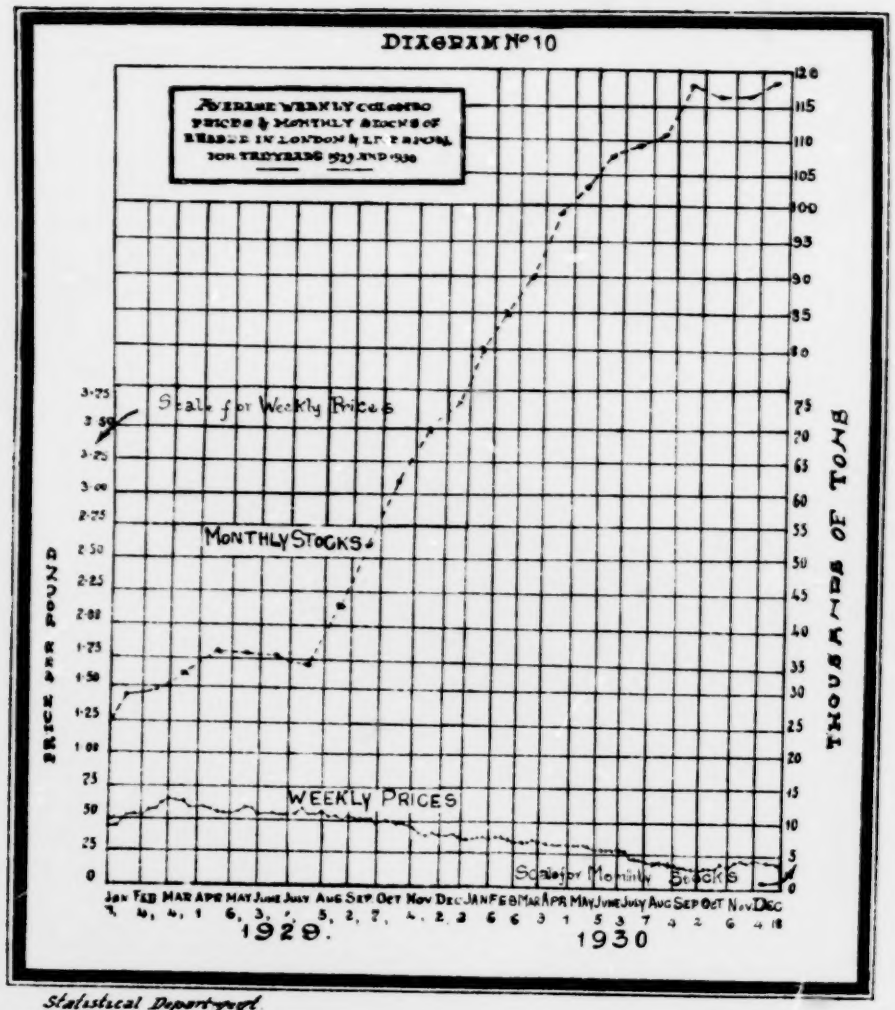

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Mattress Fibre.—The exports dropped from 395,468 cwt. in 1929 to 309,917 cwt. in 1930, the United Kingdom continuing to take the chief share of the total exports. The average price throughout the year was Rs. 1.23 per cwt., compared with Rs. 2.08 in the previous year.

Coconut Poonac.—Exports fell from 333,424 cwt. in 1929 to 278,878 cwt. in 1930, Belgium and Germany each taking nearly 50 per cent. of the total. The average value fell from Rs. 6.34 per cwt. to Rs. 4.50 per cwt.

Cacao.—The average value of this product was 34 cents per lb., compared with 46 cents in 1929 and 36 cents in 1928. The quantities exported were smaller than in 1929, though greater than in 1928. The Philippines were again the largest consumers, taking nearly one-third of the total exports. The United Kingdom and Mexico were the next largest buyers, as in 1929. Mexico and Germany bought larger quantities than in 1929, while Australia and America took less.

Total Exports for 1928, 1929, and 1930.

Year.	Quantity. lb.	Value. Rs.
1928	8,245,198	2,818,361
1929	9,260,112	4,236,136
1930	8,648,084	2,936,789

Cinnamon.—There was a marked drop in the average value of this commodity, and the exports also declined. Mexico was the principal consumer, as in 1929, followed by Spain, America, Germany, and the United Kingdom.

The total exports for 1929 and 1930 are shown below:—

	Quantity.		Value.	
	Quills. Cwt.	Chips. Cwt.	Quills. Rs.	Chips. Rs.
1929	37,059	11,158	3,566,735	217,705
1930	35,915	8,234	1,683,713	96,270

Cardamoms.—The exports of cardamoms fell from 2,851 cwt. in 1929 to 2,801 cwt. in 1930. The largest buyers were Germany and the United Kingdom.

Citronella Oil.—The total exports of citronella oil for 1928, 1929, and 1930 are shown below:—

Year.	Quantity. lb.	Value. Rs.
1928	1,200,001	1,046,598
1929	1,183,23[illegible]	1,326,452
1930	1,213,542	1,346,034

The principal buyers were the United States of America and the United Kingdom.

Arecanuts.—The quantity exported declined in 1930, though the decline in the total value was not correspondingly marked owing to the rise in price. British India was against the chief importing country, taking nearly 90 per cent. of the total exports.

Total exports for 1928, 1929, and 1930.

Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1928	123,338	3,247,198
1929	144,169	2,699,085
1930	113,067	2,621,308

Plumbago.—There was a marked falling off in the quantities exported. The United States of America took only half the quantity they imported from Ceylon in 1929, while exports to Japan continued to increase.

The exports since 1928 are shown in the following table:—

Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1928	286,931	2,704,359
1929	254,776	2,729,639
1930	174,478	1,775,317

The following table shows the quantities taken by the chief consuming countries:—

Year.	Quantity in Cwt. taken by			
	United States of America.	Germany.	United Kingdom.	Japan.
1928	138,942	54,267	30,404	19,177
1929	134,631	35,980	31,244	23,640
1930	63,845	29,737	28,154	26,341

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

The Principal Collector of Customs is the Honorary Imperial Trade Commissioner of the Board of Trade for Ceylon, and in this capacity afforded all possible assistance in the furtherance of British and Ceylon trade. This assistance takes the form of placing British exporters in communication with local markets, and introducing Ceylon exporters to outside markets.

On several occasions the Customs Department has been visited by representatives of British firms introduced by the Department of Overseas Trade, and all available information has been placed at their disposal, such as import statistics and the names of firms likely to be interested.

V.—Communications.

SHIPPING.

Colombo Harbour.

Introduction.—Colombo is an artificial harbour constructed out of an open anchorage by the building of extensive breakwaters. Until these breakwaters were built, Galle was the chief port of call, but since the completion of the breakwaters it has lost its former importance.

Accommodation.—All types of vessel navigating Eastern waters call at Colombo.

Berthing accommodation, exclusive of the Graving Dock Guide Pier and the Oil Jetties, is available for 36 vessels in the North-East Monsoon, and 23, or using packed berths 40 vessels in the South-West Monsoon; six of these berths are available in either monsoon for vessels drawing up to 33 feet.

The Port has excellent facilities for docking, and for bunkering both oil and coal; fresh-water supplies are available, and a special feature is the rapid discharge and loading of cargo.

There is Railway communication between Colombo and South India *viâ* Talaimannar, and most of the principal towns in Ceylon are easily reached from Colombo by rail.

Transhipment.—Special facilities are available for the transhipment of cargo. A small fee is payable for Customs supervision which is required in the case of direct transhipment from vessel to vessel. Cargo for reshipment can be brought ashore and deposited in a Transhipment Warehouse until it can be forwarded to its destination. No import or export duty is payable upon such cargo, and rent and harbour dues are payable at a reduced rate, amounting to 1/5th of the rate payable upon ordinary import cargo.

The volume of transhipment is not very large, the quantity transhipped during the year being about 58,807 tons, but there is a steady traffic with Tuticorin and other South Indian ports of transhipment of cargo to and from the United Kingdom, America, Australia, the Far East, &c.

Depth.—The approach to the harbour is free from navigational dangers. Of the 643 acres of low-water area of the harbour, 186 acres have been dredged to 36 feet and over, 102 acres to a depth varying between 36 feet and 33 feet, and 147 acres to between 33 feet and 30 feet; the remaining 208 acres have a depth of less than 30 feet. There are six berths available for vessels drawing up to 33 feet of water, one of which is for vessels of unlimited length.

Area, &c.—The harbour is enclosed on all sides, being bounded on the south and east by the land and on the north and west by massive breakwaters. The sheltered water area of the harbour amounts to 643 acres at low water, vessels drawing 33 feet can enter by the western entrance, and vessels drawing 27 feet can enter by the northern entrance.

Channels.—The western entrance channel is 630 feet wide, with a navigable depth of 36 feet L. W. O. S. T., and the northern entrance channel 550 feet wide, with a navigable depth of 30 feet L.W.O.S.T.

Loading, &c.—Loading and discharging are done by lighters. The quays and jetties used by the lighters, launches, &c., have a total length of 15,657 feet. The supply of labour is adequate. There are 12 electric cranes, 30 steam cranes, 14 hand cranes, 1 elephant hand crane, 1 hand derrick, 1 steam derrick, and 1 mobile crane operating on the jetties and quays. The largest lift which can be made is 35 tons.

Coaling.—There are seventeen coaling jetties for lighters, serving coaling areas let to the different Companies where large stocks of coal can be stored.

Oil.—A depôt over 91 acres in extent and about 3½ miles inland from the harbour front has been prepared at Kolonnawa for the storage and distributing tanks of the different Oil Companies, with pipeline connection from the harbour. Three reinforced concrete jetties, two for bunkering purposes and one for discharge of oil tankers, have been provided. The Outer Oil Bunkering Jetty is capable of accommodating vessels of 500 feet length and 27 feet draught. The Inner Bunkering Jetty is used by barges for bunkering. Vessels of 500 feet length and 27 feet draught can be berthed at the Discharge Jetty, where the latest facilities for discharging oil ships are provided.

Warehouses.—There is ample warehouse accommodation (592,476 square feet) along the harbour front for dealing with imports, exports, and transhipment of cargo. Most of the warehouses have railway facilities and cranes are available where required.

Quarantine.—On entering the harbour each ship is visited by the Port Surgeon or his Assistant, and no person is allowed to board the ship or leave the ship till pratique is granted. If there are cases of infectious diseases on board such as plague, cholera, smallpox, yellow fever, or typhus, the ship is held in strict quarantine until all necessary measures, such as removal of the sick persons, disinfection of the ship, vaccination, &c., as the case may be, are carried out. Thereafter the ship is allowed to be worked in restricted quarantine, any persons having business on board being allowed on special permits.

Graving Dock.—Length of floor, 700 feet; breadth of entrance—cope level, 85 feet; depth over sill at low water, 30 feet; depth over sill at high water, 32 feet. Docking can be carried out by day or night.

Patent Slip.—Length 800 feet; length of cradle 220 feet; breadth of cradle 40 feet; depth over keel blocks at lower end at low water, 21 feet 6 inches; depth over keel blocks at upper end at low water, 10 feet 6 inches; inclination 1 in 20. Capable of slipping a vessel of 1,200 tons dead weight.

Coal.—Large supplies can be procured, and steamers bunkered with good dispatch at any hour of the day or night.

The types and prices of coal stocked at Colombo for commercial purposes are as follows (December, 1930):—

Type.	Approximate Prices F.O.B. and trimmed. s. d.		s. d.
Best Welsh	44 6	to	46 6
Natal	31 0	to	33 6
India	about 31s.		

Ambulance Facilities.—A motor ambulance is available for the transport of sick and injured persons and an ambulance launch is also available for the conveyance of sick and injured persons between ship and shore.

Port Commission.—The Colombo Port Commission is composed of the following:—The Principal Collector of Customs (who is Chairman or Chief Port Commissioner); the Director of Medical and Sanitary Services; the General Manager of the Railway; the Chairman, Municipal Council, and Mayor of Colombo; the Deputy Collector of Customs; the Master Attendant, Colombo and Galle; the Harbour Engineer; six Unofficial Members nominated by the Chamber of Commerce to represent Import, Export, Shipping, Coaling, Oil, and Landing Agencies' Interests; one Unofficial Member nominated by His Excellency the Governor to represent Ceylonese interests.

The Consulting Engineers to the Port of Colombo are Messrs. Coode, Wilson, Mitchell, and Vaughan-Lee, M.M.I.C.E., Victoria street, London, S.W. 1.

Distances.—The approximate distances of Colombo, the chief port of Ceylon, from the other chief ports of the world on the various routes are as follows:—

Colombo to London.

	Nautical Miles.	Approximate Days' Journey.
Aden	2,100	8
Suez	3,407	12
Port Said	3,494	13
Marseilles	5,091	16
Gibraltar (*via* Marseilles)	5,690	19
Gibraltar (direct)	5,407	18
London (by sea *via* Marseilles)	7,005	24
London (by sea direct)	6,725	23
London (overland)	5,868	19

Colombo to India, &c.

	Nautical Miles.	Approximate Days' Journey.
Calcutta	1,260	7
Bombay	875	3
Rangoon	1,249	4½
Penang	1,276	6
Singapore	1,567	7
Hong Kong (touching at Singapore)	3,113	13
Shanghai (touching at Singapore and Hong Kong)	3,966	17
Yokohama (*via* Singapore and Hong Kong)	5,083	24

Colombo to Australia.

	Nautical Miles.	Approximate Days' Journey.
Fremantle	3,121	10
Albany	3,370	11
Adelaide (touching at Fremantle)	4,479	14
Melbourne (touching at Fremantle and Adelaide)	4,979	16
Sydney (touching at Fremantle, Adelaide, and Melbourne)	5,556	19

Colombo to South Africa, &c.

	Nautical Miles.	Approximate Days' Journey.
Mauritius	2,099	10
Durban (touching at South African ports)	3,680	18
Cape Town (touching at South African ports)	4,362	21-30

Passage Fares.

Colombo-Lo[illegible]:—
1st class [illegible] .. .. £62 to £92
2nd cla[illegible]gle .. .. £50 to £62

Colombo [illegible]ney:—
1st [illegible] single £55
[illegible]s single £32

Co[illegible]o-Melbourne:—
[illegible]class single £53
[illegible] class single £30

Colombo-Durban:—
1st class single £27½

Colombo-Singapore:—
1st class single by P. & O. .. £22
2nd class single by P. & O. .. £12

Colombo-Hong Kong:—
1st class single by P. & O. .. £36
2nd class single by P. & O. .. £20

Colombo-Yokohama:—
1st class single by P. & O. .. £46
2nd class single by P. & O. .. £26

Colombo-Bombay:—
1st class single £10
2nd class single £7

Colombo-Calcutta:—
1st class single £10
2nd class single £8

Colombo-Rangoon:—
1st class single .. .. Rs. 180

Colombo-Port Said:—
1st class single .. .. £41 to £72
2nd class single .. .. £34 to £48

Colombo-Marseilles:—
1st class single .. .. £58 to £88
2nd class single .. .. £47 to £60

Colombo-Boston and New York £103 and £62

Baggage Allowances.—The usual baggage allowance is 3 cwt. in case of first class, and 1½ cwt. in the case of second class passengers.

Landing of Cargo.—The conveyance of cargo from the vessel to the wharf is carried out by recognized stevedores and Landing Companies, who receive cargo from the ship's side and land it into the warehouse under contract with the steamer agents. The Landing Companies accept responsibility for any difference between the quantity received over the ship's side and the quantity actually landed on the wharf. After the cargo has been landed into the warehouse, no responsibility is accepted for any loss, and the goods lie at the risk of the importer.

Clearing.—Goods may be cleared either by the importer himself or by any Landing Company or recognized clearing agency. Firms who import on a large scale find it convenient to keep their own staff of wharf clerks for the clearing of cargo and the passing of the necessary entries through the Customs. On the other hand, firms whose business is not so great as to justify the maintenance of such a staff, find it more convenient to clear their goods through a Landing Company, or a Clearing Agency.

Warehouse rent and harbour dues are payable upon all goods landed at the wharf, and three clear days are allowed for the removal of the goods, exclusive of Customs holidays, of which there are five in the year, and Sundays. On goods removed after the expiry of this period further rent and dues are payable in respect of each day inclusive of Sundays and Customs holidays. Special facilities are offered by the Customs for clearing goods prior to the passing of the entry and the payment of the duty, rent, and dues. The usual system is to place a

cash deposit with the Customs, against which goods are removed after any examination found necessary, the importer guaranteeing to pass the necessary papers within a reasonable period. Special facilities are also given for the clearing of perishable goods and of consignments, such as rice and sugar, which are landed in large quantities at a time.

Exports.—Five warehouses are allotted for the accommodation of export cargo, in addition to an open shed used for the shipment of drums containing coconut oil and similar commodities, and another shed for rough cargo. The largest warehouse can accommodate 4,000 tons of tea packed in chests of the usual size. The other four warehouses can each accommodate from 2,500 to 3,000 tons.

Shipment.—Cargo for shipment is brought down to the warehouse by cart, lorry, train, or barge, carts being used in the majority of cases. Of the cargo brought by road, some 30 or 40 per cent. is brought by lorry. The Port Commission railway, which is connected with the main system of the Ceylon Government Railway, runs direct into the premises alongside three of the export warehouses. With regard to shipment, the same considerations apply as in the case of imports, some firms finding it more convenient to employ a clearing or shipping agency than to maintain their own staff. As in the case of import cargo, goods remain in the Government warehouse at the risk of the exporter. To suit the convenience of shippers who do not carry out their own shipments, landing and shipping companies are prepared to take over cargo at the shipper's stores for removal to the warehouse in the Company's own lorries. Export harbour dues are payable on all goods sent down to the warehouses or wharf. If they lie there for more than three clear days, further dues are payable for each day, and in addition a similar sum by way of warehouse rent. Cargo is taken to the vessel by means of lighters. A good supply of labour is available.

Bonded Warehouses.—There are several bonded warehouses within the Customs premises, and certain firms have their own bonded warehouses outside the premises. Goods may be bonded for any period up to two years, after which they must either be removed or rebonded. All goods placed in bond are liable to the same rent and harbour dues as in the case of import cargo up to the time of bonding, after which no further dues are payable and bonded warehouse rent is recovered, the amount payable per week on bonded goods being the same as the charge per day on import cargo. No rent is payable to the Customs in the case of goods which lie in bonded warehouses belonging to private firms, though a charge is made for Customs supervision of deposits and removals.

The import and transhipment warehouses lie at the south-west corner of the harbour, in the area between the root of the south-west breakwater and the canal leading to the lake. Other import warehouses and landing areas are situated on either side of this canal, these being largely used for the landing of rough cargo, such as timber and metal. The export warehouses lie between the canal and the Block Jetty. Further north, three recently built warehouses are available at Kochchikade, where facilities are provided for transport by rail.

Passenger Jetty.—A new Baggage Office completed during the year 1929 contains good accommodation and examination halls. There is a staff always on duty day and night, and baggage landed with passengers is passed without delay. There is also provision for the storage of such baggage as a passenger may wish to leave in the premises, a small storage rent being payable.

Lakeside Warehouses.—There is direct access from the harbour to the lake through the canal and locks, and several firms have their own warehouses and stores on the lakeside. Special facilities are given by the Customs for import cargo to be removed direct to these stores, and conversely, for the direct shipment of export cargo from the stores to the vessel. Rent and dues are payable as in the case of goods landed in the warehouse, but this direct traffic obviates the necessity for landing goods in a warehouse, and two additional handlings are thereby saved.

RAILWAYS.

All the railways in Ceylon are State-owned and Government-controlled, the management being vested in the Ceylon Government Railway Department.

The total length of line open is 951 miles, of which 834 miles are broad gauge (5½ feet gauge) and 117 miles narrow gauge (2½ feet gauge).

The frontispiece map shows how the different lines radiate from Colombo.

The following table shows the distance from Colombo Fort to the more important stations on the different lines, with the first class single passenger fare and the approximate time of journey:—

Colombo Fort to	Distance. M. C.	Train Fare. Rs. c.	Approximate Time of Journey. Hours.	Colombo Fort to	Distance. M. C.	Train Fare. Rs. c.	Approximate Time of Journey. Hours.
Peradeniya	71 62	5 76	3½*	Polonnaruwa	162 1	13 4	8½*
Kandy	75 12	6 8	3½*	Batti a'oa	217 78	17 44	12
Nanu-oya	128 62	12 4	7½*	Trincomalee	184 25	14 80	9½
Nuwara Eliya	135 27	13 23	10*	Mount Lavinia	7 40	0 64	½*
Bandarawela	161 34	16 0	12*	Galle	70 38	5 68	2½*
Anuradhapura	127 31	10 24	5½*				

* By express trains.

The main results of the working of the Ceylon Government Railway for the financial years 1926-27 to 1929-30 are shown in the following table:—

Particulars.	1926–27. Rs.	1927–28. Rs.	1928–29. Rs.	1929–30. Rs.
Total capital outlay	200,885,771	211,049,795	217,574,271	220,522,956
Gross earnings	30,111,991	31,285,599	32,198,947	29,650,683
Total working expenses*	20,518,804	23,560,496	25,996,899	25,085,120
Nett revenue†	9,593,187	7,725,103	6,502,048	4,565,563
Percentage of nett revenue on total capital outlay	4·77 p.c.	3·66 p.c.	2·99 p.c.	2·07 p.c.
Gross receipts from ordinary passengers and season tickets	Rs. 11,436,726	Rs. 12,087,692	Rs. 12,595,114	Rs. 11,599,508
Gross receipts from parcels, goods, &c.	18,675,265	19,197,907	19,903,833	18,051,175
Free traffic (excluding that for Railway Department included in gross receipts)	2,251,945	Nil	Nil	Nil

* Maintenance and renewal of way and works and of rolling stock, locomotive running expenses, traffic expenses, general charges (including pensions and gratuities), and motor service.

† That is, "Gross earnings" less "Total working expenses."

The number of passengers conveyed has fallen off by 1,403,245, the total conveyed during the year being 18,008,877.

Under season tickets the number of ticket holders has increased to the extent of 1,027, the total number of season tickets issued during the year being 216,567.

The number of parcels conveyed during the year was 1,848,953, or a decrease of 214,727.

The tonnage of goods carried has decreased from 1,374,359 tons to 1,256,519 tons, the noticeable increases and decreases being—

	Increase. Tons.		Decrease. Tons.
Manure	7,131	Coora	9,403
Salt (country)	3,465	Coconut produce	9,930
Agricultural produce	4,631	Rice	30,291
		Packing for tea, &c.	5,562
		Tea	8,096
		Sundry goods	33,079

Passenger Fares.

The standard passenger fares are as follows:—Single fares: First Class, 8 cents per mile on all lines below Nawalapitiya, 12 cents per mile on the Main Line above Nawalapitiya, and 17 cents per mile on the Uda Pussellawa Line. Second Class, 5⅓ cents per mile on all lines below Nawalapitiya, 8 cents per mile on the Main Line above Nawalapitiya, and 12 cents per mile on the Uda Pussellawa Line. Third Class, 2⅔ cents per mile on all lines excepting the Uda Pussellawa Line, and 4 cents per mile on the Uda Pussellawa Line. Return tickets are issued at one and half times the single fare, except in the case of the Uda Pussellawa Line, on which section double the single fares are charged. Week-end tickets are issued between all stations distance 50 miles and over at single fare and a quarter for the double journey. Reductions are made for children, pioneers, and coolies of any nationality, and for periodical tickets.

Sleeping Cars.

The sleeping cars which run on the Up and Down Night Mail trains between Colombo and Bandarawela are each provided with accommodation for ten passengers. They are all two-berth compartments, each having lavatory accommodation. Each berth is numbered, and provided with bedding, and an attendant accompanies each car. Berths will only be reserved on prepayment before 6.30 P.M. of the ordinary first-class fare plus Rs. 5 for the sleeping berth.

In the Indo-Ceylon mail trains sleeping berths without bedding are provided for through first-class passengers without any extra charge, but berths are not guaranteed unless they have been reserved, for which a registration fee of Re. 1 per berth will be charged. If bedding is required Rs. 5 must be paid for each set of bedding at the time of booking, and a berth will be made up as a bed by the Car Attendant. In such cases no registration fee will be charged.

Restaurant Cars.

These are attached to the important trains on the Main and Northern Lines.

Restaurant Rooms.

These are provided at Maradana, Polgahawela, and Nanu-oya on the Main line, Colombo Fort and Alutgama on the Coast line, and Anuradhapura on the Northern line. Refreshments at these places are supplied at moderate prices.

Refreshment Baskets.

Refreshment baskets can be supplied for any train from Colombo on giving 20 minutes' notice to the Manager, Restaurant Cars and Rooms, at his office at Colombo Fort Station.

Luggage.

Each adult passenger is allowed, free of charge, the following weight of luggage:—

	lb.		lb.
First class	112	Third class	56
Second class	84		

A free allowance of half these quantities is made for each child travelling with a half-ticket. No luggage will be conveyed free for children under three years of age who travel free.

ROADS.

There are over 16,500 miles of roads and cart tracks in the Island controlled and administered by the following authorities:—

Authority.	Description of Roads.	Approximate Mileage.
(i.) Public Works Department ..	All main thoroughfares in the Island	4,765
(ii.) District Road Committees ..	All minor roads within the areas of jurisdiction of each Committee	3,000
(iii.) Local Governing Authorities, viz., Municipalities, Urban District Councils, Local Boards, Sanitary Boards, &c.	All streets within their respective jurisdictions ..	565
(iv.) Village Committees ..	All natural cart tracks within the jurisdiction of each Committee	7,800
(v.) Irrigation Department ..	..	70
(vi.) Private Parties ..	..	550

In addition there are approximately 8,200 miles of bridle paths in the charge of the District and Village Committees.

2. The Public Works Department is the principal Road Authority in the Island and is responsible for the construction and maintenance of all the "Main Roads," by which is meant through arteries connecting the principal centres of population with one another and with the railways and ports.

The whole cost of construction, improvements, and maintenance of these roads is met from the general revenue of the Island.

The roads vary in standard from narrow country roads to wide modern thoroughfares, the standard depending on the nature of the country traversed and the traffic carried.

The following is the classification of the Public Works Department Roads according to the nature of their surfaces:—

	Miles.
Full metalled	3,545
Track-metalled	585
Gravelled	503
Natural	132
	4,765

The metalled roads are maintained in good order, and, with but few exceptions, may be considered passable to all classes of traffic. Gravelled roads can be considered as dry-weather roads only; in dry weather they are generally in fair order, but they cannot be relied upon to the extent of metalled roads. A large mileage of the metalled roads is tarred or otherwise surface-treated. At the end of 1930 the length of roads so treated was 2,870 miles.

3. The only direct charge on road users is that for the use of ferryboats, but on the main roads with few exceptions the ferries have been replaced by bridges. Indirect charges are made in the form of import duties and taxes on wheeled vehicles.

4. The distribution of the main roads, distances between the principal centres, &c., can be ascertained on reference to the Motor Map of Ceylon, obtainable from the Surveyor-General, Colombo, price Rs. 2.60.

5. The distances from Colombo to other chief towns by road (given to the nearest half mile) are shown in the following list:—

Colombo to	Miles.	Colombo to	Miles.
Galle	72½	Batticaloa (*viâ* Badulla) ..	241
Peradeniya	68	Anuradhapura (*viâ* Matale) ..	158½
Kandy	72	Trincomalee (*viâ* Kurunegala) ..	169
Nuwara Eliya (*viâ* Peradeniya) ..	112	Anuradhapura (*viâ* Puttalam) ..	129
Nuwara Eliya (*viâ* Ginigathena) ..	106½	Jaffna (*viâ* Puttalam)	250

Means of Transport by Road.

The number of motor vehicles in Ceylon has been increasing very rapidly for some years, and on December 31, 1930, was 24,405. The average cost of running a small private car may be put at about 30 to 40 cents per mile, while larger cars may cost up to 60 cents per mile. Hiring cars are available in most parts of the Island and cost 40 cents to Re. 1 per mile. Drivers and mechanics for privately-owned cars can be obtained without any great difficulty, and all drivers must hold the Government certificate of competence, while many hold certificates from the Automobile Club of Ceylon. Numerous facilities for repairs exist in Colombo, Kandy, Nuwara Eliya, and most of the other towns. The Secretary of the Automobile Club in Ceylon will afford any information which may be desired.

Goods.—The chief means of transport of goods by road are the local bullock cart and the motor lorry. A double-bullock cart is capable of taking 1½ tons at a time, and travels at the average rate of about 2 miles an hour. The cost per ton per mile may be put at about 80 cents. There are about 34,000 single and double-bullock carts in Ceylon, the majority of which are used in the transportation of village produce. Motor lorries are gradually replacing bullock carts in the movement of estates goods, and in other industries. These vary in load capacity from 1 to 3 tons and travel about 8 miles an hour, this being the legal speed limit for such vehicles. They run on petrol or kerosene. In 1930 there were about 3,000 motor lorries in Ceylon. Experience has shown that excluding profit the running costs can be kept as low as 50 cents per ton per mile.

TRAMWAYS.

The only street tramways in Ceylon are those in the town of Colombo, the total length of double track being 7 miles. There are two nearly equal routes: one between the Fort and the Kelani river terminus, and one between the Fort and Borella, joined by a cross line between Maradana and Grandpass *viâ* Skinner's road and Armour street. The total number of passengers carried annually is estimated at about 13 millions.

There has been a very large increase recently in the numbers of motor omnibuses carrying passengers for hire and they now run on nearly every main road in the Island.

There is seating accommodation for 8 to 20 persons in a motor bus.

Personal luggage of small dimensions and light weight will be carried free of charge. Extra luggage will be carried only if there is room in the conveyances on payment of the prescribed charges.

CANALS.

The only artificial navigable waterways in Ceylon are a series of canals connecting a chain of lakes on the west coast—Bolgoda, Colombo, Negombo, Chilaw, Mundel, and Puttalam lakes—as also the estuaries of the Kalu-ganga, Kelani-ganga, Maha-oya, and Deduru-oya; thus forming a continuous waterway from Kalutara in the south to Puttalam in the north, a distance of approximately 120 miles.

In addition to the foregoing there are about 76 miles of channel maintained by dredging in the lagoons at Jaffna and Batticaloa—Jaffna 40 miles and Batticaloa 36 miles.

POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICE.

(Full information on this subject is to be found in the "Ceylon Post Office Guide," obtainable from the Postmaster-General, Colombo, price 75 cents.)

On December 31, 1930, 869 offices were open for business. Details of the facilities afforded are as follows:—

222 Post Offices (excluding the Central Telegraph Office, which does only telegraph business) dealt with all classes of postal business, viz., mail and parcel work, registration and insurance of postal articles, money-order, postal-order, and Savings-Bank work, and telegraph and telephone business. 18 Post Offices dealt with all classes of postal business except telegraph and telephone work.

38 Sub Post Offices conducted all classes of postal business, except insurance, and also provided telephone-telegraph facilities. 137 Sub Post Offices also conducted such business except telephone-telegraph work. 1 Sub Post Office dealt with only mail and parcel work, registration of postal articles, and postal-order business.

418 Village Receiving Offices conducted mail work only. At 35 Railway Stations facilities for the dispatch and receipt of Inland postal telegrams were available. At 10 of these stations mail work was also conducted.

There are 12,511 miles of telegraph wire (including telephone trunk and junction lines and railway telegraph wires), and 41,899 miles of telephone wire for subscribers' circuits, of which 34,492 are laid underground (excluding private estate lines).

Mail Service.

A regular weekly mail-service is maintained between Ceylon and the United Kingdom and between Ceylon and Australia. Regular and frequent services are also available to the Straits Settlements and the Far East. Mails from Colombo to Mauritius and South Africa *viâ* Bombay are dispatched fortnightly. There is also a direct service not less than twice a month between Ceylon and South Africa. The mail service by train is maintained daily between Ceylon and India *viâ* Talaimannar except on Sundays.

Inland mails are carried generally by the Ceylon Government Railway and from Railway Stations by private contract motor mail services, bullock coach, or runner services.

Rates of Postage.

Inland Rates and Rates to India.	Cents.
For letters, per 2 ounces or part of that weight	6
For post cards, each	3
For printed matter, per 2 ounces or part of that weight up to a maximum of 2 pounds	2
For registered newspapers not weighing more than 2 pounds, for every 8 ounces	2
Rates to the United Kingdom, British Possessions, and Egypt.	
For letters, per ounce or part of that weight	9
For post cards, each	6
For printed papers, per 2 ounces or part of that weight	3

Rates to Foreign Countries (excluding Egypt).	Cents.
For letters, for the first ounce	20
For every additional ounce or part of that weight	10
For post cards, each	12
For printed papers, per 2 ounces or part of that weight	4

Inland Cash-on-Delivery System.

Postal articles can be transmitted by the Island Post on the value-payable system provided that the amount payable is not less than 50 cents or more than Rs. 600. A posting and delivery fee of 5 to 15 cents, according to value, will be levied on every value-payable article.

Foreign Cash-on-Delivery System.

The Cash-on-Delivery Service is in operation between Ceylon and the United Kingdom, the Straits Settlements, the Federated Malay States, and Germany. Details will be found in the "Ceylon Post Office Guide."

Money Orders.

Money Orders can be obtained at any of the Post Offices payable at any of the others and in most foreign countries. The maximum for Inland and Indian Money Orders is Rs. 600, for Foreign Orders £40. The rate of commission for Inland Money Orders is 10 cents for each complete sum of Rs. 10 and 10 cents for the remainder, and for Indian Money Orders 20 cents for each complete sum of Rs. 10 and 20 cents for the remainder. The rate for Foreign Money Orders is 25 cents on sums not exceeding £1, and on sums exceeding £1, 15 cents for each complete sum of £1 and 15 cents for the remainder.

Postal Orders.

Inland Postal Orders for fixed amounts ranging from 50 cents to Rs. 10 are issued, the rate of commission varying from 3 to 10 cents.

British Postal Orders.

There are 40 denominations of British Postal Order, ranging from 6*d*. to 21*s*., the difference between each being 6*d*. Commission is charged at the rate of 5 cents on each of the first three denominations, 10 cents on each of the next eighteen, and 15 cents on each of the next. A full list of the countries to which British Postal Orders can be sent is given in section 7 of the "Ceylon Post Office Guide."

Inland Telegrams.

The minimum charge for Inland telegrams is 35 cents for the first ten words, including the address, and 5 cents for each additional two words or less. These telegrams can be sent from any one telegraph office to any other in the Island.

The charge for urgent telegrams is 90 cents for the first ten words, including the address, and 15 cents for each additional two words or less.

Foreign and Colonial Telegrams.

The rates for telegrams to India (including Burma) are express Rs. 2, and ordinary Re. 1 for the first 12 words or less, and 15 cents and 10 cents respectively for each additional word.

Telegrams to places in other British Possessions and Foreign Countries can be sent on a minimum charge per word varying from 25 cents to Rs. 5.20 for ordinary, and from 20 cents to Rs. 2.60 for deferred telegrams, according to the distance of the place of destination, the route by which the telegram is to be sent, &c. A full list of places to which foreign and Colonial telegrams can be sent together with the rates charged is given in section 9 of the "Ceylon Post Office Guide."

Deferred Telegrams.

Telegrams in plain language are accepted for transmission as "Daily Letter Telegrams" or "Week-end Letter Telegrams" to various places abroad at considerably reduced rates. A list of places to which these services are available, and the scale of charges, will be found in section 9 of the "Ceylon Post Office Guide."

Radio-Telegrams.

Radio-Telegrams are accepted at any Postal Telegraph Office in Ceylon for transmission to ships equipped with radio-telegraph apparatus through the Coast Station in Colombo.

The charges are as follows:—

	Per Word. Cents.
British, Indian, or Colonial Government Telegrams to or from His Britannic Majesty's Ships of War	Free
Private Telegrams to or from His Britannic Majesty's Ships of War	40
All other Government or Private Telegrams ..	65

	Per Word. Cents.
On Radio-Telegrams sent to—	
(a) Spanish and Swedish ships the charge is	60
(b) Finnish ships the charge is ..	50
The time range is about 30 hours.	

Telephone System.

Telephone communication exists between most of the principal towns and certain rural districts. The towns are generally served by Government exchanges and the rural districts by Government or private licensed exchanges which are connected to the general trunk system by means of Government junction lines.

The charge for the use of a public call box for six minutes or less is 10 cents, and for the use of the trunk and junction lines the charge is as follows:—

	Cents.
For 15 miles or under	15
Over 15 miles and not exceeding 32½ miles ..	25
Over 32½ miles and not exceeding 60 miles ..	50
Every additional 25 miles or part of a mile ..	25

The minimum annual rental of a telephone connection to a large town exchange is Rs. 180 for business or professional purposes and Rs. 120 for non-business or residental purposes, and that of a connection to a small town exchange Rs. 125 and Rs. 90 respectively.

The charge for the use of public call boxes is 10 cents and of the trunk or junction lines is generally 15 cents for 15 miles or under, and for longer distances a cent per mile, rounded off to the nearest multiple of 25. The annual rent of an instrument is Rs. 180 for large towns and Rs. 125 for small towns.

VI.—Administrative and Judicial System.

Constitution.

The Constitution of Ceylon has hitherto been of the Crown-Colony type, the Government being vested in the Governor, assisted by Executive and Legislative Councils. Details of these will be found in the Annual General Reports of former years.

It has been decided, however, to supersede this Constitution by a new one based on the recommendations of the Special Commission that investigated the subject in 1927. The principal changes that are involved are briefly described below.

The existing Legislative and Executive Councils will be dissolved, and their place taken by a State Council, which will have charge of both administrative and legislative matters. This Council will be composed of three officials, fifty elected members, and not more than eight members nominated by the Governor.

The three official members, or Officers of State, will be the Chief Secretary, Legal Secretary, and Financial Secretary. The Chief Secretary will have charge of External Affairs, Defence, and the Public Services, and the other two will have charge of Legal and Financial Affairs. They will have all the rights and privileges of members of Council and Ministers except that they will not be able to vote on any question brought before the Council or Board of Ministers.

The elected members will be elected on a territorial basis, communal representation being abolished. The franchise will be very wide, and will extend, with a few exceptions, to all British subjects, of either sex, who are at least 21 years of age and are domiciled in Ceylon. In addition, persons not so domiciled are permitted to vote if they possess a certain literacy—and property—qualification, or have received a "certificate of permanent settlement" from a Government Agent or Assistant Government Agent.

The elected and nominated members will be divided into seven Executive Committees which will deal with the following subjects: (1) Home Affairs (2) Agriculture and Lands, (3) Local Administration, (4) Health, (5) Labour Industry, and Commerce, (6) Education, and (7) Communications and Works Each Committee will elect a Chairman, who will be Minister for the subjects dealt with by that Committee.

The Officers of State and Ministers will form a Board of Ministers, which will prepare the Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure, in consultation with the Financial Secretary. The approval of the Board of Ministers is required before any financial measure is introduced in the State Council.

For full details of the Constitution, reference may be made to the Ceylon (State Council) Order in Council, 1931.

The Ceylon Civil Service.—The Ceylon Civil Service, recruited partly by examination on the same basis as the Indian Civil Service, and partly by local appointments, furnishes officers for the general administrative, and part of the judicial, work in the Island.

Revenue Districts.—For administrative purposes Ceylon is divided into provinces, which are subdivided into districts, as shown in the following table:—

Provinces.	Districts.	Provinces.	Districts.
Western ..	Colombo, Kalutara	North-Western ..	Kurunegala, Puttalam-Chilaw
Central ..	Kandy, Matale, Nuwara Eliya	North-Central ..	Anuradhapura
Southern ..	Galle, Matara, Hambantota	Uva ..	Badulla
Northern ..	Jaffna, Mannar, Mullaittivu	Sabaragamuwa ..	Ratnapura, Kegalla
Eastern ..	Batticaloa, Trincomalee		

The Government Agents.—The important posts of Government Agents—one in each of the nine Provinces—are held by senior Civil Servants. To the Government Agents is entrusted the general administrative work of their Provinces, while their Kachcheris, or offices, are the provincial treasuries for the receipt of revenue and the payment of the local expenses of Government.

The Government Agents hold a number of other official positions, and preside over various local bodies in their provinces. They are, as a rule, assisted by one or more Assistant Government Agents, who are in charge of the outlying revenue districts or else perform special duties at the provincial headquarters.

The Headmen.—The officer next subordinate to the Government Agent or Assistant Government Agent is the chief headman, who is differently styled in different districts: "Mudaliyar" in the maritime Sinhalese districts; "Ratemahatmaya" in the Kandyan districts; "Maniagar," "Adigar," and "Vanniya" in the Tamil districts. There are about 105 chief headmen in the Island. In some cases the Mudaliyar is assisted by one or more "Muhandirams." Next to the chief headman ranks the superior headman, called in the maritime Sinhalese districts "Vidane Arachchi," in the Kandyan Sinhalese districts the "Korala," and in the Tamil districts the "Udaiyar." There are about 619 superior headmen in Ceylon.

Lastly comes the village headman, who is in charge of one or more villages, and whose jurisdiction is the administrative unit. The number of village headmen is about 4,000. In addition, there are peace officers, irrigation headmen, and others appointed for special purposes.

Municipalities, Local Boards, &c.—Each of the three principal towns (Colombo, Kandy, and Galle) has been created a Municipality, of which the affairs are administered by a body corporate consisting of a Chairman (who, in the cases of Colombo and Kandy, is a member of the Civil Service and nominated by the Governor, and in the case of Galle, the Government Agent) and a number of elected members and of nominees of the Governor. Every ratepayer who possesses a house of the annual value of Rs. 180, or every tenant who pays a monthly rental of Rs. 15, or is a graduate of a university, is qualified to vote for the election of a Councillor. In twelve of the smaller towns the administration has been entrusted to Local Boards of Health and Improvement, composed of the Government Agent or Assistant Government Agent or a person nominated by the Government Agent as Chairman, two other Official Members,

and three Unofficial Members. The administration of the town of Nuwara Eliya is in the hands of a somewhat similar body, known as the Board of Improvement. The maintenance of roads other than main thoroughfares is the duty of the District Road Committees, while the administration of village affairs and the working of rules connected with irrigation are vested in Gansabhawas or Village Committees.

Local Government.—Ordinance No. 11 of 1920 provides for the establishment of District Councils throughout the Island to take charge of the sanitation, communications, and development of their districts. District Councils are to elect their own Chairman, and are debarred from electing the Government Agent or his Assistant. Rural District Councils are to consist of 4 to 8 members nominated by the Governor, but Urban and General District Councils are to be composed of from 6 to 12 members, of whom two-thirds are to be elected by the inhabitants. These local bodies are to be supervised by a Local Government Board. This Board was established in June, 1921, and Urban District Councils have been formed for Chilaw, Dehiwala-Mount Lavinia, Jaffna, Kalutara, Kurunegala, Matale, Matara, Moratuwa, Negombo, Panadure, and Ratnapura. These Councils will not be created in any area unless the people show a desire for them and preliminary notices are first issued to ascertain whether such desire exists.

Judicial System.

The Courts Ordinance, 1889, is the principal enactment relating to the judicial system of Ceylon. The administration of justice is chiefly entrusted to the Supreme Court, the District Courts, the Courts of Requests, and the Police Courts. "Village Tribunals," which are regulated by Ordinance No. 9 of 1924, possess limited powers and jurisdiction to try petty crimes and civil claims.

Supreme Court.—The Supreme Court possesses three jurisdictions: (i.) an original, (ii.) an appellate, and (iii.) an admiralty jurisdiction. In its original jurisdiction it may try any crime or offence committed throughout the Island, and for the purpose of the exercise of this jurisdiction the Island is divided into four circuits within which the Sessions are held at stated intervals throughout the year. The Supreme Court has, in general, no original civil jurisdiction. In the exercise of its appellate* or revisional jurisdiction it is empowered to correct all errors, both of fact and of law, of the inferior courts in both civil and criminal cases. This jurisdiction is, as a general rule, exercised in Colombo. The admiralty jurisdiction of the Supreme Court is declared by section 2 of Ordinance No. 2 of 1891, and the Supreme Court enjoys the same powers which the High Court of England possesses in like matters, subject only to any provisions or limitations curtailing such powers contained in the Colonial Courts of Admiralty Act 1890. The Supreme Court is the only authority which can admit advocates and proctors (similar to barristers and solicitors in England) to practise before the various courts in the Island, and it may remove them from office for misconduct. It may also issue writs in the nature of *habeas corpus, mandamus, quo warranto,* &c. It is composed of a Chief Justice and five Puisne Judges. The Governor is authorized by law to appoint a Commissioner of Assize, and such Judge when appointed has all the powers, rights, and privileges of a Judge of the Supreme Court. As in England, the Judges hold office during His Majesty's pleasure.

District Courts.—The District Courts have unlimited civil jurisdiction, and criminal jurisdiction over offences punishable with a term of imprisonment not exceeding two years or with a fine not exceeding Rs. 1,000. A District Court cannot, however, take cognizance of any offence, unless the accused person has been committed for trial by a Police Court, or unless the case has been transferred to it from some other court by order of the Supreme

* The Privy Council is the final court of appeal in all matters whether civil or criminal.

Court. The District Court has original jurisdiction also in revenue, matrimonial, insolvency, and testamentary matters, and over the persons and estates of lunatics, minors, and wards, and over guardians, trusts and trustees, &c. District Courts also have an admiralty jurisdiction, and a special jurisdiction to punish contempts of court committed in the presence of the court.

Courts of Requests.—The Courts of Requests are the minor civil courts, and have original jurisdiction to hear and determine (with some exceptions) all civil actions in which the value involved does not exceed Rs. 300.

Police Courts.—The Police Courts, in general, have jurisdiction to try and dispose summarily of all offences (other than those triable exclusively by the Village Tribunals) punishable with imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months or with a fine not exceeding Rs. 100, and to inquire into all grave offences preparatory to the committal of the accused to a higher court. In such cases it is for the Attorney-General to decide whether or not the accused is to be so committed.

Village Tribunals.—Village Tribunals have been established in most of the rural divisions. The President of a Village Tribunal—a paid Ceylonese officer appointed by the Governor—is empowered to hear and determine (with the assistance of three councillors having the prescribed qualifications and selected for each case from a panel of councillors) civil cases between inhabitants in the subdivision under its jurisdiction provided that the sum involved does not exceed Rs. 20, and (by special request of parties whether inhabitants in the subdivision or not) cases in which the sum involved exceeds Rs. 20 but does not exceed Rs. 100, and criminal cases of petty assaults and thefts and breaches of rules made by the Village Committees. In the case of any difference of opinion between the councillors and the President, the opinion of the President prevails. The highest punishment which a Village Tribunal is empowered to inflict is rigorous imprisonment for a term of two weeks, or a fine of Rs. 20. An appeal lies against the decision of a Village Tribunal to the Government Agent or Assistant Government Agent, and finally to the Governor in Executive Council.

Common-law of Ceylon.—The common-law of Ceylon may be said to be the Roman-Dutch law, which was in operation in the maritime districts when ceded by the Dutch to the British. But the law has been modified by local Ordinances and by the introduction of the English law in certain cases.

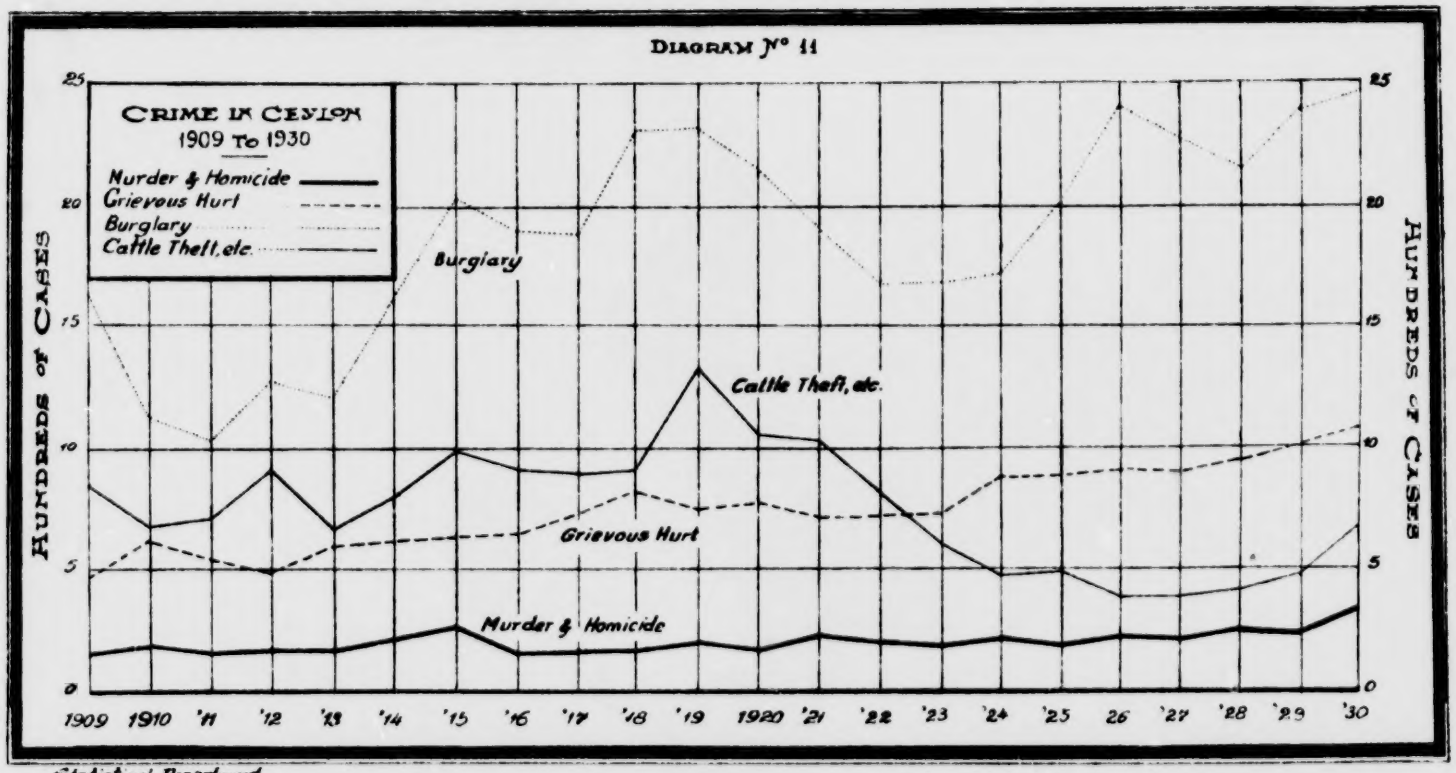
Codes.—The criminal law, law of civil and criminal procedure, and law of evidence of the Island were codified on the model of the Indian Codes in the Civil Procedure Code (Ordinances Nos. 2 of 1889 and 12 of 1895 and amending Ordinances), the Criminal Procedure Code (No. 15 of 1898 and amending Ordinances), the Penal Code (No. 2 of 1883 and amending Ordinances), and the Evidence Ordinance (No. 14 of 1895 and amending Ordinances).

Special Laws.—Certain sections of the community are subject to their own laws and customs regarding inheritance, adoption, gift, purchase, &c., so far as such customs have not been altered or repealed by statute. The Kandyan Sinhalese are governed by the Kandyan law under the Convention of March 2, 1815, made on the deposition of their King; the Tamils of the Northern Province by their customs called the Tesawalamai, which in 1706 were codified by order of the Dutch Government; the Muslims by ill-defined customs partly contained in the meagre code of August 5, 1806; and the Mukkuwas of the Batticaloa District by their vague customs called the "Mukkuwa law."

POLICE.

The regular Police Force of the Island was established and is regulated by the Police Ordinance, No. 16 of 1865, as amended by various subsequent Ordinances.

Before the Police Force was constituted the duties of the Police were attended to by the headmen. Regular Police have been gradually introduced to most parts of the Island since 1865, and at present there are 165 Police Stations and 26 Police Offices.



Statistical Department

F.

General.—The following statement shows the number of cases of grave crime disposed of as " true cases " by the courts during the last three years :—

	1928.	1929.	1930.
Homicide	248	243	334
Attempted homicide	83	114	151
Grievous hurt	947	1,004	1,081
Hurt with dangerous weapons	1,436	1,427	1,433
Housebreaking	2,155	2,385	2,468
Theft of cattle	412	479	670
Other offences	5,525	3,437	3,552
Total ..	8,809	9,089	9,689

The statistics of crime for the last six years under the three main heads " Offences against the Person " (which are not directly preventable by police action), " Offences against Property," and " Offences against the State " (riot, &c), are as follows :—

Year.	Total Crime.	Offences against the Person (excluding Robbery).	Offences against Property (including Robbery).	Offences against the State.
1925	7,650 ..	2,658 ..	4,947 ..	35
1926	8,707 ..	2,755 ..	5,914 ..	38
1927	8,617 ..	2,798 ..	5,760 ..	59
1928	8,809 ..	2,881 ..	5,866 ..	62
1929	9,089 ..	2,978 ..	6,055 ..	56
1930	9,689 ..	3,235 ..	6,389 ..	65

The number of cases disposed of by the courts during the year showed a marked increase on previous years, and was the highest number recorded for many years. It was noticeable that there was an increase of theft of cattle and foodstuffs. The increase of crime is probably due to the depression in trade and the principal industries in the Island.

Regulation and Control of Motor Traffic.—There were 30,729 prosecutions under the Motor Ordinance. The increase in the work imposed on the police and on the courts by the present volume of motor traffic is illustrated by the fact that in 1923 there were only 1,685 prosecutions. Of the 30,729 prosecutions in 1930, 1,992 were for exceeding the speed limit and 763 for reckless or negligent driving. In addition, 63 cases of causing death by a rash and negligent act and 97 for causing serious injury were instituted under the Penal Code in connection with motor accidents. 2,657 accidents caused by motor vehicles throughout the Island were reported to the police. Of these, 303 were of a serious nature, and in 127 cases the injuries to persons proved fatal. In 1929 there were 143 fatal accidents. In 27 fatal accidents, 21 per cent. of the total, an omnibus was involved. Omnibuses compose 10 per cent. of the motor vehicles on the roads, and are therefore responsible for a number of fatal accidents out of proportion to their numbers. 90 persons were killed or injured in omnibus accidents. In 49 per cent. of fatal and serious accidents the fault lay chiefly with the pedestrian.

The following figures show the action taken in recent years to control the speed of motor traffic and to check rash or negligent driving :—

Year.	Motor Vehicles on the Road.	Number of Prosecutions for exceeding the Speed Limit.	Number of Prosecutions for Reckless or Careless Driving.	Fatal Accidents.	Total Serious and Fatal Accidents.
1926 ..	14,947 ..	1,913 ..	984 ..	109 ..	278
1927 ..	17,340 ..	2,487 ..	1,084 ..	107 ..	292
1928 ..	20,623 ..	1,061 ..	838 ..	114 ..	273
1929 ..	23,565 ..	1,567 ..	1,139 ..	143 ..	32[illegible]
1930 ..	24,405 ..	1,992 ..	763 ..	127 ..	303

The financial depression prevailing in Ceylon is reflected in the decrease in the number of new motor vehicles registered, the number falling from over 300 per month in 1927-29 to 193 per month in 1930.

A system of special patrols was maintained to assist the local police in districts where motor traffic had become too difficult to be handled by small stations. Patrols of this nature work in parts of the Western Province, the Province of Sabaragamuwa, and the Southern Province. Besides dealing with offences under the Motor Ordinance, the patrols were useful in examining the conditions

of omnibuses and reporting to the licensing authorities, in checking night-patrolling between stations, and transporting the police in emergencies, such as fires, riots, &c., in some cases the patrols are supplied with cameras for use in such cases as require the subsequent production of a photograph of the scene in court.

Control of Bullock Cart and other Traffic.—In order to minimize accidents on the narrow winding roads of this Island, attention is paid to obstruction and other offences committed by the drivers of bullock carts and other slow-moving vehicles. During the year 10,389 prosecutions were entered against the drivers and owners of such vehicles. In Colombo and other towns where there are pavements, efforts are made from time to time to induce pedestrians to keep off the road and use the pavements.

Examination of Cinematograph Films.—As all cinematograph films imported into Ceylon are first exhibited in Colombo, where the Chairman of the Municipal Council is the Censor, it follows that for all practical purposes the Chairman of the Colombo Municipal Council is the Censor for the whole Island. The censorship is carried out on the following lines:—

Three days before exhibition the following particulars must be furnished to the Superintendent of Police:—

(1) A list of the films to be exhibited during the week.
(2) A declaration of the contents of each film.
(3) An accurate synopsis of the scenes in the films.

The Superintendent of Police examines the declaration and synopsis with a view to finding out whether the film is objectionable, and may, if necessary, order a private exhibition if the film is found to be objectionable, a report is made to the Chairman of the Municipal Council, who then sees the film. This system of censorship has worked well in the past, and in practice very few applications are made to the Chairman by the Police to prohibit or curtail films. The fact that all films arriving in Ceylon have been already examined by Censors either in England or India provides an additional safeguard.

Maintenance of Order.—The maintenance of order is an important part of the duty of the Police. Many of the numerous processions occurring during the year were accompanied by the Police for this purpose, and demonstrations of any size were policed.

There were only two strikes during the year. Both occurred in Colombo and were concerned with the question of wages. They were, however, speedily and satisfactorily settled.

An Ordinance designed to regulate and control trade disputes is now before the Legislative Council for consideration. This Ordinance, which is based on the English Industrial Courts Act, 1919, will, it is hoped, prove effective in avoiding strikes and reducing the loss and damage caused by trade disputes.

Criminal Investigation Department.

The Criminal Investigation Department includes the Harbour Police, the Foreshore Police, the Train Police, the Photographic Branch, and the Finger-Print Bureau.

Inquiries are frequently made from the Criminal Investigation Department by Police forces of other countries with regard to travellers who may pass through Colombo, owing to its position as the central port of the East. The Criminal Investigation Department, therefore, keeps records of all persons arriving in and leaving Ceylon, all persons staying in hotels, boarding-houses, and resthouses, and all foreigners.

Forged Currency Notes.—In March a central bureau was established to deal with cases of forged notes, and since its establishment the bureau has dealt with 182 cases. In 126 cases the notes were printed from plates, in 6 cases they were produced by means of photography, and in the rest of the cases they were made by hand.

PRISONS.

The number of convicted prisoners admitted during 1930 was 10,345, as against 8,631 in 1929.

The number of prisoners sentenced to death was 58, as against 75 in 1929. There were 34 executions during the year, as against 46 in 1929.

There were 1 escape and 1 recapture during the year.

The total number of deaths in Prisons was 80, as against 53 in 1929, and the death rate per 1,000 of the admissions during the year was 4.36, as against 3.33 in 1929 and 4.12 in 1928.

The number of punishments inflicted during the year on prisoners for prison offences was 1,081, as against 1,020 in 1929, and 1,116 in 1928.

Prisoners are in all prisons employed upon works of public utility and remunerative industrial labour. At Welikada and Bogambara Prisons various trades are taught, such as carpentry, blacksmith's, goldsmith's, and tinsmith's work, boot-making, tailoring, the making of cane furniture, matting, coir brooms, rugs, mats, coal bags, brushes, and bamboo tats, laundry work, printing, bookbinding, masonry, soapmaking, &c.

Afternoon schools at Welikada, Kandy, and Mahara Prisons for prisoners of the age of 23 years and under are conducted by arrangement with the Education Department and continue to make satisfactory progress. In addition evening classes for both male and female prisoners are conducted by various social service organizations and individual workers in Welikada and Kandy Prisons, special facilities being allowed in the former prison for the study of commercial subjects for the benefit of the more educated prisoners.

Juvenile offenders in Welikada Prison are organized as a Rover Troop and receive a thorough training in scout-craft and allied subjects, and in Colombo, Kandy, Jaffna, Galle, and Badulla, local sub-committees of the Ceylon Discharged Prisoners' Aid Association are in charge of the after-care of prisoners on discharge from prison, and work in close co-operation with the prison authorities.

VII.—Public Works.

IRRIGATION.

Importance of Irrigation.—The importance of irrigation in Ceylon arises mainly from the fact that the staple food of the inhabitants is rice. Practically all rice is grown in water, and in areas where the ordinary rainfall is insufficient for the crop, artificial means have to be adopted to supplement the water supply. As far as possible water is diverted to the fields from natural water-courses, but in the dry zones of the Island, where natural flow diminishes greatly or entirely ceases for considerable periods, it is often necessary to resort to the storage of water obtainable in the rainy season. The reservoirs or tanks in which water is stored are usually formed by the construction of embankments across the valley of a water-course, thus impounding the flow and securing a supply which can be issued when required for the cultivation operations by means of sluices and irrigation channels.

Classification of Irrigation Works.—Irrigation works in Ceylon are divided into two main classes, namely, major works and village works. Major works comprise the larger tanks and other works that have been constructed or restored by the Government. The owners of land irrigated by these works are liable to contribute towards the cost of their construction and maintenance, the conditions varying with the different works. Village works include all the smaller works, which are maintained by the villagers themselves under the general supervision of Government officials.

Construction and Maintenance of Irrigation Works.—The construction and maintenance of all major works is in the hands of the Irrigation Department, while village works are attended to by the Provincial administration with the assistance of Irrigation Officers seconded for the purpose.

A progressive policy has been adopted in recent years for systematizing the restoration and improvement of village irrigation works, and the construction of spills, sluices, and other masonry works which are beyond the capacity of the villagers to build, is carried out by officers under the Director of Irrigation.

The principal construction works on which the Irrigation Department was engaged during 1930, in addition to the maintenance of working schemes, were as follows:—

Kirima-oya Scheme, Southern Province.—The construction of masonry dams to replace temporary sand dams across the river, and improved channel systems.

Walawe Left Bank Scheme, Southern Province.—The development of irrigation and road facilities.

Akathimurippu Scheme, Northern Province.—Six miles of the main channel and several large masonry works thereon have so far been constructed.

Karachchi Scheme, Northern Province.—The distributary channel and agricultural road system is being considerably extended in order to provide irrigation and access facilities for some 8,000 acres.

Unnichchai Scheme.—The extension of the main Left-Bank Channel and agricultural road systems has been proceeded with in order to provide for the further development of this scheme.

Tabbowa Scheme.—Construction of the channel and agricultural road system is proceeding.

Extent and Benefits of Irrigation in Ceylon.—The extent of land irrigated at present under major works is 155,737 acres, and under restored village works 206,965 acres. The yield from major works alone was roughly 3,500,000 bushels during 1930.

There is great scope for further increase of cultivation, and many new schemes and the restoration of ancient irrigation works are now under investigation.

Apart from the production of food, there are numerous indirect benefits derived from irrigation. The felling of jungle and the opening up of the land bring about healthier conditions of life for the villagers and poverty is alleviated; and, as irrigation and cultivation on scientific lines extend, the population and prosperity of low-country dry-zone areas tend to increase.

Flood Protection Schemes.—In consequence of the periods of intense rainfall to which Ceylon is liable, the rivers are liable to periodical floods, which cause damage to property and distress to the inhabitants of adjoining lands. In particular, the havoc caused by floods in the vicinity of Colombo was for many years a matter for serious consideration by Government.

A scheme designed by Mr. C. Harward of the Irrigation Department for protecting the Colombo South area from floods was completed in 1925, and a similar scheme for Colombo North in 1927. Considerable benefit has been derived from these schemes during the period they have been in operation. In May, 1930, however, an exceptionally high flood breached the embankment of the Colombo North scheme and caused considerable damage.

Flood protection work is now an established branch of the activities of the Irrigation Department, and many applications have been made for flood protection for areas in the neighbourhood of Colombo and of large rivers in the Western and Southern Provinces, and in other parts of the Island.

The schemes already completed are—

Colombo Schemes (North and South).—Protecting 9,500 acres of low-lying land.

Ambatalenpahala Scheme.—Protecting 900 acres of low-lying land from minor floods.

Kalu-oya Muturajawela Scheme.—Protecting 8,888 acres.

A scheme for the protection of 9,200 acres of land in the Bolgoda area, liable to flooding from the Kalu-ganga, has been under construction during 1930, but the financial position of the Island has necessitated the temporary closing-down of the construction work. Several other schemes in the Western and Southern Provinces are under investigation.

VIII.—Public Health.

Hospitals and Dispensaries.

THERE are few countries in the world in which medical aid is more generously distributed by the State than Ceylon. There are 107 Government hospitals and asylums, with provision for 11,307 beds.

In Colombo are situated a General Hospital with 912 beds, an Opthalmic Hospital, a Lying-in Home, a hospital for women (Lady Havelock Hospital), a hospital for children (Lady Ridgeway Hospital), a Bacteriological Institute, a Pasteur Institute, and a Dental Institute. At Angoda, 6 miles from Colombo, there is a hospital for infectious diseases, with 168 beds. There are special dispensaries at Kandy, Galle, Jaffna, Batticaloa, and Badulla, for the treatment of eye diseases. Treatment with radium is now available at the General Hospital, Colombo.

As regards asylums, there is a Lunatic Asylum at Angoda, 6 miles from Colombo, and there are two Leper Asylums, one at Hendala in the Western Province and one at Mantivu in the Eastern Province.

There is a Home for Incurables at Colombo, with 90 beds, which is administered by a Committee of Government officials and representatives of the public.

In connection with the prevention of tuberculosis, in Colombo there is the King Edward VII. Memorial Anti-Tuberculosis Institute, at Kandana there is a sanatorium of 72 beds, and at Ragama there is a hospital for chronic cases.

In addition to Government hospitals, the owners of estates have provided 88 estate hospitals, which receive a rebate on the export duty on tea, rubber, coffee, cacao, and cardamoms.

Besides the hospitals there are 595 central and branch dispensaries provided by Government. There are also 715 estate dispensaries, which receive free drugs from Government to the value of 50 cents per labourer per annum.

Campaigns.

Campaigns against malaria, ankylostomiasis, and parangi are carried out in various parts of the Island, apart from treatment at hospitals and dispensaries. Itinerating Medical Officers take up areas for the treatment of ankylostomiasis, paying special attention to school children and estate labourers. Very marked results are shown by the decrease in the number of patients admitted to hospitals in the areas so treated. Success has also attended the efforts of the Itinerating Medical Officers appointed for the treatment of parangi.

Trained vaccinators are stationed in each Province. Primary vaccination against smallpox is compulsory, and secondary vaccination is carried out compulsorily among contacts when an outbreak of smallpox occurs.

Anti-Malarial Work.

Intensive anti-malaria work is done in the severely malarious town-acres of Chilaw, Kurunegala, Anuradhapura, Trincomalee, Puttalam, and Badulla (work in the last two was begun during 1929), and along certain sections of the railway.

Schemes for malaria drainage of Anti-Malaria Campaign areas are drafted by the Sanitary Engineer. The Medical Entomologist checks the efficiency of larvicidal measures carried out by the Anti-Malaria Campaign staff and also investigates problems connected with malaria incidence in other parts of the Island.

Quinine is distributed in large quantities in malarious areas throughout the Island both for curative and prophylactic purposes; 14,725 lb. and 2,388,775 tablets have been issued during 1930.

Sanitary Engineering Division.

In addition to malaria drainage, this division deals with questions of general drainage in small towns and of water supplies and disposal of excreta.

Estate Sanitation.

Attached to the Department of Medical and Sanitary Services are three Inspecting Medical Officers and three Assistants, who inspect estates throughout the Island. During the year under review 832 estates were inspected. In the course of inspection, defects in the sanitary condition of estates are pointed out and suggestions to remedy and prevent them in future are put forward to the estate owners. Year by year the housing on estates and the sanitary conditions on estates are improving.

Public Health.

In addition to the Inspecting Medical Officers, there were, in 1930, 27 Medical Officers of Health, assisted by 267 Sanitary Inspectors, who looked after the sanitary requirements of urban and rural areas. Seven Health Units have been established since 1926, at Kadugannawa, Kalutara, Kegalla, Kurunegala, Matara, Panadure, and Trincomalee, and health work on intensive lines is being carried on in these centres. Public Health Nurses are being employed in increasing numbers in connection with clinics and child welfare centres.

Epidemics are promptly dealt with by the Medical Officers of Health and their staffs.

Ordinances.

An Anti-Malaria Ordinance is now before the Legislative Council, and an Ordinance controlling the sale and distribution of poisons and dangerous drugs was passed by the Legislature but has not been proclaimed yet.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Plague.—The following is a list of plague cases and deaths from that disease which occurred in Ceylon during the year:—

Locality.	Cases.	Deaths.	Locality.	Cases.	Deaths.
Colombo town	40	38	Talaimannar	2	1
Dehiwala	1	1			
Wadduwa	1		Total	46	42
Kurunegala	1	1			
Madawachchi	1	1			

The year compares favourably with 1929, in which there were 80 cases with 74 deaths. The fatality rate in 1931 was 91.3 per cent.

PLAGUE IN COLOMBO.

Human Plague.—The following table shows the incidence of human plague in Colombo during the years 1928-30. There were no cases of pneumonic plague during this period.

	1928.			1929.			1930		
	Cases.	Deaths.	Case Mortality. Per Cent.	Cases.	Deaths.	Case Mortality. Per Cent.	Cases.	Deaths.	Case Mortality. Per Cent.
Total	40	37	92.5	40	36	90.0	40	38	95.0
Septicaemic	13	13	100.0	15	15	100.0	14	14	100.0
Bubonic	27	24	88.9	25	21	84.0	25	23	92.0
Cutaneous	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	100.0

Monthly Incidence.—The largest number of cases occurred during the last quarter of the year, eight cases occurring in December alone.

Sex Incidence.—Of the 40 cases, 37 were males and 3 females.

Rat Plague.—21,542 rats were examined at the Municipal Laboratory and 13, or .06 per cent., were found to be infected, as against .09 per cent. in 1929. Unlike the previous year, there were no epidemics in Ceylon, the cases occurring sporadically.

Smallpox.—There were 41 cases of smallpox, with 6 deaths, giving a fatality rate of 14.6 per cent., as against 8 cases with 1 death during 1929.

The distribution of cases according to locality is shown below:—

Locality.	Cases.	Deaths.	Locality.	Cases.	Deaths.
Colombo Municipality	2	—	Pussellawa	6	2
Port	3	1		41	6
Angoda	23	2			
Wellampitiya	9	1			
Peliyagoda	2	—			

The only epidemic of note that occurred during the year was within the precincts of the Lunatic Asylum at Angoda, 7 miles away from Colombo.

The disease was confined to the inmates and attendants of the Asylum. All the cases were males. The last case occurred on March 2. Of these 23 cases two proved fatal. The source of infection was not determined, though a detailed investigation was carried out.

In March at Maymolly estate in Pussellawa district there was an outbreak of what was considered to be chickenpox. On May 3 some of the cases were found to be smallpox. The disease was confined to the labourers on the estate. The source of infection could not be determined. On investigation the first definite case of smallpox appeared to have occurred about March 14, and on May 3 two of them had recovered. Of the remaining four, two died and two recovered.

Cholera.—There were no cases of cholera during the year, while there were 28 cases with 23 deaths in 1929.

Vital Statistics.

Population.—The population of Ceylon (inclusive of the Military and the Shipping) according to the partial Census of February 26, 1931, amounted to 5,312,548 persons, compared with 4,504,549 at the Census of 1921. This shows an increase of 17·94 per cent. for the decade. The Military and the Shipping population amounted to 1,387 and 4,290, as against 951 and 4,993 in 1921.

Migration.—The total number of arrivals during the year amounted to 223,152 and the departures to 263,000. The number of departures during the year is the highest on record and the number of arrivals the lowest, since 1923. The arrivals are more frequent in the second and third quarters of the year, and the departures in the first and second. The arrivals from India alone numbered 205,184 or 92 per cent. of the total arrivals, while the arrivals from other countries amounted to 17,968 persons or the remaining 8 per cent. Among the departures 244,625 or 93 per cent. were bound for India and 18,375 or 7 per cent. for other countries. The number of estate labourers who arrived from India was 91,422 in 1930, as compared with 105,095 in 1929 and 125,066 the average for the years 1925 to 1929. The number who left the Island was 98,728, as against 101,223 in 1929 and 79,355 the average (1925 to 1929).

Marriages.—The number of General and Kandyan marriages registered during the year was 25,505, which is 3,411 less than in the preceding year. The General marriages alone numbered 20,218 and the Kandyan 5,287, the respective numbers for the previous year being 23,068 and 5,848. The average number of General and Kandyan marriages registered during the past decade was 26,939. The number of persons married during the year both in the General and Kandyan communities was 51,010, which corresponded to a rate of 10.4, as against 12.0 in the previous year and 12.0 the average for the years 1920-1929. The marriages registered among the Muslims numbered 1,075, an increase of 47 on the number for the previous year. The average number of marriages per annum in the past decade was 915. The Muslim marriage rate was 6.1 and is comparatively low. This is due to a very considerable number of Muslim marriages not being registered according to law.

Divorces.—Divorces under the General Marriages Ordinance can be granted only by the District Court, while those under the Kandyan Ordinance are granted by Government Agents and their Assistants.

There were reported during the year 98 divorces under the General Marriages Ordinance and 582 under the Kandyan. The numbers during the preceding year were 125 and 603 respectively. There is always a much higher percentage of divorces to marriages in the Kandyan community than in the General; and this, in some measure, is due to the greater facilities for annulling the marriage tie afforded by the Kandyan law in comparison with the General law.

Births.—The number of births registered during the year amounted to 205,106 (104,338 males and 100,768 females). The nearest approach to this year's figure was in 1927, when the number of births was 205,469. Compared with the number for the preceding year this year's figure is 7,099 more.

The birth rate for the year was equal to 39.0 per 1,000 of the estimated population, as against 38.3 in the preceding year and 39.6 the average for the ten years 1920-1929.

Sex Proportion at Birth.—Of the births registered during the year the proportion of male children for every 1,000 female children was 1,035. In the preceding year there were 1,038 male children to every 1,000 female children.

Deaths.—The deaths of 133,708 persons (66,907 males and 66,801 females) were registered in 1930, as against 135,277 in 1929 and 128,841 the average for the ten years 1920-1929. The death rate for the year under review was equal to 25.4 per 1,000 of the estimated population, as against 26.1 in 1929. The average death rate for the past decade was 26.9.

Infant Mortality.—By infant mortality is meant the deaths of children under one year of age, and the rate is stated in terms of 1,000 births registered in that year. During the year under review the deaths of infants numbered 35,877, as against 36,963 in the preceding year and 34,772 the average for the past decade. The number of infant deaths, which represents 26.8 per cent. of the total deaths, was equal to a rate of 175 per 1,000 births, as against 187 in 1929 and 183 the average for the past decade. The birth rate in Ceylon is very high compared with that prevailing in some Western countries. The infant mortality rate is greatly influenced by the birth rate, so that it is not an unusual feature to find a high infant mortality rate in countries that have high birth rates, and a low infant mortality rate in countries that have low birth rates. Several Child Welfare Centres have within recent years been formed by different social service leagues and the Government is also devoting attention to the reduction of infant mortality in the various health units spread over the Island. These measures are producing good results though slowly.

Causes of Deaths.—The classification of causes of deaths is based on the International or Bertillon System. Owing to the absence of compulsory certification of causes of death among a very large section of the population, the statistics, particularly of diseases requiring scientific knowledge for diagnosis, are of doubtful value, but there is reason to believe that a definite though slow progress in accuracy is achieved every year. A very large number of deaths are returned by village informants as due to fever and they are tabulated under the vague title "Pyrexia." The number of deaths assigned to pyrexia in 1930 was 19,106—or 14 per cent. of the total deaths, as compared with 18,744 in the previous year. There is no doubt that, among the large number of deaths from this vague cause, a considerable number are actually deaths from malaria. Another prolific cause of death in the Island is infantile convulsions, from which during the year there were 15,445 deaths—or 12 per cent. of the total deaths. The records show that more than one-quarter of the deaths registered in the Island are attributed to pyrexia and convulsions—the latter among the infants and children of tender years. The death rates from some of the more important diseases registered in Ceylon in 1929 and 1930 as per million of the estimated population are given below:—

Causes.	Rate per Million.	
	1929.	1930.
Pyrexia	3,621	3,634
Infantile convulsions	3,234	2,937
Pneumonia	1,735	1,514
Diarrhoea and enteritis	1,866	1,793
Dysentery	823	688
Phthisis	624	631
Malaria and malarial cachexia	449	454
Premature birth and congenital defects	452	446
Ankylostomiasis	420	443
Influenza	371	394
Puerperal septicaemia	283	304
Bronchitis	264	259
Enteric fever	142	160
Cancer	87	87

IX.—Education.

Control.—Primary and secondary education in Ceylon is under the general supervision and control of the Department of Education, assisted by a Board of Education and 34 Education District Committees.

Board of Education.—The Board of Education is composed of 20 members nominated by the Governor. The Director of Education is Chairman and the personnel of the Board includes Members of the Legislative Council, Managers of Schools, and teachers. The main duties of the Board consist in considering questions of legislation and policy, and in adivising the Government on any other matters specially referred to it for advice.

Education District Committees.—An Education District Committee has been constituted in each Municipality, Urban District, and Revenue District. These Committees are appointed by the Governor, and consist partly of officials and partly of unofficials. They are responsible first for putting into effect the rules relating to compulsory education, and they frame their own by-laws and employ their own attendance officers for this purpose. Secondly, they erect and maintain Government schools where these are required. They are financed by an annual grant from the Department, which is allocated on the basis of an approved programme of works submitted each year to the Department.

Schools and Attendance.—The system of education in Ceylon provides a course of education leading to University degrees in medicine, law, arts, &c., but this report refers in detail only to education below the University standard.

The schools of Ceylon are not divided on a basis of race or nationality. All schools which are maintained by Government or assisted by means of grants are compelled by law to admit pupils irrespective of race, nationality, or religion.

Attendance at school between the ages of six and fourteen is compulsory, subject to a few exceptions. Such compulsion, however, applies only when school accommodation is provided within a reasonable distance of the residence of the pupil.

There are two distinct types of school: schools administered directly by Government, and schools indirectly administered by Government and under the immediate control of private managers.

There are 1,490 Government schools, and the arrangements for the staffing of these are entirely in the hands of the Department. All examinations for the issue of teachers' certificates and of otherwise testing efficiency, and all appointments, transfers, &c., are also dealt with by the Department.

Assisted Schools and the Grant System.—There are in addition 2,502 assisted schools under the immediate control of private managers. These schools receive an annual grant from the Education Department. In the case of vernacular schools, the annual grant is calculated as the total amount of the salaries paid to an efficient staff plus an additional amount for maintenance. No fees are charged in vernacular schools. In the case of the English schools, however, fees are charged, and from such fees the manager has to provide a fixed sum towards the salary of each teacher he employs. The grant consists of the balance of such salaries.

In addition to Government and assisted schools, there is a certain number of private schools which are not assisted in any way from Government funds. Such schools are, however, subject to inspection by the Department.

The type of instruction given in Ceylon schools can be considered under two main headings: (i.) Non-vocational instruction; (ii.) vocational instruction.

Classification of Schools.—Under the heading of non-vocational instruction is included the type of instruction which is general and academic, and by far the larger number of schools come under this class. These schools are classified as follows:—

English.	Bilingual.	Vernacular.
Collegiate	Senior Secondary	Senior Secondary
Senior Secondary	Junior Secondary	Junior Secondary
Junior Secondary	Primary	Primary
Primary		

The Primary schools provide a course of instruction from the Kindergarten up to Standard V. The course usually lasts six years.

The Junior Secondary schools provide a course of instruction from the Kindergarten up to the School-Leaving Certificate. The course usually lasts ten years.

The Senior Secondary schools provide in addition to the course for the Junior Secondary schools, a further course up to the standard of the London Matriculation Examination. The course usually lasts twelve years.

The Collegiate school is an Englaish school which provides a course of instruction from Form I. or Standard VI. up to the standard of the London Matriculation Examination. The course usually lasts about five years.

The vast majority of students complete their education at the Junior Secondary stage.

In addition to the schools that come under the above classification, there are a certain number of temple schools, which are known as Pirivenas. These schools are primarily designed for the Buddhist priesthood, and are not compelled to adopt the syllabus of work used at the ordinary schools.

Vocational Schools.—Under the heading of vocational schools come those schools which give a specialized form of instruction. Apart from one Technical School, these can be divided into part-time schools and full-time schools. Under the heading of part-time instruction is included a variety of home industries, which are taught to pupils in certain schools in addition to the ordinary academic course. Under the heading of full-time industrial schools come institutions for the training of teachers, technical schools, agricultural schools, and industrial schools. The course in training schools is usually one of two years. In technical schools it varies according to the subject which is studied. In agricultural schools courses are entirely for adults who intend either to teach agricultural science or to become practical agriculturists. There are a variety of full-time industrial schools. All industrial schools are conducted upon a profit-sharing principle, so that the pupils benefit by whatever articles they produce. The course is one of two or three years. The subjects in which instruction is given are:—carpentry, weaving, basket work, pottery, printing, lacquer work, blacksmith's work, and a few other minor industries.

The Medium of Instruction.—The medium of instruction in schools varies according to the type of school. In vernacular schools the medium of instruction is entirely Sinhalese or Tamil. This group of schools includes 79.54 per cent. of all the school-going children in Ceylon.

In Bilingual schools the vernacular language is the medium of instruction for the first four or five years of school life, after which an optional course of English is introduced, lasting for approximately five years. The vernacular, however, continues to be taught throughout the whole course.

In the case of the third group of schools, viz., English schools, two methods are employed in giving instruction in the English language.

In the first method pupils are admitted at the earliest stage of school life, viz., the kindergarten. Pupils admitted in this way have usually a working knowledge of English, so that their progress in mastering the language is very rapid.

The second method employed is a two-year special course in English for pupils who transfer from vernacular schools to English schools. The pupils who enter this course are approximately nine years of age, and have already received instruction in their own mother tongue in the primary standards. This course is an intensive one, in which the direct method of teaching a foreign language is employed. After completing this course pupils are able to enter the ordinary standards of the English school, in which the medium of instruction is English. In the majority of such schools the vernacular languages continue to be taught throughout the upper classes.

It will be seen, therefore, that in the system of instruction prevailing in Ceylon the pupils are given the following alternative courses:—(1) A full course of elementary instruction in the vernacular languages; (2) a full course of elementary instruction in the vernacular languages plus a working knowledge

of English; and (3) a full course of instruction in English, not merely for pupils whose mother tongue is English, but for those who at the beginning of school life have no knowledge of that language.

The Ceylon University College.

The University College was established in 1921 for the purpose of affording facilities for higher education to students in Ceylon.

Numbers.—The number of students on the roll in July, 1930, the beginning of the academic year 1930-31, was 394, including 24 women students. The figures for 1921-29 were as follows:—

1921	..	166	1924	..	262	1927	..	279
1922	..	217	1925	..	256	1928	..	315
1923	..	262	1926	..	313	1929	..	338

Courses.—The College offers instruction in Latin, Greek, Sanskrit, Pali, English, Sinhalese, Tamil, French, German, Logic, Philosophy, History, Geography, Economics, Pure Mathematics, Applied Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Botany, and Zoology.

Honours courses are provided in Classics, English, Indo-Aryan (Sanskrit and Pali), History, Mathematics, Chemistry, Botany, and Zoology.

The College course is normally one of three years. At the end of the first year students take the (External) Intermediate Arts, Science, and Economics examinations of the University of London conducted in Ceylon. At the end of the third year they take the final examinations for the B.A. (Pass), B.A. (Honours), B.Sc. (General), B.Sc. (Special), and the B.Sc. (Economics) Degrees of the same University.

Students who intend to join the medical profession are given one year's course of instruction in Physics, Chemistry, and General Biology, at the end of which they take either the First M.B. Examination of the University of London or the Pre-Registration Examination of the Ceylon Medical College, or both.

Full information as to the courses of study is available in the College Prospectus.

Graduates.—On the results of the examinations held in June, 1930, 25 candidates qualified themselves for the B.A. and B.Sc. degrees of the University of London.

The total number of graduates from the University College from the time of its inception in 1921 is 177.

Hostels.—Most of the students not living with their parents or relations are residing in four hostels affiliated to the College and subject to the College rules and regulations. These hostels are administered by extra-university bodies and are subsidized by the Government.

University College Council.—This Council, which consists of twenty members nominated by His Excellency the Governor, advises the Principal of the College in matters relating to the administration of the College, and the preparation for its conversion into a University.

The Ceylon Medical College.

The Ceylon Medical College was established in 1870 in the form of a Medical School capable of affording a practical education on the principles of medicine and surgery, and especially midwifery, together with a practical knowledge of Anatomy, Physiology, Materia Medica, Pharmaceutical Chemistry, and the art of dispensing. It had originally a Principal and three lecturers, and the whole course took only three years.

This course was later incresed from time to time in order to keep abreast with the progress of Medical Science. In 1887 recognition was granted by the General Medical Council of the United Kingdom, and the Diploma became registrable in Great Britain and all parts of the Empire.

In 1924 the complete extended curriculum of one year's pre-medical study (Chemistry, Physics, Biology) and five years' medical work was adopted.

The College now provides the complete course of instruction required for the practice of modern Medicine, Surgery, and Midwifery. Including the course of preliminary or pre-registration work in Physics, Chemistry, and Biology, which is provided by arrangement at the University College, Colombo, the whole course takes six years.

In addition to the complete Medical Curriculum, the College provides a course of instruction for a minor grade of Medical Practitioners, known as Apothecaries. These receive a two years' course of instruction in Anatomy, Physiology, Chemistry, Pharmacy, Pharmacology and Dispensing, Elementary Medicine, Surgery, and Midwifery, both theoretical and clinical, and Surgical Dressing, and in Hygiene and Public Health. They receive free instruction, and on passing the two Apothecaries Examinations are employed by the Government to take charge of the Government Dispensaries and some small hospitals in the remote rural areas and country villages, but are only permitted to practise while so employed in Government Service, and are subject to the control of the District Medical Officers.

These Apothecaries to a large extent provide for the medical treatment of the poor villagers in remote districts and where fully qualified Medical Practitioners are not available.

The College is staffed by whole-time Professors in Anatomy and Physiology and a large number of part-time lecturers, mostly drawn from the officers of the Department of Medical and Sanitary Services.

Details of staff, fees, courses of study, and rules for students, and the history of the College, are embodied in the annual calendar, copies of which are sent free to Medical Schools in Great Britain, principal Educational Institutions, and Government departments in the Island.

POST-LICENTIATE SCHOLARSHIPS.

The Government has set up in 1928 a Post-licentiate Scholarship, which is granted yearly to the best student of the final year who qualifies in the first class within the statutory period, to enable him to obtain British qualifications and also to pursue studies and research in some special subject. The value of the scholarship is £300 per annum for special study.

A small number of students generally discontinue study in the Ceylon Medical College and go to the United Kingdom to complete their studies.

X.—Lands and Survey.

LAND.

In considering the question of land the climatic divisions of the Island are of the greatest importance. The portion of the Island, roughly one-quarter of it, which receives the rain of the south-west monsoon is called the wet zone, the remaining three-quarters the dry zone. Enjoying a generous rainfall, land in the wet zone is far more productive; tea, rubber, coconuts, and other economic crops can profitably be grown; and village cultivation flourishes with less labour. The bulk of the population of the Island is located in the wet zone. Since the British occupation there has been steady development both in large estates and in village holdings, and the population has enormously increased. Fresh land for development, accessible to the means of communication, has in recent years become scarcer.

In the dry zone, on the other hand, the conditions of life are much more severe. The rainfall is scanty and uncertain, and malaria in certain months almost universal. The village population, in general, has a hard struggle for existence, and does not tend to increase rapidly. The dry zone has at present little attraction for the agriculturalist desiring to open land in economic products, and is largely undeveloped.

To provide a means of final settlement of the title to land as between the Crown and private individuals, a special Ordinance was passed in 1897, and the Land Settlement Department came into existence shortly afterwards. The task of settlement is a complicated one and cannot be unduly hurried, and large areas still remain to be dealt with. The lack of settlement in the Kandyan Provinces has inevitably tended to retard development, and it is the aim of Government to push on with the work as fast as possible. Intending purchasers of undeveloped or recently-planted agricultural land would be wise to make sure that the title they are acquiring is based on purchase from the Crown or a settlement by the Land Settlement Department.

Till recent years, persons desirous of buying or leasing land from the Crown applied in the first instance to the Revenue Officer of the District. Lands so applied for were surveyed in rotation, and eventually put up to public auction. The drawbacks of this system were that the applicants had no guarantee that they would be successful in securing the land and that a too haphazard development of the Crown estate took place. There was also a danger that the permanent interests of the village population would be overlooked. The system has therefore been modified, and a policy substituted under which all available Crown land is first roughly mapped-out, and land for all village requirements, such as land for small village holdings, forests, and pasture, and State requirements, such as reserved forests, definitely reserved. Land then found to be available for agricultural development by capitalists and larger holders is advertised for lease under Land Development Notices. The notice runs for a certain time, say, two to four months, and applications during that time are accepted. The lists are then closed and the land surveyed into blocks of suitable size. At the subsequent sale of the leases, bidding is restricted to applicants under the notice. When land is scarce, Ceylonese applicants for smaller blocks—under 50 acres—are protected from competition with larger applicants.

Up till comparatively recently practically all land alienated for agricultural purposes by the Crown was sold outright. It has now been decided that all blocks of over 50 acres in extent shall be leased, outright sale being continued only in the case of smaller blocks.

With regard to the land reserved for peasant holdings in localities in which the peasants tend to part with their holdings of larger owners, small lots are now being given out on lease or on permits which contemplate a restricted tenure preventing such alienation.

SURVEY.

The Survey Department.—As no land can be alienated or otherwise dealt with by the Crown until it has been surveyed and demarcated, the work of the Survey Department is of the greatest importance. Its chief activities in this connection may be summarized as follows:—

(*a*) Application Surveys, *i.e.*, scattered disconnected surveys of small areas of land required for sales, leases, and various other purposes.

(*b*) Block Surveys, or continuous surveys of large areas of land according to villages, showing private land "en bloc" and not according to claims.

(*c*) Acquisition Surveys, or surveys of land to be acquired by the Crown for public purposes.

(*d*) Town and Forest Surveys, and isolated surveys for settlement and miscellaneous purposes.

Topographical Surveys.—In addition the Survey Department attends to the Topographical Survey of the Island. Sectional maps for the whole Island on the scale of 1 mile to the inch can be obtained at the Surveyor-General's Office, Colombo, and numerous small-scale maps are also published. The chief of these are—

4-mile and 8-mile to the inch maps of the Island.
8-mile to the inch motor maps.
6-mile to the inch motor maps, in book form.

Other work of the Survey Department.—The other work of the Survey Department is not directly connected with the subject of this chapter. It includes—

(1) Precise Levelling.
(2) Town-planning and Assessment Surveys.
(3) The Observatory and Meteorological Stations.

FORESTS.

The year under review has been a period of transition in the administration of the Department, which is now definitely committed to a policy aiming at the technical treatment of a suitable extent of reserved forest for the purpose of eventually rendering the Island self-supporting in the matter of timber and fuel supplies, and other essential forest produce, both by the systematic exploitation of existing natural resources and by the artificial reforestation of selected areas.

For this purpose it has been realized that, in order to develop matters on sound technical and financial lines, the Forest Department must be relieved as far as possible of the work heretofore involved in non-technical, unproductive, and often petty administrative duties, covering vast areas of technically useless forest lands. During the year, steps were taken, in consultation with the Revenue Officers, to relieve the Divisional Forest Officers of much of the routine work involved in the checking of chena permits, the grant of free permits to villagers for the common timber needed for their domestic and agricultural requirements, and the valuation of forest growth on land brought forward for sale or lease.

A further advance in the same direction was the decision of Government, on the report of the Committee appointed to consider the commercialization of the department, to discontinue the system whereby the Forest Department supplies timber to other Government departments at cost price, and to encourage general trade in the Island's timber supplies on a larger scale, purchasers from the department being provided with an outlet for their purchases by direct dealings with other Government departments. The beginning of the current financial year on October 1, 1930, saw the end of the old system. The transition to the new system has unfortunately coincided with a period of world-wide depression. Owing to the great falling off in the demand for timber and the hesitancy of timber dealers to invest capital in any new undertakings, the sale of coupes of standing timber under the new system has not greatly increased. The lull is, however, giving the Department a period of comparative quiet in which to overhaul its administrative system and to adapt it for future development under the new conditions. Staff which has until lately been employed largely in supervising contracts for Government departments in the dry zone has now been concentrated in the wet zone, where systematic exploitation and regeneration are more immediately feasible.

In view of the Land Commission's report and subsequent action taken thereon by Government, the draft Forest Ordinance recommended by the Forest Commission in 1928 is not being enacted in its entirely, but certain amendments are to be made in the existing Ordinance, while the rules framed under the Ordinance are being revised and simplified. The work of revision was nearly complete at the end of the year. The existing royalty-rates, which are generally high in comparison with those obtaining in India and elsewhere, were also examined. This revision of the royalty schedule has now been completed and should shortly be proclaimed.

The strength of the Forest Department is admitted to be inadequate, but, owing to the necessity for general retrenchment, no immediate increase is in sight, and it will be necessary to see the general effect of the commercialization of the department and the proposed reorganization of work, which aims at the elimination of non-technical duties, in order to see clearly the minimum increase of staff required. With the elimination of supplies to Government departments and the abolition of the petty routine supervision alluded to above, it has been found possible to arrange for the reduction of two divisions and several ranges in the dry zone, and to release several officers for more special duties. A Deputy Conservator has been appointed at Headquarters to supervise and co-ordinate development work in the various divisions. Two officers of the Assistant Conservator grade and several Foresters are now engaged in conjunction with the Revenue Officers in the reselection of reserves in three Provinces in the wet zone, where this work is being pushed on as rapidly as possible. Elsewhere the reselection of reserves is being undertaken by the Divisional Officers as far as their other duties permit.

The future policy to be aimed at in Ceylon is outlined in the report of the Committee appointed to consider the commercialization of the department, in which an analogy is drawn between conditions in Ceylon and New Zealand, as submitted by the officer who attended the Empire Forestry Conference in Australia and New Zealand in 1928. It was found that in the latter of these countries an extensive campaign had been launched to deal artificially with an area of 300,000 acres set aside for the purpose of reforestation, in highly concentrated and accessible areas; the large outlying area of natural forest, containing only a few species in regular demand, being merely subjected to regulated exploitation, pending the arrival at maturity of artificially-formed forests, and reconstruction being deliberately deferred in them until a later day, except for work of a purely experimental nature. Such forests are analogous to the dry-zone forests of Ceylon, which almost defy sylvicultural treatment; and it is intended to exert the maximum effort of the department on the intensive reconstruction of the wet-zone forests, where results are assured, and to produce timbers which are in the widest local demand.

Owing to the general trade depression the cash revenue of the Department fell from Rs. 1,258,702.19 in 1929 to Rs. 683,882.97. The chief decline was shown in the sale of satinwood for export, an item which in recent years had accounted for a considerable increase in forest revenue. The figures under this head dropped from Rs. 512,861.01 to Rs. 121,088.69.

The major exploitation work of the Department continued to be the supply of material made over to other departments which consisted of the following:—

2,673 broad-gauge sleepers.	8,361 cubic feet of sawn timber.
1,582 narrow-gauge sleepers.	91,298 cubic feet of timber in the log.
58,232½ cubic yards of firewood	

The actual cost in extraction, &c., of these supplies amounted to Rs. 348,003.97, and the royalty for which the Department took paper credit Rs. 228,550.69. Supplies of this nature practically terminated on October 1, 1930, and from that time on other Government departments will obtain their requirements in the open market.

Reforestation.—An addition of 1,502 acres was made to regular plantations, bringing the total of these to 24,373 acres, the largest contributors being the Southern Division West with 402 acres, the Up-country Reforestation Division with 331 acres, and the Sabaragamuwa Division with 329 acres.

The system of registration, filing, and distribution of work in the Head Office was overhauled during the year, and more modern methods were introduced, thereby saving the labour of a number of clerks. The overhaul is being extended into the Divisional Offices, so as to standardize the office systems throughout the Department.

The Commission appointed during the previous year to report upon certain of the activities of the Department in the Eastern Province issued its report during the year under review, and completely exonerated the conduct of the Conservator.

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XI.—Labour.

WHEN Europeans began to open up the jungles, and to plant coffee there and later tea and rubber, local labour was not available on the spot and was unwilling to move to and work on the estates. In the Madras Presidency, however, there was a surplus of labour owing to the social habits of the Tamils and other races, which, in combination with a meagre rainfall, resulted in keeping the population near to and sometimes below the subsistence limit. From about 1825 the Ceylon planters drew on this labour reservoir, and there has been a huge movement of Indian estate-labour between Ceylon and India from that time up to the present day. There has been a similar movement, but on a much smaller scale, of non-estate Indian labour, especially between Tuticorin and Colombo, the estate labour now entering and leaving Ceylon mainly using the rail and ferry route between Talaimannar and Dhanushkodi.

Indian estate labour in Ceylon has never been indentured.

In 1827 there were about 10,000 Indian estate labourers and their dependants in Ceylon, in 1846 there were about 80,000, and at the end of 1930 the number was 734,747. Of these, probably much less than one-third are immigrants who have been less than five years resident in Ceylon. These estate-labourers are all called Indian, but many of them are practically Ceylonese, owing to length of residence in the Island or because they were born in Ceylon.

In the year 1930, 206,091 Indians entered Ceylon, while 241,216 left Ceylon for India. Of those entering the Island, 91,422 were estate labourers. The Indian estate-labour population is made up of 240,390 men, 230,710 women, 263,647 children.

The Department of Indian Immigrant Labour, established in the year 1923, protects Indian estate-labour, and assists it to emigrate from India at the expense of the Immigration Fund subscribed to by the estates employing India labour. This Department has fine labour-depôts in India and Ceylon, where Indian estate labourers travelling from India to Ceylon are provided free of cost with medical treatment, inoculation, food, lodging, rail and steamer fares, baths, and guides, and where necessary with cloths, blankets, and pocket money. Since the establishment of Government control in 1923, the estates in Ceylon for the first time in their history have had a permanent adequate supply of Indian labour. The cost to these estates of protecting, assisting, and repatriating Indian estate-labour has roughly averaged about Rs. 3,000,000 a year.

The Donoughmore Commission of 1928 recommended adult suffrage to Ceylonese, and adult suffrage to those Indian labourers who had been resident more than five years in the Island. Adult suffrage to Indian labourers, both male and female, with a Ceylon domicile or intending finally to settle in Ceylon, was finally adopted, and thus labour, in future, should it act unitedly, will have a very considerable voice in determining political policy.

Machinery for facilitating the settlement of industrial disputes is provided by an Ordinance which has passed the Legislative Council, and which now only awaits the assent of His Excellency the Governor.

Labour legislation in Ceylon is far behind that in Western or Australasian countries. There is no Ordinance dealing with the right of association, insurance against accidents, sickness, unemployment, or old age, old-age pensions, or the like.

It is by no means clear that all modern social labour legislation is suitable or administratively possible for an agricultural, non-industrial country like Ceylon. In village agriculture, fishing, and other occupations, the labourers are generally independent workers, not employees. Moreover, in some respects Ceylon labour is more generously treated by the Government than it is in Western countries. Every person whose earnings are less than Rs. 50 per month is entitled to unstinted free medical aid at the numerous Government hospitals and dispensaries with which the Island is liberally covered.

Indian estate labourers are normally entitled to six days work a week or wages in lieu thereof and cannot be discharged without a month's notice. Unemployment has been practically unknown to them, and even the utter collapse of rubber,

affecting about 100,000 labourers, caused but slight unemployment for a few months. Of the 25,000 losing employment, only 7,000 returned to India, the balance being absorbed in the tea industry. These labourers, moreover, enjoy the benefits of minimum wage, maternity benefit, special housing and other legislation. Labour legislation of a far-reaching character is being considered by the Government for all classes of labour.

Section 3 of Ordinance No. 11 of 1865, which applies to all contracts for hire and service, reads:—

> "Every verbal contract for the hire of any servant, except for work usually performed by the day, or by the job, or by the journey, shall (unless otherwise expressly stipulated, and notwithstanding that the wages under such contract shall be payable at a daily rate) be deemed and taken in law to be a contract for hire and service for the period of one month, and to be renewable from month to month, and shall be deemed and taken in law to be so renewed, unless one month's previous notice or warning be given by either party to the other of his intention to determine the same at the expiry of a month from the day of giving such notice."

Contract for hire and service must be in writing and signed before a Magistrate or Justice of the Peace, if the period for which they are made exceeds one month.

A duty of 75 cents per 100 lb. on rubber and 15 cents per 100 lb. on tea and cacao is imposed for the purpose of meeting the expenditure required for the medical wants of Indian labourers and roughly Rs. 1,250,000 is thus collected annually.

The housing of labour in Ceylon, except in the case of Indian estate-labour, leaves much to be desired. Workers often live in overcrowded tenements in Colombo and other towns and in insanitary huts in the rural districts. The public authorities are gradually housing a part of their labour properly, but private employers, planters excepted, have done very little so far. In the rural districts the worker generally owns his hut or a share of it. There is no general scheme for promoting the erection of urban or rural workmen's dwellings, and over and above the usual financial difficulties there is the added one created by the low scale of wages paid to unskilled labour, a scale leaving little or no margin for the payment of a rent such as would give the minimum return on the capital needed to build a sanitary dwelling.

Estates employing Indians are bound by law to erect sanitary lines or living rooms made of permanent materials and properly drained, lighted, and ventilated, and inspecting medical officers see that the law is obeyed. The result is that from 1922 to the end of 1930 about 177,000 rooms up to the Government standard were built on estates at a cost of about Rs. 63,933,000. The average number of residents per room on estate lines is now 3.39 and there is little overcrowding. There are about 68,000 latrines on estates employing Indians, and a pipe-born water supply for about 152,000 rooms, and these labourers have about 95,000 garden plots for their own use. Estate labourers, Indian and otherwise, are served by numerous estate hospitals and dispensaries, lying-in rooms, and cheches. During the period 1919 to 1930 the death rate of Indian estate labourers has been reduced from 58.5 to 22.1. These figures reflect the revolution which has been effected by the planters as regards the health of their labourers since Governmental intervention was established.

Ordinance No. 6 of 1923 legalizes in Ceylon the Washington Conventions regarding the employment of women, young persons, and children in industrial undertakings.

No Indian child under ten years of age can be lawfully employed to work on estates.

Indian labourers on estates must be paid overtime if they work more than eight hours a day, as they are allowed one hour for a mid-day meal in a working day of nine hours.

There is no law in Ceylon to regulate the hours of work save as mentioned above. The Labour Advisory Board set up by the Government, however, informally fixes rates of pay per hour in workshops, and its ruling is generally acted upon.

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The minimum daily wages fixed for Indian estate labour are—

	Men.	Women.	Children.
Low-country	50 cents ..	40 cents ..	30 cents
Mid-country	52 cents ..	41 cents ..	31 cents
Upcountry	54 cents ..	43 cents ..	32 cents

In addition a free meal a day is prescribed for all non-working children, and rice must be issued at not more than Rs. 6.40 a bushel.

Higher cash wages than the above are frequently earned at piece work. Free houses, medical aid, and maternity benefit are part of the scheme. Unskilled labour other than Indian estate labour seldom secures much in the way of perquisites, and the item of rent in towns is a serious drain owing to the shortage of tenements. A large percentage of such labour in towns is paid less than a bare subsistence wage.

The rates of wages fixed for workshops by the Labour Advisory Board in 1926 were as follows:—

		Rates per Diem.	
		Minimum. Rs. c.	Maximum. Rs. c.
Minor supervising grades	Class B I. ..	3 84 ..	6 48
	Class B II. ..	2 48 ..	5 4
Skilled labour	Class B III. ..	2 88 ..	4 24
	Class B IV. ..	1 60 ..	2 80
Semi-skilled labour	Class B V. ..	0 96 ..	1 60
Unskilled labour	Class B VI. ..	0 64 ..	1 12
Trade apprentices	Class B VII. ..	0 80 ..	1 44
Women and boys	Class B VIII. ..	0 24 ..	0 80

XII.—Miscellaneous.

INFORMATION FOR VISITORS.

THERE is no Government Tourist-Bureau in Ceylon to undertake the arrangement of tours, &c. The following tourist-agencies are in operation in Colombo apart from Thomas Cook's:—

(1) Pickford's Tours; Agent, A. E. B. Lover, Bristol building, Fort, Colombo.
(2) Armstrong's Tourist Agency; Proprietor and Manager, C. Dyson Armstrong, Galle Face Hotel, Colombo.

Fares on the Railway.

The first-class single fare on the railway amounts to 8 cents a mile on all lines below Nawalapitiya, 12 cents a mile on the main line (*i.e.*, the line from Colombo to Badulla) above Nawalapitiya, and 17 cents a mile on the Uda Pussellawa line (Nanu-oya junction to Ragalla).

Taxi-cab Fares.

The authorized scale of fares for taxi-cabs plying for hire in Colombo is as follows:—

For the first half-mile	50 cents
For each subsequent 1/6 mile up to 1 mile	12½ cents
For each subsequent mile	75 cents

Extra charges are made for each passenger over two, and for each piece of luggage other than hand luggage. A higher scale of fares is authorized in the case of taxi-cabs hired between the hours of 9 P.M. and 6.30 A.M.

The above rates apply only to places within the Municipal limits of Colombo. For trips to places outside Colombo Municipality a special agreement should be come to *before starting*. The hiring-car fares to such places vary from 40 cents to Re. 1 per mile, with extra charges for detention.

Hotel and other Accommodation.

There are hotels in some of the larger towns in Ceylon. The rates are usually Rs. 9 a day and upwards, a usual charge for first-class accommodation being Rs. 12 a day.

In addition to hotels, there are about 170 " resthouses " in various parts of the Island, where accommodation and meals are provided. The cost is about Rs. 8 to Rs. 10 a day. Rooms can be occupied generally for three days only unless the permission of the Road Committee has been obtained for a longer stay. It is generally advisable to book rooms in advance.

Places of Interest.

Most of the places of interest in the Island can be visited during a three-weeks' stay in Ceylon. The more important of these are the following:—

Colombo.—Any information desired can be obtained at the Post Office, Railway and Municipal Bureaus, which have been opened at the jetty. The principal Government and mercantile offices are situated in the Fort within easy reach of the jetty. The General Post Office and the Central Telegraph Office are about five minutes' walk from it. Some of the places of interest in Colombo are the Colombo Museum, the Victoria Park, the residential quarter known as Cinnamon Gardens, the Racecourse, the Maligakanda Buddhist temple, and the Hindu temple in Sea street. The chief hotels are the Grand Oriental Hotel, which is opposite the passenger jetty, and the Galle Face Hotel, which is about a mile away.

Kelaniya, noted for its Buddhist temple, is about four miles to the north-east of Colombo, and can be reached by train or car.

Mount Lavinia and *Negombo* are two towns which attract visitors for sea-bathing. The former is about eight miles to the south of Colombo and has a good hotel by the side of the Railway Station, and the latter is about twenty-four miles to the north of Colombo and has a resthouse.

Galle, an important town 72 miles to the south of Colombo, was the chief port of call in Ceylon before the Colombo breakwaters were built. The ramparts of the Dutch fort are still standing.

Kandy, about 74 miles by rail from Colombo, was the capital of the Kandyan kingdom before it was acquired by the British in 1815. There are a number of buildings of interest that date from the time of the Kandyan kings, such as the various temples, the old palace (now used as the residence of the Government Agent, or chief civil official of the Province), and the audience hall. There is a small museum, containing some interesting exhibits. Of the temples, special mention should be made of the Temple of the Tooth, in which is preserved one of Buddha's teeth. This relic attracts Buddhist pilgrims from all parts of the East. The Perahera or annual festival, held in August, is well worth seeing.

Nuwara Eliya, the hill station, is about 135 miles from Colombo. Its elevation is about 6,200 feet and the mean temperature 59.3° F. It is well equipped with hotels, boarding-houses, and bungalows. Close to it is Pidurutalagala, which presents a commanding view of the country all round.

The " Buried Cities " are worth seeing. *Anuradhapura*, on the Northern Line, about 127 miles from Colombo, was the capital and the residence of the Sinhalese kings for more than a thousand years, and contains the remains of numerous sacred monuments. The Thuparama Dagoba, built by King Tissa about the year 247 B.C., is the oldest of the Dagobas in Ceylon, while the sacred Bo-tree—a branch of the tree under which the Buddha attained enlightenment—is another noteworthy relic of the same period and is said to be the oldest tree in the world.

Polonnaruwa, situated on the Batticaloa line, about 161 miles from Colombo, became the capital of the Island after the decline of Anuradhapura. It contains the ruins of numerous temples, shrines, and other buildings of great archæological and historic interest.

Trincomalee, situated on the north-east coast of the Island about 183 miles by rail from Colombo, possesses a magnificent natural harbour. It was at one time the Headquarters of the East Indies Squadron. Among the places of interest here are Fort Frederick and Sober Island. There is a fairly good resthouse.

The best time for a visit to Ceylon, from a climatic point of view, is from the latter part of November to middle of March. April and May are hot. From June to September is the period of the south-west monsoon, while October and November mark the beginning of the north-east monsoon.

Principal Languages.

See page 2.

Publications regarding Ceylon.

The Ceylon Blue Book and the Ceylon Annual General Report can be consulted at the Imperial Institute and the British Museum.

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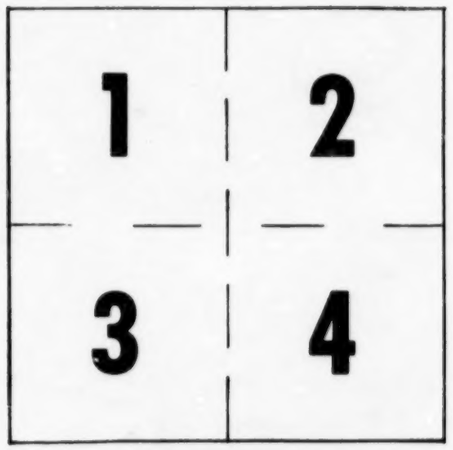

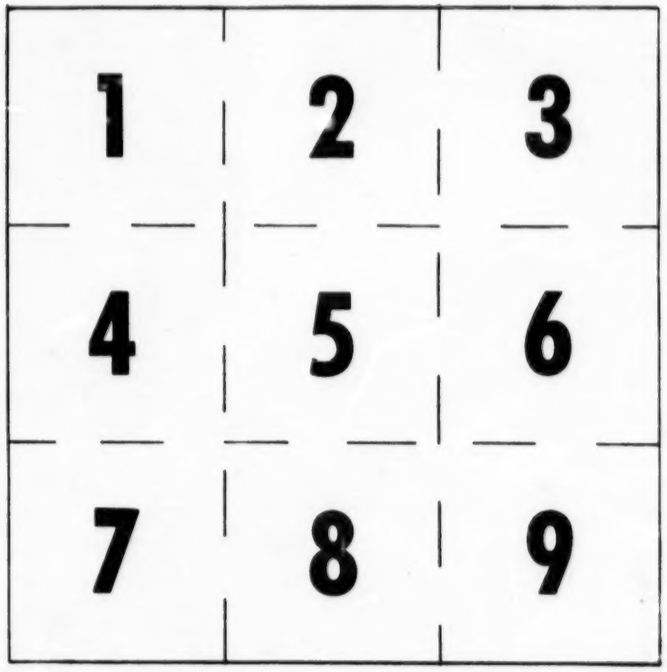

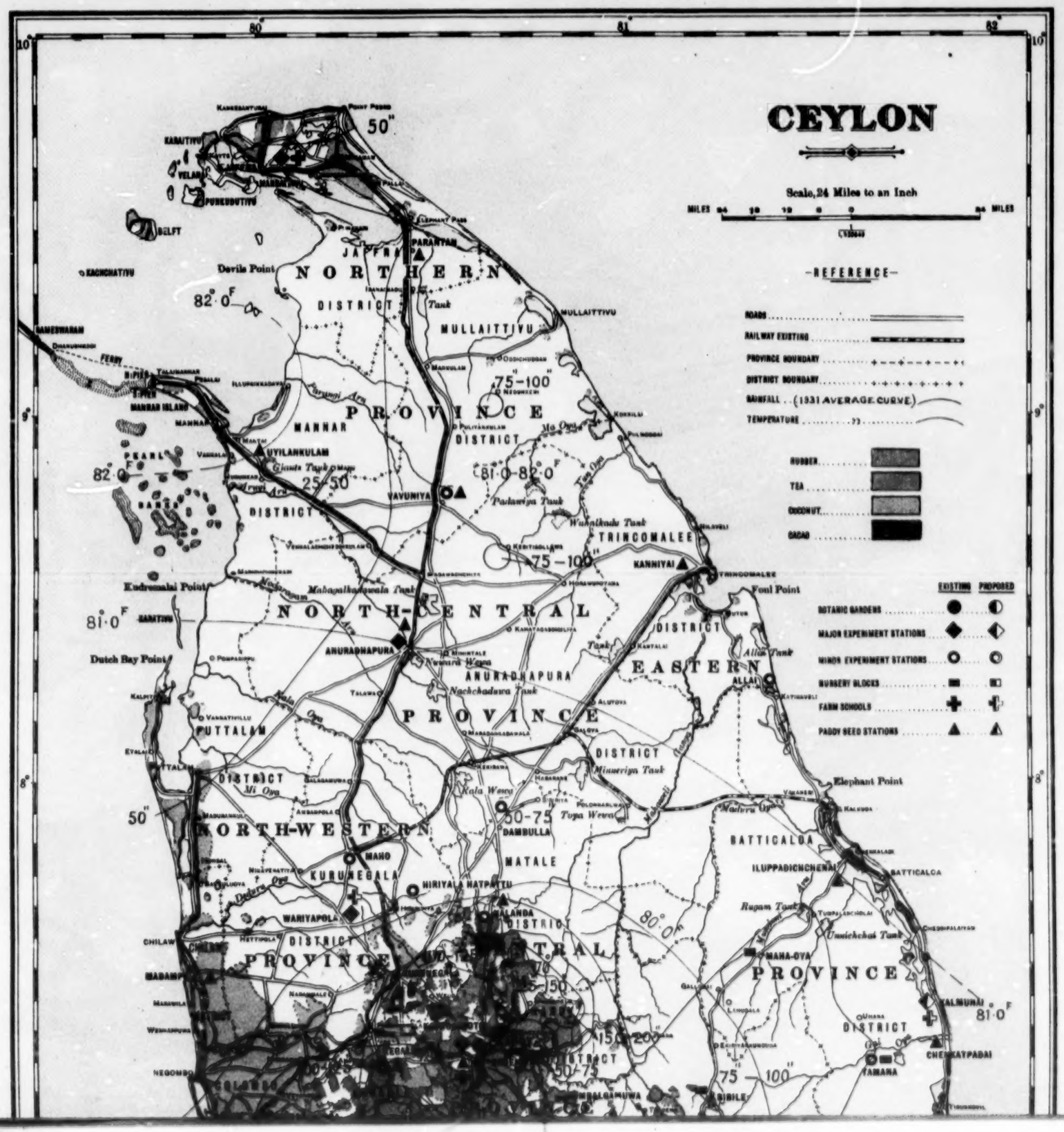

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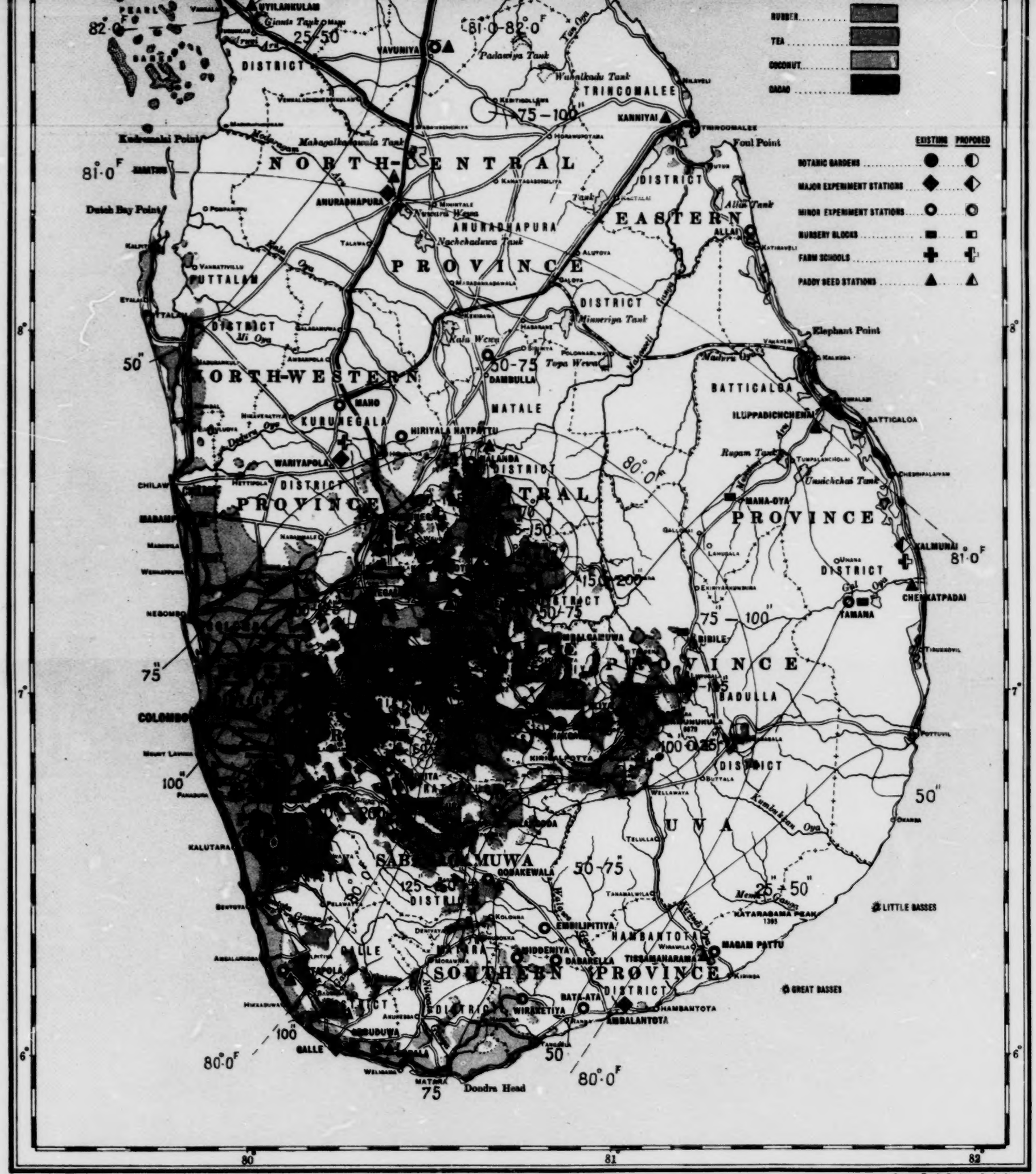

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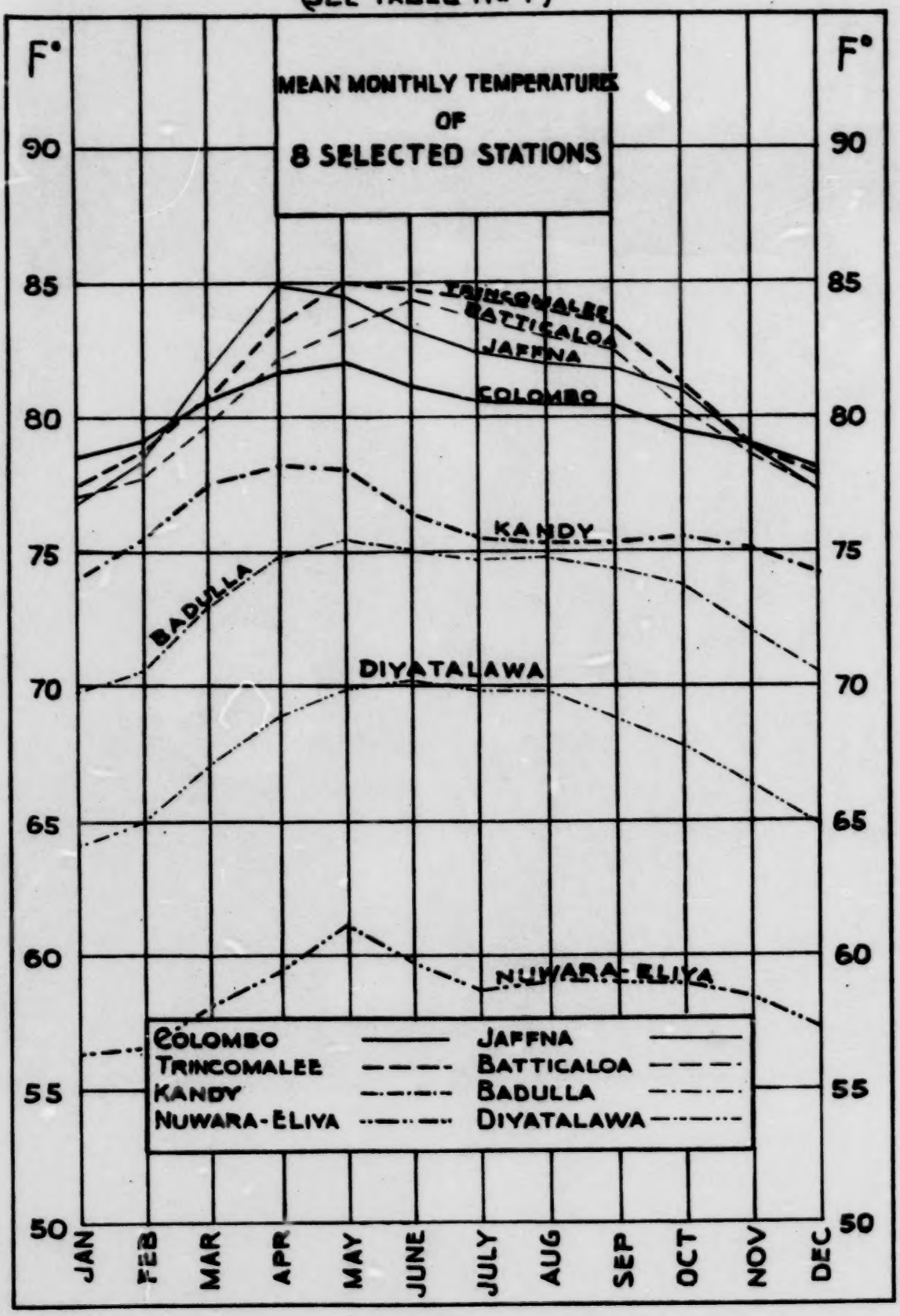


Annual General Report for 1931 on the Economic, Social, and General Conditions of the Island.

CHAPTER I.

Geography, including Climate, and History.

GEOGRAPHY.

CEYLON is an Island in the Indian Ocean, off the southern extremity of the Indian peninsula, lying between 5° 55′ and 9° 50′ N. latitude and 79° 42′ and 81° 53′ E. longitude. Situated on the direct route from Europe to Australia and the Far East, roughly halfway between Arabia and China, it has been known from very early times as an important trade centre in the East. It is in close proximity to India, and from an economic point of view has much in common with it. The greatest length of the Island from north to south, *i.e.*, from Point Palmyra to Dondra Head, is 270 miles; its greatest width 140 miles, from Colombo on the west coast to Sangamankanda on the east. Its area is 25,332 square miles, nearly the same as that of Holland and Belgium, or about half the size of England.

The northern and north-central parts of the Island form one great plain from sea to sea, only occasionally broken by a spur of rock. The maritime districts consist of similar level or undulating stretches, but the centre of the southern half of the Island is filled by a circular mountainous area almost equidistant from the two seas. This mountainous region is intersected by deep valleys. The height of the intervening ridges increases gradually from the coast, and culminates in Pidurutalagala at an elevation of 8,292 feet.

The sea coast of Ceylon, as shown on a large scale map, has an irregular outline, lakes and lagoons having been formed in many parts of it by the sand barriers thrown up through the interaction of the rivers and the sea. There are only three real harbours, those of Colombo, Trincomalee, and Galle. The first is a capacious artificial harbour constructed out of an insecure anchoring place by the building of extensive breakwaters. The second is a magnificent land-locked basin, but situated on the eastern side of the Island which is less accessible, populous, and fertile than the western. The third was, at one time, the principal harbour of Ceylon, but on the completion of the Colombo breakwaters in 1885 it ceased to be a calling place for East Indiamen and ships of war.

CLIMATE.

On the whole, the climate of Ceylon is fairly good for the tropics. The accessibility of the hills is a great boon to the plain dwellers, and a change to the sea is beneficial to those who live in the hills. In the low-country, the districts which have been opened in rubber, coconuts, and other products are generally fairly healthy, but in the unopened localities malaria is common.

Temperature.—With regard to temperature, the range of variation at several stations is shown in diagram No. 1, facing this page.

The low seasonal variations will be noted, but it will be seen that the differences between the temperatures of low-country and up-country stations are considerable. The highest shade temperature registered in Ceylon was 103·7° F. at Trincomalee in May, 1890, and the minimum air temperature 27·1° F. at Nuwara Eliya in February, 1914. A maximum temperature of 103·7° F. is not excessive, but the humidity is considerable, the annual average percentage of saturation being generally about 80 (Galle and Nuwara Eliya 84, Colombo and Badulla 82, Jaffna 81, Kandy 80, Batticaloa 78, Trincomalee 76). At Colombo, the "hot weather" may be said to extend from March to May, and the "cold weather" from December to February. July and August are often pleasant, particularly on the west side of the Island.

As is generally found in the tropics, however, the seasons are distinguished by differences in rainfall, rather than pronounced variations in temperature. The change in the direction of the monsoon winds, from S.-W. to N.-E., causes a corresponding change in the localities of the heaviest rain, which is usually experienced to windward of the hills, while during the intermonsoon seasons, local wind circulations are liable to give rain in any part of the Island. The mean temperature during the year varied from 82·5° in Mannar to 60·1° in Nuwara Eliya.

Rainfall.—The annual average rainfall varies from about 35 inches in the north-west and the south-east to over 200 inches in some parts of the interior. The annual averages in 1931 were 89 inches at Colombo, 84 inches at Kandy, and 93 inches at Nuwara Eliya. Diagram No. 2 facing this page shows the mean monthly rainfall of 12 selected stations.

History.

The earliest inhabitants of the Island are thought to have been the Nagas and Yakkhas, the latter being perhaps now represented by the Veddas. Legendary history has it that the first invaders were Aryans from the North of India who, under the leadership of Vijaya, overcame the aborigines and established the Sinhalese dynasty. Early attention appears to have been paid by the invaders to irrigation works, agricultural development, and other branches of civil administration, and by the end of the third century A.D. a comparatively advanced stage of civilization had been reached.

The history of Ceylon down to the sixteenth century may be divided into two parts, viz., the period of the Sinhalese *Mahavansa*, *circa* 500 B.C. to 300 A.D., and that of the *Suluvansa*, from *circa* 300 A.D. onwards. The first period is one of increasing development and expanding civilization, connected chiefly with the extension of Buddhism, which was introduced about 247 B.C. The second period is one of ever-increasing pressure from the Tamils, Pandyans, and Cholas from India, with occasional successes on the part of the Sinhalese, particularly during the reign of their famous king, Parakrama Bahu I. (1153 to 1186 A.D.).

In the sixteenth century the Portuguese formed settlements on the coasts of the Island; in the next century they were dispossessed by the Dutch. In 1796 the British took possession of the Dutch settlements in the Island, which were then annexed to the Presidency of Madras, but five years later, in 1802, Ceylon was constituted a separate Crown Colony. In 1815, the districts of the interior, which had maintained their independence under the kings of Kandy, were acquired by Great Britain as the result of a rebellion against the Kandyan king, and the whole Island was thus united under the British rule.

CHAPTER II.

Government.

The Constitution.

UNTIL 1931 the Constitution of Ceylon was of the Crown Colony type, the government being vested in the Governor assisted by Executive and Legislative Councils. A description of the old Constitution will be found in the Annual General Reports of 1929 and previous years.

In July, 1931, the then existing Constitution was superseded by a new Constitution based on the recommendations of a Special Commission on the Constitution appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies, which visited Ceylon in 1927-28. The new Constitution is formulated by the Ceylon (State Council) Order in Council, 1931. The principal constitutional changes involved are described below.

The Legislative Council was dissolved in April, 1931, and the Executive Council in July of the same year, their place being taken by a " State Council " having both legislative and executive functions, which met for the first time on July 7.

DIAGRAM Nº 2
(SEE TABLE Nº 2)

MEAN MONTHLY RAINFALL

OF 12 SELECTED STATIONS

Figures along the curve denote the numbers of wet days
Annual Averages (in inches) are shown to the right of the name of each station

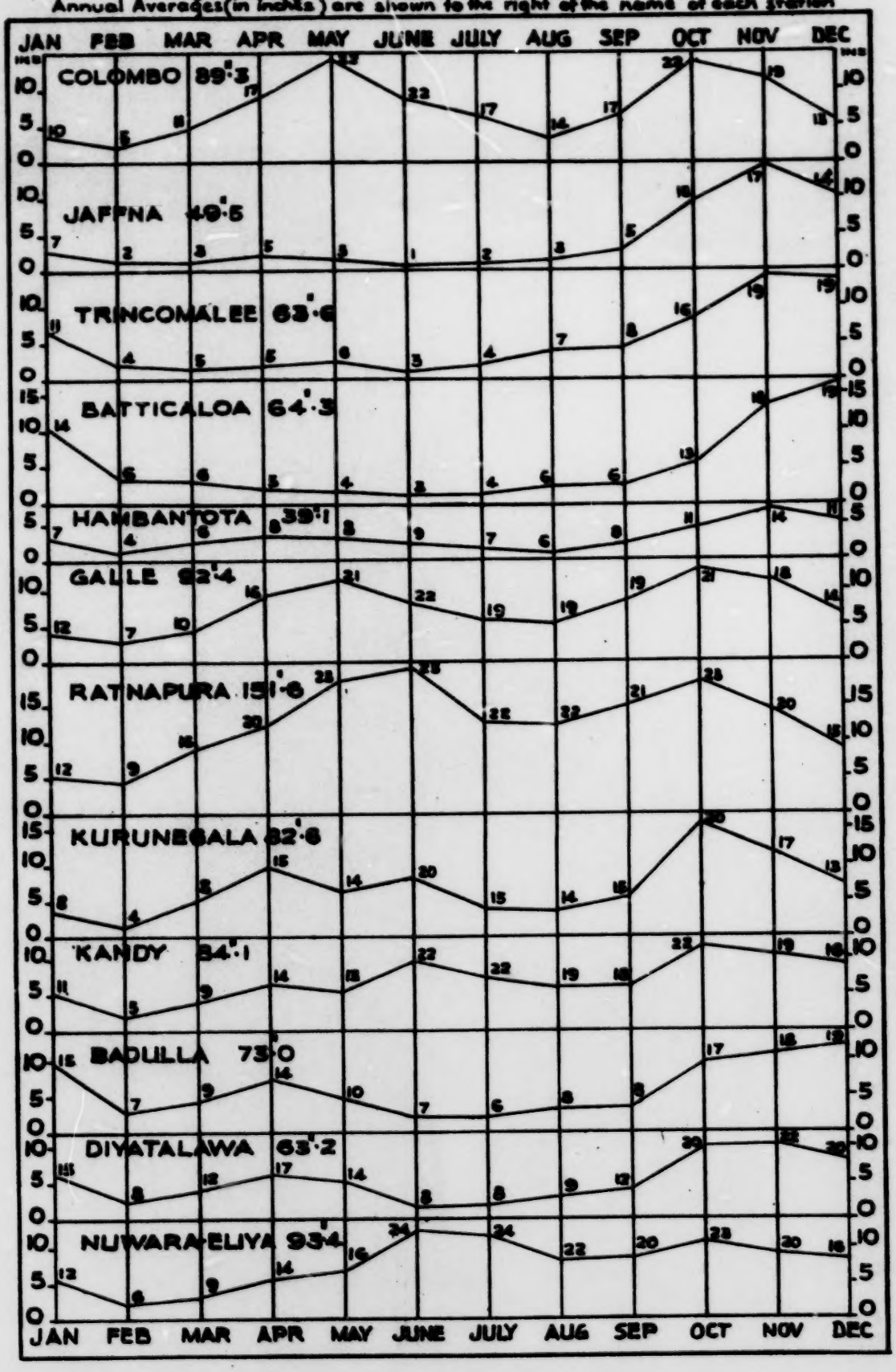
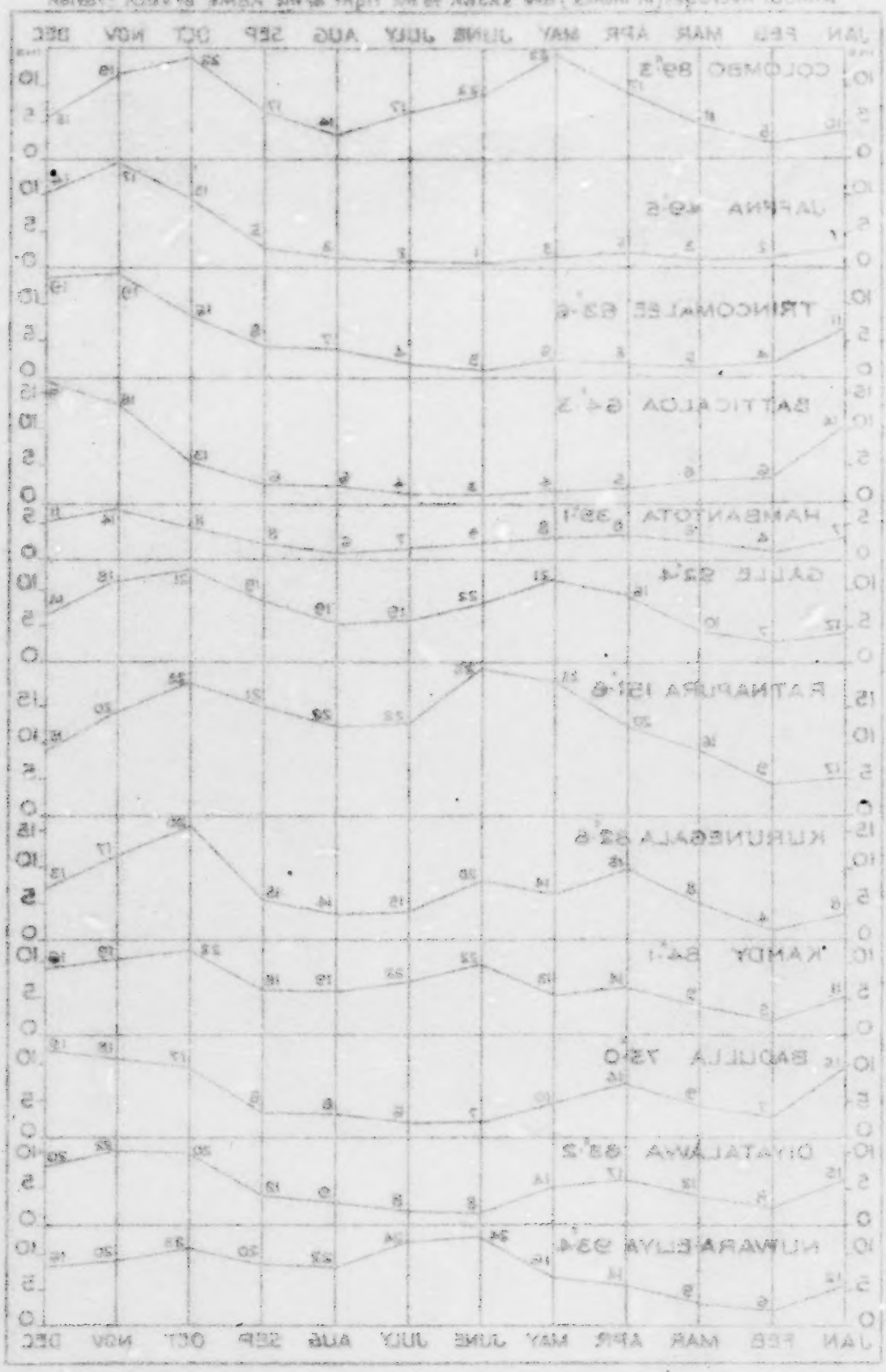


Diagram No 2
(See Table No 2)

MEAN MONTHLY RAINFALL

of 10 selected stations

Figures along the curve denote the numbers of wet days.
Annual Average (in inches) are shown to the right of the name of each station



The new Council consists, at its *full strength, of three official members, fifty elected members, and not more than eight members nominated by the Governor. Neither an elected nor a nominated member may be a person holding any public office under the Crown in Ceylon.

The three official members of the State Council are styled the Officers of State. They are members of the Council *ex officio*, as the Chief Secretary, †Legal Secretary, and Financial Secretary to the Government respectively. The Constitution provides that they shall have all the rights and privileges of membership of the Council and of the Board of Ministers (a body which will be referred to later), save the right to vote on any question before the Council or the Board.

All elected members are elected on a territorial basis, communal representation having been abolished. The franchise is very wide. It extends, with a few exceptions, to all British subjects of either sex who are at least twenty-one years of age and are domiciled in Ceylon. In addition, persons not so domiciled are permitted to vote if they possess a certain literacy and property qualification, or have received a " certificate of permanent settlement " from a Government Agent or Assistant Government Agent.

Eight additional members are nominated by the Governor after a general election, the object of their appointment being, in the words of the Special Commission,‡ " to make the State Council more generally representative of the national interests ".

On the first assembly of a new Council, and after the election of a Speaker, the members proceed by secret ballot to divide their total number (excluding the Speaker and the Officers of State) into seven standing committees styled " Executive Committees ", which are required to be as nearly as possible equal in number of members.§ Each Committee is charged with the administration of one of seven groups of subjects and functions specified in the Order in Council under the following headings:—

I. Home Affairs.
II. Agriculture and Lands.
III. Local Administration.
IV. Health.
V. Labour, Industry and Commerce.
VI. Education.
VII. Communications and Works.

The Executive Committees having been elected, each Committee proceeds by secret ballot to elect a Chairman, and the Chairman-elect of each Executive Committee is then appointed by the Governor as Minister for the group of subjects and functions which his Committee was elected to administer. (But it is within the discretion of the Governor to decline to appoint as Minister any member elected Chairman of an Executive Committee.) Subjects and functions not allocated to Executive Committees are divided by the Order in Council into three further groups, one of which is placed in the charge of each of the Officers of State, who have no Executive Committees associated with them in the administration of these groups.

The duties of Executive Committees may be summarized as follows:—

(*a*) The preparation of the annual estimates of expenditure of the departments under their control, for submission to the Board of Ministers.
(*b*) Similarly, the preparation of supplementary estimates.

---

* At the time of writing, four seats representing constituencies in the Northern Province, remain unfilled, no nomination papers having been submitted during the general election in June, 1931.

† Or the Attorney-General, until a Legal Secretary is appointed (Article 6 of the Order in Council).

‡ Page 101 of the Report of the Commission.

§ The members subsequently elected as Deputy Speaker and Deputy Chairman of Committees cease, upon their election, to be members of Executive Committees.

(*c*) The consideration of executive business relating to their own subjects and functions, whether laid before them by their Chairmen or by private members, or referred to them by the Council or the Board of Ministers.

(*d*) The consideration of proposed legislative measures falling within their scope.

The decisions of Executive Committees which are of sufficient importance to require the approval of the Council are submitted at meetings of the whole Council in the form of reports, which the Council may accept, or reject, or refer back to the Committee, but may not amend. A report accepted by the Council is submitted to the Governor by the Speaker for ratification. But the decisions of Executive Committees in financial* matters are submitted by the Committees to the Board of Ministers, and by the Board to the Council.

The Board of Ministers consists of the three Officers of State and the seven Ministers, but, as stated above, the Officers of State have not the right to vote on questions before the Board. The Chief Secretary is *ex officio* Chairman of the Board, and there is also a Vice-Chairman, elected by the Board from among the Ministers, who is the representative of the Board in the Council and is styled the Leader of the State Council. The most important function of the Board of Ministers is the preparation of the annual estimates of revenue and expenditure for the Island, and of supplementary estimates of expenditure. The annual and supplementary estimates of the different departments of Government are submitted by the Officers of State and Executive Committees to the Board, whose duty it is to revise them and, if and when approved, to submit them to the State Council, taking full and collective responsibility for them. No financial* measure may be introduced in the State Council except by an Officer of State or a Minister, and with the approval of the Board of Ministers. The Board of Ministers also determines the order in which any business, whether executive or legislative, to be brought before the Council either by the Board or by the Executive Committees or Officers of State, is to be despatched, and prescribes the procedure for the settlement of questions affecting more than one Executive Committee.

The ordinary life of a Council is four years. But the Constitution provides that the Governor may dissolve the Council at any time, and shall dissolve it if the whole of any Annual Appropriation Bill is rejected, or if the decision of the Council on a financial* measure, or on a motion expressly directed to test the confidence of the Council in the Board of Ministers, makes it apparent, in his opinion, that the Board no longer retains the confidence of the Council.

† The Governor retains the power to certify any Bill, motion, resolution, or vote as being of paramount importance, or he may declare that it is essential to give effect to the provisions of the Order in Council. In either event the measure has effect as if it had been passed by the Council, subject to disallowance by His Majesty the King in the case of Bills and to revocation by the Secretary of State in the case of other measures. ‡Power is also reserved to the Governor to declare that a state of emergency exists, and thereupon to assume control of any Government Department.

The appointment, promotion, transfer, dismissal, and disciplinary control of public officers are vested in the Governor (with power of delegation to heads of Government departments), and the Order in Council contains clauses for the preservation of their conditions of service.

For full details of the Constitution, reference may be made to the Order in Council, which is reproduced in the Ceylon Government Manual of Procedure.

The Ceylon Civil Service.—The Ceylon Civil Service, recruited partly by examination on the same basis as the Indian Civil Service, and partly by local appointments, furnishes officers for the general administrative, and part of the judicial, work in the Island.

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* As defined in Article 57 of the Order in Council.
† Article 22 of the Order in Council.
‡ Article 49 of the Order in Council.

Revenue Districts.—For administrative purposes Ceylon is divided into provinces, which are subdivided into districts, as shown in the following table:—

Provinces.	Districts.	Provinces.	Districts.
Western	Colombo, Kalutara	North-Western	Kurunegala, Puttalam-Chilaw
Central	Kandy, Matale, Nuwara Eliya	North-Central	Anuradhapura
Southern	Galle, Matara, Hambantota	Uva	Badulla
Northern	Jaffna, Mannar, Mullaittivu	Sabaragamuwa	Ratnapura, Kegalla
Eastern	Batticaloa, Trincomalee		

The Government Agents.—The posts of Government Agents—one in each of the nine Provinces—are held by senior Civil Servants. To the Government Agents is entrusted the general administrative work of their Provinces, while their Kachcheris, or offices, are the provincial treasuries for the receipt of revenue and the payment of the local expenses of Government.

The Government Agents hold a number of other official positions, and preside over some local bodies in their provinces. They are, as a rule, assisted by one or more Assistant Government Agents, who are in charge of revenue districts or else perform special duties at the provincial headquarters.

The Headmen.—The officer next subordinate to the Government Agent or Assistant Government Agent is the chief headman, who is differently styled in different districts: " Mudaliyar " in the maritime Sinhalese districts; " Ratemahatmaya " in the Kandayan districts; " Maniagar ", " Adigar ", and " Vanniya " in the Tamil districts. There are about 106 chief headmen in the Island. In some cases the Mudaliyar is assisted by one or more " Muhandirams ". Next to the chief headman ranks the superior headman, called in the maritime Sinhalese districts " Vidane Arachchi ", in the Kandyan Sinhalese districts the " Korala ", and in the Tamil districts the " Udaiyar ". There are about 619 superior headmen in Ceylon.

Lastly comes the village headman, who is in charge of one or more villages, and whose jurisdiction is the administrative unit. The number of village headmen is about 4,000. In addition, there are peace officers, irrigation headmen, and others appointed for special purposes.

Local Government.

The local duties in regard to sanitation and public thoroughfares have for long been entrusted to a number of local authorities whose members are the nominees of the Governor with the addition in most cases of persons elected by the inhabitants. In Colombo, Kandy, and Galle there are Municipal Councils whose Chairmen are members of the Civil Service. At least half the members are elected by the rate payers, all those possessing a house of the annual value of Rs. 180, or every tenant who pays a monthly rental of Rs. 15, or is a graduate of a university, being qualified to vote.

In eleven of the smaller towns there are Urban District Councils with elected Chairmen. Two-thirds of the members are elected by the rate payers. Such Councils have not in the past been constituted in the absence of a local demand and during the ten years since this type of Council was first devised there has been singularly little demand.

Eleven of the other smaller towns are administered by Local Boards of Health and Improvement, composed of the Government Agent or Assistant Government Agent (the chief revenue officer) as Chairman, the two local officials of the Public Health and Public Works Departments and three elected members. The administration of the town of Nuwara Eliya is in the hands of a somewhat similar body, known as the Board of Improvement.

Groups of even smaller towns, frequently no larger than roadside bazaars, are administered by the Sanitary Boards of the various provinces and districts consisting of the Government Agent or Assistant Government Agent, two local officials of the Public Health and Public Works Departments and not more than four nor less than two members nominated by the Governor. This method of local administration is carried on for all such towns in a district from the district heaquarters with a staff consisting partly of officers whose salaries are

met proportionately by the various towns and partly of officers lent by the Public Health Department, assisted by yet others in addition to their normal duties for the central government.

For the rural areas Village Committees have been established the members of which are elected, with elected Chairmen where the inhabitants so desire. These deal with minor local affairs and the working of rules connected with irrigation.

Roads other than main thoroughfares are maintained by District Committees while certain educational matters have been entrusted to District Education Committees.

With the inauguration of the new Constitution for the Island in July, 1931, an Executive Committee of Local Administration was elected by the State Council to supervise, control, and develop local government, and a department of local government under the Commissioner of Local Government was created as the executive instrument of the Committee. The Committee has already taken steps to establish several more Urban District Councils, to convert the existing Local Boards into Urban District Councils and also to amend the Constitution of the Colombo Municipal Council in order to provide for an entirely elected Council with an elected Chairman.

CHAPTER III.

Population.

Population.—The population of Ceylon (inclusive of the military and the shipping) according to the Census of February 26, 1931, amounted to 5,312,548 persons, compared with 4,504,549 at the Census of 1921. This shows an increase of 17.94 per cent. for the decade. The military and the shipping population amounted to 1,387 and 4,290, as against 951 and 4,993 in 1921.

The Census of 1931 was a partial one, and details by race were not collected except in the Colombo Municipality and on the estates. Rough estimates based on the proportions of the races in 1921 are given in the following table:—

Race.	Colombo Town.	Estates.	Estimates for Other Areas.	Estimated Totals.
Europeans	3,340	2,814	3,000	9,154
Burghers and Eurasians	15,887	2,031	14,397	32,315
Sinhalese	127,927	75,786	3,269,316	3,473,029
Tamils	65,704	698,081	653,692	1,417,477
Moors	44,240	7,496	274,177	325,913
Malays	7,022	1,988	6,967	15,977
Others	20,035	1,738	10,791	32,564
Total	284,155	790,376*	4,232,340	5,306,871*†

Note.—The figures shown above do not include the population of the Maldives which was 79,281 at the Census of 1931 as against 70,413 in 1921.

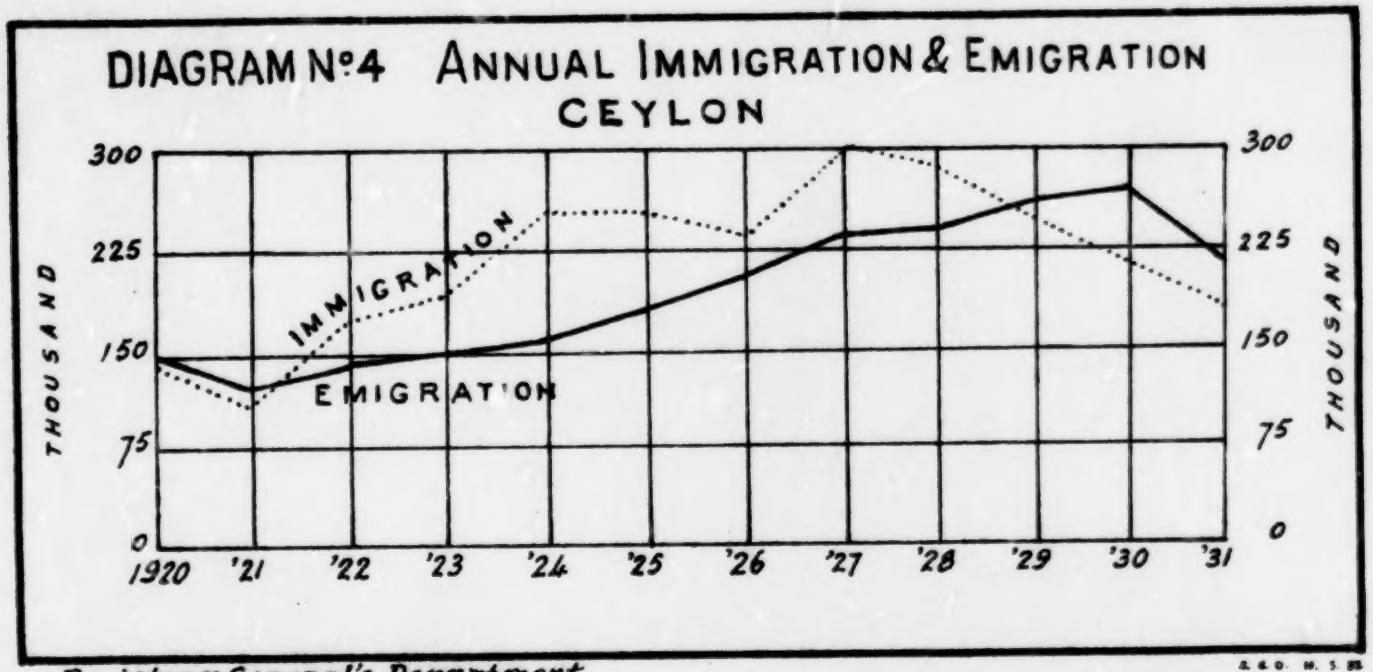
The population (exclusive of the military and the shipping) of the nine Provinces of the Island according to the Censuses of 1921 and 1931 is given below:—

	1921.	1931.	Percentage of Increase.
Western Province	1,246,847	1,445,034	15·9
Central Province	717,739	953,388	32·8
Southern Province	671,234	771,204	14·9
Northern Province	374,829	398,874	6·4
Eastern Province	192,821	212,421	10·2
North-Western Province	492,181	546,966	11·1
North-Central Province	96,525	97,365	·9
Province of Uva	233,864	303,243	29·7
Province of Sabaragamuwa	471,814	578,368	22·6
Miscellaneous population ‡	751	8	—

* Includes 442 persons of unspecified race.

† Excludes the military and the shipping.

‡ Persons enumerated in trains and in the Great and Little Basses.



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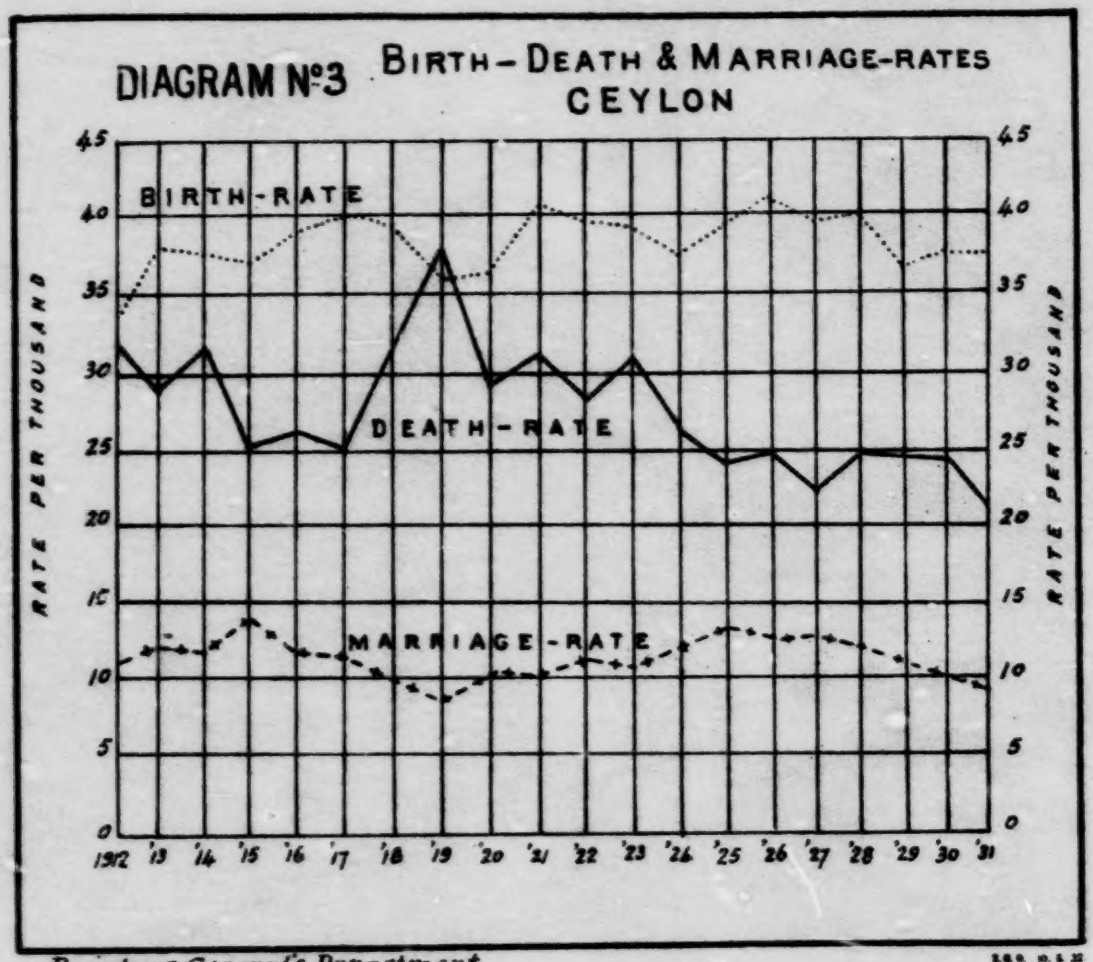

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Migration.—The total number of arrivals during the year amounted to 183,122 and the departures to 214,703. The number of arrivals during the year is the lowest since 1922 and the departures the lowest since 1926. The arrivals are more frequent in the second and third quarters of the year, and the departures in the first and second. The arrivals from India alone numbered 162,738 or 89 per cent. of the total arrivals, while the arrivals from other countries amounted to 20,384 persons or the remaining 11 per cent. Among the departures 198,562 or 92 per cent. were bound for India and 16,141 or 8 per cent. for other countries. The number of estate labourers who arrived from India was 68,337 in 1931, as compared with 91,422 in 1930 and 118,275 the average for the years 1926 to 1930. The number who left the Island was 75,866, as against 98,728 in 1930 and 88,460 the average (1926 to 1930).

Marriages.—The number of general and Kandyan marriages registered during the year was 24,544, which is 961 less than in the preceding year. The general marriages alone numbered 19,308 and the Kandyan 5,236, the respective numbers for the previous year being 20,218 and 5,287. The average number of general and Kandyan marriages registered during the past decade was 27,307. The number of persons married during the year both in the general and Kandyan communities was 49,088, which corresponded to a rate of 9.9, as against 10.4 in the previous year and 11.8 the average for the years 1921-1930. The marriages registered among the Muslims numbered 1,157, an increase of 82 on the number for the previous year. The average number of marriages per annum in the past decade was 932. The Muslim marriage rate was 6.5 and is comparatively low. This is due to a very considerable number of Muslim marriages not being registered according to law.

Divorces.—Divorces under the General Marriages Ordinance can be granted only by the District Courts, while those under the Kandyan Ordinance are granted by Government Agents and their Assistants.

There were reported during the year 128 divorces under the General Marriages Ordinance and 539 under the Kandyan. The numbers during the preceding year were 97 and 582 respectively. There is always a much higher percentage of divorces to marriages in the Kandyan community than in the General; and this, in some measure, is due to the greater facilities for annulling the marriage tie afforded by the Kandyan law in comparison with the General law.

Births.—The number of births registered during the year amounted to 199,170 (101,399 males and 97,771 females). The nearest approach to this year's figure was in 1929, when the number of births was 198,005. Compared with the number for the preceding year this year's figure is 5,936 less.

The birth rate for the year was equal to 37.4 per 1,000 of the estimated population, as against 39.0 in the preceding year and 39.4 the average for the ten years 1921-1930.

Sex Proportion at Birth.—Of the births registered during the year the proportion of male children for every 1,000 female children was 1,037. In the preceding year there were 1,035 male children to every 1,000 female children.

Deaths.—The deaths of 117,453 persons (58,859 males and 58,594 females) were registered in 1931, as against 133,708 in 1930 and 128,916 the average for the ten years 1921-1930. The death rate for the year under review was equal to 22.1 per 1,000 of the estimated population, as against 25.4 in 1930. The average death rate for the past decade was 26.2.

Infant Mortality.—By infant mortality is meant the deaths of children under one year of age, and the rate is stated in terms of 1,000 births registered in that year. During the year under review the deaths of infants numbered 31,439, as against 35,877 in the preceding year and 35,381 the average for the past decade. The number of infant deaths, which represents 26.8 per cent. of the total deaths, was equal to a rate of 158 per 1,000 births, as against 175 in 1930 and 182 the average for the past decade. The birth rate in Ceylon is very high compared with that prevailing in some Western countries. The infant mortality rate is greatly influenced by the birth rate, so that it is not an unusual feature to find a high infant mortality rate in countries that have high birth rates, and a low

infant mortality rate in countries that have low birth rates. Several Child Welfare Centres have within recent years been formed by different social service leagues and the Government is also devoting attention to the reduction of infant mortality in the various health units spread over the Island. These measures are producing good results though slowly.

Causes of Deaths.—The classification of causes of death is based on the International or Bertillon System. Owing to the absence of compulsory certification of causes of death among a very large section of the population, the statistics, particularly of diseases requiring scientific knowledge for diagnosis, are of doubtful value, but there is reason to believe that a definite though slow progress in accuracy is achieved every year. A very large number of deaths are returned by village informants as due to fever and they are tabulated under the vague title " Pyrexia ". The number of deaths assigned to pyrexia in 1931 was 16,553—or 14.1 per cent. of the total deaths, as compared with 19,106 in the previous year. There is no doubt that, among the large number of deaths from this vague cause, a considerable number are actually deaths from malaria. Another prolific cause of death in the Island is infantile convulsions, from which during the year there were 12,135 deaths—or 10.3 per cent. of the total deaths. The records show that more than one-quarter of the deaths registered in the Island are attributed to Pyrexia and Convulsions—the latter among the infants and children of tender years. This year, however, the number of deaths from these two causes is a little less than a quarter of the total deaths. The death rates from some of the more important diseases registered in Ceylon in 1930 and 1931 as per million of the estimated population are given below:—

Causes.	Rate per Million. 1930.	1931.
Pyrexia	3,634	3,108
Infantile convulsions	2,937	2,279
Diarrhoea and enteritis	1,793	1,301
Pneumonia	1,514	1,432
Dysentery	688	469
Phthisis	631	596
Malaria and malarial cachexia	454	312
Premature birth and congenital defects	446	396

Causes.	Rate per Million. 1930.	1931.
Ankylostomiasis	443	422
Influenza	394	449
Puerperal septicaemia	304	277
Bronchitis	259	278
Enteric fever	160	149
Cancer	87	88

CHAPTER IV.

Health.

Hospitals and Dispensaries.

MEDICAL aid is generously provided by the State, there being 107 Government hospitals and asylums, with provision for 11,410 beds.

In Colombo are situated a General Hospital with 939 beds, an Ophthalmic Hospital, a Lying-in Home, a hospital for women (Lady Havelock Hospital), a hospital for children (Lady Ridgeway Hospital), a Bacteriological Institute, a Pasteur Institute, and a Dental Institute. At Angoda, 6 miles from Colombo, there is a hospital for infectious diseases, with 168 beds. There are special dispensaries at Kandy, Galle, Jaffna, Batticaloa, and Badulla for the treatment of eye diseases. Treatment with radium is now available at the General Hospital, Colombo.

As regards asylums, there is a Lunatic Asylum at Angoda, 6 miles from Colombo, and there are two Leper Asylums, one at Hendala in the Western Province and one at Mantivu in the Eastern Province.

There is a Home for Incurables at Colombo, with 90 beds, which is administered by a Committee of Government officials and representatives of the public.

In connection with the prevention of tuberculosis, in Colombo there is the King Edward VII. Memorial Anti-Tuberculosis Institute, at Kandana there is a sanatorium of 72 beds, and at Ragama there is a hospital for chronic cases.

In addition to Government hospitals, the owners of estates have provided 87 estate hospitals, who receive a rebate on the export duty on tea, rubber, coffee, cacao, and cardamoms.

Besides the hospitals there are 605 central and branch dispensaries and visiting stations provided by Government. There are also 720 estate dispensaries, which receive free drugs from Government to the value of 50 cents per labourer per annum.

Campaigns.

Campaigns against malaria, ankylostomiasis, and parangi are carried out in various parts of the Island, apart from treatment at hospitals and dispensaries. Mass treatment against hookworm infestation was carried out by Medical Officers (Civil), Medical Officers of Health, and School Medical Officers in their respective areas. Very marked results are shown by the decrease in the number of patients admitted to hospitals in the areas so treated. Success has also attended the efforts of the Itinerating Medical Officers appointed for the treatment of parangi.

Trained vaccinators are stationed in each Province. Primary vaccination against smallpox is compulsory, and secondary vaccination is carried out compulsorily among contacts when an outbreak of smallpox occurs.

Anti-Malarial Work.

Intensive anti-malaria work is done in the severely malarious town-areas of Chilaw, Kurunegala, Anuradhapura, Trincomalee, Puttalam, and Badulla (work in the last two was begun during 1929), and along certain sections of the railway.

Schemes for malaria drainage of Anti-Malaria Campaign areas are drafted by the Sanitary Engineer. The Medical Entomologist checks the efficiency of larvicidal measures carried out by the Anti-Malaria Campaign staff and also investigates problems connected with malaria incidence in other parts of the Island.

Quinine is distributed in large quantities in malarious areas throughout the Island both for curative and prophylactic purposes; 13,409 lb. and 2,269,775 tablets have been issued during 1931.

Sanitary Engineering Division.

In addition to malaria drainage, this division deals with questions of general drainage in small towns and of water supplies and disposal of excreta.

Estate Sanitation.

Attached to the Department of Medical and Sanitary Services are three Inspecting Medical Officers and three Assistants, who inspect estates throughout the Island. During the year under review 815 estates were inspected. In the course of inspection, defects in the sanitary condition of estates are pointed out and suggestions to remedy and prevent them in future are put forward to the estate owners. Year by year the housing and the sanitary conditions on estates are improving.

Public Health.

In addition to the Inspecting Medical Officers, there were, in 1931, 27 Medical Officers of Health, assisted by 267 Sanitary Inspectors, who looked after the sanitary requirements of urban and rural areas. Seven Health Units have been established since 1926, at Kadugannawa, Kalutara, Kegalla, Kurunegala, Matara, Panadure, and Trincomalee. Health work on the lines conducted in Health Unit areas was started in Moratuwa and in Dehiwala. Public Health Nurses are being employed in increasing numbers in connection with clinics and child welfare centres.

Epidemics are promptly dealt with by the Medical Officers of Health and their staffs.

Ordinances.

An Anti-Mosquito Ordinance is before the Executive Committee of Health for consideration, a Milk and Dairies Ordinance is under the consideration of the Attorney-General, and a Poisons and Dangerous Drugs Ordinance which was passed by the Legislature has not yet been proclaimed as certain amendments are under consideration at present.

Infectious Diseases.

Plague.—The following is a list of plague cases and deaths from that disease which occurred in Ceylon during the year:—

Locality.	Cases.	Deaths.	Locality.	Cases.	Deaths.
Colombo	47	45	Kegalla	1	1
Rambukkana	1	1			
Panadure	1	1	Total	50	48

The year compares rather unfavourably with 1930 in which there were 46 cases with 42 deaths. The fatality rate in 1931 was 96 per cent. which is 4.7 higher than that of the previous year.

Plague in Colombo.

Human Plague.—The following table shows the incidence of human plague in Colombo during the years 1929 to 1931:—

	1929.			1930.			1931.		
	Cases.	Deaths.	Case Mortality. Per Cent.	Cases.	Deaths.	Case Mortality. Per Cent.	Cases.	Deaths.	Case Mortality. Per Cent.
Total	40	36	90·0	40	38	95·0	47	45	95·7
Septicaemic	15	15	100·0	14	14	100·0	17	17	100·0
Bubonic	25	21	84·0	25	23	92·0	29	27	93·1
Pneumonic	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	100·0
Cutaneous	—	—	—	1	1	100·0	—	—	—

Monthly Incidence.—The largest number of cases occurred during the first quarter of the year, 15 cases occurring in February alone.

Sex Incidence.—Of the 47 cases, 42 were males and 5 females.

Rat Plague.—28,051 rats were examined at the Municipal Laboratory and 24 or .09 per cent. were found infected as against .06 per cent. in 1930. There were no epidemics in Ceylon this year, the cases occurring sporadically.

Smallpox.—There were 9 cases of smallpox, with 3 deaths, giving a fatality rate of 33.3 per cent., as against 41 cases with 6 deaths during 1930.

The distribution of cases according to locality is as follows:—

Locality.	Cases.	Deaths.
Colombo—Port	2	—
Kayts	1	—
Trincomalee	5	2
Mullaittivu	1	1
Total	9	3

The only epidemic this year was at Trincomalee. The first case of this outbreak occurred in the person of a Brahmin priest who arrived from Madura in South India in November. He was first treated for measles. During the last stage of the disease it was suspected to be smallpox. The second case was in the person of his daughter, and the third in the person of his washerman. The fourth case was in the person of a labourer in the infected area, and the fifth in the person of a carpenter for whom case No. 3 had washed clothes. Of these five cases two proved fatal.

The Mullaittivu case occurred in the person of a brother of case No. 4 of the Trincomalee outbreak. He had gone to Trincomalee on a visit to his brother, and had escaped detention and returned to Mullaittivu where he fell ill in December, and died.

Cholera.—There were six cases and all of them ended fatally. No cases occurred in the previous year.

The distribution of cases according to locality is as follows:—

Locality.	Cases.	Deaths.
Colombo	3	3
Pesalai	2	2
Talaimannar	1	1
Total	6	6

The cases at Colombo were unconnected and proved fatal. One, an Indian Muslim, was a contact of a case that occurred at Mandapam Camp. The other two cases were in the persons of a Tamil labourer, who worked and lived in the

barges in the harbour, and a Sinhalese woman. The source of infection in these two cases could not be determined.

The two cases at Pesalai occurred in the persons of 2 Ceylon Tamil fishermen. The first case acquired infection by direct contact with a case of cholera in Ramnad District in South India, and the second case was infected by the first.

The Talaimannar case occurred in the person of a Ceylon Tamil fisherman who was a direct contact of a case of cholera at Thangachimadam in South India.

CHAPTER V.

Housing.

THE general housing in Ceylon, considering the comparative poverty of the country, is fairly satisfactory: the investment of money in a house is popular, and any member of a Ceylonese family making money will early endeavour to construct a suitable house of his own.

Moreover, secure and safe investments presenting attractions to Ceylonese are restricted and considerable accumulated wealth is used in house construction or money is raised for the purpose by mortgages.

There is a further tendency on the part of Ceylonese with private means to live in towns, thus creating a great demand for housing especially in times of prosperity.

The general growth of business in the last fifty years, a doubling of the acreage in estates and their greatly improved efficiency combined with the general growth of wealth, have led to a considerable demand for land in almost all towns with a resultant heavy increase in the price of all urban building land.

Thus, though the price of land has been high, the needs of middle and better class people have in general been adequately met, though rents remain high.

However, for the working classes, private enterprise has done comparatively little. The price of land and the general poverty prevailing preclude the building of houses for them which will secure returns comparable to those provided by construction of middle class houses. It is doubtful whether economic rents will be possible unless the value of land falls considerably.

In Colombo the result has been that the working classes are largely housed in houses erected for other purposes and ill adapted for working class dwellings, while many portions of the town are definitely slums.

The problem has been tackled—

(1) By a steady effort to mitigate the effects of overcrowding, by sanitary improvements, the provision of adequate water-borne drainage, water, easily available medical relief, &c.

(2) By modifications in construction to permit more adequate supplies of light and air, to facilitate scavenging, &c. Much has been done by steady work in this respect.

(3) By housing Municipal employees in new houses, thus lessening the pressure on the rentable dwellings.

Largely by (1) alone the infantile death rate has been greatly decreased and the general death rate for Colombo reduced to 25.1 per thousand of the population.

However the main and really only solution is large numbers of new houses.

The Colombo Municipality has taken up the question of the Kochchikade slums and is acquiring 7½ acres, with the intention of complete demolition and rebuilding at a cost of over Rs. 1,000,000, where it is hoped to house over 2,000 people in really sanitary conditions. Government has also assisted by the removal of the railway workshops outside the city to Ratmalana.

Kandy, faced with a similar but much smaller problem, has acted on similar lines.

The rural areas do not present such difficulties.

The most successful effort in housing is that on estates where, since 1920, new dwellings on approved plans have been constructed to house almost the whole Indian labour force of about 700,000 people.

207,818 rooms and 68,819 latrines have been constructed at the cost to estates of over 800 lacs of rupees. In addition 157,388 rooms are provided with a pipe-borne water supply in close vicinity.

Only a series of prosperous years could have permitted this work to have been completed so rapidly.

Housing still remains inadequate in the City of Colombo and in some outstation towns.

Rents, for those drawing Rs. 20 to Rs. 40 a month, may be Rs. 5 to 10 per mensem. Till the shortage of housing is met, any general improvement in pay is likely to be dissipated in enhanced rents.

CHAPTER VI.

Production.

AGRICULTURE.

General.—The main crops of the Island are coconut, paddy, tea, and rubber. Other crops which are grown to less extents, though their combined value is of not inconsiderable importance to the trade of the Island, are: cacao, cinnamon, citronella, arecanut, cardamoms, and tobacco.

Chena cultivation, that is, the growing of crops on jungle land newly cleared by burning, is an important feature of peasant agriculture in the sparsely populated areas of the dry-zone, while, in more favoured districts, and particularly in proximity to towns, market gardening is of some importance.

Animal husbandry is still a negligible factor in the agricultural economy of Ceylon, but interest in this branch is now becoming awakened, and the beginnings of stock raising and dairy industries are being laid.

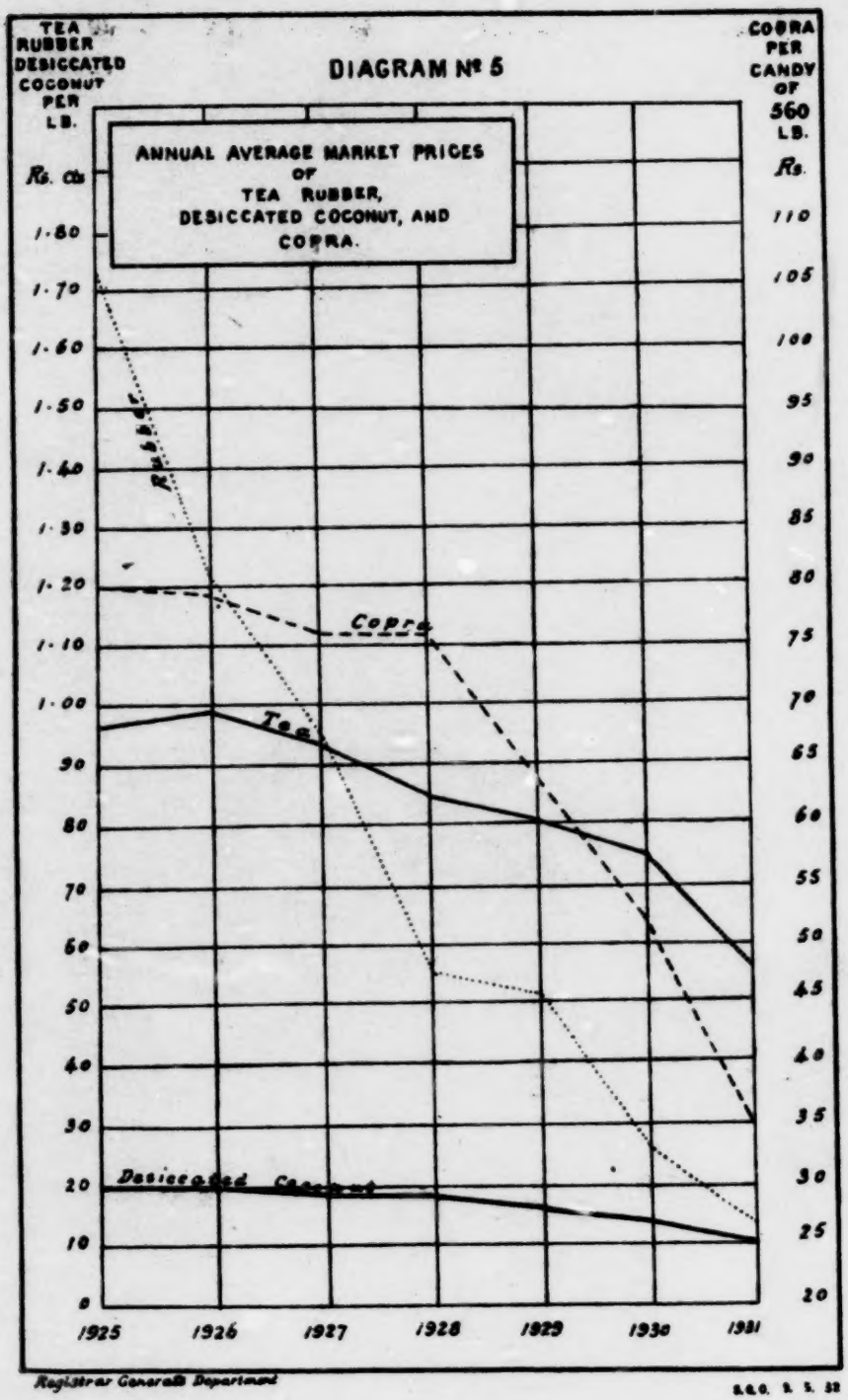
The extent of production of the several crops may be gauged from the following tables which give the approximate acreages under cultivation and the quantities of produce exported and the value of these in 1931:—

Acreages under the Chief Crops (estimated only).

	Acres.		Acres.
Coconuts	1,000,000	Palmyra	50,000
Rice	1,000,000	Cacao	34,000
Rubber	500,000	Citronella	33,000
Tea	400,000	Cinnamon	26,000
Chenas, vegetable, and other crops	140,000	Tobacco	14,000
Arecanuts	69,000	Cardamoms	6,000

Exports of Agricultural Products of the Island in 1931.

	Quantity.	Value. Rs.	Total value of Class. Rs.
Black tea	242·5 mill. lb.	137·8 mill.	
Green tea	1·5 mill. lb.	·9 mill.	
Tea seed	455 cwt.	·1 mill.	
			138·8 mill.
Coconuts, fresh	21·1 mill. nuts	·8 mill.	
Copra	1·9 mill. cwt.	12·8 mill.	
Coconut oil	1·0 mill. cwt.	12·1 mill.	
Coir yarn	·1 mill. cwt.	·8 mill.	
Desiccated coconut	·7 mill. cwt.	6·8 mill.	
Poonac	·4 mill. cwt.	1·3 mill.	
Bristle fibre	·2 mill. cwt.	1·1 mill.	
Mattress fibre	·3 mill. cwt.	·4 mill.	
Coir rope, &c.	9,000 cwt.	·1 mill.	
			36·2 mill.
Rubber	145·3 mill. lb.		21·0 mill.
Cacao	77,000 cwt.		2·3 mill.
Arecanuts	102,000 cwt.		1·7 mill.
Cardamoms	2,700 cwt.		·4 mill.
Pepper and other spices ..	4,000 cwt.		·1 mill.
Cinnamon (quills and chips) ..	42,000 cwt.	1·2 mill.	
Cinnamon oil (bark and leaf) ..	2·2 mill. oz.	·8 mill.	
			2·0 mill.
Tobacco (manufactured and cigars) ..	3·0 mill. lb.		1·4 mill.
Citronella oil	1·2 mill. lb.		1·0 mill.
Papain	77,000 lb.		·4 mill.
Kapok	6,700 cwt.		·2 mill.
Gingelly seed	28,000 cwt.		·1 mill.
		Total ..	205·6 mill.



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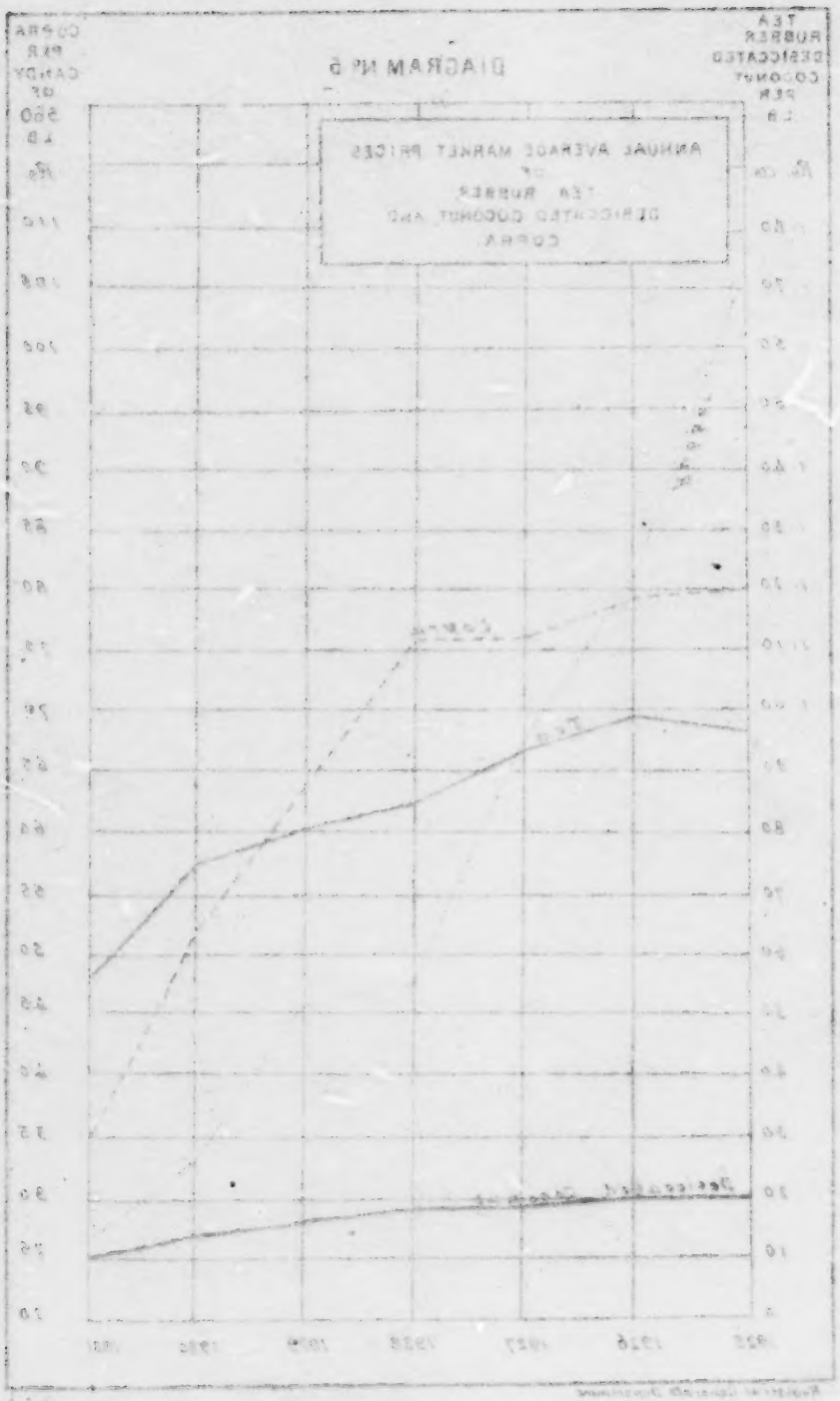


DIAGRAM Nº 5
ANNUAL AVERAGE MARKET PRICES
OF
TEA RUBBER
DESICCATED COCONUT AND
COPRA.
COPRA
PER
CANDY
OF
560
LB
TEA
RUBBER
DESICCATED
COCONUT
PER
LB
Copra
Tea
Desiccated Coconut
1913
1914
1915
1916
1917
1918
1919
1920
1921
1922

Tea.

Acreage, &c.—Over 400,000 acres are planted in tea consisting of about 1,230 estates. Cultivation lies mainly in the mid-and-hill-country at elevations ranging between 1,500 feet and 6,000 feet. It is also grown at lower elevations down almost to sea level but the variety grown is different from that of the higher elevations and yields a product of less superior quality.

The manufactured product consists of the young tender shoots of *Camellia Thea* which undergo the processes of withering, rolling, fermenting, and drying or firing.

Pruning and Plucking.—The object of tea cultivation is to secure the maximum quantity of the best quality of leaf. For this purpose the bushes are pruned periodically so as to ensure regular, frequent, and plentiful "flushes," or young, tender shoots on the tops of the bushes. The tip of the new shoot and one or two leaves below it are plucked by hand, generally by the women of the labour force.

Rainfall.—A fairly evenly distributed rainfall of 60 to 200 inches a year is required for tea.

Labour.—About 95 per cent. of tea estate labour consists of Tamils from India. The average labour force is generally calculated, for tea, at the rate of about one labourer per acre.

Methods of Cultivation and Manuring.—Cultivation methods have greatly improved in recent years, and much greater attention is now given to systematic cultivation and to the application of manures. Prunings are buried with applications of basic slag and potash, while general mixtures are applied while the bushes are in growth.

Yields and Prices.—Yields vary greatly with soil, jât (variety), elevation, cultivation, manuring, &c., and the annual figures may be said to range from 300 to 1,200 lb. made tea per acre, 600 to 700 lb. being considered a good all-round yield.

Since the early months of the year 1931 the tendency of the market has been downwards except during the periods of good quality. The average price of all teas sold in local auction was 18 cents below that of the previous year. High grown teas have suffered the least as may be seen from the following figures:—

Year.	High Grown. Cents.	Medium Grown. Cents.	Low Grown. Cents.
1930	96	69	60
1931	83	50	43

Quality throughout the year was satisfactory and a noticeable improvement was evident in the manufacture of teas from the low-country.

The annual average market prices* in certain years were:—1922, 85 cents per lb.; 1923, Re. 1.02; 1924, Re. 1.04; 1925, 96 cents; 1926, 99 cents; 1927, 94 cents; 1928, 85 cents; 1929, 81 cents; 1930, 75 cents; 1931, 57 cents (see Diagram No. 5).

Machinery.—The chief machinery in a tea factory is the rolling machinery, the roll-breaker, and the drier. These are generally driven by overhead belting from a shaft driven by the power unit. This unit may be water-driven, as in the case of Pelton wheels or turbines, or it may consist of an oil, suction-gas or steam engine. Various driers are in use. The power required for a factory with an output of 400,000 lb. made tea per annum is about 50 h.p. For crops over 200,000 lb. the power required can be calculated at 10 to 12 h.p. per 100,000 lb.

Rubber.

Acreage, Elevation, and Rainfall.—The estimated acreage under rubber in the Island is 500,000 acres. The rubber tree flourishes at lower elevations below 2,000 feet and requires a well distributed rainfall of not less than 80 inches per annum. It is cultivated to varying extents throughout the Island, chiefly in the Province of Sabaragamuwa, and in the Western, Central, and Southern Provinces.

* According to local weekly sale averages.

Latex.—Rubber is the coagulated latex of the para rubber tree (*Hevea brasiliensis*) obtained by tapping the trunk. The latex running from the end of the cut—usually half the circumference—is collected, removed to the factory, treated with acetic acid to cause coagulation, dried, and crêped by machinery, or coagulated in sheets and smoked. It will be noted that tea is exported in a form ready for consumption, while the rubber exported has to be made into rubber goods before being put on the market.

Planting.—Rubber is generally propagated from seed which is sown in nurseries, and, when the nursery plants are eighteen months to two years old, they are removed, have their tops and main roots cut back, and are planted into the new clearings as " stumps ". Planting is carried out at varying distances, but 24 feet by 12 feet is a favourite of many growers, as this allows of ample plants for thinning from the third year. The tree grows to a height of 30 to 40 feet and develops a heavy foliage.

Cultivation.—The best time for cultivation is considered to be just before the wintering commences. Cattle manures, green manures, and artificial manures are all used. The approximate quantity of artificial manure used per annum per acre is up to 1,000 lb. Cover plants are used for soil conservation.

Tapping.—Various systems of tapping are still in vogue, but the single cut (half-circumference) is now becoming universal. The frequency of tapping has also varied as experience has been gained. Daily tapping was formerly most common, but alternate-day tapping is now generally popular, while tapping every third day is adopted upon some estates. Better bark-renewal results if the interval between tappings is extended, but some loss of bark occurs in three-day tapping. Tapping generally commences when the trees are six to seven years of age, and upon trees whose girth at 3 feet above the ground has reached approximately 24 inches.

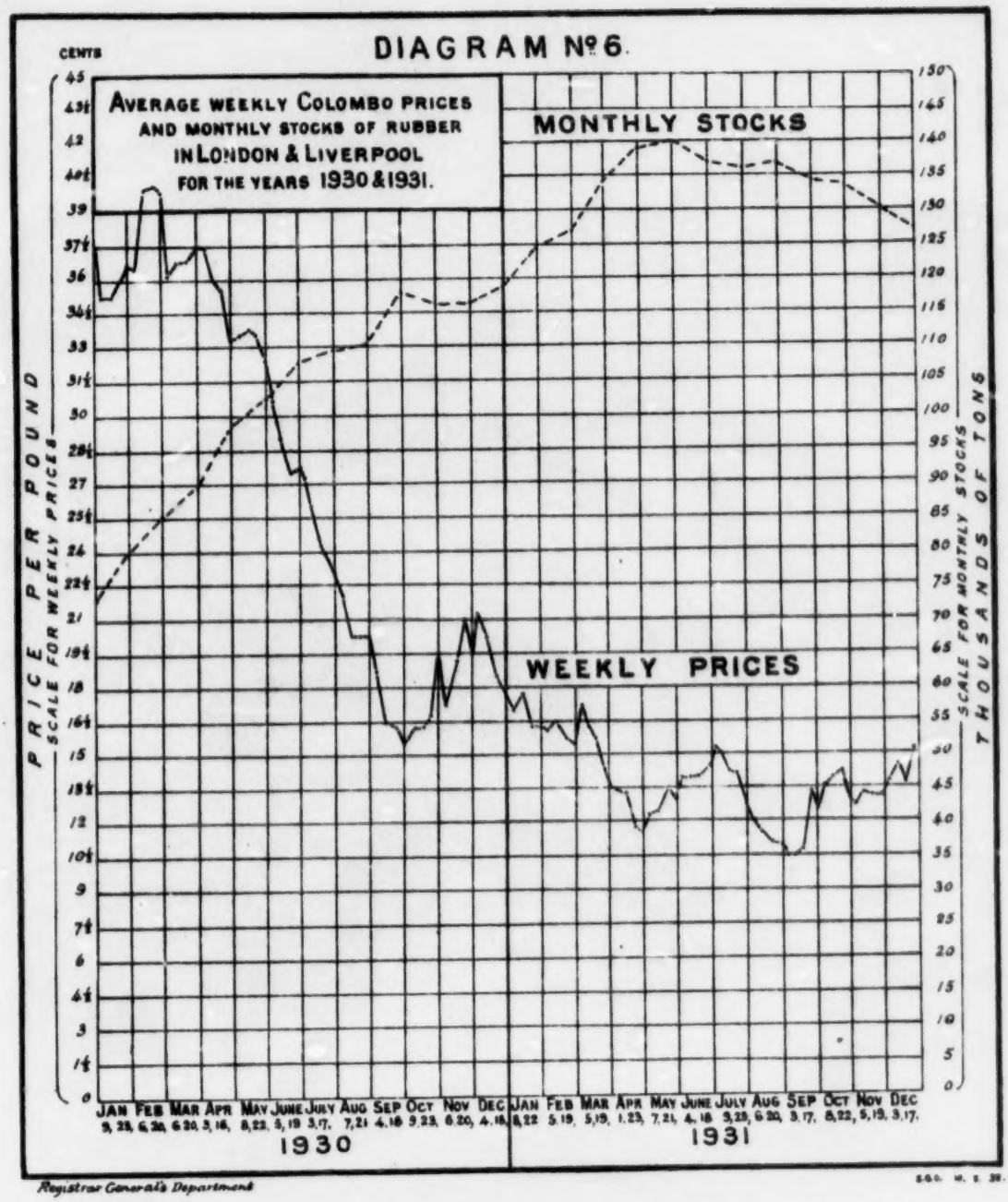
Manufacture.—The manufacture of rubber into the form in which it is put on the wholesale market is done in factories on the estates. A considerable quantity and variety of machinery is used. The manufacture is standardized, and the difference between the prices of the various grades is generally not very large.

Yield, Prices, &c.—The yield per acre varies considerably with the soil, age of the trees, rainfall, planting, treatment, &c., but may be said to range from 150 to 700 lb. per acre, 400 to 500 lb. per acre being considered a good all-round yield for an estate in full bearing. A very good tree over twelve years old will yield 10 lb. dry rubber per annum, while the average per tree in full bearing may be put at about 4 to 5 lb. per annum.

During the year under review the rubber industry has felt still more acutely the effects of considerable over-production coincident with the world-wide depression in trade. Prices opened in January at 18 cents and gradually declined to 13-14 cents by the middle of April, and then to 11-11½ cents. The market was somewhat erratic during May owing to the rumours of the probable abolition of export duty. On official notifications made on May 28 that the duty would be removed, the market advanced to around 14 cents per lb. A much better demand during June raised prices to 15-15½ cents, but the advance was not maintained, and with poor consumption and large shipment figures prices gradually fell away again till the very low level of 10¼-10½ cents was touched during September.

The suspension of the gold standard by Great Britain then affected the market and prices rose to over 14 cents during October. The advance in price was too rapid and a slight decline to around 13 cents followed. Standard crêpe was now selling at a distinct premium—sometimes over 1 cent a lb. In December restriction rumours brought a more speculative element into the market and prices touched 18 cents for crêpe and 17 cents for smoked sheet. Demand, however, was not general at these levels and with slight fluctuations the market closed on December 23 at 16 cents for crêpe and 14¾ cents for sheet.

While partial restriction has not been adopted to any extent, a considerable acreage has gone out of production.



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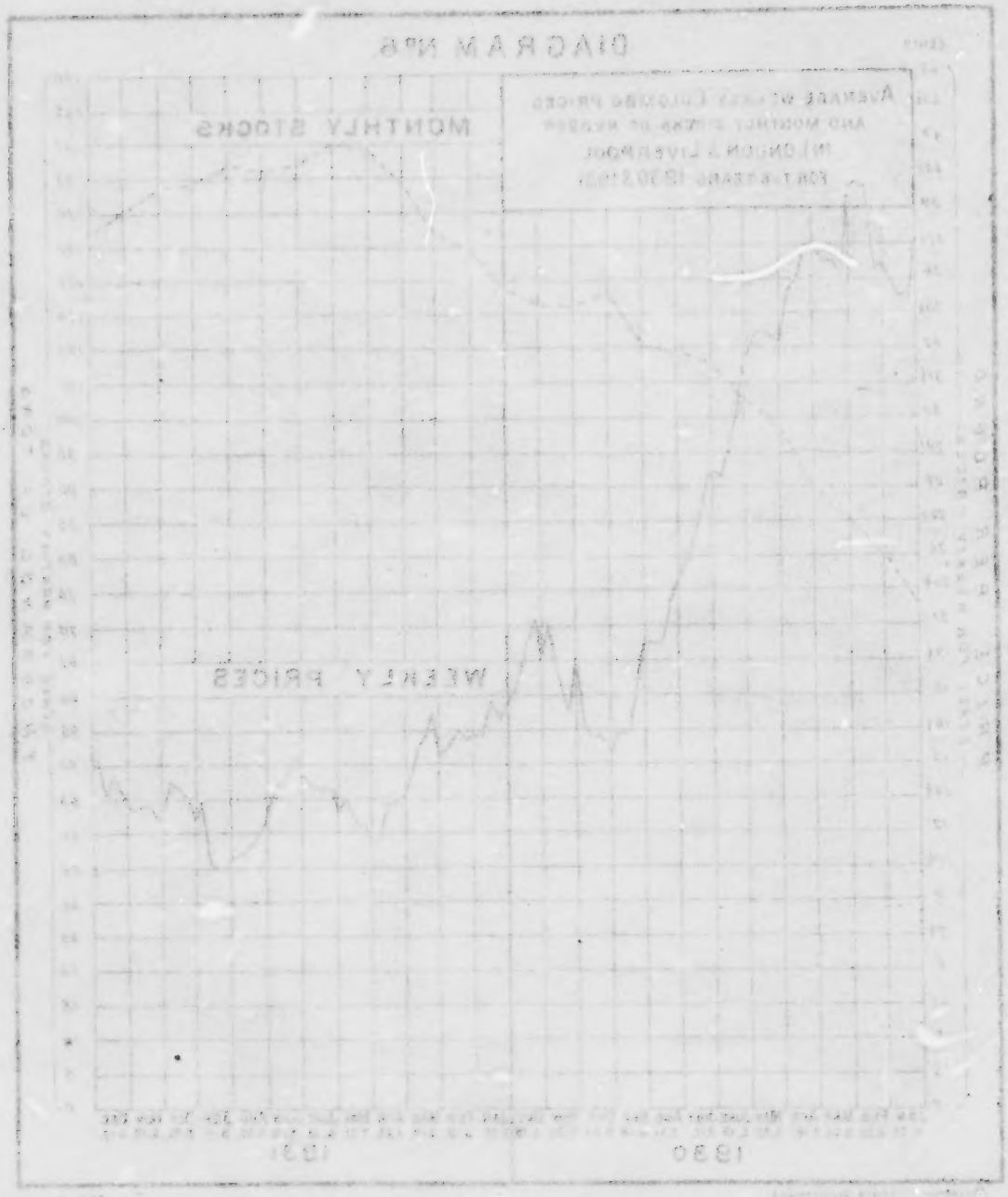
DIAGRAM No6.
AVERAGE WEEKLY CLOSING PRICES
AND MONTHLY STOCKS OF MYRIAD
IN LONDON & LIVERPOOL
FOR THE YEARS 1929 & 1930.
MONTHLY STOCKS
WEEKLY PRICES
1929
1930

The annual average market prices* in certain years were the following:—1922, 53 cents per lb.; 1923, 88 cents; 1924, 75 cents; 1925, Re. 1.73; 1926, Re. 1.21; 1927, 95 cents; 1928, 55 cents; 1929, 52 cents; 1930, 27 cents; 1931, 14 cents (see Diagram No. 5).

Rates of Freight.—The rates to the United Kingdom and Continent were reduced on May 16, 1931, from 57*s.* 6*d.* to 52*s.* 6*d.* and these rates were subject to a 10 per cent. increase as from November 1, and the United States of America rate by 15 per cent. as from November 7.

Labour.—The labour engaged is generally immigrant Indian Tamil, but, in some cases, Sinhalese work as tappers, &c. The usual requirement of labour is one labourer to 3 acres of rubber.

Budding of Rubber.

Much attention has been given since 1929 to the budding of rubber. Large imports of budwood and budded stumps of proved foreign clones have been made and many estates have taken steps to find their high-yielding trees, with a view to using them as mother trees. Local mother-trees are under test on the stations of the Department of Agriculture and the Rubber Research Scheme, and every effort is being made to provide guidance to the planting community in this important matter. The work will eventually be extended to include seed-selection in specially isolated gardens.

Budding has rendered it possible to effect satisfactorily the selection of high-yielding stock, and the isolation of it from the heterogenous mixture which exists in rubber estates to-day. By vigorous selection and testing it should be possible to isolate strains of high-yielding trees, and thereby assure that improved strains of plants and seeds should be available for future plantings.

Coconut.

Acreage, Area, &c.—It is estimated that a little over 1,000,000 acres are planted with coconuts. But cultivation on systematic lines may be considered to occupy about 900,000 acres. Along the coast of the Western and Southern Provinces planting has been done very close and no systematic cultivation is carried out. Here the main product is toddy which is supplied to arrack distilleries; at the same time the manufacture of coir string and rope is an important subsidiary industry, especially in the hands of women. Elsewhere the coconut is cultivated mainly for the production of copra, and the extraction of oil therefrom, as well as the manufacture of desiccated coconut. Cultivation is confined mainly to elevations below 1,500 feet and a well distributed rainfall of 50 to 90 inches is required. The greater part of the acreage lies in the North-Western, Western, and Southern Provinces.

Cultivation.—Much can be done to increase the output of the tree by cultivation; by the use of concentrated manures containing nitrogen, potash, phosphoric acid, &c.; green manures, such as *Crotalaria;* cattle manure; and occasional cultivation with modern implements. Young coconuts systematically cultivated and manured come into bearing much earlier than coconuts which are not so treated.

Costs.—The cost of opening land for coconuts varies considerably, but it may be put on the average at Rs. 400 to Rs. 600 an acre. This may be taken to spread over ten years, the expenses being greater in the first three years. The waiting period may be put at ten years. Land is available to be opened in coconuts, but only in the out-districts, where a good deal of pioneering work, including the making of roads, combating wild animals, fever, &c., is necessary.

Labour.—The quantity of labour required for a coconut estate is generally worked out at one labourer for 10 acres. A small resident force of Tamils is often maintained for draining, manuring, and tillage, and on some estates the

* Averages for top grades only (Ribbed Smoked Sheet and Contract Crêpe) at local weekly sales.

labour force consists of about half Tamil and half Sinhalese. Frequently the plucking of the nuts and the manufacture of copra are done by a contractor, who supplies his own labour.

Labour on coconut estates is paid at about the same rates as on tea and rubber properties. Plucking may cost 50 cents per 1,000 nuts.

The Nut.

The principal product, from a commercial point of view, is the nut. The yield per palm on the average is about 40 nuts per annum. Without cultivation the yield is probably about 30 nuts per palm, with cultivation up to and over 80 may be secured. The number of palms to the acre may vary from 50 to 90, the average being about 70. The palms come into bearing in about six years with intensive cultivation, but more usually take up to ten years. The nuts are generally picked six times a year. They are made into copra upon the estate which produces them, but some of the smaller properties sell their nuts to manufacturers. Considerable quantities are exported when the demand for nuts for the manufacturing of desiccated coconut is keen. The price rose owing to the increased demand for the manufactured products from Rs. 74 per 1,000 in 1913 to the maximum of Rs. 115 per 1,000 in 1920. The market in 1931 moved from Rs. 40 to Rs. 47 down to Rs. 25 and closed at Rs. 40 per 1,000.

Copra.

The most important manufactured product is copra. This is the dried kernel of the nut, and is used for the manufacture of coconut oil, which, again, is utilized for the production of margarine, soap, and other products. Poonac, a largely-used cattle food, is the by-product in the manufacture of coconut oil from copra. The bulk of it is used locally, either as cattle food or as manure, but 370,637 cwt. valued at Rs. 1,353,020 were exported in 1931.

The number of nuts required to manufacture a candy (560 lb.) of copra varies from 900 to 1,500.

The value of the exports of copra since 1918 is shown in Diagram No. 9.

Prices.—The market in 1931 has been a declining one with fluctuations from time to time. Opening at the beginning of the year at about Rs. 40 per candy the price fell away to as low as Rs. 27 in September. With Great Britain going off the gold standard the local market firmed up and a gradual rise took place and prices at the end of the year went as high as Rs. 42 per candy.

The annual average market prices* from 1922 were:—1922, Rs. 78.52 per candy (560 lb.); 1923, Rs. 87.61; 1924, Rs. 85.42; 1925, Rs. 80.36; 1926, Rs. 79.40; 1927, Rs. 76.88; 1928, Rs. 76.22; 1929, Rs. 64.47; 1930, Rs. 52.36; 1931, Rs. 35.06 (see Diagram No. 5).

Copra prices are liable to considerable fluctuation according to the rates of freight and of exchange, &c. The market quotations are also liable to considerable variation, as regular public sales are not held as in the case of tea and rubber.

Coconut Oil.

Although a large quantity of copra is exported for the extraction of oil by the importers, a quantity of coconut oil is prepared in Ceylon. The traditional method of extraction consists in grinding the copra in a " chekku " consisting of a large wooden pestle, which is revolved by bullock-power in a kind of stone mortar. This method is slow and wasteful, and modern mills are now working in Chilaw, Colombo, and other districts of Ceylon, hydraulic presses and expellers being in general use. Usually the locally manufactured coconut oil contains 1½ to 2 per cent. of free fatty acid, and a further refinement is necessary in the consuming country.

The value of the exports of coconut oil is shown in Diagram No. 9.

* The average prices for 1927 to 1931 are for top grades only. Averages for other years represent the lowest and highest overall weekly quotations received for all grades.

The market for coconut oil in 1931 has closely followed that of copra. Opening in January at about Rs. 282.50 per ton the prices showed minor fluctuations, as in the case of copra, and reached the low figure of Rs. 205. The market firmed up later in the year and the closing price for the year was Rs. 300.

The annual average market prices from 1922 were:—1922, Rs. 538.13 per ton f.o.b.; 1923, Rs. 584.05; 1924, Rs. 574.11; 1925, Rs. 543.17; 1926, Rs. 539.36; 1927, Rs. 491.73; 1928, Rs. 489.02; 1929, Rs. 412.33; 1930, Rs. 351.63; 1931, Rs. 253.52.

Desiccated Coconut.

Desiccated coconut is produced in Ceylon on a large scale, the conditions being favourable as the mills are either on the estates or easily accessible to them by water, road, or railway. The delivery of the fresh nuts, which are essential to the success of the manufacture, is thus a simple matter. Mills, many with elaborate machinery, have been erected in almost every district to cope with the demand. Some are capable of dealing with 50,000 nuts a day.

The value of the exports of desiccated coconut is shown in Diagram No. 9.

The opening price at the beginning of 1931 was about 9⅞ cents per lb. The market showed minor fluctuation before the price gradually declined to as low as 6⅞ cents. In common with most other commodities, the market firmed up towards the end of the year and finally closed at about 12 cents per lb.

The annual average market prices in certain years were:—1922, 22 cents per lb.; 1923, 24 cents; 1924, 22 cents; 1925, 20 cents; 1926, 20 cents; 1927, 19 cents; 1928, 19 cents; 1929, 16 cents; 1930, 13 cents; 1931, 10 cents (see Diagram No. 5).

Information regarding the manufacture of alcohol, &c., is shown under "Excise," page 27.

Coir, &c.

An important but somewhat unorganized industry, also dependent upon the coconut tree, is the manufacture of coir, which consists of the stout fibres forming the husk of the nut. These fibres are separated by rotting the husks in water, or by special machinery. The fibres are then graded and used for making brushes, yarn, mats, rope, &c., according to their quality. In many parts of Ceylon the coir fibres are separated by village labour, chiefly women, and sold by them to exporting firms.

Mills for the separation of the fibre by machinery have been established at several places in the Colombo, Negombo, and other districts. Much of the output is used locally, but there is considerable export of bristle fibre, mattress fibre, and coir yarn. The value of the exports of coir is shown in Diagram No. 9.

The market for bristle fibre in 1931 moved from Rs. 6.50 per cwt. down to Rs. 5.50 and closed at Rs. 7.75. The market for mattress fibre moved from Re. 1.25 per cwt. down to Re. 1 and finally closed at Re. 1.70. The prices for coir yarn opened at Rs. 7.50 per cwt. and declined gradually to Rs. 5 by the end of June. After a slight recovery in September the prices remained firm and closed at Rs. 5.50.

The annual average market prices* in certain years for bristle fibre were:—1922, Rs. 13.30 per cwt.; 1923, Rs. 14.46; 1924, Rs. 12.10; 1925, Rs. 7.62; 1926, Rs. 7.46; 1927, Rs. 8.37; 1928, Rs. 8.53; 1929, Rs. 9.01; 1930, Rs. 8.23; 1931, Rs. 6.65; for mattress fibre*:—1922, Re. 1.65 per cwt.; 1923, Rs. 2.38; 1924, Rs. 2.95; 1925, Rs. 2.38; 1926, Rs. 3.08; 1927, Rs. 3.67; 1928, Rs. 3.07; 1929, Rs. 2.23; 1930, Re. 1.40; 1931, Re. 1.41; for coir yarn*: 1922, Rs. 12.68 per cwt.; 1923, Rs. 18.63; 1924, Rs. 18.32; 1925, Rs. 16.26; 1926, Rs. 15.15; 1927, Rs. 16.75; 1928, Rs. 17.45; 1929, Rs. 14.34; 1930, Rs. 12.73; 1931, Rs. 10.20.

Cacao.

Commercial cacao is produced from the seeds of the plant *Theobroma cacao*. The variety now grown in Ceylon is the *Forastero*.

* The average prices for 1928 to 1931 are for top grades only. Averages for other years represent the lowest and highest overall weekly quotations received for all grades.

Elevation and Rainfall, &c.—The cultivation of cacao is restricted to favourably situated valleys at an elevation between 500 to 2,000 feet which receive a well regulated rainfall of 60 to 80 inches and are protected from high winds. Plantations lie almost entirely in the Kandy and Matale Districts of the Central Province. Of an approximate acreage of 34,000 acres under cacao in the Island 55 per cent. is in the former district and 33 per cent. in the latter.

As with tea the number of peasant holdings ranging between 1 and 5 acres is not inconsiderable, but these small gardens receive but little attention from the owners in regard to systematic cultivation or the control of pests and diseases.

Labour.—The labour required for a cacao estate works out at about one labourer for two acres. Tamils generally form the bulk of the labour force, but Sinhalese are also employed for lopping, &c.

Planting.—The trees are generally planted 15 by 15 feet apart. Holes 3 feet deep by 1½ feet across are dug and filled with carefully prepared soil. Seed at stake or basket plants are generally used for planting. As the young plant requires to be carefully shaded, shade trees must be planted at the same time between the rows about the same distance apart as the cacao. The dadap has been found the most suitable.

Crops.—Cacao commences to bear fruit about the fifth year, two crops a year being then gathered. The " Spring " crop picked in May, June, and July is small. The main or " Autumn " crop is gathered in November, December, and January. The period from the blossom to the ripe pod is five months. The average crop per acre varies considerably in Ceylon. The general average is about 3½ to 4 cwt. per acre, although the yields from some well-cultivated estates have reached the very high annual average of 8½ cwt. per acre.

Cultivation.—The usual method of cultivation is to fork the soil every two years, and apply about 700 to 800 lb. per acre of artificial manures two to three months later. The manure used is a general mixture containing nitrogen, phosphoric acid, and potash.

Pruning and Removing Suckers.—Suckers are removed as soon as they appear on the cacao trees, and periodical pruning is done when the foliage becomes too thick and heavy.

Weeding.—Cacao estates are kept clean weeded from the time of opening. The average cost of weeding is about Rs. 6 per acre per annum.

Picking.—The flowers and fruit of the tree grow in a characteristic manner direct upon the trunk and branches of the trees. The fruit is ellipsoidal and of considerable size, and the beans are covered with pulp or mucilage. Ripening is generally indicated by a change of colour on the outside of the pods. The fruit on the stems and main branches is picked by means of an ordinary pruning knife, while that on the higher parts of the tree is dealt with by cacao hooks. The picking gang goes round as often as necessary, the period generally being between a fortnight and three weeks. The pods are cut down by men or boys, who are followed by women, who gather the pods and heap them together. The fruits are opened the same day, and the beans carted or carried to the fermenting shed. One labourer will pick 1 to 1½ bushels of wet beans per day. This is equal to about 37 lb. of the cured product.

Fermentation.—At the fermenting shed the beans, covered with mucilage, are heaped into boxes or vats for fermentation. This process is accompanied by rise of temperature and by decomposition of the pulp surrounding the beans. During the fermentation the pulp becomes more liquid and gradually flows away, the bottom of the fermenting boxes being perforated and raised off the ground to admit of this. The period of fermentation in Ceylon is about 36 hours. After 12 hours the beans are given a light washing and turned over into another box. They are again given a heavier washing at the end of the fermenting period of 36 hours, when they are carried or carted to the barbacue or curing house.

Curing.—The best method of curing is the gradual drying of the beans in the sun on barbacues covered with coir matting. By this method the best quality is obtained. The period varies from five to seven days, according to the temperature. Most of the picking has, however, to be done during the wet season, and a

greater part of the crop of Ceylon is cured by artificial means. The most popular curing house is a two- or three-floor building, the floors being constructed of strips of wood covered over with coir matting, on which the freshly-fermented beans are spread. The building is heated with hot air conducted by pipes placed under each floor, the hot air being obtained by means of a fan, which drives the air through the heating apparatus and then through the pipes. The temperature in the building during the curing process is kept between 110 and 120 degrees Fahrenheit.

Grading and Sorting.—After the beans are cured, they are sorted into different grades: first quality, which is composed of only the large round beans; second quality, flat and small beans; and third quality, known as garblings, consisting of the shells and broken beans.

Packing.—Cacao after grading is packed in bags (112 lb. to a bag), when it is ready for export. Most of the cacao from Ceylon is shipped in this form.

Prices.—The prices ruling throughout 1931 for cacao were low and ranged from about Rs. 25 to Rs. 35 per cwt.

The annual average market prices* from 1922 were:—1922, Rs. 37.77 per cwt.; 1923, Rs. 35.71; 1924, Rs. 33.30; 1925, Rs. 33.17; 1926, Rs. 30.41; 1927, Rs. 52.22; 1928, Rs. 58.89; 1929, Rs. 53.46; 1930, Rs. 37.51; 1931, Rs. 29.71.

The value of the exports of cacao is shown in Diagram No. 9.

Cinnamon.

Cinnamon which was once the main export still occupies a place—though a minor one—in the trade of the Island. Early plantation was mainly confined to the Western Province of which Negombo was the most important centre. Much of this area was replaced with coconuts in subsequent years, but the extension of cultivation took place in the Southern Province where at the present time it is estimated that there is more land under cinnamon than in the Western Province. The approximate total acreage is 26,000 acres, of which 58 per cent. is in the Southern Province (Galle District 40 per cent.) and 41 per cent. in the Western Province (Negombo area 30 per cent.).

The industry is entirely in the hands of Ceylonese. The number of large properties of 100 acres and over in extent is limited and these receive systematic attention. The majority of plantations are small areas of 10 to 25 acres in extent.

The Tree.—The cinnamon tree may grow to the height of 20 to 30 feet, and the trunk may be upwards of 3 feet in circumference. The trees cultivated to produce the cinnamon of commerce are coppiced, and long willowy shoots are produced, growing to a height of about 10 feet and to the size of a fair-sized walking stick. The shoots are cut and the bark is peeled off, and rolled into quills, which constitute the cinnamon of commerce.

Cinnamon Cultivation.—If the soil is good, branches may be cut for barking from the fourth year. The tree blossoms in January, in April the fruit is ripe, and the cutting is done from May to October. When the tree is seen to bear fruit well it is in good health, and the bark will peel without difficulty. The sticks are gathered by boys and tied into bundles with coir strings; they are then removed to the peeling stores.

The object of the methods employed is to make the bark up into quills, a quill being a rod of cinnamon resembling a thin cane 4 feet in length; the pieces of bark when stripped are therefore placed round the sticks, both with a view to preserving their shape and as a convenience for the next operation.

Skinning.—They are now allowed to remain for three to six hours, when fermentation takes place, and the bark is ready for skinning. This treatment of the bark leaves only that part which has the desired delicate taste; it is of a pale yellow colour and a parchment-like texture. The bark is now left to ferment and dry, which if the weather be favourable takes about 30 minutes.

* The average prices for 1927 to 1931 are for top grades only. Averages for other years represent the lowest and highest overall weekly quotations received for all grades.

The next process is that of forming the quills. The smaller pieces are inserted into the larger, and in the process of drying the quills form rods. They are afterwards rolled into shape and made up into bundles.

Cinnamon oil is distilled from the chips and trimmings of the quills.

The commercial cinnamon products are the quills, the chips, and the oil. The best quality is fine cinnamon prepared from tender bark.

The chips are prepared by scrapping or chipping the bark after removing the outer bark.

Prices.—The market for cinnamon quills has again been a declining one. The prices for No. 2 Hamburg at the beginning of the year opened at about 30 cents per lb. and fell away to as low as 20 cents. The closing price at the end of the year was in the neighbourhood of 24 cents. The prices of cinnamon chips also showed a decline, with slight fluctuations, in 1931. The lowest price recorded was about Rs. 25 per candy, but the closing price of the year, however, was Rs. 40 to Rs. 50.

The annual average market prices* of quills from 1922 were:—1922, 53 cents per lb.; 1923, 54 cents; 1924, 70 cents; 1925, 88 cents; 1926, Re. 1.14; 1927, Re. 1.35; 1928, Re. 1.29; 1929, Re. 1.15; 1930, 59 cents; 1931, 37 cents; of chips: 1922, Rs. 55.61 per candy; 1923, Rs. 53.76; 1924, Rs. 67,95; 1925, Rs. 84.54; 1926, Rs. 93.79; 1927, Rs. 102.77; 1928, Rs. 105.72; 1929, Rs. 96.86; 1930, Rs. 56.41; 1931, Rs. 38.92. An acre will yield about 120 lb. quills. The cost of production of quills is about 30 cents per lb.

Citronella Oil.

Citronella oil grass is a large coarse grass growing 3 to 4 feet high, cultivated in Ceylon (and of late years in Java) for its essential oil, which is obtained from the leaves by distillation. The grass grows in any ordinary soil, and thrives best in a moist and hot atmosphere. It flourishes up to an elevation of 2,000 feet, but its cultivation is confined entirely to the Southern Province where the acreage under this crop is estimated to be 33,000 acres of which 62 per cent. is in the Matara District and the remaining 38 per cent. in the Hambantota District. Cultivation is in the hands of the Ceylonese. The grass is readily propagated by division (seed being rarely produced), and may be planted about 2 by 3 feet apart in rows. Permanent shade is unnecessary, and the cultivation is very simple, weeding being the chief requirement. The clumps are ready for cutting in about eight months from time of planting. Two cuttings a year may be obtained, and about 40 lb. of marketable oil per acre is an estimated annual yield. The oil is of a strong aromatic odour; it is exported for use in scenting soaps, perfumery, &c., and is also a preventive against the bites of mosquitoes and leeches.

Prices.—In January, 1931, the market opened weak but remained fairly steady for the first three months at around 80 cents per lb. Prices declined slightly in May and in June fell to 67-70 cents. In July and August the prices stood at about 70-72 cents and in September were rather weaker at 70 cents. The market improved steadily from October touching 94-96 cents in November and Re. 1.01 to Re. 1.02 in December, but later declined, and the year closed with a normal price of 94 cents.

The annual average market prices from 1922 were:—1922, Re. 1.30 per lb.; 1923, Rs. 2.09; 1924, Rs. 2.03; 1925, Re. 1.37; 1926, 99 cents; 1927, 77 cents; 1928, 93 cents; 1929, Re. 1.06; 1930, Re. 1.12; 1931, 80 cents.

Tobacco.

Acreage and Localities.—The estimated acreage under this crop in the Island is 14,000 acres, of which a little over half is found in the Jaffna District of the Northern Province, where great care is given to cultivation. The methods adopted are peculiar to this area and the manufacture of the leaf gives rise to the most important industry in the district. Another variety of leaf is grown

* The average prices for 1927 to 1931 are for top grades only. Averages for other years represent the lowest and highest overall weekly quotations received for all grades.

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in the Central Province which claims about 21 per cent. of the total acreage under the crop. Dumbara in the Kandy District is a particularly favoured area while in the Matale District the crop is of some importance to the peasant, besides there being a small manufacture of cigars and pipe tobacco from the local leaf as in the case in Dumbara. Tobacco is also grown to the extent of about 1,500 acres in the Kurunegala District where the method of manufacture to produce a chewing tobacco differs from that adopted in Jaffna. Elsewhere cultivation is carried out in the North-Central and Eastern Provinces to less extents.

Dumbara Tobacco.—A high grade of Ceylon tobacco is grown in the Kandy District. The cultivation in this district begins with the slight showers of the early months of the year, and depends for its success upon the light rains which fall in April, May, and June with the advent of the south-west monsoon. Tobacco is rarely grown in this district upon the same land in two consecutive years, it being customary to cultivate the land in other crops and then to allow it to lie fallow for some years before another tobacco crop is taken off. In very dry weather, if water is available, hand watering is resorted to. Otherwise the crop depends entirely upon rainfall for its success, and is a speculative one. Fairly satisfactory attention is given by some growers to curing and fermentation, but a finer product would be procured if greater care were given to manufacture.

The leaves of the Dumbara tobacco burn with a good white ash, and are manufactured in the Island into cigars, which command a ready sale, and would be in greater demand if they were more uniform in quality. A large portion of the Central Province crop is sold to local manufacturers of cigars for use as wrappers for the Jaffna types. The leaves are smaller and of finer texture than the Jaffna types, and have good burning qualities.

The Dumbara types of tobacco are also grown in other districts. The system of curing and fermenting differs somewhat in different areas, and the final product is not of such high quality as that produced in the Central Province.

Jaffna Tobacco.—The Jaffna types consist of two kinds. These are locally known as the smoking and chewing kinds. Both are large-leaved, coarse tobaccos, the chewing type being of more vigorous and coarse growth than the smoking type.

Jaffna Cultivation.—The cultivation of tobacco at Jaffna is an interesting study. The lands are well ploughed and manured with cattle or sheep manure or with green leaves, and reduced to a fine tilth. Nurseries for seedlings are well prepared, and the seedlings planted out carefully and systematically. Work begins with the north-east rains, and during the early part of the growing period the rainfall may be sufficient to maintain satisfactory growth. During dry weather and from the end of December onwards the tobacco plants are irrigated by wells. In the middle of the growing season this irrigation has to be thoroughly carried out. During the early part of the growing period thorough cultivation of the land is carried on, so as to prevent its becoming " caked " and to allow of the maximum growth for the plants. All plants, except those required for seed purposes, are topped at a height of about 4 feet, and when they begin to yellow they are harvested. The whole plant is cut down and allowed to " quail " for a day in the sun. In the afternoon the plant is separated into individual leaves, each being left attached to a piece of the stem. These are then taken for withering in an open shady shed. Fermentation differs slightly in different localities in its details, and the curing of the smoking and chewing types requires different treatment. Chewing types are harvested by cutting of the leaves, commencing from the top of the plant. All inferior broken leaves and those portions of the stalks which are not attached to the leaves are either sold to the manufacturers for making nicotine extracts or are used for manurial purposes. Conditions of sale demand that portions of the stalk should be attached to the leaves in the majority of cases.

There are certain lands on which the chewing type alone can be cultivated, while others are well known for their production of high grade smoking types. Tobacco from certain localities always commands higher prices than the ruling

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market rates, while elsewhere only a low grade tobacco is produced. The smoking tobaccos are sold to manufacturers for the local manufacture of what is known throughout the whole Island as the " Jaffna cheroot ". Some of the chewing types are sold locally for chewing with the betel leaf, lime, and arecanut, but the bulk of this type is exported to Travancore, where the Jaffna tobaccos are eagerly sought after.

Over 98 per cent. of the unmanufactured leaf goes to British India and about 92 per cent. of the manufactured tobacco is sent to the Maldive Islands.

The costs of cultivation of a tobacco crop in the Jaffna District are heavy, considerable sums being expended upon manures, cultivation, and irrigation. In seasonable years, when prices are high, the profits are large. In other years expenses are barely covered, but in general the better lands will yield average profits of between Rs. 300 to Rs. 450 per acre, while profits of Rs. 600 to Rs. 800 per acre have been secured in good years. The average price of the Jaffna product varies from Rs. 20 to Rs. 40 per 1,000 leaves.

The Travancore markets some fifteen years ago closed to Jaffna tobaccos, but were subsequently reopened. The critical situation demanded that experiments with other types of tobacco should be undertaken. These have been carried out upon a Government experiment station, and it has been demonstrated that White Burley tobacco of good quality capable of realizing 1*s*. 6*d*. and 1*s*. 8*d*. per lb. on the London market can be satisfactorily grown. The Government has evolved a purchase scheme for White Burley tobacco which is exported to England, and the cultivation of this type is showing a gradual extension around the Tinnevelly experiment station in the Jaffna Peninsula. The exports of this tobacco have been as follows:—

Year.	lb.	Year.	lb.	Year.	lb.
1924	4,701	1927	13.328	1930	18,652
1925	15,057	1928	30,688	1931	9,212
1926	18,535	1929	25,312		

Cardamoms.

Uses.—Cardamoms are of commercial value on account of the spice obtained from them, which is well known to cooks and confectioners, and is used in pharmacopoeia as a deadener of tastes and a medicine.

Habitat, &c.—The commercial value of the plant lies in the fruit, which is borne on racemes rising from the ground. The plant itself—*Elettaria Cardamomum*—grows in stools of clumps under the shade of forest trees at elevations between 2,800 and 4,000 feet, with a rainfall of 115 to 150 inches a year.

Manufacture.—The fruit is collected by women and children, and is manufactured into either (1) bleached or (2) green dried. In the former case the fruit is bleached, soaked, and dried in sulphur fumes, the process being repeated until the required pale colour is secured, and the ends are clipped off either by hand or by a clipping machine. In the latter case the fruits are merely dried in the sun.

Acreage.—The total acreage under cardamoms is estimated to be 6,000 acres, of which 82 per cent. is confined to the Central Province—approximately 2,500 acres in the Kandy District, 1,500 acres in the Nuwara Eliya District, and 1,000 acres in the Matale District. About 1,000 acres are found in the Kegalla and Ratnapura Districts (Province of Sabaragamuwa). The bulk of the plantations is in the hands of European owners, but the number of small gardens of a few acres in size in the hands of peasants is not inconsiderable.

The value of the exports of cardamoms is shown in Diagram No. 9.

Prices.—Prices for the year 1931 have been irregular and an unusual feature of the market was that at one time the price for " greens " exceeded that for " bleached ". The highest figure recorded for " bleached " during the year was Rs. 2.15 per lb. and the lowest Re. 1.15. " Greens " went down to 55 cents but towards the close of the year reached Re. 1.30.

The annual average market prices* in certain years were:—1922, Re. 1.54 per lb.; 1923, Rs. 2.41; 1924, Rs. 2.93; 1925, Rs. 3.42; 1926, Rs. 2.44; 1927, Rs. 2.54; 1928, Rs. 2.50; 1929, Rs. 2.22; 1930, Re. 1.69; 1931, Re. 1.67.

Arecanuts.†

Conditions.—The arecanut palm is grown in all village gardens in the wetter districts of the Island. It produces heavy crops of fruits, and provides straight stems, which are used for the erection of temporary structures. Pure cultivations of the palm similar to those to be found in Southern India are rarely seen in Ceylon, although in the Kegalla District there are some fairly extensive pure plantations. The area under arecanuts is about 69,000 acres.

There are several varieties of arecanuts grown, and the respective values of these are well known to the purchasers of fruits. Little care is, however, taken in the selection of fruits for planting, and no attempts have been made to improve the local types. Planting of arecanuts still continues in village holdings, but in many instances this palm is being replaced by the coconut.

The Fruit.—The fruits of the arecanut palm are harvested when ripe, and are sold in their unhusked state in all the bazaars and markets of the Island. The dried product is also readily procurable in the majority of boutiques. It is cut into thin shavings, which are used for chewing with the betel leaf, lime, and occasionally tobacco, by most of the village population of the Island. The price of unhusked arecanuts is about 30 cents per hundred, of husked nuts 35 cents per hundred.

Arecanuts are generally exported to British India and the Maldive Islands, about 88 per cent. going to the former and about 6 per cent. to the latter.

Foodstuffs.

Paddy or Rice.

If Hill paddy (*elvi*) is excluded, it may be said that the cultivation of paddy in Ceylon is based upon a plentiful supply of water. Not only are the plants dependent upon a good supply in all stages up to the ripening period, but the processes of cultivation in all parts of Ceylon, except some of the most northerly, are dependent upon it.

Rain-water Cultivation.—Cultivation without the help of irrigation is carried on, not only in dry districts like Jaffna, but also in wetter parts like the Kandy District. The success of the crop is entirely dependent upon a sufficient and reasonable rainfall, and upon the soil being capable of retaining the water for a fairly long period in order to tide over the rainless intervals. Should the rains fail after the paddy has been sown, the crop will perish, and then the cultivator must re-sow his field with a paddy which can mature in the remainder of the season, or lose the season entirely. Similarly, if the rains are late, the earlier maturing varieties of paddy must be sown.

Irrigation.—When paddy is grown under irrigation, the water may be supplied by springs, streams (*elas*), wells, or reservoirs (" tanks "). Cultivation under streams may be seen in the Central and Uva Provinces, and under tanks in the drier Eastern, Northern, and North-Central Provinces.

Asweddumization.—In all cases where a system of irrigation is employed, the land must be " asweddumized ", or prepared for paddy. Should the paddy area not be level, it is necessary to terrace it. This terracing is brought to a high level of perfection in the hilly districts. Distribution channels convey the irrigation water to the upper plots, and drains carry off the surplus water.

Preparation for Sowing.—In the preparation for sowing, ploughing may be done in the dry, or if the rains fall or water is available, sufficient water may be allowed on to the field to soften the ground. This is then lightly ploughed by means of

* The average prices for 1927 to 1931 are for top grades only. Averages for other years represent the lowest and highest overall weekly quotations received for all grades.

† Although in point of value of exports arecanuts rank between rubber and cacao, this sub-section is inserted here, as the cultivation is not organized, and insufficient details are available regarding it.

small wooden ploughs drawn by buffaloes or cattle. Small iron ploughs are also employed in some districts, and their use is slowly extending. In some districts and in some fields of considerable depth ploughing is not done, the preparation of the soil being carried out by puddling with buffaloes or by digging with hoes. During the first ploughing the weeds are partially buried. About ten to twenty days after the first ploughing a second ploughing is given. The weeds are then still further buried, and the ground made softer and muddier. Between the first and second ploughings in the Central Province green manuring is carried on. Leaves and twigs are buried at the second ploughing, and in some districts special green manure crops are grown for ploughing in. After a lapse of another week or ten days a third ploughing may be carried out. This is generally adopted in the Central Province, but in other Provinces this third ploughing is not general. By means of this ploughing the soil is converted into mud of the consistency desired for sowing upon. Instead of the plough, buffaloes are often employed to trample the muddy soil until the desired consistency is attained. The mudding is followed by a rough levelling by means of the "*poruwa*," a levelling board dragged along by a pair of buffaloes or by cattle. This does not leave the surface smooth enough for sowing, so that it is followed by work with hand levelling boards. At the same time shallow channels are made to conduct the surplus water from the surface, which is now quite smooth. The field is then ready for sowing.

Manuring.—Artificial fertilizers, such as bone meal, have been applied to a certain extent in the past, but the use of ammonium compound of phosphoric acid is now being popularized. These are applied at the second or third ploughings or at the time of sowing.

Sowing.—Seed is prepared for sowing by soaking it in water for 24-36 hours. It is then placed in a flat heap on leaves of plantain or colocasia and covered so as to retain warmth and exclude air. At the end of two or three days, if germination is satisfactory, the seed will have begun to sprout. The sprouted seeds are then separated from one another and sown broadcast on the field.

Although the advantages of transplanting paddy seedlings have been abundantly demonstrated, not much transplanting is done in Ceylon, except in the Central Province and Kegalla District of Sabaragamuwa. At present the cultivator prefers, in the majority of cases, to broadcast and then thin out. When the seedlings are well established, *i.e.*, in about six weeks from sowing, the fields are weeded by the women. At the same time thinning out is done in places where the seedlings are too thick, some of those so removed being used to fill up gaps where the sowing has been too thin.

Transplanting.—In transplanting, the seeds are germinated as usual and then sown in specially prepared nurseries. When the seedlings are from four to six weeks old, they are removed from the nursery and planted at regular intervals in the fields. Although the expenses of working are increased, this is much more than counterbalanced by the increased yields obtained. The plants grow freely and weeds are partially smothered, any weeding necessary being very easily carried out. Transplanting cannot be carried out, however, when the water supply is not reliable, or when fields are excessively marshy.

The crop receives very little attention, apart from watering, weeding, and watching against birds, until the approach of the ripening period. When the plants begin to mature, they first take on a yellow colour, and, at this point, the cultivator drains the water from the field and allows the paddy to ripen.

Reaping.—Reaping is always done with the sickle, and the result is that a long and ragged stubble is left on the field. This remains until it is time to prepare for the next crop. The sheaves of paddy are put on one side as they are reaped and allowed to dry. After this, they are carried to the threshing-floor, which has been carefully prepared in readiness.

Threshing.—Threshing methods vary in different districts. In general, the dried sheaves are spread out on the threshing-floor, and buffaloes or cattle yoked together are driven over them round and round until all the grains have been rubbed off the stalks. The straw is then raked off, the paddy collected and handed over to the winnowers, who separate the empty grains from the good ones.

Seasons.—There are two paddy-growing seasons, both of which are made use of for the cultivation of the same tract of fields when sufficient labour and water are available. The Maha crop is sown from the end of August to the middle of October, according to the district. The harvest from this crop is reaped in February or March. The Yala crop season commences with sowing in March-April, the harvest being reaped in July to September. The corresponding Tamil seasons are called Munmari and Pinmari or Kalapokam and Sirupokam. Generally speaking, six and four months are required for the respective Maha and Yala crops. In some districts sowings take place between the Maha and Yala seasons for a *meda* or *iddi* (Tamil) crop.

Improvements.—Considerable improvements in paddy cultivation can be effected. Transplanting could become more general, and greater attention given to manuring and seed selection. The Government, through the Department of Agriculture, has undertaken a considerable amount of research work in paddy in recent years, and a number of pure-line strains have been evolved and are now being tested on a field scale and distributed to cultivators. Similarly, frequent demonstrations have been given in manuring and the organization of the supply of manures is now being investigated.

Varieties.—The varieties of paddy grown in Ceylon fall into three groups, according to the time necessary for their maturing. In the first group come those paddies such as Mavi, Hatiel, and Suduvi, which take at least six months to mature, while in the second group come varieties such as Danahala, Murungan, and Balavi, which mature in three months or less. An intermediate class contains those varieties which mature in four to five months.

The " age " of a particular variety, however, depends largely upon climatic factors, such as rainfall, temperature, and elevation, and it is quite a common thing to find the same variety requiring different maturing periods in different Provinces, or even in two different situations in the same district.

Diseases.—Diseases and pests causing extensive loss to paddy in Ceylon are few in number. Insects do the greatest amount of damage, the chief of these being—

(1) The Paddy Bug, which sucks the milky juices of the young grain, which, for this reason, never matures.

(2) The Paddy Swarming Caterpillar also causes considerable damage on occasions, but can be readily controlled.

(3) The Paddy Stem Borer, which feeds within the stem and prevents the grain from setting.

Rice.—Paddy is converted into rice by pounding in a mortar. This work is usually undertaken by women, who receive a share of the rice husked for their work. Several small mills have been erected in the past few years, which have given fairly satisfactory results. It is possible for the milling of paddy in the Island to be considerably extended.

Acreage.—The area under wet land paddy in Ceylon is estimated to be 1,000,000 acres yielding approximately 12 to 13 million bushels of paddy (grain in husk) per annum. The greatest proportion of the acreage lies in the North-Western Province. But large extents are found in all the provinces.

Hill Paddy.—Hill paddy or *elvi* is grown upon dry lands. It is usually cultivated upon hilly lands in districts where an abundant rainfall cannot be relied upon or in " chenas " on lands which are somewhat low-lying. Hill paddy is sown broadcast in lands which have been cleared and burnt. While the crop is growing the larger weeds are pulled out, otherwise no cultivation is carried on during its period of growth. Yields of hill paddy, if seasons are favourable, are generally heavy, and the rice from this type of paddy is highly prized.

Other Food Crops.

Chenas.—Many other food grains are grown in the Island. Except in the Northern Province, these are generally grown in " chenas "—areas of land covered with secondary forest or other vegetation, which are cleared and burned —which are either private or leased or granted by the Crown. The principal

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grains grown are kurakkan (*Eleusine coracana*), maize, Italian millet, *Paspalum* millet, and *Panicum* millet. Pulses are also grown in the chenas, the principal crops being green gram, horse gram, and black gram. Gingelly (*Sesamum indicum*) forms an important chena crop particularly in the Jaffna, Anuradhapura, and Kurunegala Districts. Hitherto in addition to the utilization locally of the crop produced in the Island, gingelly seed, oil, and poonac had been imported from India to the value of Rs. 2 to 3 millions. In 1931, however, the value of the imports dropped to Rs. 1½ million and for the first time an export trade in this crop took place. Practically the entire crop of the Anuradhapura District, amounting to nearly 28,000 cwt. and valued at Rs. 92,000, was sent to South India.

Edible tubers grow in abundance. These are known in the Island as yams, and include dioscorea yams, tannia yams, sweet potatoes, and manioc. Sweet potatoes are abundant in the Southern Province, while manioc or cassava has spread rapidly in all districts in recent years, and constitutes a general food. The preparation of tapioca might be possible in some districts if a good supply of pure water were available.

Plantains (bananas) of various types are largely cultivated, and are to be found in all markets. The largest area of plantains is to be found between Polgahawela and Rambukkana, but in recent years the bunchy-top disease has occurred and caused considerable damage. This disease now appears to be less virulent, and areas which suffered severely some years ago are now giving good crops of fruit.

Jak and breadfruit are important foodstuffs, while " jaggery " is made from coconut, palmyra, or kitul palms.

Vegetables and curry plants are generally cultivated throughout the Island, and markets are well stocked. Dried chillies are prepared in the drier districts, while onions are largely grown in some localities. Pumpkins, gourds of various kinds, and cucumbers are largely grown and find a ready sale in the various towns and village markets of the country. In the hills European vegetables thrive and are largely grown for transport by rail to the principal centres of population and to the shipping in Colombo Harbour.

Miscellaneous.

Cotton.—Considerable success has been achieved in the efforts made during the past few years to establish the cultivation of cotton as a peasant industry in the Hambantota District of the Southern Province, where over 2,000 acres were cultivated in 1930. The crop is also being popularized in parts of the Mannar, Ratnapura, Kandy, and Matale Districts. All produce raised by peasants is purchased by Government on behalf of the Spinning and Weaving Mills Company, Colombo, which has undertaken to take all the crop. The general depression in prices, however, has proved a set-back to cultivation, and has resulted in a diminution of the acreage. The approximate area cultivated for the 1931-32 crop is about 1,500 acres.

Kapok.—Kapok is not grown as a pure crop, but is largely planted along the boundaries of fields and settlements and in some instances interspersed among other permanent crops. A regular trade is being conducted by petty dealers. The exports and their value during the past three years were as follows:—

	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.		Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.		Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1929	8,636	562,472	1930	3,511	189,289	1931	6,737	241,678

Kitul.—The fibre of the Borassus palm has always found a ready market, and in the past few years it has been used locally for the manufacture of brooms and brushes. The tree is not systematically cultivated, and is only indiscriminately distributed throughout the wetter districts of the mid and low-country. The extent of the trade in this product may be seen from the following figures:—

	Quantity Exported. Cwt.	Value. Rs.		Quantity Exported. Cwt.	Value. Rs.		Quantity Exported. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1929	1,500	90,090	1930	1,122	64,793	1931	1,654	86,425

Papain.—This is the dried extract obtained from the milk of the papaya fruit, for which there has been a steady market in the past. High prices paid some years back were an encouragement to the cultivation of the papaw tree which forms a suitable catch crop during the waiting period for return from tea or rubber. But many small pure plantations also sprang up, and though it has been surmised that over-production has been responsible for a big drop in the price of papain, it is more probable that the market was cornered to the detriment of the small producer. The crop was largely cultivated in the Kegalla, Kandy, and Kurunegala Districts and the development of a profitable peasant industry was indicated. The following figures show the extent of the trade in papain:—

	Quantity Exported. lb.	Value. Rs.		Quantity Exported. lb.	Value. Rs.		Quantity Exported. lb.	Value. Rs.
1929 ..	12,463 ..	642,318	1930 ..	79,338 ..	458,872	1931 ..	76,947 ..	411,420

Pepper.—The pepper vine is widely distributed throughout the wet low-country as well as in the Kandy and Matale Districts of the mid-country though systematic pure plantations are not established. It is grown against shade trees in certain tea and cacao estates, and is in evidence in practically every village garden. There has always been a steady demand for the crop which is handled mainly by petty traders. Prices went down badly during 1930 and for the most part of 1931, but at the end of the year the exports were heavy, and in view of indications that the market will be favourable, an extension of cultivation is being rapidly pushed forward. The trade in pepper has been as follows:—

	Quantity Exported. Cwt.	Value. Rs.		Quantity Exported. Cwt.	Value. Rs.		Quantity Exported. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1929 ..	5,078 ..	406,288	1930 ..	2,766 ..	174,144	1931 ..	3,151 ..	119,700

Coffee.—The hybrid varieties of Robusta Coffee which are practically immune from the coffee leaf disease, and have the advantage of coming into bearing earlier and of yielding more prolific crops have been cultivated successfully at several Experiment Stations during the past few years and have proved their suitability under varying conditions below an elevation of 3,000 feet. Much interest is being shown in this crop now, and besides numerous applications for seed and plants, the Department of Agriculture is distributing seedlings on an extensive scale with a view to establishing a new peasant industry in the following districts:—Kandy and Matale in the Central Province; Kegalla and Ratnapura in the Province of Sabaragamuwa; Galle in the Southern Province; and parts of the Kurunegala and the Badulla Districts. The produce is disposed of entirely for home consumption.

EXCISE.

Toddy and Arrack.

The production of toddy and arrack forms two important industries dependent on the coconut palm. The nuts are formed at the top of the tree, on the stalks enclosed in spathes, and for the formation of these nuts a large quantity of saccharine juice is supplied by the tree to the stalks. If the spathe is "tapped" before the nuts mature, and a pot attached to it, a quantity of the juice, varying from 6 to about 12 drams per day, can be collected in the pot. If lime is not used to prevent fermentation, the action of yeasts, which are present in the air or in the pot, will convert the sugar in the juice into alcohol, and the liquid will be converted into toddy, with an alcoholic strength of about 4 to 8 per cent. Toddy is also obtained similarly from the palmyra and kitul palms. It is sold in taverns under Government licence at rates varying from 65 cents to Re. 1.30 per gallon. A considerable industry depends upon the sale of toddy which attracts many of the smaller Ceylonese capitalists. The cost price of toddy may probably be put at about 30 cents per gallon, and considerable profits are made when the sales are active.

The toddy consumption in 1929-30 was 4,143,374 gallons, compared with 3,468,595 gallons in 1930-31, the average consumption per head of population being .78 and .68 gallons respectively. The actual toddy revenue collected in

the two financial years was Rs. 2,267,075 in 1930-31 and Rs. 2,233,822 in 1929-30, the revenue per head being 42 and 49 cents, and the revenue per gallon of toddy consumed 65 and 53 cents respectively. In 1931-32 the rents of 146 toddy taverns were sold for Rs. 1,579,952, a decrease of over one and a half lakhs of rupees from the rent sale figures of the 139 taverns for the financial year 1930-31.

By the distillation of coconut toddy, the local spirit known as " arrack " is produced; and this is sold, like toddy, in taverns licensed by Government. The whole of the toddy retail trade, and of the distilling and sale of arrack, is in the hands of Ceylonese capitalists. Distillation of arrack prior to 1923 was carried on in about 250 small pot-stills of the most primitive variety: it is now concentrated in seven large modern distilleries situated in the Kalutara District, the outturn capacity of each of which is not less than 60,000 gallons per annum. Three of the distilleries have installed " Barbet's " patent stills for continuous distillation, each capable of producing 1,000 gallons of arrack per day. All distillery operations are carried on under the close supervision of the Excise Department. The arrack made at these distilleries is far purer and more free from copper than any arrack previously distilled from coconut toddy in Ceylon. These new private distilleries were started in April, 1924. They supply their arrack to Government at a fixed price under what is known as the " Contract Supply " system.

About 8 gallons of toddy are required to produce a gallon of arrack at proof strength, *i.e.*, the outturn in arrack (proof gallons) of a distillery is about 12.0 per cent. of the toddy distilled. The distiller's cost of production is about Re. 1.50 to Re. 1.75 per proof gallon. The distillers sell their arrack to Government at Rs. 2.40 per gallon at 27 degrees under proof. Government stores and matures the spirit in bond and carries on reducing, blending, and bottling operations.

Retailing is done by renters, who are usually those who offer the highest price for this privilege. In addition to paying this price irrespective of the volume of their sales, they pay the following charges for every gallon of arrack they obtain from a Government warehouse to cover Government expenditure on purchasing, warehousing, and bottling arrack:—

Duty on bulk arrack at Rs. 10 per gallon and on bottles at Rs. 7 per gallon;
Cost price, Rs. 3 per gallon in all districts except Trincomalee, Batticaloa, and Bandarawela;
Cost price, Rs. 3.50 per gallon at Trincomalee, Batticaloa, and Bandarawela;
Extra charges per gallon on bottled arrack, Rs. 2 for white bottles and Re. 1.50 for black 2-pint bottles.

The number of gallons of arrack distilled during the last three years is as follows:—

	Gallons (proof).		Gallons (proof).
1929	497,451	1931	285,138
1930	387,427		

The corresponding outturn for the three years was 11.92, 12.07, and 12.08 respectively.

The consumption of arrack in 1931 was 422,595 gallons, a decrease of 98,787 gallons on the 1930 figure.

The number of arrack taverns in 1930-31 was 151 and in 1929-30 was 136. The estimated net revenue after deducting expenses of the distribution and storage system was Rs. 4,565,484 in 1930-31 and Rs. 6,642,434 in 1929-30, which is equivalent to Re. 0.86 and Re. 1.47 respectively per head of population. The arrack consumption per head of population was .08 gallon in 1930-31 and .12 gallon in 1929-30. The arrack revenue (net) per gallon was Rs. 10.80 in 1930-31 and Rs. 12.15 in 1929-30. The net revenue shows a decrease, consequent on the falling consumption of 98,787 gallons, though the net revenue per gallon consumed shows an increase of Re. 1.35.

Vinegar Manufacture.

Toddy vinegar is obtained from the aceticization of fermented toddy, which takes place naturally after about 36 hours.

In 1924 special licences were first issued to vinegar manufacturers in the Western and Southern Provinces, with a view to encourage the manufacture of toddy vinegar as a local industry. Rules were passed in 1926 to control vinegar stores, and the results of the experiment have been satisfactory.

There is evidence of a considerable demand for toddy vinegar, and the present supply is insufficient to meet the demand.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The total liquor revenue for the financial year 1929-30 and 1930-31 was as follows :—

Excise Revenue.	1929-30. Rs.	1930-31. Rs.
Arrack (Gross)	8,363,736	6,048,792
Toddy	2,233,822	2,267,075
Licensing fees	184,183	166,476
Composition fees	18,114	9,941
Total Excise revenue	10,799,855	8,492,284
Other Revenue.		
Customs (import duties)	4,294,900	3,522,310
Police Court fines in Excise cases	276,260	185,819
Sale of confiscated articles	245	119
Total revenue directly connected with excisable articles	15,371,260	12,200,532

The expenditure on the Excise Department, including the salaries of Civil Servants and all Excise Department officers and all other charges, was Rs. 1,390,633 in 1930-31 being 16.4 per cent. of the Excise revenue for the year, or 11.4 per cent. of the Excise revenue plus Customs duty on excisable articles and Police Court fines in Excise cases.

Excise Offences.

The following is a statement of Excise detections in the three years 1929, 1930 and 1931 :—

Year.	Foreign Liquor.	Arrack.	Toddy.	Intoxicating Drugs.	Short Measure.	Others.	Total.
1929	98	606	4,510	635	145	217	6,211
1930	83	517	5,439	780	88	220	7,127
1931	50	430	5,616	730	—	1,729	8,555

The most remarkable increases occur under illicit distillation, illicit tapping, sale and transport of toddy, and under cultivation and sale of intoxicating drugs.

FISHERIES.

The fishing industries of the Island fall under the following main heads (*a*) sea fisheries, (*b*) chank fisheries, (*c*) pearl fisheries, and (*d*) fresh water fisheries.

Sea Fisheries.—These are by far the most important and extensive and are carried on all round the coast by Sinhalese and Tamil fishermen who use native craft principally the catamaran and outrigger canoe working lines and modified nets. Both types of vessel depend on sail and on account of their limitation in size have long since attained their maximum development and efficiency. They cannot be adapted to work modern fishing gear.

Prior to the extension of the railway and of motor transport, the bulk of the fish caught was either dried, cured, or pickled, but with the present facilities for transport and with the aid of ice making plants erected at the principal fishing centres, fish is now distributed in a more or less fresh condition to practically all parts of the Island and such is the demand that no surplus is available for the fish curers, with the result that the once prosperous dried fish industry has almost died out.

No complete statistics exist regarding the value and extent of the industry, but its inability to meet existing demands is clearly shown by the records of the imports of fish goods into the Island, which in 1911 amounted to 544,222 cwt. valued at Rs. 4,951,516 and in 1931 to 548,350 cwt. valued at Rs. 12,465,706.

The bulk of these imports is made up of cured and maldive fish imported from Southern India and the Maldive Islands. These in 1911 amounted to 347,868 cwt. valued at Rs. 4,233,363 and in 1931 to 391,115 cwt. valued at Rs. 11,403,516.

The high value of these imports is clear evidence of the existence of a large local market for fish goods and, in conjunction with the vast natural resources that Ceylon waters offer for exploitation, indicates the scope for development open to this industry.

The question of this development has taken the foremost place in the investigation work of the Fisheries Department under the direction of the Marine Biologist who is also Director of the Colombo Museum. In the first instance this department carried out a fisheries survey of the coastal waters with the objects of acquiring data regarding demersal fishes and of exploring these waters for possible trawl fishing grounds. As a result of this survey, two extensive fishing banks were discovered which are practically virgin ground, *i.e.*, the Pedro bank off the north-east coast with an area of over 1,000 square miles and the Wadge bank off Cape Comorin, Southern India, with an area of over 4,000 square miles. Both banks gave considerable promise for commercial development and following this preliminary work, the results of which are published in the Ceylon Journal of Science, Section C. (Fisheries), Vol. I., part II., it was decided to carry out a detailed survey of both banks for the purpose of obtaining more exact data of their trawl fishing value and also for the preparation of charts necessary for their commercial exploitation. The survey of the Pedro bank has since been completed and a detailed report with charts of the area is now in preparation. Accounts of this work are contained in Ceylon Administration Reports (Marine Biology), 1926-30. The survey of the Wadge bank has been suspended pending a recovery of the financial situation. These investigations led to the formation, in 1928, of a local trawling company which is now operating on both banks.

Future developments of the trawl fishing industry are limited to less than $\frac{1}{8}$ of the available fishing grounds of Ceylon and can effect only the market for one class of fish, namely, demersal or bottom feeding fishes. They can take no part in the development of the pelagic (surface) and demersal fisheries of the local fishermen to which the whole of the waters of Ceylon are available.

Chank Fisheries.—The chank, which has considerable value in India, where it is cut and carved into bangles, is fished annually in the shallow waters of the Palk Strait off the Jaffna Peninsula where it occurs in great abundance. The fisheries are carried out chiefly by divers from Southern India and are subject to the Chanks Ordinance of 1890. The chanks fished are exported to India, the Ceylon Government collecting a small royalty in the form of an export duty, which prior to April, 1929, varied from Rs. 2 to Rs. 6 per 1,000 shells and now varies from Rs. 5 to Rs. 25 per 1,000 shells according to quality. The average number exported annually for the last ten years under the old duty was 2,305,664 valued at Rs. 119,555 and the average royalty was Rs. 10,770. Under the new duty the number exported in 1930 was 2,193,967 valued at Rs. 120,565 on which a royalty of Rs. 28,667 was collected. In 1931, doubtless owing to the trade depression, the number exported fell to 1,340,440 and the duty collected to Rs. 16,690.

Chanks also occur in some numbers in the inshore waters of the Pearl banks but until 1930 fishing was prohibited in this area under the Chanks Ordinance, No. 18 of 1890. This Ordinance has now been amended and a rule passed making it lawful to fish chanks between January 31 and April 30 of each year, between Mannar and Moderagam point and within the three-fathom line. Fisheries in this area were held in 1930 and 1931.

Pearl Fisheries.—The Ceylon pearl oyster *Margaritifera vulgaris*, the fisheries of which have been famous for many centuries, occurs periodically in great abundance in the shallow water area known as the Ceylon Pearl banks lying off the west coast of Ceylon and extending from Puttalam to Adam's Bridge. The banks are under Government control and fisheries, which are a Government monopoly, are carried on at irregular intervals as oysters are available. The last fishery was in 1925 when over 15,000,000 oysters were fished and the

gross receipts totalled Rs. 517,507. There are no prospects of immediate fisheries. Recently a large extension of oyster-bearing ground covering an area of about 30 square miles was discovered.

Another form of pearl oyster, the so-called window pane oyster *Placum placenta* which yields pearls of an inferior character, commonly occurs embedded in the soft muddy bottom of Lake Tamblegam, Trincomalee. When oysters are present the fishing rights are leased by Government. The fishery is now leased for a period of three years ending 1932. The lessee has so far held two fisheries, one in 1930 and the other in 1931, which together yielded 1,518,804 oysters from which 938 tola weight of pearls were obtained. The market for these pearls is Bombay.

Fresh Water Fisheries.—These are carried on by villagers in the many tanks, reservoirs, &c., which abound throughout the Island. In some cases a fishing licence is issued by a local authority (a village committee or Urban District Council) or the waters are leased. No particulars are available as to revenue collected from this source or as to the extent of the industry. The Fisheries Department has made a survey of the fresh water fishes of the Island and has collected considerable data relating to the bionomics of these fishes. (See Ceylon Journal of Science, Section B., Volumes XV. and XVI.)

SALT.

The manufacture, collection, and sale of salt constitute in Ceylon a Government monopoly, which is protected by an import duty. The monopoly is administered by the Executive Committee for Local Administration through the Salt Adviser and the Revenue Officers.

Ceylon consumes about 660,000 cwt. of common salt per annum. The greater part of this salt is manufactured or collected locally, and any shortages due to failures of harvest are met by the importation of salt of similar quality from India. Salt is manufactured from sea water by solar evaporation at the Government Salterns at Elephant Pass in the Northern Province and at Palavi, near Puttalam, in the North-Western Province, also in the privately owned salt pans at Chiviyateru in the Northern Province, about four miles from Jaffna, at Puttalam, and at Nilaveli, eight miles north of Trincomalee. Spontaneously formed salt resulting from the natural evaporation of brine is collected from lagoons in the Hambantota District of the Southern Province and in the Jaffna Peninsula in the Northern Province. These are Crown property. The quantity of salt manufactured at Chiviyateru is small, and the greater part of the Island's supply is derived from the Government Salterns, from the lagoons in the Hambantota District, and from the private salt pans at Puttalam. The following statement shows the total quantity of salt produced in Ceylon during the year and the average of the ten years 1921-30:—

Producing Centre.	Average for 1921–30.	1931. Cwt.	Producing Centre.	Average for 1921–30.	1931. Cwt.
Elephant Pass ..	143,636	248,875	Jaffna and Mannar Districts (excluding Elephant Pass) ..	42,688	171,522
Palavi ..	30,712	124,616	Trincomalee District ..	36,528	66,344
Hambantota District ..	128,010	72,620			
Puttalam District (excluding Palavi) ..	100,946	212,398	Total ..	482,520	896,375

Stocks at the beginning of 1931 amounted to 697,023 cwt. and at the end of the year 981,495 cwt.

The amount realized during the financial year by sale of local salt from the Government depôts was Rs. 1,998,970 and the net revenue Rs. 1,614,890.

Owing to the more or less stationary consumption and the equalizing effect of the import duty the revenue from salt does not show a large percentage of variation from year to year.

MINERALOGY.

Plumbago.

Occurrence.—Plumbago, or graphite, is the most important of the Ceylon minerals. It occurs in minute scattered crystals in some of the granulites and crystalline limestones, but it is only where it is found in veins that it is of any commercial importance. The veins or pockets vary from the smallest size

up to a yard or more in width, and often consist of pure graphite unmixed with other minerals. Frequently quartz, mica, felspar, pyroxene, apatite, pyrite, &c., are associated with the graphite. The most frequent country rock is a pyroxene granulite of the charnockite series.

Mines.—The deepest mines go to a depth of between 600 and 800 feet, while considerable quantities of the mineral are obtained very near the surface. Several of the largest mines are fitted with electric light and equipped with modern machinery, but in most of them the arrangements are very primitive. Seventy mines were reported to be working at the end of 1931 employing about 1,939 men, but it is possible that the number actually at work was less.

Prices and Grades.—Since 1919 prices have been nominal, there being practically no buyers. The majority of the mines were closed in 1920 and still remain closed.

The decrease in naval armaments had a direct effect on the demand for plumbago especially with regard to Ceylon as Ceylon flake was the best crucible plumbago used for this purpose. This is held to be the cause of the falling off in demand for these high grades and the demand throughout the year has been principally for carbon plumbago. With the present price ruling there seems to be no prospect of any extension of mining activities, especially in view of the big surface deposits in Madasgascar, which can now compete with most Ceylon grades for factory work.

The average market prices for all grades for the last three years were as follows:—1929, Rs. 214.28 per ton; 1930, Rs. 203.50 per ton; 1931, Rs. 182.34 per ton.

Local Trade.—The mining for, and the local trade in, graphite remain chiefly in the hands of the Sinhalese. Large mines are worked both by Ceylonese capitalists and by tea-estate owners on whose land plumbago is found. Some of the larger mines can turn out 100 tons a month, and Ceylon can, when required, produce 30,000 tons a year.

During the years 1915, 1916, and 1917, over 15,000 skilled labourers were engaged in this industry.

Uses.—Plumbago is chiefly used in the manufacture of crucibles, furnace-facings, electrodes, and stove polish, for making lubricants, black paint and lead pencils, and in electroplating. During the war large quantities were required for the manufacture of munitions, and the exports in 1916 rose above the old maximum.

The value of the exports of plumbago in 1931 was Rs. 1,225,331.

Other Economic Minerals.

Precious Stones.—Precious stones in large variety are found principally in the alluvial gravels of the Ratnapura District and the south-west portion of the Island. The most important are sapphire and ruby (varieties of corundum), chrysoberyl (including cat's-eye and the rare alexandrite), beryl or aquamarine, and the semi-precious stones, topaz, spinel, garnet, zircon, quartz of various colours (cairngorm, citrine quartz, amethyst), and moonstone.

Mining for gems is carried on almost entirely by Sinhalese on a co-partnership system. The stones are bought up by dealers to be cut and polished. Many of the best stones are exported to Europe and America, but the inferior varieties are largely sold locally or in India. It is difficult to estimate the value of the annual output, but it may be put at somewhere about Rs. 2,000,000.

With the exception of moonstone, which is mined from a band of acid leptynite, and some garnet, the gem-stones are all obtained from alluvial gravels. Sapphire and beryl have been discovered in abundance in pegmatite veins in the Matara and Kandy Districts, respectively, and the other minerals named are probably derived from rocks of similar type.

Thorium-bearing Minerals.—A number of minerals containing thorium and uranium have been found in Ceylon, in pegmatite veins and also in alluvial gravels, and as constituents of natural concentrates on the seabeach. These were

mined on a small scale at one time, but the deposits appear to be exhausted and production has ceased. Monazite sands were worked under Government control near Bentota on the west coast, but work was abandoned in 1927 as unprofitable owing to the heavy fall in the price of the mineral.

Ilmenite and Zircon Sands.—Large deposits of natural beach concentrates, consisting of about 75 per cent. ilmenite and 25 per cent. zircon, rutile, &c., are known to exist at Pulmoddai and Tirrukovil, on the east coast of the Island. The former deposit has been proved to contain over two million tons of the mineral. Smaller deposits are found at other places on the coast. The mineral is used as a source of titanium for the preparation of titanium pigments, an industry of growing importance. The Ceylon deposits have not yet been exploited.

Mica.—A small amount of mica has been produced from pegmatite veins or from the contact rocks bordering limestones. The deposits are very irregular, the commercial mica occurring in patches in the veins, with much barren ground between them. There has been a revival of interest in the mineral in 1931 and a few tons have been exported. The variety exported is phlogopite (magnesia mica) or amber mica.

Other Mineral Products.—Other mineral products are the following:—

(1) Kaolin of good quality can be prepared from the decomposed felspar of granitic rocks free from iron minerals.

(2) White quartz sand suitable for the manufacture of the commoner kinds of glass occurs in places on the west coast and in the north near Point Pedro.

(3) Limestone of a high degree of purity suitable for use in the manufacture of cement is found in large quantities in the Jaffna Peninsula. The coral deposits of the coast are extensively burnt for lime. The crystalline limestones of the interior of the Island are almost all dolomitic and yield inferior lime.

(4) The gneisses and granulites of the charnockite series furnish useful building stones.

(5) Pottery clays of poor quality and brick-earth suitable for the manufacture of bricks and tiles are found in all the river valleys. Kabuk, which is the product of decomposition of the surface of the crystalline rocks, is extensively used for small buildings. When first opened up, it can be cut into slabs, which harden on exposure to the air.

CHAPTER VII.

Commerce.

GENERAL STATEMENT.

CEYLON depends for its prosperity mainly upon agriculture and the development of its natural resources in this direction. There are few manufacturing industries, and those which exist are in their infancy, with the exceptions of the processes by which the three chief staple products—tea, the produce of the coconut palm, and rubber—are prepared for the market. The mineral resources of the Island, with the exception of plumbago, are not large, while the total absence of coal no doubt largely accounts for the lack of manufactures. Consequently, the trade of the Island mainly consists of the export of the staple agricultural products and the import of the manufactured articles and finished materials required by the population, in addition to those foodstuffs which are not grown locally in sufficient quantities for local requirements.

Trade and Shipping.—The world-wide trade depression is again reflected in the figures for the year under review, during which the value of the total trade (excluding the value of specie and of coal and liquid fuel supplied to ships) was Rs. 430,955,489, a drop of Rs. 170,000,000 as compared with 1930 and the lowest figure since 1918.

As regards exports, the quantities shipped were approximately the same as in 1930 with the exception of rubber which dropped to 81 per cent. of the 1930 figure. However, the value of the total exports went down by almost Rs. 88,000,000, of which Rs. 43,000,000 was in respect of tea, Rs. 27,000,000 in respect of rubber, and Rs. 10,000,000 in respect of coconut products, the total values of the exports of these commodities being Rs. 138,000,000, Rs. 20,000,000, and Rs. 36,000,000 respectively. The values of most exports dropped fairly steadily during the first part of the year and rose somewhat towards the end of the year, due no doubt to the fact that the United Kingdom went off the gold standard in September.

The value of the total imports dropped by almost Rs. 84,000,000. The following were among the most noticeable decreases:—

	Rs.
Rice	24,000,000
Sugar	5,000,000
Machinery	3,000,000
Cotton piece goods	2,750,000

In spite of the large drop in the values, the quantities of rice and sugar imported were approximately the same as in previous years; while the imports of cotton piece goods were actually greater than in 1930. Most of the other decreases in value of imports, however, are due mainly to decreased importations.

Fuller details and notes on the principal items of imports and exports will be found in the subsequent pages of this report.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

Under the new Constitution the subjects of industry and commerce were allotted to the Hon. the Minister and the Executive Committee of Labour, Industry and Commerce.

The policy of the Minister and Committee is to assist the development of commerce and industry in Ceylon by the collection of information regarding markets, prices, and general possibilities, by the examination of the problems of marketing locally and abroad, by giving such assistance as may be possible to new enterprises, and by such other methods as may be practicable.

A branch of the Registrar-General's Office is being organized for these purposes and it is hoped that it will be able to render material assistance to the commerce and industry of Ceylon.

As Imperial Trade Correspondent, the Principal Collector of Customs is under the Senior Trade Commissioner in India and Ceylon.

During the year, all possible assistance was rendered in furtherance of British and Ceylon trade. In addition to numerous inquiries from local merchants, 84 trade inquiries from abroad were dealt with during the year as compared with 72 in 1930. The assistance rendered usually takes the form of (*a*) introducing local exporters to outside markets, (*b*) finding suitable agents for British business houses, or (*c*) inquiring into complaints regarding their local representatives from British firms.

Travelling representatives of British houses, many of whom call on the Principal Collector with introductions from the Board of Trade, are given all available information.

DISTRIBUTION OF TRADE.

The total trade of the Island continues to be divided into three almost equal shares; one being taken by the United Kingdom, one by British Possessions, and the third by foreign countries.

As compared with 1930, the value of the imports from foreign countries increased at the expense of the United Kingdom, while the value of the exports to the United Kingdom increased at the expense of foreign countries.

As regards the principal countries from which Ceylon imports are obtained, until 1929 the United Kingdom invariably headed the list, but in 1930 British India overtook the United Kingdom, the latter coming second. In 1931, the United Kingdom dropped still further taking the third place on the list, the first two being occupied by British India and Burma.

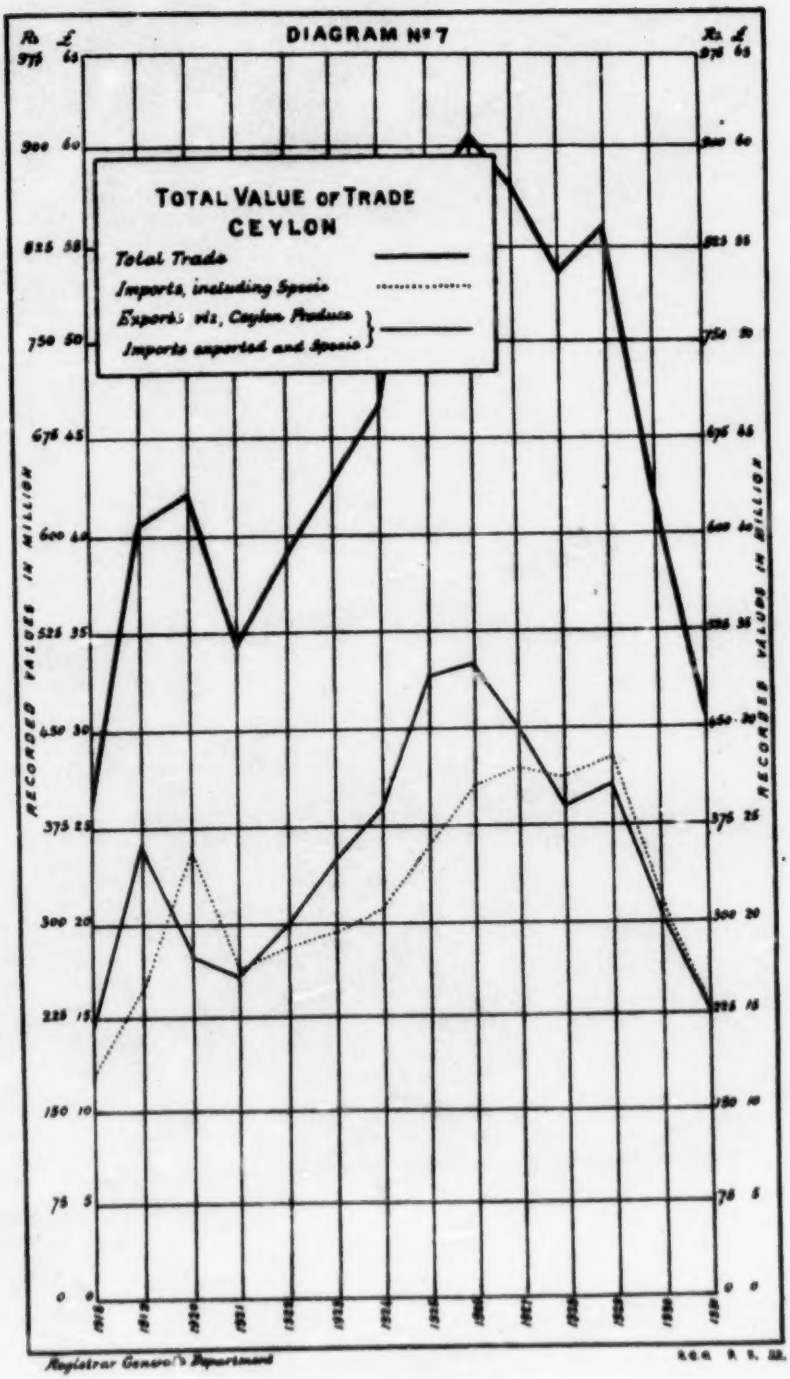


DIAGRAM No 7
TOTAL VALUE OF TRADE
CEYLON
Total Trade
Imports, including Specie
Exports, viz, Ceylon Produce
Imports exported and Specie
RECORDED VALUES IN MILLION
Rs £
975 65
900 60
825 55
750 50
675 45
600 40
525 35
450 30
375 25
300 20
225 15
150 10
75 5
0 0
Registrar General's Department

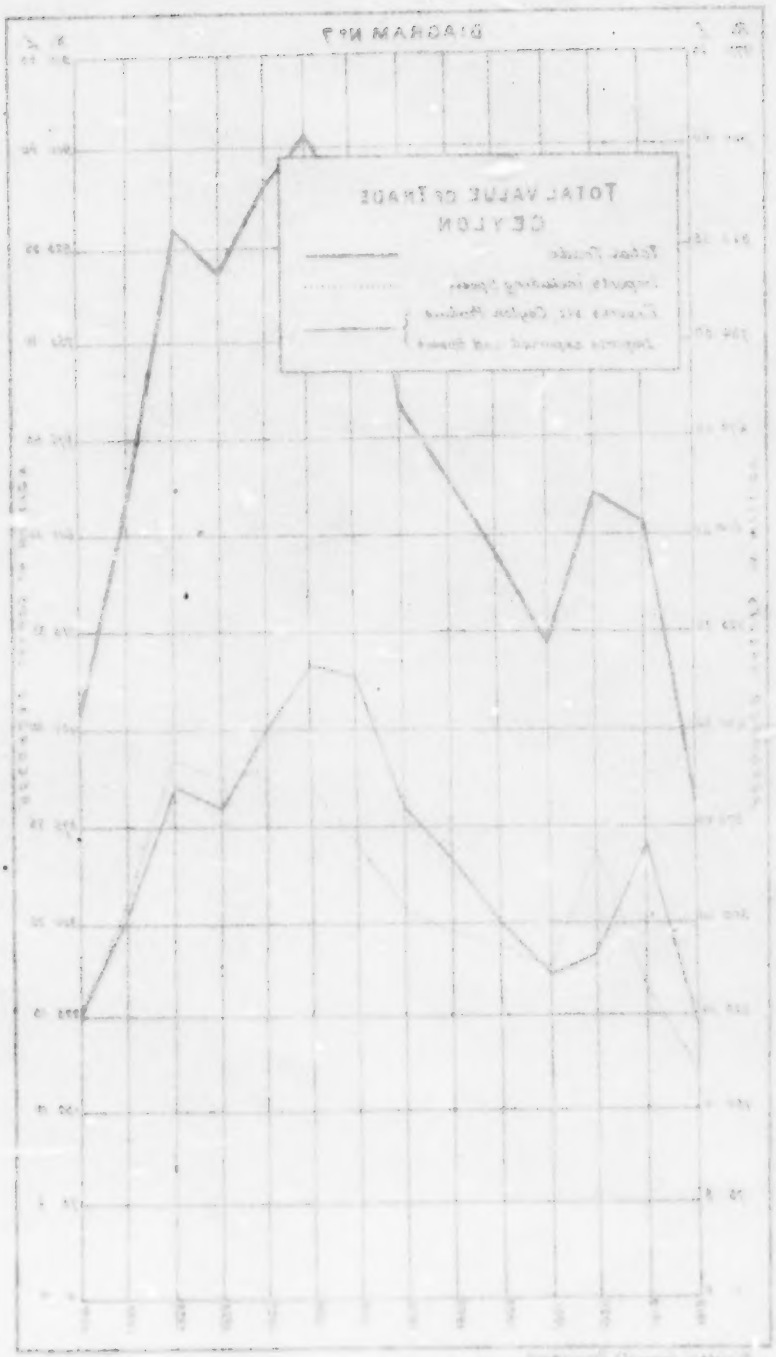


DIAGRAM No 7
TOTAL VALUE OF TRADE
CEYLON
Total Trade
Imports including Specie
Exports inc Ceylon Produce
Imports exported and Stores

Imports from Japan which come fourth on the list have increased from 2.66 in 1929 to 4.9 in 1931. Persia takes a fairly high place on the list and is above Australia.

The following are the comparative percentages for the last four years of the value of imports, exports, and total trade with the United Kingdom, British possessions, and foreign countries. The figures are exclusive of imported rubber, and of coal, liquid fuel, and other ships' stores:—

	1928. Per Cent.	1929 Per Cent.	1930. Per Cent.	1931. Per Cent.
Imports—				
From the United Kingdom	22·75	22·68	21	18·76
From British Possessions	47·82	47·46	48·5	48·59
From Foreign countries	29·43	29·86	30·5	32·65
	100	100	100	100
Exports—				
To the United Kingdom	39·5	41·41	45·61	48·41
To British Possessions	18·4	17·59	18·21	18·91
To Foreign countries	42·1	41	36·18	32·68
	100	100	100	100
Total Trade—				
From and to the United Kingdom	30·81	31·96	33·32	33·39
From and to British Possessions	33·77	32·65	33·34	33·94
From and to Foreign countries	35·42	35·39	33·34	32·67
	100	100	100	100

NOTES ON SOME OF THE PRINCIPAL IMPORTS.

Rice (Grain without Husk).—The imports were considerably less in 1931 than in 1930, mainly because of smaller imports from British India. The quantity imported from Siam increased still further. Imports from Siam are almost entirely broken rice which is mainly used for making flour. Imports from Burma and British India, on the other hand, are mostly boiled rice which is the staple diet of the inhabitants of the Island.

The average value dropped again being at its lowest in April. It showed a slight increase towards the end of the year.

The imports in 1930 and 1931 from the chief supplying countries are shown in the following tables—

Country of Production.	1930. Quantity. Cwt.	1930. Value. Rs.	1931. Quantity. Cwt.	1931. Value. Rs.
Burma	6,387,723	49,724,261	6,551,566	37,516,368
British India	2,313,227	21,095,463	1,421,249	9,602,968
Cochin China	270,202	2,396,457	276,987	1,563,691
Siam	227,223	1,832,904	454,868	2,601,767
Straits Settlement	44,653	368,557	27,795	157,124
India (excluding British)	15,592	133,796	56	363
Other countries	1,253	13,264	27	437
Total	9,259,873	75,564,702	8,732,548	51,442,718

Other Grains.—The chief grains imported under this head are paddy (grain with husk), peas, and gram.

Paddy comes mainly from Burma, peas from British India and China, and gram from British India and Burma.

The quantities of paddy and peas imported in 1931 showed slight decreases as compared with 1930.

Imports in 1929, 1930, and 1931 are shown below:—

	1929. Cwt.	1930. Cwt.	1931. Cwt.
Paddy	710,882	370,881	352,048
Peas	378,747	433,425	389,468
Gram	97,702	84,561	84,995

The following table shows the quantity of rice and other grains imported during the last ten years:—

	Rice. Cwt.	Other Grains. Cwt.		Rice. Cwt.	Other Grains. Cwt.
1922	7,209,157	956,550	1927	9,087,264	1,013,840
1923	7,423,833	1,134,443	1928	9,244,691	1,310,637
1924	7,519,186	965,569	1929	9,380,556	1,242,349
1925	8,321,381	1,014,297	1930	9,259,873	950,443
1926	8,794,947	1,125,130	1931	8,732,548	876,810

Wheat Products, Floor and Meal.—There was a considerable drop in the quantity imported as compared with 1930, and a very large decline in value.

Over 96 per cent. of the imports came from Australia as compared with 94 per cent. in the previous year.

The following table shows the imports of flour in 1929, 1930, and 1931:—

Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1929	396,640	5,523,144
1930	400,867	4,286,568
1931	374,579	2,241,031

Feeding Stuffs for Animals.—The chief imports are gingelly poonac and bran which come almost entirely from India. The imports of the former declined from 315,000 cwt. in 1930 to 265,000 cwt. in 1931, while those of the latter increased from 145,000 cwt. to 162,000 cwt.

Spirits, Brandy, Whisky, Gin.—The imports of whisky showed a slight increase over the 1930 figure. The further decrease in the consumption of brandy and gin is mainly due to the depressed state of the local industries and especially of the rubber industry.

The quantities cleared for home consumption during the last five years are shown in the following table:—

	Proof Gallons.				
	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.
Brandy	122,905	104,916	135,794	59,291	47,588
Gin	151,987	106,415	94,892	55,612	42,877
Whisky	58,180	81,767	71,491	43,167	45,717
	333,072	293,098	302,177	158,070	136,182

Sugar.—The imports were slightly less than in 1930, and the c.i.f. price dropped still further from 8.9 cents per lb. in 1930 to less than 5 cents per lb. in 1931.

Out of the total imports shown in the table below, 1,328,151 cwt. came from Java. There was also one large shipment of 40,000 cwt. from European Russia. As no sugar has previously been imported from that country, it may be presumed that the consignment in question is a result of the Five Year's Plan.

Rumours of increased duty led to large imports of sugar in November. In that month 310,000 cwt. were imported, as compared with the monthly average for the year of rather less than 120,000 cwt.

The quantities imported in recent years are as follows:—

Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Year.	Quantity. Cwt.
1918	355,546	1923	496,787	1928	1,193,588
1919	381,041	1924	635,448	1929	1,250,058
1920	269,643	1925	794,267	1930	1,430,396
1921	391,639	1926	952,263	1931	1,424,111
1922	524,674	1927	1,058,137		

Tobacco, Cigars, and Cigarettes, &c.—The importations of unmanufactured American tobacco continued to increase rapidly. This tobacco is manufactured locally into a cigarette which by reason of its price (2 cents), competes successfully with beedies imported from India and cheroots made in Jaffna from Ceylon grown tobacco. Importations of cigarettes which come almost entirely from the United Kingdom, dropped to 42 per cent. of the 1930 figure and to 23 per cent.

of that for 1929. The decreased imports of beedies, which all come from India, may be attributed to the large-scale smuggling to which reference is made in the section on the work of the Preventive Service.

The quantities of the various classes of tobacco cleared for home consumption during the past ten years are as follows:—

Year.	Unmanufactured Tobacco lb.	Cigars. lb.	Cigarettes. lb.	Other Manufactured Tobacco. lb.	Beedies. lb.	Total. lb.
1922	4,045	8,993	330,071	21,429	27,553	392,451
1923	3,582	7,387	327,482	21,354	32,454	392,259
1924	2,356	7,272	403,370	20,379	37,530	470,907
1925	2,229	7,075	447,998	19,364	43,726	520,392
1926	2,971	7,474	511,011	21,082	58,467	601,005
1927	13,992	7,106	568,109	26,078	75,687	690,972
1928	115,901	6,817	556,314	13,952	76,895	769,879
1929	217,495	5,853	584,227	14,021	70,571	892,167
1930	555,321	4,276	316,749	12,326	57,653	946,325
1931	872,141	3,144	133,414	10,134	44,428	1,063,261

The history of the duties on these commodities is as follows:—

	September, 1922. Rs. c.	July, 1926. Rs. c.	February, 1930. Rs. c.
Tobacco unmanufactured per lb.	1 75	1 75	2 0
Cigars per lb.	4 0	4 50	4 75
Cigarettes and beedies per lb.	5 0	6 0	6 30
Tobacco manufactured per lb.	4 0	4 50	4 75

Coal.—The quantity imported decreased still further from 567,011 tons in 1930 to 494,268 tons in the year under review.

Of the above quantity, British India supplied 298,449 tons, and British South Africa 133,296 tons, as compared with 295,386 tons and 167,830 tons respectively in 1930. Imports from the United Kingdom decreased from 103,113 tons in 1930 to 41,998 tons in 1931.

Liquid Fuel.—The imports were considerably less than in 1930. Of the total figure of 52,000,000 gallons, 46,000,000 gallons were reshipped as bunkers, so that 6,000,000 gallons were consumed locally as compared with 12,000,000 gallons in 1930.

Five-sixths of the supplies came from Persia and most of the balance from non-British North Borneo.

The total imports of liquid fuel during the last three years were—

Year.	Gallons.	Value. Rs.
1929	53,364,579	12,737,114
1930	57,458,471	12,005,543
1931	52,006,070	10,401,212

Kerosene Oil.—Considerably less kerosene was cleared for home consumption in 1931 than in the previous year.

About two-thirds of the imports came from Sumatra and one-third from the United States of America.

The total imports of bulk and case kerosene oil were as follows:—

Year.	Gallons.	Value. Rs.
1929	8,628,277	7,647,135
1930	8,853,891	6,311,286
1931	7,919,771	5,477,109

Petrol.—Here again, the 1931 importations were much less than those of 1930. The decreased consumption may be attributed partly to the general depression and partly to the lower petrol consumption of the "Baby" motor cars which have become so popular of recent years.

Four-fifths of the imports came from Sumatra and one-fifth from the United States of America.

The imports for the last eight years, including importations by Government, have been as follows:—

Year.	Gallons.	Year.	Gallons.
1924	3,749,236	1928	8,349,092
1925	4,085,370	1929	10,501,597
1926	6,308,256	1930	11,446,509
1927	6,946,194	1931	8,844,958

Manures.—The imports of manures continue to decrease. This is not surprising as the depression has forced the major industries (tea, coconut, and rubber) to make drastic reductions in their manuring programmes.

The following table shows the total imports of manure during the last three years:—

Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1929	2,614,696	15,168,863
1930	2,251,225	11,698,382
1931	1,751,573	7,797,524

The chief kinds of manure and the countries from which they were mainly imported are shown in the following table:—

Kind.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
Groundnut poonac (British India)	391,394	1,436,983
Bone meal (British India)	261,874	975,138
Sulphate of ammonia (United Kingdom)	251,902	1,252,758
Ephos basic phosphate (Egypt)	96,976	282,588
Fish Guano (British South Africa, United States of America)	87,895	559,662
Superphosphate (Holland, Belgium)	85,340	297,616
Muriate of potash (Germany)	84,881	474,458
Safaja and Kossier phosphate (Egypt)	68,680	148,135
Fish manure (British India)	62,783	318,806
Refuse of saltpetre (British India)	58,838	431,188
Blood meal (British India, United States of America)	46,880	449,418
Nitrate of soda (Chile)	31,978	213,204

Cement.—The quantity imported was 25 per cent. less than that imported in 1930.

Imports from the United Kingdom dropped from 766,000 cwt. to 510,000 cwt., and those from Germany from 293,000 cwt. to 92,000 cwt. The quantity imported from Japan on the other hand increased from 60,000 cwt. to 247,000 cwt.

In this connection, it may be interesting to examine the following table which shows the rapid increase in the imports of cement from Japan:—

1926. Cwt.	1927. Cwt.	1928. Cwt.	1929. Cwt.	1930. Cwt.	1931. Cwt.
13	37	5,000	20,000	60,000	247,000

The following table shows the imports during the last five years:—

Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.	Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1927	1,364,018	2,799,035	1930	1,299,783	2,601,144
1928	1,595,506	3,193,648	1931	952,765	1,693,052
1929	1,608,844	3,215,561			

Metal and Metalware, Ferrous.—The quantity imported dropped still further during the year under review.

The decreases in the imports from the United Kingdom under the main heads are given below:—

		Cwt.		Cwt.
Iron and steel bars, &c.	from	63,777	to	35,600
Steel girders, &c.	from	34,772	to	21,800
Flat galvanized plates and sheets	from	26,000	to	19,000
Corrugated galvanized plates and sheets	from	93,905	to	51,000
Tubes, pipes, and fittings	from	64,827	to	40,000

The imports of bars, &c., from Belgium dropped from 57,340 cwt. to 31,400 cwt., of girders from 26,000 cwt. to 10,000 cwt., while imports from the same country of plates and sheets, not galvanized, rose from 87,524 cwt. to 105,000 cwt. Luxemburg supplied 18,400 cwt. of iron and steel bars, &c., as compared with 30,149 cwt. in 1930; and 16,800 cwt. of steel girders, &c., came from France as compared with 13,000 cwt. in 1930.

The following table shows the total imports of metal and metalware, ferrous, during the past five years:—

Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.	Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1927	1,399,714	15,467,704	1930	860,666	8,715,402
1928	1,278,670	13,538,206	1931	639,841	5,979,115
1929	1,467,846	14,925,804			

The percentage of the total value of ferrous metal and metalware supplied by the leading exporting countries during 1931 is as follows:—

United Kingdom	68·8	Luxemburg	1·6
Belgium	15·1	British India	·8
Germany	7·5		

Non-ferrous Metal and Manufactures thereof.—Piglead and tea lead are the chief items included under this head. The quantities imported showed a considerable decrease as compared with 1930:—

Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1929	152,938	5,599,486
1930	140,862	4,294,075
1931	109,379	2,976,445

The chief countries from which non-ferrous metal and manufactures were imported and the percentage of the total value of the supplies imported from each in 1929, 1930, and 1931 are shown below:—

	1929.	1930.	1931.		1929.	1930.	1931.
United Kingdom	46	46·8	42·6	Germany	7	5·1	6·2
British India	21	20·3	20·9	Straits Settlements	3·2	1·7	1·2
Burma	14·1	19·4	22·9				

Cotton, Raw and Manufactured.—The total value of imports during 1931 was Rs. 15,304,562, as compared with Rs. 18,532,673 in 1930, *i.e.*, a decrease of 17 per cent.

(*a*) *Raw Cotton.*—16,351 cwt. valued at Rs. 505,250 were imported during the year as compared with 19,354 cwt. valued at Rs. 794,836 in 1930. Almost all the imports came from British India and the balance (1,200 cwt.) from British East Africa.

(*b*) *Cotton Waste.*—4,287 cwt. valued at Rs. 74,257 were imported as compared with 4,817 cwt. valued at Rs. 105,463 in 1930. Of the above amount, 2,385 cwt. came from British India and the balance 1,902 cwt. from the United Kingdom. The corresponding figures for 1930 were 2,306 cwt. and 2,511 cwt. respectively.

(*c*) *Cotton Yarn and Twist, Bleached.*—The importations dropped from 46,040 lb. valued at Rs. 31,904 in 1930 to 31,897 lb. valued at Rs. 17,347 in 1931. Almost all the imports came from British India.

(*d*) *Cotton Yarn and Twist, Dyed.*—The importations dropped from 126,534 lb. valued at Rs. 72,518 in 1930 to 87,647 lb. valued at Rs. 41,671 in the year under review. British India was the sole source of supply.

(*e*) *Cotton Yarn and Twist, Gray.*—15,524 lb. valued at Rs. 8,641 were imported in 1931, as compared with 44,782 lb. valued at Rs. 34,214 in 1930. British India supplied 14,000 lb. and the balance came from the United Kingdom.

(*f*) *Cotton Yarn and Twist, Other.*—The importations dropped from 10,560 lb. valued at Rs. 8,179 in 1930 to 1,120 lb. valued at Rs. 331 in 1931.

(*g*) *Cotton Piece Goods.*—The total value of cotton piece goods imported since 1928 is:—

Year.	Rs.	Year.	Rs.
1928	21,061,219	1930	16,089,234
1929	23,440,709	1931	13,295,769

The quantities imported were on the whole greater than in 1930, but their value showed a considerable decrease. Japan continued to improve her position, mainly at the expense of the United Kingdom, as will be seen from the following table:—

	Japan.			United Kingdom.		
	1929. Per Cent.	1930. Per Cent.	1931. Per Cent.	1929. Per Cent.	1930. Per Cent.	1931. Per Cent.
Bleached goods	2	14	39	85	79	54
Dyed goods	3	7	15	16	17	14
Gray goods	—	12	18	89	75	69
Printed goods	31	35	43	63	62	55

The following table shows the quantities and values of each kind of piece goods and the principal sources of supply:—

Nature of Goods.	Year.	Quantity. Yards.	Value. Rs.	Country of Production.	Approximate Percentage of Total Value.
Bleached piece goods	1930	12,544,368	4,142,182	United Kingdom	79
				Japan	14
				Holland	4
	1931	14,868,797	3,373,409	United Kingdom	54
				Japan	39
				British India	2
Dyed piece goods	1930	21,803,323	7,326,533	British India	59
				United Kingdom	17
				Holland	15
				Japan	7
	1931	20,723,793	5,563,687	British India	58
				Japan	15
				United Kingdom	14
				Holland	11
Gray piece goods	1930	3,329,021	839,817	United Kingdom	75
				Japan	12
				United States of America	11
	1931	2,582,051	527,599	United Kingdom	69
				Japan	18
				United States of America	12
Printed piece goods	1930	12,620,562	3,605,962	United Kingdom	62
				Japan	35
				Holland	2
	1931	16,541,447	3,746,220	United Kingdom	55
				Japan	43
Other piece goods	1930	345,289	173,511	British India	70
				United Kingdom	24
				United States of America	3
	1931	168,475	84,295	British India	78
				United Kingdom	14
				Switzerland	5

(*h*) *Lace and Net.*—The imports increased from 2,697,218 yards in 1930 to 3,146,688 yards in the year under review. Most of this increase appears in the increased imports from the United Kingdom which rose from 1,447,453 yards in 1930 to 1,846,502 yards in 1931. Imports from France at 1,186,977 yards were almost the same as last year.

(*i*) *Embroidery.*—The imports decreased from 1,817,580 yards in 1930 to 1,648,295 yards in 1931. Of this quantity, Switzerland supplied 1,159,172 yards.

(*j*) *Thread.*—Imports rose from 163,319 lb. in 1930 to 177,662 lb. in the year under review. Their value, however, declined from Rs. 627,337 to Rs. 616,028. The United Kingdom supplied 144,065 lb. valued at Rs. 564,715, as compared with 132,815 lb. valued at Rs. 578,487 in 1930.

Motor Vehicles.—The imports of cars and lorries continued to drop, those of the former being less than half, and those of the latter less than one-third of the 1930 figures.

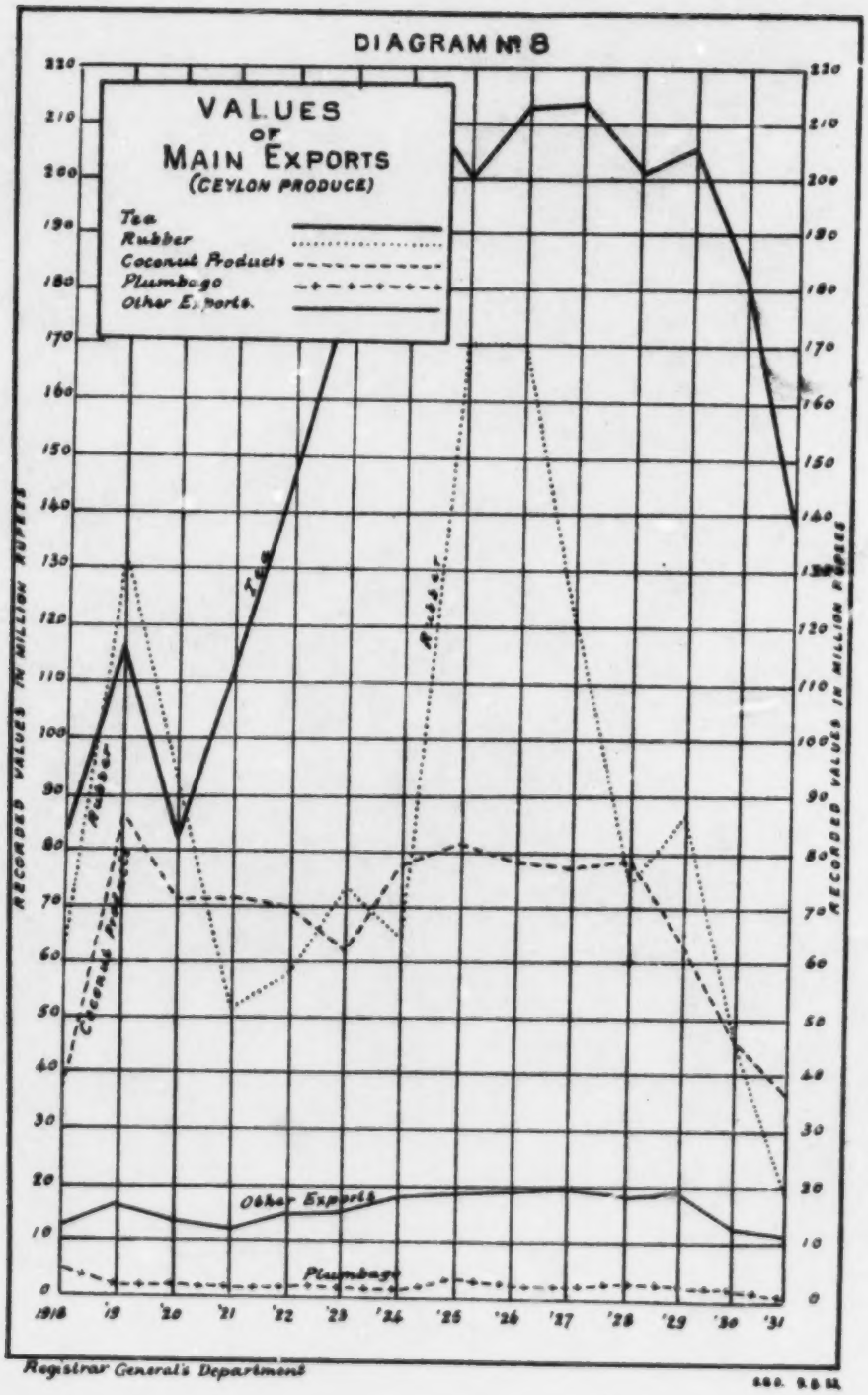
As regards cars, imports from the United Kingdom fell from 540 to 373; from the United States of America from 333 to 85; from Italy from 71 to 40; from France from 64 to 40, and from Canada (Fords) from 168 to 14.

Lorries from the United States of America dropped from 330 to 95; from the United Kingdom from 43 to 31; and from Canada from 96 to 12.

The number of motor cycles imported dropped from 255 in 1930 to 35 (of which 29 came from the United Kingdom) in the year under review.

The following table shows the total number and value of cars and lorries imported during the last five years:—

Year.	Motor Cars.		Motor Lorries.	
	Number.	Value. Rs.	Number.	Value. Rs.
1927	2,481	6,021,954	761	1,916,770
1928	2,557	5,658,676	948	2,243,692
1929	2,574	5,575,688	1,422	3,056,846
1930	1,182	2,359,359	477	948,937
1931	553	996,174	144	299,630



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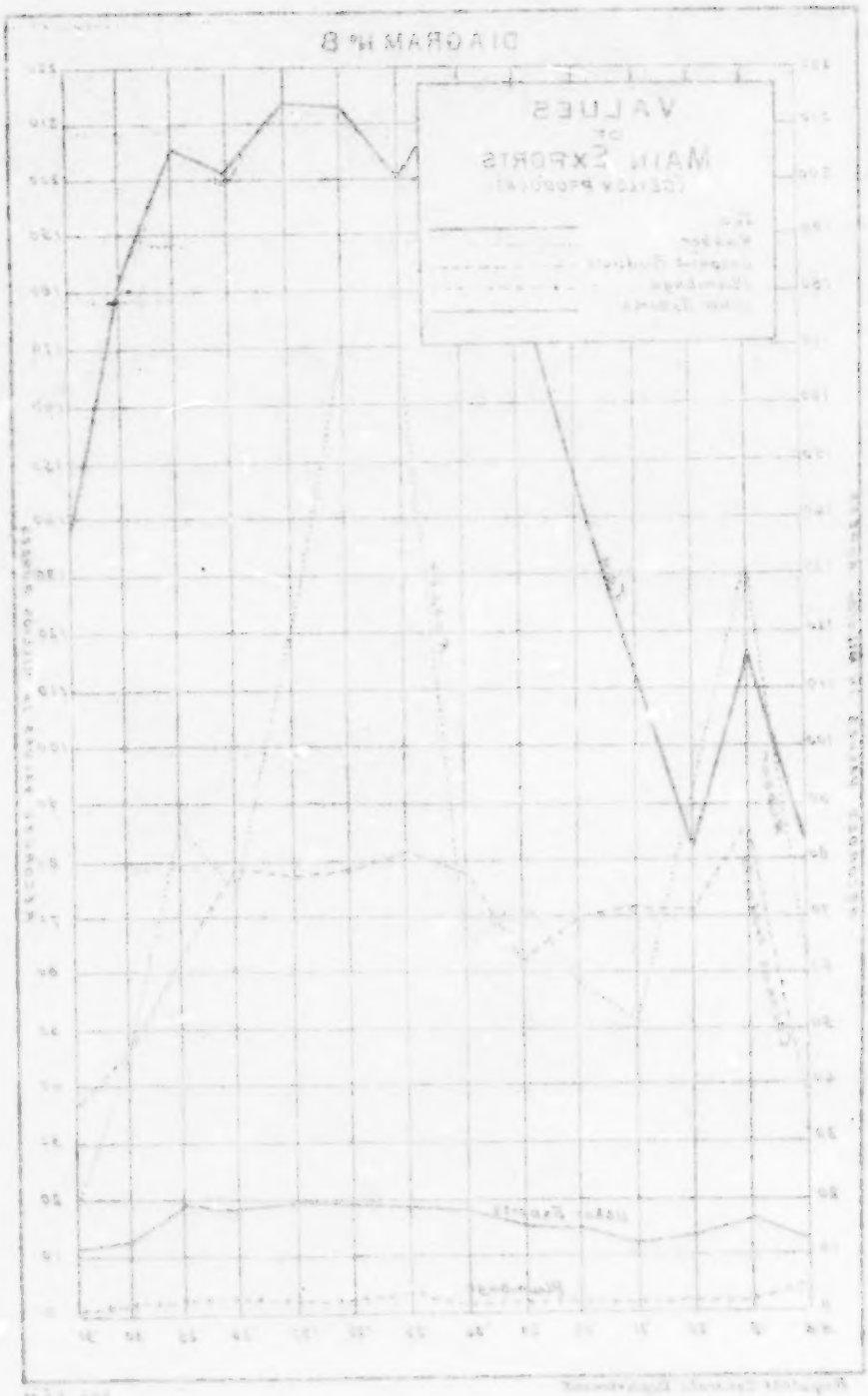


Tea and Other Chests.—The imports were approximately the same as in 1930. The numbers imported from both the United Kingdom and Japan showed slight decreases, but a greater number was imported from Finland.

About 50 per cent. of the imports came from Japan, 22 per cent. from the United Kingdom and 19 per cent. from Finland.

The following table shows the imports, with values, for the last four years:—

Year.	Quantity. No.	Value. Rs.	Year.	Quantity. No.	Value. Rs.
1928 ..	4,132,646	5,595,590	1930..	3,810,939	4,912,324
1929 ..	4,757,127	6,284,901	1931..	3,833,303	4,044,725

Cattle, Buffaloes, Sheep, and Goats.—The importation of cattle and buffaloes from Asiatic and African ports is prohibited at all ports, except Kayts, where cattle other than slaughter cattle may be imported on licence from the Government Veterinary Surgeon. The numbers imported continue therefore to be small. They all came from British India as did almost all the sheep and goats.

The following table gives the number and value of importations in 1930 and 1931:—

	1930.		1931.	
	Number.	Value. Rs.	Number.	Value. Rs.
Cattle	452	34,070	469	27,460
Buffaloes	320	35,760	167	7,800
Sheep	18,337	275,055	8,761	118,854
Goats	72,134	1,442,680	63,103	1,089,160

Horses.—Forty-seven horses (of which 32 came from the United Kingdom) were imported during the year as compared with 155 in 1930.

NOTES ON SOME OF THE PRINCIPAL EXPORTS.

Tea.—The quantity exported was slightly larger than in 1930, but the value showed a sharp drop.

The following table shows the quantities of tea exported each year for the last ten years in millions of pounds:—

Year.	Million Pounds.	Year.	Million Pounds.
1922	172	1927	227
1923	182	1928	237
1924	205	1929	251
1925	210	1930	243
1926	217	1931	244

The following table shows the exports in 1930 and 1931 to the United Kingdom, British Possessions, and Foreign countries and as ships' stores:—

	1930. lb.	1931. lb.	Increase. lb.	Decrease. lb.
United Kingdom	153,875,770	160,509,450	6,633,680	—
British Possessions	54,037,593	47,851,660	—	6,185,933
Foreign Countries	35,107,885	35,538,549	430,664	—
Ships' stores	86,226	70,311	—	15,915
	243,107,474	243,969,970	7,064,344	6,201,848

By far the largest exports of tea have always been to the United Kingdom and in 1931 the proportion was 2.7 per cent. higher than in the previous year, but Australia, which had invariably of recent years been second on the list, dropped to third, her puchases in 1931 being slightly more than 50 per cent. of those in 1930. This state of affairs may be attributed to the lower purchasing power of the Australian pound which has forced the majority of Australian tea consumers to drink Java teas which can apparently be bought on the Australian market at a lower price than the lowest priced Ceylon tea.

The chief buyers of Ceylon tea with the approximate percentages taken by each are as follows:—

	1929. Per Cent.	1930. Per Cent.	1931. Per Cent.		1929. Per Cent.	1930. Per Cent.	1931. Per Cent.
United Kingdom	62	63	65·7	Canada	2·5	2·5	2·9
United States of America	6	7	6·3	Egypt	3	2·3	2·8
Australia	8	9	4·6	Iraq	1·5	1	·8
New Zealand	4	3·5	4·4	Others	10	7·7	8·5
British South Africa	3	4	4		100	100	100

Coconut Products.—The exports of the three chief coconut products during the last five years have been—

Year.	Desiccated Coconut. Cwt.	Copra. Cwt.	Coconut. Oil. Cwt.
1927	872,833	1,982,154	673,153
1928	786,703	2,976,656	779,112
1929	690,469	2,042,488	878,523
1930	704,690	1,812,601	763,779
1931	669,327	1,877,303	962,774

The values of these exports were—

Year.	Desiccated Coconut. Rs.	Copra. Rs.	Coconut. Oil. Rs.
1927	20,481,761	31,844,823	16,567,551
1928	19,840,117	31,801,635	19,265,529
1929	11,875,780	26,315,987	18,024,359
1930	10,035,931	18,028,725	13,189,849
1931	5,832,308	12,715,258	12,130,476

(*a*) *Copra.*—The average price fell from Rs. 10.57 per cwt. in 1930 to Rs. 7.06 per cwt. in 1931. The exports were slightly higher than in 1930. Italy, Germany, Norway, Holland, Greece, Belgium, and Denmark were the principal purchasing countries. The first three were in the same order as in 1930, but Denmark, which was fourth in 1930, dropped to seventh in the year under review.

(*b*) *Coconut Oil.*—The average price again declined, being Rs. 12.78 per cwt., as compared with Rs. 17.67 per cwt. in 1930 and Rs. 20.68 in 1929. The exports were about 20 per cent. higher than in 1930. In the list of purchasing countries British India advanced from fifth in 1930 to first in 1931, buying 190,000 cwt., as compared with 73,000 cwt. in the previous year. It was closely followed by the United Kingdom with 181,000 cwt., as compared with 151,000 cwt. in 1930. The next in order were Egypt, Sweden, Italy, and British South Africa.

It is understood that the increase of over 150 per cent. in the exports to British India is mainly due to the fact that the boycott of foreign goods has caused consumers to use coconut oil instead of the various vegetable oils formerly imported from Europe.

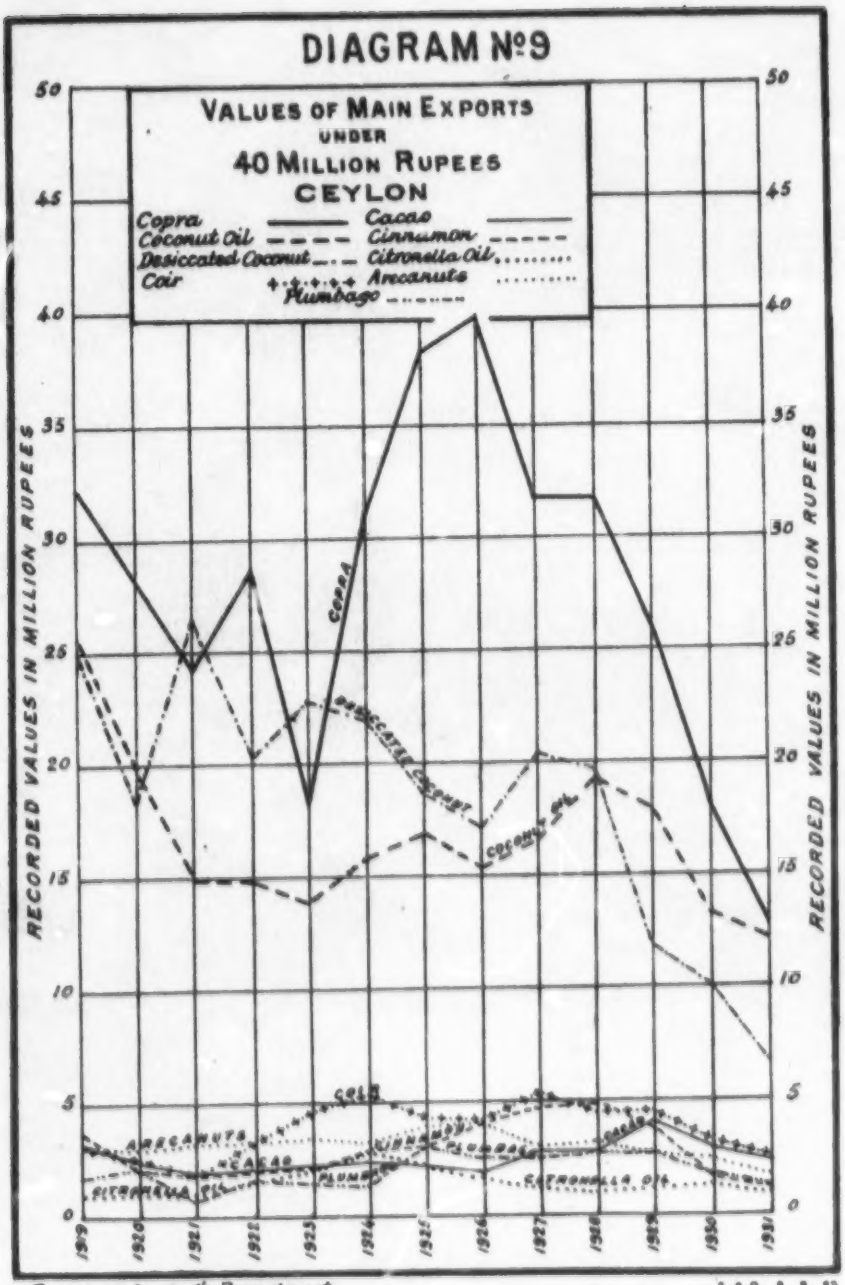
(*c*) *Desiccated Coconuts.*—The average price for the year was Rs. 10.31 per cwt., as compared with Rs. 14.45 per cwt. in 1930 and Rs. 17.29 per cwt. in 1929. There was a considerable drop in the exports as compared with 1930. The United Kingdom was the largest purchaser taking 312,000 cwt., as compared with 291,000 cwt. in 1930. The next largest buyer was Germany with 111,000 cwt., as compared with 128,000 in the previous year.

The restrictions imposed in Australia in 1930 in order to protect the newly-supported Papuan desiccated coconut industry have caused the exports from Ceylon to Australia to drop from 39,000 cwt. in 1929 to 3,000 cwt. in 1931.

(*d*) *Fresh Coconuts.*—Total exports for 1929, 1930, and 1931 are given below—

Year.	Number.	Value. Rs.
1929	20,821,284	1,281,910
1930	20,750,337	972,115
1931	21,142,176	759,461

The quantity exported increased slightly, but the average price dropped from Rs. 49.06 per 1,000 in 1930 to Rs. 37.82 per 1,000 in the year under review. The United Kingdom, Germany, and Egypt in that order were the largest buyers with 33 per cent., 25 per cent., and 23 per cent., respectively. Holland and British India came next on the list.



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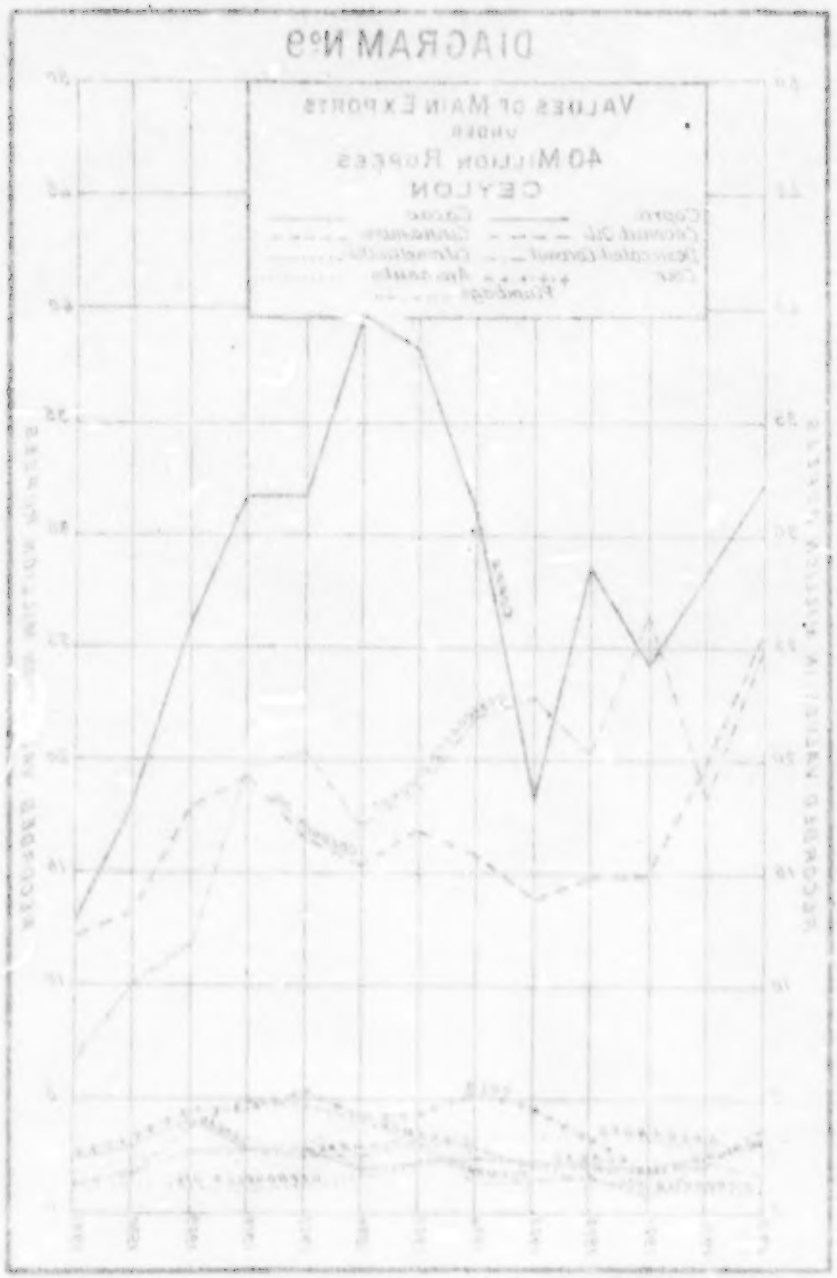
DIAGRAM N°9
VALUES OF MAIN EXPORTS
UNDER
40 Million Rupees
CEYLON
Copra
Coconut Oil
Desiccated Coconut
Coir
Fibre Mats
Plumbago
Cinnamon
Citronella Oil
Cinnamon Oil
Cocoa
Rubber
Tea
Coffee
Rice
Sugar
Cotton
Tobacco
Cigarettes
Cigars
Cinchona
Cinchona Alkaloids
Cinchona Bark
Cinchona Sulphate
Cinchona Tannate
Cinchona Quinine
Cinchona Quinidine
Cinchona Cinchonidine
Cinchona Cinchonine
Cinchona Other Alkaloids
Cinnamon Leaf Oil

(*e*) *Coir Yarn.*—The quantity exported dropped from 104,377 cwt. in 1930 to 82,413 cwt. in 1931. The average price was Rs. 10.25 per cwt., as compared with Rs. 12.76 per cwt. in the previous year. The United Kingdom and Germany were again the chief buyers.

(*f*) *Coir Rope.*—Total exports showed a further decline from 11,880 cwt. valued at Rs. 259,458 in 1930 to 8,734 cwt. valued at Rs. 109,718 in 1931. The Straits Settlements was again the principal purchaser.

(*g*) *Bristle Fibre.*—The average price fell from Rs. 7.89 in 1930 to Rs. 6.34 in 1931. The quantity exported dropped from 171,217 cwt. in 1930 to 169,437 cwt. in the year under review. Japan, Belgium, France, and Germany were the chief purchasers.

(*h*) *Mattress Fibre.*—The average price in 1931 was Re. 1.27, as compared with Re. 1.23 in 1930. There was an increase in exports from 309,917 cwt. to 323,787 cwt. in 1931. The United Kingdom took 30 per cent. of the exports, and British South Africa 17 per cent.

(*i*) *Coconut Poonac.*—There was a large increase in exports of this commodity: from 278,878 cwt. in 1930 to 370,637 cwt. in 1931. Belgium took 60 per cent. of the total and Germany 33 per cent. The average value fell from Rs. 4.50 per cwt. to Rs. 3.62 per cwt.

Rubber.—The total quantity of rubber exported during the year was 145,351,627 lb., as compared with 182,306,460 lb. in 1930. Of this figure, over 7 million lb. was imported rubber (from British India and Malaya). As usual, the United States bought the largest quantity of our exports, the figure being 98 million lb., which is approximately 67 per cent. of the total. The United Kingdom took 23 million lb. or 16 per cent. of the total. In 1930, the United States of America took over 113 million lb. (60 per cent.), and the United Kingdom over 40 million lb. (22 per cent.). The average price on the local market was 14 cents per lb., as compared with 27 cents per lb. in the previous year. It dropped to 12½ cents in May and rose slightly when the export duty was withdrawn on May 28.

The decrease in the exportation of this commodity is due to the fact that many estates have ceased to tap their trees during the past year.

Cacao.—The exports remained steady. The Philippines bought 140,000 lb. more than in 1930, taking over one-third of the total. Mexico took one-sixth, approximately the same as in 1930; and the United Kingdom one-eighth, 440,000 lb. less than in 1930. The average value fell from 34 cents in 1930 to 26⅔ cents in 1931.

Total exports for 1929, 1930, 1931 were as follows:—

Year.	Quantity. lb.	Value. Rs.
1929	9,260,112	4,236,136
1930	8,648,084	2,936,789
1931	8,587,254	2,319,879

Cinnamon.—The value of cinnamon dropped still further in the year under review. Exports also declined slightly. Mexico, the principal consumer in 1930, dropped to fifth in 1931, the first four countries being Spain, the United States of America, the United Kingdom, and Germany.

The average prices per cwt. for the last five years were as follows:—

Year.	Quills. Rs. c.	Chips. Rs. c.	Year.	Quills. Rs. c.	Chips Rs. c.
1927	144 79	20 60	1930	49 41	11 15
1928	139 3	21 15	1931	31 83	7 93
1929	98 49	19 48			

Total exports for 1929, 1930, and 1931 were—

	Quantity.		Value.	
	Quills. Cwt.	Chips. Cwt.	Quills. Rs.	Chips. Rs.
1929	37,059	11,158	3,566,735	217,705
1930	35,915	8,234	1,683,713	96,270
1931	35,261	6,680	1,115,756	61,628

Arecanuts.—There was a drop in the quantity exported as compared with the previous year. 88 per cent. of the exports went to British India.

Total exports for 1928, 1929, 1930 and 1931 were—

Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.	Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1928 ..	123,338	3,247,198	1930..	113,067	2,621,308
1929 ..	144,169	2,699,085	1931..	101,916	1,677,954

Citronella Oil.—Exports remained steady, while the price dropped from Re. 1.11 per lb. to 79 cents per lb. The principal buyers were the United States of America, the United Kingdom, and Germany.

Totol exports of citronella oil for the last five years were as follows:—

Year.	Quantity. lb.	Value. Rs.	Year.	Quantity. lb.	Value. Rs.
1927 ..	1,358,191	1,264,745	1930..	1,213,542	1,346,034
1928 ..	1,200,001	1,046,598	1931..	1,203,482	948,298
1929 ..	1,183,239	1,326,452			

Cardamoms.—Exports fell from 2,801 cwt. in 1930 to 2,712 cwt. in 1931. The largest buyers were the United Kingdom, the United States of America, Sweden, and Germany. The average value fell from Re. 1.44 per lb. in 1930 to Re. 1.22⅔ in 1931.

Plumbago.—The quantity exported showed a further decrease as compared with 1930. Exports to Japan remained more or less steady, but those to the three other principal purchasing countries were much less than in the preceding year (*vide* the subjoined table). The average value was Rs. 9.14 per cwt., as compared with Rs. 10.02 per cwt. in 1930.

The exports since 1928 are shown in the following table:—

Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.	Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1928 ..	286,931	2,704,359	1930..	174,478	1,775,317
1929 ..	254,776	2,729,639	1931..	134,413	1,225,331

The following table shows the quantities taken by the chief consuming countries:—

Year.	Quantity in Cwt. taken by			
	United States of America.	Germany.	United Kingdom.	Japan.
1928	138,942	54,267	30,404	19,177
1929	134,631	35,980	31,244	23,640
1930	63,845	29,737	28,154	26,341
1931	53,308	19,951	17,345	24,937

CHAPTER VIII.

Wages and the Cost of Living.

Labour in Ceylon.

CEYLON is almost entirely an agricultural country and practically all its labour finds work in agricultural employment.

Its main cultivations consist of 1,000,000 acres approximately of paddy land, 400,000 acres of tea, 500,000 acres of rubber, and about 1,000,000 acres of coconuts.

A large part of the tea grown lies in the hills and is a lineal descendant of the coffee industry. Coffee was almost completely exterminated through disease about 55 years ago. Tea is almost completely worked by Indian labour.

Coconuts, which have throughout been a very popular means of investment of the Ceylonese, have steadily increased in area during the century: these are almost entirely worked by Ceylonese labour, being situated in districts with substantial populations and the work being easily fitted in with village activities.

Rubber, which is largely the result of plantations in the last 35 years, employs equal proportions of Indian and Ceylonese labour.

All these cultivations are worked on a wage earning basis.

Paddy is in general worked either on a share basis by cultivators for the owners or by the owners and their families.

Coffee, the precursor of tea, when originally opened was in areas largely forest and the indigenous population was, in general, unwilling to undertake work on estates. Moreover, in many of the areas in which it was planted the indigeous population was too scanty to meet the heavy demands.

The large labour surplus existing in South India, a surplus created through the barrenness of the soil and social custom, was tapped, and there commenced about 100 years ago an inflow which, rising and falling from good year to bad year, has persisted till the present day.

In 1847, 46,000 Indian labourers arrived in Ceylon; in 1857, 69,000; 1867, 53,000; and 1877, 167,000. Practically all these labourers walked from the areas round Trichinopoly and following the present rail route entered Ceylon by Mannar Island and walked by road to the estates.

It was a two-way traffic, comparable numbers returning by the same route.

This Indian estate population was 10,000 in 1827, 80,000 in 1846, and by the end of 1931 700,000.

All this labour is and has been housed on the estates and, curiously enough, has remained largely unaffected by indigenous village life in close proximity to the estate. It practically never marries outside, retains its language and customs. There is a certain leakage into Ceylonese life but it is of very small.

It has been stated that Ceylonese workers have been disinclined to work for wages on estates: as a generality that is true, but the rubber industry, which has grown up these last thirty years was, even up to two years ago, largely worked by Ceylonese labour, about 40 per cent. of the acreage in this product being worked by Sinhalese. In general, however, this 40 per cent. consists of smaller estates and was worked by villagers non-resident on the estate.

Estates, though they have not drawn to the extent one might anticipate on village labour, have profoundly modified village life by the ancilliary work provided. The provision of firewood, carting, and numerous other works improve the economic conditions of the village, and the expenditure in villages of estate money modifies their activities.

The large coconut areas which are all in the low-country are, however, but rarely worked by Indian labour. The demands are small, only about 1 labourer per 10 acres, as against 12 for 10 acres in tea. There is not the necessity for so much steady cultivation. A coconut estate can fit itself into the slack periods of a village after the paddy has been reaped.

Coconut estates are thus mainly cultivated by indigenous labour, and even where Indian labour is employed, it tends more to merge itself into the village population.

Earlier has been described the genesis of the Indian labour force on Ceylon estates. The difficulties and hardships of the journey to Ceylon have now been entirely removed. One-sixth of the Indian labour force, over 100,000, return to India yearly, so every recruit has opportunities of securing at first hand accurate information as to his opportunities in Ceylon.

After arrival at any of the 18 emigration agencies maintained in South India, he is fed and well housed during all detention on the journey, provided with rations for his railway journeys and escorted by peons throughout. Should he change his mind on the way, he will be returned to his village.

All this journey is entirely free of charge to the recruit or old labourer returning to his estate after a holiday in India; no discrimination is made between recruits and those who have visited India on holiday.

In a busy year the cost of this service is Rs. 3,000,000 to the Immigration Fund. In a slump year like the present about half the sum.

This money is provided by a cess based on acreage from those estates employing Indians. For this service for the present year tea will pay about Rs. 2 per acre and rubber 66 cents.

Industrial Labour.

Viewed from a Western standpoint there is but little industrial labour in Ceylon.

The manufactures on any scale are the preparation of desiccated coconut and the treatment of coconut husks for fibre. To diminish carting, such mills are widely distributed over the coconut districts and depend mainly on local labour. A few of the large mills are worked by Indian labour which is housed by the owners.

Engineering firms in Colombo employ large numbers of labourers both Indian and indigenous; work being naturally of a very varied character the amount of space available in factories is large per man and there is little tendency to overcrowding.

The largest amount of employment is provided by the preparation of the Island's produce for export and its dispatch to steamers.

It can be generally said that such labour when skilled or highly skilled is indigenous; the semi-skilled and unskilled work employs probably more Indian labourers than indigenous.

These Indians are not recruited, as for estates, but come to the Island with relations for work. Like their estate *confreres* the better and more prudent workers make frequent trips to India, leaving substitutes, during their absence, to do their work. Such workers meet the expenses of their journey to India both ways.

Indian workers who are incapacitated by sickness, old age, or other infirmity are repatriated at the expense of the Immigration Fund to India: other Indian workers falling into vagrancy are repatriated at the joint expense of the Fund and Government.

No Indian or Ceylonese workers are or have been indentured, practically all work on monthly contracts, for the enforcement of which on the part of the employee no penal provisions now exist.

All servants and labourers are entitled to free food and lodging and medical care at the expense of their employers during sickness.

In the case of Indian estate labourers this is always given. In the case of indigenous labour drawing less than Rs. 50 a month free medical attention is provided at the numerous Government hospitals and dispensaries.

Women labourers resident on estates are entitled to food, lodging, and medical care at childbirth and in estates employing Indians care allowances are almost always given.

Trade Unions are generally small, imperfectly organized and exert but little influence save in Colombo.

No Indian labourer under ten years of age may be employed on estates and there are limitations on the employment of women and children in factories.

Wages.

For Indians on Ceylon estates an Ordinance based on the English Trade Boards Acts creates the machinery for the fixation of minimum rates of wages for time work on estates.

The rates have in the past been fixed so as to provide the same real wage throughout as far as is administratively practicable.

The rates now fixed in the low-country are 41 cents for men, 33 cents for women, and 24 cents for children over ten years of age for a working day of 9 hours, including time for a midday meal. The estates must issue rice: seven-eighths of a bushel per man and six-eighths per woman at Rs. 4.80 a bushel.

In addition, on nearly all estates, the non-working children are given a midday meal.

Though not included in the wage, free housing and firewood are provided on all estates.

In dealing with labour employed in Colombo a gauge can best be obtained from the Government scale which is:—

" Class A.—Factory Labour—Hourly-paid.

To include all labour employed by Government rated at hourly rates of pay working a 48-hour week and controlled in an establishment by a definite check system for purposes of recording hours worked and for payment of wages.

Labour employed by Government will be paid wages between the minimum and maximum rates of the grades to which they belong. The actual amount each man receives will be determined by, and will vary in accordance with, his individual skill, conduct, and attendance as assessed by the head of his works.

Deductions will be made for absence from work during any portion of the regulation day's work on the basis of one-eighth of a day's pay for each hour's absence.

		Rates per Hour. Minimum. Cents.	Maximum. Cents.
Minor supervising grades	Class A I.	48	81
	Class A II.	31	63
Tradesmen	Class A III.	36	53
	Class A IV.	20	35
Semi-skilled labour	Class A V.	12	20
Unskilled labour	Class A VI.	8	14
Trade apprentices	Class A VII.	10	18
Women and boys	Class A VIII.	3	10

Labour will not be classified under minor supervising grades unless actually employed in a supervising capacity.

Class B.—Non-factory Labour—Daily-paid.

To include all labour employed by Government on daily rates of pay. Payment to daily-paid labour to be made on the basis of a day's pay for each regulation day's work performed. The hours laid down for a regulation day will vary in accordance with the class of work labour is employed on, and such hours will be fixed departmentally.

Labour employed by Government will be paid wages between the minimum and maximum rates of the grades to which they belong. The actual amount each man receives will be determined by, and will vary in accordance with, his individual skill, conduct, and attendance as assessed by the head of his branch.

Deductions will be made for absence from work during any portion of the regulation day's work on the basis of one-eighth of a day's pay for each hour's absence.

		Rate per Diem. Minimum. Rs. c.	Maximum. Rs. c.
Minor supervising grades	Class B I.	3 84	6 48
Do.	Class B II.	2 48	5 4
Skilled labour	Class B III.	2 88	4 24
Do.	Class B IV.	1 60	2 80
Semi-skilled labour	Class B V.	0 96	1 60
Unskilled labour	Class B VI.	0 64	1 12
Trade apprentices	Class B VII.	0 80	1 44
Women and boys	Class B VIII.	0 24	0 80

Labour will not be classified under minor supervising grades unless actually employed in a supervising capacity."

In general housing is not provided, but Colombo offers unequalled marketing opportunities.

Rates prevailing in the organized Colombo industries will not be dissimilar to those given above but Government employ would be the more attractive.

The day worked is generally one of 8 hours with provision for overtime.

These rates show a tendency, with declining business, to fall but the value of them has largely been reduced through short time work now increasingly being enforced on both Government and non-Government labour.

Wages are in general paid monthly though in Colombo large numbers are paid weekly and fortnightly. No penal clauses to enforce payment exist save on Ceylon estates where wages must all be paid by the tenth day of the following month.

Unemployment.

The volume of business in exports has kept up though there has been a fall in imports both in volume and value. The unemployment among the large numbers employed in handling produce at stores and the harbour has thus not greatly been affected.

However, restriction on capital expenditure has largely reduced the work available in the Colombo engineering establishments resulting not merely in substantial reduction of staff, both skilled and unskilled, but also in short time work.

The collapse in rubber has led to the discontinuance of probably not less than 100,000 labourers formerly in regular estate employment. A fraction of the Indian labourers has chosen to be repatriated but much larger numbers have been absorbed in tea estates. Ceylonese rubber estate employees have returned to their villages naturally increasing the pressure on the village land. However this pressure has led to a considerable increase in cultivation.

Reduction in the labour forces on tea estates necessitated by low prices has been adjusted by their taking work on the less popular estates which have inadequate supplies of labour.

Free repatriation to practically all Indian rubber estate labourers is given but the necessity for this has not yet arisen in tea.

CHAPTER IX.

Education and Welfare Institutions.

Control.—Primary and secondary education in Ceylon is under the general supervision and control of the Department of Education, assisted by a Board of Education and 34 Education District Committees.

Board of Education.—The Board of Education is composed of 20 members nominated by the Governor. The Director of Education is Chairman and the personnel of the Board includes Members of the State Council, Managers of Schools, and teachers. The main duties of the Board consist in considering questions of legislation and policy, and in advising the Government on any other matters specially referred to it for advice.

Education District Committees.—An Education District Committee has been constituted in each Municipality, Urban District, and Revenue District. These Committees are appointed by the Governor, and consist partly of officials and partly of unofficials. They are responsible first for putting into effect the rules relating to compulsory education, and they frame their own by-laws and employ their own attendance officers for this purpose. Secondly, they erect and maintain Government schools where these are required. They are financed by an annual grant from the Department, which is allocated on the basis of an approved programme of works submitted each year to the Department.

Schools and Attendance.—The system of education in Ceylon provides a course of education leading to University degrees in arts, and science, and diplomas in medicine, and law.

The schools of Ceylon are not divided on a basis of race or nationality. All schools which are maintained by Government or assisted by means of grants are compelled by law to admit pupils irrespective of race, nationality, or religion.

Attendance at school between the ages of six and fourteen is compulsory, subject to a few exceptions. Such compulsion, however, applies only when school accommodation is provided within a reasonable distance of the residence of the pupil.

There are two distinct types of school: schools administered directly by Government, and schools indirectly administered by Government and under the immediate control of private managers.

There are 1,498 Government schools, and the arrangements for the staffing of these are entirely in the hands of the Department. All examinations for the issue of teachers' certificates and of otherwise testing efficiency, and all appointments, transfers, &c., are also dealt with by the Department.

Assisted Schools and the Grant System.—There are in addition 2,621 assisted schools under the immediate control of private managers. These schools receive an annual grant from the Education Department. In the case of vernacular schools, the annual grant is calculated as the total amount of the salaries paid to an efficient staff plus an additional amount for maintenance. No fees are charged in vernacular schools. In the case of the English schools, however, fees are charged, and from such fees the manager has to provide a fixed sum towards the salary of each teacher he employs. The grant consists of the balance of such salaries.

In addition to Government and assisted schools, there is a certain number of private schools which are not assisted in any way from Government funds. Such schools are, however, subject to inspection by the Department.

The type of instruction given in Ceylon schools can be considered under two main headings: (i.) Non-vocational instruction; (ii.) vocational instruction.

Classification of Schools.—Under the heading of non-vocational instruction is included the type of instruction which is general and academic, and by far the larger number of schools come under this class. These schools are classified as follows:—

English.	Bilingual.	Vernacular.
Collegiate	Senior Secondary	Senior Secondary
Senior Secondary	Junior Secondary	Junior Secondary
Junior Secondary	Primary	Primary
Primary		

The Primary schools provide a course of instruction from the Kindergarten up to Standard V. The course usually lasts six years.

The Junior Secondary schools provide a course of instruction from the Kindergarten up to the School-Leaving Certificate. The course usually lasts ten years.

The Senior Secondary schools provide in addition to the course for the Junior Secondary schools, a further course up to the standard of the London Matriculation Examination. The course usually lasts twelve years.

The Collegiate school is an English school which provides a course of instruction from Form I. or Standard VI. up to the standard of the London Matriculation Examination. The course usually lasts about six years.

The vast majority of students complete their education at the Junior Secondary stage.

In addition to the schools that come under the above classification, there is a certain number of temple schools, which are known as Pirivenas. These schools are primarily intended for the Buddhist priesthood, and are not compelled to adopt the syllabus of work used by the ordinary schools.

Vocational Schools.—Under the heading of vocational schools come those schools which give a specialized form of instruction. Apart from one Technical School, these can be divided into part-time schools and full-time schools. Under the heading of part-time instruction is included a variety of home industries, which are taught to pupils in certain schools in addition to the ordinary academic course. Under the heading of full-time industrial schools come institutions for the training of teachers, technical schools, agricultural schools, and industrial schools. The course in training schools is usually one of two years. In technical schools it varies according to the subject which is studied. In agricultural schools courses are entirely for adults who intend either to teach agricultural science or to become practical agriculturists. There is a variety of full-time industrial schools. All industrial schools are conducted upon a profit-sharing principle, so that the pupils benefit by whatever articles they produce. The course is one of two or three years. The subjects in which instruction is given are:—Carpentry, weaving, basket work, pottery, printing, lacquer work, blacksmith work, and a few other minor industries.

The Medium of Instruction.—The medium of instruction in schools varies according to the type of schools. In vernacular schools the medium of instruction is entirely Sinhalese or Tamil. This group of schools includes 79.54 per cent. of all the school-going children in Ceylon.

In Bilingual schools the vernacular language is the medium of instruction for the first four or five years of school life, after which an optional course of English is introduced, lasting for approximately five years. The vernacular, however, continues to be taught throughout the whole course.

In the case of the third group of schools, viz., English schools, two methods are employed in giving instruction in the English language.

In the first method pupils are admitted at the earliest stage of school life, viz., the Kindergarten. Pupils admitted in this way have usually a working knowledge of English, so that their progress in mastering the language is very rapid.

The second method employed is a two-year special course in English for pupils who transfer from vernacular schools to English schools. The pupils who enter this course are approximately nine years of age, and have already received instruction in their own mother tongue in the primary standards. This course is an intensive one, in which the direct method of teaching a foreign language

is employed. After completing this course pupils are able to enter the ordinary standards of the English school, in which the medium of instruction is English. In the majority of such schools the vernacular languages continue to be taught throughout the upper classes.

It will be seen, therefore, that in the system of instruction prevailing in Ceylon the pupils are given the following alternative courses:—(1) A full course of elementary instruction in the vernacular languages; (2) a full course of elementary instruction in the vernacular languages plus a working knowledge of English; and (3) a full course of instruction in English, not merely for pupils whose mother tongue is English, but for those who at the beginning of school life have no knowledge of that language.

School for the Deaf and Blind.—During the year 1931 48 new children were admitted to the school, making a total number of 322. Of these 116 are deaf boys, 90 are blind boys, 63 are deaf girls and 53 are blind girls. Many of the children newly admitted came in a very weak and undeveloped condition and needed every care.

The school has naturally suffered very severely from the great financial depression. But this has in some part been counteracted by the splendid response to the Flag Day appeal which was made in all parts of the Island in October.

The question of fire protection has been considered and, during the year, each dormitory has been supplied with fire extinguishers and fire drill has been given. Plans are being made for further protection works.

There are now about 80 boys and girls in the industrial section of the school, all of whom are given a small wage in order to inculcate a spirit of independence and reliance in themselves that when trained they will be able to earn their own living. Out of the wages so earned they reimburse the school for their board and lodging and also supply their own clothes, &c. Training is being given in weaving, carpentry, rattan work, tailoring, pottery, knitting, needlework, and lacemaking. The sale of articles made in the workshops by the boys and girls in training has increased, and it has been possible to cover the production costs in all sections except basketwork.

The health of the children during the year has on the whole been very good.

Orphanages.—Educational facilities are provided for orphans or destitute children. A capitation grant of Rs. 75 is paid to the Manager of an Orphanage on account of each orphan or destitute child between the ages of 5 and 15 who has attended a registered school and has been in residence at an approved orphanage or home for a period of not less than nine months. Such grants during 1931 amounted to Rs. 80,525.

Reformatory.—There is only one reformatory school to which juvenile offenders are admitted. Here they are taught different trades such as gardening, carpentry, tailoring, cooking, bookbinding, ironwork, printing, weaving, &c., while undergoing their term of punishment. 124 juvenile offenders were admitted during the year bringing the total to 309.

Prisoners.—There are schools for prisoners at two jails in the Colombo District. There are 46 pupils at one and 111 pupils at the other. Social workers conduct English classes for certain prisoners at the latter jail. The jail school at Kandy has 12 pupils.

Lepers.—Much good work is done at the school for lepers at Hendala by the sisters of the Franciscan Order. The school consists of 3 sections—English, Sinhalese, and Tamil. In the English section there are 28 pupils, in the Sinhalese 32, and in the Tamil 28.

The Langdon Home.—In Badulla District there is one institution which receives assistance from Government for training women in industrial work and household management. After a period of training, these women go into the villages and teach the older girls reading, writing, sewing, embroidery, and lacemaking. They also give instruction in the art of clean and efficient housekeeping and also encourage the practice of thrift.

Pensions, &c.—Government teachers are pensionable and in addition make contributions to a Widows' and Orphans' Pension Scheme. Teachers in assisted schools are eligible for a pension similar to that of Government teachers, but the pension scheme in assisted schools is on a contributory basis.

THE CEYLON UNIVERSITY COLLEGE.

The University College was established in 1921 for the purpose of affording facilities for higher education to students in Ceylon.

Numbers.—The number of students on the roll in July, 1931, the beginning of the academic year 1931-32, was 355, including 33 women students. The figures for 1921-30 were as follows:—

1921	..	166	1925	..	256	1929	..	338
1922	..	217	1926	..	313	1930	..	394
1923	..	262	1927	..	279			
1924	..	262	1928	..	315			

Courses.—The College offers instruction in Latin, Greek, Sanskrit, Pali, English, Sinhalese, Tamil, Logic, Philosophy, History, Geography, Economics, Pure Mathematics, Applied Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Botany, and Zoology.

Honours courses are provided in Classics, English, Indo-Aryan (Sanskrit and Pali), History, Mathematics, Chemistry, Botany, and Zoology.

The College course is normally one of three years. At the end of the first year students take the (External) Intermediate Arts, Science, and Economics examinations of the University of London conducted in Ceylon. At the end of the third year they take the final examinations for the B.A. (Pass), B.A. (Honours), B.Sc. (General), B.Sc. (Special), and the B.Sc. (Economics) Degrees of the same University.

Students who intend to join the medical profession are given one year's course of instruction in Physics, Chemistry, and General Biology, at the end of which they take either the First M.B. Examination of the University of London or the Pre-Registration Examination of the Ceylon Medical College, or both.

Graduates.—On the results of the examinations held in June, 1931, 34 candidates qualified themselves for the B.A. and B.Sc. degrees of the University of London.

The total number of graduates from the University College from the time of its inception in 1921 is 211, of whom 17 obtained Honours in Classics, 5 in English, 13 in History, 23 in Mathematics, 7 in Indo-Aryan, 5 in Chemistry, 3 in Botany, and 2 in Zoology.

Hostels.—Most of the students not living with their parents or relations are residing in four hostels affiliated to the College and subject to the College rules and regulations. These hostels are administered by extra-university bodies and are subsidized by the Government.

University College Council.—This Council, which consists of twenty members nominated by His Excellency the Governor, advises the Principal of the College in matters relating to the administration of the College, and the preparation for its conversion into a University.

THE CEYLON MEDICAL COLLEGE.

The Ceylon Medical College was established in 1870 in the form of a medical school capable of affording a practical education on the principles of medicine and surgery, and especially midwifery, together with a practical knowledge of Anatomy, Physiology, Materia Medica, Pharmaceutical Chemistry, and the art of dispensing. It had originally a Principal and three lecturers, and the whole course took only three years.

This course was later increased from time to time in order to keep abreast with the progress of medical science. In 1887 recognition was granted by the General Medical Council of the United Kingdom, and the diploma became registrable in Great Britain and all parts of the Empire.

In 1924 the complete extended curriculum of one year's pre-medical study (Chemistry, Physics, Biology) and five years' medical study was adopted.

The College now provides the complete course of instruction required for the practice of modern Medicine, Surgery, and Midwifery. Including the course of preliminary or pre-registration work in Physics, Chemistry, and Biology, which is provided by arrangement at the University College, Colombo, the whole course takes six years.

In addition to the complete medical curriculum, the College provides a course of instruction for a minor grade of medical practitioners, known as Apothecaries. These receive a two years' course of instruction in Anatomy, Physiology, Chemistry, Pharmacy, Pharmacology and Dispensing, Elementary Medicine, Surgery, and Midwifery, both theoretical and clinical, and Surgical Dressing, and in Hygiene and Public Health. They receive free instruction, and on passing the two Apothecaries' Examinations are employed by the Government to take charge of the Government Dispensaries and some small hospitals in the remote rural areas and villages, but are only permitted to practise while so employed in Government Service and are subject to the control of the District Medical Officers. They are eligible to be registered as Pharmacists.

These Apothecaries to a large extent provide for the medical treatment of the poor villagers in remote districts and where fully qualified medical practitioners are not available.

A deparmtent for the training of pupil midwives has been added to the College. This work was formerly carried out by the Department of Medical and Sanitary Services, but from October 1, 1931, the teaching and examinations of pupils have been vested in the College Council. First and second class certificates of efficiency are conferred on successful candidates, who are then eligible to be registered as midwives.

The College is staffed by whole-time Professors, in Anatomy and Physiology and a large number of part-time lecturers, mostly drawn from the officers of the Department of Medical and Sanitary Services.

Details of staff, fees, courses of study, and rules for students, and the history of the College, are embodied in the annual calendar, copies of which are sent free to Medical Schools in Great Britain, principal Educational Institutions, and Government departments in the Island.

The Government has set up in 1928 a Post-licentiate Scholarship, which is granted yearly to the best student of the final year who qualifies in the first class within the statutory period, to enable him to obtain British qualifications and also to pursue studies and research in some special subject. The value of the scholarship is £300 per annum.

A small number of students generally discontinue study in the Ceylon Medical College and goes to the United Kingdom to complete their studies.

THE LAW COLLEGE.

The Law College which is controlled by the Incorporated Council of Legal Education exists for the supervision and control of the legal education of students desiring to qualify themselves as advocates or proctors of the Supreme Court. The Council consists of the Judges, the Attorney-General, the Solicitor-General, and such other persons of standing in the legal profession as the Judges may appoint. The members hold office for three years at a time. The academic qualifications requisite for admission in the case of advocates are (1) a degree in Arts or Science of any University in the British Empire, (2) a pass in the Intermediate Examination in Arts or Science of the University of London, and in the case of proctors (1) a degree in Arts or Science of any University in the British Empire, (2) a pass in the Matriculation Examination of the University of London or the Intermediate Examination in Arts or Science of any Indian University, or the Senior Local Examination of the University of Cambridge, or the Cambridge Senior School-Leaving Certificate, provided always that the candidate shall adduce proof that he has passed an examination in English and Latin, such examination being either the examination on which he relies for his qualification or some one or other of the aforesaid examinations of any University in the British Empire.

Admissions to the Law College take place twice annually, in the months of January and July, respectively, and the total number of students admitted during the year 1931 is as follows:—

Advocates	17
Proctors	56

The Board of Lecturers, consisting of six members, are appointed in the month of June and hold office for three years.

The examinations provided under the Rules of the Incorporated Council of Legal Education are held twice a year, also in the months of January and July, the examiners (five in number) being appointed once a year in the month of June by the Council. The under-mentioned table shows the number of students who presented themselves at the various examinations, together with the number of successful candidates in 1931:—

	Entered.	Passed.
Advocates	89	57
Proctors	226	105

CHAPTER X.

Communications and Transport.

SHIPPING.

Colombo Harbour.

Introduction.—The position of the port of Colombo at the junction of the most important trade routes in the East makes it an important one in the commerce of the East, and this natural advantage has been enhanced by the excellent facilities for docking, bunkering, loading and unloading cargo, water supply, &c., afforded by the port to the vast tonnage of shipping navigating Eastern waters. The port of Colombo has contributed largely to the commercial and economic prosperity of the Island, and this fact is borne out by the phenomenal growth of the city of Colombo since the conversion of the open roadstead into a great artificial harbour enclosed by extensive breakwaters. Colombo is a great *entrepot*, and the volume of business passing through its Customs houses is an indication of the state of trade and general prosperity of the Island.

Harbour.—The harbour is enclosed on all sides, being bounded on the South and East by the land and on the North and West by massive breakwaters. The approach to the harbour is free from navigational dangers. Vessels drawing 33 feet can enter by the Western entrance and vessels drawing 27 feet can enter by the Northern entrance. The Western entrance channel is 630 feet wide, with a navigable depth of 36 feet L. W. O. S. T., and the Northern entrance channel 550 feet wide, with a navigable depth of 30 feet L. W. O. S. T. The sheltered area of the harbour amounts to 643 acres at low water, of which 229 acres have been dredged to 36 feet and over, 118 acres to a depth varying between 36 feet and 33 feet and 122 acres to between 33 feet and 30 feet; the remaining 174 acres have a depth of less than 30 feet.

Accommodation for Vessels.—Berthing accommodation, exclusive of the Graving Dock, Guide Pier, and Oil Jetties, is available for 38 vessels in the North-East monsoon and 23, or using packed berths, 39 vessels in the South-West monsoon. Six of these berths are available in either monsoon for vessels drawing up to 33 feet of water.

Railways.—A broad gauge railway runs through the port premises, and it is connected with the main railway system of the Island, thus affording direct communication with all parts of the Island and Southern India. Sidings are provided at different places on the waterside. The length of the railway is 6 miles 19 chains, but the total mileage of railway used, including sidings, &c., is 14 5/8 miles. The port railway is available only for the conveyance of goods.

Roads.—Communication by road to the harbour is excellent.

Canals.—The Lake to Harbour canal affords direct water transport between stores and mills situated on the lakeside and the harbour. It is navigable by fully loaded 40-ton harbour barges and to some extent relieves the congestion on roads. This canal, together with the lock basin and locks and the water area of the Beira lake including the San Sebastian canal locks, is now included in the limits of the port of Colombo.

Passenger Jetty.—The baggage office has good accommodation and examination halls. There is a staff always on duty day and night, and baggage landed with passengers is passed without delay. There is also provision for the storage of such baggage as a passenger may wish to leave in the premises, a small storage rent being payable. Accommodation is also provided at the Custom house at the Passenger Jetty for a Railway Booking Enquiry Office and a Post Office.

Landing and Shipping.—Landing and shipping of cargo is assisted by an efficient crane service. There is a total quayage of 15,657 lineal feet. The following are the particulars of cranes available at the port:—

Electric cranes..	..	12	Hand derrick	..	1
Steam cranes ..	..	30	Steam derrick	..	1
Hand cranes ..	..	14	Mobile crane ..	..	1
Elephant hand crane	..	1			

operating on the jetties and quays. The largest lift which can be made is 35 tons. The conveyance of cargo from the vessel to the wharf is done by lighters and is carried out by recognized stevedores and landing companies.

Cargo for shipment is brought down to the warehouse by cart, lorry, train, or barge. The Port Commission railway runs direct into the premises alongside three of the export warehouses. With regard to shipment, the same considerations apply as in the case of imports, some firms finding it more convenient to employ a clearing or shipping agency than to maintain their own staff. As in the case of import cargo, goods remain in the Government warehouse at the risk of the exporter. To suit the convenience of shippers who do not carry out their own shipments, landing and shipping companies are prepared to take over cargo at the shipper's stores for removal to the warehouse in the Company's own lorries. Export harbour dues are payable on all goods sent down to the warehouses or wharf. If they lie there for more than three clear days, further dues are payable for each day, and in addition a similar sum by way of warehouse rent. Cargo is taken to the vessel by means of lighters. A good supply of labour is available.

Warehouse Accommodation.—Goods discharged being not always directly transferred to some other means of conveyance, it has been found necessary to provide extensive warehouse accommodation for the increasing volume of goods demanding storage, pending shipment or removal from the premises. There is a total warehouse floor area of 592,476 square feet in the port for dealing with imports, exports, and transhipment cargo. Most of the warehouses have railway facilities and cranes are available where required.

The import warehouses are situated between the root of the South-west Breakwater and the Lake to Harbour Canal. Other import warehouses and landing areas are also situated on either side of the canal, and these are largely used for the landing of rough cargo, such as timber and metal. Further north, three recently built warehouses are available at Kochchikade, where facilities are provided for transport by rail.

Five commodious warehouses are allotted for the accommodation of export cargo, in addition to an open shed used for the shipment of drums containing coconut oil and similar commodities, and another shed for rough cargo. The largest warehouse can accommodate 4,000 tons of tea packed in chests of the usual size. The other four warehouses can each accommodate from 2,500 to 3,000 tons.

There are several bonded warehouses within the Customs premises, and certain firms have their own bonded warehouses outside the premises. Goods may be bonded for any period up to two years, after which they must either be removed or rebonded. All goods placed in bond are liable to the same rent and harbour dues as in the case of import cargo up to the time of bonding, after which no

further dues are payable and bonded warehouse rent is recovered, the amount payable per week on bonded goods being the same as the charge per day on import cargo. No rent is payable to the Customs in the case of goods which lie in bonded warehouses belonging to private firms, though a charge is made for Customs supervision of deposits and removals.

Several firms have their own warehouses and stores on the lakeside, which has direct access from the harbour through the canal and locks. Special facilities are given by the Customs for import cargo to be removed direct to these stores and, conversely, for the direct shipment of export cargo from these stores to the vessel. Rent and dues are, however, payable as in the case of goods landed in the warehouse, but the advantage of this direct traffic lies in obviating two additional handlings which would be necessary had the goods been landed or shipped from a quay.

Transhipment warehouses are available for the accommodation of cargo pending transmission to the destination. No import duty is payable upon such cargo, and rent and harbour dues are payable at a reduced rate, amounting to 1/5th of the rate payable upon ordinary import cargo. In the case of direct transhipment from vessel to vessel, a small fee is payable for Customs supervision. The volume of transhipment is fairly large, the quantity transhipped during the year being about 47,736 tons, but there is a steady traffic, with Tuticorin and other South Indian ports, of transhipment of cargo to and from the United Kingdom, America, Australia, the Far East, &c.

Removal of Cargo.—Goods may be cleared either by the importer himself or by any Landing Company or recognized clearing agency. Firms who import on a large scale find it convenient to keep their own staff of wharf clerks for the clearing of cargo and the passing of the necessary entries through the Customs. On the other hand firms whose business is not so great as to justify the maintenance of such a staff, find it more convenient to clear their goods through a Landing Company, or a Clearing Agency.

Warehouse rent and harbour dues are payable upon all goods landed at the wharf, and three clear days are allowed for the removal of the goods, exclusive of Customs holidays, of which there are five in the year, and Sundays. On goods removed after the expiry of this period further rent and dues are payable in respect of each day inclusive of Sundays and Customs holidays. Special facilities are offered by the Customs for clearing goods prior to the passing of the entry and the payment of the duty, rent, and dues. The usual system is to place a cash deposit with the Customs, against which goods are removed after any examination found necessary, the importer guaranteeing to pass the necessary papers within a reasonable period. Special facilities are also given for the clearing of perishable goods and of consignments, such as rice and sugar, which are landed in large quantities at a time.

Coaling Facilities.—There are about 29 acres of land on the foreshore of the harbour leased to different companies for the stacking of coal. The coaling grounds between the Barge Repairing Basin and the Graving Dock have 17 coaling jetties. Large supplies of coal can be procured, and steamers are bunkered with good dispatch at any hour of the day or night.

The types and prices of coal stocked at Colombo for commercial purposes are as follows (December, 1931):—

Type.	Prices Trimmed. Per Ton. s.	d.
Welsh large	44	0
Welsh ¾ large, ¼ small	41	6
Natal	31	0

Oil Facilities.—The port is equipped with an up-to-date oil fuel installation which provides for the rapid bunkering of ships using oil fuel. The main Oil Installations Depôt, about 92 acres in extent, is situated at Kolonnawa, about 3½ miles from the harbour front, and various oil companies have erected their own storage and distribution tanks there. This depôt is divided into a non-dangerous and a dangerous oil section and is separated by a safety reservation.

Three main pipelines are laid connecting the discharge berth in the harbour with the main oil depôt, two for oil fuel and the other for kerosene and petrol. In connection with the bunkering of vessels, a measuring tanks depôt, about 19 acres in extent, has been established at Bloemendahl, about ¾ of a mile from the harbour front, and branch pipelines are provided from Kolonnawa to Bloemendahl and from Bloemendahl to the bunkering berths. The oil depôt is also connected to the main railway system of the Island. Three reinforced concrete jetties, two for bunkering purposes and one for discharge of oil tankers, have been provided. The outer oil bunkering jetty is capable of accommodating vessels of 500 feet length and 27 feet draught. The inner bunkering jetty is used by barges for bunkering. Vessels of 500 feet length and 27 feet draught can be berthed at the discharge jetty where the latest facilities for discharging oil ships are provided.

Graving Dock.—Length of floor, 700 feet; breadth of entrance-cope level, 85 feet; depth over sill at low water, 30 feet; depth over sill at high water, 32 feet. Docking can be carried out by day or night.

Patent Slip.—Length 800 feet; length of cradle, 220 feet; breadth of cradle, 40 feet; depth over keel blocks at lower end at low water, 21 feet 6 inches; depth over keel blocks at upper end at low water, 10 feet 6 inches; inclination 1 in 20. Capable of slipping a vessel of 1,200 tons dead weight.

Ambulance Facilities.—An ambulance launch is available for the conveyance of sick and injured persons between ship and shore. The Colombo Municipal Council provides an adequate and efficient motor ambulance service for the Port.

Quarantine.—On entering the harbour each ship is visited by the Port Surgeon or his Assistant, and no person is allowed to board the ship or leave the ship till pratique is granted. If there are cases of infectious diseases on board, such as plague, cholera, smallpox, yellow fever, or typhus, the ship is held in strict quarantine until all necessary measures, such as removal of the sick person, disinfection of the ship, vaccination, &c., as the case may be, are carried out. Thereafter the ship is allowed to be worked in restricted quarantine, any persons having business on board being allowed on special permits.

Port Commission.—The Colombo Port Commission is composed of the following:—The Principal Collector of Customs (who is Chairman or Chief Port Commissioner); the Director of Medical and Sanitary Services; the General Manager of the Railway; the Chairman, Municipal Council, and Mayor of Colombo; The Deputy Collector of Customs; the Master Attendant, Colombo and Galle; the Harbour Engineer; six Unofficial Members nominated by the Chamber of Commerce to represent Import, Export, Shipping, Coaling, Oil, and Landing Agencies' Interests; one Unofficial Member nominated by His Excellency the Governor to represent Ceylonese interests.

Distances.—The approximate distances of Colombo, the chief port of Ceylon, from the other chief ports of the world on the various routes are as follows:—

Colombo to London.

	Nautical Miles.	Approximate Days' Journey.
Aden	2,100	8
Suez	3,407	12
Port Said	3,494	13
Marseilles	5,091	16
Gibraltar (*vid* Marseilles)	5,690	19
Gibraltar (direct)	5,407	18
London (by sea *vid* Marseilles)	7,005	24
London (by sea direct)	6,725	23
London (overland)	5,868	17

Colombo to India, &c.

	Nautical Miles.	Approximate Days' Journey.
Calcutta	1,260	7
Bombay	875	3
Rangoon	1,249	4½
Penang	1,276	5
Singapore	1,567	6
Hong Kong (touching at Singapore)	3,113	13
Shanghai (touching at Singapore and Hong Kong)	3,966	17
Yokohama (*vid* Singapore and Hong Kong)	5,083	23

Colombo to Australia.

	Nautical Miles.	Approximate Days' Journey.
Fremantle	3,121	9
Adelaide (touching at Fremantle)	4,479	13
Melbourne (touching at Fremantle and Adelaide)	4,979	15
Sydney (touching at Fremantle, Adelaide, and Melbourne)	5,556	18

Colombo to South Africa, &c.

	Nautical Miles.	Approximate Days' Journey.
Mauritius	2,099	10
Durban (touching at South African ports)	3,680	18
Cape Town (touching at South African ports)	4,362	21–30

Passage Fares.

Colombo-London :—	
1st class single	£62 to £92
2nd class single	£50 to £62
3rd and tourist single	£27 to £52
Colombo-Sydney :—	
1st class single	£48
2nd class single	£32
3rd and tourist single	£22 to £41
Colombo-Melbourne :—	
1st class single	£45
2nd class single	£30
3rd and tourist single	£21 to £40
Colombo-Durban :—	
1st class single	£27½
Colombo-Singapore :—	
1st class single by P. & O.	£22
2nd class single by P. & O.	£12
Colombo-Hong Kong :—	
1st class single by P. & O.	£36
2nd class single by P. & O.	£20
Colombo-Yokohama :—	
1st Class single by P. & O.	£46
2nd class single by P. & O.	£26
Colombo-Bombay :—	
1st class single	£10
2nd class single	£7
Colombo-Calcutta :—	
1st class single	£10
2nd class single	£8
Colombo-Rangoon :—	
1st class single	Rs. 180
Colombo-Port Said :—	
1st class single	£40 to £72
2nd class single	£33 to £52½
3rd and tourist single	£22 to £48
Colombo-Marseilles :—	
1st class single	£58 to £88
2nd class single	£47 to £60
3rd and tourist single	£25 to £52
Colombo-Boston and New York	£62 to £151

Baggage Allowances.—The usual baggage allowance is 3 cwt. in case of first class, and 1½ cwt. in the case of second class passengers.

RAILWAYS.

All the railways in Ceylon are State-owned and Government-controlled, the management being vested in the Ceylon Government Railway Department.

The total length of line open is 951 miles, of which 834 miles are broad gauge (5½ feet gauge) and 117 miles narrow gauge (2½ feet gauge).

The frontispiece map shows how the different lines radiate from Colombo.

The following table shows the distance from Colombo Fort to the more important stations on the different lines, with the first class single passenger fare and the approximate time of journey :—

Colombo Fort to	Distance. M. C.	Train Fare. Rs. c.	Approximate Time of Journey. Hours.	Colombo Fort to	Distance. M. C.	Train Fare. Rs. c.	Approximate Time of Journey. Hours.
Peradeniya	71 62	5 5	3½*	Polonnaruwa	162 1	11 40	8½*
Kandy	75 12	5 30	3¼*	Batticaloa	217 78	15 25	12
Nanu-oya	128 62	10 45	7½*	Trincomalee	184 25	12 95	9½
Nuwara Eliya	135 27	11 20	10*	Mount Lavinia	7 47	0 55	½*
Bandarawela	161 34	13 90	12*	Galle	70 38	4 95	2¼*
Anuradhapura	127 31	8 95	5¼*				

* By express trains.

The main results of the working of the Ceylon Government Railway for the financial years 1927-28 to 1930-31 are shown in the following table :—

Particulars.	1927–28. Rs.	1928–29. Rs.	1929–30. Rs.	1930–31. Rs.
Total capital outlay	211,049,795	217,574,271	220,522,956	223,460,704
Gross earnings	31,285,599	32,498,947	29,650,683	25,324,379
Total working expenses*	23,560,496	25,996,899	25,085,120	23,809,576
Net revenue†	7,725,103	6,502,048	4,565,563	1,514,803
Percentage of net revenue on total capital outlay	3·66 p.c.	2·99 p.c.	2·07 p. c.	·68 p.c.
Gross receipts from ordinary passengers and season tickets	Rs. 12,087,692	Rs. 12,595,114	Rs. 11,599,508	Rs. 9,653,763
Gross receipts from parcels, goods, &c.	19,197,907	19,903,833	18,051,175	15,670,616
Free traffic (excluding that for Railway Department included in gross receipts)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

* Maintenance and renewal of way and works and of rolling stock, locomotive running expenses, traffic expenses, general charges (including pensions and gratuities), and motor service.

† That is, " Gross earnings " less " Total working expenses."

The number of passengers conveyed has fallen off by 3,089,595, the total conveyed during the year being 14,919,282.

Under season tickets the number of ticket holders has fallen off by 16,178, the total number of season tickets issued during the year being 200,389.

The number of parcels conveyed during the year was 1,598,439, or a decrease of 250,514.

The tonnage of goods carried has decreased from 1,256,519 tons to 1,013,893 tons, the noticeable increases and decreases being—

	Increase. Tons.
Copra	3,603
Packing for tea, &c.	752

	Decrease. Tons.
Agricultural produce	3,252
Coconut produce	3,035
Bricks and tiles	3,941

	Decrease Tons.
Kerosene oil, bulk petroleum, liquid fuel	4,480
Manure	60,072
Petrol	2,847
Rice	14,539
Rubber	16,611
Tea	7,287
Sundry goods	85,166

Passenger Fares.

The standard passenger fares are as follows:—Single fares: First Class, 7 cents per mile on all lines below Nawalapitiya and 10½ cents per mile on all lines above Nawalapitiya. Second Class, 4⅔ cents per mile on all lines below Nawalapitiya, and 7 cents per mile on all lines above Nawalapitiya. Third Class, 2⅓ cents per mile on all lines. Week-end tickets are issued between all stations distance 25 miles and over at single fare and a half for the double journey. Reductions are made for children, pioneers, and labourers of any nationality, and for periodical tickets.

Sleeping Cars.

The sleeping cars which run on the Up and Down night mail trains between Colombo and Bandarawela are each provided with accommodation for ten passengers. They are all two-berth compartments, each having lavatory accommodation. Each berth is numbered, and provided with bedding, and an attendant accompanies each car. Berths will only be reserved on prepayment before 6.30 P.M. of the ordinary first-class fare plus Rs. 5 for the sleeping berth.

In the Indo-Ceylon mail trains sleeping berths without bedding are provided for through first-class passengers without any extra charge, but berths are not guaranteed unless they have been reserved, for which a registration fee of Re. 1 per berth will be charged. If bedding is required Rs. 5 must be paid for each set of bedding at the time of booking, and a berth will be made up as a bed by the Car Attendant. In such cases no registration fee will be charged.

Restaurant Cars.

These are attached to the important trains on the Main and Northern Lines.

Restaurant Rooms.

These are provided at Maradana, Polgahawela, and Nanu-oya, on the Main line, Colombo Fort and Alutgama on the Coast line, and Anuradhapura on the Northern line. Refreshments at these places are supplied at moderate prices.

Refreshment Baskets.

Refreshment baskets can be supplied for any train from Colombo on giving 20 minutes' notice to the Manager, Restaurant Cars and Rooms, at his office at Colombo Fort Station.

Luggage.

Each adult passenger is allowed, free of charge, the following weight of luggage:—

	lb.
First class	112
Second class	84
Third class	56

A free allowance of half these quantities is made for each child travelling with a half-ticket. No luggage will be conveyed free for children under three years of age who travel free.

ROADS.

There are over 16,500 miles of roads and cart tracks in the Island controlled and administered by the following authorities:—

Authority.	Description of Roads.	Approximate Mileage.
(i.) Public Works Department	All main thoroughfares in the Island	4,788
(ii.) District Road Committees	All minor roads within the areas of jurisdiction of each Committee	3,000
(iii.) Local Governing Authorities, viz. Municipalities, Urban District Councils, Local Boards, Sanitary Boards, &c.	All streets within their respective jurisdictions ..	565
(iv.) Village Committees	All natural cart tracks within the jurisdiction of each Committee	7,800
(v.) Irrigation Department	—	70
(vi.) Private parties	—	350

In addition there are approximately 8,200 miles of bridle paths in the charge of the District and Village Committees.

The Public Works Department is the principal road authority in the Island and is responsible for the construction and maintenance of all the "Main roads", by which are meant through arteries connecting the principal centres of population with one another and with the railways and ports.

The whole cost of construction, improvements, and maintenance of these roads is met from the general revenue of the Island.

The roads vary in standard from narrow country roads to wide modern thoroughfares, the standard depending on the nature of the country traversed and the traffic carried.

The following is the classification of the Public Works Department roads according to the nature of their surfaces:—

	Miles.
Full-metalled	3,698
Track-metalled	495
Gravelled	466
Natural	129
	4,788

The metalled roads are maintained in good order, and, with but few exceptions, may be considered passable to all classes of traffic. Gravelled roads can be considered as dry-weather roads only; in dry weather they are generally in fair order, but they cannot be relied upon to the extent of metalled roads. A large mileage of the metalled roads is tarred or otherwise surface-treated. At the end of 1931 the length of roads so treated was 3,122 miles.

The only direct charge on road users is that for the use of ferry boats, but on the main roads with few exceptions the ferries have been replaced by bridges. Indirect charges are made in the form of import duties and taxes on wheeled vehicles.

The distribution of the main roads, distances between the principal centres, &c., can be ascertained on reference to the Motor Map of Ceylon, obtainable from the Surveyor-General, Colombo, price Rs. 2.60.

The distances from Colombo to other chief towns by road (given to the nearest half mile) are shown in the following list:—

Colombo to	Miles.	Colombo to	Miles.
Galle	72½	Batticaloa (*vid* Badulla) ..	241
Peradeniya	68	Anuradhapura (*vid* Matale) ..	158½
Kandy	72	Trincomalee (*vid* Kurunegala) ..	169
Nuwara Eliya (*vid* Peradeniya) ..	112	Anuradhapura (*vid* Puttalam) ..	129
Nuwara Eliya (*vid* Ginigathena) ..	106½	Jaffna (*vid* Puttalam)	250

MEANS OF TRANSPORT BY ROAD.

The number of motor vehicles in Ceylon has been increasing very rapidly for some years, until it reached 24,405 on December 31, 1930. Owing to the depression in the major industries of the Island the number on December 31, 1931, decreased to 23,577. The average cost of running a small private car may be put at about 25 to 40 cents per mile. Hiring cars are available in most parts of the Island and cost 40 cents to Re. 1 per mile. Drivers and mechanics for privately-owned cars can be obtained without difficulty and all drivers must hold the

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Government certificate of competence, while many hold certificates from the Automobile Association of Ceylon. Numerous facilities for repairs exist in Colombo, Kandy, Nuwara Eliya, and most of the other towns. Supplies of petrol and oil are available in all towns and in most of the larger villages. The Automobile Association of Ceylon is affiliated or has reciprocal agreements with most of the Automobile Clubs and Associations in other countries and the Secretary (P. O. Box 338, Colombo) will afford any information which may be desired. The various landing, Customs, and registration formalities can be arranged for visitors by the Association.

Motor Buses.—There has been a very large increase recently in the numbers of motor omnibuses carrying passengers for hire and they now run on nearly every main road in the Island.

There is seating accommodation for 8 to 30 persons in a motor bus.

Personal luggage of small dimensions and light weight will be carried free of charge. Extra luggage will be carried only if there is room in the conveyances on payment of the prescribed charges.

Goods.—The chief means of transport of goods by road are the local bullock cart and the motor lorry. A double-bullock cart is capable of taking 1½ tons at a time, and travels at the average rate of about 2 miles an hour. The cost per ton per mile may be put at about 80 cents. There are about 34,000 single- and double-bullock carts in Ceylon, the majority of which are used in the transportation of village produce. Motor lorries are gradually replacing bullock carts in the movement of estate goods, and in other industries. These vary in load capacity from 1 to 3 tons and travel about 8 miles an hour, this being the legal speed limit for such vehicles. They run on petrol or kerosene. In 1931 there were about 2,900 motor lorries in Ceylon. Experience has shown that excluding profit the running costs can be kept as low as 50 cents per ton per mile.

Tramways.—The only street tarmways in Ceylon are those in the town of Colombo, the total length of double track being 7 miles. There are two nearly equal routes: one between the Fort and the Kelani river terminus, and one between the Fort and Borella, joined by a cross line between Maradana and Grandpass *viâ* Skinner's road and Armour street. The total number of passengers carried annually is estimated at about 13 millions.

CANALS.

The only artificial navigable waterways in Ceylon are a series of canals connecting a chain of lakes on the west coast—Bolgoda, Colombo, Negombo, Chilaw, Mundel, and Puttalam lakes—as also the estuaries of the Kalu-ganga, Kelani-ganga, Maha-oya, and Deduru-oya; thus forming a continuous waterway from Kalutara in the south to Puttalam in the north, a distance of approximately 120 miles. These were maintained in good order.

In addition to the foregoing there are about 76 miles of channel maintained by dredging in the lagoons at Jaffna and Batticaloa—Jaffna 40 miles and Batticaloa 36 miles.

POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICE.

(Full information on this subject is to be found in the "Ceylon Post Office Guide", obtainable from the Postmaster-General, Colombo, price 75 cents.)

On December 31, 1931, 870 offices were open for business. Details of the facilities afforded are as follows:—

152 Post Offices (excluding the Central Telegraph Office which does only telegraph business) dealt with all classes of postal business, viz., mail and parcel work, registration and insurance of postal articles, money order, postal order, and Savings Bank work, and telegraph and telephone business. 69 Post Offices dealt with all classes of business except telephone work. 1 Post Office (at the Colombo Passenger Jetty) transacted all classes of business except parcel work. 1 Post Office conducted all classes of business except postal order, value-payable and cash-on-delivery work and telephone work. 18 Post Offices dealt with all classes of postal business except telegraph and telephone work.

36 Sub-Post Offices conducted all classes of postal business, except insurance, and also provided telephone-telegraph facilities. 124 Sub-Post Offices also conducted such business except telephone-telegraph work.

432 Village Receiving Offices dealt with mail work only. At 36 Railway Stations facilities for the dispatch and receipt of Inland postal telegrams were available. At 10 of these stations, mail work was also conducted.

There are 10,136 miles of telegraph wire (including railway telegraph wires), of which 2,269 are laid underground, and 46,088 miles of telephone wire (including Trunk and Junction lines) for subscribers' circuits, of which 33,023 are laid underground (excluding private estate lines).

Mail Services.

A regular weekly mail service is maintained between Ceylon and the United Kingdom and between Ceylon and Australia. Regular and frequent services are also available to the Straits Settlements and the Far East. Mails from Colombo to Mauritius and South Africa *viâ* Bombay are dispatched fortnightly. Direct mail to Mauritius is also sent at very irregular intervals. There is also a direct service not less than twice a month between Ceylon and South Africa. Mails from Ceylon to East Africa are dispatched fortnightly *viâ* Bombay and direct once a month. The mail service by train is maintained daily between Ceylon and India *viâ* Talaimannar except on Saturdays. A regular weekly dispatch of air mail articles is made to the United Kingdom and South America to connect with the Karachi-London and Marseilles-Buenos Aires air services respectively. Correspondence intended for dispatch by the internal air services of certain countries (Australia, Dutch East Indies, and United States of America) are dispatched regularly once a week.

Inland mails are carried generally by the Ceylon Government Railway and from railway stations by private contract motor mail services, bullock coach, or runner services.

Rates of Postage.

Inland Rates and Rates to India.

	Cents.		Cents.
For letters, per 2 ounces or part of that weight..	6	For registered newspapers not weighing more than 2 pounds, for every 8 ounces ..	2
For post cards, each	3		
For printed matter, per 2 ounces or part of that weight up to a maximum of 2 pounds..	2		

Rates to the United Kingdom, British Possessions, and Egypt.

	Cents.		Cents.
For letters, per ounce or part of that weight ..	9	For printed papers, per 2 ounces or part of that weight	3
For post cards, each	6		

Rates to Foreign Countries (excluding Egypt).

	Cents.		Cents.
For letters, for the first ounce ..	20	For post cards, each	12
For every additional ounce or part of that weight	10	For printed papers, per 2 ounces or part of that weight	4

Inland Cash-on-Delivery System.

Postal articles can be transmitted by the Inland post on the value-payable system provided that the amount payable is not less than 50 cents or more than Rs. 600. A posting and delivery fee of 5 to 15 cents, according to value, will be levied on every value-payable article.

Foreign Cash-on-Delivery System.

The Cash-on-delivery Service is in operation between Ceylon and the United Kingdom, the Straits Settlements, the Federated Malay States, and Germany. Details will be found in the " Ceylon Post Office Guide ".

Money Orders.

Money Orders can be obtained at any of the Post Offices payable at any of the others and in most foreign countries. The maximum for inland and Indian Money Orders is Rs. 600, for foreign orders £40. The rate of commission for inland Money Orders is 10 cents for each complete sum of Rs. 10 and 10 cents for the remainder, and for Indian Money Orders 20 cents for each complete sum of Rs. 10 and 20 cents for the remainder. The rate for foreign Money Orders is 25 cents on sums not exceeding £1, and on sums exceeding £1, 15 cents for each complete sum of £1 and 15 cents for the remainder. Money Orders payable in the United Kingdom or countries served through the United Kingdom can be dispatched by Air Mail on payment of a fee of 15 cents in addition to the ordinary money order commission. Telegraph Money Orders can be dispatched in the inland service. Telegraph Money Order service is also available to India and some other foreign countries. There are fixed minima for Telegraph Money Orders according to the currency in which the order is advised. Details will be found in the " Ceylon Post Office Guide ".

Postal Orders.

Inland Postal Orders for fixed amounts ranging from 50 cents to Rs. 10 are issued, the rate of commission varying from 3 to 10 cents.

British Postal Orders.

There are 40 denominations of British Postal Order, ranging from from 6*d*. to 21*s*., the difference between each up to 19*s*. being 6*d*., and 1*s*. between 19*s*. and 21*s*. Commission is charged at the rate of 5 cents on each of the first three denominations, 10 cents on each of the next eighteen, and 15 cents on each of the remaining denominations. A full list of the countries to which British Postal Orders can be sent is given in section 7 of the " Ceylon Post Office Guide ". Broken amounts up to 5*d*. (but not including fractions of a penny) may be made by affixing unused Ceylon postage stamps of equivalent value or British penny postage stamps in the spaces provided on the order.

Inland Telegrams.

The minimum charge for Inland telegrams is 35 cents for the first ten words, including the address, and 5 cents for each additional two words or less. These telegrams can be sent from any one telegraph office to any other in the Island.

The charge for urgent telegrams is 90 cents for the first ten words, including the address, and 15 cents for each additional two words or less.

Foreign and Colonial Telegrams.

The rates for telegrams to India (including Burma) are express Rs. 2, and ordinary Re. 1 for the first 12 words or less, and 15 cents and 10 cents respectively for each additional word.

Telegrams to places in other British Possessions and foreign countries can be sent on a minimum charge per word varying from 25 cents to Rs. 5.20 for ordinary, and from 20 cents to Rs. 2.60 for deferred telegrams, according to the distance of the place of destination, the route by which the telegram is to be sent, &c. A full list of places to which foreign and Colonial telegrams can be sent, together with the rates charged, is given in section 9 of the " Ceylon Post Office Guide ".

Cheap Rate Telegrams.

Telegrams in plain language are accepted for transmission as " Daily Letter Telegrams " or " Week-end Letter Telegrams " to various places abroad at considerably reduced rates. A list of places to which these services are available, and the scale of charges, will be found in section 9 of the " Ceylon Post Office Guide ".

Radio-Telegrams.

Radio-Telegrams are accepted at any Postal Telegraph Office in Ceylon for transmission to ships equipped with radio-telegraph apparatus through the Coast Station in Colombo.

The charges are as follows:—

	Per Word. Cents.
British, Indian, or Colonial Government Telegrams to or from His Britannic Majesty's Ships of War	Free
Private telegrams to or from His Britannic Majesty's Ships of War	40
All other Government or private telegrams ..	65
On Radio-Telegrams sent to—	
(a) Spanish and Swedish ships the charge is	60
(b) Finnish ships the charge is ..	50
The time range is about 30 hours,	

TELEPHONE SYSTEM.

Telephone communication exists between most of the principal towns and certain rural districts. The towns are generally served by Government exchanges and the rural districts by Government or private licensed exchanges which are connected to the general trunk system by means of Government junction lines.

The charge for the use of a public call box for six minutes or less is 10 cents, and for the use of the trunk and junction lines the charge is as follows:—

	Cents.
For 15 miles or under	15
Over 15 miles and not exceeding 32½ miles ..	25
Over 32½ miles and not exceeding 60 miles ..	5
Every additional 25 miles or part of a mile ..	2

The minimum annual rental of a telephone connection to a large town exchange is Rs. 180 for business or professional purposes and Rs. 120 for non-business or residential purposes and that of a connection to a small town exchange Rs. 125 and Rs. 90 respectively.

CHAPTER XI.

Banking, Currency, Weights and Measures.

BANKS.

The following is a list of banks which have branches in Ceylon:—

Name of Bank	Imperial Bank of India
Address of Head Office ..	Madras
Branch in Ceylon	Prince street, Fort, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon	—
London Office	22, Old Broad street, London, E.C. 2
Name of Bank	National Bank of India, Ltd.
Address of Head Office ..	26, Bishopsgate London, E.C. 2
Branches in Ceylon.. ..	York street, Fort, Colombo; Ward street, Kandy; and Nuwara Eliya
Agents in Ceylon	Clark, Spence & Co., Galle
Bankers in the United Kingdom ..	The Bank of England; The Natonal Provincial Bank, Ltd.; The National Bank of Scotland, Ltd.
Name of Bank	Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China
Address of Head Office ..	38, Bishopsgate, London, E.C. 2
Branch in Ceylon	Queen street, Fort, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon	Mercantile Bank of India, Ltd., Galle
Bankers in the United Kingdom ..	The Bank of England; Midland Bank, Ltd.; Westminster Bank, Ltd.; National Provincial Bank, Ltd.; The National Bank of Scotland, Ltd.
Name of Bank	Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation
Address of Head Office ..	1, Queen's road, Hong Kong, China
Branch in Ceylon	22, Prince street, Fort, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon	E. Coates & Co. (Galle), Ltd., Galle
Bankers in the United Kingdom ..	The Westminster Bank, Ltd.
Name of Bank	The Mercantile Bank of India, Ltd.
Address of Head Office ..	15, Gracechurch street, London, E.C. 3
Branches in Ceylon.. ..	2, Queen street, Fort, Colombo; Ward street, Kandy; and Galle
Agents in Ceylon	—
Bankers in the United Kingdom ..	The Bank of England; Midland Bank, Ltd.
Name of Bank	The Eastern Bank, Ltd.
Address of Head Office ..	2 and 3, Crosby square, Bishopsgate, London, E.C. 3
Branch in Ceylon	75–77, Chatham street, Fort, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon	—
Bankers in the United Kingdom ..	The Bank of England; Westminster Bank, Ltd.; The National Provincia Bank, Ltd.; The Bank of Scotland; Barclays Bank, Ltd.; Bank of Liverpool and Martin's, Ltd.
Name of Bank	The P. & O. Banking Corporation, Ltd. (with which is affiliated The Allahabad Bank, Ltd.)
Address of Head Office ..	117–122, Leadenhall street, London, E. C. 3
Branch in Ceylon	Victoria Arcade buildings, York Street, Fort, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon	—
Bankers in the United Kingdom ..	Lloyds Bank, Ltd; Westminster Bank, Ltd.; The National Provincial Bank, Ltd.; Royal Bank of Scotland
Name of Bankers	Thos. Cook & Son (Bankers), Ltd.
Address of Head Office ..	Berkeley street, Piccadilly, London. W. 1
Branch in Ceylon	Prince street, Fort. Colombo
Agents in Ceylon	—
Bankers in the United Kingdom ..	National Provincial Bank. Ltd.

Banking Agencies.

Name of Bank.	Agents in Ceylon.
Coutts & Co ..	.. George Steuart & Co., Colombo
Bank of Liverpool and Martin's, Ltd.	.. do.
Ulster Bank, Ltd., Belfast ..	.. do.
Westminster Bank, Ltd. ..	.. do.
Bank of Montreal ..	.. do.
Charles Hoare & Co. ..	.. do.

Savings Banks.

There are two Savings Banks, viz., the Ceylon Savings Bank and the Post Office Savings Bank.

The Ceylon Savings Bank is a Government institution established in 1832. Accounts may be opened with a minimum deposit of 50 cents, and not more than Rs. 2,000 can be deposited in one year irrespective of withdrawals. The maximum sum which a depositor may have to his or her credit is Rs. 6,000. Charitable institutions or societies may deposit Rs. 3,000 per annum up to a maximum of Rs. 9,000. The Bank allows interest at the rate of 4 per cent. on accounts of Rs. 1,000 and under, and 3 per cent. on accounts above Rs. 1,000.

The Post Office Savings Bank is managed by the Post and Telegraph Department. Deposits and withdrawals can be made at any of the Post Offices in the Island. The minimum amount that can be deposited is 25 cents, and the maximum per annum is Rs. 750 irrespective of withdrawals. The total amount which a depositor may have to his or her credit is Rs. 3,000. The rate of interest allowed is 2.4 per cent.—2 cents per month for each complete sum of Rs. 10.

Co-operative Societies.

There were, on April 30, 1931, 600 registered Co-operative Societies in Ceylon, of which 2 were Co-operative Central Banks, 540 Village Credit Societies or Banks of Unlimited Liability, 18 societies of Limited Liability, 18 Thrift Societies, 15 Supervising Unions, 3 Supply Societies, 1 Co-operative Mortgage Bank, 2 Sale Societies, 1 Sports Society. These Societies had 24,068 members. Another Central Bank and a considerable number of other Societies have since been registered, but statistics are compiled only at the end of the co-operative working year on April 30.

The Societies were handling on April 30 a little less than two millions of rupees. The Co-operative Central Banks exist for the purpose of attracting funds in the form of deposits from the general investing public and lending them to registered societies.

Attention has been concentrated on the thorough training of primary societies in the principles and practice of co-operation, and particularly on the organization of secondary institutions designed to make the movement independent of direct assistance from Government. These consist mainly of Central Banks, whose object is to provide and control the necessary finance, and Supervising Unions which are intended to provide scope for unofficial workers and gradually to take over the whole work of propaganda and supervision.

Loans are still made directly by Government to Societies in the less developed portions of the Island, but this system is being gradually replaced by independent Central Banks as the movement develops.

The percentage of overdue loans for the whole Island was 11.54 for the year ending on April 30, 1931. A few Supply Societies have worked successfully, but this branch of the work has proved to be very difficult. There is at present a strong demand for new societies.

CURRENCY, &c.

The monetary unit in Ceylon is the Indian silver rupee, which is divided into 100 cents. The following fractions of the rupee are coined:—(1) Silver, 50-cent piece; 25-cent piece; and 10-cent piece; (2) nickel, 5-cent piece; (3) copper, 1-cent piece and ½-cent piece.

The chief medium of exchange in Ceylon is the currency notes issued by the Government of Ceylon. They are of the following values:—Rs. 1,000, Rs. 500, Rs. 100, Rs. 50, Rs. 10, Rs. 5, Rs. 2, and Re. 1. The present value of the rupee is about 1*s*. 6*d*.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

The standard weights and measures are the English units In conjunction with these many local weights and measures are used.

CHAPTER XII.

Public Works.

WITH the introduction in July, 1931, of the new Constitution for the Island under the Ceylon (State Council) Order-in-Council, 1931, the Public Works Department came under the immediate control of the Executive Committee of Communications and Works.

On account of the acute financial depression prevailing in the Island, the votes of the Department for the financial year 1930-31 were greatly reduced and the programme of new public works drastically curtailed. The total expenditure by the Department amounted only to Rs. 11,810,844, as against Rs. 19,564,487 during the previous year (1929-30) and Rs. 26,832,348 the year before (1928-29).

Maintenance.—The roads, bridges, canals, and public buildings in charge of the Department were maintained in satisfactory condition having regard to the restricted funds available.

New Works.—The following are the more important works completed and in progress during the year:—

New Buildings and Additions and Improvements to Buildings.

Completed:—

New Secretariat, Galle Face.
Extensions to Government Technical Schools, Colombo.
Two additional wards, Lunatic Asylum, Angoda.
New Police Court and quarters, Gampaha.
Additions and improvements to Ragama Anti-Tuberculosis Hospital.
New Police Station and quarters, Horana.
Polonnaruwa Hospital.
Additions and improvements to Dambulla Hospital.
Surgical Ward, Deniyaya Hospital.
Quarters for Medical Officer, Mullaittivu Hospital.
New Lighthouse, Point Pedro.
Extensions to the Badulla Post Office.
New Post Office and quarters, Kegalla.

In Progress:—

Additions and improvements to Mahara Prison.
Additions and improvements to Matara Hospital.
Additions and improvements to Tissamaharama Hospital.

Among the new buildings completed, one work of outstanding importance is the New Secretariat on Galle Face. This building now houses a large number of the principal public offices in a manner worthy of the Island, and constitutes a notable addition to the architectural features of the City of Colombo.

Bridges.

Completed:—

Bridge on 10th mile, Minuwangoda-Veyangoda road.
Belihul-oya bridge.

In Progress:—

Pusweli-oya bridge on Colombo-Labugama Junction road.
Minuwangoda bridge No. 21/3, Jaela-Kotadeniya road.
Balapitiya bridge No. 37 on 51st mile, Colombo-Galle road.
Alawwa bridge.
Algoda bridge.

New Roads.

Completed:—

Norton-Luccombe road.
Deviation road at Matara.

In Progress:—

Colombo-Labugama Junction road.
Point Pedro-Maruthankerni road.
Kuchchaveli-Yan-oya road
Bowatte-Mola Eliya road (under the Estates Road Ordinance).

Additions and Improvements to Roads.

Completed:—

Widening and improving Katugastota-Palapatwela road.
Improving Polonnaruwa-Topawewa road.
South Coast Road extension.
Impoving Kurunegala-Galagedara road.
Improving Polgahawela-Alawwa road.
Widening Passara-Dunedin road.
Improving Rambukkana-Katupitiya road.

In Progress:—

Improving Valaichchenai-Mananpitiya road.
Kiriyankalli-Andigama road.
Warakapola-Ruanwella road.
Widening and improving Ambepussa-Alawwa road.

Waterworks.—The Chilaw Waterworks were completed and put into operation. The water supply to Bandarawela from the Nayabedde springs was also completed and brought into use.

IRRIGATION.

Importance of Irrigation.—The importance of irrigation in Ceylon arises mainly from the fact that the staple food of the inhabitants is rice. Practically all rice is grown in water, and in areas where the ordinary rainfall is insufficient for the crop, artificial means have to be adopted to supplement the water supply. As far as possible water is diverted to the fields from natural water-courses, but in the dry zones of the Island, where natural flow diminishes greatly or entirely ceases for considerable periods, it is often necessary to resort to the storage of water obtainable in the rainy season. The reservoirs or tanks in which water is stored are usually formed by the construction of embankments across the valley of a water-course, thus impounding the flow and securing a supply which can be issued when required for the cultivation operations by means of sluices and irrigation channels.

Classification of Irrigation Works.—Irrigation works in Ceylon are divided into two main classes, namely, major works and village works. Major works comprise the larger tanks and other works that have been constructed or restored by the Government. The owners of land irrigated by these works are liable to contribute towards the cost of their construction and maintenance, the conditions varying with the different works. Village works include all the smaller works, which are maintained by the villagers themselves under the general supervision of Government officials.

Construction and Maintenance of Irrigation Works.—The construction and maintenance of all major works is in the hands of the Irrigation Department, while village works are attended to by the Provincial administration with the assistance of Irrigation officers seconded for the purpose.

A progressive policy has been adopted in recent years for systematizing the restoration and improvement of village irrigation works, and the construction of spills, sluices, and other masonry works which are beyond the capacity of the villagers to build, is carried out by officers under the Director of Irrigation.

The principal construction works on which the Irrigation Department was engaged during 1931, in addition to the maintenance of working schemes, were as follows:—

Kirima-oya Scheme, Southern Province.—The construction of masonry dams to replace temporary sand dams across the river, and improved channel systems.

Walawe Left Bank Scheme, Southern Province.—The development of irrigation and road facilities.

Akathimurippu Scheme, Northern Province.—Eight miles of the main channel and several large masonry works thereon have so far been constructed.

Karachchi Scheme, Northern Province.—The distributary channel and agricultural road system is being considerably extended in order to provide irrigation and access facilities for some 8,000 acres.

Unnichchai Scheme.—The extension of the main left bank channel and agricultural road systems have been proceeded with in order to provide for the further development of this scheme.

Tabbowa Scheme.—Construction of the channel and agricultural road system is proceeding.

Extent and benefits of Irrigation in Ceylon.—The extent of land irrigated at present under major works is 156,052 acres, and under restored village works 194,884 acres. The yield from major works alone was roughly 3,400,000 bushels during 1931.

There is great scope for further increase of cultivation and many new schemes and the restoration of ancient irrigation works are now under investigation.

Apart from the production of food, there are numerous indirect benefits derived from irrigation. The felling of jungle and the opening up of the land bring about healthier conditions of life for the villagers and poverty is alleviated, and, as irrigation and cultivation on scientific lines extend, the population and prosperity of low-country dry-zone areas tend to increase.

Flood Protection Schemes.—In consequence of the periods of intense rainfall to which Ceylon is liable, the rivers are liable to periodical floods, which cause damage to property and distress to the inhabitants of adjoining lands. In particular, the havoc caused by floods in the vicinity of Colombo was for many years a matter for serious consideration by Government.

A scheme designed by Mr. C. Harward of the Irrigation Department for protecting the Colombo South area from floods was completed in 1925, and a similar scheme for Colombo North in 1927. Considerable benefits have been derived from these schemes during the period they have been in operation. In May, 1930, however, an exceptionally high flood breached the embankment of the Colombo North scheme and caused considerable damage.

Flood protection work is now an established branch of the activities of the Irrigation Department, and many applications have been made for flood protection for areas in the neighbourhood of Colombo and of large rivers in the Western and Southern Provinces, and in other parts of the Island.

The schemes already completed are—

Colombo Schemes (North and South).—Protecting 9,500 acres of lowlying land.

Ambatalenpahala Scheme.—Protecting 900 acres of lowlying land from minor floods.

Kalu-oya-Maturajawela Scheme.—Protecting 8,888 acres.

A scheme for the protection of 9,200 acres of land in the Bolgoda area, liable to flooding from the Kalu-ganga, has been under construction during 1930, but the financial position of the Island has necessitated the temporary closing-down of the construction work. Several other schemes in the Western and Southern Provinces are under investigation.

CHAPTER XIII.

Justice and Police.

The Judicial System of Ceylon.

Supreme Court.—The Supreme Court consists of a Chief Justice and five Puisne Judges. It has appellate jurisdiction in civil cases from all courts except Village Tribunals. It exercises no original jurisdiction in civil cases. Under Ordinance No. 2 of 1891 it is a Colonial Court of Admiralty.

The Supreme Court has original jurisdiction in all criminal cases and exclusive jurisdiction in respect of the more serious offences, such as homicide, rape, and the graver types of extortion. In practice it seldom tries cases which do not fall within its exclusive jurisdiction. It usually sits with a jury and tries cases committed for trial by a Police Court. It exercises appellate and revisional jurisdiction over all criminal courts except Village Tribunals. The Supreme Court may pass any sentence authorized by law.

District Courts.—The District Courts, of which there are at present 22 in the Island, have unlimited original civil jurisdiction and criminal jurisdiction in respect of all offences which are not within the exclusive jurisdicton of the Supreme Court. District Courts try only cases committed to them for trial by Police Courts.* District Courts may pass any of the following sentences:—

(*a*) Imprisonment of either description for a term not exceeding 2 years;
(*b*) Fine not exceeding one thousand rupees;
(*c*) Whipping;
(*d*) Any lawful sentence combining any two of the sentences aforesaid.

Under sections 3 and 4 of Ordinance No. 2 of 1891 the Governor has power to appoint a District Court to have a limited Admiralty jurisdiction. The District Court of Colombo alone has been appointed to exercise such jurisdiction.

Police Courts.—There are 37 Police Courts in the Island. The offences which a Police Court may try are specified in the schedule to the Criminal Procedure Code, 1898. Various Ordinances have also made other offences triable by a Police Court. A Police Court may not pass a sentence heavier than the following, except where an Ordinance has specially empowered it so to do:—

(*a*) Imprisonment of either description for a term not exceeding 6 months;
(*b*) Fine not exceeding one hundred rupees;
(*c*) Whipping, if the offender is under 16 years of age;
(*d*) Any lawful sentence combining any two of the sentences aforesaid.

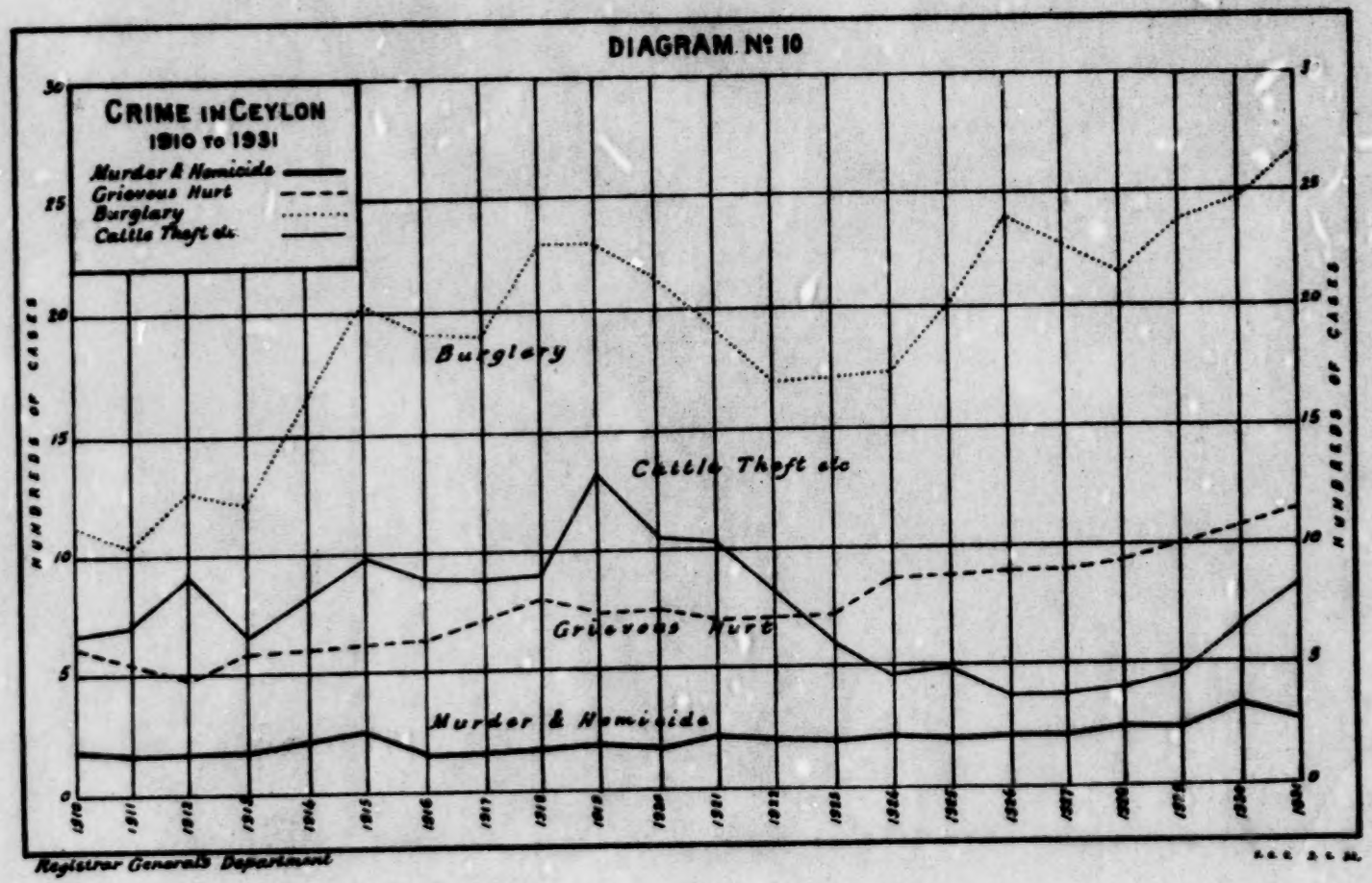
Police Courts also hold preliminary inquiries into crimes with a view to committal for trial by a District Court or the Supreme Court. If after inquiry a Police Magistrate is of opinion that an accused should be discharged he makes order to this effect. Where a Magistrate is of opinion that an accused should be committed for trial to a court of competent jurisdiction, the record of the proceedings at the inquiry is forwarded to the Attorney-General, who directs the Police Magistrate to commit the accused or to discharge him.

Courts of Requests.—Courts of Requests have original civil jurisdiction (subject to certain exceptions) in all actions in which the debt, damage, or demand or value of the land in dispute does not as a rule exceed Rs. 300.

There are 41 Courts of Requests in the Island, of which one (the Colombo Court) is presided over by a separate Commissioner. All the others are presided over by a District Judge or a Police Magistrate who acts as Commissioner of Requests in addition to his own duties as District Judge or Police Magistrate.

* Under section 152 of the Criminal Procedure Code, a Police Magistrate who is also a District Judge may, in the course of an inquiry into an offence which is triable by a District Court, proceed to try such offence summarily when he is of opinion that it can properly be so tried. In such a case there is no previous committal.

DIAGRAM No. 10



Registrar Generals Department

Village Tribunals.—Village Tribunals have civil jurisdiction for actions in which the debt, damage, or demand or the value of the land in dispute does not exceed Rs. 20, or, where both parties consent, Rs. 100 and in cases between a Co-operative Society and its members. Village Tribunals have criminal jurisdiction to try breaches of rules made by the inhabitants of the subdivision or the Village Committee under section 29 of Ordinance No. 9 of 1924, and various minor offences enumerated in the schedule to Ordinance No. 9 of 1924. A Village Tribunal may impose a fine not exceeding Rs. 20 or 14 days' imprisonment in default of payment.

A Village Tribunal is presided over by a paid President appointed by the Governor. He sits with three Councillors chosen by lot. In the case of difference of opinion between the President and the Councillors, the opinion of the President prevails (section 50 of Ordinance No. 9 of 1924).

There are 194 Village Tribunals in the Island, namely, 23 in the Western Province, 32 in the Central, 46 in the Southern, 6 in the Northern, 21 in the Eastern, 18 in the North-Western, 14 in the North-Central, 16 in the Uva, and 18 in the Province of Sabaragamuwa.

Village Committees.—Village Committees in subdivisions where no Village Tribunal has been established, have power to try breaches of rules made by the inhabitants of the subdivision or the Village Committee under section 29 of Ordinance No. 9 of 1924, and have the same power of punishment as Village Tribunals.

There are 80 Village Committees exercising this jurisdiction in the Island, namely, 67 in the Northern Province, 9 in the Province of Sabaragamuwa, 2 in the Southern Province, and 1 each in the Eastern and North-Western Provinces.

The following schedule gives detailed information as regards the number of Courts, the number of Judges, Magistrates, &c. :—

Number of Courts, Judges, &c.

Court.	No. of Courts.	No. of Judges.	Remarks.
Supreme Court	1	6	1 Chief Justice and 5 Puisne Judges
District Court	22	26	There are 4 judges for the District Court of Colombo and two each for those of Kandy, Galle, and Jaffna. There is one judge for the District Courts of Chilaw and Puttalam, and one for those of Nuwara Eliya and Hatton. Eleven of these officers are Police Magistrates and Commissioners of Requests in addition to their duties as District Judges.
Police Court	37	31	There are three Magistrates sitting at Colombo. The following groups of Courts have one Magistrate each :—Badulla, Bandarawela ; Matale, Panwila, Teldeniya; Nuwara Eliya, Hatton ; Jaffna, Kayts, Mallakam ; Point Pedro, Chavakachcheri ; Batticaloa, Kalmunai
Village Tribunal	194	59	—
Village Committee	80	—	—

POLICE.

The regular Police Force of the Island was established and is regulated by the Police Ordinance, No. 16 of 1865, as amended by various subsequent Ordinances.

Before the Police Force was constituted the duties of the Police were attended to by the headmen. Regular Police have been gradually introduced to most parts of the Island since 1865, and at present there are 164 Police Stations and 26 Police Offices.

The sanctioned strength of the Force is now 1 Inspector-General, 2 Deputy Inspectors-General, 39 Superintendents, Assistant Superintendents, and Probationers, 186 Chief Inspectors, Inspectors, and Sub-Inspectors, 2 Sergeants-Major, 362 Sergeants, and 2,506 Constables.

General.—The following statement shows the number of cases of grave crime disposed of as " true cases " by the courts during the last three years :—

	1929.	1930.	1931.
Homicide	243	334	277
Attempted homicide	114	151	151
Grievous hurt	1,004	1,081	1,156
Hurt with dangerous weapons	1,427	1,433	1,594
Housebreaking	2,385	2,468	2,661
Theft of cattle	479	670	854
Other offences	3,437	3,552	3,448
Total	9,089	9,689	10,141

The statistics of crime for the last six years under the three main heads " Offences against the Person " (which are not directly preventable by Police action), " Offences against Property ", and " Offences against the State " (riot, &c.) are as follows :—

Year.	Total crime.	Offences against the person (excluding robbery).	Offences against property (including robbery).	Offences against the State.
1926	8,707	2,755	5,914	38
1927	8,617	2,798	5,760	59
1928	8,809	2,881	5,866	62
1929	9,089	2,978	6,055	56
1930	9,689	3,235	6,389	65
1931	10,141	3,407	6,638	96

The figures under each of these 4 heads are higher than those of any previous year of which the Police have record and there can be no doubt that the industrial depression which prevailed throughout the year is largely responsible for the increase of crime. Reports from many districts indicate that there has been a marked increase in thefts of cattle and foodstuffs and this increase is probably due to real poverty and the difficulty experienced in obtaining food.

Regulation and control of motor traffic.—There were 24,079 prosecutions under the Motor Ordinance. The increase in the work imposed on the Police and on the courts by the present volume of motor traffic is illustrated by the fact that in 1923 there were only 1,685 prosecutions. Of the 24,079 prosecutions in 1931, 798 were for exceeding the speed limit and 509 for reckless or negligent driving. In addition, 38 cases of causing death by a rash and negligent act and 80 for causing serious injury were instituted under the Penal Code in connection with motor accidents. 2,283 accidents caused by motor vehicles throughout the Island were reported to the Police. Of these 273 were of a serious nature, and in 97 cases the injuries to persons proved fatal. In 20 fatal accidents omnibuses were involved. Omnibuses comprise 10 per cent. of the motor vehicles on the roads, and are therefore responsible for a number of fatal accidents out of proportion to their number. Sixty-eight persons were killed or injured in omnibus accidents. In 51 per cent. of fatal and serious accidents the fault lay chiefly with the pedestrian.

The following are some relevant figures :—

Year.	Motor vehicles on the road.	Number of prosecutions for exceeding speed limit.	Number of prosecutions for reckless or careless driving.	Fatal accidents.	Total serious and fatal accidents.
1926	14,947	1,913	984	109	258
1927	17,340	2,487	1,084	107	292
1928	20,623	1,061	838	114	273
1929	23,565	1,567	1,139	143	352
1930	24,405	1,992	763	127	303
1931	23,577	798	509	97	273

The financial depression prevailing in Ceylon is reflected in the decrease in the number of new motor vehicles registered, the number falling from over 300 per month in 1927-29 to 90 per month in 1931.

A system of special patrols was maintained to assist the local Police in districts where motor traffic had become too difficult to be handled by small stations. Besides dealing with offences under the Motor Ordinance, the patrols were useful in examining the condition of omnibuses and reporting to the licensing authorities, in checking night-patrolling between stations, and transporting the Police in emergencies, such as fires, riots, &c. In some cases the patrols are supplied with cameras for use in such cases as require the subsequent production of a photograph of the scene in court.

Control of bullock cart and other traffic.—In order to minimize accidents on the narrow winding roads of this Island, attention is paid to obstruction and other offences committed by the drivers of bullock carts and other slow-moving vehicles. During the year 9,726 prosecutions were entered against the drivers and owners of such vehicles. In Colombo and other towns where there are pavements, efforts are made from time to time to induce pedestrians to keep off the road and use the pavements.

Examination of cinematograph films.—As all cinematograph films imported into Ceylon are first exhibited in Colombo, where the Chairman of the Municipal Council is the Censor, it follows that for all practical purposes the Chairman of the Colombo Municipal Council is the Censor for the whole Island.

The censorship is carried out on the following lines:—

Three days before exhibition the following particulars must be furnished to the Superintendent of Police:—

(1) a list of the films to be exhibited during the week.
(2) a declaration of the contents of each film.
(3) an accurate synopsis of the scenes in the films.

The Superintendent of Police examines the declaration and synopsis with a view to finding out whether the film is objectionable, and may, if necessary, order a private exhibition. If the film is found to be objectionable, a report is made to the Chairman of the Municipal Council, who then sees the film. This system of censorship has worked well in the past, and in practice very few applications are made to the Chairman by the Police to prohibit or curtail films. The fact that all films arriving in Ceylon have been already examined by Censors either in England or India provides an additional safeguard.

Maintenance of order.—The maintenance of order is an important part of the duty of the Police. Many of the numerous processions occurring during the year were accompanied by the Police for this purpose, and all demonstrations of any size were controlled by the Police.

Only one strike of any consequence occurred in Ceylon during the year. It lasted for some weeks. There were also a number of strikes of minor importance which were quickly settled. An Ordinance designed to regulate and control strikes was passed during the year.

Criminal Investigation Department.

The Criminal Investigation Department includes the Harbour Police, the Foreshore Police, the Train Police, the Photographic Branch, the Finger Print and Foot Print Bureau, and the Forged Currency Note Bureau.

Inquiries are frequently made from the Criminal Investigation Department by Police Forces of other countries with regard to travellers who may pass through Colombo, owing to the position of the latter as the central port of the East. The Criminal Investigation Department, therefore, keeps records of all persons arriving in and leaving Ceylon, all persons staying in hotels, boarding houses, and rest-houses, and all foreigners.

The Forged Currency Note Bureau dealt with 67 cases of forged notes during the year. In 43 cases the notes were printed from engraved plates, in 5 cases they were produced by means of photography, and in 15 cases they were made by hand.

PRISONS.

Number of admissions.—The total number of admissions on conviction during 1931 was 11,969 (11,592 males and 377 females). Of this number 1,198 were admitted on conviction from the Supreme and District Courts. 158 were convicted of murder and culpable homicide not amounting to murder.

Number sentenced to death and executed.—The number sentenced to death during the year was 64 (63 males and 1 female), of whom 24 males were executed and 1 died of natural causes.

Daily average population.—The daily average population of the prisons was 4,027.56 (3,954.44 males and 73.12 females).

Reconvicted prisoners.—The number of reconvicted prisoners admitted was 1,993 (17 per cent. of the total admissions). Of this number 1,045 were reconvicted criminals within the meaning of Ordinance No. 2 of 1926 as amended by Ordinance No. 27 of 1928.

Preventive detention.—The number of prisoners sentenced to preventive detention by courts during the year was 47. The daily average of prisoners undergoing preventive detention was 90.79.

Number in default of payment of fines.—The number of admissions for non-payment of fines was 6,797. In 1,170 of these cases the offences were either statutory or made punishable by Village Tribunal rules.

No statistics are available as to the number of cases in which time was given for the payment of fines.

Juvenile Offenders.

(*a*) *First offenders.*—The number of admissions of first offenders of the age of 16-23 was 1,234 of which number 804 were for non-payment of fines and 179 for statutory or Village Tribunal offences.

(*b*) *Reconvicted.*—The number of admissions of reconvicted juvenile offenders was 175 of which number 60 were for non-payment of fines and 14 for statutory or Village Tribunal offences.

Religion and race.—The following table gives the nationality and religion of all convicted persons received into the prisons during the year 1931:—

Table showing Nationality and Religion of all convicted persons received into prisons during the year 1931.

Nationality.									Religion.						
Resident Europeans.	Non-Resident Europeans.	Burghers	Sinhalese.	Tamils.	Moors.	Malays.	Others.	Total.	Protestants.	Roman Catholics.	Buddhists	Hindus.	Muslims.	Others.	Total.
1	20	50	8,780	2,043	909	98	68	11,969	86	999	8,089	1,821	933	41	11,969

Prison punishments.—The number of punishments inflicted during the year on prisoners for offences against prison discipline was 1,179, as against 1,081 in 1930 29 prisoners were sentenced to receive corporal punishment as against 46 the previous year. There were 9 escapes and 9 recaptures.

The Prisons Ordinance, No. 16 of 1877, placed all the prisons in Ceylon under the control of an Inspector-General of Prisons. Ceylon therefore enjoys the advantages of a unified prison system which renders possible classification by institutions in addition to sub-classification in institutions.

The principle upon which this classification proceeds is the separation of the different types of offenders—especially the separation of the youthful offender from the adult and the first offender from the " habitual ". To each type of offender appropriate methods of treatment are applied.

The different prisons are utilized as follows:—

Welikada (*Colombo*), for the detention and training of the following classes:—

(i.) First offenders with sentences of over two years;
(ii.) All " star " class, *i.e.*, European or educated Ceylonese first offenders;
(iii.) Juvenile (under 23 years of age) first offenders irrespective of length of sentence;
(iv.) Female prisoners other than those sentenced to short terms in out-stations who are detained in the local prisons.

Mahara is set apart for reconvicted prisoners other than those who are serving preventive detention. Prisoners are also transferred here from other prisons for misconduct.

Bogambara (*Kandy*) is set apart for the following:—

(i.) First offenders convicted by local courts and sentenced to one month's imprisonment or less;

(ii.) All first offenders with sentences of over one year but not exceeding two years;

(iii.) Special class "A", *i.e.*, selected "habituals" from Mahara with sentences of over two years;

(iv.) Prisoners undergoing sentences of preventive detention.

Jaffna is set apart for the following.—

(i.) Persons sentenced by the local courts to imprisonment of one month or under;

(ii.) Short term first offenders with sentences of over one month and up to six months;

(iii.) Prisoners transferred from other prisons for misconduct under monthly report.

The special gang is also located at Jaffna. The special gang is intended for prisoners guilty of continued bad or violent conduct. These prisoners are kept strictly apart from the other inmates.

Anuradhapura is set apart for the following:—

(i.) Locally convicted short term prisoners;

(ii.) First offenders with sentences of over six months and up to one year.

Smaller prisons.—The prisons at Galle, Badulla, and Batticaloa are used for the detention of short term locally convicted prisoners.

Negombo prison serves as a prison for convalescent prisoners.

Remand prisons.—There are separate prisons for persons awaiting trial, civil debtors, &c., only in Colombo (at Hulftsdorp) and in Kandy. At other stations the ordinary prisons for convicted prisoners are also used for the location of these types.

Methods of Treatment of Different Types of Offenders.

A. *Juvenile first offenders.*—All first offenders of the age of 23 and under are detained at Welikada in separate wards. Scout principles are utilized for their training. The Welikada Prison Troop is the first officially recognized prison troop in the world.

B. *Long term first offenders.*—The progressive stage system—a feature of the English prison system—has been adapted to suit local conditions and is largely used in connection with the training of these offenders. According to this system prisoners fall into different classes. Every prisoner sentenced to imprisonment immediately enters and remains in what is called the penal stage for one month. He then enters and remains in Class IV. for eleven months. Conditional upon good conduct and industry he is promoted to Class III. where he remains for one year and can earn remission and then on the same conditions promoted to Class II. At the end of one year if his conduct is satisfactory he is promoted to Class I. Promotion from class to class carries with it slight privileges and on entry into Class II., gratuity, and good conduct badges can be earned.

Another experiment in the training of these long term first offenders is the placing of responsibility on individual prisoners. Long term first offenders in Class I. of exemplary conduct are selected as Disciplinary Prison Orderlies. Their duties consist in the assisting of the regular prison officers; they are left in charge of small parties inside the prison and act as escorts within prison walls.

A further experiment is the formation of Leagues on the lines of the Mutual Welfare Leagues in the New York prisons. There are two such Leagues—one for the Disciplinary Prison Orderlies and the other for prisoners who have earned good conduct badges.

C. *Reconvicted prisoners.*—For the training of reconvicted prisoners there are two classes in Mahara prison. Specially selected reconvicted prisoners with sentences of two years and over constitute Class B. These prisoners while at work are kept separate from the others. Evening classes are held for them and they are supplied with books from the prison library. They are also given the privilege of playing games, &c. After probationary training for six months in this class all who prove satisfactory are transferred to Kandy where they form Special Class " A ". Prisoners in Special Class " A " are treated like first offenders.

Specially selected reconvicted prisoners with sentences of over six months and under two years form Special Class " C ". Their training and treatment approximate to that of Special Class " B ".

Labour.—All labour of a purely mechanical and unprofitable nature has been abolished. Prisoners are mostly employed on public works and on industries. At Mahara the principal work is the quarrying of stone and stone breaking. In Jaffna the work consists in the reclamation of the lagoon. Welikada and Bogambara are highly industrialized. The following industries are carried on:—Carpentry, tailoring, brush making, rattan, fibre, shoemaking, blacksmiths' work, tin smiths' work, weaving, soap making, and printing. At Welikada there is in addition an up-to-date steam laundry which washes all the linen for all the hospitals, asylum, &c. The value of the outturn of prison industries for the year 1930-31 was Rs. 208,199.56.

Education.—For juveniles, that is, those of the age of 23 and under, vernacular education is compulsory. At Welikada and Bogambara and also at Mahara evening classes conducted by volunteer workers have been organized for the benefit of both juveniles and adult offenders. These classes are held in English and in the vernacular. Commercial classes in typewriting, shorthand, &c., are also held in Welikada prison for the benefit of Star Class prisoners.

Recreation.—Well conducted prisoners, particularly juveniles and first offenders, who have reached an advanced stage in their training are allowed to take part in games both indoor and outdoor. Boxing, gymnastics, and volley ball are popular games.

Religious instruction.—There are no prison Chaplains in Ceylon but representatives of all creeds and denominations are allowed to visit the prisons, hold services and give religious instruction. Services are held every Sunday and all prisoners encouraged to attend the services of their particular denomination.

Preventive detention.—There is no separate prison for prisoners undergoing preventive detention. These prisoners are located in a portion of Bogambara prison specially set apart for them. But the conditions of an ordinary rigorous imprisonment prison afford little scope for the special course of training contemplated by the system of preventive detention.

After care.—An unofficial organization known as the Ceylon Discharged Prisoners' Aid Association, with sub-committees in all the principal towns, works in conjunction with the prison authorities and is the agency through which aid is given to discharged prisoners.

Health of prisoners.—To the prison at Mahara there is attached a whole-time Resident Medical Officer. There is also a Resident Medical Officer attached to the Welikada Prison Hospital. There is in addition a Senior Medical Officer who has medical charge of Welikada prison, Hulftsdorp and Mahara prisons. Neither at Bogambara nor at Jaffna nor at any of the other local prisons is there a Resident Medical Officer. The Medical Officer attached to these prisons is not a whole-time officer but has other outside duties to perform.

At Welikada there is a new and up-to-date Prison Hospital intended to serve all prisons with an accommodation of 120 beds for general cases and 60 beds for infectious diseases.

In the female section of the Welikada prison there is a ward with 7 beds for general cases.

At Bogambara there is a hospital consisting of 5 wards with an accommodation of 35 beds.

In all other prisons a ward is utilized as a hospital.

All cases which need operative treatment or special nursing are transferred to the ordinary civil hospitals for treatment.

The total number of deaths in prisons was 102 in 1931, as against 80 in 1930, and the death rate per thousand of the admissions was 8.52 during the year 1931, as against 7.73 during the year 1930.

CHAPTER XIV.

Legislation.

LEGISLATION IN 1931.

THE following Ordinances were passed during the year under review: the first 23 by the old Legislative Council, and the rest by the State Council established by Order-in-Council and inaugurated on July 7, 1931:—

No. 1.—An Ordinance for the Incorporation of the Board of Management of Ceylon Post Office Security Fund and for regulating the issue of Loans from the Fund.

No. 2.—An Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 11 of 1842, intituled " An Ordinance to provide for a Church in Kandy ".

No. 3.—An Ordinance to provide further investigation and settlement of industrial disputes.

No. 4.—An Ordinance to amend the Excise Ordinance, No. 8 of 1912.

No. 5.—An Ordinance to amend the Irrigation Ordinance, No. 45 of 1917.

No. 6.—An Ordinance to make Supplementary Provision for the Public Service for the Financial Year 1929-30.

No. 7.—An Ordinance to amend the Cemeteries and Burials Ordinance, 1899.

No. 8.—An Ordinance to amend the Interpretation Ordinance, 1901, and to make further provision for the interpretation of the written law of the Island.

No. 9.—An Ordinance to repeal the Audit Ordinance, 1908.

No. 10.—An Ordinance to define the law relating to Muslim intestate succession, donations and charitable trusts or wakfs.

No. 11.—An Ordinance to amend the Public Trustee Ordinance, No. 1 of 1922.

No. 12.—An Ordinance to amend The Municipal Councils Ordinance, 1910.

No. 13.—An Ordinance to amend the Housing and Town Improvement Ordinance, No. 19 of 1915.

No. 14.—An Ordinance to amend the Municipal Councils Ordinance, 1910 (The Municipal Councils Second Amendment Ordinance, 1931).

No. 15.—An Ordinance to amend the Ceylon Railway Benefit Association Ordinance, 1908.

No. 16.—An Ordinance for Establishing and Regulating the Ceylon State Mortgage Bank.

No. 17.—The Saiva Paripalana Sabhai Ordinance.

No. 18.—An Ordinance to amend the Explosives Ordinance, 1902.

No. 19.—An Ordinance to consolidate and amend the Law relating to Buddhist Temporalities in the Island.

No. 20.—An Ordinance to amend and consolidate the Law relating to Land Settlement.

No. 21.—An Ordinance to provide for the Consideration and Decision of Applications in respect of Claims to Lands at the Disposal of the Crown.

No. 22.—An Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 12 of 1840.

No. 23.—An Ordinance to amend the Forest Ordinance, 1907.

No. 24.—An Ordinance to validate an Order made by the Governor in Executive Council on the 28th day of May, 1931, directing the Principal Collector of Customs to cease temporarily to levy certain Customs duties imposed by law.

No. 25.—An Ordinance to amend the Local Loans and Development Ordinance No. 22 of 1916 as amended by the Local Loans and Development Amendment Ordinance, 1930.

No. 26.—An Ordinance to amend " The Irrigation Ordinance, 1917 ".

No. 27.—An Ordinance to amend " The Marriage Registration Ordinance, 1907 ".

No. 28.—An Ordinance to amend " The Births and Deaths Registration Ordinance, 1895 ".

No. 29.—An Ordinance to amend " The School Teachers' Pension Ordinance, No. 6 of 1927 ".

No. 30.—An Ordinance for making provision for the Public, Railway and Colombo Electricity Supply services for the financial year 1931-32.

Of the 30 Ordinances in this list 18 were merely amending Ordinances, some of which deserve special mention. No. 11, the Public Trustee Amendment Ordinance, served to bring the principal Ordinance of 1922 into operation by filling up *lacunae* and defining and enlarging the scope of the Public Trustee's duties. He has now been enabled to undertake the administration of religious and charitable trusts as well. In addition to his functions under this Ordinance, he is also made the sole supervising authority over the trustees of Buddhist temples appointed or nominated under the provisions of the Buddhist Temporalities Ordinance (No. 19).

The latter is in the nature of a consolidating Ordinance, replacing those of 1905 and 1919, and dealing not only with the care and control of temple properties but also with the registration of " bhikshus " (monks) and with the succession to any private property acquired by them and not alienated during their lifetime.

Another amending and consolidating Ordinance is No. 20, the Land Settlement Ordinance, which takes the place of the much criticised enactment of 1897. It makes the procedure less rigid and more helpful to the private individuals who prefer claims against the Crown. It enables the Settlement Officers to enter into equitable arrangements with claimants, subject to an appeal to a Board specially set up for this purpose, and makes it unnecessary to resort to an action at law except when these arrangements fail. It simplifies also the nature of the action to be brought into one merely for a declaration of title against the Crown. In short, it seeks to prevent litigation altogether, and if an action is instituted, to make it simpler and less expensive. And among the new provisions introduced by it, special mention may be made of that for the automatic registration of Settlement Orders free of stamp duty.

The very next Ordinance, No. 21, deals with the connected matter of other claims to lands to which the Crown has indisputable title and enables them to be taken up in appeal before the Board set up under the provisions of No. 20.

Matters now dealt with for the first time are Industrial Disputes, the Muslim law of succession and trusts, and the State Mortgage Bank.

Ordinance No. 3, which is based partly on an English Act of 1919, aims at the prevention of industrial disputes and prescribes a mode of settling them when they arise. The former purpose is to be served by the appointment of Commissions to inquire into any matters relating to industry, trade, or agriculture; and their reports are expected to be of assistance in avoiding disputes. For the second purpose the Controller of Labour is given the power to effect amicable settlements himself or to appoint Conciliation Boards to investigate and settle disputes. Any settlement effected by them and published by the Controller in the prescribed manner is to be binding on both parties, and any breach of it without due notice to the Controller is to be subject to a penalty. The Ordinance however is not to apply to Government servants who are paid other than fixed daily rates, or to persons in the naval, military, and air services and in the Police and Prisons Departments; and any disputes between the Government and its workmen can only be dealt with by the order of the Governor.

No. 10, the Muslim Intestate Succession and Wakfs Ordinance, declares that the law governing intestate succession and donations not involving "*fidei commissa*", usufructs or trusts, shall be the Muslim law of the sect to which the intestate belonged, and that all other donations shall be governed by the law of the maritime provinces. And on the lines of the Religious Endowments Act of India, greater power of control over the trust property is given to the persons interested in charitable trusts or "wakfs".

No. 16, the Ceylon State Mortgage Bank Ordinance, is perhaps the most interesting of the new Ordinances. It brings into a being a State Mortgage Bank in Colombo for the sole purpose of granting long term loans for agricultural needs. The Bank is to be under the supervision of a Board of five Directors appointed by the Governor, and in the immediate charge of a Manager. Its first capital, of not more than twenty-five million rupees, is to be found by the sale of debentures of the value of Rs. 50 each and redeemable within 25 years of issue; and for their redemption not only are these the assets of the Bank which are the natural and primary security, but the general revenue of the Island is also pledged as an additional security available as a last resource. The loans are to be given only on primary mortgages of immovable property in Ceylon and only for the purpose of acquiring and developing lands. The period of the loan may vary between 5 and 25 years and the interest is to be not less than 6½ per cent. per annum. The loans are liable to be recalled on the ground of misrepresentation of facts or insufficiency of security; and a procedure for their recovery is laid down which is expected to be speedier in practice than that followed in ordinary actions. Special directions are also laid down regarding accounts, audit, and management generally; and to ensure the credit and safety of the Bank certain acts, such as the use of a loan for unauthorized purposes, are made offences.

SUBSIDIARY LEGISLATION IN 1931.

No new work of any magnitude has been done during the year; but many amendments, involving the drafting of single rules or small sets of rules, have been effected, chiefly to facilitate the tasks of the various local bodies and authorities under the Municipal Councils, the Local Government, and the Village Communities Ordinances and the like.

NOTES ON FACTORY LEGISLATION, &c.

(1) The Mines and Machinery Protection Ordinance of 1896 enables the Governor to make rules for ensuring the safety of persons employed in mines and factories for the promotion of sanitation there and for restricting the work to be done by women and children between moving parts of machinery.

The Employment of Women, Young Persons, and Children's Ordinance, No. 6 of 1923, gives effect to the conventions adopted by the International Labour Organization of the League of Nations at Washington on November 28, 1919, and at Geneva on July 9, 1930, and provides that no child under 14 years of age shall be employed in any industrial undertaking and that no young person under 18 and no woman shall work at night except in certain specified industrial undertakings.

Provision has also been made for the proper housing and medical treatment of immigrant labourers on tea and rubber plantations by the Medical Wants Ordinance, No. 9 of 1912, and the Diseases (Labourers) Ordinance, No. 10 of 1912, and the Labour Ordinance, No. 1 of 1923.

(2) There has been no legislation regarding compensation for accidents or provision for old age and sickness for ordinary daily-paid workers. But immigrant labourers under the Ordinances already mentioned and servants under a contract of service are in law entitled to care and treatment during illness.

CHAPTER XV.

Public Finance and Taxation.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue of the Island in the last five completed financial years was—

	Rs. c.		Rs. c.
1926–27	129,358,916 31	1929–30	110,926,863 47†
1927–28	134,134,952 93	1930–31	101,767,555 90‡
1928–29	107,818,274 57*		

The following is a statement of the expenditure in the same financial years:—

	Expenditure chargeable to general revenue, including accumulated surplus balances. Rs. c.	Expenditure chargeable to revenue pending raising of Loan funds. Rs. c.
1926–27	121,046,299 61 ..	2,575,597 43
1927–28	152,107,200 15 ..	—
1928–29	125,896,034 36* ..	—
1929–30	110,275,529 29 ..	102,993 21
1930–31	100,296,064 73 ..	280,463 63

PUBLIC DEBT.

On September 30, 1931, the sterling debt of the Island stood at £15,639,693 and the rupee debt at Rs. 3,000,000 towards redemption of which were held securities and moneys amounting to £5,595,074 and Rs. 2,026,172.

Setting off the securities against the debts and effecting conversion at 1*s.* 6*d.* to the rupee, the net total Public Debt of the Island amounts to Rs. 134,902,081 which is a little over one and a half times the revenue for the year ended September 30, 1931.

A statement of the loan position of the Island as it stood on September 30, 1931, is annexed.

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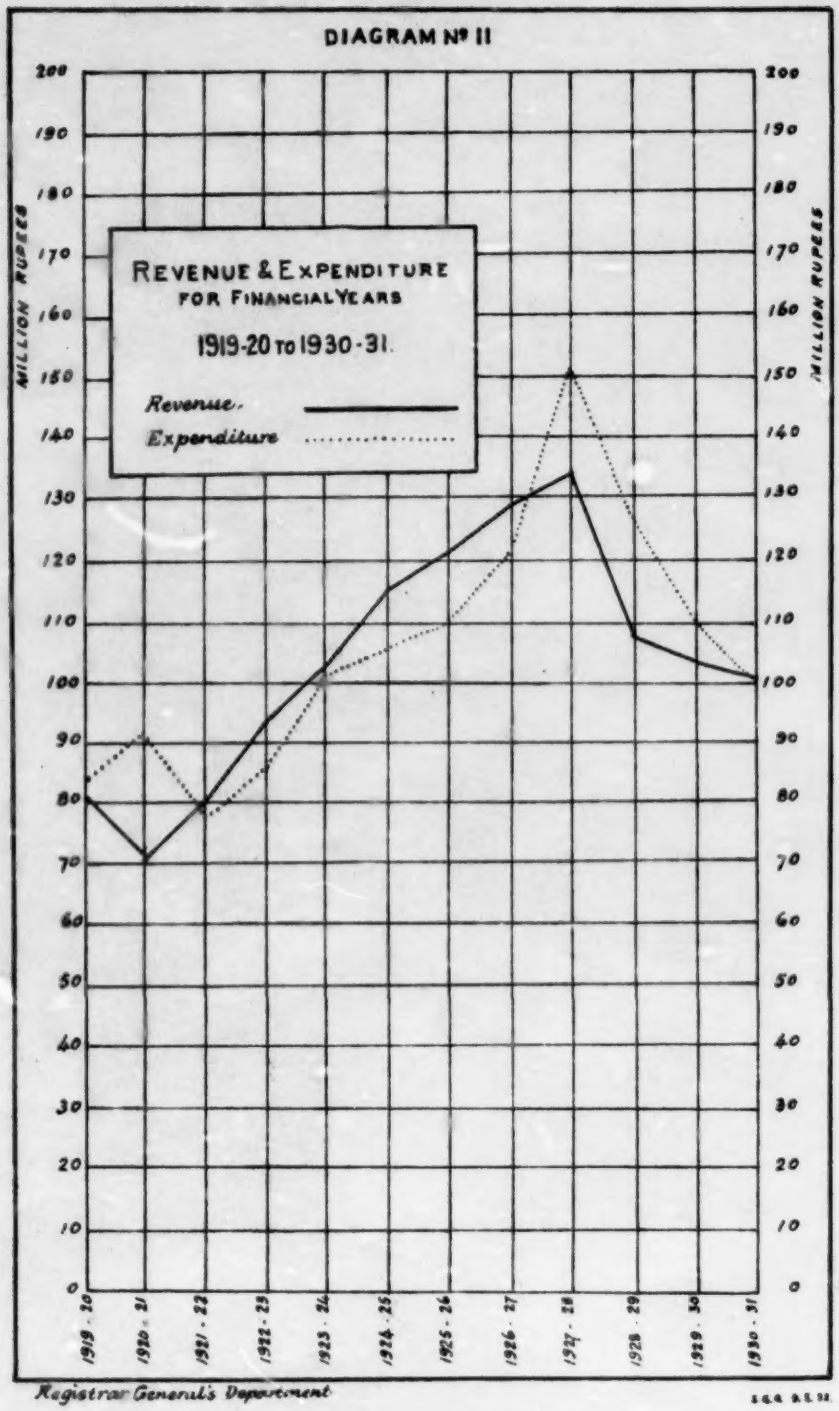
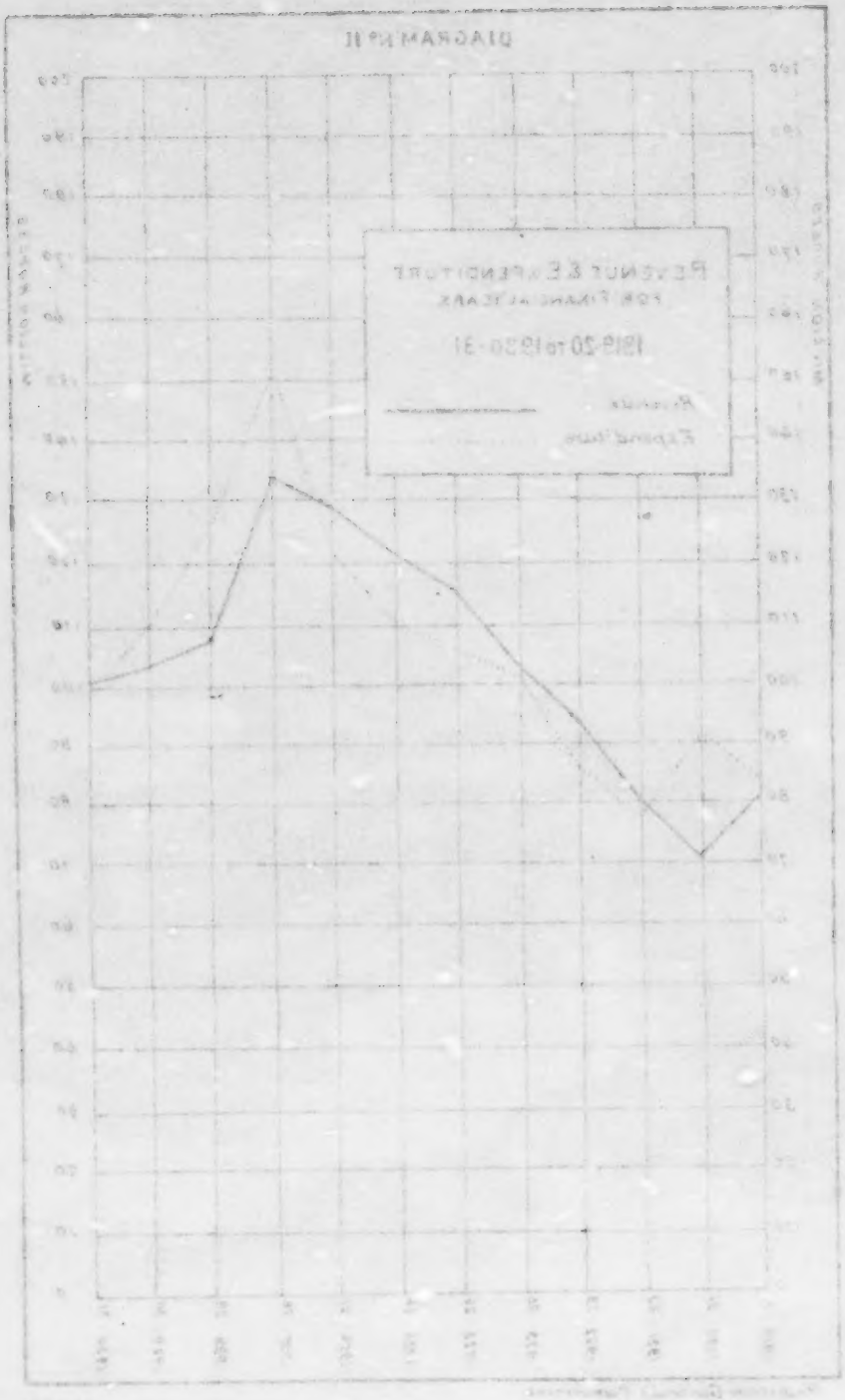
* Decrease due to separation of Railway accounts from the general budget.

† Includes Rs. 7,418,932·41 recovered from Loan, being expenditure met from surplus balances in previous years pending raising of loan.

‡ Includes Rs.13,904,014 recovered from Loan, being expenditure met from surplus balances in previous years pending raising of loan.



Registrar General's Department



SUMMARY OF PUBLIC DEBT, 1930–31.

Description of Loan.	Amount.	Equivalent at 1s. 6d. = Re. 1.	Investments held on behalf of the Sinking Fund. Face Value of Securities.	Investments held on behalf of the Sinking Fund. Purchase Price.	Amounts in Deposit with Westminster Bank and Balance in Hand pending Investment.	Total (of Columns 5 and 6).	Equivalent at 1s. 6d. = Re. 1.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	£. s. d.	Rs. c.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	Rs. c.
Debentures unredeemed	600 0 0	8,000 0	—	—	—	—	—
4 per cent. Inscribed Stock (Debentures converted), 1934	1,076,100 0 0	14,348,000 0	1,216,345 16 9	1,217,819 1 5	—	1,217,819 1 5	16,237,587 61
3 per cent. Inscribed Stock, 1940	2,850,000 0 0	38,000,000 0	2,321,407 13 5	2,108,769 15 7	8 1 2	2,108,777 16 9	28,117,037 83
3½ per cent. Inscribed Stock, 1959	1,500,000 0 0	20,000,000 0	531,280 15 7	442,688 17 0	—	442,688 17 0	5,902,518 0
4 per cent. Inscribed Stock, 1959	1,000,000 0 0	13,333,333 33	241,924 19 3	202,322 8 5	8 2 0	202,330 10 5	2,697,740 28
6 per cent. Inscribed Stock, 1936–51	6,212,993 8 4	82,839,912 22	1,284,098 4 6	1,330,783 16 11	—	1,330,783 16 11	17,743,784 61
5 per cent. Inscribed Stock, 1960–70	1,250,000 0 0	16,666,666 67	—	—	—	—	—
4½ per cent. Inscribed Stock, 1965	1,750,000 0 0	23,333,333 33	—	—	—	—	—
	15,639,693 8 4	208,529,245 55	5,595,057 9 6	5,302,383 19 4	16 3 2	5,302,400 2 6	70,698,668 33
			66,694 9 4	66,499 9 1	—	66,499 9 1	886,659 39
4 per cent. Ceylon Inscribed Stock, 1944	—	3,000,000 0	Rs. 1,136,900.00	Rs. 1,310,532.61	Rs. 12·25	Rs. 1,310,544·86	1,310,544 86
		211,529,245 55					72,895,872 58

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

The assets of the Island on September 30, 1931, amounted to Rs. 53,018,016.75 and the liabilities amounted to Rs. 37,632,412.22, showing an excess of assets over liabilities of Rs. 15,385,604.53. This surplus was in excess of that on September 30, 1930, by a sum of Rs. 1,191,027.54.

The assets consisted of—

	Rs.	c.
(1) Cash in the hands of the Deputy Financial Secretary, in fixed or current deposit in banks and with the Crown Agents in London	28,182,338	41
(2) Unissued stores, investments in rupee and sterling gilt-edged securities, advances to the General Manager of the Railway, other recoverable advances, security deposits in banks, &c., remittances in transit and suspense account	24,835,678	34
Total ..	53,018,016	75

The liabilities consisted of—

(1) Widows' & Orphans' Pension Fund	12,894,784	50
(2) Ceylon University Building and Equipment Fund	4,105,709	44
(3) Loan Funds	8,397,748	23
(4) Court suitors and other depositors in the Treasury and the Kachcheries ..	10,681,250	14
(5) Colombo Electricity Supply	957,081	36
(6) Other governments and agencies, loans to local bodies (sinking funds), prize funds and unpaid drafts	595,838	55
	37,632,412	22

TAXATION AND YIELD THEREOF.

The main heads of taxation and the yield of each are as follows:—

	Rs.	c.
Customs	43,390,248	84
Salt	1,998,969	94
Arrack	8,349,497	75
Licences—Sundries	549,958	85
Tolls	47,206	84
Stamp Duties including composition duty on Bank cheques and share certificates ..	1,770,658	2
Estate Duties	1,181,918	91
Police Rates	234,076	87
Betting Tax	220,185	29
Total ..	57,742,721	31

Excise and Stamp Duties (summarized).—The amount realized from Excise revenue during the financial year under review was Rs. 8,349,497.75 and that in respect of Stamp Duties Rs. 1,770,658.02. Compared with the revenue of the last financial year Excise revenue shows a decrease of Rs. 1,295,373.82 and Stamp Duties a decrease of Rs. 1,353,513.29.

Revision of Taxes.—During the year under review export duties on rubber and coconut produce payable under Ordinance No. 17 of 1869 were remitted.

CURRENCY.

On September 30, 1931, the value of the currency notes in circulation amounted to Rs. 42,441,002. The Commissioners of Currency on this date held silver rupees to the extent of Rs. 14,264,177 and British, Indian, and Colonial securities amounting to Rs. 33,073,996, cost price, or Rs. 30,382,915, market price.

The value of the reserve on September 30, 1931, was thus in excess of the value of the notes in circulation by Rs. 4,897,171.

During the year silver rupees to the extent of Rs. 8,028,125 were issued to the public and the Banks in exchange for currency notes (Rs. 8,179,412 issued and Rs. 151,287 received).

Subsidiary coin of various denominations amounting in all to Rs. 12,620,967, was in circulation in the Island on September 30, 1931.

EXCHANGE.

The rates of exchange on London on December 31, 1931 were as follows:—

	s.	d.
Selling Demand	1	6 3/16
Selling Telegraphic Transfer	1	6 5/32
Buying Demand	1	6 9/32

ESTATE DUTIES.

Estates of persons whose deaths occurred on or after July 1, 1919, are chargeable with duty under the Estate Duty Ordinance, No. 8 of 1919. During the financial year 1930-31, a sum of Rs. 1,051,989.30 was collected as estate duty, as against Rs. 1,451,944.78 in the previous year. Of the kinds of property which paid duty, immovable property was by far the largest in value and represented 58.75 per cent, of the total value. Local Company shares come second with 19.01 per cent. of the total value.

541 estates under Rs. 25,000 in value paid only 4.86 per cent. of the total duty, while 2 estates between Rs. 1,500,000 and Rs. 2,500,000 in value paid 19.85 per cent., 13 estates between Rs. 300,000 and Rs. 600,000 paid 17.59 per cent., and 6 estates between Rs. 900,000 and Rs. 1,200,000 paid 15.25 per cent. These figures show clearly that estate duty is a tax on the rich.

47.23 per cent. of the duty was paid on the estates of persons domiciled out of the Island. In most of these cases the parties are entitled to a refund from the estate duty paid in the countries in which they are domiciled. The total amount of duty paid in respect of the Colonies during the financial year 1930-31 was only Rs. 24,690.65.

CHAPTER XVI.

Miscellaneous.

LAND.

IN considering the question of land the climatic divisions of the Island are of the greatest importance. The portion of the Island, roughly one-quarter of it, which receives the rain of the south-west monsoon is called the wet zone, and the remaining three-quarters the dry zone. Enjoying a generous rainfall, land in the wet zone is far more productive; tea, rubber, coconuts, and other economic crops could, up to the recent slump in prices, profitably be grown; and village cultivation flourishes with less labour. The bulk of the population of the Island is located in the wet zone. Since the British occupation there has been steady development both in large estates and in village holdings, and the population has considerably increased. Fresh land for development, accessible to the means of communication, has in recent years become scarcer.

In the dry zone, on the other hand, the conditions of life are much more severe. The rainfall is scanty and uncertain, and malaria in certain months almost universal. The village population, in general, has a hard struggle for existence, and does not tend to increase rapidly. The dry zone has hitherto had little attraction for the agriculturalist desiring to open land in economic products, and is largely undeveloped.

To provide a means of final settlement of the title to land as between the Crown and private individuals, a special Ordinance was passed in 1897, and the Land Settlement department came into existence shortly afterwards. The law has recently been consolidated and brought up to date in the Settlement Ordinance of 1931. The task of settlement is a complicated one and cannot be unduly hurried, and large areas still remain to be dealt with. The lack of settlement in the Kandyan Provinces has inevitably tended to retard development, and it is the aim of Government to push on with the work as fast as possible.

Till recent years, persons desirous of buying or leasing land from the Crown applied in the first instance to the Revenue Officer of the district. Lands so applied for were surveyed in rotation, and eventually put up to public auction. The drawbacks of this system were that the applicants had no guarantee that they would be successful in securing the land and that a too haphazard development of the Crown estate took place. There was also a danger that the permanent interests of the village population would be overlooked. The system has now been modified and a policy substituted under which all available Crown land is first mapped out, and the land required to meet the needs of the existing village population for small holdings, forests, pasture land, &c., and

for State requirements such as reserved forests is first provided. If there is further land suitable for agriculture land is reserved for colonization by villagers who are crowded out in their own villages and are prepared to move to localities in which land is available. A scheme is also in course of preparation under which Ceylonese of moderate means who desire to devote their energies to agriculture may be enabled to take up land without having to compete for it with Companies or large capitalists. It is anticipated that most of the remaining land suitable for agriculture in the wet zone will be required for the above purposes.

Considerable progress has been made during the last two or three years in settling peasants on the land. In addition to many settlements under which peasants have received lands in their own villages, colonization schemes under which the peasants are moving from congested areas to take up land at some distance from their own home are beginning to achieve some success. The slump in rubber and other major products by depriving the peasants of a source of livelihood is tending to produce a willingness to move which has not existed hitherto. Under all these peasant settlement schemes lands are being given on terms which preclude subsequent alienation without the consent of Government and ensure that some use is made of the land.

With regard to the dry zone, to which eventually the surplus population of the congested areas in the wet zone must turn if it is to have sufficient land for agricultural development, efforts are now being made to encourage the taking up of the remaining land under the large irrigation works. There are still some 12 to 15,000 acres of such land and there are signs that the development of this land will not be very long postponed.

In addition to this a scheme is on foot to encourage the taking up of small farms for ordinary (dry) farming upon land which cannot be irrigated from tanks and the adoption of annual cultivation with the plough and a rotation of crops. It has been proved by experiment that such farming, which has not yet been extensively tried in the dry zone of Ceylon and is something new to the village cultivator, is feasible. It is believed that the future agricultural development of the dry zone largely depends upon the successful introduction of this system of farming.

Forests.

Forest revenue dropped further from Rs. 683,382.97 to Rs. 495,774.10. For this general trade depression is not alone responsible, except in the case of export sales of satinwood, realizations from which fell from Rs. 121,088.69 to Rs. 32,715.69. Other contributory factors are the loss of paper credit royalty on supplies to public departments, and the glut of timber available from lands alienated under the liberal land policy of Government. This has had its inevitable repercussion on sales of timber and firewood organized by the department from areas coming under reforestation. These have yielded little, but the position is that the clearing of such lands by lessees, without departmental expenditure, is almost more important than revenue considerations, and areas are often handed over for reforestation without any marketing of their timber content, where no standing market exists. The system of chena reforestation, combining, as it does, forestry and agriculture, is yearly gaining in popularity, and warrants the assurance that after initial successful establishment in the smaller, but highly accessible forest units, it will rapidly expand and radiate to the larger and more isolated forest blocks.

The actual area given out on reforestation leases in 1931 was 1,170 acres, but if the department had accommodated all applicants, it would have exceeded 2,000 acres, for conversion into jak plantations. Progress is checked however by the necessity for careful discrimination among lessees, the non-availability of lands not yet mapped out, uncertainty regarding the total area ultimately available for forest interests, and the necessity for a limited programme of reforestation involving subsequent departmental expenditure for which the vote may be inadequate, and the department must for the present be content with seeing how the forestry machine can be better controlled. Ultimately it is hoped that a total

annual programme of 2,500 acres may be sustained. The area added to regular plantations in 1931 was 749 acres, bringing the total of these to 25,122 acres, on which the expenditure of the year was Rs. 99,571.30.

Progress in up-country reforestation with exotic conifers was well sustained, and is yearly becoming more systematic with the overhauling of arrears of work. Here the annual requirements of timber and fuel, extracted to depôts, can be gauged with fair accuracy and a new feature of the work is the introduction of sales of firewood to estates from central depôts, and main reforestation areas, in contrast to the earlier system whereby individual blocks adjacent to estates, were allocated to the estates, which exploited them and carried out the actual work of reforestation. In deference to the view that the hill country is disfigured by these isolated fellings, the process of grouping estates, which can be served from central reforestation blocks in the charge of the department, is expected to develop.

An interesting species among conifers under experiment in up-country reforestation is the Kenya pencil cedar, *juniperus procera*, which shows early promise of adapting itself to Ceylon conditions. Should it do so, this timber should be a valuable asset to the country. Other species of interest are the *araucarias*, in considering future tea box woods, while of timbers required for general use *thuja gigantea* and *cupressus torulosa*, both of them excellent woods, are thriving in young plantation. The principle of up-country reforestation is a mixture of exotic hardwoods and coniferous softwoods, the former consisting of the best timber eucalypts and other broadleaved species, the latter containing a high percentage of the well known *cupressus macrocarpa*, which will be reduced to make way for more valuable species as they pass their trials in experimental plots. The ultimate aim is the reforestation of 20,000 acres, which is all the land available for the purpose. The annual programme is 250 to 300 acres.

The general marketing of hardwood timbers has made no progress. This was inevitable under commercialization, for Government departments which were by far the largest consumers, went off the local product forthwith, in favour of the more readily purchasable imported article. Effort was made to encourage the local sleeper supply from private sources, but the results proved an entire failure, barely 10 per cent. of the indent materializing. The whole subject of creating a market with Government departments for purchasers of forest coupés is under investigation, but is very difficult in the absence of any general market for these timbers, while no satisfactory basis of negotiations between intending suppliers and intending consumers has yet been arrived at. The department is not perturbed in view of the depleted condition of many of these forests, which require a long period of rest, while from the point of view of resultant revenue, such forests are not of great importance. Their valuable contents are scattered, and their exploitation is found to be of low remunerative value. Little progress can be made in the matter until purchasers come forward who are prepared to maintain depôts for the regular marketing of timber, but in the face of foreign competition this is found to be too great a risk to run. There is in fact no regular market for such material, the extraction costs of which are high. Similarly the department is unable to contemplate departmental extraction against doubtful prospects of disposal.

Survey.

The Survey Department.—As no land can be alienated or otherwise dealt with by the Crown until it has been surveyed and demarcated, the work of the Survey Department is of great importance. Its chief activities in this connection may be summarized as follows:—

(*a*) Application Surveys, *i.e.*, scattered disconnected surveys of small areas of land required for sales, leases, and various other purposes.

(*b*) Block Surveys, or continuous surveys of large areas of land according to villages, showing private land *en bloc* and not according to claims.

(*c*) Acquisition Surveys, or surveys of land to be acquired by the Crown for public purposes.

(*d*) Town and Forest Surveys, and isolated surveys for settlement and miscellaneous purposes.

Topographical Surveys.—In addition the Survey Department attends to the Topographical Survey of the Island. Sectional maps for the whole Island on the scale of 1 mile to the inch can be obtained at the Surveyor-General's Office, Colombo, and numerous small-scale maps are also published. The chief of these are—

4-mile and 8-mile to the inch maps of the Island.
8-mile to the inch motor maps.
6-mile to the inch motor maps, in book form.

Other work of the Survey Department.—The other work of the Survey Department is not directly connected with the subject of this chapter. It includes—

(1) Precise Levelling.
(2) Town-planning and Assessment Surveys.
(3) The Observatory and Meteorological Stations.

INFORMATION FOR VISITORS.

Passengers' Baggage.—Facilities provided at the Passenger Jetty for the storage of baggage are described on page 54. Passengers' baggage is defined by the Customs regulations to mean *bona fide* baggage (which includes wearing apparel and personal effects) of a passenger accompanying him or arriving in Ceylon within one month, before or after his arrival, or within such time as the Collector of Customs in the circumstances deems reasonable. With certain exceptions, passengers' baggage is exempt from duty.

Importations by Visitors.—A refund of the duty paid by visitors to the Island on articles imported by them is allowed on re-exportation. In the case of motor cars and motor cycles duties will be refunded in full, and in the case of all other articles seven-eighths of the duty paid will be refunded. Further information on the regulations governing refunds can be obtained at the Customs House.

Sea Communications.—The approximate distances of Colombo, the chief port of the Island, from the other chief ports of the world, the passage fares, and the duration of the journeys are given on pages 56 and 57.

Railway.—The Ceylon Government Railway serves the principal towns of the Island, and offers to visitors facilities for inland travel. Cheap first class tourist tickets obtainable from the Booking Office at the Jetty, the Fort Station, and recognized tourist agents at Rs. 50 (£3. 15*s*. 0*d*.) for two weeks and Rs. 75 (£5. 12*s*. 0*d*.) for one month, permit tourists to travel 951 miles of railway and visit the most important and the historic towns.

The distances from Colombo to some of the principal towns of the Island, information regarding sleeping and restaurant cars, &c., are found on pages 57 and 58.

Taxi-cab Fares.

There is no legal tariff for taxi-cabs within the Municipal limits of Colombo, but the usual scale of fares is as follows:—

For the first half-mile	50 cents
For each subsequent 1/6 mile up to 1 mile	12½ cents
For each subsequent mile	75 cents

Extra charges are made for each passenger over two, and for each piece of luggage other than hand luggage. A higher scale of fares is charged in the case of taxi-cabs hired between the hours of 9 P.M. and 6.30 A.M.

The above rates apply only to places within the Municipal limits of Colombo. For trips to places outside Colombo Municipality a special agreement should be come to *before starting*. The hiring-car fares to such places vary from 40 cents to Re. 1 per mile, with extra charges for detention.

Hotel and other Accommodation.

There are hotels in some of the larger towns in Ceylon. The rates are usually Rs. 9 a day and upwards, a usual charge for first-class accommodation being Rs. 12 a day.

In addition to hotels, there are about 170 " resthouses " in various parts of the Island, where accommodation and meals are provided. The cost is about Rs. 8 to Rs. 10 a day. Rooms can be occupied generally for three days only unless the permission of the Road Committee has been obtained for a longer stay. It is generally advisable to book rooms in advance.

Places of Interest.

Most of the places of interest in the Island can be visited during a three-weeks' stay in Ceylon. The more important of these are the following:—

Colombo.—Any information desired can be obtained at the Post Office, Railway, and Municipal Bureaux, which have been opened at the jetty. The principal Government and mercantile offices are situated in the Fort within easy reach of the jetty. The General Post Office and the Central Telegraph Office are about five minutes' walk from it. Some of the places of interest in Colombo are the Colombo Museum, the Victoria Park, the residential quarter known as Cinnamon Gardens, the Racecourse, the Maligakanda Buddhist temple, and the Hindu temple in Sea street.

Kelaniya, noted for its Buddhist temple, is about four miles to the north-east of Colombo, and can be reached by train or car.

Mount Lavinia and *Negombo* are two towns which attract visitors for sea-bathing. The former is about eight miles to the south of Colombo and has a good hotel by the side of the Railway Station, and the latter is about twenty-four miles to the north of Colombo and has a resthouse.

Galle, an important town 72 miles to the south of Colombo, was the chief port of call in Ceylon before the Colombo breakwaters were built. The ramparts of the Dutch fort are still standing.

Kandy, about 74 miles by rail from Colombo, was the capital of the Kandyan kingdom before it was acquired by the British in 1815. There are a number of buildings of interest that date from the time of the Kandyan kings, such as the various temples, the Old Palace (now used as the residence of the Government Agent, or chief civil official of the Province), and the Audience Hall. There is a small museum, containing some interesting exhibits. Of the temples, special mention should be made of the Temple of the Tooth, which attracts Buddhist pilgrims from all parts of the East. The Perahera or annual festival, held in August, is well worth seeing.

Nuwara Eliya, the hill station, is about 135 miles from Colombo. Its elevation is about 6,200 feet and the mean temperature 59.3° F. It is well equipped with hotels, boarding-houses, and bungalows. Close to it is Pidurutalagala, which presents a commanding view of the country all round.

Trincomalee, situated on the north-east coast of the Island about 183 miles by rail from Colombo, possesses a magnificent natural harbour. It was at one time the Headquarters of the East Indies Squadron. Among the places of interest here are Fort Frederick and Sober Island. There is a fairly good resthouse.

The " Buried Cities " are worth seeing. *Anuradhapura*, on the Northern Line, about 127 miles from Colombo, was the capital and the residence of the Sinhalese kings for more than a thousand years, and contains the remains of numerous sacred monuments. The Thuparama Dagoba, built by King Tissa about the year 247 B.C., is the oldest of the Dagobas in Ceylon, while the sacred Bo-tree—a branch of the tree under which the Buddha attained enlightenment—is another noteworthy relic of the same period and is said to be the oldest tree in the world.

Polonnaruwa, situated on the Batticaloa line, about 161 miles from Colombo, became the capital of the Island after the decline of Anuradhapura. It contains the ruins of numerous temples, shrines, and other buildings of great archæological and historic interest.

The best time for a visit to Ceylon, from a climatic point of view, is from the latter part of November to middle of March. April and May are hot. From June to September is the period of the south-west monsoon, while October and November mark the beginning of the north-east monsoon.

Principal Languages.

Sinhalese and Tamil are the two chief vernacular languages in the Island, the former belonging to the Sinhalese who chiefly inhabit the western, central, and southern portions of the Island, and the latter to the Tamils inhabiting the northern and eastern parts and to the immigrant estate population. English is in general use among the people of the upper and the middle classes of all communities.

Publications regarding Ceylon.

The Ceylon Blue Book and the Annual General Report on the Economic, Social, and General Conditions of the Island can be consulted at the Imperial Institute and the British Museum.

The Ceylon Publicity Committee, formed in the year under review for the purpose of advertising Ceylon, have issued a brochure on Ceylon which can be obtained from the tourist and the shipping agencies on the continent or in the principal ports of the world. A concise guide to the Island has also been published and can be purchased locally and on board ships.

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CEYLON, 1932

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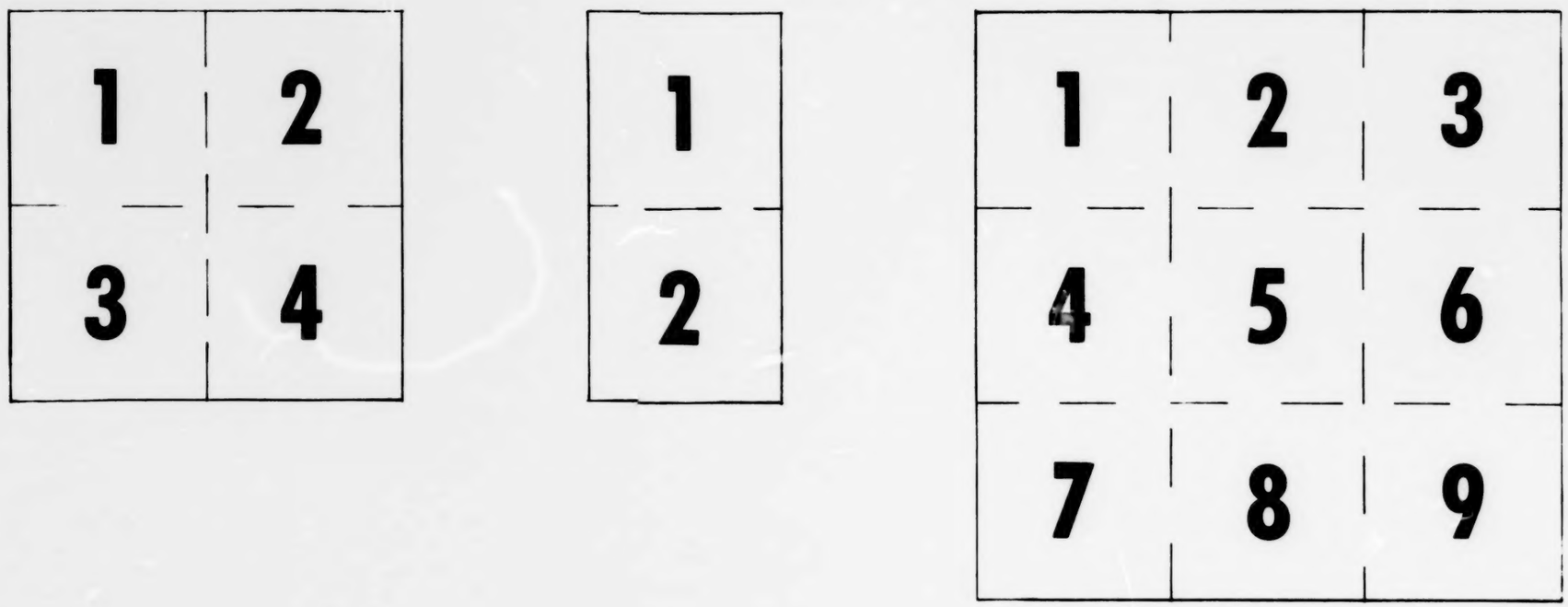

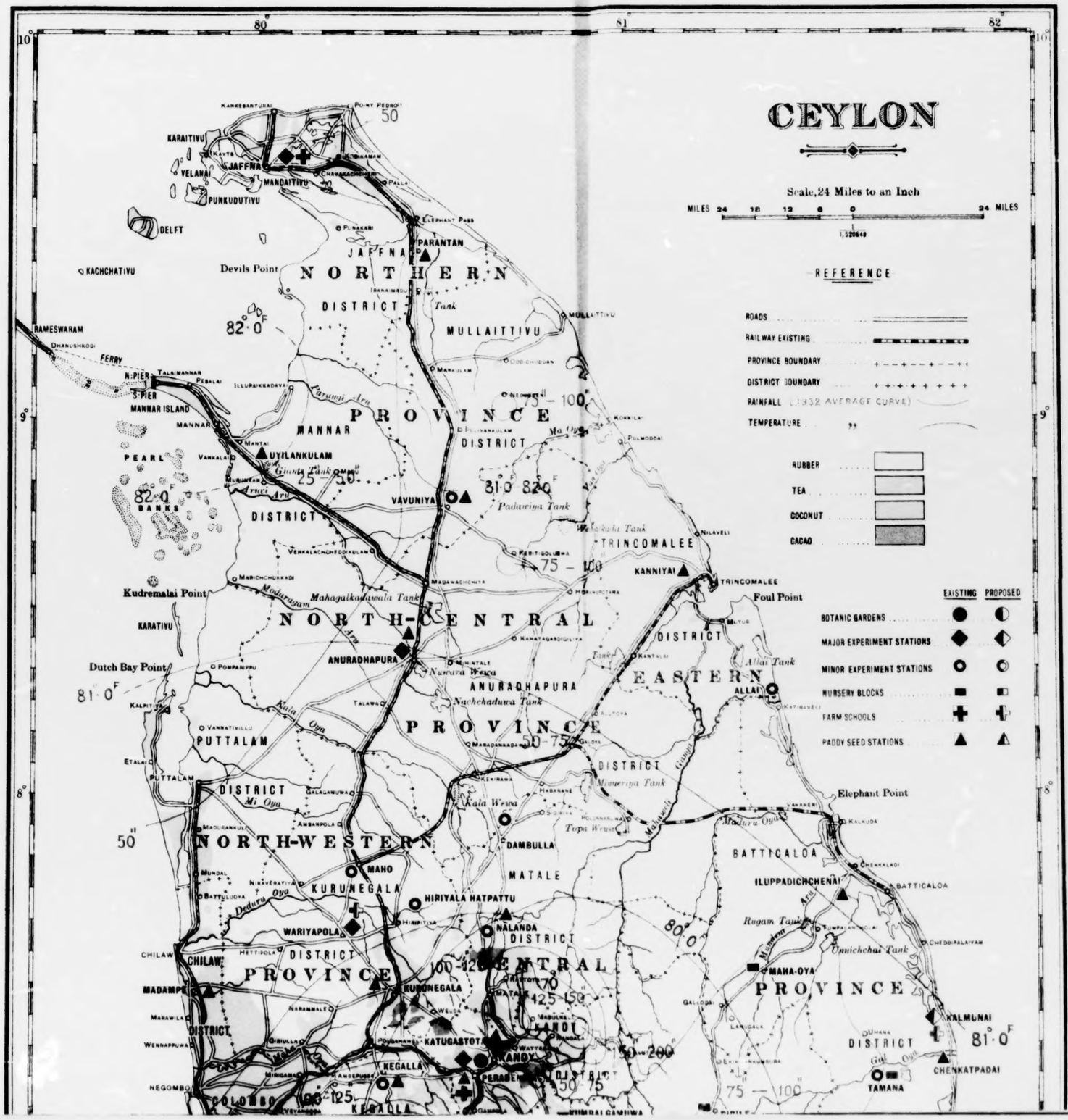
CEYLON
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REFERENCE
ROADS
RAILWAY EXISTING
PROVINCE BOUNDARY
DISTRICT BOUNDARY
RAINFALL (1932 AVERAGE CURVE)
TEMPERATURE
RUBBER
TEA
COCONUT
CACAO
EXISTING
PROPOSED
BOTANIC GARDENS
MAJOR EXPERIMENT STATIONS
MINOR EXPERIMENT STATIONS
NURSERY BLOCKS
FARM SCHOOLS
PADDY SEED STATIONS
NORTHERN PROVINCE
JAFFNA DISTRICT
MANNAR DISTRICT
MULLAITTIVU DISTRICT
NORTH-CENTRAL PROVINCE
ANURADHAPURA DISTRICT
PUTTALAM DISTRICT
NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCE
KURUNEGALA DISTRICT
CENTRAL PROVINCE
MATALE DISTRICT
NUWARA ELIYA DISTRICT
KANDY DISTRICT
EASTERN PROVINCE
TRINCOMALEE DISTRICT
BATTICALOA DISTRICT
AMPARA DISTRICT
KALMUNAI DISTRICT
COLOMBO DISTRICT
KEGALLA DISTRICT
GALLE DISTRICT
MATARA DISTRICT
HAMBANTOTA DISTRICT
BADULLA DISTRICT
MONARAGALA DISTRICT
RATNAPURA DISTRICT
Devils Point
Kudremalai Point
Dutch Bay Point
Foul Point
Elephant Point
Pearl Banks
Mannar Island
Ferry
Giants Tank
Padawiya Tank
Mahagalkadawala Tank
Nachchaduwa Tank
Kala Weva
Minneriya Tank
Allai Tank
Rugam Tank
Unnichchai Tank
Madura Oya
Mahaweli Ganga
Kala Oya
Mi Oya
Deduru Oya
Maha Oya
Kala Oya
Karuwala Tank
Nuwara Weva
Topa Weva
Parangi Aru
Arugi Aru
Mundaragam
Mullaitivu
Trincomalee
Batticaloa
Jaffna
Kankesanturai
Point Pedro
Karaitivu
Velanai
Punkudutivu
Delft
Kachchativu
Rameswaram
Dhanushkodi
Talaimannar
Pesalai
Illupaikkadavai
Mantai
Vankalai
Uyilankulam
Vavuniya
Kanniyai
Parantan
Elephant Pass
Palaly
Mandaitivu
Chavakachcheri
Puttalam
Anuradhapura
Dambulla
Maho
Kurunegala
Hiriyala Hatpattu
Wariyapola
Nalanda
Chilaw
Madampe
Colombo
Kegalla
Kandy
Peradeniya
Katugastota
Matale
Badulla
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Pulmoddai
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Tampalakamam
Vakanerai
Galgamuwa
Ambanpola
Madurankuli
Mundal
Nikaveratiya
Battuludya
Mettipola
Narammalé
Gibulla
Wennappuwa
Negombo
Mirigama
Ambepussa
Yatiyantota
Polgahawela
Warakapola
Ratmalana
Galle
Hambantota
Tangalle
Matara
Weligama
Bandarawela
Haputale
Ella
Nuwara Eliya
Hatton
Nawalapitiya
Gampola
Kandaketiya
Bibile
Ampara
Kalmunai
Uhana
Lahugala
Dehiattakandiya
Mahiyanganaya
Ratnapura
Balangoda
Kalutara
Panadura
Moratuwa
Wellawatte
Bambalapitiya
Kotahena
Pettah
Fort
Mutwal
Kolonnawa
Ratmalana
Mirihana
Nugegoda
Maharagama
Homagama
Piliyandala
Kesbewa
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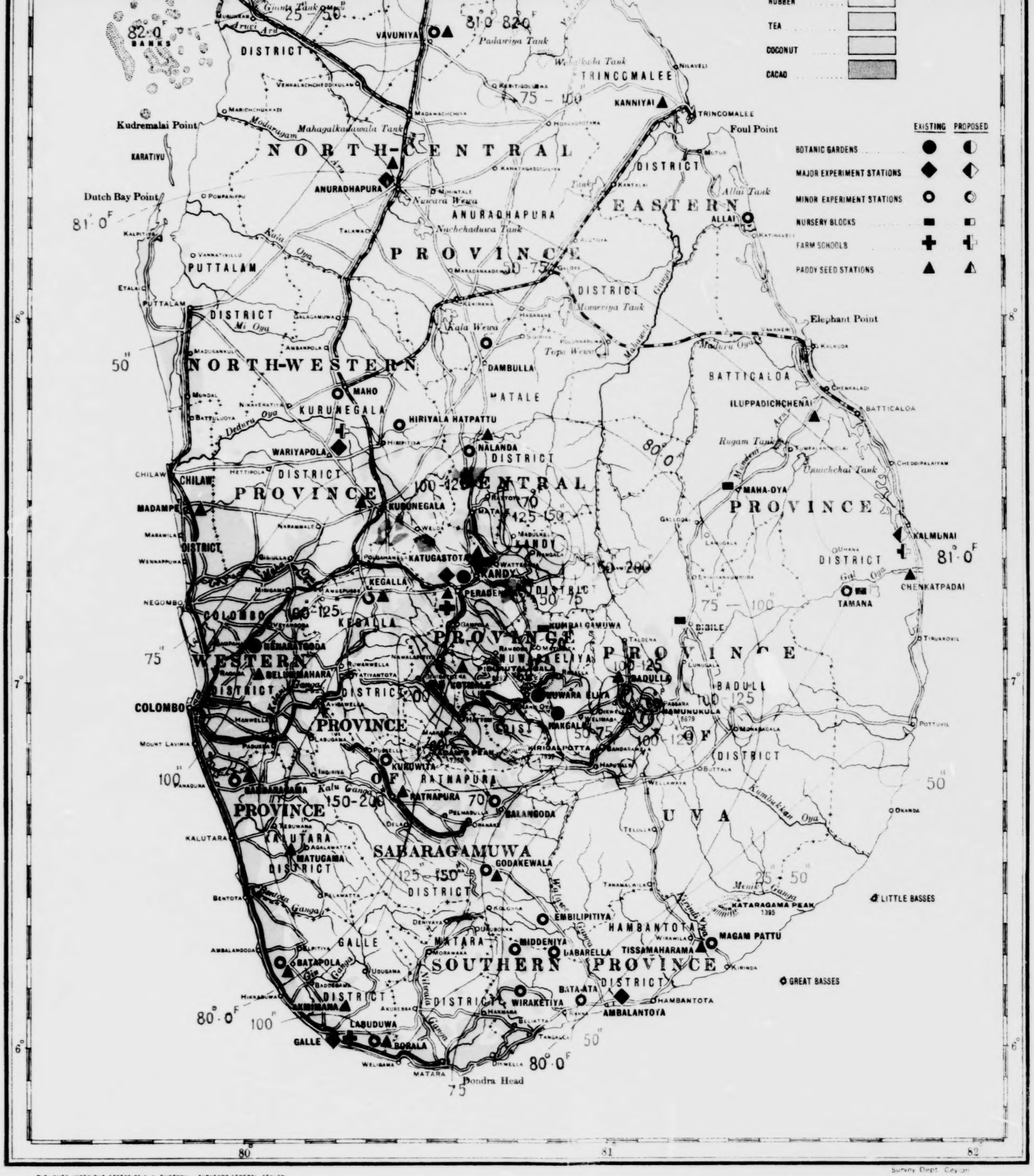

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Annual General Report for 1932 on the Economic, Social, and General Conditions of the Island.

CHAPTER I.

Introductory.

DR. JOHNSON, after going from the Western Islands of Scotland to Paris, is said to have remarked " Paris is indeed a place very different from the Hebrides, but to a hasty traveller not so fertile of novelty, nor affords so many opportunities of remark ". So in Ceylon the traveller will find more to charm the eye and stimulate the mind than in many other countries of greater reputation. The vegetation, cultivation, the dress, customs, and occupations of the people are novel and romantic, and the contrast is sufficiently diverting to awaken enthusiastic interest in those bred in the more prosaic surroundings of the West.

Ceylon is a pear-shaped island at the southern extremity of India, flat save for a block of mountains rising to 8,000 feet in the centre of its southern half. A belt of cultivation of varying width extends along the western coast from Puttalam in the north to Matara in the south. The remainder of the low-country is jungle broken by occasional stretches of paddy fields, irrigated by artificial lakes (called tanks in Ceylon), each with its village of cultivators. The tanks are relics of the ancient Sinhalese irrigation system and are one of the most beautiful features of the country; Mr. John Still in his book " The Jungle Tide " writes of one of them as follows:—

> I know a place where wooded hills that are the home of many bears thrust their long promontories far into a blue lake. In shallow bays between the woods families of pelicans cruise slowly, fishing as they go, their white bodies gleaming like a squadron of toy yachts. Waves break upon the shore, and crocodiles lie basking on the gravel there, or stretch themselves at length on little grassy mounds left by the receding water, where they lie with their mouths open wide like traps set ready for use. The trees that overhang the water are nesting-places for colonies of egrets, large and small; herons abound there, and several kinds of storks; and in shallow water the strange spoonbills run with their flat-tipped bills scooping up food like a boy with a shrimping net; plovers and sand-pipers run along the beach, and stilts with legs like red sealing-wax stand and whistle; and if one has fortune, rose-and-white flamingoes may be seen wading far out from land, sometimes in large flocks. Five kinds of kingfisher are common birds there, and I have seen another very rare one. White-headed fishing eagles call like clarionets from high trees where they watch for the shoals, and the chestnut-coloured kites mew as they hover hungrily along the margin of the lake. Once when I crossed in a boat and landed on the far side in a prairie of grass growing as high as my shoulders, a herd of wild buffaloes that I estimated to contain about eighty head rose up and stood in a curve of wondering faces hesitating whether to fight or fly. As the water sinks in the sou'-west monsoon, and the flats become carpeted with soft grass, the deer venture farther from the encircling woods, and herds of wild swine plough up acres of the new pasture in a night in search for food. This is the place to watch pea-fowl, for at the back of the lake they abound, and their loud cat-calls are the earliest herald of dawn.

The Buried Cities and Other Places of Interest.

Other remains of the ancient Sinhalese civilization are to be found among the ruins of Anuradhapura, Polonnaruwa, and Sigiriya situated to the north of the mountain block, often called the "buried cities" of Ceylon. The ruins were buried only in jungle which has now been cleared by the Department of Archæology, leaving a succession of glades or glade-like corridors; they are of sculptural rather than architectural interest, friezes, panels, capitals, pavements, being carved in relief with conventionalized lions, elephants, horses and geese, flowers and dancing human figures. The art is conventional and representative of a period or craft rather than realistic. The work, particularly that in stone, is sufficiently preserved to suggest the form of the buildings when they were intact, and to interest those with no technical knowledge of archaeology. Perhaps the most striking of the brick remains are the Dagobas (hemispherical erections housing relics, sometimes 200 or 300 feet in height) some of which have been restored in modern times. The ruins at Anuradhapura extend over an area 3 or 4 miles in extent and are approachable by a net-work of gravel roads; the Polonnaruwa remains cover a smaller area. Anuradhapura is said to have been founded in the fourth century B.C. and to have been the capital and residence of the Sinhalese Kings for more than a thousand years; Polonnaruwa dates only from the twelfth century A.D.; its brick work is better preserved than that of Anuradhapura, and the architectural and sculptural features are said to show traces of Hindu influence. Both sites can be reached by railway or by road, and at each there is a hotel or resthouse. Sigiriya was a fortress built on the top of a precipitous rock some 400 feet in height. Frescoes painted on the face of the rock which has been previously treated with plaster can be seen as one ascends; they are said to date from the fourth century A.D. On the summit of the rock are remains of buildings, and foundations cut into the rock. The ascent is somewhat precarious, the last portion being achieved by means of an iron ladder up a vertical rock face. Sigiriya lies some 5 miles off the road from Dambulla to Trincomalee and is approachable by a motorable road.

Trincomalee, situated on the north-east coast of the Island, is a magnificent natural harbour and was at one time the Headquarters of the East Indies Squadron. It contains numerous buildings erected by the Dutch during their occupation of Ceylon in the 17th and 18th centuries.

There are leopard, bear, elephant, buffalo, several kinds of deer, pig, snipe, teal, pea-fowl, jungle-fowl and various other game birds in the low-country jungles. A licence is necessary both for the use of firearms and for the destruction of game; particulars of these licences can be obtained from the Government Agent, Western Province, Colombo.

An impression of the cultivated and thickly populated south-western coastal stretch of the Island can be obtained by a visit to Galle, the principal port of the Island during the Dutch occupation. Here a head-land was completely walled by the Dutch; the ramparts, some 30 or 40 feet high, are faced with immense blocks of stone and filled with earth, the top affording a pleasant grassy promenade. Inside the walls are numerous Dutch and early English buildings still in use. The road from Colombo to Galle is flanked almost continuously by coconut plantations extending to the sandy, cliffless shore, and passes through numerous fishing villages. The fishing boat is an out-rigger canoe large enough to hold 5 or 6 men at most with a single primitively rigged sail; the fisherman is naked save for a loin-cloth and a large straw hat, since the boat sits low in the water and ships even the smallest seas.

The journey to Negombo, which contains a Dutch fort and a resthouse popular among Colombo residents, reproduces similar features. The coconut plantations continue along the coast in a northerly direction as far as Puttalam.

The central block of mountains consists of a jumble of twisted ranges, the highest peak being Pidurutalagala, near Nuwara Eliya, 8,000 feet in height. Much of the jungle which only a hundred years ago clothed their slopes in many tinted green has been replaced by sombre rubber plantations, or by numberless rows of neatly pruned tea bushes. The floors of the valleys have for many

hundreds of years been cultivated by the Sinhalese, who took no interest in the hill-sides which are now the scene of lucrative industries. The Englishman is apt to think that fields are a natural condition of the earth's surface; but in the hills of Ceylon though the fields are much older than those of England, it is clear that they are made, with great labour, by man, for they are cut in terraces in the hill-side, the contour of which determines their shape. Tea is a camellia pruned to a roughly spherical bush some 3 feet in height; the monotony of the scene is broken by groups of shade trees, rocky jungle-filled gullies too precipitous or too infertile for tea, and by innumerable rocky streams which descend the hill-side in a series of miniature falls and are ultimately used to irrigate the rice fields below.

Nuwara Eliya, the most popular hill station of the Island, is situated in the middle of the highland block; its elevation is too great for the cultivation of rice and it was not inhabited by the Sinhalese. The flat valley surrounded by hills on which the town stands is occupied by a golf course and a race course. The stream which runs through it has been stocked with trout, which appear to flourish, by the Ceylon Fishing Club. Five miles from Nuwara Eliya are the Hakgalla Botanical Gardens where experiments in the acclimatization of plants are conducted, whence can be had an extensive view over the rolling grass and fern covered hills between Nuwara Eliya and Bandarawela. Of these grasslands (or patanas) Mr. Still writes:—

> The patanas I have briefly mentioned have always been looked upon as natural features of the hill country. Right up to their edges the forest grows unstinted, and then, without any gradual ending off in bushes or small trees, its place is taken by grass where harebells grow, and pink and yellow orchids. In the high hills, above 5,000 feet elevation, the patanas are dotted with rhododendron trees in ones and tens and groves, not close generally, but spaced like the trees in an abandoned orchard; and the sight of a group of these radiant with crimson blossom, makes one stop and take a deep breath in the half-conscious effort to absorb the whole joy of such unrivalled beauty. Lower down another tree, the kahata, takes the rhododendron's place in the patanas.

The fact that crystal flakes, apparently man-made and approaching later paleolithic forms, are found in large numbers on the summits of the patanas lends colour to the theory that the patanas are not natural but are the clearings of a primitive hunting race who occupied the uplands of the Island in pre-Sinhalese times.

The usual route from Colombo to Nuwara Eliya is through Kandy which was the capital of Ceylon for nearly 400 years immediately before European occupation of the Island. The town is picturesquely situated in a valley surrounded by jungle-clad hills and embellished by an artificial lake of ancient Sinhalese construction surrounded by an ornamental wall, and by yellow and scarlet flowering trees. The Maligawa or Temple of the Sacred Tooth of the Buddha—a relic held in deep veneration by 400 million people—the ancient Kandyan Audience Hall now used as a court-house during Supreme Court Sessions, the Museum and the Kandyan Art Association building are objects of interest. In the last, Sinhalese workmen may be seen engaged in metal and lacquer work and weaving in the traditional Kandyan mode; their products can be purchased from the Association.

Situation and Dimensions.

Ceylon lies between 5° 55′ and 9° 50′ N. latitude and 79° 42′ and 81° 53′ E. longitude. The greatest length of the Island from north to south, *i.e.*, from Point Palmyra to Dondra Head, is 270 miles; its greatest width 140 miles, from Colombo on the west coast to Sangamankanda on the east. Its area is 25,332 square miles, nearly the same as that of Holland and Belgium, or about half the size of England.

The approximate distances of Colombo, the chief port of Ceylon, from the other chief world ports, and the average tariff for the itinerary are given below :—

Colombo to London.

	Nautical Miles.	Approximate Days' Journey.
Aden	2,100	8
Suez	3,407	12
Port Said	3,494	13
Marseilles	5,091	16
Gibraltar (*viâ* Marseilles)	5,690	19
Gibraltar (direct)	5,407	18
London (by sea *viâ* Marseilles)	7,005	24
London (by sea direct)	6,725	20
London (overland)	5,868	17

Colombo to India, &c.

	Nautical Miles.	Approximate Days' Journey.
Calcutta (touching at Madras)	1,260	7
Bombay	875	3
Rangoon	1,249	4½
Penang	1,276	5
Singapore	1,567	6
Hong Kong (touching at Singapore)	3,113	13
Shanghai (touching at Singapore and Hong Kong)	3,966	17
Yokohama (*viâ* Singapore and Hong Kong)	5,083	23

Colombo to Australia.

	Nautical Miles.	Approximate Days' Journey.
Fremantle	3,121	9
Adelaide (touching at Fremantle)	4,479	13
Melbourne (touching at Fremantle and Adelaide)	4,979	15
Sydney (touching at Fremantle, Adelaide, and Melbourne)	5,556	18

Colombo to South Africa, &c.

	Nautical Miles.	Approximate Days' Journey.
Mauritius	2,999	10
Durban (touching at South African ports)	3,680	18
Cape Town (touching at South African ports)	4,362	21–30

PASSAGE FARES.

Colombo-London :—

1st class single	£56 to £80
2nd class single	£40 to £50
3rd and tourist single	£27 to £62

Colombo-Sydney :—

1st class single	£48
2nd class single	£32
3rd and tourist single	£22 to £41

Colombo-Melbourne :—

1st class single	£45
2nd class single	£30
3rd and tourist single	£21 to £40

Colombo-Durban :—

1st class single	£27½

Colombo-Singapore :—

1st class single by P. & O.	£24
2nd class single by P. & O.	£12

Colombo-Hong Kong :—

1st class single by P. & O.	£36
2nd class single by P. & O.	£20

Colombo-Yokohama :—

1st class single by P. & O.	£46
2nd class single by P. & O.	£26

Colombo-Bombay :—

1st class single	£10
2nd class single	£7

Colombo-Calcutta :—

1st class single	£10
2nd class single	£8

Colombo-Rangoon :—

1st class single	Rs. 180

Colombo-Port Said :—

1st class single	£37½ to £72
2nd class single	£28 to £48
3rd class and tourist single	£19 to £48

Colombo-Marseilles :—

1st class single	£58 to £76
2nd class single	£40 to £46
3rd and tourist single	£21 to £62

Colombo-Boston and New York	£60 to £95

Facilities provided at the Passenger Jetty for the storage of baggage are described on page 66. Passengers' baggage is defined by the Customs Regulations to mean *bona fide* baggage (which includes wearing apparel and personal effects) of a passenger accompanying him or arriving in Ceylon within one month, before or after his arrival, or within such time as the Collector of Customs in the circumstances deems reasonable. With certain exceptions, passengers' baggage is exempt from duty.

The Ceylon Government Railway serves the principal towns of the Island, and offers to visitors facilities for inland travel. Cheap first class tourist tickets obtainable from the Booking Office at the Jetty, the Fort Station, and recognized tourist agents at Rs. 50 (£3. 15*s*.) for two weeks and Rs. 75 (£5. 12*s*.) for one month, permit tourists to travel 951 miles of railway and visit the most important and historic towns.

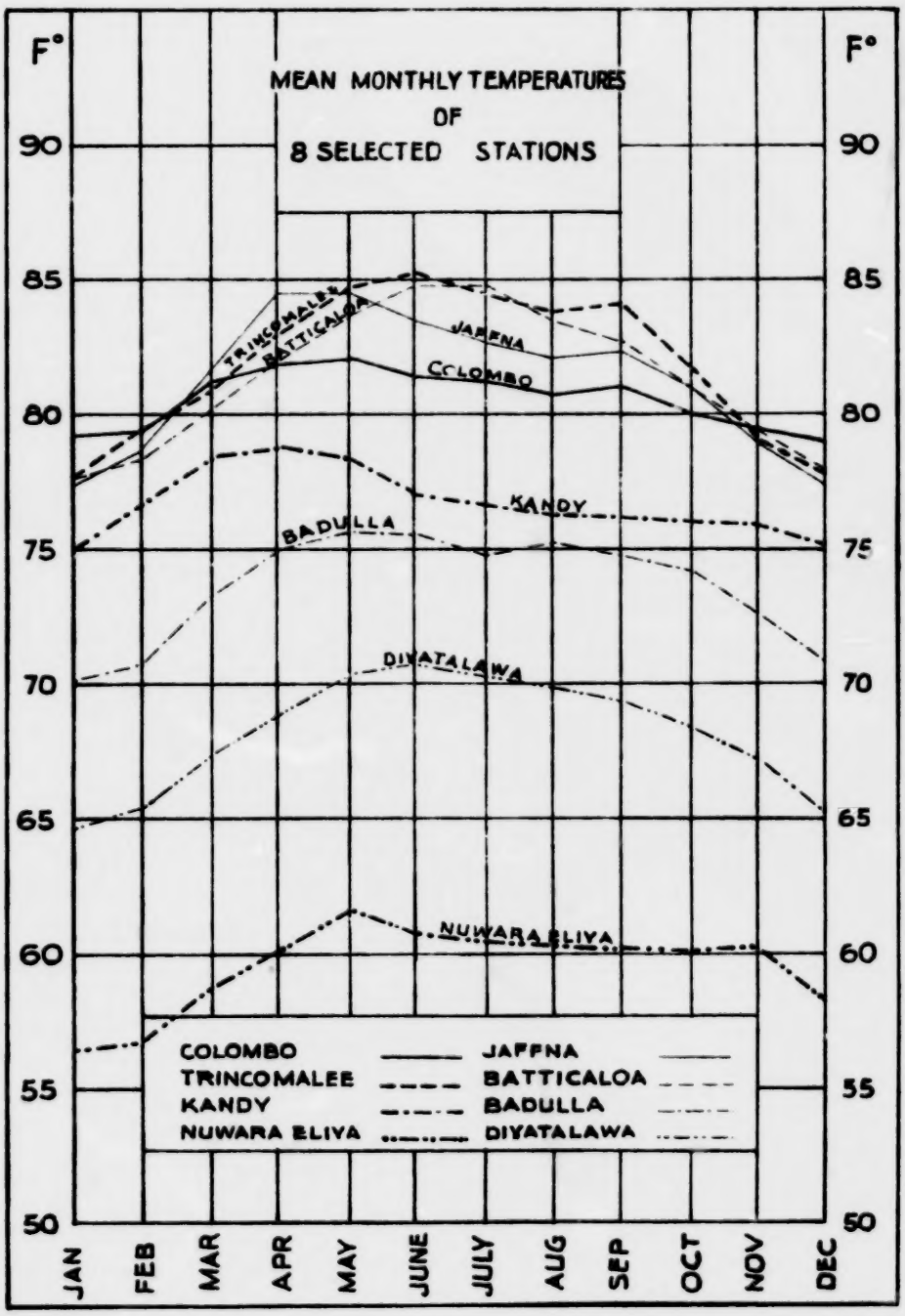
The distances from Colombo to some of the principal towns of the Island, information regarding sleeping and restaurant cars, &c., are found on pages 70-71.

There is no legal tariff for taxi-cabs within the Municipal limits of Colombo, but the usual scale of fares is as follows :—

For the first half mile	50 cents
For each subsequent ½ mile up to 1 mile	12½ "
For each subsequent mile	75 "

Extra charges are made for each passenger over two, and for each piece of luggage other than hand luggage. A higher scale of fares is charged in the case of taxi-cabs hired between the hours of 9 P.M. and 6.30 A.M.

DIAGRAM Nº I


MEAN MONTHLY TEMPERATURES
OF
8 SELECTED STATIONS
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BATTICALOA
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NOV
DEC

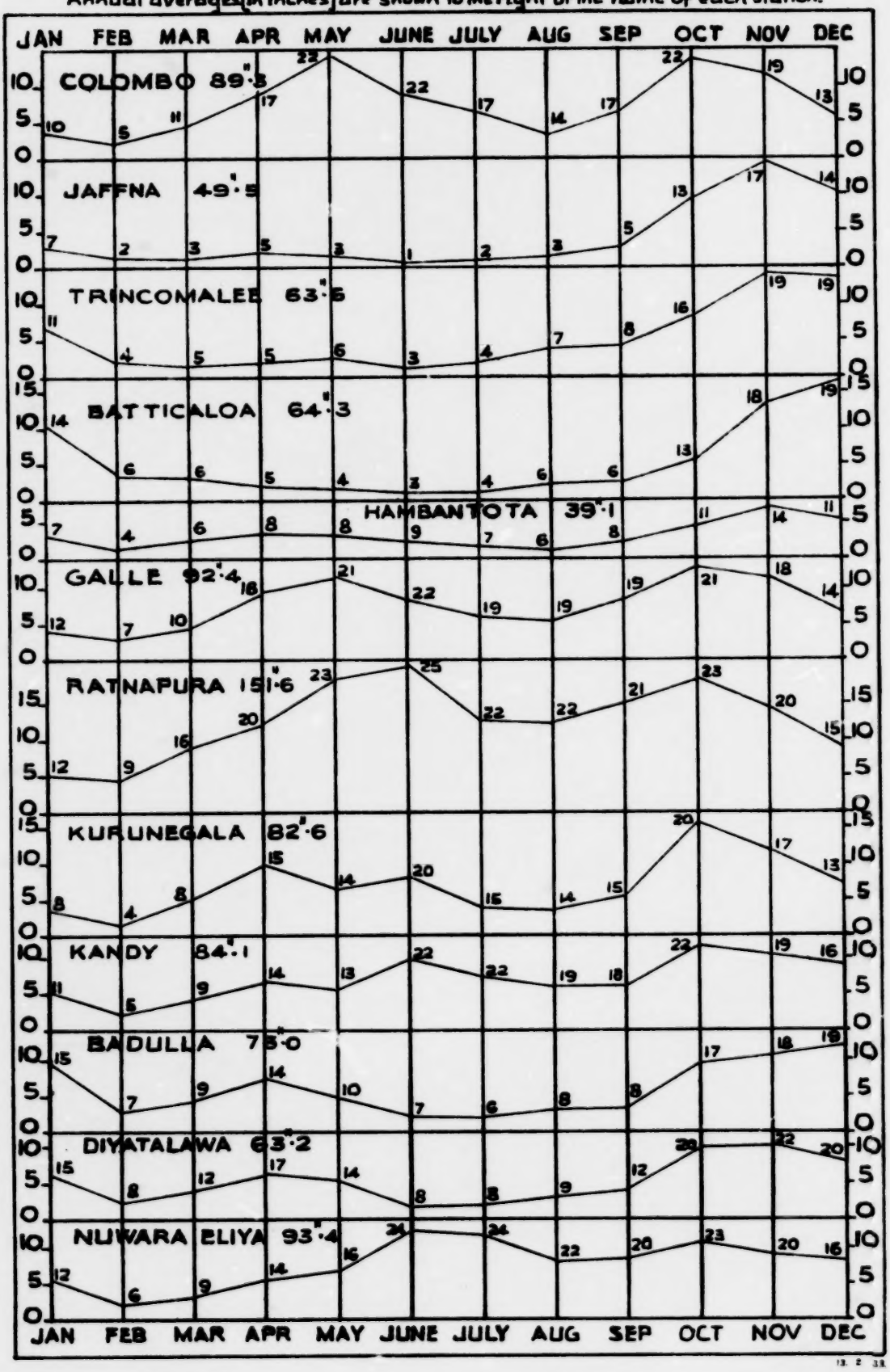
Diagram № 2

MEAN MONTHLY RAINFALL

OF 12 SELECTED STATIONS

Figures along the curve denote the number of wet days

Annual averages (in inches) are shown to the right of the name of each station.



The above rates apply only to places within the Municipal limits of Colombo. For trips to places outside Colombo Municipality a special agreement should be come to *before starting*. The hiring-car fares to such places vary from 40 cents to Re. 1 per mile, with extra charges for detention.

There are hotels of the European type in Colombo, Kandy, Nuwara Eliya, Galle, and Anuradhapura; the rates are usually Rs. 9 a day and upwards, the usual charge for first-class accommodation being Rs. 12 a day. Cold Storage Companies in Colombo supply ice and frozen meats and other foods by rail. In addition to hotels there are about 170 resthouses in various parts of the Island (they are marked on the ordinary motoring map), many of them very delightfully situated beside the sea or some river or tank.

Useful information may be had from the handbook published by the Automobile Association of Ceylon. " How to see Ceylon " by Bella Sidney Woolf is a favourite guide book for tourists. More ambitious and more informative is Bassett's Romantic Ceylon, a recent addition to the voluminous literature on the subject.

Climate.

On the whole, the climate of Ceylon is fairly good for the tropics. The accessibility of the hills is a great boon to the plain dwellers, and a change to the sea is beneficial to those who live in the hills. In the low-country, the districts which have been opened in rubber, coconuts, and other products are generally fairly healthy, but in the unopened localities malaria is common.

Temperature.—With regard to temperature, the range of variation at several stations is shown in diagram No. 1 facing this page.

The low seasonal variations will be noted, but it will be seen that the differences between the temperatures of low-country and up-country stations are considerable. The highest shade temperature registered in Ceylon was 103.7° F. at Trincomalee in May, 1890, and the minimum air temperature 27.1° F. at Nuwara Eliya in February, 1914. A maximum temperature of 103.7° F. is not excessive, but the humidity is considerable, the annual average percentage of saturation being generally about 80, Galle and Nuwara Eliya 84, Colombo and Badulla 82, Jaffna 81, Kandy 80, Batticaloa 78, Trincomalee 76. At Colombo, the " hot weather " may be said to extend from March to May, and the " cold weather " from December to February. July and August are often pleasant, particularly on the west side of the Island.

As is generally found in the tropics, however, the seasons are distinguished by differences in rainfall, rather than pronounced variations in temperature. The change in the direction of the monsoon winds, from S.-W. to N.-E., causes a corresponding change in the localities of the heaviest rain, which is usually experienced to windward of the hills, while during the intermonsoon seasons, local wind circulations are liable to give rain in any part of the Island. The mean temperature during the year varied from 81.5° in Trincomalee to 59.0° in Nuwara Eliya.

Rainfall.—The annual average rainfall varies from about 35 inches in the north-west and the south-east to over 200 inches in some parts of the interior. The annual averages in 1932 were 89 inches at Colombo, 84 inches at Kandy, and 93 inches at Nuwara Eliya. Diagram No. 2 facing this page shows the mean monthly rainfall of 12 selected stations.

History.

The earliest inhabitants of the Island are thought to have been the Nagas and Yakkhas, the latter being perhaps now represented by the Veddas. Legendary history has it that the first invaders were Aryans from the North of India who, under the leadership of Vijaya, overcame the aborigines and established the Sinhalese dynasty. Early attention appears to have been paid by the invaders to irrigation works, agricultural development, and other branches of civil administration, and by the end of the third century A.D. a comparatively advanced stage of civilization had been reached.

The history of Ceylon down to the sixteenth century may be divided into two parts, viz., the period of the Sinhalese *Mahavansa*, *circa* 500 B.C. to 300 A.D., and that of the *Suluvansa*, from *circa* 300 A.D. onwards. The first period is one

of increasing development and expanding civilization, connected chiefly with the extension of Buddhism, which was introduced about 247 B.C. The second period is one of ever-increasing pressure from the Tamils, Pandyans, and Cholas from India, with occasional successes on the part of the Sinhalese, particularly during the reign of their famous king, Parakrama Bahu I. (1153 to 1186 A.D.).

In the sixteenth century the Portuguese formed settlements on the coasts of the Island; in the next century they were dispossessed by the Dutch. In 1796 the British took possession of the Dutch settlements in the Island, which were then annexed to the Presidency of Madras, but five years later, in 1802, Ceylon was constituted a separate Crown Colony. In 1815, the districts of the interior, which had maintained their independence under the kings of Kandy, were acquired by Great Britain as the result of a rebellion against the Kandyan king, and the whole Island was thus united under the British rule.

Principal Languages.

Sinhalese and Tamil are the two chief vernacular languages in the Island, the former being spoken by the Sinhalese who chiefly inhabit the western, central, and southern portions of the Island, and the latter by the Tamils inhabiting the northern and eastern parts and by the immigrant estate population. English is in general use among the people of the upper and the middle classes of all communities. No knowledge of the vernaculars is necessary to the visitor as car-drivers, hotel servants, and resthouse keepers all speak English.

CHAPTER II.

Government.

The Constitution.

UNTIL 1931 the Constitution of Ceylon was of the Crown Colony type, the government being vested in the Governor assisted by Executive and Legislative Councils. A description of the old Constitution will be found in the Annual General Reports of 1929 and previous years.

In July, 1931, the then existing Constitution was superseded by a new Constitution, based on the recommendations of a Special Commission on the Constitution appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies, which visited Ceylon in 1927-28. The new Constitution was formulated by the Ceylon (State Council) Order in Council, 1931. The principal constitutional changes involved are described below.

The Legislative Council was dissolved in April, 1931, and the Executive Council in July of the same year, their place being taken by a " State Council " having both legislative and executive functions, which met for the first time on July 7, 1931. The new Council consists, at its *full strength, of three official members, fifty elected members, and not more than eight members nominated by the Governor. Neither an elected nor a nominated member may be a person holding any public office under the Crown in Ceylon.

The three official members of the State Council are styled the Officers of State. They are members of the Council *ex officio*, as the Chief Secretary, †Legal Secretary, and Financial Secretary to the Government respectively. The Constitution provides that they shall have all the rights and privileges of membership of the Council and of the Board of Ministers (a body which will be referred to later), save the right to vote on any question before the Council or the Board.

All elected members are elected on a territorial basis, communal representation having been abolished. The franchise is very wide. It extends, with a few exceptions, to all British subjects of either sex who are at least twenty-one years of

* At the time of writing, four seats representing constituencies in the Northern Province, remain unfilled, no nomination papers having been submitted during the general election in June, 1931.

† Or the Attorney-General, until a Legal Secretary is appointed (Article 6 of the Order in Council).

age and are domiciled in Ceylon. In addition, persons not so domiciled are permitted to vote if they possess a certain literacy and property qualification, or have received a " certificate of permanent settlement " from a Government Agent or Assistant Government Agent.

Eight additional members are nominated by the Governor after a general election, the object of their appointment being, in the words of the Special Commission,* " to make the State Council more generally representative of the national interests ".

On the first assembly of a new Council, and after the election of a Speaker, the members proceed by secret ballot to divide their total number (excluding the Speaker and the Officers of State) into seven standing committees styled " Executive Committees ", which are required to be as nearly as possible equal in number of members.† Each Committee is charged with the administration of one of seven groups of subjects and functions specified in the Order in Council under the following headings:—

I. Home Affairs.
II. Agriculture and Lands.
III. Local Administration.
IV. Health.
V. Labour, Industry and Commerce.
VI. Education.
VII. Communications and Works.

The Executive Committees having been elected, each Committee proceeds by secret ballot to elect a Chairman, and the Chairman-elect of each Executive Committee is then appointed by the Governor as Minister for the group of subjects and functions which his Committee was elected to administer. (But it is within the discretion of the Governor to decline to appoint as Minister any member elected Chairman of an Executive Committee.) Subjects and functions not allocated to Executive Committees are divided by the Order in Council into three further groups, one of which is placed in the charge of each of the Officers of State, who have no Executive Committees associated with them in the administration of these groups.

The duties of Executive Committees may be summarized as follows:—

(*a*) The preparation of the annual estimates of expenditure of the departments under their control, for submission to the Board of Ministers.
(*b*) Similarly, the preparation of supplementary estimates.
(*c*) The consideration of executive business relating to their own subjects and functions, whether laid before them by their Chairmen or by private members, or referred to them by the Council or the Board of Ministers.
(*d*) The consideration of proposed legislative measures falling within their scope.

The decisions of Executive Committees which are of sufficient importance to require the approval of the Council are submitted at meetings of the whole Council in the form of reports, which the Council may accept, or reject, or refer back to the Committee, but may not amend. A report accepted by the Council is submitted to the Governor by the Speaker for ratification. But the decisions of Executive Committees in financial‡ matters are submitted by the Committees to the Board of Ministers, and by the Board to the Council.

The Board of Ministers consists of the three Officers of State and the seven Ministers, but, as stated above, the Officers of State have not the right to vote on questions before the Board. The Chief Secretary is *ex officio* Chairman of the Board, and there is also a Vice-Chairman, elected by the Board from among the Ministers, who is the representative of the Board in the Council and is styled the Leader of the State Council. The most important function of the Board of Ministers is the preparation of the annual estimates of revenue and

* Page 101 of the Report of the Commission.

† The members subsequently elected as Deputy Speaker and Deputy Chairman of Committees cease, upon their election, to be members of Executive Committees.

‡ As defined in Article 57 of the Order in Council.

expenditure for the Island, and of supplementary estimates of expenditure. The annual and supplementary estimates of the different departments of Government are submitted by the Officers of State and Executive Committees to the Board, whose duty it is to revise them and, if and when approved, to submit them to the State Council, taking full and collective responsibility for them. No financial* measure may be introduced in the State Council except by an Officer of State or a Minister, and with the approval of the Board of Ministers. The Board of Ministers also determines the order in which any business, whether executive or legislative, to be brought before the Council either by the Board or by the Executive Committees or Officers of State, is to be despatched, and prescribes the procedure for the settlement of questions affecting more than one Executive Committee.

The ordinary life of a Council is four years. But the Constitution provides that the Governor may dissolve the Council at any time, and shall dissolve it if the whole of any Annual Appropriation Bill is rejected, or if the decision of the Council on a financial* measure, or on a motion expressly directed to test the confidence of the Council in the Board of Ministers, makes it apparent, in his opinion, that the Board no longer retains the confidence of the Council.

†The Governor retains the power to certify any Bill, motion, resolution, or vote as being of paramount importance, or he may declare that it is essential to give effect to the provisions of the Order in Council. In either event the measure has effect as if it had been passed by the Council, subject to disallowance by His Majesty the King in the case of Bills and to revocation by the Secretary of State in the case of other measures. ‡Power is also reserved to the Governor to declare that a state of emergency exists, and thereupon to assume control of any Government Department.

The appointment, promotion, transfer, dismissal, and disciplinary control of public officers are vested in the Governor (with power of delegation to heads of Government departments), and the Order in Council contains clauses for the preservation of their conditions of service.

For full details of the Constitution, reference may be made to the Order in Council, which is reproduced in the Ceylon Government Manual of Procedure.

The Ceylon Civil Service.—The Ceylon Civil Service, recruited partly by examination on the same basis as the Indian Civil Service, and partly by local appointments, furnishes officers for the general administrative, and part of the judicial, work in the Island.

Revenue Districts.—For administrative purposes Ceylon is divided into Provinces, which are subdivided into districts, as shown in the following table:—

Provinces.	Districts.	Provinces.	Districts.
Western	Colombo, Kalutara	North-Western	Kurunegala, Puttalam-Chilaw
Central	Kandy, Matale, Nuwara Eliya	North-Central	Anuradhapura
Southern	Galle, Matara, Hambantota	Uva	Badulla
Northern	Jaffna, Mannar, Mullaittivu	Sabaragamuwa	Ratnapura, Kegalla
Eastern	Batticaloa, Trincomalee		

The Government Agents.—The posts of Government Agents—one in each of the nine Provinces—are held by senior Civil Servants. To the Government Agents is entrusted the general administrative work of their Provinces, while their Kachcheris, or offices, are the provincial treasuries for the receipt of revenue and the payment of the local expenses of Government.

The Government Agents hold a number of other official positions, and preside over some local bodies in their Provinces. They are, as a rule, assisted by one or more Assistant Government Agents, who are in charge of revenue districts or else perform special duties at the provincial headquarters.

The Headmen.—The officer next subordinate to the Government Agent or Assistant Government Agent is the chief headman, who is differently styled in different districts: "Mudaliyar" in the maritime Sinhalese districts; "Ratemahatmaya" in the Kandyan districts; "Maniagar", "Adigar", and "Vanniya" in the Tamil districts. There are about 107 chief headmen in the Island. In some cases the Mudaliyar is assisted by one or more "Muhandirams". Next to the chief headman ranks the superior headman, called in

* As defined in Article 57 of the Order in Council. † Article 22 of the Order in Council.
‡ Article 49 of the Order in Council.

the maritime Sinhalese districts " Vidane Arachchi ", in the Kandyan Sinhalese districts the " Korala ", and in the Tamil districts the " Udaiyar ". There are about 619 superior headmen in Ceylon.

Lastly comes the village headman, who is in charge of one or more villages, and whose jurisdiction is the administrative unit. The number of village headmen is about 3,900. In addition, there are peace officers, irrigation headmen, and others appointed for special purposes.

Local Government.

With the inauguration of a new Constitution for the Island in July, 1931, an Executive Committee of Local Administration was elected by the State Council to supervise, control, and develop local government, and a department of local government under the Commissioner of Local Government was created as the executive instrument of the Committee.

The local duties in regard to sanitation and public thoroughfares have for long been entrusted to a number of local authorities whose members are the nominees of the Governor with the addition in most cases of persons elected by the inhabitants. In Colombo, Kandy, and Galle, there are Municipal Councils whose Chairmen are members of the Civil Service. At least half the members are elected by the ratepayers, all those possessing a house of the annual value of Rs. 180, or every tenant who pays a monthly rental of Rs. 15 or is a graduate of a university, being qualified to vote. The Executive Committee has had under consideration an Ordinance to amend the constitution of the Colombo Municipal Council in order to provide for an entirely elected Council with an elected Chairman.

Until the end of 1932 in eleven of the smaller towns there were Urban District Councils with elected Chairmen, two-thirds of the members being elected by the ratepayers and one-third being nominated by the Governor. Such Councils had not been constituted in the absence of a local demand and during the first ten years since this type of Council was first devised there had been singularly little demand. On the recommendation however of the Executive Committee, 16 more such Councils were established from January 1, 1933, in place of 10 of the Local Boards of Health and Improvement, in 5 of the small towns previously administered by Sanitary Boards, and also in place of the Board of Improvement of Nuwara Eliya.

Only one small town is now administered by a Local Board of Health and Improvement, viz., Minuwangoda, it being too small to support an Urban District Council. The Government Agent of the Western Province is the Chairman. The members are the District Engineer, the Medical Officer of Health and 3 elected members.

Groups of smaller towns, frequently no larger than roadside bazaars, are administered by the Sanitary Boards of the various provinces and districts, consisting of the Government Agent, or Assistant Government Agent, two local officials of the Public Health Department and the Public Works Department, and not more than four nor less than two members nominated by the Governor. This method of local administration is carried on for a number of towns in a district from the District Headquarters with a staff consisting partly of officers whose salaries are met proportionately by the various towns and partly of officers lent by the Public Health Department, assisted by yet others in addition to their normal duties for the Central Government. This cheap and reasonably efficient form of local administration is, however, now said to be out of favour because the Boards contain no elected members. The Executive Committee is not recommending the inclusion of any further towns in the administration of these Boards, and has under consideration some other form of administration of a more popular type.

For the rural areas, Village Committees have been established, the members of which are elected at meetings of the inhabitants of each subdivision. In 1932 an Ordinance was passed precluding officials from being elected as Chairmen. These Committees deal with minor local affairs and the working of rules connected with local customs.

Roads other than main thoroughfares and other than those in charge of the local authorities mentioned above, are maintained by District Committees, while certain educational matters have been entrusted to District Education Committees.

CHAPTER III.

Population.

Population.—Population data are collected, as in almost every other country, by means of a Census, which is taken decenially in Ceylon. The last decennial Census was taken on February 26, 1931, but its scope was limited owing to the financial crisis. At that Census Ceylon had (inclusive of the military and the shipping) a population of 5,312,548 which was 17.9 per cent. more than that in 1921. Since 1871 when the first decennial Census was taken the population has steadily increased. The Island is fairly thickly populated; and at the last Census it had a density of 210 persons per square mile and ranked above India, France, and Denmark, and somewhat below Japan.

Statistics of races were not collected in 1931 except in the Colombo Municipality and on the estates, but rough estimates based on the Census of 1921 are given below:—

Race.	Colombo Town.	Estates.	Estimates for Other Areas.	Estimated Totals.
Europeans	3,340	2,814	2,999	9,153
Burghers and Eurasians	15,887	2,031	14,397	32,315
Sinhalese	127,927	75,786	3,269,317	3,473,030
Tamils	65,704	698,081	653,692	1,417,477
Moors	44,240	7,496	274,177	325,913
Malays	7,022	1,988	6,967	15,977
Others	20,035	1,738	10,791	32,564
	284,155	790,376*	4,232,340	5,306,871*†

It is estimated on the same basis that there were 3,267,457 Buddhists, 1,158,522 Hindus, 523,066 Christians, 356,888 Muslims, and 938 others at the Census of 1931.

The population (exclusive of the military and the shipping) was geographically distributed in 1921 and 1931 as follows:—

	1921.	1931.	Percentage of Increase.
Western Province	1,246,847	1,445,034	15·9
Central Province	717,739	953,388	32·8
Southern Province	671,234	771,204	14·9
Northern Province	374,829	398,874	6·4
Eastern Province	192,821	212,421	10·2
North-Western Province	492,181	546,966	11·1
North-Central Province	96,525	97,365	·9
Province of Uva	233,864	303,243	29·7
Province of Sabaragamuwa	471,814	578,368	22·6
Miscellaneous Population‡	751	8	—

Intercensal estimates of population are prepared from the records of vital statistics and of migration, and on this basis the Island had a population of 5,427,000 at the end of 1932.

The figures for Ceylon quoted above do not include those of the Maldive Islands which had a population of 79,281 at the Census of 1931, as compared with 70,413 in 1921.

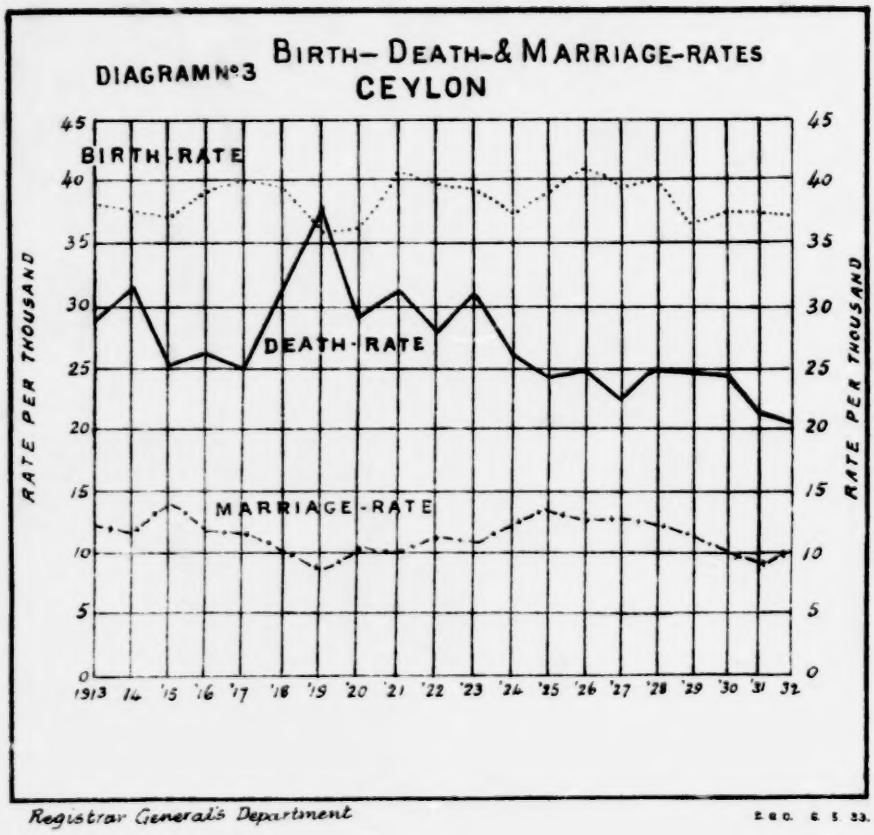
Migration.—The large majority of the migrants are to and from India: a considerable part of them are Indian labourers. In 1932 the total number of immigrants to the Island was 158,222, and is the lowest recorded for the last decade. Of them 142,959, or 90 per cent., were from India and 50,869 of these were estate labourers. In general the arrivals in the Island are more frequent in the second and the third quarters of the year than in the first and fourth.

Of the total of 187,059 emigrants in 1932 which is the lowest after 1926, about 93 per cent., or 173,288, left for India; and of these 58,157 were estate labourers. It has been observed that emigration is more frequent in the first half of the year than in the second.

* Includes 442 persons of unspecified race.

† Excludes the military and the shipping.

‡ Persons enumerated in trains and in the Great and Little Basses.



Registrar General's Department

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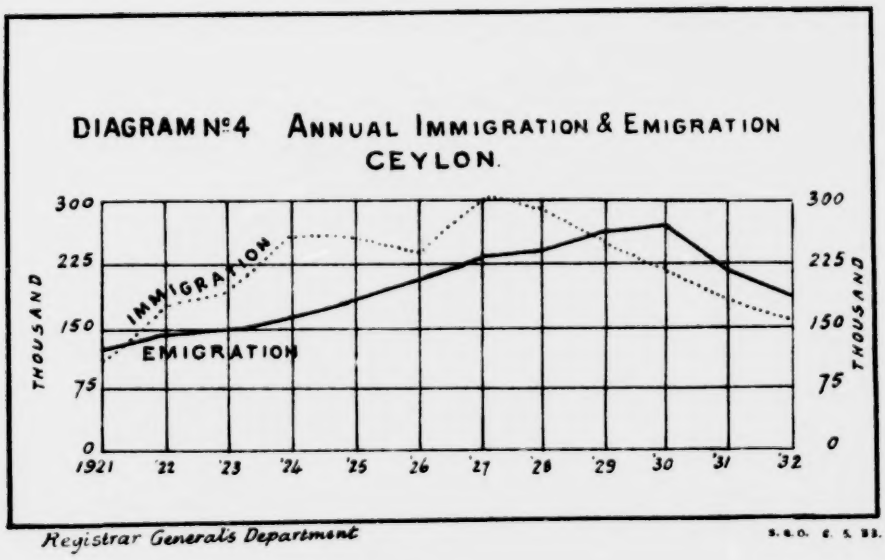

Registrar General's Department

S.G.O. C. S. 33.

Owing to the trade depression and the consequent closing down of a number of estates, the emigration figures were in excess of the immigration figures since 1929. In this connection the following figures will be instructive:—

Migration Statistics from 1929-1932.

	Arrivals.				Departures.			
	From India.		From Other Countries.	Total.	To India.		To other Countries.	Total.
	Indian Labourers.	Others.			Indian Labourers.	Others.		
1929	105,095	132,248	18,543	255,886	101,228	141,262	19,406	261,896
1930	91,422	113,762	17,968	223,152	98,728	145,897	18,375	263,000
1931	68,337	94,401	20,384	183,122	75,866	122,696	16,141	214,703
1932	50,869	92,090	15,263	158,222	58,157	115,131	13,771	187,059

Marriages.—Three Marriage Ordinances operate in the Island, one for the general population, one for the Kandyans, and one for the Muslims. Under the General and Kandyan Marriage Ordinances 25,317 marriages were registered in 1932, as against 24,544 in 1931 and an annual average of 27,452 during the preceding decade. The general marriages alone numbered 20,213, and were 905 more than in the previous year. The number of persons married during the year was 10.1 per 1,000 of the General and Kandyan population, as against 9.9 in 1931 and 11.9 during the decade ending 1931. Among the Muslims 1,244 marriages were registered, and was 87 more than in the previous year and 284 more than the annual average during the decade 1922-1931. A considerable number of Muslim marriages are not registered according to law, and the Muslim marriage rate is consequently low, being 6.9 per 1,000 during the year, as compared with 6.5 in 1931 and 5.7 the average for the ten years ending 1931.

Divorces.—Dissolution of any marriage registered under the General Marriage Ordinance can be granted only by a District Judge and under the Kandyan Marriage Ordinance by a Provincial or Assistant Provincial Registrar. In 1932 there were 145 dissolutions of General and 537 of Kandyan marriages, as compared with 128 and 539 respectively in 1931. There is usually a large excess of Kandyan marriage divorces over General marriage divorces, and is in some measure due to the greater facilities for divorce afforded by the Kandayan marriage law. No statistics of Muslim marriage divorces are available as these marriages are dissolved by Muslim priests without reference to any public official.

Births.—199,370 births were registered in the Island in 1932, as against 199,170 in the previous year and 196,136 the average for the decade 1922-1931. Of these, 101,529 were male and 97,841 female children, representing a sex proportion of 1,038 males to 1,000 females, as against 1,037 males to 1,000 females in 1931. The birth rate was 37.0 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 37.4 in 1931 and 39.5 the average rate for the decade ending 1931. The birth rate of the Island is comparatively high.

Deaths.—The deaths of 110,650 persons (55,941 males and 54,709 females) were registered in 1932, as against 117,452 in 1931 and 126,587 the average for the decade 1922 to 1931. The death rate was 20.5 per 1,000 of the estimated population, as compared with 22.1 in the previous year and 25.5 the average for the previous decade.

Infant Mortality.—The deaths of 32,356 infants under one year of age were registered in 1932. The infant mortality in 1931 was 31,440 and the average for the decade 1922-1931 was 34,992. About 29 per cent. of the total deaths in 1932 were those of infants. The infant death rate was 162 per 1,000 births registered, as compared with 158 in 1930 and 179 the average for the ten years 1922-1931. The infant mortality rate is influenced by the birth rate, and it is not an unusual feature to find a high infant death rate in countries having a high birth rate. The infant mortality in Ceylon is excessive, being nearly five times that of New Zealand which has the lowest rate in the world. But the maternal and child welfare work done in the country is producing good results though slowly.

Causes of Death.—Since 1911 causes of deaths in this country are classified according to the International or Bertillon System. The classification in 1932 was according to the third revision of the international list. Owing to the absence

of compulsory certification of causes of deaths among a very large section of the population, the statistics particularly of diseases requiring scientific knowledge for diagnosis, are of doubtful value; but there is reason to believe that a definite though slow, progress in accuracy is achieved every year. A very large number of deaths are returned by village informants as due to fever, and they are tabulated under the vague title " Pyrexia ". The number of deaths assigned to pyrexia in 1932 was 14,514—or 13.1 per cent. of the total deaths—as compared with 16,553 in 1931. There is no doubt that a considerable number of these deaths are actually due to malaria. Another prolific cause of death in the Island is infantile convulsions which was responsible for 10,867 deaths in 1932; this number represents 9.8 per cent. of the total mortality. Over a quarter of the total deaths registered were due in the past to pyrexia and convulsions, but at present the proportion is somewhat less. The death rate per million of the estimated population from the more important diseases registered in Ceylon in 1931 and 1932 are shown below :—

Causes.	Rate per Million. 1931.	1932.	Causes.	Rate per Million. 1931.	1932.
Pyrexia	3,108	2,695	Ankylostomiasis	422	363
Infantile convulsions	2,279	2,018	Malaria and malarial cachexia	312	312
Pneumonia	1,432	1,171	Influenza	449	297
Diarrhœa and enteritis	1,301	1,110	Puerperal septicæmia	277	247
Phthisis	596	551	Bronchitis	278	235
Dysentery	469	404	Enteric fever	149	145
Premature birth and congenital defects	396	399	Cancer	88	83

CHAPTER IV.

Health.

HOSPITALS AND DISPENSARIES.

MEDICAL aid is generously provided by the State, there being 108 Government hospitals and asylums, with provision for 11,469 beds.

In Colombo are situated a General Hospital with 939 beds, an Ophthalmic Hospital, a Lying-in Home, a hospital for women (Lady Havelock Hospital), a hospital for children (Lady Ridgeway Hospital), a Bacteriological Institute, a Pasteur Institute, and a Dental Institute. At Angoda, 6 miles from Colombo, there is a hospital for infectious diseases, with 168 beds. There are special dispensaries at Kandy, Galle, Jaffna, Batticaloa, and Badulla for the treatment of eye diseases. Treatment with radium is now available at the General Hospital, Colombo.

There is a Lunatic Asylum at Angoda, 6 miles from Colombo, and two Leper Asylums, one at Hendala in the Western Province and one at Mantivu in the Eastern Province.

There is a Home for Incurables at Colombo, with 90 beds, which is administered by a Committee of Government officials and representatives of the public.

For the treatment of tuberculosis, there are the King Edward VII. Memorial Anti-Tuberculosis Institute in Colombo, a hospital of 349 beds for advanced and moderately advanced cases at Ragama, and a Sanatorium of 72 beds at Kandana and one of 44 beds at Kankesanturai on the northern coast.

In addition to Government hospitals, the owners of estates have provided 87 estate hospitals, and in consequence receive a rebate on the export duty on tea, rubber, coffee, cacao, and cardamoms.

Besides the hospitals there are 630 central and branch dispensaries and visiting stations provided by Government. There are also 720 estate dispensaries, which receive free drugs from Government to the value of 50 cents per labourer per annum.

Campaigns.

Campaigns against malaria, ankylostomiasis, and parangi are carried out in various parts of the Island, apart from treatment at hospitals and dispensaries. Mass treatment against hookworm infestation was carried out by Medical Officers, Medical Officers of Health, and School Medical Officers in their respective areas.

Very marked results are shown by the decrease in the number of patients admitted to hospitals in the areas so treated. Success has also attended the efforts of the Itinerating Medical Officers appointed for the treatment of parangi.

Trained vaccinators are stationed in each Province. Primary vaccination against smallpox is compulsory, and secondary vaccination is carried out compulsorily among contacts when an outbreak of smallpox occurs.

Anti-Malarial Work.

Intensive anti-malaria work is done in the severely malarious town-areas of Chilaw, Kurunegala, Anuradhapura, Trincomalee, Puttalam, and Badulla (work in the last two was begun during 1929), and along certain sections of the railway.

Schemes for malaria drainage of anti-malaria campaign areas are drafted by the Sanitary Engineer. The Medical Entomologist checks the efficiency of larvicidal measures carried out by the Anti-Malaria Campaign staff and also investigates problems connected with malaria incidence in other parts of the Island.

Quinine is distributed in large quantities in malarious areas throughout the Island both for curative and prophylactic purposes; 12,029 lb. and 2,118,600 tablets have been issued during 1932.

Sanitary Engineering Division.

In addition to malaria drainage, this division deals with questions of general drainage in small towns and of water supplies and disposal of excreta.

Estate Sanitation.

Attached to the Department of Medical and Sanitary Services are three Inspecting Medical Officers and three Assistants, who inspect estates throughout the Island. During the year under review 755 estates were inspected. In the course of inspection, defects in the sanitary condition of estates are pointed out and suggestions to remedy and prevent them in future are put forward to the estate owners. Year by year the housing and the sanitary conditions on estates are improving.

Public Health.

In addition to the Inspecting Medical Officers, there were, in 1932, 26 Medical Officers of Health, assisted by 247 Sanitary Inspectors, who looked after the sanitary requirements of urban and rural areas. Seven Health Units have been established since 1926, at Kadugannawa, Kalutara, Kegalla, Kurunegala, Matara, Panadure, and Trincomalee. Health work on the lines conducted in Health Unit areas is being carried out, as far as possible, in other parts of the Island which are looked after by the Medical Officers of Health. Public Health Nurses are being employed in increasing numbers in connection with child welfare centres and the supervision of midwives.

Epidemics are promptly dealt with by the Medical Officers of Health and their staffs.

Ordinances.

An Anti-Mosquito Ordinance, a Milk and Dairies Ordinance, a Pure Food and Drugs Ordinance, and an Ordinance to amend the Ordinance for the Better Preservation of public Health and Suppression of Nuisances in Rural areas are with the Attorney-General; and a Poisons and Dangerous Drugs Ordinance which was passed by the Legislature has not yet been proclaimed as certain amendments are under consideration at present.

Infectious Diseases.

Plague.—The following is a list of plague cases and deaths from that disease which occurred in Ceylon during the year:—

Locality.	Cases.	Deaths.
Colombo Municipality	67	61
Kurunegala	9	7
Gampola	1	1
Total ..	77	69

The year compares rather unfavourably with 1931 in which there were 50 cases with 48 deaths. The fatality rate in 1932 was 89.6 per cent. which is 6.4 less than that of the previous year.

The only epidemic of importance outside Colombo was at Kurunegala where 9 cases occurred with 7 deaths, but the outbreak was quickly suppressed by the Sanitary Department in co-operation with the Urban District Council. The infection is believed to have been from Colombo.

Plague in Colombo.

Human Plague.—The following table shows the incidence of human plague in Colombo during the years 1930 to 1932:—

	1930.			1931.			1932.		
	Cases.	Deaths.	Case Mortality. Per Cent.	Cases.	Deaths.	Case Mortality. Per Cent.	Cases.	Deaths.	Case Mortality Per Cent.
Total ..	40	38	95·0	47	45	95·7	67	61	91·0
Septicaemic	14	14	100·0	17	17	100·0	23	23	100·0
Bubonic	25	23	92·0	29	27	93·1	44	38	86·4
Pneumonic	—	—	—	1	1	100·0	—	—	—
Cutaneous	1	1	100·0	—	—	—	—	—	—

Monthly Incidence.—The largest number of cases occurred in June.

Sex Incidence.—Of the 67 cases, 59 were males and 8 females.

Rat Plague.—30,213 rats were examined at the Municipal Laboratory and 42 or .14 per cent. were found infected, as against .09 per cent. in 1931. Eleven infected rats were from the Chalmers' Granaries and 2 from Manning Markets.

Smallpox.—There were 106 cases of smallpox, with 16 deaths, giving a fatality rate of 15.09 per cent., as against 9 cases with 3 deaths during 1931.

The distribution of cases according to locality is as follows:—

Locality.	Cases.	Deaths.
Colombo Municipality ..	71	14
Western Province (outside Colombo)	17	1
Jaffna and Jaffna Peninsula	9	—
Southern Province (Midigama and Bentota) ..	9	1
Total ..	106	16

Of these, 3 cases were imported cases arriving at the Port of Colombo and the patients were treated at the Colombo Infectious Diseases Hospital and recovered. The first port case occurred on February 14 and was of the confluent type. The source of infection was Calcutta. Of the other 2 cases one was of the discrete type while the other was confluent, but both acquired their infection in Persia.

Smallpox broke out in epidemic form in Colombo towards the end of the year. The first case was discovered on November 30. The patient was a first class passenger from India who developed the disease a week after his arrival in Ceylon. It is considered that there were other sources of infection also which were responsible for the outbreak but that the original cases were concealed.

In each outbreak of the disease outside Colombo, the source of infection of the first case or cases could be traced to Colombo.

Cholera.—There were no cases of cholera in the Island during the year. In the previous year there were 6 cases, and all of them ended fatally.

CHAPTER V.

Housing.

THE general housing in Ceylon, considering the comparative poverty of the country, is fairly satisfactory: the investment of money in a house is popular, and any member of a Ceylonese family making money will early endeavour to construct a suitable house of his own.

Moreover, secure and safe investments presenting attractions to Ceylonese are restricted and considerable accumulated wealth is used in house construction or money is raised for the purpose by mortgages.

There is a further tendency on the part of Ceylonese with private means to live in towns, thus creating a great demand for housing especially in times of prosperity.

The general growth of business in the last fifty years, a doubling of the acreage in estates and their greatly improved efficiency combined with the general growth of wealth, have led to a considerable demand for land in almost all towns with a resultant heavy increase in the price of all urban building land.

Thus, though the price of land has been high, the needs of middle and better class people have in general been adequately met, though rents remain high.

However, for the working classes, private enterprise has done comparatively little. The price of land and the general poverty prevailing preclude the building of houses for them which will secure returns comparable to those provided by construction of middle class houses. It is doubtful whether economic rents will be possible unless the value of land falls considerably.

In Colombo the result has been that the working classes are largely housed in houses erected for other purposes and ill adapted for working class dwellings, while in many portions of the town these are definitely slums.

The problem has been tackled—

(1) By a steady effort to mitigate the effects of overcrowding, by sanitary improvements, the provision of adequate water-borne drainage, water, easily available medical relief, &c.

(2) By modifications in construction to permit more adequate supplies of light and air, to facilitate scavenging, &c. Much has been done by steady work in this respect.

(3) By housing Government and Municipal employees in new houses, thus lessening the pressure on the rentable dewellings.

Largely by (1) alone the infantile death rate has been greatly decreased and the general death rate for Colombo reduced to 25.1 per thousand of the population.

However the main and really only solution is large numbers of new houses.

The Colombo Municipality has taken up the question of the Kochchikade slums and is acquiring 7½ acres, with the intention of complete demolition and re-building at a cost of about Rs. 1,700,000, where it is hoped to house over 2,000 people in really sanitary conditions. Government has also assisted by the removal of the railway workshops outside the city to Ratmalana.

Kandy, faced with a similar but much smaller problem, has acted on similar lines.

A Housing Scheme was started in 1920 and 214 dwellings have been already constructed at a cost of Rs. 252,450 and are in occupation of families of the poorer classes who have been evacuated from the most insanitary slums which were demolished on closing orders under the Housing Ordinance.

The construction of a further set of 146 dwellings is in progress and will be completed in 1934 at a cost of Rs. 249,000.

The conditions in the congested areas of the town have also been improved by the provision of back-lanes which afford light and air to the houses and means of access for their conservancy.

The total cost of this scheme amounts to Rs. 375,269.

The rural areas do not present such difficulties.

The most successful effort in housing is that on estates where, since 1920, new dwellings on approved plans have been constructed to house almost the whole Indian labour force of about 700,000 people.

207,818 rooms and 68,819 latrines have been constructed at the cost to estates of over 800 lacs of rupees. In addition 157,388 rooms are provided with a pipe-borne water supply in close vicinity.

Only a series of prosperous years could have permitted this work to have been completed so rapidly.

Housing still remains inadequate in the City of Colombo and in some outstation towns.

Rents, for those drawing Rs. 20 to Rs. 40 a month, may be Rs. 5 to 10 per mensem. Till the shortage of housing is met, any general improvement in pay is likely to be dissipated in enhanced rents.

During 1932 rents were still falling, a unique phenomenon for Colombo.

CHAPTER VI.

Production.

AGRICULTURE.

General.—The main crops of the Island are coconut, paddy, tea, and rubber. Other crops which are grown to less extents, though their combined value is of not inconsiderable importance to the trade of the Island, are: cacao, cinnamon, citronella, arecanut, cardamoms, and tobacco.

Chena cultivation, that is, the growing of crops on jungle land newly cleared by burning, is an important feature of peasant agriculture in the sparsely populated areas of the dry-zone, while, in more favoured districts, and particularly in proximity to towns, market gardening is of some importance.

Animal husbandry is still a negligible factor in the agricultural economy of Ceylon, but interest in this branch is now becoming awakened, and the beginnings of stock raising and dairy industries are being laid.

The extent of production of the several crops may be gauged from the following tables which give the approximate acreages under cultivation and the quantities of produce exported and the value of these in 1932:—

Acreages under the Chief Crops (estimated only).

	Acres.		Acres.
Coconuts ..	1,100,000*	Palmyra ..	50,000‖
Rice	850,000†	Cacao ..	34,000‖
Rubber ..	534,000‡	Citronella ..	33,000‖
Tea	457,000§	Cinnamon ..	26,000‖
Chenas, vegetable, and other crops ..	140,000‖	Tobacco ..	14,000‖
Arecanuts ..	63,000‖	Cardamoms ..	6,000‖

Exports of Agricultural Products of the Island in 1932.

	Quantity.	Value. Rs.	Total Value of Class. Rs.
Black tea	252·3 mill. lb.	.. 107·5 mill.	
Green tea	·5 mill. lb.	.. ·2 mill.	
Tea seed	31 cwt.	.. ·003 mill.	
			107·7 mill.
Coconuts, fresh	23·1 mill. nuts	.. 1·1 mill.	
Copra	·9 mill. cwt.	.. 8·2 mill.	
Coconut oil	1·0 mill. cwt.	.. 14·5 mill.	
Coir yarn	·07 mill. cwt.	.. ·6 mill.	
Desiccated coconut	·6 mill. cwt.	.. 7·1 mill.	
Poonac	·4 mill. cwt.	.. 1·7 mill.	
Bristle fibre	·2 mill. cwt.	.. 1·2 mill.	
Mattress fibre	·3 mill. cwt.	.. ·3 mill.	
Coir rope, &c.	9,000 cwt.	.. ·1 mill.	
			34·8 mill.
Rubber	115·2 mill. lb.	..	13·2 mill.
Cacao	82,500 cwt.	..	2·2 mill.
Arecanuts	99,000 cwt.	..	1·4 mill.
Cardamoms	2,700 cwt.	..	·4 mill.
Pepper and other spices ..	3,000 cwt.	..	·1 mill.
Cinnamon (quills and chips) ..	48,000 cwt.	.. 1 mill.	
Cinnamon oil (bark and leaf) ..	2·3 mill. oz.	.. ·4 mill.	
			1·4 mill.
Tobacco (manufactured and cigars) ..	1·6 mill. lb.	..	1 mill.
Citronella oil	1·2 mill. lb.	..	1·2 mill.
Papain	64,000 lb.	..	·3 mill.
Kapok	6,000 cwt.	..	·1 mill.
Gingelly seed	28,000 cwt.	..	·1 mill.
		Total ..	163·8 mill.

* Based on the results of the partial Census of Production, 1929.

† Based on an estimate of the Department of Agriculture: according to the partial Census of Production, 1929, the acreage was about 800,000, while according to the returns furnished by Government Agents to the Paddy Commission the extent under cultivation in 1930 amounted to 941,000 acres.

‡ Based on the Rubber Controller's Census of 1928, perhaps overstated. Owing to the slump in prices, possibly 50 per cent. of the acreage was not tapped.

§ Based on various estimates. The partial Census of Production, 1929, showed about 450,000 but excluded small holdings.

‖ Based on the results of the Censuses of Production, 1921 and 1924.

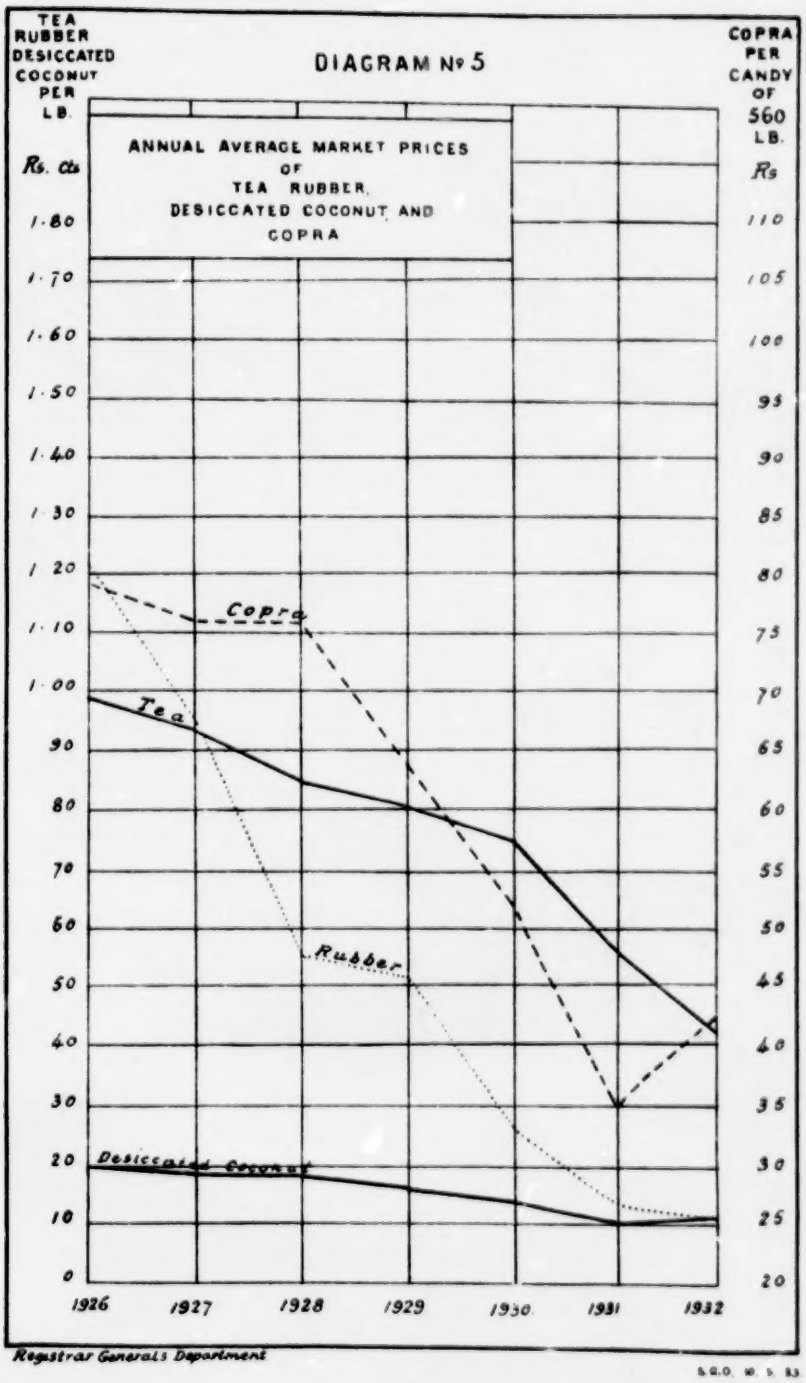
DIAGRAM No 5
ANNUAL AVERAGE MARKET PRICES OF TEA RUBBER, DESICCATED COCONUT AND COPRA
TEA RUBBER DESICCATED COCONUT PER LB.
Rs. cts
COPRA PER CANDY OF 560 LB.
Rs
1.80
1.70
1.60
1.50
1.40
1.30
1.20
1.10
1.00
90
80
70
60
50
40
30
20
10
0
110
105
100
95
90
85
80
75
70
65
60
55
50
45
40
35
30
25
20
Copra
Tea
Rubber
Desiccated Coconut
1926
1927
1928
1929
1930
1931
1932
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Tea.

Acreage, &c.—Over 457,000 acres are planted in tea consisting of about 1,230 estates. Cultivation lies mainly in the mid-and-hill-country at elevations ranging between 1,500 feet and 6,000 feet. It is also grown at lower elevations down almost to sea level but the variety grown is different from that of the higher elevations and yields a product of less superior quality.

The manufactured product consists of the young tender shoots of *Camellia Thea* which undergo the processes of withering, rolling, fermenting, and drying or firing.

Pruning and Plucking.—The object of tea cultivation is to secure the maximum quantity of the best quality of leaf. For this purpose the bushes are pruned periodically so as to ensure regular, frequent, and plentiful " flushes," or young, tender shoots on the bushes. The tip of the new shoot and one or two leaves below it are plucked by hand, generally by the women of the labour force.

Rainfall.—A fairly evenly distributed rainfall of 60 to 200 inches a year is required for tea.

Labour.—About 95 per cent. of tea estate labour consists of Tamils from India. The average labour force is generally calculated, for tea, at the rate of about one labourer per acre.

Methods of Cultivation and Manuring.—Cultivation methods have greatly improved in recent years, but in 1932 little manuring was done owing to the necessity of reducing costs.

Manufacture.—The drop in price and lessened demand have compelled more attention being paid to the quality and appearance of the teas manufactured.

Yields and Prices.—Yields vary greatly with soil, jât (variety), elevation, cultivation, manuring, &c., and the annual figures may be said to range from 300 to 1,200 lb. made tea per acre, 600 to 700 lb. being considered a good all-round yield.

(See Chapter VII., page 40 regarding the trend of the market during the year.)

The annual average market prices* in certain years were:—1923, Re. 1.02 per lb.; 1924, Re. 1.04; 1925, 96 cents; 1926, 99 cents; 1927, 94 cents; 1928, 85 cents; 1929, 81 cents; 1930, 75 cents; 1931, 57 cents; 1932, 42 cents (see Diagram No. 5).

Machinery.—The chief machinery in a tea factory is the rolling machinery, the roll-breaker, and the drier. These are generally driven by overhead belting from a shaft driven by the power unit. This unit may be water-driven, as in the case of Pelton wheels or turbines, or it may consist of an oil, suction-gas or steam engine. Various driers are in use. The power required for a factory with an output of 400,000 lb. made tea per annum is about 50 h.p. For crops over 200,000 lb. the power required can be calculated at 10 to 12 h.p. per 100,000 lb.

Preparation for Export.—Tea is exported in metal lined wooden packages with the garden mark of the estate on which it is produced and is ready for consumption. It is usually blended and packed in packets before it actually reaches the consumers' hands.

Rubber.

Acreage, Elevation, and Rainfall.—The estimated acreage under rubber in the Island is 534,000 acres. The rubber tree cultivated in Ceylon (*Hevea brasiliensis*) flourishes at elevations below 2,000 feet and requires a well distributed rainfall of not less than 80 inches per annum. It is cultivated to varying extents throughout the Island, chiefly in the Province of Sabaragamuwa, and in the Western, Central, and Southern Provinces.

Latex.—Rubber is the coagulated latex of the rubber tree obtained by tapping the trunk. The latex running from the cut—usually half the circumference—is collected in cups, removed to the factory, treated with acetic acid to cause coagulation, crêped by machinery, and dried or coagulated in sheets and smoked. Rubber, as exported, is a raw product and requires treatment by manufacturers.

* According to local weekly sale averages.

Planting.—Rubber is generally propagated from seed which is sown in nurseries, and, when the nursery plants are eighteen months to two years old, they are removed, have their tops and main roots cut back, and are planted into the new clearings as " stumps ". Planting is carried out at varying distances, but 24 feet by 12 feet is a favourite of many growers, as this allows of ample plants for thinning from the third year. The tree grows to a height of 30 to 40 feet and develops a heavy foliage.

Cultivation.—The best time for cultivation is considered to be just before the wintering commences. Cattle manures, green manures, and artificial manures are all used. The approximate quantity of artificial manure used per annum per acre is up to 1,000 lb. Cover plants are used for soil conservation.

Tapping.—Various systems of tapping are still in vogue, but the single cut (half-circumference) is now becoming universal. The frequency of tapping has also varied as experience has been gained. Daily tapping was formerly most common, but alternate-day tapping is now generally popular, while tapping every third day is adopted upon some estates. Better bark-renewal results if the interval between tappings is extended, but some loss of bark occurs in three-day tapping. The unremunerative prices realized by rubber have effectually closed down any further planting.

Manufacture.—The manufacture of rubber into the form in which it is put on the wholesale market is done in factories on the estates. A considerable quantity and variety of machinery is used. The manufacture is standardized, and the difference between the prices of the various grades is generally not very large.

Yield, Prices, &c.—The yield per acre varies considerably with the soil, age of the trees, rainfall, planting treatment, &c., but may be said to range from 150 to 700 lb. per acre, 400 to 500 lb. per acre being considered a good all-round yield for an estate in full bearing. A very good tree over twelve years old will yield 10 lb. dry rubber per annum, while the average per tree in full bearing may be put at about 4 to 5 lb. per annum.

(See Chapter VII., page 40 regarding the trend of the market during the year.)

The annual average market prices* in certain years were the following:—1923, 88 cents per lb.; 1924, 75 cents; 1925, Re. 1.73; 1926, Re. 1.21; 1927, 95 cents; 1928, 55 cents; 1929, 52 cents; 1930, 27 cents; 1931, 14 cents; 1932, 11 cents (see Diagram No. 5).

Rates of Freight.—The rates to the United Kingdom and Continent were reduced on May 16, 1931, from 57*s.* 6*d.* to 52*s.* 6*d.* and these rates were subject to a 10 per cent. increase as from November 1, and the United States of America rate by 15 per cent. as from November 7.

Labour.—The labour engaged is generally immigrant Indian Tamil, but, in some cases, Sinhalese work as tappers, &c. The usual requirement of labour is one labourer to 3 acres of rubber.

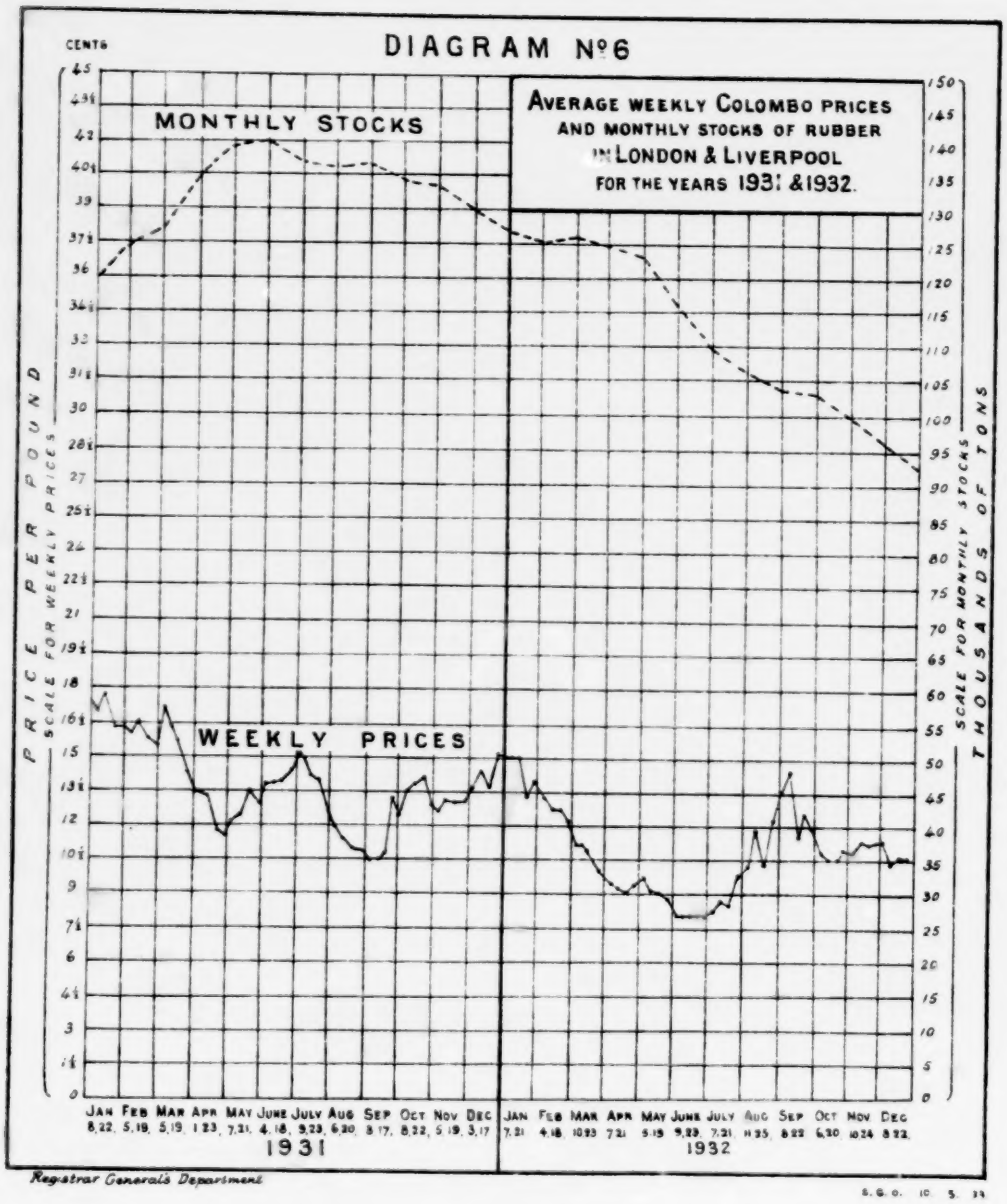
Budding of Rubber.

Nothing has been done during the year under review but since 1929 the question of budding rubber has received considerable attention.

Imports of budwood and budded stumps of proved foreign clones have been made and estates have taken steps to find their high-yielding trees, with a view to using them as mother trees. Local mother-trees are under test on the stations of the Department of Agriculture and the Rubber Research Scheme, and every effort is being made to provide guidance to the planting community in this important matter.

Budding has rendered it possible to effect satisfactorily the selection of high-yielding stock, and the isolation of it from the heterogenous mixture which exists in rubber estates to-day. By vigorous selection and testing it should be possible to isolate strains of high-yielding trees, and thereby assure that improved strains of plants and seeds should be available when required for future plantings.

* Averages for top grades only (Ribbed Smoked Sheet and Contract Crêpe) at local weekly sales.



Registrar General's Department

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Coconut.

Acreage, Area, &c.—It is estimated that approximately 1,100,000 acres are planted with coconuts. But cultivation on systematic lines may be considered to occupy about 900,000 acres. Along the coast of the Western and Southern Provinces planting has been done very close and no systematic cultivation is carried out. Here the main product is toddy which is supplied to arrack distilleries; at the same time the manufacture of coir string and rope is an important subsidiary industry, especially in the hands of women. Elsewhere the coconut is cultivated mainly for the production of copra, and the extraction of oil therefrom, as well as the manufacture of desiccated coconut. Cultivation is confined mainly to elevations below 1,500 feet and a well distributed rainfall of 50 to 90 inches is required. The greater part of the acreage lies in the North-Western, Western, and Southern Provinces.

Cultivation.—Much can be done to increase the output of the tree by cultivation; by the use of concentrated manures containing nitrogen, potash, phosphoric acid, &c.; green manures, such as *Crotalaria;* cattle manure; and occasional cultivation with modern implements. Young coconuts systematically cultivated and manured come into bearing much earlier than coconuts which are not so treated.

Costs.—The cost of opening land for coconuts varies considerably, but it may be put on the average at Rs. 400 to Rs. 600 an acre, spread over ten years, the expenses being greater in the first three years. The waiting period may be put at ten years. Land is available to be opened in coconuts, but only in the out-districts, where a good deal of pioneering work, including the making of roads, combating wild animals, fever, &c., is necessary.

Labour.—The quantity of labour required for a coconut estate is generally worked out at one labourer for 10 acres. A small resident force is often maintained for draining, manuring, and tillage, which on some estates consists of about half Tamil and half Sinhalese. Frequently the plucking of the nuts and the manufacture of copra are done by a contractor, who supplies his own labour.

Labour on coconut estates does not earn such high wages as on tea and rubber properties. Plucking may cost 50 cents per 1,000 nuts.

The Nut.

The principal product, from a commercial point of view, is the nut. The yield per palm on a cultivated estate is about 40 nuts per annum. The average yield is probably under 30 nuts per palm, though with cultivation in good districts up to and over 80 may be secured. The number of palms to the acre may vary from 50 to 90, the average being about 70. The palms come into bearing in about six years with intensive cultivation, but more usually take up to ten years. The nuts are generally picked six times a year. They are made into copra upon the estate which produces them, but some of the smaller properties sell their nuts to manufacturers. Considerable quantities are exported when the demand for nuts for the manufacturing of desiccated coconut is keen. The price rose owing to the increased demand for the manufactured products from Rs. 74 per 1,000 in 1913 to the maximum of Rs. 115 per 1,000 in 1920.

At the beginning of the year the prices ranged from Rs. 45 to Rs. 50 per 1,000 nuts, but as a result of the financial situation in Europe the rate fell down to Rs. 30 towards the end of June. During the second half of the year crops were generally shorter than during the same period in 1931, the July picking being the only one which came up to average. Prices in the main followed those of the major industries but desiccated coconut millers were usually able to pay better prices than the copra dealers. From Rs. 30 at the end of June the market rose to Rs. 50 by the end of December.

Copra.

The most important manufactured product is copra. This is the dried kernel of the nut, and is used for the manufacture of coconut oil, which, again, is utilized for the production of margarine, soap, and other products. Poonac, a largely-used cattle food, is the by-product in the manufacture of coconut oil from copra. The bulk of it is used locally, either as cattle food or as manure, but 433,707 cwt. valued at Rs. 1,765,662 were exported in 1932.

The number of nuts required to manufacture a candy (560 lb.) of copra varies from 900 to 1,500.

The value of the exports of copra is shown in Diagram No. 9.

(See Chapter VII., page 43 regarding the trend of the market during the year.)

The annual average market prices* in certain years were:—1923, Rs. 87.61 per candy (560 lb.); 1924, Rs. 85.42; 1925, Rs. 80.36; 1926, Rs. 79.40; 1927, Rs. 76.88; 1928, Rs. 76.22; 1929, Rs. 64.47; 1930, Rs. 52.36; 1931, Rs. 35.06; 1932, Rs. 42.21 (see Diagram No. 5).

Copra prices are liable to considerable fluctuation according to the rates of freight and of exchange, &c. The market quotations are also liable to considerable variation, as regular public sales are not held as in the case of tea and rubber.

Coconut Oil.

Although a large quantity of copra is exported for the extraction of oil by the importers, a quantity of coconut oil is prepared in Ceylon. The traditional method of extraction consists in grinding the copra in a "chekku" consisting of a large wooden pestle, which is revolved by bullock power in a kind of stone mortar. This method is slow and wasteful, and modern mills are now working in Chilaw, Colombo, and other districts of Ceylon, hydraulic presses and expellers being in general use. Usually the locally manufactured coconut oil contains 1½ to 2 per cent. of free fatty acid, and a further refinement is necessary in the consuming country.

The value of the exports of coconut oil is shown in Diagram No. 9.

(See Chapter VII., page 43 regarding the trend of the market during the year.)

The annual average market prices in certain years were:—1923, Rs. 584.05 per ton f.o.b; 1924, Rs. 574.11; 1925, Rs. 543.17; 1926, Rs. 539.36; 1927, Rs. 491.73; 1928, Rs. 489.02; 1929, Rs. 412.33; 1930, Rs. 351.63; 1931, Rs. 253.52; 1932, Rs. 283.75.

Desiccated Coconut.

Desiccated coconut is produced in Ceylon on a large scale, the conditions being favourable as the mills are either on the estates or easily accessible to them by water, road, or railway. The delivery of the fresh nuts, which are essential to the success of the manufacture, is thus a simple matter. Mills, many with elaborate machinery, have been erected in almost every district to cope with the demand. Some are capable of dealing with 50,000 nuts a day.

The value of the exports of desiccated coconut is shown in Diagram No. 9.

(See Chapter VII., page 43 regarding the trend of the market during the year.)

The annual average market prices in certain years were:—1923, 24 cents per lb.; 1924, 22 cents; 1925, 20 cents; 1926, 20 cents; 1927, 19 cents; 1928, 19 cents; 1929, 16 cents; 1930, 13 cents; 1931, 10 cents; 1932, 11 cents (see Diagram No. 5).

Information regarding the manufacture of alcohol, &c., is shown under "Excise," page 32.

Coir, &c.

An important but somewhat unorganized industry, also dependent upon the coconut tree, is the manufacture of coir, which consists of the stout fibres forming the husk of the nut. These fibres are separated by rotting the husks in water, or by special machinery. The fibres are then graded and used for making brushes,

* The average prices for 1927 to 1932 are for top grades only. Averages for other years represent the lowest and highest overall weekly quotations received for all grades.

yarn, mats, rope, &c., according to their quality. In many parts of Ceylon the coir fibres are separated by village labour, chiefly women, and sold by them to exporting firms.

Mills for the separation of the fibre by machinery have been established at several places in the Colombo, Negombo, and other districts. Much of the output is used locally, but there is considerable export of bristle fibre, mattress fibre, and coir yarn. The value of the exports of coir is shown in Diagram No. 9.

For the first few months of the year the price of bristle fibre (2 tie variety) rose from Rs. 7 to Rs. 9 per cwt. mainly due to the scarcity of husks as the result of the small crops. Japan was a good buyer up to the end of April but then suddenly withdrew from the market. This factor, combined with the financial uncertainty on the Continent, caused an almost complete cessation of buying and a consequent decline in prices from Rs. 8.40 in May to the low figure of Rs. 5 at the end of June. The market for the latter half of the year was without marked features or extreme fluctuations. Large supplies were available and lack of demand kept the price around Rs. 5 per cwt. until the end of July. From then until the end of October when the Continent displayed some interest the price was steady at about Rs. 6.25, but closed eventually in December round about Rs. 6.

The market for mattress fibre declined over the first part of the year. Opening round about Re. 1.60 per cwt. for No. 1, 70 cents per cwt. was seen by the end of June which is a new low record. This decline was in the main due to the heavy stocks held in the United Kingdom, South Africa, and on the Continent, and a feature of the market was the continual request from buyers to postpone shipments owing to the warehouses being full up. The latter part of the year showed slightly better prices owing to a shortage of supplies on account of abnormal rain and the price rose to about Re. 1.40 which was maintained until the end of December.

The annual average market prices* in certain years for bristle fibre were:—1923, Rs. 14.46 per cwt.; 1924, Rs. 12.10; 1925, Rs. 7.62; 1926, Rs. 7.46; 1927, Rs. 8.37; 1928, Rs. 8.53; 1929, Rs. 9.01; 1930, Rs. 8.23; 1931, Rs. 6.65; 1932, Rs. 7.95; for mattress fibre*:—1923, Rs. 2.38 per cwt.; 1924, Rs. 2.95; 1925, Rs. 2.38; 1926, Rs. 3.08; 1927, Rs. 3.67; 1928, Rs. 3.07; 1929, Rs. 2.23; 1930, Re. 1.40; 1931, Re. 1.41; 1932, Re. 1.25; for coir yarn*: 1923, Rs. 18.63 per cwt.; 1924, Rs. 18.32; 1925, Rs. 16.26; 1926, Rs. 15.15; 1927, Rs. 16.75; 1928, Rs. 17.45; 1929, Rs. 14.34; 1930, Rs. 12.73; 1931, Rs. 10.20; 1932, Rs. 8.42.

Cacao.

Commercial cacao is produced from the seeds of the plant *Theobroma cacao*. The variety now grown in Ceylon is the *Forastero*.

Elevation and Rainfall, &c.—The cultivation of cacao is restricted to favourably situated valleys at an elevation between 500 to 2,000 feet which receive a well regulated rainfall of 60 to 80 inches and are protected from high winds. Plantations lie almost entirely in the Kandy and Matale Districts of the Central Province. Of an approximate acreage of 34,000 acres under cacao in the Island 55 per cent. is in the former district and 33 per cent. in the latter.

As with tea the number of peasant holdings ranging between 1 and 5 acres is not inconsiderable, but these small gardens receive but little attention from the owners in regard to systematic cultivation or the control of pests and diseases.

Labour.—The labour required for a cacao estate works out at about one labourer for 2 acres. Tamils generally form the bulk of the labour force, but Sinhalese are also employed for lopping, &c.

Planting.—The trees are generally planted 15 by 15 feet apart. Holes 3 feet deep by 1½ feet across are dug and filled with carefully prepared soil. Seed at stake or basket plants are generally used for planting. As the young plant

* The average prices for 1928 to 1932 are for top grades only. Averages for other years represent the lowest and highest overall weekly quotations received for all grades.

requires to be carefully shaded, shade trees must be planted at the same time between the rows about the same distance apart as the cacao. The dadap has been found the most suitable.

Crops.—Cacao commences to bear fruit about the fifth year, two crops a year being then gathered. The "Spring" crop picked in May, June, and July is small. The main or "Autumn" crop is gathered in November, December, and January. The period from the blossom to the ripe pod is five months. The average crop per acre varies considerably in Ceylon. The general average is about 3½ to 4 cwt. per acre, although the yields from some well-cultivated estates have reached the very high annual average of 8½ cwt. per acre.

Cultivation.—The usual method of cultivation is to fork the soil every two years, and apply about 700 to 800 lb. per acre of artificial manures two to three months later. The manure used is a general mixture containing nitrogen, phosphoric acid, and potash.

Pruning and Removing Suckers.—Suckers are removed as soon as they appear on the cacao trees, and periodical pruning is done when the foliage becomes too thick and heavy.

Weeding.—Cacao estates are kept clean weeded from the time of opening. The average cost of weeding is about Rs. 6 per acre per annum.

Picking.—The flowers and fruit of the tree grow in a characteristic manner direct upon the trunk and branches of the trees. The fruit is ellipsoidal and of considerable size, and the beans are covered with pulp or mucilage. Ripening is generally indicated by a change of colour on the outside of the pods. The fruit on the stems and main branches is picked by means of an ordinary pruning knife, while that on the higher parts of the tree is dealt with by cacao hooks. The picking gang goes round as often as necessary, the period generally being between a fortnight and three weeks. The pods are cut down by men or boys, who are followed by women, who gather the pods and heap them together. The fruits are opened the same day, and the beans carted or carried to the fermenting shed. One labourer will pick 1 to 1½ bushels of wet beans per day. This is equal to about 37 lb. of the cured product.

Fermentation.—At the fermenting shed the beans, covered with mucilage, are heaped into boxes or vats for fermentation. This process is accompanied by rise of temperature and by decomposition of the pulp surrounding the beans. During the fermentation the pulp becomes more liquid and gradually flows away, the bottom of the fermenting boxes being perforated and raised off the ground to admit of this. The period of fermentation in Ceylon is about 36 hours. After 12 hours the beans are given a light washing and turned over into another box. They are again given a heavier washing at the end of the fermenting period of 36 hours, when they are carried or carted to the barbecue or curing house.

Curing.—The best method of curing is the gradual drying of the beans in the sun on barbecues covered with coir matting. By this method the best quality is obtained. The period varies from five to seven days, according to the temperature. Most of the picking has, however, to be done during the wet season, and a greater part of the crop of Ceylon is cured by artificial means. The most popular curing house is a two- or three-floor building, the floors being constructed of strips of wood covered over with coir matting, on which the freshly-fermented beans are spread. The building is heated with hot air conducted by pipes placed under each floor, the hot air being obtained by means of a fan, which drives the air through the heating apparatus and then through the pipes. The temperature in the building during the curing process is kept between 110 and 120 degrees Fahrenheit.

Grading and Sorting.—After the beans are cured, they are sorted into different grades: first quality, which is composed of only the large round beans; second quality, flat and small beans; and third quality, known as garblings, consisting of the shells and broken beans.

Packing.—Cacao after grading is packed in bags (112 lb. to a bag), when it is ready for export. Most of the cacao from Ceylon is shipped in this form.

Prices.—The main crop was an exceptionally heavy one, in some cases the yield being nearly 25 per cent. better than in 1931 and with the large quantities available the market fell away to as low as Rs. 25 per cwt. The " small " crop however proved a failure and with a scarcity of supplies and improved interest shown by the principal purchasing markets, local values showed an upward tendency as the year progressed. About September there was less demand and prices commenced to sag to a very low figure.

Considerable support was received from the Philippine Islands and a feature of the season was the premium paid for sun-dried beans with a bright exterior as compared with good No. 1 estate artificially dried.

The alteration in the United States of America import regulations as regard mouldy beans has also been a disturbing factor. This defect in low grade Ceylon cacao should receive more attention in the form of better curing, storage, and selection, and it is considered that this trouble could be eradicated to some extent if buyers refused to touch damp cacao.

The annual average market prices* in certain years were:—1923, Rs. 35.71 per cwt.; 1924, Rs. 33.30; 1925, Rs. 33.17; 1926, Rs. 30.41; 1927, Rs. 52.22; 1928, Rs. 58.89; 1929, Rs. 53.46; 1930, Rs. 37.51; 1931, Rs. 29.71; 1932, Rs. 27.71.

The value of the exports of cacao is shown in Diagram No. 9.

Cinnamon.

Cinnamon, once the main export, still occupies a place—though a minor one—in the trade of the Island. Plantation in earliest days was mainly confined to the Western Province, of which Negombo was the most important centre. Much of this area was replaced with coconuts in subsequent years, but the extension of cultivation took place in the Southern Province where at the present time it is estimated that there is more land under cinnamon than in the Western Province. The approximate total acreage is 26,000 acres, of which 58 per cent. is in the Southern Province (Galle District 40 per cent.) and 41 per cent. in the Western Province (Negombo area 30 per cent.).

The industry is entirely in the hands of Ceylonese. The number of large properties of 100 acres and over in extent is limited and these receive systematic attention. The majority of plantations are small areas of 10 to 25 acres in extent.

The Tree.—The cinnamon tree may grow to the height of 20 to 30 feet, and the trunk may be upwards of 3 feet in circumference. The trees cultivated to produce the cinnamon of commerce are coppiced, and long willowy shoots are produced, growing to a height of about 10 feet and to the size of a fair-sized walking stick. The shoots are cut and the bark is peeled off, and rolled into quills, which constitute the cinnamon of commerce.

Cinnamon Cultivation.—If the soil is good, branches may be cut for barking from the fourth year. The tree blossoms in January, in April the fruit is ripe, and the cutting is done from May to October. When the tree is seen to bear fruit well it is in good health, and the bark will peel without difficulty. The sticks are gathered by boys and tied into bundles with coir strings; they are then removed to the peeling stores.

The object of the methods employed is to make the bark up into quills, a quill being a rod of cinnamon resembling a thin cane 4 feet in length; the pieces of bark when stripped are therefore placed round the sticks, both with a view to preserving their shape and as a convenience for the next operation.

Skinning.—They are now allowed to remain for three to six hours, when fermentation takes place, and the bark is ready for skinning. This treatment of the bark leaves only that part which has the desired delicate taste; it is of a pale yellow colour and a parchment-like texture. The bark is now left to ferment and dry, which if the weather be favourable takes about 30 minutes.

* The average prices for 1927 to 1932 are for top grades only. Averages for other years represent the lowest and highest overall weekly quotations received for all grades.

The next process is that of forming the quills. The smaller pieces are inserted into the larger, and in the process of drying the quills form rods. They are afterwards rolled into shape and made up into bundles.

Cinnamon oil is distilled from the chips and trimmings of the quills as well as from the leaves.

The commercial cinnamon products are the quills, the chips, and the oil. The best quality is fine cinnamon prepared from tender bark.

The chips are prepared by scraping or chipping the bark after removing the outer bark.

Prices.—The large supplies of quills available had the natural effect of creating lower market prices and there has been a downward trend of prices throughout the year. In the case of quills the market for Hamburg No. II opened at 23 cents but gradually fell away and closed the year at 19 cents; similarly the market for chips opened at about Rs. 35 per candy and at the end of December Rs. 20 was recorded.

The annual average market prices* of quills in certain years were:—1923, 54 cents per lb.; 1924, 70 cents; 1925, 88 cents; 1926, Re. 1.14; 1927, Re. 1.35; 1928, Re. 1.29; 1929, Re. 1.15; 1930, 59 cents; 1931, 37 cents; 1932, 28 cents; of chips: 1923, Rs. 53.76 per candy; 1924, Rs. 67.95; 1925, Rs. 84.54; 1926, Rs. 93.79; 1927, Rs. 102.77; 1928, Rs. 105.72; 1929, Rs. 96.86; 1930, Rs. 56.41; 1931, Rs. 38.92; 1932, Rs. 26.40. An acre will yield about 120 lb. quills. The cost of production of quills is about 30 cents per lb.

Citronella Oil.

Citronella oil grass is a large coarse grass growing 3 to 4 feet high, cultivated in Ceylon (and of late years in Java) for its essential oil, which is obtained from the leaves by distillation. The grass grows in any ordinary soil, and thrives best in a moist and hot atmosphere. It flourishes up to an elevation of 2,000 feet, but its cultivation is confined entirely to the Southern Province where the acreage under this crop is estimated to be 33,000 acres, of which 62 per cent. is in the Matara District and the remaining 38 per cent. in the Hambantota District. Cultivation is in the hands of the Ceylonese. The grass is readily propagated by division (seed being rarely produced), and may be planted about 2 by 3 feet apart in rows. Permanent shade is unnecessary, and the cultivation is very simple, weeding being the chief requirement. The clumps are ready for cutting in about eight months from time of planting. Two cuttings a year may be obtained, and about 40 lb. of marketable oil per acre is an estimated annual yield. The oil is of a strong aromatic odour; it is exported for use in scenting soaps, perfumery, &c., and is also a preventive against the bites of mosquitoes and leeches.

Prices.—This product appears to escape the general depression. Shipments in 1932 were 1,274,544 lb. against 1,205,808 lb. in 1931, and prices were higher than in 1931.

The market was steady in January at 83 cents per lb. rising in February to 98 cents. During March, after touching Re. 1 the price fell to 89 cents remaining steady at about 86 cents during April but falling to 78 cents during May. In June the market recovered and by the middle of July had reached 88 cents per lb.

In August there was a further advance to 98 cents which was continued throughout September until in October the price touched Re. 1.15, but by the end of the month it was back to Re. 1.10. Early in November there was a heavy slump to about 95 cents but the market recovered as quickly to Re. 1.10 again. There was little demand in December and the year closed on a dull market at Re. 1.02.

The annual average market prices in certain years were:—1923, Rs. 2.09 per lb.; 1924, Rs. 2.03; 1925, Re. 1.37; 1926, 99 cents; 1927, 77 cents; 1928, 93 cents; 1929, Re. 1.06; 1930, Re. 1.12; 1931, 80 cents; 1932, 94 cents.

* The average prices for 1927 to 1932 are for top grades only. Averages for other years represent the lowest and highest overall weekly quotations received for all grades.

Tobacco.

Acreage and Localities.—The estimated acreage under this crop in the Island is 14,000 acres, of which a little over half is found in the Jaffna District of the Northern Province, where great care is given to cultivation. The methods adopted are peculiar to this area and the manufacture of the leaf gives rise to the most important industry in the district. Another variety of leaf is grown in the Central Province which claims about 21 per cent. of the total acreage under the crop. Dumbara in the Kandy District is a particularly favoured area while in the Matale District the crop is of some importance to the peasant, besides there being a small manufacture of cigars and pipe tobacco from the local leaf as in the case in Dumbara. Tobacco is also grown to the extent of about 1,500 acres in the Kurunegala District where the method of manufacture to produce a chewing tobacco differs from that adopted in Jaffna. Elsewhere cultivation is carried out in the North-Central and Eastern Provinces to less extents.

Dumbara Tobacco.—A high grade of Ceylon tobacco is grown in the Kandy District. The cultivation in this district begins with the slight showers of the early months of the year, and depends for its success upon the light rains which fall in April, May, and June with the advent of the south-west monsoon. Tobacco is rarely grown in this district upon the same land in two consecutive years, it being customary to cultivate the land in other crops and then to allow it to lie fallow for some years before another tobacco crop is taken off. In very dry weather, if water is available, hand watering is resorted to. Otherwise the crop depends entirely upon rainfall for its success, and is a speculative one. Fairly satisfactory attention is given by some growers to curing and fermentation, but a finer product would be procured if greater care were given to manufacture.

The leaves of the Dumbara tobacco burn with a good white ash, and are manufactured in the Island into cigars, which command a ready sale, and would be in greater demand if they were more uniform in quality. A large portion of the Central Province crop is sold to local manufacturers of cigars for use as wrappers for the Jaffna types. The leaves are smaller and of finer texture than the Jaffna types, and have good burning qualities.

The Dumbara types of tobacco are also grown in other districts. The system of curing and fermenting differs somewhat in different areas, and the final product is not of such high quality as that produced in the Central Province.

Jaffna Tobacco.—The Jaffna types consist of two kinds. These are locally known as the smoking and chewing kinds. Both are large-leaved, coarse tobaccos, the chewing type being of more vigorous and coarse growth than the smoking type.

Jaffna Cultivation.—The cultivation of tobacco at Jaffna is an interesting study. The lands are well ploughed and manured with cattle or sheep manure or with green leaves, and reduced to a fine tilth. Nurseries for seedlings are well prepared, and the seedlings planted out carefully and systematically. Work begins with the north-east rains, and during the early part of the growing period the rainfall may be sufficient to maintain satisfactory growth. During dry weather and from the end of December onwards the tobacco plants are irrigated by wells. In the middle of the growing season this irrigation has to be thoroughly carried out. During the early part of the growing period thorough cultivation of the land is carried on, so as to prevent its becoming " caked " and to allow of the maximum growth for the plants. All plants, except those required for seed purposes, are topped at a height of about 4 feet, and when they begin to yellow they are harvested. The whole plant is cut down and allowed to " quail " for a day in the sun. In the afternoon the plant is separated into individual leaves, each being left attached to a piece of the stem. These are then taken for withering in an open shady shed. Fermentation differs slightly in different localities in its details, and the curing of the smoking and chewing types requires different treatment. Chewing types are harvested by cutting of the leaves, commencing from the top of the plant. All inferior broken leaves and those portions of the stalks which are not attached to the leaves are either sold to the manufacturers

for making nicotine extracts or are used for manurial purposes. Conditions of sale demand that portions of the stalk should be attached to the leaves in the majority of cases.

There are certain lands on which the chewing type alone can be cultivated, while others are well known for their production of high grade smoking types. Tobacco from certain localities always commands higher prices than the ruling market rates, while elsewhere only a low grade tobacco is produced. The smoking tobaccos are sold to manufacturers for the local manufacture of what is known throughout the whole Island as the "Jaffna cheroot". Some of the chewing types are sold locally for chewing with the betel leaf, lime, and arecanut, but the bulk of this type is exported to Travancore, where the Jaffna tobaccos are eagerly sought after.

Over 98 per cent. of the unmanufactured leaf goes to British India and about 92 per cent. of the manufactured tobacco is sent to the Maldive Islands.

The costs of cultivation of a tobacco crop in the Jaffna District are heavy, considerable sums being expended upon manures, cultivation, and irrigation. In seasonable years, when prices are high, the profits are large. In other years expenses are barely covered, but in general the better lands will yield average profits of between Rs. 300 to Rs. 450 per acre, while profits of Rs. 600 to Rs. 800 per acre have been secured in good years. The average price of the Jaffna product varies from Rs. 20 to Rs. 40 per 1,000 leaves.

The Travancore markets some fifteen years ago closed to Jaffna tobaccos, but were subsequently reopened. The critical situation demanded that experiments with other types of tobacco should be undertaken. These have been carried out upon a Government experiment station, and it has been demonstrated that White Burley tobacco of good quality capable of realizing 1*s.* 6*d.* per lb. on the London market can be satisfactorily grown. The Government has evolved a purchase scheme for White Burley tobacco which is exported to England. The exports of this tobacco have been as follows:—

Year.	lb.	Year.	lb.	Year.	lb.
1924	4,701	1927	13,328	1930	18,652
1925	15,057	1928	30,688	1931	9,212
1926	18,535	1929	25,312	1932	10,901

Cardamoms.

Uses.—Cardamoms are of commercial value on account of the spice obtained from them, which is well known to cooks and confectioners, and is used in pharmacopoeia as a deadener of tastes and a medicine.

Habitat, &c.—The commercial value of the plant lies in the fruit, which is borne on racemes rising from the ground. The plant itself—*Elettaria Cardamomum*—grows in stools of clumps under the shade of forest trees at elevations between 2,800 and 4,000 feet, with a rainfall of 115 to 150 inches a year.

Manufacture.—The fruit is collected by women and children, and is manufactured into either (1) bleached or (2) green dried. In the former case the fruit is bleached, soaked, and dried in sulphur fumes, the process being repeated until the required pale colour is secured, and the ends are clipped off either by hand or by a clipping machine. In the latter case the fruits are merely dried in the sun.

Acreage.—The total acreage under cardamoms is estimated to be 6,000 acres, of which 82 per cent. is confined to the Central Province—approximately 2,500 acres in the Kandy District, 1,500 acres in the Nuwara Eliya District, and 1,000 acres in the Matale District. About 1,000 acres are found in the Kegalla and Ratnapura Districts (Province of Sabaragamuwa). The bulk of the plantations is in the hands of European owners, but the number of small gardens of a few acres in size in the hands of peasants is not inconsiderable.

The value of the exports of cardamoms is shown in Diagram No. 9.

Prices.—Early in the year the market ruled strong for all descriptions and with offerings below requirements all arrivals realized very full rates, the average quotation of Re. 1.35 for January improving to Re. 1.42 for February and Re. 1.59 for March. This advance in price was partly attributed to the operations of the combine amongst growers in India to maintain prices.

A feature of the market was a very strong demand for Greens and an absence of inquiry for bleached descriptions.

As the year progressed, demand showed a falling off and rates receded very materially, with an occasional improvement always followed by a further fall to a lower level. Towards the close of the year the market ruled irregular resulting in a further decline in values and with the dull market which ensued prices averaged down to Re. 1.10 for November but recovered to Re. 1.18 for December. The year has witnessed a gradual elimination of bleached descriptions in favour of Greens and unless there is a very marked improvement in the price of bleached cardamoms estates will very likely continue marketing their crops as Greens.

The annual average market prices* in certain years were:—1923, Rs. 2.41 per lb.; 1924, Rs. 2.93; 1925, Rs. 3.42; 1926, Rs. 2.44; 1927, Rs. 2.54; 1928, Rs. 2.50; 1929, Rs. 2.22; 1930, Re. 1.69; 1931, Re. 1.67; 1932, Re. 1.33.

Arecanuts.†

Conditions.—The arecanut palm is grown in all village gardens in the wetter districts of the Island. It produces heavy crops of fruits, and provides straight stems, which are used for the erection of temporary structures. Pure cultivations of the palm similar to those to be found in Southern India are rarely seen in Ceylon, although in the Kegalla District there are some fairly extensive pure plantations. The area under arecanuts is about 69,000 acres.

There are several varieties of arecanuts grown, and the respective values of these are well known to the purchasers of fruits. Little care is, however, taken in the selection of fruits for planting, and no attempts have been made to improve the local types. Planting of arecanuts still continues in village holdings, but in many instances this palm is being replaced by the coconut.

The Fruit.—The fruits of the arecanut palm are harvested when ripe, and are sold in their unhusked state in all the bazaars and markets of the Island. The dried product is also readily procurable in the majority of boutiques. It is cut into thin shavings, which are used for chewing with the betel leaf, lime, and occasionally tobacco, by most of the village population of the Island. The price of unhusked arecanuts is about 30 cents per hundred, of husked nuts 35 cents per hundred.

Arecanuts are generally exported to British India and the Maldive Islands, about 88 per cent. going to the former and about 6 per cent. to the latter.

Foodstuffs.

Paddy or Rice.

If Hill paddy (*elvi*) is excluded, it may be said that the cultivation of paddy in Ceylon is based upon a plentiful supply of water. Not only are the plants dependent upon a good supply in all stages up to the ripening period, but the processes of cultivation in all parts of Ceylon, except some of the most northerly, are dependent upon it.

Rain-water Cultivation.—Cultivation without the help of irrigation is carried on, not only in dry districts like Jaffna, but also in wetter parts like the Kandy District. The success of the crop is entirely dependent upon a sufficient and reasonable rainfall, and upon the soil being capable of retaining the water for a fairly long period in order to tide over the rainless intervals. Should the rains fail after the paddy has been sown, the crop will perish, and then the cultivator must resow his field with a paddy which can mature in the remainder of the season, or lose the season entirely. Similarly, if the rains are late, the earlier maturing varieties of paddy must be sown.

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* The average prices for 1927 to 1932 are for top grades only. Averages for other years represent the lowest and highest overall weekly quotations received for all grades.

† Although in point of value of exports arecanuts rank between rubber and cacao, this sub-section is inserted here, as the cultivation is not organized, and insufficient details are available regarding it.

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Irrigation.—When paddy is grown under irrigation, the water may be supplied by springs, streams (*elas*), wells, or reservoirs (" tanks "). Cultivation under streams may be seen in the Central and Uva Provinces, and under tanks in the drier Eastern, Northern, and North-Central Provinces.

Asweddumization.—In all cases where a system of irrigation is employed, the land must be " asweddumized ", or prepared for paddy. Should the paddy area not be level, it is necessary to terrace it. This terracing is brought to a high level of perfection in the hilly districts. Distribution channels convey the irrigation water to the upper plots, and drains carry off the surplus water.

Preparation for Sowing.—In the preparation for sowing, ploughing may be done in the dry, or if the rains fall or water is available, sufficient water may be allowed on to the field to soften the ground. This is then lightly ploughed by means of small wooden ploughs drawn by buffaloes or cattle. Small iron ploughs are also employed in some districts, and their use is slowly extending. In some districts and in some fields of considerable depth ploughing is not done, the preparation of the soil being carried out by puddling with buffaloes or by digging with hoes. During the first ploughing the weeds are partially buried. About ten to twenty days after the first ploughing a second ploughing is given. The weeds are then still further buried, and the ground made softer and muddier. Between the first and second ploughings in the Central Province green manuring is carried on. Leaves and twigs are buried at the second ploughing, and in some districts special green manure crops are grown for ploughing in. After a lapse of another week or ten days a third ploughing may be carried out. This is generally adopted in the Central Province, but in other Provinces this third ploughing is not general. By means of this ploughing the soil is converted into mud of the consistency desired for sowing upon. Instead of the plough, buffaloes are often employed to trample the muddy soil until the desired consistency is attained. The mudding is followed by a rough levelling by means of the " *poruwa*," a levelling board dragged along by a pair of buffaloes or by cattle. This does not leave the surface smooth enough for sowing, so that it is followed by work with hand levelling boards. At the same time shallow channels are made to conduct the surplus water from the surface, which is now quite smooth. The field is then ready for sowing.

Manuring.—Artificial fertilizers, such as bone meal, have been applied to a certain extent in the past, but the use of ammonium compound of phosphoric acid is now being popularized. These are applied at the second or third ploughings or at the time of sowing.

Sowing.—Seed is prepared for sowing by soaking it in water for 24-36 hours. It is then placed in a flat heap on leaves of plaintain or colocasia and covered so as to retain warmth and exclude air. At the end of two or three days, if germination is satisfactory, the seed will have begun to sprout. The sprouted seeds are then separated from one another and sown broadcast on the field.

Although the advantages of transplanting paddy seedlings have been abundantly demonstrated, not much transplanting is done in Ceylon, except in the Central Province and Kegalla District of Sabaragamuwa. At present the cultivator prefers, in the majority of cases, to broadcast and then thin out. When the seedlings are well established, *i.e.*, in about six weeks from sowing, the fields are weeded by the women. At the same time thinning out is done in places where the seedlings are too thick, some of those so removed being used to fill up gaps where the sowing has been too thin.

Transplanting.—In transplanting, the seeds are germinated as usual and then sown in specially prepared nurseries. When the seedlings are from four to six weeks old, they are removed from the nursery and planted at regular intervals in the fields. Although the expenses of working are increased, this is much more than counterbalanced by the increased yields obtained. The plants grow freely and weeds are partially smothered, any weeding necessary being very easily carried out. Transplanting cannot be carried out, however, when the water supply is not reliable, or when fields are excessively marshy.

The crop receives very little attention, apart from watering, weeding, and watching against birds, until the approach of the ripening period. When the plants begin to mature, they first take on a yellow colour, and, at this point, the cultivator drains the water from the field and allows the paddy to ripen.

Reaping.—Reaping is always done with the sickle, and the result is that a long and ragged stubble is left on the field. This remains until it is time to prepare for the next crop. The sheaves of paddy are put on one side as they are reaped and allowed to dry. After this, they are carried to the threshing-floor, which has been carefully prepared in readiness.

Threshing.—Threshing methods vary in different districts. In general, the dried sheaves are spread out on the threshing-floor, and buffaloes or cattle yoked together are driven over them round and round until all the grains have been rubbed off the stalks. The straw is then raked off, the paddy collected and handed over to the winnowers, who separate the empty grains from the good ones.

Seasons.—There are two paddy-growing seasons, both of which are made use of for the cultivation of the same tract of fields when sufficient labour and water are available. The Maha crop is sown from the end of August to the middle of October, according to the district. The harvest from this crop is reaped in February or March. The Yala crop season commences with sowing in March-April, the harvest being reaped in July to September. The corresponding Tamil seasons are called Munmari and Pinmari or Kalapokam and Sirupokam. Generally speaking, six and four months are required for the respective Maha and Yala crops. In some districts sowings take place between the Maha and Yala seasons for a *meda* or *iddi* (Tamil) crop.

Improvements.—Considerable improvements in paddy cultivation can be effected. Transplanting could become more general, and greater attention given to manuring and seed selection. The Government, through the Department of Agriculture, has undertaken a considerable amount of research work in paddy in recent years, and a number of pure-line strains have been evolved and are now being tested on a field scale and distributed to cultivators. Similarly, frequent demonstrations have been given in manuring and the organization of the supply of manures is now being investigated.

Varieties.—The varieties of paddy grown in Ceylon fall into three groups, according to the time necessary for their maturing. In the first group come those paddies such as Mavi, Hatiel, and Suduvi, which take at least six months to mature, while in the second group come varieties such as Danahala, Murungan, and Balavi, which mature in three months or less. An intermediate class contains those varieties which mature in four to five months.

The "age" of a particular variety, however, depends largely upon climatic factors such as rainfall, temperature, and elevation, and it is quite a common thing to find the same variety requiring different maturing periods in different Provinces, or even in two different situations in the same district.

Diseases.—Diseases and pests causing extensive loss to paddy in Ceylon are few in number. Insects do the greatest amount of damage, the chief of these being—

(1) The Paddy Bug, which sucks the milky juices of the young grain, which, for this reason, never matures.

(2) The Paddy Swarming Caterpillar also causes considerable damage on occasions, but can be readily controlled.

(3) The Paddy Stem Borer, which feeds within the stem and prevents the grain from setting.

Rice.—Paddy is converted into rice by pounding in a mortar. This work is usually undertaken by women, who receive a share of the rice husked for their work. Several small mills have been erected in the past few years, which have given fairly satisfactory results. It is possible for the milling of paddy in the Island to be considerably extended.

Acreage.—The area under wet land paddy in Ceylon is estimated to be 850 acres yielding approximately 12 to 13 million bushels of paddy (grain in h per annum. The greatest proportion of the acreage lies in the North-Wes Province. But large extents are found in all the Provinces.

Hill Paddy.—Hill paddy or *elvi* is grown upon dry lands. It is usually c vated upon hilly lands in districts where an abundant rainfall cannot be re upon or in " chenas " on lands which are somewhat low-lying. Hill padd sown broadcast in lands which have been cleared and burnt. While the cro growing the larger weeds are pulled out, otherwise no cultivation is carried during its period of growth. Yields of hill paddy, if seasons are favourable, generally heavy, and the rice from this type of paddy is highly prized.

Other Food Crops.

Chenas.—Many other food grains are grown in the Island. Except in Northern Province, these are generally grown in " chenas "—areas of land cov with secondary forest or other vegetation, which are cleared and burned—wh are either private or leased or granted by the Crown. The principal grains gr are kurakkan (*Eleusine coracana*), maize, Italian millet, *Paspalum* millet, *Panicum* millet. Pulses are also grown in the chenas, the principal crops be green gram, horse gram, and black gram. Gingelly (*Sesamum indicum*) fo an important chena crop particularly in the Jaffna, Anuradhapura, and Kuru gala Districts. Hitherto in addition to the utilization locally of the crop produ in the Island, gingelly seed, oil, and poonac had been imported from India to value of Rs. 2 to 3 millions.

Edible tubers grow in abundance. These are known in the Island as ya and include dioscorea yams, tannia yams, sweet potatoes, and manioc. Sw potatoes are abundant in the Southern Province, while manioc or cassava spread rapidly in all districts in recent years, and constitutes a general fo The preparation of tapioca might be possible in some districts if a good sup of pure water were available.

Plantains (bananas) of various types are largely cultivated, and are to be fou in all markets. The largest area of plantains is to be found between Polgahaw and Rambukkana, but in recent years the bunchy-top disease has occurred a caused considerable damage. This disease now appears to be less virulent, a areas which suffered severely some years ago are now giving good crops of fruit

Jak and breadfruit are important foodstuffs, while " jaggery " is made fr coconut, palmyra, or kitul palms.

Vegetables and curry plants are generally cultivated throughout the Isla and markets are well stocked. Dried chillies are prepared in the drier distric while onions are largely grown in some localities. Pumpkins, gourds of vari kinds, and cucumbers are largely grown and find a ready sale in the vari towns and village markets of the country. In the hills European vegetables thr and are largely grown for transport by rail to the principal centres of populat and to the shipping in Colombo Harbour.

Miscellaneous.

Cotton.—Considerable success had been achieved in the efforts made to esta lish the cultivation of cotton as a peasant industry in the Hambantota Distr of the Southern Province where over 2,000 acres were cultivated in 1930. A produce raised by peasants was purchased by Government on behalf of the Spin ing and Weaving Mills, Colombo, which undertook to buy all the crop. T general depression with a steady fall in price has resulted in diminishing intere in cotton growing, so much so that only a very small acreage was cultivated in t 1932 season. The Government purchase did not amount to much more than cwt. of seed cotton against over 200 cwt. in 1931. A portion of the crop, ho ever, was purchased by local buyers on behalf of rural organizations which a now attempting to foster Spinning as a Cottage Industry.

Kapok.—Kapok is not grown as a pure crop, but is largely planted along the boundaries of fields and settlements and in some instances interspersed among other permanent crops. A regular trade is being conducted by petty dealers. The exports and their value during the past three years were as follows:—

	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.		Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.		Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1930	3,511	189,289	1931	6,737	241,678	1932	6,066	152,969

Kitul.—The fibre of the Borassus palm has always found a ready market, and in the past few years it has been used locally for the manufacture of brooms and brushes. The tree is not systematically cultivated, and is only indiscriminately distributed throughout the wetter districts of the mid- and low-country. The extent of trade in this product may be seen from the following figures:—

	Quantity. Exported. Cwt.	Value. Rs.		Quantity. Exported Cwt.	Value. Rs.		Quantity. Exported. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1930	1,122	64,793	1931	1,654	86,425	1932	1,323	60,545

Papain.—This is the dried extract obtained from the milk of the papaya fruit for which there has been a steady market in the past. High prices paid some years back were an encouragement to the cultivation of the papaw tree which forms a suitable catch crop during the waiting period of return from tea or rubber. But many small pure plantations also sprang up, and though it has been surmised that over-production has been responsible for a big drop in the price of papain, it is more probable that the market was cornered to the detriment of the small producer. The crop was largely cultivated in the Kegalla, Kandy, and Kurunegala Districts and the development of a profitable peasant industry was indicated. The following figures show the extent of the trade in papain:—

	Quantity. Exported. lb.	Value. Rs.		Quantity Exported. lb.	Value. Rs.		Quantity Exported. lb.	Value. Rs.
1930	79,338	458,872	1931	76,947	411,420	1932	64,356	337,127

Pepper.—The pepper vine is widely distributed throughout the wet low-country as well as in the Kandy and Matale Districts of the mid-country though systematic pure plantations are not established. It is grown against shade trees in certain tea and cacao estates, and is in evidence in practically every village garden. There has always been a steady demand for the crop which is handled mainly by petty traders. Prices went down badly during 1930 and for the most part of 1931, but at the end of the year the exports were heavy, and in view of indications that the market will be favourable, an extension of cultivation is being rapidly pushed forward. The trade in pepper has been as follows:—

	Quantity Exported. Cwt.	Value. Rs.		Quantity Exported. Cwt.	Value. Rs.		Quantity Exported. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1930	2,766	174,144	1931	3,151	119,700	1932	1,570	57,640

Coffee.—The hybrid varieties of Robusta Coffee which are practically immune from the coffee leaf disease, and have the advantage of coming into bearing earlier and of yielding more prolific crops have been cultivated successfully at several Experiment Stations during the past few years and have proved their suitability under varying conditions below an elevation of 3,000 feet. Much interest is being shown in this crop now, and besides numerous applications for seed and plants, the Department of Agriculture is distributing seedlings on an extensive scale with a view to establishing a new peasant industry in the following districts:—Kandy and Matale in the Central Province; Kegalla and Ratnapura in the Province of Sabaragamuwa; Galle in the Southern Province; and parts of the Kurunegala and the Badulla Districts. The produce is disposed of entirely for home consumption.

EXCISE.

Toddy and Arrack.

The production of toddy and arrack forms two important industries dependent on the coconut palm. The nuts are formed at the top of the tree on the stalks enclosed in spathes, and for the formation of these nuts a large quantity of saccharine juice is supplied by the tree to the stalks. If the spathe is " tapped " before the nuts mature, and a pot attached to it, a quantity of the juice, varying from 6 to about 12 drams per day, can be collected in the pot. If lime is not used to prevent fermentation, the action of yeasts, which are present in the air or in the pot, will convert the sugar in the juice into alcohol, and the liquid will be converted into toddy, with an alcoholic strength of about 4 to 8 per cent. Toddy is also obtained similarly from the palmyra and kitul palms. It is sold in taverns under Government licence at rates varying from 65 cents to Re. 1.30 per gallon. A considerable industry depends upon the sale of toddy which attracts many of the smaller Ceylonese capitalists. The cost price of toddy may probably be put at about 30 cents per gallon, and considerable profits are made when the sales are active.

The toddy consumption in 1931-32 was 3,655,540 gallons, compared with 3,468,595 gallons in 1930-31, the average consumption per head of population being .69 and .68 gallons respectively. The actual toddy revenue collected in the two financial years was Rs. 2,267,075 in 1930-31 and Rs. 1,637,116 in 1931-32, the revenue per head being 42 and 31 cents, and the revenue per gallon of toddy consumed 65 and 45 cents respectively. In 1932-33 the rents of 158 toddy taverns were sold for Rs. 2,045,166, an increase of over four and a half lacs of rupees from the rent sale figures of the 146 taverns for the financial year 1931-32.

By the distillation of coconut toddy, the local spirit known as " arrack " is produced; and this is sold, like toddy, in taverns licensed by Government. The whole of the toddy retail trade, and of the distilling and sale of arrack, is in the hands of Ceylonese capitalists. Distillation of arrack prior to 1923 was carried on in about 250 small pot-stills of the most primitive variety; it is now concentrated in seven large modern distilleries situated in the Kalutara District, the outturn capacity of each of which is not less than 60,000 gallons per annum. Three of the distilleries have installed " Barbet's " patent stills for continuous distillation, each capable of producing 1,000 gallons of arrack per day. All distillery operations are carried on under the close supervision of the Excise Department. The arrack made at these distilleries is far purer and more free from copper than any arrack previously distilled from coconut toddy in Ceylon. These new private distilleries were started in April, 1924. They supply their arrack to Government at a fixed price under what is known as the " Contract Supply " system.

About 8 gallons of toddy are required to produce a gallon of arrack at proof strength, *i.e.*, the outturn in arrack (proof gallons) of a distillery is about 12.0 per cent. of the toddy distilled. The distiller's cost of production is about Re. 1.50 to Re. 1.75 per proof gallon. The distillers sell their arrack to Government at Rs. 2.40 per gallon at 27 degrees under proof. Government stores and matures the spirit in bond and carries on reducing, blending, and bottling operations.

Retailing is done by renters, who are usually those who offer the highest price for this privilege. In addition to paying this price irrespective of the volume of their sales, they pay the following charges for every gallon of arrack they obtain from a Government warehouse to cover Government expenditure on purchasing, warehousing, and bottling arrack:—

Duty on bulk arrack at Rs. 10 per gallon and on bottles at Rs. 7 per gallon;
Cost price, Rs. 3 per gallon in all districts except Trincomalee, Batticaloa, and Bandarawela;
Cost price, Rs. 3.50 per gallon at Trincomalee, Batticaloa, and Bandarawela;
Extra charges per gallon on bottled arrack, Rs. 2 for white bottles and Re. 1.50 for black 2-pint bottles.

The number of gallons of arrack distilled during the last three years is as follows:—

	Gallons (proof).		Gallons (proof).
1930 ..	.. 387,427	1932 ..	.. 275,629
1931 ..	.. 285,138		

The corresponding outturn for the three years was 12.07, 12.08, and 11.08 respectively.

The consumption of arrack in 1932 was 354,450 gallons, a decrease of 68,145 gallons on the 1931 figure.

The number of arrack taverns in 1930-31 was 151 and in 1931-32 was 130. The estimated net revenue after deducting expenses of the distribution and storage system was Rs. 4,565,484 in 1930-31 and Rs. 5,120,520 in 1931-32, which is equivalent to Re. 0.86 and Re. 0.97 respectively per head of population. The arrack consumption per head of population was .08 gallon in 1930-31 and .07 gallon in 1931-32. The arrack revenue (net) per gallon was Rs. 10.80 in 1930-31 and Rs. 14.44 in 1931-32. The net revenue shows an increase, consequent on the increase of duty on bulk arrack from Rs. 7 to Re. 10 per gallon.

Vinegar Manufacture.

Toddy vinegar is obtained from the aceticization of fermented toddy, which takes place naturally after about 36 hours.

In 1924 special licences were first issued to vinegar manufacturers in the Western and Southern Provinces, with a view to encourage the manufacture of toddy vinegar as a local industry. Rules were passed in 1926 to control vinegar stores, and the results of the experiment have been satisfactory.

There is evidence of a considerable demand for toddy vinegar, and the present supply is insufficient to meet the demand.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The total liquor revenue for the financial year 1930-31 and 1931-32 was as follows:—

Excise Revenue.	1930–31. Rs.	1931–32. Rs.
Arrack (Gross)	6,048,792	5,480,911
Toddy	2,267,075	1,637,116
Licensing fees	166,476	201,587
Composition fees	9,941	9,277
Total Excise Revenue	8,492,284	7,248,891
Other Revenue.		
Customs (import duties)	3,522,310	2,107,760
Police Court fines in Excise cases	185,819	206,304
Sale of confiscated articles	119	—
Total revenue directly connected with excisable articles ..	12,200,532	9,562,955

The expenditure on the Excise Department, including the salaries of Civil Servants and all Excise Department officers and all other charges, was Rs. 1,378,830 in 1931-32 being 17.6 per cent. of the Excise revenue for the year, or 14.4 per cent. of the Excise revenue plus Customs duty on excisable articles and Police Court fines in Excise cases.

Excise Offences.

The following is a statement of Excise detections in the three years 1930, 1931, and 1932:—

Year.	Foreign Liquor.	Arrack.	Toddy	Intoxicating Drugs.	Short Measure.	Others.	Total.
1930 ..	83 ..	517 ..	5,439 ..	780 ..	88 ..	220 ..	7,127
1931 ..	50 ..	430 ..	5,616 ..	730 ..	— ..	1,729 ..	8,555
1932 ..	7 ..	193 ..	5,269 ..	726 ..	— ..	1,596 ..	7,791

The most remarkable increases occur under illicit distillation, illicit tapping, sale and transport of toddy, and under cultivation and sale of intoxicating drugs.

FISHERIES.

The fishing industries of the Island fall under the following main heads (*a*) sea fisheries, (*b*) chank fisheries, (*c*) pearl fisheries, and (*d*) fresh-water fisheries.

Sea Fisheries.—These are by far the most important and extensive and are carried on all round the coast by Sinhalese and Tamil fishermen who use native craft principally the catamaran and outrigger canoe working lines and modified nets. Both types of vessel depend on sail and on account of their limitation in size have long since attained their maximum development and efficiency. They cannot be adapted to work modern fishing gear.

Prior to the extension of the railway and of motor transport, the bulk of the fish caught was either dried, cured, or pickled, but with the present facilities for transport and with the aid of ice-making plants erected at the principal fishing centres, fish is now distributed in a more or less fresh condition to practically all parts of the Island and such is the demand that only a small surplus is available for the fish curers, with the result that the once prosperous dried fish industry has almost died out.

No complete statistics exist regarding the value and extent of the industry, but its inability to meet existing demands is clearly shown by the records of the imports of fish goods into the Island, which in 1911 amounted to 544,222 cwt. valued at Rs. 4,951,516 and in 1932 to 530,779 cwt. valued at Rs. 10,288,880. The bulk of these imports is made up of cured and Maldive fish imported from Southern India and the Maldive Islands. These in 1911 amounted to 347,868 cwt. valued at Rs. 4,233,363 and in 1932 to 403,127 cwt. valued at Rs. 9,521,993.

The high value of these imports is clear evidence of the existence of a large local market for fish goods and, in conjunction with the vast natural resources that Ceylon waters offer for exploitation, indicates the scope for development open to this industry.

The question of this development has taken the foremost place in the investigation work of the Fisheries Department under the direction of the Marine Biologist who is also Director of the Colombo Museum. In the first instance this department carried out a fisheries survey of the coastal waters with the object of acquiring data regarding demersal fishes and of exploring these waters for possible trawl fishing grounds. Two extensive fishing banks which are practically virgin ground were surveyed, *i.e.*, the Pedro bank off the north-east coast with an area of over 1,000 square miles and the Wadge bank off Cape Comorin, Southern India, with an area of over 4,000 square miles. Both banks gave considerable promise for commercial development and following this preliminary work, the results of which are published in the Ceylon Journal of Science, Section C. (Fisheries), Vol. II., it was decided to carry out a detailed survey of both banks for the purpose of obtaining more exact data of their trawl fishing value and also for the preparation of charts necessary for their commercial exploitation. The survey of the Pedro bank has since been completed and a detailed report with charts of the area is now in preparation. Accounts of this work are contained in Ceylon Administration Reports (Marine Biology), 1926-30. The complete survey of the Wadge bank has been suspended pending a recovery of the financial situation. These investigations led to the formation, in 1928, of a local trawling company which is now operating on both banks.

Future developments of the trawl fishing industry are limited to less than one-sixth of the available fishing grounds of Ceylon and can affect the market for one class of fish only, namely, demersal or bottom feeding fishes. They can take no part in the development of the mid-water and demersal fisheries for which the whole of the waters of Ceylon are available.

Chank Fisheries.—The chank, which has considerable value in India, where it is cut and carved into bangles, is fished annually in the shallow waters of the Palk Strait off the Jaffna Peninsula where it occurs in great abundance. The fisheries are carried out chiefly by divers from Southern India and are subject

to the Chanks Ordinance of 1890. The chanks fished are exported to India, the Ceylon Government collecting a small royalty in the form of an export duty, which prior to April, 1929, varied from Rs. 2 to Rs. 6 per 1,000 shells and now varies from Rs. 5 to Rs. 25 per 1,000 shells according to quality. The average number exported annually for the last ten years under the old duty was 2,305,664 valued at Rs. 119,555 and the average royalty was Rs. 10,770. Under the new duty the number exported in 1930 was 2,193,967 valued at Rs. 120,565 on which a royalty of Rs. 28,667 was collected. In 1932, doubtless owing to the trade depression, the number exported fell to 1,326,846 and the duty collected to Rs. 14,684.

Chanks also occur in some numbers in the inshore waters of the Pearl banks but until 1930 fishing was prohibited in this area under the Chanks Ordinance, No. 18 of 1890. This Ordinance has now been amended and a rule passed making it lawful to fish chanks between January 31 and April 30 of each year, between Mannar and Moderagam point and within the three-fathom line. Fisheries in this area were held in 1930 and 1931.

Pearl Fisheries.—The Ceylon pearl oyster *Margaritifera vulgaris*, the fisheries of which have been famous for many centuries, occurs periodically in great abundance in the shallow-water area known as the Ceylon Pearl Banks lying off the west coast of Ceylon and extending from Puttalam to Adam's Bridge. The banks are under Government control and fisheries, which are a Government monopoly, are carried on at irregular intervals as oysters are available. The last fishery was in 1925 when over 15,000,000 oysters were fished and the gross receipts totalled Rs. 517,507. There are no prospects of immediate fisheries. Recently a large area of potential oyster-bearing ground about 30 square miles in extent was discovered.

Another form of pearl oyster, the so-called window-pane oyster *Placuna placenta*, which yields pearls of an inferior character, commonly occurs embedded in the soft muddy bottom of Lake Tamblegam, Trincomalee. When oysters are present the fishing rights are leased by Government. The fishery was leased for a period of three years ending 1932. No fishery will be held during 1933. The market for these pearls is Bombay.

Fresh-water Fisheries.—These are carried on by villagers in the tanks, rivers, lagoons, and estuaries. In most cases a fishing licence is issued by a local authority (a Village Committee or Urban District Council). No particulars are available as to revenue collected from this source or as to the extent of the industry. The Fisheries Department is making a survey of the fresh-water fishes of the Island and has collected considerable data relating to the bionomics of these fishes. (See Ceylon Journal of Science, Section B., Volumes XV., XVI., and XVII.)

SALT.

The manufacture, collection, and sale of salt constitute in Ceylon a Government monopoly, which is protected by an import duty. The monopoly is administered by the Executive Committee for Local Administration through the Salt Adviser and the Revenue Officers.

Ceylon consumes about 660,000 cwt. of common salt per annum. The greater part of this salt is manufactured or collected locally, and any shortages due to failures of harvest are met by the importation of salt of similar quality from India. Salt is manufactured from sea water by solar evaporation at the Government Salterns at Elephant Pass in the Northern Province and at Palavi, near Puttalam, in the North-Western Province, also in the privately owned salt pans at Chiviyateru in the Northern Province, about four miles from Jaffna, at Puttalam, and at Nilaveli, eight miles north of Trincomalee. Spontaneously formed salt resulting from the natural evaporation of brine is collected from lagoons in the Hambantota District of the Southern Province and in the Jaffna Peninsula in the Northern Province. These are Crown property. The quantity of salt manufactured at Chiviyateru is small, and the greater part of the Island's supply is

derived from the Government Salterns, from the lagoons in the Hambantota District, and from the private salt pans at Puttalam. The following statement shows the total quantity of salt produced in Ceylon during the year and the average of the year 769,073 cwt.

Producing Centre.	Average for 1923–32. Cwt.	1932. Cwt.	Producing Centre.	Average for 1923–32. Cwt.	1932. Cwt.
Elephant Pass	175,236	98,313	Jaffna and Mannar Districts (excluding Elephant Pass) ..	52,580	31,316
Palavi	42,397	63,241	Trincomalee District ..	42,331	84,325
Hambantota District ..	98,924	53,237			
Puttalam District (excluding Palavi)	72,861	24,918	Total ..	484,329	355,350

Stocks at the beginning of 1932 amounted to 983,295 cwt. and at the end of the year 769,073 cwt.

The amount realized during the financial year by sale of local salt from the Government depôts was Rs. 2,029,087 and the net revenue Rs. 1,472,329.

Owing to the more or less stationary consumption and the equalizing effect of the import duty the revenue from salt does not show a large percentage of variation from year to year.

MINERALOGY.

Plumbago.

Occurrence.—Plumbago, or graphite, is the most important of the Ceylon minerals. It occurs in minute scattered crystals in some of the granulites and crystalline limestones, but it is only where it is found in veins that it is of any commercial importance. The veins or pockets vary from the smallest size up to a yard or more in width, and often consist of pure graphite unmixed with other minerals. Frequently quartz, mica, felspar, pyroxene, apatite, pyrite, &c., are associated with the graphite. The most frequent country rock is a pyroxene granulite of the charnockite series.

Mines.—The deepest mines go to a depth of between 600 and 800 feet, while considerable quantities of the mineral are obtained very near the surface. Several of the largest mines are fitted with electric light and equipped with modern machinery, but in most of them the arrangements are very primitive. Twenty-two mines were reported to be working at the end of 1932 employing about 1,090 men.

Prices and Grades.—Since 1919 prices have been nominal, there being practically no buyers. The majority of the mines were closed in 1920 and still remain closed.

The decrease in naval armaments had a direct effect on the demand for plumbago especially with regard to Ceylon as Ceylon flake was regarded as the best crucible plumbago used for this purpose. This is held to be the cause of the falling off in demand for these high grades and the demand throughout the year has been principally for carbon plumbago. With the present price ruling there seems to be no prospect of any extension of mining activities, especially in view of the big surface deposits in Madasgascar, which can now compete with most Ceylon grades for factory work.

The average market prices for all grades for the last three years were as follows:—1929, Rs. 214.28 per ton; 1930, Rs. 203.50 per ton; 1931, Rs. 182.34 per ton; 1932, Rs. 167.73 per ton.

Local Trade.—The mining for, and the local trade in, graphite remain chiefly in the hands of the Sinhalese. Large mines are worked both by Ceylonese capitalists and by tea-estate owners on whose land plumbago is found. Some of the larger mines can turn out 100 tons a month, and Ceylon can, when required, produce 30,000 tons a year.

During the years 1915, 1916, and 1917, over 15,000 skilled labourers were engaged in this industry.

Uses.—Plumbago is chiefly used in the manufacture of crucibles, furnace-facings, electrodes, and stove polish, for making lubricants, black paint and lead

pencils, and in electroplating. During the war large quantities were required for the manufacture of munitions, and the exports in 1916 rose above the old maximum.

The value of the exports of plumbago in 1932 was Rs. 1,023,290.

Other Economic Minerals.

Precious Stones.—Precious stones in large variety are found principally in the alluvial gravels of the Ratnapura District and the south-west portion of the Island. The most important are sapphire and ruby (varieties of corundum), chrysoberyl (including cat's-eye and the rare alexandrite), beryl or aquamarine, and the semi-precious stones, topaz, spinel, garnet, zircon, quartz of various colours (cairngorm, citrine quartz, amethyst) and moonstone.

Mining for gems is carried on almost entirely by Sinhalese on a co-partnership system. The stones are bought up by dealers to be cut and polished. Many of the best stones are exported to Europe and America, but the inferior varieties are largely sold locally or in India. It is difficult to estimate the value of the annual output, but it may be put at somewhere about Rs. 2,000,000.

With the exception of moonstone, which is mined from a band of acid leptynite, and some garnet, the gem-stones are all obtained from alluvial gravels. Sapphire and beryl have been discovered in abundance in pegmatite veins in the Matara and Kandy Districts, respectively, and the other minerals named are probably derived from rocks of similar type.

Thorium-bearing Minerals.—A number of minerals containing thorium and uranium have been found in Ceylon, in pegmatite veins and also in alluvial gravels, and as constituents of natural concentrates on the seabeach. These were mined on a small scale at one time, but the deposits appear to be exhausted and production has ceased. Monazite sands were worked under Government control near Bentota on the west coast, but work was abandoned in 1927 as unprofitable owing to the heavy fall in the price of the mineral.

Ilmenite and Zircon Sands.—Large deposits of natural beach concentrates, consisting of about 75 per cent. ilmenite and 25 per cent. zircon, rutile, &c., are known to exist at Pulmoddai and Tirrukovil, on the east coast of the Island. The former deposit has been proved to contain over two million tons of the mineral. Smaller deposits are found at other places on the coast. The mineral is used as a source of titanium for the preparation of titanium pigments, an industry of growing importance. The Ceylon deposits have not yet been exploited.

Mica.—A small amount of mica has been produced from pegmatite veins or from the contact rocks bordering limestones. The deposits are very irregular, the commercial mica occurring in patches in the veins, with much barren ground between them. There was a revival of interest in the mineral in 1931 and a few tons were exported. The variety exported was phlogopite (magnesia mica) or amber mica. Mining has however now ceased.

Other Mineral Products.—Other mineral products are the following:—

(1) Kaolin of good quality can be prepared from the decomposed felspar of granite rocks free from iron minerals.

(2) White quartz sand suitable for the manufacture of the commoner kinds of glass occurs in places on the west coast and in the north near Point Pedro.

(3) Limestone of a high degree of purity suitable for use in the manufacture of cement is found in large quantities in the Jaffna Peninsula. The coral deposits of the coast are extensively burnt for lime. The crystalline limestones of the interior of the Island are almost all dolomitic and yield inferior lime.

(4) The gneisses and granulites of the charnockite series furnish useful building stones.

(5) Pottery clays of poor quality and brick-earth suitable for the manufacture of bricks and tiles are found in all the river valleys. Kabuk, which is the product of decomposition of the surface of the crystalline rocks, is extensively used for small buildings. When first opened up, it can be cut into slabs, which harden on exposure to the air.

CHAPTER VII.

Commerce.

CEYLON depends for its prosperity mainly upon agriculture and the development of its natural resources in this direction. There are few manufacturing industries, and those which exist are still in their infancy, with the exceptions of the processes by which the three staple products—tea, the produce of the coconut palm, and rubber—are prepared for the market. The mineral resources of the Island, with the exception of plumbago, are limited, while the total absence of coal and the lack of other chief means of motive power no doubt largely account for the absence of manufactures even on a moderate scale. Consequently, the trade of the Island consists mainly of the export of the chief staple agricultural products, largely in their raw state, and the import of manufactured articles and finished materials required by the population, in addition to those foodstuffs which are not grown locally in sufficient quantities for local requirements.

Value of Trade.—The progressive decline of the total trade of the Island which began in 1930, continued throughout 1932. The value of the total trade in 1932 (excluding the value of specie and of coal and liquid fuel supplied to ships) was Rs. 369,412,000, a fall of Rs. 64,636,000 as compared with 1931, or just over one-third of the peak figure reached in 1926. It is, however, important to realize that the decline of the trade in 1932 is accounted for more by the heavy fall of world prices than by the decrease in volume.

The following table shows the annual value of Imports and Exports and of Coal and Liquid Fuel supplied to steamships for bunkers, during the last ten years (excluding the value of specie):—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.*	Total.	Value of Coal supplied to Steamers.	Value of Liquid Fuel supplied to Steamers.	Grand Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1923	287,947,472	355,881,818	643,829,290	13,551,793	7,576,801	664,957,884
1924	302,734,490	390,824,610	693,559,100	15,088,683	8,773,710	717,421,493
1925	351,328,702	499,066,788	850,395,490	14,138,321	9,032,855	873,566,666
1926	395,244,241	509,118,833	904,363,074	12,824,935	10,341,890	927,529,899
1927	406,663,799	450,134,737	856,798,536	13,809,874	11,605,425	882,213,835
1928	400,493,185	395,115,662	795,608,847	11,042,548	11,460,888	818,112,283
1929	403,490,023	397,401,059	800,891,082	13,145,679	12,033,910	826,070,671
1930	302,442,620	304,262,618	606,705,238	9,307,448	9,467,050	625,479,736
1931	218,702,681	215,344,569	434,047,250	8,616,904	9,209,700	451,873,854
1932	196,202,961	173,208,745	369,411,706	5,524,929	10,245,673	385,182,308

* Includes Postal articles and Ships' Stores other than Coal and Liquid Fuel supplied to steamers.

The following table shows the Value of Specie imported and exported during the last ten years:—

Year.	Imported. Rs.	Exported. Rs.	Year.	Imported. Rs.	Exported. Rs.
1923	4,212,312	163,500	1928	11,626,454	3,997,500
1924	9,593,977	163,000	1929	25,805,300	16,653,733
1925	9,051,615	127,134	1930	21,913,408	10,211,582
1926	12,622,868	386,501	1931	9,493,496	14,454,433
1927	14,464,177	1,538,104	1932	164,604	75,823

Distribution of Trade.—The following are the comparative percentages for the last three years of the value of imports from, exports to, and total trade with, the United Kingdom, British Possessions, and foreign countries. The figures are exclusive of imported rubber and of coal, liquid fuel, and ships' stores:—

	1930. Per Cent.	1931. Per Cent.	1932. Per Cent.
Imports—			
From the United Kingdom	21	18·76	19·06
From British Possessions	48·5	48·59	47·59
From foreign countries	30·5	32·65	33·35
	100	100	100
Exports—			
To the United Kingdom	45·61	48·41	49·29
To British Possessions	18·21	18·91	23·02
To foreign countries	36·18	32·68	27·69
	100	100	100
Total Trade—			
From and to the United Kingdom	33·32	33·39	33·08
From and to the British Possessions	33·34	33·94	36·23
From and to the foreign countries	33·34	32·67	30·69
	100	100	100

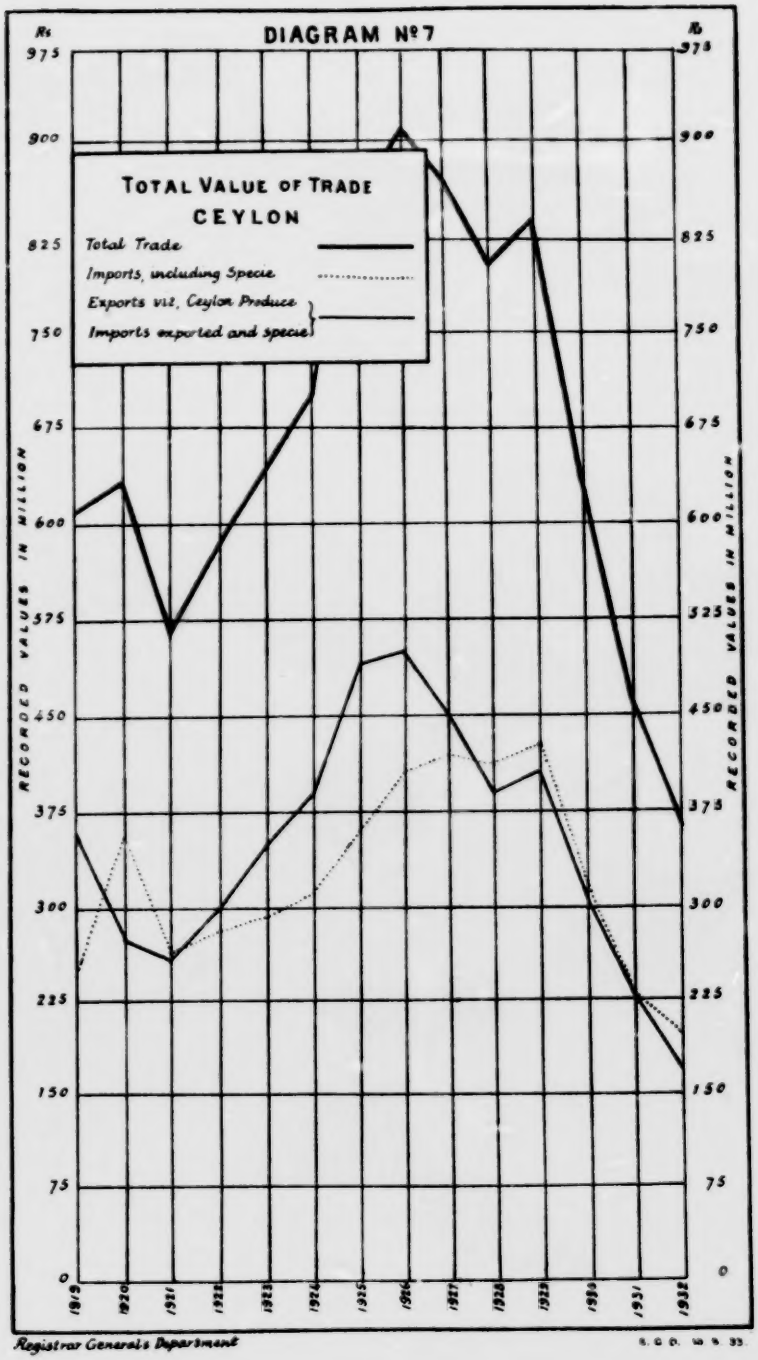
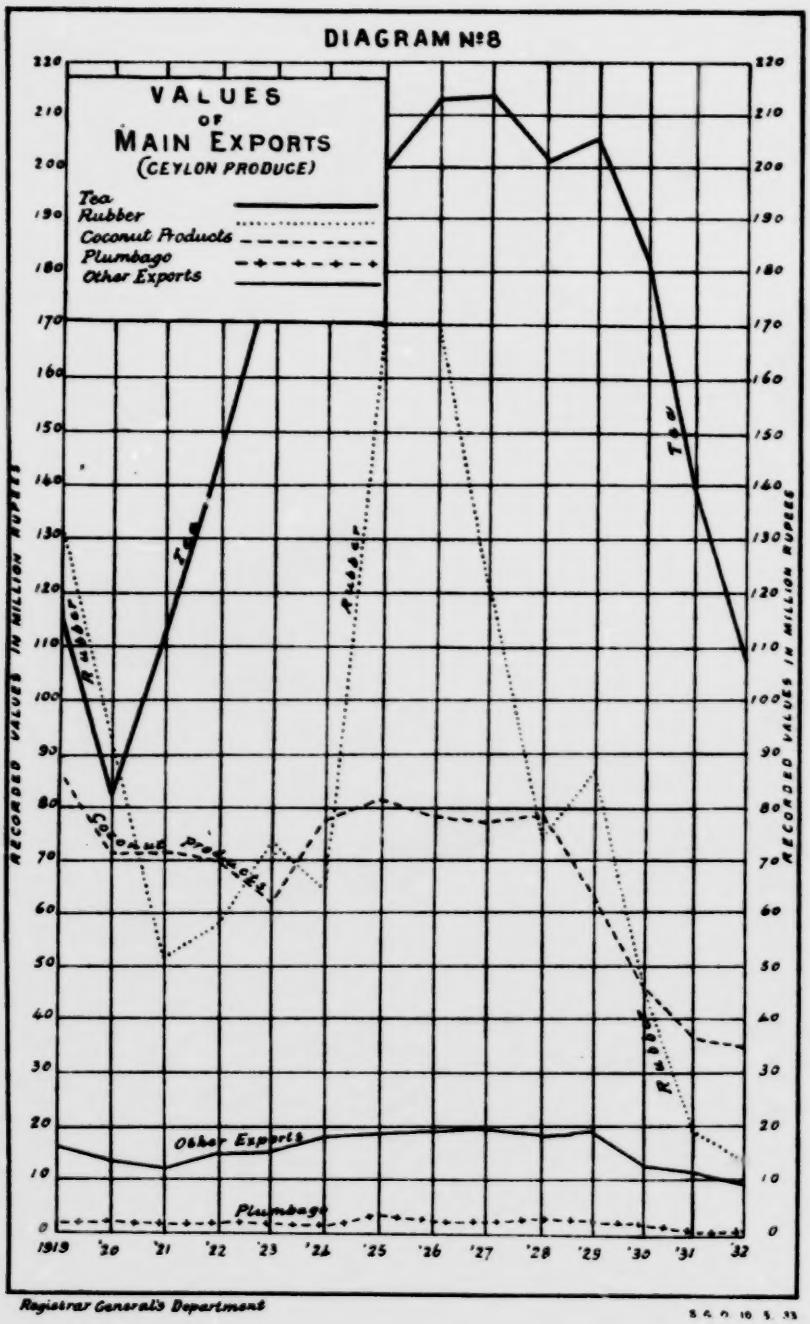


DIAGRAM No 7
Rs
Rs
TOTAL VALUE OF TRADE
CEYLON
Total Trade
Imports, including Specie
Exports viz, Ceylon Produce
Imports exported and specie
RECORDED VALUES IN MILLION
975
900
825
750
675
600
575
525
450
375
300
225
150
75
0
1919
1920
1921
1922
1923
1924
1925
1926
1927
1928
1929
1930
1931
1932
Registrar General's Department



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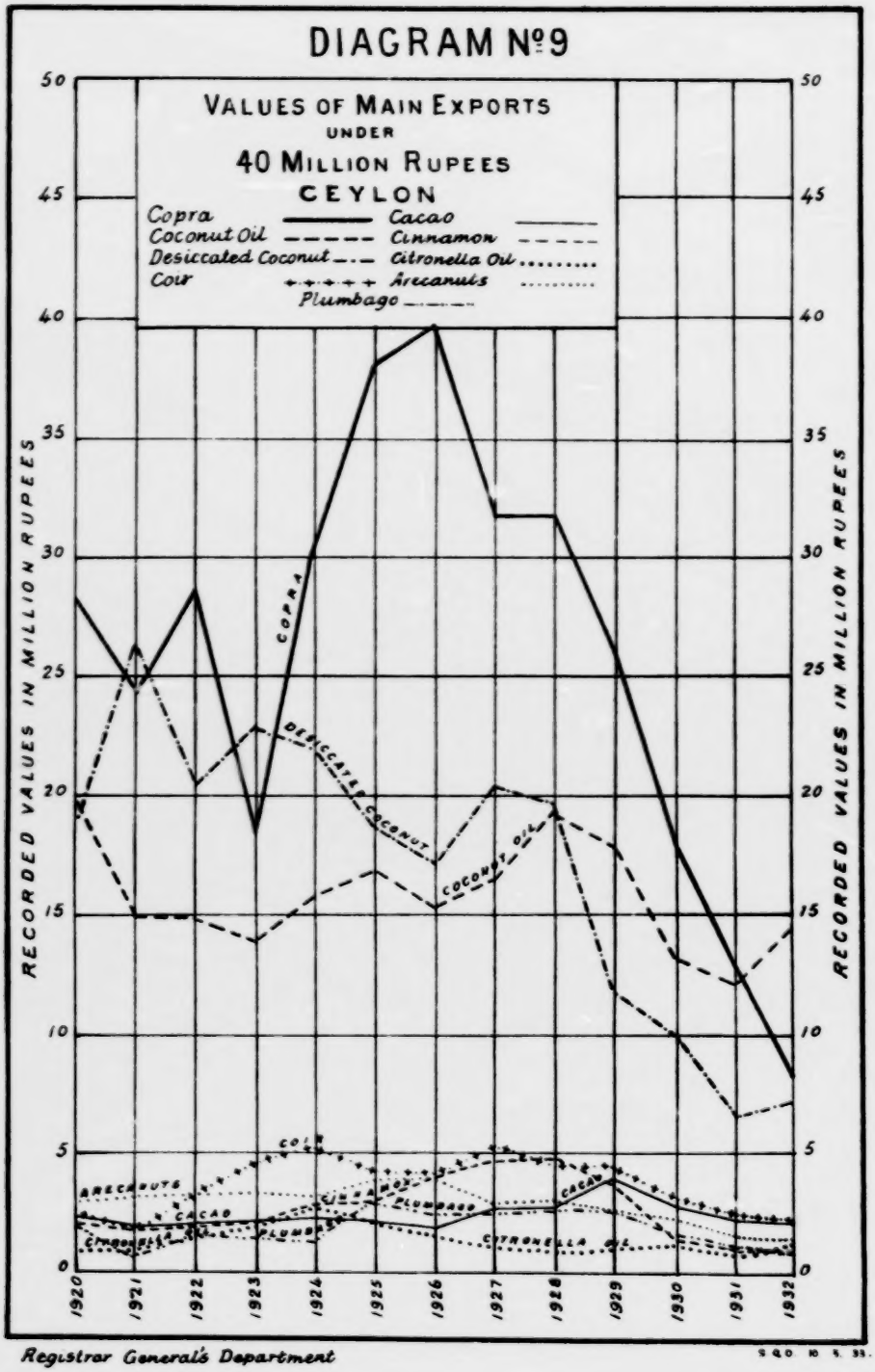

Registrar General's Department

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The United Kingdom regained with 19.0 per cent., as against 18.5 per cent. in 1931, the second place in the list of countries from which imports are obtained, thus displacing Burma, imports from which country declined from 18.7 per cent. to 18.3 per cent. India occupied the first place, although the imports from that country were 22.8 per cent. in 1932 as compared with 23.0 per cent. in the previous year. There was again a very considerable increase in the imports from Japan from 4.9 per cent. to 6.8 per cent. The principal countries which lost ground were the United States of America (2.2 per cent., as against 4.2 per cent.) and Java (2.9 per cent., as against 3.9 per cent).

Exports.—The quantity and value of the principal articles exported during the years 1930 to 1932 compared with the average for 1911 to 1913 are shown in the following table:—

Quantity and Value of the Commodities exported from Ceylon.

	Quantity.*				Value.*			
	1911–13 Average.	1930.	1931.	1932.	1911–13 Average. Rs.	1930. Rs.	1931. Rs.	1932. Rs.
Tea (lb.)	190,041..	243,107..	243,970..	252,824..	85,502..	182,039..	138,699..	107,692
Percentage of total exports ..					*47·5..*	*59·9..*	*64·5..*	*62·2*
Rubber (lb.) ..	15,690..	170,946..	138,005..	111,242..	47,268..	47,158..	19,842..	13,233
Percentage of total exports ..					*26·2..*	*15·5..*	*9·2..*	*7·6*
Copra (cwt.) ..	851..	1,813..	1,877..	914..	14,738..	18,029..	12,715..	8,284
Percentage of total exports ..					*8·2..*	*5·9..*	*5·9..*	*4·8*
Coconut oil (cwt.) ..	485..	764..	963..	1,025..	13,490..	13,190..	12,130..	14,475
Percentage of total exports ..					*7·5..*	*4·3..*	*5·6..*	*8·4*
Desiccated coconuts (cwt.)	292..	705..	669..	599..	7,193..	10,036..	6,832..	7,150
Percentage of total exports ..					*4·0..*	*3·3..*	*3·2..*	*4·1*
					168,191	270,452	190,218	150,834
Other commodities ..	..	..	..	..	11,965	33,811..	25,127	22,375
Percentage of total exports ..					*6·6..*	*11·1..*	*11·6..*	*12·9*
Value of total exports ..	..	..	..	..	180,156	304,263	215,345	173,209

* In 1,000's.

Exports from Ceylon in 1932 amounted to Rs. 173,209,000 or approximately Rs. 42,000,000 less than in the previous year, and compared with the pre-war triennium showed a decline of nearly Rs. 7,000,000. This record fall in value was however accompained by an increase in volume over 1931 in almost all the principal commodities exported, rubber and copra being the chief exceptions; while if the year 1932 is compared with the average for the years 1911-13, all the principal commodities including rubber and copra show increases in volume.

One of the curious facts of the present depression has been the rapid and the large fall in the prices of primary products and articles of food and drink, as compared with manufactures and finished materials, whose prices have fallen less than proportionately as a result of the rigidity of wages and fixed charges which form the major portion of their costs. The effects of the depression have, therefore, been more painful in countries producing raw materials and foodstuffs than in countries engaged in manufacture, and were specially distressing in Ceylon whose economic prosperity depends on the development of tea, rubber, and the coconut palm. If these staple products are alone considered, a rough estimation can be formed of the economic reactions of the enormous fall in values. As will be seen from the above table, the exports of these products in 1932 which were valued at Rs. 150,834,000 were nearly Rs. 17,000,000 less than the average for the years 1911-13 and Rs. 40,000,000 less than in 1931, despite the fact that, between the pre-war triennium and the year 1932, the volume of exports increased very considerably. Consequently, even when allowance is made for the recent fall in the prices of some articles of food and clothing, there still has been a large contraction in the incomes, real as well as nominal, of the people of the Island.

Tea.—The total exports of Ceylon tea amounted to 252,824,000 lb. for 1932 against 243,970,000 lb. for 1931, an increase of nearly 9,000,000 lb. Despite this large increase in tea, the exports of which constitute a record output for the Island, the value realized was only Rs. 107,692,000, or Rs. 31,000,000 less than the previous year. Nevertheless, the tea industry still forms the mainstay of the Island, and has improved almost yearly its position as such since the

pre-war triennium. Tea constituted 47.5 per cent. of the total value of exports in the pre-war triennium, and by 1930 attained 59.9 per cent. and increased again in the following year to 64.5 per cent. There was a slight drop in 1932, but with 62.2 per cent. tea still occupies the premier position.

The local average prices for the first three months of the year showed a steady rise from Re. 0.45 per lb. to Re. 0.65 chiefly due to the high prices fetched by high grown teas; medium and low grown tea fluctuating within comparatively narrow limits. From early April the market declined and reached the lowest point in June when for three consecutive weeks the average recorded was 33 cents. Towards the end of October the market suddenly advanced to an average of 40 cents owing to the resumption of negotiations between India, Ceylon, and Dutch East Indies growers for the restriction of crops. Towards the end of the year an agreement was reached for the limitation of exports over a period of five years. These negotiations proceeded very slowly, and the market again sagged, the last sale of the year closing with the average of 35 cents.

The following table shows the volume of tea exported since 1925 and the yearly average price of tea per lb. :—

Year.	Million lb.	Price per lb.* Rs. c.	Year.	Million lb.	Price per lb.* Rs. c.
1925	210	0 96	1929	251	0 [illegible]
1926	217	0 99	1930	243	0 75
1927	227	0 94	1931	244	0 57
1928	237	0 85	1932	253	0 42

* According to local weekly sale averages.

The distribution of exports of tea for the years 1930, 1931, and 1932 was as follows:—

	1930. lb.*	1931 lb.*	1932. lb.*
United Kingdom	153,876	160,509	172,222
United States of America	16,809	15,531	15,775
Australia	21,182	11,607	15,278
New Zealand	8,356	10,888	8,391
Canada and New Foundland	6,835	7,918	8,366
British South Africa	9,612	9,751	8,038
Egypt	5,587	6,925	6,173
France	987	1,740	1,818
Iraq	2,297	1,951	1,785
Russia	3,133	1,409	1,474
Argentine	1,248	1,603	1,136
Other countries	13,185	14,138	12,368
Total Exports	243,107	243,970	252,824

* In 1,000's.

Exports of tea to the United Kingdom have consistently increased since 1930, and, compared with 1931, show an increase of nearly 12,000,000 lb. in 1932. As usual United Kingdom was the largest consumer of Ceylon tea and her takings have yearly improved from 63 per cent. in 1930 to 65.7 per cent. in 1931 and again to 68.2 per cent. in the following year. United States of America and Australia were the next largest buyers, the former country's purchases remaining almost steady at 15,775,000 lb. The shipments to the latter country, on the other hand, showed a considerable increase from 11,607,000 lb. to 15,278,000 lb., although they were still below the 1930 figure. There was a decline in the exports to New Zealand by about 2,500,000 lb., her purchases amounting to 8,391,000 in 1932 compared with 10,888,000 lb. in the previous year.

Rubber.—The rubber industry continued to struggle on in a most parlous state and prices once again touched low records—the average for the year under review for smoked sheets being 10 cents per lb. The total quantity of rubber (home produce) exported was 111,242,000 lb., a decrease of roughly 27,000,000 lb. compared with 1931. In 1932 the value of rubber amounted to 7.6 per cent. of the total value of exports, which may be compared with 9.2 per cent. in the previous year and 26.2 per cent. for the pre-war triennium. Even as late as 1930 rubber exports were higher in value than the exports of the three principal products of the coconut-palm, viz., copra, coconut oil, and desiccated coconuts; but in 1932 their value was less than even the value of coconut oil exports alone, so that in the order of importance the rubber industry has now fallen far below the coconut industry.

The following table shows the volume of rubber (home produce in 1,000 lb.) exported since 1925 and the annual average price:—

	lb.	Average Price.* Rs. c.		lb.	Average Price.* Rs. c.
1925	102,185	1 73	1929	180,632	0 52
1926	131,841	1 21	1930	170,946	0 27
1927	125,063	0 95	1931	138,005	0 14
1928	128,326	0 55	1932	111,242	0 11

* Averages for top grades only (Ribbed Smoked Sheet and Contract Crêpe).

The distribution of the exports of rubber compares as follows:—

	1930. lb.*	1931. lb.*	1932. lb.*
United States of America	165,709	92,527	65,314
United Kingdom	39,087	22,635	14,827
Germany	6,703	5,469	9,292
Australia	3,082	3,621	5,423
Holland	1,865	2,270	3,598
France	4,973	2,604	2,970
Belgium	1,952	3,164	2,301
Mexico	239	1,453	2,119
Italy	3,170	1,205	2,039
Japan	650	592	330
Other countries	3,516	2,465	3,029
Total Exports	170,946	138,005	111,242

* In 1,000's.

The considerable decrease since 1930 in the exports of rubber is mainly due to the cessation of tapping in many of the estates as a result of uneconomic prices. The United States of America was as usual the largest purchaser with 65,314,000 lb. or 60.4 per cent. which may be compared with 92,527,000 lb. or 68.4 per cent. for 1931. There was a considerable increase in the shipments of rubber to Germany and Australia. Consignments to the United Kingdom amounted to 14,827,000 lb. and compared with 1931 showed a decrease of nearly 7,800,000 lb.

Coconut Products.—The exports of the three chief coconut products since 1925, compared with the average for the pre-war triennium were as follows:—

	Copra. Tons.	Coconut Oil. Tons.	Desiccated Coconut. Tons.
1911–13 (average)	42,553	24,230	14,580
1925	113,686	30,846	39,708
1926	120,970	28,523	37,718
1927	99,108	33,658	43,642
1928	98,833	38,956	39,335
1929	102,124	43,926	34,723
1930	90,630	38,189	35,235
1931	93,865	48,139	33,466
1932	45,699	51,252	29,963

The values of these exports were—

	Copra. Rs.*	Coconut Oil. Rs.*	Desiccated Coconuts. Rs.*	Total Value. Rs.*
1911–13 (average)	14,738	13,480	7,193	35,421
1925	38,268	16,813	18,778	73,859
1926	39,848	15,489	17,276	72,613
1927	31,845	16,568	20,482	68,895
1928	31,802	19,266	19,840	70,908
1929	26,316	18,024	11,876	56,216
1930	18,029	13,190	10,036	41,255
1931	12,715	12,130	6,111	30,956
1932	8,284	14,475	7,150	29,909

* In 1,000's.

The value of exports of copra, coconut oil, and desiccated coconut have almost regularly declined since 1925, and amounted in 1932 to Rs. 29,909,000, or Rs. 1,047,000 less than in the previous year, and lower than the average for the years 1911-13 by approximately Rs. 5,500,000. It should not be inferred from this that the coconut industry has declined from its relative importance in recent years, for the contribution of copra, coconut oil, and desiccated coconut to the total export trade of Ceylon rose from 13.5 per cent. in 1930 to 14.7 per cent. in the following year and to 18.1 per cent. in 1932, although the last figure is slightly lower than the average of 19.7 per cent. for the years 1911-13.

The following table shows the exports of copra, coconut oil, and desiccated coconut converted into their equivalent of nuts (in 1,000's) together with the exports of fresh coconuts :—

	Copra.*	Coconut Oil.†	Desiccated Coconut.‡	Total.	Fresh Nuts.	Total including Fresh Nuts.
1911–13 (average)	204,254	188,994	93,312	486,560	16,198	502,758
Percentage of total (including fresh nuts)	*40·6*	*37·6*	*18·6*	*96·8*	*3·2*	
1930	435,024	297,874	225,504	958,402	20,750	979,152
Percentage of total, &c.	*44·5*	*30·4*	*23·0*	*97·9*	*2·1*	
1931	450,552	375,484	214,182	1,040,219	21,142	1,061,361
Percentage of total, &c.	*42·5*	*35·4*	*20·1*	*98·0*	*2·0*	
1932	219,355	399,766	191,763	810,884	23,144	834,028
Percentage of total, &c.	*26·3*	*47·9*	*23·0*	*97·2*	*2·8*	

* 1 ton = 4,800 nuts. † 1 ton = 7,800 nuts. ‡ 1 ton = 6,400 nuts.

The exports of copra, coconut oil, desiccated coconut, and fresh coconuts were equivalent to 834,028,000 nuts in 1932, a decrease of 227,333,000 nuts compared with 1931 or 21.4 per cent., and were more than the average for the year 1911-13 by 331,270,000 nuts. The fall in exports in 1932 was the result of a smaller coconut crop due to drought and restricted manuring, the latter being attributable to the lower returns obtained in the previous year. The heaviest fall occurred in copra whose shipments were equivalent to 219,355,000 nuts, or less than even half the quantity for 1931. Despite decreased crops coconut oil exports increased in 1932, being equivalent to 399,766,000 nuts and represented 47.9 per cent. of the total volume of coconut produce exported, as against 35.4 per cent. in 1931. This considerable increase in coconut oil was at the expense of copra, exports of which declined from 42.5 per cent. of the total volume in 1931 to 26.3 per cent. in the following year.

Copra.—The distribution of the exports of copra since 1930 compared with the average for the years 1911-13 is as follows :—

	1911–13 (Average.) Tons.	1930. Tons.	1931. Tons.	1932. Tons.
India	3	68	1,125	14,376
Italy	—*	34,458	32,688	9,497
Holland	51	3,775	9,616	8,061
Germany	29,173	17,277	14,936	5,552
Denmark	1,753	7,225	4,500	2,849
Turkey	—	1,299	2,531	2,149
Norway	—	16,150	13,006	1,353
United Kingdom	367	533	432	301
Greece	—	734	5,015	100
Belgium	609	4,250	5,000	50
Other countries	10,597	5,061	5,017	1,411
	42,553	90,630	93,866	45,699

* Included in " other countries ".

Exports in 1932 declined by 48,167 tons or nearly 51 per cent. compared with 1931. There was a decline in consignments to practically all markets except India, which shows a very considerable increase from 1,125 tons or 1.2 per cent. of the total exports to 14,376 tons or 31.4 per cent. The exceedingly large demand from India is attributed to the shortage of Malabar copra and Coramandel groundnuts, thus necessitating that country to make good the deficiency of its own oil seeds by importing large quantities of Ceylon copra and cocnut oil. The most noticeable decrease in shipments is to Italy, which fell from 32,688 tons in 1931 to 9,497 tons in the following year. Germany is another declining market whose takings amounted to 5,552 tons, as against 14,936 tons for 1931 and an average of 29,173 tons for the pre-war triennium. The displacement of Ceylon copra from the German market is due, apart from any decrease resulting from the economic depression, partly to increased imports of copra from the Dutch East Indies, and partly to increased imports of groundnuts and soya beans There was also a somewhat considerable decline in the consignments to Norway and Greece, which amounted during the year under review to 1,353 tons and 100 tons respectively as compared with the corresponding quantities of 13,006 tons and 5,015 tons in the previous year.

The market fluctuated as usual, but on the whole was well maintained. The year opened with quotations of Rs. 42.25 per candy (5 cwt.) and closed at Rs. 41.25. The highest price was reached in February at Rs. 53.50, and the lowest price was in June at Rs. 35. The high local prices which were the result of the abnormal Indian demand made business very difficult in the London market, where Ceylon copra fetched at times a premium of 45 shillings to 50 shillings per ton over Straits copra, as against the normal premium of 15 shillings to 20 shillings.

The annual average market prices since 1925 were as follows:—

Year	Average Price* Per Candy. Rs. c.	Year.	Average Price* Per Candy. Rs. c.
1925	80 36	1929	64 47
1926	79 40	1930	52 36
1927	76 88	1931	35 6
1928	76 22	1932	42 21

* The average prices for 1927 to 1932 are for top grades only; the averages for other years represent the lowest and highest overall, weekly quotations received for all grades.

Coconut Oil.—The distribution of coconut oil exported from Ceylon was as follows:—

	1911–13 (Average). Tons.	1930. Tons.	1931. Tons.	1932. Tons.
India	43	3,659	9,498	25,718
United Kingdom	9,615	7,591	9,057	7,629
Germany	460	1,198	1,197	2,077
Egypt	—†	4,386	4,028	1,964
Burma	—	109	413	1,648
Argentine	—	2,140	2,145	1,503
Italy	87	4,330	3,044	1,365
Belgium	291	1,040	1,130	1,256
Poland	—	35	1,192	874
British South Africa	18	1,014	2,659	657
Fiume	—	2,240	1,719	656
Sweden	187	3,847	3,342	562
United States of America	11,102	351	428	234
Other countries	2,487	6,249	8,287	5,109
Total Exports	24,230	38,189	48,139	51,252

† Included in "other countries".

The exports of coconut oil increased from 48,139 tons in 1931 to 51,252 tons in the following year. All the usual markets with the exception of Germany and Belgium showed considerable decreases, and the increase in exports was due to the unusually high demand in India, with the result that exports to that country amounted to 25,718 tons or just over half the total exports, compared with 9,498 tons or approximately one-fifth of the total shipments in 1931. Burma also increased by four times her takings which were at 1,648 tons. On the other hand, exports to Sweden decreased by 2,780 tons, shipments in 1932 being 562 tons. The next largest decrease was in respect of Italy, exports to which country amounted to 1,365 tons, while Egypt and the United Kingdom also showed considerable reductions.

The market closely followed that of copra. It opened at Rs. 317.50 in January, and advanced to Rs. 360 in February; by June prices declined to Rs. 245, and continued to improve throughout the year and closed at Rs. 272.50 in December. Local prices were mostly at a premium over the world prices, and in almost all overseas markets the competition of coconut oil from other countries, particularly Java, was keenly felt. The average prices per ton f.o.b. of coconut oil since 1925 were as follows:—

	Rs. c.		Rs. c.
1925	543 17	1929	412 33
1926	539 36	1930	351 63
1927	491 73	1931	253 52
1928	489 2	1932	283 75

Desiccated Coconut.—The following table shows the distribution of desiccated coconut :—

Countries.	1911–13 (Average).	1930.	1931.	1932.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
United Kingdom ..	6,281	14,594	15,642	14,914
Germany	2,588	6,426	5,582	6,011
Holland	335	2,442	2,154	1,539
Spain	221	1,383	1,198	1,356
France	108	949	944	786
Belgium	503	837	884	706
Italy	2	962	874	663
United States of America ..	2,965	2,327	1,729	558
Canada	286	1,170	740	520
New Zealand	135	493	584	343
Australia	636	632	164	71
Other countries ..	520	3,019	2,971	2,496
Total Exports ..	14,580	35,234	33,466	29,963

The exports of desiccated coconut amounted to 29,963 tons and compared with 1931 showed a reduction of 3,500 tons, principally due to a decline in shipments to Australia, Canada, and the United States, where prohibitive import duties levied as protective measures are making it impossible for the Ceylon product to compete. Exports to the United States have steadily declined, and in 1932 amounted to only 558 tons, as against 1,729 tons shipped in 1931, and an average of 2,965 tons in the pre-war triennium. Australia showed a similar decline, and took in 1932, 71 tons, a negligible quantity compared with 632 tons in 1930. Consignments to Spain and Germany showed satisfactory increases but there were reductions in regard to other continental countries. The United Kingdom still remains the principal customer and took in 1932 as much as 50 per cent. of the total exports. Shipments to that country were reckoned at 14,914 tons, and though less than in 1931 by approximately 700 tons were still above 1930 quantities by 320 tons.

The market opened at 13 cents per lb., and improved in February to 14 cents, as a result of shortage of supplies and low stock of consuming countries. There was a decline in March to 13 cents, and prices closed at 12 cents at the end of the year. The average quotations since 1925 were—

Year.	Price per lb.	Year.	Price per lb.
	Rs. c.		Rs. c.
1925	0 20	1929	0 16
1926	0 20	1930	0 13
1927	0 19	1931	0 10
1928	0 19	1932	0 11

In addition to the major products of tea, rubber, and coconut produce, there are a number of other minor products exported from Ceylon, particulars of which are as follows :—

		Quantities.*			Values.*		
		1930.	1931.	1932.	1930.	1931.	1932.
					Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Cacao	..lb.	8,648	8,587	9,243	2,937	2,320	2,192
Arecanuts	..cwt.	113	102	99	2,621	1,678	1,400
Plumbago	..cwt.	174	134	122	1,775	1,225	1,023
Citronella oil	..lb.	1,214	1,203	1,280	1,346	948	1,203
Cinnamon quills and chips	..cwt.	44	42	48	1,780	1,177	993
Poonac, coconut	..cwt.	279	371	434	1,254	1,353	1 766
Coir fibre, bristle and mattress	..cwt.	481	493	450	1,733	1,489	1,490
					13,446	10,190	10,067

* In 1,000's.

Exports of cacao increased considerably in 1932. The Philippine Islands were as usual the largest buyers taking more than 33 per cent. of the total. The United Kingdom and Mexico came next with 20 per cent. and 10 per cent. respectively. There was also an increase in citronella oil and the principal customers were the

United States of America and the United Kingdom. Arecanuts and plumbago showed decreases. India was the largest purchaser of the former and took 86 per cent. of the total exports. The principal buyers of plumbago were Japan (32,700 cwt.), United States of America (24,200 cwt.), and the United Kingdom (23,800 cwt.). The quantity taken in 1932 by the United States was less than half her purchases in the previous year, while there was an increase of nearly 7,700 cwt. in the shipments to Japan and 6,500 cwt. to the United Kingdom, the latter increase being probably due to the preference extended to the Ceylon product.

In contrast with the exports from Ceylon which consist almost wholly of raw materials, the only important exception being tea, the imports into Ceylon comprise chiefly foodstuffs and articles of manufacture. The following table shows the nature of the import trade :—

	Quantities.*			Values.*		
	1930.	1931.	1932.	1930.	1931.	1932.
				Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Rice ..cwt.	9,260	8,733	8,839	75,565	51,443	50,192
Cotton piece goods yd.	50,297	54,716	68,451	15,914	13,211	12,949
Liquid fuel ..gal.	57,458	52,006	61,773	12,006	10,401	11,578
Fish, dried, salted, and Maldive ..cwt.	408	391	403	10,702	11,404	9,522
Coal ..tons.	567	494	350	12,403	10,495	6,782
Sugar ..cwt.	1,461	1,454	1,063	13,224	8,147	6,245
Fertilizers ..cwt.	2,251	1,752	1,508	11,698	7,798	6,120
Petrol ..gal.	11,447	8,845	8,191	9,433	7,151	5,952
Metal and metal-ware, ferrous ..cwt.	861	640	552	8,715	5,979	4,816
Paddy, pulses, and gram ..cwt.	889	827	895	6,074	5,166	4,661
Curry stuffs ..cwt.	310	307	316	5,117	4,650	4,037
Kerosene oil ..gal.	8,854	7,920	6,433	6,311	5,477	3,964
Tea and other chests ..No.	3,811	3,834	3,717	4,912	4,045	3,333
Onions and potatoes ..cwt.	787	686	705	5,029	2,374	2,723
Non-ferrous metals and manufactures cwt.	141	109	121	4,294	2,976	2,510
Wheat flour ..cwt.	401	375	364	4,287	2,241	2,493
Feeding stuffs ..cwt.	488	456	456	3,004	2,311	2,295
Motor cars, tyres, and tubes ..	—	—	—	3,192	2,177	2,073
Artificial silk ..yd.	2,973	4,827	7,215	1,698	1,732	1,938
Silk—broadstuff ..yd.	1,604	1,829	2,194	1,875	1,841	1,833
Soap ..cwt.	60	55	49	2,518	1,938	1,541
Motor cars and lorries ..No.	1·7	·7	·9	3,308	1,296	1,536
Tobacco ..lb.	906	1,056	863	2,356	1,625	1,209
Cement ..cwt.	1,300	953	781	2,601	1,693	1,168
Other commodities	—	—	—	76,207	51,132	44,733
			Total	302,443	218,703	196,203

* In 1,000's.

Rice.—The quantity imported was 8,839,000 cwt., being slightly more than in 1931, but the value decreased to Rs. 50,192,000. Burma continued to be the chief source of supply with 6,095,000 cwt., though compared with 1931 imports from that country showed a decrease of nearly 500,000 cwt. Increased shipments from India and Siam more than compensated the deficit, each country sending 300,000 cwt. more than in the previous year. Rice from Burma constitutes the staple food of the labouring classes, and the lower imports from this source were attributable partly to the reduction of the labour forces on the estates as a result of the depression, and partly to the diversion of demand to Siam rice on account of its lower price. The following table shows the chief sources of supply :—

	Quantity.†			Value.†		
	1930.	1931.	1932.	1930.	1931.	1932.
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Burma ..	6,388	6,552	6,095	49,724	37,516	32,739
British India ..	2,313	1,421	1,725	21,095	9,603	11,939
Cochin China ..	270	277	232	2,396	1,564	1,217
Siam ..	227	454	745	1,833	2,602	4,077
Straits Settlements .	45	28	34	369	157	182
Other countries ..	17	—	7	147	—	38
Total ..	9,260	8,733	8,839	75,565	51,443	50,192

† In 1,000's.

The price of rice continued to decline throughout the year. Muttusamba rice from India was quoted at Rs. 5.81 per bushel at the beginning of the year, and at Rs. 3.88 at its close. The market opened at Rs. 3.25 for Milchard rice from Rangoon, and advanced to Rs. 3.60 in the middle of the year and closed at Rs. 2.94 at the end. The average price was Rs. 3.33 per bushel. Siam rice was the lowest in price at Rs. 3.13 a bushel.

Other Articles of Food.—Fish, sugar, grains, curry stuffs, onions, and potatoes constituted the principal other articles of food imported into Ceylon. From 316,000 cwt. in 1931 imports of *dried fish* increased to 321,000 cwt. in the following year, but their value declined from Rs. 7,042,000 to Rs. 6,418,000. As usual the chief supplier was India, purchases from which country amounted to 308,000 cwt., an increase of nearly 2,000 cwt. over the previous year, valued at Rs. 6,162,000. *Maldive fish* also increased from 75,500 cwt. to 82,500 cwt., but there was a fall in value from Rs. 4,362,000 to Rs. 3,104,000.

The quantity of *sugar* imported decreased by nearly 400,000 cwt., or 28 per cent., as compared with 1931, and the average c.i.f. price fell to less than 5 cents per lb. There was a remarkable increase in imports from the United Kingdom from 11,700 cwt. in 1931 at a value of Rs. 118,700 to 101,500 cwt. valued at Rs. 870,000. Purchases from Java on the other hand showed a considerable reduction, 897,000 cwt. valued at Rs. 4,960,000 against 1,328,000 cwt. and Rs. 7,307,000 in 1931. The increase in imports from the United Kingdom appears to be due to the better quality of sugar which is manufactured, there from beet molasses.

Paddy, pulses, and *gram,* in addition to rice, constitute the chief imports of other grain. 88 per cent. of the paddy imported came from Burma. 64 per cent. of the pulses from British India, and gram from British India and Burma in approximately equal quantities. Considered together the imports of these articles amounted to 895,000 cwt. in 1932, an increase of 68,000 cwt. over 1931, but the value as in the case of other articles of food was less by Rs. 500,000, the imports totalling Rs. 4,661,000 in 1932. Imports between 1930 and 1932 compared as follows:—

	1930. Cwt.	1931. Cwt.	1932. Cwt.
Paddy	370,900	352,000	413,700
Pulses	433,400	389,500	383,500
Gram	84,600	85,000	97,400

The quantity of *curry stuffs* imported was 316,000 cwt. in 1932 and, though there was an increase of 9,000 cwt. as compared with 1931, their value fell by Rs. 613,000 to Rs. 4,037,000. The nature of the curry stuffs imported could be ascertained from the following table:—

Articles.	Quantities.*			Values.†		
	1930. Cwt.	1931. Cwt.	1932. Cwt.	1930. Rs.	1931. Rs.	1932. Rs.
Chillies	1,528	1,468	1,551	3,299	2,804	1,990
Coriander seed	426	540	541	317	581	669
Cummin seed	135	156	125	398	404	219
Fennel seed	62	51	51	144	69	54
Garlic	230	176	231	353	290	578
Mathe seed	68	72	64	80	74	60
Tamarind	539	487	478	332	306	311
Turmeric	115	118	119	191	120	153
Other	1	1	1	3	2	2
Total	3,104	3,069	3,161	5,117	4,650	4,036

* In 100 cwt. † In 1,000's.

The principal supplier of curry stuffs was India. *Chillies* were imported almost wholly from that country, the amount in 1932 being 153,300 cwt. valued at Rs. 1,964,000. As regards *coriander*, imports from France decreased from 43,700 cwt. to 27,000 cwt. in 1932, and those from India showed a very considerable increase from 2,900 cwt. to 17,700 cwt. Though the imports from all countries

were almost constant at 54,000 cwt., the value rose from Rs. 581,000 to Rs. 669,000. The increased purchases from India and the higher value of imports may have been due to the depreciation of the rupee in relation to the gold franc. India supplied all the requirements in *mathe seed* and *turmeric*, and just over two-thirds of *tamarind*, the only competitor in the latter commodity being Java which supplied the balance. Hong Kong was the chief supplier of garlic, displacing Straits Settlements. Italy ranked next with 4,100 cwt. showing an increase of nearly ten times the quantity imported in 1931, the value of which was Rs. 203,000 as against Rs. 228,000 for 13,500 cwt. from Hong Kong.

Almost all the *onions* were from India, imports from which country increased from 491,600 cwt. to 502,500 cwt. while the value declined from Rs. 1,662,000 to Rs. 1,647,000. Imports of *potatoes* from Italy also increased by one-third to 99,500 cwt., but the value rose by half to Rs. 520,000. India was the next in order with 72,100 cwt., an increase of nearly 25,000 cwt. over 1931. As in the case of garlic, the larger imports from India and the more than proportionate increase in the total value—the increase in value in 1932 being 53.4 per cent., as against an increase of 4.4 per cent. in quantity—may be attributed to the depreciation of the rupee. Except for these two commodities, the average c.i.f. value of almost all the other articles of food was lower in 1932 than in 1931, so that this fall, along with the fall in the price of clothing, must have rendered the cost of living of the labouring classes lower during the year under review.

Spirits—Brandy, Whisky, and Gin.—There was a considerable drop in the quantities cleared for home consumption as compared with 1931. Brandy decreased by 34 per cent., whisky by 39 per cent., and gin by 14 per cent. The quantities cleared for home consumption were—

	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.
Brandy (gallons)	104,900	135,800	59,300	47,600	29,200
Gin (gallons)	106,400	94,900	55,600	42,900	26,000
Whisky (gallons)	81,800	71,500	43,200	45,700	39,100
	293,100	302,200	158,100	136,200	94,300

Tobacco, Cigars, and Cigarettes.—The consumption of all kinds of tobacco, and manufactures thereof show a marked decrease. In particular, imported cigarettes have been replaced by the locally manufactured variety, an index to which is furnished by the very remarkable increase since 1927 in the imports of unmanufactured tobacco, as against the very large fall in imported cigarettes. The locally manufactured cigarette priced at 2 cents competes successfully with beedies from India and cheroots from Jaffna. Imports of cigarettes declined by 35 per cent., of which 96 per cent. were from the United Kingdom.

The heavy fall in the importation of beedies from India is partly an indication of the very extensive smuggling in the Jaffna District. The duty on beedies and beedy tobacco which was too high was accordingly reduced on February 1, 1933, to combat smuggling.

The quantities of the various classes of tobacco cleared for home consumption were as follows:—

	1923–27 (Average).	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.
	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.
Unmanufactured tobacco	5,000	115,900	217,500	55,300	872,100	673,400
Cigars	7,300	6,800	5,900	4,300	3,100	2,700
Cigarettes	451,600	556,300	584,200	316,700	133,400	86,200
Manufactured tobacco	21,600	14,000	14,000	12,300	10,100	6,400
Beedies	49,600	76,900	70,600	57,700	44,400	20,300
Total	535,100	769,900	892,200	946,300	1,063,100	789,000

Textiles.—The total values of imports in 1932 of cotton, raw and manufactured, was Rs. 15,192,000 compared with Rs. 15,305,000 in the previous year, the decrease being less than 1 per cent. Of this, cotton piece goods accounted for Rs. 12,949,000, a decrease of Rs. 262,000, despite the fact that the quantity

imported, compared with 1931, increased in 1932 by 13,735,000 yards (or 25 per cent.) to 68,451,000 yards. The following table shows the distribution of imports:—

	United Kingdom. Yds.*	India. Yds.*	Japan. Yds.*	Holland. Yds.*	Other Countries. Yds.*	Total Quantity. Yds.*	Total Value. Rs.*
Bleached.							
1913	15,019	306	6	26	26	15,383	3,370
1930	9,057	155	2,686	495	151	12,544	4,142
1931	6,288	190	7,986	184	220	14,869	3,373
1932	6,242	21	13,891	42	49	20,245	3,651
Dyed.							
1913	11,628	8,968	46	1,845	1,585	24,072	5,505
1930	2,737	12,790	3,232	2,814	230	21,803	7,327
1931	2,089	11,785	4,763	1,878	209	20,724	5,564
1932	2,044	10,987	10,785	378	218	24,412	5,299
Gray.							
1913	4,206	216	—	3	827	5,252	1,060
1930	2,445	27	515	—	342	3,329	840
1931	1668	22	571	—	321	2,582	528
1932	2,335	21	1,702	1	492	4,552	765
Printed.							
1913	8,450	239	1	—	35	8,725	1,756
1930	5,342	29	7,003	177	70	12,621	3,606
1931	5,902	85	10,402	51	101	16,541	3 746
1932	5,105	10	13,988	70	69	19,242	3,234

* In 1,000's.

The United Kingdom had been the principal supplier of cotton piece goods up to 1930 when imports from this source amounted to 19,581,000 yards or 39 per cent. of the total. Compared with 1913 her share has deteriorated, as in that year supplies from the United Kingdom reached 73.6 per cent. or 39,303,000 yards, while Japan, her present competitor, sent the insignificant quantity of 53,000 yards. By 1930 the latter country had attained a position of considerable importance, when she supplied as much as 26.7 per cent., with a quantity of 13,436,000 yards.

In 1931 Japan displaced the United Kingdom as the principal supplier with 23,722,000 yards or 43.3 per cent., as against 15,947,000 yards or 29.1 per cent. from the latter source. In 1932 Japan improved her share still further by supplying the very large quantity of 40,366,000 yards. Compared with 1931, the increase of 16,644,000 yards in the imports from Japan should not be assumed to have been at the expense of the United Kingdom, as supplies from this source which amounted in 1932 to 15,727,000 yards, showed a decrease of only 220,000 yards. The heavy Japanese imports on the contrary must be attributed to the very low prices of the Japanese material having elicited a new demand on the part of the inhabitants and enlarged the market for cotton goods so that the total imports increased from 54,716,000 yards in 1931 to 68,451,000 yards in the following year. Nevertheless Britain's position in the piece goods trade in Ceylon is a grave one, because, even if Japan were able to increase her sales in the future without reducing the present volume of British imports, a very unlikely contingency, the chances of the United Kingdom extending, in face of the Japanese methods of competition, the market for her material from the present low level appear to be rather uncertain.

There can be no doubt that the large increase in the imports of piece goods from Japan, and even of other commodities, has been due to an exchange bounty ranging up to 40 per cent. arising from the depreciation of the yen from a par value of about Rs. 140 per 100 yen to the low level of Rs. 85 per 100 yen. But even under these conditions, it is doubtful if Japan could have displaced the United Kingdom, seeing that the latter country had also a competitive advantage from the depreciation of the sterling, had it not been for the reduced purchasing power which has compelled the inhabitants to buy cheap Japanese piece goods irrespective of quality.

The following table shows the average value per yard of Japanese piece goods compared with those of the United Kingdom:—

	1929. Cts.	1930. Cts.	1931. Cts.	1932. Cts.
Bleached.				
United Kingdom	36·4	35·9	28·9	27·9
Japan	28·4	20·8	16·5	13·4
Dyed.				
United Kingdom	50·9	45·5	38·1	35·7
Japan	20·9	14·7	17·2	16·7
Gray.				
United Kingdom	31·9	25·9	21·4	19·5
Japan	26·5	19·0	15·9	12·8
Printed.				
United Kingdom	46·6	42·0	34·9	32·1
Japan	24·8	18·0	15·5	11·1

The respective shares in 1932 of the piece goods imported from Japan and the United Kingdom, expressed as percentages of the total volume of imports, would show a very large increase in favour of the former; but, considered on the basis of values, the share of bleached, dyed, gray, and printed goods imported from Japan, compared with that of the United Kingdom, still shows a large, though less exaggerated increase, as will be seen from the following figures:—

	Japan.			United Kingdom.		
	1930. Per Cent.	1931. Per Cent.	1932. Per Cent.	1930. Per Cent.	1931. Per Cent.	1932. Per Cent.
Bleached goods	14	39	51	79	54	48
Dyed goods	7	15	34	17	14	14
Gray goods	12	18	39	75	69	59
Printed goods	35	43	48	62	55	51

As in the case of cotton piece goods, there was a very considerable increase in the imports of silk and artificial silk from Japan. Out of 2,194,000 yards of broadstuff imported in 1932 Japan supplied 2,005,000 yards, as against 1,301,000 yards in 1931. From 4,827,000 yards artificial silk increased to 7,215,000 yards in 1932, of which consignments from Japan amounted to 6,107,000 yards compared with 4,081,000 yards in 1931.

Metals and Manufactures.—It is proposed to consider in this section and in the next two, certain articles of a capital nature, which would serve as indicators of capital investment in the Island. Imports of *metal and metalware (ferrous)* decreased from 640,000 cwt. in 1931 to 553,000 cwt. in 1932, which may be compared with 1,468,000 cwt. in 1929. The main items of imports from the United Kingdom showed a decline—Iron and steel bars, &c., from 35,600 cwt. to 13,000 cwt.; iron and steel girders, &c., from 21,800 cwt. to 19,000 cwt.; tubes pipes &c., from 40,000 cwt. to 35,000 cwt. There was also a decrease in the total imports of sheets and plates (galvanized and black) from 147,700 cwt. to 116,000 cwt., and also in corrugated sheets (galvanized) from 60,300 cwt. to 50,700 cwt. Increases were registered under rolled sections and pig iron, the imports of the former amounting to 134,000 cwt. in 1932, as against 122,300 cwt. in the previous year and the latter being 7,000 cwt. compared with 6,200 cwt.

Non-ferrous metals and manufactures though not strictly of a capital nature might also be considered along with ferrous metals. The principal imports under this head were aluminium lining, the bulk of which came from the United Kingdom, brass and brassware from British India, and pig lead and tea lead from Burma. Imports in 1932 of non-ferrous metals and manufactures totalled 120,500 cwt., an increase of 8,800 cwt. over 1931. The following table shows the distribution of the imports (expressed as a percentage of the total value) of metal and metalware (ferrous) and non-ferrous metals and manufactures:—

	Metals and Metalware (Ferrous.)			Non-ferrous Metals and Manufactures.		
	1930.	1931.	1932.	1930.	1931.	1932.
United Kingdom	68·8	68·8	64·7	46·8	42·6	49·4
British India	1·8	0·8	1·1	20·3	20·9	23·2
Burma	—	—	—	19·4	22·9	14·6
Germany	8·1	7·5	9·7	5·1	6·2	5·0
Belgium	13·1	15·1	17·0	—	—	—
Luxemburg	1·7	1·6	1·6	—	—	—
Strait Settlements	—	—	—	1·7	1·2	2·1

Cement.—Imports of cement declined to 781,000 cwt. in 1932 compared with 953,000 cwt. in 1931. In 1930 they amounted to 1,300,000 cwt., while those for the preceding year were still higher at 1,609,000 cwt. The large decline in cement imports was no doubt due to reduced building construction. Imports from the United Kingdom dropped from 510,000 cwt. to 340,000 cwt., and from Germany from 92,000 cwt. to 23,000 cwt. On the other hand, the quantity imported from Japan increased from 247,000 cwt. to 339,000 cwt. The following figures show the rapid increase in the imports of cement from Japan :—

	Cwt.		Cwt.
1927	37	1930	60,000
1928	5,000	1931	247,000
1929	20,000	1932	339,000

Fertilizers.—The quantity of fertilizers imported in 1932 recorded a further drop from 1,752,000 cwt. in the previous year to 1,508,000 cwt., and compared with 1930 showed a decrease of 743,000 cwt. The quantity of fertilizers imported affords an almost sure indication to the prosperity of the major agricultural industries of the Island, and the continued fall in imports since 1930 was due to the depressed state of tea, rubber, and coconut industries, though in 1932 the depression in the coconut industry was less pronounced. The chief kinds of manure and the countries from which they were mainly imported in 1932 are shown in the following table :—

	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
Groundnut poonac (British India)	348,800 ..	1,440,000
Sulphate of ammonia (United Kingdom)	268,500 ..	1,131,000
Bone meal (British India)	226,900 ..	712,000
Safaja ground phosphate (Egypt)	112,800 ..	229,000
Superphosphate (Holland)	85,900 ..	318,000
Muriate of potash (Germany)	78,000 ..	505,000
Fish manure (British India)	71,200 ..	278,000
Fish guano (British South Africa)	51,500 ..	329,000
Blood meal (Argentine)	39,700 ..	297,000
Refuse of saltpetre (British India)	39,500 ..	226,000
Castor seed poonac (British India)	37,800 ..	93,000

Fuel and Light.—In this section will be considered liquid fuel, petrol, and kerosene oil. Imports of *liquid fuel* increased by 9,767,000 gallons as compared with 1931, but the value dropped by 2 cents per gallon. Out of a total of 61,772,000 gallons imported in 1932, 53,525,000 gallons were reshipped as bunkers. The quantity removed for local consumption was 8,000,000 gallons compared with 6,000,000 gallons in 1931. Roughly three-fourths of the supply were from Persia and the balance from non-British Borneo and British North Borneo. There was a decline in *kerosene oil* of 1,487,000 gallons compared with 1931, the imports in 1932 being 6,433,000 gallons. The chief source of supply was Sumatra and the United States of America sent only a third of the quantity supplied therefrom in 1931. There was a decrease in the quantity of *petrol* imported, the number of gallons falling from 8,845,000 in 1931 to 8,191,000 in the following year, although the quantity cleared for home consumption was actually more than in 1931.

Motor Vehicles and Motor Car Tyres and Tubes.—The number of *motor cars* imported increased from 553 to 768, and it is noteworthy that, compared with 1931, the value per car increased by about 12½ per cent. In 1929 the imports were as high as 2,574. British car manufacturers strengthened their position still further, 90 per cent. of the cars imported in 1932 being from the United Kingdom, as against 67 per cent. in 1931 and 46 per cent. in 1930. The increase in popularity of the small car is undoubtedly responsible for this position as British manufacturers lead the world in this type of construction. Twenty-two cars were of Canadian origin, so that 93 per cent. of the imports were from the British Empire. Imports of *lorries* decreased still further, the number in 1932 being 134 as against 144 and 477 in 1931 and 1930, respectively, and the large number of 1,422 in 1929. The percentage of British vehicles increased from 22

per cent. in 1931 to 37 per cent. in the following year. Forty-six lorries were from Canada, thus bringing the British Empire imports up to 75 per cent. of the total. The distribution of imports was as follows:—

Motor Cars (No.)

	United Kingdom.	United States of America.	Canada.	France.	Italy.	Other Countries.	Total.	Value.
								Rs.*
1930	540	333	168	64	71	6	1,182	2,359
1931	373	85	14	40	40	1	553	996
1932	691	29	22	7	19	—	768	1,272
Motor Lorries (No.)								
1930	43	330	96	4	4	—	477	949
1931	31	95	12	4	2	—	144	300
1932	49	39	46	—	—	—	134	264

* In 1,000's.

Imports of motor car tyres and tubes amounted to Rs. 2,743,000, as against Rs. 2,177,000 in 1931, of which the value of motor car tyres was Rs. 1,481,000, as against Rs. 1,542,000, the number of tyres imported in 1932 and 1931 being 38,000 and 40,500. The United Kingdom was the principal supplier and increased her share from 17,200 to 24,300 tyres.

Tea and Other Chests.—Imports were slightly lower than in the previous year, the number being 3,717,000 compared with 3,834,000 in 1931. The average value dropped from about Re. 1.05 to less than 90 cents per chest. Forty-seven per cent. of the total imports came from Japan, 21 per cent. from the United Kingdom and 20 per cent. from Finland.

Shipping.—During the year 1932, 3,778 vessels (excluding warships) entered the ports in Ceylon with a tonnage of 12,160,339, as against 4,044 in 1931 with a tonnage of 13,192,779, and 4,158 in 1930 with a tonnage of 13,335,384.

The number of Merchant vessels which entered the ports in Ceylon with cargo and in ballast decreased respectively by 135 and 310 compared with 1931 and 1930, and there was a decrease of over 36 per cent. as compared with 1931 in the vessels calling to coal and oil, which were 348 in 1931 and 220 in 1932.

The following table shows the number of British and foreign ships which entered Ceylon ports since 1924:—

Number of Vessels.

		1924.	1926.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.
British		1,768	2,093	2,322	2,460	2,206	2,246	2,099
Dutch		181	199	217	228	211	167	123
French		133	152	151	156	137	122	126
German		129	187	246	307	293	256	198
Italian		76	105	113	143	131	129	120
Japanese		170	214	185	179	171	199	208
Norwegian		69	60	108	102	127	106	107
Total Foreign		831	1,041	1,166	1,263	1,235	1,132	997
Percentage.	British	68	67	67	66	64	67	68
	Foreign	32	33	33	34	36	33	32

It will be noted that the British and foreign ratios are exactly the same as in 1924. Though the foreign proportion steadily increased from 1924 to 1930 it has now fallen back to 32 per cent. The distribution of the foreign callers, however, differs widely from that in 1924. Japanese ships alone show an increase while Dutch vessels have dropped from 228 in 1929 to 123 in 1932, and German vessels from 307 to 198. Germany which headed the list of foreign callers for several years has now fallen to second place, Japan taking the lead.

TRADE BETWEEN CEYLON AND INDIA.

The trade connections between Ceylon and India are long standing, and have always assumed much importance principally on account of the dependence of Ceylon on India for the supply of the foodstuffs required by the population. The trade in 1932 between these two countries is, however, of special interest as the year witnessed a very large increase in the exports from Ceylon to India, which consisted mainly of coconut produce.

The value of imports into Ceylon from British India amounted to Rs. 44,734,000 in 1932 and compared with 1931 represented a decrease of Rs. 5,401,000 or 10.8 per cent. Nevertheless, the proportion of imports into Ceylon from India to imports from all countries, or, in other words, the Indian share of the Ceylon import trade, remained between these two years more or less constant at 23 per cent.

Imports from India classified into the main classes were as follows:—

	India.		Percentage of Total Imports.	
	1931.	1932.	1931.	1932.
	Rs.*	Rs.*		
I. Food, drink, and tobacco	29,165	29,227	28·5	31·1
II. Raw materials	11,085	7,739	32·3	27·0
III. Manufactures	9,845	7,768	12·4	10·6
IV. Animals not for food	40	—	—	—
	50,135	44,734		

* In 1,000's.

There was a small increase in the value of " Food, Drink, and Tobacco " imported from India in 1932, but considerable decreases occurred in the imports of " Raw Materials " and " Manufactures ", and they were not peculiar to these commodities from India, there being reductions in the imports from other countries as well. Expressed as a percentage of imports from all countries, imports from India of " Food, &c.", improved from 28.5 per cent. in 1931 to 31.1 per cent. in 1932; but " Raw Materials " declined from 32.3 per cent. to 27.0 per cent., and " Manufactures " from 12.4 per cent. to 10.6 per cent.

The chief articles of " Food, Drink, and Tobacco " imported from India are classified below:—

Principal Articles of Food imported from India.

		Quantity.		Value.	
		1931.	1932.	1931.	1932.
				Rs.	Rs.
Gram	cwt.	55,900	58,000	447,000	346,000
Paddy	cwt.	48,300	46,900	242,000	188,000
Pulses	cwt.	233,900	244,200	1,638,000	1,548,000
Rice	cwt.	1,421,200	1,725,500	9,603,000	11,939,000
Chillies	cwt.	146,100	153,300	2,789,000	1,954,000
Coriander seed	cwt.	2,900	17,700	31,000	248,000
Cummin seed	cwt.	6,700	400	167,000	7,000
Tamarind	cwt.	33,800	35,400	205,000	231,000
Turmeric	cwt.	11,800	11,900	120,000	153,000
Fish, dried	cwt.	306,300	308,100	6,810,000	6,162,000
Ghee	cwt.	1,900	1,600	145,000	113,000
Unrefined sugar and jaggery	cwt.	14,600	19,200	120,000	116,000
Onions	cwt.	491,600	502,500	1,162,000	1,647,000
Potatoes	cwt.	47,500	72,100	166,000	395,000
Eggs	No.	10,619,000	9,720,000	371,000	313,000
Goats	No.	56,800	33,100	979,000	663,000
Sheep	No.	8,200	4,300	111,000	42,000
				25,106,000	26,065,000

Of foodstuffs, fish valued at Rs. 6,162,000, chillies at Rs. 1,964,000, onions at Rs. 1,647,000, and pulses at Rs. 1,548,000, in addition to rice, were the principal items of import. Compared with 1931 the imported quantities of all these articles excluding rice were slightly more in 1932, but their value was much less. The quantity of rice from India increased on the other hand considerably from 1,421,000 cwt. in 1931 to 1,725,000 cwt. in the following year, and while its value improved from Rs. 9,603,000 to Rs. 11, 939,000, still the average declared value, as in the case of other articles of food, was less in 1932 than in 1931. In contrast with the increase of rice from India, there was a considerable fall in the quantity of rice from Burma, 6,095,000 cwt. (at a value of Rs. 32,739,000) as against 6,552,000 cwt. in 1931 (valued at Rs. 37,516,000), which may have been due partly to the reduction in the estate labour force of whose diet rice from this source forms the staple food, and partly to a diversion of demand to rice from Siam, imports of which increased from 455,000 cwt. to 745,000 cwt.

Raw materials imported from India amounted to Rs. 7,739,000 in 1932, and represented a decrease of Rs. 3,346,000 as against the preceding year. The principal articles of import were coal, fertilizers, and raw cotton, and the fall in the value of the first two largely accounted for the decrease under " Raw Materials ". Coal from India which amounted to 233,000 tons in 1932 was lower

than in the preceding year by 65,000 tons, and was valued at Rs. 4,171,000, as against Rs. 5,969,000 in 1931. The decrease in the quantity imported was due to smaller supplies of coal to steamers. Imports of fertilizers declined from 853,000 cwt. to 665,000 cwt. in quantity and from Rs. 3,780,000 to Rs. 2,580,000 in value. The decline must of course be attributed to less manuring of the tea and the rubber estates. The kinds of manures imported from India were—

Imports of Fertilizers from India.

		Quantity.		Value.	
		1931.	1932.	1931.	1932.
				Rs.	Rs.
Blood meal	..cwt.	13,900	8,300	163,000	61,000
Bone meal	..cwt.	249,900	198,300	934,000	619,000
Fish manure	cwt.	56,300	70,100	282,000	275,000
Fish guano	..cwt.	2,800	1,300	22,000	7,000
Castor seed poonac	..cwt.	20,100	35,300	64,000	84,000
Groundnut poonac	..cwt.	349,700	281,200	1,296,000	1,179,000
Saltpetre ..	..cwt.	57,900	39,500	421,000	226,000
Ammonia	..cwt.	57,000	8,000	314,000	34,000
Other fertilizers	..cwt.	45,700	23,000	284,000	95,000
		853,300	665,000	3,780,000	2,580,000

As usual, groundnut poonac and bone meal, followed by saltpetre and fish manure were the most important items. In these articles, India has virtually a monopoly. The other commodity worthy of note was raw cotton, the imports of which amounted to Rs. 595,000 in 1932, an increase of Rs. 143,000 on the preceding year. The higher value was the result of larger shipments, the quantity in 1932 increasing by 1,800 cwt. to 16,900 cwt.

Imports of manufactured articles from India were valued at Rs. 7,768,000 in 1932, as against Rs. 9,840,000 in 1931. Of this sum textile imports consisting of cotton, woollen, and silk manufactures, mixed materials and other textiles accounted for Rs. 5,039,000, and compared with 1931, were lower by Rs. 1,614,000. Earthenware of a value of Rs. 294,000, non-ferrous metals valued at Rs. 582,000, chemicals and drugs at Rs. 298,000, and miscellaneous manufactures at Rs. 967,000 were the other principal groups of commodities, all of which, except chemicals and drugs, were lower in value, as compared with 1931.

Of the textile group, cotton yarn and twist from India were reckoned at Rs. 88,000, an increase of Rs. 22,000 over 1931 and the quantity imported was 161,000 lb. or 28,000 lb. more than in 1931. There was a fall in the quantity of cotton piece goods imported from India from 12,214,000 yards, or 22.2 per cent. of the total imports under this head in 1931, to 11,168,000 yards or 16.3 per cent. in 1932, as a result of the competition from Japan, imports from which source amounted to 40,366,000 yards, an increase of 16,640,000 yards over 1931. Of the imports from India, dyed piece goods as usual formed the largest item with 10,987,000 yards which were valued at Rs. 2,595,000, and compared with 1931 showed a decrease of 798,000 yards in quantity and Rs. 643,000 in value. Dyed piece goods from Japan, on the other hand, increased to 10,785,000 yards or 6,022,000 yards more than in 1931, and their value was Rs. 1,800,000, or only Rs. 978,000 more than in 1931. The abnormal increase in the imports of Japanese dyed piece goods was due to low prices as a result of a rapid depreciation of the value of the yen, the average declared value in 1932 of the Japanese stuff being nearly 17 cents per yard as against 24 cents for those from India.

Excluding jute manufactures, imports of which amounted to Rs. 626,000 in 1932, the other textiles of importance from India, were silk and artificial silk. As a result of larger importations of broadstuffs and other silks, India's share of silk manufactures improved from 4.5 per cent. to 15.5 per cent. In 1932, 105,000 yards of broadstuff valued at Rs. 59,000 were imported from this source as against 5,800 yards at a value of Rs. 4,000 in the preceding year. Arrivals from India of other silk manufactures also rose from Rs. 92,000 to Rs. 325,000 in 1932 possibly due to heavier imports. In spite of Japanese competition there was an increase in artificial silk from India, 761,000 yards being imported as against 29,000 yards in 1931, the respective values of which were Rs. 227,000 and Rs. 8,000.

Of the other manufactures imported from India, tiles which were valued at Rs. 221,000, miscellaneous manufactures of brass and copper at Rs. 261,000, and tea lead at Rs. 269,000 were the chief articles. Compared with 1931, imports of these articles were less both in volume and value.

While the imports from India into Ceylon in 1932, compared with 1931 were not of special interest except for the changes recorded in respect of rice and textiles, the exports from Ceylon into India were specially significant for the reason that they increased in value from Rs. 8,117,000 in 1931 to Rs. 14,838,000 in the following year, as a result of a very considerable increase in coconut produce exported to that country. The share of India in the export trade of Ceylon accordingly rose from 3.9 per cent. in 1931 to 8.9 per cent. in 1932.

The exports from Ceylon to India, classified into the main classes, were as follows:—

Class.	India.		Percentage of Total Exports.	
	1931.	1932.	1931.	1932.
	Rs.*	Rs.*		
I. Food, drink, and tobacco	4,666	3,748	3·0	3·1
II. Raw materials	3,335	11,017	6·5	26·6
III. Manufactures	116	73	7·1	5·3
	8,117	14,838	3·9	8·9

* In 1,000's.

The principal articles of " Food, Drink, and Tobacco " exported to India were tea, arecanuts, coconuts, tobacco, and cardamoms. Exports of tea were reckoned at Rs. 965,000, or 38.5 per cent. less than in 1931, and their quantity at 2,240,000 lb. or 18.6 per cent. less. Arecanuts too declined from Rs. 1,475,000 to Rs. 1,228,000, the amount exported falling from 90,000 cwt. to 87,000 cwt. Coconuts to India increased very considerably to Rs. 428,000 in 1932 and they are considered below further along with other coconut produce. Of unmanufactured tobacco there was a somewhat large decline, as a result of the depressed state of the Travancore market. The quantity consigned to India was 1,608,000 lb. valued at Rs. 988,000, as against 2,566,000 lb. exported in 1931, the value of which was Rs. 1,365,000.

The exports to India from Ceylon of raw materials increased from Rs. 3,335,000 in 1931 to Rs. 11,017,000 in 1932. Copra and coconut oil formed the principal commodities under this class, the other items of any importance being timber whose exports fell from Rs. 110,000 in 1931 to Rs. 53,900 in the following year as a result of a decline in volume by over half to 824 cwt., and hides and skins valued at Rs. 392,000 in 1932 as against Rs. 458,000 in the previous year.

The outstanding feature of the export-trade of Ceylon in 1932 was the very considerable increase in the shipments of copra, coconut oil, and fresh coconuts to India. This increase was due mainly to the short-fall in the coconut crop of Malabar as a result of severe drought, and also to a shortage of South Indian groundnuts. Copra, coconut oil, and fresh coconuts consigned to India in 1932 formed 45.5 per cent. of their total value, the shipments of these products to India reaching the record sum of Rs. 10,883,000 out of a total of Rs. 23,895,000. The takings of India in 1931 were, on the contrary, much less, and amounted to only 9.9 per cent. or Rs. 2,544,000 out of a total of Rs. 25,604,000. Particulars with regard to coconut produce exported to India are shown in the following table:—

	1911–13 (Average).	1930.	1931.	1932.
Copra (tons)	3	68	1,125	14,376
Percentage of total exports	—	—	*1·2*	*31·4*
Coconut oil (tons)	43	3,659	9,498	25,718
Percentage of total exports	*·2*	*9·6*	*19·7*	*50·2*
Fresh coconuts (in 100,000 nuts)	1	10	13	69
Percentage of total exports	*·8*	*4·6*	*6*	*29·9*

The value of these exports were—

	1911–13 (Average).	1930.	1931.	1932.
	Rs.*	Rs.*	Rs.*	Rs.*
Copra	1	14	164	3,153
Coconut oil	25	1,156	2,330	7,302
Fresh coconuts	8	50	50	428
Total ..	34	1,220	2,544	10,883

* In 1,000's.

Exports of copra from Ceylon to India increased from a negligible quantity of 68 tons in 1930 to 1,125 tons in the following year, or 1.2 per cent. of the total exports, and reached in 1932 the record amount of 14,376 tons representing 31.4 per cent. of the total exports. Considering the fact that shipments of copra to all destinations declined in 1932 to 51 per cent. of the quantity for the previous year, the very considerable increase in the consignments to India is significant. It is only recently that India has emerged as a purchaser of Ceylon copra, while as regards coconut oil that country has provided in the past a market which was not unimportant. Of coconut oil India took 9.6 per cent. of the total exports in 1930 and 19.7 per cent. in the following year. She improved her position still further in 1932 when her share rose to 50.2 per cent. Expressed in terms of quantities these exports amounted to 3,659 tons in 1930 as against 9,498 tons in 1931, and increased again in 1932 by approximately two and a half times to the record amount of 25,718 tons. Increases were also recorded in fresh coconuts, exports of which to India advanced in 1931 from 1,300,000 nuts or 6 per cent. of the shipments to all countries to 6,900,000 nuts in the following year or 29.9 per cent.

Manufactured articles exported to India were insignificant in value and amounted in 1932 to Rs. 73,000, compared with Rs. 116,000 in the previous year.

The import and the export trade between Ceylon and India having been reviewed, there remains for consideration the visible balance of trade between these two countries, the particulars of which are as follows:—

	1931.	1932.
	Rs.*	Rs.*
Merchandise exports (domestic)	+ 8,117	+ 14,838
Do. imports	— 50,135	— 44,734
	— 42,018	— 29,896
Re-exports	+ 2,318	+ 2,085
Visible merchandise balance	— 39 700	— 27,811
Bullion and specie	+ 14,329	— 7
Visible total balance	— 25,371	— 27,818

* In 1,000's.

The visible trade balance, on merchandise account, was against Ceylon by Rs. 39,700,000 in 1931; but, though still adverse, it improved to Rs. 27,811,000 in 1932. The visible total balance of trade, on the contrary, was against Ceylon by Rs. 27,818,000 in 1932, compared with Rs. 25,371,000 in the previous year.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

Under the new Constitution the subjects of industry and commerce were allotted to the Ministry of Labour, Industry and Commerce and the policy of the Ministry is to assist the industrial and commercial development of Ceylon. For this purpose the nucleus of a Bureau of industry and commerce was formed in charge of the Registrar-General whose designation was changed on November 26, 1932, to that of Registrar-General and Director of Commercial Intelligence in order to include these new duties.

The preliminary work done includes the inquiries made by the temporary Ceylon Trade Representative in India (whose report was published on November 29, 1932); a survey, from existing material, of the possibilities of the industrial development of Ceylon; an examination of the problems raised by a motion by Mr. G. E. de Silva, M.S.C., to investigate the banking system of Ceylon;

inquiries regarding the possibilities of the profitable manufacture of topioca; collection of information regarding the exportation of Ceylon fruit to England, Australia, &c.; inquiries regarding the Jaffna tobacco industry and the coir industry, which were materially assisted by personal inquiries in Travancore by Mr. M. J. Cary, M.S.C., and resulted in representations to the Travancore Government to reduce the duty on Jaffna tobacco; examination of the tariff classification of arecanuts in India with a view to obtaining more favourable terms for the Ceylon product; representation to the Secretary of State regarding citronella oil; and correspondence with the Director of Agriculture regarding the possibilities of manufacturing lime oil.

The numerous requests for information in connection with the consideration of the question of imperial preference gave valuable indications as to an important class of information which should be available in more detail, and steps were taken to collect publications from various parts of the world which are expected to be useful for general reference.

A considerable number of personal and written inquiries were dealt with, and among other visitors, Members of a Clove Commission from Zanzibar were assisted in the collection of material as to the production and marketing methods of the clove trade in Ceylon. The Deputy Director of Agriculture, Tanjore, was helped in his inquiries into the processes of coconut oil manufacture and the sale of Tanjore rice in Ceylon. An Indian copra and coir mill-owner was assisted in the purchase of copra from Ceylon.

The Cottage Industries Society and the Kandyan Art Association were assisted in sending exhibits to the Ottawa Exhibition; and letters of introduction were given to some Ceylon residents who proceeded to India on business.

It is proposed to form a library of books of reference and periodicals on industry and commerce which will be open for use by those interested.

As the Bureau develops with further experience and the addition to it, when funds are more easily available, of a staff with the necessary knowledge and training, it is hoped that it will be possible to carry to its logical conclusion the policy of the Hon. the Minister and the Executive Committee of Labour, Industry and Commerce which is directed to the performance by the Bureau of the following functions:—

(1) To answer trade inquiries which are directed to the development of markets for Ceylon produce.

(2) To furnish commercial information required by Government departments and individuals.

(3) To assist business visitors to Ceylon by means of letters of introduction, help, and advice.

(4) To explore the possibilities of new industries and to conduct investigations into neglected industries.

(5) To collect an adequate technical and commercial library.

(6) To assist organizations and individuals in Ceylon to participate in exhibitions and trade fairs held in Ceylon or abroad.

(7) To initiate representations by the Ceylon Government in regard to tariff duties, &c., on Ceylon products in other countries.

(8) To foster Ceylon's overseas trade by the appointment of trade representatives and to take such other steps as may be necessary for the development of overseas markets for Ceylon produce.

CHAPTER VIII.

Wages and the Cost of Living.

Labour in Ceylon.

CEYLON is almost entirely an agricultural country and practically all its labour finds work in agricultural employment.

Its main cultivations consists of 850,000 acres approximately of paddy land, 457,000 acres of tea, 534,000 acres of rubber, and about 1,100,000 acres of coconuts.

A large part of the tea grown lies in the hills and is a lineal descendant of the coffee industry. Coffee was almost completely exterminated through disease about 55 years ago. Tea is almost completely worked by Indian labour.

Coconuts, which have throughout been a very popular means of investment of the Ceylonese, have steadily increased in area during the century: these are almost entirely worked by Ceylonese labour, being situated in districts with substantial populations and the work being easily fitted in with village activities.

Rubber, which is largely the result of plantations in the last 35 years, employs equal proportions of Indian and Ceylonese labour.

All these cultivations are worked on a wage earning basis.

Paddy is in general worked either on a share basis by cultivators for the owners or by the owners and their families.

Coffee, the precursor of tea, when originally opened was in areas largely forest and the indigenous population was, in general, unwilling to undertake work on estates. Moreover, in many of the areas in which it was planted the indigenous population was too scanty to meet the heavy demands.

The large labour surplus existing in South India, a surplus created through the barrenness of the soil and social custom, was tapped, and there commenced about 100 years ago an inflow which, rising and falling from good year to bad year, has persisted till the present day.

In 1847, 46,000 Indian labourers arrived in Ceylon; in 1857, 69,000; 1867, 53,000; and 1877, 167,000. Practically all these labourers walked from the areas round Trichinopoly and following the present rail route entered Ceylon by Mannar Island and walked by road to the estates.

It was a two-way traffic, comparable numbers returning by the same route.

This Indian estate population was 10,000 in 1827, 80,000 in 1846, and by the end of 1932, 656,000.

All this labour is and has been housed on the estates and, curiously enough, has remained largely unaffected by indigenous village life in close proximity to the estate. It practically never marries outside, retains its language and customs. There is a certain leakage into Ceylonese life but it is very small.

It has been stated that Ceylonese workers have been disinclined to work for wages on estates: as a generality that is true, but the rubber industry, which has grown up these last thirty years was, even up to two years ago, largely worked by Ceylonese labour, about 40 per cent. of the acreage in this product being worked by Sinhalese. In general, however, this 40 per cent. consists of smaller estates and is worked by villagers non-resident on the estate.

Estates, though they have not drawn to the extent one might anticipate on village labour, have profoundly modified village life by the ancilliary work provided. The provision of firewood, carting, and numerous other works improve the economic conditions of the village, and the expenditure in villages of estate money modifies their activities.

The large coconut areas, which are all in the low-country are, however, but rarely worked by Indian labour. The demands are small, only about 1 labourer per 10 acres, as against 12 for 10 acres in tea. There is not the necessity for so much steady cultivation. A coconut estate can fit itself into the slack periods of a village after the paddy has been reaped.

Coconut estates are thus mainly cultivated by indigenous labour, and even where Indian labour is employed, it tends more to merge itself into the village population.

Earlier has been described the genesis of the Indian labour force on Ceylon estates. The difficulties and hardships of the journey to Ceylon have now been entirely removed. One-sixth of the Indian labour force, over 100,000, return to India yearly, so every recruit has opportunities of securing at first hand accurate information as to his opportunities in Ceylon.

After arrival at any of the 18 emigration agencies maintained in South India, he is fed and well housed during all detention on the journey, provided with rations for his railway journeys and escorted by peons throughout. Should he change his mind on the way, he will be returned to his village.

All this journey is entirely free of charge to the recruit or old labourer returning to his estate after a holiday in India; no discrimination is made between recruits and those who have visited India on holiday.

In a prosperous year with high prices ruling for estate products the demands on the Immigration Fund reach Rs. 3,000,000 a year. In a year of severe slump about half the sum.

blishing company, inc.

The Immigration Fund has not merely provided facilities for Indian labourers coming to estates in the Island; it has also provided for the repatriation to their Indian villages of those Indian labourers who may become unemployed through closures of estates or reductions in labour forces when the normal opportunities of employment are lacking.

The income of the Immigration Fund is provided by a cess based on the acreage cultivated which employs Indian labour.

For this service for the present year the cess has been about Re. 1.50 per acre on tea and 20 cents per acre on rubber.

Industrial Labour.

Viewed from a Western standpoint there is but little industrial labour in Ceylon.

The only manufactures on any scale are the preparation of desiccated coconut and the treatment of coconut husks for fibre. To diminish carting, such mills are widely distributed over the coconut districts and depend mainly on local labour. A few of the large mills are worked by Indian labour which is housed by the owners.

Engineering firms in Colombo employ large numbers of labourers both Indian and indigenous; work being naturally of a very varied character the amount of space available per man in factories is large and there is little tendency to overcrowding. In fact it might be said that employees work under almost open air conditions.

The largest amount of employment is provided by the preparation of the Island's produce for export and its despatch to steamers.

It can be generally said that such labour when skilled or highly skilled is indigenous; the semi-skilled and unskilled work employs probably more Indian labourers than indigenous.

These Indians are not recruited, as for estates, but come to the Island with relations, many with wives and children, for work. Like their estate *confreres* the better and more prudent workers make frequent trips to India, leaving substitutes, during their absence, to do their work. Such workers meet the expenses of their journey to India both ways.

Indian workers who are incapacitated by sickness, old age, or other infirmity or who have sunk into vagrancy are repatriated, should they so desire, to their homes in India.

No Indian or Ceylonese workers are or have been indentured, practically all work on monthly contracts, for the enforcement of which on the part of the employee no penal provisions now exist.

All servants and labourers are legally entitled to free food and lodging and medical care at the expense of their employers during sickness.

In the case of Indian estate labourers this is always given. In the case of indigenous labour and Indian labourers who are not on estates, drawing less than Rs. 50 a month free medical attention is provided at the numerous Government hospitals and dispensaries.

Women labourers resident on estates are entitled to food, lodging, and medical care at childbirth and in estates employing Indians care allowances are almost always given.

Trade Unions are generally small, imperfectly organized and exert but little influence save in Colombo.

No Indian labourer under ten years of age may be employed on estates and there are limitations on the employment of women and children in factories.

Wages.

For Indians on Ceylon estates an Ordinance based on the English Trade Boards Acts creates the machinery for the fixation of minimum rates of wages for time work on estates.

The rates have in the past been fixed so as to provide the same real wage throughout as far as is administratively practicable.

The rates now fixed in the low-country are 41 cents for men, 33 cents for women, and 24 cents for children over ten years of age for a working day of 9 hours, including time for a midday meal. The estates must issue rice: seven-eighths of a bushel per man and six-eighths per woman at a cost not exceeding Rs. 4.80 a bushel.

In addition, on nearly all estates, the non-working children are given a midday meal.

Though not included in the wage, medical attention, free housing, conservancy, and firewood are provided on all estates.

In dealing with labour employed in Colombo a gauge can best be obtained from the Government scale which is:—

" Class A.—Factory Labour—Hourly-paid.

To include all labour employed by Government rated at hourly rates of pay working a 48-hour week and controlled in an establishment by a definite check system for purposes of recording hours worked and for payment of wages.

Labour employed by Government and large employers whether hourly-paid or daily-paid will be paid wages between the minimum and maximum rates of the grades to which they belong. The actual amount each man receives will be determined by, and will vary in accordance with, his individual skill, conduct, and attendance as assessed by the head of his works.

Deductions will be made for absence from work during any portion of the regulation day's work on the basis of one-eighth of a day's pay for each hour's absence.

		Rates per Hour.	
		Minimum. Cents.	Maximum. Cents.
Minor supervising grades	Class A I.	48	81
	Class A II.	31	63
Tradesman	Class A III.	36	53
	Class A IV.	20	35
Semi-skilled labour	Class A V.	12	20
Unskilled labour	Class A VI.	8	14
Trade apprentices	Class A VII.	10	18
Women and boys	Class A VIII.	3	10

Labour will not be classified under minor supervising grades unless actually employed in a supervising capacity.

Class B.—Non-factory Labour—Daily-paid.

To include all labour employed by Government on daily rates of pay. Payment to daily-paid labour to be made on the basis of a day's pay for each regulation day's work performed. The hours laid down for a regulation day will vary in accordance with the class of work labour is employed on, and such hours will be fixed departmentally.

Labour employed by Government will be paid wages between the minimum and maximum rates of the grades to which they belong. The actual amount each man receives will be determined by, and will vary in accordance with, his individual skill, conduct, and attendance as assessed by the head of his branch.

Deductions will be made for absence from work during any portion of the regulation day's work on the basis of one-eighth of a day's pay for each hour's absence.

		Rate per Diem.	
		Minimum. Rs. c.	Maximum. Rs. c.
Minor supervising grades	Class B I.	3 84	6 48
Do.	Class B II.	2 48	5 4
Skilled labour	Class B III.	2 88	4 24
Do.	Class B IV.	1 60	2 80
Semi-skilled labour	Class B V.	0 96	1 60
Unskilled labour	Class B VI.	0 64	1 12
Trade apprentices	Class B VII.	0 80	1 44
Women and boys	Class B VIII.	0 24	0 80

Labour will not be classified under minor supervising grades unless actually employed in a supervising capacity."

In general housing is not provided, but Colombo offers unequalled marketing opportunities.

Rates prevailing in the organized Colombo industries will not be dissimilar to those given above but Government employ would be the more attractive.

The day worked is generally one of 8 hours with provision for overtime.

These rates show a tendency, with declining business, to fall but the value of them has largely been reduced through short time work now increasingly being enforced on both Government and non-Government labour.

Wages are in general paid monthly though in Colombo large numbers are paid weekly and fortnightly. No penal clauses to enforce payment exist save on Ceylon estates where wages must all be paid by the tenth day of the following month.

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Unemployment.

The volume of business in exports has kept up though there has been a considerable fall in imports both in volume and value. The unemployment among the large numbers employed in handling produce at stores and the harbour has thus not greatly been affected.

Necessary restriction on capital expenditure has, however, largely reduced the work available in the Colombo engineering establishments resulting not merely in substantial reduction of staff, both skilled and unskilled, but also in short time work.

The collapse in rubber has led to the discontinuance of probably not less than 100,000 labourers formerly in regular estate employment. A fraction of the Indian labourers has chosen to be repatriated but much larger numbers have been absorbed in tea estates. Ceylonese rubber estate employees have returned to their villages naturally increasing the pressure on the village land. However this pressure has led to a considerable increase in cultivation of paddy and other village crops.

Reduction in the labour forces on tea estates necessitated by low prices has largely been adjusted by their taking work on the less popular estates which have inadequate supplies of labour.

Free repatriation to practically all Indian rubber estate labourers has been given since 1931; in tea estates provision has been made for the return to their Indian villages at the expense of the Immigration Fund of labourers becoming unemployed when the prospects of employment are but slender.

Further all recruitment of Indian labour for estates has been stopped and it is hoped that the necessity for repatriation in tea may be but of short duration.

CHAPTER IX.

Education and Welfare Institutions.

Control.—Primary and secondary education in Ceylon is administered by the Department of Education, assisted by a Board of Education and 34 Education District Committees.

Board of Education.—The Board of Education is composed of 20 members nominated by the Governor. The Director of Education is Chairman and the personnel of the Board includes Members of the State Council, Managers of Schools, and teachers. The main duties of the Board consist in considering questions of legislation and policy, and in advising the Government on any other matters specially referred to it for advice.

Education District Committees.—An Education District Committee has been constituted in each Municipality and Revenue District. These Committees are appointed by the Governor, and consist partly of officials and partly of unofficials. They are responsible first for putting into effect the rules relating to compulsory education and they frame by-laws and employ attendance officers for this purpose. Secondly, they erect and maintain Government schools where these are required. They are financed by an annual grant from the Department, which is allocated on the basis of an approved programme of works submitted each year to the Department.

Schools and Attendance.—The system of education in Ceylon provides a course of education leading to University degrees in arts, and science, and diplomas in medicine, and law.

The schools of Ceylon are not divided on a basis of race or nationality. All schools which are maintained by Government or assisted by means of grants are compelled by law to admit pupils irrespective of race, nationality, or religion.

Attendance at school between the ages of six and fourteen is compulsory, subject to a few exceptions. Such compulsion, however, applies only when school accommodation is provided within a reasonable distance of the residence of the pupil.

There are two distinct types of school: schools administered directly by Government, and schools indirectly administered by Government and under the immediate control of private managers.

There are 1,548 Government schools, and the arrangements for the staffing of these are entirely in the hands of the Department. All examinations for the issue of teachers' certificates and of otherwise testing efficiency, and all appointments, transfers, &c., are also dealt with by the Department.

Assisted Schools and the Grant System.—There are in addition 2,595 assisted schools under the immediate control of private managers. These schools receive an annual grant from the Education Department. In the case of vernacular schools, the annual grant is calculated as the total amount of the salaries paid to an efficient staff plus an additional amount for maintenance. No fees are charged in vernacular schools. In the case of the English schools, however, fees are charged, and from such fees the manager has to provide a fixed sum towards the salary of each teacher he employs. The grant consists of the balance of such salaries.

In addition to Government and assisted schools, there is a certain number of private schools which are not assisted in any way from Government funds. Such schools are, however, subject to inspection by the Department.

The type of instruction given in Ceylon schools can be considered under two main headings: (i.) Non-vocational instruction; (ii.) vocational instruction.

Classification of Schools.—Under the heading of non-vocational instruction is included the type of instruction which is general and academic, and by far the larger number of schools come under this class. These schools are classified as follows:—

English.	Bilingual.	Vernacular.
Collegiate	Senior Secondary	Senior Secondary
Senior Secondary	Junior Secondary	Junior Secondary
Junior Secondary	Primary	Primary
Primary		

The Primary schools provide a course of instruction from the Kindergarten up to Standard V. The course usually lasts six years.

The Junior Secondary schools provide a course of instruction from the Kindergarten up to the School-Leaving Certificate. The course usually lasts ten years.

The Senior Secondary schools provide in addition to the course for the Junior Secondary schools, a further course up to the standard of the London Matriculation Examination. The course usually lasts twelve years.

The Collegiate school is an English school which provides a course of instruction from Form I. or Standard VI. up to the standard of the London Matriculation Examination. The course usually lasts about six years.

The vast majority of students complete their education at the Junior Secondary stage.

In addition to the schools that come under the above classification, there is a certain number of temple schools, which are known as Pirivenas. These schools are primarily intended for the Buddhist priesthood, and are not compelled to adopt the syllabus of work used by the ordinary schools.

Vocational Schools.—Under the heading of vocational schools come those schools which give a specialized form of instruction. Apart from one Technical School, these can be divided into part-time schools and full-time schools. Under the heading of part-time instruction is included a variety of home industries, which are taught to pupils in certain schools in addition to the ordinary academic course. Under the heading of full-time industrial schools come institutions for the training of teachers, technical schools, agricultural schools, and industrial schools. The course in training schools is usually one of two years. In technical schools it varies according to the subject which is studied. In agricultural schools courses are entirely for adults who intend either to teach agricultural science or to become practical agriculturists. There is a variety of full-time industrial schools. All industrial schools are conducted upon a profit-sharing principle, so that the pupils benefit by whatever articles they produce. The course is one of two or three years. The subjects in which instruction is given are:—Carpentry, weaving, basket work, pottery, printing, lacquer work, blacksmith work, and a few other minor industries.

The Medium of Instruction.—The medium of instruction in schools varies according to the type of schools. In vernacular schools the medium of instruction is entirely Sinhalese or Tamil. This group of schools includes 81 per cent. of all the school-going children in Ceylon.

In Bilingual schools the vernacular language is the medium of instruction for the first four or five years of school life, after which an optional course of English is introduced, lasting for approximately five years. The vernacular, however, continues to be taught throughout the whole course.

In the case of the third group of schools, viz., English schools, two methods are employed in giving instruction in the English language.

In the first method pupils are admitted at the earliest stage of school life, viz., the Kindergarten. Pupils admitted in this way have usually a working knowledge of English, so that their progress in mastering the language is very rapid.

The second method employed is a two-year special course in English for pupils who transfer from vernacular schools to English schools. The pupils who enter this course are approximately nine years of age, and have already received instruction in their own mother tongue in the primary standards. This course is an intensive one, in which the direct method of teaching a foreign language is employed. After completing this course pupils are able to enter the ordinary standards of the English school, in which the medium of instruction is English. In the majority of such schools the vernacular languages continue to be taught throughout the upper classes.

It will be seen, therefore, that in the system of instruction prevailing in Ceylon the pupils are given the following alternative courses:—(1) A full course of elementary instruction in the vernacular languages; (2) a full course of elementary instruction in the vernacular languages plus a working knowledge of English; and (3) a full course of instruction in English, not merely for pupils whose mother tongue is English, but for those who at the beginning of school life have no knowledge of that language.

School for the Deaf and Blind.—During the year 1932, 37 new children were admitted, of whom 28 are deaf and 9 blind. A certain number of the elder boys and girls have left to find employment. The total attendance is 345. Of these, 241 are in the school rooms and 104 are boys and girls of seventeen years of age or more and are passing through a course of training in the workshops or are employed in work for the school.

In the carpentry workshop, in addition to the making of furniture the boys are trained to do minor repairs to the school buildings, and in the basket-making department instruction is given in the making of tats and in chair caning as well as in the making of baskets and chairs. Weaving and tailoring are still proving to be useful and profitable trades for the boys and a satisfactory beginning has been made in the teaching of pottery.

Orphanages.—Educational facilities are provided for orphans or destitute children. A maintenance grant of Rs. 75 is paid to the Manager of an approved Orphanage or Home on account of each orphan or destitute child who is between the ages of $\frac{\text{5 and 15 (in an Assisted Vernacular school)}}{\text{5 and 17 (in an Assisted English school)}}$ at the beginning of the school year and who has been in residence at an Orphanage or Home for a period of not less than 9 months and has regularly attended a registered school during this period. Such grants during 1932 amounted to Rs. 116,257.50.

Reformatory.—There is only one reformatory school to which juvenile offenders are admitted. Here they are taught different trades such as gardening, carpentry, tailoring, cooking, bookbinding, ironwork, printing, weaving, &c., while undergoing their term of punishment. 158 juvenile offenders were admitted during the year bringing the total to 465.

Prisoners.—There are schools for prisoners at two jails in the Colombo District. There are 36 pupils at one and 118 pupils at the other. Social workers conduct English classes for certain prisoners at the latter jail. The jail school at Kandy has 12 pupils.

Lepers.—Much good work is done at the school for lepers at Hendala by the Sisters of the Franciscan Order. The school consists of 3 sections—English, Sinhalese, and Tamil. In the English section there are 24 pupils, in the Sinhalese 30, and in the Tamil 21.

The Langdon Home.—In Badulla District there is one institution which receives assistance from Government for training women in industrial work and household management. After a period of training, these women go into the villages and teach the older girls reading, writing, sewing, embroidery, and lacemaking. They also give instruction in the art of clean and efficient housekeeping and also encourage the practice of thrift.

Pensions, &c.—Government teachers are pensionable and in addition make contributions to a Widows' and Orphans' Pension Scheme. Teachers in assisted schools are eligible for a pension similar to that of Government teachers, but the pension scheme in assisted schools is on a contributory basis.

THE CEYLON UNIVERSITY COLLEGE.

The University College was established in 1921 for the purpose of affording facilities for higher education to students in Ceylon.

Numbers.—The number of students on the roll in July, 1932, the beginning of the academic year 1932-33, was 377, including 31 women students. The figures for 1921-31 were as follows:—

1921	..	166	1925	..	256	1929	..	338
1922	..	217	1926	..	313	1930	..	394
1923	..	262	1927	..	279	1931	..	355
1924	..	262	1928	..	315			

Courses.—The College offers instruction in Latin, Greek, Sanskrit, Pali, English, Sinhalese, Tamil, Logic, Philosophy, History, Geography, Economics, Pure Mathematics, Applied Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Botany, and Zoology.

Honours courses are provided in Classics, English, Indo-Aryan (Sanskrit and Pali), History, Mathematics, Chemistry, Botany, and Zoology.

The College course is normally one of three years. At the end of the first year students take the (External) Intermediate Arts, Science, and Economics examinations of the University of London conducted in Ceylon. At the end of the third year they take the final examinations for the B.A. (General), B.A. (Honours), B.Sc. (General), B.Sc. (Special), and the B.Sc. (Economics) Degrees of the same University.

Students who intend to join the medical profession are given one year's course of instruction in Physics, Chemistry, and General Biology, at the end of which they take either the First M.B. Examination of the University of London or the Pre-Registration Examination of the Ceylon Medical College, or both.

Graduates.—On the results of the examinations held in June, 1932, 29 candidates qualified themselves for the B.A. and B.Sc. degrees of the University of London.

The total number of graduates from the University College from the time of its inception in 1921 is 240, of whom 18 obtained Honours in Classics, 6 in English, 16 in History, 24 in Mathem tics, 9 in Indo-Aryan, 7 in Chemistry, 3 in Botany, and 3 in Zoology.

Hostels.—Most of the students not living with their parents or relations are residing in four hostels affiliated to the College and subject to the College rules and regulations. These hostels are administered by extra-university bodies and are subsidized by the Government.

University College Council.—This Council, which consists of twenty members nominated by His Excellency the Governor, advises the Principal of the College in matters relating to the administration of the College, and the preparation for its conversion into a University.

THE CEYLON MEDICAL COLLEGE.

The Ceylon Medical College was established in 1870 in the form of a medical school capable of affording a practical education on the principles of medicine and surgery, and especially midwifery, together with a practical knowledge of Anatomy, Physiology, Materia Medica, Pharmaceutical Chemistry, and the art of dispensing. It had originally a Principal and three lecturers, and the whole course took only three years.

This course was later increased from time to time in order to keep abreast with the progress of medical science. In 1887 recognition was granted by the General Medical Council of the United Kingdom, and the diploma became registrable in Great Britain and all parts of the Empire.

In 1924 the complete extended curriculum of one year's pre-medical study (Chemistry, Physics, Biology) and five years' medical study was adopted.

The College now provides the complete course of instruction required for the practice of modern Medicine, Surgery, and Midwifery. Including the course of preliminary or pre-registration work in Physics, Chemistry, and Biology, which is provided by arrangement at the University College, Colombo, the whole course takes six years.

In addition to the complete medical curriculum, the College provides a course of instruction for a minor grade of medical practitioners, known as Apothecaries. These receive a two years' course of instruction in Anatomy, Physiology, Chemistry, Pharmacy, Pharmacology and Dispensing, Elementary Medicine, Surgery, and Midwifery, both theoretical and clinical, and Surgical Dressing, and in Hygiene and Public Health. They receive free instruction, and on passing the two Apothecaries' Examinations are employed by the Government to take charge of the Government Dispensaries and some small hospitals in the remote rural areas and villages, but are only permitted to practise while so employed in Government Service and are subject to the control of the District Medical Officers. They are eligible to be registered as Pharmacists.

These Apothecaries to a large extent provide for the medical treatment of the poor villagers in remote districts and where fully qualified medical practitioners are not available.

A department for the training of pupil midwives has been added to the College. This work was formerly carried out by the Department of Medical and Sanitary Services, but from October 1, 1931, the teaching and examinations of pupils have been vested in the College Council. First and second class certificates of efficiency are conferred on successful candidates, who are then eligible to be registered as midwives. As this arrangement in practice proved difficult of administration it was discontinued from October 1, 1932. The College however continues to conduct the examinations for certificates of efficiency as midwives, the courses of instruction having been restored to the Department of Medical and Sanitary Services. The College thereby retains control of the standard of teaching.

The College is staffed by whole-time Professors, in Anatomy and Physiology and a large number of part-time lecturers, mostly drawn from the officers of the Department of Medical and Sanitary Services.

Details of staff, fees, courses of study, and rules for students, and the history of the College, are embodied in the annual calendar, copies of which are sent free to Medical Schools in Great Britain, principal Educational Institutions, and Government departments in the Island.

The Government has set up in 1928 a Post-licentiate Scholarship (suspended for the time being), which is granted yearly to the best student of the final year who qualifies in the first class within the statutory period, to enable him to obtain British qualifications and also to pursue studies and research in some special subject. The value of the scholarship is £300 per annum.

A small number of students generally discontinue study in the Ceylon Medical College and goes to the United Kingdom to complete their studies.

THE LAW COLLEGE.

The Law College which is controlled by the Incorporated Council of Legal Education exists for the supervision and control of the legal education of students desiring to qualify themselves as advocates or proctors of the Supreme Court. The Council consists of the Judges, the Attorney-General, the Solicitor-General, and such other persons of standing in the legal profession as the Judges may appoint. The members hold office for three years at a time. The academic qualifications requisite for admission in the case of advocates are (1) a degree in Arts or Science of any University in the British Empire, (2) a pass in the Intermediate Examination in Arts or Science of the University of London, and in the case of proctors (1) a degree in Arts or Science of any University in the British Empire, (2) a pass in the Matriculation Examination of the University of London or the Intermediate Examination in Arts or Science of any Indian University, or the Senior Local Examination of the University of Cambridge, or the Cambridge Senior School-Leaving Certificate, provided always that the candidate shall adduce proof that he has passed an examination in English and Latin, such examination being either the examination on which he relies for his qualification or some one or other of the aforesaid examinations of any University in the British Empire.

Admissions to the Law College take place twice annually, in the months of January and July, respectively, and the total number of students admitted during the year 1932 is as follows:—

Advocates	27
Proctors	67

The Board of Lecturers, consisting of six members, are appointed in the month of June and hold office for three years.

The examinations provided under the Rules of the Incorporated Council of Legal Education are held twice a year, also in the months of January and July, the examiners (five in number) being appointed once a year in the month of June by the Council. The under-mentioned table shows the number of students who presented themselves at the various examinations, together with the number of successful candidates in 1932:—

	Entered.	Passed.
Advocates	78	46
Proctors	260	140

CHAPTER X.

Communications and Transport.

SHIPPING.

Colombo Harbour.

Introduction.—The position of the port of Colombo at the junction of the most important trade routes in the East makes it an important one in the commerce of the East, and this natural advantage has been enhanced by the excellent facilities for docking, bunkering, loading and unloading cargo, water supply, &c., afforded by the port to the vast tonnage of shipping navigating Eastern waters. The port of Colombo has contributed largely to the commercial and economic prosperity of the Island, and this fact is borne out by the phenomenal growth of the city of Colombo since the conversion of the open roadstead into a great artificial harbour enclosed by extensive breakwaters. Colombo is a great *entrepot*, and the volume of business passing through its Customs houses is an indication of the state of trade and general prosperity of the Island.

Trade.—The quantity of imports and exports handled in the port of Colombo in 1932 amounted to 1,539,160 tons (932,430 tons imports and 606,730 tons exports) as compared with 1,700,940 tons (987,111 tons imports and 713,829 tons exports) handled in 1931. There has been a decrease of 161,780 tons as compared with the previous year and 288,345 tons as compared with 1930. The percentage of decrease in imports is 5 per cent. and in exports 15 per cent. compared with 1931.

Harbour.—The harbour is enclosed on all sides, being bounded on the South and East by the land and on the North and West by massive breakwaters. The approach to the harbour is free from navigational dangers. Vessels drawing 33 feet can enter by the Western entrance and vessels drawing 27 feet can enter by the Northern entrance. The Western entrance channel is 630 feet wide, with a navigable depth of 36 feet L. W. O. S. T., and the Northern entrance channel 550 feet wide, with a navigable depth of 30 feet L. W. O. S. T. The sheltered area of the harbour amounts to 643 acres at low water, of which 246 acres have been dredged to 36 feet and over, 106 acres to a depth varying between 36 feet and 33 feet, and 103 acres to between 33 feet and 30 feet; the remaining 188 acres have a depth of less than 30 feet.

Accommodation for Vessels.—Berthing accommodation, exclusive of the Graving Dock, Guide Pier, and Oil Jetties, is available for 38 vessels in the north-east monsoon and 23, or using packed berths, 39 vessels in the south-west monsoon. Berths are available in either monsoon for vessels drawing up to 33 feet of water. One of these berths is for vessels of unlimited length.

Railways.—A broad gauge railway runs through the port premises, and it is connected with the main railway system of the Island, thus affording direct communication with all parts of the Island and Southern India. Sidings are provided at different places on the waterside. The length of the railway is 6 miles 19 chains, but the total mileage of railway used, including sidings, &c., is 14 5/8 miles. The port railway is available only for the conveyance of goods.

Roads.—Communication by road to the harbour is excellent.

Canals.—The Lake to Harbour canal affords direct water transport between stores and mills situated on the lakeside and the harbour. It is navigable by fully loaded 40-ton harbour barges and to some extent relieves the congestion on roads. This canal, together with the lock basin and locks and the water area of the Beira Lake including the San Sebastian canal locks, is now included in the limits of the port of Colombo.

The total number of lighters, launches, &c., which passed through the Lake to Harbour canal during the year was 8,209 against 8,666 in 1931, and 7,915 in 1930. The goods traffic during the last two years is as follows:—

	Import Cargo. Tons.	Export Cargo. Tons.	Total. Tons.
1931	27,710 ..	52,005 ..	79,715
1932	17,692 ..	48,778 ..	66,470

The receipts from the Lake to Harbour canal dues and lock charges during the financial year 1931-32 amounted to Rs. 22,759.96, as against Rs. 27,467.99 in the financial year 1930-31.

Lakeside Facilities.

The development of the Lakeside Barge Yards comprising the portion of land bordering on the Beira Lake, has opened up for commercial purposes a valuable stretch of land on the water front of the lake, and has relieved the congestion in the harbour by affording facilities for the reception of a number of boats which had hitherto been moored in the harbour. There is every indication, that, when trade improves, there will be an increasing demand for land on the lakeside which by its propinquity to the harbour and easy access thereto, both by land and water, affords a valuable venue for commercial purposes.

The Beira Lake is now an integral part of the port, and its progressive development will eventually lead to the establishment of a Commercial Zone in the vicinity of the port serving as a feeder to the business of the port and fostering its development.

Passenger Jetty.—The baggage office has good accommodation and examination halls. There is a staff always on duty day and night, and baggage landed with passengers is passed without delay. There is also provision for the storage of such baggage as a passenger may wish to leave in the premises, a small storage rent being payable. Accommodation is also provided at the Custom house at

the Passenger Jetty for a Railway Booking Enquiry Office and a Post Office. The Passenger Traffic during the year shows again a falling off, the total number being 234,767 against 257,738 in the preceding year.

Landing and Shipping.—Landing and shipping of cargo is assisted by an efficient crane service. There is a total quayage of 15,657 lineal feet. The following are the particulars of cranes available at the port:—

Electric cranes..	..	14	Hand derrick	..	1
Steam cranes ..	..	22	Steam derrick	..	1
Hand cranes ..	..	13	Mobile crane ..	..	1
Elephant hand crane	..	1	Steam jib crane	..	1
Floating cranes	..	2	Steam block loading titan	..	1

operating on the jetties and quays. The largest lift which can be made is 35 tons. The conveyance of cargo from the vessel to the wharf is done by lighters and is carried out by recognized stevedores and landing companies.

Cargo for shipment is brought down to the warehouse by cart, lorry, train, or barge. The Port Commission railway runs direct into the premises alongside three of the export warehouses. With regard to shipment, the same considerations apply as in the case of imports, some firms finding it more convenient to employ a clearing or shipping agency than to maintain their own staff. As in the case of import cargo, goods remain in the Government warehouse at the risk of the exporter. To suit the convenience of shippers who do not carry out their own shipments, landing and shipping companies are prepared to take over cargo at the shipper's stores for removal to the warehouse in the Company's own lorries. Export harbour dues are payable on all goods sent down to the warehouses or wharf. If they lie there for more than three clear days, further dues are payable for each day, and in addition a similar sum by way of warehouse rent. Cargo is taken to the vessel by means of lighters. A good supply of labour is available.

Warehouse Accommodation.—Goods discharged being not always directly transferred to some other means of conveyance, it has been found necessary to provide extensive warehouse accommodation for the increasing volume of goods demanding storage, pending shipment or removal from the premises. There is a total warehouse floor area of 592,476 square feet in the port for dealing with imports, exports, and transhipment cargo. Most of the warehouses have railway facilities and cranes are available where required.

The import warehouses are situated between the root of the South-west Breakwater and the Lake to Harbour canal. Other import warehouses and landing areas are also situated on either side of the canal, and these are largely used for the landing of rough cargo, such as timber and metal. Further north, three recently built warehouses are available at Kochchikade, where facilities are provided for transport by rail.

Five commodious warehouses are allotted for the accommodation of export cargo, in addition to an open shed used for the shipment of drums containing coconut oil and similar commodities, and another shed for rough cargo. The largest warehouse can accommodate 4,000 tons of tea packed in chests of the usual size. The other four warehouses can each accommodate from 2,500 to 3,000 tons.

There are several bonded warehouses within the Customs premises, and certain firms have their own bonded warehouses outside the premises. Goods may be bonded for any period up to two years, after which they must either be removed or rebonded. All goods placed in bond are liable to the same rent and harbour dues as in the case of import cargo up to the time of bonding, after which no further dues are payable and bonded warehouse rent is recovered, the amount payable per week on bonded goods being the same as the charge per day on import cargo. No rent is payable to the Customs in the case of goods which lie in bonded warehouses belonging to private firms, though a charge is made for Customs supervision of deposits and removals.

Several firms have their own warehouses and stores on the lakeside, which has direct access from the harbour through the canal and locks. Special facilities are given by the Customs for import cargo to be removed direct to these stores and, conversely, for the direct shipment of export cargo from these stores

to the vessel. Rent and dues are, however, payable as in the case of goods landed in the warehouse, but the advantage of this direct traffic lies in obviating two additional handlings which would be necessary had the goods been landed or shipped from a quay.

Transhipment warehouses are available for the accommodation of cargo pending transmission to the destination. No import duty is payable upon such cargo, and rent and harbour dues are payable at a reduced rate, amounting to 1/5th of the rate payable upon ordinary import cargo. In the case of direct transhipment from vessel to vessel, a small fee is payable for Customs supervision. The volume of transhipment is fairly large, the quantity transhipped during the year being about 35,405 tons, but there is a steady traffic, with Tuticorin and other South Indian ports of transhipment of cargo to and from the United Kingdom, America, Australia, the Far East, &c.

Removal of Cargo.—Goods may be cleared either by the importer himself or by any Landing Company or recognized clearing agency. Firms who import on a large scale find it convenient to keep their own staff of wharf clerks for the clearing of cargo and the passing of the necessary entries through the Customs. On the other hand firms whose business is not so great as to justify the maintenance of such a staff, find it more convienent to clear their goods through a Landing Company, or a Clearing Agency.

Warehouse rent and harbour dues are payable upon all goods landed at the wharf, and three clear days are allowed for the removal of the goods, exclusive of Customs holidays, of which there are five in the year, and Sundays. On goods removed after the expiry of this period further rent and dues are payable in respect of each day inclusive of Sundays and Customs holidays. Special facilities are offered by the Customs for clearing goods prior to the passing of the entry and the payment of the duty, rent, and dues. The usual system is to place a cash deposit with the Customs, against which goods are removed after any examination found necessary, the importer guaranteeing to pass the necessary papers within a reasonable period. Special facilities are also given for the clearing of perishable goods and of consignments, such as rice and sugar, which are landed in large quantities at a time.

Coaling Facilities.—There are about 29 acres of land on the foreshore of the harbour leased to different companies for the stacking of coal. The coaling grounds between the Barge Repairing Basin and the Graving Dock have 17 coaling jetties. Large supplies of coal can be procured, and steamers are bunkered with good despatch at any hour of the day or night.

The types and prices of coal stocked at Colombo for commercial purposes are as follows (December, 1932):—

Type.	Price Trimmed (f. o. b.) Per Ton. s.	d.
Welsh large	40	0
Welsh ⅔ large, ⅓ small	38	0
Natal	27	0
Indian	24	0

The quantities of coal imported and issued for bunkers during the years 1931 and 1932 were as follows:—

	1931. Tons.	1932. Tons.
Imports	494,269	350,047
Bunkers	322,398	213,954

Oil Facilities.—The port is equipped with an up-to-date oil fuel installation which provides for the rapid bunkering of ships using oil fuel. The main Oil Installations Depôt, about 92 acres in extent, is situated at Kolonnawa, about 3½ miles from the harbour front, and various oil companies have erected their own storage and distribution tanks there. This depôt is divided into a non-dangerous and a dangerous oil section, and is separated by a safety reservation. Three main pipelines are laid connecting the discharge berth in the harbour with the main oil depôt, two for oil fuel and the other for kerosene and petrol. In connection with the bunkering of vessels, a measuring tanks depôt, about

19 acres in extent, has been established at Bloemendahl, about ¾ of a mile from the harbour front, and branch pipelines are provided from Kolonnawa to Bloemendahl and from Bloemendahl to the bunkering berths. The oil depôt is also connected to the main railway system of the Island. Three reinforced concrete jetties, two for bunkering purposes and one for discharge of oil tankers, have been provided. The outer oil bunkering jetty is capable of accommodating vessels of 500 feet length and 27 feet draught. The inner bunkering jetty is used by barges for bunkering. Vessels of 500 feet length and 27 feet draught can be berthed at the discharge jetty where the latest facilities for discharging oil ships are provided.

The imports of oil during the last two years were as follows:—

	1931. Tons.	1932. Tons.
Liquid fuel	208,024	247,090
Kerosene oil	31,488	25,740
Petrol and benzine	35,368	32,756
Total ..	274,880	305,586

The quantities of liquid fuel issued for bunkers during the last two years were as follows:—

	No. of Ships Bunkered.	Tons.
1931	367	192,222
1932	433	221,233

There has also been a steady increase in the number of oil burning vessels calling at the port while those burning coal only have declined. These facts illustrate that coal is fast replaced by oil as a means of marine engine propulsion.

The Oil Facilities receipts during the year 1932 were Rs. 840,503.82 as compared with Rs. 778,386.53 in 1931.

Graving Dock.—Length of floor, 700 feet; breadth of entrance-cope level, 85 feet; depth over sill at low water, 30 feet; depth over sill at high water, 32 feet. Docking can be carried out by day or night.

Patent Slip.—Length 800 feet; length of cradle, 220 feet; breadth of cradle, 40 feet; depth over keel blocks at lower end at low water, 21 feet 6 inches; depth over keel blocks at upper end at low water, 10 feet 6 inches; inclination 1 in 20. Capable of slipping a vessel of 1,200 tons dead weight.

Ambulance Facilities.—An ambulance launch is available for the conveyance of sick and injured persons between ship and shore. The Colombo Municipal Council provides an adequate and efficient motor ambulance service for the port.

Quarantine.—On entering the harbour each ship is visited by the Port Surgeon or his Assistant, and no person is allowed to board the ship or leave the ship till pratique is granted. If there are cases of infectious diseases on board, such as plague, cholera, smallpox, yellow fever, or typhus, the ship is held in strict quarantine until all necessary measures, such as removal of the sick person, disinfection of the ship, vaccination, &c., as the case may be, are carried out. Thereafter the ship is allowed to be worked in restricted quarantine, any persons having business on board being allowed on special permits.

Port Commission.—The Colombo Port Commission is composed of the following:—The Principal Collector of Customs (who is Chairman or Chief Port Commissioner); the Director of Medical and Sanitary Services; the General Manager of the Railway; the Chairman, Municipal Council, and Mayor of Colombo; the Deputy Collector of Customs; the Master Attendant, Colombo and Galle; the Harbour Engineer; six Unofficial Members nominated by the Chamber of Commerce to represent Import, Export, Shipping, Coaling, Oil, and Landing Agencies' Interests; two Unofficial Members nominated by His Excellency the Governor to represent Ceylonese interests.

RAILWAYS.

All the railways in Ceylon are State-owned and Government-controlled, the management being vested in the Ceylon Government Railway Department.

The total length of line open is 951 miles, of which 834 miles are broad gauge (5½ feet gauge) and 117 miles narrow gauge (2½ feet gauge).

The frontispiece map shows how the different lines radiate from Colombo.

The following table shows the distance from Colombo Fort to the more important stations on the different lines, with the first class single passenger fare and the approximate time of journey:—

Colombo Fort to	Distance. M. C.	Train Fare. Rs. c.	Approximate Time of Journey. Hours.	Colombo Fort to	Distance. M. C.	Train Fare. Rs. c.	Approximate Time of Journey. Hours.
Peradeniya	71 62	5 5	3¼*	Polonnaruwa	162 1	11 40	8¼*
Kandy	75 12	5 30	3¼*	Batticaloa	217 78	15 25	12
Nanu-oya	128 62	10 45	7¼*	Trincomalee	184 25	12 95	9¼
Nuwara Eliya	135 27	11 20	10 *	Mount Lavinia	7 47	0 55	¾*
Bandarawela	161 34	13 90	12 *	Galle	70 38	4 95	2½*
Anuradhapura	127 31	8 95	5¼*				

* By express trains.

The main results of the working of the Ceylon Government Railway for the financial years 1928-29 to 1931-32 are shown in the following table:—

Particulars.	1928–29. Rs.	1929–30. Rs.	1930–31. Rs.	1931–32. Rs.
Total capital outlay	217,574,271	220,522,956	223,460,704	225,307,864
Gross earnings	32,498,947	29,650,683	25,324,379	22,024,355
Total working expenses†	25,996,899	25,085,120	23,809,576	21,688,864
Net revenue‡	6,502,048	4,565,563	1,514,803	335,491
Percentage of net revenue on total capital outlay	2·99 p.c.	2·07 p.c.	·68 p.c.	·15 p.c.
Gross receipts from ordinary passengers and season tickets	Rs. 12,595,114	Rs. 11,599,508	Rs. 9,653,763	Rs. 8,378,370
Gross receipts from parcels, goods, &c.	19,903,833	18,051,175	15,670,616	13,645,985
Free traffic (excluding that for Railway Department included in gross receipts)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

† Includes provision for renewals.
‡ That is, "Gross earnings" less "Total working expenses."

The number of passengers conveyed has fallen off by 2,565,728, the total conveyed during the year being 12,353,554. Under Season Tickets the number of ticket holders has fallen off by 20,338, the total number of season tickets issued during the year being 180,051.

The number of parcels conveyed during the year was 1,384,607 or a decrease of 213,832.

The tonnage of goods carried was 971,641 or a decrease of 42,252 tons, the noticeable increases and decreases being:—

	Increase. Tons.	Decrease Tons.
Agricultural produce	5,631	—
Rice	13,696	—
Tea	4,812	—
Copra	—	4,045
Kerosene bulk and petroleum	—	1,425
Manure	—	6,191
Petrol	—	1,846
Rubber	—	13,037
Sundry goods	—	28,887

Passenger Fares.

The standard passenger fares are as follows:—Single fares: First Class, 7 cents per mile on all lines below Nawalapitiya and 10½ cents per mile on all lines above Nawalapitiya. Second Class, 4⅔ cents per mile on all lines below Nawalapitiya, and 7 cents per mile on all lines above Nawalapitiya. Third Class, 2⅓ cents per mile on all lines. Week-end tickets are issued between all stations distance 25 miles and over at single fare and a half for the double journey. Reductions are made for children, pioneers, and labourers of any nationality, and for periodical tickets.

Sleeping Cars.

The sleeping cars which run on the Up and Down night mail trains between Colombo and Bandarawela are each provided with accommodation for ten passengers. They are all two-berthed compartments each having lavatory accommodation. Each berth is numbered and provided with bedding and an attendant accompanies each car. The charge for a sleeping berth is Rs. 5 in addition to the ordinary first-class fare to the station to which the journey is made.

In the Indo-Ceylon mail trains sleeping berths without bedding are provided for through first-class passengers without any extra charge, but berths are not guaranteed unless they have been reserved, for which a registration fee of Re. 1 per berth will be charged. If bedding is required Rs. 5 must be paid for each set of bedding at the time of booking, and a berth will be made up as a bed by the Car Attendant. In such cases no registration fee will be charged.

Restaurant Cars.

These are attached to the important trains on the Main and Northern Lines.

Restaurant Rooms.

These are provided at Maradana, Polgahawela, and Nanu-oya on the Main line, Colombo Fort and Alutgama on the Coast line, and Anuradhapura on the Northern line. Refreshments at these places are supplied at moderate prices.

Refreshment Baskets.

Refreshment baskets can be supplied for any train from Colombo on giving 20 minutes' notice to the Manager, Restaurant Cars and Rooms, at his office at Colombo Fort Station.

Luggage.

Each adult passenger is allowed, free of charge, the following weight of luggage:—

	lb.		lb.
First class	112	Third class	56
Second class	84		

A free allowance of half these quantities is made for each child travelling with a half-ticket. No luggage will be conveyed free for children under three years of age who travel free.

ROADS.

There are over 16,500 miles of roads and cart tracks in the Island controlled and administered by the following authorities:—

Authority.	Description of Roads.	Approximate Mileage.
(i.) Public Works Department ..	All main thoroughfares in the Island	4,796
(ii.) District Road Committees ..	All minor roads within the areas of jurisdiction of each Committee	3,000
(iii.) Local Governing Authorities, viz., Municipalities, Urban District Councils, Local Boards, Sanitary Boards, &c. ..	All streets within their respective jurisdictions ..	565
(iv.) Village Committees	All natural cart tracks within the jurisdiction of each Committee	7,800
(v.) Irrigation Department	—	70
(vi.) Private parties	—	350

In addition there are approximately 8,200 miles of bridle paths in the charge of the District and Village Committees.

The Public Works Department is the principal road authority in the Island and is responsible for the construction and maintenance of all the " Main roads ", by which are meant through arteries connecting the principal centres of populations with one another and with the railways and ports.

The whole cost of construction, improvements, and maintenance of these roads is met from the general revenue of the Island.

The roads vary in standard from narrow country roads to wide modern thoroughfares, the standard depending on the nature of the country traversed and the traffic carried.

The following is the classification of the Public Works Department roads according to the nature of their surfaces:—

	Miles.
Full-metalled	3,738
Track-metalled	498
Gravelled	432
Natural	128
	4,796

The metalled roads are maintained in good order, and, with but few exceptions, may be considered passable to all classes of traffic. Gravelled roads can be considered as dry weather roads only; in dry weather they are generally in fair order, but they cannot be relied upon to the extent of metalled roads. A large mileage of the metalled roads is tarred or otherwise surface-treated. At the end of 1932 the length of roads so treated was 3,272.

The only direct charge on road users is that for the use of ferry boats, but on the main roads with few exceptions the ferries have been replaced by bridges. Indirect charges are made in the form of import duties and taxes on wheeled vehicles.

The distribution of the main roads, distances between the principal centres, &c., can be ascertained on reference to the motor map of Ceylon, obtainable from the Surveyor-General, Colombo.

The distances from Colombo to other chief towns by road (given to the nearest half mile) are shown in the following list:—

Colombo to	Miles.	Colombo to	Miles.
Galle	72½	Batticaloa (*viâ* Badulla) ..	241
Peradeniya	68	Anuradhapura (*viâ* Matale) ..	158½
Kandy	72	Trincomalee (*viâ* Kurunegala) ..	169
Nuwara Eliya (*viâ* Peradeniya) ..	112	Anuradhapura (*viâ* Puttalam) ..	129
Nuwara Eliya (*viâ* Ginigathena) ..	106½	Jaffna (*viâ* Puttalam)	250

MEANS OF TRANSPORT BY ROAD.

The number of motor vehicles in Ceylon has been increasing very rapidly for some years, until it reached 24,405 on December 31, 1930. Owing to the depression in the major industries of the Island the number on December 31, 1932, decreased to 23,203. The average cost of running a small private car may be put at about 25 to 40 cents per mile. Hiring cars are available in most parts of the Island and cost 40 cents to Re. 1 per mile. Drivers and mechanics for privately-owned cars can be obtained without difficulty and all drivers must hold the Government certificate of competence, while many are registered with the Automobile Association of Ceylon. Numerous facilities for repairs exist in Colombo, Kandy, Nuwara Eliya, and most of the other towns. Supplies of petrol and oil are available in all towns and in most of the larger villages. The Automobile Association of Ceylon is affiliated or has reciprocal agreements with most of the Automobile Clubs and Associations in other countries and the Secretary (P. O. Box 338, Colombo), will afford any information which may be desired. The various landing, Customs, and registration formalities can be arranged for visitors by the Association. Facilities afforded by the International Convention relative to Motor Traffic are now applicable to Ceylon and a Ceylon TRIPTYQUE for Customs purposes is available through the leading Automobile Institutions.

Motor Buses.—There has been a very large increase recently in the numbers of motor omnibuses carrying passessengers for hire and they now run on nearly every main road in the Island.

The seating accommodation for passengers in motor omnibuses varies from 8 to 37.

Personal luggage of small dimensions and light weight will be carried free of charge. Extra luggage will be carried only if there is room in the conveyance on payment of a fee.

Goods.—The chief means of transport of goods by road are the local bullock cart and the motor lorry. A double-bullock cart is capable of taking 1½ tons at a time, and travels at the average rate of about 2 miles an hour. The cost per

ton per mile may be put at about 80 cents. There are about 34,000 single- and double-bullock carts in Ceylon, the majority of which are used in the transportation of village produce. Motor lorries are gradually replacing bullock carts in the movement of estate goods, and in other industries. These vary in load capacity from 5 cwt. to 3 tons and travel about 15 miles an hour, this being the legal speed limit for such vehicles. They run on petrol or kerosene. In 1932 there were about 2,866 motor lorries in Ceylon. Experience has shown that excluding profit the running costs can be kept as low as 50 cents per ton per mile.

Tramways.—The only street tramways in Ceylon are those in the town of Colombo, the total length of double track being 7 miles. There are two nearly equal routes: one between the Fort and the Kelani river terminus, and one between the Fort and Borella, joined by a cross line between Maradana and Grandpass *viâ* Skinner's road and Armour street. The total number of passengers carried annually is estimated at about 13 millions.

CANALS.

The only artificial navigable waterways in Ceylon are a series of canals connecting a chain of lakes on the west coast—Bolgoda, Colombo, Negombo, Chilaw, Mundel, and Puttalam lakes—as also the estuaries of the Kalu-ganga, Kelani-ganga, Maha-oya, and Deduru-oya; thus forming a continuous waterway from Kalutara in the south to Puttalam in the north, a distance of approximately 120 miles. These were maintained in good order.

In addition to the foregoing there are about 41 miles of boat channel maintained by dredging the Jaffna lagoon.

POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICE.

(Full information on this subject is to be found in the "Ceylon Post Office Guide", obtainable from the Postmaster-General, Colombo, price 75 cents.)

On December 31, 1932, 841 offices were open for business. Details of the facilities afforded are as follows:—

154 Post Offices (excluding the Central Telegraph Office which does only telegraph business) dealt with all classes of postal business, viz., mail and parcel work, registration and insurance of postal articles, money order, postal order, and Savings Bank work, and telegraph and telephone business. 67 Post Offices dealt with all classes of business except telephone work. 1 Post Office (at the Colombo Passenger Jetty) transacted all classes of business except parcel work. 1 Post Office conducted all classes of business except postal order, value-payable and cash-on-delivery work and telephone work. 17 Post Offices dealt with all classes of postal business except telegraph and telephone work.

38 Sub-Post Offices conducted all classes of postal business, except insurance, and also provided telephone-telegraph facilities. 120 Sub-Post Offices also conducted such business except telephone-telegraph work.

432 Village Receiving Offices dealt with mail work only. At 37 Railway Stations facilities for the despatch and receipt of Inland postal telegrams were available. At 10 of these stations, mail work was also conducted.

There are 10,350 miles of telegraph wire (including railway telegraph wires), of which 2,464 are laid underground, and 46,825 miles of telephone wire (including Trunk and Junction lines) for subscribers' circuits, of which 33,719 are laid underground (excluding private estate lines).

Mail Services.

A regular weekly mail service is maintained between Ceylon and the United Kingdom and between Ceylon and Australia. Regular and frequent services are also available to the Straits Settlements and the Far East. Mails from Colombo to Mauritius and South Africa *viâ* Bombay are despatched fortnightly. Direct mail to Mauritius is also sent at very irregular intervals. There is also a direct

lishing company, inc.

service not less than twice a month between Ceylon and South Africa. Mails from Ceylon to East Africa are despatched fortnightly *viâ* Bombay and direct once a month. The mail service by train is maintained daily between Ceylon and India *viâ* Talaimannar except on Saturdays. A regular weekly despatch of air mail articles is made to the United Kingdom and South America to connect with the Karachi-London and Marseilles-Buenos Aires air services respectively. Correspondence intended for despatch by the internal air services of certain countries (Australia, Dutch East Indies, and United States of America) are despatched regularly once a week.

Inland mails are carried generally by the Ceylon Government Railway and from railway stations by private contract motor mail services, bullock coach, or runner services.

Rates of Postage.

Inland Rates and Rates to India.

	Cents.		Cents.
For letters, per 2 ounces or part of that weight ..	6	For registered newspapers not weighing more than 2 pounds, for every 8 ounces ..	2
For post cards, each	3		
For printed matter, per 2 ounces or part of that weight up to a maximum of 2 pounds ..	2		

Rates to the United Kingdom, British Possessions, and Egypt.

	Cents.		Cents.
For letters, per ounce or part of that weight ..	9	For printed papers, per 2 ounces or part of that weight	3
For post cards, each	6		

Rates to Foreign Countries (excluding Egypt).

	Cents.		Cents.
For letters, for the first ounce	20	For post cards, each	12
For every additional ounce or part of that weight	10	For printed papers, per 2 ounces or part of that weight	4

Inland Cash-on-Delivery System.

Postal articles can be transmitted by the Inland post on the value-payable system provided that the amount payable is not less than 50 cents or more than Rs. 600. A posting and delivery fee of 5 to 15 cents, according to value, will be levied on every value-payable article.

Foreign Cash-on-Delivery System.

The Cash-on-delivery Service is in operation between Ceylon and the United Kingdom, the Straits Settlements, the Federated Malay States, and Germany. Details will be found in the " Ceylon Post Office Guide ".

Money Orders.

Money Orders can be obtained at any of the Post Offices payable at any of the others and in most foreign countries. The maximum for inland and Indian Money Orders is Rs. 600, for foreign orders £40 except in certain special cases where the maximum is below this amount. The rate of commission for inland Money Orders is 10 cents for each complete sum of Rs. 10 and 10 cents for the remainder, and for Indian Money Orders 20 cents for each complete sum of Rs. 10 and 20 cents for the remainder. The rate for foreign Money Orders is 25 cents on sums not exceeding £1, and on sums exceeding £1, 15 cents for each complete sum of £1 and 15 cents for the remainder. Money Orders payable in the United Kingdom or countries served through the United Kingdom can be despatched by Air Mail on payment of a fee of 15 cents in addition to the ordinary money order commission. Telegraph Money Orders can be despatched in the inland service. Telegraph Money Order service is also available to India and some other foreign countries. There are fixed minima for Telegraph Money Orders according to the currency in which the order is advised. Details will be found in the " Ceylon Post Office Guide ".

Postal Orders.

Inland Postal Orders for fixed amounts ranging from 50 cents to Rs. 10 are issued, the rate of commission varying from 3 to 10 cents.

British Postal Orders.

There are 40 denominations of British Postal Order, ranging from 6*d*. to 21*s*., the difference between each up to 19*s*. being 6*d*., and 1*s*. between 19*s*. and 21*s*. Commission is charged at the rate of 5 cents on each of the first three denominations, 10 cents on each of the next eighteen, and 15 cents on each of the remaining denominations. A full list of the countries to which British Postal Orders can be sent is given in section 7 of the " Ceylon Post Office Guide ". Broken amounts up to 5*d*. (but not including fractions of a penny) may be made by affixing unused Ceylon postage stamps of equivalent value or British penny postage stamps not exceeding three in number in the spaces provided on the order.

Inland Telegrams.

The minimum charge for Inland telegrams is 50 cents for the first twelve words, including the address, and 5 cents for each additional two words or less. These telegrams can be sent from any one telegraph office to any other in the Island.

The charge for urgent telegrams is Re. 1 for the first twelve words, including the address, and 10 cents for each additional two words or less.

Foreign and Colonial Telegrams.

The rates for telegrams to India (including Burma) are express Rs. 2, and ordinary Re. 1 for the first 12 words or less, and 15 cents and 10 cents respectively for each additional word.

Telegrams to places in other British Possessions and foreign countries can be sent on a minimum charge per word varying from 40 cents to Rs. 6 for ordinary, and from 45 cents to Rs. 3 for deferred telegrams, according to the distance of the place of destination, the route by which the telegram is to be sent, &c. A full list of places to which foreign and Colonial telegrams can be sent, together with the rates charged, is given in section 9 of the " Ceylon Post Office Guide ".

Cheap Rate Telegrams.

Telegrams in plain language are accepted for transmission as " Daily Letter Telegrams " or " Week-end Letter Telegrams " to various places abroad at considerably reduced rates. A list of places to which these services are available, and the scale of charges, will be found in section 9 of the " Ceylon Post Office Guide ".

Radio-Telegrams.

Radio-Telegrams are accepted at any Postal Telegraph Office in Ceylon for transmission to ships equipped with radio-telegraph apparatus through the Coast Station in Colombo.

The charges are as follows:—

	Per Word. Cents.
British, Indian, or Colonial Government Telegrams to or from His Britannic Majesty's Ships of War	Free
Private telegrams to or from His Britannic Majesty's Ships of War ..	40
All other Government or private telegrams ..	65
On Radio-Telegrams sent to—	
(*a*) Spanish and Swedish ships the charge is	60
(*b*) Finnish ships the charge is ..	50

The normal range of the Colombo Radio Station is 500 miles or about two days steaming from or to the port of Colombo, but this distance is considerably exceeded when conditions are favourable and also according to the equipment on board the ships.

With ships fitted with the Short Wave System, communication is possible for a few thousand miles. Ships not so fitted can be reached through those having the facility.

Telephone System.

Telephone communication exists between most of the pricipal towns and certain rural districts. The towns are generally served by Goverment exchanges and the rural districts by Government or private licensed exchanges which are connected to the general trunk system by means of Government junction lines.

The charge for the use of a public call box for six minutes or less is 10 cents, and for the use of the trunk and junction lines for three minutes or less the charge is as follows:—

	Cents.		Cents.
For 15 miles or under ..	.. 15	Over 32½ miles and not exceeding 60 miles	.. 50
Over 15 miles and not exceeding 32½ miles	.. 25	Every additional 25 miles or part of a mile	.. 25

The minimum annual rental for a telephone connection to a large town exchange is Rs. 180 for business or professional purposes and Rs. 120 for non-business or residential purposes and that for a connection to a small town exhange Rs. 125 and Rs. 90 respectively.

CHAPTER XI.

Banking, Currency, Weights and Measures.

BANKS.

THE following is a list of banks which have branches in Ceylon:—

Name of Bank	Imperial Bank of India
Address of Head Office ...	Madras
Branch in Ceylon ...	Prince street, Fort, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon ...	—
London Office	25, Old Broad street, London, E.C. 2
Name of Bank	National Bank of India, Ltd.
Address of Head Office ...	26, Bishopsgate, London, E.C. 2
Branches in Ceylon ...	York street, Fort, Colombo; Ward street, Kandy; and Nuwara Eliya
Agents in Ceylon ...	Clark, Spence & Co., Galle
Bankers in the United Kingdom	The Bank of England; The National Provincial Bank, Ltd.; The National Bank of Scotland, Ltd.
Name of Bank	Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China
Address of Head Office ...	38, Bishopsgate, London, E.C. 2
Branch in Ceylon ...	Queen street and Baillie street, Fort, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon ...	Mercantile Bank of India, Ltd., Galle
Bankers in the United Kingdom	The Bank of England; Midland Bank, Ltd.; Westminster Bank, Ltd.; National Provincial Bank, Ltd.; The National Bank of Scotland, Ltd.; Lloyds Bank, Ltd.
Name of Bank	Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation
Address of Head Office ...	1, Queen's road, Hong Kong, China
Branch in Ceylon ...	24, Prince street, Fort, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon ...	E. Coates & Co. (Galle), Ltd., Galle
Bankers in the United Kingdom	The Westminster Bank, Ltd.
Name of Bank	The Mercantile Bank of India, Ltd.
Address of Head Office ...	15, Gracechurch street, London, E.C. 3
Branches in Ceylon ...	2, Queen street, Fort, Colombo; Ward street, Kandy; and Galle
Agents in Ceylon ...	—
Bankers in the United Kingdom	The Bank of England; Midland Bank, Ltd.
Name of Bank	The Eastern Bank, Ltd.
Address of Head Office ...	2 and 3, Crosby square, Bishopsgate, London, E.C. 3
Branch in Ceylon ...	75-77, Chatham street, Fort, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon ...	—
Bankers in the United Kingdom	The Bank of England; Westminster Bank, Ltd.; The National Provincial Bank, Ltd.; The Bank of Scotland; Barclay's Bank, Ltd.; Martin's Bank, Ltd.
Name of Bank	The P. & O. Banking Corporation, Ltd. (with which is affiliated The Allahabad Bank, Ltd.)
Address of Head Office ...	117-122, Leadenhall street, London, E.C. 3
Branch in Ceylon ...	Victoria Arcade buildings, York street, Fort, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon ...	—
Bankers in the United Kingdom	Lloyds Bank, Ltd.; Westminster Bank, Ltd.; The National Provincial Bank, Ltd.; Royal Bank of Scotland
Name of Bankers ...	Thos. Cook & Sons (Bankers), Ltd.
Address of Head Office ...	Berkeley street, Piccadilly, London, W. 1
Branch in Ceylon ...	Prince street, Fort, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon ...	—
Bankers in the United Kingdom	The National Provincial Bank, Ltd.; Barclay's Bank, Ltd.

Name of Bank ...	...	Indian Bank, Ltd.
Address of Head Office	...	Indian Bank buildings, North Beach road, Madras
Branch in Ceylon	...	Colombo
Agents in Ceylon	...	—
Bankers in the United Kingdom		—

Name of Bank ...	...	Bank of Uva, Ltd.
Address of Head Office	...	Badulla
Branch in Ceylon	...	—
Agents in Ceylon	...	Colombo Commercial Co., Ltd., Colombo
Bankers in the United Kingdom		—

Banking Agencies.

Name of Bank.			Agents in Ceylon.
Coutts & Co. ...	...	...	George Steuart & Co., Colombo
Ulster Bank, Ltd., Belfast	...	...	do.
Westminster Bank, Ltd.	...	...	do.
Bank of Montreal	...	...	do.
Charles Hoare & Co.	...	...	do.
Martin's Bank, Ltd.	...	...	do.
National Provincial Bank, Ltd...		...	do.

Savings Banks.

There are two Savings Banks, viz., the Ceylon Savings Bank and the Post Office Savings Bank.

The Ceylon Savings Bank is a Goverment institution established in 1832. Accounts may be opened with a minimum deposit of 50 cents. and not more than Rs. 2,000 can be deposited in one year irrespective of withdrawals. The maximum sum which a depositor may have to his or her credit is Rs. 6,000. Charitable institutions or societies may deposit Rs. 3,000 per annum up to a maximum of Rs. 9,000. The Bank allows interest at the rate of 3½ per cent. on accounts of Rs. 1,000 and under, and 3 per cent. on accounts above Rs. 1,000.

The Post Office Savings Bank is managed by the Post and Telegraph Department. Deposits and withdrawals can be made at any of the Post Offices in the Island. The minimum amount that can be deposited is 25 cents, and the maximum per annum is Rs. 750 irrespective of withdrawals. The total amount which a depositor may have to his or her credit is Rs. 3,000. The rate of interest allowed is 2.4 per cent.—2 cents per month for each complete sum of Rs. 10.

Co-operative Societies.

There were, on April 30, 1932, 665 registered Co-operative Societies in Ceylon, of which 3 were Co-operative Central Banks, 586 Village Credit Societies or Banks of Unlimited Liability, 19 societies of Limited Liability, 23 Thrift Societies, 22 Supervising Unions, 6 Supply Societies, 1 Co-operative Land Mortgage Bank, 1 Sale Society, 1 Co-operative Milk Supply Society, 1 Co-operative Land Development Society, 1 Co-operative Motor Boat Society, and 1 Sports Society. These Societies had 24,415 members. Another Central Bank and a considerable number of other Societies have since been registered, but statistics are compiled only at the end of the co-operative working year on April 30.

The Societies were handling on April 30 Rs. 2,175,764.75. The Co-operative Central Banks exist for the purpose of attracting funds in the form of deposits from the general investing public and lending them to registered societies.

Attention has been concentrated on the thorough training of primary societies in the principles and practice of co-operation, and particularly on the organization of secondary institutions designed to make the movement independent of direct assistance from Government. These consist mainly of Central Banks, whose object is to provide and control the necessary finance, and Supervising Unions which are intended to provide scope for unofficial workers and gradually to take over the whole work of propaganda and supervision.

Loans are still made directly by Government to Societies in the less developed portions of the Island, but this system is being gradually replaced by independent Central Banks as the movement develops.

The percentage of overdue loans for the whole Island was 12.4 for the year ending on April 30, 1932. A few Supply Societies have worked successfully, but this branch of the work has proved to be very difficult. There is at present a strong demand for new societies.

CURRENCY, &c.

The monetary unit in Ceylon is the Indian silver rupee, which is divided into 100 cents. The following fractions of the rupee are coined:—(1) Silver, 50-cent piece; 25-cent piece; and 10-cent piece; (2) nickel, 5-cent piece; (3) copper, 1-cent piece and ½-cent piece.

The chief medium of exchange in Ceylon is the currency notes issued by the Government of Ceylon. They are of the following values:—Rs. 1,000, Rs. 500, Rs. 100, Rs. 50, Rs. 10, Rs. 5, Rs. 2, and Re. 1. The present value of the rupee is about 1*s*. 6*d*.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

The standard weights and measures are the English units. In conjunction with these many local weights and measures are used.

CHAPTER XII.

Public Works.

WITH the introduction in July, 1931, of the new Constitution for the Island under the Ceylon (State Council) Order in Council, 1931, the Public Works Department works under the immediate control of the Executive Committee of Communications and Works.

On account of the acute financial depression prevailing in the Island, the votes of the Department for the financial year 1931-32 were greatly reduced and the programme of new public works drastically curtailed. The total expenditure by the Department amounted only to Rs. 8,445,417, as against Rs. 11,810,844 during the previous year (1930-31) and Rs. 26,832,348 three years ago (1928-29).

Maintenance.—The roads, bridges, canals, and public buildings in charge of the Department were maintained in satisfactory condition having regard to the restricted funds available.

New Works.—The following are the more important works completed and in progress during the year:—

New Buildings and Additions and Improvements to Buildings.

Completed:—

Improvements to water supply, General Post Office.
Alterations to old Secretariat including Audit and Controller of Revenue's Office.
Conversion of Maradana Police Headquarters into Married Constables' Quarters.
Alterations to Echelon Barracks No. 5 for housing the Income Tax Department.
Alterations to Queen's House to accommodate the Co-operative Department.
Improvements to Systematic Botanist's Office, Peradeniya.
Alterations to Detention Barracks, Kandy.
Alterations to Post Office, Nuwara Eliya.
Additions and improvements to Matara Hospital.
Additions and improvements to Tissamaharama Hospital.
Dispensary and Apothecary's Quarters, Kapugollawa.
Special repairs to Survey Bungalow, Batticaloa.
Improvements to Kalpitiya Jetty.
Quarters for Nursing Sisters, Kurunegala Hospital.
Water supply, Madulsima Hospital.

In progress:—

New Remand Prison, Welikada.
Additions and improvements to Mahara Prison.
Water supply, Anti-Tuberculosis Hospital, Ragama.
Beacon at Point Pedro.
Extending drains, Batticaloa Hospital.
Improved water supply, Eheliyagoda Hospital.

BRIDGES.

Completed:—

Minuwangoda bridge No. 21/3, Ja-ela-Kotadeniya road.
Pusweli-oya bridge, Colombo-Labugama Junction road.
Algoda bridge.

In progress:—

Balapitiya bridge No. 37 on 51st mile, Colombo-Galle road.
Alawwa bridge.
Maggona bridge No. 33/5, Colombo-Galle road.

NEW ROADS.

Completed:—

Colombo-Labugama Junction road.
Point Pedro-Maruthankerni road.
Kuchchaveli-Yan-oya road.

In progress:—

Bowatte-Mola Eliya road (under the Estates Road Ordinance).

ADDITIONS AND IMPROVEMENTS TO ROADS.

Completed:—

The South Coast road extension.
Improving Valaichchenai-Mananpitiya road.
Kiriyankali-Andigama road.
Improving Polgahawela-Alawwa road (5¼ mile from Alawwa Railway Station to Kurunegala road junction).
Warakapola-Ruanwella road.
Widening and improving Ambepussa-Alawwa road.

Waterworks.—The improvements to the water supply of Diyatalawa continued satisfactorily. The filters and chlorinator have been installed and the town is served with filtered water. Work in connection with the improvement of the Mannar water supply was in progress.

IRRIGATION.

Importance of Irrigation.—The importance of irrigation in Ceylon arises mainly from the fact that the staple food of the inhabitants is rice. Practically all rice is grown in water, and in areas where the ordinary rainfall is insufficient for the crop, artificial means have to be adopted to supplement the water supply. As far as possible water is diverted to the fields from natural water-courses, but in the dry zones of the Island, where natural flow diminishes greatly or entirely ceases for considerable periods, it is often necessary to resort to the storage of water obtainable in the rainy season. The reservoirs or tanks in which water is stored are usually formed by the construction of embankments across the valley of a water-course, thus impounding the flow and securing a supply which can be issued when required for the cultivation operations by means of sluices and irrigation channels.

Classification of Irrigation Works.—Irrigation works in Ceylon are divided into two main classes, namely, major works and village works. Major works comprise the larger tanks and other works that have been constructed or restored by the Government. The owners of land irrigated by these works are liable to contribute towards the cost of their construction and maintenance, the conditions

varying with the different works. Village works include all the smaller works, which are maintained by the villagers themselves under the general supervision of Government officials.

Construction and Maintenance of Irrigation Works.—The construction and maintenance of all major works is in the hands of the Irrigation Department, while village works are attended to by the Provincial administration with the assistance of irrigation officers seconded for the purpose.

A progressive policy has been adopted in recent years for systematizing the restoration, improvement, and development of village irrigation works, and the construction of spills, sluices, and other masonry works which are beyond the capacity of the villagers to build, is carried out by officers under the Director of Irrigation.

The principal construction works on which the Irrigation Department was engaged during 1932, in addition to the maintenance of working schemes, were as follows:—

(1) *Kirima-oya Scheme, Southern Province.*—The construction of masonry dams to replace temporary sand dams across the river, and improved channel systems.

(2) *Walawe Left Bank Scheme, Southern Province.*—The development of irrigation and road facilities.

(3) *Akathimurippu Scheme, Northern Province.*—Twelve miles of the main channel and several large masonry works thereon have so far been constructed.

(4) *Karachchi Scheme, Northern Province.*—The distributary channel and agricultural road system is being considerably extended in order to provide irrigation and access facilities for some 8,000 acres.

(5) *Unnichchai Scheme, Eastern Province.*—The extension of the left bank western branch channel and agricultural road systems have been proceeded with in order to provide for the further development of this scheme.

(6) *Tabbowa Scheme, North-Western Province.*—Construction of the channel and agricultural road system is proceeding.

(7) *Rufuskulam, Eastern Province.*—The restoration of the tank was completed. The necessary channels under the tank will now be constructed.

Extent and Benefits of Irrigation in Ceylon.—The extent of land irrigated at present under major works is 157,228 acres, and under restored village works 200,053 acres. The yield from major works alone was roughly 3,472,000 bushels during 1932.

There is great scope for further increase of cultivation and many new schemes and the restoration of ancient irrigation works are now under investigation.

Apart from the production of food, there are numerous indirect benefits derived from irrigation. The felling of jungle and the opening up of the land bring about healthier conditions of life for the villagers and poverty is alleviated, and, as irrigation and cultivation on scientific lines extend, the population and prosperity of low-country dry-zone areas tend to increase.

Flood Protection Schemes.—In consequence of the periods of intense rainfall to which Ceylon is liable, the rivers are liable to periodical floods, which cause damage to property and distress to the inhabitants of adjoining lands. In particular, the havoc caused by floods in the vicinity of Colombo was for many years a matter for serious consideration by Government.

A scheme designed by Mr. C. Harward of the Irrigation Department for protecting the Colombo South area from floods was completed in 1925, and a similar scheme for Colombo North in 1927. Considerable benefits have been derived from these schemes during the period they have been in operation.

Flood protection work is now an established branch of the activities of the Irrigation Department, and many applications have been made for flood protection for areas in the neighbourhood of Colombo and of large rivers in the Western and Southern Provinces, and in other parts of the Island.

The schemes already completed are—

Colombo Schemes (North and South).—Protecting 9,500 acres of lowlying land.

Ambatalenpahala Scheme.—Protecting 900 acres of lowlying land from minor floods.

Kalu-oya Muturajawela Scheme.—Protecting 8,888 acres.

A scheme for the protection of 9,200 acres of land in the Bolgoda area, liable to flooding from the Kalu-ganga, has been under construction during 1930, but the financial position of the Island has necessitated the temporary closing down of the construction work. Several other schemes in the Western and Southern Provinces are under investigation.

CHAPTER XIII.

Justice and Police.

THE JUDICIAL SYSTEM OF CEYLON.

Supreme Court.—The Supreme Court consists of a Chief Justice and five Puisne Judges. It has appellate jurisdiction in civil cases from all courts except Village Tribunals. It exercises no original jurisdiction in civil cases. Under Ordinance No. 2 of 1891 it is a Colonial Court of Admiralty.

The Supreme Court has original jurisdiction in all criminal cases and exclusive jurisdiction in respect of the more serious offences, such as homicide, rape, and the graver types of extortion. In practice it seldom tries cases which do not fall within its exclusive jurisdiction. It usually sits with a jury and tries cases committed for trial by a Police Court. It exercises appellate and revisional jurisdiction over all criminal courts except Village Tribunals. The Supreme Court may pass any sentence authorized by law.

District Courts.—The District Courts, of which there are at present 22 in the Island, have unlimited original civil jurisdiction and criminal jurisdiction in respect of all offences which are not within the exclusive jurisdiction of the Supreme Court. District Courts try only cases committed to them for trial by Police Courts.* District Courts may pass any of the following sentences:—

(*a*) Imprisonment of either description for a term not exceeding 2 years;
(*b*) Fine not exceeding one thousand rupees;
(*c*) Whipping;
(*d*) Any lawful sentence combining any two of the sentences aforesaid.

Under sections 3 and 4 of Ordinance No. 2 of 1891 the Governor has power to appoint a District Court to have a limited Admiralty jurisdiction. The District Court of Colombo alone has been appointed to exercise such jurisdiction.

Police Courts.—There are 43 Police Courts in the Island. The offences which a Police Court may try are specified in the schedule to the Criminal Procedure Code, 1898. Various Ordinances have also made other offences triable by a Police Court. A Police Court may not pass a sentence heavier than the following, except where an Ordinance has specially empowered it so to do:—

(*a*) Imprisonment of either description for a term not exceeding 6 months;
(*b*) Fine not exceeding one hundred rupees;
(*c*) Whipping, if the offender is under 16 years of age;
(*d*) Any lawful sentence combining any two of the sentences aforesaid.

Police Courts also hold preliminary inquiries into crimes with a view to committal for trial by a District Court or the Supreme Court. If after inquiry a Police Magistrate is of opinion that an accused should be discharged he makes order to this effect. Where a Magistrate is of opinion that an accused should be committed for trial to a court of competent jurisdiction, the record of the proceedings at the inquiry is forwarded to the Attorney-General, who directs the Police Magistrate to commit the accused or to discharge him.

* Under section 152 of the Criminal Procedure Code, a Police Magistrate who is also a District Judge may, in the course of an inquiry into an offence which is triable by a District Court, proceed to try such offence summarily when he is of opinion that it can properly be so tried. In such a case there is no previous committal.

Courts of Requests.—Courts of Requests have original civil jurisdiction (subject to certain exceptions) in all actions in which the debt, damage, or demand or value of the land in dispute does not as a rule exceed Rs. 300.

There are 43 Courts of Requests in the Island, of which one (the Colombo Court) is presided over by a separate Commissioner. All the others are presided over by a District Judge or a Police Magistrate who acts as Commissioner of Requests in addition to his own duties as District Judge or Police Magistrate.

Village Tribunals.—Village Tribunals have civil jurisdiction for actions in which the debt, damage, or demand or the value of the land in dispute does not exceed Rs. 20, or, where both parties consent, Rs. 100 and in cases between a Co-operative Society and its members. Village Tribunals have criminal jurisdiction to try breaches of rules made by the inhabitants of the subdivision or the Village Committee under section 29 of Ordinance No. 9 of 1924, and various minor offences enumerated in the schedule to Ordinance No. 9 of 1924. A Village Tribunal may impose a fine not exceeding Rs. 20 or 14 days' imprisonment in default of payment.

A Village Tribunal is presided over by a paid President appointed by the Governor. He sits with three Councillors chosen by lot. In the case of difference of opinion between the President and the Councillors, the opinion of the President prevails (section 50 of Ordinance No. 9 of 1924).

There are 208 Village Tribunals in the Island, namely, 24 in the Western Province, 36 in the Central, 50 in the Southern, 6 in the Northern, 21 in the Eastern, 20 in the North-Western, 15 in the North-Central, 17 in the Uva, and 19 in the Province of Sabaragamuwa.

Village Committees.—Village Committees in subdivisions where no Village Tribunal has been established, have power to try breaches of rules made by the inhabitants of the subdivision or the Village Committee under section 29 of Ordinance No. 9 of 1924, and have the same power of punishment as Village Tribunals.

There are 65 Village Committees exercising this jurisdiction in the Island, namely, 51 in the Northern Province, 9 in the Province of Sabaragamuwa, 2 in the Southern Province, 2 in the Eastern Province, and 1 in the North-Western Province.

The following schedule gives detailed information as regards the number of Courts, the number of Judges, Magistrates, &c. :—

Number of Courts, Judges, &c.

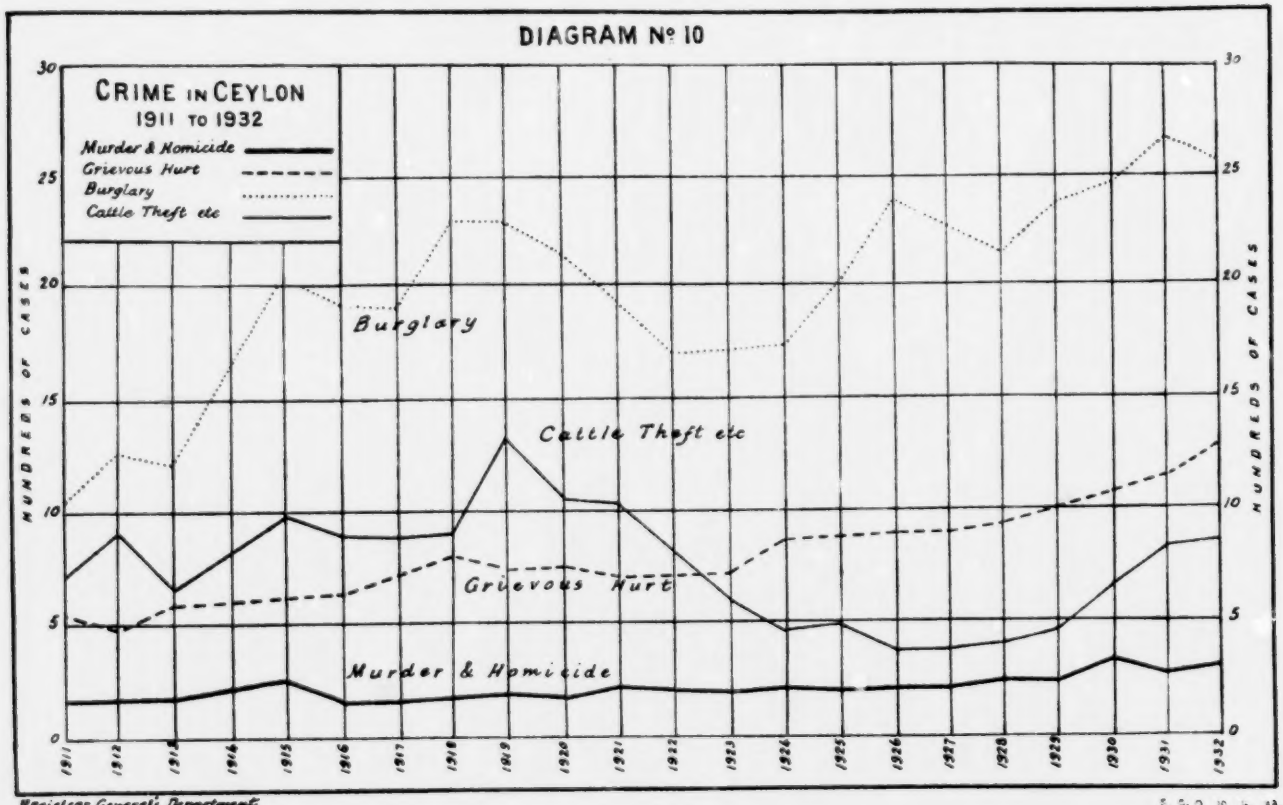
Court.	No. of Courts.	No. of Judges.	Remarks.
Supreme Court	1	6	1 Chief Justice and 5 Puisne Judges
District Court	23	26	There are 4 judges for the District Court of Colombo and two each for those of Kandy, Galle, and Jaffna. There is one judge for the District Courts of Chilaw and Puttalam, one for those of Nuwara Eliya and Hatton, and one for those of Mullaittivu and Vavuniya. Eleven of these officers are Police Magistrates and Commissioners of Requests in addition to their duties as District Judges.
Police Court	43	31	There are three Magistrates sitting at Colombo. The following groups of Courts have one Magistrate each :—Badulla, Bandarawela ; Matale, Panwila, Teldeniya ; Nuwara Eliya, Hatton ; Jaffna, Kayts, Mallakam ; Point Pedro, Chavakacheheri ; Batticaloa, Kalmunai ; Mullaittivu, Vavuniya
Village Tribunal	208	58	—
Village Committee	65	—	—

POLICE.

The regular Police Force of the Island was established and is regulated by the Police Ordinance, No. 16 of 1865, as amended by various subsequent Ordinances.

Before the Police Force was constituted the duties of the Police were attended to by the headmen. Regular Police have been gradually introduced to most parts of the Island since 1865, and at present there are 164 Police Stations and 26 Police Offices.

The sanctioned strength of the Force is now 1 Inspector-General, 2 Deputy Inspectors-General, 39 Superintendents, Assistant Superintendents, and Probationers, 185 Chief Inspectors, Inspectors, and Sub-Inspectors, 2 Sergeants-Major, 362 Sergeants, and 2,498 Constables.



Registrar General's Department

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General.—The following statement shows the number of cases of grave crime disposed of as " true cases " by the courts during the last three years:—

	1930.	1931.	1932.
Homicide	334	277	294
Attempted homicide	151	151	158
Grievous hurt	1,081	1,156	1,273
Hurt with dangerous weapons	1,433	1,594	1,651
Housebreaking	2,468	2,661	2,560
Theft of cattle	670	854	847
Other offences	3,552	3,448	3,701
Total	9,689	10,141	10,484

The statistics of crime for the last six years under the three main heads " Offences against the Person " (which are not directly preventable by Police action), " Offences against Property ", and " Offences against the State " (riot, &c.) are as follows:—

Year.	Total crime.	Offences against the person (excluding robbery).	Offences against property (including robbery).	Offences against the State.
1927	8,617	2,798	5,760	59
1928	8,809	2,881	5,866	62
1929	9,089	2,978	6,055	56
1930	9,689	3,235	6,389	65
1931	10,141	3,407	6,638	96
1932	10,484	3,564	6,817	103

The figures under each of these four heads show a considerable increase on the figures for 1931 and are higher than those of any previous year of which there is record. The depression in trade, which continued throughout the year, has resulted in a great deal of unemployment and a large number of people, through no fault of their own, are now suffering from acute poverty. There is a tendency among such people to commit crime in order to live and the increase in thefts of foodstuffs is undoubtedly due to the difficulty many persons now experience in obtaining their living by honest means. Cases of cattle theft, which for many years have been steadily decreasing, have increased by 26½ per cent. during the last 2 years, clear evidence of the fact that many people have real difficulty in obtaining sufficient food.

Regulation and control of motor traffic.—There were 28,476 prosecutions under the Motor Ordinance. The increase in the work imposed on the Police and on the courts by the present volume of motor traffic is illustrated by the fact that in 1923 there were only 1,685 prosecutions. Of the 28,476 prosecutions in 1932, 688 were for exceeding the speed limit and 400 for reckless or negligent driving. In addition, 47 cases of causing death by a rash and negligent act and 61 for causing serious injury were instituted under the Penal Code in connection with motor accidents. 1,930 accidents caused by motor vehicles throughout the Island were reported to the Police. Of these 380 were of a serious nature, and in 87 cases the injuries to persons proved fatal. In 20 fatal accidents omnibuses were involved. Omnibuses comprise 9.5 per cent. of the motor vehicles on the roads, and are therefore responsible for a number of fatal accidents out of proportion to their number. Eighty persons were killed or injured in omnibus accidents. In 44 per cent. of fatal and serious accidents the fault lay chiefly with the pedestrian.

The following are some relevant figures:—

Year.	Motor vehicles on the road.	Number of prosecutions for exceeding speed limit.	Number of prosecutions for reckless or careless driving.	Fatals accident.	Total serious and fatal accidents.
1927	17,340	2,487	1,084	107	292
1928	20,623	1,061	838	114	273
1929	23,565	1,567	1,139	143	352
1930	24,405	1,992	763	127	303
1931	23,577	798	509	97	273
1932	23,203	688	400	87	380

The financial depression prevailing in Ceylon is reflected in the decrease in the number of new motor vehicles registered, the number falling from over 300 per month in 1927-29 to 91 per month in 1932.

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A system of special patrols was maintained to assist the local Police in districts where motor traffic had become too difficult to be handled by small stations. Besides dealing with offences under the Motor Ordinance, the patrols were useful in examining the condition of omnibuses and reporting to the licensing authorities, in checking night-patrolling between stations and transporting the Police in emergencies, such as fires, riots, &c. In some cases the patrols are supplied with cameras for use in such cases as require the subsequent production of a photograph of the scene in court.

Control of bullock cart and other traffic.—In order to minimize accidents on the narrow winding roads of this Island, attention is paid to obstruction and other offences committed by the drivers of bullock carts and other slow-moving vehicles. During the year 10,057 prosecutions were entered against the drivers and owners of such vehicles. In Colombo and other towns where there are pavements, efforts are made from time to time to induce pedestrians to keep off the road and use the pavements.

Bioscope films.—All cinematograph films imported into Ceylon are first exhibited in Colombo. They have all been examined previously by Censors either in England or India, and are not exhibited in Ceylon if any objection is made by the Chairman of the Municipal Council who is the Censor for Colombo. This system acts as a check on the exhibition of objectionable films in Ceylon.

Maintenance of order.—The maintenance of order is an important part of the duty of the Police. Many of the numerous processions occurring during the year were accompanied by the Police for this purpose, and all demonstrations of any size were controlled by the Police.

A few minor strikes occurred in Colombo. They were all settled without difficulty.

Criminal Investigation Department.

The Criminal Investigation Department includes the Harbour Police, the Foreshore Police, the Train Police, the Photographic Branch, the Finger Print and Foot Print Bureau, and the Forged Currency Note Bureau.

Inquiries are frequently made from the Criminal Investigation Department by Police Forces of other countries with regard to travellers who may pass through Colombo, owing to the position of the latter as the central port of the East. The Criminal Investigation Department, therefore, keeps records of all persons arriving in and leaving Ceylon, all persons staying in hotels, boarding houses, and resthouses, and all foreigners.

The Forged Currency Note Bureau dealt with 54 cases of forged notes during the year. In 19 cases the notes were printed from engraved plates, in 1 case they were produced by means of photography, and in 34 cases they were made by hand.

PRISONS.

Number of admissions.—The total number of admissions on conviction during 1932 was 14,206 (13,789 males and 417 females). Of this number 1,401 were admitted on conviction from the Supreme and District Courts. 200 were convicted of murder and culpable homicide not amounting to murder.

Number sentenced to death and executed.—The number sentenced to death during the year was 71 (69 males and 2 females), of whom 48 males were executed.

Daily average population.—The daily average population of the prisons was 4,384.42 (4,303.80 males and 80.62 females).

Reconvicted prisoners.—The number of reconvicted prisoners admitted was 2,085 (15 per cent. of the total admissions). Of this number 1,261 were reconvicted criminals within the meaning of Ordinance No. 2 of 1926 as amended by Ordinance No. 27 of 1928.

Preventive detention.—The number of prisoners sentenced to preventive detention by courts during the year was 53. The daily average of prisoners undergoing preventive detention was 85.80.

Number in default of payment of fines.—The number of admissions for non-payment of fines was 8,708. In 1,456 of these cases the offences were either statutory or made punishable by Village Tribunal rules.

No statistics are available as to the number of cases in which time was given for the payment of fines.

Young Offenders.

(*a*) *Young first offenders.*—The number of admissions of young first offenders of the age of 16-21 was 1,412, of which number 932 were for non-payment of fines and 164 for statutory or Village Tribunal offences.

(*b*) *Young reconvicted offenders.*—The number of admissions of young reconvicted offenders was 196, of which number 74 were for non-payment of fines and 8 for statutory or Village Tribunal offences.

Religion and race.—The following table gives the nationality and religion of all convicted persons received into the prisons during the year 1932:—

Table showing Nationality and Religion of all convicted persons received into prisons during the year 1932.

Nationality.									Religion.						
Resident Europeans.	Non-Resident Europeans.	Burghers.	Sinhalese.	Tamils.	Moors.	Malays.	Others.	Total.	Protestants.	Roman Catholics.	Buddhists.	Hindus.	Muslims.	Others.	Total.
—	1	34	10,819	2,084	987	173	108	14,206	146	1,048	9,977	1,875	1,041	119	14,206

Prison punishments.—The number of punishments inflicted during the year on prisoners for offences against prison discipline was 1,847, as against 1,179 in 1931. Nine prisoners were sentenced to receive corporal punishment as against 29 the previous year. There were 10 escapes and 9 recaptures.

The Prisons Ordinance, No. 16 of 1877, placed all the prisons in Ceylon under the control of an Inspector-General of Prisons. Ceylon therefore enjoys the advantages of a unified prison system which renders possible classification by institutions in addition to sub-classification in institutions.

The principle upon which this classification proceeds is the separation of the different types of offenders—especially the separation of the youthful offender from the adult and the first offender from the " habitual ". To each type of offender appropriate methods of treatment are applied.

The different prisons are utilized as follows:—

Welikada (Colombo), for the detention and training of the following classes:—

(i.) Adult first offenders with sentences of over two years;
(ii.) All " star " class, *i.e.*, European or educated Ceylonese first offenders;
(iii.) Young prisoners of the age of 16-21 irrespective of length of sentence;
(iv.) Female prisoners other than those sentenced to short terms in outstations who are detained in the local prisons.

Mahara is set apart for adult reconvicted prisoners with sentences of over 2 years, and all adult first offenders with short sentences ranging from over 1 month up to and including 6 months. Selected prisoners from among the reconvicted prisoners are specially classified as Special Class B in which they serve a probationary period of 6 months prior to transfer to Kandy prison for industrial and other forms of special training in the Special Class A. Prisoners are also transferred here from other prisons for misconduct.

Bagambara (Kandy) is set apart for the following:—

(i.) First offenders convicted by local courts and sentenced to one month's imprisonment or less;
(ii.) All first offenders with sentences of over one year but not exceeding two years;
(iii.) Special class " A ", *i. e.*, selected " habituals " from Mahara with sentences of over two years;
(iv.) Prisoners undergoing sentences of preventive detention.

Jaffna is set apart for the following:—

(i.) Persons sentenced by the local courts to imprisonment for one month or under;
(ii.) Short term reconvicted offenders with sentences of over one month and up to and including two years;
(iii.) Prisoners transferred from other prisons for misconduct under monthly report.

The special gang is also located at Jaffna. The special gang is intended for prisoners guilty of continued bad or violent conduct. These prisoners are kept strictly apart from the other inmates.

Anuradhapura is set apart for the following:—

(i.) Locally convicted short term prisoners;
(ii.) First offenders with sentences of over six months and up to one year.

Smaller prisons.—The prisons at Galle, Badulla, and Batticaloa are used for the detention of short term locally convicted prisoners, and prisoners on remand.

Negombo prison serves as a prison for convalescent prisoners.

Remand prisons.—There are separate prisons for persons awaiting trial, civil debtors, &c., only in Colombo (at Hulftsdorp) and in Kandy. At other stations the ordinary prisons for convicted prisoners are also used for the location of these types. A new Remand Prison for Colombo near Welikada Prison is under construction and will be available for occupation shortly.

Methods of Treatment of Different Types of Offenders.

A. *Young first offenders.*—All first offenders of the age of 16-21 inclusive are detained at Welikada in separate wards. Rover Scout principles are utilized for their training and regular camps are held. The Welikada Prison Rover Troop is the first officially recognized prison troop in the world. Educational classes and also First Aid instruction, Boxing, Gymnastics, and games form a part of the regular curriculum.

B. *Long term first offenders.*—The progressive stage system—a feature of the English prison system—has been adapted to suit local conditions and is largely used in connection with the training of these offenders. According to this system prisoners fall into different classes. Every prisoner sentenced to imprisonment immediately enters and remains in what is called the penal stage for one month. He then enters and remains in Class IV. for eleven months. Conditional upon good conduct and industry he is promoted to Class III. where he remains for one year and can earn remission and then on the same conditions promoted to Class II. At the end of one year if his conduct is satisfactory he is promoted to Class I. Promotion from class to class carries with it slight privileges and on entry into Class II., gratuity, and good conduct badges can be earned.

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Another experiment in the training of these long term first offenders is the placing of responsibility on individual prisoners. Long term first offenders in Class I. of exemplary conduct are selected as Disciplinary Prison Orderlies. Their duties consist in the assisting of the regular prison officers; they are left in charge of small parties inside the prison and act as escorts within prison walls.

A further experiment is the formation of Leagues on the lines of the Mutual Welfare Leagues in the New York prisons. There are two such Leagues—one for the Disciplinary Prison Orderlies and the other for prisoners who have earned good conduct badges.

All long term first offenders are employed and trained in one or more of the many trades and handicrafts taught in Welikada Prison. On reaching certain grades of the stage classification they earn money part of which may be spent in the purchase of books and extras to the diets or sent to their families and part of which is accumulated and paid on discharge.

C. *Reconvicted prisoners.*—For the training of reconvicted prisoners there are two classes in Mahara prison. Specially selected reconvicted prisoners with sentences of two years and over constitute Class B. These prisoners while at work are kept separate from the others. Evening classes are held for them and they are supplied with books from the prison library. They are also given the privilege of playing games, &c. After probationary training for six months in this class all who prove satisfactory are transferred to Kandy where they form Special Class " A ". Prisoners in Special Class " A " are treated like first offenders.

Specially selected reconvicted prisoners with sentences of over six months and under two years form Special Class " C ". Their training and treatment approximate to that of Special Class " B ".

Labour.—All labour of a purely mechanical and unporfitable nature has been abolished. Prisoners are mostly employed on public works and on industries. At Mahara the principal work is the quarrying of stone and stone breaking. In Jaffna the work consists in the reclamation of the lagoon. Welikada and Bogambara are highly industrialized. The following industries are carried on:—Carpentry, tailoring, brush making, rattan, fibre, shoemaking, blacksmiths' work, tin smiths' work, spinning and weaving, soap making, and printing. At Welikada there is in addition an up-to-date steam laundry which washes all the linen for all the hospitals, asylum, &c. The value of the outturn of prison industries for the year 1931-32 was Rs. 205,878.66.

Education.—For young offenders, that is, those of 21 and under, vernacular education is compulsory. At Welikada and Bogambara and also at Mahara evening classes conducted by volunteer workers have been organized for the benefit of both young offenders and adult offenders. These classes are held in English and in the vernacular. Commercial classes in typewriting, shorthand, &c., are also held in Welikada prison for the benefit of Star Class prisoners.

Recreation.—Well conducted prisoners, particularly young offenders and first offenders who have reached an advanced stage in their training are allowed to take part in games both indoor and outdoor. Boxing, gymnastics, and volley ball are popular games.

Religious instruction.—There are no prison Chaplains in Ceylon but representatives of all creeds and denominations are allowed to visit the prisons, hold services, and give religious instruction. Services are held every Sunday and all prisoners encouraged to attend the services of their particular denomination.

Preventive detention.—There is no separate prison for prisoners undergoing preventive detention. These prisoners are located in a portion of Bogambara prison specially set apart for them. But the conditions of an ordinary rigorous imprisonment prison afford little scope for the special course of training contemplated by the system of preventive detention.

After care.—An unofficial organization known as the Ceylon Discharged Prisoners' Aid Association, with sub-committees in all the principal towns, works in conjunction with the prison authorities and is the agency through which aid is given to discharged prisoners.

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Health of prisoners.—To the prison at Mahara there is attached a whole-time Resident Medical Officer. There is also a Resident Medical Officer attached to the Welikada Prison Hospital. There is in addition a Senior Medical Officer who has medical charge of Welikada prison, Hulftsdorp and Mahara prisons. Neither at Bogambara nor at Jaffna nor at any of the other local prisons is there a Resident Medical Officer. The Medical Officer attached to these prisons is not a whole-time officer but has other outside duties to perform.

At Welikada there is a new and up-to-date Prison Hospital intended to serve all prisons with an accommodation of 120 beds for general cases and 60 beds for infectious diseases.

In the female section of the Welikada prison there is a ward with 7 beds for general cases.

At Bogambara there is a hospital consisting of 5 wards with an accommodation of 35 beds.

In all other prisons a ward is utilized as a hospital.

All cases which need operative treatment or special nursing are transferred to the ordinary civil hospitals for treatment.

The total number of deaths in prisons was 106 in 1932, as against 102 in 1931, and the death rate per thousand of the admissions was 7.46 during the year 1932, as against 8.52 during the year 1931.

CHAPTER XIV.

Legislation.

LEGISLATION IN 1932.

THE following Ordinances were passed during the year under review:—

No. 1.—The Ceylon Railways Amendment Ordinance, 1932.

No. 2.—The Income Tax Ordinance, 1932.

No. 3.—The Local Boards Amendment Ordinance, 1932.

No. 4.—The Colombo Municipal Waterworks (Amendment) Ordinance, 1932.

No. 5.—The Ceylon Railways (Amendment) Ordinance, 1932.

No. 6.—The Indian Labourers' Ordinance, 1932.

No. 7.—The Income Tax Amendment Ordinance, No. 7 of 1932.

No. 8.—The Temporary Levy on Salaries of Public Servants (Enabling) Ordinance, 1932.

No. 9.—The Village Communities (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 9 of 1932.

No. 10.—The Supervision of Aliens Amendment Ordinance, 1932.

No. 11.—The Poll Tax Abolition Ordinance, 1932.

No. 12.—The Municipal Councils Amendment Ordinance, 1932.

No. 13.—The Births and Deaths Registration Amendment Ordinance, 1932.

No. 14.—The Societies (Amendment) Ordinance, 1932.

No. 15.—The Post Office Cash Certificates (Amendment) Ordinance, 1932.

No. 16.—The Repression of Crime (Repeal) Ordinance, No. 16 of 1932.

No. 17.—The Supplementary Appropriation (1930-31) Ordinance, No. 17 of 1932.

No. 18.—The Stamp (Amendment) Ordinance, 1932.

No. 19.—The Tea Propaganda Ordinance, No. 19 of 1932.

No. 20.—The Education Amendment Ordinance, No. 20 of 1932.

No. 21.—The Income Tax Amendment Ordinance, No. 21 of 1932.

No. 22.—The Land Settlement Amendment Ordinance, No. 22 of 1932.

No. 23.—The Trade Marks (Convention) Amendment Ordinance, No. 23 of 1932.

No. 24.—The Designs Emergency Amendment Ordinance, No. 24 of 1932.

No. 25.—The Motor Car (Convention) Ordinance, No. 25 of 1932.

No. 26.—The Appropriation Ordinance, No. 26 of 1932.

No. 27.—The Post Office Amendment Ordinance, No. 27 of 1932.

No. 28.—The Ceylon Chamber of Commerce Ordinance Amendment Ordinance, 1932.

Of these 28 Ordinances the following deserve special mention :—

The Income Tax Ordinance, 1932. This Ordinance contains with certain alterations the same provisions as the Bill of 1930 as amended at its Third Reading. The principles underlying the Ordinance are fully discussed in the Income Tax Adviser's Report and an explanation is given of the operation of its chief provisions.

The provisions of Chapter VII. relate to the charge and rates of tax. A feature of the Bill as recommended by the Income Tax Adviser was the differentiation in the mode of charging the tax on the income of resident and non-resident individuals respectively. Residents were to be charged tax on the first Rs. 6,000 of their taxable income at half the standard rate of 10 per cent. (now at the unit rate of 5 per cent.), on the next Rs. 30,000 at 10 per cent., and on the remainder at 15 per cent. Non-residents were chargeable on their income at a flat rate of 10 per cent. The effect of this differentiation was that non-residents having an income over Rs. 50,000 were to pay less than residents with a similar income. With a view to equalizing the burden, in section 20 (5) a tax at 15 per cent. is charged on that part of the taxable income of non-residents which exceeds Rs. 50,000. Also an additional tax of 2 per cent. is imposed on the income of companies whose shares are not movable property situate in Ceylon for the purposes of the Estate Duty Ordinance, No. 8 of 1919, in order to make up the loss of Estate Duty in such cases. Section 20 (6) makes provision giving effect to this recommendation. Chapter VIII. deals with the provisions relating to special cases. In dealing with the income from agricultural undertakings the principle that the upkeep expenses of immature areas, up to 15 per cent. of the profits from areas in bearing should be allowed as a deduction is embodied in section 30 (4). Sections 31 and 32 are designed to give relief to argicultural products which are subject to export duty, in view of the fact that there is an element of double taxation when both income tax and export duty are imposed. In the case of tea the measure of relief is based on quantity produced and not on income, as it is considered that the latter method would operate inequitably on producers of less profitable teas whose margin of profit per pound is small although they pay the same export duty per pound as producers of tea which commands a higher price and yields a higher rate of profit. Sections 45 and 46 are introduced to give effect to the principle of granting relief from double taxation of income liable to tax in Ceylon and in other countries.

The Poll Tax Abolition Ordinance, No. 11 of 1932. In November, 1924, a motion was introduced in the Legislative Council for the abolition of the Poll Tax and was accepted by Government. In June, 1926, the Executive Council decided that subsidies should be given to local bodies out of public funds in place of the revenue derived by such bodies from the Poll Tax. This decision impliedly abolished the Poll Tax throughout the Island, but the relevant sections of the various Ordinances which authorized the collection of the tax were not formally repealed at the time. The object of this Ordinance is to effect a repeal of all those provisions of written law which directed or enabled various local authorities to levy Poll Tax.

The Income Tax Amendment Ordinance, No. 21 of 1932. The Income Tax Ordinance, 1932, was assented to by the Governor on February 9, 1932, and came into operation on that date. Experience gained in the working of the Ordinance revealed difficulties and ambiguities which it was considered advisable to remove by appropriate legislation. *Section 2.* It was found that certain co-operative societies derive substantial incomes from Ceylon though they are

" non-resident " within the meaning of section 2 of the principal Ordinance. As it appeared equitable that the incomes of such co-operative societies should be taxed in the ordinary way, this amendment to section 7 of the principal Ordinance excludes such societies from the category of those entitled to claim exemption from income tax and prevents such societies from qualifying themselves for such exemption by seeking registration locally under the Co-operative Societies Ordinance, No. 34 of 1921. Section 3 amends section 20 (2) so as to make it clear that a tax equal in amount to 1 per cent. of the assessable income of a person is payable in a case where by reason of the allowances provided for in Chapter VI. no tax would be charged under the provisions of sub-section (1) of the same section. The opportunity was also taken to make it clear that the tax charged under sub-section (2) is in lieu of, and not in addition to, the tax chargeable under sub-section (1) of section 20. Section 4 corrects a misprint in section 27 (1). *Section 5.* Section 34 of the principal Ordinance may have been construed to mean that a separate deduction not exceeding 15 per cent. of the profits derived from the estate of a taxpayer could be allowed in respect of each immature area belonging to such taxpayer. The section made no specific provision for a case where the taxpayer is the owner of several immature areas and claims a deduction in respect of each such area. The section has accordingly been amended so as to make it clear that the maximum relief intended to be granted under sub-section (4) of section 30 is an aggregate allowance of 15 per cent. of the total of the profits derived from all estates of the taxpayer, irrespective of the number of immature areas in respect of which deductions may be allowed.

The Motor Car (Convention) Ordinance, No. 25 of 1932. The object of this Ordinance is to provide a convenient and expeditious method of giving effect locally to International Conventions relating to Motor Cars and Motor Traffic. The Ordinance has been framed on the lines of the corresponding English Statute, the Motor Car (International Circulation) Act, 1909 (9 Edw. 7, Chapter 37), and was introduced as an emergency measure in order to give effect primarily to the provisions of the International Convention relative to Motor Traffic which was signed at Paris on April 24, 1926, and which came into operation in the Island on August 14, 1932. Power has been taken in the Ordinance to make regulations for the various matters dealt with in the Convention including the delivery and recognition of international certificates for motor vehicles and of international driving permits.

SUBSIDIARY LEGISLATION IN 1932.

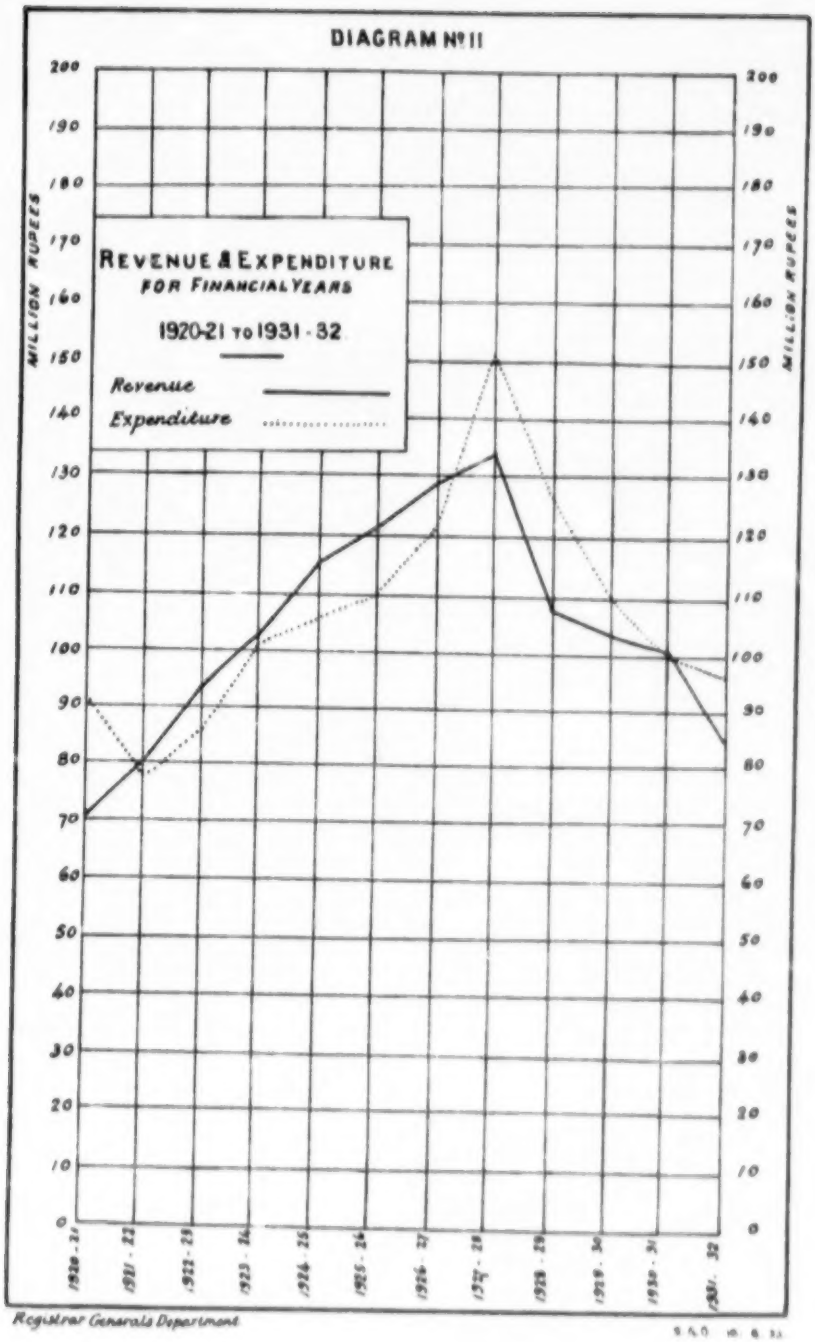
The greater part of the work done during the year under review was in the nature of amendment and revision of the by-laws or rules and regulations required by the various local bodies and authorities under the Municipal Councils, the Local Government, the Village Communities Ordinances.

In order to comply with the requirements of the 14th International Convention relating to Forced Labour signed at Geneva in 1930, a beginning has also been made with the work of replacing the old rules, issued by the Government Agents for the purpose of regulating compulsory labour under the Irrigation Ordinance, with rules made by the landowners themselves, so as to bring such rules within the exception, set out in Article 2 (*e*) of the Convention, regarding minor communal services performed in the direct interest of the community.

NOTES ON FACTORY LEGISLATION, &c.

(1) The Mines and Machinery Protection Ordinance of 1896 enables the Governor to make rules for ensuring the safety of persons employed in mines and factories for the promotion of sanitation there and for restricting the work to be done by women and children between moving parts of machinery.

The Employment of Women, Young Persons, and Children's Ordinance, No. 6 of 1923, gives effect to the conventions adopted by the International Labour



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Organization of the League of Nations at Washington on November 28, 1919, and at Geneva on July 9, 1930, and provides that no child under 14 years of age shall be employed in any industrial undertaking and that no young person under 18 and no woman shall work at night except in certain specified industrial undertakings.

Provision has also been made for the proper housing and medical treatment of immigrant labourers on tea and rubber plantations by the Medical Wants Ordinance, No. 9 of 1912, and the Diseases (Labourers) Ordinance, No. 10 of 1912, and the Labour Ordinance, No. 1 of 1923.

(2) There has been no legislation regarding compensation for accidents or provision for old age and sickness for ordinary daily-paid workers. But immigrant labourers under the Ordinances already mentioned and servants under a contract of service are in law entitled to care and treatment during illness.

CHAPTER XV.

Public Finance and Taxation.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

THE revenue of the Island in the last five completed financial years was—

	Rs. c.		Rs. c.
1927–28 ..	134,134,952 93	1930–31 ..	101,767,555 90‡
1928–29 .	107,818,274 57*	1931–32 ..	84,843,206 60
1929–30 ..	110,926,863 47†		

The following is a statement of the expenditure in the same financial years:—

	Expenditure chargeable to general revenue, including accumulated surplus balances.	Expenditure chargeable to revenue pending raising of Loan funds.
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
1927–28	152,107,200 15 ..	—
1928–29	125,896,034 36* ..	—
1929–30	110,275,529 29 ..	102,993 21
1930–31	100,296,064 73 ..	280,463 63
1931–32	96,870,003 43 ..	186,075 94

PUBLIC DEBT.

On September 30, 1932, the sterling debt of the Island stood at £15,733,468 and the rupee debt at Rs. 3,000,000 towards redemption of which were held securities and moneys amounting to £6,043,340 and Rs. 2,171,732.

Setting off the securities against the debts and effecting conversion at 1*s.* 6*d.* to the rupee, the net total Public Debt of the Island amounts to Rs. 130,043,195 which is a little over one and a half times the revenue for the year ended September 30, 1932.

A statement of the loan position of the Island as it stood on September 30, 1932, is annexed.

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* Decrease due to separation of Railway accounts from the general budget.

† Includes Rs. 7,418,932.41 recovered from Loan, being expenditure met from surplus balances in previous years pending raising of loan.

‡ Includes Rs. 13,904,014 recovered from Loan, being expenditure met from surplus balances in previous years pending raising of loan.

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SUMMARY OF PUBLIC DEBT, 1931-32.

Description of Loan.		Equivalent at 1s. 6d. = Re. 1.	Investments held on behalf of the Sinking Fund.			Amounts in Deposit with Westminster Bank and Balance in hand pending Investment.	Total (of Columns 5 and 6).	Equivalent at 1s. 6d. = Re. 1.
			Face Value of Securities.	Market Value on September 30, 1932.				
1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8
	£. s. d.	Rs. c.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.		£. s. d.	£. s. d.	Rs. c.
Debentures unredeemed	600 0 0	8,000 0	—	—		—	—	—
4 per cent. Inscribed Stock (Debentures converted), 1934	1,076,100 0 0	14,348,000 0	1,281,814 10 10	1,305,238 4 7		673 15 10	1,305,912 0 5	17,412,160 28
3 per cent. Inscribed Stock, 1940 ..	2,850,000 0 0	38,000,000 0	2,460,082 15 3	2,460,348 0 2		228 15 2	2,460,576 15 4	32,807,690 22
3½ per cent. Inscribed Stock, 1959 ..	1,500,000 0 0	20,000,000 0	570,454 11 0	639,261 16 4		—	639,261 16 4	8,523,490 89
4 per cent. Inscribed Stock, 1959 ..	1,000,000 0 0	13,333,333 33	261,594 12 8	272,774 15 6		9 0 0	272,783 15 6	3,637,117 0
6 per cent. Inscribed Stock, 1936-51 ..	6,212,993 8 4	82,839,912 22	1,468,477 2 8	1,566,274 5 9		5 10 3	1,566,279 16 0	20,883,730 67
5 per cent. Inscribed Stock, 1960-70 ..	1,250,000 0 0	16,666,666 67	—	—		—	—	—
4½ per cent. Inscribed Stock, 1965 ..	1,843,775 0 0	24,583,666 66	—	—		—	—	—
	15,733,468 8 4	209,779,578 88	6,042,423 12 5	6,243,897 2 4		917 1 3	6,244,814 3 7	83,264,189 6
4 per cent. Ceylon Inscribed Stock, 1944 ..	—	3,000,000 0	70,442 13 6	78,000 3 3		0 7 2	78,000 10 5	1,040,006 95
			Rs. 1,231,500.00	Rs. 1,226,882.55		Rs. 991.69	Rs. 1,227,874.24	1,227,874 24
		212,779,578 88						85,532,070 25

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

The assets of the Island on September 30, 1932, amounted to Rs. 38,553,482.98 and the liabilities amounted to Rs. 35,380,751.22, showing an excess of assets over liabilities of Rs. 3,172,731.76. This surplus was less than the surplus shown on September 30, 1931, by a sum of Rs. 12,212,872.77.

The assets consisted of—

	Rs.	c.
(1) Cash in the hands of the Deputy Financial Secretary, in fixed or current deposit in banks and with the Crown Agents in London	20,531,408	41
(2) Unissued stores, investments in rupee and sterling gilt-edged securities, advances to the General Manager of the Railway, other recoverable advances, security deposits in banks, &c., remittances in transit and suspense account	18,022,074	57
Total ..	38,553,482	98

The liabilities consisted of—

	Rs.	c.
(1) Widows' and Orphans' Pension Fund	12 976,311	17
(2) Ceylon University Building and Equipment Fund	4,290,399	53
(3) Loan Funds	7,167,434	15
(4) Court suitors and other depositers in the Treasury and the Kachcheris ..	8,955,437	37
(5) Colombo Electricity Supply	1,458,740	4
(6) Other Governments and agencies, loans to local bodies (sinking funds) and unpaid drafts	532,428	96
	35,380,751	22

TAXATION AND YIELD THEREOF.

The main heads of taxation and the yield of each are as follows:—

	Rs.	c.		Rs.	c.
Customs ..	42,550,732	25	Estate duties ..	1,299,081	80
Salt ..	2,029,086	57	Police rates ..	197,111	96
Arrack ..	6,661,700	78	Betting tax ..	170,707	56
Licences—Sundries	577,874	60	Income tax ..	160,256	63
Tolls ..	33,183	20		55,985,900	88
Stamp duties including composition duty on Bank cheques and share certificates ..	2,306,165	53			

Excise and Stamp Duties (summarized).—The amount realized from Excise revenue during the financial year under review was Rs. 6,661,700.78 and that in respect of Stamp Duties Rs. 2,306,165.53. Compared with the revenue of the last financial year Excise revenue shows a decrease of Rs. 1,687,796.97 and Stamp Duties an increase of Rs. 535,507.51.

Revision of Taxes.—During the year under review the following changes in taxes were made:—

Income Tax under Ordinance No. 29 of 1932 was introduced with effect from April 1, 1932.

Charges on ordinary and urgent private telegrams under Ordinance No. 35 of 1908 were increased with effect from March 7, 1932.

Export duties on tea and cacao under Ordinance No. 17 of 1869 were reduced with effect from midnight of March 31/April 1, 1932.

Import duties levied under Ordinance No. 17 of 1869 were revised with effect from February 20, 1932, the duty on certain articles being increased thereafter, while other articles, previously admitted free of duty, became subject to duty.

CURRENCY.

On September 30, 1932, the value of the currency notes in circulation amounted to Rs. 41,966,896. The Commissioners of Currency on this date held silver rupees to the extent of Rs. 13,790,071 and British, Indian, and Colonial securities amounting to Rs. 33,216,558, cost price, or Rs. 35,340,238, market price.

The value of the reserve on September 30, 1932, was thus in excess of the value of the notes in circulation by Rs. 5,039,733.

During the year silver rupees to the extent of Rs. 474,106 were issued to the public and the banks in exchange for currency notes (Rs. 613,106 issued and Rs. 139,000 received).

Subsidiary coin of various denominations amounting in all to Rs. 11,805,166 was in circulation in the Island on September 30, 1932.

EXCHANGE.

The rates of exchange on London on December 31, 1932, were as follows:—

	s.	d.
Selling Demand ..	1	$6\frac{7}{32}$
Selling telegraphic transfer	1	$6\frac{3}{16}$
Buying Demand..	1	$6\frac{5}{32}$

ESTATE DUTIES.

Estates of persons whose deaths occurred on or after July 1, 1919, are chargeable with duty under the Estate Duty Ordinance, No. 8 of 1919. During the financial year 1931-32, a sum of Rs. 1,124,955.31 was collected as estate duty, as against Rs. 1,051,989.30 in the previous year. Of the kinds of property which paid duty, immovable property was by far the largest in value and represented 49.8 per cent. of the total value. 608 estates under Rs. 25,000 in value paid only 4.86 per cent. of the total duty while 4 estates between Rs. 1,500,000 and Rs. 2,500,000 in value paid 24.88 per cent., 26 estates between Rs. 150,000 and Rs. 300,000 paid 15.78 per cent., and 10 estates between Rs. 300,000 and Rs. 600,000 paid 11.02 per cent. These figures clearly show that estate duty is a tax on the rich.

26.6 per cent. of the duty was paid on the estates of persons domiciled out of the Island. In most of these cases the parties are entitled to a refund from the estate duty paid in the countries in which they are domiciled. The total amount of duty paid in respect of the Colonies during the financial year 1931-32 was only Rs. 4,705.90.

CHAPTER XVI.

Miscellaneous.

LAND.

IN considering the question of land the climatic divisions of the Island are of the greatest importance. The portion of the Island, roughly one-quarter of it, which receives the rain of the south-west monsoon is called the wet zone, and the remaining three-quarters the dry zone. Enjoying a generous rainfall, land in the wet zone is far more productive; tea, rubber, coconuts, and other economic crops could, up to the recent slump in prices, profitably be grown; and village cultivation flourishes with less labour. The bulk of the population of the Island is located in the wet zone. Since the British occupation there has been steady development both in large estates and in village holdings, and the population has considerably increased. Fresh land for development, accessible to the means of communication, has in recent years become scarcer.

In the dry zone, on the other hand, the conditions of life are much more severe. The rainfall is scanty and uncertain, and malaria in certain months almost universal. The village population, in general, has a hard struggle for existence, and does not tend to increase rapidly. The dry zone has hitherto had little attraction for the agriculturalist desiring to open land in economic products, and is largely undeveloped.

To provide a means of final settlement of the title to land as between the Crown and private individuals, a special Ordinance was passed in 1897, and the Land Settlement Department came into existence shortly afterwards. The law has recently been consolidated and brought up to date in the Settlement Ordinance of 1931. The task of settlement is a complicated one and cannot be unduly hurried, and large areas still remain to be dealt with. The lack of settlement in the Kandyan Provinces has inevitably tended to retard development, and it is the aim of Government to push on with the work as fast as possible.

Till recent years, persons desirous of buying or leasing land from the Crown applied in the first instance to the Revenue Officer of the district. Lands so applied for were surveyed in rotation, and eventually put up to public auction. The drawbacks of this system were that the applicants had no guarantee that they would be successful in securing the land and that a too haphazard development of the Crown estate took place. There was also a danger that the permanent interests of the village population would be overlooked. The system has now been modified and a policy substituted under which all available Crown land is

first mapped out, and the land required to meet the needs of the existing village population for small holdings, forests, pasture land, &c., and for State requirements such as reserved forests is first provided. If there is further land suitable for agriculture, land is next reserved for colonization by villagers who are crowded out in their own villages and are prepared to move to localities in which land is available. Land not required for any of the above purposes is if suitable mapped out for alienation under a new scheme recently approved, under which a Ceylonese who does not own more than 50 acres of land and desires to devote his energies to agriculture is eligible for selection for an allotment of land on easy terms and without competition. No applicant can get more than 50 acres under this scheme, and the terms preclude subsequent alienation of the land or any disposition of his interests in it by the allottee without the permission of some authority. It is proposed also to include conditions to prevent the land becoming subject in the future to multiple ownership, or being subdivided below a fixed unit of extent. An Ordinance to give effect to this new land-tenure will be introduced very shortly into the State Council, and meanwhile allotments are being made under the scheme in anticipation of the Ordinance. Only land that is not required or is not suitable for any of the above purposes will in future be alienated by unrestricted competition. It is not anticipated that there will be much more land in the wet zone available for such alienation.

Considerable progress has been made during the last two or three years in settling peasants on the land. In addition to many settlements under which peasants have received lands in their own villages, colonization schemes under which the peasants are moving from congested areas to take up land at some distance from their own home are beginning to achieve some success. The slump in rubber and other major products by depriving the peasants of a source of livelihood is tending to produce a willingness to move which has not existed hitherto. Under all these peasant settlement schemes lands are being given on terms which preclude subsequent alienation without the consent of Government and ensure that some use is made of the land.

With regard to the dry zone, to which eventually the surplus population of the congested areas in the wet zone must turn if it is to have sufficient land for agricultural development, efforts are now being made to encourage the taking up of the remaining land under the large irrigation works. There are still some 12,000 to 15,000 acres of such land and there are signs that the development of this land will not be very long postponed.

In addition to this, a scheme is on foot to encourage the taking up of small farms for ordinary (dry) farming upon land which cannot be irrigated from tanks and the adoption of annual cultivation with the plough and a rotation of crops. It has been proved by experiment that such farming, which has not yet been extensively tried in the dry zone of Ceylon and is something new to the village cultivator, is feasible. It is believed that the future agricultural development of the dry zone largely depends upon the successful introduction of this system of farming.

FORESTS.

The Island during the year 1932 experienced the general economic depression to an even greater degree than in the previous year. This was evidenced in a still further decline in forest revenue from Rs. 495,774.10 to Rs. 433,402.24—a drop of rather over Rs. 62,000 as compared with a drop of over Rs. 188,000 between 1930 and 1931.

During the period under review the Department continued its policy of withdrawing staff from non-productive areas and of employing their services on areas to be dedicated to the production of timber on a commercial scale.

In following out this policy it has become clear that certain forest areas will have to be handed over to the Revenue Officers from which casual requirements of the population of the immediate neighbourhood will be met. Areas left under the control of the Department will be further divided into those which will be commercially exploited to meet the present requirements of the population and those which will be intensively managed to meet the timber requirements of posterity.

Working on these premises the office of Direction was engaged in the latter part of the year first of all in obtaining statistics regarding the actual requirements of the present population in timber and fuel, and subsequently in formulating proposals of reorganization to deal with the situation—as viewed from this new angle.

It was found necessary during the year to increase the headquarters staff of the Development Branch—which at the beginning of the year consisted of the Development Officer and a Reselection Officer—by the addition of an officer in charge of Working Plans.

Reselection of area for reservation in conjunction with mapping out by Revenue Officers continued throughout the year in the North-Central, North-Western, Western, Southern, and Sabaragamuwa Provinces.

In August a census of consumption of timber and firewood coming into the city of Colombo was taken; and from the figures thus obtained it was possible to form a fairly accurate estimate of the demands. On this estimate work was immediately put in hand for drawing up a Working Plan to meet these requirements, which is now engaging the attention of the officer in charge of Working Plans.

This Working Plan will show the area required to be maintained and managed to meet this demand.

It was also found that, though a considerable amount of knowledge on the silvicultural requirements of indigenous species was available, the data were insufficiently collated and co-ordinated for the use of the Working Plans Branch. Accordingly one officer—who was already attached to the office of Direction on special duty, in connection with the preparation of the quinquennial report for the Empire Forestry Conference—was deputed to organize and co-ordinate the Silvicultural Research work of the Department. As a result, notes have already been prepared regarding three indigenous species, which are to be perpetuated; while pamphlets were also prepared—at the request of the Hon. the Minister of Agriculture and Lands—on Seasoning and Preservation of Ceylon Timbers, and on species suitable for cultivation as fuel, and in wind-belts.

Distinct progress has thus been made in the reorganization of the controlling staff to meet the present situation, and reorganization of the executive staff will follow gradually, and as soon as occasion permits.

In the field special parties were engaged during the year in connection with reselection of reserves, and—latterly—in stock mapping and carrying out enumerations for the preparation of the Colombo Fuel Supply Working Plan.

Regeneration operations continued to be carried out by Divisional Officers, and —in two cases—by Assistant Development Officers. An area of 1,542 acres was added to the area already under artificially formed plantations.

The total net area under intensive management at the end of the year was thus 27,327 acres, on which an expenditure of Rs. 89,500.15 was incurred—or, rather more than Rs. 3 per acre.

In up-country areas further observations in arboreta—formed for the purpose—enabled the Department to discard the future use of several species, which, though satisfactory in the nursery stage, were found unsuited to the climate and locality when put out in plantations. The process of elimination of unsuitable exotic species is necessarily slow—depending as it does on observations, from year to year, on the adaptability of the various species, under trial, to local conditions. Six conifers, five eucalypts, and six other broad-leaved species are at present being persisted with; and of these two conifers and two broad-leaved species show adaptability to patana soils.

Species discarded during the year were all conifers.

The cash revenue of the Department showed a further decline, as indicated above. This is accounted for by (*a*) the continuance of the economic depression, (*b*) a considerable reduction in the value of exported Satinwood, (*c*) the flooding of the limited market with timber from forests required for immediate agricultural development, (*d*) the concession of allowing free removal of and trading in Minor Forest Produce, and (*e*) a more liberal policy in regard to the issue of free-grants of timber. An improvement in general trade conditions would

automatically have a beneficial effect on the revenue of the Department. It must, however, be remembered that a continuation of the present liberal land and timber policy must act as a check on any marked increase of forest revenue, which may result from improved trade conditions.

A considerable amount of criticism has been levelled against the Department during the past year for its failure to make use of indigenous sources of supply to meet the demands for Railway sleepers and tea-chests.

The Department is endeavouring to resuscitate the utilization of local timbers for the former; but supplies are not as plentiful as they were formerly—the more accessible forests having been heavily exploited in the past to meet requirements under this head. It is therefore improbable that more than a small proportion of the annual demand can be met from local sources, at economic rates.

In regard to tea-chests, the matter has already received very careful consideration by the Department. One of the chief factors which militates against the use of local timbers for this purpose is that the Tea industry itself now shows a very marked preference for the use of ply-wood chests. For the manufacture of ply-wood chests three requirements are essential—viz., (*a*) the erection of an expensive ply-wood factory, which is dependent on (*b*) the supply of one—and only one—species of timber in commercial quantities (not less than one million cubic feet annually) and on (*c*) low cost of such timber delivered at the factory.

The matter is receiving the careful consideration of the Department but it must be accepted that, until a local species, which satisfies the above conditions and which is suitable for the manufacture of ply-wood, is found, the supply of locally made chests must remain insignificant.

In conclusion it should be placed on record that the forest policy of Government requires that the Forest Department shall make the Island self-supporting in its requirements for timber and other essential forest produce. It is not generally realized—outside the Department—that in order to give effect to this policy an area of not less than two and a half million acres situated in accessible localities will be required for intensive management.

During periods of economic stress the requirements of posterity are apt to be overlooked by the immediate needs of the present population.

Forestry essentially caters for posterity and unless, during the present economic crisis, adequate consideration is given to the needs of forestry in the Island, it will be impossible ever to give effect to the policy, as laid down.

Survey.

The Survey Department.—As no land can be alienated or otherwise dealt with by the Crown until it has been surveyed and demarcated, the work of the Survey Department is of great importance. Its chief activities in this connection may be summarized as follows:—

(*a*) Application Surveys, *i.e.*, scattered disconnected surveys of small areas of land required for sales, leases, and various other purposes.

(*b*) Block Surveys, or continuous surveys of large areas of land according to villages, showing private land *en bloc* and not according to claims.

(*c*) Acquisition Surveys, or surveys of land to be acquired by the Crown for public purposes.

(*d*) Town and Forest Surveys, and isolated surveys for settlement and miscellaneous purposes.

(*e*) Land Development, Peasant Proprietor and Colonization Surveys.

Topographical Surveys.—In addition the Survey Department attends to the Topographical Survey of the Island. Sectional maps for the whole Island on the scale of 1 mile to the inch can be obtained at the Surveyor-General's Office, Colombo, and numerous small-scale maps are also published. The chief of these are—

4-mile and 8-mile to the inch maps of the Island.
8-mile to the inch motor maps.
6-mile to the inch motor maps, in book form.
4-mile and 24-mile to the inch agricultural maps.

Other work of the Survey Department.—The other work of the Survey Department is not directly connected with the subject of this chapter. It includes—

(1) Precise Levelling.
(2) Town-planning and Assessment Surveys.
(3) The Observatory and Meteorological Stations.
(4) Trigonometrical Surveys.

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are filmed clockwise beginning in th
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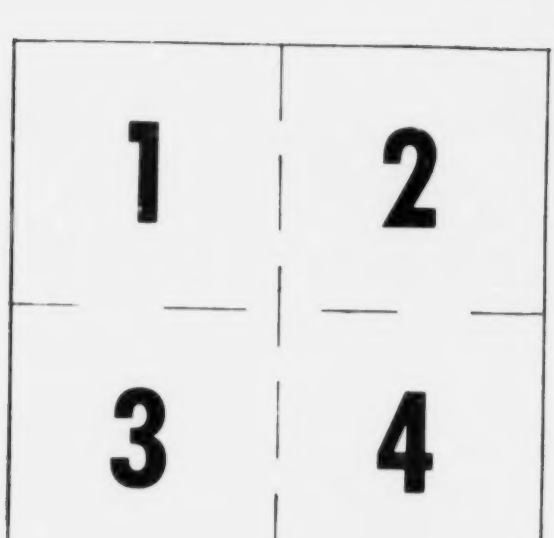

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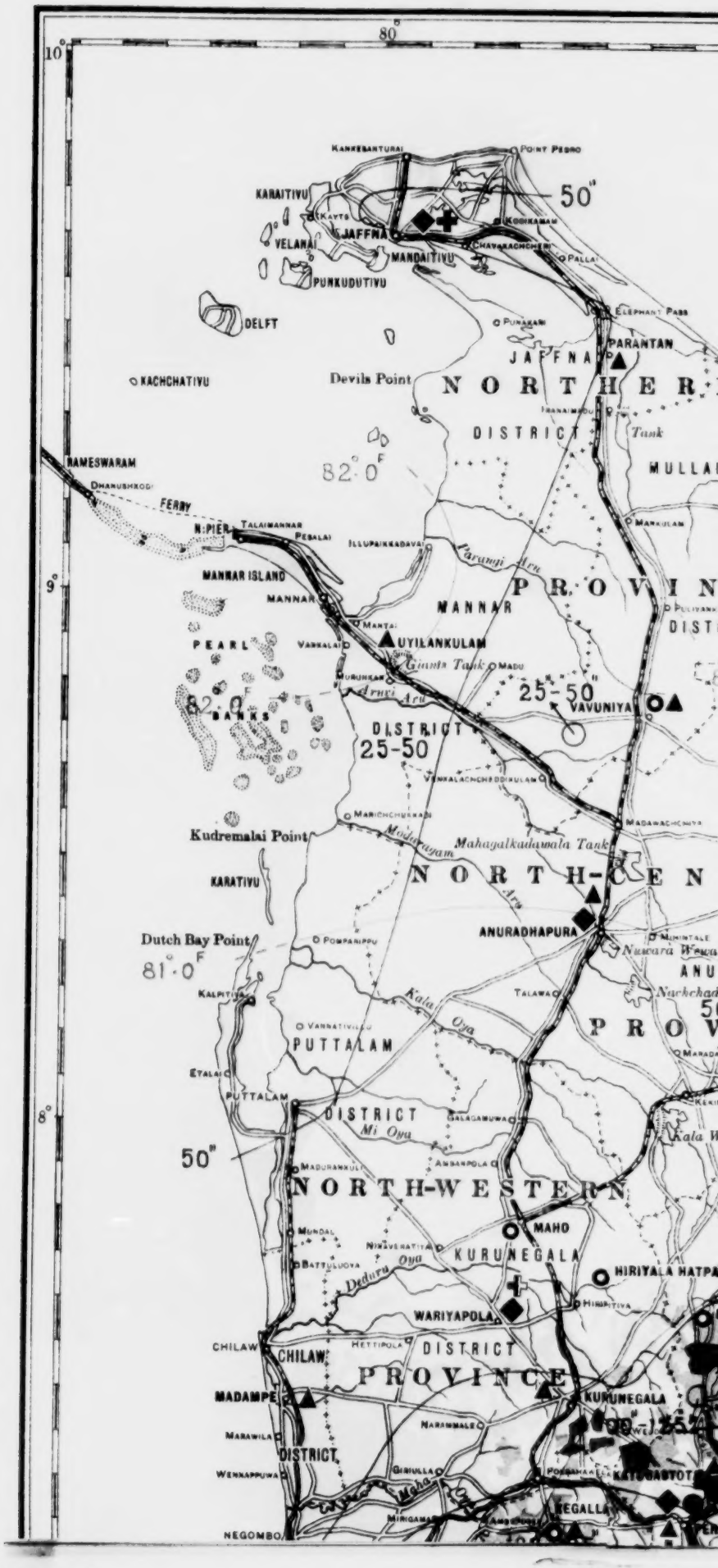
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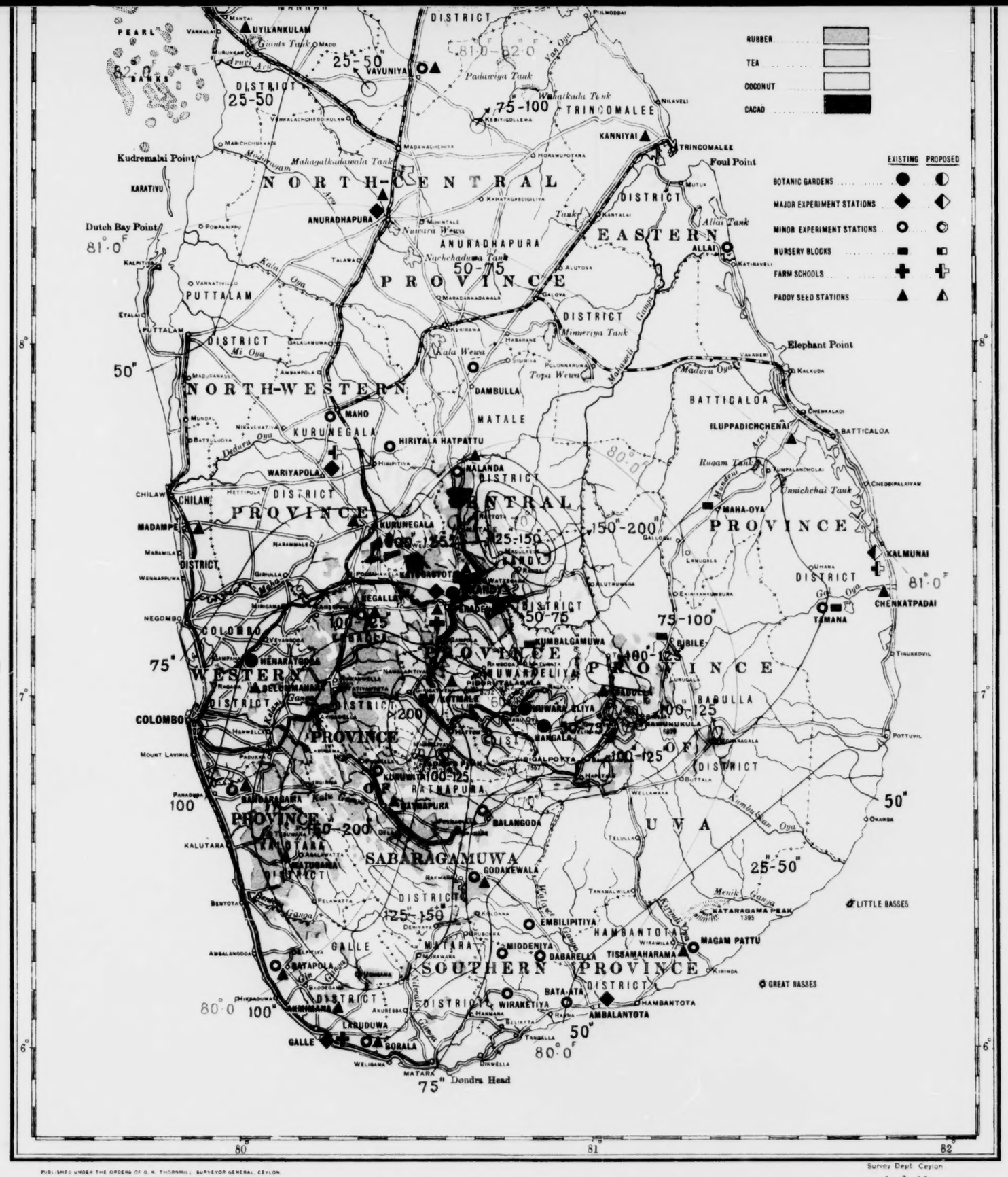

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Annual General Report for 1933 on the Economic, Social, and General Conditions of the Island.

CHAPTER I.

Introductory.

CEYLON is justly famed for its scenic beauty, its archæological remains, the wealth of its legendary history and its philosophic idealism. Men of Lanka have many good reasons to be proud of their country. It is the scenic beauty of Ceylon which makes the first appeal. This is the lure which attracts the tourist and the globe trotter. The bustling visitor on a Cook's tour who disembarks at Colombo and waits for the return of the boat from Rangoon has ten days to burn or to beautify. He becomes the searcher of guide books and directories and is fortunate if he has a resident friend to pilot him at the lowest expenditure of time and money through the round of familiar sights. The visitor who is breathlessly hurried from scene to scene will be impressed with the modernity of much that he sees—up-to-date hotels, fashionable shops, displaying a wealth of English as well as Asiatic materials side by side or in adjacent buildings, cinema houses, electric tramways and vigilant taxis and tropical bungalows of the well-to-do, designed for utility and comfort with no bizarre element about them. The main roadways of Colombo are such as any European city may be proud of. All the conveniences of civilization are at the beck and call of the tourist; and so he may dine in comfort, eating caviare and drinking champagne and heady liquor at expensive hotels or dining cabaret-fashion to the irresistible strains of jazz. But in another mood he will long to get closer to nature, and this he can do in any part of Ceylon which borders on the sea, if he chooses to wake up early. The sketch facing page 7 "Southern Morning" is such as might have evoked the lines of a local poet:

"God is again beginning, for the day is new."

And as the day grows older, he may quote yet another line of the same poet:

"Land of the fairy-haunted lawns."

The fairies in this picture are palm trees which, like the box of Pandora, for many a generation have showered their blessings on men both of high and low degree. The only thing left for the growers of the coconut palm is hope that the "consols of the East" may rise in value again: and the coconut industry be rescued from the slough of depression by some miracle.

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The coconut palm is remarkable for its beauty as well as its utility. The method of plucking the fruit is still primitive but efficient. The gentleman (facing page 23) with the ring round his ankle is ascending to pluck the ripe nuts, and he has been caught at a remarkable angle. The proof of the plucking is in the drinking (p. 25). At noon-day King coconut is the sweetest of drinks. But the visitor will not linger in coconut groves for ever. When he has grown blasé at being hurled through space in petrol-driven cars, he may try the sensation of being pulled by rickshaw. The young fellow between the shafts (p. 89) can take him at a goodly pace ; he has not yet begun to show the wear and tear of this method of propulsion ; but the rickshaw takes its toll of youth, and so the passenger must be generous after his ride and at the journey's end pay a liberal fare (p. 91).

All types of merchants and merchandise may be found in the bazaar quarter—known as the Pettah (English for Pitakotuwa, outside the Fort), once the fashionable quarter of Colombo, now the seat of a busy trade in hardware, millinery, haberdashery, fruit and every kind of saleable article except perhaps peanuts and monkeys, as well as the haunt of pedlars, and boasting the possession of half the wealth of Ceylon—for it is here the Borah, Indian and Japanese merchants and the cream of Oriental Big Business foregather, and it is through these men that the wealth of the Banks is distributed.

But sometimes the tourist grows impatient to escape from the utilitarianism of Colombo and to get into the open country. There is a well-favoured route which takes the tourist south where he may see the ramparts of Galle and the old Dutch church. He may travel by rail to any corner of the Island or he may prefer the controlled speed of the motor-car. If he is a sportsman the jungles and the game sanctuary of Hambantota will detain him for an inordinate length of time. If his desire is for other joys than those of Nimrod, he will penetrate to the interior and explore the environs of Tissamaharama. Here he will behold the remains of a vanished civilization, and if he is possessed of a historical sense, he will be glad to hear something of the ancient glories of the Sinhalese. It is this quarter which gave birth to the greatest of the Sinhalese kings of antiquity. The story of the wedding of King Vijaya with Kuveni is one of the legends with which the history of the Sinhalese race is embellished. The ancient historians, like Herodotus, hit the " happy mean between jejuneness and turgidity " ; they thought that history was a form of poetry, and mixed much imaginative matter with the narrative of fact. The history of the Sinhalese given in the Mahavamsa with fact and legend so beautifully intertwined is well worth perusing. The traveller who is asked to read these legends will say : " All right, another time," and will pass on to Haputale and Hakgalla gardens. But in getting there, he will experience a remarkable translation from tropical heat to a temperate clime. Hakgalla is on the skirts of Nuwara Eliya, and from its highest point—Pedro—one can watch the sunrise, and look across the hills to where it is said the Buddha once planted his foot—Adam's Peak.

Adam's Peak suggests a wonderful climb on foot, and a wonder whether there will be time to do it ; but there are only five days more and the tourist is reluctantly bound to abandon the idea. But there is still Kandy, and its more unsophisticated peoples who boast that they were never conquered by the foreigner, and its sacred Temple of the Tooth (p. 30). The tourist hears

of the procession at the Perahera, an autumnal festival with its troop of monstrous decorative elephants reverently carrying sacred relics in procession to the sound of music and tinkling of cymbals and agile dancing feet (p. 39). The regalia of the dancers is a work of art, and their dance suggestive of agelong passions and almost forgotten meanings. But alas! it is not August; and one must take the road to Dambulla, and Sigiriya—where there are the relics of undying art still to be seen (pp. 54 & 65). These are the things of which Ceylonese may justly be proud. Thence to Polonnaruwa, where the remains of a great civilization enchant the eye and fill the heart with wonder, and on to Anuradhapura, the seat of a great civilization and a greater religion. The " bare ruined choirs " of fallen colonnades of old palaces and perished fanes are there to tell of past glories and conjure back the ghosts of peoples long since dead. The Mahavamsa records the invasion of the Tamils from the North, and of the coming of Buddhism to Ceylon. But space and time do not permit more than superficial comment on the vanity of human greatness. The glamour of temporal magnificience is past, but the sacred Bo-tree still lives on as the emblem of an imperishable faith. *Sic transit gloria mundi.* The tourist, if he is sufficiently sensitive, registers a vow that he will go more deeply into the story of this people who have a quaint elegance and charm of their own. He hopes to come again some day. And so Salaam and God speed!

Situation and Dimensions.

Ceylon lies between 5° 55′ and 9° 50′ N. latitude and 79° 42′ and 81° 53′ E. longitude. The greatest length of the Island from north to south, *i.e.*, from Point Palmyra to Dondra Head, is 270 miles; its greatest width 140 miles, from Colombo on the west coast to Sangamankanda on the east. Its area is 25,332 square miles, nearly the same as that of Holland and Belgium, or about half the size of England.

The approximate distances of Colombo, the chief port of Ceylon, from the other chief world ports, and the average tariff for the itinerary are given below :—

Colombo to London.

	Nautical Miles.	Approximate Days' Journey.
Aden	2,100	8
Suez	3,407	12
Port Said	3,494	13
Marseilles	5,091	16
Gibraltar (*vid* Marseilles)	5,690	19
Gibraltar (direct)	5,407	18
London (by sea *vid* Marseilles)	7,005	24
London (by sea direct)	6,725	20
London (overland)	5,868	17

Colombo to India, &c.

	Nautical Miles.	Approximate Days' Journey.
Calcutta (touching at Madras)	1,260	7
Bombay	875	3
Rangoon	1,249	4½
Penang	1,276	5
Singapore	1,567	6
Hong Kong (touching at Singapore)	3,113	13
Shanghai (touching at Singapore and Hong Kong)	3,966	17
Yokohama (*vid* Singapore and Hong Kong)	5,083	23

Colombo to Australia.

	Nautical Miles.	Approximate Days' Journey.
Fremantle	3,121	9
Adelaide (touching at Fremantle)	4,479	13
Melbourne (touching at Fremantle and Adelaide)	4,979	15
Sydney (touching at Fremantle, Adelaide, and Melbourne)	5,556	18

Colombo to South Africa, &c.

	Nautical Miles.	Approximate Days' Journey.
Mauritius	2,099	10
Durban (touching at South African ports)	3,680	18
Cape Town (touching at South African ports)	4,362	21–3

PASSAGE FARES.

Colombo to London :—

1st class single	£54 to £80
2nd class single	£40 to £50
3rd and tourist single	£27 to £62

Colombo-Sydney :—

1st class single	£48
2nd class single	£32
3rd and tourist single	£22 to £41

Colombo-Melbourne :—

1st class single	£45
2nd class single	£30
3rd and tourist single	£21 to £40

Colombo-Durban :—

1st class single	£32
2nd class single	£20

Colombo-Singapore :—

1st class single by P. & O.	£22
2nd class single by P. & O.	£14

Colombo-Hong Kong :—

1st class single by P. & O.	£36
2nd class single by P. & O.	£20

Colombo-Yokohama :—

1st class single by P. & O.	£46
2nd class single by P. & O.	£26

Colombo-Bombay :—

1st class single	£10
2nd class single	£7

Colombo-Calcutta :—

1st class single	£10
2nd class single	£8

Colombo-Rangoon :—

1st class single	Rs. 180

Colombo-Port Said :—

1st class single	£41 to £60
2nd class single	£29 to £40
3rd class and tourist single	£18 to £58

Colombo-Marseilles :—

1st class single	£51 to £76
2nd class single	£36 to £46
3rd and tourist single	£20 to £60

Colombo-Boston and New York	£60 to £95

Facilities provided at the Passenger Jetty for the storage of baggage are described on page 85. Passengers' baggage is defined by the Customs Regulations to mean *bona fide* baggage (which includes wearing apparel and personal effects) of a passenger accompanying him or arriving in Ceylon within one month, before or after his arrival, or within such time as the Collector of Customs in the circumstances deems reasonable. With certain exceptions, passengers' baggage is exempt from duty.

The Ceylon Government Railway serves the principal towns of the Island, and offers to visitors excellent facilities for inland travel. Cheap first class tourist tickets obtainable from the Booking Office at the Jetty, the Fort Station, and recognized tourist agents at Rs. 50 (£3. 15*s.*) for two weeks and Rs. 75 (£5. 12*s.* 6*d.*) for one month, permit tourists to travel 951 miles of railway and visit the most important and historic towns.

The distances from Colombo to some of the principal towns of the Island, and information regarding sleeping and restaurant cars, &c., are found on pages 89–90.

There is no legal tariff for taxi-cabs within the Municipal limits of Colombo, but the usual scale of fares is as follows :—

For the first half mile	50 cents
For each subsequent ½ mile up to 1 mile	12½ „
For each subsequent mile	75 „

Extra charges are made for each passenger over two, and for each piece of luggage other than hand luggage. A higher scale of fares is charged in the case of taxi-cabs hired between the hours of 9 P.M. and 6.30 A.M.

The above rates apply only to places within the Municipal limits of Colombo. For trips to places outside Colombo Municipality special terms should be agreed upon *before starting*. The hiring-car fares to such places vary from 40 cents to Re. 1 per mile, with extra charges for detention.

There are hotels of the European type in Colombo, Kandy, Nuwara Eliya, Galle, and Anuradhapura ; the rates are usually Rs. 9 a day and upwards, the usual charge for first-class accommodation being Rs. 12 a day. Cold Storage

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DIAGRAM Nº I

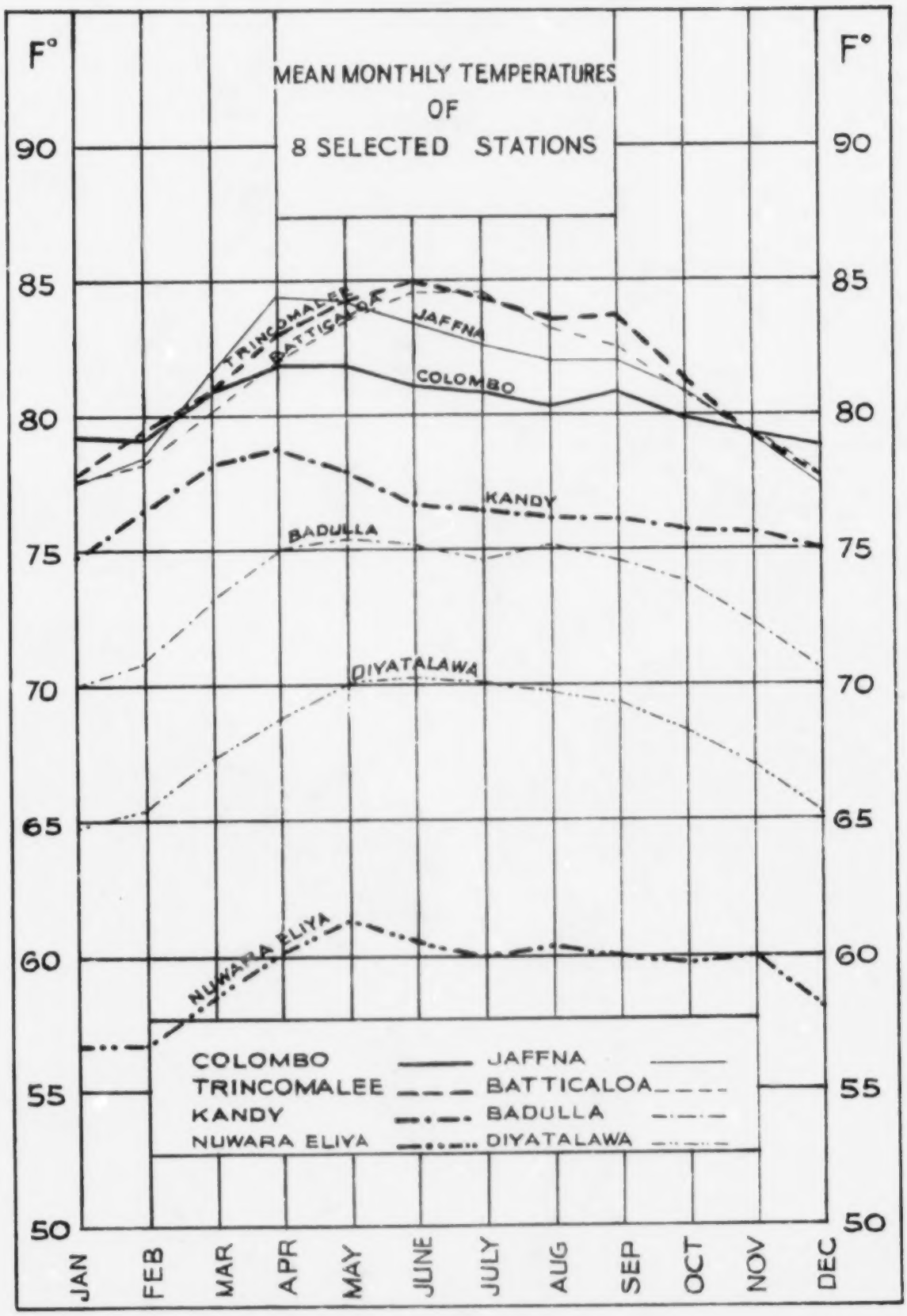

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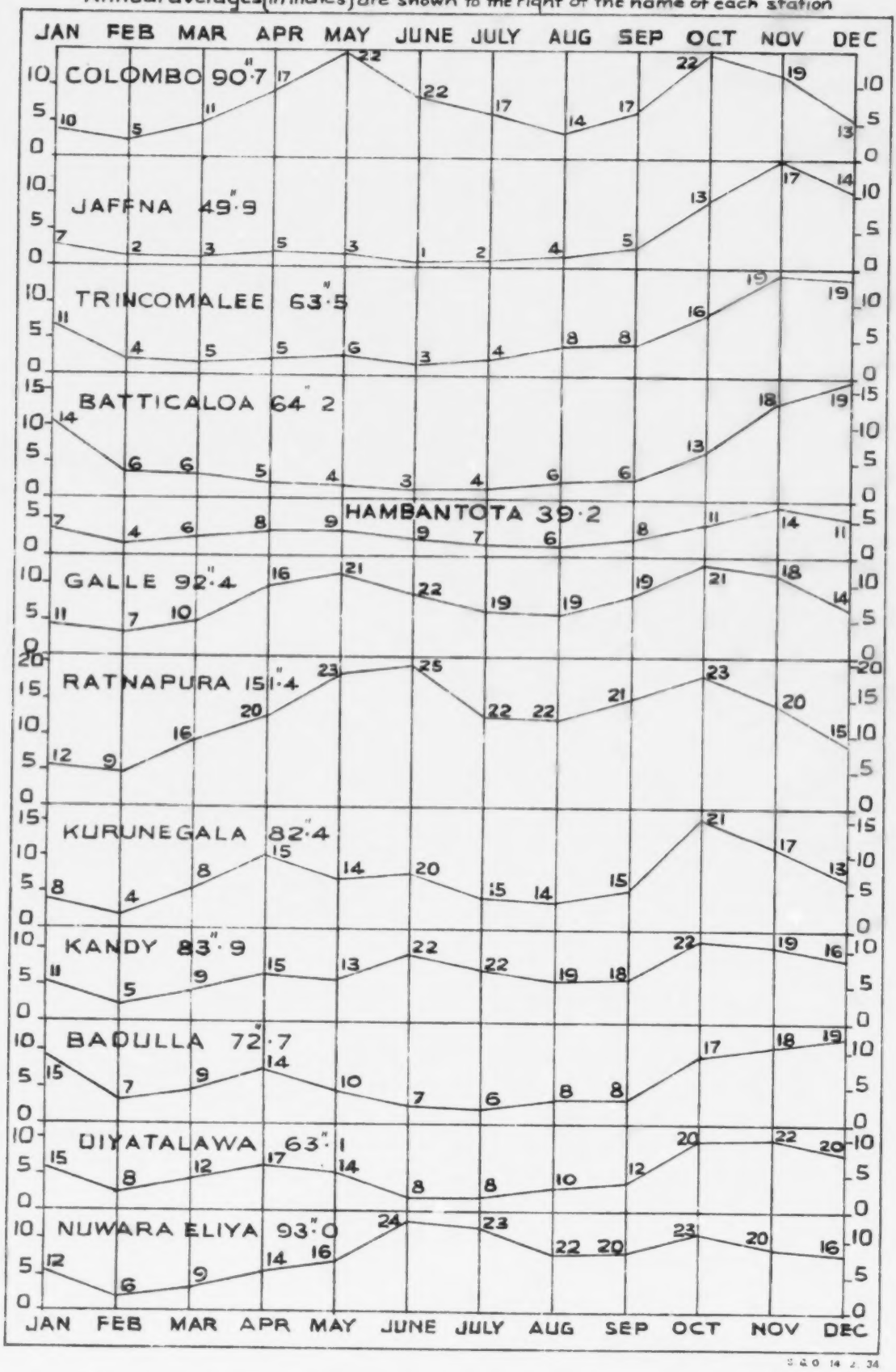
Diagram № 2

MEAN MONTHLY RAINFALL

OF 12 SELECTED STATIONS

Figures along the curve denote the number of wet days

Annual averages (in inches) are shown to the right of the name of each station



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Companies in Colombo supply ice and frozen meats and other foods by rail. In addition to hotels there are about 170 resthouses in various parts of the Island (they are marked on the ordinary motoring map), many of them very delightfully situated beside the sea or some river or tank.

Useful information may be had from the handbook published by the Automobile Association of Ceylon. "How to see Ceylon" by Bella Sidney Woolf is a favourite guide book for tourists. More ambitious and more informative is Bassett's Romantic Ceylon, a recent addition to the voluminous literature on the subject.

Climate.

On the whole, the climate of Ceylon is tolerable for the tropics. The accessibility of the hills is a great boon to the plain dwellers, and a change to the sea is beneficial to those who live in the hills. In the low-country, the districts which have been opened in rubber, coconuts, and other products are generally fairly healthy, but in the unopened localities malaria is common.

Temperature.—With regard to temperature, the range of variation at several stations is shown in diagram No. 1 facing this page.

The low seasonal variations will be noted, but it will be seen that the differences between the temperatures of low-country and up-country stations are considerable. The highest shade temperature registered in Ceylon was 103·7° F. at Trincomalee in May, 1890, and the minimum air temperature 27·1° F. at Nuwara Eliya in February, 1914. A maximum temperature of 103·7° F. is not excessive, but the humidity is considerable, the annual average percentage of saturation being generally about 80, Galle and Nuwara Eliya 84, Colombo and Badulla 82, Jaffna 81, Kandy 80, Batticaloa 78, Trincomalee 76. At Colombo, the "hot weather" may be said to extend from March to May, and the "cold weather" from December to February. July and August are often pleasant, particularly on the west side of the Island.

As is generally found in the tropics, however, the seasons are distinguished by differences in rainfall, rather than pronounced variations in temperature. The change in the direction of the monsoon winds, from S.-W. to N.-E., causes a corresponding change in the localities of the heaviest rain, which is usually experienced to windward of the hills, while during the intermonsoon seasons, local wind circulations are liable to give rain in any part of the Island. The mean temperature during the year varied from 81·5° in Trincomalee to 59·0° in Nuwara Eliya.

Rainfall.—The annual average rainfall varies from about 35 inches in the north-west and the south-east to over 200 inches in some parts of the interior. The annual averages in 1933 are 91 inches at Colombo, 84 inches at Kandy, and 93 inches at Nuwara Eliya. Diagram No. 2 facing this page shows the mean monthly rainfall of 12 selected stations.

History.

The earliest inhabitants of the Island are thought to have been the Nagas and Yakkhas, the latter being perhaps now represented by the Veddas a fast fading race. Legendary history has it that the first invaders were Aryans from the

North of India who, under the leadership of Vijaya, overcame the aborigines and established the Sinhalese dynasty. Early attention appears to have been paid by the invaders to irrigation works, agricultural development, and other branches of civil administration, and by the end of the third century A.D. a comparatively advanced stage of civilization had been reached.

The history of Ceylon down to the sixteenth century may be divided into two parts, viz., the period of the Sinhalese *Mahavansa, circa* 500 B.C. to 300 A.D., and that of the *Suluvansa*, from *circa* 300 A.D. onwards. The first period is one of increasing development and expanding civilization, connected chiefly with the progress of Buddhism, which was introduced about 247 B.C. The second period is one of ever-increasing pressure from the Tamils, Pandyans, and Cholas from India, with occasional success on the part of the Sinhalese, particularly during the reign of their famous king, Parakrama Bahu I. (1153 to 1186 A.D.). A natural limit occupation resulted from the constant warfare, and the Tamils known as Jaffnese were left in possession of the north of the Island.

In the sixteenth century the Portuguese formed settlements on the coasts of the Island ; in the next century they were dispossessed by the Dutch. The Portuguese must be credited with the introduction of Catholic Christianity into the Island, and the Dutch with the introduction of Roman Law. The impression made by the latter on the social customs of the Ceylonese remains to this day. More recently commerce has brought about a peaceful invasion of Moors, officially styled Muslims, and Malays who are found in largest numbers in Hambantota, and are reckoned to be the backbone of the Police force. In 1796 the British took possession of the Dutch settlements in the Island, which were then annexed to the Presidency of Madras, but five years later, in 1802, Ceylon was constituted a separate Crown Colony. In 1815, the districts of the interior, which had maintained their independence under the kings of Kandy, were acquired by Great Britain as the result of a rebellion against the Kandyan king, and the whole Island was thus united under the British rule.

Principal Languages.

Sinhalese and Tamil are the two chief vernacular languages in the Island, the former being spoken by the Sinhalese who chiefly inhabit the western, central, and southern portions of the Island, and the latter by the Tamils inhabiting the northern and eastern parts and by the immigrant estate population. English is in general use among the people of the upper and the middle classes of all communities.

CHAPTER II.

Government.

The Constitution.

UNTIL 1931 the Constitution of Ceylon was of the Crown Colony type, the government being vested in the Governor assisted by Executive and Legislative Councils. A description of the old Constitution will be found in the Annual General Reports of 1929 and previous years.

In July, 1931, the then exisiting Constitution was superseded by a new Constitution, based on the recommendations of a Special Commission on the

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SOUTHERN MORNING

Constitution appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies, which visited Ceylon in 1927–28. The new Constitution was formulated by the Ceylon (State Council) Order in Council, 1931. The principal constitutional changes involved are described below.

The Legislative Council was dissolved in April, 1931, the Executive Council in July of the same year, and their place was taken by a "State Council" having both legislative and executive functions, which met for the first time on July 7, 1931. The new Council consists of three official members, fifty elected members, and not more than eight members nominated by the Governor. Neither an elected nor a nominated member may be a person holding any public office under the Crown in Ceylon.

The three official members of the State Council are styled the Officers of State. They are members of the Council *ex officio*, as the Chief Secretary, *Legal Secretary, and Financial Secretary to the Government respectively. The Constitution provides that they shall have all the rights and privileges of membership of the Council and of the Board of Ministers (a body which will be referred to later), save the right to vote on any question before the Council or the Board.

All elected members are elected on a territorial basis communal representation which was a feature of the old legislature having been abolished. The franchise is very wide. It extends, with a few exceptions, to all British subjects of either sex who are at least twenty-one years of age and are domiciled in Ceylon. In addition, persons not so domiciled are permitted to vote if they possess a certain literacy and property qualification, or have received a "certificate of permanent settlement" from a Government Agent or Assistant Government Agent.

Eight additional members are nominated by the Governor after a general election, the object of their appointment being, in the words of the Special Commission,† "to make the State Council more generally representative of the national interests".

On the first assembly of a new Council, and after the election of a Speaker, the members proceed by secret ballot to divide their total number (excluding the Speaker and the Officers of State) into seven standing committees styled "Executive Committees", which are required to be as nearly as possible equal in number of members.‡ Each Committee is charged with the administration of one of seven groups of subjects and functions specified in the Order in Council under the following headings :—

I. Home Affairs.
II. Agriculture and Lands.
III. Local Administration.
IV. Health.
V. Labour, Industry and Commerce.
VI. Education.
VII. Communications and Works.

* Or the Attorney-General, until a Legal Secretary is appointed (Article 6 of the Order in Council).
† Page 101 of the Report of the Commission.
‡ The members subsequently elected as Deputy Speaker and Deputy Chairman of Committees cease, upon their election, to be members of Executive Committees.

After the election of the Executive Committees, each Committee proceeds to elect by secret ballot a Chairman, and the Chairman-elect of each Executive Committee is then appointed by the Governor as Minister for the group of subjects and functions which his Committee has to administer. It is within the discretion of the Governor to decline to appoint as Minister any member elected Chairman of an Executive Committee. Subjects and functions not allocated to Executive Committees are divided by the Order in Council into three further groups, one of which is placed in the charge of each of the Officers of State, who have no Executive Committees associated with them in the administration of these groups.

The duties of Executive Committees may be summarized as follows :—

(*a*) Preparation of the annual estimates of expenditure of the department under their control, for submission to the Board of Ministers.

(*b*) Similarly, the preparation of supplementary estimates.

(*c*) Consideration of executive business relating to their own subjects and functions, whether laid before them by their Chairmen or by private members, or referred to them by the Council or the Board of Ministers.

(*d*) Consideration of proposed legislative measures falling within their scope.

The decisions of Executive Committees which are of sufficient importance to require the approval of the Council are submitted at meetings of the whole Council in the form of reports, which the Council may accept, or reject, or refer back to the Committee, but may not amend. A report accepted by the Council is submitted to the Governor by the Speaker for ratification. But the decisions of Executive Committees in financial* matters are submitted by the Committees to the Board of Ministers, and by the Board to the Council.

The Board of Ministers consists of the three Officers of State and the seven Ministers, but, as stated above, the Officers of State have not the right to vote on questions before the Board. The Chief Secretary is *ex officio* Chairman of the Board, and there is also a Vice-Chairman, elected by the Board from among the Ministers, who is the representative of the Board in the Council and is styled the Leader of the State Council. The most important function of the Board of Ministers is the preparation of the annual estimates of revenue and expenditure for the Island, and of supplementary estimates of expenditure. The annual and supplementary estimates of the different departments of Government are submitted by the Officers of State and Executive Committees to the Board, whose duty it is to revise them and, if and when approved, to submit them to the State Council, taking full and collective responsibility for them. No financial* measure may be introduced in the State Council except by an Officer of State or a Minister, and with the approval of the Board of Ministers. The Board of Ministers also determines the order in which any business, whether executive or legislative, to be brought before the Council either by the Board or by the Executive Committees or Officers of State, is to be despatched, and prescribes the procedure for the settlement of questions affecting more than one Executive Committee.

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* As defined in Article 57 of the Order in Council.

The ordinary life of a Council is four years. But the Constitution provides that the Governor may dissolve the Council at any time, and shall dissolve it if the whole of any Annual Appropriation Bill is rejected, or if the decision of the Council on a financial* measure, or on a motion expressly directed to test the confidence of the Council in the Board of Ministers, makes it apparent, in his opinion, that the Board no longer retains the confidence of the Council. Up to the time of writing a dissolution has never occurred.

†The Governor retains the power to certify any Bill, motion, resoluton, or vote as being of paramount importance, or he may declare that it is essential to give effect to the provisions of the Order in Council. In either event the measure has effect as if it had been passed by the Council, subject to disallowance by His Majesty the King in the case of Bills and to revocation by the Secretary of State in the case of other measures. ‡Power is also reserved to the Governor to declare that a state of emergency exists, and thereupon to assume control or any Government Department.

The appointment, promotion, transfer, dismissal, and disciplinary control of public officers are vested in the Governor (with power of delegation to heads of Government departments), and the Order in Council contains clauses for the preservation of their conditions of service.

For full details of the Constitution, reference may be made to the Order in Council, which is reproduced in the Ceylon Government Manual of Procedure.

The Ceylon Civil Service.—The Ceylon Civil Service, recruited partly by examination on the same basis as the Indian Civil Service, and partly by local appointments, furnishes officers for the general administrative, and part of the judicial, work in the Island.

Revenue Districts.—For administrative purposes Ceylon is divided into Provinces, which are subdivided into districts, as shown in the following table :—

Provinces.	Districts.	Provinces.	Districts.
Western ..	Colombo, Kalutara	North-Western ..	Kurunegala, Puttalam-Chilaw
Central ..	Kandy, Matale, Nuwara Eliya	North-Central ..	Anuradhapura
Southern ..	Galle, Matara, Hambantota	Uva ..	Badulla
Northern ..	Jaffna, Mannar, Mullaittivu	Sabaragamuwa ..	Ratnapura, Kegalla
Eastern ..	Batticaloa, Trincomalee		

The Government Agents.—The posts of Government Agents—one in each of the nine Provinces—are held by senior Civil Servants. To the Government Agents is entrusted the general administrative work of their Provinces, while their Kachcheris, or offices, are the provincial treasuries for the receipt of revenue and the payment of the local expenses of Government.

The Government Agents hold a number of other official positions, and preside over some local bodies in their Provinces. They are, as a rule, assisted by one or more Assistant Government Agents, who are in charge of revenue districts or else perform special duties at the provincial headquarters.

The Headmen.—The officer next subordinate to the Government Agent or Assistant Government Agent is the chief headman, who is differently styled in

* As defined in Article 57 of the Order in Council. † Article 22 of the Order in Council.
‡ Article 49 of the Order in Council.

different districts : " Mudaliyar " in the maritime Sinhalese districts ; " Ratemahatmaya " in the Kandyan districts ; " Maniagar ", " Adigar ", and " Vanniya " in the Tamil districts. There are about 104 chief headmen in the Island. In some cases the Mudaliyar is assisted by one or more " Muhandirams ". Next to the chief headman ranks the superior headman, called in the maritime Sinhalese districts " Vidane Arachchi ", in the Kandyan Sinhalese districts the " Korala ", and in the Tamil districts the " Udaiyar ". There are about 610 superior headmen in Ceylon.

Lastly comes the village headman, who is in charge of one or more villages, and whose jurisdiction is the administrative unit. The number of village headmen is about 3,800. In addition, there are peace officers, irrigation headmen, and others appointed for special purposes.

Local Government.

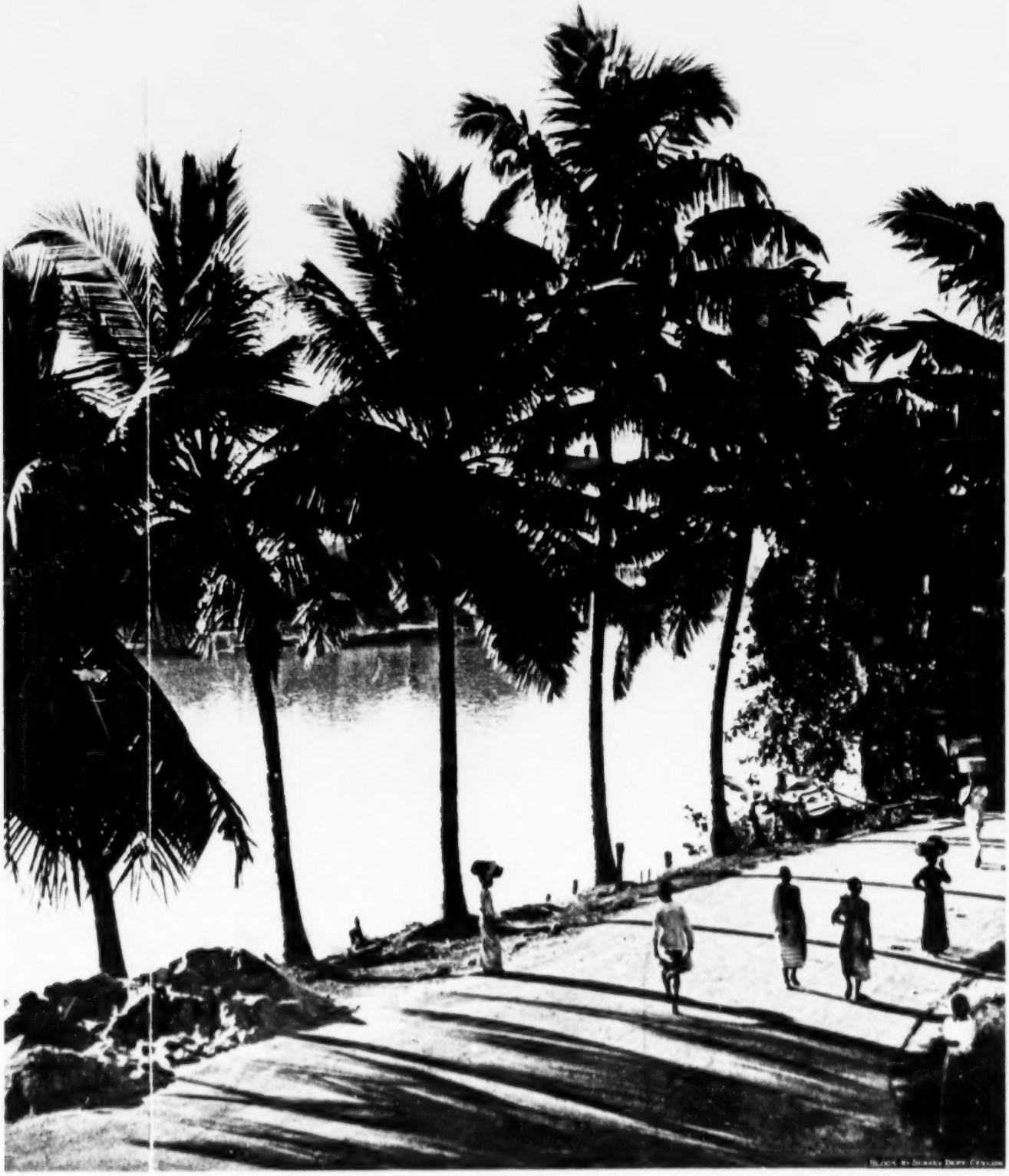
With the inauguration of a new Constitution for the Island in July, 1931, an Executive Committee of Local Administration was elected by the State Council to supervise, control, and develop local government, and a department of local government under the Commissioner of Local Government was created as the executive instrument of the Committee.

The local duties in regard to sanitation and public thoroughfares have for long been entrusted to a number of local authorities whose members are the nominees of the Governor with the addition in most cases of persons elected by the inhabitants. In Colombo, Kandy, and Galle, there are Municipal Councils whose Chairmen are members of the Civil Service. At least half the members are elected by the ratepayers, all those possessing a house of the annual value of Rs. 180, or every tenant who pays a monthly rental of Rs. 15 or is a graduate of a university, being qualified to vote. An Ordinance to amend the Constitution of the Colombo Municipal Council in order to provide for an wholly elected Council with an elected chairman passed the second reading of the State Council in November, 1933, and is at present under the consideration of a committee of the State Council.

Until the end of 1932 in eleven of the smaller towns there were Urban District Councils with elected Chairmen, two-thirds of the members being elected by the ratepayers and one-third being nominated by the Governor. Such Councils had not been constituted in the absence of a local demand and during the first ten years since this type of Council was first devised there had been singularly little demand. On the recommendation however of the Executive Committee, 16 more such Councils were established from January 1, 1933, in place of 10 of the Local Boards of Health and Improvement, in 5 of the small towns previously administered by Sanitary Boards, and also in place of the Board of Improvement of Nuwara Eliya.

Only one small town is now administered by a Local Board of Health and Improvement, viz., Minuwangoda, it being too small to support an Urban District Council. The Government Agent of the Western Province is the Chairman. The members are the District Engineer, the Medical Officer of Health and 3 elected members.

Groups of smaller towns, frequently no larger than roadside bazaars, are administered by the Sanitary Boards of the various provinces and districts, consisting of the Government Agent, or Assistant Government Agent, two local



Copyright Photograph *Lionel Wendt*

PELIYAGODA ROAD

officials of the Public Health Department and the Public Works Department, and not more than four nor less than two members nominated by the Governor. This method of local administration is carried on for a number of towns in a district from the District Headquarters with a staff consisting partly of officers whose salaries are met proportionately by the various towns and partly of officers lent by the Public Health Department, assisted by yet others in addition to their normal duties for the Central Goverment. This cheap and reasonably efficient form of local administration is, however, now said to be out of favour because the Boards contain no elected members. The Executive Committee is not recommending the inclusion of any further towns in the administration of these Boards, and has under consideration some other form of administration of a more popular type.

For the rural areas, Village Committees have been established, the members of which are elected at meetings of the inhabitants of each subdivision. In 1932 an Ordinance was passed precluding officials from being elected as Chairmen. These Committees deal with minor local affairs and the working of rules connected with local customs.

Roads other than main thoroughfares and other than those in charge of the local authorities mentioned above, are maintained by District Committees, while certain educational matters have been entrusted to District Education Committees.

CHAPTER III.

Population.

Population.—Population data are collected, as in almost every other country, by means of Census, which is taken decenially in Ceylon. The last decennial Census was taken on February 26, 1931, but its scope was limited owing to the financial crisis. At that Census Ceylon had (inclusive of the military and the shipping) a population of 5,312,548 which was 17·9 per cent. more than that in 1921. Since 1871 when the first decennial Census was taken the population has steadily increased. The Island is fairly thickly populated ; and at the last Census it had a density of 210 persons per square mile and ranked above India, France, and Denmark, and somewhat below Japan.

Statistics of races were not collected in 1931 except in the Colombo Municipality and on the estates, but rough estimates based on the Census of 1921 are given below :—

Race.	Colombo Town.	Estates.	Estimates for Other Areas.	Estimated Totals.
Europeans	3,340	2,814	2,999	9,153
Burghers and Eurasians	15,887	2,031	14,397	32,315
Sinhalese	127,927	75,786	3,269,317	3,473,030
Tamils	65,704	698,081	653,692	1,417,477
Moors	44,240	7,496	274,177	325,913
Malays	7,022	1,988	6,967	15,977
Others	20,035	1,738	10,791	32,564
	284,155	790,376*	4,232,340	5,306,871*†

It is estimated on the same basis that there were 3,267,457 Buddhists, 1,158,522 Hindus, 523,006 Christians, 356,888 Muslims, and 938 others at the Census of 1931.

* Includes 442 persons of unspecified race. † Excludes the military and the shipping.

The population (exclusive of the military and the shipping) was geographically distributed in 1921 and 1931 as follows :—

	1921.	1931.	Percentage of Increase.
Western Province	1,246,847	1,445,034	15·9
Central Province	717,739	953,388	32·8
Southern Province	671,234	771,204	14·9
Northern Province	374,829	398,874	6·4
Eastern Province	192,821	212,421	10·2
North-Western Province	492,181	546,966	11·1
North-Central Province	96,525	97,365	·9
Province of Uva	233,864	303,243	29·7
Province of Sabaragamuwa	471,814	578,368	22·6
Miscellaneous Population*	751	8	—

Intercensal estimates of population are prepared from the records of vital statistics and of migration, and on this basis the Island had a population of 5,463,000 at the end of 1933.

The figures for Ceylon quoted above do not include those of the Maldive Islands which had a population of 79,281 at the Census of 1931, as compared with 70,413 in 1921.

Migration.—The large majority of the migrants move to and from India ; and a considerable part of them are Indian labourers. In 1933 the total number of immigrants to the Island was 136,057 and is the lowest recorded for the last decade. Of them 121,559 or 89 per cent. were from India and 32,898 of these were estate labourers. In general the arrivals in the Island are more frequent in the second and the third quarters of the year than in the first and fourth.

Of the total 194,227 emigrants in 1933 which is somewhat more than last year, about 93 per cent. or 181,150 left for India ; and of these 46,626 were estate labourers.

Owing to the trade depression and the consequent closing down of a number of estates, the emigration figures were in excess of the immigration figures since 1929. In this connection the following figures will be instructive :—

Migration Statistics from 1929–1933.

	Arrivals.				Departures.			
	From India.		From Other Countries.	Total.	To India.		To Other Countries.	Total.
	Indian Labourers.	Others.			Indian Labourers.	Others.		
1929	105,095	132,248	18,543	255,886	101,228	141,262	19,406	261,896
1930	91,422	113,762	17,968	223,152	98,728	145,897	18,375	263,000
1931	68,337	94,401	20,384	183,122	75,866	122,696	16,141	214,703
1932	50,869	92,090	15,263	158,222	58,157	115,131	13,771	187,059
1933	32,898	88,661	14,498	136,057	46,626	134,524	13,077	194,227

Marriages.—Three Marriage Ordinances operate in the Island, one for the general population, one for the Kandyans, and one for the Muslims. Under the General and Kandyan Marriage Ordinances 25,886 marriages were registered in 1933, as against 25,317 in 1932 and an annual average of 27,553 during the preceding decade. The General marriages alone numbered 20,434, and were 221 more than in the previous year. The number of persons married during the year was 10·2 per 1,000 of the General and Kandyan population, as against 10·1 in 1932 and 11·8 during the decade ending 1932. Among the Muslims 1,294 marriages were registered, and was 50 more than in the previous year and 293 more than the annual average during the decade 1923–1932. A

* Persons enumerated in trains and in the Great and Little Basses.

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DIAGRAM No. 3.

REPORTED BIRTH, DEATH, AND MARRIAGE RATES,

CEYLON

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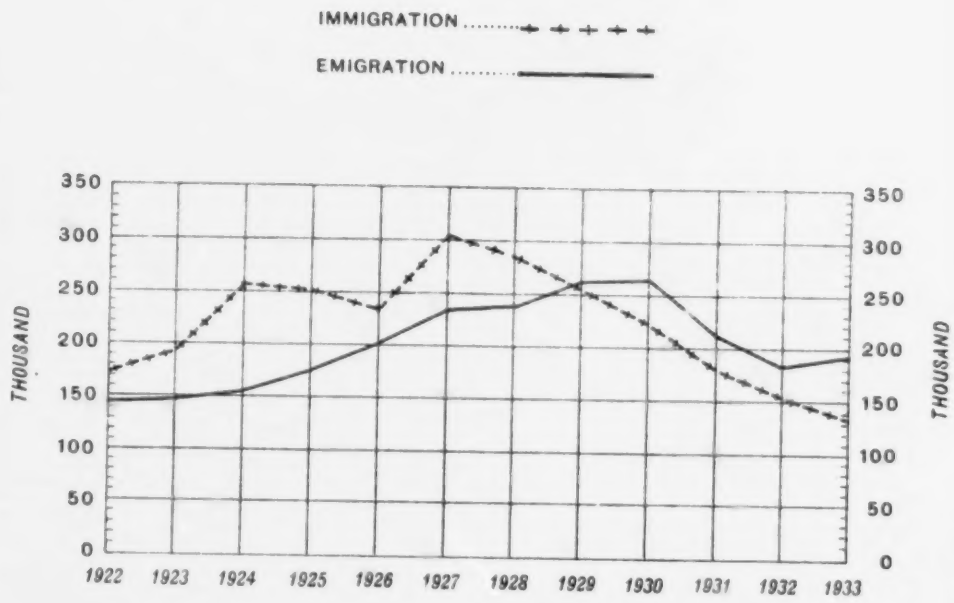
DIAGRAM No. 4.

ANNUAL IMMIGRATION AND EMIGRATION, CEYLON.



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considerable number of Muslim marriages are not registered according to law, and the Muslim marriage rate is consequently low, being 7·1 per 1,000 during the year, as compared with 6·9 in 1932 and 5·9 the average for the ten years ending 1932.

Divorces.—Dissolution of any marriage registered under the General Marriage Ordinance can be granted only by a District Judge and under the Kandyan Marriage Ordinance by a Provincial or Assistant Provincial Registrar. In 1933 there were 126 dissolutions of General and 501 of Kandyan marriages, as compared with 145 and 537 respectively in 1932. There is usually a large excess of Kandyan marriage divorces over General marriage divorces, which is largely due to the greater facilities for divorce afforded by the Kandyan marriage law. No statistics of Muslim marriage divorces are available as these marriages are dissolved mostly by Muslim priests without reference to any public official.

Births.—209,032 births were registered in the Island in 1933, as against 199,370 in the previous year and 198,088 the average of the decade 1923–1932. Of these, 107,054 were male and 101,978 female children, representing a sex proportion of 1,050 males to 1,000 females, as against 1,038 males to 1,000 females in 1932. The birth rate was 38·6 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 37·0 in 1932 and 39·3 the average rate for the decade ending 1932. The birth rate of the Island is comparatively high.

Deaths.—The deaths of 114,690 persons (57,894 males and 56,796 females) were registered in 1933, as against 110,649 in 1932 and 124,970 the average for the decade 1923 to 1932. The death rate was 21·2 per 1,000 of the estimated population, as compared with 20·5 in the previous year and 24·8 the average for the previous decade.

Infant Mortality.—The deaths of 32,866 infants under one year of age were registered in 1933. The infant mortality in 1932 was 32,356 and the average for the decade 1923–1932 was 34,848. About 29 per cent. of the total deaths in 1933 were those of infants. The infant death rate was 157 per 1,000 births registered, the lowest recorded in recent times, as compared with 162 in 1932 and 176 the average for the ten years 1923–1932. The infant mortality rate is influenced by the birth rate, and it is not an unusual feature to find a high infant death rate in countries having a high birth rate. The infant mortality in Ceylon is excessive, being nearly five times that of New Zealand which has the lowest rate in the world. But the maternal and child welfare work done in the country is producing good results.

Causes of Death.—Since 1911 causes of deaths in this country are classified according to the International or Bertillon System. The classification in 1933 was according to the fourth revision of the international list. Owing to the absence of compulsory certification of causes of deaths among a very large section of the population, the statistics particularly of diseases requiring scientific knowledge for diagnosis, are of doubtful value ; but there is reason to believe that a definite though slow, progress in accuracy is achieved every year. A very large number of deaths are returned by village informants as due to fever, and are tabulated under the vague title " Pyrexia ". The number of deaths assigned to pyrexia in 1933 was 13,776—or 12·0 per cent. of the total deaths—as compared with 14,514 in 1932. There is no doubt that a considerable number of these deaths are actually due to malaria. Another prolific cause

of death in the Island is infantile convulsions which was responsible for 11,666 deaths in 1933; this number represents 10·0 per cent. of the total mortality. Over a quarter of the total deaths registered were due in the past to pyrexia and convulsions, but at present the proportion is somewhat less. The death rate per million of the estimated population from the more important diseases registered in Ceylon in 1932 and 1933 are shown below :—

Causes.	Rate per Million. 1932.	1933.
Pyrexia	2,695	2,544
Infantile convulsions	2,018	2,154
Pneumonia	1,171	1,274
Diarrhoea and enteritis	1,110	1,220
Phthisis	551	576
Dysentery	404	348
Premature birth and congenital defects	399	409

Causes.	Rate per Million. 1932.	1933.
Ankylostomiasis	363	347
Malaria and malarial cachexia	312	260
Influenza	297	355
Puerperal septicaemia	247	247
Bronchitis	235	241
Enteric fever	145	147
Cancer	83	83

CHAPTER IV.

Health.

Hospitals and Dispensaries.

MEDICAL aid is generously provided by the State, there being 107 Government hospitals and asylums, with provision for 11,378 beds.

In Colombo are situated a General Hospital with 939 beds, an Ophthalmic Hospital, a Lying-in Home, a hospital for women (Lady Havelock Hospital), a hospital for children (Lady Ridgeway Hospital), a Bacteriological Institute, a Pasteur Institute, and a Dental Institute. At Angoda, 6 miles from Colombo, there is a hospital for infectious diseases, with 168 beds. There are special dispensaries at Kandy, Galle, Jaffna, Batticaloa, and Badulla for the treatment of eye diseases. Treatment with radium is now available at the General Hospital, Colombo.

There is a Lunatic Asylum at Angoda, 6 miles from Colombo, and two Leper Asylums, one at Hendala in the Western Province and one at Mantivu in the Eastern Province

There is a Home for Incurables at Colombo, with 90 beds, which is administered by a Committee of Government officials and representatives of the public.

For the treatment of tuberculosis, there are the King Edward VII. Memorial Anti-Tuberculosis Institute in Colombo, a hospital of 349 beds for advanced and moderately advanced cases at Ragama, and a Sanatorium of 72 beds at Kandana and one of 44 beds at Kankesanturai on the northern coast.

In addition to Government hospitals, the owners of estates have provided 83 estate hospitals, and in consequence receive a rebate on the export duty on tea, rubber, coffee, cacao, and cardamoms.

Besides the hospitals there are 626 central and branch dispensaries and visiting stations provided by Government. There are also 727 estate dispensaries, which receive free drugs from Government to the value of 50 cents per labourer per annum.

Campaigns.

Campaigns against malaria, ankylostomiasis, and parangi are carried out in various parts of the Island, apart from treatment at hospitals and dispensaries. Mass treatment against hookworm infestation was carried out by Medical Officers, Medical Officers of Health, and School Medical Officers in their

respective areas. Very marked results are shown by the decrease in the number of patients admitted to hospitals in the areas so treated. Success has also attended the efforts of the Itinerating Medical Officers appointed for the treatment of parangi.

Trained vaccinators are stationed in each Province. Primary vaccination against smallpox is compulsory, and secondary vaccination is carried out compulsorily among contacts when an outbreak of smallpox occurs.

Anti-Malarial Work.

Intensive anti-malaria work is done in the severely malarious town-areas of Chilaw, Kurunegala, Anuradhapura, Trincomalee, Puttalam, and Badulla (work in the last two was begun during 1929), and along certain sections of the railway.

Schemes for malaria drainage of anti-malaria campaign areas are drafted by the Sanitary Engineer. The Medical Entomologist checks the efficiency of larvicidal measures carried out by the Anti-Malaria Campaign staff and also investigates problems connected with malaria incidence in other parts of the Island.

Quinine is distributed in large quantities in malarious areas throughout the Island both for curative and prophylactic pruposes ; 12,014 lb. and 2,012,290 tablets have been issued during 1933.

Sanitary Engineering Division.

In addition to malaria drainage, this division deals with questions of general drainage in small towns and of water supplies and disposal of excreta.

Estate Sanitation.

Attached to the Department of Medical and Sanitary Services are three Inspecting Medical Officers and two Assistants, who inspect estates throughout the Island. During the year under review 505 estates were inspected. In the course of inspection, defects in the sanitary condition of estates are pointed out and suggestions to remedy and prevent them in future are put forward to the estate owners. Year by year the housing and the sanitary conditions on estates are improving.

Public Health.

In addition to the Inspecting Medical Officers, there were, in 1933, 26 Medical Officers of Health, assisted by 247 Sanitary Inspectors, who looked after the sanitary requirements of urban and rural areas. Seven Health Units have been established since 1926, at Kadugannawa, Kalutara, Kegalla, Kurunegala. Matara, Panadure, and Trincomalee. Health work on the lines conducted in Health Unit areas is being carried out, as far as possible, in other parts of the Island which are looked after by the Medical Officers of Health. Public Health Nurses are being employed in increasing numbers in connection with child welfare centres and the supervision of midwives.

Epidemics are promptly dealt with by the Medical Officers of Health and their staffs.

Legislation.

A Milk and Dairies Ordinance, a Pure Food and Drugs Ordinance, and an Ordinance to amend the Ordinance for the Better Preservation of public Health and Suppression of Nuisances in Rural areas are in the hands of the Attorney-General ; and a Poisons and Dangerous Drugs Ordinance which was passed

by the Legislature has not yet been proclaimed as certain amendments are under consideration at present. The Housing and Town Improvement Ordinance was amended requiring every habitable room to be provided with a window or windows of suitable size opening on to an external space and the Chanks Ordinance was amended to facilitate enforcement of proper sanitation of chank fishing camps.

Infectious Diseases.

Plague.—The following is a list of plague cases and deaths from that disease which occurred in Ceylon during the year :—

Locality.	Cases.	Deaths.
Colombo Municipality	26	24
Western Province (Nugegoda)	1	1
Province of Uva (Bandarawela)	4	4
Southern Province (Dondra)	11	11
Northern Province (Talaimannar)	1	1
Central Province—		
Gampola	2	2
Pussellawa	1	1
Nawalapitiya	11	8
	57	52

The year 1933 compares favourably with 1932 in which there were 77 cases with 69 deaths.

The epidemics of importance outside Colombo occurred at Bandarawela and Dondra, and Nawalapitiya. The source of infection was probably the Pettah, the bazaar quarter of Colombo.

Epidemic at Bandarawela and Dondra.—All the 15 cases were of the pneumonic type and ended fatally. The first case was a native of Dondra who was a trader at Bandarawela. He had visited Colombo and had lived in the infected area in Pettah while making purchases. On his return to Bandarawela he fell ill and was removed to Dondra where he died. He infected 4 others at Bandarawela and 10 at Dondra. The outbreak lasted from February 28 to March 17. Prompt and vigorous action taken by the Sanitary Department checked the spread of the infection.

Epidemic at Nawalapitiya.—The outbreak lasted from January 6 to March 23. Out of the 11 cases 6 were septicaemic and 5 bubonic. Three of the latter recovered. Seven infected rats were found. By vigorous action the Sanitary Department stamped out the disease.

Human Plague.—The following table shows the incidence of human plague in Colombo during the years 1931 to 1933 :—

	1931.			1932.			1933.		
	Cases.	Deaths.	Case Mortality. Per Cent.	Cases.	Deaths.	Case Mortality. Per Cent.	Cases.	Deaths.	Case Mortality. Per Cent.
Total	47	45	95·7	67	61	91·0	26	24	92·30
Septicaemia	17	17	100·0	23	23	100·0	6	6	100·
Bubonic	29	27	93·1	44	38	86·4	20	18	90·
Pneumonia	1	1	100·0	—	—	—	—	—	—

Monthly Incidence.—The largest number of cases occurred in January and February.

Sex Incidence.—Of the 26 cases 24 were males and 2 females.

Rat Plague.—27,967 rats were examined at the Municipal Laboratory and 12, or ·04 per cent., were found infected, as against ·14 per cent. in 1932. Three infected rats were from the Chalmers Granaries and one from the Manning Market.

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666 FIFTH AVEN

Smallpox.—The epidemic which started in November, 1932, continued during the earlier months of 1933. The disease spread to all the provinces except Sabaragamuwa and Uva. There were 337 cases with 62 deaths giving a fatality rate of 18·39 per cent., as against 106 cases with 16 deaths in 1932.

The distribution of cases according to locality is as follows :—

Locality.	Cases.	Deaths.
Colombo Municipality	152	30
Western Province	55	15
Southern Province	61	2
Northern Province	53	12
Central Province	7	2
Eastern Province	5	—
North-Western Province	3	1
North-Central Province	1	—
	337	62

Vaccination.—A vigorous campaign of mass vaccination was organized and carried out in and around the chief centres of infection, notably Colombo, Galle, Jaffna, and Neboda district.

The following are the numbers vaccinated in these areas :—

Colombo Municipality	261,270
Galle	36,162
Galle Four Gravets	20,153
Ratgama, Dodanduwa, and Hikkaduwa areas of Galle District	17,846
Jaffna Peninsula	208,986
Neboda district	26,769

Vaccination was also carried out in the other chief towns of the Island as a precautionary measure. The people readily came forward for vaccination and there was no serious opposition to the campaign.

The last case of the disease occurred in Colombo on August 12.

Cholera.—There were no cases of cholera in the Island during this year or the year before.

CHAPTER V.

Housing.

A. *Colombo.*—This is the only city of any considerable size in Ceylon, having a population of 296,600 persons, and like other large cities it has extensive slum areas in which the typical evils of overcrowding, dirt and disease make their appearance. The Municipality has undertaken a Scheme to replace the insanitary buildings in one of the worst areas (Kochchikade) by model tenements at a cost of Rs. 1,700,000.

The commercial depression which started in 1929 has somewhat eased the situation by causing a reduction of rents and also by checking the inflow of population into Colombo from the villages. This check, however, is likely to disappear as soon as trade improves.

B. *Other towns.*—Recent reports of the various Medical Officers of Health give a detailed account of housing conditions, and indicate the magnitude of the problem with which they are confronted. For example in the case of Ambalangoda, a small town of 3,700 inhabitants the report states :—

> "The whole town presents a mass of buildings put up without the least consideration for the Housing Ordinance or aesthetic standards. . . . . In some cases there are no drains at all, in others such drains as there are end blindly in a swampy mess of black stinking slime . . . . The Bazaar area is badly congested."

In Batticaloa (population 11,000) only 12 per cent. of the houses have tiled roofs, and 32 per cent. are mere cadjan huts.

3——J. N. 46523 (6/34)

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Of Anuradhapura (population 8,900) it is said—

"There has been no town planning scheme and buildings have come up indiscriminately all over the town. Only 39 per cent. conform to the requirements of the Housing Ordinance, most of these being Government bungalows and public buildings."

C. *The Villages.*—Conditions vary within wide limits. In the prosperous Western Province most of the houses are substantially built (usually of brick or "cabook" with tiled roofs), whereas in the remote areas the typical village presents a collection of "cadjan" huts surrounded by a litter of coconut shells, empty tins and other refuse, wherein mosquitoes find a convenient breeding place.

There is naturally less congestion in the rural areas than in the towns, but this advantage is to some extent offset by the villager's habit of allowing his house to become smothered in dense vegetation, so that neither sun nor air has access to it.

Progress in Housing Conditions is chiefly apparent in the towns, as a result of the strict supervision which is now exercised by the sanitary authorities over the erection of new buildings. From time to time old houses collapse and become completely uninhabitable, and others are closed on an order of Court, as unfit for habitation. In either case new houses are usually built to replace the old, and all new houses have to conform to a reasonably high standard. In this manner a gradual but definite improvement is taking place.

As regards the slum areas in Colombo and the larger towns the usual difficulty arises, which has been met with in England and elsewhere, that legal powers of closure cannot in practice be employed on a large scale unless accommodation is at the same time provided for the people ejected from the condemned buildings. For, otherwise, these people merely cause congestion elsewhere.

There is the further difficulty that a large proportion of the population—artisans, manual labourers and so on, do not earn sufficient wages to enable them to pay an economic rent for a habitable dwelling. It would appear that the problem can be solved only by the erection of "model dwellings" on an extensive scale, with rents reduced to a figure which the lower grades of labour can afford to pay. The cost of such an undertaking is likely to be beyond the resources of any local body and the co-operation of the Central Government appears to be essential.

CHAPTER VI.

Production.

AGRICULTURE.

General.—The main crops of the Island are coconut, paddy, tea, and rubber. Other crops which are grown to less extents, though their combined value is of not inconsiderable importance to the trade of the Island, are: cacao, cinnamon, citronella, arecanut, cardamoms, and tobacco.

Chena cultivation, that is, the growing of crops on jungle land newly cleared by burning, is an important feature of peasant agriculture in the sparsely populated areas of the dry-zone, while, in more favoured districts, and particularly in proximity to towns, market gardening brings in a small but regular income.

Animal husbandry is still a negligible factor in the agricultural economy of Ceylon, but interest in this branch is now becoming awakened, and the foundations of stock raising and dairy industries are being laid.

The extent of production of the several crops may be gauged from the following tables which give the approximate acreages under cultivation and the quantities of produce exported and the value of these in 1933 :—

Acreages under the Chief Crops (estimated only).

	Acres.		Acres.
Coconuts ..	1,100,000*	Palmyra ..	50,000‖
Rice ..	850,000†	Cacao ..	34,000‖
Rubber ..	534,000‡	Citronella ..	33,000‖
Tea	457,000§	Cinnamon ..	26,000‖
Chenas, vegetable, and other crops ..	140,000‖	Tobacco ..	14,000‖
Arecanuts ..	69,000‖	Cardamoms ..	6,000‖

Exports of Agricultural Products of the Island in 1933.

	Quantity.	Value. Rs.¶	Total Value of Class. Rs.¶
Black tea	215·9 mill. lb. ..	117·8	
Green tea	·2 mill. lb. ..	·1	
			117·9
Coconuts, fresh	21·7 mill. nuts ..	·6	
Copra	1·3 mill. cwt. ..	6·8	
Cocohut oil	1·1 mill. cwt. ..	10·8	
Coir yarn	·09 mill. cwt. ..	·7	
Desiccated coconut	·79 mill. cwt. ..	6·75	
Poonac	·51 mill. cwt. ..	1·5	
Bristle fibre .. .	·2 mill. cwt. ..	1·1	
Mattress fibre	·36 mill. cwt. ..	·48	
Coir rope, &c.	·01 mill. cwt. ..	·13	
			28·9
Rubber	142·3 mill. lb. ..		23·0
Cacao	7·3 mill. lb. ..		1·54
Arecanuts	·1 mill. cwt. ..		1·3
Cardamoms	3,161 cwt. ..		·3
Pepper and other spices	2,421 cwt. ..		·06
Cinnamon (quills and chips) ..	·05 mill. cwt. ..	1·0	
Cinnamon oil (bark and leaf) ..	2·6 mill. oz. ..	·3	
			1·3
Tobacco (unmanufactured and cigars) ..	2·2 mill. lb. ..		1·0
Citronella oil	1·46 mill. lb. ..		1·3
Papain	·1 lb. ..		·3
Kapok	4,226 cwt. ..		·1
		Total ..	177·0

Tea.

Acreage, &c.—Over 457,000 acres are planted in tea *Camellia Thea* consisting of about 1,230 estates. It is grown at elevations varying from sea level to 6,000 feet above sea level but mainly in the hilly country in the centre of the Island at elevations ranging between 1,500 feet and 5,000 feet. The better quality teas are grown at the higher elevations where the more temperate climate assists growth and produces flavour.

The manufactured product consists of the young tender shoots which after plucking undergo the processes of withering, rolling, fermenting, and drying or firing.

Pruning and Plucking.—The object of tea cultivation is to secure the maximum quantity of the best quality of leaf. For this purpose the bushes are pruned periodically so as to ensure regular, frequent, and plentiful "flushes,"

* Based on the results of the partial Census of Production, 1929.

† Based on an estimate of the Department of Agriculture: according to the partial Census of Production, 1929, the acreage was about 800,000, while according to the returns furnished by Government Agents to the Paddy Commission the extent under cultivation in 1930 amounted to 941,000 acres.

‡ Based on the Rubber Controller's Census of 1928, perhaps overstated. Owing to the slump in prices, possibly 50 per cent. of the acreage was not tapped.

§ Based on various estimates. The partial Census of Production, 1929, showed about 450,000 but excluded small holdings.

‖ Based on the results of the Censuses of Production, 1921 and 1924.

¶ In millions.

or young, tender shoots on the bushes. The tip of the new shoot and one or two leaves below it are plucked by hand, generally by the women of the labour force.

Rainfall.—A fairly evenly distributed rainfall of 80 to 120 inches a year is required for tea.

Labour.—About 95 per cent. of the labour on tea estates consists of immigrant labour from India. An estate requires on an average about $1\frac{1}{8}$ labourer per acre.

Cultivation.—Very extensive cultivation is carried out on tea estates to secure large yields. To improve the tilth and condition of the soil green and artificial manuring is carried out in a systematic and scientific manner. The low price and restriction of output have reduced the application of fertilizers during recent years.

Manufacture.—Great care and attention are paid to the manufacture of tea under its stages with a view to the production of the best flavoured tea with attractive appearance.

Research.—A scientific staff is maintained by the industry which is supported by a cess on exports for the purpose of investigating the scientific side of the growth and manufacture of tea.

Yields.—Yields vary considerably according to elevation, cultivation, &c., but may be said to range from 300 to 1,200 lb. made tea per acre. On a well cultivated estate 600 to 700 lb. is considered a satisfactory all-round yield.

Factory.—A large number of the tea factories have been rebuilt during recent years and the opportunity has been taken to erect new factories on chosen sites at a high elevation in order to secure the best conditions for the withering of the leaf which is essential for the production of flavoury tea. Originally many tea factories were old coffee factories converted, situated near the bed of a river to secure the advantages of water power. The principal machinery required consists of tea rollers, roll breakers, sifters, &c., and dryers. Suction gas engines are the usual source of power. The power required is roughly 10 to 12 horse-power per 100,000 lb. with a minimum of 25 h.p. for a small factory manufacturing about 120,000 lb. made tea.

Preparation for Export.—Tea is exported in metal lined wooden packages with the garden mark of the estate on which it is produced and is ready for consumption. It is usually blended and packed in packets before it actually reaches the consumers' hands.

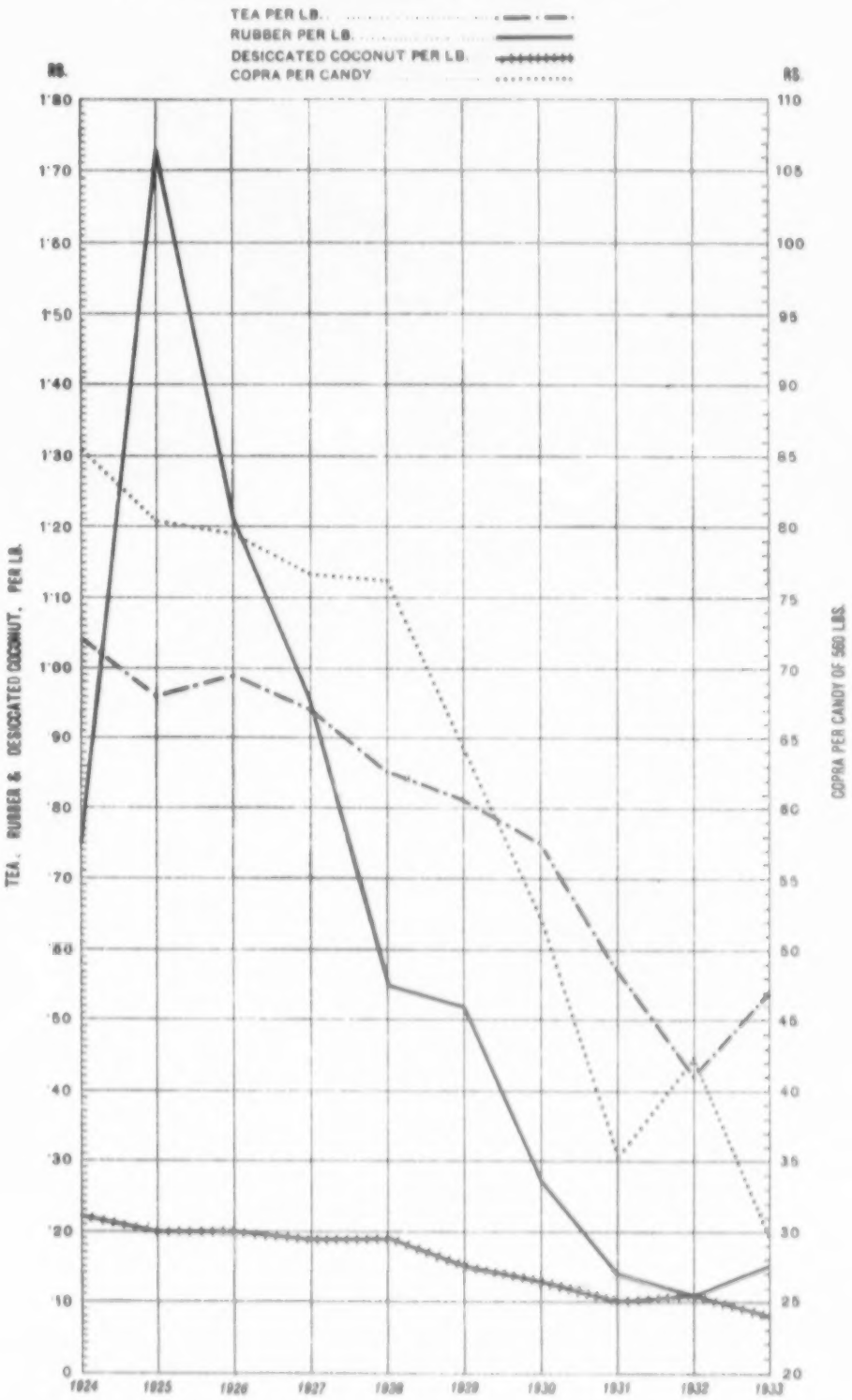
Restriction.—In May, 1933, an Ordinance to control the export of tea was passed by the State Council as a part of a joint scheme for the regulation of the export of tea from the main producing countries. The Ordinance is to be operative for a period of 5 years. For the first year of assessment which ended on April 1, 1934, Ceylon's exportable quota was fixed at 213,794,225 lb. being 85 per cent. of the total exports of tea from the Island, in 1929. For the following year of restriction Ceylon is allowed to export $87\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

Prices.—The local monthly averages recorded by the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce for 1933 were as follows :—

	Cents.		Cents.
January	42	July	65
February	50	August	73
March	50	September	66
April	40	October	66
May	41	November	68
June	50	December	72

DIAGRAM No. 5.

ANNUAL AVERAGE MARKET PRICES OF
TEA, RUBBER, DESICCATED COCONUT AND COPRA



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Organization of the League of Nations at Washington on November 28, 1919, and at Geneva on July 9, 1930, and provides that no child under 14 years of age shall be employed in any industrial undertaking and that no young person under 18 and no woman shall work at night except in certain specified industrial undertakings.

Provision has also been made for the proper housing and medical treatment of immigrant labourers on tea and rubber plantations by the Medical Wants Ordinance, No. 9 of 1912, and the Diseases (Labourers) Ordinance, No. 10 of 1912, and the Labour Ordinance, No. 1 of 1923.

(2) There has been no legislation regarding compensation for accidents or provision for old age and sickness for ordinary daily-paid workers. But immigrant labourers under the Ordinances already mentioned and servants under a contract of service are in law entitled to care and treatment during illness.

CHAPTER XV.

Public Finance and Taxation.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

THE revenue of the Island in the last five completed financial years was—

		Rs. c.			Rs. c.
1927–28	..	134,134,952 93	1930–31	..	101,767,555 90‡
1928–29	.	107,818,274 57*	1931–32	..	84,843,206 60
1929–30	..	110,926,863 47†			

The following is a statement of the expenditure in the same financial years:—

		Expenditure chargeable to general revenue, including accumulated surplus balances.		Expenditure chargeable to revenue pending raising of Loan funds.
		Rs. c.		Rs. c.
1927–28	..	152,107,200 15	..	—
1928–29	..	125,896,034 36*	..	—
1929–30	..	110,275,529 29	..	102,993 21
1930–31	..	100,296,064 73	..	280,463 63
1931–32	..	96,870,003 43	..	186,075 94

PUBLIC DEBT.

On September 30, 1932, the sterling debt of the Island stood at £15,733,468 and the rupee debt at Rs. 3,000,000 towards redemption of which were held securities and moneys amounting to £6,043,340 and Rs. 2,171,732.

Setting off the securities against the debts and effecting conversion at 1*s.* 6*d.* to the rupee, the net total Public Debt of the Island amounts to Rs. 130,043,195 which is a little over one and a half times the revenue for the year ended September 30, 1932.

A statement of the loan position of the Island as it stood on September 30, 1932, is annexed.

* Decrease due to separation of Railway accounts from the general budget.
† Includes Rs. 7,418,932.41 recovered from Loan, being expenditure met from surplus balances in previous years pending raising of loan.
‡ Includes Rs. 13,904,014 recovered from Loan, being expenditure met from surplus balances in previous years pending raising of loan.

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SUMMARY OF PUBLIC DEBT, 1931-32.

Description of Loan.		Equivalent at 1s. 6d. = Re. 1.	Investments held on behalf of the Sinking Fund.		Amounts in Deposit with Westminster Bank and Balance in hand pending Investment.	Total (of Columns 5 and 6).	Equivalent at 1s. 6d. = Re. 1.
			Face Value of Securities.	Market Value on September 30, 1932.			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	£. s. d.	Rs. c.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	Rs. c.
Debentures unredeemed ..	600 0 0	8,000 0	—	—	—	—	—
4 per cent. Inscribed Stock (Debentures converted), 1934 ..	1,076,100 0 0	14,348,000 0	1,281,814 10 10	1,305,238 4 7	673 15 10	1,305,912 0 5	17,412,160 28
3 per cent. Inscribed Stock, 1940	2,850,000 0 0	38,000,000 0	2,460,082 15 3	2,460,348 0 2	228 15 2	2,460,576 15 4	32,807,690 22
3½ per cent. Inscribed Stock, 1959	1,500,000 0 0	20,000,000 0	570,454 11 0	639,261 16 4	—	639,261 16 4	8,523,490 89
4 per cent. Inscribed Stock, 1959	1,000,000 0 0	13,333,333 33	261,594 12 8	272,774 15 6	9 0 0	272,783 15 6	3,637,117 0
6 per cent. Inscribed Stock, 1936-51	6,212,993 8 4	82,839,912 22	1,468,477 2 8	1,566,274 5 9	5 10 3	1,566,279 16 0	20,883,730 67
5 per cent. Inscribed Stock, 1960-70	1,250,000 0 0	16,666,666 67	—	—	—	—	—
4½ per cent. Inscribed Stock, 1965	1,843,775 0 0	24,583,666 66	—	—	—	—	—
	15,733,468 8 4	209,779,578 88	6,042,423 12 5	6,243,897 2 4	917 1 3	6,244,814 3 7	83,264,189 6
4 per cent. Ceylon Inscribed Stock, 1944 ..	—	3,000,000 0	70,442 13 6	78,000 3 3	0 7 2	78,000 10 5	1,040,006 95
			Rs. 1,231,500.00	Rs. 1,226,882.55	Rs. 991.69	Rs. 1,227,874.24	1,227,874 24
		212,779,578 88					85,532,070 25

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

The assets of the Island on September 30, 1932, amounted to Rs. 38,553,482.98 and the liabilities amounted to Rs. 35,380,751.22, showing an excess of assets over liabilities of Rs. 3,172,731.76. This surplus was less than the surplus shown on September 30, 1931, by a sum of Rs. 12,212,872.77.

The assets consisted of—

	Rs. c.
(1) Cash in the hands of the Deputy Financial Secretary, in fixed or current deposit in banks and with the Crown Agents in London	20,531,408 41
(2) Unissued stores, investments in rupee and sterling gilt-edged securities, advances to the General Manager of the Railway, other recoverable advances, security deposits in banks, &c., remittances in transit and suspense account	18,022,074 57
Total ..	38,553,482 98

The liabilities consisted of—

	Rs. c.
(1) Widows' and Orphans' Pension Fund	12 976,311 17
(2) Ceylon University Building and Equipment Fund	4,290,399 53
(3) Loan Funds	7,167,434 15
(4) Court suitors and other depositers in the Treasury and the Kachcheris ..	8,955,437 37
(5) Colombo Electricity Supply	1,458,740 4
(6) Other Governments and agencies, loans to local bodies (sinking funds) and unpaid drafts	532,428 96
	35,380,751 22

TAXATION AND YIELD THEREOF.

The main heads of taxation and the yield of each are as follows:—

	Rs. c.		Rs. c.
Customs ..	42,550,732 25	Estate duties ..	1,299,081 80
Salt ..	2,029,086 57	Police rates ..	197,111 96
Arrack ..	6,661,700 78	Betting tax ..	170,707 56
Licences—Sundries	577,874 60	Income tax ..	160,256 63
Tolls ..	33,183 20		55,985,900 88
Stamp duties including composition duty on Bank cheques and share certificates ..	2,306,165 53		

Excise and Stamp Duties (summarized).—The amount realized from Excise revenue during the financial year under review was Rs. 6,661,700.78 and that in respect of Stamp Duties Rs. 2,306,165.53. Compared with the revenue of the last financial year Excise revenue shows a decrease of Rs. 1,687,796.97 and Stamp Duties an increase of Rs. 535,507.51.

Revision of Taxes.—During the year under review the following changes in taxes were made:—

Income Tax under Ordinance No. 29 of 1932 was introduced with effect from April 1, 1932.

Charges on ordinary and urgent private telegrams under Ordinance No. 35 of 1908 were increased with effect from March 7, 1932.

Export duties on tea and cacao under Ordinance No. 17 of 1869 were reduced with effect from midnight of March 31/April 1, 1932.

Import duties levied under Ordinance No. 17 of 1869 were revised with effect from February 20, 1932, the duty on certain articles being increased thereafter, while other articles, previously admitted free of duty, became subject to duty.

CURRENCY.

On September 30, 1932, the value of the currency notes in circulation amounted to Rs. 41,966,896. The Commissioners of Currency on this date held silver rupees to the extent of Rs. 13,790,071 and British, Indian, and Colonial securities amounting to Rs. 33,216,558, cost price, or Rs. 35,340,238, market price.

The value of the reserve on September 30, 1932, was thus in excess of the value of the notes in circulation by Rs. 5,039,733.

During the year silver rupees to the extent of Rs. 474,106 were issued to the public and the banks in exchange for currency notes (Rs. 613,106 issued and Rs. 139,000 received).

Subsidiary coin of various denominations amounting in all to Rs. 11,805,166 was in circulation in the Island on September 30, 1932.

EXCHANGE.

The rates of exchange on London on December 31, 1932, were as follows:—

	s.	d.
Selling Demand	1	$6\frac{7}{32}$
Selling telegraphic transfer	1	$6\frac{3}{16}$
Buying Demand..	1	$6\frac{5}{32}$

ESTATE DUTIES.

Estates of persons whose deaths occurred on or after July 1, 1919, are chargeable with duty under the Estate Duty Ordinance, No. 8 of 1919. During the financial year 1931-32, a sum of Rs. 1,124,955.31 was collected as estate duty, as against Rs. 1,051,989.30 in the previous year. Of the kinds of property which paid duty, immovable property was by far the largest in value and represented 49.8 per cent. of the total value. 608 estates under Rs. 25,000 in value paid only 4.86 per cent. of the total duty while 4 estates between Rs. 1,500,000 and Rs. 2,500,000 in value paid 24.88 per cent., 26 estates between Rs. 150,000 and Rs. 300,000 paid 15.78 per cent., and 10 estates between Rs. 300,000 and Rs. 600,000 paid 11.02 per cent. These figures clearly show that estate duty is a tax on the rich.

26.6 per cent. of the duty was paid on the estates of persons domiciled out of the Island. In most of these cases the parties are entitled to a refund from the estate duty paid in the countries in which they are domiciled. The total amount of duty paid in respect of the Colonies during the financial year 1931-32 was only Rs. 4,705.90.

CHAPTER XVI.

Miscellaneous.

LAND.

IN considering the question of land the climatic divisions of the Island are of the greatest importance. The portion of the Island, roughly one-quarter of it, which receives the rain of the south-west monsoon is called the wet zone, and the remaining three-quarters the dry zone. Enjoying a generous rainfall, land in the wet zone is far more productive; tea, rubber, coconuts, and other economic crops could, up to the recent slump in prices, profitably be grown; and village cultivation flourishes with less labour. The bulk of the population of the Island is located in the wet zone. Since the British occupation there has been steady development both in large estates and in village holdings, and the population has considerably increased. Fresh land for development, accessible to the means of communication, has in recent years become scarcer.

In the dry zone, on the other hand, the conditions of life are much more severe. The rainfall is scanty and uncertain, and malaria in certain months almost universal. The village population, in general, has a hard struggle for existence, and does not tend to increase rapidly. The dry zone has hitherto had little attraction for the agriculturalist desiring to open land in economic products, and is largely undeveloped.

To provide a means of final settlement of the title to land as between the Crown and private individuals, a special Ordinance was passed in 1897, and the Land Settlement Department came into existence shortly afterwards. The law has recently been consolidated and brought up to date in the Settlement Ordinance of 1931. The task of settlement is a complicated one and cannot be unduly hurried, and large areas still remain to be dealt with. The lack of settlement in the Kandyan Provinces has inevitably tended to retard development, and it is the aim of Government to push on with the work as fast as possible.

Till recent years, persons desirous of buying or leasing land from the Crown applied in the first instance to the Revenue Officer of the district. Lands so applied for were surveyed in rotation, and eventually put up to public auction. The drawbacks of this system were that the applicants had no guarantee that they would be successful in securing the land and that a too haphazard development of the Crown estate took place. There was also a danger that the permanent interests of the village population would be overlooked. The system has now been modified and a policy substituted under which all available Crown land is

first mapped out, and the land required to meet the needs of the existing village population for small holdings, forests, pasture land, &c., and for State requirements such as reserved forests is first provided. If there is further land suitable for agriculture, land is next reserved for colonization by villagers who are crowded out in their own villages and are prepared to move to localities in which land is available. Land not required for any of the above purposes is if suitable mapped out for alienation under a new scheme recently approved, under which a Ceylonese who does not own more than 50 acres of land and desires to devote his energies to agriculture is eligible for selection for an allotment of land on easy terms and without competition. No applicant can get more than 50 acres under this scheme, and the terms preclude subsequent alienation of the land or any disposition of his interests in it by the allottee without the permission of some authority. It is proposed also to include conditions to prevent the land becoming subject in the future to multiple ownership, or being subdivided below a fixed unit of extent. An Ordinance to give effect to this new land-tenure will be introduced very shortly into the State Council, and meanwhile allotments are being made under the scheme in anticipation of the Ordinance. Only land that is not required or is not suitable for any of the above purposes will in future be alienated by unrestricted competition. It is not anticipated that there will be much more land in the wet zone available for such alienation.

Considerable progress has been made during the last two or three years in settling peasants on the land. In addition to many settlements under which peasants have received lands in their own villages, colonization schemes under which the peasants are moving from congested areas to take up land at some distance from their own home are beginning to achieve some success. The slump in rubber and other major products by depriving the peasants of a source of livelihood is tending to produce a willingness to move which has not existed hitherto. Under all these peasant settlement schemes lands are being given on terms which preclude subsequent alienation without the consent of Government and ensure that some use is made of the land.

With regard to the dry zone, to which eventually the surplus population of the congested areas in the wet zone must turn if it is to have sufficient land for agricultural development, efforts are now being made to encourage the taking up of the remaining land under the large irrigation works. There are still some 12,000 to 15,000 acres of such land and there are signs that the development of this land will not be very long postponed.

In addition to this, a scheme is on foot to encourage the taking up of small farms for ordinary (dry) farming upon land which cannot be irrigated from tanks and the adoption of annual cultivation with the plough and a rotation of crops. It has been proved by experiment that such farming, which has not yet been extensively tried in the dry zone of Ceylon and is something new to the village cultivator, is feasible. It is believed that the future agricultural development of the dry zone largely depends upon the successful introduction of this system of farming.

FORESTS.

The Island during the year 1932 experienced the general economic depression to an even greater degree than in the previous year. This was evidenced in a still further decline in forest revenue from Rs. 495,774.10 to Rs. 433,402.24—a drop of rather over Rs. 62,000 as compared with a drop of over Rs. 188,000 between 1930 and 1931.

During the period under review the Department continued its policy of withdrawing staff from non-productive areas and of employing their services on areas to be dedicated to the production of timber on a commercial scale.

In following out this policy it has become clear that certain forest areas will have to be handed over to the Revenue Officers from which casual requirements of the population of the immediate neighbourhood will be met. Areas left under the control of the Department will be further divided into those which will be commercially exploited to meet the present requirements of the population and those which will be intensively managed to meet the timber requirements of posterity.

Working on these premises the office of Direction was engaged in the latter part of the year first of all in obtaining statistics regarding the actual requirements of the present population in timber and fuel, and subsequently in formulating proposals of reorganization to deal with the situation—as viewed from this new angle.

It was found necessary during the year to increase the headquarters staff of the Development Branch—which at the beginning of the year consisted of the Development Officer and a Reselection Officer—by the addition of an officer in charge of Working Plans.

Reselection of area for reservation in conjunction with mapping out by Revenue Officers continued throughout the year in the North-Central, North-Western, Western, Southern, and Sabaragamuwa Provinces.

In August a census of consumption of timber and firewood coming into the city of Colombo was taken; and from the figures thus obtained it was possible to form a fairly accurate estimate of the demands. On this estimate work was immediately put in hand for drawing up a Working Plan to meet these requirements, which is now engaging the attention of the officer in charge of Working Plans.

This Working Plan will show the area required to be maintained and managed to meet this demand.

It was also found that, though a considerable amount of knowledge on the silvicultural requirements of indigenous species was available, the data were insufficiently collated and co-ordinated for the use of the Working Plans Branch. Accordingly one officer—who was already attached to the office of Direction on special duty, in connection with the preparation of the quinquennial report for the Empire Forestry Conference—was deputed to organize and co-ordinate the Silvicultural Research work of the Department. As a result, notes have already been prepared regarding three indigenous species, which are to be perpetuated; while pamphlets were also prepared—at the request of the Hon. the Minister of Agriculture and Lands—on Seasoning and Preservation of Ceylon Timbers, and on species suitable for cultivation as fuel, and in wind-belts.

Distinct progress has thus been made in the reorganization of the controlling staff to meet the present situation, and reorganization of the executive staff will follow gradually, and as soon as occasion permits.

In the field special parties were engaged during the year in connection with reselection of reserves, and—latterly—in stock mapping and carrying out enumerations for the preparation of the Colombo Fuel Supply Working Plan.

Regeneration operations continued to be carried out by Divisional Officers, and —in two cases—by Assistant Development Officers. An area of 1,542 acres was added to the area already under artificially formed plantations.

The total net area under intensive management at the end of the year was thus 27,327 acres, on which an expenditure of Rs. 89,500.15 was incurred—or, rather more than Rs. 3 per acre.

In up-country areas further observations in arboreta—formed for the purpose—enabled the Department to discard the future use of several species, which, though satisfactory in the nursery stage, were found unsuited to the climate and locality when put out in plantations. The process of elimination of unsuitable exotic species is necessarily slow—depending as it does on observations, from year to year, on the adaptability of the various species, under trial, to local conditions. Six conifers, five eucalypts, and six other broad-leaved species are at present being persisted with; and of these two conifers and two broad-leaved species show adaptability to patana soils.

Species discarded during the year were all conifers.

The cash revenue of the Department showed a further decline, as indicated above. This is accounted for by (*a*) the continuance of the economic depression, (*b*) a considerable reduction in the value of exported Satinwood, (*c*) the flooding of the limited market with timber from forests required for immediate agricultural development, (*d*) the concession of allowing free removal of and trading in Minor Forest Produce, and (*e*) a more liberal policy in regard to the issue of free-grants of timber. An improvement in general trade conditions would

automatically have a beneficial effect on the revenue of the Department. It must, however, be remembered that a continuation of the present liberal land and timber policy must act as a check on any marked increase of forest revenue, which may result from improved trade conditions.

A considerable amount of criticism has been levelled against the Department during the past year for its failure to make use of indigenous sources of supply to meet the demands for Railway sleepers and tea-chests.

The Department is endeavouring to resuscitate the utilization of local timbers for the former; but supplies are not as plentiful as they were formerly—the more accessible forests having been heavily exploited in the past to meet requirements under this head. It is therefore improbable that more than a small proportion of the annual demand can be met from local sources, at economic rates.

In regard to tea-chests, the matter has already received very careful consideration by the Department. One of the chief factors which militates against the use of local timbers for this purpose is that the Tea industry itself now shows a very marked preference for the use of ply-wood chests. For the manufacture of ply-wood chests three requirements are essential—viz., (*a*) the erection of an expensive ply-wood factory, which is dependent on (*b*) the supply of one—and only one—species of timber in commercial quantities (not less than one million cubic feet annually) and on (*c*) low cost of such timber delivered at the factory.

The matter is receiving the careful consideration of the Department but it must be accepted that, until a local species, which satisfies the above conditions and which is suitable for the manufacture of ply-wood, is found, the supply of locally made chests must remain insignificant.

In conclusion it should be placed on record that the forest policy of Government requires that the Forest Department shall make the Island self-supporting in its requirements for timber and other essential forest produce. It is not generally realized—outside the Department—that in order to give effect to this policy an area of not less than two and a half million acres situated in accessible localities will be required for intensive management.

During periods of economic stress the requirements of posterity are apt to be overlooked by the immediate needs of the present population.

Forestry essentially caters for posterity and unless, during the present economic crisis, adequate consideration is given to the needs of forestry in the Island, it will be impossible ever to give effect to the policy, as laid down.

Survey.

The Survey Department.—As no land can be alienated or otherwise dealt with by the Crown until it has been surveyed and demarcated, the work of the Survey Department is of great importance. Its chief activities in this connection may be summarized as follows:—

(*a*) Application Surveys, *i.e.*, scattered disconnected surveys of small areas of land required for sales, leases, and various other purposes.

(*b*) Block Surveys, or continuous surveys of large areas of land according to villages, showing private land *en bloc* and not according to claims.

(*c*) Acquisition Surveys, or surveys of land to be acquired by the Crown for public purposes.

(*d*) Town and Forest Surveys, and isolated surveys for settlement and miscellaneous purposes.

(*e*) Land Development, Peasant Proprietor and Colonization Surveys.

Topographical Surveys.—In addition the Survey Department attends to the Topographical Survey of the Island. Sectional maps for the whole Island on the scale of 1 mile to the inch can be obtained at the Surveyor-General's Office, Colombo, and numerous small-scale maps are also published. The chief of these are—

4-mile and 8-mile to the inch maps of the Island.
8-mile to the inch motor maps
6-mile to the inch motor maps, in book form.
4-mile and 24-mile to the inch agricultural maps.

Other work of the Survey Department.—The other work of the Survey Department is not directly connected with the subject of this chapter. It includes—

(1) Precise Levelling.
(2) Town-planning and Assessment Surveys.
(3) The Observatory and Meteorological Stations.
(4) Trigonometrical Surveys.

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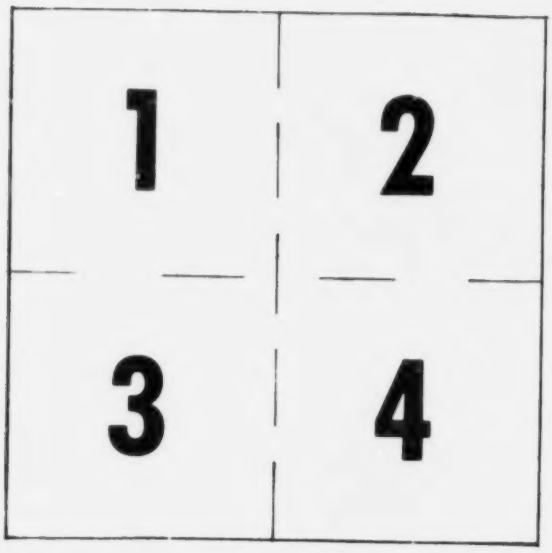

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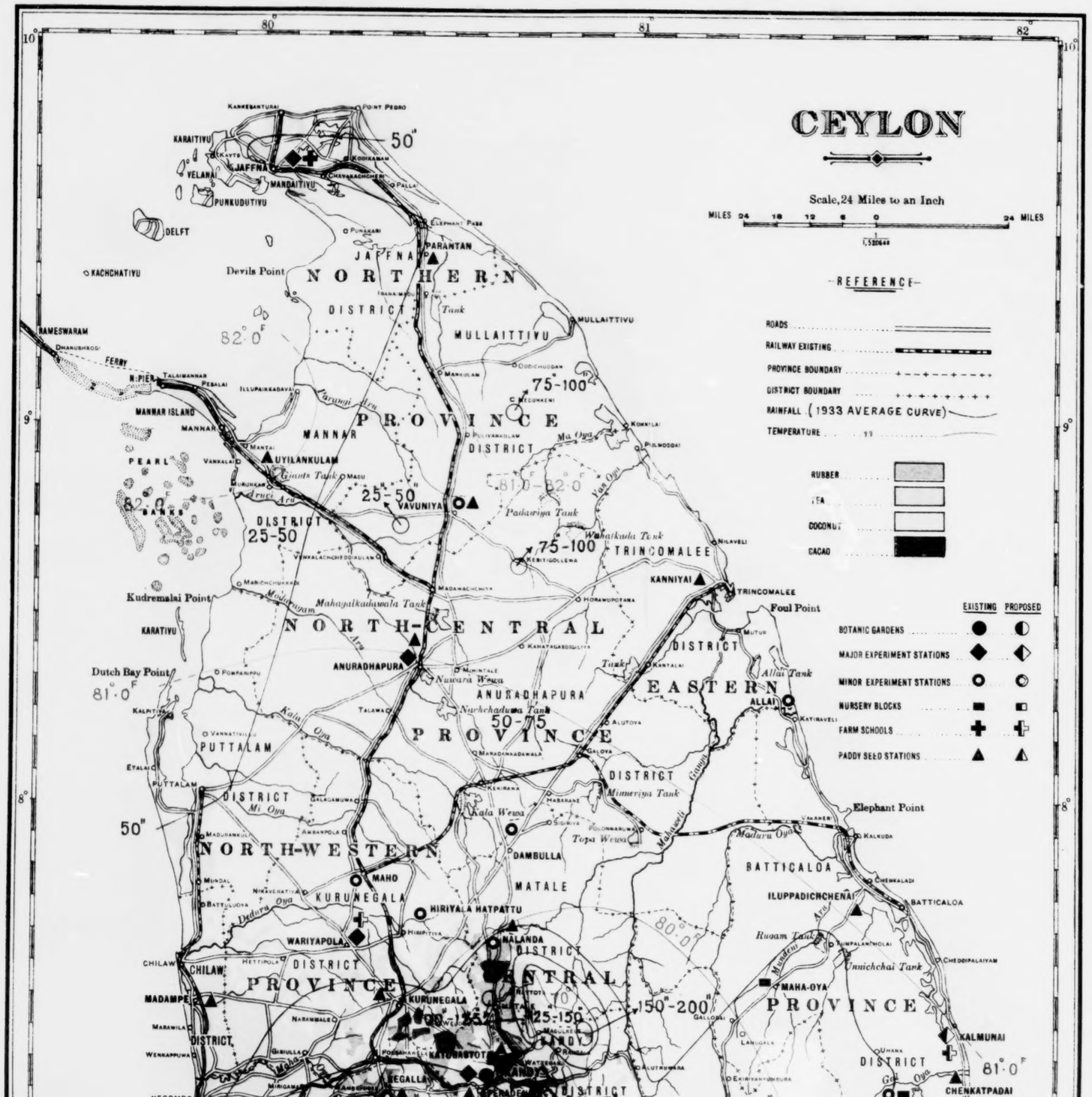
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Scale, 24 Miles to an Inch
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REFERENCE
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PROVINCE BOUNDARY
DISTRICT BOUNDARY
RAINFALL (1933 AVERAGE CURVE)
TEMPERATURE
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TEA
COCONUT
CACAO
EXISTING PROPOSED
BOTANIC GARDENS
MAJOR EXPERIMENT STATIONS
MINOR EXPERIMENT STATIONS
NURSERY BLOCKS
FARM SCHOOLS
PADDY SEED STATIONS
NORTHERN PROVINCE
JAFFNA DISTRICT
NORTH-CENTRAL PROVINCE
ANURADHAPURA DISTRICT
NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCE
PUTTALAM DISTRICT
CENTRAL PROVINCE
KURUNEGALA DISTRICT
MATALE DISTRICT
KANDY DISTRICT
EASTERN PROVINCE
TRINCOMALEE DISTRICT
BATTICALOA DISTRICT
UVA PROVINCE
BADULLA DISTRICT
MONARAGALA DISTRICT
SABARAGAMUWA PROVINCE
RATNAPURA DISTRICT
GALLE DISTRICT
MATARA DISTRICT
HAMBANTOTA DISTRICT
SOUTHERN PROVINCE
WESTERN PROVINCE
COLOMBO DISTRICT
KALUTARA DISTRICT
MANNAR DISTRICT
MANNAR ISLAND
PEARL BANKS
DELFT
KACHCHATIVU
Devils Point
Kudremalai Point
Dutch Bay Point
Foul Point
Elephant Point
RAMESWARAM
DHANUSHKODI
FERRY
N. PIER
PARANTAN
ELEPHANT PASS
JAFFNA
KANKESANTURAI
POINT PEDRO
KARAITIVU
VELANAI
PUNKUDUTIVU
MANDAITIVU
MULLAITTIVU
TRINCOMALEE
KANNIYAI
ALLAI
BATTICALOA
ILUPPADICHCHENAI
KALMUNAI
CHENKATPADAI
ANURADHAPURA
PUTTALAM
DAMBULLA
MAHO
KURUNEGALA
HIRIYALA HATPATTU
WARIYAPOLA
MALANDA
MADAMPE
CHILAW
MAHA-OYA
VAVUNIYA
UYILANKULAM
KATUGASTOTA
KANDY
REGALLA
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50-75"
25-150"
150"-200"
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81°0 F
80°0 F
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Mi Oya
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Deduru Oya
Maha Oya
Mahaweli Ganga
Madura Oya
Gal Oya
Kala Wewa
Topa Wewa
Minneriya Tank
Padaviya Tank
Nuwara Wewa
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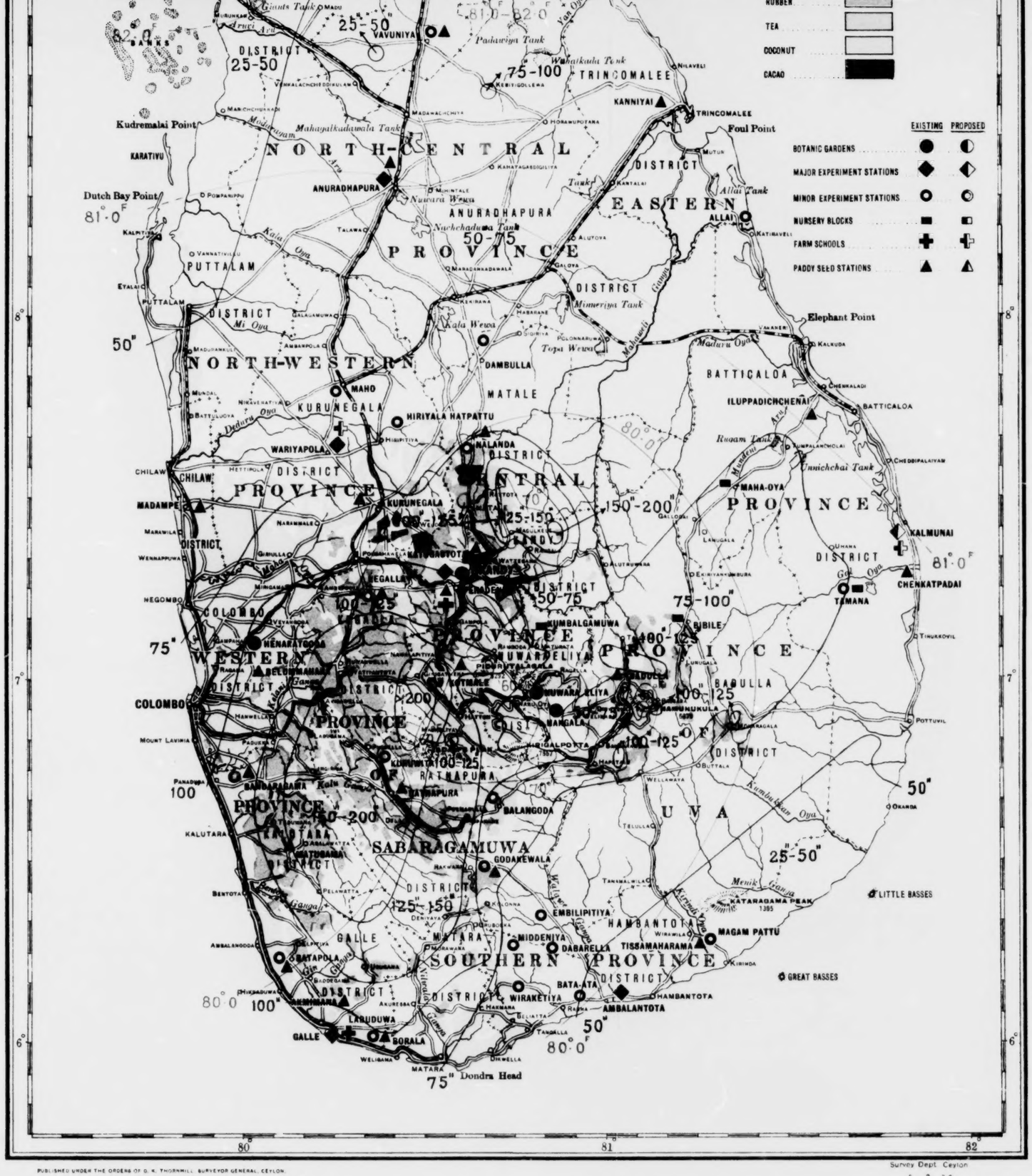

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Annual General Report for 1933 on the Economic, Social, and General Conditions of the Island.

CHAPTER I.

Introductory.

CEYLON is justly famed for its scenic beauty, its archæological remains, the wealth of its legendary history and its philosophic idealism. Men of Lanka have many good reasons to be proud of their country. It is the scenic beauty of Ceylon which makes the first appeal. This is the lure which attracts the tourist and the globe trotter. The bustling visitor on a Cook's tour who disembarks at Colombo and waits for the return of the boat from Rangoon has ten days to burn or to beautify. He becomes the searcher of guide books and directories and is fortunate if he has a resident friend to pilot him at the lowest expenditure of time and money through the round of familiar sights. The visitor who is breathlessly hurried from scene to scene will be impressed with the modernity of much that he sees—up-to-date hotels, fashionable shops, displaying a wealth of English as well as Asiatic materials side by side or in adjacent buildings, cinema houses, electric tramways and vigilant taxis and tropical bungalows of the well-to-do, designed for utility and comfort with no bizarre element about them. The main roadways of Colombo are such as any European city may be proud of. All the conveniences of civilization are at the beck and call of the tourist ; and so he may dine in comfort, eating caviare and drinking champagne and heady liquor at expensive hotels or dining cabaret-fashion to the irresistible strains of jazz. But in another mood he will long to get closer to nature, and this he can do in any part of Ceylon which borders on the sea, if he chooses to wake up early. The sketch facing page 7 "Southern Morning" is such as might have evoked the lines of a local poet :

" God is again beginning, for the day is new."

And as the day grows older, he may quote yet another line of the same poet :

" Land of the fairy-haunted lawns."

The fairies in this picture are palm trees which, like the box of Pandora, for many a generation have showered their blessings on men both of high and low degree. The only thing left for the growers of the coconut palm is hope that the " consols of the East " may rise in value again : and the coconut industry be rescued from the slough of depression by some miracle.

2——J. N. 46523 (6/34)

The coconut palm is remarkable for its beauty as well as its utility. The method of plucking the fruit is still primitive but efficient. The gentleman (facing page 23) with the ring round his ankle is ascending to pluck the ripe nuts, and he has been caught at a remarkable angle. The proof of the plucking is in the drinking (p. 25). At noon-day King coconut is the sweetest of drinks. But the visitor will not linger in coconut groves for ever. When he has grown blasé at being hurled through space in petrol-driven cars, he may try the sensation of being pulled by rickshaw. The young fellow between the shafts (p. 89) can take him at a goodly pace ; he has not yet begun to show the wear and tear of this method of propulsion ; but the rickshaw takes its toll of youth, and so the passenger must be generous after his ride and at the journey's end pay a liberal fare (p. 91).

All types of merchants and merchandise may be found in the bazaar quarter—known as the Pettah (English for Pitakotuwa, outside the Fort), once the fashionable quarter of Colombo, now the seat of a busy trade in hardware, millinery, haberdashery, fruit and every kind of saleable article except perhaps peanuts and monkeys, as well as the haunt of pedlars, and boasting the possession of half the wealth of Ceylon—for it is here the Borah, Indian and Japanese merchants and the cream of Oriental Big Business foregather, and it is through these men that the wealth of the Banks is distributed.

But sometimes the tourist grows impatient to escape from the utilitarianism of Colombo and to get into the open country. There is a well-favoured route which takes the tourist south where he may see the ramparts of Galle and the old Dutch church. He may travel by rail to any corner of the Island or he may prefer the controlled speed of the motor-car. If he is a sportsman the jungles and the game sanctuary of Hambantota will detain him for an inordinate length of time. If his desire is for other joys than those of Nimrod, he will penetrate to the interior and explore the environs of Tissamaharama. Here he will behold the remains of a vanished civilization, and if he is possessed of a historical sense, he will be glad to hear something of the ancient glories of the Sinhalese. It is this quarter which gave birth to the greatest of the Sinhalese kings of antiquity. The story of the wedding of King Vijaya with Kuveni is one of the legends with which the history of the Sinhalese race is embellished. The ancient historians, like Herodotus, hit the " happy mean between jejuneness and turgidity " ; they thought that history was a form of poetry, and mixed much imaginative matter with the narrative of fact. The history of the Sinhalese given in the Mahavamsa with fact and legend so beautifully intertwined is well worth perusing. The traveller who is asked to read these legends will say : " All right, another time," and will pass on to Haputale and Hakgalla gardens. But in getting there, he will experience a remarkable translation from tropical heat to a temperate clime. Hakgalla is on the skirts of Nuwara Eliya, and from its highest point—Pedro—one can watch the sunrise, and look across the hills to where it is said the Buddha once planted his foot—Adam's Peak.

Adam's Peak suggests a wonderful climb on foot, and a wonder whether there will be time to do it ; but there are only five days more and the tourist is reluctantly bound to abandon the idea. But there is still Kandy, and its more unsophisticated peoples who boast that they were never conquered by the foreigner, and its sacred Temple of the Tooth (p. 30). The tourist hears

of the procession at the Perahera, an autumnal festival with its troop of monstrous decorative elephants reverently carrying sacred relics in procession to the sound of music and tinkling of cymbals and agile dancing feet (p. 39). The regalia of the dancers is a work of art, and their dance suggestive of agelong passions and almost forgotten meanings. But alas! it is not August; and one must take the road to Dambulla, and Sigiriya—where there are the relics of undying art still to be seen (pp. 54 & 65). These are the things of which Ceylonese may justly be proud. Thence to Polonnaruwa, where the remains of a great civilization enchant the eye and fill the heart with wonder, and on to Anuradhapura, the seat of a great civilization and a greater religion. The " bare ruined choirs " of fallen colonnades of old palaces and perished fanes are there to tell of past glories and conjure back the ghosts of peoples long since dead. The Mahavamsa records the invasion of the Tamils from the North, and of the coming of Buddhism to Ceylon. But space and time do not permit more than superficial comment on the vanity of human greatness. The glamour of temporal magnificience is past, but the sacred Bo-tree still lives on as the emblem of an imperishable faith. *Sic transit gloria mundi.* The tourist, if he is sufficiently sensitive, registers a vow that he will go more deeply into the story of this people who have a quaint elegance and charm of their own. He hopes to come again some day. And so Salaam and God speed!

Situation and Dimensions.

Ceylon lies between 5° 55′ and 9° 50′ N. latitude and 79° 42′ and 81° 53′ E. longitude. The greatest length of the Island from north to south, *i.e.*, from Point Palmyra to Dondra Head, is 270 miles; its greatest width 140 miles, from Colombo on the west coast to Sangamankanda on the east. Its area is 25,332 square miles, nearly the same as that of Holland and Belgium, or about half the size of England.

The approximate distances of Colombo, the chief port of Ceylon, from the other chief world ports, and the average tariff for the itinerary are given below :—

Colombo to London.

	Nautical Miles.	Approximate Days' Journey.
Aden	2,100	8
Suez	3,407	12
Port Said	3,494	13
Marseilles	5,091	16
Gibraltar (*vid* Marseilles)	5,690	19
Gibraltar (direct)	5,407	18
London (by sea *vid* Marseilles)	7,005	24
London (by sea direct)	6,725	20
London (overland)	5,868	17

Colombo to India, &c.

	Nautical Miles.	Approximate Days' Journey.
Calcutta (touching at Madras)	1,260	7
Bombay	875	3
Rangoon	1,249	4½
Penang	1,276	5
Singapore	1,567	6
Hong Kong (touching at Singapore)	3,113	13
Shanghai (touching at Singapore and Hong Kong)	3,966	17
Yokohama (*vid* Singapore and Hong Kong)	5,083	23

Colombo to Australia.

	Nautical Miles.	Approximate Days' Journey.
Fremantle	3,121	9
Adelaide (touching at Fremantle)	4,479	13
Melbourne (touching at Fremantle and Adelaide)	4,979	15
Sydney (touching at Fremantle, Adelaide, and Melbourne)	5,556	18

Colombo to South Africa, &c.

	Nautical Miles.	Approximate Days' Journey.
Mauritius	2,099	10
Durban (touching at South African ports)	3,680	18
Cape Town (touching at South African ports)	4,362	21–3

PASSAGE FARES.

Colombo to London :—	
1st class single	£54 to £80
2nd class single	£40 to £50
3rd and tourist single	£27 to £62
Colombo-Sydney :—	
1st class single	£48
2nd class single	£32
3rd and tourist single	£22 to £41
Colombo-Melbourne :—	
1st class single	£45
2nd class single	£30
3rd and tourist single	£21 to £40
Colombo-Durban :—	
1st class single	£32
2nd class single	£20
Colombo-Singapore :—	
1st class single by P. & O.	£22
2nd class single by P. & O.	£14
Colombo-Hong Kong :—	
1st class single by P. & O.	£36
2nd class single by P. & O.	£20
Colombo-Yokohama :—	
1st class single by P. & O.	£46
2nd class single by P. & O.	£26
Colombo-Bombay :—	
1st class single	£10
2nd class single	£7
Colombo-Calcutta :—	
1st class single	£10
2nd class single	£8
Colombo-Rangoon :—	
1st class single	Rs. 180
Colombo-Port Said :—	
1st class single	£41 to £60
2nd class single	£29 to £40
3rd class and tourist single	£18 to £58
Colombo-Marseilles :—	
1st class single	£51 to £76
2nd class single	£36 to £46
3rd and tourist single	£20 to £60
Colombo-Boston and New York	£60 to £95

Facilities provided at the Passenger Jetty for the storage of baggage are described on page 85. Passengers' baggage is defined by the Customs Regulations to mean *bona fide* baggage (which includes wearing apparel and personal effects) of a passenger accompanying him or arriving in Ceylon within one month, before or after his arrival, or within such time as the Collector of Customs in the circumstances deems reasonable. With certain exceptions, passengers' baggage is exempt from duty.

The Ceylon Government Railway serves the principal towns of the Island, and offers to visitors excellent facilities for inland travel. Cheap first class tourist tickets obtainable from the Booking Office at the Jetty, the Fort Station, and recognized tourist agents at Rs. 50 (£3. 15*s.*) for two weeks and Rs. 75 (£5. 12*s.* 6*d.*) for one month, permit tourists to travel 951 miles of railway and visit the most important and historic towns.

The distances from Colombo to some of the principal towns of the Island, and information regarding sleeping and restaurant cars, &c., are found on pages 89–90.

There is no legal tariff for taxi-cabs within the Municipal limits of Colombo, but the usual scale of fares is as follows :—

For the first half mile	50 cents
For each subsequent ½ mile up to 1 mile	12½ ,,
For each subsequent mile	75 ,,

Extra charges are made for each passenger over two, and for each piece of luggage other than hand luggage. A higher scale of fares is charged in the case of taxi-cabs hired between the hours of 9 P.M. and 6.30 A.M.

The above rates apply only to places within the Municipal limits of Colombo. For trips to places outside Colombo Municipality special terms should be agreed upon *before starting*. The hiring-car fares to such places vary from 40 cents to Re. 1 per mile, with extra charges for detention.

There are hotels of the European type in Colombo, Kandy, Nuwara Eliya, Galle, and Anuradhapura ; the rates are usually Rs. 9 a day and upwards, the usual charge for first-class accommodation being Rs. 12 a day. Cold Storage

DIAGRAM No. I

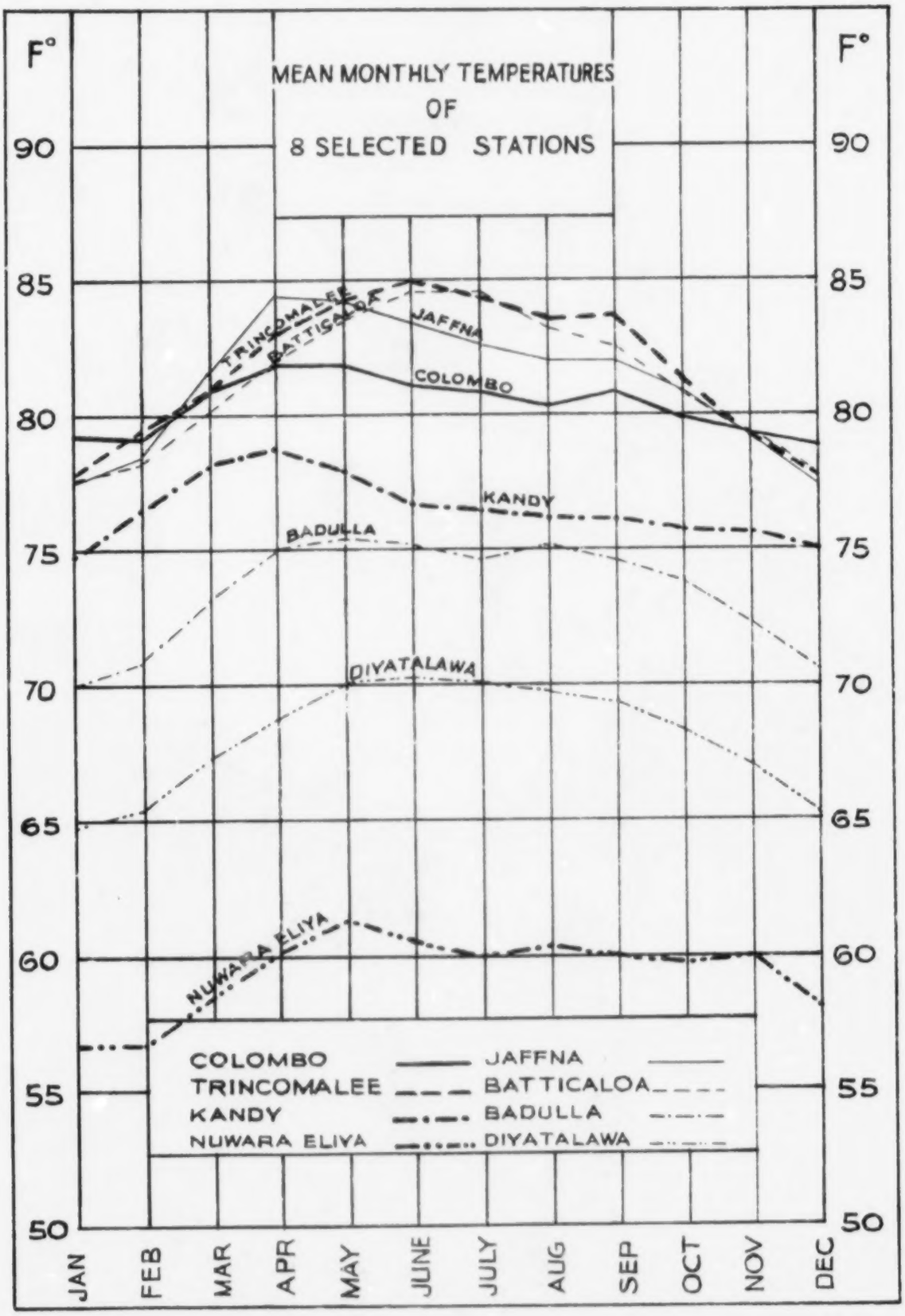

MEAN MONTHLY TEMPERATURES
OF
8 SELECTED STATIONS
F°
90
85
80
75
70
65
60
55
50
TRINCOMALEE
BATTICALOA
JAFFNA
COLOMBO
KANDY
BADULLA
DIYATALAWA
NUWARA ELIYA
COLOMBO
TRINCOMALEE
KANDY
NUWARA ELIYA
JAFFNA
BATTICALOA
BADULLA
DIYATALAWA
JAN
FEB
MAR
APR
MAY
JUNE
JULY
AUG
SEP
OCT
NOV
DEC

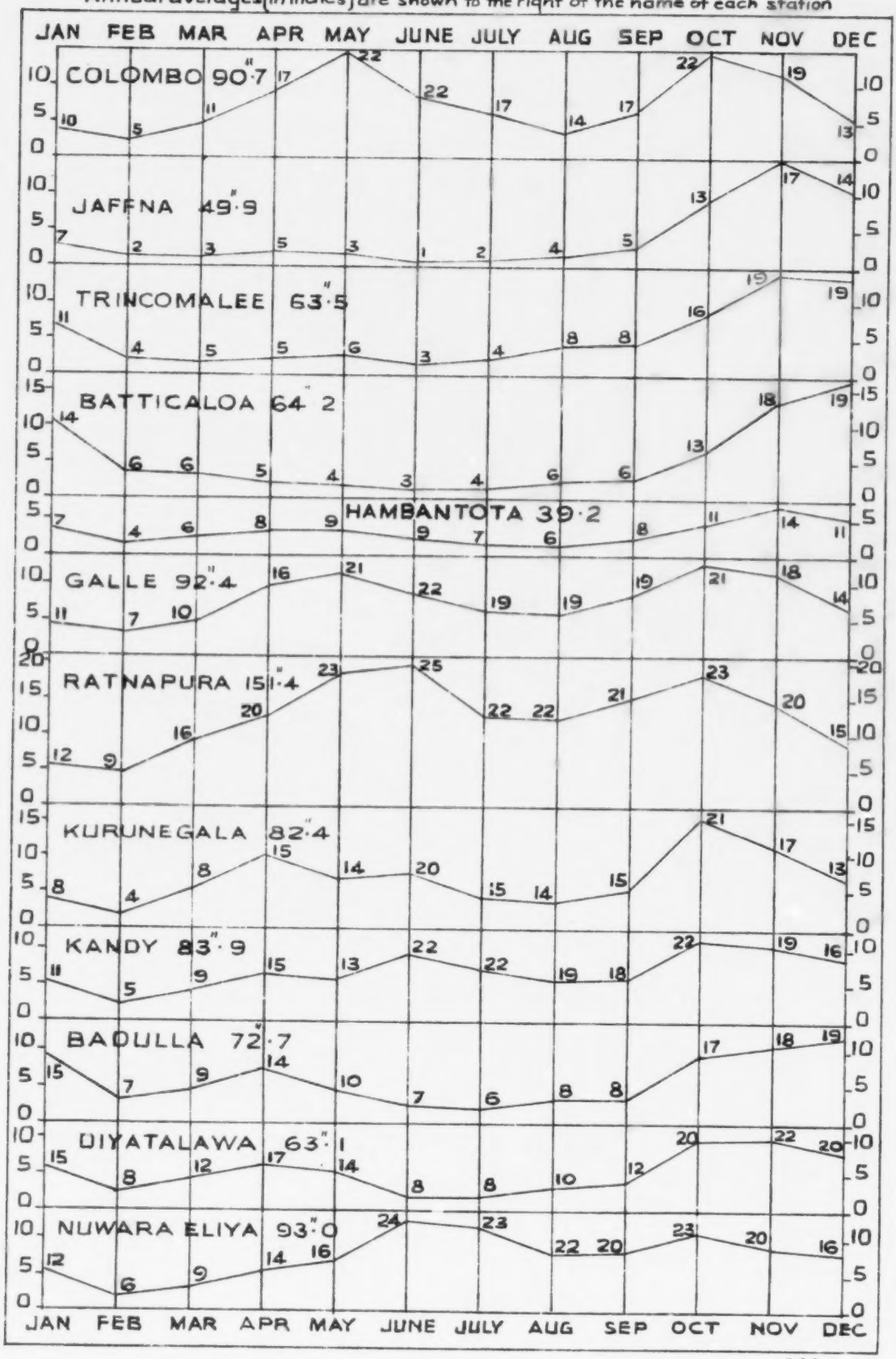
Diagram № 2

MEAN MONTHLY RAINFALL

OF 12 SELECTED STATIONS

Figures along the curve denote the number of wet days

Annual averages (in inches) are shown to the right of the name of each station



D.G.O. 14. 2. 34

Companies in Colombo supply ice and frozen meats and other foods by rail. In addition to hotels there are about 170 resthouses in various parts of the Island (they are marked on the ordinary motoring map), many of them very delightfully situated beside the sea or some river or tank.

Useful information may be had from the handbook published by the Automobile Association of Ceylon. "How to see Ceylon" by Bella Sidney Woolf is a favourite guide book for tourists. More ambitious and more informative is Bassett's Romantic Ceylon, a recent addition to the voluminous literature on the subject.

Climate.

On the whole, the climate of Ceylon is tolerable for the tropics. The accessibility of the hills is a great boon to the plain dwellers, and a change to the sea is beneficial to those who live in the hills. In the low-country, the districts which have been opened in rubber, coconuts, and other products are generally fairly healthy, but in the unopened localities malaria is common.

Temperature.—With regard to temperature, the range of variation at several stations is shown in diagram No. 1 facing this page.

The low seasonal variations will be noted, but it will be seen that the differences between the temperatures of low-country and up-country stations are considerable. The highest shade temperature registered in Ceylon was 103·7° F. at Trincomalee in May, 1890, and the minimum air temperature 27·1° F. at Nuwara Eliya in February, 1914. A maximum temperature of 103·7° F. is not excessive, but the humidity is considerable, the annual average percentage of saturation being generally about 80, Galle and Nuwara Eliya 84, Colombo and Badulla 82, Jaffna 81, Kandy 80, Batticaloa 78, Trincomalee 76. At Colombo, the "hot weather" may be said to extend from March to May, and the "cold weather" from December to February. July and August are often pleasant, particularly on the west side of the Island.

As is generally found in the tropics, however, the seasons are distinguished by differences in rainfall, rather than pronounced variations in temperature. The change in the direction of the monsoon winds, from S.-W. to N.-E., causes a corresponding change in the localities of the heaviest rain, which is usually experienced to windward of the hills, while during the intermonsoon seasons, local wind circulations are liable to give rain in any part of the Island. The mean temperature during the year varied from 81·5° in Trincomalee to 59·0° in Nuwara Eliya.

Rainfall.—The annual average rainfall varies from about 35 inches in the north-west and the south-east to over 200 inches in some parts of the interior. The annual averages in 1933 are 91 inches at Colombo, 84 inches at Kandy, and 93 inches at Nuwara Eliya. Diagram No. 2 facing this page shows the mean monthly rainfall of 12 selected stations.

History.

The earliest inhabitants of the Island are thought to have been the Nagas and Yakkhas, the latter being perhaps now represented by the Veddas a fast fading race. Legendary history has it that the first invaders were Aryans from the

North of India who, under the leadership of Vijaya, overcame the aborigines and established the Sinhalese dynasty. Early attention appears to have been paid by the invaders to irrigation works, agricultural development, and other branches of civil administration, and by the end of the third century A.D. a comparatively advanced stage of civilization had been reached.

The history of Ceylon down to the sixteenth century may be divided into two parts, viz., the period of the Sinhalese *Mahavansa, circa* 500 B.C. to 300 A.D., and that of the *Suluvansa*, from *circa* 300 A.D. onwards. The first period is one of increasing development and expanding civilization, connected chiefly with the progress of Buddhism, which was introduced about 247 B.C. The second period is one of ever-increasing pressure from the Tamils, Pandyans, and Cholas from India, with occasional success on the part of the Sinhalese, particularly during the reign of their famous king, Parakrama Bahu I. (1153 to 1186 A.D.). A natural limit occupation resulted from the constant warfare, and the Tamils known as Jaffnese were left in possession of the north of the Island.

In the sixteenth century the Portuguese formed settlements on the coasts of the Island; in the next century they were dispossessed by the Dutch. The Portuguese must be credited with the introduction of Catholic Christianity into the Island, and the Dutch with the introduction of Roman Law. The impression made by the latter on the social customs of the Ceylonese remains to this day. More recently commerce has brought about a peaceful invasion of Moors, officially styled Muslims, and Malays who are found in largest numbers in Hambantota, and are reckoned to be the backbone of the Police force. In 1796 the British took possession of the Dutch settlements in the Island, which were then annexed to the Presidency of Madras, but five years later, in 1802, Ceylon was constituted a separate Crown Colony. In 1815, the districts of the interior, which had maintained their independence under the kings of Kandy, were acquired by Great Britain as the result of a rebellion against the Kandyan king, and the whole Island was thus united under the British rule.

Principal Languages.

Sinhalese and Tamil are the two chief vernacular languages in the Island, the former being spoken by the Sinhalese who chiefly inhabit the western, central, and southern portions of the Island, and the latter by the Tamils inhabiting the northern and eastern parts and by the immigrant estate population. English is in general use among the people of the upper and the middle classes of all communities.

CHAPTER II.

Government.

The Constitution.

UNTIL 1931 the Constitution of Ceylon was of the Crown Colony type, the government being vested in the Governor assisted by Executive and Legislative Councils. A description of the old Constitution will be found in the Annual General Reports of 1929 and previous years.

In July, 1931, the then exisiting Constitution was superseded by a new Constitution, based on the recommendations of a Special Commission on the

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Constitution appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies, which visited Ceylon in 1927–28. The new Constitution was formulated by the Ceylon (State Council) Order in Council, 1931. The principal constitutional changes involved are described below.

The Legislative Council was dissolved in April, 1931, the Executive Council in July of the same year, and their place was taken by a "State Council" having both legislative and executive functions, which met for the first time on July 7, 1931. The new Council consists of three official members, fifty elected members, and not more than eight members nominated by the Governor. Neither an elected nor a nominated member may be a person holding any public office under the Crown in Ceylon.

The three official members of the State Council are styled the Officers of State. They are members of the Council *ex officio*, as the Chief Secretary, *Legal Secretary, and Financial Secretary to the Government respectively. The Constitution provides that they shall have all the rights and privileges of membership of the Council and of the Board of Ministers (a body which will be referred to later), save the right to vote on any question before the Council or the Board.

All elected members are elected on a territorial basis communal representation which was a feature of the old legislature having been abolished. The franchise is very wide. It extends, with a few exceptions, to all British subjects of either sex who are at least twenty-one years of age and are domiciled in Ceylon. In addition, persons not so domiciled are permitted to vote if they possess a certain literacy and property qualification, or have received a "certificate of permanent settlement" from a Government Agent or Assistant Government Agent.

Eight additional members are nominated by the Governor after a general election, the object of their appointment being, in the words of the Special Commission,† "to make the State Council more generally representative of the national interests".

On the first assembly of a new Council, and after the election of a Speaker, the members proceed by secret ballot to divide their total number (excluding the Speaker and the Officers of State) into seven standing committees styled "Executive Committees", which are required to be as nearly as possible equal in number of members.‡ Each Committee is charged with the administration of one of seven groups of subjects and functions specified in the Order in Council under the following headings :—

I. Home Affairs.
II. Agriculture and Lands.
III. Local Administration.
IV. Health.
V. Labour, Industry and Commerce.
VI. Education.
VII. Communications and Works.

* Or the Attorney-General, until a Legal Secretary is appointed (Article 6 of the Order in Council).
† Page 101 of the Report of the Commission.
‡ The members subsequently elected as Deputy Speaker and Deputy Chairman of Committees cease, upon their election, to be members of Executive Committees.

After the election of the Executive Committees, each Committee proceeds to elect by secret ballot a Chairman, and the Chairman-elect of each Executive Committee is then appointed by the Governor as Minister for the group of subjects and functions which his Committee has to administer. It is within the discretion of the Governor to decline to appoint as Minister any member elected Chairman of an Executive Committee. Subjects and functions not allocated to Executive Committees are divided by the Order in Council into three further groups, one of which is placed in the charge of each of the Officers of State, who have no Executive Committees associated with them in the administration of these groups.

The duties of Executive Committees may be summarized as follows :—

(*a*) Preparation of the annual estimates of expenditure of the department under their control, for submission to the Board of Ministers.

(*b*) Similarly, the preparation of supplementary estimates.

(*c*) Consideration of executive business relating to their own subjects and functions, whether laid before them by their Chairmen or by private members, or referred to them by the Council or the Board of Ministers.

(*d*) Consideration of proposed legislative measures falling within their scope.

The decisions of Executive Committees which are of sufficient importance to require the approval of the Council are submitted at meetings of the whole Council in the form of reports, which the Council may accept, or reject, or refer back to the Committee, but may not amend. A report accepted by the Council is submitted to the Governor by the Speaker for ratification. But the decisions of Executive Committees in financial* matters are submitted by the Committees to the Board of Ministers, and by the Board to the Council.

The Board of Ministers consists of the three Officers of State and the seven Ministers, but, as stated above, the Officers of State have not the right to vote on questions before the Board. The Chief Secretary is *ex officio* Chairman of the Board, and there is also a Vice-Chairman, elected by the Board from among the Ministers, who is the representative of the Board in the Council and is styled the Leader of the State Council. The most important function of the Board of Ministers is the preparation of the annual estimates of revenue and expenditure for the Island, and of supplementary estimates of expenditure. The annual and supplementary estimates of the different departments of Government are submitted by the Officers of State and Executive Committees to the Board, whose duty it is to revise them and, if and when approved, to submit them to the State Council, taking full and collective responsibility for them. No financial* measure may be introduced in the State Council except by an Officer of State or a Minister, and with the approval of the Board of Ministers. The Board of Ministers also determines the order in which any business, whether executive or legislative, to be brought before the Council either by the Board or by the Executive Committees or Officers of State, is to be despatched, and prescribes the procedure for the settlement of questions affecting more than one Executive Committee.

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* As defined in Article 57 of the Order in Council.

The ordinary life of a Council is four years. But the Constitution provides that the Governor may dissolve the Council at any time, and shall dissolve it if the whole of any Annual Appropriation Bill is rejected, or if the decision of the Council on a financial* measure, or on a motion expressly directed to test the confidence of the Council in the Board of Ministers, makes it apparent, in his opinion, that the Board no longer retains the confidence of the Council. Up to the time of writing a dissolution has never occurred.

†The Governor retains the power to certify any Bill, motion, resoluton, or vote as being of paramount importance, or he may declare that it is essential to give effect to the provisions of the Order in Council. In either event the measure has effect as if it had been passed by the Council, subject to disallowance by His Majesty the King in the case of Bills and to revocation by the Secretary of State in the case of other measures. ‡Power is also reserved to the Governor to declare that a state of emergency exists, and thereupon to assume control or any Government Department.

The appointment, promotion, transfer, dismissal, and disciplinary control of public officers are vested in the Governor (with power of delegation to heads of Government departments), and the Order in Council contains clauses for the preservation of their conditions of service.

For full details of the Constitution, reference may be made to the Order in Council, which is reproduced in the Ceylon Government Manual of Procedure.

The Ceylon Civil Service.—The Ceylon Civil Service, recruited partly by examination on the same basis as the Indian Civil Service, and partly by local appointments, furnishes officers for the general administrative, and part of the judicial, work in the Island.

Revenue Districts.—For administrative purposes Ceylon is divided into Provinces, which are subdivided into districts, as shown in the following table :—

Provinces.	Districts.	Provinces.	Districts.
Western ..	Colombo, Kalutara	North-Western ..	Kurunegala, Puttalam-Chilaw
Central ..	Kandy, Matale, Nuwara Eliya	North-Central ..	Anuradhapura
Southern ..	Galle, Matara, Hambantota	Uva ..	Badulla
Northern ..	Jaffna, Mannar, Mullaittivu	Sabaragamuwa ..	Ratnapura, Kegalla
Eastern ..	Batticaloa, Trincomalee		

The Government Agents.—The posts of Government Agents—one in each of the nine Provinces—are held by senior Civil Servants. To the Government Agents is entrusted the general administrative work of their Provinces, while their Kachcheris, or offices, are the provincial treasuries for the receipt of revenue and the payment of the local expenses of Government.

The Government Agents hold a number of other official positions, and preside over some local bodies in their Provinces. They are, as a rule, assisted by one or more Assistant Government Agents, who are in charge of revenue districts or else perform special duties at the provincial headquarters.

The Headmen.—The officer next subordinate to the Government Agent or Assistant Government Agent is the chief headman, who is differently styled in

* As defined in Article 57 of the Order in Council. † Article 22 of the Order in Council.
‡ Article 49 of the Order in Council.

different districts : " Mudaliyar " in the maritime Sinhalese districts ; " Ratemahatmaya " in the Kandyan districts ; " Maniagar ", " Adigar ", and " Vanniya " in the Tamil districts. There are about 104 chief headmen in the Island. In some cases the Mudaliyar is assisted by one or more " Muhandirams ". Next to the chief headman ranks the superior headman, called in the maritime Sinhalese districts " Vidane Arachchi ", in the Kandyan Sinhalese districts the " Korala ", and in the Tamil districts the " Udaiyar ". There are about 610 superior headmen in Ceylon.

Lastly comes the village headman, who is in charge of one or more villages, and whose jurisdiction is the administrative unit. The number of village headmen is about 3,800. In addition, there are peace officers, irrigation headmen, and others appointed for special purposes.

Local Government.

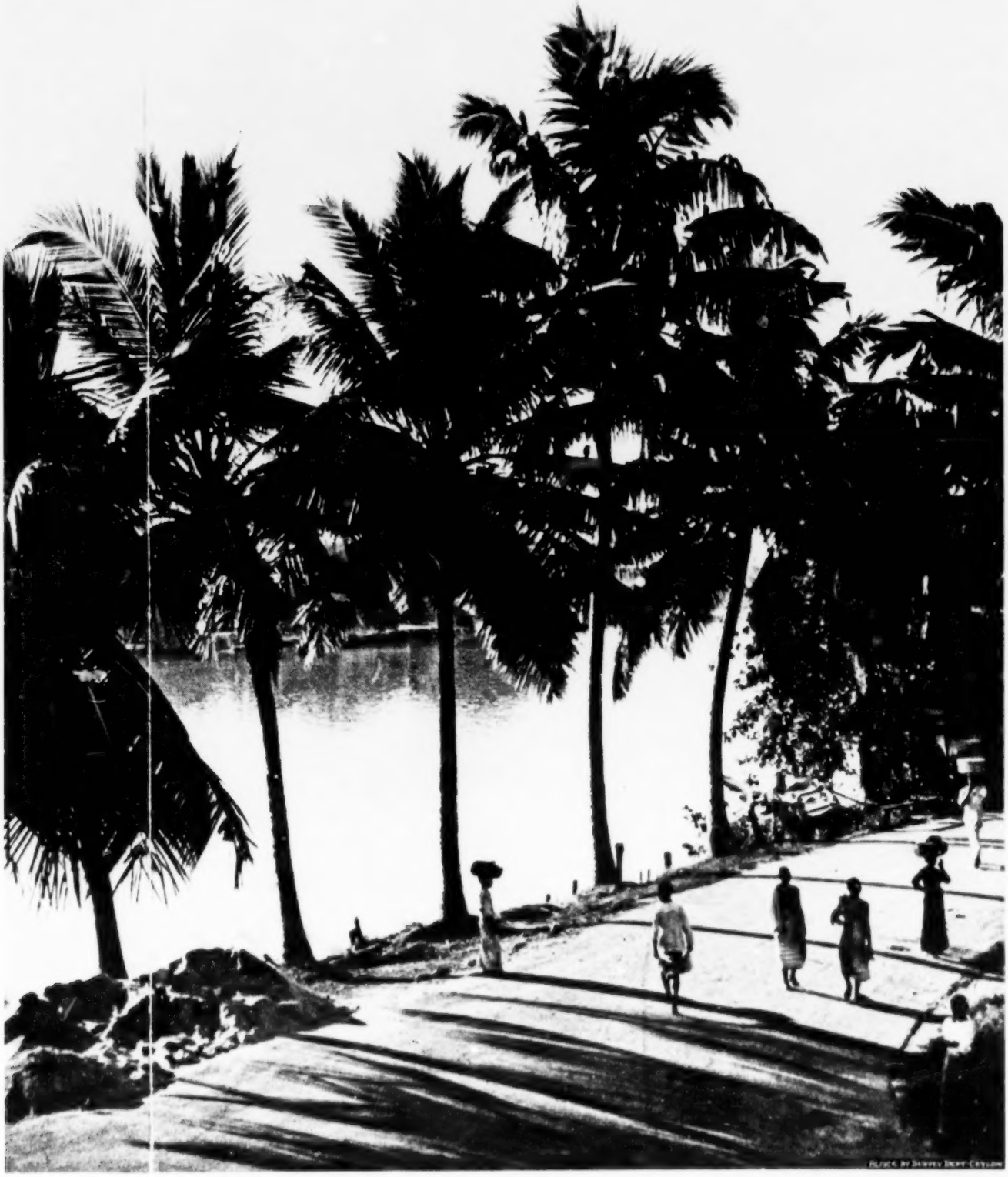
With the inauguration of a new Constitution for the Island in July, 1931, an Executive Committee of Local Administration was elected by the State Council to supervise, control, and develop local government, and a department of local government under the Commissioner of Local Government was created as the executive instrument of the Committee.

The local duties in regard to sanitation and public thoroughfares have for long been entrusted to a number of local authorities whose members are the nominees of the Governor with the addition in most cases of persons elected by the inhabitants. In Colombo, Kandy, and Galle, there are Municipal Councils whose Chairmen are members of the Civil Service. At least half the members are elected by the ratepayers, all those possessing a house of the annual value of Rs. 180, or every tenant who pays a monthly rental of Rs. 15 or is a graduate of a university, being qualified to vote. An Ordinance to amend the Constitution of the Colombo Municipal Council in order to provide for an wholly elected Council with an elected chairman passed the second reading of the State Council in November, 1933, and is at present under the consideration of a committee of the State Council.

Until the end of 1932 in eleven of the smaller towns there were Urban District Councils with elected Chairmen, two-thirds of the members being elected by the ratepayers and one-third being nominated by the Governor. Such Councils had not been constituted in the absence of a local demand and during the first ten years since this type of Council was first devised there had been singularly little demand. On the recommendation however of the Executive Committee, 16 more such Councils were established from January 1, 1933, in place of 10 of the Local Boards of Health and Improvement, in 5 of the small towns previously administered by Sanitary Boards, and also in place of the Board of Improvement of Nuwara Eliya.

Only one small town is now administered by a Local Board of Health and Improvement, viz., Minuwangoda, it being too small to support an Urban District Council. The Government Agent of the Western Province is the Chairman. The members are the District Engineer, the Medical Officer of Health and 3 elected members.

Groups of smaller towns, frequently no larger than roadside bazaars, are administered by the Sanitary Boards of the various provinces and districts, consisting of the Government Agent, or Assistant Government Agent, two local



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PELIYAGODA ROAD

officials of the Public Health Department and the Public Works Department, and not more than four nor less than two members nominated by the Governor. This method of local administration is carried on for a number of towns in a district from the District Headquarters with a staff consisting partly of officers whose salaries are met proportionately by the various towns and partly of officers lent by the Public Health Department, assisted by yet others in addition to their normal duties for the Central Goverment. This cheap and reasonably efficient form of local administration is, however, now said to be out of favour because the Boards contain no elected members. The Executive Committee is not recommending the inclusion of any further towns in the administration of these Boards, and has under consideration some other form of administration of a more popular type.

For the rural areas, Village Committees have been established, the members of which are elected at meetings of the inhabitants of each subdivision. In 1932 an Ordinance was passed precluding officials from being elected as Chairmen. These Committees deal with minor local affairs and the working of rules connected with local customs.

Roads other than main thoroughfares and other than those in charge of the local authorities mentioned above, are maintained by District Committees, while certain educational matters have been entrusted to District Education Committees.

CHAPTER III.

Population.

Population.—Population data are collected, as in almost every other country, by means of Census, which is taken decenially in Ceylon. The last decennial Census was taken on February 26, 1931, but its scope was limited owing to the financial crisis. At that Census Ceylon had (inclusive of the military and the shipping) a population of 5,312,548 which was 17·9 per cent. more than that in 1921. Since 1871 when the first decennial Census was taken the population has steadily increased. The Island is fairly thickly populated ; and at the last Census it had a density of 210 persons per square mile and ranked above India, France, and Denmark, and somewhat below Japan.

Statistics of races were not collected in 1931 except in the Colombo Municipality and on the estates, but rough estimates based on the Census of 1921 are given below :—

Race.	Colombo Town.	Estates.	Estimates for Other Areas.	Estimated Totals.
Europeans	3,340	2,814	2,999	9,153
Burghers and Eurasians	15,887	2,031	14,397	32,315
Sinhalese	127,927	75,786	3,269,317	3,473,030
Tamils	65,704	698,081	653,692	1,417,477
Moors	44,240	7,496	274,177	325,913
Malays	7,022	1,988	6,967	15,977
Others	20,035	1,738	10,791	32,564
	284,155	790,376*	4,232,340	5,306,871*†

It is estimated on the same basis that there were 3,267,457 Buddhists, 1,158,522 Hindus, 523,006 Christians, 356,888 Muslims, and 938 others at the Census of 1931.

* Includes 442 persons of unspecified race. † Excludes the military and the shipping.

The population (exclusive of the military and the shipping) was geographically distributed in 1921 and 1931 as follows :—

	1921.	1931.	Percentage of Increase.
Western Province	1,246,847	1,445,034	15·9
Central Province	717,739	953,388	32·8
Southern Province	671,234	771,204	14·9
Northern Province	374,829	398,874	6·4
Eastern Province	192,821	212,421	10·2
North-Western Province	492,181	546,966	11·1
North-Central Province	96,525	97,365	·9
Province of Uva	233,864	303,243	29·7
Province of Sabaragamuwa	471,814	578,368	22·6
Miscellaneous Population*	751	8	—

Intercensal estimates of population are prepared from the records of vita statistics and of migration, and on this basis the Island had a population of 5,463,000 at the end of 1933.

The figures for Ceylon quoted above do not include those of the Maldive Islands which had a population of 79,281 at the Census of 1931, as compared with 70,413 in 1921.

Migration.—The large majority of the migrants move to and from India and a considerable part of them are Indian labourers. In 1933 the total number of immigrants to the Island was 136,057 and is the lowest recorded for the last decade. Of them 121,559 or 89 per cent. were from India and 32,898 of these were estate labourers. In general the arrivals in the Island are more frequent in the second and the third quarters of the year than in the first and fourth.

Of the total 194,227 emigrants in 1933 which is somewhat more than last year, about 93 per cent. or 181,150 left for India ; and of these 46,626 were estate labourers.

Owing to the trade depression and the consequent closing down of a number of estates, the emigration figures were in excess of the immigration figures since 1929. In this connection the following figures will be instructive :—

Migration Statistics from 1929–1933.

	Arrivals.				Departures.			
	From India.		From Other Countries.	Total.	To India.		To Other Countries.	Total.
	Indian Labourers.	Others.			Indian Labourers.	Others.		
1929	105,095	132,248	18,543	255,886	101,228	141,262	19,406	261,896
1930	91,422	113,762	17,968	223,152	98,728	145,897	18,375	263,000
1931	68,337	94,401	20,384	183,122	75,866	122,696	16,141	214,70[illegible]
1932	50,869	92,090	15,263	158,222	58,157	115,131	13,771	187,05[illegible]
1933	32,898	88,661	14,498	136,057	46,626	134,524	13,077	194,22[illegible]

Marriages.—Three Marriage Ordinances operate in the Island, one for the general population, one for the Kandyans, and one for the Muslims. Under the General and Kandyan Marriage Ordinances 25,886 marriages were registered in 1933, as against 25,317 in 1932 and an annual average of 27,553 during the preceding decade. The General marriages alone numbered 20,434, and were 221 more than in the previous year. The number of persons married during the year was 10·2 per 1,000 of the General and Kandyan population, as against 10·1 in 1932 and 11·8 during the decade ending 1932. Among the Muslims 1,294 marriages were registered, and was 50 more than in the previous year and 293 more than the annual average during the decade 1923–1932. A

* Persons enumerated in trains and in the Great and Little Basses.

DIAGRAM No. 3.

REPORTED BIRTH, DEATH, AND MARRIAGE RATES, CEYLON

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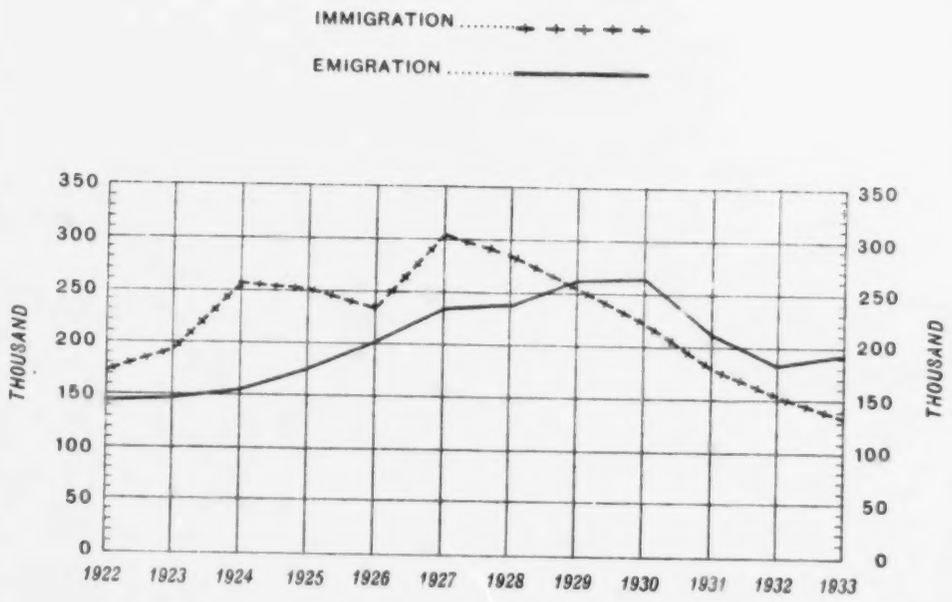
DIAGRAM No. 4.

ANNUAL IMMIGRATION AND EMIGRATION, CEYLON.



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considerable number of Muslim marriages are not registered according to law, and the Muslim marriage rate is consequently low, being 7·1 per 1,000 during the year, as compared with 6·9 in 1932 and 5·9 the average for the ten years ending 1932.

Divorces.—Dissolution of any marriage registered under the General Marriage Ordinance can be granted only by a District Judge and under the Kandyan Marriage Ordinance by a Provincial or Assistant Provincial Registrar. In 1933 there were 126 dissolutions of General and 501 of Kandyan marriages, as compared with 145 and 537 respectively in 1932. There is usually a large excess of Kandyan marriage divorces over General marriage divorces, which is largely due to the greater facilities for divorce afforded by the Kandyan marriage law. No statistics of Muslim marriage divorces are available as these marriages are dissolved mostly by Muslim priests without reference to any public official.

Births.—209,032 births were registered in the Island in 1933, as against 199,370 in the previous year and 198,088 the average of the decade 1923–1932. Of these, 107,054 were male and 101,978 female children, representing a sex proportion of 1,050 males to 1,000 females, as against 1,038 males to 1,000 females in 1932. The birth rate was 38·6 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 37·0 in 1932 and 39·3 the average rate for the decade ending 1932. The birth rate of the Island is comparatively high.

Deaths.—The deaths of 114,690 persons (57,894 males and 56,796 females) were registered in 1933, as against 110,649 in 1932 and 124,970 the average for the decade 1923 to 1932. The death rate was 21·2 per 1,000 of the estimated population, as compared with 20·5 in the previous year and 24·8 the average for the previous decade.

Infant Mortality.—The deaths of 32,866 infants under one year of age were registered in 1933. The infant mortality in 1932 was 32,356 and the average for the decade 1923–1932 was 34,848. About 29 per cent. of the total deaths in 1933 were those of infants. The infant death rate was 157 per 1,000 births registered, the lowest recorded in recent times, as compared with 162 in 1932 and 176 the average for the ten years 1923–1932. The infant mortality rate is influenced by the birth rate, and it is not an unusual feature to find a high infant death rate in countries having a high birth rate. The infant mortality in Ceylon is excessive, being nearly five times that of New Zealand which has the lowest rate in the world. But the maternal and child welfare work done in the country is producing good results.

Causes of Death.—Since 1911 causes of deaths in this country are classified according to the International or Bertillon System. The classification in 1933 was according to the fourth revision of the international list. Owing to the absence of compulsory certification of causes of deaths among a very large section of the population, the statistics particularly of diseases requiring scientific knowledge for diagnosis, are of doubtful value ; but there is reason to believe that a definite though slow, progress in accuracy is achieved every year. A very large number of deaths are returned by village informants as due to fever, and are tabulated under the vague title " Pyrexia ". The number of deaths assigned to pyrexia in 1933 was 13,776—or 12·0 per cent. of the total deaths—as compared with 14,514 in 1932. There is no doubt that a considerable number of these deaths are actually due to malaria. Another prolific cause

of death in the Island is infantile convulsions which was responsible for 11,666 deaths in 1933; this number represents 10·0 per cent. of the total mortality. Over a quarter of the total deaths registered were due in the past to pyrexia and convulsions, but at present the proportion is somewhat less. The death rate per million of the estimated population from the more important diseases registered in Ceylon in 1932 and 1933 are shown below :—

Causes.	Rate per Million. 1932.	1933.
Pyrexia	2,695	2,544
Infantile convulsions	2,018	2,154
Pneumonia	1,171	1,274
Diarrhoea and enteritis	1,110	1,220
Phthisis	551	576
Dysentery	404	348
Premature birth and congenital defects	399	409

Causes.	Rate per Million. 1932.	1933.
Ankylostomiasis	363	347
Malaria and malarial cachexia	312	260
Influenza	297	355
Puerperal septicaemia	247	247
Bronchitis	235	241
Enteric fever	145	147
Cancer	83	83

CHAPTER IV.

Health.

Hospitals and Dispensaries.

MEDICAL aid is generously provided by the State, there being 107 Government hospitals and asylums, with provision for 11,378 beds.

In Colombo are situated a General Hospital with 939 beds, an Ophthalmic Hospital, a Lying-in Home, a hospital for women (Lady Havelock Hospital), a hospital for children (Lady Ridgeway Hospital), a Bacteriological Institute, a Pasteur Institute, and a Dental Institute. At Angoda, 6 miles from Colombo, there is a hospital for infectious diseases, with 168 beds. There are special dispensaries at Kandy, Galle, Jaffna, Batticaloa, and Badulla for the treatment of eye diseases. Treatment with radium is now available at the General Hospital, Colombo.

There is a Lunatic Asylum at Angoda, 6 miles from Colombo, and two Leper Asylums, one at Hendala in the Western Province and one at Mantivu in the Eastern Province

There is a Home for Incurables at Colombo, with 90 beds, which is administered by a Committee of Government officials and representatives of the public.

For the treatment of tuberculosis, there are the King Edward VII. Memorial Anti-Tuberculosis Institute in Colombo, a hospital of 349 beds for advanced and moderately advanced cases at Ragama, and a Sanatorium of 72 beds at Kandana and one of 44 beds at Kankesanturai on the northern coast.

In addition to Government hospitals, the owners of estates have provided 83 estate hospitals, and in consequence receive a rebate on the export duty on tea, rubber, coffee, cacao, and cardamoms.

Besides the hospitals there are 626 central and branch dispensaries and visiting stations provided by Government. There are also 727 estate dispensaries, which receive free drugs from Government to the value of 50 cents per labourer per annum.

Campaigns.

Campaigns against malaria, ankylostomiasis, and parangi are carried out in various parts of the Island, apart from treatment at hospitals and dispensaries. Mass treatment against hookworm infestation was carried out by Medical Officers, Medical Officers of Health, and School Medical Officers in their

respective areas. Very marked results are shown by the decrease in the number of patients admitted to hospitals in the areas so treated. Success has also attended the efforts of the Itinerating Medical Officers appointed for the treatment of parangi.

Trained vaccinators are stationed in each Province. Primary vaccination against smallpox is compulsory, and secondary vaccination is carried out compulsorily among contacts when an outbreak of smallpox occurs.

Anti-Malarial Work.

Intensive anti-malaria work is done in the severely malarious town-areas of Chilaw, Kurunegala, Anuradhapura, Trincomalee, Puttalam, and Badulla (work in the last two was begun during 1929), and along certain sections of the railway.

Schemes for malaria drainage of anti-malaria campaign areas are drafted by the Sanitary Engineer. The Medical Entomologist checks the efficiency of larvicidal measures carried out by the Anti-Malaria Campaign staff and also investigates problems connected with malaria incidence in other parts of the Island.

Quinine is distributed in large quantities in malarious areas throughout the Island both for curative and prophylactic pruposes ; 12,014 lb. and 2,012,290 tablets have been issued during 1933.

Sanitary Engineering Division.

In addition to malaria drainage, this division deals with questions of general drainage in small towns and of water supplies and disposal of excreta.

Estate Sanitation.

Attached to the Department of Medical and Sanitary Services are three Inspecting Medical Officers and two Assistants, who inspect estates throughout the Island. During the year under review 505 estates were inspected. In the course of inspection, defects in the sanitary condition of estates are pointed out and suggestions to remedy and prevent them in future are put forward to the estate owners. Year by year the housing and the sanitary conditions on estates are improving.

Public Health.

In addition to the Inspecting Medical Officers, there were, in 1933, 26 Medical Officers of Health, assisted by 247 Sanitary Inspectors, who looked after the sanitary requirements of urban and rural areas. Seven Health Units have been established since 1926, at Kadugannawa, Kalutara, Kegalla, Kurunegala. Matara, Panadure, and Trincomalee. Health work on the lines conducted in Health Unit areas is being carried out, as far as possible, in other parts of the Island which are looked after by the Medical Officers of Health. Public Health Nurses are being employed in increasing numbers in connection with child welfare centres and the supervision of midwives.

Epidemics are promptly dealt with by the Medical Officers of Health and their staffs.

Legislation.

A Milk and Dairies Ordinance, a Pure Food and Drugs Ordinance, and an Ordinance to amend the Ordinance for the Better Preservation of public Health and Suppression of Nuisances in Rural areas are in the hands of the Attorney-General ; and a Poisons and Dangerous Drugs Ordinance which was passed

by the Legislature has not yet been proclaimed as certain amendments are under consideration at present. The Housing and Town Improvement Ordinance was amended requiring every habitable room to be provided with a window or windows of suitable size opening on to an external space and the Chanks Ordinance was amended to facilitate enforcement of proper sanitation of chank fishing camps.

Infectious Diseases.

Plague.—The following is a list of plague cases and deaths from that disease which occurred in Ceylon during the year :—

Locality.	Cases.	Deaths.
Colombo Municipality	26	24
Western Province (Nugegoda)	1	1
Province of Uva (Bandarawela)	4	4
Southern Province (Dondra)	11	11
Northern Province (Talaimannar)	1	1
Central Province—		
Gampola	2	2
Pussellawa	1	1
Nawalapitiya	11	8
	57	52

The year 1933 compares favourably with 1932 in which there were 77 cases with 69 deaths.

The epidemics of importance outside Colombo occurred at Bandarawela and Dondra, and Nawalapitiya. The source of infection was probably the Pettah, the bazaar quarter of Colombo.

Epidemic at Bandarawela and Dondra.—All the 15 cases were of the pneumonic type and ended fatally. The first case was a native of Dondra who was a trader at Bandarawela. He had visited Colombo and had lived in the infected area in Pettah while making purchases. On his return to Bandarawela he fell ill and was removed to Dondra where he died. He infected 4 others at Bandarawela and 10 at Dondra. The outbreak lasted from February 28 to March 17. Prompt and vigorous action taken by the Sanitary Department checked the spread of the infection.

Epidemic at Nawalapitiya.—The outbreak lasted from January 6 to March 23. Out of the 11 cases 6 were septicaemic and 5 bubonic. Three of the latter recovered. Seven infected rats were found. By vigorous action the Sanitary Department stamped out the disease.

Human Plague.—The following table shows the incidence of human plague in Colombo during the years 1931 to 1933 :—

	1931.			1932.			1933.		
	Cases.	Deaths.	Case Mortality. Per Cent.	Cases.	Deaths.	Case Mortality. Per Cent.	Cases.	Deaths.	Case Mortality. Per Cent.
Total	47	45	95·7	67	61	91·0	26	24	92·30
Septicaemia	17	17	100·0	23	23	100·0	6	6	100·
Bubonic	29	27	93·1	44	38	86·4	20	18	90·
Pneumonia	1	1	100·0	—	—	—	—	—	—

Monthly Incidence.—The largest number of cases occurred in January and February.

Sex Incidence.—Of the 26 cases 24 were males and 2 females.

Rat Plague.—27,967 rats were examined at the Municipal Laboratory and 12, or ·04 per cent., were found infected, as against ·14 per cent. in 1932. Three infected rats were from the Chalmers Granaries and one from the Manning Market.

Smallpox.—The epidemic which started in November, 1932, continued during the earlier months of 1933. The disease spread to all the provinces except Sabaragamuwa and Uva. There were 337 cases with 62 deaths giving a fatality rate of 18·39 per cent., as against 106 cases with 16 deaths in 1932.

The distribution of cases according to locality is as follows :—

Locality.	Cases.	Deaths.
Colombo Municipality	152	30
Western Province	55	15
Southern Province	61	2
Northern Province	53	12
Central Province	7	2
Eastern Province	5	—
North-Western Province	3	1
North-Central Province	1	—
	337	62

Vaccination.—A vigorous campaign of mass vaccination was organized and carried out in and around the chief centres of infection, notably Colombo, Galle, Jaffna, and Neboda district.

The following are the numbers vaccinated in these areas :—

Colombo Municipality	261,270
Galle	36,162
Galle Four Gravets	20,153
Ratgama, Dodanduwa, and Hikkaduwa areas of Galle District	17,846
Jaffna Peninsula	208,986
Neboda district	26,769

Vaccination was also carried out in the other chief towns of the Island as a precautionary measure. The people readily came forward for vaccination and there was no serious opposition to the campaign.

The last case of the disease occurred in Colombo on August 12.

Cholera.—There were no cases of cholera in the Island during this year or the year before.

CHAPTER V.

Housing.

A. *Colombo.*—This is the only city of any considerable size in Ceylon, having a population of 296,600 persons, and like other large cities it has extensive slum areas in which the typical evils of overcrowding, dirt and disease make their appearance. The Municipality has undertaken a Scheme to replace the insanitary buildings in one of the worst areas (Kochchikade) by model tenements at a cost of Rs. 1,700,000.

The commercial depression which started in 1929 has somewhat eased the situation by causing a reduction of rents and also by checking the inflow of population into Colombo from the villages. This check, however, is likely to disappear as soon as trade improves.

B. *Other towns.*—Recent reports of the various Medical Officers of Health give a detailed account of housing conditions, and indicate the magnitude of the problem with which they are confronted. For example in the case of Ambalangoda, a small town of 3,700 inhabitants the report states :—

> "The whole town presents a mass of buildings put up without the least consideration for the Housing Ordinance or aesthetic standards. . . . . In some cases there are no drains at all, in others such drains as there are end blindly in a swampy mess of black stinking slime . . . . The Bazaar area is badly congested."

In Batticaloa (population 11,000) only 12 per cent. of the houses have tiled roofs, and 32 per cent. are mere cadjan huts.

3——J. N. 46523 (6/34)

Of Anuradhapura (population 8,900) it is said—

"There has been no town planning scheme and buildings have come up indiscriminately all over the town. Only 39 per cent. conform to the requirements of the Housing Ordinance, most of these being Government bungalows and public buildings."

C. *The Villages.*—Conditions vary within wide limits. In the prosperous Western Province most of the houses are substantially built (usually of brick or "cabook" with tiled roofs), whereas in the remote areas the typical village presents a collection of "cadjan" huts surrounded by a litter of coconut shells, empty tins and other refuse, wherein mosquitoes find a convenient breeding place.

There is naturally less congestion in the rural areas than in the towns, but this advantage is to some extent offset by the villager's habit of allowing his house to become smothered in dense vegetation, so that neither sun nor air has access to it.

Progress in Housing Conditions is chiefly apparent in the towns, as a result of the strict supervision which is now exercised by the sanitary authorities over the erection of new buildings. From time to time old houses collapse and become completely uninhabitable, and others are closed on an order of Court, as unfit for habitation. In either case new houses are usually built to replace the old, and all new houses have to conform to a reasonably high standard. In this manner a gradual but definite improvement is taking place.

As regards the slum areas in Colombo and the larger towns the usual difficulty arises, which has been met with in England and elsewhere, that legal powers of closure cannot in practice be employed on a large scale unless accommodation is at the same time provided for the people ejected from the condemned buildings. For, otherwise, these people merely cause congestion elsewhere.

There is the further difficulty that a large proportion of the population—artisans, manual labourers and so on, do not earn sufficient wages to enable them to pay an economic rent for a habitable dwelling. It would appear that the problem can be solved only by the erection of "model dwellings" on an extensive scale, with rents reduced to a figure which the lower grades of labour can afford to pay. The cost of such an undertaking is likely to be beyond the resources of any local body and the co-operation of the Central Government appears to be essential.

CHAPTER VI.

Production.

Agriculture.

General.—The main crops of the Island are coconut, paddy, tea, and rubber. Other crops which are grown to less extents, though their combined value is of not inconsiderable importance to the trade of the Island, are : cacao, cinnamon, citronella, arecanut, cardamoms, and tobacco.

Chena cultivation, that is, the growing of crops on jungle land newly cleared by burning, is an important feature of peasant agriculture in the sparsely populated areas of the dry-zone, while, in more favoured districts, and particularly in proximity to towns, market gardening brings in a small but regular income.

Animal husbandry is still a negligible factor in the agricultural economy of Ceylon, but interest in this branch is now becoming awakened, and the foundations of stock raising and dairy industries are being laid.

The extent of production of the several crops may be gauged from the following tables which give the approximate acreages under cultivation and the quantities of produce exported and the value of these in 1933 :—

Acreages under the Chief Crops (estimated only).

	Acres.		Acres.
Coconuts ..	1,100,000*	Palmyra ..	50,000‖
Rice ..	850,000†	Cacao ..	34,000‖
Rubber ..	534,000‡	Citronella ..	33,000‖
Tea	457,000§	Cinnamon ..	26,000‖
Chenas, vegetable, and other crops ..	140,000‖	Tobacco ..	14,000‖
Areanuts ..	69,000‖	Cardamoms ..	6,000‖

Exports of Agricultural Products of the Island in 1933.

	Quantity.	Value. Rs.¶	Total Value of Class. Rs.¶
Black tea	215·9 mill. lb. ..	117·8	
Green tea	·2 mill. lb. ..	·1	
			117·9
Coconuts, fresh	21·7 mill. nuts ..	·6	
Copra	1·3 mill. cwt. ..	6·8	
Cocohut oil	1·1 mill. cwt. ..	10·8	
Coir yarn	·09 mill. cwt. ..	·7	
Desiccated coconut	·79 mill. cwt. ..	6·75	
Poonac	·51 mill. cwt. ..	1·5	
Bristle fibre	·2 mill. cwt. ..	1·1	
Mattress fibre	·36 mill. cwt. ..	·48	
Coir rope, &c.	·01 mill. cwt. ..	·13	
			28·9
Rubber	142·3 mill. lb. ..		23·0
Cacao	7·3 mill. lb. ..		1·54
Areanuts	·1 mill. cwt. ..		1·3
Cardamoms	3,161 cwt. ..		·3
Pepper and other spices	2,421 cwt. ..		·06
Cinnamon (quills and chips) ..	·05 mill. cwt. ..	1·0	
Cinnamon oil (bark and leaf) ..	2·6 mill. oz. ..	·3	
			1·3
Tobacco (unmanufactured and cigars) ..	2·2 mill. lb. ..		1·0
Citronella oil	1·46 mill. lb. ..		1·3
Papain	·1 lb. ..		·3
Kapok	4,226 cwt. ..		·1
		Total ..	177·0

Tea.

Acreage, &c.—Over 457,000 acres are planted in tea *Camellia Thea* consisting of about 1,230 estates. It is grown at elevations varying from sea level to 6,000 feet above sea level but mainly in the hilly country in the centre of the Island at elevations ranging between 1,500 feet and 5,000 feet. The better quality teas are grown at the higher elevations where the more temperate climate assists growth and produces flavour.

The manufactured product consists of the young tender shoots which after plucking undergo the processes of withering, rolling, fermenting, and drying or firing.

Pruning and Plucking.—The object of tea cultivation is to secure the maximum quantity of the best quality of leaf. For this purpose the bushes are pruned periodically so as to ensure regular, frequent, and plentiful "flushes,"

* Based on the results of the partial Census of Production, 1929.

† Based on an estimate of the Department of Agriculture: according to the partial Census of Production, 1929, the acreage was about 800,000, while according to the returns furnished by Government Agents to the Paddy Commission the extent under cultivation in 1930 amounted to 941,000 acres.

‡ Based on the Rubber Controller's Census of 1928, perhaps overstated. Owing to the slump in prices, possibly 50 per cent. of the acreage was not tapped.

§ Based on various estimates. The partial Census of Production, 1929, showed about 450,000 but excluded small holdings.

‖ Based on the results of the Censuses of Production, 1921 and 1924.

¶ In millions.

or young, tender shoots on the bushes. The tip of the new shoot and one or two leaves below it are plucked by hand, generally by the women of the labour force.

Rainfall.—A fairly evenly distributed rainfall of 80 to 120 inches a year is required for tea.

Labour.—About 95 per cent. of the labour on tea estates consists of immigrant labour from India. An estate requires on an average about 1½ labourer per acre.

Cultivation.—Very extensive cultivation is carried out on tea estates to secure large yields. To improve the tilth and condition of the soil green and artificial manuring is carried out in a systematic and scientific manner. The low price and restriction of output have reduced the application of fertilizers during recent years.

Manufacture.—Great care and attention are paid to the manufacture of tea under its stages with a view to the production of the best flavoured tea with attractive appearance.

Research.—A scientific staff is maintained by the industry which is supported by a cess on exports for the purpose of investigating the scientific side of the growth and manufacture of tea.

Yields.—Yields vary considerably according to elevation, cultivation, &c., but may be said to range from 300 to 1,200 lb. made tea per acre. On a well cultivated estate 600 to 700 lb. is considered a satisfactory all-round yield.

Factory.—A large number of the tea factories have been rebuilt during recent years and the opportunity has been taken to erect new factories on chosen sites at a high elevation in order to secure the best conditions for the withering of the leaf which is essential for the production of flavoury tea. Originally many tea factories were old coffee factories converted, situated near the bed of a river to secure the advantages of water power. The principal machinery required consists of tea rollers, roll breakers, sifters, &c., and dryers. Suction gas engines are the usual source of power. The power required is roughly 10 to 12 horse-power per 100,000 lb. with a minimum of 25 h.p. for a small factory manufacturing about 120,000 lb. made tea.

Preparation for Export.—Tea is exported in metal lined wooden packages with the garden mark of the estate on which it is produced and is ready for consumption. It is usually blended and packed in packets before it actually reaches the consumers' hands.

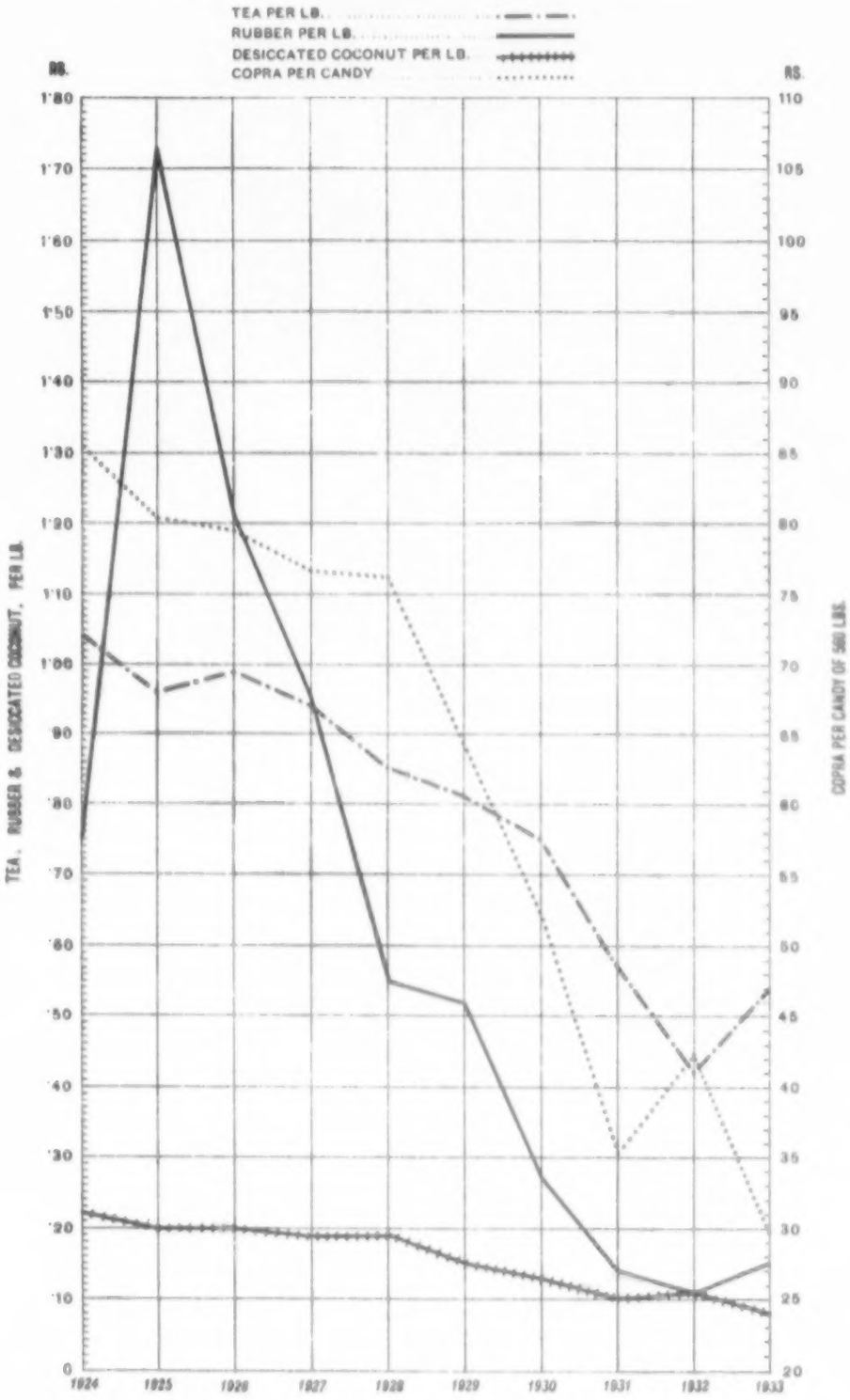
Restriction.—In May, 1933, an Ordinance to control the export of tea was passed by the State Council as a part of a joint scheme for the regulation of the export of tea from the main producing countries. The Ordinance is to be operative for a period of 5 years. For the first year of assessment which ended on April 1, 1934, Ceylon's exportable quota was fixed at 213,794,225 lb. being 85 per cent. of the total exports of tea from the Island, in 1929. For the following year of restriction Ceylon is allowed to export 87½ per cent.

Prices.—The local monthly averages recorded by the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce for 1933 were as follows :—

	Cents.		Cents.
January	42	July	65
February	50	August	73
March	50	September	66
April	40	October	66
May	41	November	68
June	50	December	72

DIAGRAM No. 5.

ANNUAL AVERAGE MARKET PRICES OF
TEA, RUBBER, DESICCATED COCONUT AND COPRA



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The principal supplier of curry stuffs was India, as before, but there was a general decrease in almost all the items. Imports of *chillies* from India amounted to 121,500 cwt., and were less than in 1932 by 31,800, but despite the smaller supplies, the value was higher by Rs. 42,000 the bill being Rs. 2,006,000 in 1933. *Coriander* also fell by 3,200 cwt. to 50,900 cwt. With 24,400 cwt. supplies from India of this commodity increased by 6,700 cwt. at the expense of France and Morocco, which countries sent 19,700 cwt. and 1,700 cwt., as against 27,000 cwt. and 3,600 cwt. respectively in 1932. India supplied all the requirements in *Mathe Seed* and *Turmeric*, and 85 per cent. of *tamarind* against 60 per cent. in the preceding year. Hong Kong improved her position as the chief purveyor of *garlic* by sending 17,100 cwt. as against 13,500 in 1932. Imports from Italy declined to the inconsiderable figure of 182 cwt. compared with 4,100 cwt. in respect of the previous year.

Onion imports were slightly higher at 504,200 cwt., an increase of nearly 900 cwt. over 1932 but the value rose more than proportionately to Rs. 2,324,000 or Rs. 674,000 higher. Arrivals from India were less by 12,500 cwt. while there was an increase of 13,700 cwt. in the quantities from Egypt.

Although the quantity of *potatoes* was lower, 195,200 cwt. as against 201,500 cwt. in 1932, the value in no way declined but stood slightly higher at Rs. 1,074,000 as against Rs. 1,073,000. The decrease in the quantity was in the main due to smaller despatches from India which sent only 42,200 cwt. compared with 72,100 cwt. supplied in the earlier year. Malta sent 30,000 cwt. or nearly 16,000 cwt. more than in 1932, while the importations from Italy were unchanged in the neighbourhood of 99,000 cwt.

Spirits—Brandy, Whisky and Gin.—The quantity of whisky cleared for consumption showed an appreciable increase in comparison with 1932 and a slight excess over 1931 and 1930. The quantity of gin dropped further while brandy increased slightly. The quantities cleared since 1929 were :—

	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.	1933.
Brandy (gallons)	135,800	59,300	47,600	29,200	29,400
Whisky (gallons)	71,500	43,200	45,700	39,100	47,300
Gin (gallons)	94,900	55,600	42,900	26,000	21,300
	302,200	158,100	136,200	94,300	98,000

Tobacco, Cigars and Cigarettes.—There were large importations under unmanufactured tobacco, cigarettes and beedies. The first kind is imported solely for the use of local manufacturing industry which by reason of the lower price of the cigarette produced is able to compete successfully with the imported variety. The quantity of cigarettes imported increased by nearly 2,000 lb. and beedies by 8,000 lb. The importations under the various classes were :—

	1923–27 (Average). lb.	1929. lb.	1930. lb.	1931. lb.	1932. lb.	1933. lb.
Unmanufactured tobacco	5,000	217,500	555,300	872,100	673,400	721,000
Cigars	7,300	5,900	4,300	3,100	2,700	2,100
Cigarettes	451,600	584,200	316,700	133,400	86,200	88,100
Manufactured tobacco	21,600	14,000	12,300	10,100	6,400	6,000
Beedies	49,600	70,600	57,700	44,400	20,300	28,500
Total	535,100	892,200	946,300	1,063,100	789,000	845,700

CEILING PAINTING – PAMBELLA

Lionel Wendt

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Textiles.—The value of imports of raw cotton and its manufactures decreased from Rs. 15,305,000 in 1932 to Rs. 11,792,000 in 1933, a reduction by 29 per cent., as against 1 per cent. recorded in the period 1931 and 1932. Of this total cotton piece goods accounted for Rs. 13,052,000 in 1932 and Rs. 10,398,000 in the following year. The fall in value was due partly to the smaller quantities imported which dropped from 68,640,000 yards to 60,678,000 yards and partly to lower prices with the result that while the quantity fell by 12 per cent., the value fell by 21 per cent., or more than in proportion.

Smaller quantities were imported in 1933 under all categories, with the important exception of dyed goods. The yardage of bleached goods dropped from the high total of 20,245,000 yards in 1932 to 16,385,000 yards in 1933, the principal reductions occurring in the consignments from the United Kingdom and Japan, the former by 2,034,000 yards or 33 per cent. and the latter by 2,957,000 yards or 14 per cent. The quantity of dyed goods imported was, on the other hand, higher, and their supplies increased from 24,412,000 to 26,407,000. This improvement was due to large importations from Japan which advanced by 46 per cent. from 10,785,000 yards to 15,812,000 yards in 1933. But arrivals from India, which hitherto was the leader in this line, declined by 20 per cent. to 8,881,000 yards, thus yielding place to Japan as the principal source. There was also a shortfall in the arrivals from the United Kingdom which amounted to 1,564,000 as against 2,044,000 in 1932. A small drop was also recorded under gray goods, the yardage falling from 4,552,000 yards to 3,611,000 yards, or by 21 per cent. There was, nevertheless, an increase in the quantities from Japan which improved by 55 per cent. to 2,628,000 yards, mainly at the expense of the United Kingdom whose share diminished by 70 per cent. to 705,000 yards in 1933. The total of printed goods too decreased from 19,242,000 yards to 14,185,000 yards, a shortfall of 26 per cent. compared with 1932, and it was shared by the United Kingdom and Japan, the former supplying 3,078,000 yards in 1933 or 40 per cent. less and the latter 11,056,000 yards or 21 per cent. less.

Considered in terms of the aggregate of all kinds of piece goods, Japan, the chief source of supply, sent in 1933, 41,430,000 yards or 3 per cent. less, valued at Rs. 5,071,000, as against 40,366,000 yards in the previous year at a value of Rs. 5,430,000. This represents an improved share in 1933 of 68 per cent., as against 59 per cent. in point of quantity and 49 per cent. as against 41 per cent. in point of value. On the contrary supplies from the United Kingdom dropped from 15,767,000 yards to 9,579,000 yards or by 39 per cent., between these two years, and their value decreased from Rs. 5,430,000 to Rs. 5,071,000, so that her share worsened from 23 per cent. to 16 per cent. in terms of quantity and from 35 per cent. to 30 per cent. in terms of value. There was a decrease in the consignments from India too. They amounted to 11,168,000 yards or 16 per cent. of the total in 1932 and fell by 19 per cent. in the year following to 9,039,000 yards or 15 per cent. of the total. The respective values were Rs. 2,681,000 and Rs. 2,007,000 and the respective proportions on the basis of value were 16 per cent. and 15 per cent.

6——J. N. 46523 (6/34)

The following table shows the distribution of imports since 1930, as compared with 1913 :—

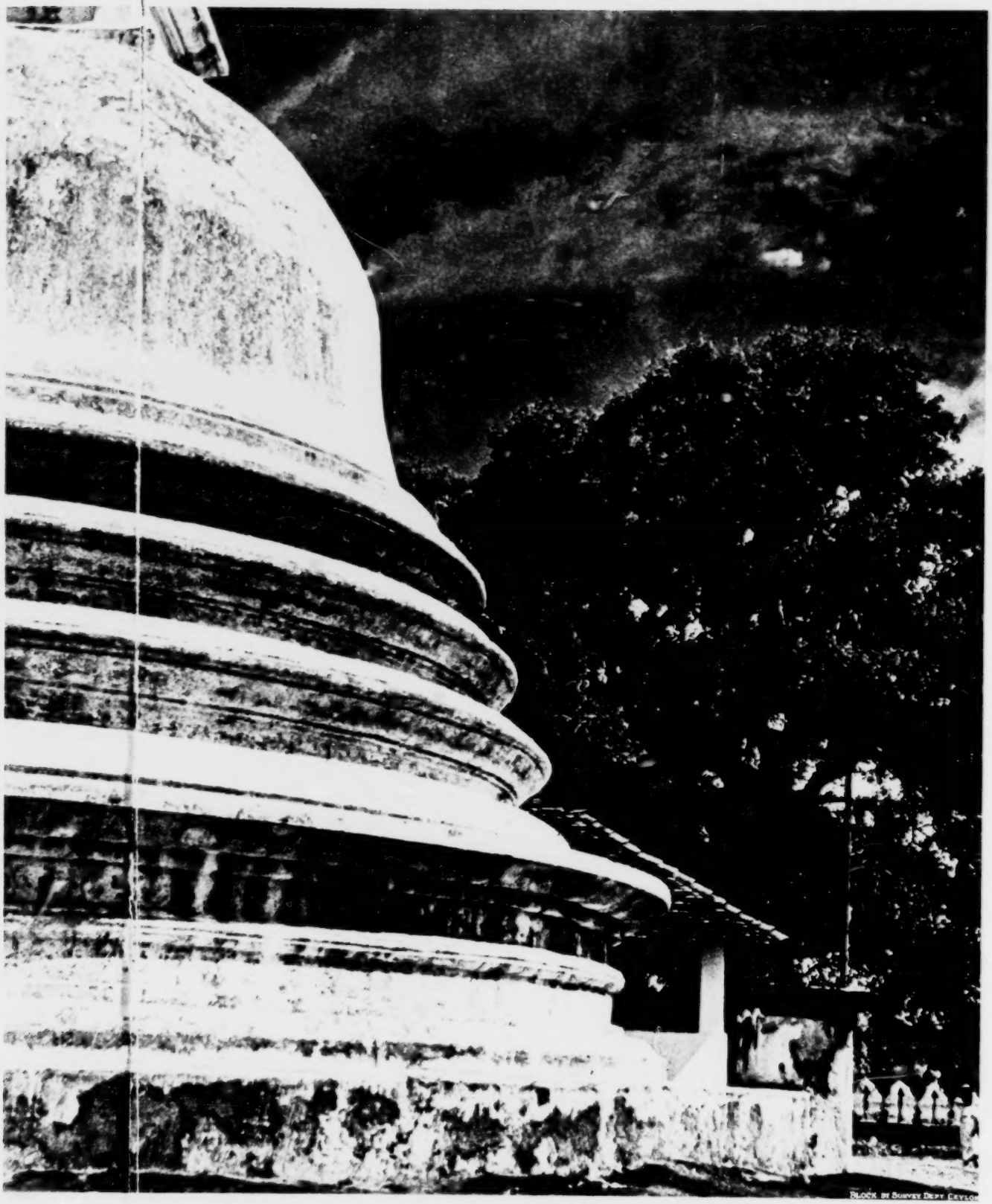
	United Kingdom. Yds.*	India. Yds.*	Japan. Yds.*	Holland. Yds.*	Other Countries. Yds.*	Total Quantity. Yds.*	Total Value. Rs.
Bleached.							
1913	15,019	306	6	26	26	15,383	2,370
1930	9,057	155	2,686	495	151	12,544	4,142
1931	6,288	190	7,986	184	220	14,869	3,373
1932	6,242	21	13,891	42	49	20,245	3,651
1933	4,208	160	11,934	16	67	16,385	2,819
Dyed.							
1913	11,628	8,968	46	1,845	1,585	24,072	5,505
1930	2,737	12,790	3,232	2,814	230	21,803	7,327
1931	2,089	11,785	4,763	1,878	209	20,724	5,564
1932	2,044	10,987	10,785	378	218	24,412	5,299
1933	1,564	8,810	15,812	3	218	26,407	4,742
Gray.							
1913	4,206	216	—	3	827	5,252	1,060
1930	2,445	27	515	—	342	3,329	840
1931	1,668	22	571	—	321	2,582	528
1932	2,336	21	1,702	1	492	4,552	765
1933	705	23	2,628	—	255	3,611	506
Printed.							
1913	8,450	239	1	—	35	8,725	1,756
1930	5,342	29	7,003	177	70	12,621	3,603
1931	5,902	85	10,402	51	101	16,541	3,746
1932	5,105	10	13,988	70	69	19,242	3,234
1933	3,078	5	11,056	19	27	14,185	2,226

* In 1,000's.

The most prominent feature is, of course the gradual but persistent decrease in the share of the United Kingdom, and to a lesser degree of India, and the phenomenal rise in the yardage from Japan. This contrast is forcibly thrown in prominent relief in the subjoined table which shows the respective shares of United Kingdom and Japan expressed as percentage of the value :—

	Japan.				United Kingdom.			
	1930. Per Cent.	1931. Per Cent.	1932. Per Cent.	1933. Per Cent.	1930. Per Cent.	1931. Per Cent.	1932. Per Cent.	1933. Per Cent.
Bleached goods	14	39	51	49	79	54	48	48
Dyed goods	7	15	34	45	17	14	14	13
Gray goods	12	18	39	57	75	69	59	32
Printed goods	35	43	48	57	62	55	51	42

The fundamental reason for the spectacular increase in Japanese imports, particularly in recent years, is found in the extremely low prices of Japanese piece-goods which are generally about half the British prices. Japanese importers have met with unqualified success in their policy of purveying articles to suit the consumer's pocket, regardless of quality. There is no doubt that British goods are cheap in the sense that their quality is high and, compared with Japanese cottons, last a proportionately longer time. But



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TEMPLE PRECINCTS – LANKATILLEKE

at a time when incomes have severely shrunk the temptingly low prices of Japanese stuffs have been a very strong inducement to the transfer of custom from the superior and durable British goods to cheap and coarse Japanese textiles. The following table shows the average declared values per yard of British and Japanese goods :—

	1929. Cts.	1930. Cts.	1931. Cts.	1932. Cts.	1933. Cts.
Bleached.					
United Kingdom	36·4	35·9	28·9	27·9	32·0
Japan	28·4	20·8	16·5	13·4	11·5
Dyed.					
United Kingdom	50·9	45·5	38·1	35·7	40·9
Japan	20·9	14·7	17·2	16·7	13·5
Gray.					
United Kingdom	31·9	25·9	21·4	19·5	22·7
Japan	26·5	19·0	15·9	12·8	11·1
Printed.					
United Kingdom	46·6	42·0	34·9	32·1	30·5
Japan	24·8	18·0	15·5	11·1	11·4

It will be noticed that except in the case of printed goods, in which the United Kingdom average declined from 32·1 cents to 30·5 cents, the corresponding averages for the other kinds increased in 1933, thus reversing the downward price movement from 1929. But Japanese prices record continued to a further slight fall in 1933 and it is not surprising that Japan improved her share of the textile trade again in 1933, when she had the advantage of falling price as against the handicap of rising prices experienced by British firms.

Metals and Manufactures (ferrous).—The quantities imported during 1933 decreased slightly in comparison with the amounts for 1932. They totalled 526,000 cwt. worth Rs. 4,638,000 in the former year as against 552,000 cwt. worth Rs. 4,815,000 in the latter. Imports from United Kingdom showed reductions in respect of the following principal items : pig iron which decreased from 8,970 cwt. to 1,400 cwt. ; iron and steel bars from 12,500 cwt. to 5,300 cwt. ; girders, beams, &c., from 18,800 to 14,300 cwt., corrugated plates and sheets from 50,400 cwt. to 43,200 cwt. and tubes and piping from 33,100 cwt. to 28,400 cwt.

Bars from Belgium dropped from 33,000 cwt. to 27,000 cwt. and those from Luxemberg from 12,000 cwt. to 9,900 cwt. Girders, &c., from Belgium also declined from 37,900 cwt. to 16,000 cwt. while plates and sheets for the manufacture of oil drums advanced from 82,700 cwt. to 109,900 cwt. An increase was also recorded in plates and sheets (galvanized plates) from the United Kingdom which moved from 21,600 cwt. to 34,600 cwt.

Non-ferrous Metal and Manufactures.—The quantity of non-ferrous metals imported decreased considerably in the year under review from 102,009 cwt. to 69,000 cwt. in quantity and from Rs. 2,510,000 to Rs. 1,813,000 in value. The chief items included under this head are: aluminium linings imported mainly from the United Kingdom, brass and copperware and tea lead from

India, and pig lead from Burma. The following table shows the distribution of imports (as percentages of value) of metals and manufactures ferrous, and non-ferrous :—

	Metals and Metalware (Ferrous).				Non-ferrous Metals and Manufactures.			
	1930.	1931.	1932.	1933.	1930.	1931.	1932.	1933.
United Kingdom	68·8	68·8	64·7	59·2	46·8	42·6	49·4	41·8
British India	1·8	0·8	1·1	—	20·3	20·9	23·2	22·4
Burma	—	—	—	—	19·4	22·9	14·6	17·6
Germany	8·1	7·5	9·7	7·6	5·1	6·2	5·0	7·6
Belgium	13·1	15·1	17·0	19·7	—	—	—	—
Luxemburg	1·7	1·6	1·6	—	—	—	—	—
Strait Settlements	—	—	—	—	1·7	1·2	2·1	3·6

It will be observed that that the British share under both categories has shrunk, from 64·7 per cent. to 59·2 per cent. in the one case and from 49·4 per cent. to 41·8 per cent. in the other, while the proportions particularly of Germany and Belgium have improved, from 14·6 per cent. to 17·6 per cent. in respect of the former country and from 17·0 per cent. to 19·7 per cent. in respect of the latter.

Cement.—There was an increase of nearly 142,000 cwt. in this commodity which advanced from 781,000 in 1932 to 922,000 cwt. in 1933, but the value remained almost steady in these two years, amounting to Rs. 1,168,000 and Rs. 1,152,000 respectively. Imports from the United Kingdom fell by 66,000 cwt. to 274,000 cwt. while those from Japan rose by 173,000 cwt. to 512,000 cwt. The following figures show the total imports of cement and the enormous increase in the Japanese share in recent years :—

	Imports (Cwt.).			Imports (Cwt.).	
	Total.	From Japan.		Total.	From Japan.
1929	1,609,000	20,000	1932	781,000	339,000
1930	1,300,000	60,000	1933	922,000	512,000
1931	953,000	247,000			

Fertilizers.—The quantity of fertilizers recorded a further drop from 1,508,000 cwt. to 782,000 cwt. which is about one-third the amount imported in 1930. The surprisingly low figure to which imports fell in 1933 is due to the drastic reductions in manuring programmes, and is an illuminating index to the intensity of the depression. The chief kinds of manure and the countries from which they were mainly imported were :—

	1932.		1933.	
	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
Sulphate of ammonia (United Kingdom)	268,500	1,131,000	188,000	792,000
Bone meal (British India)	226,900	712,000	144,200	441,000
Groundnut poonac (British India)	348,800	1,440,000	104,300	318,000
Fish guano (British India)	51,500	329,000	58,000	226,000
Muriate of potash (Germany)	78,000	505,000	46,200	278,000
Fish manure (British India)	71,200	278,000	39,400	109,000
Castor seed poonac (British India)	37,800	93,000	39,100	83,000
Superphosphate (Holland)	85,900	318,000	21,600	70,000
Refuse of saltpetre (British India)	39,500	226,000	17,500	113,000
Sylvinite (Germany)	27,400	90,000	17,500	49,000
Blood meal (Argentine)	39,700	297,000	5,400	40,000
Safaja ground phosphate (Egypt)	112,800	229,000	—	—

Fuel and Light.—Imports of liquid fuel showed once again an increase from 61,772,000 gallons worth Rs. 11,578,000 to 69,257,000 gallons worth Rs. 12,466,000. The amount supplied to bunkers increased from 53,525,000 gallons to 57,458,000 gallons thus leaving for home consumption 12,000,000

gallons compared with 8,000,000 gallons in 1932. More than five-sixths of the supplies came from Persia, as against three-fourths in 1932, and the balance was from British North Borneo and Sumatra. Compared with the previous year supplies of *kerosene oil* were higher by a million gallons, the amount received in 1933 being 7,430,000 gallons valued at Rs. 4,452,000. While Sumatra continued to be the chief source of supply it is noteworthy that Persia entered the market in 1933 with about 15 per cent., thereby displacing the United States of America which suffered the handicap of an adverse exchange. The quantity of *petrol* entered for home consumption during the year was short of the total for the previous year by 1,467,000 gallons. But the decrease in the actual importations was only 563,000 gallons in quantity and Rs. 611,000 in value which may be compared with 8,191,000 gallons received in 1932 at a value of Rs. 5,952,000. Sumatra supplied 77 per cent., as against 99 per cent. in 1932 and Persia, a new source of supply, sent the balance.

Motor Vehicles.—The total number of motor vehicles showed an increase from 980 valued at Rs. 1,570,000 to 1,174 valued at Rs. 1,981,000 in the year under review, of which Empire sources accounted for 1,048 at a value of Rs. 1,750,000. *Motor Cars* comprise the major proportion of the imports of motor vehicles. They increased from 768 cars to 932 cars between the two years. 850 cars representing over 90 per cent. of the total came from the United Kingdom as compared with 691 cars in 1932 and the margin of preference enjoyed by that country contributed in no small measure towards the increase. Of the balance 29 were from Canada, 26 from Italy, 24 from the United States of America, and 3 from France. There was a large increase, of over 50 per cent., in the imports of *lorries*, all countries increasing their quotas. United Kingdom increased her share from 41 to 81 lorries; United States of America from 39 to 60; and Canada from 46 to 51. Germany reappeared as a consignor by sending 11 lorries. The distribution of imports since 1930 were :—

Motor Cars (No.).

	United Kingdom.	United States of America.	Canada.	France.	Italy.	Other Countries.	Total.	Value.
								Rs.*
1930	540	333	168	64	71	6	1,182	2,359
1931	373	85	14	40	40	1	553	996
1932	691	29	22	7	19	—	768	1,272
1933	850	24	29	3	26	—	932	1,585

Motor Lorries (No.).

1930	42	330	96	4	4	—	477	949
1931	31	95	12	4	2	—	144	300
1932	49	39	46	—	—	—	134	264
1933	81	60	51	—	—	11	203	378

* In 1,000's.

Tea and Other Chests.—The imports fell from 3,717,191 chests valued at Rs. 3,333,039 in 1932 to 3,494,221 valued at Rs. 2,633,717. There was a further drop in the average value per chest from 90 cents in 1932 to about 75 cents. This was brought about by the Japanese articles reaching the low figure of 52 cents as compared with 68 cents in 1932. The depreciation of the yen is of course one of the chief factors contributing towards this low standard

of values in this as in the case of all other Japanese goods, and it is evident that the 5 per cent. preference on the non-Empire chest has not, in regard to Japan, acted even as a bare off-set against the bounty of a depreciated currency. The average price of the non-Japanese chest, however, was just over a rupee. Fifty-three per cent. of the imports came from Japan, 23 from Finland, 7 each from Esthonia and Poland, and the rest mainly from Germany, United Kingdom, Latvia, and Russia-in-Europe. Imports from the United Kingdom were reduced to about a twelfth of the previous year's figure. The following table shows the imports, with value, for the last four years :—

Year.	Quantity.	Value.	Year.	Quantity.	Value.
1930	3,810,939	4,912,324	1932	3,717,191	3,333,039
1931	3,833,803	4,044,725	1933	3,494,221	2,633,717

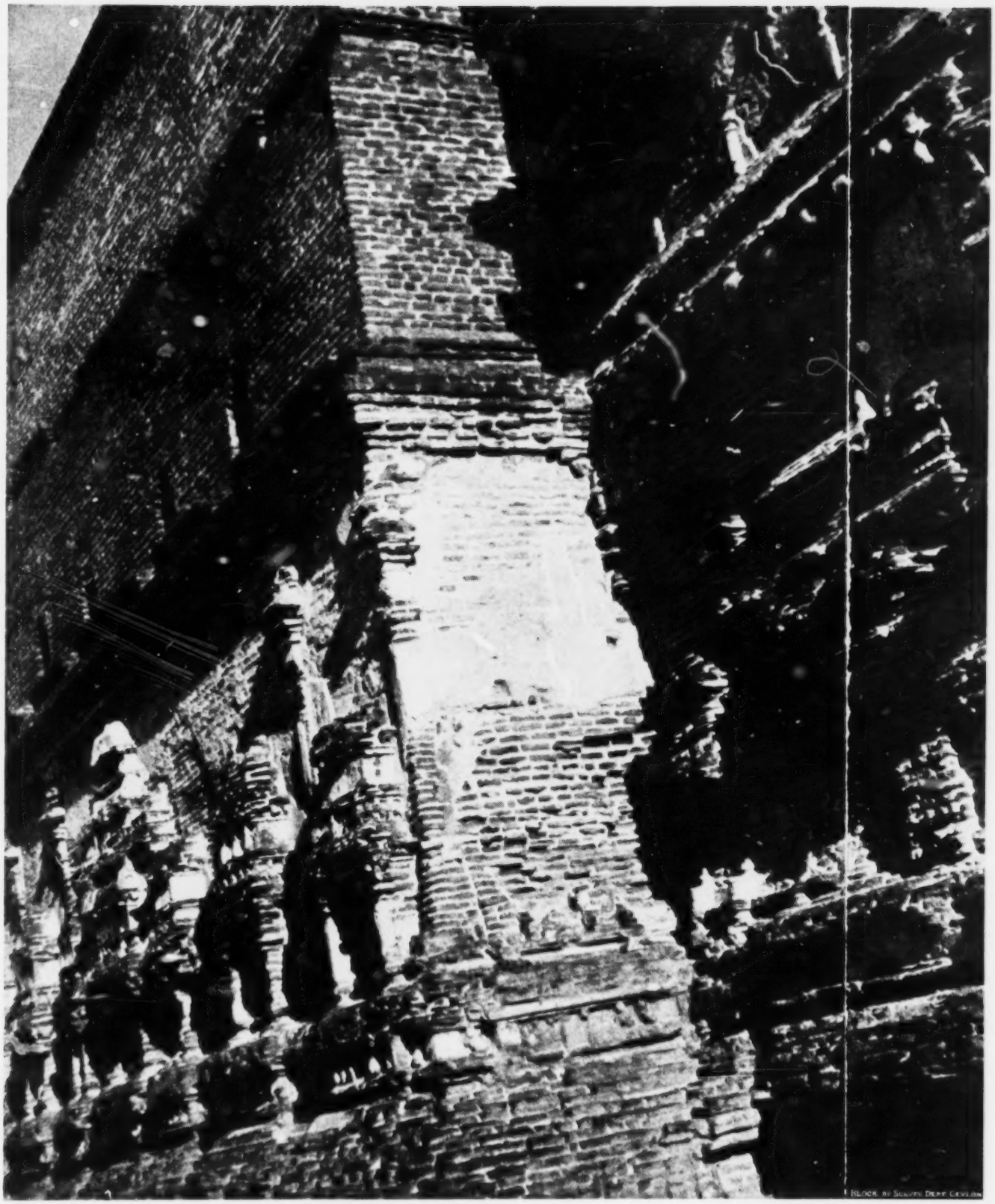
TRADE BY COUNTRIES.

United Kingdom.—The value of imports to and exports from the United Kingdom was Rs. 310 lakhs and Rs. 926 lakhs respectively. Compared with 1932, the imports were lower by Rs. 64 lakhs while the exports were higher by Rs. 79 lakhs mainly owing to better prices fetched by tea and rubber. The value of the total trade accordingly showed a small increase from Rs. 1,221 lakhs in 1932 to Rs. 1,236 lakhs in 1933.

The import trade with the United Kingdom consists chiefly of manufactured goods. In 1932, there were 104 articles in the import schedule whose value exceeded half a lakh of rupees. Textiles accounted for Rs. 3·1 million, a reduction of nearly Rs. 1½ million compared with 1932. The fall in the yardage was from 15,767,000 yards to 9,579,000 yards. Imports of iron and steel manufactures constituted the next largest item with Rs. 2·8 million. Here again there was a reduction of Rs. 368,000 compared with 1932. Imports of machinery fell by nearly 50 per cent., as a result of the depressed condition of the staples, to the sum of Rs. 1·6 million, while there was once against welcome improvement in respect of motor cars whose value rose by Rs. 460,000 to Rs. 1·6 million. There was a considerable reduction under non-ferrous metals, the value recorded being Rs. 758,000, as against Rs. 1·2 million in 1932. Electrical goods, soaps, stationery and paper, haberdashery and millinery, drugs, perfumes, medicines, and motor car accessories were some of the more important articles imported from the United Kingdom.

On the export side, the number of articles, consisting of staple raw-materials, were few in number. There were 14 items in 1933 whose value exceeded half a lakh of rupees each. Tea, as usual, ranked first with Rs. 81 million. This represents a rise of nearly Rs. 8 million over 1932, although the quantity was less by about 23 million pounds. Desiccated nut came next with Rs. 3½ million and rubber followed with Rs. 3¼ million. The value of the latter showed an increase of approximately Rs. 1½ million. The value of coconut oil, on the other hand, declined by about a quarter of lakh of rupees to nearly Rs. 2 million, although the quantity shipped rose by 43,000 cwt.

India.—The value of both imports and exports declined in the year under review. Imports were valued at Rs. 378 lakhs and there was a fall of Rs. 56 lakhs from 1932. Exports totalled Rs. 118 lakhs and showed a fall of Rs. 70 lakhs.



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ANCIENT WALLS - POLONNARUWA

The import trade with India consists principally of foodstuffs. The schedule of imported articles whose value exceeded half a lakh of rupees extends to some 56 items. Rice heads the list with Rs. 10·4 million, followed by coal (Rs. 4·4 million) and dried fish (Rs. 3·7 million). Compared with 1932, the latter is less by Rs. 2·4 million. This sharp decrease was more apparent than real, as prior to the introduction of Preference a large proportion of fish which actually had its origin outside India was declared by importers as consigned from India. Dyed piece goods of cotton accounted for Rs. 1·9 million. Imports of this commodity showed a decline of nearly Rs. 7 lakhs from the previous year. Imports of chillies rose in value to Rs. 2 million, although the arrivals were less by 33,000 cwt.

Under exports, the number of items whose individual values exceeded half a lakh of rupees amounted to 14. Coconut oil headed the list with Rs. 3·7 million but compared with 1932 showed a reduction of Rs. 3·6 million. Copra exports too declined in value by about 5 lakhs to Rs. 2·6 million although the quantity was more by 188,000 cwt. The other principal items were arecanuts amounting to just over a million rupees and manufactured tobacco valued at Rs. 9·7 lakhs.

Japan.—Trade with this country is characteristic for its one-way nature. Japan sells Ceylon far more goods than she buys from her. The value of imports from Japan amounted to Rs. 12·8 million in 1933 and was less than in 1932 by only Rs. 4 lakhs. Exports to that country, on the other hand, amounted to only Rs. 1·5 million and were 2·7 lakhs more than in the previous year.

The intensity of Japanese competition and the enormous growth of Japanese importation are revealed by a comparison of the trade between 1923 and 1933. In the former year imports amounted to Rs. 5·4 million and consisted of 15 items. By 1933 the Japanese trade covered a range of 47 items and had doubled itself in value.

Cotton piece goods ranked first in value. Over 41 million yards valued at Rs. 5 million were imported in 1933, as against 40 million yards valued at Rs. 5·4 million received in the preceding year. Artificial silk manufactures totalled Rs. 9·6 lakhs, while cotton banians accounted for Rs. 3·6 lakhs, silk garments and glass and glassware for about Rs. 2 lakhs each, and porcelain ware for Rs. 1¾ lakhs. Each year has seen Japan enter new fields of enterprise and in every market in which she has gained a footing competition has been very severe.

Electrical goods and motor car tyres are fresh fields entered by Japan in 1933. The industrialization of Japan, aided by exchange depreciation, Government assistance and other expedients has been so rapid in recent years that unless protective steps are taken in good time, other countries who are good customers of Ceylon will find themselves deprived of a large share of the import trade they at present enjoy.

The principal exports to Japan were bristle fibre amounting to Rs. 4·7 lakhs, plumbago Rs. 4·5 lakhs, tea Rs. 2·8 lakhs, and rubber Rs. 1·2 lakhs.

SHIPPING.

3,742 vessels with a total tonnage of 12,367,489 tons entered the ports of the Island of Ceylon in 1933, as against 3,860 vessels with a tonnage of 12,528,116 in 1932.

The following table shows the classification under the four general heads :—

	1932.		1933.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Merchant vessels other than sailing (with cargo and in ballast)	2,876	11,400,835	2,810	11,378,196
Merchant vessels (called to coal, oil, &c.)	220	695,662	198	620,154
Sailing vessels	682	63,842	662	59,658
Warships and transports*	82	367,777	72	309,481
Total	3,860	12,528,116	3,742	12,367,489

* Warships' displacement tonnage.

Excluding warships, 3,670 vessels entered the ports in Ceylon, with a tonnage of 12,058,008 tons, as against 3,778 vessels in 1932 with a tonnage of 12,160,339 tons, and 4,044 in 1931 with a tonnage of 13,192,779 tons.

The number of merchant vessels which entered with cargo and in ballast decreased by 66 and 219 respectively as compared with 1932 and 1931, and there was a decrease in the number of vessels calling to take in coal and oil of 22 and 150 respectively.

The following table shows the number of British and foreign ships which have entered Ceylon ports since 1926 :—

	1926.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.	1933.
British	1,093	2,322	2,460	2,206	2,246	2,099	1,983
Dutch	199	217	228	211	167	123	137
French	152	151	156	137	122	126	126
German	187	246	307	293	256	198	198
Italian	105	113	143	131	129	120	132
Japanese	214	185	179	171	199	208	175
Norwegian	60	108	102	127	106	107	131
Other foreign nations	124	146	148	165	153	115	126
Total foreign	1,041	1,166	1,263	1,235	1,132	997	1,025
Percentage—							
British	67	67	66	64	67	68	66
Foreign	33	33	34	36	33	32	34

It will be noticed that British Shipping has fallen off by 2 per cent., compared with the previous year. Amongst the foreign callers Dutch, Italian, and Norwegian ships show an increase while arrivals of Japanese ships have dropped from 208 to 175. Germany has thus displaced Japan which occupied the first place last year, among foreign callers.

Excluding warships, transports, and merchant vessels which called for bunkers only, the distribution according to national flags was as follows :—

	1932.		1933.	
	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.
British	1,943	6,824,913	1,838	6,600,506
British Colonial	682	63,842	662	59,658
Total British vessels	2,625	6,888,755	2,500	6,659,164
American	42	236,496	42	225,592
Danish	35	134,632	36	134,510
Dutch	122	850,827	134	878,086
French	124	770,722	122	790,778
German	187	823,037	186	836,682
Italian	119	585,139	129	662,975
Japanese	181	860,934	172	854,222
Norwegian	97	217,356	116	274,253
Swedish	26	96,779	35	120,592
Total foreign vessels	933	4,575,922	972	4,777,690

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

Under the new Constitution the subjects of Industry and Commerce were assigned to the Ministry of Labour, Industry and Commerce and the policy of the Ministry is to assist the development of the industrial and commercial activities of Ceylon. To execute these new functions a Bureau of Industry and Commerce was formed as a section of the Department of the Registrar-General who was placed in charge of these subjects in his capacity as the Director of Commercial Intelligence.

Progress was recorded in several directions in the year under review—for example, an improved procedure on the lines of the Department of Commercial Intelligence, Calcutta, was adopted to handle the large number of trade inquiries received from Europe and elsewhere, as a result of the tours of the Trade Representatives. The disposal of these inquiries incidentally enabled the Bureau to compile a fairly comprehensive register of dealers and exporters of Ceylon produce. There is at present available for official use a list of reliable names, classified for departmental purposes, according to their standing, among whom trade inquiries received from Overseas customers are circulated, and it is hoped in due course, when some of the names have stood the test of time, to distribute these registers throughout the chief commercial chambers of the world.

A beginning has been made in compiling a register of importers of Ceylon produce. At present the Bureau has such a register of Italian, Egyptian and Indian dealers. The lists are, of course, incomplete, and there is much room for improvement in the future in this direction. Another line of development was the organization of a commercial intelligence service. In addressing itself to this task, the Bureau has conceived its function to be to collect, collate, and analyse information of a commercial character affecting Ceylon trade. Arrangements have been made with Overseas commercial institutions, both official and non-official, for the exchange and supply of commercial information. The formation of a library of trade statistics and other commercial publications was also taken in hand. When this branch of activity is fully developed, it is expected that the Bureau will be able to make a more comprehensive study of Ceylon trade and industry.

A corollary to the collection and collation of commercial information is its communication to the business world through the medium of the press. The prospects of editing an official trade journal by the Bureau were, therefore, examined and it is hoped to start such a publication as soon as the Bureau completes its formative stage and is able to command an adequate and trained staff.

Two trade representatives were appointed in the year under review. One spent six months on a tour in Southern Europe and Egypt and visited the chief business centres in Italy, Greece, Turkey, Palestine, Syria, and Egypt. Another was commissioned to inquire into trade conditions in Japan, Honolulu and the United States of America. As a result of these visits a number of trade inquiries were addressed to the Bureau by dealers in these countries, and contacts were established with Ceylon exporters in almost every instance. Inquiries were also received from India, South Africa, Australia, Canada, and Japan.

Numerous requests for technical assistance to industries were received during the year, but owing to a lack of qualified staff it was not possible in some instances to comply with them. But wherever possible an attempt was made to provide every assistance that could be obtained with the consultation of other departments. As a prelude to the formation of a scheme of industrial development, the Bureau undertook the examination of industrial resources of Ceylon. The results were published in the form of bulletins.

To advise the Ministry on industrial matters, a Standing Committee was appointed in the last quarter of the year under review.

The functions of the Bureau of Industry and Commerce, when fully developed, comprise the following :—

(1) To answer trade inquiries which are directed to the development of markets for Ceylon produce.
(2) To furnish commercial information required by Government Departments and individuals.
(3) To assist business visitors to Ceylon by means of letters of introduction, help and advice.
(4) To explore the possibilities of new industries and to conduct investigations into neglected industries.
(5) To collect an adequate technical and commercial library.
(6) To assist organizations and individuals in Ceylon to participate in exhibitions and trade fairs held in Ceylon or abroad.
(7) To initiate representations by the Ceylon Government in regard to tariff duties, &c., on Ceylon products in other countries.
(8) To foster Ceylon's overseas trade by the appointment of trade representatives and to take such other steps as may be necessary for the development of overseas markets for Ceylon produce.

CHAPTER VIII.

Wages and the Cost of Living.

Labour in Ceylon.

1.—*Agricultural.*

ABOUT 850,000 acres are cultivated in paddy. The whole of this area is worked by village labour usually by the owner or lessee of the land, and his relations, but frequently also by hired labour.

The Estates.—The principal crops grown under estate conditions are tea, rubber and coconuts. Tea estates almost entirely, and rubber estates for the most part, are worked by men labour imported from South India (Tamil or Telugu). A few Indians are also employed on coconut estates, but these are mostly worked by Ceylonese.

At the end of 1933, the total number of Indians working on estates was roughly 550,000 as compared with 650,577 at the end of 1932. 42,343 were repatriated during the year, mostly under a scheme arranged in connexion with the reduction of the minimum wages in May. The subsequent improvement in the tea market led to the reopening of recruiting in September. The

number of new labourers recruited from September to December 31 was 5,193 and the number of old labourers who returned was 13,605. The total number of arrivals of estate labourers during the year amounted to 32,898 and the departures to 88,969, a net decrease of 56,071.

2.—*Industrial.*

A large number of labourers are employed in various activities connected with the port of Colombo, *e.g.*, as stevedore coolies, or in the coal-yards and marine engineering works.

The Ceylon Spinning and Weaving Mills at Wellawatta, which employed about 1,500 hands, was closed down in September, 1933.

Wages.—Under Ordinance No. 27 of 1927 a minimum wage is fixed for Indian labourers on tea and rubber estates. In consequence of the severe depression in the tea and rubber industries the rates were reduced in May, 1933, from—

	Men. cents.	Women. cents.	Children. cents.	
Up-country	49	39	29	with rice at Rs. 4·80 per bushel
Mid-country	43	35	25	
Low-country	41	33	24	

to—

Up-country	41	33	25	with rice at Rs. 4 per bushel
Mid-country	37	30	21	
Low-country	35	28	20	

but were voluntarily restored in November to the following scale :—

	Men. cents.	Women. cents.	Children. cents.	
Up-country	46	37	27	with rice at Rs. 4 per bushel
Mid-country	40	33	23	
Low-country	38	31	22	

In 1927 a Commission appointed to inquire into wages earned by the harbour workers in Colombo recommended the following rates which were accepted by the employers :—

	Loading Cargo. Rs. c.	Discharging Cargo. Rs. c.
Day, Full	1 75	1 60
Broken Periods, 6 A.M. to 12 noon	1 0 (*i.e.* (87 plus 10)	0 90 (*i.e.* (80 plus 10)
12 noon to 6 P.M.	0 87	0 80
or	*	*
Every half or part thereof	0 20	0 20
Night—	†	†
Full	3 50	3 20
Half	1 75	1 60
Broken Periods	*	*
For every hour between 6 P.M. and midnight	0 30	0 30

* Subject to the qualification that wages by the hour for any fraction of a half day or half night shall not exceed the wages payable for the whole of that half day or half night.

† A full night's wages are payable when a labourer works from 6 P.M. to any fraction of the night beyond midnight.

The following table shows the classification adopted by Government for daily and hourly paid labour :—

		Rates per Hour.	
		Minimum. cents.	Maximum. cents.
Minor supervising grades	Class A I.	48	81
Tradesmen	A II.	31	63
	Class A III.	36	53
Semi-skilled labour	A IV.	20	35
Unskilled labour	Class A V.	12	20
Trade apprentices	Class A VI.	8	14
Women and boys	Class A VII.	10	18
	Class A VIII.	3	10

		Rates per Diem.	
		Minimum. Rs. c.	Maximum. Rs. c.
Minor supervising grades	Class B I.	3 84	6 48
Skilled labour	B II.	2 48	5 4
	Class B III.	2 88	4 24
Semi-skilled labour	B IV.	1 60	2 80
Unskilled labour	Class B V.	0 96	1 60
Trade apprentices	Class B VI.	0 64	1 12
Women and boys	Class B VII.	0 80	1 44
	Class B VIII.	0 24	0 80

Estates employing Indian labour are required by law to pay their labourers monthly. In Colombo wages are often paid every week or fortnight.

Other Conditions affecting Labour.

On nearly all estates the resident labour force is provided with *free housing accommodation*. In Colombo a few firms make similar provision for their labourers, but in most cases the labourers find their own lodgings. Indians employed by the stevedore contractors are generally housed in a " kittangi "—a sort of barrack where the men sleep together in one large room.

Medical Attention and Provision for Old Age.—Estate labourers are entitled to free medical treatment either at the estate hospital (if there is one) or at the nearest Government hospital. Other labourers are entitled to free treatment at Government hospitals if they earn less than Rs. 50 per month in wages.

Female labourers on estates are entitled to free lodgings and medical care for one month after confinement.

Indian Labour on Estates.—Sick and indigent labourers are repatriated to India at the expense of the Immigration Fund.

Most estates pay a pension to deserving labourers who are no longer able to work. Compensation is paid voluntarily for injuries received during the course of work. Free meals are usually given daily to children.

Trades Unions.—In Colombo these are well organized and exert a considerable influence. A bill providing for the registration and control of Trades Unions, and according to them certain legal privileges, is under the consideration of the State Council.

Workmen's Compensation.—A draft Ordinance based on the Indian Act is under the consideration of the Executive Committee for Labour, Industry and Commerce.

CHAPTER IX.

Education and Welfare Institutions.

Control.—Primary and secondary education in Ceylon is administered by the Department of Education, assisted by a Board of Education and 23 Education District Committees.

Board of Education.—The Board of Education is composed of 20 members nominated by the Governor. The Director of Education is Chairman and the personnel of the Board includes Members of the State Council, Managers of Schools, and teachers. The main duties of the Board consist in considering questions of legislation and policy, and in advising the Government on any other matters especially referred to it for advice.

Education District Committees.—An Education District Committee has been constituted in each Municipality and Revenue District. These Committees are appointed by the Governor, and consist partly of officials and partly of unofficials. They are responsible first for putting into effect the rules relating to compulsory education and they frame by-laws and employ attendance officers for this purpose. Secondly, they erect and maintain Government schools where these are required. They are financed by an annual grant from the Department, which is allocated on the basis of an approved programme of works submitted each year to the Department.

Schools and Attendance.—The system of education in Ceylon provides a course of education leading to University degrees in arts, and science, and diplomas in medicine and law.

The schools of Ceylon are not divided on a basis of race or nationality. All schools which are maintained by Government or assisted by means of grants are compelled by law to admit pupils irrespective of race, nationality, or religion.

Attendance at school between the ages of six and fourteen is compulsory, subject to a few exceptions. Such compulsion, however, applies only when school accommodation is provided within a reasonable distance of the residence of the pupil.

There are three distinct types of school : schools administered directly by Government, and schools indirectly administered by Government and under the immediate control of private managers, and schools managed by Government.

There are sixteen Government-managed schools. Local managers are appointed for such schools and are responsible for the selection of a suitable staff but the whole cost of staff and maintenance is borne from Government funds.

There are 1,559 Government schools, and the arrangements for the staffing of these are entirely in the hands of the Department, All examinations for the issue of teachers' certificates and of otherwise testing efficiency, and all appointments, transfers, &c., are also dealt with by the Department.

Assisted Schools and the Grant System.—There are in addition 2,651 assisted schools under the immediate control of private managers. These schools receive an annual grant from the Education Department. In the case of vernacular schools, the annual grant is calculated as the total amount of the

salaries paid to an efficient staff plus an additional amount for maintenance. No fees are charged in vernacular schools. In the case of the English schools, however, fees are charged, and from such fees the manager has to provide a fixed sum towards the salary of each teacher he employs. The grant consists of the balance of such salaries.

In addition to Government and assisted schools, there is a certain number of private schools which are not assisted in any way from Government funds. Such schools are, however, subject to inspection by the Department.

The type of instruction given in Ceylon schools can be considered under two main headings : (i.) non-vocational instruction ; (ii.) vocational instruction.

Classification of Schools.—Under the heading of non-vocational instruction is included the type of instruction which is general and academic, and by far the larger number of schools come under this class. These schools are classified as follows :—

English.	Bilingual.	Vernacular.
Collegiate	Senior Secondary	Senior Secondary
Senior Secondary	Junior Secondary	Junior Secondary
Junior Secondary	Primary	Primary
Primary		

The Primary schools provide a course of instruction from the Kindergarten up to Standard V. The course usually lasts six years.

The Junior Secondary schools provide a course of instruction from the Kindergarten up to the School-Leaving Certificate. The course usually lasts ten years.

The Senior Secondary schools provide in addition to the course for the Junior Secondary schools, a further course up to the standard of the London Matriculation Examination. The course usually lasts twelve years.

The Collegiate school is an English school which provides a course of instruction from Form I. or Standard VI. up to the standard of the London Matriculation Examination. The course usually lasts about six years.

The vast majority of students complete their education at the Junior Secondary stage.

In addition to the schools that come under the above classification, there is a certain number of temple schools, which are known as Pirivenas. These schools are primarily intended for the Buddhist priesthood, and are not compelled to adopt the syllabus of work used by the ordinary schools.

Vocational Schools.—Under the heading of vocational schools come those schools which give a specialized form of instruction. Apart from one Technical School, these can be divided into part-time schools and full-time schools. Under the heading of part-time instruction is included a variety of home industries, which are taught to pupils in certain schools in addition to the ordinary academic course. Under the heading of full-time industrial schools come institutions for the training of teachers, technical schools, agricultural schools, and industrial schools The course in training schools is usually one of two years. In technical schools it varies according to the subject which is studied. In agricultural schools courses are entirely for adults who intend either to teach agricultural science or to become practical agriculturists. There is a variety of full-time industrial schools. All industrial schools are

conducted upon a profit-sharing principle, so that the pupils benefit by whatever articles they produce. The course is one of two or three years. The subjects in which instruction is given are :—Carpentry, weaving, basket work, pottery, printing, lacquer work, blacksmith work, and a few other minor industries.

The Medium of Instruction.—The medium of instruction in schools varies according to the type of schools. In vernacular schools the medium of instruction is entirely Sinhalese or Tamil. This group of schools includes 80 per cent. of all the school-going children in Ceylon.

In Bilingual schools the vernacular language is the medium of instruction for the first four or five years of school life, after which an optional course of English is introduced, lasting for approximately five years. The vernacular, however, continues to be taught throughout the whole course.

In the case of the third group of schools, viz., English schools, two methods are employed in giving instruction in the English language.

In the first method pupils are admitted at the earliest stage of school life, viz., the Kindergarten. Pupils admitted in this way have usually a working knowledge of English, so that their progress in mastering the language is very rapid.

The second method employed is a two-year special course in English for pupils, who transfer from vernacular schools to English schools. The pupils who enter this course are approximately nine years of age, and have already received instruction in their own mother tongue in the primary standards. This course is an intensive one, in which the direct method of teaching a foreign language is employed. After completing this course pupils are able to enter the ordinary standards of the English school, in which the medium of instruction is English. In the majority of such schools the vernacular languages continue to be taught throughout the upper classes.

It will be seen, therefore, that in the system of instruction prevailing in Ceylon the pupils are given the following alternative courses :—(1) A full course of elementary instruction in the vernacular languages ; (2) a full course of elementary instruction in the vernacular languages plus a working knowledge of English ; and (3) a full course of instruction in English, not merely for pupils whose mother tongue is English, but for those who at the beginning of school life have no knowledge of that language.

SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF AND BLIND.

The total number of boys and girls in the School at the end of 1933 is 358. Of these 135 are deaf boys, 86 are blind boys, 77 are deaf girls and 60 are blind girls. In the school-rooms there are 264 children, while 94 boys and girls are being trained in the Industrial work-shops.

The School has been steadily employing an increasing number of the adult Deaf and Blind on the Staff, and now there are four deaf and four blind assistant teachers, four deaf cooks, a deaf ayah, a partially blind under-matron, a deaf gardener, a deaf sweeper, a deaf mechanic, a deaf barber, three deaf tailors, three deaf sewing women, and eight blind men employed in pumping. But obviously the School can only supply work for a very small number of the

boys and girls who pass through its hands and it is essential that some plan for aiding the Deaf and Blind who have completed their school course should be inaugurated.

Orphanges.—Educational facilities are provided for orphans or destitute children. A maintenance grant of Rs. 75 is paid to the Manager of an approved Orphanage or Home on account of each orphan or destitute child who is between the ages of $\frac{\text{5and 15 (in an Assisted Vernacular school)}}{\text{5 and 17 (in an Assisted English school)}}$ at the beginning of the school year and who has been in residence at an Orphanage or Home for a period of not less than 9 months and has regularly attended a registered school during this period. Such grants during 1933 amounted to Rs. 117,100·50.

Reformatory.—There is only one reformatory school to which juvenile offenders are admitted. Here they are taught different trades such as gardening, carpentry, tailoring, cooking, bookbinding, ironwork,printing, weaving, &c., while undergoing their term of punishment. 151 juvenile offenders were admitted during the year bringing the total to 450.

Prisoners.—There are schools for prisoners at two jails in the Colombo District. There are 43 pupils at one end and 130 pupils at the other. Social workers conduct English classes for certain prisoners at the latter jail. The jail school at Kandy has 10 pupils.

Lepers.—There are two schools for Lepers : one at Hendala and another at Mantivu which are conducted by the Sisters of the Franciscan Order. The school at Hendala consists of three sections, *i.e.*, English, Tamil, and Sinhalese containing 24, 22, and 37 pupils respectively. The ages of the pupils range from 12 to 48. The average is 51. The Mantivu Leper School, also consisting of 3 sections, has 10 pupils in the English Section, 7 in the Sinhalese, and 13 in the Tamil.

The Langdon Home.—In Badulla District there is one institution which receives assistance from Government for training women in industrial work and household management. After a period of training, these women go into the villages and teach the older girls reading, writing, sewing, embroidery, and lacemaking. They also give instruction in the art of clean and efficient housekeeping and also encourage the practice of thrift.

Pensions, &c.—Government teachers are pensionable and in addition make contributions to a Widows' and Orphans' Pension Scheme. Teachers in assisted schools are eligible for a pension similar to that of Government teachers, but the pension scheme in assisted schools is on a contributory basis.

THE CEYLON UNIVERSITY COLLEGE.

The University College was established in 1921 for the purpose of affording facilities for higher education to students in Ceylon.

Numbers.—The number of students on the roll in July, 1933, the beginning of the academic year 1933–34, was 417, including 43 women students. The figures for 1921–32 were as follows :—

1921	..	166	1925	..	256	1929	..	338
1922	..	217	1926	..	313	1930	..	394
1923	..	262	1927	..	279	1931	..	355
1924	..	262	1928	..	315	1932	..	377

Courses.—The College offers instruction in Latin, Greek, Sanskrit, Pali, English, Sinhalese, Tamil, Logic, Philosophy, History, Geography, Economics, Pure Mathematics, Applied Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Botany, and Zoology.

Honours courses are provided in Classics, English, Indo-Aryan (Sanskrit and Pali), History, Mathematics, Chemistry, Botany, and Zoology.

The College course is normally one of three years. At the end of the first year students take the (External) Intermediate Arts, Science, and Economics examinations of the University of London conducted in Ceylon. At the end of the third year they take the final examinations for the B.A. (General), B.A. (Honours), B.Sc. (General), B.Sc. (Special), and the B.Sc. (Economics) Degrees of the same University.

Students who intend to join the medical profession are given one year's course of instruction in Physics, Chemistry, and General Biology, at the end of which they take either the First M.B. Examination of the University of London or the Pre-Registration Examination of the Ceylon Medical College, or both.

Graduates.—On the results of the examinations held in June, 1933, 35 candidates qualified themselves for the B.A. and B.Sc. degrees of the University of London.

The total number of graduates from the University College from the time of its inception in 1921 is 275, of whom 20 obtained Honours in Classics, 8 in English, 20 in History, 31 in Mathematics, 9 in Indo-Aryan, 8 in Chemistry, 3 in Botany, and 3 in Zoology.

Hostels.—Most of the students not living with their parents or relations are residing in four hostels affiliated to the College and subject to the College rules and regulations. These hostels are administered by extra-university bodies and are subsidized by the Government.

University College Council.—This Council, which consists of twenty members nominated by His Excellency the Governor, advises the Principal of the College in matters relating to the administration of the College, and the preparation for its conversion into a University.

THE CEYLON MEDICAL COLLEGE.

The Ceylon Medical College was established in 1870 in the form of a medical school capable of affording a practical education on the principles of medicine and surgery, and especially midwifery, together with a practical knowledge of Anatomy, Physiology, Materia Medica, Pharmaceutical Chemistry, and the art of dispensing. It had originally a Principal and three lecturers, and the whole course took only three years.

This course was later increased from time to time in order to keep abreast with the progress of medical science. In 1887 recognition was granted by the General Medical Council of the United Kingdom, and the diploma became registrable in Great Britain and all parts of the Empire.

In 1924 the complete extended curriculum of one year's pre-medical study (Chemistry, Physics, Biology) and five years' medical study was adopted.

The College now provides the complete course of instruction required for the practice of modern Medicine, Surgery, and Midwifery. Including the course

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of preliminary or pre-registration work in Physics, Chemistry, and Biology, which is provided by arrangement at the University College, Colombo, the whole course takes six years.

In addition to the complete medical curriculum, the College provides a course of instruction for a minor grade of medical practitioners, known as Apothecaries. These receive a two years' course of instruction in Anatomy, Physiology, Chemistry, Pharmacy, Pharmacology and Dispensing, Elementary Medicine, Surgery, and Midwifery, both theoretical and clinical, and Surgical Dressing, and in Hygiene and Public Health. They receive free instruction, and on passing the two Apothecaries' Examinations are employed by the Government to take charge of the Government Dispensaries and some small hospitals in the remote rural areas and villages, but are only permitted to practise while so employed in Government Service and are subject to the control of the District Medical Officers. They are eligible to be registered as Pharmacists.

These Apothecaries to a large extent provide for the medical treatment of the poor villagers in remote districts and where fully qualified medical practitioners are not available.

A department for the training of pupil midwives has been added to the College. This work was formerly carried out by the Department of Medical and Sanitary Services, but from October 1, 1931, the teaching and examinations of pupils have been vested in the College Council. First and second class certificates of efficiency are conferred on successful candidates, who are then eligible to be registered as midwives. As this arrangement in practice proved difficult of administration it was discontinued from October 1, 1932. The College however continues to conduct the examinations for certificates of efficiency as midwives, the courses of instruction having been restored to the Department of Medical and Sanitary Services. The College thereby retains control of the standard of teaching.

The College is staffed by whole-time Professors, in Anatomy, Physiology, and Pathology, and a large number of part-time lecturers, mostly drawn from the officers of the Department of Medical and Sanitary Services.

Details of staff, fees, courses of study, and rules for students, and the history of the College, are embodied in the annual calendar, copies of which are sent free to Medical Schools in Great Britain, principal Educational Institutions, and Government departments in the Island.

The Government has set up in 1928 a Post-licentiate Scholarship (suspended for the time being), which is granted yearly to the best student of the final year who qualifies in the first class within the statutory period, to enable him to obtain British qualifications and also to pursue studies and research in some special subject. The value of the scholarship is £300 per annum.

A small number of students generally discontinue study in the Ceylon Medical College and goes to the United Kingdom to complete their studies.

THE LAW COLLEGE.

The Law College which is controlled by the Incorporated Council of Legal Education exists for the supervision and control of the legal education of students desiring to qualify themselves as advocates or proctors of the Supreme Court. The Council consists of the Judges, the Attorney-General, the Solicitor-General, and such other persons of standing in the legal profession as the Judges

may appoint. The members hold office for three years at a time. The academic qualifications requisite for admission in the case of advocates are (1) a degree in Arts or Science of any University in the British Empire, (2) a pass in the Intermediate Examination in Arts or Science of the University of London, and in the case of proctors (1) a degree in Arts or Science of any University in the British Empire, (2) a pass in the Matriculation Examination of the University of London or the Intermediate Examination in Arts or Science of any Indian University, or the Senior Local Examination of the University of Cambridge, or the Cambridge Senior School-Leaving Certificate, provided always that the candidate shall adduce proof that he has passed an examination in English and Latin, such examination being either the examination on which he relies for his qualification or some one or other of the aforesaid examinations of any University in the British Empire.

Admissions to the Law College take place twice annually, in the months of January and July, respectively, and the total number of students admitted during the year 1933 is as follows :—

Advocates	24
Proctors	106

The Board of Lecturers, consiting of six members, are appointed in the month of June and hold office for three years.

The examinations provided under the Rules of the Incorporated Council of Legal Education are held twice a year, also in the months of January and July, the examiners (five in number) being appointed once a year in the month of June by the Council. The under-mentioned table shows the number of students who presented themselves at the various examinations, together with the number of successful candidates in 1933 :—

	Entered.	Passed.
Advocates	89	48
Proctors	245	143

CHAPTER X.

Communications and Transport.

SHIPPING.

Colombo Harbour.

Introduction.—The position of Colombo at the junction of the most important trade routes in the East makes it an important port in the commerce of the East, and this natural advantage has been enhanced by the excellent facilities for docking, bunkering, loading and unloading cargo, water supply, &c., afforded by the port to the vast tonnage of shipping navigating Eastern waters. The port of Colombo has contributed largely to the commercial and economic prosperity of the Island, and this fact is borne out by the phenomenal growth of the city of Colombo since the conversion of the open roadstead into a great artificial harbour enclosed by extensive breakwaters. Colombo is a great *entrepot*, and the volume of business passing through its Customs houses is an indication of the state of trade and general prosperity of the Island.

Trade.—The quantity of imports and exports handled in the port of Colombo in 1933 amounted to 1,488,683 tons (854,833 tons imports and 633,850 tons exports) as compared with 1,539,160 tons (932,430 tons imports and 606,730 tons exports) handled in 1932. There has been a decrease of 50,477 tons as compared with the previous year. The decrease, however, is only in imports. The exports show an increase of nearly $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

Harbour.—The harbour is enclosed on all sides, being bounded on the South and East by the land and on the North and West by massive breakwaters. The approach to the harbour is free from navigational dangers. Vessels drawing 33 feet can enter by the Western entrance and vessels drawing 27 feet can enter by the Northern entrance. The Western entrance channel is 630 feet wide, with a navigable depth of 36 feet L. W. O. S. T., and the Northern entrance channel 550 feet wide, with a navigable depth of 30 feet L. W. O. S. T. The sheltered area of the harbour amounts to 643 acres at low water, of which 246 acres have been dredged to 36 feet and over, 106 acres to a depth varying between 36 feet and 33 feet, and 103 acres to between 33 feet and 30 feet; the remaining 188 acres have a depth of less than 30 feet.

Accommodation for Vessels.—Berthing accommodation, exclusive of the Graving Dock, Guide Pier, and Oil Jetties, is available for 40 vessels in the north-east monsoon and 42 vessels in the south-west monsoon. Berths are available in either monsoon for vessels drawing up to 33 feet of water. One of these berths is for vessels of unlimited length.

Railways.—A broad gauge railway runs through the port premises, and it is connected with the main railway system of the Island, thus affording direct communication with all parts of the Island and Southern India. Sidings are provided at different places on the waterside. The length of the railway is 6 miles 19 chains, but the total mileage of railway used, including sidings, &c., is $14\frac{5}{8}$ miles. The port railway is available only for the conveyance of goods.

Roads.—Communication by road to the harbour is excellent.

Canals.—The Lake to Harbour canal affords direct water transport between stores and mills situated on the lakeside and the harbour. It is navigable by fully loaded 40-ton harbour barges and to some extent relieves the congestion on roads. This canal, together with the lock basin and locks and the water area of the Beira Lake including the San Sebastian canal locks, is now included in the limits of the port of Colombo.

The total number of lighters, launches, &c., which passed through the Lake to Harbour canal during the year was 9,677 against 8,209 in 1932, and 8,666 in 1931. The goods traffic during the last two years is as follows :—

	Import Cargo Tons.	Export Cargo. Tons.	Total. Tons.
1932	17,692	48,778	66,470
1933	11,699	70,468	82,167

The receipts from the Lake to Harbour canal dues and lock charges during the financial year 1932–33 amounted to Rs. 23,148·11, as against Rs. 22,759·96 in the financial year 1931–32.

Lakeside Facilities.

The development of the Lakeside Barge Yards comprising the portion of land bordering on the Beira Lake, has opened up for commercial purposes a valuable stretch of land on the water front of the lake, and has relieved the

congestion in the harbour by affording facilities for the reception of a number of boats which had hitherto been moored in the harbour. There is every indication, that, when trade improves, there will be an increasing demand for land on the lakeside which by its propinquity to the harbour and easy access thereto, both by land and water, affords a valuable venue for commercial purposes.

The Beira Lake is now an integral part of the port, and its progressive development will eventually lead to the establishment of a Commercial Zone in the vicinity of the port serving as a feeder to the business of the port and fostering its development.

Passenger Jetty.—The baggage office has good accommodation and examination halls. There is a staff always on duty day and night, and baggage landed with passengers is passed without delay. There is also provision for the storage of such baggage as a passenger may wish to leave in the premises, a small storage rent being payable. Accommodation is also provided at the Custom house at the Passenger Jetty for a Railway Booking Enquiry Office and a Post Office. The Passenger Traffic during the year shows an increase, the total number being 263,088 against 234,767 in the preceding year.

Landing and Shipping.—Landing and shipping of cargo is assisted by an efficient crane service. There is a total quayage of 15,657 lineal feet. The following are the particulars of cranes available at the port :—

Electric cranes	..	14	Hand derrick	..	1
Steam cranes	..	22	Steam derrick	..	1
Hand cranes	..	13	Mobile crane	..	1
Elephant hand crane	..	1	Steam jib crane	..	1
Floating cranes	..	2	Steam block loading titan	..	1

operating on the jetties and quays. The largest lift which can be made is 35 tons. The conveyance of cargo from the vessel to the wharf is done by lighters and is carried out by recognized stevedores and landing companies.

Cargo for shipment is brought down to the warehouse by cart, lorry, train, or barge. The Port Commission railway runs direct into the premises alongside three of the export warehouses. With regard to shipment, the same considerations apply as in the case of imports, some firms finding it more convenient to employ a clearing or shipping agency than to maintain their own staff. As in the case of import cargo, goods remain in the Government warehouse at the risk of the exporter. To suit the convenience of shippers who do not carry out their own shipments, landing and shipping companies are prepared to take over cargo at the shipper's stores for removal to the warehouse in the Company's own lorries. Export harbour dues are payable on all goods sent down to the warehouses or wharf. If they lie there for more than three clear days, further dues are payable for each day, and in addition a similar sum by way of warehouse rent. Cargo is taken to the vessel by means of lighters. A good supply of labour is available.

Warehouse Accommodation.—Goods discharged being not always directly transferred to some other means of conveyance, it has been found necessary to provide extensive warehouse accommodation for the increasing volume of goods demanding storage, pending shipment or removal from the premises.

There is a total warehouse floor area of 592,476 square feet in the port for dealing with imports, exports, and transhipment cargo. Most of the warehouses have railway facilities and cranes are available where required.

The import warehouses are situated between the root of the South-west Breakwater and the Lake to Harbour canal. Other import warehouses and landing areas are also situated on either side of the canal, and these are largely used for the landing of rough cargo, such as timber and metal. Further north, three recently built warehouses are available at Kochchikade, where facilities are provided for transport by rail.

Five commodious warehouses are allotted for the accommodation of export cargo, in addition to an open shed used for the shipment of drums containing coconut oil and similar commodities, and another shed for rough cargo. The largest warehouse can accommodate 4,000 tons of tea packed in chests of the usual size. The other four warehouses can each accommodate from 2,500 to 3,000 tons.

There are several bonded warehouses within the Customs premises, and certain firms have their own bonded warehouses outside the premises. Goods may be bonded for any period up to two years, after which they must either be removed or rebonded. All goods placed in bond are liable to the same rent and harbour dues as in the case of import cargo up to the time of bonding, after which no further dues are payable and bonded warehouse rent is recovered, the amount payable per week on bonded goods being the same as the charge per day on import cargo. No rent is payable to the Customs in the case of goods which lie in bonded warehouses belonging to private firms, though a charge is made for Customs supervision of deposits and removals.

Several firms have their own warehouses and stores on the lakeside, which has direct access from the harbour through the canal and locks. Special facilities are given by the Customs for import cargo to be removed direct to these stores and, conversely, for the direct shipment of export cargo from these stores to the vessel. Rent and dues are, however, payable as in the case of goods landed in the warehouse, but the advantage of this direct traffic lies in obviating two additional handlings which would be necessary had the goods been landed or shipped from a quay.

Transhipment warehouses are available for the accommodation of cargo pending transmission to the destination. No import duty is payable upon such cargo, and rent and harbour dues are payable at a reduced rate, amounting to 1/5th of the rate payable upon ordinary import cargo. In the case of direct transhipment from vessel to vessel, a small fee is payable for Customs supervision. The volume of transhipment is fairly large, the quantity transhipped during the year being about 34,683 tons, but there is a steady traffic, with Tuticorin and other South Indian ports of transhipment of cargo to and from the United Kingdom, America, Australia, the Far East, &c.

Removal of Cargo.—Goods may be cleared either by the importer himself or by any Landing Company or recognized clearing agency. Firms who import on a large scale find it convenient to keep their own staff of wharf clerks for the clearing of cargo and the passing of the necessary entries through the Customs. On the other hand firms whose business is not so great as to justify the maintenance of such a staff, find it more convenient to clear their goods through a Landing Company, or a Clearing Agency.

Warehouse rent and harbour dues are payable upon all goods landed at the wharf, and three clear days are allowed for the removal of the goods, exclusive of Customs holidays, of which there are five in the year, and Sundays. On goods removed after the expiry of this period further rent and dues are payable in respect of each day inclusive of Sundays and Customs holidays. Special facilities are offered by the Customs for clearing goods prior to the passing of the entry and the payment of the duty, rent, and dues. The usual system is to place a cash deposit with the Customs, against which goods are removed after any examination found necessary, the importer guaranteeing to pass the necessary papers within a reasonable period. Special facilities are also given for the clearing of perishable goods and of consignments, such as rice and sugar, which are landed in large quantities at a time.

Coaling Facilities.—There are about 29 acres of land on the foreshore of the harbour leased to different companies for the stacking of coal. The coaling grounds between the Barge Repairing Basin and the Graving Dock have 17 coaling jetties. Large supplies of coal can be procured, and steamers are bunkered with good despatch at any hour of the day or night.

The types and approximate prices of coal stocked at Colombo for commercial purposes are as follows (December, 1933) :—

Type.	Price Trimmed (f. o. b.) Per Ton. s.	d.
Welsh large	40	0
Welsh $\frac{2}{3}$ large, $\frac{1}{3}$ small	38	0
Natal	27	6
Indian	26	0

The quantities of coal imported and issued for bunkers during the years 1932 and 1933 were as follows :—

	1932. Tons.	1933. Tons.
Imports	350,047	404,917
Bunkers	213,954	217,786

Oil Facilities.—The port is equipped with an up-to-date oil fuel installation which provides for the rapid bunkering of ships using oil fuel. The main Oil Installation Depôt, about 92 acres in extent, is situated at Kolonnawa, about $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles from the harbour front, and various oil companies have erected their own storage and distribution tanks there. This depôt is divided into a non-dangerous and a dangerous oil section and is separated by a safety reservation. Three main pipelines are laid connecting the discharge berth in the harbour with the main oil depôt, two for oil fuel and the other for kerosene and petrol. In connection with the bunkering of vessels, a measuring tanks depôt, about 19 acres in extent, has been established at Bloemendahl, about $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile from the harbour front, and branch pipelines are provided from Kolonnawa to Bloemendahl and from Bloemendahl to the bunkering berths. The oil depôt is also connected to the main railway system of the Island. Three reinforced concrete jetties, two for bunkering purposes and one for discharge of oil tankers, have been provided. The outer oil bunkering jetty is capable of accommodating vessels of 500 feet length and 27 feet draught. The inner bunkering jetty is used by barges for bunkering. Vessels of 500 feet length and 27 feet draught can be berthed at the discharge jetty where the latest facilities for discharging oil ships are provided.

The imports of oil during the last two years were as follows :—

	1932. Tons.	1933. Tons.
Liquid fuel	247,090 ..	277,029
Kerosene oil	25,740 ..	29,708
Petrol and benzine	32,756 ..	30,505
Total ..	305,586	337,242

The quantities of liquid fuel issued for bunkers during the last two years were as follows :—

	No. of Ships Bunkered.	Tons.
1932	433 ..	221,233
1933..	459 ..	245,401

There has also been a steady increase in the number of oil burning vessels calling at the port while those burning coal only have declined. These facts illustrate that coal is fast replaced by oil as a means of marine engine propulsion.

The Oil Facilities receipts during the year 1933 were Rs. 815,896·23 as compared with Rs. 840,503·82 in 1932.

Graving Dock.—Length of floor, 700 feet ; breadth of entrance-cope level, 85 feet ; depth over sill at low water, 30 feet ; depth over sill at high water, 32 feet. Docking can be carried out by day or night.

Patent Slip.—Length 800 feet ; length of cradle, 220 feet ; breadth of cradle, 40 feet ; depth over keel blocks at lower end at low water, 21 feet 6 inches ; depth over keel blocks at upper end at low water, 10 feet 6 inches ; inclination 1 in 20. Capable of slipping a vessel of 1,200 tons dead weight.

Ambulance Facilities.—An ambulance launch is available for the conveyance of sick and injured persons between ship and shore. The Colombo Municipal Council provides an adequate and efficient motor ambulance service for the port.

Quarantine.—On entering the harbour each ship is visited by the Port Surgeon or his Assistant, and no person is allowed to board the ship or leave the ship till pratique is granted. If there are cases of infectious diseases on board, such as plague, cholera, smallpox, yellow fever, or typhus, the ship is held in strict quarantine until all necessary measures, such as removal of the sick person, disinfection of the ship, vaccination, &c., as the case may be, are carried out. Thereafter the ship is allowed to be worked in restricted quarantine, any persons having businesss on board being allowed on special permits.

Port Commission.—The Colombo Port Commission is composed of the following :—The Principal Collector of Customs (who is Chairman or Chief Port Commissioner) ; the Director of Medical and Sanitary Services ; the General Manager of the Railway ; the Chairman, Municipal Council, and Mayor of Colombo ; the Deputy Collector of Customs ; the Master Attendant, Colombo and Galle ; the Harbour Engineer ; six Unofficial Members nominated by the Chamber of Commerce to represent Import, Export, Shipping, Coaling, Oil, and Landing Agencies' Interests ; two Unofficial Members nominated by His Excellency the Governor to represent Ceylonese interests.

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RICKSHAW RUNNER

RAILWAYS.

All the railways in Ceylon are State-owned and Government-controlled, the management being vested in the Ceylon Government Railway Department.

The total length of line open is 951 miles, of which 834 miles are broad gauge (5½ feet gauge) and 117 miles narrow gauge (2½ feet gauge).

The frontispiece map shows how the different lines radiate from Colombo.

The following table shows the distance from Colombo Fort to the more important stations on the different lines, with the first class single passenger fare and the approximate time of journey :—

Colombo Fort to	Distance. M. C.	Train Fare. Rs. c.	Approximate Time of Journey. Hours.	Colombo Fort to	Distance. M. C.	Train Fare. Rs. c.	Approximate Time of Journey. Hours.
Peradeniya	71 62	5 5	3¼*	Polonnaruwa	162 1	11 40	8½*
Kandy	75 12	5 30	3¼*	Batticaloa	217 78	15 25	12
Nanu-oya	128 62	10 45	7½*	Trincomalee	184 25	12 95	9½
Nuwara Eliya	135 27	11 20	10 *	Mount Lavinia	7 47	0 55	¼*
Bandarawela	161 34	13 90	12 *	Galle	70 38	4 95	2½*
Anuradhapura	127 31	8 95	5¼*				

* By express trains.

The main results of the working of the Ceylon Government Railway for the financial years 1928–29 to 1932–33 are shown in the following table :—

Particulars.	1928–29. Rs.	1929–30. Rs.	1930–31. Rs.	1931–32. Rs.	1932–33. Rs.
Total capital outlay	217,574,271	220,522,956	223,460,704	225,307,864	226,379,400
Gross earnings	32,498,947	29,650,683	25,324,379	22,024,355	19,711,602†
Total working expenses‡	25,996,899	25,085,120	23,809,576	21,688,864	19,319,240
Net revenue§	6,502,048	4,565,563	1,514,803	335,491	392,362
Percentage of net revenue on total capital outlay	2·99 p.c.	2·07 p.c.	·68 p.c.	·15 p.c.	·17 p.c.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Gross receipts from ordinary passenger and season tickets	12,595,114	11,599,508	9,653,763	8,378,370	7,539,419
Gross receipts from parcels, goods, &c.	19,903,833	18,051,175	15,670,616	13,645,985	12,172,183
Free traffic (excluding that for Railway Department included in gross receipts)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

† Includes (Rs. 559,879) a/c Temporary levy on salaries.
‡ Includes provision for renewals.
§ That is, " Gross earnings " less " Total working expenses."

The number of passengers conveyed has fallen off by 1,499,248, the total conveyed during the year being 10,854,306. Under Season Tickets the number of ticket holders has fallen off by 7,789, the total number of season tickets issued during the year being 172,262.

The number of parcels conveyed during the year was 1,248,614 or a decrease of 135,993.

The tonnage of goods carried was 851,626 or a decrease of 120,015 tons, the noticeable increases and decreases being :—

	Increase. Tons.	Decrease. Tons.
Agricultural produce	—	2,176
Rice	24,613	—
Tea	—	15,806
Coconut Produce (other than copra)	—	6,902
Kerosene, bulk petroleum, and liquid fuel	—	4,391
Manure	—	90,403
Rubber	—	4,571
Sundry goods	—	20,466
Packing for tea, rubber, and desiccated coconuts	—	3,463

Passenger Fares.

The standard passenger fares are as follows :—Single fares : First Class, 7 cents per mile on all lines below Nawalapitiya and $10\frac{1}{2}$ cents per mile on all lines above Nawalapitiya. Second Class, $4\frac{2}{3}$ cents per mile on all lines below Nawalapitiya, and 7 cents per mile on all lines above Nawalapitiya. Third Class, $2\frac{1}{3}$ cents per mile on all lines. Week-end tickets are issued between all stations distance 25 miles and over at single fare and a half for the double journey. Reductions are made for children, pioneers, and labourers of any nationality, and for periodical tickets.

Sleeping Cars.

The sleeping cars which run on the Up and Down night mail trains between Colombo, Kandy, and Bandarawela and Colombo-Kankesanturai are provided with sleeping accommodation. Each berth is numbered and provided with bedding and an attendant accompanies each car. The charge for a sleeping berth is Rs. 5 in addition to the ordinary first-class fare to the station to which the journey is made.

In the Indo-Ceylon mail trains sleeping berths without bedding are provided for through first-class passengers without any extra charge, but berths are not guaranteed unless they have been reserved, for which a registration fee of Re. 1 per berth will be charged. If bedding is required Rs. 5 must be paid for each set of bedding at the time of booking, and a berth will be made up as a bed by the Car Attendant. In such cases no registration fee will be charged.

Restaurant Cars.

These are attached to the important trains on the Main and Northern lines.

Restaurant Rooms.

These are provided at Maradana, Polgahawela, and Nanu-oya on the Main line, Colombo Fort and Alutgama on the Coast line, and Anuradhapura on the Northern line. Refreshments at these places are supplied at moderate prices.

Refreshment Baskets.

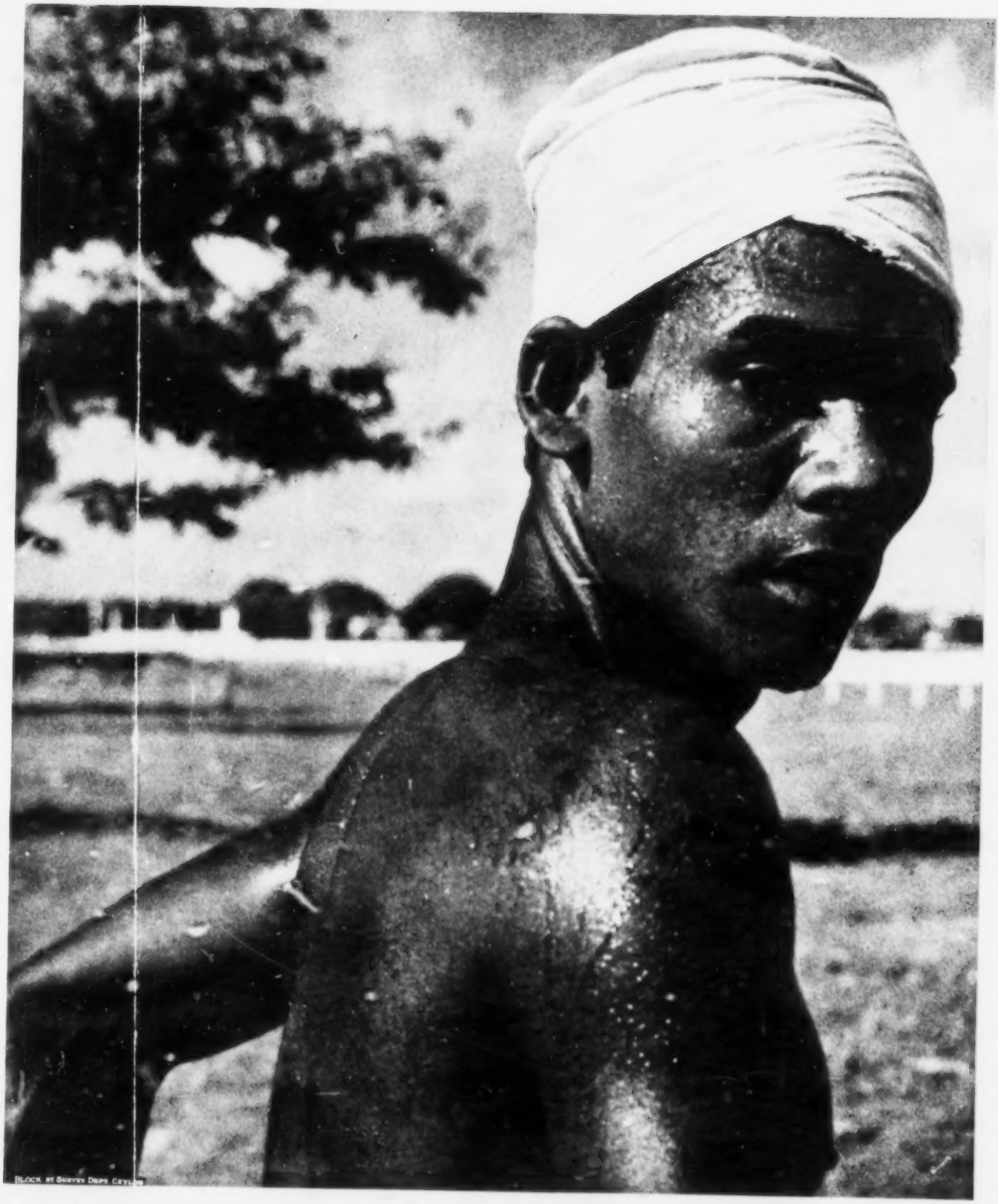
Refreshment baskets can be supplied for any train from Colombo on giving 20 minutes' notice to the Manager, Restaurant Cars and Rooms, at his office at Colombo Fort Station.

Luggage.

Each adult passenger is allowed, free of charge, the following weight of luggage :—

		lb.			lb.
First class	..	112	Third class	..	56
Second class	..	84			

A free allowance of half these quantities is made for each child travelling with a half-ticket. No luggage will be conveyed free for children under three years of age who travel free.



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JOURNEY'S END

ROADS.

There are over 16,500 miles of roads and cart tracks in the Island controlled and administered by the following authorities :—

Authority.	Description of Roads.	Approximate Mileage.
(i.) Public Works Department ..	All main thoroughfares in the Island ..	4,803
(ii.) District Road Committees ..	All minor roads within the areas of jurisdiction of each Committee	3,000
(iii.) Local Governing Authorities, viz., Municipalities, Urban District Councils, Local Boards, Sanitary Boards, &c. ..	All streets within their respective jurisdictions	565
(iv.) Village Committees	All natural cart tracks within the jurisdiction of each Committee	7,800
(v.) Irrigation Department	— ..	70
(vi.) Private parties	— ..	350

In addition there are approximately 8,200 miles of bridle paths in the charge of the District and Village Committees.

The Public Works Department is the principal road authority in the Island and is responsible for the construction and maintenance of all the "Main roads", by which are meant through arteries connecting the principal centres of populations with one another and with the railways and ports.

The whole cost of construction, improvements, and maintenance of these roads is met from the general revenue of the Island.

The roads vary in standard from narrow country roads to wide modern thoroughfares, the standard depending on the nature of the country traversed and the traffic carried.

The following is the classification of the Public Works Department roads according to the nature of their surfaces :—

	Miles.
Full-metalled	3,754
Track-metalled	504
Gravelled	417
Natural	128
	4,803

The metalled roads are maintained in good order, and, with but few exceptions, may be considered passable to all classes of traffic. Gravelled roads can be considered as dry weather roads only ; in dry weather they are generally in fair order, but they cannot be relied upon to the extent of metalled roads. A large mileage of the metalled roads is tarred or otherwise surface-treated. At the end of 1933 the length of roads so treated was 3,440 miles.

The only direct charge on road users is that for the use of ferry boats, but on the main roads with few exceptions the ferries have been replaced by bridges. Indirect charges are made in the form of import duties and taxes on wheeled vehicles.

The distribution of the main roads, distances between the principal centres, &c., can be ascertained on reference to the motor map of Ceylon, obtainable from the Surveyor-General, Colombo.

The distances from Colombo to other chief towns by road (given to the nearest half mile) are shown in the following list :—

Colombo to	Miles.	Colombo to	Miles.
Galle	72½	Batticaloa (*vid* Badulla) ..	241
Peradeniya	68	Anuradhapura (*vid* Matale) ..	158½
Kandy	72	Trincomalee (*vid* Kurunegala) ..	169
Nuwara Eliya (*vid* Peradeniya) ..	112	Anuradhapura (*vid* Puttalam) ..	129
Nuwara Eliya (*vid* Ginigathena) ..	106½	Jaffna (*vid* Puttalam) ..	250

MEANS OF TRANSPORT BY ROAD.

The number of motor vehicles in Ceylon has been increasing very rapidly for some years, until it reached 24,405 on December 31, 1930. Owing to the depression in the major industries of the Island the number on December 31, 1933, decreased to 23,359. The average cost of running a small private car may be put at about 25 to 40 cents per mile. Hiring cars are available in most parts of the Island and cost 40 cents to Re. 1 per mile. Drivers and mechanics for privately-owned cars can be obtained without difficulty and all drivers must hold the Government certificate of competence, while many are registered with the Automobile Association of Ceylon. Numerous facilities for repairs exist in Colombo, Kandy, Nuwara Eliya, and most of the other towns. Supplies of petrol and oil are available in all towns and in most of the larger villages. The Automobile Association of Ceylon is affiliated or has reciprocal agreements with most of the Automobile Clubs and Associations in other countries and the Secretary (P. O. Box 338, Colombo), will afford any information which may be desired. The various landing, Customs, and registration formalities can be arranged for visitors by the Association. Facilities afforded by the International Convention relative to Motor Traffic are now applicable to Ceylon and a Ceylon TRIPTYQUE for Customs purposes is available through the leading Automobile Institutions.

Motor Buses.—A large number of motor omnibuses carrying passengers for hire run on nearly every main road in the Island. The number of omnibuses licensed during the year was 2,080.

The seating accommodation for passengers in motor omnibuses varies from 8 to 37.

Personal luggage of small dimensions and light weight will be carried free of charge. Extra luggage will be carried only if there is room in the conveyance on payment of a fee.

Goods.—The chief means of transport of goods by road are the local bullock cart and the motor lorry. A double-bullock cart is capable of taking 1½ tons at a time, and travels at the average rate of about 2 miles an hour. The cost per ton per mile may be put at about 80 cents. There are about 34,000 single- and double-bullock carts in Ceylon, the majority of which are used in the transportation of village produce. Motor lorries are gradually replacing bullock carts in the movement of estate goods, and in other industries. These vary in load capacity from 5 cwt. to about 3 tons and travel about 15 miles an hour, this being the legal speed limit for such vehicles. They run on petrol or kerosene and a few on crude oil. In 1933 there were about 2,898 motor lorries and vans in Ceylon. Experience has shown that excluding profit the running costs can be kept as low as 50 cents per ton per mile.

Tramways.—The only street tramways in Ceylon are those in the town of Colombo, the total length of double track being 7 miles. There are two nearly equal routes : one between the Fort and the Kelani river terminus, and one between the Fort and Borella, joined by a cross line between Maradana and Grandpass *viâ* Skinner's road and Armour street. The total number of passengers carried annually is estimated at about 13 millions.

CANALS.

The only artificial navigable waterways in Ceylon are a series of canals connecting a chain of lakes on the west coast—Bolgoda, Colombo, Negombo, Chilaw, Mundel, and Puttalam lakes—as also the estuaries of the Kalu-ganga, Kelani-ganga, Maha-oya, and Deduru-oya ; thus forming a continuous waterway from Kalutara in the south to Puttalam in the north, a distance of approximately 120 miles. These were maintained in good order.

In addition to the foregoing there are about 41 miles of boat channel maintained by dredging the Jaffna lagoon.

POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICE.

(Full information on this subject is to be found in the " Ceylon Post Office Guide ", obtainable from the Postmaster-General, Colombo, price 75 cents.)

On December 31, 1933, 875 offices were open for business. Details of the facilities afforded are as follows :—

156 Post Offices (excluding the Central Telegraph Office which does only telegraph business) dealt with all classes of postal business, viz., mail and parcel work, registration and insurance of postal articles, money order, postal order, and Savings Bank work, and telegraph and telephone business. 65 Post Offices dealt with all classes of business except telephone work. 1 Post Office (at the Colombo Passenger Jetty) transacted all classes of business except parcel work. 1 Post Office conducted all classes of business except postal order, value-payable and cash-on-delivery work and telephone work. 15 Post Offices dealt with all classes of postal business except telegraph and telephone work.

37 Sub-Post Offices conducted all classes of postal business, except insurance, and also provided telephone-telegraph facilities. 121 Sub-Post Offices also conducted such business except telephone-telegraph work.

431 Village Receiving Offices dealt with mail work only. At 37 Railway Stations facilities for the despatch and receipt of Inland postal telegrams were available. At 10 of these stations, mail work was also conducted.

There are 10,593 miles of telegraph wire (including railway telegraph wires), of which 2,680 are laid underground, and 48,372 miles of telephone wire (including Trunk and Junction lines) for subscribers' circuits, of which 35,309 are laid underground (excluding private estate lines).

Mail Services.

A regular weekly mail service is maintained between Ceylon and the United Kingdom and the continent of Europe and between Ceylon and Australia. Regular and frequent services are also available to the Straits Settlements and the Far East. Mails from Colombo to Mauritius and South Africa *viâ* Bombay are despatched fortnightly. Direct mail to Mauritius is also sent

at very irregular intervals. There is also a direct service not less than twice a month between Ceylon and South Africa. Mails from Ceylon to East Africa are despatched fortnightly *viâ* Bombay and direct once a month. The mail service by train is maintained daily between Ceylon and India *viâ* Talaimannar except on Saturdays.

Air Mails.—There is a regular bi-weekly despatch of air mail articles from Colombo to connect with the weekly despatch from Karachi westwards, the earlier closing in the week is forwarded by rail to Karachi and from thence by air to destination whilst the latter despatch is forwarded by rail to Madras and from thence by the combined Indian Internal and Imperial Airways Services, the countries served by these services being the United Kingdom, Countries in Europe, South and East Africa, Canada and the United States of America. Correspondence intended for conveyance by the Internal Air Services of certain countries (viz., United States, Dutch East Indies, and Australia) are also despatched weekly.

Inland mails are carried generally by the Ceylon Government Railway and from railway stations by private contract motor mail services, bullock coach, or runner services.

Rates of Postage.

Inland Rates and Rates to India.

	Cents.		Cents.
For letters, per 2 ounces or part of that weight	6	For registered newspapers not weighing more than 2 pounds, for every 8 ounces..	2
For post cards, each	3		
For printed matter, per 2 ounces or part of that weight up to a maximum of 2 pounds	2		

Rates to the United Kingdom, British Possessions, and Egypt.

	Cents.		Cents.
For letters, per ounce or part of that weight	9	For printed papers, per 2 ounces or part of that weight	3
For post cards, each	6		

Rates to Foreign Countries (excluding Egypt).

	Cents.		Cents.
For letters, for the first ounce ..	20	For post cards, each	12
For every additional ounce or part of that weight	10	For printed papers, per 2 ounces or part of that weight	4

Inland Cash-on-Delivery System.

Postal articles can be transmitted by the Inland post on the value-payable system provided that the amount payable is not less than 50 cents or more than Rs. 600. A posting and delivery fee of 5 to 15 cents, according to value, will be levied on every value-payable article.

Foreign Cash-on-Delivery System.

The Cash-on-delivery Service is in operation between Ceylon and the United Kingdom, the Straits Settlements, the Federated Malay States, and Germany. Details will be found in the " Ceylon Post Office Guide ".

Money Orders.

Money Orders can be obtained at any of the Post Offices payable at any of the others and in most foreign countries. The maximum for inland and Indian Money Orders is Rs. 600, for foreign orders £40 except in certain special cases where the maximum is below this amount. The rate of commission for inland Money Orders is 10 cents for each complete sum of Rs. 10 and 10 cents for the remainder, and for Indian Money Orders 20 cents for each complete sum of Rs. 10 and 20 cents for the remainder. The rate for foreign Money Orders expressed in sterling is 25 cents on sums not exceeding £1, and on sums exceeding £1, 15 cents for each complete sum of £1 and 15 cents for the remainder. Money orders payable in the United Kingdom or countries served through the United Kingdom can be despatched by Air Mail on payment of a fee of 15 cents in addition to the ordinary money order commission. Telegraph Money Orders can be despatched in the inland service. Telegraph Money Order service is also available to India and some other foreign countries. a fixed fee of 10 cents irrespective of the amount of the order is charged for Inland and Indian Telegraph Money Orders. There are fixed minima for Telegraph Money Orders according to the currency in which the order is advised. Details will be found in the " Ceylon Post Office Guide ".

Postal Orders.

Inland Postal Orders for fixed amounts ranging from 50 cents to Rs. 10 are issued, the rate of commission varying from 3 to 10 cents.

British Postal Orders.

There are 40 denominations of British Postal Order, ranging from 6*d*. to 21*s*., the difference between each up to 19*s*. being 6*d*., and 1*s*. between 19*s*. and 21*s*. Commission is charged at the rate of 5 cents on each of the first three denominations, 10 cents on each of the next eighteen, and 15 cents on each of the remaining denominations. A full list of the countries to which British Postal Orders can be sent is given in section 7 of the " Ceylon Post Office Guide ". Broken amounts up to 5*d*. (but not including fractions of a penny) may be made by affixing unused Ceylon postage stamps of equivalent value or British penny postage stamps not exceeding three in number in the spaces provided on the order.

Inland Telegrams.

The minimum charge for Inland telegrams is 50 cents for the first twelve words, including the address, and 5 cents for each additional two words or less. These telegrams can be sent from any one telegraph office to any other in the Island.

The charge for urgent telegrams is Re. 1 for the first twelve words, including the address, and 10 cents for each additional two words or less.

Foreign and Colonial Telegrams.

The rates for telegrams to India (including Burma) are express Rs. 2, and ordinary Re. 1 for the first 12 words or less, and 15 cents and 10 cents respectively for each additional word.

Telegrams to places in other British Possessions and foreign countries can be sent on a minimum charge per word varying from 40 cents to Rs. 6 for ordinary, and from 45 cents to Rs. 3 for deferred telegrams, according to the distance of the place of destination, the route by which the telegram is to be sent, &c. A full list of places to which foreign and Colonial telegrams can be sent, together with the rates charged, is given in section 9 of the " Ceylon Post Office Guide ".

Cheap Rate Telegrams.

Telegrams in plain language are accepted for transmission as " Daily Letter Telegrams " to various places abroad at considerably reduced rates. A list of places to which this service is available, and the scale of charges, will be found in section 9 of the " Ceylon Post Office Guide ".

Radio-Telegrams.

Radio-Telegrams are accepted at any Postal Telegraph Office in Ceylon for transmission to ships equipped with radio-telegraph apparatus through the Coast Station in Colombo.

The charges are as follows :—

	Per Word. Cents.		Per Word. Cents.
British, Indian, or Colonial Government Telegrams to or from His Britannic Majesty's Ships of War	Free	All other Government or private telegrams ..	65
Private telegrams to or from His Britannic Majesty's Ships of War ..	40	On Radio-Telegrams sent to—	
		(a) Spanish and Swedish ships the charge is	60
		(b) Finnish ships the charge is ..	50

The normal range of the Colombo Radio Station is 500 miles or about two days steaming from or to the port of Colombo, but this distance is considerably exceeded when conditions are favourable and also according to the equipment on board the ships.

With ships fitted with the Short Wave System, communication is possible for a few thousand miles. Ships not so fitted can be reached through those having the facility.

Telephone System.

Telephone communication exists between most of the principal towns and certain rural districts. The towns are generally served by Government exchanges and the rural districts by Government or private licensed exchanges which are connected to the general trunk system by means of Government junction lines.

The charge for the use of a public call box for six minutes or less is 10 cents, and for the use of the trunk and junction lines for three minutes or less the charge is as follows :—

	Cents.		Cents.
For 15 miles or under	15	Over 32½ miles and not exceeding 60 miles ..	50
Over 15 miles and not exceeding 32½ miles	25	Every additional 25 miles or part of a mile ..	25

The minimum annual rental for a telephone connection to a large town exchange is Rs. 180 for business or professional purposes and Rs. 120 for non-business or residential purposes and that for a connection to a small town exchange Rs. 125 and Rs. 90 respectively.

CHAPTER XI.

Banking, Currency, Weights and Measures.

BANKS.

THE following is a list of banks which have branches in Ceylon :—

Name of Bank ..	Imperial Bank of India
Address of Head Office ..	Madras
Branch in Ceylon ..	Prince street, Fort, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon ..	—
London Office	25, Old Broad street, London, E.C. 2

Name of Bank ..	National Bank of India, Ltd.
Address of Head Office ..	26, Bishopsgate, London, E.C. 2
Branches in Ceylon ..	York street, Fort, Colombo ; Ward street, Kandy ; and Nuwara Eliya
Agents in Ceylon ..	Clark, Spence & Co., Galle
Bankers in the United Kingdom	The Bank of England ; The National Provincial Bank, Ltd. ; The National Bank of Scotland, Ltd.

Name of Bank ..	Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China
Address of Head Office ..	38, Bishopsgate, London, E.C. 2
Branch in Ceylon ..	Queen street and Baillie street, Fort, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon ..	Mercantile Bank of India, Ltd., Galle
Bankers in the United Kingdom	The Bank of England ; Midland Bank, Ltd. ; Westminster Bank, Ltd. ; National Provincial Bank, Ltd. ; The National Bank of Scotland, Ltd. ; Lloyds Bank, Ltd.

Name of Bank ..	Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation
Address of Head Office ..	1, Queen's road, Hong Kong, China
Branch in Ceylon ..	24, Prince street, Fort, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon ..	E. Coates & Co. (Galle), Ltd., Galle
Bankers in the United Kingdom	The Westminster Bank, Ltd.

Name of Bank ..	The Mercantile Bank of India, Ltd.
Address of Head Office ..	15, Gracechurch street, London, E.C. 3
Branches in Ceylon ..	2, Queen street, Fort, Colombo ; Ward street, Kandy ; and Galle
Agents in Ceylon ..	—
Bankers in the United Kingdom	The Bank of England ; Midland Bank, Ltd.

Name of Bank ..	The Eastern Bank, Ltd.
Address of Head Office ..	2 and 3, Crosby square, Bishopsgate, London, E.C. 3
Branch in Ceylon ..	75-77, Chatham street, Fort, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon ..	—
Bankers in the United Kingdom	The Bank of England ; Westminster Bank, Ltd. ; The National Provincial Bank, Ltd. ; The Bank of Scotland ; Barclay's Bank, Ltd. ; Martin's Bank, Ltd.

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Name of Bank	..	The P. & O. Banking Corporation, Ltd. (with which is affiliated The Allahad Bank, Ltd.)
Address of Head Office	..	117–122, Leadenhall street, London, E.C. 3
Branch in Ceylon	..	Victoria Arcade buildings, York street, Fort, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon	..	—
Bankers in the United Kingdom		Lloyds Bank, Ltd.; Westminster Bank, Ltd.; The National Provincial Bank, Ltd.; Royal Bank of Scotland

Name of Bankers	..	Thos. Cook & Son (Bankers), Ltd.
Address of Head Office	..	Berkeley street, Piccadilly, London, W. 1
Branch in Ceylon	..	Prince street, Fort, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon	..	—
Bankers in the United Kingdom		The National Provincial Bank, Ltd.; Barclay's Bank, Ltd.

Name of Bank	..	Indian Bank, Ltd.
Address of Head Office	..	Indian Bank buildings, North Beach road, Madras
Branch in Ceylon	..	Baillie street, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon	..	—
Bankers in the United Kingdom		—

Name of Bank	..	The Calicut Bank, Ltd.
Address of Head Office	..	The Calicut Bank, Ltd., Bank road, Calicut
Branch in Ceylon	..	15, Baillie street, Fort, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon	..	None
Bankers in the United Kingdom		None

Name of Bank	..	Bank of Uva, Ltd.
Address of Head Office	..	Badulla
Branch in Ceylon	..	—
Agents in Ceylon	..	Colombo Commercial Co., Ltd., Colombo
Bankers in the United Kingdom		—

Banking Agencies.

Name of Bank.			Agents in Ceylon.
Coutts & Co.	..	..	George Steuart & Co., Colombo
Ulster Bank, Ltd., Belfast		..	do.
Westminster Bank, Ltd.	..	..	do.
Bank of Montreal	..	..	do.
Charles Hoare & Co.	..	..	do.
Martin's Bank, Ltd.	..	..	do.
National Provincial Bank, Ltd.		..	do.

Savings Banks.

There are two Savings Banks, viz., the Ceylon Savings Bank and the Post Office Savings Bank.

The Ceylon Savings Bank is a Government institution established in 1832. Accounts may be opened with a minimum deposit of 50 cents, and not more than Rs. 2,000 can be deposited in one year irrespective of withdrawals. The maximum sum which a depositor may have to his or her credit is Rs. 6,000. Charitable institutions or societies may deposit Rs. 3,000 per annum up to a maximum of Rs. 9,000. The Bank allows interest at the rate of 3½ per cent. on accounts of Rs. 1,000 and under, and 3 per cent. on accounts above Rs. 1,000.

The Post Office Savings Bank is managed by the Post and Telegraph Department. Deposits and withdrawals can be made at any of the Post Offices in the Island. The minimum amount that can be deposited is 25 cents, and the maximum per annum is Rs. 750 irrespective of withdrawals. The total amount which a depositor may have to his or her credit is Rs. 3,000. The rate of interest allowed is 2·4 per cent.—2 cents per month for each complete sum of Rs. 10.

Co-operative Societies.

There were, on April 30, 1933, 779 registered Co-operative Societies in Ceylon, of which 3 were Co-operative Central Banks, 680 Village Credit Societies or Banks of Unlimited Liability, 23 societies of Limited Liability, 29 Thrift Societies, 26 Supervising Unions, 9 Supply Societies, 1 Co-operative Land Mortgage Bank, 2 Sale Societies, 2 Co-operative Milk Supply Societies, 1 Co-operative Land Development Society, 1 Co-operative Motor Boat Society, and 1 Sports Society. These Societies had 26,719 members. Statistics are complied only at the end of the co-operative working year on April 30. Since then another Land Mortgage Bank and a Sale Society have been registered as well as many village credit Societies. One of the Supervising Unions has opened a Co-operative Market in Colombo.

The Societies were handling on April 30 Rs. 2,344,187·74. The Co-operative Central Banks exist for the purpose of attracting funds in the form of deposits from the general investing public and lending them to registered societies.

Attention has been concentrated on the thorough training of primary societies in the principles and practice of co-operation, and particularly on the organization of secondary institutions designed to make the movement independent of direct assistance from Government. These consist mainly of Central Banks, whose object is to provide and control the necessary finance, and Supervising Unions which are intended to provide scope for unofficial workers and gradually to take over the whole work of propaganda and supervision.

Loans are still made directly by Government to Societies in the less developed portions of the Island, but this system is being gradually replaced by independent Central Banks as the movement develops.

The percentage of overdue loans for the whole Island was 15·33 for the year ending on April 30, 1933. A few Supply Societies have worked successfully, but this branch of the work has proved to be very difficult. There is at present a strong demand for new societies.

CURRENCY, &c.

The monetary unit in Ceylon is the Indian silver rupee, which is divided into 100 cents. The following fractions of the rupee are coined :—(1) Silver, 50-cent piece ; 25-cent piece ; and 10-cent piece ; (2) nickel, 5-cent piece ; (3) copper, 1-cent piece and ½-cent piece.

The chief medium of exchange in Ceylon is the currency notes issued by the Government of Ceylon. They are of the following values :—Rs. 1,000, Rs. 500, Rs. 100, Rs. 50, Rs. 10, Rs. 5, Rs. 2, and Re. 1. The present value of the rupee is about 1*s.* 6*d.*

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

The standard weights and measures are the English units. In conjunction with these many local weights and measures are used.

CHAPTER XII.

Public Works.

WITH the introduction in July, 1931, of the new Constitution for the Island under the Ceylon (State Council) Order in Council, 1931, the Public Works Department is placed under the immediate control of the Executive Committee of Communications and Works.

On account of the acute financial depression prevailing in the Island, the votes of the Department for the financial year 1932–33 were greatly reduced and the programme of new public works drastically curtailed. The total expenditure by the Department amounted only to Rs. 6,935,896, as against Rs. 8,418,124 during the previous year (1931–32) and Rs. 26,832,348 four years ago (1928–29).

Maintenance.—The roads, bridges, canals, and public buildings in charge of the Department were maintained in satisfactory condition having regard to the restricted funds available.

New Works.—The following are the more important works completed and in progress during the year :—

New Buildings and Additions and Improvements to Buildings.

Completed :—

New Remand Prison, Welikada.
Steam Cookers for the new three-storey block, General Hospital.
Alterations and improvements to a portion of Queen's House to accommodate the Tea Restriction Department.
Improvements to Old Town Hall for leasing to the Bomiriya Co-operative Union for the establishment of a co-operative market in Colombo.
Alterations and additions to Tiffin Rooms, Secretariat.
Sinking nine Abyssinian Tube wells, General Hospital, for obtaining water for watering lawns, flushing drains and washing floors.
Improvements to District Medical Officer's quarters, Deniyaya.
Additions to Mahamodera Hospital.
Conversion of old Kamburupitiya Resthouse into a Police Station.
Beacon at Point Pedro.
Special repairs to the Residency, Anuradhapura.
Extending drains, Batticaloa Hospital.
Maternity Ward, Batticaloa Hospital.
Converting Police Cells at Kurunegala to a Remand Jail.
Improvements to Nikaweratiya Hospital.

In progress :—

Quarters for Nurses and Pupil Midwives, De Soysa Lying-in-Home.
Improvements to the Income Tax Office to accommodate the Stamps and Estate Duty Offices.
Additions and Improvements to Mahara Prison.
Maternity Ward for the Neboda Hospital.
New quarters for the Medical Officer, Kotmale.
Extension of Maternity Ward, Nuwara Eliya Hospital.
Additions and alterations to Jaffna Prison to provide accommodation for Prison officers.
Maternity Ward, Marawila Hospital.

Bridges.

Completed :—

Bridge over the Panaluwa-ela on the Colombo-Labugama Junction High Level road.
Balapitiya bridge No. 37 on 51st mile, Colombo-Galle road.
Bridge No. 3/1, Hambantota-Tanamalwila road.
Strengthening bridge No. 21/2, Central road, Mullaittivu.
New low level bridge on the 5th mile, Diyatalawa-Bandarawela road.
Strengthening bridge No. 52/10, Kendangamuwa-Pelmadulla road.

In progress :—

Reconstruction of Maggona bridge No. 33/5, Colombo-Galle road.
Reconstructing bridge No. 5/1, Dodangoda-Tebuwana road.
Reconstructing bridge No. 13/8, Beligamuwa-Mirisgonioya road.
Improvements to Milegamuwa bridge, Avissawella-Ginigathena road.
Reconstructing Mirissa bridge.
Dikwella bridge.
Renewing bridge No. 18/4 on Akkaraipattu road.
Reconstructing bridge No. 3/1, Palavi Service road.
New bridge at Alawwa.
Construction of bridge on 95th mile, Pelmadulla-Halpe road.

New Roads.

In progress :—

Bambalapitiya Link road to connect the new High Level road with the Havelock road.
Bowatta-Karambeoya road (under the Estates Road Ordinance).

Additions and Improvements to Roads.

Completed :—

Improvements to 29th, 30th, and 31st miles of the Kuchchaveli-Yan-oya road.

In progress :—

Improvement of the Erukkalampiddy causeway road to Toddaveli Railway Station.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Completed :—

Unemployment Relief Works in and about Colombo.—

(*a*) Buller's road swamp.
(*b*) Medical Research Institute site.
(*c*) Levelling Crown land at junction of Dematagoda and High Level roads.
(*d*) Bambalapitiya Link road.

In progress :—

Karaiyur Reclamation Scheme.
General Flood Outlet Scheme, Kokuvil-Kondavil drainage channel.

WATERWORKS.

In progress :—

Improvements to the Diyatalawa water supply.
Improvements to the Mannar water supply.
Improvements to the Hatton water supply.
Improvements to the water supply at Ragama.
Improvements to the Lunugala water supply.

Under consideration :—

Improvements to the water supplies at Matale and Gampola.

Under investigation :—

Improvements to water supplies at Chilaw, Puttalam, Badulla, and Kurunegala.

IRRIGATION.

Importance of Irrigation.—The importance of irrigation in Ceylon arises mainly from the fact that the staple food of the inhabitants is rice. Practically all rice is grown in water, and in areas where the ordinary rainfall is insufficient for the crop, artificial means have to be adopted to supplement the water supply. As far as possible water is diverted to the fields from natural water-courses, but in the dry zones of the Island, where natural flow diminishes greatly or entirely ceases for considerable periods, it is often necessary to resort to the storage of water obtainable in the rainy season. The reservoirs or tanks in which water is stored are usually formed by the construction of embankments across the valley of a water-course, thus impounding the flow and securing a supply which can be issued when required for the cultivation operations by means of sluices and irrigation channels.

Classification of Irrigation Works.—Irrigation works in Ceylon are divided into two main classes, namely, major works and village works. Major works comprise the larger tanks and other works that have been constructed or restored by the Government. The owners of land irrigated by these works are liable to contribute towards the cost of their construction and maintenance, the conditions varying with the different works. Village works include all the smaller works, which are maintained by the villagers themselves under the general supervision of Government officials.

Major Irrigation Works.—The construction and maintenance of major works is in the hands of the Irrigation Department. The principal construction works on which the department was engaged during 1933, in addition to the maintenance of working schemes, were as follows :—

(1) *Kirima-oya Scheme, Southern Province.*—The construction of masonry dams to replace temporary sand dams across the river, and improved channel systems.

(2) *Walawe Left Bank Scheme, Southern Province.*—The development of irrigation and road facilities.

(3) *Akathimurippu Scheme, Northern Province.*—16½ miles of the main channel and several large masonry works thereon have so far been constructed.

(4) *Karachchi Scheme, Northern Province.*—The distributary channel and agricultural road system is being considerably extended in order to provide irrigation and access facilities for some 8,000 acres.

(5) *Unnichchai Scheme, Eastern Province.*—The extension of the left bank western branch channel system has been proceeded with in order to provide for the further development of this scheme.

(6) *Tabbowa Scheme, North-Western Province.*—Construction of the channel and agricultural road systems is proceeding.

(7) *Rufuskulam, Eastern Province.*—The restoration of the tank was completed. The channels under this tank are now under construction.

(8) *Minneriya Scheme, North-Central Province.*—The development of about 10,000 acres as a colonization scheme. Construction of irrigation and road facilities are proceeding. About 14½ miles of channels and 3 miles of road have been provided.

(9) *Kalawewa Scheme, North-Central Province.*—Irrigation and road facilities for the development of about 2,100 acres under the Kahagama channel.

Village Irrigation Works.—A progressive policy has been adopted in recent years towards the restoration, improvement and development of village irrigation works, and the construction of spills, sluices, and other masonry works which are beyond the capacity of the villagers to build, is carried out by officers under the Director of Irrigation.

Maintenance of village works is attended to by the Provincial Administration with the assistance of irrigation officers seconded for the purpose.

Extent and Benefits of Irrigation in Ceylon.—The extent of land irrigated at present under major works is 152,348 acres, and under restored village works 206,239 acres.

There is great scope for further increase of cultivation and many new schemes and the restoration of ancient irrigation works are now under investigation.

Apart from the production of food, there are numerous indirect benefits derived from irrigation. The felling of jungle and the opening up of the land bring about healthier conditions of life for the villagers and poverty is alleviated and, as irrigation and cultivation on scientific lines extend, the population and prosperity of low-country dry zone areas tend to increase.

Flood Protection Schemes.—In consequence of the periods of intense rainfall to which Ceylon is liable, the rivers are liable to periodical floods, which cause damage to property and distress to the inhabitants of adjoining lands. In particular, the havoc caused by floods in the vicinity of Colombo was for many years a matter for serious consideration by Government.

A scheme designed by Mr. C. Harward of the Irrigation Department for protecting the Colombo South area from floods was completed in 1925, and a similar scheme for Colombo North in 1927. Considerable benefits have been derived from these schemes during the period they have been in operation.

Flood protection work is now an established branch of the activities of the Irrigation Department, and many applications have been made for flood protection for areas in the neighbourhood of Colombo and of large rivers in the Western and Southern Provinces, and in other parts of the Island.

The schemes already completed are :—

Colombo Schemes (North and South).—Protecting 9,500 acres of lowlying land.

Ambatalenpahala Scheme.—Protecting 900 acres of lowlying land from minor floods.

Kalu-oya Muturajawela Scheme.—Protecting 8,888 acres.

A scheme for the protection of 9,200 acres of land in the Bolgoda area, liable to flooding from the Kalu-ganga, has been under construction during 1930, but the financial position of the Island has necessitated the temporary closing down of the construction work. Several other schemes in the Western and Southern Provinces are under investigation.

CHAPTER XIII.

Justice and Police.

THE JUDICIAL SYSTEM OF CEYLON.

Supreme Court.—The Supreme Court consists of a Chief Justice and five Puisne Judges. It has appellate jurisdiction in civil cases from all courts except Village Tribunals. It exercises no original jurisdiction in civil cases. Under Ordinance No. 2 of 1891 it is a Colonial Court of Admiralty.

The Supreme Court has original jurisdiction in all criminal cases and exclusive jurisdiction in respect of the more serious offences such as homicide, rape, and the graver types of extortion. In practice it seldom tries cases which do not fall within its exclusive jurisdiction. It usually sits with a jury and tries cases committed for trial by a Police Court. It exercises appellate and revisional jurisdiction over all criminal courts except Village Tribunals. The Supreme Court may pass any sentence authorized by law.

District Courts.—The District Courts, of which there are at present 22 in the Island, have unlimited original civil jurisdiction and criminal jurisdiction in

respect of all offences which are not within the exclusive jurisdiction of the Supreme Court. District Courts try only cases committed to them for trial by Police Courts.* District Courts may pass any of the following sentences :—

(*a*) Imprisonment of either description for a term not exceeding 2 years ;
(*b*) Fine not exceeding one thousand rupees ;
(*c*) Whipping ;
(*d*) Any lawful sentence combining any two of the sentences aforesaid.

Under sections 3 and 4 of Ordinance No. 2 of 1891 the Governor has power to appoint a District Court to have a limited Admiralty jurisdiction. The District Court of Colombo alone has been appointed to exercise such jurisdiction.

Police Courts.—There are 43 Police Courts in the Island. The offences which a Police Court may try are specified in the schedule to the Criminal Procedure Code, 1898. Various Ordinances have also made other offences triable by a Police Court. A Police Court may not pass a sentence heavier than the following, except where an Ordinance has specially empowered it so to do :—

(*a*) Imprisonment of either description for a term not exceeding 6 months ;
(*b*) Fine not exceeding one hundred rupees ;
(*c*) Whipping, if the offender is under 16 years of age ;
(*d*) Any lawful sentence combining any two of the sentences aforesaid.

Police Courts also hold preliminary inquiries into crimes with a view to committal for trial by a District Court or the Supreme Court. If after inquiry a Police Magistrate is of opinion that an accused should be discharged he makes order to this effect. Where a Magistrate is of opinion that an accused should be committed for trial to a court of competent jurisdiction, the record of the proceedings at the inquiry is forwarded to the Attorney-General, who directs the Police Magistrate to commit the accused or to discharge him.

Courts of Requests.—Courts of Requests have original civil jurisdiction (subject to certain exceptions) in all actions in which the debt, damage, or demand or value of the land in dispute does not as a rule exceed Rs. 300.

There are 43 Courts of Requests in the Island, of which one (the Colombo Court) is presided over by a separate Commissioner. All the others are presided over by a District Judge or a Police Magistrate who acts as Commissioner of Requests in addition to his own duties as District Judge or Police Magistrate.

Village Tribunals.—Village Tribunals have civil jurisdiction for actions in which the debt, damage, or demand or the value of the land in dispute does not exceed Rs. 20, or, where both parties consent, Rs. 100 and in cases between a Co-operative Society and its members. Village Tribunals have criminal jurisdiction to try breaches of rules made by the inhabitants of the subdivision or the Village Committee under section 29 of Ordinance No. 9 of 1924, and various minor offences enumerated in the schedule to Ordinance No. 9 of 1924. A Village Tribunal may impose a fine not exceeding Rs. 20 or 14 days' imprisonment in default of payment.

* Under section 152 of the Criminal Procedure Code, a Police Magistrate who is also a District Judge may, in the course of an inquiry into an offence which is triable by a District Court, proceed to try such offence summarily when he is of opinion that it can properly be so tried. In such a case there is no previous committal.

A Village Tribunal is presided over by a paid President appointed by the Governor. He sits with three Councillors chosen by lot. In the case of difference of opinion between the President and the Councillors, the opinion of the President prevails (section 50 of Ordinance No. 9 of 1924).

There are 206 Village Tribunals in the Island, namely, 24 in the Western Province, 35 in the Central, 50 in the Southern, 5 in the Northern, 21 in the Eastern, 20 in the North-Western, 15 in the North-Central, 17 in the Uva, and 19 in the Province of Sabaragamuwa.

Village Committees.—Village Committees in subdivisions where no Village Tribunal has been established, have power to try breaches of rules made by the inhabitants of the subdivision or the Village Committee under section 29 of Ordinance No. 9 of 1924, and have the same power of punishment as Village Tribunals.

There are 63 Village Committees exercising this jurisdiction in the Island, namely, 51 in the Northern Province, 9 in the Province of Sabaragamuwa, 2 in the Eastern Province, and 1 in the North-Western Province.

The following schedule gives detailed information as regards the number of Courts, the number of Judges, Magistrates, &c. :—

Number of Courts, Judges, &c.

Court.	No. of Courts.	No. of Judges.	Remarks.
Supreme Court	1	6	1 Chief Justice and 5 Puisne Judges
District Court	23	26	There are 4 judges for the District Court of Colombo and two each for those of Kandy, Galle, and Jaffna. There is one judge for the District Courts of Chilaw and Puttalam, one for those of Nuwara Eliya and Hatton, and one for those of Mullaittivu and Vavuniya. Eleven of these officers are Police Magistrates and Commissioners of Requests in addition to their duties as District Judges
Police Court	43	31	There are three Magistrates sitting at Colombo. The following groups of Courts have one Magistrate each :—Badulla, Bandarawela ; Matale, Panwila, Teldeniya ; Nuwara Eliya, Hatton ; Jaffna, Kayts, Mallakam ; Point Pedro, Chavakachcheri ; Batticaloa, Kalmunai ; Mullaittivu, Vavuniya
Village Tribunal	206	59	—
Village Committee	63	—	—

POLICE.

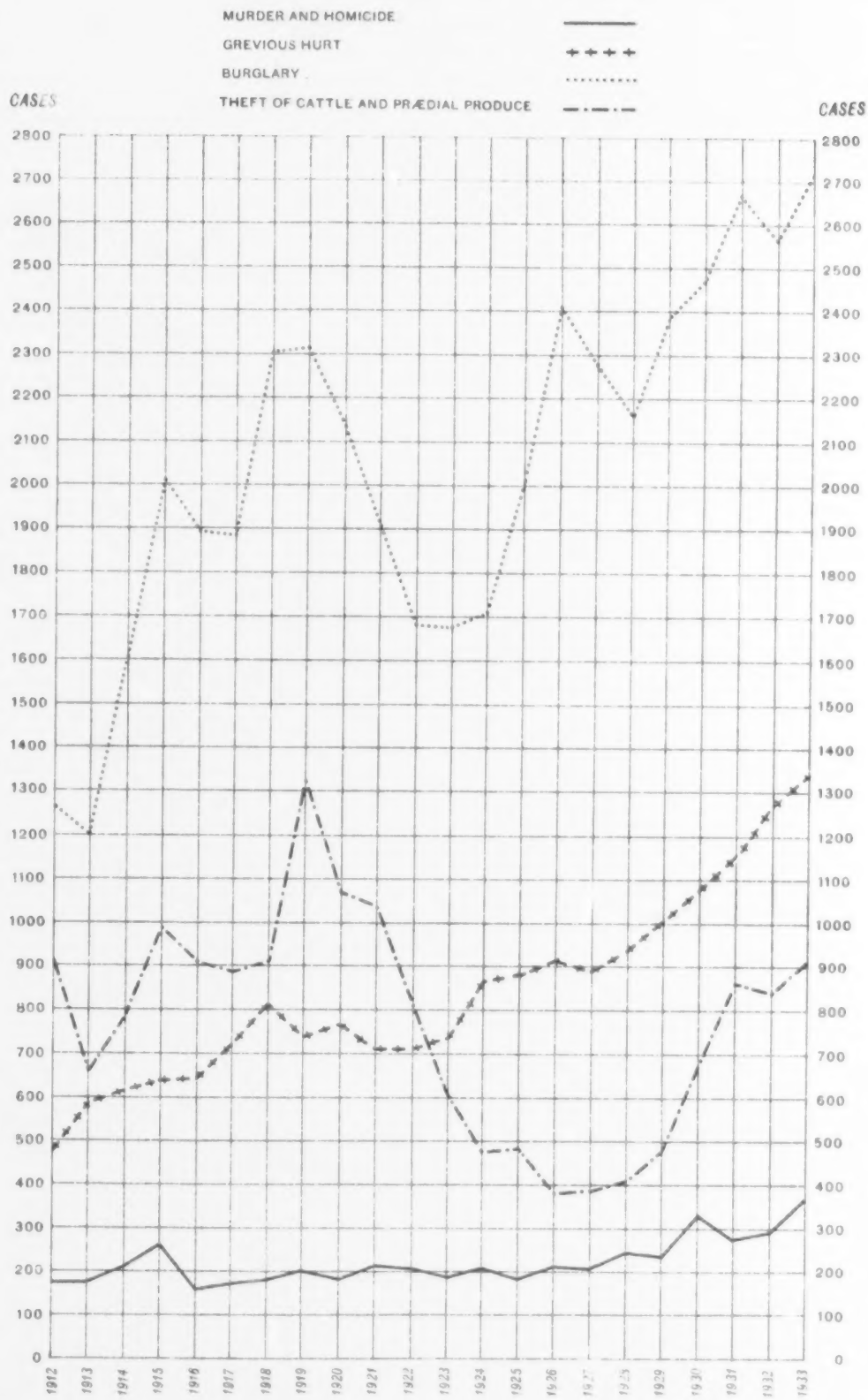
The regular Police Force of the Island was established and is regulated by the Police Ordinance, No. 16 of 1865, as amended by various subsequent Ordinances.

Before the Police Force was constituted the duties of the Police were attended to by the headmen. Regular Police have been gradually introduced to most parts of the Island since 1865, and at present there are 164 Police Stations and 26 Police Offices.

The sanctioned strength of the Force is now 1 Inspector-General, 2 Deputy Inspectors-General, 39 Superintendents, Assistant Superintendents, and Probationers, 185 Chief Inspectors, Inspectors, and Sub-Inspectors, 2 Sergeants-Major, 362 Sergeants, and 2,498 Constables.

DIAGRAM No. 10.

CRIME IN CEYLON 1912-1933



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General.—The following statement shows the number of cases of grave crime disposed of as " true cases " by the courts during the last three years :—

	1931.	1932.	1933.
Homicide	277 ..	294 ..	367
Attempted homicide ..	151 ..	158 ..	136
Grievous hurt	1,156 ..	1,273 ..	1,341
Hurt with dangerous weapons ..	1,594 ..	1,651 ..	1,677
Housebreaking	2,661 ..	2,560 ..	2,715
Theft of cattle	854 ..	847 ..	918
Other offences	3,448 ..	3,701 ..	3,629
Total ..	10,141	10,484	10,783

The statistics of crime for the last six years under the three main heads " Offences against the Person " (which are not directly preventable by Police action), " Offences against Property ", and " Offences against the State " (riot, &c.) are as follows :—

Year.	Total crime.	Offences against the person (excluding robbery).	Offences against property (including robbery).	Offences against the State.
1928	8,809 ..	2,881 ..	5,866 ..	62
1929	9,089 ..	2,978 ..	6,055 ..	56
1930	9,689 ..	3,255 ..	6,389 ..	65
1931	10,141 ..	3,407 ..	6,638 ..	96
1932	10,484 ..	3,564 ..	6,817 ..	103
1933	10,783 ..	3,738 ..	6,952 ..	93

With the exception of a slight decrease in offences against the State, these figures are the highest on record. There can be no doubt that the trade depression is mainly responsible for this increase in crime. With many rubber estates abandoned or placed on a care and maintenance basis and with the cessation of all building or contract work on others, those who worked as tappers, or were employed as masons and carpenters are living in the villages with nothing to do and unable to earn a regular wage. There is a great temptation for such people to commit crime. Another result of the depression has been the increased attention paid by the villagers to vegetable cultivation with the result that there have been disputes over land which had previously lain idle. With less money available for settling land disputes by litigation villagers have been tempted to take the law into their own hands. The prompt disposal of cases in the courts is essential if crimes of violence of this type are to be checked. Punishment inflicted after a case has been dragging on and the accused has been roaming about in the village on bail for months is apt to lose most of its deterrent effect, and the very crimes the law was framed to prevent may thus be provoked by the laws' delays.

Regulation and Control of Motor Traffic.—There were 26,935 prosecutions under the Motor Ordinance as compared with 28,476 in the previous year : 343 were for reckless or negligent driving, 394 for exceeding the speed limit, 14 for driving a car when intoxicated, and 60 for failing to report an accident to the Police. In addition 45 cases for causing death and 47 for causing injury by a rash and negligent act were instituted under the Penal Code.

2,266 accidents caused by motor vehicles were reported to the Police and in 372 of these an omnibus was involved. In 1,216 cases injury was caused to some person and 92 persons were killed as a result of motor accidents during the year. 18,949 prosecutions were entered against omnibuses and 4,690 against lorries.

The following are some relevant figures :—

Year.	Motor vehicles on the road.	Number of prosecutions for exceeding speed limit.	Number of prosecutions for reckless or careless driving.	Fata accidents.
1928 ..	.. 20,623 ..	1,061 ..	838 ..	114
1929 ..	.. 23,565 ..	1,567 ..	1,139 ..	143
1930 ..	.. 24,405 ..	1,992 ..	763 ..	127
1931 ..	.. 23,577 ..	798 ..	509 ..	97
1932 ..	.. 23,203 ..	688 ..	400 ..	87
1933 ..	.. 23,359 ..	394 ..	343 ..	92

Though there has been a drop owing to the depression in the average number of motor vehicles registered the number of cars registered in December 1933, viz., 150, was the highest since January, 1931—a sign, it is hoped, of prosperity returning to the Island.

A system of special patrols was maintained to assist the local Police in districts where motor traffic had become too difficult to be handled by small stations. Besides dealing with offences under the Motor Ordinance, the patrols were useful in examining the condition of omnibuses and reporting to the licensing authorities, in checking night-patrolling between stations and transporting the Police in emergencies, such as fires, riots, &c. In some cases the patrols are supplied with cameras for use in such cases as require the subsequent production of a photograph of the scene in court.

Control of Bullock Cart and other Traffic.—The bullock cart and rickshaw continue to hold their own in most parts of Ceylon with the exception of the hill country and the bicycle is becoming more popular every year. The two golden rules of keeping well to the left of the road and giving a signal when about to turn right are impressed on the owners of all such vehicles. Fifteen persons were killed in street accidents in which vehicles other than motor vehicles were involved and 10,363 prosecutions were entered during the year against the drivers and owners of these vehicles.

Cinematograph Films.—All films imported into Ceylon which are exhibited first in Colombo, have been examined previously by Censors either in England or India. If any objection is made by the Chairman of the Municipal Council, who is the Censor for Colombo, exhibition is prohibited. This acts as a check against the exhibition of objectionable films in Ceylon.

Maintenance of order.—The maintenance of order is an important part of the duty of the Police. Many of the numerous processions occurring during the year were accompanied by the Police for this purpose, and all demonstrations of any size were controlled by the Police.

In September a clash occurred in Colombo between a Buddhist procession and a large crowd of Muslims near a mosque in Vincent street. A number of persons were injured and it quickly assumed dangerous proportions. Armed parties of Police were rushed to all danger spots and the situation was brought under control within a few minutes of their arrival.

Strikes.—There were three strikes in Colombo, of which only two were important. In February, 1,400 workers of the Wellawatta Spinning and Weaving Mills struck work on account of dissatisfaction with the rates of pay. These mills have now closed down in common with the mills of India of which organization they are a part. The depression and competition from Japan

is responsible for the insolvent state of the industry. A lightening strike of workers in the Galle Face Hotel in support of the alleged grievances of the waiters ended disastrously for the strikers.

Criminal Investigation Department.

The following branches are included in this department :—Harbour and Foreshore Police, Train Police, Photographic Branch, Finger Print and Foot Print Bureau and the Counterfeit Note and Coin Bureau. The Criminal Investigation Department deals with the investigation of difficult and complicated cases, the registration of aliens and supervision over persons entering or leaving Ceylon, the investigation of cases under the Lottery Ordinance, the suppression of Bucket Shops, the supervision of the import of firearms and explosives, supervision of the magazines and newspapers published in Ceylon and the enforcement of the Ordinance relating to the employment of children in industrial undertakings.

The Forged Currency Note Bureau dealt with 78 cases of forged notes during the year. In 16 cases the notes were printed from engraved plates, in 1 case they were produced by means of photography, and in 55 cases they were made by hand.

PRISONS.

Number of admissions.—The total number of admissions on conviction during 1933 was 15,924 (15,486 males and 438 females). Of this number 1,141 were admitted on conviction from the Supreme and District Courts. 204 were convicted of murder and culpable homicide not amounting to murder.

Number sentenced to death and executed.—The number sentenced to death during the year was 77 (76 males and 1 female), of whom 42 males were executed. Of this number of 42, 3 males were executed in January, 1934.

Daily average population.—The daily average population (both convicted and unconvicted prisoners) of the prisons was 4,593·27 (4,520·14 males and 73·13 females).

Reconvicted prisoners.—The number of reconvicted prisoners admitted was 2,301 (14·44 per cent. of the total admissions). Of this number 939 were reconvicted criminals within the meaning of Ordinance No. 2 of 1926 as amended by Ordinance No. 27 of 1928.

Preventive detention.—The number of prisoners sentenced to preventive detention by courts during the year was 7. The daily average of prisoners undergoing preventive detention was 81·32.

Number in default of payment of fines.—The number of admissions for non-payment of fines was 10,854. In 9,520 of these cases the offences were either statutory or made punishable by Village Tribunal rules.

No statistics are available as to the number of cases in which time was given for the payment of fines.

Young Offenders.

(*a*) *Young first offenders.*—The number of admissions of young first offenders of the age of 16-21 was 1,571, of which number 952 were for non-payment of fines and 764 for statutory or Village Tribunal offences.

(*b*) *Young reconvicted offenders.*—The number of admissions of young reconvicted offenders was 310, of which number 186 were for non-payment of fines and 139 for statutory or Village Tribunal offences.

Religion and race.—The following table gives the nationality and religion of all convicted persons received into the prisons during the year 1933 :—

Table showing Nationality and Religion of all convicted persons received into prisons during the year 1933.

Nationality.									Religion.						
Resident Europeans.	Non-Resident Europeans.	Burghers.	Sinhalese.	Tamils.	Moors.	Malays.	Others.	Total.	Protestants.	Roman Catholics.	Buddhists.	Hindus.	Muslims.	Others.	Total.
—	—	42	12,141	2,360	1,084	169	128	15,924	29	1,250	11,280	2,072	1,159	134	15,924

Prison punishments.—The number of punishments inflicted during the year on prisoners for offences against prison discipline was 2,103, as against 1,847 in 1932. Fourteen prisoners were sentenced to receive corporal punishment as against 9 in the previous year. Of these 14 cases 11 were awarded by Tribunals of Prison Visitors under section 67, and 3 by Superintendents of Prisons under section 64 of the Prisons Ordinance. In all cases corporal punishment was awarded for assaults on and gross personal violence against Prison officers. There were 12 escapes and 10 recaptures during the year.

The Prisons Ordinance, No. 16 of 1877 placed all the prisons in Ceylon under the control of an Inspector-General of Prisons. Ceylon therefore enjoys the advantages of a unified prison system which renders possible classification by institutions in addition to sub-classification in institutions.

The principle upon which this classification proceeds is the separation of the different types of offenders—especially the separation of the youthful offender from the adult, the first offender from the "habitual," the convicted from the unconvicted and males from females. To each type of offender appropriate methods of treatment and training are applied.

The different prisons are utilized as follows :—

Welikada (*Colombo*), for the detention and training of the following classes :—

(i.) Adult first offenders with sentences of over two years ;
(ii.) All "Star" class, *i.e.*, European or educated Ceylonese first offenders ;
(iii.) Young prisoners of the age of 16-21 irrespective of length of sentence ;
(iv.) Female prisoners other than those sentenced to short terms in outstations who are detained in the local prisons.

Hulftsdorp (*Colombo*), for all local convictions from the courts of the Colombo District who are sentenced to short terms of one month and under.

Mahara is set apart for adult reconvicted prisoners with sentences of over 2 years in one section, and for all adult first offenders with short sentences ranging from over 1 month up to and including 6 months in a separate section.

Selected prisoners from among the reconvicted prisoners are specially classified as Special Class B in which they serve a probationary period of 6 months prior to transfer to Kandy prison for industrial and other forms of special training in the Special Class A. Prisoners are also transferred here from other prisons for misconduct.

Bogambara (Kandy) is set apart for the following :—

(i.) First offenders convicted by local courts and sentenced to one month's imprisonment or less ;

(ii.) All first offenders with sentences of over one year but not exceeding two years ;

(iii.) Special class " A ", *i.e.*, selected " habituals " from Matara with sentences of over two years ;

(iv.) Prisoners undergoing sentences of preventive detention.

Jaffna is set apart for the following :—

(i.) Persons sentenced by the local courts to imprisonment for one month or under ;

(ii.) Short term reconvicted offenders with sentences of over one month and up to and including two years ;

(iii.) Prisoners transferred from other prisons for misconduct under monthly report.

The special gang is also located at Jaffna. The special gang is intended for prisoners guilty of continued bad or violent conduct. These prisoners are kept strictly apart from the other inmates.

Anuradhapura is set apart for the following :—

(i.) Locally convicted short term prisoners who are sentenced to one month and under.

(ii.) First offenders with sentences of over six months and up to one year.

Negombo prison serves as a prison for convalescent prisoners in addition to retaining local convictions sentenced to 1 month and under.

Galle, Badulla, and Batticaloa.—The prisons at Galle, Badulla, and Batticaloa are used for the detention of short term locally convicted prisoners, and prisoners on remand.

Remand prisons.—There are separate prisons for remand prisoners and persons awaiting trial, civil debtors, &c., only in Colombo (adjoining Welikada Prison) and in Kandy Old Prison. At other stations the ordinary prisons for convicted prisoners are also used for the location of these types in separate blocks or wards.

Methods of Treatment of Different Types of Offenders.

A. *Young first offenders.*—All first offenders of the age of 16-21 inclusive are detained at Welikada in separate wards. Rover Scout principles are utilized for their training and regular camps are held. The Welikada Prison Rover Troop is the first officially recognized prison troop in the world. Educational classes, industrial and vocational training, First Aid instruction, Boxing, Gymnastics, Drill, and games form a part of the regular curriculum, in addition to the various Scout activities.

B. *Long term first offenders.*—The progressive stage system—a feature of the English prison system—has been adapted to suit local conditions and is largely used in connection with the training of these offenders. According to this system prisoners fall into different classes. Every prisoner sentenced to imprisonment immediately enters and remains in what is called the penal stage for one month. He then enters and remains in Class IV. when he becomes eligible to earn remission for eleven months. Conditional upon good conduct and industry he is promoted to Class III. where he remains for one year and then on the same conditions to Class II. At the end of one year if his conduct is satisfactory he is promoted to Class I. Promotion from class to class carries with it a graduated scale of privileges and on entry into Class II., gratuity, and good conduct badges can be earned. Prisoners who show special skill and aptitude in the various trades are appointed Instructors (Grades I. and II.) who are accorded enhanced rates of pay and privileges.

Another experiment in the training of these long term first offenders is the placing of responsibility on individual prisoners. Long term first offenders in Class I. of exemplary conduct are selected for appointment as Disciplinary Prison Orderlies. Their duties consist in assisting the regular prison officers; they are left in charge of small parties inside the prison and act as escorts within prison walls, &c.

A further experiment is the formation of Leagues on the lines of the Mutual Welfare Leagues in the New York prisons. There are two such Leagues—one for the Disciplinary Prison Orderlies and the other for prisoners who have earned good conduct badges. Innate responsibility, managing their own affairs within limits and training in the ideals of good citizenship are the salient features of these Leagues.

All long term first offenders are employed and trained in one or more of the many trades and handicrafts taught in Welikada Prison. On reaching certain grades of the stage classification they earn money part of which may be spent in the purchase of books and extras to the diets or sent to their families and part of which is accumulated and paid on discharge.

C. *Reconvicted prisoners.*—For the training of reconvicted prisoners there are two classes in Mahara prison. Specially selected reconvicted prisoners with sentences of two years and over constitute Class B. These prisoners while at work are kept separate from the others. Evening classes are held for them and they are supplied with books from the prison library. They are also given the privilege of playing games, &c. After probationary training for six months in this class all who prove satisfactory are transferred to Kandy where they form Special Class " A ". Prisoners in Special Class " A " are treated like first offenders in all matters relating to pay, industrial training, privileges, &c.

Specially selected reconvicted prisoners with sentences of over six months and under two years form Special Class " C ". Their training and treatment approximate to that of Special Class " B ".

Labour.—All labour of a purely mechanical and unprofitable nature has been abolished. Prisoners are mostly employed on public works and on industries. At Mahara the principal work is the quarrying of stone and stone breaking. In Jaffna the work consists in the reclamation of the lagoon. Welikada and

Bogambara are highly industrialized. The following industries are carried on :—Carpentry, tailoring, brush making, rattan, fibre, shoemaking, blacksmiths' work, tin smiths' work, spinning and weaving, soap making, and printing. At Welikada there is in addition an up-to-date steam laundry which washes all the linen for all the hospitals, asylum, &c. The value of the outturn of prison industries for the year 1932-33 was Rs. 182,225·34, as against Rs. 205,878·66 during the previous year. This decrease is due to the reduced purchasing powers of Government Departments as a result of the economic depression.

Education.—For young offenders, that is, those of 21 and under, vernacular education is compulsory. At Welikada and Bogambara and also at Mahara evening classes, conducted by volunteer social workers, have been organized for the benefit of both young offenders and adult offenders. These classes are held in English and in the vernacular. Commercial classes in typewriting, shorthand, &c., are also held in Welikada prison for the benefit of Star Class prisoners.

Recreation.—Well conducted prisoners, particularly young offenders and first offenders who have reached an advanced stage in their training are allowed to take part in games both indoor and outdoor. Boxing, gymnastics, and volley ball are popular games.

Religious instruction.—There are no prison Chaplains in Ceylon but representatives of all creeds and denominations are allowed to visit the prisons, hold services, and give religious instruction. Services are held every Sunday and all prisoners are encouraged to attend the services of their particular denomination.

Preventive detention.—There is no separate prison for prisoners undergoing preventive detention. These prisoners are located in a portion of Bogambara prison specially set apart for them. But the conditions of an ordinary rigorous imprisonment prison afford little scope for the special course of training contemplated by the system of preventive detention, and the reorganization of the system is under consideration.

After care.—An unofficial organization known as the Ceylon Discharged Prisoners' Aid Association, with sub-committees in all the principal towns, works in conjunction with the prison authorities and is the agency through which aid is given to discharged prisoners.

Remission and Review of Sentences.—All prisoners sentenced to rigorous or simple imprisonment (except under Chapter 7 of the Criminal Procedure Code) become eligible to earn a remission of sentence, which is conditional on good conduct and industry and which is based on the mark system, on completion of the first month (30 days) of their sentences. The maximum remission of sentence that a prisoner can earn is, in the case of a male prisoner, one-fourth of the period of imprisonment during which he is allowed to earn marks and, in the case of a female prisoner, one-third of such period. Under rule 40 of the statutory rules also the case of every prisoner is reviewed by the Governor on completion of 4, 8, 12, 15, and 20 years respectively of the term of imprisonment.

Health of prisoners.—To the prison at Mahara there is attached a whole-time Resident Medical Officer. There is also a Resident Medical Officer attached to the Welikada Prison Hospital. There is in addition a Senior Medical

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Officer who has medical charge of Welikada Prison, Hulftsdorp and the Colombo Remand Prison. Neither at Bogamabra nor at Jaffna nor at any of the other local prisons is there a Resident Medical Officer. The Medical Officer attached to these prisons is not a whole-time officer but has other outside duties to perform.

At Welikada there is an up-to-date Prison Hospital intended to serve the 3 Colombo prisons, with accommodation for 120 beds for general cases and 60 beds for infectious diseases.

In the female section of the Welikada Prison there is a ward with 7 beds for general cases.

At Bogambara there is a hospital consisting of 5 wards with an accommodation of 35 beds.

In all other prisons a separate ward is utilized as a hospital.

All cases which need operative treatment or special nursing are transferred to the ordinary civil hospitals for treatment.

The total number of deaths of prisoners (both convicted and unconvicted) admitted to Prison was 186 in 1933, as against 187 in 1932. These deaths include prisoners who died in the Prisons and Prison Hospitals as well as in Civil Hospitals and other medical institutions. They also include 1 death by murder and 2 cases of suicide, but are exclusive of judicial executions.

CHAPTER XIV

Legislation.

THE following are the important Ordinances passed in the year 1933 :—

1. The Tea (Control of Export) Ordinance, No. 11 of 1933. This Ordinance embodies the terms of an agreement arrived at between the Governments of Ceylon, India, and the Dutch East Indies to regulate the export of tea. It is to be operative for a period of five years.

Ceylon's quota of export for the first year is 85 per cent. of the total exportst from Ceylon in 1929 which amounted to 213,794,225 pounds. This amouna will be Ceylon's quota for the subsequent years unless it is altered by proclamation by His Excellency the Governor. From and after June 13, 1933' the planting of tea on any land which was not planted with tea prior to June 13' 1933, is prohibited.

The Ordinance empowers the Executive Committee of Agriculture and Lands to make rules for the purpose of carrying out or giving effect to the principles and provisions of the Ordinance.

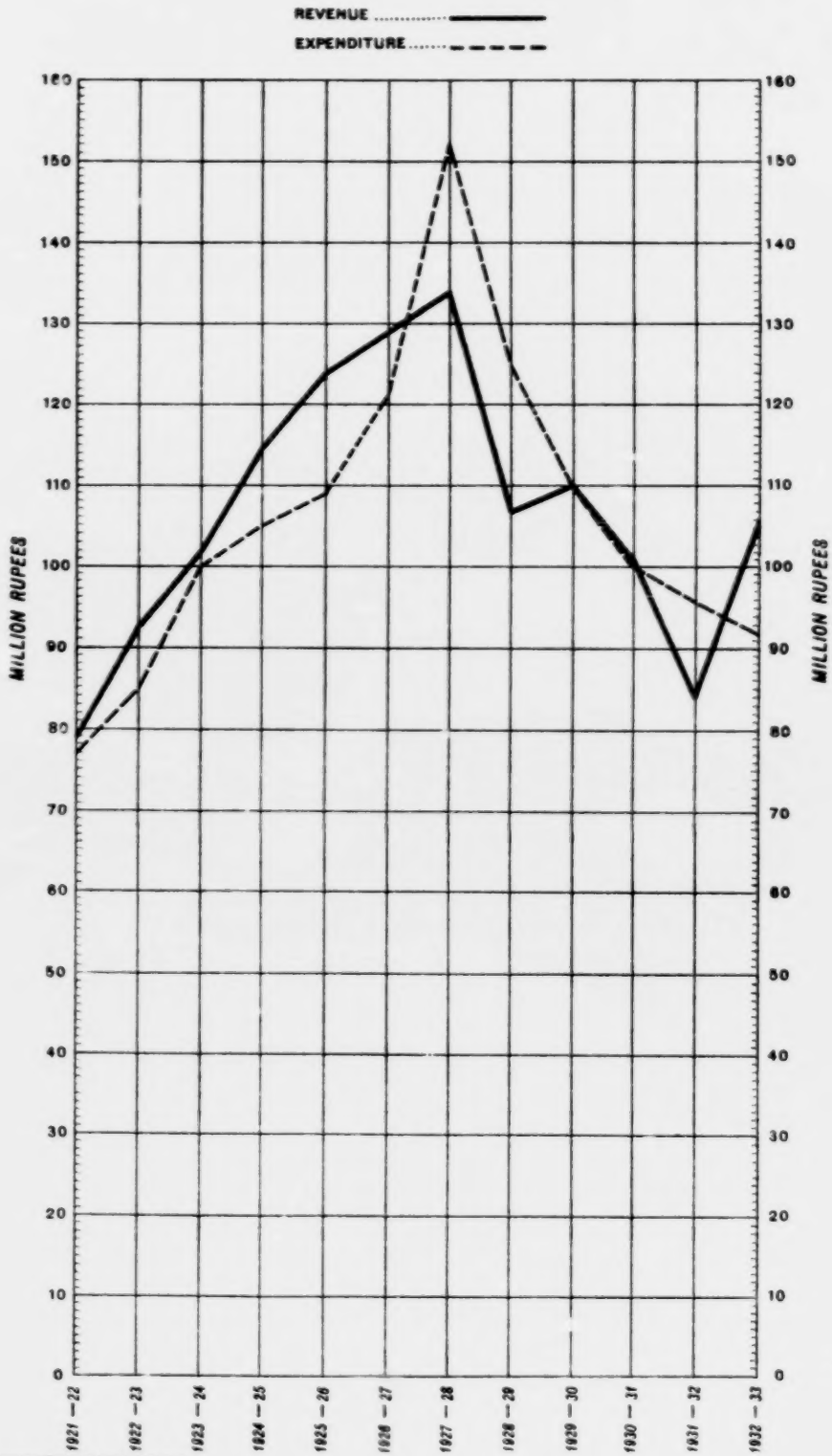
2. The Commissions of Enquiry Ordinance, No. 23 of 1933. This Ordinance was passed to enable persons whose conduct may directly or indirectly be the subject-matter of a Commission of Enquiry to be represented by one or more Advocates or Proctors.

3. The Sex Disqualification Removal (Legal Profession) Ordinance, No. 25 of 1933. This enables women (*a*) to be admitted to the Legal profession and to practise as Advocates, Proctors or Notaries, (*b*) to be appointed Commissioners for Oaths under the Oaths Ordinance, 1895. Previous to this Ordinance women were disqualified under the common law to hold any of the above offices.

DIAGRAM No.11.

TOTAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE OF THE ISLAND

FOR EACH FINANCIAL YEAR (OCTOBER 1 TO SEPTEMBER 30) SINCE 1921-22.



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SUBSIDIARY LEGISLATION.

Under this head reference may be made to—

(*a*) the resolution made under section 11 of Ordinance No. 17 of 1869 providing preferential rates of import duty for a period of three years commencing from February 1, 1933, on goods produced or manufactured in the British Empire and in the Mandated Territories ;

(*b*) the rules made under the Irrigation Ordinance, No. 45 of 1917.

These rules are intended, *inter alia*, to give effect to Article 2 (*e*) of the International Convention on Forced Labour which prohibits the exaction of forced labour in a community unless the members of the community or their direct representatives are first consulted in regard to the need for forced labour.

FACTORY LEGISLATION.

During the year under review no legislation was enacted regarding factories, compensation for accidents, or provision for old age, sickness, &c.

CHAPTER XV.

Public Finance and Taxation.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

THE revenue of the Island in the last five completed financial years was :—

		Rs. c.			Rs. c.
1928–29	..	107,818,274 57*	1931–32	..	84,843,206 60
1929–30	..	110,926,863 47†	1932–33	..	106,090,728 48§
1930–31	..	101,767,555 90‡			

The following is a statement of the expenditure in the same financial years :—

				Expenditure chargeable to general revenue, including accumulated surplus balances. Rs. c.		Expenditure chargeable to revenue pending raising of Loan funds. Rs. c.
1928–29	..	..	..	125,896,034 36*	..	—
1929–30	..	..	..	110,275,529 29	..	102,993 21
1930–31	..	..	..	100,296,064 73	..	280,463 63
1931–32	..	..	..	96,870,003 43	..	186,075 94
1932–33	..	..	..	92,698,229 11	..	—

PUBLIC DEBT.

On September 30, 1933, the sterling debt of the Island stood at £15,733,468 and the rupee debt at Rs. 3,000,000, towards redemption of which were held securities and moneys amounting to £6,436,524 and Rs. 2,387,623.

Setting off market values of the securities against the debts and effecting conversion at 1*s*. 6*d*. to the rupee, the net total Public Debt of the Island amounts to Rs. 119,842,641, which is a little over one and one-eighth times the revenue for the year ended September 30, 1933.

A statment of the loan position of the Island as it stood on September 30, 1933, is annexed.

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* Decrease due to separation of Railway accounts from the general budget.

† Includes Rs. 7,418,932·41 recovered from Loan, being expenditure met from surplus balances in previous years pending raising of loan.

‡ Includes Rs. 13,904,014 recovered from Loan, being expenditure met from surplus balances in previous years pending raising of loan.

§ Includes Rs. 2,120,437·21 and Rs. 1,564,511·69 appropriated to general revenue from the Railway Renewals Fund and the Colombo Electricity Supply Depreciation Fund respectively.

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC DEBT, 1932–33.

Description.				Equivalent at 1s. 6d. = Re. 1.		Investments held on behalf of the Sinking Fund. Face Value of Securities.			Investments held on behalf of the Sinking Fund. Market Value on September 30, 1933.			Amount in Deposit with Westminster Bank and Balance in hand pending Investment.			Total (of Columns 5 and 6).			Equivalent at 1s. 6d. = Re. 1.	
1	2			3		4			5			6			7			8	
	£.	s.	d.	Rs.	c.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	Rs.	c.
Debentures unredeemed ..	600	0	0..	8,000	0..	—		..	—		..	—		..	—		..	—	
4 per cent. Inscribed Stock (Debentures converted), 1934 ..	1,076,100	0	0..	14,348,000	0..	993,819	7	6..	1,017,346	0	7..	362,465	17	4..	1,379,811	17	11..	18,397,491	94
3 per cent. Inscribed Stock, 1940 ..	2,850,000	0	0..	38,000,000	0..	2,511,485	1	6..	2,667,437	5	6..	22,080	11	4..	2,689,517	16	10..	35,860,237	89
3½ per cent. Inscribed Stock, 1934-59 ..	1,500,000	0	0..	20,000,000	0..	606,467	17	10..	634,869	15	3..		6	10..	634,870	2	1..	8,464,934	72
4 per cent. Inscribed Stock, 1934-59 ..	1,000,000	0	0..	13,333,333	33..	282,307	0	5..	293,533	9	6..	—		..	293,533	9	6..	3,913,779	67
6 per cent. Inscribed Stock, 1936-51 ..	6,212,993	8	4..	82,839,912	22..	1,652,521	3	8..	1,776,118	5	1..	—		..	1,776,118	5	1..	23,681,576	72
5 per cent. Inscribed Stock, 1960-70 ..	1,250,000	0	0..	16,666,666	67..	5,376	6	11..	6,236	11	3..	—		..	6,236	11	3..	83,154	17
4½ per cent. Inscribed Stock, 1965 ..	1,843,775	0	0..	24,583,666	66..	—		..	—		..	—		..	—		..	—	
	15,733,468	8	4..	209,779,578	88	6,051,976	17	10	6,395,541	7	2	384,546	15	6	6,780,088	2	8	90,401,175	11
4 per cent. Ceylon Inscribed Stock, 1942-44	—		..	3,000,000	0..	73,272	12	4..	84,439	9	2..	—		..	84,439	9	2..	1,125,859	45
						Rs. 1,387,360			Rs. 1,386,609·11			Rs. 23,294·61			Rs. 1,409,903·72			1,409,903	72
				212,779,578	88													92,936,938	28

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

The assets of the Island on September 30, 1933, amounted to Rs. 48,621,448·81 and the liabilities amounted to Rs. 32,056,217·68, showing an excess of assets over liabilities of Rs. 16,565,231·13. This surplus was in excess of that on September 30, 1932, by a sum of Rs. 13,392,499·37.

The assets consisted of—

	Rs.	c.
(1) Cash in the hands of the Deputy Financial Secretary, in fixed or current deposit in banks and with the Crown Agents in London ..	31,398,249	51
(2) Unissued stores, investments in rupee and sterling gilt-edged securities, advances to the General Manager of the Railway, other recoverable advances, security deposits in banks, &c., remittances in transit and suspense account	17,223,199	30
Total ..	48,621,448	81

The liabilities consisted of—

	Rs.	c.
(1) Widows' and Orphans' Pension Fund	13,049,355	62
(2) Ceylon University Building and Equipment Fund	4,462,732	58
(3) Loan funds	5,629,071	50
(4) Court suitors and other depositors in the Treasury and the Kachcheries	8,283,272	78
(5) Other Governments and agencies, loans to local bodies (sinking funds) and unpaid drafts	631,785	20
	32,056,217	68

TAXATION AND YIELD THEREOF.

The main heads of taxation and the yield of each are as follows :—

	Rs.	c.
Customs	43,815,388	28
Salt	2,119,418	95
Arrack..	6,605,584	93
Licences—Sundries	581,367	44
Tolls	44,799	38
Stamp duties, including composition duty on Bank cheques and share certificates	2,661,794	21
Estate duties	9,313,206	77
Police rates	80,663	93
Betting tax	174,489	49
Income tax	8,579,255	86
	73,975,969	24

Excise and Stamp Duties (summarized).—The amount realized from Excise revenue during the financial year under review was Rs. 6,605,584·93 and that in respect of Stamp Duties Rs. 2,661,794·21. Compared with the revenue of the last financial year Excise revenue shows a decrease of Rs. 56,115·85 and Stamp Duties an increase of Rs. 355,628·68.

Revision of Taxes.—During the year under review Import duties levied under Ordinance No. 17 of 1869 were revised with effect from February 1, 1933, giving preferential rates of duty on certain British and Empire goods.

CURRENCY.

On September 30, 1933, the value of the currency notes in circulation amounted to Rs. 42,028,914. The Commissioners of Currency on this date held silver rupees to the extent of Rs. 13,852,132, and British, Indian, and Colonial securities amounting to Rs. 33,731,733 (cost price) or Rs. 37,403,998 (market price)

The value of the reserve on September 30, 1933, was thus in excess of the value of the notes in circulation by Rs. 5,554,921, taking the investments at cost price.

During the year silver rupees to the extent of Rs. 62,061 were received from the public and the banks in exchange for currency notes.

Subsidiary coin of various denominations amounting in all to Rs. 11,329,267 was in circulation in the Island on September 30, 1933.

EXCHANGE.

The rates of exchange on London on December 30, 1933, were as follows :—

				s.	d.	
Selling Demand	..	..	..	1	6 1/16	to the rupee
Selling telegraphic transfer	..	..	..	1	6 1/16	do.
Buying Demand	..	..	..	1	6 ¼	do.

ESTATE DUTIES.

Estates of persons whose deaths occurred on or after July 1, 1919, are chargeable with duty under the Estate Duty Ordinance, No. 8 of 1919. During the financial year 1932–33 a sum of Rs. 9,001,463·01 was collected as Estate Duty as against Rs. 1,124,955·31 in the previous year. Of the kinds of property which paid duty, company shares was by far the largest in value and represented 69·60 per cent. of the total value. 564 estates under Rs. 25,000 in value paid only ·60 per cent. of the total duty while 1 estate of over Rs. 15,000,000 in value paid 90·87 per cent., 41 estates between Rs. 150,000 and Rs. 300,000 paid 2·05 per cent., and 23 estates between Rs. 300,000 and Rs. 600,000 paid 1·73 per cent. These figures clearly show that Estate Duty is a tax on the rich.

94·30 per cent. of the duty was paid on the estates of persons domiciled outside the Island. In most of these cases the parties are entitled to a refund from the Estate Duty paid in the countries in which they are domiciled. The total amount of duty paid in respect of the Colonies during the financial year 1932–33 was only Rs. 4,939·04.

CHAPTER XVI.

Miscellaneous.

LAND.

IN considering the question of land the climatic divisions of the Island are of the greatest importance. The portion of the Island, roughly one-quarter of it, which receives the rain of the south-west monsoon is called the wet zone, and the remaining three-quarters the dry-zone. Enjoying a generous rainfall, the land in the wet zone is far more productive ; tea, rubber, coconuts, and other economic crops could, up to the recent slump in prices, profitably be grown ; and village cultivation flourishes with less labour. The bulk of the population of the Island is located in the wet zone. Since the British occupation there has been steady development both in large estates and in village holdings, and the population has considerably increased. Fresh land for development, accessible to the means of communication, has in recent years become scarcer.

In the dry zone, on the other hand, the conditions of life are more severe. The rainfall is scanty and uncertain, and malaria in certain months is almost universal. The village population, in general, has a hard struggle for existence, and does not tend to increase rapidly. Village economy is based mainly on the cultivation of paddy. For this irrigation from storage tanks is necessary, cultivation dependent wholly on rainwater being precarious. Except for small patches in more favourable spots which are made into gardens round the dwellings of the villagers land not sufficiently lowlying for paddy is utilized only for chenas which are cleared and cultivated at intervals of from five to twenty years and allowed in the meanwhile to grow up again into jungle. No systematic farming has yet been developed. The dry zone has hitherto had little attraction for the agriculturist desiring to open land in economic products, and is largely undeveloped.

To provide a means of final settlement of the title to land as between the Crown and private individuals, a special Ordinance was passed in 1897, and the Land Settlement Department came into existence shortly afterwards. The law has recently been consolidated and brought up to date in the Settlement Ordinance of 1931. The task of settlement is a complicated one and cannot be unduly hurried, and large areas still remain to be dealt with. The lack of settlement in the Kandyan Provinces has inevitably tended to retard development, and it is the aim of Government to push on with the work as fast as possible.

Till recent years, persons desirous of buying or leasing land from the Crown applied in the first instance to the Revenue Officer of the district. Lands so applied for were surveyed in rotation, and eventually put up to public auction. The drawbacks of this system were that the applicants had no guarantee that they would be successful in securing the land and that a too haphazard development of the Crown estate took place. There was also a danger that the permanent interests of the village population would be overlooked. The system has now been modified and a policy substituted under which all available Crown land is first mapped out, and the land required to meet the needs of the existing village population for small holdings, forests, pasture land, &c., and for State requirements such as reserved forests is first provided. If there is further land suitable for agriculture, land is next reserved for colonization by villagers who are crowded out in their own villages and are prepared to move to localities in which land is available. Land not required for any of the above purposes is if suitable mapped out for alienation under a new scheme recently approved, under which a Ceylonese whose income falls below a certain level and who desires to devote his energies to agriculture is eligible for selection for an allotment of land on easy terms and without competition. No applicant can get more than 50 acres under this scheme, and the terms preclude subsequent alienation of the land or any disposition of his interests in it by the allottee without the permission of some authority. It is proposed also to include conditions to prevent the land becoming subject in the future to multiple ownership, or being subdivided below a fixed unit of extent. An Ordinance to give effect to this new land-tenure is now before the State Council, and meanwhile allotments are being made under the scheme in anticipation of the Ordinance. Only land that is not required or is not suitable for any of

the above purposes will in future be alienated by unrestricted competition. It is not anticipated that there will be much more land in the wet zone available for such alienation.

Considerable progress has been made during the last two or three years in settling peasants on the land. In addition to many settlements under which peasants have received lands in their own villages, colonization schemes under which the peasants are moving from congested areas to take up land at some distance from their own home are beginning to achieve some success. The slump in rubber and other major products by depriving the peasants of a source of livelihood is tending to produce a willingness to move which has not existed hitherto. Under all these peasant settlement schemes lands are being given on terms which preclude subsequent alienation without the consent of Government and ensure that some use is made of the land.

With regard to the dry zone, to which eventually the surplus population of the congested areas in the wet zone must turn if it is to have sufficient land for agricultural development, efforts are now being made to encourage the taking up of the remaining land under the large irrigation works. There are still some 12,000 to 15,000 acres of such land and there are signs that the development of this land will not be very long postponed.

In addition to this, a scheme is on foot to encourage the taking up of small farms for ordinary (dry) farming upon land which cannot be irrigated from tanks and the adoption of annual cultivation with the plough and a rotation of crops. It is believed that such farming is feasible and that the future agricultural development of the dry zone largely depends upon its successful introduction.

The improvement of peasant agriculture and the successful establishment of peasants on the land is at present retarded by lack of any organized marketing and the competition of cheap imported produce. Some study has been given to this difficult question. The establishment during 1933 of a central Co-operative Market in Colombo is an important step forward but apart from this there is so far not much progress to report.

FORESTS.

The year under review has been perhaps the most critical period in the history of the Forestry in Ceylon. In order to give effect to the policy of handing over the administration of forests, other than those required for intensive management in perpetuity, to the Revenue Officers, and thereby to effect economies to meet the financial situation, the staff of the Forest Department was retrenched from a sanctioned strength of 18 Civil List Officers, 80 Executive Officers, and 165 Protective Officers to 11 Civil List officers, 48 Executive officers and 95 Protective officers. After lengthy discussions during the first part of the year this retrenchment was brought into effect at the commencement of the new financial year on October 1.

In order to meet this situation the department had to make a drastic change in its policy as regards the marketing of timber and firewood. Hitherto a very large amount of material—more particularly to supply the larger depôts at Jaffna and Nuwara Eliya—was extracted on departmental account and sold to the public either at fixed prices or in auction. The retrenchment in staff

necessitated the immediate handing over of these operations to private enterprise, and though there was necessarily a decline in the gross revenue, such decline was more than offset by the saving in expenditure. The gross revenue earned during the year was Rs. 396,567·88 compared with Rs. 433,402·24 in 1932, a decline of approximately Rs. 37,000. As against this, however, there was a decline in gross expenditure of approximately Rs. 190,000 compared with the expenditure in 1932.

Under the reorganization scheme the department was divided into two separate branches, viz. :—Exploitation and Development, each branch being under the control of a staff officer at headquarters.

The Exploitation branch took over control of all matters dealing with Exploitation and utilization, while the Development branch was made responsible for handling all problems connected with Reselection and Mapping Out, Reforestation of areas brought under intensive management, and preparation of working plans.

On the exploitation side the supply of indigenous sleepers for the Railway Department was resuscitated, the work being carried out by private enterprise, contractors paying a reduced rate per sleeper for all material converted as such, and being in turn paid a flat rate by the Railway Department. By this means approximately 23,000 broad gauge and 9,000 narrow gauge sleepers were delivered during the year. It is hoped, with improved methods of organization and with an extension of the area brought under exploitation, very materially to increase this supply during the current year.

In addition to the above supplies, nearly 17,000 cubic yards of firewood, 60 cubic feet and 900 square feet of sawn timber and 7,000 cubic feet of timber in the log were delivered to other Government Departments.

Under Utilization, a preliminary report was received from the Forest Products Research Laboratory at Princes Risborough on the consignment of hora logs forwarded the previous year.

The Department had inquired especially that tests be applied to this species to prove its suitability or otherwise for manufacture of ply-wood tea chests. The preliminary report, was however, not too encouraging and the department has in mind the possibility of utilizing other species, available in commercial quantities, for this purpose.

A consignment of logs of the commoner wet zone species for use as veneer was shipped to Vancouver in August, but so far no report has been received on their suitability or otherwise.

On the development side, Reselection of forests required or suitable to be retained as such in perpetuity was completed in the North-Western Province, while Reselection accompanied by Mapping Out was continued in the Central Province and in the Hambantota District.

Preliminary inspections for the preparation of Working Plans were started in Indikada Reserved Forest in the Colombo District in the Forests of Yatagampitiya and Nikgaha in the Kalutara District, in Beraliya forest in the Galle District and in Masmullakelle forest in the Matara District. These preliminary inspections, which result in preliminary reconnaissance reports accompanied by maps, are necessary to indicate those areas, which, owing to their greater economic value, should first be subjected to more detailed examination and stock-mapping.

This first step was considered essential so that time and money should not needlessly be spent on examining in detail areas, which, owing to their inaccessibility, or poor stocking consequent on heavy over fellings in the past, are not of immediate economic importance.

The detailed examination of Mitrigala forest in the Colombo District was completed and an accurate stock-map prepared. As a result of this, the forest was found to contain a high percentage of hora, and will therefore be developed under the Hora Scheme instead of under the Colombo fuel scheme, as was originally intended.

Turning to the management of regenerated areas, a net addition of 911 acres was made during the year bringing the total area under intensive management up to 28,238 acres.

There is no change to report in the methods adopted in the Up-country plantation, except that no further experiments with Araucaria Excelsa will be carried out, owing to the prohibitive cost of the seed.

In the Jak areas, it was found that most failures in the past were due to introduction of the species in areas subjected to too high a rainfall, The Kegalla and Kurunegala Districts, which enjoy an annual rainfall between 75 in. to 110 in. distributed between the two monsoons, are eminently suited to the production of jak. It was, however, found that even in these areas an understorey should be introduced early, in order to preserve the fertility of the soil. Broad-leaved mahogany, pehimbiya, and hulanhik have so far been found suitable for this purpose.

On the side of administration reference has already been made to the re-organization and retrenchment of the department, and to the transfer of the administration of Forests other than those to be developed in perpetuity, to the Revenue Officers. In actual fact the latter step has yet to be accomplished. In order to give effect to this policy it was necessary completely to revise the rules under the Ordinance dealing with such forests and with the protection of timber in transit and to draw up a manual of procedure for the use of Revenue Officers. These have now been completed and the final transfer of the administration of these forests will take effect from the date of publication of the revised rules, and should not now be long delayed.

Survey.

The Survey Department.—As no land can be alienated or otherwise dealt with by the Crown until it has been surveyed and demarcated, the work of the Survey Department is of great importance. Its chief activites in this connection may be summarized as follows :—

(*a*) Application Surveys, *i.e.*, scattered disconnected surveys of small areas of land required for sales, leases, and various other purposes.

(*b*) Block Surveys, or continuous surveys of large areas of land according to villages, showing private land *en bloc* and not according to claims.

(*c*) Acquisition Surveys, or surveys of land to be acquired by the Crown for public purposes.

(*d*) Town and Forest Surveys, and isolated surveys for settlement and miscellaneous purposes.

(*e*) Land Development, Peasant Proprietor and Colonization Surveys.

Topographical Surveys.—In addition the Survey Department attends to the Topographical Survey of the Island. Sectional maps for the whole Island on the scale of 1 mile to the inch can be obtained at the Surveyor-General's Office, Colombo, and numerous small-scale maps are also published. The chief of these are—

4-mile and 8-mile to the inch maps of the Island.
8-mile to the inch motor maps.
6-mile to the inch motor maps, in book form.
4-mile and 24-mile to the inch agricultural maps.

Other work of the Survey Department.—The other work of the Survey Department is not directly connected with the subject of this chapter. In includes—

(1) Precise Levelling.
(2) Town-planning and Assessment Surveys.
(3) The Observatory and Meteorological Stations.
(4) Trigonometrical Surveys.

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* The above list which has been compiled by Messrs. L. E. Blazé, O.B.E., R. S. Enright (Librarian, University College), and S. C. Blok (Librarian, Public Library, Colombo), contains the names of some of the principal works dealing with Ceylon, but does not purport to be a complete list. The year of publication is given in each case, and the list has been arranged, as far as possible, in chronological order.

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CEYLON, 1934

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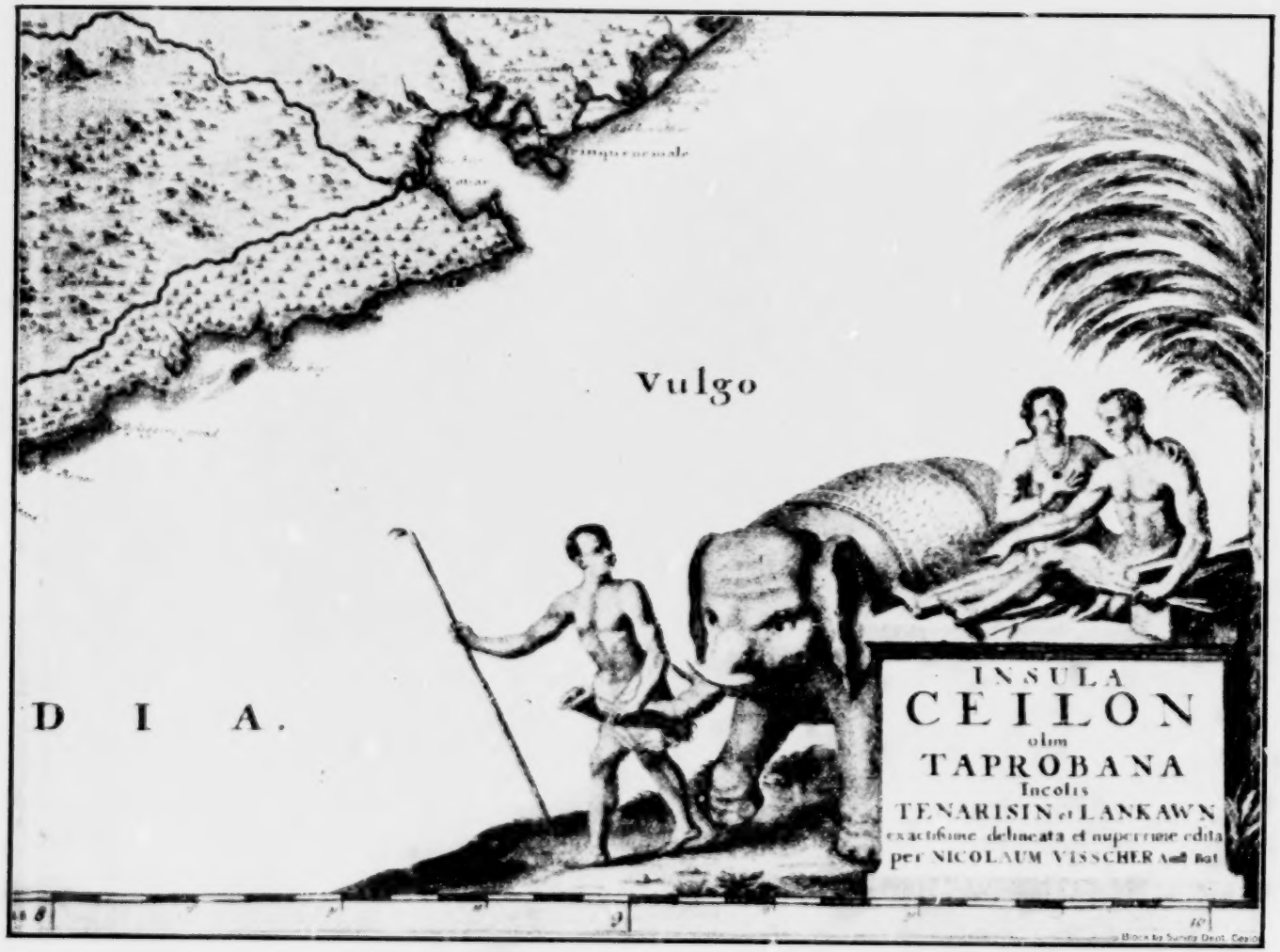

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CARTOUCHE FROM VISSCHER'S MAP OF CEYLON, 1686 A.D.

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Annual General Report for 1934 on the Economic, Social, and General Conditions of the Island.

CHAPTER I.

Introductory.

CEYLON is justly named for its scenic beauty. Its archæological remains, the wealth of its legendary history, and its picturesque idealism. Men of Lanka have many good reasons to be proud of their country. It is the scenic beauty of Ceylon which makes the first appeal. This is the lure which attracts the tourist and the globe trotter. The bustling trader on a Cook's tour who disembarks at Colombo and waits for the return of the boat from Bombay for ten days to burn or to beautify. He becomes the searcher of other books and dreamories and is fortunate if he has a resident friend to pilot him at the lowest expenditure of time and money through the round of familiar sights. The traveler who is ceaselessly hurried from scene to scene will be impressed with the modernity of much that he sees—up-to-date hotels, human beehive shops, displaying a wealth of English as well as Asiatic merchandise side by side or in adjacent buildings, cinema houses, electric tramways and vehicular traffic, and tropical bungalows of the well-to-do, designed for utility and comfort with no bizarre element about them. The main roadways of Colombo are such as any European city may be proud of. All the conveniences of civilization are at the beck and call of the tourist, and he can dine in comfort, enjoy cigars and drinking chocolate, and consume liquor at expensive rates or among cabaret-fashion to the irresistible strains of jazz. But in another mood he will look for the [illegible] nature, and this he can do in any part of Ceylon which borders on the sea. He chooses to wake up early. The sketch bearing the "Southern Morning" is such as might have evoked the muse of a local poet, Rev. Percy Cash:—

"God is again beginning his day in Ceylon."

And as the day grows older he may quote the another line of the same poet:

"Land of the fairy-haunted waves."

The fairies in this picture are [illegible] where the tree of Paradise for many a generation have shown to their devotees of each sex, of high and low degree. The only thing left for the prowler in the coconut palm is none but the "[illegible]" of [illegible] value again, and the coconut industry is [illegible] and the [illegible] depression by some miracle. The coconut palm is remarkable for its beauty as well as its utility. The method of plucking the fruit is still primitive but efficient. The [illegible] (facing page 25) with the fruit round his ankle is ascending to pluck the ripe nuts, and he has been caught at a remarkable angle. The proof of the plucking is in the drinking (p. 27). At noon-tide Kalu Sweetness is the sweetest of drinks. But the visitor will not linger in coconut groves for ever. When he

religious ceremonies. But similar entertainment is provided at weddings, where a retinue of dancers, singing as they go, precedes the bridal party (p. 47).

From Kandy one may take the road to Dambulla, and Sigiriya—where there are the relics of undying art still to be seen (pp. 60 & 70). These are the things of which Ceylonese may justly be proud. Thence to Polonnaruwa (p. 78) where the remains of a great civilization enchant the eye and fill the heart with wonder, and on to Anuradhapura, the seat of a great civilization and a greater religion. The "bare ruined choirs" of fallen colonnades of old palaces and perished fanes are there to tell of past glories and conjure back the ghosts of peoples long since dead. The Mahavamsa records the invasion of the Tamils from the North, and of the coming of Buddhism to Ceylon. But space and time do not permit more than superficial comment on the vanity of human greatness. The glamour of temporal magnificence is past, but the sacred Bo-tree still lives on as the emblem of an imperishable faith. *Sic transit gloria mundi.* The tourist, if he is sufficiently sensitive, registers a vow that he will go more deeply into the story of this people who have a quaint elegance and charm of their own. He hopes to come again some day. And so Salaam and God speed!

Situation and Dimensions.

Ceylon lies between 5° 55′ and 9° 50′ N. latitude and 79° 42′ and 81° 53′ E. longitude. The greatest length of the Island from north to south, *i.e.*, from Point Palmyra to Dondra Head, is 270 miles; its greatest width 140 miles, from Colombo on the west coast to Sangamankanda on the east. Its area is 25,332 square miles, nearly the same as that of Holland and Belgium, or about half the size of England.

The approximate distances of Colombo, the chief port of Ceylon, from the other chief world ports, and the average tariff for the itinerary are given below:—

Colombo to London.	Nautical Miles.	Approximate Days' Journey.
Aden	2,100	8
Suez	3,407	12
Port Said	3,494	13
Marseilles	5,091	16
Gibraltar (*via* Marseilles)	5,690	19
Gibraltar (direct)	5,407	18
London (by sea *via* Marseilles)	7,095	24
London (by sea direct)	6,725	20
London (overland)	5,868	17
Colombo to India, &c.		
Calcutta (touching at Madras)	1,260	7
Bombay	875	3
Rangoon	1,249	4½
Penang	1,276	5
Singapore	1,567	6
Hong Kong (touching at Singapore)	3,113	13
Shanghai (touching at Singapore and Hong Kong)	3,966	17
Yokohama (*via* Singapore and Hong Kong)	5,083	23
Colombo to Australia		
Fremantle	3,121	9
Adelaide (touching at Fremantle)	4,479	13
Melbourne (touching at Fremantle and Adelaide)	4,979	15
Sydney (touching at Fremantle, Adelaide, and Melbourne)	5,556	18
Colombo to South Africa, &c.		
Mauritius	2,099	10
Durban (touching at South African ports)	3,680	18
Cape Town (touching at South African ports)	4,362	21–30

PASSAGE FARES.

Colombo to London :—

1st class single	.. £54 to £80
2nd class single	.. £40 to £50
3rd and tourist single	.. £27 to £62

Colombo-Sydney :—

1st class single	.. £48
2nd class single	.. £32
3rd and tourist single	.. £22 to £41

Colombo-Melbourne :—

1st class single	.. £45
2nd class single	.. £30
3rd and tourist single	.. £21 to £40

Colombo-Durban :—

1st class single	.. £27 10*s.* to £35
2nd class single	.. £20

Colombo-Singapore :—

1st class single by P. & O.	. £22
2nd class single by P. & O.	£14

Colombo-Hong Kong :—

1st class single by P. & O.	. £36
2nd class single by P. & O.	£20

Colombo-Yokohama :—

1st class single by P. & O...	£46
2nd class single by P. & O...	£26

Colombo-Bombay :—

1st class single	.. £10
2nd class single	.. £8

Colombo-Calcutta :—

1st class or cabin single	.. £10
2nd class single	.. £8

Colombo-Rangoon :—

1st class single	.. Rs. 180

Colombo-Port Said :—

1st class single	.. £40 to £60
2nd class single	.. £29 to £40
3rd class and tourist single	. £18 to £38

Colombo-Marseilles :—

1st class single	.. £51 to £76
2nd class single	.. £36 to £46
3rd and tourist single	.. £20 to £60

Colombo-Boston and New York £60 to £95

Facilities provided at the Passenger Jetty for the storage of baggage are described on page 83. Passengers' baggage is defined by the Customs Regulations to mean *bona fide* baggage (which includes wearing apparel and personal effects) of a passenger accompanying him or arriving in Ceylon within one month, before or after his arrival, or within such time as the Collector of Customs in the circumstances deems reasonable. With certain exceptions, passengers' baggage is exempt from duty.

The Ceylon Government Railway serves the principal towns of the Island, and offers to visitors excellent facilities for inland travel. Cheap first class tourist tickets obtainable from the Booking Office at the Jetty, the Fort Station, and recognized tourist agents at Rs. 50 (£3. 15*s.*) for two weeks and Rs. 75 (£5. 12*s.* 6*d.*) for one month, permit tourists to travel 951 miles of railway and visit the most important and historic towns. Servants accompanying tourists are issued third class tickets at Rs. 15 (£1. 2*s.* 6*d.*) for two weeks and Rs. 25 (£1. 17*s.* 6*d.*) for one month.

The distances from Colombo to some of the principal towns of the Island, and information regarding sleeping and restaurant cars, &c., are found on pages 87-89.

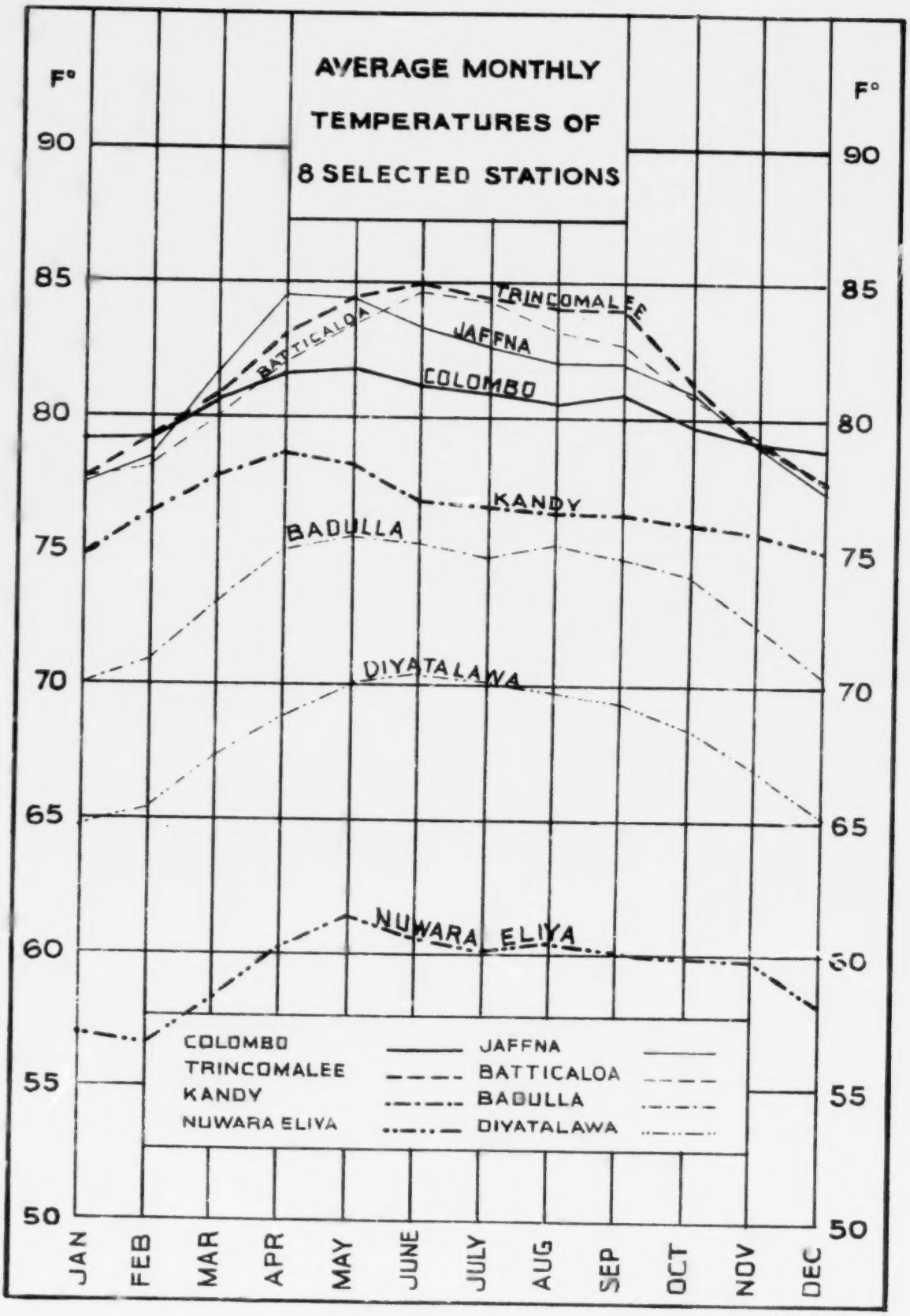
There is no legal tariff for taxi-cabs within the Municipal limits of Colombo, but the usual scale of fares is as follows :—

For the first half mile	50 cents
For each subsequent ½ mile up to 1 mile	12½ ,,
For each subsequent mile	75 ,,

Extra charges are made for each passenger over two, and for each piece of luggage other than hand luggage. A higher scale of fares is charged in the case of taxi-cabs hired between the hours of 9 P.M. and 6.30 A.M.

The above rates apply only to places within the Municipal limits of Colombo. For trips to places outside Colombo Municipality special

DIAGRAM Nº I.



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terms should be agreed upon *before starting*. The hiring-car fares to such places vary from 40 cents to Re. 1 per mile, with extra charges for detention.

There are hotels of the European type in Colombo, Kandy, Nuwara Eliya, Galle and Anuradhapura; the rates are usually Rs. 9 a day and upwards, the usual charge for first-class accommodation being Rs. 12 a day. Cold Storage Companies in Colombo supply ice and frozen meats and other foods by rail. In addition to hotels there are about 170 rest-houses in various parts of the Island (they are marked on the ordinary motoring map), many of them very delightfully situated beside the sea or some river or tank.

Useful information may be had from the handbook published by the Automobile Association of Ceylon. "How to see Ceylon" by Bella Sidney Woolf is a favourite guide book for tourists. More ambitious and more informative is Bassett's Romantic Ceylon, a recent addition to the voluminous literature on the subject.

Climate.

On the whole the climate of Ceylon is tolerable for the tropics. The accessibility of the hills is a great boon to the plain dwellers, and a change to the sea is beneficial to those who live in the hills. In the low-country the districts which have been opened in rubber, coconuts, and other products are generally fairly healthy, but in the unopened localities malaria is common.

Temperature.—With regard to temperature, the range of variation at several stations is shown in diagram No. 1 facing this page.

The low seasonal variations will be noted, but it will be seen that the differences between the temperatures of low-country and up-country stations are considerable. The highest shade temperature registered in Ceylon was 103.7° F. at Trincomalee in May, 1890, and the minimum air temperature 27.1° F. at Nuwara Eliya in February, 1914. A maximum temperature of 103.7° F. is not excessive, but the humidity is considerable, the annual average percentage of saturation being generally about 80, Galle and Nuwara Eliya 84, Colombo, Jaffna and Badulla 82, Kandy 80, Batticaloa 78, Trincomalee 76. At Colombo the "hot weather" may be said to extend from March to May and the "cold weather" from December to February. July and August are often pleasant, particularly on the west side of the Island.

For 1934 the mean temperature in the low-country varied from 82° at Trincomalee to 79° at Galle, while Nuwara Eliya, at an altitude of 6,000 feet, had a mean temperature of 59°.

Rainfall.—As is generally found in the tropics, however, the seasons are distinguished by differences in rainfall, rather than pronounced variations in temperature. The change in the direction of the monsoon winds from south-west to north-east, causes a corresponding change in the location of the heaviest rain, which is usually experienced to windward of the hills, while during the intermonsoon seasons, local winds circulations are liable to give rain in any part of the Island.

The annual average rainfall varies from about 40 inches in the north-west and the south-east to over 200 inches in some parts of the interior.

The annual averages (1911-1930) are 90 inches at Colombo, 87 inches at Kandy, and 92 inches at Nuwara Eliya. Diagram No. 2 facing this page shows the average monthly rainfall of 12 selected stations.

History

The earliest inhabitants of the Island are thought to have been the Nagas and Yakkhas, the latter being perhaps the representatives of the Veddas a fast fading race. Legendary history has it that the first invaders were Aryans from the North of India who, under the leadership of Vijaya, overcame the aborigines and established the Sinhalese dynasty. Early attention appears to have been paid by the invaders to irrigation works, agricultural development and other amenities of civil administration, and by the end of the first century A.D. a comparatively advanced stage of civilization had been reached.

The history of Ceylon down to the sixteenth century may be divided into two parts, viz., the period of the Sinhalese Anuradhapura, circa 500 B.C. to 300 A.D., and that of the *Sinhalese* from circa 300 A.D. onwards. The first period is one of increasing development and expanding civilization, connected chiefly with the progress of Buddhism, which was introduced about 247 B.C. The second period is one of ever-increasing pressure from the Tamils, Pandyans and others from India, with occasional success on the part of the Sinhalese particularly during the reign of their famous king, Parakrama Bahu (circa 1153 to 1186 A.D.). A natural limit occupation resulted from the constant warfare, and the Tamils known as Jaffnese were left in possession of the north of the Island.

In the sixteenth century the Portuguese formed settlements on the coasts of the Island; in the next century they were dispossessed by the Dutch. The Portuguese must be credited with the introduction of Catholic Christianity into the Island, and the Dutch with the introduction of Roman Law. The impression made by the latter on the social customs of the Ceylonese remains to this day. More recently commerce has brought about a peaceful invasion of Moors, officially styled Muslims, and Malays who are found in larger numbers in Colombo and are reckoned to be the backbone of the Police force. In 1796 the British took possession of the Dutch settlements in the Island which were then annexed to the Presidency of Madras; and two years later, in 1802, Ceylon was constituted a separate Crown Colony. In 1815, the districts of the interior, which had maintained their independence under the Kings of Kandy, were acquired by force. Earlier, as the result of a rebellion against the Kandyan king, the whole island was thus united under the British rule.

Principal Languages

Sinhalese and Tamil are the two chief vernaculars spoken in the Island, the former being spoken by the Sinhalese who reside throughout the western, central, and southern portions of the Island, and the latter by the Tamils inhabiting the northern and eastern parts and by the immigrant estate population. English is a common tongue among the people of the upper and the middle classes in all communities.

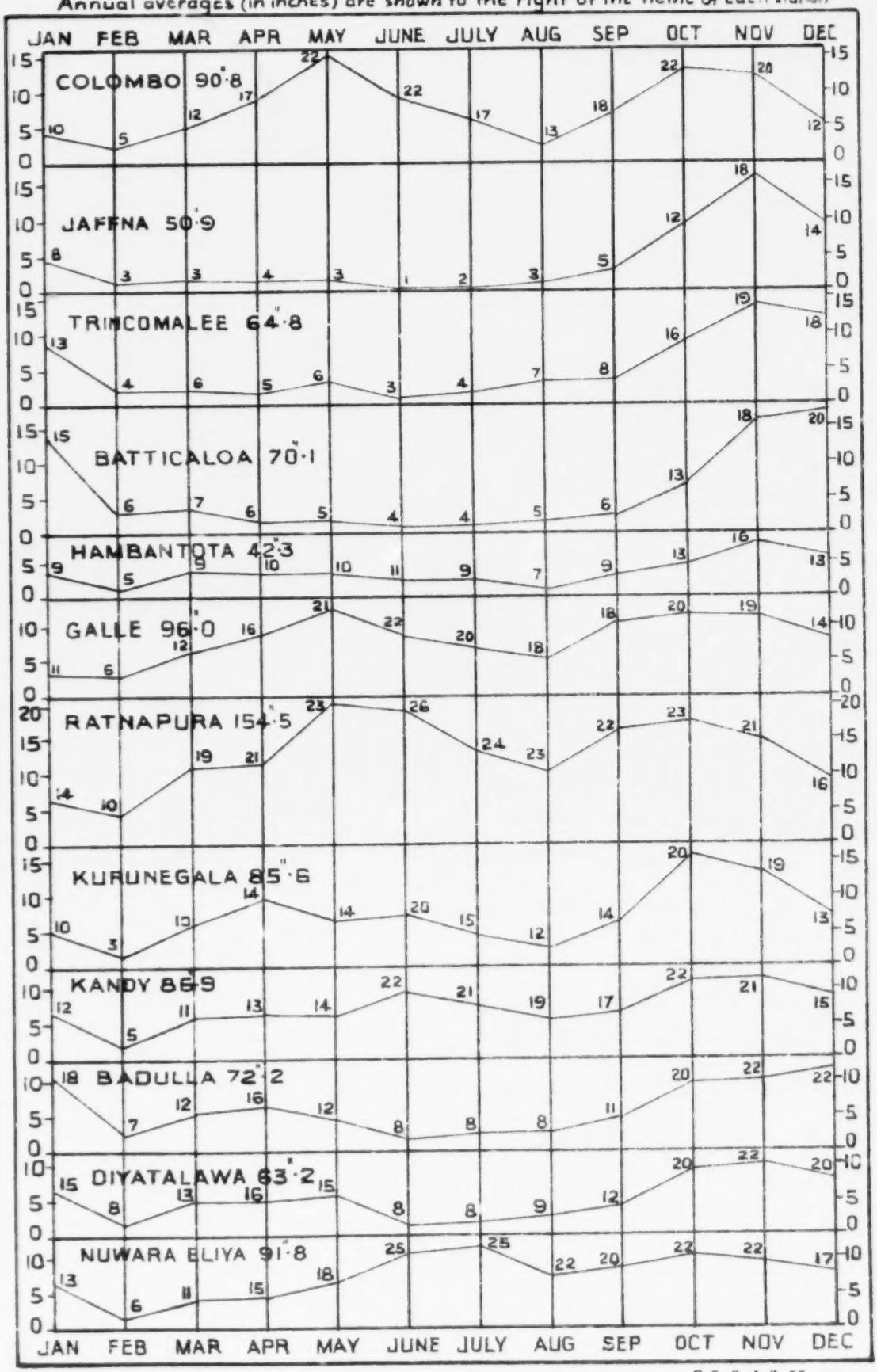
Diagram Nº 2

AVERAGE MONTHLY RAINFALL

OF 12 SELECTED STATIONS

Figures along the curve denote the number of wet days

Annual averages (in inches) are shown to the right of the name of each station



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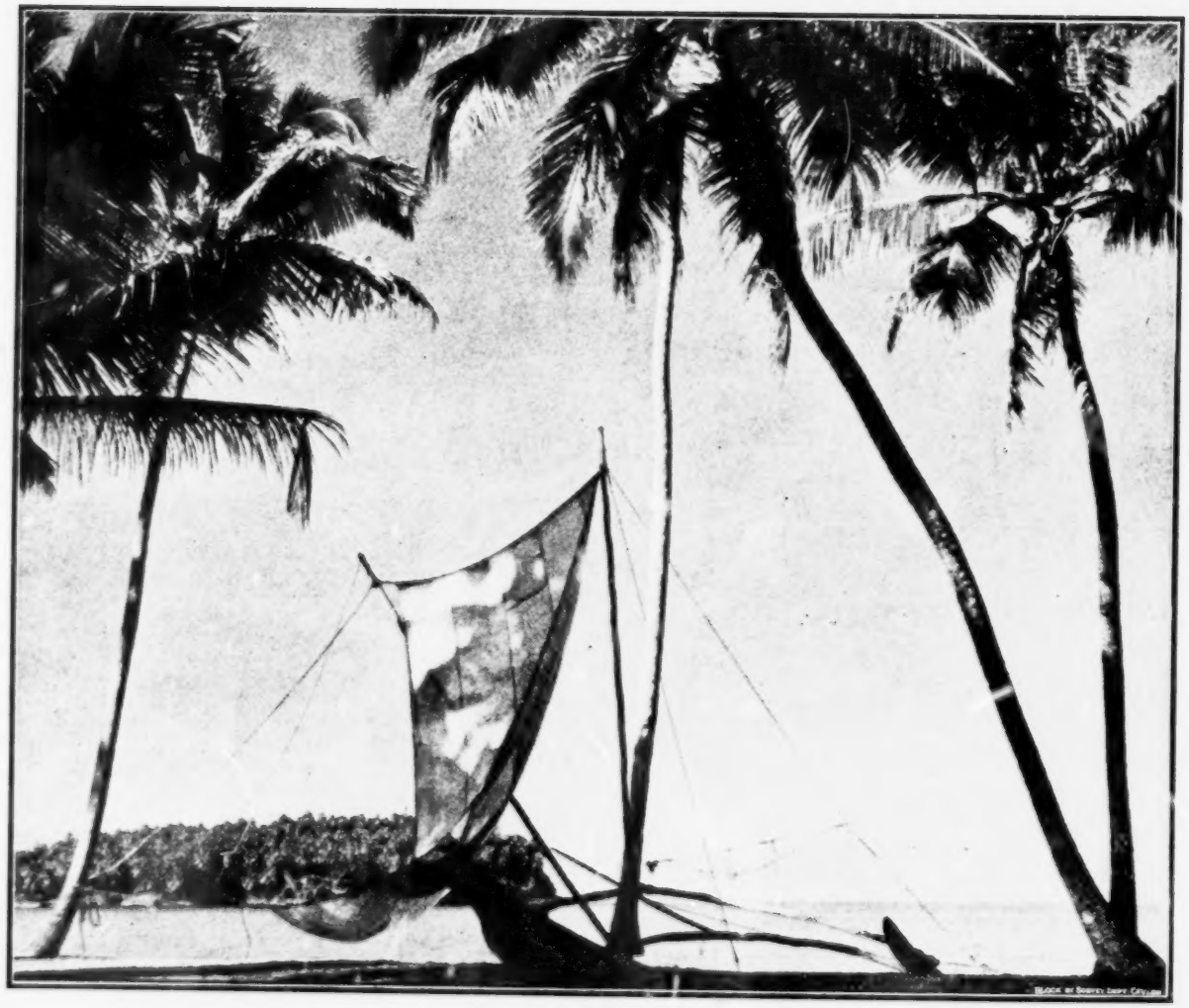

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SOUTHERN MORNING.

CHAPTER II.

Government.

THE CONSTITUTION.

UNTIL 1931 the Constitution of Ceylon was of the Crown Colony type, the government being vested in the Governor assisted by Executive and Legislative Councils. A description of the old Constitution will be found in the Annual General Reports of 1929 and previous years.

In July, 1931, the then existing Constitution was superseded by a new Constitution, based on the recommendations of a Special Commission on the Constitution appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies, which visited Ceylon in 1927-28. The new Constitution was formulated by the Ceylon (State Council) Order in Council, 1931. The principal constitutional changes involved are described below.

The Legislative Council was dissolved in April, 1931, the Executive Council in July of the same year, and their place was taken by a "State Council" having both legislative and executive functions, which met for the first time on July 7, 1931. The new Council consists of three official members, fifty elected members, and not more than eight members nominated by the Governor. Neither an elected nor a nominated member may be a person holding any public office under the Crown in Ceylon.

The three official members of the State Council are styled the Officers of State. They are members of the Council *ex officio*, as the Chief Secretary, *Legal Secretary, and Financial Secretary to the Government respectively. The Constitution provides that they shall have all the rights and privileges of membership of the Council and of the Board of Ministers (a body which will be referred to later), save the right to vote on any question before the Council or the Board.

All elected members are elected on a territorial basis, communal representation which was a feature of the old legislature having been abolished. The franchise is very wide. It extends, with a few exceptions, to all British subjects of either sex who are at least twenty-one years of age and are domiciled in Ceylon. In addition, persons not so domiciled are permitted to vote if they possess a certain literacy and property qualification, or have received a "certificate of permanent settlement" from a Government Agent or Assistant Government Agent.

Eight additional members are nominated by the Governor after a general election, the object of their appointment being, in the words of the Special Commission,† "to make the State Council more generally representative of the national interests".

On the first assembly of a new Council, and after the election of a Speaker, the members proceed by secret ballot to divide their total number (excluding the Speaker and the Officers of State) into seven standing committees styled "Executive Committees", which are required to be as nearly as possible equal in number of members.‡ Each Committee is charged with the administration of one of seven

* Or the Attorney-General, until a Legal Secretary is appointed (Article 6 of the Order in Council).
† Page 101 of the Report of the Commission.
‡ The members subsequently elected as Deputy Speaker and Deputy Chairman of Committees cease upon their election, to be members of Executive Committees.

groups of subjects and functions specified in the Order in Council under the following headings:—

I. Home Affairs.
II. Agriculture and Lands.
III. Local Administration.
IV. Health.
V. Labour, Industry and Commerce.
VI. Education.
VII. Communications and Works.

After the election of the Executive Committees, each Committee proceeds to elect by secret ballot a Chairman, and the Chairman-elect of each Executive Committee is then appointed by the Governor as Minister for the group of subjects and functions which his Committee has to administer. It is within the discretion of the Governor to decline to appoint as Minister any member elected Chairman of an Executive Committee. Subjects and functions not allocated to Executive Committees are divided by the Order in Council into three further groups, one of which is placed in the charge of each of the officers of State, who have no Executive Committees associated with them in the administration of these groups.

The duties of Executive Committees may be summarized as follows:—

(*a*) Preparation of the annual estimates of expenditure of the department under their control, for submission to the Board of Ministers.
(*b*) Similarly, the preparation of supplementary estimates.
(*c*) Consideration of executive business relating to their own subjects and functions, whether laid before them by their Chairmen or by private members, or referred to them by the Council or the Board of Ministers.
(*d*) Consideration of proposed legislative measures falling within their scope.

The decisions of Executive Committees which are of sufficient importance to require the approval of the Council are submitted at meetings of the whole Council in the form of reports, which the Council may accept, or reject, or refer back to the Committee, but *may not amend*. A report accepted by the Council is submitted to the Governor by the Speaker for ratification. But the decisions of Executive Committees in financial* matters are submitted by the Committees to the Board of Ministers, and by the Board to the Council.

The Board of Ministers consists of the three Officers of State and the seven Ministers, but, as stated above, the Officers of State have not the right to vote on questions before the Board. The Chief Secretary is *ex officio* Chairman of the Board, and there is also a Vice-Chairman, elected by the Board from among the Ministers, who is the representative of the Board in the Council and is styled the Leader of the State Council. The most important function of the Board of Ministers is the preparation of the annual estimates of revenue and expenditure for the Island, and of supplementary estimates of expenditure. The annual and supplementary estimates of the different departments of Government are submitted by the Officers of State and Executive Committees to the Board, whose duty it is to revise them and, if and

* As defined in Article 57 of the Order in Council.

when approved, to submit them to the State Council, taking full and collective responsibility for them. No financial* measure may be introduced in the State Council except by an Officer of State or a Minister, and with the approval of the Board of Ministers. The Board of Ministers also determines the order in which any business, whether executive or legislative, to be brought before the Council either by the Board or by the Executive Committees or Officers of State, is to be despatched, and prescribes the procedure for the settlement of questions affecting more than one Executive Committee.

The ordinary life of a Council is four years. But the Constitution provides that the Governor may dissolve the Council at any time, and shall dissolve it if the whole of any Annual Appropriation Bill is rejected, or if the decision of the Council on a financial* measure, or on a motion expressly directed to test the confidence of the Council in the Board of Ministers, makes it apparent, in his opinion, that the Board no longer retains the confidence of the Council. Up to the time of writing a dissolution has never occurred. In certain circumstances the life of the Council may be prolonged.

†The Governor retains the power to certify any Bill, motion, resolution, or vote as being of paramount importance, or he may declare that it is essential to give effect to the provisions of the Order in Council. In either event the measure has effect as if it had been passed by the Council, subject to disallowance by His Majesty the King in the case of Bills and to revocation by the Secretary of State in the case of other measures. ‡Power is also reserved to the Governor to declare that a state of emergency exists, and thereupon to assume control of any Government Department.

The appointment, promotion, transfer, dismissal, and disciplinary control of public officers are vested in the Governor (with power of delegation to heads of Government departments), and the Order in Council contains clauses for the preservation of their conditions of service.

For full details of the Constitution, reference may be made to the Order in Council, which is reproduced in the Ceylon Government Manual of Procedure.

The Ceylon Civil Service.—The Ceylon Civil Service, recruited partly by examination on the same basis as the Indian Civil Service, and partly by local appointments, furnishes officers for the general administrative, and part of the judicial, work in the Island.

Revenue Districts.—For administrtaive purposes Ceylon is divided into Provinces, which are subdivided into districts, as shown in the following table:—

Provinces.	Districts.	Provinces.	Districts.
Western	.. Colombo, Kalutara	North-Western	. Kurunegala, Puttalam-Chilaw
Central	.. Kandy, Matale, Nuwara Eliya	North-Central	.. Anuradhapura
Southern	.. Galle, Matara, Hambantota	Uva	.. Badulla
Northern	.. Jaffna, Mannar, Mullaittivu	Sabaragamuwa	Ratnapura, Kegalla
Eastern	.. Batticaloa, Trincomalee		

The Government Agents.—The posts of Government Agents—one in each of the nine Provinces—are held by senior Civil Servants. To

* As defined in Article 57 of the Order in Council. † Article 32 of the Order in Council.
‡ Article 49 of the Order in Council.

the Government Agents is entrusted the general administrative work of their Provinces, while their Kachcheries, or offices, are the provincial treasuries for the receipt of revenue and the payment of the local expenses of Government.

The Government Agents hold a number of other official positions, and preside over some local bodies in their Provinces. They are, as a rule, assisted by one or more Assistant Government Agents, who are in charge of revenue districts or else perform special duties at the provincial headquarters.

The Headmen.—The officer next subordinate to the Government Agent or Assistant Government Agent is the chief headman, who is differently styled in different districts: " Mudaliyar " in the maritime Sinhalese districts; " Ratemahatmaya " in the Kandyan districts; " Maniagar ", " Adigar ", and " Vanniya " in the Tamil districts. There are about 104 chief headmen in the Island. In some cases the Mudaliyar is assisted by one or more " Muhandirams ". Next to the chief headman ranks the superior headman, called in the maritime Sinhalese districts " Vidane Arachchi ", in the Kandyan Sinhalese districts the " Korala ", and in the Tamil districts the " Udaiyar ". There are about 610 superior headmen in Ceylon.

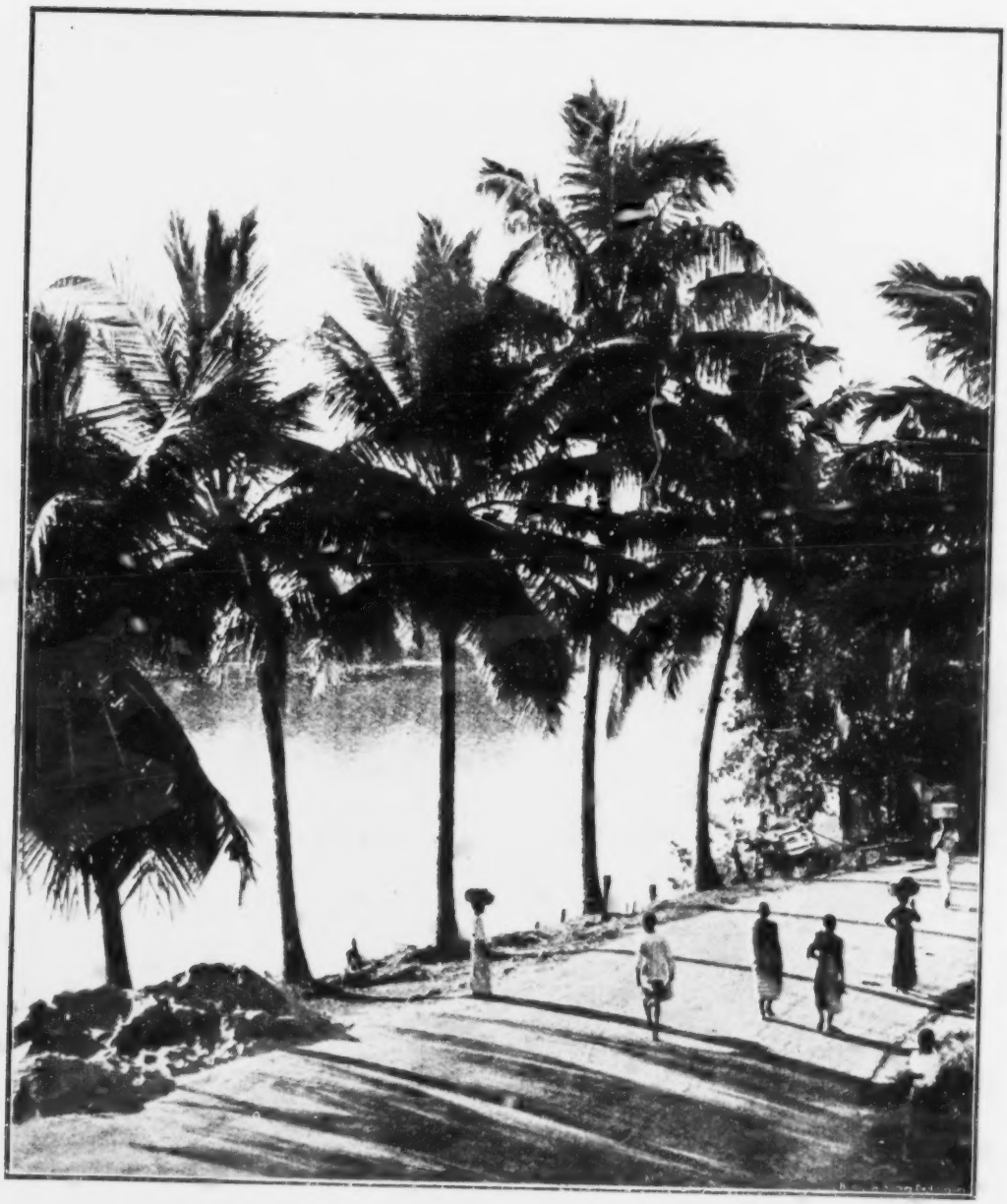
Lastly comes the village headman, who is in charge of one or more villages, and whose jurisdiction is the administrative unit. The number of village headmen is about 3,800. In addition, there are peace officers, irrigation headmen, and others appointed for special purposes.

Local Government.

With the inauguration of a new Constitution for the Island in July, 1931, an Executive Committee of Local Administration was elected by the State Council to supervise, control, and develop local government, and a department of local government under the Commissioner of Local Government was created as the executive instrument of the Committee.

The local duties in regard to sanitation and public thoroughfares have for long been entrusted to a number of local authorities whose members are the nominees of the Governor with the addition in most cases of persons elected by the inhabitants. In Colombo, Kandy, and Galle, there are Municipal Councils whose Chairmen are members of the Civil Service. At least half the members are elected by the ratepayers, all those possessing a house of the annual value of Rs. 180, or every tenant who pays a monthly rental of Rs. 15 or is a graduate of a university, being qualified to vote. An Ordinance to amend the Constitution of the Colombo Municipal Council in order to provide for an wholly elected Council with an elected chairman passed the second reading of the State Council in November, 1933, and is still under the consideration of a Committee of the State Council.

Until the end of 1932 in eleven of the smaller towns there were Urban District Councils with elected Chairmen, two-thirds of the members being elected by the ratepayers and one-third being nominated by the Governor. More such Councils had not been constituted in the absence of a local demand and during the first ten years since this



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PELIYAGODA ROAD.

type of Council was first devised there had been singularly little demand. On the recommendation however of the Executive Committee, 16 more such Councils were established from January 1, 1933, in place of 10 of the Local Boards of Health and Improvement, in 5 of the small towns previously administered by Sanitary Boards, and also in place of the Board of Improvement of Nuwara Eliya.

Only one small town is now administered by a Local Board of Health and Improvement, viz., Minuwangoda, it being too small to support an Urban District Council. The Government Agent of the Western Province is the Chairman. The members are the District Engineer, the Medical Officer of Health and 3 elected members.

Groups of smaller towns, frequently no larger than roadside bazaars, are administered by the Sanitary Boards of the various districts, consisting of the Government Agent, or Assistant Government Agent, two local officials of the Public Health Department and the Public Works Department, and not more than four nor less than two members nominated by the Governor. This method of local administration for a number of towns in a district is carried on from the District Headquarters with a staff consisting partly of officers whose salaries are met proportionately by the various towns and partly of officers lent by the Public Health Department, assisted by yet others in addition to their normal duties for the Central Government. This cheap and reasonably efficient form of local administration is, however, now said to be out of favour because the Boards contain no elected members. The Executive Committee is not recommending the inclusion of any further towns in the administration of these Boards, and has under consideration some other form of administration of a more popular type.

In the rural areas, there are Village Committees for groups of villages. These groups are divided into wards, each of which elects one member. In 1932 an Ordinance was passed precluding officials from being elected as Chairmen. These Committees deal with minor local affairs and the working of rules connected with local customs.

Roads other than main thoroughfares and other than those in charge of the local authorities mentioned above, are maintained by District Committees, while certain educational matters have been entrusted to District Education Committees.

CHAPTER III.

Population.

Population.—Population data are collected, as in almost every other country, by means of a Census, which is taken decennially in Ceylon. The last decennial Census was taken on February 26, 1931, but its scope was limited owing to the financial crisis. At that Census Ceylon had (inclusive of the military and the shipping) a population of 5,312,548 which was 17.9 per cent. more than that in 1921. Since 1871 when the first decennial Census was taken the population has steadily increased. The Island is fairly thickly populated; and at the last Census it had a density of 210 persons per square mile and ranked above India, France, and Denmark, and somewhat below Japan.

Statistics of races were not collected in 1931 except in the Colombo Municipality and on the estates, but rough estimates based on the Census of 1921 are given below:—

Race.	Colombo Town.	Estates.	Estimates for Other Areas.	Estimated Totals.
Europeans	3,340	2,814	2,999	9,153
Burghers and Eurasians	15,887	2,031	14,397	32,315
Sinhalese	127,927	75,786	3,269,317	3,473,030
Tamils	65,704	698,081	653,692	1,417,477
Moors	44,240	7,496	274,177	325,913
Malays	7,022	1,988	6,967	15,977
Others	20,035	1,738	10,791	32,564
	284,155	790,376*	4,232,340	5,306,871*†

It is estimated on the same basis that there were 3,267,457 Buddhists, 1,158,522 Hindus, 523,066 Christians, 356,888 Muslims, and 938 others at the Census of 1931.

The population (exclusive of the military and the shipping) was geographically distributed in 1921 and 1931 as follows:—

	1921.	1931.	Percentage of Increase.
Western Province	1,246,847	1,445,034	15·9
Central Province	717,739	953,388	32·8
Southern Province	671,234	771,204	14·9
Northern Province	374,839	398,874	6·4
Eastern Province	192,821	212,421	10·2
North-Western Province	492,181	546,966	11·1
North-Central Province	96,525	97,365	·9
Province of Uva	233,864	303,243	29·7
Province of Sabaragamuwa	471,814	578,368	22·6
Miscellaneous Population‡	751	8	—

Intercensal estimates of population are prepared from the records of vital statistics and of migration, and on this basis the Island had a population of 5,637,000 at the end of 1934.

The figures for Ceylon quoted above do not include those of the Maldive Islands which had a population of 79,281 at the Census of 1931, as compared with 70,413 in 1921.

Migration.—The large majority of the migrants move to and from India; and a considerable part of them are Indian labourers. In 1934 the total number of immigrants to the Island was 259,803. Of them 245,420 or 94 per cent. were from India and 140,607 of these were estate labourers. In general the arrivals in the Island are more frequent in the second and the third quarters of the year than in the first and fourth.

Of the total 165,269 emigrants in 1934 about 91 per cent., or 150,400, left for India; and of these 52,481 were estate labourers.

The migration statistics of 1930 to 1934 are as follows:—

Migration Statistics from 1930-1934.

	Arrivals.				Departures.			
	From India.		From Other Countries.	Total.	To India.		To Other Countries.	Total.
	Indian Labourers.	Others.			Indian Labourers	Others.		
1930	91,422	113,762	17,968	223,152	98,728	145,897	18,375	263,000
1931	68,337	94,401	20,384	183,122	75,866	122,696	16,141	214,703
1932	50,869	92,090	15,263	158,222	58,157	115,131	13,771	187,059
1933	32,898	88,661	14,498	136,057	46,626	134,524	13,077	194,227
1934	140,607	104,813	14,383	259,803	52,481	97,919	14,869	165,269

* Includes 442 persons of unspecified race. † Excludes the military and the shipping.
‡ Persons enumerated in trains and in the Great and Little Basses.

DIAGRAM No. 4.

ANNUAL IMMIGRATION AND EMIGRATION,

CEYLON.

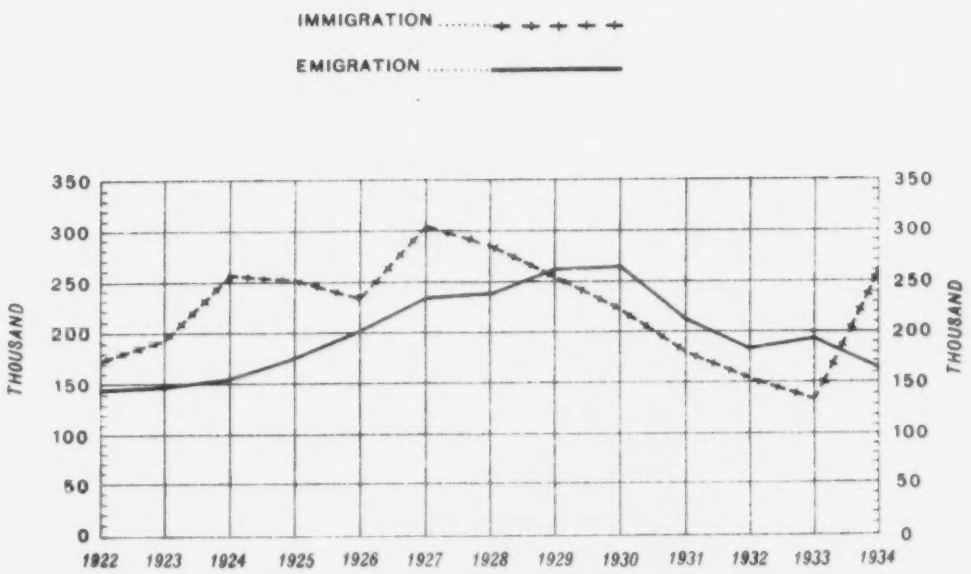

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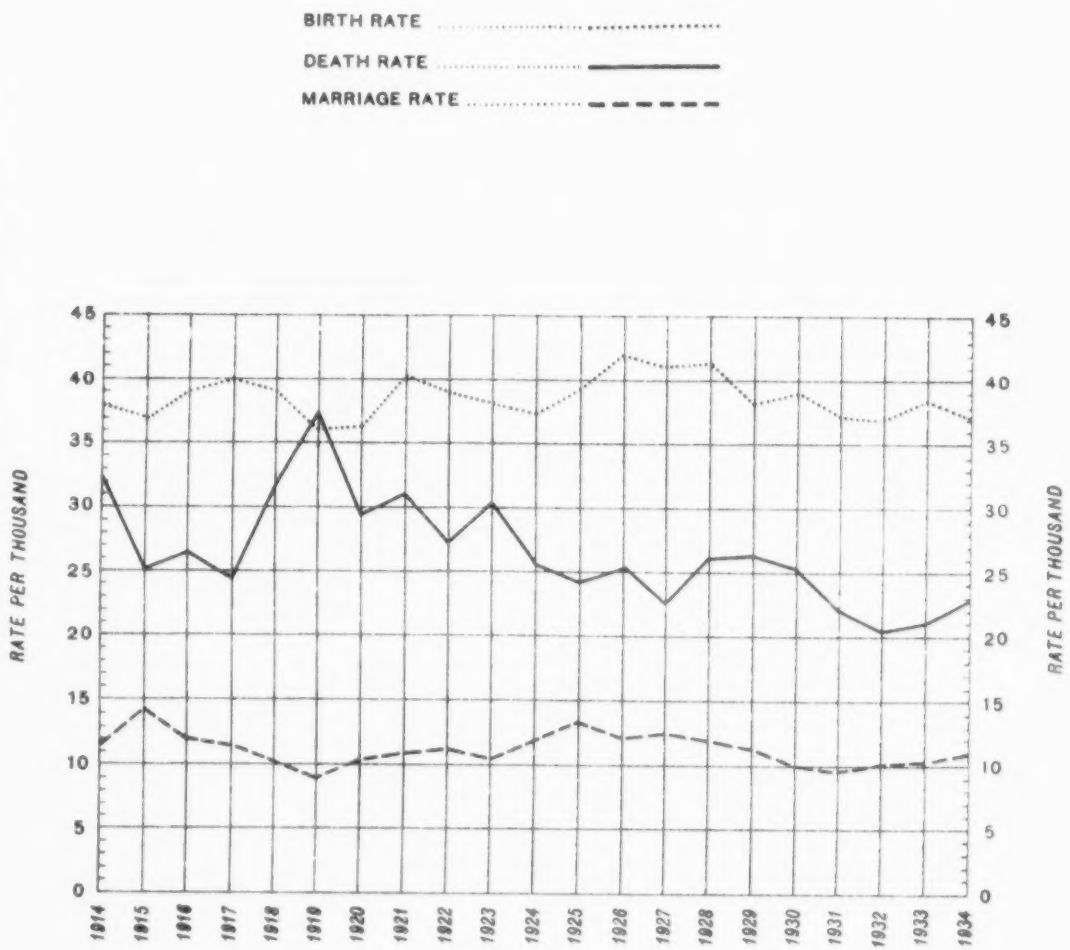
DIAGRAM No. 3.

REPORTED BIRTH, DEATH, AND MARRIAGE RATES,

CEYLON



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Marriages.—Three Marriage Ordinances operate in the Island, one for the general population, one for the Kandyans, and one for the Muslims. Under the General and Kandyan Marriage Ordinances 28,476 marriages were registered in 1934, as against 25,886 in 1933 and an annual average of 27,809 during the preceding decade. The General marriages alone numbered 22,415, and were 1,981 more than in the previous year. The number of persons married during the year was 11.0 per 1,000 of the General and Kandyan population, as against 10.2 in 1933 and 11.7 during the decade ending 1933. Among the Muslims 1,333 marriages were registered, 39 more than in the previous year and 286 more than the annual average during the decade 1924-1933. A considerable number of Muslim marriages are not registered according to law, and the Muslim marriage rate is consequently low, being 7.1 per 1,000 during the year, as compared with 7.1 in 1933 and 6.0 the average for the ten years ending 1932.

Divorces.—Dissolution of any marriage registered under the General Marriage Ordinance can be granted only by a District Judge and under the Kandyan Marriage Ordinance by a Provincial or Assistant Provincial Registrar. In 1934 there were 157 dissolutions of General and 607 of Kandyan marriages, as compared with 126 and 501 respectively in 1933. There is usually a large excess of Kandyan marriage divorces over General marriage divorces, which is largely due to the greater facilities for divorce afforded by the Kandyan marriage law. No statistics of Muslim marriage divorces are available as these marriages are dissolved mostly by Muslim priests without reference to any public official.

Births.—206,512 births were registered in the Island in 1934, as against 209,032 in the previous year and 200,848 the average of the decade 1924-1933. Of these, 105,298 were males and 101,214 females, representing a sex proportion of 1,040 males to 1,000 females, as against 1,050 males to 1,000 females in 1933. The birth rate was 37.2 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 38.6 in 1933 and 39.3 the average rate for the decade ending 1933. The birth rate of the Island is comparatively high.

Deaths.—The deaths of 127,070 persons (63,256 males and 63,814 females) were registered in 1934, as against 114,690 in 1933 and 122,250 the average for the decade 1924 to 1933. The death rate was 22.9 per 1,000 of the estimated population, as compared with 21.2 in the previous year and 23.9 the average for the previous decade.

Infant Mortality.—The deaths of 35,719 infants under one year of age were registered in 1934. The infant mortality in 1933 was 32,866 and the average for the decade 1924-1933 was 34,288. About 28 per cent. of the total deaths in 1934 were those of infants. The infant death rate was 173 per 1,000 births registered, as compared with 157 in 1933 and 171 the average for the ten years 1924-1933. The infant mortality rate is influenced by the birth rate, and it is not an unusual feature to find a high infant death rate in countries having a high birth rate. The infant mortality in Ceylon is excessive, being nearly five times that of New Zealand which has the lowest rate in the world. But the maternal and child welfare work done in the country is producing goods results.

Causes of Death.—Since 1911 causes of deaths in this country are classified according to the International or Bertillon System. The

classification from 1933 was according to the fourth revision of the international list. Owing to the absence of compulsory certification of causes of deaths among a very large section of the population, the statistics particularly of diseases requiring scientific knowledge for diagnosis, are of value as close estimates; but there is reason to believe that a definite though slow, progress in accuracy is achieved every year. A very large number of deaths are returned by village informants as due to fever, and are tabulated under the vague title " Pyrexia ". The number of deaths assigned to pyrexia in 1934 was 15,467—or 12.1 per cent. of the total deaths—as compared with 13,776 in 1933. There is little doubt that a considerable number of these deaths are actually due to malaria. Another prolific cause of death in the Island is infantile convulsions which was responsible for 12,939 deaths in 1934; this number represents 10.1 per cent. of the total mortality. Over a quarter of the total deaths registered were due in the past to pyrexia and convulsions, but at present the proportion is somewhat less. The death rate per million of the estimated population from the more important diseases registered in Ceylon in 1933 and 1934 are shown below :—

Causes.	Rate per Million. 1933.	1934.	Causes.	Rate per Million. 1933.	1934.
Pyrexia ..	2,544	2,786	Malaria and malarial cachexia	260	420
Infantile convulsions	2,154	2,331	Influenza ..	355	415
Pneumonia ..	1,274	1,513	Dysentery ..	348	411
Diarrhoea and enteritis	1,220	1,449	Ankylostomiasis	347	382
Phthisis ..	576	557	Puerperal septicaemia	247	263
Premature birth and congenital defects ..	409	457	Bronchitis ..	241	244
			Enteric fever	147	129
			Cancer ..	83	94

CHAPTER IV.

Health.

Hospitals and Dispensaries.

MEDICAL aid is generously provided by the State, there being 108 Government hospitals and asylums, with provision for 11,349 beds.

In Colombo are situated a General Hospital with 939 beds, an Ophthalmic Hospital, a Lying-in Home, a hospital for women (Lady Havelock Hospital), a hospital for children (Lady Ridgeway Hospital), a Bacteriological Institute, a Pasteur Institute, and a Dental Institute. At Angoda, 6 miles from Colombo, there is a hospital for infectious diseases, with 168 beds. There are special dispensaries at Kandy, Galle, Jaffna, Batticaloa, and Badulla for the treatment of eye diseases. Treatment with radium is now available at the General Hospital, Colombo.

There is a Lunatic Asylum at Angoda, 6 miles from Colombo, and two Leper Asylums, one at Hendala in the Western Province and one at Mantivu in the Eastern Province.

There is a Home for Incurables at Colombo, with 90 beds, which is administered by a Committee of Government officials and representatives of the public.

For the treatment of tuberculosis, there are the King Edward VII. Memorial Anti-Tuberculosis Institute in Colombo, a hospital of 349 beds

for advanced and moderately advanced cases at Ragama, and a Sanatorium of 72 beds at Kandana, and one of 44 beds at Kankesanturai on the northern coast.

In addition to Government hospitals, the owners of estates have provided 84 estate hospitals, and in consequence receive a rebate on the export duty on tea, rubber, coffee, cacao, and cardamoms.

Besides the hospitals there are 624 central and branch dispensaries and visiting stations provided by Government. There are also 726 estate dispensaries, which receive free drugs from Government to the value of 50 cents per labourer per annum.

Campaigns.

Campaigns against malaria, ankylostomiasis, and parangi are carried out in various parts of the Island, apart from treatment at hospitals and dispensaries. Mass treatment against hookworm infestation was carried out by Medical Officers, Medical Officers of Health, and School Medical Officers in their respective areas. Very marked results are shown by the decrease in the number of patients admitted to hospitals in the areas so treated. Success has also attended the efforts of the Itinerating Medical Officers appointed for the treatment of parangi.

Trained vaccinators are stationed in each Province. Primary vaccination against smallpox is compulsory, and secondary vaccination is carried out compulsorily among contacts when an outbreak of smallpox occurs.

Anti-Malarial Work.

Intensive anti-malaria work is done in the severely malarious town-areas of Chilaw, Kurunegala, Anuradhapura, Trincomalee, Puttalam, and Badulla (work in the last two was begun during 1929), and along certain sections of the railway and at Minneriya.

As a result of the unprecedented malaria epidemic which started at the end of 1934 it is certain that a reorganization and extension of the anti-malarial activities of the Department will be undertaken.

Schemes for malaria drainage of anti-malaria campaign areas are drafted by the Sanitary Engineer. The Medical Entomologist checks the efficiency of larvicidal measures carried out by the Anti-Malaria Campaign staff and also investigates problems connected with malaria incidence in other parts of the Island.

Quinine is distributed in large quantities in malarious areas throughout the Island both for curative and prophylactic purposes; 18,363 lb. and 2,661,775 tablets have been issued during 1934.

Sanitary Engineering Division.

In addition to malaria drainage, this division deals with questions of general drainage in small towns and of water supplies and disposal of excreta.

Estate Sanitation.

Attached to the Department of Medical and Sanitary Services are three Inspecting Medical Officers and two Assistants, who inspect estates throughout the Island. During the year under review 493 estates were inspected. In the course of inspection, defects in the sanitary condition of estates are pointed out and suggestions to remedy

and prevent them in future are put forward to the estate owners. Year by year the housing and the sanitary conditions on estates are improving.

Public Health.

In addition to the Inspecting Medical Officers, there were, in 1934, 25 Medical Officers of Health, assisted by 239 Sanitary Inspectors, who looked after the sanitary requirements of urban and rural areas. Eight Health Units have been established since 1926, at Kadugannawa, Kalutara, Kegalla, Kurunegala, Matara, Panadure, Trincomalee, and Dehiwala. Health work on the lines conducted in Health Unit areas is being carried out, as far as possible, in other parts of the Island which are looked after by the Medical Officers of Health. Public Health Nurses are being employed in increasing numbers in connection with child welfare centres and the supervision of midwives.

Epidemics are promptly dealt with by the Medical Officers of Health and their staffs.

Legislation.

A Milk and Dairies Ordinance, and a suburban Dairies and Aerated-water Factories Ordinance are in the hands of the Attorney-General; and a Poisons and Dangerous Drugs Ordinance which was passed by the Legislature has not yet been proclaimed as the draft of the amending Ordinance has not yet been passed. The Medical Ordinance, 1927, was amended to prohibit the use of the titles of dental surgeon or surgeon dentist by any persons without proper qualifications.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Plague.—The following is a list of plague cases and deaths from that disease which occurred in Ceylon during the year:—

Locality.	Cases.	Deaths.
Colombo City	34	28
Central Province: Gampola	1	1
	35	29

The year 1934 compares favourably with 1933 in which there were 57 cases with 52 deaths.

The Gampola case occurred at premises No. 12, Ambegamuwa street. The deceased, an Indian Muslim aged 50, male, a recent arrival from India reported himself to the District Medical Officer, Gampola, at 4.30 P.M. on September 18 and suddenly died about midnight. Post-mortem examination revealed signs of acute Septicaemia, but bacteriological report was negative for plague. From the history of the case however and post-mortem findings diagnosis of plague was made.

Human Plague.—The following table shows the incidence of human plague in Colombo during the years 1932-34:—

	1932.			1933.			1934.		
	Cases.	Deaths.	Case Mortality per Cent.	Cases.	Deaths.	Case Mortality per Cent.	Cases.	Deaths.	Case Mortality Per Cent.
Total	67	61	91·0	26	24	92·3	34	28	82·4
Septicaemia	23	23	100·0	6	6	100	11	11	100
Bubonic	44	38	86·4	20	18	90	23	17	73·9
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Monthly Incidence.—One case occurred in January, 4 each in February and March, 13 in April, 8 in May, 1 in July, 2 in November and 1 in December.

Sex Incidence.—Of the 34 cases 32 were males and 2 females.

Rat Plague.—27,692 rats were examined at the Municipal Laboratory and 15 or .05 per cent. were found infected, as against .04 per cent. in 1933. One infected rat was from the Chalmers Granaries and one from the Manning Market.

Smallpox.—72 cases with 13 deaths occurred giving a fatality rate of 18 per cent. during 1934. The source of infection was traced to a passenger who arrived in Colombb *viâ* Tuticorin on August 19, 1934.

The distribution of cases by localities is as follows:—

	Cases.	Deaths.
Colombo Municipality	49	8
Western Province	18	3
Northern Province	2	1
Central Province	1	—
Province of Sabaragamuwa	1	1
Province of Uva	1	—
	72	13

The incidence of the disease by months is as follows:—

	Cases.	Deaths.
Colombo Municipality—		
January, 1934	1	—
September	19	2
October	6	1
November	10	2
December	13	3
	49	8
Western Province—		
September	2	—
October	12	2
November	4	1
	18	3
Northern Province—		
October	1	—
December	1	1
	2	1
Central Province—		
September	1	—
Sabaragamuwa—		
October	1	1
Uva—		
September	1	—

Colombo Municipality.—There were 49 cases with 8 deaths. Of these cases 1 occurred at the Port on board the ss. Redsea on January 31 having acquired the infection outside Ceylon. Of the remaining 48 cases 8 acquired the infection in Colombo but developed the disease, 6 at Contact Camp at Angoda and 1 each at Kayts and Pinkanda in Galle District.

Western Province.—In the Western Province outside Colombo City 18 cases occurred with 3 deaths at the following places:—Mount Lavinia 2, Kotikawatte 1, Udahamulla 3, Angoda Lunatic Asylum 3, Totawatte (Panadure Totamune) 8, Kottuwila Kelaniya 1.

Northern Province.—There were 2 cases with 1 death. One fatal case occurred at Point Pedro in an arrival from Kandy on December 29. Source of infection could not be traced. The other case was discovered at Talaimannar in the person of an estate labourer from Galkanda Estate, Hatton, on October 30 *en route* to India. The source of infection was not traced. Necessary action was taken at Hatton where 8,758 persons were vaccinated.

Central Province.—One non-fatal case occurred at Gampola on September 17 in a new arrival from India.

Sabaragamuwa.—One fatal case occurred at Kegalla on October 10 in the person of a Sinhalese pauper who was picked up on the roadside by the Police. The source of infection was not determined.

Uva.—One case occurred in a Sinhalese mechanic employed by Messrs. the Colombo Commercial Company at Dickwella Estate, Haliela, on September 24 but discovered on October 4. The source of infection is probably from Slave Island, Colombo, where he was employed.

Vaccination.—The following are the figures of vaccination done in connection with the cases of smallpox that occurred during the year:—

Colombo Municipality	9,677
Kandy	115
Gampola	5,577
Kegalla town	7,981
Haliela, Uva	7,950
Totawatte (Panadure totamune)	3,664
Hatton	8,758
Point Pedro	533
Talaimannar	17
	41,282

Cholera.—There was one fatal case of cholera in the Island during this year. It occurred at Galle in the person of Punchi Singho, male, Sinhalese, who worked as a boatman in the Colombo Harbour. He fell ill in Colombo and went to Galle on June 9 by train and died on June 11. Bacteriological examination showed agglutinating vibrios. All precautionary measures were taken. The source of infection was not traced.

CHAPTER V.

Housing.

A. *Municipal Towns.*—There are three Municipal towns in Ceylon, viz., Colombo, Kandy, and Galle. Of these Colombo with a population of 301,200 is much the largest. New houses in these towns may only be built in accordance with the provisions of the Housing and Town Improvement Ordinance of 1915 which prescribes certain minimum hygienic requirements. But there are numerous insanitary houses built prior to the Ordinance which can only gradually be converted into sanitary buildings as they fall into disrepair. The Colombo Municipal Council began a scheme of housing its own direct labourers in 1923 and a definite yearly programme of providing tenements for them has been followed since that year. In 1931, the Council also embarked on a programme of slum eradication at Kochchikade which, when completed, will rehouse about 2,000 people.

In Kandy which has a population of 39,100 the first organized attempt at slum clearance began in 1920 following an outbreak of plague. Seventy-five per cent. of the slums have since been dealt with and replaced by sanitary tenements or houses of a better type. Model tenements have been built by the Council in various parts of the town which now house about 2,000 persons. Lines are also being built for the Council's labourers and 39 new lines were completed in 1934. A start has also been made in Kandy in providing "back lanes" for the congested areas of the town. These lanes facilitate conservancy and scavenging and also provide more light and air for the houses in their neighbourhood.

In Galle, which has a population of 38,200 action has been mainly directed towards the improvement and demolition of insanitary and dangerous buildings under the provisions of the Housing and Town Improvement Ordinance, each ward of the town being taken up in turn.

B. *Other Towns.*—The other towns of the Island which are under the administration of Urban District Councils or Sanitary Boards are also subject to the Housing and Town Improvement Ordinance. But in most of them only a minority of the existing buildings is in conformity with modern sanitary requirements. A gradual improvement however is being effected as the older buildings collapse and have to be rebuilt. Few of the local bodies concerned are in a financial position to embark on schemes of tenement building.

C. *Rural Areas.*—In the rural areas most of the houses are built with wattle and mud walls and roofs thatched with straw or cadjans. Village Committee rules usually prescribe certain elementary sanitary measures, *e.g.* that a dead body may not be buried within a certain minimum distance of a dwelling-house or that every house must have its walls whitewashed at least once a year. Otherwise housing conditions in the rural areas are free from control.

On the larger tea, rubber, and coconut estates housing accommodation for the labour force is usually provided by the estate proprietors, is inspected periodically by officers of the Medical and Labour Departments and is generally much superior to that found in the surrounding villages.

CHAPTER VI.

Production.

AGRICULTURE.

General.—The main crops of the Island are coconut, paddy, tea, and rubber. Other crops which are grown to less extents, though their combined value is of not inconsiderable importance to the trade of the Island, are: cacao, cinnamon, citronella, arecanut, cardamoms, and tobacco.

Chena cultivation, that is, the growing of crops on jungle land newly cleared by burning, is an important feature of peasant agriculture in the sparsely populated areas of the dry-zone, while, in more favoured districts, and particularly in proximity to towns, market gardening brings in a small but regular income.

Animal husbandry was formerly a negligible factor in the agricultural economy of Ceylon, but interest in this branch has now been awakened, and the foundations of stock raising and dairy industries are being assiduously laid.

The extent of production of the several crops may be gauged from the following tables which give the approximate acreages under cultivation and the quantities of produce exported and the value of these in 1934:—

Acreages under the Chief Crops (estimated only).

	Acres.		Acres.
Coconuts	1,100,000*	Palmyra	50,000‖
Rice	850,000†	Cacao	34,000‖
Rubber	606,000‡	Citronella	33,000‖
Tea	557,000§	Cinnamon	26,000‖
Chenas, vegetable, and other crops	140,000‖	Tobacco	14,000‖
Arecanuts	69,000‖	Cardamoms	6,000‖

Exports of Agricultural Products of the Island in 1934.

	Quantity.	Value. Rs.¶	Total Value of Class. Rs.¶
Black tea	218·2 mill. lb.	144·7	
Green tea	·5 mill. lb.	·3	
			145·0
Coconuts, fresh	31·4 mill. nuts	·6	
Copra	2·1 mill. cwt.	9·2	
Coconut oil	1·4 mill. cwt.	10·5	
Coconut shell charcoal	·12 mill. cwt.	·35	
Coir yarn	·09 mill. cwt.	·9	
Desiccated coconut	·65 mill. cwt.	4·1	
Poonac (coconut)	·62 mill. cwt.	1·7	
Bristle fibre	·2 mill. cwt.	1·0	
Mattress fibre	·41 mill. cwt.	·62	
Coir rope, &c.	·009 mill. cwt.	·09	
			29·1
Rubber	178·6 mill. lb.		56·6
Cacao	9·1 mill. lb.		1·8
Arecanuts	·09 mill. cwt.		1·0
Cardamoms	3,441 cwt		·4
Pepper and other spices	2,463 cwt.		·06
Cinnamon (quills and chips)	·04 mill. cwt.	1·14	
Cinnamon oil (bark and leaf)	2·8 mill. oz.	·4	
			1·54
Tobacco (unmanufactured and cigars)	2·7 mill. lb.		·7
Citronella oil	1·5 mill. lb.		·8
Papain	·1 mill. lb.		·6
Kapok	6,986 cwt.		·2
			237·8

Tea.

Acreage, &c.—Over 557,000 acres are planted in tea, *Thea sinensis*, consisting of 2,473 estates and 54,395 small holdings. It is grown at elevations varying from sea level to 6,000 feet above sea level but mainly in the hilly country in the centre of the Island at elevations ranging between 1,500 feet and 5,000 feet. The better quality teas are grown at the higher elevations where the more temperate climate assists growth and produces flavour.

The manufactured product consists of the young tender shoots which after plucking undergo the processes of withering, rolling, fermenting, and drying or firing.

* Based on the results of the partial Census of Production, 1929.

† Based on an estimate of the Department of Agriculture: according to the partial Census of Production, 1929, the acreage was about 800,000, while according to the returns furnished by Government Agents to the Paddy Commission the extent under cultivation in 1930 amounted to 941,000 acres.

‡ Based on the Rubber Controller's estimate for 1934. The figures are provisional.

§ Based on the Tea Export Controller's Report for 1933–34.

‖ Based on the results of the Censuses of Production, 1921 and 1924.

¶ In millions.

Pruning and Plucking.—The object of tea cultivation is to secure the maximum quantity of the best quality of leaf. For this purpose the bushes are pruned periodically so as to ensure regular, frequent, and plentiful "flushes," or young, tender shoots on the bushes. The tip of the new shoot and one or two leaves below it are plucked by hand, generally by the women of the labour force.

Rainfall.—A fairly evenly distributed rainfall of 80 to 120 inches a year is required for tea.

Labour.—About 95 per cent. of the labour on tea estates consists of immigrant labour from India. An estate requires on an average about 1⅛ labourer per acre.

Cultivation.—Very extensive cultivation is carried out on tea estates to secure large yields. To improve the tilth and condition of the soil green and artificial manuring is carried out in a systematic and scientific manner. The low price and restriction of output have reduced the application of fertilizers during recent years.

Manufacture.—Great care and attention are paid to the manufacture of tea under its stages with a view to the production of the best flavoured tea with a tractive appearance.

Research.—A scientific staff is maintained by the industry which is supported by a cess on exports for the purpose of investigating the scientific side of the growth and manufacture of tea.

Yields.—Yields vary considerably according to elevation, cultivation, &c., but may be said to range from 300 to 1,200 lb. made tea per acre. On a well cultivated estate 600 to 700 lb. is considered a satisfactory all-round yield.

Factory.—A large number of the tea factories have been rebuilt during recent years and the opportunity has been taken to erect new factories on chosen sites at a high elevation in order to secure the best conditions for the withering of the leaf which is essential for the production of flavoury tea. Originally many tea factories were old coffee factories converted, situated near the bed of a river to secure the advantages of water power. The principal machinery required consists of tea rollers, roll breakers, sifters, &c., and dryers. Suction gas engines are the usual source of power. The power required is roughly 10 to 12 horse-power per 100,000 lb. with a minimum of 25 h.p. for a small factory manufacturing about 120,000 lb. made tea.

Preparation for Export.—Tea is exported in metal lined wooden packages with the garden mark of the estate on which it is produced and is ready for consumption. It is usually blended and packed in packets before it actually reaches the consumers' hands.

Restriction.—In May, 1933, an Ordinance to control the export of tea was passed by the State Council as a part of a joint scheme for the regulation of the export of tea from the main producing countries. The Ordinance is to be operative for a period of five years. For the first year of assessment which ended on April 1, 1934, Ceylon's exportable quota was fixed at 213,794,225 lb. being 85 per cent. of the total exports of tea from the Island, in 1929. For the following year of restriction Ceylon is allowed to export 87½ per cent.

Prices.—The year 1934 opened with a strong market at an average of 76 cents per lb. Prices improved with quality to an average of 82

cents for the last sale in January and the first in February. Averages remained above 70 cents until the middle of March, when the market declined with minor recoveries, until the end of the year when 56 cents was recorded. The average price for the whole year was 66 cents against 54 cents for 1933 and the local monthly averages were:—

	Cents.		Cents.
January	89	July	63
February	79	August	66
March	72	September	59
April	67	October	61
May	66	November	61
June	62	December	57

A feature of the year was the narrow margin between prices of high, medium and low grown teas. At all the June auctions the high grown average was only 3 cents over the medium grown average and on three occasions that month only 4 cents over low grown. The price range, however, widened towards the end of the year as low grown prices declined.

Business throughout the year was very largely affected by this narrow margin, the tendency being to concentrate on prices rather than standard quality. The trading situation improved somewhat with the greater price range at the end of the year, owing to better quality from up-country. Continental and South American business was again handicapped by exchange difficulties.

Uncouponed Tea.—A total of approximately 7 million lb. of tea without export rights was offered at the weekly sales held at the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce, Colombo, and realized ruling rates less the Export Duties and the current price of Coupons, the latter varying from 32 to 42 cents per lb. during the year.

The annual average market prices* in certain years were:—1925, 96 cents per lb.; 1926, 99 cents; 1927, 94 cents; 1928, 85 cents; 1929, 81 cents; 1930, 75 cents; 1931, 57 cents; 1932, 42 cents; 1933, 54 cents; 1934, 66 cents; (see Diagram No. 5).

Rubber.

Acreage, Elevation, and Rainfall.—The estimated acreage under rubber in the Island is 606,000 acres. The rubber tree cultivated in Ceylon (*Hevea brasiliensis*) flourishes at elevations below 2,000 feet and requires a well distributed rainfall of not less than 80 inches per annum. It is cultivated to varying extents throughout the Island, chiefly in the Province of Sabaragamuwa, and in the Western, Central, and Southern Provinces.

Latex.—Rubber is the coagulated latex of the rubber tree obtained by tapping the trunk. The latex running from the cut—usually half the circumference—is collected in cups, removed to the factory, treated with acetic or formic acid to cause coagulation, crêped by machinery, and dried or coagulated in sheets and smoked. Rubber, as exported, is a raw product and requires treatment by manufacturers.

Planting.—Rubber is generally propagated from seed which is sown in nurseries, and, when the nursery plants are eighteen months to two years old, they are removed, have their tops and main roots cut back, and are planted into the new clearings as "stumps". Planting is carried out at varying distances, but 24 feet by 12 feet is a favourite

* According to local weekly sale averages.

DIAGRAM No. 5.

ANNUAL AVERAGE MARKET PRICES OF
TEA, RUBBER, DESICCATED COCONUT AND COPRA

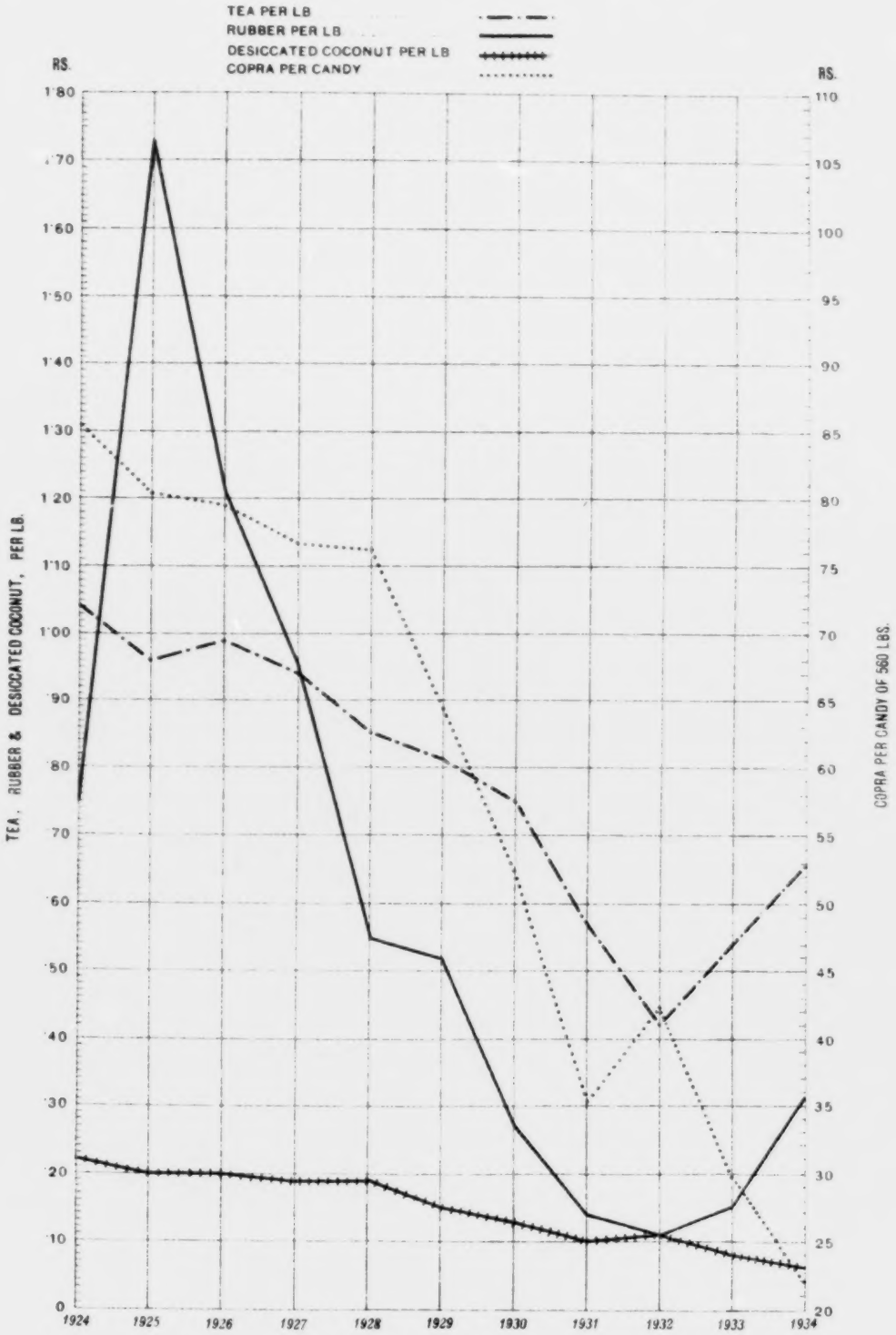

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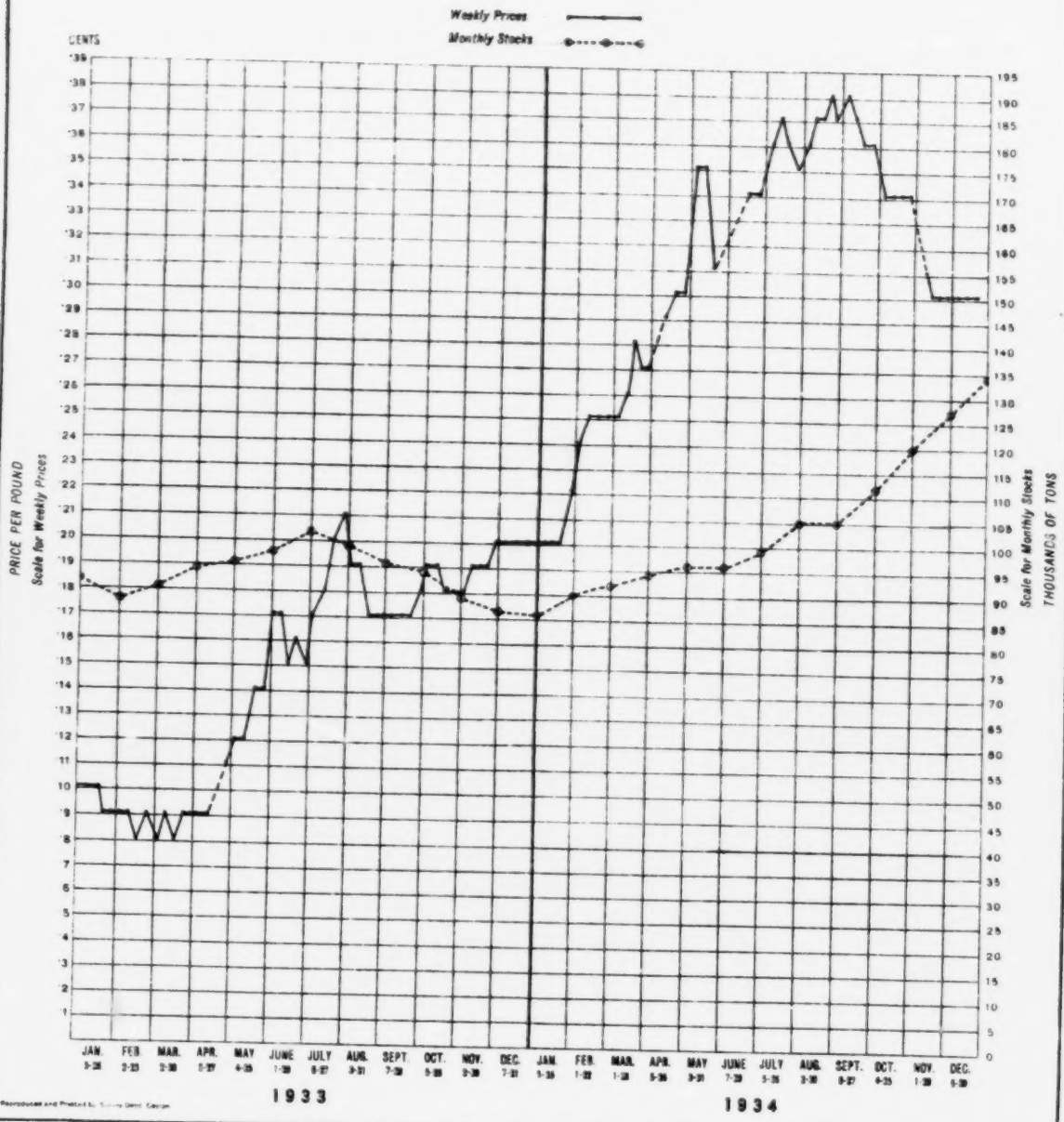
DIAGRAM No. 6.

AVERAGE WEEKLY COLOMBO PRICES AND

MONTHLY STOCKS OF RUBBER IN UNITED KINGDOM (LONDON AND LIVERPOOL)

FOR THE YEARS 1933 AND 1934.



1. 5. 35.

of many growers, as this allows of ample plants for thinning from the third year. The tree grows to a height of 30 to 40 feet and develops a heavy foliage.

Budding of Rubber.—Nothing has been done during the year under review but since 1929 the question of budding rubber has received considerable attention.

Imports of budwood and budded stumps of proved foreign clones have been made and estates have taken steps to find their high-yielding trees, with a view to using them as mother trees. Local mother-trees are under test on the stations of the Department of Agriculture and the Rubber Research Scheme, and every effort is being made to provide guidance to the planting community in this important matter.

Budding has rendered it possible to effect satisfactorily the selection of high-yielding stock, and the isolation of it from the heterogenous mixture which exists in rubber estates to-day. By vigorous selection and testing it should be possible to isolate strains of high-yielding trees, and thereby assure that improved strains of plants and seeds should be available when required for future plantings.

Cultivation.—The best time for cultivation is considered to be just before the wintering commences. Cattle manure, green manures, and artificial manures are all used. The approximate quantity of artificial manure used per annum per acre is up to 1,000 lb. Cover plants are used for soil conservation.

Tapping.—Various systems of tapping are in vogue, the commonest system in recent years has been that in which a half spiral cut is tapped on alternate days. Systems involving alternate periods of more intensive tapping followed by resting are now being tested with a view to reducing the cost of tapping. The unremunerative prices realized by rubber have effectively closed down any further planting in recent years and the introduction of the Rubber Control Ordinance will prevent any further extension of acreage under rubber during the 5 years period of control.

Manufacture.—Latex after coagulation is exported in the form of crêpe or smoked sheet and its preparation requires the use of considerable machinery more especially where rubber is prepared in the form of crêpe. Manufacture is standardized and the difference between the price of various grades is generally speaking not large.

Restriction.—In May, 1934, an Ordinance to control the export of Rubber was passed by the State Council as a part of a joint scheme for the regulation of the export of Rubber from the main producing countries. The Ordinance is to be operative for a period of five years. The Ceylon quota of export for any period of control will be the quantity of rubber named as the basic quota for that period or such percentage of that basic quota as shall be declared by His Excellency the Governor by notification in the *Government Gazette.*

The basic quota for the five years is as follows:—

	Tons.		Tons.
1934	77,500	1937	81,000
1935	79,000	1938	82,500
1936	80,000		

The Ceylon quota of export for the period of control beginning on June 1, 1934, and ending on December 31, 1934, was fixed as 88,246,666 lb. of dry rubber ".

Yield, Prices, &c.—The yield per acre varies considerably with the soil, age of the trees, rainfall, planting, treatment, &c., but may be said to range from 150 to 700 lb. per acre, 400 to 500 lb. per acre being considered a good all-round yield for an estate in full bearing. A very good tree over twelve years old will yield 10 lb. dry rubber per annum, while the average per tree in full bearing may be put at about 4 to 5 lb. per annum.

The year 1934 opened with the question of Rubber Restriction under definite consideration and the likelihood of its adoption led to a steady improvement in prices at the outset. This upward movement was somewhat moderated by the apprehension over a strike in the Motor Car Trade in the United States of America and the general industrial unrest in other important markets.

With the completion of the International Agreement at the end of April the market improved by nearly 2 cents but a further set-back occurred in May from the announcement of a more generous shipment quota for the remaining seven months of the year than was at first anticipated.

The heavy shipments in May resulted in a shortage in local supplies with the result that four weekly auctions had to be abandoned and only small quantities were offered during the second half of June and at most of the July auctions.

Nothwithstanding the adverse factors mentioned above there was a fairly steady rise in the monthly average prices up to the end of September. It was generally assumed that the 30 per cent. restriction for December would be continued in 1935 and when the notification of 25 per cent. for January/March was eventually made in October the market weakened again owing to heavy speculative selling and the anxiety caused by the reported attitude of the Dutch interests towards control. The latter information, although unfounded, was sufficient to put the market down and a decline set in over the last quarter.

The difference in price between the two standard grades at the beginning of the year was about 2 cents. This had widened to 4 cents by June but by the end of the year was less than 2 cents. There seems to be no explanation for this margin in the market values of crêpe and sheet.

The average monthly prices realized for top grades over the year are as follows:—

	Ribbed Smoked Sheet. Cts. per lb.	Crêpe Cts. per lb.	Average for Top Grades only. Cts. per lb.	London Average. *d.* per lb.
January	19·94	21·91	21	4·43
February	23·91	26·19	25	4·90
March	25·19	28·45	27	5·14
April	28·06	32·04	30	5·70
May	32·50	36·08	34	6·37
June	32·37	36·56	35	6·50
July	34·98	37·75	36	7·05
August	36·38	37·93	37	7·43
September	36·79	37·84	37	7·41
October	33·66	34·56	34	6·63
November	30·44	31·06	31	6·30
December	30·33	30·71	30	6·31

During the early part of the year there was a certain amount of business in forward positions for delivery mostly July/December from about 24½ cents up to 31 cents, but with the gradual improving market sellers were inclined to hold off any forward commitments. After control became operative there was a fair amount of forward business

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COCONUT TREE CLIMBER.

in rubber without export rights at 20 to 21 cents for the whole of 1935, but this also did not last long as the market for forward deliveries completely closed down for the rest of the year.

The sale of export rights was provided for under the Ordinance and there was considerable business during the year. The price of coupons was as high as 22 cents in July after which values declined with wide fluctuations, specially on the announcement of an issue of coupons to compensate for dealers' 1934 stocks having to be carried forward into 1935.

Owing to the uncertainty which prevailed as to whether sufficient rubber would be produced to accompany the coupons issued heavy selling took place and values dropped to as low as 4 cents. After this prices remained between 6 and 7 cents for some time when no doubt additional rubber was produced to take advantage of profitable sale resulting from the low coupon prices ruling. Towards the end of the year the coupon market improved again.

During the early months of the year there was a market for sole crêpe and prices remained fairly steady with only slight variations between 29½ cents and 33 cents although at one time 37 cents was reached. After May this business closed down completely.

The annual average market prices* in certain years were the following:—1925, Re. 1.73 per lb; 1926, Re. 1.21; 1927, 95 cents; 1928, 55 cents; 1929, 52 cents; 1930, 27 cents; 1931, 14 cents; 1932, 11 cents; 1933, 15 cents; 1934, 31 cents (see Diagram No. 5).

Labour.—The labour engaged is composed of Sinhalese and immigrant Indian Tamils. The usual requirement of labour is one labourer to 3 acres of rubber.

Research.—A scientific staff is maintained by the industry and is supported by a cess on exports for the purpose of investigating the scientific side of the growth and manufacture of rubber. Provision for this research work was made by Ordinance No. 10 of 1930.

Coconut.

Acreage, Area, &c.—It is estimated that approximately 1,100,000 acres are planted with coconuts. But cultivation on systematic lines may be considered to occupy about 900,000 acres. Along the coast of the Western and Southern Provinces planting has been done very closely and no systematic cultivation is carried out. Here the main product is toddy which is supplied to arrack distilleries; at the same time the manufacture of coir string and rope is an important subsidiary industry, especially in the hands of women. Elsewhere the coconut is cultivated mainly for the production of copra, and the extraction of oil therefrom, as well as the manufacture of desiccated coconut. Cultivation is confined mainly to elevations below 1,500 feet and a well distributed rainfall of 50 to 90 inches is required. The greater part of the acreage lies in the North-Western, Western, and Southern Provinces.

Cultivation.—Much can be done to increase the output of the tree by cultivation; by the use of concentrated manures containing nitrogen,

* Averages for top grades only (Ribbed Smoked Sheet and Contract Crepe) at local weekly sales.

3——J. N. 46868 (6/35)

potash, phosphoric acid, &c.; green manure, such as *crotalaria;* cattle manure; and occasional cultivation with modern implements. Young coconuts systematically cultivated and manured come into bearing much earlier than coconuts which are not so treated.

Costs.—The cost of opening land for coconuts varies considerably, but it may be put on the average at Rs. 400 to 600 an acre, spread over ten years, the expenses being greater in the first three years. The waiting period may be put at ten years. Land is available to be opened in coconuts, but only in the outdistricts, where a good deal of pioneering work, including the making of roads, combating wild animals, fever, &c., is necessary.

Labour.—The quantity of labour required for a coconut estate is generally worked out at one labourer for 10 acres. A small resident force is often maintained for draining, manuring, and tillage, which on some estates consists of about half Tamil and half Sinhalese. Frequently the plucking of the nuts and the manufacture of copra are done by a contractor, who supplies his own labour.

Labour on coconut estates does not earn such high wages as on tea and rubber properties. Plucking may cost about Re. 1.25 per 1,000 nuts.

Research.—The Coconut Research Scheme, which was established at Bandirippuwa Estate, Lunuwila, in 1933, is supported by a cess on exports. The scientific staff consists of a chief technical officer, who is also a Technological Chemist, a Soil Chemist, and a Geneticist, who are engaged in the investigation of problems connected with the growth of coconuts and the manufacture of coconut products. The third Wednesday in each month is set aside as Visitors' Day, when members of the staff are free to show visitors round the laboratories and the estate. Visitors are welcome at other times, but the scientific staff may not be able to give them individual attention.

The nut.—The principal product, from a commercial point of view, is the nut. The yield per palm on a cultivated estate is about 40 nuts per annum. The average yield is probably under 30 nuts per palm, though with cultivation in good districts up to and over 80 may be secured. The number of palms to the acre may vary from 50 to 90, the average being about 70. The palms come into bearing in about six years with intensive cultivation, but more usually take up to ten years. The nuts are generally picked six times a year. They are made into copra upon the estate which produces them, but some of the smaller properties sell their nuts to manufacturers. Considerable quantities are exported when the demand for nuts for the manufacturing of desiccated coconut is keen. The price rose owing to the increased demand for the manufactured products from Rs. 74 per 1,000 in 1913 to the maximum of Rs. 115 per 1,000 in 1920.

Prices.—Prices which opened at Rs. 21 per 1,000 followed the trend of both copra and coconut oil throughout the year and closed at Rs. 25.

Average of the monthly quotations recorded by the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce for 1934:—

	Per 1,000 nuts L.M.S. Rs. c.		Per 1,000 nuts L.M.S. Rs. c.
January ..	20 19	July ..	16 88
February ..	20 38	August ..	17 38
March ..	17 81	September ..	18 70
April ..	18 0	October ..	21 13
May ..	16 0	November ..	22 75
June ..	18 30	December ..	24 63

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DRINK FOR THE GODS.

Copra.—The most important manufactured product is copra. This is the dried kernel of the nut, and is used for the manufacture of coconut oil, which, again, is utilized for the production of margarine, soap, and other products. Poonac, a largely used cattle food, is the by-product in the manufacture of coconut oil from copra. The bulk of it is used locally, either as cattle food or as manure, but 509,026 cwt. valued at Rs. 1,496,038 were exported in 1933.

The number of nuts required to manufacture a candy (560 lb.) of copra varies from 900 to 1,500.

The value of the exports of copra is shown in Diagram No. 9.

Prices.—The market opened at Rs. 22.50 per candy and remained at about this level until March when prices fell to Rs. 19 but recovered to Rs. 20.50 in May at which price the market remained steady until August when prices gradually improved to Rs. 22.50. From October to the end of the year, there was a steady improvement in values and the year closed at Rs. 28.50 per candy.

Average of the monthly quotations recorded by the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce for 1934:—

	Estate No. 1 per Candy of 5 cwt. Rs. c.		Estate No. 1 per Candy of 5 cwt. Rs. c.
January ..	21 41	July ..	20 84
February ..	21 75	August ..	21 59
March ..	21 0	September ..	21 95
April ..	19 16	October ..	23 94
May ..	20 44	November ..	24 38
June ..	20 45	December ..	27 13

The annual average market prices* in certain years were:—1925, Rs. 80.36 per candy (560 lb.); 1926, Rs. 79.40; 1927, Rs. 76.88; 1928, Rs. 76.22; 1929, Rs. 64.47; 1930, Rs. 52.36; 1931, Rs. 35.06; 1932, Rs. 42.21; 1933, Rs. 29.75; 1934, Rs. 21.98 (see Diagram No. 5).

Copra prices are liable to considerable fluctuation according to the rates of freight and of exchange, &c. The market quotations are also liable to considerable variation, as regular public sales are not held as in the case of tea and rubber.

Coconut Oil.—Although a large quantity of copra is exported for the extraction of oil by the importers, a quantity of coconut oil is prepared in Ceylon. The traditional method of extraction consists in grinding the copra in a " chekku " consisting of a large wooden pestle, which is revolved by bullock power in a kind of stone mortar. This method is slow and wasteful, and modern mills are now working in Chilaw, Colombo, and other districts of Ceylon, hydraulic presses and expellers being in general use. Usually the locally manufactured coconut oil contains 1½ to 2 per cent. of free fatty acid, and a further refinement is necessary in the consuming country.

The value of the exports of coconut oil is shown in Diagram No. 9.

Prices.—The market opened in January at Rs. 160 per ton and gradually declined to Rs. 132.50 in April.

There was a slight improvement during May and June and prices touched Rs. 145, but receded again to Rs. 135 in July—towards the latter part of that month there was an upward tendency which continued for the rest of the year and the market closed at Rs. 175.

* The average prices for 1927 to 1934 are for top grades only; the averages for other years represent the lowest and highest overall weekly quotations received for all grades.

Average of the monthly quotations recorded by the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce for 1934:—

	Ordinary per Ton f.o.b. Rs. c.		Ordinary per Ton f.o.b. Rs. c.
January ..	.. 156 56	July ..	.. 141 72
February ..	.. 156 25	August ..	.. 145 31
March ..	.. 146 88	September ..	.. 146 88
April ..	.. 133 75	October ..	.. 155 94
May ..	.. 147 81	November ..	.. 155 78
June ..	.. 143 15	December ..	.. 169 84

The annual average market prices in certain years were:—1925, Rs. 543.17 per ton f.o.b., 1926, Rs. 539.36; 1927, Rs. 491.73; 1928, Rs. 489.02; 1929, Rs. 412.33; 1930, Rs. 351.63. 1931, Rs. 253.52; 1932, Rs. 283.75; 1933, Rs. 209.43; 1934, Rs. 149.98.

Desiccated Coconut.—Desiccated coconut is produced in Ceylon on a large scale, the conditions being favourable as the mills are either on the estates or easily accessible to them by water, road, or railway. The delivery of the fresh nuts, which are essential to the success of the manufacture, is thus a simple matter. Mills, many with elaborate machinery, have been erected in almost every district to cope with the demand. Some are capable of dealing with 50,000 nuts a day.

The value of the exports of desiccated coconuts is shown in Diagram No. 9.

Prices.—The year 1934 opened at 5¼ cents per lb. and continued without appreciative variation until October when the price touched 7 cents.

From October to the end of the year the market remained about this level and closed at the same same figure.

Average of the monthly quotations recorded by the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce for 1934:—

	Per lb. Rs. c.		Per lb. Rs. c.
January ..	.. 0 5	July ..	.. 0 5
February ..	.. 0 5	August ..	.. 0 5
March ..	.. 0 5	September ..	.. 0 6
April ..	.. 0 5	October ..	.. 0 7
May ..	.. 0 5	November ..	.. 0 7
June ..	.. 0 5	December ..	.. 0 7

The annual average market prices in certain years were:—1925, 20 cents per lb.; 1926, 20 cents; 1927, 19 cents; 1928, 19 cents; 1929, 16 cents; 1930, 13 cents; 1931, 10 cents; 1932, 11 cents; 1933, 8 cents; 1934, 6 cents (see Diagram No. 5).

Information regarding the manufacture of alcohol, &c., is shown under "Excise," page 44.

Coir, &c.—An important but somewhat unorganized industry, also dependent upon the coconut tree, is the manufacture of coir, which consists of the stout fibres forming the husk of the nut. These fibres are separated by rotting the husks in water, or by special machinery. The fibres are then graded and used for making brushes, yarn, mats, rope, &c., according to their quality. In many parts of Ceylon the coir fibres are separated by village labour, chiefly women, and sold by them to exporting firms.

Mills for the separation of the fibre by machinery have been established at several places in the Colombo, Negombo, and other districts.

Much of the output is used locally, but there is considerable export of bristle fibre, mattress fibre, and coir yarn. The value of the exports of coir is shown in Diagram No. 9.

Prices.—Although the record quantity of bristle fibre 207,560 cwt. was shipped in 1934, overproduction was responsible for bringing prices down to fresh low levels, and fibre millers experienced a most unprofitable year.

The market for fair quality three-tie bristle fibre opened in January at Rs. 5.20 per cwt. and remained steady at this figure to the end of March. The market then steadily declined until the low record price of Rs. 3.90 was reached in August. With this low price ruling, it was impossible for millers to work at a profit and certain mills were forced to close. This eventually resulted in a decrease in supplies and the market gradually improved, reaching Rs. 4.25 at the end of October and Rs. 4.40 at the November. The advance, however, was shortlived as mills began working again and by the end of the year the market had fallen back to Rs. 4 per cwt.

Average of the monthly quotations recorded by the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce for 1934:—

	3-tie per cwt. Rs. c.		3-tie per cwt. Rs. c.
January ..	.. 5 24	July ..	.. 4 83
February ..	.. 5 28	August ..	.. 3 99
March ..	.. 5 33	September ..	.. 4 16
April ..	.. 5 16	October ..	.. 4 21
May ..	.. 4 99	November ..	.. 4 36
June ..	.. 5 5	December ..	.. 4 5

Mattress Fibre.—The market for mattress fibre in January opened at Re. 1.45 per cwt. for No. 1 quality, and slowly advanced reaching Re. 1.60 in March and Re. 1.80 in June. Prices weakened suddenly in July to Re. 1.50, but this decline was shortlived, and with stocks in Colombo diminishing and a good consuming demand the market had risen to Re. 1.70 by September, Rs. 2 by November, and stood at Rs. 2.25 per cwt. at the close of the year.

Average of the monthly quotations recorded by the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce for 1934:—

	No. 1 per cwt. Rs. c.		No. 1 per cwt. Rs. c.
January ..	.. 1 49	July ..	.. 1 53
February ..	.. 1 62	August ..	.. 1 63
March ..	.. 1 59	September ..	.. 1 86
April ..	.. 1 69	October ..	.. 1 79
May ..	.. 1 78	November ..	.. 2 9
June ..	.. 1 79	December ..	.. 2 11

Coir Yarn.—The total export figures for coir yarn show again a slight increase over 1933, the surplus being 3,290 cwt. This increase was mainly taken up by Scandinavia, the demand from the United Kingdom remaining practically unchanged. On the other hand the temporary import embargo on Coir Yarn by Germany during the early part of 1934 resulted in a decrease of exports to this country of nearly 10 per cent. In spite of these restrictions on the part of Ceylon's best customer of coir yarn, prices remained remarkably steady, the chief average grade fluctuating between Rs. 8.25 and Rs. 9 per cwt., while fine grades showed a marked though slow advance and were quoted in December Rs. 2.50 per cwt. higher than at the beginning of the year.

Average of the monthly quotations recorded by the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce for 1934:—

	Per cwt. Rs. c.		Per cwt. Rs. c.
January	8 53	July	10 50
February	9 28	August	10 41
March	9 47	September	10 38
April	9 50	October	10 0
May	9 50	November	9 31
June	9 80	December	9 38

The annual average market prices* in certain years for bristle fibre were:—1925, Rs. 7.62 per cwt.; 1926, Rs. 7.46; 1927, Rs. 8.37; 1928, Rs. 8.53; 1929, Rs. 9.01; 1930, Rs. 8.23; 1931, Rs. 6.65; 1932, Rs. 7 95; 1933, Rs. 6.35; 1934, Rs. 4.71; for mattress fibre*:—1925, Rs. 2.38 per cwt.; 1926, Rs. 3.08; 1927, Rs. 3.67; 1928, Rs. 3.07; 1929, Rs. 2.23; 1930, Re. 1.40; 1931, Re. 1.41; 1932, Re. 1.25; 1933, Re. 1.59; 1934, Re. 1.75; for coir yarn:—1925, Rs. 16.26 per cwt.; 1926, Rs. 15.15; 1927, Rs. 16.75; 1928, Rs. 17.45; 1929, Rs. 14.34; 1930, Rs. 12.73; 1931, Rs. 10.20; 1932, Rs. 8.42; 1933, Rs. 7.96; 1934, Rs. 9.69.

Cacao.

Commercial cacao is produced from the seeds of the plant *Theobroma cacao*. The variety now grown in Ceylon is the *Forastero*.

Elevation and Rainfall, &c.—The cultivation of cacao is restricted to favourably situated valleys at an elevation between 500 to 2,000 feet which receive a well regulated rainfall of 60 to 80 inches and are protected from high winds. Plantations lie almost entirely in the Kandy and Matale Districts of the Central Province. Of an approximate acreage of 34,000 acres under cacao in the Island 55 per cent. is in the former district and 33 per cent. in the latter.

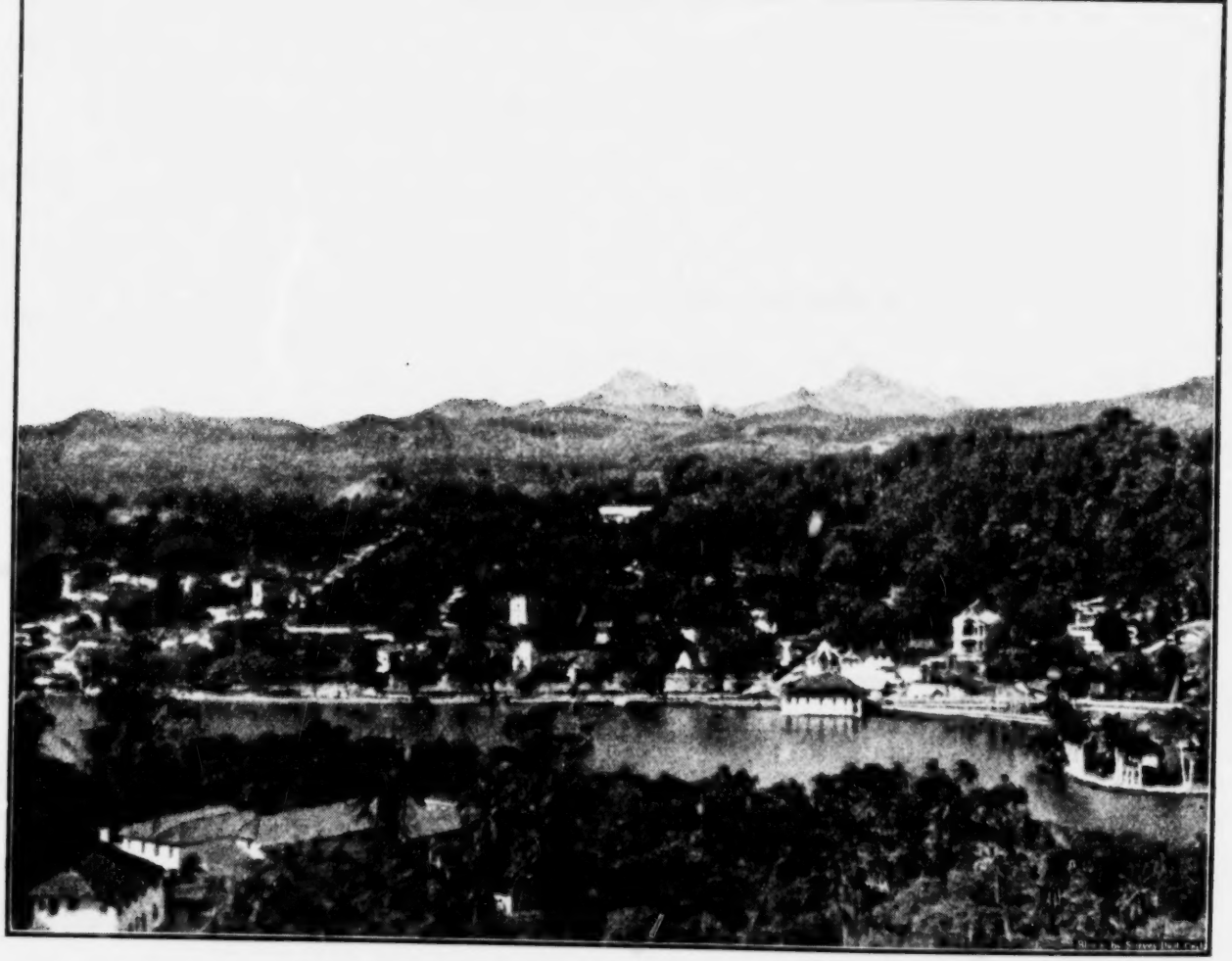
As with tea the number of peasant holdings ranging between 1 and 5 acres is not inconsiderable, but these small gardens receive but little attention from the owners in regard to systematic cultivation or the control of pests and diseases.

Labour.—The labour required for a cacao estate works out at about one labourer for 2 acres. Tamils generally form the bulk of the labour force, but Sinhalese are also employed for lopping, &c.

Planting.—The trees are generally planted 15 by 15 feet apart. Holes 3 feet deep by 1½ feet across are dug and filled with carefully prepared soil. Seed at stake or basket plants are generally used for planting. As the young plant requires to be carefully shaded, shade trees must be planted at the same time between the rows about the same distance apart as the cacao. The dadap has been found the most suitable.

Crops.—Cacao commences to bear fruit about the fifth year, two crops a year being then gathered. The " Spring " crop picked in May, June, and July is small. The main or " Autumn " crop is gathered in November, December, and January. The period from the blossom to the ripe pod is five months. The average crop per acre varies considerably in Ceylon. The general average is about 3½ to 4 cwt. per acre, although the yields from some well-cultivated estates have reached the very high annual average of 8½ cwt. per acre.

* The average prices for 1928 to 1934 are for top grades only. Averages for other years represent the lowest and highest overall weekly quotations received for all grades.



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KANDY.

Cultivation.—The usual method of cultivation is to fork the soil every two years, and apply about 700 to 800 lb. per acre of artificial manures two to three months later. The manure used is a general mixture containing nitrogen, phosphoric acid, and potash.

Pruning and Removing Suckers.—Suckers are removed as soon as they appear on the cacao trees, and periodical pruning is done when the foliage becomes too thick and heavy.

Weeding.—Cacao estates are kept clean weeded from the time of opening, the average cost of weeding is about Rs. 6 per acre per annum.

Picking.—The flowers and fruit of the tree grow in a characteristic manner direct upon the trunk and branches of the trees. The fruit is ellipsoidal and of considerable size, and the beans are covered with pulp or mucilage. Ripening is generally indicated by a change of colour on the outside of the pods. The fruit on the stems and main branches is picked by means of an ordinary pruning knife, while that on the higher parts of the tree is dealt with by cacao hooks. The picking gang goes round as often as necessary, the period generally being between a fortnight and three weeks. The pods are cut down by men or boys, who are followed by women, who gather the pods and heap them together. The fruits are opened the same day, and the beans carted or carried to the fermenting shed. One labourer will pick 1 to 1½ bushels of wet beans per day. This is equal to about 37 lb. of the cured product.

Fermentation.—At the fermenting shed the beans, covered with mucilage, are heaped into boxes or vats for fermentation. This process is accompanied by rise of temperature and by decomposition of the pulp surrounding the beans. During the fermentation the pulp becomes more liquid and gradually flows away, the bottom of the fermenting boxes being perforated and raised off the ground to admit of this. The period of fermentation in Ceylon is about 36 hours. After 12 hours the beans are given a light washing and turned over into another box. They are again given a heavier washing at the end of the fermenting period of 36 hours, when they are carried or carted to the barbecue or curing house.

Curing.—The best method of curing is the gradual drying of the beans in the sun on barbecues covered with coir matting. By this method the best quality is obtained. The period varies from five to seven days, according to the temperature. Most of the picking has, however, to be done during the wet season, and a greater part of the crop is cured by artificial means. The most popular curing house is a two- or three-floor building, the floors being constructed of strips of wood covered over with coir matting, on which the freshly-fermented beans are spread. The building is heated with hot air conducted by pipes placed under each floor, the hot air being obtained by means of a fan, which drives the air through the heating apparatus and then through the pipes. The temperature in the building during the curing process is kept between 110 and 120 degrees Fahrenheit.

Grading and Sorting.—After the beans are cured, they are sorted into different grades: first quality, which is composed of only the large round beans; second quality, flat and small beans; and third quality, known as garblings, consisting of the shells and broken beans.

Packing.—Cacao after grading is packed in bags (112 lb. to a bag), when it is ready for export. Most of the cacao from Ceylon is shipped in this form.

Prices.—The cacao industry, in common with most others of the Island is passing through trying times. While local values on the whole have been above those realized for foreign varieties, the market has been most disappointing from a producer's point of view.

Crops during the year 1934 were smaller than usual, the severe drought experienced early in the year and also the lack of cultivation (estates not being able to afford artificial manure at the prices realized for their crops) have had the effect of reducing yields. The big crop, however, was ready for harvesting earlier than usual and this with the carry-over from the previous year increased the exports for 1934 by about 1,831,000 lb.

Values for No. 1 cacao ranged from Rs. 18 to Rs. 30 per cwt., while really good bold well cured and graded cacao fetched up to Rs. 32 and Rs. 33 per cwt.

The export duty on cacao was removed as from October 6, 1934, but the relief afforded was very small indeed in view of the plight of the industry.

It is understood that many producing countries are trying to regulate exports, with a view to improving prices, and matters seem to be taking definite shape so far as the Accra crop is concerned.

The future position is rather uncertain and it is difficult to forecast the trend of the forward market. The general belief, however, is that cacao at the present level of price is one of the cheapest commodities on the market and a gradual and steady but by no means spectacular advance in values is looked for.

The Philippines again heads the list of buyers although a fair quantity was shipped to the United Kingdom, United States of America, Canada, and Central America. Exports, especially to the last named country, would have been heavier but for the protective tariff which was imposed giving preference to Tabasco and other Central American varieties.

Average of the Monthly Quotations recorded by the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce for 1934.

	Estate No. 1 per cwt. Rs. c.		Estate No. 1 per cwt. Rs. c.
January ..	.. 20 0	July ..	.. 26 6
February ..	.. 21 0	August ..	.. 25 94
March ..	.. 23 13	September ..	.. 26 0
April ..	.. 20 38	October ..	.. 22 88
May ..	.. 22 38	November ..	.. 21 75
June ..	.. 23 35	December ..	. 22 25

The annual average market prices* in certain years were:—1925, Rs. 33.17 per cwt.; 1926, Rs. 30.41; 1927, Rs. 52.22; 1928, Rs. 58.89; 1929, Rs. 53.46; 1930, Rs. 37.51; 1931, Rs. 29.71; 1932, Rs. 27.71; 1933, Rs. 25.09; 1934, Rs. 22.99.

The value of the exports of cacao is shown in Diagram No. 9.

* The average prices for 1927 to 1934 are for top grades only. Averages for other years represent the lowest and highest overall weekly quotations received for all grades.

Cinnamon.

Cinnamon, once the main export, still occupies a place—though a minor one—in the trade of the Island. Plantation in earliest days was mainly confined to the Western Province, of which Negombo was the most important centre. Much of this area was replaced with coconuts in subsequent years, but the extension of cultivation took place in the Southern Province where at the present time it is estimated that there is more land under cinnamon than in the Western Province. The approximate total acreage is 26,000 acres, of which 58 per cent. is in the Southern Province (Galle District 40 per cent.) and 41 per cent. in the Western Province (Negombo area 30 per cent.).

The industry is entirely in the hands of Ceylonese. The number of large properties of 100 acres and over in extent is limited and these receive systematic attention. The majority of plantations are small areas of 10 to 25 acres in extent.

The Tree.—The cinnamon tree may grow to the height of 20 to 30 feet, and the trunk may be upwards of 3 feet in circumference. The trees cultivated to produce the cinnamon of commerce are coppiced, and long willowy shoots are produced, growing to a height of about 10 feet and to the size of a fair-sized walking stick. The shoots are cut and the bark is peeled off, and rolled into quills, which constitute the cinnamon of commerce.

Cinnamon Cultivation.—If the soil is good, branches may be cut for barking from the fourth year. The tree blossoms in January, in April the fruit is ripe, and the cutting is done from May to October. When the tree is seen to bear fruit well it is in good health, and the bark will peel without difficulty. The sticks are gathered by boys and tied into bundles with coir strings; they are then removed to the peeling stores.

The object of the methods employed is to make the bark up into quills, a quill being a rod of cinnamon resembling a thin cane 4 feet in length; the pieces of bark when stripped are therefore placed round the sticks, both with a view to preserving their shape and as a convenience for the next operation.

Skinning.—They are now allowed to remain for three to six hours, when fermentation takes place, and the bark is ready for skinning. This treatment of the bark leaves only that part which has the desired delicate taste; it is of a pale yellow colour and a parchment-like texture. The bark is now left to ferment and dry, which if the weather be favourable takes about 30 minutes.

The next process is that of forming the quills. The smaller pieces are inserted into the larger, and in the process of drying the quills form rods. They are afterwards rolled into shape and made up into bundles.

Cinnamon oil is distilled from the chips and trimmings of the quills as well as from the leaves.

The commercial cinnamon products are the quills, the chips, and the oil. The best quality is fine cinnamon prepared from tender bark.

The chips are prepared by scraping or chipping the bark after removing the outer bark.

Prices.—The year under review has been a slightly better one for the cinnamon industry than its two predecessors. Price fluctuations

were fairly heavy, especially during the second part of the year, and the average price level was about 20 per cent. higher than in the previous year.

The lowest prices were recorded in January and February with 18 cents and 25 cents for Hamburg No. II. and 0/0000 respectively and the peak was reached in October when these two grades fetched as much as 40 and 42 cents.

The main reason for the substantial rise in prices during September and October was the drought experienced during the summer months. Furthermore many villagers neglected their cinnamon land in favour of tea and rubber, the cultivation of which was more profitable, and these two factors combined resulted in a shortage of cinnamon which is also reflected by a decrease of about 8 per cent. in the total exports as compared with 1933.

As regards distribution of exports, business with many European countries, notably Germany and Spain, was made difficult by exchange and import restrictions as well as political disturbances, which conditions account for a decrease in exports to these countries. The same also applies to business to various Central and South American States. On the other hand a notable increase in exports to the United States is to be recorded.

The market for cinnamon chips followed in general the trend for cinnamon quills. Although the total quantity of cinnamon chips exported, *i.e.*, 6,081 cwt., is the smallest for the last 10 years, its value is higher than the shipments made in 1933.

Average of the monthly quotations recorded by the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce for 1934:—

	Quills (Fine 0–0000 per lb.) Rs. c.	Chips* per Candy of 5 cwt. Rs. c.		Quills (Fine 0–0000 per lb.) Rs. c.	Chips* per Candy of 5 cwt. Rs. c.
January	0 26	23 75	July	0 26	28 81
February	0 29	28 75	August	0 26	28 19
March	0 28	30 0	September	0 32	30 55
April	0 28	30 31	October	0 41	38 44
May	0 27	30 63	November	0 36	41 0
June	0 27	29 50	December	0 32	34 63

The annual average market prices† of quills in certain years were:— 1925, 88 cents per lb.; 1926, Re. 1.14; 1927, Re. 1.35; 1928, Re. 1.29; 1929, Re. 1.15; 1930, 59 cents; 1931, 37 cents; 1932, 28 cents; 1933, 25 cents; 1934, 29 cents; of chips: 1925, Rs. 84.54 per candy; 1926, Rs. 93.79; 1927, Rs. 102.77; 1928, Rs. 105.72; 1929, Rs. 96.86; 1930, Rs. 56.41; 1931, Rs. 38.92; 1932, Rs. 26.40; 1933, Rs. 20.64; 1934, Rs. 30.64.

An acre will yield about 120 lb. quills.

Citronella Oil.

Citronella oil grass is a large coarse grass growing 3 to 4 feet high, cultivated in Ceylon (and of late years in Java) for its essential oil, which is obtained from the leaves by distillation. The grass grows in any ordinary soil, and thrives best in a moist and hot atmosphere. It

* Sifted free from sand and dust (in bags of 56 lb. nett).

† The average prices for 1927 to 1934 are for top grades only. Averages for other years represent the lowest and highest overall weekly quotations received for all grades.

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DALADA MALIGAWA.

flourishes up to an elevation of 2,000 feet, but its cultivation is confined entirely to the Southern Province where the acreage under this crop is estimated to be 33,000 acres, of which 62 per cent. is in the Matara District and the remaining 38 per cent. in the Hambantota District. Cultivation is in the hands of the Ceylonese. The grass is readily propagated by division (seed being rarely produced), and may be planted about 2 by 3 feet apart in rows. Permanent shade is unnecessary, and the cultivation is very simple, weeding being the chief requirement. The clumps are ready for cutting in about eight months from time of planting. Two cuttings a year may be obtained, and about 40 lb. of marketable oil per acre is an estimated annual yield. The oil is of a strong aromatic odour; it is exported for use in scenting soaps, perfumery, &c., and is also a preventive against the bites of mosquitoes and leeches.

Prices.—The market opened in 1934 at 65-66 cents per lb. and remained steady until the end of February when there was a drop to 60 cents. By the end of March the price was down to 57 cents and declined further in April to 53 cents. There was a temporary improvement in May, but the market was weak throughout June and fell away in July to 46-47 cents. In August prices improved, supplies being short owing to the long drought, and remained steady at 52-53 cents until the end of the year.

While most countries improved their imports of Ceylon citronella oil, the figures for both the United States of America and Germany show a falling off. These decreases are, however, compensated for by the increased shipments to the United Kingdom and Holland.

Average of the monthly quotations recorded by the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce for 1934:—

	Per lb. Rs. c.		Per lb. Rs. c.
January	0 65	July	0 47
February	0 66	August	0 48
March	0 59	September	0 52
April	0 55	October	0 53
May	0 56	November	0 52
June	0 52	December	0 53

The annual average market prices in certain years were:—1925, Re. 1.37 per lb.; 1926, 99 cents; 1927, 77 cents; 1928, 93 cents; 1929, Re. 1.06; 1930, Re. 1.12; 1931, 80 cents; 1932, 94 cents; 1933, 87 cents; 1934, 55 cents.

Tobacco.

Acreage and Localities.—The estimated acreage under this crop in the Island is 14,000 acres, of which a little over half is found in the Jaffna District of the Northern Province, where great care is given to cultivation. The methods adopted are peculiar to this area and the manufacture of the leaf gives rise to the most important industry in the district. Another variety of leaf is grown in the Central Province which claims about 21 per cent. of the total acreage under the crop. Dumbara in the Kandy District is a particularly favoured area while in the Matale District the crop is of some importance to the peasant, besides there being a small manufacture of cigars and pipe tobacco from the local leaf as in the case in Dumbara. Tobacco is also grown to the extent of about 1,500 acres in the Kurunegala District where the method

of manufacture to produce a chewing tobacco differs from that adopted in Jaffna. Elsewhere cultivation is carried out in the North-Central and Eastern Provinces to less extents.

Dumbara Tobacco.—A high grade of Ceylon tobacco is grown in the Kandy District. The cultivation in this district begins with the slight showers of the early months of the year, and depends for its success upon the light rains which fall in April, May, and June with the advent of the south-west monsoon. Tobacco is rarely grown in this district upon the same land in two consecutive years, it being customary to cultivate the land in other crops and then to allow it to lie fallow for some years before another tobacco crop is taken off. In very dry weather, if water is available, hand watering is resorted to. Otherwise the crop depends entirely upon rainfall for its success, and is a speculative one. Fairly satisfactory attention is given by some growers to curing and fermentation, but a finer product would be procured if greater care were given to manufacture.

The leaves of the Dumbara tobacco burn with a good white ash, and are manufactured in the Island into cigars, which command a ready sale, and would be in greater demand if they were more uniform in quality. A large portion of the Central Province crop is sold to local manufacturers of cigars for use as wrappers for the Jaffna types. The leaves are smaller and of finer texture than the Jaffna types, and have good burning qualities.

The Dumbara types of tobacco are also grown in other districts. The system of curing and fermenting differs somewhat in different areas, and the final product is not of such high quality as that produced in the Central Province.

Jaffna Tobacco.—The Jaffna types consist of two kinds. These are locally known as the smoking and chewing kinds. Both are large-leaved, coarse tobaccos, the chewing type being of more vigorous and coarse growth than the smoking type.

Jaffna Cultivation.—The cultivation of tobacco at Jaffna is an interesting study. The lands are well ploughed and manured with cattle or sheep manure or with green leaves, and reduced to a fine tilth. Nurseries for seedlings are well prepared, and the seedlings planted out carefully and systematically. Work begins with the north-east rains, and during the early part of the growing period the rainfall may be sufficient to maintain satisfactory growth. During dry weather and from the end of December onwards the tobacco plants are irrigated by wells. In the middle of the growing season this irrigation has to be thoroughly carried out. During the early part of the growing period thorough cultivation of the land is carried on, so as to prevent its becoming " caked " and to allow of the maximum growth for the plants. All plants, except those required for seed purposes, are topped at a height of about 4 feet, and when they begin to yellow they are harvested. The whole plant is cut down and allowed to " quail " for a day in the sun. In the afternoon the plant is separated into individual leaves, each being left attached to a piece of the stem. These are then taken for withering in an open shady shed. Fermentation differs slightly in different localities in its details, and the curing of the smoking and chewing types requires different treatment. Chewing types are harvested by cutting of the leaves, commencing from the

Manufacture.—The fruit is collected by women and children, and is manufactured into either (1) bleached or (2) green dried. In the former case the fruit is bleached, soaked, and dried in sulphur fumes, the process being repeated until the required pale colour is secured, and the ends are clipped off either by hand or by a clipping machine. In the latter case the fruits are merely dried in the sun.

Acreage.—The total acreage under cardamoms is estimated to be 6,000 acres, of which 82 per cent. is confined to the Central Province—approximately 2,500 acres in the Kandy District, 1,500 acres in the Nuwara Eliya District, and 1,000 acres in the Matale District. About 1,000 acres are found in the Kegalla and Ratnapura Districts (Province of Sabaragamuwa). The bulk of the plantations is in the hands of European owners, but the number of small gardens of a few acres in size in the hands of peasants is not inconsiderable.

Prices.—The export figure of 3,441 cwt. for 1934 shows a further increase in shipments of 280 cwt.

Bleached kinds have practically disappeared from the local market and shipments are almost entirely of green kinds.

The prices obtainable for the first nine months of the year were poor, the market opening with an average of 88 cts. per lb. for January dropping to 78 cts. per lb. in May and showing only a slight improvement during the succeeding months. In October, however, considerable orders from Indian buyers were received, due to the partial failure of the crops in that country, and prices advanced to about Re. 1. The demand continued keen until the end of the year when good parcels fetched about Re. 1.15 per lb. and even unattractive sorts of poor colour sold readily round the rupee basis.

Average of the monthly quotations recorded by the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce for 1934:—

	Green per lb. Rs. c.		Green per lb. Rs. c.
January	0 88	July	0 89
February	0 93	August	0 92
March	0 88	September	0 89
April	0 86	October	1 1
May	0 78	November	1 2
June	0 84	December	1 4

The annual average market prices* in certain years were:—1925, Rs. 3.42 per lb.; 1926, Rs. 2.44; 1927, Rs. 2.54; 1928, Rs. 2.50; 1929, Rs. 2.22; 1930, Re. 1.69; 1931, Re. 1.67; 1932, Re. 1.33; 1933, 95 cents; 1934, 91 cents.

Arecanuts.†

Conditions.—The arecanut palm is grown in all village gardens in the wetter districts of the Island. It produces heavy crops of fruits, and provides straight stems, which are used for the erection of temporary structures. Pure cultivations of the palm similar to those to be found in Southern India are rarely seen in Ceylon, although in the Kegalla District there are some fairly extensive pure plantations. The area under arecanuts is about 69,000 acres.

* The average prices for 1927 to 1934 are for top grades only. Averages for other years represent the lowest and highest overall weekly quotations received for all grades.

† Although in point of value of exports arecanuts rank between rubber and cacao, this sub-section is inserted here, as the cultivation is not organized, and insufficient details are available regarding it.

top of the plant. All inferior broken leaves and those portions of the stalks which are not attached to the leaves are either sold to the manufacturers for making nicotine extracts or are used for manurial purposes. Conditions of sale demand that portions of the stalk should be attached to the leaves in the majority of cases.

There are certain lands on which the chewing type alone can be cultivated, while others are well known for their production of high grade smoking types. Tobacco from certain localities always commands higher prices than the ruling market rates, while elsewhere only a low grade tobacco is produced. The smoking tobaccos are sold to manufacturers for the local manufacture of what is known throughout the whole Island as the "Jaffna cheroot". Some of the chewing types are sold locally for chewing with the betel leaf, lime, and arecanut, but the bulk of this type is exported to Travancore, where the Jaffna tobaccos are eagerly sought after. Travancore has fixed a quota for Jaffna tobacco. Jaffna tobacco growers have organized themselves into a co-operative society and plans are being made to establish a selling agency at Travancore.

In 1934, 99 per cent. of the exports of unmanufactured tobacco went to British India while manufactured tobacco was exported only to the Maldive Islands.

The costs of cultivation of a tobacco crop in the Jaffna District are heavy, considerable sums being expended upon manures, cultivation, and irrigation. In seasonable years, when prices are high, the profits are large. In other years expenses are barely covered, but in general the better lands will yield average profits of between Rs. 300 to Rs. 450 per acre, while profits of Rs. 600 to Rs. 800 per acre have been secured in good years. The average price of the Jaffna product varies from Rs. 20 to Rs. 40 per 1,000 leaves.

The Travancore markets some fifteen years ago closed to Jaffna tobaccos, but were subsequently reopened. The critical situation demanded that experiments with other types of tobacco should be undertaken. These have been carried out upon a Government experiment station, and it has been demonstrated that White Burley tobacco of good quality capable of realizing 1*s.* 6*d.* per lb. on the London market can be satisfactorily grown. The Government has evolved a purchase scheme for White Burley tobacco which is exported to England. The exports of this tobacco have been as follows:—

Year.	lb.	Year.	lb.	Year.	lb.
1924	.. 4,701	1928	.. 30,688	1932	.. 10,901
1925	.. 15,057	1929	.. 25,312	1933	.. 14,933
1926	.. 18,535	1930	.. 18,652	1934	.. 22,060
1927	.. 13,328	1931	.. 9,212		

Cardamoms.

Uses.—Cardamoms are of commercial value on account of the spice obtained from them, which is well known to cooks and confectioners, and is used in pharmacopoeia as a deadener of tastes and a medicine.

Habitat, &c.—The commercial value of the plant lies in the fruit, which is borne on racemes rising from the ground. The plant itself—*Elettaria Cardamomum*—grows in stools or clumps under the shade of forest trees at elevations between 2,800 and 4,000 feet, with a rainfall of 115 to 150 inches a year.

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PLOUGHING THE RICE FIELDS.

There are several varieties of arecanuts grown, and the respective values of these are well known to the purchasers of fruits. Little care is, however, taken in the selection of fruits for planting, and no attempts have been made to improve the local types. Planting of arecanuts still continues in village holdings, but in many instances this palm is being replaced by the coconut.

The Fruit.—The fruits of the arecanut palm are harvested when ripe, and are sold in their unhusked state in all the bazaars and markets of the Island. The dried product is also readily procurable in the majority of boutiques. It is cut into thin shavings, which are used for chewing with the betel leaf, lime, and occasionally tobacco, by most of the village population of the Island. The price of unhusked arecanuts is about 30 cents per hundred, of husked nuts 35 cents per hundred.

Arecanuts are generally exported to British and foreign India and the Maldive Islands, but practically the whole of exports in 1934 went into British India.

Foodstuffs.

Paddy or Rice.

If Hill paddy (*elvi*) is excluded, it may be said that the cultivation of paddy in Ceylon is based upon a plentiful supply of water. Not only are the plants dependent upon a good supply in all stages up to the ripening period, but the processes of cultivation in all parts of Ceylon, except some of the most northerly, are dependent upon it.

Rain-water Cultivation.—Cultivation without the help of irrigation is carried on, not only in dry districts like Jaffna, but also in wetter parts like the Kandy District. The success of the crop is entirely dependent upon a sufficient and reasonable rainfall, and upon the soil being capable of retaining the water for a fairly long period in order to tide over the rainless intervals. Should the rains fall after the paddy has been sown, the crop will perish, and then the cultivator must resow his field with a paddy which can mature in the remainder of the season, or lose the season entirely. Similarly, if the rains are late, the earlier maturing varieties of paddy must be sown.

Irrigation.—When paddy is grown under irrigation, the water may be supplied by springs, streams (*elas*), wells, or reservoirs (" tanks "). Cultivation under streams may be seen in the Central and Uva Provinces, and under tanks in the drier Eastern, Northern, and North-Central Provinces.

Asweddumization.—In all cases where a system of irrigation is employed, the land must be " asweddumized," or prepared for paddy. Should the paddy area not be level, it is necessary to terrace it. This terracing is brought to a high level of perfection in the hilly districts. Distribution channels convey the irrigation water to the upper plots, and drains carry off the surplus water.

Preparation for Sowing.—In the preparation for sowing, ploughing may be done in the dry, or if the rains fall or water is available, sufficient water may be allowed on to the field to soften the ground. This is then lightly ploughed by means of small wooden ploughs drawn by buffaloes or cattle. Small iron ploughs are also employed in some districts, and their use is slowly extending. In some districts and in some fields of considerable depth ploughing is not done, the preparation

of the soil being carried out by puddling with buffaloes or by digging with hoes. During the first ploughing the weeds are partially buried. About ten to twenty days after the first ploughing a second ploughing is given. The weeds are then still further buried, and the ground made softer and muddier. Between the first and second ploughings in the Central Province green manuring is carried on. Leaves and twigs are buried at the second ploughing, and in some districts special green manure crops are grown for ploughing in. After a lapse of another week or ten days a third ploughing may be carried out. This is generally adopted in the Central Province, but in other provinces this third ploughing is not general. By means of this ploughing the soil is converted into mud of the consistency desired for sowing upon. Instead of the plough, buffaloes are often employed to trample the muddy soil until the desired consistency is attained. The mudding is followed by a rough levelling by means of the "*poruwa*," a levelling board dragged along by a pair of buffaloes or by cattle. This does not leave the surface smooth enough for sowing, so that it is followed by work with hand levelling boards. At the same time shallow channels are made to conduct the surplus water from the surface, which is now quite smooth. The field is then ready for sowing.

Manuring.—Artificial fertilizers, such as bone meal, have been applied to a certain extent in the past, but the use of ammonium compound of phosphoric acids is now being popularized. These are applied at the second or third ploughings or at the time of sowing.

Sowing.—Seed is prepared for sowing by soaking it in water for 24-36 hours. It is then placed in a flat heap on leaves of plantain or colocasia and covered so as to retain warmth and exclude air. At the end of two or three days, if germination is satisfactory, the seed will have begun to sprout. The sprouted seeds are then separated from one another and sown broadcast on the field.

Although the advantages of transplanting paddy seedlings have been abundantly demonstrated, not much transplanting is done in Ceylon, except in the Central Province and Kegalla District of Sabaragamuwa. At present the cultivator prefers, in the majority of cases, to broadcast and then thin out. When the seedlings are well established, *i.e.*, in about six weeks from sowing, the fields are weeded by the women. At the same time thinning out is done in places where the seedlings are too thick, some of those so removed being used to fill up gaps where the sowing has been too thin.

Transplanting.—In transplanting, the seeds are germinated as usual and then sown in specially prepared nurseries. When the seedlings are from four to six weeks old, they are removed from the nursery and planted at regular intervals in the fields. Although the expenses of working are increased, this is much more than counterbalanced by the increased yields obtained. The plants grow freely and weeds are partially smothered, any weeding necessary being very easily carried out. Transplanting cannot be carried out, however, when the water supply is not reliable, or when fields are excessively marshy.

The crop receives very little attention, apart from watering, weeding, and watching against birds, until the approach of the ripening period. When the plants begin to mature, they first take on a yellow colour, and, at this point, the cultivator drains the water from the field and allows the paddy to ripen.

Reaping.—Reaping is always done with the sickle, and the result is that a long and ragged stubble is left on the field. This remains until it is time to prepare for the next crop. The sheaves of paddy are put on one side as they are reaped and allowed to dry. After this, they are carried to the threshing-floor, which has been carefully prepared in readiness.

Threshing.—Threshing methods vary in different districts. In general, the dried sheaves are spread out on the threshing-floor, and buffaloes or cattle yoked together are driven over them round and round until all the grains have been rubbed off the stalks. The straw is then raked off, the paddy collected and handed over to the winnowers, who separate the empty grains from the good ones.

Seasons.—There are two paddy-growing seasons, both of which are made use of for the cultivation of the same tract of fields when sufficient labour and water are available. The Maha crop is sown from the end of August to the middle of October, according to the district. The harvest from this crop is reaped in February or March. The Yala crop season commences with sowing in March-April, the harvest being reaped in July to September. The corresponding Tamil seasons are called Munmari and Pinmari or Kalapokam and Sirupokam. Generally speaking, six and four months are required for the respective Maha and Yala crops. In some districts sowings take place between Maha and Yala seasons for a *meda* or *iddi* (Tamil) crop.

Improvements.—Considerable improvements in paddy cultivation can be effected. Transplanting could become more general, greater attention be given to manuring, the variety of seed sown, improved implements for tillage and the cleaner threshing of the crop. The Government, through the Department of Agriculture, has undertaken a considerable amount of research work in paddy in recent years as a result of which pure strains are now raised in cultivators' fields on thousands of acres especially in the North-Central, Northern, and Southern Provinces. These strains are giving increased yields up to ten bushels an acre over the kinds previously grown. Demonstrations of the value of manuring and seed supply through a system of Government and private seed farms are being widely organized.

Varieties.—The varieties of paddy grown in Ceylon fall into three groups, according to the time necessary for their maturing. In the first group come those paddies such as Mavi, Hatiel, and Suduvi, which take at least six months to mature, while in the second group come varieties such as Danahala, Murungan, and Balavi, which mature in three months or less. An intermediate class contains those varieties which mature in four to five months.

The " age " of a particular variety, however, depends largely upon climatic factors such as rainfall, temperature, and elevation, and it is quite a common thing to find the same variety requiring different maturing periods in different provinces, or even in two different situations in the same district.

Diseases.—Diseases and pests causing extensive loss to paddy in Ceylon are few in number. Insects do the greatest amount of damage, the chief of these being—

(1) The Paddy Bug, which sucks the milky juices of the young grain, which, for this reason, never matures.

(2) The Paddy Swarming Caterpillar also causes considerable damage on occasions, but can be readily controlled.

(3) The Paddy Stem Borer, which feeds within the stem and prevents the grain from setting.

Rice.—Paddy is converted into rice by pounding in a mortar. This work is usually undertaken by women, who receive a share of the rice husked for their work. Several small mills have been erected in the past few years, which have given fairly satisfactory results. It is possible for the milling of paddy in the Island to be considerably extended.

Acreage.—The area under wet land paddy in Ceylon is estimated to be 850,000 acres yielding approximately 12 to 13 million bushels of paddy (grain in husk) per annum. The greatest proportion of the acreage lies in the North-Western Province. But large extents are found in all the provinces.

Hill paddy.—Hill paddy or *elvi* is grown upon dry lands. It is usually cultivated upon hilly lands in districts where an abundant rainfall cannot be relied upon or in " chenas " on lands which are somewhat low-lying. Hill paddy is sown broadcast in lands which have been cleared and burnt. While the crop is growing the larger weeds are pulled out, otherwise no cultivation is carried on during its period of growth. Yields of hill paddy, if seasons are favourable, are generally heavy, and the rice from this type of paddy is highly prized.

Other Food Crops.

Chenas.—Many other food grains are grown in the Island. Except in the Northern Province, these are generally grown in " chenas "—areas of land covered with secondary forest or other vegetation, which are cleared and burned—which are either private or leased or granted by the Crown. The principal grains grown are kurakkan (*Eleusine coracana*), maize, Italian millet, *Paspalum* millet, and *Panicum* millet. Pulses are also grown in the chenas, the principal crops being green gram, horse gram, and black gram. Gingelly (*Sesamum indicum*) forms an important chena crop particularly in the Jaffna, Anuradhapura, and Kurunegala Districts. Hitherto in addition to the utilization locally of the crop produced in the Island, gingelly seed, oil, and poonac had been imported from India to the value of Rs. 2 to 3 millions.

Edible tubers grow in abundance. These are known in the Island as yams, and include dioscorea yams, tannia yams, sweet potatoes, and manioc. Sweet potatoes are abundant in the Southern Province, while manioc or cassava has spread rapidly in all districts in recent years, and constitutes a general food. The preparation of tapioca might be possible in some districts if a good supply of pure water were available.

Plantains (bananas) of various types are largely cultivated, and are to be found in all markets. The largest area of plantains is to be found between Polgahawela and Rambukkana, but in recent years the bunchy-top disease has appeared and caused considerable damage. This disease now appears to be less virulent, and areas which suffered severely some years ago are now giving good crops of fruit.

Jak and breadfruit are important foodstuffs, while " jaggery " is made from coconut, palmyra, or kitul palms.

Vegetables and curry plants are generally cultivated throughout the Island, and markets are well stocked. Dried chillies are prepared in the drier districts, while onions are largely grown in some localities. Pumpkins, gourds of various kinds, and cucumbers are largely grown and find a ready sale in the various towns and village markets of the country. In the hills European vegetables thrive and are largely grown for transport by rail to the principal centres of population and to the shipping in Colombo Harbour.

Miscellaneous.

Cotton.—Considerable success was achieved in the efforts made to establish the cultivation of cotton as a peasant industry chiefly in the Hambantota District of the Southern Province and Matale District of the Central Province. Over 2,000 acres were cultivated in 1930 in the Hambantota District alone. Almost all the produce raised by the peasants was purchased by Government on behalf of the Spinning and Weaving Mills, Colombo, up to the end of the year.

The general depression, with a steady fall in price and the unstable condition of the local spinning and weaving industry, resulted in diminishing interest in cotton growing, so much so that only a small acreage was cultivated in 1932. Owing to encouragement given by the slightly higher rate offered for seed cotton by the Spinning and Weaving Mills for the 1932 crop, there was an increase in production during 1933 and 1934. The Government purchase during 1934 amounted to 956 cwt. of seed cotton as against 126 cwt. in 1933.

The outlook for cotton at present is still not bright owing to low prices, heavy cost of transport, and the doubtful position of the local spinning and weaving industry.

Kapok.—Kapok is not grown as a pure crop, but is largely planted along the boundaries of fields and settlements and in some instances interspersed among other permanent crops. A regular trade is being conducted by petty dealers. The exports and their value during the past three years were as follows:—

	Quantity Cwt.	Value. Rs.		Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.		Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1932	6,066	152,969	1933	4,226	119,796	1934	6,986	184,584

Kitul.—The fibre of the Borassus palm has always found a ready market, and in the past few years it has been used locally for the manufacture of brooms and brushes. The tree is not systematically cultivated, and is only indiscriminately distributed throughout the wetter districts of the mid- and low-country. The extent of trade in this product may be seen from the following figures:—

	Quantity exported. Cwt.	Value. Rs.		Quantity exported. Cwt.	Value. Rs.		Quantity exported. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1932	1,323	60,545	1933	1,458	60,481	1934	1,963	78,876

Papain.—This is the dried extract obtained from the milk of the papaya fruit for which there has been a steady market in the past. High prices paid some years back were an encouragement to the cultivation of the papaw tree which forms a suitable catch-crop during the waiting period of return from tea or rubber. But many small pure

plantations also sprang up, and though it has been surmised that over-production has been responsible for a big drop in the price of papain, it is more probable that the market was cornered to the detriment of the small producer. The crop was largely cultivated in the Kegalla, Kandy, and Kurunegala Districts, and the development of a profitable peasant industry was indicated. The following figures show the extent of the trade in papain:—

	Quantity exported. lb.	Value. Rs.		Quantity exported. lb.	Value. Rs.		Quantity exported. lb.	Value. Rs.
1932 ..	64,356 ..	337,127	1933 ..	100,046 ..	296,129	1934 ..	103,778 ..	590,849

Pepper.—The pepper vine is widely distributed throughout the wet low-country as well as in the Kandy and Matale Districts of the mid-country though systematic pure plantations are not established. It is grown against shade trees in certain tea and cacao estates, and is in evidence in practically every village garden. There has always been a steady demand for the crop which is handled mainly by petty traders. Prices went down badly during 1930 and for the most part of 1931, but at the end of the year the exports were heavy, and in view of indications that the market will be favourable, an extension of cultivation is being rapidly pushed forward. The trade in pepper has been as follows:—

	Quantity exported. Cwt.	Value. Rs.		Quantity exported. Cwt.	Value. Rs.		Quantity exported. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1932 ..	1,570 ..	57,640	1933 ..	1,092 ..	26,556	1934 ..	1,678 ..	43,027

Coffee.—The hybrid varieties of Robusta Coffee which are practically immune from the coffee leaf disease, and have the advantage of coming into bearing earlier and of yielding more prolific crops have been cultivated successfully at several Experiment Stations during the past few years and have proved their suitability under varying conditions below an elevation of 3,000 feet. Much interest is being shown in this crop now, and besides numerous applications for seed and plants the Department of Agriculture is distributing seedlings on an extensive scale with a view to establishing a new peasant industry in the following districts:—Kandy and Matale in the Central Province; Kegalla and Ratnapura in the Province of Sabaragamuwa; Galle in the Southern Province; and parts of the Kurunegala and the Badulla Districts. The produce is disposed of entirely for home consumption.

EXCISE.

Toddy and Arrack.

The production of toddy and arrack forms two important industries dependent on the coconut palm. For the formation of coconuts a large quantity of saccharine juice is supplied by the tree to the stalks which is enclosed in spathes. If the spathe is " tapped " before the nuts mature, and a pot attached to it, a quantity of the juice, varying from 6 to about 12 drams per day, can be collected in the pot. If lime is not used to prevent fermentation, the action of yeasts, which are present in the air or in the pot, will convert the sugar in the juice into alcohol, and the liquid will be converted into toddy, with an alcoholic strength of about 4 to 8 per cent. Toddy is also obtained similarly from the palmyra and kitul palms. It is sold in taverns under

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KANDYAN DANCERS.

Government licence at rates varying from 48 cents to 84 cents per gallon. A considerable industry depends upon the sale of toddy which attracts many of the smaller Ceylonese and Malayalee capitalists. The cost price of toddy may probably be put at about 30 cents per gallon, and considerable profits are made when the sales are active.

The toddy consumption in 1933-34 was 4,740,508 gallons, compared with 4,033,865 gallons in 1932-33, the average consumption per head of population being .88 and .76 gallons respectively. The actual toddy revenue collected in the two financial years was Rs. 2,040,080 in 1932-33 and Rs. 2,185,066 in 1933-34, the revenue per head being 38 and 41 cents, and the revenue per gallon of toddy consumed 48 and 49 cents respectively. In 1934-35 the rents of 176 toddy taverns were sold for Rs. 2,481,664, an increase of slightly over three lacs of rupees from the rent sale figures of the 166 taverns for financial year 1933-34.

By the distillation of coconut toddy, the local spirit known as " arrack " is produced; and this is sold, like toddy, in taverns licensed by Government. The whole of the distilling and sale of arrack is in the hands of Ceylonese capitalists. Distillation of arrack prior to 1923 was carreid on in about 250 small pot-stills of the most primitive variety; it is now concentrated in eight large modern distilleries situated in the Kalutara District, the outturn capacity of each of which is not less than 60,000 gallons per annum. Three of the distilleries have installed " Barbet's " patent stills for continuous distillation, each capable of producing 1,000 gallons of arrack per day. All distillery operations are carried on under the close supervision of the Excise Department. The arrack made at these distilleries is far purer and more free from copper than any arrack previously distilled from coconut toddy in Ceylon. These new private distilleries were started in April, 1924. They supply arrack to Government at a fixed price under what is known as the " Contract Supply " system.

About 8 gallons of toddy are required to produce a gallon of arrack at proof strength, *i.e.*, the outturn in arrack (proof gallons) of a distillery is about 12.0 per cent. of the toddy distilled. The distiller's cost of production is about Re. 1.25 to Re. 1.50 per proof gallon. The distillers sell their arrack to Government at Re. 1.80 per gallon at 27 degrees under proof. Government stores and matures the spirit in bond and carries on reducing, blending, and bottling operations.

Retailing is done by renters, who are usually those who offer the highest price for this privilege. In addition to paying this price irrespective of the volume of their sales, they pay the following charges for every gallon of arrack they obtain from a Government warehouse to cover Government expenditure on purchasing, warehousing, and bottling arrack:—

Duty on bulk arrack at Rs. 8.50 per gallon and on bottles at Rs. 7.50 per gallon;

Cost price, Rs. 3 per gallon in all districts except Trincomalee, Batticaloa, Badulla, Jaffna, and Vavuniya;

Cost price, Rs. 3.50 per gallon of bulk arrack at Trincomalee, Batticaloa, Badulla, Jaffna, and Vavuniya;

Extra charges per gallon on bottled arrack, Re. 1. Extra additional charge of Re. 1 per gallon on " Special Matured Potstill Arrack ".

The number of gallons of arrack distilled during the last three years is as follows:—

	Gallons (proof).		Gallons (proof).
1932 ..	.. 275,629	1934 ..	.. 219,000
1933 ..	.. 127,000		

The corresponding percentage of outturn for the three years was 11.08, 11.11, and 12.0 respectively.

The consumption of arrack rose from 330,000 gallons in 1933 to 379,675 gallons in 1934, a rise of about 15 per cent.

The number of arrack taverns in 1932-33 was 152 and in 1933-34 was 157. The estimated net revenue after deducting expenses of the distribution and storage system was Rs. 4,075,000 in 1932-33, and Rs. 4,141,196 in 1933-34, which is equivalent to Re. 0.77 and Re. 0.78 respectively per head of population. The arrack consumption per head of population was .06 gallon in 1932-33 and .07 in 1933-34. The arrack revenue (net) per gallon was Rs. 11.25 in 1932-33 and Rs. 10.70 in 1933-34.

Vinegar Manufacture.

Toddy vinegar is obtained from the aceticization of fermented toddy, which takes place naturally after about 36 hours.

In 1924 special licences were first issued to vinegar manufacturers in the Western and Southern Provinces, with a view to encourage the manufacture of toddy vinegar as a local industry. Rules were passed in 1926 to control vinegar stores. Seventeen such licences were in force during 1934.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The total liquor revenue for the financial years 1932-33 and 1933-34 was as follows:—

Excise Revenue.	1932–33. Rs.	1933–34. Rs.
Arrack (Gross)	4,440,723	4,591,196
Toddy	2,042,537	2,185,066
Licensing fees	142,151	134,353
Composition fees	12,083	12,338
Total Excise Revenue	6,637,494	6,922,953
Other Revenue.		
Customs (import duties)	2,230,788	2,592,231
Police Court fines in Excise cases	187,423	156,961
Sale of confiscated articles	—	—
Total revenue directly connected with excisable articles	9,055,705	9,672,145

The expenditure on the Excise Department, including the salaries of Civil Servants and all Excise Department officers and all other charges, was Rs. 1,199,289 in 1933-34 being 17.3 per cent. of the Excise revenue for the year, or 12.4 per cent. of the Excise revenue plus Customs duty on excisable articles and Police Court fines in Excise cases.

Excise Offences.

The following is a statement of Excise detections in the five years 1930, 1931, 1932, 1933, and 1934:—

Year.	Foregin Liquor.	Arrack.	Toddy.	Intoxicating Drugs.	Short Measure.	Others.	Total.
1930	83	517	5,439	780	88	220	7,127
1931	50	430	5,616	730	—	1,729	8,555
1932	7	193	5,269	726	—	1,596	7,791
1933	3	385	7,008	737	—	2,661	10,794
1934	10	260	6,471	736	—	564	8,041

The most remarkable increases occur under illicit distillation, illicit tapping, sale and transport of toddy, and under sale and possession of intoxicating drugs.

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WEDDING RETINUE WITH DANCERS.

FISHERIES.

The fishing industries of the Island fall under the following main heads:—(*a*) sea fisheries, (*b*) chank fisheries, (*c*) pearl fisheries, and (*d*) fresh-water fisheries.

Sea Fisheries.—These are by far the most important and extensive and are carried on all round the coast by Sinhalese and Tamil fishermen who use native craft principally the catamaran and outrigger canoe working lines and modified nets. Both types of vessel depend on sail and on account of their limitation in size have long since attained their maximum development and efficiency. They cannot be adapted to work modern fishing gear.

Prior to the extension of the railway and of motor transport, the bulk of the fish caught was either dried, cured, or pickled, but with the present facilities for transport and with the aid of ice-making plants erected at the principal fishing centres, fish is now distributed in a more or less fresh condition to practically all parts of the Island and such is the demand that only a small surplus is available for the fish curers, with the result that the once prosperous dried fish industry has almost died out.

No complete statistics exist regarding the value and extent of the industry, but its inability to meet existing demands is clearly shown by the records of the imports of fish goods into the Island, which in 1911 amounted to 544,222 cwt. valued at Rs. 4,951,516 and in 1934 to 647,981 cwt. valued at Rs. 11,405,525. The bulk of these imports is made up of cured and Maldive fish imported from Southern India and the Maldive Islands. These in 1911 amounted to 347,868 cwt. valued at Rs. 4,233,363 and in 1934 to 415,660 cwt. valued at Rs. 10,460,546.

The high value of these imports is clear evidence of the existence of a large local market for fish goods and, in conjunction with the vast natural resources that Ceylon waters offer for exploitation, indicates the scope for development open to this industry.

The question of this development has taken the foremost place in the investigation work of the Fisheries Department under the direction of the Marine Biologist who is also Director of the Colombo Museum. In the first instance this department carried out a fisheries survey of the coastal waters with the object of acquiring data regarding demersal fishes and of exploring these waters for possible trawl fishing grounds. Two extensive fishing banks which are practically virgin ground were surveyed, *i.e.*, the Pedro bank off the north-east coast with an area of over 1,000 square miles and the Wadge bank off Cape Comorin, Southern India, with an area of over 4,000 square miles. Both banks gave considerable promise for commercial development and following this preliminary work, the results of which are published in the Ceylon Journal of Science, Section C. (Fisheries), Vol. II., it was decided to carry out a detailed survey of both banks for the purpose of obtaining more exact data of their trawl fishing value and also for the preparation of charts necessary for their commercial exploitation. A survey of the Pedro bank has been completed. Accounts of this work are contained in Ceylon Administration Reports (Marine Biology), 1926-30. The complete survey of the Wadge bank has been suspended pending

a recovery of the financial situation. These investigations led to the formation, in 1928, of a local trawling company which is now operating on both banks.

Future developments of the trawl fishing industry are limited to less than one-sixth of the available fishing grounds of Ceylon and can affect the market for one class of fish only, namely, demersal or bottom feeding fishes. They can take no part in the development of the mid-water and demersal fisheries for which the whole of the waters of Ceylon are available.

Chank Fisheries.—The chank, which has considerable value in India, where it is cut and carved into bangles, is fished annually in the shallow waters of the Palk Strait off the Jaffna Peninsula where it occurs in great abundance. The fisheries are carried out chiefly by divers from Southern India and are subject to the Chanks Ordinance of 1890. The chanks fished are exported to India, the Ceylon Government collecting a small royalty in the form of an export duty, which prior to April, 1929, varied from Rs. 2 to Rs. 6 per 1,000 shells and now varies from Rs. 5 to Rs. 25 per 1,000 shells according to quality. The average number exported annually for the last ten years under the old duty was 2,305,664 valued at Rs. 119,555 and the average royalty was Rs. 10,770. Under the new duty the number exported in 1930 was 2,193,967 valued at Rs. 120,565 on which a royalty of Rs. 28,667. was collected. In 1933, doubtless owing to the trade depression, the number exported fell to 1,128,564 and the duty collected to Rs. 11,517. In 1934 the number exported was only 1,016,605 but, due to the export of a higher grade of chank, the royalty collected rose to Rs. 10,358.

Chanks also occur in some numbers in the inshore waters of the Pearl banks but until 1930 fishing was prohibited in this area under the Chanks Ordinance, No. 18 of 1890. This Ordinance has now been amended and a rule passed making it lawful to fish chanks between January 31 and April 30 of each year, between Mannar and Moderagam point and within the three-fathom line.

Pearl Fisheries.—The Ceylon pearl oyster *Margaritifera vulgaris*, the fisheries of which have been famous for many centuries, occurs periodically in great abundance in the shallow-water area known as the Ceylon Pearl Banks lying off the west coast of Ceylon and extending from Puttalam to Adam's Bridge. The banks are under Government control and fisheries, which are a Government monopoly, are carried on at irregular intervals as oysters are available. The last fishery was in 1925 when over 15,000,000 oysters were fished and the gross receipts totalled Rs. 517,507. There are no prospects of immediate fisheries. Recently a large area of potential oyster-bearing ground about 30 square miles in extent was discovered.

Another form of pearl oyster, the so-called window-pane oyster *Placuna placenta*, which yields pearls of an inferior character, commonly occurs embedded in the soft muddy bottom of Lake Tamblegam, Trincomalee. When oysters are present the fishing rights are leased by Government. The fishery has been leased for a period of three years ending 1936. A small fishery was held in 1934. The market for these pearls is Bombay.

Fresh-water Fisheries.—These are carried on by villagers in the tanks, rivers, lagoons, and estuaries. In most cases a fishing licence

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SACRED ELEPHANTS.

is issued by a local authority (a Village Committee or Urban District Council). No particulars are available as to revenue collected from this source or as to the extent of the industry. The Fisheries Department is making a survey of the fresh-water fishes of the Island and has collected considerable data relating to the bionomics of these fishes. (See Ceylon Journal of Science, Section B., Volumes XV.—XVIII.).

SALT.

The manufacture, collection, and sale of salt constitute in Ceylon a Government monopoly, which is protected by an import duty. The monopoly is administered by the Executive Committee for Local Administration through the Salt Adviser and the Revenue Officers.

Ceylon consumes about 660,000 cwt. of common salt per annum. The greater part of this salt is manufactured or collected locally, and any shortages due to failure of harvest are made good by the importation of salt of similar quality from India or elsewhere. Salt is manufactured from sea water by solar evaporation at the Government Salterns at Elephant Pass, in the Northern Province, and at Palavi, near Puttalam, in the North-Western Province, also in the privately owned salt pans at Chiviyateru in the Northern Province, about four miles from Jaffna, at Puttalam, and at Nilaveli, eight miles north of Trincomalee. Spontaneously formed salt resulting from the natural evaporation of brine is collected from lagoons in the Hambantota District of the Southern Province and in the Jaffna Peninsula in the Northern Province. These are Crown property. The quantity of salt manufactured at Chiviyateru is small, and the greater part of the Island's supply is derived from the Government Salterns, from the lagoons in the Hambantota District, and from the private salt pans at Puttalam. The following statement shows the total quantity of salt produced in Ceylon during the year and the average of seven years 1928-1934.

Producing Centre.	Average for 1928-34. Cwt.	1934. Cwt.
Elephant Pass	184,226	241,655
Palavi	64,484	133,180
Hambantota District	165,578	576,195
Puttalam District (excluding Palavi) ..	50,137	154,621
Jaffna and Mannar Districts (excluding Elephant Pass)	60,826	63,098
Trincomalee District	48,648	79,913
Total ..	603,899	1,248,662

Stocks at the beginning of 1934 amounted to 295,264 cwt. and at the end of the year 1,241,437 cwt.

The amount realized during the financial year by sale of local salt from the Government depots was Rs. 2,195,009 and the net revenue Rs. 1,202,801.

Owing to the nearly stationary consumption and the equalizing effect of the import duty the revenue from salt does not show a large percentage of variation from year to year.

PLUMBAGO.

Occurrence.—Plumbago, or graphite, is the most important of the Ceylon minerals. It occurs in minute scattered crystals in some of the granulites and crystalline limestones, but it is only where it is

found in veins that it is of any commercial importance. The veins or pockets vary from the smallest size up to a yard or more in width, and often consist of pure graphite unmixed with other minerals. Frequently quartz, mica, felspar, pyroxene, apatite, pyrite, &c., are associated with the graphite. The most frequent country rock is a pyroxene granulite of the charnockite series.

Mines.—The deepest mines go to a depth of between 600 and 800 feet while considerable quantities of the mineral are obtained very near the surface. Several of the largest mines are fitted with electric light and equipped with modern machinery, but in most of them the arrangements are very primitive. Eighty-eight mines were reported to be working at the end of 1934 employing about 2,037 men.

Prices and Grades.—Since 1919 prices have been nominal, there being practically no buyers. The majority of the mines were closed in 1920 and still remain closed.

The decrease in naval armaments had a direct effect on the demand for plumbago, especially with regard to Ceylon, as Ceylon flake was regarded as the best crucible plumbago used for this purpose. This is held to be the cause of the falling off in demand for these high grades and the demand throughout the year has been principally for carbon plumbago. With the present ruling prices there seems to be no prospect of any extension of mining activities, especially in view of the big surface deposits in Madagascar, which can now compete with most Ceylon grades for factory work. Owing to the lower price of Madagascar plumbago manufacturers are reported to have adapted their plant to deal with that plumbago.

The average market prices for all grades for the last five years were as follows:—1930, Rs. 203.50 per ton; 1931, Rs. 182.34 per ton; 1932, Rs. 168.73 per ton; 1933, Rs. 126.95 per ton; 1934, Rs. 143.02 per ton.

Local Trade.—The mining for, and the local trade in, graphite remain chiefly in the hands of Sinhalese. Large mines are worked both by Ceylonese capitalists and by tea-estate owners on whose land plumbago is found. Some of the larger mines can turn out 100 tons a month, and Ceylon can, when required, produce 30,000 tons a year.

During the years 1915, 1916, and 1917, over 15,000 skilled labourers were engaged in this industry.

Uses.—Plumbago is chiefly used in the manufacture of crucibles, furnace-facings, electrodes, and stove polish, for making lubricants, black paint and lead pencils, and in electroplating. During the war large quantities were required for the manufacture of munitions, and the exports in 1916 rose above the old maximum. The principal buyer in 1934 was Japan, with United States of America, United Kingdom and Germany next in the order.

The exports of plumbago in 1934 amounted to 231,385 cwt. valued at Rs. 1,654,681.

OTHER ECONOMIC MINERALS.

Precious Stones.—Precious stones in large variety are found principally in the alluvial gravels of the Ratnapura District and the south-west portion of the Island. The most important are sapphire and ruby (varieties of corundum), chrysoberyl (including cat's-eye and the rare

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REFLECTIONS AT A BANK.

alexandrite), beryl or aquamarine, and the semi-precious stones, topaz, spinel, garnet, zircon, quartz of various colours (cairngorm, citrine quartz, amethyst) and moonstone.

Mining for gems is carried on almost entirely by Sinhalese on a co-partnership system. The stones are bought up by dealers to be cut and polished. Many of the best stones are exported to Europe and America, but the inferior varieties are largely sold locally or in India. It is difficult to estimate the value of the annual output, but it may be put at somewhere about Rs. 2,000,000.

With the exception of moonstone, which is mined from a band of acid leptynite and some garnet, the gem-stones are all obtained from alluvial gravels. Sapphire and beryl have been discovered in abundance in pegmatite veins in the Matara and Kandy Districts, respectively, and the other minerals named are probably derived from rocks of similar type.

Thorium-bearing Minerals.—A number of minerals containing thorium and uranium have been found in Ceylon, in pegmatite veins and also in alluvial gravels, and as constituents of natural concentrates on the seabeach. These were mined on a small scale at one time, but the deposits appear to be exhausted and production has ceased. Monazite sands were worked under Government control near Bentota on the west coast, but work was abandoned in 1927 as unprofitable owing to the heavy fall in the price of the mineral.

Ilmenite and Zircon Sands.—Large deposits of natural beach concentrates, consisting of about 75 per cent. ilmenite and 25 per cent. zircon rutile, &c., are known to exist at Pulmoddai and Tirrukovil, on the east coast of the Island. The former deposit has been proved to contain over two million tons of the mineral. Smaller deposits are found at other places on the coast. The mineral is used as a source of titanium for the preparation of titanium pigments, an industry of growing importance. The Ceylon deposits have not yet been exploited.

Mica.—A small amount of mica has been produced from pegmatite veins or from the contact rocks bordering limestones. The deposits are very irregular, the commercial mica occurring in patches in the veins, with much barren ground between them. There was a revival of interest in the mineral in 1931 and a few tons were exported. The variety exported was phlogopite (magnesia mica) or amber mica. Mining has however now ceased.

Other Mineral Products.—Other mineral products are the following:—

(1) Kaolin of good quality can be prepared from the decomposed felspar of granite rocks free from iron minerals.

(2) White quartz sand suitable for the manufacture of the commoner kinds of glass occurs in places on the west coast and in the north near Point Pedro.

(3) Limestone of a high degree of purity suitable for use in the manufacture of cement is found in large quantities in the Jaffna Peninsula. The coral deposits of the coast are extensively burnt for lime. The crystalline limestones of the interior of the Island are almost all dolomitic and yield inferior lime.

(4) The gneisses and granulites of the charnockite series furnish useful building stones.

(5) Pottery clays of poor quality and brick-earth suitable for the manufacture of bricks and tiles are found in all the river valleys. Kabuk, which is the product of decomposition of the surface of the crystalline rocks, is extensively used for small buildings. When first opened up, it can be cut into slabs, which harden on exposure to the air.

CHAPTER VII.

Commerce.

COMMERCE is one of the pillars of national welfare and its character is fundamentally determined by the type of economic activity obtaining in a country. Ceylon is predominantly agricultural and her economic products, with the exception of tea, are raw materials, which are exchanged in the world's markets for the manufactured goods and articles of food needed by its population. The prosperity of Ceylon depends on income derived from tea, rubber, and the products of the coconut palm which constitute her staple agricultural industries. There are a few other products of a minor character, such as cacao, cinnamon, citronella, cardamoms, arecanuts, papain, kapok, &c., but they have never attained in recent times more than a fraction of the importance of the staple industries. Cultivation of paddy and other foodstuffs provides employment to a section of the indigenous population but the output of locally-grown food is insufficient to satisfy home consumption and has to be supplemented by an increasing volume of imports.

The foregoing account clearly shows that the economic life of Ceylon is not sufficiently diversified and the inelastic nature of the economic structure of the country was forcibly revealed with the onset of the depression. The abnormal fall in export values was naturally accompanied by a corresponding shrinkage of incomes, which brought severe hardship on the cultivator, both capitalist and peasant, as well as on the urban wage earner. Towards the close of the year, there were indications that the tide had begun to turn and that the world at large was emerging from the trough of depression; but in several directions, economic difficulties appear to have been intensified.

World trade received a serious setback by the virtual failure of the World Economic Conference, which was convened to inaugurate a new programme of international economic co-operation and world reconstruction. With the break-up of the Conference, each country began to pursue such nationalistic policies as were calculated to ease, from its own point of view, the strain of the crisis, without paying much regard to the injury its action would inflict on other national states. After the failure on the part of the leading countries of the world to arrive at a common basis of agreement, it was to be expected that an impetus should be given to nationalistic policies. Economic nationalism, with its concomitants of quotas, restrictions, controls, protection and prohibitions became the rule, and the adverse effects of these self-regarding policies were soon felt in Ceylon. Many European countries imposed quotas of varying severity on tea and

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KANDYAN HANDS.

rubber, and in the case of coconut produce, particularly copra and coconut oil, more drastic restrictions, amounting in some cases to absolute prohibition, were enforced. The minor products of the country were also subjected in some cases to various forms of trade restrictions.

The adoption of economic nationalism by world powers as a general and permanent instrument of national commercial policy was bound to react on the course of international trade. A corollary to economic nationalism is the aggregation of economically interdependent units into economic unions within which there is an unimpeded flow of trade. The formation of such unions has been attempted by various groups of nations. The Ottawa Agreements by inaugurating the policy of Imperial Preference have tended to weld the various Empire units into economic groups. The introduction of a heralded scheme of preference between France and her Colonial Empire is another example of this new obstacle to the free flow of the currents of international trade.

To primary producing countries like Ceylon, economic nationalism involves a drastic alteration of the economic structure. Foreign markets for raw materials tend to contract in the face of growing tariffs so that expansion of export industries must perforce be restricted. Hence arises the need for Trade Representation abroad, the conduct of propaganda in foreign countries and collection and dissemination of up-to-date market intelligence so that existing markets may in some measure be preserved for the products of this country.

It is not in external markets alone that the effects of the policy of economic nationalism are felt. They are reflected also in the home market, where a policy of economic self-sufficiency is beginning to find expression. Every country of any importance now devotes increasing attention to the intensive cultivation of the home market. In Ceylon, this phase of economic nationalism is expressed in the "back to the land" cry, and in the imperative demand for industrialization. The fulfilment of these aims must necessarily alter the character of Ceylon trade. Protection, State aid, and direct subsidy are indispensable supports of this policy and their operation profoundly influences the nature of external commerce. The year under review has already seen the effects of these forces. Ceylon appears to have adopted a protectionist policy when additional duties, so high as to be almost prohibitive were imposed on vegetables, ginger, eggs, and ghee. A permanent Tariff Advisory Committee was set up to consider applications for protection, and the number of applications so far disposed by it indicates that a substantial measure of tariff protection is necessary for development of the commodities necessary for home consumption.

In the paragraphs that follow, an account will be given of the main features of the commerce of Ceylon. No attempt however will be made to analyse the working of the factors described above, as it is yet too early to ascertain their influence with exact precision. Even in cases where sufficient time has elapsed to enable an estimate to be formed—for example in the case of Imperial Preference—their effects have been offset by the general improvement of trade recorded during the year so that it is not possible to isolate their influence completely from the action of other forces that have been in operation.

Review of the Total Trade.—The value of the total trade of Ceylon in 1934 was Rs. 480,806,000. The trade in this year showed a welcome increase of more than Rs. 103,000,000, or about 27 per cent. in comparison with 1933. The recorded value, which is higher than any previous year since 1931, shows that the downward decline of trade which began with a setting in of the depression in 1929 has at long last been arrested. Both imports and exports shared in this increase of trade, but the improvement in the latter was proportionately greater than in the former. The value of exports amounted to Rs. 263,810,000 or 32 per cent. more than in 1933, while imports reached a total of Rs. 217,000,000, indicating an increase of 23 per cent. over the previous year. The visible balance of trade accordingly improved to Rs. 46,799,000 in favour of Ceylon. This is the largest favourable balance recorded since 1927 and, in comparison with 1933, showed an excess of Rs. 24,000,000. The increase in the visible balance of trade is an indication that the major exports of the country are paying their way; but, this in itself does not indicate that the country is able to balance its international receipts and payments, as the trade accounts do not record what are generally described as the invisible items which find an important place in the national balance sheet.

The value of trade together with the visible balance of trade since 1925 is shown in the subjoined table:—

Year.	Imports.	Retained Imports.	Exports (Domestic).	Re-Exports. Total.*	Re-Exports. Supplied to Steamers. Coal.	Re-Exports. Supplied to Steamers. Liquid Fuel.
1	2 Rs.	3 Rs.	4 Rs.	5 Rs.	6 Rs.	7 Rs.
1925	.. 350,993,900..	301,754,005..	473,088,069..	49,149,895..	14,138,321..	9,032,855
1926	.. 394,758,023..	347,471,121..	484,964,519..	47,286,902..	12,824,935..	10,341,890
1927	.. 406,107,210..	359,244,234..	432,558,290..	46,862,976..	13,809,874..	11,605,425
1928	.. 400,073,087..	359,008,964..	376,554,807..	41,064,123..	11,042,548..	11,460,888
1929	.. 403,004,031..	359,987,008..	379,563,625..	43,017,023..	13,145,679..	12,033,910
1930	.. 302,132,857..	271,794,120..	292,633,379..	30,338,737..	9,307,448..	9,467,050
1931	.. 218,343,258..	193,859,843..	208,645,458..	24,483,415..	8,616,904..	9,209,700
1932	.. 196,048,802..	174,676,491..	167,464,836..	21,372,311..	5,524,929..	10,245,673
1933	.. 177,147,261..	157,064,773..	189,110,898..	20,082,488..	5,353,385..	10,342,481
1934	.. 216,995,878..	194,379,095..	241,193,062..	22,616,783..	5,999,625..	11,203,134

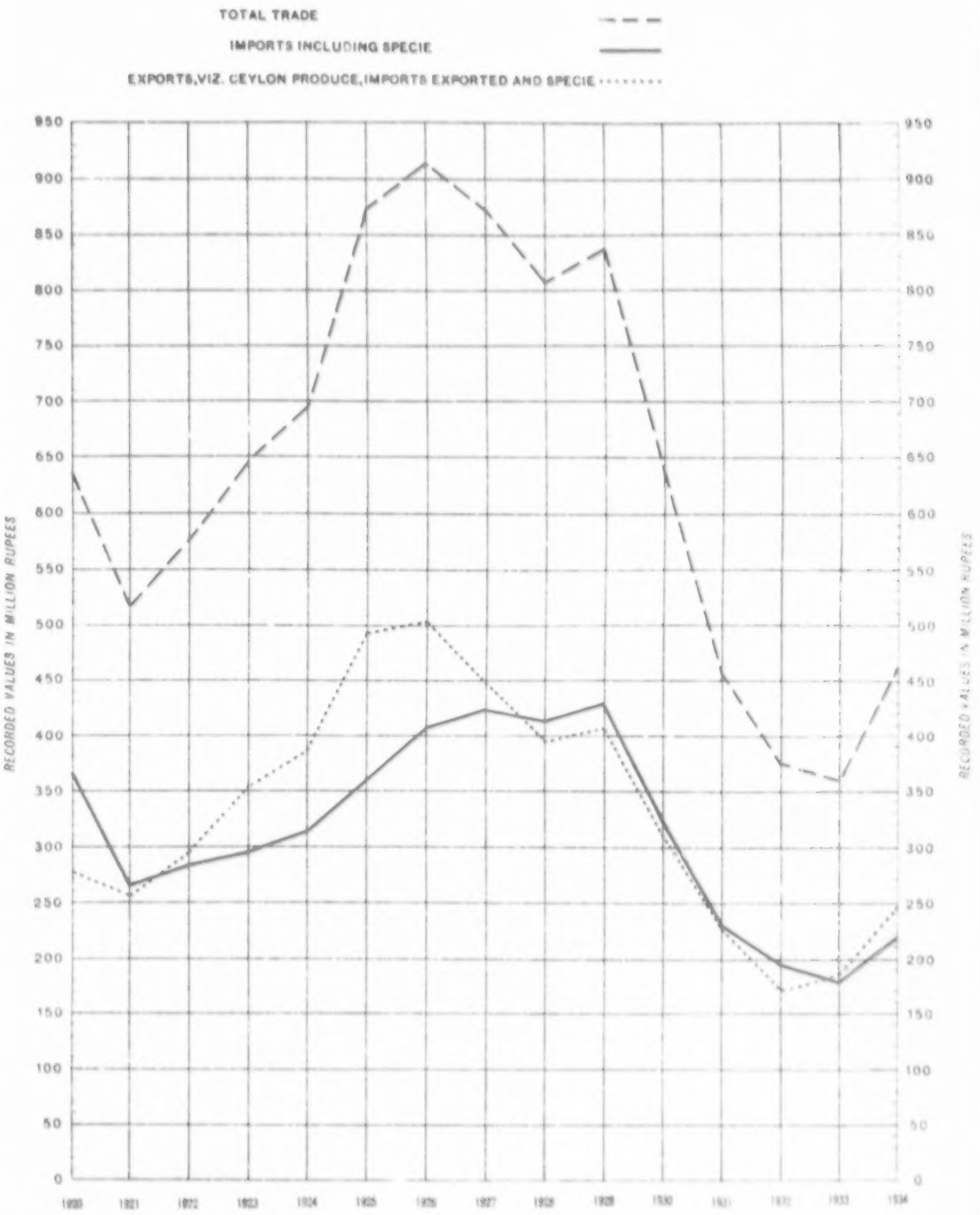
Year.	Total Exports.	Bullion and Specie. Imports.	Bullion and Specie. Exports.	Visible Balance of Trade. Merchandise Accounts.	Visible Balance of Trade. Total.	Total Trade (Merchandise).
	8 Rs.	9 Rs.	10 Rs.	11 Rs.	12 Rs.	13 Rs.
1925	.. 522,237,964..	9,476,417..	127,134..	+ 171,334,064..	+ 161,984,781..	873,141,864
1926	.. 532,251,421..	13,109,086..	420,738..	+ 137,493,398..	+ 124,805,050..	927,009,444
1927	.. 479,421,176..	15,020,766..	1,538,104..	+ 73,313,966..	+ 59,831,304..	885,528,386
1928	.. 417,618,930..	12,046,552..	3,997,668..	+ 17,545,843..	+ 9,496,959..	817,692,017
1929	.. 422,580,648..	26,291,292..	16,653,733..	+ 19,576,617..	+ 9,939,058..	825,584,679
1930	.. 322,972,116..	22,223,656..	10,276,582..	+ 20,839,259..	+ 8,892,185..	625,104,973
1931	.. 233,128,873..	9,852,919..	14,496,733..	+ 14,785,615..	+ 19,429,429..	451,472,131
1932	.. 188,837,147..	318,763..	218,023..	— 7,211,655..	— 7,312,395..	384,885,949
1933	.. 200,193,386..	200,651..	55,200..	+ 23,046,125..	+ 22,900,674..	377,340,647
1934	.. 263,809,845..	93,014..	77,900..	+ 46,813,967..	+ 46,798,853..	480,805,723

As it has now become customary to attach much importance to the balance of trade between countries, in considering the importance of trade between them or in adjusting their mutual trade relationships,

* Includes the value of Postal articles, the bulk of which is re-exported.

DIAGRAM No. 7.

VALUES OF TOTAL TRADE, TOTAL EXPORTS AND TOTAL IMPORTS, CEYLON, SINCE 1920.



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an attempt has been made in the following table to indicate the visible balance of trade between Ceylon and the Empire as well as to the non-Empire countries, it should however be borne in mind that these balances, taken alone, do not show the full significance of our trade with them :—

	Imports. Lakhs of Rupees.		Exports. Lakhs of Rupees.		Excess of Exports over Imports (+). Excess of Imports over Exports (—). Lakhs of Rupees.	
	1933.	1934.	1933.	1934.	1933.	1934.
British Empire—						
United Kingdom	310	399	926	1,251	+ 616	+ 852
Australia	45	51	69	90	+ 24	+ 39
British India	378	437	118	106	— 260	— 331
Burma	319	317	5	5	— 314	— 312
Canada	3	10	39	67	+ 36	+ 57
New Zealand	—	—	50	50	+ 50	+ 50
Straits Settlements	14	26	6	7	— 8	— 19
Union of South Africa	19	26	59	57	+ 40	+ 31
Other Empire countries	53	60	18	31	— 35	— 29
Total British Empire	1,141	1,326	1,290	1,664	+ 149	+ 338
Foreign countries—						
Belgium	14	18	27	36	+ 13	+ 18
Egypt	3	8	27	34	+ 24	+ 26
France	13	18	34	50	+ 21	+ 22
Germany	27	36	59	63	+ 32	+ 27
Holland	10	10	27	44	+ 17	+ 34
Italy	11	10	37	56	+ 26	+ 46
Japan	128	188	15	15	— 113	— 173
United States of America	32	50	204	343	+ 172	+ 293
Other foreign countries	394	507	112	150	— 282	— 357
Total foreign countries	632	845	542	791	— 90	— 64
Total excluding Ships' Stores	1,773	2,171	1,832	2,455	+ 59	— 274
Ships' Stores	—	—	170	184	+ 170	+ 184
Grand Total	1,773	2,171	2,002	2,639	+ 229	— 90

Distribution of Trade.—The total trade of the Island in the past few years was distributed into three almost equal shares between the United Kingdom, the British Possessions and the foreign countries. In the year under review, however, the United Kingdom and the foreign countries have each gained at the expense of the British Possessions. The distribution of the total trade between the United Kingdom, the British Possessions and the foreign countries respectively has accordingly changed from the ratio of 1 : 1 : to 5 : 4 : 5.

As regards imports, the change in the distribution of trade is due to gains secured by foreign countries at the expense of the British Possessions in respect of the following commodities, namely, tinned fish, sugar candy, and refined sugar, teak logs, earthernware and stoneware, silk and silk apparel, writing paper, motor car accessories and oil and floor cloth; and by the United Kingdom at the expense of the British Possessions in respect of the following:—dried and preserved fruits, vegetable ghee, tallow, iron and steel plates and sheets, hollow ware, brass tubes and pipes, cutlery and agricultural implements and tools, electric wire cables, machinery, thread, chemicals

and drugs. In the case of exports, foreign countries have gained at the expense of the British Possessions in buffalo and cow hides and non-ferrous metals and manufactures.

The subjoined table shows the distribution of trade between the United Kingdom, the British Possessions and the foreign countries; these figures exclude the value of coal, liquid fuel for bunkers and other ships' stores:—

	1931.* Per Cent.	1932.* Per Cent.	1933. Per Cent.	1934. Per Cent.
Imports—				
From the United Kingdom	18·76	19·06	17·53	18·38
From British Possessions	48·59	47·59	46·81	42·70
From foreign countries	32·65	33·35	35·66	38·92
	100	100	100	100
Exports—				
To the United Kingdom	48·41	49·29	50·53	50·96
To British Possessions	18·91	23·02	19·84	16·82
To foreign countries	32·68	27·69	29·63	32·22
	100	100	100	100
Total Trade—				
From and to the United Kingdom	33·39	33·08	34·31	35·81
From and to British Possessions	33·94	36·23	33·12	28·90
From and to foreign countries	32·67	30·69	32·57	35·29
	100	100	100	100

Exports.—The quantity and value of principal articles exported during the years 1931 to 1934, compared with the corresponding averages for 1911 to 1913 are shown in the next table. The increase in domestic exports recorded in 1933 was followed by a very substantial improvement in 1934. Exports increased by over 32 per cent. to Rs. 241,193,000. This improvement was largely due to the higher values realized by tea, which increased by 23 per cent. to Rs. 145,063,000 and by rubber, whose exports realized Rs. 56,615,000, an increase of Rs. 33,620,000. This increase represents 146 per cent. of the value of rubber exports in 1933 and is due to the higher prices realized as a result of restriction. On the other hand, the exports of the three principal products of the coconut palm, namely, copra, coconut oil, and desiccated coconut were slightly lower in value than the previous year, the total of these three commodities being Rs. 23,840,000 or Rs. 500,000 less than in 1933.

The higher value fetched by rubber exports has altered the respective contributions of tea, rubber, and coconuts to the export trade of Ceylon. The share of tea which was 66 per cent. in 1933 declined to 60 per cent. in 1934, but that of rubber advanced from 12.8 per cent. to 23.5 per cent. The share of coconut products, however, showed a considerable reduction from 13.5 to 9.8 per cent.

* Excludes imported rubber.

DIAGRAM No. 9.

VALUES OF MAIN EXPORTS UNDER 40 MILLION RUPEES.

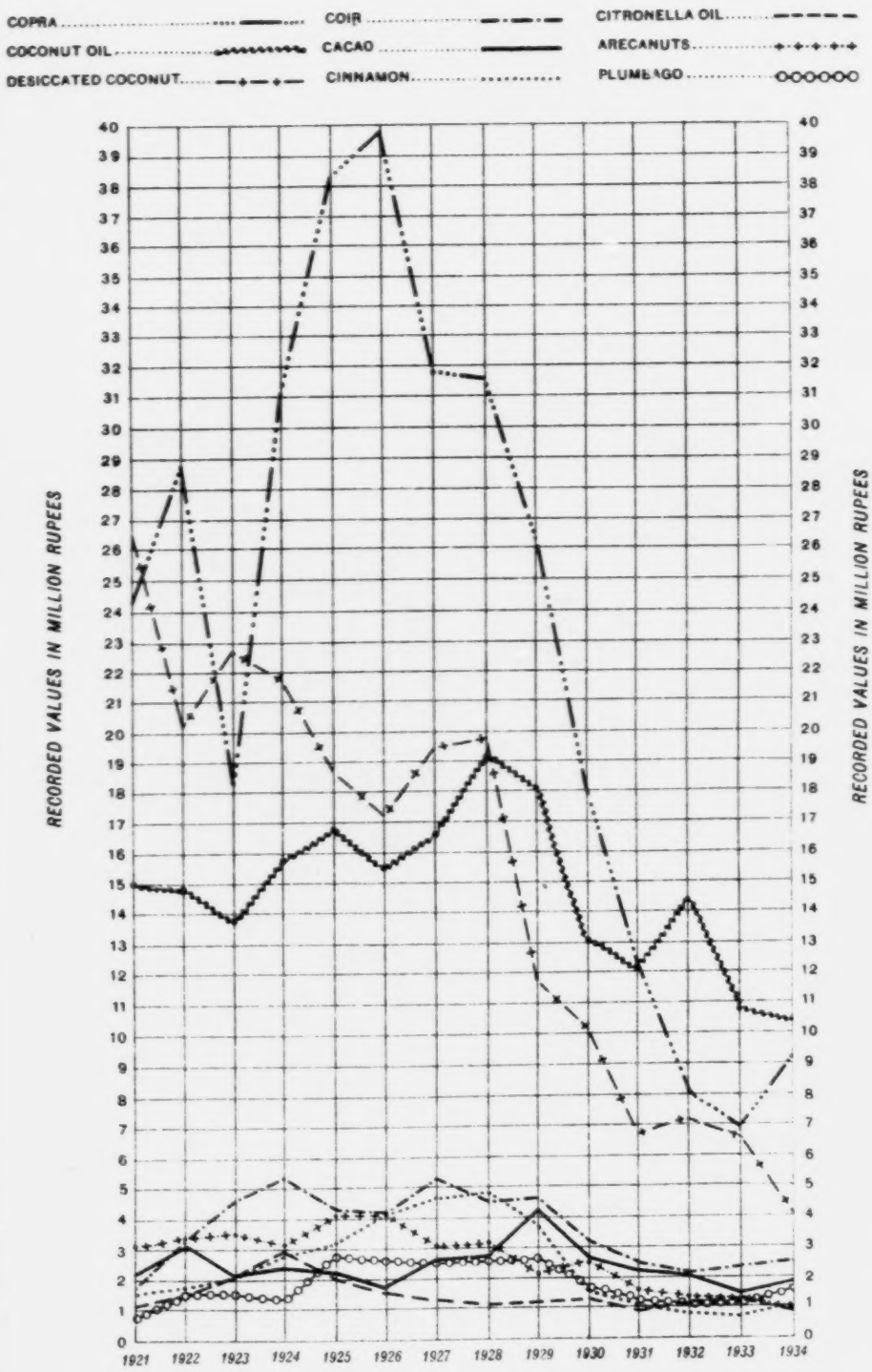

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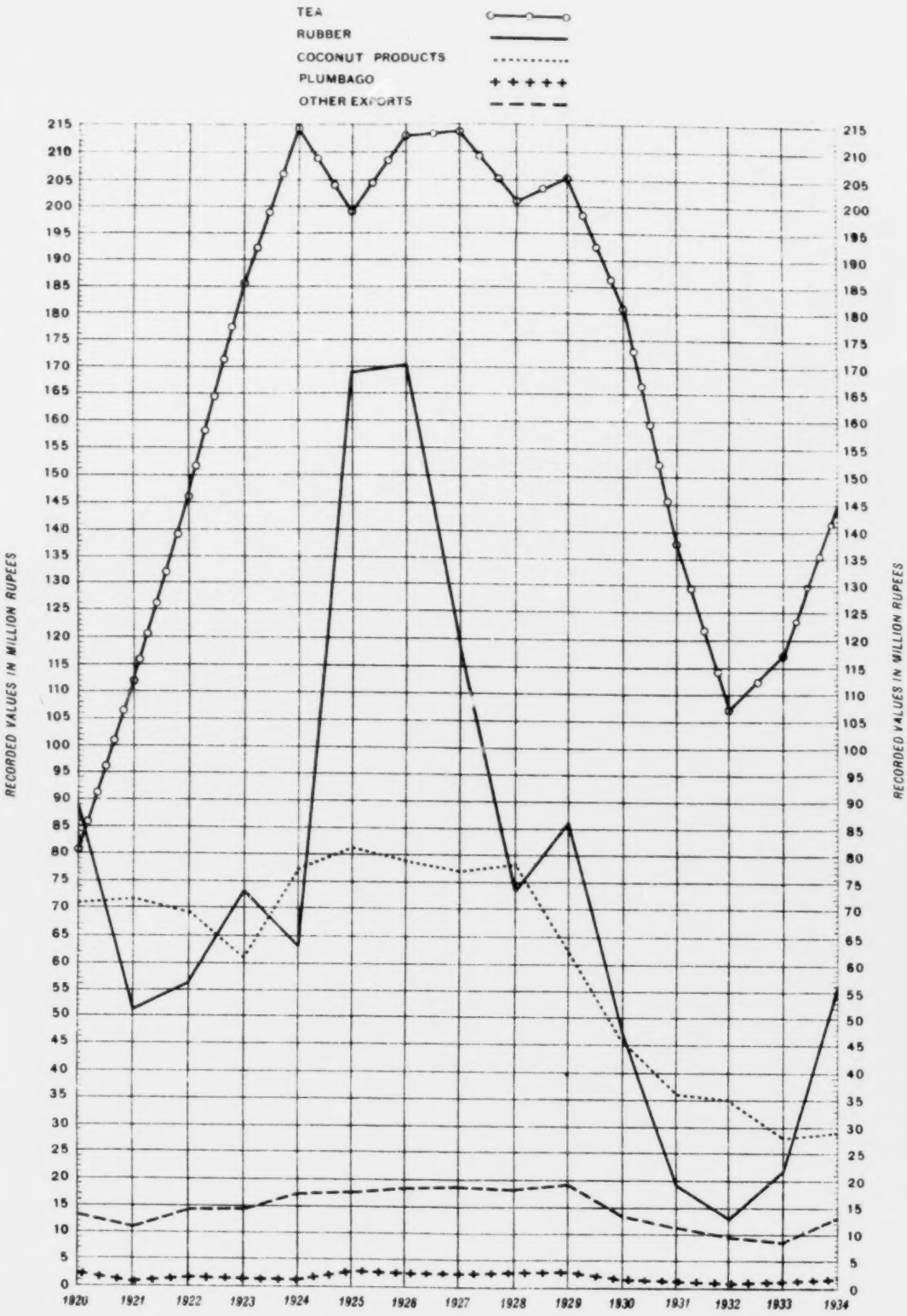
DIAGRAM No. 8.

VALUES OF MAIN EXPORTS (CEYLON PRODUCE)



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Quantity and Value of the Commodities exported from Ceylon.

	Quantity.*						Value.*					
	1911–13 Average.	1930.	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1911–13 Average. Rs.	1930. Rs.	1931. Rs.	1932. Rs.	1933. Rs.	1934. Rs.
Tea (lb.) ..	190,041..	243,107..	243,970..	252,824..	216,061..	218,695..	85,502..	182,039..	138,699..	107,692..	117,910..	145,063
Percentage of total exports ..							*43·8..*	*62·2..*	*66·5..*	*64·3..*	*65·5..*	*60·2*
Rubber (lb.) ..	15,690..	170,946..	138,005..	111,242..	142,317..	178,556..	47,268..	47,158..	19,842..	13,233..	22,995..	56,615
Percentage of total exports ..							*24·2..*	*16·1..*	*9·5..*	*7·9..*	*12·8..*	*23·5*
Copra (cwt.) ..	851..	1,813..	1,877..	914..	1,287..	2,109..	14,738..	18,029..	12,715..	8,284..	6,828..	9,244
Percentage of total exports ..							*7·6..*	*6·2..*	*6·1..*	*5·0..*	*3·8..*	*3·8*
Coconut oil (cwt.) ..	485..	764..	963..	1,025..	1,061..	1,397..	13,490..	13,190..	12,130..	14,475..	10,800..	10,461
Percentage of total exports ..							*6·9..*	*4·5..*	*5·8..*	*8·6..*	*6·0..*	*4·3*
Desiccated coconut (cwt.) ..	292..	705..	669..	599..	790..	647..	7,193..	10,036..	6,832..	7,150..	6,747..	4,135
Percentage of total exports ..							*3·7..*	*3·4..*	*3·3..*	*4·3..*	*3·7..*	*1·7*
							168,191	270,452	190,218	150,834	165,280	225,518
Other commodities ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	26,902..	22,181..	18,427..	16,631..	14,831..	15,675
Percentage of total exports ..							*13·8..*	*7·6..*	*8·8..*	*9·9..*	*8·2..*	*6·5*
Value of total exports ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	195,093	292,633	208,645	167,465	180,111	241,193

* In 1,000's.

Tea.

The exports of tea in 1934 amounted to 218,695,000 pounds and in comparison with the previous year showed an increase of approximately 2½ million pounds or 1.2 per cent. Owing to better prices, the value increased by a more than proportional ratio, from Rs. 117,910,000 to Rs. 145,063,000 or 23 per cent. The year opened with a strong market at an average of 76 cents per pound; prices improved to 82 cents per pound in February and gradually fell away thereafter, except for a slight improvement to 65 cents in August, the year closing with an average of 57 cents for December. The average price of the whole year was 66 cents, as against 54 cents for 1933.

The following table shows the volume of tea exported since 1926, and the yearly average price realized during the period:—

Year.	Million lb.	Price per lb.* Rs. c.	Year.	Million lb.	Price per lb.* Rs. c.
1926	217	0 99	1931	244	0 57
1927	227	0 94	1932	253	0 42
1928	237	0 85	1933	216	0 54
1929	251	0 81	1934	219	0 66
1930	243	0 75			

* According to local weekly sale averages.

The distribution of exports of teas for the years 1930 to 1934 was as follows:—

	1930. lb.†	1931. lb.†	1932. lb.†	1933. lb.†	1934. lb.†
United Kingdom	153,876	160,509	172,222	149,495	155,238
United States of America	16,809	15,531	15,775	12,003	10,435
Australia	21,182	11,607	15,278	11,839	11,945
British South Africa	9,612	9,751	8,038	9,170	7,597
New Zealand	8,356	10,888	8,391	8,694	7,362
Canada and New Foundland	6,835	7,918	8,366	7,236	10,170
Egypt	5,587	6,925	6,173	3,493	3,339
France	987	1,740	1,818	2,125	989
Iraq	2,297	1,951	1,785	1,273	1,297
Argentine	1,248	1,603	1,136	1,090	1,001
Russia	3,133	1,409	1,474	435	—
Other countries	13,185	14,138	12,368	9,208	9,322
Total Exports	243,107	243,970	252,824	216,061	218,695

† In 1,000's.

As usual the bulk of shipments went to the United Kingdom, the consignments to that country amounting to 155,238,000 lb. There has been a steady improvement in the share of the United Kingdom during the last few years from 63 per cent. in 1930 to 69.2 per cent. in 1933 and the share in 1934 was still higher at 71 per cent. Exports to Australia remain practically stationary at 11,945,000 lb., while a substantial increase of 3 million pounds was recorded in the case of Canada, whose purchases amounted to 10,170,000 lb. in 1934. The takings of other countries were in general smaller than in 1933, the most significant decrease being in respect of United States of America, whose purchases declined by nearly 2 million pounds to 10,435,000 lb. and of British South Africa which showed a decrease by nearly 1½ million pounds to 7,597,000 lb. The decrease in these two areas is significant and should be corrected by the propaganda campaigns that are being launched.

Rubber.

The year started without any visible prospect of improvement in the price of rubber but the fortunes of this industry have definitely turned for the better with the conclusion of an international agreement in May, 1934, for the regulation of exports and this has once again given the industry an opportunity to earn an economic return on its investments. Exports showed a very considerable increase from 142,317,000 lb. in 1933 valued at Rs. 22,995,000 to 178,566,000 lb. in the following year which realized a sum of Rs. 56,615,000. As curtailments of shipments did not in fact come into force till August, 1934, producers took advantage of the intervening period to continue full tapping of estates. The result was that there was an abnormal increase in shipments during the earlier part of the year.

The volume of rubber (home produced)—exported since 1926 and the annual average prices were, as follows:—

Year.	lb.*	Average Price.† Rs. c.	Year.	lb.*	Average Price.† Rs. c.
1926	131,841	1 21	1931	138,005	0 14
1927	125,063	0 95	1932	111,242	0 11
1928	128,326	0 55	1933	142,317	0 15
1929	189,632	0 52	1934	178,556	0 31
1930	170,946	0 27			

* In 1,000's.
† Averages for top grades only (ribbed smoked sheet and contract crepe).

The market opened with crepe at 22 cents per lb., but prices gradually improved and finally rose to 32 cents per pound on the announcement of the Restriction Agreement in April. Prices continued to advance thereafter until an average of 38 cents was recorded in August and from then onward there was a gradual decline and the year closed with crepe at 30.7 cents per pound. The average for the whole year was 31 cents, as against 15 cents recorded for 1933.

Distribution of exports of rubber since 1930 is indicated in the subjoined table:—

	1930. lb.‡	1931. lb.‡	1932. lb.‡	1933. lb.‡	1934. lb.‡
United States of America	105,709	92,527	65,314	74,798	78,859
United Kingdom	39,087	22,635	14,827	19,299	44,085
Germany	6,703	5,469	9,292	14,922	9,748
France	4,973	2,604	2,970	7,317	10,609
Belgium	1,952	3,164	2,301	5,459	4,583
Italy	3,170	1,205	2,039	4,577	6,960
Mexico	239	1,453	2,119	3,977	4,038
Holland	1,865	2,270	3,598	3,490	6,691
Australia	3,082	3,621	5,423	2,225	2,192
Japan	650	592	330	710	410
Other countries	3,516	2,465	3,029	5,543	10,381
Total Exports	170,946	138,005	111,242	142,317	178,556

‡ In 1,000's.

There was an all round improvement in exports to all destinations: the largest increase, however, was in respect of the United Kingdom, which took nearly 25,000,000 lb. more than in 1933 as against an increase of 4,000,000 lb. recorded in the shipments to the United States of America. The only significant decrease was in respect of Germany which took 5,200,000 lb. less than last year.

Coconut Products.—The exports of the three chief coconut products, since 1925, compared with their averages for the pre-war triennium, were as follows:—

	Copra. Tons.	Coconut Oil. Tons.	Desiccated Coconut. Tons.
1911–13 (average)	42,553	24,230	14,580
1925	113,686	30,846	39,708
1926	120,970	28,523	37,718
1927	99,108	33,658	43,642
1928	98,833	38,956	39,335
1929	102,124	43,926	34,723
1930	90,630	38,189	35,235
1931	93,865	48,139	33,466
1932	45,699	51,252	29,963
1933	64,340	53,070	39,493
1934	105,469	69,843	32,336

The values of these exports were:—

	Copra. Rs.*	Coconut Oil. Rs.*	Desiccated Coconut. Rs.*	Total Value. Rs.*
1911–13 (average)	14,738	13,480	7,193	35,421
1925	38,268	16,813	18,778	73,859
1926	39,848	15,489	17,276	72,613
1927	31,845	16,568	20,482	68,895
1928	31,802	19,266	19,840	70,908
1929	26,316	18,024	11,876	56,216
1930	18,029	13,190	10,036	41,255
1931	12,715	12,130	6,111	30,956
1932	8,284	14,475	7,150	29,909
1933	6,828	10,800	6,747	24,375
1934	9,244	10,461	4,135	23,840

* In 1,000's.

In reviewing the trade in these three commodities in 1933, it was mentioned that the value realized in that year was the lowest recorded in the present century; but the value of exports in 1934 was even lower than that in 1933, the amount realized being Rs. 23,840,000, a decrease of Rs. 500,000. It should be noted, however, that this decline in value occurred despite an increase in the volume which rose by nearly 30 per cent.

The following table shows the exports in copra, coconut oil, and desiccated coconut converted to the equivalents in nuts (in 1,000's) together with exports of fresh nuts:—

	Copra.†	Coconut Oil.‡	Desiccated Coconut.§	Total.	Fresh Nuts.	Total including Fresh Nuts.
1911–13 (average)	204,254	188,994	93,312	486,560	16,198	502,758
Percentage of total (including fresh nuts)	*40·6*	*37·6*	*18·6*	*96·8*	*3·2*	
1930	435,024	297,874	225,504	958,402	20,750	979,152
Percentage of total, &c.	*44·5*	*30·4*	*23·0*	*97·9*	*2·1*	
1931	450,552	375,484	214,182	1,040,219	21,142	1,061,361
Percentage of total, &c.	*42·5*	*35·4*	*20·1*	*98·0*	*2·0*	
1932	219,355	399,766	191,763	810,884	23,144	834,028
Percentage of total, &c.	*26·3*	*47·9*	*23·0*	*97·2*	*2·8*	
1933	308,830	413,944	252,752	975,526	21,699	997,225
Percentage of total, &c.	*31·0*	*41·5*	*25·3*	*97·8*	*2·2*	
1934	506,251	544,777	206,947	1,257,975	31,417	1,289,392
Percentage of total, &c.	*39·3*	*42·2*	*16·1*	*97·6*	*2·4*	

† 1 ton = 4,800 nuts. ‡ 1 ton = 7,800 nuts. § 1 ton = 6,400 nuts.

The increase in the quantities exported in 1934 was mainly due to better yields during the year, as against the poor crops harvested in 1933 on account of abnormally dry weather.

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OFFERINGS AT DAMBULLA.

Copra.

The distribution of exports since 1930 compared with the average of 1911 to 1913 was as follows:—

	1911-13 (average). Tons.	1930. Tons.	1931. Tons.	1932. Tons.	1933. Tons.	1934. Tons.
India	3	68	1,125	14,376	23,764	32,677
Italy	—*	34,458	32,688	9,497	16,745	25,488
Holland	51	3,575	9,616	8,061	10,950	17,168
Germany	29,173	17,277	14,936	5,552	4,654	8,472
Turkey	—	1,299	2,531	2,149	2,701	2,569
Denmark	1,753	7,225	4,500	2,849	2,500	3,000
Greece	—	734	5,015	100	810	4,388
Norway	—	16,150	13,006	1,353	400	1,300
Belgium	609	4,250	5,000	50	201	2,061
United Kingdom	367	533	432	301	100	3,940
Other countries	10,597	5,061	5,017	1,411	1,515	4,406
	42,553	90,630	93,866	45,699	64,340	105,469

* Included in "other countries".

There was a record increase in shipments of copra by 64 per cent. from 64,340 in 1933 to 105,469 tons in 1934. India continued to be the largest buyer of Ceylon copra and increased her takings again this year by nearly 37.5 per cent. to 32,677 tons. Italy, Holland, and Germany too increased their purchases substantially, and there was also a considerable improvement in consignments to other continental countries, which had stood out of the market in the last few years.

The year opened with copra at Rs. 22.50 per candy and prices remained at about this level until March when they fell to Rs. 19. There was a recovery in May to Rs. 20.50 at which level the market remained steady until August, when prices gradually improved to Rs. 22.50. From October to the end of the year, there was a steady improvement in values and the year closed at Rs. 28.50 per candy. The average for the year was Rs. 21.98 as against Rs. 29.75 for 1933. The annual average prices since 1926 were:—

Year.	Average Price† per Candy. Rs. c.	Year.	Average Price† per Candy. Rs. c.
1926	79 40	1931	35 6
1927	76 88	1932	42 21
1928	76 22	1933	29 75
1929	64 47	1934	21 98
1930	52 36		

† The average prices for 1927 to 1934 are for top grades only; the averages for other years represent the lowest and highest overall weekly quotations received for all grades.

Coconut Oil.

The distribution of coconut oil exported from Ceylon was, as follows:—

	1930. Tons.	1931. Tons.	1932. Tons.	1933. Tons.	1934. Tons.
India	3,659	9,498	25,718	17,595	20,820
United Kingdom	7,591	9,057	7,629	9,788	12,005
Italy	4,330	3,044	1,365	4,035	4,077
Egypt	4,386	4,028	1,964	2,621	4,751
Sweden	3,847	3,342	562	2,367	4,392
British South Africa	1,014	2,659	657	2,279	3,457
Burma	109	413	1,648	2,071	2,803
Argentine	2,140	2,145	1,503	1,766	1,509
Belgium	1,040	1,130	1,256	1,144	1,490
Germany	1,198	1,197	2,077	872	2,372
United States of America	351	428	234	199	16
Poland	35	1,192	874	65	90
Fiume	2,240	1,719	656	—	—
Other countries	6,249	8,287	5,109	8,268	12,061
Total Exports	38,189	48,139	51,252	53,070	69,843

A further improvement in the steady expansion in the trade of coconut oil was recorded in 1934. Shipments increased by 31.6 per cent. from 53,070 tons to 69,843 tons, but owing to poor prices the value declined by Rs. 339,000 to Rs. 10,461,000. India continued to be the principal customer and increased her takings by 2,530 tons to 20,820 tons. There was also an improvement in shipments to the United Kingdom, which took 2,200 tons more than last year, and there was a general increase in the supplies to other destinations as well.

As usual, the market moved in sympathy with copra. The market opened at Rs. 160 per ton and the value declined to Rs. 132.50 in April. There was a slight improvement during May and June and prices touched Rs. 145 but again receded in July. The following month prices improved and this upward tendency continued for the rest of the year and the market closed at Rs. 175 per candy. The average quotation for 1934 was Rs. 149.98, as against Rs. 209.43 for 1933.

The average prices per ton f.o.b. since 1926 were :—

	Rs. c.		Rs. c.
1926	539 36	1931	253 52
1927	491 73	1932	283 75
1928	489 2	1933	209 43
1929	412 33	1934	149 98
1930	351 63		

Desiccated Coconut.

The distribution of the trade in desiccated coconut was as follows :—

	1930. Tons.	1931. Tons.	1932. Tons.	1933. Tons.	1934 Tons.
United Kingdom	14,594	15,642	14,914	20,568	14,112
Germany	6,426	5,582	6,011	6,971	6,935
Holland	2,442	2,154	1,539	2,310	2,235
Spain	1,383	1,198	1,356	1,377	1,422
Italy	962	874	663	726	856
Belgium	837	884	706	1,012	855
France	949	944	786	928	714
New Zealand	493	584	343	653	640
United States of America	2,327	1,729	558	684	625
Canada	1,170	740	520	436	576
Australia	632	164	71	112	95
Other countries	3,019	2,971	2,496	3,716	3,271
Total Exports	35,234	33,466	29,963	39,493	32,336

Shipments declined by 7,157 tons, or approximately 18 per cent., to 32,336 tons while the value fell by Rs. 2,612,000 to Rs. 4,135,000. Shipments to the United Kingdom decreased by 6,400 tons, but exports to other destinations, however, showed little variation from 1933.

The year opened with price at 5¼ cents per pound and continued without any appreciative variation until October, when the quotation touched 7 cents. During the remainder of the year, the market remained about this level and closed at the same figure. The average for 1934 was 6 cents per pound, as against 8 cents for the previous year. The average quotations since 1926 were as follows :—

Year.	Price per lb. Rs. c.	Year.	Price per lb. Rs. c.
1926	0 20	1931	0 10
1927	0 19	1932	0 11
1928	0 19	1933	0 8
1929	0 16	1934	0 6
1930	0 13		

Other Coconut Products.—Fresh coconuts, coir yarn, coir ropes, bristle fibre, mattress fibre, and coconut poonac are the other products which feature the export trade of Ceylon. It is interesting to note that the aggregate value of these products increased from Rs. 4,484,000 in 1933 to Rs. 4,796,000 in 1934, while the value realized by copra, coconut oil, and desiccated coconut as already indicated decreased in these two years.

Exports of these products since 1930 were:—

		Quantity. (In 1,000's.)					Value. (In 1,000's.)				
		1930.	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1930. Rs.	1931. Rs.	1932. Rs.	1933. Rs.	1934. Rs.
Poonac	cwt.	279	371	434	509	623	1,254	1,353	1,766	1,496	1,688
Bristle fibre	,,	171	169	171	187	208	1,345	1,077	1,210	1,097	896
Mattress fibre	,,	310	324	278	358	413	388	413	280	476	622
Coir yarn	,,	104	82	73	89	92	1,314	842	617	710	891
Coir rope	,,	12	9	9	8	7	159	110	108	80	79
Coir, other	,,	1	2	2	4	1	21	31	23	47	12
Fresh nuts	No.	208*	211*	231*	217*	314*	972	759	1,136	578	608
						Total	5,453	4,585	5,140	4,484	4,796

* In 100,000 nuts.

The average prices of these commodities were:—

	1930. Rs. c.	1931. Rs. c.	1932. Rs. c.	1933. Rs. c.	1934. Rs. c.
Poonac (per cwt.)	3 56	3 51	4 2	2 84	2 71
Bristle fibre (per cwt.)	8 23	6 65	7 95	6 35	4 31
Mattress fibre (per cwt.)	1 40	1 41	1 25	1 59	1 51
Coir yarn (per cwt.)	12 73	10 20	8 42	7 96	9 65
Coir rope	—	—	—	—	—
Coir other	—	—	—	—	—
Fresh nuts (per nut)	0 5	0 4	0 4	0 3	0 2

Minor Products.—In addition to the major products of tea, rubber, and coconut produce, there are a number of minor commodities entering into the export trade, particulars of which are indicated in the table below:—

	Quantity. (In 1,000's.)					Value. (In 1,000's.)				
	1930.	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1930. Rs.	1931. Rs.	1932. Rs.	1933. Rs.	1934. Rs.
Cacao (lb.)	8,648	8,587	9,243	7,282	9,113	2,937	2,320	2,192	1,545	1,802
Cinnamon quills and chips (cwt.)	44	42	48	49	44	1,780	1,177	993	987	1,163
Cardamoms ,,	2·8	2·7	2·7	3·2	3·4	454	375	373	338	356
Arecanuts ,,	113	102	99	105	90	2,621	1,678	1,400	1,285	996
Citronella oil (lb.)	1,214	1,203	1,280	1,459	1,528	1,346	948	1,203	1,274	804
Plumbago (cwt.)	174	134	122	191	231	1,775	1,225	1,023	1,214	1,655
					Total	10,913	7,723	7,184	6,643	6,776

The principal feature was an increase in the export of cacao by nearly 1,900,000 lb. of citronella oil by 70,000 lb. and plumbago by 40,000 cwt. There was a corresponding increase in value in the case of cacao and plumbago, but it is significant to note that the value of the exports of citronella oil declined by 50 per cent. to Rs. 804,000, although, there was a quantitative increase of nearly 16 per cent.

The average prices of the minor products were:—

	1930. Rs. c.	1931. Rs. c.	1932. Rs. c.	1933. Rs. c.	1934. Rs. c.
Cacao (per lb.)	0 33*	0 27*	0 25*	0 22*	0 21*
Cinnamon quills (cwt.)	66 8	41 44	31 36	28 0	31 48
Cardamoms (per cwt.)	189 28†	187 4†	148 96†	106 40‡	101 92‡
Citronella oil (per lb.)	1 12	0 80	0 94	0 87	0 55
Plumbago (per cwt.)	10 18	9 12	8 39	6 35	7 15

* For estate No. 1. † For bleached (Mysore). ‡ For greens.

The Import Trade.—In contrast to the decrease in the value of imports recorded in 1933, the trade in 1934 showed a considerable increase amounting to 40 million rupees, the value of imports being Rs. 216,996,000. There was a general increase under almost all categories of imports. The provenance of the import trade is summarized in the accompanying table, which gives the details of the principal commodities imported :—

		Quantity.*				Value.*			
		1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1931. Rs.	1932. Rs.	1933. Rs.	1934. Rs.
Rice ..	..cwt.	8,733..	8,839..	8,798..	9,553..	51,443..	50,192..	44,621..	52,475
Liquid fuel	..gal.	52,006..	61,773..	69,257..	69,586..	10,401..	11,578..	12,466..	12,529
Cotton piece goods	..yd.	54,716..	68,451..	60,588..	77,937..	13,211..	12,949..	10,293..	14,105
Fish dried, salted and Maldive ..	..cwt.	391..	403..	389..	416..	11,404..	9,522..	9,111..	10,461
Coal ..	..tons	494..	350..	405..	405..	10,495..	6,782..	7,498..	7,566
Sugar ..	..cwt.	1,454..	1,063..	1,207..	1,314..	8,147..	6,245..	6,400..	5,933
Petrol ..	..gal.	8,845..	8,191..	7,628..	9,330..	7,151..	5,952..	5,341..	7,467
Metal and metalware, ferrous ..	..cwt.	640..	552..	526..	797..	5,979..	4,816..	4,638..	6,948
Kerosene oil	..gal.	7,920..	6,433..	7,430..	7,731..	5,477..	3,964..	4,452..	5,277
Curry stuffs	..cwt.	307..	316..	311..	354..	4,650..	4,037..	4,178..	5,338
Paddy, pulses, and gram..	,,	827..	895..	722..	753..	5,166..	4,661..	3,478..	3,364
Onions and potatoes ..	,,	686..	705..	699..	787..	2,374..	2,723..	3,398..	3,673
Fertilizers ..	,,	1,752..	1,508..	782..	1,629..	7,798..	6,120..	2,825..	5,823
Tea and other chests	..No.	3,834..	3,717..	3,494..	3,459..	4,045..	3,333..	2,634..	2,780
Feeding stuffs	..cwt.	456..	456..	471..	317..	2,311..	2,295..	2,366..	2,148
Wheat flour ..	,,	375..	364..	308..	340..	2,241..	2,493..	2,203..	2,267
Motor cars and lorries	..No.	·7	·9	1..	3..	1,296..	1,536..	1,963..	5,007
Non-ferrous metals and manufactures	..cwt.	109..	121..	69..	64..	2,976..	2,510..	1,813..	2,083
Silk, broadstuff	..yd.	1,829..	2,194..	2,462..	4,076..	1,841..	1,833..	1,799..	2,613
Motor car tyres and tubes		— ..	— ..	— ..	— ..	2,177..	2,073..	1,527..	1,773
Soap ..	..cwt.	55..	49..	51..	51..	1,938..	1,541..	1,436..	1,604
Artificial silk	..yd.	4,827..	7,215..	8,304..	6,295..	1,732..	1,938..	1,394..	1,724
Cement ..	..cwt.	953..	781..	922..	1,074..	1,693..	1,168..	1,152..	1,307
Tobacco	..lb.	1,056..	863..	846..	1,127..	1,625..	1,209..	1,067..	1,235
Other commodities ..		— ..	— ..	— ..	— ..	51,132..	44,733..	39,244..	51,589
					Total ..	218,703	196,203	177,297	217,089

* In 1,000's.

Rice.—There was an appreciable increase in the imports of rice which amounted to 9,553,000 cwt., as against 8,798,000 cwt. in the previous year. Burma, which was the principal source of supply sent 61 per cent. of the total which may be compared with 71 per cent. in 1933. Supplies from Siam rose to 22 per cent. and were nearly three times the quantity she provided in 1932. The total value of imports rose from Rs. 44,621,000 to Rs. 52,475,000. The chief supplying countries were :—

		Quantity.†				Value.†			
		1931. Cwt.	1932. Cwt.	1933. Cwt.	1934. Cwt.	1931. Rs.	1932. Rs.	1933. Rs.	1934. Rs.
Burma ..	..	6,552..	6,095..	6,295..	5,874..	37,516..	32,739..	29,981..	29,944
British India	..	1,421..	1,725..	1,629..	1,353..	9,603..	11,939..	10,378..	10,566
Siam ..	..	454..	745..	787..	2,089..	2,602..	4,077..	3,870..	10,677
Cochin China	..	277..	232..	82..	39..	1,564..	1,217..	375..	198
Straits Settlements	..	28..	34..	1..	172..	157..	182..	5..	898
Other countries	..	— ..	7..	4..	26..	— ..	38..	12..	192
		8,733	8,839	8,798	9,553	51,443	50,192	44,621	52,475

† In 1,000's.

Other Articles of Food.—Fish, sugar, gram, curry stuffs, onions, and potatoes were the other principal articles of food imported. Supplies of dried, salted and Maldive fish, increased from 389,000 cwt. to 416,000 cwt. while their value advanced from Rs. 9,111,000 to

Rs. 10,461,000. Sugar, too, showed an increase of 107,000 cwt. the quantity imported in 1934 being 1,314,000 cwt., but its value declined by approximately Rs. 500,000 to Rs. 5,933,000. Supplies of curry stuffs were also higher, their imports rising by about 10 per cent. to 354,000 cwt., but owing to higher prices the value increased more than proportionately by nearly 28 per cent. to Rs. 5,338,000. The character of trade in this commodity is disclosed in the table below:—

	Quantity.*				Value.†			
	1931. Cwt.	1932. Cwt.	1933. Cwt.	1934. Cwt.	1931. Rs.	1932. Rs.	1933. Rs.	1934. Rs.
Chillies	1,468..	1,551..	1,523..	1,613..	2,804..	1,990..	2,745	3,670
Coriander seed ..	540..	541..	509..	686..	581..	669..	445..	546
Cummin seed ..	156..	125..	131..	147..	404..	219..	271..	378
Fennel seed	51..	51..	51..	61..	69..	54..	47..	55
Garlic	176..	231..	225..	247..	290..	578..	172..	177
Mathe seed	72..	64..	64..	67..	74..	60..	49..	42
Tamarind	487..	478..	491..	60..	306..	311..	301..	338
Turmeric	118..	119..	117..	12..	120..	153..	146..	131
Other	1..	1..	1..	1..	2..	2..	2..	1
Total ..	3,069	3,161	3,112	2,894	4,650	4,036	4,178	5,338

* In 100's. † In 1,000's.

Paddy, pulses and gram, in addition to rice, constitute the principal imports of grain. 228,000 cwt. of paddy, 407,000 cwt. of pulses and 118,000 cwt. of gram were imported in 1934. Compared with 1933 there was an increase of 10,000 cwt., in respect of the first, a decrease of 7,000 cwt. in respect of the second and an increase of 27,000 cwt. in respect of the third commodity. Along with grains may be considered wheat flour, which is principally imported from Australia. Supplies amounting to 340,000 cwt. of this commodity were received in 1934 and showed an increase of 32,000 cwt. over the previous year, but their value which was recorded at Rs. 2,267,000 showed little variation from the previous year.

Imports since 1931 were as follows:—

	1931. Cwt.	1932. Cwt.	1933. Cwt.	1934. Cwt.
Paddy	352,000 ..	413,700 ..	218,100 ..	228,300
Pulses	389,500 ..	383,500 ..	413,900 ..	406,600
Gram	85,000 ..	97,400 ..	90,200 ..	117,600

Spirits: Brandy, Whisky, and Gin.—The total of all these three commodities showed a comparatively large increase (18 per cent.) as compared with the previous year. Brandy imports exceeded those of 1933 by 22 per cent., Gin imports showed a slight increase after falling steadily since 1932, while the quantity of Whisky cleared for home consumption was the highest recorded since 1929. The quantities cleared during the last four years were:—

	1931. Gals.	1932. Gals.	1933. Gals.	1934. Gals.
Brandy	47,600 ..	29,200 ..	29,400 ..	36,100
Whisky	45,700 ..	39,100 ..	47,300 ..	56,100
Gin	42,900 ..	26,000 ..	21,300 ..	23,500
	136,200	94,300	98,000	115,700

Tobacco, Cigars, and Cigarettes.—While imports of unmanufactured tobacco and beedies have increased by 40 per cent. and 79 per cent. respectively, there has been a large drop amounting to 37 per cent. in cigarettes. The locally manufactured cigarettes are thus clearly gaining ground at the expense of the imported variety. The imports of

unmanufactured tobacco are the highest on record. This tobacco is turned into cigarettes locally and its increase explains the decrease in the imported variety. The importations under the various classes were :—

	1931. lb.	1932. lb.	1933. lb.	1934. lb.
Unmanufactured tobacco ..	872,100	673,400	721,000	1,012,500
Cigars	3,100	2,700	2,100	2,600
Cigarettes ..	133,400	86,200	88,100	55,400
Manufactured tobacco ..	10,100	6,400	6,000	6,000
Beedies	44,400	20,300	28,500	50,500
Total ..	1,063,100	789,000	845,700	1,127,000

Textiles.—As compared with 1933, imports of cotton piece goods increased by over 22 per cent. from 60,588,000 yards to 77,937,000 yards, while the value increased by 26 per cent., from Rs. 10,293,000 to Rs. 14,105,000. Supplies from the United Kingdom increased from 9,577,000 yards to 11,757,000 yards, Japan from 41,430,000 yards to 52,702,000 yards, and India from 9,039,000 yards to 12,339,000 yards.

Up to 1931, the United Kingdom headed the list of countries supplying piece goods, but Japan overtook her in 1932 and continued to increase her share of the local trade in this commodity. In the year under review, however, Japanese textile imports received a severe check with the imposition of quotas on non-Empire piece goods. Despite this handicap, her share in the trade remained unchanged at 68 per cent., while that of the United Kingdom declined from 16 per cent. to 15 per cent. The higher proportion secured by Japan was due to the fact that owing to the delay in introduction of the quotas, that country took the opportunity to forestall this measure by shipping inordinately large consignments during the first half of the year. The restrictive effects of the changes were thereby deferred, but the Empire countries, particularly the United Kingdom will no doubt reap during 1935 the full benefit of the restriction of Japanese imports. The following table shows the distribution of imports since 1931 as compared with 1913 :—

Year.	United Kingdom. Yds.*	India. Yds.*	Japan. Yds.*	Holland. Yds.*	Other Countries. Yds*	Total Quantity. Yds*.	Total Value. Rs.*
			Bleached.				
1913 ..	15,019	306	6	26	26	15,383	3,370
1931 ..	6,288	190	7,986	184	220	14,869	3,373
1932 ..	6,242	21	13,891	42	49	20,245	3,651
1933 ..	4,208	160	11,934	16	67	16,385	2,819
1934 ..	5,083	636	13,721	20	52	19,512	3,551
			Dyed.				
1913 ..	11,628	8,968	46	1,845	1,585	24,072	5,505
1931 ..	2,089	11,785	4,763	1,878	209	20,724	5,564
1932 ..	2,044	10,987	10,785	378	218	24,412	5,299
1933 ..	1,564	8,810	15,812	3	218	26,407	4,742
1934 ..	2,286	10,760	21,605	18	554	35,223	6,610
			Gray.				
1913 ..	4,206	216	—	3	827	5,252	1,060
1931 ..	1,668	22	571	—	321	2,582	528
1932 ..	2,336	21	1,702	1	492	4,552	765
1933 ..	705	23	2,628	—	255	3,611	506
1934 ..	676	469	3,564	—	346	5,055	760
			Printed.				
1913 ..	8,450	239	1	—	35	8,725	1,756
1931 ..	5,902	85	10,402	51	101	16,541	3,746
1932 ..	5,105	10	13,988	70	69	19,242	3,234
1933 ..	3,078	5	11,056	19	27	14,185	2,226
1934 ..	3,634	348	13,812	1	79	17,874	3,097

* In 1,000's.

The respective shares secured by Japan and the United Kingdom are indicated in the following table:—

	Japan.				United Kingdom.			
	1931. Per Cent.	1932. Per Cent.	1933. Per Cent.	1934. Per Cent.	1931. Per Cent.	1932. Per Cent.	1933. Per Cent.	1934. Per Cent.
Bleached goods	39	51	49	52	54	48	48	42
Dyed goods	15	34	45	50	14	14	13	13
Gray goods	18	39	57	58	69	59	32	24
Printed goods	43	48	57	60	55	51	42	38

The fundamental reason for the spectacular increase in Japanese imports in recent years is found in the extremely low prices of Japanese piece goods, which are generally about half the British price. Japanese importers have met with unqualified success in their policy of purveying articles to suit the consumer's pocket without scrupulous regard to quality. As will be seen from the accompanying table the British manufacturers have however achieved success in their efforts to reduce the prices of bleached and dyed piece goods, but as against this welcome feature, there is an unpleasant rise in gray and printed goods:—

	1931. Cts.	1932. Cts.	1933. Cts.	1934. Cts.
Bleached.				
United Kingdom	28·9	27·9	32·0	30·5
Japan	16·5	13·4	11·5	13·5
Dyed.				
United Kingdom	38·1	35·7	40·9	37·8
Japan	17·2	16·7	13·5	15·2
Gray.				
United Kingdom	21·4	19·5	22·7	26·9
Japan	15·9	12·8	11·1	12·3
Printed.				
United Kingdom	34·9	32·1	30·5	32·7
Japan	15·5	11·1	11·4	13·4

Metals and Manufactures (ferrous).—Imports of ferrous metals and metalware increased from 526,000 cwt. to 797,000 cwt., the respective values of which were Rs. 4,638,000 and Rs. 6,908,000. The improvement under this head indicates the upward trend in capital development. The United Kingdom accounted for 57 per cent. of the total value of imports. The share of Belgium was 17 per cent. while Germany and Japan supplied approximately 6 per cent. each.

Non-ferrous Metals and Metalware.—There was a slight decrease in the quantity imported in 1934 which was 64,000 cwt., as against 69,000 cwt. in 1933 but the value rose by over Rs. 250,000 to Rs. 2,082,000. The principal imports under this head were aluminium lining, the bulk of which was supplied by the United Kingdom, brass and copper wire and tea lead by India, and pig lead by Burma.

Cement.—Aggregate imports of cement increased by 152,000 cwt. to 1,074,000 cwt. Imports from Italy and Yugoslavia fell by 46,000 cwt. and 11,000 cwt. respectively, while supplies from the United Kingdom, Japan, and Germany rose by 84,000 cwt., 115,000 cwt. and 7,000 cwt. respectively. Japan is now the leading supplier of cement and the following table shows the rapid rise in the Japanese trade in this commodity:—

Year.	Imports (Cwt.) Total.	Imports (Cwt.) From Japan.	Year.	Imports (Cwt.) Total.	Imports (Cwt.) From Japan.
1929	1,609,000	20,000	1932	781,000	339,000
1930	1,300,000	60,000	1933	922,000	512,000
1931	953,000	247,000	1934	1,074,000	628,000

Fertilizers.—There was a welcome improvement in the importation of fertilizers. Imports had declined regularly from 1930 until 1933 when they amounted to 782,000 cwt. or nearly one-third of the quantity received four years earlier. In 1934, the imports rose to 1,629,000 cwt., an increase of more than 100 per cent. over the previous year. This improvement is a significant indication of the better conditions existing in the major industries of the Island. The chief kinds of manure and the countries from which they were mainly imported were:—

	1933.		1934.	
	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
Sulphate of ammonia (United Kingdom)	188,000	792,000	309,900	1,402,000
Groundnut poonac (British India)	104,300	318,000	216,200	540,000
Bone meal (British India)	144,200	441,000	181,100	499,000
Muriate of potash (Germany)	46,200	278,000	65,100	332,000
Fish guano (British India)	58,000	226,000	90,500	255,000
Refuse of saltpetre (British India)	17,500	113,000	39,400	254,000
Blood meal (Argentine)	5,400	40,000	23,400	194,000
Fish manure (British India)	39,400	109,000	85,100	176,000
Castor seed poonac (British India)	39,100	83,000	79,400	176,000
Superphosphate (Holland)	21,600	70,000	37,200	135,000
Sylvinite (Germany)	17,500	49,000	29,000	69,000

Fuel and Light.—As compared with 1933, the imports of liquid fuel increased by 320,000 gallons. Out of a total of 69,586,000 gallons, Persia supplied 85 per cent. and British North Borneo over 14 per cent. 62,240,000 gallons were re-shipped as bunkers as against 57,458,000 gallons supplied in 1933. The amount left for home consumption in 1934 was accordingly 7,341,000 gallons, a decrease of 4,700,000 gallons in comparison with the previous year. Imports of kerosene oil rose from 7,430,000 gallons valued at Rs. 4,452,000 in 1933, to 8,752,000 gallons, whose value amounted to Rs. 5,277,000 in 1933. In the case of petrol, there was an increase of over 3,000,000 gallons from 7,700,000 gallons in 1933 to 10,664,000 gallons in the following year. This apparently large increase does not indicate that internal consumption during the year has increased by a like amount, as this commodity is imported in bulk at irregular intervals and a large part of this increase must have gone to supplement local stocks.

Motor Vehicles.—There was a phenomenal increase in the number of motor cars and motor lorries imported. Arrivals of motor cars increased from 932 in 1933 to 1,913 in 1934; of these 1,555 cars representing 81 per cent. of the total and valued at Rs. 2,831,000, came from the United Kingdom. Imports of motor lorries too, increased from 203 valued at Rs. 378,000 to 893 valued at Rs. 1,506,000. It is interesting to note that 30 lorries of the Diesel engine type, all of which came from Germany, were imported during the year. The distribution of imports since 1930 were as follows:—

Year.	United Kingdom.	United States of America.	Canada.	France.	Italy.	Other Countries.	Total.	Value.
	Motor Cars.							
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	Rs.*
1930	540	333	168	64	71	6	1,182	2,359
1931	373	85	14	40	40	1	553	996
1932	691	29	22	7	19	—	768	1,272
1933	850	24	29	3	26	—	932	1,585
1934	1,555	104	202†	22	23	7	1,913	3,501
	Motor Lorries.							
1930	43	330	96	4	4	—	477	949
1931	31	95	12	4	2	—	144	300
1932	49	39	46	—	—	—	134	264
1933	81	60	51	—	—	11	203	378
1934	152	378	331	1	—	31	893	1,506

* In 1,000's.

† Includes 19 motor car bodies, value—Rs. 18,246.

Tea and Other Chests.—The imports fell from 3,494,000 valued at Rs. 2,633,717 to 3,459,150 valued at Rs. 2,780,233. The quantity thus decreased by 1 per cent., but the value increased by 6 per cent. as a result of higher prices of chests, the average per chest rising from 75 to 80 cents. The following table shows the imports of chests during the last four years:—

Year.	Quantity. No.	Value. Rs.	Year.	Quantity. No.	Value. Rs.
1931	3,833,803	4,044,725	1933	3,494,221	2,633,717
1932	3,717,191	3,333,039	1934	3,459,150	2,780,233

SHIPPING.

4,024 vessels with a total tonnage of 13,165,239 tons entered the ports of the Island of Ceylon in 1934, as against 3,742 vessels with a tonnage of 12,367,489 in 1933.

The following table shows the classification under the four general heads:—

	1933.		1934.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Merchant vessels, other than sailing and coasting vessels	2,810	11,378,196	2,956	12,042,276
Merchant vessels (called to coal, oil, &c.)	198	620,154	208	655,285
Sailing vessels, other than coasting vessels	662	59,658	755	62,676
Warships and transports*	72	309,481	105	405,002
	3,742	12,367,489	4,024	13,165,239

* Warships' displacement tonnage.

Excluding warships and transports, 3,919 vessels entered the ports in Ceylon, with a tonnage of 12,760,237 tons, as against 3,670 vessels in 1933 with a tonnage of 12,058,008 tons and 3,778 vessels in 1932 with a tonnage of 12,160,339 tons.

The number of merchant vessels, other than sailing and coasting vessels, entering the ports of the Island increased by 146 and 80 respectively as compared with 1933 and 1932; there was an increase of 10 in the number of vessels calling to take in coal and a decrease of 12 in the number calling for oil bunkers.

The following table shows the number of British and foreign vessels, other than sailing and coasting vessels which have entered Ceylon ports since 1928:—

	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.
British	2,322	2,460	2,206	2,246	2,099	1,983	2,061
Dutch	217	228	211	167	123	137	143
French	151	156	137	122	126	126	123
German	246	307	293	256	198	198	217
Italian	113	143	131	129	120	132	138
Japanese	185	179	171	199	208	175	194
Norwegian	108	102	127	106	107	131	148
Other foreign nations	146	148	165	153	115	126	140
Total foreign	1,166	1,263	1,235	1,132	997	1,025	1,103
Percentage.							
British	67	66	64	67	68	66	65
Foreign	33	34	36	33	32	34	35

It will be observed that British shipping has fallen by 1 per cent., as compared with the previous year. Amongst the foreign callers Dutch, German, Italian, Japanese, and Norwegian vessels show an increase: Germany occupied the first place in 1933 and 1934.

Excluding warships and transports, coasting vessels and merchant vessels which called only to coal, oil, &c., the distribution according to flags was as follows:—

	1933.		1934.	
	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.
British	1,838	6,600,506	1,916	7,033,237
British Colonial	662	59,658	755	62,676
Total British Vessels	2,500	6,659,164	2,671	7,095,913
American	42	225,592	48	248,627
Danish	36	134,510	46	151,049
Dutch	134	878,086	140	882,461
French	122	790,778	118	771,531
German	186	836,682	203	910,178
Italian	129	662,975	130	678,034
Japanese	172	854,222	191	929,565
Norwegian	116	274,253	134	325,746
Swedish	35	120,592	30	111,848
Total foreign vessels	972	4,777,690	1,040	5,009,039

BUREAU OF INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE.

Under the new Constitution the subjects of Industry and Commerce were assigned to the Ministry of Labour, Industry and Commerce and the policy of the Ministry is to assist the development of the industrial and commercial activities of Ceylon. To execute these new functions a Bureau of Industry and Commerce was formed as a section of the Department of the Registrar-General who was placed in charge of these subjects in his capacity as the Director of Commercial Intelligence.

The activities of the Bureau of Industry and Commerce steadily expanded during 1934. The flow of trade inquiries from Europe and elsewhere is on the increase and the Bureau is being firmly established as a connecting link between exporters and importers in this country and importers and exporters abroad. A list of reliable traders classified for departmental purposes according to their standing has been prepared and inquiries received from customers overseas are circulated among the persons included in the list. The next step will be to compile a directory of dealers and exporters of Ceylon produce for circulation among Government departments and trade associations abroad. It is yet too early to undertake this task as sufficient time has not yet elapsed to test the reliability and financial standing of a majority of the less known firms.

With a view to placing Ceylon inquirers in touch with importers abroad, the Bureau maintains a register of foreign importers of Ceylon produce. This list is being added to from time to time as new trade connections are established through the medium of the Bureau. The aim should of course be to make this register as comprehensive as possible but this ideal cannot be achieved in the absence of trade commissioners or correspondents abroad to represent the Bureau in the principal commercial centres of the world. Until such a stage is reached, the Bureau will have to resort to other expedients. The feasibility of establishing connections with the principal market centres

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CEILING PAINTING—DAMBULLA.

through correspondents abroad in order that the department may secure first-hand information on market conditions is being investigated.

A considerable number of inquiries and requests for information or assistance were received and dealt with in the year. It is not possible in an annual review of the present character to describe in detail the nature of inquiries handled by the Bureau. Trade inquiries were received from Europe, United States of America, Africa, China, Egypt, India, Palestine, and Persia. The Bureau is now and then called upon to act the part of mediator in connection with complaints lodged against local importers by foreign firms or against foreign importers by local firms. Happily there has been no occasion to bring undue pressure to bear on defaulters and no party introduced by the Bureau has defaulted; generally a mere statement of the complaint has had the desired effect of bringing about a settlement.

As a result of the experience gained during the last two years the commercial intelligence service organized by the Bureau has been improved to meet the requirements of local and overseas inquirers. Steps have been taken to assemble statistical and other information of a commercial character useful to Ceylon trade and industry, and for this purpose arrangements were made with overseas commercial institutions, both official and unofficial, for the exchange and supply of customs and statistical returns, trade publications, financial journals, market reports, and other commercial literature. The commercial library of the Bureau has received considerable additions. The number of periodicals received in a month exceeds 75.

As no systematic review of prices of commodities is at present available to the public, it is proposed to publish a trade journal which will contain a special section devoted to the treatment of price data, both descriptively and analytically. As a preliminary step, data have been collected regarding the course of prices, local as well as foreign, in the past years. The Imperial Institute was approached last year and through the good offices of that body very valuable information has been received at the time of writing. The editing of the trade journal is a task likely to absorb almost the whole time of one staff officer, but with the present staff it is not possible to afford the exclusive attention required for preparation. However, every endeavour is being made to bring about early publication of the journal and it is hoped that the journal will serve as a useful medium of communication between the department and the business world.

A further stage in developing the policy of the Executive Committee of Labour, Industry and Commerce to foster Ceylon trade abroad by the appointment of Trade Representatives was reached when the vote for the Ceylon House in London was passed by the State Council. The proposal is to establish the Ceylon House in charge of a Trade Commissioner who will bring to the notice of the business world and the general public in England as well as on the Continent the products of Ceylon, and advertise Ceylon abroad generally as a tourist resort. The Ceylon House will also serve to keep the local Bureau fully in touch with commercial developments abroad, and abreast of all commercial knowledge that will be of value to the trade of Ceylon. The plan will be tried for three years in the first instance and a sum of Rs. 50,000 has been provided for the first year's expenditure. A prominent site has been secured for the Ceylon House in London.

The building forms part of Australia House and is situated in the Strand. Steps were taken in the latter part of the year to complete the preliminaries and it is hoped to make the appointment of the Trade Representative early in 1935.

The reports of Mr. Sri Pathmanathan, Temporary Trade Representative for Southern Europe and Egypt, and of Mr. W. A. Beer, Honorary Trade Commissioner for the United States of America, were published as Sessional Papers. It has become clear that in order to obtain maximum results, the preparatory work done by temporary trade representatives should be followed up by further investigations by establishing connections through correspondents with the centres visited by the representatives. The ideal should be to appoint permanent trade representatives where prospects of trade in Ceylon produce appear most promising. Mr. Sri Pathmanathan's inquiries in Southern Europe and Mr. Beer's investigations into the possibilities of further trade with United States of America and Japan have given useful indication of the potentialities of markets that invite further activity.

Requests for technical assistance and advice were received during the year, but owing to lack of a qualified staff it was not possible in most instances to comply with them. But wherever possible attempts were made to satisfy inquirers by obtaining the advice of technical officers of other departments. Now that the Adviser on Industries has been appointed the Bureau should be in a position to give technical advice and assistance to those who wish to start new industries or to remodel existing ones.

Applications for financial assistance to start pioneer industries were received from various parties, but as the State Council had made no provision for granting State aid to industries it was not possible to consider these requests. The Standing Committee on Industrial Research and Development consisting of Messrs. A. E. Goonesinha (Chairman), M. J. Cary, I. X. Pereira, M. K. Saldin, D. J. Wimalasurendra, and Dr. Reginald Child held its monthly meetings during the year. Among the subjects which came up for discussion were the grant of cheap electric power to small or nascent industries, manufacture of tea chests out of suitable local woods, establishment of an emporium of economic products, protection for locally manufactured soaps, candles, and matches, and employment of returned Hewavitarne Industrial Scholars. Dr. Child's advice on technical problems was of great assistance to the Committee in its deliberations.

The functions of the Bureau of Industry and Commerce, when fully developed, comprise the following:—

(1) To answer trade inquiries which are directed to the development of markets for Ceylon produce.
(2) To furnish commercial information required by Government departments and individuals.
(3) To assist business visitors to Ceylon by means of letters of introduction, help and advice.
(4) To explore the possibilities of new industries and to conduct investigations into neglected industries.
(5) To collect an adequate technical and commercial library.
(6) To assist organizations and individuals in Ceylon to participate in exhibitions and trade fairs held in Ceylon or abroad.

(7) To initiate representations by the Ceylon Government in regard to tariff duties, &c., on Ceylon products in other countries.

(8) To foster Ceylon's overseas trade by the appointment of trade representatives and to take such other steps as may be necessary for the development of overseas markets for Ceylon produce.

CHAPTER VIII.

Wages and the Cost of Living.

Labour in Ceylon.

1.—*Agricultural.*

ABOUT 850,000 acres are cultivated in paddy. The whole of this area is worked by village labour usually by the owner or lessee of the land, and his relations, but frequently also by hired labour.

The Estates.—The principal crops grown under estate conditions are tea, rubber and coconuts. Tea estates almost entirely, and rubber estates for the most part, are worked by men labour imported from South India (Tamil or Telugu). A few Indians are also employed on coconut estates, but these are mostly worked by Ceylonese.

At the end of 1934 the total number of Indians on estates was roughly 675,000 as compared with 609,535 at the end of 1933. The total number of arrivals of estate labourers during the year amounted to 140,607 and the departures to 54,790, a net increase of 85,817.

2.—*Industrial.*

A large number of labourers are employed in various activities connected with the port of Colombo, *e.g.*, as stevedore coolies, or in the coal-yards and marine engineering works.

Wages.—Under Ordinance No. 27 of 1927 a minimum wage is fixed for Indian labourers on tea and rubber estates and the new rates of wages in force from November 16, 1934, are—

	Men. cents.	Women. cents.	Children. cents.	
Up-country	49	39	29	with rice at Rs. 4·80 per bushel
Mid-country	43	35	25	
Low-country	41	33	24	

In 1927 a Commission appointed to inquire into wages earned by the harbour workers in Colombo recommended the following rates which were accepted by the employers:—

	Loading Cargo. Rs. c.	Discharging Cargo. Rs. c.
Day, Full	1 75	1 60
Broken Periods, 6 A.M. to 12 noon	1 0 (*i.e.*) (87 plus 10)	0 90 (*i.e.*) (80 plus 10)
12 noon to 6 P.M.	0 87 *	0 80 *
or Every half or part thereof	0 20 †	0 20 †
Night—		
Full	3 50	3 20
Half	1 75 *	1 60 *
Broken Periods—		
For every hour between 6 P.M. and midnight	0 30	0 30

* Subject to the qualification that wages by the hour for any fraction of a half day or half night shal not exceed the wages payable for the whole of that half day or half night.

† A full night's wages are payable when a labourer works from 6 P.M. to any fraction of the night beyond midnight.

The following table shows the classification adopted by Government for daily and hourly paid labour:—

		Rates per Hour.	
		Minimum. cents.	Maximum. cents.
Minor supervising grades	Class A I.	48	81
	A II.	31	63
Tradesmen	Class A III.	36	53
	A IV.	20	35
Semi-skilled labour	Class A V.	12	20
Unskilled labour	Class A VI.	8	14
Trade apprentices	Class A VII.	10	18
Women and boys	Class A VIII.	3	10

		Rates per Diem.	
		Minimum. Rs. c.	Maximum. Rs. c.
Minor supervising grades	Class B I.	3 84	6 48
	B II.	2 48	5 4
Skilled labour	Class B III.	2 88	4 24
	B IV.	1 60	2 80
Semi-skilled labour	Class B V.	0 96	1 60
Unskilled labour	Class B VI.	0 64	1 12
Trade apprentices	Class B VII.	0 80	1 44
Women and boys	Class B VIII.	0 24	0 80

Estates employing Indian labour are required by law to pay their labourers monthly. In Colombo wages are often paid every week or fortnight.

Other Conditions affecting Labour.

On nearly all estates the resident labour force is provided with *free housing accommodation*. In Colombo a few firms make similar provision for their labourers, but in most cases the labourers find their own lodgings. Indians employed by the stevedore contractors are generally housed in a "kittangi"—a sort of barrack where the men sleep together in one large room.

Medical Attention and Provision for Old Age.—Estate labourers are entitled to free medical treatment either at the estate hospital (if there is one) or at the nearest Government hospital. Other labourers are entitled to free treatment at Government hospitals if they earn less than Rs. 50 per month in wages.

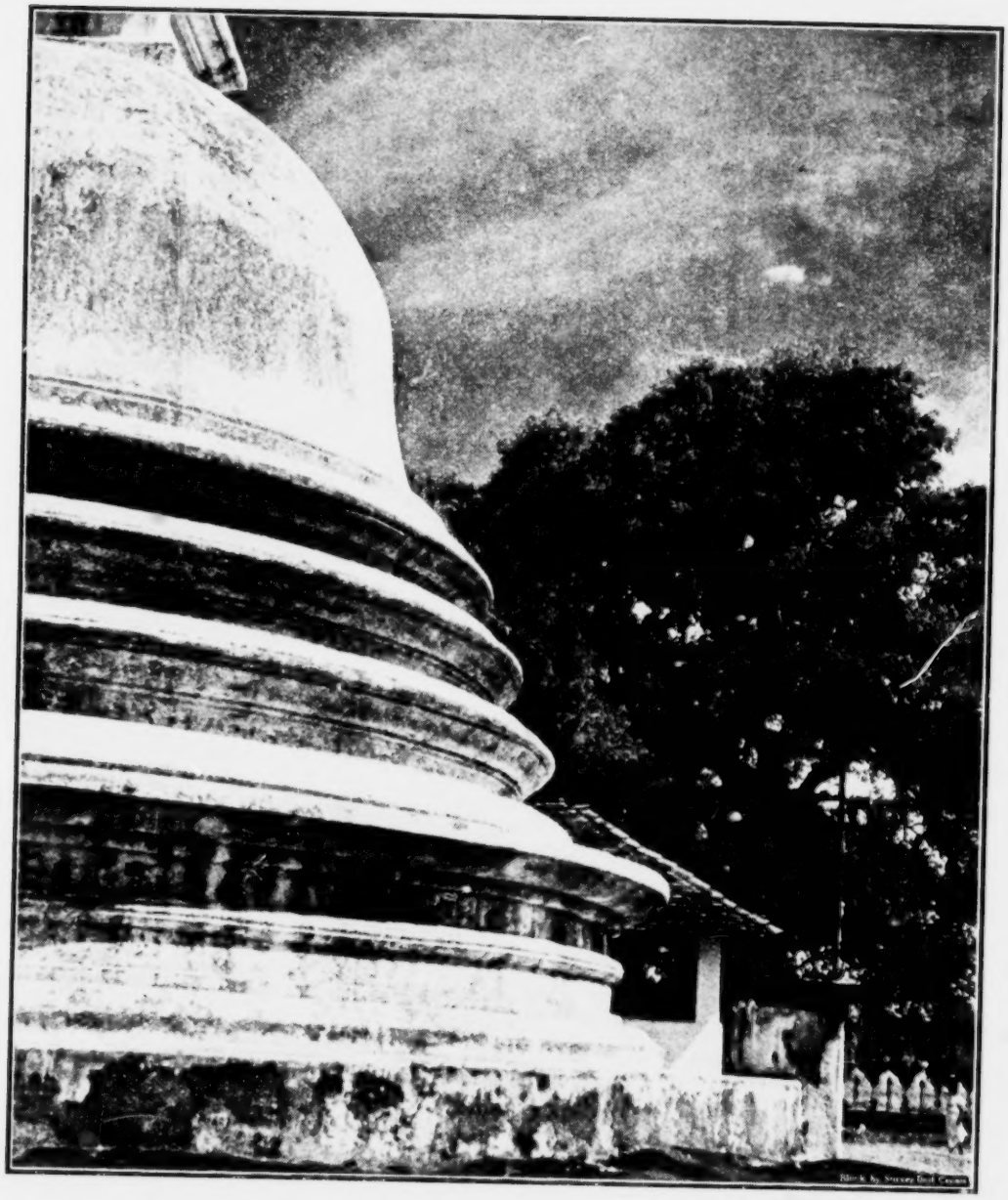
Female labourers on estates are entitled to free lodgings and medical care for one month after confinement.

Indian Labour on Estates.—Sick and indigent labourers are repatriated to India at the expense of the Immigration Fund.

Most estates pay a pension to deserving labourers who are no longer able to work. Compensation is paid voluntarily for injuries received during the course of work. Free meals are usually given daily to children.

Trades Unions.—In Colombo these are well organized and exert a considerable influence. A bill providing for the registration and control of Trades Unions, and according to them certain legal privileges, is under the consideration of the State Council.

Workmen's Compensation.—An Ordinance to provide for the payment of compensation to workmen who are injured in the course of their employment was passed by the State Council and assented to by His Excellency the Governor at the end of the year. It is expected that it will be proclaimed early in 1935.



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TEMPLE PRECINCTS—LANKATILLEKE.

CHAPTER IX.

Education and Welfare Institutions.

Control.—Primary and secondary education in Ceylon is administered by the Department of Education, assisted by a Board of Education and 23 Education District Committees.

Board of Education.—The Board of Education is composed of 20 members nominated by the Governor. The Director of Education is Chairman and the personnel of the Board includes Members of the State Council, Managers of Schools, and teachers. The main duties of the Board are to consider questions of legislation and to advise the Government on any other matters especially referred to it for advice. It is not an administrative or executive body and all regulations which are recommended by the Board require the approval of the Governor, and are thereafter laid before the State Council for approval.

Education District Committees.—An Education District Committee has been constituted in each Municipality and Revenue District. These Committees are appointed by the Governor, and consist partly of officials and partly of unofficials. They are responsible first for putting into effect the rules relating to compulsory education and they frame by-laws and employ attendance officers for this purpose. Secondly, they erect and maintain Government schools where these are required. They are financed by an annual grant from the Department, which is allocated on the basis of an approved programme of works submitted each year to the Department.

Schools and Attendance.—The system of education in Ceylon provides a course of education leading to University degrees in arts, and science, and diplomas in medicine and law.

The schools of Ceylon are not divided on a basis of race or nationality. All schools which are maintained by Government or assisted by means of grants are compelled by law to admit pupils irrespective of race, nationality, or religion.

Attendance at school between the ages of six and fourteen is compulsory, subject to a few exceptions. Such compulsion, however, applies only when school accommodation is provided within a reasonable distance of the residence of the pupil.

There are three distinct types of school: schools administered directly by Government, and schools assisted by Government and under the immediate control of private managers, and schools maintained by Government and managed by private managers.

There are 81 maintained schools. Local managers are appointed for such schools and are responsible for the selection of a suitable staff but the whole cost of staff and maintenance is borne from Government funds.

There are 1,566 Government schools, and the arrangements for the staffing of these are entirely in the hands of the Department. All examinations for the issue of teachers' certificates and of otherwise testing efficiency, and all appointments, transfers, &c., are also dealt with by the Department.

Assisted Schools and the Grant System.—There are in addition 2,666 assisted schools under the immediate control of private managers.

These schools receive an annual grant from the Education Department. In the case of vernacular schools, the annual grant is calculated as the total amount of the salaries paid to an efficient staff plus an additional amount for maintenance. No fees are charged in vernacular schools. In the case of the English schools, however, fees are charged and from such fees the manager has to provide a fixed sum towards the salary of each teacher he employs. The grant consists of the balance of such salaries.

In addition to Government and assisted schools, there is a certain number of private schools which are not assisted in any way from Government funds. Such schools are, however, subject to inspection by the Department.

The type of instruction given in Ceylon schools can be considered under two main headings: (i.) non-vocational instruction; (ii.) vocational instruction.

Classification of Schools.—Under the heading of non-vocational instruction is included the type of instruction which is general and academic, and by far the larger number of schools come under this class. These schools are classified as follows:—

English.	Bilingual.	Vernacular.
Collegiate	Senior Secondary	Senior Secondary
Senior Secondary	Junior Secondary	Junior Secondory
Junior Secondary	Primary	Primary
Primary		

The Primary schools provide a course of instruction from the Kindergarten up to Standard V. The course usually lasts six years.

The Junior Secondary schools provide a course of instruction from the Kindergarten up to the School-Leaving Certificate. The course usually lasts ten years.

The Senior Secondary schools provide in addition to the course for the Junior Secondary schools, a further course up to the standard of the London Matriculation Examination. The course usually lasts twelve years.

The Collegiate school is an English school which provides a course of instruction from Form I. or Standard VI. up to the standard of the London Matriculation Examination. The course usually lasts six years.

The vast majority of students complete their education at the Junior Secondary stage.

In addition to the schools that come under the above classification, there is a certain number of temple schools, which are known as Pirivenas. These schools are primarily intended for the Buddhist priesthood, and are not compelled to adopt the syllabus of work used by the ordinary schools.

Vocational Schools.—Under the heading of vocational schools come those schools which give a specialized form of instruction. Apart from one Technical School, these can be divided into part-time schools and full-time schools. Under the heading of part-time instruction is included a variety of home industries, which are taught to pupils in certain schools in addition to the ordinary academic course. Under the heading of full-time industrial schools come institutions for the training of teachers, technical schools, agricultural schools, and industrial schools. The course in training schools is usually one of two years. In technical schools it varies according to the subject which is studied. In agricultural schools courses are entirely for adults who

intend either to teach agricultural science or to become practical agriculturists. There is a variety of full-time industrial schools. All industrial schools are conducted upon a profit-sharing principle, so that the pupils benefit by whatever articles they produce. The course is one of two or three years. The subjects in which instruction is given are:—Carpentry, weaving, basket work, pottery, printing, lacquer work, blacksmith work, and a few other minor industries.

The Medium of Instruction.—The medium of instruction in schools varies according to the type of schools. In vernacular schools the medium of instruction is entirely Sinhalese or Tamil. This group of schools includes 82 per cent. of all the school-going children in Ceylon.

In bilingual schools the vernacular language is the medium of instruction for the first four or five years of school life, after which a course of English is introduced in Standard IV. Every year thereafter the number of periods allotted to English is increased. The vernacular, however, continues to be taught throughout the whole course. There are also vernacular schools where an optional course of English, for one period a day, is given in all classes above Standard III.

In the case of the third group of schools, viz., English schools, two methods are employed in giving instruction in the English language.

In the first method pupils are admitted at the earliest stage of school life, viz., the Kindergarten. Pupils admitted in this way have usually a working knowledge of English, so that their progress in mastering the language is very rapid.

The second method employed is a two-year special course in English for pupils, who transfer from vernacular schools to English schools. The pupils who enter this course are approximately nine years of age, and have already received instruction in their own mother tongue in the primary standards. This course is an intensive one, in which the direct method of teaching a foreign language is employed. After completing this course pupils are able to enter the ordinary standards of the English school, in which the medium of instruction is English. In the majority of such schools the vernacular languages continue to be taught throughout the upper classes.

It will be seen, therefore, that in the system of instruction prevailing in Ceylon the pupils are given the following alternative courses:—(1) A full course of instruction in the vernacular languages; (2) a full course of instruction in the vernacular languages plus a working knowledge of English; and (3) a full course of instruction in English, not merely for pupils whose mother tongue is English, but for those who at the beginning of school life have no knowledge of that language.

SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF AND BLIND.

During the year 1934, 37 new children were admitted of whom 16 are deaf and 21 are blind. The total attendance is now 370 exclusive of the 5 blind babies in the nursery, comprised as follows:—

	School.			
The number of Blind girls	..	..	54	
The number of Deaf girls ..	..	..	62 ..	116
The number of Blind boys ..	..	..	61	
The number of Deaf boys ..	..	..	107 ..	168
	Workshops.			
The number of Deaf women ..	..	..	16	
The number of Blind women	..	..	14 ..	30
The number of Deaf men ..	..	..	25	
The number of Blind men ..	..	..	31 ..	56
				370

Health.—There has been no serious case of illness and the health of the children generally has been very good throughout the year.

School Buildings.—A small sick-room for the use of the elder boys has been erected, and a new wing with accommodation for 20 in the boys' hostel is now nearing completion.

Industrial Work.—Progress in this department has been steady but of necessity slow—this year 2 more of the blind boys trained in the Weaving Department have set up looms for themselves in their own home, and those working in the Rattan school have gained greater efficiency and several are now able to carry out their work unaided. The boys in the Carpentry workshop have been kept busy but there is great difficulty in finding a market for their work.

The institution continues to employ a number of those who have passed through the school, in all 28, comprised as follows:—

Assistant teachers, deaf ..	4	Barber, deaf	1
Assistant teachers, blind ..	2	Cooks, deaf	3
Assistant matron partially blind	1	Appu, deaf	1
Mechanic, deaf ..	1	Pumpers, blind ..	8
Sewing women, deaf ..	3		
Tailors, dea.	3		28
Gardener, deaf ..	1		

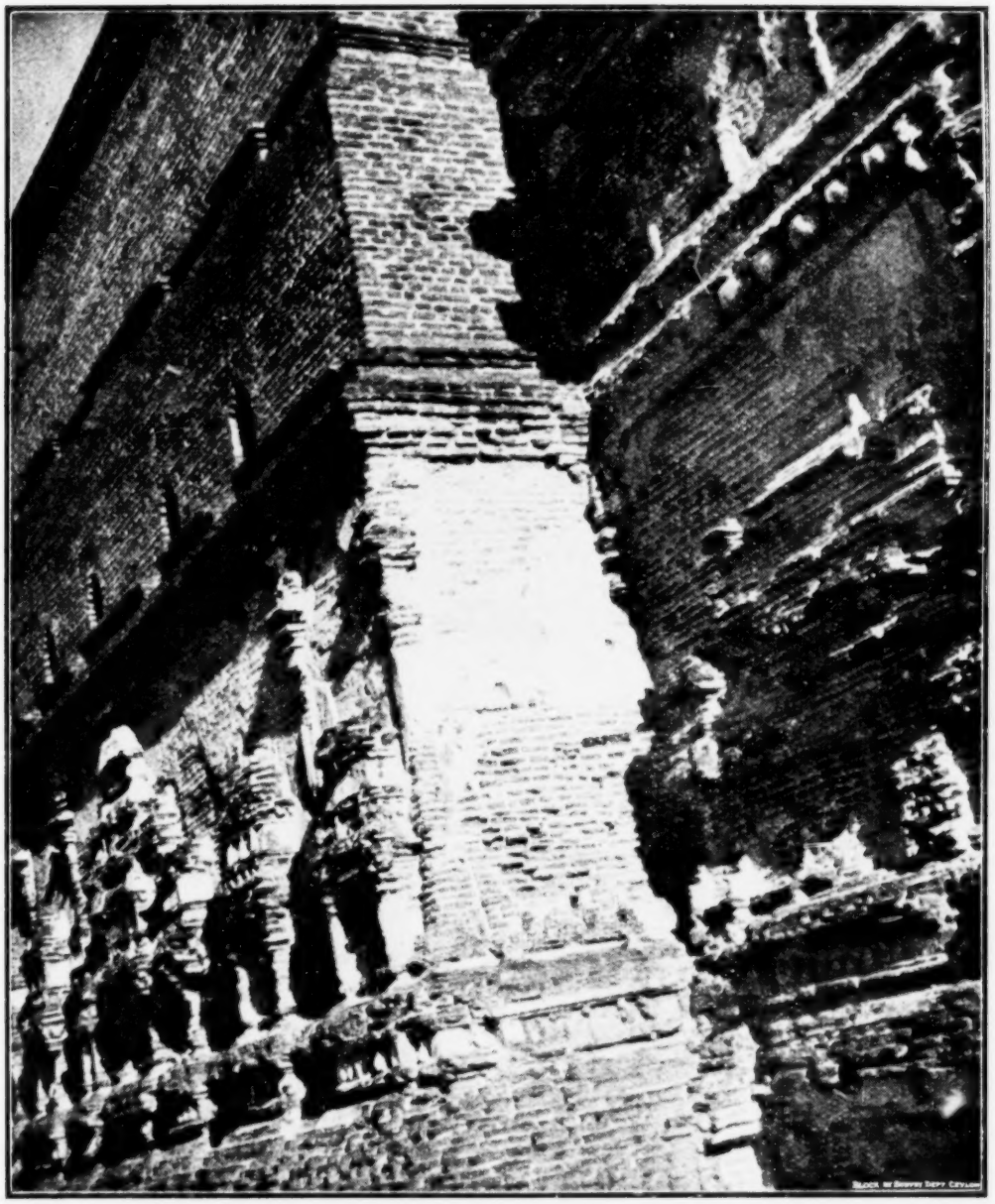
During the year suitable employment has been found for former pupils in farming, gardening and the Government Railway workshops —but the problem of finding employment for the boys and girls as they pass out of the school presents an increasing difficulty and calls for the inauguration of some definite scheme to aid the deaf and blind to become self-supporting.

Orphanges.—Educational facilities are provided for orphans or destitute children. A maintenance grant of Rs. 75 is paid to the Manager of an approved Orphanage or Home on account of each orphan or destitute child who is between the ages of $\frac{\text{5 and 15 (in an Assisted Vernacular school)}}{\text{5 and 17 (in an Assisted English school)}}$ at the beginning of the school year and who has been in residence at an Orphanage or Home for a period of not less than 9 months and has regularly attended a registered school during this period. Such grants during 1934 amounted to Rs. 119,505.

Reformatory.—There is only one reformatory school to which juvenile offenders are admitted. Here they are taught different trades such as gardening, carpentry, tailoring, cooking, bookbinding, iron-work, printing, weaving, &c., while undergoing their term of punishment. Eighty-seven juvenile offenders were admitted during the year bringing the total to 384.

Prisoners.—There are schools for prisoners at two jails in the Colombo District. There are 42 pupils at one end and 135 pupils at the other. Social workers conduct English classes for certain prisoners at the latter jail. The jail school at Kandy has 6 pupils.

Lepers.—There are two schools for lepers: one at Hendala and another at Mantivu which are conducted by the Sisters of the Franciscan Order. The school at Hendala consists of three sections, *i.e.*, English, Tamil, and Sinhalese containing 38, 26, and 17 pupils,



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ANCIENT WALLS— POLONNARUWA.

respectively. The ages of the pupils range from 12 to 48. The average is 50. The Mantivu Leper School, also consisting of 3 sections, has 11 pupils in the English section, 9 in the Sinhalese, and 7 in the Tamil.

The Langdon Home.—In Badulla District there is one institution which receives assistance from Government for training women in industrial work and household management. After a period of training, these women go into the villages and teach the older girls reading, writing, sewing, embroidery, and lacemaking. They also give instruction in the art of clean and efficient housekeeping and also encourage the practice of thrift.

Pensions, &c.—Government teachers are pensionable and in addition make contributions to a Widows' and Orphans' Pension Scheme. Teachers in assisted schools are eligible for a pension similar to that of Government teachers, but the pension scheme in assisted schools is on a contributory basis.

THE CEYLON UNIVERSITY COLLEGE.

The University College was established in 1921 for the purpose of affording facilities for higher education to students in Ceylon.

Numbers.—The number of students on the roll in July, 1934, the beginning of the academic year, 1934-35, was 450, including 55 women students. The figures for 1921-33 were as follows:—

1921	..	166	1926	..	313	1931	..	355
1922	..	217	1927	..	279	1932	..	377
1923	..	262	1928	..	315	1933	..	417
1924	..	262	1929	..	338			
1925	..	256	1930	..	394			

Courses.—The College offers instruction in Latin, Greek, Sanskrit, Pali, English, Sinhalese, Tamil, Logic, Philosophy, History, Geography, Economics, Pure Mathematics, Applied Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Botany, and Zoology.

Honours courses are provided in Classics, English, Indo-Aryan (Sanskrit and Pali), History, Mathematics, Chemistry, Botany, Zoology, and Physics.

The College course is normally one of three years. At the end of the first year students take the (External) Intermediate Arts, Science, and Economics examinations of the University of London conducted in Ceylon. At the end of the third year they take the final examinations for the B.A. (General), B.A. (Honours), B.Sc. (General), B.Sc. (Special), and the B.Sc. (Economics) Degrees of the same University.

Students who intend to join the medical profession are given one year's course of instruction in Physics, Chemistry, and General Biology, at the end of which they take either the First M.B. Examination of the University of London or the Pre-Registration Examination of the Ceylon Medical College, or both.

Graduates.—On the results of the examinations held in June, 1934, 29 candidates qualified themselves for the B.A. and B.Sc. degrees of the University of London.

The total number of graduates from the University College from the time of its inception in 1921 is 304 of whom 24 obtained Honours in Classics, 10 in English, 22 in History, 34 in Mathematics, 11 in Indo-Aryan, 9 in Chemistry, 3 in Botany, and 3 in Zoology.

Hostels.—Most of the students not living with their parents or relations are residing in four hostels affiliated to the College and subject to the College rules and regulations. These hostels are administered by extra-university bodies and are subsidized by the Government.

University College Council.—This Council, which consists of twenty members nominated by His Excellency the Governor, advises the Principal of the College in matters relating to the administration of the College, and the preparation for its conversion into a University.

THE CEYLON MEDICAL COLLEGE.

The Ceylon Medical College was established in 1870 in the form of a medical school capable of affording a practical education on the principles of medicine and surgery, and especially midwifery, together with a practical knowledge of Anatomy, Physiology, Materia Medica, Pharmaceutical Chemistry, and the art of dispensing. It had originally a Principal and three lecturers, and the whole course took only three years.

This course was later increased from time to time in order to keep abreast with the progress of medical science. In 1887 recognition was granted by the General Medical Council of the United Kingdom, and the diploma became registrable in Great Britain and all parts of the Empire.

In 1924 the complete extended curriculum of one year's pre-medical study (Chemistry, Physics, Biology) and five years' medical study was adopted.

The College now provides the complete course of instruction required for the practice of modern Medicine, Surgery, and Midwifery. Including the course of preliminary or pre-registration work in Physics, Chemistry, and Biology, which is provided by arrangement at the University College, Colombo, the whole course takes six years.

In addition to the complete medical curriculum, the College provides a course of instruction for a minor grade of medical practitioners, known as Apothecaries. These receive a two years' course of instruction in Anatomy, Physiology, Chemistry, Pharmacy, Pharmacology and Dispensing, Elementary Medicine, Surgery, and Midwifery, both theoretical and clinical, and Surgical Dressing, and in Hygiene and Public Health. They receive free instruction, and on passing the two Apothecaries' Examinations are employed by the Government to take charge of the Government Dispensaries and some small hospitals in the remote rural areas and villages, but are only permitted to practise while so employed in Government Service and are subject to the control of the District Medical Officers. They are eligible to be registered as Pharmacists.

These Apothecaries to a large extent provide for the medical treatment of the poor villagers in remote districts and where fully qualified medical practitioners are not available.

A department for the training of pupil midwives has been added to the College. This work was formerly carried out by the Department of Medical and Sanitary Services, but from Ocober 1, 1931, the teaching and examinations of pupils have been vested in the College Council. First and second class certificates of efficiency are conferred on

successful candidates, who are then eligible to be registered as midwives. As this arrangement in practice proved difficult of administration it was discontinued from October 1, 1932. The College however continues to conduct the examinations for certificates of efficiency as midwives, the courses of instruction having been restored to the Deparment of Medical and Sanitary Services. The College thereby retains control of the standard of teaching.

The College is staffed by whole-time Professors, in Anatomy, Physiology, and Pathology, and a large number of part-time lecturers, mostly drawn from the officers of the Department of Medical and Sanitary Services.

Details of staff, fees, courses of study, and rules for students, and the history of the College, are embodied in the annual calendar, copies of which are sent free to Medical Schools in Great Britain, principal Educational Institutions, and Government departments in the Island.

The Government set up in 1928 a Post-licentiate Scholarship (suspended for the time being), which is granted yearly to the best student of the final year who qualifies in the first class within the statutory period, to enable him to obtain British qualifications and also to pursue studies and research in some special subject. The value of the scholarship is £300 per annum.

A small number of students generally discontinue study in the Ceylon Medical College and goes to the United Kingdom to complete their studies.

THE LAW COLLEGE.

The Law College which is controlled by the Incorporated Council of Legal Education exists for the supervision and control of the legal education of students desiring to qualify themselves as advocates or proctors of the Supreme Court. The Council consists of the Judges, the Attorney-General, the Solicitor-General, and such other persons of standing in the legal profession as the Judges may appoint. The members hold office for three years at a time. The academic qualifications requisite for admission in the case of advocates are (1) a degree in Arts or Science of any University in the British Empire, (2) a pass in the Intermediate Examination in Arts or Science of the University of London, and in the case of proctors (1) a degree in Arts or Science of any University in the British Empire, (2) a pass in the Matriculation Examination of the University of London or the Intermediate Examination in Arts or Science of any Indian University, or the Senior Local Examination of the University of Cambridge, or the Cambridge Senior School-Leaving Certificate, provided always that the candidate shall adduce proof that he has passed an examination in English and Latin, such examination being either the examination on which he relies for his qualification or some one or other of the aforesaid examinations of any University in the British Empire.

Admissions to the Law College take place twice annually, in the months of January and July, respectively, and the total number of students admitted during the year 1934 is as follows:—

Advocates	22
Proctors	101

The Board of Lecturers, consisting of six members, are appointed in the month of June and hold office for three years.

The examinations provided under the Rules of the Incorporated Council of Legal Education are held twice a year, also in the months of January and July, the examiners (five in number) being appointed once a year in the month of June by the Council. The undermentioned table shows the number of students who presented themselves at the various examinations, together with the number of successful candidates in 1934:—

	Entered.	Passed.
Advocates	98 ..	36
Proctors	293 ..	103

CHAPTER X.

Communications and Transport.

SHIPPING.

Colombo Harbour.

Introduction.—The position of Colombo at the junction of the most important trade routes in the East makes it an important port in the commerce of the East, and this natural advantage has been enhanced by the excellent facilities for docking, bunkering, loading and unloading cargo, water supply, &c., afforded by the port to the vast tonnage of shipping navigating Eastern waters. The port of Colombo has contributed largely to the commercial and economic prosperity of the Island, and this fact is borne out by the phenomenal growth of the city of Colombo since the conversion of the open roadstead into a great artificial harbour enclosed by extensive breakwaters. Colombo is a great *entrepot*, and the volume of business passing through its Customs houses is an indication of the state of trade and general prosperity of the Island.

Trade.—The quantity of imports and exports handled in the port of Colombo in 1934 amounted to 1,767,734 tons (1,027,983 tons imports and 739,751 tons exports) as compared with 1,488,683 tons (854,833 tons imports and 633,850 tons exports) handled in 1933. There has been an increase of 279,051 tons as compared with the previous year.

Harbour.—The harbour is enclosed on all sides, being bounded on the South and East by the land and on the North and West by massive breakwaters. The approach to the harbour is free from navigational dangers. Vessels drawing 33 feet can enter by the Western entrance and vessels drawing 27 feet can enter by the Northern entrance. The Western entrance channel is 630 feet wide, with a navigable depth of 36 feet L. W. O. S. T., and the Northern entrance channel 550 feet wide, with a navigable depth of 30 feet L. W. O. S. T. The sheltered area of the harbour amounts to 643 acres at low water, of which 246 acres have been dredged to 36 feet and over, 106 acres to a depth varying between 36 feet and 33 feet, and 103 acres to between 33 feet and 30 feet; the remaining 188 acres have a depth of less than 30 feet.

Accommodation for Vessels.—Berthing accommodation, exclusive of the Graving Dock, Guide Pier, and Oil Jetties, is available for 38 vessels in the north-east monsoon and 40 vessels in the south-west monsoon. Berths are available in either monsoon for vessels drawing up to 33 feet of water. One of these berths is for vessels of unlimited length.

Railways.—A broad gauge railway runs through the port premises, and it is connected with the main railway system of the Island, thus affording direct communication with all parts of the Island and Southern India. Sidings are provided at different places on the waterside. The length of the railway is 6 miles 19 chains, but the total mileage of railway used, including sidings, &c., is 14⅝ miles. The port railway is available only for the conveyance of goods, the tonnage of goods handled during 1934 being 261,775 tons as against 194,190 in 1933.

Roads.—Communication by road to the harbour is excellent.

Canals.—The Lake to Harbour canal affords direct water transport between stores and mills situated on the lakeside and the harbour. It is navigable by fully loaded 40-ton harbour barges and to some extent relieves the congestion on roads. This canal, together with the lock basin and locks and the water area of the Beira Lake including the San Sebastian canal locks, is now included in the limits of the port of Colombo.

The total number of lighters, launches, &c., which passed through the Lake to Harbour canal during the year was 10,218 against 9,677 in 1933, and 8,209 in 1932. The goods traffic during the last two years is as follows:—

	Import Cargo. Tons.	Export Cargo. Tons.	Total. Tons.
1933	11,699	70,468	82,167
1934	24,156	71,112	95,268

The receipts from the Lake to Harbour canal dues and lock charges during the financial year 1933-34 amounted to Rs. 31,863.04, as against Rs. 23,148.11 in the financial year 1932-33.

Lakeside Facilities.

The development of the Lakeside Barge Yards comprising the portion of land bordering on the Beira Lake, has opened up for commercial purposes a valuable stretch of land on the water front of the lake, and has relieved the congestion in the harbour by affording facilities for the reception of a number of boats which had hitherto been moored in the harbour. There is every indication, that, when trade improves, there will be an increasing demand for land on the lakeside which by its propinquity to the harbour and easy access thereto, both by land and water, affords a valuable venue for commercial purposes.

The Beira Lake is now an integral part of the port, and its progressive development will eventually lead to the establishment of a Commercial Zone in the vicinity of the port serving as a feeder to the business of the port and fostering its development.

Passenger Jetty.—The baggage office has good accommodation and examination halls. There is a staff always on duty day and night, and baggage landed with passengers is passed without delay. There is also provision for the storage of such baggage as a passenger may wish to leave in the premises, a small storage rent being payable. Accommodation is also provided at the Custom house at the Passenger Jetty for a Railway Booking Enquiry Office and a Post Office. The Passenger Traffic during the year shows an increase, the total number being 284,112 against 263,088 in the preceding year.

Landing and Shipping.—Landing and shipping of cargo is assisted by an efficient crane service. There is a total quayage of 15,657 lineal feet. The following are the particulars of cranes available at the port:—

Electric cranes	..	14	Hand derrick	..	1
Steam cranes	..	22	Steam derrick	..	1
Hand cranes	..	13	Mobile crane	..	1
Elephant hand crane	..	1	Steam jib crane	..	1
Floating cranes	..	2	Steam block loading titan	..	1

operating on the jetties and quays. The largest lift which can be made is 35 tons. The conveyance of cargo from the vessel to the wharf is done by lighters and is carried out by recognized stevedores and landing companies.

Cargo for shipment is brought down to the warehouse by cart, lorry, train, or barge. The Port Commission railway runs direct into the premises alongside three of the export warehouses. With regard to shipment, the same considerations apply as in the case of imports, some firms finding it more convenient to employ a clearing or shipping agency than to maintain their own staff. As in the case of import cargo, goods remain in the Government warehouse at the risk of the exporter. To suit the convenience of shippers who do not carry out their own shipments, landing and shipping companies are prepared to take over cargo at the shipper's stores for removal to the warehouse in the Company's own lorries. Export harbour dues are payable on all goods sent down to the warehouses or wharf. If they lie there for more than three clear days, further dues are payable for each day, and in addition a similar sum by way of warehouse rent. Cargo is taken to the vessel by means of lighters. A good supply of labour is available.

Warehouse Accommodation.—Goods discharged being not always directly transferred to some other means of conveyance, it has been found necessary to provide extensive warehouse accommodation for the increasing volume of goods demanding storage, pending shipment or removal from the premises. There is a total warehouse floor area of 592,476 square feet in the port for dealing with imports, exports, and transhipment cargo. Most of the warehouses have railway facilities and cranes are available where required.

The import warehouses are situated between the root of the South-west Breakwater and the Lake to Harbour canal. Other import warehouses and landing areas are also situated on either side of the canal, and these are largely used for the landing of rough cargo, such as timber and metal. Further north, three recently built warehouses are available at Kochchikade, where facilities are provided for transport by rail.

Five commodious warehouses are allotted for the accommodation of export cargo, in addition to an open shed used for the shipment of drums containing coconut oil and similar commodities, and another shed for rough cargo. The largest warehouse can accommodate 4,000 tons of tea packed in chests of the usual size. The other four warehouses can each accommodate from 2,500 to 3,000 tons.

There are several bonded warehouses within the Customs premises, and certain firms have their own bonded warehouses outside the premises. Goods may be bonded for any period up to two years, after which they must either be removed or rebonded. All goods placed in bond are liable to the same rent and harbour dues as in the case of

import cargo up to the time of bonding, after which no further dues are payable and bonded warehouse rent is recovered, the amount payable per week on bonded goods being the same as the charge per day on import cargo. No rent is payable to the Customs in the case of goods which lie in bonded warehouses belonging to private firms, though a charge is made for Customs supervision of deposits and removals.

Several firms have their own warehouses and stores on the lakeside, which has direct access from the harbour through the canal and locks. Special facilities are given by the Customs for import cargo to be removed direct to these stores and, conversely, for the direct shipment of export cargo from these stores to the vessel. Rent and dues are, however, payable as in the case of goods landed in the warehouse, but the advantage of this direct traffic lies in obviating two additional handlings which would be necessary had the goods been landed or shipped from a quay.

Transhipment warehouses are available for the accommodation of cargo pending transmission to the destination. No import duty is payable upon such cargo, and rent and harbour dues are payable at a reduced rate, amounting to 1/5th of the rate payable upon ordinary import cargo. In the case of direct transhipment from vessel to vessel, a small fee is payable for Customs supervision. The volume of transhipment is fairly large, the quantity transhipped during the year being about 44,822 tons, but there is a steady traffic, with Tuticorin and other South Indian ports of transhipment of cargo to and from the United Kingdom, America, Australia, the Far East, &c.

Removal of Cargo.—Goods may be cleared either by the importer himself or by any landing company or recognized clearing agency. Firms who import on a large scale find it convenient to keep their own staff of wharf clerks for the clearing of cargo and the passing of the necessary entries through the Customs. On the other hand firms whose business is not so great as to justify the maintenance of such a staff, find it more convenient to clear their goods through a Landing Company, or a Clearing Agency.

Warehouse rent and harbour dues are payable upon all goods landed at the wharf, and three clear days are allowed for the removal of the goods, exclusive of Customs holidays, of which there are five in the year, and Sundays. On goods removed after the expiry of this period further rent and dues are payable in respect of each day inclusive of Sundays and Customs holidays. Special facilities are offered by the Customs for clearing goods prior to the passing of the entry and the payment of the duty, rent, and dues. The usual system is to place a cash deposit with the Customs, against which goods are removed after any examination found necessary, the importer guaranteeing to pass the necessary papers within a reasonable period. Special facilities are also given for the clearing of perishable goods and of consignments, such as rice and sugar, which are landed in large quantities at a time.

Coaling Facilities.—There are about 29 acres of land on the foreshore of the harbour half of which is leased to different companies for the stacking of coal. The coaling grounds between the Barge Repairing Basin and the Graving Dock have 17 coaling jetties. Large supplies of coal can be procured, and steamers are bunkered with good despatch at any hour of the day or night.

The types and approximate prices of coal stocked at Colombo for commercial purposes are as follows (December, 1934):—

Type.	Price Trimmed (f. o. b.) Per Ton. s.	d.
Welsh merthyr (Admiralty quality)	39	9
Welsh ¾ Dutfryn (Admiralty quality)	39	9
Natal	26	0
Indian	24	0

For commercial purposes, such as tea firing, Natal and Indian coal is sold f.o.b. Colombo, at Rs. 16 and Rs. 15.50 per ton respectively.

The quantities of coal imported and issued for bunkers during the years 1933 and 1934 were as follows:—

	1933. Tons.	1934. Tons.
Imports	404,917	404,959
Bunkers	217,786	233,672

Oil Facilities.—The port is equipped with an up-to-date oil fuel installation which provides for the rapid bunkering of ships using oil fuel. The main Oil Installation Depot, about 92 acres in extent, is situated at Kolonnawa, about 3½ miles from the harbour front, and various oil companies have erected their own storage and distribution tanks there. This depot is divided into a non-dangerous and a dangerous oil section and is separated by a safety reservation. Three main pipelines are laid connecting the discharge berth in the harbour with the main oil depot, two for oil fuel and the other for kerosene and petrol. In connection with the bunkering of vessels, a measuring tanks depot, about 19 acres in extent, has been established at Bloemendahl, about ¾ of a mile from the harbour front, and branch pipelines are provided from Kolonnawa to Bloemendahl and from Bloemendahl to the bunkering berths. The oil depot is also connected to the main railway system of the Island. Three reinforced concrete jetties, two for bunkering purposes and one for discharge of oil tankers, have been provided. The outer oil bunkering jetty is capable of accommodating vessels of 500 feet length and 27 feet draught. The inner bunkering jetty is used by barges for bunkering. Vessels of 500 feet length and 27 feet draught can be berthed at the discharge jetty where the latest facilities for discharging oil ships are provided, and vessels of deeper draught up to 29 feet are accommodated at the Graving Dock Guide Pier.

The imports of oil during the last two years were as follows:—

	1933. Tons.	1934. Tons.
Liquid fuel	272,734	314,723
Kerosene oil	20,726	30,605
Petrol and benzine	19,228	34,383
Total	312,688	379,711

The quantities of liquid fuel issued for bunkers during the last two years were as follows:—

	No. of Ships Bunkered.	Tons.
1933	459	245,401
1934	512	265,985

There has also been a steady increase in the number of oil burning vessels calling at the port while those burning coal only have declined. These facts illustrate that coal is fast replaced by oil as a means of marine engine propulsion.

The Oil Facilities receipts during the year 1934 were Rs. 930,102.57 as compared with Rs. 815,896.23 in 1933.

Graving Dock.—Length of floor, 700 feet; breadth of entrance-cope level, 85 feet; depth over sill at low water, 30 feet; depth over sill at high water, 32 feet. Docking can be carried out by day or night.

Patent Slip.—Length 800 feet; length of cradle, 220 feet; breadth of cradle, 40 feet; depth over keel blocks at lower end at low water, 21 feet 6 inches; depth over keel blocks at upper end at low water, 10 feet 6 inches; inclination 1 in 20. Capable of slipping a vessel of 1,200 tons dead weight.

Ambulance Facilities.—An ambulance launch is available for the conveyance of sick and injured persons between ship and shore. The Colombo Municipal Council provides an adequate and efficient motor ambulance service for the port.

Quarantine.—On entering the harbour each ship is visited by the Port Surgeon or his Assistant, and no person is allowed to board the ship or leave the ship till pratique is granted. If there are cases of infectious diseases on board, such as plague, cholera, smallpox, yellow fever, or typhus, the ship is held in strict quarantine until all necessary measures, such as removal of the sick person, disinfection of the ship, vaccination, &c., as the case may be, are carried out. Thereafter the ship is allowed to be worked in restricted quarantine, any persons having business on board being allowed on special permits.

Port Commission.—The Colombo Port Commission is composed of the following:—The Principal Collector of Customs (who is Chairman or Chief Port Commissioner); the Director of Medical and Sanitary Services; the General Manager of the Railway; the Chairman, Municipal Council, and Mayor of Colombo; the Deputy Collector of Customs; the Master Attendant, Colombo and Galle; the Harbour Engineer; six Unofficial Members nominated by the Chamber of Commerce to represent Import, Export, Shipping, Coaling, Oil, and Landing Agencies' Interests; two Unofficial Members nominated by His Excellency the Governor to represent Ceylonese interests.

RAILWAYS.

All the railways in Ceylon are State-owned and Government-controlled, the management being vested in the Ceylon Government Railway Department.

The total length of line open is 951 miles, of which 834 miles are broad gauge (5½ feet gauge) and 117 miles narrow gauge (2½ feet gauge).

The frontispiece map shows how the different lines radiate from Colombo.

The following table shows the distance from Colombo Fort to the more important stations on the different lines, with the first class return passenger fare and the approximate time of journey :—

Col. Fort To—	Distance. M.	Distance. C.	Train Fare (Return). Rs.	Train Fare (Return). c.	Approx. Time of Journey. Hours.	Col. Fort To—	Distance. M.	Distance. C.	Train Fare. (Return). Rs.	Train Fare. (Return). c.	Approx. Time of Journey. Hours.
Peradeniya	71	62	8	65	3¼*	Polonnaruwa	162	1	19	55	8½*
Kandy	75	12	9	10	3½*	Batticaloa	217	78	26	15	12
Nanu-oya	128	62	17	95	7½*	Trincomalee	184	25	22	20	9½
Nuwara Eliya	135	27	19	20	10 *	Mount Lavinia	7	47	0	95	½*
Bandarawela	161	34	23	90	12 *	Galle	70	38	8	50	2¼*
Anuradhapura	127	31	15	35	5¼*	Negombo	24	18	3	0	1¼*

* By express trains.

The main results of the working of the Ceylon Government Railway for the financial years 1929-30 to 1933-34 are shown in the following table :—

Particulars.	1929–30. Rs.	1930–31. Rs.	1931–32. Rs.	1932–33. Rs.	1933–34. Rs.
Total capital outlay	220,522,956	223,460,704	225,307,864	226,379,400	227,005,002
Gross earnings	29,650,683	25,324,379	22,024,355	19,711,602†	20,980,422
Total working expenses‡	25,085,120	23,809,576	21,688,864	19,319,240	18,943,156
Net revenue§	4,565,563	1,514,803	335,491	392,362	2,037,266
Percentage of net revenue on total capital outlay	2·07 p.c.	·68 p.c.	·15 p.c.	·17 p.c.	·90 p.c.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Gross receipts from ordinary passenger and season tickets	11,599,508	9,653,763	8,378,370	7,539,419	7,941,378
Gross receipts from parcels, goods, &c.	18,051,175	15,670,616	13,645,985	12,172,183	13,039,044
Free traffic (excluding that for Railway Department included in gross receipts)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

† Includes (Rs. 566,625) a/c Temporary levy on salaries.
‡ Includes provision for renewals.
§ That is, " Gross earnings " less " Total, working expenses."

The number of passengers conveyed has increased by 622,233, the total conveyed during the year being 11,476,539. Under Season Tickets the number of ticket holders has fallen off by 161, the total number of season tickets issued during the year being 172,101.

The number of parcels conveyed during the year was 1,323,554 or an increase of 74,940.

The tonnage of goods carried was 1,082,402 or an increase of 230,776 tons, the noticeable increases and decreases being :—

	Increase. Tons.	Decrease. Tons.
Agricultural produce	7,198	—
Rice	17,924	—
Tea	—	6,527
Coconut Produce (other than copra)	10,548	—
Copra	18,351	—
Manure	70,017	—
Rubber	5,371	—
Sundry goods	58,610	—
Packing for tea, rubber, and desiccated coconuts	—	1,085
Salt (country)	—	12,635
Special Train Traffic (for Government Departments)	58,001	—
Foreign Traffic (Indo-Ceylon route)	3,717	—

ROADS.

There are over 16,500 miles of roads and cart tracks in the Island controlled and administered by the following authorities:—

Authority.	Description of Roads.	Approximate Mileage.
(i.) Public Works Department ..	All main thoroughfares in the Island ..	4,804
(ii.) District Road Committees ..	All minor roads within the areas of jurisdiction of each Committee ..	3,000
(iii.) Local Governing Authorities, viz., Municipalities, Urban District Councils, Local Boards, Sanitary Boards, &c. ..	All streets within their respective jurisdictions	565
(iv.) Village Committees	All natural cart tracks within the jurisdiction of each Committee ..	7,800
(v.) Irrigation Department	— ..	70
(vi.) Private parties	— ..	350

In addition there are approximately 8,200 miles of bridle paths in the charge of the District and Village Committees.

The Public Works Department is the principal road authority in the Island and is responsible for the construction and maintenance of all the "Main roads", by which are meant through arteries connecting the principal centres of populations with one another and with the railways and ports.

The whole cost of construction, improvements, and maintenance of these roads is met from the general revenue of the Island.

The roads vary in standard from narrow country roads to wide modern thoroughfares, the standard depending on the nature of the country traversed and the traffic carried.

The following is the classification of the Public Works Department roads according to the nature of their surfaces:—

	Miles.
Full-metalled	3,851
Track-metalled	409
Gravelled	416
Natural	128
	4,804

The metalled roads are maintained in good order, and, with but few exceptions, may be considered passable to all classes of traffic. Gravelled roads can be considered as dry weather roads only; in dry weather they are generally in fair order, but they cannot be relied upon to the extent of metalled roads. A large mileage of the metalled roads is tarred or otherwise surface-treated. At the end of 1934 the length of roads so treated was 3,601 miles.

The only direct charge on road users is that for the use of ferry boats, but on the main roads with few exceptions the ferries have been replaced by bridges. Indirect charges are made in the form of import duties and taxes on wheeled vehicles.

The distribution of the main roads, distances between the principal centres, &c., can be ascertained on reference to the motor map of Ceylon, obtainable from the Surveyor-General, Colombo.

The distances from Colombo to other chief towns by road (given to the nearest half mile) are shown in the following list:—

Colombo to—	Miles.	Colombo to—	Miles.
Galle	72½	Batticaloa (*via* Badulla) ..	241
Peradeniya	68	Anuradhapura (*via* Matale) ..	158½
Kandy	72	Trincomalee (*via* Kurunegala) ..	169
Nuwara Eliya (*via* Peradeniya) ..	112	Anuradhapura (*via* Puttalam) ..	129
Nuwara Eliya (*via* Ginigathena)	106½	Jaffna (*via* Puttalam) ..	250

Passenger Fares.

The standard passenger fares are as follows:—Single fares: First Class, 7 cents per mile on all lines below Nawalapitiya and 10½ cents per mile on all lines above Nawalapitiya. Second Class, 4¾ cents per mile on all lines below Nawalapitiya, and 7 cents per mile on all lines above Nawalapitiya. Third Class, 2⅓ cents per mile on all lines. Week-end tickets are issued between all stations distance 25 miles and over at single fare and a half for the double journey. Reductions are made for children, pioneers, and labourers of any nationality, and for periodical tickets.

Sleeping Cars.

The sleeping cars which run on the Up and Down night mail trains between Colombo, Kandy, and Bandarawela and Colombo-Kankesanturai are provided with sleeping accommodation. Each berth is numbered and provided with bedding and an attendant accompanies each car. The charge for a sleeping berth is Rs. 5 in addition to the ordinary first-class fare to the station to which the journey is made.

In the Indo-Ceylon mail trains sleeping berths without bedding are provided for through first-class passengers without any extra charge, but berths are not guaranteed unless they have been reserved, for which a registration fee of Re. 1 per berth will be charged. If bedding is required Rs. 5 must be paid for each set of bedding at the time of booking, and a berth will be made up as a bed by the Car Attendant. In such cases no registration fee will be charged.

Restaurant Cars.

These are attached to the important trains on the Main and Northern lines.

Restaurant Rooms.

These are provided at Maradana, Polgahawela, and Nanu-oya on the Main line, Colombo Fort and Alutgama on the Coast line, and Anuradhapura on the Northern line. Refreshments at these places are supplied at moderate prices.

Refreshment Baskets.

Refreshment baskets can be supplied for any train from Colombo on giving 20 minutes' notice to the Manager, Restaurant Cars and Rooms, at his office at Colombo Fort Station.

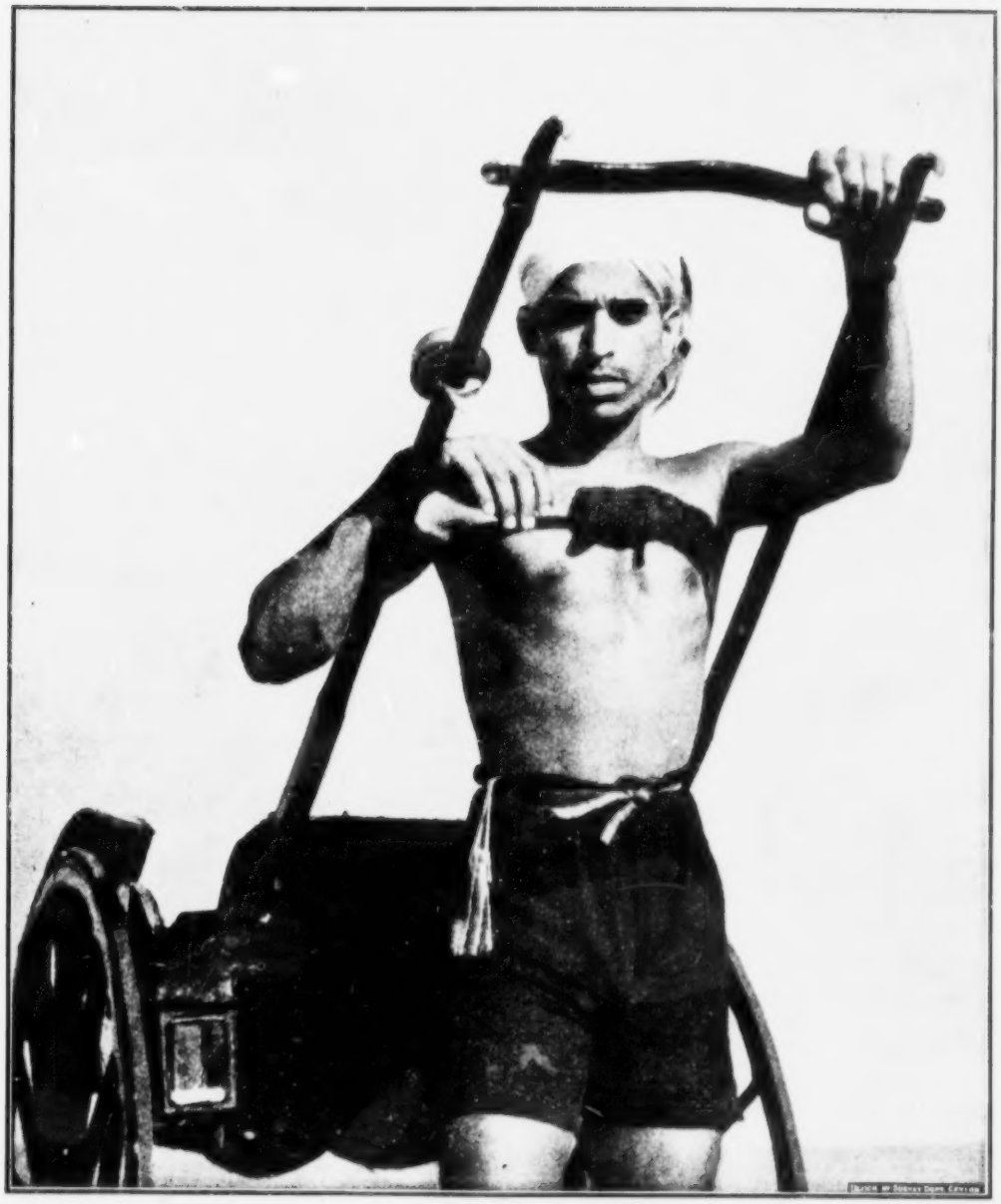
Luggage.

Each adult passenger is allowed, free of charge, the following weight of luggage:—

		lb.			lb.
First class	..	112	Third class	..	56
Second class	..	84			

A free allowance of half these quantities is made for each child travelling with a half-ticket. No luggage will be conveyed free for children under three years of age who travel free.

5——J. N. 46868 (6/35)



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RICKSHAW RUNNER.

MEANS OF TRANSPORT BY ROAD.

The number of motor vehicles in Ceylon on December 31, 1930, was 24,405, it decreased during the years of depression to 23,359, on December 31, 1933. Owing to a revival of trade generally throughout the Island, the figure increased to 25,010 on December 31, 1934.

The average cost of running a small private car may be put at about 25 to 40 cents per mile. Hiring cars are available in most parts of the Island and cost 40 cents to Re. 1 per mile.

Drivers and mechanics for privately-owned cars can be obtained without difficulty and all drivers must hold the Government Certificate of Competence, while many are registered with the Automobile Association of Ceylon. Numerous facilities for repairs exist in Colombo, Kandy, Nuwara Eliya, and most of the other towns. Supplies of petrol and oil are available in all towns and in most of the larger villages.

The Automobile Association of Ceylon is affiliated or has reciprocal agreements with most of the Automobile Associations and Clubs in other countries and the Secretary (P. O. Box 338, Colombo) will afford any information which may be desired. The various landing, Customs, and registration formalities can be arranged for visitors by the Association. Facilities afforded by the International Convention relative to motor traffic are now available to Ceylon and a Ceylon TRIPTYQUE for Customs purposes is available through the leading Automobile Institutions.

Motor Omnibuses.—There is a plentiful supply of motor omnibuses, known in England as road service vehicles, carrying passengers for hire and running on nearly every main road in the Island. The number of omnibuses in use during the year was 2,263. Greater control of the routes served, the condition of the ombibuses plying on the roads and the standard of drivers and conductors is desirable.

The seating accommodation for passengers in motor omnibuses varies from 8 to 37.

Personal luggage of small dimensions and light weight is carried free of charge. Extra luggage will be carried only if there is room in the conveyance on payment of a fee.

Goods.—The chief means of transport of goods by road are the local bullock cart and the motor lorry. A double-bullock cart is capable of taking 1½ tons at a time, and travels at the average rate of about 2 miles an hour. The cost per ton per mile may be put at about 80 cents. There are about 34,000 single- and double-bullock carts in Ceylon, the majority of which are used in the transportation of village produce. Motor lorries are slowly but surely replacing bullock carts in the movement of estate goods and in other industries. These vary in load capacity from 5 cwt. to about 10 tons and travel at a speed of about 15 to 20 miles per hour, 15 miles being the legal speed limit for heavy lorries. They run mostly on petrol, a fair number on steam or kerosene, and a few but increasing number on crude oil. In 1934 there were 3,218 motor lorries and vans in Ceylon. Experience has shown that the running costs can be kept as low as 50 cents per ton per mile. The diesel oil engine is gaining in popularity. The number of diesel vehicles in Ceylon on December 31, 1934, was 46 as against 11 on December 31, 1933. Notwithstanding the higher price charged for this type of vehicle the diesel oil vehicle by reason of its

comparatively low running costs promises to be the principal means of transport of heavy loads in the near future and is likely to play an important part in the resuscitation of the Island's industries. Recently the question of taxation of diesel oil engines has become important.

Tramways.—The only street tramways in Ceylon are those in the town of Colombo, the total length of double track being 7 miles. There are two nearly equal routes: one between the Fort and the Kelani river terminus, and one between the Fort and Borella, joined by a cross line between Maradana and Grandpass *viâ* Skinner's road and Armour street. The total number of passengers carried annually is estimated at about 13 millions.

CANALS.

The only artificial navigable waterways in Ceylon are a series of canals connecting a chain of lakes on the west coast—Bolgoda, Colombo, Negombo, Chilaw, Mundel, and Puttalam lakes—as also the estuaries of the Kalu-ganga, Kelani-ganga, Maha-oya, and Deduru-oya; thus forming a continuous water-way from Kalutara in the south to Puttalam in the north, a distance of approximately 120 miles. These were maintained in good order.

In addition to the foregoing there are about 41 miles of boat channel maintained by dredging the Jaffna-lagoon.

POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICE.

(Full information on this subject is to be found in the "Ceylon Post Office Guide", obtainable from the Postmaster-General, Colombo, price 75 cents.)

On December 31, 1934, 877 offices were opened for business. Details of the facilities afforded are as follows:—

159 Post Offices (excluding the Central Telegraph Office which does only telegraph business) dealt with all classes of postal business, viz., mail and parcel work, registration and insurance of postal articles, money order, postal order, and Savings Bank work, and telegraph and telephone business. Sixty-three Post Offices dealt with all classes of business except telephone work. One Post Office (at the Colombo Passenger Jetty) transacted all classes of business except parcel work. One Post Office conducted all classes of business except postal order, value-payable and cash-on-delivery work and telephone work. Twelve Post Offices dealt with all classes of postal business except telegraph and telephone work.

Thirty-eight Sub-Post Offices conducted all classes of postal business, except insurance, and also provided telephone-telegraph facilities. 126 Sub-Post Offices also conducted such business except telephone-telegraph work.

430 Village Receiving Offices dealt with mail work only. At 36 Railway Stations facilities for the despatch and receipt of Inland postal telegrams were available. At 10 of these stations, mail work was also conducted.

There are 10,419 miles of telegraph wire (including railway telegraph wires), of which 2,710 are laid underground, and 50,614 miles of telephone wire (including Trunk and Junction lines) for subscribers' circuits, of which 36,900 are laid underground (excluding private estate lines).

Mail Services.

A regular weekly mail service is maintained between Ceylon and the United Kingdom and the continent of Europe and between Ceylon and Australia. Regular and frequent services are also available to the Straits Settlements and the Far East. Mails from Colombo to Mauritius *viâ* Bombay are despatched fortnightly. Direct mail to Mauritius is also sent at very irregular intervals. There is also a direct service not less than twice a month between Ceylon and South Africa. Mails from Ceylon to East Africa are despatched fortnightly *viâ* Bombay and direct twice a month. The mail service by train is maintained daily between Ceylon and India *viâ* Talaimannar except on Saturdays.

Air Mails.—There is a regular bi-weekly despatch of air mail articles from Colombo to connect with the weekly despatch from Karachi westwards, the earlier closing in the week is forwarded by rail to Karachi and from thence by air to destination whilst the latter despatch is forwarded by rail to Madras and from thence by the combined Indian Internal and Imperial Airways Services, the countries served by these services being the United Kingdom, Countries in Europe, South and East Africa, Canada and the United States of America. Correspondence intended for conveyance by the Internal Air Services of certain countries (viz., United States, Dutch East Indies, and Australia) are also despatched weekly.

Indian mails are carried generally by the Ceylon Government Railway and from railway stations by private contract motor mail services, bullock coach, or runner services.

Rates of Postage.

Inland Rates and Rates to India.

	Cents.		Cents.
For letters, per 2 ounces or part of that weight	6	For registered newspapers not weighing more than 2 pounds, for every 8 ounces	2
For post cards, each	3		
For printed matter, per 2 ounces or part of that weight up to a maximum of 2 pounds	2		

Rates to the United Kingdom, British Possessions, and Egypt.

	Cents.		Cents.
For letters, per ounce or part of that weight	9	For printed papers, per 2 ounces or part of that weight	3
For post cards, each	6		

Rates to Foreign Countries (excluding Egypt.)

	Cents.		Cents.
For letters, for the first ounce ..	20	For post cards, each	12
For every additional ounce or part of that weight	10	For printed papers, per 2 ounces or part of that weight	4

Inland Cash-on-Delivery System.

Postal articles can be transmitted by the Inland post on the value-payable system provided that the amount payable is not less than 50 cents or more than Rs. 600. A posting and delivery fee of 5 to 15 cents, according to value, will be levied on every value-payable article.

Foreign Cash-on-Delivery System.

The Cash-on-delivery Service is in operation between Ceylon and the United Kingdom (the Straits Settlements, the Federated Malay States) and Germany.* Details will be found in the " Ceylon Post Office Guide ".

Money Orders.

Money Orders can be obtained at any of the Post Offices payable at any of the others and in most foreign countries. The maximum for inland and Indian Money Orders is Rs. 600, for foreign orders £40 except in certain special cases where the maximum is below this amount. The rate of commission for inland Money Orders is 10 cents for each complete sum of Rs. 10 and 10 cents for the remainder, and for Indian Money Orders 20 cents for each complete sum of Rs. 10 and 20 cents for the remainder. The rate for foreign Money Orders expressed in sterling is 25 cents on sums not exceeding £1, and on sums exceeding £1, 15 cents for each complete sum of £1 and 15 cents for the remainder. Money orders payable in the United Kingdom or countries served through the United Kingdom can be despatched by Air Mail on payment of a fee of 15 cents in addition to the ordinary money order commission. Telegraph Money Orders can be despatched in the inland service. Telegraph Money Order service is also available to India and some other foreign countries, a fixed fee of 10 cents irrespective of the amount of the order is charged for Inland and Indian Telegraph Money Orders. There are fixed minima for Telegraph Money Orders according to the currency in which the order is advised. Details will be found in the " Ceylon Post Office Guide ".

Postal Orders.

Inland Postal Orders for fixed amounts ranging from 50 cents to Rs. 10 are issued, the rate of commission varying from 3 to 10 cents.

British Postal Orders.

There are 40 denominations of British Postal Order, ranging from 6*d*. to 21*s*., the difference between each up to 19*s*. being 6*d*., and 1*s*. between 19*s*. and 21*s*. Commission is charged at the rate of 5 cents on each of the first three denominations, 10 cents on each of the next eighteen, and 15 cents on each of the remaining denominations. A full list of the countries to which British Postal Orders can be sent is given in section 7 of the " Ceylon Post Office Guide ". Broken amounts up to 5*d*. (but not including fractions of a penny) may be made by affixing unused Ceylon postage stamps of equivalent value or British penny postage stamps not exceeding three in number in the spaces provided on the order.

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* The outward service with Germany is temporarily suspended.

Inland Telegrams.

The minimum charge for Inland telegrams is 50 cents for the first twelve words, including the address, and 5 cents for each additional two words or less. These telegrams can be sent from any one telegraph office to any other in the Island.

The charge for urgent telegrams is Re. 1 for the first twelve words, including the address, and 10 cents for each additional two words or less.

Greetings and Condolence telegrams can be sent at reduced rates on such occasions as Christmas, New Year, Wesak, Hindu New Year, Id, Birthdays, Birth of a Child, Weddings, and Funerals and Deaths. The text of such a telegram should be a phrase selected from the list of stock phrases appearing at the end of rule 419A of the Ceylon Post Office Guide. The entire text is counted as one word for the purpose of the collection of charges. The charges are 30 cents for the first 6 words and 5 cents for each additional word. For fuller details, see the rule already quoted.

Foreign and Colonial Telegrams.

The rates for telegrams to India (including Burma) are express Rs. 2, and ordinary Re. 1 for the first 12 words or less, and 15 cents and 10 cents respectively for each additional word.

Telegrams to places in other British Possessions and foreign countries can be sent on a minimum charge per word varying from 40 cents to Rs. 6 for ordinary, and from 45 cents to Rs. 3 for deferred telegrams, according to the distance of the place of destination, the route by which the telegram is to be sent, &c. A full list of places to which foreign and Colonial telegrams can be sent, together with the rates charged, is given in section 11 of the " Ceylon Post Office Guide ".

Foreign Cheap Rate Telegrams.

Telegrams in plain language are accepted for transmission as " Daily Letter Telegrams " to various places abroad at considerably reduced rates. A list of places to which this service is available, and the scale of charges, will be found in section 11 of the " Ceylon Post Office Guide ".

Radio-Telegrams.

Radio-Telegrams are accepted at any Postal Telegraph Office in Ceylon for fransmission to ships equipped with radio-telegraph apparatus through the Coast Station in Colombo.

The charges are as follows:—

	Per Word. Cents.		Per Word. Cents.
British, Indian, or Colonial Government Telegrams to or from His Britannic Majesty's Ships of War ..	Free	All other Government or private telegrams	65
Private telegrams to or from His Britannic Majesty's Ships of War ..	40	On Radio-Telegrams sent to— (*a*) Spanish and Swedish ships the charge is	60
		(*b*) Finnish ships the charge is ..	50

The normal range of the Colombo Radio Station is 500 miles or about two days steaming from or to the port of Colombo, but this distance is considerably exceeded when conditions are favourable and also according to the equipment on board the ships.

With ships fitted with the Short Wave System, communication is possible for a few thousand miles. Ships not so fitted can be reached through those having the facility.

Telephone System.

Telephone communication exists between most of the principal towns and certain rural districts. The towns are generally served by Government exchanges and the rural districts by Government or private licensed exchanges which are connected to the general trunk system by means of Government junction lines.

The charge for the use of a public call box for six minutes or less is 10 cents, and for the use of the trunk and junction lines for three minutes or less on day calls between 6 A.M. and 6 P.M., and for six minutes or less on night calls between 6 P.M. and 6 A.M., the charge is as follows:—

	Cents.		Cents.
For 15 miles or under	15	Over 32½ miles and not exceeding 60 miles	50
Over 15 miles and not exceeding 32½ miles	25	Every additional 25 miles or part of a mile	25

The minimum annual rental for a telephone connection to a large town exchange is Rs. 180 for business or professional purposes and Rs. 120 for non-business or residential purposes and that for a connection to a small town exchange Rs. 125 and Rs. 90 respectively.

Broadcasting Service.

The Government maintains a regular broadcasting service on a wavelength of 428.5 meters (700 KC) with a transmitter radiating 1 K.W. situated in Colombo.

Programmes consisting of music, talks and news are broadcast in English, Sinhalese, and Tamil for about two hours at noon, half an hour at tea time, and about four hours in the evening. During these hours the Empire programmes from Daventry are picked up and relayed, whenever they are considered of interest.

The number of listeners in the Island at the end of 1934 was 2,342 which is 0.43 per thousand of population, as against 1,664 listeners at the end of 1933.

School Broadcasting.—There is a regular broadcast to schools conducted by the Department of Education who use the microphone during the afternoons on certain days.

CHAPTER XI.

Banking, Currency, Weights and Measures.

BANKS.

THE following is a list of banks which have branches in Ceylon:—

Name of Bank	Imperial Bank of India
Address of Head Office ..	Madras
Branch in Ceylon ..	Prince street, Fort, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon ..	—
London Office	25, Old Broad street, London, E.C. 2

Name of Bank	National Bank of India, Ltd.
Address of Head Office ..	26, Bishopsgate, London, E.C. 2
Branches in Ceylon ..	York street, Fort, Colombo; Ward street, Kandy: and Nuwara Eliya
Agents in Ceylon ..	Clark, Spence & Co., Galle
Bankers in the United Kingdom	The Bank of England; The National Provincial Bank, Ltd.; The National Bank of Scotland, Ltd.

Name of Bank	Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China
Address of Head Office ..	38, Bishopsgate, London, E.C. 2
Branch in Ceylon ..	Queen street and Baillie street, Fort, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon ..	Mercantile Bank of India, Ltd., Galle
Bankers in the United Kingdom	The Bank of England; Midland Bank, Ltd.; Westminster Bank, Ltd.; National Provincial Bank, Ltd.; The National Bank of Scotland, Ltd.; Lloyds Bank, Ltd.

Name of Bank	Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation
Address of Head Office ..	1, Queen's road, Hong Kong, China
Branch in Ceylon ..	24, Prince street, Fort, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon ..	E. Coates & Co. (Galle), Ltd., Galle
Bankers in the United Kingdom	The Westminster Bank, Ltd.

Name of Bank	The Mercantile Bank of India, Ltd.
Address of Head Office ..	16, Gracechurch street, London, E.C. 3
Branches in Ceylon ..	2, Queen street, Fort, Colombo; Ward street, Kandy; and Galle
Agents in Ceylon ..	—
Bankers in the United Kingdom	The Bank of England; Midland Bank, Ltd.

Name of Bank	The Eastern Bank, Ltd.
Address of Head Office ..	2 and 3, Crosby square, Bishopsgate, London, E.C. 3
Branch in Ceylon ..	75–77, Chatham street, Fort, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon ..	—
Bankers in the United Kingdom	The Bank of England; Westminster Bank, Ltd.; The National Provincial Bank, Ltd.; The Bank of Scotland; Barclay's Bank, Ltd.; Martin's Bank, Ltd.

Name of Bank	The P. & O. Banking Corporation, Ltd. (with which is affiliated The Allahabad Bank, Ltd.)
Address of Head Office ..	117–122, Leadenhall street, London, E.C. 3
Branch in Ceylon ..	Victoria Arcade buildings, York street, Fort, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon ..	—
Bankers in the United Kingdom	Lloyds Bank, Ltd.; Westminster Bank, Ltd.; The National Provincial Bank, Ltd.; Royal Bank of Scotland

Name of Bankers ..	Thos. Cook & Son (Bankers), Ltd.
Address of Head Office ..	Berkeley street, Piccadilly, London, W. 1
Branch in Ceylon ..	Prince street, Fort, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon ..	—
Bankers in the United Kingdom	The National Provincial Bank, Ltd.; Barclay's Bank, Ltd.; Midland Bank, Ltd.

Name of Bank	Indian Bank, Ltd.
Address of Head Office ..	Indian Bank buildings, North Beach road, Madras
Branch in Ceylon ..	Baillie street, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon ..	None
Bankers in the United Kingdom	None

Name of Bank	The Calicut Bank, Ltd.
Address of Head Office ..	The Calicut Bank, Ltd., Bank road, Calicut, India
Branch in Ceylon ..	15, Baillie street, Fort, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon ..	None
Bankers in the United Kingdom	None

Name of Bank ..	..	The Bank of Chettinad, Ltd.
Address of Head Office	..	The Bank of Chettinad, Ltd., Chettinad, South India
Branch in Ceylon	..	The Bank of Chettinad, Ltd., 256, Sea street, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon	..	No Agency (Manager: P. L. M. Chidan baram Chettiar)
Bankers in the United Kingdom		None

Name of Bank ..	..	Bank of Uva, Ltd.
Address of Head Office	..	Badulla
Branch in Ceylon	..	—
Agents in Ceylon	..	Colombo Commercial Co., Ltd., Colombo
Bankers in the United Kingdom		—

Banking Agencies.

Name of Bank.			Agents in Ceylon.
Coutts & Co.	..	..	George Steuart & Co., Colombo
Ulster Bank, Ltd., Belfast		..	do.
Westminster Bank, Ltd.	..	..	do.
Bank of Montreal	..	..	do.
Charles Hoare & Co.	..	..	do.
Martin's Bank, Ltd.	..	..	do.
National Provincial Bank, Ltd.		..	do.

Savings Banks.

There are two Savings Banks, viz., the Ceylon Savings Bank and the Post Office Savings Bank.

The Ceylon Savings Bank is a Government institution established in 1832. Accounts may be opened with a minimum deposit of 50 cents, and not more than Rs. 2,000 can be deposited in one year irrespective of withdrawals. The maximum sum which a depositor may have to his or her credit is Rs. 6,000. Charitable institutions or societies may deposit Rs. 3,000 per annum up to a maximum of Rs. 9,000. The Bank allows interest at the rate of 3½ per cent. on accounts of Rs. 1,000 and under, and 3 per cent. on accounts above Rs. 1,000.

The Post Office Savings Bank is managed by the Post and Telegraph Department. Deposits and withdrawals can be made at any of the Post Offices in the Island. The minimum amount that can be deposited is 25 cents, and the maximum per annum is Rs. 750 irrespective of withdrawals. The total amount which a depositor may have to his or her credit is Rs. 3,000. The rate of interest allowed is 2.4 per cent.—2 cents per month for each complete sum of Rs. 10.

Co-operative Societies.

There were, on April 30, 1934, 897 registered Co-operative Societies in Ceylon, of which 3 were Co-operative Central Banks, 762 Vilage Credit Societies or Banks of Unlimited Liabilitiy, 29 societies of Limited Liability, 48 Thrift Societies, 32 Supervising Unions 12 Supply Societies, 2 Co-operative Land Mortgage Banks, 3 Sale Societies, 2 Co-operative Milk Supply Societies, 1 Co-operative Land Development Society, 1 Co-operative Motor Boat Society, 1 Health Society, and 1 Sports Society. These Societies had 30,277 members.

Statistics are compiled only at the end of the co-operative working year on April 30. Since then 4 more Supply Societies and 2 Sale Societies have been registered as well as many village credit Societies.

The Societies were handling on April 30 Rs. 2,531,107.06. The Co-operative Central Banks exist for the purpose of attracting funds in the form of deposits from the general investing public and lending them to registered societies.

Attention has been concentrated on the thorough training of primary societies in the principles and practice of co-operation, and particularly on the organization of secondary institutions designed to make the movement independent of direct assistance from Government. These consist mainly of Central Banks, whose object is to provide and control the necessary finance, and Supervising Unions which are intended to provide scope for unofficial workers and gradually to take over the whole work of propaganda and supervision.

Loans are still made directly by Government to Societies in the less developed portions of the Island, but this system is being gradually replaced by independent Central Banks as the movement develops.

The percentage of overdue loans for the whole Island was 15.03 for the year ending April 30, 1934. A few Supply Societies have worked successfully, but this branch of the work has proved to be very difficult. There is at present a strong demand for new societies.

CURRENCY, &c.

The monetary unit in Ceylon is the Indian silver rupee, which is divided into 100 cents. The following fractions of the rupee are coined:—(1) Silver, 50-cent piece; 25-cent piece; and 10-cent piece; (2) nickle, 5-cent piece; (3) copper, 1-cent piece and ½-cent piece.

The chief medium of exchange in Ceylon is the currency notes issued by the Government of Ceylon. They are of the following values:—Rs. 1,000, Rs. 500, Rs. 100, Rs. 50, Rs. 10, Rs. 5, Rs. 2, and Re. 1. The present value of the rupee is about 1*s*. 6*d*.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

The standard weights and measures are the English units. In conjunction with these many local weights and measures are used.

CHAPTER XII.

Public Works.

WITH the introduction in July, 1931, of the new Constitution for the Island under the Ceylon (State Council) Order in Council, 1931, the Public Works Department is placed under the immediate control of the Executive Committee of Communications and Works.

On account of the acute financial depression that prevailed in the Island, the votes of the Department for the financial year 1933-34 were greatly reduced and the programme of new public works drastically curtailed. The total expenditure by the Department amounted only to Rs. 6,760,020, as against Rs. 6,935,806 during the previous year (1932-33) and Rs. 26,832,348 five years ago (1928-29).

Maintenance.—The roads, bridges, canals, and public buildings in charge of the Department were maintained in satisfactory condition having regard to the restricted funds available.

New Works.—The following are the more important works completed or in progress during the year:—

New Buildings and Additions and Improvements to Buildings.

Quarters for nurses and pupil midwives, De Soysa Lying-in Home.
Special repairs and alterations to block No. 5, Echelon Barracks, to house the Income Tax Department.
Improvements to Welikada Prison.
Improvements to Government Training College.
Additions and improvements to Galle Face Secretariat.
Extensions to Out-patients' Department, Victoria Memorial Eye Hospital.
Alterations to a portion of the Torrington square buildings to accommodate the Government Analyst's Department.
Reconditioning Queen's House, Colombo.
Improvements to Government bungalow A 108, "Alfriston", MacCarthy road, Colombo.
Improvements to Income Tax Office to accommodate Stamps and Estate Duty Office.
Kitchen, Ragama Anti-Tuberculosis Hospital.
Conversion of Warehouse Officer's quarters, Kalutara, into a warehouse and store.
Construction of quarters for the Medical Officer at Dambulla.
Conversion of old stables at Kandy into a store-room for the Excise Department.
Conversion of resthouse at Wattegama into a Police Station.
Construction of new quarters for the Medical Officer, Kotmale.
Extension of maternity ward, Nuwara Eliya hospital.
Waiting hall, Matara hospital.
New light house at Talaimannar.
Additions and alterations to Jaffna Prison to provide accommodation for prison officers.
Improvements to drainage, Kayts hospital.
Special repairs to Kovilan lighthouse.
Boathouse for launch "Foam", Trincomalee.
Maternity ward, Batticaloa hospital.
Special repairs to Trincomalee Court-house.
Converting District Engineer's bungalow at Maho into a Post Office.
Maternity ward, Marawila hospital.
Waiting room and improvements to Rambukkana dispensary.
Kitchen for women's section, Ratnapura hospital.
Isolation ward, Kegalla hospital.
Improvements to District Medical Officer's quarters, Avissawella.
Improved water supply, Eheliyagoda hospital.

Bridges.

Reconstruction of bridge No. 5/1, Colombo-Kandy road.
New bridge No. 5/1, Dodangoda-Tebuwana road.

Strengthening bridges Nos. 31/15 and 32/9, Nugatenne-Bintenne road.
Strengthening bridge No. 13/8, Beligamuwa-Mirisgonioya road.
Improvements to Millegamuwa bridge on 60th mile, Avissawella-Ginigathena road.
Strengthening bridge No. 35/1, Kandy-Badulla road.
Reconstructing Mirissa bridge.
Dikwella bridge.
Reconstructing bridge No. 4/1, Galle-Akuressa road.
Renewing bridge No. 18/4, Akkaraipattu road.
Reconstructing bridge No. 3/1, Palavi Service road.
New bridge on 95th mile, Pelmadulla-Halpe road.
Strengthening bridge No. 22/1, Wellawaya-Moneragala road.
New bridge at Alawwa.
Reconstruction of Maggona bridge.
Reconstruction of Ja-ela bridge.
Lunawa bridge.
Bolgoda bridge.

New Roads.

Bambalapitiya Link road from near the Wellawatta mills to the Municipal boundary, Kirillapone.
Bowatte-Karambeoya road (under the Estates Road Ordinance).

Additions and Improvements to Roads.

Clearing slip, removing boulders and constructing retaining walls at Hakgala, 53rd mile, Kandy-Badulla road.
Improvements to Kamburupitiya-Mawarella road.
Improvement of the Erukkalampiddy Causeway road to Toddaveli Railway Station.
Causeway on 31st mile, Kuchchaveli-Yanoya road.
Widening and improving Bazaar street and Puttalam road, Kurunegala.

Miscellaneous.

Unemployment relief works in and about Colombo:—

Levelling Medical Research Institute site.
Levelling Crown land at junction of Dematagoda road and high level road.

Karaiyur Reclamation Scheme.
General Flood Outlet Scheme, Kokuvil drainage channel.
Improvements to boat channel, Jaffna lake.

Coast Protection Works:—

Colombo-Galle road, 32-35 miles.
Coast protection works at Matara.

Waterworks.

Completed:—

Improvements to Hatton water supply.
Extension of Mannar water service to Puthutheru area.
Improvements to Batticaloa waterworks.

In progress:—

Improvements to water supplies at Gampola and Diyatalawa.

Under investigation:—

Improvements to water supplies at Wattegama, Nuwara Eliya, Hambantota, Tangalla, and Kurunegala.

IRRIGATION.

Early History.—From the earliest period in the history of the Island the importance of conserving water for irrigation has been recognized. Historical records indicate that the construction of the necessary tanks and channels came to be regarded as a special and solemn duty assigned to the King for promoting the wealth and welfare of his subjects, and that in proportion to the zeal with which different monarchs had exercised this prerogative their names were venerated. The remains of extensive and intricate networks of tanks and canals can be found to-day in every part of the Island suitable for the cultivation of rice. Though it is unlikely that all these various irrigation systems ever existed simultaneously in full working order, it is clear that the ancient engineers realized the principles of conserving on a very large scale the intermittent supplies carried by the main rivers, and with the advantage of an unlimited command of labour and an intimate knowledge of their terrain, though handicapped by the primitive nature of their technique and appliances, they made valiant and often successful efforts to apply them.

Decay and Subsequent Growth.—Indigenous irrigation activity and agricultural prosperity seem to have reached their zenith about the twelfth century A.D. From then onwards to the modern era Ceylon was not infrequently ravaged by internal warfare and pestilence. No large irrigation work was constructed in this period, and, until the advent of the Dutch and subsequently of the British, the works already built were allowed to fall into disuse and disrepair. There is probably no form of civil enginering work that demands more constant and unremitting attention to its maintenance than that connected with the control of water, and it is not difficult to appreciate that without such attention the once great irrigation works very rapidly succumbed to the onset of floods and the ceaseless inroads of the jungle. In modern times many of the old irrigation works have been restored to active usefulness. There are yet others embedded in the jungle which await restoration as and when occasion arises.

Importance of Irrigation.—The importance of irrigation in Ceylon is due to two causes, one dietetic and the other climatic. Rice is the staple food of the people and its cultivation, though not always remunerative, has, through secular and religious encouragement, acquired a definite social status as the national agricultural industry. Rice practically grows in water and although the rainfall in the Island is generally adequate in total amount, its seasonal incidence is uncertain. Rice cultivation cannot succeed if it depends solely on the vagaries of such rainfall, and the construction and maintenance of artificial means of diverting and conserving water are manifestly essential.

Classification of Irrigation Works.—The total area under paddy in Ceylon to-day is approximately 800,000 acres, which may be divided into four main categories according to the system of irrigation practised in each:—

		Approximate Area. Acres.
I.	Major works	160,000
II.	Minor Works: Village tanks	200,000
III.	Do. Village channels	170,000
	Total under artificial irrigation	530,000
IV.	Direct rainfall	270,000
	Total ..	800,000

The owners of land under major works are required to contribute, by an assessed annual rate, towards the cost of construction and maintenance of the works. The "construction rate" is generally a very small percentage of the capital cost of the work, and the "maintenance rate" not infrequently produces considerably less revenue than the actual expenditure incurred by Government on the maintenance of the work. Minor works, both tanks and channels are maintained by the villagers themselves under the general supervision of Government officials and with the tangible and often considerable assistance of Government. The fourth category covers lands which, being situated in localities of evenly distributed rainfall, are able with reasonable chances of success to dispense with artificial irrigation. The trouble on these lands is often the superabundance of water rather than its deficiency, and drainage rather than irrigation their particular need.

Progressive Development of Activities.—When the Irrigation Department was created in 1900 it was assigned the engineering duties of operating and maintaining those major works which had already been restored in whole or part, and of restoring a selection of old abandoned works under which the prospects of development appeared to be favourable. The administrative side of these works and the general responsibility for all minor irrigation works remained the function of the revenue officers, with such advice and assistance as they required from the Irrigation Department. Under this regime steady progress was made with the extension and improvement of irrigation service under major works, and latterly the engineering resources of the department have been applied in a steadily increasing degree to the improvement of minor irrigation tanks and channels. Another development of the department's functions, which is rapidly acquiring considerable importance, is the construction of schemes for preventing or abating floods, for improvement of drainage conditions on irrigable lands, and for exclusion of sea-water therefrom. With this development the department has become directly interested in all the four categories of irrigation in Ceylon and the scope of its service has correspondingly widened.

Major Irrigation Works.—Under the present Constitution the department is under the general control of the Executive Committee of Agriculture and Lands, and a progressive policy of active development

is being pursued. The principal works of construction on which the department was engaged during 1934, in addition to the maintenance, operation, and improvement, of working schemes, are given below :—

Karachchi Scheme, Northern Province.—Extensions of distribution channel and road systems for 8,000 acres.

Akathimurippu Scheme, Northern Province.—Construction of distributary system to village tanks for 860 acres.

Minneriya Scheme, North-Central Province.—Construction of main and branch channels and roads for the first stage (4,000 acres) of the complete scheme of development of 10,000 acres.

Kalawewa Scheme, North-Central Province.—Construction of channel and road systems for 2,000 acres in Kalagama.

Nachchaduwa Scheme, North-Central Province.—Extensions of channels and roads for development of 800-acre block.

Tabbowa Scheme, North-Western Province.—Extensions of channels and roads for a total paddy area of 1,000 acres.

Diyaturai Scheme, North-Western Province.—Construction of channels for 230 acres.

Udugoda Bandara-ela, Central Province.—Reconstruction of first 4 miles.

Rufuskulam Scheme, Eastern Province.—Construction of channels for 1,500 acres.

Pattipolai-aar Scheme, Eastern Province.—Construction of anicut for 840 acres.

Unnichchai Left Bank Scheme, Eastern Province.—Extension of channel system.

Walawe Left Bank Scheme, Southern Province.—Channel and road construction.

Kirama-oya Scheme, Southern Province.—Construction of anicuts and channels.

Colombo Flood Scheme, Western Province.—Raising and strengthening of protection bund to 4 feet above highest recorded flood level. This work was undertaken as an unemployment relief measure and gave continuous employment throughout most of the year to about 1,000 labourers.

Minor Flood Protection Schemes, Western Province.—Schemes for the exclusion of minor Kelani floods were undertaken for the Henpita, Ranale, and Pahuru-oya tracts; similar schemes on the Kalu-ganga were completed at Nikatu and Thoragala elas.

Village Works Improvements—General.—The sum of Rs. 138,519.29 was expended on the improvement of 105 village works throughout the Island, by the construction of spills, sluices, anicuts, and similar works. In return the villagers are required, by formal agreement, to complete within a stated period, the complementary earthwork and other improvements that lie within their capacity.

Scope of Future Activity.—There is very wide scope for much more extensive cultivation under irrigation scheme, and many schemes of restoration and development of ancient works and the construction of

new ones can be taken up, as the demand for such extension arises. Apart from the ultimate and possibly far distant object of producing the staple food of the country in sufficient quantity to meet her consumption requirements, the restoration of the paddy industry to its traditional prestige, importance, and attractiveness, and the resettlement in large numbers of a happy and contented peasantry on the land, would be an inestimable benefit to the Island and go far towards solving the unemployment problem in the towns.

CHAPTER XIII.

Justice and Police.

The Judicial System of Ceylon.

Supreme Court.—The Supreme Court consists of a Chief Justice and five Puisne Judges. It has appellate jurisdiction in civil cases from all courts except Village Tribunals. It exercises no original jurisdiction in civil cases. Under Ordinance No. 2 of 1891 it is a Colonial Court of Admiralty.

The Supreme Court has original jurisdiction in all criminal cases and exclusive jurisdiction in respect of the more serious offences, such as homicide, rape, and the graver types of extortion. In practice it seldom tries cases which do not fall within its exclusive jurisdiction. It usually sits with a jury and tries cases committed for trial by a Police Court. It exercises appellate and revisional jurisdiction over all criminal courts except Village Tribunals. The Supreme Court may pass any sentence authorized by law.

District Courts.—The District Courts, of which there are at present 22 in the Island, have unlimited original civil jurisdiction and criminal jurisdiction in respect of all offences which are not within the exclusive jurisdiction of the Supreme Court. District Courts try only cases committed to them for trial by Police Courts.* District Courts may pass any of the following sentences:—

(*a*) Imprisonment of either description for a term not exceeding 2 years;
(*b*) Fine not exceeding one thousand rupees;
(*c*) Whipping;
(*d*) Any lawful sentence combining any two of the sentences aforesaid.

Under sections 3 and 4 of Ordinance No. 2 of 1891 the Governor has power to appoint a District Court to have a limited Admiralty jurisdiction. The District Court of Colombo alone has been appointed to exercise such jurisdiction.

Police Courts.—There are 43 Police Courts in the Island. The offences which a Police Court may try are specified in the schedule to the Criminal Procedure Code, 1898. Various Ordinances have also

* Under section 152 of the Criminal Procedure Code, a Police Magistrate who is also a District Judge may, in the course of an inquiry into an offence which is triable by a District Court, proceed to try such offence summarily when he is of opinion that it can properly be so tried. In such a case there is no previous committal.

made other offences triable by a Police Court. A Police Court may not pass a sentence heavier than the following, except where an Ordinance has specially empowered it so to do:—

(*a*) Imprisonment of either description for a term not exceeding 6 months;
(*b*) Fine not exceeding one hundred rupees;
(*c*) Whipping, if the offender is under 16 years of age;
(*d*) Any lawful sentence combining any two of the sentences aforesaid.

Police Courts also hold preliminary inquiries into crimes with a view to committal for trial by a District Court or the Supreme Court. If after inquiry a Police Magistrate is of opinion that an accused should be discharged he makes order to this effect. Where a Magistrate is of opinion that an accused should be committed for trial to a court of competent jurisdiction, the record of the proceedings at the inquiry is forwarded to the Attorney-General, who directs the Police Magistrate to commit the accused or to discharge him.

Courts of Requests.—Courts of Requests have original civil jurisdiction (subject to certain exceptions) in all actions in which the debt, damage, or demand or value of the land in dispute does not as a rule exceed Rs. 300.

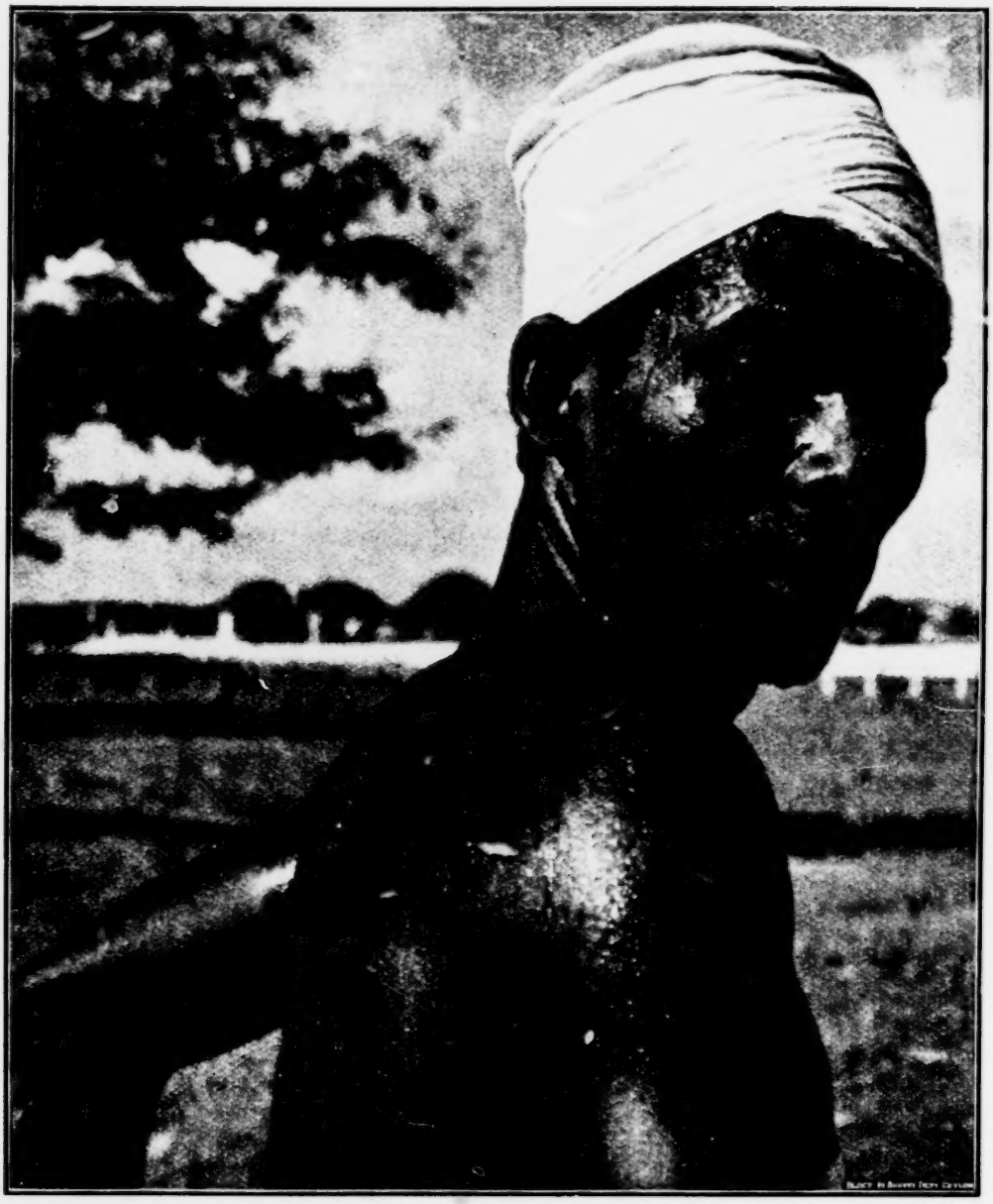
There are 43 Courts of Requests in the Island, of which one (the Colombo Court) is presided over by a separate Commissioner. All the others are presided over by a District Judge or a Police Magistrate who acts as Commissioner of Requests in addition to his own duties as District Judge or Police Magistrate.

Village Tribunals.—Village Tribunals have civil jurisdiction for actions in which the debt, damage, or demand or the value of the land in dispute does not exceed Rs. 20, or, where both parties consent, Rs. 100 and in cases between a Co-operative Society and its members. Village Tribunals have criminal jurisdiction to try breaches of rules made by the inhabitants of the subdivision or the Village Committee under section 29 of Ordinance No. 9 of 1924, and various minor offences enumerated in the schedule to Ordinance No. 9 of 1924. A Village Tribunal may impose a fine not exceeding Rs. 20 or 14 days' imprisonment in default of payment.

A Village Tribunal is presided over by a paid President appointed by the Governor. He sits with three Councillors chosen by lot. In the case of difference of opinion between the President and the Councillors, the opinion of the President prevails (section 50 of Ordinance No. 9 of 1924).

There are 216 Village Tribunals in the Island, namely, 24 in the Western Province, 33 in the Central, 50 in the Southern, 6 in the Northern, 22 in the Eastern, 21 in the North-Western, 15 in the North-Central, 17 in the Uva, and 28 in the Province of Sabaragamuwa.

Village Committees.—Village Committees in subdivisions where no Village Tribunal has been established, have power to try breaches of rules made by the inhabitants of the subdivision or the Village Committee under section 29 of Ordinance No. 9 of 1924, and have the same power of punishment as Village Tribunals.



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JOURNEY'S END.

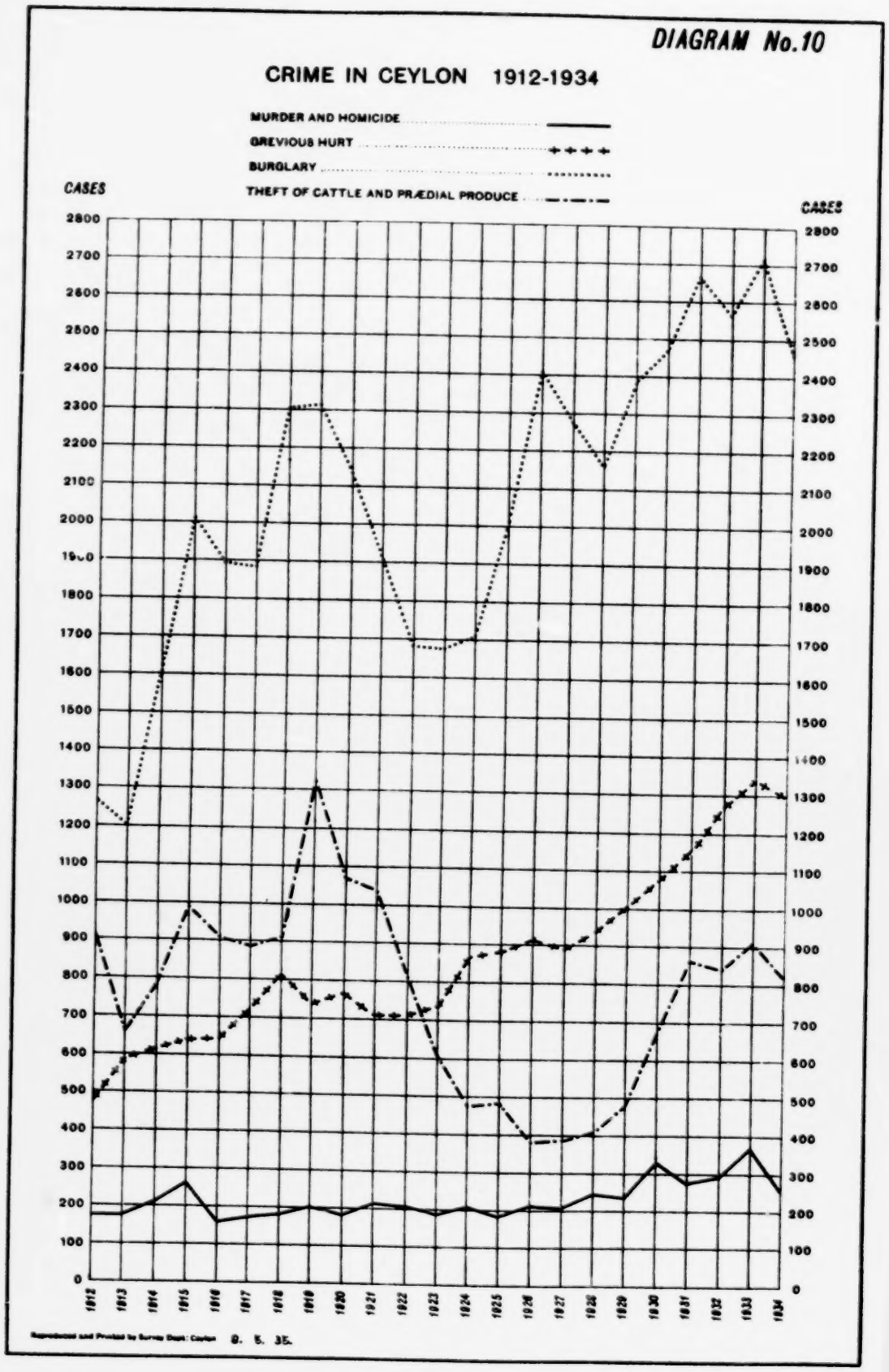
DIAGRAM No.10
CRIME IN CEYLON 1912-1934
MURDER AND HOMICIDE
GREVIOUS HURT
BURGLARY
THEFT OF CATTLE AND PRÆDIAL PRODUCE
CASES
CASES
2800
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1934
8. 5. 35.

There are 63 Village Committees exercising this jurisdiction in the Island, namely, 51 in the Northern Province, 9 in the Province of Sabaragamuwa, 2 in the Eastern Province, and 1 in the North-Western Province.

The following schedule gives detailed information as regards the number of Courts, the number of Judges, Magistrates, &c. :—

Number of Courts, Judges, &c.

Court.	Number of Courts.	Number of Judges.	Remarks.
Supreme Court	1	6	1 Chief Justice and 5 Puisne Judges
District Court	23	26	There are 4 judges for the District Court of Colombo and two each for those of Kandy, Galle, and Jaffna. There is one judge for the District Courts of Chilaw and Puttalam, one for those of Nuwara Eliya and Hatton, and one for those of Mullaittivu and Vavuniya. Eleven of these officers are Police Magistrates and Commissioners of Requests in addition to their duties as District Judges
Police Court	43	31	There are three Magistrates sitting at Colombo. The following groups of Courts have one Magistrate each :— Badulla, Bandarawela ; Matale, Panwila, Teldeniya; Nuwara Eliya, Hatton ; Jaffna, Kayts, Mallakam ; Point Pedro, Chavakachcheri; Batticaloa, Kalmunai; Mullaittivu, Vavuniya
Village Tribunal	216	60	—
Village Committee	63	—	—

POLICE.

The regular Police Force of the Island was established and is regulated by the Police Ordinance, No. 16 of 1865, as amended by various subsequent Ordinances.

Before the Police Force was constituted the duties of the Police were attended to by the headmen. Regular Police have been gradually introduced to most parts of the Island since 1865, and at present there are 163 Police Stations and 26 Police Offices.

The sanctioned strength of the Force is now 1 Inspector-General, 2 Deputy Inspectors-General, 39 Superintendents, Assistant Superintendents, and Probationers, 216 Chief Inspectors, Inspectors, and Sub-Inspectors, 2 Sergeants-Major, 362 Sergeants, and 2,498 Constables.

General.—The following statement shows the number of cases of grave crime disposed of as " true cases " by the courts during the last three years :—

	1932.	1933.	1934.
Homicide	294	367	255
Attempted homicide	158	136	114
Grievous hurt	1,273	1,341	1,295
Hurt with dangerous weapons	1,651	1,677	1,661
Housebreaking	2,560	2,715	2,453
Theft of cattle	847	918	817
Other offences	3,701	3,629	3,698
Total	10,484	10,783	10,293

The statistics of crime for the last six years under the three main heads " Offences against the Person " (which are not directly preventable by Police action), " Offences against Property ", and " Offences against the State " (riot, &c.) are as follows :—

Year.	Total crime.	Offences against the person (excluding robbery).	Offences against property (including robbery).	Offences against the State.
1929	9,089	2,978	6,055	56
1930	9,689	3,235	6,389	65
1931	10,141	3,407	6,638	96
1932	10,484	3,564	6,817	103
1933	10,783	3,738	6,952	93
1934	10,293	3,562	6,659	72

The improvement in the economic position of the country is reflected in these figures which show a slight decrease under the main heads of crime in comparison with the corresponding figures for 1933. Rumours with regard to rubber restriction had led to an improvement in the price before its introduction and when it came into force in June the majority of estates which had been placed on a care and maintenance basis resumed tapping. This led to a demand for labour and for the services of village tappers. The resumption of work in the rubber estates with repairs to factories, buildings, and lines should again create employment for the low-country Sinhalese who do the masonry and carpentry work. With more money in circulation the inhabitants of the smaller towns who cater for the needs of the Indian labourer and whose livelihood depends on the prosperity of the estates should eventually benefit and the poverty which drives many to steal or to take the law into their own hands should gradually diminish.

Control of Motor Traffic.—There were 26,108 prosecutions under the Motor Ordinance, as compared with 26,935 in the previous year; 449 were for reckless or negligent driving, 7 for driving when intoxicated, and 76 for failing to report an accident in which injury to some person was caused. In addition 48 cases for causing death and 50 for causing injury by a rash and negligent act were instituted under the Penal Code. 249 licences were cancelled or suspended during the year.

2,447 accidents caused by motor vehicles were reported to the Police, and 122 persons (91 of whom were pedestrians) were killed as a result of injuries received in motor accidents.

17,927 prosecutions were entered against omnibuses, a type of vehicle which was responsible for 386 of the accidents reported.

The following are some relevant figures:—

Year.	Motor vehicles on the road.	Number of prosecutions for exceeding speed limit.	Number of prosecutions for reckless or careless driving.	Fatal. accidents.
1928	20,623	1,061	838	114
1929	23,565	1,567	1,139	143
1930	24,405	1,992	763	127
1931	23,577	798	509	97
1932	23,203	688	400	87
1933	23,359	394	343	92
1924	25,010	402	449	122

From these figures it will be apparent that control of motor omnibus traffic is still one of the main problems with which the Police have to deal. In more than one district the return of prosperity induced newcomers to inaugurate bus services on routes which older established companies had come to regard as monopolies. Owing to the intense competition and ill-feeling between the rival organizations open acts of hooliganism were committed at various places along the routes and culminated in one case in murder.

In such cases the Police are able, by the concentration of motor patrol parties and by the rigid enforcement of the " Move on " by-law at halting places and bus stands, to restore respect for law and order. Prevention is, however, better than cure, and the remedy lies in the appointment of a Central Board to regulate itineraries, fares, and times of journeys on all bus routes.

Control of Bullock Cart and other Traffic.—Twelve persons were killed in street accidents in which vehicles other than motor vehicles

were involved and 10,816 prosecutions were entered against the drivers and owners of such vehicles. Action has been taken to compel cyclists and rickshaw pullers to keep to the left of the road and to prevent them from proceeding two abreast, while regular instruction has been given to pedestrians to keep to the pavements or where pavements are absent to the right of the road. The replacement of the old bullock cart with its narrow rimmed wheel by the new rubber tyred type which has lately been introduced into Colombo and the low-country is to be encouraged from the point of view both of the Road Engineer and the bull. The number of bicycles has declined but the rickshaw continues to hold its own and is still in demand for short journeys. Rickshaw passengers seldom realize that although the puller may be legally responsible, the onus of giving appropriate traffic signals really devolves on them. The instruction of rickshaw passengers, many of whom are ayahs and children, in traffic signals though not beyond the capacity of the Force must be considered more of a pastime than a regular Police duty.

Cinematograph Films.—Films imported into Ceylon have all been examined previously by Censors either in England or in India. They are exhibited first in Colombo. If a film is objectionable exhibition is prohibited by the Chairman of the Municipal Council, who is the Censor for Colombo. This system acts as a check on the exhibition of objectionable films throughout Ceylon.

Maintenance of Order.—The maintenance of order in the streets forms an important part of the duties of the Force. Many of the numerous processions occurring during the year were accompanied by the Police for this purpose, and all demonstrations of any size were controlled by the Police.

Strikes.—No strikes occurred in the year under review.

Criminal Investigation Department.

The following branches are included in this department:—Harbour and Foreshore Police, Train Police, Photographic Branch, Finger Print and Foot Print Bureau and the Counterfeit Note and Coin Bureau. The department deals with the investigation of difficult and complicated cases, the registration of aliens, supervision over persons entering or leaving Ceylon, the investigation of cases under the Lotteries Ordinance, the suppression of Bucket Shops, the supervision of the import of firearms and explosives, the supervision of the magazines and newspapers published in Ceylon and the enforcement of the Ordinance relating to the employment of children in industrial undertakings.

The Central Bureau, established in 1930 to deal with forged notes and counterfeit coins, dealt with 37 cases of uttering, forging, and possessing forged currency notes, as against 78 cases in 1933, and 83 cases of counterfeiting, uttering, and possessing counterfeit coins, as against 94 cases in 1933.

PRISONS.

Number of admissions.—The total number of admissions on conviction during 1934 was 13,742 (13,370 males and 372 females). Of this number 1,089 were admitted on conviction from the Supreme and District Courts. 140 were convicted of murder and culpable homicide not amounting to murder.

Number sentenced to death and executed.—The number sentenced to death during the year was 53 (52 males and 1 female), of whom 31 males were executed. Of these 31, 9 were executed in January, 1935.

Daily average population.—The daily average population (both convicted and unconvicted prisoners) of the prisons was 3,937.93 (3,872.89 males and 65.04 females).

Reconvicted prisoners.—The number of reconvicted prisoners admitted was 3,496 (25.44 per cent. of the total admissions). Of this number 1,398 were reconvicted criminals within the meaning of Ordinance No. 2 of 1926 as amended by Ordinance No. 27 of 1928.

Preventive detention.—The number of prisoners sentenced to preventive detention by courts during the year was 2. The daily average of prisoners undergoing preventive detention was 86.97.

Number in default of payment of fines.—The number of admissions for non-payment of fines was 9,435. In 7,645 of these cases the offences were either statutory or made punishable by Village Tribunal rules.

No statistics are available as to the number of cases in which time was given for the payment of fines.

Young Offenders.

(*a*) *Young first offenders.*—The number of admissions of young first offenders of the age of 16-21 was 1,060, of which number 727 were for non-payment of fines and 547 for statutory or Village Tribunal offences.

(*b*) *Young reconvicted offenders.*—The number of admissions of young reconvicted offenders was 286, of which number 189 were for non-payment of fines and 159 for statutory or Village Tribunal offences.

Religion and race.—The following table gives the nationality and religion of all convicted persons received into the prisons during the year 1934:—

Table showing Nationality and Religion of all convicted persons received into prisons during the year 1934.

Nationality.									Religion.						
Resident Europeans.	Non-Resident Europeans.	Burghers.	Sinhalese.	Tamils.	Moors.	Malays.	Others.	To al.	Protestants.	Roman Catholics.	Buddhists.	Hindus.	Muslims.	Others.	Total.
—	—		10,092	2,209	1,104	164	133	13,742	19	1,144	9,384	1,870	1,230	95	13,742

Prison punishments.—The number of punishments inflicted during the year on prisoners for offences against prison discipline was 1,732, as against 2,103 in 1933. Two prisoners were sentenced to receive corporal punishment as against 14 in the previous year. In both cases punishments were ordered by Tribunals of Prison Visitors under

section 67 of the Prisons Ordinance. In both cases corporal punishment was awarded for assaults on and gross personal violence against Prison officers. There were 8 escapes and 7 recaptures during the year.

The Prisons Ordinance, No. 16 of 1877 placed all the prisons in Ceylon under the control of an Inspector-General of Prisons. Ceylon therefore enjoys the advantages of a unified prison system which renders possible classification by institutions in addition to sub-classification in institutions.

The principle upon which this classification proceeds is the separation of the different types of offenders—especially the separation of the young offender from the adult, the first offender from the " habitual ", the convicted from the unconvicted and males from females. To each type of offender appropriate methods of treatment and training are applied.

The different prisons are utilized as follows:—

Welikada (*Colombo*), for the detention and training of the following classes:—

(i.) Adult first offenders with sentences of over two years;
(ii.) All " Star " class, *i.e.*, European or educated Ceylonese first offenders;
(iii.) Young prisoners of the age of 16-21 irrespective of length of sentence;
(iv.) Female prisoners other than those sentenced to short terms in outstations who are detained in the local prisons.

Hulftsdorp (*Colombo*), for all local convictions from the courts of the Colombo District who are sentenced to short terms of one month and under.

Mahara is set apart for adult reconvicted prisoners with sentences of over two years in one section, and for all adult first offenders with short sentences ranging from over one month up to and including six months in a separate section. Selected prisoners from among the reconvicted prisoners are specially classified as Special Class B in which they serve a probationary period of six months prior to transfer to Kandy prison for industrial and other forms of special training in the Special Class A. Prisoners are also tansferred to Mahara prison occasionally from other prisons for misconduct.

Bogambara (*Kandy*) is set apart for the following:—

(i.) First offenders convicted by local courts and sentenced to one month's imprisonment or less;
(ii.) All first offenders with sentences of over one year but not exceeding two years;
(iii.) Special class " A ", *i.e.*, selected " habituals " from Mahara with sentences of over two years;
(iv.) Prisoners undergoing sentences of preventive detention.

Jaffna is set apart for the following:—

(i.) Persons sentenced by the local courts to imprisonment for one month or under;

(ii.) Short term reconvicted offenders with sentences of over one month and up to and including two years;

(iii.) Prisoners transferred from other prisons for misconduct under monthly report.

The special gang is also located at Jaffna. The special gang is intended for prisoners guilty of continued bad or violent conduct. These prisoners are kept strictly apart from the other inmates.

Anuradhapura is set apart for the following:—

(i.) Locally convicted short term prisoners who are sentenced to one month and under.

(ii.) First offenders with sentences of over six months and up to one year.

Negombo prison serves as a prison for convalescent prisoners in addition to retaining local convictions sentenced to one month and under.

Galle, Badulla, and Batticaloa.—The prisons at Galle, Badulla, and Batticaloa are used for the detention of short term locally convicted prisoners, and prisoners on remand.

Remand prisons.—There are separate prisons for remand prisoners and persons awaiting trial, civil debtors, &c., only in Colombo (adjoining Welikada Prison) and in Kandy Old Prison. At other stations the ordinary prisons for convicted prisoners are also used for the location of these types in separate blocks or wards.

Methods of Treatment of Different Types of Offenders.

A. *Young first offenders.*—All first offenders of the age of 16-21 inclusive are detained at Welikada in separate wards. Rover Scout principles are utilized for their training and regular camps are held. The Welikada Prison Rover Troop is the first officially recognized prison troop in the world. Educational classes, industrial and vocational training, First Aid instruction, Boxing, Gymnastics, Drill, and games form a part of the regular curriculum, in addition to the various Scout activities.

B. *Long term first offenders.*—The progressive stage system—a feature of the English prison system—has been adapted to suit local conditions and is largely used in connection with the training of these offenders. According to this system prisoners fall into different classes. Every prisoner sentenced to imprisonment immediately enters and remains in what is called the penal stage for one month. He then enters and remains in Class IV., when he becomes eligible to earn remission, for eleven months. Conditional upon good conduct and industry he is promoted to Class III. where he remains for one year and then on the same conditions to Class II. At the end of one year if his conduct is satisfactory he is promoted to Class I. Promotion from class to class carries with it a graduated scale of privileges and on entry into Class II., gratuity and good conduct badges can be earned. Prisoners who show special skill and aptitude in the various trades are appointed Instructors (Grades I. and II.) who are accorded enhanced rates of pay and privileges.

Another experiment in the training of these long term first offenders is the placing of responsibility on individual prisoners. Long term first offenders in Class I. of exemplary conduct are selected for

appointment as Disciplinary Prison Orderlies. Their duties consist in assisting the regular prison officers; they are left in charge of small parties inside the prison and act as escorts within prison walls, &c.

A further experiment is the formation of Leagues on the lines of the Mutual Welfare Leagues in the New York prisons. There are two such Leagues—one for the Disciplinary Prison Orderlies and the other for prisoners who have earned good conduct badges. Inmate responsibility, managing their own affairs within limits and training in the ideals of good citizenship are the salient features of these Leagues.

All long term first offenders are employed and trained in one or more of the many trades and handicrafts taught in Welikada Prison. On reaching certain grades of the stage classification they earn money part of which may be spent in the purchase of books and extras to the diets or sent to their families and part of which is accumulated and paid on discharge.

C. *Reconvicted prisoners.*—For the training of reconvicted prisoners there are two classes in Mahara prison. Specially selected reconvicted prisoners with sentences of two years and over constitute Class B. These prisoners while at work are kept separate from the others. Evening classes are held for them and they are supplied with books from the prison library. They are also given the privilege of playing games, &c. After probationary training for six months in this class all who prove satisfactory are transferred to Kandy where they form Special Class " A ". Prisoners in Special Class " A " are treated like first offenders in all matters relating to pay, industrial training, privileges, &c.

Specially selected reconvicted prisoners with sentences of over six months and under two years form Special Class " C ". Their training and treatment approximate to that of Special Class " B ".

Labour.—All labour of a purely mechanical and unprofitable nature has been abolished. Prisoners are mostly employed on public works and on industries. At Mahara the principal work is the quarrying of stone and stone breaking. In Jaffna the work consists in the reclamation of the lagoon. Welikada and Bogambara are highly industrialized. The following industries are carried on:—Carpentry, tailoring, brush making, rattan, fibre, shoemaking, blacksmiths' work, tin smiths' work, spinning and weaving, soap making, and printing. At Welikada there is in addition an up-to-date steam laundry which washes all the linen for all the hospitals, asylum, &c. The value of the outturn of prison industries for the year 1933-34 was Rs. 195,829.18, as against Rs. 182,225.34 during the previous year.

Education.—For young offenders, that is, those of 21 and under, vernacular education is compulsory. At Welikada and Bogambara and also at Mahara evening classes, conducted by volunteer social workers, have been organized for the benefit of both young offenders and adult offenders. These classes are held in English and in the vernacular. Commercial classes in typewriting, shorthand, &c., are also held in Welikada prison for the benefit of Star Class prisoners.

Recreation.—Well conducted prisoners, particularly young offenders and first offenders who have reached an advanced stage in their training are allowed to take part in games both indoor and outdoor. Boxing, gymnastics, and volley ball are popular games.

Religious instruction.—There are no prison Chaplains in Ceylon but representatives of all creeds and denominations are allowed to visit the prisons, hold services, and give religious instruction. Services are held every Sunday and all prisoners are encouraged to attend the services of their particular denomination.

Preventive detention.—There is no separate prison for prisoners undergoing preventive detention. These prisoners are located in a portion of Bogambara prison specially set apart for them. But the conditions of an ordinary rigorous imprisonment prison afford little scope for the special course of training contemplated by the system of preventive detention, and the reorganization of the system is under consideration.

After care.—An unofficial organization known as the Ceylon Discharged Prisoners' Aid Association, with sub-committees in some of the principal towns, works in conjunction with the prison authorities and is the agency through which aid is given to discharged prisoners.

Remission and Review of Sentences.—All prisoners sentenced to rigorous or simple imprisonment (except under Chapter 7 of the Criminal Procedure Code) become eligible to earn a remission of sentence, which is conditional on good conduct and industry and which is based on the mark system, on completion of the first month (30 days) of their sentences. The maximum remission of sentence that a prisoner can earn is, in the case of a male prisoner, one-fourth of the period of imprisonment during which he is allowed to earn marks and, in the case of a female prisoner, one-third of such period. Under rule 40 of the statutory rules also the case of every prisoner is reviewed by the Governor on completion of 4, 8, 12, 15, and 20 years respectively of the term of imprisonment.

Health of prisoners.—To the prison at Mahara there is attached a whole-time Resident Medical Officer. There is also a Resident Medical Officer attached to the Welikada Prison Hospital. There is in addition a Medical Officer who has medical charge of Welikada Prison, Hulftsdorp and the Colombo Remand Prison. Neither at Bogambara nor at Jaffna nor at any of the other local prisons is there a Resident Medical Officer. The Medical Officer attached to these prisons is not a whole-time officer but has other outside duties to perform.

At Welikada there is an up-to-date Prison Hospital intended to serve the 3 Colombo prisons, with accommodation for 120 beds for general cases and 60 beds for infectious diseases.

In the female section of the Welikada Prison there is a ward with 7 beds for general cases.

At Bogambara there is a hospital consisting of 5 wards with an accommodation of 35 beds.

In all other prisons a separate ward is utilized as a hospital.

All cases which need operative treatment or special nursing are transferred to the ordinary civil hospitals for treatment.

The total number of deaths of prisoners (both convicted and unconvicted) admitted to prison was 85 in 1934, as against 186 in 1933. These deaths include prisoners who died in the Prisons and Prison Hospitals as well as in Civil Hospitals and other medical institutions, but are exclusive of judicial executions.

CHAPTER XIV.

Legislation.

THE following are the important Ordinances passed in the year 1934:—

1. *The Rubber Control Ordinance, No. 6 of 1934.*—This Ordinance embodies the terms of an agreement signed on April 28, 1934, by representatives of British, Dutch and French rubber interests and by delegates of the Governments of Sarawak and Siam to regulate the production and export of rubber in and from Eastern producing territories. The principal object of the Ordinance is to control the export of rubber from the Island, on and after June 1, 1934. Section 1 provides that the Ordinance shall continue in operation till December 31, 1938.

The Governor is empowered to declare the Ceylon quota of exports for any period of control. The general administration of the Scheme is in the hands of a Rubber Controller who is assisted by an Advisory Board.

The planting of new areas in rubber is prohibited except for experimental purposes, and subject to restriction as to the total area which may be planted.

Regulations for the purpose of carrying out or giving effect to the principles and provisions of the Ordinance are to be made by the Executive Committee of Agriculture and Lands.

2. *The Rubber Research Amendment Ordinance, No. 11 of 1934.*—This Ordinance exempts from the incidence of the cess imposed by the Rubber Research Ordinance, No. 10 of 1930, rubber which is imported into Ceylon merely for the purpose of re-export.

3. *An Ordinance to Provide for the Establishment of the Ceylon Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve, No. 15 of 1934.*—Provision is made by this Ordinance for the establishment of a Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve. It is modelled on the Kenya Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve Ordinance, No. 45 of 1931. Every member of the Reserve is required to be a British subject domiciled in Ceylon or resident in Ceylon for a period of not less than twelve months in the eighteen months next preceding the date of enrolment in the Reserve. When on actual service the force will be subject to the discipline of the Royal Navy.

4. *An Ordinance to Provide for the Payments of Compensation to Workmen who are injured in the Course of their Employment, No. 19 of 1934.*—This Ordinance is modelled on the Indian Workmen's Compensation Acts and provides a comprehensive code for the enforcement and regulation of payments of compensation to workmen who are injured in the course of their employment. The essential factors for the ascertainment of compensation are contained in four schedules to the Ordinance. The amount of compensation and of the loss of earning capacity is determined according to scale, and has not, as under the English system, to be proved in each particular case. The Crown is mentioned in the definition of " employer " and the Ceylon Government Railway is specially mentioned in the list of scheduled employments.

The Governor is empowered to appoint a Commissioner, a Deputy Commissioner, and such Assistant Commissioners as may be required

for the purpose of administration. The Executive Committee of Labour, Industry and Commerce may make regulations for the purpose of giving effect to the provisions of this Ordinance.

5. *The Ceylon State Mortgage Bank Amendment Ordinance, No. 23 of 1934.*—Under this Ordinance the Government guarantee is extended to debentures issued in excess of the limits prescribed by the principal Ordinance, provided that the issue does not contravene the provisions of the Ordinance in other respects.

SUBSIDIARY LEGISLATION.

Reference may be made to—

(*a*) Regulations made by the Governor under Article 10 of the Ceylon Importation of Textile (Quotas) Order in Council 1934. These regulations prescribe the quantity of textile goods manufactured in foreign countries, which may be imported into the Island during specified periods. Certain foreign countries are named in the schedule, *e.g.*, Holland, Japan, United States of America, Italy, Germany. Returns of the quantity, class, and origin of imported goods have to be submitted to the Principal Collecter of Customs at the time of importation.

(*b*) Regulations under the Quarantine and Prevention of Diseases Ordinance, 1897. These regulations prescribe the measures to be taken against Quarantine diseases on arrival of vessels at ports in Ceylon. Some of the regulations refer to traffic from India and other foreign ports. Measures are also prescribed to prevent spread of infection from Ceylon.

(*c*) Regulations under the Rubber Control Ordinance, No. 6 of 1934.

FACTORY LEGISLATION, &c.

Ordinance No. 19 of 1934 was passed to provide for the payment of compensation to workmen who are injured in the course of their employment.

CHAPTER XV.

Public Finance and Taxation.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The revenue of the Island in the last five completed financial years was:—

		Rs.	c.			Rs.	c.
1929–30	..	110,926,863	47*	1932–33	..	106,090,728	48‡
1930–31	..	101,767,555	90†	1933–34	..	104,100,361	7§
1931–32	..	84,843,206	60				

* Includes Rs. 7,418,932·41 recovered from loan, being expenditure met from surplus balances in previous years pending raising of loan.

† Includes Rs. 13,904,014 recovered from loan, being expenditure met from surplus balances in previous years pending raising of loan.

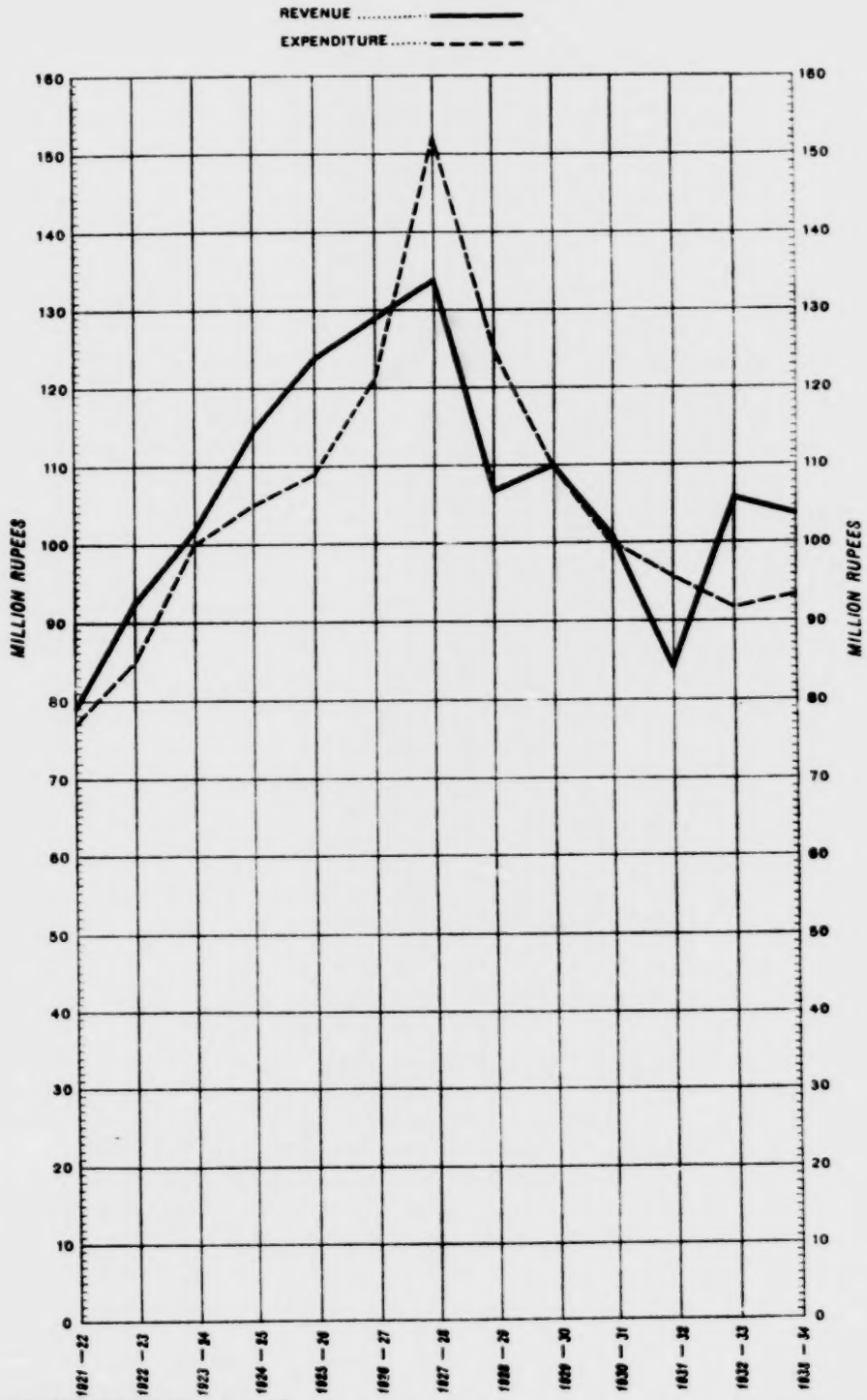
‡ Includes Rs. 2,129,437·21 and Rs. 1,564,511·69 appropriated to general revenue from the Railway Renewals Fund and the Colombo Electricity Supply Depreciation Fund respectively.

§ Includes Rs. 4,339,061·10 being surplus in the Sinking Fund of the 4 per cent. inscribed Stock, 1934.

DIAGRAM No.11

TOTAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE OF THE ISLAND

FOR EACH FINANCIAL YEAR (OCTOBER 1 TO SEPTEMBER 30) SINCE 1921-22.



Reproduced and Printed by Survey Dept. Ceylon B. 5. 35.

The following is a statement of the expenditure in the same financial years:—

			Expenditure chargeable to general revenue including accumulated surplus balances. Rs. c.		Expenditure chargeable to revenue pending raising of Loan Funds. Rs. c.
1929-30	..	..	110,275,529 29	..	102,993 21
1930-31	..	..	100,296,064 73	..	280,463 63
1931-32	..	..	96,870,003 43	..	186,075 94
1932-33	..	..	92,698,229 11	..	—
1933-34	..	..	93,444,581 34	..	—

PUBLIC DEBT.

On September 30, 1934, the sterling debt of the Island stood at £14,656,768 and the rupee debt at Rs. 3,000,000 towards redemption of which were held securities and moneys amounting to £5,903,883 and Rs. 2,803,364.

Setting off the securities against the debts and effecting conversion at 1*s.* 6*d.* to the rupee, the net total Public Debt of the Island amounts to Rs. 116,901,769 which is a little less than one and one-eighth times the revenue for the year ended September 30, 1934.

A statement of the loan position of the Island as it stood on September 30, 1934, appears on pages 118 and 119.

Description of Loan.				Enactments by which Payment of Interest and Repayment of the Loan are Secured.	Rate of Sinking Fund Contribution per Annum	Latest Date of Repayment.
Amount.	Rate of Interest.	Nature of Security.	When incurred and for what Purpose.			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
£ s. d.	p. c.				p. c.	
450,000 0 0	3	Inscribed Stock, 1940	May, 1890 .. .. Construction of Railway, Nanu-oya to Haputale and Kalutara to Bentota	Ordinance No. 7 of 1888	1	May 1, 1940
1,000,000 0 0	3	do.	April and November, 1894 .. For Railway construction .. £388,804 For Harbour Works £597,492 For Waterworks £13,704	Ordinance No. 17 of 1893	1	do.
1,400,000 0 0	3	do.	January to April, 190_ .. For Railway construction .. £528,134 For Harbour Works £767,590 For Irrigation Works £78,668 For Waterworks £25,608	Ordinance No. 14 of 1900	1	do.
2,850,000 0 0						
*1,500,000 0 0	3½	Inscribed Stock, 1934–59	December, 1909, to April, 1910 For Railway construction .. £750,706 For Duplication of water main . £58,185 For Irrigation .. £64,334 For Colombo Lake Development .. £3,297 For Karaiur Reclamation .. £1,200 For Colombo Drainage Works .. £34,694 For Harbour Works .. £587,584	Ordinance No. 6 of 1909	1	Dec. 15, 1959
1,000,000 0 0	4	Inscribed Stock, 1939–59	April to July, 1914 .. For Railway construction .. £564,410 For Motor Traction as feeders to Railway .. £3,285 For Harbour Works £139,864 For Irrigation .. £44,008 For Colombo Lake Development .. £190,115 For Karaiur Reclamation .. £6,217 For Colombo Drainage Works £52,101	do.	1	April 15, 1959
6,212,993 8 4	6	Inscribed Stock, 1936–51	June to October, 1921 .. For repayment to the General Balance of the Island of advances to Colombo Municipal Council, construction of railways, and other public works	Ordinance No. 6 of 1921	1⅓	July 1, 1951
1,250,000 0 0	5	Inscribed Stock, 1960–70	January to March, 1930 .. Construction or acquisition of certain public works	Ordinance No. 26 of 1929	1	Feb. 1, 1970
1,843,775 0 0	4½	Inscribed Stock, 1965	September, 1930 .. Construction or acquisition of certain public works	do.	1¼	Nov. 1, 1965
14,656,768 8 4						
Rs. c.						
1,000,000 0	4	Inscribed Stock, 1942–44	October, 1892, to March, 1894 Rs. For Railway construction .. 2,466,556 For Harbour Works 533,444	Ordinances Nos. 7 and 8 of 1892	1	Oct. 4, 1942
1,000,000 0	4					July 4, 1943
500,000 0	4					Feb. 4, 1944
500,000 0	4					Mar. 4, 1944
3,000,000 0						

* £700,000 of this loan was redeemed on December 15, 1934, and the balance

Equivalent of Loan at 1*s.* 6*d.* = Re. 1	Investments held on behalf of the Sinking Fund.		Amounts in deposit with Westminster Bank and balance in hand pending investment.	Total (of Columns 10 and 11).	Equivalent at 1*s.* 6*d.* = Re. 1
	Face Value of Securities.	Market Value on September 30, 1934.			
8	9	10	11	12	13
Rs. c.	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*	Rs. c.
38,000,000 0	2,628,097 17 4	2,870,746 3 5	3,463 7 0	2,874,209 10 5	38,322,793 61
20,000,000 0	110,950 11 1	113,585 5 9	574,480 14 0	688,065 19 9	9,174,213 17
13,333,333 33	302,485 3 11	324,810 4 11	—	324,810 4 11	4,330,803 28
82,839,912 22	1,847,285 8 3	1,985,773 18 7	—	1,985,773 18 7	26,476,985 72
16,666,666 67	16,518 0 6	19,433 12 5	—	19,433 12 5	259,114 95
24,583,666 66	10,633 1 5	11,590 0 11	—	11,590 0 11	154,533 94
195,423,578 88	4,915,970 2 6	5,325,939 6 0	577,944 1 0	5,903,883 7 0	78,718,444 67
3,000,000 0	75,938 4 2 Rs. 1,485,160·0	90,243 6 6 Rs. 1,581,319·42	— Rs. 18,800·21	90,243 6 6 Rs. 1,600,119·63	1,203,244 33 1,600,119 63
198,423,578 88					81,521,808 63

800,000 converted into a new 3¼ per cent. stock maturing in 1959.

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

The assets of the Island on September 30, 1934, amounted to Rs. 58,769,555.99 and the liabilities amounted to Rs. 31,548,545.13 showing an excess of assets over liabilities of Rs. 27,221,010.86. This surplus was in excess of that on September 30, 1933, by a sum of Rs. 10,655,779.73.

The assets consisted of—

	Rs.	c.
(1) Cash in the hands of the Deputy Financial Secretary, in fixed or current deposit in banks and with the Crown Agents in London	28,978,727	36
(2) Unissued stores, investments in rupee and sterling gilt edged securities, advances to the General Manager of the Railway, other recoverable advances, security deposits in banks, &c., remittances in transit and suspense account	29,790,828	63
	58,769,555	99

The liabilities consisted of—

(1) Widows' and Orphans' Pension Fund	13,117,196	21
(2) Ceylon University Building and Equipment Fund ..	4,597,303	66
(3) Loan Funds	4,667,532	42
(4) Court suitors and other depositors in the Treasury and the Kachcheries	8,099,074	53
(5) Other Governments and agencies loans to local bodies (sinking funds) and unpaid drafts	633,232	53
(6) Colombo Electricity Supply (Reserve for depreciation) ..	434,205	78
	31,548,545	13

Taxation and yield thereof—

The main heads of taxation and the yield of each are as follows:—

	Rs.	c.
Customs	48,964,076	35
Salt	2,195,008	70
Country and foreign liquor	6,910,615	68
Licences—Sundries	501,502	69
Tolls	44,753	34
Stamp duties, including composition duty on Bank cheques and share certificates	2,489,797	24
Estate duties	1,366,399	41
Police rates	32,332	1
Betting tax	198,093	71
Income tax	6,609,349	95
	69,311,929	8

Excise and Stamp Duties (summarized).—The amount realized from Excise Revenue during the financial year under review was Rs. 6,910,615.68 and that in respect of Stamp Duties Rs. 2,489,797.24. Compared with the revenue of the last financial year, Excise revenue shows an increase of Rs. 305,030.75 and Stamp Duties a decrease of Rs. 171,996.97.

Revision of Taxes.—During the year under review the following changes in taxes were made:—

Greetings and Condolence Telegrams at a specially reduced rate of 30 cents for six words were introduced in December, 1933. The rules relating to Code Telegrams were revised with effect from January 1, 1934. The Air Mail fee for letters by the Karachi-London Air Mail Service was increased in April, 1934. The import duties levied under Ordinance No. 17 of 1869 on eggs, vegetables, animal and vegetable ghee, ginger, edible fish oil except cod liver oil, and betel leaves were increased with effect from July 27, 1934. The quota system was introduced with effect from May 7, 1934, to regulate the importation of certain foreign textile goods.

CURRENCY.

On September 30, 1934, the value of the currency notes in circulation amounted to Rs. 43,082,944. The Commissioners of Currency on this date held silver rupees to the extent of Rs. 13,906,013, Cash at call, London, Rs. 1,000,000, and British, Indian and Colonial securities amounting to Rs. 33,891,192 (cost price) or Rs. 39,204,537 (market price).

The value of the reserve on September 30, 1934, was thus in excess of the value of the notes in circulation by Rs. 5,714,261 taking the investments at cost price.

During the year silver rupees to the extent of Rs. 53,881 were received from the public and the banks in exchange for currency notes.

Subsidiary coin of various denominations amounting in all to Rs. 11,826,766 was in circulation in the Island on September 30, 1934.

EXCHANGE.

The rates of exchange on London on December 29, 1934, were as follows:—

	s.	d.	
Selling Demand	1	6 1/16	to the rupee
Selling telegraphic transfer	1	6 1/32	do.
Buying Demand	1	6¼	do.

ESTATE DUTIES.

Estates of deceased persons over the value of Rs. 5,000 are chargeable to Estate Duty. During the financial year 1933/34 a sum of Rs. 1,366,400 was collected as Estate Duty as against Rs. 9,001,463 in the previous year.

CHAPTER XVI.

Miscellaneous.

LAND.

IN considering the question of land the climatic divisions of the Island are of the greatest importance. The portion of the Island, roughly one quarter of it, which receives the rain of the south-west monsoon is called the wet zone, and the remaining three-quarters the dry zone. Enjoying a generous rainfall, the land in the west zone is far more productive; tea, rubber, coconuts, and other economic crops could, up to the recent slump in prices, profitably be grown; and village cultivation flourishes with less labour. The bulk of the population of the Island is located in the wet zone. Since the British occupation there has been steady development both in large estates and in village holdings, and the population has considerably increased. Fresh land for development, accessible to means of communication, has in recent years become very scarce.

In the dry zone, on the other hand, the conditions of life are more severe. The rainfall is scanty and uncertain, and malaria in certain months is almost universal. The village population, in general, has a hard struggle for existence, and does not tend to increase rapidly. Village economy is based mainly on the cultivation of paddy. For this

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irrigation from storage tanks is necessary, cultivation dependent wholly on rainwater being precarious. Except for small patches in more favourable spots, which are made into gardens round the dwellings of the villagers, land not sufficiently lowlying for paddy is utilized only as chena, which is cleared and cultivated at intervals of from five to twenty years and allowed in the meanwhile to grow up again into jungle. No systematic farming has yet been developed. The dry zone has hitherto had little attraction for the agriculturist desiring to open land in economic products, and is largely undeveloped.

To provide a means of final settlement of the title to land as between the Crown and private individuals, a special Ordinance was passed in 1897, and the Land Settlement Department came into existence shortly afterwards. The law has recently been consolidated and brought up to date in the Settlement Ordinance of 1931. The task of settlement is a complicated one and cannot be unduly hurried, and large areas still remain to be dealt with. The lack of settlement in the Kandyan Provinces has inevitably tended to retard development, and it is the aim of Government to expedite this work as quickly as possible.

In recent years, persons desirous of buying or leasing land from the Crown applied in the first instance to the Revenue Officer of the district. Lands so applied for were surveyed in rotation, and eventually put up to public auction. The drawbacks of this system were that the applicants had no guarantee that they would be successful in securing the land, and that a too haphazard development of the Crown estate took place. There was also a danger that the permanent interests of the village population would be overlooked. The system has now been modified, and a policy substituted under which all available Crown land is first mapped out, and the land required to meet the needs of the existing village population for small holdings, forests, pasture land, &c., and for State requirements, such as reserved forests, is first provided. If there is further land suitable for agriculture, land is next reserved for colonization by villagers who are crowded out in their own villages and are prepared to move to localities in which land is available. Land not required for any of the above purposes is, if suitable, mapped out for alienation under a new scheme recently approved, under which a Ceylonese whose income falls below a certain level and who desires to devote his energies to agriculture is eligible for selection for an allotment of land on easy terms and without competition. No applicant can get more than 50 acres under this scheme.

The Land Development Ordinance has now been passed by the State Council and awaits only the assent of the Governor. This Ordinance gives a legal basis to the mapping out of Crown land described in the last paragraph, and establishes a special tenure under which land is granted to villagers, to Ceylonese of moderate means, and to others irrespective of the class or race to which they belong. No land granted under this Ordinance can be subdivided below a unit of extent fixed in the grant, or held in undivided shares smaller than a fraction corresponding to that unit. All lands granted must be cultivated or utilized in some other way specified in the grant. A small annual payment must be made to the Crown in perpetuity. The above conditions must be included in all grants. Grants for protected holdings contain a

condition prohibiting lease or mortgage altogether and alienation without consent of the Government Agent. There are other conditions which may be included in special cases. Machinery is provided for the enforcement of the conditions in the last resort by cancellation of the grant. Persons to receive grants and permits which anticipate grants being given later if certain conditions are fulfilled are selected at Land Kacheheries, competition by bid or tender being eliminated.

Considerable progress has been made during the last two or three years in settling peasants on the land. In addition to many settlements under which peasants have received lands in their own villages, colonization schemes, under which the peasants are moving from congested areas to take up land at some distance from their own home, are beginning to achieve some success. The slump in rubber and other major products by depriving the peasants of a source of livelihood tended to produce a willingness to move which had not existed before. The improvement during the year in the position of the rubber industry has caused a slackening in the tendency to migrate, but there are still villagers prepared to take up land at a distance from their own villages. With increasing population it is likely that migration will again increase in the near future. Under all these peasant settlement schemes land has been given out on permits anticipating the Land Development Ordinance under which the holdings will now come.

With regard to the dry zone, to which eventually the surplus population of the congested areas in the wet zone will be driven to migrate, successful efforts are now being made to encourage the taking up of the remaining land under the large irrigation works. Special attention has been given to the development of a colony under the Minneriya Irrigation Scheme. More rapid progress in the development of paddy land in the dry zone might have been achieved but for the prevailing low price of paddy.

There is little doubt that ultimately in the dry zone ordinary farming, with rotation of crops, of high land—as opposed to paddy land,—will be actively taken up, and when this happens it should tend to better the lot of the peasantry. Without such utilization of the abundant undeveloped lands of the dry zone, it is difficult to see how the increasing population of the wet zone is going to be provided for in the future. This new development, however, has not yet begun.

The improvement of peasant agriculture and the successful establishment of peasants on the land is at present retarded by lack of any organized marketing and the competition of cheap imported produce. The problem has been the subject of continued study for some time and preparations are being made to start a new Marketing Department at the beginning of 1935.

FORESTS.

The past year marked the concluding stage of handing over the administration of forests, other than those required for intensive management, to the Revenue Authorities. The revised rules and regulations dealing with " Other Crown Forests " and with the transport of forest produce generally, were approved by the Executive Committee of Agriculture and Lands and received the sanction of His Excellency the Governor. On the publication of the rules and regulations the Forest Manual of Procedure was further revised.

It was very largely due to the willing co-operation of all Revenue Officers that there was so little hitch in effecting this transfer of duties. The administration of the various forests of the Island under the new order of things would appear on the whole to be working satisfactorily and smoothly, with one or two exceptions. Principal among the latter are (*a*) the sudden and abnormal increase in the value of Free Grants issued in one district, the population of which is less than 40,000, and in which during the past year, this value amounted to approximately Rs. 40,000 as against a previous annual average of Rs. 3,000, (*b*) another district reports that the greater ease with which revenue licenses can be obtained and the larger number issued has resulted in a very large increase of illicit fellings, under cover of such licences, in forests dedicated to intensive management. Both these points require further investigation in order to determine and eliminate the cause.

Apart from the process of handing over the administration of the "Other Crown Forests", the activities of the department were directed to the development of the forests under its control and to the commercial exploitation of Other Crown Forests, and of land required for other purposes.

On the side of development, reforestation work was very largely restricted pending the arrival and advice of the Forest Adviser from India. 768¼ acres of plantation were added, bringing the total area of plantation up to 29,006¼ acres.

Mapping-out proceeded in the Sabaragamuwa, Uva, Southern, Central, North-Western, North-Central, and Western Provinces and 28,481 acres were allocated for Forest Development. Examination and stock mapping of areas already mapped-out for the Forest Department in the Southern and Western Provinces was continued on standardized lines.

During the year an area of 7,072 acres was taken up for examination under Stage I. (Preliminary Reconnaissance) and 4,793 acres were subjected to more detailed examination under Stage II. This work constitutes the most important function of the department at present, as, without a knowledge of the stock of the forests, it is impossible to tell what species of timber are available in commercial quantities, and which of these are of commercial value from the point of view of utilization.

On the exploitation side, the department continued its policy of encouraging private enterprise to act as middlemen between the department and the public. The indigenous sleeper industry, which had been resuscitated the previous year, was considerably increased and 19 coupes covering 85,680 acres, for the production of sleepers and timber were exploited during the year. As a result the number of indigenous sleepers supplied to the Railway Department was increased from 23,442 Broad-Gauge and 8,999 Narrow-Gauge in 1933 to 118,478 Broad-Gauge and 24,679 Narrow-Gauge in 1934.

The cash revenue of the department amounted to Rs. 369,639.84 as against Rs. 396,567.88 in 1933 while expenditure was further reduced from Rs. 820,447.64 to Rs. 586,716.29 resulting in a net deficit of Rs. 217,076.45 compared with Rs. 423,879.76 in the previous year.

A considerable advance was made during the year in the direction of the preservation of indigenous fauna by the introduction of a

Rule under the Forest Ordinance prohibiting night shooting except with the written permission of a Government Agent or Assistant Government Agent. In granting such permission Government Agents and Assistant Government Agents have been further instructed to see to it that permits are issued only for the shooting of bears and leopards, while no permission should be granted for shooting within fifty yards of a main or minor road. This latter provision aims at eliminating as far as possible the dangerous and unsporting practice of shooting from cars by night.

In November Mr. H. G. Champion, I.F.S., Forest Adviser, who was lent by the Government of India at the request of the Hon. the Minister of Agriculture and Lands, arrived in the Island.

It is understood that, in his opinion, the two most pressing needs which face the department are (*a*) the speeding up of the examination of areas dedicated to forestry and the collection of data from which provisional schemes of exploitation, covering a period of five years, can be compiled to be accompained by (*b*) systematic silvicultural research, on which prescriptions of silvicultural treatment can be based.

It is clear that the day is not far distant when the population will have to depend almost entirely on the resources of the Forest Reserves for their supplies of timber and fuel, and when that day arrives the Forest Department must be in possession of sufficiently accurate figures to determine the maximum that can be supplied from year to year, and of sufficiently accurate silvicultural information at least to replace the material removed annually.

Survey.

The Survey Department.—As no land can be alienated or otherwise dealt with by the Crown until it has been surveyed and demarcated, the work of the Survey Department is of great importance. Its chief activities in this connection may be summarized as follows:—

(*a*) Application Surveys, *i.e.*, scattered disconnected surveys of small areas of land required for sales, leases, and various other purposes.

(*b*) Block Surveys, or continuous surveys of large areas of land according to villages, showing private land *en bloc* and not according to claims.

(*c*) Acquisition Surveys, or surveys of land to be acquired by the Crown for public purposes.

(*d*) Town and Forest Surveys, and isolated surveys for settlement and miscellaneous purposes.

(*e*) Land Development, Peasant Proprietor, and Colonization Surveys.

(*f*) Irrigation Surveys, *i.e.*, engineering surveys and the preparation of plans and sections for use in the investigation and development of Irrigation Schemes to be undertaken by the Irrigation Department.

Topographical Surveys.—In addition the Survey Department attends to the Topographical Survey of the Island. Sectional maps

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for the whole Island on the scale of 1 mile to the inch can be obtained at the Surveyor-General's Office, Colombo, and numerous small-scale maps are also published. The chief of these are—

4-mile and 8-mile to the inch maps of the Island.
8-mile to the inch motor maps.
6-mile to the inch motor maps, in book form.
4-mile and 24-mile to the inch agricultural maps.

Other work of the Survey Department.—The other work of the Survey Department is not directly connected with the subject of this chapter. In includes—

(1) Precise Levelling.
(2) Town-planning and Assessment Surveys.
(3) The Observatory and Meteorological Stations.
(4) Trigonometrical Surveys.

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* The above list which has been compiled by Messrs. L. E. Blazé, O.B.E., R. S. Enright (Librarian, University College), S. C. Blok (Librarian, Public Library, Colombo), and Director, Colombo Museum, contains the names of some of the principal works dealing with Ceylon, but does not purport to be a complete list. The year of publication is given in each case, and the list has been arranged, as far as possible, in chronological order.

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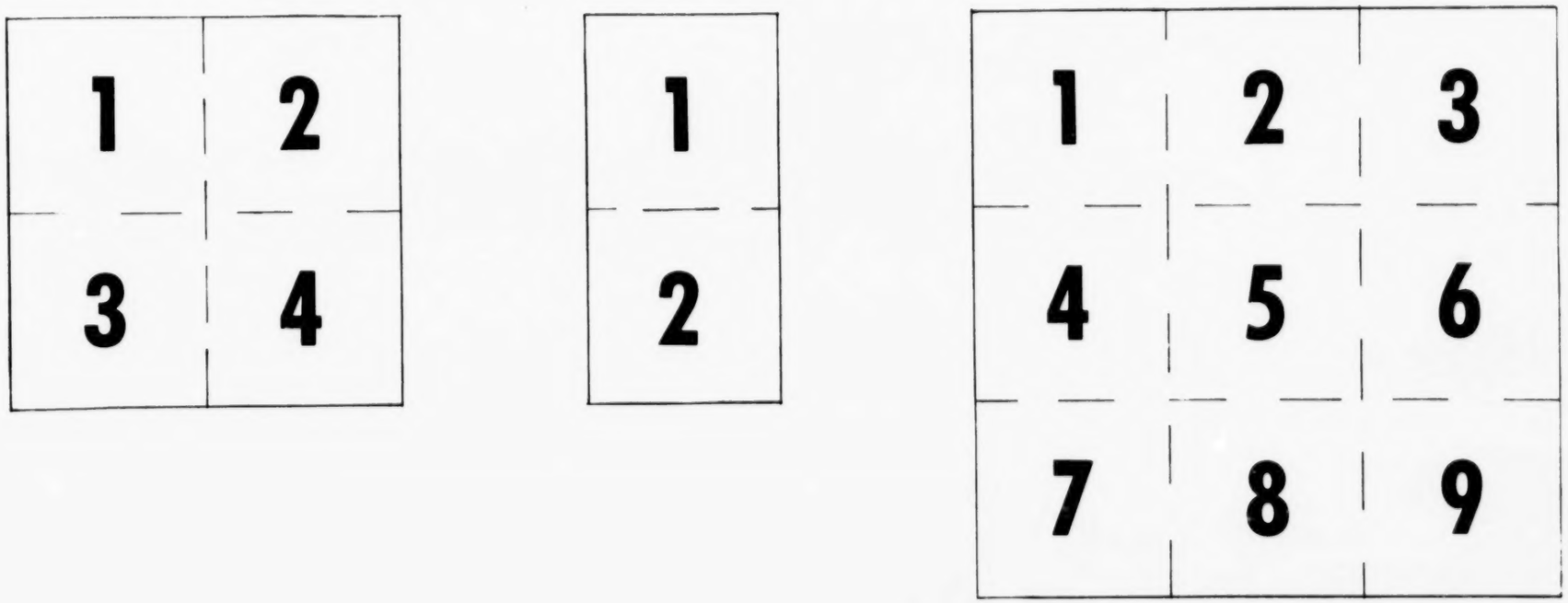

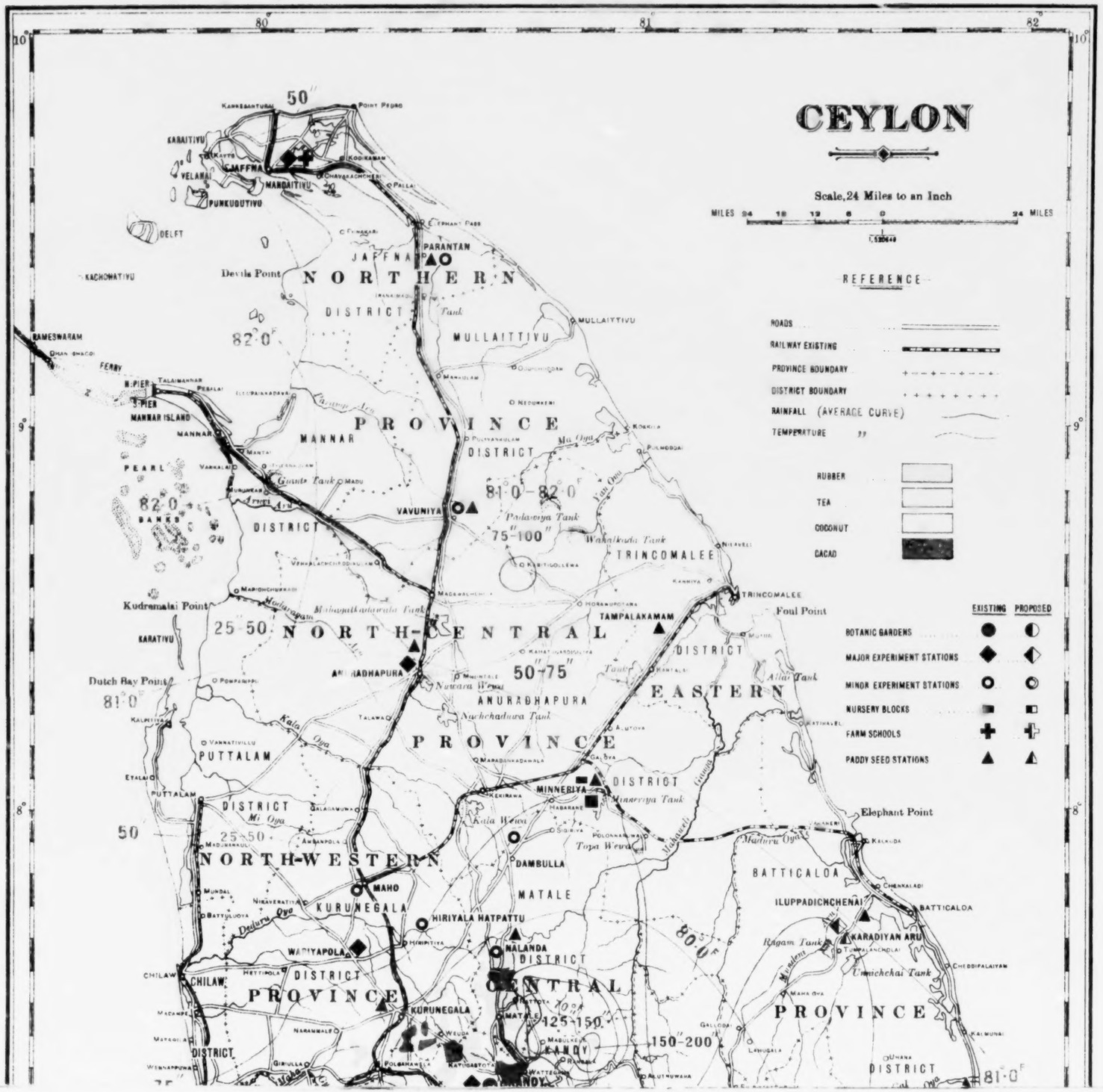

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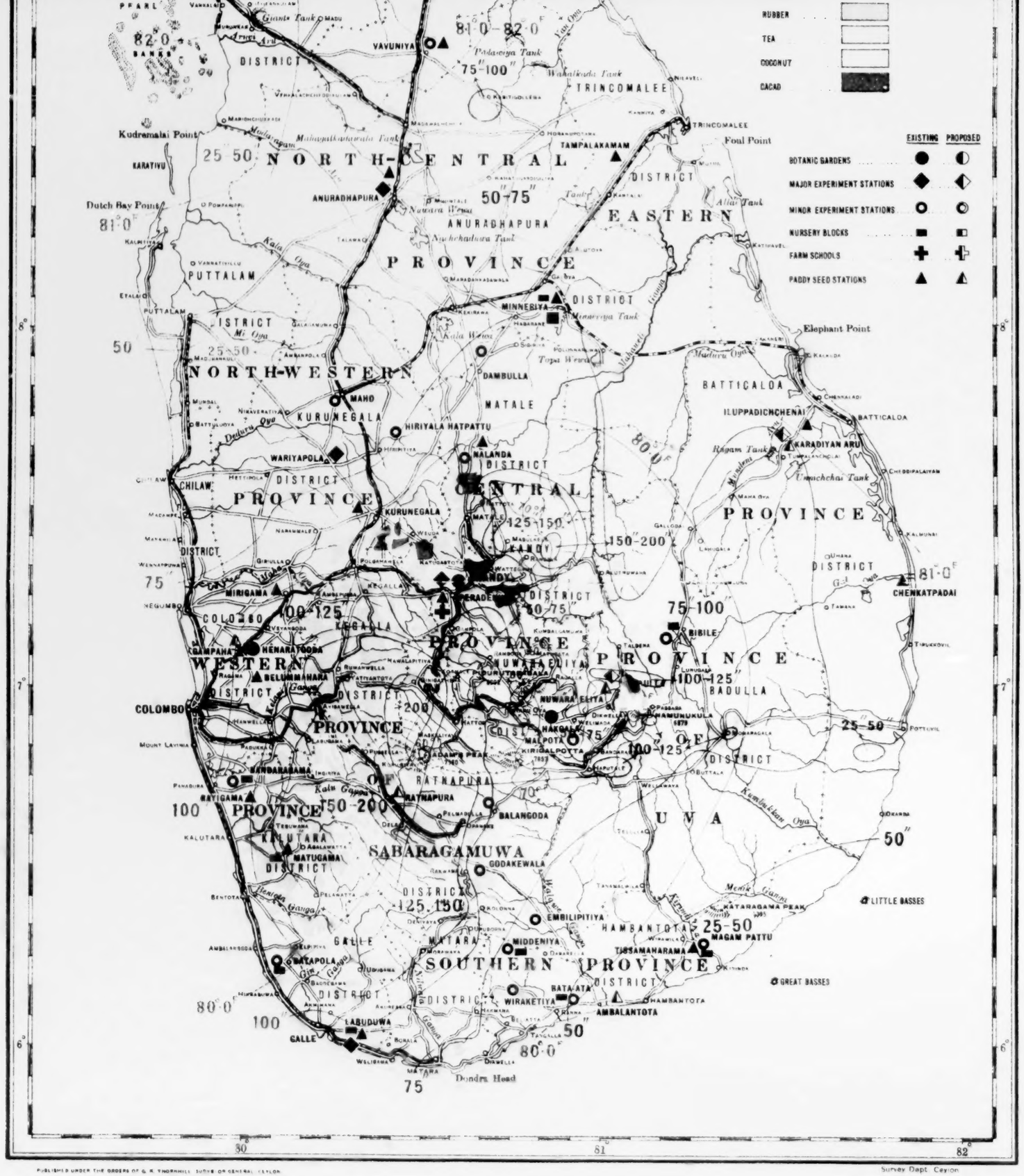

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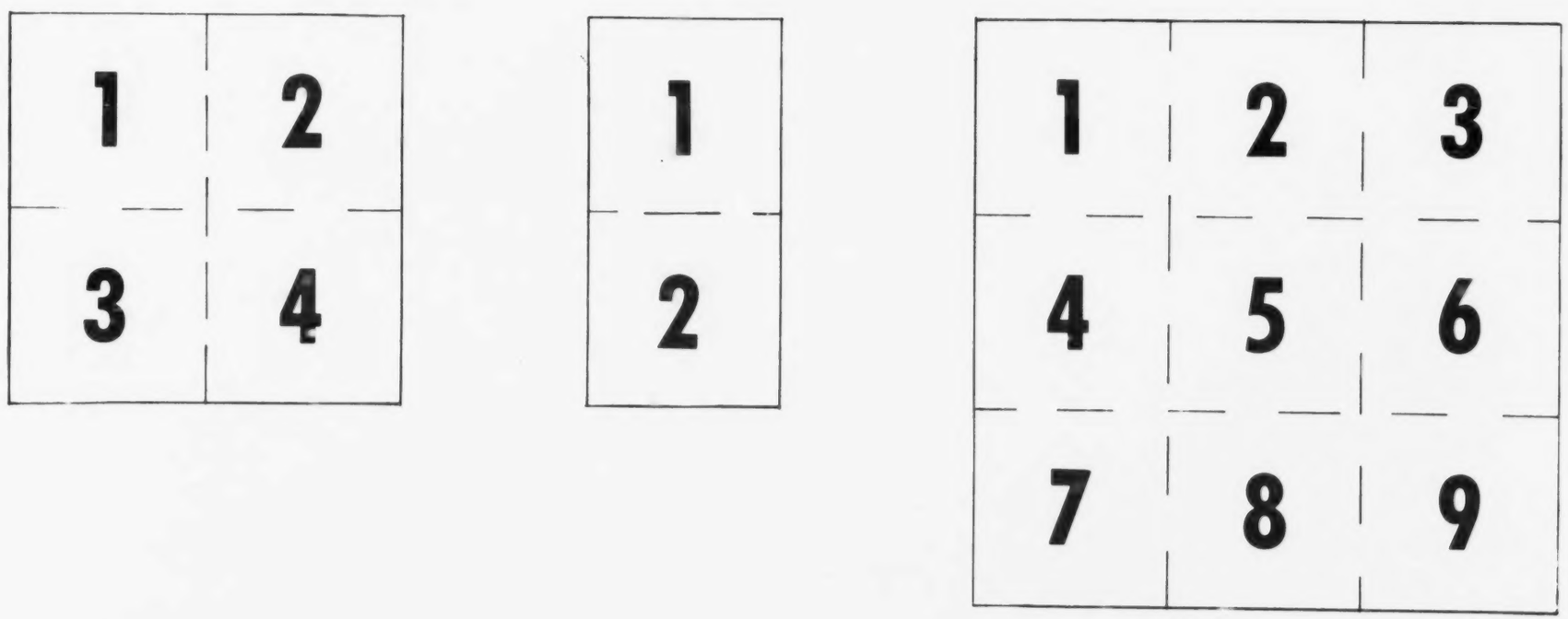

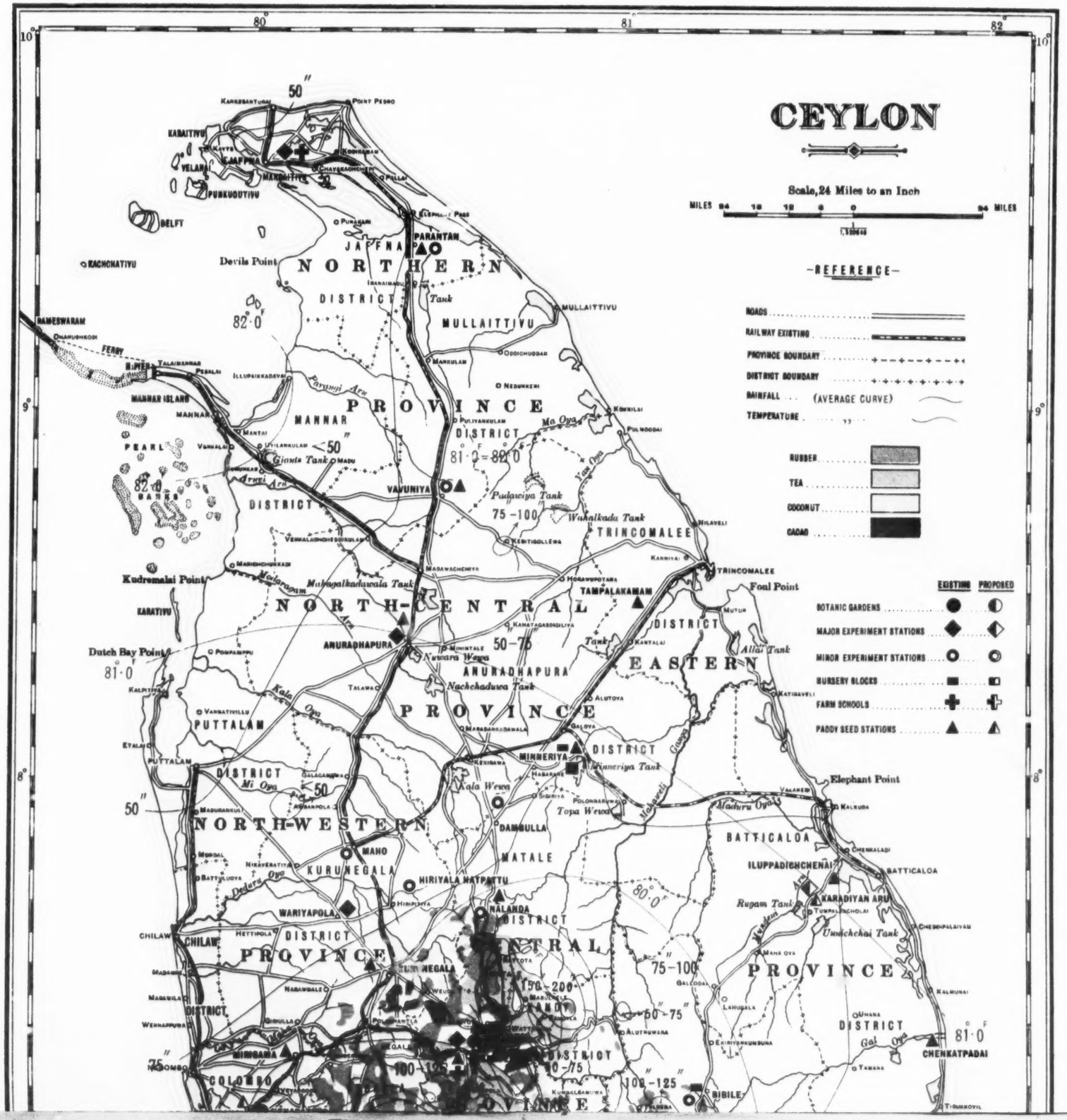
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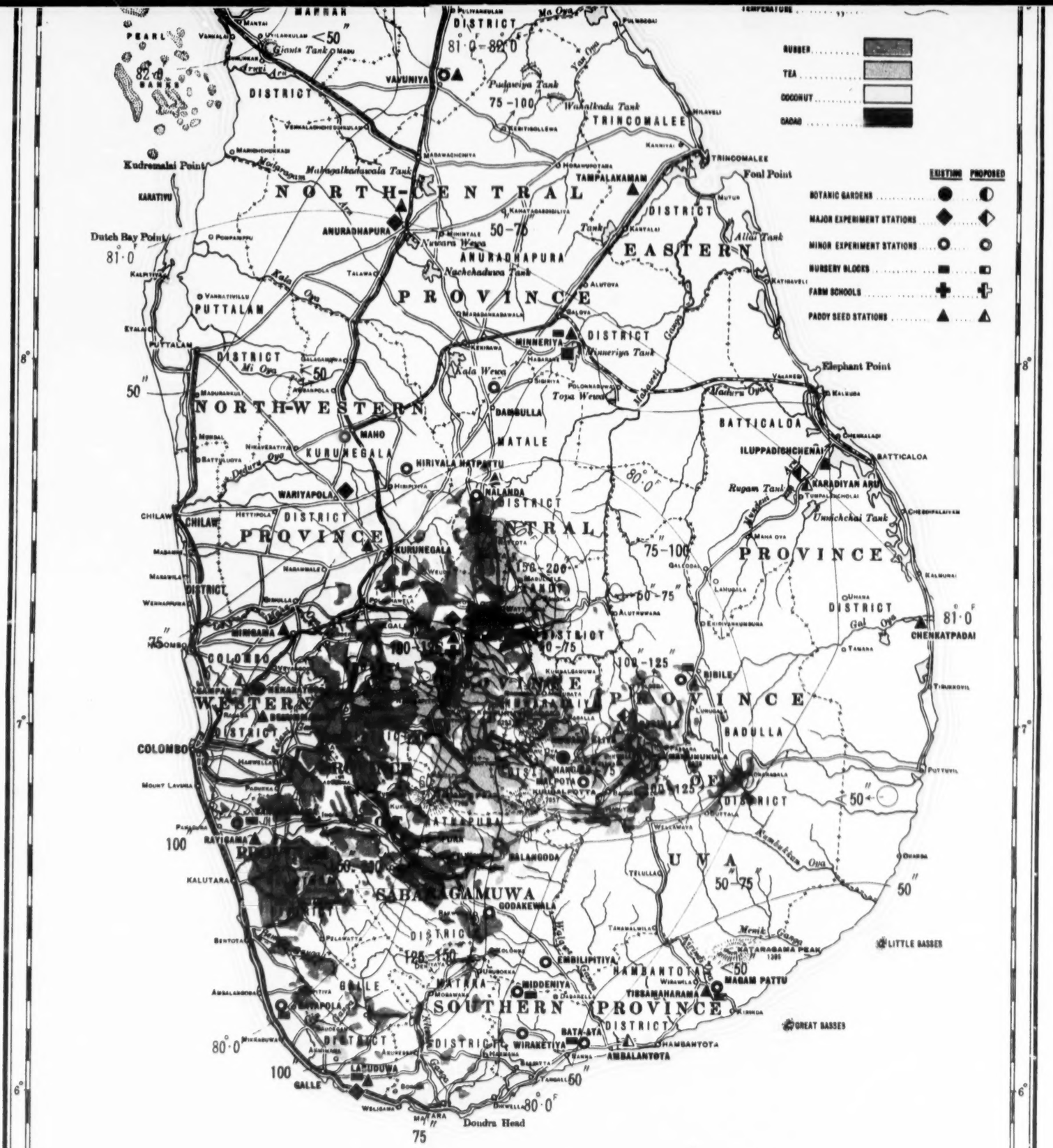
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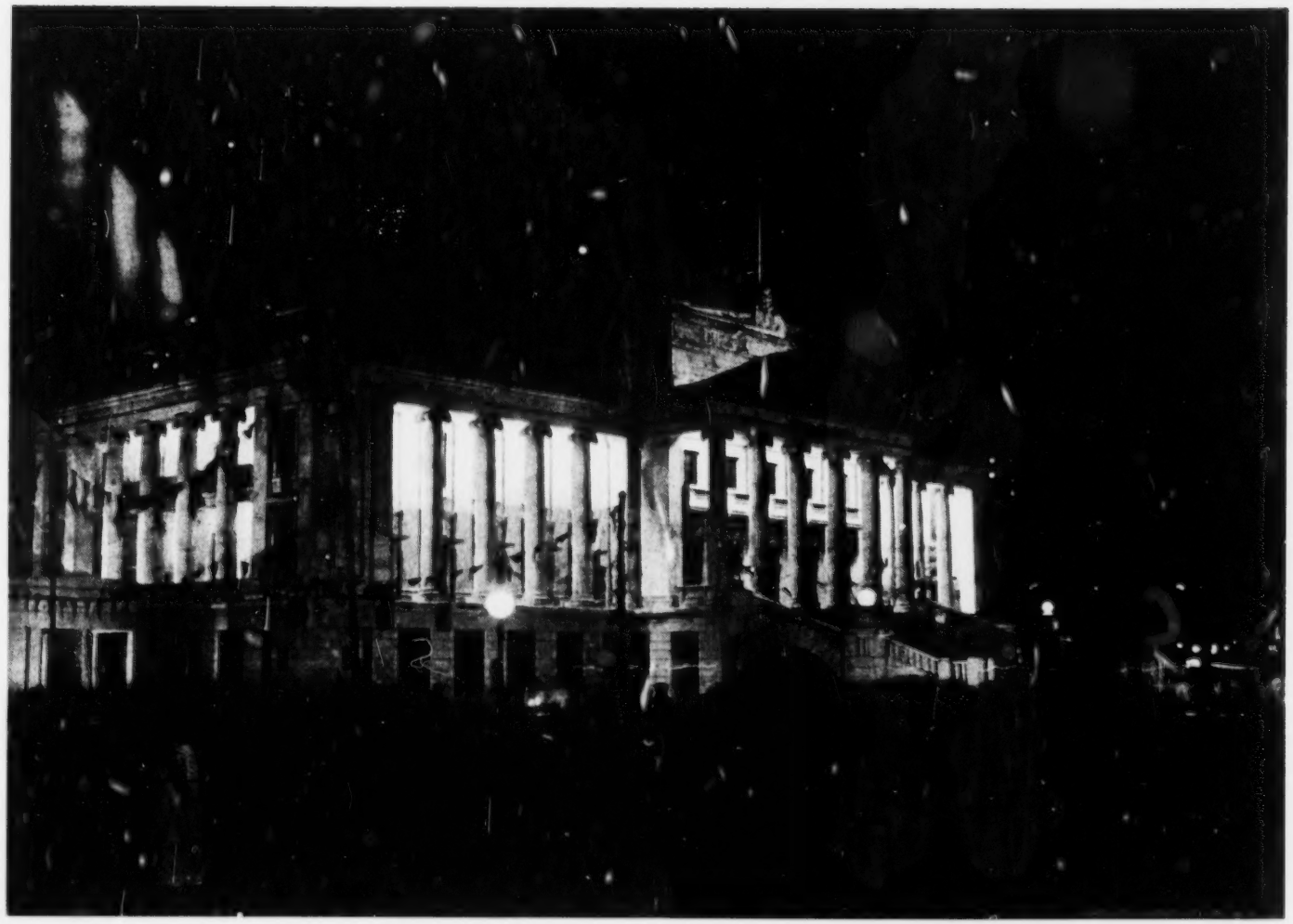

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THE STATE COUNCIL—ILLUMINATED.

Annual General Report for 1935 on the Economic, Social, and General Conditions of the Island.

CHAPTER I.

Introductory.

Two notable things happened this year in connection with Ceylon. Firstly, Ceylon House was opened in London and Dr. Paul E. Pieris, a retired officer of the Civil Service and a D. Litt., who had written a number of books on Ceylon, was appointed the first Trade Commissioner (page 7). The Ceylon House took refuge in a wing of Australia House, Aldwych, and the ceremonial opening—the " birth-day party " of July 15, 1935, was attended by Mr. Malcolm MacDonald, for a brief season Secretary of State for the Colonies, and Sir Reginald E. Stubbs, Governor of Ceylon, then on leave, both of whom addressed the guests numbering nearly 600 who were present. Mr. MacDonald responded to the opening speech of Dr. Pieris in terms which showed more than a superficial knowledge of Ceylon and made references to the demonstrations of loyalty—" wonderful, spontaneous, tumultuous "—which he personally witnessed on the occasion of the visit of the Duke of Gloucester who brought back with him in September, 1934, the ancient throne and crown of the Kings of Kandy. Mr. MacDonald commended this effort to promote closer trade relationships and mutual understanding between Great Britain and Ceylon. He referred humorously to the contrast between the evidences of modern civilization exemplified in the uses of electricity and water power, and the survival of the rickshaw as a means of travelling about town, and the " ox-drawn covered carts or wagons which meander through the towns and through the countryside ", carrying bales of merchandise (pages 14 and 19). To use his own words, " no one who knows Ceylon can do anything but wish this venture well, because . . . . once you have set your eye or foot on that glorious Island, you have fallen for ever under its enchantment ". He confessed to having carried away a memory crowded with " fascinating pictures ". One of those pictures he saw on his way to Kandy—the sight of elephants having their bath, an " intimate toilet " which was a source of much pleasure (page 26). Kandy is in fact a place where one may linger and enjoy the spell of its old-world associations. Everything within reach of the Lake seeks to be mirrored in its beauty. But always the ancient Maligawa holds first place (page 31). The picture showing the lake and temple, though essentially oriental, captures the imagination, and awakes magic akin to that of the Italian lakes.

The oriental effect is heightened by sights such as the hawker and the haggling of the market place by day, and that of the Perahera, the procession held yearly in honour of the ceremony of the Sacred Tooth, by night (pages 36, 43, and 50). Like the distinguished visitor we are conscious as we move through the country roads of the " flashes of brilliant colour, the fresh green of the coconut plantations and paddy fields—emerald terraces—and the green of the forests covering the hills (page 58). Sights and sounds all invade the senses with a gentle and caressing charm. Nature is happy and joyous and the dance of the Kandyan

dancer reflects that jubilation (page 68). Nature is happy and beautiful, and so is her sweet child—Eve (page 73). " Earth has not anything to show more fair ", (Wordsworth). It needs a Wordsworthian mood to be in tune with the spirit of the hills surrounding Kandy—to

> " stand
> Beneath some rock, listening to sounds that are
> The ghostly language of the ancient Earth."

Thoughts like these are suggested as one travels past Bible Rock and goes further inland to the haunts of the old but not forgotten Gods—to Sigiriya, to the Royal Palace at Polonnaruwa where stand the sleepless sentinels of the past, and so with the pilgrim of humanity to the feet of the Buddha (pages 80, 87, 94, and 101).

The other event was the Jubilee Celebration held to commemorate the 25th year of the reign of the late lamented and revered King George V., on the 6th of May, 1935. During that period every district of Ceylon vied with each other in festive display. The Jubilee was the occasion for every kind of decoration which artistic ingenuity would devise. The public buildings including the Town Hall, the State Council, and the Maradana Railway Station were lit up and commercial buildings, hotels, and other edifices joined in adding strength to the blaze of glory (pages frontispiece, 108, and 117). Under the auspices of the Ministry of Labour, Industry and Commerce a Pageant of Industries was held. Business places and industrial concerns of every sort were invited to send decorated cars illustrating some phase of industry, and 200 vehicles were sent in response to the call. There was a march along a nine-mile route during the day and a march past the Town Hall by night. There was a goodly gathering at night from all parts of Ceylon, and Colombo was the scene of a unique spectacle. The Governor and party, the Ministers and Officers of State, and the Staffs of Departments were provided with a central position, whilst seating accommodation was arranged for several thousand persons. The Pageant was the first of its kind in Ceylon. As a spectacle it was voted a success because there is always something in human psychology to which the barbaric splendour of pageants and processions make an inward appeal. Some items of the Pageant are shown in these pages (pages 126, 133, and 140). From a material point of view it was a portent of the industrialization of Ceylon which is being inaugurated by the recruiting of experts for scientific research into the industrial possibilities of the Island. As an act of virtue it was intended to be a tribute of respect to one of the most unique reigns in the history of mankind—a reign marked by the greatest of wars, by inventions the most ingenious and at once capable of the utmost beneficience and the deepest disaster, and by extraordinary social and political upheavals in nearly every country of the world. His late Majesty truly said in his Jubilee speech—" our ancient constitution ever adaptable to change, has during my reign faced and conquered perils of warfare never conceived in earlier days and has met and satisfied new democratic demands both at home and overseas." Even so we may hope that Ceylon may flourish under the new constitution that has been given to her by the grace of His late Majesty, but the vision of the future is yet hidden. To keep its memory alive, a film of the Pageant has been made. The sounds of the year 1935 are still, but the greater pageant of life moves on.

Situation and Dimensions.

Ceylon lies between 5° 55′ and 9° 50′ N. latitude and 79° 42′ and 81° 53′ E. longitude. The greatest length of the Island from north to south, *i.e.*, from Point Palmyra to Dondra Head, is 270 miles; its greatest width 140 miles, from Colombo on the west cost to Sangamankanda on the east. Its area is 25,332 square miles, nearly the same as that of Holland and Belgium, or about half the size of England.

The approximate distances of Colombo, the chief port of Ceylon, from the other chief world ports, and the average tariff for the itinerary are given below :—

Colombo to London.	Nautical Miles.	Approximate Days' Journey.
Aden	2,100	8
Suez	3,407	12
Port Said	3,494	13
Marseilles	5,091	16
Gibraltar (*via* Marseilles)	5,690	19
Gibraltar (direct)	5,407	18
London (by sea *via* Marseilles)	7,005	24
London (by sea direct)	6,725	20
London (overland)	5,868	17
Colombo to India, &c.		
Calcutta (touching at Madras)	1,260	7
Bombay	875	3
Rangoon	1,249	4½
Penang	1,276	5
Singapore	1,567	6
Hong Kong (touching at Singapore)	3,113	13
Shanghai (touching at Singapore and Hong Kong)	3,966	17
Yokohama (*via* Singapore and Hong Kong)	5,083	23
Colombo to Australia.		
Freemantle	3,121	9
Adelaide (touching at Fremantle)	4,479	13
Melbourne (touching at Fremantle and Adelaide)	4,979	15
Sydney (touching at Fremantle, Adelaide, and Melbourne)	5,556	18
Colombo to South Africa, &c.		
Mauritius	2,099	10
Durban (touching at South African ports)	3,680	18
Cape Town (touching at South African ports)	4,362	21–30

PASSAGE FARES.

Colombo to London :—

1st class single	£54 to £80
2nd class single	£40 to £50
3rd and tourist single	£27 to £62

Colombo-Sydney :—

1st class single	£48
2nd class single	£32
3rd and tourist single	£22 to £41

Colombo-Melbourne :—

1st class single	£45
2nd class single	£30
3rd and tourist single	£21 to £40

Colombo-Durban :—

1st class single	£27. 10*s.* to £35
2nd class single	£20

Colombo-Singapore :—

1st class single by P. & O.	£22
2nd class single by P. & O.	£14

Colombo-Hong Kong :—

1st class single by P. & O.	£36
2nd class single by P. & O.	£20

Colombo-Yokohama :—

1st class single by P. & O.	£46
2nd class single by P. & O.	£26

Colombo-Bombay :—

1st class single	£10
2nd class single	£8

Colombo-Calcutta :—

1st class or cabin single	£10
2nd class single	£8

Colombo-Rangoon :—

1st class single	Rs. 180

Colombo-Port Said :—

1st class single	£40 to £60
2nd class single	£29 to £40
3rd class and tourist single	£18 to £58

Colombo-Marseilles :—

1st class single	£51 to £76
2nd class single	£36 to £46
3rd and tourist single	£20 to £60

Colombo-Boston and New York £60 to £95

Facilities provided at the Passenger Jetty for the storage of baggage are described on page 97. Passengers' baggage is defined by the Customs Regulations to mean *bona fide* baggage (which includes wearing apparel and personal effects) of a passenger accompanying him or arriving in Ceylon within one month, before or after his arrival, or within such time as the Collector of Customs in the circumstances deems reasonable. With certain exceptions, passengers' baggage is exempt from duty.

The Ceylon Government Railway serves the principal towns of the Island, and offers visitors excellent facilities for inland travel. Cheap first class tourist tickets obtainable from the Booking Office at the Jetty, the Fort Station, and recognized tourist agents at Rs. 50 (£3. 15*s.*) for two weeks and Rs. 75 (£5. 12*s.* 6*d.*) for one month, permit tourists to travel 951 miles of railway and visit the most important and historic towns. Servants accompanying tourists are issued third class tickets at Rs. 15 (£1. 2*s.* 6*d.*) for two weeks and Rs. 25 (£1. 17*s.* 6*d.*) for one month.

The distances from Colombo to some of the principal towns of the Island, and information regarding sleeping and restaurant cars, &c., are found on pages 101–103.

There is no legal tariff for taxi-cabs within the Municipal limits of Colombo, but the usual scale of fares is as follows :—

For the first half mile	50 cents
For each subsequent ¼ mile up to 1 mile	12½ ,,
For each subsequent mile	75 ,,

Extra charges are made for each passenger over two, and for each piece of luggage other than hand luggage. A higher scale of fares is charged in the case of taxi-cabs hired between the hours of 9 P.M. and 6.30 A.M.

The above rates apply only to places within the Municipal limits of Colombo. For trips to places outside Colombo Municipality special terms should be agreed upon *before starting*. The hiring-car fares to such places vary from 40 cents to Re. 1 per mile, with extra charges for detention.

There are hotels of the European type in Colombo, Kandy, Nuwara Eliya, Galle, and Anuradhapura ; the rates are usually Rs. 9 a day and upwards, the usual charge for first-class accommodation being Rs. 12 a day. Cold Storage Companies in Colombo supply ice and frozen meats and other foods by rail. In addition to hotels there are about 170 resthouses in various parts of the Island (marked on the ordinary motoring map), many which are very delightfully situated beside the sea or some river or tank.

Useful information may be had from the handbook published by the Automobile Association of Ceylon. "How to see Ceylon" by Bella Sidney Woolf is a favourite guide book for tourists. A More ambitious and informative book is Bassett's Romantic Ceylon, a recent addition to the voluminous literature on the subject.

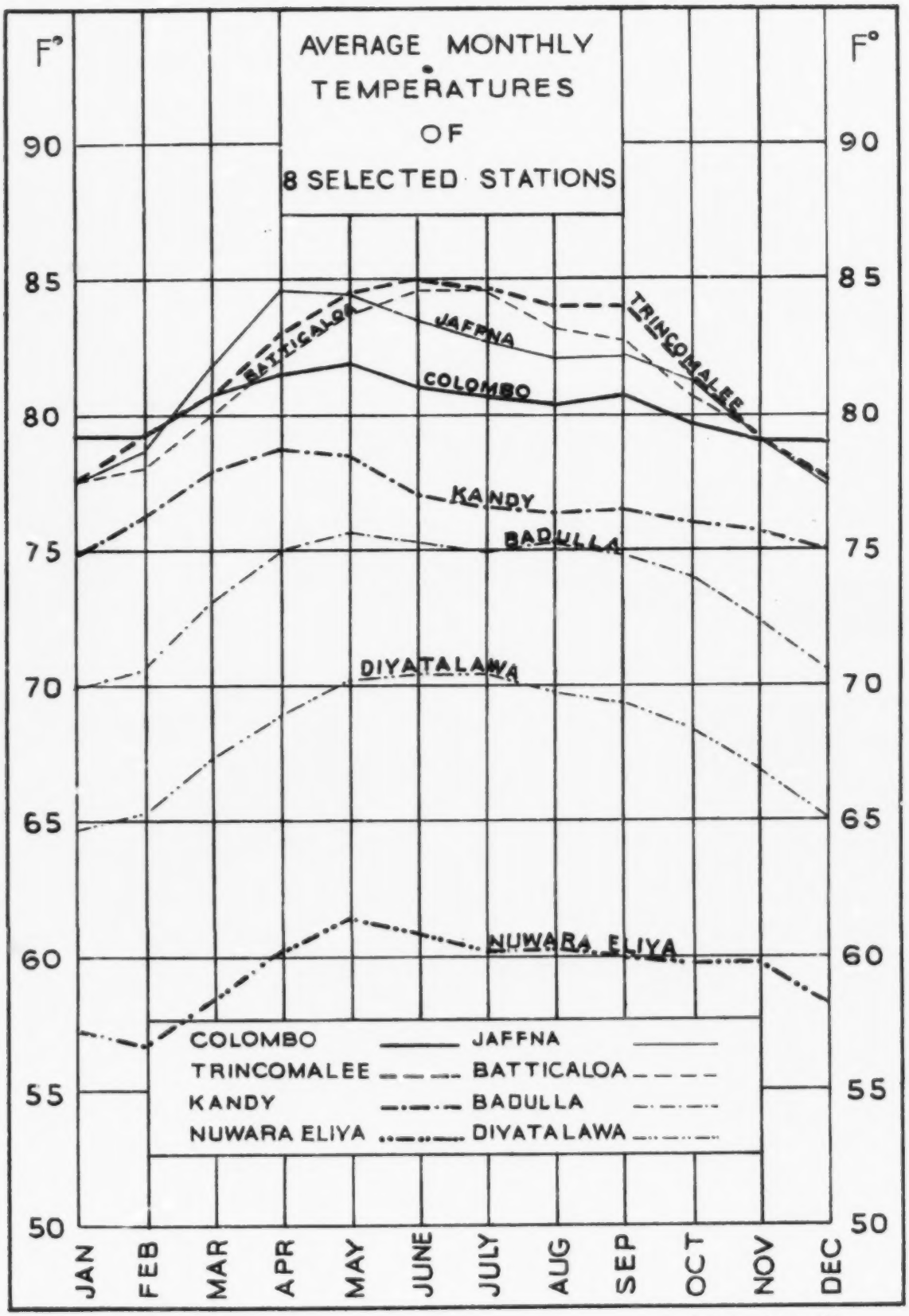
CLIMATE.

On the whole, the climate of Ceylon is tolerable for the tropics the accessibility of the hills is a great boon to the plain dwellers, and a change to the sea is beneficial to those who live in the hills. In the low-country, the districts which have been opened in rubber, coconuts, and other products are generally fairly healthy, but in the unopened localities malaria is common.

Temperature.—With regard to temperature, the range of variation at several stations is shown in diagram No. 1 facing this page.

The low seasonal variations will be noted, but it will be seen that the differences between the temperatures of low-country and up-country stations are considerable. The highest shade temperature registered in Ceylon was 103·7° F. at Trincomalee in May, 1890, and the minimum

DIAGRAM Nº I.



S.G.O 24.2.36

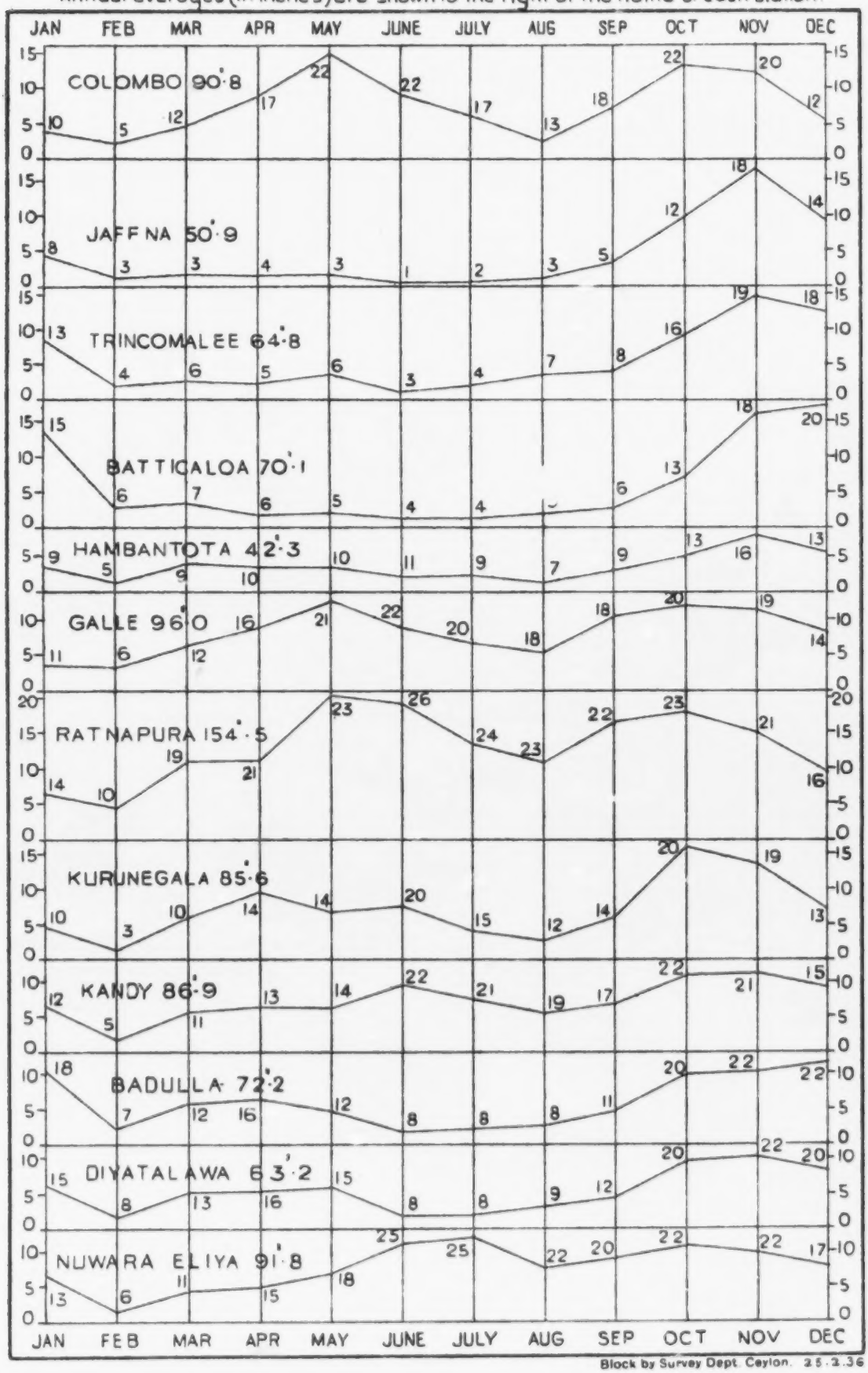
Diagram No 2

AVERAGE MONTHLY RAINFALL

OF 12 SELECTED STATIONS

Figures along the curve denote the number of wet days.

Annual averages (in inches) are shown to the right of the name of each station.



Block by Survey Dept. Ceylon. 25.2.36

air temperature 27·1° F. at Nuwara Eliya in February, 1914. An extreme temperature of 103·7° F. is not excessive, but the humidity is considerable, the annual average percentage of saturation being generally about 80, Galle and Nuwara Eliya 84, Colombo, Jaffna, and Badulla 82, Kandy 80, Batticaloa 78, Trincomalee 76. At Colombo, the "hot weather" may be said to extend from March to May, and the "cold weather" from December to February. July and August are often pleasant, particularly on the west side of the Island.

For 1935 the mean temperature in the low-country varied from 82° at Trincomalee to 80° at Galle, while Nuwara Eliya, at an altitude of 6,000 feet, had a mean temperature of 60°.

Rainfall.—As is generally found in the tropics, however, the seasons are distinguished by differences in rainfall, rather than pronounced variations in temperature. The change in the direction of the monsoon winds, from south-west to north-east, causes a corresponding change in the location of the heaviest rain, which is usually experienced to windward of the hills, while during the intermonsoon seasons, local wind circulations are liable to give rain in any part of the Island.

The annual average rainfall varies from about 40 inches in the north-west and the south-east to over 200 inches in some parts of the interior.

The annual averages (1911–1930) are 91 inches at Colombo, 87 inches at Kandy, and 92 inches at Nuwara Eliya. Diagram No. 2 facing this page shows the average monthly rainfall of 12 selected stations.

History.

The earliest inhabitants of the Island are thought to have been the Nagas and Yakkhas, the latter being perhaps now represented by the Veddas a fast fading race. Legendary history has it that the first invaders were Aryans from the North of India, who, under the leadership of Vijaya, overcame the aborigines and established the Sinhalese dynasty. Early attention appears to have been paid by the invaders to irrigation works, agricultural development, and other branches of civil administration, and by the end of the third century A.D. a comparatively advanced stage of civilization had been reached.

The history of Ceylon down to the sixteenth century may be divided into two parts, viz., the period of the Sinhalese *Mahavansa, circa* 500 B.C. to 300 A.D., and that of the *Suluvansa*, from *circa* 300 A.D. onwards. The first period is one of increasing development and expanding civilization, connected chiefly with the progress of Buddhism, which was introduced about 247 B.C. The second period is one of ever-increasing pressure from the Tamils, Pandyans, and Cholas from India, with occasional success on the part of the Sinhalese, particularly during the reign of their famous king, Parakrama Bahu I. (1153 to 1186 A.D.). A natural limit occupation resulted from the constant warfare, and the Tamils known as Jaffnese were left in possession of the north of the Island.

In the sixteenth century the Portuguese formed settlements on the coasts of the Island; in the next century they were dispossessed by the Dutch. The Portuguese must be credited with the introduction of Catholic Christianity in the Island, and the Dutch with the introduction of Roman Law. The impression made by the latter on the social customs of the Ceylonese remains to this day. More recently commerce has

brought about a peaceful invasion of Moors, officially styled Muslims, and Malays who are found in large numbers especially in Hambantota, and are reckoned to be the backbone of the Police force. In 1796 the British took possession of the Dutch settlements in the Island, which were then annexed to the Presidency of Madras, but five years later, in 1802, Ceylon was constituted a separate Crown Colony. In 1815, the districts of the interior, which had maintained their independence under the kings of Kandy, were acquired by Great Britain as the result of a rebellion against the Kandyan king, and the whole Island was thus united under the British rule.

Principal Languages.

Sinhalese and Tamil are the two chief vernacular languages in the Island, the former being spoken by the Sinhalese who chiefly inhabit the western, central, and southern portions of the Island, and the latter by the Tamils inhabiting the northern and eastern parts and by the immigrant estate population. English is in general use among the people of the upper and the middle classes of all communities.

CHAPTER II.

Government.

The Constitution.

Until 1931 the Constitution of Ceylon was of the Crown Colony type, the government being vested in the Governor assisted by Executive and Legislative Councils. A description of the old Constitution will be found in the Annual General Reports of 1929 and previous years.

In July, 1931, the then existing Constitution was superseded by a new Constitution, based on the recommendations of a Special Commission on the Constitution appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies, which visited Ceylon in 1927–28. The new Constitution was formulated by the Ceylon (State Council) Order in Council, 1931. The principal constitutional changes involved are described below.

The Legislative Council was dissolved in April, 1931, the Executive Council in July of the same year, and their place was taken by a "State Council" having both legislative and executive functions, which met for the first time on July 7, 1931. The new Council consists of three official members, fifty elected members, and not more than eight members nominated by the Governor. Neither an elected nor a nominated member may be a person holding any public office under the Crown in Ceylon.

The three official members of the State Council are styled the Officers of State. They are members of the Council *ex officio*, as the Chief Secretary, *Legal Secretary, and Financial Secretary to the Government respectively. The Constitution provides that they shall have all the rights and privileges of membership of the Council and of the Board of Ministers (a body which will be referred to later), save the right to vote on any question before the Council or the Board.

* Or the Attorney-General, until a Legal Secretary is appointed (Article 6 of the Order in Council).

Copyright Photograph.

EXHIBITS AT THE CEYLON HOUSE IN LONDON.

All elected members are elected on a territorial basis, communal representation which was a feature of the old legislature having been abolished. The franchise is very wide. It extends, with a few exceptions, to all British subjects of either sex who are, at least, twenty-one years of age and are domiciled in Ceylon. In addition, persons not so domiciled are permitted to vote if they possess a certain literacy and property qualification, or have received a "certificate of permanent settlement" from a Government Agent or Assistant Government Agent.

Eight additional members are nominated by the Governor after a general election, the object of their appointment being, in the words of the Special Commission,* "to make the State Council more generally representative of the national interests".

On the first assembly of a new Council, and after the election of a Speaker, the members proceed by secret ballot to divide their total number (excluding the Speaker and the Officers of State) into seven standing committees styled "Executive Committees", which are required to be as nearly as possible equal in number of members.† Each Committee is charged with the administration of one of seven groups of subjects and functions specified in the Order in Council under the following headings :—

I Home Affairs.
II. Agriculture and Lands.
III. Local Administration.
IV. Health.
V. Labour, Industry and Commerce.
VI. Education.
VII. Communications and Works.

After the election of the Executive Committees, each Committee proceeds to elect by secret ballot a Chairman, and the Chairman-elect of each Executive Committee is then appointed by the Governor as Minister for the group of subjects and functions which his Committee has to administer. It is within the discretion of the Governor to decline to appoint as Minister any member elected Chairman of an Executive Committee. Subjects and functions not allocated to Executive Committees are divided by the Order in Council into three further groups, one of which is placed in the charge of each of the officers of State, who have no Executive Committees associated with them in the administration of these groups.

The duties of Executive Committees may be summarized as follows :—

(*a*) Preparation of the annual estimates of expenditure of the departments under their control, for submission to the Board of Ministers.
(*b*) Similarly, the preparation of supplementary estimates.
(*c*) Consideration of executive business relating to their own subjects and functions, whether laid before them by their Chairmen or by private members, or referred to them by the Council or the Board of Ministers.
(*d*) Consideration of proposed legislative measures falling within their scope.

* Page 101 of the Report of the Commission.
† The members subsequently elected as Deputy Speaker and Deputy Chairman of Committees cease, upon their election, to be members of Executive Committees.

The decisions of Executive Committees which are of sufficient importance to require the approval of the Council are submitted at meetings of the whole Council in the form of reports, which the Council may accept, or reject, or refer back to the Committee, but *may not amend*. A report accepted by the Council is submitted to the Governor by the Speaker for ratification. But the decisions of Executive Committees in financial* matters are submitted by the Committees to the Board of Ministers, and by the Board to the Council.

The Board of Ministers consists of the three Officers of State and the seven Ministers, but, as stated above, the Officers of State have not the right to vote on questions before the Board. The Chief Secretary is *ex officio* Chairman of the Board, and there is also a Vice-Chairman, elected by the Board from among the Ministers, who is the representative of the Board in the Council and is styled the Leader of the State Council. The most important function of the Board of Ministers is the preparation of the annual estimates of revenue and expenditure for the Island, and of supplementary estimates of expenditure. The annual and supplementary estimates of the different departments of Government are submitted by the Officers of State and Executive Committees to the Board, whose duty it is to revise them and, if and when approved, to submit them to the State Council, taking full and collective responsibility for them. No financial * measure may be introduced in the State Council except by an Officer of State or a Minister, and with the approval of the Board of Ministers. The Board of Ministers also determines the order in which any business, whether executive or legislative, to be brought before the Council either by the Board or by the Executive Committees or Officers of State, is to be despatched, and prescribes the procedure for the settlement of questions affecting more than one Executive Committee.

The ordinary life of a Council is four years. But the Constitution provides that the Governor may dissolve the Council at any time, and shall dissolve it if the whole of any Annual Appropriation Bill is rejected, or if the decision of the Council on a financial* measure, or on a motion expressly directed to test the confidence of the Council in the Board of Ministers, makes it apparent, in his opinion, that the Board no longer retains the confidence of the Council. Up to the time of writing a dissolution has never occurred. In certain circumstances the life of the Council may be prolonged.

†The Governor retains the power to certify any Bill, motion, resolution, or vote as being of paramount importance, or he may declare that it is essential to give effect to the provisions of the Order in Council. In either event the measure has effect as if it had been passed by the Council, subject to disallowance by His Majesty the King in the case of Bills and to revocation by the Secretary of State in the case of other measures. ‡Power is also reserved to the Governor to declare that a state of emergency exists, and thereupon to assume control of any Government Department.

The appointment, promotion, transfer, dismissal, and disciplinary control of public officers are vested in the Governor (with power of delegation to heads of Government departments), and the Order in Council contains clauses for the preservation of their conditions of service.

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* As defined in Article 57 of the Order in Council.
† Article 22 of the Order in Council.
‡ Article 49 of the Order in Council.

For full details of the Constitution, reference may be made to the Order in Council, which is reproduced in the Ceylon Government Manual of Procedure.

The Ceylon Civil Service.—The Ceylon Civil Service, recruited partly by examination on the same basis as the Indian Civil Service, and partly by local appointments, furnishes officers for the general administrative, and part of the judicial, work in the Island.

Revenue Districts.—For administrative purposes Ceylon is divided into nine Provinces, which are subdivided into districts, as shown in the following table :—

Provinces.	Districts.	Provinces.	Districts.
Western	Colombo, Kalutara	North-Western	Kurunegala, Puttalam-Chilaw
Central	Kandy, Matale, Nuwara Eliya	North-Central	Anuradhapura
Southern	Galle, Matara, Hambantota	Uva	Badulla
Northern	Jaffna, Mannar, Mullaittivu	Sabaragamuwa	Ratnapura, Kegalla
Eastern	Batticaloa, Trincomalee		

The Government Agents.—The posts of Government Agents—one in each of the nine Provinces—are held by senior Civil Servants. To the Government Agents is entrusted the general administrative work of their Provinces, while their Kachcheries, or offices, are the provincial treasuries for the receipt of revenue and the payment of the local expenses of Government.

The Government Agents hold a number of other official positions, and preside over some local bodies in their Provinces. They are, as a rule, assisted by one or more Assistant Government Agents, who are in charge of revenue districts or else perform special duties at the provincial headquarters.

The Headmen.—The officer next subordinate to the Government Agent or Assistant Government Agent is the chief headman, who is differently styled in different districts : " Mudaliyar " in the maritime Sinhalese districts ; " Ratemahatmaya " in the Kandyan districts ; " Maniagar ", " Adigar ", and " Vanniya " in the Tamil districts. There are about 104 chief headmen in the Island. In some cases the Mudaliyar is assisted by one or more " Muhandirams ". Next to the chief headman ranks the superior headman, called in the maritime Sinhalese districts " Vidane Arachchi ", in the Kandyan Sinhalese districts the " Korala ", and in the Tamil districts the " Udaiyar ". There are about 610 superior headmen in Ceylon.

Lastly comes the village headman, who is in charge of one or more villages, and whose jurisdiction is the administrative unit. The number of village headmen is about 3,800. In addition, there are peace officers, irrigation headmen, and others appointed for special purposes.

Local Government.

With the inauguration of a new Constitution for the Island in July, 1931, an Executive Committee of Local Administration was elected by the State Council to supervise, control, and develop local government, and a department of local government under the Commissioner of Local Government was created as the executive instrument of the Committee.

The local duties in regard to sanitation and public thoroughfares have for long been entrusted to a number of local authorities whose

members are the nominees of the Governor with the addition in most cases of persons elected by the inhabitants. In Colombo, Kandy, and Galle, there are Municipal Councils whose Chairmen are members of the Civil Service. At least half the members are elected by the ratepayers, all those possessing a house of the annual value of Rs. 180, or every tenant who pays a monthly rental of Rs. 15 or is a graduate of a university being qualified to vote. An Ordinance to amend the Constitution of the Colombo Municipal Council in order to provide for an wholly elected Council with an elected chairman was passed by the State Council in December, 1935, and has since been proclaimed.

Until the end of 1932 in eleven of the smaller towns there were Urban District Councils with elected Chairmen, two-thirds of the members being elected by the ratepayers and one-third being nominated by the Governor. No further Councils were constituted in the absence of a local demand and during the first ten years since this type of Council was first devised there had hardly any little demand. On the recommendation, however, of the Executive Committee, 16 more such Councils were established from January 1, 1933, in place of 10 of the Local Boards of Health and Improvement, in 5 of the small towns previously administered by Sanitary Boards, and also in place of the Board of Improvement of Nuwara Eliya.

Only one small town is now administered by a Local Board of Health and Improvement, viz., Minuwangoda, as it is too small to support an Urban District Council. The Government Agent of the Western Province is the Chairman. The members are the District Engineer, the Medical Officer of Health, and 3 elected members.

Groups of smaller towns, frequently no larger than roadside bazaars, are administered by the Sanitary Boards of the various districts, consisting of the Government Agent, or Assistant Government Agent, two local officials of the Public Health Department and the Public Works Department, and not more than four nor less than two members nominated by the Governor. This method of local administration for a number of towns in a district is carried on from the District Headquarters with a staff consisting partly of officers whose salaries are met proportionately by the various towns and partly of officers lent by the Public Health Department, assisted by yet others in addition to their normal duties for the Central Government. This cheap and reasonably efficient form of local administration is, however, now said to be out of favour because the Boards contain no elected members. The Executive Committee is not recommending the inclusion of any further towns in the administration of these Boards, and has under consideration some other form of administration of a more popular type.

In the rural areas, there are Village Committees for groups of villages. These groups are divided into wards, each of which elects one member. In 1932 an Ordinance was passed precluding officials from being elected as Chairman. These Committees deal with minor local affairs and the working of rules connected with local customs.

Roads other than main thoroughfares and other than those in charge of the local authorities mentioned above, are maintained by District Committees, while certain educational matters have been entrusted to District Education Committees.

CHAPTER III.

Population.

Population.—Population data are collected, as in almost every other country, by means of a Census, which is taken decennially in Ceylon. The last decennial Census was taken on February 26, 1931, but its scope was limited owing to the financial crisis. At that Census Ceylon had (inclusive of the military and the shipping) a population of 5,312,548 which was 17·9 per cent. more than that in 1921. Since 1871 when the first decennial Census was taken the population has steadily increased. The Island is fairly thickly populated ; and at the last Census it had a density of 210 persons per square mile and ranked above India, France, and Denmark, and somewhat below Japan.

Statistics of races were not collected in 1931 except in the Colombo Municipality and on the estates, but rough estimates based on the Census of 1921 are given below :—

Race.	Colombo. Town.	Estates.	Estimates for Other Areas.	Estimated Total
Europeans	3,340	2,814	2,999	9,153
Burghers and Eurasians	15,887	2,031	14,397	32,315
Sinhalese	127,927	75,786	3,269,317	3,473,030
Tamils	65,704	698,081	653,692	1,417,477
Moors	44,240	7,496	274,177	325,913
Malays	7,022	1,988	6,967	15,977
Others	20,035	1,738	10,791	32,564
	284,155	790,376*	4,232,340	5,306,871*†

It is estimated on the same basis that there were 3,267,457 Buddhists, 1,158,522 Hindus, 523,066 Christians, 356,888 Muslims, and 938 others at the Census of 1931.

The population (exclusive of the military and the shipping) was geographically distributed in 1921 and 1931 as follows :—

	1921.	1931.	Percentage of Increase.
Western Province	1,246,847	1,445,034	15·9
Central Province	717,739	953,388	32·8
Southern Province	671,234	771,204	14·9
Northern Province	374,829	398,874	6·4
Eastern Province	192,821	212,421	10·2
North-Western Province	492,181	546,966	11·1
North-Central Province	96,525	97,365	·9
Province of Uva	233,864	303,243	29·7
Province of Sabaragamuwa	471,814	578,368	22·6
Miscellaneous Population‡	751	8	—

Intercensal estimates of population are prepared from the records of vital statistics and of migration, and on this basis the Island had a population of 5,617,000 at the end of 1935.

The figures for Ceylon quoted above do not include those of the Maldive Islands which had a population of 79,281 at the Census of 1931, as compared with 70,413 in 1921.

Migration.—The large majority of the migrants move to and from India ; and a considerable part of them are Indian labourers. In 1935 the total number of immigrants to the Island was 161,483. Of them 147,224 or 91 per cent. were from India and 43,018 of these were estate labourers. In general the arrivals in the Island are more frequent in the second and the third quarters of the year than in the first and fourth.

* Includes 442 persons of unspecified race. † Excludes the military and the shipping.
‡ Persons enumerated in trains and in the Great and Little Basses.

Of the total 169,344 emigrants in 1935 about 92 per cent. or 155,703 left for India ; and of these, 43,036 were estate labourers.

The migration statistics of 1931 to 1935 are as follows :—

	Arrivals.				Departures.			
	From India.		From Other Countries.	Total.	To India.		To Other Countries.	Total.
	Indian Labourers.	Others.			Indian Labourers.	Others.		
1931 ..	68,337..	94,401..	20,384..	183,122..	75,866..	122,696..	16,141..	214,703
1932 ..	50,869..	92,090..	15,263..	158,222..	58,157..	115,131..	13,771..	187,059
1933 ..	32,898..	88,661..	14,498..	136,057..	46,626..	134,524..	13,077..	194,227
1934 ..	140,607..	104,813..	14,383..	259,803..	52,481..	97,919..	14,869..	165,269
1935 ..	43,018..	104,206..	14,259..	161,483..	43,036..	112,667..	13,641..	169,344

Marriages.—Three Marriage Ordinances operate in the Island, one for the general population, one for the Kandyans, and one for the Muslims. Under the General and Kandyan Marriage Ordinances 23,636 marriages were registered in 1935, as against 28,476 in 1934, and an annual average of 27,945 during the preceding decade. The General marriages alone numbered 20,000, and were 2,415 less than in the previous year. The number of persons married during the year was 9·1 per 1,000 of the General and Kandyan population, as against 11·0 in 1934, and 11·6 during the decade ending 1934. Among the Muslims 1,346 marriages were registered, 13 more than in the previous year and 239 more than the annual average during the decade 1925–1934. A considerable number of Muslim marriages are not registered according to law, and the Muslim marriage rate is consequently low, being 7·2 per 1,000 during the year, as compared with 7·1 in 1934 and 6·2 the average for the ten years ending 1934.

Divorces.—Dissolution of any marriage registered under the General Marriage Ordinance can be granted only by a District Judge and under the Kandyan Marriage Ordinance by a Provincial or Assistant Provincial Registrar. In 1935 there were 144 dissolutions of General and 445 of Kandyan marriages, as compared with 157 and 607 respectively in 1934. There is usually a large excess of Kandyan marriage divorces over General marriage divorces, largely due to the greater facilities for divorce afforded by the Kandyan marriage law. No statistics of Muslim marriage divorces are available as these marriages are dissolved mostly by Muslim priests without reference to any public official.

Births.—192,755 births were registered in the Island in 1935, as against 206,512 in the previous year and 203,612 the average of the decade 1925–1934. Of these, 98,209 were males and 94,546 females, representing a sex proportion of 1,039 males to 1,000 females, as against 1,040 males to 1,000 females in 1934. The birth rate was 34·4 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 37·2 in 1934 and 39·2 the average rate for the decade ending 1934. The birth rate of the Island is comparatively high.

Deaths.—The deaths of 204,823 persons (101,039 males and 103,784 females) were registered in 1935, as against 127,069 in 1934 and 122,661 the average for the decade 1925 to 1934. The death rate was 36·6 per 1,000 of the estimated population, as compared with 22·9 in the previous year and 23·6 the average for the previous decade.

Infant Mortality.—The deaths of 50,733 infants under one year of age were registered in 1935. The infant mortality in 1934 was 35,719 and the average for the decade 1925–1934 was 34,524. About 25 per

DIAGRAM No. 3.

REPORTED BIRTH, DEATH, AND MARRIAGE RATES, CEYLON

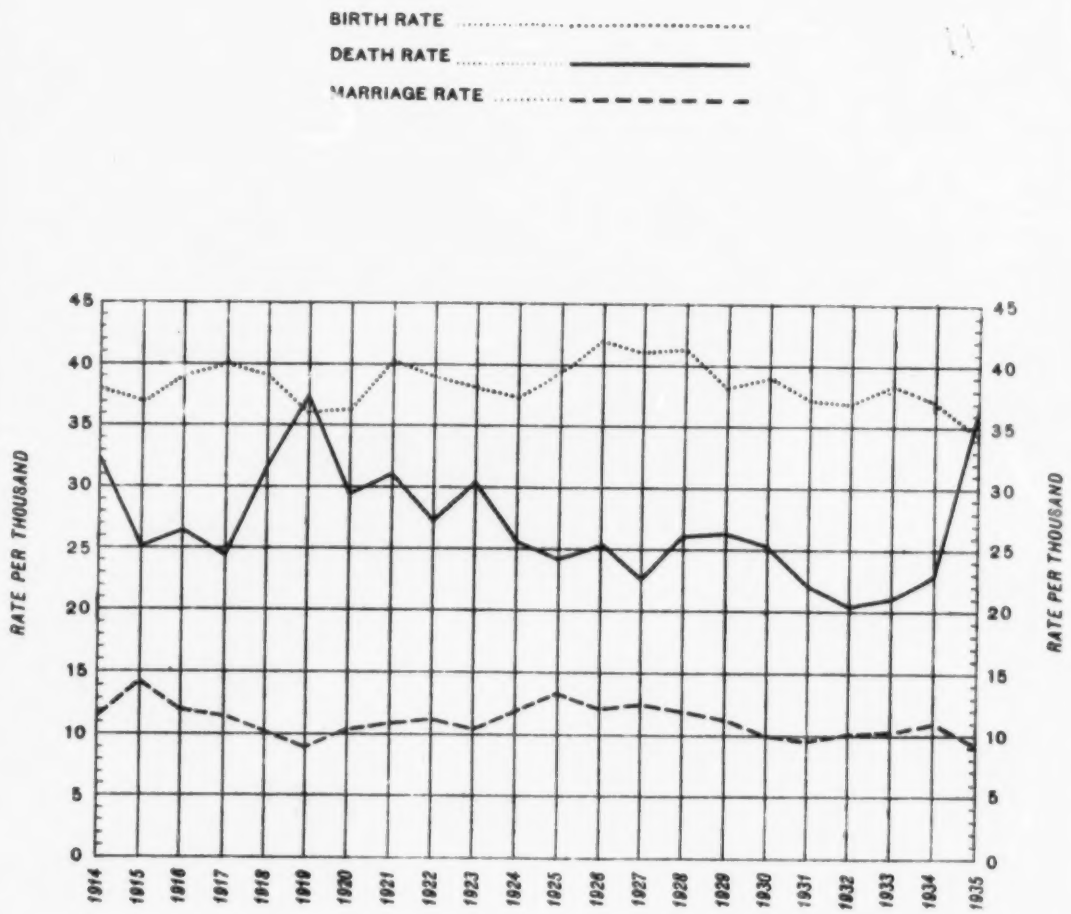

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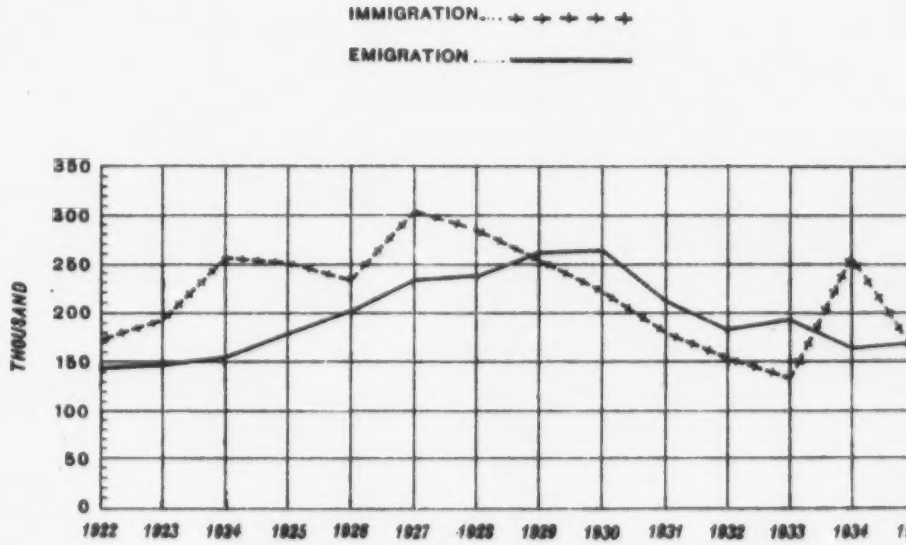
DIAGRAM

ANNUAL IMMIGRATION AND EMIGRATION,

CEYLON.



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cent. of the total deaths in 1935 were those of infants. The infant death rate was 263 per 1,000 births registered, as compared with 173 in 1934 and 170 the average for the ten years 1925–1934. The enormously high infant mortality rate of the year was due to the epidemic of malaria which had a disastrous effect on children.

Causes of Death.—Since 1911 causes of deaths in this country are classified according to the International or Bertillon System. The classification from 1933 was according to the fourth revision of the international list. Owing to the absence of compulsory certification of causes of deaths among a very large section of the population, the statistics, particularly of diseases requiring scientific knowledge for diagnosis, are of no value as close estimates; but there is reason to believe that a definite though slow, progress in accuracy is achieved every year. The death rate per million of the estimated population from the more important diseases registered in Ceylon in 1934 and 1935 are shown below :—

Causes.	Rate per Million		Causes.	Rate per Million.	
	1934.	1935.		1934.	1935.
Pyrexia	2,786	4,021	Malaria and malarial cachexia	420	8,452
Convulsions (under 5 years) ..	2,331	2,948	Influenza	415	342
Pneumonia and broncho-pneumonia ..	1,513	2,042	Dysentery	411	1,103
Diarrhoea and ente[illegible] ..	1,450	1,991	Ankylostomiasis ..	382	472
Phthisis	557	605	Puerperal septicaemia ..	263	294
Premature birth and congenital defects	457	531	Bronchitis	244	252
			Enteric fever ..	12[illegible]	123
			Cancer	9[illegible]	99

CHAPTER IV.

Health.

Hospitals and Dispensaries.

Medical aid is generously provided by the State, there being 108 Government hospitals and asylums, with provision for 11,537 beds.

In Colombo are situated a General Hospital with 939 beds, an Ophthalmic Hospital, a Lying-in Home, a hospital for women (Lady Havelock Hospital), a hospital for children (Lady Ridgeway Hospital), a Bacteriological Institute, a Pasteur Institute, and a Dental Institute. At Angoda, 6 miles from Colombo, there is a hospital for infectious diseases, with 168 beds. There are special dispensaries at Kandy, Galle, Jaffna, Batticaloa, and Badulla for the treatment of eye diseases. Treatment with radium is now available at the General Hospital, Colombo.

There is a Lunatic Asylum at Angoda, 6 miles from Colombo, and two Leper Asylums, one at Hendala in the Western Province and one at Mantivu in the Eastern Province.

There is a Home for Incurables at Colombo, with 90 beds, which is administered by a Committee of Government officials and representatives of the public.

For the treatment of tuberculosis, there are the King Edward VII. Memorial Anti-Tuberculosis Institute in Colombo, a hospital of 349 beds for advanced and moderately advanced cases at Ragama, and a Sanatorium of 72 beds at Kandana, and one of 44 beds at Kankesanturai on the northern coast.

In addition to Government hospitals, the owners of estates have provided 82 estate hospitals, and in consequence receive a rebate on the export duty on tea, rubber, coffee, cacao, and cardamoms.

Besides the hospitals there are 634 central and branch dispensaries and visiting stations provided by Government. There are also 727 estate dispensaries, which receive free drugs from Government to the value of 50 cents per labourer per annum.

Campaigns.

Campaigns against malaria, ankylostomiasis, and parangi are carried out in various parts of the Island, apart from treatment at hospitals and dispensaries. Mass treatment against hookworm infestation was carried out by Medical Officers, Medical Officers of Health, and School Medical Officers in their respective areas. Very marked results are shown by the decrease in the number of patients admitted to hospitals in the areas so treated. Success has also attended the efforts of the Itinerating Medical Officers appointed for the treatment of parangi.

Trained vaccinators are stationed in each Province. Primary vaccination against smallpox is compulsory, and secondary vaccination is carried out compulsorily among contacts when an outbreak of smallpox occurs.

Anti-Malarial Work.

Intensive anti-malaria work is done in the severely malarious town-areas of Chilaw, Kurunegala, Anuradhapura, Trincomalee, Puttalam, and Badulla (work in the last two was begun during 1929), and along certain sections of the railway and at Minneriya.

As a result of the unprecedented malaria epidemic which started at the end of 1934 it is certain that a reorganization and extension of the anti-malarial activities of the Department will be undertaken.

Schemes for malaria drainage of anti-malaria campaign areas are drafted by the Sanitary Engineer. The Medical Entomologist checks the efficiency of larvicidal measures carried out by the Anti-Malaria Campaign staff and also investigates problems connected with malaria incidence in other parts of the Island.

Quinine is distributed in large quantities in malarious areas throughout the Island both for curative and prophylactic purposes ; 55,700 lb. and 4,720,000 tablets have been issued during 1935.

Sanitary Engineering Division.

In addition to malaria drainage, this division deals with questions of general drainage in small towns and of water supplies and disposal of excreta.

Estate Sanitation.

Attached to the Department of Medical and Sanitary Services are three Inspecting Medical Officers and two Assistants, who inspect estates throughout the Island. During the year under review 386 estates were inspected. In the course of inspection, defects in the sanitary condition of estates are pointed out and suggestions to remedy and prevent in future are put forward to the estate owners. Year by year the housing and the sanitary conditions on estates are increasing.

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A RICKSHAW STAND.

Public Health.

In addition to the Inspecting Medical Officers there were in 1935, 28 Medical Officers of Health assisted by 251 Sanitary Inspectors who looked after the sanitary requirements of urban and rural areas. Eleven of the areas under Medical Officers of Health are of such reduced size and contain such a population that each area can conveniently be looked after by one Medical Officer of Health. In these areas a staff of Sanitary Inspectors, Public Health Nurses, and Midwives is provided and work is carried out intensively, every type of public health work needed being done. In the remaining areas the extent of district and population are great, and only Sanitary Inspectors, not sufficient to deal with the whole population, are employed. Sanitary work in the limited areas looked after by Sanitary Inspectors is done on the same lines as in the intensive areas.

At Colombo, Kandy, Galle, Jaffna, Kalutara Totamune, and the Colombo Mudaliyar's division, School Health work was carried out by seven whole-time School Medical Officers and six School Health Nurses. Schools (*a*) in Health Unit areas, (*b*) in towns where District Medical Officers of Health are resident, and (*c*) coming within their itineraries, were dealt with by the Medical Officers of Health concerned. Schools coming within easy reach of the hospitals were dealt with by the District Medical Officers.

Legislation.

A Milk and Dairies Ordinance, a Suburban Bakeries and Aerated Water Factories Ordinance and an amending Ordinance of the Lunacy Ordinance, 1873, which have been approved by the Attorney-General, will be submitted to the Executive Committee for consideration. The Poisons and Drugs Ordinance, No. 17 of 1929, and an amending Ordinance have been proclaimed with effect from January 1, 1936. The Contagious Diseases (Animals) Ordinance, 1909, was amended to provide for the compulsory inoculation or testing of cattle or animals for diagnostic purposes.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Plague.—The following cases and deaths occurred in Ceylon during 1935 :—

Locality.	Cases.	Deaths.
Western Province—		
Colombo Municipality	57 ..	53
Southern Province—		
Telijjawela	1 ..	1
Ampe	1 ..	1
Province of Sabaragamuwa—		
Ratnapura	1 ..	1
	60	56

During the year 1934 there were 35 cases with 29 deaths. The fatality rate was 93·3 per cent. in 1935 and 82·9 in 1934. Included among the 57 cases for Colombo is one case that was discovered at Talaimannar in the person of a Colombo resident who was on his way to India. The 3 cases that occurred outside Colombo all acquired their infection in Colombo and there was no local infection among rats.

Plague in Colombo.—Rat plague continued to be enzootic in the city as in previous years. 31,034 rats were examined at the Municipal Laboratory and 69 or 0·22 per cent. were found infected, as against 0·05 per cent. in 1934. The majority of them were found in Maliban street, 4th Cross street, and Wolfendahl street, 7 infected rats were found at the Chalmers Granaries.

The type of disease among human beings infected in Colombo during the past three years was as follows :—

	1933.		1934.		1935.	
	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.
Buboric	20	18	23	17	37	33
Septicaemic	6	6	11	11	20	20
Pneumonic	—	—	—	—	—	—
	26	24	34	28	57	53

Of the 57 cases in 1935, 54 were males and 3 females. The distribution by months of the 57 cases was as follows :—

January	1	May	3	September	13
February	3	June	2	October	3
March	2	July	7	November	6
April	1	August	4	December	12

Smallpox.—115 cases with 15 deaths occurred giving a fatality rate of 13 per cent. during 1935. There were 72 cases with 13 deaths in 1934 and 337 cases with 62 deaths in 1933.

The distribution of cases according to localities was as follows :—

	Cases.	Deaths.
Western Province—		
Exclusive of Colombo Municipality	22	3
Colombo Municipality	17	2
Colombo Port	1	—
Southern Province—		
Exclusive of Galle Municipality	59	6
Galle Municipality	14	3
Northern Province	1	1
Central Province	1	—
	115	15

The infection of the cases during the year was from the cases that occurred in 1934. A number of concealed and missed cases no doubt kept up the infection.

Western Province.—The first case that occurred within the Colombo Municipality was reported on January 4, 1935, in the person of a Muslim female of de Mel street, Slave Island, who had developed the disease on December 28, 1934. Of the Colombo cases that occurred, 14 were in the vicinity of Slave Island and of the remaining 3, 1 was at Barber street, and 2 at Church street, Fort. The last case occurred on May 13, 1935.

The Port case was in the person of a Borah merchant who had arrived by the ss. " Conte Rosso " on April 26, from Bombay where he had acquired the infection. He was discovered with the disease on April 30.

Outside the Colombo Municipality there were 22 cases in the Western Province distributed as follows :—Kalupaluwawa 3, Attidiya 2, Raigama 1, Ratmalana 1, Egoda Uyana 4, Wekada 8, Alutgamweediya 3. Although

the introduction of infection into each of these areas was not definitely determined except in the case of Alutgamweediya, which was from Welitara, there is reason to believe that the infection was directly or indirectly acquired in Colombo. Even the infection at Alutgamweediya was from Colombo through Welitara.

Southern Province.—Within the Municipality of Galle there occurred 14 cases with 3 deaths at Katugoda, a Muslim area. Five cases were discovered on March 10. They were contacts of a case of smallpox which had acquired this infection at Welitara and had died at Katugoda about 3 weeks previously and had been reported as a case of urinary trouble. Since March 10, 9 other cases had been discovered and the last case was isolated on March 20. The cases according to the type were: modified 4, discrete 8, confluent 1, and unknown 1.

Outside the Municipal area there occurred 59 cases with 6 deaths at Welitara near Balapitiya chiefly among the Muslim population. The existence of the disease was discovered on February 26, although infection had been in the area from as early as January 12, introduced from Slave Island, Colombo, by a trader. The last case occurred on March 22, but was discovered on April 6. Concealment of cases played a great part in the spread of the disease. Infection from Welitara was conveyed to Katugoda where 14 cases occurred, to Alutgamaweediya where 3 cases occurred and to Hegalla where 5 cases occurred.

Of the 59 cases that occurred at Welitara 28 were modified, 25 were discrete, and 6 were confluent. In dealing with the outbreak a full staff was employed with a temporary hospital and contact camp at Brahamunawatta.

Northern Province.—One fatal case occurred in January at Moolai near Vaddukoddai in a Tamil who is said not to have left the locality during the previous 3 months. His source of infection was not traced.

Central Province.—A case which recovered occurred in December at Mount Pleasant estate near Kandy in an Indian Tamil, female, who had recently arrived from India where the infection had been acquired.

Cholera.—There were 30 cases of cholera with 22 deaths giving a fatality rate of 73·3 per cent.

They occurred as follows :—

	Cases.	Deaths.
Peliyagoda	22 ..	17
Colombo Municipality	7 ..	4
Port of Colombo	1 ..	1
	30	22

The 29 cases that occurred at Peliyagoda and the Colombo Municipality formed one outbreak while the port case had no connection with it.

The port case brought in by the M.V. Incomati which arrived from Calcutta on March 9 was in the person of an European first class passenger aged 52 years, who was reported to have joined the ship at Madras and thereafter to have touched at Rangoon and Calcutta before arrival at Colombo. The infection appears to have been acquired at Calcutta.

The first case of the Peliyagoda outbreak occurred on February 9 in a Malayalee who had been admitted to the General Hospital on February 10 for diarrhoea and vomitting and died the same day. A post-mortem was held and bacteriological examination revealed the case to

be one of cholera. This case was not a recent arrival from India. There appears to have been another case which introduced the infection from India and which had not been traced. Of the 22 cases shown as at Peliyagoda, one occurred at Palliawatta, Hendala, and another at Biyagama. The last case occurred on February 23.

The first case within the Colombo Municipality was reported from Grandpass on the opposite bank of the Kelani-ganga in the person of a Sinhalese on February 16. The other cases occurred some at Grandpass and the others at Modera, the last case occurring on March 4.

There is no doubt that the infection of the Colombo cases was acquired at Peliyagoda but there is some reason to believe that fresh infection direct from India might have been responsible for a few of the cases. The usual precautions were taken and intensive action at Peliyagoda helped to prevent further cases.

CHAPTER V.

Housing.

A. *Municipal Towns.*—There are three Municipal towns in Ceylon, viz., Colombo, Kandy, and Galle. Of these, Colombo with a population of about 301,000 is much the largest. New houses in these towns may only be built in accordance with the provisions of the Housing and Town Improvement Ordinance of 1915 which prescribes certain minimum hygienic requirements. But there are numerous insanitary houses built prior to the Ordinance which can only gradually be converted into sanitary buildings as they fall into disrepair. The Colombo Municipal Council began a scheme of housing its own direct labourers in 1923 and a definite yearly programme of providing tenements for them has been followed since that year. In 1931 the Council also embarked on a programme of slum eradication at Kochchikade which, when completed, will rehouse about 2,000 people.

In Kandy, which has a population of about 39,000, the first organized attempt at slum clearance began in 1920 following an outbreak of plague. Seventy-five per cent. of the slums have since been dealt with and replaced by sanitary tenements or houses of a better type. Model tenements have been built by the Council in various parts of the town which now house about 2,000 persons. Lines are also being built for the Council's labourers. A start has also been made in Kandy in providing " back lanes " for the congested areas of the town. These lanes facilitate conservancy and scavenging and also provide more light and air for the houses in their neighbourhood.

In Galle, which has a population of about 38,000, action has been mainly directed towards the improvement and demolition of insanitary and dangerous buildings under the provisions of the Housing and Town Improvement Ordinance, each ward of the town being taken up in turn.

B. *Other Towns.*—The other towns of the Island which are under the administration of Urban District Councils or Sanitary Boards are also subject to the Housing and Town Improvement Ordinance. But in most of them only a minority of the existing buildings is in conformity with modern sanitary requirements. A gradual improvement however

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ROAD SCENE NEAR OLD TOWN HALL.

is being effected as the older buildings collapse and have to be rebuilt Few of the local bodies concerned are in a financial position to embark on schemes of tenement building.

C. *Rural Areas.*—In the rural areas most of the houses are built with wattle and mud walls and roofs thatched with straw or cadjans. Village Committee rules usually prescribe certain elementary sanitary measures, *e.g.*, that a dead body may not be buried within a certain minimum distance of a dwelling-house or that every house must have its walls whitewashed at least once a year. Otherwise housing conditions in the rural areas are free from control.

On the larger tea, rubber, and coconut estates housing accommodation for the labour force is usually provided by the estate proprietors, is inspected periodically by officers of the Medical and Labour Departments, and is generally much superior to that found in the surrounding villages.

CHAPTER VI.

Production.

AGRICULTURE.

General.—The main crops of the Island are coconut, paddy, tea, and rubber. Other crops which are grown to less extents, though their combined value is of not inconsiderable importance to the trade of the Island, are : cacao, cinnamon, citronella, arecanut, cardamoms, and tobacco.

Chena cultivation, that is, the growing of crops on jungle land newly cleared by burning, is an important feature of peasant agriculture in the sparsely populated areas of the dry-zone, while, in more favoured districts, and particularly in proximity to towns, market gardening brings in a small but regular income.

Animal husbandry was formerly a negligible factor in the agricultural economy of Ceylon, but interest in this branch has now been awakened, and the foundations of stock raising and dairy industries are being assiduously laid.

The extent of production of the several crops may be gauged from the following tables which give the approximate acreages under cultivation and the quantities of produce exported and their value in 1935 :—

Acreages under the Chief Crops (estimated only).

	Acres.		Acres.
Coconuts	1,100,000*	Palmyra	50,000‖
Rice	850,000†	Cacao	34,000‖
Rubber	628,666‡	Citronella	33,000‖
Tea	557,284§	Cinnamon	26,000‖
Chenas, vegetable, and other crops	140,000‖	Tobacco	14,000‖
Arecanuts	69,000‖	Cardamoms	6,000‖

* Based on the results of the partial Census of Production, 1929.

† Based on an estimate of the Department of Agriculture : according to the partial Census of Production, 1929, the acreage was about 800,000, while according to the returns furnished by Government Agents to the Paddy Commission the extent under cultivation in 1930 amounted to 941,000 acres.

‡ Based on the Rubber Controller's estimate for 1935. The figures are provisional.

§ Based on the Tea Export Controller's Report for 1934–35.

‖ Based on the results of the Censuses of Production, 1921 and 1924.

Exports of Agricultural Products of the Island in 1935.

	Quantity.	Value. Rs.*	Total Value of Class. Rs.*
Black tea	211·9 mill. lb.	145·6	
Green tea	·22 mill. lb.	·15	
			145·8
Coconuts, fresh	20·9 mill. nuts	1·1	
Copra	·98 mill. cwt.	7·8	
Coconut oil	1·1 mill. cwt.	13·6	
Coconut shell charcoal	·15 mill. cwt.	·37	
Coir yarn	·11 mill. cwt.	1·1	
Desiccated coconut	·66 mill. cwt.	7·3	
Poonac (coconut)	·47 mill. cwt.	1·6	
Bristle fibre	·22 mill. cwt.	1·2	
Mattress fibre	·48 mill. cwt.	1·8	
Coir rope, &c.	·009 mill. cwt.	·099	
			36·0
Rubber	120·5 mill. lb.		38·4
Cacao	7·8 mill. lb.		1·3
Arecanuts	·093 mill. cwt.		·89
Cardamoms	2,362 cwt.		·27
Pepper and other spices	1,518 cwt.		·033
Cinnamon (quills and chips)	·046 mill. cwt.	1·4	
Cinnamon oil (bark and leaf)	2·5 mill. oz.	·23	
			1·6
Tobacco (unmanufactured and cigars)	2·0 mill. lb.		·44
Citronella oil	1·4 mill. lb.		·69
Papain	·16 mill. lb.		·64
Kapok	6,497 cwt.		·18
			226·2

Tea.

Acreage, &c.—Over 557,000 acres are planted in tea, *Thea sinensis*, consisting of 2,362 estates and 64,886 small holdings. It is grown at elevations varying from sea level to 6,000 feet above sea level but mainly in the hilly country in the centre of the Island at elevations ranging between 1,500 feet and 5,000 feet. The better quality teas are grown at the higher elevations where the more temperate climate assists growth and produces flavour.

The manufactured product consists of the young tender shoots which after plucking undergo the processes of withering, rolling, fermenting, and drying or firing.

Pruning and Plucking.—The object of tea cultivation is to secure the maximum quantity of the best quality of leaf. For this purpose the bushes are pruned periodically so as to ensure regular, frequent, and plentiful "flushes," or young, tender shoots on the bushes. The tip of the new shoot and one or two leaves below it are plucked by hand, generally by the women of the labour force.

Rainfall.—A fairly evenly distributed rainfall of 80 to 120 inches a year is required for tea.

Labour.—About 95 per cent. of the labour on tea estates consists of immigrant labour from India. An estate requires on an average about $1\frac{1}{8}$ labourer per acre.

Cultivation.—Very extensive cultivation is carried out on tea estates to secure large yields. To improve the tilth and condition of the soil green and artificial manuring is carried out in a systematic and scientific manner. The low price and restriction of output have reduced the application of fertilizers during recent years.

Manufacture.—Great care and attention are paid to the manufacture of tea under its stages with a view to the production of the best flavoured tea with attractive appearance.

* In millions.

Research.—A scientific staff is maintained by the industry which is supported by a cess on exports for the purpose of investigating the scientific side of the growth and manufacture of tea.

Yields.—Yields vary considerably according to elevation, cultivation, &c., but may be said to range from 300 to 1,200 lb. made tea per acre. On a well cultivated estate 600 to 700 lb. is considered a satisfactory all-round yield.

Factory.—A large number of the tea factories have been rebuilt during recent years and the opportunity has been taken to erect new factories on chosen sites at a high elevation in order to secure the best conditions for the withering of the leaf which is essential for the production of flavoury tea. Originally many tea factories were old coffee factories converted, situated near the bed of a river to secure the advantages of water power. The principal machinery required consists of tea rollers, roll breakers, sifters, &c., and dryers. Suction gas engines are the usual source of power. The power required is roughly 10 to 12 horse-power per 100,000 lb. with a minimum of 25 h.p. for a small factory manufacturing about 120,000 lb. made tea.

Preparation for Export.—Tea is exported in metal lined wooden packages with the garden mark of the estate on which it is produced and is ready for consumption. It is usually blended and packed in packets before it actually reaches the consumers' hands.

Restriction.—In May, 1933, an Ordinance to control the export of tea was passed by the State Council as a part of a joint scheme for the regulation of the export of tea from the main producing countries. The Ordinance is to be operative for a period of five years. For the second year of assessment which ended on March 31, 1935, Ceylon's exportable quota was fixed at 220,082,290 lb. being 87½ per cent. of the total exports of tea from the Island, in 1929. For the year ending March 31, 1936, Ceylon is allowed to export 207,506,160 lb.

Prices.—The average price of total offerings for the year was 64 cents, 2 cents below 1934. High grown was 1 cent higher than 1934, but medium and low grown were 3 and 5 cents lower respectively.

There were no very violent market fluctuations during the period under review, the highest sale average being 76 cents on March 6 and the lowest 56 cents on June 11 and 18. The average for low grown tea ranged from 52 cents on January 8 and April 2 and 9 to 66 cents on October 15 and 22.

Trade conditions seemed to show improvement and the market was well supported by Australia and South Africa. Both these markets were prepared to pay higher prices than in 1934 and generally took a better class of tea.

The local monthly averages were—

	Cents.		Cents.
January	61	July	63
February	72	August	68
March	71	September	67
April	61	October	69
May	59	November	66
June	57	December	64

Coupon prices ranged from 22½ cents to 38 cents, though very few transactions took place at the former figure.

Uncouponed Tea.—A total of approximately 5¼ million lb. was offered at the weekly auctions, against 7 million lb. in 1934. Prices realized were closely linked to couponed tea, making allowance for the rates ruling for coupons and the total export duty payable.

The annual average market prices* in certain years were :—1925, 96 cents per lb. ; 1926, 99 cents ; 1927, 94 cents ; 1928, 85 cents ; 1929, 81 cents ; 1930, 75 cents ; 1931, 57 cents ; 1932, 42 cents ; 1933, 54 cents ; 1934, 66 cents ; 1935, 64 cents (see Diagram No. 5).

Rubber.

Acreage, Elevation, and Rainfall.—The estimated acreage under rubber in the Island is 628,666 acres. The rubber tree cultivated in Ceylon (*Hevea brasiliensis*) flourishes at elevations below 2,000 feet and requires a well distributed rainfall of not less than 80 inches per annum. It is cultivated to varying extents throughout the Island, chiefly in the Province of Sabaragamuwa and in the Western, Central, and Southern Provinces.

Latex.—Rubber is the coagulated latex of the rubber tree obtained by tapping the trunk. The latex running from the cut—usually half the circumference—is collected in cups, removed to the factory, treated with acetic or formic acid to cause coagulation, crêped by machinery, and dried or coagulated in sheets and smoked. Rubber, as exported, is a raw product and requires treatment by manufacturers.

Planting.—Rubber is generally propagated from seed which is sown in nurseries, and, when the nursery plants are eighteen months to two years old, they are removed, have their tops and main roots cut back, and are planted into the new clearings as " stumps ". Planting is carried out at varying distances, but 24 feet by 12 feet is a favourite of many growers, as this allows of ample plants for thinning from the third year. The tree grows to a height of 30 to 40 feet and develops a heavy foliage.

Budding of Rubber.—Nothing has been done during the year under review but since 1929 the question of budding rubber has received considerable attention.

Imports of budwood and budded stumps of proved foreign clones have been made and estates have taken steps to find their high-yielding trees, with a view to using them as mother trees. Local mother-trees are under test on the stations of the Department of Agriculture and the Rubber Research Scheme, and every effort is being made to provide guidance to the planting community in this important matter.

Budding has rendered it possible to effect satisfactorily the selection of high-yielding stock, and the isolation of it from the heterogenous mixture which exists in rubber estates to-day. By vigorous selection and testing it should be possible to isolate strains of high-yielding trees, and thereby assure that improved strains of plants and seeds should be available when required for future plantings.

Cultivation.—The best time for cultivation is considered to be just before the wintering commences. Cattle manure, green manures, and artificial manures are all used. The approximate quantity of artificial manure used per annum per acre is up to 1,000 lb. Cover plants are used for soil conservation.

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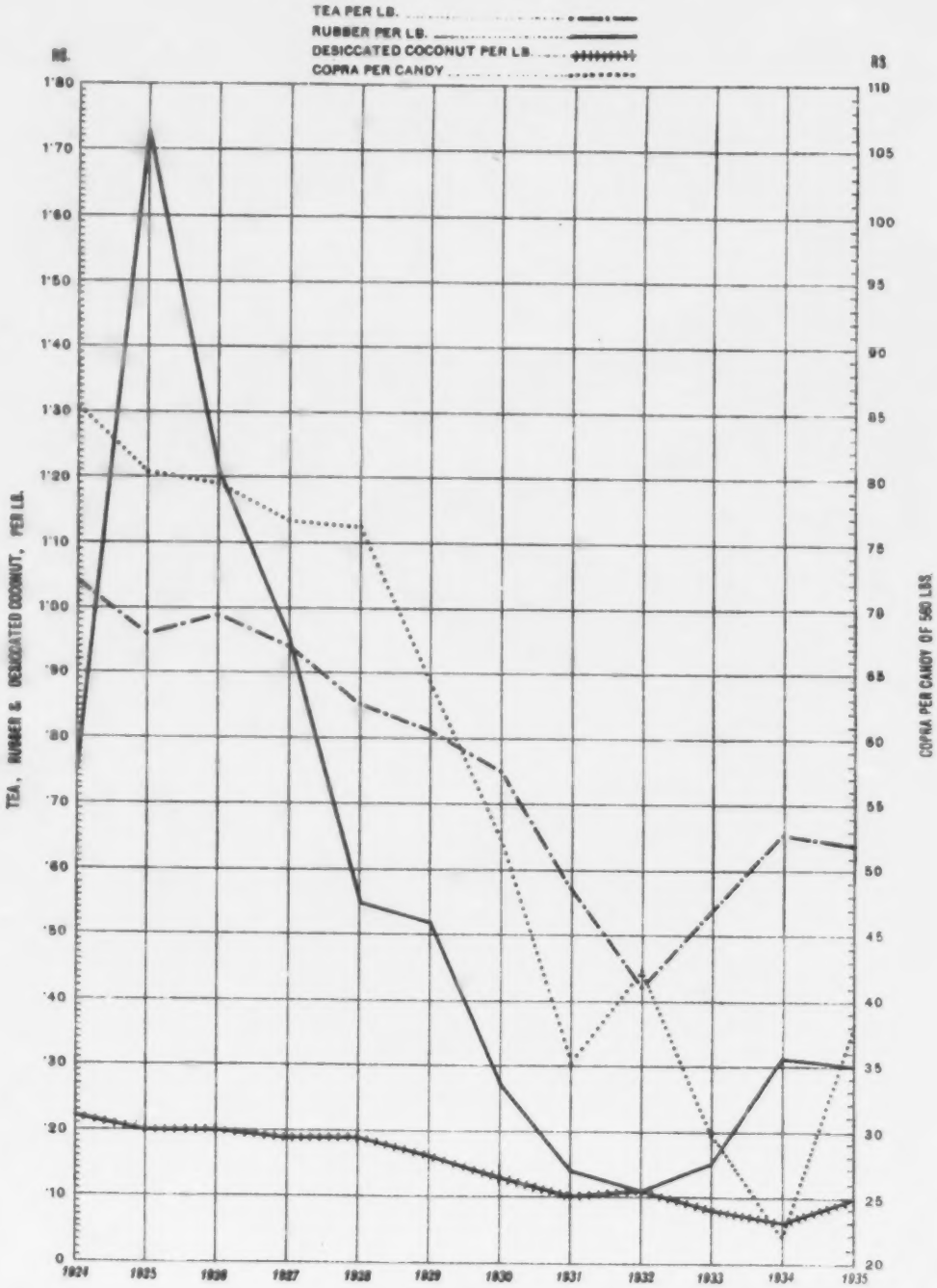
* According to local weekly sale averages.

DIAGRAM No. 5

ANNUAL AVERAGE MARKET PRICES OF
TEA, RUBBER, DESICCATED COCONUT AND COPRA



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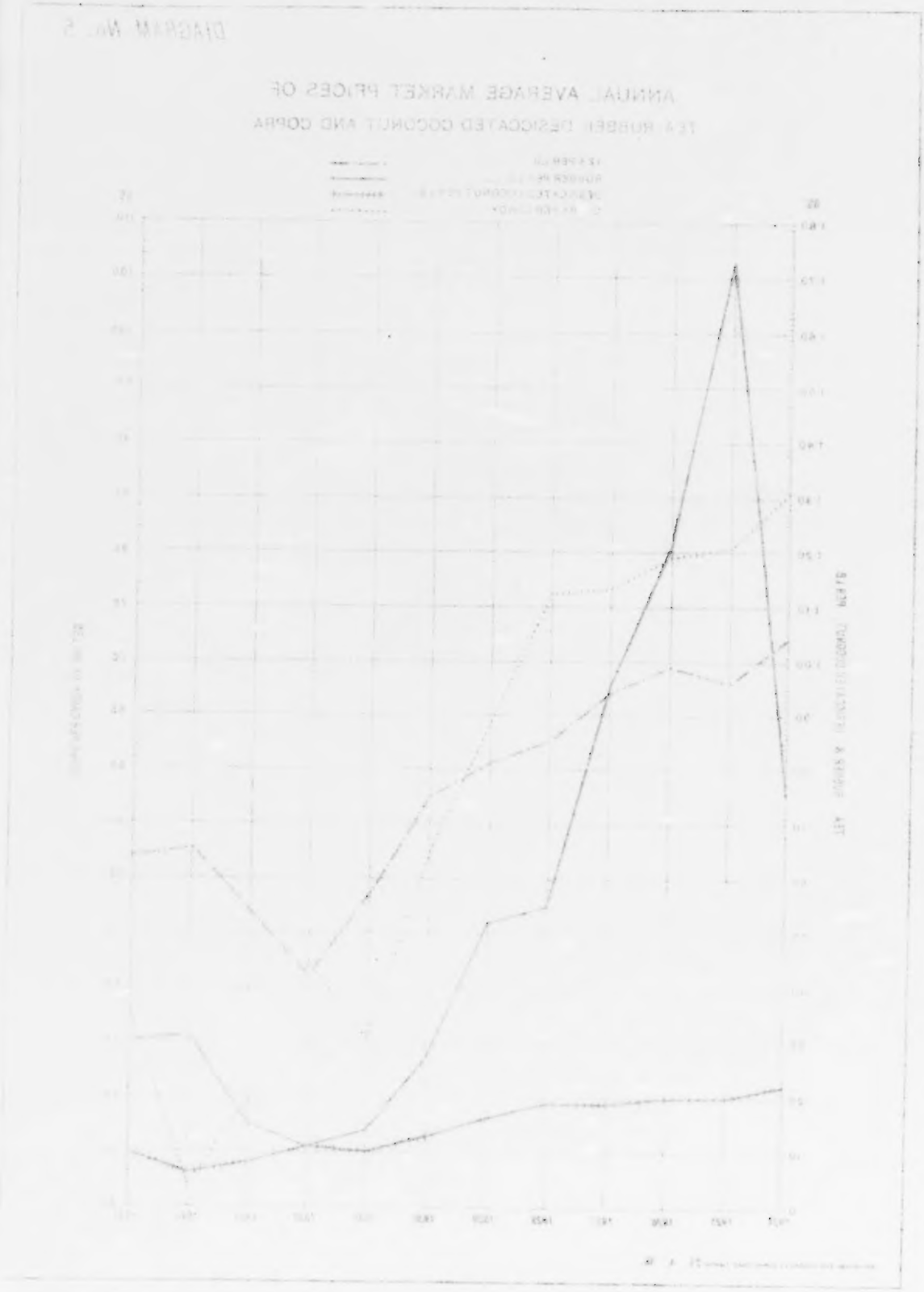


Tapping.—Various systems of tapping are in vogue, the commonest system in recent years has been that in which a half spiral cut is tapped on alternate days. Systems involving alternate periods of more intensive tapping followed by resting are now being tested with a view to reducing the cost of tapping. The unremunerative prices realized by rubber have effectively closed down any further planting in recent years and the introduction of the Rubber Control Ordinance will prevent any further extension of acreage under rubber during the five years period of control.

Manufacture.—Latex after coagulation is exported in the form of crêpe or smoked sheet and its preparation requires the use of considerable machinery more especially where rubber is prepared in the form of crêpe. Manufacture is standardized and the difference between the price of various grades is generally speaking not large.

Restriction.—In May, 1934, an Ordinance to control the export of rubber was passed by the State Council as a part of a joint scheme for the regulation of the export of rubber from the main producing countries. The Ordinance is to be operative for a period of five years. The Ceylon quota of export for any period of control will be the quantity of rubber named as the basic quota for that period or such percentage of that basic quota as shall be declared by His Excellency the Governor by notification in the *Government Gazette.*

The basic quota for the five years is as follows :—

	Tons.		Tons.
1934	77,500	1937	81,000
1935	79,000	1938	82,500
1936	80,000		

Yield.—The yield per acre varies considerably with the soil, age of the trees, rainfall, planting, treatment, &c., but may be said to range from 150 to 700 lb. per acre, 400 to 500 lb. per acre being considered a good all-round yield for an estate in full bearing. A very good tree over twelve years old will yield 10 lb. dry rubber per annum, while the average per tree in full bearing may be put at about 4 to 5 lb. per annum.

Prices.—The local market opened with a fair demand for crêpe at 32¼ cents and sheet at 31⅞ cents, and soon became irregular and weaker, prices easing by March to just under 29 cents. From then till October business was uninterruptedly dull with a variation of only 2·37 cents and 2·40 cents respectively in monthly average prices realized for crêpe and sheet.

With the Dutch authorities' efforts to regulate their native shipments a better tone ensued in spite of the general anxiety over the European situation and prices at the end of October improved to 34¾ cents for both crêpe and sheet. A slight setback followed as the date approached for the Control Committee's meeting to decide on the following year's quotas, and the Dutch Indies export allowance, but with the settlement of these questions the market improved again and closed very steady with crêpe at 32⅜ cents and sheet at 32⅛ cents.

Prices for crêpe and sheet moved close together during the year with a preference in favour of crêpe.

No forward business was done during the year 1935.

There was no market at all for sole crêpe and manufacture of this commodity for local sale would seem to have been abandoned.

Extensive business was done both for spot and forward positions and except for a small setback from 21 cents to 20 cents during July, the market steadily firmed from 17 cents to 24½ cents at the close.

The local and London average monthly prices were as follows, the approximate monthly average price for coupons also being shown as an interesting comparison :—

1935.	Coupons. Cents.	Local Average for Contract Quality Ribbed Smoked Sheet. Cents. Per lb.	London Average* for London Standard Ribbed Smoked Sheet. d. Per lb.
January	17	31·42	6·42
February	19	31·11	6·29
March	18	28·92	5·74
April	18	28·11	5·61
May	19	29·09	5·85
June	21	29·93	6·04
July	20	28·41	5·82
August	20	28·15	5·71
September	20	27·53	5·51
October	21	30·65	6·14
November	23	32·03	6·31
December	24	31·86	6·33

The annual average market prices† in certain years were the following :—1925, Re. 1·73 per lb. ; 1926, Re. 1·21 ; 1927, 95 cents ; 1928, 55 cents ; 1929, 52 cents ; 1930, 27 cents ; 1931, 14 cents ; 1932, 11 cents ; 1933, 15 cents ; 1934, 31 cents ; 1935, 30 cents (see Diagram No. 5).

Labour.—The labour engaged is composed of Sinhalese and immigrant Indian Tamils. The usual requirement of labour is one labourer to 3 acres of rubber.

Research.—A scientific staff is maintained by the industry and is supported by a cess on exports for the purpose of investigating the scientific side of the growth and manufacture of rubber. Provision for this research work was made by Ordinance No. 10 of 1930.

Coconut.

Acreage, Area, &c.—It is estimated that approximately 1,100,000 acres are planted with coconuts. But cultivation on systematic lines may be considered to occupy about 900,000 acres. Along the coast of the Western and Southern Provinces planting has been done very closely and no systematic cultivation is carried out. Here the main product is toddy which is supplied to arrack distilleries ; at the same time the manufacture of coir string and rope is an important subsidiary industry, especially in the hands of women. Elsewhere the coconut is cultivated mainly for the production of copra, and the extraction of oil therefrom, as well as the manufacture of desiccated coconut. Cultivation is confined mainly to elevations below 1,500 feet and a well distributed rainfall of 50 to 90 inches is required. The greater part of the acreage lies in the North-Western, Western, and Southern Provinces.

Cultivation.—Much can be done to increase the output of the tree by cultivation ; by the use of concentrated manures containing nitrogen, potash, phosphoric acid, &c. ; green manure, such as *crotalaria* ; cattle

* Taken from the International Rubber Regulation Committee's Statistical Bulletin for January 1930.

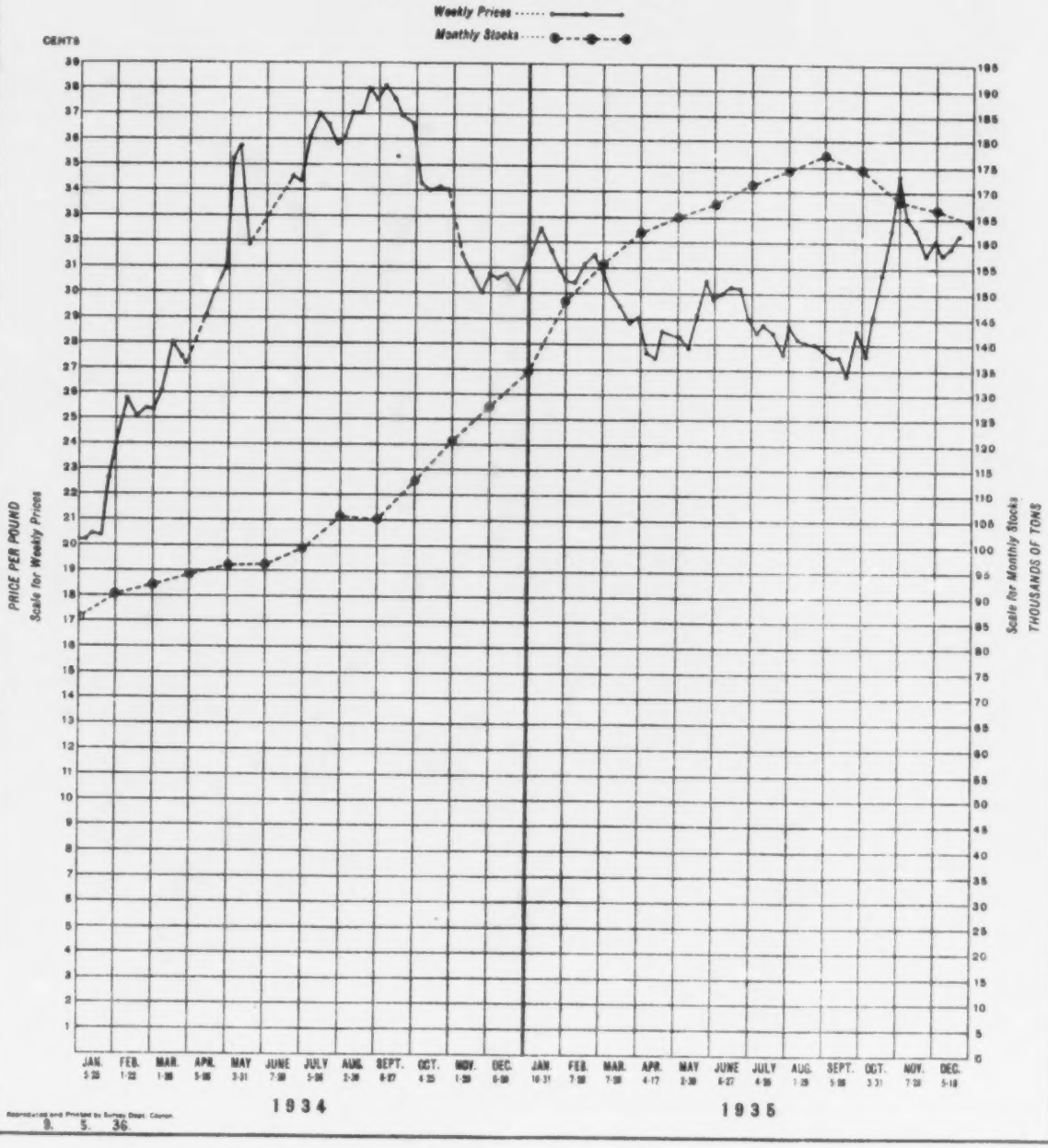
† Averages for top grades only (Ribbed Smoked Sheet and Contract Crepe) at local weekly sales.

DIAGRAM No. 6.

AVERAGE WEEKLY COLOMBO PRICES AND

MONTHLY STOCKS OF RUBBER IN UNITED KINGDOM (LONDON AND LIVERPOOL)

FOR THE YEARS 1934 AND 1935.



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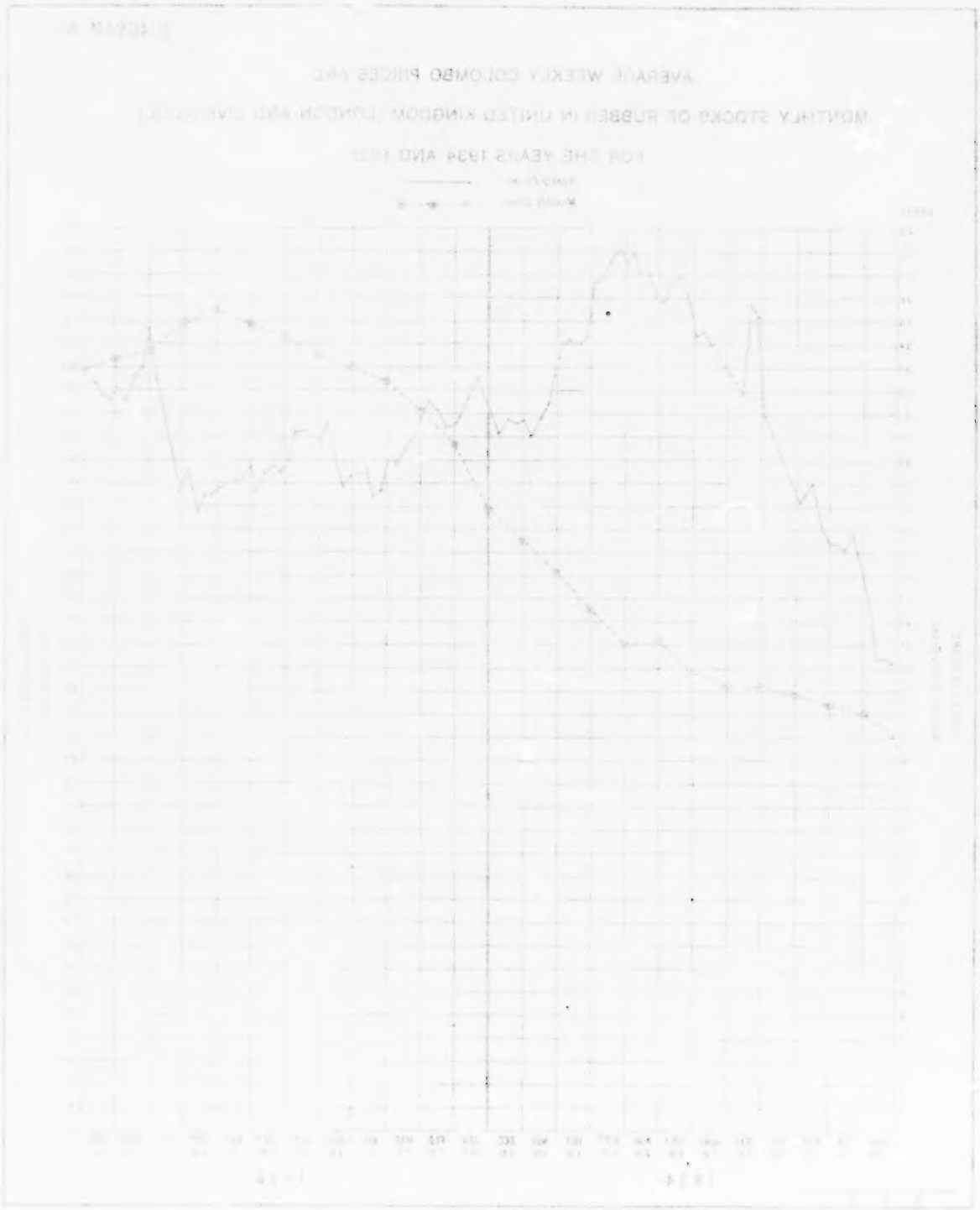


manure ; and occasional cultivation with modern implements. Young coconuts systematically cultivated and manured come into bearing much earlier than coconuts which are not so treated.

Costs.—The cost of opening land for coconuts varies considerably, but it may be put on the average at Rs. 400 to 600 an acre, spread over ten years, the expenses being greater in the first three years. The waiting period may be put at ten years. Land is available to be opened in coconuts, but only in the outdistricts, where a good deal of pioneering work, including the making of roads, combating wild animals, fever, &c., is necessary.

Labour.—The quantity of labour required for a coconut estate is generally worked out at one labourer for 10 acres. A small resident force is often maintained for draining, manuring, and tillage, which on some estates consists of about half Tamil and half Sinhalese. Frequently the plucking of the nuts and the manufacture of copra are done by a contractor, who supplies his own labour.

Labour on coconut estates does not earn such high wages as on tea and rubber properties. Plucking may cost about Re. 1·25 per 1,000 nuts.

Research.—The Coconut Research Scheme, which was established by Ordinance No. 29 of 1928, has its headquarters at Bandirippuwa estate, Lunuwila. It is supported by a grant and a cess on the exports. The Senior Scientific Staff consists of the Technological Chemist who is at the same time Director of Research, the Geneticist and the Soil Chemist, On the junior staff are three technical assistants, a field assistant, the Superintendent of the estate, and two clerks. Scientific research is carried out on the breeding and improvement of the coconut palm. manuring and cultivation, and the technology of coconut products. There are well equipped laboratories and a useful library and reading room at Bandirippuwa estate. The third Wednesday in each month is set aside as Visitors' Day. Coconut planters and others interested in the industry are specially invited to make use of the library and reading room, which are open on week days from 9 A.M. to 4 P.M. and on Saturdays from 9 A.M. to 12 noon.

The nut.—The principal product, from a commercial point of view, is the nut. The yield per palm on a cultivated estate is about 40 nuts per annum. The average yield is probably under 30 nuts per palm, though with cultivation in good districts up to and over 80 may be secured. The number of palms to the acre may vary from 50 to 90, the average being about 70. The palms come into bearing in about six years with intensive cultivation, but more usually take up to ten years. The nuts are generally picked six times a year. They are made into copra upon the estate which produces them, but some small holders sell their nuts to manufacturers. Considerable quantities are exported when the demand for nuts for the manufacturing of desiccated coconut is keen. The price rose owing to the increased demand for the manufactured products from Rs. 74 per 1,000 in 1913 to the maximum of Rs. 115 per 1,000 in 1920.

Prices.—The market opened in January at Rs. 27 per 1,000 nuts and advanced until the end of the month when Rs. 40 was reached.

Values then sagged until the middle of April to around Rs. 30 after which there was a fluctuating recovery to Rs. 36 and Rs. 37 during May and June. In July prices fell away to Rs. 33 and again in August to about Rs. 31 but in September there was a recovery to about Rs. 33.

3——J. N. 55200 (6/36)

During the last quarter there was a marked improvement with values at Rs. 40 and over up to Rs. 44, at which the market closed the year. The above prices refer to husked nuts per 1,000 delivered to Buyers' stores in equal proportions of large, middle, and smalls.

Average of the monthly quotations recorded by the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce for 1935 :—

(Per 1,000 nuts L. M. S.)

	Rs. c.		Rs. c.
January ..	33 62	July ..	33 62
February ..	34 50	August ..	31 90
March ..	31 90	September ..	32 37
April ..	30 50	October ..	40 0
May ..	36 87	November ..	42 60
June ..	36 10	December ..	43 37

The annual average market prices in recent years were the following :—1930, Rs. 46·58 per 1,000 nuts L. M. S.; 1931, Rs. 37·12; 1932, Rs. 44·60; 1933, Rs. 29·36; 1934, Rs. 19·42; 1935, Rs. 35·71.

Copra.—The most important manufactured product is copra. This is the dried kernel of the nut, and is used for the manufacture of coconut oil, which, again, is utilized for the production of margarine, soap, and other products. Poonac, a largely used cattle food, is the by-product in the manufacture of coconut oil from copra. The bulk of it is used locally, either as cattle food or as manure, but 623,470 cwt. valued at Rs. 1,687,872 were exported in 1934 and 467,565 cwt. valued at Rs. 1,600,861 in 1935.

The number of nuts required to manufacture a candy (560 lb.) of copra varies from 900 to 1,500.

The value of the exports of copra is shown in Diagram No. 9.

Prices.—The market opened strongly, mainly as a result of speculative buying of oil seeds in India, and towards the end of January the price touched Rs. 49. A heavy default in Bombay caused the market to react and by the middle of February price of copra in Colombo had fallen to Rs. 36·50. The market remained fairly steady at around this price until end of September when a steady improvement set in and was maintained to the end of the year, the market closing at Rs. 47·50.

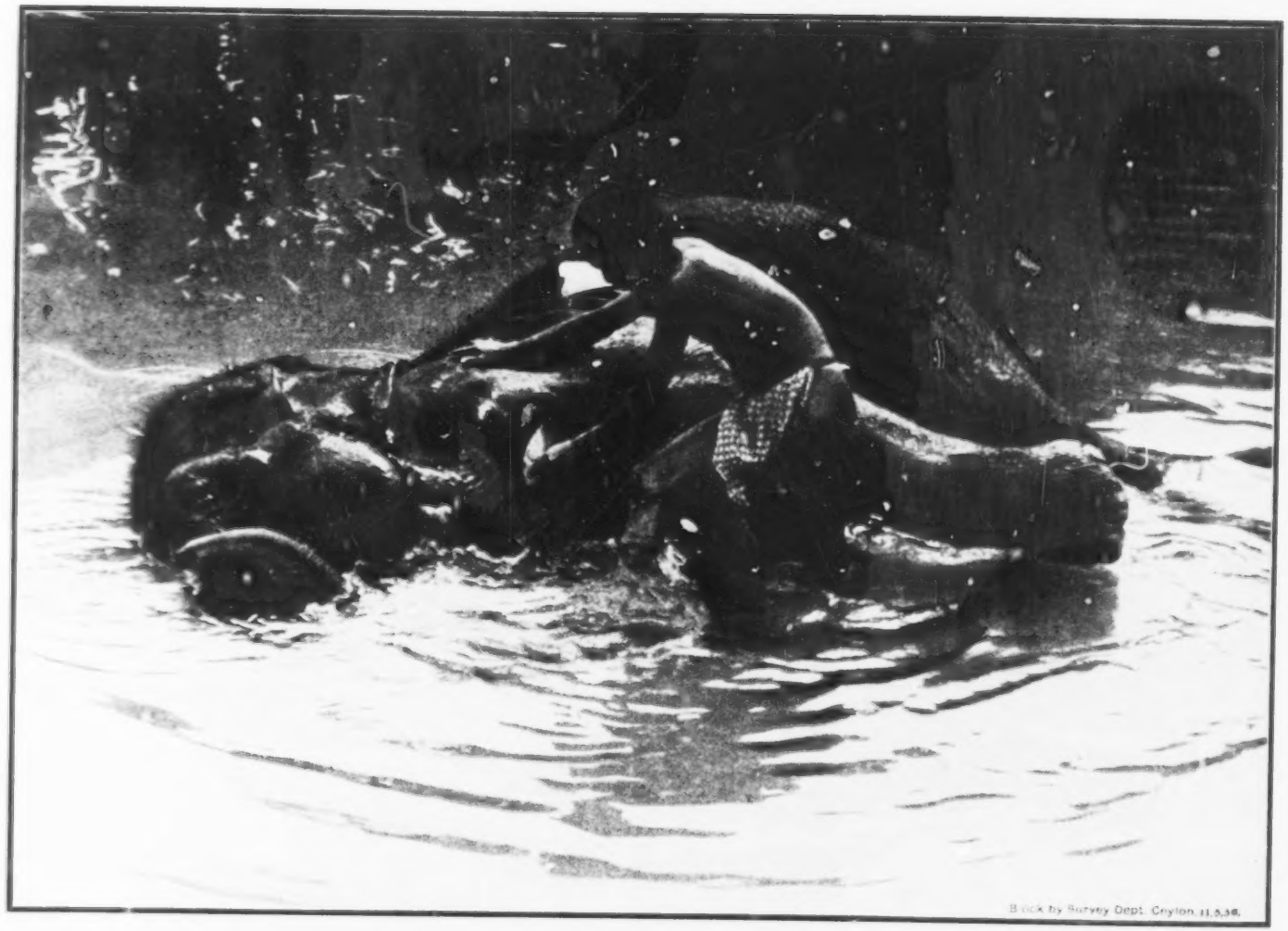
Average of the monthly quotations recorded by the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce for the year 1935 :—

(Estate No. 1 per candy of 5 cwt.)

	Rs. c.		Rs. c.
January ..	37 84	July ..	35 25
February ..	37 87	August ..	34 20
March ..	34 45	September ..	35 62
April ..	34 58	October ..	42 19
May ..	37 81	November ..	45 67
June ..	36 15	December ..	45 78

The annual average market prices* in certain years were :—1925, Rs. 80·36 per candy (560 lb.); 1926, Rs. 79·40; 1927, Rs. 76·88; 1928, Rs. 76·22; 1929, Rs. 64·47; 1930, Rs. 52·36; 1931, Rs. 35·06; 1932, Rs. 42·21; 1933, Rs. 29·75; 1934, Rs. 21·98; 1935, Rs. 38·15 (see Diagram No. 5).

* The average prices for 1927 to 1935 are for top grades only. Averages for other years represent the lowest and highest overall weekly quotations received for all grades.



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AN INTIMATE TOILET.

Lionel Wendt.

Copra prices are liable to considerable fluctuation according to the rates of freight and of exchange, &c. The market quotations are also liable to considerable variation, as regular public sales are not held as in the case of tea and rubber.

Coconut Oil.—Although a large quantity of copra is exported for the extraction of oil by the importers, a quantity of coconut oil is prepared in Ceylon. The traditional method of extraction consists in grinding the copra in a "chekku" consisting of a large wooden pestle, which is revolved by bullock power in a kind of stone mortar. This method is slow and wasteful, and modern mills are now working in Chilaw, Colombo, and other districts of Ceylon, hydraulic presses and expellers being in general use. Usually the locally manufactured coconut oil contains 1½ to 2 per cent. of free fatty acid, and a further refinement is necessary in the consuming country.

The value of the exports of coconut oil is shown in Diagram No. 9.

Prices.—The opening market in January was Rs. 190 and a gradual hardening was seen throughout the month, the average being Rs. 220 f.o.b. In February this level was exceeded, the average being Rs. 250. March and April showed declines, but in May the average was again Rs. 250. For the next four months averages were somewhat lower, but October, November, and December showed averages of Rs. 261, Rs. 280, and Rs. 284, respectively. The average for the year was Rs. 245·58, which is nearly Rs. 100 higher than the previous year's average.

Average of the monthly quotations recorded by the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce for 1935 :—

(Ordinary per Ton f.o.b.)

	Rs. c.		Rs. c.
January	221 87	July	233 34
February	250 47	August	224 50
March	241 37	September	227 65
April	235 83	October	260 78
May	250 47	November	280 29
June	241 0	December	283 44

The annual average market prices in certain years were :—1925, Rs. 543·17 per ton f.o.b. ; 1926, Rs. 539·36 ; 1927, Rs. 491·73 ; 1928, Rs. 489·02 ; 1929, Rs. 412·33 ; 1930, Rs. 351·63 ; 1931, Rs. 253·52 ; 1932, Rs. 283·75 ; 1933, Rs. 209·43 ; 1934, Rs. 149·98 ; 1935, Rs. 245·58.

Desiccated Coconut.—Desiccated coconut is produced in Ceylon on a large scale, the conditions being favourable as the mills are either on the estates or easily accessible to them by water, road, or railway. The delivery of the fresh nuts, which are essential to the success of the manufacture, is thus a simple matter. Mills, many with elaborate machinery, have been erected in almost every district to cope with the demand. Some are capable of dealing with 50,000 nuts a day.

The value of the exports of desiccated coconuts is shown in Diagram No. 9.

Prices.—Prices increased steadily from 7 cents per lb. at the beginning of the year, and in October touched 12 cents. Later the market declined with a seasonally dull demand and closed quiet at 11½ cents.

Average of the monthly quotations recorded by the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce for 1935 :—

(Per lb.)

	Rs.	c.		Rs.	c.
January	0	9	July	0	9
February	0	9	August	0	9
March	0	9	September	0	9
April	0	8	October	0	10
May	0	9	November	0	11
June	0	10	December	0	11

The annual average market prices in certain years were :—1925, 20 cents per lb. ; 1926, 20 cents ; 1927, 19 cents ; 1928, 19 cents ; 1929, 16 cents ; 1930, 13 cents ; 1931, 10 cents ; 1932, 11 cents ; 1933, 8 cents ; 1934, 6 cents ; 1935, 10 cents (see Diagram No. 5).

Information regarding the manufacture of alcohol, &c., is shown under " Excise", page 45.

Coir, &c.—An important but somewhat unorganized industry, also dependent upon the coconut tree, is the manufacture of coir, which consists of the stout fibres forming the husk of the nut. These fibres are separated by rotting the husks in water, or by special machinery. The fibres are then graded and used for making brushes, yarn, mats, rope, &c., according to their quality. In many parts of Ceylon the coir fibres are separated by village labour, chiefly women, and sold by them to exporting firms.

Mills for the separation of the fibre by machinery have been established at several places in the Colombo, Negombo, and other districts. Much of the output is used locally, but there is considerable export of bristle fibre, mattress fibre, and coir yarn. The value of the exports of coir is shown in Diagram No. 9.

Prices.—There was a certain shortage of supplies early in the year owing to the prevailing drought. This caused a fair rise in price and good quality two tie which started at Rs. 3·50 per cwt. reached Rs. 3·85 at the end of January and Rs. 4·40 at the end of February.

The shortage became more acute during March and prices registered a further increase to Rs. 4·85 during that month.

With the comparatively high price of bristle fibre and the very considerable rise for mattress fibre many more mills opened again. With the resultant increase in supplies, prices dropped during April and May to Rs. 4 but with a slight shortage of good quality bristle fibre and a rather better continental demand the market improved again to Rs. 4·25 by the end of June.

Poor quality two tie and one tie, however, were more plentiful than good quality owing to inferior husks produced by the drought and the value for these grades fell away sharply, one tie finishing the year at about Rs. 3·75 being considerably lower than good two tie. During the second half of the year prices remained comparatively steady although there was rather a sharp drop in August and September, followed by a subsequent rise to the July level.

The price for good two tie in July was Rs. 4·25 per cwt. and Rs. 3·30 in August which was followed by a steady rise to Rs. 3·40 in September, Rs. 4 in October and Rs. 4·25 during November and December.

Supplies were again rather scarce, mainly owing to the shortage of husks. Japanese buyers were very active during July and August for poor quality bristle, but they rather dropped out of the market towards the end of the year.

Average of the monthly quotations recorded by the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce for 1935 :—

(3-tie per cwt.)

	Rs. c.		Rs. c.
January	4 37	July	4 22
February	4 87	August	3 95
March	5 47	September	4 7
April	4 89	October	4 52
May	4 73	November	4 95
June	4 77	December	4 78

Mattress Fibre.—The year opened with the price for fair ordinary brown quality at Re. 1·75 per cwt. and with the scarcity of offerings this rose very sharply and reached the high level of Rs. 3·75 at the end of March. This naturally encouraged many mills to start work again and supplies came in more freely with the result that values declined rapidly to Rs. 3 during April and the first part of May. At this point rain fell freely and millers were unable to dry their fibre properly, and in the absence of any appreciable stocks there was a further shortage with a resultant reaction on prices which reached Rs. 3·40 at the end of June. This was not maintained and following the market for bristle fibre the price for good f.a.q. was Rs. 2·35 in July and in August had dropped to Re. 1·90. Therefore there was a steady rise up to the middle of September when Rs. 3·25 was reached and the market closed the year at about Rs. 2·80.

Average of the monthly quotations recorded by the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce for 1935 :—

(No. 1 per cwt.)

	Rs. c.		Rs. c.
January	2 48	July	3 17
February	3 30	August	2 84
March	4 18	September	2 99
April	3 72	October	3 32
May	3 83	November	3 74
June	3 95	December	3 37

Coir Yarn —The total exports for 1935 showed a welcome increase of about 16 per cent. over the 1934 figures, but unfortunately at slightly lower prices.

The market was firm until the end of April but then declined steadily until October when there was a slight improvement which was maintained until the end of the year, but most of the improvement was in the lower grades. Germany and the United Kingdom were as usual the largest buyers, the former particularly showing a marked improvement.

Average of the monthly quotations recorded by the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce for 1935 :—

(Per cwt.)

	Rs. c.		Rs. c.
January	9 62	July	9 0
February	9 62	August	9 0
March	9 75	September	8 62
April	9 75	October	9 0
May	9 50	November	9 5
June	9 40	December	9 50

The annual average market prices* in certain years for bristle fibre were :—1925, Rs. 7·62 per cwt. ; 1926, Rs. 7·46 ; 1927, Rs. 8 37 ; 1928, Rs. 8·53 ; 1929, Rs. 9·01 ; 1930, Rs. 8·23 ; 1931, Rs. 6·65 ; 1932, Rs. 7·95 ; 1933, Rs. 6·35 ; 1934, Rs. 4·71 ; 1935, Rs. 4·63 ; for mattress fibre* :—1925, Rs. 2·38 per cwt. 1926, Rs. 3·08 ; 1927, Rs. 3·67 ; 1928, Rs. 3·07 ; 1929, Rs. 2·23 ; 1930, Re. 1·40 ; 1931, Re. 1·41 ; 1932, Re. 1·25 ; 1933, Re. 1·59 ; 1934, Re. 1·75 ; 1935, Rs. 3·41 ; for coir yarn :—1925, Rs. 16·26 per cwt. ; 1926, Rs. 15·15 ; 1927, Rs. 16·75 ; 1928, Rs. 17·45 ; 1929, Rs. 14·34 ; 1930, Rs. 12·73 ; 1931, Rs. 10·20 ; 1932, Rs. 8·42 ; 1933, Rs. 7·96 ; 1934, Rs. 9·69 ; 1935, Rs. 9·34.

Cacao.

Commercial cacao is produced from the seeds of the plant *Theobroma cacao*. The variety now grown in Ceylon is the *Forastero*.

Elevation and Rainfall, &c.—The cultivation of cacao is restricted to favourably situated valleys at an elevation between 500 to 2,000 feet which receive a well regulated rainfall of 60 to 80 inches and are protected from high winds. Plantations lie almost entirely in the Kandy and Matale Districts of the Central Province. Of an approximate acreage of 34,000 acres under cacao in the Island 55 per cent. is in the former district and 33 per cent. in the latter.

As with tea the number of peasant holdings ranging between 1 and 5 acres is not inconsiderable, but these small gardens receive but little attention from the owners in regard to systematic cultivation or the control of pests and diseases.

Labour.—The labour required for a cacao estate works out at about one labourer for 2 acres. Tamils generally form the bulk of the labour force, but Sinhalese are also employed for lopping, &c.

Planting.—The trees are generally planted 15 by 15 feet apart. Holes 3 feet deep by 1½ feet across are dug and filled with carefully prepared soil. Seed at stake or basket plants are generally used for planting. As the young plant requires to be carefully shaded, shade trees must be planted at the same time between the rows about the same distance apart as the cacao. The dadap has been found the most suitable.

Crops.—Cacao commences to bear fruit about the fifth year, two crops a year being then gathered. The "Spring" crop picked in May, June, and July is small. The main or "Autumn" crop is gathered in November, December, and January. The period from the blossom to the ripe pod is five months. The average crop per acre varies considerably in Ceylon. The general average is about 3½ to 4 cwt. per acre, although the yields from some well-cultivated estates have reached the very high annual average of 8½ cwt. per acre.

Cultivation.—The usual method of cultivation is to fork the soil every two years, and apply about 700 to 800 lb. per acre of artificial manures two to three months later. The manure used is a general mixture containing nitrogen, phosphoric acid, and potash.

Pruning and Removing Suckers.—Suckers are removed as soon as they appear on the cacaco trees, and periodical pruning is done when the foliage becomes too thick and heavy.

* The average prices for 1928 to 1935 are for top grades only. Averages for other years represent the lowest and highest overall weekly quotations received for all grades.

Copyright Photograph. *Lionel Wendt.*

THE KANDY LYRIC.

Weeding.—Cacao estates are kept clean weeded from the time of opening, the average cost of weeding is about Rs. 6 per acre per annum.

Picking.—The flowers and fruit of the tree grow in a characteristic manner direct upon the trunk and branches of the trees. The fruit is ellipsoidal and of considerable size, and the beans are covered with pulp or mucilage. Ripening is generally indicated by a change of colour on the outside of the pods. The fruit on the stems and main branches is picked by means of an ordinary pruning knife, while that on the higher parts of the tree is dealt with by cacao hooks. The picking gang goes round as often as necessary, the period generally being between a fortnight and three weeks. The pods are cut down by men or boys, who are followed by women, who gather the pods and heap them together. The fruits are opened the same day, and the beans carted or carried to the fermenting shed. One labourer will pick 1 to 1½ bushels of wet beans per day. This is equal to about 37 lb. of the cured product.

Fermentation.—At the fermenting shed the beans, covered with mucilage, are heaped into boxes or vats for fermentation. This process is accompanied by rise of temperature and by decomposition of the pulp surrounding the beans. During the fermentation the pulp becomes more liquid and gradually flows away, the bottom of the fermenting boxes being perforated and raised off the ground to admit of this. The period of fermentation in Ceylon is about 36 hours. After 12 hours the beans are given a light washing and turned over into another box. They are again given a heavier washing at the end of the fermenting period of 36 hours, when they are carried or carted to the barbecue or curing house.

Curing.—The best method of curing is the gradual drying of the beans in the sun on barbecues covered with coir matting. By this method the best quality is obtained. The period varies from five to seven days, according to the temperature. Most of the picking has, however, to be done during the wet season, and a greater part of the crop is cured by artificial means. The most popular curing house is a two- or three-floor building, the floors being constructed of strips of wood covered over with coir matting, on which the freshly-fermented beans are spread. The building is heated with hot air conducted by pipes placed under each floor, the hot air being obtained by means of a fan, which drives the air through the heating apparatus and then through the pipes. The temperature in the building during the curing process is kept between 110 and 120 degrees Fahrenheit.

Grading and Sorting.—After the beans are cured, they are sorted into different grades: first quality, which is composed of only the large round beans; second quality, flat and small beans; and third quality, known as garblings, consisting of the shells and broken beans.

Packing.—Cacao after grading is packed in bags (112 lb. to a bag) when it is ready for export. Most of the cacao from Ceylon is shipped, in this form.

Prices.—The period under review has not been one of much activity as far as trading was concerned and the competition to secure what little business there was offering resulted in price cutting and working on the barest possible margins.

Most producing countries started organizations, partly initiated by producers and in some cases with Government backing, for the control

and release of supplies as market conditions warranted, but even those efforts have not tended to improve prices to a paying level for producers, and manufacturers have been able to secure their requirements at favourable rates.

The one bright spot in the record of the Industry is that consumption is steadily increasing.

Locally, more than one factor hindered the normal flow of trade. Early in January the uncertainty over the United States Gold Clause decision tended to depress the market and later in the year quota allotments and exchange restrictions in most of the continental markets, protective tariffs in Mexico and sanctions enforced against Italy, all had a weakening effect on the market.

During February, with the main crop season drawing to a close, speculative buying here helped to maintain prices and there was a good demand for all offerings but later this demand gradually fell and the market ruled irregular. The small or spring crop was earlier than usual in spite of the abnormal weather conditions that prevailed. Manufacturers continued to buy only at recessions and speculators were forced to liquidate their holdings at a discount.

Main crop native supplies appeared on the market in September and there were fair supplies in October. Estate descriptions of new crop were not available until about the middle of that month. A unique feature and one without parallel this season was the break in the harvesting. All mature pods were harvested and marketed in October and there was little offering in November and December, due to the pods on the trees not being mature enough for picking. It will be about January/February next year before the crop on the trees will be ready for harvesting after which supplies ought to continue arriving until the end of the small crop season which closes about May/July. Crops all round are likely to be less than the year under review.

Exports were about 12,000 cwt. below the figure for the previous year. Decreases to United Kingdom, Italy, Denmark, South America, and Australia have to be recorded, while Holland, New Zealand, United States, and the Philippine Islands show improvements. The last mentioned destination again proved to be Ceylon's best customer.

Average of the monthly quotations recorded by the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce for 1935 :—

(Estate No. 1 per cwt.)

	Rs. c.		Rs. c.
January	23 44	July	15 69
February	23 0	August	14 5
March	21 60	September	15 81
April	21 0	October	15 56
May	19 50	November	16 95
June	18 10	December	17 12

The annual average market prices* in certain years were :—1925, Rs. 33·17 per cwt. ; 1926, Rs. 30·41 ; 1927, Rs. 52·22 ; 1928, Rs. 58·89 ; 1929, Rs. 53·46 ; 1930, Rs. 37·51 ; 1931, Rs. 29·71 ; 1932, Rs. 27·71 ; 1933, Rs. 25·09 ; 1934, Rs. 22·99 ; 1935, Rs. 18·37.

The value of the exports of cacao is shown in Diagram No. 9.

* The average prices for 1927 to 1935 are for top grades only. Averages for other years represent the lowest and highest overall weekly quotations received for all grades.

Cinnamon.

Cinnamon, once the main export, still occupies a place—though a minor one—in the trade of the Island. Plantation in earliest days was mainly confined to the Western Province, of which Negombo was the most important centre. Much of this area was replaced with coconuts in subsequent years, but the extension of cultivation took place in the Southern Province where at the present time it is estimated that there is more land under cinnamon than in the Western Province. The approximate total acreage is 26,000 acres, of which 58 per cent. is in the Southern Province (Galle District 40 per cent.) and 41 per cent. in the Western Province (Negombo area 30 per cent.).

The industry is entirely in the hands of Ceylonese. The number of large properties of 100 acres and over in extent is limited and these receive systematic attention. The majority of plantations are small areas of 10 to 25 acres in extent.

The Tree.—The cinnamon tree may grow to the height of 20 to 30 feet, and the trunk may be upwards of 3 feet in circumference. The trees cultivated to produce the cinnamon of commerce are coppiced, and long willowy shoots are produced, growing to a height of about 10 feet and to the size of a fair-sized walking stick. The shoots are cut and the bark is peeled off, and rolled into quills, which constitute the cinnamon of commerce.

Cinnamon Cultivation.—If the soil is good, branches may be cut for barking from the fourth year. The tree blossoms in January, in April the fruit is ripe, and the cutting is done from May to October. When the tree is seen to bear fruit well it is in good health, and the bark will peel without difficulty. The sticks are gathered by boys and tied into bundles with coir strings ; they are then removed to the peeling stores.

The object of the methods employed is to make the bark up into quills, a quill being a rod of cinnamon resembling a thin cane 4 feet in length ; the pieces of bark when stripped are therefore placed round the sticks, both with a view to preserving their shape and as a convenience for the next operation.

Skinning.—They are now allowed to remain for three to six hours, when fermentation takes place, and the bark is ready for skinning. This treatment of the bark leaves only that part which has the desired delicate taste ; it is of a pale yellow colour and a parchment-like texture. The bark is now left to ferment and dry, which if the weather be favourable takes about 30 minutes.

The next process is that of forming the quills. The smaller pieces are inserted into the larger, and in the process of drying the quills form rods. They are afterwards rolled into shape and made up into bundles.

Cinnamon oil is distilled from the chips and trimmings of the quills as well as from the leaves.

The commercial cinnamon products are the quills, the chips, and the oil. The best quality is fine cinnamon prepared from tender bark.

The chips are prepared by scraping or chipping the bark after removing the outer bark.

Prices.—The total quantity of cinnamon exported during 1935 shows a slight increase and the improved condition of the industry which took place in 1934 was further maintained with a more profitable level of price.

The lowest prices were recorded in July with 23 cents and 30 cents for Hamburg No. 11. and 0/0000 respectively and the highest level was reached in October (as in 1934) with 35 cents and 43 cents. Although the prices that month did not reach the peak of 1934 (when, for a short period, Hamburg No. 11. fetched as much as 42 cents) the average price level in 1935 was about 10 to 15 per cent. higher than that of the previous year.

In September and October the cinnamon market, in sympathy with many other commodities, was stimulated by the outbreak of the Abyssinian war and also by a rumour that the forthcoming winter crop would be a failure, but prices eased off in November when the first arrivals proved to be quite normal.

As far as the distribution of exports is concerned, shipments to all European countries except Spain have decreased. This is mainly due to the severe import and exchange restrictions, and the business with Spain is, for the same reasons, becoming more and more difficult. Exports to Central and South America, notably Mexico, show an increase of over 35 per cent. over the previous year.

The market for cinnamon chips follows in general the trend for cinnamon quills and an increase in exports has also to be recorded.

Nearly all consuming countries except the Continent took larger quantities and it is to be remarked that the United Kingdom imported 2,422 cwt. in 1935, as against 1,474 cwt. in 1934.

Average of the monthly quotations recorded by the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce for 1935 :—

	Quills (Fine 0–0000 per lb.)	Chips* per Candy of 5 cwt.		Quills. (Fine 0–0000 per lb.).	Chips* Per Candy of 5 cwt.
January	0 37	35 69	July	0 32	25 13
February	0 36	32 50	August	0 31	25 20
March	0 33	29 70	September	0 34	24 81
April	0 33	25 8	October	0 40	28 19
May	0 35	24 69	November	0 39	28 75
June	0 34	23 84	December	0 35	27 54

The annual average market prices† of quills in certain years were :— 1925, 88 cents per lb. ; 1926, Re. 1·14 ; 1927, Re. 1·35 ; 1928, Re. 1·29 ; 1929, Re. 1·15 ; 1930, 59 cents ; 1931, 37 cents ; 1932, 28 cents ; 1933, 25 cents ; 1934, 29 cents ; 1935, 35 cents ; of chips : 1925, Rs. 84·54 per candy ; 1926, Rs. 93·79 ; 1927, Rs. 102·77 ; 1928, Rs. 105·72 1929, Rs. 96·86 ; 1930, Rs. 56·41 ; 1931, Rs. 38·92 ; 1932, Rs. 26·40 ; 1933, Rs. 20·64 ; 1934, Rs. 30·64 ; 1935, Rs. 27·69.

An acre will yield about 120 lb. quills.

Citronella Oil.

Citronella oil grass is a large coarse grass growing 3 to 4 feet high, cultivated in Ceylon (and of late years in Java) for its essential oil, which is obtained from the leaves by distillation. The grass grows in any ordinary soil, and thrives best in a moist and hot atmosphere. It flourishes up to an elevation of 2,000 feet, but its cultivation is confined entirely to the Southern Province where the acreage under this crop is estimated to be 33,000 acres, of which 62 per cent. is in the Matara District and the remaining 38 per cent. in the Hambantota District. Cultivation is in the hands of the Ceylonese. The grass is readily

* Sifted free from sand and dust (in bags of 56 lb. net).

† The average prices for 1927 to 1935 are for top grades only. Averages for other years represent the lowest and highest overall weekly quotations received for all grades.

propagated by division (seed being rarely produced), and may be planted about 2 by 3 feet apart in rows. Permanent shade is unnecessary, and the cultivation is very simple, weeding being the chief requirement. The clumps are ready for cutting in about eight months from time of planting. Two cuttings a year may be obtained, and about 40 lb. of marketable oil per acre is an estimated annual yield. The oil is of a strong aromatic odour; it is exported for use in scenting soaps, perfumery, &c., and is also a preventive against the bites of mosquitoes and leeches.

Prices.—The market opened in January at 52 cents per lb. but rose sharply to about 69 cents at the end of the month only to fall away in February to 55 cents. At the end of March the price declined further to 51 cents, and remained steady at this level until the end of May. In June the market receded to 45–46 cents and remained unchanged during July. In August there was a further fall to 41 cents after which there was little variation until December when business was done as low as 38 cents, a price which can leave little or no profit to the grower.

Average of the monthly quotations recorded by the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce for 1935 :—

(Per lb.)

	Rs. c.		Rs. c.
January	0 60	July	0 46
February	0 56	August	0 43
March	0 53	September	0 42
April	0 51	October	0 40
May	0 52	November	0 41
June	0 47	December	0 38

The annual average market prices in certain years were :—1925, Re. 1·37 per lb.; 1926, 99 cents; 1927, 77 cents; 1928, 93 cents; 1929, Re. 1·06; 1930, Re. 1·12; 1931, 80 cents; 1932, 94 cents; 1933, 87 cents; 1934, 55 cents; 1935, 47 cents.

Tobacco.

Acreage and Localities.—The estimated acreage under this crop in the Island is 14,000 acres, of which a little over half is found in the Jaffna District of the Northern Province, where great care is given to cultivation. The methods adopted are peculiar to this area and the manufacture of the leaf gives rise to the most important industry in the district. Another variety of leaf is grown in the Central Province which claims about 21 per cent. of the total acreage under the crop. Dumbara in the Kandy District is a particularly favoured area while in the Matale District the crop is of some importance to the peasant, besides there being a small manufacture of cigars and pipe tobacco from the local leaf as in the case in Dumbara. Tobacco is also grown to the extent of about 1,500 acres in the Kurunegala District where the method of manufacture to produce a chewing tobacco differs from that adopted in Jaffna. Elsewhere cultivation is carried out in the North-Central and Eastern Provinces to less extents.

Dumbara Tobacco.—A high grade of Ceylon tobacco is grown in the Kandy District. The cultivation in this district begins with the slight showers of the early months of the year, and depends for its success upon the light rains which fall in April, May, and June with the advent of the south-west monsoon. Tobacco is rarely grown in this district

upon the same land in two consecutive years, it being customary to cultivate the land in other crops and then to allow it to lie fallow for some years before another tobacco crop is taken off. In very dry weather, if water is available, hand watering is resorted to. Otherwise the crop depends entirely upon rainfall for its success, and is a speculative one. Fairly satisfactory attention is given by some growers to curing and fermentation, but a finer product would be procured if greater care were given to manufacture.

The leaves of the Dumbara tobacco burn with a good white ash, and are manufactured in the Island into cigars, which command a ready sale, and would be in greater demand if they were more uniform in quality. A large portion of the Central Province crop is sold to local manufacturers of cigars for use as wrappers for the Jaffna types. The leaves are smaller and of finer texture than the Jaffna types, and have good burning qualities.

The Dumbara types of tobacco are also grown in other districts. The system of curing and fermenting differs somewhat in different areas, and the final product is not of such high quality as that produced in the Central Province.

Jaffna Tobacco.—The Jaffna types consist of two kinds. These are locally known as the smoking and chewing kinds. Both are large-leaved, coarse tobaccos, the chewing type being of more vigorous and coarse growth than the smoking type.

Jaffna Cultivation.—The cultivation of tobacco at Jaffna is an interesting study. The lands are well ploughed and manured with cattle or sheep manure or with green leaves, and reduced to a fine tilth. Nurseries for seedlings are well prepared, and the seedlings planted out carefully and systematically. Work begins with the north-east rains, and during the early part of the growing period the rainfall may be sufficient to maintain satisfactory growth. During dry weather and from the end of December onwards the tobacco plants are irrigated by wells. In the middle of the growing season this irrigation has to be thoroughly carried out. During the early part of the growing period thorough cultivation of the land is carried on, so as to prevent its becoming "caked" and to allow of the maximum growth for the plants. All plants, except those required for seed purposes, are topped at a height of about 4 feet, and when they begin to yellow they are harvested. The whole plant is cut down and allowed to "quail" for a day in the sun. In the afternoon the plant is separated into individual leaves, each being left attached to a piece of the stem. These are then taken for withering in an open shady shed. Fermentation differs slightly in different localities in its details, and the curing of the smoking and chewing types requires different treatment. Chewing types are harvested by cutting of the leaves, commencing from the top of the plant. All inferior broken leaves and those portions of the stalks which are not attached to the leaves are either sold to the manufacturers for making nicotine extracts or are used for manurial purposes. Conditions of sale demand that portions of the stalk should be attached to the leaves in the majority of cases.

There are certain lands on which the chewing type alone can be cultivated, while others are well known for their production of high grade smoking types. Tobacco from certain localities always commands higher prices than the ruling market rates, while elsewhere only

Copyright Photograph. *Lionel Wendt.*

A VILLAGE HAWKER.

a low grade tobacco is produced. The smoking tobaccos are sold to manufacturers for the local manufacture of what is known throughout the whole Island as the " Jaffna cheroot ". Some of the chewing types are sold locally for chewing with the betel leaf, lime, and arecanut, but the bulk of this type is exported to Travancore, where the Jaffna tobaccos are eagerly sought after. Travancore has fixed a quota for Jaffna tobacco. Jaffna tobacco growers have organized themselves into a co-operative society and plans are being made to establish a selling agency at Travancore.

In 1935, 99 per cent. of the exports of unmanufactured tobacco went to British India while manufactured tobacco was exported mainly to the Maldive Islands.

The costs of cultivation of a tobacco crop in the Jaffna District are heavy, considerable sums being expended upon manures, cultivation, and irrigation. In seasonable years, when prices are high, the profits are large. In other years expenses are barely covered, but in general the better lands will yield average profits of between Rs. 300 to Rs. 450 per acre, while profits of Rs. 600 to Rs. 800 per acre have been secured in good years. The average price of the Jaffna product varies from Rs. 20 to Rs. 40 per 1,000 leaves.

The Travancore markets some fifteen years ago closed to Jaffna tobaccos, but were subsequently reopened The critical situation demanded that experiments with other types of tobacco should be undertaken. These have been carried out upon a Government experiment station, and it has been demonstrated that White Burley tobacco of good quality capable of realizing 1*s.* 6*d.* per lb. on the London market can be satisfactorily grown. The Government has evolved a purchase scheme for White Burley tobacco which is exported to England. The exports of this tobacco have been as follows :—

Year.	lb.	Year.	lb.	Year.	lb.
1924	.. 4,701	1928	.. 30,688	1932	.. 10,901
1925	.. 15,057	1929	.. 25,312	1933	.. 14,933
1926	.. 18,535	1930	.. 18,652	1934	.. 22,060
1927	.. 13,328	1931	.. 9,212		

At the time of writing, the Government has not bought or exported to England the 1935 crop of Whire Burley tobacco grown in Jaffna, as the question of continuing the purchase scheme is still under consideration. On and after 1931 the quality exported and the prices realized for White Burley tobacco in England have not been encouraging. The causes contributing to this are under investigation.

Cardamoms.

Uses.—Cardamoms are of commercial value on account of the spice obtained from them, which is well known to cooks and confectioners, and is used in pharmacopoeia as a deadener of tastes and a medicine.

Habitat, &c.—The commercial value of the plant lies in the fruit, which is borne on racemes rising from the ground. The plant itself—*Elettaria Cardamomum*—grows in stools or clumps under the shade of forest trees at elevations between 2,800 and 4,000 feet, with a rainfall of 115 to 150 inches a year.

Manufacture.—The fruit is collected by women and children, and is manufactured into either (1) bleached or (2) green dried. In the former case the fruit is bleached, soaked, and dried in sulphur fumes, the

process being repeated until the required pale colour is secured, and the ends are clipped off either by hand or by a clipping machine. In the latter case the fruits are merely dried in the sun.

Acreage.—The total acreage under cardamoms is estimated to be 6,000 acres, of which 82 per cent. is confined to the Central Province—approximately 2,500 acres in the Kandy District, 1,500 acres in the Nuwara Eliya District, and 1,000 acres in the Matale District. About 1,000 acres are found in the Kegalla and Ratnapura Districts (Province of Sabaragamuwa). The bulk of the plantations is in the hands of European owners, but the number of small gardens of a few acres in size in the hands of peasants is not inconsiderable.

Prices.—The crop during 1935 was considerably less than the previous year owing to unseasonable weather, the actual exports being :—

	Cwt.
1935	2,362
1934	3,441

Business in Ceylon cardamoms hinged mainly on the Indian market. Early in the year India underquoted Ceylon, and the continental and Scandinavian demand was mostly filled by Indian suppliers. With the close of that crop in August, Indian buyers began to operate on this market and prices were rushed up with keen competition.

Prices opened at about Re. 1·05 per lb. but fell away to 90 cents in April when the lowest quotation was recorded. All this time the local market was mainly supported by speculators who carried fair stocks for several months without being able to realize their holdings at a profit.

In view of the drought and the expectations of a crop much below normal, there was very little selling pressure and during the second half of the year all offerings met with a good demand at dearer rates, values showing an advance of about 15 to 20 cents per lb.

Towards the end of the year demand was irregular and values fluctuated widely with the close of the Indian demand. Very few parcels of bleached Mysores were offered.

Average of the montly quotations recorded by the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce for 1935 :—

Green per lb.

	Rs. c.		Rs. c.
January	1 4	July	0 96
February	1 2	August	0 97
March	1 2	September	1 2
April	0 91	October	1 7
May	0 96	November	1 8
June	0 95	December	1 2

The annual average market prices* in certain years were :—1925, Rs. 3·42 per lb. ; 1926, Rs. 2·44 ; 1927, Rs. 2·54 ; 1928, Rs. 2·50 ; 1929, Rs. 2·22 ; 1930, Re. 1·69 ; 1931, Re. 1·67 ; 1932, Re. 1·33 ; 1933, 95 cents ; 1934, 91 cents ; 1935, Re. 1·00.

Arecanuts.†

Conditions.—The arecanut palm is grown in all village gardens in the wetter districts of the Island. It produces heavy crops of fruits, and provides straight stems, which are used for the erection of temporary

* The average prices for 1927 to 1935 are for top grades only. Averages for other years represent the lowest and highest overall weekly quotations received for all grades.

† Although in point of value of exports arecanuts rank between rubber and cacao, this sub-section is inserted here, as the cultivation is not organized, and insufficient details are available regarding it.

structures. Pure cultivations of the palm similar to those to be found in Southern India are rarely seen in Ceylon, although in the Kegalla District there are some fairly extensive pure plantations. The area under arecanuts is about 69,000 acres.

There are several varieties of arecanuts grown, and the respective values of these are well known to the purchasers of fruits. Little care is, however, taken in the selection of fruits for planting, and no attempts have been made to improve the local types. Planting of arecanuts still continues in village holdings, but in many instances this palm is being replaced by the coconut.

The Fruit.—The fruits of the arecanut palm are harvested when ripe, and are sold in their unhusked state in all the bazaars and markets of the Island. The dried product is also readily procurable in the majority of boutiques. It is cut into thin shavings, which are used for chewing with the betel leaf, lime, and occasionally tobacco, by most of the village population of the Island. The price of unhusked arecanuts is about 30 cents per hundred, of husked nuts 35 cents per hundred.

Arecanuts are generally exported to British and foreign India and the Maldive Islands, but practically the whole of exports in 1935 went into British India.

Foodstuffs.

Paddy or Rice.

If Hill paddy (*elvi*) is excluded, it may be said that the cultivation of paddy in Ceylon is based upon a plentiful supply of water. Not only are the plants dependent upon a good supply in all stages up to the ripening period, but the processes of cultivation in all parts of Ceylon, except some of the most northerly, are dependent upon it.

Rain-water Cultivation.—Cultivation withpot the help of irrigation is carried on, not only in dry districts like Jaffna, but also in wetter parts like the Kandy District. The success of the crop is entirely dependent upon a sufficient and reasonable rainfall, and upon the soil being capable of retaining the water for a fairly long period in order to tide over the rainless intervals. Should the rains fall after the paddy has been sown, the crop will perish, and then the cutivator must resow his field with a paddy which can mature in the remainder of the season, or lose the season entirely. Similarly, if the rains are late, the earlier maturing varieties of paddy must be sown.

Irrigation.—When paddy is grown under irrigation, the water may be supplied by springs, streams (*elas*), wells, or reservoirs ("tanks"). Cultivation under streams may be seen in the Central and Uva Provinces, and under tanks in the drier Eastern, Northern, and North-Central Provinces.

Asweddumization.—In all cases where a system of irrigation is employed, the land must be "asweddumized", or prepared for paddy. Should the paddy area not be level, it is necessary to terrace it. This terracing is brought to a high level of perfection in the hilly districts. Distribution channels convey the irrigation water to the upper plots, and drains carry off the surplus water.

Preparation for Sowing.—In the preparation for sowing, ploughing may be done in the dry, or if the rains fall or water is available, sufficient water may be allowed on to the field to soften the ground. This is then lightly ploughed by means of small wooden ploughs drawn by buffaloes or cattle. Small iron ploughs are also employed in some districts, and their use is slowly extending. In some districts and in some fields of considerable depth ploughing is not done, the preparation of the soil being carried out by puddling with buffaloes or by digging with hoes. During the first ploughing the weeds are partially buried. About ten to twenty days after the first ploughing a second ploughing is given. The weeds are then still further buried, and the ground made softer and muddier. Between the first and second ploughings in the Central Province green manuring is carried on. Leaves and twigs are buried at the second ploughing, and in some districts special green manure crops are grown for ploughing in. After a lapse of another week or ten days a third ploughing may be carried out. This is generally adopted in the Central Province, but in other provinces this third ploughing is not general. By means of this ploughing the soil is converted into mud of the consistency desired for sowing upon. Instead of the plough, buffaloes are often employed to trample the muddy soil until the desired consistency is attained. The mudding is followed by a rough levelling by means of the "*poruwa*", a levelling board dragged along by a pair of buffaloes or by cattle. This does not leave the surface smooth enough for sowing, so that it is followed by work with hand levelling boards. At the same time shallow channels are made to conduct the surplus water from the surface, which is now quite smooth. The field is then ready for sowing.

Manuring.—Artificial fertilizers, such as bone meal, have been applied to a certain extent in the past, but the use of ammonium compound of phosphoric acids is now being popularized. These are applied at the second or third ploughings or at the time of sowing.

Sowing.—Seed is usually prepared for sowing by soaking it in water for 24-36 hours. It is then placed in a flat heap on leaves of plantain or colocasia and covered so as to retain warmth and exclude air. At the end of two or three days, if germination is satisfactory, the seed will have begun to sprout. The sprouted seeds are then separated from one another and sown broadcast on the field.

A less common method is the sowing of unsprouted and untreated seed. This system is adopted in sowing for the *maha* season in Jaffna, and in the Eastern and North-Central Provinces. Paddy is sown in fields which are either completely dry or sufficiently moist to cause germination immediately. In the dry soils the germination takes place after the advent of rains. This system of sowing is followed on low-lying fields.

Although the advantages of transplanting paddy seedlings have been abundantly demonstrated, not much transplanting is done in Ceylon, except in the Central Province and Kegalla District of Sabaragamuwa. At present the cultivator prefers, in the majority of cases, to broadcast and then thin out. When the seedlings are well established, *i.e.*, in about six weeks from sowing, the fields are weeded by the women. At the same time thinning out is done in places where the seedlings are too thick, some of those so removed being used to fill up gaps where the sowing has been too thin.

Transplanting.—In transplanting, the seeds are germinated as usual and then sown in specially prepared nurseries. When the seedlings are from four to six weeks old, they are removed from the nursery and planted at regular intervals in the fields. Although the expenses of working are increased, this is much more than counterbalanced by the increased yields obtained. The plants grow freely and weeds are partially smothered, any weeding necessary being very easily carried out. Transplanting cannot be carried out, however, when the water supply is not reliable, or when fields are excessively marshy.

The crop receives very little attention, apart from watering, weeding, and watching against birds, until the approach of the ripening period. When the plants begin to mature, they first take on a yellow colour, and, at this point, the cultivator drains the water from the field and allows the paddy to ripen.

Reaping.—Reaping is always done with the sickle, and the result is that a long and ragged stubble is left on the field. This remains until it is time to prepare for the next crop. The sheaves of paddy are put on one side as they are reaped and allowed to dry. After this, they are carried to the threshing-floor, which has been carefully prepared in readiness.

Threshing.—Threshing methods vary in different districts. In general, the dried sheaves are spread out on the threshing-floor, and buffaloes or cattle yoked together are driven over them round and round until all the grains have been rubbed off the stalks. The straw is then raked off, the paddy collected and handed over to the winnowers, who separate the empty grains from the good ones.

Seasons.—There are two paddy-growing seasons, both of which are made use of for the cultivation of the same tract of fields when sufficient labour and water are available. The Maha crop is sown from the end of August to the middle of October, according to the district. The harvest from this crop is reaped in February or March. The Yala crop season commences with sowing in March-April, the harvest being reaped in July to September. The corresponding Tamil seasons are called Munmari and Pinmari or Kalapokam and Sirupokam. Generally speaking, six and three months are required for the respective Maha and Yala crops. In some districts sowings take place between Maha and Yala seasons for a *meda* or *iddi* (Tamil) crop.

Improvements.—Considerable improvements in paddy cultivation can be effected. Transplanting could become more general, greater attention be given to manuring, the variety of seed sown, improved implements for tillage and the cleaner threshing of the crop. The Government, through the Department of Agriculture, has undertaken a considerable amount of research work in paddy in recent years as a result of which pure strains are now raised in cultivators' fields on thousands of acres especially in the North-Central, Northern, and Southern Provinces. These strains are giving increased yields up to ten bushels an acre over the kinds previously grown. Demonstrations of the value of manuring and seed supply through a system of Government and private seed farms are being widely organized.

Varieties.—The varieties of paddy grown in Ceylon fall into three groups, according to the time necessary for their maturing. In the first group come those paddies such as Mavi, Hatiel, and Suduvi, which

take at least six months to mature, while in the second group come varieties such as Danahala, Murungan, and Balavi, which mature in three months or less. An intermediate class contains those varieties which mature in four to five months.

The "age" of a particular variety, however, depends largely upon climatic factors such as rainfall, temperature, and elevation, and it is quite a common thing to find the same variety requiring different maturing periods in different provinces, or even in two different situations in the same district.

Diseases.—Diseases and pests causing extensive loss to paddy in Ceylon are few in number. Insects do the greatest amount of damage, the chief of these being—

(1) The Paddy Bug, which sucks the milky juices of the young grain, which, for this reason, never matures.

(2) The Paddy Swarming Caterpillar also causes considerable damage on occasions, but can be readily controlled.

(3) The Paddy Stem Borer, which feeds within the stem and prevents the grain from setting.

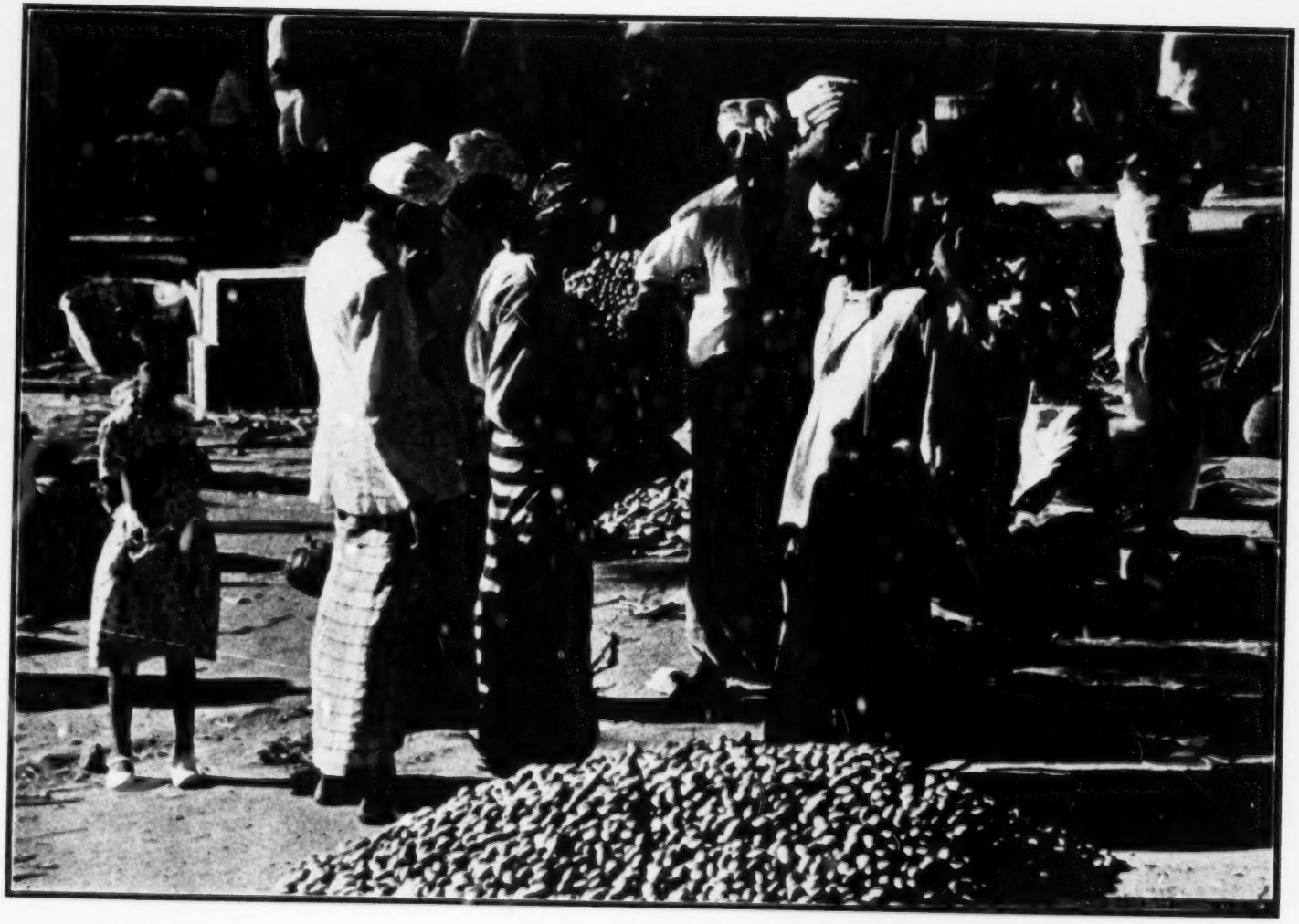
Rice.—Paddy is converted into rice by pounding in a mortar. This work is usually undertaken by women, who receive a share of the rice husked for their work. Several small mills have been erected in the past few years, which have given fairly satisfactory results. It is possible for the milling of paddy in the Island to be considerably extended. A Grant's Self-contained Rice Mill has been erected at Anuradhapura by Government to determine the economic possibility of increasing the milling of rice. The results obtained so far have been satisfactory but longer trial is necessary before a definite conclusion is reached.

Acreage.—The area under wet land paddy in Ceylon is estimated to be 850,000 acres yielding approximately 12 to 13 million bushels of paddy (grain in husk) per annum. The greatest proportion of the acreage lies in the North-Western Province. But large extents are found in all the provinces.

Hill paddy.—Hill paddy or *elvi* is grown upon dry lands. It is usually cultivated upon hilly lands in districts where an abundant rainfall cannot be relied upon or in "chenas" on lands which are somewhat low-lying. Hill paddy is sown broadcast in lands which have been cleared and burnt. While the crop is growing the larger weeds are pulled out, otherwise no cultivation is carried on during its period of growth. Yields of hill paddy, if seasons are favourable, are generally heavy, and the rice from this type of paddy is highly prized.

Other Food Crops.

Chenas.—Many other food grains are grown in the Island. Except in the Northern Province, these are generally grown in "chenas"—areas of land covered with secondary forest or other vegetation, which are cleared and burned—which are either private or leased or granted by the Crown. The principal grains grown are kurakkan (*Eleusine coracana*), maize, Italian millet, *Paspalum* millet, and *Panicum* millet. Pulses are also grown in the chenas, the principal crops being green gram, horse gram, and black gram. Gingelly (*Sesamum indicum*) forms an important chena crop particulary in the Jaffna, Anuradhapura, and



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MARKET-DAY BARGAINING.

Lionel Wendt.

Kurunegala Districts. Hitherto in addition to the utilization locally of the crop produced in the Island, gingelly seed, oil, and poonac had been imported from India to the value of Rs. 2 to 3 millions.

Edible tubers grow in abundance. These are known in the Island as yams, and include dioscorea yams, tannia yams, sweet potatoes, and manioc. Sweet potatoes are abundant in the Southern Province, while manioc or cassava has spread rapidly in all districts in recent years, and constitutes a general food. The preparation of tapioca might be possible in some districts if a good supply of pure water were available.

Plantains (bananas) of various types are largely cultivated, and are to be found in all markets. The largest area of plantains is to be found between Polgahawela and Rambukkana, but in recent years the bunchy-top disease has appeared and caused considerable damage. This disease now appears to be less virulent, and areas which suffered severely some years ago are now giving good crops of fruit.

Jak and breadfruit are important foodstuffs, while "jaggery" is made from coconut, palmyra, or kitul palms.

Vegetables and curry plants are generally cultivated throughout the Island, and markets are well stocked. Dried chillies are prepared in the drier districts, while onions are largely grown in some localities. Pumpkins, gourds of various kinds, and cucumbers are largely grown and find a ready sale in the various towns and village markets of the country. In the hills European vegetables thrive and are largely grown for transport by rail to the principal centres of population and to the shipping in Colombo Harbour.

Miscellaneous.

Cotton.—Considerable success was achieved in the efforts made to establish the cultivation of cotton as a peasant industry chiefly in the Hambantota District of the Southern Province and Matale District of the Central Province. Over 2,000 acres were cultivated in 1930 in the Hambantota District alone. Almost all the produce raised by the peasants was purchased by Government on behalf of the Spinning and Weaving Mills, Colombo, up to the end of the year.

The fall in prices and the unstable condition of the local spinning and weaving industry resulted in diminishing interest in cotton growing and only a small acreage was cultivated in 1932. Owing to encouragement given by the slightly higher rate offered for seed cotton by the Spinning and Weaving Mills for the 1932 crops, production has increased again during past three years. The Government purchase during the past three years is as follows :—

	Cwt.		Cwt.		Cwt.
1933 ..	126	1934 ..	956	1935 ..	1,311

Kapok.—Kapok is not grown as a pure crop, but is largely planted along the boundaries of fields and settlements and in some instances interspersed among other permanent crops. A regular trade is being conducted by petty dealers. The exports and their value during the past three years were as follows :—

	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.		Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.		Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1933 ..	4,226 ..	119,796	1934 ..	6,986 ..	184,584	1935 ..	6,497 ..	176,948

Kitul.—The fibre of the Borassus palm has always found a ready market, and in the past few years it has been used locally for the manufacture of brooms and brushes. The tree is not systematically cultivated, and is only indiscriminately distributed throughout the wetter districts of the mid- and low-country. The extent of trade in this product may be seen from the following figures :—

	Quantity exported. Cwt.	Value. Rs.		Quantity exported. Cwt.	Value. Rs.		Quantity exported. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1933	1,458	60,481	1934	1,963	78,876	1935	1,734	65,461

Papain.—This is the dried extract obtained from the milk of the papaya fruit for which there has been a steady market in the past. High prices paid some years back were an encouragement to the cultivation of the papaw tree which forms a suitable catch-crop during the waiting period of return from tea or rubber. But many small pure plantations also sprang up, and though it has been surmised that over-production has been responsible for a big drop in the price of papain, it is more probable that the market was cornered to the detriment of the small producer. The crop was largely cultivated in the Kegalla, Kandy, and Kurunegala Districts, and the development of a profitable peasant industry was indicated. The prices have again improved during the year, a pound of papain fetching as much as Rs. 6, but it is not known if the price will remain steady. The following figures show the extent of the trade in papain :—

	Quantity exported. lb.	Value. Rs.		Quantity exported. lb.	Value. Rs.		Quantity exported. lb.	Value. Rs.
1933	100,046	296,129	1934	103,778	590,849	1935	155,274	638,516

Pepper.—The pepper vine is widely distributed throughout the wet low-country as well as in the Kandy and Matale Districts of the mid-country though systematic pure plantations are not established. It is grown against shade trees in certain tea and cacao estates, and is in evidence in practically every village garden. The Department of Agriculture is distributing rooted cuttings on an extensive scale in an endeavour to establish a profitable village industry. There has always been a steady demand for the crop which is handled mainly by petty traders. Prices went down badly during 1930 and for the most part of 1931, but at the end of the year the exports were heavy, and in view of indications that the market will be favourable, an extension of cultivation is being rapidly pushed forward. The trade in pepper has been as follows :—

	Quantity exported. Cwt.	Value. Rs.		Quantity exported. Cwt.	Value. Rs.		Quantity exported. Cwt	Value. Rs.
1933	1,092	26,556	1934	1,678	43,027	1935	183	3,837

Coffee.—The hybrid varieties of Robusta Coffee which are practically immune from the coffee leaf disease, and have the advantage of coming into bearing earlier and of yielding more prolific crops have been cultivated successfully at several Experiment Stations during the past few years and have proved their suitability under varying conditions below an elevation of 3,000 feet. Much interest is being shown in this crop now, and besides numerous applications for seed and plants the Department of Agriculture is distributing seedlings on an extensive scale with a view

to establishing a new peasant industry in the following districts :— Kandy and Matale in the Central Province ; Kegalla and Ratnapura in the Province of Sabaragamuwa ; Galle in the Southern Province ; and parts of the Kurunegala and the Badulla Districts. The produce is disposed of entirely for home consumption.

This interest in coffee had a set-back during the year due to the presence of the pest known as the coffee berry borer (*Stephanoderes hampei*) which was observed in plantations and gardens in the Province of Sabaragamuwa. Prompt action was taken to control the pest which was subsequently declared a pest under the Plant Protection Ordinance, No. 10 of 1924.

EXCISE.

Toddy and Arrack.

The production of toddy and arrack forms two important industries dependent on the coconut palm. For the formation of coconuts a large quantity of saccharine juice is supplied by the tree to the stalks which are enclosed in spathes. If the spathe is " tapped " before the nuts mature, and a pot attached to it, a quantity of the juice, varying from 6 to about 12 drams per day, can be collected in the pot. If lime is not used to prevent fermentation, the action of yeasts, which are present in the air or in the pot, will convert the sugar in the juice into alcohol, and the liquid will be converted into toddy, with an alcoholic strength of about 4 to 8 per cent. Toddy is also obtained similarly from the palmyra and kitul palms. It is sold in taverns under Government licence at rates varying from 48 cents to Re. 1·20 per gallon. A considerable industry depends upon the sale of toddy which attracts many of the smaller Ceylonese and Malayalee capitalists. The cost of toddy may probably be put at about 23 cents per gallon, and considerable profits are made when the sales are active.

The toddy consumption in 1934–35 was 4,817,463 gallons, compared with 4,740,508 gallons in 1933–34, the average consumption per head of population being ·91 and ·88 gallons respectively. The actual toddy revenue collected in the two financial years was Rs. 2,185,066 in 1933–34 and Rs. 2,553,043 in 1934–35, the revenue per head being 41 and 48 cents, and the revenue per gallon of toddy consumed 46 and 53 cents respectively. In 1935–36 the rents of 182 toddy taverns were sold for Rs. 2,514,696, a slight increase over the amount realized from the rent sale of the 176 taverns for financial year 1934–35.

By the distillation of coconut toddy, the local spirit known as " arrack " is produced ; and this is sold, like toddy, in taverns licensed by Government. The whole of the distilling and sale of arrack is in the hands of Ceylonese capitalists. Distillation of arrack prior to 1923 was carried on in about 250 small pot-stills of the most primitive variety ; it is now concentrated in eight large modern distilleries situated in the Kalutara District, the outturn capacity of each of which is not less than 60,000 gallons per annum. Three of the distilleries have installed " Barbet's " patent stills for continuous distillation, each capable of producing 1,000 gallons of arrack per day. All distillery operations are carried on under the close supervision of the Excise Department. The arrack made at these distilleries is far purer and more free from copper than any arrack

previously distilled from coconut toddy in Ceylon. These new private distilleries were started in April, 1924. They supply arrack to Government at a fixed price under what is known as the "Contract Supply" system.

About 8 gallons of toddy are required to produce a gallon of arrack at proof strength, *i.e.*, the outturn in arrack (proof gallons) of a distillery is about 12·0 per cent. of the toddy distilled. The distiller's cost of production is about Re. 1·25 to Re. 1·50 per proof gallon. The distillers sell their arrack to Government at Re. 1·80 per gallon at 27 degrees under proof. Government stores and matures the spirit in bond and carries on reducing, blending, and bottling operations.

Retailing is done by renters, who are usually those who offer the highest price for this privilege. In addition to paying this price irrespective of the volume of their sales, they pay the following charges for every gallon of arrack they obtain from a Government warehouse to cover Government expenditure on purchasing, warehousing, and bottling arrack :—

Duty on bulk arrack at Rs. 8·50 per gallon and on bottles at Rs. 7·50 per gallon ;

Cost price, Rs. 3 per gallon in all districts except Trincomalee, Batticaloa, Badulla, Jaffna, and Vavuniya ;

Cost price, Rs. 3·50 per gallon of bulk arrack at Trincomalee, Batticaloa, Badulla, Jaffna, and Vavuniya ;

Extra charges per gallon on bottled arrack, Re. 1. Extra additional charge of Re. 1 per gallon on "Special Matured Potstill Arrack".

The number of gallons of arrack distilled during the last three years is as follows :—

	Gallons (proof).		Gallons (proof).
1933	127,000	1935	438,000
1934	219,000		

The corresponding percentage of outturn for the three years was 11·08, 11·11, and 12·0 respectively.

The consumption of arrack fell from 379,675 gallons in 1934 to 356,348 gallons in 1935, a fall of about 6 per cent.

The number of arrack taverns in 1933–34 was 157 and in 1934–35, 132. The estimated net revenue after deducting expenses of the distribution and storage system, was Rs. 4,141,196 in 1933–34 and Rs. 4,169,387 in 1934–35 which is equivalent to Re. 0·78 and Re. 0·79 respectively per head of population. The arrack consumption per head of population was ·07 gallons in 1933–34 as well as in 1934–35. The arrack revenue (net) per gallon was Rs. 10·70 in 1933–34 and Rs. 11·38 in 1934–35.

Vinegar Manufacture.

Toddy vinegar is obtained from the aceticization of fermented toddy, which takes place naturally after about 36 hours.

In 1924 special licences were first issued to vinegar manufacturers in the Western and Southern Provinces, with a view to encourage the

manufacture of toddy vinegar as a local industry. Rules were passed in 1926 to control vinegar stores. Thirteen such licences were in force during 1935.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The total liquor revenue for the financial years 1933–34 and 1934–35 was as follows :—

Excise Revenue.	1933–34. Rs.	1934–35. Rs.
Arrack(gross)	4,591,196	4,650,283
Toddy	2,185,066	2,553,042
Licensing fees	134,353	154,925
Composition fees	12,338	9,857
Total Excise Revenue	6,922,953	7,368,107
Other Revenue.		
Customs (import duties)	2,592,231	2,558,177
Police Court fines in Excise cases	156,961	125,546
Sale of confiscated articles	—	685
Total revenue directly connected with excisable articles	9,672,145	10,052,515

The expenditure on the Excise Department, including the salaries of Civil Servants and all Excise Department officers and all other charges, was Rs. 1,273,691 in 1934–35 being 17·3 per cent. of the Excise revenue for the year, or 12·7 per cent. of the Excise revenue plus Customs duty on excisable articles and Police Court fines in Excise cases.

Excise Offences.

The following is a statement of Excise detections in the five years 1931, 1932, 1933, 1934, and 1935 :—

Year.	Foreign Liquor.	Arrack.	Toddy.	Intoxicating Drugs.	Short Measure.	Others.	Total.
1931	50	430	5,616	730	—	1,729	8,555
1932	7	193	5,269	726	—	1,596	7,791
1933	3	385	7,008	737	—	2,661	10,794
1934	10	260	6,471	736	—	564	8,041
1935	2	295	5,565	818	9	1,062	7,751

The most remarkable increases occur under illicit distillation, illicit tapping, sale and transport of toddy, and under sale and possession of intoxicating drugs.

FISHERIES.

The fishing industries of the Island fall under the following main heads :—(*a*) sea fisheries, (*b*) chank fisheries, (*c*) pearl fisheries, and (*d*) fresh-water fisheries.

Sea Fisheries.—These are by far the most important and extensive and are carried on all round the coast by Sinhalese and Tamil fishermen who use native craft principally the catamaran and outrigger canoe working lines and modified nets. Both types of vessel depend on sail and on account of their limitation in size have long since attained their maximum development and efficiency. They cannot be adapted to work modern fishing gear.

Prior to the extension of the railway and of motor transport, the bulk of the fish caught was either dried, cured, or pickled, but with the present facilities for transport and with the aid of ice-making plants erected at the principal fishing centres, fish is now distributed in a more or less fresh condition to practically all parts of the Island and such is the demand that only a small surplus is available for the fish curers with the result that the once prosperous dried fish industry has almost died out.

No complete statistics exist regarding the value and extent of the industry, but its inability to meet existing demands is clearly shown by the records of the imports of fish goods into the Island, which in 1911 amounted to 544,222 cwt. valued at Rs. 4,951,516 and in 1935 to 543,924 cwt. valued at Rs. 12,538,363. The bulk of these imports is made up of cured and Maldive fish imported from Southern India and the Maldive Islands. These in 1911 amounted to 347,868 cwt. valued at Rs. 4,233,363 and in 1935 to 408,505 cwt. valued at Rs. 11,770,248.

The high value of these imports is clear evidence of the existence of a large local market for fish goods and, in conjunction with the vast natural resources that Ceylon waters offer for exploitation, indicates the scope for development open to this industry.

The question of this development has taken the foremost place in the investigation work of the Fisheries Department under the direction of the Marine Biologist who is also Director of the Colombo Museum. In the first instance this department carried out a fisheries survey of the coastal waters with the object of acquiring data regarding demersal fishes and of exploring these waters for possible trawl fishing grounds. Two extensive fishing banks which are practically virgin ground were surveyed, *i.e.*, the Pedro bank off the north-east coast with an area of over 1,000 square miles and the Wadge bank off Cape Comorin, Southern India, with an area of over 4,000 square miles. Both banks gave considerable promise for commercial development and following this preliminary work, the results of which are published in the Ceylon Journal of Science, Section C. (Fisheries), Vol. II., it was decided to carry out a detailed survey of both banks for the purpose of obtaining more exact data of their trawl fishing value and also for the preparation of charts necessary for their commercial exploitation. A survey of the Pedro bank has been completed. Accounts of this work are contained in Ceylon Administration Reports (Marine Biology), 1926–30. The complete survey of the Wadge bank has been suspended indefinitely. Steps are now being taken for the establishment of a research station in Colombo for the investigation of problems connected with the local fishing industries.

Chank Fisheries.—The chank, which has considerable value in India, where it is cut and carved into bangles, is fished annually in the shallow waters of the Palk Strait off the Jaffna Peninsula where it occurs in great abundance. The fisheries are carried out chiefly by divers from Southern India and are subject to the Chanks Ordinance of 1890. The chanks fished are exported to India, the Ceylon Government collecting a small royalty in the form of an export duty, which prior to April, 1929, varied from Rs. 2 to Rs. 6 per 1,000 shells and now varies from Rs. 5 to Rs. 25 per 1,000 shells according to quality. The average number exported annually for the last ten years under the old duty was 2,305,664 valued at Rs. 119,555 and the average royalty was Rs. 10,770. Under

the new duty the number exported in 1930 was 2,193,967 valued at Rs. 120,565 on which a royalty of Rs. 28,667 was collected. In 1933, doubtless owing to the trade depression, the number exported fell to 1,128,564 and the duty collected to Rs. 11,517. In 1935 the number exported was 1,256,202 and the royalty collected Rs. 12,085.

Chanks also occur in some numbers in the inshore waters of the Pearl banks but until 1930 fishing was prohibited in this area under the Chanks Ordinance, No. 18 of 1890. This Ordinance has now been amended and a rule passed making it lawful to fish chanks between January 31 and April 30 of each year, between Mannar and Moderagam point and within the three-fathom line.

Pearl Fisheries.—The Ceylon pearl oyster *Margaritifera vulgaris*, the fisheries of which have been famous for many centuries, occurs periodically in great abundance in the shallow-water area known as the Ceylon Pearl Banks lying off the west coast of Ceylon and extending from Puttalam to Adam's Bridge. The banks are under Government control and fisheries, which are a Government monopoly, are carried on at irregular intervals as oysters are available. The last fishery was in 1925 when over 15,000,000 oysters were fished and the gross receipts totalled Rs. 517,507. There are no prospects of immediate fisheries. Recently a large area of potential oyster-bearing ground about 30 square miles in extent was discovered.

Another form of pearl oyster, the so-called window-pane oyster *Placuna placenta*, which yields pearls of an inferior character, commonly occurs embedded in the soft muddy bottom of Lake Tamblegam, Trincomalee. When oysters are present the fishing rights are leased by Government. The fishery has been leased for a period of three years ending 1936. Small fisheries were held in 1934 and 1935. The market for these pearls is Bombay.

Fresh-water Fisheries.—These are carried on by villagers in the tanks, rivers, lagoons, and estuaries. In most cases a fishing licence is issued by a local authority (a Village Committee or Urban District Council). No particulars are available as to revenue collected from this source or as to the extent of the industry. The Fisheries Department is making a survey of the fresh-water fishes of the Island and has collected considerable data relating to the bionomics of these fishes. (See Ceylon Journal of Science, Section B., Volumes XV.—XVIII.)

SALT.

The manufacture, collection, and sale of salt constitute in Ceylon a Government monopoly, which is protected by an import duty. The monopoly is administered by the Executive Committee for Local Administration through the Salt Adviser and the Revenue Officers.

Ceylon consumes about 660,000 cwt. of common salt per annum. The greater part of this salt is manufactured or collected locally, and any shortages due to failure of harvest are made good by the importation of salt of similar quality from India or elsewhere. Salt is manufactured from sea water by solar evaporation at the Government Salterns at Elephant Pass, in the Northern Province, and at Palavi, near Puttalam, in the North-Western Province, also in the privately owned salt pans at Chiviyateru in the Northern Province, about four miles from Jaffna,

at Puttalam and at Nilaveli, eight miles north of Trincomalee. Spontaneously formed salt resulting from the natural evaporation of brine is collected from lagoons in the Hambantota District of the Southern Province and in the Jaffna Peninsula in the Northern Province. These are Crown property. The quantity of salt manufactured at Chiviyateru is small, and the greater part of the Island's supply is derived from the Government Salterns, from the lagoons in the Hambantota District, and from the private salt pans at Puttalam. The following statement shows the total quantity of salt produced in Ceylon during the year and the average of eight years 1928–1935 :—

Producing Centre.	Average for 1928–35. Cwt.	1935. Cwt.
Elephant Pass	178,787 ..	140,713
Palavi	68,746 ..	98,578
Hambantota District	167,373 ..	179,939
Puttalam District (excluding Palavi) ..	98,774 ..	229,231
Jaffna and Mannar Districts (excluding Elephant Pass)	67,187 ..	111,712
Trincomalee District	49,932 ..	58,919
Total ..	630,799	819,092

Stocks at the beginning of 1935 amounted to 1,240,562 cwt. and at the end of the year to 1,440,094 cwt.

The amount realized during the financial year by sale of local salt from the Government depots was Rs. 2,001,186 and the net revenue Rs. 1,488,109.

Owing to the nearly stationary consumption and the equalizing effect of the import duty the revenue from salt does not show a large percentage of variation from year to year.

PLUMBAGO.

Occurrence.—Plumbago, or graphite, is the most important of the Ceylon minerals. It occurs in minute scattered crystals in some of the granulites and crystalline limestones, but it is only where it is found in veins that it is of any commercial importance. The veins or pockets vary from the smallest size up to a yard or more in width, and often consist of pure graphite unmixed with other minerals. Frequently quartz, mica, felspar, pyroxene, apatite, pyrite, &c., are associated with the graphite. The most frequent country rock is a pyroxene granulite of the charnockite series.

Mines.—The deepest mines go to a depth of between 600 and 800 feet while considerable quantities of the mineral are obtained very near the surface. Several of the largest mines are fitted with electric light and equipped with modern machinery, but in most of them the arrangements are very primitive. Eighty-three mines were reported to be working at the end of 1935 employing about 2,283 men.

Prices and Grades.—Since 1919 prices have been nominal, there being practically no buyers. The majority of the mines were closed in 1920 and still remain closed.

The decrease in naval armaments had a direct effect on the demand for plumbago, especially with regard to Ceylon, as Ceylon flake was

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SACRED ELEPHANTS.

regarded as the best crucible plumbago used for this purpose. This is held to be the cause of the falling off in demand for these high grades and the demand throughout the year has been principally for carbon plumbago. With the present ruling prices there seems to be no prospect of any extension of mining activities, especially in view of the big surface deposits in Madagascar, which can now compete with most Ceylon grades for factory work. Owing to the lower price of Madagascar plumbago manufacturers are reported to have adapted their plant to deal with that plumbago.

The average market prices for all grades for the last five years were as follows :—1930, Rs. 203·50 per ton ; 1931, Rs. 182·34 per ton ; 1932, Rs. 168·73 per ton ; 1933, Rs. 126·95 per ton ; 1934, Rs. 143·02 per ton ; 1935, Rs. 148·15 per ton.

Local Trade.—The mining for, and the local trade in, graphite remain chiefly in the hands of Sinhalese. Large mines are worked both by Ceylonese capitalists and by tea-estate owners on whose land plumbago is found. Some of the larger mines can turn out 100 tons a month, and Ceylon can, when required, produce 30,000 tons a year.

During the years 1915, 1916, and 1917, over 15,000 skilled labourers were engaged in this industry.

Uses.—Plumbago is chiefly used in the manufacture of crucibles, furnace-facings, electrodes, and stove polish, for making lubricants, black paint and lead pencils, and in electroplating. During the war large quantities were required for the manufacture of munitions, and the exports in 1916 rose above the old maximum. The principal buyer in 1934 was Japan, with United States of America, United Kingdom, and Germany next in the order.

The exports of plumbago in 1935 amounted to 278,168 cwt. valued at Rs. 2,060,518.

OTHER ECONOMIC MINERALS.

Precious Stones.—Precious stones in large variety are found principally in the alluvial gravels of the Ratnapura District and the south-west portion of the Island. The most important are sapphire and ruby (varieties of corundum), chrysoberyl (including cat's-eye and the rare alexandrite), beryl or aquamarine, and the semi-precious stones, topaz, spinel, garnet, zircon, quartz of various colours (cairngorm, citrine quartz, amethyst) and moonstone.

Mining for gems is carried on almost entirely by Sinhalese on a co-partnership system. The stones are bought up by dealers to be cut and polished. Many of the best stones are exported to Europe and America, but the inferior varieties are largely sold locally or in India. It is difficult to estimate the value of the annual output, but it may be put at somewhere about Rs. 2,000,000.

With the exception of moonstone, which is mined from a band of acid leptynite and some garnet, the gem-stones are all obtained from alluvial gravels. Sapphire and beryl have been discovered in abundance in pegmatite veins in the Matara and Kandy Districts, respectively, and the other minerals named are probably derived from rocks of similar type.

Thorium-bearing Minerals.—A number of minerals containing thorium and uranium have been found in Ceylon, in pegmatite veins and also in alluvial gravels, and as constituents of natural concentrates on the seabeach. These were mined on a small scale at one time, but the deposits appear to be exhausted and production has ceased. Monazite sands were worked under Government control near Bentota on the west coast, but work was abandoned in 1927 as unprofitable owing to the heavy fall in the price of the mineral.

Ilmenite and Zircon Sands.—Large deposits of natural beach concentrates, consisting of about 75 per cent. ilmenite and 25 per cent. zircon rutile, &c., are known to exist at Pulmoddai and Tirrukovil, on the east coast of the Island. The former deposit has been proved to contain over two million tons of the mineral. Smaller deposits are found at other places on the coast. The mineral is used as a source of titanium for the preparation of titanium pigments, an industry of growing importance. The Ceylon deposits have not yet been exploited.

Mica.—A small amount of mica has been produced from pegmatite veins or from the contact rocks bordering limestones. The deposits are very irregular, the commercial mica occurring in patches in the veins, with much barren ground between them. There was a revival of interest in the mineral in 1931 and a few tons were exported. The variety exported was phlogopite (magnesia mica) or amber mica. Mining has however now ceased.

Other Mineral Products.—Other mineral products are the following :—

(1) Kaolin of good quality can be prepared from the decomposed felspar of granite rocks free from iron minerals.

(2) White quartz sand suitable for the manufacture of the commoner kinds of glass occurs in places on the west coast and in the north near Point Pedro.

(3) Limestone of a high degree of purity suitable for use in the manufacture of cement is found in large quantities in the Jaffna Peninsula. The coral deposits of the coast are extensively burnt for lime. The crystalline limestones of the interior of the Island are almost all dolomitic and yield inferior lime.

(4) The gneisses and granulites of the charnockite series furnish useful building stones.

(5) Pottery clays of poor quality and brick-earth suitable for the manufacture of bricks and tiles are found in all the river valleys. Kabuk, which is the product of decomposition of the surface of the crystalline rocks, is extensively used for small buildings. When first opened up, it can be cut into slabs, which harden on exposure to the air.

CHAPTER VII.

Commerce.

COMMERCE is one of the pillars of national welfare and its character is fundamentally determined by the type of economic activity obtaining in a country. Ceylon is predominantly agricultural and her economic products, with the exception of tea, are raw materials, which are exchanged in the world's markets for the manufactured goods and

articles of food needed by its population. The prosperity of Ceylon depends on income derived from tea, rubber, and the products of the coconut palm which constitute her staple agricultural industries. There are a few other products of a minor character, such as cacao, cinnamon, citronella, cardamoms, arecanuts, papain, kapok, &c., but they have never attained in recent times more than a fraction of the importance of the staple industries. Cultivation of paddy and other foodstuffs provides employment to a section of the indigenous population but the output of locally grown food is insufficient to satisfy home consumption and has to be supplemented by an increasing volume of imports.

The foregoing account clearly shows that the economic life of Ceylon is not sufficiently diversified and the inelastic nature of the economic structure of the country was forcibly revealed with the onset of the depression. The abnormal fall in export values during the period of the world economic depression was naturally accompanied by a corresponding shrinkage of incomes which brought severe hardship on the cultivator, both capitalist and peasant, as well as on the urban wage-earner. The recovery noticed towards the close of 1934 was maintained during 1935, and there was a welcome improvement in all branches of the economic activity of the country.

The obstacles to foreign trade, however, continued to operate as a legacy of the depression. The adoption of economic nationalism by world powers as a general and permanent instrument of national commercial policy was bound to react on the course of international trade. A corollary to economic nationalism is the aggregation of economically interdependent units into economic unions within which there is an unimpeded flow of trade. The formation of such unions has been attempted by various groups of nations. The Ottawa Agreements by inaugurating the policy of Imperial Preference have tended to weld the various Empire units into economic groups. The introduction of a heralded scheme of preference between France and her Colonial Empire is another example of the new policy in international trade.

To primary producing countries like Ceylon, economic nationalism involves a drastic alteration of the economic structure. Foreign markets for raw materials tend to contract in the face of growing tariffs so that expansion of export industries must perforce be restricted. Hence arises the need for Trade Representation abroad, the conduct of propaganda in foreign countries and the collection and dissemination of up-to-date market intelligence so that existing markets may in some measure be preserved for the products of this country.

It is not in external markets alone that the effects of the policy of economic nationalism are felt. They are reflected also in the home market, where a policy of economic self-sufficiency is beginning to find expression. Every country of any importance now devotes increasing attention to the intensive cultivation of the home market. In Ceylon, this phase of economic nationalism is expressed in the "back to the land" cry, and in the imperative demand for industrialization. The fulfilment of these aims must necessarily alter the character of Ceylon trade. Protection, State Aid, and direct subsidy are indispensable supports of this policy and their operation profoundly influences the nature of external commerce. The year under review has already seen the effects of these forces.

In the paragraphs that follow, an account will be given of the main features of the commerce of Ceylon. No attempt will, however, be made to analyse the working of the factors described above, as it is yet too early to ascertain their influence with exact precision.

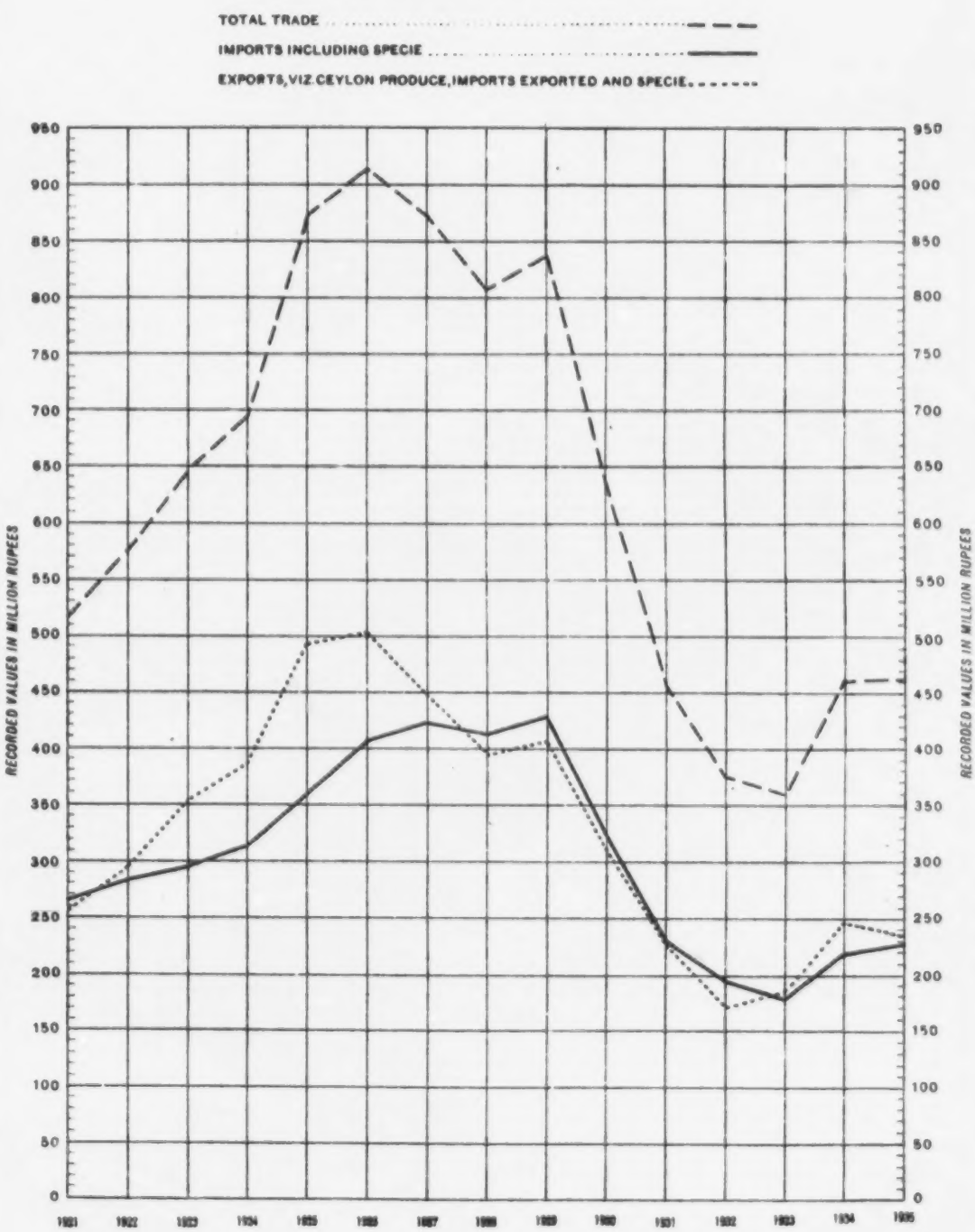
Introduction.—The bare figures of trade and shipping in 1935 give no indication of any sensational step in the return to prosperity. The total trade was approximately the same as in 1934. Shipping figures too showed but slight increase. Internally, restrictions on the export of tea and rubber and the reduction in the purchasing power of a large section of the population owing to failure of crops and the unprecedented inroads of the malaria epidemic in the earlier part of the year checked development and slowed up commerce. Externally, the economic nationalism to which reference was made in last year's report was accentuated rather than diminished. Several countries took steps to regulate and constrict still more tightly the avenues of import into their territories, and to control the means of payment for commodities purchased abroad; indeed in several cases Ceylon exporters found it extremely difficult if not impossible to obtain payment for goods supplied. In view of these obstacles any attempt to expand trade was foredoomed to meet with disappointment. To cap all, the strained relations between Italy and Abyssinia culminated in the Autumn in open War, resulting not only in the application, in the middle of November, of Sanctions against Italy, but also in very live apprehension for the safety of shipping and of goods in transit to Europe *via* the Red Sea and the Mediterranean. The general uncertainty whether the outcome of the War might not be a general European conflagration constituted an additional hindrance to the complete recovery of trade, and it would be unwise to look forward to any marked improvement until the International situation becomes less involved and restriction on the free exchange of commodities is relaxed. On the whole therefore the Island may consider itself fortunate in having maintained the ground so far recovered in the face of conditions by no means favourable to such a consummation. The measure of improvement recorded in the last two years is due to the fact that 69 per cent. of the total trade of Ceylon is with the British Empire within which economic recovery has been more marked than in any other state or union of states.

During 1935 restriction of tea and rubber production artificially reduced the exported quantities of these commodities. But whereas in the case of tea the reduction in quantity exported was no more than 3 per cent. below the 1934 figure, and the slightly better prices obtainable resulted in an actual increase in the value of exports by one half per cent., the export of rubber, which in 1934, perhaps on account of the imminence of restriction, had increased by about 25 per cent. over 1933 figures, fell in 1935 to about $\frac{2}{3}$ of the volume and value of the previous year's exports. So long as the export of these two major commodities is controlled on the present lines with a view to gradual and not sensational increases in prices, the signs of recovery as indicated in the trade export statistics will not be strongly marked. It was however gratifying to note a well maintained and definite improvement in prices of tea at the local sales towards the end of the year compared with those obtaining at the corresponding period in 1934.

There was an improvement in prices of coconut produce in 1935, and though the actual volume exported decreased by 27 per cent. the

DIAGRAM No. 7.

VALUES OF TOTAL TRADE, TOTAL EXPORTS AND TOTAL IMPORTS, CEYLON, SINCE 1921.



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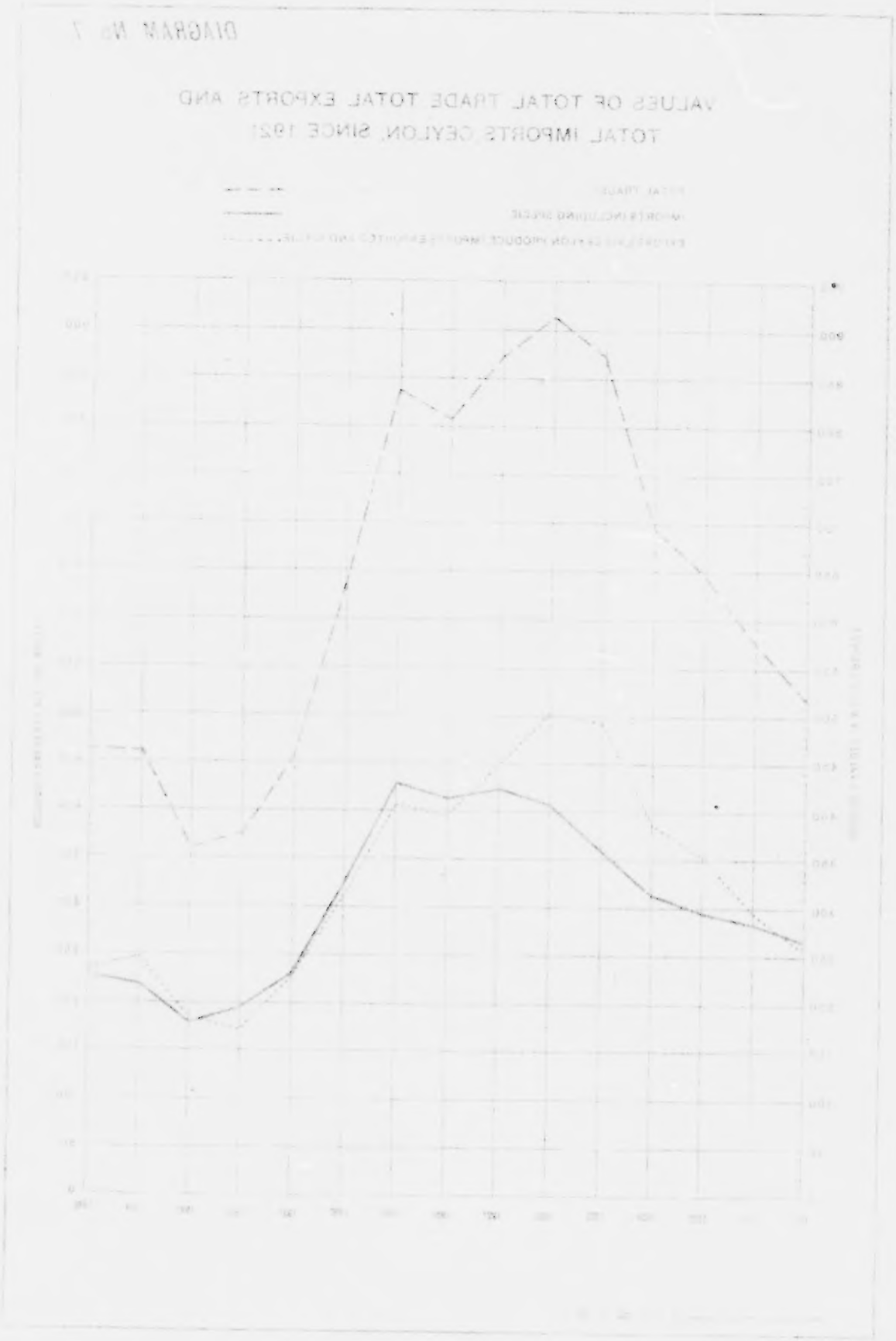

value of exports increased by 25 per cent. The volume of export increased in desiccated coconut and fibre and decreased in coconut oil, copra, and fresh coconuts. The total value of shipments increased in the case of coconut oil, desiccated coconuts, fresh coconuts, and fibre and decreased in the case of copra, though even in the last named case export value per cwt. improved very considerably.

The visible balance of trade was less favourable to Ceylon in 1935 than in 1934 being in round figures 26,000,000 in favour of Ceylon as against 46,000,000 last year. A drop of Rs. 18,000,000 in rubber exports goes a long way to explain this off-fall, which was further accentuated by an increase of Rs. 11,000,000 in imports of foodstuffs, a great part of which must be attributed to the failure of local crops from drought, over 50,000 more tons of rice (11 per cent. increase) and more than double the quantity of paddy being imported as compared with 1934. With gradual relaxation of restriction and more successful local crops a more favourable balance may, without undue optimism be looked for in future years.

The total value of trade was practically the same as in 1934, a position which may on the whole be considered satisfactory in view of the restrictions above noted and the serious drought and outbreak of malaria through which the Island passed in 1935. The off-fall of Rs. 10,000,000 in export trade and the increase of Rs. 10,000,000 in imports the reasons for which are stated above, were mainly responsible for the close approximation of 1934 and 1935 totals.

The following statement shows the position of the three major industries :—

Exports.

	Quantity. (000's.)		Value. (000's.)	
	1934. lb.	1935. lb.	1934. Rs.	1935. Rs.
Tea ..	218,694	212,153	145,062	145,763
Rubber ..	178,556	120,478	56,615	38,393
	Cwt.	Cwt.		
Coconut produce ..	5,623	4,189	28,987	36,045

The following table shows the annual value of imports and exports and of coal and liquid fuel supplied to ships for bunkers during the last ten years (excluding the value of specie) :—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.*	Total.	Value of Coal supplied to Steamers.	Value of Liquid Fuel supplied to Steamers.	Grand Total Value of Ceylon's Trade.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1926	395 244,241	509,118,833	904,363,074	12,824,935	10,341,890	927,529,899
1927	406,663,799	450,134,737	856,798,536	13,809,874	11,605,425	882,213,835
1928	400,493,185	395,115,662	795,608,847	11,042,548	11,460,888	818,112,283
1929	403,490,023	397,401,059	800,891,082	13,145,679	12,033,910	826,070,671
1930	302,442,620	304,262,618	606,705,238	9,307,448	9,467,050	625,479,736
1931	218,702,681	215,344,569	434,047,250	8,616,904	9,209 700	451,873,854
1932	196,202,961	173,208,745	369,411,706	5,524,929	10,245,673	385,182,308
1933	177,296,912	184,497,995	361,794,907	5,353,385	10,342,481	377,490,773
1934	217,088,892	246,607,086	463,695,978	5,999,625	11,203 134	480,898,737
1935	227,501,462	236,363,222	463,864,684	5,093,933	11,655,660	480,614,277

* Includes postal articles and ships stores other than coal and liquid fuel supplied to steamers.

Value of specie imported and exported during the last ten years is given below :—

Year.	Imported. Rs.	Exported. Rs.	Year.	Imported. Rs.	Exported. Rs.
1926	12,622,868	386,501	1931	9,493,496	14,454,433
1927	14,464,177	1,538,104	1932	164,604	75,823
1928	11,626,454	3,997,500	1933	51,000	54,725
1929	25,805,300	16,653,733	1934	—	77,900
1930	21,913,408	10,211,582	1935	33,571	28,400

These statements which have appeared in the Customs Administration Reports for many years are merely reproduced for purposes of comparison. The form is somewhat misleading as bullion, but not specie, is included under " imports " in the first table, while to ascertain the correct trade balance the value of bunkers supplied to steamers must be added to the export total since all coal and oil imported is included under imports.

Balance of Trade.—The following statement exhibits in summarized form the visible balance of trade in each of the last five years :—

	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.
Merchandise—					
Total imports	218,343,000	196,049,000	177,147,000	216,996,000	227,501,000
Exports	208,645,000	167,465,000	180,111,000	241,193,000	230,041,000
Re-exports	24,483,000	21,372,000	20,082,000	22,617,000	23,072,000
Excess of exports over imports (+) and imports over exports (—)	+14,785,000	—7,212,000	+23,046,000	+46,814,000	+25,612,000
Bullion and specie—					
Nett imports	—	101,000	146,000	15,000	5,000
Nett exports	4,644,000	—	—	—	—
Total excess of exports over imports (+) and imports over exports (—) of merchandise —					
Bullion and specie	+19,429,000	—7,313,000	+22,900,000	+46,799,000	+25,607,000

The following statement indicates the nett visible balance of trade in each of the last twelve years :—

Year.	Excess of Exports over Imports (+) Excess of Imports over Exports (—)	Year.	Excess of Exports over Imports (+) Excess of Imports over Exports (—)
1924	+ 102,522,000	1930	+ 8,89[illegible],000
1925	+ 161,985,000	1931	+ 19,429,000
1926	+ 124,805,000	1932	— 7,313,000
1927	+ 59,832,000	1933	+ 22,900,000
1928	+ 9,497,000	1934	+ 46,799,000
1929	+ 9,939,000	1935	+ 25,607,000

The following is a comparative statement showing in lakhs of rupees the values of the import and export trade of Ceylon including bullion and specie with the United Kingdom, the Dominions, other Empire countries and the principal foreign countries buying Ceylon produce together with the trade balances in respect of each country for the years 1934 and 1935 :—

	Imports. Lakhs of Rupees.		Exports. Lakhs of Rupees.		Excess of Exports over Imports (+). Excess of Imports over Exports (—). Lakhs of Rupees.	
	1934.	1935.	1934.	1935.	1934.	1935.
British Empire—						
United Kingdom	399	468	1,251	1,198	+ 852	+ 730
Australia	52	53	90	102	+ 38	+ 49
British India	437	443	106	139	— 331	— 304
Burma	317	398	5	7	— 312	— 391
Canada	10	8	67	76	+ 57	+ 68
New Zealand	—	—	50	65	+ 50	+ 65
Straits Settlements	26	21	7	8	— 19	— 13
Union of South Africa	26	38	57	76	+ 31	+ 38
Other Empire countries	59	70	31	36	— 28	— 34
Total British Empire	1,326	1,499	1,664	1,707	+ 338	+ 208
Foreign countries—						
Belgium	18	19	36	31	+ 18	+ 12
Egypt	8	9	34	27	+ 26	+ 18
France	18	16	50	38	+ 32	+ 22
Germany	35	46	63	62	+ 28	+ 16
Holland	10	11	44	18	+ 34	+ 7
Italy	10	5	56	37	+ 46	+ 32
Japan	188	122	15	18	— 173	— 104
Persia	140	127	4	4	— 136	— 123
Siam	113	125	—	—	— 113	— 125
United States of America	50	48	343	269	+ 293	+ 221
Other foreign countries	254	248	145	145	— 109	— 351
Total foreign countries	844	776	790	649	— 54	— 127
Total excluding Ships' Stores	2,170	2,275	2,454	2,356	+ 284	+ 81
Ships' Stores	—	—	184	175	+ 184	+ 175
Grand Total	2,170	2,275	2,638	2,531	+ 468	+ 256

The value of imports from the British Empire as a whole was 17 millions in excess of the value of imports in 1934, and exports just over 4 millions in excess. Eight millions out of the excess in imports is attributable to increased rice imports on account of crop failures, and about 5½ millions to increased trade in cotton piece goods. There was an increase of 4 millions in exports to Empire countries which would no doubt have been greater but for restriction of exports, as noted in the following paragraph. The excess of exports over imports was less by 13 millions than in 1934 for the above reasons.

Imports from the United Kingdom increased in value by Rs. 7,000,000 over 1934, and exports to the United Kingdom by Rs. 5,300,000. The excess of exports over imports was 73 millions in 1935 against 85 millions in 1934, restriction of tea and rubber exports probably playing a considerable part therein. The reduction in export of these two commodities was approximately Rs. 7½ millions. The increase of Rs. 4 millions in value of imports of cotton piece goods under the Quota System practically accounts for the balance. A more detailed reference to trade with the United Kingdom is included later in this report.

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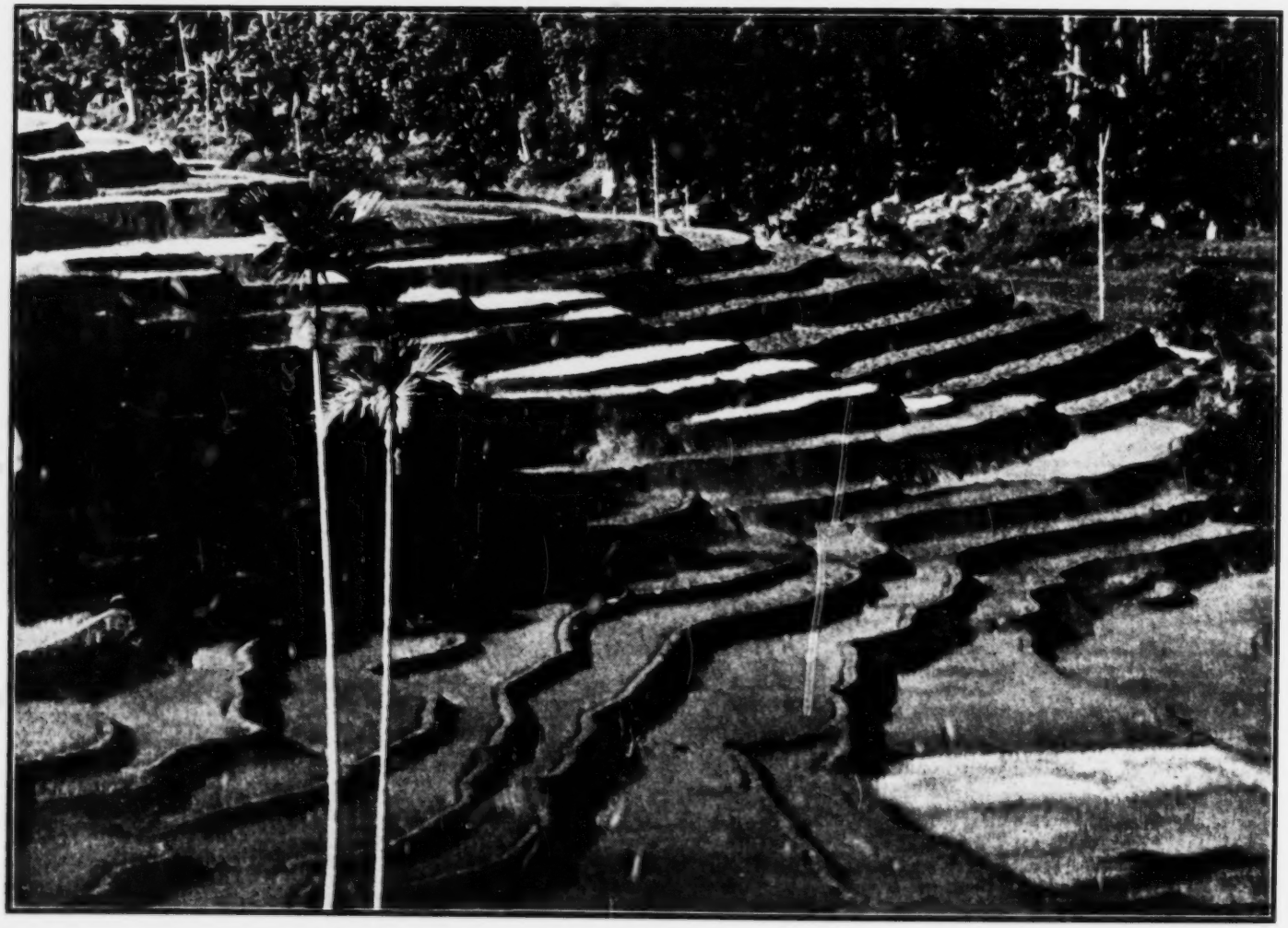
Of the Empire countries other than the United Kingdom the value of imports from Australia remained virtually unchanged, but exports improved by Rs. 1 million. British India sold slightly more goods and bought an additional Rs. 3,000,000 worth, namely, copra. Burma sold Ceylon an additional 8 million rupees worth of rice and as usual took practically nothing. Canada and New Zealand purchased respectively an additional 1 million and 1½ million rupees worth. Imports from the Union of South Africa increased by nearly a million and exports by nearly 2 millions. The balance of trade in favour of Ceylon increased in the case of Australia, Canada, New Zealand, and the Union of South Africa ; the adverse balance was slightly less in the case of India proper, but considerably increased in the case of Burma.

The following are the respective percentages of imports and exports bought from and shipped to the United Kingdom, other Empire Countries and Foreign Countries by Ceylon in 1934 and 1935 (exclusive of ship's stores) :—

	Imported by Ceylon.		Exported by Ceylon.	
	1934. Per Cent.	1935. Per Cent.	1934. Per Cent.	1935. Per Cent.
United Kingdom ..	18	20½	51	51
Other Empire countries	43	45½	16½	21½
Foreign countries ..	39	34½	32	27½

Of the foreign countries trading with Ceylon, Persia (fuel oil Rs. 13,594,000) and Siam (rice and paddy Rs. 11,853,000, timber Rs. 620,000) displaced Japan from the top of the list. Japanese imports in 1935 amounted to Rs. 12,000,000 against nearly Rs. 19,000,000 in 1934, the loss being largely accounted for by the fall in imports of textiles regulated under the Quotas Order in Council. The United States, with a slight off-fall from her 5 million rupees worth of imports in 1934 just obtained fourth place as against Germany, whose imports increased from 3½ million to over 4½ million. On the other hand, the United States of America purchased Rs. 27,000,000 worth of Ceylon's exports compared with 34,000,000 rupees worth last year, Germany coming second with 6 million rupees worth, a fractional decrease from her 1934 purchases. Ceylon's next best customers were France and Italy, while Japan, against her sales of 12 millions can only show purchases of just under 2 million rupees, though even this figure was an improvement on 1934. All the other foreign countries specifically mentioned showed a diminution of purchases, due to some extent to restrictions, but also in the case of Italy to her own restrictions on imports and as from November, 1935, to the operation of the Sanctions Order in Council. Imports of petroleum and sugar account for the debit balance shown against the countries not specified.

The figures above recorded undoubtedly show that the preferential rates accorded have resulted in improved trade within the Empire. Though the gain of 5 per cent. on imports and export side may not sound very considerable, yet, when it is considered that tea and rubber are commodities required the world over and are further subjected to restriction, and that on certain vital imports, such as rice, which forms between ¼ and ⅓ of the Island's total imports, no preference exists, the value of these duties in promoting trade within the Empire can be more fully appreciated.



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EMERALD TERRACES.

The following statement gives a comparative analysis of the country of origin of certain selected imports for 1932 (the last complete prepreference year) 1933, 1934, and 1935 :—

	United Kingdom.				British Possessions.				British Empire.				Foreign Countries.			
	1932. Per Cent.	1933. Per Cent.	1934. Per Cent.	1935. Per Cent.	1932. Per Cent.	1933. Per Cent.	1934. Per Cent.	1935 Per Cent.	1932. Per Cent.	1933. Per Cent.	1934. Per Cent.	1935. Per Cent.	1932. Per Cent.	1933. Per Cent.	1934. Per Cent.	1935. Per Cent.
Lubricating oil	15	43	56	65	—	—	—	—	15	43	56	65	85	57	44	35
Motor cars	88	92	81	82	3	3	9	5	91	95	90	87	9	5	10	13
Spare parts and accessories for motor vehicles	44	47	53	48	9	8	4	7	53	55	57	55	47	45	43	45
Exercise books	59	62	50	66	—	1	2	8	59	63	52	74	41	37	48	26
Haberdashery	38	32	35	31	10	7	8	15	48	39	43	46	52	61	57	54
Gramophones	86	78	68	72	6	5	17	13	92	83	85	85	8	17	15	15
Perfumery other than perfumed spirits	59	50	45	46	6	6	6	5	65	56	51	51	35	44	49	49
Cutlery	45	47	44	51	2	1	1	3	47	48	45	54	53	52	55	46
Photographic materials	64	59	62	59	—	9	11	11	64	68	73	70	36	32	27	30
Apparel (other than cotton garments, banians, canvas rubber shoes and apparel n.e.s.)	44	47	39	39	10	9	9	8	54	56	48	47	46	44	52	53
Chemicals and disinfectants	61	56	70	64	14	28	17	13	75	74	87	77	25	26	13	23
Wireless goods	54	75	68	53½	1	—	—	—	55	75	68	53½	45	25	32	46½
Ham and bacon	—	69	62	52	—	12	12	9	—	81	74	61	—	19	26	39
Confectionery	76	80	84	83	5	2	2	3	81	82	86	86	19	18	14	14
Porcelain and Chinaware, n.e.s.	9	10	6	8	—	—	—	—	9	10	6	8	91	90	94	92
Earthenware and stoneware, n.e.s.	65	65	61	62	12	16	13	15	77	81	74	77	13	19	26	23
Electric lamp bulbs	—	73	81	77	—	—	—	—	—	73	81	77	—	27	19	23
Electric lighting accessories and fittings, n.e.s. (excl. batteries)	39	47	25	30	3	13	44	27	42	60	69	57	58	40	31	43
Cotton yarn and twist	26	41	49	45	72	56	49	55	98	97	98	100	2	3	2	—
Boots and shoes (excl. canvas rubber soled)	50	67	54	57	14	17	25	22	64	84	79	79	36	16	21	21
Paints and colours	77	82	74	77	2	2	8	8	79	84	82	85	21	16	18	15
Soap, household and laundry	98	97	99	99	½	—	—	½	98½	97	99	99½	1½	3	1	½
Soap, toilet, perfumed, or medicated	72	71	60	54	2	2	3	6	74	73	63	60	26	27	37	40
Methylated spirits	4	1	—	—	43	34	65	63	47	35	65	63	53	65	35	37

Distribution of Trade.—As compared with the proportionate distribution recorded last year the feature of 1935 was the recovery of trade between Ceylon and British Possessions at the expense of foreign trade. Last year the respective shares of the United Kingdom, British Possessions, and foreign countries were recorded as being in the proportion of 5 : 4 : 5, but in 1935 the proportions were approximately 12 : 11 : 10. As recorded earlier in this report, certain factors outside the natural laws governing trade tended to complicate the issues, such as restrictions, crop failures and the imposition of quotas, and it remains to be seen whether the distribution now recorded will be maintained.

The following are the comparative percentages for the last five years of the value of imports from, exports to, and total trade with the United Kingdom, British Possessions, and foreign countries. The figures are exclusive of coal, liquid fuel for bunkers, and other ships stores :—

	1931.* Per Cent.	1932.* Per Cent.	1933. Per Cent.	1934. Per Cent.	1935. Per Cent.
Imports—					
From the United Kingdom	18·76	19·06	17·53	18·39	20·61
From British Possessions	48·59	47·59	46·81	42·69	45·27
From foreign countries	32·65	33·35	35·66	38·92	34·12
	100	100	100	100	100
Exports—					
To the United Kingdom	48·41	49·29	50·53	50·91	50·86
To the British Possessions	18·91	23·02	19·84	16·82	21·59
To foreign countries	32·68	27·69	29·63	32·27	27·55
	100	100	100	100	100
Total trade—					
From and to United Kingdom	33·39	33·08	34·31	35·68	36.00
From and to British Possessions	33·94	36·23	33·12	28·96	33.23
From and to foreign countries	32·67	30·69	32·57	35·36	30.77
	100	100	100	100	100

The principal countries from which Ceylon imports are obtained with the percentage of the total supplied by each for the last four years are shown in the following table :—

	1932. Per Cent.	1933. Per Cent.	1934. Per Cent.	1935. Per Cent.
United Kingdom	19·03	17·52	18·40	20·61
British India	22·83	21·27	20·15	19·48
Burma	18·26	17·99	14·58	17·50
Persia	4·19	7·22	6·44	5·57
Siam	2·32	2·36	5·23	5·49
Japan	6·75	7·24	8·67	5·37
Sumatra	4·76	4·48	4·39	4·11
Java	2·92	3·16	2·85	2·72
Australia	2·49	2·56	2·37	2·31
United States of America	2·18	1·82	2·32	2·13
Germany	1·66	1·53	1·64	2·04
Maldive Islands	1·58	1·85	1·69	1·63
Borneo excluding British	1·69	1·00	·01	·48

The United Kingdom has taken 1st place, Japan has dropped from 4th to 6th and Germany has risen above the Maldive Islands to 11th place.

The value of imports and exports from and to Japan during the last fifteen years :—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Year.	Imports.	Exports.
1921	4,098,381	1,204,972	1929	10,752,783	2,054,968
1922	5,180,702	1,182,074	1930	9,246,910	1,499,823
1923	5,447,478	1,183,060	1931	10,699,241	1,338,894
1924	6,425,177	1,965,846	1932	13,231,206	1,200 475
1925	7,141,718	1,363,091	1933	12,828,632	1,474,612
1926	9,766,541	1,709,421	1934	18,816,688	1,499,071
1927	9,280,110	1,760,664	1935	12,222,488	1,817,726
1928	9,856,383	1,639,160			

* Figures for 1931 and 1932 exclude imported rubber.

Statement of Quantities and Values of the Principal Articles imported for Home Consumption, the Duties collected thereon and the Shares of the Chief Exporting Countries.

		Quantities.		Values.		Duties.		Chief Sources of Supply and their approximate Percentages of the Total Value for 1935.	
		1934	1935.	1934.	1935.	1934.	1935.		
				Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.		
Class I.—Food, drink, and tobacco—									
Rice	cwt.	9,552,623	10,665,061	52,475,373	61,654,082	9,552,740	10,665,190	Siam	19
								Burma	61
								British India	18
Other grains	cwt.	682,906	1,177,665	3,649,223	5,259,645	494,393	711,656	Burma	23
								British India	51
Wheat flour	cwt.	339,988	383,349	2,267,120	2,325,232	679,988	766,729	Australia	95
Bran and pollard	cwt.	180,047	202,924	589,312	781,089	—	—	British India	82
Gingelly poonac	cwt.	277,053	213,049	1,436,023	1,376,692	96,993	74,621	British India	99
Meat	cwt.	13,945	18,637	645,807	812,518	97,004	137,150	Australia	62
								United Kingdom	20
Goats and sheep	No.	45,226	35,820	583,825	673,685	—	—	British India	94
								Arabia	6
Beer, ale, and porter	gals.	271,525	279,126	479,690	477,874	316,793	324,123	United Kingdom	48
								Japan	31
								Germany	13
Biscuits	lb.	577,120	611,355	427,118	431,901	65,542	65,359	United Kingdom	90
Butter	lb.	679,655	852,896	317,706	456,405	48,367	73,916	Australia	90
								British India	8
Coffee	lb.	2,865,004	3,640,837	709,338	639,051	286,513	364,088	Java	98
Confectionery	lb.	763,330	900,383	466,663	487,674	74,894	80,168	United Kingdom	83
Chillies	cwt.	161,324	159,293	3,670,250	2,310,945	201,671	199,128	British India	95
								Straits Settlements	2
Other curry stuffs	cwt.	192,835	168,947	1,667,933	1,559,163	181	241	British India	56
								France	16
Eggs	No.	3,374,948	138,384	101,861	2,918	17,240	4,165	British India	93
Cured fish	cwt.	329,296	342,802	6,755,361	8,065,612	390,016	440,265	British India	65
								Other Foreign Countries in Asia	12
Maldive fish	cwt.	86,364	65,743	3,705,185	3,704,636	172,736	131,256	Maldive Island	98
Fish, tinned	cwt.	12,798	11,887	261,376	245,583	48,615	46,833	Japan	48
								United States of America	28
Fresh fruits	cwt.	35,367	40,734	655,521	770,601	106,650	121,220	Australia	47
								United States of America	31
Milk, preserved	lb.	2,168,965	2,876,064	688,339	834,934	—	—	Holland	31
								Australia	35
Milk foods	lb.	442,932	746,288	919,774	1,497,765	—	—	United Kingdom	54
								Australia	37
Onions	cwt.	571,831	567,766	2,271,172	1,943,554	114,410	113,595	British India	99
Potatoes	cwt.	215,088	208,982	1,401,887	1,199,655	215,113	209,003	Italy	6
								British India	38
								Japan	32

Statement of Quantities and Values of the Principal Articles imported for Home Consumption, the Duties collected thereon and the Shares of the Chief Exporting Countries.—*contd.*

		Quantities.		Values.		Duties.		Chief Sources of Supply and their approximate Percentages of the Total Value for 1935.	
		1934.	1935.	1934.	1935.	1934.	1935.		
				Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.		
Brandy	Imperial gal.	41,287	37,435	450,978	440,921	653,431	577,385	France	88
Gin	Imperial gal.	28,068	23,893	199,929	181,354	588,122	486,751	United Kingdom	58
Whisky	Imperial gal.	71,403	61,799	922,707	847,782	1,009,839	874,522	Holland	42
Sugar, refined	cwt.	1,275,366	1,347,137	5,703,551	5,887,241	7,013,345	7,409,340	United Kingdom	99¾
Jaggery and unrefined sugar	cwt.	38,937	39,326	229,754	256,879	58,406	59,107	Java	88
Wines	gal.	43,431	55,699	338,008	427,555	147,347	185,941	British India	65
								Straits Settlements	28
Cigarettes	lb.	55,404	58,430	310,474	326,837	352,362	371,247	France	26
								United Kingdom	27
								Spain	21
Other tobacco manufactured, including beedies and cigars	lb.	59,937	71,536	200,044	236,021	244,818	285,739	United Kingdom	99
Tobacco unmanufactured	lb.	1,012,484	926,418	724,574	653,663	2,292,237	2,090,955	British India	80
								United Kingdom	12
All other goods		—	—	2,847,157	2,924,141	430,693	527,981	United States of America	89
								—	
Class II.—Raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured—									
Coal	tons	404,976	436,984	7,565,502	6,717,318	—	—	British India	31
								Union of South Africa	53
Asphalt	cwt.	182,564	274,913	608,139	758,206	24,942	23,041	United Kingdom	12
								United States of America	24
Timber (exc. ceiling boards)	tons	19,166	9,622	1,775,675	1,037,007	188,204	182,399	Egypt	75
								Australia	5
Liquid fuel	gal.	69,585,939	74,972,074	12,528,743	13,594,424	—	—	Siam	60
								Persia	92
Vegetable oils (other than essential)	cwt.	51,904	46,779	147,116	143,806	18,567	3,334	Borneo ex British	8
								United Kingdom	45
Rubber	lb.	6,873,147	8,390,609	1,876,503	2,419,488	—	—	British India	54
								British India	74
Manures	cwt.	1,629,344	1,513,810	5,823,294	5,678,829	291,168	10,387	Straits Settlements	26
								British India	39
All other goods		—	—	1,313,854	2,229,534	174,129	202,278	United Kingdom	25
								—	
Class III.—Articles wholly or mainly manufactured—									
Tiles	cwt.	262,256	224,259	400,355	344,671	63,310	53,711	British India	78

Glass and glassware	cwt.	48,283	50,102	710,238	707,442	98,904	99,176	Japan	40
								United Kingdom	28
Cement	cwt.	1,073,801	1,120,959	1,307,374	1,385,170	472,383	480,469	Belgium	7
								Germany	8
								United Kingdom	40
Ferrous metals and metalware	cwt.	796,623	732,449	6,948,251	6,554,026	818,026	770,521	Japan	49
								United Kingdom	62
Non-ferrous metals and metalware	cwt.	63,883	86,413	2,083,243	2,204,738	192,512	202,926	Belgium	13
								United Kingdom	43
Agricultural implements	doz.	28,902	23,134	444,989	358,123	44,934	32,414	British India	22
								United Kingdom	97
Electrical goods		—	—	1,427,684	1,899,414	201,700	223,507	United Kingdom	64
								United States of America	14
Machinery	cwt.	48,541	56,099	3,703,195	3,992,878	525,382	517,006	United Kingdom	80
Cotton piece goods	yds.	77,936,917	55,647,686	14,105,189	14,005,111	1,391,873	1,214,539	Japan	9
								United Kingdom	56
Cotton thread	lb.	141,610	119,033	472,876	357,952	70,978	53,956	British India	30
Woollen manufactures		—	—	767,744	772,491	134,660	126,723	United Kingdom	91
Textile manufactures of mixed materials		—	—	1,181,010	883,642	199,620	137,307	United Kingdom	69
								Japan	20
Silk manufactures and satin		—	—	3,121,765	2,771,296	764,323	677,505	British India	69
								United Kingdom	27
Artificial silk	yds	6,294,634	2,958,420	1,730,242	1,309,721	375,186	296,486	Japan	84
								British India	27
Jute hessians	yds.	2,605,375	1,931,912	413,006	307,755	41,300	30,776	United Kingdom	21
Gunny bags	doz.	100,270	18,501	310,207	60,642	31,024	6,067	Japan	19
Apparel (excluding boots and shoes)		—	—	2,406,464	3,304,491	432,194	566,145	British India	55
Boots and shoes (canvas, rubber-soled)	doz. pair	27,276	17,773	138,523	86,369	20,872	13,161	British India	98
Other boots and s oes	doz. pairs	22,126	20,211	533,207	543,954	89,924	91,117	British India	100
Chemicals not elsewhere specified	cwt.	15,918	18,631	412,426	376,132	56,221	52,537	Japan	64
								United Kingdom	20
Patent medicines other than quinine preparations	cwt.	3,882	4,401	942,953	1,075,906	141,989	160,819	Japan	93
Other drugs, including quinine preparations	cwt.	24,562	105,885	753,717	1,717,031	30,734	39,865	United Kingdom	57
								British India	20
Paints and colours	cwt.	28,746	28,631	764,299	775,449	114,219	114,447	United Kingdom	61
								British India	13
Kerosene oil	gal.	7,730,901	7,319,158	5,276,987	3,896,262	1,905,743	1,807,318	United Kingdom	37
								United States of America	16
Motor spirits	gal.	9,329,691	10,012,276	7,466,881	5,453,063	6,020,814	6,482,629	Germany	21
Lubricating oil	gal.	869,706	797,159	1,144,122	945,030	378,438	318,130	United Kingdom	73
								Germany	11
Soap, laundry	cwt.	41,286	40,958	964,186	815,841	96,795	95,366	United Kingdom	76
								Sumatra	99
								Sumatra	100
								United Kingdom	64
								United States of America	34
								United Kingdom	99

Statement of Quantities and Values of the Principal Articles imported for Home Consumption, the Duties collected thereon and the Shares of the Chief Exporting Countries—*contd.*

		Quantities.		Values.		Duties.		Chief Sources of Supply and their approximate Percentages of the Total Value for 1935.
		1934.	1935.	1934.	1935.	1934.	1935.	
				Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Soap, toilet	cwt.	9,269	9,581	639,890	525,717	130,331	107,822	United Kingdom 54 United States of America 11 Japan 25
Paper, writing and printing	cwt.	82,100	81,076	1,009,758	972,200	43,871	39,427	United Kingdom 42 Norway 11 Sweden 44 Finland 13
Paper, packing and wrapping	cwt.	130,877	150,737	642,493	698,641	109,120	108,320	United Kingdom 78
Motor cars	No.	1,913	2,384	3,501,094	4,277,903	726,164	895,009	United Kingdom 82
Motor lorries	No.	893	947	1,506,062	1,945,133	285,127	365,698	United Kingdom 34 United States of America 35
Cycles	No.	9,304	10,151	435,091	442,059	65,614	66,224	United Kingdom 99
Motor spares and accessories		—	—	1,106,099	779,203	183,332	156,649	United Kingdom 48 United States of America 26
Pneumatic tyres	No.	106,658	75,333	1,446,489	1,217,886	217,016	182,324	United Kingdom 66 Japan 14 Italy 1
Pneumatic tubes	No.	105,043	64,860	189,717	132,420	28,452	19,975	United Kingdom 72 Japan 15 France 2
Printed books	No.	860,819	826,272	400,385	393,137	—	—	British India 60 United Kingdom 38 British India 39
Cinema films	reels	3,814	3,644	256,224	311,311	29,238	28,115	United States of America 41 United Kingdom 18
Haberdashery		—	—	627,787	412,428	133,043	101,579	United Kingdom 31 Japan 29 British India 14
Matches	gross boxes	239,768	116,800	247,566	178,672	478,969	234,158	Sweden 94
Perfumery (other than spirits)	cwt.	5,125	3,790	527,481	499,468	106,091	101,181	United Kingdom 46 United States of America 35 Japan 33
Tea chests	No.	3,459,150	2,785,456	2,780,233	2,456,587	139,006	122,830	Finland 42 Esthonia 6
Umbrellas	doz.	51,925	34,897	504,281	359,171	76,668	53,311	Japan 56 United Kingdom 43
All other goods		—	—	11,338,314	12,549,916	—	2,281,638	— —

DIAGRAM No. 8.

VALUES OF MAIN EXPORTS (CEYLON PRODUCE)

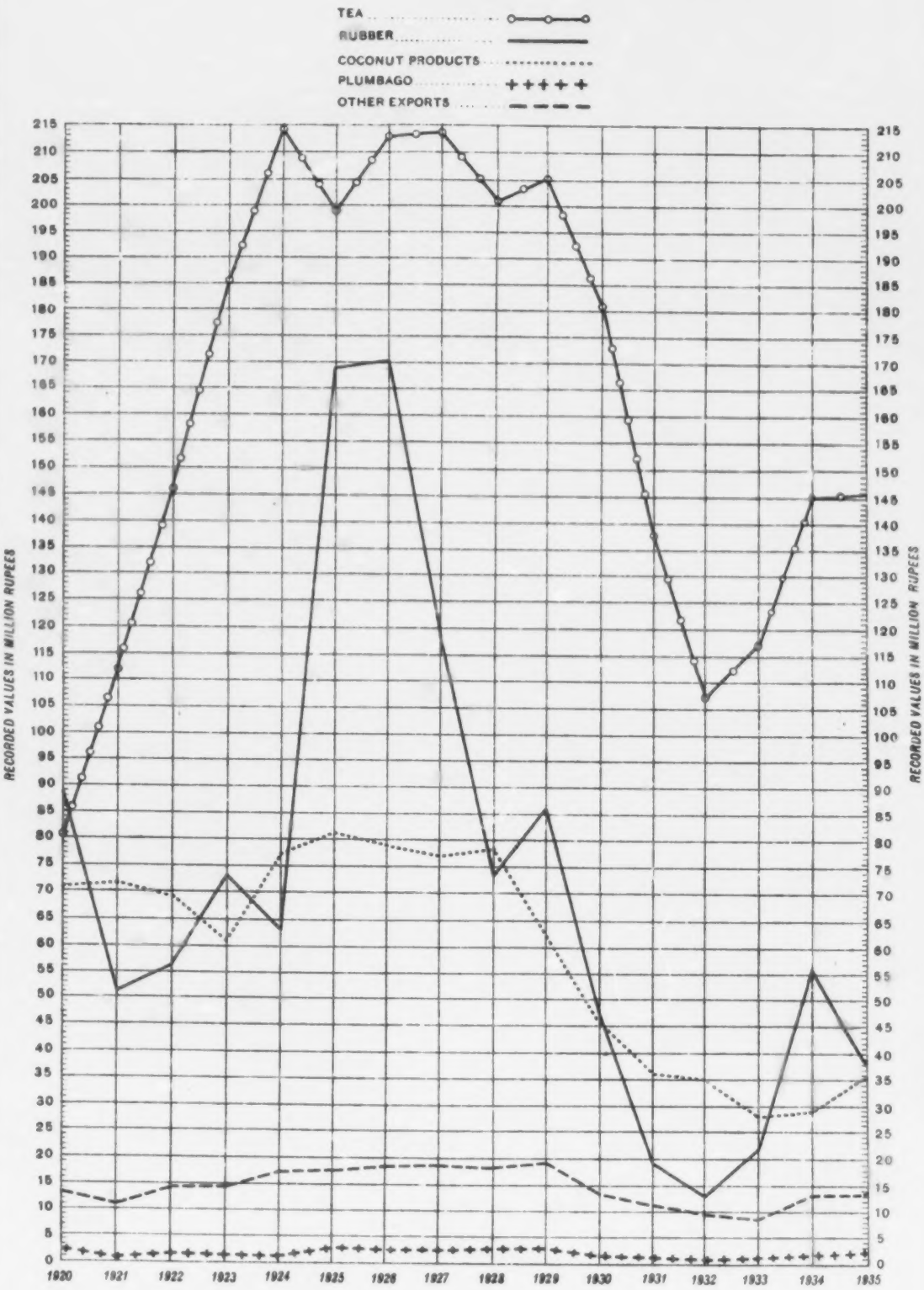

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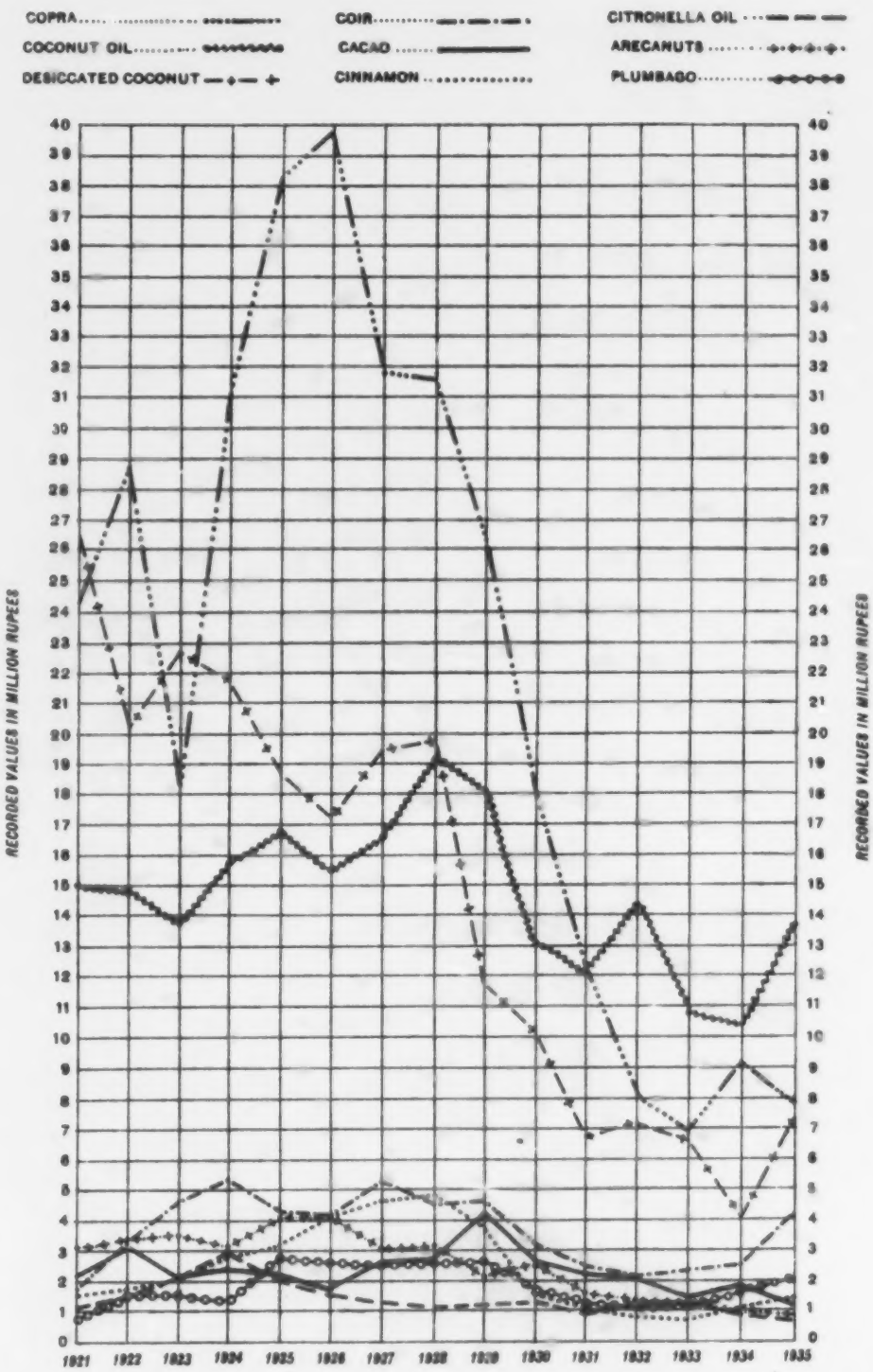
DIAGRAM No. 9

VALUES OF MAIN EXPORTS UNDER 40 MILLION RUPEES



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Statement of the Quantities and the Values of the Staple Products exported from Ceylon, the duties collected thereon and the shares of the Chief Importing Countries.

		Quantity.		Value.		Duties.		Percentage of the Total Value for 1935 taken by each of the Chief Importing Countries. (Approximate.)
		1934.	1935.	1934. Rs.	1935. Rs.	1934. Rs.	1935. Rs.	
Tea	lb.	218,694,956	212,153,102	145,062,972	145,763,782	4,856,033	4,594,712	United Kingdom 69 Australia 6 United States of America 5
Copra	cwt.	2,109,379	975,213	9,244,405	7,818,398	—	—	British India 75 Italy 13 Greece 4
Coconut oil	cwt.	1,396,865	1,109,353	10,460,714	13,646,579	—	—	British India 23 Canada 16 United Kingdom 14
Coconut, desiccated	cwt.	646,710	664,354	4,134,745	7,307,560	—	—	United Kingdom 45 Germany 23
Coconut fibre	cwt.	620,087	702,887	1,517,481	2,987,521	—	—	United Kingdom 29 Japan 22 Belgium 9
Coconut poonac	cwt.	623,470	467,565	1,687,872	1,600,861	—	—	Belgium 65 Spain 29
Coir yarn	cwt.	92,383	107,367	891,321	1,107,916	—	—	Germany 33 United Kingdom 26
Coconut, fresh	No.	31,417,388	20,885,213	608,392	1,111,077	—	—	United Kingdom 27 Egypt 23 British India 37
Cacao	lb.	9,112,845	7,780,376	1,802,382	1,298,993	41,022	—	Philippine Islands 48 United Kingdom 13 Canada 11
Cardamoms	cwt.	3,441	2,362	355,960	274,751	—	—	United States of America 13 Aden 12 Mexico 30
Cinnamon	cwt.	44,246	46,425	1,162,947	1,490,016	—	—	Spain 16 United States of America 9 United States of America 66
Cinnamon oil (leaf and bark)	oz.	2,796,636	2,491,197	374,508	233,234	—	—	Straits Settlements 14 United Kingdom 9 United States of America 41
Citronella oil	lb.	1,527,868	1,399,764	803,829	686,418	—	—	United Kingdom 21 Japan 30 United States of America 32
Plumbago	cwt.	231,385	278,168	1,654,681	2,064,518	—	—	United Kingdom 18 United States of America 42 United Kingdom 26
Rubber	lb.	178,556,182	120,478,543	56,615,226	38,393,614	—	—	Italy 14
Arecanuts	cwt.	90,069	93,383	995,555	890,698	—	—	British India 85
Unmanufactured tobacco	lb.	2,719,424	1,972,383	655,575	433,923	—	—	British India 100
Skins, dressed and undressed	cwt.	13,575	17,257	335,503	341,692	—	—	British India 72 United Kingdom 12
Papain	lb.	103,778	155,274	590,849	638,516	—	—	United Kingdom 50 United States of America 40
All other goods		—	—	2,238,145	1,951,169	—	—	—

The principal countries buying Ceylon produce and manufactures are shown in the following table with the percentage of value taken by each :—

		1933. Per Cent.	1934. Per Cent.	1935. Per Cent.
1.	United Kingdom	51·05	51·41	51·68
2.	United States of America	11·13	13·85	11·17
3.	British India	5·49	3·79	5·22
4.	Australia	3·85	3·71	4·43
5.	Canada	2·18	2·77	3·31
6.	Union of South Africa	3·25	2·35	3·31
7.	New Zealand	2·79	2·09	2·82
8.	Germany	3·22	2·54	2·61
9.	Italy	2·07	2·31	1·55
10.	France	1·89	2·02	1·55
11.	Belgium	1·49	1·46	·83
12.	Holland	1·48	1·81	·47
13.	Egypt	1·47	1·39	·42

Germany has dropped from 6th to 8th place, Italy from 8th to 9th, while Belgium has risen above Holland to 11th place, New Zealand has risen from 9th to 7th, and South Africa from 7th to 6th.

The export duties recovered during the last five years were—

	1931. Rs.	1932. Rs.	1933. Rs.	1934. Rs.	1935. Rs.
Tea	7,003,357	5,980,236	4,786,824	4,856,033	4,594,712
Rubber	926,677*	—	—	—	—
Copra	285,971*	—	—	—	—
Coconut oil	189,390*	—	—	—	—
Coconut, desiccated	148,472*	—	—	—	—
Cacao	73,027	65,940	43,681	41,022†	—
Coconut poonac	21,650*	—	—	—	—
Coconuts, fresh	13,003*	—	—	—	—

The duty on tea was reduced from Rs. 2·15 to Rs. 2 per 100 lb. as per from October 1.

The average values‡ of the principal products of Ceylon exported during 1933, 1934, and 1935 are shown in the following statement :—

		1933. Rs. c.	1934. Rs. c.	1935. Rs. c.	
Tea	per lb.	0 56¼	0 66½	0 70½	United Kingdom
				0 66½	other countries
Rubber	,,	0 15¾	0 32¼	0 31¾	
Cacao	,,	0 22¼	0 20½	0 16¾	
Copra	per cwt.	5 99	4 38	7 99	
Desiccated coconuts	,,	8 73	6 33	10 97	
Coconuts, fresh	per 1,000	29 72	19 44	48 42¾	
Coconut oil	per cwt.	10 52	7 48	12 41¾	
Cinnamon quills	,,	22 88	29 15	36 67 5/12	
Cinnamon chips	,,	4 33	6 20	7 27¾	
Fibre, bristle	,,	5 87	4 35	5 24 5/6	
Fibre, mattress	,,	1 29	1 51	3 83½	
Citronella oil	per lb.	0 87¾	0 55	0 48½	
Plumbago	per cwt.	6 37	7 15	7 42	
Coir yarn	,,	7 95	9 66	10 32¾	
Coconut poonac	,,	3 2	2 65	3 48½	
Cardamoms	per lb.	0 95¼	0 90¾	1 02½	
Papain	,,	2 96	5 68	4 25	
Unmanufactured tobacco	,,	0 45	0 24	0 24	
Arecanuts	per cwt.	12 27	11 5	9 83	

At the beginning of the year tea prices were lower than at the beginning of 1934. The usual occasional rise of price was experienced in February and March, but apart from this, prices were lower in the earlier part of 1935 than in 1934. There was, however, a distinct recovery in the latter half of the year and the average in December was 67½ cents against 58 cents in December, 1934. The average for the entire year was 69 cents, against 66 cents in 1934.

* Duties withdrawn from May 29, 1931.
† Duty withdrawn from October 6, 1934.
‡ Obtained from published reports of market quotations.

Rubber started the year at 33½ cents, dropped to 30 cents in April and after a slight recovery in June fell to 29¼ cents in September. From that point it again recovered, touching its highest point, 34⅞ cents, in November, and at the end of the year was at practically the same figure as at the beginning.

Rice.—The imports of rice showed an increase of nearly 12 per cent. over the previous year. Burma, the chief supplier, sent over 65 per cent. of the total imports as compared with 61 per cent. in 1934, while the share of Siam, the next important country, was reduced to 20 per cent. from 22 per cent. in the previous year. As previously noted the abnormal increase was due to local crop failures.

The following table shows the fluctuations of price during 1935 in respect of Indian, Rangoon, and Siam rice :—

	Indian Samba Rice per Bushel. Rs. c.	Rangoon Milchard Rice per Bushel. Rs. c.	Siam Broken Rice per Bushel. Rs. c.
January	4 47	2 98	2 85
February	4 25	3 0	3 3
March	4 12	3 1	3 11
April	4 5	3 25	3 16
May	4 19	3 37	3 11
June	4 36	3 33	2 97
July	4 46	3 38	2 92
August	4 54	3 37	2 64
September	4 54	3 38	2 54
October	4 50	3 51	2 81
November	4 45	3 45	2 60
December	4 35	3 42	2 50

The imports in 1934 and 1935 from the chief supplying countries are shown in the following table :—

	Quantity.		Value.	
	1934. Cwt.	1935. Cwt.	1934. Rs.	1935. Rs.
Burma	5,873,568	6,955,563	29,944,138	37,813,446
British India	1,352,991	1,368,409	10,566,221	11,130,839
Siam	2,089,086	2,178,240	10,677,401	11,820,607
Straits Settlements	171,578	78,501	898,192	430,023
Cochin China	39,133	81,317	197,503	442,872
India (excluding British)	25,993	2,963	190,294	15,863
Other countries	274	68	1,624	432
	9,552,623	10,665,061	52,475,373	61,654,082

Other Grain.—Paddy, pulse, and gram are again the chief imports under this head. Nearly 46 per cent. of the imports of paddy came from Burma and 78 per cent. of pulse and 68 per cent. of gram from British India. There was a remarkable increase of nearly 117 per cent. in the import of paddy as compared with the previous year, due, as previously noted, to local crop failures.

Imports in 1933, 1934, and 1935 are shown below :—

	1933. Cwt.	1934. Cwt.	1935. Cwt.
Paddy	218,108	228,322	482,539
Pulse	413,939	406,575	407,386
Gram	90,194	117,619	176,866

The following table shows the quantity of rice and other grain imported during the period 1926–1935 :—

Year.	Rice. Cwt.	Other Grain. Cwt.	Year.	Rice. Cwt.	Other Grain. Cwt.
1926	8,794,947	1,125,130	1931	8,732,548	876,810
1927	9,087,264	1,013,840	1932	8,839,055	920,224
1928	9,244,691	1,310,637	1933	8,797,918	748,182
1929	9,380,556	1,242,349	1934	9,552,623	782,906
1930	9,259,873	950,443	1935	10,665,061	1,177,665

Wheat Products.—Imports of wheat flour showed an increase of nearly 13 per cent. over 1934. Australia again supplied 95 per cent. of the total imports.

The following table shows the imports during 1933, 1934, and 1935 :—

	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1933	308,308	2,202,711
1934	339,988	2,267,120
1935	383,349	2,325,232

Feeding Stuffs for Animals.—Gingelly poonac, bran, and pollard comprise the main items under this head, about 82 per cent. of bran and pollard and almost the whole of gingelly poonac having been imported from British India.

Spirits, Brandy, Whisky, and Gin.—The total imports decreased by 17,013 gallons to 99,147 in 1935, a fall of nearly 15 per cent. which may be accounted for partly by the increased competition of country liquor, the decrease in respect of each commodity being uniform. The reduction in the total quantity entered for home consumption, as compared with the previous year, was also about 15 per cent.

The quantities cleared for home consumption during the last five years are shown in the following table :—

	Proof Gallons.				
	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.
Brandy	47,588	29,209	29,419	36,069	31,274
Gin	42,877	25,978	21,253	23,512	19,507
Whisky	45,717	39,101	47,267	56,060	47,391
	136,182	94,288	97,939	115,641	98,172

Sugar, including Candy, &c.—There was a slight increase of about 72,000 cwt. in the imports under this head ; Java supplied over 90 per cent. of the total imports. The c.i.f. price remained at less than 5 per cent. per pound.

The quantities imported in recent years are as follows :—

Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Year.	Quantity. Cwt.
1918	355,546	1931	1,424,111
1922	524,674	1932	1,029,813
1925	794,267	1933	1,170,759
1928	1,193,588	1934	1,275,366
1929	1,250,058	1935	1,347,137
1930	1,430,396		

Tobacco, Cigars, and Cigarettes.—As compared with the previous year beedies showed a further increase of 22 per cent. while imports of unmanufactured tobacco dropped by 258,286 lb. or nearly 23 per cent. Cigarettes however show an increase of 11 per cent. over 1934. The beedy continues to grow in popularity while unmanufactured tobacco for cigarettes has registered a slight fall. The United Kingdom continues to be the sole exporter of cigarettes to Ceylon except for a few hundreds of pounds imported from other sources. It is interesting to note that Japan sent 348 lb. of cigarettes in 1935 as compared with 3 lb. in the previous year. Beedies come solely from India. United States of America and British India supplied nearly 85 per cent. and 15 per cent. respectively of the manufactured tobacco.

The total quantity entered for home consumption has decreased by about 69,000 lb. as compared with 1934 ; imports of unmanufactured tobacco dropped by 84,591 lb. while those for cigarettes and beedies rose by 3,026 lb. and 10,915 lb. respectively, indicating that the position of the imported cigarettes and beedies has slightly improved at the expense of the locally manufactured cigarettes.

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YAKDESSA DANCING.

The quantities of the various classes of tobacco cleared for home consumption during the past ten years are as follows :—

Year.	Unmanufactured Tobacco lb.	Cigars. lb.	Cigarettes. lb.	Manufactured Tobacco. lb.	Beedies. lb.	Total. lb.
1926	2,971	7,474	511,011	21,082	58,467	601,005
1927	13,992	7,106	568,109	26,078	75,687	690,972
1928	115,901	6,817	556,314	13,952	76,895	769,879
1929	217,495	5,853	584,227	14,021	70,571	892,167
1930	555,321	4,276	316,749	12,326	57,658	946,325
1931	872,141	3,144	133,414	10,134	44,428	1,063,261
1932	673,422	2,717	86,201	6,364	20,254	788,958
1933	721,043	2,136	88,056	5,976	28,509	845,720
1934	1,011,009	2,627	55,404	6,017	50,473	1,125,530
1935	926,418	2,451	58,430	7,697	61,388	1,056,384

Coal.—As compared with 1934, the imports of coal increased by 31,972 tons to 436,948 tons. South Africa took the place of chief supplier occupied by British India last year, sending about 54 per cent. of the total imports. South Africa supplied 82 per cent. more, and British India and United Kingdom 36 per cent. and 7 per cent. less than the previous year.

The following are the imports in 1935 :—

	Tons.		Tons.
Union of South Africa	238,063	United Kingdom	34,474
British India	150,897		

Liquid Fuel.—Liquid fuel imports showed an increase of 5,386,000 gallons over 1934. Persia supplied over 91 per cent. and Borneo non-British 8 per cent. of the total imports. 64,750,000 gallons were re-shipped as bunkers, the quantity remaining for home consumption being 10,218,000 gallons ; an increase of 2,877,000 gallons over the previous year.

The total imports of liquid fuel during the last three years were—

Year.	Quantity. Gals.	Value. Rs.	Year.	Quantity. Gals.	Value. Rs.
1933	69,256,992	12,466,255	1935	74,972,074	13,594,424
1934	69,585,939	12,528,743			

Manure.—There was a slight decrease of about 7 per cent. in the imports of manure, as compared with the year 1934, which recorded a 100 per cent. rise over 1933 as the result of the improved conditions in the major industries of the Island.

The following table shows the total imports of manure during the last five years :—

Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.	Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1931	1,751,573	7,797,524	1934	1,629,364	5,823,294
1932	1,508,451	6,120,067	1935	1,513,810	5,678,829
1933	782,323	2,825,436			

The chief kinds of manure and the countries from which they were mainly imported in 1935 are shown in the following table :—

	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.	
Sulphate of ammonia	511,565	2,417,113	United Kingdom
Groundnut poonac	151,110	462,480	British India
Bone meal	208,977	564,091	do.
Mineral rock phosphate	199,371	366,447	Egypt
Guano fish	35,921	164,957	British India
Muriate of potash	89,894	404,104	Germany
Fish manure	72,189	241,817	British India
Castor seed poonac	37,666	90,585	do.
Blood meal	15,695	101,649	do.
Refuse of Saltpetre	23,509	134,612	do.

Cement.—There was a slight increase in the total imports, over one-half of which came from Japan. The United Kingdom supplied nearly

35 per cent., the other important suppliers being Germany, Jugo-Slavia, and Denmark. As a matter of interest the following table is inserted to show the rapid rise in the imports of Japanese cement :—

Year.	Cwt.	Year.	Cwt.
1928	5,000	1932	339,000
1929	20,000	1933	512,000
1930	60,000	1934	627,572
1931	247,000	1935	589,135

The following table shows the total imports of cement during the last five years :—

Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.	Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1931	952,765	1,693,052	1934	1,073,801	1,307,374
1932	780,828	1,168,003	1935	1,120,959	1,385,170
1933	922,012	1,152,198			

Metal and Metalware, Ferrous.—As compared with 1934, the total imports of Ferrous metals dropped by 64,174 cwt. or 8 per cent. with the corresponding decrease of nearly 6 per cent. in value. The chief imports from the United Kingdom were as follows :—

Pig iron dropped from 6,290 cwt. to 4,880 cwt.; rolled angles, channels, girders, &c., dropped from 47,404 cwt. to 42,493 cwt.; galvanized corrugated sheets dropped from 72,165 cwt. to 47,574 cwt., while bars, rods, &c., rose from 15,460 cwt. to 18,781 cwt. Hoop iron rose from 15,952 cwt. to 17,477 cwt. and tubes and pipes rose from 44,372 cwt. to 53,566 cwt.

Belgian supplies of bars, rods, &c., decreased from 36,204 cwt. to 20,313 cwt.; of rolled angles, channels, girders, &c., from 46,534 cwt to 28,771 cwt.; and of plates and steel (for the local manufacture of oil drums) from 121,776 cwt. to 78,532 cwt. Luxemburg increased her supply of bars, rods, &c., from 25,997 cwt. to 38,184 cwt. but reduced those of rolled angles, channels, girders, &c., from 28,469 cwt. to 25,686 cwt., and of plates and sheets for oil drums from 3,633 cwt. to 2,962 cwt. Germany entered the competition more seriously by increasing her exports of plates and sheets for oil drums from 7,336 to 22,118 cwt., and of rolled angles, channels, &c., from 1,308 cwt. to 11,407 cwt., and of bars, rods, &c., from 3,194 cwt. to 8,338 cwt. It will be interesting to note that Japan sent 52 per cent. of the total imports of iron wire nails as against 42 per cent. in 1934 and 75 per cent. of the total imports of enamelled hollowware as against 71 per cent. in the previous year.

The following table shows the total imports of metal and metalware, ferrous, during the past five years :—

Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.	Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1931	639,841	5,979,115	1934	796,623	6,948,251
1932	552,384	4,815,798	1935	732,449	6,554,926
1933	525,613	4,638,438			

The percentage of the total value of ferrous metals and metalware supplied by the leading exporting countries during 1935 is shown below :—

United Kingdom	61·76	France	1·72
Belgium	13·37	Luxemburg	3·74
Germany	8·50	Holland	·27
Japan	6·04		

Non-ferrous Metals and Metalware.—There was an increase under this head of 22,490 cwt. or 26 per cent. in the quantity imported and Rs. 121,495 or a little over 5 per cent. in value. The principal imports were aluminium linings, 65 per cent. of which came from the United Kingdom. Brass and copperware and tea lead from British India and pig lead from Burma.

The following table shows the quantity and value for the last five years :—

Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.	Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1931	109,379	2,976,445	1934	63,923	2,083,243
1932	102,019	2,510,227	1935	86,413	2,204,738
1933	69,077	1,812,663			

The chief countries from which non-ferrous metal and manufactures were imported and the percentage of the total value of the supplies imported from each in 1933, 1934, and 1935 are shown below :—

	1933.	1934.	1935.		1933.	1934.	1935.
United Kingdom	41·8	39·17	43·15	Germany	7·6	8·35	10·43
British India	22·4	29·57	22·19	Straits Settlements	3·6	3·89	4·95
Burma	17·6	11·09	11·80				

Cotton, Raw and Manufactured.—The total value of imports under these heads increased very slightly by Rs. 316,789 to Rs. 16,428,241 in 1935. This increase was accounted for by raw cotton which showed an increase of Rs. 661,418 while the other items actually dropped by Rs. 316,789 as compared with the previous year.

Raw Cotton.—The imports rose from 6,384 lb. to 21,723 lb. in 1935. This increase of nearly 240 per cent. was mainly due to the reopening of normal work of the chief spinning and weaving mills of the Island which had been partially closed down owing to the trade depression. The operation of the textile quotas has assisted local enterprise to compete with imported textiles particularly from Japan. Nearly 68 per cent. of the cotton imported came from British India.

Cotton Waste.—The quantity imported increased by 175 cwt. to 3,928 cwt. and the corresponding value by Rs. 1,499 to Rs. 49,598. The United Kingdom sent 1,812 cwt. and British India 1,976 cwt.

Cotton Yarn and Twist.—As compared with 1934, the total imports decreased by 35,000 lb. to 169,600 lb. Bleached decreased by 47,000 lb. to 57,980 lb., gray by 14,900 lb. to 16,000 lb., and other by 122 lb. to 1,800 lb., while dyed increased by 26,890 lb. to 93,891 lb.

There was a decrease of 19 per cent. or 13,289,231 yards with a corresponding decrease in value of ·71 per cent. or Rs. 100,079 in the imports of cotton piece goods during the year under review as compared with 1934, when the market was flooded with Japanese stocks to forestall regulation.

The following table shows the quantity and value of piece goods of all kinds imported from the chief supplying countries during 1934 and 1935 with percentages of the total inserted :—

	Quantity.			
	1934.		1935.	
	Yards.	Per Cent.	Yards.	Per Cent.
United Kingdom	11,750,369	15	28,629,054	51
Japan	52,702,159	68	6,467,735	12
British India	12,338,527	16	19,514,880	35

	Value.			
	1934.		1935.	
	Rs.	Per Cent.	Rs.	Per Cent.
United Kingdom	3,795,628	27	7,904,290	56
Japan	7,410,251	53	1,395,607	10
British India	2,609,145	19	4,305,125	31

The United Kingdom with 51 per cent. of the imports regained her place lost to Japan in 1932 as the leading supplier of piece goods to Ceylon, while India made a large advance to 35 per cent. and also displaced Japan who had only 12 per cent.

The following table shows the quantities and values of the different kinds of cotton piece goods imported from the chief suppliers during 1934 and 1935 and their percentage of the total :—

Article.	Countries.	1934 Quantity. Yds.	1934 Value. Rs.	1935 Quantity. Yds.	1935 Value. Rs.	1934 Percentage of Quantity.	1934 Percentage of Value.	1935 Percentage of Quantity.	1935 Percentage of Value.
Bleached goods	*Total*	*19,512,074*	*3,550,691*	*17,007,302*	*3,849,379*				
	Japan	13,720,897	1,846,175	1,423,868	290,910	70	52	8	8
	United Kingdom	5,082,726	1,540,089	13,497,663	3,155,919	26	43	79	82
Dyed goods	*Total*	*35,222,683*	*6,610,232*	*24,892,224*	*6,686,911*				
	Japan	21,604,842	3,278,459	1,412,698	397,187	61	50	6	6
	British India	10,759,568	2,345,551	16,046,246	3,762,101	31	35	64	56
	United Kingdom	2,286,155	864,384	6,990,711	2,356,260	6	13	28	35
Gray goods	*Total*	*5,054,535*	*759,089*	*2,884,196*	*594,907*				
	Japan	3,564,063	440,208	158,195	36,759	71	58	5	6
	United Kingdom	676,010	181,681	1,170,764	298,747	13	24	41	50
	United States of America	293,400	73,889	264,520	70,612	6	10	9	12
Printed goods	*Total*	*17,874,366*	*3,096,585*	*10,353,335*	*2,739,893*				
	Japan	13,811,698	1,844,949	3,472,910	670,734	77	60	34	24
	United Kingdom	3,633,756	1,186,680	6,786,018	2,042,850	20	38	65	75
Other goods	*Total*	*271,185*	*87,741*	*506,731*	*132,482*				
	British India	125,929	41,739	272,693	69,926	46	47	54	53
	United Kingdom	69,742	22,126	179,940	48,989	25	25	36	37
	Switzerland	13,880	7,224	31,604	7,907	5	8	6	6

There was a decrease in quantity and an increase in value in the imports of bleached and dyed goods as compared with the previous year. In gray and printed goods the quantity and value decreased, but in other goods there was a striking increase in both. As compared with the last complete year the United Kingdom made rapid progress in all classes of cotton goods, chiefly in bleached, dyed, and printed goods, the quantities of which rose from 26 per cent. to 79 per cent., 6 per cent. to 28 per cent., and 20 per cent. to 65 per cent. respectively out of the total imported.

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A VILLAGE MOTHER.

The following statement shows the percentage of total imports during the past five years in each class of cotton piece goods contributed by the main producing countries and illustrates the extent to which Japanese competition in this trade affected other countries :—

Quantity.

	Bleached. Per Cent.					Dyed. Per Cent.					Gray. Per Cent.				Printed. Per Cent.				
	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934	1935.
Japan	54	68	73	70	8	23	44	60	61	6	22	38	73	71	5	63	73	78	77	34
United Kingdom	42	31	26	26	79	10	8	6	6	28	64	52	17	13	41	35	26	21	20	65
British India	—	—	—	3	11	57	45	33	31	64	—	—	—	9	45	—	—	—	2	—
Holland	1	—	—	—	—	9	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
United States of America	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	6	7	6	9	—	—	—	—	—

Value.

Japan	39	51	49	52	8	15	34	45	50	6	18	29	57	58	6	43	48	57	60	24
United Kingdom	54	48	48	43	82	14	14	14	13	35	69	59	32	24	50	55	51	42	38	75
British India	—	—	—	3	7	58	49	40	35	56	—	—	—	8	32	—	—	—	1	—
Holland	2	—	—	—	—	11	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
United States of America	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12	7	10	9	12	—	—	—	—	—

The following statements compare the total imports from the leading countries in regulated cotton and art silk textiles during the past four years with those for the basic period upon which quotas were fixed :—

Cotton Piece Goods.	Average. (1927–31.)	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.
United Kingdom	23,582,332	15,729,465	9,555,475	11,680,627	28 445,154
British India	14,511,797	11,038,730	8,997,429	12,212,598	19,242,146
Holland	4,948,006	490,780	37,177	38,122	402,192
Japan	11,682,574	40,365,999	41,519,879	52,701,500	6,467,669
Art Silk Piece Goods.					
United Kingdom	850,129	270,310	716,111	312,691	450,342
British India	202,100	761,037	1,067,294	1,169,269	953,600
Japan	1,213,438	6,107,434	6,398,466	4,342,138	953,963

It will be seen that Japanese imports fell considerably below the quota. This was due to a reduction of 5½ million yards on account of releases in September, 1934, against importers' prospective licences. A further 1½ million yards has been debited against 1936 licences.

It further appears that other competitors have found greater difficulty in recovering the ground lost during the years preceding the imposition of quotas. In consequence the United Kingdom and British India have between them utilized the opportunity of expanding in all classes but gray cotton well beyond their average for the basic period.

The following table shows the imports from these two sources in each class during the basic period and for 1935 :—

Imports of Textiles.

	Average 1927–31.				
	Bleached. Yds.	Dyed. Yds.	Gray. Yds.	Printed. Yds.	Art Silk. Yds.
United Kingdom	11,325,691	3,087,120	2,436,880	6,732,641	850,129
British India	267,705	14,074,553	117,609	61,407	202,100
Total	11,593,396	17,161,673	2,554,489	6,794,048	1,052,229

	1935.				
	Bleached. Yds.	Dyed. Yds.	Gray. Yds.	Printed. Yds.	Art Silk. Yds.
United Kingdom	13,497,663	6,990,711	1,170,764	6,786,018	450,346
British India	1,845,681	16,046,246	1,290,717	59,503	953,605
Total	15,343,344	23,036,957	2,461,481	6,845,521	1,403,951

It will be noted that the United Kingdom has more than recovered her previous trade in bleached, dyed, and printed cotton piece goods, while British India has similarly gone ahead in gray cotton and artificial silk, in which the United Kingdom has not progressed so well, and also in bleached and dyed cotton textiles.

The reduction in the average price of United Kingdom textiles has been marked in all classes but gray cotton piece goods, and indicates the intention to compete in the cheaper lines and supply local requirements without taking undue advantage of the benefits arising from regulation. The prices for British Indian textiles have been similarly reduced in all classes but dyed cotton piece goods.

There has on the other hand been a sharp rise in the price of Japanese textiles which actually exceeded those of British India in all classes and even those of the United Kingdom in artificial silk. Various factors have contributed to this : much of the cloth imported had been held up for a number of months during which costs must have mounted considerably ; errors of classification led to sudden unexpected demands for licences particularly in the dyed and art silk classes ; there has been a tendency for quality to improve and for widths to increase ; and as already pointed out the Japanese quota was much restricted owing to pre-imports during 1934. Hereafter most of these influences will be negligible, and it will be easier to judge whether exploitation is being practised to any serious degree. It should further be recalled that the prices ruling immediately before quotas were imposed were often artificially low and in some cases below cost, while competition was intensive.

Apparel.—The imports of Japanese made-up apparel have intensified as shown in the following table of imports during the past three years :—

	1933.		1934.		1935.	
Apparel.	United Kingdom. Doz.	Japan. Doz.	United Kingdom. Doz.	Japan. Doz.	United Kingdom. Doz.	Japan Doz.
Outer and Inner Garments—						
Silk and art silk	1,904	11,997	2,148	10,421	2,210	26,634
Wool	725	1,206	1,822	1,682	1,495	2,816
Other	6,735	8,597	7,707	33,988	6,942	216,874
Apparel, n.e.s.						
Silk and art silk	1,002	10,506	1,498	22,113	1,852	25,112
Wool	852	4,217	3,557	11,874	1,458	8,362
Other	7,017	31,386	4,360	20,674	3,794	13,962

This development not only represents an increase of possibly 50 per cent. of the Japanese quota, but has also caused considerable hardship to the local tailoring community, and merits serious attention.

Lace and Net.—There was a marked decline in the trade in this commodity, the total imports having fallen from 3,788,108 yards valued at Rs. 250,326 to 1,771,366 yards valued at Rs. 157,155 in 1935. The United Kingdom, with 1,328,413 yards, supplied about 75 per cent. of the total imports. The other important suppliers were Japan and France which supplied 160,582 yards and 142,728 yards respectively. Japan has taken the place of France which was the second largest supplier.

Embroidery.—There was a fall of about 19 per cent. in the total imports of embroidery, the figures for 1935 being 999,917 yards valued at Rs. 48,599 as against 1,231,889 yards valued at Rs. 55,511 in 1934. Here again Japan has ousted Switzerland which was previously the chief supplier of this commodity. Japan sent 56 per cent. of the total

imports or 563,290 yards valued at Rs. 26,604, while Switzerland sent 298,387 yards valued at Rs. 14,922 and Italy 137,490 yards valued at Rs. 7,006.

Thread.—The total imports decreased from 141,610 lb. valued at Rs. 472,876 to 119,033 lb. valued at Rs. 357,952 in 1935. The chief supplier was the United Kingdom with 104,449 lb. valued at Rs. 325,676.

Kerosine Oil.—The total imports decreased from 8,752,220 gallons valued at Rs. 5,276,987 in 1934 to 7,337,502 gallons valued at Rs. 3,896,262 in 1935. Over 99 per cent. of the total was imported from Sumatra. The quantity entered for home consumption was 7,319,158 gallons.

The total imports of bulk and case oil were as follows :—

Year.	Gallons.	Value. Rs.	Year.	Gallons.	Value. Rs.
1932	6,432,915	3,964,067	1934	8,752,220	5,276,987
1933	7,429,949	4,452,397	1935	7,337,502	3,896,262

Petrol.—There was a slight decrease of 547,842 gallons in the clearances of petrol, the figure for 1935 being 10,116,572 gallons as compared with 10,664,414 gallons in the previous year. The increase of over 3,000,000 gallons in the imports of 1934 as compared with 1933 has been maintained during the year under review: this indicates an increased consumption of petrol with the return of more normal conditions. Sumatra has displaced all other competitors and has become the sole supplier. The quantity entered for home consumption was 10,012,276 gallons.

The imports for the last eight years have been as follows :—

Year.	Gallons.	Year.	Gallons.
1928	8,349,092	1932	8,190,973
1929	10,501,597	1933	7,628,165
1930	11,446,509	1934	10,664,414
1931	8,844,953	1935	10,116,572

Motor Vehicles.—The marked improvement noticed in the motor trade in 1934 has been further consolidated during the year under review by the rise of the figures to 3,395 vehicles valued at Rs. 6,256,344 of which 2,664 vehicles valued at Rs. 4,708,536 were of Empire origin.

Motor Cars.—The imports of motor cars increased from 1,913 in 1934 to 2,384 in 1935. United Kingdom sent 2,004 cars valued at Rs. 3,509,758 or 84 per cent. of the total imports. Imports from the United States of America rose from 104 to 168 and from Germany from 6 to 43, while those from France fell from 22 to 1 and from Italy from 23 to 20. Japan sent 6 motor vehicles valued at Rs. 7,488.

Motor Lorries.—The number of motor lorries imported increased from 893 valued at Rs. 1,507,062 in 1934 to 947 valued at Rs. 1,945,133 in 1935. The United Kingdom increased her supplies to 252 sending 100 lorries more than in 1934. Imports from the United States of America too rose from 378 to 407. Germany which sent 30 lorries, all of diesel-engined type, in 1934 increased her share to 82 in 1935 of which 79 lorries were of the diesel-engined type. Canada's output of 204 lorries fell short of the previous year's figures by 127. Japan sent 2 valued at Rs. 1,318.

Motor Cycles.—The total imports of motor cycles decreased from 95 valued at Rs. 46,862 in 1934 to 64 valued at Rs. 33,308 in 1935 ; with the exception of 2 cycles imported from Holland the rest came from the United Kingdom.

The following table shows the total number and value of cars and lorries imported during the last five years :—

Year.	Motor Cars.		Motor Lorries.	
	Number.	Value.	Number.	Value.
1931	553	996,174	144	299,630
1932	768	1,272,040	134	263,866
1933	932	1,585,199	203	378,108
1934	1,913	3,501,094	893	1,506,062
1935	2,384	4,277,903	947	1,945,133

Tea Chests.—As compared with 1934 the number of tea chests imported decreased by 673,694 to 2,785,456 in 1935, which represented a fall of 19 per cent. in quantity with a corresponding fall of nearly 12 per cent. or Rs. 323,646 in value. The imports from Japan fell from 54 per cent. in 1934 to 47 per cent. in 1935 and from Poland fell from 7 per cent. to 5 per cent., while those from Finland rose from 17 per cent. in 1934 to 37 per cent. in 1935. Esthonia sent 5 per cent. of the imports, and the United Kingdom, one time a serious competitor, has been all but removed from the list of suppliers with a mere 5 chests.

The average price per chest from all countries rose from 80 cents to 88 ; the price of the Japanese chests dropped from 63 cents to 62 : while that of the non-Japanese chest dropped from Re. 1 to 98 cents.

The following table shows the imports with value for the last four years :—

Year.	Quantity. Number.	Value. Rs.	Year.	Quantity. Number.	Value. Rs.
1932	3,717,191	3,333,039	1934	3,459,150	2,780,233
1933	3,494,221	2,633,717	1935	2,785,456	2,456,587

Cattle, Buffaloes, Sheep, and Goats.—The importation of cattle and buffaloes from Asiatic and African ports is prohibited at all ports except Kayts, where cattle (other than those for slaughter) may be imported on licence from the Government Veterinary Surgeon.

The importation of sheep and goats is prohibited except under licence. The number allowed to be imported was limited to 3,000 per mensem.

The following table gives the number and value of importations in 1934 and 1935 :—

	1934.		1935.	
	Number.	Value. Rs.	Number.	Value. Rs.
Cattle	695	47,730	486	32,466
Buffaloes	—	—	—	—
Sheep	4,029	32,993	2,274	20,378
Goats	41,202	551,082	33,555	633,357

Horses.—The number of horses imported decreased from 138 in 1934 to 137 in 1935. Of these, 51 came from the United Kingdom, 66 from British India (chiefly exports re-imported), 2 from Australia, and 18 from the United States of America.

NOTES ON PRINCIPAL EXPORTS.

Tea.—During the year 1935 there was a quantitative decrease of 6,541,854 lb. or 3 per cent. compared with 1934 with a corresponding increase in value by Rs. 700,810 or ·48 per cent.

The following table shows the quantities of tea exported during the last ten years in million of pounds and the average prices per lb. on the Ceylon Market for the same period :—

Year.	Million Pounds.	Average Price per lb. Rs. c.	Year.	Million Pounds.	Average Price per lb. Rs. c.
1926	217	0 98	1931	244	0 57 10/12
1927	227	0 94	1932	253	0 42¾
1928	237	0 85	1933	216	0 56¼
1929	251	0 82	1934	219	0 66¼
1930	243	0 75	1935	212	0 70¼ U. K. 0 66¼ other countries

The United Kingdom, the largest consumer of Ceylon tea, decreased her purchases by 11,299,998 lb. or 7 per cent. as compared with 1934. She took 68 per cent. of the total exports, *i.e.*, 143,937,464 lb. tea as against 155,237,460 in 1934. Australia, Ceylon's next customer, purchased 13,437,126 lb. or 6 per cent. of the total exports. United States of America purchased 11,666,766 lb. or 5 per cent. of the total exports, while Canada and Newfoundland took 7,574,067 lb. or 3 per cent. of the total exports.

The following statement gives approximate percentages of the total exports taken by the chief buyers of Ceylon tea during the last three years :—

	1933 Per Cent.	1934. Per Cent.	1935. Per Cent.
United Kingdom	69·2	71·	67·89
United States of America	5·6	4·77	5·50
Australia	5·5	5·46	6·34
Union of South Africa	4·2	3·47	4·62
New Zealand	4·	3·37	4·51
Canada	3·	4·03	3·08
Egypt	1·6	1·53	1·27
Other countries	6·9	6·37	6·79

The following table shows the exports of tea to the United Kingdom, British Possessions, and foreign countries and as ships stores during 1935 as compared with the previous year :—

	1934. lb.	1935. lb.	Increase. lb.	Decrease. lb.
United Kingdom	155,237,460	143,937,464	—	11,299,996
British Possessions	40,437,250	44,343,309	3,906,059	—
Foreign countries	22,965,501	23,803,198	837,697	—
Ships stores	54,745	69,131	14,386	—

Coconut Products.—The average prices of the various products of the coconut palm show an all round increase as compared with those of the previous year. The export of desiccated coconut increased in quantity and value while the export of coconut oil decreased in quantity and increased in value. A considerable decrease in quantity is noticed in the export of copra. Total exports of coconut products were distributed between the British Empire countries and foreign countries respectively in the ratio of 58 : 42 as compared with the ratio of 45 : 55. The total value of all coconut products exported amounted to Rs. 36,045,707 as against Rs. 28,987,184 in 1934, an increase of Rs. 7,058,523.

The following table shows the quantities, values, and the average prices of the three chief products exported during the past five years :—

Year.	Quantity.			Value.			Average Price per Cwt.		
	Desiccated Coconut.	Copra.	Coconut Oil.	Desiccated Coconut.	Copra.	Coconut Oil.	Desiccated Coconut.	Copra.	Coconut Oil.
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
1931	669,327	1,877,303	962,774	6,111,458	12,715,258	12,130,476	10 31	7 6	12 78
1932	599,266	913,987	1,025,040	7,150,151	8,284,294	14,475,109	12 8	8 49	14 36
1933	789,850	1,286,791	1,061,394	6,746,623	6,828,435	10,800,402	8 73	5 99	10 52
1934	646,710	2,109,379	1,396,865	4,134,745	9,244,405	10,460,714	6 33½	4 38½	7 48
1935	664,354	975,213	1,109,353	7,307,560	7,818,398	13,646,579	10 97	7 99	12 41¾

The distribution of the total value of all coconut products between the Empire and the foreign countries was as follows :—

	Value.		Percentage of Total	
	1934.	1935.	1934.	1935.
British Empire	12,892,990	20,998,840	44·5	58·25
Foreign countries	16,094,194	15,046,867	55·5	41·75
Total	28,987,184	36,045,707		

Desiccated Coconuts.—The quantity exported in 1935 was 664,354 cwt. as against 646,710 cwt. in 1934, an increase of 17,644 cwt. with a corresponding increase in value of Rs. 3,172,815 to Rs. 7,307,560 over the previous year. The United Kingdom took 46 per cent. of the total exports showing an increase of 2 per cent. over the previous year, while Germany increased from 21 per cent. in 1934 to 23 per cent. in 1935.

Copra.—There was a considerable decrease in quantity as well as in value in the exports of copra, though the price of copra increased from Rs. 4·38½ in 1934 to Rs. 7·99 in 1935. The quantity exported in 1934 was 2,109,379 cwt. while it fell to 975,213 in 1935, a decrease of 54 per cent. as compared with the previous year. British India was again the best buyer taking 75 per cent. of the total exports, while Italy and Greece took 13 per cent. and 4 per cent. respectively. The exports of copra to Italy in 1934 amounted to 509,766 cwt. but fell to 127,391 cwt. in 1935, a decrease of 75 per cent.

Coconut Oil.—The export of coconut oil decreased in quantity from 1,396,865 cwt. in 1934 to 1,109,353 cwt. in 1935. Its value increased from Rs. 10,460,714 in 1934 to Rs. 13,646,579 in 1935. The average ruling price in the market was Rs. 12·41¾ in 1935 as against Rs. 7·48 per cwt. in 1934. British India took 23 per cent. of the total exports while Canada, the next best buyer, took 16 per cent. and United Kingdom took 14 per cent. of the total exports.

Coconuts, Fresh.—There was a decrease of 10,532,175 coconuts in 1935. The number of nuts exported in 1934, was 31,417,318. The total value rose from Rs. 608,392 to Rs. 1,111,077 in 1935. The average value increased from Rs. 19·44 per 1,000 in 1934 to Rs. 48·42¾ per 1,000 in the year under review. British India was the largest purchaser of coconuts, taking 37 per cent. of the total exports ; next in order came the United Kingdom and Egypt taking 27 per cent. and 23 per cent. respectively.

Coir Yarn.—The export of coir yarn during 1935 was 107,367 cwt. valued at Rs. 1,107,916. This represents an increase of 16 per cent. and 24 per cent. in quantity and value respectively as compared with 1934. Germany was the largest buyer and took 32 per cent. of the total exports. The United Kingdom took 26 per cent. almost exactly the same percentage as in the previous year. The average value for the year was Rs. 10·32¾ per cwt. as against Rs. 9·66 in 1934.

Coir Rope.—The quantity exported increased from 7,661 cwt. in 1934 to 8,475 cwt. during the year under review. The largest buyer was the Straits Settlements.

Bristle Fibre.—There was an increase of 8 per cent. (1,664 cwt.) in the quantity exported as compared with 1934, while the value increased by 31 per cent. (Rs. 276,296) to Rs. 1,171,894. The chief consumer was Japan which took 48 per cent. of the total exports in quantity worth Rs. 566,969 as compared with Rs. 391,099 in the previous year. Belgium purchased to the value of Rs. 204,992, France Rs. 122,026, and United Kingdom Rs. 109,679. The average value for the year under review was Rs 5·24⅝ while that of the previous year was Rs. 4·35 per cwt.

Mattress Fibre.—The quantity exported during the year 1935 was 478,680 cwt. an increase of 66,153 cwt. or 16 per cent. as compared with the previous year. United Kingdom was the largest buyer taking 197,809 cwt. representing 41 per cent. of the total exports. South Africa

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SHADOW OF ADAM'S PEAK (BIBLE ROCK IN BACKGROUND).

was the next best consumer followed by Australia, America, and Japan. The average price was Rs. 3·83⅓ in 1935 as compared with Re. 1·51 in 1934.

Coconut Poonac.—The quantity exported fell from 623,470 cwt. valued at Rs. 1,687,872 in 1934 to 467,565 cwt. valued at Rs. 1,600,861. Foreign countries are the chief buyers of this commodity. In 1934 Belgium took 75 per cent. of the total exports while in the year under review her purchases amount to only 66 per cent. of the total quantity. Spain came next with a quantity of 132,588 cwt. being 28 per cent. of the total exports. Italian purchases fell from 54,253 cwt. to 27,016 cwt. The average value for the year rose from Rs. 2·65 per cwt. in 1934 to Rs. 3·48⅓ per cwt. in 1935.

Coconut Shell Charcoal.—The quantity exported showed an increase of 22 per cent., while the value also showed a corresponding increase of 4 per cent. In 1934, 124,676 cwt. valued at Rs. 350,996 were exported, while the export for the year under review was 153,342 cwt. valued at Rs. 365,608. France, the chief buyer, took 97 per cent. of the total exports, while Germany which took in 4,583 cwt. in 1934 reduced her consumption to 974 cwt. The average price for the year was Rs. 2·37½.

Rubber.—Exports of rubber show a decrease in quantity and value. The total quantity of rubber (domestic) exported during the year under review was 120,478,543 lb. as compared with 178,556,182 lb. in 1934, a decrease of 58,077,639 lb. In addition to this 7,574,580 lb. of rubber imported from British India and Straits Settlements were re-exported during the year as compared with 6,947,420 lb. in 1934, an increase of 627,160 lb. America reduced her purchases by 27,375,817 lb. to 54,351,348 lb. United Kingdom took 32,106,327 lb., a decrease of 13,994,304 lb. The average price of this commodity was 31¾ cents as against 32¼ in 1934.

Rubber Latex.—There was an increase in the shipment of rubber latex from 6,559 lb. valued at Rs. 2,144 in 1934 to 42,831 lb. valued at Rs. 14,122 in 1935. The United Kingdom was the largest buyer and took in 26,224 lb. or 60 per cent. of the total exports.

The following table shows the exports of Ceylon rubber and the average price per lb. during the last five years :—

Year.	Quantity. lb.	Average Price per lb. Rs. c.	Year.	Quantity. lb.	Average Price per lb. Rs. c.
1931	138,004,736	0 14	1934	178,556,182	0 32¼
1932	111,241,860	0 11¾	1935	120,478,543	0 31¾
1933	142,317,027	0 15¾			

Cacao.—The trade in this commodity has decreased from 9,112,845 lb. valued at Rs. 1,802,382 in 1934 to 7,780,376 lb. valued at Rs. 1,298,993 in 1935 in spite of the removal of the duty of 60 cents per 100 lb. from October, 1934.

The Philippines continue to be the largest buyer taking 3,745,047 lb., an increase of 590,244 lb. as compared with 1934. United Kingdom, the next largest buyer, decreased her purchases by 1,018,774 lb. to 1,055,547 lb. in 1935 or almost 96 per cent. as compared with the previous year. The other chief buyers were Canada, Australia, and Mexico whose purchases also show a decline. Mexican purchases are unlikely to improve, as she proposes to protect her own producers by drastic increases in import duties.

Exports for the last three years were as follows :—

Year.	Quantity. lb.	Value. Rs.	Year.	Quantity. lb.	Value. Rs.
1933	7,282,218	1,544,536	1935	7,780,376	1,298,993
1934	9,112,845	1,802,382			

Cinnamon.—There was an improvement in the trade in this commodity during the year under review, 38,888 cwt. of quills and 7,537 cwt. of chips valued at Rs. 435,491 and Rs. 54,525 respectively were exported during 1935 as against 38,165 cwt. quills and 6,081 cwt. of chips valued at Rs. 1,124,884 and Rs. 38,063 respectively in the previous year ; showing an increase in value and quantity. Mexico increased her purchases of quills by 25 per cent. in quantity.

The quantities and value of exports together with the average prices for the last six years are shown below :—

Year.	Quantity.		Value.		Average Price per cwt.	
	Quills. Cwt.	Chips. Cwt.	Quills. Rs.	Chips. Rs.	Quills. Rs. c.	Chips. Rs. c.
1930	35,915	8,234	1,683,713	96,270	49 41	11 15
1931	35,261	6,680	1,115,756	61,628	31 83	7 93
1932	40,166	8,101	948,518	44,380	23 90	5 43
1933	41,224	7,445	954,573	32,710	22 88	4 33
1934	38,165	6,081	1,124,884	38,063	29 15½	6 20½
1935	38,888	7,537	1,435,491	54,525	36 32	6 56

Arecanuts.—Exports increased in quantity by 3,314 cwt. with a corresponding decrease in value of Rs. 104,857 compared with the previous year. British India and Maldive Islands are the chief buyers. 85 per cent. (79,051 cwt.) was taken by British India and 7 per cent. (7,024 cwt.) by the Maldive Islands. The average price for the year under review was Rs. 9·83 per cwt. while that of the previous year was Rs. 11·05 per cwt.

The following statement gives details of the exports during the last four years :—

Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.	Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1932	99,185	1,399,815	1934	90,069	995,555
1933	104,725	1,285,134	1935	93,383	890,698

Cardamoms.—2,362 cwt. were exported during 1935 as compared with 3,441 cwt. during the previous year, a decrease of 29 per cent. United States of America (312 cwt.), Aden (293 cwt.), Japan (232 cwt.), United Kingdom (191 cwt.), Denmark (108 cwt.) were the chief buyers. Purchase by Germany show a gradual decrease (323 cwt. in 1933, 162 cwt. in 1934, and 87 cwt. in 1935).

Plumbago.—Exports advanced from 231,385 cwt. valued at Rs. 1,654,681 to 278,165 cwt. valued at Rs. 2,064,518. Japan who was the largest buyer in 1934 was replaced by the United States of America during the year under review. United Kingdom comes next (United States of America 88,800 cwt., Japan 82,820 cwt., United Kingdom 51,669 cwt.).

The following table shows the quantity and value of plumbago exports since 1930 :—

Year.	Quantity. cwt.	Value. Rs.	Year.	Quantity. cwt.	Value. Rs.
1930	174,478	1,775,317	1933	191,173	1,213,561
1931	134,413	1,225,331	1934	231,385	1,654,681
1932	122,009	1,023,283	1935	278,168	2,064,518

The following table shows the quantities taken by the chief purchasing countries :—

Year.	Japan. Cwt.	United States of America. Cwt.	United Kingdom. Cwt.	Germany. Cwt.
1930	26,341	63,845	28,154	29,737
1931	24,937	53,308	17,345	19,951
1932	32,655	24,233	23,846	13,745
1933	71,614	44,226	29,592	16,822
1934	78,500	67,078	32,567	19,457
1935	82,820	88,800	51,669	20,297

Citronella Oil.—There was a decrease in the exports of this commodity from 1,527,868 lb. valued at Rs. 3,829 to 1,399,764 lb. valued at Rs. 686,418, a decrease of approximately 8 per cent. in quantity and 14 per cent. in value. The chief buyer was United States of America followed by the United Kingdom, Germany, and Australia. The average price fell from 55 cents in 1934 to 48½ cents in 1935.

The exports of citronella oil for the last five years were as follows :—

Year.	Quantity. lb.	Value. Rs.	Year.	Quantity. lb.	Value. Rs.
1931	1,203,482	940,298	1934	1,527,868	803,829
1932	1,279,801	1,202,918	1935	1,399,764	686,418
1933	1,459,423	1,273,832			

SHIPPING.

4,032 vessels with a total tonnage of 13,234,788 tons entered the ports of the Island of Ceylon in 1935, as against 4,024 vessels with a tonnage of 13,165,239 in 1934.

The following table shows the classification under the four general heads :—

	1934.		1935.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Merchant vessels, other than sailing and coasting vessels	2,956	12,042,276	2,977	12,207,122
Merchant vessels (called to coal, oil, &c.)	208	655,285	218	668,301
Sailing vessels, other than coasting vessels	755	62,676	764	65,044
Warships and transports*	105	405,002	73	294,321
	4,024	13,165,239	4,032	13,234,788

Excluding warships and transports, 3,959 vessels entered the ports in Ceylon with a tonnage of 12,940,467 tons as against 3,919 vessels in 1934 with a tonnage of 12,760,237 tons and 3,670 in 1933 with a tonnage of 12,058,008 tons.

The number of merchant vessels, other than sailing and coasting vessels, entering the ports of the Island increased by 21 and 167 respectively as compared with 1934 and 1933 ; there was an increase of 10 in the number of vessels calling to take in coal, oil, &c.

The following table shows the number of British and foreign vessels, other than sailing and coasting vessels which have entered Ceylon ports since 1929:—

	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1933.
British	2,460	2,206	2,246	2,099	1,983	2,061	2,105
Dutch	228	211	167	123	137	143	134
French	156	137	122	126	126	123	126
German	307	293	256	198	198	217	218
Italian	143	131	129	120	132	138	101
Japanese	179	171	199	208	175	194	217
Norwegian	102	127	106	107	131	148	156
Other foreign countries	148	165	153	115	126	140	140
Total foreign	1,263	1,235	1,132	997	1,025	1,103	1,092
Percentage—							
British	66	64	67	68	66	65	66
Foreign	34	36	33	32	34	35	34

* Warships' displacement tonnage.

It will be noticed that British shipping has increased by 1 per cent. as compared with the previous year. Amongst the foreign callers, French, German, Japanese, and Norwegian vessels show an increase ; Germany occupied the first place in 1934 and 1935.

Excluding warships and transports coasting vessels and merchant vessels which called only to coal, oil, &c., the distribution according to flags was as follows :—

	1934.		1935.	
	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.
British	1,916	7,033,237	1,957	7,197,501
British Colonial	755	62,676	764	65,044
Total British vessels	2,671	7,095,913	2,721	7,262,545
American	48	248,627	49	257,151
Danish	46	151,049	39	141,248
Dutch	140	882,461	134	883,432
French	118	771,531	123	786,225
German	203	910,178	200	944,747
Greek	—	—	7	18,473
Italian	130	678,034	90	498,433
Japanese	191	929,565	214	1,051,125
Maldivian	—	—	2	180
Norwegian	134	325,746	136	340,766
Swedish	30	111,848	26	87,841
Total foreign vessels	1,040	5,009,039	1,020	5,009,621

The following table shows the distribution of merchant vessels* including vessels which called only to coal, oil, &c. :—

	1934.		1935.	
	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.
British	2,061	7,496,339	2,103	7,674,322
British Colonial	755	62,676	764	65,044
Total British vessels	2,816	7,559,015	2,867	7,739,366
American	48	248,627	50	261,671
Chinese	—	—	1	1,888
Danish	47	152,238	42	147,951
Dutch	143	908,093	134	883,432
French	123	783,821	126	791,046
Finnish	1	2,889	—	—
German	217	970,360	218	1,013,940
Greek	4	12,249	8	13,908
Hungarian	1	2,722	—	—
Italian	138	697,529	101	533,388
Japanese	194	942,144	217	1,055,525
Maldivian	—	—	2	180
Norwegian	148	361,477	156	385,197
Panamanian	1	2,323	—	—
Portuguese	—	—	1	3,657
Swedish	31	114,369	29	95,290
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics	7	2,381	7	8,028
Total foreign vessels	1,103	5,201,222	1,092	5,201,101

BUREAU OF INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE.

To assist in the development of the industrial and commercial activities of Ceylon a Bureau of Industry and Commerce was formed as a section of the Department of the Registrar-General who is now in charge of these subjects in his capacity as Director of Commercial Intelligence. The functions of the Bureau of Industry and Commerce, when fully developed, will comprise the following :—

(1) To answer trade inquiries which are directed to the development of markets for Ceylon produce ;

* Excluding coasting vessels.

(2) To furnish commercial information required by Government departments and individuals ;
(3) To assist business visitors to Ceylon by means of letters of introduction, help, and advice ;
(4) To explore the possibilities of new industries and to conduct investigations into neglected industries ;
(5) To collect an adequate technical and commercial library ;
(6) To assist organizations and individuals in Ceylon to participate in exhibitions and trade fairs held in Ceylon or abroad ;
(7) To initiate representations by the Ceylon Government in regard to tariff duties, &c., on Ceylon products in other countries ;
(8) To foster Ceylon's overseas trade by the appointment of trade representatives and to take such other steps as may be necessary for the development of overseas markets for Ceylon produce.

During 1935 the flow of trade inquiries from Europe and elsewhere was on the increase, being greatly accelerated by the publicity given to Ceylon products and industries by the Ceylon House in London. The Bureau was looked upon as a more and more effective nexus between exporters and importers in this country and importers and exporters abroad. A Directory of dealers and exporters of Ceylon produce has since been prepared. It will be circulated among Government departments and trade associations abroad when sufficient time has elapsed to enable the Department to test the reliability and financial standing of the less known firms and dealers.

The Bureau commenced the publication of a monthly journal entitled " The Ceylon Trade Journal " and the first number was issued in November, 1935. The object of the journal is to bring to the notice of readers abroad the commercial products exported by Ceylon and also make them familiar with the country. The journal contains monthly and quarterly analyses of trade, and reviews periodically the economic conditions of the country. It also contains indices of prices, production and exports as well as statistics relating to the import and the export trade and other matters of general interest affecting trade and industry. The journal enjoys a wide circulation and copies of it are supplied to all trade associations and other commercial bodies and public institutions abroad.

A definite expansion of the activities of the Commercial Intelligence section of the Bureau was made with the opening in July, 1935, of the Ceylon House in London in charge of the Ceylon Trade Commissioner. The primary function of the Trade Commissioner is to foster the export trade of Ceylon by keeping the Bureau informed of openings for business, by bringing to the notice of the business public the products of Ceylon by holding exhibitions of Ceylon products, by taking part in general exhibitions and by undertaking general publicity to advertise the tourist attractions of Ceylon. The Ceylon House has a permanent exhibition of Ceylon products, and persons in the British Isles and on the Continent of Europe desiring information on the trade of Ceylon or on other general matters are advised to apply to the Ceylon Trade Commissioner, Australia House Building, Aldwych, London, W.C. 2.

Government approved the proposal to conduct an economic and industrial survey of Ceylon in order to obtain accurate data regarding the economic well-being of the country as a whole, and financial provision has been made for the purpose.

As a result of the experience gained during the last two years the Commercial Intelligence service organized by the Bureau has been improved to meet the requirements of local and overseas inquirers. Arrangements were made with overseas commercial institutions, both official and unofficial, for the exchange and supply of customs and statistical returns, trade publications, financial journals, market reports, and other commercial literature. A considerable number of new books on industry, trade, and commerce has been ordered. The Bureau is now better equipped to deal with the numerous inquiries for foreign information.

The preliminary investigations of the Representative sent to India in 1932 to test the markets there for Ceylon produce were followed up by the visit in 1935 of the Marketing Commissioner who left early in the year to study the methods of agricultural marketing in vogue in India. The report of the tour was published as a Sessional Paper (XX. of 1935).

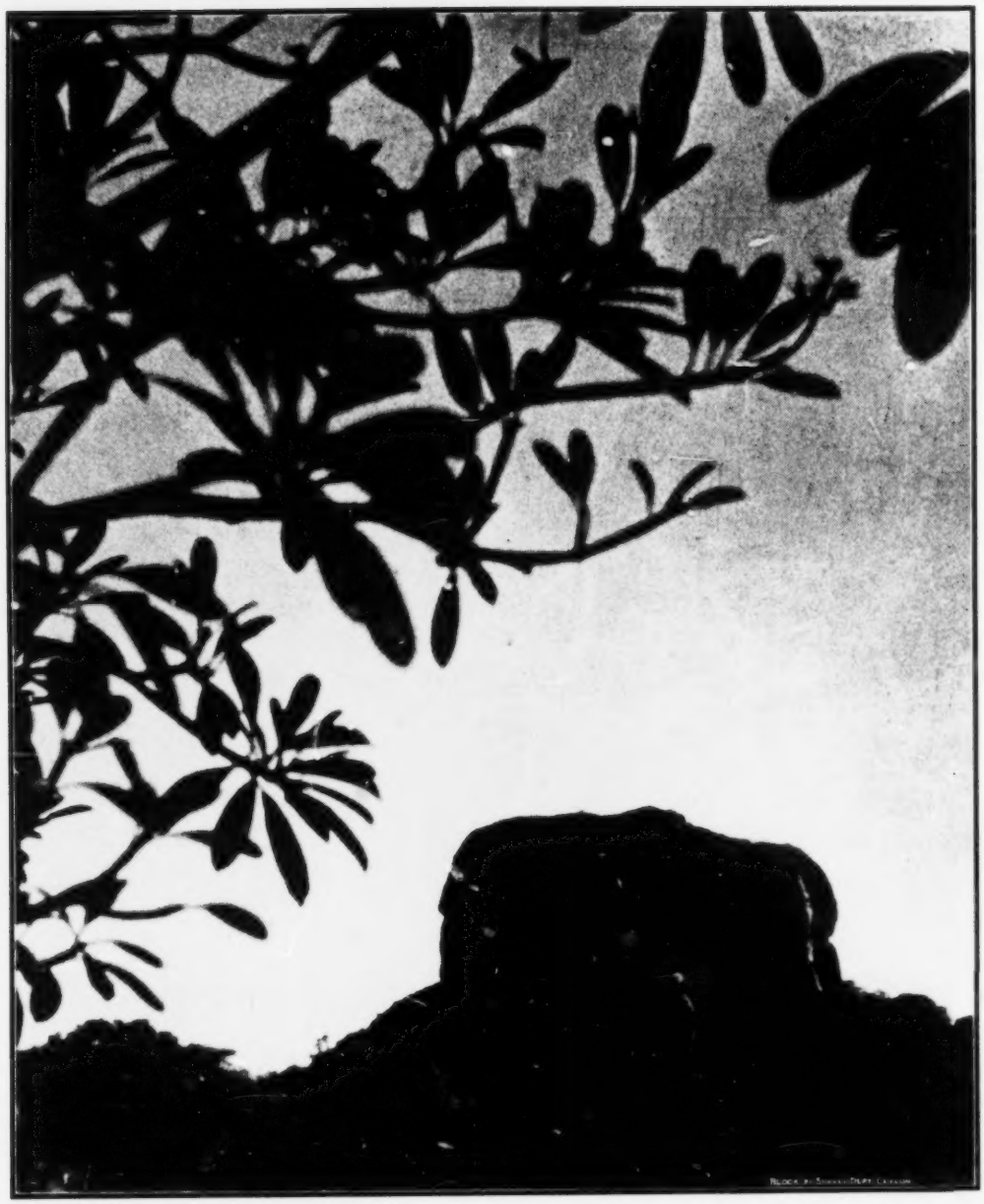
The report of the Sub-Committee appointed to report on the question of starting a Government Tourist Bureau was adopted by the State Council. The consideration of the appointment of a suitable officer for the post of manager was, however, deferred until 1936.

An Industrial Exhibition was organized at Kandy by the Bureau during the August festive season as a trial plan of publicity and propaganda for Ceylon industries. There was a ready response both by the public and the trade, and the exhibition has justified itself as a sound proposition. It is proposed to hold similar exhibitions annually.

A few subjects were referred to the Imperial Institute for expert advice and assistance during the course of the year. Useful reports were furnished by the Institute on the making of gum from rubber latex, the manufacturing of foot-rules, machinery for decorticating cashew nuts, model plants for soap manufacture. The Research Facilities Committee, appointed by His Excellency the Governor, issued its report which was published as Sessional Paper XIII. of 1935. The activities of the proposed Council are to be directed towards co-ordinating the work of the existing Research Institute of the Island, besides giving advice as to the manner in which the facilities of the Imperial Institute for Research may be utilized.

The appointment of the Technical Adviser on Industries has helped the Bureau to solve in some measure the problem of granting technical advice and assistance to industries. It is the recognized policy of most countries to give pioneer industries sufficient protection to foster their growth, in addition to affording financial aid where conditions suggest that an industry has a reasonable prospect of continuance once protection is withdrawn. Although there is a general demand that the Government should initiate industrial development, it is not possible or desirable for the State to take upon itself the whole burden, the major part of which should be shouldered by private enterprise and capital. Although one technical expert has been appointed, it must be borne in mind that the formation of a Department of Industries will naturally demand recruitment of more experts as the potentialities of industrial development in Ceylon become clearer.

Early in the year the Technical Adviser on Industries toured the country to investigate the possibilities of obtaining raw materials for potential industries such as cement, glass, porcelain, textiles, vegetable ghee, tapioca, paper, and tea chests. The Bureau has, through the



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SIGIRIYA.

Technical Adviser, endeavoured to give advice and assistance to inquirers whenever possible, but the absence of a laboratory has militated against any research work being undertaken. The Government decided to make provision for erecting a laboratory for the Technical Adviser and a suitable site has been chosen.

Investigations into the question of establishing a cement factory in Ceylon were made towards the close of the year. Various samples of clay and limestones have been analysed with a view to ascertaining the most suitable material for the purpose. Preliminary investigations into the feasibility of manufacturing sugar locally were also made, but it will be some time before definite plans are formulated.

Applications for financial assistance to start pioneer industries were received from various firms and individuals, but although the principle of State aid has been accepted, no specific provision has yet been made to afford monetary assistance to individual undertakings.

CHAPTER VIII.

Wages and the Cost of Living.

Labour in Ceylon.

1.—*Agricultural.*

About 850,000 acres are cultivated in paddy. The whole of this area is worked by village labour usually by the owner or lessee of the land, and his relations, but frequently also by hired labour.

The Estates.—The principal crops grown under estate conditions are tea, rubber and coconuts. Tea estates almost entirely, and rubber estates for the most part, are worked by labour imported from South India (Tamil or Telugu). A few Indians are also employed on coconut estates, but these are mostly worked by Ceylonese.

At the end of 1935 the total number of Indians on estates was roughly 675,000 as compared with 688,741 at the end of 1934. The total number of arrivals of estate labourers during the year amounted to 43,018 and the departures to 49,288.

2.—*Industrial.*

A large number of labourers are employed in various activities connected with the port of Colombo, *e.g.*, as stevedore coolies, or in the coal-yard and marine engineering works.

Wages.—Under Ordinance No. 27 of 1927 a minimum wage is fixed for Indian labourers on tea and rubber estates and the new rates of wages in force from November 16, 1934, are—

	Men. Cents.	Women. Cents.	Children. Cents.	
Up-country	49	39	29	with rice at a rate not exceeding Rs. 4·80 per bushel
Mid-country	43	35	25	
Low-country	41	33	24	

In 1927 a Commission appointed to inquire into wages earned by the harbour workers in Colombo recommended the following rates which were accepted by the employers :—

	Loading Cargo.	Discharging Cargo.
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Day, Full	1 75 ..	1 60
Broken Periods, 6 A.M. to 12 noon	1 0 .. (*i.e.*) (87 plus 10)	0 90 (*i.e.*) (80 plus 10)
12 noon to 6 P.M.	0 87 .. *	0 80 *
or Every half or part thereof	0 20 .. †	0 20 †
Night—		
Full	3 50 ..	3 20
Half	1 75 .. *	1 60 *
Broken Periods— ..		
For every hour between 6 P.M. and midnight ..	0 30 ..	0 30

The following table shows the classification adopted by Government for daily and hourly paid labour :—

		Rates per Hour.	
		Minimum. Cents.	Maximum. Cents.
Minor supervising grades	Class A I. ..	48 ..	81
	A II. ..	31 ..	63
Tradesmen	Class A III. ..	36 ..	53
	A IV. ..	20 ..	35
Semi-skilled labour	Class A V. ..	12 ..	20
Unskilled labour	Class A VI. ..	8 ..	14
Trade apprentices	Class A VII. ..	10 ..	18
Women and boys	Class A VIII. ..	3 ..	10

		Rates per Diem.	
		Minimum. Rs. c.	Maximum. Rs. c.
Minor supervising grades	Class B I. ..	3 84 ..	6 48
	B II. ..	2 48 ..	5 4
Skilled labour	Class B III. ..	2 88 ..	4 24
	B IV. ..	1 60 ..	2 80
Semi-skilled labour	Class B V. ..	0 96 ..	1 60
Unskilled labour	Class B VI. ..	0 64 ..	1 12
Trade apprentices	Class B VII. ..	0 80 ..	1 44
Women and boys	Class B VIII. ..	0 24 ..	0 80

Estates employing Indian labour are required by law to pay their labourers monthly. In Colombo wages are often paid every week or fortnight.

Other Conditions affecting Labour.

On nearly all estates the resident labour force is provided with *free housing accommodation*. In Colombo a few firms make similar provision for their labourers, but in most cases the latter find their own lodgings. Indians employed by the stevedore contractors are generally housed in a "kittangi"—a sort of barrack where the men sleep together in one large room.

Medical Attention and Provision for Old Age.—Estate labourers are entitled to free medical treatment either at the estate hospital (if there is one) or at the nearest Government hospital. Other labourers are entitled to free treatment at Government hospitals if they earn less than Rs. 50 per month in wages.

* Subject to the qualification that wages by the hour for any fraction of a half day or half night shall not exceed the wages payable for the whole of that half day or half night.

† A full night's wages are payable when a labourer works from 6 P.M. to any fraction of the night beyond midnight.

Female labourers on estates are entitled to free lodgings and medical care for one month after confinement.

Indian Labour on Estates.—Sick and indigent labourers are repatriated to India at the expense of the Immigration Fund.

Most estates pay a pension to deserving labourers who are no longer able to work. Free meals are usually given daily to children.

The Workmen's Compensation Ordinance, No. 19 of 1934, came into operation on August 1, 1935. It provides for compensation to be paid by the employer on the lines of the Indian Act to every workman who is injured by accident arising out of and in the course of his employment and to the dependents of workmen who have died as the result of such accident.

The Trade Unions Ordinance, No. 14 of 1935, came into operation on November 1, 1935. It provides for the compulsory registration of all Trade Unions.

CHAPTER IX.

Education and Welfare Institutions.

Control.—Primary and secondary education in Ceylon is administered by the Department of Education, assisted by a Board of Education and 23 Education District Committees.

Board of Education.—The Board of Education is composed of 20 members nominated by the Governor. The Director of Education is Chairman and the personnel of the Board includes Members of the State Council, Managers of Schools, and teachers. The main duties of the Board are to consider questions of legislation and to advise the Government on any other matters especially referred to it for advice. It is not an administrative or executive body and all regulations which are recommended by the Board require the approval of the Governor, and are thereafter laid before the State Council for approval.

Education District Committees.—An Education District Committee has been constituted in each Municipality and Revenue District. These Committees are appointed by the Governor, and consist partly of officials and partly of unofficials. They are responsible first for putting into effect the rules relating to compulsory education and they frame by-laws and employ attendance officers for this purpose. Secondly, they erect and maintain schools where these are required. They are financed by an annual grant from the Department, which is allocated on the basis of an approved programme of works submitted each year to the Department.

Schools and Attendance.—The system of education in Ceylon provides a course of education leading to University degrees in arts, and science, and diplomas in medicine and law.

The schools of Ceylon are not divided on a basis of race or nationality. All schools which are maintained by Government or assisted by means of grants are compelled by law to admit pupils irrespective of race, nationality, or religion.

Attendance at school between the ages of six and fourteen is compulsory, subject to a few exceptions. Such compulsion, however, applies only when school accommodation is provided within a reasonable distance of the residence of the pupil.

5——J. N. 55200 (6/36)

There are three distinct types of school : schools administered directly by Government, schools assisted by Government and under the immediate control of private managers, and schools maintained by Government and managed by private managers.

There are 149 maintained schools. Local managers are appointed for such schools and are responsible for the selection of a suitable staff but the whole cost of staff and maintenance is borne by Government funds.

There are 1,560 Government schools, and the arrangements for the staffing of these are entirely in the hands of the Department. All examinations for the issue of teachers' certificates and of otherwise testing efficiency, and all appointments, transfers, &c., are also dealt with by the Department.

Assisted Schools and the Grant System.—There are in addition 2,708 assisted schools under the immediate control of private managers. These schools receive an annual grant from the Education Department. In the case of vernacular schools the annual grant is calculated as the total amount of the salaries paid to an efficient staff plus an additional amount for maintenance. No fees are charged in vernacular schools. In the case of the English schools, however, fees are charged and from such fees the manager has to provide a fixed sum towards the salary of each teacher he employs. The grant consists of the balance of such salaries.

In addition to Government Assisted and Maintained schools, there is a certain number of private schools which are not assisted in any way by Government funds. Such schools are, however, subject to inspection by the Department.

The type of instruction given in Ceylon schools can be considered under two main headings : (i.) non-vocational instruction ; (ii.) vocational instruction.

Classification of Schools.—Under the heading of non-vocational instruction is included the type of instruction which is general and academic, and by far the larger number of schools come under this class. These schools are classified as follows :—

English.	Bilingual.	Vernacular.
Collegiate	Senior Secondary	Senior Secondary
Senior Secondary	Junior Secondary	Junior Secondary
Junior Secondary	Primary	Primary
Primary		

The Primary schools provide a course of instruction from the Kindergarten up to Standard V. The course usually lasts six years.

The Junior Secondary schools provide a course of instruction from the Kindergarten up to the School-Leaving Certificate. The course usually lasts ten years.

The Senior Secondary schools provide, in addition to the course for the Junior Secondary schools, a further course up to the standard of the London Matriculation Examination. The course usually lasts twelve years.

The Collegiate school is an English school which provides a course of instruction from Form I. or Standard VI. up to the standard of the London Matriculation Examination. The course usually lasts five years.

The vast majority of students complete their education at the Junior Secondary stage.

In addition to the schools that come under the above classification, there is a certain number of temple schools, which are known as Pirivenas. These schools are primarily intended for the Buddhist priesthood, and are not compelled to adopt the syllabus of work used by the ordinary schools.

Vocational Schools.—Under the heading of vocational schools come those schools which give a specialized form of instruction. Apart from one Technical College, these can be divided into part-time schools and full-time schools. Under the heading of part-time instruction is included a variety of home industries which are taught to pupils in certain schools in addition to the ordinary academic course. Under the heading of full-time industrial schools come institutions for the training of teachers, technical schools, agricultural schools and industrial schools. The course in training schools is usually one of two years. In technical schools it varies according to the subject which is studied. In agricultural schools courses are entirely for adults who intend either to teach agricultural science or to become practical agriculturists. There is a variety of full-time industrial schools. All industrial schools are conducted upon a profit-sharing principle, so that the pupils benefit by whatever articles they produce. The course is one of two or three years. The subjects in which instruction is given are :—Carpentry, weaving, basket work, pottery, printing, lacquer work, blacksmith work, and a few other minor industries.

The Medium of Instruction.—The medium of instruction in schools varies according to the type of schools. In vernacular schools the medium of instruction is entirely Sinhalese or Tamil. This group of schools includes 82 per cent. of all the school-going children in Ceylon.

In bilingual schools the vernacular language is the medium of instruction for the first four or five years of school life, after which a course of English is introduced in Standard IV. Every year thereafter the number of periods allotted to English is increased. The vernacular, however, continues to be taught throughout the whole course. There are also vernacular schools where an optional course of English, for one period a day, is given in all classes above Standard III.

In the case of the third group of schools, viz., English schools, two methods are employed in giving instruction in the English language.

In the first method pupils are admitted at the earliest stage of school life, viz., the Kindergarten. Pupils admitted in this way have usually a working knowledge of English, so that their progress in mastering the language is very rapid.

The second method employed is a two-year special course in English for pupils, who go from vernacular schools to English schools. The pupils who enter this course are approximately nine years of age, and have already received instruction in their own mother tongue in the primary standards. This course is an intensive one, in which the direct method of teaching a foreign language is employed. After completing this course pupils are able to enter the ordinary standards of the English school, in which the medium of instruction is English. In the majority of such schools the vernacular languages continue to be taught throughout the upper classes.

It will be seen, therefore, that in the system of instruction prevailing in Ceylon the pupils are given the following alternative courses :—(1) A full course of instruction in the vernacular languages ; (2) a full course of

instruction in the vernacular languages plus a working knowledge of English ; and (3) a full course of instruction in English, not merely for pupils whose mother tongue is English, but for those who at the beginning of school life have no knowledge of that language.

SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF AND BLIND.

During the year 1935, ten new children were admitted, of whom five were deaf and five were blind.

The total attendance at the school is now 343 made up as follows :—

School.		*Workshops.*	
Deaf boys ..	89	Deaf boys ..	24
Deaf girls ..	52	Deaf girls ..	15
Blind boys ..	57	Blind boys ..	34
Blind girls ..	60	Blind girls ..	12
Total ..	258	Total ..	85

Health.—There was a serious outbreak of Dysentery in September, which unfortunately resulted in the death of two children. Apart from this the health of the school has on the whole been good.

Buildings.—The Stanley Hostel for the older boys has been extended by the addition of one wing thus giving greater accommodation which was badly needed. The temporary Carpenter's Shed was blown down and a new permanent one is being built.

Industrial Work.—The school continues to pay considerable attention to the training of the older boys and tries to make them self-supporting. It is a problem which requires very careful thought, wide vision and considerable financial resources. A few of the older boys have secured employment outside ; one at a Printing Press, one as a shop labourer, and three in some soap works. Seven others have left the school during the year.

An impetus to the sales of goods made by the children was caused by a display in Colombo where the goods were on view ; and steps have been taken to have the goods regularly displayed for sale at a shop in Colombo. The lack of markets for these goods is one of our most serious difficulties.

A certain number of those who passed through the school are still employed in various capacities in connection with the school itself.

Orphanges.—Educational facilities are provided for orphans or destitute children. A maintenance grant of Rs. 75 is paid to the Manager of an approved Orphanage or Home on account of each orphan or destitute child who is between the ages of $\frac{\text{5 and 15 (in an Assisted Vernacular school)}}{\text{5 and 17 (in an Assisted English school)}}$ at the beginning of the school year and who has been in residence at an Orphanage or Home for a period of not less than 9 months and has regularly attended a registered school during this period. Such grants during 1935 amounted to Rs. 143,400.

Reformatory.—There is only one reformatory school to which juvenile offenders are admitted. Here they are taught different trades such as gardening, carpentry, tailoring, cooking, bookbinding, ironwork, printing, weaving, &c., while undergoing their term of punishment. Ninty-six juvenile offenders were admitted during the year bringing the total to 329.

Prisoners.—There are schools for prisoners at the two jails in the Colombo District. There are 35 pupils at Mahara and 120 pupils at Welikada. Social workers conduct English classes for certain prisoners at the latter jail. The jail school at Kandy has 3 pupils.

Lepers.—There are two schools for lepers : one at Hendala and another at Mantivu which are conducted by the Sisters of the Franciscan Order. The school at Hendala consists of three sections, *i.e.*, English, Tamil, and Sinhalese containing 30, 30, and 22 pupils, respectively. The ages of the pupils range from 12 to 48. The average attendance is 50. The Mantivu Leper School, also consisting of 3 sections, has 11 pupils in the English section, 12 in the Sinhalese, and 9 in the Tamil.

The Langdon Home.—In Badulla District there is one institution which receives assistance from Government for training women in industrial work and household management. After a period of training, these women go into the villages and teach the older girls reading, writing, sewing, embroidery, and lacemaking. They also give instruction in the art of clean and efficient housekeeping and also encourage the practice of thrift.

Pensions, &c.—Government teachers are pensionable and in addition make contributions to a Widows' and Orphans' Pension Scheme. Teachers in assisted schools are eligible for a pension similar to that of Government teachers, but the pension scheme in assisted schools is on a contributory basis.

THE CEYLON UNIVERSITY COLLEGE.

The University College was established in 1921 for the purpose of affording facilities for higher education to students in Ceylon.

Numbers.—The number of students on the roll in July, 1935, the beginning of the academic year, 1935–36, was 539, including 55 women students. The figures for 1921–34 were as follows :—

1921	..	166	1926	..	313	1931	.. 355
1922	..	217	1927	..	279	1932	.. 377
1923	..	262	1928	..	315	1933	.. 417
1924	..	262	1929	..	338	1934	.. 449
1925	..	256	1930	..	394		

Courses.—The College offers instruction in Latin, Greek, Sanskrit, Pali, English, Sinhalese, Tamil, Logic, Philosophy, History, Geography, Economics, Pure Mathematics, Applied Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Botany, and Zoology.

Honours courses are provided in Classics, English, Indo-Aryan (Sanskrit and Pali), History, Mathematics, Chemistry, Botany, Zoology, and Physics.

The College course is normally one of three years. At the end of the first year students take the (External) Intermediate Arts, Science, and Economics examinations of the University of London conducted in Ceylon. At the end of the third year they take the final examinations for the B.A. (General), B.A. (Honours), B.Sc. (General), B.Sc. (Special), and the B.Sc. (Economics) Degrees of the same University.

Students who intend to join the medical profession are given one year's course of instruction in Physics, Chemistry, and General Biology,

at the end of which they take either the First M.B. Examination of the University of London or the Pre-Registration Examination of the Ceylon Medical College, or both.

Graduates.— On the results of the examinations held in June, 1935, 33 candidates qualified themselves for the B.A. and B.Sc. degrees of the University of London.

The total number of graduates from the University College from the time of its inception in 1921 is 337, of whom 26 obtained Honours in Classics, 12 in English, 25 in History, 40 in Mathematics, 12 in Indo-Aryan, 12 in Chemistry, 5 in Botany, and 3 in Zoology.

Hostels.—Most of the students not living with their parents or relations are residing in four hostels affiliated to the College and subject to the College rules and regulations. These hostels are administered by extra-university bodies and are subsidized by the Government.

University College Council.—This Council, which consists of twenty members nominated by His Excellency the Governor, advises the Principal of the College in matters relating to the administration of the College, and the preparation for its conversion into a University.

THE CEYLON MEDICAL COLLEGE.

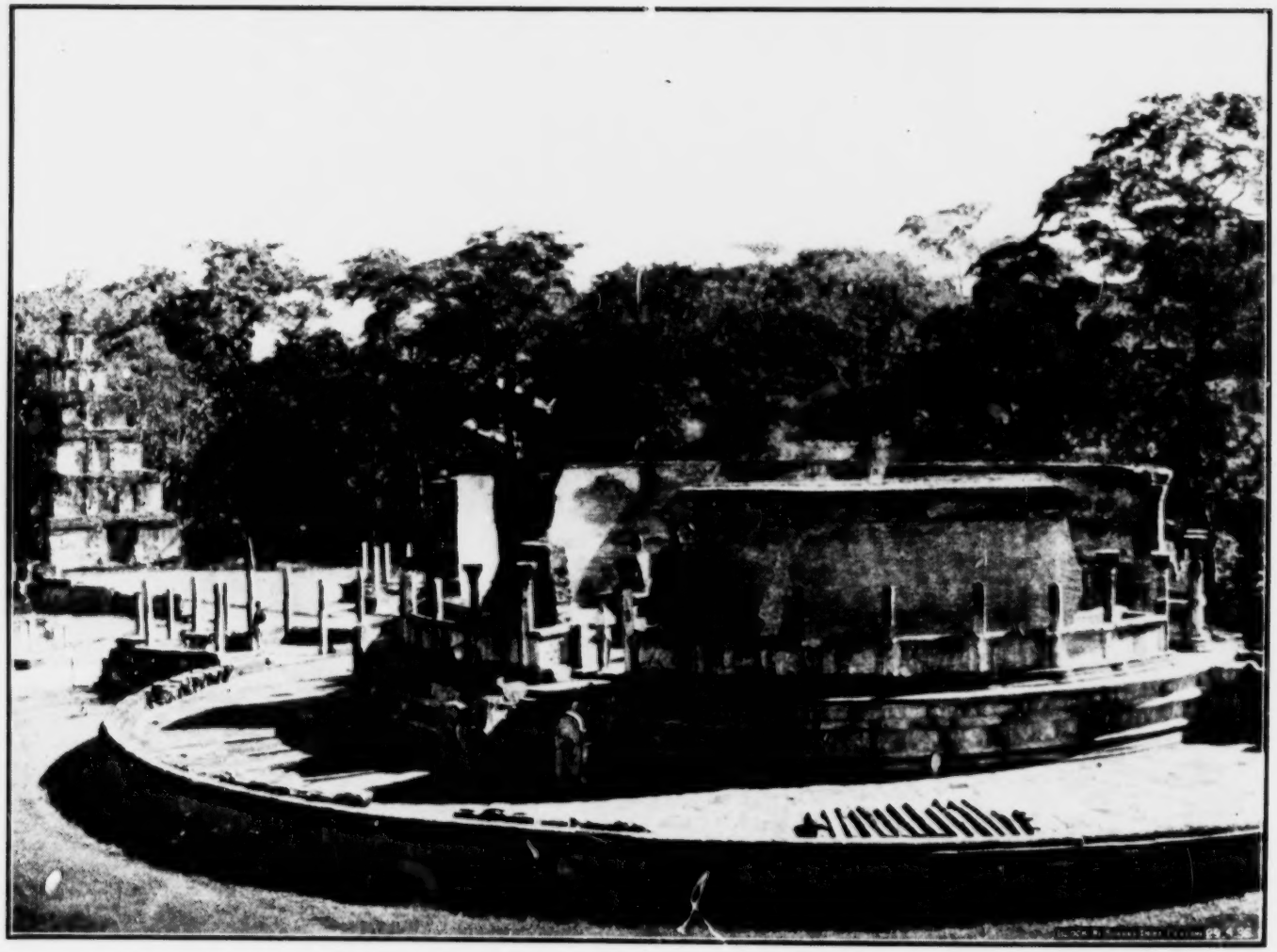
The Ceylon Medical College was established in 1870 in the form of a medical school capable of affording a practical education on the principles of medicine and surgery, and especially midwifery, together with a practical knowledge of Anatomy, Physiology, Materia Medica, Pharmaceutical Chemistry, and the art of dispensing. It had originally a Principal and three lecturers, and the whole course took only three years.

This course was later increased from time to time in order to keep abreast with the progress of medical science. In 1887 recognition was granted by the General Medical Council of the United Kingdom, and the diploma became registrable in Great Britain and all parts of the Empire.

In 1924 the complete extended curriculum of one year's pre-medical study (Chemistry, Physics, Biology) and five years' medical study was adopted.

The College now provides the complete course of instruction required for the practice of modern Medicine, Surgery, and Midwifery. Including the course of preliminary or pre-registration work in Physics, Chemistry, and Biology, which is provided by arrangement at the University College, Colombo, the whole course takes six years.

In addition to the complete medical curriculum, the College provides a course of instruction for a minor grade of medical practitioners, known as Apothecaries. These receive a two years' course of instruction in Anatomy, Physiology, Chemistry, Pharmacy, Pharmacology and Dispensing, Elementary Medicine, Surgery, and Midwifery, both theoretical and clinical, and Surgical Dressing, and in Hygiene and Public Health. They receive free instruction, and on passing the two Apothecaries' Examinations are employed by the Government to take charge of the Government Dispensaries and some small hospitals in the remote rural areas and villages, but are only permitted to practise while so employed in Government Service and are subject to the control of the District Medical Officers. They are eligible to be registered as Pharmacists.



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VATADÂGÉ—POLONNARUWA.

These Apothecaries to a large extent provide for the medical treatment of the poor villagers in remote districts and where fully qualified medical practitioners are not available.

A department for the training of pupil midwives has been added to the College. This work was formerly carried out by the Department of Medical and Sanitary Services, but from October 1, 1931, the teaching and examinations of pupils have been vested in the College Council. First and second class certificates of efficiency are conferred on successful candidates, who are then eligible to be registered as midwives. As this arrangement in practice proved difficult of administration it was discontinued from October 1, 1932. The College however continues to conduct the examinations for certificates of efficiency as midwives, the courses of instruction having been restored to the Department of Medical and Sanitary Services. The College thereby retains control of the standard of teaching.

The College is staffed by whole-time Professors, in Anatomy, Physiology, and Pathology, and a large number of part-time lecturers, mostly drawn from the officers of the Department of Medical and Sanitary Services.

Details of staff, fees, courses of study, and rules for students, and the history of the College, are embodied in the annual calendar, copies of which are sent free to Medical Schools in Great Britain, principal Educational Institutions, and Government departments in the Island.

The Government set up in 1928 a Post-licentiate Scholarship (suspended for the time being), which is granted yearly to the best student of the final year who qualifies in the first class within the statutory period, to enable him to obtain British qualifications and also to pursue studies and research in some special subject. The value of the scholarship is £300 per annum.

A small number of students generally discontinue study in the Ceylon Medical College and go to the United Kingdom to complete their studies.

THE LAW COLLEGE.

The Law College which is controlled by the Incorporated Council of Legal Education exists for the supervision and control of the legal education of students desiring to qualify themselves as advocates or proctors of the Supreme Court. The Council consists of the Judges, the Attorney-General, the Solicitor-General, and such other persons of standing in the legal profession as the Judges may appoint. The members hold office for three years at a time. The academic qualifications requisite for admission in the case of advocates are (1) a degree in Arts or Science of any University in the British Empire, (2) a pass in the Intermediate Examination in Arts or Science of the University of London, and in the case of proctors (1) a degree in Arts or Science of any University in the British Empire, (2) a pass in the Matriculation Examination of the University of London or the Intermediate Examination in Arts or Science of any Indian University, or the Senior Local Examination of the University of Cambridge, or the Cambridge Senior School-Leaving Certificate, provided always that the candidate shall adduce proof that he has passed an examination in English and Latin, such examination being either the examination on which he relies for his qualification or some one or other of the aforesaid examinations of any University in the British Empire.

Admissions to the Law College take place twice annually, in the months of January and July, respectively, and the total number of students admitted during the year 1935 is as follows :—

Advocates	13
Proctors	90

The Board of Lecturers, consisting of six members, are appointed in the month of June and hold office for three years.

The examinations provided under the Rules of the Incorporated Council of Legal Education are held twice a year, also in the months of January and July, the examiners (five in number) being appointed once a year in the month of June by the Council. The under-mentioned table shows the number of students who presented themselves at the various examinations, together with the number of successful candidates in 1935 :—

	Entered.	Passed.
Advocates	87 ..	21
Proctors	360 ..	137

CHAPTER X.

Communications and Transport.

SHIPPING.

Colombo Harbour.

Introduction.—The position of Colombo at the junction of the most important trade routes in the East makes it an important port in the commerce of the East, and this natural advantage has been enhanced by the excellent facilities for docking, bunkering, loading and unloading cargo, water supply, &c., afforded by the port to the vast tonnage of shipping navigating Eastern waters. The port of Colombo has contributed largely to the commercial and economic prosperity of the Island, and this fact is borne out by the phenomenal growth of the city of Colombo since the conversion of the open roadstead into a great artificial harbour enclosed by extensive breakwaters. Colombo is a great *entrepot*, and the volume of business passing through its Customs houses is an indication of the state of trade and general prosperity of the Island.

Trade.—The quantity of imports and exports handled in the port of Colombo in 1935 amounted to 1,605,667 tons (1,042,638 tons imports and 563,029 tons exports) as compared with 1,767,734 tons (1,027,983 tons imports and 739,751 tons exports) handled in 1934. There has been a decrease of 162,067 tons as compared with the previous year.

Harbour.—The harbour is enclosed on all sides, being bounded on the south and east by the land and on the north and west by massive breakwaters. The approach to the harbour is free from navigational dangers. Vessels drawing 33 feet can enter by the Western entrance and vessels drawing 27 feet can enter by the Northern entrance. The Western entrance channel is 630 feet wide, with a navigable depth of 36 feet L. W. O. S. T., and the Northern entrance channel 550 feet wide, with a navigable depth of 30 feet L. W. O. S. T. The sheltered area of the harbour amounts to 643 acres at low water, of which 240 acres have been

dredged to 36 feet and over, 134 acres to a depth varying between 36 feet and 33 feet, and 97 acres to between 33 feet and 30 feet ; the remaining 172 acres have a depth of less than 30 feet.

Accommodation for Vessels.—Berthing accommodation, exclusive of the Graving Dock, Guide Pier, and Oil Jetties, is available for 35 vessels in the north-east monsoon and 38 vessels in the south-west monsoon. Berths are available in either monsoon for vessels drawing up to 33 feet of water. One of these berths is for vessels of unlimited length.

Railways.—A broad gauge railway runs through the port premises, and is connected with the main railway system of the Island, thus affording direct communication with all parts of the Island and Southern India. Sidings are provided at different places on the waterside. The length of the railway is 6 miles 19 chains, but the total mileage of railway used, including sidings, &c., is 14⅝ miles. The port railway is available only for the conveyance of goods, the tonnage of goods handled during 1935 being 247,040 tons as against 261,775 in 1934.

Roads.—Communication by road to the harbour is excellent.

Canals.—The Lake to Harbour canal affords direct water transport between stores and mills situated on the lakeside and the harbour. It is navigable by fully loaded 40-ton harbour barges and to some extent relieves the congestion on roads. This canal, together with the lock basin and locks and the water area of the Beira Lake including the San Sebastian canal locks is now included in the limits of the port of Colombo.

The total number of lighters, launches, &c., which passed through the Lake to Harbour canal during the year was 7,504 against 10,218 in 1934, and 9,677 in 1933.

The receipts from the lake to Harbour canal dues and lock charges during the financial year 1934–35 amounted to Rs. 21,182·46, as against Rs. 31,863·04 in the financial year 1933–34. The dues charged for the use of the Canal connecting the Beira Lake with the Colombo Harbour were abolished with effect from November, 1, 1935.

Lakeside Facilities.

The development of the Lakeside Barge Yards, comprising the portion of land bordering on the Beira Lake, has opened up for commercial purposes a valuable stretch of land on the water front of the lake, and has relieved the congestion in the harbour by affording facilities for the reception of a number of boats which had hitherto been moored in the harbour. There is every indication, that, when trade improves, there will be an increasing demand for land on the lakeside which by its propinquity to the harbour and easy access thereto, both by land and water, affords a valuable venue for commercial purposes.

The Beira Lake is now an integral part of the port, and its progressive development will eventually lead to the establishment of a Commercial Zone in the vicinity of the port serving as a feeder to the business of the port and fostering its development.

Passenger Jetty.—The baggage office has good accommodation and examination halls. There is a staff always on duty day and night, and baggage landed with passengers is passed without delay. There is also provision for the storage of such baggage as a passenger may wish to

leave in the premises, a small storage rent being payable. Accommodation is also provided at the Custom house at the Passenger Jetty for a Railway Booking Enquiry Office and a Post Office. The Passenger Traffic during the year shows a decrease, the total number being 263,574 against 284,112 in the preceding year.

Landing and Shipping.—Landing and Shipping of cargo is assisted by an efficient crane service. There is a total quayage of 15,657 lineal feet. The following are the particulars of cranes available at the port :—

Electric cranes	..	14	Hand derrick	..	1
Steam cranes	..	22	Steam derrick	..	1
Hand cranes	..	13	Mobile crane ..	..	1
Elephant hand crane	..	1	Steam jib crane	..	1
Floating cranes	..	2	Steam block loading titan	..	1

operating on the jetties and quays. The largest lift which can be made is 35 tons. The conveyance of cargo from the vessel to the wharf is done by lighters and is carried out by recognized stevedores and landing companies.

Cargo for shipment is brought down to the warehouse by cart, lorry, train, or barge. The Port Commission railway runs direct into the premises alongside three of the export warehouses. With regard to shipment, the same considerations apply as in the case of imports, some firms finding it more convenient to employ a clearing or shipping agency than to maintain their own staff. As in the case of import cargo, goods remain in the Government warehouse at the risk of the exporter. To suit the convenience of shippers who do not carry out their own shipments, landing and shipping companies are prepared to take over cargo at the shipper's stores for removal to the warehouse in the Company's own lorries. Export harbour dues are payable on all goods sent down to the warehouses or wharf. If they lie there for more than three clear days, further dues are payable for each day, and in addition a similar sum by way of warehouse rent. Cargo is taken to the vessel by means of lighters. A good supply of labour is available.

Warehouse Accommodation.—As goods discharged are not always directly transferred to some other means of conveyance, it has been found necessary to provide extensive warehouse accommodation for the increasing volume of goods demanding storage, pending shipment or removal from the premises. There is a total warehouse floor area of 592,476 square feet in the port for dealing with imports, exports, and transhipment cargo. Most of the warehouses have railway facilities and cranes are available where required.

The import warehouses are situated between the root of the South-west Breakwater and the Lake to Harbour canal. Other import warehouses and landing areas are also situated on either side of the canal, and these are largely used for the landing of rough cargo, such as timber and metal. Further north, three recently built warehouses are available at Kochchikade, where facilities are provided for transport by rail.

Five commodious warehouses are allotted for the accommodation of export cargo, in addition to an open shed used for the shipment of drums containing coconut oil and similar commodities, and another shed for rough cargo. The largest warehouse can accommodate 4,000 tons of tea packed in chests of the usual size. The other four warehouses can each accommodate from 2,500 to 3,000 tons.

There are several bonded warehouses within the Customs premises, and certain firms have their own bonded warehouses outside the premises. Goods may be bonded for any period up to two years, after which they must either be removed or rebonded. All goods placed in bond are liable to the same rent and harbour dues as in the case of import cargo up to the time of bonding, after which no further dues are payable and bonded warehouse rent is recovered, the amount payable per week on bonded goods being the same as the charge per day on import cargo. No rent is payable to the Customs in the case of goods which lie in bonded warehouses belonging to private firms, though a charge is made for Customs supervision of deposits and removals.

Several firms have their own warehouses and stores on the lakeside, which have direct access from the harbour through the canal and locks. Special facilities are given by the Customs for import cargo to be removed direct to these stores and, conversely, for the direct shipment of export cargo from these stores to the vessel. Rent and dues are, however, payable as in the case of goods landed in the warehouse, but the advantage of this direct traffic lies in obviating two additional handlings which would be necessary had the goods been landed or shipped from a quay.

Transhipment warehouses are available for the accommodation of cargo pending transmission to the destination. No import duty is payable upon such cargo, and rent and harbour dues are payable at a reduced rate, amounting to 1/5th of the rate payable upon ordinary import cargo. In the case of direct transhipment from vessel to vessel, a small fee is payable for Customs supervision. The volume of transhipment is fairly large, the quantity transhipped during the year being about 49,056 tons, but there is a steady traffic with Tuticorin and other South Indian ports of transhipment of cargo to and from the United Kingdom, America, Australia, the Far East, &c.

Removal of Cargo.—Goods may be cleared either by the importer himself or by any landing company or recognized clearing agency. Firms who import on a large scale find it convenient to keep their own staff of wharf clerks for the clearing of cargo and the passing of the necessary entries through the Customs. On the other hand firms whose business is not so great as to justify the maintenance of such a staff, find it more convenient to clear their goods through a Landing Company, or a Clearing Agency.

Warehouse rent and harbour dues are payable upon all goods landed at the wharf, and three clear days are allowed for the removal of the goods, exclusive of Customs holidays, of which there are five in the year, and Sundays. On goods removed after the expiry of this period further rent and dues are payable in respect of each day inclusive of Sundays and Customs holidays. Special facilities are offered by the Customs for clearing goods prior to the passing of the entry and the payment of the duty, rent, and dues. The usual system is to place a cash deposit with the Customs, against which goods are removed after any examination found necessary, the importer guaranteeing to pass the necessary papers within a reasonable period. Special facilities are also given for the clearing of perishable goods and of consignments, such as rice and sugar, which are landed in large quantities at a time.

Coaling Facilities.—There are about 29 acres of land on the foreshore of the harbour, half of which is leased to different companies for the stacking of coal. The coaling grounds between the Barge Repairing

Basin and the Graving Dock have 17 coaling jetties. Large supplies of coal can be procured, and steamers are bunkered with good despatch at any hour of the day or night.

The types and approximate prices of coal stocked at Colombo for commercial purposes are as follows (December, 1935) :—

Type.	Price Trimmed (t. i. b.) Per Ton. s.	d.
Welsh coal	39	9
Natal coal	26	0
Indian coal	24	0

The quantities of coal imported and issued for bunkers during the years 1934 and 1935 were as follows :—

	1934. Tons.	1935. Tons.
Imports	404,959 ..	436,948
Bunkers	233,672 ..	238,276

Oil Facilities.—The port is equipped with an up-to-date oil fuel installation which provides for the rapid bunkering of ships using oil fuel. The main Oil Installation Depot, about 92 acres in extent, is situated at Kolonnawa, about 3½ miles from the harbour front, and various oil companies have erected their own storage and distribution tanks there. This depot is divided into a non-dangerous and a dangerous oil section and is separated by a safety reservation. Three main pipelines are laid connecting the discharge berth in the harbour with the main oil depot, two for oil fuel and the other for kerosene and petrol. In connection with the bunkering of vessels, a measuring tanks depot, about 19 acres in extent, has been established at Bloemendahl, about ¾ of a mile from the harbour front, and branch pipelines are provided from Kolonnawa to Bloemendahl and from Bloemendahl to the bunkering berths. The oil depot is also connected to the main railway system of the Island. Three reinforced concrete jetties, two for bunkering purposes and one for discharge of oil tankers, have been provided. The outer oil bunkering jetty is capable of accommodating vessels of 500 feet length and 27 feet draught. The inner bunkering jetty is used by barges for bunkering. Vessels of 500 feet length and 27 feet draught can be berthed at the discharge jetty where the latest facilities for discharging oil ships are provided, and vessels of deeper draught up to 29 feet are accommodated at the Graving Dock Guide Pier.

The imports of oil during the last two years were as follows :—

	1934. Tons.	1935. Tons.
Liquid fuel	314,723 ..	317,198
Kerosene oil	30,605 ..	25,833
Petrol and benzine	34,383 ..	32,520
Total ..	375,711	375,551

The quantities of liquid fuel issued for bunkers during the last two years were as follows :—

	No. of Ships Bunkered.	Tons.
1934	512 ..	265,985
1935	520 ..	272,721

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THE GREAT RECUMBENT BUDDHA.

There has been a decrease in the number of oil burning vessels calling at the port while those burning coal have increased.

The Oil Facilities receipts during the year 1935 were Rs. 997,590·25 as compared with Rs. 930,102·57 in 1934.

Graving Dock.—Length of floor, 700 feet ; breadth of entrance-cope level, 85 feet ; depth over sill at low water, 30 feet ; depth over sill at high water, 32 feet. Docking can be carried out by day or night. An Inner Graving Dock, 350 feet long and 54 feet wide with a depth of 20 feet "at sill" is being constructed. This is an extension of the existing Graving Dock.

Patent Slip.—Length 800 feet ; length of cradle, 220 feet ; breadth of cradle, 40 feet ; depth over keel blocks at lower end at low water, 21 feet 6 inches ; depth over keel blocks at upper end at low water, 10 feet 6 inches ; inclination 1 in 20. Capable of slipping a vessel of 1,200 tons dead weight.

Ambulance Facilities.—An ambulance launch is available for the conveyance of sick and injured persons between ship and shore. The Colombo Municipal Council provides an adequate and efficient motor ambulance service for the port.

Quarantine.—On entering the harbour each ship is visited by the Port Surgeon or his Assistant, and no person is allowed to board the ship or leave the ship till pratique is granted. If there are cases of infectious diseases on board, such as plague, cholera, smallpox, yellow fever, or typhus, the ship is held in strict quarantine until all necessary measures, such as removal of the sick person, disinfection of the ship, vaccination, &c., as the case may be, are carried out. Thereafter the ship is allowed to be worked in restricted quarantine, any persons having business on board being allowed on special permits.

Port Commission.—The Colombo Port Commission is composed of the following :—The Principal Collector of Customs (who is Chairman or Chief Port Commissioner) ; the Director of Medical and Sanitary Services ; the General Manager of the Railway ; the Chairman, Municipal Council, and Mayor of Colombo ; the Deputy Collector of Customs ; the Master Attendant, Colombo and Galle ; the Harbour Engineer ; six Unofficial Members nominated by the Chamber of Commerce to represent Import, Export, Shipping, Coaling, Oil, and Landing Agencies' Interests ; two Unofficial Members nominated by His Excellency the Governor to represent Ceylonese interests.

RAILWAYS.

All the railways in Ceylon are State-owned and Government-controlled, the management being vested in the Ceylon Government Railway Department.

The total length of line open is 951 miles, of which 834 miles are broad gauge (5½ feet gauge) and 117 miles narrow gauge (2½ feet gauge).

The frontispiece map shows how the different lines radiate from Colombo.

The following table shows the distance from Colombo Fort to the more important stations on the different lines, with the first class return passenger fare and the approximate time of journey :—

Col. Fort. To—	Distance. M.	C.	Train Fare (Return). Rs.	c.	Approx. Time of Journey. Hours.	Col. Fort. To—	Distance. M.	C.	Train Fare. (Return). Rs.	c.	Approx. Time of Journey. Hours.
Peradeniya	71	62	8	65	3¼*	Polonnaruwa	162	1	19	55	8¼*
Kandy	75	12	9	10	3¼*	Batticaloa	217	78	26	15	12
Nanu-oya	128	62	17	95	7¼*	Trincomalee	184	25	22	20	9¼
Nuwara Eliya	135	27	19	20	10 *	MountLavinia	7	47	0	95	¼*
Bandarawela	161	34	23	90	12 *	Galle	70	38	8	50	2¼*
Anuradhapura	127	31	15	35	5¼*	Negombo	24	17	3	0	1¼*

The main results of the working of the Ceylon Government Railway for the financial years 1930–31 to 1934–35 are shown in the following table :—

Particulars.	1930–31. Rs.	1931–32. Rs.	1932–33. Rs.	1933–34. Rs.	1934–35. Rs.
Total capital outlay	223,460,704	225,307,864	226,379,400	227,005,002	227,500,606
Gross earnings	25,324,379	22,024,355	19,711,602†	20,980,422	18,273,081
Total working expenses‡	23,809,576	21,688,864	19,319,240	18,943,156	18,911,326
Net revenue§	1,514,803	335,491	392,362	2,037,266	Loss 638,245
Percentage of net revenue on total capital outlay	·68 p.c.	·15 p.c.	·17 p.c.	·90 p.c.	—
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Gross receipts from ordinary passenger and season tickets	9,653,763	8,378,370	7,539,419	7,941,378	6,547,579
Gross receipts from parcels, goods, &c.	15,670,616	13,645,985	12,172,183	13,039,044	11,725,502
Free traffic (excluding that for Railway Department included in gross receipts)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

The number of passengers conveyed has decreased by 1,259,239, the total conveyed during the year being 10,217,300. Under Season Tickets the number of ticket holders has fallen off by 4,740, the total number of season tickets issued during the year being 167,361.

The number of parcels conveyed during the year was 1,216,921 or a decrease of 106,633.

The tonnage of goods carried was 988,484 or a decrease of 93,918 tons, the noticeable increases and decreases being :—

	Increase. Tons.	Decrease. Tons.
Agricultural produce	—	23,878
Rice	—	15,379
Tea	—	5,670
Coconut Produce (other than copra)	—	7,334
Copra	—	26,185
Manure	—	8,780
Rubber	—	2,998
Sundry goods	—	28,484
Packing for tea, rubber, and desiccated coconuts	—	1,503
Salt (country)	4,219	—
Special Train Traffic (for Government Departments)	21,545	—
Foreign Traffic (Indo-Ceylon route)	1,156	—

* By express trains.
† Includes (Rs. 8,089) % Temporary levy on salaries.
‡ Includes provision for renewals.
§ That is, " Gross earnings " less " Total, working expenses."

Passenger Fares.

The standard passenger fares are as follows :—

	Single Journey.			Return Journey.		
	First Class. Cents.	Second Class. Cents.	Third Class. Cents.	First Class. Cents.	Second Class. Cents.	Third Class. Cents
All lines above Nawalapitiya ..	10½ ..	7 ..	2½ ..	18 ..	12 ..	4
All lines below Nawalapitiya ..	7 ..	4⅔ ..	2½ ..	12 ..	8 ..	4

Week-end tickets are issued between all stations distance 25 miles and over at single fare and a half for the double journey. Reductions are made for children, pioneers, and labourers of any nationality, and for periodical tickets.

Sleeping Cars.

The sleeping cars which run on the Up and Down night mail trains between Colombo, Kandy, and Bandarawela and Colombo-Kankesanturai are provided with sleeping accommodation. Each berth is numbered and provided with bedding and an attendant accompanies each car. The charge for a sleeping berth is Rs. 5 in addition to the ordinary first-class fare to the station to which the journey is made.

In the Indo-Ceylon mail trains sleeping berths without bedding are provided for through first-class passengers without any extra charge, but berths are not guaranteed unless they have been reserved, for which a registration fee of Re. 1 per berth will be charged. If bedding is required Rs. 5 must be paid for each set of bedding at the time of booking, and a berth will be made up as a bed by the Car Attendant. In such cases no registration fee will be charged.

Restaurant Cars.

These are attached to the important trains on the Main and Northern lines.

Restaurant Rooms.

These are provided at Maradana, Polgahawela, and Nanu-oya on the Main line, Colombo Fort and Alutgama on the Coast line, and Anuradhapura on the Northern line. Refreshments at these places are supplied at moderate prices.

Refreshment Baskets.

Refreshment baskets can be supplied for any train from Colombo on giving 20 minutes' notice to the Manager, Restaurant Cars and Rooms, at his office at Colombo Fort Station.

Luggage.

Each adult passenger is allowed, free of charge, the following weight of luggage :—

	lb.		lb.
First class ..	112	Third class ..	56
Second class ..	84		

A free allowance of half these quantities is made for each child travelling with a half-ticket. No luggage will be conveyed free for children under three years of age who travel free.

ROADS.

There are over 16,500 miles of roads and cart tracks in the Island controlled and administered by the following authorities :—

Authority.	Description of Roads.	Approximate Mileage.
(i.) Public Works Department ..	All main thoroughfares in the Island ..	4,805
(ii.) District Road Committees ..	All minor roads within the areas of jurisdiction of each committee ..	3,000
(iii.) Local Governing Authorities, viz., Municipalities, Urban District Councils, Local Boards, Sanitary Boards, &c. ..	All streets within their respective jurisdictions	565
(iv.) Village Committees	All natural cart tracks within the jurisdiction of each Committee ..	7,800
(v.) Irrigation Department	— ..	70
(vi.) Private parties	— ..	350

In addition there are approximately 8,200 miles of bridle paths in the charge of the District and Village Committees.

The Public Works Department is the principal road authority in the Island and is responsible for the construction and maintenance of all the "Main roads", by which are meant through arteries connecting the principal centres of populations with one another and with the railways and ports.

The whole cost of construction, improvements, and maintenance of these roads is met from the general revenue of the Island.

The roads vary in standard from narrow country roads to wide modern thoroughfares, the standard depending on the nature of the country traversed and the traffic carried.

The following is the classification of the Public Works Department roads according to the nature of their surfaces :—

	Miles.
Full-metalled	3,921
Track-metalled	372
Gravelled	384
Natural	128
	4,805

The metalled roads are maintained in good order, and, with but few exceptions, may be considered passable to all classes of traffic. Gravelled roads can be considered as dry weather roads only ; in dry weather they are generally in fair order, but they cannot be relied upon to the extent of metalled roads. A large mileage of the metalled roads is tarred or otherwise surface-treated. At the end of 1935 the length of roads so treated was 3,767 miles.

The only direct charge on road users is that for the use of ferry boats, but on the main roads with few exceptions the ferries have been replaced by bridges. Indirect charges are made in the form of import duties and taxes on wheeled vehicles.

The distribution of the main roads, distances between the principal centres, &c., can be ascertained on reference to the motor map of Ceylon, obtainable from the Surveyor-General, Colombo.

The distances from Colombo to other chief towns by road (given to the nearest half mile) are shown in the following list :—

Colombo to—	Miles.	Colombo to—	Miles.
Galle	72½	Batticaloa (*via* Badulla) ..	241
Peradeniya	68	Anuradhapura (*via* Matale) ..	158½
Kandy	72	Trincomalee (*via* Kurunegala) ..	169
Nuwara Eliya (*via* Peradeniya)	112	Anuradhapura (*via* Puttalam) ..	129
Nuwara Eliya (*via* Ginigathena)	106½	Jaffna (*via* Puttalam) ..	250

MEANS OF TRANSPORT BY ROAD.

The number of motor vehicles in Ceylon on December 31, 1930, was 24,405 ; it decreased during the years of depression to 23,359 on December 31, 1933. Owing to a revival of trade generally throughout the Island, the figure increased to 25,010 on December 31, 1934, and on December 31, 1935, the total was 27,052, an increase of 2,042 over the previous year's figure.

The average cost of running a small private car may be put at about 25 to 40 cents per mile. Hiring cars are available in most parts of the Island and cost 40 cents to Re. 1 per mile.

Drivers and mechanics for privately-owned cars can be obtained without difficulty and all drivers must hold the Government Certificate of Competence, while many are registered with the Automobile Association of Ceylon. Numerous facilities for repairs exist in Colombo, Kandy, Nuwara Eliya, and most of the other towns. Supplies of petrol and oil are available in all towns and in most of the larger villages.

The Automobile Association of Ceylon is affiliated or has reciprocal agreements with most of the Automobile Associations and Clubs in other countries and the Secretary (P. O. Box 338, Colombo) will afford any information which may be desired. The various landing, Customs, and registration formalities can be arranged for visitors by the Association. Facilities afforded by the International Convention relative to motor traffic are now available to Ceylon and a Ceylon TRIPTYQUE for Customs purposes is available through the leading Automobile Institutions. Overseas International Driving Permits, International Certificates of Registration for Motor Vehicles, and Fiscal Permits are also available.

Motor Omnibuses.—There is a plentiful supply of motor omnibuses, known in England as road service vehicles, carrying passengers for hire and running on nearly every main road in the Island. The number of omnibuses in use during the year was 2,476. Greater control of the routes served, the condition of the omnibuses plying on the roads, and the standard of drivers and conductors is desirable. These matters are already receiving the special attention of the authorities concerned.

The seating accommodation for passengers in motor omnibuses varies from 8 to 37.

Personal luggage of small dimensions and light weight is carried free of charge. Extra luggage is carried only if there is room in the conveyance on payment of a fee.

Goods.—The chief means of transport of goods by road are the local bullock cart and the motor lorry. A double-bullock cart is capable of taking 1½ tons at a time, and travels at the average rate of about 2 miles an hour. The cost per ton per mile may be put at about 80 cents. There are about 34,000 single and double-bullock carts in Ceylon, the majority of which are used in the transportation of village produce. Motor lorries are slowly but surely replacing bullock carts in the movement of estate goods and in other industries. These vary in load capacity from 5 cwt. to 5½ tons and travel at a speed of about 15 to 20 miles per hour, 15 miles being the legal speed limit for heavy lorries. They run mostly on petrol, a fair number on steam or kerosene, a few but increasing number on crude oil, and a very few on charcoal. In 1935 there were 3,600 motor lorries and vans in Ceylon. Experience has shown that the running costs can be kept at as low as 50 cents per ton per mile. The

Diesel oil engine has been gaining in popularity. The number of Diesel vehicles in Ceylon on December 31, 1935, was 149 as against 46 on December 31, 1934. As Diesel vehicles are run on crude oil which is imported free of duty, and in view of the growing increase in their number, the question of recouping the resultant loss of revenue by way of import duty on petrol was considered, and the following scale of special tax on transport vehicles using uncustomed oil is being imposed with effect from January 1, 1936 :—

Where the tare of the heavy oil motor vehicle—	Monthly Rate. Rs.	c.
(a) does not exceed 1 ton	55	0
(b) exceeds 1 ton but does not exceed 1½ tons	60	0
(c) " 1½ tons " 2 "	65	0
(d) " 2 " " 2½ "	70	0
(e) " 2½ " " 3 "	75	0
(f) " 3 " " 3½ "	80	0
(g) " 3½ " " 4 "	90	0
(h) " 4 " " 4½ "	100	0
(i) " 4½ " " 5	110	0
(j) " 5 "	120	0

Tramways.—The only street tramways in Ceylon are those in the town of Colombo, the total length of double track being 7 miles. There are two nearly equal routes : one between the Fort and the Kelani river terminus, and one between the Fort and Borella, joined by a cross line between Maradana and Grandpass *via* Skinner's road and Armour street, The total number of passengers carried annually is estimated at about 13 millions.

CANALS.

The only artificial navigable waterways in Ceylon are a series of canals connecting a chain of lakes on the west coast—Bolgoda, Colombo, Negombo, Chilaw, Mundel, and Puttalam lakes—as also the estuaries of the Kalu-ganga, Kelani-ganga, Maha-oya, and Deduru-oya ; thus forming a continuous water-way from Kalutara in the south to Puttalam in the north, a distance of approximately 120 miles. These were maintained in good order.

In addition to the foregoing there are about 41 miles of boat channel maintained by dredging the Jaffna lagoon.

POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICE.

(Full information on this subject is to be found in the " Ceylon Post Office Guide ", obtainable from the Postmaster-General, Colombo, price 75 cents.)

On December 31, 1935, 877 offices were opened for business. Details of the facilities afforded are as follows :—

163 Post Offices (excluding the Central Telegraph Office which does only telegraph business) dealt with all classes of postal business, viz., mail and parcel work, registration and insurance of postal articles, money order, postal order, and Savings Bank work, and telegraph and telephone business. Sixty Post Offices dealt with all classes of business except telephone work. One Post Office conducted all classes of business except postal order, valuepayable and cash-on-delivery work and telephone work. Eleven Post Offices dealt with all classes of postal business except telegraph and telephone work.

Forty-five Sub-Post Offices conducted all classes of postal business, except insurance, and also provided telephone-telegraph facilities. 123 Sub-Post Offices also conducted such business except telephone-telegraph work.

438 Village Receiving Offices dealt with mail work only. At 37 Railway Stations facilities for the despatch and receipt of Inland postal telegrams were available. At 12 of these stations, mail work was also conducted.

There are 10,351 miles of telegraph wire (including railway telegraph wires), of which 2,728 are laid underground, and 51,836 miles of teleplone wire (including Trunk and Junction lines) for subscribers' circuits, of which 37,233 are laid underground (excluding private estate lines).

Mail Services.

A regular weekly mail service is maintained betweeen Ceylon and the United Kingdom and the continent of Europe and between Ceylon and Australia. Regular and frequent services are also available to the Straits Settlements and the Far East. Mails from Colombo to Mauritius *via* Batavia are despatched fortnightly. Direct mail to Mauritius is also sent at very irregular intervals. There is also a direct service not less than twice a month between Ceylon and South Africa. Mails from Ceylon to East Africa are despatched fortnightly *via* Bombay and direct twice a month. The mail service by train is maintained daily between Ceylon and India *via* Talaimannar.

Air Mails.—There are four despatches a week of air mail articles from Colombo to connect with the bi-weekly despatch from Karachi westwards, two closings in the week are forwarded by rail to Karachi and from thence by air to destination, whilst the other two despatches are forwarded by rail to Madras, and from thence, by the combined Indian Internal and Imperial Airways Services, the countries served by these services being the United Kingdom, Countries in Europe, Egypt and North Africa, South and East Africa, Canada and the United States of America. Correspondence intended for conveyance by the Internal Air Services of certain countries (viz., United States, Dutch East Indies, and Australia) are also despatched weekly. Air mails for Australia are forwarded weekly *via* Singapore to connect there with the air service to Australia.

Indian mails are carried generally by the Ceylon Government Railway and from railway stations by private contract motor mail services, bullock coach, or runner services.

Rates of Postage.

Inland Rates and Rates to India.

	Cents.		Cents.
For letters, per 2 ounces or part of that weight	6	For registered newspapers not weighing more than 2 pounds, for every 8 ounces	2
For post cards, each	3		
For printed matter, per 2 ounces or part of that weight up to a maximum of 2 pounds	2		

Rates to the United Kingdom, British Possessions, and Egypt.

	Cents.		Cents.
For letters, per ounce or part of that weight	9	For printed papers, per 2 ounces or part of that weight	
For post cards, each	6		

Rates to Foreign Countries (excluding Egypt).

	Cents.		Cents.
For letters, for the first ounce ..	20	For post cards, each	12
For every additional ounce or part of that weight	10	For printed papers, per 2 ounces or part of that weight	4

Inland Cash-on-Delivery System.

Postal articles can be transmitted by the Inland post on the value-payable system provided that the amount payable is not less than 50 cents or more than Rs. 600. A posting and delivery fee of 5 to 15 cents, according to value, will be levied on every value-payable article.

Foreign Cash-on-Delivery System.

The Cash-on-delivery Service is in operation between Ceylon and the United Kingdom (the Straits Settlements, the Federated Malay States) and Germany.* Details will be found in the " Ceylon Post Office Guide ".

Air Mail Parcels.

Air mail parcels addressed to any post office in Great Britain or Northern Ireland for despatch by air from Karachi shall be accepted at all post offices which accept foreign parcels. Details in " Post Office Guide " (Ceylon).

Money Orders.

Money Orders can be obtained at any of the Post Offices payable at any of the others and in most foreign countries. The maximum for inland and Indian Money Orders is Rs. 600, for foreign orders £40 except in certain special cases where the maximum is below this amount. The rate of commission for inland Money Orders is 10 cents for each complete sum of Rs. 10 and 10 cents for the remainder, and for Indian Money Orders 20 cents for each complete sum of Rs. 10 and 20 cents for the remainder. The rate for foreign Money Orders expressed in sterling is 25 cents on sums not exceeding £1, and on sums exceeding £1, 15 cents for each complete sum of £1 and 15 cents for the remainder. Money orders payable in the United Kingdom or countries served through the United Kingdom can be despatched by Air Mail on payment of a fee of 15 cents in addition to the ordinary money order commission. Telegraph Money Orders can be despatched in the inland service. Telegraph Money Order service is also available to India and some other foreign countries, a fixed fee of 10 cents irrespective of the amount of the order is charged for Inland and Indian Telegraph Money Orders. There are fixed minima for Telegraph Money Orders according to the currency in which the order is advised. Details will be found in the " Ceylon Post Office Guide ".

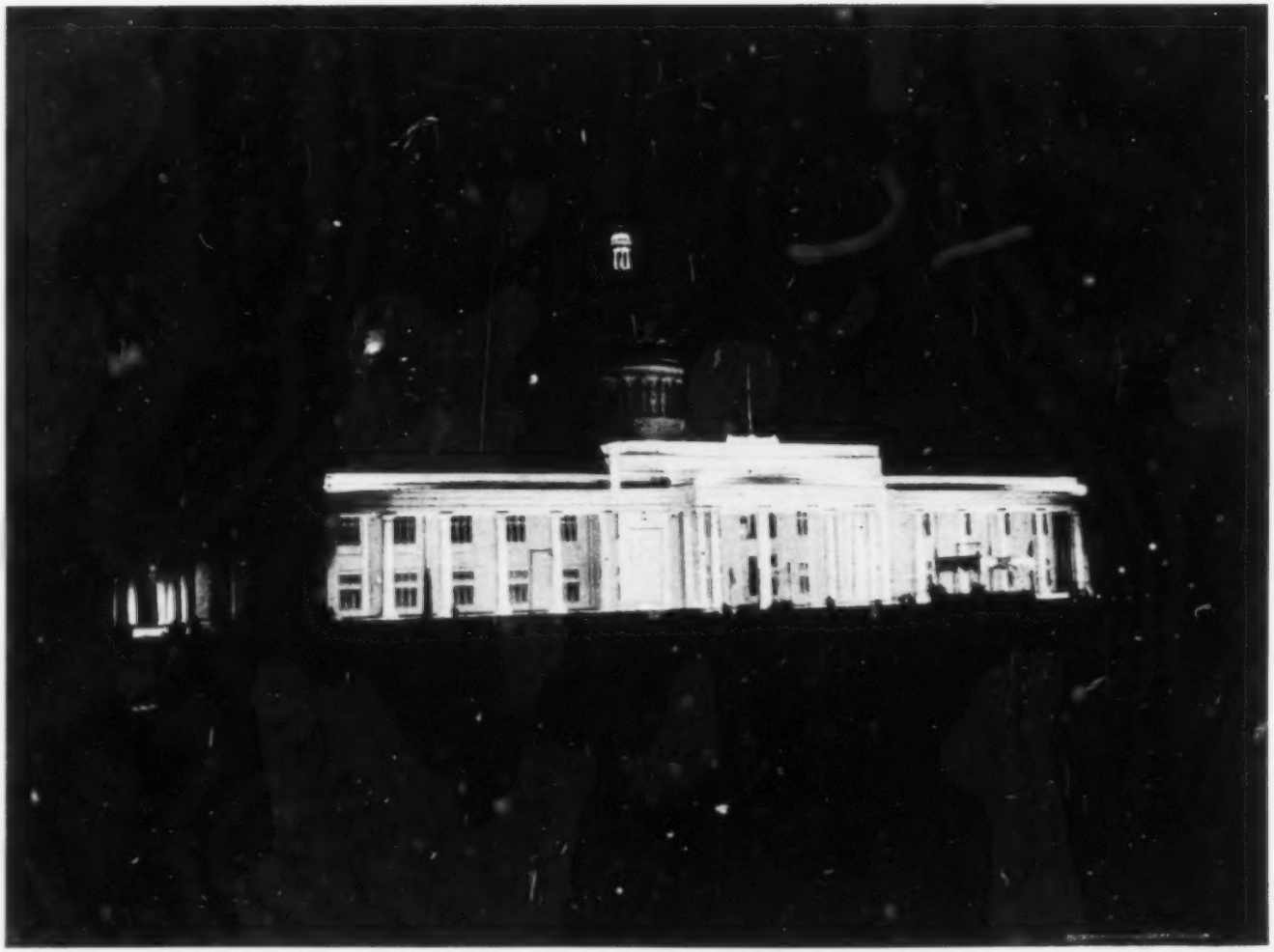
Postal Orders.

Inland Postal Orders for fixed amounts ranging from 50 cents to Rs. 10 are issued, the rate of commission varying from 3 to 10 cents.

British Postal Orders.

There are 40 denominations of British Postal Order, ranging from 6*d.* to 21*s.*, the difference between each up to 19*s.* being 6*d.*, and 1*s.* between 19*s.* and 21*s.* Commission is charged at the rate of 5 cents on each of the first three denominations, 10 cents on each of the next

* The outward service with Germany is temporarily suspended.



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THE TOWN HALL—FLOODLIT.

eighteen, and 15 cents on each of the remaining denominations. A full list of the countries to which British Postal Orders can be sent is given in section IX. of the " Ceylon Post Office Guide ". Broken amounts up to 5*d*. (but not including fractions of a penny) may be made by affixing unused Ceylon postage stamps of equivalent value or British penny postage stamps not exceeding three in number in the spaces provided on the order.

Inland Telegrams.

The minimum charge for Inland Ordinary telegrams is 50 cents for the first twelve words, including the address, and 5 cents for each additional two words or less. These telegrams can be sent from any one telegraph office to any other in the Island.

The charge for Urgent telegrams is Re. 1 for the first twelve words, including the address, and 10 cents for each additional two words or less.

Greetings and Condolence telegrams can be sent at reduced rates on such occasions as Christmas, New Year, Wesak, Hindu New Year, Id, Birthdays, Birth of a Child, Weddings, and Funerals and Deaths. The text of such a telegram should be a phrase selected from the list of stock phrases appearing at the end of rule 419A of the Ceylon Post Office Guide. The entire text is counted as one word for the purpose of the collection of charges. The charges are 30 cents for each such telegram consisting of not more than six words and 5 cents for each additional word in the name and address of the addressee or of the sender. For fuller details, see the rule already quoted.

Foreign and Colonial Telegrams.

The rates for telegrams to India (including Burma) are express Rs. 2, and ordinary Re. 1 for the first 12 words or less, and 15 cents and 10 cents respectively for each additional word.

Telegrams to places in other British Possessions and foreign countries can be sent on a minimum charge per word varying from 40 cents to Rs. 5·80 for ordinary, and from 40 cents to Rs. 2·90 for deferred telegrams, according to the distance of the place of destination, the route by which the telegram is to be sent, &c. A full list of places to which foreign and Colonial telegrams can be sent, together with the rates charged, is given in section 11 of the " Ceylon Post Office Guide ".

Foreign Cheap Rate Telegrams.

Telegrams in plain language are accepted for transmission as " Daily Letter Telegrams " to various places abroad at considerably reduced rates. A list of places to which this service is available, and the scale of charges, will be found in section 11 of the " Ceylon Post Office Guide ".

Radio-Telegrams.

Radio-Telegrams are accepted at any Postal Telegraph Office in Ceylon for transmission to ships equipped with radio-telegraph apparatus through the Coast Station in Colombo.

The charges are as follows :—

	Per Word. Cents.
British, Indian, or Colonial Government Telegrams to or from His Britannic Majesty's Ships of War ..	Free
Private telegrams to or from His Britannic Majesty's Ships of War ..	40
All other Government or private telegrams	65
On Radio Telegrams sent to—	
(a) Spanish and Swedish ships the charge is	60
(b) Finnish ships the charge is ..	50

The normal range of the Colombo Radio Station is 500 miles or about two days steaming from or to the port of Colombo, but this distance is considerably exceeded when conditions are favourable and also according to the equipment on board the ships.

With ships fitted with the Short Wave System, communication is possible for a few thousand miles. Ships not so fitted can be reached through those having the facility.

Telephone System.

Telephone communication exists between most of the principal towns and certain rural districts. The towns are generally served by Government exchanges and the rural districts by Government or private licensed exchanges which are connected to the general trunk system by means of Government junction lines.

The charge for the use of a public call box for six minutes or less is 10 cents, and for the use of the trunk and junction lines for three minutes or less on day calls between 6 A.M. and 6 P.M., and for six minutes or less on night calls between 6 P.M. and 6 A.M., the charge is as follows :—

	Cents.
For 15 miles or under	15
Over 15 miles and not exceeding 32½ miles	25
Over 32½ miles and not exceeding 60 miles	50
Every additional 25 miles or part of a mile	25

The minimum annual rental for a telephone connection to a large town exchange is Rs. 180 for business or professional purposes and Rs. 120 for non-business or residential purposes and for a connection to a small town exchange Rs. 125 and Rs. 90 respectively.

Broadcasting Service.

The Government maintains a regular broadcasting service on a wavelength of 428·5 meters (700 KC) with a transmitter radiating 1 K.W. situated in Colombo.

Programmes consisting of music, talks and news are broadcast in English, Sinhalese, and Tamil for about two hours at noon, half an hour at tea time, and about four hours in the evening. During these hours the Empire programmes from Daventry are picked up and relayed, whenever they are considered of interest.

The number of listeners in the Island at the end of 1935 was 3,053 which is 0·56 per thousand of population, as against 2,342 listeners at the end of 1934.

School Broadcasting.—There is a regular broadcast to schools conducted by the Department of Education who use the microphone during the afternoons on certain days.

CHAPTER XI.

Banking, Currency, Weights and Measures.

BANKS.

THE following is a list of banks which have branches in Ceylon :—

Name of Bank	Imperial Bank of India
Address of Head Office ..	Madras
Branch in Ceylon ..	Prince street, Fort, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon ..	—
London Office	25, Old Broad street, London, E.C. 2
Name of Bank	National Bank of India, Ltd.
Address of Head Office ..	26, Bishopsgate, London, E.C. 2
Branches in Ceylon ..	York street, Fort, Colombo ; Ward street, Kandy ; and Nuwara Eliya
Agents in Ceylon ..	Clark, Spence & Co., Galle
Bankers in the United Kingdom	The Bank of England ; The National Provincial Bank, Ltd. ; The National Bank of Scotland, Ltd.
Name of Bank	Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China
Address of Head Office ..	38, Bishopsgate, London, E.C. 2
Branch in Ceylon ..	Queen street and Baillie street, Fort, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon ..	Mercantile Bank of India, Ltd., Galle
Bankers in the United Kingdom	The Bank of England ; Midland Bank, Ltd. ; Westminster Bank, Ltd. ; National Provincial Bank, Ltd. ; The National Bank of Scotland, Ltd. ; Lloyds Bank, Ltd.
Name of Bank	Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation
Address of Head Office ..	1, Queen's road, Hong Kong, China
Branch in Ceylon ..	24, Prince street, Fort, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon ..	E. Coates & Co. (Galle), Ltd., Galle
Bankers in the United Kingdom	The Westminster Bank, Ltd.
Name of Bank	The Mercantile Bank of India, Ltd.
Address of Head Office ..	15, Gracechurch Street, London, E.C. 3
Branches in Ceylon ..	16, Queen street, Fort, Colombo ; 97, Queen's Hotel building, Kandy ; and Galle
Agents in Ceylon ..	—
Bankers in the United Kingdom	The Bank of England ; Midland Bank, Ltd.
Name of Bank	The Eastern Bank, Ltd.
Address of Head Office ..	2 and 3, Crosby square, Bishopsgate, London, E.C. 3
Branch in Ceylon ..	75–77, Chatham street, Fort, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon ..	—
Bankers in the United Kingdom	The Bank of England ; Westminster Bank, Ltd.; The National Provincial Bank, Ltd. ; The Bank of Scotland ; Barclay's Bank, Ltd. ; Martin's Bank, Ltd.
Name of Bank	The P. & O. Banking Corporation Ltd., (with which is affiliated The Allahabad Bank, Ltd.)
Address of Head Office ..	117–122, Leadenhall street, London, E.C. 3
Branch in Ceylon ..	Victoria Arcade buildings, York street, Fort, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon ..	—
Bankers in the United Kingdom	The Bank of England ; Lloyds Bank, Ltd. ; Westminster Bank, Ltd. ; The National Provincial Bank, Ltd. ; Royal Bank of Scotland

Name of Bankers ..	Thos. Cook & Son (Bankers), Ltd.
Address of Head Office ..	Berkeley street, Piccadilly, London, W. 1
Branch in Ceylon ..	Prince street, Fort, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon ..	—
Bankers in the United Kingdom	The National Provincial Bank, Ltd. ; Barclay's Bank, Ltd. ; Midland Bank, Ltd.
Name of Bank	Indian Bank, Ltd.
Address of Head Office ..	Indian Bank buildings, North Beach road, Madras
Branches in Ceylon ..	Baillie street, Colombo ; Grand Bazaar, Jaffna
Agents in Ceylon ..	None
Bankers in the United Kingdom	None
Name of Bank	The Calicut Bank, Ltd.
Address of Head Office ..	The Calicut Bank, Ltd., Bank road, Calicut, India
Branch in Ceylon ..	15, Baillie street, Fort, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon ..	None
Bankers in the United Kingdom	None
Name of Bank	The Bank of Chettinad, Ltd.
Address of Head Office ..	The Bank of Chettinad, Ltd., Chettinad, South India
Branch in Ceylon ..	The Bank of Chettinad, Ltd., 256, Sea street, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon ..	No Agency (Manager : P. L. M. Chidambaram Chettiar)
Bankers in the United Kingdom	None
Name of Bank	Bank of Uva, Ltd.
Address of Head Office	Badulla
Branch in Ceylon ..	—
Agents in Ceylon ..	Colombo Commercial Co., Ltd., Colombo
Bankers in the United Kingdom	—

Banking Agencies.

Name of Bank.	Agents in Ceylon.
Coutts & Co.	George Steuart & Co., Colombo
Ulster Bank, Ltd., Belfast	do.
Westminster Bank, Ltd.	do.
Bank of Montreal	do.
Charles Hoare & Co.	do.
Martin's Bank, Ltd.	do.
National Provincial Bank, Ltd. ..	do.

Savings Banks.

There are two Savings Banks, viz., the Ceylon Savings Bank and the Post Office Savings Bank.

The Ceylon Savings Bank is a Government institution established in 1832. Accounts may be opened with a minimum deposit of 50 cents, and not more than Rs. 2,000 can be deposited in one year irrespective of withdrawals. The maximum sum which a depositor may have to his or her credit is Rs. 6,000. Charitable institutions or societies may deposit Rs. 3,000 per annum up to a maximum of Rs. 9,000. The Bank allows interest at the rate of 3½ per cent. on accounts of Rs. 1,000 and under, and 3 per cent. on accounts above Rs. 1,000.

The Post Office Savings Bank is managed by the Post and Telegraph Department. Deposits and withdrawals can be made at any of the Post Offices in the Island. The minimum amount that can be deposited is 25 cents, and the maximum per annum is Rs. 750 irrespective of

withdrawals. The total amount which a depositor may have to his or her credit is Rs. 3,000. The rate of interest allowed is 2·4 per cent.—2 cents per month for each complete sum of Rs. 10.

Co-operative Societies.

There were, on April 30, 1935, 1,005 registered Co-operative Societies in Ceylon, of which 3 were Co-operative Central Banks, 854 Village Credit Societies or Banks of Unlimited Liability, 27 societies of Limited Liability, 60 Thrift Societies, 33 Supervising Unions, 17 Supply Societies, 2 Co-operative Land Mortgage Banks, 4 Sale Societies, 2 Co-operative Milk Supply Societies, 1 Co-operative Motor Boat Society, 1 Health Society, and 1 Sports Society. These Societies had 35,358 members.

Statistics are compiled only at the end of the co-operative working year on April 30. Since then 3 more Supply Societies, 4 Thrift Societies, 3 Estate Thrift Societies and 3 Credit Societies have been registered.

The Societies were handling on April 30, Rs. 3,043,100.

Loans are still made directly by Government to Societies in the less developed portions of the Island, but this system is being gradually replaced by independent Central Banks as the movement develops.

The percentage of overdue loans for the whole Island was 12·76 for the year ending April 30, 1935.

The whole movement is at present undergoing thorough overhaul; members of credit societies are agreeing to make all profits indivisible for ever in order to create a sound system of finance. In order to overcome any opposition from the larger shareholders, it is being arranged that shares shall be of low amount, twenty to thirty rupees each, and that the holdings shall be equal. The credit-worthiness of societies is being further enhanced by more careful scrutiny of the objects of loans and of the period for their repayment. Attention is being concentrated on the education of the staff and through them of the members in the principles of co-operative organization. New rules under the Ordinance have been prepared and gazetted.

Co-operative Stores are growing in popularity and are generally doing well. Thrift is being encouraged with good results. A serious attempt is being made to bring the benefits of co-operation within the reach of the poorer classes, provided that they qualify for membership by their honesty and industry.

Much good work is being done and with a wider understanding of the principles of association and of banking, it is hoped that the demand for new societies will materialize into organizations of value to the people.

CURRENCY, &c.

The monetary unit in Ceylon is the Indian silver rupee, which is divided into 100 cents. The following fractions of the rupee are coined:—(1) Silver, 50-cent piece; 25-cent piece; and 10-cent piece; (2) nickle 5-cent piece; (3) copper, 1-cent piece and ½-cent piece.

The chief medium of exchange in Ceylon is the currency notes issued by the Government of Ceylon. They are of the following values:—Rs. 1,000, Rs. 500, Rs. 100, Rs. 50, Rs. 10, Rs. 5, Rs. 2, and Re. 1. The present value of the rupee is about 1*s.* 6*d.*

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

The standard weights and measures are the English units. In conjunction with these many local weights and measures are used.

CHAPTER XII.

Public Works.

WITH the introduction in July, 1931, of the new Constitution for the Island under the Ceylon (State Council) Order in Council, 1931, the Public Works Department is placed under the immediate control of the Executive Committee of Communications and Works.

There was an appreciable increase in expenditure in 1935 on that of the previous years. This increase had made it possible to undertake some very urgent works which had been postponed to curtail expenditure. The total expenditure by the Department amounted to Rs. 8,260,407 as against Rs. 6,760,020 during the previous year (1933–34) and Rs. 26,832,348 six years ago (1928–29).

Maintenance.—The roads, bridges, canals, and public buildings in charge of the Department were maintained in satisfactory condition having regard to the restricted funds available.

New Works.—The following are the more important works completed or in progress during the year :—

NEW BUILDINGS AND ADDITIONS AND IMPROVEMENTS TO BUILDINGS.

Bacteriological Institute (two-storey block).
New Nurses' Home, General Hospital, Colombo.
Kitchen, Ragama Anti-Tuberculosis Hospital.
Additions and improvements to Mahara Prison.
Water Supply, Gampaha Hospital.
Additional bedroom to Prison Apothecary's quarters, Negombo Prison.
Additional room to Postmaster's quarters, Kalutara.
Record Presses, Kalutara Land Registry.
Quarters for Nurses' and Pupil Midwives, De Soysa Lying-in Home.
Extension to Colombo Law Library.
Extensions to labour room, De Soysa Lying-in Home.
Additions to Government Dairy.
Additional Class rooms, Government Training College.
Improvements to buildings allocated to the Government Analyst's Department in Torrington square.
Extensions to the Out-patients' Department, General Hospital, Colombo.
Improvements to Government Technical College.
Extensions to Civil Medical Stores.
Improvements to Water Service, &c., Welikada Prison.
Extensions to the University College building.
Extensions of the Central Telegraph building to house the new automatic telephone equipment.
Dairy Farm at Polonnaruwa.
Quarters for the Medical Officer, Dambulla.
Smith's Shop and Extension of existing Carpenters' Shed at Farm School, Peradeniya.
Special repairs to Manager's bungalow, Experiment Station, Peradeniya
Additions and improvements to Experiment Station, Peradeniya.
Water Supply, Alutnuwara Hospital.

New quarters for the Medical Officer, Kotmale.
Maternity Ward, Nawalapitiya Hospital.
Extensions to Operating Theatre, Galle Hospital.
Accommodation for an X'Ray Apparatus, Galle Hospital.
Additions to District Court, Galle.
Water Supply, Tangalla Hospital.
Extension of the Kachcheri Land Office, Hambantota.
New Light House at Talaimannar.
Quarters for two linesmen at Madawachchiya.
Accommodation for an X'Ray Apparatus, Jaffna Hospital.
Improvements to Drainage, Mannar Hospital.
Extension to cable hut at Talaimannar.
Additional Storey to Religious Sisters' quarters, Mantivu Leper Asylum.
Additions to Court-house, Trincomalee.
New Police Court, Dandagamuwa.
Water Supplies to the hospitals at Anamaduwa, Puttalam, and Dandagamuwa.
Improvements to Bandarawela Dispensary.
Improvements to Apothecary's quarters, Badulla Hospital.
Improvements to Ceylon Defence Force Camp buildings, Diyatalawa.
Additions and improvements to Ambepussa Farm.
Additions and improvements to Clerks' quarters, Pelmadulla.

BRIDGES.

Reconstruction of bridge No. 5/1, Colombo-Kandy road.
Hekitta bridge on approach road to Leper Asylum, Hendala.
Bolgoda bridge on 5th mile, Panadure-Nambapana road.
Maguruganga bridge consisting of 4 spans of 30 feet with roadway 12 feet.
Reconstruction of bridges Nos. 38/9 and 34/9, Kandy-Haragama-Kurundu-oya road.
Footbridge over the Mahaweli-ganga at Lewella.
Strengthening Malwatu-oya bridge, 74th mile, Kandy-Jaffna road.
Renewing steelwork and improving bridge No. 35/1, Kandy-Badulla road.
Dikwella bridge.
Bridge No. 1/7, Hakmana-Tangalla road.
Improvements to Tudawa bridge No. 2/2, Matara-Hakmana road.
Improving upper bridge No. 196/2, Kaithady-Jaffna road.
Repairs to bridge No. 32/2, Karativu-Sammanturai and Irakkamam road.
Reconstruction of bridge No. 17/5, Kurunegala-Puttalam road.
Strengthening bridge No. 22/1, Wellawaya-Moneragala road.
Strengthening bridge No. 21/3, Moneragala-Pottuvil road.
Improving bridges Nos. 105/25, 106/1, and 109/2, Colombo-Haputala road.
Construction of 95th mile, Pelmadulla-Halpe road.
Widening and improving bridge No. 29/1, Colombo-Ratnapura road.
Strengthening bridges Nos. 4/3, 7/6, 15/7, and 16/6, Nambapana road.
Bridge No. 66/14, Kendangamuwa-Pelmadulla road.
Improvements to bridge No. 45/8, Kendangamuwa-Pelmadulla road.
Bridge No. 67/8, Kendangamuwa-Pelmadulla road.

Additions and Improvements to Roads.

Rebuilding culverts 25/2 and 26/2, Colombo-Galle road.
Culvert on approach road to P. W. D. quarry, Kirillapone.
Improvement of miles 5 to 16, Ganewelpola-Galenbindunuwewa (Eastern Minor road), Maradankadawala district.
Improving miles 2 to 6, Embilimigama-Alagalla, Kandy District.
Improving 15th mile, Hambantota-Tanamalwila-Wellawaya road.
Improving Kandy-Jaffna road.
Improving Trincomalee-Yanoya road, 7–10 miles.
Improvements to Batticaloa-Trincomalee road, 62–74 miles.
Widening of and improvements to Bazaar street and Puttalam road, Kurunegala.
Widening 10–15¼ miles, Alawwa-Polgahawela road.
Construction and extension of culverts on Ratnapura-Nambapana road.
Improvements to Balangoda-Kaltota road.
Improving Warakapola-Ruanwella road.

Improvements to Minor Roads.

Twelve culverts on Biyagama-Mudungoda road.
Four culverts on Urapola-Hanwela road.
Rebuilding wall 2nd mile, Sayakaramulla-Badalgama road.
Rebuilding culvert 2/1 on Negombo-Alutpola road.
Improving 6th mile, Cotta-Padukka road.
Building bridge and reconstructing culverts on Karandeniya-Halpatota road.
Rebuilding culverts on Labuduwa-Wanduramba road.
Building bridge and improving culverts on Kamburupitiya-Mawarella road.
Building bridges and reconstructing culverts on Beliatta-Walasmulla road.
Improvements to bridge and culverts, Chavakachcheri-Thanankillappu road.
Improvements to Eastern Minor road.
Reconstructing bridges on Kahawatta-Bemmullegedera road.
Constructing bridge on Dambokka-Katupitiya road.
Constructing a causeway culvert on Mahakeliya-Katupota road.
Improvements to Uraliyaagare-Panirandawa road.
Improving Dambokka-Katupitiya road.
Improving Kiriyankali-Andigama-Anamaduwa road.
Improving Mawatagama-Barandara road.

Miscellaneous.

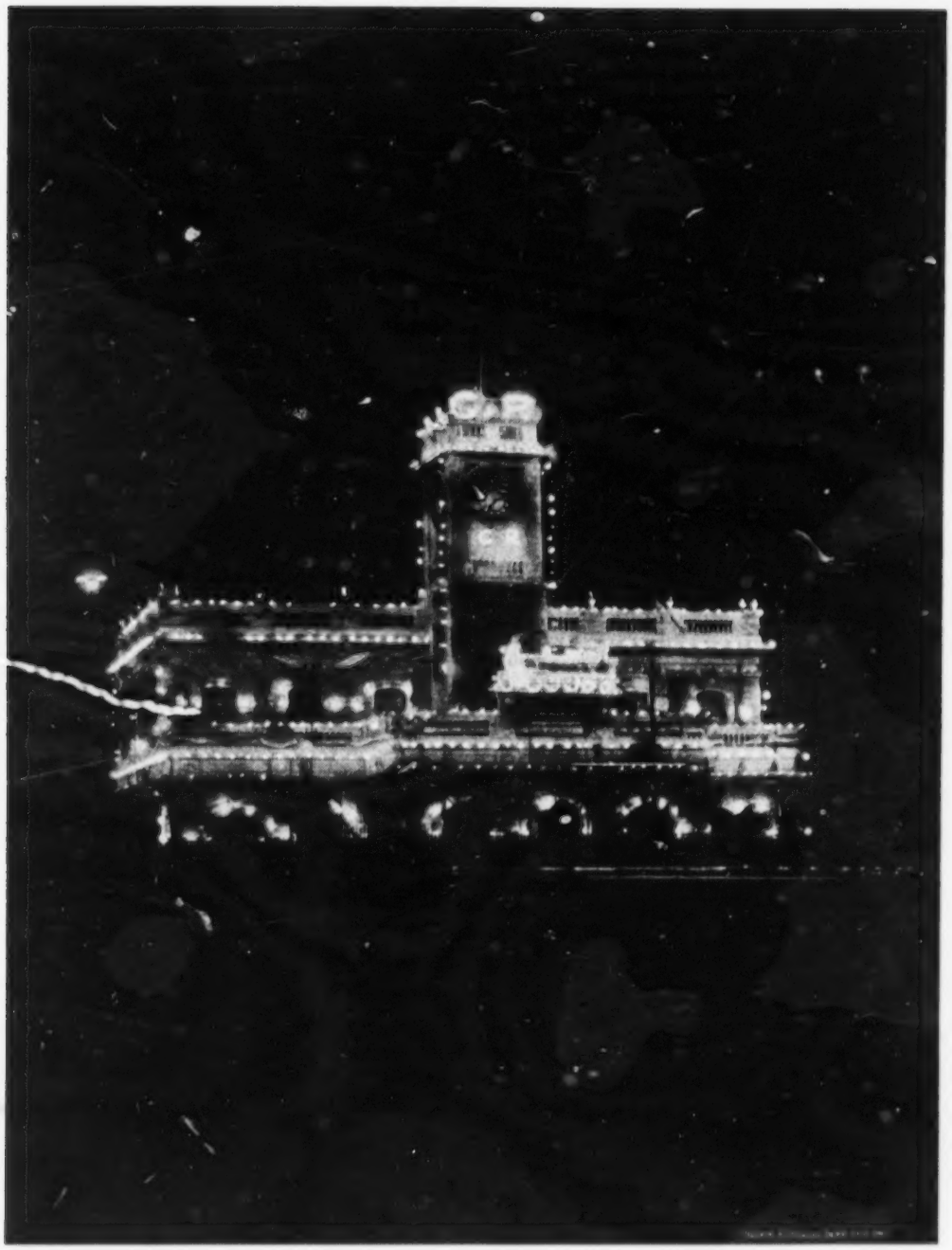
New Aerodrome at Ratmalana.
Karaiyur Reclamation Scheme.

Unemployment Relief Works in and about Colombo.

Medical Research Institute site.
Buller's road swamp.
Government Dairy, Narahenpitiya.
Approach road to Kirillapone quarry.

Waterworks.

Improvements to water supplies at Diyatalawa, Gampola, Kahawatte, and Mannar.



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MARADANA STATION—ILLUMINATED.

IRRIGATION.

Early History.—From the earliest period in the history of the Island the importance of conserving water for irrigation has been recognized. Historical records indicate that the construction of the necessary tanks and channels came to be regarded as a special and solemn duty assigned to the King for promoting the wealth and welfare of his subjects, and that in proportion to the zeal with which different monarchs had exercised this prerogative their names were venerated. The remains of extensive and intricate networks of tanks and canals can be found to-day in every part of the Island. Though it is unlikely that all these various irrigation systems ever existed simultaneously in full working order, it is clear that the ancient engineers realized the principles of conserving on a very large scale the intermittent supplies carried by the main rivers, and with the advantage of an unlimited command of labour and an intimate knowledge of their terrain, though handicapped by the primitive nature of their technique and appliances, they made valiant and often successful efforts to apply them.

Decay and Subsequent Growth.—Indigenous irrigation activity and agricultural prosperity seem to have reached their zenith about the twelfth century A.D. From then onwards to the modern era Ceylon was not infrequently ravaged by internal warfare and pestilence. No large irrigation work was constructed in this period, and, until the advent of the Dutch and subsequently of the British, the works already built were allowed to fall into disuse and disrepair. There is probably no form of civil engineering work that demands more constant and unremitting attention to its maintenance than that connected with the control of water, and it is not difficult to appreciate that without such attention the once great irrigation works very rapidly succumbed to the onset of floods and the ceaseless inroads of the jungle. In modern times many of the old irrigation works have been restored to active usefulness. There are yet others embedded in the jungle which await restoration as and when occasion arises.

Importance of Irrigation.—The importance of irrigation in Ceylon is due to two causes, one dietetic and the other climatic. Rice is the staple food of the people and its cultivation, though not always remunerative, has, through secular and religious encouragement, acquired a definite social status as the national agricultural industry. Rice practically grows in water, and although the rainfall in the Island is generally adequate in total amount, its seasonal incidence is uncertain. Rice cultivation cannot succeed if it depends solely on the vagaries of such rainfall, and the construction and maintenance of artificial means of diverting and conserving water are manifestly essential.

Classification of Irrigation Works.—The total area under paddy in Ceylon to-day is approximately 800,000 acres, which may be divided into four main categories according to the system of irrigation practised in each :—

		Approximate Area Acres.
I.	Major works	160,000
II.	Minor works : Village tanks	200,000
III.	Do. Village channels	170,000
	Total under artificial irrigation	530,000
IV.—	Direct rainfall	270,000
	Total ..	800,000

The owners of land under major works are required to contribute, by an assessed annual rate, towards the cost of construction and maintenance of the works. The " construction rate " is generally a very small percentage of the capital cost of the work and the " maintenance rate " not infrequently produces considerably less revenue than the actual expenditure incurred by Government on the maintenance of the work.

Minor works, both tanks and channels, are maintained by the villagers themselves under the general supervision of Government officials and with the tangible and often considerable assistance of Government. The fourth category covers lands which, being situated in localities of evenly distributed rainfall, are able with reasonable chances of success to dispense with artificial irrigation. The trouble on these lands is often the superabundance of water rather than its deficiency, and drainage rather than irrigation their particular need.

Progressive Development of Activities.—When the Irrigation Department was created in 1900 it was assigned the engineering duties of operating and maintaining those major works which had already been restored in whole or part, and of restoring a selection of old abandoned works under which the prospects of development appeared to be favourable. The administrative side of these works and the general responsibility for all minor irrigation works remained the function of the revenue officers, with such advice and assistance as they required from the Irrigation Department. Under this regime steady progress was made with the extension and improvement of irrigation service under major works, and latterly the engineering resources of the department have been applied in a steadily increasing degree to the improvement of minor irrigation tanks and channels on modern scientific lines. Another development of the department's functions, which is rapidly acquiring considerable importance, is the construction of schemes for preventing or abating floods, for improvement of drainage conditions on irrigable lands, and for exclusion of sea-water therefrom. With this development the department has become directly interested in all the four categories of irrigation in Ceylon and the scope of its service has correspondingly widened.

Irrigation Works.—Under the present Constitution the department is under the general control of the Executive Committee of Agriculture and Lands, and a progressive policy of active development is being pursued. The principal works of construction on which the department was engaged during 1935, in addition to the maintenance, operation, and improvement of working schemes, are given below :—

Karachchi Scheme, Northern Province.—Extensions of distribution channel and road systems including Paranthan old fields for 13,000 acres.

Akathimurippu Scheme, Northern Province.—Construction of distributary system to village tanks.

Minneriya Scheme, North-Central Province.—Construction of main and branch channels and roads for the first stage of the development scheme (4,570) acres.

Kalawewa Scheme, North-Central Province.—Construction of channel and road systems for 2,000 acres in Kagama.

Nachchaduwa Scheme, North-Central Province.—Extensions of channels and roads for development of 800-acre block.

Tabbowa Scheme, North-Western Province.—Extensions of channels and roads for a total paddy area of 1,000 acres.

Diyaturai Scheme, North-Western Province.—Construction of Right and Left Bank channels.

Kottukachchiya Tank, North-Western Province.—Improvements for which an estimate for Rs. 10,540 was sanctioned.

Udugoda Bandara-ela, Central Province.—Reconstruction of first 4½ miles of the ela.

Gampoalawela Raja-ela, Central Province.—Reconditioning of the first 3 miles of the ela.

Rufuskulam Scheme, Eastern Province.—Construction of channels for 1,500 acres.

Unnichchai Left Bank Scheme, Eastern Province.—Extension of channel system.

Rugam Scheme, Eastern Province.—Kumacholai Agricultural road.

Etabendawewa, Eastern Province.—Improvements for which an estimate for Rs. 10,250 was sanctioned.

Walawe Left Bank Scheme, Southern Province.—Construction of irrigation and drainage channels.

Kirama-oya Scheme, Southern Province.—Construction of anicuts and channels.

Kirinde-oya Left Bank Scheme, Southern Province.—Galamuna-Tissa Bazaar agricultural road.

Deddura Scheme, Southern Province.—Construction of outfall works at Kaikawela, culverts under Railway and Public Works road, &c., for the drainage of paddy lands.

Colombo Flood Scheme, Western Province.—Raising and strengthening of protection bund to 4 feet above highest recorded flood level. This work was undertaken as an unemployment relief measure and gave continuous employment throughout most of the year to about 1,000 labourers.

Minor Flood Protection Schemes, Western Province.—Schemes for the exclusion of minor Kelani floods were undertaken for the Henpita, Ranale, and Pahuru-oya tracts; similar schemes on the Kalu-ganga were completed at Nikatu and Thoragala elas.

Colombo South Drainage and Reclamation Scheme, Western Province.—Construction work in stage (i.) of the scheme including remodelling of the Wellawatta canal as main outlet.

Kumbukkan-oya Scheme, Province of Uva.—Kumbukkan-Okkampitiya agricultural track.

Village Works Improvements: General.—The sum of Rs. 181,974·51 was expended on the improvement of 118 village works throughout the Island, by the construction of spills, sluices, anicuts, and similar works. In return the villagers are required, by formal agreement, to complete within a stated period, the complementary earthwork and other improvements that lie within their capacity.

Famine Relief Works.—As a result of the malaria epidemic and the partial or complete failure of two successive monsoons very grave and widespread distress arose in the rural areas. The situation called for the immediate provision of relief work on a very large scale, and it is one of the consoling features of this sombre chapter in Ceylon's history that it was possible to provide such relief work on the necessary scale on irrigation

works of permanent economic benefit to the community. The most important of the numerous irrigation projects carried out in the malaria and drought stricken zones, was the reconstruction of the Ridibendi-ela in the North-Western Province. This channel is intended to convey water from the Deduru-oya to Magallawewa tank, 14 miles away, and the heavy earthwork in the first two miles provided an ideally concentrated job for the steady employment of 1,800 distressed villagers. An up-to-date camp was erected at the site and the labour force was housed, organized, and conducted, on lines reminiscent of the Great War training camps. It may be added that there was literally competition for employment on this scheme, and that the inclusive rates for the work done were only about one-third more than ordinary contract rates would have been.

Scope of Future Activity.—There is very wide scope for much more extensive cultivation under irrigation scheme, and many schemes of restoration and development of ancient works and the construction of new ones can be taken up, as the demand for such extension arises. Apart from the ultimate and possibly far distant object of producing the staple food of the country in sufficient quantity to meet her consumption requirements, the restoration of the paddy industry to its traditional prestige, importance, and attractiveness, and the resettlement in large numbers of a happy and contented peasantry on the land, would be an inestimable benefit to the Island and go far towards solving the unemployment problem in the towns.

CHAPTER XIII.

Justice and Police.

The Judicial System of Ceylon.

Supreme Court.—The Supreme Court consists of a Chief Justice and six Puisne Judges. It has appellate and revisional jurisdiction in civil cases from all courts except Village Tribunals. It exercises no original jurisdiction in civil cases. Under Ordinance No. 2 of 1891 it is a Colonial Court of Admiralty.

The Supreme Court has original jurisdiction in all criminal cases and exclusive jurisdiction in respect of the more serious offences, such as homicide, rape, and the graver types of housebreaking and robbery. In practice it seldom tries cases which do not fall within its exclusive jurisdiction. It usually sits with a jury and tries cases committed for trial by a Police Court. It exercises appellate and revisional jurisdiction over all criminal courts except Village Tribunals. The Supreme Court may pass any sentence authorized by law. It has also the power to issue writs of *habeas corpus, mandamus, quo warranto*, &c., and also to disenrol Advocates and Proctors who are found guilty of deceits, crimes or malpractices. Special jurisdiction is conferred on the Supreme Court to hear election petitions.

District Courts.—The District Courts, of which there are at present 22 in the Island, have unlimited original civil (including testamentary and matrimonial) jurisdiction and criminal jurisdiction in respect of all offences which are not within the exclusive jurisdiction of the Supreme

Court. District Courts try only cases committed to them for trial by Police Courts.* District Courts may pass any of the following sentences :—

(*a*) Imprisonment of either description for a term not exceeding 2 years ;
(*b*) Fine not exceeding one thousand rupees ;
(*c*) Whipping ;
(*d*) Any lawful sentence combining any two of the sentences aforesaid.

When a person is convicted at one trial of any two or more distinct offences the aggregate punishment it can award is twice the punishment described above.

Under sections 3 and 4 of Ordinance No. 2 of 1891 the Governor has power to appoint a District Court to have a limited Admiralty jurisdiction. The District Court of Colombo alone has been appointed to exercise such jurisdiction.

Police Courts.—There are 43 Police Courts in the Island. The offences which a Police Court may try are specified in the schedule to the Criminal Procedure Code, 1898. Various Ordinances have also made other offences triable by a Police Court. A Police Court may not pass a sentence heavier than the following, except where an Ordinance has specially empowered it so to do :—

(*a*) Imprisonment of either description for a term not exceeding 6 months ;
(*b*) Fine not exceeding one hundred rupees ;
(*c*) Whipping, if the offender is under 16 years of age ;
(*d*) Any lawful sentence combining any two of the sentences aforesaid.

When a person is convicted at one trial of any two or more distinct offences the aggregate punishment it can award is twice the punishment described above.

Police Courts also hold preliminary inquiries into crimes with a view to committal for trial by a District Court or the Supreme Court. If after inquiry a Police Magistrate is of opinion that an accused should be discharged he makes order to this effect. Where a Magistrate is of opinion that an accused should be committed for trial to a court of competent jurisdiction, the record of the proceedings at the inquiry is forwarded to the Attorney-General, who directs the Police Magistrate to commit the accused or to discharge him.

A special jurisdiction is conferred on Police Courts to make orders for the maintenance of wives and children.

Courts of Requests.—Courts of Requests have original civil jurisdiction (subject to certain exceptions) in all actions in which the debt, damage, or demand or value of the land in dispute does not as a rule exceed Rs. 300.

* Under section 152 of the Criminal Procedure Code, a Police Magistrate who is also a District Judge may, in the course of an inquiry into an offence which is triable by a District Court, proceed to try such offence summarily when he is of opinion that it can properly be so tried. In such a case there is no previous committal.

6——J. N. 55200 (6/36)

There are 43 Courts of Requests in the Island, of which one (the Colombo Court) is presided over by a separate Commissioner. All the others are presided over by a District Judge or a Police Magistrate who acts as Commissioner of Requests in addition to his own duties as District Judge or Police Magistrate.

Village Tribunals.—Village Tribunals have civil jurisdiction for actions in which the debt, damage, or demand or the value of the land in dispute does not exceed Rs. 20, or, where both parties consent, Rs. 100 and in cases between a Co-operative Society and its members. Village Tribunals have criminal jurisdiction to try breaches of rules made by the inhabitants of the subdivision or the Village Committee under section 29 of Ordinance No. 9 of 1924, and various minor offences enumerated in the schedule to Ordinance No. 9 of 1924. A Village Tribunal may impose a fine not exceeding Rs. 20 or 14 days' imprisonment in default of payment.

A Village Tribunal is presided over by a paid President appointed by the Governor. He sits with three Councillors chosen by lot. In the case of difference of opinion between the President and the Councillors, the opinion of the President prevails (section 50 of Ordinance No. 9 of 1924).

There are 216 Village Tribunals in the Island, namely, 24 in the Western Province, 33 in the Central, 50 in the Southern, 6 in the Northern, 22 in the Eastern, 21 in the North-Western, 15 in the North-Central, 17 in the Uva, and 28 in the Province of Sabaragamuwa.

Village Committees.—Village Committees in subdivisions where no Village Tribunal has been established, have power to try breaches of rules made by the inhabitants, of the subdivision or the Village Committee under section 29 of Ordinance No. 9 of 1924, and have the same power of punishment as Village Tribunals.

There are 63 Village Committees exercising this jurisdiction in the Island, namely, 51 in the Northern Province, 9 in the Province of Sabaragamuwa, 2 in the Eastern Province, and 1 in the North-Western Province.

The following schedule gives detailed information as regards the number of Courts, the number of Judges, Magistrates, &c. :—

Number of Courts, Judges, &c.

Court.	Number of Courts.	Number of Judges.	Remarks.
Supreme Court	1	7	1 Chief Justice and 6 Puisne Judges
District Court	23	26	There are 4 judges for the District Court of Colombo and two each for those of Kandy, Galle, and Jaffna. There is one judge for the District Courts of Chilaw and Puttalam, one for those of Nuwara Eliya and Hatton, and one for those of Mullaittivu and Vavuniya. Eleven of these officers are Police Magistrates and Commissioners of Requests in addition to their duties as District Judges.
Police Court	43	31	There are three Magistrates sitting at Colombo. The following groups of Courts have one Magistrate each :— Badulla, Bandarawela ; Matale, Panwila, Teldeniya ; Nuwara Eliya, Hatton ; Jaffna, Kayts, Mallakam ; Point Pedro, Chavakachcheri ; Batticaloa, Kalmunai ; Mullaittivu, Vavuniya
Village Tribunal	216	60	—
Village Committee	63	—	—

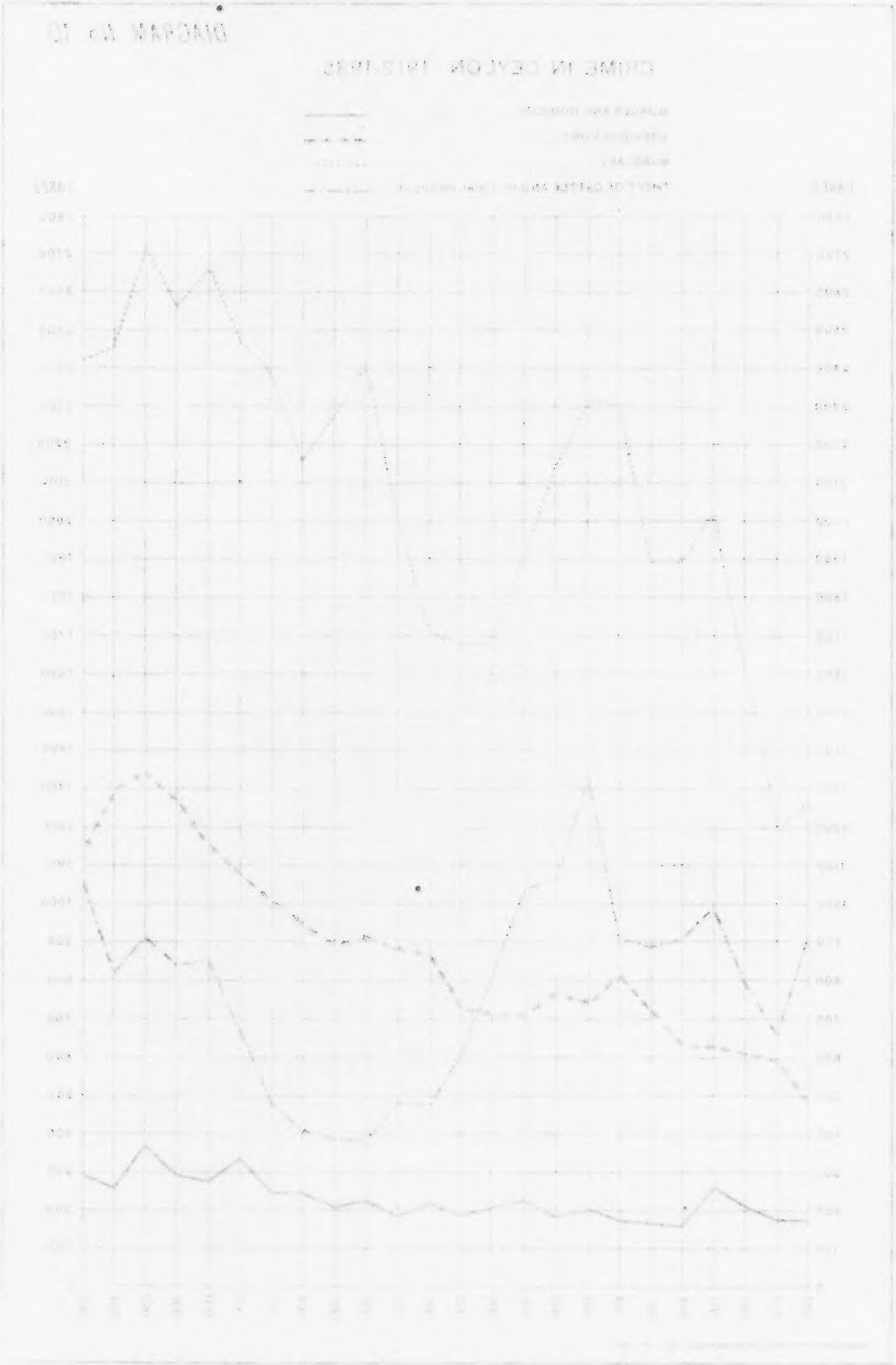
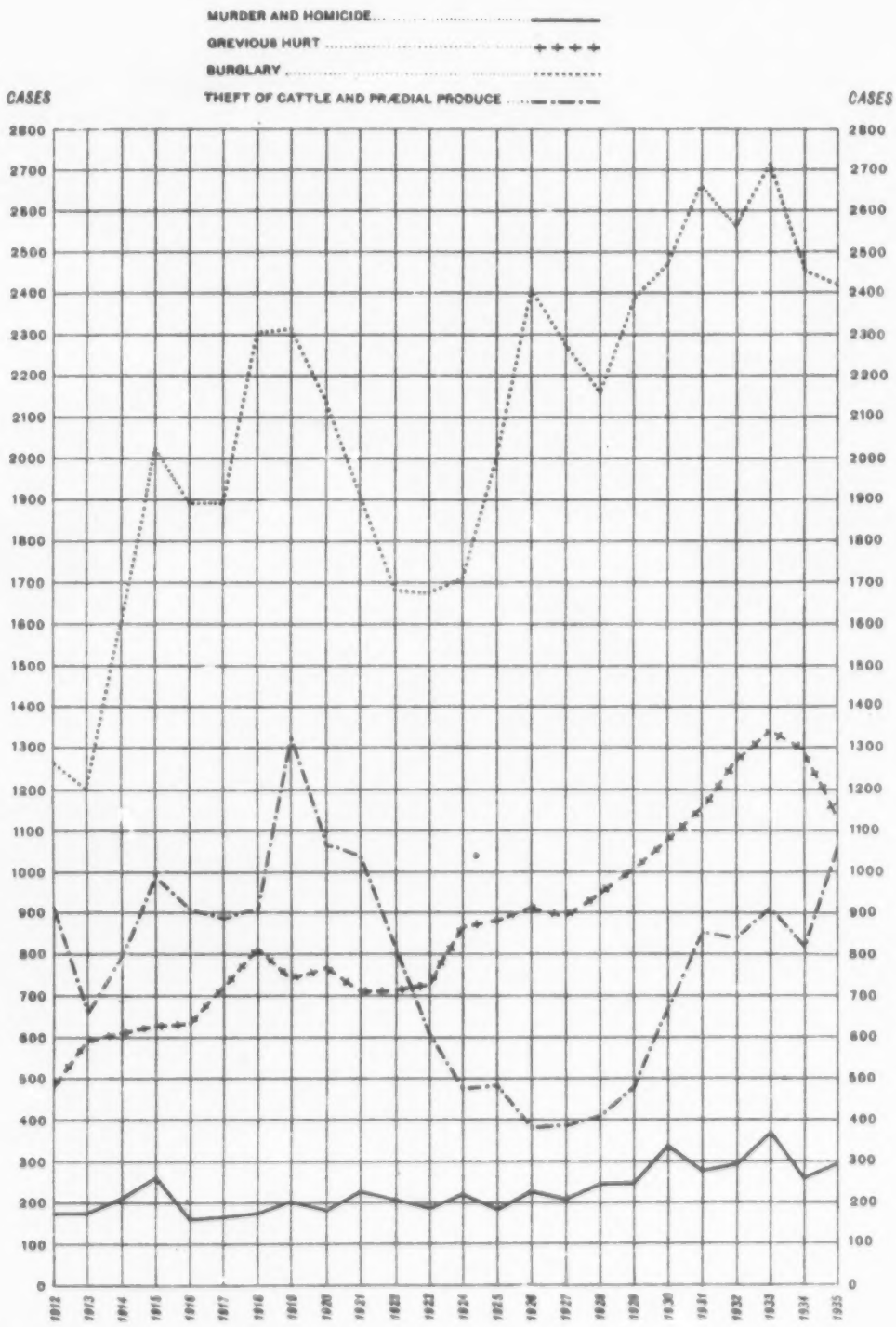


DIAGRAM No. 10

CRIME IN CEYLON 1912-1935.



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POLICE.

The regular Police Force of the Island was established and is regulated by the Police Ordinance, No. 16 of 1865, as amended by subsequent Ordinances.

Before the Police Force was constituted the duties of the Police were attended to by the Headmen. Regular Police have been gradually introduced to most parts of the Island since 1865. With changing conditions in the rural areas due to rapid and improved means of communication, the opening up of colonization schemes and other land schemes, the influx of strangers and, more especially, of the travelling criminal, the establishment of additional Police Stations to assist the Headmen is becoming more and more imperative. At present there are 165 Police Stations and 26 Police Offices.

The sanctioned strength of the Force is 1 Inspector-General, 2 Deputy Inspectors-General, 40 Superintendents, Assistant Superintendents and Probationers, 196 Chief Inspectors, Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors, 2 Sergeants-Major, 370 Sergeants, and 2,549 Constables.

General.—The following statement shows the number of cases of grave crime disposed of as "true cases" by the Courts during the past three years :—

	1933.	1934.	1935.
Homicide	367	255	295
Attempted homicide	136	114	125
Grievous hurt	1,341	1,295	1,139
Hurt with dangerous weapons ..	1,677	1,661	1,507
Burglary	2,715	2,453	2,421
Cattle theft	918	817	1,055
Other offences	3,629	3,698	3,637
	10,783	10,293	10,179

The statistics of crime for the past six years under the three main heads "Offences against the Person" (which are not directly preventible by Police action), "Offences against Property", and "Offences against the State" (riot, &c.) are as follows :—

Year.	Total Crime.	Offences against the Person (excluding Robbery).	Offences against Property (including Robbery).	Offences against the State.
1930	9,689	3,235	6,389	65
1931	10,141	3,407	6,638	96
1932	10,484	3,564	6,817	103
1933	10,783	3,738	6,952	93
1934	10,293	3,562	6,659	72
1935	10,179	3,252	6,878	56

The figures show an increase in crimes of homicide, attempted homicide and cattle theft : though there is a slight decrease in cases of burglary there was a sharp rise in cattle theft due to food shortage caused by the drought. With the improvement in conditions on estates there has been more employment available for village tappers and workers in carpentry and masonry, but progress is slow.

Control of Motor Traffic.—There were 29,638 prosecutions under the Motor Ordinance. 619 were for reckless or negligent driving, 16 for driving a car when intoxicated and 81 for failing to report an accident in which injury to a person was caused. In addition 47 cases for causing death and 77 for causing injury by a rash and negligent act were instituted under the Penal Code.

218 licences were cancelled or suspended.

7—J. N. 55200 (6/36)

2,589 accidents caused by motor vehicles were reported to the Police and 129 persons (of whom 85 were pedestrians) were killed as a result of injuries received in motor accidents.

In the majority of accident cases there is no compensation for the injured party where no offence can be proved or where the offender is acquitted in Court. Compulsory third party insurance is essential, and it is of interest that a Model Motor Ordinance is under preparation by the Colonial Office in which regulations for third party insurance are embodied in a form that can be standardized throughout the Colonies.

20,547 prosecutions were entered against omnibuses, a type of vehicle which was responsible for 562 of the accidents reported.

The following are some relevant figures :—

Year.	Motor Vehicles on the Road.	Number of Prosecutions for exceeding Speed Limit.	Number of Prosecutions for Reckless or Careless Driving.	Fatal Accidents.
1929	23,565	1,567	1,139	143
1930	24,405	1,992	763	127
1931	23,577	798	509	97
1932	23,203	688	400	87
1933	23,359	394	343	92
1934	25,010	402	449	122
1935	27,052	597	619	129

From these figures it is apparent that control of motor omnibus traffic is still one of the main problems with which Police have to deal. The inauguration of bus services on roads already well served by bus transport gave rise in many parts of the country to intense rivalry in which many acts of violence were committed. A progressive step was taken when legislation was passed late in the year empowering licensing authorities to cancel or suspend the approval of any route endorsed on a licence if it was feared that the use of that route was likely to lead to a breach of the peace or endanger the safety of the public. The next step is the establishment of a Central Controlling Authority for the Island to regulate omnibus routes, fares, and times of departures and arrivals on such routes.

Control of Bullock Cart and other Traffic.—Eighteen persons were killed in street accidents in which vehicles other than motor vehicles were involved and 11,016 prosecutions were entered against drivers and owners of such vehicles. Action has been taken in Colombo to compel cyclists to keep to the side of the road while in most towns pedestrians are from time to time reminded to use the pavements and where there are no pavements to keep to the right.

In the planting districts the bullock cart has been almost completely ousted by the motor vehicle. Rice for estate labour and rubber and tea from the factories consigned to Colombo is now transported by lorries where formerly carts and the railway were used.

Cinematograph Films.—Films imported into Ceylon have all been previously examined by Censors in England or in India. They are exhibited first in Colombo. If a film is objectionable exhibition is prohibited by the Chairman of the Municipal Council, who is the Censor for Colombo. This system acts as a check on the exhibition of objectionable films throughout Ceylon.

Maintaining Order in the Streets.—During 1935 Colombo was free from disorder in the streets and there was very little trouble with gangs of rowdies, many having been broken up. Special attention was paid to

the patrolling of the streets. The traffic in illicit opium and ganja was less: but a disturbing feature is the employment of boys to act as distributors between gang leaders and their clients. The Police Magistrate, Colombo, started a Juvenile Court in order to deal, among other cases, with boys detected selling opium and ganja.

In the Fort area there is still trouble with touts who molest passengers. The latter have no time to remain in Colombo and give evidence; but action is being taken to try and have a sworn statement made admissible, thus ensuring the necessary Court proceedings against the offending tout. The establishment of a Tourist Bureau has been proposed.

New regulations for the better control of motor bus and hiring cars stands were brought into force.

Strikes.—A minor strike occurred in Colombo among the employees of a Motor Omnibus Company. It was settled without trouble.

Criminal Investigation Department.

The following Branches are included in this Department:—Harbour and Foreshore Police, Train Police, Photographic Branch, Fingerprint and Footprint Bureau, the Counterfeit Note and Coin Bureau, and the Instructional Branch in Detective work. The Department deals with the investigation of difficult and complicated cases, the registration of aliens, supervision over persons entering or leaving Ceylon, the investigation of cases under the Lotteries Ordinance, the suppression of Bucket Shops, the supervision of the import of firearms and explosives, and the supervision of the magazines and newspapers published in Ceylon. As the criminal becomes more skilful it is necessary to train Police in the most up-to-date and scientific methods of crime investigation and detection. The courses of instruction in detective work arranged by the Criminal Investigation Department insure the training of all ranks in how to look for clues on the scene of crime, how to preserve clues requiring examination by an Expert (such as the Government Analyst) and how to make deductions from them. The knowledge gained from these courses of instruction is being passed on, at classes held in the Provinces, to Headmen on whom falls the responsibility, in the majority of cases of crime reported in rural areas, of being the first peace officer to visit the scene and guard it until the arrival of regular Police.

The Central Bureau established in 1930 to deal with forged notes and counterfeit coins, dealt with 33 cases of forging, uttering or possessing forged currency notes as compared with 37 cases in 1934 and 78 in 1933. There were 56 cases of counterfeiting, uttering or possessing counterfeit coins.

PRISONS.

Number of Admissions.—The total number of admissions on conviction during 1935 was 14,451 (14,062 males and 389 females). Of this number 1,102 were admitted on conviction from the Supreme and District Courts. 220 were convicted of murder and culpable homicide not amounting to murder.

Number sentenced to death and executed.—The number of male persons sentenced to death during the year was 82, of whom 49 were executed. Of these 49, 5 were executed in January, 1936. No female persons were sentenced to death during the year.

Daily average population.—The daily average population (both convicted and unconvicted prisoners) of the prisons was 4,082·99 (4,013·86 males and 69·13 females).

Reconvicted prisoners.—The number of reconvicted prisoners admitted was 3,814 (26·39 per cent. of the total admissions). Of this number 1,246 were reconvicted criminals within the meaning of Ordinance No. 2 of 1926 as amended by Ordinance No. 27 of 1928.

Preventive detention.—The number of prisoners sentenced to preventive detention by courts during the year was 5. The daily average of prisoners undergoing preventive detention was 73·18.

Number in default of payment of fines.—The number of admissions for non-payment of fines was 9,598. In 8,121 of these cases the offences were either statutory or made punishable by Village Tribunal rules.

No statistics are available as to the number of cases in which time was given for the payment of fines.

Young Offenders.

(*a*) *Young first offenders.*—The number of admissions of young first offenders of the age of 16–21 was 1,068, of which number 687 were for non-payment of fines and 558 for statutory or Village Tribunal offences.

(*b*) *Young reconvicted offenders.*—The number of admissions of young reconvicted offenders was 258, of which number 168 were for non-payment of fines and 135 for statutory or Village Tribunal offences.

Religion and race.—The following table gives the nationality and religion of all convicted persons received into the prisons during the year 1935 :—

Table showing Nationality and Religion of all convicted persons received into prisons during the year 1935.

Nationality.									Religion.						
Resident Europeans.	Non-Resident Europeans.	Burghers.	Sinhalese.	Tamils.	Moors.	Malays.	Others.	Total.	Protestants.	Roman Catholics.	Buddhists.	Hindus.	Muslims.	Others.	Total.
3	—	68	10,672	2,209	1,211	149	139	14,451	10	1,040	10,113	1,881	1,284	123	14,451

Prison punishments.—The number of punishments inflicted during the year on prisoners for offences against prison discipline was 1,752, as against 1,732 in 1934. No prisoners were sentenced to receive corporal punishment during the year 1935, as against 2 in the previous year. There were no escapes during the year. One prisoner who escaped in 1934 was recaptured in 1935.

The Prisons Ordinance, No. 16 of 1877, placed all the prisons in Ceylon under the control of an Inspector-General of Prisons. Ceylon therefore enjoys the advantages of a unified prison system which renders possible classification by institutions in addition to subclassification in institutions.

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The principle upon which this classification proceeds is the separation of the different types of offenders—especially the separation of the young offender from the adult, the first offender from the "habitual", the convicted from the unconvicted and males from females. To each type of offender appropriate methods of treatment and training are applied.

The different prisons are utilized as follows :—

Welikada (*Colombo*), for the detention and training of the following classes :—

(i.) Adult first offenders with sentences of over two years ;
(ii.) All "Star" class, *i.e.*, European or educated Ceylonese first offenders ;
(iii.) Young prisoners of the age of 16–21 irrespective of length of sentence ;
(iv.) Female prisoners other than those sentenced to short terms in outstations who are detained in the local prisons.

Hulftsdorp (*Colombo*), for all local convictions from the courts of the Colombo District who are sentenced to short terms of one month and under.

Mahara is set apart for adult reconvicted prisoners with sentences of over two years in one section, and for all adult first offenders with short sentences ranging from over one month up to and including six months in a separate section. Selected prisoners from among the reconvicted prisoners are specially classified as Special Class B in which they serve a probationary period of six months prior to transfer to Kandy prison for industrial and other forms of special training in the Special Class A. Prisoners are also transferred to Mahara prison occasionally from other prisons for misconduct.

Bogambara (*Kandy*) is set apart for the following :—

(i.) First offenders convicted by local courts and sentenced to one month's imprisonment or less ;
(ii.) All first offenders with sentences of over one year but not exceeding two years ;
(iii.) Special class "A", *i.e.*, selected "habituals" from Mahara with sentences of over two years ;
(iv.) Prisoners undergoing sentences of preventive detention.

Jaffna is set apart for the following :—

(i.) Persons sentenced by the local courts to imprisonment for one month or under ;
(ii.) Short term reconvicted offenders with sentences of over one month and up to and including two years ;
(iii.) Prisoners transferred from other prisons for misconduct under monthly report.

The special gang is also located at Jaffna. The special gang is intended for prisoners guilty of continued bad or violent conduct. These prisoners are kept strictly apart from the other inmates.

Anuradhapura is set apart for the following :—

(i.) Locally convicted short term prisoners who are sentenced to one month and under.
(ii.) First offenders with sentences of over six months and up to one year.

S——J. N. 55200 (6/36)

Negombo prison serves as a prison for convalescent prisoners in addition to retaining local convictions sentenced to one month and under.

Galle, Badulla, and Batticaloa.—The prisons at Galle, Badulla, and Batticaloa are used for the detention of short term locally convicted prisoners, and prisoners on remand.

Remand prisons.—There are separate prisons for remand prisoners and persons awaiting trial, civil debtors, &c., only in Colombo (adjoining Welikada Prison) and in Kandy. At other stations the ordinary prisons for convicted prisoners are also used for the location of these types in separate blocks or wards.

Methods of Treatment of Different Types of Offenders.

A. *Young first offenders.*—All young offenders of the age of 16–21 inclusive with sentences of over one month are detained at Welikada in separate wards. Rover Scout principles are utilized for their training and regular camps are held. The Welikada Prison Rover Troop is the first officially recognized prison troop in the world. Educational classes, industrial and vocational training, First Aid instruction, Boxing, Gymnastics, Drill, and games form a part of the regular curriculum, in addition to the various Scout activities.

B. *Long term first offenders.*—The progressive stage system—a feature of the English prison system—has been adapted to suit local conditions and is largely used in connection with the training of these offenders. According to this system prisoners fall into different classes. Every prisoner sentenced to imprisonment immediately enters and remains in what is called the penal stage for one month. He then enters and remains in Class IV., when he becomes eligible to earn remission, for eleven months. Conditional upon good conduct and industry he is promoted to Class III. where he remains for one year and then on the same conditions to Class II. At the end of one year if his conduct is satisfactory he is promoted to Class I. Promotion from class to class carries with it a graduated scale of privileges and on entry into Class II., gratuity and good conduct badges can be earned. Prisoners who show special skill and aptitude in the various trades are appointed Instructors (Grades I. and II.) who are accorded enhanced rates of pay and privileges.

Another feature in the training of these long term first offenders is the placing of responsibility on individual prisoners. Long term first offenders in Class I. of exemplary conduct are selected for appointment as Disciplinary Prison Orderlies. Their duties consist in assisting the regular prison officers ; they are left in charge of small parties inside the prison and act as escorts within prison walls, &c.

A further experiment is the formation of Leagues on the lines of the Mutual Welfare Leagues in the New York prisons. There are two such Leagues—one for the Disciplinary Prison Orderlies and the other for prisoners who have earned good conduct badges. Inmate responsibility, managing their own affairs within limits and training in the ideals of good citizenship are the salient features of these Leagues.

All long term first offenders are employed and trained in one or more of the many trades and handicrafts taught in Welikada Prison. On reaching certain grades of the stage classification they earn money part of which may be spent in the purchase of books and extras to the diets or sent to their families and part of which is accumulated and paid on discharge.

C. *Reconvicted prisoners.*—For the training of reconvicted prisoners there are two classes in Mahara prison. Specially selected reconvicted prisoners with sentences of two years and over constitute Class B. These prisoners while at work are kept separate from the others. Evening classes are held for them and they are supplied with books from the prison library. They are also given the privilege of playing games, &c. After probationary training for six months in this class all who prove satisfactory are transferred to Kandy where they form Special Class " A ". Prisoners in Special Class " A " are treated like first offenders in all matters relating to pay, industrial training, privileges, &c.

Specially selected reconvicted prisoners with sentences of over six months and under two years form Special Class " C ". Their training and treatment approximate to that of Special Class " B ".

Labour.—All labour of a purely mechanical and unprofitable nature has been abolished. Prisoners are mostly employed on public works, the domestic services of the prisons, and on industrial undertakings. At Mahara the principal work is the quarrying of stone and stone breaking. In Jaffna the work consists of the reclamation of the lagoon. Welikada and Bogambara Prisons are highly industrialized. The following industries are carried on :—Carpentry, tailoring, brush-making, rattan, fibre, shoemaking, blacksmiths' work, tin smiths' work, spinning and weaving, soap making, and printing. At Welikada there is in addition an up-to-date steam laundry which washes the linen of all the hospitals, asylum, &c. The value of the outturn of prison industries for the year 1934–35 was Rs. 220,327·81, as against Rs. 195,829·18 during the previous year.

Education.—For young offenders, that is, those of 21 and under, vernacular education is compulsory. At Welikada and Bogambara and also at Mahara evening classes, conducted by volunteer social workers, have been organized for the benefit of both young offenders and adult offenders. These classes are held in English and in the vernacular. Commercial classes in typewriting, shorthand, &c., are also held in Welikada prison for the benefit of Star Class prisoners.

Recreation.—Well conducted prisoners, particularly young offenders and first offenders who have reached an advanced stage in their training are allowed to take part in games both indoor and outdoor. Boxing, gymnastics, and volley ball are popular games.

Religious instruction.—There are no prison Chaplains in Ceylon but representatives of all creeds and denominations are allowed to visit the prisons, hold services, and give religious instruction. Services are held every Sunday and all prisoners are encouraged to attend the services of their particular denomination.

Preventive detention.—There is no separate prison for prisoners undergoing preventive detention. These prisoners are located in a portion of Bogambara prison specially set apart for them. But the conditions of an ordinary rigorous imprisonment prison afford little scope for the special course of training contemplated by the system of preventive detention, and the reorganization of the system is under consideration.

After care.—An unofficial organization known as the Ceylon Discharged Prisoners' Aid Association, with sub-committees in some of the principal towns, works in conjunction with the prison authorities and is the agency through which aid is given to discharged prisoners.

Remission and Review of Sentences.—All criminal prisoners sentenced to rigorous or simple imprisonment (except under Chapter 7 of the Criminal Procedure Code) become eligible to earn a remission of sentence, which is conditional on good conduct and industry and which is based on the mark system, on completion of the first month (30 days) of their sentences. The maximum remission of sentence that a prisoner can earn is, in the case of a male prisoner, one-fourth of the period of imprisonment during which he is allowed to earn marks and, in the case of a female prisoner, one-third of such period. Under rule 40 of the statutory rules also the case of every prisoner is reviewed by the Governor on completion of 4, 8, 12, 15, and 20 years respectively of the term of imprisonment.

Health of prisoners.—To the prison at Mahara there is attached a whole-time Resident Medical Officer. There is also a Resident Medical Officer attached to the Welikada Prison Hospital. There is in addition a Medical Officer who has medical charge of Welikada Prison, Hulftsdorp, and the Colombo Remand Prison. Neither at Bogambara nor at Jaffna nor at any of the other local prisons is there a Resident Medical Officer. The Medical Officer attached to these prisons is not a whole-time officer but has other outside duties to perform.

At Welikada there is an up-to-date Prison Hospital intended to serve the 3 Colombo prisons, with accommodation for 120 beds for general cases and 60 beds for infectious diseases.

In the female section of the Welikada Prison there is a ward with 7 beds for general cases.

At Bogambara there is a hospital consisting of 5 wards with accommodation for 35 beds.

In all other prisons a separate ward is utilized as a hospital.

All cases which need operative treatment or special nursing are transferred to the ordinary civil hospitals for treatment.

The total number of deaths of prisoners (both convicted and unconvicted) admitted to prison was 95 in 1935, as against 85 in 1934. These deaths include prisoners who died in the Prisons and Prison Hospitals as well as in Civil Hospitals and other medical institutions, but are exclusive of judicial executions.

CHAPTER XIV.

Legislation.

THE following are the most important of the sixty-one Ordinances passed during the year 1935 :—

The Coconut Products Ordinance, No. 13 of 1935, which has been enacted with the object of giving some relief to the coconut industry of the Island. It establishes a Coconut Board of twelve members whose functions include the investigation of all aspects of the industry in Ceylon and the conduct of propaganda abroad. In order to promote competition which has for many years been lacking in the local market, provision is made for the opening of one or more central Sales Rooms as clearing houses for copra, in the first instance, and later for all coconut

products. If the Sales Rooms are not utilized by producers voluntarily, compulsion can be applied by bringing into operation certain sections which will make it impossible to export any copra or coconut oil that has not been bought at an auction in a Sales Room. In order to provide for the expenses of the Board a small export duty is imposed on copra, coconut oil and desiccated coconut, and power is taken to impose a duty on other coconut products also if it becomes necessary.

The Trade Unions Ordinance, No. 14 of 1935, which is an adaptation of the English law relating to trade unions and trade disputes, and to some extent of the Indian Trade Unions Act, 1927. Registration is made compulsory, and the immunities and privileges conferred by registration include protection against actions in tort in cases where the tortious act is committed by or on behalf of a trade union in contemplation or in furtherance of a trade dispute, and the protection of the members of the trade union against such actions for criminal conspiracy as may be based on the ground that the objects of the union are in restraint of trade. The liability under contracts, however, is not affected. Unregistered trade unions are declared unlawful associations and disqualified from taking part in trade disputes, and although they are debarred from suing in their own name they are made liable to be sued or prosecuted under it. The Ordinance regulates also the constitution of trade unions, their rule-making powers, and the administration of their funds.

The Land Development Ordinance, No. 19 of 1935.—This is a comprehensive enactment of 172 sections providing for the systematic development of land at the disposal of the Crown. The land is to be first mapped out according to the uses to which it may most profitably be put, and alienated, either on grant or provisionally on permits, in lots of suitable extent to such selected applicants of the middle classes and the peasantry as are most likely to improve the land and to benefit themselves. There will be attached to every grant conditions which are to run with the land and bind all successive owners, and are intended to ensure—

(1) that the land is put to the uses for which it is considered to be best suited ;
(2) that the cultivation and works of improvement are carried out steadily ; and
(3) that the land is not alienated, or subdivided for purposes of sale or succession into uneconomic units, and that such alienation and subdivision as are permitted are effected under the supervision of the Government Agents or the Land Commissioner.

The Aliens Registration Ordinance, No. 30 of 1935.—This Ordinance replaces the Supervision of Aliens Ordinance, No. 14 of 1917, which dealt only with aliens engaged in missionary and educational work in Ceylon, and makes provision for the registration of all aliens over fifteen years of age who remain or intend to remain in the Island for any period exceeding one month. Power is also given to the Governor to restrict the movements of any alien or class of aliens within the Island, or to order the deportation of any alien if it is necessary in the public interest.

The Electricity Board Establishment Ordinance, No. 38 of 1935, which establishes in Ceylon an Electricity Board similar to the Central Electricity Board established in England under the Electricity (Supply)

Act, 1926. The Board will supervise and control the Government Electrical Undertakings and administer the Electricity Ordinance, 1906.

The Poisons, Opium, and Dangerous Drugs Amendment Ordinance, No. 43 of 1935.—This amendment adapts the Poisons, Opium, and Dangerous Drugs Ordinance of 1929 to the requirements of the new constitution, brings it into conformity with the recent decision of the Health Committee of the League of Nations, and makes the necessary provision for enforcing future decisions of the Committee without resorting to an amendment of the principal Ordinance in every case.

The Statistics Ordinance, No. 44 of 1935, which establishes an official Bureau of Statistics for collecting and preparing statistics relating to a specified trade or other matter to which the Ordinance is applied by the Governor by Proclamation. Adequate provision is made for the safeguarding of technical processes and trade secrets, and for avoiding the disclosure of confidential information in any returns or reports the Bureau may publish.

The Street Collections Regulation Ordinance, No. 47 of 1935, which is modelled on section 5 of the Police, Factories, &c. (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1916, and gives power to make regulations similar to the regulations made in England for the control of Flag-Days in the Metropolitan Police District of London. The regulations to be made under the Ordinance will not affect *bona-fide* trading in the streets, and will be in force only within the municipal or urban areas to which they are applied.

The Heavy Oil Motor Vehicles Taxation Ordinance, No. 56 of 1935.—This Ordinance imposes a tax on motor vehicles which use uncustomed oil as fuel, in order to obtain from them a contribution to the general revenue approximating to the amount they would pay if, like the ordinary motor-vehicles, they used petrol on which an import duty is levied.

The Cheetu Ordinance, No. 61 of 1935.—This is an Ordinance to provide for the registration and control of auction cheetus.

An "auction cheetu" is an arrangement under which a number of subscribers severally undertake to pay to a person, called the manager, a fixed contribution in cash for a series of months or other specified periods equal in number to the number of subscribers, on the condition that each of the subscribers in turn is to be entitled to the benefit of receiving from the manager, subject to a discount, the entirety of the contributions collected for each of those months or periods, the discount being determined by an auction, and the collection being made over to the subscriber who offers the highest discount. It is an institution which has been introduced into Ceylon in recent years by immigrants from South India, and although it has become popular among the poorer classes owing to the resemblance it bears to mutual benefit and thrift societies, the scope it allows for fraud and exploitation has made it necessary to devise some method of controlling its growth in this Island. Provision has accordingly been made by this Ordinance for making the registration of cheetus compulsory and placing them under the supervision of officers of the Registrar-General's Department, for making it obligatory on the manager of a cheetu to give adequate security for the due discharge of his duties and liabilities, and for making this control even closer and more effective over the firms and companies that have begun to promote cheetus as a commercial venture.

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DIAGRAM No. 11.

TOTAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE OF THE ISLAND

FOR EACH FINANCIAL YEAR (OCTOBER 1 TO SEPTEMBER 30) SINCE 1921-22.

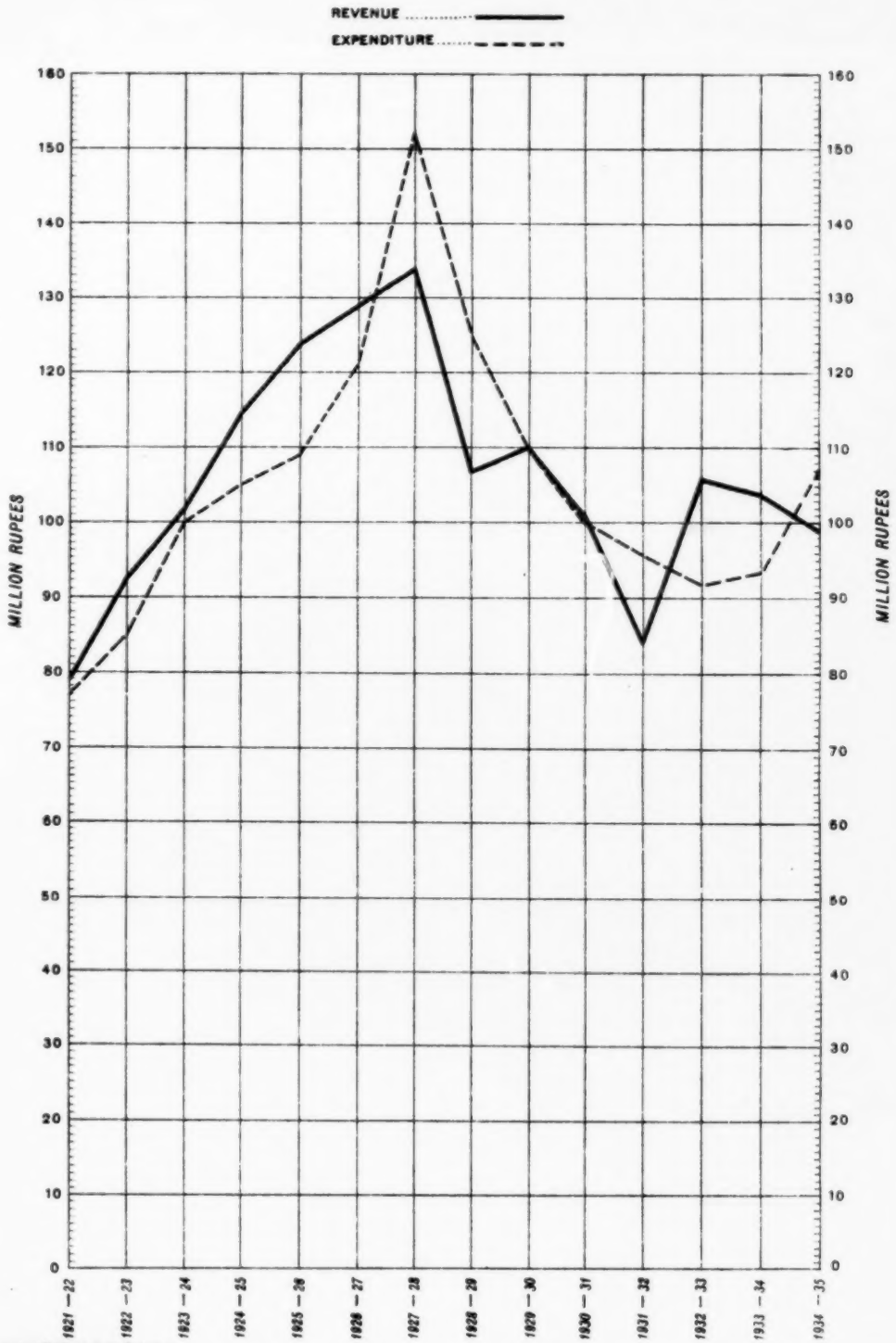

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DIAGRAM No. 11

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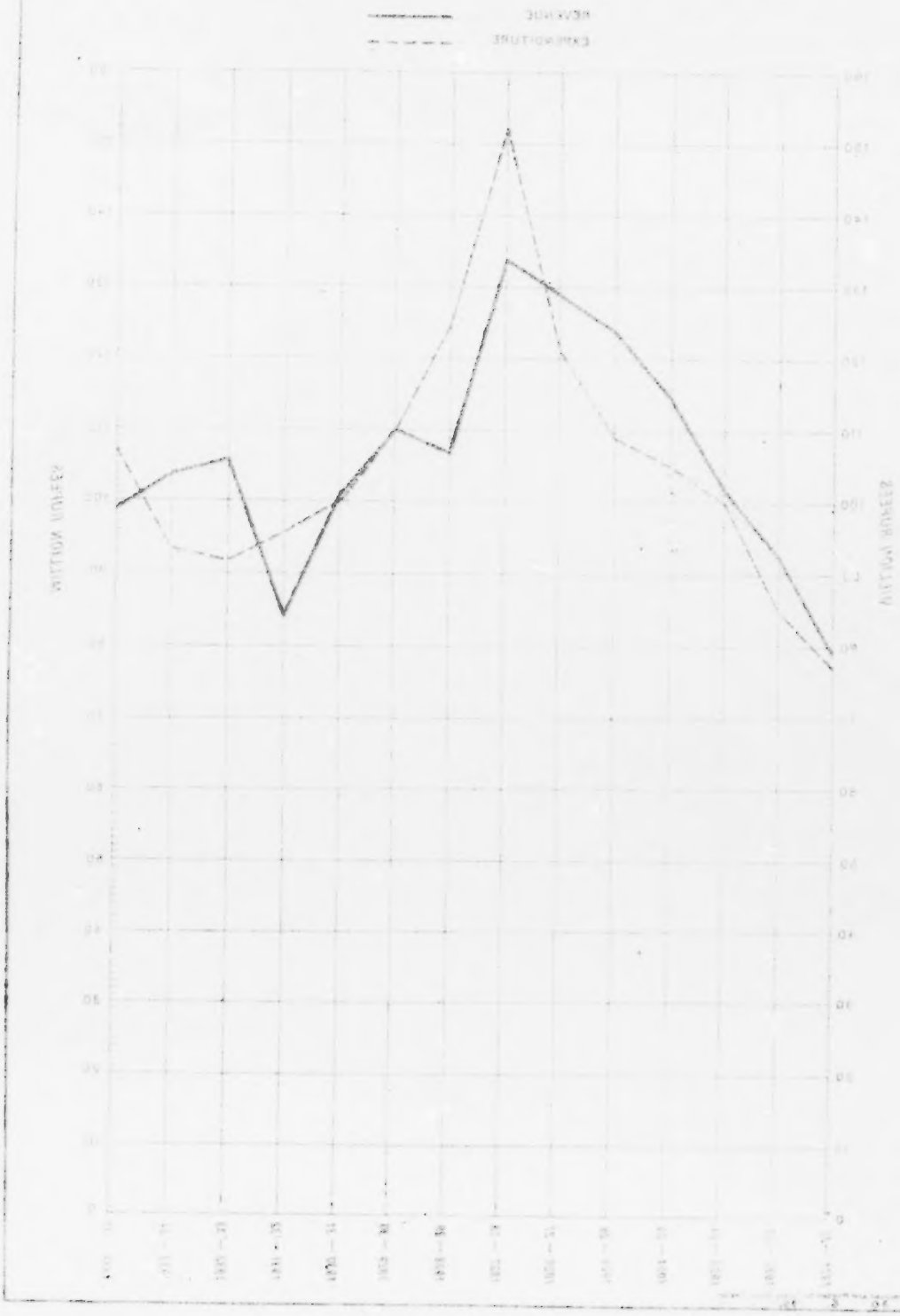

FACTORY AND LABOUR LEGISLATION.

The Indian Labour Amendment Ordinance, No. 34 of 1935, provides for the compulsory issue of an allowance of rice, at the rate of one-eighth of a bushel each month, to each male Indian labourer actually working, and to each Indian widow with one or more children under ten years of age actually residing, on a plantation or "estate" in Ceylon. As an alternative to this issue of rice, the supply of one or more free meals of rice or other approved articles to all children under ten years who are resident on the plantation, is to be sanctioned in suitable cases by the Controller of Labour, if the meals are of suitable quality and not less in their aggregate cost than the rice that would otherwise have to be issued.

SUBSIDIARY LEGISLATION.

Apart from the comprehensive sets of regulations made under the Trade Unions Ordinance and the Workmen's Compensation Ordinance, the subsidiary legislation for the year consisted of the usual amendments to existing rules, regulations and by-laws.

CHAPTER XV.

Public Finance and Taxation.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

THE revenue of the Island in the last five completed financial years was :—

		Rs. c.			Rs. c.
1930–31	..	101 767 555 90*	1933–34	..	104,100,361 7‡
1931–32	..	84 843,206 60	1934–35	..	98,993,551 55
1932–33	..	106,090,728 48†			

The following is a statement of the expenditure in the same financial years :—

		Expenditure chargeable to General Revenue including accumulated Surplus Balances. Rs. c.		Expenditure chargeable to Revenue pending raising of Loan Funds. Rs. c.
1930–31	..	.. 100,296,064 73	..	280,463 63
1931–32	..	.. 96,870,003 43	..	186,075 94
1932–33	..	.. 92,698,229 11	..	—
1933–34	..	.. 93,444,581 34	..	—
1934–35	..	.. 107,286,124 66§	..	—

PUBLIC DEBT.

On September 30, 1935, the sterling debt of the Island stood at £13,956,768 and the rupee debt at Rs. 3,000,000 towards redemption of which were held securities and moneys amounting to £5,581,036 and Rs. 2,925,883.

Setting off the securities against the debts and effecting conversion at 1*s.* 6*d.* to the rupee the net total Public Debt of the Island amounts to Rs. 111,750,553 which is about one and one-eighth times the revenue for the year ended September 30, 1935.

A statement of the loan position of the Island as it stood on September 30, 1935, appears on pages (134) and (135).

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* Includes Rs. 13,904,014 recovered from loan, being expenditure met from surplus balances in previous years pending raising of loan.

† Includes Rs. 2,120,437·21 and Rs. 1,564,511·69 appropriated to general revenue from the Railway Renewals Fund and the Colombo Electricity Supply Depreciation Fund respectively.

‡ Includes Rs. 4,339,061·10 being surplus in the Sinking Fund of the 4 per cent. inscribed Stock, 1934

§ Includes Rs. 2,190,172·45, being expenditure charged to Special Reserve.

Description of Loan.				Enactments by which Payment of Interest and Repayment of the Loan are Secured.	Rate of Sinking Fund Contribution per Annum.	Latest Date of Repayment.
Amount.	Rate of Interest.	Nature of Security.	When incurred and for what Purpose.			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
£ s. d.	p. c.				p. c.	
450,000 0 0	3	Inscribed Stock, 1940	May, 1890 .. .. Construction of Railway, Nanu-oya to Haputale and Kalutara to Bentota	Ordinance No. 7 of 1888	1	May 1, 1940
1,000,000 0 0	3	do.	April and November, 1894 .. For Railway construction .. £388,804 For Harbour Works £597,492 For Waterworks £13,704	Ordinance No. 17 of 1893	1	do.
1,400,000 0 0	3	do.	January to April, 1902 .. For Railway construction .. £528,134 For Harbour Works £767,590 For Irrigation Works £73,668 For Waterworks £25,608	Ordinance No. 14 of 1900	1	do.
2,850,000 0 0						
*800,000 0 0	3½	Inscribed Stock, 1959	December, 1909, to April, 1910 For Railway construction .. £750,706 For Duplication of water main .. £58,185 For Irrigation .. £64,334 For Colombo Lake Development .. £3,297 For Karaiyur Reclamation .. £1,200 For Colombo Drainage Works .. £34,694 For Harbour Works .. £587,584	Ordinance No. 6 of 1909	1	Dec. 15, 1959
1,000,000 0 0	4	Inscribed Stock, 1939–59	April to July, 1914 .. For Railway construction .. £564,410 For Motor Traction as feeders to Railway .. £3,285 For Harbour Works £139,864 For Irrigation .. £44,008 For Colombo Lake Development .. £190,115 For Karaiyur Reclamation .. £6,217 For Colombo Drainage Works £52,101	do.	1	April 15, 1959
6,212,993 8 4	6	Inscribed Stock, 1936–51	June to October, 1921 .. For repayment to the General Balance of the Island of advances to Colombo Municipal Council, construction of railways, and other public works	Ordinance No. 6 of 1921	1⅘	July 1, 1951
1,250,000 0 0	5	Inscribed Stock, 1960–70	January to March, 1930 .. Construction or acquisition of certain public works	Ordinance No. 26 of 1929	1	Feb. 1, 1970
1,843,775 0 0	4½	Inscribed Stock, 1965	September, 1930 .. Construction or acquisition of certain public works	do.	1¼	Nov. 1, 1965
13,956,768 8 4						
Rs. c.						
1,000,000 0	4	Inscribed Stock, 1942–44	October, 1892, to March, 1894 Rs. For Railway construction .. 2,466,556 For Harbour Works 533,444	Ordinances Nos. 7 and 8 of 1892	1	Oct. 4, 1942
1,000,000 0	4					July 4, 1943
500,000 0	4					Feb. 4, 1944
500,000 0	4					Mar. 4, 1944
3,000,000 0						

* £700,000 of £1,500,000—3½ per cent. loan 1934–59 was redeemed on December 15, 1934, and the

Equivalent of Loan at 1s. 6d. = Re. 1	Investments held on behalf of the Sinking Fund.		Amounts in deposit with Banks and balance in hand pending investment.	Total (of Columns 10 and 11).	Equivalent at 1s. 6d. = Re. 1
	Face Value of Securities.	Market Value on September 30, 1935.			
8	9	10	11	12	13
Rs. c.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	Rs. c.
38,000,000 0	2,771,920 18 1	3,006,258 4 7	—	3,006,258 4 7	40,083,443 5
10,666,666 67	3,985 1 1	3,985 1 1	—	3,985 1 1	53,134 6
13,333,333 33	324,439 19 4	346,929 12 6	0 13 8	346,930 6 2	4,625,737 44
82,839,912 22	1,922,000 10 3	2,008,722 0 2	137,260 2 3	2,145,982 2 5	28,613,094 94
16,666,666 67	27,136 15 2	32,392 18 6	—	32,392 18 6	431,905 67
24,583,666 66	30,486 8 4	34,928 12 5	—	34,928 12 5	465,714 95
186,090,245 55	5,079,969 12 3	5,443,216 9 3	137,260 15 11	5,570,477 5 2	74,273,030 11
3,000,000 0	79,494 15 10 Rs. 1,572,960·20	93,656 0 5 Rs. 1,658,390·90	— Rs. 18,745·27	93,656 0 5 Rs. 1,677,136·17	1,248,746 95 1,677,136 17
189,090,245 55					77,198,913 23

balance £800,000 converted into a new stock.

9——J. N. 55200 (6/36)

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

The assets and liabilities of the Island on September 30, 1935, were as follows :—

The assets consisted of—

	Rs.	c.
(1) Cash in the hands of the Deputy Financial Secretary, in fixed or current deposit in Banks and with the Crown Agents in London	13,822,734	85
(2) Unissued stores, investments in rupee and sterling gilt edged securities, advances to the General Manager of the Railway, other recoverable advances, security deposits in banks, &c., remittances in transit and suspense account	36,631,592	80
	50,454,327	65

The liabilities consisted of—

(1) Widows' and Orphans' Pension Fund	13,149,877	59
(2) Ceylon University Building and Equipment Fund ..	4,689,983	43
(3) Loan Funds	3,058,626	73
(4) General Reserve Fund	10,000,000	0
(5) Special Reserve Fund	8,928,437	75
(6) Court suitors and other depositors in the Treasury and the Kachcheries	9,082,294	65
(7) Other Governments and agencies loans to local bodies (sinking funds) and unpaid drafts	721,707	93
(8) Colombo Electricity Supply (Reserve for depreciation) ..	823,399	57
	50,454,327	65

Taxation and yield thereof—

The main heads of taxation and the yield of each are as follows :—

	Rs.	c.
Customs	50,761,227	42
Salt	1,998,846	94
Country and foreign liquor	7,358,250	19
Licences—Sundries	609,248	92
Tolls	49,022	2
Stamp duties, including composition duty on Bank cheques and share certificates	2,124,902	16
Estate duties	1,812,528	7
Betting tax	218,954	74
Income tax	7,833,082	11
	72,766,062	57

Excise and Stamp Duties (summarized).—The amount realized from Excise Revenue during the financial year under review was Rs. 7,358,250·19 and that in respect of Stamp Duties Rs. 2,124,902·16. Compared with the revenue of the last financial year, Excise revenue shows an increase of Rs. 447,634·51 and Stamp Duties a decrease of Rs. 364,895·08.

Revision of Taxes.—During the financial year under review the following changes in taxes were made :—

The export (revenue) duty on Cacao was abolished with effect from October 6, 1934.

The import duty on rubber tyres for bullock carts was reduced to 5 per cent. *ad valorem* with effect from December 1, 1934.

A system of Tree Tax on toddy manufactured from Palmyra and Coconut trees in Valikamam North was introduced in December, 1934.

The Income Tax Ordinance, 1932, was amended by Ordinance No. 27 of 1934. The object of the amending Ordinance was to insert in the principal Ordinance numerous provisions which were considered necessary or desirable in the interests of clarity and smooth administration. The following changes in principle were also effected :—

(1) The value of a holiday warrant, passage or other form of free conveyance granted by an employer to an employee was excluded from the definition of " profits from any employment ".

(2) The limit was increased to Rs. 1,000 of the special exemption of the earned income of non-resident individuals, the exemption to apply to such individuals whether they come to Ceylon or not.

(3) Under the principal Ordinance money received by way of commutation of pension was added to the income of the individual in the year in which the commutation occurred and the rate for payment of tax was then rendered unduly high. An amendment was made by which a sum received in commutation of pension is chargeable at the rate to which the income of the individual concerned was liable in the year preceding that in which the commutation occurs.

(4) Where one spouse is resident and the other non-resident the amending Ordinance permits the resident spouse to be assessed separately. In such event the Ceylon income of the non-resident spouse is treated and assessed as the income of the resident spouse, and the latter is entitled to the allowances of an unmarried person.

The Cess for Tea Propaganda was increased from 50 cents per one hundred pounds of tea exported to 75 cents per one hundred pounds with effect from April 1, 1935. The Tea Export Restriction Cess was reduced from 14 cents to 11 cents per 100 lb. with effect from the same date.

The Customs Tariff was amended with effect from February 16, 1935, giving the benefit of the lower duty in respect of Brandy and Whisky only to spirits matured for not less than five years.

In accordance with section 20 of the Income Tax Ordinance the assessable income which was exempt from taxation was reduced from Rs. 4,800 to Rs. 2,400 as from April, 1935.

CURRENCY.

On September 30, 1935, the value of the currency notes in circulation amounted to Rs. 44,146,944. The Commissioners of Currency on this date held silver rupees to the extent of Rs. 13,970,013 and British, Indian and Colonial securities amounting to Rs. 36,027,156 (cost price) or Rs. 41,307,075 (market price).

The value of the reserve on September 30, 1935, was thus in excess of the value of the notes in circulation by Rs. 5,850,225 taking the investments at cost price.

During the year silver rupees to the extent of Rs. 64,000 were received from the public and the banks in exchange for currency notes.

Subsidiary coin of various denominations amounting in all to Rs. 11,810,666 was in circulation in the Island on September 30, 1935.

EXCHANGE.

The rates of exchange on London on December 31, 1935, were as follows :—

			s.	d.	
Selling demand	..	..	.. 1	6 3/32	to the rupee
Selling telegraphic transfer	..	..	.. 1	6 3/32	do.
Buying demand	..	..	.. 1	6 3/16	do.

ESTATE DUTIES.

Estates of deceased persons over the value of Rs. 5,000 are chargeable to Estate Duty. During the financial year 1934-35 a sum of Rs. 1,818,742 was collected as Estate Duty as against Rs. 1,366,400 in the previous year.

CHAPTER XVI.

Miscellaneous.

LAND.

THE climate varies considerably in different parts of Ceylon, and this fact has an important bearing on the development of land in the Island. There are two main climatic divisions, namely, the wet zone (comprising the centre and south-west of the Island) and the dry zone (comprising the northern and eastern parts).

The wet zone is the part of the Island, roughly a quarter of it, that receives the rain of the south-west monsoon. The rainfall in this zone is both ample and well distributed, with the result that conditions are favourable for agriculture. Tea, rubber, coconuts, and other economic crops can be grown readily, and under normal conditions profitably. In addition, village cultivation flourishes. For many years past the wet zone has steadily developed, and the population has increased considerably. At the present time, this zone contains the greater part of the population of the Island, and there is comparatively little land available for development except in remote or inaccessible districts.

In the dry zone, on the other hand, conditions are far less favourable. In the first place, the rainfall, though not really inadequate, is so unevenly distributed that the country suffers badly from drought each year, except where extensive storage tanks have been constructed. In the second place, a large part of the dry zone is extremely malarial.

For these reasons, the greater part of the dry zone is thinly populated and practically undeveloped. Where the land can be irrigated or the rainfall is favourable paddy is grown ; and a certain amount of land, chiefly near the coast, has been planted with coconuts. Most of the villagers, however, are mainly dependent on " chena " cultivation, that is to say, the periodical clearing and cultivation of tracts of jungle, which are abandoned after one or two crops of grain or vegetables have been grown on them. Systematic farming is unknown.

A great obstacle to land development is the fact that land titles are often both complicated and uncertain. This is due to two main causes, the claims of the Crown and the absence of any system of registration of title.

In general, all undeveloped land is presumed by law to be the property of the Crown till the contrary is proved. It is clear, however, that to insist that this presumption shall be strictly applied is likely to lead to

hardship in many cases. Legislation has therefore been passed providing machinery for dealing with the claims of private persons to land to which the presumption in favour of the Crown applies. The law on the subject is contained in the Land Settlement Ordinance, 1931, as amended by Ordinance No. 22 of 1932 and Ordinance No. 31 of 1933. A special department—the Land Settlement Department—has been organized for the purpose of systematically dealing with all the undeveloped land in the Island under these Ordinances. This undertaking involves a great deal of work, however, and is not likely to be completed for many years.

The need for a system of registration of titles to land has long been recognized, and in 1933 a Committee was appointed to consider this question. The Committee has submitted a report containing proposals for a system of registration of titles suitable to the conditions prevailing in Ceylon, and it is hoped that the necessary legislation will soon be taken in hand.

Till recently it was the practice not to advertise any Crown land for sale or lease unless some one had applied for that land. When such an application was received, steps were taken to survey the land, and eventually to dispose of the freehold or leasehold by public auction. This system had many disadvantages. Long delays were almost inevitable ; the original applicant could not be sure of obtaining the land he wanted, at any rate at a reasonable price ; the development of the available land was haphazard rather than systematic ; and there was a tendency for the needs of the villagers to be overlooked.

The present policy is for Government to take the initiative in disposing of Crown land. As a necessary preliminary, the Crown land in each village is " mapped-out ", that is to say, it is allocated to various definite purposes in the following way. In the first place, land is set aside for the needs of the State and of the permanent village population. The next consideration is to reserve land for alienation to villagers that are unable to get land in their own villages and are prepared to move to localities where land is available. If possible, land is then provided for development by Ceylonese of moderate means. Any land remaining is made available for alienation to other persons, irrespective of their means or race. Once a village has been mapped-out, the Revenue Officer in charge of the district can dispose of the Crown land in that village without fear of overlooking the interests of any part of the community. He is therefore able to take the initiative, and periodically offer land for disposal if he thinks there is likely to be a demand for it. Persons that receive land under this system are put in possession with the least possible delay.

A further change is in the tenure of land alienated by the Crown. Hitherto the only tenures have been freehold and leasehold, but a new tenure was introduced by the Land Development Ordinance, No. 19 of 1935, which came into force on October 15, 1935. The principal features of this tenure are as follows :—

(*a*) The owner is obliged to cultivate the land, or utilize in some other way specified in the grant.

(*b*) The owner is required to make a small annual payment to the Crown in perpetuity.

(*c*) The land cannot be subdivided beyond the limit specified in the grant, or held in undivided shares smaller than the fraction specified.

(*d*) The succession to the land is not regulated by the ordinary law of inheritance, but by special rules designed to prevent the land from being subdivided.

(*e*) In certain cases, the owner is forbidden to lease or mortgage the land except to the Crown, and may not otherwise dispose of it without the Revenue Officer's consent.

The Ordinance provides adequate machinery for enforcing the conditions of the tenure.

It is the present policy of Government not only to take the initiative in bringing land forward for disposal but also to provide a positive stimulus to landless villagers to leave their homes and either take up land in less congested villages or found new villages in undeveloped districts. Thus " colonization schemes " have been started in various parts of the Island, and those willing to take part in these schemes have been helped with grants of land and money.

The villagers are conservative, and as a rule are very reluctant to leave their homes. On that account, progress with colonization schemes has necessarily been slow, and is likely to remain so for some time to come. Eventually, however, it is hoped that the villagers will become less reluctant to leave their homes, and the congestion caused by the growth of the population will cause an increasing number to migrate each year. In this way it should be possible gradually to reclaim large tracts of the dry zone, which are now almost uninhabited, but which formerly supported a large population.

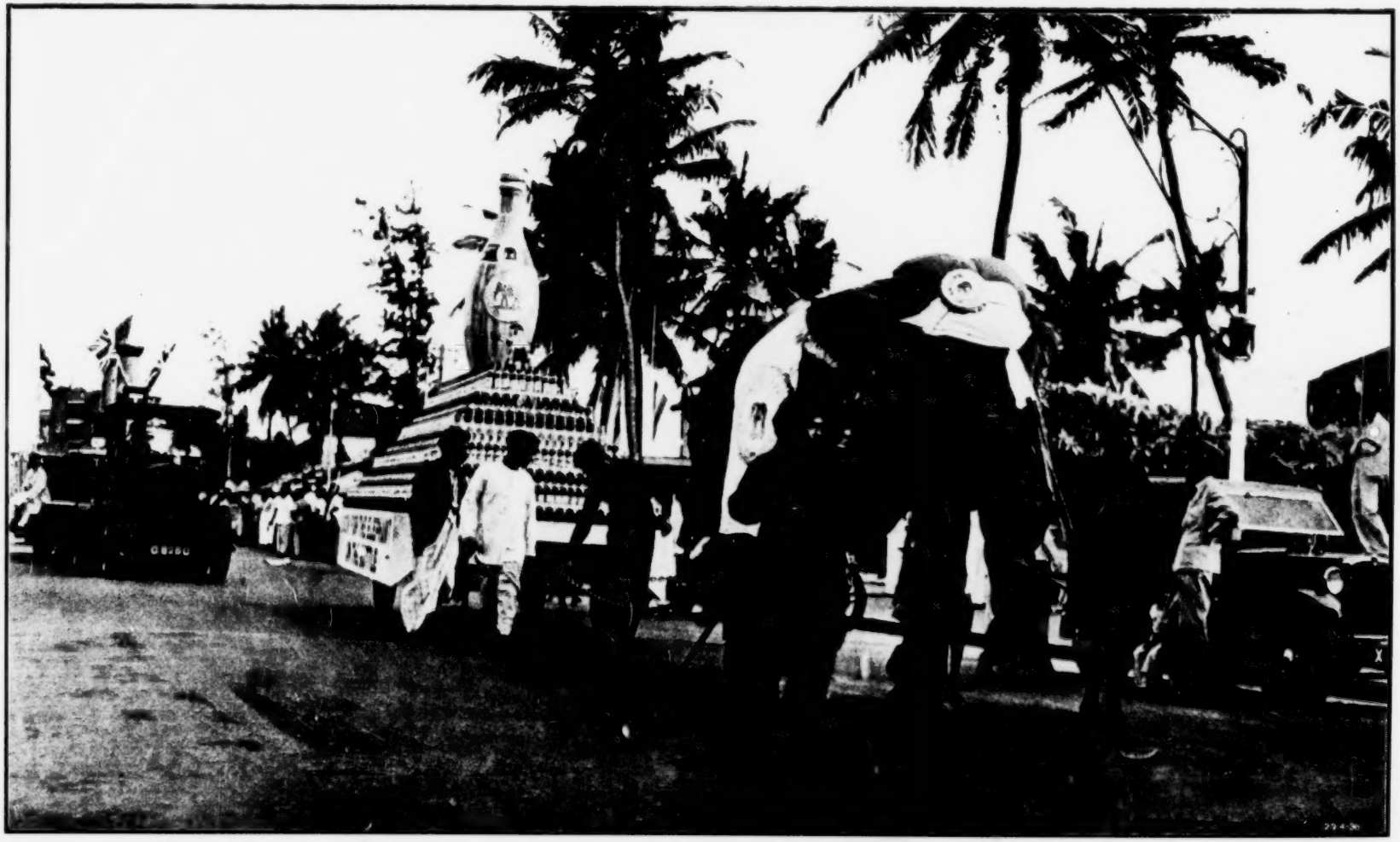
One of the greatest difficulties that the village cultivators have to contend with is that of disposing of their produce at a remunerative price. On this account, a new department has recently been formed, which is responsible for the development of agricultural marketing. Satisfactory progress has already been made, and it is hoped that, as the organization of this department develops, it will become possible for villagers, even in remote parts of the Island, to dispose readily of their surplus produce.

PRODUCTION FORESTS.

A step of fundamental importance, and one which will have a far-reaching effect on the future administration of the Forest Department, was taken when the Forest Policy, contained in the report of the Executive Committee of Agriculture and Lands, was approved by the State Council and ratified by His Excellency the Governor in December of the year under review.

This step was the culminating stage in the series of events which started when the services of a Forest Expert—Mr. Champion of the Indian Forest Service—were obtained to assist Government in formulating a forest policy.

Mr. Champion visited the Island at the end of 1934 and completed his tour of inspection by the end of January, 1935. His report was published in April (Sessional Paper VII. of 1935). Subsequent to this the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture and Lands, after inviting further comments from the acting Conservator of Forests, submitted his views in a memorandum to the Executive Committee of Agriculture and Lands ; and, after the subject had been discussed by that Committee, the report referred to above was placed before the State Council.



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As these decisions were only reached in December, reforestation work during the year was, as in the previous year, very considerably restricted. 502 acres—as compared with 1,046 acres in the previous year—were added to regular plantations bringing the total under management up to 31,505 acres.

Mapping-out proceeded according to standardized procedure in the Northern, North-Central, North-Western, Western, Southern, Sabaragamuwa, Central and Uva Provinces and 20,566 acres were allocated for forest development. 22,510 acres were proclaimed as Reserved Forests and 3,709 acres of forest were proclaimed as ceasing to be reserved.

Modifications of procedure in the examination and stock-mapping of areas mapped out for forest development enabled work under this head to be considerably expedited with consequent reduction in costs. Altogether 46,270 acres were examined by Working Plan field parties, of which 13,463 acres were in forests of the Western Province and 32,807 acres in forest areas of the Southern Province.

In regard to exploitation, 16 coupes covering 174,520 acres were under working during the year and the supply of indigenous sleepers to the Railway Department amounted to 94,263 Broad Gauge and 12,098 Narrow Gauge compared with 118,478 Broad Gauge and 24,679 Narrow Gauge the previous year. The fall in the supply of Narrow Gauge sleepers was due to (*a*) lack of demand for this size by the Railway Department, (*b*) the disorganization of work caused by the Malaria Epidemic. In addition to the above, 11,453 cubic yards of firewood and 22,399 cubic feet of timber in the log were delivered to other Government Departments from the same coupes.

There was a slight increase in the cash revenue of the Department which amounted to Rs. 378,886·48 cents compared with Rs. 369,639·84 cents in 1934. Expenditure also showed an increase—amounting to Rs. 589,340·94 cents as against Rs. 586,716·29 cents in the previous year. The nett deficit was thus Rs. 210,454·46 cents compared with Rs. 217,076·45 cents in 1934.

SURVEY.

The Survey Department.—As no land can be alienated or otherwise dealt with by the Crown until it has been surveyed and demarcated, the work of the Survey Department is of great importance. Its chief activities in this connection may be summarized as follows :—

(*a*) Application Surveys, *i.e.*, scattered disconnected surveys of small areas of land required for sales, leases, and various other purposes.

(*b*) Block Surveys, or continuous surveys of large areas of land according to villages, showing private land *en bloc* and not according to claims.

(*c*) Acquisition Surveys, or surveys of land to be acquired by the Crown for public purposes.

(*d*) Town and Forest Surveys, and isolated surveys for settlement and miscellaneous purposes.

(*e*) Land Development, Peasant Proprietor, and Colonization Surveys.

(*f*) Irrigation Surveys, *i.e.*, engineering surveys and the preparation of plans and sections for use in the investigation and development of Irrigation Schemes to be undertaken by the Irrigation Department.

Topographical Surveys.—In addition the Survey Department attends to the Topographical Survey of the Island. Sectional maps for the whole Island on the scale of 1 mile to the inch can be obtained at the Surveyor-General's Office, Colombo, and numerous small-scale maps are also published. The chief of these are—

4-mile and 8-mile to the inch maps of the Island.
8-mile to the inch motor maps.
6-mile to the inch motor maps, in book form.
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Other work of the Survey Department.—The other work of the Survey Department is not directly connected with the subject of this chapter. It includes—

(1) Precise Levelling.
(2) Town-planning and Assessment Surveys.
(3) The Observatory and Meteorological Stations.
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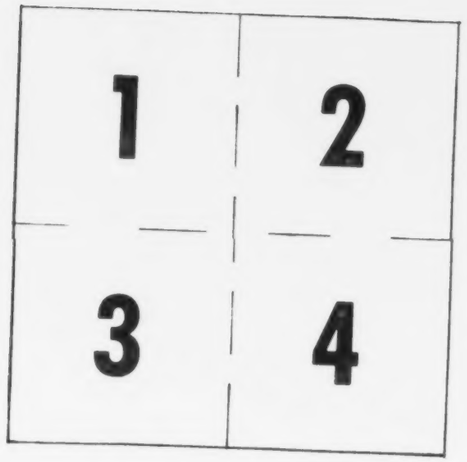

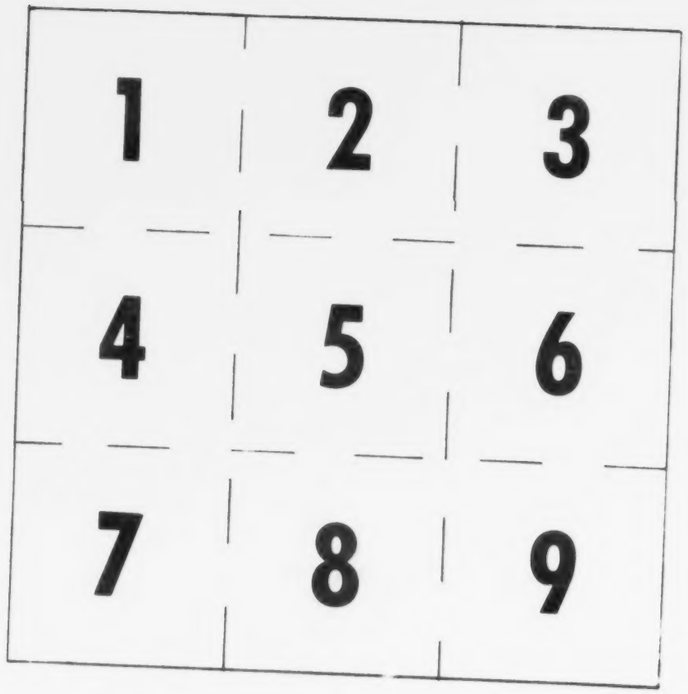

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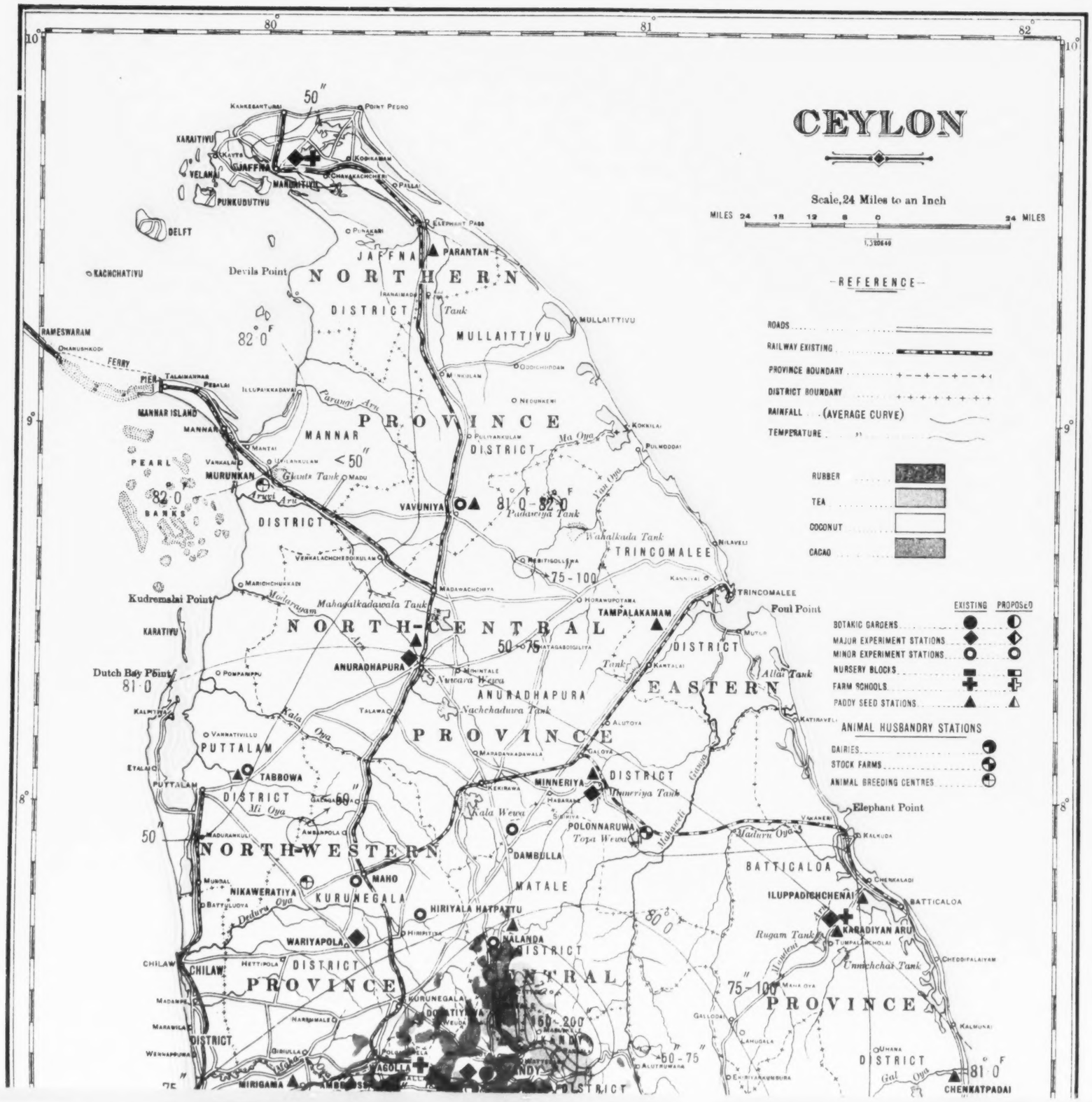

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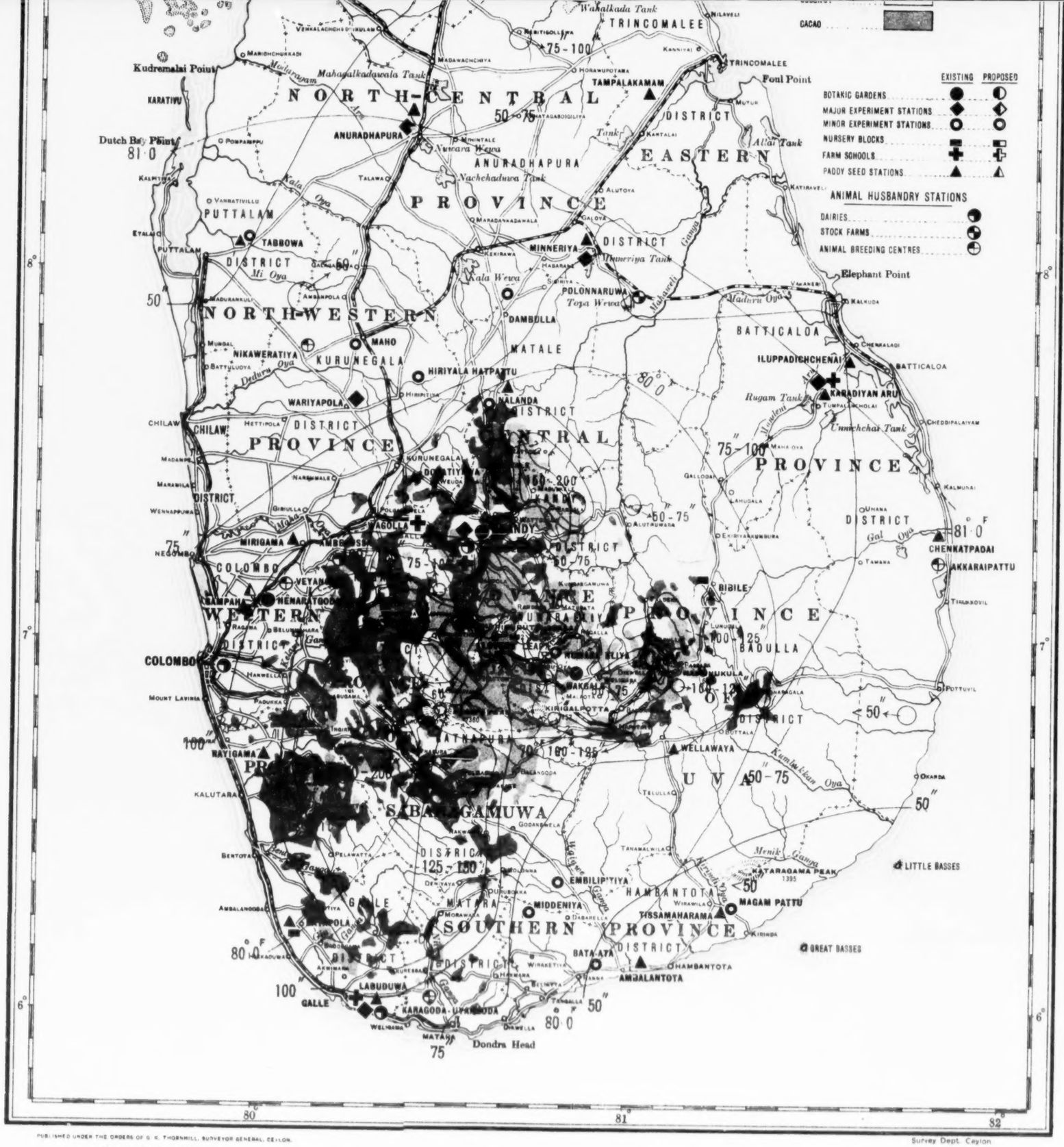

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HIS MAJESTY KING GEORGE VI.

Annual General Report for 1936 on the Economic, Social, and General Conditions of the Island.

CHAPTER I.

Introductory.

THE year 1936 will remain memorable in Empire history as presenting the record of three Kings, who reigned over England and the British Empire.

The circumstances of the passing of King George V., the abdication of King Edward VIII., and the accession of King George VI. have served to emphasize the ties of sentiment which bind the Mother Country to the Dominions and the Colonies, and the high place the Monarchy holds in the British Commonwealth.

This volume contains photographs of their Majesties.

We have also been permitted to print a photograph of His Excellency the Governor, Sir R. E. Stubbs, before his retirement. Our good wishes go with him for a long lease of dignified leisure.

A picture of the State Council in Session adorns these pages for the first time.

The new State Council entered into the second chapter of its history on March 17, 1936. Details of the Constitution are contained in the second chapter. The new Constitution is interesting and will repay study not only by reason of the features in which it differs from the other Crown Colonies on the one hand and the Dominions on the other, but also from a comparison with the London County Council on which it is modelled in so far as it confers on the elected members almost complete control of internal affairs and approximates to the Constitution of the Dominions. The characteristic feature is the Committee System, which is borrowed from the London County Council, but here there is a divergence on many points, as for instance in the method of the choice of Ministers, the absence of a Party System, the method of appointing Staff Officers and in respect of the reserve powers which are vested in the Governor. The salient feature is the wide range of executive powers which are wielded by the Ministers acting on the decision of the majority in their Committees.

There is little doubt that this Constitution affords large scope for rapid internal development, because the legislature by being brought closer to internal problems has not to wait upon agitation, until defects and ailments are ventilated and thrust upon its notice, but is able to inquire into grievances and investigate them, if not at first hand, at least in the early stages, and to bring before itself in its corporate capacity what a large percentage of its members can personally see and investigate. The Constitution has its friends as well as its detractors, but it cannot be denied that the leaders are in deadly earnest and that they pursue a forward and liberal policy. The programmes launched by the Ministries in the course of the year under review reflect in every case an earnest desire to serve the needs of the country. Schemes for extensive public works on a four-year plan, a Railway Commission, an extensive anti-malaria and nutritional campaign, unemployment relief, plans for colonization and settlement, appointment of another Trade Commissioner, grants of

technical scholarships and industrial projects, various improvements and extensions of local government and schemes of rural uplift, besides the raising of a mammoth loan to implement the schemes, have been devised by the appropriate Ministries and in some cases are well under way.

With the support of the Public Departments, the Treasury and the Department of the Legal Secretary acting as the foundation, the cement and generally as unifying and stabilizing influences, the seven Ministries are in a favourable position for becoming

Seven Pillars of Prosperity

and are making a very brave attempt.

This experiment in colonial administration is being closely observed in its various activities and manifestations. There may be points which could advantageously be altered, but this is not the place for analytical discussion.

A number of problems have received attention during the year. One is the complex problem of the commercialization of the railway and the acute question of road versus rail competition. A special Commission was appointed by the Secretary of State to investigate this difficult matter and arrived in Ceylon on October 4, 1936. The Commission left the Island on December 9, 1936. The members of the Commission were Brigadier-General F. D. Hammond, Mr. J. D. C. Couper, and Mr. J. F. M. Taylor (Secretary).

Another Commission to investigate the immigration question was appointed and arrived in Ceylon on September 19, 1936. The Chairman of the Commission was Sir Edward St. J. Jackson, formerly Attorney-General of Ceylon. Mr. A. R. Macdonald, C.C.S., was Secretary.

Another matter demanding urgent attention is the establishment of a Tourist Bureau both for the purpose of providing better facilities for the comfort of tourists and for advertising the attractions of Ceylon. It was found, however, impossible to retain a suitable manager from abroad during the year. At the time of writing the post had been filled by a member of the Civil Service.

There is great scope for developing the tourist attractions of Ceylon. Besides such well known places as Kandy, Nuwara Eliya, Negombo, Mount Lavinia, and Galle, there are the mediaeval remains of the old temples and palaces at Anuradhapura, Mihintale, Dambulla, Minneriya, Sigiriya, Polonnaruwa, Lankatilleke, and Giant's Tank. These names have a Miltonic ring about them and in spite of attempts at restoration of tanks and temples and colonization of the waste lands, there is an atmosphere about these places which imposes on the visitor the feeling that he is roaming amidst the ruins of the lost paradise of the Sinhalese Kings. There are 15,000 miles of motor road and 950 miles of rail and all these charming places are easily accessible by means of them.

Some important decisions arrived at by the State Council have been mentioned, viz., (*a*) the formulation of a four-year plan of public undertakings in which all departments were required to submit proposals and (*b*) the floating of a loan with a view to the execution of certain schemes including the establishment of a University and the Hydro-Electric Scheme. Besides these, a Trade Delegation has been sent to England to discuss trade relations with a similar Delegation which the Indian Government proposed to send to England and to lay the trade and banking requirements of Ceylon before the Secretary of State for consideration. The members of the Delegation were the Financial Secretary

and the Minister of Labour, Industry and Commerce, who were to have as their Secretary the then Registrar-General and Director of Commercial Intelligence.

The Marketing Commissioner opened a store at Chatham street, Fort, in October, 1936, at which Ceylon products are offered for sale. Cottage industries supplied by Kalutara Basket Society, Cottage Industries Society, Kandyan Art Association, and Ceylon Fruit and Minor Produce Co-operative Society, are the main sources of supply. Curios of all description are there to appeal to tourists. The enterprise of the Marketing Commissioner has not stopped there, as he has opened branches in various towns of Ceylon, such as Galle and Nuwara Eliya. This organization is likely to prove a boon to the smaller producer and to cottage industries.

Air Mail Service.—The question of the Air Mail Service was under continuous consideration throughout the year. Very important changes have taken place and still more sweeping changes are in prospect. Owing to a concession granted by the Secretary of State in respect of the charges paid for conveyance of air mails on the Empire Service, it became possible to decrease the rate charged. It was, therefore, decided, with effect from October 24, to discontinue the service by which letters were sent by rail to Karachi for despatch by air, and to send all air mail letters by the all-air route from Madras. It was further decided to institute a combined postage and air fee of 50 cents per ½ oz. in respect of letters to the United Koingdom and Northern Ireland. The air fees to practically all countries were revised, and air mail postcards introduced in the case of the service to most foreign destinations. The system of sending air mail articles for European destinations to Brindisi for onward transmission by rail was discontinued, and mails for Western Europe are now sent to Paris and those for Eastern Europe to Athens for transmission by air onward. These changes have had the desired effect of further increasing the volume of air mail traffic. The total weight despatched during the calendar year was nearly 7,000 lb., as against 5,407 lb. in 1935.

At the end of the year negotiations were in progress with the Indian Government and the British Government as regards the participation of Ceylon in the Empire Air Mail Scheme, and the conveyance of all first-class mails for Empire destinations by this service and by a feeder air service to be run by the Indian Government between Karachi and Colombo. These negotiations reached a satisfactory conclusion in February, 1937, and, subject to the establishment of the service by India, the scheme should be working by the end of December, 1937. The adoption of this scheme with four mail services per week will necessitate sweeping changes in postal arrangements.

In the Postal Department two new features were introduced, viz. :—

(*a*) *The Home Safe.*—These are obtained from the British Post Office and supplied to Post Office Savings Bank depositors at a price of Re. 1. They have proved to be very popular, and the demand has always so far exceeded the supply available.

(*b*) *The Postal Identity Card.*—Though not yet available to the public, all arrangements were made in 1936, to provide these cards, which will be on sale shortly. The scheme is based on one in force in the Indian Post Office. The purchaser of a

card will have to affix his photograph therein and provide a specimen of his signature. The card can then be used as a means of identification for the purpose of postal transactions at any Post Office counter.

A special reduced inland postage rate was introduced for literature for the blind. This literature in Braille characters is now conveyed at the low rate of 3 cents for every 2 pounds or fraction of 2 pounds.

The work of erecting the new wing at the Central Telephone Exchange to enable the present manual exchange to be replaced with automatic equipment made very satisfactory progress during the year, and the building is almost complete. It will be ready in 1937. The tender of the Standard Telephones and Cables, Limited, for the supply of the material for the Central Exchange and the two satellite exchanges at Havelock Town and Maradana was accepted; the order has been placed, and the new equipment should arrive towards the end of 1938.

The year has been a busy one for the Engineering Branch which has had in hand a heavy renewal and improvement programme in addition to the continuation of the programme of rural development for which funds were provided in 1935. Two existing telephone exchanges—Balangoda and Hali-ela—were renewed and automatic switchboards provided. Four new automatic telephone exchanges were opened during the year at Spring Valley, Malwatte, Glen Alpin, and Labugama. Six others will be completed shortly. Seven further proposals are under consideration.

One private exchange, Kandapola, has been taken over by Government and an automatic system installed.

Telephones in Rural Areas.—The problem of providing economically telephone facilities in rural areas where the subscribers are few and scattered was satisfactorily solved by the introduction of the ten line Rural Automatic Switchboard. The Ceylon Postal Department was the first to press on the manufacturers the necessity for these small 10-line units. The switchboard requires no attention by operators and is housed in a small concrete kiosk inconspicuously placed by the road side. The automatic unit provides a twenty-four hours' service and in this way is far more useful than a manually operated exchange in the local Post Office which is closed after certain hours. The change is greatly appreciated.

Railway.—The Ceylon Government Railway's efforts to attract tourists to Ceylon by means of "Tour Ceylon Tickets" have proved successful. The railway has received extensive advertisement through this comprehensive innovation.

Archæological Department.—During the year under review important conservation works were carried out by the Archæological Department at Polonnaruwa, Sigiriya, Mihintale, and Anuradhapura. At Polonnaruwa, extensive repairs were executed to the Thuparama, Vatadage, Rankot Vehera, Lankatilaka, Potgul Vihara, and Gal Vihara. A new road was constructed through the jungle from the King's Palace to the Lankatilaka temple. Important repairs to other monuments at Polonnaruwa are still in progress.

The chief works at Sigiriya consisted of extensive repairs to the flight of steps leading up the hill, rebuilding the fallen retaining walls on the hillside replastering the gallery wall and Lion Staircase and providing paths and clearing jungle at the foot of the hill.

The excavation and restoration of the ancient dagoba at Mihintale known as the Kantaka Cetiya has been completed and the main flight of steps leading up the hill are being repaired and will be completed this year. At Anuradhapura, repairs were carried out to the Peacock Palace, the Audience Hall in the Citadel, and the Buddhist Railing Site on the Outer Circular road.

Fisheries.—It augurs well for the future of the fisheries of Ceylon that the Colonial Development Fund has sanctioned a grant of Rs. 87,500 for the erection and equipment of a Fisheries Research Station and the Government of Ceylon has proposed to afford further facilities in this line by including in the public works loan Ordinance a sum of Rs. 175,000 as provision for an Aquarium, a most useful adjunct to a research institution.

Agricultural Schemes.—The Agricultural Department opened new farm schools at Wagolle, Rambukkana, and at Labuduwa, Galle. The buildings for another school are in course of construction at Karadianaru. A site for a Central Experiment Station and headquarters for the South-Western Division was selected at Kahatapitiya near Horana and is being surveyed. A centre for the development of animal husbandry and for fodder grass propagation was opened at Karagoda-Uyangoda. A scheme for the establishment of a tobacco industry to suit the local market by the appointment of an expert responsible to Government for establishing the industry has been launched.

Colombo Port.—Proposals for the installation of a 30-ton crane to serve the Dock which were made many years ago came into fruition in 1935–36 when the Admiralty, who had been pressing for this facility, were able to provide the funds for half the cost of the crane. Tenders were obtained and Messrs. Stothert and Pitt supplied a very suitable steamdriven travelling jib crane capable of lifting 30 tons at 85 feet radius. This crane was delivered and erected during 1936, on a track previously laid down along the south side of the Graving Dock. The usefulness of this piece of plant has already been evident, ship repairs in dock being greatly expedited and the crane being in frequent demand for that and other work in connection with the Inner Graving Dock.

Excellent progress was made on the construction of the Inner Graving Dock during the year. The more difficult part of the construction has now been overcome and more rapid progress can be anticipated during 1937. Considerable delays were caused first in March and April through slow deliveries of timber and again in September owing to lack of funds to continue the work at the end of the financial year. The Inner Graving Dock is expected to be completed and brought into commission by about March, 1938.

Arrears of maintenance of floating craft which had accumulated during the recent years of economic depression were made up during the year. Three new craft equipped with Gardner Diesel engines were completed during the year and the construction of four more was taken in hand. The two inner dolphins at the Graving Dock approach were connected up to the South Guide Pier with 10 feet wide gangway of re-inforced concrete piles and timber decking to facilitate the handling of mooring ropes. Two jetties off the Delft area were re-constructed in re-inforced concrete, and

portions of Melbourne and Sydney jetties were re-roofed. The re-decking of Block Jetty, Kochchikade South Jetty, and Pettah Jetty No. 2 was completed.

A fumigatorium for export cargoes of cacao was constructed at Baghdad Quay and brought into use on December 1, 1936. With the concurrence of the Director of Agriculture, the plant fumigatorium administered by that department has been combined with the cacao fumigatorium and the joint fumigatorium is now administered by an officer appointed by the Department of Agriculture, the control being vested in the Colombo Port Commission. This arrangement makes far greater economy and easier control.

As a measure of defence against the introduction of plague from foreign countries, it was decided by the Ministry of Health that all grain cargoes arriving at the port from plague-infected ports should be fumigated before being landed. Accordingly, such cargo is now fumigated with hydrocyanide by the Port Health Officer, in lighters at the fumigation moorings. No grain cargo is permitted to be landed without a fumigation certificate from the Port Health Officer or a valid Deratization Exemption Certificate for the Port of Shipment. As a further safeguard, it was decided to centralize storage of grain in the Chalmers Granaries and Manning Market and fumigate the grain periodically. The Chalmers Granaries, however, alone fulfils the requirements for ratproof storage and effective fumigation and, therefore, Manning Market is also being made rat-proof and gas tight. The necessary alterations are now well in hand.

Medical and Sanitary Services.—A Malaria Control Scheme was inaugurated to combat the effects of the Malaria Epidemic. Provision was made in the Budget for the appointment of forty-eight Field Medical Officers to carry on intensive rural health work in the areas that were worst affected by the epidemic.

Experiments in river training were carried out by the Sanitary Engineer with a view to controlling the breeding of larvae in rivers. Observation centres were established by the Medical Entomologist throughout the Island to detect the breeding places of infection carrying larvae.

A new policy of establishing small Cottage Hospitals in remote rural areas was also inaugurated. The Budget for 1936–37 had provision for five Cottage Hospitals in Akkaraipattu, Murunkan, Muttur, Kahatagasdigiliya and Talawa.

Provision was also made for a Dental Van to carry dental facilities to the remoter villages. Dental clinics were opened at Galle, Jaffna, Batticaloa, and Kandy.

During the year nine Central Dispensaries, ten Branch Dispensaries, and twenty Visiting Stations were established.

A nutrition survey was conducted by the Director, Bacteriological Institute, and the results were published in a Sessional Paper (No. 2 of 1937). The assay of Ceylon food stuffs which was undertaken in 1935 was completed in London and the results are being written by the Director, Bacteriological Institute, who is on leave, for publication.

Medical Education.—In December, 1936, Sir Richard Needham, the representative of the British Medical Council, inspected the Medical College.

The principle of selecting pupil midwives for training was revised. In future only girls who have passed the Junior School Certificate in

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HIS MAJESTY EX-KING EDWARD VIII.

Sinhalese, Tamil, or English will be admitted for training. The period of training has been extended from six months to eighteen months including six month's training in a Health Unit.

Quarantine.—The compulsory cyanide fumigation of grain cargoes from plague-infected ports was introduced in September, 1936, as a plague preventive measure. The rice importers of Colombo and the Indian Government protested against the introduction of these measures as it was stated they would cause undue hardship to the rice trade. However, after three months of practical experience of the new measure all parties appear to be satisfied.

Situation and Dimensions.

Ceylon lies between 5° 55′ and 9° 50′ N. latitude and 79° 42′ and 81° 53′ E. longitude. The greatest length of the Island from north to south, *i.e.*, from Point Palmyra to Dondra Head, is 270 miles; its greatest width 140 miles, from Colombo on the west coast to Sangamankanda on the east. Its area is 25,332 square miles, nearly the same as that of Holland and Belgium, or about half the size of England.

The approximate distances of Colombo, the chief port of Ceylon, from the other chief world ports, and the average tariff for the itinerary are given below :—

Colombo to London.	Nautical Miles.	Approximate Days' Journey.
Aden	2,100	8
Suez	3,407	12
Port Said	3,494	13
Marseilles	5,091	16
Gibraltar (*via* Marseilles)	5,690	19
Gibraltar (direct)	5,407	18
London (by sea *via* Marseilles)	7,005	24
London (by sea direct)	6,725	20
London (overland)	5,868	17
Colombo to India, &c.		
Calcutta (touching at Madras)	1,260	7
Bombay	875	3
Rangoon	1,249	4½
Penang	1,276	5
Singapore	1,567	6
Hong Kong (touching at Singapore)	3,113	13
Shanghai (touching at Singapore and Hong Kong)	3,966	17
Yokohama (*via* Singapore and Hong Kong)	5,083	23
Colombo to Australia.		
Fremantle	3,121	9
Adelaide (touching at Fremantle)	4,479	13
Melbourne (touching at Fremantle and Adelaide)	4,979	15
Sydney (touching at Fremantle, Adelaide, and Melbourne)	5,556	18
Colombo to South Africa, &c.		
Mauritius	2,099	10
Durban (touching at South African ports)	3,680	18
Cape Town (touching at South African ports)	4,362	21–30

PASSAGE FARES.

Colombo to London :—
- 1st class single .. £54 to £80
- 2nd class single .. £40 to £50
- 3rd and tourist single .. £27 to £62

Colombo-Sydney :—
- 1st class single .. £48
- 2nd class single .. £32
- 3rd and tourist single .. £22 to £41

Colombo-Melbourne :—
- 1st class single .. £45
- 2nd class single .. £30
- 3rd and tourist single .. £21 to £40

Colombo-Durban :—
- 1st class single .. £27. 10*s.* to £35
- 2nd class single .. £20

Colombo-Singapore :—
- 1st class single by P. & O... £22
- 2nd class single by P. & O. £14

Colombo-Hong Kong :—
- 1st class single by P. & O. . £36
- 2nd class single by P. & O. £20

Colombo-Yokohama :—
- 1st class single by P. & O... £46
- 2nd class single by P. & O. £26

Colombo-Bombay :—
- 1st class single .. £10
- 2nd class single .. £8

Colombo-Calcutta :—
- 1st class or cabin single .. £10
- 2nd class single .. £8

Colombo-Rangoon :—
- 1st class single .. Rs. 180

Colombo-Port Said :—
- 1st class single .. £40 to £60
- 2nd class single .. £29 to £40
- 3rd class and tourist single £18 to £58

Colombo-Marseilles :—
- 1st class single .. £51 to £76
- 2nd class single .. £36 to £46
- 3rd and tourist single .. £20 to £60

Colombo-Boston and New York £60 to £95

Facilities provided at the Passenger Jetty for the storage of baggage are described on page 108. Passengers' baggage is defined by the Customs Regulations to mean *bona fide* baggage (which includes wearing apparel and personal effects) of a passenger accompanying him or arriving in Ceylon within one month, before or after his arrival, or within such time as the Collector of Customs in the circumstances deems reasonable. With certain exceptions, passengers' baggage is exempt from duty.

The Ceylon Government Railway serves the principal towns of the Island, and offers visitors excellent facilities for inland travel. Cheap first class tourist tickets obtainable from the Booking Office at the Jetty, the Fort Station, and recognized tourist agents at Rs. 50 (£3. 15*s.*) for two weeks and Rs. 75 (£5. 12*s.* 6*d.*) for one month, permit tourists to travel 951 miles of railway and visit the most important and historic towns. Servants accompanying tourists are issued third class tickets at Rs. 15 (£1. 2*s.* 6*d.*) for two weeks and Rs. 25 (£1. 17*s.* 6*d.*) for one month. These are issued throughout the year.

Similar "Tour Ceylon" tickets priced first class Rs. 40, second class Rs. 20, and third class Rs. 10 (half these rates for children under twelve years) were issued during the Christmas holidays as an experiment. These tickets are available for 14 days unlimited travel, and the experiment was repeated during the Easter holidays.

The distances from Colombo to some of the principal towns of the Island, and information regarding sleeping and restaurant cars, &c., are found on pages 112–114.

There is no legal tariff for taxi-cabs within the municipal limits of Colombo, but the usual scale of fares is as follows :—

For the first half mile	..	..	.. 50 cents
For each subsequent ¼ mile up to 1 mile		..	.. 12½ "
For each subsequent mile	..	..	.. 75 "

Extra charges are made for each passenger over two, and for each piece of luggage other than hand luggage. A higher scale of fares is charged in the case of taxi-cabs hired between the hours of 9 P.M. and 6.30 A.M.

The above rates apply only to places within the municipal limits of Colombo. For trips to places outside Colombo Municipality special terms should be agreed upon *before starting*. The hiring-car fares to such places vary from 40 cents to Re. 1 per mile, with extra charges for detention.

There are hotels of the European type in Colombo, Kandy, Nuwara Eliya, Galle, and Anuradhapura ; the rates are usually Rs. 9 a day and upwards, the usual charge for first-class accommodation being Rs. 12 a day. Cold Storage Companies in Colombo supply ice and frozen meats and other foods by rail. In addition to hotels there are about 170 resthouses in various parts of the Island (marked on the ordinary motoring map), many of which are very delightfully situated beside the sea or some river or tank.

Useful information may be had from the new handbook published by the Automobile Association of Ceylon. "How to see Ceylon" by Bella Sidney Woolf is a favourite guide book for tourists. A more ambitious and informative book is Bassett's Romantic Ceylon, a recent addition to the voluminous literature on the subject.

DIAGRAM Nº 1

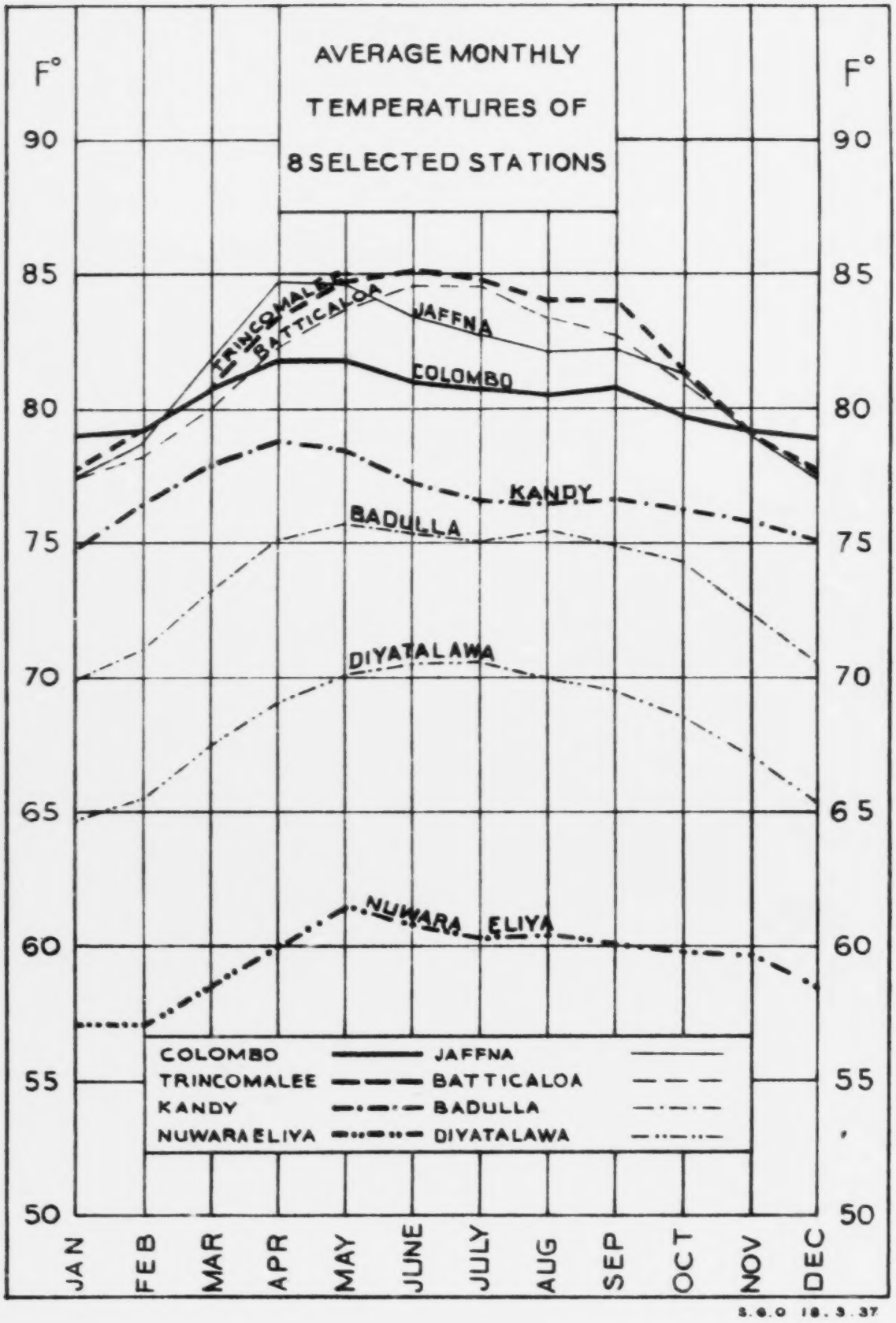

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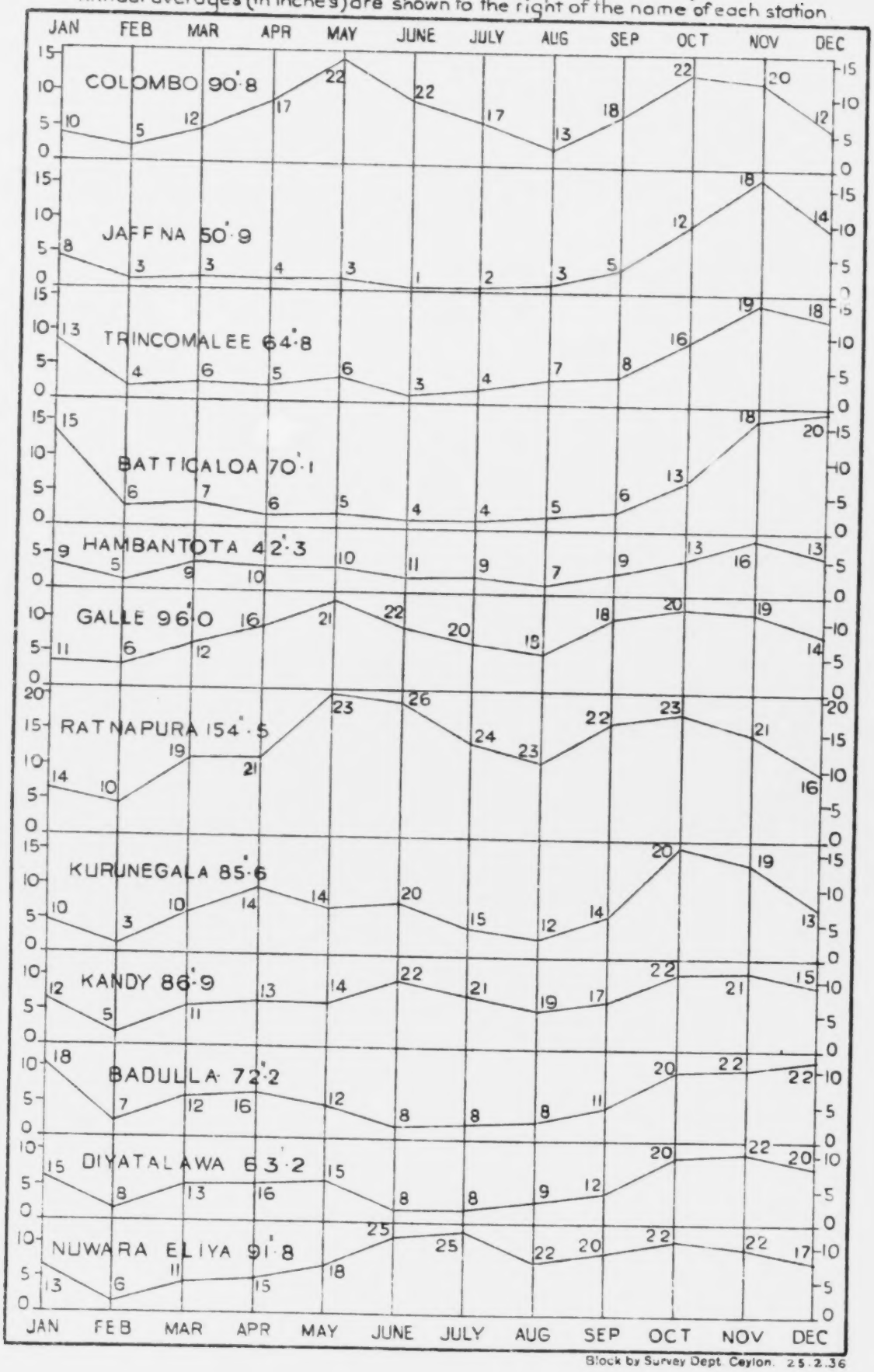
Diagram No 2

AVERAGE MONTHLY RAINFALL

OF 12 SELECTED STATIONS

Figures along the curve denote the number of wet days.

Annual averages (in inches) are shown to the right of the name of each station



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Climate.

On the whole, the climate of Ceylon is tolerable for the tropics ; the accessibility of the hills is a great boon to the dwellers in the plains, and a change to the sea is beneficial to those who live in the hills. In the low-country, the districts which have been opened in rubber, coconuts, and other products are generally fairly healthy, but in the unopened localities malaria is common.

Temperature.—With regard to temperature, the range of variation at several stations is shown in diagram No. 1, facing this page.

The low seasonal variations will be noted, but it will be seen that the differences between the temperatures of low-country and up-country stations are considerable. The highest shade temperature registered in Ceylon was 103·70°F. at Trincomalee in May, 1890, and the minimum air temperature 27·1°F. at Nuwara Eliya in February, 1914. An extreme temperature of 103·7°F. is not excessive, but the humidity is considerable, the annual average percentage of saturation being generally about 80, in Galle and Nuwara Eliya 84, in Colombo, Jaffna, and Badulla 82, in Kandy 80, in Batticaloa 78, in Trincomalee 76. At Colombo, the "hot weather" season may be said to extend from March to May, and the "cold weather" from December to February. July and August are often pleasant, particularly on the west side of the Island.

For 1936 the mean temperature in the low-country varied from 82° at Trincomalee to 80° at Galle, while Nuwara Eliya, at an altitude of 6,000 feet, had a mean temperature of 59°.

Rainfall.—As is generally found in the tropics, however, the seasons are distinguished by differences in rainfall, rather than pronounced variations in temperature. The change in the direction of the monsoon winds, from south-west to north-east, causes a corresponding change in the location of the heaviest rain, which is usually experienced to windward of the hills, while during the intermonsoon seasons, local wind circulations are liable to give rain in any part of the Island.

The annual average rainfall varies from about 40 inches in the north-west and the south-east to over 200 inches in some parts of the interior.

The annual averages (1911–1930) are 91 inches at Colombo, 87 inches at Kandy, and 92 inches at Nuwara Eliya. Diagram No. 2, facing this page, shows the average monthly rainfall of 12 selected stations.

History.

The earliest inhabitants of the Island are thought to have been the Nagas and Yakkhas, the latter being perhaps now represented by the Veddas, a fast fading race. Legendary history has it that the first invaders were Aryans from the North of India, who, under the leadership of Vijaya, overcame the aborigines and established the Sinhalese dynasty. Early attention appears to have been paid by the invaders to irrigation works, agricultural development, and other branches of civil administration, and by the end of the third century A.D. a comparatively advanced stage of civilization had been reached.

The history of Ceylon down to the sixteenth century may be divided into two parts, viz., the period of the Sinhalese *Mahavansa, circa* 500 B.C. to 300 A.D., and that of the *Suluwansa*, from *circa* 300 A.D. onwards. The first period is one of increasing development and expanding civilization, connected chiefly with the progress of Buddhism, which was introduced about 247 B.C. The second period is one of ever-increasing pressure from the Tamils, Pandyans, and Cholas from India, with occasional success on the part of the Sinhalese, particularly during the reign of their famous king, Parakrama Bahu I. (1153 to 1186 A.D.). A natural limit occupation resulted from the constant warfare, and the Tamils known as Jaffnese were left in possession of the north of the Island.

In the sixteenth century the Portuguese formed settlements on the coasts of the Island ; in the next century they were dispossessed by the Dutch. The Portuguese must be credited with the introduction of Catholic Christianity in the Island, and the Dutch with the introduction of Roman law. The impression made by the latter on the social customs of the Ceylonese remains to this day. More recently commerce has brought about a peaceful invasion of Moors, officially styled Muslims, and Malays who are found in large numbers especially in Hambantota, and are reckoned to be the backbone of the Police force. In 1796 the British took possession of the Dutch settlements in the Island, which were then annexed to the Presidency of Madras, but five years later, in 1802, Ceylon was constituted a separate Crown Colony. In 1815, the districts of the interior, which had maintained their independence under the kings of Kandy, were acquired by Great Britain as the result of a rebellion against the Kandyan king, and the whole Island was thus united under the British rule.

Principal Languages.

Sinhalese and Tamil are the two chief vernacular languages in the Island, the former being spoken by the Sinhalese who chiefly inhabit the western, central, and southern portions of the Island, and the latter by the Tamils inhabiting the northern and eastern parts and by the immigrant estate population. English is in general use among the people of the upper and the middle classes of all communities.

CHAPTER II.

Government.

The Constitution.

Until 1931 the Constitution of Ceylon was of the Crown Colony type, the government being vested in the Governor assisted by Executive and Legislative Councils. A description of the old Constitution will be found in the Annual General Reports of 1929 and previous years.

In July, 1931, the then existing Constitution was superseded by a new Constitution, based on the recommendations of a Special Commission on the Constitution appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies, which visited Ceylon in 1927–28. The new Constitution was formulated by the Ceylon (State Council) Order in Council, 1931. The principal constitutional changes involved are described below.

HIS MAJESTY THE LATE KING GEORGE V.

The Legislative Council was dissolved in April, 1931, the Executive Council in July of the same year, and their place was taken by a "State Council" having both legislative and executive functions, which met for the first time on July 7, 1931. The new Council consists of three official members, fifty elected members, and not more than eight members nominated by the Governor. Neither an elected nor a nominated member may be a person holding any public office under the Crown in Ceylon.

The three official members of the State Council are styled the Officers of State. They are members of the Council *ex officio*, as the Chief Secretary, Legal Secretary, and Financial Secretary to the Government respectively. The Constitution provides that they shall have all the rights and privileges of membership of the Council and of the Board of Ministers (a body which will be referred to later), save the right to vote on any question before the Council or the Board.

All elected members are elected on a territorial basis, communal representation which was a feature of the old legislature having been abolished. The franchise is very wide. It extends, with a few exceptions, to all British subjects of either sex who are, at least, twenty-one years of age and are domiciled in Ceylon. In addition, persons not so domiciled are permitted to vote if they possess a certain literacy and property qualification, or have received a "certificate of permanent settlement" from a Government Agent or Assistant Government Agent.

Eight additional members are nominated by the Governor after a general election, the object of their appointment being, in the words of the Special Commission,* "to make the State Council more generally representative of the national interests".

On the first assembly of a new Council, and after the election of a Speaker, the members proceed by secret ballot to divide their total number (excluding the Speaker and the Officers of State) into seven standing committees styled "Executive Committees", which are required to be as nearly as possible equal in number of members†. Each Committee is charged with the administration of one of seven groups of subjects and functions specified in the Order in Council under the following headings :—

I. Home Affairs.
II. Agriculture and Lands.
III. Local Administration.
IV. Health.
V. Labour, Industry and Commerce.
VI. Education.
VII. Communications and Works.

After the election of the Executive Committees, each Committee proceeds to elect by secret ballot a Chairman, and the Chairman-elect of each Executive Committee is then appointed by the Governor as Minister for the group of subjects and functions which his Committee has to administer. It is within the discretion of the Governor to decline to appoint as Minister any member elected Chairman of an Executive Committee. Subjects and functions not allocated to Executive Committees

* Page 101 of the Report of the Commission.
† The members subsequently elected as Deputy Speaker and Deputy Chairman of Committees cease upon their election, to be members of Executive Committees.

are divided by the Order in Council into three further groups, one of which is placed in the charge of each of the Officers of State, who have no Executive Committees associated with them in the administration of these groups.

The duties of Executive Committees may be summarized as follows :—

(*a*) Preparation of the annual estimates of expenditure of the departments under their control, for submission to the Board of Ministers.
(*b*) Similarly, the preparation of supplementary estimates.
(*c*) Consideration of executive business relating to their own subjects and functions, whether laid before them by their Chairmen or by private members, or referred to them by the Council or the Board of Ministers.
(*d*) Consideration of proposed legislative measures falling within their scope.

The decisions of Executive Committees which are of sufficient importance to require the approval of the Council are submitted at meetings of the whole Council in the form of reports, which the Council may accept or reject, or refer back to the Committee, but *may not amend*. A report accepted by the Council is submitted to the Governor by the Speaker for ratification. But the decisions of Executive Committees in financial* matters are submitted by the Committees to the Board of Ministers, and by the Board to the Council.

The Board of Ministers consists of the three Officers of State and the seven Ministers, but, as stated above, the Officers of State have not the right to vote on questions before the Board. The Chief Secretary is *ex officio* Chairman of the Board, and there is also a Vice-Chairman, elected by the Board from among the Ministers, who is the representative of the Board in the Council and is styled the Leader of the State Council. The most important function of the Board of Ministers is the preparation of the annual estimates of revenue and expenditure for the Island, and of supplementary estimates of expenditure. The annual and supplementary estimates of the different departments of Government are submitted by the Officers of State and Executive Committees to the Board, whose duty it is to revise them and, if and when approved, to submit them to the State Council, taking full and collective responsibility for them. No financial* measure may be introduced in the State Council except by an Officer of State or a Minister, and with the approval of the Board of Ministers. The Board of Ministers also determines the order in which any business, whether executive or legislative, to be brought before the Council either by the Board or by the Executive Committees or Officers of State, is to be despatched, and prescribes the procedure for the settlement of questions affecting more than one Executive Committee.

The ordinary life of a Council is four years. But the Constitution provides that the Governor may dissolve the Council at any time, and shall dissolve it if the whole of any Annual Appropriation Bill is rejected, or if the decision of the Council on a financial* measure, or on a motion expressly directed to test the confidence of the Council in the Board of

* As defined in Article 57 of the Order in Council.

Ministers, makes it apparent, in his opinion, that the Board no longer retains the confidence of the Council. Up to the time of writing a dissolution has never occurred. In certain circumstances the life of the Council may be prolonged. It was prolonged beyond its 4-year term in July, 1935, principally on the ground that a new Council would not be able to deal adequately with the Budget framed by the old Council and which was not discussed and passed till September, 1935. The general election was held in February, 1936, and the new Council came into being on March 17, 1936.

*The Governor retains the power to certify any Bill, motion, resolution, or vote as being of paramount importance, or he may declare that it is essential to give effect to the provisions of the Order in Council. In either event the measure has effect as if it had been passed by the Council, subject to disallowance by His Majesty the King in the case of Bills and to revocation by the Secretary of State in the case of other measures.

†Power is also reserved to the Governor to declare that a state of emergency exists, and thereupon to assume control of any Government Department.

The appointment, promotion, transfer, dismissal, and disciplinary control of public officers are vested in the Governor (with power of delegation to heads of Government departments), and the Order in Council contains clauses for the preservation of their conditions of service.

For full details of the Constitution, reference may be made to the Order in Council, which is reproduced in the Ceylon Government Manual of Procedure.

The Ceylon Civil Service.—The Ceylon Civil Service, recruited partly by examination on the same basis as the Indian Civil Service, and partly by local appointments, furnishes officers for the general administrative, and part of the judicial, work in the Island.

Revenue Districts.—For administrative purposes Ceylon is divided into nine Provinces, which are subdivided into districts, as shown in the following table :—

Provinces.	Districts.	Provinces.	Districts.
Western	.. Colombo, Kalutara	North-Western	. Kurunegala, Puttalam-Chilaw
Central	.. Kandy, Matale, Nuwara Eliya	North-Central	.. Anuradhapura
Southern	.. Galle, Matara, Hambantota	Uva	.. Badulla
Northern	.. Jaffna, Mannar, Mullaittivu	Sabaragamuwa	. Ratnapura, Kegalla
Eastern	.. Batticaloa, Trincomalee		

The Government Agents.—The posts of Government Agents—one in each of the nine Provinces—are held by senior Civil Servants. To the Government Agents is entrusted the general administrative work of their Provinces, while their Kachcheries, or offices, are the provincial treasuries for the receipt of revenue and the payment of the local expenses of Government.

The Government Agents hold a number of other official positions, and preside over some local bodies in their Provinces. They are, as a rule, assisted by one or more Assistant Government Agents, who are in charge of revenue districts or else perform special duties at the provincial headquarters.

The Headmen.—The officer next subordinate to the Government Agent or Assistant Government Agent is the chief headman, who is differently styled in different districts : " Mudaliyar " in the maritime

* Article 22 of the Order in Council. † Article 49 of the Order in Council.

Sinhalese districts; "Ratemahatmaya" in the Kandyan districts; "Maniagar", "Adigar", and "Vanniya" in the Tamil districts. There are about 104 chief headmen in the Island. In some cases the Mudaliyar is assisted by one or more "Muhandirams". Next to the chief headman ranks the superior headman, called in the maritime Sinhalese districts "Vidane Arachchi", in the Kandyan Sinhalese districts the "Korala", and in the Tamil districts the "Udaiyar". There are about 610 superior headmen in Ceylon.

Lastly comes the village headman, who is in charge of one or more villages, and whose jurisdiction is the administrative unit. The number of village headmen is about 3,800. In addition, there are peace officers, irrigation headmen, and others appointed for special purposes. A Commission was appointed in 1934 to inquire into and report on the working of the existing Headmen System with a view to its improvement or replacement partly or wholly by any other system. The Commission's report is contained in Sessional Paper XXVII. of 1935. This report was being reviewed by the Home Committee in 1936.

Local Government.

With the inauguration of a new Constitution for the Island in July, 1931, an Executive Committee of Local Administration was elected by the State Council to supervise, control, and develop local government, and a department of local government under the Commissioner of Local Government was created as the executive instrument of the Committee.

The local duties in regard to sanitation and public thoroughfares have for long been entrusted to a number of local authorities whose members are the nominees of the Governor with the addition in most cases of persons elected by the inhabitants. In Colombo, Kandy, and Galle, there are Municipal Councils whose Chairmen are members of the Civil Service. At least half the members are elected by the ratepayers, all those possessing a house of the annual value of Rs. 180, or every tenant who pays a monthly rental of Rs. 15 or is a graduate of a university being qualified to vote. An Ordinance to amend the Constitution of the Colombo Municipal Council in order to provide for an wholly elected Council with an elected Chairman was passed by the State Council in December, 1935, and has since been proclaimed.

Until the end of 1932 in eleven of the smaller towns there were Urban District Councils with elected Chairmen, two-thirds of the members being elected by the ratepayers and one-third being nominated by the Governor. No further Councils were constituted in the absence of a local demand. On the recommendation, however, of the Executive Committee, 16 more such Councils were established from January 1, 1933, in place of 10 of the Local Boards of Health and Improvement, in 5 of the small towns previously administered by Sanitary Boards, and also in place of the Board of Improvement of Nuwara Eliya.

Only one small town is now administered by a Local Board of Health and Improvement, viz., Minuwangoda, as it is too small to support an Urban District Council. The Government Agent of the Western Province is the Chairman. The members are the District Engineer, the Medical Officer of Health, and 3 elected members.

Groups of smaller towns, frequently no larger than roadside bazaars, are administered by the Sanitary Boards of the various districts, consisting of the Government Agent, or Assistant Government Agent, two

HIS EXCELLENCY SIR REGINALD STUBBS, G.C.M.G., GOVERNOR.

local officials of the Public Health Department and the Public Works Department, and not more than four nor less than two members nominated by the Governor. This method of local administration for a number of towns in a district is carried on from the District Headquarters with a staff consisting partly of officers whose salaries are met proportionately by the various towns and partly of officers lent by the Public Health Department. This cheap and reasonably efficient form of local administration is, however, now said to be out of favour because the Boards contain no elected members. The Executive Committee is not recommending the inclusion of any further towns in the administration of these Boards, and has under consideration some other form of administration of a more popular type.

In the rural areas, there are Village Committees for groups of villages. These groups are divided into wards, each of which elects one member. In 1932 an Ordinance was passed precluding officials from being elected as Chairmen. These Committees deal with minor local affairs and the working of rules connected with local customs.

Roads other than main thoroughfares and other than those in charge of the local authorities mentioned above, are maintained by District Committees, while certain educational matters have been entrusted to District Education Committees.

CHAPTER III.

Population.

Population.—Population data are collected, as in almost every other country, by means of a Census, which is taken decennially in Ceylon. The last decennial Census was taken on February 26, 1931, but its scope was limited owing to the financial crisis. At that Census Ceylon had (inclusive of the military and the shipping) a population of 5,312,548 which was 17·9 per cent. more than that in 1921. Since 1871 when the first decennial Census was taken the population has steadily increased. The Island is fairly thickly populated ; and at the last Census it had a density of 210 persons per square mile and ranked above India, France, and Denmark, and somewhat below Japan.

Statistics of races were not collected in 1931 except in the Colombo Municipality and on the estates, but rough estimates based on the Census of 1921 are given below :—

Race.	Colombo. Town.	Estates.	Estimates for Other Areas.	Estimated. Total.
Europeans	3,340	2,814	2,999	9,153
Burghers and Eurasians	15,887	2,031	14,397	32,315
Sinhalese	127,927	75,786	3,269,317	3,473,030
Tamils	65,704	698,081	653,692	1,417,477
Moors	44,240	7,496	274,177	325,913
Malays	7,022	1,988	6,967	15,977
Others	20,035	1,738	10,791	32,564
	284,155	790,376*	4,232,340	5,306,871*†

It is estimated on the same basis that there were 3,267,457 Buddhists, 1,158,522 Hindus, 523,066 Christians, 356,888 Muslims, and 938 others at the Census of 1931.

* Includes 442 persons of unspecified race.
† Excludes the military and the shipping.

The population (exclusive of the military and the shipping) was geographically distributed in 1921 and 1931 as follows :—

	1921.	1931.	Percentage of Increase.
Western Province	1,246,847	1,445,034	15·9
Central Province	717,739	953,388	32·8
Southern Province	671,234	771,204	14·9
Northern Province	374,829	398,874	6·4
Eastern Province	192,821	212,421	10·2
North-Western Province	492,181	546,966	11·1
North-Central Province	96,525	97,365	·9
Province of Uva	233,864	303,243	29·7
Province of Sabaragamuwa	471,814	578,368	22·6
Miscellaneous Population*	751	8	—

Intercensal estimates of population are prepared from the records of vital statistics and of migration, and on this basis the Island had a population of 5,678,000 at the end of 1936.

The figures for Ceylon quoted above do not include those of the Maldive Islands which had a population of 79,281 at the Census of 1931, as compared with 70,413 in 1921.

Migration.—The large majority of the migrants move to and from India ; and a considerable part of them are Indian labourers. In 1936 the total number of immigrants to the Island was 153,905. Of them 138,144 or 90 per cent. were from India and 40,803 of these were estate labourers.

Of the total 161,870 emigrants in 1936 about 91 per cent. or 147,288 left for India ; and of these, 41,721 were estate labourers.

The migration statistics of 1932 to 1936 are as follows :—

	Arrivals.				Departures.			
	From India.				To India.			
	Indian Labourers.	Others.	From Other Countries.	Total.	Indian Labourers.	Others.	To Other Countries.	Total.
1932	50,869	92,090	15,263	158,222	58,157	115,131	13,771	187,059
1933	32,898	88,661	14,498	136,057	46,626	134,524	13,077	194,227
1934	140,607	104,813	14,383	259,803	52,481	97,919	14,869	165,269
1935	43,018	104,206	14,259	161,483	43,036	112,667	13,641	169,344
1936	40,803	97,341	15,761	153,905	41,721	105,567	14,582	161,870

Marriages.—Three Marriage Ordinances operate in the Island, one for the general population, one for the Kandyans, and one for the Muslims. Under the General and Kandyan Marriage Ordinances 26,779 marriages were registered in 1936, as against 23,636 in 1935, and an annual average of 27,175 during the preceding decade. The General marriages alone numbered 21,334, and were 1,334 more than in the previous year. The number of persons married during the year was 10·2 per 1,000 of the General and Kandyan population, as against 9·1 in 1935, and 11·1 the average during the decade ending 1935. Among the Muslims 1,549 marriages were registered, 203 more than in the previous year and 406 more than the annual average during the decade 1926-1935. A considerable number of Muslim marriages are not registered according to law, and the Muslim marriage rate is consequently low, being 8·2 per 1,000 during the year, as compared with 7·2 in 1935 and 6·4 the average for the ten years ending 1935.

Divorces.—Dissolution of any marriage registered under the General Marriage Ordinance can be granted only by a District Judge and under the Kandyan Marriage Ordinance by a Provincial or Assistant Provincial Registrar. In 1936 there were 131 dissolutions of General and 710 of Kandyan marriages, as compared with 144 and 445 respectively in 1935. There is usually a large excess of Kandyan marriage divorces over General marriage divorces, largely due to the greater facilities for divorce

* Persons enumerated in trains and in the Great and Little Basses.

DIAGRAM No. 3.

REPORTED BIRTH, DEATH AND MARRIAGE RATES, CEYLON.

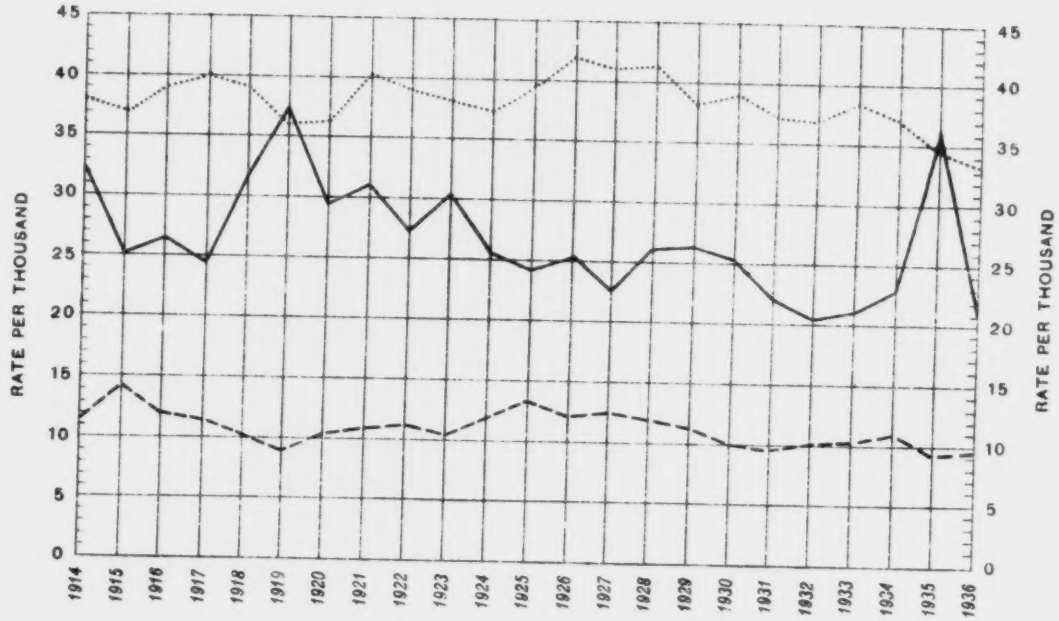

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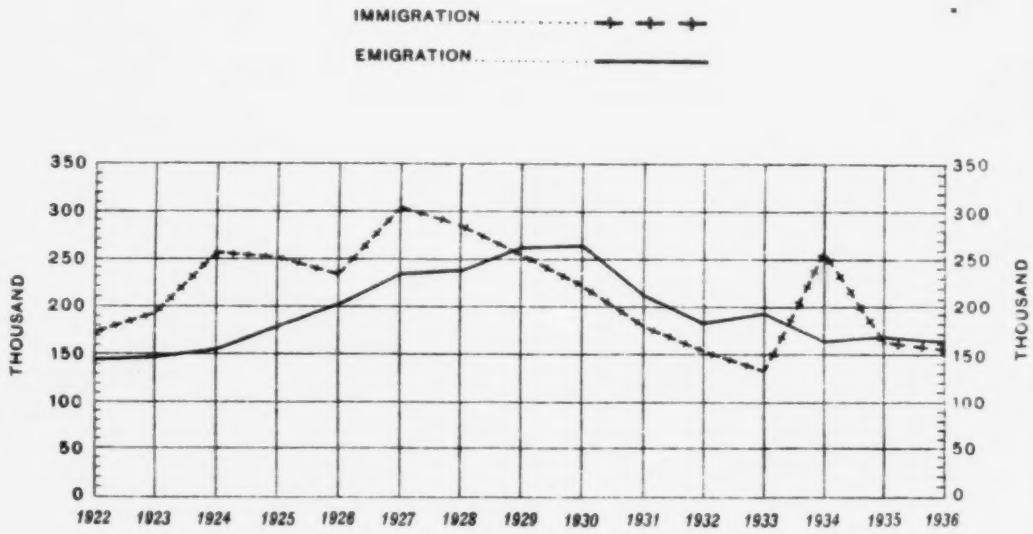
DIAGRAM No. 4

ANNUAL IMMIGRATION AND EMIGRATION,
CEYLON.



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afforded by the Kandyan marriage law. No statistics of Muslim marriage divorces are available as these marriages are dissolved mostly by Muslim priests without reference to any public official.

Births.—192,060 births were registered in the Island in 1936, as against 192,755 in the previous year and 203,562 the average of the decade 1926–1935. Of these, 97,879 were males and 94,180 females, representing a sex proportion of 1,039 males to 1,000 females, the same as in 1935. The birth rate was 34·1 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 34·4 in 1935 and 38·7 the average rate for the decade ending 1935. The birth rate of the Island is comparatively high.

Deaths.—The deaths of 123,039 persons (63,025 males and 60,014 females) were registered in 1936, as against 204,823 in 1935 and 131,389 the average for the decade 1926–1935. The death rate was 21·8 per 1,000 of the estimated population, as compared with 36·6 in the previous year and 24·9 the average for the previous decade.

Infant Mortality.—The deaths of 31,789 infants under one year of age were registered in 1936. The infant mortality in 1935 was 50,733 and the average for the decade 1926–1935 was 36,275. About 26 per cent. of the total deaths in 1936 were those of infants. The infant death rate was 166 per 1,000 births registered, as compared with 263 in 1935 and 179 the average for the ten years 1926–1935.

Causes of Death.—Since 1911 causes of deaths in this country are classified according to the International or Bertillon System. The classification from 1933 was according to the fourth revision of the international list. Owing to the absence of compulsory certification of causes of deaths among a very large section of the population, the statistics, particularly of diseases requiring scientific knowledge for diagnosis, are not absolutely accurate: but there is reason to believe that a definite, though slow, progress in accuracy is achieved every year. The death rate per million of the estimated population from the more important diseases registered in Ceylon in 1935 and 1936 are shown below :—

Causes.	Rate per Million.		Causes.	Rate per Million.	
	1935.	1936.		1935.	1936.
Pyrexia	4,021	2,578	Malaria and malarial cachexia	8,452	1,353
Convulsions (under 5 years) ..	2,948	2,011	Influenza	342	281
Pneumonia and broncho-pneumonia ..	2,042	1,717	Dysentery	1,103	394
Diarrhoea and enteritis ..	1,991	1,265	Ankylostomiasis ..	472	327
Phthisis	605	562	Puerperal septicaemia ..	294	271
Premature birth and congenital defects	531	420	Bronchitis	252	255
			Enteric fever ..	123	137
			Cancer	99	97

Pyrexia and malaria were diseases which took heavy toll in 1935. The figures for 1936 show a marked recovery in the health of the people.

CHAPTER IV.

Health.

Hospitals and Dispensaries.

Medical aid is generously provided by the State, there being 108 Government hospitals and asylums, with provision for 11,716 beds.

In Colombo are situated a General Hospital with 943 beds, an Ophthalmic Hospital, a Lying-in Home, a hospital for women (Lady Havelock

Hospital), a hospital for children (Lady Ridgeway Hospital), a Bacteriological Institute, a Pasteur Institute, and a Dental Institute. At Angoda, 6 miles from Colombo, there is a hospital for infectious diseases, with 168 beds. There are special dispensaries at Kandy, Galle, Jaffna, Batticaloa, and Badulla for the treatment of eye diseases. Treatment with radium is now available at the General Hospital, Colombo.

There is a Lunatic Asylum at Angoda, 6 miles from Colombo, and two Leper Asylums, one at Hendala in the Western Province and one at Mantivu in the Eastern Province.

There is a Home for Incurables at Colombo, with 90 beds, which is administered by a Committee of Government officials and representatives of the public.

For the treatment of tuberculosis, there are the King Edward VII. Memorial Anti-Tuberculosis Institute in Colombo, a hospital of 349 beds for advanced and moderately advanced cases at Ragama, and a Sanatorium of 72 beds at Kandana, and one of 44 beds at Kankesanturai on the northern coast.

In addition to Government hospitals, the owners of estates have provided 85 estate hospitals, and in consequence receive a rebate on the export duty on tea, rubber, coffee, cacao, and cardamoms.

Besides the hospitals there are 676 central and branch dispensaries and visiting stations provided by Government. There are also 733 estate dispensaries, which receive free drugs from Government to the value of 50 cents per labourer per annum.

Campaigns.

Campaigns against malaria, ankylostomiasis, and parangi are carried out in various parts of the Island, apart from treatment at hospitals and dispensaries. Mass treatment against hookworm infestation was carried out by Medical Officers, Medical Officers of Health, and School Medical Officers in their respective areas. Very marked results are shown by the decrease in the number of patients admitted to hospitals in the areas so treated. Success has also attended the efforts of the Itinerating Medical Officers appointed for the treatment of parangi.

Trained vaccinators are stationed in each Province. Primary vaccination against smallpox is compulsory, and secondary vaccination is carried out complusorily among contacts when an outbreak of smallpox occurs.

Anti-Malarial Work.

Intensive anti-malaria work is done in the severely malarious town-areas of Chilaw, Kurunegala, Anuradhapura, Trincomalee, Puttalam, and Badulla (work in the last two was begun during 1929), and along certain sections of the railway and at Minneriya.

Schemes for malaria drainage of anti-malaria campaign areas are drafted by the Sanitary Engineer. The Medical Entomologist checks the efficiency of larvicidal measures carried out by the Anti-Malaria Campaign staff and also investigates problems connected with malaria incidence in other parts of the Island.

Quinine is distributed in large quantities in malarious areas throughout the Island both for curative and prophylactic purposes.

As a result of the unprecedented malaria epidemic which started at the end of 1934 and which caused much havoc to Ceylon, a scheme for

malaria control and health work has been organized by which Medical Officers, each of whom will be placed in charge of an area comprising a population of about 40,000, will carry out work embracing the following :— anti-malaria work, maternity and child welfare work, school health work, mass hookworm treatment, supervision of dispensaries, holding of special clinics, control of communicable diseases, health propaganda and general sanitary work. The areas worked at present with the new scheme of malaria control and health work are those affected mostly by the malaria epidemic of 1935, viz., the North-Western Province, Province of Sabaragamuwa, and the Kandy and Matale Districts of the Central Province.

Sanitary Engineering Division.

In addition to malaria drainage, this division deals with questions of general drainage in small towns and of water supplies and disposal of excreta.

Estate Sanitation.

Attached to the Department of Medical and Sanitary Services are three Inspecting Medical Officers and two Assistants, who inspect estates throughout the Island. During the year under review 459 estates were inspected. In the course of inspection, defects in the sanitary condition of estates are pointed out and suggestions to remedy and prevent in future are put forward to the estate owners. Year by year the housing and the sanitary conditions on estates are increasing.

Public Health.

In addition to the Inspecting Medical Officers there were in 1936 25 Medical Officers of Health assisted by 261 Sanitary Inspectors who looked after the sanitary requirements of urban and rural areas. Eleven of the areas under Medical Officers of Health are of such reduced size and contain such a population that each area can conveniently be looked after by one Medical Officer of Health. In these areas a staff of Sanitary Inspectors, Public Health Nurses, and Midwives is provided and work is carried out intensively, every type of public health work needed being done. In the remaining areas the extent of district and population are great, and only Sanitary Inspectors, not sufficient to deal with the whole population, are employed. Sanitary work in the limited areas looked after by Sanitary Inspectors is done on the same lines as in the intensive areas.

At Colombo, Kandy, Galle, Jaffna, Kalutara Totamune, and the Colombo Mudaliyar's division, school health work was carried out by seven wholetime School Medical Officers and six School Health Nurses. Schools (*a*) in Health Unit areas, (*b*) in towns where District Medical Officers of Health are resident, and (*c*) coming within their itineraries, were dealt with by the Medical Officers of Health concerned. Schools coming within easy reach of the hospitals were dealt with by the District Medical Officers.

Legislation.

A Milk and Dairies Ordinance, and a draft Anti-Mosquito Ordinance are with the Legal Draftsman ; a Suburban Bakeries and Aerated Water Factories Ordinance and an amending Ordinance of the Lunacy Ordinance, 1873, are in hand.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Plague.—The following cases and deaths occurred in Ceylon during 1936 :—

Locality.	Cases.	Deaths.
Western Province—		
Colombo Municipality	39 ..	33
Central Province—		
Hatton-Dikoya	11 ..	7
Maskeliya	3 ..	2
Southern Province—		
Weligama	1 ..	1
Midigama	1 ..	1
Northern Province—		
Mannar	1 ..	1
North-Central Province—		
Anuradhapura	1 ..	1
	57	46

During the year 1935 there were 60 cases with 56 deaths. The fatality rate was 80·7 per cent. in 1936 and 93·3 per cent. in 1935.

Western Province.

Colombo Municipality.

Included among the 39 cases for Colombo was a fatal case discovered in the train at Talaimannar Pier. The person was found to have travelled from Colombo by train en route to India.

Rat plague continued to be enzootic in the city as in previous years. 28,605 rats were examined at the Municipal Laboratory and 39 or 0·14 per cent. were found infected, as against 0·22 per cent. in 1935.

The type of disease among human beings infected in Colombo during the past three years was as follows :—

	1934.		1935.		1936.	
	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.
Bubonic ..	23 ..	17 ..	37 ..	33 ..	32 ..	26
Septicaemic ..	11 ..	11 ..	20 ..	20 ..	7 ..	7
Pneumonic ..	— ..	— ..	— ..	— ..	— ..	—
	34	28	57	53	39	33

All the 39 cases in 1936 were males. The distribution by months of the 39 cases was as follows :—

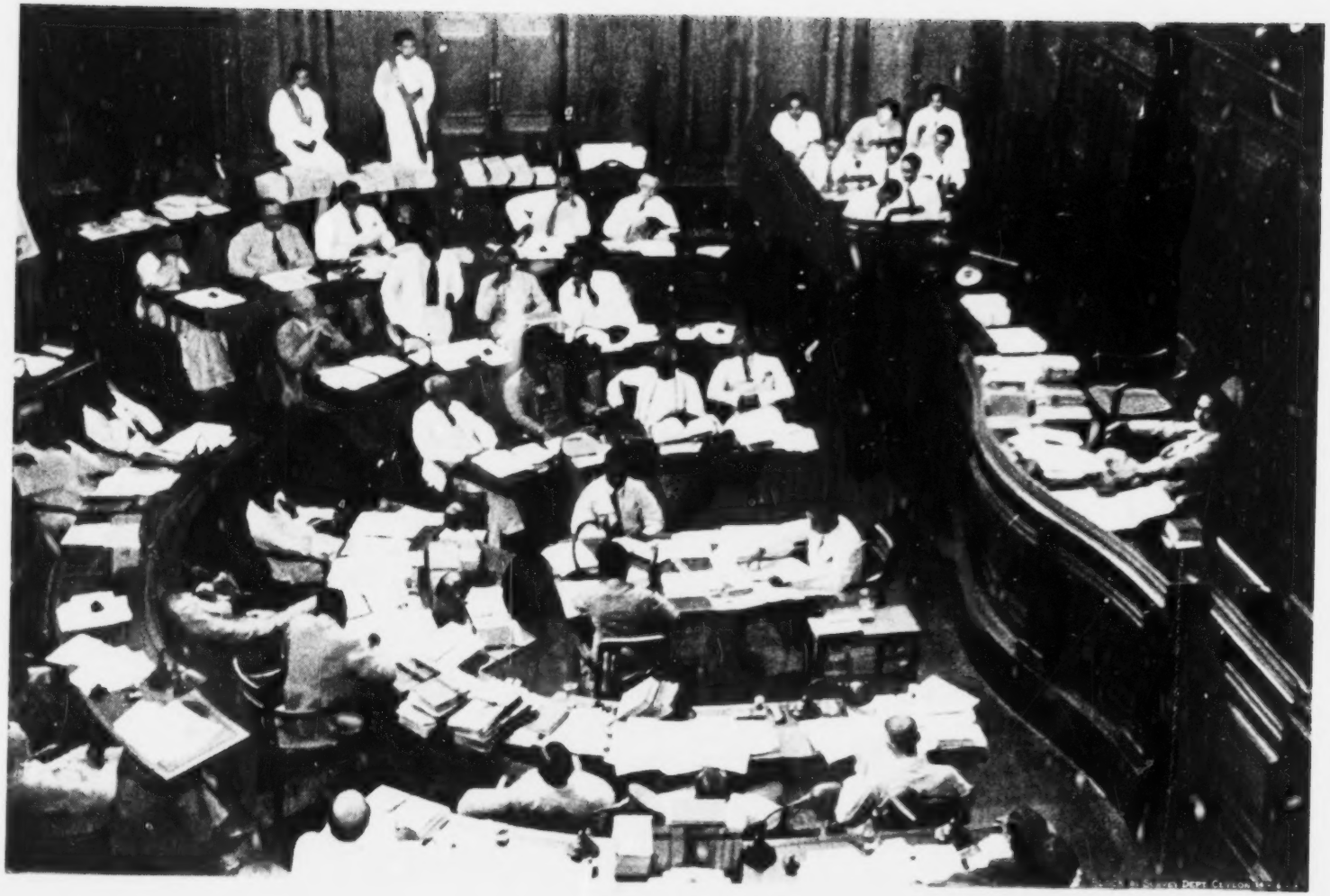
January ..	10	May ..	1	September ..	1
February ..	5	June ..	—	October ..	3
March ..	4	July ..	3	November ..	5
April ..	3	August ..	1	December ..	3

Central Province.

Hatton-Dikoya.

Eleven cases with 7 deaths occurred in this town.

A small outbreak of human plague occurred in May, 1936, preceded by a rat epizootic. Ten cases and 7 deaths occurred in this outbreak. The first case was discovered on May 16, 1936, and a portion of the bazaar



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THE STATE COUNCIL IN SESSION.

area evacuated, when the rat campaign was commenced. It was found that the rats were locally infected with plague and the last infected rat found was on July 9, 1936. Forty-eight rats were found infected and this is the highest recorded for any outbreak in the Island. The last human case in this outbreak occurred on June 13, 1936.

The eleventh case was detected at Ahangama in November, 1936—the patient having arrived from Dikoya with fever and cervical bubo. The source of infection could not be definitely traced. Rat trapping locally showed no infection among rats.

Maskeliya.

There were 3 cases and 2 deaths. The non-fatal case in this group was detected at Ahangama on August 14, 1936, where the patient had gone after he had developed fever at Maskeliya. The 2 fatal cases occurred earlier on July 27, 1936, and August 2, 1936, respectively.

Local infection of rats was found in this area also. Three infected rats were found, the last on August 14, 1936.

It is believed that merchandise, especially rice, had been removed to Maskeliya from the infected area at Hatton, before this area was declared a diseased locality, by some traders in whose boutiques the disease first made its appearance.

Southern Province.

Weligama.

One fatal case occurred in April, 1936. There was no local infection of rats. The deceased who was a dealer in piece-goods and cloth had very probably visited Colombo where he may have been infected.

Midigama.

One fatal case occurred in a Sinhalese woman in April, 1936. The source of infection could not be traced.

Northern Province.

Mannar.

One fatal case occurred in the person of a conservancy labourer attached to the Mannar Hospital. Infection was accidentally acquired during the post mortem examination of the fatal plague case from Colombo discovered in the train at Talaimannar Pier.

North-Central Province.

Anuradhapura.

One fatal case occurred in March, 1936. Eight infected rats were found in this town in the locality where the fatal case had got the infection. The last infected rat found was on April 4, 1936.

Smallpox.—Three cases, all of which proved fatal, occurred giving a fatality rate of 100 per cent. There were 115 cases with 15 deaths in 1935 and 72 cases with 13 deaths in 1934.

Distribution of Cases.—All the cases occurred in Colombo in Indian Tamils, who were new arrivals from India.

The first case arrived in Colombo on January 9, 1936, fell ill on January 11, 1936, and died on January 22, 1936.

The second case arrived on August 1, 1936, fell ill on the same day, and died on August 13, 1936.

The third case arrived on September 30, 1936, fell ill on the same day, and died on October 10, 1936.

Of the 3 cases, 2 were confluent and 1 discrete, 2 were vaccinated and 1 unvaccinated.

Cholera.—There were 49 cases of cholera with 44 deaths giving a fatality rate of 89·8 per cent. The cases were all confined to the Eastern Province.

There were two outbreaks : the first outbreak occurred in March-April and the second in October, 1936.

Distribution of cases and deaths by locality was as follows :—

First Outbreak.

	Cases.	Deaths.
Kokkodicholai Kalmunai Kudi	35	31
Saintamuruthu	6	6
Kattankudi ..	2	1
Sammanturai	1	1
Kiliveddy ..	1	1
	45	40

Second Outbreak.

	Cases.	Deaths.
Manmunai South	2	2
Palugamam ..	1	1
Porativu ..	1	1
	4	4

The first outbreak occurred at Manmunai South in the vicinity of Kokkodicholai and Atuchenai. The disease first broke out among cultivators who went to the paddy fields in Manmunai South for reaping the harvest. The first case occurred on March 17, 1936, and proved fatal on the same day. The last case occurred on April 17, 1936, and the last death on April 18, 1936.

The second outbreak occurred in Manmunai South and Porativu, six months after the first outbreak. The disease broke out among cultivators of Natpathuwaddai near Atuchenai. The first case occurred on October 6, 1936, and the last on October 12, 1936.

The exact source of infection could not be definitely traced. There is reason to believe that in the first outbreak the infection was introduced from India by labourers who come periodically for work during harvesting seasons. The source of infection in the second outbreak which occurred almost exactly at the same spot as the first was probably a carrier in the locality.

The mode of transmission of the disease in both outbreaks is considered to have been by contact. No common source of water supply could be incriminated.

All necessary measures and intensive action were taken which helped to prevent further cases and to bring about a speedy termination of the outbreaks.

CHAPTER V.

Housing.

A. *Municipal Towns.*—There are three Municipal towns in Ceylon, viz., Colombo, Kandy, and Galle. Of these, Colombo with a population of about 308,100, is much the largest. New houses in these towns may only be built in accordance with the provisions of the Housing and Town Improvement Ordinance of 1915, which prescribes certain minimum hygienic requirements. But there are numerous insanitary houses built prior to the Ordinance which can only gradually be converted into sanitary buildings as they fall into disrepair. The Colombo Municipal Council began a scheme of housing its own direct labourers in 1923 and a definite yearly programme of providing tenements for them has been followed since that year. In 1931 the Council also embarked on a programme of slum eradication at Kochchikade which, when completed, will rehouse about 2,000 people.

In Kandy, which has a population of about 39,900, the first organized attempt at slum clearance began in 1920 following an outbreak of plague. Seventy-five per cent. of the slums have since been dealt with and replaced by sanitary tenements or houses of a better type. Model tenements have been built by the Council in various parts of the town which now house about 2,500 persons. Ninety-nine insanitary tenements were closed in 1936 and their inhabitants were for the most part given model dwellings erected by the Council. Lines are also being built for the Council's labourers. A start has also been made in Kandy in providing " back lanes " for the congested areas of the town. These lanes facilitate conservancy and scavenging and also provide more light and air for the houses in their neighbourhood.

In Galle, which has a population of about 38,100, action has been mainly directed towards the improvement and demolition of insanitary and dangerous buildings under the provisions of the Housing and Town Improvement Ordinance, each ward of the town being taken up in turn. Steps were also taken during 1936 to prevent overcrowding of houses and tenements.

B. *Other Towns.*—The other towns of the Island which are under the administration of Urban District Councils or Sanitary Boards are also subject to the Housing and Town Improvement Ordinance. But in most of them only a minority of the existing buildings is in conformity with modern sanitary requirements. A gradual improvement, however, is being effected as the older buildings collapse and have to be rebuilt. Few of the local bodies concerned are in a financial position to embark on schemes of tenement building.

C. *Rural Areas.*—In the rural areas most of the houses are built with wattle and mud walls and roofs thatched with straw or cadjans. Village Committee rules usually prescribe certain elementary sanitary measures, *e.g.*, that a dead body may not be buried within a certain minimum distance of a dwelling-house or that every house must have its walls whitewashed at least once a year. Otherwise housing conditions in the rural areas are free from control.

On the larger tea, rubber, and coconut estates housing accommodation for the labour force is usually provided by the estate proprietors, is inspected periodically by officers of the Medical and Labour Departments, and is generally much superior to that found in the surrounding villages.

CHAPTER VI.

Production.

AGRICULTURE.

General.—The main crops of the Island are coconut, paddy, tea, and rubber. Other crops which are grown to less extents, though their combined value is of not inconsiderable importance to the trade of the Island, are: cacao, cinnamon, citronella, arecanut, cardamoms, and tobacco.

Chena cultivation, that is, the growing of crops on jungle land newly cleared by burning, is an important feature of peasant agriculture in the sparesely populated areas of the dry-zone, while, in more favoured districts and particularly in proximity to towns, market gardening brings in a small but regular income.

Animal husbandry was formerly a negligible factor in the agricultural economy of Ceylon, but interest in this branch has now been awakened, and the foundations of stock raising and dairy industries are being assiduously laid.

The extent of production of the several crops may be gauged from the following tables which give the approximate acreages under cultivation and the quantities of produce exported and their value in 1936 :—

Acreages under the Chief Crops (estimated only).

	Acres.		Acres.
Coconuts	1,100,000*	Palmyra	50,000‖
Rice	850,000†	Cacao	34,000‖
Rubber	605,152‡	Citronella	33,000‖
Tea	557,739§	Cinnamon	26,000‖
Chenas, vegetable, and other crops	140,000‖	Tobacco	14,000‖
Arecanuts	69,000‖	Cardamoms	6,000‖

Exports of Agricultural Products of the Island in 1936.

	Quantity.	Value. Rs.¶	Total Value of Class. Rs.¶
Black tea	217·9 mill. lb.	153·2	
Green tea	·26 mill. lb.	·18	
			153·4
Coconuts, fresh	16·9 mill. nuts	·92	
Copra	1·0 mill. cwt.	10·1	
Coconut oil	·69 mill. cwt.	9·9	
Coconut shell charcoal	·14 mill. cwt.	·38	
Coir yarn	·086 mill. cwt.	·81	
Desiccated coconut	·60 mill. cwt.	7·0	
Poonac (coconut)	·30 mill. cwt.	1·1	
Bristle fibre	·24 mill. cwt.	1·4	
Mattress fibre	·57 mill. cwt.	1·7	
Coir rope, &c.	·010 mill. cwt.	·11	
			33·4
Rubber	111·8 mill. lb.		46·8
Cacao	·059 mill. cwt.		2·0
Arecanuts	·11 mill. cwt.		1·2
Cardamoms	2,335 cwt.		·43
Pepper and other spices	2,353 cwt.		·048
Cinnamon (quills and chips)	·047 mill. cwt.	1·6	
Cinnamon oil (bark and leaf)	3·2 mill. oz.	·44	
			2·0
Tobacco (unmanufactured and cigars)	2·7 mill. lb.		·59
Citronella oil	1·3 mill. lb.		·51
Papain	·23 mill. lb.		·45
Kapok	8,191 cwt.		·24
			241·1

* Based on the results of the partial Census of Production, 1929.

† Based on an estimate of the Department of Agriculture: according to the partial Census of Production, 1929, the acreage was about 800,000, while according to the returns furnished by Government Agents to the Paddy Commission the extent under cultivation in 1930 amounted to 941,000 acres.

‡ Based on the Rubber Controller's survey for 1936.

§ Based on the Tea Export Controller's Report for 1935–36.

‖ Based on the results of the Censuses of Production, 1921 and 1924.

¶ In millions.

Tea.

Acreage, &c.—Over 557,000 acres are planted in tea, *Thea sinensis*, consisting of 2,369 estates and 68,982 small holdings. It is grown at elevations varying from sea level to 6,000 feet above sea level but mainly in the hilly country in the centre of the Island at elevations ranging between 1,500 feet and 5,000 feet. The better quality teas are grown at the higher elevations where the more temperate climate assists growth and produces flavour.

The manufactured product consists of the young tender shoots which after plucking undergo the processes of withering, rolling, fermenting, and drying or firing.

Pruning and Plucking.—The object of tea cultivation is to secure the maximum quantity of the best quality of leaf. For this purpose the bushes are pruned periodically so as to ensure regular, frequent, and plentiful " flushes ", or young, tender shoots on the bushes. The tip of the new shoot and one or two leaves below it are plucked by hand, generally by the women of the labour force.

Rainfall.—A fairly evenly distributed rainfall of 80 to 120 inches a year is required for tea.

Labour.—About 95 per cent. of the labour on tea estates consists of immigrant labour from India. An estate requires on an average about $1\frac{1}{8}$ labourer per acre.

Cultivation.—Very extensive cultivation is carried out on tea estates to secure large yields. To improve the tilth and condition of the soil green and artificial manuring is carried out in a systematic and scientific manner. The low price and restriction of output have reduced the application of fertilizers during recent years.

Manufacture.—Great care and attention are paid to the manufacture of tea under its stages with a view to the production of the best flavoured tea with attractive appearance.

Research.—A scientific staff is maintained by the industry which is supported by a cess on exports for the purpose of investigating the scientific side of the growth and manufacture of tea.

Yields.—Yields vary considerably according to elevation, cultivation, &c., but may be said to range from 300 to 1,200 lb. made tea per acre. On a well cultivated estate 600 to 700 lb. is considered a satisfactory all-round yield.

Factory.—A large number of the tea factories have been rebuilt during recent years and the opportunity has been taken to erect new factories on chosen sites at a high elevation in order to secure the best conditions for the withering of the leaf which is essential for the production of flavoury tea. Originally many tea factories were old coffee factories converted, situated near the bed of a river to secure the advantages of water power. The principal machinery required consists of tea rollers, roll breakers, sifters, &c., and dryers. Suction gas engines are the usual source of power. The power required is roughly 10 to 12 horse-power per 100,000 lb. with a minimum of 25 h.p. for a small factory manufacturing about 120,000 lb. made tea.

Preparation for Export.—Tea is exported in metal lined wooden packages with the garden mark of the estate on which it is produced and is ready for consumption. It is usually blended and packed in packets before it actually reaches the consumer's hands.

3——J. N. 65863 (6/37)

Restriction.—In May, 1933, an Ordinance to control the export of tea was passed by the State Council as a part of a joint scheme for the regulation of the export of tea from the main producing countries. The Ordinance is to be operative for a period of five years. For the second year of assessment which ended on March 31, 1935, Ceylon's exportable quota was fixed at 220,082,290 lb. being 87½ per cent. of the total exports of tea from the Island, in 1929. For the year ending March 31, 1936, Ceylon was allowed to export 207,506,160 lb. ; the same amount is allowed for the year ending March 31, 1937.

Prices.—The average price of total offerings for the year was 67 cents, as against 64 cents in 1935.

High-, medium-, and low-grown were higher than 1935 by 1, 2, and 4 cents, respectively.

The monthly average prices at the local weekly sale compare as follows :—

	Rs. c.		Rs. c.		Rs. c.
January	.. 0 70	May ..	.. 0 64	September	.. 0 70
February	.. 0 73	June ..	.. 0 64	October	.. 0 68
March ..	.. 0 66	July ..	.. 0 68	November	.. 0 67
April ..	.. 0 61	August	.. 0 68	December	.. 0 71

These figures show a fairly steady level of values throughout the year with a set-back from April to June when conditions were disturbed as the result of an increase of 2*d.* per lb. in the United Kingdom Tea duty.

At the first sale of the year low-grown teas averaged 65 cents but this had receded to 57 during April. A shortage of supplies followed resulting in a steady demand which was well maintained particularly for low-grown teas. During the last months of the year orders from the Persian Gulf for tippy kinds caused these grades to fetch extremely high prices. There was, however, a slight weakening in this demand at the last two sales of the year.

There was a noticeable shortage of medium- and low-grown teas on the local market owing to the demand for coupons for up-country production, consequently buyers have been short of requirements, particularly for South Africa and Australia.

Coupon prices ranged from 36¼ cents to 49¾ cents during the year under review.

Uncouponed Tea.—A total of approximately 6½ million lb. was offered at the weekly auctions, against 5¼ million lb. in 1935.

The annual average market prices* in certain years were :—1925, 96 cents per lb. ; 1926, 99 cents ; 1927, 94 cents ; 1928, 85 cents ; 1929, 81 cents ; 1930, 75 cents ; 1931, 57 cents ; 1932, 42 cents ; 1933, 54 cents ; 1934, 66 cents ; 1935, 64 cents ; 1936, 67 cents (see Diagram No. 5).

Rubber.

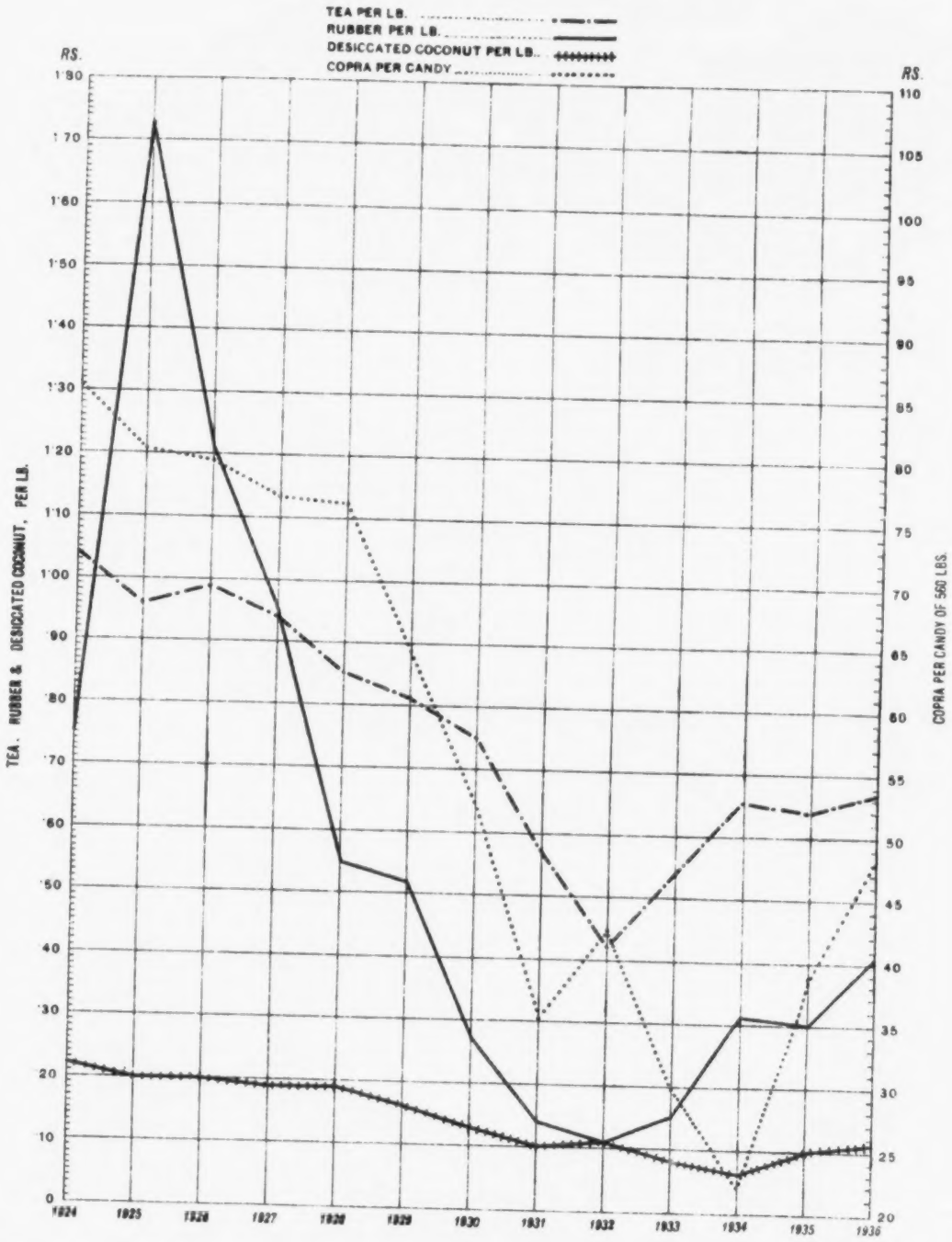
Acreage, Elevation, and Rainfall.—The acreage under rubber in the Island is 605,152 acres. The rubber tree cultivated in Ceylon (*Hevea brasiliensis*) flourishes at elevations below 2,000 feet and requires a well distributed rainfall of not less than 80 inches per annum. It is cultivated to varying extents throughout the Island, chiefly in the Province of Sabaragamuwa and in the Western, Central, and Southern Provinces.

Latex.—Rubber is the coagulated latex of the rubber tree obtained by tapping the trunk. The latex running from the cut—usually half

* According to local weekly sale averages.

DIAGRAM No 5

ANNUAL AVERAGE MARKET PRICES OF
TEA, RUBBER, DESICCATED COCONUT AND COPRA



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the circumference—is collected in cups, removed to the factory, treated with acetic or formic acid to cause coagulation, crêped by machinery, and dried or coagulated in sheets and smoked. Rubber, as exported, is a raw product and requires treatment by manufacturers.

Planting.—Rubber is generally propagated from seed which is sown in nurseries, and, when the nursery plants are eighteen months to two years old, they are removed, have their tops and main roots cut back, and are planted into the new clearings as " stumps ". Planting is carried out at varying distances, but 24 feet by 12 feet is a favourite of many growers, as this allows of ample plants for thinning from the third year. The tree grows to a height of 30 to 40 feet and develops a heavy foliage.

Budding of Rubber.—The improved economic position of the rubber plantation industry led to greatly increased interest being taken in the subject of replanting estates with budgrafted trees derived from proved high yielding clones. A substantial acreage was replanted in 1936 and many companies plan to complete the replanting of 20 per cent. of their acreage which is permissible under the Rubber Control Ordinance, before the expiration of the 5-year period of control.

Mr. R. K. S. Murray of the Rubber Research Scheme made a tour of Malaya, Java, and Sumatra for the purpose of acquiring first hand information regarding the yields of bud-grafted rubber in commercial practice. Figures which he has obtained and information from other sources confirm the view that greatly increased yields can be obtained by budgrafting provided that suitable clones are used.

Ceylon is still dependent on material derived from imported clones but several local clones which are under test-tapping give promise of being of commercial value and many other local high yielding trees are under trial by the Rubber Research Scheme and on estates.

Cultivation.—The best time for cultivation is considered to be just before the wintering commences. Cattle manure, green manures, and artificial manures are all used. The approximate quantity of artificial manure used per annum per acre is up to 1,000 lb. Cover plants are used for soil conservation.

Tapping.—Various systems of tapping are in vogue, the commonest system in recent years has been that in which a half spiral cut is tapped on alternate days. Systems involving alternate periods of more intensive tapping followed by resting are now being tested with a view to reducing the cost of tapping. The unremunerative prices realized by rubber have effectively closed down any further planting in recent years and the introduction of the Rubber Control Ordinance will prevent any further extension of acreage under rubber during the five years period of control.

Manufacture.—Latex after coagulation is exported in the form of crêpe or smoked sheet and its preparation requires the use of considerable machinery more especially where rubber is prepared in the form of crêpe. Manufacture is standardized and the difference between the price of various grades is generally speaking not large.

Restriction.—In May, 1934, an Ordinance to control the export of rubber was passed by the State Council as a part of a joint scheme for the regulation of the export of rubber from the main producing countries. The Ordinance is to be operative for a period of five years.

The Ceylon quota of export for any period of control will be the quantity of rubber named as the basic quota for that period or such percentage of that basic quota as shall be declared by His Excellency the Governor by notification in the *Government Gazette*.

The basic quota for the five years is as follows :—

	Tons.		Tons.
1934	77,500	1937	81,000
1935	79,000	1938	82,500
1936	80,000		

Yield.—The yield per acre varies considerably with the soil, age of the trees, rainfall, planting, treatment, &c., but may be said to range from 150 to 700 lb. per acre, 400 to 500 lb. per acre being considered a good all-round yield for an estate in full bearing. A very good tree over twelve years old will yield 10 lb. dry rubber per annum, while the average per tree in full bearing may be put at about 4 to 5 lb. per annum.

Prices.—Throughout the year the direction of the market has, except for a few intermediate fluctuations, been steady and persistently upheld, and the year must be regarded as very successful from the control point of view, and of considerable benefit to the industry and its connected interests.

After the difficulties of 1935 and with the settlement of quotas for Siam, Burma, and the Netherlands East Indies, the International Committee reached position of being able to adjust output to the requirements of consumption and thus the machinery of the scheme could demonstrate its efficiency.

In January, 1936, the business horizon was much obscured by the confusion resulting from certain decisions of the Supreme Court in the United States, but mainly owing to the confidence with which the Control scheme was by then being regarded, the market was not unduly affected by the situation.

In February the outlook was further upset by industrial strikes in the United States but the improved statistical position based on the International Committee's programme helped the market to meet this adverse influence as well. An addition of 5 per cent. of the permissible export quota was announced in April, and for a short while prices receded fractionally, but this was attributed as much to uncertainty over foreign currencies as to any anticipated increase in production. In October the International Committee announced the further release averaging 7½ per cent. for the half year, January/June, 1937. This was closely followed by a burst of activity in all markets which resulted in a rapid advance in price.

Prices continued to follow closely the tone of importing centres. Opening quietly at 32¼ cents for sheet and 32½ cents for crêpe, which values incidentally were the lowest recorded during the year, rates advanced steadily, and with the exception of a slight set-back during May continued upward throughout the 12 months, reaching their peak on December 29 at 57 cents for sheet and 59 cents for crêpe. These prices ultimately declined during the holiday season to 55 cents and 57 cents, respectively, on the last day of the year.

Forward Contracts.—It was not until the last quarter of the year that business became a feature of the market. From October onwards varying positions during 1937 were sold at rates ranging from—

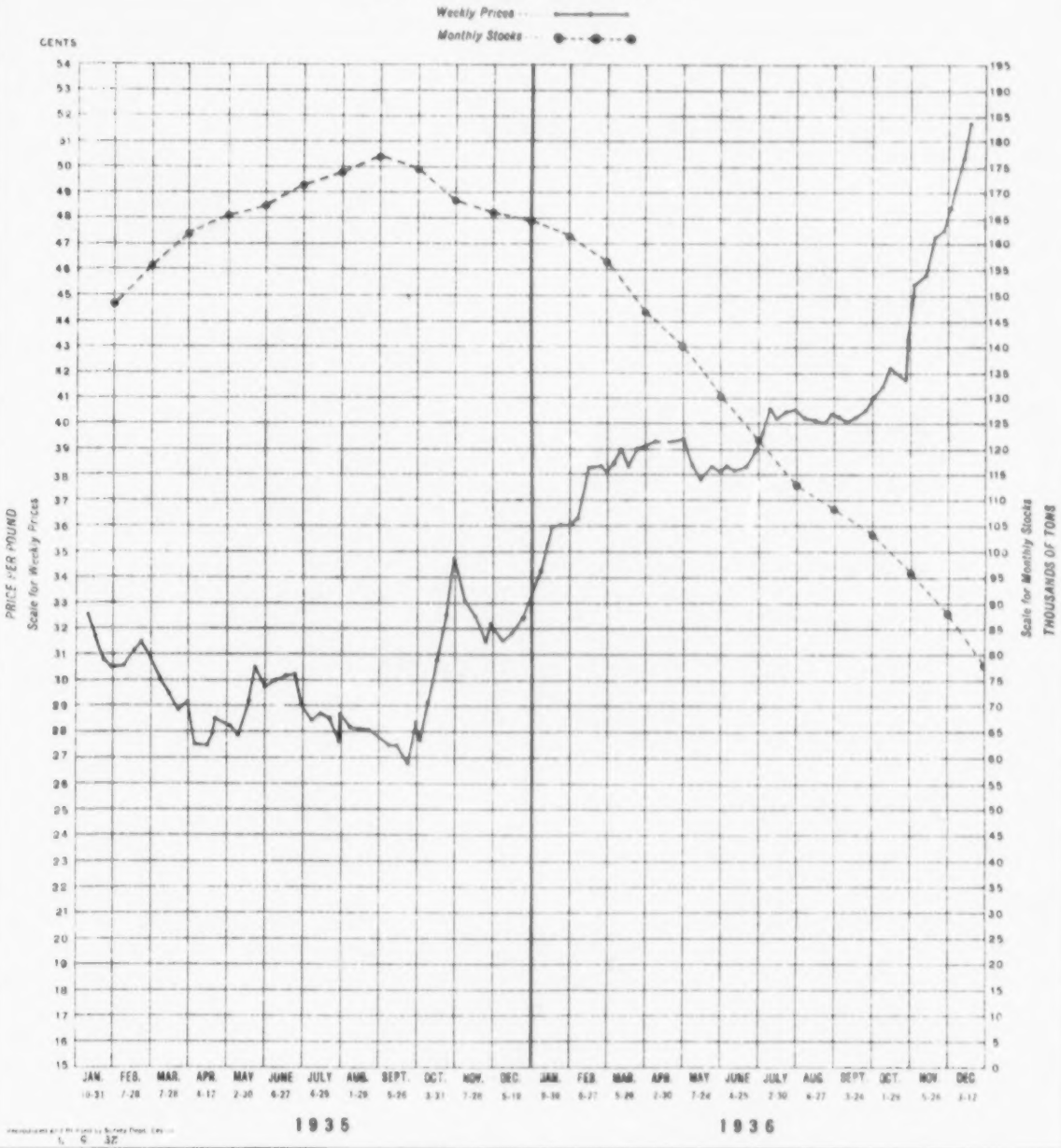
Sheet 41½ to 54 cents.
Crepe 42¾ to 56 cents.

DIAGRAM No. 6.

AVERAGE WEEKLY COLOMBO PRICES AND

MONTHLY STOCKS OF RUBBER IN UNITED KINGDOM (LONDON AND LIVERPOOL)

FOR THE YEARS 1935 AND 1936



Coupons.—Business was active throughout the year and there were extensive transactions. Spot price opened at 24½ cents and fluctuated between 28 cents and 31 cents until November. Thereafter prices rose to 36 cents and after a sharp set-back to 31½ cents subsequently closed the year at 35 cents per coupon lb.

The following figures show local monthly offerings, local and London average and coupon values :—

1936.	Local Monthly offerings. Tons.	Local Average for Contract Quality Ribbed Smoked Sheet. Per lb. Cents.	London Average* for London Standard Ribbed Smoked Sheet. Per lb. *d.*	Coupons. Cents.
January	833	34·92	6·81	29
February	366	37·78	7·28	28¾
March	466	38·82	7·44	28¾
April	362	39·47	7·53	29½
May	415	38·22	7·34	29
June	354	38·34	7·38	28¾
July	590	40·07	7·72	31
August	393	39·69	7·63	30¾
September	401	39·89	7·69	30½
October	520	41·39	7·91	30¾
November	395	45·70	8·59	34½
December	306	49·90	9·69	34¾

The annual average market prices† in certain years were the following :—1925, Re. 1·73 per lb. ; 1926, Re. 1·21 ; 1927, 95 cents ; 1928, 55 cents ; 1929, 52 cents ; 1930, 27 cents ; 1931, 14 cents ; 1932, 11 cents ; 1933, 15 cents ; 1934, 31 cents ; 1935, 30 cents ; 1936, 41 cents. (See Diagram No. 5.)

Labour.—The labour engaged is composed of Sinhalese and immigrant Indian Tamils. The usual requirement of labour is one labourer to 3 acres of rubber.

Research.—A scientific staff is maintained by the industry and is supported by a cess on exports for the purpose of investigating the scientific side of the growth and manufacture of rubber. Provision for this research work was made by Ordinance No. 10 of 1930.

Coconut.

Acreage, Area, &c.—It is estimated that approximately 1,100,000 acres are planted with coconuts. But cultivation on systematic lines may be considered to occupy about 900,000 acres. Along the coast of the Western and Southern Provinces planting has been done very closely and no systematic cultivation is carried out. Here the main product is toddy which is supplied to arrack distilleries ; at the same time the manufacture of coir string and rope is an important subsidiary industry, especially in the hands of women. Elsewhere the coconut is cultivated mainly for the production of copra, and the extraction of oil therefrom, as well as the manufacture of desiccated coconut. Cultivation is confined mainly to elevations below 1,500 feet and a well distributed rainfall of 50 to 90 inches is required. The greater part of the acreage lies in the North-Western, Western, and Southern Provinces.

Cultivation.—Much can be done to increase the output of the tree by cultivation ; by the use of concentrated manures containing nitrogen, potash, phosphoric acid, &c. ; green manure, such as *Crotalaria ;* cattle

* From the International Rubber Regulation Committee's Bulletin for January, 1937.
† Averages for top grades only (Ribbed Smoked Sheet and Contract Crêpe) at local weekly sales.

manure; and occasional cultivation with modern implements. Young coconuts systematically cultivated and manured come into bearing much earlier than coconuts which are not so treated.

Costs.—The cost of opening land for coconuts varies considerably, but it may be put on the average at Rs. 400 to 600 an acre, spread over ten years, the expenses being greater in the first three years. The waiting period may be put at ten years. Land is available to be opened in coconuts, but only in the outdistricts, where a good deal of pioneering work, including the making of roads, combating wild animals, fever, &c., is necessary.

Labour.—The quantity of labour required for a coconut estate is generally worked out at one labourer for 10 acres. A small resident force is often maintained for draining, manuring, and tillage, which on some estates consists of about half Tamil and half Sinhalese. Frequently the plucking of the nuts and the manufacture of copra are done by a contractor, who supplies his own labour.

Labour on coconut estates does not earn such high wages as on tea and rubber properties. Plucking may cost about Re. 1·25 per 1,000 nuts.

Research.—The Coconut Research Scheme, which was established by Ordinance No. 29 of 1928, has its headquarters at Bandirippuwa estate, Lunuwila. It is supported by a grant and a cess on the exports. The Senior Scientific Staff consists of the Technological Chemist who is at the same time Director of Research, the Geneticist and the Soil Chemist. On the junior staff are three technical assistants, a field assistant, the superintendent of the estate, and two clerks. Scientific research is carried out on the breeding and improvement of the coconut palm, manuring and cultivation, and the technology of coconut products. There are well equipped laboratories and a useful library and reading room at Bandirippuwa estate. The third Wednesday in each month is set aside as Visitors' Day. Coconut planters and others interested in the industry are specially invited to make use of the library and reading room, which are open on week days from 9 A.M. to 4 P.M. and on Saturdays from 9 A.M. to 12 noon.

Leaflets and other publications on various aspects of the coconut industry are issued to *bona fide* inquirers who register their names on the Scheme's mailing list.

The nut.—The principal product, from a commercial point of view, is the nut. The yield per palm on a cultivated estate is about 40 nuts per annum. The average yield is probably under 30 nuts per palm, though with cultivation in good districts up to and over 80 may be secured. The number of palms to the acre may vary from 50 to 90, the average being about 70. The palms come into bearing in about six years with intensive cultivation, but more usually take up to ten years. The nuts are generally picked six times a year. They are made into copra upon the estate which produces them, but some small holders sell their nuts to manufacturers. Considerable quantities are exported when the demand for nuts for the manufacturing of desiccated coconut is keen. The price rose owing to the increased demand for the manufactured products from Rs. 74 per 1,000 in 1913 to the maximum of Rs. 115 per 1,000 in 1920.

Prices.—The market opened in January at Rs. 45 per thousand for husked coconuts delivered at buyer's store, the price being for equal quantities of large, middles and smalls.

The market remained steady never going below Rs. 43 and above Rs. 48 until the middle of March. Prices then declined and Rs. 33 was seen at the end of March. Values continued to show minor fluctuations but firmed again in April, recording the highest level of Rs. 47 at the middle of the month.

There was a very little change during June and July, and the average figures shown below accurately reflect the market. From August prices definitely improved, fluctuating between Rs. 38 and Rs. 42 until the middle of September. From this point a further advance was made which reached Rs. 47 in October, Rs. 53 in November, and Rs. 62 in December to the close of the year.

Average of the monthly quotations recorded by the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce for 1936 :—

(Per 1,000 nuts L. M. S.)

	Rs. c.		Rs. c.
January	45 0	July	37 25
February	45 60	August	39 60
March	38 88	September	41 38
April	42 0	October	44 90
May	38 60	November	49 38
June	37 25	December	56 50

The annual average market prices in recent years were the following :— 1930, Rs. 46·58 per 1,000 nuts L. M. S. ; 1931, Rs. 37·12 ; 1932, Rs. 44·60 ; 1933, Rs. 29·36 ; 1934, Rs. 19·42 ; 1935, Rs. 35·71 ; 1936, Rs. 43·03.

Copra.—The most important manufactured product is copra. This is the dried kernel of the nut, and is used for the manufacture of coconut oil, which, again, is utilized for the production of margarine, soap, and other products. Poonac, a largely used cattle food, is the by-product in the manufacture of coconut oil from copra. The bulk of it is used locally, either as cattle food or as manure, but 467,565 cwt. valued at Rs. 1,600,861 were exported in 1935 and 303,216 cwt. valued at Rs. 1,146,527 in 1936.

The number of nuts required to manufacture a candy (560 lb.) of copra varies from 900 to 1,500.

The value of the exports of copra is shown in Diagram No. 9.

Prices.—The market opened in January at Rs. 47·50 per candy and continued fairly steady throughout the year until middle November when prices rose sharply on improvement in coconut oil demand, and closed the year at Rs. 67·50.

Average of the monthly quotations recorded by the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce for the year 1936 :—

(Estate No. 1 per candy of 5 cwt.)

	Rs. c.		Rs. c.
January	47 85	July	43 81
February	48 65	August	45 78
March	45 82	September	45 94
April	47 30	October	48 95
May	44 28	November	53 97
June	42 25	December	62 38

The annual average market prices* in certain years were :—1925, Rs. 80·36 per candy (560 lb.) ; 1926, Rs. 79·40 ; 1927, Rs. 76·88 ; 1928, Rs. 76·22 ; 1929, Rs. 64·47 ; 1930, Rs. 52·36 ; 1931, Rs. 35·06 ; 1932, Rs. 42·21 ; 1933, Rs. 29·75 ; 1934, Rs. 21·98 ; 1935, Rs. 38·15 ; 1936, Rs. 48·01 (see Diagram No. 5).

* The average prices for 1927 to 1935 are for top grades only. Averages for other years represent the lowest and highest overall weekly quotations received for all grades.

Coconut Oil.—Although a large quantity of copra is exported for the extraction of oil by the importers, a quantity of coconut oil is prepared in Ceylon. The traditional method of extraction consists in grinding the copra in a "chekku" consisting of a large wooden pestle, which is revolved by bullock power in a kind of stone mortar. This method is slow and wasteful, and modern mills are now working in Chilaw, Colombo, and other districts of Ceylon, hydraulic presses and expellers being in general use. Usually the locally manufactured coconut oil contains 1½ to 2 per cent. of free fatty acid, and a further refinement is necessary in the consuming country.

The value of the exports of coconut oil is shown in Diagram No. 9.

Prices.—During the period under review the oil milling industry passed through a most critical stage on account of the competition by India for copra which enjoys an advantage in duty over the manufactured article. For the first nine months of the year the copra market was dominated by the Indian shippers, and the Ceylon millers could only operate at a loss, with the result that a number of the small mills were forced to close down.

During the latter part of August and September, Canada came into the market on a fairly considerable scale, followed by a general demand from the United Kingdom and Continent. This resulted in a steady increase in price which gained momentum to such an extent that within two months the price had risen from Rs. 300 to Rs. 437·50 per ton.

These rapidly advancing prices were due to a distinct world shortage in copra becoming apparent at the same time as a marked deficiency in olive oil production and a heavy shortage of oils and fats in America. It would, therefore, appear that conditions are set for a higher level of prices, even though the spectacular rise during the last two months of the year may not be maintained. The average price of Rs. 288·55 due to the marked improvement during the last two months of the year, was the highest since 1930. Average of the monthly quotations recorded by the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce for 1936 :—

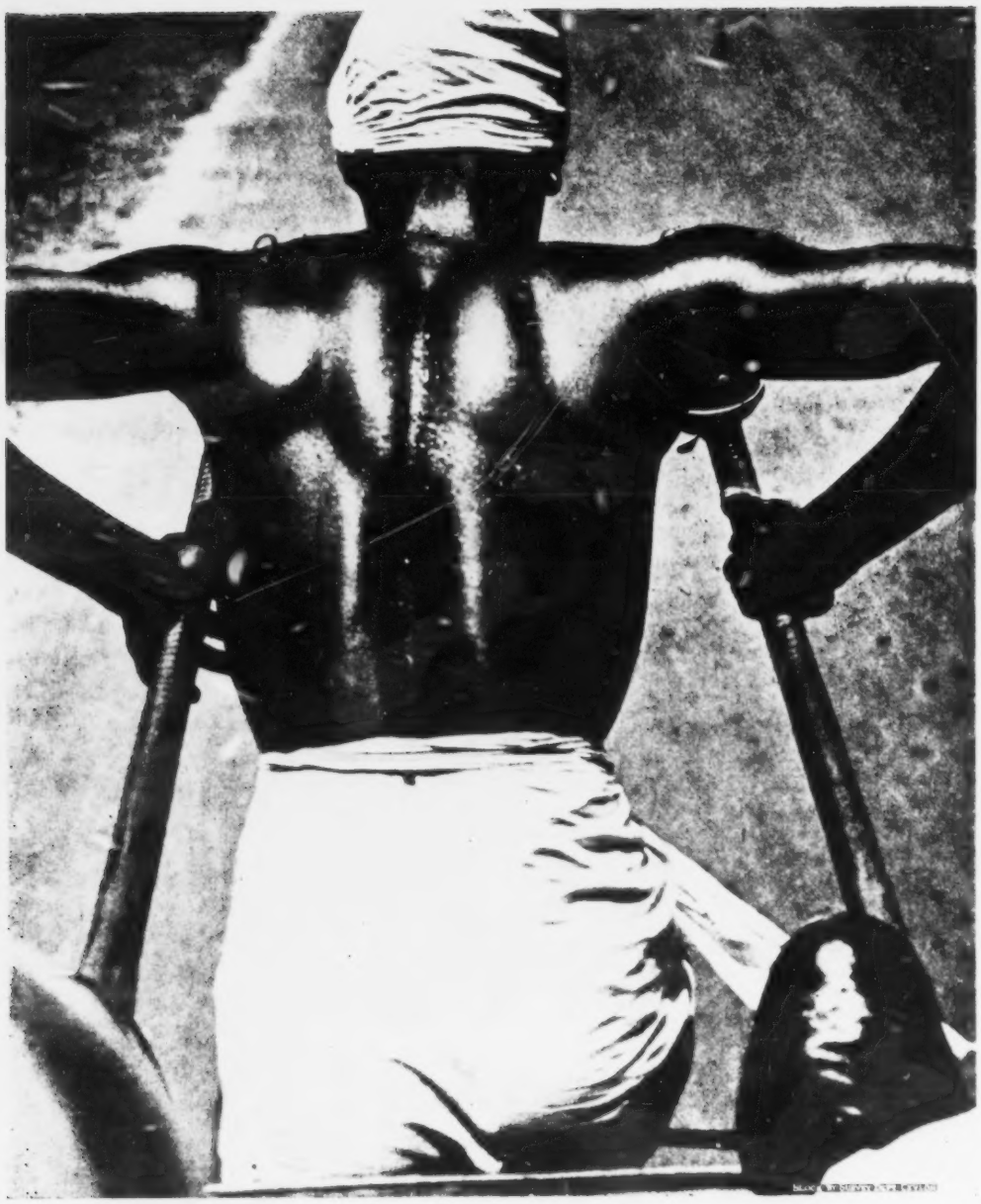
(Ordinary per ton f. o. b.)

	Rs. c.		Rs. c.
January	303 23	July	271 36
February	295 75	August	280 16
March	277 51	September	283 54
April	282 29	October	278 75
May	264 92	November . ..	307 50
June	256 88	December	412 50

The annual average market prices in certain years were :—1925, Rs. 543·17 per ton f.o.b. ; 1926, Rs. 539·36 ; 1927, Rs. 491·73 ; 1928, Rs. 489·02 ; 1929, Rs. 412·33 ; 1930, Rs. 351·63 ; 1931, Rs. 253·52 ; 1932, Rs. 283·75 ; 1933, Rs. 209·43 ; 1934, Rs. 149·98 ; 1935, Rs. 245·58 ; 1936, Rs. 288·55.

Desiccated Coconut.—Desiccated coconut is produced in Ceylon on a large scale, the conditions being favourable as the mills are either on the estates or easily accessible to them by water, road, or railway. The delivery of the fresh nuts, which are essential to the success of the manufacture, is thus a simple matter. Mills, many with elaborate machinery, have been erected in almost every district to cope with the demand. Some are capable of dealing with 50,000 nuts a day.

The value of the exports of desiccated coconuts is shown in Diagram No. 9.



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THE GOD AT MY FEET.

Prices.—The market opened firm at the commencement of the year at 12 cents but fell away in the middle months, dropping to $9\frac{3}{4}$ cents in July. From this point there was steady improvement with a fairly rapid advance at the end of the year to 15 cents on December 31. Demand on the whole was dull and featureless, the price improvement in the second half year being due more to rising prices for copra than to improvement in desiccated demand.

Average of the monthly quotations recorded by the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce for 1936 :—

(Per lb.)

	Rs. c.		Rs. c.
January	0 12	July	0 10
February	0 12	August	0 10
March	0 11	September	0 11
April	0 11	October	0 11
May	0 10	November	0 12
June	0 10	December	0 14

The annual average market prices in certain years were :—1925, 20 cents per lb. ; 1926, 20 cents ; 1927, 19 cents ; 1928, 19 cents ; 1929, 16 cents ; 1930, 13 cents ; 1931, 10 cents ; 1932, 11 cents ; 1933, 8 cents ; 1934, 6 cents ; 1935, 10 cents ; 1936, 11 cents (see Diagram No. 5).

Information regarding the manufacture of alcohol, &c., is shown under " Excise ", page 50.

Coir, &c.—An important but somewhat unorganized industry, also dependent upon the coconut tree, is the manufacture of coir, which consists of the stout fibres forming the husk of the nut. These fibres are separated by rotting the husks in water, or by special machinery. The fibres are then graded and used for making brushes, yarn, mats, rope, &c., according to their quality. In many parts of Ceylon the coir fibres are separated by village labour, chiefly women, and sold by them to exporting firms.

Mills for the separation of the fibre by machinery have been established at several places in the Colombo, Negombo, and other districts. Much of the output is used locally, but there is considerable export of bristle fibre, mattress fibre, and coir yarn. The value of the exports of coir is shown in Diagram No. 9.

Prices.—Japanese buyers were very active during the first part of the year, mainly as the result of a large Japanese shipping concern entering the market. The usual importers bought heavily against this new competitor mainly during March, April, and May. During this time there was a reasonably good demand from the Continent, although nothing out of the ordinary.

Good quality 2-tie started the year at Rs. 4·20 per cwt. and remained steady at this figure till the beginning of February. The price then rose steadily till about the middle of May to Rs. 5 mainly due to the heavy demand from Japan.

Prices sank considerably during June and the first half of the year closed with 2-tie at Rs. 4·30 due to the sudden falling off in orders. From July onwards the market was characterized by an increasing demand from Germany, but at rather low prices, as the German government had fixed rates above which their importers were not allowed to buy. Large amounts were, however, sold to Germany at slightly increasing prices, and Belgium also took quite a large quantity from July onwards.

The price for good 2-tie remained steady at about Rs. 4·30 during July and August, rose through September, October, and November to Rs. 4·50 and finished the year at Rs. 4·70.

Average of the monthly quotations recorded by the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce for 1936 :—

(3-tie per cwt.)

	Rs. c.		Rs. c.
January	4 73	July	4 61
February	5 14	August	4 64
March	5 55	September	4 86
April	5 33	October	4 86
May	5 17	November	4 89
June	4 85	December	4 94

Mattress Fibre.—As regards quantity, mattress fibre did well, the exports rising from 478,680 cwt. in 1935 to 573,187 cwt. in 1936, an increase of 19 per cent.

The average price although falling from Rs. 3·41 in 1935 to Rs. 2·17 in 1936 can still be looked on as satisfactory as this price was well above the average for the years 1930 to 1934.

The price for No. 1 quality was Rs. 2·80 at the beginning of 1936, but fell away during February. A slight shortage in March, due mainly to lack of water, brought prices back to Rs. 2·80 but then fell away steadily until it reached Re. 1·84 in July and August. Up till then there had been a good inquiry from the United Kingdom and South Africa, both of whom took far more than in 1935.

Germany, however, became interested about August, and bought more than double the amount of the previous year. This added demand forced prices up again to round about Rs. 2 at the end of the year.

Average of the monthly quotations recorded by the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce for 1936 :—

(No. 1 per cwt.)

	Rs. c.		Rs. c.
January	2 81	July	1 84
February	2 43	August	1 85
March	2 82	September	2 1
April	2 21	October	2 0
May	2 19	November	2 1
June	2 2	December	1 96

Coir Yarn.—Such demand as existed was mainly for the lower grades with the result that prices fell early in the year and remained at a low level for several months, improving slightly towards the end.

Average of the monthly quotations recorded by the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce for 1936 :—

(Per cwt.)

	Rs. c.		Rs. c.
January	9 25	July	8 0
February	9 25	August	8 0
March	8 75	September	8 38
April	8 0	October	8 50
May	8 0	November	8 25
June	8 0	December	8 25

The annual average market prices* in certain years for bristle fibre were :—1925, Rs. 7·62 per cwt. ; 1926, Rs. 7·46 ; 1927, Rs. 8·37 ; 1928, Rs. 8·53 ; 1929, Rs. 9·01 ; 1930, Rs. 8·23 ; 1931, Rs. 6·65 ; 1932, Rs. 7·95 ; 1933, Rs. 6·35 ; 1934, Rs. 4·71 ; 1935, Rs. 4·63 ; 1936, Rs. 4·95 ;

* The average prices for 1928 to 1936 are for top grades only. Averages for other years represent the lowest and highest overall weekly quotations received for all grades.

for mattress fibre* :—1925, Rs. 2·38 per cwt. ; 1926, Rs. 3·08 ; 1927, Rs. 3·67 ; 1928, Rs. 3·07 ; 1929, Rs. 2·23 ; 1930, Re. 1·40 ; 1931, Re. 1·41 ; 1932, Re. 1·25 ; 1933, Re. 1·59 ; 1934, Re. 1·75 ; 1935, Rs. 3·41 ; 1936, Rs. 2·17 ; for coir yarn :—1925, Rs. 16·26 per cwt. ; 1926, Rs. 15·15 ; 1927, Rs. 16·75 ; 1928, Rs. 17·45 ; 1929, Rs. 14·34 ; 1930, Rs. 12·73 ; 1931, Rs. 10·20 ; 1932, Rs. 8·42 ; 1933, Rs. 7·96 ; 1934, Rs. 9·69 ; 1935, Rs. 9·34 ; 1936, Rs. 8·40.

Cacao.

Commercial cacao is produced from the seeds of the plant *Theobroma cacao*. The variety now grown in Ceylon is the *Forastero*.

Elevation and Rainfall, &c.—The cultivation of cacao is restricted to favourably situated valleys at an elevation between 500 to 2,000 feet which receive a well regulated rainfall of 60 to 80 inches and are protected from high winds. Plantations lie almost entirely in the Kandy and Matale Districts of the Central Province. Of an approximate acreage of 34,000 acres under cacao in the Island 55 per cent. is in the former district and 33 per cent. in the latter.

As with tea the number of peasant holdings ranging between 1 and 5 acres is not inconsiderable, but these small gardens receive but little attention from the owners in regard to systematic cultivation or the control of pests and diseases.

Labour.—The labour required for a cacao estate works out at about one labourer for 2 acres. Tamils generally form the bulk of the labour force, but Sinhalese are also employed for lopping, &c.

Planting.—The trees are generally planted 15 by 15 feet apart. Holes 3 feet deep by 1½ feet across are dug and filled with carefully prepared soil. Seed at stake or basket plants are generally used for planting. As the young plant requires to be carefully shaded, shade trees must be planted at the same time between the rows about the same distance apart as the cacao. The dadap has been found the most suitable.

Crops.—Cacao commences to bear fruit about the fifth year, two crops a year being then gathered. The "Spring" crop picked in May, June, and July is small. The main or "Autumn" crop is gathered in November, December, and January. The period from the blossom to the ripe pod is five months. The average crop per acre varies considerably in Ceylon. The general average is about 3½ to 4 cwt. per acre, although the yields from some well-cultivated estates have reached the very high annual average of 8½ cwt. per acre.

Cultivation.—The usual method of cultivation is to fork the soil every two years, and apply about 700 to 800 lb. per acre of artificial manures two to three months later. The manure used is a general mixture containing nitrogen, phosphoric acid, and potash.

Pruning and Removing Suckers.—Suckers are removed as soon as they appear on the cacao trees, and periodical pruning is done when the foliage becomes too thick and heavy.

Weeding.—Cacao estates are kept clean weeded from the time of opening, the average cost of weeding is about Rs. 6 per acre per annum.

Picking.—The flowers and fruit of the tree grow in a characteristic manner direct upon the trunk and branches of the trees. The fruit

* The average prices for 1928 to 1936 are for top grades only. Averages for other years represent the lowest and highest overall weekly quotations received for all grades.

is ellipsoidal and of considerable size, and the beans are covered with pulp or mucilage. Ripening is generally indicated by a change of colour on the outside of the pods. The fruit on the stems and main branches is picked by means of an ordinary pruning knife, while that on the higher parts of the tree is dealt with by cacao hooks. The picking gang goes round as often as necessary, the period generally being between a fortnight and three weeks. The pods are cut down by men or boys, who are followed by women, who gather the pods and heap them together. The fruits are opened the same day, and the beans carted or carried to the fermenting shed. One labourer will pick 1 to 1½ bushels of wet beans per day. This is equal to about 37 lb. of the cured product.

Fermentation.—At the fermenting shed the beans, covered with mucilage, are heaped into boxes or vats for fermentation. This process is accompanied by rise of temperature and by decomposition of the pulp surrounding the beans. During the fermentation the pulp becomes more liquid and gradually flows away, the bottom of the fermenting boxes being perforated and raised off the ground to admit of this. The period of fermentation in Ceylon is about 36 hours. After 12 hours the beans are given a light washing and turned over into another box. They are again given a heavier washing at the end of the fermenting period of 36 hours, when they are carried or carted to the barbecue or curing house.

Curing.—The best method of curing is the gradual drying of the beans in the sun on barbecues covered with coir matting. By this method the best quality is obtained. The period varies from five to seven days, according to the temperature. Most of the picking has, however, to be done during the wet season, and a greater part of the crop is cured by artificial means. The most popular curing house is a two- or three-floor building, the floors being constructed of strips of wood covered over with coir matting, on which the freshly-fermented beans are spread. The building is heated with hot air conducted by pipes placed under each floor, the hot air being obtained by means of a fan, which drives the air through the heating apparatus and then through the pipes. The temperature in the building during the curing process is kept between 110 and 120 degrees Fahrenheit.

Grading and Sorting.—After the beans are cured, they are sorted into different grades: first quality, which is composed of only the large round beans; second quality, flat and small beans; and third quality, known as garblings, consisting of the shells and broken beans.

Packing.—Cacao after grading is packed in bags (112 lb. to a bag) when it is ready for export. Most of the cacao from Ceylon is shipped, in this form.

Prices.—The 1935/6 main crop was a partial failure but this was offset to some extent by an abnormally large intermediate crop in the second and third quarters of 1936. The July to November average prices were much above export values, Colombo dealers and shippers heavily discounting the subsequent improvement in world cacao prices. The 1936/7 main crop opened in September, earlier then usual, with the promise of heavy harvesting which has since been bourne out by results.

From the production point of view the season is understood to have been most satisfactory, but from the traders' point of view it has been disappointing with prices mainly held above the correct parity and sudden heavy fluctuations.

During the year steps were introduced by Government towards improving the quality of small holders cacao. These efforts have met with some success and will no doubt be continued. Government have also installed a cacao fumigatorium in Customs premises to comply with the regulations of the Philippine Islands.

The yearly average price for 1936 of Rs. 33·72 is very satisfactory. It is hoped that this improvement will continue.

With regard to the export figures it will be noted that since 1930 exports to the United Kingdom have shown considerable variations. Many estates in the Island follow a policy of consigning their crops unsold to London when London prices are good as a result of small London stocks of Ceylon, and of selling locally when London prices are poor as a result of heavy Ceylon stocks there. This policy is thought to be responsible for the wide price fluctuations for Ceylon cacao and consequently for the large variation in the quantity exported from year to year. It is therefore suggested that it estates sell all their cacao in Colombo better and steadier prices would be obtained as a result of the proper distribution of supplies by the Colombo exporters to the best markets at the time.

Canada has been a good supporter of Ceylon cacao and provided Ceylon prices are kept at the proper parity, this market should continue and increase.

Exports to Denmark, Italy, and Germany show a considerable decline over the last few years and this must be mainly attributed to financial restrictions in these countries.

Business with Mexico is at a standstill owing to the difficulty of competing with the high protective duty favouring Tabasco cacao.

Ceylon's principal destination, the Philippine Islands, has taken far less cacao than usual, the imports in 1936 being down by over a million lb., as compared to the previous few years. This is attributed to the higher prices now asked by Ceylon. Manila has held off, waiting for lower prices, and has even imported some Accra cacao in place of Ceylon.

Average of the monthly quotations recorded by the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce for 1936 :—

(Estate No. 1 per cwt.)

	Rs. c.		Rs. c.
January	18 25	July	42 0
February	23 40	August	41 55
March	24 75	September	39 88
April	26 50	October	41 95
May	28 75	November	39 94
June	34 94	December	40 69

The annual average market prices* in certain years were :—1925, Rs. 32·17 per cwt. ; 1926, Rs. 30·41 ; 1927, Rs. 52·22 ; 1928, Rs. 58·89 ; 1929, Rs. 53·46 ; 1930, Rs. 37·51 ; 1931, Rs. 29·71 ; 1932, Rs. 27·71 ; 1933, Rs. 25·09 ; 1934, Rs. 22·99 ; 1935, Rs. 18·37 ; 1936, Rs. 33·72.

The value of the exports of cacao is shown in Diagram No. 9.

Cinnamon.

Cinnamon, once the main export, still occupies a place—though a minor one—in the trade of the Island. Plantation in earliest days was mainly confined to the Western Province, of which Negombo was

* The average prices for 1927 to 1936 are for top grades only. Averages for other years represent the lowest and highest overall weekly quotations received for all grades.

the most important centre. Much of this area was replaced with coconuts in subsequent years, but the extension of cultivation took place in the Southern Province where at the present time it is estimated that there is more land under cinnamon than in the Western Province. The approximate total acreage is 26,000 acres, of which 58 per cent. is in the Southern Province (Galle District 40 per cent.) and 41 per cent. in the Western Province (Negombo area 30 per cent.)

The industry is entirely in the hands of Ceylonese. The number of large properties of 100 acres and over in extent is limited and these receive systematic attention. The majority of plantations are small areas of 10 to 25 acres in extent.

The Tree.—The cinnamon tree may grow to the height of 20 to 30 feet, and the trunk may be upwards of 3 feet in circumference. The trees cultivated to produce the cinnamon of commerce are coppiced, and long willowy shoots are produced, growing to a height of about 10 feet and to the size of a fair-sized walking stick. The shoots are cut and the bark is peeled off, and rolled into quills, which constitute the cinnamon of commerce.

Cinnamon Cultivation.—If the soil is good, branches may be cut for barking from the fourth year. The tree blossoms in January, in April the fruit is ripe, and the cutting is done from May to October. When the tree is seen to bear fruit well it is in good health, and the bark will peel without difficulty. The sticks are gathered by boys and tied into bundles with coir strings ; they are then removed to the peeling stores.

The object of the methods employed is to make the bark up into quills, a quill being a rod of cinnamon resembling a thin cane 4 feet in length ; the pieces of bark when stripped are therefore placed round the sticks, both with a view to preserving their shape and as a convenience for the next operation.

Skinning.—They are now allowed to remain for three to six hours, when fermentation takes place, and the bark is ready for skinning. This treatment of the bark leaves only that part which has the desired delicate taste ; it is of a pale yellow colour and a parchment-like texture. The bark is now left to ferment and dry, which if the weather be favourable takes about 30 minutes.

The next process is that of forming the quills. The smaller pieces are inserted into the larger, and in the process of drying the quills form rods. They are afterwards rolled into shape and made up into bundles.

Cinnamon oil is distilled from the chips and trimmings of the quills as well as from the leaves.

The commercial cinnamon products are the quills, the chips, and the oil. The best quality is fine cinnamon prepared from tender bark.

The chips are prepared by scraping or chipping the bark after removing the outer bark.

Prices.—The year under review started with a revival of demand. After a rise over the New Year prices for all grades fluctuated within narrow limits during the first six months. During this time there was a regular demand from all markets which improved with the increase of supplies in May and June. During the two months following, orders from America improved to such an extent that coarse cinnamon, mainly No. 2, was taken up at daily rising rates.

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COLOMBO MORNING.

Although the crop was better than in 1935 No. 2 touched at its highest 38 cents per lb., as against 35 cents per lb. the previous year. In several districts this demand led to harvesting in August and September which resulted in a decrease of arrivals during November and December, but even this did not prevent the usual drop of prices towards the close of the year.

The American market which showed itself to be more and more the biggest influence on the trade reduced its ideas in December to 28 cents for No. 2. This, however, was not generally met at this end.

While the market for coarse cinnamon can be regarded as having taken a normal course during 1936, conditions for fine cinnamon (0/0000) were less favourable. Spain being the principal buyer for these grades, the demand from that quarter dropped to a minimum with the outbreak of Civil War. Fortunately producers were just about able to get rid of the crops collected during May and June and a considerable pressure of arrivals was therefore not felt too seriously. Small quantities were taken up by shippers during the last three months of the year at declining prices.

Exports in 1935 to Spain amounted to about 7,500 bales which decreased to 3,300 bales in 1936.

If the Civil War continues, a further drop will be inevitable which is not likely to be offset by an increase in demand from other countries, and producers will probably have to face very unfavourable conditions.

The market for cinnamon chips has been well supported by regular demand and prices rose steadily during the year. Exports increased from 7,537 cwt. to 7,974 in 1936.

Average of the monthly quotations recorded by the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce for 1936 :—

	Quills (Fine 0-0000 per lb.) Rs. c.	Chips* per candy of 5 cwt.) Rs. c.		Quills (Fine 0-0000 per lb.) Rs. c.	Chips* per Candy of 5 cwt. Rs. c.
January	0 38	27 63	July	0 38	38 44
February	0 37	27 10	August	0 37	37 95
March	0 36	26 50	September	0 37	33 50
April	0 36	28 63	October	0 38	38 63
May	0 37	32 0	November	0 37	37 82
June	0 36	34 82	December	0 34	40 63

The annual average market prices† of quills in certain years were :—1925, 88 cents per lb. ; 1926, Re. 1·14 ; 1927, Re. 1·35 ; 1928, Re. 1·29, 1929, Re. 1·15 ; 1930, 59 cents ; 1931, 37 cents ; 1932, 28 cents ; 1933, 25 cents ; 1934, 29 cents ; 1935, 35 cents ; 1936, 37 cents ; of chips : 1925; Rs. 84·54 per candy ; 1926, Rs. 93·79 ; 1927, Rs. 102·77 ; 1928, Rs. 105·72 ; 1929, Rs. 96·86 ; 1930, Rs. 56·41 ; 1931, Rs. 38·92 ; 1932, Rs. 26·40 ; 1933, Rs. 20·64 ; 1934, Rs. 30·64 ; 1935, Rs. 27·69 ; 1936, Rs. 33·75.

An acre will yield about 120 lb. quills.

Citronella Oil.

Citronella oil grass is a large coarse grass growing 3 to 4 feet high, cultivated in Ceylon (and of late years in Java) for its essential oil, which is obtained from the leaves by distillation. The grass grows in

* Sifted free from sand and dust (in bags of 56 lb. nett).

† The average prices for 1927 to 1936 are for top grades only. Averages for other years represent the lowest and highest overall weekly quotations received for all grades.

any ordinary soil, and thrives best in a moist and hot atmosphere. It flourishes up to an elevation of 2,000 feet, but its cultivation is confined entirely to the Southern Province where the acreage under this crop is estimated to be 33,000 acres, of which 62 per cent. is in the Matara District and the remaining 38 per cent. in the Hambantota District. Cultivation is in the hands of the Ceylonese. The grass is readily propagated by division (seed being rarely produced), and may be planted about 2 by 3 feet apart in rows. Permanent shade is unnecessary, and the cultivation is very simple, weeding being the chief requirement. The clumps are ready for cutting in about eight months from time of planting. Two cuttings a year may be obtained, and about 40 lb. of marketable oil per acre is an estimated annual yield. The oil is of a strong aromatic odour; it is exported for use in scenting soaps, perfumery, &c., and is also a preventive against the bites of mosquitoes and leeches.

Prices.—For the first seven months of the year the market was very weak, showing a steady fall month by month.

Prices opened at 38 cents per lb. in January, falling in February to 37 cents, and in March/April to 35 cents. In May, June, and July the ruling value was 33–34 cents. In August the market improved to 37 cents and in September to 44 cents, remaining at about that level till the end of October. In November there was a further rise to about 64 cents and the year closed with a strong market, the price rising rapidly to 75 cents per lb. at the end of December.

Shipments were 1,271,039 lb. in 1936, against 1,399,764 lb. in 1935, exports to the United Kingdom, Australia, and India all showing a falling off.

Average of the monthly quotations recorded by the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce for 1936 :—

(Per lb.)

	Rs. c.		Rs. c.
January	0 39	July	0 34
February	0 37	August	0 36
March	0 37	September	0 44
April	0 35	October	0 44
May	0 35	November	0 52
June	0 34	December	0 69

The annual average market prices in certain years were :—1925, Re. 1·37 per lb. ; 1926, 99 cents ; 1927, 77 cents ; 1928, 93 cents ; 1929, Re. 1·06 ; 1930, Re. 1·12 ; 1931, 80 cents ; 1932, 94 cents ; 1933, 87 cents ; 1934, 55 cents ; 1935, 47 cents ; 1936, 42 cents.

Tobacco.

Acreage and Localities.—The estimated acreage under this crop in the Island is 14,000 acres, of which a little over half is found in the Jaffna District of the Northern Province, where great care is given to cultivation. The methods adopted are peculiar to this area and the manufacture of the leaf gives rise to the most important industry in the district. Another variety of leaf is grown in the Central Province which claims about 21 per cent. of the total acreage under the crop. Dumbara in the Kandy District is a particularly favoured area, while in the Matale District the crop is of some importance to the peasant, besides there being a small manufacture of cigars and pipe tobacco from the local leaf as in the case in Dumbara. Tobacco is also grown to the

extent of about 1,500 acres in the Kurunegala District where the method of manufacture to produce a chewing tobacco differs from that adopted in Jaffna. Elsewhere cultivation is carried out in the North-Central and Eastern Provinces to less extents.

Dumbara Tobacco.—A high grade of Ceylon tobacco is grown in the Kandy District. The cultivation in this district begins with the slight showers of the early months of the year, and depends for its success upon the light rains which fall in April, May, and June with the advent of the south-west monsoon. Tobacco is rarely grown in this district upon the same land in two consecutive years, it being customary to cultivate the land in other crops and then to allow it to lie fallow for some years before another tobacco crop is taken off. In very dry weather, if water is available, hand watering is resorted to. Otherwise the crop depends entirely upon rainfall for its success, and is a speculative one. Fairly satisfactory attention is given by some growers to curing and fermentation, but a finer product would be procured if greater care were given to manufacture.

The leaves of the Dumbara tobacco burn with a good white ash, and are manufactured in the Island into cigars, which command a ready sale, and would be in greater demand if they were more uniform in quality. A large portion of the Central Province crop is sold to local manufacturers of cigars for use as wrappers for the Jaffna types. The leaves are smaller and of finer texture than the Jaffna types, and have good burning qualities.

The Dumbara types of tobacco are also grown in other districts. The system of curing and fermenting differs somewhat in different areas, and the final product is not of such high quality as that produced in the Central Province.

Jaffna Tobacco.—The Jaffna types consist of two kinds. These are locally known as the smoking and chewing kinds. Both are large-leaved, coarse tobaccos, the chewing type being of more vigorous and coarse growth than the smoking type.

Jaffna Cultivation.—The cultivation of tobacco at Jaffna is an interesting study. The lands are well ploughed and manured with cattle or sheep manure or with green leaves, and reduced to a fine tilth. Nurseries for seedlings are well prepared, and the seedlings planted out carefully and systematically. Work begins with the north-east rains, and during the early part of the growing period the rainfall may be sufficient to maintain satisfactory growth. During dry weather and from the end of December onwards the tobacco plants are irrigated by wells. In the middle of the growing season this irrigation has to be thoroughly carried out. During the early part of the growing period thorough cultivation of the land is carried on, so as to prevent its becoming " caked " and to allow of the maximum growth for the plants. All plants, except those required for seed purposes, are topped at a height of about 4 feet, and when they begin to yellow they are harvested. The whole plant is cut down and allowed to " quail " for a day in the sun. In the afternoon the plant is separated into individual leaves, each being left attached to a piece of the stem. These are then taken for withering in an open shady shed. Fermentation differs slightly in different localities in its details, and the curing of the smoking and chewing types requires different treatment. Chewing types are harvested by cutting of the leaves, commencing from the top of the plant. All inferior broken leaves and those

portions of the stalks which are not attached to the leaves are either sold to the manufacturers for making nicotine extracts or are used for manurial purposes. Conditions of sale demand that portions of the stalk should be attached to the leaves in the majority of cases.

There are certain lands on which the chewing type alone can be cultivated, while others are well known for their production of high grade smoking types. Tobacco from certain localities always commands higher prices than the ruling market rates, while elsewhere only a low grade tobacco is produced. The smoking tobaccos are sold to manufacturers for the local manufacture of what is known throughout the whole Island as the " Jaffna cheroot ". Some of the chewing types are sold locally for chewing with the betel leaf, lime, and arecanut, but the bulk of this type is exported to Travancore, where the Jaffna tobaccos are eagerly sought after. Travancore has fixed a quota for Jaffna tobacco. Jaffna tobacco growers have organized themselves into a co-operative society and plans are being made to establish a selling agency at Travancore.

In 1936, more than 99 per cent. of the exports of unmanufactured tobacco went to British India, while manufactured tobacco was exported mainly to the Maldive Islands.

The costs of cultivation of a tobacco crop in the Jaffna District are heavy, considerable sums being expended upon manures, cultivation and irrigation. In seasonable years, when prices are high, the profits are large. In other years expenses are barely covered, but in general the better lands will yield average profits of between Rs. 300 to Rs. 450 per acre, while profits of Rs. 600 to Rs. 800 per acre have been secured in good years. The average price of the Jaffna product varies from Rs. 20 to Rs. 40 per 1,000 leaves.

The Travancore markets some fifteen years ago closed to Jaffna tobaccos, but were subsequently reopened. The critical situation demanded that experiments with other types of tobacco should be undertaken. These have been carried out upon a Government experiment station, and it has been demonstrated that White Burley tobacco of good quality capable of realizing 1*s.* 6*d.* per lb. on the London market can be satisfactorily grown. The Government has evolved a purchase scheme for White Burley tobacco which is exported to England. The exports of this tobacco have been as follows :—

Year.	lb.	Year.	lb.	Year.	lb.
1924	.. 4,701	1928	.. 30,688	1932	.. 10,901
1925	.. 15,057	1929	.. 25,312	1933	.. 14,933
1926	.. 18,535	1930	.. 18,652	1934	.. 22,060
1927	.. 13,328	1931	.. 9,212		

On and after 1931 the quality exported and the prices realized for White Burley tobacco in England have not been encouraging. After the year 1935 the experiment in the cultivation of White Burley tobacco in Ceylon was abandoned in view of the deterioration in the quality of the tobacco sent to London and no White Burley tobacco is at present under cultivation.

Cardamoms.

Uses.—Cardamoms are of commercial value on account of the spice obtained from them, which is well known to cooks and confectioners, and is used in pharmacopoeia as a deadener of tastes and a medicine.

Habitat, &c.—The commercial value of the plant lies in the fruit, which is borne on racemes rising from the ground. The plant itself—*Ellettaria Cardamomum*—grows in stools or clumps under the shade of forest trees at elevations between 2,800 and 4,000 feet, with a rainfall of 115 to 150 inches a year.

Manufacture.—The fruit is collected by women and children, and is manufactured into either (1) bleached or (2) green dried. In the former case the fruit is bleached, soaked, and dried in sulphur fumes, the process being repeated until the required pale colour is secured, and the ends are clipped off either by hand or by a clipping machine. In the latter case the fruits are merely dried in the sun.

Acreage.—The total acreage under cardamoms is estimated to be 6,000 acres, of which 82 per cent. is confined to the Central Province—approximately 2,500 acres in the Kandy District, 1,500 acres in the Nuwara Eliya District, and 1,000 acres in the Matale District. About 1,000 acres are found in the Kegalla and Ratnapura Districts (Province of Sabaragamuwa). The bulk of the plantations is in the hands of European owners, but the number of small gardens of a few acres in size in the hands of peasants is not inconsiderable.

Prices.—The market for all descriptions was strong and prices improved steadily right throughout the year except during September when an irregular tone was in evidence and rates receded a little. Values at the close of the year were rather more than double the figures ruling at the beginning, and it is anticipated that this will continue until the next crop comes along.

The partial failure of the Indian crop accounted for the steady rise in prices and Ceylon supplies were also below the average in quantity.

The attractive prices paid for Greens apparently discouraged bleaching, as a noticeable feature of the market was the scarcity of the latter descriptions.

Quality in the aggregate was below the normal standard and the high values produced a lot of immature cardamoms, but these did not suffer much in the prices obtained owing to the strong competition for supplies.

The presence of extraneous matter in decorticated (or seed) cardamoms raised a protest from the U. S. A. and the fear of having shipments rejected has forced shippers to pay more attention to this grade.

The near eastern and eastern markets absorbed about 50 per cent. of the year's crops, the balance being divided between the U. S. A. and Europe.

Average of the monthly quotations recorded by the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce for 1936 :—

(Green per lb.)

	Rs. c.		Rs. c.
January	1 4	July	1 72
February	1 17	August	1 73
March	1 28	September	1 66
April	1 34	October	1 88
May	1 50	November	2 10
June	1 65	December	2 15

The annual average market prices* in certain years were :—1925, Rs. 3·42 per lb. ; 1926, Rs. 2·44 ; 1927, Rs. 2·54 ; 1928, Rs. 2·50 ; 1929, Rs. 2·22 ; 1930, Re. 1·69 ; 1931, Re. 1·67 ; 1932, Re. 1·33 ; 1933, 95 cents ; 1934, 91 cents ; 1935, Re. 1·00 ; 1936, Re. 1·60.

* The average prices for 1927 to 1936 are for top grades only. Averages for other years represent the lowest and highest overall weekly quotations received for all grades.

Arecanuts.*

Conditions.—The arecanut palm is grown in all village gardens in the wetter districts of the Island. It produces heavy crops of fruits, and provides straight stems, which are used for the erection of temporary structures. Pure cultivations of the palm similar to those to be found in Southern India are rarely seen in Ceylon, although in the Kegalla District there are some fairly extensive pure plantations. The area under arecanuts is about 69,000 acres.

There are several varieties of arecanuts grown, and the respective values of these are well known to the purchasers of fruits. Little care is, however, taken in the selection of fruits for planting, and no attempts have been made to improve the local types. Planting of arecanuts still continues in village holdings, but in many instances this palm is being replaced by the coconut.

The Fruit.—The fruits of the arecanut palm are harvested when ripe, and are sold in their unhusked state in all the bazaars and markets of the Island. The dried product is also readily procurable in the majority of boutiques. It is cut into thin shavings, which are used for chewing with the betel leaf, lime, and occasionally tobacco, by most of the village population of the Island. The price of unhusked arecanuts is about 30 cents per hundred, of husked nuts 35 cents per hundred.

Arecanuts are generally exported to British and foreign India and the Maldive Islands, but practically the whole of exports in 1936 went into British India.

Foodstuffs.

Paddy or Rice.

If Hill paddy (*elvi*) is excluded, it may be said that the cultivation of paddy in Ceylon is based upon a plentiful supply of water. Not only are the plants dependent upon a good supply in all stages up to the ripening period, but the processes of cultivation in all parts of Ceylon, except some of the most northerly, are dependent upon it.

Rain-water Cultivation.—Cultivation without the help of irrigation is carried on, not only in dry districts like Jaffna, but also in wetter parts like the Kandy District. The success of the crop is entirely dependent upon a sufficient and reasonable rainfall, and upon the soil being capable of retaining the water for a fairly long period in order to tide over the rainless intervals. Should the rains fall after the paddy has been sown, the crop will perish, and then the cultivator must resow his field with a paddy which can mature in the remainder of the season, or lose the season entirely. Similarly, if the rains are late, the earlier maturing varieties of paddy must be sown.

Irrigation.—When paddy is grown under irrigation, the water may be supplied by springs, streams (*elas*), wells, or reservoirs ("tanks"). Cultivation under streams may be seen in the Central and Uva Provinces and under tanks in the drier Eastern, Northern, and North-Central Provinces.

Asweddumization.—In all cases where a system of irrigation is employed, the land must be "asweddumized", or prepared for paddy. Should the paddy area not be level, it is necessary to terrace it. This terracing is

* Although in point of value of exports arecanuts rank between rubber and cacao, this sub-section is inserted here, as the cultivation is not organized, and insufficient details are available regarding it.

brought to a high level of perfection in the hilly districts. Distribution channels convey the irrigation water to the upper plots, and drains carry off the surplus water.

Preparation for Sowing.—In the preparation for sowing, ploughing may be done in the dry, or if the rains fall or water is available, sufficient water may be allowed on to the field to soften the ground. This is then lightly ploughed by means of small wooden ploughs drawn by buffaloes or cattle. Small iron ploughs are also employed in some districts, and their use is slowly extending. In some districts and in some fields of considerable depth ploughing is not done, the preparation of the soil being carried out by puddling with buffaloes or by digging with hoes. During the first ploughing the weeds are partially buried. About ten to twenty days after the first ploughing a second ploughing is given. The weeds are then still further buried, and the ground made softer and muddier. Between the first and second ploughings in the Central Province green manuring is carried on. Leaves and twigs are buried at the second ploughing, and in some districts special green manure crops are grown for ploughing in. After a lapse of another week or ten days a third ploughing may be carried out. This is generally adopted in the Central Province, but in other provinces this third ploughing is not general. By means of this ploughing the soil is converted into mud of the consistency desired for sowing upon. Instead of the plough, buffaloes are often employed to trample the muddy soil until the desired consistency is attained. The mudding is followed by a rough levelling by means of the "*poruwa*", a levelling board dragged along by a pair of buffaloes or by cattle. This does not leave the surface smooth enough for sowing, so that it is followed by work with hand levelling boards. At the same time shallow channels are made to conduct the surplus water from the surface, which is now quite smooth. The field is then ready for sowing.

Manuring.—Artificial fertilizers, such as bone meal, have been applied to a certain extent in the past, but the use of ammonium compound of phosphoric acids is now being popularized. These are applied at the second or third ploughings or at the time of sowing.

Sowing.—Seed is usually prepared for sowing by soaking it in water for 24–36 hours. It is then placed in a flat heap on leaves of plantain or colocasia and covered so as to retain warmth and exclude air. At the end of two or three days, if germination is satisfactory, the seed will have begun to sprout. The sprouted seeds are then separated from one another and sown broadcast on the field.

A less common method is the sowing of unsprouted and untreated seed. This system is adopted in sowing for the *maha* season in Jaffna, and in the Eastern and North-Central Provinces. Paddy is sown in fields which are either completely dry or sufficiently moist to cause germination immediately. In the dry soils the germination takes place after the advent of rains. This system of sowing is followed on low-lying fields.

Although the advantages of transplanting paddy seedlings have been abundantly demonstrated, not much transplanting is done in Ceylon, except in the Central Province and Kegalla District of Sabaragamuwa. At present the cultivator prefers, in the majority of cases, to broadcast and then thin out. When the seedlings are well established, *i.e.*, in about six weeks from sowing, the fields are weeded by the women. At the same

time thinning out is done in places where the seedlings are too thick, some of those so removed being used to fill up gaps where the sowing has been too thin.

Transplanting.—In transplanting, the seeds are germinated as usual and then sown in specially prepared nurseries. When the seedlings are from four to six weeks old, they are removed from the nursery and planted at regular intervals in the fields. Although the expenses of working are increased, this is much more than counterbalanced by the increased yields obtained. The plants grow freely and weeds are partially smothered, any weeding necessary being very easily carried out. Transplanting cannot be carried out, however, when the water supply is not reliable, or when fields are excessively marshy.

The crop receives very little attention, apart from watering, weeding, and watching against birds, until the approach of the ripening period. When the plants begin to mature, they first take on a yellow colour, and, at this point, the cultivator drains the water from the field and allows the paddy to ripen.

Reaping.—Reaping is always done with the sickle, and the result is that a long and ragged stubble is left on the field. This remains until it is time to prepare for the next crop. The sheaves of paddy are put on one side as they are reaped and allowed to dry. After this, they are carried to the threshing-floor, which has been carefully prepared in readiness.

Threshing.—Threshing methods vary in different districts. In general, the dried sheaves are spread out on the threshing-floor, and buffaloes or cattle yoked together are driven over them round and round until all the grains have been rubbed off the stalks. The straw is then raked off, the paddy collected and handed over to the winnowers, who separate the empty grains from the good ones.

Seasons.—There are two paddy-growing seasons, both of which are made use of for the cultivation of the same tract of fields when sufficient labour and water are available. The Maha crop is sown from the end of August to the middle of October, according to the district. The harvest from this crop is reaped in February or March. The Yala crop season commences with sowing in March-April, the harvest being reaped in July to September. The corresponding Tamil seasons are called Munmari and Pinmari or Kalapokam and Sirupokam. Generally speaking, six and three months are required for the respective Maha and Yala crops. In some districts sowings take place between Maha and Yala seasons for a *meda* or *iddi* (Tamil) crop.

Improvements.—Considerable improvements in paddy cultivation can be effected. Transplanting could become more general, greater attention be given to manuring, the variety of seed sown, improved implements for tillage and the cleaner threshing of the crop. The Government, through the Department of Agriculture, has undertaken a considerable amount of research work in paddy in recent years as a result of which pure strains are now raised in cultivators' fields on thousands of acres especially in the North-Central, Northern, and Southern Provinces. These strains are giving increased yields up to ten bushels an acre over the kinds previously grown. Demonstrations of the value of manuring and seed supply through a system of Government and private seed farms are being widely organized.

Varieties.—The varieties of paddy grown in Ceylon fall into three groups, according to the time necessary for their maturing. In the first group come those paddies such as Mavi, Hatiel, and Suduvi, which take at least six months to mature, while in the second group come varieties such as Danahala, Murungan, and Balavi, which mature in three months or less. An intermediate class contains those varieties which mature in four to five months.

The "age" of a particular variety, however, depends largely upon climatic factors such as rainfall, temperature, and elevation, and it is quite a common thing to find the same variety requiring different maturing periods in different provinces, or even in two different situations in the same district.

Diseases.—Diseases and pests causing extensive loss to paddy in Ceylon are few in number. Insects do the greatest amount of damage, the chief of these being—

(1) The Paddy Bug, which sucks the milky juices of the young grain, which, for this reason, never matures.

(2) The Paddy Swarming Caterpillar also causes considerable damage on occasions, but can be readily controlled.

(3) The Paddy Stem Borer, which feeds within the stem and prevents the grain from setting.

Rice.—Paddy is converted into rice by pounding in a mortar. This work is usually undertaken by women, who receive a share of the rice husked for their work. Several small mills have been erected in the past few years, which have given fairly satisfactory results. It is possible for the milling of paddy in the Island to be considerably extended. A Grant's Self-contained Rice Mill has been erected at Anuradhapura by Government to determine the economic possibility of increasing the milling of rice. The results obtained so far have been satisfactory but longer trial is necessary before a definite conclusion is reached.

Acreage.—The area under wet land paddy in Ceylon is estimated to be 850,000 acres yielding approximately 12 to 13 million bushels of paddy (grain in husk) per annum. The greatest proportion of the acreage lies in the North-Western Province. But large extents are found in all the provinces.

Hill paddy.—Hill paddy or *elvi* is grown upon dry lands. It is usually cultivated upon hilly lands in districts where an abundant rainfall cannot be relied upon or in "chenas" on lands which are somewhat low-lying. Hill paddy is sown broadcast in lands which have been cleared and burnt. While the crop is growing the larger weeds are pulled out, otherwise no cultivation is carried on during its period of growth. Yields of hill paddy, if seasons are favourable, are generally heavy, and the rice from this type of paddy is highly prized.

Other Food Crops.

Chenas.—Many other food grains are grown in the Island. Except in the Northern Province, these are generally grown in "chenas"—areas of land covered with secondary forest or other vegetation, which are cleared and burned—which are either private or leased or granted by the Crown. The principal grains grown are kurakkan (*Eleusine coracana*), maize, Italian millet, *Paspalum* millet, and *Panicum* millet. Pulses are also grown in the chenas, the principal crops being green

gram, horse gram, and black gram. Gingelly (*Sesamum indicum*) forms an important chena crop particulary in the Jaffna, Anuradhapura, and Kurunegala Districts. Hitherto in addition to the utilization locally of the crop produced in the Island, gingelly seed, oil, and poonac had been imported from India to the value of Rs. 2 to 3 millions.

Edible tubers grow in abundance. These are known in the Island as yams, and include dioscorea yams, tannia yams, sweet potatoes, and manioc. Sweet potatoes are abundant in the Southern Province, while manioc or cassava has spread rapidly in all districts in recent years, and constitutes a general food. The preparation of tapioca might be possible in some districts if a good supply of pure water were available.

Plantains (bananas) of various types are largely cultivated, and are to be found in all markets. The largest area of plantains is to be found between Polgahawela and Rambukkana, but in recent years the bunchy-top disease has appeared and caused considerable damage. This disease now appears to be less virulent, and areas which suffered severely some years ago are now giving good crops of fruit.

Jak and breadfruit are important foodstuffs, while " jaggery " is made from coconut, palmyra, or kitul palms.

Vegetables and curry plants are generally cultivated throughout the Island, and markets are well stocked. Dried chillies are prepared in the drier districts, while onions are largely grown in some localities. Pumpkins, gourds of various kinds, and cucumbers are largely grown and find a ready sale in the various towns and village markets of the country. In the hills European vegetables thrive and are largely grown for transport by rail to the principal centres of population and to the shipping in Colombo Harbour.

Miscellaneous.

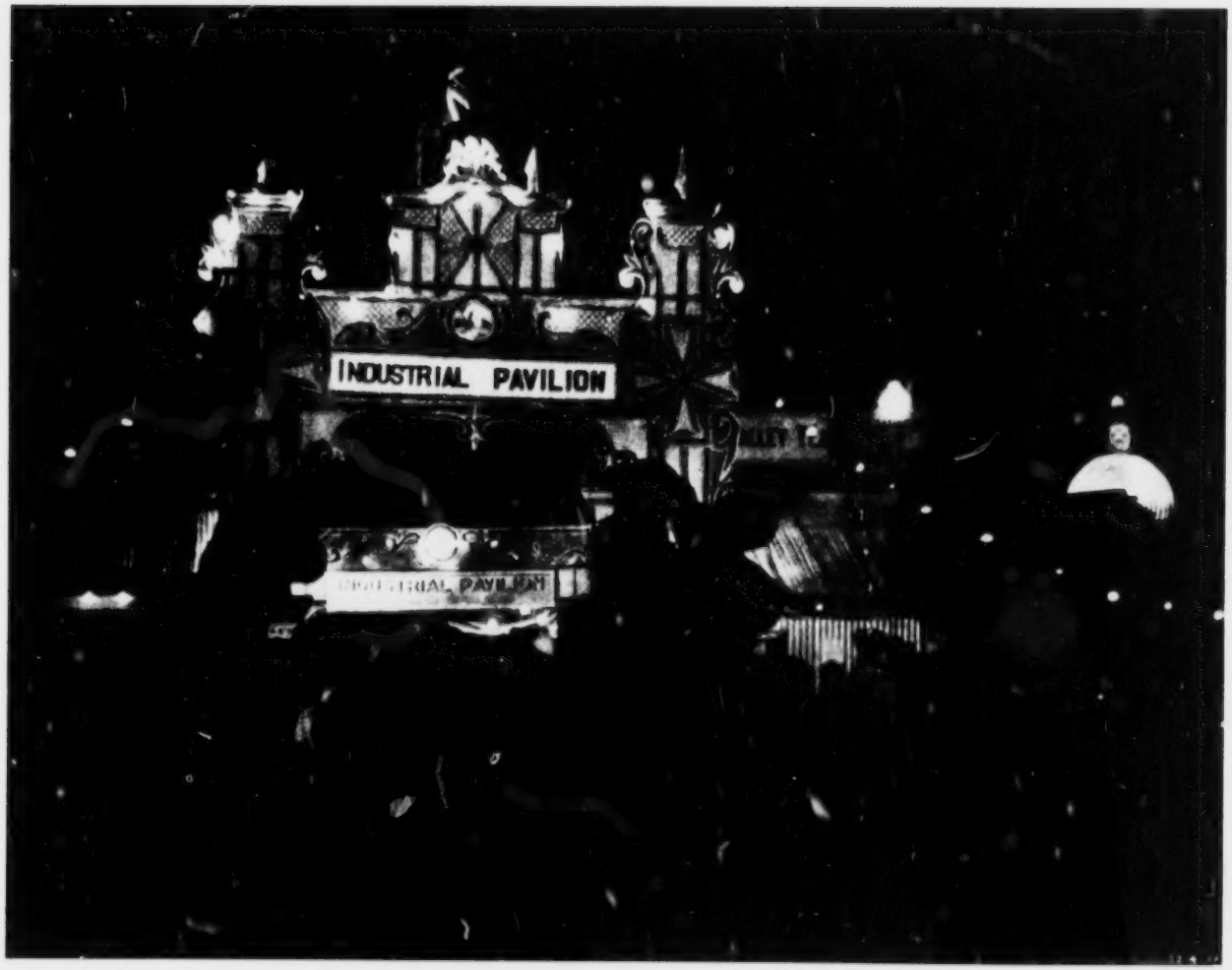
Cotton.—Considerable success was achieved in the efforts made to establish the cultivation of cotton as a peasant industry chiefly in the Hambantota District of the Southern Province and Matale District of the Central Province. Over 2,000 acres were cultivated in 1930 in the Hambantota District alone. Almost all the produce raised by the peasants was purchased by Government on behalf of the Spinning and Weaving Mills, Colombo, up to the end of the year.

The fall in prices and the unstable condition of the local spinning and weaving industry resulted in diminishing interest in cotton growing and only a small acreage was cultivated in 1932. Owing to encouragement given by the slightly higher rate offered for seed cotton by the Spinning and Weaving Mills for the 1932 crops, production has increased again during past three years. The Government purchase during the past three years is as follows :—

	Cwt.		Cwt.		Cwt.
1934 ..	956	1935 ..	1,311	1936 ..	3,063

Kapok.—Kapok is not grown as a pure crop, but is largely planted along the boundaries of fields and settlements and in some instances interspersed among other permanent crops. A regular trade is being conducted by petty dealers. The exports and their value during the past three years were as follows :—

	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.		Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.		Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1934 ..	6,986 ..	184,584	1935 ..	6,497 ..	176,948	1936 ..	8,191 ..	239,707



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KANDY INDUSTRIAL PAVILION, 1936.

Kitul.—The fibre of the Borassus palm has always found a ready market, and in the past few years it has been used locally for the manufacture of brooms and brushes. The tree is not systematically cultivated, and is only indiscriminately distributed throughout the wetter districts of the mid- and low-country. The extent of trade in this product may be seen from the following figures :—

	Quantity exported. Cwt.	Value. Rs.		Quantity exported. Cwt.	Value. Rs.		Quantity exported. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1934	1,963	78,876	1935	1,734	65,461	1936	1,524	52,877

Papain.—This is the dried extract obtained from the milk of the papaya fruit for which there has been a steady market in the past. High prices paid some years back were an encouragement to the cultivation of the papaw tree which forms a suitable catch-crop during the waiting period of return from tea or rubber. But many small pure plantations also sprang up, and though it has been surmised that over-production has been responsible for a big drop in the price of papain, it is more probable that the market was cornered to the detriment of the small producer. The crop was largely cultivated in the Kegalla, Kandy, and Kurunegala Districts, and the development of a profitable peasant industry was indicated. The following figures show the extent of the trade in papain :—

	Quantity exported. lb.	Value. Rs.		Quantity exported. lb.	Value. Rs.		Quantity exported. lb.	Value. Rs.
1934	103,778	590,849	1935	155,274	638,516	1936	227,963	447,165

Pepper.—The pepper vine is widely distributed throughout the wet low-country as well as in the Kandy and Matale Districts of the mid-country though systematic pure plantations are not established. It is grown against shade trees in certain tea and cacao estates, and is in evidence in practically every village garden. The Department of Agriculture is distributing rooted cuttings on an extensive scale in an endeavour to establish a profitable village industry. There has always been a steady demand for the crop which is handled mainly by petty traders. Prices went down badly during 1930 and for the most part of 1931, but at the end of the year the exports were heavy, and in view of indications that the market will be favourable, an extension of cultivation is being rapidly pushed forward. The trade in pepper has been as follows :—

	Quantity exported. Cwt.	Value. Rs.		Quantity exported. Cwt.	Value. Rs.		Quantity exported. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1934	1,678	43,027	1935	183	3,837	1936	1,107	17,386

Coffee.—The hybrid varieties of Robusta Coffee which are practically immune from the coffee leaf disease, and have the advantage of coming into bearing earlier and of yielding more prolific crops have been cultivated successfully at several Experiment Stations during the past few years and have proved their suitability under varying conditions below an elevation of 3,000 feet. Much interest is being shown in this crop now, and besides numerous applications for seed and plants the Department of Agriculture is distributing seedlings on an extensive scale with a view

to establishing a new peasant industry in the following districts :— Kandy and Matale in the Central Province ; Kegalla and Ratnapura in the Province of Sabaragamuwa ; Galle in the Southern Province ; and parts of the Kurunegala and the Badulla Districts. The produce is disposed of entirely for home consumption.

The coffee berry borer (*Stephanoderes hampei*), a serious pest of coffee in certain other countries, was discovered in Ceylon for the first time in 1935. The attack appeared to be confined to the Balangoda area of the Province of Sabaragamuwa and it was hoped that by prompt action the spread of the pest might have been prevented. A campaign of wholesale removal of berries from all trees in the area was carried out with the valuable co-operation of owners and the local headmen. Since that time, however, the pest has been found to be very widely distributed in most of the coffee growing areas of the Island and the nature of its distribution suggests that it has been established in Ceylon for many years unnoticed.

The insect was declared a pest under the Plant Protection Ordinance, No. 10 of 1924, in December, 1935, but no compulsory measures for its control have yet been prescribed.

EXCISE.

Toddy and Arrack.

The production of toddy and arrack forms two important industries dependent on the coconut palm. For the formation of coconuts a large quantity of saccharine juice is supplied by the tree to the stalks which are enclosed in spathes. If the spathe is "tapped" before the nuts mature, and a pot attached to it, a quantity of the juice, varying from 6 to about 12 drams per day, can be collected in the pot. If lime is not used to prevent fermentation, the action of yeasts, which are present in the air or in the pot, will convert the sugar in the juice into alcohol, and the liquid will be converted into toddy, with an alcoholic strength of about 4 to 8 per cent. Toddy is also obtained similarly from the palmyra and kitul palms. It is sold in taverns under Government licence at rates varying from 48 cents to Re. 1·20 per gallon. A considerable industry depends upon the sale of toddy which attracts many of the smaller Ceylonese and Malayalee capitalists. The cost of toddy may probably be put at about 23 cents per gallon, and considerable profits are made when the sales are active.

The toddy consumption in 1935-36 was 4,667,299 gallons, compared with 4,817,463 gallons in 1934–35 the average consumption per head of population being ·88 and ·91 gallons respectively. The actual toddy revenue collected in the two financial years was Rs. 2,553,043 in 1934–35 and Rs. 2,526,905 in 1935–36 the revenue per head being 48 and 47 cents, and the revenue per gallon of toddy consumed 53 and 54 cents respectively. In 1936–37 the rents of 182 toddy taverns were sold for Rs. 2,223,871, a slight decrease on the amount realized from the rent sale of the 182 taverns for financial year 1935–36.

By the distillation of coconut toddy, the local spirit known as "arrack" is produced ; and this is sold, like toddy, in taverns licensed by Government. The whole of the distilling and sale of arrack is in the hands of Ceylonese capitalists. Distillation of arrack prior to 1923 was carried

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Correction Slip.

(*a*) *Page 51, paragraph 2, line 4*—

The words "about Re. 1·25 to Re. 1·50 per proof gallon" should read "about Re. 1·30 to Re. 1·80 per gallon at 27 degrees under proof according to variations in the prices he has to pay for his toddy, supplied on contracts".

(*b*) *Page 52, Revenue and Expenditure statement*—

Total revenue directly connected with excisable articles for 1935–36 should be Rs. 9,971,973 and not Rs. 2,854,720.

on in about 250 small pot-stills of the most primitive variety ; it is now concentrated in eight large modern distillers situated in the Kalutara District ; the outturn capacity of each is not less than 60,000 gallons per annum. Three of the distillers have installed " Barbet's " patent stills for continuous distillation, each capable of producing 1,000 gallons of arrack per day. All distillery operations are carried on under the close supervision of the Excise Department. The arrack made at these distilleries is far purer and more free from copper than any arrack previously distilled from coconut toddy in Ceylon. These new private distilleries were started in April, 1924. They supply arrack to Government at a fixed price under what is known as the " Contract Supply " system.

About 8 gallons of toddy are required to produce a gallon of arrack at proof strength, *i.e.*, the outturn in arrack (proof gallons) of a distillery is about 12·0 per cent. of the toddy distilled. The distiller's cost of production is about Re. 1·25 to Re. 1·50 per proof gallon. The distillers sell their arrack to Government at Re. 1·80 per gallon at 27 degrees under proof. Government stores and matures the spirit in bond and carries on reducing, blending, and bottling operations.

Retailing is done by renters, who are usually those who offer the highest price for this privilege. In addition to paying this price irrespective of the volume of their sales, they pay the following charges for every gallon of arrack they obtain from a Government warehouse to cover Government expenditure on purchasing, warehousing, and bottling arrack :—

Duty on bulk arrack at Rs. 8·50 per gallon and on bottles Rs. 7·50 per gallon ;

Cost price Rs. 3 per gallon in all districts except Trincomalee, Batticaloa, Badulla, Jaffna, and Vavuniya ;

Cost price Rs. 3·50 per gallon of bulk arrack at Trincomalee, Batticaloa, Badulla, Jaffna, and Vavuniya ;

Extra charges per gallon on the ordinary quality of bottled arrack Re. 1. Extra additional charge of Rs. 2 per gallon on the special quality of bottled arrack and Rs. 3·50 on the Extra Special quality of bottled arrack.

The number of gallons of arrack distilled during the last three years is as follows :—

	Gallons (proof).		Gallons (proof).
1934	219,000	1936 ..	511,000
1935	438,000		

The corresponding percentage of outturn for the three years was 11·11, 12·0, and 11·89 respectively.

The consumption of arrack rose from 356,348 gallons in 1935 to 366,852 gallons in 1936, an increase of about 2·9 per cent.

The number of arrack taverns in 1934–35 was 132 and in 1935–36 138. The estimated net revenue, after deducting expenses of the distribution and storage system, was Rs. 4,169,387 in 1934–35 and Rs. 4,005,853 in 1935–36 which is equivalent to Re. 0·79 and Re. 0·75 respectively per head of population. The arrack consumption per head of population was ·07 gallons in 1934–35 as well as in 1935–36. The arrack revenue (net) per gallon was Rs. 11·38 in 1934–35 and Rs. 11·10 in 1935–36.

Vinegar Manufacture.

Toddy vinegar is obtained from the aceticization of fermented toddy, which takes place naturally after about 36 hours.

In 1924 special licences were first issued to vinegar manufacturers in the Western and Southern Provinces, with a view to encourage the manufactures of toddy vinegar as a local industry. Rules were passed in 1926 to control vinegar stores. Fourteen such licences were in force during 1936.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The total liquor revenue for the financial years 1934–35 and 1935–36 was as follows :—

	1934–35. Rs.	1935–36. Rs.
Excise Revenue.		
Arrack (gross)	4,650,283	4,483,061
Toddy	2,553,042	2,526,905
Licensing fees	154,925	97,663
Composition fees	9,857	9,614
Total Excise Revenue	7,368,107	7,117,243
Other Revenue.		
Customs (import duties)	2,558,177	2,704,742
Police Court fines in Excise cases	125,546	149,959
Sale of confiscated articles	685	29
Total revenue directly connected with excisable articles	10,052,515	2,854,720

The expenditure on the Excise Department, including the salaries of Civil Servants and all Excise Department officers and all other charges, was Rs. 1,385,207 in 1935–36 being 19·5 per cent. of the Excise revenue for the year, or 13·9 per cent. of the Excise revenue plus Customs duty on excisable articles and Police Court fines in Excise cases.

Excise Offences.

The following is a statement of Excise detections in the five years 1932, 1933, 1934, 1935, and 1936 :—

Year.	Foreign Liquor.	Arrack	Toddy.	Intoxicating Drugs.	Short Measure.	Others.	Total.
1932	7	193	5,269	726	—	1,596	7,791
1933	3	385	7,008	737	—	2,661	10,794
1934	10	260	6,471	736	—	564	8,041
1935	2	295	5,565	818	9	1,062	7,751
1936	2	348	7,235	796	—	757	9,138

The most remarkable increases occur under illicit distillation, illicit tapping, sale and transport of toddy, and under sale and possession of intoxicating drugs.

FISHERIES.

The fishing industries of the Island fall under the following main heads :—(*a*) sea fisheries, (*b*) chank fisheries, (*c*) pearl fisheries, and (*d*) fresh-water fisheries.

Sea Fisheries.—These are by far the most important and extensive and are carried on all round the coast by Sinhalese and Tamil fishermen who use native craft principally the catamaran and outrigger canoe working lines and modified nets. Both types of vessel depend on sail and on account of their limitation in size have long since attained their maximum development and efficiency. They cannot be adapted to work modern fishing gear.

Prior to the extension of the railway and of motor transport, the bulk of the fish caught was either dried, cured, or pickled, but with the present facilities for transport and with the aid of ice-making plants erected at the principal fishing centres, fish is now distributed in a more or less fresh condition to practically all parts of the Island and such is the demand that only a small surplus is available for the fish curers with the result that the once prosperous dried fish industry has almost died out.

No complete statistics exist regarding the value and extent of the industry, but its inability to meet existing demands is clearly shown by the records of the imports of fish goods into the Island, which in 1911 amounted to 544,222 cwt. valued at Rs. 4,951,516 and in 1936 to 668,398 cwt. valued at Rs. 14,322,209. The bulk of these imports is made up of cured and Maldive fish imported from Southern India and the Maldive Islands. These in 1911 amounted to 347,868 cwt. valued at Rs. 4,233,363 and in 1936 to 461,492 cwt. valued at Rs. 13,328,870.

The high value of these imports is clear evidence of the existence of a large local market for fish goods and, in conjunction with the vast natural resources that Ceylon waters offer for exploitation, indicates the scope for development open to this industry.

The question of this development has taken the foremost place in the investigation work of the Fisheries Department under the direction of the Marine Biologist who is also Director of the Colombo Museum. In the first instance this department carried out a fisheries survey of the coastal waters with the object of acquiring data regarding demersal fishes and of exploring these waters for possible trawl fishing grounds. Two extensive fishing banks, which are practically virgin ground, were surveyed, *i.e.*, the Pedro bank off the north-east coast with an area of over 1,000 square miles and the Wadge bank off Cape Comorin, Southern India, with an area of over 4,000 square miles. Both banks gave considerable promise for commercial development and following this preliminary work, the results of which are published in the Ceylon Journal of Science, Section C (Fisheries), Vol. II., it was decided to carry out a detailed survey of both banks for the purpose of obtaining more exact data of their trawl fishing value and also for the preparation of charts necessary for their commercial exploitation. A survey of the Pedro bank has been completed. Accounts of this work are contained in Ceylon Administration Reports (Marine Biology), 1926–30. The complete survey of the Wadge bank has been suspended indefinitely. Steps are now being taken for the establishment of a resarch station in Colombo for the investigation of problems connected with the local fishing industries. A grant of Rs. 87,500 has been received from the Colonial Development Fund for this purpose and plans are now under consideration.

Chank Fisheries.—The chank, which has considerable value in India, where it is cut and carved into bangles, is fished annually in the shallow waters of the Palk Strait off the Jaffna Peninsula where it occurs in great abundance. The fisheries are carried out chiefly by divers from Southern India and are subject to the Chanks Ordinance of 1890. The chanks fished are exported to India, the Ceylon Government collecting a small royalty in the form of an export duty, which prior to April, 1929, varied from Rs. 2 to Rs. 6 per 1,000 shells and now varies from Rs. 5 to Rs. 25 per 1,000 shells according to quality. The average number exported annually for the last ten years under the old duty was 2,305,664

valued at Rs. 119,555 and the average royalty was Rs. 10,770. Under the new duty the number exported in 1930 was 2,193,967 valued at Rs. 120,565 on which a royalty of Rs. 28,667 was collected. In 1933, doubtless owing to the trade depression, the number exported fell to 1,128,564 and the duty collected to Rs. 11,517. In 1936 the number exported was 1,908,325 and the royalty collected Rs. 13,308.

Chanks also occur in some numbers in the inshore waters of the Pearl banks but until 1930 fishing was prohibited in this area under the Chanks Ordinance, No. 18 of 1890. This Ordinance has now been amended and a rule passed making it lawful to fish chanks between January 31 and April 30 of each year, between Mannar and Moderagam point and within the three-fathom line.

Pearl Fisheries.—The Ceylon pearl oyster *Margaritifera vulgaris*, the fisheries of which have been famous for many centuries, occurs periodically in great abundance in the shallow-water area known as the Ceylon Pearl Banks lying off the west coast of Ceylon and extending from Puttalam to Adam's Bridge. The banks are under Government control and fisheries, which are a Government monopoly, are carried on at irregular intervals as oysters are available. The last fishery was in 1925 when over 15,000,000 oysters were fished and the gross receipts totalled Rs. 517,507. There are no prospects of immediate fisheries. Recently a large area of potential oyster-bearing ground about 30 square miles in extent was discovered.

Another form of pearl oyster, the so-called window-pane oyster *Placuna placenta*, which yields pearls of an inferior character, commonly occurs embedded in the soft muddy bottom of Lake Tamblegam, Trincomalee. When oysters are present the fishing rights are leased by Government. The fishery has been leased for a period of three years ending 1936. Small fisheries were held in 1934, 1935, and 1936. The market for these pearls is Bombay.

Fresh-water Fisheries.—These are carried on by villagers in the tanks, rivers, lagoons, and estuaries. In most cases a fishing licence is issued by a local authority (a Village Committee or Urban District Council). No particulars are available as to revenue collected from this source or as to the extent of the industry. The Fisheries Department is making a survey of the fresh-water fishes of the Island and has collected considerable data relating to the bionomics of these fishes. (See Ceylon Journal of Science, Section B, Volumes XV.—XVIII.)

Severe droughts of recent years have taken a heavy toll of fresh-water fishes, so much so, that in some fresh-water areas, particularly those of the dry zone, there is serious danger of complete extermination. In order to restock these waters, steps are now being taken to establish fish culture ponds in which the more important food fishes can be bred and reared.

SALT.

The manufacture, collection, and sale of salt constitute in Ceylon a Government monopoly, which is protected by an import duty. The monopoly is administered by the Executive Committee for Local Administration through the Salt Adviser and the Revenue Officers.

Ceylon consumes about 660,000 cwt. of common salt per annum. The greater part of this salt is manufactured or collected locally, and any shortages due to failure of harvest are made good by the importation of salt of similar quality from India or elsewhere. Salt is manufactured

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BUS STAND.

from sea water by solar evaporation at the Government Salterns at Elephant Pass, in the Northern Province, and at Palavi, near Puttalam, in the North-Western Province, also in the privately owned salt pans at Chiviyateru in the Northern Province, about four miles from Jaffna, at Puttalam and at Nilaveli, eight miles north of Trincomalee. Spontaneously formed salt resulting from the natural evaporation of brine is collected from lagoons in the Hambantota District of the Southern Province and in the Jaffna Peninsula in the Northern Province. These are Crown property. The quantity of salt manufactured at Chiviyateru is small, and the greater part of the Island's supply is derived from the Government Salterns, from the lagoons in the Hambantota District, and from the private salt pans at Puttalam. The following statement shows the total quantity of salt produced in Ceylon during the year and the average of eight years 1929–1936 :—

Producing Centre.	Average for 1929–36. Cwt.	1936. Cwt.
Elephant Pass	158,548 ..	147,954
Palavi	70,893 ..	106,31[illegible]
Hambantota District	155,886 ..	147,120
Puttalam District (excluding Palavi) ..	122,865 ..	290,000
Jaffna and Mannar Districts (excluding Elephant Pass)	65,307 ..	62,569
Trincomalee District	47,599 ..	39,952
Total ..	621,098	793,913

Stocks at the beginning of 1936 amounted to 1,440,094 cwt. and at the end of the year to 1,665,652 cwt.

The amount realized during the financial year by sale of local salt from the Government depôts was Rs. 2,244,808 and the net revenue Rs. 1,710,692.

Owing to the nearly stationary consumption and the equalizing effect of the import duty the revenue from salt does not show a large percentage of variation from year to year.

PLUMBAGO.

Occurrence.—Plumbago, or graphite, is the most important of the Ceylon minerals. It occurs in minute scattered crystals in some of the granulities and crystalline limestones, but it is only where it is found in veins that it is of any commercial importance. The veins or pockets vary from the smallest size up to a yard or more in width, and often consist of pure graphite unmixed with other minerals. Frequently quartz, mica, felspar, pyroxene, apatite, pyrite, &c., are associated with the graphite. The most frequent country rock is a pyroxene granulite of the charnockite series.

Mines.—The deepest mines go to a depth of between 600 and 800 feet, while considerable quantities of the mineral are obtained very near the surface. Several of the largest mines are fitted with electric light and equipped with modern machinery but in most of them the arrangements are very primitive. Eighty-one mines were reported to be working at the end of 1936 employing about 2,166 men.

Prices and Grades.—Since 1919 prices have been nominal, there being practically no buyers. The majority of the mines were closed in 1920 and still remain closed.

The decrease in naval armaments had a direct effect on the demand for plumbago, especially with regard to Ceylon, as Ceylon flake was regarded as the best crucible plumbago used for this purpose. This is held to be the cause of the falling off in demand for these high grades and the demand throughout the year has been principally for carbon plumbago. With the present ruling prices there seems to be no prospect of any extension of mining activities, especially in view of the big surface deposits in Madagascar, which can now compete with most Ceylon grades for factory work. Owing to the lower price of Madagascar plumbago manufacturers are reported to have adapted their plant to deal with that plumbago.

The average market prices for all grades for the last seven years were as follows :—1930, Rs. 203·50 per ton; 1931, Rs. 182·34 per ton ; 1932, Rs. 168·73 per ton ; 1933, Rs. 126·95 per ton ; 1934, Rs. 143·02 per ton ; 1935, Rs. 148·15 per ton ; 1936, Rs. 112·40 per ton.

Local Trade.—The mining for, and the local trade in, graphite remain chiefly in the hands of Sinhalese. Large mines are worked both by Ceylonese capitalists and by tea-estate owners on whose land plumbago is found. Some of the larger mines can turn out 100 tons a month, and Ceylon can, when required, produce 30,000 tons a year.

During the years 1915, 1916, and 1917, over 15,000 skilled labourers were engaged in this industry.

Uses.—Plumbago is chiefly used in the manufacture of crucibles, furnace-facings, electrodes, and stove polish, for making lubricants, black paint and lead pencils, and in electroplating. During the war large quantities were required for the manufacture of munitions, and the exports in 1916 rose above the old maximum. The principal buyer in 1936 was United States of America, Japan, United Kingdom, and Germany next in the order.

The exports of plumbago in 1936 amounted to 269,895 cwt. valued at Rs. 1,516,968.

OTHER ECONOMIC MINERALS.

Precious Stones.—Precious stones in large variety are found principally in the alluvial gravels of the Ratnapura District and the south-west portion of the Island. The most important are sapphire and ruby (varieties of corundum), chrysoberyl (including cat's eye and the rare alexandrite), beryl or aquamarine, and the semi-precious stones, topaz, spinel, garnet, zircon, quartz of various colours (cairngorm, citrine quartz, amethyst) and moonstone.

Mining for gems is carried on almost entirely by Sinhalese on a co-partnership system. The stones are bought up by dealers to be cut and polished. Many of the best stones are exported to Europe and America, but the inferior varieties are largely sold locally or in India. It is difficult to estimate the value of the annual output, but it may be put at somewhere about Rs. 2,000,000.

With the exception of moonstone, which is mined from a band of acid leptynite and some garnet, the gem-stones are all obtained from alluvial gravels. Sapphire and beryl have been discovered in abundance in pegmatite veins in the Matara and Kandy Districts, respectively, and the other minerals named are probably derived from rocks of similar type.

Thorium-bearing Minerals.—A number of minerals containing thorium and uranium have been found in Ceylon, in pegmatite veins and also in alluvial gravels, and as constituents of natural concentrates on the seabeach. These were mined on a small scale at one time, but the deposits appear to be exhausted and production has ceased. Monazite sands were worked under Government control near Bentota on the west coast, but work was abandoned in 1927 as unprofitable owing to the heavy fall in the price of the mineral.

Ilmenite and Zircon Sands.—Large deposits of natural beach concentrates, consisting of about 75 per cent. ilmenite and 25 per cent. zircon rutile, &c., are known to exist at Pulmoddai and Tirrukovil, on the east coast of the Island. The former deposit has been proved to contain over two million tons of the mineral. Smaller deposits are found at other places on the coast. The mineral is used as a source of titanium for the preparation of titanium pigments, an industry of growing importance. The Ceylon deposits have not yet been exploited.

Mica.—A small amount of mica has been produced from pegmatite veins or from the contact rocks bordering limestones. The deposits are very irregular, the commercial mica occurring in patches in the veins, with much barren ground between them. There was a revival of interest in the mineral in 1931 and a few tons were exported. The variety exported was phlogopite (magnesia mica) or amber mica. Mining has however now ceased.

Other Mineral Products.—Other mineral products are the following :—

(1) Kaolin of good quality can be prepared from the decomposed felspar of granite rocks free from iron minerals.

(2) White quartz sand suitable for the manufacture of the commoner kinds of glass occurs in places on the west coast and in the north near Point Pedro.

(3) Limestone of a high degree of purity suitable for use in the manufacture of cement is found in large quantities in the Jaffna Peninsula. The coral deposits of the coast are extensively burnt for lime. The crystalline limestones of the interior of the Island are almost all dolomitic and yield inferior lime.

(4) The gneisses and granulites of the charnockite series furnish useful building stones.

(5) Pottery clays of poor quality and brick-earth suitable for the manufacture of bricks and tiles are found in all the river valleys. Kabuk, which is the product of decomposition of the surface of the crystalline rocks, is extensively used for small buildings. When first opened up, it can be cut into slabs, which harden on exposure to the air.

CHAPTER VII.

Commerce.

COMMERCE is one of the pillars of national welfare and its character is fundamentally determined by the type of economic activity obtaining in a country. Ceylon is predominantly agricultural and her economic products, with the exception of tea, are raw materials, which are exchanged in the world's markets for the manufactured goods and

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articles of food needed by its population. The prosperity of Ceylon depends on income derived from tea, rubber, and the products of the coconut palm which constitute her staple agricultural industries. There are a few other products of a minor character, such as cacao, cinnamon, citronella, cardamoms, arecanuts, papain, kapok, &c., but they have never attained in recent times more than a fraction of the importance of the staple industries. Cultivation of paddy and other foodstuffs provides employment to a section of the indigenous population but the output of locally grown food is insufficient to satisfy home consumption and has to be supplemented by an increasing volume of imports.

The foregoing account clearly shows that the economic life of Ceylon is not sufficiently diversified and the inelastic nature of the economic structure of the country was forcibly revealed with the onset of the depression. The abnormal fall in export values during the period of the world economic depression was naturally accompanied by a corresponding shrinkage of incomes which brought severe hardship on the cultivator, both capitalist and peasant, as well as on the urban wage-earner. The recovery noticed towards the close of 1934 was maintained during 1935, and there was further expansion in 1936 in all branches of the economic activity of the country.

The obstacles to foreign trade, however, continued to operate. The adoption of economic nationalism by world powers as a general and permanent instrument of national commercial policy was bound to react on the course of international trade. A corollary to economic nationalism is the aggregation of economically interdependent units into economic unions within which there is an unimpeded flow of trade. The formation of such unions has been attempted by various groups of nations. The Ottawa Agreements by inaugurating the policy of Imperial Preference have tended to weld the various Empire units into economic groups. The introduction of a heralded scheme of preference between France and her Colonial Empire is another example of the new policy in international trade.

To primary producing countries like Ceylon, economic nationalism involves a drastic alteration of the economic structure. Foreign markets for raw materials tend to contract in the face of growing tariffs so that expansion of export industries must perforce be restricted. Hence arises the need for Trade Representation abroad, the conduct of propaganda in foreign countries and the collection and dissemination of up-to-date market intelligence so that existing markets may in some measure be preserved for the products of this country.

It is not in external markets alone that the effects of the policy of economic nationalism are felt. They are reflected also in the home market, where a policy of economic self-sufficiency is beginning to find expression. Every country of any importance now devotes increasing attention to the intensive cultivation of the home market. In Ceylon, this phase of economic nationalism is expressed in the "back to the land" cry, and in the imperative demand for industrialization. The fulfilment of these aims must necessarily modify the character of Ceylon trade. Protection, State Aid, and direct subsidy are indispensable supports of this policy and their operation profoundly influences the nature of external commerce. The year under review has already seen the effects of these forces.

In the paragraphs that follow, an account will be given of the main features of the commerce of Ceylon. No attempt will, however, be made to analyse the working of the factors described above, as it is yet too early to ascertain their influence with exact precision.

Introduction.—Once again it has not been possible to record any very sensational signs of a complete return to prosperity, but there were certain features in the trade results of 1936 which appear to hold out a promise that real improvements will be soon experienced. The visible balance of trade was 54 million rupees in favour of Ceylon as against 25½ millions in 1935, the total value of visible exports being 268½ millions as compared with 253 millions in 1935. It is true that there was an off fall of 13 millions in imports, but no less than 11 millions of this sum were due to reduction in recorded cost of grain and flour, chiefly rice, while smaller importations and lower value of liquid fuel, kerosine and petrol, the importation of which in bulk causes considerable irregularity in the records, were responsible for another decrease of over 4 millions. Apart from these items the only serious off-fall was in the "vehicles" class, imports of motor cars and lorries being considerably reduced. It is surmised that this reduction was mainly due to the abnormally large importations occasioned in 1935 by the rush of purchasers to replace their out of date vehicles at the first sign of returning prosperity. Otherwise there was, generally speaking, a satisfactory all round increase in imports.

From information received there is good reason to think that the retail trade of the Island has improved considerably in the last few months of 1936, particularly that of the small retailer. This is undoubtedly a healthy sign, since it points to an improved circulation of money among the less wealthy section of the population and it would not be unreasonable to infer that the improvement in purchasing power among this section of the community, must in turn have satisfactory effects upon the wholesale import trade.

The most satisfactory feature of the year's trade has been the improvement in prices of the main agricultural products of Ceylon. An analysis of the domestic exports shows that the most important items in order of importance were tea 57½ per cent., rubber 16½ per cent., coconut oil 4 per cent., copra 4 per cent., and desiccated coconut 2·8 per cent. In the case of each of these commodities the F.O.B. price has risen, in the case of tea slightly and in the case of rubber and the major coconut products considerably. Most of the minor products have also risen in value, exceptions being plumbago and the fibre products. These are dealt with in detail elsewhere. In view of this general improvement it is difficult to avoid the expectation that the normal lag of import trade behind export will not long persist, though such optimistic prognostications must of course be dependent for fulfilment on the absence of further dislocation of world trade by accentuation of the present tension in European international affairs. Apart from this menace the general outlook at the end of 1936 appeared distinctly bright and a note of optimism prevailed among the numerous oversea commercial visitors to the Customs offices which was in distinct contrast to their outlook twelve months ago.

Shipping.—The number of vessels entering the various ports of Ceylon in 1936 was 3,865, as compared with 3,959 in 1935, a drop of 2 per cent. with a corresponding drop in tonnage. Of these, 2,609 were steamers or

motor vessels, as against 2,660 in 1935. The off-fall was more pronounced in the outports than in Colombo, where the drop in tonnage of steamers and motor vessels was only 1 per cent., and is accounted for by the cessation of imports of considerable quantities of grain at certain outports. The number of vessels calling to coal and oil at Colombo was about the same as last year, viz., 214, against 218. The position in respect of shipping may therefore be regarded as practically stationary.

The following statement shows the position of the three major industries :—

	Exports.			
	Quantity. (000's.)		Value. (000's.)	
	1935.	1936.	1935.	1936.
	lb.	lb.	Rs.	Rs.
Tea	212,163	218,149	145,763	153,392
Rubber	120,478	111,823	38,393	46,840
	Cwt.	Cwt.		
Coconut produce ..	4,189	3,677	36,045	33,558

The following table shows the annual value of imports and exports and of coal and liquid fuel supplied to ships for bunkers during the last ten years (excluding the value of specie) :—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.*	Total.	Value of Coal supplied to Steamers.	Value of Liquid Fuel supplied to Steamers.	Grand Total Value of Ceylon's Trade.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1927	406,663,799	450,134,737	856,798,536	13,809,874	11,605,425	882,213,835
1928	400,493,185	395,115,662	795,608,847	11,042,548	11,460,888	818,112,283
1929	403,490,023	397,401,059	800,891,082	13,145,679	12,033,910	826,070,671
1930	302,442,620	304,262,618	606,705,238	9,307,448	9,467,050	625,479,736
1931	218,702,681	215,344,569	434,047,250	8,616,904	9,209,700	451,873,854
1932	196,202,961	173,208,745	369,411,706	5,524,929	10,245,673	385,182,308
1933	177,296,912	184,497,995	361,794,907	5,353,385	10,342,481	377,490,773
1934	217,088,892	246,607,086	463,695,978	5,999,625	11,203,134	480,898,737
1935	227,501,462	236,363,222	463,864,684	5,093,933	11,655,660	480,614,277
1936	214,337,529	253,060,686	467,398,215	4,720,348	10,693,953	482,812,516

Value of specie imported and exported during the last ten years is given below :—

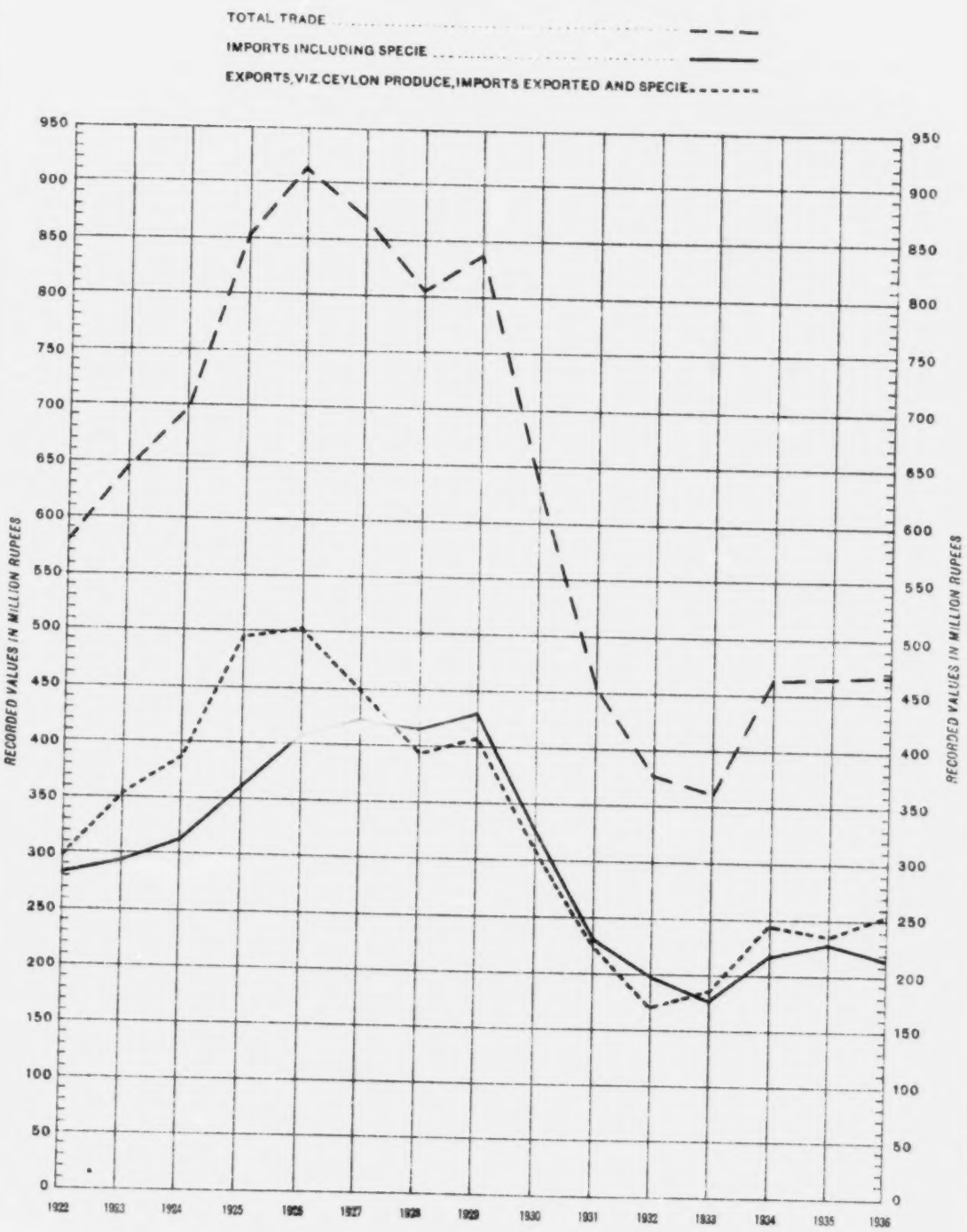
Year.	Imported.	Exported.	Year.	Imported.	Exported.
	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.
1927	14,464,177	1,538,104	1932	164,604	75,823
1928	11,626,454	3,997,500	1933	51,000	54,725
1929	25,805,300	16,653,733	1934	—	77,900
1930	21,913,408	10,211,582	1935	33,571	28,400
1931	9,493,496	14,454,433	1936	96,940	117,150

These statements which have appeared in the Customs Administration Reports for many years are merely reproduced for purposes of comparison. The form is somewhat misleading as bullion, but not specie, is included

* Includes parcel postal articles and ships' stores other than coal and liquid fuel supplied to steamers but does not include value of Ceylon gems exported by registered post, of which figures are not obtainable. The value of these exports is estimated to be not less than one million rupees.

DIAGRAM No. 7.

VALUES OF TOTAL TRADE, TOTAL EXPORTS AND TOTAL IMPORTS, CEYLON, SINCE 1922



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under " imports " in the first table, while to ascertain the correct trade balance the value of bunkers supplied to steamers must be added to the export total since all coal and oil imported is included under imports.

Balance of Trade.—The following statement exhibits in summarized form the visible balance of trade in each of the last five years :—

Merchandise—	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.
Total imports ..	196,049,000..	177,147,000..	216,996,000..	227,501,000..	214,338,000
Exports ..	167,465,000..	180,111,000..	241,193,000..	230,041,000..	244,415,000
Re-exports ..	21,372,000..	20,082,000..	22,617,000..	23,072,000..	24,060,000
Excess of exports over imports (+) and imports over exports(—)	— 7,212,000..	+ 23,046,000..	+ 46,814,000..	+ 25,612,000..	+ 54,137,000
Bullion and specie—					
Nett imports ..	101,000..	146,000..	15,000..	5,000..	—
Nett exports ..	— ..	— ..	— ..	— ..	20,000
Total excess of exports over imports (+) and imports over exports (—) of merchandise, bullion, and specie ..	— 7,313,000..	+ 22,900,000..	+ 46,799,000..	+ 25,607,000..	+ 54,157,000

The following statement indicates the nett visible balance of trade in each of the last twelve years :—

Year.	Excess of Exports over Imports (+). Excess of Imports over Exports (—). Rs.	Year.	Excess of Exports over Imports (+). Excess of Imports over Exports (—). Rs.
1925	.. + 161,985,000	1931	.. + 19,429,000
1926	.. + 124,805,000	1932	.. — 7,313,000
1927	.. + 59,832,000	1933	.. + 22,900,000
1928	.. + 9,497,000	1934	.. + 46,799,000
1929	.. + 9,939,000	1935	.. + 25,607,000
1930	.. + 8,892,000	1936	.. + 54,157,000

It will be noted that the balance of trade this year is the most favourable since 1927.

The following is a comparative statement showing in lakhs of rupees the values of the import and export trade of Ceylon including bullion and specie, with the United Kingdom, the Dominions, other Empire Countries, and the principal foreign countries buying Ceylon produce, together with the trade balances in respect of each country for the years 1935 and 1936 :—

	Imports. Lakhs of Rupees.		Exports. Lakhs of Rupees.		Excess of Exports over Imports (+). Excess of Imports over Exports (—). Lakhs of Rupees.	
	1935.	1936.	1935.	1936.	1935.	1936
British Empire—						
United Kingdom ..	468 ..	453 ..	1,198 ..	1,210 ..	+ 730 ..	+ 757
Australia ..	53 ..	52 ..	102 ..	114 ..	+ 49 ..	+ 62
British India ..	443 ..	461 ..	139 ..	172 ..	— 304 ..	— 289
Burma ..	398 ..	325 ..	7 ..	5 ..	— 391 ..	— 320
Canada ..	8 ..	4 ..	76 ..	101 ..	+ 68 ..	+ 97
New Zealand ..	— ..	— ..	65 ..	70 ..	+ 65 ..	+ 70
Straits Settlements .	21 ..	17 ..	8 ..	9 ..	— 13 ..	— 8
Union of South Africa	38 ..	37 ..	76 ..	81 ..	+ 38 ..	+ 44
Other Empire Countries	70 ..	59 ..	36 ..	30 ..	— 34 ..	— 21
Total British Possessions	1,499	1,408	1,707	1,792	+ 208	+ 384

	Imports. Lakhs of Rupees.		Exports. Lakhs of Rupees.		Excess of Exports over Imports (+). Excess of Imports over Exports (—). Lakhs of Rupees.	
Foreign Countries—	1935.	1936.	1935.	1936.	1935.	1936.
Belgium	19	29	31	26	+ 12	— 3
Egypt	9	9	27	27	+ 18	+ 18
France	16	13	38	44	+ 22	+ 31
Germany	46	44	62	48	+ 16	+ 4
Holland	11	10	18	12	+ 7	+ 2
Italy	5	2	37	8	+ 32	+ 6
Japan	122	137	18	19	— 104	— 118
Persia	127	106	4	16	— 123	— 90
Siam	125	108	—	—	— 125	— 108
United States of America	48	48	269	409	+ 221	+ 361
Other Foreign Countries	248	230	145	120	— 103	— 110
Total Foreign Countries	776	736	649	729	— 127	— 7
Total Excluding Ships' Stores	2,275	2,144	2,356	2,521	+ 81	+ 377
Ships' Stores	—	—	175	164	+ 175	+ 164
Grand Total	2,275	2,144	2,531	2,685	+ 256	+ 541

The value of the imports from the British Empire as a whole was Rs. 9,000,000 less and the value of exports to the British Empire Rs. 10,000,000 more than in 1935 ; the former reduction is attributable to readjustment of the import value of rice to true c.i.f. value and the latter increase to improved prices for tea and rubber.

As compared with 1935 imports from the United Kingdom fell by 1½ millions and exports increased by 1 million rupees. The excess of Ceylon's exports to the United Kingdom over the corresponding imports was 76 million, 3,000,000 greater than in 1935, but 9,000,000 less than in 1934. Trade with the United Kingdom is more fully dealt with later in this report.

Imports from other Empire countries fluctuated as follows :—British India increased by 2 millions, Burma fell off by 7 millions. Exports increased by 1 million to Australia, 3 millions to British India, and 2½ millions to Canada. These were the only important trade fluctuations, but there was a slight but steady tendency among almost all Empire countries to spend more on Ceylon products.

The following are the respective percentages of imports and exports bought from and shipped to the United Kingdom, other Empire countries, and foreign countries by Ceylon in 1935 and 1936 (inclusive of ships' stores) :—

	Imported by Ceylon.		Exported by Ceylon.	
	1935. Per Cent.	1936. Per Cent.	1935. Per Cent.	1936. Per Cent.
United Kingdom	20½	21	51	49
Other Empire countries	45½	44½	21½	22¾
Foreign countries	34½	34½	27½	28¼

The distribution by source of import between the British Empire and foreign countries remained practically unchanged, while the British Empire share in the purchase of Ceylon products decreased by a little

less than 1 per cent. This change is attributable to the relative increase in the value of rubber compared with the corresponding increase in the other main products, since a far larger proportion of this commodity than of any other is sold to foreign buyers.

Of all the foreign countries trading with Ceylon, Japan regained the top place as an importer. Imports from Iran and Siam fell off owing to a drop in value and quantity of crude petroleum from Iran and a drop in value, though not in quantity of rice from Siam. Belgium made some advance as a supplier, otherwise the source of supply of foreign goods was but little changed. Of Ceylon's foreign customers the United States of America with her large purchases of rubber at enhanced prices improved her leading position. The two countries which restrict imports, viz., Germany and Italy, bought much less, the fall in exports to the latter country being of course intensified by the "Sanctions" restriction, and the only other notable feature was the increase of exports to Iran.

The following statement gives a comparative analysis of the country of origin of certain selected imports for 1932 (the last complete pre-preference year), 1933, 1934, 1935, and 1936 :—

	United Kingdom.					British Possessions.				
	1932. Per Cent.	1933. Per Cent.	1934. Per Cent.	1935. Per Cent.	1936. Per Cent.	1932. Per Cent.	1933. Per Cent.	1934. Per Cent.	1935. Per Cent.	1936. Per Cent.
Lubricating oil	15	43	56	65	59	—	—	—	—	—
Motor cars	88	92	81	82	89	3	3	9	5	2
Spare parts and accessories for motor vehicles	44	47	53	48	51	9	8	4	7	5
Exercise books	59	62	50	66	87	—	1	2	8	4
Haberdashery	38	32	35	31	27	10	7	8	15	10
Gramophones	86	78	68	72	59	6	5	17	13	8
Perfumery other than perfumed spirits	59	50	45	46	50	6	6	6	5	5
Cutlery	45	47	44	51	50	2	1	1	3	2
Photographic materials	64	59	62	59	43	—	9	11	11	10
Apparel (other than cotton garments, banians, canvas rubber shoes, and apparel n.e.s.)	44	47	39	39	30	10	9	9	8	6
Chemicals and disinfectants	61	56	70	64	50	14	28	17	13	11
Wireless goods	54	75	68	53½	46	1	—	—	—	—
Ham and bacon	—	69	62	52	41	—	12	12	9	7
Confectionery	76	80	84	83	81	5	2	2	3	2
Porcelain and Chinaware, n.e.s.	9	10	6	8	7	—	—	—	—	—
Earthenware and stoneware, n.e.s.	65	65	61	62	58	12	16	13	15	14
Electric lamp bulbs	—	73	81	77	81	—	—	—	—	—
Electric lighting accessories and fittings, n.e.s. (excluding batteries)	39	47	25	30	34	3	13	44	27	32
Cotton yarn and twist	26	41	49	45	47	72	56	49	55	51
Boots and shoes (excluding canvas rubber soled)	50	67	54	57	56	14	17	25	22	20
Paints and colours	77	82	74	77	79	2	2	8	8	9
Soap, household and laundry	98	97	99	99	99	½	—	—	½	½
Soap, toilet, perfumed or medicated	72	71	60	54	78	2	2	3	6	18
Methylated spirits	4	1	—	—	—	43	34	65	63	70

	British Empire.					Foreign Countries.				
	1932. Per Cent.	1933. Per Cent.	1934. Per Cent.	1935. Per Cent.	1936. Per Cent.	1932. Per Cent.	1933. Per Cent.	1934. Per Cent.	1935. Per Cent.	1936. Per Cent.
Lubricating oil	15	43	56	65	59	85	57	44	35	41
Motor cars	91	95	90	87	91	9	5	10	13	9
Spare parts and accessories for motor vehicles	53	55	57	55	56	47	45	43	45	44
Exercise books	59	63	52	74	91	41	37	48	26	9
Haberdashery	48	39	43	46	37	52	61	57	54	63
Gramophones	92	83	85	85	67	8	17	15	15	33
Perfumery other than perfumed spirits	65	56	51	51	55	35	44	49	49	45
Cutlery	47	48	45	54	52	53	52	55	46	48
Photographic materials	64	68	73	70	53	36	32	27	30	47
Apparel (other than cotton garments, banians, canvas rubber shoes, and apparel, n.e.s.)	54	56	48	47	36	46	44	52	53	64
Chemicals and disinfectants	75	74	87	77	61	25	26	13	23	39
Wireless goods	55	75	68	53½	46	45	25	32	46½	54
Ham and bacon	—	81	74	61	48	—	19	26	39	52
Confectionery	81	82	86	86	83	19	18	14	14	17
Porcelain and chinaware, n.e.s.	9	10	6	8	7	91	90	94	92	93
Earthenware and stoneware, n.e.s.	77	81	74	77	72	23	19	26	23	28
Electric lamp bulbs	—	73	81	77	81	—	27	19	23	19
Electric lighting accessories and fittings, n.e.s. (excluding batteries)	42	60	69	57	66	58	40	31	43	34
Cotton yarn and twist	98	97	98	100	98	2	3	2	—	2
Boots and shoes (excluding canvas rubber soled)	64	84	79	79	76	36	16	21	21	24
Paints and colours	79	84	82	85	88	21	16	18	15	12
Soap, household and laundry	98½	97	99	99½	99½	1½	3	1	½	½
Soap, toilet, perfumed or medicated	74	73	63	60	96	26	27	37	40	4
Methylated spirits	47	35	65	63	70	53	65	35	37	30

The changes in source of purchase of the selected articles above were not very marked. The United Kingdom made appreciable gains in respect of imports of motor cars (+ 7 per cent.) and toilet soap (+ 24 per cent.), the latter percentage gain having been obtained at the expense of foreign toilet soaps, especially Japanese. In 1935 soap duties thus appreciably benefited the United Kingdom while at the same time they reduced total imports by over 2,000 cwt. or 23 per cent. by volume. The United Kingdom import percentage of the following commodities was reduced :—Lubricating oil, gramophones, apparel, chemicals, wireless goods, and ham and bacon. Other changes were insignificant. Import percentages from the British Empire as a whole more or less conformed to the movements of the United Kingdom imports, Canada making a large gain in toilet soaps at the expense of the United States of America. The trend of foreign import percentages was of course in inverse rates to those of the Empire, and needs no separate comment.

The following are the comparative percentages for the last five years of the value of imports from, exports to, and total trade with the United Kingdom, British Possessions, and foreign countries. The figures are exclusive of coal, liquid fuel for bunkers, and other ships stores :—

	1932.* Per Cent.	1933. Per Cent.	1934. Per Cent.	1935. Per Cent.	1936. Per Cent.
Imports—					
From the United Kingdom	19·66	17·53	18·39	20·61	21·11
From British Possessions	47·59	46·81	42·69	45·27	44·57
From foreign countries	33·35	35·66	38·92	34·12	34·32
	100	100	100	100	100
Exports—					
To the United Kingdom	49·29	50·53	50·91	50·86	47·97
To British Possessions	23·02	19·84	16·82	21·59	23·14
To foreign countries	27·69	29·63	32·27	27·55	28·89
	100	100	100	100	100
Total trade—					
From and to United Kingdom	33·08	34·31	35·68	36·00	35·63
From and to British Possessions	36·23	33·12	28·96	33·23	32·98
From and to foreign countries	30·69	32·57	35·36	30·77	31·39
	100	100	100	100	100

The principal countries from which Ceylon imports are obtained with the percentage of the total supplied by each for the last four years are shown in the following table :—

	1933. Per Cent.	1934. Per Cent.	1935. Per Cent.	1936. Per Cent.
1. British India	21·27	20·15	19·48	21·49
2. United Kingdom	17·52	18·40	20·61	21·11
3. Burma	17·99	14·58	17·50	15·15
4. Japan	7·24	8·67	5·37	6·41
5. Siam	2·36	5·23	5·49	5·02
6. Iran	7·22	6·44	5·57	4·95
7. Sumatra	4·48	4·39	4·11	3·18
8. Java	3·16	2·85	2·72	2·73
9. Australia	2·56	2·37	2·31	2·44
10. United States of America	1·82	2·32	2·13	2·25
11. Germany	1·53	1·64	2·04	2·03
12. Maldive Islands	1·85	1·69	1·63	1·53
13. Borneo, excluding British	1·00	·01	0·48	0·55

British India has taken first place, Japan has risen from sixth to fourth, and Iran dropped from fourth to sixth place.

The value of imports and exports from and to Japan during the last fifteen years :—

Year.	Imports. Rs.	Exports. Rs.
1922	5,180,702	1,182,074
1923	5,447,478	1,183,060
1924	6,425,177	1,965,846
1925	7,141,718	1,363,091
1926	9,766,541	1,709,421

* Figures for 1932 exclude imported rubber.

Year.	Imports. Rs.	Exports. Rs.
1927	9,280,110	1,760,664
1928	9,856,383	1,639,160
1929	10,752,783	2,054,968
1930	9,246,910	1,499,823
1931	10,699,241	1,338,894
1932	13,231,206	1,200,475
1933	12,828,632	1,474,612
1934	18,816,688	1,499,071
1935	12,222,488	1,817,726
1936	13,741,473	1,866,635

Notes on Trade between Ceylon and certain selected Empire and Foreign Countries.

United Kingdom.—Imports Rs. 45 millions. Exports Rs. 120 millions. A decrease in total trade of one million.

The largest individual items, totalling over two millions each, are cotton piece goods bleached, printed and dyed and motor cars. There was an increase of 32 per cent. in imports of printed cotton piece goods; bleached and dyed remained almost stationary. Importations of motor cars fell by 20 per cent. and of lorries by 21 per cent. Importations of the less finished types of iron and steel were rather lower. Manure imports were considerably lower, sulphate of ammonia falling by 42 per cent. Coal fell by 14 per cent. Machinery imports were on the whole larger, notable increases being tea machinery (+52 per cent.) and prime movers (+37 per cent.). Electrical machinery however fell by 42 per cent. Cement imports increased by 17 per cent. Paints and colours increased by 7 per cent. ; lubricating oil fell by 12 per cent. Imports of heavy pneumatic tyres increased by 21 per cent. but car tyres decreased by 10 per cent. The absence of any serious malaria epidemic was marked by a reduction of 62 per cent. in imports of quinine and of 40 per cent. in milk foods, though per contra imports of preserved milk increased by 80 per cent. Laundry soap imports were steady, but toilet soap advanced by 45 per cent. There was not very much change in the food items. Paper imports were generally higher. Artificial silk made a noticeable advance of 60 per cent., and umbrellas, which received preference late in 1935. showed their appreciation by an increase of 47 per cent. Among other considerable increases in minor items were cotton thread (+23 per cent.), beer, ale and porter (+20 per cent.), and haberdashery and millinery. other (+ 28 per cent.), while there were decreases in sewing machines (—18 per cent.), cigarettes (—30 per cent.), chemicals (—14 per cent.), cotton piece goods, grey (—38 per cent.).

Exports : By far the most important item is of course tea, exports of which increased by 3 per cent. Desiccated coconut also increased (+24 per cent.) but rubber (—32 per cent.) and coconut oil (—10 per cent.) decreased. Fresh coconuts, fibre and yarn all decreased. The most spectacular feature of exports to the United Kingdom, however, was an increase of 210 per cent. in exports of cacao. Kapok (+57 per cent.) and cinnamon (+35 per cent.), both gained, but papain (—60 per cent.), plumbago (—15 per cent.), and citronella oil (—37 per cent.) fell off.

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PLEASING PROSPECTS.

The following table gives a comparative statement of the relation of Ceylon's trade with the United Kingdom to the trade of Ceylon and the United Kingdom respectively with other countries :—

	1930.	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.
Imports into Ceylon from the United Kingdom in thousands of rupees	63,619 ..	41,088 ..	37,365 ..	31,074 ..	39,943 ..	46,899 ..	45,333
Imports as above as per cent. of imports from all Empire countries	27·3% ..	26·1% ..	28·5% ..	27·2% ..	30·1% ..	31·3% ..	32·2%
(Imports from Empire countries in thousands of rupees)	233,169 ..	157,120 ..	131,012 ..	114,124 ..	132,625 ..	149,918 ..	140,872
Imports as above as per cent. of total imports of Ceylon	19·6% ..	18·0% ..	19·0% ..	17·5% ..	18·4% ..	20·6% ..	21·1%
Total imports of Ceylon in thousands of rupees ..	324,356 ..	228,196 ..	196,367 ..	177,347 ..	217,088 ..	227,535 ..	214,434
Imports as above as per cent. of total exports of the United Kingdom ..	Not available ..	0·52% ..	0·50% ..	0·48% ..	0·51% ..	0·49% ..	0·56%
(Total exports of the United Kingdom in £) ..	do. ..	594,169,636 ..	556,352,765 ..	482,643,406 ..	588,490,297 ..	710,118,275 ..	605,813,523*
(Equivalent in Rs. (1,000) calculated at Rs. 13·33 to the £)	do. ..	7,920,281 ..	7,416,182 ..	6,433,686 ..	7,844,575 ..	9,465,876 ..	8,075,494
Exports from Ceylon to the United Kingdom in thousands of rupees	136,800 ..	102,735 ..	83,944 ..	92,590 ..	125,090 ..	119,836 ..	120,958
Exports as above as per cent. of exports to all Empire countries	67·8% ..	65·3% ..	68·6% ..	71·7% ..	75·2% ..	70·2% ..	67·5%
(Exports to all Empire countries in thousands of rupees)	201,653 ..	157,343 ..	122,354 ..	129,010 ..	166,374 ..	170,699 ..	179,292
(Exports as above as per cent. of total exports of Ceylon	41·0% ..	41·5% ..	44·4% ..	46·2% ..	47·4% ..	47·3% ..	45%
Total exports of Ceylon in thousands of rupees)	333,248 ..	247,625 ..	189,055 ..	200,248 ..	263,887 ..	253,141 ..	268,592
Exports as above as per cent. of total imports of United Kingdom† ..	Not available ..	0·79% ..	0·73% ..	0·74% ..	0·92% ..	0·86% ..	0·76%
(Total imports of United Kingdom in £)	do. ..	967,960,967 ..	861,673,499 ..	937,054,779 ..	1,016,083,835 ..	1,041,453,808 ..	1,180,289,593*
Equivalent in Rs. (1,000) calculated at Rs. 13·33 to the £	do. ..	12,902,919 ..	11,486,107 ..	12,490,940 ..	13,544,397 ..	13,882,579 ..	15,733,260

N.B.—Figures are inclusive of Bullion and Specie, Postal articles and Ships' Stores.

* Uncorrected as obtained from the United Kingdom Trade Returns of 1936.

† From the United Kingdom Trade Returns.

British India (excluding Burma).—Imports Rs. 46 millions. Exports Rs. 15 millions. Total trade Rs. 61½ million, the same as in 1935.

The most important import item is rice. The returns show a drop of 7½ per cent. due to more accurate valuation of imports. The next in importance are dry and salt fish (+34 per cent.), cotton piece goods dyed (+17 per cent.), coal (+8 per cent.), rubber (+12 per cent.) (this is of course re-exported), onions (no change), pulses (+26 per cent.), dried chillies (—20 per cent.), gingelly poonac (+10 per cent.). Other gains of note are mixed piece goods (+50 per cent.), fish manure (+61 per cent.), cotton piece goods bleached (+25 per cent.), beedies (+30 per cent.), coriander (+65 per cent.), while notable decreases were grain (—50 per cent.), sulphate of ammonia (—54 per cent.), cummin seed (—33 per cent.), and paddy (—75 per cent.), the last named decrease being due of course to improved harvest in the Eastern Province.

Exports to British India as a whole rose by 28 per cent. The largest gainers were copra (+63 per cent.), arecanuts (+41 per cent.), and unmanufactured tobacco (+35 per cent.). Coconut oil (—13 per cent.), fresh coconuts (—11 per cent.), and tea (—27 per cent.) decreased.

Australia.—Imports Rs. 5,247,263. Exports Rs. 11,147,026. Total trade Rs. 16,394,289 (+6 per cent.). Total imports were about the same. The following goods showed increases :—butter (+11 per cent.), wheat (+11 per cent.), mutton (+13 per cent.) There were very greatly increased imports of sleepers and scantlings. The following decreased :—wheat flour (—10 per cent.), milk foods (—21 per cent.), apples and grapes (—4 per cent.), beef (—11 per cent.), and preserved milk (—46 per cent.). (The milk importations in 1935 were abnormal.)

Total exports increased by 9 per cent. Tea exports were little changed but rubber and cacao exports increased by about 100 per cent. each. Mattress fibre fell by 17 per cent.

Burma.—Imports Rs. 32,480,827. Exports Rs. 303,229. Total trade Rs. 32,784,056. The staple import from Burma is of course rice, imports of which fell in value (though not in volume) by 20 per cent. The decrease is mainly due to adjustment of value in the 1936 returns to the true value. Paddy fell by 41 per cent., gram by 12 per cent. There were increases in pig lead (+60 per cent.), teak logs (+49 per cent.), chillies, dried (+76 per cent.), and candles (+78 per cent.).

The only export of note is coconut oil, which fell by 44 per cent.

Canada.—Imports Rs. 427,760. Exports Rs. 10,009,168. Total trade Rs. 10,436,928 (+24 per cent.).

Imports decreased by 47 per cent. The main decreases were in motor lorries (no imports), motor cars (—71 per cent.). Imports of Canadian toilet soap, however, appeared upon the market for the first time in any considerable quantity.

Exports increased by 31 per cent. mainly owing to increased export values of tea (+57 per cent.) and rubber (+71 per cent.). Cacao (+ 154 per cent.) also improved, but exports of coconut oil decreased by 40 per cent.

New Zealand, Union of South Africa.—There were no marked changes.

Belgium.—Imports Rs. 2,923,878. Exports Rs. 2,598,973. Total trade Rs. 5,522,851 (+12 per cent.).

There were increases of imports of sulphate of ammonia (+214 per cent.), diamonds (+ 41 per cent.), iron and steel corrugated sheets (+210 per cent.), and coated plates and sheets (+83 per cent.). Plain plates and sheets decreased by 42 per cent. It looks as though the main increase (sulphate of ammonia) had been obtained at the expense of the United Kingdom. The increases in exports to Belgium include coconut poonac (+5 per cent.), bristle fibre (+10 per cent.), desiccated coconut (+8 per cent.), and tea (+51 per cent.). Rubber (—42 per cent.) and coconut oil (—50 per cent.) showed marked decreases.

France.—Imports Rs. 1,347,406. Exports Rs. 4,354,746. Total trade Rs. 5,702,152 (+ 10 per cent.).

Imports of the following goods increased :—muriate of potash (+34 per cent.), steel girders (+165 per cent). Imports of brandy (—19 per cent.), patent medicines (—20 per cent.), and coriander (—76 per cent.), all decreased. Exports as a whole increased by 22 per cent. The main increases were in rubber (+31 per cent.), tea (+26 per cent.), desiccated coconut (+51 per cent.), and bristle fibre (+81 per cent.). Coconut shell charcoal fell by 49 per cent.

Germany.—Imports Rs. 4,353,830. Exports Rs. 4,648,262. Total trade Rs. 9,002,092 (—15 per cent.).

Germany's efforts to balance artificially her import and export trade resulted in a decrease of 6 per cent. on imports and 23 per cent. on exports as compared with 1935.

Imports : Imports from Germany are spread over a large field and changes are less sensational than in the case of other countries. Some of the more important increases were glassware (+28 per cent.), manufactures of iron and steel, n.e.s. (+21 per cent.), uncoated plates and sheets (+ 20 per cent.), motor cars (+ 10 per cent.). Losses were registered in patent medicines (—22 per cent.), cement (—9 per cent.), lorries (—44 per cent.), coal (—53 per cent.), and cutlery (—8 per cent.).

Exports: The only noteworthy increase in exports was in tea (+83 per cent.). Decreases were recorded in rubber (—5 per cent.), desiccated coconut (—65 per cent.), coconut oil (—27 per cent.), coir yarn (—37 per cent.), and plumbago (—6 per cent.).

Holland.—Imports Rs. 999,486. Exports Rs. 1,185,936. Total trade Rs. 2,185,422 (—22 per cent.).

Imports generally decreased by 8½ per cent. The more important individual decreases were in vegetable ghee (—22 per cent.) and cotton piece goods, dyed (—84 per cent.). There were increases under milk preserved (+7 per cent.) and cheese (+5 per cent.). Exports fell by 31 per cent., the more important decreases being under rubber (—51 per cent.) and coconut oil (—64 per cent.). Desiccated coconut increased by 12 per cent.

Iran.—Imports Rs. 10,612,977. Exports Rs. 1,455,402. Total trade Rs. 12,068,379 (—8 per cent.).

Imports: The main import is crude oil which decreased by 17 per cent. The main export is tea, which increased by 300 per cent.

Iraq.—Imports Rs. 22,708. Exports Rs. 801,982. Total trade Rs. 824,690 (—28 per cent.).

Imports are negligible. Exports of tea fell by 34 per cent., the decrease being alleged to be due to smuggling into Iraq of uncouponed tea. Coconut oil increased by 12 per cent.

Italy.—Imports Rs. 197,580. Exports Rs. 759,914. Total trade Rs. 957,494 (—76 per cent.).

Trade with Italy, as was recorded last year, had been on the down grade. The imposition of sanctions did much to accelerate the shrinkage, and trade did not recover even after the lifting of sanctions in July. Potatoes, the most important item of importation, come on the Ceylon market in the second-half of the year, and were not much affected as compared with 1935. Other imports were negligible. The export item most affected was rubber, a prohibited export during sanctions, which fell by 85 per cent. Other important decreases were coconut oil (—42 per cent.), desiccated coconut (—20 per cent.), and tea (—30 per cent.).

Japan.—Imports Rs. 13,741,473. Exports Rs. 1,734,698. Total trade Rs. 15,476,171 (+11 per cent.).

The record of the Japanese import trade for 1936 shows an improvement in every important class of imports with the exception of cement (—7 per cent.), cotton banians (—18 per cent.), and garments other (—62 per cent.). In her largest single item silk and satin, the increase was only 4 per cent., but in other textiles her advance was much more noticeable, owing to the fact that a great deal of the excess over the quota imported in 1934 which fell to be deducted in subsequent years, was written off in 1935. In the regulated classes of textiles the increases were as follows :—cotton bleached (+57 per cent.), dyed (+56 per cent.), printed (+87 per cent.), artificial silk (+44 per cent.). (These figures represent, of course, only values. The percentage of increase in yardage was much less.) Other large single items which showed appreciable increases were tea chests (+25 per cent.), potatoes (+47 per cent.), silk garments (+49 per cent.), cotton manufactures, other (+112 per cent.), and tinned fish. But certainly the most striking feature of Japanese imports was the uniformity of increase in values which led a total increase of 13 per cent.

Exports : There was a negligible decrease in total exports to Japan, who is not a good customer of Ceylon. The main changes were an increase of 38 per cent. in tea and a decline of 30 per cent. in plumbago.

Java.—Imports Rs. 5,866,506. Exports Rs. 43,060. Total trade Rs. 5,909,566 (—5 per cent.).

Imports of sugar increased by 1 per cent. Coffee imports fell by 37 per cent. Tamarind imports increased by 137 per cent.

Siam.—Imports Rs. 10,770,669. Exports Rs. 65,263. Total trade Rs. 10,835,932 (—14 per cent.). The main imports are rice (—14 per cent.) and teak (—21 per cent.). The small export trade which consists entirely of tea increased by 10 per cent.

Spain.—Imports Rs. 139,750. Exports Rs. 397,515.

Import trade is negligible. There was a drop of 68 per cent. in exports. The export of coconut poonac virtually ceased. Desiccated coconut fell by 47 per cent., cinnamon by 46 per cent., rubber by 66 per cent.

Sumatra.—Imports Rs. 6,823,095. Exports Rs. 23,133. Total trade Rs. 6,846,228 (—27 per cent.).

Imports of motor spirits (—20 per cent.) and kerosene oil (—39 per cent.) fell considerably, though the actual quantities entered for duty fell by a much smaller percentage.

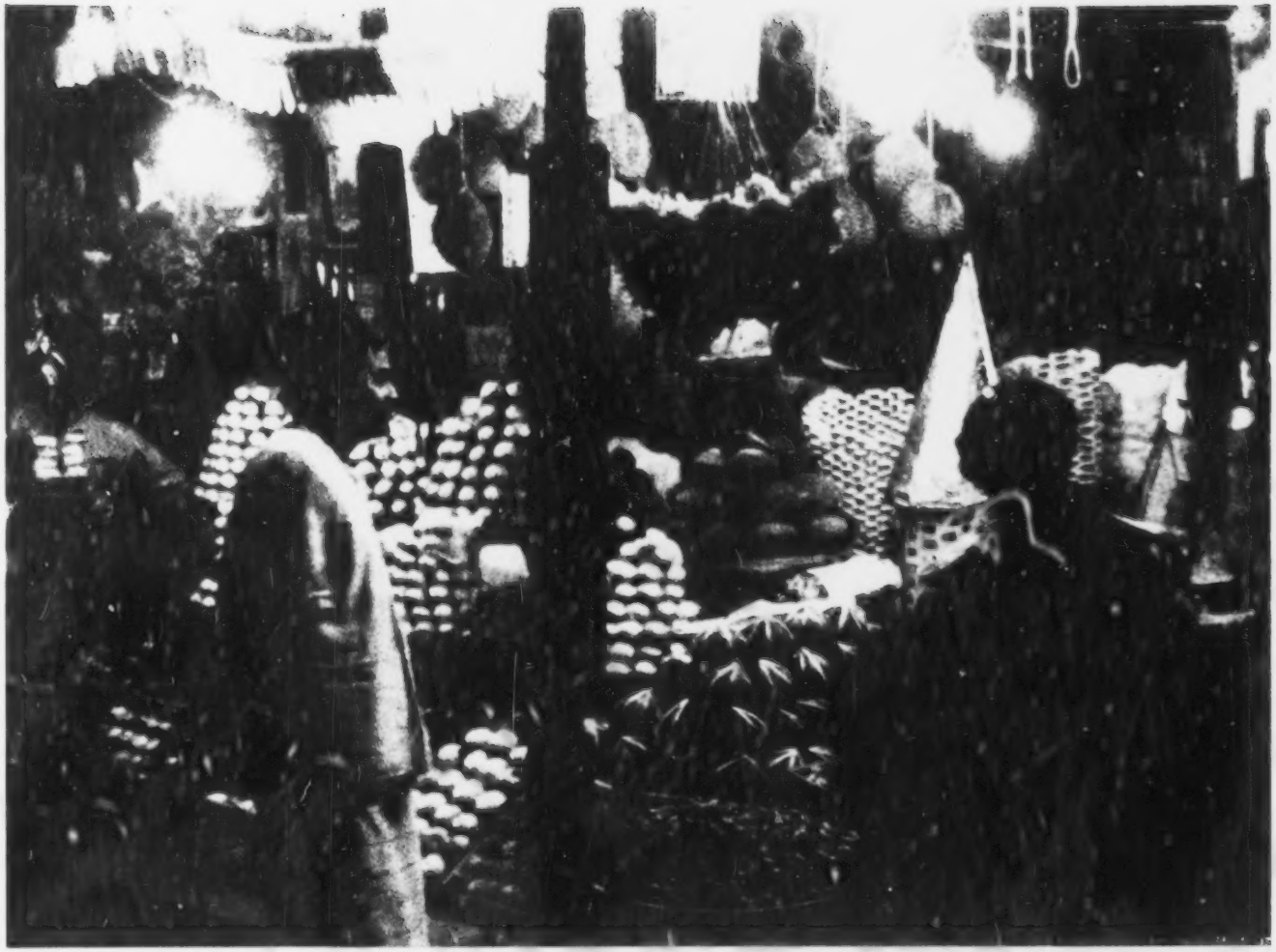
United States of America.—Imports Rs. 4,830,093. Exports Rs. 37,680,689. Total trade Rs. 42,510,782 (+39 per cent.).

Statement of Quantities and Values of the Principal Articles imported for Home Consumption, the Duties collected thereon, and the Shares of the Chief Exporting Countries.

Class I.—Food, drink, and tobacco—		Quantities. 1935.	Quantities. 1936.	Values. 1935. Rs.	Values. 1936. Rs.	Duties. 1935. Rs.	Duties. 1936. Rs.	Chief Sources of Supply and their approximate Percentages of the Total Value for 1936.
Rice	cwt.	10,665,061	10,418,782	61,654,082	51,618,567	10,665,190	10,419,337	Burma 59 British India 20 Siam 19
Other grains	cwt.	1,177,665	937,079	5,259,645	4,660,135	711,656	583,563	British India 52 Burma 19
Wheat flour	cwt.	383,349	287,998	2,325,232	2,139,017	766,729	575,564	Australia 93
Bran and pollard	cwt.	202,924	193,328	781,089	752,727	—	—	British India 87 Burma 8
Gingelly poonac	cwt.	213,049	266,791	1,376,692	1,507,832	74,621	94,048	British India 100
Meat	cwt.	18,637	17,943	812,518	767,200	137,150	144,841	Australia 60 United Kingdom 17
Goats and sheep	No.	35,820	31,890	673,685	616,962	—	—	British India 94 Arabia 5
Beer, ale, and porter	gals.	279,126	317,342	477,874	555,349	324,123	366,571	United Kingdom 47
Biscuits	lb.	611,355	827,450	431,901	446,149	65,359	68,768	Japan 32 United Kingdom 91
Butter	lb.	852,896	803,786	456,405	498,169	73,916	75,471	Irish Free State 4 Australia 88
Coffee	lb.	3,640,837	2,426,731	639,051	407,928	364,088	242,667	British India 10 Java 97
Confectionery	lb.	900,383	933,895	487,674	496,384	80,168	83,989	British India 2 United Kingdom 81
Chillies	cwt.	159,293	157,010	2,310,945	1,999,147	199,128	196,325	Belgium 8 British India 88
Other curry stuffs	cwt.	168,947	161,809	1,559,163	1,273,336	241	47	Burma 7 British India 67
Eggs	No.	138,384	140,637	2,918	3,000	4,165	4,230	Straits Settlements 11
Cured fish	cwt.	342,802	381,586	8,065,612	10,024,655	440,265	437,121	British India 100
Maldive fish	cwt.	65,743	79,906	3,704,636	3,303,715	131,256	159,824	British India 70 Other British Poss. Asia 11 Other For. Coun. in Asia 10 Maldive Islands 98
Fish, tinned	cwt.	11,887	16,932	245,582	300,062	46,833	57,184	British India 2 Japan 68 United States of America 14
Fresh fruits	cwt.	40,734	33,488	770,601	657,699	121,220	100,197	Australia 52 United States of America 33
Milk, preserved	lb.	2,876,064	3,488,052	834,934	853,177	—	—	United Kingdom 43 Holland 32
Milk foods	lb.	746,288	526,892	1,497,765	1,006,202	—	—	United Kingdom 48 Australia 43
Onions	cwt.	567,766	608,831	1,943,554	2,012,134	113,595	121,814	British India 100
Potatoes	cwt.	208,982	239,956	1,199,655	1,316,220	209,003	239,968	Japan 43 British India 27

Statement of Quantities and Values of the Principal Articles imported for Home Consumption, the Duties collected thereon, and the Shares of the Chief Exporting Countries—*contd.*

		Quantities.		Values.		Duties.		Chief Sources of Supply and their approximate Percentages of the Total Value for 1936.	
		1935.	1936.	1935. Rs.	1936. Rs.	1935. Rs.	1936. Rs.		
Brandy	Imp. gal.	37,435	33,785	440,921	379,283	577,385	524,027	France Australia	86 14
Gin	Imp. gal.	23,893	25,426	181,354	195,719	486,751	515,064	United Kingdom Holland	60 40
Whisky	Imp. gal.	61,799	63,793	847,782	877,041	874,522	901,373	United Kingdom	99
Sugar, refined	cwt.	1,347,137	1,468,135	5,887,241	6,531,232	7,409,340	7,976,892	Java Portuguese East Africa	81 15
Jaggery and unrefined sugar	cwt.	39,326	51,753	256,879	322,940	59,107	77,614	British India Straits Settlements	63 28
Wines	gal.	55,699	55,324	427,555	385,342	185,941	181,532	France Spain United Kingdom	30 29 24
Cigarettes	lb.	58,430	44,649	326,837	235,032	371,247	277,722	United Kingdom Japan	96 2
Other tobacco manufactured, including beedies and cigars	lb.	71,536	87,373	236,021	291,961	285,739	355,541	British India United Kingdom	84 10
Tobacco unmanufactured	lb.	926,418	1,115,787	653,663	821,147	2,090,955	2,585,418	United States of America British India	89 9
All other goods		—	—	2,924,141	2,861,257	527,981	517,552	—	
Class II.—Raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured—									
Coal	tons	436,984	405,536	6,717,318	6,586,306	—	—	Union of South Africa British India	53 35
Asphalt	cwt.	274,913	208,064	758,206	623,564	23,041	36,343	Egypt United States of America	71 23
Timber (exc. ceiling boards)	tons	9,622	13,103	1,037,007	1,421,581	182,399	206,183	Siam Australia	37 30
Liquid fuel	gal.	74,972,074	67,661,622	13,594,424	11,606,717	—	—	Iran Borneo non-British	89 10
Vegetable oils (other than essential)	cwt.	46,779	60,630	143,806	211,871	3,334	21,697	United Kingdom British India	56 42
Rubber	lb.	8,390,609	7,735,605	2,419,488	2,703,953	—	—	British India Straits Settlements	74 26
Manures	cwt.	1,513,810	1,627,880	5,678,829	5,939,931	10,387	296,186	British India Belgium	36 24
All other Goods		—	—	2,229,534	1,621,711	202,278	152,052	—	
Class III.—Articles wholly or mainly manufactured—									
Tiles	cwt.	224,259	233,484	344,671	349,244	53,711	57,959	British India United Kingdom	87 8



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LUSCIOUS FRUIT.

Glass and glassware	cwt.	50,102	51,669	707,442	758,243	99,176	107,358	Japan	43
								United Kingdom	23
Cement	cwt.	1,120,959	1,241,336	1,385,170	1,366,287	480,469	512,988	United Kingdom	48
								Japan	39
Ferrous metals and metalware	cwt.	732,449	777,251	6,554,026	6,937,142	770,521	849,053	United Kingdom	60
								Belgium	12
								Germany	9
Non-ferrous metals and metalware	cwt.	86,413	96,217	2,204,738	2,377,609	202,926	241,895	United Kingdom	45
								Burma	17
								British India	16
Agricultural implements	doz.	23,134	26,828	358,123	480,459	32,414	26,815	United Kingdom	97
Electrical goods		—	—	1,899,414	2,072,656	223,507	241,568	United Kingdom	62
								United States of America	15
Machinery	cwt.	56,099	63,339	3,992,878	4,092,787	517,006	535,740	United Kingdom	82
								United States of America	9
Cotton piece goods	yds.	55,647,686	66,800,446	14,005,111	16,265,931	1,214,539	956,457	United Kingdom	52
								British India	30
								Japan	15
Cotton thread	lb.	119,033	146,977	357,952	466,664	53,956	71,666	United Kingdom	86
								Holland	9
Woollen manufactures		—	—	772,491	684,956	126,723	112,613	United Kingdom	72
Textile manufactures of mixed materials		—	—	883,642	1,148,909	137,307	188,132	Japan	16
								British India	77
								United Kingdom	12
Silk manufactures and satin		—	—	2,771,296	2,934,686	677,505	701,674	Japan	82
								British India	11
Artificial silk	yds.	2,958,420	3,641,689	1,309,721	1,567,386	296,486	344,619	Japan	63
								United Kingdom	23
Jute hessians	yds.	1,931,912	1,636,626	307,755	242,465	30,776	24,245	British India	99
Gunny bags	doz.	18,501	11,897	60,642	35,762	6,067	3,592	British India	98
Apparel (excluding boots and shoes)		—	—	3,304,491	2,783,438	566,145	505,060	Japan	55
								United Kingdom	25
Boots and shoes (canvas, rubber-soled)	doz. pairs	17,773	19,333	86,369	112,706	13,161	16,922	Japan	96
								United Kingdom	3
Other boots and shoes	doz. pairs	20,211	18,736	543,954	486,503	91,117	82,339	United Kingdom	56
								British India	16
Chemicals not elsewhere specified	cwt.	18,631	15,928	376,132	399,148	52,537	60,076	United Kingdom	49
								British India	23
Patent medicines other than quinine preparations	cwt.	4,401	3,983	1,075,906	1,020,085	160,819	151,784	United Kingdom	38
								United States of America	21
Other drugs, including quinine preparations	cwt.	115,547	32,499	2,143,670	940,454	39,865	36,897	United Kingdom	88
								British India	7
Paints and colours	cwt.	28,631	33,224	775,449	817,797	114,447	115,761	United Kingdom	79
								British India	8
Kerosene oil	gal.	7,319,158	7,031,076	3,896,262	2,425,940	1,807,318	1,739,315	Sumatra	98
Motor spirits	gal.	10,012,276	9,275,826	5,453,063	4,402,112	6,482,629	6,008,617	Sumatra	100
Lubricating oil	gal.	797,159	778,730	945,030	915,651	318,130	321,022	United Kingdom	59
								United States of America	40
Soap, laundry	cwt.	40,958	42,713	815,841	858,391	95,366	195,091	United Kingdom	100

Statement of Quantities and Values of the Principal Articles imported for Home Consumption, the Duties collected thereon, and the Shares of the Chief Exporting Countries—*contd.*

		Quantities.		Values.		Duties.		Chief Sources of Supply and their approximate Percentages of the Total Value for 1936
		1935.	1936.	1935.	1936.	1935.	1936.	
				Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Soap, toilet	cwt.	9,581	7,398	525,717	533,854	107,822	113,069	United Kingdom 78 Canada 13
Paper, writing and printing	cwt.	81,076	98,308	972,200	1,119,267	39,427	23,072	United Kingdom 44 Finland 20
Paper, packing and wrapping	cwt.	150,737	135,220	698,641	593,673	108,320	105,523	United Kingdom 76 Sweden 11
Motor cars	No.	2,384	1,801	4,277,903	3,202,668	895,009	660,678	United Kingdom 89 United States of America 5
Motor lorries	No.	947	601	1,945,133	1,102,590	365,698	268,258	United States of America 54 United Kingdom 42
Cycles	No.	10,151	11,678	442,059	462,509	66,224	80,049	United Kingdom 95 Japan 5
Motor spares and accessories		—	—	779,203	665,237	156,649	110,294	United Kingdom 51 United States of America 24
Pneumatic tyres	No.	75,333	106,636	1,217,886	1,250,291	182,324	186,125	United Kingdom 70 Japan 17
Pneumatic tubes	No.	64,860	86,662	132,420	112,916	19,975	16,933	United Kingdom 73 Japan 14
Printed books	No.	826,272	849,307	393,137	438,065	—	—	British India 53 United Kingdom 43
Cinema films	reels	3,644	4,930	311,311	363,174	28,115	48,082	United States of America 54 British India 28
Haberdashery		—	—	412,428	458,342	101,579	115,222	Japan 35
Matches	gross boxes	116,800	12,608	178,672	3,257	234,158	25,220	United Kingdom 27 United Kingdom 100
Perfumery (other than spirits)	cwt.	3,790	5,280	499,468	530,185	101,181	105,112	United Kingdom 50 United States of America 30
Tea chests	No.	2,785,456	3,049,994	2,456,587	2,829,921	122,830	141,496	Japan 36 Finland 33
Umbrellas	doz.	34,897	52,131	359,171	489,019	53,311	62,549	Japan 53 United Kingdom 46
All other goods		—	—	12,549,916	12,196,642	2,281,638	1,487,281	— —

DIAGRAM No. 8

VALUES OF MAIN EXPORTS (CEYLON PRODUCE)

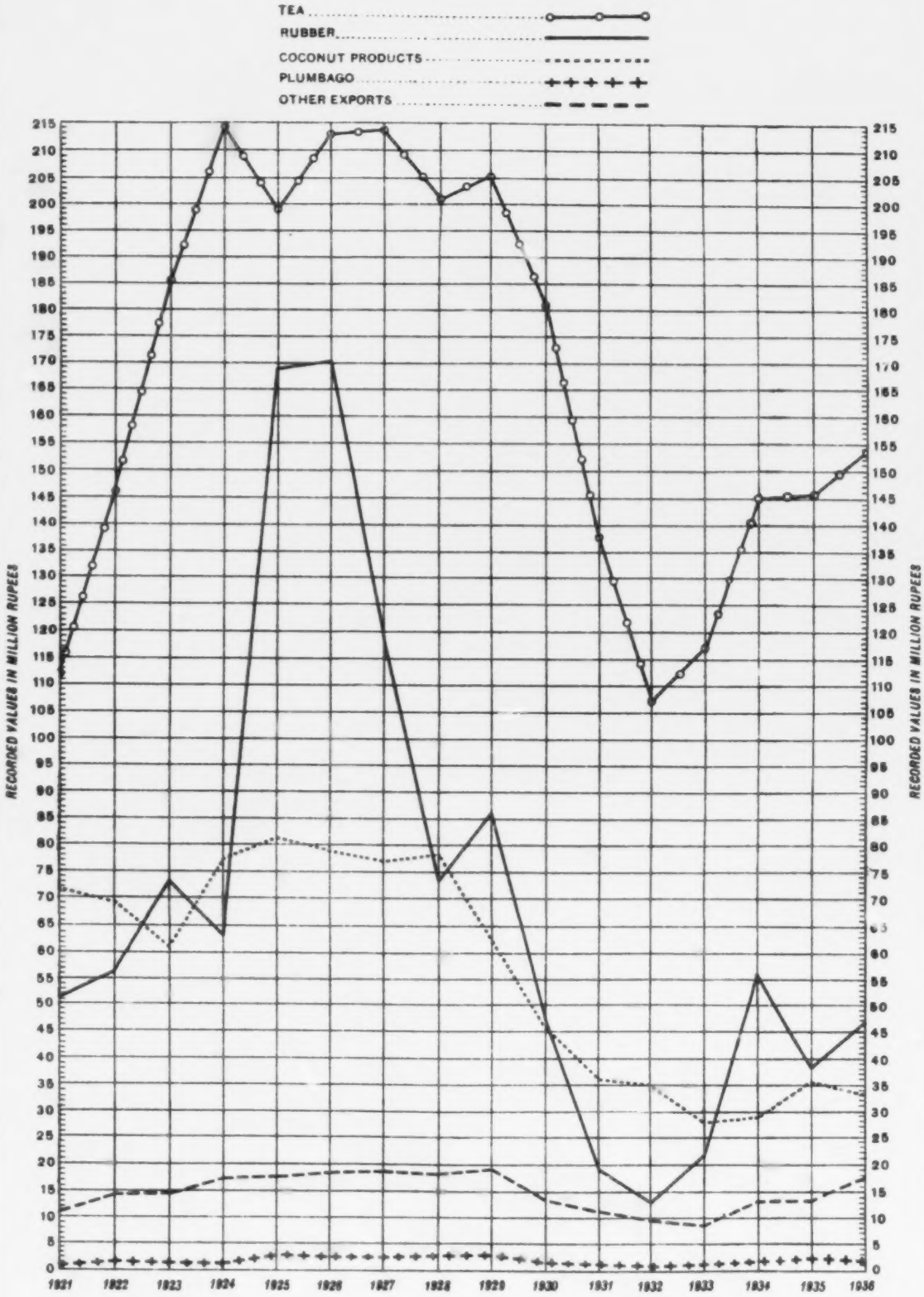

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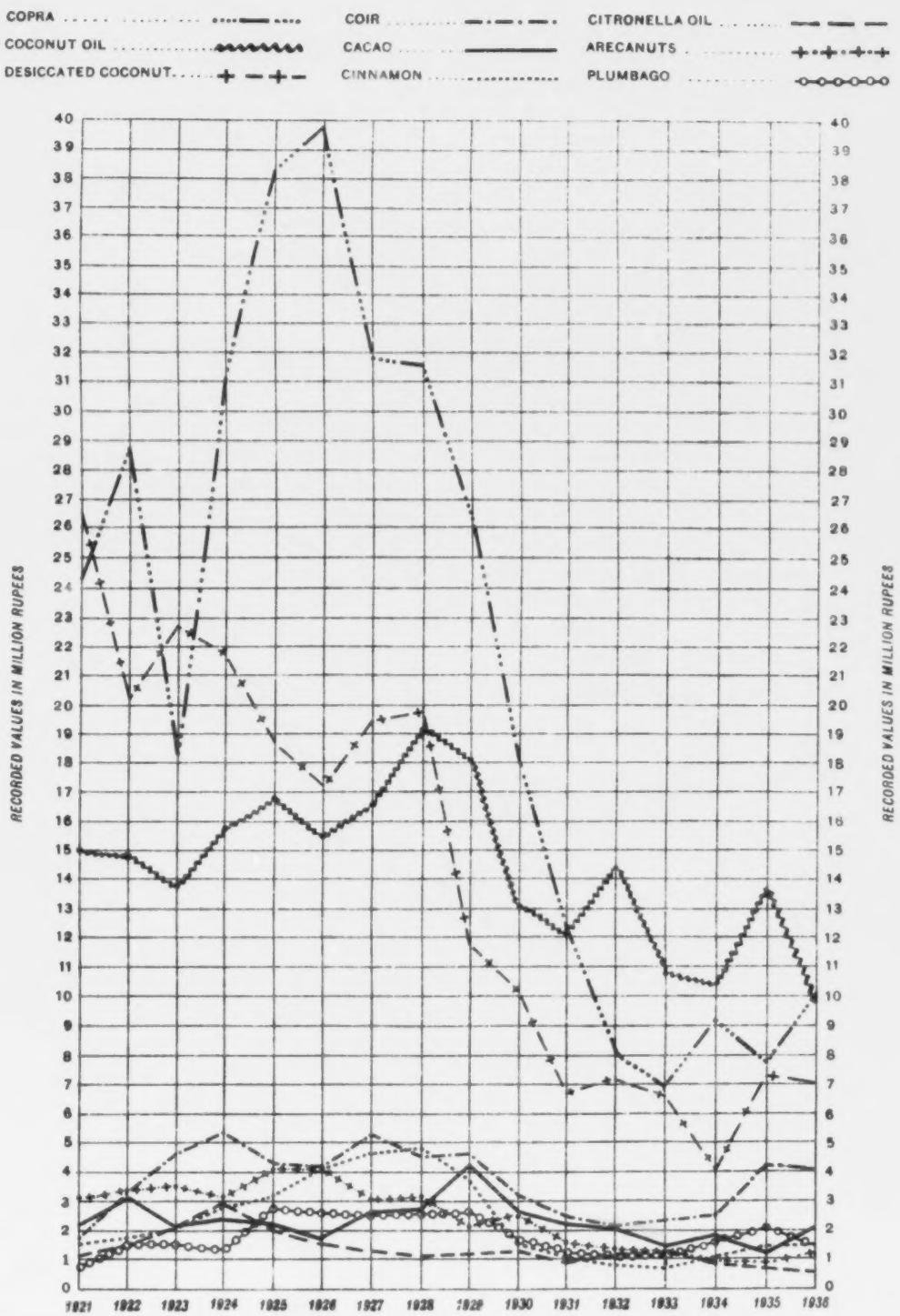
DIAGRAM No. 9

VALUES OF MAIN EXPORTS UNDER 40 MILLION RUPEES



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Statement of the Quantities and the Values of the Staple Products exported from Ceylon, the duties collected thereon and the Shares of the Chief Importing Countries.

		Quantity.		Value.		Duties.		Percentage of the Total Value for 1936 taken by each of the Chief Importing Countries. (Approximate.)
		1935.	1936.	1935.	1936.	1935.	1936.	
				Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Tea	lb.	212,153,102	218,149,441	145,763,782	153,391,659	4,594,712	4,363,372	United Kingdom 68 Australia 6 United States of America 5
Copra	cwt.	975,213	1,035,476	7,818,398	10,077,212	—	—	British India 95 Greece 2
Coconut oil	cwt.	1,109,353	689,229	13,646,579	9,948,909	—	—	British India 27 United Kingdom 18 Canada 13
Coconut, desiccated	cwt.	664,354	601,774	7,307,560	7,041,825	—	—	United Kingdom 59 Germany 9
Coconut fibre	cwt.	702,887	815,996	2,987,521	3,122,137	—	—	United Kingdom 25 Japan 21 Belgium 9
Coconut poonac	cwt.	467,565	303,216	1,600,861	1,146,527	—	—	Belgium 95 France 4
Coir yarn	cwt.	107,367	86,242	1,107,916	812,937	—	—	United Kingdom 31 Germany 28
Coconut, fresh	No.	20,885,213	16,891,569	1,111,077	916,054	—	—	British India 47 United Kingdom 25
Cacao	lb.	7,780,376	58,921 cwt.	1,298,993	2,030,548	—	—	Philippine Islands 36 United Kingdom 25
Cardamoms	cwt.	2,362	2,335	274,751	425,907	—	—	United States of America 17 Denmark 14
Cinnamon	cwt.	46,425	46,738	1,490,016	1,585,784	—	—	Mexico 34 Germany 10 United States of America 9
Cinnamon oil (leaf and bark)	oz.	2,491,197	3,185,456	233,234	444,099	—	—	United States of America 72 Straits Settlements 10
Citronella oil	lb.	1,399,764	1,271,039	686,418	513,268	—	—	United States of America 45 United Kingdom 19
Plumbago	cwt.	278,168	270,295	2,064,518	1,516,968	—	—	United States of America 31 Japan 28
Rubber	lb.	120,478,543	111,823,140	38,393,614	46,840,344	—	—	United States of America 58 United Kingdom 14
Arecanuts	cwt.	93,383	106,825	890,698	1,202,541	—	—	British India 88 Maldive Islands 5
Unmanufactured tobacco	lb.	1,972,383	2,665,740	433,923	584,262	—	—	British India 100
Skins, dressed and undressed	cwt.	17,257	15,560	341,692	355,251	—	—	British India 66 United Kingdom 13
Papain	lb.	155,274	227,963	638,516	447,165	—	—	United States of America 69 United Kingdom 29
All other goods		—	—	1,951,169	2,011,322	—	—	—

Total import values were practically unchanged. The following were the main increases :—tobacco unmanufactured (+25 per cent.), lubricating oil (+12 per cent.), patent medicine (+23 per cent.), cinematograph films (+52 per cent.). The following decreases were recorded :—motor lorries (—12 per cent.), apples and grapes (—10 per cent.), motor cars (—60 per cent.).

Total export values increased by no less than 46 per cent. As might be expected, this increase was largely due to rubber (+69 per cent.). The quantitative increase was comparatively trivial and the rise is almost entirely due to recovery in rubber prices. Other noteworthy increases were tea (+9 per cent.), cinnamon leaf oil (+106 per cent.), papain (+20 per cent.), mattress fibre (+23 per cent.), and cinnamon (+10 per cent.). A decrease was recorded in plumbago (—28 per cent.).

The principal countries buying Ceylon produce and manufactures are shown in the following table with the percentage of value taken by each :—

	1934. Per Cent.	1935. Per Cent.	1936. Per Cent.
1. United Kingdom	51·41	51·68	49·02
2. United States of America	13·85	11·17	15·41
3. British India	3·79	5·22	6·31
4. Australia	3·71	4·43	4·15
5. Canada	2·77	3·31	4·09
6. Union of South Africa	2·35	3·31	3·32
7. New Zealand	2·09	2·82	2·84
8. Germany	2·54	2·61	1·9
9. France	2·02	1·55	1·78
10. Egypt	1·39	1·18	1·06
11. Belgium	1·46	1·31	1·06
12. Holland	1·81	·74	·48
13. Italy	2·31	1·55	·31

France has risen from the tenth place to ninth place and Egypt from thirteenth place to tenth place, while Italy has dropped from ninth place to thirteenth place.

The export duties recovered during the last five years were—

	1932. Rs.	1933. Rs.	1934. Rs.	1935. Rs.	1936. Rs.
Tea	5,980,236	4,786,824	4,856,033	4,594,712	4,363,272
Cacao	65,940	43,681	41,022	—	—

Duty withdrawn from October 6, 1934.

The duty on tea was reduced from Rs. 2·15 to Rs. 2 per 100 lb. as from October 1.

The true average values* of the principal products of Ceylon exported during 1934, 1935, and 1936 are shown in the following statement :—

		1934. Rs. c.	1935. Rs. c.	1936. Rs. c.
Tea	per lb.	0 66½†	0 70†	0 71½†
Tea	,,	0 65 9/10‡	0 65 6/7‡	0 67 9/10‡
Rubber	,,	0 31¾	0 31 9/10	0 41 4/5
Cacao	per cwt.	22 15½	18 72¾	34 42 2/5
Copra	,,	4 38¼	8 1⅞	9 73 3/5
Desiccated coconuts	,,	6 39¼	10 0	11 69¾
Coconuts, fresh	per 1,000	19 36½	53 19 9/10	54 23 1/7
Coconut oil	per cwt.	7 48⅞	12 30½	14 44
Cinnamon quills	,,	29 47½	36 91½	39 18½
Cinnamon chips	,,	6 25 9/10	7 23½	8 38⅜
Fibre, bristle	,,	4 31½	5 22¾	5 83 3/10
Fibre, mattress	,,	1 50¾	3 79¼	2 97 3/5
Citronella oil	per lb.	0 52⅝	0 49	0 40⅓
Plumbago	per cwt.	7 15	7 42½	5 61¼
Coir yarn	,,	9 64¾	10 31 9/10	9 42½
Coconut poonac	,,	2 70¾	3 42½	3 78⅛
Cardamoms	,,	103 44⅞	116 32¼	182 40 1/7
Papain	per lb.	5 69½	4 11¼	1 96⅛
Unmanufactured tobacco	,,	0 24	0 22	0 21 11/12
Arecanuts	per cwt.	9 53¾	9 53¾	11 25¾

* Obtained from published reports of market quotations.
† United Kingdom.
‡ Other countries.

In 1936 the tea prices rose to 77½ cents per lb. in February. A further increase of 3 per cent. was noticed in the average price for the year as compared with 1935 and the average in December was 73 cents, as against 67 cents in December, 1935. A striking improvement was seen in the prices of all the primary products of the Island with the exception of mattress fibre, coir yarn, plumbago, and citronella oil.

In March, 1936, the price of rubber topped 40 cents for the first time since 1929 and thereafter made a uniform progress reaching 49⅙ cents in December, 1936, as compared with 33¾ cents in December, 1935.

Notes on Principal Imports.

Rice.—The total quantity imported was nearly 2 per cent. less than in 1935. Burma remained the chief source of supply but the quantity imported thence showed a decrease of 365,681 cwt. as compared with the previous year. The imports from British India and Siam showed slight increase. The decrease in the total imports from this source was chiefly due to increased local production as compared with 1935, when a crop failure was experienced. Natural increase in demand prevented the deficit being any greater.

The following table shows the fluctuations of price during 1936 in respect of Indian, Rangoon, and Siam rice :—

	Indian Samba Rice per Bushel. c.i.f. Rs. c.	Rangoon Milchard Rice per Bushel. c.i.f. Rs. c.	Siam Broken Rice per Bushel. c.i.f. Rs. c.
January	3 55	2 85	2 70
February	3 45	2 45	2 10
March	3 55	2 55	2 15
April	3 85	2 65	2 25
May	3 68	2 75	2 25
June	3 85	2 70	2 30
July	3 75	2 75	2 25
August	3 75	2 75	2 35
September	3 70	2 75	2 25
October	3 70	2 70	2 45
November	3 75	2 70	2 40
December	3 75	2 75	2 35

The imports in 1935 and 1936 from the chief supplying countries are shown in the following table :—

	Quantity.		Value.	
	1935. Cwt.	1936. Cwt.	1935. Rs.	1936. Rs.
Burma	6,955,563	6,589,882	37,813,446	30,467,743
British India	1,368,409	1,467,320	11,130,839	10,389,536
Siam	2,178,240	2,230,695	11,820,607	10,173,437
Straits Settlements	78,501	41,674	430,023	184,898
Cochin China	81,317	88,554	442,872	399,164
India, non-British	2,963	606	15,863	2,992
Other countries	68	51	432	797
	10,665,061	10,418,782	61,654,082	51,618,567

Other Grain.—The chief imports under this head are again paddy, pulses, and gram. Eighty per cent. of the paddy came from Burma and 72 per cent. of the pulses and 55 per cent. of the gram came from British India. The imports of paddy decreased by 57 per cent. as compared with 1935, owing to a much more successful harvest in the Eastern Province and elsewhere.

Imports in 1934, 1935, and 1936 are shown below :—

	1934 Cwt.	1935 Cwt.	1936 Cwt.
Paddy ..	228,322	482,539	207,214
Pulse ..	406,575	407,386	516,313
Gram ..	117,619	176,866	112,537

The following table shows the quantity of rice and other grain imported during the period 1927–1936 :—

Year.	Rice. Cwt.	Other Grain. Cwt.	Year.	Rice. Cwt.	Other Grain. Cwt.
1927	9,087,264	1,013,840	1932	8,839,055	920,224
1928	9,244,691	1,310,637	1933	8,797,918	748,182
1929	9,380,556	1,242,349	1934	9,552,623	782,906
1930	9,259,873	950,443	1935	10,665,061	1,177,665
1931	8,732,548	876,810	1936	10,418,782	937,079

Wheat Products.—Australia supplied 93 per cent. of the wheat flour imported during 1936. The total quantity imported showed a decrease of 25 per cent. as compared with 1935.

The following table shows the imports during 1934, 1935, and 1936 :—

	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1934	339,988	2,267,120
1935	383,349	2,325,232
1936	287,998	2,139,017

Feeding Stuffs for Animals.—The chief imports under this head are gingelly poonac, and bran and pollard, the bulk of which came from British India. There was a slight decrease in the imports of bran and pollard, while the imports of gingelly poonac increased by over 54,000 cwt.

Spirits, Brandy, Whisky, and Gin.—The quantity of whisky cleared for home consumption showed an increase over 3 per cent. as compared with 1935, while there was a further drop in the quantity of Brandy cleared for home consumption during 1936. Gin, however, increased slightly.

The quantities cleared for home consumption during the last five years are shown in the following table :—

	Proof Gallons.				
	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.
Brandy	29,209	29,419	36,069	31,274	28,292
Gin	25,978	21,253	23,512	19,507	20,649
Whisky	39,101	47,267	56,060	47,391	49,040

Sugar, including Candy, &c.—The imports increased over those of the previous year by 121 000 cwt. or 9 per cent. Java supplied 82 per cent. of the total imports. The c.i.f. price remained at less than 5 cents per pound. The steady increase in imports since the slump in 1932 is interesting.

The quantities imported in recent years are as follows :—

Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Year.	Quantity. Cwt.
1922	524,674	1932	1,029,813
1925	794,267	1933	1,170,759
1928	1,193,588	1934	1,275,366
1929	1,250,058	1935	1,347,137
1930	1,430,396	1936	1,468,135
1931	1,424 [illegible]		

Tobacco, Cigars, and Cigarettes.—Increased importations were recorded under all kinds of tobacco and manufactures thereof, with the exception of cigarettes. The imports of beedies, unmanufactured tobacco, and manufactured tobacco have increased by 24 per cent., 20 per cent., and 11 per cent., respectively, as compared with 1935, while there has been a marked drop of 22 per cent. in cigarettes. The imported cigarettes are being replaced by the locally manufactured article. Japan was the only country that registered an increase of 1,904 lb. in the importation of cigarettes as compared with 1935. Ninety-six per cent. of the total imports came from the United Kingdom and beedies solely from British India, while 85 per cent. of the unmanufactured tobacco came from the United States of America.

The total quantity of tobacco entered for home consumption reached the highest figure recorded since 1927, there being an increase of nearly 192,000 lb. or 18 per cent. over 1935.

The quantities of the various classes of tobacco cleared for home consumption during the past ten years are as follows :—

Year.	Unmanufactured Tobacco. lb.	Cigars. lb.	Cigarettes. lb.	Manufactured Tobacco. lb.	Beedies. lb.	Total. lb.
1927	13,992	7,106	568,109	26,078	75,687	690,972
1928	115,901	6,817	556,314	13,952	76,895	769,879
1929	217,495	5,853	584,227	14,021	70,571	892,167
1930	555,321	4,276	316,749	12,326	57,653	946,325
1931	872,141	3,144	133,414	10,134	44,428	1,063,261
1932	673,422	2,717	86,201	6,364	20,254	788,958
1933	721,043	2,136	88,056	5,976	28,509	845,720
1934	1,011,009	2,627	55,404	6,017	50,473	1,125,530
1935	926,418	2,451	58,430	7,697	61,388	1,056,384
1936	1,115,787	2,601	44,649	8,545	76,227	1,247,809

Coal.—The imports of coal decreased from 436,948 tons in 1935 to 405,536 tons in 1936. Union of South Africa was the chief supplier sending about 54 per cent. of the total imports.

The following are the imports in 1936 from the chief supplying countries :—

	Tons.
Union of South Africa	218,595
British India	151,821
United Kingdom	28,412

Liquid Fuel.—The imports of liquid fuel showed a marked decrease of 7,310,000 gallons as compared with the previous year. It should however be remembered that the arrival of two or three tankers one side or other of New Year's day may appreciably affect the year's release, and the decrease should be discounted accordingly. Actually the imports in January, 1937, reached a record figure. Iran supplied 89 per cent. and Non-British Borneo 10 per cent. of the total imports. 59,522,000 gallons were shipped as bunkers, the quantity remaining for local consumption being 8,139,000 gallons, as compared with 10,218,000 gallons in 1935.

The total imports of liquid fuel during the last three years were—

Year.	Quantity. Gallons.	Value. Rs.
1934	69,585,939	12,528,743
1935	74,972,074	13,594,424
1936	67,661,622	11,606,717

Manure.—The imports of manure showed an increase of about 7 per cent. as compared with 1935.

The following table shows the total imports of manure during the last five years :—

Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1932	1,508,451	6,120,067
1933	782,323	2,825,436
1934	1,629,364	5,823,294
1935	1,513,810	5,678,829
1936	1,627,880	5,939,931

The chief kinds of manure and the countries from which they were mainly imported in 1936 are shown in the following table :—

	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.	Country.
Sulphate of ammonia	503,004	2,334,239	Belgium
Groundnut poonac	150,096	445,732	British India
Bone meal	259,594	764,772	,,
Mineral rock phosphate	213,968	398,530	Egypt
Guano fish	47,922	199,613	Union of South Africa
Muriate of potash	102,026	473,531	Germany
Fish manure	122,572	351,329	British India
Castor seed poonac	32,531	76,725	,,
Blood meal	19,318	113,648	,,
Refuse of saltpetre	21,459	118,157	,,

Cement.—The total imports of cement increased by 120,377 cwt. as compared with the previous year, nearly 50 per cent. being supplied by Japan. The imports from the United Kingdom increased from 390,000 cwt. in 1935 to 484,000 cwt. in 1936. Germany has been the next important supplier. As a matter of interest the following table is inserted to show the rapid increase in the imports of Japanese cement :—

Year.	Cwt.	Year.	Cwt.
1929	20,000	1933	512,000
1930	60,000	1934	627,572
1931	247,000	1935	589,135
1932	339,000	1936	626,217

The following table shows the total imports of cement during the last five years :—

Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.	Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1932	780,828	1,168,003	1935	1,120,959	1,385,170
1933	922,012	1,152,198	1936	1,241,336	1,366,287
1934	1,073,801	1,307,374			

Metal and Metalware, Ferrous.—There is a slight increase of 44,802 cwt. or 6 per cent. in the total imports of ferrous metals as compared with 1935. The main heads of imports from the United Kingdom were as follows :—

Pig iron rose from 4,880 cwt. to 9,300 cwt. ; iron and steel girders, &c., dropped from 42,493 cwt. to 38,534 cwt. ; galvanized corrugated sheets

dropped from 47,574 cwt. to 31,092 cwt.; bars, rods, &c., rose from 18,781 cwt. to 27,138 cwt. Hoop iron rose from 17,477 cwt. to 19,669 cwt., and tubes and pipes rose from 53,566 cwt. to 62,975 cwt.

Imports of bars, rods, &c., from Belgium rose from 20,313 cwt. to 25,464 cwt.; of iron and steel girders, &c., dropped from 28,771 cwt. to 23,780 cwt.; and of plates and sheets for manufacture of oil drums decreased from 78,532 cwt. to 46,059 cwt. Luxemburg supplied 19,013 cwt. of bars and rods, &c., as compared with 41,384 cwt. in 1935 and the imports of plates and sheets for oil drums decreased from 2,962 cwt. to 805 cwt. 35,893 cwt. of iron and steel girders, &c., came from France, as compared with 13,760 cwt. in 1935. German supplies of bars, rods, &c., increased from 8,338 to 16,415 cwt.; of iron and steel girders, &c., from 11,407 cwt. to 16,144; and of plates and sheets for oil drums from 22,118 cwt. to 26,109 cwt. Japan sent 74 per cent. of the total imports of iron wire nails, as against 52 per cent. in 1935. Seventy-five per cent. of the total imports of enamelled holloware too came from Japan.

The following table shows the total imports of metal and metalware, ferrous, during the past five years :—

Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.	Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1932	552,384	4,815,790	1935	732,449	6,554,026
1933	525,613	4,638,438	1936	777,251	6,937,142
1934	796,623	6,948,251			

The percentage of the total value of ferrous metals and metalware supplied by the leading exporting countries during 1936 is shown below :—

United Kingdom	59·59	France	2·83
Belgium	12·04	Luxemberg	2·44
Germany	9·62	Holland	·43
Japan	8·13		

Non-ferrous metals and metalware.—An increase both in the quantity and value was noticed under this head during 1936. The principal imports were—aluminium linings the bulk of which was imported from the United Kingdom. Brass and copperware came from British India and pig lead from Burma.

The following table shows the quantity and value for the last five years :—

Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.	Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1932	102,019	2,510,227	1935	86,413	2,204,738
1933	69,077	1,812,663	1936	96,217	2,377,609
1934	63,923	2,083,243			

The chief countries from which non-ferrous metal and manufactures were imported and the percentage of the total value of the supplies imported from each in 1934, 1935, and 1936 are shown below :—

	1934.	1935.	1936.
United Kingdom	39·17	43·15	44·24
British India	29·57	22·19	16·44
Burma	11·09	11·80	17·54
Germany	8·35	10·43	12·28
Straits Settlements	3·89	4·95	2·56

Cotton, Raw and Manufactured.—While the increase in 1935 as compared with 1934 was nearly 2 per cent., the total value of imports during 1936 as compared with the previous year showed an increase of nearly 12 per cent., the figures for 1935 and 1936 being Rs. 16,428,241 and Rs. 18,334,836 respectively.

Raw Cotton.—The quantity imported dropped from 21,723 cwt. to 13,463 cwt. or by over 38 per cent. as against 1935 which recorded a sensational rise of 240 per cent. as compared with 1934. The sole source of supply was British India.

Cotton Waste.—Imports of cotton waste increased from 3,928 cwt. valued at Rs. 49,598 in 1935 to 4,148 cwt. valued at Rs. 58,394 in 1936. Sixty-one per cent. of the total imports were supplied by British India and 38 per cent. by the United Kingdom.

Cotton Yarn and Twist.—The total imports of yarn and twist showed an increase of 52,166 lb. or nearly 31 per cent. as compared with 1935. Bleached increased from 57,980 lb. to 80,105 lb. ; dyed from 93,891 lb. to 121,217 lb. ; grey from 16,000 lb. to 20,476 lb.; and "other" decreased from 1,800 lb. to 45 lb.

Cotton Piece Goods.—An increase of over 20 per cent. or 11,152,760 yards in total imports of cotton piece goods with a corresponding increase in value of 16 per cent. (Rs. 2,260,821) was recorded during 1936. The increase is fairly representative of a return to normal conditions when the unusual decrease in 1935, due to large excesses of stock from 1934, is eliminated.

The following table shows the quantity and value of piece goods of all kinds imported from the chief supplying countries during 1935 and 1936 with percentages of the total inserted:—

	Quantity.	
	1935. Yards.	1936. Yards.
United Kingdom	28,629,054 (51 per cent.) ..	31,627,285 (47 per cent.)
Japan	6,467,735 (12 ,,) ..	10,348,731 (15 ,,)
British India	19,514,880 (35 ,,) ..	23,635,773 (35 ,,)

	Value.	
	1935. Rs.	1936. Rs.
United Kingdom	7,904,290 (56 per cent.) ..	8,378,661 (51 per cent.)
Japan	1,395,607 (10 ,,) ..	2,379,569 (15 ,,)
British India	4,305,125 (31 ,,) ..	4,946,768 (30 ,,)

On the total quantity imported during 1936, the position maintained by the three principal countries was nearly the same as in the previous year. The share of the United Kingdom was slightly reduced from 51 per cent. to 47 per cent., while that of Japan increased from 12 per cent. to 15 per cent. There was no change in volume of imports from British India.

As compared with the previous year the United Kingdom's share was reduced by about 319,000 yards in bleached goods and 351,000 yards in grey goods, while an increase was recorded in printed and dyed goods of about 2,528,000 yards and 1,231,000 yards respectively. There was an increase both in quantity and value in the imports of bleached, dyed and printed goods as against 1935. Grey goods showed a decrease.

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SAREED LADY OF QUALITY.

The following table shows the quantities and values of the different kinds of cotton piece goods imported from the chief suppliers during 1935 and 1936 and their percentage of the total :—

Article.	Countries.	1935 Quantity. Yds.	1935 Value. Rs.	1936 Quantity. Yds.	1936 Value. Rs.	1935 Percentage of Quantity.	1935 Percentage of Value.	1936 Percentage of Quantity.	1936 Percentage of Value.
Bleached goods	*Total*	*17,007,302*	*3,849,379*	*18,165,437*	*4,125,792*				
	Japan	1,423,868	290,910	2,082,151	457,046	8	8	11	11
	United Kingdom	13,497,663	3,155,915	13,179,194	3,085,629	79	82	73	75
Dyed goods	*Total*	*24,892,224*	*6,686,911*	*30,248,860*	*7,542,325*				
	Japan	1,412,698	397,187	2,058,278	618,207	6	6	7	8
	British India	16,046,246	3,762,101	19,694,015	4,393,373	64	56	65	58
	United Kingdom	6,990,711	2,356,260	8,221,464	2,379,760	28	35	27	32
Grey goods	*Total*	*2,884,196*	*594,907*	*2,564,815*	*488,535*				
	Japan	158,195	36,759	262,308	49,647	5	6	10	10
	United Kingdom	1,170,764	298,747	819,702	186,040	41	50	32	38
	United States of America	264,520	70,612	268,800	73,436	9	12	10	15
Printed goods	*Total*	*10,353,335*	*2,739,893*	*15,345,852*	*4,017,490*				
	Japan	3,472,910	670,734	5,945,573	1,254,563	34	24	39	31
	United Kingdom	6,786,018	2,042,850	9,314,072	2,704,103	65	75	60	67
Other goods	*Total*	*506,731*	*132,482*	*475,482*	*89,789*				
	British India	272,693	69,926	225,880	27,464	54	53	41	31
	United Kingdom	179,940	48,989	92,853	23,129	36	37	20	21
	Switzerland	31 604	7,907	133,080	33,273	6	6	27	37

The following statement shows the percentage of total imports during the past five years in each class of cotton piece goods contributed by the main producing countries and illustrates the extent to which Japanese competition in this trade affected other countries :—

Quantity.

	Bleached.					Dyed.					Grey.					Printed.				
	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.
	Per Cent.					Per Cent.					Per Cent.					Per Cent.				
Japan ..	68	73	70	8	11	44	60	61	6	7	38	73	71	5	10	73	78	77	34	39
United Kingdom ..	31	26	26	79	73	8	6	6	28	27	52	17	13	41	32	26	21	20	65	60
British India ..	—	—	3	11	14	45	33	31	64	65	—	—	9	45	47	—	—	2	—	—
Holland ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
United States of America	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	7	6	9	10	—	—	—	—	—

Value.

Japan ..	51	49	52	8	11	34	45	50	6	8	29	57	58	6	10	48	57	60	24	31
United Kingdom ..	48	48	43	82	75	14	14	13	35	32	59	32	24	50	38	51	42	38	75	67
British India ..	—	—	3	7	8	49	40	35	56	58	—	—	8	3	37	—	—	1	—	—
Holland ..	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
United States of America	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	10	9	12	15	—	—	—	—	—

The following statements compare the total imports from the leading countries in regulated cotton and artificial silk textiles during the past five years with those for the basic period upon which quotas were fixed :—

Cotton Piece Goods.	Average. (1927-31.)	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.
United Kingdom	23,582,332	15,729,465	9,555,475	11,680,627	28,445,154	31,627,285
British India	14,511,797	11,038,730	8,997,429	12,212,598	19,242,146	23,635,773
Holland	4,948,006	490,780	37,177	38,122	402,192	69,278
Japan	11,682,574	40,365,999	41,519,879	52,701,500	6,467,669	10,348,731
Art Silk Piece Goods.						
United Kingdom	850,129	270,310	716,111	312,691	450,342	959,013
British India	202,100	761,037	1,067,294	1,169,269	953,600	426,977
Japan	1,213,438	6,107,434	6,398,466	4,342,138	953,963	1,134,793

Japanese actual imports fell short of the quota by a million and a half yards on account of releases in September, 1934, being debited against importers' prospective licences.

The following table shows the imports from the United Kingdom and British India respectively in each class during the basic period and for 1935 :—

Imports of Textiles.

	Average, 1927-31.				
	Bleached. Yds.	Dyed. Yds.	Grey. Yds.	Printed. Yds.	Art Silk. Yds.
United Kingdom	11,325,691	3,087,120	2,436,880	6,732,641	850,129
British India	267,705	14,074,553	117,609	61,407	202,100
Total	11,593,396	17,161,673	2,554,489	6,794,048	1,052,229

	1936.				
	Bleached. Yds.	Dyed. Yds.	Grey. Yds.	Printed. Yds.	Art Silk. Yds.
United Kingdom	13,179,194	8,221,464	819,702	9,314,072	959,013
British India	2,494,894	19,694,015	1,213,905	7,079	426,977
Total	15,674,088	27,915,479	2,033,607	9,321,151	1,385,990

The United Kingdom has more than maintained her recovery of previous trade in bleached, dyed, and printed cotton piece goods ; while in artificial silk piece goods she has now fully recovered her previous trade ; while British India has gone ahead in bleached, dyed, and grey but dropped in printed cotton. Art silk from British India has registered a drop but imports are well above the average for the basic period. The gain by the United Kingdom of nearly 40 per cent. in printed is especially noteworthy ; on the other hand imports in this class from India have fallen almost to zero.

The reduction in the average price of United Kingdom textiles in all classes is still significant—the most marked reductions being in grey and other goods of which the United Kingdom's share has dropped from 50 per cent. to 38 per cent. and 37 per cent. to 21 per cent. respectively. This obviously shows the effort made to compete successfully in the cheaper lines of goods which are most in demand. The value of British India dyed cotton piece goods is very slightly more than it was in the previous year, whilst the value of other goods from the same source has dropped considerably. The average price of goods from Switzerland has shown a marked increase from 6 per cent. to 37 per cent.

The rise in the price of Japanese textiles, which in 1935 exceeded those of British India in all classes, and even that of United Kingdom in artificial silk, is still being maintained. The principal causes for this rise are the special demand for particular types of textiles which Japan had previously supplied and the shortage of stock due to regulation.

Imports of Japanese artificial silk made up apparel increased in quantity by over 150 per cent., but imports of Japanese apparel "other" (of which the bulk is cotton) fell by nearly 50 per cent.

Imports of Apparel.

	1934.		1935.		1936.	
Apparel.	United Kingdom. Doz.	Japan. Doz.	United Kingdom. Doz.	Japan. Doz.	United Kingdom. Doz.	Japan. Doz.
Outer and inner garments—						
Silk and Art silk	2,148	10,421	2,210	26,634	1,375	68,826
Wool	1,822	1,682	1,495	2,816	1,288	1,902
Other	7,707	33,988	6,942	216,874	5,703	110,098
Apparel, n.e.s.						
Silk and art silk	1,498	22,113	1,852	25,112	1,659	17,473
Wool	3,557	11,874	1,458	8,362	1,807	4,672
Other	4,360	20,674	3,794	13,962	4,178	19,994

Lace and Net.—The quantity imported showed a marked increase (79 per cent.) over the previous year, the figures for 1936 being 3,168,484 yards valued at Rs. 171,560, as against 1,771,366 yards valued at Rs. 157,155 in 1935. The United Kingdom though maintaining the first place, supplied only 49 per cent. of the total imports, as compared with 75 per cent. in 1935. The other main sources of supply were Japan and France which supplied 857,780 yards and 625,066 yards respectively.

Embroidery.—Total imports fell from 999,917 yards valued at Rs. 48,599 in 1935 to 881,678 yards valued at Rs. 42,979 in 1936, a drop of nearly 12 per cent. Switzerland increased her imports from 298,387 yards in 1935 to 521,791 yards in 1936 and with 41 per cent. of the total imports regained the place she had lost to Japan who showed a decrease of 36 per cent. or 205,360 yards as compared with the previous year.

Thread.—The total imports during the year under review rose to 146,977 lb. valued at Rs. 466,664, as compared with 119,033 lb. valued at Rs. 357,952 in 1935. Of this total the United Kingdom contributed 120,037 lb. or over 81 per cent. valued at Rs. 400,813.

Kerosene Oil.—As compared with the previous year the total imports showed a decrease of over a million gallons, the figure for the year being 5,991,413 gallons valued at Rs. 2,425,490, as compared with 7,337,502 gallons valued at Rs. 3,896,262 in 1935. The amount removed for home consumption was 7,031,076 gallons. As stated in my note on liquid fuel the system of bulk importation renders comparison of annual importations misleading. Sumatra continued to be the chief supplier sending over 99 per cent. of the total imports.

The total imports of bulk and case oil were as follows :—

Year.	Gallons.	Value. Rs.	Year.	Gallons.	Value. Rs.
1933	7,429,949	4,452,397	1935	7,337,502	3,896,262
1934	8,752,220	5,276,987	1936	5,991,413	2,425,940

Petrol.—The quantity entered for home consumption during 1936 was short of the corresponding figure for 1935 by 736,450 gallons. The decrease in the actual imports was 1,318,329 gallons in quantity and Rs. 1,050,951 in value as compared with 1935, the figures for the year being 8,798,243 gallons valued at Rs. 4,402,112. The decreased consumption may be attributed in part to the lower petrol consumption of the "Baby" motor cars which have gained popularity in recent years, but bulk importations and releases from bond have hitherto rendered the record of twelve months importations on clearances an uncertain guide to consumption. With the inauguration of the new system of release from bond, the figures of entry for home consumption will become a far more reliable guide than heretofore.

The imports for the last eight years have been as follows :—

Year.	Gallons.	Year.	Gallons.
1929	10,501,597	1933	7,628,165
1930	11,446,509	1934	10,664,414
1931	8,844,953	1935	10,116,572
1932	8,190,973	1936	8,798,243

Motor Vehicles.—The total number of vehicles imported during the year decreased from 3,395 valued at Rs. 6,256,344 to 2,556 valued at Rs. 4,630,453, of which 1,985 vehicles valued at Rs. 3,501,105 came from Empire sources.

Motor Cars.—There was a marked decrease of nearly 25 per cent. in the imports of motor cars as compared with the previous year. The total imports dropped from 2,384 in 1935 to 1,801 in 1936. 1,607 cars which represented over 89 per cent. of the total imports and valued at Rs. 2,842,600 came from the United Kingdom, as compared with 2,004 cars in 1935. Imports from the United States of America dropped from 168 to 74, while Germany increased her share from 43 to 62. The number from Italy and France remained unchanged as compared with 1935.

Motor Lorries.—The imports of motor lorries dropped from 947 valued at Rs. 1,945,133 in 1935 to 684 valued at Rs. 1,390,216. Out of the total of 684, the United Kingdom supplied 250 and the United States of America 345, as compared with 252 and 407 respectively in 1935. The imports of Canada decreased from 204 to 24 and those of Germany from 82 to 65, of which 57 were of the Diesel-engined type.

The following table shows the total number and value of cars and lorries imported during the last five years :—

Year.	Motor Cars.		Motor Lorries.	
	Number.	Value. Rs.	Number.	Value. Rs.
1932	768	1,272,040	134	263,866
1933	932	1,585,199	203	378,108
1934	1,913	3,501,094	893	1,506,062
1935	2,384	4,277,903	947	1,945,133
1936	1,801	3,202,668	684	1,390,216

Motor Cycles.—The number of motor cycles imported increased from 64 valued at Rs. 33,308 in 1935 to 71 valued at Rs. 37,569 in 1936 and consisted of 67 cycles from the United Kingdom, 3 from Germany, and 1 from the United States of America.

Tea Chests.—As compared with 1935, there was an increase of nearly 10 per cent. in the quantity with a corresponding increase of over 15 per cent. or Rs. 373,334 in value. The imports from Japan rose from 47 per

cent. in 1935 to 52 per cent. in 1936, while those of Finland dropped from 37 per cent. in 1935 to 26 per cent. in 1936. Poland supplied 6 per cent. of the imports and the United Kingdom improved her share by 6,631 chests as against 5 in 1935. So long as tea control is in force imports are likely to remain static at slightly less than the present quantity, until the export quota for tea is increased.

There was a further increase in the average value per chest from all countries from 88 cents in 1935 to 92 cents. The price of the Japanese chests rose from 62 cents to 63 cents and that of the non-Japanese chests increased from 98 cents to Re. 1·25.

The following table shows the imports with value for the last four years :—

Year.	Quantity. Number.	Value. Rs.	Year.	Quantity. Number.	Value. Rs.
1933	3,494,221	2,633,717	1935	2,785,456	2,456,587
1934	3,459,150	2,780,233	1936	3,049,994	2,829,921

Cattle, Buffaloes, Sheep, and Goats.—The importation of cattle and buffaloes from Asiatic and African ports is prohibited at all ports except Kayts, where cattle (other than those for slaughter) may be imported on licence from the Government Veterinary Surgeon.

The importation of sheep and goats is prohibited except under licence. The number allowed to be imported was limited to 2,500 per mensem from February, 1936.

The following table gives the number and value of importations in 1935 and 1936 :—

	1935.		1936.	
	Number.	Value. Rs.	Number.	Value. Rs.
Cattle	486	32,466	472	40,539
Buffaloes	—	—	—	—
Sheep	2,274	20,378	1,851	19,755
Goats	33,555	633,357	30,053	597,649

Horses.—The number of horses imported increased from 137 in 1935 to 147 in 1936. Of these, 74 came from the United Kingdom, 59 from British India (chiefly exports re-imported), 12 from Australia and 2 from the Straits Settlements.

Notes on Principal Exports.

The more noticeable features of the export trade for 1936 are dealt with in the succeeding paragraphs.

The following table shows the quantities of tea exported during the last ten years in millions of pounds and the average prices per lb. on the Ceylon market for the same period :—

Year.	Million Pounds.		Average Price per lb. Rs. c.
1927	227		0 94
1928	237		0 85
1929	251		0 82
1930	243		0 75
1931	244		0 57 12/32
1932	253		0 42 1/2
1933	216		0 56 1/4
1934	219		0 66 1/2
1935	212	United Kingdom	0 70
		Other countries	0 65 2/3
1936	218	United Kingdom	0 71 1/2
		Other countries	0 67 9/10

Tea.—The quantity of tea exported increased by 6 million pounds, and the value by 7½ million rupees, representing respectively an increase of 2·8 per cent. in quantity and 5·1 per cent. in value. The average increase in value of exports per pound was about 1½ cents on teas shipped to the United Kingdom and 2 cents on other teas. Favourable climatic conditions prevailed in the earlier part of the season and Ceylon appeared at one time to have wiped off a great part of the 16,000,000 lb. of exportable rights outstanding on April 1, 1936, but export slackened off considerably later in the year. The United Kingdom took about 1½ million pounds more than in 1935. Australia took 600,000 pounds less. Canada, having presumably worked off her heavy purchases made at the end of 1934, took about 3½ million pounds more, an increase of 53 per cent. New Foundland took an additional 8 per cent. New Zealand purchases showed a slight increase as did those of the Union of South Africa (+4 per cent.). Of foreign purchases, shipments increased to Egypt (+11 per cent.), Tunis (+10 per cent.), Iran (+280 per cent.), and the U. S. A. (+6 per cent.). The increase in exports to Iran are perhaps due to the stoppage by the Government of India of the leakage of uncouponed tea through Baluchistan. The above represent quantities exported and not values.

The following statement gives approximate percentages of the total exports taken by the chief buyers of Ceylon tea during the last three years :—

	1934. Per Cent.	1935. Per Cent.	1936. Per Cent.
United Kingdom	71·	67·89	66·64
United States of America	4·77	5·50	5·68
Australia	5·46	6·34	5·89
Union of South Africa	3·47	4·62	4·67
New Zealand	3·37	4·51	4·54
Canada	4·03	3·08	4·56
Egypt	1·53	1·27	1·37
Other countries	6·37	6·79	6·65

The following table shows the exports of tea to the United Kingdom, British Possessions, and foreign countries and as ships' stores during 1936 as compared with the previous year :—

	1935. lb.	1936. lb.	Increase lb.	Decrease. lb.
United Kingdom	143,937,464	145,379,967	1,442,503	—
British Possessions	44,343,309	47,075,872	2,732,563	—
Foreign countries	23,803,198	25,611,828	1,808,630	—
Ships' Stores	69,131	81,774	12,643	—

The average prices of the major coconut products advanced still further in 1936. Desiccated coconut value increased by 8 per cent., copra by 25 per cent., and coconut oil by 17 per cent. Exports of desiccated coconuts and of coconut oil fell both in quantity and total value, while exports of copra increased in both respects, owing to the existence of a more favourable market for this commodity in British India, which took 95 per cent. of total exports in 1936 compared with 75 per cent. in 1935. This is a very considerable change in orientation of copra exports, having regard to the fact that in 1931 British India's purchase of this commodity amounted to only 1·2 per cent. of total exports, and it is to be hoped that a satisfactory alternative outlet will be forthcoming should the Indian market even prove unable to absorb such large quantities. The remaining items of coconut produce are dealt with in more detail below.

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The following table shows the quantities, values, and the average prices of the three chief products exported during the past five years :—

Year.	Quantity.			Value.			Average Price per Cwt.		
	Desiccated Coconuts.	Copra.	Coconut Oil.	Desiccated Coconuts.	Copra.	Coconut Oil.	Desiccated Coconuts.	Copra.	Coconut Oil.
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
1932	699,266	913,987	1,025,040	7,150,151	8,284,294	14,475,109	12 8	8 49	14 36
1933	789,850	1,286,791	1,061,394	6,746,623	6,828,435	10,800,402	8 73	5 99	10 52
1934	646,710	2,109,379	1,396,865	4,134,745	9,244,405	10,460,714	6 39½	4 38¼	7 48⅞
1935	664,354	975,213	1,109,353	7,307,560	7,818,398	13,646,579	10 0	8 1⅞	12 30⅛
1936	601,774	1,035,476	689,229	7,041,825	10,077,212	9,948,909	11 69¼	9 73⅗	14 44

The distribution of the total value of all coconut products between the Empire and the foreign countries was as follows :—

	Value.		Percentage of Total.	
	1935.	1936.	1935.	1936.
	Rs.	Rs.		
British Empire	20,998,840	23,720,387	58·25	70·68
Foreign countries	15,046,867	9,838,159	41·75	29·32
Total	36,045,707	33,558,546		

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BRISK BUSINESS.

Coconuts, fresh.—About 17,000,000 nuts were exported in 1936, as against 21,000,000 in 1935 and 31½ millions in 1934. The total value of exports was Rs. 916,000 in 1936, against Rs. 1,111,000 in 1935. As in the previous year British India was the largest purchaser (48 per cent. by value, as against 42 per cent.) in 1935. The United Kingdom with 25 per cent. by value was again a good second and Egypt 19 per cent. by value third.

Coir Yarn.—Exports in 1936 amounted to 86,000 cwt. valued at Rs. 813,000, as compared with 107,000 cwt. valued at Rs. 1,108,000 in 1935. The respective value percentages taken in the leading purchases were—

	1936.	As compared with 1935.
United Kingdom	.. 31 per cent.	.. 26 per cent.
Germany	.. 28 per cent.	.. 33 per cent.

The average value was Rs. 9·42, as compared with Rs. 10·32 in 1935.

Coir Rope.—The quantity exported fell from 8,475 cwt. valued at Rs. 89,682 in 1935 to 8,159 cwt. valued at Rs. 88,949 in 1936, a comparatively trivial change. Once more practically the entire bulk went to the Straits Settlements.

Bristle Fibre.—Exports increased from 224,207 cwt. valued at Rs. 1,171,894 in 1935 to 242,809 cwt. valued at Rs. 1,416,330 in 1936. The largest purchaser was once more Japan (40 per cent. by value). Belgium (16 per cent.), France (16 per cent.), and Germany (14 per cent.) were the next best customers. Values rose slightly from Rs. 5·23 per cwt. to Rs. 5·83 per cwt.

Mattress Fibre.—Exports rose in volume from 478,680 cwt. to 573,187 cwt. but fell in total value from Rs. 1,815,657 to Rs. 1,705,807, a drop in value from Rs. 3·79 to Rs. 2·98 per cwt. The biggest purchasers were the same as in 1935, viz., United Kingdom (40 per cent.) and South Africa (13 per cent.). The U. S. A. (10 per cent.) displaced Australia for the third place.

Coconut Poonac.—Total exports decreased from 467,565 cwt. valued at Rs. 1,600,861 to 303,216 cwt. valued at Rs. 1,146,527. The average value increased from Rs. 3·43 to Rs. 3·78 per cwt. Belgium took slightly more by value but rather less by quantity. Her purchases represented 95 per cent. of total exports.

Coconut Shell Charcoal.—The quantity exported decreased from 153,342 cwt. to 135,017 cwt. but total value increased from Rs. 365,608 to Rs. 377,137. Average value increased from Rs. 2·38 to Rs. 2·79 per cwt. The United Kingdom became the largest purchaser (50 per cent.) with France taking most of the balance (48 per cent.). The future of this commodity, which is largely used for gas masks, is uncertain in view of the reported discovery of cheap efficient substitutes.

Rubber.—Exports decreased in quantity from 120,478,543 lb. to 111,823,140 lb. (exclusive of imported rubber re-exported), but increased in value from 38,393,614 to Rs. 46,840,344. The average price was 42 cents, as compared with 31¾ cents in 1935. The price of rubber had not reached 40 cents a pound since 1929, and the event is worthy of special mention. The continuation of restriction has had an ameliorating effect far more rapid than in the case of tea. 8,165,724 lb. of imported

rubber valued at Rs. 3,366,427 were re-exported, a quantitative increase over 1935 re-exports of 8 per cent. The bulk of this re-export rubber went to the U. S. A.

The main purchasers of Ceylon rubber were U. S. A. (58 per cent.), United Kingdom 14 per cent., France 5 per cent. and Germany 4 per cent. Last year's figures were U. S. A. 42 per cent., United Kingdom 26 per cent., France 5 per cent., and Germany 6 per cent.

Rubber Latex.—There was a considerable decrease in exports of rubber latex. Exports amounted to 11,075, lb. valued at Rs. 4,554, as compared with 42,831 lb. valued at Rs. 14,122 in 1935. Practically the entire export went to the United Kingdom.

The following table shows the exports of Ceylon rubber and the average price per lb. during the last five years :—

Year.	Quantity. lb.	Average Price per lb. Rs. c.	Year.	Quantity. lb.	Average Price per lb. Rs. c.
1932	111,241,860	0 11¾	1935	120,478,543	0 31 $\frac{9}{10}$
1933	142,317,027	0 15¾	1936	111,823,140	0 41$\frac{4}{5}$
1934	178,556,182	0 31¾			

Cacao.—Exports amounted to 58,921 cwt. valued at Rs. 2,030,548, as compared with 69,468 cwt. valued at Rs. 1,298,993 in 1935. Although the quantity exported dropped 15 per cent. the value of exports rose by 56 per cent., the value per cwt. being Rs. 34·42 per cwt. as against Rs. 18·73 in 1935. This represents a very notable recovery. Exports to the United Kingdom increased by 210 per cent. in value, to Canada by 155 per cent., to Australia by 95 per cent., and to the Philippines, still Ceylon's best customer, by 15 per cent. The Philippines took 35 per cent. of Ceylon's exports. As foreshadowed in my 1935 report, Mexican exports drastically disappeared.

Exports for the last three years were as follows :—

Year.	Quantity. lb.	Value. Rs.	Year.	Quantity. lb.	Value. Rs.
1934	9,112,845	1,802,382	1936	6,599,152	2,030,548
1935	7,780,376	1,298,993			

Cinnamon.—There was no marked increase or decrease in the quantity of cinnamon quills exported but values rose from Rs. 1,435,491 to Rs. 1,518,929. The value per cwt. was Rs. 39·18, against Rs. 36·91 for 1935. Mexico was again the largest purchaser taking 34 per cent. by value of the entire exports. Other large purchasers were Germany (10 per cent.), U. S. A. (9 per cent.), Spain (8 per cent.), and United Kingdom (7 per cent.). The value of cinnamon chips exported also increased, the quantity also increasing very slightly. The biggest purchasers were again the United Kingdom and Australia.

The quantities and value of exports together with the average prices for the last six years are shown below :—

Year.	Quantity.		Value.		Average Price per cwt.	
	Quills. Cwt.	Chips. Cwt.	Quills. Rs.	Chips. Rs.	Quills. Rs. c.	Chips. Rs. c.
1931	35,261	6,680	1,115,756	61,628	31 83	7 93
1932	40,166	8,101	948,518	44,380	23 90	5 43
1933	41,224	7,445	954,573	32,710	22 88	4 33
1934	38,165	6,081	1,124,884	38,063	29 47½	6 26
1935	38,888	7,537	1,435,491	54,525	36 91	7 23½
1936	38,764	7,974	1,518,929	66,855	39 18½	8 38

Arecanuts.—There was a considerable increase in quantity and value of arecanuts exported. The quantitative increase was 14 per cent. and value per cwt. rose from Rs. 9·54 to Rs. 11·26. Eighty-eight per cent. of exports went to British India.

The following statement gives details of the exports during the last four years :—

Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.	Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1933	104,725	1,285,134	1935	93,383	890,698
1934	90,069	995,555	1936	106,825	1,202,541

Cardamoms.—Exports were about the same in quantity, but total value rose from Rs. 274,751 to Rs. 425,907, representing a rise in value per cwt. of 57 per cent. The largest purchasers were U. S. A. (17 per cent.) and Denmark (14 per cent.)

Plumbago.—Exports fell slightly in quantity and appreciably (—27 per cent.) in value, the average value per cwt. being about Rs. 5·61 as compared with Rs. 7·42 in 1935. This was one of the few export industries of importance which failed to show any improvement. The largest purchasers were the same as in the previous year. The United Kingdom and Germany took increased quantities.

The following table shows the quantity and value of plumbago exported since 1931 :—

Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.	Year.	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1931	134,413	1,225,331	1934	231,385	1,654,681
1932	122,009	1,023,283	1935	278,168	2,064,518
1933	191,173	1,213,561	1936	270,295	1,516,968

The following table shows the quantities taken by the chief purchasing countries :—

Year.	Japan. Cwt.	United States of America. Cwt.	United Kingdom. Cwt.	Germany. Cwt.
1931	24,937	53,308	17,345	19,951
1932	32,655	24,233	23,846	13,745
1933	71,514	44,226	29,592	16,822
1934	78,500	67,078	32,567	19,457
1935	82,820	88,800	51,669	20,297
1936	76,869	83,841	57,361	25,213

Citronella Oil.—A further decrease was registered both in quantity (—90 per cent.) and value (—25 per cent.). The average price per lb. fell from 49 cents to 40⅓ cents. The U. S. A. took 46 per cent. and the United Kingdom 17 per cent. of the quantity exported.

The exports of citronella oil for the last five years were as follows :—

Year.	Quantity. lb.	Value. Rs.	Year.	Quantity. lb.	Value. Rs.
1932	1,279,801	1,202,918	1935	1,399,764	686,418
1933	1,459,423	1,273,832	1936	1,271,039	513,268
1934	1,527,868	803,829			

SHIPPING.

3,954 vessels with a total tonnage of 13,008,403 tons entered the ports of the Island of Ceylon in 1936, as against 4,032 vessels with a tonnage of 13,234,788 in 1935.

The following table shows the classification under the four general heads :—

	1935.		1936.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Merchant vessels, other than sailing and coasting vessels ..	2,977	12,207,122	2,883	11,871,011
Merchant vessels (called to coal, oil, &c.)	218	668,301	214	703,189
Sailing vessels, other than coasting vessels ..	764	65,044	768	64,194
Warships and transports* ..	73	294,321	89	370,009
	4,032	13,234,788	3,954	13,008,403

* Warships' displacement tonnage.

Excluding warships and transports 3,865 vessels entered the ports in Ceylon with a tonnage of 12,638,394, as against 3,959 vessels in 1935 with a tonnage of 12,940,467 tons.

The number of merchant vessels other than sailing and coasting vessels entering the ports of the Island decreased by 94 and 73 respectively as compared with 1935 and 1934 ; there was a decrease of 4 in the number of vessels calling to take in coal, oil, &c.

The following table shows the number of British and foreign vessels, other than sailing and coasting vessels which have entered Ceylon ports since 1930 :—

	1930.	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.
British ..	2,206	2,246	2,099	1,983	2,061	2,103	1,993
Dutch ..	211	167	123	137	143	134	149
French ..	137	122	126	126	123	126	109
German	293	256	198	198	217	218	203
Italian ..	131	129	120	132	138	101	99
Japanese	171	199	208	175	194	217	215
Norwegian	127	106	107	131	148	156	171
Other Foreign Nations	165	153	115	126	140	140	158
Total Foreign ..	1,235	1,132	997	1,025	1,103	1,092	1,104
Percentage—							
British	64	67	68	66	65	66	64
Foreign	36	33	32	34	35	34	36

It will be noticed that British shipping has fallen by 2 per cent. as compared with the previous year. Amongst the foreign callers Dutch and Norwegian show an increase ; Japan occupied the first place.

Excluding warships and transports, coasting vessels and merchant vessels which called only to coal, oil, &c., the distribution according to flags was as follows :—

	1935.		1936.	
	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.
British ..	1,959	7,197,681	1,890	6,914,615
British Colonial	764	65,044	768	64,194
Total British vessels ..	2,723	7,262,725	2,658	6,978,809
American ..	49	257,151	48	232,868
Chinese ..	—	—	4	6,841
Danish ..	39	141,248	44	162,832
Dutch ..	134	883,432	144	957,930
French ..	123	786,225	107	706,443
German ..	200	944,747	185	974,352
Greek ..	7	18,473	8	27,767
Italian ..	90	498,433	68	427,761
Japanese ..	214	1,051,125	207	1,024,974
Norwegian ..	136	340,766	154	353,466
Swedish ..	26	87,841	24	81,162
Total Foreign vessels ..	1,018	5,009,441	993	4,956,396

The following table shows the distribution of merchant vessels* including vessels which called only to coal, oil, &c. :—

	1935.		1936.	
	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.
British	2,105	7,674,502	1,993	7,261,843
British Colonial	764	65,044	768	64,194
Total British vessels	2,869	7,739,546	2,761	7,326,037
American	50	261,671	50	239,985
Chinese	1	1,888	4	6,841
Danish	42	147,951	45	163,857
Dutch	134	883,432	149	980,285
French	126	791,046	109	716,225
Finnish	—	—	—	—
German	218	1,013,940	203	1,051,340
Greek	8	19,908	27	81,841
Hungarian	—	—	—	—
Italian	101	533,388	99	526,736
Japanese	217	1,055,525	215	1,058,324
Norwegian	156	385,197	171	394,764
Portuguese	1	3,657	—	—
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics	7	8,028	8	10,997
Swedish	29	95,290	24	81,162
Total Foreign vessels	1,090	5,200,921	1,104	5,312,357

BUREAU OF INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE.

To assist in the development of the industrial and commercial activities of Ceylon a Bureau of Industry and Commerce was formed as a section of the Department of the Registrar-General who assumed charge of these subjects in his capacity as Director of Commercial Intelligence.

The industrial policy of the Bureau is to give technical advice on industries, conduct surveys and initiate inquiries into particular industries and generally to help in the industrialization of the country. Owing to limitations of staff the industrial activities of the Bureau have not been organized to their fullest extent. The absence of a laboratory for research work and for dealing with technical problems is a serious handicap. The partial transition of Ceylon from agriculture to industry and the progressive consciousness of the public to the advantages of industrialization have created special problems which call for separate attention. One of the major experiments of the Bureau was to give practical instruction in spinning and weaving of coir and textile goods through peripatetic parties, and as an encouragement to local industry a scheme for supplying coir and textile machines on easy hire-purchase terms was introduced. From the ready response to the scheme the extent to which the " industrial fever " has taken hold of the country may be gauged.

Echoes of the cry for industrialization were heard in the State Council. Numerous motions directed towards fostering the nascent spirit of industrialization were introduced in the State Council—some of them with far-reaching implications. The motion of Mr. Rajapaksa to establish a model factory at State expense for the distillation of citronella oil, and the motion of Mr. Sri Pathmanathan for the establishment of a similar factory for the manufacture of cigars, cigarettes, and pipe tobacco may be instanced as examples. As a direct incentive to private initiative the State Council voted a sum of Rs. 100,000—for giving loans on favourable terms of repayment—to local industries. As a

* Excluding coasting vessels.

further concession to the claims of industry the proposal to separate its supervision from the Department of the Registrar-General and create a distinct and separate Industrial Department was considered by a Sub-Committee of the Executive Committee of Labour, Industry and Commerce. At the moment of writing the matter is still pending.

Useful surveys were conducted by the Bureau. The match and soap industries which have now established themselves as permanent features of the country's industrial enterprises were given special recognition in the decision of the Executive Committee of Labour, Industry and Commerce to introduce special legislation for their control and supervision. Neither of these Bills has yet found a place in the Statute book. Information on manioca (tapioca) cultivation, tiles, mat weaving, hand loom weaving and carpentry collected in surveys has afforded material for the definition of a new industrial policy which must await the decision of the State Council on the proposal to give industry a separate place in the Sun.

The primary object of the commercial side of the Bureau is to foster the export trade of the country. The Bureau is in direct communication with the several consular representatives throughout the world and is in a more favourable position to offer local traders the advantages of a reliable and effective Government organization. The services of the Bureau include—

(1) furnishing of information relating to market openings and trade prospects.
(2) furnishing information in answer to trade inquiries.
(3) advertising Ceylon by participation in Exhibitions and fairs at home and abroad.
(4) initiating representations by the Ceylon Government in regard to tariff duties, &c., in Ceylon ; and
(5) assisting business visitors to Ceylon by means of letters of introduction.

A definite expansion in the activities of the Bureau was made in 1935 with the appointment of a Trade Commissioner at London. " Ceylon House " standing in Aldwych, Strand, London, is now a permanent feature of Ceylon's first experiment in appointing her own consular representatives. The functions of the Trade Commissioner include the fostering of the export trade of Ceylon, the supplying of market openings in business, trade and industry, the participation in publicity events like Exhibitions and Fairs, &c. " Ceylon House " also maintains a permanent exhibition of Ceylon products. The limitations of space do not permit a full representative display but it is hoped before long to secure more prominent premises for the activities of this rapidly expanding limb of the Bureau.

The importance of the United Kingdom market to Ceylon cannot be stressed too much ; on an average over 45 per cent. of the Island's sea-borne trade is with the United Kingdom. This policy of appointing her own Trade Commissioners at important market centres is the outcome of the demand for State surveillance of Ceylon's export trade. The germs of a world-wide consular service have been laid ; other important markets will soon be linked up. The first experiment was a success, but it is still too early to estimate the benefits to the export trade. It can be asserted however that Ceylon exporters are now in closer touch

with foreign importers than ever before. At the moment of writing a permanent Ceylon trade representative at Bombay has been appointed as the second experiment, and will shortly assume duties.

With a view to giving Ceylon products the maximum publicity the Bureau has endeavoured to participate in as many fairs and exhibitions as possible. Exhibitions are a valuable medium of publicity but it is not every exhibition in which Ceylon can participate. The major portion of Ceylon produce consists of raw products but exhibitions of raw produce are not as popular or spectacular as those for manufactured products. The annual British Industries Fair which provides one of the best mediums for publicity for industrial countries is not quite suited to Ceylon's needs. The few industries that this country can boast of are not yet of the standard of perfection to compete in the world market. The Empire Exhibition held at Johannesburg, South Africa, in 1936 was a different proposition. Ceylon sent her own trade representative. A representative display of raw material was exhibited, and a large volume of business was done. It is still too early to say whether the interest created in Ceylon produce will assure this country a permanent market in South Africa. The Empire Exhibition will however settle finally an important contentious point. It will show the value of the benefit derivable from participating in foreign exhibitions.

Among the other activities of the Bureau, the Ceylon Trade Journal, the official organ of the Bureau, may be mentioned. First published in November, 1935, the Journal aims at giving readers at home and abroad the commercial products exported from Ceylon, with monthly and quarterly analyses of trade, periodical reviews of the economic conditions of the country, indices of prices, production, exports, &c. The Journal enjoys a world-wide circulation and copies of it are supplied to all trade associations, commercial bodies, and public institutions abroad.

CHAPTER VIII.

Wages and the Cost of Living.

Labour in Ceylon.

1.—*Agricultural.*

About 850,000 acres are cultivated in paddy. The whole of this area is worked by village labour usually by the owner or lessee of the land, and his relations, but frequently also by hired labour.

The Estates.—The principal crops grown under estate conditions are tea, rubber, and coconuts. Tea estates almost entirely, and rubber estates for the most part, are worked by labour imported from South India (Tamil or Telugu). A few Indians are also employed on coconut estates, but these are mostly worked by Ceylonese.

At the end of 1936 the total number of Indians on estates was roughly 665,000, as compared with 674,024 at the end of 1935. The total number of arrivals of estate labourers during the year amounted to 40,803 and the departures to 45,143.

2.—*Industrial.*

A large number of labourers are employed in various activities connected with the port of Colombo, *e.g.*, as stevedore labourers, or in the coal-yard and marine engineering works.

Wages.—Under Ordinance No. 27 of 1927 a minimum wage is fixed for Indian labourers on tea and rubber estates and the new rates of wages in force from November 16, 1934, are—

	Men. Cents.	Women. Cents.	Children. Cents.	
Up-country	49	39	29	with rice at a rate not exceeding Rs. 4·80 per bushel
Mid-country	43	35	25	
Low-country	41	33	24	

In 1927 a Commission appointed to inquire into wages earned by the harbour workers in Colombo recommended the following rates which were accepted by the employers :—

	Loading Cargo. Rs. c.	Discharging Cargo. Rs. c.
Day, Full	1 75	1 60
Broken Periods, 6 A.M. to 12 noon	1 0 (*i.e.* (87 plus 10)	0 90 (*i.e.* (80 plus 10)
12 noon to 6 P.M.	0 87 *	0 80 *
or Every half or part thereof	0 20	0 20
Night—	†	†
Full	3 50	3 20
Half	1 75 *	1 60 *
Broken Periods— For every hour between 6 P.M. and midnight	0 30	0 30

The following table shows the classification adopted by Government for daily and hourly paid labour :—

		Rates per Hour. Minimum. Cents.	Maximum. Cents.
Minor supervising grades	Class A I.	48	81
	A II.	31	63
Tradesmen	Class A III.	36	53
	A IV.	20	35
Semi-skilled labour	Class A V.	12	20
Unskilled labour	Class A VI.	8	14
Trade apprentices	Class A VII.	10	18
Women and boys	Class A VIII.	3	10

		Rates per Diem. Minimum. Rs. c.	Maximum. Rs. c.
Minor supervising grades	Class B I.	3 84	6 48
	B II.	2 48	5 4
Skilled labour	Class B III.	2 88	4 24
	B IV.	1 60	2 80
Semi-skilled labour	Class B V.	0 96	1 60
Unskilled labour	Class B VI.	0 64	1 12
Trade apprentices	Class B VII.	0 80	1 44
Women and boys	Class B VIII.	0 24	0 80

Estates employing Indian labour are required by law to pay their labourers monthly. In Colombo wages are often paid every week or fortnight.

* Subject to the qualification that wages by the hour for any fraction of a half day or half night shall not exceed the wages payable for the whole of that half day or half night.

† A full night's wages are payable when a labourer works from 6 P.M. to any fraction of the night beyond midnight.

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SAWING LOGS.

Other Conditions affecting Labour.

On nearly all estates the resident labour force is provided with free housing accommodation. In Colombo a few firms make similar provision for their labourers, but in most cases the latter find their own lodgings. Indians employed by the stevedore contractors are generally housed in a "kittangi"—a sort of barrack where the men sleep together in one large room.

Medical Attention and Provision for Old Age.—Estate labourers are entitled to free medical treatment either at the estate hospital (if there is one) or at the nearest Government hospital. Other labourers are entitled to free treatment at Government hospitals if they earn less than Rs. 50 per month in wages.

Female labourers on estates are entitled to free lodgings and medical care for one month after confinement.

Indian Labour on Estates.—Sick and indigent labourers are repatriated to India at the expense of the Immigration Fund.

Most estates pay a pension to deserving labourers who are no longer able to work. Free meals are usually given daily to children.

The Workmen's Compensation Ordinance, No. 19 of 1934, came into operation on August 1, 1935. It provides for compensation to be paid by the employer on the lines of the Indian Act to every workman who is injured by accident arising out of and in the course of his employment and to the dependents of workmen who have died as the result of such accident.

The Trade Unions Ordinance, No. 14 of 1935, came into operation on November 1, 1935. It provides for the compulsory registration of all Trade Unions.

CHAPTER IX.

Education and Welfare Institutions.

Control.—Primary and secondary education in Ceylon, under the control of the Minister of Education and the Executive Committee of Education, is administered by the Department of Education, assisted by a Board of Education and 23 Education District Committees.

Board of Education.—The Board of Education is composed of 20 members nominated by the Governor. The Director of Education is Chairman and the personnel of the Board includes members of the State Council, managers of schools, and teachers. The main duties of the Board are to consider questions of legislation and to advise the Government on any other matters especially referred to it for advice. It is not an administrative or executive body and all regulations which are recommended by the Board require the approval of the Governor, and are thereafter laid before the State Council for approval.

Education District Committees.—An Education District Committee has been constituted in each Municipality and Revenue District. These Committees are appointed by the Governor, and consist partly of officials and partly of unofficials. They are responsible first for putting into effect the rules relating to compulsory education and they frame by-laws and employ attendance officers for this purpose. Secondly, they erect and maintain schools where these are required. They are financed by an annual grant from the department, which is allocated on the basis of an approved programme of works submitted each year to the department.

Schools and Attendance.—The system of education in Ceylon provides a course of education leading to University degrees in arts, and science, and diplomas in medicine and law.

The schools of Ceylon are not divided on a basis of race or nationality. All schools which are maintained by Government or assisted by means of grants are compelled by law to admit pupils irrespective of race, nationality, or religion.

Attendance at school between the ages of six and fourteen is compulsory, subject to a few exceptions. Such compulsion, however, applies only when school accommodation is provided within a reasonable distance of the residence of the pupil.

There are three distinct types of schools—schools administered directly by Government, schools assisted by Government and under the immediate control of private managers, and schools maintained by Government and managed by the Divisional Inspectors of Schools with the assistance of Local Managers.

There are 265 Maintained schools. These schools are administered under the Codes for Assisted schools but the whole cost of staff and maintenance is borne by Government funds. All new Maintained schools are placed under the management of the Divisional Inspector of Schools.

There are 1,555 Government schools, and the arrangements for the staffing of these are entirely in the hands of the department. All examinations for the issue of teachers' certificates and of otherwise testing efficiency, and all appointments, transfers, &c., are also dealt with by the department.

Assisted Schools and the Grant System.—There are in addition 2,982 Assisted schools under the immediate control of private managers. These schools receive an annual grant from the Education Department. In the case of vernacular schools the annual grant is calculated as the total amount of the salaries paid to an efficient staff plus an additional amount for maintenance. No fees are charged in vernacular schools. In the case of the English schools, however, fees are charged and from such fees the manager has to provide a fixed sum towards the salary of each teacher he employs. The grant consists of the balance of such salaries.

There are 156 schools attached to places of religious worship. These schools are supported by grants from Government funds.

In addition to Government Assisted and Maintained schools, there is a certain number of private schools which are not assisted in any way by Government funds. Such schools are, however, subject to inspection by the department.

The type of instruction given in Ceylon schools can be considered under two main headings: (i.) non-vocational instruction; (ii.) vocational instruction.

Classification of Schools.—Under the heading of non-vocational instruction is included the type of instruction which is general and academic, and by far the larger number of schools come under this class. These schools are classified as follows :—

English.	Bilingual.	Vernacular.
Collegiate	Senior Secondary	Senior Secondary
Senior Secondary	Junior Secondary	Junior Secondary
Junior Secondary	Primary	Primary
Primary		

The primary schools provide a course of instruction from the Kindergarten up to Standard V. The course usually lasts six years.

The junior secondary schools provide a course of instruction from the Kindergarten up to the School-Leaving Certificate. The course usually lasts ten years.

The senior secondary schools provide, in addition to the course for the junior secondary schools, a further course up to the standard of the London Matriculation Examination. The course usually lasts twelve years.

The collegiate school is an English school which provides a course of instruction from Form I. or Standard VI. up to the standard of the London Matriculation Examination. The course usually lasts five years.

The vast majority of students complete their education at the junior secondary stage.

In addition to the schools that come under the above classification, there is a certain number of temple schools, which are known as Pirivenas. These schools are primarily intended for the Buddhist priesthood, and are not compelled to adopt the syllabus of work used by the ordinary schools.

Vocational Schools.—Under the heading of vocational schools come those schools which give a specialized form of instruction. Apart from one Technical College, these can be divided into part-time schools and full-time schools. Under the heading of part-time instruction is included a variety of home industries which are taught to pupils in certain schools in addition to the ordinary academic course. Under the heading of full-time industrial schools come institutions for the training of teachers, technical schools, agricultural schools, and industrial schools. The course in training schools is usually one of two years. In technical schools it varies according to the subject which is studied. In agricultural schools courses are entirely for adults who intend either to teach agricultural science or to become practical agriculturists. There is a variety of full-time industrial schools. All industrial schools are conducted upon a profit-sharing principle, so that the pupils benefit by whatever articles they produce. The course is one of two or three years. The subjects in which instruction is given are :—carpentry, weaving, basket work, pottery, printing, lacquer work, blacksmith work, and a few other minor industries.

The medium of Instruction.—The medium of instruction in schools varies according to the type of schools. In vernacular schools the medium of instruction is entirely Sinhalese or Tamil. This group of schools includes 81 per cent. of all the school-going children in Ceylon.

In Bilingual schools the vernacular language is the medium of instruction for the first four or five years of school life, after which a course of English is introduced in Standard IV. Every year thereafter the number of periods allotted to English is increased. The vernacular, however, continues to be taught throughout the whole course. There are also vernacular schools where an optional course of English, for one period a day, is given in all classes above Standard III.

In the case of the third group of schools, viz., English schools, two methods are employed in giving instruction in the English language.

In the first method pupils are admitted at the earliest stage of school life, viz., the Kindergarten. Pupils admitted in this way have usually a working knowledge of English, so that their progress in mastering the language is very rapid.

The second method employed is a two-year special course in English for pupils, who go from vernacular schools to English schools. The pupils who enter this course are approximately nine years of age, and have already received instruction in their own mother tongue in the primary standards. This course is an intensive one, in which the direct method of teaching a foreign language is employed. After completing this course pupils are able to enter the ordinary standards of the English school, in which the medium of instruction is English. In the majority of such schools the vernacular languages continue to be taught throughout the upper classes.

It will be seen, therefore that in the system of instruction prevailing in Ceylon the pupils are given the following alternative courses :—(1) a full course of instruction in the vernacular languages ; (2) a full course of instruction in the vernacular languages plus a working knowledge of English ; and (3) a full course of instruction in English, not merely for pupils whose mother tongue is English, but for those who at the beginning of school life have no knowledge of that language.

SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF AND BLIND.

During the year 1936, 29 children were admitted, 18 of them being deaf and 11 blind. The total number of deaf and blind inmates at the school is classified thus :—

	School.		Industrial.		*Ex*-Industrial.		Total.
	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	
Deaf	92	53	10	—	13	—	168
Blind	54	65	20	1	23	—	163
Total	146	118	30	1	36	—	331

Many applications for admission have to be rejected for lack of room. There are a few mental defectives and one deaf and blind. They were admitted through the schools inability to diagnose their condition and cannot be removed as they have no friends and relations. One elder boy had to be sent to the lunatic asylum recently. He was apparently mentally sound on admission in early childhood but later grew mentally defective and finally insane.

Health.—There has been no serious illness of any sort, but the school has not been free of chickenpox infection almost throughout the year.

School.—For half the year the blind school has had the guidance of an expert teacher from England and in the last month the deaf school has had similar guidance. It is a matter of interest that the expert teacher finds the speech of the deaf children of the school up to a high standard, and bearing favourable comparison with results in similar schools in England. Great progress has recently been made in English schools in the teaching of the deaf with the aid of suitable apparatus, but such apparatus is expensive and needs skilled upkeep, both of which conditions the school cannot at present meet.

Industrial Work.—The girls have been moved to Broomhill, Colombo, and it is hoped to move the boys also shortly. By removal of the industrial boys and girls to special centres and by concentration on their

particular needs, it is hoped that better results in their training will follow and better results in the marketing of their products. The after-care of the industrial boys and girls is a serious problem which has up to the present met with no satisfactory solution, but it is receiving serious attention. Some deaf have found employment, but not in the trades they have been taught : they are usually set to do unskilled work at a very low rate of pay.

Orphanages.—Educational facilities are provided for orphans or destitute children. A maintenance grant of Rs. 75 is paid to the manager of an approved Orphanage or Home on account of each orphan or destitute child who is between the ages of $\frac{\text{5 and 15 (in an Assisted Vernacular school)}}{\text{5 and 17 (in an Assisted English school)}}$ at the beginning of the school year and who has been in residence at an Orphanage or Home for a period of not less than 9 months and has regularly attended a registered school during this period. Such grants during 1936 amounted to Rs. 167,695.

Reformatory.—There is only one reformatory school to which juvenile offenders are admitted. Here they are taught different trades such as gardening, carpentry, tailoring, cooking, bookbinding, ironwork, printing, weaving, &c., while undergoing their term of punishment. Ninty-five juvenile offenders were admitted during the year bringing the total to 309.

Prisoners.—There are schools for prisoners at the two jails in the Colombo District. There are 43 pupils at Mahara and 131 pupils at Welikada. Social workers conduct English classes for certain prisoners at the latter jail. The jail school at Kandy has 9 pupils.

Lepers.—There are two schools for lepers : one at Hendala and another at Mantivu which are conducted by the Sisters of the Franciscan Order. The school at Hendala consists of three sections, *i.e.*, English, Tamil, and Sinhalese containing 28, 27, and 23 pupils respectively. The ages of the pupils range from 5 to 44. The average attendance is 40. The Mantivu Leper School, also consisting of 3 sections, has 8 pupils in the English section, 10 in the Sinhalese, and 10 in the Tamil.

The Langdon Home.—In Badulla District there is one institution which receives assistance from Government for training women in industrial work and household management. After a period of training, these women go into the villages and teach the older girls reading, writing, sewing, embroidery, and lacemaking. They also give instruction in the art of clean and efficient housekeeping and also encourage the practice of thrift.

Pensions, &c.—The posts of Government teachers are pensionable and in addition they make contributions to a Widows' and Orphans' Pension Scheme. Teachers in assisted schools are eligible for a pension similar to that of Government teachers, but the pension scheme in assisted schools is on a contributory basis.

THE CEYLON UNIVERSITY COLLEGE.

The University College was established in 1921 for the purpose of affording facilities for higher education to students in Ceylon.

Numbers.—The number of students on the roll in July, 1936, the beginning of the academic year, 1936–37, was 541, including 56 women students. The figures for 1921–35 were as follows :—

1921	..	166	1926	..	313	1931	..	355
1922	..	217	1927	..	279	1932	..	377
1923	..	262	1928	..	315	1933	..	417
1924	..	262	1929	..	338	1934	..	449
1925	..	256	1930	..	394	1935	..	539

Courses.—The College offers instruction in Latin, Greek, Sanskrit, Pali English, Sinhalese, Tamil, Logic, Philosophy, History, Geography, Economics, Pure Mathematics, Applied Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Botany, and Zoology.

Honours courses are provided in Classics, English, Indo-Aryan (Sanskrit and Pali), History, Mathematics, Chemistry, Botany, Zoology, and Physics.

The College course is normally one of three years. At the end of the first year students take the (External) Intermediate Arts, Science, and Economics examinations of the University of London conducted in Ceylon. At the end of the third year they take the final examinations for the B.A. (General), B.A. (Honours), B.Sc. (General), and B.Sc. (Special) Degrees of the same University.

The College provides also a two-year course for a Diploma in Economics to students who have already passed the London Intermediate Examination in Science (Economics). The course is of degree standard and specially adapted to Ceylon.

Students who intend to join the medical profession are given one year's course of instruction in Physics, Chemistry, and General Biology, at the end of which they take either the First M.B. Examination of the University of London or the Pre-Medical Examination of the Ceylon Medical College, or both.

Graduates.—On the results of the examinations held in June, 1936, 39 candidates qualified themselves for the B.A. and B.Sc. degrees of the University of London.

The total number of graduates from the University College from the time of its inception in 1921 is 376, of whom 27 obtained Honours in Classics, 13 in English, 28 in History, 42 in Mathematics, 15 in Indo-Aryan, 2 in Physics, 16 in Chemistry, 6 in Botany, and 4 in Zoology.

Hostels.—Most of the students not living with their parents or relations are residing in four hostels affiliated to the College and subject to the College rules and regulations. These hostels are administered by extra-university bodies and are subsidized by the Government.

University College Council.—This Council, which consists of twenty members nominated by His Excellency the Governor, advises the Principal of the College in matters relating to the administration of the College, and the preparation for its conversion into a University.

THE CEYLON MEDICAL COLLEGE.

The Ceylon Medical College was established in 1870 in the form of a medical school capable of affording a practical education on the principles of medicine and surgery, and especially midwifery, together with a practical knowledge of Anatomy, Physiology, Materia Medica, Pharmaceutical Chemistry, and the art of dispensing. It had originally a Principal and three lecturers, and the whole course took only three years.

This course was later increased from time to time in order to keep abreast with the progress of medical science. In 1887 recognition was granted by the General Medical Council of the United Kingdom, and the diploma became registrable in Great Britain and all parts of the Empire.

In 1924 the complete extended curriculum of one year's pre-medical study (Chemistry, Physics, Biology) and five years' medical study was adopted.

The College now provides the complete course of instruction required for the practice of modern Medicine, Surgery, and Midwifery. Including the course of preliminary or pre-registration work in Physics, Chemistry, and Biology, which is provided by arrangement at the University College, Colombo, the whole course takes six years.

In addition to the complete medical curriculum, the College provides a course of instruction for a minor grade of medical practitioners, known as Apothecaries. These receive a two years' course of instruction in Anatomy, Physiology, Chemistry, Pharmacy, Pharmacology and Dispensing, Elementary Medicine, Surgery, and Midwifery, both theoretical and clinical, and Surgical Dressing, and in Hygiene and Public Health. They receive free instruction, and on passing the two Apothecaries' Examinations are employed by the Government to take charge of the Government Dispensaries and some small hospitals in the remote rural areas and villages, but are only permitted to practise while so employed in Government service and are subject to the control of the District Medical Officers. They are eligible to be registered as Pharmacists.

These Apothecaries to a large extent provide for the medical treatment of the poor villagers in remote districts and where fully qualified medical practitioners are not available.

A department for the training of pupil midwives has been added to the College. This work was formerly carried out by the Department of Medical and Sanitary Services, but from October 1, 1931, the teaching and examinations of pupils have been vested in the College Council. First and second class certificates of efficiency are conferred on successful candidates, who are then eligible to be registered as midwives. As this arrangement in practice proved difficult of administration it was discontinued from October 1, 1932. The College however continues to conduct the examinations for certificates of efficiency as midwives, the courses of instruction having been restored to the Department of Medical and Sanitary Services. The College thereby retains control of the standard of teaching.

The College is staffed by whole-time Professors, in Medicine, Surgery, Anatomy, Physiology, and Pathology, and a large number of part-time lecturers, mostly drawn from the officers of the Department of Medical and Sanitary Services.

Details of staff, fees, courses of study, and rules for students, and the history of the College, are embodied in the annual calendar, copies of which are sent free to Medical Schools in Great Britain, principal Educational Institutions, and Government departments in the Island.

The Government set up in 1928 a Post-licentiate Scholarship (suspended for the time being), which is granted yearly to the best student of the final year who qualifies in the first class within the statutory period, to enable him to obtain British qualifications and also to pursue studies and research in some special subject. The value of the scholarship is £300 per annum.

A small number of students generally discontinue study in the Ceylon Medical College and go to the United Kingdom to complete their studies.

THE LAW COLLEGE.

The Law College which is controlled by the Incorporated Council of Legal Education exists for the supervision and control of the legal education of students desiring to qualify themselves as advocates or proctors of the Supreme Court. The Council consists of the Judges, the Attorney-General, the Solicitor-General, and such other persons of standing in the legal profession as the Judges may appoint. The members hold office for three years at a time. The academic qualifications requisite for admission in the case of advocates are (1) a degree in Arts or Science of any University in the British Empire, (2) a pass in the Intermediate Examination in Arts or Science of the University of London, and in the case of proctors (1) a degree in Arts or Science of any University in the British Empire, (2) a pass in the Matriculation Examination of the University of London or the Intermediate Examination in Arts or Science of any Indian University, or the Senior Local Examination, of the University of Cambridge, or the Cambridge Senior School-Leaving Certificate, provided always that the candidate shall adduce proof that he has passed an examination in English and Latin, such examination being either the examination on which he relies for his qualification or some one or other of the aforesaid examinations of any University in the British Empire.

Admissions to the Law College take place twice annually, in the months of January and July, respectively, and the total number of students admitted during the year 1936 is as follows :—

Advocates	10
Proctors	62

The Board of Lecturers, consisting of six members, are appointed in the month of June and hold office for three years.

The examinations provided under the Rules of the Incorporated Council of Legal Education are held twice a year, also in the months of January and July, the examiners (five in number) being appointed once a year in the month of June by the Council. The under-mentioned table shows the number of students who presented themselves at the various examinations, together with the number of successful candidates in 1936 :—

	Entered.	Passed.
Advocates	81 ..	39
Proctors	371 ..	154

CHAPTER X.

Communications and Transport.

SHIPPING.

Colombo Harbour.

Introduction.—The position of Colombo at the junction of the most important trade routes in the East makes it an important port in the commerce of the East, and this natural advantage has been enhanced

by the excellent facilities for docking, bunkering, loading and unloading cargo, water supply, &c., afforded by the port to the vast tonnage of shipping navigating Eastern waters. The port of Colombo has contributed largely to the commercial and economic prosperity of the Island, and this fact is borne out by the phenomenal growth of the city of Colombo since the conversion of the open roadstead into a great artificial harbour enclosed by extensive breakwaters. Colombo is a great *entrepot*, and the volume of business passing through its Customs houses is an indication of the state of trade and general prosperity of the Island.

Trade.—The quantity of imports and exports handled in the port of Colombo in 1936 amounted to 1,609,128 tons (1,067,924 tons imports) and 541,204 tons exports), as compared with 1,605,667 tons (1,042,638 tons imports and 563,029 tons exports) handled in 1935. There has been an increase of 3,461 tons as compared with the previous year.

Harbour.—The harbour is enclosed on all sides, being bounded on the south and east by the land and on the north and west by massive breakwaters. The approach to the harbour is free from navigational dangers. Vessels drawing 33 feet can enter by the Western entrance and vessels drawing 27 feet can enter by the Northern entrance. The Western entrance channel is 630 feet wide, with a navigable depth of 36 feet L. W. O. S. T., and the Northern entrance channel 550 feet wide, with a navigable depth of 30 feet L. W. O. S. T. The sheltered area of the harbour amounts to 643 acres at low water, of which 246 acres have been dredged to 36 feet and over, 140 acres to a depth varying between 36 feet and 33 feet, and 106 acres to between 33 feet and 30 feet ; the remaining 151 acres have a depth of less than 30 feet.

Accommodation for Vessels.—Berthing accommodation, exclusive of the Graving Dock, Guide Pier, and Oil Jetties, is available for 35 vessels in the north-east monsoon and 38 vessels in the south-west monsoon. Berths are available in either monsoon for vessels drawing up to 33 feet of water. One of these berths is for vessels of unlimited length.

Railways.—A broad gauge railway runs through the port premises and is connected with the main railway system of the Island, thus affording direct communication with all parts of the Island and Southern India. Sidings are provided at different places on the waterside. The length of the railway is 6 miles 19 chains, but the total mileage of railway used, including sidings, &c., is $14\frac{5}{8}$ miles. The port railway is available only for the conveyance of goods, the tonnage of goods handled during 1936 being 255,498 tons, as against 247,040 in 1935.

Roads.—Communication by road to the harbour is excellent.

Canals.—The Lake to Harbour canal affords direct water transport between stores and mills situated on the lakeside and the harbour. It is navigable by fully loaded 40-ton harbour barges and to some extent relieves the congestion on roads. This canal, together with the lock basin and locks and the water area of the Beira Lake including the San Sebastian canal locks, is now included in the limits of the port of Colombo.

The total number of lighters, launches, &c., which passed through the Lake to Harbour canal during the year was 7,720, against 7,504 in 1935 and 10,218 in 1934.

Lakeside Facilities.

The development of the Lakeside Barge Yards, comprising the portion of land bordering on the Beira Lake, has opened up for commercial purposes a valuable stretch of land on the water front of the lake, and has relieved the congestion in the harbour by affording facilities for the reception of a number of boats which had hitherto been moored in the harbour. There is every indication, that, when trade improves, there will be an increasing demand for land on the lakeside which by its propinquity to the harbour and easy access thereto, both by land and water, affords a valuable venue for commercial purposes.

The Beira Lake is now an integral part of the port, and its progressive development will eventually lead to the establishment of a Commercial Zone in the vicinity of the port serving as a feeder to the business of the port and fostering its development.

Passenger Jetty.—The baggage office has good accommodation and examination halls. There is a staff always on duty day and night, and baggage landed with passengers is passed without delay. There is also provision for the storage of such baggage as a passenger may wish to leave in the premises, a small storage rent being payable. Accommodation is also provided at the Custom house at the Passenger Jetty for a Railway Booking Enquiry Office and a Post Office. The Passenger Traffic during the year shows a decrease, the total number being 174,371, against 263,574 in the preceding year.

Landing and Shipping.—Landing and shipping of cargo is assisted by an efficient crane service. There is a total quayage of 15,657 lineal feet. The following are the particulars of cranes available at the port :—

Electric cranes	..	14	Hand derrick ..	..	1
Steam cranes ..	..	22	Steam derrick ..	..	1
Hand cranes ..	..	13	Mobile crane ..	..	1
Elephant hand crane	..	1	Steam jib crane	..	1
Floating cranes	..	2	Steam block loading titan	..	1

operating on the jetties and quays. The largest lift which can be made is 35 tons. The conveyance of cargo from the vessel to the wharf is done by lighters and is carried out by recognized stevedores and landing companies.

Cargo for shipment is brought down to the warehouse by cart, lorry, train, or barge. The Port Commission railway runs direct into the premises alongside three of the export warehouses. With regard to shipment, the same considerations apply as in the case of imports, some firms finding it more convenient to employ a clearing or shipping agency than to maintain their own staff. As in the case of import cargo, goods remain in the Government warehouse at the risk of the exporter. To suit the convenience of shippers who do not carry out their own shipments, landing and shipping companies are prepared to take over cargo at the shipper's stores for removal to the warehouse in the Company's own lorries. Export harbour dues are payable on all goods sent down to the warehouses or wharf. If they lie there for more than three clear days, further dues are payable for each day, and in addition a similar sum by way of warehouse rent. Cargo is taken to the vessel by means of lighters. A good supply of labour is available.

Warehouse Accommodation.—As goods discharged are not always directly transferred to some other means of conveyance, it has been

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VILLAGE BOYS.

found necessary to provide extensive warehouse accommodation for the increasing volume of goods demanding storage, pending shipment or removal from the premises. There is a total warehouse floor area of 568,786 square feet in the port for dealing with imports, exports, and transhipment cargo. Most of the warehouses have railway facilities and cranes are available where required.

The import warehouses are situated between the root of the South-west Breakwater and the Lake to Harbour canal. Other import warehouses and landing areas are also situated on either side of the canal, and these are largely used for the landing of rough cargo, such as timber and metal. Further north, three recently built warehouses are available at Kochchikade, where facilities are provided for transport by rail.

Five commodious warehouses are allotted for the accommodation of export cargo, in addition to an open shed used for the shipment of drums containing coconut oil and similar commodities, and another shed for rough cargo. The largest warehouse can accommodate 4,000 tons of tea packed in chests of the usual size. The other four warehouses can each accommodate from 2,500 to 3,000 tons.

There are several bonded warehouses within the Customs premises, and certain firms have their own bonded warehouses outside the premises. Goods may be bonded for any period up to two years, after which they must either be removed or rebonded. All goods placed in bond are liable to the same rent and harbour dues as in the case of import cargo up to the time of bonding, after which no further dues are payable and bonded warehouse rent is recovered, the amount payable per week on bonded goods being the same as the charge per day on import cargo. No rent is payable to the Customs in the case of goods which lie in bonded warehouses belonging to private firms, though a charge is made for Customs supervision of deposits and removals.

Several firms have their own warehouses and stores on the lakeside, which have direct access from the harbour through the canal and locks. Special facilities are given by the Customs for import cargo to be removed direct to these stores and, conversely, for the direct shipment of export cargo from these stores to the vessel. Rent and dues are, however, payable as in the case of goods landed in the warehouse, but the advantage of this direct traffic lies in obviating two additional handlings which would be necessary had the goods been landed or shipped from a quay.

Transhipment warehouses are available for the accommodation of cargo pending transmission to the destination. No import duty is payable upon such cargo, and rent and harbour dues are payable at a reduced rate, amounting to 1/5th of the rate payable upon ordinary import cargo. In the case of direct transhipment from vessel to vessel, a small fee is payable for Customs supervision. The volume of transhipment is fairly large, the quantity transhipped during the year being about 62,479 tons, but there is a steady traffic with Tuticorin and other South Indian ports of transhipment of cargo to and from the United Kingdom, America, Australia, the Far East, &c.

Removal of Cargo.—Goods may be cleared either by the importer himself or by any landing company or recognized clearing agency. Firms who import on a large scale find it convenient to keep their own staff of wharf clerks for the clearing of cargo and the passing of the necessary entries through the Customs. On the other hand firms whose

business is not so great as to justify the maintenance of such a staff, find it more convenient to clear their goods through a Landing Company, or a Clearing Agency.

Warehouse rent and harbour dues are payable upon all goods landed at the wharf, and three clear days are allowed for the removal of the goods, exclusive of Customs holidays, of which there are five in the year, and Sundays. On goods removed after the expiry of this period further rent and dues are payable in respect of each day inclusive of Sundays and Customs holidays. Special facilities are offered by the Customs for clearing goods prior to the passing of the entry and the payment of the duty, rent, and dues. The usual system is to place a cash deposit with the Customs, against which goods are removed after any examination found necessary, the importer guaranteeing to pass the necessary papers within a reasonable period. Special facilities are also given for the clearing of perishable goods and of consignments, such as rice and sugar, which are landed in large quantities at a time.

Coaling Facilities.—There are about 29 acres of land on the foreshore of the harbour, half of which is leased to different companies for the stacking of coal. The coaling grounds between the Barge Repairing Basin and the Graving Dock have 17 coaling jetties. Large supplies of coal can be procured, and steamers are bunkered with good despatch at any hour of the day or night.

The types and approximate prices of coal stocked at Colombo for commercial purposes are as follows (December, 1936) :—

Type.	Price Trimmed (f. o. b.) Per Ton s.	d.
Welsh coal (Admiralty quality)	44	6
Natal coal	26	6
Indian coal	25	0

The quantities of coal imported and issued for bunkers during the years 1935 and 1936 were as follows :—

	1935. Tons.	1936. Tons.
Imports	436,948 ..	405,537
Bunkers	238,276 ..	225,206

Oil Facilities.—The port is equipped with an up-to-date oil fuel installation which provides for the rapid bunkering of ships using oil fuel. The main Oil Installation Depôt, about 92 acres in extent, is situated at Kolonnawa, about 3½ miles from the harbour front, and various oil companies have erected their own storage and distribution tanks there. This depôt is divided into a non-dangerous and a dangerous oil section and is separated by a safety reservation. Three main pipelines are laid connecting the discharge berth in the harbour with the main oil depôt, two for oil fuel and the other for kerosene and petrol. In connection with the bunkering of vessels, a measuring tanks depôt, about 19 acres in extent, has been established at Bloemendahl, about ¾ of a mile from the harbour front, and branch pipelines are provided from Kolonnawa to Bloemendahl and from Bloemendahl to the bunkering berths, The oil depôt is also connected to the main railway system of the Island. Three reinforced concrete jetties, two for bunkering purposes and one for discharge of oil tankers, have been provided. The outer oil bunkering jetty is capable of accommodating vessels of 500 feet length and 27 feet draught. The inner bunkering jetty is used by barges for bunkering.

Vessels of 500 feet length and 27 feet draught can be berthed at the discharge jetty where the latest facilities for discharging oil ships are provided, and vessels of deeper draught up to 29 feet are accommodated at the Graving Dock Guide Pier.

The imports of oil during the last two years were as follows :—

	1935. Tons.	1936. Tons.
Liquid fuel	317,198 ..	300,453
Kerosene oil	25,833 ..	23,639
Petrol and benzine	32,520 ..	33,202
Total ..	375,551	357,294

The quantities of liquid fuel issued for bunkers during the last two years were as follows :—

	No. of Ships Bunkered.	Tons.
1935	520 ..	272,721
1936	513 ..	254,390

There has been a decrease in the number of oil burning vessels calling at the port, while those burning coal have increased.

The Oil Facilities receipts during the year 1936 were Rs. 930,297·60, as compared with Rs. 997,590·25 in 1935.

Graving Dock.—Length of floor, 700 feet ; breadth of entrance-cope level, 85 feet ; depth over sill at low water, 30 feet ; depth over sill at high water, 32 feet. Docking can be carried out by day or night. An Inner Graving Dock, 350 feet long and 54 feet wide with a depth of 20 feet "at sill", is being constructed. This is an extension of the existing Graving Dock.

Patent Slip.—Length, 800 feet ; length of cradle, 220 feet ; breadth of cradle, 40 feet ; depth over keel blocks at lower end at low water, 21 feet 6 inches ; depth over keel blocks at upper end at low water, 10 feet 6 inches ; inclination 1 in 20. Capable of slipping a vessel of 1,200 tons dead weight.

Ambulance Facilities.—An ambulance launch is available for the conveyance of sick and injured persons between ship and shore. The Colombo Municipal Council provides an adequate and efficient motor ambulance service for the port.

Quarantine.—On entering the harbour each ship is visited by the Port Surgeon or his Assistant, and no person is allowed to board the ship or leave the ship till pratique is granted. If there are cases of infectious diseases on board, such as plague, cholera, smallpox, yellow fever, or typhus, the ship is held in strict quarantine until all necessary measures, such as removal of the sick person, disinfection of the ship, vaccination, &c., as the case may be, are carried out. Thereafter the ship is allowed to be worked in restricted quarantine, any persons having business on board being allowed on special permits.

Port Commission.—The Colombo Port Commission is composed of the following :—The Principal Collector of Customs (who is Chairman or Chief Port Commissioner) ; the Director of Medical and Sanitary Services ; the General Manager of the Railway ; the Chairman, Municipal Council, and Mayor of Colombo ; the Deputy Collector of Customs ; the Master Attendant, Colombo and Galle ; the Harbour Engineer ; six Unofficial

Members nominated by the Chamber of Commerce to represent Import, Export, Shipping, Coaling, Oil, and Landing Agencies' Interests; two Unofficial Members nominated by His Excellency the Governor to represent Ceylonese interests.

RAILWAYS.

All the railways in Ceylon are State-owned and Government-controlled, the management being vested in the Ceylon Government Railway Department.

The total length of line open is 951 miles, of which 834 miles are broad gauge (5½ feet gauge) and 117 miles narrow gauge (2½ feet gauge).

The frontispiece map shows how the different lines radiate from Colombo.

The following table shows the distance from Colombo Fort to the more important stations on the different lines, with the first class return passenger fare and the approximate time of journey :—

Col. Fort. To—	Distance. M. C.	Train Fare (Return). Rs. c.	Approx. Time of Journey. Hours.	Col. Fort. To—	Distance. M. C.	Train Fare (Return). Rs. c.	Approx. Time of Journey. Hours.
Peradeniya	71 62	8 65	3¼*	Polonnaruwa	162 1	19 55	8½*
Kandy	75 12	9 10	3½*	Batticaloa	217 78	26 15	12
Nanu-oya	128 62	17 95	7½*	Trincomalee	184 25	22 20	9½
Nuwara Eliya	135 27	19 20	10 *	Mount Lavinia	7 47	0 95	½*
Bandarawela	161 34	23 90	12 *	Galle	70 38	8 50	2¾*
Anuradhapura	127 31	15 35	5¼*	Negombo	24 17	3 0	1¼*

The main results of the working of the Ceylon Government Railway for the financial years 1931–32 to 1935–36 are shown in the following table :—

Particulars.	1931–32. Rs.	1932–33. Rs.	1933–34. Rs.	1934–35. Rs.	1935–36. Rs.
Total capital outlay	225,307,864	226,379,400	227,005,002	227,500,606	227,804,742
Gross earnings	22,024,355	19,711,602†	20,980,422	18,273,081	16,749,221
Total working expenses‡	21,688,864	19,319,240	18,943,156	18,911,326	19,587,815
Net revenue§	335,491	392,362	2,037,266	Loss 638,245	Loss 2,838,594
Percentage of net revenue on total capital outlay	·15 p.c.	·17 p.c.	·90 p.c.	—	—
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Gross receipts from ordinary passenger and season tickets	8,378,370	7,539,419	7,941,378	6,547,579	5,917,331
Gross receipts from parcels, goods, &c.	13,645,985	12,172,183	13,039,044	11,725,502	10,831,890
Free traffic (excluding that for Railway Department included in gross receipts)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

The number of passengers conveyed has decreased by 810,323, the total conveyed during the year being 9,406,977. Under Season Tickets the number of ticket holders has fallen off by 6,712, the total number of season tickets issued during the year being 160,649.

* By express trains.
† Includes (Rs. 8,089) % Temporary levy on salaries.
‡ Includes provision for renewals.
§ That is," Gross earnings " less " Total, working expenses".

The number of parcels conveyed during the year was 1,127,219 or a decrease of 89,702.

The tonnage of goods carried was 895,238 or a decrease of 93,246 tons, the noticeable increases and decreases being :—

	Increase. Tons.	Decrease. Tons.
Agricultural produce	2,452	—
Cacao	—	881
Coconut produce (other than copra)	—	11,698
Copra	—	10,268
Manure	16,492	—
Petrol	1,622	—
Rice	—	26,470
Rubber	—	5,368
Salt	4,759	—
Sundry goods	—	1,741
Tea	517	—
Foreign Traffic	1,086	—
Special Train Traffic	—	62,984

Passenger Fares.

The standard passenger fares are as follows :—

	Single Journey.			Return Journey.		
	First Class. Cents.	Second Class. Cents.	Third Class. Cents.	First Class. Cents.	Second Class. Cents.	Third Class. Cents.
All lines above Nawalapitiya	10½	7	2½	18	12	4
All lines below Nawalapitiya	7	4⅔	2½	12	8	4

Week-end tickets are issued between all stations distance 25 miles and over at single fare and a half for the double journey. Reductions are made for children, pioneers, and labourers of any nationality, and for periodical tickets.

Sleeping Cars.

The sleeping cars which run on the Up and Down night mail trains between Colombo, Kandy, and Bandarawela and Colombo-Kankesanturai are provided with sleeping accommodation. Each berth is numbered and provided with bedding and an attendant accompanies each car, The charge for a sleeping berth is Rs. 5 in addition to the ordinary first-class fare to the station to which the journey is made.

In the Indo-Ceylon mail trains sleeping berths without bedding are provided for through first-class passengers without any extra charge, but berths are not guaranteed unless they have been reserved, for which a registration fee of Re. 1 per berth will be charged. If bedding is required Rs. 5 must be paid for each set of bedding at the time of booking, and a berth will be made up as a bed by the Car Attendant. In such cases no registration fee will be charged.

Sleeping berths without bedding are provided for second class passengers on the Colombo-Kankesanturai Up and Down night mail trains at Rs. 2·50 each and on the Colombo-Talaimannar Pier Up and Down night mail trains at Re. ½ each for through Indo-Ceylon passengers.

Return sleeping berth tickets at Rs. 6 each first class, and Rs. 3 each second class are being issued as a trial to holders of week-end, ordinary return, and excursion tickets.

Restaurant Cars.

These are attached to the important trains on the Main and Northern lines.

Restaurant Rooms.

These are provided at Maradana, Polgahawela, and Nanu-oya on the Main line, Colombo Fort and Alutgama on the Coast line, and Anuradhapura on the Northern line. Refreshments at these places are supplied at moderate prices.

Refreshment Baskets.

Refreshment baskets can be supplied for any train from Colombo on giving 20 minutes' notice to the Manager, Restaurant Cars and Rooms, at his office at Colombo Fort Station.

Luggage.

Each adult passenger is allowed, free of charge, the following weight of luggage :—

	lb.		lb.
First class ..	112	Third class ..	56
Second class ..	84		

A free allowance of half these quantities is made for each child travelling with a half-ticket. No luggage will be conveyed free for children under three years of age who travel free.

ROADS.

There are over 16,500 miles of roads and cart tracks in the Island controlled and administered by the following authorities :—

Authority.	Description of Roads.	Approximate Mileage.
(i.) Public Works Department ..	All main thoroughfares in the Island ..	4,806
(ii.) District Road Committees ..	All minor roads within the areas of jurisdiction of each committee ..	3,000
(iii.) Local Governing Authorities, viz., Municipalities, Urban District Councils, Local Boards, Sanitary Boards, &c. ..	All streets within their respective jurisdictions	565
(iv.) Village Committees	All natural cart tracks within the jurisdiction of each Committee ..	7,800
(v.) Irrigation Department	— ..	70
(vi.) Private parties	— ..	350

In addition there are approximately 8,200 miles of bridle paths in the charge of the District and Village Committees.

The Public Works Department is the principal road authority in the Island and is responsible for the construction and maintenance of all the "Main roads", by which are meant through arteries connecting the principal centres of populations with one another and with the railways and ports.

The whole cost of construction, improvements, and maintenance of these roads is met from the general revenue of the Island.

The roads vary in standard from narrow country roads to wide modern thoroughfares, the standard depending on the nature of the country traversed and the traffic carried.

The following is the classification of the Public Works Department roads according to the nature of their surfaces :—

	Miles.
Full-metalled	4,043
Track-metalled	277
Gravelled	362
Natural	124
	4,806

The metalled roads are maintained in good order, and, with but few exceptions, may be considered passable to all classes of traffic. Gravelled roads can be considered as dry weather roads only ; in dry weather they are generally in fair order, but they cannot be relied upon to the extent of metalled roads. A large mileage of the metalled roads is tarred or otherwise surface-treated. At the end of 1936 the length of roads so treated was 3,925 miles.

The only direct charge on road users is that for the use of ferry boats, but on the main roads with few exceptions the ferries have been replaced by bridges. Indirect charges are made in the form of import duties and taxes on wheeled vehicles.

The distribution of the main roads, distances between the principal centres, &c., can be ascertained on reference to the motor map of Ceylon, obtainable from the Surveyor-General, Colombo.

The distances from Colombo to other chief towns by road (given to the nearest half mile) are shown in the following list :—

Colombo to—	Miles.	Colombo to—	Miles.
Galle	72½	Batticaloa (*via* Badulla) ..	241
Peradeniya	68	Anuradhapura (*via* Matale) ..	158½
Kandy	72	Trincomalee (*via* Kurunegala)..	169
Nuwara Eliya (*via* Peradeniya)	112	Anuradhapura (*via* Puttalam)..	129
Nuwara Eliya (*via* Ginigathena)	106½	Jaffna (*via* Puttalam) ..	250

MEANS OF TRANSPORT BY ROAD.

The number of motor vehicles in Ceylon on December 31, 1930, was 24,405 ; it decreased during the years of depression to 23,359 on December 31, 1933. Owing to the revival of trade generally throughout the Island since 1934 there has been a steady increase in the number of motor vehicles. On December 31, 1936, there were 28,623 motor vehicles in the Island.

The average cost of running a small private car may be put at about 25 to 40 cents per mile. Hiring cars are available in most parts of the Island and cost 40 cents to Re. 1 per mile.

Drivers and mechanics for privately-owned cars can be obtained without difficulty and all drivers must hold the Government Certificate of Competence, while many are registered with the Automobile Association of Ceylon. Numerous facilities for repairs exist in Colombo, Kandy, Nuwara Eliya, and most of the other towns. Supplies of petrol and oil are available in all towns and in most of the larger villages.

The Automobile Association of Ceylon is affiliated or has reciprocal agreements with most of the Automobile Associations and Clubs in other countries and the Secretary (P. O. Box 338, Colombo) will afford any information which may be desired. The various landing, Customs, and registration formalities can be arranged for visitors by the Association. Facilities afforded by the International Convention relative to motor traffic are now available to Ceylon and a Ceylon TRIPTYQUE for

Customs purposes is available through the leading Automobile Institutions overseas. International Driving Permits, International Certificates of registration for Motor Vehicles, and Fiscal Permits are valid in Ceylon.

Motor Omnibuses.—There is a plentiful supply of motor omnibuses, known in England as road service vehicles, carrying passengers for hire and running on nearly every main road in the Island. The number of omnibuses in use during the year was 2,546. Greater control with regard to the routes served, the condition of the omnibuses plying on the roads, and the standard of drivers and conductors is desirable. These matters are already receiving the special attention of the authorities concerned. The Transport Commission appointed by the Secretary of State may probably have something to say in this connection.

The seating accommodation for passengers in motor omnibuses varies from 8 to 37.

Personal luggage of small dimensions and light weight is carried free of charge. Extra luggage is carried only if there is room in the conveyance on payment of a fee.

Goods.—The chief means of transport of goods by road are the local bullock cart and the motor lorry. A double-bullock cart is capable of taking 1½ tons at a time, and travels at the average rate of about 2 miles an hour. The cost per ton per mile may be put at about 80 cents. In the year 1934 there were about 22,424 single- and double-bullock carts in Ceylon, the majority of which are used in the transportation of village produce (exact figures for 1936 are not available). Motor lorries are slowly but surely replacing bullock carts in the movement of estate goods and in other industries. These vary in load capacity from 5 cwt. to 5½ tons and travel at a speed of about 15 to 20 miles per hour, 15 miles being the legal speed limit for heavy lorries. They run mostly on petrol, a fair number on steam or kerosene, a few but increasing number on crude oil, and a very few on charcoal. In 1936 there were 3,886 motor lorries and vans in Ceylon. Experience has shown that the running costs can be kept at as low as 50 cents per ton per mile. The Diesel oil engine has been gaining in popularity. The number of Diesel vehicles in Ceylon on December 31, 1936, was 229, as against 149 on December 31, 1935. As Diesel vehicles are run on crude oil which is imported free of duty the following scale of special tax on transport vehicles using uncustomed oil is being imposed with effect from January 1, 1936, in order to recoup the resultant loss of revenue by way of import duty on petrol :—

	Monthly Rate. Rs.	c.
Where the tare of the heavy oil motor vehicle—		
(*a*) does not exceed 1 ton	55	0
(*b*) exceeds 1 ton but does not exceed 1½ tons	60	0
(*c*) ,, 1½ ,, ,, 2 ,, ...	65	0
(*d*) ,, 2 ,, ,, 2½ ,, ...	70	0
(*e*) ,, 2½ ,, ,, 3 ,, ...	75	0
(*f*) ,, 3 ,, ,, 3½ ,, ...	80	0
(*g*) ,, 3½ ,, ,, 4 ,, ...	90	0
(*h*) ,, 4 ,, ,, 4½ ,, ...	100	0
(*i*) ,, 4½ ,, ,, 5 ,, ...	110	0
(*j*) ,, 5 ,, ...	120	0

Tramways.—The only street tramways in Ceylon are those in the town of Colombo, the total length of double track being 7 miles. There are two nearly equal routes : one between the Fort and the Kelani river terminus, and one between the Fort and Borella, joined by a cross line

between Maradana and Grandpass *via* Skinner's road and Armour street. The total number of passengers carried annually is estimated at about 13 millions.

CANALS.

The only artificial navigable waterways in Ceylon are a series of canals connecting a chain of lakes on the west coast—Bolgoda, Colombo, Negombo, Chilaw, Mundel, and Puttalam lakes—as also the estuaries of the Kalu-ganga, Kelani-ganga, Maha-oya, and Deduru-oya ; thus forming a continuous water-way from Kalutara in the south to Puttalam in the north, a distance of approximately 120 miles. These were maintained in good order.

In addition to the foregoing there are about 41 miles of boat channel maintained by dredging the Jaffna lagoon.

POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICE.

(Full information on this subject is to be found in the "Ceylon Post Office Guide", obtainable from the Postmaster-General, Colombo, price 75 cents.)

On December 31, 1936, 902 offices were opened for business. Details of the facilities afforded are as follows :—

168 Post Offices (excluding the Central Telegraph Office which does only telegraph business) dealt with all classes of postal business, viz., mail and parcel work, registration and insurance of postal articles, money order, postal order, and Savings Bank work, and telegraph and telephone business. Fifty-seven Post Offices dealt with all classes of business except telephone work. One Post Office conducted all classes of business except postal order, value-payable and cash-on-delivery work and telephone work. Nine Post Offices dealt with all classes of postal business except telegraph and telephone work.

Forty-six Sub-Post Offices conducted all classes of postal business, except insurance, and also provided telephone-telegraph facilities. 129 Sub-Post Offices also conducted such business except telephone-telegraph work.

455 Village Receiving Offices dealt with mail work only. At 37 Railway Stations facilities for the despatch and receipt of Inland postal telegrams were available. At 12 of these stations, mail work was also conducted.

There are 10,351 miles of telegraph wire (including railway telegraph wires), of which 2,728 are laid underground, and 51,836 miles of telephone wire (including Trunk and Junction lines) for subscribers' circuits, of which 37,233 are laid under ground (excluding private estate lines).

Mail Services.

A regular weekly mail service is maintained between Ceylon and the United Kingdom and the continent of Europe and between Ceylon and Australia. Regular and frequent services are also available to the Straits Settlements and the Far East. Mails from Colombo to Mauritius *via* Batavia are despatched fortnightly. Direct mail to Mauritius is

also sent at very irregular intervals. There is also a direct service not less than twice a month between Ceylon and South Africa. Mails from Ceylon to East Africa are despatched fortnightly *via* Bombay and direct twice a month. The mail service by train is maintained daily between Ceylon and India *via* Talaimannar.

Air Mails.—There are two despatches a week of air mail articles from Colombo to connect with the bi-weekly despatch from Karachi westwards. These two despatches are forwarded by rail to Madras, and from thence, by the combined Indian Internal and Imperial Airways Services, the countries served by these services being the United Kingdom, countries in Europe, Egypt, and North Africa, South and East Africa, Canada and the United States of America. Correspondence intended for conveyance by the Internal Air Services of certain countries (viz., United States, Dutch East Indies, and Australia) are also despatched weekly. Air mails for Australia are forwarded weekly *via* Singapore to connect there with the air service to Australia.

Indian mails are carried generally by the Ceylon Government Railway and from railway stations by private contract motor mail services, bullock coach, or runner services.

Rates of Postage.

Inland Rates and Rates to India.

	Cents.		Cents.
For letters, per 2 ounces or part of that weight	6	For registered newspapers not weighing more than 2 pounds, for every 8 ounces	2
For post cards, each	3		
For printed matter, per 2 ounces or part of that weight up to a maximum of 2 pounds	2		

Rates to the United Kingdom, British Possessions, and Egypt.

	Cents.		Cents.
For letters, per ounce or part of that weight	9	For printed papers, per 2 ounces or part of that weight	3
For post cards, each ..	6		

Rates to Foreign Countries (excluding Egypt).

	Cents.		Cents.
For letters, for the first ounce ..	20	For post cards, each ..	12
For every additional ounce or part of that weight	10	For printed papers, per 2 ounces or part of that weight	4

Inland Cash-on-Delivery System.

Postal articles can be transmitted by the Inland post on the value-payable system provided that the amount payable is not less than 50 cents or more than Rs. 600. A posting and delivery fee of 5 to 15 cents, according to value, will be levied on every value-payable article.

Foreign Cash-on-Delivery System.

The Cash-on-delivery Service is in operation between Ceylon and the United Kingdom (the Straits Settlements, the Federated Malay States) and Germany.* Details will be found in the " Ceylon Post Office Guide ".

* The outward service with Germany is temporarily suspended.

Air Mail Parcels.

Air mail parcels addressed to any post office in Great Britain or Northern Ireland for despatch by air from Karachi shall be accepted at all post offices which accept foreign parcels. Details in " Post Office Guide " (Ceylon).

Money Orders.

Money Orders can be obtained at any of the Post Offices payable at any of the others and in most foreign countries. The maximum for inland and Indian Money Orders is Rs. 600, for foreign orders £40 except in certain special cases where the maximum is below this amount. The rate of commission for inland Money Orders is 10 cents for each complete sum of Rs. 10 and 10 cents for the remainder, and for Indian Money Orders 20 cents for each complete sum of Rs. 10 and 20 cents for the remainder. The rate for foreign Money Orders expressed in sterling is 25 cents on sums not exceeding £1, and on sums exceeding £1, 15 cents for each complete sum of £1 and 15 cents for the remainder. Money orders payable in the United Kingdom or countries served through the United Kingdom can be despatched by Air Mail on payment of a fee of 15 cents in addition to the ordinary money order commission. Telegraph Money Orders can be despatched in the inland service. Telegraph Money Order service is also available to India and some other foreign countries, a fixed fee of 10 cents irrespective of the amount of the order is charged for inland and Indian Telegraph Money Orders. There are fixed minima for Telegraph Money Orders according to the currency in which the order is advised. Details will be found in the " Ceylon Post Office Guide".

Postal Orders.

Inland Postal Orders for fixed amounts ranging from 50 cents to Rs. 10 are issued, the rate of commission varying from 3 to 10 cents.

British Postal Orders.

There are 40 denominations of British Postal Order, ranging from 6*d*. to 21*s*., the difference between each up to 19*s*. being 6*d*., and 1*s*. between 19*s*. and 21*s*. Commission is charged at the rate of 5 cents on each of the first three denominations, 10 cents on each of the next eighteen, and 15 cents on each of the remaining denominations. A full list of the countries to which British Postal Orders can be sent is given in section IX. of the " Ceylon Post Office Guide ". Broken amounts up to 5*d*. (but not including fractions of a penny) may be made by affixing unused Ceylon postage stamps of equivalent value or British penny postage stamps not exceeding three in number in the spaces provided on the order.

Inland Telegrams.

The minimum charge for Inland ordinary telegrams is 50 cents for the first twelve words, including the address, and 5 cents for each additional two words or less. These telegrams can be sent from any one telegraph office to any other in the Island.

The charge for Urgent telegrams is Re. 1 for the first twelve words, including the address, and 10 cents for each additional two words or less.

Greetings and Condolence telegrams can be sent at reduced rates on such occasions as Christmas, New Year, Wesak, Hindu New Year, Id, Birthdays, Birth of a child, Weddings, and Funerals and Deaths. The text of such a telegram should be a phrase selected from the list of stock phrases appearing at the end of rule 419A of the Ceylon Post Office Guide. The entire text is counted as one word for the purpose of the collection of charges. The charges are 30 cents for each such telegram consisting of not more than six words and 5 cents for each additional word in the name and address of the addressee or of the sender. For fuller details, see the rule already quoted.

Foreign and Colonial Telegrams.

The rates for telegrams to India (including Burma) are express Rs. 2, and ordinary Re. 1 for the first 12 words or less, and 15 cents and 10 cents respectively for each additional word.

Telegrams to places in other British Possessions and foreign countries can be sent on a minimum charge per word varying from 65 cents to Rs. 3·65 for ordinary, and from 45 cents to Re. 1·85 for deferred telegrams, according to the distance of the place of destination, the route by which the telegram is to be sent, &c. A full list of places to which foreign and Colonial telegrams can be sent, together with the rates charged, is given in section 11 of the " Ceylon Post Office Guide ".

Foreign Cheap Rate Telegrams.

Telegrams in plain language are accepted for transmission as " Daily Letter Telegrams " to various places abroad at considerably reduced rates. A list of places to which this service is available, and the scale of charges, will be found in section 11 of the " Ceylon Post Office Guide ".

Radio-Telegrams.

Radio-Telegrams are accepted at any Postal Telegraph Office in Ceylon for transmission to ships equipped with radio-telegraph apparatus through the Coast Station in Colombo.

The charges are as follows :—

	Per Word. Cents.
British, Indian, or Colonial Government telegrams to His Britannic Majesty's Ships of War *via* Colombo radio or *via* Matara Radio ..	Free
Private telegrams to His Britannic Majesty's Ships of War—	
Via Colombo Radio ..	40
Via Matara Radio ..	25

	Per Word. Cents.
All other Government or private telegrams *Via* Colombo Radio only	65
On Radio Telegrams sent to— ..	
(*a*) Spanish and Swedish ships the charge is	60
(*b*) Finnish ships the charge is ..	50

The normal range of the Colombo Radio Station is 500 miles or about two days steaming from or to the port of Colombo, but this distance is considerably exceeded when conditions are favourable and also according to the equipment on board the ships.

With ships fitted with the Short Wave System, communication is possible for a few thousand miles. Ships not so fitted can be reached through those having the facility.

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APPROACH TO CEYLON AT DAWN.

Telephone System.

Telephone communication exists between most of the principal towns and certain rural districts. The towns are generally served by Government exchanges and the rural districts by Government or private licensed exchanges which are connected to the general trunk system by means of Government junction lines.

The charge for the use of a public call box for six minutes or less is 10 cents, and for the use of the trunk and junction lines for three minutes or less on day calls between 6 A.M. and 6 P.M., and for six minutes or less on night calls between 6 P.M. and 6 A.M., the charge is as follows :—

	Cents.		Cents.
For 15 miles or under.. ..	15	Over 32½ miles and not exceeding 60 miles	50
Over 15 miles and not exceeding 32½ miles	25	Every additional 25 miles or part of a mile	25

The minimum annual rental for a telephone connection to a large town exchange is Rs. 180 for business or professional purposes and Rs. 120 for non-business or residential purposes and for a connection to a small town exchange Rs. 125 and Rs. 90 respectively.

Broadcasting Service.

The Government maintains a regular broadcasting service on a wave-length of 428·5 metres (700 KC) with a transmitter radiating 1·5 K.W. situated in Colombo. Evening programmes are simultaneously broadcast on a shortwave wave-length of 48·7 metres (6,160 Kilocycles).

Programmes consisting of music, talks and news are broadcast in English, Sinhalese, and Tamil. Empire programmes from Daventry are relayed and broadcast almost daily.

The number of radio receiving licences in force at the end of 1936 was 3,873, as against 3,053 at the end of 1935.

There is a regular broadcast to schools conducted by the Department of Education.

CHAPTER XI.

Banking, Currency, Weights and Measures.

BANKS.

The following is a list of banks which have branches in Ceylon :—

Name of Bank	Imperial Bank of India
Address of Head Office ..	Madras
Branch in Ceylon ..	Prince street, Fort, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon ..	—
London Office	25, Old Broad street, London, E.C. 2

Name of Bank	National Bank of India, Ltd.
Address of Head Office ..	26, Bishopsgate, London, E.C. 2
Branches in Ceylon ..	York street, Fort, Colombo ; Ward street, Kandy ; and Nuwara Eliya
Agents in Ceylon ..	Clark, Spence & Co., Galle
Bankers in the United Kingdom	The Bank of England ; The National Provincial Bank, Ltd. ; The National Bank of Scotland, Ltd.

6——J. N. 65863 (6/37)

Name of Bank	Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China
Address of Head Office ..	38, Bishopsgate, London, E.C. 2
Branch in Ceylon ..	Queen street and Baillie street, Fort, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon ..	Mercantile Bank of India, Ltd., Galle
Bankers in the United Kingdom	The Bank of England ; Midland Bank, Ltd. ; Westminster Bank, Ltd. ; National Provincial Bank, Ltd. ; The National Bank of Scotland, Ltd. ; Lloyds Bank, Ltd.

Name of Bank	Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation
Address of Head Office ..	1, Queen's road, Hong Kong
Branch in Ceylon ..	24, Prince street, Fort, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon ..	E. Coates & Co. (Galle), Ltd., Galle
Bankers in the United Kingdom	Westminster Bank, Ltd.

Name of Bank	The Mercantile Bank of India, Ltd.
Address of Head Office ..	15, Gracechurch street, London, E.C. 3
Branches in Ceylon ..	16, Queen street, Fort, Colombo ; 97, Queen's Hotel building, Kandy ; and Galle
Agents in Ceylon ..	—
Bankers in the United Kingdom	The Bank of England ; Midland Bank, Ltd.

Name of Bank	The Eastern Bank, Ltd.
Address of Head Office ..	2 and 3, Crosby square, Bishopsgate, London, E.C. 3
Branch in Ceylon ..	Main street, Fort, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon ..	—
Bankers in the United Kingdom	The Bank of England ; Westminster Bank, Ltd. ; The National Provincial Bank, Ltd. ; The Bank of Scotland ; Barclay's Bank, Ltd. ; Martin's Bank, Ltd.

Name of Bank	The P. & O. Banking Corporation, Ltd. (with which is affiliated The Allahabad Bank, Ltd.)
Address of Head Office ..	117-122, Leadenhall street, London, E.C. 3
Branch in Ceylon ..	Victoria Arcade buildings, York street, Fort, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon ..	—
Bankers in the United Kingdom	The Bank of England ; Lloyds Bank, Ltd. ; Westminster Bank, Ltd. ; The National Provincial Bank, Ltd. ; Royal Bank of Scotland
Name of Bankers ..	Thos. Cook & Son (Bankers), Ltd.
Address of Head Office ..	Berkeley street, Piccadilly, London, W. 1
Branch in Ceylon ..	Prince street, Fort, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon ..	—
Bankers in the United Kingdom	The National Provincial Bank, Ltd. ; Barclay's Bank, Ltd. ; Midland Bank, Ltd.

Name of Bank	Indian Bank, Ltd.
Address of Head Office ..	Indian Bank buildings, North Beach road, Madras
Branches in Ceylon ..	Baillie street, Colombo ; Grand Bazaar, Jaffna
Agents in Ceylon ..	None
Bankers in the United Kingdom	None

Name of Bank	The Calicut Bank, Ltd.
Address of Head Office ..	The Calicut Bank, Ltd., Bank road, Calicut, India
Branch in Ceylon ..	15, Baillie street, Fort, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon ..	None
Bankers in the United Kingdom	None

Name of Bank ..	..	The Bank of Chettinad, Ltd.
Address of Head Office	..	The Bank of Chettinad, Ltd., Chettinad, South India
Branch in Ceylon	..	The Bank of Chettinad, Ltd., 256, Sea street, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon	..	No Agency (Manager: M. M. Ramanathan Chettiar)
Bankers in the United Kingdom		None

Name of Bank ..	..	Bank of Uva, Ltd.
Address of Head Office	..	Badulla
Branch in Ceylon	..	—
Agents in Ceylon	..	Colombo Commercial Co., Ltd., Colombo
Bankers in the United Kingdom		—

Banking Agencies.

Name of Bank.			Agents in Ceylon.
Coutts & Co.	..	..	George Steuart & Co., Colombo
Ulster Bank, Ltd., Belfast	..	..	do.
Westminster Bank, Ltd.	..	..	do.
Bank of Montreal	..	..	do.
Charles Hoare & Co.	..	..	do.
Martin's Bank, Ltd.	..	..	do.
National Provincial Bank, Ltd.		..	do.

Savings Banks.

There are two Savings Banks, viz., the Ceylon Savings Bank and the Post Office Savings Bank.

The Ceylon Savings Bank is a Government institution established in 1832. Accounts may be opened with a minimum deposit of 50 cents, and not more than Rs. 2,000 can be deposited in one year irrespective of withdrawals. The maximum sum which a depositor may have to his or her credit is Rs. 6,000. Charitable institutions or societies may deposit Rs. 3,000 per annum up to a maximum of Rs. 9,000. The Bank allows interest at the rate of 3 per cent.

The Post Office Savings Bank is managed by the Post and Telegraph Department. Deposits and withdrawals can be made at any of the Post Offices in the Island. The first deposit is 50 cents and the minimum amount that can be deposited thereafter is 25 cents, and the maximum per annum is Rs. 750 irrespective of withdrawals. The total amount which a depositor may have to his or her credit is Rs. 3,000. The rate of interest allowed is 2·4 per cent.—2 cents per month for each complete sum of Rs. 10.

Co-operative Societies.

There were, on April 30, 1936, 1,008 registered Co-operative Societies in Ceylon, of which 3 were Co-operative Central Banks, 847 Village Credit Societies or Banks of Unlimited Liability, 27 societies of Limited Liability, 71 Thrift Societies, 33 Supervising Unions, 20 Supply Societies, 1 Co-operative Land Mortgage Bank, 2 Sale Societies, 1 Co-operative

Motor Boat Society, 1 Milk Supply Society, 1 Health Society, and 1 Sports Society. These societies had 39,055 members.

Statistics are compiled only at the end of the co-operative working year on April 30. Since then the following societies were registered :—

Unlimited Credit	..	34	Desiccated Coconut—		
Thrift ..	..	11	Millers' Trading Society	..	1
Limited Credit	..	2			
Labour ..	..	5			60
Stores ..	..	7			

Working Capital on April 30 was Rs. 3,236,690.

Loans are still made directly by Government to societies in the less developed portions of the Island, but this system is being gradually replaced by independent Central Banks as the movement develops.

Percentage of overdues was 22 per cent. for the Western Division, 11 per cent. for the Central Division, and 11·3 per cent. for the Northern Division.

A new Co-operative Ordinance was passed in December, 1936, as No. 16 of 1936. New by-laws of a purer Raifeissen type have been adopted by credit societies of unlimited liability.

A supervision and Audit Fund has been created for the Sinhalese provinces by means of which societies are able to make a contribution towards the work of their own supervision.

Five labour societies have been organized in an attempt to find work on estates for Sinhalese villagers who need further employment. Further organizations are held in suspense pending the report of the Immigration Commission.

A co-operative dispensary has been opened in the Tholpuram-Moolai area and is doing very well.

A Banking Union has been successfully formed in the Galle Gangaboda pattu area.

The department is indebted to the Director of Agriculture for instructions given by his officers to the officers of this department and for assistance in obtaining closer co-operation between the Inspectors of his department and this during the year.

CURRENCY, &c.

The monetary unit in Ceylon is the Indian silver rupee, which is divided into 100 cents. The following fractions of the rupee are coined :— (1) Silver, 50-cent piece ; 25-cent piece ; and 10-cent piece ; (2) nickel 5-cent piece ; (3) copper, 1-cent piece and ½-cent piece.

The chief medium of exchange in Ceylon is the currency notes issued by the Government of Ceylon. They are of the following values :— Rs. 1,000, Rs. 500, Rs. 100, Rs. 50, Rs. 10, Rs. 5, Rs. 2, and Re. 1. The present value of the rupee is about 1*s.* 6*d.*

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

The standard weights and measures are the English units. In conjunction with these many local weights and measures are used.

CHAPTER XII.

Public Works.

WITH the introduction in July, 1931, of the new Constitution for the Island under the Ceylon (State Council) Order in Council, 1931, the Public Works Department is placed under the immediate control of the Executive Committee of Communications and Works.

There was an increase in expenditure in 1936 on that of the previous years. The total expenditure by the department amounted to Rs. 10,084,041, as against Rs. 8,260,407 during the previous year (1934-35) and Rs. 26,832,348 seven years ago (1928-29).

Maintenance.—The roads, bridges, canals, and public buildings in charge of the department were maintained in satisfactory condition having regard to the restricted funds available.

New Works.—The following are the more important works completed or in progress during the year :—

NEW BUILDINGS AND ADDITIONS AND IMPROVEMENTS TO BUILDINGS.

Quarters for 40 married Sergeants and Constables (4 Storey Block), Colombo.
Industrial School at Maradana.
Bacteriological Institute, Colombo.
New Nurses' Home, General Hospital, Colombo.
Additional Class Rooms to Government Training College, Colombo.
Extensions to Ceylon University College.
Quarters for Nurses and Pupil Midwives, De Soysa Lying-in Home, Colombo.
Improvements to Government Technical College.
Reconditioning Queen's House, Colombo.
Extensions to Out-patients' Department, General Hospital, Colombo.
Extension to Labour Room, De Soysa Lying-in Home, Colombo.
New Garages, Queen's House, Colombo.
Extensions to Ceylon Technical College.
New Breakfast Room, Government Printing Office, Colombo.
Block of 12 rooms for Paying Patients, Angoda Lunatic Asylum.
Extensions to Nurses' Quarters, Lunatic Asylum, Angoda.
Additions to C. D. F. Buildings, Slave Island, Colombo.
Additions and Improvements to C. G. A., Headquarters.
Improved Lavatory Accommodation for Government Stores.
Improvements to Government Analyst's Department, Colombo.
Store Accommodation, Welikada Prison.
Seven Kitchens, Kotahena Police Station.
Extensions to Surveyor-General's Office, Colombo.
Drill Hall and Headquarters, C. P. R. C., Colombo.
Additions to Government Dairy, Colombo.
Improvements to Welikada Prison, Colombo.
Improvements to Hulftsdorp Prison, Colombo.
Two additional temporary wards of 50 beds each, Leper Asylum, Hendala.
Second Stage of Extensions, De Soysa Lying-in Home, Colombo.

Additions and Improvements to Mahara Prison.
Additions to Mahara Prison comprising quarters for 20 Guards and Overseers.
Ward of 40 beds, Ragama Anti-Tuberculosis Hospital.
Children's Ward, Kandana Sanatorium.
Maternity Ward, Negombo Hospital.
Water Supply, Gampaha Hospital.
Quarters for 5 Sergeants and Constables, Police Station, Panadure.
Acquisition of Excise Warehouse, Kandy.
Bungalow for Manager, Experiment Station, Peradeniya.
Dairy Farm, Polonnaruwa.
Additions and Improvements to Experiment Station, Peradeniya.
Water Service, King's Pavilion, Kandy.
Quarters for Matron and Nurse, Teldeniya Hospital.
Additional Requirements, Dairy Farm, Polonnaruwa.
Improvements to Kandy Remand Prison.
Improvements to Bogambara Prison.
Renewal of roof of bungalow of Economic Botanist, Kandy.
Renewal of roof of Divisional Agricultural Officer's Bungalow, Peradeniya.
Repairs to roof of Military Quarters Nos. 19 and 20, Brownrigg street, Kandy.
Water Supply, Alutnuwara Hospital.
Special Repairs, Alutnuwara Hospital.
Labourers' Lines on 4th mile, Norton-Luccombe road.
Maternity Ward, Nawalapitiya Hospital.
Improvements to Pussellawa Hospital Water Supply.
Acquisition of site for quarters for Staff Officers, Galle.
Acquisition of land for Balapitiya Hospital.
New Female Ward of 18 beds, Walasmulla, Hospital.
Accommodation for an X'Ray apparatus, Galle Hospital.
Extensions to Operating Theatre, Galle Hospital.
Additions to Hambantota Kachcheri.
Additions and Improvements to Fiscal's lock-up, Hambantota.
Additions to Central Agricultural Station, Labuduwa, Galle.
Water Supply, Matara Hospital.
Renewal of roof at the Mahamodera Hospital, Galle.
Renewal of roof at the Residency, Galle.
Renewal of roof at the Outdoor Dispensary, Galle.
Special repairs to roof of Divisional Agricultural Officer's quarters, Central Agricultural Station, Labuduwa, Galle.
Circuit Bungalow, Kilinochchi.
Quarters for two Telegraph Linesmen at Vavuniya.
New Crane, Kankesanturai Customs.
New Crane, Jaffna Customs.
Repairs to Excise Station and quarters, Elephant Pass.
Extensions to Warehouse Officer's quarters, Vavuniya.
Paddy Store, Paranthan.
Additional Ward, Delft Hospital.
Maternity Ward, Chavakachcheri Hospital.
Additional Storey to Religious Sisters' quarters, Mantivu.
Acquisition of land, Trincomalee Hospital.
Special repairs to Police Station, Trincomalee.
Extensions to Trincomalee Hospital.

New Police Court, Dandagamuwa.
Quarters for two Telegraph Linesmen, Maho.
Water Supplies to Hospitals at Puttalam, Dandagamuwa, and Ridigama.
Improvements to Clerks' quarters, Chilaw.
Record Presses, Chilaw Police Court.
Additions to Assistant Veterinary Surgeon's bungalow, Bandarawela.
Three additional married quarters, Bandarawela Police Station.
Improvements to Water Supply, Buttala Hospital.
Water Supply, Madulsima Hospital.
Special repairs to Provincial Engineer's bungalow, Badulla.
Temporary Maternity Ward of 10 beds, Female Hospital, Ratnapura.
Additions to Government Farm, Ambepussa.
Extensions to Nurses' quarters and Administration Block, Kegalla Hospital.
Temporary Water Supply, Kegalla Hospital.

BRIDGES.

Maguru-ganga bridge consisting of a span of 30 feet with 12 feet roadway.
Palliawatta bridge on 1st mile, Hamilton canal.
Reconstruction of bridge No. 26/2, Minuwangoda-Henaratgoda road.
Angulana bridge consisting of 40 feet span with 14 feet roadway.
Pamankade bridge—widening of and spans.
Victoria bridge—resurfacing.
Temporary bridge consisting of 9 spans of 14 feet with 12 feet concrete roadway on 17th mile, Colombo-Kandy road.
Improvements to platform, Giriulla bridge.
Bolgoda bridge.
Talpitiya bridge.
Footbridges over the Mahaweli-ganga at Lewella and at the Experiment Station, Peradeniya.
Reconstructing bridge No. 28/4 on Madawela-Teldeniya-Nugatenne-Bintenna road.
Widening Bridge at Mandandawala, Matale Town, Kandy-Jaffna road.
Strengthening Malwatu-oya bridge—74th mile, Kandy-Jaffna road (Mirisgonioya to Galkulam).
Widening bridge No. 15/3, Maradankadawela-Habarana road.
Strengthening Katugastota bridge.
Renewing steelwork of and widening abutments of bridge No. 4/10, Uda Pussellawa road.
Bentota bridge.
Hikkaduwa bridge.
Improvements to Tudawa bridge No. 2/2, Matara-Hakmana road.
Reconstructing bridge No. 1/7, Hakmana-Tangalla road.
Repairs to Gintota bridge.
Causeway over Aruvi-aru on the Murugan-Silavaturai road.
Strengthening bridge No. 29/1, Mankulam-Mullaittivu road.
Bridge No. 28/2, Karaitivu-Sammanturai road, 6 spans of 35 feet each.
Improvements to bridge No. 24/5, Batticaloa-Trincomalee road.
Reconditioning platform of bridge No. 48/3, Coast road south, Kalmunai District.

Construction of bridge No. 17/5, Kurunegala-Puttalam road.
Construction of bridge No. 5/3, Kurunegala-Puttalam road.
Construction of bridge No. 1/5, Kurunegala-Polgahawela road.
Strengthening bridge No. 21/3, Moneragala-Pottuvil road.
Reconstructing bridge No. 5/5, Bibile-Medagama road.
Improvements to bridges Nos. 55/3, 55/7, 67/8, and 60/4, Kendangamuwa-Pelmadulla road.
Renewing bridge No. 52/9, Kendangamuwa-Pelmadulla road.
Strengthening Kuruwita bridge.
Strengthening bridge No. 3/7, Pasyala-Giriulla road.

New Roads.

Extension of Kukul korale road from Badureliya towards Kalawana.
Approach road to Pallewela Railway Station.
Welimada-Kirklees road, Welimada-Haloya.

Additions and Improvements to Roads.

Improving junction of Kotte-Padukka road with Cotta road.
Improving and widening blind corner, 23rd mile, Colombo-Galle road.
Widening road at culvert 34/9, Colombo-Galle road.
Improving roads, &c., New Secretariat and Council Chamber.
Improvements to approach roads, Welikada Jail.
Improving approach roads to Mahara Prison.
Improvement to Colombo-Kandy road, $4\frac{1}{4}$–$4\frac{1}{2}$ miles.
Extending 7 culverts, Horana-Alutgama road.
Extending 8 culverts, Colombo-Kandy road.
Reconstructing 5 culverts on 20–27 miles, Colombo-Kandy road.
Improvements to Fruithill Corner, Colombo-Ginigathena-Nuwara Eliya road.
Improving 15th mile, Hambantota-Tanamalwila-Wellawaya road.
Widening road embankment, 34th mile, Hambantota-Tanamalwila-Wellawaya road.
Widening 194th and 198th miles, Kandy-Jaffna road.
Metalling and improving Coast road, Pooneryn-Mannar, 12–14 miles.
Improvements to 12th mile, Mannar-Pesalai-Talaimannar road.
Widening and improving Arasadi-Malkampiddi road.
Improvements to Trincomalee-Yan-oya road, 7–10 miles.
Widening 54th to 60th mile, Batticaloa-Trincomalee road.
Widening narrow places on the 11th and 12th miles of Alawwa-Polgahawela road.
Improving approach road to Experiment Station, Wariyapola.
Construction and extension of culverts 6th and 7th miles, Badulla-Bandarawela road.
Improvements to dangerous places on 72nd to 83rd, 85th to 87th, 89th, 92nd and 93rd, 96th and 100th miles, Pelmadulla-Halpe road.
Improving Warakapola-Ruanwella road, 8–14 miles.

Improvements to Minor Roads.

Improving 6th mile, Cotta-Padukka road.
Improving bridges and culverts on 6th and 7th miles, Agalawatta-Badureliya road.
Relaying platform to bridges Nos 3/1 and 3/2, Pattalagedera-Kalagedihena road.
Reconstructing bridge No. 8/1, Karandeniya-Halpatota road.
Renewing platform of bridge No. 2/1, Tangalla–Wiraketiya road.
Improvements to culverts 16/8, 18/11, and 23/4, Kamburupitiya-Mawarella road.
Improvements to Uyilankulam-Alkattiveli road.
Reconstruction of bridge No. 5/2, Dambokka-Katupitiya road.
Improvements to bridge No. 2/1, Mahakeliya-Katupota road.
Improvements to bridge No. 4/2, Kahawatta-Bemulugedera road.
Improvements to Diyatalawa-Bandarawela road.

Miscellaneous.

New Aerodrome at Ratmalana.
Karaiyur Reclamation Scheme.
Transfer of P. W. D. Stores to the Railway Workshops at Maradana.

Waterworks.

Improvements to water supplies at Diyatalawa, Gampola, and Kahawatta.

IRRIGATION.

Early History.—From the earliest period in the history of the Island the importance of conserving water for irrigation has been recognized. Historical records indicate that the construction of the necessary tanks and channels came to be regarded as a special and solemn duty assigned to the King for promoting the wealth and welfare of his subjects, and that in proportion to the zeal with which different monarchs had exercised this prerogative their names were venerated. The remains of extensive and intricate networks of tanks and canals can be found to-day in every part of the Island. Though it is unlikely that all these various irrigation systems ever existed simultaneously in full working order, it is clear that the ancient engineers realized the principles of conserving on a very large scale the intermittent supplies carried by the main rivers, and with the advantage of an unlimited command of labour and an intimate knowledge of their terrain, though handicapped by the primitive nature of their technique and appliances, they made valiant and often successful efforts to apply them.

Decay and subsequent Growth.—Indigenous irrigation activity and agricultural prosperity seem to have reached their zenith about the twelfth century A. D. From then onwards to the modern era Ceylon was not infrequently ravaged by internal warfare and pestilence. No large irrigation work was constructed in this period, and, until the advent of the Dutch and subsequently of the British, the works already built

were allowed to fall into disuse and disrepair. There is probably no form of civil engineering work that demands more constant and unremitting attention to its maintenance than that connected with the control of water, and it is not difficult to appreciate that without such attention the once great irrigation works very rapidly succumbed to the onset of floods and the ceaseless inroads of the jungle. In modern times many of the old irrigation works have been restored to active usefulness. There are yet others embedded in the jungle which await restoration as and when occasion arises.

Importance of Irrigation.—The importance of irrigation in Ceylon is due to two causes, one dietetic and the other climatic. Rice is the staple food of the people and its cultivation, though not always remunerative, has, through secular and religious encouragement, acquired a definite social status as the national agricultural industry. Rice practically grows in water, and although the rainfall in the Island is generally adequate in total amount, its seasonal incidence is uncertain. Rice cultivation cannot succeed if it depends solely on the vagaries of such rainfall, and the construction and maintenance of artificial means of diverting and conserving water are manifestly essential.

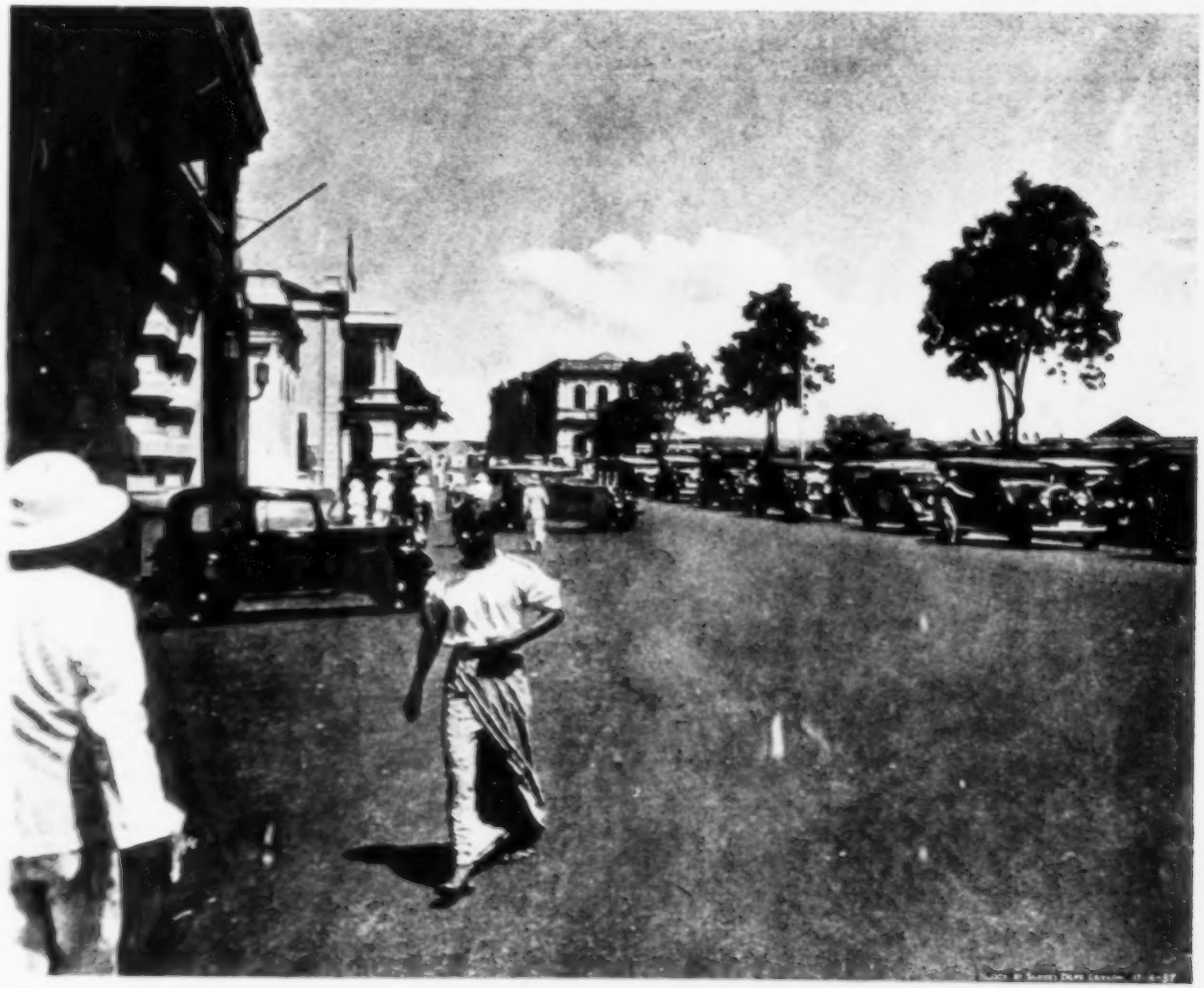
Classification of Irrigation Works.—The total area under paddy in Ceylon to-day is approximately 800,000 acres, which may be divided into four main categories according to the system of irrigation practised in each :—

		Approximate Area. Acres.
I.	Major works	160,000
II.	Minor works : Village tanks	200,000
III.	Do. Village channels	170,000
	Total under artificial irrigation	530,000
IV.	Direct rainfall	270,000
	Total ..	800,000

The owners of land under major works are required to contribute, by an assessed annual rate, towards the cost of construction and maintenance of the works. The "construction rate" is generally a very small percentage of the capital cost of the work and the "maintenance rate" not infrequently produces considerably less revenue than the actual expenditure incurred by Government on the maintenance of the work.

Minor works, both tanks and channels, are maintained by the villagers themselves under the general supervision of Government officials and with the tangible and often considerable assistance of Government. The fourth category covers lands that, being situated in localities of evenly distributed rainfall, are able with reasonable chances of success to dispense with artificial irrigation. The trouble on these lands is often the super-abundance of water rather than its deficiency, and drainage rather than irrigation their particular need.

Progressive development of activities.—When the Irrigation Department was created in 1900 it was assigned the engineering duties of operating and maintaining those major works which had already been restored in whole or part, and of restoring a selection of old abandoned works under which the prospects of development appeared to be favourable.



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TAXI, SIR ?

The administrative side of these works and the general responsibility for all minor irrigation works remained the function of the revenue officers, with such advice and assistance as they required from the Irrigation Department. Under this regime steady progress was made with the extension and improvement of irrigation service under major works, and latterly the engineering resources of the department have been applied in a rapidly increasing degree to the improvement of minor irrigation tanks and channels on modern scientific lines. Another development of the department's functions, which is rapidly acquiring considerable importance, is the construction of schemes for preventing or abating floods, for improvement of drainage conditions on irrigable lands, and for exclusion of sea-water therefrom. With this development the department has become directly interested in all the four categories of irrigation in Ceylon and the scope of its service has correspondingly widened.

Irrigation Works.—Under the present Constitution the department is under the general control of the Executive Committee of Agriculture and Lands, and a progressive policy of active development is being pursued.

The summarized expenditure under the different services during 1935-36 is as follows :—

	Rs.	c.
Personal Emoluments	648,299	23
Other Charges (surveys, tools, transport, &c.)	303,666	53
Maintenance—		
Major works	276,726	42
Village works	21,854	86
Roads	48,843	32
Construction—		
Major works	622,749	48
Village works	201,942	85
Relief Schemes	150,947	8
Surveys done by the Survey Department for the Irrigation Department ..	108,367	47
	2,383,397	24

New Development Schemes.—As the last item in the foregoing summary suggests, the foundations are being laid for a much more extensive expansion of future irrigation policy. The engineering surveys of all large irrigation projects are now carried out by the Survey Department on lines specified by the Irrigation Department. The latter is thus provided with excellent plans, topographical, contour, and detailed, on which the whole of the scheme in all its detail can be laid down in advance, and the costly errors that have sometimes been made with other large projects, started without adequate data, are effectively prevented. In addition to the engineering surveys a survey is also carried out by the Agricultural Department to investigate the nature of the soils covered by the scheme, and to make a preliminary classification of the constituent areas according to their suitability for paddy or other crops.

In the loan recently floated the sum of Rs. 15 million is included for irrigation works, and already schemes of an aggregate estimated cost of about half this sum are approaching the construction stage.

Modernization of Construction.—In order to expedite the completion of these new schemes to a stage at which their benefits to agricultural development can be utilized serious consideration is being given to the question of using modern power-driven plant on a large scale. The department has recently purchased three Diesel-driven Excavators and a Diesel Tractor (Caterpillar) and Grader and these machines are being tried out on various works. The results to date are sufficiently satisfactory to justify further and more extensive trial, and in addition to the use of these machines on purely engineering construction it is probable that their economic suitability for the operations of clearing and asweddumizing jungle land will be tried out under actual working conditions.

Research and Training.—A Research Laboratory for the investigation of general hydraulic problems and the study of river and flood conditions by the use of scalar models is now being built and equipped in Colombo, and a specially trained Research Engineer has been engaged.

In conjunction with its function of practical hydraulic research this branch will enable the department to deal systematically with the urgently important problem of training its future engineers and field staff.

Scope of future Developments.—Ceylon is essentially an agricultural country, and as such has been well endowed by nature with all the material factors for the creation of a prosperous industry. These factors need proper development, however, and none of them more so than those connected with the control and conservation of the Island's lavish resources in water. Apart from the ultimate object of producing the staple food of the country in sufficient quantity to meet her own consumption, a forward policy in irrigation development will restore the paddy industry to its traditional prestige and natural importance, and enable the resettlement of a happy and contented peasantry on the land.

CHAPTER XIII.

Justice and Police.

The Judicial System of Ceylon.

Supreme Court.—The Supreme Court consists of a Chief Justice and six Puisne Judges. It has appellate and revisional jurisdiction in civil cases from all courts except Village Tribunals. It exercises no original jurisdiction in civil cases. Under Ordinance No. 2 of 1891 it is a Colonial Court of Admiralty.

The Supreme Court has original jurisdiction in all criminal cases and exclusive jurisdiction in respect of the more serious offences, such as homicide, rape, and the graver types of housebreaking and robbery. In practice it seldom tries cases which do not fall within its exclusive jurisdiction. It usually sits with a jury and tries cases committed for trial by a Police Court. It exercises appellate and revisional jurisdiction over all criminal courts except Village Tribunals. The Supreme Court may pass any sentence authorized by law. It has also the power to issue writs of *habeas corpus, mandamus, quo warranto,* &c., and also to

disenrol Advocates and Proctors who are found guilty of deceits, crimes or malpractices. Special jurisdiction is conferred on the Supreme Court to hear election petitions.

District Courts.—The District Courts, of which there are at present 21 in the Island, have unlimited original civil (including testamentary and matrimonial) jurisdiction and criminal jurisdiction in respect of all offences which are not within the exclusive jurisdiction of the Supreme Court. District Courts try only cases committed to them for trial by Police Courts*. District Courts may pass any of the following sentences :—

(*a*) Imprisonment of either description for a term not exceeding two years ;
(*b*) Fine not exceeding one thousand rupees ;
(*c*) Whipping ;
(*d*) Any lawful sentence combining any two of the sentences aforesaid.

When a person is convicted at one trial of any two or more distinct offences the aggregate punishment it can award is twice the punishment mentioned above.

Under sections 3 and 4 of Ordinance No. 2 of 1891 the Governor has power to appoint a District Court to have a limited Admiralty jurisdiction. The District Court of Colombo alone has been appointed to exercise such jurisdiction.

Police Courts.—There are 30 Police Courts and 3 Municipal Courts in the Island. The offences which a Police Court may try are specified in the schedule to the Criminal Procedure Code, 1898. Various Ordinances have also made other offences triable by a Police Court. A Police Court may not pass a sentence heavier than the following, except where an Ordinance has specially empowered it so to do :—

(*a*) Imprisonment of either description for a term not exceeding six months ;
(*b*) Fine not exceeding one hundred rupees ;
(*c*) Whipping, if the offender is under 16 years of age ;
(*d*) Any lawful sentence combining any two of the sentences aforesaid

When a person is convicted at one trial of any two or more distinct offences the aggregate punishment it can award is twice the punishment mentioned above.

Police Courts also hold preliminary inquiries into crimes with a view to committal for trial by a District Court or the Supreme Court. If after inquiry a Police Magistrate is of opinion that an accused should be discharged he makes order to this effect. Where a Magistrate is of opinion that an accused should be committed for trial to a court of competent jurisdiction, the record of the proceedings at the inquiry is forwarded to the Attorney-General, who directs the Police Magistrate to commit the accused or to discharge him.

A special jurisdiction is conferred on Police Courts to make orders for the maintenance of wives and children.

* Under section 152 of the Criminal Procedure Code, a Police Magistrate who is also a District Judge may, in the course of an inquiry into an offence which is triable by a District Court, proceed to try such offence summarily when he is of opinion that it can properly be so tried. In such a case there is no previous committal.

Courts of Requests.—Courts of Requests have original civil jurisdiction (subject to certain exceptions) in all actions in which the debt, damage, or demand or value of the land in dispute does not exceed Rs. 300.

There are 30 Courts of Requests in the Island, of which one (the Colombo Court) is presided over by a separate Commissioner. All the others are presided over by a District Judge or a Police Magistrate who acts as Commissioner of Requests in addition to his duties as District Judge or Police Magistrate.

Village Tribunals.—Village Tribunals have civil jurisdiction in actions in which the debt, damage, or demand or the value of the land in dispute does not exceed Rs. 20, or, where both parties consent, Rs. 100 and in cases between a Co-operative Society and its members. Village Tribunals have criminal jurisdiction to try breaches of rules made by the inhabitants of the subdivision or the Village Committee under section 29 of Ordinance No. 9 of 1924, and various minor offences enumerated in the schedule to Ordinance No. 9 of 1924. A Village Tribunal may impose a fine not exceeding Rs. 20 or 14 days' imprisonment in default of payment.

A Village Tribunal is presided over by a paid President appointed by the Governor. He sits with three councillors chosen by lot. In the case of a difference of opinion between the President and the councillors, the opinion of the President prevails (section 50 of Ordinance No. 9 of 1924).

There are 220 Village Tribunals in the Island, namely, 24 in the Western Province, 36 in the Central, 50 in the Southern, 6 in the Northern, 22 in the Eastern, 21 in the North-Western, 15 in the North-Central, 17 in the Uva, and 29 in the Province of Sabaragamuwa.

Village Committees.—Village Committees in subdivisions, where no Village Tribunal has been established, have power to try breaches of rules made by the inhabitants of the subdivision or the Village Committee under section 29 of Ordinance No. 9 of 1924, and have the same power of punishment as Village Tribunals.

There are 49 Village Committees exercising this jurisdiction in the Island, namely, 48 in the Northern Province and 1 in the North-Western Province.

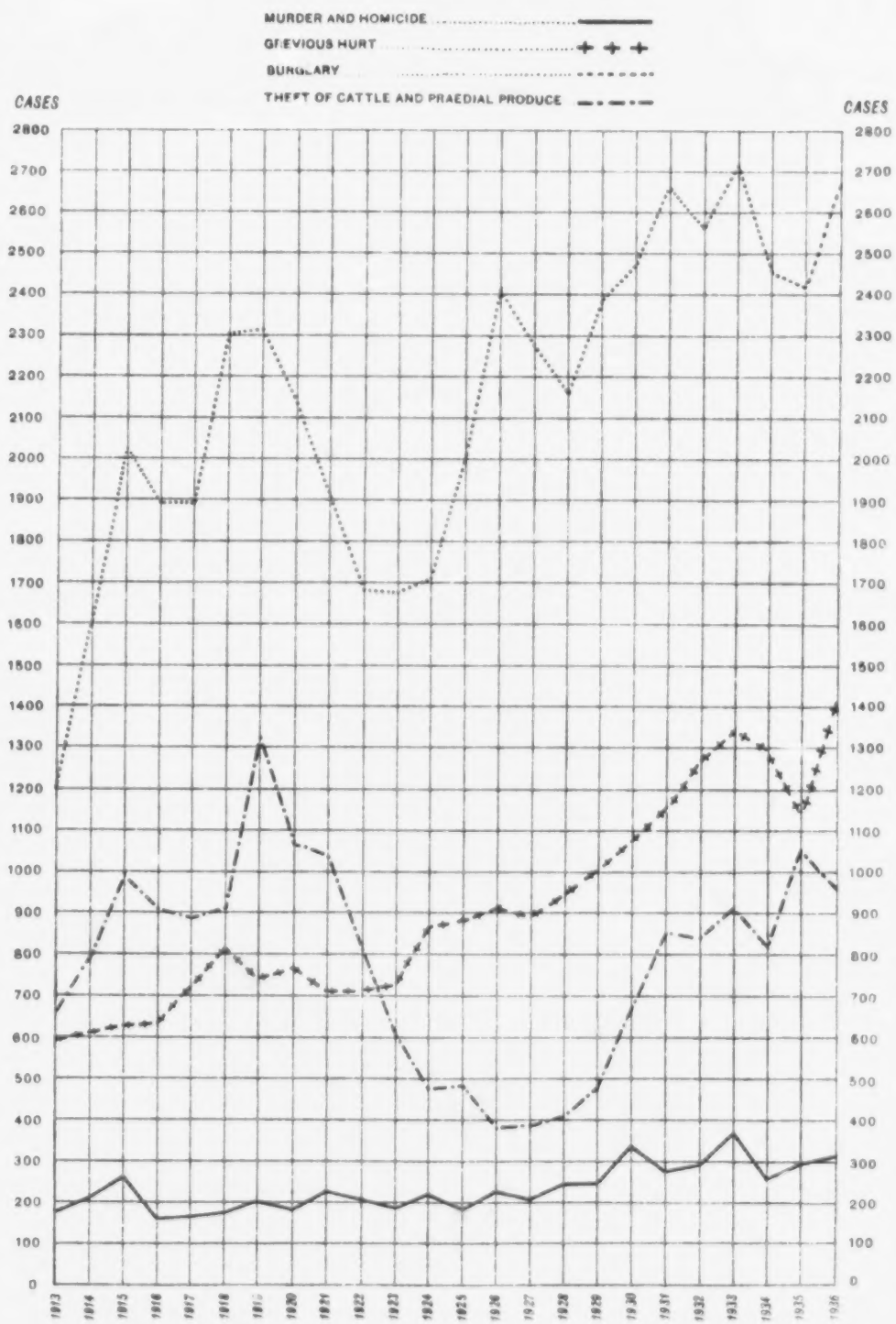
The following schedule gives detailed information as regards the number of Courts, the number of Judges, Magistrates, &c. :—

Number of Courts, Judges, &c.

Court.	Number of Courts.	Number of Judges.	Remarks.
Supreme Court	1	7	One Chief Justice and six Puisne Judges
District Court	21	26	There are four judges for the District Court of Colombo and two each for those of Kandy, Galle, and Jaffna. There is one judge for the District Courts of Chilaw and Puttalam, one for those of Nuwara Eliya and Hatton, and one for those of Mullaittivu and Vavuniya. Eleven of these officers are Police Magistrates and Commissioners of Requests in addition to their duties as District Judges.
Police Court	30	29	There are three Magistrates sitting at Colombo. The following groups of Courts have one Magistrate each :— Badulla, Bandarawela ; Matale, Panwila, Teldeniya ; Nuwara Eliya, Hatton ; Jaffna, Kayts, Mallakam : Point Pedro, Chavakachcheri ; Batticaloa, Kalmunai ; Mullaittivu, Vavuniya
Village Tribunal	220	59	—
Village Committee	63	—	—

DIAGRAM No 10

CRIME IN CEYLON 1913-1936



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POLICE.

The regular Police Force of the Island was established and is regulated by the Police Ordinance, No. 16 of 1865, as amended by the subsequent Ordinances.

Before the Police Force was constituted the duties of the Police were attended to by the Headmen. Regular Police have been gradually introduced into most parts of the Island since 1865. With changing conditions in the rural areas due to rapid and improved means of communication, the opening up of colonization schemes and other land schemes, the influx of strangers and, more especially, of the travelling criminal, the establishment of additional Police Stations to assist the Headmen is becoming more and more imperative. At present there are 169 Police Stations and 24 Police Offices.

The sanctioned strength of the Force is 1 Inspector-General, 2 Deputy Inspectors-General, 41 Superintendents, Assistant Superintendents, and Probationers, 235 Chief Inspectors, Inspectors, and Sub-Inspectors (including the Port Police), 2 Sergeants-Major, 377 Sergeants, and 2,576 Constables.

General.—The following statement shows the number of cases of grave crime disposed of as "true cases" by the courts during the past three years :—

	1934.	1935.	1936.
Homicide	255	295	316
Attempted homicide	114	125	162
Grievous hurt	1,295	1,139	1,413
Hurt with dangerous weapons ..	1,661	1,507	1,846
Burglary	2,453	2,421	2,676
Cattle theft	817	1,055	967
Other offences	3,698	3,637	4,115
	10,293	10,179	11,495

The statistics of crime for the past six years under the three main heads "Offences against the Person" (which are not directly preventible by Police action), "Offences against Property", and "Offences against the State" (riot, &c.) are as follows :—

Year.	Total Crime.	Offences against the Person (excluding Robbery).	Offences against Property (including Robbery).	Offences against the State.
1931	10,141	3,407	6,638	96
1932	10,484	3,564	6,817	103
1933	10,783	3,738	6,952	93
1934	10,293	3,562	6,659	72
1935	10,179	3,252	6,878	56
1936	11,495	3,947	7,491	57

With the exception of cattle theft the figures are the highest for the past six years. The figures for burglary, however, have not varied considerably, those for 1936 being only 15 in excess of those for 1931.

Control of Motor Traffic.—There were 26,571 prosecutions under the Motor Ordinance. 671 were for reckless or negligent driving, 22 for driving a car when intoxicated, and 85 for failing to report an accident

in which injury to a person was caused. In addition 58 cases for causing death and 100 for causing injury by a rash and negligent act were instituted under the Penal Code.

140 licences were cancelled or suspended.

3,195 accidents caused by motor vehicles were reported to the Police and 147 persons (of whom 100 were pedestrians) were killed as a result of injuries received in motor accidents.

In the majority of accident cases there is no compensation for the injured party where no offence can be proved or where the offender is acquitted in court. Compulsory third party insurance is essential, and it is of interest that a model Motor Ordinance is under preparation by the Colonial Office in which regulations for third party insurance are embodied in a form that can be standardized throughout the Colonies.

18,341 prosecutions were entered against omnibuses, a type of vehicle which was responsible for 637 of the accidents reported.

The following are some relevant figures :—

Year.	Motor Vehicles on the Road.	Number of Prosecutions for exceeding Speed Limit.	Number of Prosecutions for Reckless or Careless Driving.	Fatal Accidents.
1931	23,577	798	509	97
1932	23,203	688	400	87
1933	23,359	394	343	92
1934	25,010	402	449	122
1935	27,052	597	619	129
1936	26,571	619	671	147

The control of motor omnibus traffic is still one of the major traffic problems with which Police have to deal. There was again intense rivalry in many parts of the country between omnibus companies plying on the same routes, and, while much was done by arbitration and by cancelling or suspending the licences of omnibuses whose owners were the source of disorderliness and criminal acts on the public roads, it is clear that it is not possible for omnibus traffic to continue to ply upon the public roads without frequent clashes between rival omnibus companies unless a Central Control Board is established for the purpose of regulating routes, the number of omnibuses to be allowed to ply on any one route, fares and the times of departure and arrival.

Control of Bullock Cart and other Traffic.—Nineteen persons were killed in street accidents in which vehicles other than motor vehicles were involved and 9,309 prosecutions were entered against drivers and owners of such vehicles. Action has been taken in Colombo to compel cyclists to keep to the side of the road, while in most towns pedestrians are from time to time reminded to use the pavements and where there are no pavements to keep to the right.

Cinematograph Films.—Films imported into Ceylon have all been previously examined by Censors in England or in India. They are exhibited first in Colombo. If a film is objectionable exhibition is prohibited by the Chairman of the Municipal Council, who is the Censor for Colombo. This system acts as a check on the exhibition of objectionable films throughout Ceylon.

Maintaining order in the Streets.—During 1936 good order was maintained in the streets of Colombo. Special attention was paid to patrolling. The sale of opium and ganja was less active; but the employment of boys to hawk these drugs in the streets appears to be on the increase. Progress is being made with the establishing of a Home or Training School for Youthful Offenders which should help to serve as an efficient corrective and check the employment of boys in the illicit drug trade.

The molestation of passengers visiting the Island by touts is still a serious problem: legislation is under consideration that will more effectively check the nuisance.

Strikes.—A strike of omnibus owners occurred in February, two days before the General Elections in Colombo, as a protest against a regulation, approved by the State Council, which provided for the cancellation of drivers' certificates of competence under certain conditions. The strike lasted one day and mainly affected residents on the Colombo-Mount Lavinia route. The strike was settled by temporary measures to modify the working of the regulation complained of, pending legislation to amend the Motor Ordinance on the subject.

Criminal Investigation Department.

The following branches are included in this department:—Harbour and Foreshore Police, Train Police, Photographic Branch, Fingerprint and Footprint Bureau, the Counterfeit Note and Coin Bureau, and the Instructional Branch in Detective Work. The department deals with the investigation of difficult and complicated cases, the registration of aliens, supervision over persons entering or leaving Ceylon, the investigation of cases under the Lotteries Ordinance, the suppression of Bucket Shops, the supervision of the import of firearms and explosives, and the supervision of the magazines and newspapers published in Ceylon. As the criminal becomes more skilful it is necessary to train Police in the most up-to-date and scientific methods of crime investigation and detection. The courses of instruction in detective work arranged by the Criminal Investigation Department insure the training of all ranks in how to look for clues on the scene of crime, how to preserve clues requiring examination by an Expert (such as the Government Analyst), and how to make deductions from them. The knowledge gained from these courses of instruction is being passed on, at classes held in the Provinces, to Headmen on whom falls the responsibility, in the majority of cases of crime reported in rural areas, of being the first Peace Officer to visit the scene and guard it until the arrival of regular Police.

The Central Bureau established in 1930 to deal with forged notes and counterfeit coins, dealt with 120 cases of forging, uttering or possessing forged currency notes as compared with 33 cases in 1935 and 37 in 1934. There were 47 cases of counterfeiting, uttering or possessing counterfeit coins.

PRISONS.

Number of Admissions.—The total number of admissions on conviction during 1936 was 15,624 (15,180 males and 444 females). Of this number, 1,239 were admitted on conviction from the Supreme and District Courts. 201 were convicted of murder and culpable homicide not amounting to murder.

Number sentenced to death and executed.—The number of male persons sentenced to death during the year was 69, of whom 37 were executed. Of these 37, 6 were executed in January, 1937. Two female persons were sentenced to death during the year, but both sentences were commuted to ones of imprisonment.

Daily average population.—The daily average population (both convicted and unconvicted prisoners) of the prisons was 4,106·67 (4,031·46 males and 75·21 females).

Reconvicted prisoners.—The number of reconvicted prisoners admitted was 4,636 (29·67 per cent. of the total admissions). Of this number, 1,585 were reconvicted criminals within the meaning of Ordinance No. 2 of 1926 as amended by Ordinance No. 27 of 1928.

Preventive detention.—The number of prisoners sentenced to preventive detention by courts during the year was 3. The daily average of prisoners undergoing preventive detention was 56·78.

Number in default of payment of fines.—The number of admissions for non-payment of fines was 11,064. In 10,265 of these cases the offences were either statutory or made punishable by Village Tribunal rules.

No statistics are available as to the number of cases in which time was given for the payment of fines.

Young Offenders.

(*a*) *Young first offenders.*—The number of admissions of young first offenders of the age of 16–21 was 943, of which number 608 were for non-payment of fines and 458 for statutory or Village Tribunal offences.

(*b*) *Young reconvicted offenders.*—The number of admissions of young reconvicted offenders was 353, of which number 173 were for non-payment of fines and 124 for statutory or Village Tribunal offences.

Religion and race.—The following table gives the nationality and religion of all convicted persons received into the prisons during the year 1936 :—

Table showing Nationality and Religion of all Convicted Persons received into Prisons during the Year 1936.

Nationality.									Religion.						
Resident Europeans.	Non-Resident Europeans.	Burghers.	Sinhalese.	Tamils.	Moors.	Malays.	Others.	Total.	Protestants.	Roman Catholics.	Buddhists.	Hindus.	Muslims.	Others.	Total.
1	—	49	11,957	2,155	1,186	108	168	15,624	25	1,075	11,243	1,938	1,252	91	15,624

Prison Punishments.—The number of punishments inflicted during the year on prisoners for offences against prison discipline was 2,157, as against 1,752 in 1935. Three prisoners were sentenced to receive

corporal punishment during the year 1936, as against nil in the previous year. There were three escapes during the year, all of whom were recaptured.

The Prisons Ordinance, No. 16 of 1877, placed all the prisons in Ceylon under the control of an Inspector-General of Prisons. Ceylon therefore enjoys the advantages of a unified prison system which renders possible classification by institutions in addition to subclassification in institutions.

The principle upon which this classification proceeds is the separation of the different types of offenders—especially the separation of the young offender from the adult, the first offender from the "habitual", the convicted from the unconvicted, and males from females. To each type of offender appropriate methods of treatment and training are applied.

The different prisons are utilized as follows :—

Welikada (*Colombo*), for the detention and training of the following classes :—

(i.) Adult first offenders with sentences of two years and over ;
(ii.) All "Star" class, *i.e.*, European or educated Ceylonese first offenders ;
(iii.) Young prisoners of the age of 16–21 (both inclusive) irrespective of length of sentence ;
(iv.) Female prisoners other than those sentenced to short terms in outstations who are detained in the local prisons.

Hulftsdorp (*Colombo*), for all local convictions from the courts of the Colombo District who are sentenced to short terms of one month and under.

Mahara is set apart for adult reconvicted prisoners with sentences of over two years in one section, and for all adult first offenders with short sentences ranging from over one month up to and including six months in a separate section. Selected prisoners from among the reconvicted prisoners are specially classified as Special Class B in which they serve a probationary period of six months prior to transfer to Kandy prison for industrial and other forms of special training in the Special Class A. Prisoners are also transferred to Mahara prison occasionally from other prisons for misconduct.

Bogambara (Kandy) is set apart for the following :—

(i.) First offenders convicted by local courts and sentenced to one month's imprisonment or less ;
(ii.) All first offenders with sentences of over one year and up to but not including two years ;
(iii.) Special class "A", *i.e.*, selected "habituals" from Mahara with sentences of over two years ;
(iv.) Prisoners undergoing sentences of preventive detention.

Jaffna is set apart for the following :—

(i.) Persons sentenced by the local courts to imprisonment for one month or under ;

(ii.) Short term reconvicted offenders with sentences of over one month and up to and including two years ;

(iii.) Prisoners transferred from other prisons for misconduct under monthly report.

The special gang is also located at Jaffna. The special gang is intended for prisoners guilty of continued bad or violent conduct. These prisoners are kept strictly apart from the other inmates.

Anuradhapura is set apart for the following :—

(i.) Locally convicted short term prisoners who are sentenced to one month and under.

(ii.) First offenders with sentences of over six months and up to one year.

Negombo prison serves as a prison for convalescent prisoners in addition to retaining local convictions sentenced to one month and under.

Galle, Badulla, and Batticaloa.—The prisons at Galle, Badulla, and Batticaloa are used for the detention of short term locally convicted prisoners, and prisoners on remand.

Remand prisons.—There are separate prisons for remand prisoners and persons awaiting trial, civil debtors, &c., only in Colombo (adjoining Welikada Prison) and in Kandy. At other stations the ordinary prisons for convicted prisoners are also used for the location of these types in separate blocks or wards.

Methods of Treatment of Different Types of Offenders.

A. *Young first offenders.*—All young offenders of the age of 16–21 inclusive with sentences of over one month are detained at Welikada in separate wards. Rover Scout principles are utilized for their training and regular camps are held. The Welikada Prison Rover Troop is the first officially recognized prison troop in the world. Educational classes, industrial and vocational training, First Aid instruction, Boxing, Gymnastics, Drill, and games form a part of the regular curriculum, in addition to the various Scout activities.

B. *Long term first offenders.*—The progressive stage system—a feature of the English prison system—has been adapted to suit local conditions and is largely used in connection with the training of these offenders. According to this system prisoners fall into different classes. Every prisoner sentenced to imprisonment immediately enters and remains in what is called the penal stage for one month. He then enters and remains in Class IV., when he becomes eligible to earn remission, for eleven months. Conditional upon good conduct and industry he is promoted to Class III. where he remains for one year and then on the same conditions to Class II. At the end of one year if his conduct is satisfactory he is promoted to Class I. Promotion from class to class carries with it a graduated scale of privileges and on entry into Class II., gratuity and good conduct badges can be earned. Prisoners who show special skill and aptitude in the various trades are appointed Instructors (Grades I. and II.) who are accorded enhanced rates of pay and privileges.

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"AT THE RECEIPT OF CUSTOM."

Another feature in the training of these long term first offenders is the placing of responsibility on individual prisoners. Long term first offenders in Class I. of exemplary conduct are selected for appointment as Disciplinary Prison Orderlies. Their duties consist in assisting the regular prison officers ; they are left in charge of small parties inside the prison and act as escorts within prison walls, &c.

A further experiment is the formation of Leagues on the lines of the Mutual Welfare Leagues in the New York prisons. There are two such Leagues—one for the Disciplinary Prison Orderlies and the other for prisoners who have earned good conduct badges. Inmate responsibility, managing their own affairs within limits and training in the ideals of good citizenship are the salient features of these Leagues.

All long term first offenders are employed and trained in one or more of the many trades and handicrafts taught in Welikada Prison. On reaching certain grades of the stage classification they earn money part of which may be spent in the purchase of books and extras to the diets or sent to their families and part of which is accumulated and paid on discharge.

C. *Reconvicted prisoners.*—For the training of reconvicted prisoners there are two classes in Mahara Prison. Specially selected reconvicted prisoners with sentences of two years and over constitute Class B. These prisoners while at work are kept separate from the others. Evening classes are held for them and they are supplied with books from the prison library. They are also given the privilege of playing games, &c. After probationary training for six months in this class all who prove satisfactory are transferred to Kandy where they form Special Class " A ". Prisoners in Special Class " A " are treated like first offenders in all matters relating to pay, industrial training, privileges, &c.

Labour.—All labour of a purely mechanical and unprofitable nature has been abolished. Prisoners are mostly employed on public works, the domestic services of the prisons, and on industrial undertakings. At Mahara the principal work is the quarrying of stone and stone breaking. In Jaffna the work consists of the reclamation of the lagoon. Welikada and Bogambara Prisons are highly industrialized. The following industries are carried on :—carpentry, tailoring, brush-making, rattan, fibre, shoemaking, blacksmiths' work, tin smiths' work, spinning and weaving, soap making, and printing. At Welikada there is in addition an up-to-date steam laundry which washes the linen of all the hospitals, railway, asylum, &c. The value of the outturn of prison industries for the year 1935–36 was Rs. 225,061·78, as against Rs. 220,327·81 during the previous year.

Education.—For young offenders, that is, those of 21 and under vernacular education is compulsory. At Welikada and Bogambara and also at Mahara evening classes, conducted by volunteer social, workers, have been organized for the benefit of both young offenders and adult offenders. These classes are held in English and in the vernacular. Commercial classes in typewriting, shorthand, &c., are also held in Welikada prison for the benefit of Star Class prisoners.

Recreation.—Well conducted prisoners, particularly young offenders and first offenders who have reached an advanced stage in their training

are allowed to take part in games both indoor and outdoor. Boxing, gymnastics, and volley ball are popular games.

Religious instruction.—There are no prison Chaplains in Ceylon but representatives of all creeds and denominations are allowed to visit the prisons, hold services, and give religious instruction. Services are held every Sunday and all prisoners are encouraged to attend the services of their particular denomination.

Preventive detention.—There is no separate prison for prisoners undergoing preventive detention. These prisoners are located in a portion of Bogambara prison specially set apart for them. But the conditions of an ordinary rigorous imprisonment prison afford little scope for the special course of training contemplated by the system of preventive detention, and the reorganization of the system is under consideration.

After care.—An unofficial organization known as the Ceylon Discharged Prisoners' Aid Association, with sub-committees in some of the principal towns, works in conjunction with the prison authorities and is the agency through which aid is given to discharged prisoners.

Remission and Review of Sentences.—All criminal prisoners sentenced to rigorous or simple imprisonment (except under Chapter 7 of the Criminal Procedure Code) become eligible to earn a remission of sentence, which is conditional on good conduct and industry and which is based on the mark system. on completion of the first month (30 days) of their sentences. The maximum remission of sentence that a prisoner can earn is, in the case of a male prisoner, one-fourth of the period of imprisonment during which he is allowed to earn marks and, in the case of a female prisoner, one-third of such period. Under rule 40 of the statutory rules also the case of every prisoner is reviewed by the Governor on completion of 4, 8, 12, 15, and 20 years respectively of the term of imprisonment.

Health of prisoners.—Whole-time resident Medical Officers are provided for the three Colombo prisons and for Mahara prison. The Medical Officers attached to all the other prisons are not whole-time officers but have other outside duties to perform as well.

At Welikada there is an up-to-date prison hospital intended to serve the three Colombo prisons, with accommodation for 120 beds for general cases and 60 beds for infectious diseases.

In the female section of the Welikada prison there is a ward with 7 beds for general cases.

At Bogambara there is a hospital consisting of 5 wards.

In all other prisons a separate ward is utilized as a hospital.

All cases which need operative treatment or special nursing are transferred to the ordinary civil hospitals for treatment.

The total number of deaths of prisoners (both convicted and unconvicted) admitted to prison was 49 in 1936, as against 95 in 1935. These deaths include prisoners who died in the prisons and prison hospitals as well as in civil hospitals and other medical institutions, but are exclusive of judicial executions.

CHAPTER XIV.

Legislation.

THE majority of the twenty Ordinances passed in 1936 consisted of amendments to the existing law. Of the rest, the following are the most important :—

The Whaling Ordinance, No. 2 of 1936.—Section 13 of the Whaling Industry Regulation Act of the Imperial Parliament, which was passed in 1934 in order to enable effect to be given to an International Convention for the regulation of whaling signed at Geneva on September 24, 1931, empowers His Majesty to extend the provisions of the Act by Order in Council to any Colony, subject to necessary exceptions, adaptations and modifications. The provisions of the Act when so extended to Ceylon will give the local courts jurisdiction to punish offences against the Act committed outside the coastal waters of the Island. Section 12 of the Act enables His Majesty by Order in Council to direct that the principal provisions of the Act shall not apply within the coastal waters of any part of His Majesty's dominions if there is in force, as respects those coastal waters, any local law which is substantially equivalent to those provisions.

The local Whaling Ordinance of 1928, however, was passed almost three years before the date of the Convention ; and the Secretary of State pointed out that its provisions were not substantially equivalent to the principal provisions of the Imperial Act, and requested that steps should be taken to amend that Ordinance in order to enable the necessary Orders in Council to be issued. The method of repeal and re-enactment appeared to be preferable to the process of amending in detail every section of the Ordinance of 1928 and every part of its Schedule, and the present Ordinance accordingly substitutes for the Ordinance of 1928 new provisions which are modelled on the relevant sections of the Imperial Act.

The Geneva Convention applies only to baleen whales, but this Ordinance is intended to apply to sperm whales also because they are found in Ceylon waters and are likely to be washed ashore as derelict whales ; and it can, if necessary, be applied to other species of whales and to other marine mammals of the order *Cetacea*. The killing or taking of right whales, immature whales, and female whales which are accompanied by calves is prohibited absolutely. The penalties provided for this and other offences under the Ordinance correspond to the penalties provided in the Imperial Act. Provision is made for the licensing of vessels and factories used for taking and treating whales ; and power has been taken to refuse licences on specified grounds, as such refusal is permissible under the International Convention. Authority is also given for the issue of special permits to approved persons to conduct whaling operations within the coastal waters of the Island for the purposes of scientific research.

The whales included in the definitions of the terms blue whale, fin whale, and right whale are those specified in the Schedule of the Imperial Act. Few of these whales are likely to be found in Ceylon waters, but they have been included on the suggestion of the Secretary of State in order to enable the necessary Orders in Council to be issued.

The Co-operative Societies Ordinance, No. 16 of 1936.—This is an amending and consolidating Ordinance which re-enacts most of the provisions of the repealed Ordinance No. 34 of 1921 with modifications and adaptations designed to meet the requirements of the new constitution and to facilitate the interpretation and administration of the law. Of the new provisions that are included in this Ordinance, the most important are the following :—

(1) In place of the duty imposed on the Registrar by the old Ordinance to register every Co-operative Society which conformed to the requirements, there is now vested in the Registrar a discretion to refuse registration subject to an appeal to the Executive Committee of Agriculture and Lands.

(2) The minority of a member of a Co-operative Society will not in future be a ground for invalidating or avoiding any contract entered into by him with the society.

(3) A principle essential to all co-operative enterprise—that each member should have only one vote in the conduct of the affairs of a society, irrespective of the amount of his holding in that society—to which the old Ordinance gave only a limited application, is now affirmed without reservation and given its full scope.

(4) What is known in the co-operative movement as the " loyalty clause ", has been inserted, and a society trading in articles which are the products of agriculture, animal husbandry or handicrafts, is enabled to compel its members either by means of by-laws or by express contract to dispose of the whole or any specified part of their output of such articles either to or through the society.

(5) In order to assist Co-operative Societies in obtaining credit facilities from ordinary banks, these banks are given the right to realize without recourse to court on securities pledged with them by a society for a general balance of account.

(6) As a safeguard against unnecessary litigation, provision is made for the reference of various matters to the Registrar or to arbitrators for settlement ; and finality is given to the decisions of the Registrar or the award of an arbitrator by the declaration that such decision or award shall not ordinarily be liable to be called in question in any civil court.

The Statutory Reprints Ordinance, No. 19 of 1936.—Apart from the special powers taken in one or two Ordinances like the Motor Car Ordinance, 1927, there has hitherto been no statutory authority for issuing, during the intervals between the revised editions of the Legislative Enactments, reprints of individual Ordinances brought up to date by the incorporation of all the amendments that may have been made in them. In the case of subsidiary legislation, even the periodical revision has been lacking because of the absence of any provision for the publication of a collected edition from time to time. This Ordinance enables the Governor to authorize at any time a reprint of any written law emdodying all amendments and alterations made in that law between the date of enactment and the date of the reprint.

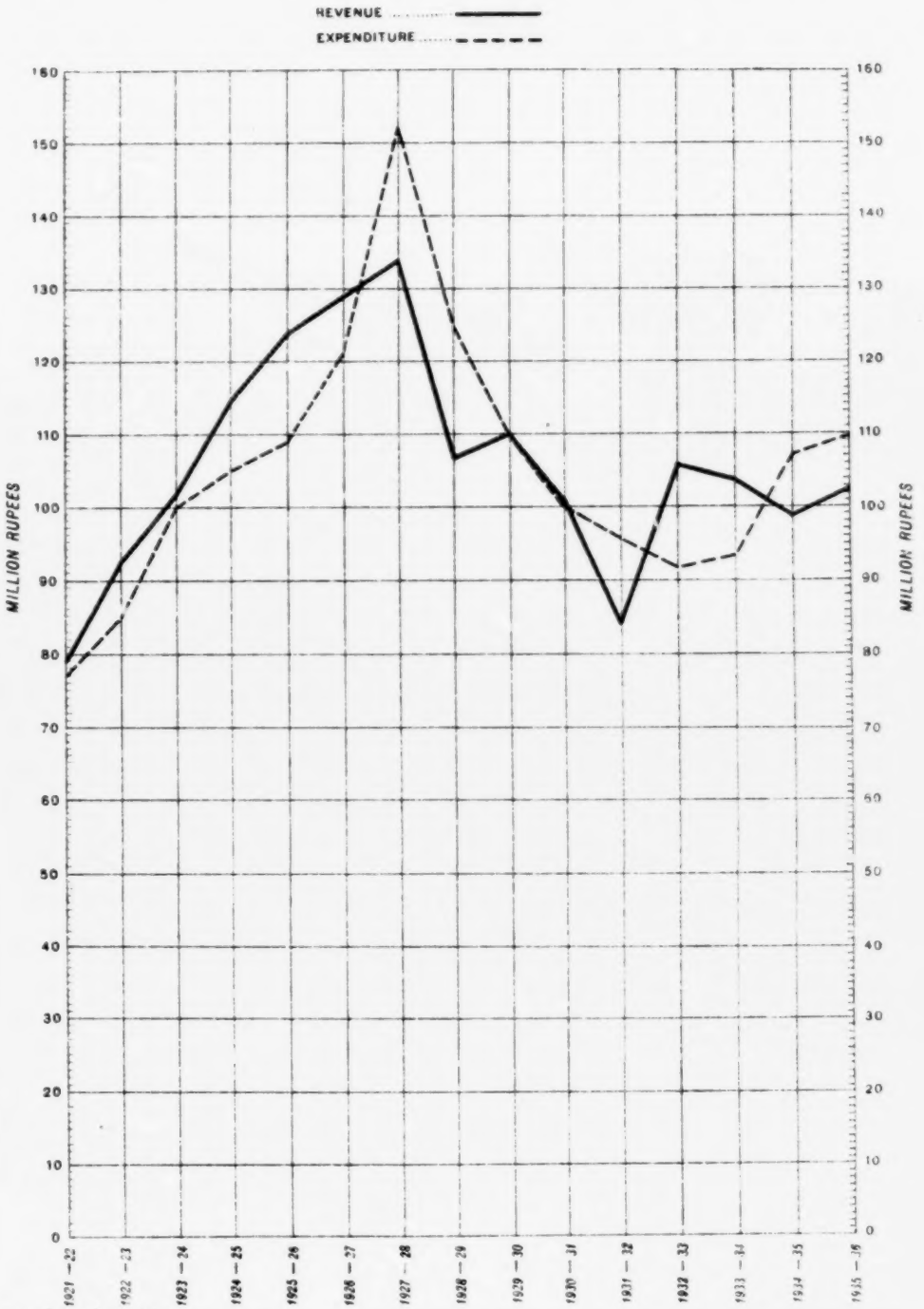
Factory and Labour Legislation.

No legislation relating to factories or labour was passed during the year.

DIAGRAM No. 11

TOTAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE OF THE ISLAND

FOR EACH FINANCIAL YEAR (OCTOBER 1 TO SEPTEMBER 30) SINCE 1921-22



Reproduced and Printed by Survey Dept. Ceylon
7. 6. 32.

Subsidiary Legislation.

With the exception of two sets of rules made respectively under the Co-operative Societies Ordinance and the Muslim Marriage and Divorce Registration Ordinance, the large volume of subsidiary legislation issued during the year was concerned only with the amendment of existing subsidiary legislation or the introduction of such legislation into new districts or areas.

CHAPTER XV.

Public Finance and Taxation.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue of the Island in the last five completed financial years was—

		Rs. c.			Rs. c.
1931–32	..	84,843,206 60	1934–35	..	98,993,551 55
1932–33	..	106,090,728 48*	1935–36	..	102,770,506 64
1933–34	..	104,100,361 7†			

The following is a statement of the expenditure in the same financial years :—

		Expenditure chargeable to General Revenue including accumulated Surplus Balances.		Expenditure chargeable to Revenue pending raising of Loan Funds.
		Rs. c.		Rs. c.
1931–32	..	96,870,003 43	..	186,075 94
1932–33	..	92,698,229 11	..	—
1933–34	..	93,444,581 34	..	—
1934–35	..	107,286,124 66‡	..	—
1935–36	..	109,740,474 82§	..	1,177,961 81

Public Debt.

On September 30, 1936, the sterling debt of the Island stood at £12,243,775 and the rupee debt at Rs. 3,000,000 towards redemption of which were held securities and moneys amounting to £4,224,984 and Rs. 3,217,200.

Setting off the securities against the debts and effecting conversion at 1*s.* 6*d.* to the rupee the net total Public Debt of the Island amounts to Rs. 106,700,011 which is only slightly more than the revenue for the year ended September 30, 1936.

A statement of the loan position of the Island as it stood on September 30, 1936, appears on pages (146) and (147).

* Includes Rs. 2,120,437·21 and Rs. 1,564,511·69 appropriated to general revenue from the Railway Renewals Fund and the Colombo Electricity Supply Depreciation Fund respectively.
† Includes Rs. 4,339,061·10 being surplus in the Sinking Fund of the 4 per cent. inscribed Stock, 1934.
‡ Includes Rs. 2,190,172·45 being expenditure charged to Special Reserve.
§ Includes Rs. 1,035,442·45 being expenditure charged to Special Reserve.

Description of Loan.				Enactments by which Payment of Interest and Repayment of the Loan are Secured.	Rate of Sinking Fund Contribution per Annum.	Latest Date of Repayment.
Amount.	Rate of Interest.	Nature of Security.	When incurred and for what Purpose.			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
£ s. d.	p. c.				p. c.	
450,000 0 0	3	Inscribed Stock, 1940	May, 1890 .. .. Construction of Railway, Nanu-oya to Haputale and Kalutara to Bentota	Ordinance No. 7 of 1888	1	May 1, 1940
1,000,000 0 0	3	do.	April and November, 1894 .. For Railway construction .. £388,804 For Harbour Works £597,492 For Waterworks £13,704	Ordinance No. 17 of 1893	1	do.
1,400,000 0 0	3	do.	January to April, 1902 .. For Railway construction .. £528,134 For Harbour Works £767,590 For Irrigation Works £78,668 For Waterworks £25,608	Ordinance No. 14 of 1900	1	do.
2,850,000 0 0						
*800,000 0 0	3½	Inscribed Stock, 1959	December, 1909, to April, 1910 For Railway construction .. £750,706 For Duplication of water main .. £58,185 For Irrigation .. £64,334 For Colombo Lake Development .. £3,297 For Karaiyur Reclamation .. £1,200 For Colombo Drainage Works .. £34,694 For Harbour Works .. £587,584	Ordinance No. 6 of 1909	1	Dec. 15, 1959
1,000,000 0 0	4	Inscribed Stock, 1939–59	April to July, 1914 .. For Railway construction .. £564,410 For Motor Traction as feeders to Railway .. £3,285 For Harbour Works £139,864 For Irrigation .. £44,008 For Colombo Lake Development .. £190,115 For Karaiyur Reclamation .. £6,217 For Colombo Drainage Works £52,101	do.	1	April 15, 1959
†4,500,000 0 0	3	Inscribed Stock, 1959–64	June to October, 1921 .. For repayment to the General Balance of the Island of advances to Colombo Municipal Council, construction of railways, and other public works	Ordinance No. 6 of 1921	2·366	July 1, 1964
1,250,000 0 0	5	Inscribed Stock, 1960–70	January to March, 1930 .. Construction or acquisition of certain public works	Ordinance No. 26 of 1929	1	Feb. 1, 1970
1,843,775 0 0	4½	Inscribed Stock, 1965	September, 1930 .. Construction or acquisition of certain public works	do.	1¼	Nov. 1, 1965
12,243,775 0 0						
Rs. c.						
1,000,000 0	4	Inscribed Stock, 1942–44	October, 1892, to March, 1894 Rs. For Railway construction .. 2,466,556 For Harbour Works 533,444	Ordinances Nos. 7 and 8 of 1892	1	Oct. 4, 1942
1,000,000 0	4					July 4, 1943
500,000 0	4					Feb. 4, 1944
500,000 0	4					Mar. 4, 1944
3,000,000 0						
			Supplementary Sinking Fund			

* Portion of £1,500,000—3½ per cent. Inscribed Stock, 1934–59 loan

† Loan offered on December 9, 1935, for cash and in conversion of £6,212,993. 8*s*. 4*d*. 6%

Equivalent of Loan at 1s. 6d. = Re. 1	Investments held on behalf of the Sinking Fund.		Amounts in deposit with Banks and balance in hand pending investment.	Total (of Columns 10 and 11).	Equivalent at 1s. 6d. = Re. 1.
	Nominal Value of Securities.	Market Value on September 30, 1936.			
8	9	10	11	12	13
Rs. c.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	Rs. c.
38,000,000 0	2,927,613 5 9	3,181,195 17 6	—	3,181,195 17 6	42,415,945 0
10,366,666 67	11,560 1 7	12,276 13 9	—	12,276 13 9	163,689 17
13,333,333 33	347,317 10 1	376,420 5 6	—	376,420 5 6	5,018,937 0
60,000,000 0	9,100 14 1	8,429 10 7	15 13 11	8,445 4 6	112,603 0
16,666,666 67	40,217 16 1	47,485 5 8	—	47,485 5 8	633,137 11
24,583,666 66	55,674 13 7	60,661 18 2	2 6	60,662 0 8	808,827 11
163,250,333 33	3,391,484 1 2	3,686,469 11 2	15 16 5	3,686,485 7 7	49,153,138 39
3,000,000 0	86,975 4 0 Rs. 1,615,560·00	103,215 9 2 Rs. 1,819,718·68	— Rs. 21,275·62	103,215 9 2 Rs. 1,840,994·30	1,376,206 11 1,840,994 30
	492,175 18 8	538,498 15 6	—	538,498 15 6	52,370,338 80 7,179,983 67
166,250,333 33					59,550,322 47

converted on December 15, 1934.
Inscribed Stock, 1936–51, redeemed on July 1, 1936.

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

The assets and liabilities of the Island on September 30, 1936, were as follows :—

The assets consisted of—

	Rs.	c.
(1) Cash in the hands of the Deputy Financial Secretary, in fixed or current deposit in Banks and with the Crown Agents in London	11,773,671	54
(2) Unissued stores, investments in rupee and sterling gilt edged securities, advances to the General Manager of the Railway, other recoverable advances, security deposits in banks, &c., remittances in transit and suspense account	30,719,027	75
	42,492,699	29

The liabilities consisted of—

(1) Widows' and Orphans' Pension Fund	13,114,459	64
(2) Ceylon University Building and Equipment Fund ..	4,831,513	80
(3) Loan Funds	2,375,257	55
(4) General Reserve Fund	10,000,000	0
(5) Special Reserve Fund	1,295,317	55
(6) Court suitors and other depositors in the Treasury and the Kachcheries	9,181,066	30
(7) Other Governments and agencies, loans to local bodies (sinking funds) and unpaid drafts	768,330	40
(8) Electricity Board	263,602	3
	41,829,547	27
Surplus	663,152	2
	42,492,699	29

Taxation and yield thereof—

The main heads of taxation and the yield of each are as follows :—

	Rs.	c.
Customs	52,376,999	67
Salt	2,244,220	11
Country and foreign liquor	7,099,601	24
Licences—Sundries	711,804	51
Tolls	50,821	44
Stamp duties, including composition duty on Bank cheques and share certificates	2,891,498	78
Estate duties	1,410,631	17
Betting tax	238,393	43
Income tax	9,516,757	81
Tax on heavy oil motor vehicles	113,272	61
	76,654,000	77

Excise and Stamp Duties (*summarized*).—The amount realized from Excise revenue during the financial year under review was Rs 7,099,601·24 and that in respect of Stamp Duties Rs. 2,891,498·78. Compared with the revenue of the last financial year, Excise revenue shows a decrease of Rs. 258,648·95 and Stamp Duties an increase of Rs. 750,191·95.

Revision of Taxes.—During the financial year under review the following changes in taxes were made :—

	Old Rate. Preferential ad valorem.	Old Rate. General ad valorem.	New Rate. Preferential ad valorem.	New Rate. General ad valorem.
	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.
Goods, Wares and Merchandise :—				
(i.) *Import duties —*				
(*a*) From October 1, 1935, Agricultural implements, namely, alavangoes, axes, forks for digging manuring or weeding, harrows, katties, knives for budding, pruning or tapping mamoties, picks, ploughs and saws	10	20	5	15
Aluminium foil for packing produce for export	5	15	2½	12½
Cotton, raw	—	5	Free	5
Exercise books in paper covers ..	10	20	5	15
Hoop iron and strapping wire and other iron and wire specially prepared for strapping packages	—	10	Free	10
Lead sheets and foil for packing produce for export	5	15	2½	12½
Paper, plain for writing and printing purposes, including plain envelopes and writing pads other than compendiums	—	5	2½	2½
Paper, mill-board, straw-board, card-board, and paste-board	10	20	5	15
Printing type	15	25	5	15
Sewing Machines and parts thereof ..	15	25	10	20
Cotton piece goods	—	10	5	10
Silk and artificial silk (including any admixture thereof), and manufactures thereof ..	20	25	15	25
Umbrellas	—	15	10	15
Wax and tallow for candles . ..	—	15	Free	10
Machinery for spinning or weaving cotton and parts thereof	15	25	2½	12½
Soap, toilet, perfumed and medicated ..	15	25	Rs. 12 per cwt. or 15 per cent.	Rs. 40 per cwt. or 30 per cent.*
Soap, other (including household and laundry soap)	10	20	Rs. 4·50 per cwt. or 20 per cent.	Rs. 9 per cwt. or 40 per cent.*
(*b*) From February 28, 1936, Copra, not being copra which (1) is the produce of the Maldive Islands, or, (2) has been purchased outside Ceylon in any territory other than the Maldive Islands on a forward contract proved to the satisfaction of a Collector of Customs to have been made and entered into prior to the twenty-sixth day of November, 1935	Old Rate. Free		New Rate. Rs. 2·25 per cwt.	
(ii.) *Export duties (Revenue) :—*				
From October 1, 1935, including the Medical Aid dues)—				
Tea—per 100 lb.	Rs. 2·37		.. Rs. 2·15	
Rubber (from September 30, 1936) per 100 lb.	Re. 0·75		.. Re. 0·80½	
(iii.) *Export Cesses :—*				
(Payable to *quasi* Government bodies) from November 1, 1935—				
Coconut product's cess (New cess)				
Copra			2½ cents. per cwt.	
Coconut oil			4 cents per cwt.	
Desiccated coconut			3½ cents per cwt.	

* Whichever produces the higher duty.

Heavy Oil Vehicles Taxation Ordinance, No. 56 of 1935, was passed in December, 1935, imposing as from January 1, 1936, a tax on motor vehicles which use heavy oil as fuel. The tax payable is as follows :—

Where the tare of the heavy oil motor vehicle—	Monthly Rate. Rs.	c.
(*a*) Does not exceed 1 ton	55	0
(*b*) Exceeds 1 ton but does not exceed 1½ tons	60	0
(*c*) Exceeds 1½ tons but does not exceed 2 tons	65	0
(*d*) Exceeds 2 tons but does not exceed 2½ tons	70	0
(*e*) Exceeds 2½ tons but does not exceed 3 tons	75	0
(*f*) Exceeds 3 tons but does not exceed 3½ tons	80	0
(*g*) Exceeds 3½ tons but does not exceed 4 tons	90	0
(*h*) Exceeds 4 tons but does not exceed 4½ tons	100	0
(*i*) Exceeds 4½ tons but does not exceed 5 tons	110	0
(*j*) Exceeds 5 tons	120	0

By the abolition of Estate Duty Ordinance, No. 51 of 1935, Estate Duty which had been in force from July 1, 1919, was abolished in respect of the estates of all persons dying on or after October 1, 1935. In consequence of this measure the additional rate of two per centum Income Tax charged by section 20 (6) of the Income Tax Ordinance on companies whose shares are not movable property in Ceylon for the purposes of the Estate Duty Ordinance, was also abolished as from April 1, 1936, by Ordinance No. 53 of 1935.

A new class of inland postal articles was introduced, viz., " Blind Literature " transmissible by post at the specially reduced rate of three cents for every two pounds. Prior to the introduction of this new class, Blind Literature was transmitted as Printed Matter for which the rate is two cents for every two ounces, or as parcels.

CURRENCY.

On September 30, 1936, the value of the currency notes in circulation amounted to Rs. 44,334,994. The Commissioners of Currency on this date held silver rupees to the extent of Rs. 14,158,063 and British, Indian, and Colonial securities amounting to Rs. 36,276,082 (cost price) or Rs. 42,685,087 (market price).

The value of the reserve on September 30, 1936, was thus in excess of the value of the notes in circulation by Rs. 5,960,900 taking the investments at cost price.

During the year silver rupees to the extent of Rs. 188,050 were received from the public and the banks in exchange for currency notes.

Subsidiary coin of various denominations amounting in all to Rs. 11,628,067 was in circulation in the Island on September 30, 1936.

EXCHANGE.

The rates of exchange on London on December 31, 1936, were as follows :—

Selling demand	1*s*. 6 3/32*d*. to the rupee
Selling telegraph transfer	1*s*. 6 3/32*d*. to the rupee
Buying demand	1*s*. 6 3/16*d*. to the rupee

ESTATE DUTIES.

Estates of deceased persons over the value of Rs. 5,000 were chargeable to Estate Duty, but Ordinance No. 51 of 1935 prescribed that Estate Duty should not be levied on estates of persons dying on or after October 1, 1935. During the financial year, 1935–36 a sum of Rs. 1,425,741 was collected as Estate Duty, as against Rs. 1,818,986 collected in the previous year.

Copyright Photograph. *Lionel Wendt.*

A PASSENGER ASHORE SEES (1) H. M. CUSTOMS, COLOMBO, (2) THUPARAMA DAGOBA, ANURADHAPURA, (3) KING PARAKRAMA BAHU, POLONNARUWA, (4) ELEPHANT ON ROAD TO KANDY, (5) DALADA MALIGAWA, KANDY, AND (6) TAXI STAND, COLOMBO.

CHAPTER XVI.

Miscellaneous.

Land.

The climate varies considerably in different parts of Ceylon, and this fact has an important bearing on the development of land in the Island. There are two main climatic divisions, namely, the wet zone (comprising the centre and south-west of the Island) and the dry zone (comprising the northern and eastern parts).

The wet zone is the part of the Island, roughly a quarter of it, that receives the rain of the south-west monsoon. The rainfall in this zone is both ample and well distributed, with the result that conditions are favourable for agriculture. Tea, rubber, coconuts, and other economic crops can be grown readily, and under normal conditions profitably. As a result of the international agreement to restrict the production of tea and rubber these products may not now be grown. In addition, village cultivation flourishes. For many years past the wet zone has steadily developed, and the population has increased considerably. At the present time, this zone contains the greater part of the population of the Island, and there is comparatively little land available for development except in remote or inaccessible districts.

In the dry zone, on the other hand, conditions are far less favourable. In the first place, the rainfall, though not really inadequate, is so unevenly distributed that the country suffers badly from drought each year, except where extensive storage tanks have been constructed. In the second place, a large part of the dry zone is extremely malarial.

For these reasons, the greater part of the dry zone is thinly populated and practically undeveloped. Where the land can be irrigated or the rainfall is favourable paddy is grown ; and a certain amount of land, chiefly near the coast, has been planted with coconuts. Most of the villagers, however, are mainly dependent on " chena " cultivation, that is to say, the periodical clearing and cultivation of tracts of jungle, which are abandoned after one or two crops of grain or vegetables have been grown on them. Systematic farming is unknown. Attempts are being made to develop this area.

A great obstacle to land development is the fact that land titles are often both complicated and uncertain. This is due to two main causes, the claims of the Crown and the absence of any system of registration of title.

In general, all undeveloped land is presumed by law to be the property of the Crown till the contrary is proved. It is clear, however, that to insist that this presumption shall be strictly applied is likely to lead to hardship in many cases. Legislation has therefore been passed providing machinery for dealing with the claims of private persons to land to which the presumption in favour of the Crown applies. The law on the subject is contained in the Land Settlement Ordinance, 1931, as amended by Ordinance No. 22 of 1932 and Ordinance No. 31 of 1933. A special department—the Land Settlement Department—has been organized for the purpose of systematically dealing with all the undeveloped land in the Island under these Ordinances. This undertaking involves a great deal of work, however, and is not likely to be completed for many years.

The need for a system of registration of titles to land has long been recognized, and in 1933 a Committee was appointed to consider this question. The Committee has submitted a report containing proposals for a system of registration of titles suitable to the conditions prevailing in Ceylon, and it is hoped that the necessary legislation will soon be taken in hand.

Till recently it was the practice not to advertise any Crown land for sale or lease unless some one had applied for that land. When such an application was received, steps were taken to survey the land, and eventually to dispose of the freehold or leasehold by public auction. This system had many disadvantages. Long delays were almost inevitable ; the original applicant could not be sure of obtaining the land he wanted, at any rate at a reasonable price ; the development of the available land was haphazard rather than systematic ; and there was a tendency for the needs of the villagers to be overlooked.

The present policy is for Government to take the initative in disposing of Crown land. As a necessary preliminary, the Crown land in each village is " mapped-out ", that is to say, it is allocated to various definite purposes in the following way. In the first place, land is set aside for the needs of the State and of the permanent village population. The next consideration is to reserve land for alienation to villagers who are unable to get land in their own villages and are prepared to move to localities where land is available. If possible, land is then provided for development by Ceylonese of moderate means. Any land remaining is made available for alienation to other persons, irrespective of their means or race. Once a village has been mapped-out, the Revenue Officer in charge of the district can dispose of the Crown land in that village without fear of overlooking the interests of any part of the community. He is therefore able to take the initiative, and periodically offer land for disposal if he thinks there is likely to be a demand for it. Persons who receive land under this system are put in possession with the least possible delay.

A further change is in the tenure of land alienated by the Crown. Hitherto the only tenures have been freehold and leasehold, but a new tenure was introduced by the Land Development Ordinance, No. 19 of 1935, which came into force on October 15, 1935. The principal features of this tenure are as follows :—

(*a*) The owner is obliged to cultivate the land, or utilize in some other way specified in the grant.

(*b*) The owner is required to make a small annual payment to the Crown in perpetuity.

(*c*) The land cannot be subdivided beyond the limit specified in the grant, or held in undivided shares smaller than the fraction specified.

(*d*) The succession to the land is not regulated by the ordinary law of inheritance, but by special rules designed to prevent the land from being subdivided.

(*e*) In certain cases, the owner is forbidden to lease or mortgage the land except to the Crown, and may not otherwise dispose of it without the Revenue Officer's consent.

In rural areas, the general policy now is to alienate Crown land required for agricultural purposes by peasants and Ceylonese of moderate means

under the Land Development Ordinance. In urban areas the mode of alienation is normally by long lease. Outright sales of Crown lands have been reduced to a minimum.

The Ordinance provides adequate machinery for enforcing the conditions of the tenure.

It is the present policy of Government not only to take the initiative in bringing land forward for disposal but also to provide a positive stimulus to landless villagers to leave their homes and either take up land in less congested villages or found new villages in undeveloped districts. Thus, "colonization schemes" have been started in various parts of the Island, and those willing to take part in these schemes have been helped with grants of land and money.

The villagers are conservative, and as a rule are very reluctant to leave their homes. On that account, progress with colonization schemes has necessarily been slow, and is likely to remain so for some time to come. Eventually, however, it is hoped that the villagers will become less reluctant to leave their homes, and the congestion caused by the growth of the population will cause an increasing number to migrate each year. In this way it should be possible gradually to reclaim large tracts of the dry zone, which are now almost uninhabited, but which formerly supported a large population.

One of the greatest difficulties that the village cultivators have to contend with is that of disposing of their produce at a remunerative price. On this account, a new department has recently been formed, which is responsible for the development of agricultural marketing. Satisfactory progress has already been made, and it is hoped that, as the organization of this department develops, it will become possible for villagers, even in remote parts of the Island, to dispose readily of their surplus produce.

PRODUCTION FORESTS.

During the year under review the activities of the Forest Department were governed by the decisions arrived at by the Executive Committee of Agriculture and Lands, as published in Sessional Paper XI. of 1936.

A brief summary of what has been done with a view to giving effect to this policy is given below :—

(*a*) *Administration.*—The number of the territorial divisions was limited to four, whilst separate divisions, with headquarters in Colombo, were established for working plans, exploitation, utilization research, and silviculture.

(*b*) *Working Plans Branch.*—With a view to the establishment of a stable forest policy, intensive forest reconnaissance, enumeration and stockmapping was continued as a preliminary to the preparation of a comprehensive working plan for the forests of the wet zone. At the same time a detailed plan was prepared for the systematic extension and management of the jak (*Artocarpus integrifolia*) plantations of the intermediate zone.

(*c*) *Exploitation Branch.*—Pending the submission of working plans for the reserves, exploitation was confined to the "Other Crown Forests" not required for future management.

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(*d*) *Utilization Research Branch.*—In order to cope with the large number of important outstanding research problems an officer of the department, specially trained at Government expense, was placed in charge of this division.

(*e*) *Silvicultural Branch.*—An officer specially trained at Government expense, was placed in charge of this division, and will in future be responsible for the management and co-ordination of all silvicultural research.

(*f*) *Fauna Protection.*—Pending the passing of the proposed new Ordinance dealing with this subject, the Forest Department took over the intensive protection of selected localities.

The main objective of the new policy is "to make the Island self supporting in timber and essential forest produce, both by the systematic exploitation of existing natural resources and by the artificial regeneration of selected area". Pending mapping-out of available land which is required for this national purpose artificial regeneration has been restricted and exploitation has been confined to the unclassified forests not required for future scientific management.

Whilst formulating this policy it was decided that it would be advantageous to restrict departmental retail sales of timber and encourage private enterprise by introducing wholesale methods of sale. At the same time it was decided to provide greater facilities for the free removal of timber and forest produce by villagers.

As a result of these decisions there has been a considerable drop in the revenue previously derived from these sources. On the other hand there is an encouraging increase in the demand for indigenous timbers at the more attractive wholesale rates provided by the Monopoly-Royalty system now in vogue.

Owing to the large area of forest land recently alienated for agricultural development in the wet zone, this increased demand has, during the year, been confined almost entirely to the hardwoods of the dry zone. The comparative figures given below illustrate the satisfactory increase in the output from the wholesale coupes of the dry zone :—

	1935.	1936.	Increase.
Broad gauge sleepers	94,263 ..	111,016 ..	+16,753
Narrow gauge sleepers	12,098 ..	24,510 ..	+12,412
Log timber (cubic feet)	15,754 ..	32,418 ..	+16,664
Sawn scantlings (cubic feet) ..	22,813 ..	26,090 ..	+ 3,277

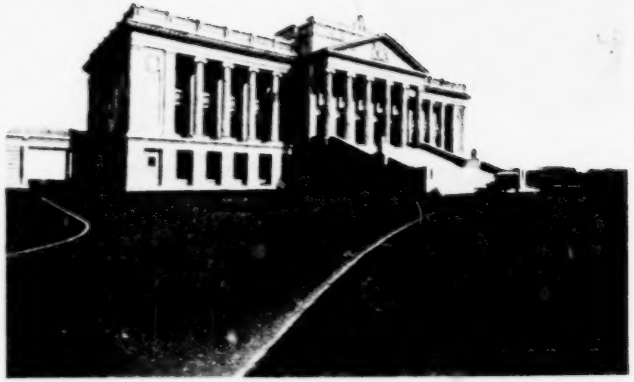
Expenditure during the calendar year amounted to Rs. 574,749·68, as against Rs. 590,250·28 in 1935, whilst cash revenue amounted to Rs. 398,143·08, as against Rs. 378,886·48 in 1935.

SURVEY.

The Survey Department.—As no land can be alienated or otherwise dealt with by the Crown until it has been surveyed and demarcated, the work of the Survey Department is of great importance. Its chief activities in this connection may be summarized as follows :—

(*a*) Application Surveys, *i.e.*, scattered disconnected surveys of small areas of land required for sales, leases, and various other purposes.

(*b*) Block Surveys, or continuous surveys of large areas of land according to villages, showing private land *en bloc* and not according to claims.



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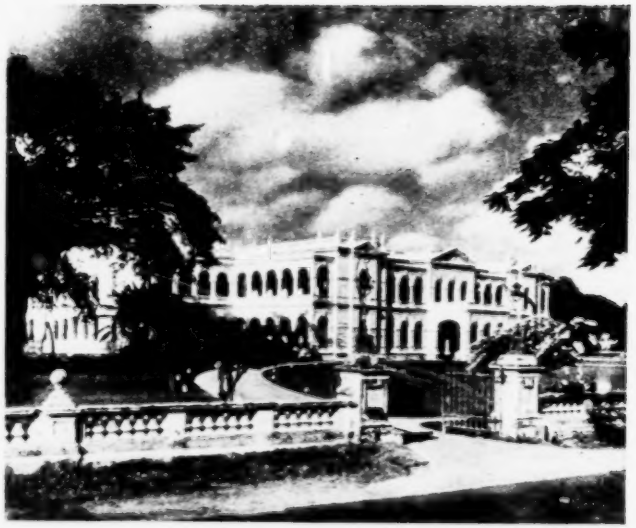

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(*c*) Acquisition Surveys, or surveys of land to be acquired by the Crown for public purposes.

(*d*) Town and Forest Surveys, and isolated surveys for settlement and miscellaneous purposes.

(*e*) Land Development, Peasant Proprietor, and Colonization Surveys.

(*f*) Irrigation Surveys, *i.e.*, engineering surveys and the preparation of plans and sections for use in the investigation and development of Irrigation Schemes to be undertaken by the Irrigation Department.

Topographical Surveys.—In addition, the Survey Department, having completed a Topographical Survey of the Island, is now engaged upon a Topographical Revision Survey. Sectional maps for the whole Island on the scale of 1 mile to the inch can be obtained at the Surveyor-General's Office, Colombo, and numerous small-scale maps are also published. The chief of these are—

4-mile and 8-mile to the inch maps of the Island.
8-mile to the inch motor maps.
6-mile to the inch motor maps, in book form.
4-mile and 24-mile to the inch agricultural maps.
Aviation map of Ceylon and South India on 1-mile scale.

Other Work of the Survey Department.—The other work of the Survey Department is not directly connected with the subject of this chapter. It includes—

(1) Precise Levelling.
(2) Town-planning and Assessment Surveys.
(3) The Observatory and Meteorological Stations.
(4) Trigonometrical Surveys.

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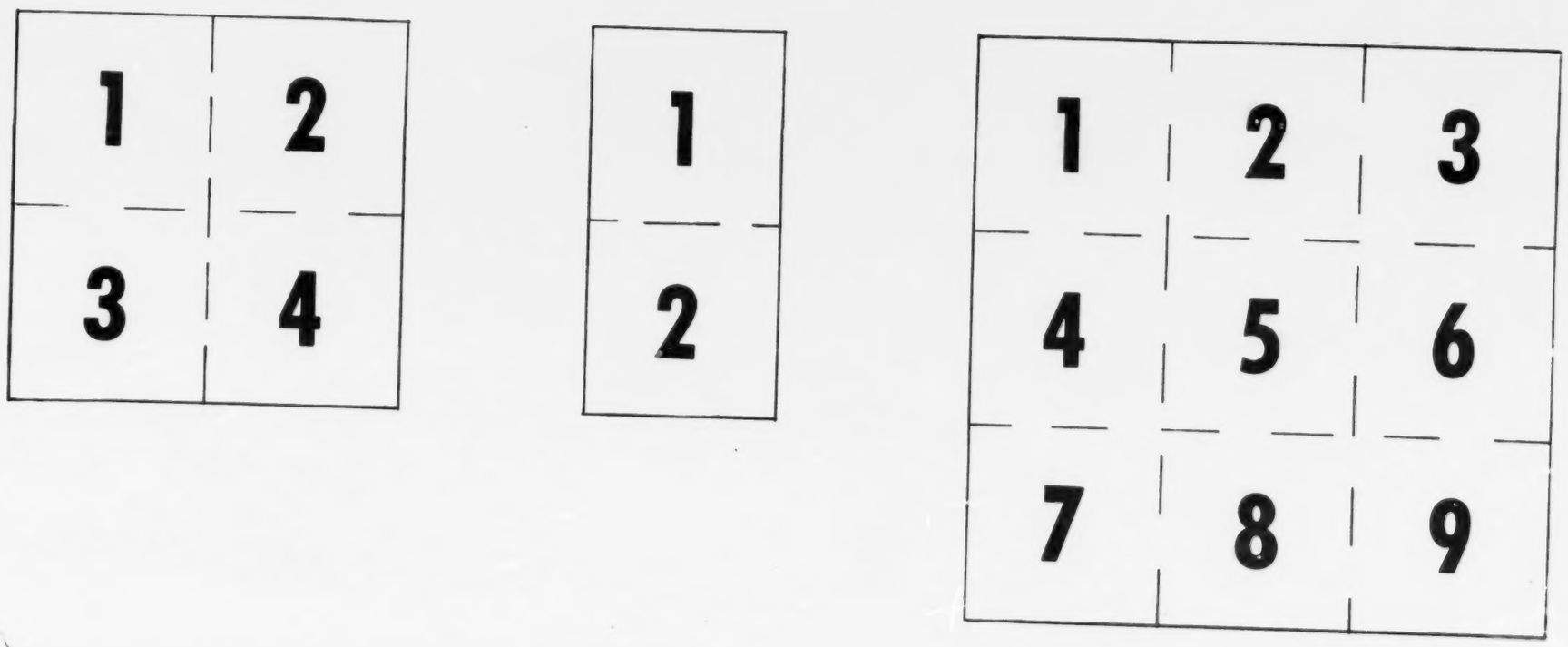

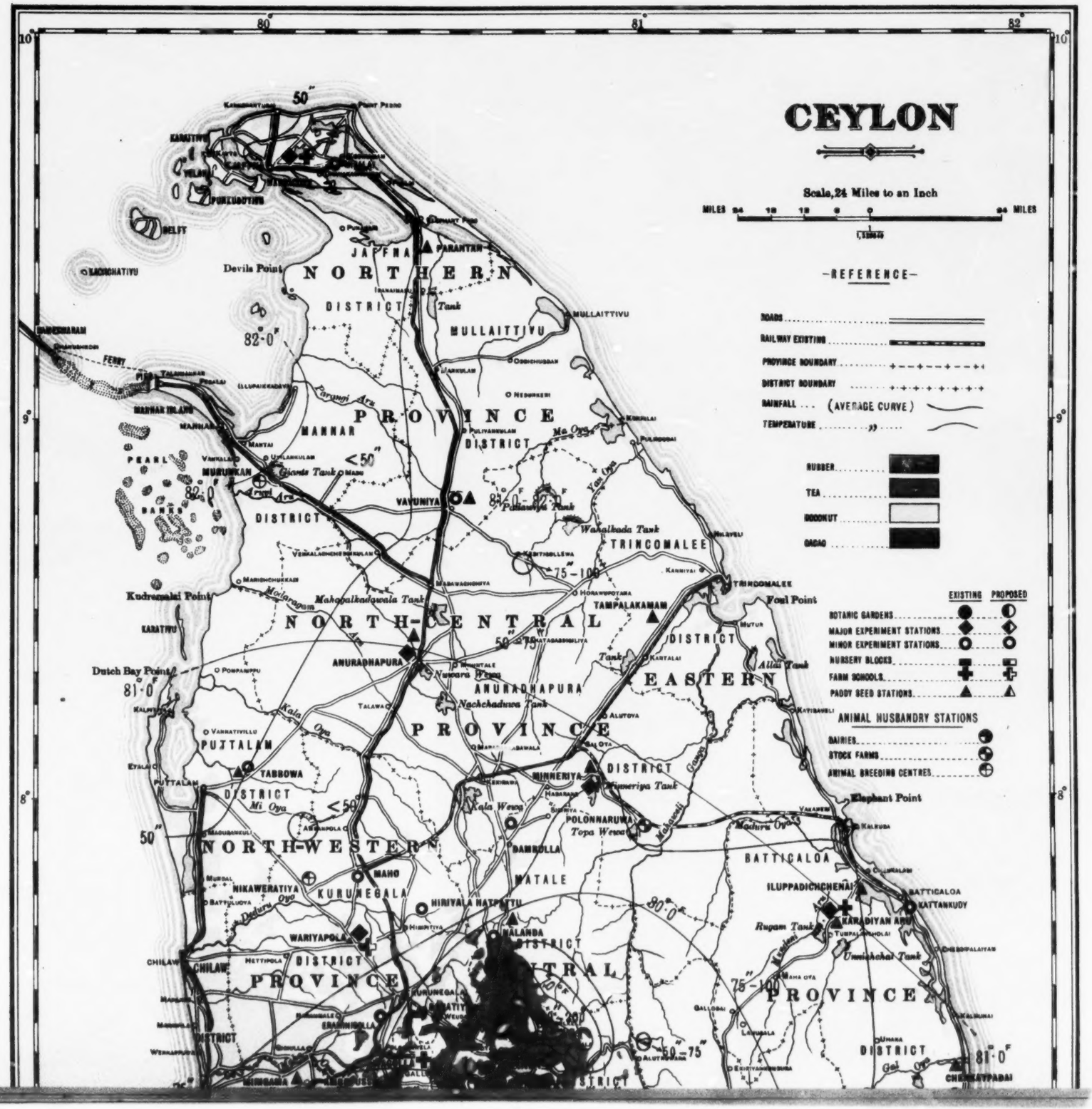
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ANURADHAPURA DISTRICT
NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCE
PUTTALAM DISTRICT
KURUNEGALA DISTRICT
BATTICALOA DISTRICT
Devils Point
Kudremalai Point
Dutch Bay Point
Fossil Point
Elephant Point
Mahaweli Ganga
Mi Oya
Kala Oya
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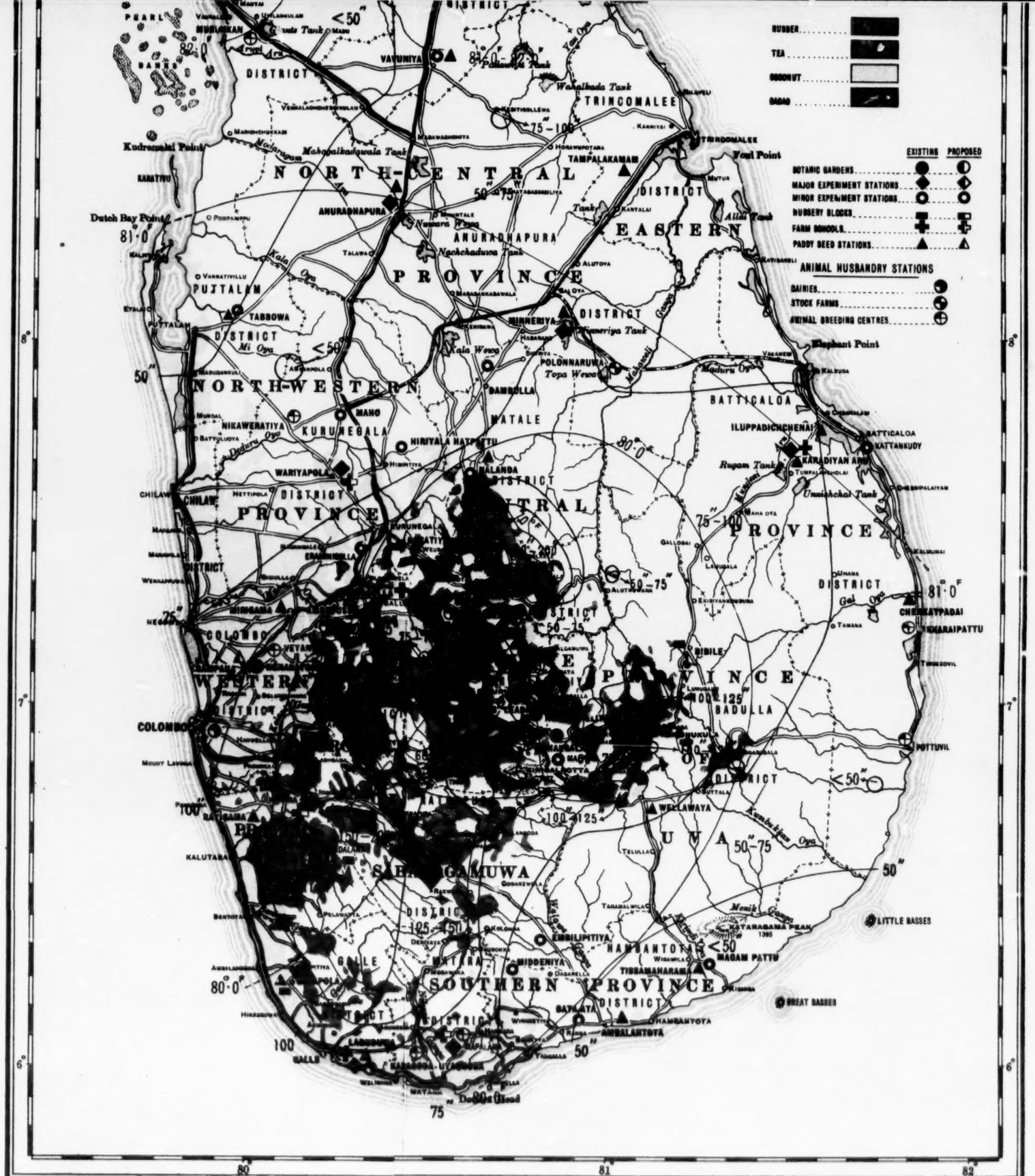
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Dutch Bay Point
Elephant Point
Foul Point
Pigeon Island
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GREAT BASSES
Mahaweli Ganga
Kala Oya
Mi Oya
Deduru Oya
Maha Oya
Kumbukkan Oya
Menik Ganga
Nuwara Weva
Nachchaduwa Tank
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Wahalkada Tank
Tunneriya Tank
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ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR 1937 ON THE ECONOMIC, SOCIAL, AND GENERAL CONDITIONS OF THE ISLAND.

Correction Slip.

Page 3, line 3—

Delete the word " (frontispiece)."

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Blocks by Survey Department, Ceylon.

HIS EXCELLENCY SIR ANDREW CALDECOTT, K.C.M.G., C.B.E., GOVERNOR.

Annual General Report for 1937 on the Economic, Social, and General Conditions of the Island.

CHAPTER I.

Introductory.

THOSE who are moved to write about Ceylon are subconsciously driven to do so in terms of ecstatic fervour. Usually they express themselves in extravagant language, which produces the effect of presenting to the eye and ear a pageant at once exotic and overdressed. But the truth about Ceylon is best expressed in reducing description to its simplest terms. The majority of its people are peasants, the lives of its people simple; but against this background of natural and luxuriant beauty, of lives devoted to simple agricultural pursuits, of plantations reared by the industry of its variegated population, stand in sharp contrast the elegant structures of Western science. This mixture of rural simplicity and extravagant natural beauty is nowhere more poetically portrayed than in "the Song of Ceylon". The influence of the West has for more than a century impinged on the life of Ceylon; Portuguese, Dutch, and Indian influences have left their mark, the first two bringing the gifts of Western religious practices and Roman jurisprudence respectively, and the last being responsible for its permanent moral and spiritual outlook. These elements "the Song of Ceylon" portrays with the inspiration of genius. This film exhibits the real Ceylon with greater truth than any other modern narrative, and incidentally proves the cinema to be the best medium for depicting the national character of a community. The illustrations in this edition of the Annual General Report represent an attempt to show in still pictures what the moving scenes of the "Song of Ceylon" have done with genuine fervour and artistic truth.

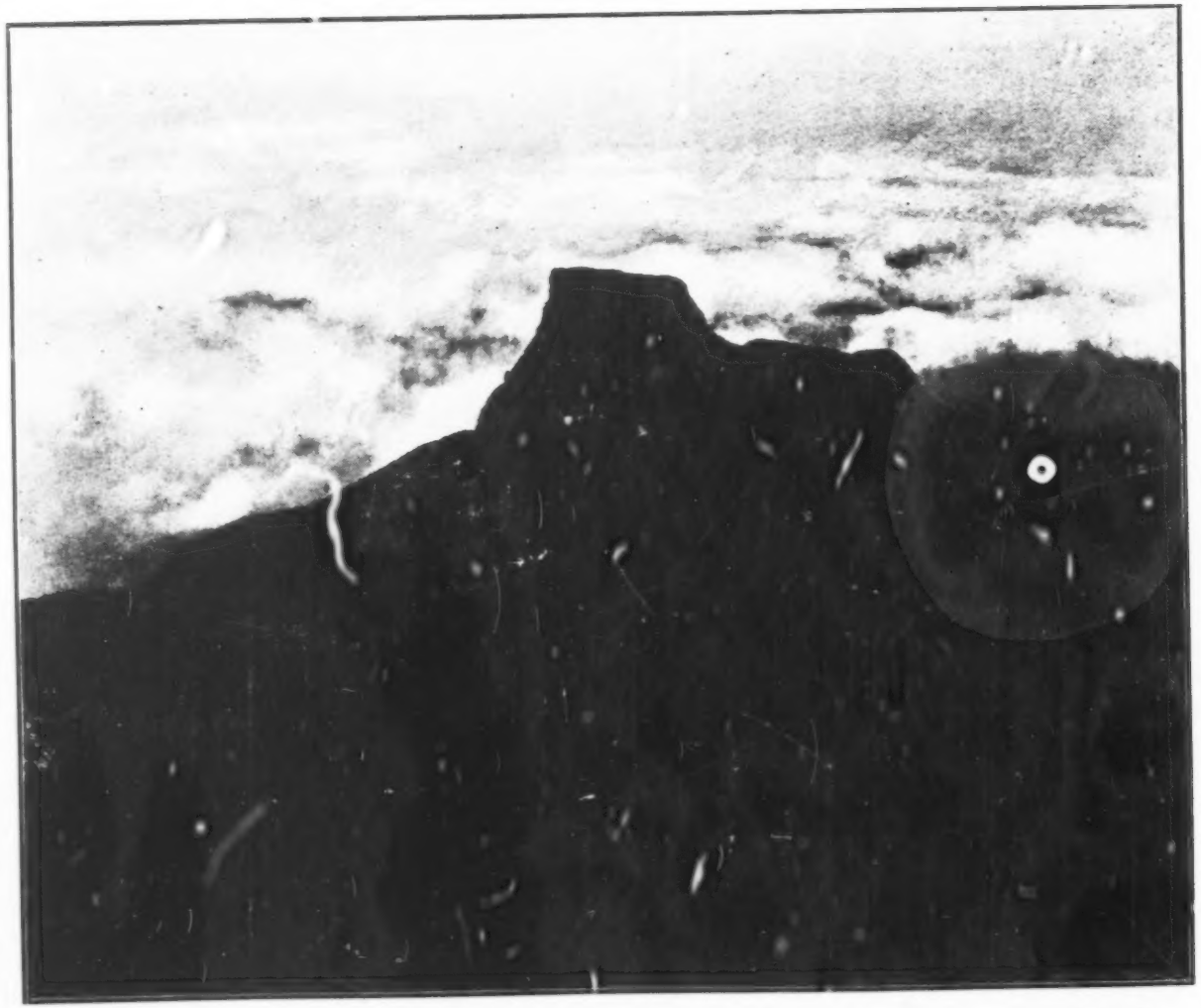
Those who visit Ceylon for any other purpose than business and sport are undoubtedly drawn there by æsthetic considerations. The quest of beauty is the business of those who are fortunate enough to possess ample leisure and money enabling them to pursue their hobbies and indulge their tastes. Ceylon will satisfy this quest if the visitor has the seeing eye, and if he has the requisite patience for exploring beneath the surface, after he has exhausted all that meets the eye of the casual observer. Such a person will find that ordinary impressions pass across his vision with bewildering swiftness, and that the best way of procuring and fixing these impressions and capturing the fleeting glimpses of beauty which linger only for fractional parts of a second, is to make use of the camera. But the camera itself must be used intelligently. Otherwise the blend of colour and form and proportion which we call beauty will be irretrievably lost. A few extracts from the diary of a visitor will illustrate what is meant by seeing with "the eye of the camera".

"We were told that we should reach Colombo at dawn next day, and I was up betimes to catch the first sight of the shore under the first glow of sunrise. From the ship I could catch the clear outline of Adam's Peak. Entering New York one is confronted by the triumphant Statue of Liberty. Entering Colombo harbour one sees the distant Peak afar off,

gleaming as the transcendent beacon of human inspiration, that haven of light to which the thoughts of all worshippers of Buddha yearn, as symbolic of a step taken from time into Eternity (p. 3). Turning to more mundane sights, one skirts the fringe of Mutwal bay (p. 6) and tries not to see the huge Neon 'tea' sign which cuts across the landscape, and floats into the harbour past the light at the entrance to the harbour (p. 9). It is some time before one can be free from the attentions of the Port doctor, the irksomeness of landing, and the vigilance of the Customs. The ordeal of the Customs House was not so horrible as I expected. The Customs authorities soon found that I was not of the stuff of which smugglers are made, and let me through with the minimum of worry. In gratitude I took a picture of the Customs House (p. 12). Then to the refuge of the nearest hotel, where the touts cease from worrying and the mosquito begins his serenade.

"It was the hotel boy—a 'boy' of 50 summers—who directed me to the Government Tourist Bureau. I learnt that the Bureau had its temporary habitation in the office of the Registrar-General. It was only a few months old. The Director was very courteous and very apologetic, and very proud at the same time. I asked for a guide; he regretted the lack of guides, but worked out a programme for me. That evening I found myself at Mount Lavinia. I watched the bathers for a while (p. 15) and then strolled down the beach where the fishermen were mending their nets (p. 18). Fishing in Ceylon has hardly passed the patriarchal stage. The fishermen put out in the same craft—the catamarans with their steadfast outriggers—in which they took their catch when Christ fraternized with the men of Galilee, and they are as poor now as they were then. The Ministry of Local Administration I am told has a plan for improving the boats, the fishing tackle and nets of the fisherfolk. It is hoped that their conservatism will not resist this plan as it did some years ago. The lights of numberless little craft may be seen dotting the waters night after night as they lie several miles from shore. At dawn they will bring the catch ashore. The fish is auctioned under the ægis of the priesthood—most of the fishermen being Catholics, and the priest takes his tithe; and the middlemen reap more than a tithe of profit, but the fishermen still remain poor, whilst despite their industry Ceylon imports Rs. 346,000 of tinned fish. No attempt has yet been made to fish for canning. Still the little boat of which I took a shot (p. 21) does her part right worthily, and a trim little figure she looks as she puts off—with sails proudly swelling.

"Next day at the Races I saw Colombo in all its glory—rivalling the glamour of Ascot. I was intrigued by the display of sareed ladies who turned out to watch. I am told that formerly the Sinhalese ladies wore a simple jacket and skirt when they did not wear English dress, but most of them now wear the saree like the Tamil ladies. A film director was busy taking shots for a picture featuring Ceylon local colour—I took a few shots myself. One was the winner of the beauty competition in 1937 (p. 23). The other two shots show the saree to be a perfect setting for Grecian beauty (pp. 26, 28). Without meaning any disparagement I may say that the Sinhalese and Tamil gentlemen are not so well served by their addiction to Western dress. The arrangements of the Turf Club, as the newspapers say, are perfect, all classes being catered for, and enclosures being provided to enable every one from the poorest rickshaw puller upward to stake a bet. The infection of racing is all-pervading.



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SHADOW OF ADAM'S PEAK.

"One striking feature of the Races are the crowds. This was a particularly crowded affair because it was the Coronation Meet, held in honour of His Gracious Majesty King George VI. (frontispiece). At such meets the events generally include a Governor's Plate or Cup presented by the Governor. The Governor Sir Reginald Stubbs was on the eve of retirement. It was known that the Governor-elect would be Sir Andrew Caldecott, due to arrive in June, 1937 (p. 1).

"Another feature of the Races is the thronging 'bus traffic. The increase of 'bus traffic in Ceylon is to be closely associated with the development of racing. But for cheap 'bus fares it would not have been possible to assemble such mammoth crowds at such short notice. Incidentally these have aggravated the inevitable problem of road *vs.* rail traffic; and the Government Railway is now concerned to improve its financial position. A Transport Commission inquired into the situation last year. Small wonder that 'bus traffic has increased by leaps and bounds, the Ceylon roads are so marvellous, and there is so much to see as one travels through this wonderful country. It should be an easy matter to develop a country so rich in transport facilities. I lingered in Colombo because I wanted to see some of its other attractions. Its picture houses produce the latest films from England and America. They come not direct, but *viâ* India. At the time of writing, a Tamil play, Chintamani—euphonious name—has caught the fancy of the—I must not use the word 'natives': it is not good form to speak of the people of a country by that name. This play ran for over six months. By Western standards the Tamil and Indian plays are tedious and long drawn out. But I am told that, apart from the story, there were enchanting songs. I am sure that to Eastern minds such plays must make the strongest appeal and are far more appropriate than the jazzy stuff which is lavishly poured out on the Western screens. There are as yet no Sinhalese plays. But they will come.

"Next day the Director directed me to the Temple of Kelaniya. Kelaniya is the name of the river which flows from the centre of the Island into Colombo—now and then it expresses its sense of its own importance by flooding the country for miles overwhelming the suburbs of Colombo, and setting for the Ceylon engineers a problem, which has not yet been solved. The Temple is characteristic of the period in which it was built, and contains some wonderful friezes. The friezes I took speak for themselves (p. 31). The Sinhalese hold a festival here at the time of their national festival—the Wesak, and the worshippers bring flowers as gifts, not fruits, nor money, but flowers (p. 34). The scent of the flowers is incense to the nostrils of the Deity, the Divine Buddha (pp. 39, 42).

"From the temple I wandered through the village to find out how the inhabitants lived. There was a tile factory, and small village potteries. The potter works quietly and individually in his homestead. The tile factory was a more pretentious affair but there was none of the smoke or din usually associated with the industrialism of the West. The potter at work in his dark hut was not perturbed by my camera (p. 46) but was rather proud of his handiwork (p. 49). But his pottery is primitive, and lacks variety.

"But time passed and I was told there would be more exciting things further inland. As I passed on to the hills, I found the most domesticated animal to be the elephant—there were elephants bathing, elephants drawing logs, pulling carts, crossing rivers, elephants going to and from work, and when one met one of these giants on the road, he was easily steered to a side to let one pass (pp. 51, 54, 57).

"Village economy consists of mixed cultivations. Except for the big tea and rubber estates, cultivation is done on a small scale, and consists of small patches of coconut gardens surrounding small mud or stone houses whose owners grow plantains, vegetables and a little fruit. But nowhere does one see long stretches of banana plantations as in Jamaica or canefields as in Barbados, or pineapples as in Mauritius, neither capital nor co-operative effort having been utilized to this end. There were here and there stretches of rice fields, those terraces of green and gold (p. 60) which shimmer in the sun and conjure up visions of green pastures in some cloudless Utopia, but here again the plan of cultivation was on a comparatively small scale. What is sold at the village boutique reflects what is grown in the village (p. 63). The banana, pineapples, coconuts one sees at the village boutique are the surplus produce of the village ; by the sale of these the villager is able to buy the oil, utensils, electric torches, bicycles and other things he needs. The village is self-supporting, but investigation will show that the total wealth of the village is not great. Still the general impression conveyed is one of prosperity and happiness. A recent malaria epidemic exposed the fact that the basis of this prosperity is very shallow. It is the part of good statesmanship to increase the numbers of peasant holdings and earnings of the peasantry. The keynote of the village life however is contentment. Sufficient for the day is the evil thereof. The peasant is better off than the fisherman. But no evil seems to have come near the mother of the happy family which I photographed (p. 66). If she or one of her children falls ill, she will summon the Vedarala or native doctor, and if his other nostrums fail, she will hold a devil dancing ceremony, and by this expedient there is a hope of exorcising the evil influence. The dance here, as elsewhere is religious in its origin. The dancers best known to us all are the dancers who accompany the noble procession called the Perahera at Kandy (p. 71 Kandyan Dancers).

"Kandy is my objective, and so I will lose no more time in getting there ; but first I will halt to admire the natural archway on the Kadugannawa Pass (p. 74). A troop of sailors from His Majesty's fleet have come out for a ride in buses, and can get no further. They stand about in various poses admiring the scenery and gazing upon Bible Rock. Not many words pass between them—they are in the presence of some thing new ; they use the same oaths, and with a different timbre.

"Kandy is surely an earthly paradise. If one could live here either on its hills, or by the lake (p. 78) or in the precincts of the temple or in its ancient palaces undisturbed, and free to dream of 'lost horizons'! One can only utter commonplaces about it, because its beauty has become so familiar, but familiarity does not breed contempt if one remembers a verse which has in its turn become commonplace—'a thing of beauty is a joy for ever'.

"I should have been glad to spend several days here meandering through its historical places and relics—surveying its markets, and thinking that here a man might satisfy all the needs of his soul, examining Kandyan artwork and talking of Kandyan customs, creeping through gardens, climbing hills and by-paths, watching the college boys at their games, and generally doing vigorously the things which a non-attached but curious man likes to do. But I had an introduction to a planter with a double-barrelled name who lived in the hills beyond Nuwara Eliya. So in a day or two I set out to my destination. You may take a high road to Nuwara

Eliya *viâ* Pussellawa and the Ramboda Pass, or the low road *viâ* Nawalapitiya, Hatton, and Talawakele. This is the region of the tea plantations and the journey lies amid hills over which hang mists, 'down dropping veils of thinnest lawn' and the loveliest waterfalls, glistening cascades which are the reserve powers of the country, waiting to be turned into electric current and a new source of wealth (p. 81). I took the high road.

"My new friend showed me over his factory (p. 84) and I was to learn that the essential labour was indentured. The indigenous Sinhalese and Tamils do not like earning wages by work on estates. It is an important sidelight on social psychology. The greatest wealth of the country lies in its tea, and its tea is mainly the product of European capital and Indian labour. Tea provides 55·1 per cent. of its exports, rubber 24·9 per cent.—but rubber is evenly divided between local and European capital; 15·6 per cent. of exports is derived from its coconut products, most of this being in the hands of the indigenous population, who own large and small holdings, in many cases burdened with debt. There is a State Mortgage Bank, but my friend told me its operations are limited and an Agricultural Credit Corporation to grant relief from the burden of indebtedness is contemplated. The picture is thus not altogether rosy.

"Life on an estate is in many respects ideal. The daily round of the planter is a satisfactory blend of work, rest and work, work being at the two ends of the day; and in the slack season he may indulge his hobbies. My friend's hobby was shooting. He had good days now and then, and returned, so to speak, with his quiver empty and his bag full (p. 88). He told me that there was no real big game shooting in Ceylon—in fact there had been overshooting in the past, and then it was found necessary to conserve what was left by strict prohibitions, and national parks were in process of foundation. Still there was good shooting for those who knew where to find it. It was worth while squatting near a jungle river to see what would happen (p. 91). The Horton Plains was his happy hunting ground, whilst I found sweet solace in the Hakgala Gardens (p. 94). There was trout fishing for hook and line (p. 97), and I was planning a day to be the 'compleat angler' when a telegram recalled me to Colombo.

"In Colombo I arrived in time to be present at a remarkable debate held in the State Council which may prove to be a landmark in the history of the Island (p. 100)".

We shall follow the diarist no further, but include a few pictures of our own illustrating Kandyan art work (p. 103), about which it might be said that it is unique, but it has stagnated; lacemaking (p. 105), copra manufacture (p. 108), and a few other industries (pp. 112, 115).

I shall close this section with a summary of the various projects undertaken or extended by the different Ministries in the course of the year.

Ministry of Education.—The Colombo Museum, in conjunction with the British Museum of Natural History

(*a*) commenced an Avifaunal Survey of Ceylon;
(*b*) sent an Entomological expedition to South India;
(*c*) established an Ethnological Department;
(*d*) opened a Palaeontological Section containing fossils of the Miocene and Plastocene age and remains of the elephant Palaeoloxcodon a species of rhinoceros and hippopotamus as well as teeth of Miocene fishes and invertebrates.

Archaeology.—108 books and 140 periodicals have been added to the Library. The photographic work has been brought up to date and 23 large photo-albums containing photographs of all the chief monuments and antiquities in Ceylon have been prepared. At Anuradhapura the southern gateway of the Ruvanvalisaya Dagaba was excavated and repaired.

Schools.—Apart from the usual educational activities, the Rural Schools Scheme introduced in 1932, is being developed with a view to bringing the school work in post-primary classes into closer relation with village conditions. A centre for training teachers in this type of work was opened in 1934 at Mirigama, and another at Weeraketiya in 1937.

Ministry of Communications and Works : Public Works.—Chapter XII. contains a detailed account of new works, including buildings, bridges and roads undertaken or completed during the year.

Post and Telegraphs.—The most important event of the year was the decision that Ceylon should take part in the Empire Air Mail Scheme for the conveyance of all letter mails by air to countries participating in the scheme. The first plane left Ratmalana on February 28, 1938.

The Postal Administration of Burma was separated from that of India in April, 1937.

Ministry of Agriculture and Lands.—The activities of the Agricultural Department are too numerous to be sketched in this section, which is really intended to include new projects undertaken during the year.

Extensive surveys were conducted in pursuance of the new Land Policy for establishing agricultural colonies of middle-class and peasant proprietors. Over 180,000 acres were surveyed in the Eastern Province.

Meteorological.—A pilot-balloon station was established at Mannar in connection with the Madras-Colombo Air Mail Service.

Forest.—It has recently been decided that the protection of wild life, both animal and plant, should be one of the duties of the Forest Department. The Fauna and Flora Ordinance of 1937, provides for proclamation of lands as National Parks and Game Sanctuaries. The Conservator of Forests is also appointed Game Warden.

Co-operation.—There were on April 30, 1937, 1,117 registered Co-operative Societies of which 4 were Co-operative Central Banks, 930 were Village Credit Societies, &c. Since then 79 further Societies have been registered.

Ministry of Labour, Industry and Commerce.—Bureau of Industry and Commerce : The Government Tourist and Publicity Bureau opened in June became a separate unit under a separate Director in October, 1937. A new Ceylon Trade Commissioner for India with headquarters at Bombay was appointed in June, 1937. A Model Coir Factory was completed in December, 1937. A deputation composed of the Hon. the Minister of Labour, Industry and Commerce, and the Financial Secretary with the then Registrar-General, Mr. V. Coomaraswamy as Secretary went to London in March, 1937, to appeal to the Secretary of State for permission to establish a State Aided Bank in Ceylon and to discuss problems relating to trade matters. The deputation was well received and succeeded in winning the consent of the Secretary of State, but it was found that

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MUTWAL BAY.

discussions about the trade of Ceylon with the United Kingdom and India could not proceed until the discussions between Great Britain and India were completed.

Labour.—An Unemployment Labour Bureau was opened at Akmimana in Galle District in 1937. The object is to combat unemployment and raise a supply of labour for estates from among the Sinhalese who do not take kindly to estate labour. It is proposed to open a Central Bureau and other Bureaux in other parts of the Island shortly.

Ministry of Home Affairs: Excise.—The tree tax system has come to stay in Jaffna. By this system a tapper pays a licence fee of so much per tree and may tap as much toddy as he likes during the season which lasts about 6 months. This system has replaced the system in vogue in other parts of the Island whereby an area is rented to a renter on a tender system, and the highest bidder is allowed to open one or more taverns at places approved by the Excise Commissioner. Under this system the profits go to the middleman, the renter ; under the tree tax system to the tapper. The tavern disappears under the tree tax system, and the thirsty may drink toddy under a tree in the palmyrah grove or take it home in a bottle or other receptacle.

Ministry of Local Administration.—A Yorkshire Coble has been constructed by the Harbour Engineer's Department to standard design. This type of fishing boat is modelled on the type used in the North Sea for deep sea fishing, and is intended to be the first step towards modernization of the industry by the introduction of a type of fishing vessel new to Ceylon.

Ministry of Health.—Last but not least.

In 1937 the Malaria Control Scheme inaugurated in 1936 was extended to further areas. The major part of the Island was covered with 55 Field Medical Officers who carry on intensive Rural Health work. Further experiments in river training were carried out by the Sanitary Engineer with a view to controlling the breeding of larvae in rivers. Provision was made for 6 more Cottage Hospitals in Divulapitiya, Walallawita, Pallegama, Ankumbura, Pungudutivu, and Mawatagama. The Nutrition Survey conducted by the Director, Bacteriological Institute, was published. A complete filariasis survey of the North-Western Province has been made into the characteristics of elephantiasis, and this has been followed by a similar survey of the Southern Province. The Mansonia mosquito plays his part in spreading this disease.

A new Board of Indigenous Medicine was appointed from May 1 under the Chairmanship of the Hon. Mr. S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike, Minister of Local Administration.

In my report for 1936, I remarked that the seven Ministries were in a favourable position for becoming seven " pillars of prosperity ". That remark is still true ; the Ministries are proceeding apace with new projects and developing recent ones as far as the limits of finance will permit ; but there is a universal clamour for reform of the Constitution set up on the report of the Donoughmore Commission in 1931 ; this clamour arises from the communities who feel that there is unequal distribution of power in the Constitution and have made representations to the Secretary of

State; it is hoped that the various elements in seeking their individual interests will not lose sight of the interests of the country as a whole. For particulars of the Constitution the reader is referred to Chapter II.

Situation and Dimensions.

Ceylon lies between 5° 55′ and 9° 50′ N. latitude and 79° 42′ and 81° 53′ E. longitude. The greatest length of the Island from north to south, *i.e*, from Point Palmyra to Dondra Head, is 270 miles; its greatest width 140 miles, from Colombo on the west coast to Sangamankanda on the east. Its area is 25,332 square miles, nearly the same as that of Holland and Belgium, or about half the size of England.

The approximate distances of Colombo, the chief port of Ceylon, from the other chief world ports, and the average tariff for the itinerary are given below :—

Colombo to London.	Nautical Miles.	Approximate Days' Journey.
Aden	2,100	8
Suez	3,407	12
Port Said	3,494	13
Marseilles	5,091	16
Gibraltar (*vid* Marseilles)	5,690	19
Gibraltar (direct)	5,407	18
London (by sea *vid* Marseilles)	7,005	22
London (by sea direct)	6,725	20
London (overland)	5,868	17

Colombo to India, &c.		
Calcutta (touching at Madras)	1,260	7
Bombay	875	2½
Rangoon	1,249	4½
Penang	1,276	4
Singapore	1,567	5
Hong Kong (touching at Singapore)	3,113	11
Shanghai (touching at Singapore and Hong Kong)	3,966	15
Yokohama (*vid* Singapore and Hong Kong)	5,083	21

Colombo to Australia.		
Fremantle	3,121	9
Adelaide (touching at Fremantle)	4,479	13
Melbourne (touching at Fremantle and Adelaide)	4,979	15
Sydney (touching at Fremantle, Adelaide, and Melbourne)	5,556	18

Colombo to South Africa, &c.		
Mauritius	2,099	10
Durban (touching at South African ports)	3,680	18
Cape Town (touching at South African ports)	4,362	21-30

Passage Fares.

Colombo-London :—
- 1st class single .. £54 to £80
- 2nd class single .. £40 to £50
- 3rd and tourist single .. £27 to £62

Colombo-Sydney :—
- 1st class single .. £50
- 2nd class single .. £32
- 3rd and tourist single .. £22 to £41

Colombo-Melbourne :—
- 1st class single .. £47
- 2nd class single .. £30
- 3rd and tourist single .. £21 to £40

Colombo-Durban :—
- 1st class single .. £27. 10*s*. to £35
- 2nd class single .. £20

Colombo-Singapore :—
- 1st class single .. From average £22
- 2nd class single .. do. £14

Colombo-Hong Kong :—
- 1st class single .. From average £36
- 2nd class single .. do. £20

Colombo-Yokohama :—
- 1st class single .. From average £46
- 2nd class single .. do. £26

Colombo-Bombay :—
- 1st class single .. £10
- 2nd class single .. £8

Colombo-Calcutta :—
- 1st class or cabin single .. £10
- 2nd class single .. £8

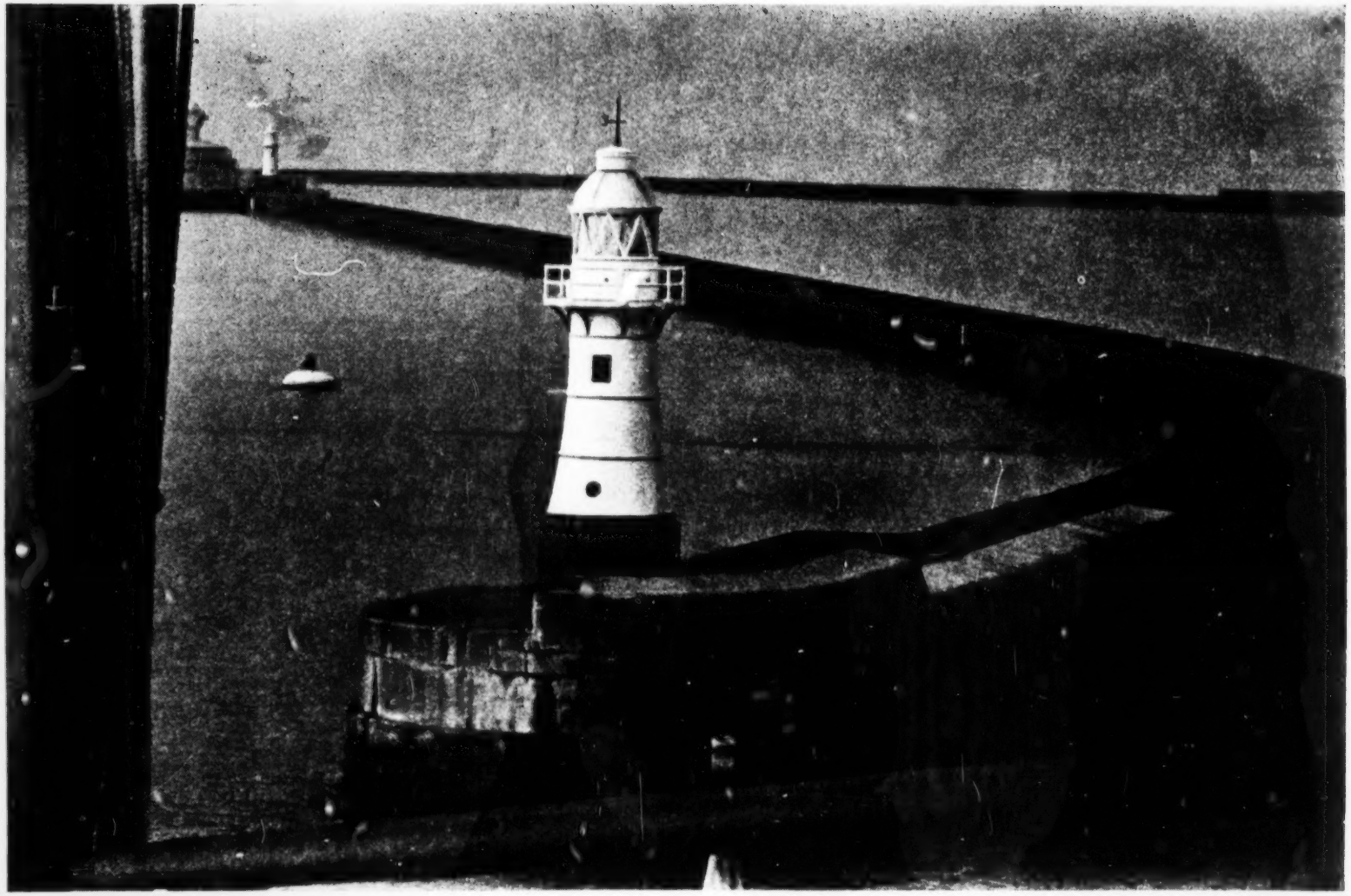
Colombo-Rangoon :—
- 1st class single .. Rs. 180

Colombo-Port Said :—
- 1st class single .. £40 to £60
- 2nd class single .. £29 to £40
- 3rd class and tourist single £23 to £58

Colombo-Marseilles :—
- 1st class single .. £55 to £76
- 2nd class single .. £40 to £46
- 3rd and tourist single .. £20 to £60

Colombo-Boston and New York. £60 to £95

Facilities provided at the Passenger Jetty for the storage of baggage are described on page 68. Passengers' baggage is defined by the Customs Regulations to mean *bona fide* baggage (which includes wearing apparel



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DOORWAY TO COLOMBO.

and personal effects) of a passenger accompanying him or arriving in Ceylon within one month, before or after his arrival, or within such time as the Collector of Customs in the circumstances deems reasonable. With certain exceptions, passengers' baggage is exempt from duty.

The Ceylon Government Railway serves the principal towns of the Island, and offers visitors excellent facilities for inland travel. Cheap first class tourist tickets obtainable from the Booking Office at the Jetty, the Fort Station, and recognized tourist agents at Rs. 50 (£3. 15*s.*) for two weeks and Rs. 75 (£5. 12*s.* 6*d.*) for one month, permit tourists to travel 951 miles of railway and visit the most important and historic towns. Servants accompanying tourists are issued third class tickets at Rs. 15 (£1. 2*s.* 6*d.*) for two weeks and Rs. 25 (£1. 17*s.* 6*d.*) for one month. These are issued throughout the year.

Similar "Tour Ceylon" tickets priced first class Rs. 40, second class Rs. 20, and third class Rs. 10 (half these rates for children under twelve years) were again issued during the Christmas holidays this year. These tickets are available for 14 days unlimited travel and will also be issued during the forthcoming Easter holidays.

The distances from Colombo to some of the principal towns of the Island, and information regarding sleeping and restaurant cars, &c., are found on pages 72–75.

There is no legal tariff for taxi-cabs within the municipal limits of Colombo, but the usual scale of fares is as follows :—

For the first half mile	50 cents
For each subsequent ½ mile up to 1 mile	12½ "
For each subsequent mile	75 "

Extra charges are made for each passenger over two, and for each piece of luggage other than hand luggage. A higher scale of fares is charged in the case of taxi-cabs hired between the hours of 9 P.M. and 6.30 A.M.

The above rates apply only to places within the municipal limits of Colombo. For trips to places outside Colombo Municipality special terms should be agreed upon *before starting*. The hiring-car fares to such places vary from 40 cents to Re. 1 per mile, with extra charges for detention.

There are hotels of the European type in Colombo, Kandy, Nuwara Eliya, Galle, and Anuradhapura ; the rates are usually Rs. 9 a day and upwards, the usual charge for first-class accommodation being Rs. 12 a day. Cold Storage Companies in Colombo supply ice and frozen meats and other foods by rail. In addition to hotels there are about 170 resthouses in various parts of the Island (marked on the ordinary motoring map), many of which are very delightfully situated beside the sea or some river or tank.

Useful information may be had from the new handbook published by the Automobile Association of Ceylon. "How to see Ceylon" by Bella Sidney Woolf is a favourite guide book for tourists. A more ambitious and informative book is Bassett's Romantic Ceylon, a recent addition to the voluminous literature on the subject.

CLIMATE.

On the whole, the climate of Ceylon is tolerable for the tropics ; the accessibility of the hills is a great boon to the dwellers in the plains, and a change to the sea is beneficial to those who live in the hills. In the

low-country, the districts which have been opened in rubber, coconuts, and other products are generally fairly healthy, but in the unopened localities malaria is common.

Temperature.—With regard to temperature, the range of variation at several stations is shown in diagram No. 1, facing this page.

The low seasonal variations will be noted, but it will be seen that the differences between the temperatures of low-country and up-country stations are considerable. The highest shade temperature registered in Ceylon was 103·7°F. at Trincomalee in May, 1890, and the minimum air temperature 27·1°F. at Nuwara Eliya in February, 1914. An extreme temperature of 103·7°F. is not excessive, but the humidity is considerable, the annual average percentage of saturation being generally about 80, in Galle and Nuwara Eliya 84, in Colombo, Jaffna, and Badulla 82, in Kandy 80, in Batticaloa 78, in Trincomalee 76. At Colombo, the "hot weather" season may be said to extend from March to May, and the "cold weather" from December to February. July and August are often pleasant, particularly on the west side of the Island.

For 1937 the mean temperature in the low-country varied from 82° at Trincomalee to 80° at Galle, while Nuwara Eliya, at an altitude of 6,000 feet, had a mean temperature of 60°.

Rainfall.—As is generally found in the tropics, however, the seasons are distinguished by differences in rainfall, rather than pronounced variations in temperature. The change in the direction of the monsoon winds, from south-west to north-east, causes a corresponding change in the location of the heaviest rain, which is usually experienced to windward of the hills, while during the intermonsoon seasons, local wind circulations are liable to give rain in any part of the Island.

The annual average rainfall varies from about 40 inches in the north-west and the south-east to over 200 inches in some parts of the interior.

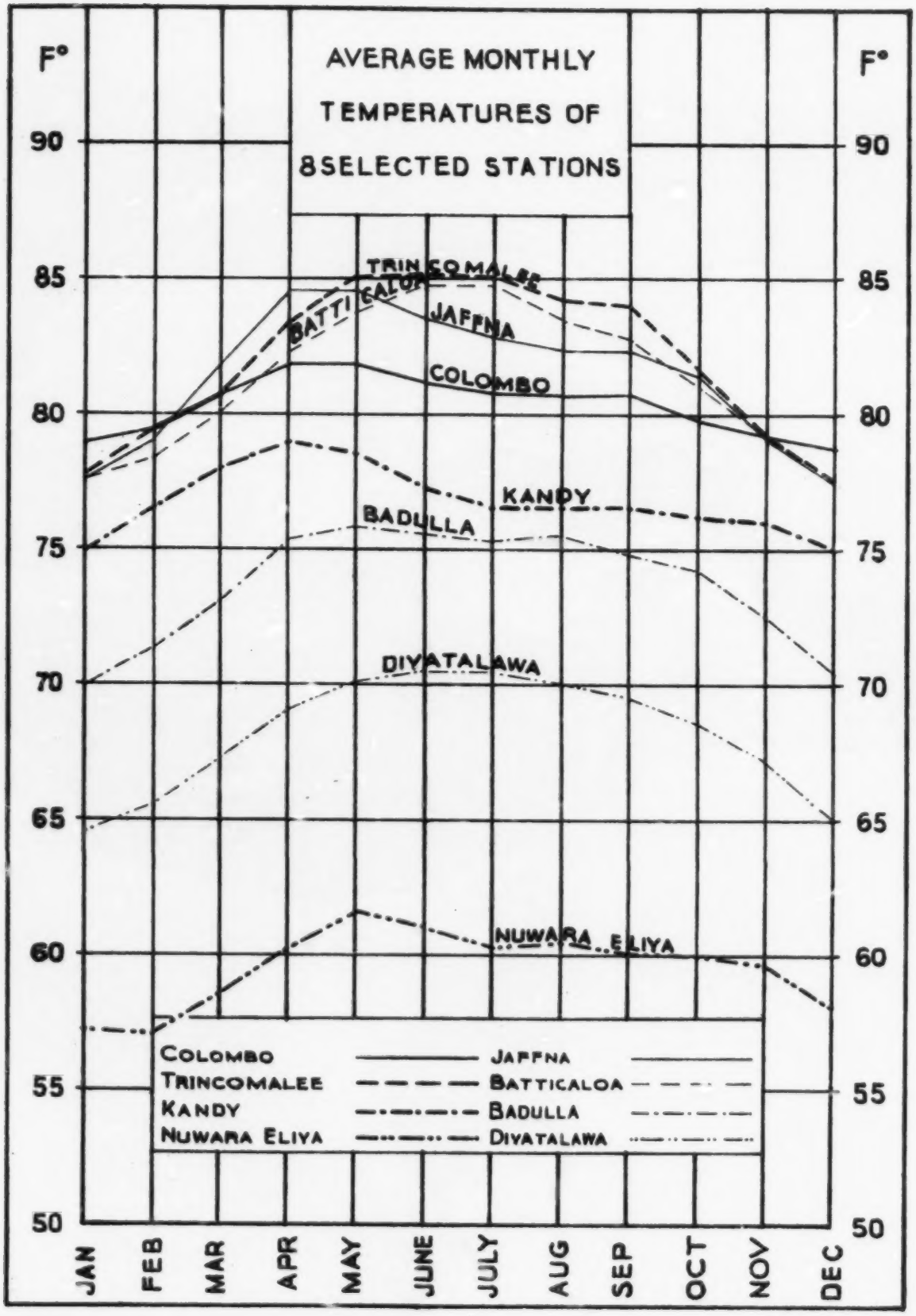
The annual averages (1911–1930) are 91 inches at Colombo, 87 inches at Kandy, and 92 inches at Nuwara Eliya. Diagram No. 2, facing this page, shows the average monthly rainfall of 12 selected stations.

History.

The earliest inhabitants of the Island are thought to have been the Nagas and Yakkhas, the latter being perhaps now represented by the Veddas, a fast fading race. Legendary history has it that the first invaders were Aryans from the North of India, who, under the leadership of Vijaya, overcame the aborigines and established the Sinhalese dynasty. Early attention appears to have been paid by the invaders to irrigation works, agricultural development, and other branches of civil administration, and by the end of the third century A. D. a comparatively advanced stage of civilization had been reached.

The history of Ceylon down to the sixteenth century may be divided into two parts, viz., the period of the Sinhalese *Mahavansa*, *circa* 500 B.C. to 300 A.D., and that of the *Suluwansa*, from *circa* 300 A.D. onwards. The first period is one of increasing development and expanding civilization, connected chiefly with the progress of Buddhism, which was introduced about 247 B.C. The second period is one of ever-increasing pressure from the Tamils, Pandyans, and Cholas from India, with occasional success on the part of the Sinhalese, particularly during the reign of their famous king, Parakrama Bahu I. (1153 to 1186 A.D.).

DIAGRAM Nº1.



S.G.O. 14.3.38

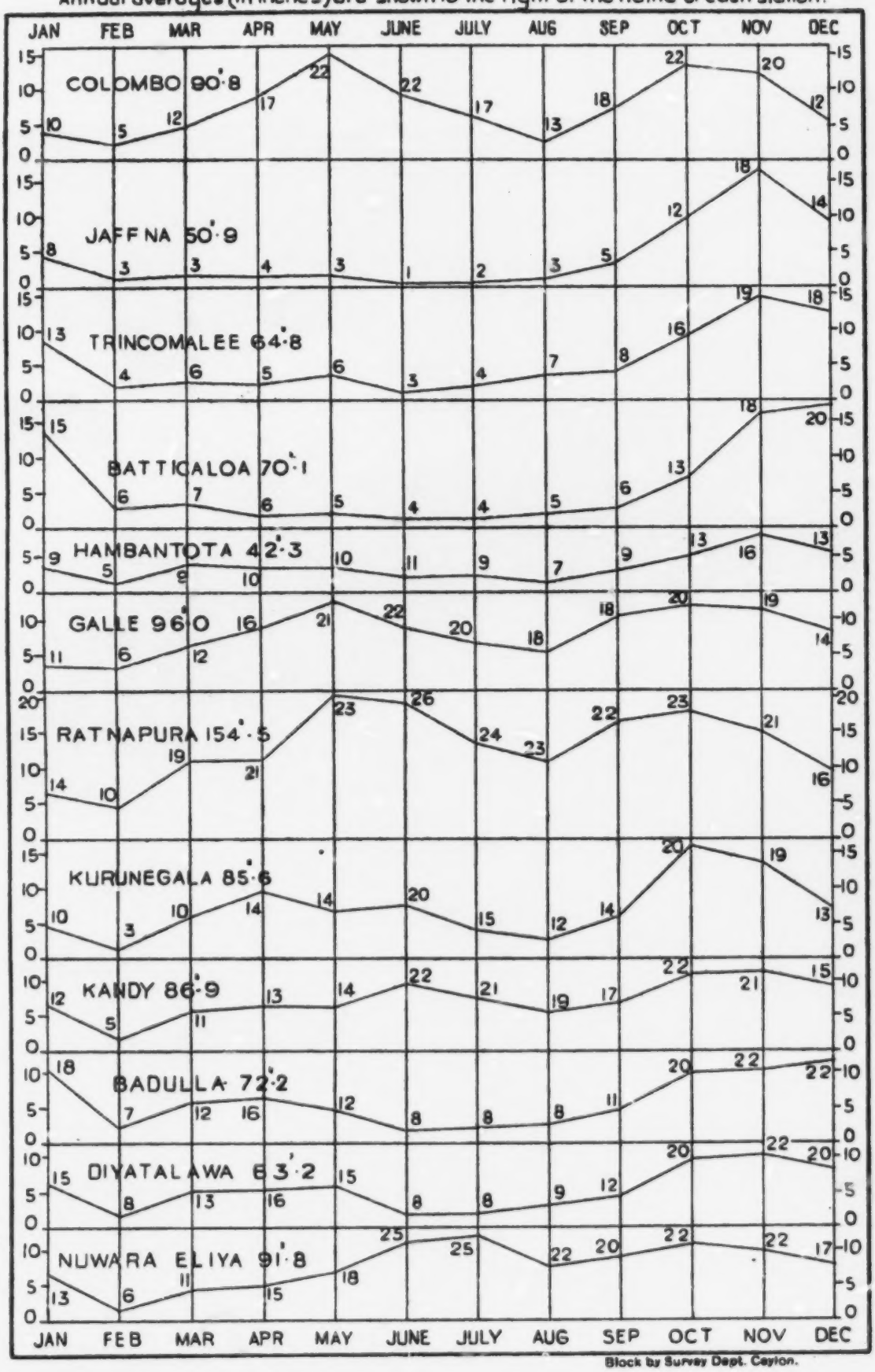
Diagram No 2

AVERAGE MONTHLY RAINFALL

OF 12 SELECTED STATIONS

Figures along the curve denote the number of wet days.

Annual averages (in inches) are shown to the right of the name of each station.



Block by Survey Dept. Ceylon.

A natural limit occupation resulted from the constant warfare, and the Tamils known as Jaffnese were left in possession of the north of the Island.

In the sixteenth century the Portuguese formed settlements on the coasts of the Island; in the next century they were dispossessed by the Dutch. The Portuguese must be credited with the introduction of Catholic Christianity in the Island, and the Dutch with the introduction of Roman law. The impression made by the latter on the social customs of the Ceylonese remains to this day. More recently commerce has brought about a peaceful invasion of Moors, officially styled Muslims, and Malays who are found in large numbers especially in Hambantota, and are reckoned to be the backbone of the Police force. In 1796 the British took possession of the Dutch settlements in the Island, which were then annexed to the Presidency of Madras, but five years later, in 1802, Ceylon was constituted a separate Crown Colony. In 1815, the districts of the interior, which had maintained their independence under the kings of Kandy, were acquired by Great Britain as the result of a rebellion against the Kandyan king, and the whole Island was thus united under the British rule.

Principal Languages.

Sinhalese and Tamil are the two chief vernacular languages in the Island, the former being spoken by the Sinhalese who chiefly inhabit the western, central, and southern portions of the Island, and the latter by the Tamils inhabiting the northern and eastern parts and by the immigrant estate population. English is in general use among the people of the upper and the middle classes of all communities.

CHAPTER II.

Government.

The Constitution.

Until 1931 the Constitution of Ceylon was of the Crown Colony type, the government being vested in the Governor assisted by Executive and Legislative Councils. A description of the old Constitution will be found in the Annual General Reports of 1929 and previous years.

In July, 1931, the then existing Constitution was superseded by a new Constitution, based on the recommendations of a Special Commission on the Constitution appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies, which visited Ceylon in 1927–28. The new Constitution was formulated by the Ceylon (State Council) Order in Council, 1931. The principal constitutional changes involved are described below.

The Legislative Council was dissolved in April, 1931, the Executive Council in July of the same year, and their place was taken by a "State Council" having both legislative and executive functions, which met for the first time on July 7, 1931. The new Council consists of three official members, fifty elected members, and not more than eight members

nominated by the Governor. Neither an elected nor a nominated member may be a person holding any public office under the Crown in Ceylon.

The three official members of the State Council are styled the Officers of State. They are members of the Council *ex officio*, as the Chief Secretary, Legal Secretary, and Financial Secretary to the Government respectively. The Constitution provides that they shall have all the rights and privileges of membership of the Council and of the Board of Ministers (a body which will be referred to later), save the right to vote on any question before the Council or the Board.

All elected members are elected on a territorial basis, communal representation which was a feature of the old legislature having been abolished. The franchise is very wide. It extends, with a few exceptions, to all British subjects of either sex who are, at least, twenty-one years of age and are domiciled in Ceylon. In addition, persons not so domiciled are permitted to vote if they possess a certain literacy and property qualification, or have received a "certificate of permanent settlement" from a Government Agent or Assistant Government Agent.

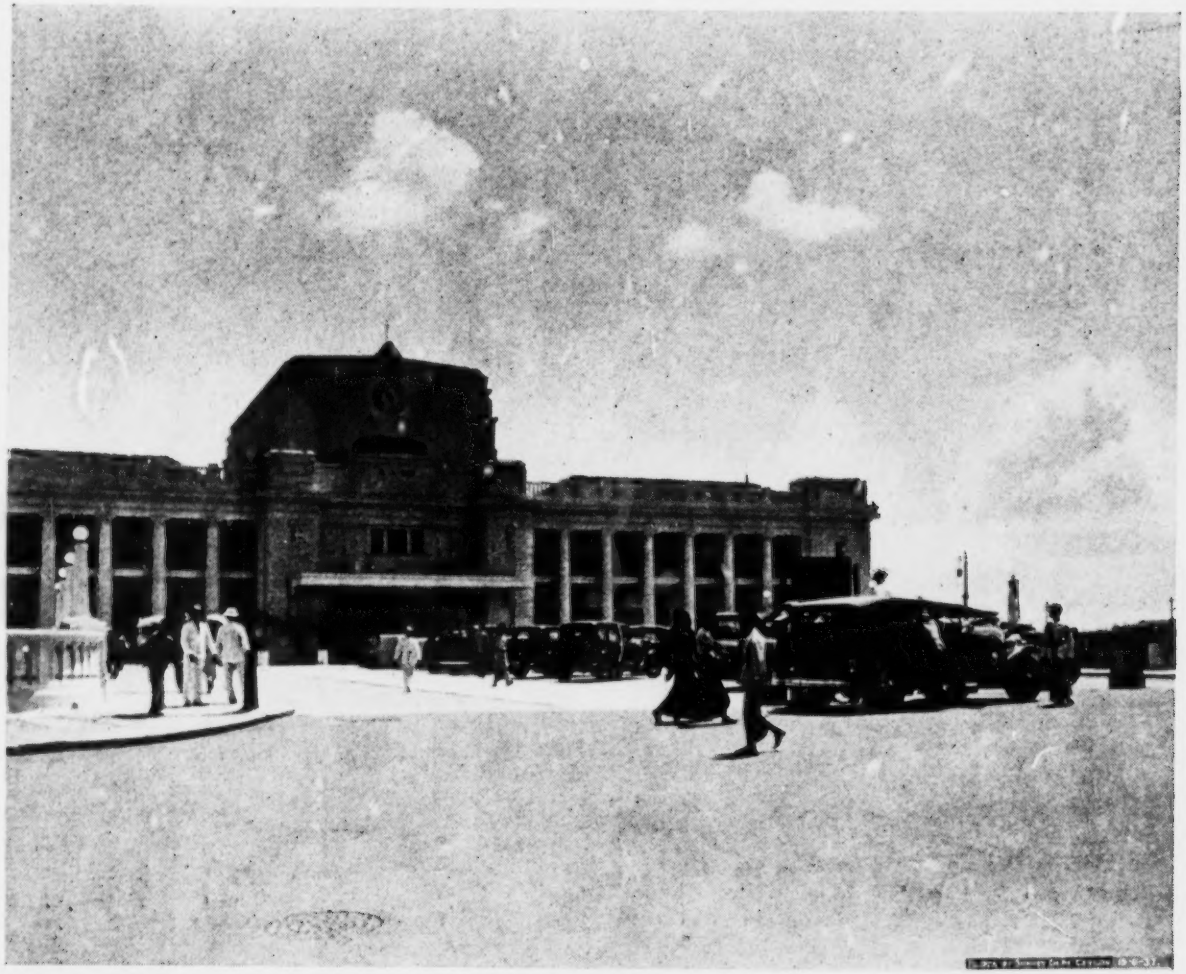
Eight additional members are nominated by the Governor after a general election, the object of their appointment being, in the words of the Special Commission,* "to make the State Council more generally representative of the national interests".

On the first assembly of a new Council, and after the election of a Speaker, the members proceed by secret ballot to divide their total number (excluding the Speaker and the Officers of State) into seven standing committees styled "Executive Committees", which are required to be as nearly as possible equal in number of members†. Each Committee is charged with the administration of one of seven groups of subjects and functions specified in the Order in Council under the following headings :—

I. Home Affairs.
II. Agriculture and Lands.
III. Local Administration.
IV. Health.
V. Labour, Industry and Commerce.
VI. Education.
VII. Communications and Works.

After the election of the Executive Committees, each Committee proceeds to elect by secret ballot a Chairman, and the Chairman-elect of each Executive Committee is then appointed by the Governor as Minister for the group of subjects and functions which his Committee has to administer. It is within the discretion of the Governor to decline to appoint as Minister any member elected Chairman of an Executive Committee. Subjects and functions not allocated to Executive Committees are divided by the Order in Council into three further groups, one of which is placed in the charge of each of the Officers of State, who have no Executive Committees associated with them in the administration of these groups.

* Page 101 of the Report of the Commission.
† The members subsequently elected as Deputy Speaker and Deputy Chairman of Committees cease upon their election, to be members of Executive Committees.



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"AT THE RECEIPT OF CUSTOM."

The duties of Executive Committees may be summarized as follows :—

(*a*) Preparation of the annual estimates of expenditure of the departments under their control, for submission to the Board of Ministers.

(*b*) Similarly, the preparation of supplementary estimates.

(*c*) Consideration of executive business relating to their own subjects and functions, whether laid before them by their Chairmen or by private members, or referred to them by the Council or the Board of Ministers.

(*d*) Consideration of proposed legislative measures falling within their scope.

The decisions of Executive Committees which are of sufficient importance to require the approval of the Council are submitted at meetings of the whole Council in the form of reports, which the Council may accept or reject, or refer back to the Committee, but *may not amend*. A report accepted by the Council is submitted to the Governor by the Speaker for ratification. But the decisions of Executive Committees in financial* matters are submitted by the Committees to the Board of Ministers, and by the Board to the Council.

The Board of Ministers consists of the three Officers of State and the seven Ministers, but, as stated above, the Officers of State have not the right to vote on questions before the Board. The Chief Secretary is *ex officio* Chairman of the Board, and there is also a Vice-Chairman, elected by the Board from among the Ministers, who is the representative of the Board in the Council and is styled the Leader of the State Council. The most important function of the Board of Ministers is the preparation of the annual estimates of revenue and expenditure for the Island, and of supplementary estimates of expenditure. The annual and supplementary estimates of the different departments of Government are submitted by the Officers of State and Executive Committees to the Board, whose duty it is to revise them and, if and when approved, to submit them to the State Council, taking full and collective responsibility for them. No financial* measure may be introduced in the State Council except by an Officer of State or a Minister, and with the approval of the Board of Ministers. The Board of Ministers also determines the order in which any business, whether executive or legislative, to be brought before the Council either by the Board or by the Executive Committees or Officers of State, is to be despatched, and prescribes the procedure for the settlement of questions affecting more than one Executive Committee.

The ordinary life of a Council is four years. But the Constitution provides that the Governor may dissolve the Council at any time, and shall dissolve it if the whole of any Annual Appropriation Bill is rejected, or if the decision of the Council on a financial* measure, or on a motion expressly directed to test the confidence of the Council in the Board of Ministers, makes it apparent, in his opinion, that the Board no longer retains the confidence of the Council. Up to the time of writing a dissolution has never occurred. In certain circumstances the life of the Council may be prolonged. It was prolonged beyond its 4-year term in July, 1935, principally on the ground that a new Council would not be able to

* As defined in Article 57 of the Order in Council.

deal adequately with the Budget framed by the old Council and which was not discussed and passed till September, 1935. The general election was held in February, 1936, and the new Council came into being on March 17, 1936.

* The Governor retains the power to certify any Bill, motion, resolution, or vote as being of paramount importance, or he may declare that it is essential to give effect to the provisions of the Order in Council. In either event the measure has effect as if it had been passed by the Council, subject to disallowance by His Majesty the King in the case of Bills and to revocation by the Secretary of State in the case of other measures.

† Power is also reserved to the Governor to declare that a state of emergency exists, and thereupon to assume control of any Government department.

The appointment, promotion, transfer, dismissal, and disciplinary control of public officers are vested in the Governor (with power of delegation to heads of Government departments), and the Order in Council contains clauses for the preservation of their conditions of service.

For full details of the Constitution, reference may be made to the Order in Council, which is reproduced in the Ceylon Government Manual of Procedure.

The Ceylon Civil Service.—The Ceylon Civil Service, recruited partly by examination on the same basis as the Indian Civil Service, and partly by local appointments, furnishes officers for the general administrative, and part of the judicial, work in the Island.

Revenue Districts.—For administrative purposes Ceylon is divided into nine Provinces, which are subdivided into districts, as shown in the following table :—

Provinces.	Districts.	Provinces.	Districts.
Western	.. Colombo, Kalutara	North-Western	.. Kurunegala, Puttalam-Chilaw
Central	.. Kandy, Matale, Nuwara Eliya	North-Central	.. Anuradhapura
Southern	.. Galle, Matara, Hambantota	Uva	.. Badulla
Northern	.. Jaffna, Mannar, Mullaittivu	Sabaragamuwa	.. Ratnapura, Kegalla
Eastern	.. Batticaloa, Trincomalee		

The Government Agents.—The posts of Government Agents—one in each of the nine Provinces—are held by senior Civil Servants. To the Government Agents is entrusted the general administrative work of their Provinces, while their Kachcheries, or offices, are the provincial treasuries for the receipt of revenue and the payment of the local expenses of Government.

The Government Agents hold a number of other official positions, and preside over some local bodies in their Provinces. They are, as a rule, assisted by one or more Assistant Government Agents, who are in charge of revenue districts or else perform special duties at the provincial headquarters.

The Headmen.—The officer next subordinate to the Government Agent or Assistant Government Agent is the chief headman, who is differently styled in different districts : " Mudaliyar " in the maritime Sinhalese districts ; " Ratemahatmaya " in the Kandyan districts ; " Maniagar ", " Adigar ", and " Vanniya " in the Tamil districts. There are about 104 chief headmen in the Island. In some cases the Mudaliyar is assisted by one or more " Muhandirams ". Next to the chief headman

* Article 22 of the Order in Council. † Article 49 of the Order in Council.

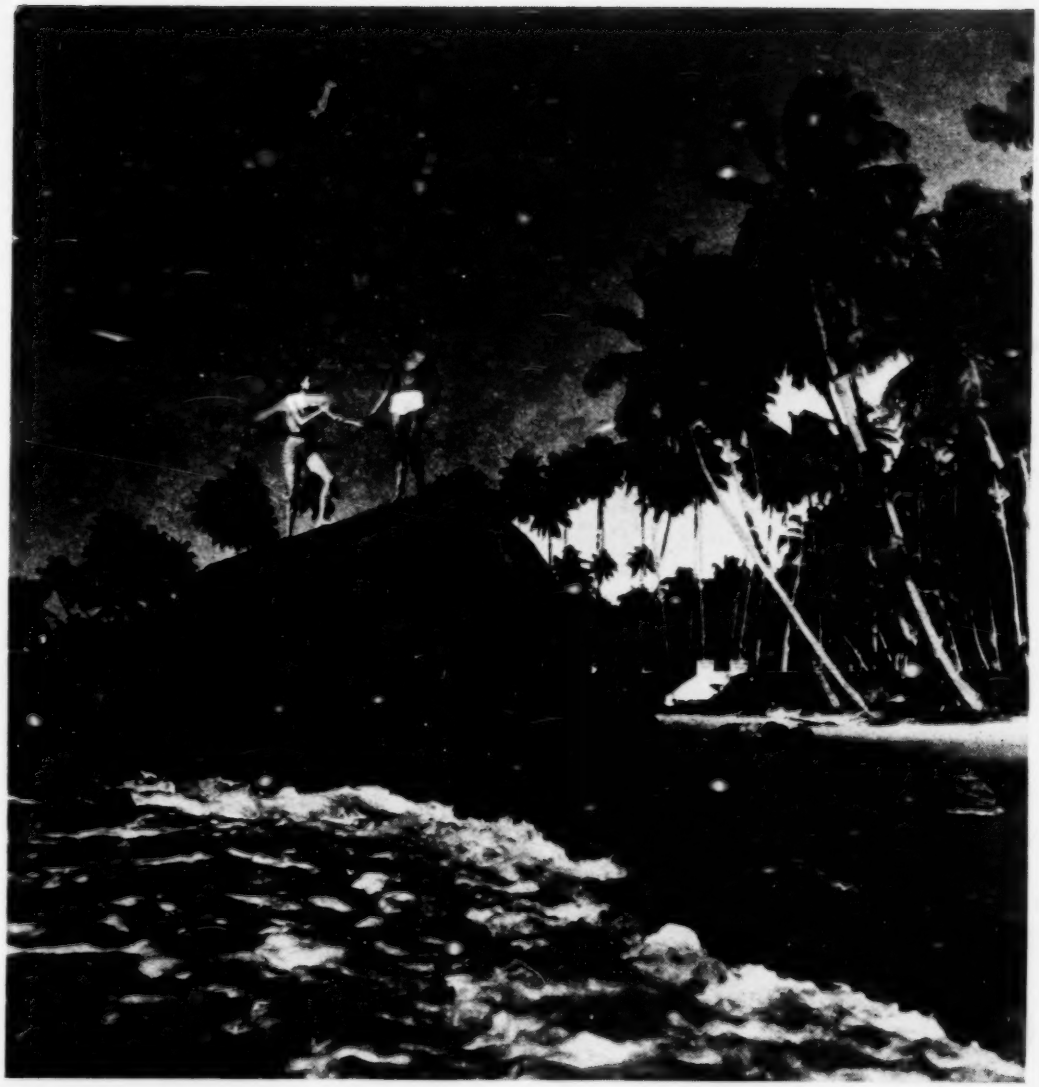

Photo by Werner Conitz. *Courtesy Govt. Tourist Bureau.*

SEA-BATHING AT MOUNT LAVINIA.

ranks the superior headman, called in the maritime Sinhalese districts " Vidane Arachchi ", in the Kandyan Sinhalese districts the " Korala ", and in the Tamil districts the " Udaiyar ". There are about 610 superior headmen in Ceylon.

Lastly comes the village headman, who is in charge of one or more villages, and whose jurisdiction is the administrative unit. The number of village headmen is about 3,800. In addition, there are peace officers, irrigation headmen, and others appointed for special purposes. A Commission was appointed in 1934 to inquire into and report on the working of the existing Headmen System with a view to its improvement or replacement partly or wholly by any other system. The Commission's report is contained in Sessional Paper XXVII. of 1935. This report was reviewed by the Home Committee in 1936. Its recommendations have been debated by the State Council.

Local Government.

With the inauguration of a new Constitution for the Island in July, 1931, an Executive Committee of Local Administration was elected by the State Council to supervise, control, and develop local government, and a department of local government under the Commissioner of Local Government was created as the executive instrument of the Committee.

The local duties in regard to sanitation and public thoroughfares have for long been entrusted to a number of local authorities whose members are the nominees of the Governor with the addition in most cases of persons elected by the inhabitants. In Colombo there is a reformed Municipal Council, whose members (of either sex) are now elected by the ratepayers resident within the limits of any ward and owing or occupying property in respect of which an annual rate of not less than Rs. 10 is paid, and whose Mayor is elected annually from among the Councillors. In Kandy and Galle, there are Municipal Councils whose Chairmen are members of the Civil Service. At least half the members are elected by the ratepayers, all those possessing a house of the annual value of Rs. 180, or every tenant who pays a monthly rental of Rs. 15 or is a graduate of a university being qualified to vote.

Until the end of 1932 in eleven of the smaller towns there were Urban District Councils with elected Chairmen, two-thirds of the members being elected by the ratepayers and one-third being nominated by the Governor. No further Councils were constituted in the absence of a local demand. On the recommendation, however, of the Executive Committee, 16 more such Councils were established from January 1, 1933, in place of 10 of the Local Boards of Health and Improvement, in 5 of the small towns previously administered by Sanitary Boards, and also in place of the Board of Improvement of Nuwara Eliya.

Only one small town is now administered by a Local Board of Health and Improvement, viz., Minuwangoda, as it is too small to support an Urban District Council. The Government Agent of the Western Province is the Chairman. The members are the District Engineer, the Medical Officer of Health, and 3 elected members.

Groups of smaller towns, frequently no larger than roadside bazaars, are administered by the Sanitary Boards of the various districts, consisting of the Government Agent, or Assistant Government Agent, two local officials of the Public Health Department and the Public Works

Department, and not more than four nor less than two members nominated by the Governor. This method of local administration for a number of towns in a district is carried on from the District Headquarters with a staff consisting partly of officers whose salaries are met proportionately by the various towns and partly of officers lent by the Public Health Department. This cheap and reasonably efficient form of local administration is, however, now said to be out of favour because the Boards contain no elected members. The Executive Committee is not recommending the inclusion of any further towns in the administration of these Boards, and has under consideration some other form of administration of a more popular type.

In the rural areas, there are Village Committees for groups of villages. These groups are divided into wards, each of which elects one member. In 1932 an Ordinance was passed precluding officials from being elected as Chairman. These Committees deal with minor local affairs and the working of rules connected with local customs.

Roads other than main thoroughfares and other than those in charge of the local authorities mentioned above, are maintained by District Committees, while certain educational matters have been entrusted to District Education Committees.

CHAPTER III.

Population.

Population.—Population data are collected, as in almost every other country, by means of a Census, which is taken decennially in Ceylon. The last decennial Census was taken on February 26, 1931, but its scope was limited owing to the financial crisis. At that Census Ceylon had (inclusive of the military and the shipping) a population of 5,312,548 which was 17·9 per cent. more than that in 1921. Since 1871 when the first decennial Census was taken the population has steadily increased. The Island is fairly thickly populated; and at the last Census it had a density of 210 persons per square mile and ranked above India, France, and Denmark, and somewhat below Japan.

Statistics of races were not collected in 1931 except in the Colombo Municipality and on the estates, but rough estimates based on the Census of 1921 are given below :—

Race.	Colombo. Town.	Estates.	Estimates for Other Areas.	Estimated Total.
Europeans	3,340	2,814	2,999	9,153
Burghers and Eurasians	15,887	2,031	14,397	32,315
Sinhalese	127,927	75,786	3,269,317	3,473,030
Tamils	65,704	698,081	653,692	1,417,477
Moors	44,240	7,496	274,177	325,913
Malays	7,022	1,988	6,967	15,977
Others	20,035	1,738	10,791	32,564
	284,155	790,376*	4,232,340	5,306,871*†

It is estimated on the same basis that there were 3,267,457 Buddhists, 1,158,522 Hindus, 523,066 Christians, 356,888 Muslims, and 938 others at the Census of 1931.

* Includes 442 persons of unspecified race.
† Excludes the military and the shipping.

DIAGRAM No. 4

ANNUAL IMMIGRATION AND EMIGRATION, CEYLON.

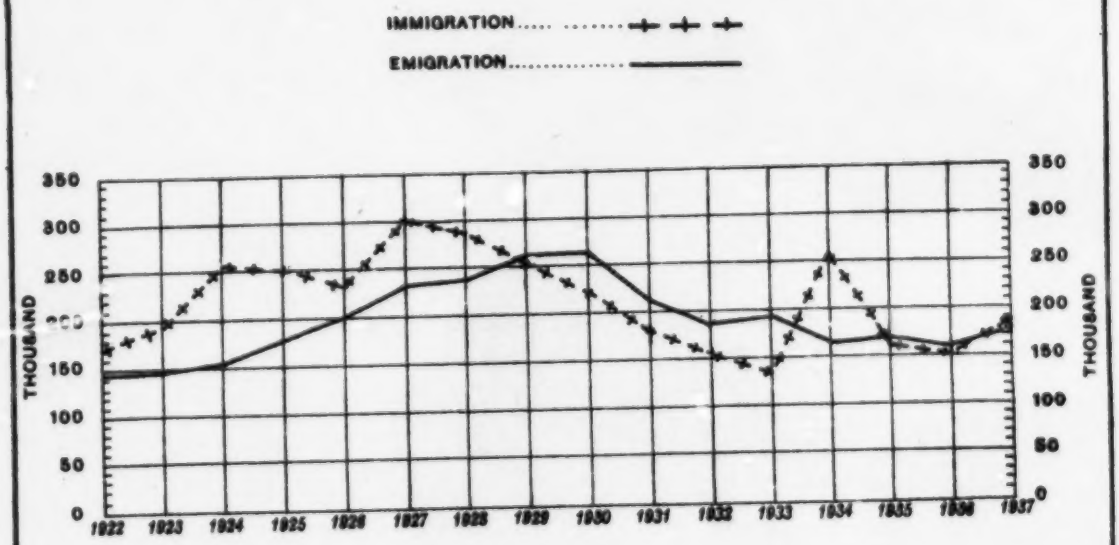

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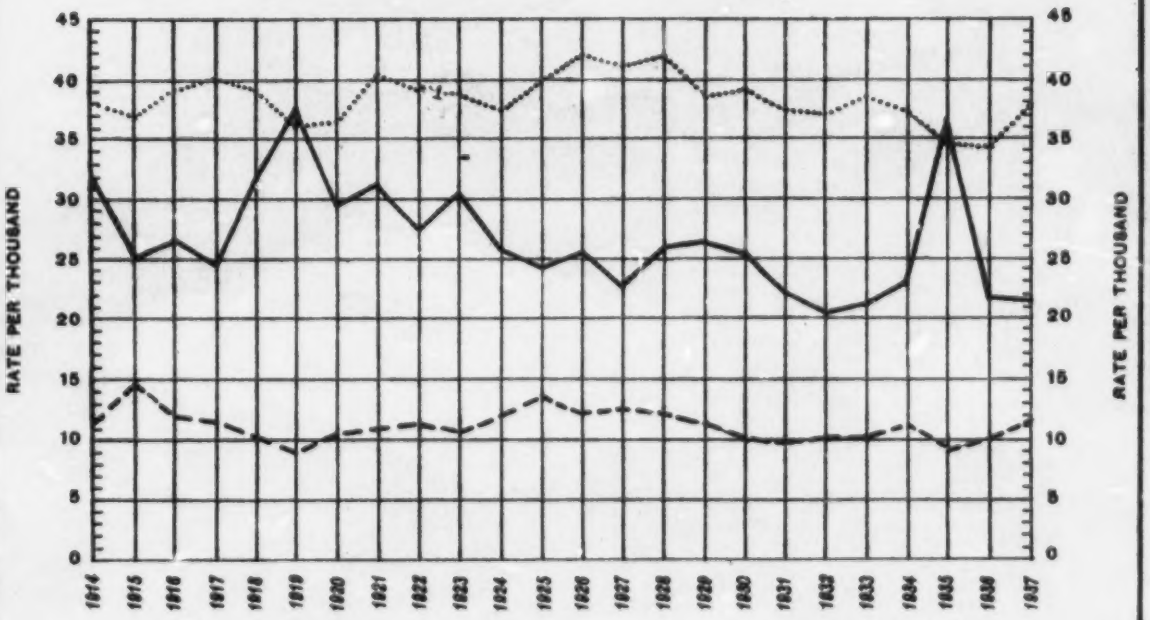
DIAGRAM No. 3

REPORTED BIRTH, DEATH AND MARRIAGE RATES,

CEYLON.



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The population (exclusive of the military and the shipping) was geographically distributed in 1921 and 1931 as follows :—

	1921.	1931.	Percentage of Increase.
Western Province	1,246,847	1,445,034	15·9
Central Province	717,739	953,388	32·8
Southern Province	671,234	771,204	14·9
Northern Province	374,829	398,874	6·4
Eastern Province	192,821	212,421	10·2
North-Western Province	492,181	546,966	11·1
North-Central Province	96,525	97,365	·9
Province of Uva	233,864	303,243	29·7
Province of Sabaragamuwa	471,814	578,368	22·6
Miscellaneous Population*	751	8	—

Intercensal estimates of population are prepared from the records of vital statistics and of migration, and on this basis the Island had a population of 5,780,000 at the end of 1937.

The figures for Ceylon quoted above do not include those of the Maldive Islands which had a population of 79,281 at the Census of 1931, as compared with 70,413 in 1921.

Migration.—The large majority of the migrants move to and from India ; and a considerable part of them are Indian labourers. In 1937 the total number of immigrants to the Island was 188,054. Of them 161,944 or 86 per cent. were from India and 51,427 of these were estate labourers.

Of the total 178,471 emigrants in 1937 about 87 per cent. or 155,177 left for India ; and of these 47,924 were estate labourers.

The migration statistics of 1933 to 1937 are as follows :—

	Arrivals.				Departures.			
	From India.				To India.			
	Indian Labourers.	Others.	From Other Countries.	Total.	Indian Labourers.	Others.	To Other Countries.	Total.
1933	32,898	88,661	14,498	136,05[illegible]	46,626	134,524	13,077	194,227
1934	140,607	104,813	14,383	259,80[illegible]	52,481	97,919	14,869	165,269
1935	43,018	104,206	14,259	161,48[illegible]	43,036	112,667	13,641	169,344
1936	40,803	97,341	15,761	153,905	41,721	105,567	14,582	161,870
1937	51,427	110,517	26,110	188,054	47,924	107,253	23,294	178,471

Marriages.—Three Marriage Ordinances operate in the Island, one for the general population, one for the Kandyans, and one for the Muslims. Under the General and Kandyan Marriage Ordinances 30,876 marriages were registered in 1937, as against 26,779 in 1936, and an annual average of 26,977 during the preceding decade. The General marriages alone numbered 24,140, and were 2,806 more than in the previous year. The number of persons married during the year was 11·6 per 1,000 of the General and Kandyan population, as against 10·2 in 1936, and 10·9 the average during the decade ending 1936. Among the Muslims 3,882 marriages were registered 2,333 more than in the previous year and 2,684 more than the annual average during the decade 1927–1936. The Muslim marriage rate was 20·2 per 1,000 during the year, as compared with 8·2 in 1936 and 6·6 the average for the ten years ending 1936. The increase in Muslim marriages was due to the operation of the Muslim marriage and Divorce Registration Ordinance, No. 27 of 1929, which came into operation on January 1, 1937.

Divorces.—Dissolution of any marriage registered under the General Marriage Ordinance can be granted only by a District Judge and under the Kandyan Marriage Ordinance by a Provincial or Assistant Provincial Registrar. In 1937 there were 138 dissolutions of General and 690 of

* Persons enumerated in trains and in the Great and Little Basses.

Kandyan marriages, as compared with 131 and 710 respectively in 1936. There is usually a large excess of Kandyan marriage divorces over General marriage divorces, largely due to the greater facilities for divorce afforded by the Kandyan marriage law. Muslim marriage divorces are now registered under the Muslim Marriage and Divorce Registration Ordinance, No. 27 of 1929, and there were 450 such divorces registered in the year 1937.

Births.—216,072 births were registered in the Island in 1937, as against 192,060 in the previous year and 202,079 the average of the decade 1927–1936. Of these, 110,228 were males and 105,844 females, representing a sex proportion of 1,041 males to 1,000 females, 2 more than in 1936. The birth rate was 37·8 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 34·1 in 1936 and 37·9 the average rate for the decade ending 1936. The birth rate of the Island is comparatively high.

Deaths.—The deaths of 124,210 persons (63,335 males and 60,875 females) were registered in 1937, as against 123,039 in 1936 and 131,204 the average for the decade 1927–1936. The death rate was 21·7 per 1,000 of the estimated population, as compared with 21·8 in the previous year and 24·5 the average for the previous decade.

Infant Mortality.—The deaths of 34,180 infants under one year of age were registered in 1937. The infant mortality in 1936 was 31,789 and the average for the decade 1927–1936 was 35,851. About 28 per cent. of the total deaths in 1937 were those of infants. The infant death rate was 158 per 1,000 births registered, as compared with 166 in 1936 and 178 the average for the ten years 1927–1936.

Causes of Death.—Since 1911 causes of deaths in this country are classified according to the International or Bertillon System. The classification from 1933 was according to the fourth revision of the international list. Owing to the absence of compulsory certification of causes of deaths among a very large section of the population, the statistics, particularly of diseases requiring scientific knowledge for diagnosis, are not absolutely accurate; but there is reason to believe that a definite, though slow, progress in accuracy is achieved every year. The death rate per million of the estimated population from the more important diseases registered in Ceylon in 1936 and 1937 are shown below :—

Causes.	Rate per Million.		Causes.	Rate per Million.	
	1936.	1937.		1936.	1937.
Pyrexia ..	2,578	2,437	Influenza ..	281	366
Convulsions (under 5 years)	2,011	2,103	Dysentery ..	394	344
Pneumonia and broncho-pneumonia ..	1,717	1,927	Ankylostomiasis ..	327	299
Diarrhoea and enteritis ..	1,265	1,222	Puerperal septicaemia ..	7·9*	6·7*
Phthisis ..	562	551	Bronchitis ..	255	258
Premature birth ..	411	454	Enteric fever ..	137	154
Malaria and malarial cachexia	1,353	771	Cancer . ..	97	96

CHAPTER IV.

Health.

Hospitals and Dispensaries.

Medical aid is generously provided by the State, there being 108 Government hospitals and asylums, with provision for 11,977 beds.

* Per 1,000 live births.

Copyright Photograph *Lionel Wendt.*

NET MENDING.

In Colombo are situated a General Hospital with 935 beds, an Ophthalmic Hospital, a Lying-in Home, a hospital for women (Lady Havelock Hospital), a hospital for children (Lady Ridgeway Hospital), a Bacteriological Institute, a Pasteur Institute, and a Dental Institute. At Angoda, 6 miles from Colombo, there is a hospital for infectious diseases, with 168 beds. There are special dispensaries at Kandy, Galle, Jaffna, Batticaloa, and Badulla for the treatment of eye diseases and a clinic at Galle for dental treatment. Treatment with radium is available at the General Hospital, Colombo. A dental van is available to give dental service to other areas.

There is a Lunatic Asylum at Angoda, 6 miles from Colombo, with 1,930 beds and two Leper Asylums, one at Hendala in the Western Province and one at Mantivu in the Eastern Province with 688 beds.

There is a Home for Incurables at Colombo, with 90 beds, which is administered by a Committee of Government officials and representatives of the public.

For the treatment of tuberculosis, there are the King Edward VII. Memorial Anti-Tuberculosis Institute in Colombo, a Hospital Sanatorium of 349 beds for moderately advanced cases that would benefit by treatment at Ragama, and a Sanatorium of 72 beds at Kandana, and one of 44 beds at Kankesanturai on the northern coast.

In addition to Government hospitals, the owners of estates have provided 92 estate hospitals, and in consequence receive a rebate on the export duty on tea, rubber, coffee, cacao, and cardamoms.

Besides the hospitals there are 683 central and branch dispensaries and visiting stations provided by Government. There are also 723 estate dispensaries, which receive free drugs from Government to the value of 50 cents per labourer per annum.

Campaigns.

Campaigns for the control of malaria, ankylostomiasis, leprosy, smallpox, filariasis, and parangi are carried out in the field apart from treatment afforded at hospitals and dispensaries.

Mass treatment against ankylostomiasis is carried out by Medical Officers, Medical Officers of Health, Field Medical Officers, and School Medical Officers in their respective areas with the assistance of trained dispensers. This has resulted in a marked decrease in the number of patients admitted to hospitals for this complaint.

A good deal of success has been achieved in the control of parangi (yaws). The work is done by Medical Officers of Health and Field Medical Officers as part of their general work and by 2 special wholetime Itinerating Medical Officers who look after areas not under the former. With the larger personnel available, an intensive control campaign is in operation to comb out villages for cases of the disease, place them on cards, treat them, follow them up six monthly and to watch contacts.

In the control of leprosy a special survey of the Island is in progress. As each province is completed, treatment and observation are provided for and those in the infectious conditions segregated. So far the Eastern, Western, Southern, Sabaragamuwa and part of the North-Western Provinces have been completed.

In addition to special trained Vaccinators, Sanitary Assistants, and Public Health Nurses carry out vaccinations against smallpox, under

the supervision of Medical Officers of Health and Field Medical Officers. Primary vaccination is compulsory but secondary vaccination is compulsory only during outbreaks of smallpox.

A special survey of filariasis in the Island is being carried out. So far the North-Western Province has been completed and the Southern Province has been taken up.

Anti-Malarial Work.

Anti-malarial work carried out by the Department of Medical and Sanitary Services is under the control of a Departmental Committee with the Assistant Director of Sanitary Services as Chairman and the Superintendent, Anti-malaria Campaigns, Medical Entomologist, Sanitary Engineer, and the Senior Medical Officer as members.

The Superintendent, Anti-malaria Campaigns, is in charge of Campaign centres, the Sanitary Engineer carries out schemes of anti-malaria drainage while the Medical Entomologist investigates problems connected with malaria incidence and checks the efficiency of anti-larval measures.

Intensive anti-malaria work is carried out in the malarious town areas of Chilaw, Kurunegala, Anuradhapura, Trincomalee, Puttalam, and Badulla, along certain sections of the railway and at Minneriya.

Quinine is exclusively made available free of charge throughout the Island at hospitals and dispensaries as well as at village distribution centres.

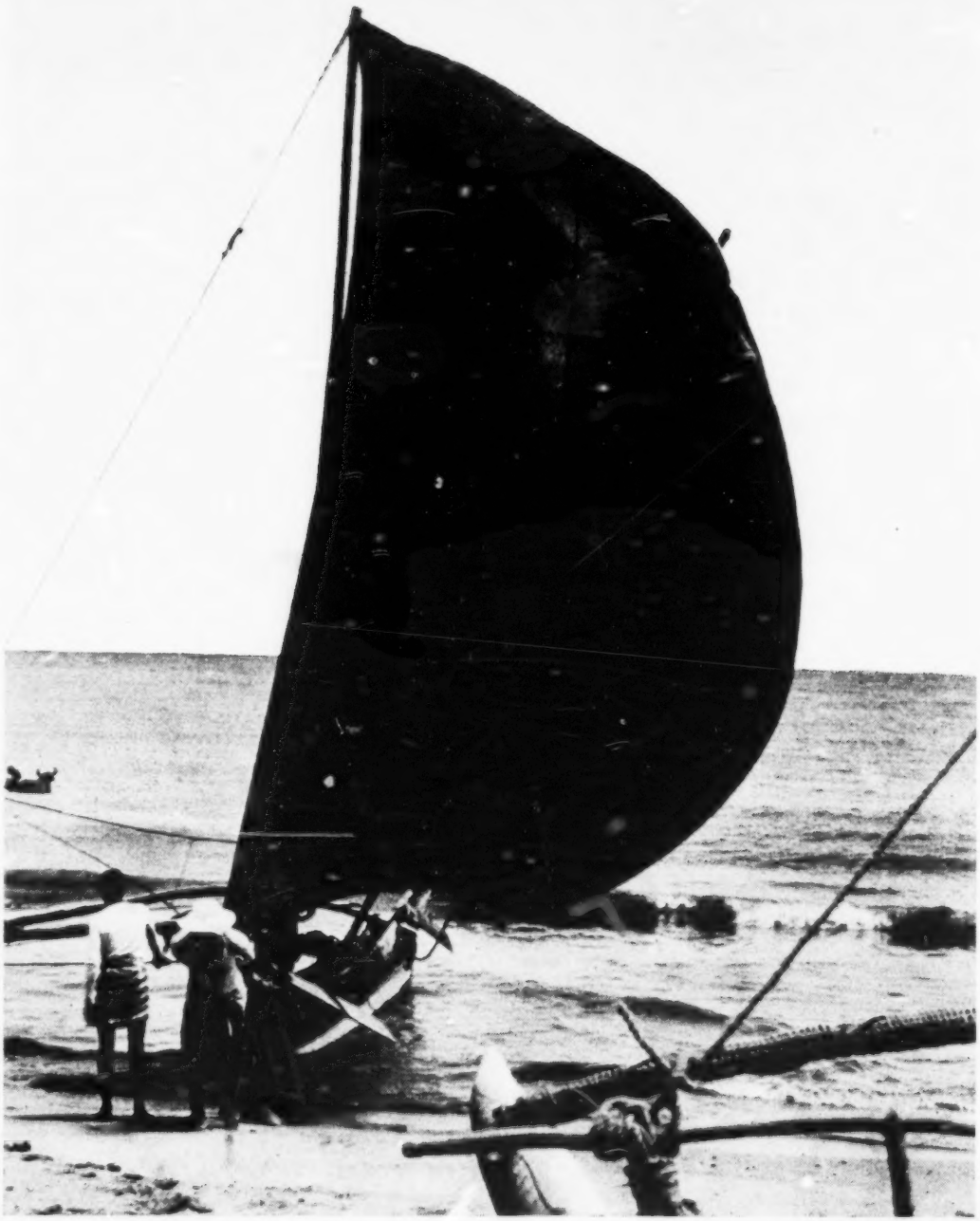
As a result of the unprecedented malaria epidemic which started at the end of 1934 and which caused much havoc to Ceylon, a scheme for malaria control and health work has been organized under Field Medical Officers each of whom is placed in charge of an area comprising a population of about 40,000, and carries out work embracing the following :— anti-malaria work, maternity and childwelfare work, school health work, mass hookworm treatment, supervision of dispensaries, holding of special clinics, control of communicable diseases, health propaganda and general sanitary work. The areas included at present in the new scheme of malaria control and health work are the North-Western Province, Province of Sabaragamuwa, Kandy and Matale Districts of the Central Province, the major portion of North-Central Province, Matara and Hambantota Districts of Southern Province, Batticaloa District of Eastern Province, and parts of Province of Uva, Western Province, and Northern Province.

Sanitary Engineering Division.

In addition to malaria drainage, this division deals with questions of general drainage in small towns and of water supplies and disposal of excreta.

Estate Sanitation.

Attached to the Department of Medical and Sanitary Services are three Inspecting Medical Officers and two Assistants, who inspect estates throughout the Island. During the year under review 506 estates were inspected. In the course of inspection, defects in the sanitary condition of estates are pointed out and suggestions to remedy and prevent them in future are put forward to the estate owners. Year by year the housing and the sanitary conditions on estates are improving.



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BEACHING AN OUTRIGGER CANOE.

Public Health.

In addition to the Inspecting Medical Officers, there were in 1937, 23 Medical Officers of Health and 55 Field Medical Officers assisted by 298 Sanitary Assistants who looked after the sanitary requirements of urban and rural areas. The areas assigned to Medical Officers of Health and Field Medical Officers are so restricted in size and population as to be looked after conveniently by one Medical Officer. In these areas a staff of Sanitary Assistants, Public Health Nurses, and midwives is provided and work is carried out intensively, every type of public health work needed being done. In a few areas the extent of district and population are great, and only Sanitary Assistants, not sufficient to deal with the whole population are employed. Sanitary work in the limited areas looked after by Sanitary Assistants is done on the same lines as in the intensive areas.

At Colombo, Kandy, Galle, Jaffna, Kalutara Totamune, Panadura Totamune, Matara Gravets, Wellaboda Pattu, and the Colombo Mudaliyar's division, school health work was carried out by nine whole-time School Medical Officers and eight School Health Nurses. Schools in other areas are dealt with by the Medical Officers of Health and Field Medical Officers in their respective districts as part of the general health work.

Legislation.

A draft Anti-Mosquito Ordinance and an amending Ordinance of the Lunacy Ordinance, 1873, are in hand.

Infectious Diseases.

Plague.—The following cases and deaths occurred in Ceylon during 1937 :—

Locality.	Cases.	Deaths.
Western Province—		
Colombo Municipality	27	27
North-Western Province—		
Ihala Hattiniya	1	1
Central Province—		
Talawakele	1	1
	29	29

During the year 1936 there were 57 cases with 46 deaths. The fatality rate was 100 per cent. in 1937 and 80·7 per cent. in 1936.

Western Province.

Colombo Municipality.

In Colombo there was a rat epizootic and 48 infected rats were detected.

Rat plague continued to be enzootic in the city as in previous years. 32,375 rats were examined at the Municipal Laboratory and 48 or 0·12 per cent. were found infected, as against 0·14 per cent. in 1936. Three infected rats were sent from the Chalmers Granaries.

Rat Destruction.—"Calcid" cyanide fumigation was started by the Municipality during the year under review and the number of rats destroyed was as follows :—

By fumigation	10,474
„ labourers	1,805
„ trapping gang	112,396
	124,675

The type of disease among human beings infected in Colombo during the past three years was as follows :—

	1935.		1936.		1937.	
	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.
Bubonic	37	33	32	26	20	20
Septicaemic	20	20	7	7	7	7
Pneumonic	—	—	—	—	—	—
	57	53	39	33	27*	27

* This is the lowest figure for any year with the exception of the years 1926 and 1933 which had 13 and 26 cases respectively.

Of the 27 cases in 1937, 24 were males and 3 females. The months of January, February, and March had the largest number of cases, viz., 18.

North-Western Province.

Ihala Hattiniya.

The case of plague occurred in a Sinhalese cultivator of Ihala Hattiniya, a village one and half miles north of Marawila. The dates of onset and death of this case were 24th and 25th May, respectively. The source of infection could not be traced, but there was no evidence of rat infection in the area. It was a case of the septicaemic type.

Central Province.

Talawakele.

This case of plague occurred in a Sinhalese boutique employee at No. 138, Pundaluoya road, Talawakele. The dates of onset and death were 29th May and 6th June respectively. The source of infection could not be traced but there was no evidence of rat infection in this area. It was a case of the septicaemic type.

Smallpox.—There were 2 cases, both of which recovered. There were 3 cases with 3 deaths in 1936 and 115 cases with 15 deaths in 1935.

Distribution of cases.—Both these cases were among new arrivals from India. One of the victims was an American tourist, who developed the disease at the Grand Oriental Hotel, Colombo, and the other an Englishman engaged as a Mechanic in the Chinanwadi Naval Tank works at Trincomalee.

Both the cases were of the confluent type. The victims had been vaccinated prior to the onset of the disease.

Cholera.—The Island was free from this disease during the year under review. There were 49 cases with 44 deaths giving a fatality rate of 89·8 per cent. during 1936 and 30 cases with 22 deaths in 1935, and one case with one death in 1934.

"MISS CEYLON, 1937."

CHAPTER V.

Housing.

A. *Municipal Towns.*—There are three Municipal towns in Ceylon, viz., Colombo, Kandy, and Galle. Of these, Colombo with a population of about 308,100, is much the largest. New houses in these towns may only be built in accordance with the provisions of the Housing and Town Improvement Ordinance of 1915, which prescribes certain minimum hygienic requirements. But there are numerous insanitary houses built prior to the Ordinance which can only gradually be converted into sanitary buildings as they fall into disrepair. The Colombo Municipal Council began a scheme of housing its own direct labourers in 1923 and a definite yearly programme of providing tenements for them has been followed since that year. In 1931 the Council also embarked on a programme of slum eradication at Kochchikade which, when completed, will rehouse about 2,000 people.

In Kandy, which has a population of about 39,900, the first organized attempt at slum clearance began in 1920 following an outbreak of plague. Seventy-five per cent. of the slums have since been dealt with and replaced by sanitary tenements or houses of a better type. Model tenements have been built by the Council in various parts of the town which now house about 2,500 persons. Forty-two insanitary tenements were closed in 1937 and their inhabitants were for the most part given model dwellings erected by the Council. Lines are also being built for the Council's labourers. A start has also been made in Kandy in providing " back lanes " for the congested areas of the town. These lanes facilitate conservancy and scavenging and also provide more light and air for the houses in their neighourhood.

In Galle, which has a population of about 38 100, action has been mainly directed towards the improvement and demolition of insanitary and dangerous buildings under the provisions of the Housing and Town Improvement Ordinance, each ward of the town being taken up in turn. Steps taken to prevent overcrowding of houses and tenements were relaxed during 1937 owing to hardships experienced by some of the public by such measures.

B. *Other Towns.*—The other towns of the Island which are under the administration of Urban District Councils or Sanitary Boards are also subject to the Housing and Town Improvement Ordinance. But in most of them only a minority of the existing buildings is in conformity with modern sanitary requirements. A gradual improvement, however, is being effected as the older buildings collapse and have to be rebuilt. Few of the local bodies concerned are in a financial position to embark on schemes of tenement building.

C. *Rural Areas.*—In the rural areas most of the houses are built with wattle and mud walls and roofs thatched with straw or cadjans. Village Committee rules usually prescribe certain elementary sanitary measures, *e.g.*, that a dead body may not be buried within a certain minimum distance of a dwelling-house or that every house must have its walls whitewashed at least once a year. Otherwise housing conditions in the rural areas are free from control.

On the larger tea, rubber, and coconut estates housing accommodation for the labour force is usually provided by the estate proprietors, is inspected periodically by officers of the Medical and Labour Departments, and is generally much superior to that found in the surrounding villages.

CHAPTER VI.

Natural Resources.

General.—The main crops of the Island are coconut, paddy, tea, and rubber. Other crops which are grown to less extents are : cacao, cinnamon, citronella, arecanut, cardamoms, and tobacco.

Chena cultivation, that is, the growing of crops on jungle land newly cleared by burning, is an important feature of peasant agriculture in the sparsely populated areas of the dry-zone.

Animal husbandry was formerly a negligible factor in the agricultural economy of Ceylon, but interest in this branch has now been awakened, and the foundations of stock raising and dairy industries are being assiduously laid.

The extent of production of the several crops may be gauged from the following tables which give the approximate acreages under cultivation and the quantities of produce exported and their value in 1937 :—

Acreages under the Chief Crops (estimated only).

	Acres.		Acres.
Coconuts	1,100,000*	Palmyra	50,000‖
Rice	850,000†	Cacao	34,000‖
Rubber	605,152‡	Citronella	33,000‖
Tea	559,237§	Cinnamon	26,000‖
Chenas, vegetable, and other crops	140,000‖	Tobacco	14,000‖
Arecanuts	69,000‖	Cardamoms	6,000‖

Exports of Agricultural Products of the Island in 1937.

	Quantity.	Value. Rs.¶	Total Value of Class. Rs.¶
Black tea	213·7 mill. lb.	170.6	
Green tea	—	—	
			170·6
Coconuts, fresh	11·1 mill. nuts	·62	
Copra	1·4 mill. cwt.	12·5	
Coconut oil	1·3 mill. cwt.	20·1	
Coconut shell charcoal	·27 mill. cwt.	·98	
Coir yarn	·108mill. cwt.	1·0	
Desiccated coconut	·59 mill. cwt.	6·8	
Poonac (coconut)	·60 mill. cwt.	2·4	
Bristle fibre	·27 mill. cwt.	1·7	
Mattress fibre	·66 mill. cwt.	2·2	
Coir rope, &c.	·013mill. cwt.	·13	
			48·4
Rubber	156·1 mill. lb.		77·0
Cacao	·078mill. cwt.		2·6
Arecanuts	·07 mill. cwt.		·84
Cardamoms	2,890 cwt.		·69
Pepper and other spices	2,961 cwt.		·07
Cinnamon (quills and chips)	·052mill. cwt.	2·1	
Cinnamon oil (bark and leaf)	2·9 mill. oz.	·46	
			2·6
Tobacco (unmanufactured and cigars)	2·4 mill. lb.		·72
Citronella oil	1·5 mill. lb.		1·3
Papain	·20 mill. lb.		·42
Kapok	7,887 cwt.		·26
			305·5

* Based on the results of the partial Census of Production, 1929.

† Based on an estimate of the Department of Agriculture : according to the partial Census of Production, 1929, the acreage was about 800,000, while according to the returns furnished by Government Agents to the Paddy Commission the extent under cultivation in 1930 amounted to 941,000 acres.

‡ Based on the Rubber Controller's survey for 1937.

§ Based on the Tea Export Controller's Report for 1936–37.

‖ Based on the results of the Censuses of Production, 1921 and 1924.

¶ In millions.

DIAGRAM No. 5

ANNUAL AVERAGE MARKET PRICES OF TEA, RUBBER, DESICCATED COCONUT AND COPRA

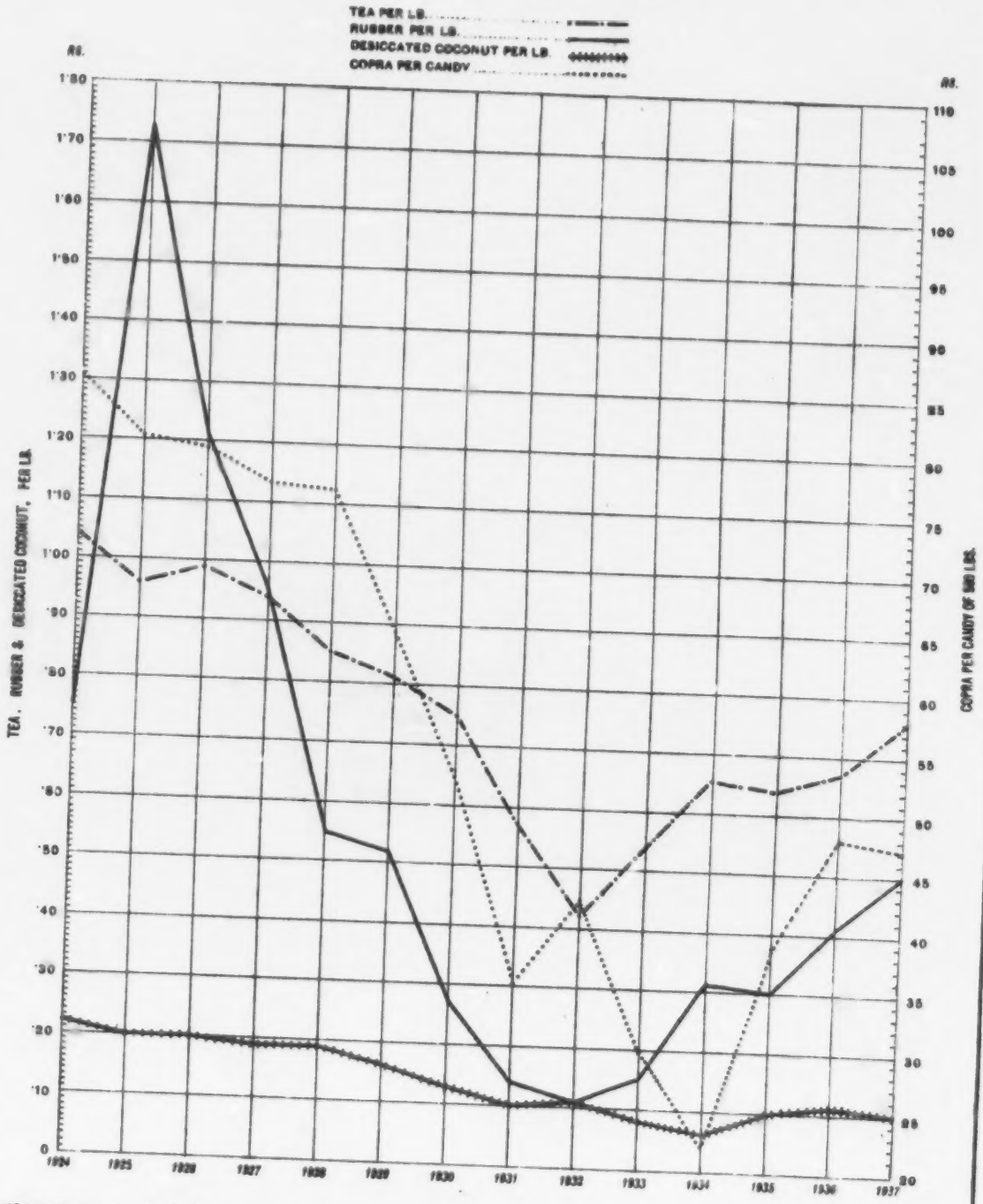

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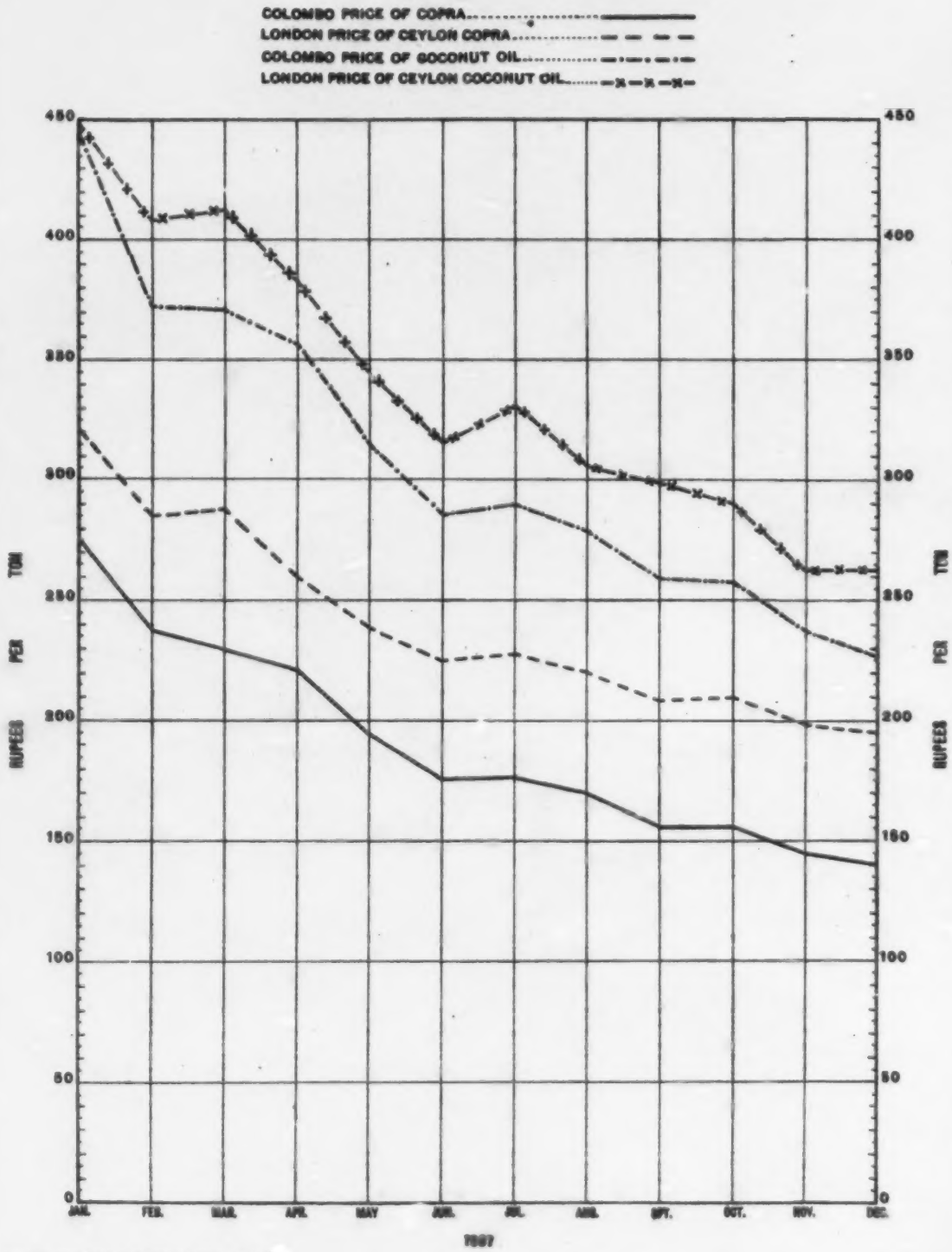
DIAGRAM No. 5A

MONTHLY AVERAGE PRICES OF COPRA AND COCONUT OIL (COLOMBO AND LONDON)



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Tea.

Acreage, &c.—Over 559,000 acres are planted in tea, *Thea sinensis*, consisting of 2,363 estates and 68,068 small holdings. It is grown at elevations varying from sea level to 6,000 feet above sea level. The better quality teas are grown at the higher elevations.

The manufactured product consists of the young tender shoots which after plucking undergo the processes of withering, rolling, fermenting, and drying or firing.

Rainfall.—A fairly evenly distributed rainfall of 80 to 120 inches a year is required for tea.

Labour.—About 95 per cent. of the labour on tea estates consists of immigrant labour from India. An estate requires on an average about 1⅛ labourer per acre.

Research.—A scientific staff is maintained by the industry which is supported by a cess on exports for the purpose of investigating the scientific side of the growth and manufacture of tea.

Yields.—Yields vary considerably according to elevation, cultivation, &c., but may be said to range from 300 to 1,200 lb. made tea per acre.

Factory.—The principal machinery required consists of tea rollers, roll breakers, shifters, &c., and dryers. Suction gas engines are the usual source of power.

Preparation for Export.—Tea is exported in metal lined wooden packages. It is usually blended and packed in packets before it actually reaches the consumer's hands.

Restriction.—In May, 1933, an Ordinance to control the export of tea was passed by the State Council as a part of a joint scheme for the regulation of the export of tea from the main producing countries. The Ordinance is to be operative for a period of five years. For the second year of assessment which ended on March 31, 1935, Ceylon's exportable quota was fixed at 220,082,290 lb. being 87½ per cent. of the total exports of tea from the Island, in 1929. For the year ended March 31, 1936, Ceylon was allowed to export 207,506,160 lb., the same amount was allowed for the year ended March 31, 1937. For the year ending March 31, 1938, Ceylon is allowed to export 220,082,290 lb.

Prices.—The average price of total offerings for the year was 76 cents per lb. as against 67 cents per lb. in 1936.

High-, medium-, and low-grown were higher than 1936 by 6, 11, and 11 cents, respectively.

The monthly average prices at the local weekly sales during 1937, compare as follows :—

(Per lb.)

	Rs. c.		Rs. c.		Rs. c.
January .	.. 0 75	May ..	.. 0 78	September	.. 0 76
February	.. 0 79	June ..	.. 0 72	October	.. 0 76
March ..	.. 0 81	July ..	.. 0 76	November	.. 0 74
April ..	.. 0 78	August .	.. 0 77	December	.. 0 71

Coupon prices ranged from 35 cents to 48¾ cents during the year under review.

The annual average market prices* in certain years were :—1925, 96 cents per lb. ; 1926, 99 cents ; 1927, 94 cents ; 1928, 85 cents ; 1929, 81 cents ; 1930, 75 cents ; 1931, 57 cents ; 1932, 42 cents ; 1933, 54 cents ; 1934, 66 cents ; 1935, 64 cents ; 1936, 67 cents ; 1937, 76 cents (see Diagram No. 5).

* According to local weekly sale averages.

3——J. N. 77053 (8/38)

Rubber.

Acreage, Elevation, and Rainfall.—The acreage under rubber in the Island is 605,152 acres. The rubber tree cultivated in Ceylon (*Hevea brasiliensis*) flourishes at elevations below 2,000 feet and requires a well distributed rainfall of not less than 80 inches per annum. It is cultivated to varying extents throughout the Island, chiefly in the Province of Sabaragamuwa and in the Western, Central, and Southern Provinces.

Latex.—Rubber is the coagulated latex of the rubber tree obtained by tapping the trunk. The latex running from the cut—usually half the circumference—is collected in cups, removed to the factory, treated with acetic or formic acid to cause coagulation, crêped by machinery, and dried or coagulated in sheets and smoked.

Planting.—Rubber is generally propagated from seed which is sown in nurseries, and, when the nursery plants are eighteen months to two years old, they are removed, have their tops and main roots cut back, and are planted into the new clearings as " stumps ".

Budding of Rubber.—Continued interest was shown by estates in the subject of replanting with budgrafted trees of proved high yielding clones, but although the number of estates undertaking such work is considerable it would appear from the figures up to the end of 1937 that the total area replanted during the 5 year period of control will be far short of the 20 per cent. permitted under the Ordinance.

Some of the areas planted with imported clones in the years 1930–31 became tappable during 1937, and although in view of the restriction of output not many estates have commenced to tap such areas commercially a considerable amount of experimental tapping of small groups of trees has been undertaken. The early results show great promise and indicate that the imported clones are likely to give as high yields in Ceylon as in the countries of origin.

Experimental tapping of local clones established from high yielding trees on estates has continued at the Rubber Research Scheme Experiment Station and on estates, and we are now reaching the stage at which the best of such clones can be recommended for commercial planting.

Cultivation.—The best time for cultivation is considered to be just before the wintering commences. Artificial manures are all used. Cover plants are used for soil conservation.

Restriction.—In May, 1934, an Ordinance to control the export of rubber was passed by the State Council as a part of a joint scheme for the regulation of the export of rubber from the main producing countries. The Ordinance is to be operative for a period of five years. The Ceylon quota of export for any period of control will be the quantity of rubber named as the basic quota for that period or such percentage of that basic quota as shall be declared by His Excellency the Governor by notification in the *Government Gazette*.

The basic quota for the five years is as follows :—

	Tons.		Tons.
1934	77,500	1937	81,000
1935	79,000	1938	82,500
1936	80,000		

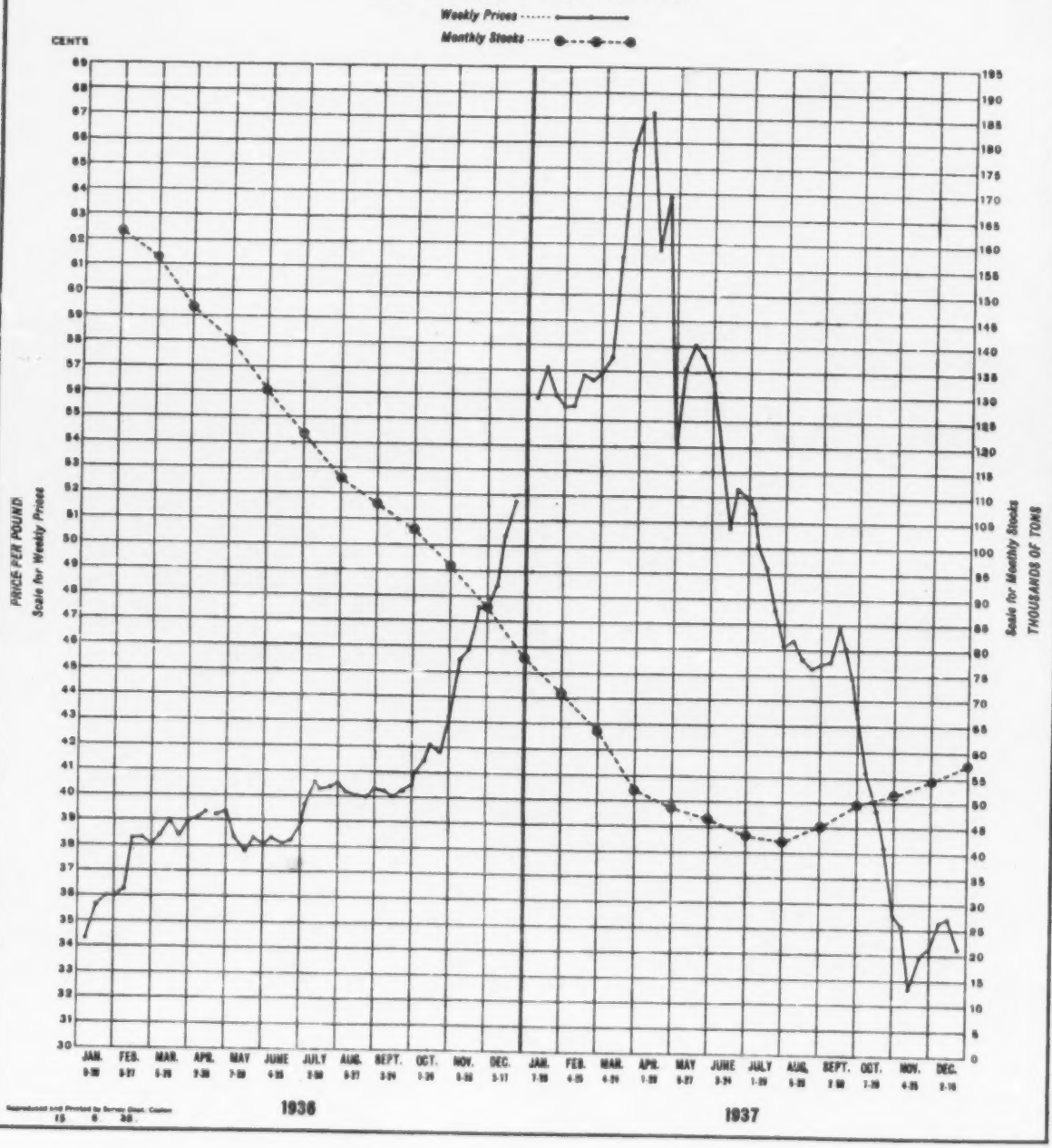
RAJESWARI—A TAMIL REVERIE.

DIAGRAM No. 6.

AVERAGE WEEKLY COLOMBO PRICES AND

MONTHLY STOCKS OF RUBBER IN UNITED KINGDOM (LONDON AND LIVERPOOL)

FOR THE YEARS 1936 AND 1937



Yield.—The yield per acre varies considerably with the soil, age of the trees, rainfall, planting, treatment, &c., but may be said to range from 150 to 700 lb. per acre, 400 to 500 lb. per acre being considered a good all-round yield for an estate in full bearing.

Prices.—The average price of total offerings for the year was 52 cents per lb. for crêpe and 48 cents per lb. for sheet.

Crêpe and sheet were higher than 1936 by 11 cents and 8 cents, respectively.

The monthly average prices of Ribbed Smoked Sheet (Contract Quality) at the local weekly sales during 1937, compare as follows :—

(Per lb.)

	Rs. c.		Rs. c.		Rs. c.
January .	0 54	May	0 54	September	0 45
February	0 54	June	0 48	October.	0 38
March	0 61	July	0 46	November	0 34
April	0 58	August	0 44	December	0 35

Coupon prices ranged from 20½ cents to 35¼ cents during the year under review.

The annual average market prices* in certain years were the following :—1925, Re. 1·73 per lb. ; 1926, Re. 1·21 ; 1927, 95 cents ; 1928, 55 cents ; 1929, 52 cents ; 1930, 27 cents ; 1931, 14 cents ; 1932, 11 cents ; 1933, 15 cents ; 1934, 31 cents ; 1935, 30 cents ; 1936, 41 cents ; 1937, 50 cents. (see Diagram No. 5.)

Labour.—The labour engaged is composed of Sinhalese and immigrant Indian Tamils. The usual requirement of labour is one labourer to 3 acres of rubber.

Research.—A scientific staff is maintained by the industry and is supported by a cess on exports for the purpose of investigating the scientific side of the growth and manufacture of rubber. Provision for this research work was made by Ordinance No. 10 of 1930.

Coconut.

Acreage, Area, &c.—It is estimated that approximately 1,100,000 acres are planted with coconuts. Along the coast of the Western and Southern Provinces planting has been done very closely and no systematic cultivation is carried out. Here the main product is toddy which is supplied to arrack distilleries ; at the same time the manufacture of coir string and rope is an important subsidiary industry, especially in the hands of women. Elsewhere the coconut is cultivated mainly for the production of copra, and the extraction of oil thereform, as well as the manufacture of desiccated coconut. Cultivation is confined mainly to elevations below 1,500 feet and a well distributed rainfall of 50 to 90 inches is required. The greater part of the acreage lies in the North-Western, Western, and Southern Provinces.

Cultivation.—Cattle manure and artificial manures are used. Young coconuts systematically cultivated and manured come into bearing much earlier than coconuts which are not so treated.

Labour.—The quantity of labour required for a coconut estate is generally worked out at one labourer for 10 acres.

* Averages for top grades only (Ribbed Smoked Sheet and Contract Crepe) at local weekly sales.

Research.—The Coconut Research Scheme, which was established by Ordinance No. 29 of 1928, has its headquarters at Bandirippuwa estate, Lunuwila. It is supported by a grant and a cess on the exports. The Senior Scientific Staff consists of the Technological Chemist who is at the same time Director of Research, the Geneticist and the Soil Chemist. On the junior staff are three technical assistants, two field assistants, the superintendent of the estate, and three clerks. Scientific research is carried out on the breeding and improvement of the coconut palm, manuring and cultivation, and the technology of coconut products. There are well equipped laboratories and a useful library and reading room at Bandirippuwa estate. The third Wednesday in each month is set aside as Visitors' Day. Coconut planters and others interested in the industry are specially invited to make use of the library and reading room, which are open on week days from 9 A.M. to 4 P.M. and on Saturdays from 9 A.M. to 12 noon.

Leaflets and other publications on various aspects of the coconut industry are issued to *bona fide* inquirers who register their names on the Scheme's mailing list.

The nut.—The principal product, from a commercial point of view, is the nut. The yield per palm on a cultivated estate is about 40 nuts per annum. The average yield is probably under 30 nuts per palm, though with cultivation in good districts up to and over 80 may be secured. The number of palms to the acre may vary from 50 to 90, the average being about 70. The palms come into bearing in about six years with intensive cultivation, but more usually take up to ten years. The nuts are generally picked six times a year. They are made into copra upon the estate which produces them, but some small holders sell their nuts to manufacturers. The price rose owing to the increased demand for the manufactured products from Rs. 74 per 1,000 in 1913 to the maximum of Rs. 115 per 1,000 in 1920.

Prices.—The year opened on a slightly more optimistic note, the price being Rs. 65·00 per 1,000 nuts in equal proportions of large, medium, and small delivered to buyers' stores.

The high level of Rs. 70·00 was reached towards the end of January when a break occurred and the market declined to Rs. 53·00 by early February. An advance to Rs. 58·00 followed in the same month but was not maintained, and the market fell away again to Rs. 46·00. Thereafter only minor fluctuations occurred around the following monthly average prices which show the trend of the market for the rest of the year which actually closed at Rs. 34·00.

Average of the monthly quotations recorded by the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce for 1937 :—

(Per 1,000 nuts L. M. S.)

	Rs. c.		Rs. c.		Rs. c.
January	65 13	May	45 0	September	39 50
February	55 75	June	41 75	October	40 10
March	52 17	July	40 70	November	37 38
April	49 75	August	39 50	December	35 25

The annual average market prices in recent years were the following :—1930, Rs. 46·58 per 1,000 nuts L. M. S. ; 1931, Rs. 37·12 ; 1932, Rs. 44·60 ; 1933, Rs. 29·36 ; 1934, Rs. 19·42 ; 1935, Rs. 35·71 ; 1936, Rs. 43·03 ; 1937, Rs. 44·83.

Copyright Photograph *Lionel Wendt.*

A SINHALESE GENTLEWOMAN.

Copra.—The most important manufactured product is copra. This is the dried kernel of the nut, and is used for the manufacture of coconut oil, which, again, is utilized for the production of margarine, soap, and other products. Poonac, a largely used cattle food, is the by-product in the manufacture of coconut oil from copra.

The number of nuts required to manufacture a candy (560 lb.) of copra varies from 900 to 1,500.

The value of the exports of copra is shown in Diagram No. 9.

Prices.—The market opened the year at Rs. 68·25 per candy and advanced to Rs. 73·50 per candy by the middle of the month. From the middle of January to the end of the year there was a steady and persistent fall in values and the year closed at Rs. 35·75 per candy.

Average of the monthly quotations recorded by the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce for 1937 :—

(Estate No. 1 per candy of 5 cwt.)

	Rs. c.		Rs. c.		Rs. c.
January .	.. 68 75	May ..	.. 48 50	September	.. 39 16
February	.. 59 38	June ..	.. 44 7	October	.. 39 20
March ..	.. 57 29	July ..	.. 44 15	November	.. 36 44
April ..	.. 55 50	August .	.. 42 69	December	.. 35 17

The annual average market prices* in certain years were :—1925, Rs. 80·36 per candy (560 lb.) ; 1926, Rs. 79·40 ; 1927, Rs. 76·88 ; 1928, Rs. 76·22 ; 1929, Rs. 64·47 ; 1930, Rs. 52·36 ; 1931, Rs. 35·06 ; 1932, Rs. 42·21 ; 1933, Rs. 29·75 ; 1934, Rs. 21·98 ; 1935, Rs. 38·15 ; 1936, Rs. 48·01 ; 1937, Rs. 47·23. (See Diagram No. 5.)

Coconut Oil.—Although a large quantity of copra is exported for the extraction of oil by the importers, a quantity of coconut oil is prepared in Ceylon. The traditional method of extraction consists in grinding the copra in a "chekku" consisting of a large wooden pestle, which is revolved by bullock power in a kind of stone mortar.

The value of the exports of coconut oil is shown in Diagram No. 9.

Prices.—Coconut oil reached its highest point since 1929, when it touched the high price of Rs. 464·00 per ton in January.

The monthly average prices recorded by the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce for 1937, compare as follows :—

(White Oil per ton F. O. B.)

	Rs. c.		Rs. c.		Rs. c.
January .	.. 445 0	May	.. 314 50	September	.. 260 0
February	.. 372 92	June	.. 286 25	October	.. 258 0
March	.. 371 25	July	.. 290 0	November	.. 237 38
April	.. 357 9	August	.. 279 38	December	.. 226 88

The annual average market prices in certain years were :—1925, Rs. 543·17 per ton f.o.b. ; 1926, Rs. 539·36 ; 1927, Rs. 491·73 ; 1928, Rs. 489·02 ; 1929, Rs. 412·33 ; 1930, Rs. 351·63 ; 1931, Rs. 253·52 ; 1932, Rs. 283·75 ; 1933, Rs. 209·43 ; 1934, Rs. 149·98 ; 1935, Rs. 245·58 ; 1936, Rs. 288·55 ; 1937, Rs. 302·72†.

Desiccated Coconut.—Desiccated coconut is produced in Ceylon on a large scale.

* The average prices for 1927 to 1937 are for top grades only. Averages for other years represent the lowest and highest overall weekly quotations received for all grades.

† For White Oil. The average prices for 1925 to 1936 are for Ordinary Oil.

The value of the exports of desiccated coconut is shown in Diagram No. 9.

Prices.—The market opened the year at 16 cents and following the advance in copra the price touched 17 cents by the middle of January. Thereafter with the exception of very minor reactions, there was a steady fall in values and the market closed at the end of the year at 8 cents a lb.

Average of the monthly quotations recorded by the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce for 1937 :—

(Per lb.)

	Rs. c.		Rs. c.		Rs. c.
January .	.. 0 16	May ..	.. 0 11	September	.. 0 9
February	.. 0 14	June ..	.. 0 9	October	.. 0 9
March ..	.. 0 12	July ..	.. 0 9	November	.. 0 8
April ..	.. 0 11	August .	.. 0 10	December	.. 0 8

The annual average market prices in certain years were :—1925, 20 cents per lb. ; 1926, 20 cents ; 1927, 19 cents ; 1928, 19 cents ; 1929, 16 cents ; 1930, 13 cents ; 1931, 10 cents ; 1932, 11 cents ; 1933, 8 cents ; 1934, 6 cents ; 1935, 10 cents ; 1936, 11 cents ; 1937, 10 cents. (See Diagram No. 5.)

Information regarding the manufacture of alcohol, &c., is shown under " Toddy and Arrack ", page 37.

Coir, &c.—An important but somewhat unorganized industry, also dependent upon the coconut tree, is the manufacture of coir, which consists of the stout fibres forming the husk of the nut. These fibres are separated by rotting the husks in water, or by special machinery. The fibres are then graded and used for making brushes, yarn, mats, rope, &c., according to their quality. In many parts of Ceylon the coir fibres are separated by village labour, chiefly women, and sold by them to exporting firms.

The value of the exports of coir is shown in Diagram No. 9.

Prices.—Offerings were fairly good during the first half of the year, as the United Kingdom, Germany, and Japan, all bought fairly heavily.

Average of the monthly quotations recorded by the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce for 1937 :—

(3-tie per cwt.)

	Rs. c.		Rs. c.		Rs. c.
January .	.. 58 6	May ..	.. 6 30	September	.. 5 11
February.	.. 6 51	June ..	.. 6 14	October	.. 4 64
March ..	.. 6 47	July ..	.. 5 62	November	.. 4 2
April ..	.. 6 22	August .	.. 5 21	December	.. 3 99

The annual average market prices* in certain years for bristle fibre were :—1925, Rs. 7·62 per cwt. ; 1926, Rs. 7·46 ; 1927, Rs. 8·37 ; 1928, Rs. 8·53 ; 1929, Rs. 9·01 ; 1930, Rs. 8·23 ; 1931, Rs. 6·65 ; 1932, Rs. 7·95 ; 1933, Rs. 6·35 ; 1934, Rs. 4·71 ; 1935, Rs. 4·63 ; 1936, Rs. 4·95 ; 1937, Rs. 5·49.

Diagram No. 5A (p. 25) compares Colombo and London prices of copra and coconut oil for each month of this year.

The London prices C. I. F. are taken from Messrs. Fischel & Co.'s Weekly Reports for copra and from Messrs. Frank Fehr & Co.'s Annual Reports for coconut oil.

* The average prices for 1928 to 1937 are for top grades only. Averages for other years represent the lowest and highest overall weekly quotations received for all grades.

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MODERN FRIEZE AT KELANIYA.

Cacao.

Commercial cacao is produced from the seeds of the plant *Theobroma cacao*. The variety now grown in Ceylon is the *Forastero*.

Elevation and Rainfall, &c.—The cultivation of cacao is restricted to favourably situated valleys at an elevation between 500 to 2,000 feet which receive a well regulated rainfall of 60 to 80 inches and are protected from high winds. Plantations lie almost entirely in the Kandy and Matale Districts of the Central Province. Of an approximate acreage of 34,000 acres under cacao in the Island 55 per cent. is in the former district and 33 per cent. in the latter.

Labour.—The labour required for a cacao estate works out at about one labourer for 2 acres. Tamils generally form the bulk of the labour force, but Sinhalese are also employed for lopping, &c.

Planting.—As the young plant requires to be carefully shaded, shade trees must be planted at the same time between the rows about the same distance apart as the cacao.

Crops.—Cacao commences to bear fruit about the fifth year, two crops a year being then gathered. The general average yield is about 3½ to 4 cwt. per acre.

Picking.—The flowers and fruit of the tree grow in a characteristic manner direct upon the trunk and branches of the trees. The fruit is ellipsoidal and of considerable size, and the beans are covered with pulp or mucilage. Ripening is generally indicated by a change of colour on the outside of the pods. The fruit on the stems and main branches is picked by means of an ordinary pruning knife, while that on the higher parts of the tree is dealt with by cacao hooks. The picking gang goes round as often as necessary, the period generally being between a fortnight and three weeks. The pods are cut down by men or boys, who are followed by women, who gather the pods and heap them together. The fruits are opened the same day, and the beans carted or carried to the fermenting shed. One labourer will pick 1 to 1½ bushels of wet beans per day. This is equal to about 37 lb. of the cured product.

Fermentation.—At the fermenting shed the beans, covered with mucilage, are heaped into boxes or vats for fermentation. This process is accompanied by rise of temperature and by decomposition of the pulp surrounding the beans. During the fermentation the pulp becomes more liquid and gradually flows away, the bottom of the fermenting boxes being perforated and raised off the ground to admit of this. The period of fermentation in Ceylon is about 36 hours. After 12 hours the beans are given a light washing and turned over into another box. They are again given a heavier washing at the end of the fermenting period of 36 hours, when they are carried or carted to the barbecue or curing house.

Curing.—The best method of curing is the gradual drying of the beans in the sun or barbecues covered with coir matting. By this method the best quality is obtained. The period varies from five to seven days, according to the temperature. Most of the picking has, however, to be done during the wet season, and a greater part of the crop is cured by artificial means. The most popular curing house is a two- or three-floor building, the floors being constructed of strips of wood covered over with

coir matting, on which the freshly-fermented beans are spread. The building is heated with hot air conducted by pipes placed under each floor, the hot air being obtained by means of a fan, which drives the air through the heating apparatus and then through the pipes. The temperature in the building during the curing process is kept between 110 and 120 degrees Fahrenheit.

Packing.—Cacao after grading is packed in bags (112 lb. to a bag) when it is ready for export. Most of the cacao from Ceylon is shipped, in this form.

Prices.—The high prices paid at the end of 1936 were maintained during the greater part of 1937.

The average price for the year was Rs. 33·65 per cwt. as against Rs. 33·72 per cwt. in 1936.

Average of the monthly quotations recorded by the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce for 1937 :—

(Estate No. 1 per cwt.)

	Rs. c.		Rs. c.		Rs. c.
January .	.. 40 63	May ..	.. 34 45	September	.. 35 32
February	.. 39 25	June ..	.. 35 7	October	.. 28 45
March ..	.. 36 92	July ..	.. 36 95	November	.. 22 32
April ..	.. 36 82	August .	.. 37 88	December	.. 21 52

The annual average market prices* in certain years were :—1925, Rs. 33·17 per cwt. ; 1926, Rs. 30·41 ; 1927, Rs. 52·22 ; 1928, Rs. 58·89 ; 1929, Rs. 53·46 ; 1930, Rs. 37·51 ; 1931, Rs. 29·71 ; 1932, Rs. 27·71 ; 1933, Rs. 25·09 ; 1934, Rs. 22·99 ; 1935, Rs. 18·37 ; 1936, Rs. 33·72 ; 1937, Rs. 33·65.

The value of the exports of cacao is shown in Diagram No. 9.

Cinnamon.

Cinnamon, once the main export, still occupies a place—though a minor one—in the trade of the Island. The approximate total acreage is 26,000 acres, of which 58 per cent. is in the Southern Province (Galle District 40 per cent.) and 41 per cent. in the Western Province (Negombo area 30 per cent.)

The industry is entirely in the hands of Ceylonese. The number of large properties of 100 acres and over in extent is limited and these receive systematic attention. The majority of plantations are small areas of 10 to 25 acres in extent.

The Tree.—The cinnamon tree may grow to the height of 20 to 30 feet, and the trunk may be upwards of 3 feet in circumference. The trees cultivated to produce the cinnamon of commerce are coppiced, and long willowy shoots are produced, growing to a height of about 10 feet and to the size of a fair-sized walking stick. The shoots are cut and the bark is peeled off, and rolled into quills, which constitute the cinnamon of commerce.

Prices.—The average price for the year was 43 cents per lb. for quills and Rs. 47·17 per candy for chips.

* The average prices for 1927 to 1937 are for top grades only. Averages for other years represent the lowest and highest overall weekly quotations received for all grades.

Average of the monthly quotations recorded by the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce for 1937 :—

	Quills (Fine 0-0000 per lb.) Rs. c.	Chips* (per candy of 5 cwt.) Rs. c.		Quills (Fine 0-0000 per lb.) Rs. c.	Chips* (per candy of 5 cwt.) Rs. c.		Quills (Fine 0-0000 per lb.) Rs. c.	Chips* (per candy of 5 cwt.) Rs. c.
January	0 39	41 57	May	0 38	70 25	September	0 44	43 65
February	0 37	40 0	June	0 39	47 50	October	0 48	42 5
March	0 39	40 25	July	0 39	47 20	November	0 52	45 32
April	0 41	56 25	August	0 42	46 57	December	0 50	42 19

The annual average market prices† of quills in certain years were :—1925, 88 cents per lb. ; 1926, Re. 1·14 ; 1927, Re. 1·35 ; 1928, Re. 1·29 ; 1929, Re. 1·15 ; 1930, 59 cents ; 1931, 37 cents ; 1932, 28 cents ; 1933, 25 cents ; 1934, 29 cents ; 1935, 35 cents ; 1936, 37 cents ; 1937, 43 cents ; of chips : 1925, Rs. 84·54 per candy ; 1926, Rs. 93·79 ; 1927, Rs. 102·77 ; 1928, Rs. 105·72 ; 1929, Rs. 96·86 ; 1930, Rs. 56·41 ; 1931, Rs. 38·92 ; 1932, Rs. 26·40 ; 1933, Rs. 20·64 ; 1934, Rs. 30·64 ; 1935, Rs. 27·69 ; 1936, Rs. 33·75 ; 1937, Rs. 47·17.

An acre will yield about 120 lb. quills.

Citronella Oil.

Citronella oil grass is a large coarse grass growing 3 to 4 feet high, cultivated in Ceylon (and of late years in Java) for its essential oil, which is obtained from the leaves by distillation. It flourishes up to an elevation of 2,000 feet, but its cultivation is confined entirely to the Southern Province where the acreage under this crop is estimated to be 33,000 acres, of which 62 per cent. is in the Matara District and the remaining 38 per cent. in the Hambantota District. Cultivation is in the hands of the Ceylonese. The grass is readily propagated by division (seed being rarely produced), and may be planted about 2 by 3 feet apart in rows. Two cuttings a year may be obtained, and about 40 lb. of marketable oil per acre is an estimated annual yield. The oil is of a strong aromatic odour ; it is exported for use in scenting soaps, perfumery, &c., and is also a preventive against the bites of mosquitoes and leeches.

Prices.—During the first six months of the year prices fluctuated in a fantastic manner.

The average price for the year was 87 cents per lb. as against 42 cents per lb. in the previous year.

Average of the monthly quotations recorded by the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce for 1937 :—

(Per lb.)

	Rs. c.		Rs. c.		Rs. c.
January	1 8	May	0 90	September	0 91
February	0 89	June	0 76	October	0 88
March	0 77	July	0 83	November	0 81
April	0 96	August	0 85	December	0 80

The annual average market prices in certain years were :—1925, Re. 1·37 per lb. ; 1926, 99 cents ; 1927, 77 cents ; 1928, 93 cents ; 1929, Re. 1·06 ; 1930, Re. 1·12 ; 1931, 80 cents ; 1932, 94 cents ; 1933, 87 cents ; 1934, 55 cents ; 1935, 47 cents ; 1936, 42 cents ; 1937, 87 cents.

* Sifted free from sand and dust (in bags of 56 lb. nett).

† The average prices for 1927 to 1937 are for top grades only. Averages for other years represent the lowest and highest overall weekly quotations received for all grades.

Tobacco.

Acreage and Localities.—The estimated acreage under this crop in the Island is 14,000 acres, of which a little over half is found in the Jaffna District of the Northern Province, where great care is given to cultivation. The methods adopted are peculiar to this area and the manufacture of the leaf gives rise to the most important industry in the district. Another variety of leaf is grown in the Central Province which claims about 21 per cent. of the total acreage under the crop. Dumbara in the Kandy District is a particularly favoured area, while in the Matale District the crop is of some importance to the peasant, besides there being a small manufacture of cigars and pipe tobacco from the local leaf as in the case in Dumbara. Tobacco is also grown to the extent of about 1,500 acres in the Kurunegala District where the method of manufacture to produce a chewing tobacco differs from that adopted in Jaffna. Elsewhere cultivation is carried out in the North-Central and Eastern Provinces to less extents.

Dumbara Tobacco.—A high grade of Ceylon tobacco is grown in the Kandy District.

The leaves of the Dumbara tobacco burn with a good white ash, and are manufactured in the Island into cigars, which command a ready sale, and would be in greater demand if they were more uniform in quality. A large portion of the Central Province crop is sold to local manufacturers of cigars for use as wrappers for the Jaffna types. The leaves are smaller of lighter colour.

Jaffna Tobacco.—The Jaffna types consist of two kinds. These are locally known as the smoking and chewing kinds. Both are large-leaved, coarse tobaccos, the chewing type being of more vigorous and coarse growth than the smoking type.

Cardamoms.

Uses.—Cardamoms are of commercial value on account of the spice obtained from them, which is well known to cooks and confectioners, and is used in pharmacopoeia as a deadener of tastes and a medicine.

Habitat, &c.—The commercial value of the plant lies in the fruit, which is borne on racemes rising from the ground. The plant itself—*Elettaria Cardamomum*—grows in stools or clumps under the shade of forest trees at elevations between 2,800 and 4,000 feet, with a rainfall of 115 to 150 inches a year.

Manufacture.—The fruit is collected and is manufactured into either (1) bleached or (2) green dried.

Acreage.—The total acreage under cardamoms is estimated to be 6,000 acres, of which 82 per cent. is confined to the Central Province—approximately 2,500 acres in the Kandy District, 1,500 acres in the Nuwara Eliya District, and 1,000 acres in the Matale District. About 1,000 acres are found in the Kegalla and Ratnapura Districts (Province of Sabaragamuwa). The bulk of the plantations is in the hands of European owners, but the number of small gardens of a few acres in size in the hands of peasants is not inconsiderable.

Prices.—The average price obtained for cardamoms during 1937 was at a considerably higher level than for some years past.

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DEVOTION.

Average of the monthly quotations recorded by the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce for 1937 :—

(Green per lb.)

	Rs. c.		Rs. c.		Rs. c.
January	2 26	May	2 22	September	2 20
February	2 54	June	2 20	October	2 20
March	2 35	July	2 21	November	1 61
April	2 13	August	2 17	December	1 16

The annual average market prices* in certain years were :—1925, Rs. 3·42 per lb. ; 1926, Rs. 2·44 ; 1927, Rs. 2·54 ; 1928, Rs. 2·50 ; 1929, Rs. 2·22 ; 1930, Re. 1·69 ; 1931, Re. 1·67 ; 1932, Re. 1·33 ; 1933, 95 cents ; 1934, 91 cents ; 1935, Re. 1·00 ; 1936, Re. 1·60 ; 1937, Rs. 2·10.

Arecanuts.†

Conditions.—The arecanut palm is grown in all village gardens in the wetter districts of the Island. It produces heavy crops of fruits, and provides straight stems, which are used for the erection of temporary structures. Pure cultivations of the palm similar to those to be found in Southern India are rarely seen in Ceylon, although in the Kegalla District there are some fairly extensive pure plantations. The area under arecanuts is about 69,000 acres.

The Fruit.—The fruits of the arecanut palm are harvested when ripe, and are sold in their unhusked state in all the bazaars and markets of the Island.

Arecanuts are generally exported to British and foreign India and the Maldive Islands, but practically the whole of exports in 1937 went into British India.

Foodstuffs.

Paddy or Rice.

If Hill paddy (*elvi*) is excluded, it may be said that the cultivation of paddy in Ceylon is based upon a plentiful supply of water. Not only are the plants dependent upon a good supply in all stages up to the ripening period, but the processes of cultivation in all parts of Ceylon, except some of the most northerly, are dependent upon it.

Rain-water Cultivation.—Cultivation without the help of irrigation is carried on, not only in dry districts like Jaffna, but also in wetter parts like the Kandy District. The success of the crop is entirely dependent upon a sufficient and reasonable rainfall, and upon the soil being capable of retaining the water for a fairly long period in order to tide over the rainless intervals. Should the rains fail after the paddy has been sown, the crop will perish, and then the cultivator must resow his field with a paddy which can mature in the remainder of the season, or lose the season entirely. Similarly, if the rains are late, the earlier maturing varieties of paddy must be sown.

Irrigation.—When paddy is grown under irrigation, the water may be supplied by springs, streams (*elas*), wells, or reservoirs ("tanks"). Cultivation under streams may be seen in the Central and Uva Provinces and under tanks in the drier Eastern, Northern, and North-Central Provinces.

* The average prices for 1927 to 1937 are for top grades only. Averages for other years represent the lowest and highest overall weekly quotations received for all grades.

† Although in point of value of exports arecanuts rank between rubber and cacao, this sub-section is inserted here, as the cultivation is not organized, and insufficient details are available regarding it.

Asweddumization.—In all cases where a system of irrigation is employed, the land must be " asweddumized ", or prepared for paddy. Should the paddy area not be level, it is necessary to terrace it. This terracing is brought to a high level of perfection in the hilly districts. Distribution channels convey the irrigation water to the upper plots, and drains carry off the surplus water.

Seasons.—There are two paddy-growing seasons, both of which are made use of for the cultivation of the same tract of fields when sufficient labour and water are available. The Maha crop is sown from the end of August to the middle of October, according to the district. The harvest from this crop is reaped in February or March. The Yala crop season commences with sowing in March-April, the harvest being reaped in July to September. The corresponding Tamil seasons are called Munmari and Pinmari or Kalapokam and Sirupokam. Generally speaking, six and three months are required for the respective Maha and Yala crops. In some districts sowings take place between Maha and Yala seasons for a *meda* or *iddi* (Tamil) crop.

Acreage—The area under wet land paddy in Ceylon is estimated to be 850,000 acres yielding approximately 12 to 13 million bushels of paddy (grain in husk) per annum. The greatest proportion of the acreage lies in the North-Western Province. But large extents are found in all the provinces.

Other Food Crops.

Chenas.—Many other food grains are grown in the Island. Except in the Northern Province, these are generally grown in " chenas "—areas of land covered with secondary forest or other vegetation, which are cleared and burned—which are either private or leased or granted by the Crown. The principal grains grown are kurakkan (*Eleusine coracana*), maize, Italian millet, *Paspalum* millet, and *Panicum* millet. Pulses are also grown in the chenas, the principal crops being green gram, horse gram, and black gram. Gingelly (*Sesamum indicum*) forms an important chena crop particularly in the Jaffna, Anuradhapura, and Kurunegala Districts. Hitherto in addition to the utilization locally of the crop produced in the Island, gingelly seed, oil, and poonac had been imported from India to the value of Rs. 2 to 3 millions.

Edible tubers grow in abundance. These are known in the Island as yams, and include dioscorea yams, tannia yams, sweet potatoes, and manioc. Sweet potatoes are abundant in the Southern Province, while manioc or cassava has spread rapidly in all districts in recent years, and constitutes a general food. The preparation of tapioca might be possible in some districts if a good supply of pure water were available.

Plantains (bananas) of various types are largely cultivated, and are to be found in all markets. The largest area of plantains is to be found between Polgahawala and Rambukkana, but in recent years the bunchy-top disease has appeared and caused considerable damage. This disease now appears to be less virulent, and areas which suffered severely some years ago are now giving good crops of fruit.

Jak and breadfruit are important foodstuffs, while " jaggery " is made from coconut, palmyra, or kitul palms.

Vegetables and curry plants are generally cultivated throughout the Island, and markets are well stocked. Dried chillies are prepared in the drier districts, while onions are largely grown in some localities.

Pumpkins, gourds of various kinds, and cucumbers are largely grown and find a ready sale in the various towns and village markets of the country. In the hills European vegetables thrive and are largely grown for transport by rail to the principal centres of population and to the shipping in Colombo Harbour.

Miscellaneous.

Cotton.—Considerable success was achieved in the efforts made to establish the cultivation of cotton as a peasant industry chiefly in the Hambantota District of the Southern Province and Matale District of the Central Province. Over 2,000 acres were cultivated in 1930 in the Hambantota District alone. Almost all the produce raised by the peasants was purchased by Government on behalf of the Spinning and Weaving Mills, Colombo, up to the end of the year.

Kapok.—Kapok is not grown as a pure crop, but is largely planted along the boundaries of fields and settlements and in some instances interspersed among other permanent crops. A regular trade is being conducted by petty dealers.

Kitul.—The fibre of the Borassus palm has always found a ready market, and in the past few years it has been used locally for the manufacture of brooms and brushes. The tree is not systematically cultivated, and is only indiscriminately distributed throughout the wetter districts of the mid- and low-country.

Papain.—This is the dried extract obtained from the milk of the papaya fruit for which there has been a steady market in the past. The crop was largely cultivated in the Kegalla, Kandy, and Kurunegala Districts, and the development of a profitable peasant industry was indicated.

Pepper.—The pepper vine is widely distributed throughout the wet low-country as well as in the Kandy and Matale Districts of the mid-country though systematic pure plantations are not established. It is grown against shade trees in certain tea and cacao estates, and is in evidence in practically every village garden.

Toddy and Arrack.

The production of toddy and arrack forms two important industries dependent on the coconut palm. For the formation of coconuts a large quantity of saccharine juice is supplied by the tree to the flowering stalks or spadices, which are enclosed in spathes. If the spadix is "tapped" before the nuts mature, and a pot attached to it, a quantity of the juice, varying from 6 to about 12 drams per day, can be collected in the pot. A dram is equivalent to 1/48 of an imperial gallon. If lime is not used to prevent fermentation, the action of yeasts, which are present in the air or in the pot, will convert the sugar in the juice into alcohol, and the liquid will be converted into toddy, with an alcoholic strength of about 4 to 8 per cent. Toddy is also obtained similarly from the palmyra and kitul palms. It is sold in taverns under Government licence at rates varying from 48 cents to Re. 1·20 per gallon.

A considerable industry depends upon the sale of toddy, which attracts many of the smaller Ceylonese and Malayalee capitalists. The cost of production of toddy (exclusive of transport and retailing costs) may be put at about 23 cents per gallon, and considerable profits are made when the sales are active.

The toddy consumption in 1936–37 (the rent-year being from October 1 to September 30) was 4,189,074 gallons, compared with 4,667,299 gallons in 1935–36, the average consumption per head of population being 0·79 and 0·88 gallons respectively. The figures for 1936–37 consumption do not include the toddy consumed in Jaffna District from January 1 to September 30, 1937, when all toddy taverns were abolished there and replaced by the tree tax system. Under this system, any person may tap any number of trees up to a maximum of 20 on payment of a tax Rs. 2·50 per male palmyra and Rs. 10 per female palmyra or coconut tree. The toddy is sold at the treefoot by each licensee; figures for consumption under the tree tax system are thus not available, which explains the apparent decrease of 478,000 odd gallons in consumption. The actual toddy revenue collected in the two financial years was Rs. 2,526,905 in 1935–36 and Rs. 2,598,533 in 1936–37, the revenue per head being 47 and 49 cents respectively and the revenue per gallon of toddy consumed 54 and 62 cents respectively. The revenue figures for 1936–37 include the tree tax revenue from January 1 to September 30, 1937, but the consumption figures do not include tree tax consumption; hence the apparent increase in revenue per gallon. In 1937–38 the rents of 161 toddy taverns were sold for Rs. 2,301,499, a slight increase on the amount realized from the rent sale of the 182 sanctioned taverns for the financial year 1936–37; the decrease in the number of toddy taverns is due to the abolition of the taverns under the tree tax system in Jaffna District.

By the distillation of coconut toddy, the local spirit known as "arrack" is produced, and this is sold, like toddy, in taverns licensed by Government. The whole of the distilling and sale of arrack is in the hands of Ceylonese capitalists. Distillation of arrack prior to 1923 was carried on in about 250 small pot-stills of the most primitive variety; it is now concentrated in eight large modern distilleries situated in the Kalutara District, the outturn capacity of each being not less than 60,000 gallons at 27°u.p. per annum. Three of the distillers have installed "Barbet's" patent stills for continuous distillation, each capable of producing 1,000 gallons of arrack per day. All distillery operations are carried on under the close supervision of the Excise Department. The arrack made at these distilleries is far purer and more free from copper than any arrack previously distilled from coconut toddy in Ceylon. Insistence on better straining of the toddy wash, and on greater cleanliness generally, has resulted in a steady improvement of the quality of arrack. An Extra Special quality of pure pot-still arrack, matured in wood for 5 years, was also sold during April and May, 1937, as an experiment; it was very well received. These new private distilleries were started in April, 1924. They supply arrack to Government at a fixed price under what is known as the "Contract Supply" system.

About 8 gallons of toddy are required to produce a gallon of arrack at proof strength, *i.e.*, the outturn in arrack (proof gallons) of a distillery is about 12·0 per cent. of the toddy distilled. The distiller's cost of production is about Re. 1·30 to Re. 1·35 per gallon at 27°

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FROM THE LIVING ROCK.

under proof, according to variations in the prices he has to pay for his toddy supplied on contract. The distillers sell their arrack to Government at Re. 1·80 per gallon at 27 degrees under proof. Government stores and matures the spirit in wood, and carries on reducing, blending, and bottling operations.

Retailing is done by renters, who are usually those who offer the highest price for this privilege. In addition to paying this price irrespective of the volume of their sales, they pay the following charges for every gallon of arrack at 27° u.p. they obtain from a Government Warehouse to cover Government expenditure on purchasing, warehousing, and bottling arrack :—

Duty on bulk arrack at Rs. 8.50 per gallon and on arrack in bottles Rs. 7·50 per gallon ;

Cost price Rs. 3 per gallon in all districts except Trincomalee, Batticaloa, Badulla, Jaffna, and Vavuniya ;

Cost price Rs. 3·50 per gallon of bulk arrack at Trincomalee, Batticaloa, Badulla, Jaffna, and Vavuniya ;

Extra charges per gallon on the ordinary quality of bottled arrack Re. 1, on the Special quality of bottled arrack Rs. 2, and on the Extra Special quality of bottled arrack Rs. 3·50 per gallon.

The quantity of arack distilled during the last three years is as follows :—

	Gallons (proof strength)		Gallons (proof strength)		Gallons (proof strength)
1935 ..	.. 438,000	1936 ..	.. 511,000	1937 ..	.. 387,911

The, corresponding percentage of outturn for the three years was 12·0, 11·89 and 12.08 respectively.

The consumption of arrack rose from 360,957 gallons in 1935–36 to 388,330 gallons in 1936–37, an increase of about 7·6 per cent. which is mainly accounted for by improved economic conditions.

The number of arrack taverns in 1935–36 was 138 and in 1936–37 156. The estimated net revenue, after deducting expenses of the distribution and storage system, was Rs. 4,005,853 in 1935–36 and Rs. 4,480,009 in 1936–37, which are equivalent to Re. 0.75 and Re. 0·84 respectively per head of population. The arrack consumption per head of population was 0·07 gallons in 1935–36 as well as in 1936–37. The arrack revenue (net) per gallon was Rs. 11·10 in 1935–36 and Rs. 11·54 in 1936–37.

Vinegar Manufacture.

Toddy vinegar is obtained from the aceticization of fermented toddy, which takes place naturally after about 36 hours.

In 1924 special licences were first issued to vinegar manufacturers only in the Western and Southern Provinces, with a view to encourage the manufacture of toddy vinegar as a local industry. Rules were passed in 1926 to control vinegar stores. 15 such licences were in force during 1936–37 (an increase of 1 as against 1935–36) in addition to 3 licences issued to toddy tavern renters to manufacture vinegar from unsold toddy.

Excise Offences.

The following is a statement of Excise detections in the five years 1933, 1934, 1935, 1936, and 1937 :—

Year.	Foreign Liquor.	Arrack.	Toddy.	Opium and Ganja.	Others.	Total.
1933	3	385	7,008	737	2,661	10,794
1934	10	260	6,471	736	564	8,041
1935	2	295	5,565	818	1,062	7,742
1936	2	348	7,235	796	757	9,138
1937	1	462	8,162	984	344	9,953

The most remarkable increases occur under illicit distillation, illicit tapping, sale and transport of toddy, and under sale and possession of opium and ganja.

FISHERIES.

The fisheries of Ceylon can be subdivided into off shore, shore, lagoon, and fresh water fishing and the aquatic resources range from corals, molluscs and crustacea, to fishes, aquatic reptiles and aquatic mammals. The industry furnishes the country with about 23 thousand tons of fish or more annually, but this is by no means the entire quantity of fish products consumed.

The economic interests of the industry are not restricted to fishes alone for there are three molluscs of exceptional importance to Ceylon. One is the pearl oyster which occupies rocky "paars" in the Gulf of Mannar off the west coast from Puttalam to Adams Bridge. These banks are under Government control and the fishery a Government monopoly. The last fishery was in 1925, and the gross receipts totalled Rs. 517,507. The other bivalve is the window pane oyster which lives partly embedded in the mud of Tamblegam lagoon near Trincomalee on the East coast. This fishery is leased by Government for three-year periods. The amount obtained from the last lease was Rs. 19,825 and the total number of oysters fished was 3,773,329.

The other mollusc of importance is the chank which is fished in the shallow area of Palk Strait and the Gulf of Mannar. The royalty levied on the export of chanks for 1937 was Rs. 14,651·78. Money is also obtained by local bodies and by Government Agents from the sale of rentals for fish stalls and markets, sites for fish kraals, licences, &c., the amount obtained for 1937 being Rs. 21,000.

The question of developing the fishing industry has taken the foremost place in the investigations conducted by the Department of Fisheries, although the lack of staff has proved a hindrance. Much of the preliminary work necessary prior to commencing large scale operations has still to be done, and the greater number of food fishes in Ceylon waters are but little known, their bionomics even less so. Progress has been made in supplying this initial need, and accounts of several important families, fresh water as well as marine, have been published, while others are under preparation.

Preliminary investigations into local fish curing have also been undertaken and accounts of the curing methods published. As a result of the knowledge derived from this work it is now proposed to commence pisciculture and smoke curing. With this object in view a series of seven large fish ponds have been established near Colombo, and an adjunct to these will be a farm for aquatic, leather producing reptiles. On the same site is being erected a smokehouse which is now nearing completion.

Another advance in this direction is the decision to establish two fish curing yards on the East and West coasts, where fish curers will be supplied with high quality salt at the lowest possible price. The Marine Biologist is to advise the men in up to date curing methods and the by-products of the curing processes will be utilized as manure.

With a view to experimenting on a type of vessel and gear suitable to local fishermen the Fisheries Department has built a cuble supplied with a sail and auxiliary motor. It is proposed to place this vessel at the service of fishermen.

The results of their experiments and criticism should prove valuable in constructing a cheap type of vessel suitable for these waters. Two extensive fishing banks were surveyed by the Department some years ago, viz., Pedro bank off the north-east coast with an area of over 1,000 square miles and Wage bank off Cape Comorin with an area of about 4,000 square miles. These continue to be unexploited as the fishing vessels of Ceylon are small. The Portuguese tombu of 1618 enumerates large dhoneys among the fishing vessels of that period but these appear to have been mainly employed for staying at sea, and salting their catch which was later taken inland for sale. The spread of the railway and lorry now enables speedy transport of fresh fish inland and consequently the curing industry has declined, while the slow moving dhoney has disappeared from the fishing grounds, now worked solely by outrigger canoes and catamarans of limited capacity and incapable of further development.

Three grades of men control the industry. The first is the fisherman, who is generally employed by some wealthy capitalist who deals with contractors. The fisherman is subjected to from three to seven levies in cash and in kind from various quarters and it is debatable whether the help he receives in return is by any means adequate recompense. In the 16th century under Sinhalese rule the men were liable to a revenue tax which was increased by the Portuguese and Dutch who also forced the men to labour as shipwrights and to load and unload ships, while restrictions on salt added to their hardships and commenced the decline of a once active industry.

To-day there is a lack of facilities for research into such aspects of local fisheries as the bionomics of economically important aquatic animals, the chemical reactions undergone in fish curing, and putrefaction of cured products as well as the necessity for research into preservatives for boats and gear. A grant of Rs. 87,500 has been received from the Colonial Development Fund for erecting a research station, plans have been prepared and the work is about to commence. It is hoped that the above-mentioned problems and numerous others, such as the periodic disappearance of the Pearl Oyster, will be solved as a result of the facilities this station will afford for work, which hitherto remained in abeyance for lack of suitable technical equipment and buildings.

SALT

The manufacture, collection, and sale of salt constitute in Ceylon a Government monopoly, which is protected by an import duty. The monopoly is administered by the Executive Committee for Local Administration through the Salt Adviser and the Revenue Officers.

Ceylon consumes about 660,000 cwt. of common salt per annum. The greater part of this salt is manufactured or collected locally, and

any shortages due to failure of harvest are made good by the importation of salt of silimar quality from India or elsewhere. Salt is manufactured from sea water by solar evaporation at the Government Salterns at Elephant Pass, in the Northern Province, and at Palavi, near Puttalam, in the North-Western Province, also in the privately owned salt pans at Chiviyateru in the Northern Province, about four miles from Jaffna, at Puttalam and at Nilaveli, eight miles north of Trincomalee. Spontaneously formed salt resulting from the natural evaporation of brine is collected from lagoons in the Hambantota District of the Southern Province and in the Jaffna Peninsula in the Northern Province. These are Crown property. The quantity of salt manufactured at Chiviyateru is small, and the greater part of the Island's supply is derived from the Government Salterns, from the lagoons in the Hambantota District, and from the private salt pans at Puttalam. The following statement shows the total quantity of salt produced in Ceylon during the year and the average of eight years 1930–1937 :—

Producing Centre.	Average for 1930–37. Cwt.	1937. Cwt.
Elephant Pass	158,409	159,232
Palavi	82,703	103,575
Hambantota District	160,281	252,955
Puttalam District (excluding Palavi)	139,036	142,699
Jaffna and Mannar Districts (excluding Elephant Pass) ..	68,936	78,418
Trincomalee District	49,540	27,164
Total ..	653,905	764,043

Stocks at the beginning of 1937 amounted to 1,665,652 cwt. and at the end of the year to 1,787,842 cwt.

The amount realized during the financial year by sale of local salt from the Government depôts was Rs. 2,188,895 and the net revenue Rs. 1,600,137.

Owing to the nearly stationary consumption and the equalizing effect of the import duty the revenue from salt does not show a large percentage of variation from year to year.

PLUMBAGO.

Occurrence.—Plumbago, or graphite, is the most important of the Ceylon minerals. It occurs in minute scattered crystals in some of the granulities and crystalline limestones, but it is only where it is found in veins that it is of any commercial importance. The veins or pockets vary from the smallest size up to a yard or more in width, and often consist of pure graphite unmixed with other minerals. Frequently quartz, mica, felspar, pyroxene, apatite, pyrite, &c., are associated with the graphite. The most frequent country rock is a pyroxene granulite of the charnockite series.

Mines.—The deepest mines go to a depth of between 600 and 1,200 feet, while considerable quantities of the mineral are obtained very near the surface. Several of the largest mines are fitted with electric light and equipped with modern machinery but in most of them the arrangements are very primitive.

The majority of the large mines were closed in 1920, and still remain closed, but a very large number of small mines have been since opened, some of them having worked for a short period up to the end of the year. Two hundred and twenty-nine mines were reported to be working at the end of the year 1937 and employed about 4,147 men.

BUDDHA.

Prices.—During the year 1937 there was a slight improvement in demand and in prices.

The increase in the demand for plumbago during the year is due to activity on naval armaments and prices have consequently risen, so that there has been considerable activity in mining.

The average market prices for all grades for the last seven years were as follows :—1931, Rs. 182·34 per ton ; 1932, Rs. 168·73 per ton ; 1933, Rs. 126·95 per ton ; 1934, Rs. 143·02 per ton ; 1935, Rs. 148·15 per ton ; 1936, Rs. 112·40 per ton ; 1937, Rs. 132·35 per ton.

Trade.—Plumbago mining and the trade in plumbago have always been in the hands of the Sinhalese. Large mines are worked by capitalists on whose land plumbago has been discovered. Some of the large mines could turn out 200 or more tons a month and the total output from Ceylon, if required, could easily reach 30,000 tons a year.

Uses.—Plumbago is chiefly used in the manufacture of crucibles, furnace-facings, electrodes, and stove polish, for making lubricants, black paint and lead pencils and in electroplating. Large quantity of plumbago is used for the manufacture of munitions, and the principal buyers have been America, Japan, Germany, and the United Kingdom.

The exports of plumbago in 1937 amounted to 347,613 cwt. valued at Rs. 2,300,545.

OTHER ECONOMIC MINERALS.

Precious Stones.—Precious stones in large variety are found principally in the alluvial gravels of the Ratnapura District and the south-west portion of the Island. The most important are sapphire and ruby (varieties of corundum), chrysoberyl (including cat's eye and the rare alexandrite), beryl or aquamarine, and the semi-precious stones, topaz, spinel, garnet, zircon, quartz of various colours (cairngorm, citrine quartz, amethyst) and moonstone.

Mining for gems is carried on almost entirely by Sinhalese on a co-partnership system. The stones are bought up by dealers to be cut and polished. Many of the best stones are exported to Europe and America, but the inferior varieties are largely sold locally or in India. It is difficult to estimate the value of the annual output, but it may be put at somewhere about Rs. 2,000,000.

With the exception of moonstone, which is mined from a band of acid leptynite and some garnet, the gem-stones are all obtained from alluvial gravels. Sapphire and beryl have been discovered in abundance in pegmatite veins in the Matara and Kandy Districts, respectively, and the other minerals named are probably derived from rocks of similar type.

Thorium-bearing Minerals.—A number of minerals containing thorium and uranium have been found in Ceylon, in pegmatite veins and also in alluvial gravels, and as constituents of natural concentrates on the seabeach. These were mined on a small scale at one time, but the deposits appear to be exhausted and production has ceased. Monazite sands were worked under Government control near Bentota on the west coast, but work was abandonded in 1927 as unprofitable owing to the heavy fall in the price of the mineral.

Ilmenite and Zircon Sands.—Large deposits of natural beach concentrates, consisting of about 75 per cent. ilmenite and 25 per cent. zircon rutile, &c., are known to exist at Pulmoddai and Tirrukovil, on the east coast of the Island. The former deposit has been proved to

contain over two million tons of the mineral. Smaller deposits are found at other places on the coast. The mineral is used as a source of titanium for the preparation of titanium pigments, an industry of growing importance. The Ceylon deposits have not yet been exploited.

Mica.—A small amount of mica has been produced from pegmatite veins or from the contact rocks bordering limestones. The deposits are very irregular, the commercial mica occurring in patches in the veins, with much barren ground between them. There was a revival of interest in the mineral in 1931 and a few tons were exported. The variety exported was phlogopite (magnesia mica) or amber mica. Mining has however now ceased.

Other Mineral Products.—Other mineral products are the following :—

(1) Kaolin of good quality can be prepared from the decomposed felspar of granite rocks free from iron minerals.

(2) White quartz sand suitable for the manufacture of the commoner kinds of glass occurs in places on the west coast and in the north near Point Pedro.

(3) Limestone of a high degree of purity suitable for use in the manufacture of cement is found in large quantities in the Jaffna Peninsula. The coral deposits of the coast are extensively burnt for lime. The crystalline limestones of the interior of the Island are almost all dolomitic and yield inferior lime.

(4) The gneisses and granulites of the charnockite series furnish useful building stones.

(5) Pottery clays of poor quality and brick-earth suitable for the manufacture of bricks and tiles are found in all the river valleys. Kabuk, which is the product of decomposition of the surface of the crystalline rocks, is extensively used for small buildings. When first opened up, it can be cut into slabs, which harden on exposure to the air.

CHAPTER VII.

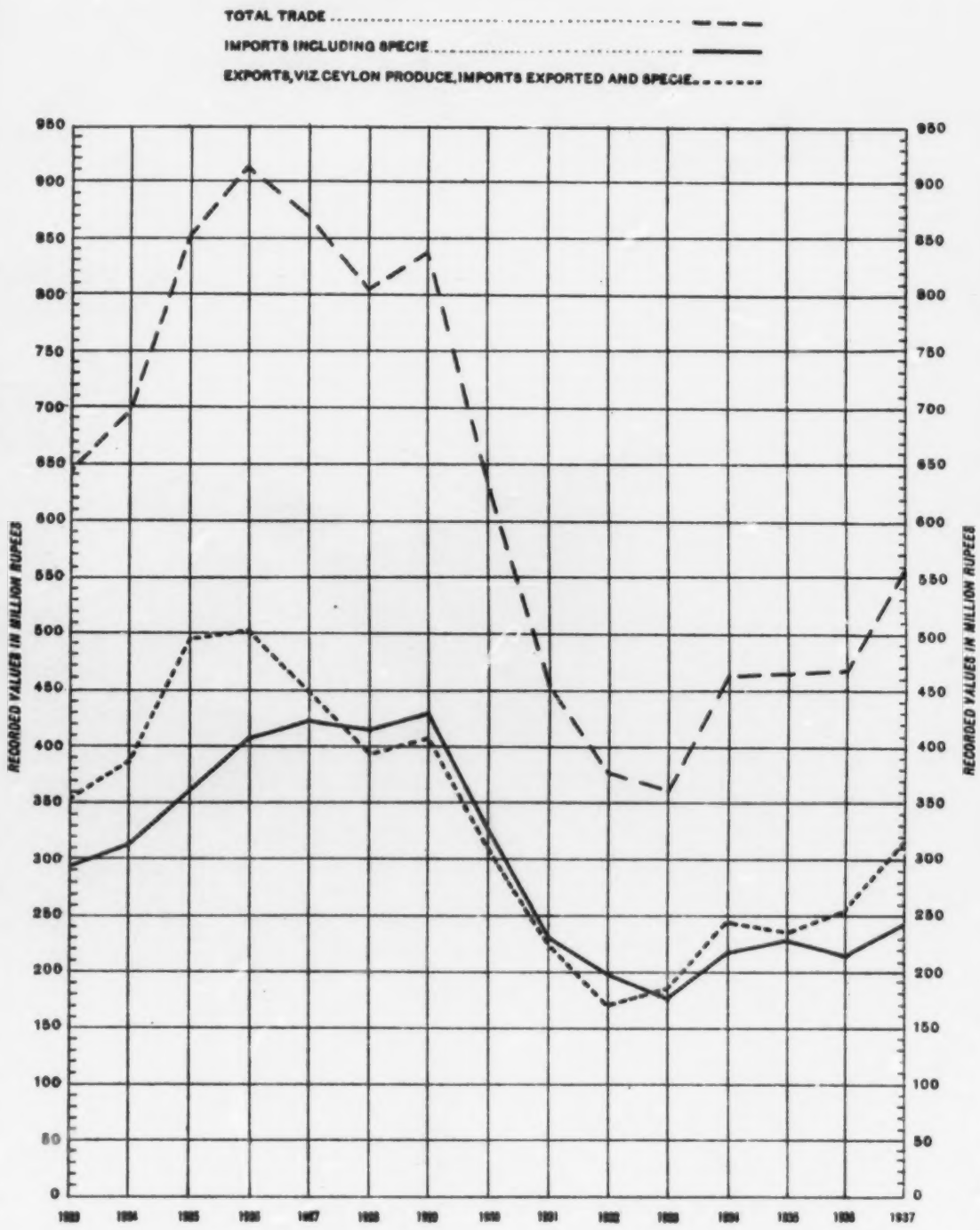
Commerce.

CEYLON is predominantly agricultural and her economic products, with the exception of tea, are raw materials, which are exchanged in the world's markets for the manufactured goods and articles of food needed by its population. The prosperity of Ceylon depends on income derived from tea, rubber, and the products of the coconut palm which constitute her staple agricultural industries. There are a few other products of a minor character, such as cacao, cinnamon, citronella, cardamoms, arecanuts, papain, kapok, &c., but they have never attained in recent times more than a fraction of the importance of the staple industries. Cultivation of paddy and other foodstuffs provides employment to a section of the indigenous population but the output of local grown food is insufficient to satisfy home consumption and has to be supplemented by an increasing volume of imports.

The foregoing account clearly shows that the economic life of Ceylon is not sufficiently diversified and the inelastic nature of the economic structure of the country was forcibly revealed with the onset of the depression. The abnormal fall in export values during the period of the world economic depression was naturally accompanied by a corresponding shrinkage of incomes which brought severe hardship on the cultivator,

DIAGRAM No. 7.

VALUES OF TOTAL TRADE, TOTAL EXPORTS AND TOTAL IMPORTS, CEYLON, SINCE 1923



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both capitalist and peasant, as well as on the urban wage-earner. The recovery noticed towards the close of 1934 was maintained during 1935 and 1936, and there was further expansion in 1937 in all branches of the economic activity of the country.

The foreign trade turnover during the year aggregated Rs. 574 ·2 million recording an increase of Rs. 91·4 million or 18 ·9 per cent. over the preceding year and reached the highest level on record since 1930.

Imports during 1937 totalled Rs. 242 ·6 million which in comparison with the peceding year recorded a sharp rise of Rs. 28 ·3 million (13 ·2 per cent.). Exports of domestic produce on the other hand recorded continuous expansion since 1935, reaching Rs. 309 ·7 million in the year under review, which represented a substantial increase of Rs. 65 ·3 million (26 ·7 per cent.) over 1936.

The most noteworthy feature of the year was the revival of trade in coconut products due mainly to the steady rise in consumption of coconut oil and the resumption of purchases of copra by the European markets. However, tea was as usual the most valuable article of export, contributing 55 ·1 per cent. to the total export trade. Comparison with 1936 revealed a slight shortfall in the quantity of tea exported as a result of adverse climatic conditions, but the value nevertheless increased appreciably due to appreciation in price. Next in the order of importance was rubber representing 24 ·9 per cent. of the exports. It will be worth noting that the value of rubber has shown an uninterrupted rise after the institution of the rubber restriction scheme.

Exports of coconut products contributed 14 ·6 per cent., of which the share of coconut oil was 6 ·5 per cent., copra 4 ·0 per cent., and desiccated coconut 2 ·2 per cent.

The prices of almost all the export commodities appreciated considerably as compared with 1936, and in some instances the initial forward movement, begun in 1936, showed rapid acceleration during the earlier part of the year under review and then a gradual sloping in the latter half. The year as a whole was satisfactory to most producers.

The extent to which Ceylon depends on imported food is denoted by the fact that rice alone represented 20 ·9 per cent. of the total value of all imports, while currystuffs accounted for 1 ·8 per cent., fish products 5 ·9 per cent., sugar 3 ·2 per cent. and milk products 1 ·0 per cent.

Cotton piece goods take the most prominent place in the list of manufactured goods imported into Ceylon, being 7 ·4 per cent. of the total import value.

As a result chiefly of the general recovery of prices in respect of most of the major export products, the total visible balance of trade rose from the favourable amount of Rs. 54 ·2 million in 1936, to as high as Rs. 88 ·5 million in 1937.

The following table gives the total value of imports, domestic exports and re-exports during the last five years :

Year.	Total Imports.	Total Exports.		Excess of Exports over Imports.
		Exports (domestic).	Exports (other than domestic).	
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1933	177,147,000	180,111,000	20,082,000	23,046,000
1934	216,996,000	241,193,000	22,617,000	46,814,000
1935	227,501,000	230,041,000	23,072,000	25,612,000
1936	214,338,000	244,415,000	24,060,000	54,137,000
1937	242,600,000	310,198,000	20,365,000	89,475,000

From these figures it will be observed that foreign trade expanded rapidly in 1937 in comparison with the preceding year, but compared with the period 1927–29 which may be regarded as representative of pre-depression years, the trade turnover was very much lower. The balance of trade for 1937, which stood at Rs. 89·0 to our credit, showed an improvement of Rs. 34·9 million (64·4 per cent.) over the favourable balance of 1936. It will be noted that the balance of trade this year was the most favourable since 1927.

The following table shows the percentage distribution of domestic exports consigned to (*a*) the Empire and foreign countries respectively, and (*b*) the principal countries of destination during the last five years :—

Country (Destination).	Percentage Distribution of Exports.				
	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.
British Empire—					
United Kingdom	51·24	51·58	51·79	49·14	46·42
Australia	3·86	3·72	4·44	4·57	4·12
British India	5·51	3·80	5·23	6·33	4·77
Canada	2·19	2·78	3·32	4·10	5·27
New Zealand	2·80	2·10	2·83	2·85	2·46
Union of South Africa	3·26	2·36	3·32	3·33	3·05
Other Empire Countries	1·36	1·55	1·85	1·54	1·57
Total British Empire	70·22	67·89	72·78	71·86	67·66
Foreign Countries—					
Belgium	1·50	1·47	1·32	1·07	1·42
Egypt	1·48	1·40	1·19	1·07	0·96
France	1·90	2·03	1·55	1·79	1·90
Germany	3·23	2·55	2·62	1·91	3·00
Italy	2·08	2·3[illegible]	1·55	0·31	1·59
United States of America	11·17	13·90	11·20	15·45	15·69
Other Foreign Countries	8·42	8·44	7·79	6·54	7·78
Total Foreign Countries	29·78	32·11	27·22	28·14	32·34
Grand Total	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00

From the above table it will be seen that the share of exports consigned to Empire Countries have shown a tendency to decrease in recent years, particularly in respect of exports to the United Kingdom. Nevertheless nearly two-thirds of the exports of Ceylon found an outlet in Empire Countries. Of foreign countries, the United States of Amercia is the best customer of Ceylon.

The table below shows the share of imports enjoyed by (*a*) the Empire and Foreign Countries, and (*b*) the principal countries of supply during the last five years :—

Country (Source).	Percentage Distribution of Imports.				
	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.
British Empire—					
United Kingdom	17·46	18·36	20·60	21·11	22·18
Australia	2·56	2·37	2·31	2·45	2·59
British India	21·29	20·15	19·48	21·49	22·01
Burma	18·00	14·59	17·50	15·15	13·88
Other Empire Countries	5·00	5·61	5·99	5·48	5·62
Total British Empire	64.31	61·08	65·88	65·68	66·28
Foreign Countries—					
Belgium	0·80	0·85	0·84	1·36	1·88
France	0·71	0·83	0·71	0·63	0·73
Germany	1·53	1·64	2·04	2·03	2·34
Iran	7·22	6·44	5·58	4·95	3·43
Italy	0·62	0·45	0·23	0·09	0·33
Japan	7·24	8·67	5·37	6·41	6·78
Siam	2·36	5·23	5·49	5·03	2·31
Sumatra	4·44	4·40	4·11	3·18	4·51
United States of America	1·83	2·32	2·13	2·25	2·57
Other Foreign Countries	8·94	8·09	7·62	8·39	8·84
Total Foreign Countries	35·69	38·92	34·12	34·32	33·72
Grand Total	100·00	100.00	100·00	100·00	100·00

POTTER AT WORK.

DIAGRAM No. 8

VALUES OF MAIN EXPORTS (CEYLON PRODUCE)

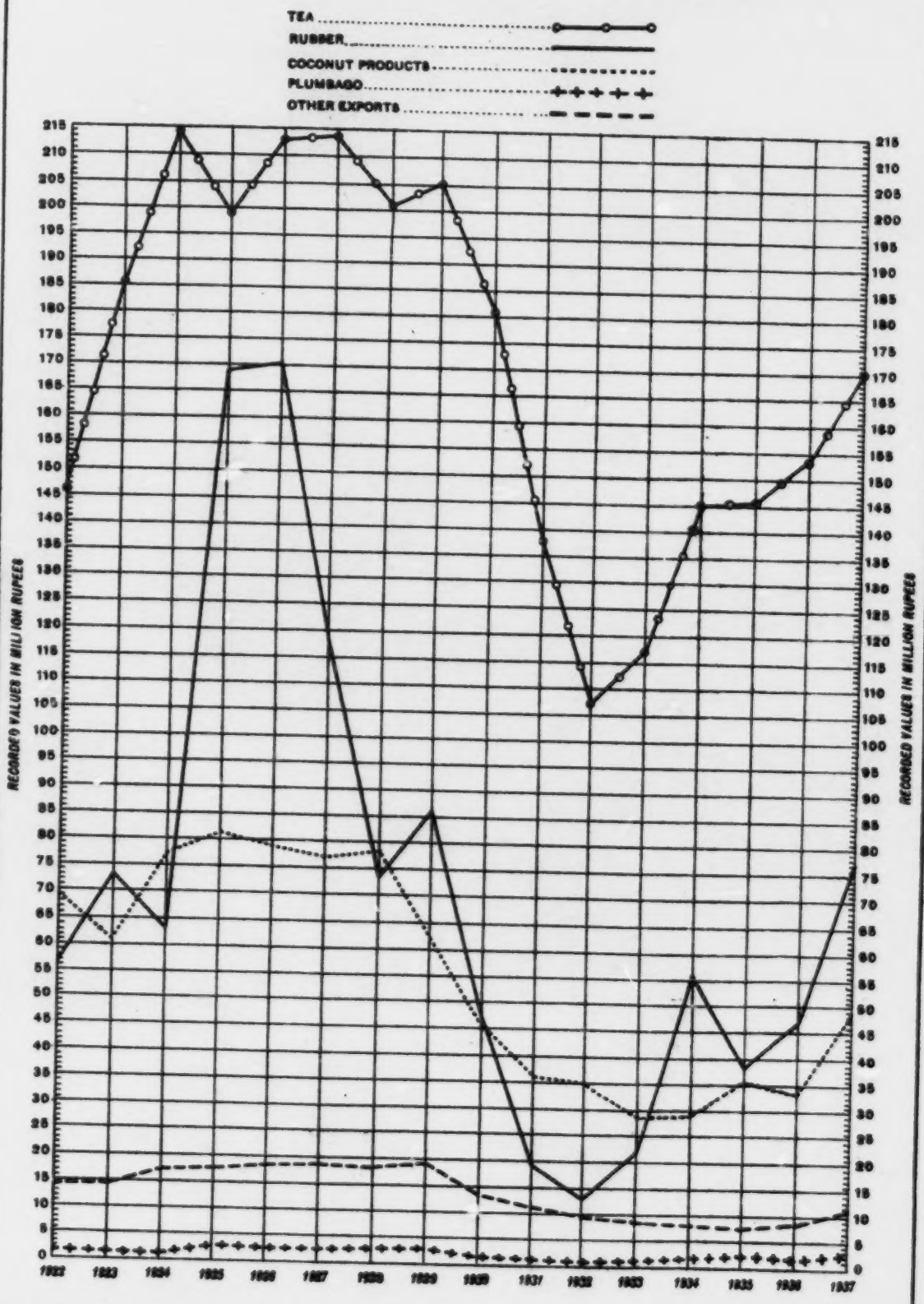

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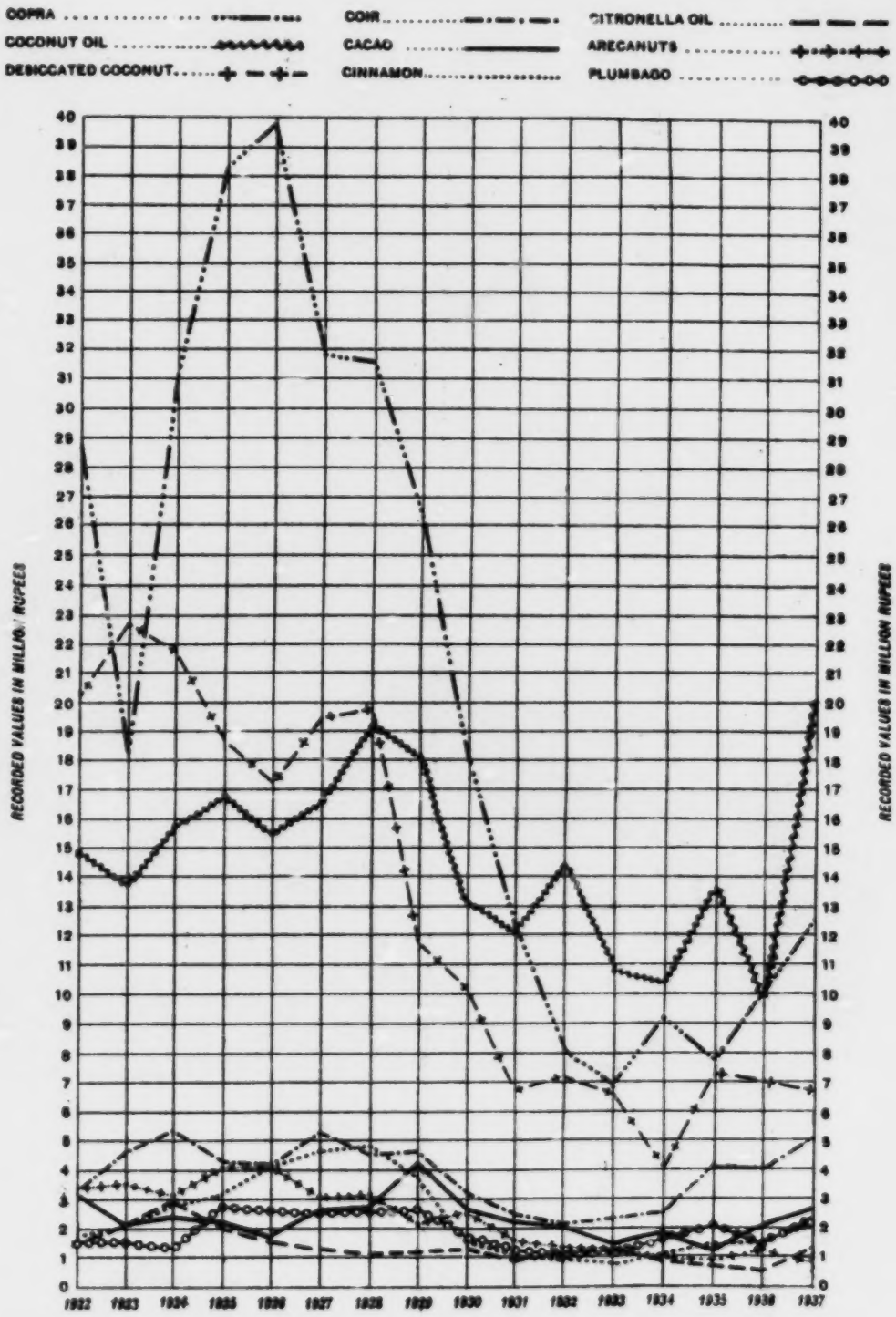
DIAGRAM No. 9

VALUES OF MAIN EXPORTS UNDER 40 MILLION RUPEES



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It is of interest to note that the percentage share supplied by Empire Countries has been well maintained during the last three years—in fact the percentage for 1937 actually represented a slight increase over either of the preceding two years, but the percentage share was still below the 1929 level. Of Empire Countries, the shares of British India, the United Kingdom, Australia, and Straits Settlements increased. Of foreign countries, Japan increased her share of the market and has now established herself as the leading foreign supplier :—

PRINCIPAL ARTICLES OF EXPORT.

Description of Export.	Unit.	Quantity.		Value (Rs.)	
		1937.	1936.	1937.	1936.
			(Thousands)		
Arecanuts	cwt.	68·3	107	844	1,203
Cacao	lb.	8,738	6,599	2,623	2,031
Cardamoms	cwt.	2·9	2·3	686	426
Cinnamon (chips and quills)	cwt.	52·3	46·7	2,056	1,586
Cinnamon oil	oz.	2,904	3,185	457	444
Citronella oil	lb.	1,522	1,271	1,329	513
Coconut, desiccated	cwt.	589	602	6,870	7,042
Coconut, fresh	No.	11,119	16,892	621	916
Coconut oil	cwt.	1,337	689	20,061	9,949
Coconut poonac	cwt.	604	303	2,438	1,147
Coir fibre	cwt.	928	816	3,905	3,122
Coir yarn	cwt.	108	86·2	1,038	813
Copra	cwt.	1,417	1,035	12,511	10,077
Curios	Rs.	—	—	183	161
Hides and skins	Rs.	—	—	461	267
Kapok	cwt.	7·9	8·2	257	240
Papain	lb.	197	228	421	447
Plumbago	cwt.	348	270	2,301	1,517
Rubber	lb.	156,099	111,823	77,010	46,840
Tea	lb.	213,733	218,149	170,587	153,391
Tobacco (unmanufactured)	lb.	2,414	2,666	710	584

Notes on Principal Exports.

Tea.

Tea, as already mentioned, is the most prominent article of export from Ceylon and accounted for 55·1 per cent. of the value of the export trade. Shipments in 1937 aggregated 213,732,751 lb. valued at Rs. 170,586,705 as against 218,149,441 lb. valued at Rs. 153,391,659 in 1936—recording a large shortfall of 4,416,690 lb. but the decline in quantity was compensated by a sharp rise of Rs. 17,195,046 in value over the preceding year. The decline in shipments was reflected chiefly in smaller consignments to Canada and Newfoundland which took 1·83 million lb. less. The United Kingdom which as usual ranked as the leading market for Ceylon tea took 144·9 million lb. or 0·5 million lb. less than in 1936. Other potential buyers were United States of America, Australia, and South Africa. The average price of tea rose from 67 cents per lb. in 1936 to as high as 76 cents per lb. in 1937, which reached the highest level on record since 1929.

Rubber.

Rubber exports rose by 44·3 million lb. to 156·1 million lb. in 1937, and were valued at Rs. 77·0 million or Rs. 30·2 million more than in 1936. The United States of America was, as usual, the best customer taking 73·6 million lb. while United Kingdom and Germany occupied the second and third places respectively. The price of rubber averaged 50 cents per lb. which compared very favourably with 41 cents in 1936 or 30 cents in 1935, and was the highest average recorded since 1929.

Coconut Products.

The total value of exports of coconut products aggregated Rs. 48 ·6 million and exceeded the preceding year's value by Rs. 15 ·0 million (44 ·7 per cent.). The volume of exports of coconut products (copra, coconut oil, desiccated coconut and fresh nuts) expressed in terms of nuts amounted to 1,063 million and rose by 46 ·2 per cent. above the previous year, while the price index for coconut products (72 ·0) rose by 1 ·7 per cent. and reached the highest level recorded since 1930.

Copra.—The total exports of copra registered a rapid expansion by increasing from 1 ·0 million cwt. in 1936, to 1 ·4 million cwt. in 1937, valued at Rs. 12 ·5 million—36 ·9 per cent. increase. Our best customer was British India which imported 956 ·6 thousand cwt. of Ceylon copra or 67 ·5 per cent. of the total quantity exported. A noteworthy feature was the resumption of purchases by Continental countries such as Italy, Denmark, Germany, and Holland, which took significant quantities this year. The average price of Estate No. 1 copra at Rs. 47 ·23 showed a slight fall below the previous year's level but was much better than in 1935.

Coconut Oil.—Shipments of coconut oil totalled 1 ·3 million cwt. valued at Rs. 20 ·1 million and were nearly double the quantity exported in 1936. Exports to Canada rose markedly, reaching 309 ·6 thousand cwt. or 221 ·9 thousand cwt. more than in 1936. The United Kingdom was the next best customer whose purchases amounted to 304 ·5 thousand cwt. or 177 ·6 thousand cwt. more. British India was a good third. The average price of coconut oil continued to rise to Rs. 302 ·72 per ton which was the best average recorded since 1930.

Desiccated Coconut.—Exports of desiccated coconut totalled 588 ·8 thousand cwt. realizing a sum of Rs. 6 ·8 million and were 13 thousand cwt. less than in the previous year. The leading market as usual was the United Kingdom whose takings in 1937 amounted to 58 ·9 per cent. of the total exports. Exports to the United Kingdom reached 346 ·6 thousand cwt. or 7 ·9 thousand cwt. less than in 1936. The average price of desiccated coconut at 10 cents per lb. showed a slight fall from the previous year's level but was much better than in 1934.

Fresh Coconuts.—The total number of nuts exported in 1937 amounted to 11 ·1 million nuts or 5 ·8 million nuts less than in 1936. In fact the number sold during the year was a little over half of the exports in 1935 or little over a third of the quantity distributed in 1934. The United Kingdom was the leading market for fresh coconuts which absorbed 4 ·0 million nuts as against 4 ·3 million nuts in 1936. Egypt was second in order of importance while British India was a close third. The price of fresh nuts averaged Rs. 44 ·83 per 1,000 as against Rs. 43 ·03 per 1,000 in 1936 and was the highest recorded since 1930.

Coconut Poonac.—Exports of coconut poonac aggregated 603 ·7 thousand cwt. valued at Rs. 2 ·4 million and were nearly double the quantity shipped in 1936. Belgium as usual absorbed practically the whole of the exports. The trend of the price of poonac has been upwards since 1934, and averaged Rs. 78 ·46 per ton in 1937, the highest level attained since 1932.

Coir Fibre.—Shipments of coir fibre reached a high level during 1937 totalling 927 ·6 thousand cwt. and fetched a sum of approximately

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FOR SALE.

Rs. 4·0 million. The increase over 1936 was 112 thousand cwt. or 13·7 per cent. but a notable rise of 32·0 per cent. was recorded in comparison with 1935. The United Kingdom and Japan were the principal customers. The increase in exports to Japan may be due to war requirements arising from the Sino-Japanese conflict, but the German market has shown considerable expansion within the last three years as a result of a shortage of cordage and yarn in that country. The average price of 3 tie bristles advanced from Rs. 4·95 per cwt. in 1936 to Rs. 5·49 per cwt. in 1937, reaching the highest level on record since 1933.

Coir Yarn.—Exports of coir yarn totalled 107·6 thousand cwt. realizing a little over a million rupees and exceeding the previous year's level by 21·4 thousand cwt. Germany was the best market for coir yarn while the United Kingdom occupied second place.

Coconut Shell Charcoal.—Exports of coconut shell charcoal aggregated 269·1 thousand cwt. fetching a sum of nearly a million rupees and recorded a noteworthy improvement of 134·1 thousand cwt. or 99·3 per cent. over the preceding year. The United Kingdom topped the list of importing countries in taking 55·4 per cent. of the total exports which was more than double the quantity absorbed in 1936, while France, the next best customer also doubled her purchases made in 1936, and took 41·6 per cent. of the total exports.

Cacao.

A sudden recovery was noticeable in the cacao trade during 1937 from the continuously recessive movement of exports observed in recent years. Shipments of cacao reached 8·7 million lb. valued at Rs. 2·6 million and 2·1 million lb. heavier than in 1936. The Philippine Islands as usual was the best market for Ceylon cacao and took 3·8 million lb. or 1·4 million lb. more than in 1936. The United Kingdom ranked second. The market price of cacao No. 1 averaged Rs. 33·65 per cwt. and was slightly less than in 1936, but recorded a sharp rise of Rs. 15·28 per cwt. in comparison with 1935.

Plumbago.

The quantity of plumbago shipped in 1937 (347·6 thousand cwt.) represented a substantial expansion of 77·3 thousand cwt. over the previous year and was valued at Rs. 2·3 million—shipments in fact being heavier than in any of the three preceding years. The principal market for the commodity was the United States of America which took 1,405 thousand cwt. during the year as compared with 83·8 thousand cwt. in 1936. Exports to the United Kingdom showed a slight increase, but Japanese purchases on the other hand were smaller than in 1936. The price of plumbago realized an average of Rs. 6·62 per cwt. as against Rs. 5·61 in 1936.

Cinnamon.

Exports of quills and chips totalled 52·9 thousand cwt. realizing an appreciable sum of over Rs. 2 million and recorded an increase of 5·6 thousand cwt. over the peceding year. Mexico as usual topped the list of customers by purchasing 11·4 thousand cwt. Germany was the next best customer with purchases totalling 11·1 thousand cwt. which compared very favourably with the 4·1 thousand cwt. exported in 1936. The United Kingdom was a good third. The average price of quills further hardened to 43 cents per lb. representing the highest average for any year since 1930.

Cinnamon Oil.

Exports of cinnamon oil amounted to 2 ·9 million oz. valued at Rs. 457 ·2 thousand as against 3 ·2 million oz. valued at Rs. 444 ·1 thousand in 1936. Over half the exports went to the United States of America which is our leading customer but compared with 1936 her purchases showed a substantial reduction of 599 thousand oz. Exports to the United Kingdom improved by 96 ·7 thousand oz. which was our second best market for the commodity. The total value of exports continued to move upwards during the last three years in contrast to the down trend in volume.

Citronella Oil.

Exports of citronella oil increased sharply from 1 ·3 million lb. in 1936 to 1 ·5 million lb. in 1937 valued at Rs. 1 ·3 million. The increase was due to heavier consignments to the United Kingdom and the United States of America which absorbed 21 ·4 per cent. and 49 ·6 per cent. respectively of the total exports. The price of citronella oil showed a sharp advance to 87 cents per lb. from the very low level at 42 cents per lb. in 1936 to which it had fallen since 1934.

Arecanuts.

Exports of arecanuts amounting to 68 ·3 thousand cwt. recorded a sharp recession of 38 ·5 thousand cwt. from the level reached in 1936. British India alone consumed 56 ·9 thousand cwt. accounting for 83 ·3 per cent. of the total exports in 1937. Prices showed a slight improvement over the previous year.

Cardamoms.

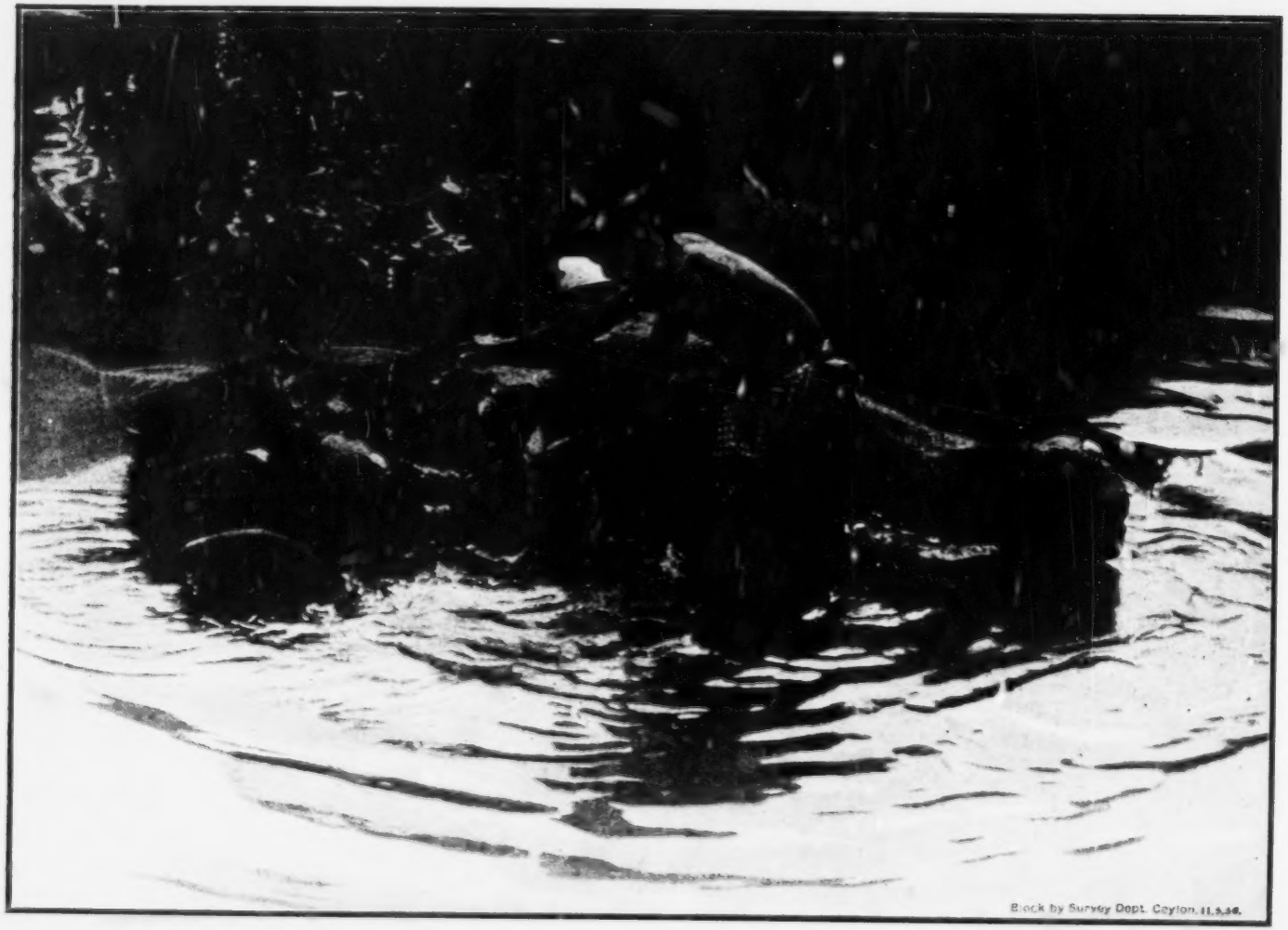
Shipments of cardamoms totalled 2 ·9 thousand cwt. fetching Rs. 685 ·7 thousand compared with 2 ·3 thousand cwt. valued at Rs. 425 ·9 thousand in 1936. The United States of America was the largest purchaser buying 16 ·1 per cent. of the total exports while Aden and the United Kingdom accounted for 11 ·4 per cent. and 9 ·8 per cent. respectively of the total distribution. The average price of cardamoms continued to increase to a slight extent in comparison with 1936 but the price average was nearly double that in 1935.

Bullion and Specie.

The following table shows the imports and exports of bullion and specie during the last five years :—

Year.	Imports. Rs.	Exports. Rs.	Excess of Exports over Imports (+) and Imports over Exports (—). Rs.
1933	51,000	54,725	+ 3,725
1934	—	77,900	+ 77,900
1935	33,571	28,400	— 5,171
1936	96,940	117,150	+ 20,210
1937	535,520	41,838	—493,682

Imports of bullion and specie during 1937 totalled Rs. 535,520 as against Rs. 96,940 in 1936, of which gold bullion alone from India and the United Kingdom amounted to Rs. 337,391 while silver bullion from United Kingdom was valued at Rs. 120,772. Exports of bullion and specie on the other hand reached Rs. 41,838 compared with Rs. 117,150 in the preceding year and consisted chiefly of silver coin valued at Rs. 35,600 sent to British India.



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AN INTIMATE TOILET.

Lionel Wendt.

Principal Articles of Import.

Description of Import.	Unit.	Quantity. 1937.	Quantity. 1936.	Value (Rs.) 1937.	Value (Rs.) 1936.
		(Thousands).			
Apparel	doz.	784	625	4,110	3,383
Artificial silk	yards	3,744	3,642	2,145	1,567
Biscuits and confectionery	lb.	1,758	1,761	1,087	943
Boots and shoes	doz. pairs	43·0	38·1	701	599
Broadstuffs	yards	4,327	4,001	2,722	2,446
Brass and alloys of copper	cwt.	17·5	17·3	1,151	931
Cement	cwt.	1,499	1,241	1,684	1,366
Cloths and stuffs	yards	203	125	463	338
Coffee	lb.	3,437	2,427	676	408
Cotton piecegoods	yards	67,000	66,800	17,962	10,266
Curry-stuffs	cwt.	341	319	4,337	3,272
Drugs and medicines	cwt.	11·2	9·3	2,185	1,961
Electrical goods	Rs.	—	—	2,682	2,073
Fertilizers	cwt.	2,000	1,628	7,729	5,940
Fish, Maldive	cwt.	80·1	79·9	3,734	3,304
Fish products, other	cwt.	426	418	10,518	10,461
Flour	cwt.	302	302	2,419	2,250
Fruits	cwt.	86·2	70·5	1,301	1,114
Glass and glassware	cwt.	58·4	51·7	842	758
Iron and steel	cwt.	900	777	10,743	6,937
Implements	doz.	132	109	1,112	781
Kerosene oil	gals.	8,552	5,991	3,848	2,426
Lubricating oil	gals.	933	796	625	916
Machinery	Rs.	—	—	4,834	4,003
Milk products	lb.	4,677	4,015	2,326	1,859
Motor Spirits	gals.	14,144	8,798	7,072	4,402
Motor Vehicles	No.	3,213*	2,485*	5,967	4,593
Non-ferrous metalware	cwt.	41·2†	64·4†	2,856	2,378
Onions	cwt.	636	609	2,049	2,012
Paddy	cwt.	98·3	207	247	561
Paints and colours	cwt.	36·6	33·2	993	818
Paper	cwt.	308	248	3,039	2,083
Perfumery	cwt.	6·3	5·3	636	530
Plates and sheets	cwt.	184	214	2,520	1,781
Pneumatic rubber tyres	No.	158	107	2,062	1,250
Potatoes	cwt.	277	240	1,406	1,316
Pulses	cwt.	379	369	1,936	1,922
Rice	cwt.	10,319	10,419	50,726	51,619
Soap	cwt.	65·2	50·1	1,949	1,392
Sugar	cwt.	1,524	1,520	7,642	6,854
Tea chests	No.	2,934	3,050	3,079	2,830
Tubes, pipes, and fittings	cwt.	72·4	90·8	799	997

Notes on Principal Imports.

Rice.—The total quantity of rice imported was 1·0 per cent. less than in 1936. Burma remained the chief source of supply and the quantity imported from this source showed an increase of 658,913 cwt. as compared with the preceding year. Imports from British India and Cochin China showed a slight increase but this was offset to an appreciable extent by a sharp decline in imports of Siamese rice which recorded a shortfall of 1,157,252 cwt.

Sugar, including Candy, &c.—Imports of sugar recorded a slight decrease of 1,749 cwt. below the level reached in 1936. Java supplied 88·2 per cent. of the total imports.

Other Grain.—The chief imports under this head are paddy, pulses, gram, and beans. 88·1 per cent. of the paddy and 17·2 per cent. of the beans came from Burma, while 98·8 per cent. of the pulses and 61·3 per cent. of the gram arrived from British India. With the exception of pulses, imports of all other grains showed increases over the preceding year.

Tobacco, Cigars, and Cigarettes.—Increased importations were again recorded for all varieties of tobacco and manufactures thereof, with the only exception of cigarettes. The imports of beedies, cigars, and unmanufactured tobacco have increased by 31·1 per cent., 17·3 per cent., and

*Full figures. †Excluding plates.

21·6 per cent. respectively in comparison with 1936, while cigarettes continued to fall by 41·2 per cent. Imported cigarettes are now being rapidly replaced by locally manufacted cigarettes. All the beedies were supplied by British India. Cigars were largely from the Philippine Islands. The United Kingdom supplied 97·4 per cent. of the cigarettes while the United States of America sent us 85·6 per cent. of unmanufactured tobacco.

Coal and Liquid Fuel.—Imports of coal increased from 405,536 tons in 1936 to 570,598 tons in 1937. British India was the principal supplier with a share of 67·4 per cent. of the coal imports. Imports of liquid fuel indicated a sharp increase of 12·5 million gallons as compared with the previous year. The principal sources of supply were Iran and Non-British Borneo who sent us 76·5 per cent. and 11·6 per cent. respectively of the total imports.

Manure.—Imports of fertilizers recorded a substantial increase of 371,675 cwt. or 22·8 per cent. over the preceding year. The chief varieties of manure imported were bone meal (304,455 cwt.), mineral rock phosphate (277,948 cwt.), fish manure (71,091 cwt.), fish guano (37,044 cwt.), calcium cynamide (36,997 cwt.), muriate of potash (122,409 cwt.), castor seed poonac (54,601 cwt.), groundnut poonac (136,769 cwt.), sulphate of ammonia (675,017 cwt.), and superphosphate (54,186 cwt.). Most of the manures came from British India except mineral rock phosphate from Egypt, calcium cynamide from Jugo-Slavia, muriate of potash and superphosphate from Belgium.

Cement.—Imports of cement in 1937 showed an increase of 258,117 cwt. over the preceding year, with the United Kingdom supplying 37·9 per cent. and Japan 55·0 per cent. of the total imports. Imports from the United Kingdom increased from 484,000 cwt. in 1936 to 568,000 cwt. in 1937 while Japanese cement totalled 825,000 cwt. in 1937 as against 626,000 cwt. in the preceding year. Germany was the next largest supplier.

Metals and Metalware, ferrous.—Comparison with 1936 shows an excess of 122,305 cwt. in total imports of ferrous metals and metalware during the year under review but the value increased much faster. The United Kingdom supplied 51 per cent. of the total imports and Belgium 14 per cent. The movements in the main articles of import from the United Kingdom were as follows: Pig iron increased from 9,300 cwt. in 1936 to 10,301 cwt. in 1937; non-fabricated steel bars and rods dropped from 26,546 cwt. to 23,550 cwt., iron and steel girders, &c., fell from 38,534 cwt. to 29,638 cwt., galvanized corrugated sheets increased from 31,092 cwt. to 45,386 cwt., tinned plates and sheets rose from 23,251 cwt. to 32,627 cwt. Tubes, pipes, and fittings decreased from 90·8 thousand cwt. to 72·4 thousand cwt.

Non-ferrous metals and metalware.—Imports under this group registered a shortfall of 10,755 cwt. below 1936, but the value showed an opposite movement. The bulk (59 per cent.) of the supplies was received from the United Kingdom while British India and Germany accounted for 16 per cent. and 11 per cent. respectively of the total imports. The principal articles imported under this head were aluminium lining, the bulk of which came from the United Kingdom.

Cotton Piece Goods.—The normal conditions observed in 1936 continued to prevail during the year under review. A slight increase of 199,938 yards in total imports of cotton piece goods with a corresponding rise of Rs. 1,695,839 in value was recorded during 1937. The increase was reflected in bleached goods (18·5 million yards) which advanced to a small extent by 0·4 million yards and in dyed stuffs (30·9 million yards) which showed a rise of 0·7 million yards. These increases were offset to a great extent by a shrinkage in grey sheetings (2·1 million yards) and prints (15·3 million yards) which were less by 0·5 million yards and 0·1 million yards respectively below a year ago.

As compared with the preceding year British India is the leading supplier in the cotton piece goods market. The United Kingdom was a good second while Japan was a poor third. British India and United Kingdom have benefited tremendously from the preference accorded to Empire piece goods and the restriction of imports of foreign textiles introduced in 1934. Notwithstanding these tariff barriers imports from Japan have shown a slight increase. All Japanese quotas for 1937 were eventually filled in view of the determination of licence-holders that no part of their holding should lapse and fall to others in 1938 when the quotas would be increased.

Kerosene Oil.—As compared with the previous year the total imports of kerosene oil showed an increase of 792,939 gallons, the quantity imported being 7,824,015 gallons as against 7,031,076 gallons in 1936. Practically the whole supply came from Sumatra.

Petrol.—The quantity entered for home consumption during 1937 recorded a sharp advance of 3,350,297 gallons over the previous year as a result of the increase in motor traffic. Sumatra again was the only potential supplier.

Motor Vehicles.—Imports of motor cars showed an increase of 603 in number and Rs. 1,165,869 in value in comparison with 1936. 2,013 cars which represented 84 per cent. of the total imports came from the United Kingdom and were valued at Rs. 3,676,467 as compared with 1,607 cars in 1936. Imports of motor buses and lorries recorded a rise of 108 in number—the total number imported being 709 valued at Rs. 1,305,581 as against 601 valued at Rs. 1,102,590. The chief supplier was the United States of America which accounted for 53 per cent. of the total imports while the United Kingdom supplied 38 per cent.

Tea Chests.—Comparison with 1936 revealed a shortfall of 116,247 in the quantity of tea chests imported, but the value showed an increase of Rs. 248,744. Imports from Japan which usually supplied about half our requirements fell by 191,170 chests as compared with 1936. Russia and Finland on the other hand supplied 96,738 and 29,105 chests respectively more.

Bullion and Specie.

The following table shows the imports and exports of bullion and specie during the last five years :—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Excess of Exports over Imports (+) and Imports over Exports (—).
1933	51,000	54,725	+ 3,725
1934	—	77,900	+ 77,900
1935	33,571	28,400	— 5,171
1936	96,940	117,150	+ 20,210
1937	535,520	41,838	— 493,682

Imports of bullion and specie during 1937 totalled Rs. 535,520 as against Rs. 96,940 in 1936, of which gold bullion alone from British India and the United Kingdom amounted to Rs. 337,391 while silver bullion from United Kingdom was valued at Rs. 120,772. Exports of bullion and specie on the other hand reached Rs. 41,838 compared with Rs. 117,150 in the preceding year and consisted chiefly of silver coin valued at Rs. 35,600 sent to British India.

BUREAU OF INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE.

To assist in the development of the industrial and commercial activities of Ceylon a Bureau of Industry and Commerce was formed as a section of the Department of the Registrar-General who assumed charge of these subjects in his capacity as Director of Commercial Intelligence. A proposal to organize the Bureau into a separate Department of Commerce and Industries has been approved and the new Department under a Director of Commerce and Industries will be established during the course of 1938. Apart from the financial assistance and technical advice given to local industries, the primary object of the commercial section of the Bureau is to foster the export trade of the country. The Bureau is in direct communication with overseas officers of the Department of Overseas Trade, England, and is in a very favourable position to offer local traders the advantages of a reliable and effective Government organization.

A definite expansion in the activities of the Bureau was made in 1935 with the appointment of a Trade Commissioner for the United Kingdom whose headquarters is at Ceylon House, Aldwych, Strand, London, and this was followed in 1937 by the appointment of a Trade Commissioner for India with his headquarters at "Ceylon House", Hornby road, Bombay. Both these institutions are in reality overseas branch offices under the supervision of the Registrar-General and Director of Commercial Intelligence.

TOURIST BUREAU.

In order to promote tourist traffic to Ceylon, a Government Tourist and Publicity Bureau was established in June, 1937. The office of the Bureau is housed in the Grand Oriental Hotel buildings, York street, Colombo, and all information regarding tourist attractions of Ceylon and facilities available in the country to tourists can be obtained from the Director, Government Tourist and Publicity Bureau.

CHAPTER VIII.

Labour.

THE estimated population of Ceylon in 1937 was 5,700,000 and was mainly engaged in agricultural pursuits or in occupations subsidiary thereto.

The cultivation of paddy and other locally grown foodstuffs is undertaken exclusively by the peasantry of the Island either on their own lands or on those rented from others. For the most part the assistance of any workers outside the village population is not required and in discussing the labour position of the Island this form of occupation can be neglected.

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ELEPHANT.

The problem with which any student of Ceylon labour is concerned is that of employment on the estates of tea, rubber, and coconuts which constitute the main source of prosperity in the Island. The tea and rubber estates and in a minor degree the coconut have always employed a large proportion of workers from the villages of South India, the surplus population of which has always been ready to seek employment outside their own country.

The Sinhalese peasant has not shown any marked desire to abandon his fertile village field and take up permanent residence on estates. Until recent years the presence of a large Indian labour force in the Island has been accepted as a feature of the industrial and agricultural life of the country. The establishment of tea, rubber, and coconut estates has reduced the area available for the settlement of the surplus village population which in the last three decades has increased to a marked degree. On the other hand the villager has not yet shaken off the outlook associated with an independent peasantry and is not generally attracted to the life on an estate associated with the discipline which has to be maintained to promote the efficiency of a large labour force.

The number of Sinhalese on tea and rubber estates in respect of which information is alone available shows a steady increase which is not sufficiently large to arouse the interest of the public. At the end of the year it was estimated to be 84,454.

In Colombo Indian labour has been attracted to almost every sphere of business and domestic activity. Again the urban Sinhalese unskilled worker has not as yet acquired that attitude which makes him regard regular employment as an unquestioned feature of daily life. He has in consequence found it occasionally difficult to secure employment owing to the presence in his midst of a large labour force of undoubted efficiency.

The position in which the Ceylonese worker now finds himself is viewed with concern by their leaders whose representations led to the appointment of a Commission consisting of Sir Edward Jackson, K.C., O.B.E., former Attorney-General of this Island to inquire into—

(*a*) the extent of Immigration into Ceylon from India—whether it is increasing or decreasing ;

(*b*) whether such immigration has caused or is likely to cause unemployment or other economic injury to the permanent population of the Island ;

(*c*) whether any restriction or control beyond that already existing should be imposed on such immigration and if so what form such restriction or control would take.

Sir Edward Jackson concluded his investigations during the course of 1937 but at the conclusion of the year his report had not been received. The tea and rubber industries have jointly built up in South India an organization for the importation of labour into Ceylon. This machinery is supervised both under the law of India and under that of Ceylon and the despatch of labourers is governed by special regulations which place an effective control on the numbers migrating.

The operation of the Indian Emigration Act does not affect the departure from India of so-called non-emigrant labourers who have already spent 5 years or more in this Island and the wife or child of such labourer, though an official of the Indian Government is the sole arbiter on the evidence produced as to the duration of residence. Emigrants who are

despatched by this Agency can be divided into two categories, viz., the recruited and the non-recruited. The former comprise labourers recruited by the holder of the licence issued by the Controller of Labour and endorsed by an officer of the Government of India in Ceylon. The latter include those labourers who offer themselves at the depôts of the organization in South India for employment in this country.

The cost of the maintenance of the organization together with that of the transport of labourers to Ceylon despatched by the organization are met from a fund created by a levy based on the acreage of those estates employing Indian labour. The number of labourers so assisted to enter Ceylon in recent years was—

1933	32,898
1934	140,607
1935	43,018
1936	40,803
1937	51,427

Owing to circumstances arising out of the restriction scheme imposed on the tea and rubber industries a surplus of labour was reported at the beginning of the year under review to exist on their estates and arrangements were made for the repatriation of a large number of workers together with their families. As the result of this repatriation 4,485 persons were despatched to their homes in South India at the expense of the above-mentioned fund. During the course of the year, however, a shortage of labour was reported and demands were made for the despatch of labour from South India to Ceylon.

Prior to the issue of any licences for recruitment efforts were made to supplement the labour force on estates from the surplus Sinhalese village population. Sufficient response was not forthcoming and proposals were made to establish a bureau in Ceylon for recruitment of Sinhalese villagers for work on estates on lines similar to those used with success in South India.

This step, however, was not sufficient to meet the immediate demand for labour and it was decided to authorize the issue of licences for the despatch of 5,000 labourers from India to Ceylon.

Unfortunately owing to differences with the Government of India arising out of matters not chiefly connected with the conditions under which labour was employed in this country the Indian Government refused to permit recruiting by means of licences and later placed an interpretation on their regulations which did not appear to be justified either as they are at present worded or in accordance with the spirit in which regulations were framed.

Meanwhile the bureau for recruitment of Sinhalese labour was established in an area where a large degree of unemployment existed. After 2 months working 530 applications for employment had been registered and 230 despatched to estates. When it is remembered that the total labour force on tea and rubber estates is in the neighbourhood of half a million workers, it will be realized that the bureau will play but a small part in supplying the normal wastage which invariably occurs.

The total number of workers in the tea and rubber estates of the Island at the end of 1937 was 545,696.

Statistics are not available for any other forms of employment.

ELEPHANT PULLING CART.

CHAPTER IX.

Wages and the Cost of Living.

LABOUR IN CEYLON.

1.—*Agricultural.*

ABOUT 850,000 acres are cultivated in paddy. The whole of this area is worked by village labour usually by the owner or lessee of the land, and his relations, but frequently also by hired labour.

The Estates.—The principal crops grown under estate conditions are tea, tubber, and coconuts. Tea estates almost entirely, and rubber estates for the most part, are worked by labour imported from South India (Tamil or Telugu). A few Indians are also employed on coconut estates, but these are mostly worked by Ceylonese.

At the end of 1937 the total number of Indians on estates was roughly 657,000, as compared with 659,311 at the end of 1936. The total number of arrivals of estate labourers during the year amounted to 51,427 and the departures to 47,927.

2.—*Industrial.*

A large number of labourers are employed in various activities connected with the port of Colombo, *e.g.*, as stevedore labourers, or in the coal-yard and marine engineering works.

Wages.—Under Ordinance No. 27 of 1927 a minimum wage is fixed for Indian labourers on tea and rubber estates and the new rates of wages in force from November 16, 1934, are—

	Men. Cents.	Women. Cents.	Children. Cents.	
Up-country	49	39	29	with rice at a rate not exceeding Rs. 4·80 per bushel
Mid-country	43	35	25	
Low-country	41	33	24	

In 1927 a Commission appointed to inquire into wages earned by the harbour workers in Colombo recommended the following rates which were accepted by the employers :—

	Loading Cargo. Rs. c.	Discharging Cargo. Rs. c.
Day, Full	1 75	1 60
Broken Periods, 6 A.M. to 12 noon	1 0 (*i.e.*) (87 plus 10)	0 90 (*i.e.*) (80 plus 10)
12 noon to 6 P.M.	0 87 *	0 80 *
or Every half or part thereof	0 20	0 20
Night—	†	†
Full	3 50	3 20
Half	1 75 *	1 60 *
Broken Periods— For every hour between 6 P.M. and midnight	0 30	0 30

* Subject to the qualification that wages by the hour for any fraction of a half day or half night shall not exceed the wages payable for the whole of that half day or half night.

† A full night's wages are payable when a labourer works from 6 P.M. to any fraction of the night beyond midnight.

4——J. N. 77053 (8/38)

The following table shows the classification adopted by Government for daily and hourly paid labour :—

		Rates per Hour.	
		Minimum. Cents.	Maximum. Cents.
Minor supervising grades	Class A I.	48	81
	A II.	31	63
Tradesmen	Class A III.	36	53
	A IV.	20	35
Semi-skilled labour	Class A V.	12	20
Unskilled labour	Class A VI.	8	14
Trade apprentices	Class A VII.	10	18
Women and boys	Class A VIII.	3	10

		Rates per Diem.	
		Minimum. Rs. c.	Maximum. Rs. c.
Minor supervising grades	Class B I.	3 84	6 48
	B II.	2 48	5 4
Skilled labour	Class B III.	2 88	4 24
	B IV.	1 60	2 80
Semi-skilled labour	Class B V.	0 96	1 60
Unskilled labour	Class B VI.	0 64	1 12
Trade apprentices	Class B VII.	0 80	1 44
Women and boys	Class B VIII.	0 24	0 80

Estates employing Indian labour are required by law to pay their labourers monthly. In Colombo wages are often paid every week or fortnight.

Other Conditions Affecting Labour.

On nearly all estates the resident labour force is provided with free housing accommodation. In Colombo a few firms make similar provision for their labourers, but in most cases the latter find their own lodgings. Indians employed by the stevedore contractors are generally housed in a "kittangi"—a sort of barrack where the men sleep together in one large room.

Medical Attention and Provision for Old Age.—Estate labourers are entitled to free medical treatment either at the estate hospital (if there is one) or at the nearest Government hospital. Other labourers are entitled to free treatment at Government hospitals if they earn less than Rs. 50 per month in wages.

Female labourers on estates are entitled to free lodgings and medical care for one month after confinement.

Indian Labour on Estates.—Sick and indigent labourers are repatriated to India at the expense of the Immigration Fund.

Most estates pay a pension to deserving labourers who are no longer able to work. Free meals are usually given daily to children.

The Workmen's Compensation Ordinance, No. 19 of 1934, came into operation on August 1, 1935. It provides for compensation to be paid by the employer on the lines of the Indian Act to every workman who is injured by accident arising out of and in the course of his employment and to the dependents of workmen who have died as the result of such accident.

The Trade Unions Ordinance, No. 14 of 1935, came into operation on November 1, 1935. It provides for the compulsory registration of all Trade Unions.

CHAPTER X.

Education and Welfare Institutions.

Control.—Primary and secondary education in Ceylon, under the control of the Minister of Education and the Executive Committee of Education, is administered by the Department of Education, assisted by a Board of Education and 23 Education District Committees.

Board of Education.—The Board of Education is composed of 20 members nominated by the Governor. The Director of Education is Chairman and the personnel of the Board includes members of the State Council, managers of schools, and teachers. The main duties of the Board are to advise the Government on any educational matters especially referred to it for advice. It is not an administrative or executive body, and all regulations which are recommended by the Board require the confirmation of the Governor, and are thereafter laid before the State Council.

Education District Committees.—An Education District Committee has been constituted in each Municipality and Revenue District. These Committees are appointed by the Governor, and consist partly of officials and partly of unofficials. They are responsible first for putting into effect the rules relating to compulsory education and they frame by-laws and employ attendance officers for this purpose. Secondly, they erect and maintain schools where these are required. They are financed by an annual grant from the department, which is allocated on the basis of an approved programme of works submitted each year to the department.

Schools and Attendance.—The system of education in Ceylon provides a course of education leading to University degrees in arts, and science, and diplomas in medicine and law.

The schools of Ceylon are not divided on a basis of race or nationality. All schools which are maintained by Government or assisted by means of grants are compelled by law to admit pupils irrespective of race, nationality, or religion.

Attendance at school between the ages of six and fourteen is compulsory, subject to a few exceptions. Such compulsion, however, applies only when school accommodation is provided within a reasonable distance of the residence of the pupil.

There are three distinct types of schools—schools administered directly by Government, schools assisted by Government and under the immediate control of private managers, and schools maintained by Government and managed by the Divisional Inspectors of Schools with the assistance of Local Managers.

There are 378 Maintained schools. These schools are administered under the Codes for Assisted schools but the whole cost of staff and maintenance is borne by Government funds. All new Maintained schools are placed under the management of the Divisional Inspector of Schools.

There are 1,555 Government schools, and the arrangements for the staffing of these are entirely in the hands of the department. All examinations for the issue of teachers' certificates and of otherwise testing efficiency, and all appointments, transfers, &c., are also dealt with by the department.

Assisted Schools and the Grant System.—There are in addition 3,418 (including schools attached to places of religious worship) Assisted schools under the immediate control of private managers. These schools receive an annual grant from the Education Department. In the case of vernacular schools the annual grant is calculated as the total amount of the salaries paid to an efficient staff plus an additional amount for maintenance. No fees are charged in vernacular schools. In the case of the English schools, however, fees are charged and from such fees the manager has to provide a fixed sum towards the salary of each teacher he employs. The grant consists of the balance of such salaries.

There are 161 schools attached to places of religious worship. These schools are supported by grants from Government funds.

In addition to Government Assisted and Maintained schools, there is a certain number of private schools which are not assisted in any way by Government funds. Such schools are, however, subject to inspection by the department.

The type of instruction given in Ceylon schools can be considered under two main headings: (i.) non-vocational instruction; (ii.) vocational instruction.

Classification of Schools.—Under the heading of non-vocational instruction is included the type of instruction which is general and academic, and by far the larger number of schools come under this class. These schools are classified as follows :—

English.	Bilingual.	Vernacular.
Collegiate	Senior Secondary	Senior Secondary
Senior Secondary	Junior Secondary	Junior Secondary
Junior Secondary	Primary	Primary
Primary		

The primary schools provide a course of instruction from the Kindergarten up to Standard V. The course usually lasts six years.

The junior secondary schools provide a course of instruction from the Kindergarten up to the School-Leaving Certificate. The course usually lasts ten years.

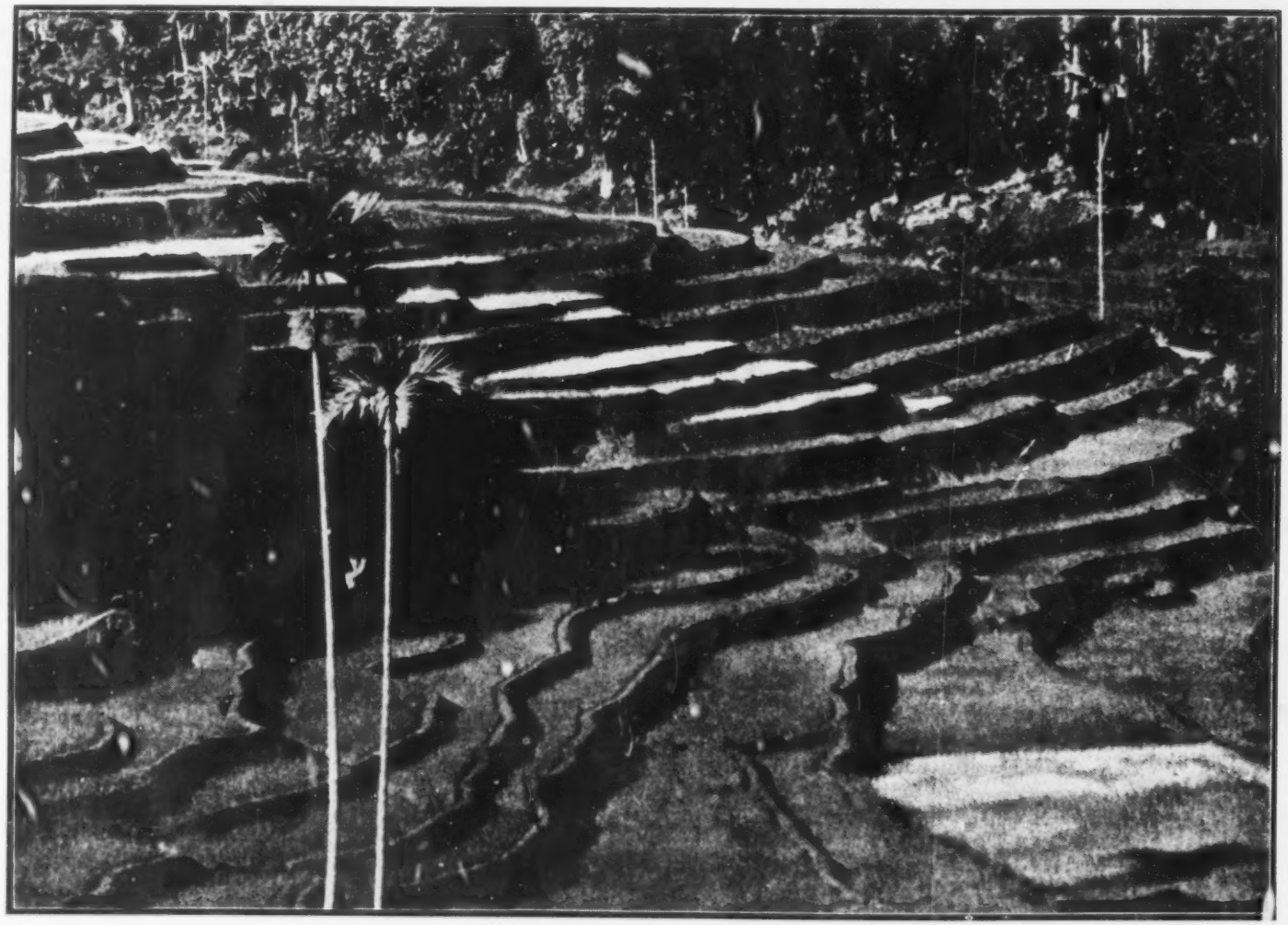
The senior secondary schools provide, in addition to the course for the junior secondary schools, a further course up to the standard of the London Matriculation Examination. The course usually lasts twelve years.

The collegiate school is an English school which provides a course of instruction from Form I. or Standard VI. up to the standard of the London Matriculation Examination. The course usually lasts five years.

The vast majority of students complete their education at the junior secondary stage.

In addition to the schools that come under the above classification, there is a certain number of temple schools, which are known as Pirivenas. These schools are primarily intended for the Buddhist priesthood, and are not compelled to adopt the syllabus of work used by the ordinary schools.

Vocational Schools.—Under the heading of vocational schools come those schools which give a specialized form of instruction. Apart from one Technical College, these can be divided into part-time schools and full-time schools. Under the heading of part-time instruction is included a variety of home industries which are taught to pupils in certain schools in addition to the ordinary academic course. Under the heading of full-time industrial schools come institutions for the training of teachers, technical schools, agricultural schools, and industrial schools. The



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EMERALD TERRACES.

course in training schools is usually one of two years. In technical schools it varies according to the subject which is studied. In agricultural schools courses are entirely for adults who intend either to teach agricultural science or to become practical agriculturists. There is a variety of full-time industrial schools. All industrial schools are conducted upon a profit-sharing principle, so that the pupils benefit by whatever articles they produce. The course is one of two or three years. The subjects in which instruction is given are :—carpentry, weaving, basket work, pottery, printing, lacquer work, blacksmith work, and a few other minor industries.

The medium of Instruction.—The medium of instruction in schools varies according to the type of schools. In vernacular schools the medium of instruction is entirely Sinhalese or Tamil. This group of schools includes 81 per cent. of all the school-going children in Ceylon.

In Bilingual schools the vernacular language is the medium of instruction for the first four or five years of school life, after which a course of English is introduced in Standard IV. Every year thereafter the number of periods allotted to English is increased. The vernacular, however, continues to be taught throughout the whole course. There are also vernacular schools where an optional course of English, for one period a day, is given in all classes above Standard III.

In the case of the third group of schools, viz., English schools, two methods are employed in giving instruction in the English language.

In the first method pupils are admitted at the earliest stage of school life, viz., the Kindergarten. Pupils admitted in this way have usually a working knowledge of English, so that their progress in mastering the language is very rapid.

The second method employed is a two-year special course in English for pupils, who go from vernacular schools to English schools. The pupils who enter this course are approximately nine years of age, and have already received instruction in their own mother tongue in the primary standards. This course is an intensive one, in which the direct method of teaching a foreign language is employed. After completing this course pupils are able to enter the ordinary standards of the English school, in which the medium of instruction is English. In the majority of such schools the vernacular languages continue to be taught throughout the upper classes.

It will be seen, therefore that in the system of instruction prevailing in Ceylon the pupils are given the following alternative courses :—(1) a full course of instruction in the vernacular languages ; (2) a full course of instruction in the vernacular languages plus a working knowledge of English ; and (3) a full course of instruction in English, not merely for pupils whose mother tongue is English, but for those who at the beginning of school life have no knowledge of that language.

SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF AND BLIND.

During the year 1937, 30 children were admitted, 20 of them being deaf and 10 blind. The total number of the deaf and blind children is classified thus :—

	School.		Industrial.		*Ex*-Industrial.		
	Boys.	Girls	Boys	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Deaf	102	56	16	—	10	—	184
Blind	47	65	37	1	13	—	163
							347

Many applications for admission for deaf children have been rejected for lack of room. There are a few mental defectives and one deaf and blind. They were admitted through the school's inability to diagnose their condition and cannot be removed as they have no relations or friends.

Health.—There has been no serious illness of any sort.

School.—Both the deaf and blind schools are under the direction of an expert teacher from England. They report as follows :—

Deaf School.—In the kindergarten classes the speech standard is good and compares favourably with that of English schools. This standard is apt to fall however as children pass into higher grades where the intensive teaching of language becomes so vital.

The School has decided to purchase an electrical Hearing Aid, the Multitone, which is likely to improve to a very marked extent the speech and language of all children possessing even the slightest residual hearing.

Language teaching by means of school excursions is proving of very great value in the deaf department.

Blind School.—The standard of work in the blind department has progressed considerably during the past year. End of term examinations have been instituted and have proved most satisfactory. Spoken English is good, but written English is a little disappointing. Nevertheless the Blind children of Ceylon are well up to the standard of the Blind in England, especially the girls. This may be due to exceptional power of concentration combined with memories above the average.

Music has been a great feature this year. The School Choir is a great joy, and the kindergarten percussion band has proved a valuable and most educational institution.

Owing to the lack of braille books, which are extremely expensive, a group of girls, over school age, have been employed in producing class readers in Sinhalese and English for both girls' and boys' school. When completed, the books are handed over to a blind boy who proof-reads and binds them.

More stress has been laid down upon physical training, one of the most difficult subjects of the blind school curriculum. School excursions are proving of value to the blind children.

Industrial Work.—The removal of the girls to Broomhill has had good results both with regard to training and the marketing of the goods.

The boys' carpentry section moved to Kotte in October and is helping to build houses in readiness for the Weavers and Rattan Workers who, it is hoped, will move in March.

The after care of the industrial boys and girls is a serious problem which has up to the present met with no satisfactory solution, but it is receiving serious attention. Some deaf boys have found employment but not in the trade they have been taught. They are usually set to do unskilled work at a very low rate of pay.

Orphanages.—Educational facilities are provided for orphans or destitute children. A maintenance grant of Rs. 75 is paid to the manager of an approved Orphange or Home on account of each orphan or destitute child who is between the ages of $\frac{\text{5 and 15 (in an Assisted Vernacular school)}}{\text{5 and 17 (in an Assisted English school)}}$ at

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BOUTIQUE.

the beginning of the school year and who has been in residence at an Orphanage or Home for a period of not less than 9 months and has regularly attended a registered school during this period. Such grants during 1937 amounted to Rs. 172,470·88.

Reformatory.—There is only one reformatory school to which juvenile offenders are admitted. Here they are taught different trades such as gardening, carpentry, tailoring, cooking, bookbinding, ironwork, printing, weaving, &c., while undergoing their term of punishment. One hundred and twelve juvenile offenders were admitted during the year bringing the total to 338.

Prisoners.—There are schools for prisoners at the two jails in the Colombo District. There are 29 pupils at Mahara and 86 pupils at Welikada. Social workers conduct English classes for certain prisoners at the latter jail. The jail school at Kandy has 3 pupils.

Lepers.—There are two schools for lepers : one at Hendala and another at Mantivu which are conducted by the Sisters of the Franciscan Order. The school at Hendala consists of three sections, *i.e.*, English, Tamil, and Sinhalese containing 28, 28, and 27 pupils respectively. The ages of the pupils range from 5 to 44. The average attendance is 49. The Mantivu Leper School, also consisting of 3 sections, has 3 pupils in the English section, 12 in the Sinhalese, and 14 in the Tamil.

The Langdon Home.—In Badulla District there is one institution which receives assistance from Government for training women in industrial work and household management. After a period of training, these women go into the villages and teach the older girls reading, writing, sewing, embroidery, and lacemaking. They also give instruction in the art of clean and efficient housekeeping and also encourage the practice of thrift.

Pensions, &c.—The posts of Government teachers are pensionable and in addition they make contributions to a Widows' and Orphans' Pension Scheme. Teachers in assisted schools are eligible for a pension similar to that of Government teachers, but the pension scheme in assisted schools is on a contributory basis.

THE CEYLON UNIVERSITY COLLEGE.

The University College was established in 1921 for the purpose of affording facilities for higher education to students in Ceylon.

Numbers.—The number of students on the roll in July, 1937, the beginning of the academic year, 1937–38, was 586, including 64 women students. The figures for 1921–36 were as follows :—

1921	..	166	1927	..	279	1933	..	417
1922	..	217	1928	..	315	1934	..	449
1923	..	262	1929	..	338	1935	..	539
1924	..	262	1930	..	394	1936	..	541
1925	..	256	1931	..	355			
1926	..	313	1932	..	377			

Courses.—The College offers instruction in Latin, Greek, Sankrit, Pali, English, Sinhalese, Tamil, Logic, Philosophy, History, Geography, Economics, Pure Mathematics, Applied Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Botany, and Zoology.

Honours courses are provided in Classics, English, Indo-Aryan (Sanskirt and Pali), History, Mathematics, Chemistry, Botany, Zoology, and Physics.

The College course is normally one of three years. At the end of the first year students take the (External) Intermediate Arts, Science, and Economics examinations of the University of London conducted in Ceylon. At the end of the third year they take the final examinations for the B.A. (General), B.A. (Honours), B.Sc. (General), and B.Sc. (Special) Degrees of the same University.

The College provides also a two-year course for Diplomas in Sinhalese and Tamil to students who have already passed the London Intermediate Examination in Arts. The course is of Honours degree standard.

Students who intend to join the medical profession are given one year's course of instruction in Physics, Chemistry, and General Biology, at the end of which they take either the First M.B. Examination of the University of London or the Pre-Medical Examination of the Ceylon Medical College, or both.

Graduates.—On the results of the examinations held in June, 1937, 35 candidates qualified themselves for the B.A. and B.Sc. degrees of the University of London.

The total number of graduates from the University College from the time of its inception in 1921 is 411, of whom 28 obtained Honours in Classics, 16 in English, 33 in History, 45 in Mathematics, 15 in Indo-Aryan, 6 in Physics, 18 in Chemistry, 6 in Botany, and 5 in Zoology.

Hostels.—Most of the students not living with their parents or relations are residing in four hostels affiliated to the College and subject to the College rules and regulations. These hostels are administered by extra-university bodies and are subsidized by the Government.

University College Council.—This Council, which consists of twenty members nominated by His Excellency the Governor, advises the Principal of the College in matters relating to the administration of the College, and the preparation for its conversion into a University.

THE CEYLON MEDICAL COLLEGE.

The Ceylon Medical College was established in 1870 in the form of a medical school capable of affording a practical education on the principles of medicine and surgery, and especially midwifery, together with a practical knowledge of Anatomy, Physiology, Materia Medica, Pharmaceutical Chemistry, and the art of dispensing. It had originally a Principal and three lecturers, and the whole course took only three years.

This course was later increased from time to time in order to keep abreast with the progress of medical science. In 1887 recognition was granted by the General Medical Council of the United Kingdom, and the diploma became registrable in Great Britain and all parts of the Empire.

In 1924 the complete extended curriculum of one year's pre-medical study (Chemistry, Physics, Biology) and five years' medical study was adopted.

The College now provides the complete course of instruction required for the practice of modern Medicine, Surgery, and Midwifery. Including the course of preliminary or pre-registration work in Physics, Chemistry, and Biology, which is provided by arrangement at the University College, Colombo, the whole course takes six years.

In addition to the complete medical curriculum, the College provides a course of instruction for a minor grade of medical practitioners, known as Apothecaries. These receive a two years' course of instruction in Anatomy, Physiology, Chemistry, Pharmacy, Pharmacology and Dispensing, Elementary Medicine, Surgery, and Midwifery, both theoretical and clinical, and Surgical Dressing, and in Hygiene and Public Health. Since October 1, 1937, candidates are admitted only on passing the Apothecaries Entrance Examination. Those gaining the first 20 places in order of merit are admitted to the Apothecaries course of 2 years for which they each pay Rs. 25 a term as College fees. The free course of instruction has been abolished. On passing the two Apothecaries' Examinations they are employed by the Government to take charge of the Government Dispensaries and some small hospitals in the remote rural areas and villages, but are only permitted to practise while so employed in Government service and are subject to the control of the District Medical Officers. They are eligible to be registered as Pharmacists.

These Apothecaries to a large extent provide for the medical treatment of the poor villagers in remote districts and where fully qualified medical practitioners are not available.

A department for the training of pupil midwives has been added to the College. This work was formerly carried out by the Department of Medical and Sanitary Services, but from October 1, 1931, the teaching and examinations of pupils have been vested in the College Council. First and second class certificates of efficiency are conferred on successful candidates, who are then eligible to be registered as midwives. As this arrangement in practice proved difficult of administration it was discontinued from October 1, 1932. The College however continues to conduct the examinations for certificates of efficiency as midwives, the courses of instruction having been restored to the Department of Medical and Sanitary Services. The College thereby retains control of the standard of teaching.

The College is staffed by whole-time Professors, in Medicine, Surgery, Anatomy, Physiology, and Pathology, and a large number of part-time lecturers, mostly drawn from the officers of the Department of Medical and Sanitary Services.

Details of staff, fees, courses of study, and rules for students, and the history of the College, are embodied in the annual calendar, copies of which are sent free to Medical Schools in Great Britain, principal Educational Institutions, and Government departments in the Island.

The Government set up in 1928 a Post-licentiate Scholarship (suspended for the time being), which is granted yearly to the best student of the final year who qualifies in the first class within the statutory period, to enable him to obtain British qualifications and also to pursue studies and research in some special subject. The value of the scholarship is £300 per annum.

A small number of students generally discontinue study in the Ceylon Medical College and go to the United Kingdom to complete their studies.

THE LAW COLLEGE.

The Law College which is controlled by the Incorporated Council of Legal Education exists for the supervision and control of the legal education of students desiring to qualify themselves as advocates or

proctors of the Supreme Court. The Council consists of the Judges, the Attorney-General, the Solicitor-General, and such other persons of standing in the legal profession as the Judges may appoint. The members hold office for three years at a time. The academic qualifications requisite for admission in the case of advocates are (1) a degree in Arts or Science of any University in the British Empire, (2) a pass in the Intermediate Examination in Arts or Science of the University of London, and in the case of proctors (1) a degree in Arts or Science of any University in the British Empire, (2) a pass in the Matriculation Examination of the University of London or the Intermediate Examination in Arts or Science of any Indian University, or the Senior Local Examination, of the University of Cambridge, or the Cambridge Senior School-Leaving Certificate, provided always that the candidate shall adduce proof that he has passed an examination in English and Latin, such examination being either the examination on which he relies for his qualification or some one or other of the aforesaid examinations of any University in the British Empire.

Admission to the Law College takes place in the month of September and the number of students admitted during the year 1937 were :—

For the Advocate's course	20
For the Proctor's course	58

The staff consists of 14 lecturers appointed to hold office for a period of 3 years at a time, and a Principal.

The examinations provided for by the Rules of the Incorporated Council of Legal Education are held in the months of December and July, the examiners being appointed annually. The number of candidates who in 1937 entered for these examinations, and the number successful therein were as follows :—

	Entered.	Passed.
Examinations for the Admission of Advocates	118 ..	79
Examinations for the Admission of Proctors	516 ..	287

CHAPTER XI.

Communications and Transport.

SHIPPING.

Colombo Harbour.

Introduction.—The position of Colombo at the junction of the most important trade routes in the East makes it an important port in the commerce of the East, and this natural advantage has been enhanced by the excellent facilities for docking, bunkering, loading and unloading cargo, water supply, &c., afforded by the port to the vast tonnage of shipping navigating Eastern waters. The port of Colombo has contributed largely to the commercial and economic prosperity of the Island, and this fact is borne out by the phenomenal growth of the city of Colombo since the conversion of the open roadstead into a great artificial harbour enclosed by extensive breakwaters. Colombo is a great *entrepot*, and the volume of business passing through its Customs houses is an indication of the state of trade and general prosperity of the Island.

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HAPPY MOTHER.

Trade.—The quantity of imports and exports handled in the port of Colombo in 1937 amounted to 1,756,880 tons (1,118,040 tons imports) and (638,840 tons exports), as compared with 1,609,128 tons (1,067,924 tons imports and 541,204 tons exports) handled in 1936. There has been an increase of 147,752 tons as compared with the previous year.

Harbour.—The harbour is enclosed on all sides, being bounded on the south and east by the land and on the north and west by massive breakwaters. The approach to the harbour is free from navigational dangers. Vessels drawing 33 feet can enter by the Western entrance and vessels drawing 27 feet can enter by the Northern entrance. The Western entrance channel is 630 feet wide, with a navigable depth of 36 feet L. W. O. S. T., and the Northern entrance channel 550 feet wide, with a navigable depth of 30 feet L. W. O. S. T. The sheltered area of the harbour amounts to 643 acres at low water, of which 246 acres have been dredged to 36 feet and over 140 acres to a depth varying between 36 feet and 33 feet, and 106 acres to between 33 feet and 30 feet ; the remaining 151 acres have a depth of less than 30 feet.

Accommodation for Vessels.—Berthing accommodation, exclusive of the Graving Dock, Guide Pier, and Oil Jetties, is available for 35 vessels in the north-east monsoon and 38 vessels in the south-west monsoon. Berths are available in either monsoon for vessels drawing up to 33 feet of water. One of these berths is for vessels of unlimited length.

Railways.—A broad gauge railway runs through the port premises and is connected with the main railway system of the Island, thus affording direct communication with all parts of the Island and Southern India. Sidings are provided at different places on the waterside. The length of the railway is 6 miles 19 chains, but the total mileage of railway used, including sidings, &c., is 14⅝ miles. The port railway is available only for the conveyance of goods, the tonnage of goods handled during 1937 being 233,198 tons, as against 255,498 in 1936.

Roads.—Communication by road to the harbour is excellent.

Canals.—The Lake to Harbour canal affords direct water transport between stores and mills situated on the lakeside and the harbour. It is navigable by fully loaded 40-ton harbour barges and to some extent relieves the congestion on roads. This canal, together with the lock basin and locks and the water area of the Beira Lake including the San Sebastian canal locks, is now included in the limits of the port of Colombo.

The total number of lighters, launches, &c., which passed through the Lake to Harbour canal during the year was 8,798, against 7,720 in 1936 and 7,504 in 1935.

Lakeside Facilities.

The development of the Lakeside Barge Yards, comprising the portion of land bordering on the Beira Lake, has opened up for commercial purposes a valuable stretch of land on the water front of the lake, and has relieved the congestion in the harbour by affording facilities for the reception of a number of boats which had hitherto been moored in the harbour. There is every indication, that, when trade improves, there will be an increasing demand for land on the lakeside which by its propinquity to the harbour and easy access thereto, both by land and water, affords a valuable venue for commercial purposes.

The Beira Lake is now an integral part of the port, and its progressive development will eventually lead to the establishment of a Commercial Zone in the vicinity of the port serving as a feeder to the business of the port and fostering its development.

Passenger Jetty.—The baggage office has good accommodation and examination halls. There is a staff always on duty day and night, and baggage landed with passengers is passed without delay. There is also provision for the storage of such baggage as a passenger may wish to leave in the premises, a small storage rent being payable. Accommodation is also provided at the Custom house at the Passenger Jetty for a Railway Booking Enquiry Office and a Post Office. The Passenger Traffic during the year shows an increase, the total number being 295,888, against 268,279 in the preceding year.

Landing and Shipping.—Landing and shipping of cargo is assisted by an efficient crane service. There is a total quayage of 15,657 lineal feet. The following are the particulars of cranes available at the port :—

Electric cranes	14	Hand derrick ..	1
Steam cranes	22	Steam derrick.. ..	1
Hand cranes ..	13	Mobile crane	1
Elephant hand crane ..	1	Steam jib crane ..	1
Floating cranes	2	Steam block loading titan ..	1

operating on the jetties and quays. The largest lift which can be made is 35 tons. The conveyance of cargo from the vessel to the wharf is done by lighters and is carried out by recognized stevedores and landing companies.

Cargo for shipment is brought down to the warehouse by cart, lorry, train, or barge. The Port Commission railway runs direct into the premises alongside three of the export warehouses. With regard to shipment, the same considerations apply as in the case of imports, some firms finding it more convenient to employ a clearing or shipping agency than to maintain their own staff. As in the case of import cargo, goods remain in the Government warehouse at the risk of the exporter. To suit the convenience of shippers who do not carry out their own shipments, landing and shipping companies are prepared to take over cargo at the shipper's stores for removal to the warehouse in the Company's own lorries. Export harbour dues are payable on all goods sent down to the warehouses or wharf. If they lie there for more than three clear days, further dues are payable for each day, and in addition a similar sum by way of warehouse rent. Cargo is taken to the vessel by means of lighters. A good supply of labour is available.

Warehouse Accommodation.—As goods discharged are not always directly transferred to some other means of conveyance, it has been found necessary to provide extensive warehouse accommodation for the increasing volume of goods demanding storage, pending shipment or removal from the premises. There is a total warehouse floor area of 568,786 square feet in the port for dealing with imports, exports, and transhipment cargo. Most of the warehouses have railway facilities and cranes are available where required.

The import warehouses are situated between the root of the South-west Breakwater and the Lake to Harbour canal. Other import warehouses and landing areas are also situated on either side of the canal, and these are largely used for the landing of rough cargo, such as timber and metal. Further north, three recently built warehouses are available at Kochchikade, where facilities are provided for transport by rail.

Five commodious warehouses are allotted for the accommodation of export cargo, in addition to an open shed used for the shipment of drums containing coconut oil and similar commodities, and another shed for rough cargo. The largest warehouse can accommodate 4,000 tons of tea packed in chests of the usual size. The other four warehouses can each accommodate from 2,500 to 3,000 tons.

There are several bonded warehouses within the Customs premises, and certain firms have their own bonded warehouses outside the premises. Goods may be bonded for any period up to two years, after which they must either be removed or rebonded. All goods placed in bond are liable to the same rent and harbour dues as in the case of import cargo up to the time of bonding, after which no further dues are payable and bonded warehouse rent is recovered, the amount payable per week on bonded goods being the same as the charge per day on import cargo. No rent is payable to the Customs in the case of goods which lie in bonded warehouses belonging to private firms, though a charge is made for Customs supervision of deposits and removals.

Several firms have their own warehouses and stores on the lakeside, which have direct access from the harbour through the canal and locks. Special facilities are given by the Customs for import cargo to be removed direct to these stores and, conversely, for the direct shipment of export cargo from these stores to the vessel. Rent and dues are, however, payable as in the case of goods landed in the warehouse, but the advantage of this direct traffic lies in obviating two additional handlings which would be necessary had the goods been landed or shipped from a quay.

Transhipment warehouses are available for the accommodation of cargo pending transmission to the destination. No import duty is payable upon such cargo, and rent and harbour dues are payable at a reduced rate, amounting to 1/5th of the rate payable upon ordinary import cargo. In the case of direct transhipment from vessel to vessel, a small fee is payable for Customs supervision. The volume of transhipment is fairly large, the quantity transhipped during the year being about 88,955 tons, but there is a steady traffic with Tuticorin and other South Indian ports of transhipment of cargo to and from the United Kingdom, America, Australia, the Far East, &c.

Removal of Cargo.—Goods may be cleared either by the importer himself or by any landing company or recognized clearing agency. Firms who import on a large scale find it convenient to keep their own staff of wharf clerks for the clearing of cargo and the passing of the necessary entries through the Customs. On the other hand firms whose business is not so great as to justify the maintenance of such a staff, find it more convenient to clear their goods through a Landing Company, or a Clearing Agency.

Warehouse rent and harbour dues are payable upon all goods landed at the wharf, and three clear days are allowed for the removal of the goods, exclusive of Customs holidays, of which there are five in the year, and Sundays. On goods removed after the expiry of this period further rent and dues are payable in respect of each day inclusive of Sundays and Customs holidays. Special facilities are offered by the Customs for clearing goods prior to the passing of the entry and the payment of the duty, rent, and dues. The usual system is to place a cash deposit with the Customs, against which goods are removed after any examination found necessary, the importer guaranteeing to pass the

necessary papers within a reasonable period. Special facilities are also given for the clearing of perishable goods and of consignments, such as rice and sugar, which are landed in large quantities at a time.

Coaling Facilities.—There are about 29 acres of land on the foreshore of the harbour, half of which is leased to different companies for the stacking of coal. The coaling grounds between the Barge Repairing Basin and the Graving Dock have 17 coaling jetties. Large supplies of coal can be procured, and steamers are bunkered with good despatch at any hour of the day or night.

The types and approximate prices of coal stocked at Colombo for commercial purposes are as follows (December, 1937) :—

Type.	Price Trimmed. (f. o. b.) Per Ton. s.	d.
Welsh coal (Admiralty quality)	52	10
Natal coal	43	0
Indian coal	42	3

The quantities of coal imported and issued for bunkers during the years 1936 and 1937 were as follows :—

	1936. Tons.	1937. Tons.
Imports	405,537	570,599
Bunkers	225,206	324,585

Oil Facilities.—The port is equipped with an up-to-date oil fuel installation which provides for the rapid bunkering of ships using oil fuel. The main Oil Installation Depôt, about 92 acres in extent, is situated at Kolonnawa, about 3½ miles from the harbour front, and various oil companies have erected their own storage and distribution tanks there. This depôt is divided into a non-dangerous and a dangerous oil section and is separated by a safety reservation. Three main pipelines are laid connecting the discharge berth in the harbour with the main oil depôt, two for oil fuel and the other for kerosene and petrol. In connection with the bunkering of vessels, a measuring tanks depôt, about 19 acres in extent, has been established at Bloemendahl, about ¾ of a mile from the harbour front, and branch pipelines are provided from Kolonnawa to Bloemendahl and from Bloemendahl to the bunkering berths. The oil depôt is also connected to the main railway system of the Island. Three reinforced concrete jetties, two for bunkering purposes and one for discharge of oil tankers, have been provided. The outer oil bunkering jetty is capable of accommodating vessels of 500 feet length and 26 feet draught. The inner bunkering jetty is used by barges for bunkering. Vessels of 500 feet length and 27 feet draught can be berthed at the discharge jetty where the latest facilities for discharging oil ships are provided, and vessels of deeper draught up to 29 feet are accommodated at the Graving Dock Guide Pier.

The imports of oil during the last two years were as follows :—

	1936. Tons.	1937. Tons.
Liquid fuel	300,453	313,942
Kerosene oil	23,639	29,467
Petrol and benzine	33,202	44,814
Total ..	357,294	388,223

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KANDYAN DANCERS.

The quantities of liquid fuel issued for bunkers during the last two years were as follows :—

	No. of Ships Bunkered.	Tons.
1936	518	254,890
1937	566	266,670

There has been a decrease in the number of oil burning vessels calling at the port, while those burning coal have increased.

The Oil Facilities receipts during the year 1937 were Rs. 996,545·96, as compared with Rs. 930,297·60 in 1936.

Graving Dock.—Length of floor, 694 feet 7½ inches ; breadth of entrance-cope level, 85 feet ; depth over sill at low water, 30 feet ; depth over sill at high water, 32 feet. Docking can be carried out by day or night. An Inner Graving Dock, 350 feet long, entrance width 54 feet with a depth of 20 feet "at sill", is nearing completion. This is an extension of the existing Graving Dock.

Both docks are founded on solid rock, the outer being closed by a ship shaped Caisson, berthed alongside the south jetty when dock is open, the inner dock being shut off from the main dock by a "Box" flap gate, hinged along the sill and operated by a hydraulic winch.

The main pumping station on the North side of the main dock entrance is equipped with main steam driven centrifugal pumps capable of emptying the dock in less than 4 hours and is further equipped with drainage pumps, salt water pumps, electric generator for both 110 and 220 D.C. current air compressor and hydraulic pumps for operating penstocks and capstan—compressed air, salt and fresh water mains and electric supplies being available in both docks.

Patent Slip.—Length, 800 feet ; length of cradle, 220 feet ; breadth of cradle, 40 feet ; depth over keel blocks at lower end at low water, 21 feet 6 inches ; depth over keel blocks at upper end at low water, 10 feet 6 inches ; inclination 1 in 20. Capable of slipping a vessel of 1,200 tons dead weight.

Ambulance Facilities.—An ambulance launch is available for the conveyance of sick and injured persons between ship and shore. The Colombo Municipal Council provides an adequate and efficient motor ambulance service for the port.

Quarantine.—On entering the harbour each ship is visited by the Port Surgeon or his Assistant, and no person is allowed to board the ship or leave the ship till pratique is granted. If there are cases of infectious diseases on board, such as plague, cholera, smallpox, yellow fever, or typhus, the ship is held in strict quarantine until all necessary measures, such as removal of the sick person, disinfection of the ship, vaccination, &c., as the case may be, are carried out. Thereafter the ship is allowed to be worked in restricted quarantine, any persons having business on board being allowed on special permits.

Port Commission.—The Colombo Port Commission is composed of the following :—The Principal Collector of Customs (who is Chairman or Chief Port Commissioner) ; the Director of Medical and Sanitary Services ; the General Manager of the Railway ; the Mayor of Colombo ; the Deputy Collector of Customs ; the Master Attendant, Colombo and Galle ; the Harbour Engineer ; six Unofficial Members nominated by the Chamber

of Commerce to represent Import, Export, Shipping, Coaling, Oil, and Landing Agencies' Interests; two Unofficial Members nominated by His Excellency the Governor to represent Ceylonese interests.

RAILWAYS.

All the railways in Ceylon are State-owned and Government-controlled, the management being vested in the Ceylon Government Railway Department.

The total length of line open is 951 miles, of which 834 miles are broad gauge (5½ feet gauge) and 117 miles narrow gauge (2½ feet gauge).

The frontispiece map shows how the different lines radiate from Colombo.

The following table shows the distance from Colombo Fort to the more important stations on the different lines, with the first class return passenger fare and the approximate time of journey :—

Col. Fort. To—	Distance. M. C.	Train Fare (Return). Rs. c.	Approx. Time of Journey. Hours.	Col. Fort. To—	Distance. M. C.	Train. Fare. (Return) Rs. c.	Approx. Time of Journey. Hours.
Peradeniya	71 62	7 60	3*	Polonnaruwa	162 1	17 10	7¾*
Kandy	75 12	7 95	3¼*	Batticaloa	217 78	22 90	10¼
Nanu-oya	128 62	15 70	7*	Trincomalee	184 25	19 45	8¼
Nuwara Eliya	135 27	16 80	7¾*	Mount Lavinia	7 47	0 85	¾*
Bandarawela	161 34	20 85	9*	Galle	70 38	6 75	2¾*
Anuradhapura	127 31	13 45	5*	Negombo	24 17	2 65	1¼*

The main results of the working of the Ceylon Government Railway for the financial years 1932–33 to 1936–37 are shown in the following table :—

Particulars.	1932–33. Rs.	1933–34. Rs.	1934–35. Rs.	1935–36. Rs.	1936–37. Rs.
Total capital outlay	226,379,400	227,005,002	227,500,606	227,804,742	228,015,601
Gross earnings	19,711,602†	20,980,422	18,273,081	16,749,221	16,304,611
Total working expenses‡	19,319,240	18,943,156	18,911,326	19,587,815	20,355,043
Net revenue§	392,362	2,037,266	Loss 638,245	Loss 2,838,594	Loss 4,050,432
Percentage of net revenue on total capital outlay	·17 p.c.	·90 p.c.	—	—	—
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Gross receipts from ordinary passenger and season tickets	7,539,419	7,941,378	6,547,579	5,917,331	5,943,769
Gross receipts from parcels, goods, &c.	12,172,183	13,039,044	11,725,502	10,831,890	10,360,842
Free traffic (excluding that for Railway Department included in gross receipts)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

The number of passengers conveyed has increased by 98,681, the total conveyed during the year being 9,505,658. Under Season Tickets the number of ticket holders has increased by 34,975, the total number of season tickets issued during the year being 195,624.

* By express trains.
† Includes (Rs. 8,089) % Temporary levy on salaries.
‡ Includes provision for renewals.
§ That is, "Gross earnings" less "Total working expenses".

The number of parcels conveyed during the year was 1,131,665 or an increase of 4,446.

The tonnage of goods carried was 896,098 or an increase of 860 tons, the noticeable increases and decreases being :—

	Increase. Tons.	Decrease. Tons.
Agricultural produce	11,916	—
Cacao	159	—
Coconut produce (other than copra)	—	4,085
Copra	14,322	—
Manure	4,738	—
Petrol	1,680	—
Rice	—	42,966
Rubber	2,204	—
Salt	1,230	—
Sundry goods	12,459	—
Tea	—	10,501
Foreign Traffic	13,979	—
Special Train Traffic	—	2,334

Passenger Fares.

Fares.—(*a*) The fare charged in respect of each passenger for each mile of a single journey shall be as follows :—

		First Class. Cents.	Second Class. Cents.	Third Class. Cents.
(i.) On the Main Line from Nawalapitiya to Badulla and on the Uda Pussellawa Line		10½	7	2½
(ii.) On the Kelani Valley Line	First 20 miles of a journey	7	4⅔	2½
	Beyond 20 miles	5½	3½	1½
(iii.) On the Puttalam and Coast Lines and on the Maradana-Ragama portion of the Main Line	First 25 miles of a journey	7	4⅔	2½
	Beyond 25 miles	6	3⅔	1½
(iv.) On any other line		7	4⅔	2½

Provided that in the case of a single journey from any station on the Kelani Valley Line to any station on the Puttalam or Coast Line or the Maradana-Ragama portion of the Main Line, the fare charged in respect of each passenger for each mile shall be as follows :—

	First Class. Cents.	Second Class. Cents.	Third Class. Cents.
(i.) First 20 miles of the journey	7	4⅔	2½
(ii.) Any part of the journey beyond the first 20 miles, if done on the Kelani Valley Line	5½	3½	1½
(iii.) Any part of the journey beyond the first 20 miles, if done on the Puttalam or Coast Line or on the Maradana-Ragama portion of the Main Line	6	3⅔	1½

Provided, further, that in the case of a single journey from any station on the Puttalam or Coast Line or on the Maradana-Ragama portion of the Main Line to any station on the Kelani Valley Line, the fare charged in respect of each passenger for each mile shall be as follows :—

	First Class. Cents.	Second Class. Cents.	Third Class. Cents.
(i.) First 25 miles of the journey	7	4⅔	2½
(ii.) Any part of the journey beyond the first 25 miles, if done on the Puttalam or Coast Line or the Maradana-Ragama portion of the Main Line	6	3⅔	1½
(iii.) Any part of the journey beyond the first 25 miles, if done on the Kelani Valley Line	5½	3½	1½

(*b*) In calculating the fare for a single journey between any two stations, any fractional part of 5 cents which is below 2½ cents shall not be reckoned or charged for, and every fractional part of 5 cents equal to or above 2½ cents shall be reckoned and charged for as 5 cents :

Provided, however, that—

(i.) where the distance between the stations is one mile or less the 3rd class fare shall be 3 cents ;

(ii.) where a journey on the Kelani Valley Line extends beyond 20 miles or where a journey on the Puttalam and Coast Lines and the Maradana-Ragama portion of the Main Line extends beyond 25 miles, every fractional part of a cent shall be reckoned and charged for as one cent.

(*c*) A return journey between any two stations shall be charged for at one and a half times the fare for a single journey between those two stations.

(*d*) In calculating the fare for a return journey, any fractional part of 5 cents which is below 2½ cents shall not be reckoned or charged for and every fractional part of 5 cents equal to or above 2½ cents shall be reckoned and charged for as 5 cents.

Week-end tickets are issued between all stations distance 25 miles and over at 1⅓ single fares for the double journey. Reductions are made for children, pioneers, and labourers of any nationality, and for periodical tickets.

Sleeping Cars.

The sleeping cars which run on the Up and Down night mail trains between Colombo, Kandy, and Badulla, Colombo-Kankesanturai, Colombo-Trincomalee, and Colombo-Batticaloa are provided with sleeping accommodation. Each berth is numbered and provided with bedding and an attendant accompanies each car. The charge for a sleeping berth is Rs. 5 in addition to the ordinary first class fare to the station to which the journey is made.

In the Indo-Ceylon mail trains sleeping berths without bedding are provided for through first-class passengers without any extra charge, but berths are not guaranteed unless they have been reserved, for which a registration fee of Re. 1 per berth will be charged. If bedding is required Rs. 5 must be paid for each set of bedding at the time of booking, and a berth will be made up as a bed by the Car Attendant. In such cases no registration fee will be charged.

Sleeping berths without bedding are provided for second class passengers on the Colombo-Kankesanturai Up and Down night mail trains at Rs. 2·50 each and on the Colombo-Talaimannar Pier Up and Down night mail trains at Re. ½ each for through Indo-Ceylon passengers.

Return sleeping berth tickets at Rs. 6 each first class, and Rs. 3 each second class are issued to holders of week-end, ordinary return, and excursion tickets.

Restaurant Cars.

These are attached to the important trains on the Main, Coast, and Northern lines.

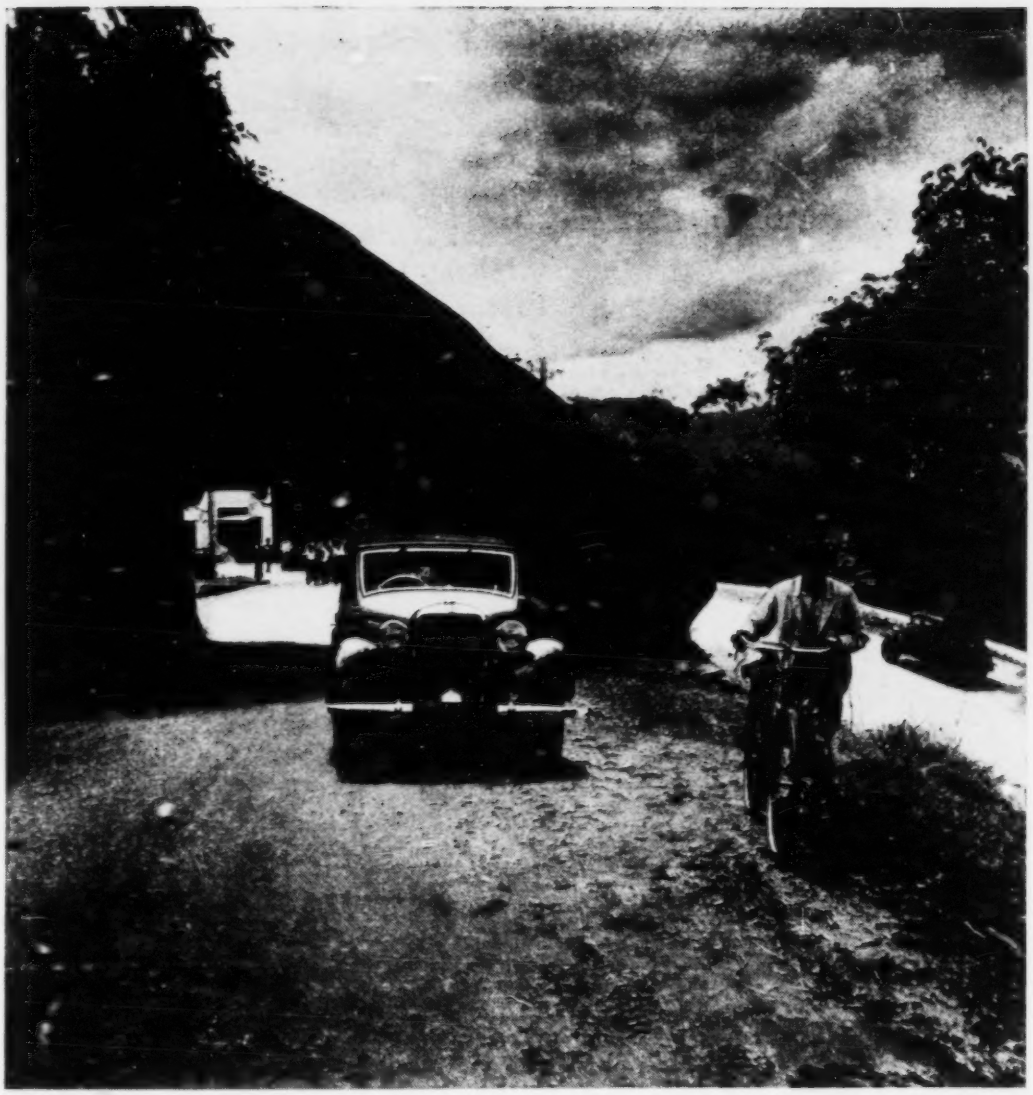

Photo by Werner Conitz. *Courtesy Govt. Tourist Bureau.*

ROAD TO KANDY–KADUGANNAWA.

Restaurant Rooms.

These are provided at Maradana, Polgahawela, and Nanu-oya on the Main line, Colombo Fort and Alutgama on the Coast line, and Anuradhapura on the Northern line. Refreshments at these places are supplied at moderate prices.

Refreshment Baskets.

Refreshment baskets can be supplied for any train from Colombo on giving 20 minutes' notice to the Manager, Restaurant Cars and Rooms, at his office at Colombo Fort Station.

Luggage.

Each adult passenger is allowed, free of charge, the following weight of luggage :—

	lb.		lb.
First class	112	Third class	56
Second class	84		

A free allowance of half these quantities is made for each child travelling with a half-ticket. No luggage will be conveyed free for children under three years of age who travel free.

A new Railway Time Table providing additional and accelerated trains was brought into force on November 8, 1937.

The journey to distant stations like Badulla, Kankesanturai, in this Time Table has been reduced by nearly 1½ hours.

With the arrival of Diesel Units early in 1938, it will be possible to provide a still faster service to the south of Ceylon. These Diesel Train provide better amenities of travel and will be a means of more comfortable travelling to third class passengers specially.

ROADS.

There are over 16,600 miles of roads and cart tracks in the Island controlled and administered by the following authorities :—

Authority.	Description of Roads.	Approximate Mileage.
(i.) Public Works Department ..	All main thoroughfares in the Island ..	4,816
(ii.) District Road Committees ..	All minor roads within the areas of jurisdiction of each Committee ..	3,000
(iii.) Local Governing Authorities, viz., Municipalities, Urban District Councils, Local Boards, Sanitary Boards, &c. ..	All streets within their respective jurisdictions	565
(iv.) Village Committees	All natural cart tracks within the jurisdiction of each Committee ..	7,800
(v.) Irrigation Department	— ..	70
(vi.) Private parties	— ..	350

In addition there are approximately 8,200 miles of bridle paths in the charge of the District and Village Committees.

The Public Works Department is the principal road authority in the Island and is responsible for the construction and maintenance of all the "Main roads", by which are meant through arteries connecting the principal centres of populations with one another and with the railways and ports.

The whole cost of construction, improvements, and maintenance of these roads is met from the general revenue of the Island.

The roads vary in standard from narrow country roads to wide modern thoroughfares, the standard depending on the nature of the country traversed and the traffic carried.

The following is the classification of the Public Works Department roads according to the nature of their surfaces :—

	Miles.
Full-metalled	4,107
Track-metalled	250
Gravelled	335
Natural	124
	4,816

The metalled roads are maintained in good order, and, with but few exceptions may be considered passable to all classes of traffic. Gravelled roads can be considered as dry weather roads only ; in dry weather they are generally in fair order, but they cannot be relied upon to the extent of metalled roads. A large mileage of the metalled roads is tarred or otherwise surface-treated. At the end of 1937 the length of roads so treated was 4,133 miles.

The only direct charge on road users is that for the use of ferry boats, but on the main roads with few exceptions the ferries have been replaced by bridges. Indirect charges are made in the form of import duties and taxes on wheeled vehicles.

The distribution of the main roads, distances between the principal centres, &c., can be ascertained on reference to the motor map of Ceylon, obtainable from the Surveyor-General, Colombo.

The distances from Colombo to other chief towns by road (given to the nearest half mile) are shown in the following list :—

Colombo to—	Miles.	Colombo to—	Miles.
Galle	72½	Batticaloa (*via* Badulla) ..	241
Peradeniya	68	Anuradhapura (*via* Matale) ..	158½
Kandy	72	Trincomalee (*via* Kurunegala) ..	169
Nuwara Eliya (*via* Peradeniya) .	112	Anuradhapura (*via* Puttalam) .	129
Nuwara Eliya (*via* Ginigathena)	106½	Jaffna (*via* Puttalam) ..	250

MEANS OF TRANSPORT BY ROAD.

The number of motor vehicles in Ceylon on December 31, 1930, was 24,405 ; it decreased during the years of depression to 23,359 on December 31, 1933. Owing to the revival of trade generally throughout the Island since 1934 there has been a steady increase in the number of motor vehicles. On December 31, 1937, there were 30,223 motor vehicles in the Island.

The average cost of running a small private car may be put at about 25 to 40 cents per mile. Hiring cars are available in most parts of the Island and cost 40 cents to Re. 1 per mile.

Drivers and mechanics for privately-owned cars can be obtained without difficulty and all drivers must hold the Government Certificate of Competence, while many are registered with the Automobile Association of Ceylon. Numerous factilities for repairs exists in Colombo, Kandy, Nuwara Eliya, and most of the other towns. Supplies of petrol and oil are available in all towns and in most of the larger villages.

The Automobile Association of Ceylon is affiliated or has reciprocal agreements with most of the Automobile Associations and Clubs in other countries and the Secretary (P. O. Box 338, Colombo) will afford any information which may be desired. The various landing, Customs, and registration formalities can be arranged for visitors by the Association. Facilities afforded by the International Convention relative to motor traffic are now available to Ceylon and a Ceylon TRIPTYQUE for

Customs purposes is available through the leading Automobile Institutions overseas. International Driving Permits, International Certificates of registration for Motor Vehicles, and Fiscal Permits are valid in Ceylon.

Motor Omnibuses.—There is a plentiful supply for motor omnibuses, known in England as road service vehicles, carrying passengers for hire and running on nearly every main road in the Island. The number of omnibuses in use during the year was 2,654.

On the recommendations of the Special Commission on Transport, whose report was made in May, 1937, legislation is being prepared to introduce centralized control of road motor transport, including the routes served by omnibuses and lorries.

The seating accommodation for passengers in motor omnibuses varies from 8 to 37.

Personal luggage of small dimensions and light weight is carried free of charge. Extra luggage is carried on the roof of the conveyance on payment of a fee.

Goods.—The chief means of transport of goods by road are the motor lorry and the local bullock cart. A double bullock cart is capable of taking 1½ tons at a time, and travels at the average rate of about 2 miles an hour. The cost per ton per mile may be put at about 80 cents. In the year 1934 there were about 22,424 single- and double-bullock carts in Ceylon, the majority of which were used in the transportation of village produce. Figures for 1937 are not available. Motor lorries are fast replacing bullock-carts in the movement of estate goods and in other industries. Lorries vary in load capacity from 5 cwt. to 5½ tons and travel at a speed of about 15 to 20 miles per hour, 15 miles being the legal speed limit for heavy lorries. They run mostly on petrol, a small number on steam or kerosene, some on crude oil, and a very few on charcoal. In 1937 there were 4,162 motor lorries and vans in Ceylon. The running cost can be kept at as low as 50 cents per ton per mile. The Diesel oil engine vehicles have been slowly gaining in popularity. The number of Diesel vehicles in Ceylon on December 31, 1937, was 321, as against 229 on December 31, 1936, and 149 on December 31, 1935. As Diesel vehicles run on crude oil which is imported free of customs duty, but a special tax on transport vehicles using uncustomed oil was imposed with effect from January 1, 1936, in order to recoup the resultant loss of revenue by way of import duty on petrol which would otherwise have been used on these vehicles. The present scale of this heavy oil tax is as follows :—

	Monthly Rate. Rs.	c.
Where the tare of the heavy oil motor vehicle—		
(a) does not exceed 1 ton	63	25
(b) exceeds 1 ton but does not exceed 1½ tons	69	0
(c) ,, 1½ ,, ,, 2 ,, ...	74	75
(d) ,, 2 ,, ,, 2½ ,, ...	80	50
(e) ,, 2½ ,, ,, 3 ,, ...	86	25
(f) ,, 3 ,, ,, 3½ ,, ...	92	0
(g) ,, 3½ ,, ,, 4 ,, ...	103	50
(h) ,, 4 ,, ,, 4½ ,, ...	115	0
(i) ,, 4½ ,, ,, 5 ,, ...	126	50
(j) ,, 5 ,, ...	138	0

Tramways.—The only street tramways in Ceylon are those in the town of Colombo, the total length of double track being 7¼ miles. There are two nearly equal routes : one between the Fort and the Kelani river terminus, and one between the Fort and Borella, joined by a cross line

between Maradana and Grandpass *via* Skinner's road and Armour street. The total number of passengers carried annually is estimated at about 13 millions.

CANALS.

The only artificial navigable waterways in Ceylon are a series of canals connecting a chain of lakes on the west coast—Bolgoda, Colombo, Negombo, Chilaw, Mundel, and Puttalam lakes—as also the estuaries of the Kalu-ganga, Kelani-ganga, Maha-oya, and Deduru-oya; thus forming a continuous waterway from Kalutara in the south to Puttalam in the north, a distance of approximately 120 miles. These were maintained in good order.

In addition to the foregoing there are about 41 miles of boat channel maintained by dredging the Jaffna lagoon.

POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICE.

(Full information on this subject is to be found in the "Ceylon Post Office Guide", obtainable from the Postmaster-General, Colombo, price 75 cents.)

On December 31, 1937, 933 offices were opened for business. Details of the facilities afforded are as follows :—

178 Post Offices (excluding the Central Telegraph Office which does only telegraph business) dealt with all classes of postal business, viz., mail and parcel work, registration and insurance of postal articles, money order, postal order, and Savings Bank work, and telegraph and telephone business. Forty-seven Post Offices dealt with all classes of business except telephone work. One Post Office conducted all classes of business except value-payable and cash-on-delivery work and telephone work. Nine Post Offices dealt with all classes of postal business except telegraph and telephone work.

Fifty-four Sub-Post Offices conducted all classes of postal business except insurance, and also provided telephone-telegraph facilities. 148 Sub-Post Offices also conducted such business except telephone-telegraph work.

464 Village Receiving Offices dealt with mail work only. At 31 Railway Stations facilities for the despatch and receipt of inland postal telegrams were available. At 10 of these stations, mail work was also conducted.

There are 10,052 miles of telegraph wire (including railway telegraph wires), of which 2,734 are laid underground, and 54,585 miles of telephone wire (including Trunk and Junction lines) for subscribers' circuits, of which 37,900 are laid underground (excluding private estate lines).

MAIL SERVICES.

A regular weekly mail service is maintained between Ceylon and the United Kingdom and the continent of Europe and between Ceylon and Australia. Regular and frequent services are also available to the Straits Settlements and the Far East. Mails from Colombo to Mauritius *via* Batavia are despatched fortnightly. Direct mail to Mauritius is

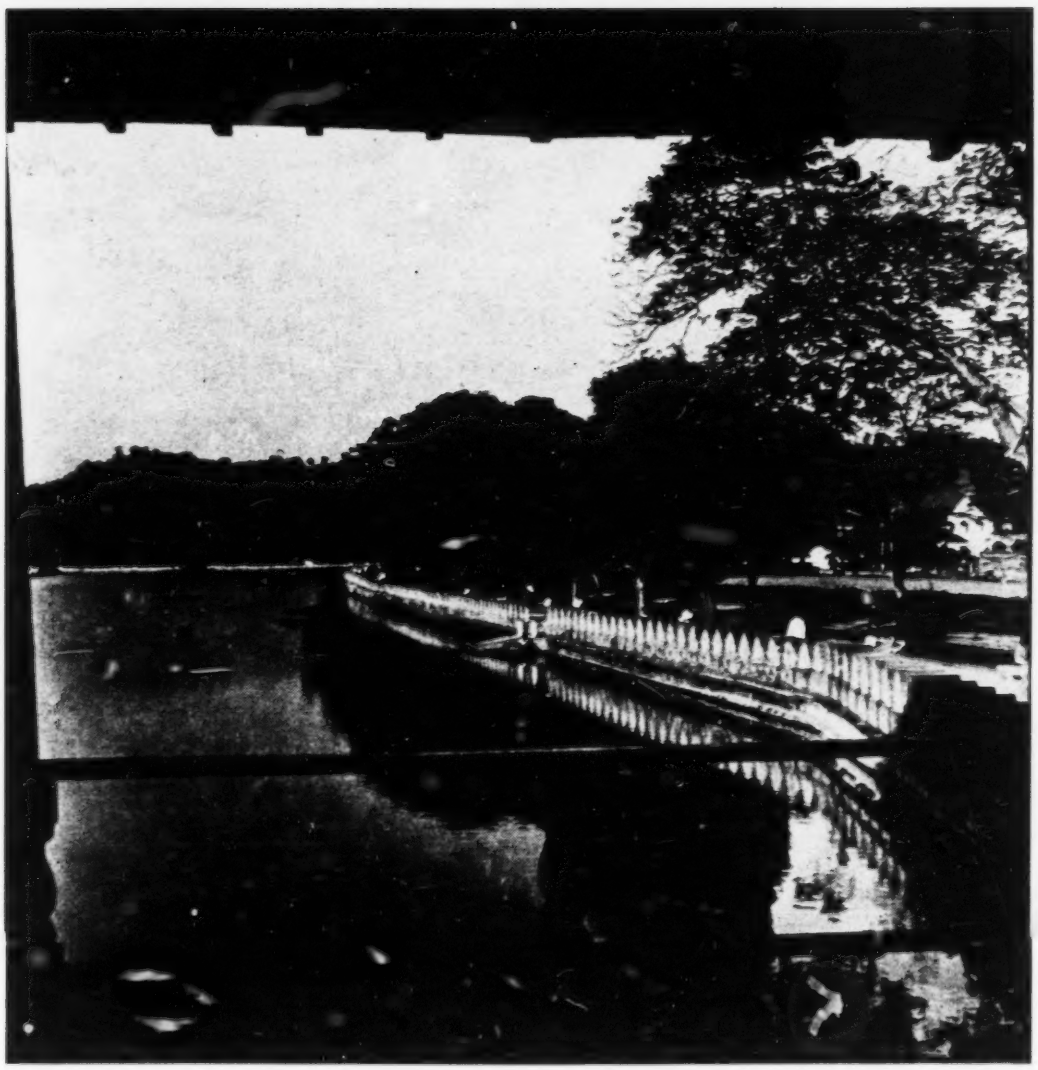

Photo by Werner Conitz. *Courtesy Govt. Tourist Bureau.*

KANDY LAKE.

also sent at very irregular intervals. There is also a direct service not less than twice a month between Ceylon and South Africa. Mails from Ceylon to East Africa are despatched fortnightly *via* Bombay and direct twice a month. The mail service by train is maintained daily between Ceylon and India *via* Talaimannar.

Air Mails.—There are two despatches a week of air mail articles from Colombo to connect with the bi-weekly despatch from Karachi westwards. These two despatches are forwarded by rail to Madras, and from thence, by the combined Indian Internal and Imperial Airways Services, the countries served by these services being the United Kingdom, countries in Europe, Egypt, and North Africa, South and East Africa, Canada and the United States of America. Correspondence intended for conveyance by the Internal Air Services of certain countries (viz., United States, Dutch East Indies, and Australia) are also despatched weekly. Air mails for Australia are forwarded weekly *via* Singapore to connect there with the air service to Australia.

Indian mails are carried generally by the Ceylon Government Railway and from railway stations by private contract motor mail services, bullock coach, or runner services.

Rates of Postage.

Inland Rates and Rates to India.

	Cents.		Cents.
For letters, per 2 ounces or part of that weight	6	For registered newspapers not weighing more than 2 pounds, for every 8 ounces	2
For post cards, each	3		
For printed matter, per 2 ounces or part of that weight up to a maximum of 2 pounds	2		

Rates to the United Kingdom, British Possessions, and Egypt.

	Cents.		Cents.
For letters, per ounce or part of that weight	9	For printed papers, per 2 ounces or part of that weight	3
For post cards, each	6		

Rates to Foreign Countries (excluding Egypt).

	Cents.		Cents.
For letters, for the first ounce ..	20	For post cards, each	12
For every additional ounce or part of that weight	10	For printed papers, per 2 ounces or part of that weight	4

Inland Cash-on-Delivery System.

Postal articles can be transmitted by the Inland post on the value-payable system provided that the amount payable is not less than 50 cents or more than Rs. 600. A posting and delivery fee of 5 to 15 cents, according to value, will be levied on every value-payable article.

Foreign Cash-on-Delivery System.

The Cash-on-delivery Service is in operation between Ceylon and the United Kingdom, the Straits Settlements, the Federated and Unfederated Malay States, Germany*, and Burma. Details will be found in the "Ceylon Post Office Guide".

* The outward service with Germany is temporarily suspended.

Air Mail Parcels.

Air mail parcels addressed to any post office in Great Britain or Northern Ireland for despatch by air from Karachi shall be accepted at all post offices which accept foreign parcels. Details in "Post Office Guide" (Ceylon).

Money Orders.

Money Orders can be obtained at any of the Post Offices payable at any of the others and in most foreign countries. The maximum for inland and Indian Money Orders is Rs. 600, for foreign orders £40 except in certain special cases where the maximum is below this amount. The rate of commission for inland Money Orders is 10 cents for each complete sum of Rs. 10 and 10 cents for the remainder, and for Burmese and Indian Money Orders 20 cents for each complete sum of Rs. 10 and 20 cents for the remainder. The rate for foreign Money Orders expressed in sterling is 25 cents on sums not exceeding £1, and on sums exceeding £1, 15 cents for each complete sum of £1 and 15 cents for the remainder. Money Orders payable in the United Kingdom or countries served through the United Kingdom can be despatched by Air Mail on payment of a fee of 15 cents in addition to the ordinary money order commission. Telegraph Money Orders can be despatched in the inland service. Telegraph Money Order service is also available to Burma, India, and some other foreign countries, a fixed fee of 10 cents irrespective of the amount of the order is charged for inland Burmese and Indian Telegraph Money Orders. There are fixed minima for Telegraph Money Orders according to the currency in which the order is advised. Details will be found in the "Ceylon Post Office Guide".

Postal Orders.

Inland Postal Orders for fixed amounts ranging from 50 cents to Rs. 10 are issued, the rate of commission varying from 3 to 10 cents.

British Postal Orders.

There are 40 denominations of British Postal Order, ranging from 6*d*. to 21*s*., the difference between each up to 19*s*. being 6*d*., and 1*s*., between 19*s*. and 21*s*. Commission is charged at the rate of 10 cents on each of the first five denominations, 15 cents on each of the next twenty-five, and 20 cents on each of the remaining denominations. A full list of the countries to which British Postal Orders can be sent is given in section IX. of the "Ceylon Post Office Guide". Broken amounts up to 5*d*. (but not including fractions of a penny) may be made by affixing unused Ceylon postage stamps of equivalent value or British penny postage stamps not exceeding two in number in the spaces provided on the order.

Inland Telegrams.

The minimum charge for Inland ordinary telegrams is 50 cents for the first twelve words, including the address, and 5 cents for each additional two words or less. These telegrams can be sent from any one telegraph office to any other in the Island.

The charge for Urgent telegrams is Re. 1 for the first twelve words, including the address, and 10 cents for each additional two words or less.

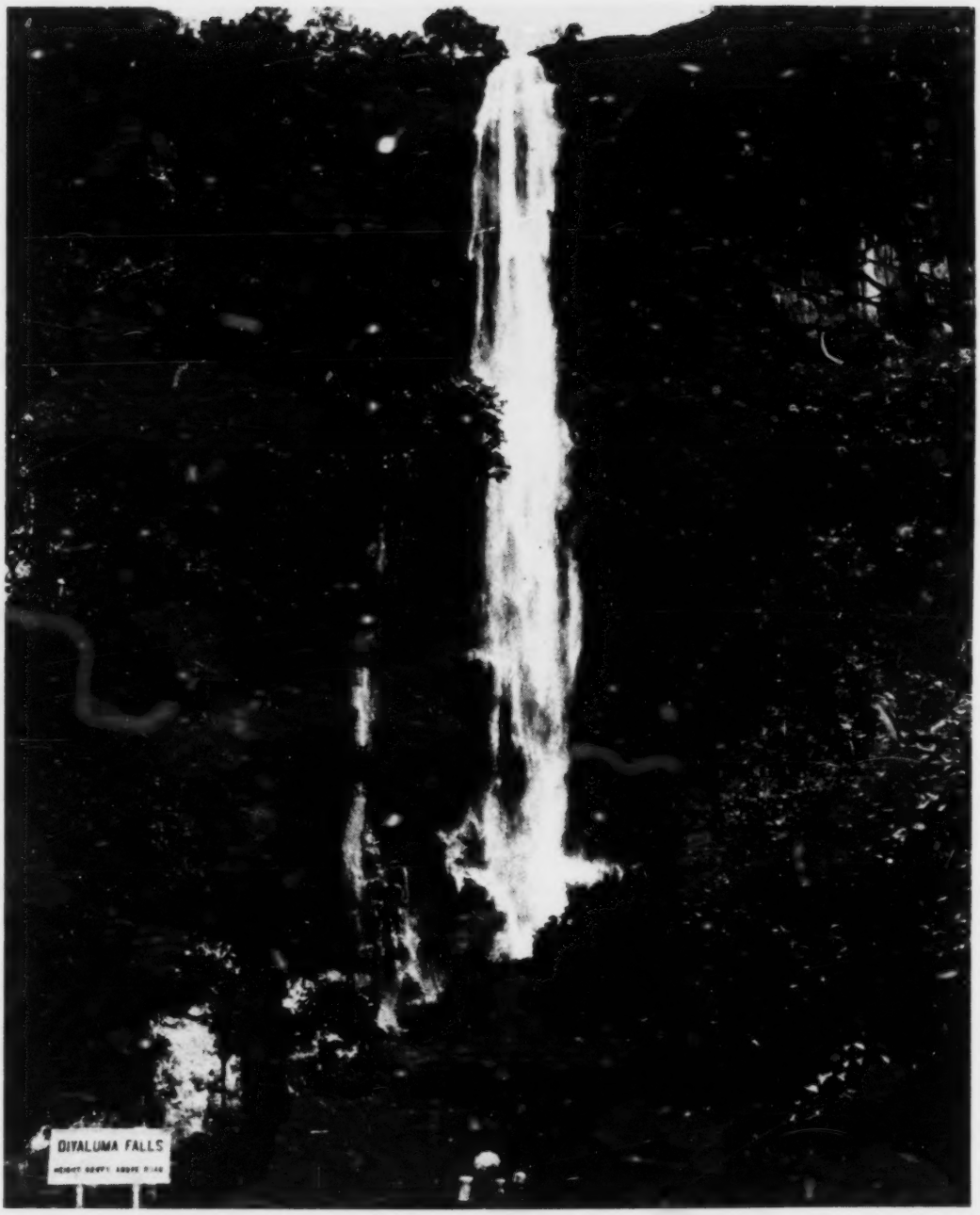

Photo by V. Namasivayam. *Courtesy Govt. Tourist Bureau.*

DIYALUMA FALLS.

Greetings and Condolence telegrams can be sent at reduced rates on such occasions as Christmas, New Year, Wesak, Hindu New Year, Id, Birthdays, Birth of a child, Weddings, and Funerals and Deaths. The text of such a telegram should be a phrase selected from the list of stock phrases appearing at the end of rule 419A of the Ceylon Post Office Guide. The entire text is counted as one word for the purpose of the collection of charges. The charges are 30 cents for each such telegram consisting of not more than six words and 5 cents for each additional word in the name and address of the addressee or of the sender. For fuller details, see the rule already quoted.

Foreign and Colonial Telegrams.

The rates for telegrams to India are express Rs. 2, and ordinary Re. 1 for the first 12 words or less, and 15 cents and 10 cents respectively for each additional word.

The rates for telegrams to Burma are 18 cents and 36 cents per word for ordinary and urgent with a minimum charge for 8 words rounded up to the next multiple of five cents.

Telegrams to places in other British Possessions and foreign countries can be sent on a minimum charge per word varying from 65 cents to Rs. 3·65 for ordinary, and from 45 cents to Re. 1·85 for deferred telegrams according to the distance of the place of destination, the route by which the telegram is to be sent, &c. A full list of places to which foreign and Colonial telegrams can be sent, together with the rates charged, is given in section 11 of the "Ceylon Post Office Guide".

Foreign Cheap Rate Telegrams.

Telegrams in plain language are accepted for transmission as "Night Letter Telegrams" or "Daily Letter Telegrams" to various places abroad at considerably reduced rates. A list of places to which this service is available, and the scale of charges will be found in section 11 of the "Ceylon Post Office Guide".

Radio-Telegrams.

Radio-Telegrams are accepted at any Postal Telegraph Office in Ceylon for transmission to ships equipped with radio-telegraph apparatus through the Coast Station in Colombo. Radio-telegrams to His Britannic Majesty's Ships of War may also be sent through Matara Radio.

The charges are as follows :—

	Per Word. Cents.
British Indian, or Colonial Government telegrams to His Britannic Majesty's Ships of War *via* Colombo radio or *via* Matara Radio	Free
Private telegrams to His Britannic Majesty's Ships of War—	
Via Colombo Radio ..	40
Via Matara Radio ..	25
All other Government or private telegrams *Via* Colombo Radio only ..	65
On Radio Telegrams sent to—	
(*a*) Spanish and Swedish ships the charge is	60
(*b*) Finnish ships the charge is ..	50

The normal range of the Colombo Radio Station is 500 miles or about two days steaming from or to the port of Colombo, but this distance is considerably exceeded when conditions are favourable and also according to the equipment on board the ships.

With ships fitted with the Short Wave System, communication is possible for a few thousand miles. Ships not so fitted can be reached through those having the facility.

Telephone System.

Telephone communication exists between most of the principal towns and certain rural districts. The towns are generally served by Government exchanges and the rural districts by Government or private licensed exchanges which are connected to the general trunk system by means of Government junction lines.

The charge for the use of a public call box for six minutes or less is 10 cents, and for the use of the trunk and junction lines for three minutes or less on day calls between 6 A.M. and 6 P.M., and for six minutes or less on night calls between 6 P.M., and 6 AM., the charge is as follows :—

	Cents.		Cents.
For 15 miles or under ..	15	Over 32½ miles and not exceeding 60 miles	50
Over 15 miles and not exceeding 32½ miles	25	Every additional 25 miles or part of a mile	25

The minimum annual rental for a telephone connection to a large town exchange is Rs. 180 for business or professional purposes and Rs. 120 for non-business or residential purposes and for a connection to a small town exchange Rs. 125 and Rs. 90 respectively.

Broadcasting Service.

The Government maintains a regular broadcasting service on a wave-length of 428·5 metres (700 KCS) with a transmitter radiating 5 K.W. situated in Colombo. Evening programmes are simultaneously broadcast on a shortwave wave-length of 48·7 metres (6,160 Kilocycles).

Programmes consisting of music, talks and news are broadcast in English, Sinhalese, and Tamil. Empire programmes from Daventry are relayed and broadcast almost daily.

The number of radio receiving licences in force at the end of 1937 was 4,911, as against 3,873 at the end of 1936.

There is a regular broadcast to schools conducted by the Department of Education.

CHAPTER XII.

Public Works.

Since the introduction in July, 1931, of the new Constitution for the Island under the Ceylon (State Council) Order-in-Council, 1931, the Public Works Department is placed under the immediate control of the Executive Committee of Communications and Works.

There was an increase of expenditure in 1937 on that of the previous years. The total expenditure by the department amounted to Rs. 10,716,541, as against Rs. 10,084,041 during the previous year (1935–36).

Maintenance.—The roads, bridges, canals and public buildings in charge of the department were maintained in satisfactory condition having regard to the funds available.

New Works.—The following are the more important works completed or in progress during the year :—

New Buildings and Additions and Improvements to Buildings.

Drill Hall for the Ceylon Planters' Rifle Corps Headquarters, Colombo.
Additions to Ceylon Defence Force building, Slave Island.
New breakfast room, Government Press, Colombo.
Quarters for 40 married Sergeants and Constables, Slave Island.
Extensions Surveyor-General's Office, Colombo.
Bacteriological Institute, Colombo.
New Nurses' Home, General Hospital, Colombo.
Block of 12 rooms for paying patients, Lunatic Asylum, Angoda.
Drainage, Ragama Anti-Tuberculosis Hospital.
Ward of 40 beds, Ragama Anti-Tuberculosis Hospital.
Two additional temporary wards of 50 beds each, Leper Asylum, Hendala.
Second stage of extensions, De Soysa Lying-in Home, Colombo.
Laboratory Workshop and office accommodation for the Expert Adviser on Industries and his staff, Colombo.
Model Coir Yarn Factory.
Maradana Industrial School.
Extension to Ceylon Technical College.
Additions and improvements to Government Stores, Colombo.
Improvements to water supply, Welikada Jail.
Cattle Quarantine Station, Colombo.
Additions to Government Dairy, Colombo.
Malaria Institute of Ceylon.
Water supply, Kandana Sanatorium.
Water supply, Moratuwa Hospital.
Extension to sisters' quarters, Hendala Leper Asylum.
Additions to Lunatic Asylum, Angoda.
Two Light construction wards, General Hospital, Colombo
Light construction ward, Lady Ridgeway Hospital.
Two light construction wards, Anti-Tuberculosis Hospital, Ragama.
Additions to Government Training College, Colombo.
Accommodation for Telegraph Stores at the old Railway Workshops.
Bungalow for the Director of Agriculture, Peradeniya.
Dairy Farm, Polonnaruwa.
Additions to Agricultural Department, Peradeniya.
Additions to Farm School, Peradeniya.
New Record Room, Additional District Court, Kandy.
Water supply, Deltota Hospital.
Additions and Improvements to Kandy Hospital.
Quarters for matron and nurse, Teldeniya.
Special repairs, Alutnuwara Hospital.
Dambulla Hospital water supply.
Additional requirements, Dairy Farm, Polonnaruwa.
Improvements to water supply, Kandy Hospital.
Water supply, Mulhalkelle Hospital.
Extensions to maternity ward, Matale Hospital.
Dispensary and Apothecary's quarters, Kotmale.
Improvements to Government buildings, Hatton.

Additions to Hambantota Kachcheri.
Additions to Central Agricultural Station, Labuduwa—accommodation for village boys.
New Hospital, Hambantota.
New female ward, Walasmulla Hospital.
Maternity ward, Balapitiya Hospital.
New roof, Hambantota Residency.
New store, Central Agricultural Station, Labuduwa.
Cottage Hospital, Talawa.
Light construction ward, Matara Hospital.
New Village Tribunal Court-house, Opata.
Kachcheri, Vavuniya.
Cottage Hospital, Kahatagasdigiliya.
Paddy store, Paranthan.
Cottage Hospital, Murunkan.
Additional ward, Delft Hospital.
Maternity ward, Chavakachcheri Hospital.
Improvements to Jaffna Customs.
Additional storeroom for bottled arrack, Jaffna Excise Warehouse.
Quarters for Excise Guards, Elephant Pass.
Extensions to maternity ward, Mannar Hospital.
Extensions to Chavakachcheri Hospital.
Maternity ward, Mullaittivu Hospital.
Special repairs to Civil Hospital, Jaffna.
Village Tribunal Court-house, Vakarai.
Cottage Hospital, Muthur.
Cottage Hospital, Akkaraipattu.
New Residency, Trincomalee.
Extensions to Trincomalee Hospital.
Additions and improvements to Assistant Veterinary Surgeon's quarters, Akkaraipattu.
Improvements to water supply, Mantivu Leper Asylum.
Improvements to cottages, Mantivu Leper Asylum.
Water supply, Kalmunai Hospital.
Dispensary and Apothecary's quarters, Pottuvil.
Drainage, Batticaloa Hospital.
Rat-proof store, Maho Experimental Station.
Rat-proof store, Ganewatta Experiment Station.
New Court-house, Kurunegala.
Office, stores, &c., Telegraph Inspectors, Polgahawela.
Maternity ward, Chilaw Hospital.
Drainage, Marawila Hospital.
Drainage, Chilaw Hospital.
Extension to Badulla Hospital.
Additions and improvements to Badulla Kachcheri.
Extension of the office of the Registrar of Lands, Badulla.
Additions to the District Medical Officer's quarters, Buttala Hospital.
Painting of huts Ceylon Defence Force Camp, Diyatalawa.
Additions and improvements to Survey Camp, Diyatalawa.
Passara water supply augmentation.
Extension to Record Room, Court-house, Kegalla.
Water supply to Government Farm, Ambepussa.
Maternity ward, Aranayaka Hospital.

TEA PLUCKERS BRINGING LEAF TO FACTORY.

Bridges.

Bolgoda bridge on 5th mile, Panadure-Nambapana road.
Wellawatta bridge, Colombo-Galle road.
Bridge on the approach road to the Angulana Railway Station.
Pamankade bridge—temporary widening of end spans.
Improvements to platform of Giriulla bridge, Negombo-Giriulla road.
Pamunugama bridge, 9th mile, Hamilton canal.
Footbridge over Mahaweli-ganga at Peradeniya.
Reconstruction of bridge No. 28/4, Madawela-Teldeniya-Nugetenne-Bintenne road.
Widening of bridge at Mandandawela, Matale Town, Kandy-Jaffna road.
Widening of bridge No. 1/3, Matale-Udupihilla road, Matale Town.
Widening bridge No. 15/3, Maradankadawela-Habarana road.
Fixing steel treads, Galoya bridge, 70th mile, Kandy-Trincomalee road.
Fixing steel treads, Alut-oya bridge, 76th mile, Kandy-Trincomalee road.
Katugastota bridge.
Widening Scandal Corner bridge, 1st mile, Lake and Moon Plains road, Nuwara Eliya.
Reconstructing bridge No. 20/4, Uda Pussellawa road.
Strengthening Kahawaturai bridge, Nawalapitiya-Hatton-Maskeliya road.
Reconstructing Seenimodera bridge, Colombo-Galle-Hambantota road.
Rebuilding bridge No. 121/3, Colombo-Galle-Hambantota road.
Reconstructing bridge No. 10/9, Matara-Hakmana road.
Bentota bridge.
Hikkaduwa bridge.
Causeway over Aruvi-aru on the Murungan-Silavaturai road.
Reconstruction of Valukkai-aru bridge, 5th mile, Jaffna-Karativu road
Extension to bridge No. 1/1, Paranthan-Karachchi road.
Renewing platform of bridge No. 6/3, on the Coast road (Vellankulam-Marichikaddi).
Bridge No. 28/2, Karativu-Samanturai road.
Salt Lake bridge No. 5/1, North Coast road, Trincomalee.
Reconstructing bridge No. 27/3, South Coast road.
Reconstructing bridge No. 7/1, Kurunegala-Puttalam road.
Improvements to Kuda-oya bridge, 3rd mile, Maharagama-Polgahawela road.
Improvements to bridges Nos. 6/7 and 6/8, Kuliyapitiya-Hettipola road.
Reconstructing bridge No. 5/5, Bibile-Medagama road.
Improving bridges Nos. 114/1 and 119/5, Haldummulla-Wellawaya-Moneragala road.
Extension of bridges Nos. 39/2, 53/6, 54/1 and 54/8 on Kendangamuwa-Pelmadulla road.
Strengthening bridge No. 3/7, Pasyala-Giriulla road.
Renewing bridge No. 39/4, Colombo-Avissawella road.
Reconstructing bridge No. 96/3, Madampe-Hambantota road.

New Roads.

Extension of Kukul Korale road from Badureliya towards Kalawana.
Approach road to Pallewela Railway Station.
Cart road from Hendala to Uswetakeiyawa.
Approach road to Kirillapone Railway Station.
Pungudutivu causeway.
Jaffna-Pooneryn causeway.
Welimada-Kirklees road.

Additions and Improvements to Roads.

Improvements to 1st mile, Ratmalana-Attidiya road.
Widening narrow portions of Kandy-Haragama-Kurunduoya road.
Widening and improving miles 19-20, Madulkele to end of Bambara-ela.
Widening and improving miles 12, 15-17 and 20, Katugastota-Madulkele Kabaragala road.
Improvements to road platform and culverts on miles 4, 6, 8 and 9, Ukuwela-Elkaduwa road.
Improving corners on miles 22-38, Palapatwela-Galawela road.
Improving corners on miles 22-31, Palapatwela-Yatawatte road.
Widening and improving dangerous corners on 36th and 40th miles, Kandy-Badulla road.
Raising section of road at 11½ mile, Peradeniya-Gampola road.
Widening dangerous corners, Peradeniya-Ramboda road.
Widening and improving roads, Talawakele Town.
Widening road embankments, 76-78 miles, Colombo-Galle-Hambantota road
Improving road embankments, 15th and 16th miles, Hambantota-Wellawaya road.
Widening between 91¾ and 92 miles, Colombo-Galle-Hambantota road.
Improvements to Coast road to Colombo.
Widening miles 152–159 and 197 & 198, Kandy-Jaffna road.
Improvements to miles 3 and 11, Point Pedro-Kudathanai-Marthankerni road.
Constructing 3 culverts, Mullaittivu-Puliyankulam road.
Metalling and improving 13th mile, Mannar-Pesalai-Talaimannar road.
Construction and extension of culverts, Puttalam-Trincomalee road.
Widening and improving road sides, 19th and 20th miles, South Coast road.
Improvements to 70th mile, Batticaloa-Trincomalee road.
Widening and improving Bazaar street, Kurunegala.
Widening and improving Puttalam road, Kurunegala.
Widening Alawwa-Polgahawela road.
Widening and improving 3-22 miles, Kurunegala-Dambulla road.
Protection of road at Hangili-ela, 69th mile, Kandy-Badulla road.
Widening and rebuilding culverts, Bandarawela-Haputale road.
Widening between and extension of culverts, Badulla-Batticaloa road.
Widening 56th and 58th miles, Colombo-Avissawella-Haputale road.
Extending and rebuilding culverts, Warakapola-Ruanwella road.
Widening and improving 49th mile, Colombo-Kandy road.
Extending and re-building 7 culverts and erecting new bridge on 4th mile, Gevilipitiya-Hettimulla road.
Improvements to Ambepussa-Alawwa road.
Improving small span bridge, No. 29/6, Colombo-Avissawella road.
Improvements to 3rd to 5th miles, Balangoda-Kaltota road.
Improvements to Pelmadulla-Halpe road, miles 70 to 90.

Improvements to Minor Roads.

Reconstruction of bridges Nos. 4/1 and 4/2, Udupila-Giridara road.
Improvements to bridge No. 6/1, Cotta-Padukka road.
Improving 6th mile, Cotta-Padukka road.
Reconstructing bridge No. 8/1, Agalawatta-Badureliya road.

Improvements to miles, 24 to 28½, Rattota-Nicholoya road.
Improvements to Ganewalpola-Galenbindunuwewa (Eastern Minor road).
Bridge No. 2/2, Tangalla-Wiraketiya road.
Bridges Nos. 5/8 and 7/3, Beliatta-Walasmulla road.
Bridges Nos. 20/7 and 20/8, Kumburupitiya-Mawarella road.
Bridge No. 13/1, Labaduwa-Wanduramba-Sandarawela road.
Improving Uyilankulam-Alkattiveli road.
Improvements to 1st, 2nd, and 4th miles, Velikulam-Mamaduwa road.
Construction of culverts on miles 27-29 and 34-36, Tammuttegama-Timbiriwewa road.
Improvements to miles 1 and 3, Chavakachcheri-Thanankilappu road.
Improvements to Paddiruppu-Kurumanvelly road.
Improvements to bridge No. 4/2, Kahawatta-Bemulgedera road.
Rebuilding culverts, Mahawattagama-Barandara road.
Reconstruction of bridge No. 2/3, Dankanawa-Kirimetiyana road.
Reconstruction of bridges Nos. 3/8 and 4/2, Dambokka-Katupitiya road.
Reconstruction of bridge No. 5/2, Kahawatta-Bemulugedera road.
Improving 6 and 7 miles, Kahawatta-Bemulugedera road.

Raising Roads Above Flood Level.

Raising section of 21st and 22nd miles, Colombo-Avissawella road
Raising sections of 25th mile, Horana-Anguruwatota Ferry-Alutgama road.
Raising culvert No. 6/1, Colombo-Negombo road.
Raising 6th and 7th miles, Puttalam-Trincomalee road.
Raising 42nd mile, Avissawella-Ginigathena road.
Raising 14th mile, Pindeniya-road.
Raising 42nd mile, Karawanella-Glenella road.
Raising 59th mile, Colombo-Avissawella-Haputale road.

Loan Works.

Extension of the Central Telegraph Office building to house the new Automatic Exchange.
New Post Office and Automatic Exchange at Maradana.
Post Office and Automatic Exchange, Havelock Town.
Training School for Youthful Offenders at Wathupitiwela.
Construction of Hayes-Lauderdale road (Southern section).
Construction of Hayes-Lauderdale road (Sabaragamuwa section).

Works Carried out from Votes of Other Departments.

Waggalamodera Drainage Scheme—Construction of culvert on Colombo—Galle-Hambantota road.
Reinforced concrete foundation for new engine and repairs to power house, Trincomalee.
Improvements to Zoological Gardens, Dehiwala.
Repairs to proposed office for the Commissioner for Development of Agricultural Marketing.
Alterations and renovation of Old Town Hall market.

Miscellaneous.

New Aerodrome at Ratmalana.
Motor boat service between Jaffna and Delft.
Karaiyur Reclamation Scheme.
Improvements to waterworks, Mannar.

P. W. D. Private Account.

Children's ward, Kandana Sanatorium.

Waterworks.

Improvements to water supplies at Badulla, Batticaloa, Chilaw, Gampola, Kurunegala, Mannar, and Wattegama.

IRRIGATION.

Early History.—From the earliest period in the history of the Island the importance of conserving water for irrigation has been recognized. Historical records indicate that the construction of the necessary tanks and channels came to be regarded as a special and solemn duty assigned to the King for promoting the wealth and welfare of his subjects, and that in proportion to the zeal with which different monarchs had exercised this prerogative their names were venerated. The remains of extensive and intricate networks of tanks and canals can be found to-day in every part of the Island. Though it is unlikely that all these various irrigation systems ever existed simultaneously in full working order, it is clear that the ancient engineers realized the principles of conserving on a very large scale the intermittent supplies carried by the main rivers, and with the advantage of an unlimited command of labour and an intimate knowledge of their terrain, though handicapped by the primitive nature of their technique and appliances, they made valiant and often successful efforts to apply them.

Decay and subsequent Growth.—Indigenous irrigation activity and agricultural prosperity seem to have reached their zenith about the twelth century A. D. From then onwards to the modern era Ceylon was not infrequently ravaged by internal warfare and pestilence. No large irrigation work was constructed in this peroid, and, until the advent of the Dutch and subsequently of the British, the works already built were allowed to fall into disuse and disrepair. There is probably no form of civil engineering work that demands more constant and unremitting attention to its maintenance than that connected with the control of water, and it is not difficult to appreciate that without such attention the once great irrigation works very rapidly succumbed to the onset of floods and the ceaseless inroads of the jungle. In modern times many of the old irrigation works have been restored to active usefulness. There are yet others embedded in the jungle which await restoration as and when occasion arises.

Importance of Irrigation.—The importance of irrigation in Ceylon is due to two causes, one dietetic and the other climatic. Rice is the staple food of the people and its cultivation, though not always remunerative, has, through secular and religious encouragement, acquired a definite social status as the national agricultural industry. Rice practically grows in water, and although the rainfall in the Island is generally adequate in total amount, its seasonal incidence is uncertain. Rice cultivation cannot succeed if it depends solely on the vagaries of such rainfall, and the construction and maintenance of artificial means of diverting and conserving water are manifestly essential.

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Classification of Irrigation Works.—The total area under paddy in Ceylon to-day is approximately 800,000 acres, which may be divided into four main categories according to the system of irrigation practised in each :—

		Approximate Area. Acres.
I.	Major works	160,000
II.	Minor works : Village tanks	200,000
III.	Do. Village channels	170,000
	Total under artificial irrigation	530,000
IV.	Direct rainfall	270,000
	Total ..	800,000

The owners of land under major works are required to contribute, by an assessed annual rate, towards the cost of construction and maintenance of the works. The "construction rate" is generally a very small percentage of the capital cost of the work and the "maintenance rate" not infrequently produces considerably less revenue than the actual expenditure incurred by Government on the maintenance of the work.

Minor works, both tanks and channels, are maintained by the villagers themselves under the general supervision of Government officials and with the tangible and often considerable assistance of Government. The fourth category covers lands that, being situated in localities of evenly distributed rainfall, are able with reasonable chances of success to dispense with artificial irrigation. The trouble on these lands is often the super-abundance of water rather than its deficiency, and drainage rather than irrigation their particular need.

Progressive Development of Activities.—When the Irrigation Department was created in 1900 it was assigned the engineering duties of operating and maintaining those major works which had already been restored in whole or part, and of restoring a selection of old abandoned works under which the prospects of development appeared to be favourable. The administrative side of these works and the general responsibility for all minor irrigation works remained the function of the revenue officers, with such advice and assistance as they required from the Irrigation Department. Under this regime steady progress was made with the extension and improvement of irrigation service under major works, and latterly the engineering resources of the department have been applied in a rapidly increasing degree to the improvement of minor irrigation tanks and channels on modern scientific lines. Another development of the department's functions, which is rapidly acquiring considerable importance, is the construction of schemes for preventing or abating floods, for improvement of drainage conditions on irrigable lands, and for exclusion of sea-water therefrom. With this development the department has become directly interested in all the four categories of irrigation in Ceylon and the scope of its service has correspondingly widened.

Irrigation Works.—Under the present Constitution the department is under the general control of the Executive Committee of Agriculture and Lands, and a progressive policy of active development is being pursued.

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The summarized expenditure under the different services during 1936-37 is as follows :—

	Rs.	c.
Personal Emoluments	731,348	49
Other Charges (surveys, tools, transport, &c.)	362,789	21
Maintenance—		
Major works	285,064	2
Village works	21,984	83
Roads	55,574	3
Construction—		
Major works	766,443	95
Village works	201,220	20
Relief Schemes	11,183	96
Department of Fisheries : Fresh water fish culture	17,293	82
Surveys done by the Survey Department for the Irrigation Department	120,450	0
	2,573,352	51

New Development Schemes.—As the last item in the foregoing summary suggests, the foundations are being laid for a much more extensive expansion of future irrigation policy. The engineering surveys of all large irrigation projects are now carried out by the Survey Department on lines specified by the Irrigation Department. The latter is thus provided with excellent plans, topographical, contour, and detailed, on which the whole of the scheme in all its detail can be laid down in advance, and the costly errors that have sometimes been made with other large projects, started without adequate data, are effectively prevented. In addition to the engineering surveys, a survey is also carried out by the Agricultural Department to investigate the nature of the soils covered by the scheme, and to make a preliminary classification of the constituent areas according to their suitability for paddy or other crops.

In the loan recently floated the sum of Rs. 15 million is included for irrigation works, and already schemes of an aggregate estimated cost of about half this sum are approaching the construction stage.

Modernization of Construction.—In order to expedite the completion of these new schemes to a stage at which their benefits to agricultural development can be utilized serious consideration is being given to the question of using modern power-driven plant on a large scale. The department has recently purchased three Diesel-driven Excavators and a Diesel Tractor (Caterpillar) and Grader and these machines are being tried out on various works. The results to date are sufficiently satisfactory to justify further and more extensive trial, and in addition to the use of these machines on purely engineering construction it is probable that their economic suitability for the operations of clearing and asweddumizing jungle land will be tried out under actual working conditions.

Research and Training.—The Research Laboratory has been built and its practical value has been put to very satisfactory tests.

Scope of future Developments.—Ceylon is essentially an agricultural country, and as such has been well endowed by nature with all material factors for the creation of a prosperous industry. These factors need proper development, however, and none of them more so than those connected with the control and conservation of the Island's lavish resources in water. Apart from the ultimate object of producing the staple food of the country in sufficient quantity to meet her own consumption, a forward policy in irrigation development will restore the paddy industry to its traditional prestige and natural importance, and enable the resettlement of a happy and contented peasantry on the land.

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A JUNGLE RIVER.

CHAPTER XIII.

Justice and Police.

The Judicial System of Ceylon.

Supreme Court.—The Supreme Court consists of a Chief Justice and eight Puisne Judges. It has appellate and revisional jurisdiction in civil cases from all courts except Village Tribunals. It exercises no original jurisdiction in civil cases. Under Ordinance No. 2 of 1891 it is a Colonial Court of Admiralty.

The Supreme Court has original jurisdiction in all criminal cases and exclusive jurisdiction in respect of the more serious offences, such as homicide, rape, and the graver types of housebreaking and robbery. In practice it seldom tries cases which do not fall within its exclusive jurisdiction. It usually sits with a jury and tries cases committed for trial by a Police Court. It exercises appellate and revisional jurisdiction over all criminal courts except Village Tribunals. The Supreme Court may pass any sentence authorized by law. It has also the power to issue writs of *habeas corpus, mandamus, quo warranto,* &c., and also to disenrol Advocates and Proctors who are found guilty of deceits, crimes or malpractices. Special jurisdiction is conferred on the Supreme Court to hear election petitions.

District Courts.—The District Courts, of which there are at present 21 in the Island, have unlimited original civil (including testamentary and matrimonial) jurisdiction and criminal jurisdiction in respect of all offences which are not within the exclusive jurisdiction of the Supreme Court. District Courts try only cases committed to them for trial by Police Courts*. District Courts may pass any of the following sentences :—

(*a*) Imprisonment of either description for a term not exceeding two years ;
(*b*) Fine not exceeding one thousand rupees ;
(*c*) Whipping ;
(*d*) Any lawful sentence combining any two of the sentences aforesaid.

When a person is convicted at one trial of any two or more distinct offences the aggregate punishment it can award is twice the punishment mentioned above.

Under sections 3 and 4 of Ordinance No. 2 of 1891 the Governor has power to appoint a District Court to have a limited Admiralty jurisdiction. The District Court of Colombo alone has been appointed to exercise such jurisdiction.

Police Courts.—There are 30 Police Courts and 3 Municipal Courts in the Island. The offences which a Police Court may try are specified in the schedule to the Criminal Procedure Code, 1898. Various

* Under section 152 of the Criminal Procedure Code, a Police Magistrate who is also a District Judge may, in the course of an inquiry into an offence which is triable by a District Court, proceed to try such offence summarily when he is of opinion that it can properly be so tried. In such a case there is no previous committal.

Ordinances have also made other offences triable by a Police Court. A Police Court may not pass a sentence heavier than the following, except where an Ordinance has specially empowered it so to do :—

(*a*) Imprisonment of either description for a term not exceeding six months ;
(*b*) Fine not exceeding one hundred rupees ;
(*c*) Whipping, if the offender is under 16 years of age ;
(*d*) Any lawful sentence combining any two of the sentences aforesaid

When a person is convicted at one trial of any two or more distinct offences the aggregate punishment it can award is twice the punishment mentioned above.

Police Courts also hold preliminary inquiries into crimes with a view to committal for trial by a District Court or the Supreme Court. If after inquiry a Police Magistrate is of opinion that an accused should be discharged he makes order to this effect. Where a Magistrate is of opinion that an accused should be committed for trial to a court of competent jurisdiction, the record of the proceedings at the inquiry is forwarded to the Attorney-General, who directs the Police Magistrate to commit the accused or to discharge him.

A special jurisdiction is conferred on Police Courts to make orders for the maintenance of wives and children.

Courts of Requests.—Courts of Requests have original civil jurisdiction (subject to certain exceptions) in all actions in which the debt, damage, or demand or value of the land in dispute does not exceed Rs. 300.

There are 30 Courts of Requests in the Island, of which one (the Colombo Court) is presided over by a separate Commissioner. All the others are presided over by a District Judge or a Police Magistrate who acts as Commissioner of Requests in addition to his duties as District Judge or Police Magistrate.

Village Tribunals.—Village Tribunals have civil jurisdiction in actions in which the debt, damage, or demand or the value of the land in dispute does not exceed Rs. 20, or, where both parties consent, Rs. 100 and in cases between a Co-operative Society and its members. Village Tribunals have criminal jurisdiction to try breaches of rules made by the inhabitants of the subdivision or the Village Committee under section 29 of Ordinance No. 9 of 1924, and various minor offences enumerated in the schedule to Ordinance No. 9 of 1924. A Village Tribunal may impose a fine not exceeding Rs. 20 or 14 days' imprisonment in default of payment.

A Village Tribunal is presided over by a paid President appointed by the Governor. He sits with three councillors chosen by lot. In the case of a difference of opinion between the President and the councillors, the opinion of the President prevails (section 50 of Ordinance No. 9 of 1924).

There are 220 Village Tribunals in the Island, namely, 24 in the Western Province, 36 in the Central, 50 in the Southern, 6 in the Nothern, 22 in the Eastern, 21 in the North-Western, 15 in the North-Central, 17 in the Uva, and 29 in the Province of Sabaragamuwa.

Village Committees.—Village Committees in subdivisions, where no Village Tribunal has been established, have power to try breaches of rules made by the inhabitants of the subdivision or the Village Committee under section 29 of Ordinance No. 9 of 1924, and have the same power of punishment as Village Tribunals.

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DIAGRAM No. 10

CRIME IN CEYLON 1914-1937.

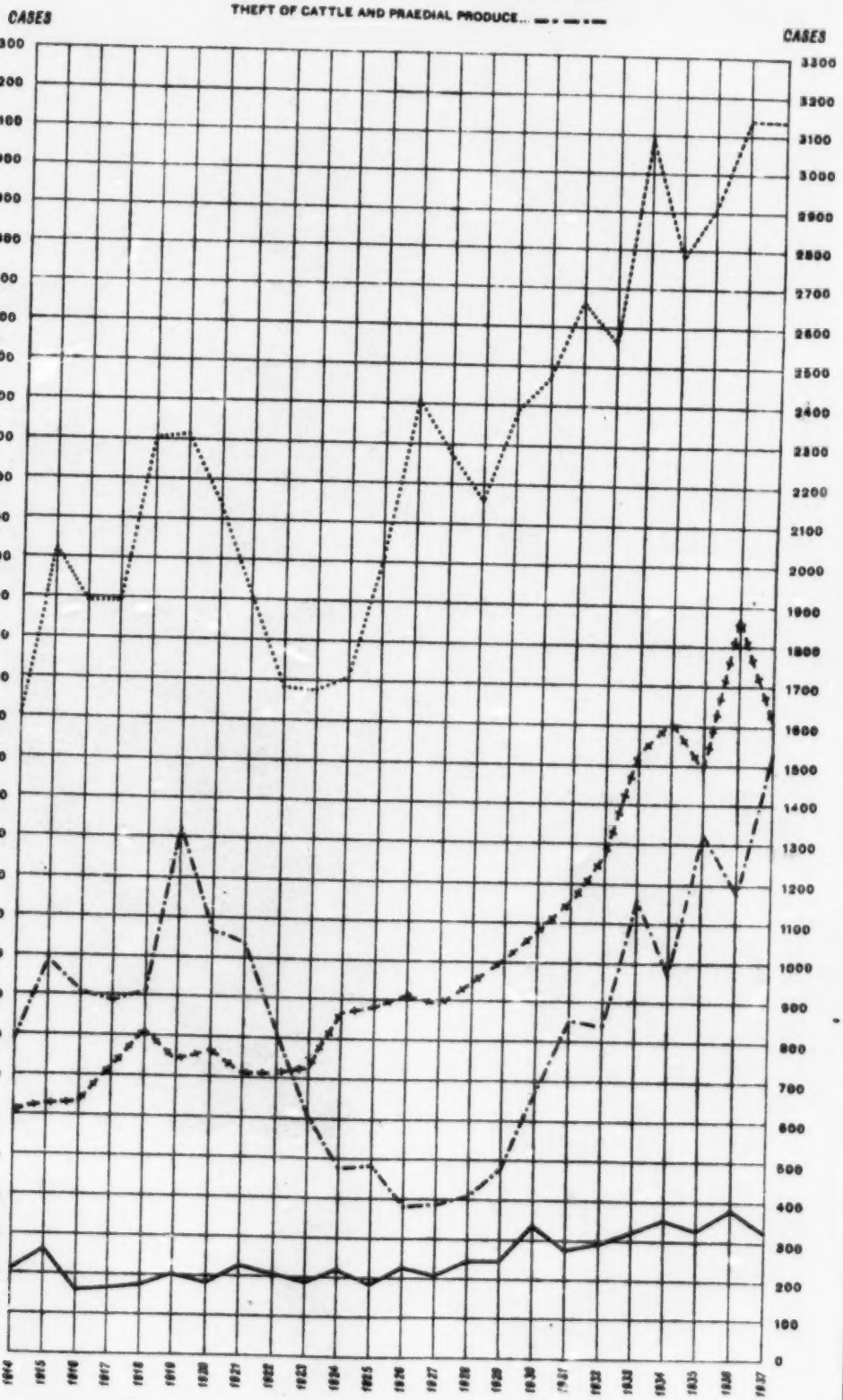

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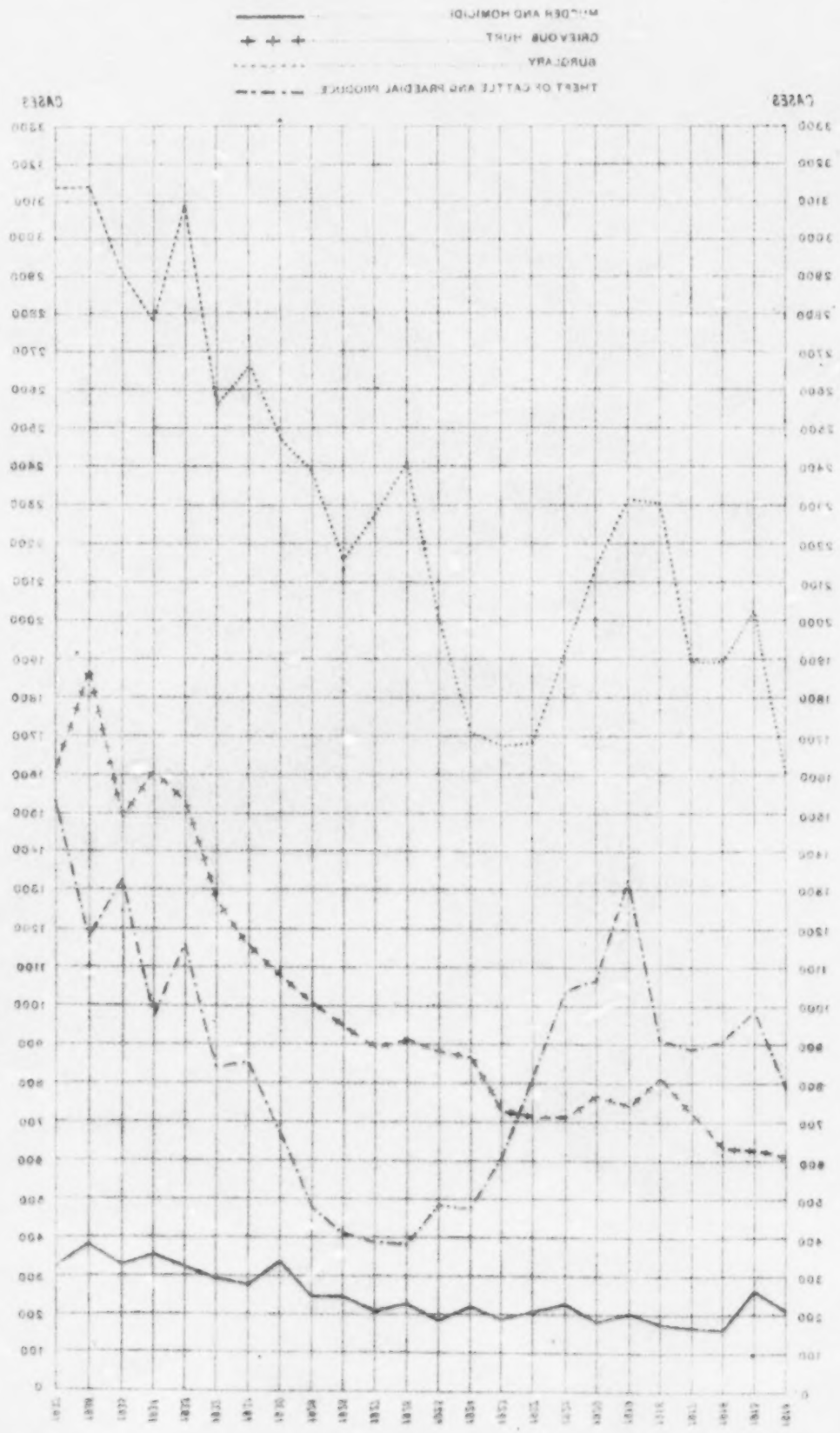
DIAGRAM No. 10

CRIME IN CEYLON 1914-1937



There are 49 Village Committees exercising this jurisdiction in the Island, namely, 48 in the Northern Province and 1 in the North-Western Province.

The following schedule gives detailed information as regards the number of Courts, the number of Judges, Magistrates &c. :—

Number of Courts, Judges, &c.

Court.	Number of Courts.	Number of Judges.	Remarks.
Supreme Court	1	9	One Chief Justice and eight Puisne Judges
District Court	21	28	There are four judges for the District Court of Colombo and two each for those of Kandy, Galle, and Jaffna. There is one judge for the District Courts of Chilaw and Puttalam, one for those of Nuwara Eliya and Hatton, and one for those of Mullaittivu and Vavuniya. Eleven of these officers are Police Magistrates and Commissioners of Requests in addition to their duties as District Judges. Two are supernumerary judges.
Police Court	30	20	There are three Magistrates sitting at Colombo. The following groups of Courts have one Magistrate each :— Badulla, Bandarawela ; Matale, Panwila, Teldeniya ; Nuwara Eliya, Hatton ; Jaffna, Kayts, Mallakam ; Point Pedro, Chavakachcheri ; Batticaloa, Kalmunai ; Mullaittivu, Vavuniya
Village Tribunal	220	59	—
Village Committee	63	—	—

POLICE.

The Regular Police Force of the Island was established and is regulated by the Police Ordinance, No. 16 of 1865, as amended by the subsequent Ordinances.

Before the Police Force was constituted the duties of the Police were attended to by the Headmen. Regular Police have been gradually introduced into most parts of the Island since 1865. With changing conditions in the rural areas due to rapid and improved means of communication, the opening up of colonization schemes and other land schemes, the influx of strangers and, more especially, of the travelling criminal, the establishment of additional Police Stations to assist the Headmen is becoming more and more imperative. At present there are 168 Police Stations and 24 Police Offices.

The sanctioned strength of the Force is 1 Inspector-General, 2 Deputy Inspectors-General, 41 Superintendents, Assistant Superintendents, and Probationers, 237 Chief Inspectors, Inspectors, and Sub-Inspectors (including the Port Police), 2 Sergeant Majors, 381 Sergeants, and 2,616 Constables.

General.—The following is a statement of crime for the last 5 years :—

	1937.	1936.	1935.	1934.	1933.
Total	14,673	14,287	12,957	12,730	12,805
True	9,639	9,400	8,505	8,405	8,530
Convictions	3,169	3,381	3,028	3,163	3,139
	33%	36%	36%	38%	37%
Pending	1,751	1,896	1,701	1,397	1,466

The following is an analysis of the main heads of crime for the last 5 years.

	1937.	1936.	1935.	1934.	1933.
Homicide	326	379	330	352	324
Attempted Homicide	200	228	175	141	146
Grievous hurt	1,618	1,869	1,486	1,612	1,531
Hurt with dangerous weapons	2,480	2,575	2,167	2,233	2,271
Burglary	3,136	3,137	2,910	2,777	3,091
Cattle theft	1,537	1,173	1,328	968	1,157
Theft	2,525	2,305	2,304	2,246	2,171
Bicycle theft	611	470	354	311	317
Other offences	2,240	2,151	1,903	2,090	1,797

Note.—The figures for the 1937 report have been taken from the Police Grave Crime Abstracts which show the actual number of cases committed during the year. In previous years the figures quoted were taken from the A. B. C. Returns furnished by the Magistrates and represented the disposal of true cases only.

6——J. N. 77053 (8/38)

The item "Theft of Cattle and Praedial Produce" in Diagram No. 10 represents "Cattle Theft" only from 1933 to 1937.

In 1937 thefts of bicycles under Rs. 20 in value and unnatural offence were classified by the Police as crime for the first time.

There has been a considerable decrease in crimes of violence, a marked increase in cattle stealing while the figures for burglary are approximately the same as those of the previous year.

Control of Motor Traffic.—There were 30,827 prosecutions under the Motor Ordinance. 739 were for reckless or negligent driving, 21 for driving a car when intoxicated, and 100 for failing to report an accident in which injury to a person was caused. In addition 56 cases for causing death and 71 for causing injury by a rash and negligent act were instituted under the Penal Code.

Eighty-four licences were cancelled or suspended.

3,483 accidents caused by motor vehicles were reported to the Police and 154 persons (of whom 101 were pedestrians) were killed as a result of injuries received in motor accidents.

In the majority of accident cases there is no compensation for the injured party where no offence can be proved or where the offender is acquitted in court. Compulsory third party insurance is essential, and it is of interest that a model Motor Ordinance is under preparation by the Colonial Office in which regulations for third party insurance are embodied in a form that can be standardized throughout the Colonies.

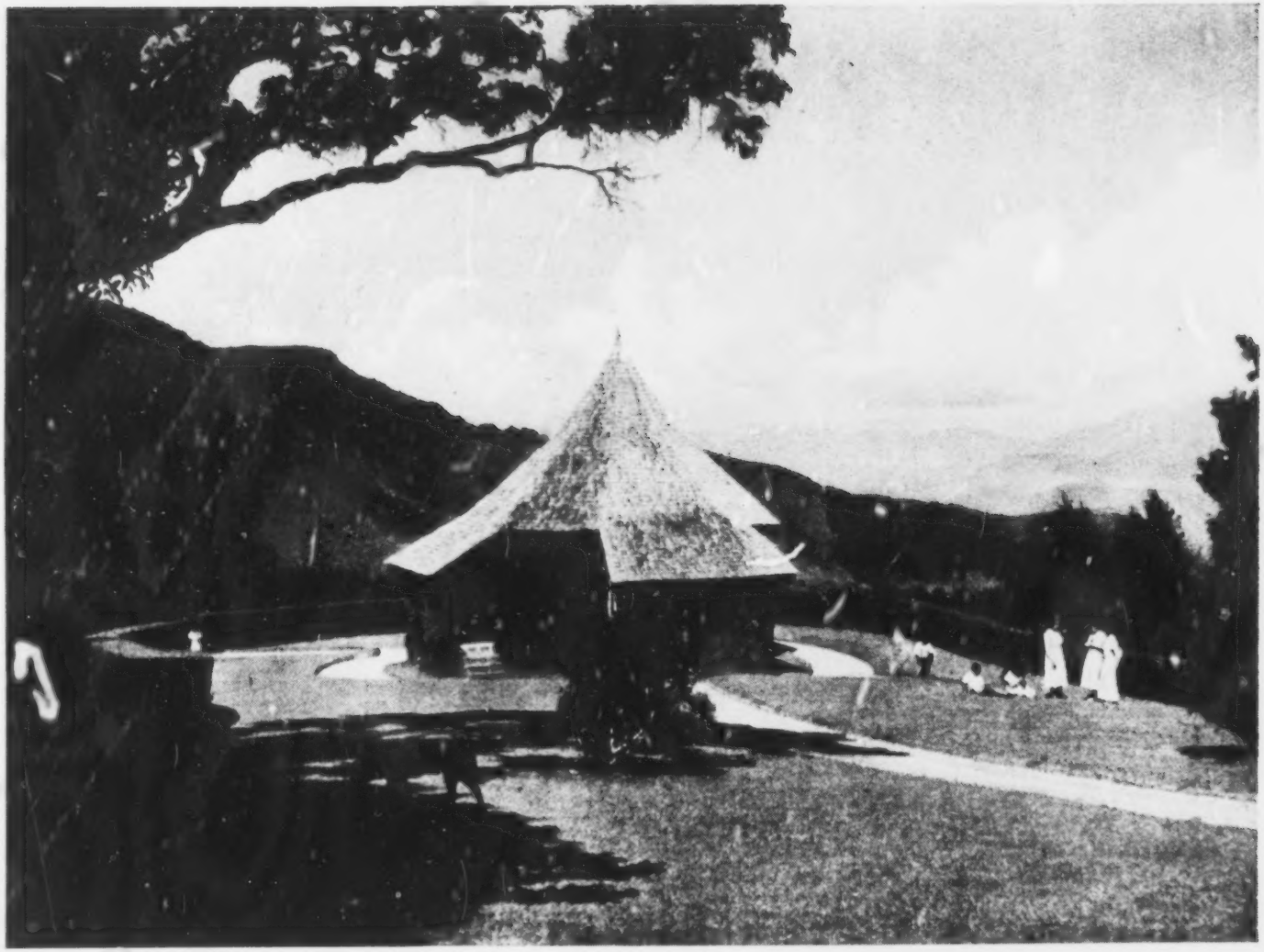
21,721 prosecutions were entered against omnibuses, a type of vehicle which was responsible for 723 of the accidents reported.

The following are some relevant figures :—

Year.	Motor Vehicles on the Road.	Number of Prosecutions for exceeding Speed Limit.	Number of Prosecutions for Reckless or Careless Driving.	Fatal Accidents.
1932	23,203	688	400	87
1933	23,359	394	343	92
1934	25,010	402	449	122
1935	27,052	597	619	129
1936	26,571	619	671	147
1937	30,223	649	739	154

The control of motor omnibus traffic is still one of the major traffic problems with which Police have to deal. There was again intense rivalry in many parts of the country between omnibus companies plying on the same routes, and, while much was done by arbitration and by cancelling or suspending the licences of omnibuses whose owners were the source of disorderliness and criminal acts on the public roads, it is clear that it is not possible for omnibus traffic to continue to ply upon the public roads without frequent clashes between rival omnibus companies unless a Central Control Board is established for the purpose of regulating routes, the number of omnibuses to be allowed to ply on any one route, fares and the times of departure and arrival.

Control of Bullock Cart and other Traffic.—Fourteen persons were killed in street accidents in which vehicles other than motor vehicles were involved and 9,725 prosecutions were entered against drivers and owners of such vehicles. Action has been taken in Colombo to compel cyclists



THE SUMMER HOUSE AT HAKGALA.

to keep to the side of the road, while in most towns pedestrians are from time to time reminded to use the pavements and where there are no pavements to keep to the right.

Cinematograph Films.—Films imported into Ceylon have previously been examined by the British Board of Film Censors in London and by the Censors in India. Lists of Films passed, excised or prohibited in England or in India are received monthly and private views, prior to public examination, are held where necessary by the Mayor of Colombo, who is the Censor for Colombo City, assisted by representative bodies.

The same system applies to outstations, copies of the lists being forwarded to local censors. The system works well, and the Managers of the various theatres readily co-operate with the authorities.

Maintaining order in the Streets.—During 1937 good order was maintained in the streets of Colombo. Special attention was paid to patrolling. The sale of opium and ganja was less active; but the employment of boys to hawk these drugs in the streets appears to be on the increase. Progress is being made with the establishing of a Home or Training School for Youthful Offenders which should help to serve as an efficient corrective and check the employment of boys in the illicit drug trade.

The molestation of passengers visiting the Island by touts is still a serious problem: legislation is under consideration that will more effectively check the nuisance.

Strikes.—There were several minor strikes in Colombo and in the Colombo District of the Western Province, in all of which the Police were called upon to maintain order. None of these strikes was of long duration and all were settled without any serious breach of the peace occurring.

Criminal Investigation Department.

The Central Bureau established in 1930 to deal with forged notes and counterfeit coins, dealt with 87 cases of forging, uttering or possessing forged currency notes as compared with 120 cases in 1936 and 33 in 1935. There were 73 cases of counterfeiting, uttering or possessing counterfeit coins.

Immigrants.—101,910 persons entered and 111,350 left Ceylon *viâ* Talaimannar, compared with 87,171 arrivals and 105,391 departures by this route in 1936. Eight persons were declared destitute at Talaimannar and prevented from landing.

60,016 persons arrived from Tuticorin and 43,625 left Ceylon by this route, compared with 51,294 arrivals and 42,614 departures in 1936.

PRISONS.

Number of Admissions.—The total number of admissions on conviction during 1937 was 15,000 (14,601 males and 399 females). Of this number, 1,392 were admitted on conviction from the Supreme and District Courts. 206 were convicted of murder and culpable homicide not amounting to murder.

Number sentenced to death and executed.—The number of male persons sentenced to death during the year was 63, of whom 31 were executed and 1 was pardoned and released by order of the Governor. Of these

31, 1 was executed in January, 1938. One female person was sentenced to death during the year, but the sentence was commuted to one of imprisonment.

Daily average population.—The daily average population (both convicted and unconvicted prisoners) of the prisons was 3,931·03 (3,862·67 males and 68·36 females).

Reconvicted prisoners.—The number of reconvicted prisoners admitted was 5,136 (34·24 per cent. of the total admissions). Of this number, 1,773 were reconvicted criminals within the meaning of Ordinance No. 2 of 1926 as amended by Ordinance No. 27 of 1928.

Preventive detention.—The number of prisoners sentenced to preventive detention by courts during the year was 1. The daily average of prisoners undergoing preventive detention was 43·76.

Number in default of payment of fines.—The number of admissions for non-payment of fines was 10,105. In 8,185 of these cases the offences were either statutory or made punishable by Village Tribunal rules.

No statistics are available as to the number of cases in which time was given for the payment of fines or for payment by instalments.

Young Offenders.

(*a*) *Young first offenders.*—The number of admissions of young first offenders of the age of 16-21 was 1,032, of which number 654 were for non-payment of fines and 465 for statutory or Village Tribunal offences.

(*b*) *Young reconvicted offenders.*—The number of admissions of young reconvicted offenders was 448, of which number 285 were for non-payment of fines and 198 for statutory or Village Tribunal offences.

Religion and race.—The following table gives the nationality and religion of all convicted persons received into the prisons during the year 1937 :—

Table showing Nationality and Religion of all Convicted Persons received into Prisons during the Year 1937.

Nationality.									Religion.						
Resident Europeans.	Non-Resident Europeans.	Burghers.	Sinhalese.	Tamils.	Moors.	Malays.	Others.	Total.	Protestants.	Roman Catholics.	Buddhists.	Hindus.	Muslims.	Others.	Total.
—	—	37	11,006	2,339	1,278	98	242	15,000	57	1,163	10,285	2,111	1,303	81	15,000

Prison Punishments.—The number of punishments imposed during the year on prisoners for offences against prison discipline was 2,484 as against 2,157 in 1936, the number of individuals punished being 1,856. In most cases the offences were of a trivial nature. Nine prisoners were sentenced to undergo corporal punishment during the year 1937, as against 3 in the previous year. There were two escapes during the year, but both of them were recaptured.

THE HORTON PLAINS TROUT STREAM (7,000 ft.).

The Prisons Ordinance, No. 16 of 1877, placed all the prisons in Ceylon under the control of the Inspector-General of Prisons. Ceylon therefore enjoys the advantages of a unified prison system which renders possible classification by institutions in addition to subclassification in institutions.

The principle upon which this classification proceeds is the separation of the different types of offenders—especially the separation of the young offender from the adult, the first offender from the "habitual", the convicted from the unconvicted, males from females, &c. To each type of offender appropriate methods of treatment and training are applied.

The different prisons are utilized as follows :—

Welikada (*Colombo*), for the detention and training of the following classes :—

(i.) Adult first offenders with sentences of two years and over ;
(ii.) All "Star" class, *i.e.*, European or educated Ceylonese first offenders ;
(iii.) Young prisoners of the age of 16–21 (both inclusive) irrespective of length of sentence ;
(iv.) Female prisoners other than those sentenced to short terms in outstations who are detained in the local prisons.

Hulftsdorp (*Colombo*), for all local convictions from the courts of the Colombo District who are sentenced to short terms of one month and under.

Mahara is set apart for adult reconvicted prisoners with sentences of over two years in one section, and for all adult first offenders with short sentences ranging from over one month up to and including six months in a separate section. Selected prisoners from among the reconvicted prisoners are specially classified in the Special Class B in which they serve a probationary period of six months prior to transfer to Kandy prison for industrial and other forms of special training in the Special Class A. Prisoners are also transferred to Mahara prison occasionally from other prisons for misconduct.

Bogambara (Kandy) is set apart for the following :—

(i.) First offenders convicted by local courts and sentenced to one month's imprisonment or less ;
(ii.) All first offenders with sentences of over one year and up to but not including two years ;
(iii.) Special class "A", *i.e.*, selected reconvicted prisoners from Mahara with sentences of over two years ;
(iv.) Prisoners undergoing sentences of preventive detention.

Jaffna is set apart for the following :—

(i.) Persons sentenced by the local courts to imprisonment for one month or under ;
(ii.) Short term reconvicted offenders with sentences of over one month and up to and including two years ;
(iii.) Prisoners transferred from other prisons for misconduct under monthly report.

The special gang is also located at Jaffna. The special gang is intended for prisoners guilty of continued bad or violent conduct. These prisoners are kept strictly apart from the other inmates.

Anuradhapura is set apart for the following :—

(i.) Locally convicted short term prisoners who are sentenced to one month and under.

(ii.) First offenders with sentences of over six months and up to one year.

Negombo, Galle, Badulla, and Batticaloa.—The prisons at Negombo, Galle, Badulla, and Batticaloa are used for the detention of short term locally convicted prisoners, and prisoners on remand.

Remand prisons.—There are separate prisons for remand prisoners and persons awaiting trial, civil debtors, &c., only in Colombo (adjoining Welikada Prison) and in Kandy. At other stations the ordinary prisons for convicted prisoners are also used for the location of these types in separate blocks or wards.

Methods of Treatment of Different Types of Offenders.

A. *Young first offenders.*—All young offenders of the age of 16–21 inclusive with sentences of over one month are detained at Welikada in separate wards. Rover Scout principles are utilized for their training and regular camps are held. The Welikada Prison Rover Troop is the first officially recognized prison troop in the world. Educational classes, industrial and vocational training, First Aid instruction, Boxing, Gymnastics, Drill, and games form a part of the regular curriculum, in addition to the various Scout activities.

B. *Long term first offenders.*—The progressive stage system—a feature of the English prison system—has been adapted to suit local conditions and is largely used in connection with the training of these offenders. According to this system prisoners fall into different classes. Every prisoner sentenced to imprisonment immediately enters and remains in what is called the penal stage for one month. He then enters and remains in Class IV., when he becomes eligible to earn remission, for eleven months. Conditional upon good conduct and industry he is promoted to Class III. where he remains for one year and then on the same conditions to Class II. At the end of one year if his conduct is satisfactory he is promoted to Class I. Promotion from class to class carries with it a graduated scale of privileges and on entry into Class II., gratuity and good conduct badges can be earned. Prisoners who show special skill and aptitude in the various trades are appointed Instructors (Grades I. and II.) who are accorded enhanced rates of pay and privileges.

Another feature in the training of these long term first offenders is the placing of responsibility on individual prisoners. Long term first offenders in Class I. of exemplary conduct are selected for appointment as Disciplinary Prison Orderlies. Their duties consist in assisting the regular prison officers ; they are left in charge of small parties inside the prison and act as escorts within prison walls, &c.

A further experiment is the formation of Leagues on the lines of the Mutual Welfare Leagues in the New York prisons. There are two such Leagues—one for the Disciplinary Prison Orderlies and the other for prisoners who have earned good conduct badges. Inmate responsibility, managing their own affairs within limits and training in the ideals of good citizenship are the salient features of these Leagues.

All long term first offenders are employed and trained in one or more of the many trades and handicrafts taught in Welikada Prison. On reaching certain grades of the stage classification they earn money part of which may be spent in the purchase of books and extras to the diets or sent to their families and part of which is accumulated and paid on discharge.

C. *Reconvicted prisoners.*—For the training of selected types of reconvicted prisoners there are two classes in Mahara and Bogambara Prisons. Specially selected reconvicted prisoners with sentences of two years and over constitute Class B. These prisoners while at work are kept separate from the others. Evening classes are held for them and they are supplied with books from the prison library. They are also given the privilege of playing games, &c. After a probationary training for six months in this class all who prove satisfactory are transferred to Kandy where they form Special Class " A ". Prisoners in Special Class " A " are treated like first offenders in all matters relating to pay, industrial training, privileges, &c.

Labour.—All labour of a purely mechanical and unprofitable nature has been abolished. Prisoners are mostly employed on public works, the domestic services of the prisons, and on industrial undertakings. At Mahara the principal work is the quarrying of stone and stone breaking. In Jaffna the work consists of the reclamation of the lagoon. Welikada and Bogambara Prisons are highly industrialized. The following industries are carried on :—carpentry, tailoring, brush-making, rattan, fibre, shoemaking, blacksmiths' work, tin smiths' work, spinning and weaving, soap making, and printing. At Welikada there is in addition an up to date steam laundry which washes the linen of all the hospitals, railway, asylum, &c. The output value of prison industrial undertakings for the year 1936–37 was Rs. 248,785·44, as against Rs. 225,061·78 during the previous year.

Education.—For young offenders, that is, those of 22 and under, vernacular education is compulsory. At Welikada, Bogambara and Mahara Prisons evening classes, conducted by volunteer social workers, have been organized for the benefit of both young offenders and adult offenders. These classes are held in English and in the vernacular. Commercial classes in typewriting, shorthand, &c., are also held in Welikada prison for the benefit of Star Class prisoners.

Recreation.—Well conducted prisoners, particularly young offenders, Star Class prisoners, first offenders, preventive detention prisoners and prisoners in the Special Classes A & B who have reached an advanced stage in their training are allowed to take part in games both indoor and outdoor. Boxing, gymnastics, and volley ball are popular games.

Religious instruction.—There are no prison Chaplains in Ceylon but representatives of all creeds and denominations are allowed to visit the prisons, hold services, and give religious instruction. Services are held every Sunday and all prisoners are encouraged to attend the services of their particular denomination.

Preventive detention.—There is no separate prison for prisoners undergoing preventive detention. These prisoners are located in a portion of Bogambara prison specially set apart for them. But the conditions of

an ordinary rigorous imprisonment prison afford little scope for the special course of training contemplated by the system of preventive detention, and the reorganization of the system is under consideration.

After care.—An unofficial organization known as the Ceylon Discharged Prisoners' Aid Association, with sub-committees in Colomblo and Kandy works in conjunction with the prison authorities and is the agency through which aid is given to discharged prisoners. Owing to lack of funds and public support the scope and activities of the Association are very restricted.

Remission and Review of Sentences.—All criminal prisoners sentenced to rigorous or simple imprisonment (except under Chapter 7 of the Criminal Procedure Code) become eligible to earn a remission of sentence, which is conditional on good conduct and industry and which is based on the mark system, on completion of the first month (30 days) of their sentences. The maximum remission of sentence that a prisoner can earn is in the case of a male prisoner, one-fourth of the period of imprisonment during which he is allowed to earn marks and, in the case of a female prisoner, one-third of such period. Under rule 40 of the statutory rules also the case of every prisoner is reviewed by the Governor on completion of 4, 8, 12, 15, and 20 years respectively of the term of imprisonment and a number of premature releases are made every year.

Health of prisoners.—Whole-time resident Medical Officers are provided for the three Colombo prisons and for Mahara prison. The Medical Officers attached to all the other prisons are not whole-time officers but have other outside duties to perform as well.

At Welikada there is an up to date prison hospital intended to serve the three Colombo prisons, with accommodation for 120 beds for general cases and 60 beds for infectious diseases.

In the female section of the Welikada prison there is a ward with 7 beds for general cases.

At Bogambara there is a hospital consisting of 5 wards.

In all other prisons a separate ward is utilized as a hospital.

All cases which need operative treatment or special nursing are transferred to the ordinary civil hospitals for treatment.

The total number of deaths of prisoners (both convicted and unconvicted) admitted to prison was 59 in 1937, as against 49 in 1933. These deaths include prisoners who died in the prisons and prison hospitals as well as in civil hospitals and other medical institutions, but are exclusive of judicial executions.

CHAPTER XIV.

Legislation.

THE following are the important Ordinances passed in the year 1937 :—

The Naval Volunteer Ordinance, No. 1 of 1937.—This Ordinance repeals the Ceylon Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve Ordinance, No 15 of 1934, and provides for the establishment of a Naval Volunteer Force for the defence of the Island of Ceylon within its territorial waters. Every member of the Force must be a British subject domiciled in Ceylon or resident in Ceylon for a period of not less than twelve months in the

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THE STATE COUNCIL IN SESSION.

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eighteen months next preceding the date of enrolment in the Force. The organization, administration and training of the Force are to be governed by regulations which the Governor is empowered to make.

The Fauna and Flora Protection Ordinance, No. 2 of 1937.—This Ordinance gives effect to the recommendations made by the Special Committee appointed in September, 1933, to report on the measures necessary to be taken for the protection of the indigenous fauna and flora of Ceylon.

Part I. of the Ordinance deals with the constitution and administration of National Reserves and Sanctuaries. National Reserves are to be of three kinds: Strict Natural Reserves, National Parks, and Intermediate Zones. All National Reserves and Sanctuaries will be under the general control of a Warden who will be assisted by a Deputy Warden and several official and honorary District Wardens. The Governor is empowered to appoint an Advisory Commitee of twelve persons with the Warden as Chairman, for the purpose of making recommendations to the Executive Committee and of advising generally on all matters relating to the fauna and flora of the Island.

Part II. of the Ordinance makes provisions for the protection, in areas outside a National Reserve or a Sanctuary, of deer, fowl of certain defined species, wild tuskers, wild elephants and wild buffaloes.

Part III. makes provision for the protection of birds, beasts and reptiles in areas outside a National Reserve or a Sanctuary and has to be read with Schedules I. and II.

Part IV. makes provision for the protection of the flora of the Island and has to be read with Schedules III. and IV.

Some further important provisions of the Ordinance appear in Part V. under the heading "Miscellaneous Provisions", while Part VI. contains further miscellaneous provisions of general application.

The British Courts Probates (Re-sealing) Ordinance, No. 3 of 1937.—This Ordinance repeals the British and Colonial Probate Ordinance, No. 7 of 1921, and the British and Colonial Probate Amendment Ordinance, No. 32 of 1935.

Under the old Ordinance "competent court" was defined as a court on which the Supreme Court had conferred sole testamentary jurisdiction on an application made under section 70 of the Courts Ordinance, 1889. It was found that the necessity for this preliminary application to the Supreme Court could well be dispensed with in order to save unnecessary delay and expense. Section 2 of the Ordinance accordingly provides that application may be made direct to a court of testamentary jurisdiction in Ceylon. Provision has also been made to the effect that the District Court of Colombo may exercise jurisdiction in any case, as, in practice, most applications for re-sealing will be made to that Court.

The Reciprocal Enforcement of Judgments Ordinance, No. 4 of 1937.—This Ordinance makes provision for the enforcement in Ceylon of judgments given in foreign countries which accord reciprocal treatment to judgments of Ceylon courts. There is already provision in law for the enforcement in Ceylon of judgments given by the Courts in the United Kingdom. As it is desirable that the law relating to the enforcement of British judgments should be the same as that relating to the enforcement of foreign judgments, section 8 of the Ordinance provides for the

extension of the new law to judgments given by British Courts, and prescribes the circumstances in which Ordinance No. 41 of 1921 will cease to be operative in Ceylon.

The other sections in the Ordinance are modelled on the revelant provisions of the Foreign Judgments (Reciprocal Enforcement) Act, 1933. The District Court of Colombo will, however, continue as under the existing law, to be the only court vested with jurisdiction for the purpose of registering and enforcing British and foreign judgments.

The Registered Stock and Securities Ordinance, No. 7 of 1937.—This Ordinance provides the ancilliary procedure and machinery whereby registered stock, promissory notes and bearer bonds may be issued as securities to members of the public who decide to invest their money in local loans which carry a Government guarantee.

Though the General Loan and Inscribed Stock Ordinance, No. 5 of 1921, enables Ceylon loans to be raised in England by the issue of inscribed stock, and though the Ceylon Inscribed Rupee Stock Ordinance, 1892, authorizes the issue of inscribed rupee stock in Ceylon, it was considered that the securities which will be available under this Ordinance will prove move convenient and attractive to local investors.

The Revised Edition of Legislative Enactments Ordinance, No. 19 of 1937.—This Ordinance authorizes the preparation and publication of a revised edition of the legislative enactments of Ceylon. The last revised edition of the legislative enactments was published in 1924 and a new and revised edition is overdue.

The chronological arrangement has been followed in the revised editions heretofore. It has now been decided, after consultation with the Bench and the Bar, to adopt the Title and Chapter classification, the Chapters being grouped according to subjects as in the recent edition of the laws of the Straits Settlements.

The Food Control Ordinance, No. 22 of 1937.—This Ordinance makes provision for the regulation and control of the distribution, transport and supply of food in Ceylon.

In order to secure an even distribution of food throughout the Island, power is given to the Minister for Labour, Industry and Commerce by order published in the *Gazette* to prohibit or regulate the transport or removal of food or cattle to or from any specified place or area. Every order of the Minister will be in force for a period of seven days in the first instance, and if it is confirmed by the Board of Ministers and approved by the State Council will continue in force for a period of two months.

Nothing in the Ordinance is to apply to any food or cattle kept, transported or removed by, or on behalf of, or for the use of His Majesty's Forces or the Civil Authorities.

Factory and Labour Legislation.

The Mines (Prohibition of Female Labour Underground) Ordinance, No. 13 of 1937, prohibits the employment of females on underground work in mines of any kind. This Ordinance is intended to give effect in Ceylon to a draft Convention adopted by the General Conference of the International Labour Organization on June 21, 1935.

Photo by Werner Conitz. *Courtesy Govt. Tourist Bureau.*

CRAFTSMAN AT WORK, KANDY.

SUBSIDIARY LEGISLATION.

The subsidiary legislation issued during the year was concerned mainly with the amendment of existing subsidiary legislation or the introduction of such legislation into new districts or areas.

CHAPTER XV.

Banking, Currency, Weights and Measures.

BANKS.

THE following is a list of banks which have branches in Ceylon :—

Name of Bank	Imperial Bank of India
Address of Head Office ..	Madras
Branch in Ceylon ..	Prince street, Fort, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon ..	—
London Office	25, Old Broad street, London, E. C. 2

Name of Bank	National Bank of India, Ltd.
Address of Head Office ..	26, Bishopsgate, London, E.C. 2
Branches in Ceylon ..	York street, Fort, Colombo ; Ward street, Kandy ; and Nuwera Eliya
Agents in Ceylon ..	Clark, Spence & Co., Galle
Bankers in the United Kingdom	The Bank of England ; The National Provincial Bank, Ltd. ; The National Bank of Scotland, Ltd.

Name of Bank	The Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China
Address of Head Office ..	38, Bishopsgate, London, E.C. 2
Branch in Ceylon ..	Queen street and Baillie street, Fort, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon ..	Mercantile Bank of India Ltd., Galle
Bankers in the United Kingdom	The Bank of England ; Midland Bank, Ltd. ; Westminster Bank Ltd. ; National Provincial, Bank, Ltd. ; The National Bank of Scotland Ltd. ; Lloyds Bank, Ltd.

Name of Bank	Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation
Address of Head Office ..	1, Queen's road, Hong Kong
Branch in Ceylon ..	24, Prince street, Fort, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon ..	E. Coates & Co. (Galle), Ltd., Galle
Bankers in the United Kingdom	Westminster Bank, Ltd.

Name of Bank	The Mercantile Bank of India, Ltd.
Address of Head Office ..	15, Gracechurch street, London, E.C. 3
Branches in Ceylon ..	16, Queen street, Fort, Colombo ; 97, Queen's Hotel building, Kandy ; and Galle
Agents in Ceylon ..	—
Bankers in the United Kingdom	The Bank of England ; Midland Bank, Ltd.

Name of Bank	The Eastern Bank Ltd.
Address of Head Office ..	2 and 3, Crosby square, Bishopsgate, London, E.C.3

Branch in Ceylon ..	Main street, Fort, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon ..	—
Bankers in the United Kingdom	The Bank of England ; Westminster Bank, Ltd.; The National Provincial Bank, Ltd. ; The Bank of Scotland ; Barclay's Bank, Ltd. ; Martin's Bank, Ltd.

Name of Bank	The P. & O. Banking Corporation, Ltd. (with which is affiliated The Allahabad Bank, Ltd.)
Address of Head Office ..	117-122, Leadenhall street, London, E.C. 3
Branch in Ceylon ..	Victoria Arcade buildings, York street, Fort, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon ..	E. Coates &. Co. (Galle), Ltd., Galle
Bankers in the United Kingdom	The Bank of England ; Lloyds Bank, Ltd. ; Westminster Bank, Ltd. ; The National Provincial Bank, Ltd. ; Royal Bank of Scotland

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Name of Bankers ..	Thos. Cook & Son (Bankers), Ltd.
Address of Head Office ..	Berkeley street, Picadilly, London, W. 1
Branch in Ceylon ..	Prince street, Fort, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon ..	—
Bankers in the United Kingdom	The National Provincial Bank, Ltd. ; Barclay's Bank, Ltd. ; Midland Bank, Ltd.

Name of Bank	Indian Bank, Ltd.
Address of Head Office ..	Indian Bank Buildings, North Beach road, Madras
Branches in Ceylon ..	Chatham street, Colombo ; Grand Bazaar, Jaffna
Agents in Ceylon ..	None
Bankers in the United Kingdom	The National City Bank of New York

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Name of Bank	The Calicut Bank, Ltd.
Address of Head Office ..	The Calicut Bank, Ltd., Bank road, Calicut, India
Branch in Ceylon ..	15, Baillie street, Fort, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon ..	None
Bankers in the United Kingdom	None

Name of Bank	The Bank of Chettinad, Ltd.
Address of Head Office ..	The Bank of Chettinad, Ltd., Rangoon, Burma
Branch in Ceylon ..	The Bank of Chettinad, Ltd., 256, Sea street, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon ..	No Agency (Manager: M. M. Ramanathan Chettiar)
Bankers in the United Kingdom	None

Name of Bank	Bank of Uva, Ltd.
Address of Head Office ..	Badulla
Branch in Ceylon ..	—
Secretaries	Colombo Commercial Co., Ltd., Colombo
Bankers in the United Kingdom	—

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Banking Agencies.

Name of Bank.	Agents in Ceylon
Coutts & Co.	George Stuart & Co., Colombo
Ulster Bank Ltd., Belfast	do.
Westminster Bank, Ltd.	do.
Bank of Montreal	do.
Charles Hoare & Co.	do.
Martin's Bank, Ltd.	do.
National Provincial Bank, Ltd.	do.

Savings Banks.

There are two Savings Banks, viz., the Ceylon Savings Bank and the Post Office Savings Bank.

The Ceylon Savings Bank is a Government institution established in 1832. Accounts may be opened with a minimum deposit of 50 cents and not more than Rs. 2,000 can be deposited in one year irrespective of withdrawals. The maximum sum which a depositor may have to his or her credit is Rs. 6,000. Charitable institutions or societies may deposit Rs. 3,000 per annum up to a maximum of Rs. 9,000. The Bank allows interest at the rate of 3 per cent.

The Post Office Savings Bank is managed by the Post and Telegraph, Department. Deposits and withdrawals can be made at any of the Post Offices in the Island. The first deposit is 50 cents and the minimum amount that can be deposited thereafter is 25 cents, and the maximum per annum is Rs. 750 irrespective of withdrawals. The total amount which a depositor may have to his or her credit is Rs. 3,000. The rate of interest allowed is 2·4 per cent.—2 cents per month for each complete sum of Rs. 10.

Co-operative Societies.

There were on April 30, 1937, 1,117 registered Co-operative Societies in Ceylon of which 4 were Co-operative Central Banks, 930 Village Credit Societies of Unlimited Liability, 41 Societies of Limited Liability, 70 Thrift Societies, 21 Supply Societies, 32 Supervising Unions, 1 Co-operative Land Mortgage Bank, 1 Sale Society, 1 Co-operative Motor Boat Society, 1 Milk Supply Society, 1 Sports Society, 1 Ceylon Fruit & Minor Produce Society, 1 Desiccated Coconut Millers' Society, 1 Paddy Hullers' Society, 1 Pottery Society, 1 Poultry Society, 7 Labour Societies, 1 School Supply Society, and 1 Union Hospital. These Societies had 46,044 members.

Statistics are compiled only at the end of the Co-operative Working year on April 30. Since then the following societies have been registered :

Unlimited credit	56
Thrift and Savings Societies	15
Labour Societies	6
Sales Society	1
Northern Division Co-operative Union	1
	79

Working Capital on April 30, was Rs. 4,035,726.

Loans are still made from the Local Loans and Development Fund to societies in those parts of the Island which are not yet covered by the Central Banks.

The percentage of overdues was 20 per cent. for the Western Division, 11 per cent. for the Central Division, 13·4 per cent. for the Northern Division.

The Staff of the Department, exclusive of the clerical staff, consists of 1 Registrar, 1 Deputy Registrar, 4 Assistant Registrars, 34 Inspectors,

ishing company inc

10 Sub-Inspectors, and 1 Supervisor, Labour Societies. During the year Rs. 4,934·67 were contributed by societies towards the cost of maintaining the staff employed for their Supervision and Audit.

CURRENCY, &c.

The monetary unit in Ceylon is the Indian silver rupee, which is divided into 100 cents. The following fractions of the rupee are coined: — (1) Silver, 50-cent piece; 25-cent piece; and 10-cent piece; (2) nickel 5-cent piece; (3) copper, 1-cent piece and ½-cent piece.

The chief medium of exchange in Ceylon is the currency notes issued by the Government of Ceylon. They are of the following values :— Rs. 1,000, Rs. 500, Rs. 100, Rs. 50, Rs. 10, Rs. 5, Rs. 2, and Re. 1. The present value of the rupee is about 1*s.* 6*d.*

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

The standard weights and measures are the English units. In conjunction with these many local weights and measures are used.

CHAPTER XVI.

Public Finance and Taxation.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue of the Island in the last five completed financial years was :—

		Rs. c.			Rs. c.
1932–33	..	106,090,728 48*	1935–36	..	102,770,506 64
1933–34	..	104,100,361 7†	1936–37	..	119,196,899 52‡
1934–35	..	98,993,551 55			

The following is a statement of the expenditure in the same financial years :—

			Expenditure chargeable to General Revenue including accumulated Surplus Balances. Rs. c.		Expenditure chargeable to Revenue pending raising of Loan Funds. Rs. c.
1932–33	..	..	92,698 229 11	..	—
1933–34	..	..	93,444,581 34	..	—
1934–35	..	..	107,286,124 66§	..	—
1935–36	..	..	109,740,474 82‖	..	1,177,061 81
1936–37	..	..	108,778,780 43¶	..	—

Public Debt.

On September 30, 1937, the sterling debt of the Island stood at £12,243,775 and the rupee debt at Rs. 30,775,000 towards redemption of which were held securities and moneys amounting to £4,450,526 and Rs. 3,283,853.

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* Includes Rs. 2,120,437·21 and Rs. 1,564,511·69 appropriated to general revenue from the Railway Renewals Fund and the Colombo Electricity Supply Depreciation Fund respectively.

† Includes Rs. 4,339,061·10 being surplus in the Sinking Fund of the 4 per cent. inscribed Stock, 1934.

‡ Includes Rs. 13,847,174·87 recovered from Loan, being expenditure met from Surplus Balances in previous years pending raising of Loan.

§ Includes Rs. 2,190,172·45 being expenditure charged to Special Reserve.

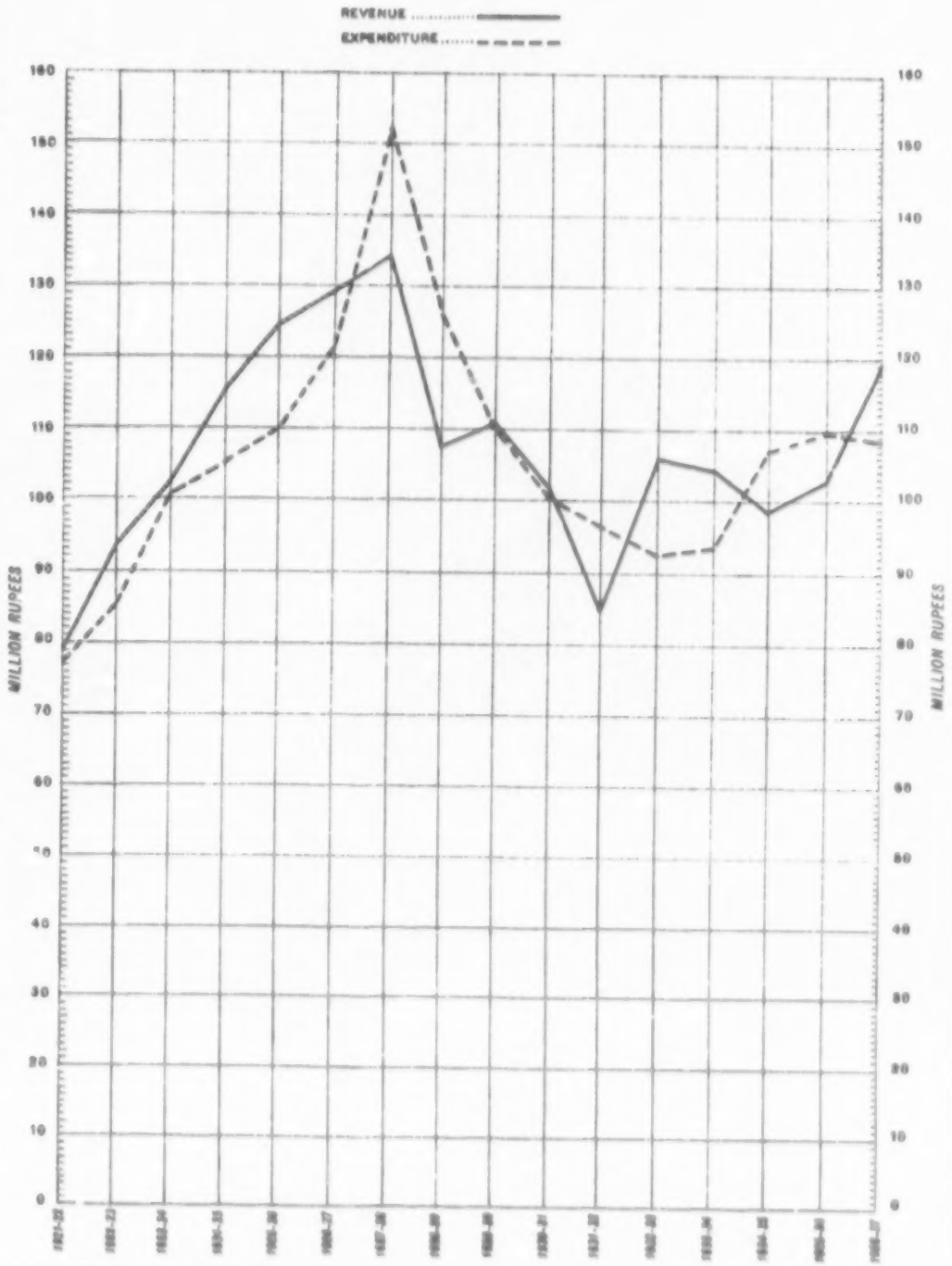
‖ Includes Rs. 1,035,442·45, being expenditure charged to Special Reserve.

¶ Includes Rs. 242,464·51, being expenditure charged to Special Reserve.

DIAGRAM No. 11

TOTAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE OF THE ISLAND

FOR EACH FINANCIAL YEAR (OCTOBER 1 TO SEPTEMBER 30) SINCE 1921-22



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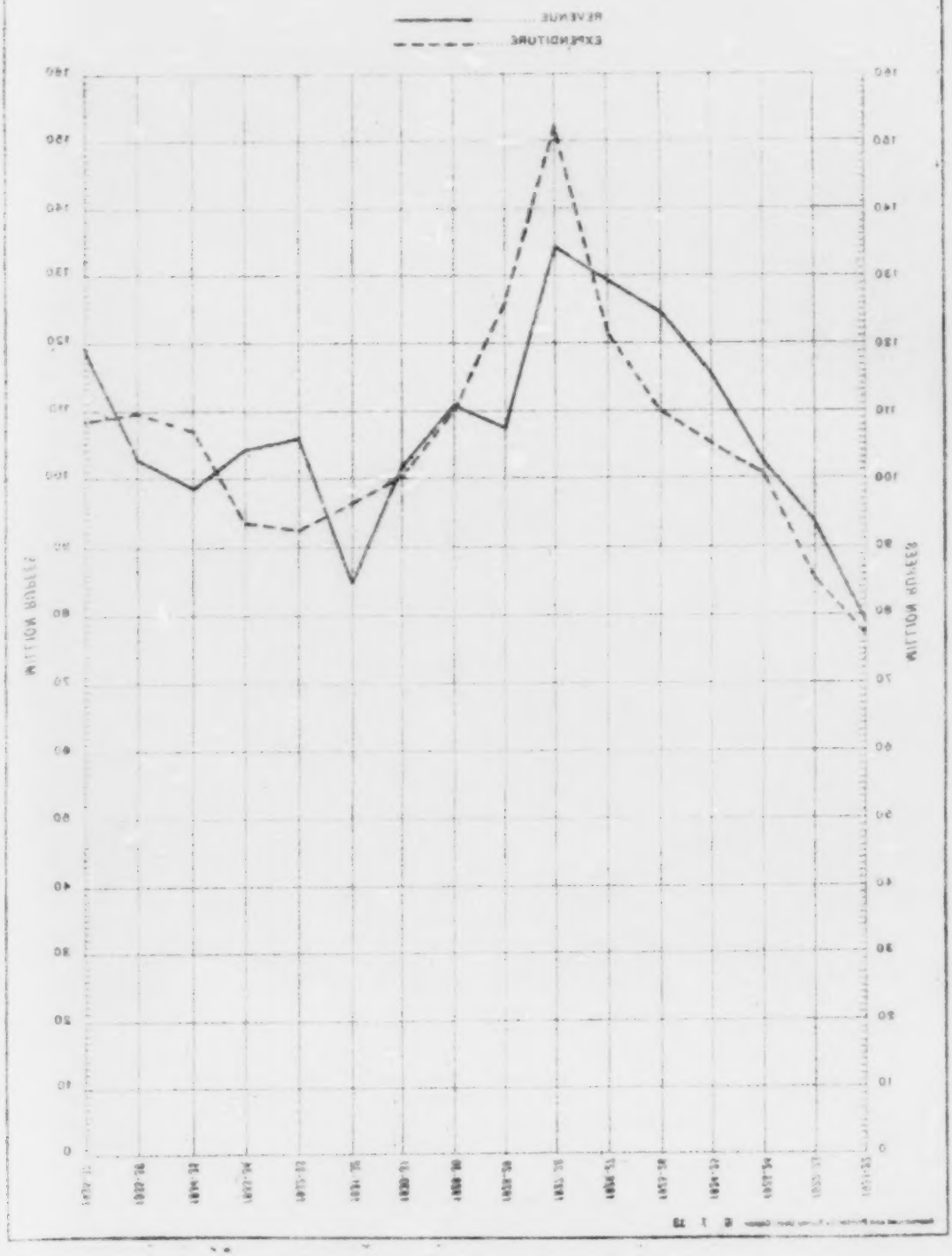

Setting off the securities against the debts and effecting conversion at 1*s.* 6*d.* to the rupee the net total Public Debt of the Island amounts to Rs. 131,401,131 which is slightly greater than the revenue for the year ended September 30, 1937.

The following summary gives particulars of the public debt together with the value of the sinking fund in respect of each loan forming the debt :—

Sterling Loans. £.			Sinking Fund. £.
2,850,000	3%	Inscribed. Stock, 1940	3,238,165
800,000	3½%	,, 1959	19,878
1,000,000	4%	,, 1939/59	391,564
4,500,000	3%	,, 1959/64	114,425
1,250,000	5%	,, 1960/70	58,691
1,843,775	4½%	,, 1965	81,891
—		Supplementary Sinking Fund	545,912
12,243,775			4,450,526
@ 1s. 6d. = Re. 1			@ 1s. 6d. = Re. 1
= Rs. 163,250,333			= Rs. 59,340,347

Rupee Loans. Rs.			Sinking Fund. Rs.
3,000,000	4 %	Inscribed Stock 1942/44	3,283,853
27,775,000	3½%	Registered Stock & Promissory Notes, 1957/62 ..	—
30,775,000			3,283,853
Rs. 194,025,333			Rs. 62,624,200

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

The assets and liabilities of the Island on September 30, 1937, were as follows :—

The assets consisted of—

	Rs.	c.
(1) Cash in the hands of the Deputy Financial Secretary, in fixed or current deposit in Banks and with the Crown Agents in London	29,845,618	44
(2) Unissued stores, investments in rupee and sterling gilt edged securities, advances to the General Manager of the Railway, other recoverable advances, security deposits in banks, &c., remittances in transit and suspense account	30,705,231	54
	60,550,849	98

The liabilities consisted of—

(1) Widows' and Orphans' Pension Fund	13,069,584	74
(2) Ceylon University Building and Equipment Fund ..	4,887,728	19
(3) Loan Funds	10,603,293	45
(4) General Reserve Fund	10,000,000	0
(5) Special Reserve Fund	1,581,599	29
(6) Court suitors and other depositors in the Treasury and the Kachcheries	8,066,000	57
(7) Other Governments and agencies, loans to local bodies (sinking funds) and unpaid drafts	724,369	77
(8) Department of Government Electrical Undertakings ..	793,758	10
	49,726,334	11
Surplus	10,824,515	87
	60,550,849	98

Taxation and yield thereof—

The main heads of taxation and the yield of each are as follows :—

Customs	54,064,885	92
Salt	2,188,894	84
Country and foreign liquor	7,723,584	58
Licences—Sundries	753,948	45
Tolls	47,265	99
Stamp duties, including composition duty on Bank cheques and share certificates	3,970,573	10
Estate duties	607,819	9
Betting tax	275,519	92
Income tax	9,027,151	51
Tax on heavy oil motor vehicles	192,714	48
	78,852,357	88

Excise and Stamp Duties (summarized).—The amount realized from Excise revenue during the financial year under review was Rs. 7,723,584·58 and that in respect of Stamp Duties Rs. 3,970,573·10. Compared with the revenue of the last financial year, Excise revenue shows an increase of Rs. 623,983·34 and Stamp Duties an increase of Rs. 1,079,074·32.

Revision of Taxes.—During the financial year under review the following changes in taxes were made :—

	Old Rate.		New Rate.	
	Preferential ad valorem. Per Cent.	General ad valorem. Per Cent.	Preferential ad valorem. Per Cent.	General ad valorem Per Cent.
(1) *Import duties*—				
(a) From January 8, 1937, Goods, Wares and Merchandise,—				
Tissue paper, cover paper and marble paper	15	25	5	15
Paper for lining tea chests	15	25	5	15
Iron and steel sheets and circles declared to be imported for the purpose of manufacturing drums for the export of local produce :—				
(i.) Galvanized or coated ..	10	20	—	2
(ii.) Not coated	—	10	—	2
(b) From March 20, 1937—				Rs. c.
Acid, acetic	—	5	—	0 50 per demijohn of 44 lbs.
Acid, formic	—	5	—	0 70 per demijohn of 44 lbs.
Asphalt	—	15	—	0 60 per cwt.
Dry battery cells	—	15	—	1 0 per gross
Fish, jadi	10	20	—	0 75 per cwt.
(c) From May 14, 1937—				
Cinematograph films of an educational character, whether developed negative or positive films (including gramophone records or other forms of sound reproduction complementary to such films or developed negative or positive sound tracks) which are certified by the Director of Education in Ceylon to be films of an educational character on the ground that they fall within one or more of the following classes:— (a) Films designed to supply information with regard to the work and aims of the League of Nations and other international organizations which are generally recognized by the High Contracting Parties to the International Convention of 1933 for Facilitating the International Circulation of Films of an Educational Character ; (b) Films intended for use in education of all grades ; (c) Films intended for vocational training and guidance, including technical films relating to industry and films relating to scientific management ; (d) Films dealing with scientific or technical research or designed to spread scientific knowledge ; (e) Films dealing with health questions, physical training, social welfare or relief	Rs. c. 0.01	Rs. c. 0.02	Per Foot.	Free
(d) From July 28, 1937.				
Dangerous petroleum as defined in section 3 of Ordinance No. 6 of 1887, including any inflammable hydro carbon (including any mixture of hydro carbon and any liquid containing hydro carbon) which is capable of being used for providing reasonably efficient motive power for a motor car, per gallon	—	0·65	—	0·75
(2) *Export Cesses* :—	Old Rate.		New Rate	
(Payable to quasi-Government bodies)—				
Rubber Control—per 100 lbs. (from December 10, 1936)	—	0·25	—	0·30
Tea Propaganda per 100 lbs. (from December 17, 1936)	—	0·75	—	1 0

COPRA MANUFACTURE.

Income Tax.—The unit rate of Income Tax was increased from 5 per cent. to 6 per cent. as from the year of assessment commencing on April 1, 1937.

Re-imposition of Estate Duty.—An ordinance re-imposing estate duty as from April 1, 1937, was passed in the State Council in August, 1937, but was reserved for the consideration of the Secretary of State for the Colonies by His Excellency the Governor.

This Ordinance was assented to by the Secretary of State, and became law on January 7, 1938, as Ordinance No. 1 of 1938.

A system of tree tax on toddy manufactured from palmyra and coconut trees introduced from January, 1935, in Valigamam North was extended throughout the Jaffna Revenue District with effect from January, 1937. The rates of taxes are as follows :—

Local Areas. (1)	A Male Palmyra. (2) Rs. c.	A Female Palmyra. (3) Rs. c.	A Coconut Tree. (4) Rs. c.
Islands of Delft and Eluvaitivu	0 50	1 50	1 50
Island of Nainativu and Punaryn Division	1 50	5 0	5 0
In every other local area of the district	2 50	10 0	10 0

CURRENCY.

On September 30, 1937, the value of the currency notes in circulation amounted to Rs. 48,388,984. The Commissioners of Currency on this date held silver rupees to the extent of Rs. 14,212,053 and British, Indian, and Colonial securities amounting to Rs. 40,611,990 (cost price) or Rs. 45,195,266 (market price).

The value of the reserve on September 30, 1937, was thus in excess of the value of the notes in circulation by Rs. 6,435,059 taking the investments at cost price.

During the year silver rupees to the extent of Rs. 53,990 were received from the public and the banks in exchange for currency notes.

Subsidiary coin of various denominations amounting in all to Rs. 12,316,541 was in circulation in the Island on September 30, 1937.

EXCHANGE.

The rates of exchange on London on December 31, 1937, were as follows :—

Selling demand	1*s.* 6 ½*d.* to the rupee
Selling telegraphic transfer	1*s.* 6 3/32*d.* to the rupee
Buying demand	1*s.* 6 3/16*d.* to the rupee

ESTATE DUTIES.

Estates of deceased persons over the value of Rs. 5,000 were chargeable to Estate Duty, but Ordinance No. 51 of 1935 prescribed that Estate Duty should not be levied on estates of persons dying on or after October 1, 1935. During the financial year, 1936-37 a sum of Rs. 651,487 was collected as Estate Duty, as against Rs. 1,425,741 collected in the previous year.

CHAPTER XVII.

Miscellaneous.

LAND.

THE climate varies considerably in different parts of Ceylon, and this fact has an important bearing on the development of land in the Island. There are two main climatic divisions, namely, the wet zone (comprising the centre and south-west of the Island) and the dry zone (comprising the northern and eastern parts).

The wet zone is the part of the Island, roughly a quarter of it, that receives the rain of the south-west monsoon. The rainfall in this zone is both ample and well distributed, with the result that conditions are favourable for agriculture. Tea, rubber, coconuts, and other economic crops can be grown readily, and under normal conditions profitably. As a result of the international agreement to restrict the production of tea and rubber these products may not now be grown. In addition, village cultivation flourishes. For many years past the wet zone has steadily developed, and the population has increased considerably. At the present time, this zone contains the greater part of the population of the Island, and there is comparatively little land available for development except in remote or inaccessible districts.

In the dry zone, on the other hand, conditions are far less favourable. In the first place, the rainfall, though not really inadequate, is so unevenly distributed that the country suffers badly from drought each year, except where extensive storage tanks have been constructed. In the second place, a large part of the dry zone is extremely malarial.

For these reasons, the greater part of the dry zone is thinly populated and practically undeveloped. Where the land can be irrigated or the rainfall is favourable paddy is grown; and a certain amount of land, chiefly near the coast, has been planted with coconuts. Most of the villagers, however, are mainly dependent on "chena" cultivation, that is to say, the periodical clearing and cultivation of tracts of jungle, which are abandoned after one or two crops of grain or vegetables have been grown on them. Systematic farming is unknown. Attempts are being made to develop this area.

A great obstacle to land development is the fact that land titles are often both complicated and uncertain. This is due to two main causes, the claims of the Crown and the absence of any system of registration of title.

In general, all undeveloped land is presumed by law to be the property of the Crown till the contrary is proved. It is clear, however, that to insist that this presumption shall be strictly applied is likely to lead to hardship in many cases. Legislation has therefore been passed providing machinery for dealing with the claims of private persons to land to which the presumption in favour of the Crown applies. The law on the subject is contained in the Land Settlement Ordinance, 1931, as amended by Ordinance No. 22 of 1932 and Ordinance No. 31 of 1933. A special department—the Land Settlement Department—has been organized for the purpose of systematically dealing with all the undeveloped land in the Island under these Ordinances. This undertaking involves a great deal of work, however, and is not likely to be completed for many years.

The need for a system of registration of titles to land has long been recognized, and in 1933 a Committee was appointed to consider this question. The Committee has submitted a report containing proposals for a system of registration of titles suitable to the conditions prevailing in Ceylon, and steps are now being taken to draft the necessary legislation.

Till recently it was the practice not to advertise any Crown land for sale or lease unless some one had applied for that land. When such an application was received, steps were taken to survey the land, and eventually to dispose of the freehold or leasehold by public auction. This system had many disadvantages. Long delays were almost inevitable ; the original applicant could not be sure of obtaining the land he wanted, at any rate at a reasonable price ; the development of the available land was haphazard rather than systematic ; and there was a tendency for the needs of the villagers to be overlooked.

The present policy is for Government to take the initiative in disposing of Crown land. As a necessary preliminary, the Crown land in each village is " mapped-out ", that is to say, it is allocated to various definite purposes in the following way. In the first place, land is set aside for the needs of the State and of the permanent village population. The next consideration is to reserve land for alienation to villagers who are unable to get land in their own villages and are prepared to move to localities where land is available. If possible, land is then provided for development by Ceylonese of moderate means. Any land remaining is made available for alienation to other persons, irrespective of their means or race. Once a village has been mapped-out, the Revenue Officer in charge of the district can dispose of the Crown land in that village without fear of overlooking the interests of any part of the community. He is therefore able to take the initiative, and periodically offer land for disposal if he thinks there is likely to be a demand for it. Persons who receive land under this system are put in possession with the least possible delay.

A further change is in the tenure of land alienated by the Crown. Hitherto the only tenures have been freehold and leasehold, but a new tenure was introduced by the Land Development Ordinance, No. 19 of 1935, which came into force on October 15, 1935. The principal features of this tenure are as follows :—

(*a*) The owner is obliged to cultivate the land, or utilize in some other way specified in the grant.

(*b*) The owner is required to make a small annual payment to the Crown in perpetuity.

(*c*) The land cannot be subdivided beyond the limit specified in the grant, or held in undivided shares smaller than the fraction specified.

(*d*) The succession to the land is not regulated by the ordinary law of inheritance, but by special rules designed to prevent the land from being subdivided.

(*e*) In certain cases, the owner is forbidden to lease or mortgage the land except to the Crown, and may not otherwise dispose of it without the Revenue Officer's consent.

In rural areas, the general policy now is to alienate Crown land required for agricultural purposes by peasants and Ceylonese of moderate means

under the Land Development Ordinance. In urban areas the mode of alienation is normally by long lease. Outright sales of Crown lands have been reduced to a minimum.

The Ordinance provides adequate machinery for enforcing the conditions of the tenure.

It is the present policy of Government not only to take the initiative in bringing land forward for disposal but also to provide a positive stimulus to landless villagers to leave their homes and either take up land in less congested villages or found new villages in undeveloped districts. Thus, " colonization schemes " have been started in various parts of the Island, and those willing to take part in these schemes have been helped with grants of land and money. Provision is made for affording financial assistance to colonists and peasants who take up land under the new tenure.

The villagers are conservative, and as a rule are very reluctant to leave their homes. On that account, progress with colonization schemes has necessarily been slow, and is likely to remain so for some time to come. Eventually, however, it is hoped that the villagers will become less reluctant to leave their homes, and the congestion caused by the growth of the population will cause an increasing number to migrate each year. In this way it should be possible gradually to reclaim large tracts of the dry zone, which are now almost uninhabited, but which formerly supported a large population.

One of the greatest difficulties that the village cultivators have to contend with is that of disposing of their produce at a remunerative price. On this account, a new department has recently been formed, which is responsible for the development of agricultural marketing. Satisfactory progress has already been made, and it is hoped that, as the organization of this department develops, it will become possible for villagers, even in remote parts of the Island, to dispose readily of their surplus produce.

PRODUCTION FORESTS.

A large portion of the Island is still, in spite of agricultural development, &c., covered with forest of one kind or another. Most of the forests are situated in the more remote, inaccessible or sparsely populated parts of the country. Consequently the largest tracts are to be found in the Dry Zone—Northern, North-Central, Eastern and parts of the North-Western and Uva Provinces.

All the Crown land bearing forest is divided into two main categories, viz., that in charge of the Forest Department and that in charge of the Revenue Officers.

The forest land administered by the Forest Department represents practically all the forests which the Government intends to keep permanently as forest bearing land, while most of the land in the care of the Revenue Officers is available for agricultural and other developments.

The Forest Reserves and Proposed Reserves, which are the forests administered by the Forest Department, may be divided into several groups viz., forests intended primarily for the production of timber and fuel, those intended for purely protective, climatic or scenic purposes and those intended for the protection of wild animals, birds and plants.

Photo by Werner Conitz. *Courtesy Govt. Tourist Bureau and Colombo Museum.*

PIECE OF SINHALESE JEWELLERY.

The total area of Forest Reserves and Proposed Reserves at the end of 1937 is given in the table below together with the localities in which they are situated :—

Locality.	Economic Forests. (area in acres).	Protective Forests (Climatic). (area in acres).	Protective Forests (Fauna and Flora). (area in acres).
Northern Province ..	.. 455,743*	.. Nil	.. Nil
	65,574		
North-Central Province	.. 23,959*	.. Nil	.. 88,880*
	481,497	..	.. 35,988
Eastern Province ..	.. 449,557*	.. Nil	.. Nil
	409,117		
North-Western Province	.. 88,072*	.. 948*	.. 64,262*
	243,676	.. 11,360	.. Nil
Southern Province ..	.. 46,226*	.. 14,852*	.. 104,840*
	64,970	.. 9,147	.. 53,073
Western Province ..	.. 10,447*	.. Nil*	.. Nil
	64 564	913	.. Nil
Central Province ..	.. 18,534*	.. 3,063*	.. Nil*
	16,060	.. 1,766	.. 44,968
Uva Province ..	.. 4,873*	.. Nil*	.. Nil*
	6,946	.. 733	.. 92,349
Province of Sabaragamuwa	.. 23,412*	.. 17,470*	.. Nil*
	49,813	32,970	.. 16,321
Totals	.. 1,120,823*	36,333*	257,982*
	1,402,217	56,889	242,699

Grand Total .. 3,116,943 acres.

The forests of Ceylon vary much in appearance and composition according to the particular Climatic Zone in which they are found. These Climatic Zones are usually referred to as the " Dry Zone ", " Wet Zone ". " Intermediate Zone ", and " Mountain Zone ".

The Dry Zone forests belong to the " Tropical Dry Evergreen " type. The principal economic timber trees found in this type are Satinwood (Chloroxylon swietenia), Ebony (Diospyros ebenum), Palu (Mimusops hexandra), Ranai (Alseodaphne semecarpifolia) and Halmilla (Berrya ammonilla). It is from these forests that most of the heavy hardwoods supplied to Government Departments for railway sleepers, buildings, bridges, harbour works, &c., come while the valuable satinwood is also confined to this Zone. Most of the Dry Zone forests are managed on a selection system with a girth control limit for exploitation. A considerable area in this zone has been planted with teak which does not occur naturally in Ceylon.

The Wet Zone Forests are the " Tropical Wet Evergreen " type. These forests are characterized by being composed of a very large variety of species most of which yield timber of somewhat inferior and non-durable quality. An important tree found in this zone is Hora (Dipterocarpus zeylanicus) the timber of which is of considerable commercial importance, while trees producing timbers considered suitable for box making and match making occur in large quantities. Up to the present these forests have not been brought under organized management.

The Intermediate Zone, as the name implies, is the Climatic Zone between the Dry, Wet, and Mountain Zones. It is comparatively small in extent and contains little crown forest. It is in this zone several of the most valuable of the timber trees grown in Ceylon are found. The most important of these are Jak (Artocarpus intergrifolia), Lunumidella (Malia dubia), Milla (Vitax altissima) and the exotic large leaved mahogany (Swietenia macrophylla). These species are grown in artificially established plantations of which there are now approximately 4,200 acres in this zone.

* Areas already Reserved by Proclamation.

The Mountain Zone forests are of the usual "Tropical Montane" type. They contain little timber of any value but they are of considerable importance as yielding fuel to the towns and estates which are situated in the Hills. These forests are at present managed on a clear felling system followed by the establishment of plantations of exotics, principally the Monterey Cypress (Cupressus macrocarpa) and a variety of different Eucalyptus species. At present there are approximately 5,200 acres of these plantations.

The Forest Policy of Ceylon is to make the Island as far as possible self-supporting in respect of its timber and fuel requirements. At present large quantities of timber are imported, principally teak for constructional purposes and softwoods for the shipment of economic products such as tea, rubber, desiccated coconut, &c. Little timber is exported from Ceylon, the most important of such material being high grade satinwood. The Central Timber Depôt, where Government timber for export is stored, is at Slave Island, Colombo.

The Forest Department, which is under the general control of the Executive Committee of Agriculture and Lands, has its headquarters in the Secretariat, Colombo. In addition to the Conservator of Forests, the following forest officers have their offices at Headquarters :—

The Divisional Forest Officer, Working Plans.
The Divisional Forest Officer, Silvicultural Research.
The Divisional Forest Officer, Exploitation.
The Divisional Forest Officer, Utilization Research.

Territorial Divisional Headquarters are situated at :—

Colombo	..	.. South-Western Division.
Kurunegala	..	.. North-Western Division
Jaffna	..	.. Dry Zone Division
Nuwara Eliya	..	.. Up-country Division

Though for many years the forests of Ceylon have been ruthlessly and unsystematically exploited, the activities of the Forest Department are now directed to see that the forests are brought under regular management and the yield permanently sustained. For this purpose careful stock maps showing the contents of the Forest Reserves are being prepared and Working Plans compiled to control and systematize management.

In addition to the introduction of Working Plans, organized silvicultural research has been started so that plans of management can be based on essential proven silvicultural data. Much still has to be done, not only to popularize the indigenous timbers of known usefulness, but also to discover new uses for local timbers hitherto considered of little value. For this purpose a special utilization research officer has recently been appointed.

It has recently been decided that the protection of wild life, both animal and plant, should also be one of the duties of the Forest Department. The Fauna and Flora Ordinance of 1937, provides for the proclamation of land as National Parks, Sanctuaries, and areas where wild animals are completely protected, and also controls the times and places when and where shooting can take place. This same ordinance provides for the appointment of the Conservator of Forests as Game Warden and also for other protective officers.

Photo by Werner Conitz. *Courtesy Govt. Tourist Bureau.*

IN A MATCH FACTORY.

SURVEY.

The Survey Department.—As no land can be alienated or otherwise dealt with by the Crown until it has been surveyed and demarcated, the work of the Survey Department is of great importance. Its chief activities may be summarized as follows :—

(*a*) Application Surveys, *i.e.*, a system of sporadic surveys, usually made on "Applications" by members of the public, to buy or lease Crown land, or on "Crown Requisitions" from Government officials for such surveys.

Included under this head are :—

(i.) Acquisition Surveys, or surveys undertaken for the acquisition of private land for Government or public purposes.

(ii.) Town Surveys—to further the development, the administration, and the assessment of towns by Local Bodies, and to assist town planning schemes.

(iii.) Forest Surveys, which include the demarcation of forest boundaries and fauna or flora reserves.

(iv.) Land Development Surveys or surveys arising from the Land Development Ordinance, No. 19 of 1935, which provides for the systematic development and alienation of Crown lands in the Island.

(v.) Engineering Surveys which are chiefly undertaken with a view to providing plans and sections for use in the investigation and development of irrigation schemes by the Irrigation Department.

(*b*) Block Surveys, or the continuous survey of large areas of land for the final settlement of claims as between the Crown and private owners.

Topographical Surveys.—In addition, the Survey Department, having completed a Topographical Survey of the Island, is now engaged upon a Topographical Revision Survey. Sectional maps for the whole Island on the scale of 1 mile to the inch can be obtained at the Surveyor-General's Office, Colombo, at "Ceylon Products", Chatham street, Colombo, and at the Ceylon Cottage Industries showroom, York street, Colombo, and numerous other small scale maps are also published. The chief of these are :—

4-mile and 8-mile to the inch maps of the Island.
8-mile to the inch motor maps.
4-mile and 24-mile to the inch agricultural maps.
Aviation map of Ceylon and South India on the scale of 1/1,000,000.

Relief Models.—Plaster of Paris and Paper Models on a horizontal scale of 1 mile to 1 inch, and a vertical scale of ½ mile to 1 inch can also be obtained on application to the Surveyor-General's Office, Colombo.

Other Work of the Survey Department.—The other work of the Survey Department is not directly connected with the subject of this chapter. It includes—

(1) Trigonometrical Surveys.
(2) Precise Levelling.
(3) The Observatory and Meteorological Stations.

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Continued on page 3 of cover

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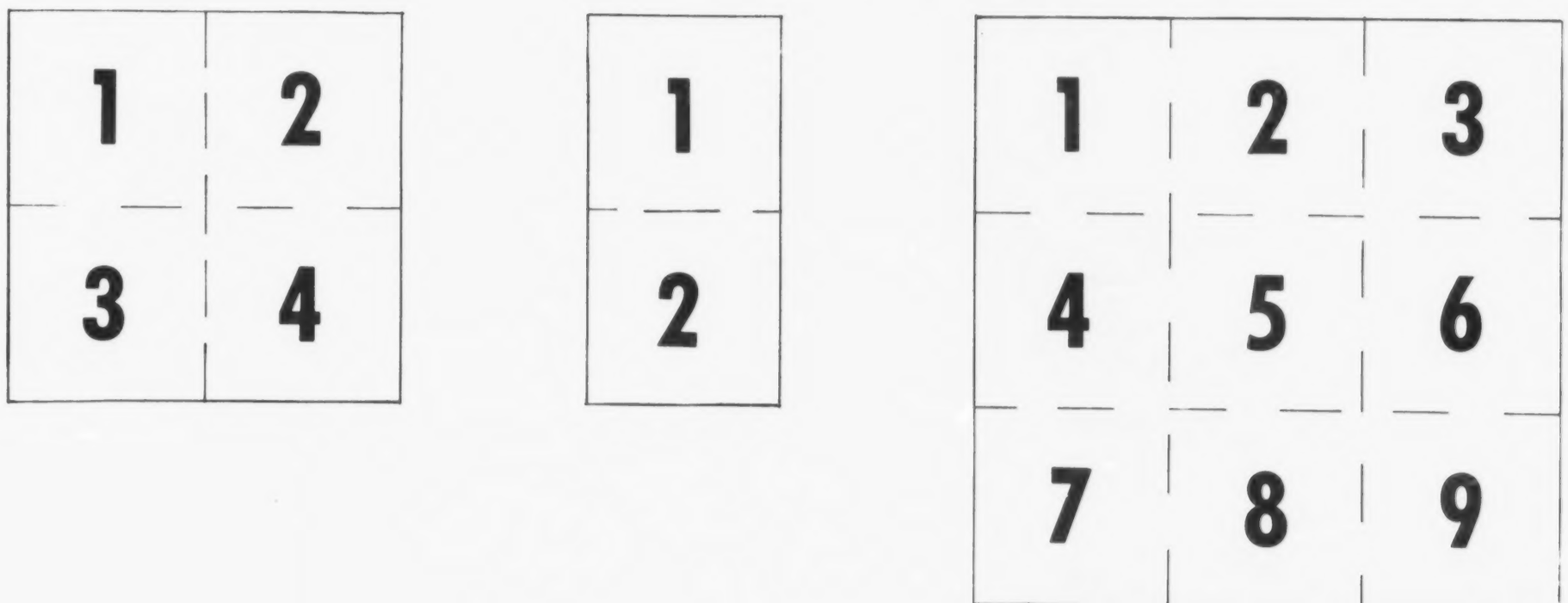

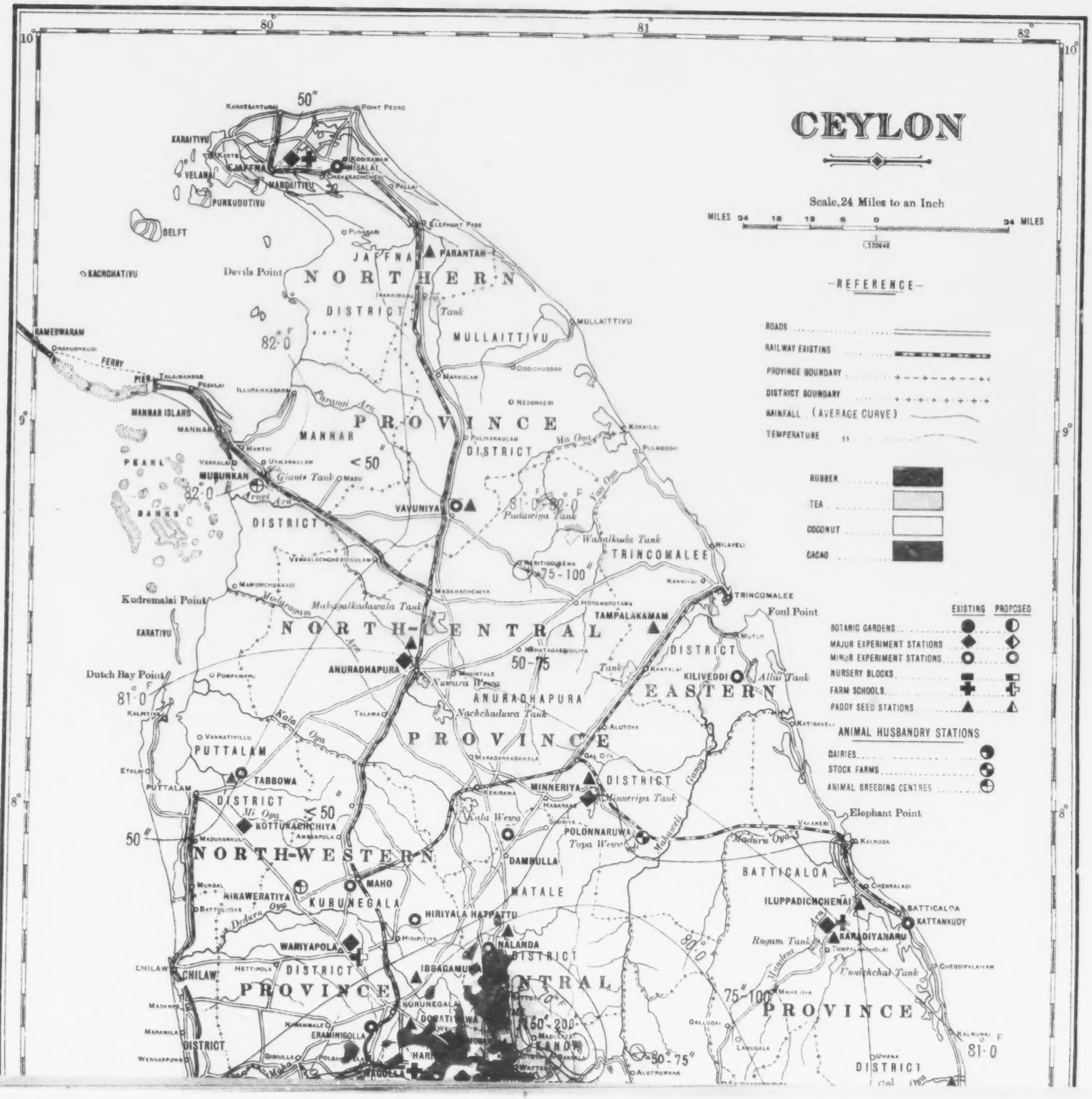
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Scale, 24 Miles to an Inch
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-REFERENCE-
ROADS
RAILWAY EXISTING
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DISTRICT BOUNDARY
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COCONUT
CACAO
EXISTING
PROPOSED
BOTANIC GARDENS
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MINOR EXPERIMENT STATIONS
NURSERY BLOCKS
FARM SCHOOLS
PADDY SEED STATIONS
ANIMAL HUSBANDRY STATIONS
DAIRIES
STOCK FARMS
ANIMAL BREEDING CENTRES
NORTHERN PROVINCE
JAFFNA DISTRICT
MANNAR DISTRICT
MULLAITTIVU DISTRICT
NORTH-CENTRAL PROVINCE
ANURADHAPURA DISTRICT
TRINCOMALEE DISTRICT
EASTERN PROVINCE
BATTICALOA DISTRICT
NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCE
PUTTALAM DISTRICT
KURUNEGALA DISTRICT
CHILAW DISTRICT
CENTRAL PROVINCE
MATALE DISTRICT
NALANDA DISTRICT
KANDY DISTRICT
POINT PEDRO
KANKESANTURAI
KARAITIVU
JAFFNA
VELANAI
MANDAITIVU
PUNKUDUTIVU
DELFT
KACHCHATIVU
RAMESWARAM
PEARL BANKS
MANNAR ISLAND
MANNAR
MUDUNKAN
VAVUNIYA
Kudremalai Point
KARATIVU
Dutch Bay Point
PUTTALAM
TABBOWA
KOTTUKACHCHIYA
ANURADHAPURA
Devils Point
PARANTAN
MULLAITTIVU
TRINCOMALEE
Foul Point
TAMPALAKAMAM
KILIVEDDI
Elephant Point
BATTICALOA
KATTANKUDY
ILUPPADICHCHENAI
KARADIYANARU
MINNERIYA
POLONNARUWA
DAMBULLA
MATALE
NALANDA
HIRIYALA HATPATTU
IBBAGAMUWA
KURUNEGALA
MAHO
NIKAWERATIYA
WARIYAPOLA
CHILAW
ERAMINIGOLLA
Giants Tank
Puliyankulam
Pudawiya Tank
Wahalkada Tank
Mahapalkadawala Tank
Nuwara Wewa
Nachchadawa Tank
Kala Wewa
Minneriya Tank
Topa Wewa
Rugam Tank
Unnichchai Tank
Allai Tank
Mi Oya
Kala Oya
Deduru Oya
Maha Oya
Mahaweli Ganga
Madu Oya
Vavuniya Aru
Parunni Aru
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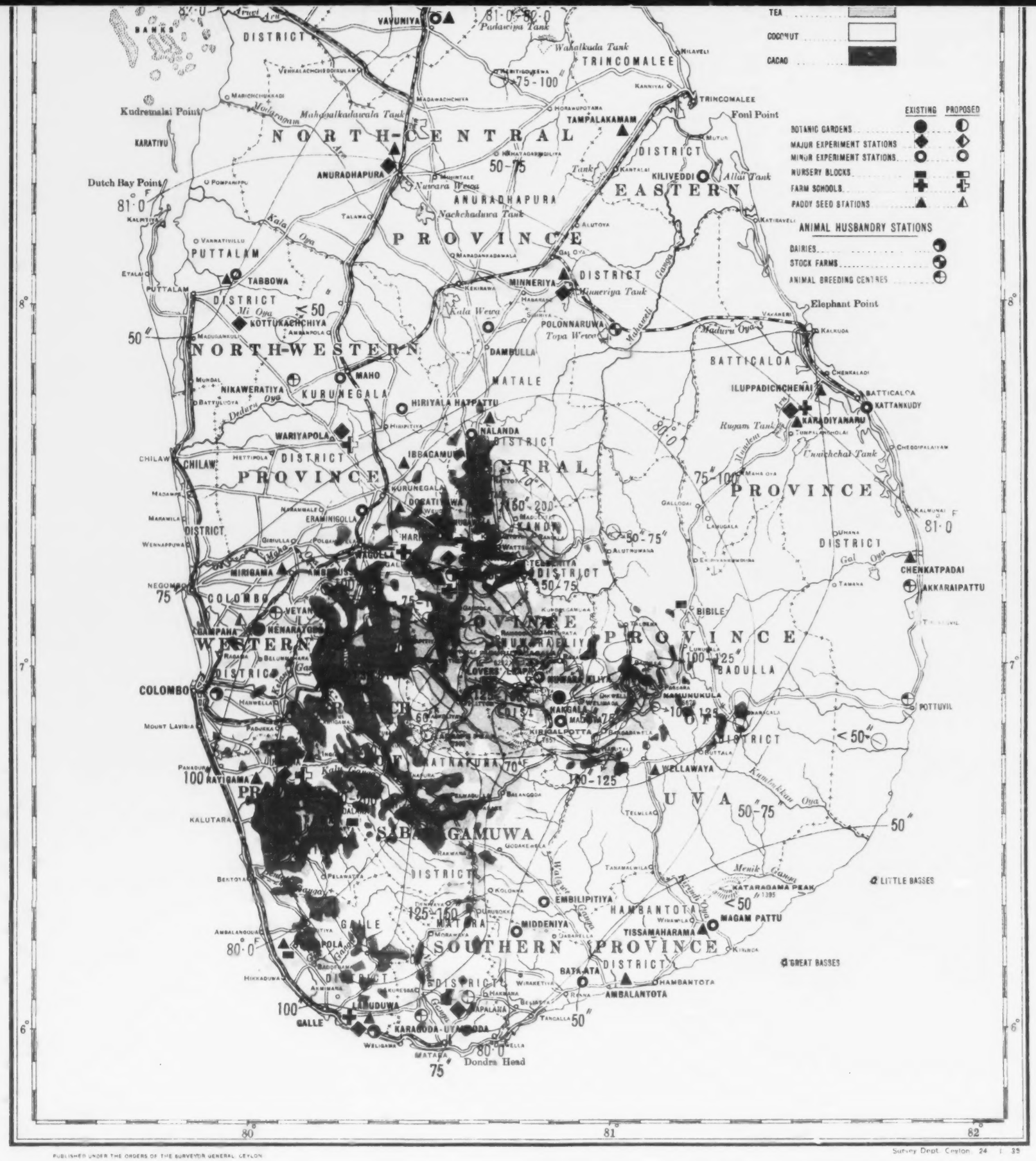

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COLOMBO AIR-PORT.

Annual General Report for 1938 on the Economic, Social, and General Conditions of the Island.

CHAPTER I.

Introductory.

In the middle of the nineteenth century, economists were thinking in terms of free trade and the wealth of nations which flowed and circulated through the different countries with beneficial effects to all concerned as a result of such unrestricted private enterprise. At the end of the century various countries found themselves bound in the interests of their internal economy to resist the operations of foreign traders. First came the Boer War and then the Great War in which economic considerations played a greater part than is generally supposed.

Twenty years after the close of the Great War the shadow looms once more overhead. Once more the issue is being raised as to what limits should be set to the expansion of Italy and Greater Germany, and once more small nations are faced with the problem as to what kind of economy they must be ready to adopt in the shifting and turbulent scheme of things.

For Ceylon the question for solution is whether she should attempt to develop her foreign trade at the expense of her internal development, or whether she should be prepared to sacrifice or acquiesce in a diminution of her export trade and concentrate on the production of her own food, and as far as possible produce her own clothing.

The best solution seems to lie in the adoption of a middle course. The time is long past when nations can adopt an *ersatz* policy with success and live at home. With the progress of modern machinery, modern ships, modern aeroplanes and wireless, the world has shrunk in size and it is impossible for nations to live separate and secluded existences. Trade has become international and tends to create more and more intimate contacts between nations. Nations have become more and more interdependent. But because of certain pages in their history and individual differences in their mental and moral make-up and their physical, climatic and geological endowments, some nations enjoy the advantage of being leaders. They are the stars around which the smaller nations cluster in the hope that they will form into stable bodies or constellations. We have such groups as the British, French, Dutch and Belgian Colonial Systems which enjoy a high degree of prosperity and security because of the partnership and the protection.

Now, Ceylon trade has flourished because of her share in such a partnership. A study of the customs returns shows the large share of international trade she enjoys by reason of the production of tea and rubber; and though her oil products form a small percentage of the world's output, they are a substantial part of the Empire's production. The same thing is true of her plumbago, citronella and cinnamon. Without these she could not pay for many of the articles which she imports and the standard of living would be much lower. That is what is meant by saying that Ceylon enjoys the benefit of international interchange in a great partnership. That is one side of the picture. On the other side lies consciousness of the fact that Ceylon imports two-thirds of her food requirements, and hence the ready response which is accorded to those who raise the cry of " Back to the Land ".

Thus, we find in Ceylon two influences at work which require to be nicely balanced. The Chamber of Commerce, and, in a small measure, the newly formed Department of Commerce and Industries, are making steadfast efforts to increase the foreign trade of Ceylon whilst the Department of Agriculture is making herculean efforts to ensure that Ceylon shall be self-sufficing in the matter of food. The latter policy cannot reasonably be resented by the countries from which at present she imports her food-stuffs; any scheme for increased food production must find justification in the fact that there is a marked annual increase of population and a corresponding increase of unemployment which can only be remedied by a return to agricultural occupations. The industries which might absorb a part of the unemployed or underemployed surplus population have yet to be built up. A beginning of industrialization has been made, but it is only a small beginning.

The Economic Survey begun in 1936 still continues, and indicates the gaps which have to be filled. The steps taken by the several Ministries during the past year illustrate the manner in which the various problems are being tackled.

The Ministry of Agriculture has marked out 16,500 acres for colonization. At the end of 1937, about 8,000 acres had been distributed among 2,500 allottees. In 1938, another 1,300 acres had been allotted to three hundred and forty-nine peasants. The total expenditure on colonization schemes in 1938 was four lakhs of rupees. The pace is comparatively slow, but depends on the rapidity with which new areas can be provided with irrigation facilities. In the loan recently floated a sum of fifteen million rupees is included for irrigation works. There are four major works under construction—(1) the Topawewa Scheme, (2) the Elehera Irrigation Scheme, (3) the Minipe-ela Scheme, and (4) the Ridibendi-ela Scheme. The cost of the first scheme is estimated at Rs. 1,740,000, and 21,500 acres will be brought under it. No. (2) is a smaller work estimated to cost four and a half lakhs. Work has started. Under No. (3), estimated at a million rupees, 10,000 acres will be irrigated. Work is proceeding. No. (4) will irrigate 6,000 acres and will cost the same as No. (2). It is difficult to find man-power to open up all the new land. The difficulties of a farmer's life are great, of pioneer farming still greater. The project of granting monopoly rights to a company for the purpose of milling and encouraging the intensive cultivation of rice is being considered. It should pass from discussion to execution before long.

Great impetus is being given to agriculture by the opening of Practical Farm Schools, classes for agricultural learners, and experiment stations.

Rubber Budwood nurseries have beeen opened in the Kalutara, Galle and Kegalla Districts; new experiment stations are in the course of construction at Horana and Mapalana. An area of 200 acres, by way of experiment, was opened at Kottukachchiya in the Puttalam District and planted with cashew. A development station for citrus, mango and paddy was opened at Minneriya, and a small sugar experiment station at Killiveddi in the Eastern Province. Livestock have been imported from India and from Great Britain with a view to effecting an improvement in the local breed of cattle. A memorandum on food production embodying schemes for making Ceylon self-supporting in regard to food has been prepared. Autarchy is the order of the day.

Meanwhile, the Ministry of Labour, Industry and Commerce, on the principle that agriculture must be supported by industry, has opened Unemployment Bureaux, first in Galle and then in Colombo and Kandy. A census of unemployment in the City of Colombo was taken. An Ordinance regulating the employment of shop assistants was passed and will shortly be brought into operation.

A new model coir factory was completed early in the year, and a superintendent appointed. A workshop for the Industrial Engineer was nearing completion in December. New demonstration parties were placed at Pottupitiya for coir manufacture, and at Morontuduwa for mat weaving in the Kalutara District.

Experiments were made in the manufacture of plywood, cement and paper. A plywood expert will be shortly imported to erect a factory. Negotiations for the erection of a cement factory by a well-known Indian Company are proceeding.

The subject of Civil Aviation was transferred to the Ministry of Communications and Works, and the Director of Public Works was appointed Director of Civil Aviation. The Air Navigation Regulations 1938 (Ceylon) were published in the *Government Gazette* of March 11, 1938. The Empire Air Mail Service was officially inaugurated by His Excellency the Governor (frontispiece) on February 28, 1938, and, thus, Ceylon comes on the Air Map.

Tenders have been invited by the Crown Agents for the completion of the Aberdeen-Laxapana Hydro-Electric Scheme.

In January, 1938, three four-coach articulated Diesel units were imported. (p. 4).

1938 also saw the inauguration of the Ceylon Savings Certificates Scheme. Arrangements were made for the issue of the first certificates at 9 o'clock on September 19.

A new Motor Ordinance was passed under the auspices of the Ministry of Local Administration. The Ordinance provides for a Motor Traffic Advisory Board of six members to assist the Commissioner in fixing, bus routes, fares and time tables, and licensing lorries, and a Tribunal of Appeal composed of three members. Compulsory insurance against third party risks is provided for.

A selection—final, it is hoped—has been made of a site for the University.

A new division of nutrition under the control of the Director of the Bacteriological Institute was created during 1938 for the purpose of carrying out investigation into the food and nutritional deficiencies of the local population. This division is undertaking laboratory and field work, lectures, propaganda and research work.

Tourism (Down South).

A brief reference to places of interest will conclude this section. This year the reader will be taken to places in the South possessing historical and antiquarian as well as scenic interest. No doubt he will want to explore some of the usual sights in Colombo. The tourist may be unable to resist a visit to the Silk Shop (p. 9), and the snake charmer still holds an irresistible attraction (p. 13). The thirsty traveller must needs quench her thirst with Nature's purest drink (p. 17). No visit is complete without a rickshaw ride (p. 21). The novelty of being drawn by a human steed is one that few do not wish to experience. If the visitor has time, he may treat himself with a visit to the zoo at Dehiwala (p. 26), and as Mount Lavinia is within striking distance, he may proceed thence to the very fashionable hotel (p. 32). Those who are more fortunate in the matter of leisure will go further South.

On the way he will encounter unexpected beauty in the Kumaramahavihare at Dodanduwa (p. 39). The wall paintings (pp. 46, 51) have something of the characteristics of Egyptian art. After Dodanduwa, the next stopping place is Galle, where he will put up for the night. One enters Galle through a gate of the ramparts (p. 57), and from the ramparts one may see the harbour (p. 62), the clock tower (p. 69) and the sea (p. 74). Next to the hotel is the old Dutch Church (p. 79), which will repay the lover of antique things for his interest. Next, the lure of the sea draws the visitor further South. A magnificent view of the lighthouse at Dondra,the southernmost point of the Island,claims his admiration (p. 84). There is also a temple with beautiful carvings at Dondra. This warrior (p. 89) might have adorned the pages of Walter Scott. Then the traveller may pass on through spacious country and long straight roads to Hambantota and Kirinda, where the salt is made by nature (p. 95) the cheetah haunts the twilight and the buffalo earns his keep by honest toil (p.100). It is a long and uneventful journey to Wellawaya unless one has time to go to the game sanctuary area. An occasional deer or jackal crosses the lonely road. On rare occasions one may hear of a rogue elephant. He may be shot on sight, but one must beware how one approaches that vicinity. A licence is needed for permission to shoot game, and can be had from the local Kachcheri. The close season is from April 30 to October 31. The journey is long and lonesome till one gets to Haputale, but the scenery is delightful, especially near the Diyaluma Falls (p. 105). From Haputale one goes to Bandarawela where there is trout fishing to be had. A short journey brings one to Nuwara Eliya where, if one is lucky to arrive in the time of the year, one may see a tennis tournament (p. 110) and a Race Meet (p. 116) in progress. There I shall leave the traveller to ponder over what he has seen 6,000 feet above sea level, and wondering what other climatic surprises Ceylon has in store.

Situation and Dimensions.

Ceylon lies between 5° 55′ and 9° 50′ N. latitude and 79° 42′ and 81° 53′ E. longitude. The greatest length of the Island from north to south, *i.e.*, from Point Palmyra to Dondra Head, is 270 miles; its greatest width 140 miles, from Colombo on the west coast to Sangamankanda on the east. Its area is 25,332 square miles, nearly the same as that of Holland and Belgium, or about half the size of England.

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DIESEL UNIT.

The approximate distances of Colombo, the chief port of Ceylon, from the other chief world ports, and the average tariff for the itinerary are given below :—

Colombo to London.	Nautical Miles.	Approximate Days' Journey.
Aden	2,100	8
Suez	3,407	12
Port Said	3,494	13
Marseilles	5,091	16
Gibraltar (*vid* Marseilles)	5,690	19
Gibraltar (direct)	5,407	18
London (by sea *vid* Marseilles)	7,005	22
London (by sea direct)	6,725	20
London (overland)	5,868	17

Colombo to India, &c.		
Calcutta (touching at Madras)	1,260	7
Bombay	875	2½
Rangoon	1,249	4½
Penang	1,276	4
Singapore	1,567	5
Hong Kong (touching at Singapore)	3,113	11
Shanghai (touching at Singapore and Hong Kong)	3,966	15
Yokohama (*vid* Singapore and Hong Kong)	5,083	21

Colombo to Australia.		
Fremantle	3,121	9
Adelaide (touching at Fremantle)	4,479	13
Melbourne (touching at Fremantle and Adelaide)	4,979	15
Sydney (touching at Fremantle, Adelaide and Melbourne)	5,556	18

Colombo to South Africa, &c.		
Mauritius	2,099	10
Durban (touching at South African ports)	3,680	18
Cape Town (touching at South African ports)	4,362	21–30

Passage Fares.

Colombo-London :—
1st class single .. £54 to £80
2nd class single .. £44 to £50
3rd and tourist single .. £27 to £62

Colombo-Sydney :—
1st class single .. £53
2nd class single .. £34
3rd and tourist single .. £24 to £41

Colombo-Melbourne :—
1st class single .. £50
2nd class single .. £32
3rd and tourist single .. £23 to £40

Colombo-Durban :—
1st class single .. £32 to £42
2nd class single .. £20

Colombo-Singapore :—
1st class single From average £31
2nd class single do. £20

Colombo-Hong Kong :—
1st class single .. From average £41
2nd class single .. do. £27

Colombo-Yokohama :—
1st class single .. From average £51
2nd class single .. do. £33

Colombo-Bombay :—
1st class single £10
2nd class single .. .. £ 8

Colombo-Calcutta :—
1st class or cabin single .. £10

Colombo-Rangoon :—
1st class single .. .. Rs. 180

Colombo-Port Said :—
1st class single .. £40 to £60
2nd class single .. £29 to £40
3rd class and tourist single £23 to £58

Colombo-Marseilles :—
1st class single .. £55 to £76
2nd class single .. £40 to £46
3rd and tourist single .. £20 to £60

Colombo-Boston and New York £60 to £95

Facilities provided at the Passenger Jetty for the storage of baggage are described on page 65. Passengers' baggage is defined by the Customs Regulations to mean *bona fide* baggage (which includes wearing apparel and personal effects) of a passenger accompanying him or arriving in Ceylon within one month, before or after his arrival, or within such time as the Collector of Customs in the circumstances deems reasonable. With certain exceptions, passengers' baggage is exempt from duty.

The Ceylon Government Railway serves the principal towns of the Island, and offers visitors excellent facilities for inland travel. Cheap first class tourist tickets obtainable from the Booking Office at the Jetty, the Fort Station, and recognized tourist agents at Rs. 50 (£3. 15*s.*) for two weeks and Rs. 75 (£5. 12*s.* 6*d.*) for one month, permit tourists to travel 951 miles of railway and visit the most important and historic

towns. Servants accompanying tourists are issued third class tickets at Rs. 15 (£1. 2*s*. 6*d*.) for two weeks and Rs. 25 (£1. 17*s*. 6*d*.) for one month. These are issued throughout the year.

Similar "Tour Ceylon" tickets priced first class Rs. 40, second class Rs. 20, and third class Rs. 10 (half these rates for children under twelve years) were again issued during the Christmas holidays this year. These tickets are available for 14 days unlimited travel and will also be issued during the forthcoming Easter holidays.

The distances from Colombo to some of the principal towns of the Island, and information regarding sleeping and restaurant cars, &c., are found on pages 69–72.

There is no legal tariff for taxi-cabs within the municipal limits of Colombo, but the usual scale of fares is as follows :—

For the first half mile	50 cents
For each subsequent ½ mile up to 1 mile	12½ ,,
For each subsequent mile	75 ,,

Extra charges are made for each passenger over two, and for each piece of luggage other than hand luggage. A higher scale of fares is charged in the case of taxi-cabs hired between the hours of 9·30 P.M. and 7 A.M.

The above rates apply only to places within the municipal limits of Colombo. For trips to places outside Colombo Municipality special terms should be agreed upon *before starting*. The hiring-car fares to such places vary from 40 cents to Re. 1 per mile, with extra charges for detention.

There are hotels of the European type in Colombo, Kandy, Nuwara Eliya, Galle, and Anuradhapura ; the rates are usually Rs. 9 a day and upwards, the usual charge for first-class accommodation being Rs. 12 a day. Cold Storage Companies in Colombo supply ice and frozen meats and other foods by rail. In addition to hotels there are about 170 resthouses in various parts of the Island (marked on the ordinary motoring map), many of which are very delightfully situated beside the sea or some river or tank.

Useful information may be had from the new handbook published by the Automobile Association of Ceylon. "How to see Ceylon" by Bella Sidney Woolf is a favourite guide book for tourists. A more ambitious and informative book is Bassett's Romantic Ceylon, a recent addition to the voluminous literature on the subject.

Climate.

On the whole, the climate of Ceylon is tolerable for the tropics ; the accessibility of the hills is a great boon to the dwellers in the plains, and a change to the sea is beneficial to those who live in the hills. In the low-country, the districts which have been opened in rubber, coconuts, and other products are generally fairly healthy, but in the unopened localities malaria is common.

Temperature.—With regard to temperature, the range of variation at several stations is shown in diagram No. 1, facing this page.

The low seasonal variations will be noted, but it will be seen that the differences between the temperatures of low-country and up-country stations are considerable. The highest shade temperature registered in Ceylon was 103·7°F. at Trincomalee in May, 1890, and the minimum air temperature 27·1°F. at Nuwara Eliya in February, 1914. An extreme

DIAGRAM No. I

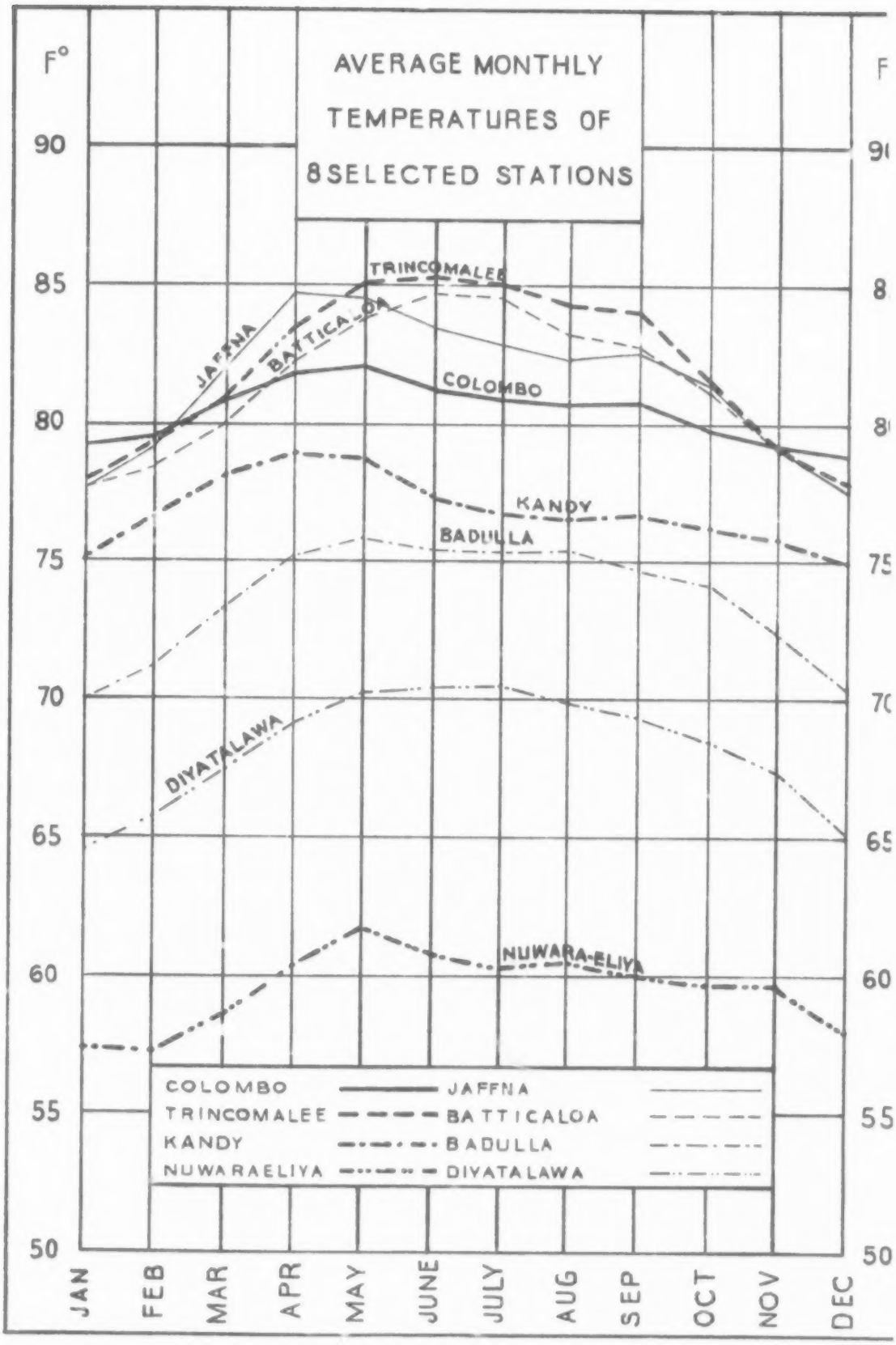

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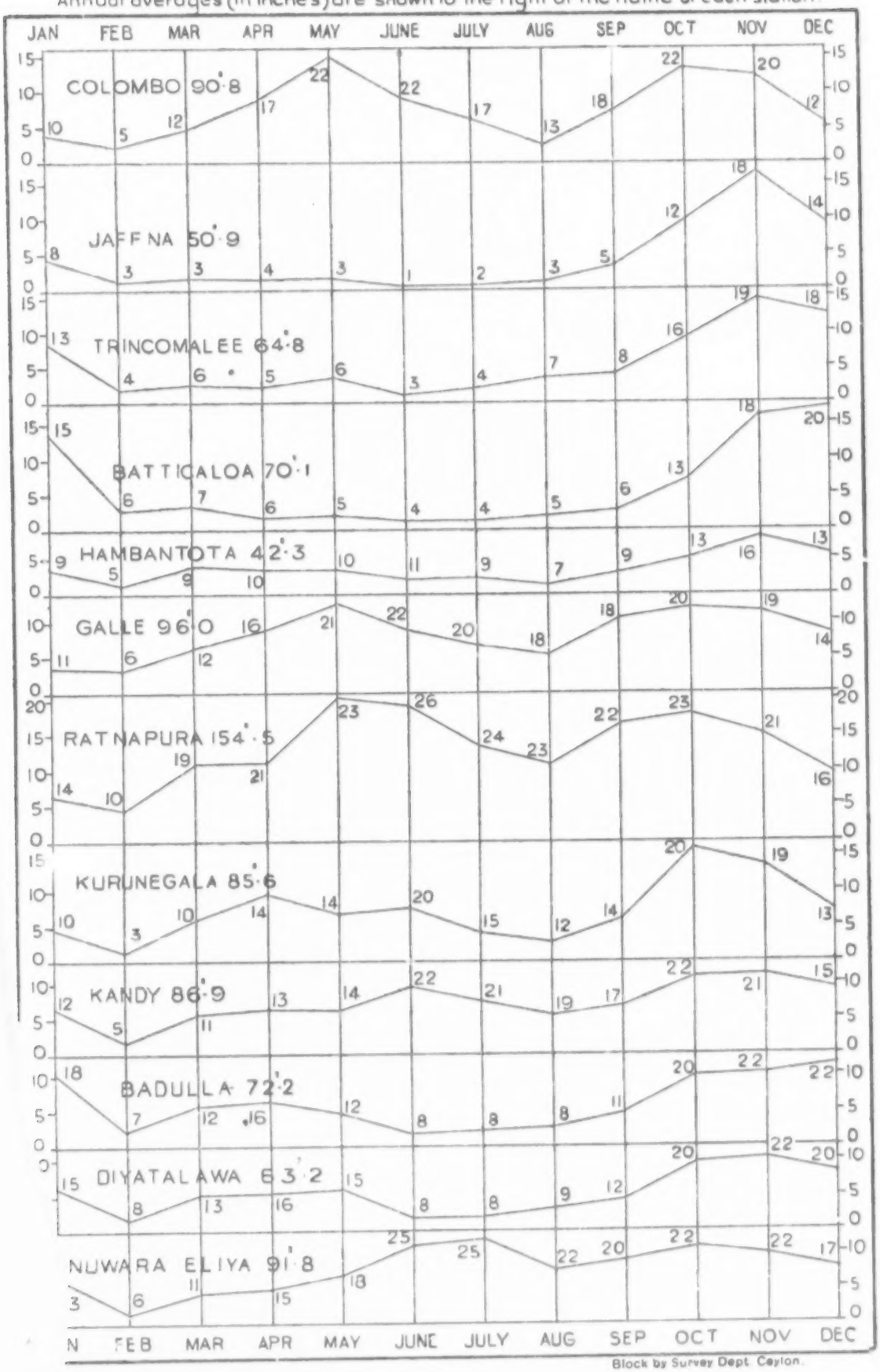
Diagram No 2

AVERAGE MONTHLY RAINFALL

OF 12 SELECTED STATIONS

Figures along the curve denote the number of wet days.

Annual averages (in inches) are shown to the right of the name of each station.



Block by Survey Dept. Ceylon.

temperature of 103·7°F. is not excessive, but the humidity is considerable, the annual average percentage of saturation being generally about 80, in Galle and Nuwara Eliya 84, in Colombo, Jaffna, and Badulla 82, in Kandy 80, in Batticaloa 78, in Trincomalee 76. At Colombo, the "hot weather" season may be said to extend from March to May, and the "cold weather" from December to February. July and August are often pleasant, particularly on the west side of the Island.

The mean temperature for the year, in the low-country, rarely varies more than 1° to 2°F. from 80°F. Nuwara Eliya, at an altitude of 6,000 feet, has a mean yearly temperature in the neighbourhood of 60°F.

Rainfall.—As is generally found in the tropics, however, the seasons are distinguished by differences in rainfall, rather than pronounced variations in temperature. The change in the direction of the monsoon winds, from south-west to north-east, causes a corresponding change in the location of the heaviest rain, which is usually experienced to windward of the hills, while during the intermonsoon seasons, local wind circulations are liable to give rain in any part of the Island.

The annual average rainfall varies from about 40 inches in the north-west and the south-east to over 200 inches in some parts of the interior.

The annual averages (1911–1930) are 91 inches at Colombo, 87 inches at Kandy, and 92 inches at Nuwara Eliya. Diagram No. 2, facing this page, shows the average monthly rainfall of 12 selected stations.

History.

The earliest inhabitants of the Island are thought to have been the Nagas and Yakkhas, the latter being perhaps now represented by the Veddas, a fast fading race. Legendary history has it that the first invaders were Aryans from the North of India, who, under the leadership of Vijaya, overcame the aborigines and established the Sinhalese dynasty. Early attention appears to have been paid by the invaders to irrigation works, agricultural development, and other branches of civil administration, and by the end of the third century A.D. a comparatively advanced stage of civilization had been reached.

The history of Ceylon down to the sixteenth century may be divided into two parts, viz., the period of the Sinhalese *Mahavansa*, *circa* 500 B.C. to 300 A.D., and that of the *Suluwansa*, from *circa* 300 A.D. onwards. The first period is one of increasing development and expanding civilization, connected chiefly with the progress of Buddhism, which was introduced about 247 B.C. The second period is one of ever-increasing pressure from the Tamils, Pandyans, and Cholas from India, with occasional success on the part of the Sinhalese, particularly during the reign of their famous king, Parakrama Bahu I. (1153 to 1186 A.D.). A natural limit occupation resulted from the constant warfare, and the Tamils known as Jaffnese were left in possession of the north of the Island.

In the sixteenth century the Portuguese formed settlements on the coasts of the Island; in the next century they were dispossessed by the Dutch. The Portuguese must be credited with the introduction of Catholic Christianity in the Island, and the Dutch with the introduction of Roman law. The impression made by the latter on the social customs of the Ceylonese remains to this day. More recently commerce has brought about a peaceful invasion of Moors, officially styled Muslims, and Malays who are found in large numbers especially in Hambantota,

and are reckoned to be the backbone of the Police force. In 1796 the British took possession of the Dutch settlements in the Island, which were then annexed to the Presidency of Madras, but five years later, in 1802, Ceylon was constituted a separate Crown Colony. In 1815, the districts of the interior, which had maintained their independence under the kings of Kandy, were acquired by Great Britain as the result of a rebellion against the Kandyan king, and the whole Island was thus united under the British rule.

Principal Languages.

Sinhalese and Tamil are the two chief vernacular languages in the Island, the former being spoken by the Sinhalese who chiefly inhabit the western, central and southern portions of the Island, and the latter by the Tamils inhabiting the northern and eastern parts and by the immigrant estate population. English is in general use among the people of the upper and the middle classes of all communities.

CHAPTER II.

Government.

The Constitution.

Until 1931 the Constitution of Ceylon was of the Crown Colony type, the government being vested in the Governor assisted by Executive and Legislative Councils. A description of the old Constitution will be found in the Annual General Reports of 1929 and previous years.

In July, 1931, the then existing Constitution was superseded by a new Constitution, based on the recommendations of a Special Commission on the Constitution appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies which visited Ceylon in 1927–28. The new Constitution was formulated by the Ceylon (State Council) Order in Council, 1931. The principal constitutional changes involved are described below.

The Legislative Council was dissolved in April, 1931, the Executive Council in July of the same year, and their place was taken by a "State Council" having both legislative and executive functions, which met for the first time on July 7, 1931. The new Council consists of three official members, fifty elected members, and not more than eight members nominated by the Governor. Neither an elected nor a nominated member may be a person holding any public office under the Crown in Ceylon.

The three official members of the State Council are styled the Officers of State. They are members of the Council *ex officio*, as the Chief Secretary, Legal Secretary, and Financial Secretary to the Government respectively. The Constitution provides that they shall have all the rights and privileges of membership of the Council and of the Board of Ministers (a body which will be referred to later), save the right to vote on any question before the Council or the Board.

All elected members are elected on a territorial basis, communal representation which was a feature of the old legislature having been abolished. The franchise is very wide. It extends, with a few exceptions to all British subjects of either sex who are, at least, twenty-one

Photo by Werner Conitz. *Courtesy Govt. Tourist Bureau.*

SILK SHOP.

years of age and are domiciled in Ceylon. In addition, persons not so domiciled are permitted to vote if they possess a certain literacy and property qualification, or have received a " certificate of permanent settlement " from a Government Agent or Assistant Government Agent.

Eight additional members are nominated by the Governor after a general election, the object of their appointment being, in the words of the Special Commission,* " to make the State Council more generally representative of the national interests ".

On the first assembly of a new Council, and after the election of a Speaker, the members proceed by secret ballot to divide their total number (excluding the Speaker and the Officers of State) into seven standing committees styled " Executive Committees ", which are required to be as nearly as possible equal in number of members†. Each Committee is charged with the administration of one of seven groups of subjects and functions specified in the Order in Council under the following headings :—

I. Home Affairs.
II. Agriculture and Lands.
III. Local Administration.
IV. Health.
V. Labour, Industry and Commerce.
VI. Education.
VII. Communications and Works.

After the election of the Executive Committees, each Committee proceeds to elect by secret ballot a Chairman, and the Chairman-elect of each Executive Committee is then appointed by the Governor as Minister for the group of subjects and functions which his Committee has to administer. It is within the discretion of the Governor to decline to appoint as Minister any member elected Chairman of an Executive Committee. Subjects and functions not allocated to Executive Committees are divided by the Order in Council into three further groups one of which is placed in the charge of each of the Officers of State, who have no Executive Committees associated with them in the administration of these groups.

The duties of Executive Committees may be summarized as follows :—

(*a*) Preparation of the annual estimates of expenditure of the departments under their control, for submission to the Board of Ministers.
(*b*) Similarly, the preparation of supplementary estimates.
(*c*) Consideration of executive business relating to their own subjects and functions, whether laid before them by their Chairmen or by private members, or referred to them by the Council or the Board of Ministers.
(*d*) Consideration of proposed legislative measures falling within their scope.

The decisions of Executive Committees which are of sufficient importance to require the approval of the Council are submitted at meetings of the whole Council in the form of reports, which the Council may accept or

* Page 101 of the Report of the Commission.
† The members subsequently elected as Deputy Speaker and Deputy Chairman of Committees cease upon their election, to be members of Executive Committees.

reject, or refer back to the Committee, but *may not amend*. A report accepted by the Council is submitted to the Governor by the Speaker for ratification. But the decisions of Executive Committees in financial* matters are submitted by the Committees to the Board of Ministers, and by the Board to the Council.

The Board of Ministers consists of the three Officers of State and the seven Ministers, but, as stated above, the Officers of State have not the right to vote on questions before the Board. The Chief Secretary is *ex officio* Chairman of the Board, and there is also a Vice-Chairman, elected by the Board from among the Ministers, who is the representative of the Board in the Council and is styled the Leader of the State Council. The most important function of the Board of Ministers is the preparation of the annual estimates of revenue and expenditure for the Island, and of supplementary estimates of expenditure. The annual and supplementary estimates of the different departments of Government are submitted by the Officers of State and Executive Committees to the Board, whose duty it is to revise them and, if and when approved, to submit them to the State Council, taking full and collective responsibility for them. No financial* measure may be introduced in the State Council except by an Officer of State or a Minister, and with the approval of the Board of Ministers. The Board of Ministers also determines the order in which any business, whether executive or legislative, to be brought before the Council either by the Board or by the Executive Committees or Officers of State, is to be despatched, and prescribes the procedure for the settlement of questions affecting more than one Executive Committee.

The ordinary life of a Council is four years. But the Constitution provides that the Governor may dissolve the Council at any time, and shall dissolve it if the whole of any Annual Appropriation Bill is rejected, or if the decision of the Council on a financial* measure, or on a motion expressly directed to test the confidence of the Council in the Board of Ministers, makes it apparent, in his opinion, that the Board no longer retains the confidence of the Council. Up to the time of writing a dissolution has never occurred. In certain circumstances the life of the Council may be prolonged. It was prolonged beyond its 4-year term in July, 1935, principally on the ground that a new Council would not be able to deal adequately with the Budget framed by the old Council and which was not discussed and passed till September, 1935. The general election was held in February, 1936, and the new Council came into being on March 17, 1936.

† The Governor retains the power to certify any Bill, motion, resolution, or vote as being of paramount importance, or he may declare that it is essential to give effect to the provisions of the Order in Council. In either event the measure has effect as if it had been passed by the Council, subject to disallowance by His Majesty the King in the case of Bills and to revocation by the Secretary of State in the case of other measures.

‡ Power is also reserved to the Governor to declare that a state of emergency exists, and thereupon to assume control of any Government department.

The appointment, promotion, transfer, dismissal, and disciplinary control of public officers are vested in the Governor (with power of delegation to heads of Government departments), and the Order in Council contains clauses for the preservation of their conditions of service.

* As defined in Article 57 of the Order in Council.
† Article 22 of the Order in Council.
‡ Article 49 of the Order in Council.

For full details of the Constitution, reference may be made to the Order in Council, which is reproduced in the Ceylon Government Manual of Procedure.

The Ceylon Civil Service.—Ceylonese Cadets are selected by open competitive examination held by the Civil Service Commissioners simultaneously in England and in Ceylon. European Cadets are selected by the Secretary of State for the Colonies in the manner prescribed for the selection of persons for the Colonial Administrative Service. A few appointments are also made locally to the Civil Service. The Civil Service furnishes officers for the general administrative and secretarial work in the Island.

Revenue Districts.—For administrative purposes Ceylon is divided into nine Provinces, which are subdivided into districts, as shown in the following table :—

Provinces.	Districts.	Provinces.	Districts.
Western	.. Colombo, Kalutara	North-Western	.. Kurunegala, Puttalam-Chilaw
Central	.. Kandy, Matale, Nuwara Eliya	North-Central	.. Anuradhapura
Southern	.. Galle, Matara, Hambantota	Uva	.. Badulla
Northern	.. Jaffna, Mannar, Mullaittivu	Sabaragamuwa	.. Ratnapura, Kegalla
Eastern	.. Batticaloa, Trincomalee		

The Government Agents.—The posts of Government Agents—one in each of the nine Provinces—are held by senior Civil Servants. To the Government Agents is entrusted the general administrative work of their Provinces, while their Kachcheries, or offices, are the provincial treasuries for the receipt of revenue and the payment of the local expenses of Government.

The Government Agents hold a number of other official positions, and preside over some local bodies in their Provinces. They are, as a rule, assisted by one or more Assistant Government Agents, who are in charge of revenue districts or else perform special duties at the provincial headquarters.

The Headmen.—The officer next subordinate to the Government Agent or Assistant Government Agent is the chief headman, who is differently styled in different districts : " Mudaliyar " in the maritime Sinhalese districts, " Ratemahatmaya " in the Kandyan districts ; " Maniagar ", " Adigar " and " Vanniya " in the Tamil districts. There are about 104 chief headmen in the Island. In some cases the Mudaliyar is assisted by one or more " Muhandirams ". Next to the chief Headman ranks the superior headman, called in the maritime Sinhalese districts " Vidane Arachchi ", in the Kandyan Sinhalese districts the " Korala ", and in the Tamil districts the " Udaiyar ". There are about 610 superior headmen in Ceylon.

Lastly comes the village headman, who is in charge of one or more villages, and whose jurisdiction is the administrative unit. The number of village headmen is about 3,800. In addition, there are peace officers, irrigation headmen, and others appointed for special purposes. A Commission was appointed in 1934 to inquire into and report on the working of the existing Headmen System with a view to its improvement or replacement partly or wholly by any other system. The Commission's report is contained in Sessional Paper XXVII. of 1935. This report was reviewed by the Home Committee in 1936. Its recommendations have

been debated by the State Council who approved that the principles underlying the following recommendations of the Executive Committee of Home Affairs be accepted :—

(1) Creation of a probationer service in lieu of the existing Chief Headmen Service which should be abolished within two years from the date of the passage of the motion. Provided that recruitment to such service is made on the following basis :—

(1) Candidates should be between the ages of 22 and 25 years.
(2) Each candidate should have passed the Senior Certificate or equivalent examination.
(3) He should be of good character.
(4) Ability to read and write with competence the vernacular language of any area.
(5) Certificate of fitness from a qualified Medical Officer to do field work is produced.
(6) A Selection Board, consisting of the Minister of Home Affairs, the Government Agent of the Province, and one Unofficial Member to be nominated by the Governor should interview the candidate who will be selected on the results of a written and *viva voce* examination.
(7) The Island should be divided into 3 administrative areas for the purpose of the probationer service, viz., Kandyan, Tamil speaking, and Low-country and a probationer recruited for any of the areas should be transferable within that area.

(2) Immediate abolition of the eight posts of Muhandiram, and later of the superior headmen—Vidane Arachchi, Korala and Udaiyar, whose duties will be performed by minor headmen of an improved type when available.

(3) Gradual establishment of two grades of minor headmen enlisted on an improved basis of recruitment.

(4) Progressive transference of the work of minor headmen to local bodies supervised by the central authority and gradual extension of the existing limits of minor headmen's divisions.

(5) Change of designation of Chief Headmen and use of a uniform nomenclature—" Divisional Revenue Officer " in place of " Mudaliyar ", " Ratemahatmaya", " Vanniya ", and " Maniagar ".

(6) Elimination of caste names in minor headmenships, and the adoption of a uniform nomenclature like " Police Vidane " in place of " Police Headman ", " Gan-Arachchi ", " Vidane Duraya ", &c.

(7) Adoption of the following dress for minor headmen :—

A dark blue or black coat, a white cloth and silver badge on ordinary official occasions, any special form of dress now in use being worn by all minor headmen of the Province, on all official ceremonial occasions.

Local Government.

With the inauguration of a new Constitution for the Island in July, 1931, an Executive Committee of Local Administration was elected by the State Council to supervise, control, and develop local government, and a department of local government under the Commissioner of Local Government was created as the executive instrument of the Committee.

Photo by Werner Conitz. *Courtesy Govt. Tourist Bureau.*

SNAKE CHARMER.

The local duties in regard to sanitation and public thoroughfares have for long been entrusted to a number of local authorities whose members are the nominees of the Governor with the addition in most cases of persons elected by the inhabitants. In Colombo there is a reformed Municipal Council, whose members (of either sex) are now elected by the ratepayers resident within the limits of any ward and (*a*) owning property assessed at an annual value of not less than Rs. 10 or (*b*) occupying property in respect of which the person in possession or occupation pays a monthly rent of not less than Re. 1, or (*c*) having an income of not less than Rs. 15 a month ; and by the ratepayers not resident within the Municipality but owning property assessed at an annual value of not less than Rs. 600 and situated within the limits of a ward of the Municipality. The Mayor is elected annually from among the Councillors and not a Civil Servant as formerly. In Kandy and Galle, there are Municipal Councils whose Chairmen are members of the Civil Service. At least half the members are elected by the ratepayers, all those possessing a house of the annual value of Rs. 180, or every tenant who pays a monthly rental of Rs. 15 or is a graduate of a university being qualified to vote.

Until the end of 1932 in eleven of the smaller towns there were Urban District Councils with elected Chairmen, two-thirds of the members being elected by the ratepayers and one-third being nominated by the Governor. No further Councils were constituted in the absence of a local demand. On the recommendation, however, of the Executive Committee, 16 more such Councils were established from January 1, 1933, in place of 10 of the Local Boards of Health and Improvement, in 5 of the small towns previously administered by Sanitary Boards, and also in place of the Board of Improvement of Nuwara Eliya.

Only one small town is now administered by a Local Board of Health and Improvement, viz., Minuwangoda, as it is too small to support an Urban District Council. The Government Agent of the Western Province is the Chairman. The members are the District Engineer, the Medical Officer of Health, and 3 elected members.

Groups of smaller towns, frequently no larger than roadside bazaars, are administered by the Sanitary Boards of the various districts, consisting of the Government Agent, or Assistant Government Agent, two local officials of the Public Health Department and the Public Works Department, and not more than four nor less than two members nominated by the Governor. This method of local administration for a number of towns in a district is carried on from the District Headquarters with a staff consisting partly of officers whose salaries are met proportionately by the various towns and partly of officers lent by the Public Health Department. This cheap and reasonably efficient form of local administration is, however, now said to be out of favour because the Boards contain no elected members. The Executive Committee is not recommending the inclusion of any further towns in the administration of these Boards, and has under consideration some other form of administration of a more popular type.

In the rural areas, there are Village Committees for groups of villages. These groups are divided into wards, each of which elects one member. In 1932 an Ordinance was passed precluding officials from being elected as Chairmen. These Committees deal with minor local affairs and the working of rules connected with local customs.

Roads other than main thoroughfares and other than those in charge of the local authorities mentioned above, are maintained by District Committees, while certain educational matters have been entrusted to District Education Committees.

CHAPTER III.

Population.

Population.—Population data are collected, as in almost every other country, by means of a Census, which is taken decennially in Ceylon. The last decennial Census was taken on February 26, 1931, but its scope was limited owing to the financial crisis. At that Census, Ceylon had (inclusive of the military and the shipping) a population of 5,312,548 which was 17·9 per cent. more than that in 1921. Since 1871, when the first decennial Census was taken, the population has steadily increased. The Island is fairly thickly populated; and at the last Census it had a density of 210 persons per square mile and ranked above India, France, and Denmark, and somewhat below Japan.

Statistics of races were not collected in 1931 except in the Colombo Municipality and on the estates, but rough estimates based on the Census of 1921 are given below :—

Race.	Colombo Town.	Estates.	Estimates for Other Areas	Estimated Total.
Europeans	3,340	2,814	2,999	9,153
Burghers and Eurasians	15,887	2,031	14,397	32,315
Sinhalese	127,927	75,786	3,269,317	3,473,030
Tamils	65,704	698,081	653,692	1,417,477
Moors	44,240	7,496	274,177	325,913
Malays	7,022	1,988	6,967	15,977
Others	20,035	1,738	10,791	32,564
	284,155	790,376*	4,232,340	5,306,871*†

It is estimated on the same basis that there were 3,267,457 Buddhists, 1,158,522 Hindus, 523,066 Christians, 356,888 Muslims, and 938 others at the Census of 1931.

The population (exclusive of the military and the shipping) was geographically distributed in 1921 and 1931 as follows :—

	1921.	1931.	Percentage of Increase.
Western Province	1,246,847	1,445,034	15·9
Central Province	717,739	953,388	32·8
Southern Province	671,234	771,204	14·9
Northern Province	374,829	398,874	6·4
Eastern Province	192,821	212,421	10·2
North-Western Province	492,181	546,966	11·1
North-Central Province	96,525	97,365	0·9
Province of Uva	233,864	303,243	29·7
Province of Sabaragamuwa	471,814	578,368	22·6
Miscellaneous Population‡	751	8	—

Intercensal estimates of population are prepared from the records of vital statistics and of migration, and on this basis the Island had a population of 5,864,000 at the end of 1938.

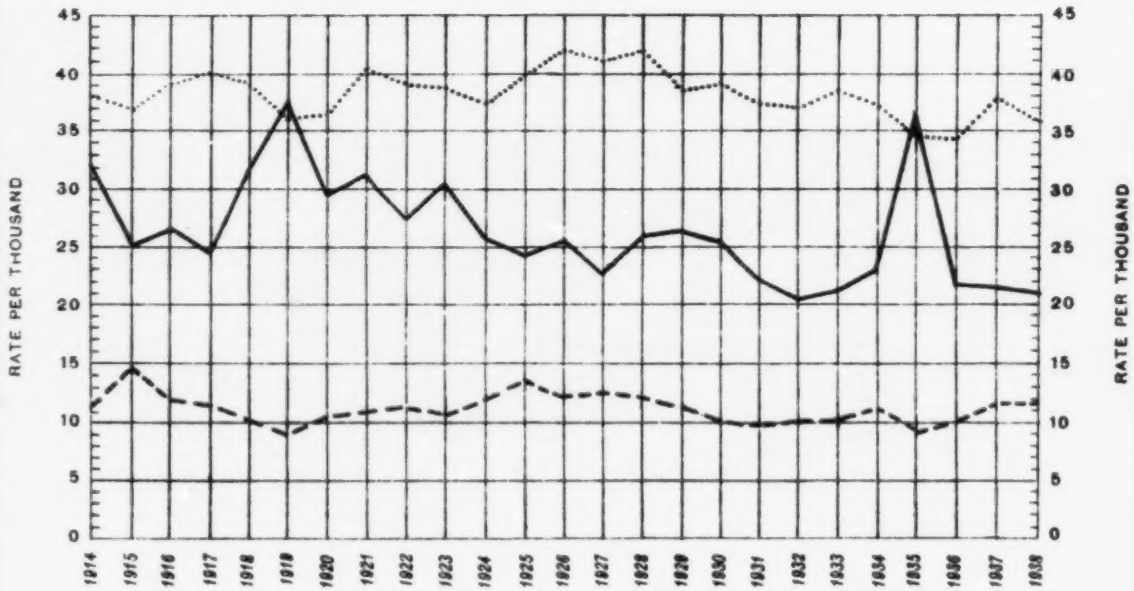
The figures for Ceylon quoted above do not include those of the Maldive Islands which had a population of 79,281 at the Census of 1931, as compared with 70,413 in 1921.

* Includes 442 persons of unspecified race.
† Excludes the military and the shipping.
‡ Persons enumerated in trains and in the Great and Little Basses.

DIAGRAM No. 3.

REPORTED BIRTH, DEATH AND MARRIAGE RATES,

CEYLON.



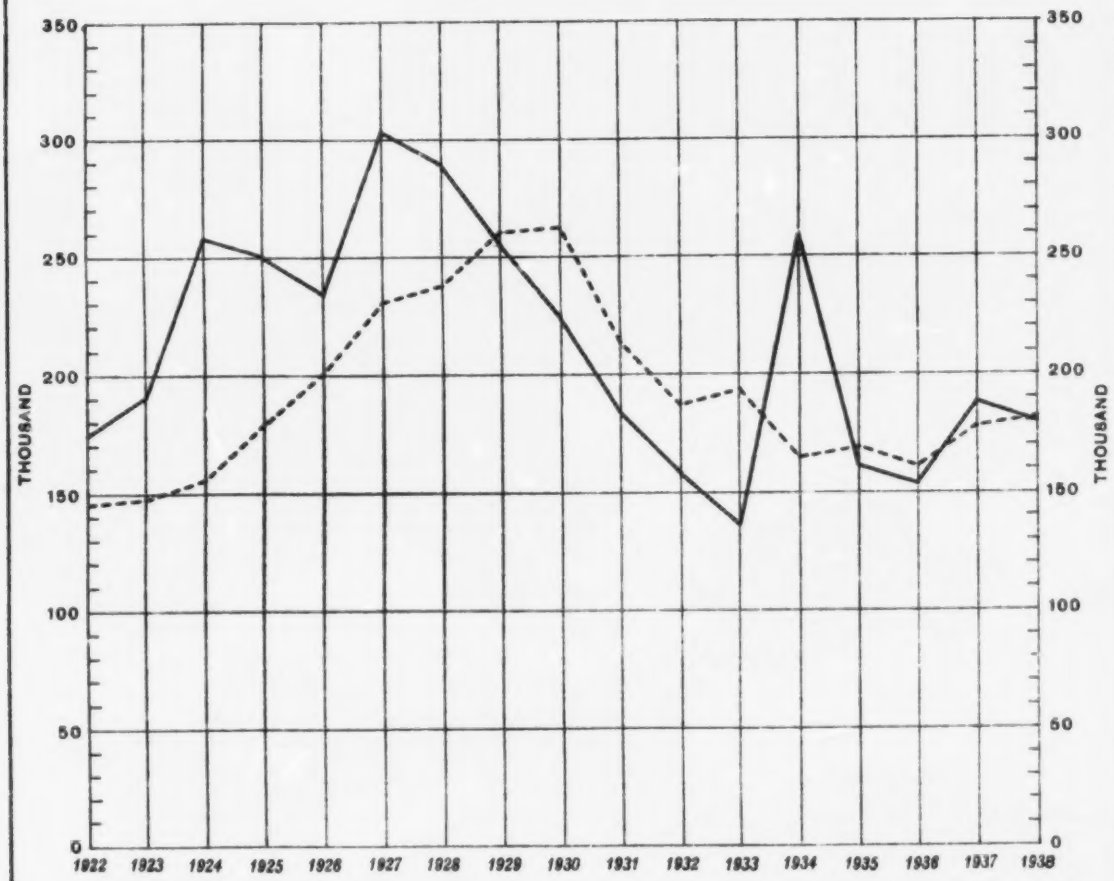
Compiled and Printed by Census Dept. Colombo

DIAGRAM No. 4

ANNUAL IMMIGRATION AND EMIGRATION, CEYLON.

IMMIGRATION.....———

EMIGRATION.....- - - - - - -



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Migration.—The large majority of the migrants move to and from India ; and a considerable part of them are Indian labourers. In 1938 the total number of immigrants to the Island was 180,839. Of them 158,652 or 88 per cent. were from India and 47,210 of these were estate labourers.

Of the total 182,202 emigrants in 1938 about 88 per cent. or 159,900 left for India ; and of these 46,807 were estate labourers.

The migration statistics of 1934 to 1938 are as follows :—

	Arrivals.				Departures.			
	From India.				To India.			
	Indian Labourers.	Others.	From Other Countries.	Total.	Indian Labourers.	Others.	To Other Countries.	Total.
1934	140,607	104,813	14,383	259,803	52,481	97,919	14,869	165,269
1935	43,018	104,206	14,259	161,483	43,036	112,667	13,641	169,344
1936	40,803	97,341	15,761	153,905	41,721	105,567	14,582	161,870
1937	51,427	110,517	26,110	188,054	47,924	107,253	23,294	178,471
1938	47,210	111,442	22,187	180,839	46,807	113,093	22,302	182,202

Marriages.—Three Marriage Ordinances operate in the Island, one for the general population, one for the Kandyans, and one for the Muslims. Under the General and Kandyan Marriage Ordinances 31,385 marriages were registered in 1938, as against 30,876 in 1937, and an annual average of 27,008 during the preceding decade. The number of persons married during the year was 11·6 per 1,000 of the General and Kandyan population as against 11·6 in 1937, and 10·7 the average during the decade ending 1937. Among the Muslims 4,081 marriages were registered as against 3,882 in the previous year and 1,490 the annual average during the decade 1928–1937. The Muslim marriage rate was 20·8 per 1,000 during the year, as compared with 20·2 in 1937, and 8·1 the average for the ten years ending 1937.

Divorces.—Dissolution of any marriage registered under the General Marriage Ordinance can be granted only by a District Judge and under the Kandyan Marriage Ordinance by a Provincial or Assistant Provincial Registrar. In 1938, there were 200 dissolutions of General and 559 of Kandyan marriages, as compared with 138 and 690 respectively in 1937. There is usually a large excess of Kandyan marriage divorces over General marriage divorces, largely due to the greater facilities for divorce afforded by the Kandyan marriage law. There were 656 divorces registered among Muslims in the year 1938 as against 450 in the previous year.

Births.—208,389 births were registered in the Island in 1938, as against 216,072 in the previous year and 203,139 the average of the decade 1928–1937. Of these, 105,905 were males and 102,486 females, representing a sex proportion of 1,033 males to 1,000 females. The birth rate was 35·9 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 37·8 in 1937 and 37·6 the average rate for the decade ending 1937. The birth rate of the Island is comparatively high.

Deaths.—The deaths of 122,299 persons (62,080 males and 60,219 females) were registered in 1938, as against 124,210 in 1937, and 132,325 the average for the decade 1928–1937. The death rate was 21·0 per 1,000 of the estimated population, as compared with 21·7 in the previous year and 24·4 the average for the previous decade.

Infant Mortality.—The deaths of 33,630 infants under one year of age were registered in 1938. The infant mortality in 1937 was 34,180 and the average for the decade 1928–1937 was 35,973. About 27 per cent. of the total deaths in 1938 were those of infants. The infant death rate was 161 per 1,000 births registered, as compared with 158 in 1937 and 178 the average for the ten years 1928–1937.

Causes of Death.—Since 1911 causes of deaths in this country are classified according to the International or Bertillon System. The classification from 1933 was according to the fourth revision of the international list. Owing to the absence of compulsory certification of causes of deaths among a very large section of the population, the statistics, particularly of diseases requiring scientific knowledge for diagnosis, are not absolutely accurate ; but there is reason to believe that a definite, though slow, progress in accuracy is achieved every year. The death rate per million of the estimated population from the more important diseases registered in Ceylon in 1937 and 1938 are shown below :—

Causes of Death.	Death Rate per Million.		Causes of Death.	Death Rate per Million.	
	1937.	1938.		1937.	1938.
Pyrexia	2,437	2,072	Influenza	366	325
Convulsions (under 5 years)	2,103	2,139	Dysentery	344	383
Pneumonia and broncho-pneumonia	1,927	1,757	Ankylostomiasis	299	311
Diarrhoea and enteritis	1,222	1,260	Puerperal septicaemia	6·8*	7·1*
Phthisis	551	556	Bronchitis	258	277
Premature birth	454	461	Enteric fever	154	158
Malaria and malarial cachexia	771	821	Cancer	99	103

* Per 1,000 live births.

CHAPTER IV.

Health.

Hospitals and Dispensaries.

Medical aid is generously provided by the State, there being 115 Government hospitals and asylums, with provision for 12,112 beds.

In Colombo are situated a General Hospital with 935 beds, an Ophthalmic Hospital, a Lying-in Home, a hospital for women (Lady Havelock Hospital), a hospital for children (Lady Ridgeway Hospital), female venereal diseases hospital, a Bacteriological Institute, a Pasteur Institute, and a Dental Institute. At Angoda, 6 miles from Colombo, there is a hospital for infectious diseases, with 168 beds. There are special dispensaries at Kandy, Galle, Jaffna, Batticaloa, and Badulla for the treatment of eye diseases and a clinic at Galle for dental treatment. Treatment with radium is available at the General Hospital, Colombo. A dental van is available to give dental service to rural areas. There are 4 Cottage hospitals for medical relief in remote rural areas where the population is scanty and dispersed.

There is a Lunatic Asylum at Angoda, 6 miles from Colombo, with 1,930 beds and two Leper Asylums, one at Hendala in the Western Province and one at Mantivu in the Eastern Province with 688 beds.

There is a Home for Incurables at Colombo, with 90 beds, which is administered by a Committee of Government officials and representatives of the public, and a Home for chronic and convalescent patients at Ragama with 163 beds.

Photo by Werner Conitz. *Courtesy Govt. Tourist Bureau.*

THIRSTY TRAVELLER.

For the treatment of tuberculosis, there are the King Edward VII. Memorial Anti-Tuberculosis Institute in Colombo, a Hospital Sanatorium of 349 beds for moderately advanced cases that would benefit by treatment at Ragama, and a Sanatorium of 72 beds at Kandana, and one of 44 beds at Kankesanturai on the northern coast.

In addition to Government hospitals, the owners of estates have provided 99 estate hospitals, and in consequence receive a rebate on the export duty on tea, rubber, coffee, cacao, and cardamoms.

Besides the hospitals there are 714 central and branch dispensaries and visiting stations provided by Government. There are also 666 estate dispensaries, which receive free drugs from Government to the value of 50 cents per labourer per annum.

Campaigns.

Campaigns for the control of malaria, ankylostomiasis, leprosy, smallpox, filariasis, and parangi are carried out in the field apart from treatment afforded at hospitals and dispensaries.

Mass treatment against ankylostomiasis is carried out by Medical Officers, Medical Officers of Health, Field Medical Officers, and School Medical Officers in their respective areas with the assistance of trained dispensers and Sanitary Assistants. This has resulted in a marked decrease in the number of patients admitted to hospitals for this complaint.

A good deal of success has been achieved in the control of parangi (yaws). The work is done by Medical Officers of Health and Field Medical Officers as part of their general work and by 2 special wholetime Itinerating Medical Officers who look after areas not under the former. With the larger personnel available, an intensive control campaign is in operation to comb out villages for cases of the disease, place them on cards, treat them, follow them up six monthly and to watch contacts.

In the control of leprosy a special survey of the Island is in progress. As each province is completed, treatment and observation are provided for and those in the infectious conditions segregated. So far the Eastern, Western, Southern, Sabaragamuwa, North-Western, and North-Central Provinces have been completed.

In addition to special trained Vaccinators, Sanitary Assistants, and Public Health Nurses carry out vaccinations against smallpox, under the supervision of Medical Officers of Health and Field Medical Officers. Primary vaccination is compulsory but secondary vaccination is compulsory only during outbreaks of smallpox.

A special survey of filariasis in the Island is being carried out. So far the North-Western and the Southern Provinces have been completed and work is in progress in the Eastern Province.

Anti-Malarial Work.

Anti-malarial work carried out by the Department of Medical and Sanitary Services is under the control of a Departmental Committee with the Assistant Director of Sanitary Services as Chairman and the Superintendent, Anti-malaria Campaigns, Medical Entomologist, Sanitary Engineer, and the Senior Medical Officer as members.

The Superintendent, Anti-malaria Campaigns, is in charge of Campaign centres, the Sanitary Engineer carries out schemes of anti-malaria drainage while the Medical Entomologist investigates problems connected with the vector mosquito and checks the efficiency of anti-larval measures.

Intensive anti-malaria work is carried out in the malarious town areas of Chilaw, Kurunegala, Anuradhapura, Trincomalee, Puttalam, and Badulla, along certain sections of the railway and at Minneriya.

Quinine is exclusively made available free of charge throughout the Island at hospitals and dispensaries as well as at village distribution centres.

As a result of the unprecedented malaria epidemic which started at the end of 1934 and which caused much havoc to Ceylon, a scheme for malaria control and health work has been organized under Field Medical Officers each of whom is placed in charge of an area comprising a population of about 40,000, and carries out work embracing the following :— anti-malaria work, maternity and childwelfare work, school health work, mass hookworm treatment, supervision of dispensaries, holding of special clinics, control of communicable diseases, health propaganda and general sanitary work. The areas included at present in the new scheme of malaria control and health work are the North-Western Province, Province of Sabaragamuwa, Kandy and Matale Districts of the Central Province, the major portion of North-Central Province, Matara and Hambantota Districts of Southern Province, Batticaloa District of Eastern Province, and parts of Province of Uva, Western Province, and Northern Province. This work along with that done by the Medical Officers of Health now forms one scheme of health control for the Island.

Sanitary Engineering Division.

In addition to the diverse engineering problems connected with the malaria control for which purpose this division was formed, matters relating to public water supplies and those to hospitals and public buildings, the design of drainage schemes for towns, sewage disposal and river pollution problems are undertaken by this division.

Estate Sanitation.

Attached to the Department of Medical and Sanitary Services are three Inspecting Medical Officers and two Assistants, who inspect estates throughout the Island. During the year under review 728 estates were inspected. In the course of inspection, defects in the sanitary condition of estates are pointed out and suggestions to remedy and prevent them in future are put forward to the estate owners. Year by year the housing and the sanitary conditions on estates are improving.

Public Health.

In addition to the Inspecting Medical Officers, there were in 1938, 23 Medical Officers of Health and 55 Field Medical Officers assisted by 310 Sanitary Assistants who looked after the sanitary requirements of urban and rural areas. The areas assigned to Medical Officers of Health and Field Medical Officers are so restricted in size and population as to be looked after conveniently by one Medical Officer. In these areas a staff of Sanitary Assistants, Public Health Nurses, and midwives is provided and work is carried out intensively, every type of public health work needed being done. In a few areas the extent of district and population are great, and only Sanitary Assistants, not sufficient to deal with the whole population, are employed. Sanitary work in the limited areas looked after by Sanitary Assistants is done on the same lines as in the intensive areas.

At Colombo, Kandy, Galle, Jaffna, Kalutara Totamune, Panadure Totamune, Matara Gravets, Wellaboda Pattu, and the Colombo Mudaliyar's division, school health work was carried out by nine whole-time School Medical Officers and eight School Health Nurses. Schools in other areas are dealt with by the Medical Officers of Health and Field Medical Officers in their respective districts as part of the general health work.

The Island is guarded against the introduction of dangerous infectious disease from abroad by the health service at each of its ports and by the two Quarantine Camps in Southern India at Mandapam for the overland route and Tataparai for the sea route.

Legislation.

A draft Anti-Mosquito Ordinance and an amending Ordinance of the Lunacy Ordinance, 1873, are in hand.

Infectious Diseases.

Plague.—Nine cases, all within the Colombo Municipality, occurred in Ceylon during the year and only one recovered, the fatality rate being 88·9 per cent., as against 29 cases in 1937 with a fatality rate of 100 per cent.

The cases were, as usual, confined to the Pettah and St. Paul's areas. There was one case in a post-mortem labourer employed at the General Hospital.

The victims were all males between the ages 10-30, comprising 4 Indian Tamils, 2 Indian Moors, 2 Sinhalese, and 1 Borah.

Five cases occurred in the month of May, 2 in February, and 1 each in March and April.

The type of disease among human beings infected in Colombo during the past three years was as follows :—

	1936.		1937.		1938.	
	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.
Bubonic	32	26	20	20	9	8
Septicaemic	7	7	7	7	—	—
Pneumonic	—	—	—	—	—	—
	39	33	27	27	9*	8

Rat Plague.—31,239 rodents were examined at the Municipal Laboratory during the year and 15 or 0·05 per cent. were found infected as against 0·12 per cent. in 1937. One infected rat was sent from the Chalmers Granaries.

Rat Destruction.—The number of rats destroyed within the Colombo Municipality was as follows :—

By "calcid" fumigation	12,578
,, labourers	617
,, trapping gang	106,074
	119,269

Rat-flea Survey.—A rat-flea survey of the Colombo Port Commission premises was conducted during the year and the results obtained were as follows :—

	No. of rats.	No. of fleas.	No. of X Astia	No. of X Cheopis	Ch. Index	Per cent. Ch.
Port Commission premises (excluding lighters)	248	562	313	249	1·00	44·31
Lighters	17	30	17	13	0·77	43·33

F1 Warehouse, Customs, in particular showed a high cheopis infestation: 26 rats were trapped and 132 fleas were collected, of which 15 were astia and 117 cheopis.

*This is the lowest figure on record for any year, since the outbreak of plague in Ceylon in 1914.

Fumigation of Plague Suspect Cargoes.—The following is a statement of the fumigation of plague suspect cargoes carried on at the port of Colombo during the year to prevent the introduction of plague infection into the Island :—

Month.	Rice.	Paddy.	Cotton.	Other Merchandise.	Total.
January	478,540	—	96	3,480	482,116
February	422,576	200	515	6,258	429,549
March	486,660	—	301	19,567	506,528
April	311,565	—	—	9,789	321,354
May	484,795	200	2	4,123	489,120
June	343,503	—	—	4,322	347,825
July	442,738	150	—	1,799	444,687
August	459,229	300	—	1,971	461,500
September	293,791	—	—	928	294,719
October	383,155	—	—	1,342	384,497
November	214,461	—	—	3,674	218,135
December	259,053	50	29	1,156	260,288
Grand Total	4,580,066	900	943	58,409	4,640,318

Note.—The above figures denote the number of bags or bales, &c.

Smallpox.—The Island was free from this disease during the year. There were 2 cases, which recovered in 1937 and 3 cases with 3 deaths in 1936.

Cholera.—There were no cases during the year. There were no cases in 1937 and 49 cases with 44 deaths in 1936.

CHAPTER V.

Housing.

A. *Municipal Towns.*—There are three Municipal towns in Ceylon, viz., Colombo, Kandy, and Galle. Of these, Colombo with a population of about 308,100, is much the largest. New houses in these towns may only be built in accordance with the provisions of the Housing and Town Improvement Ordinance of 1915, which prescribes certain minimum hygienic requirements. But there are numerous insanitary houses built prior to the Ordinance which can only gradually be converted into sanitary buildings as they fall into disrepair. The Colombo Municipal Council began a scheme of housing its own direct labourers in 1923 and a definite yearly programme of providing tenements for them has been followed since that year. In 1931 the Council also embarked on a programme of slum eradication at Kochchikade which, when completed, will rehouse about 2,000 people.

In Kandy, which has a population of about 40,100, the first organized attempt at slum clearance began in 1920 following an outbreak of plague. Seventy-five per cent. of the slums have since been dealt with and replaced by sanitary tenements or houses of a better type. Model tenements have been built by the Council in various parts of the town which now house about 2,500 persons. Forty-two insanitary tenements were closed in 1937 and their inhabitants were for the most part given model dwellings erected by the Council. Lines are also being built for the Council's labourers. A start has also been made in Kandy in providing " back lanes " for the congested areas of the town. These lanes facilitate conservancy and scavenging and also provide more light and air for the houses in their neighbourhood.

In Galle, which has a population of about 38,000, action has been mainly directed towards the improvement and demolition of insanitary and dangerous buildings under the provisions of the Housing and Town

Photo by Werner Conitz. *Courtesy Govt. Tourist Bureau.*

RICKSHAW PULLERS.

Improvement Ordinance, each ward of the town being taken up in turn. Steps taken to prevent overcrowding of houses and tenements were relaxed during 1937 owing to hardships experienced by some of the public by such measures.

B. *Other Towns.*—The other towns of the Island which are under the administration of Urban District Councils or Sanitary Boards are also subject to the Housing and Town Improvement Ordinance. But in most of them only a minority of the existing buildings is in conformity with modern sanitary requirements. A gradual improvement, however, is being effected as the older buildings collapse and have to be rebuilt. Few of the local bodies concerned are in a financial position to embark on schemes of tenement building.

C. *Rural Areas.*—In the rural areas most of the houses are built with wattle and mud walls and roofs thatched with straw or cadjans. Village Committee rules usually prescribe certain elementary sanitary measures, *e.g.*, that a dead body may not be buried within a certain minimum distance of a dwelling-house or that every house must have its walls whitewashed at least once a year. Otherwise housing conditions in the rural areas are free from control.

On the larger tea, rubber, and coconut estates housing accommodation for the labour force is usually provided by the estate proprietors, is inspected periodically by officers of the Medical and Labour Departments, and is generally much superior to that found in the surrounding villages.

CHAPTER VI.

Natural Resources.

General.—The main crops of the Island are coconut, paddy, tea, and rubber. Other crops which are grown to less extents are : cacao, cinnamon, citronella, arecanut, cardamoms, and tobacco.

Chena cultivation, that is, the growing of crops on jungle land newly cleared by burning, is an important feature of peasant agriculture in the sparsely populated areas of the dry-zone.

Animal husbandry was formerly a negligible factor in the agricultural economy of Ceylon, but interest in this branch has now been awakened, and the foundations of stock raising and dairy industries are being assiduously laid.

The extent of production of the several crops may be gauged from the following tables which give the approximate acreages under cultivation and the quantities of produce exported and their value in 1938 :—

Acreages under the Chief Crops (estimated only).

	Acres.		Acres.
Coconuts	1,100,000*	Palmyra	50,000‖
Rice	850,000†	Cacao	34,000‖
Rubber	604,111‡	Citronella	33,000‖
Tea	556,650§	Cinnamon	26,000‖
Chenas, Vegetable, and other crops ..	140,000‖	Tobacco	14,000‖
Arecanuts	69,000‖	Cardamoms	6,000‖

* Based on the results of the partial Census of Production, 1929.
† Based on the statistics collected for 1937-1938.
‡ Based on the Rubber Controller's survey for 1938.
§ Based on the Tea Export Controller's Report for 1937–38.
‖ Based on the results of the Censuses of Production, 1921 and 1924.

Exports of Agricultural Products of the Island in 1938.

	Quantity.		Value. Rs.*	Total Value of Class. Rs.*
Black tea	235·7	mill. lb. ..	172·4	
Green tea	—	..	—	
				172·4
Coconuts, fresh ..	16·0	mill. nuts. ..	·63	
Copra	1·5	mill. cwt. ..	8·8	
Coconut oil	1·5	mill. cwt. ..	14·1	
Coconut shell charcoal ..	·22	mill. cwt. ..	·82	
Coir yarn	·092	mill. cwt. ..	·92	
Desiccated coconut ..	·59	mill. cwt. ..	4·4	
Poonac (coconut) ..	·73	mill. cwt. ..	2·7	
Bristle fibre	·22	mill. cwt. ..	·77	
Mattress fibre	·52	mill. cwt. ..	1·3	
Coir rope, &c.	·011	mill. cwt. ..	·10	
				34·5
Rubber	114·6	mill. lb. ..		45·3
Cacao	·072	mill. cwt. ..		1·4
Arecanuts	·084	mill. cwt. ..		1·0
Cardamoms	3,659	cwt. ..		·48
Pepper and other spices ..	863	cwt. ..		·03
Cinnamon (quills and chips) ..	·047	mill cwt. ..	1·6	
Cinnamon oil (bark and leaf) ..	2·8	mill. oz. ..	·44	
				2·0
Tobacco (unmanufactured and cigars)	2·1	mill. lb.		·63
Citronella oil	1·6	mill. lb. ..		1·2
Papain	·17	mill. lb. ..		·42
Kapok	·012	mill. cwt. ..		·33
				259·7

Tea.

Acreage, &c.—Over 556,600 acres are planted in tea, *Camellia Sinensis*, consisting of 2,362 estates and 69,916 small holdings. It is grown at elevations varying from sea level to 6,000 feet above sea level. The better quality teas are grown at the higher elevations.

The manufactured product consists of the young tender shoots which after plucking undergo the processes of withering, rolling, fermenting, and drying or firing.

Rainfall.—A fairly evenly distributed rainfall of 80 to 120 inches a year is required for tea.

Labour.—The labour force on tea estates consists mostly of immigrant labour from India. An estate requires on an average about 1⅛ labourer per acre.

Research.—A scientific staff is maintained by the industry which is supported by a cess on exports for the purpose of investigating the scientific side of the growth and manufacture of tea.

Yields.—Yields vary considerably according to elevation, cultivation, &c., but may be said to range from 300 to 1,200 lb. made tea per acre.

Factory.—The principal machinery required consists of tea rollers, roll breakers, shifters, &c., and dryers. Suction gas engines are the usual source of power.

Preparation for Export.—Tea is exported in metal lined wooden packages. It is usually blended and packed in packets before it actually reaches the consumer's hands.

Restriciton.—In May, 1933, an Ordinance to control the export of tea was passed by the State Council as a part of a joint scheme for the regulation of the export of tea from the main producing countries. The

* In millions.

DIAGRAM No. 5

ANNUAL AVERAGE MARKET PRICES OF TEA, RUBBER, DESICCATED COCONUT AND COPRA

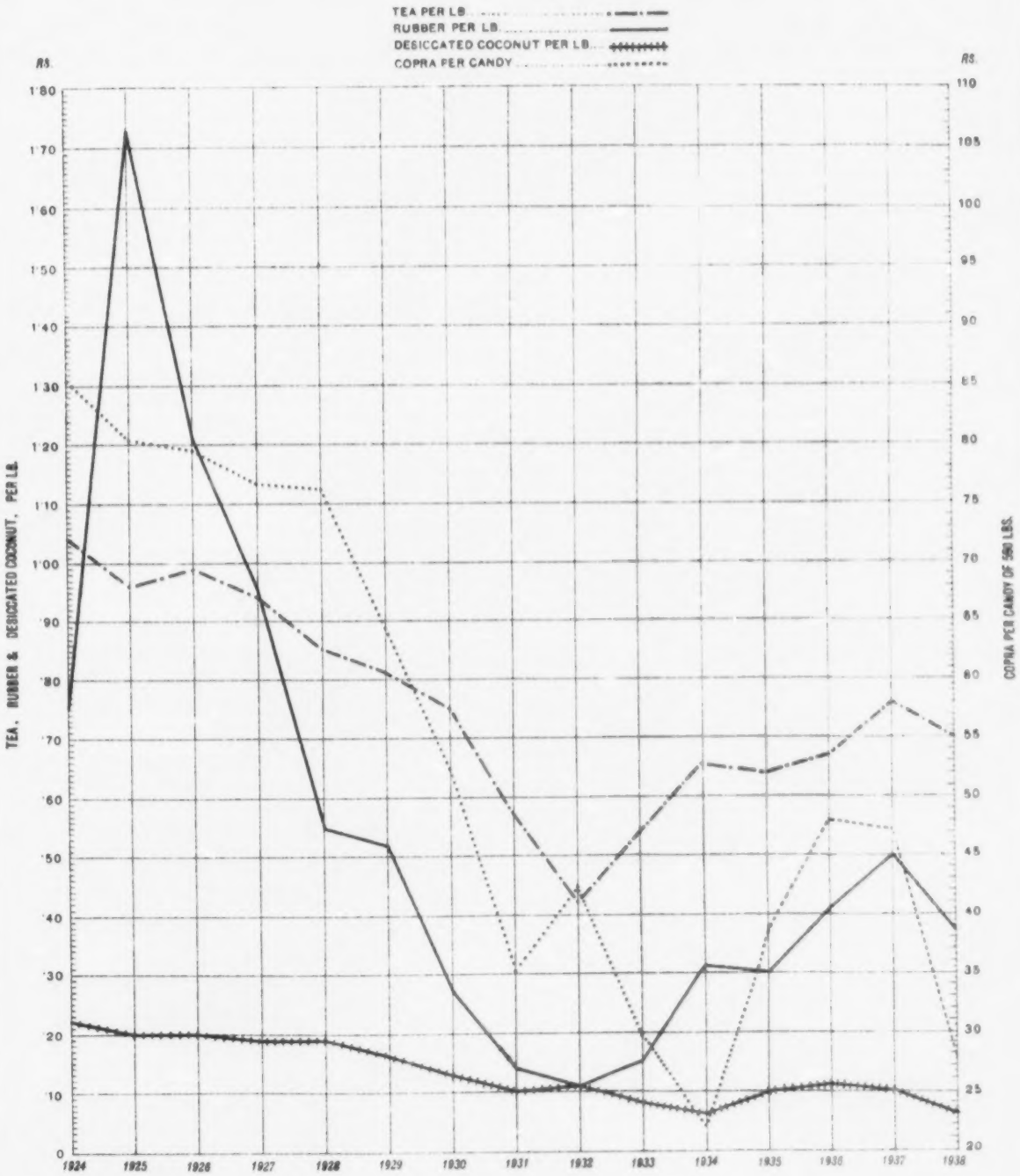

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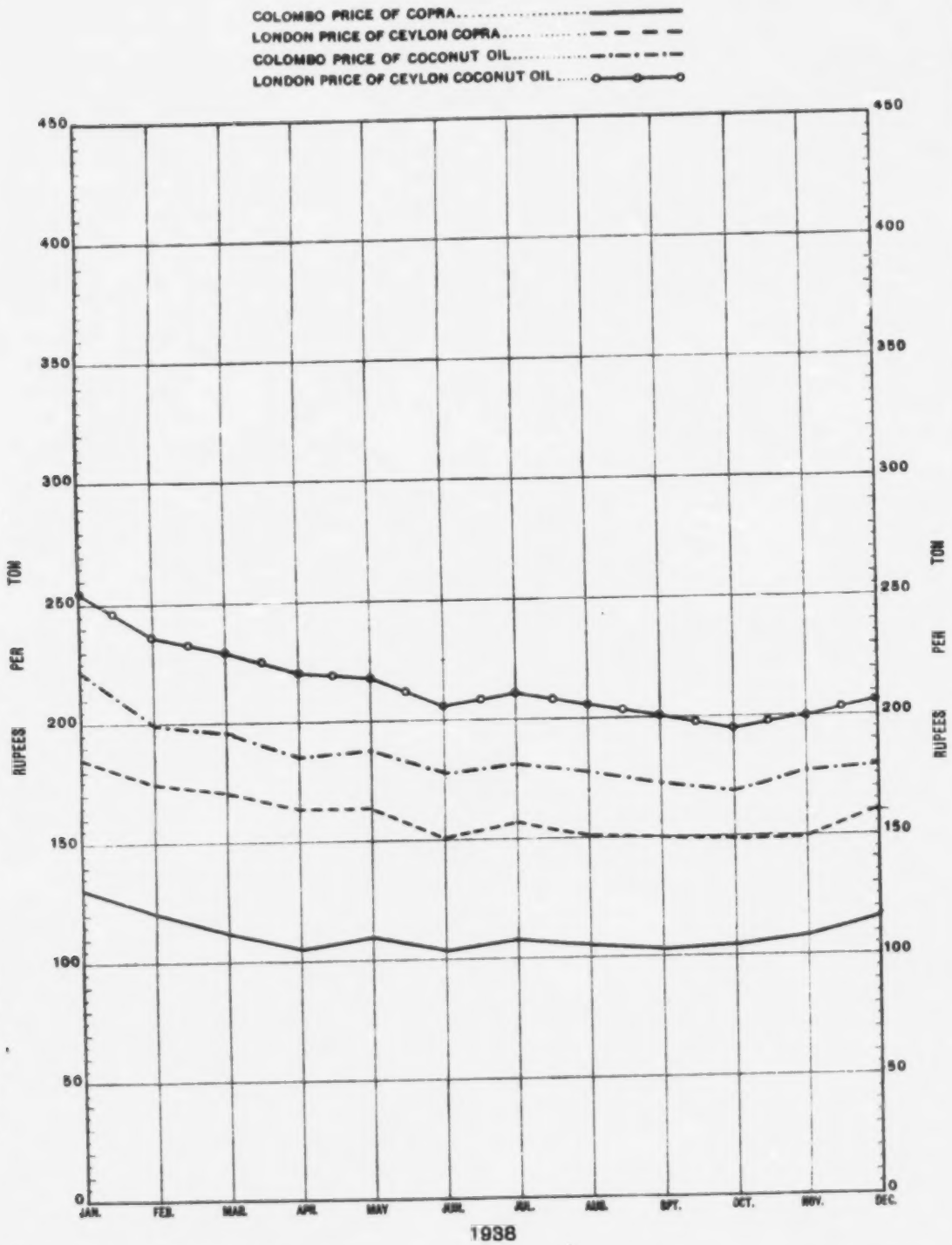
DIAGRAM No. 5A

MONTHLY AVERAGE PRICES OF COPRA AND COCONUT OIL (COLOMBO AND LONDON)



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Ordinance is to be operative for a period of five years. For the second year of assessment which ended on March 31, 1935, Ceylon's exportable quota was fixed at 220,082,290 lb. being 87½ per cent. of the total exports of tea from the Island, in 1929. For the year ended March 31, 1936, Ceylon was allowed to export 207,506,160 lb., the same amount was allowed for the year ended March 31, 1937. For the year ended March 31, 1938, Ceylon was allowed to export 220,082,290 lb.

In March, 1938, Ordinance No. 12 of 1938 extending the period of tea restriction for a further period of 5 years from April 1, 1938, was passed by the State Council. For the first year of restriction ending March 31, 1939, Ceylon was allowed to export 232,718,911 lb. representing 92½ per cent. of the Standard Quota of 251,588,012 lb.

Prices.—The average price of total offerings for the year was 70 cents per lb. as against 76 cents per lb. in 1937.

High-, medium-, and low-grown were less than 1937 by 3, 6, and 9 cents, respectively.

The monthly average prices at the local weekly sales during 1938, compare as follows :—

(Per lb.)

	Rs. c.		Rs. c.		Rs. c.
January	0 74	May	0 67	September	0 68
February	0 74	June	0 67	October	0 67
March	0 72	July	0 69	November	0 70
April	0 67	August	0 73	December	0 70

Coupon prices ranged from 36½ cents to 48 cents during the year under review.

The annual average market prices* in certain years were :—1925, 96 cents per lb. ; 1926, 99 cents ; 1927, 94 cents ; 1928, 85 cents ; 1929, 81 cents ; 1930, 75 cents ; 1931, 57 cents ; 1932, 42 cents ; 1933, 54 cents ; 1934, 66 cents ; 1935, 64 cents ; 1936, 67 cents ; 1937, 76 cents ; 1938, 70 cents (see Diagram No. 5).

Rubber.

Acreage, Elevation, and Rainfall.—The acreage under rubber in the Island is 604,111 acres. The rubber tree cultivated in Ceylon (*Hevea brasiliensis*) flourishes at elevations below 2,000 feet and requires a well distributed rainfall of not less than 80 inches per annum. It is cultivated to varying extents throughout the Island, chiefly in the Province of Sabaragamuwa and in the Western, Central, and Southern Provinces.

Latex.—Rubber is the coagulated latex of the rubber tree obtained by tapping the trunk. The latex running from the cut—usually half the circumference—is collected in cups, removed to the factory, treated with acetic or formic acid to cause coagulation, crêped by machinery, and dried or coagulated in sheets and smoked.

Planting.—Most of the rubber planted in Ceylon is seedling rubber grown from mixed seed from unknown parents. In view of the discovery that clonal plantings of plants budded with buds from known high-yielding mother trees give considerably higher yields than seedling plantations this practice has been changed. Budding may take place in the nursery or in the field. In the former case nursery plants one to two years old are budded and subsequently planted in the field as " stumps " : and in the latter case, seeds are planted in the field at stake, two to four per hole, and the seedling plants are subsequently budded in the field.

* According to local weekly sale averages.

Budding of Rubber.—Continued interest was shown by estates in the subject of replanting with budgrafted trees of proved high yielding clones, but although the number of estates undertaking such work is considerable, the area replanted at the end of 1938 was only about 4 per cent. of the total planted area as compared with the 20 per cent. permitted under the Ordinance.

Some of the areas planted with imported clones in the years 1930–31 became tappable during 1938, and although in view of the restriction of output not many estates have commenced to tap such areas commercially a considerable amount of experimental tapping of small groups of trees has been undertaken. The early results show great promise and indicate that the imported clones are likely to give as high yields in Ceylon as in the countries of origin.

Experimental tapping of local clones established from high yielding trees on estates has continued at the Rubber Research Scheme Experiment Station and on estates, and we are now reaching the stage at which the best of such clones can be recommended for commercial planting.

Rejuvenation.—The increase of yield from budded plants has led to a policy, adopted by most progressive estates and companies, of rejuvenation. Old rubber is cut down and the area replanted with budded plants. In almost all replanting, attention is given to soil conservation measures. The trees are planted along the contour, on platforms or in conjunction with some other form of soil conservation works. Cover crops and contour hedges of small woody plants, mostly leguminous, are used extensively.

Cultivation.—Artificial manures are commonly used, especially in replanted areas and are often applied with green manure. Manuring with compost is carried out in some areas.

Restriction.—In May, 1934, an Ordinance to control the export of rubber was passed by the State Council as a part of a joint scheme for the regulation of the export of rubber from the main producing countries. The Ordinance is to be operative for a period of five years. The Ceylon quota of export for any period of control will be the quantity of rubber named as the basic quota for that period or such percentage of that basic quota as shall be declared by His Excellency the Governor by notification in the *Government Gazette.*

The basic quota for the five years is as follows :—

	Tons.		Tons.
1934	77,500	1937	81,000
1935	79,000	1938	82,500
1936	80,000		

An Ordinance to provide for the continuation of the control of the production and export of rubber was passed by the State Council in December, 1938, to be in operation till December, 1943. The basic quota allotted to Ceylon is as follows :—

	Tons.		Tons.
1939	106,000	1942	109,[illegible]00
1940	107,500	1943	110,000
1941	109,000		

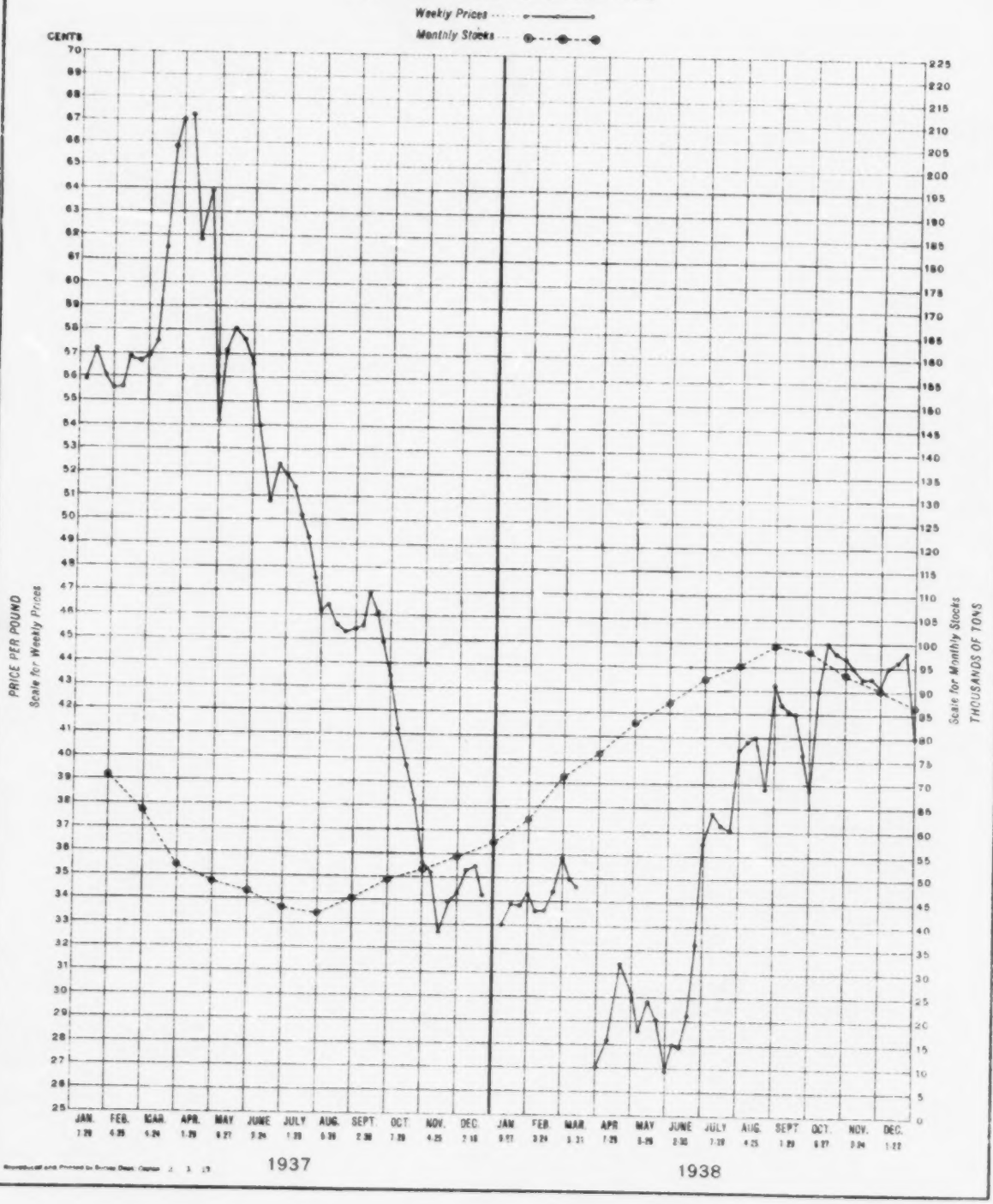
Yield.—The yield per acre varies considerably with the soil, age of the trees, rainfall, planting, treatment, &c., but may be said to range from 150 to 700 lb. per acre, 400 to 500 lb. per acre being considered

DIAGRAM No. 6.

AVERAGE WEEKLY COLOMBO PRICES AND

MONTHLY STOCKS OF RUBBER IN UNITED KINGDOM (LONDON AND LIVERPOOL)

FOR THE YEARS 1937 AND 1938



a good all-round yield for an estate in full bearing. It is anticipated that the yields of areas planted with budded rubber will be at least 1,000 lb. per acre when the trees are in full bearing.

Prices.—The average price of total offerings for the year was 38 cents per lb. for crêpe and 36 cents per lb. for sheet.

Crêpe and sheet were less than 1937 by 14 cents and 12 cents, respectively.

The monthly average prices of Ribbed Smoked Sheet (Contract Quality) at the local weekly sales during 1938 compare as follows :—

(Per lb.)

	Rs. c.		Rs. c.		Rs. c.
January	0 33	May	0 27	September	0 40
February	0 34	June	0 30	October	0 43
March	0 32	July	0 37	November	0 41
April	0 28	August	0 40	December	0 41

Coupon prices ranged from 18 cents to 34½ cents during the year under review.

The annual average market prices* in certain years were the following :—1925, Re. 1 ·73 per lb. ; 1926, Re. 1 ·21 ; 1927, 95 cents ; 1928, 55 cents ; 1929, 52 cents ; 1930, 27 cents ; 1931, 14 cents ; 1932, 11 cents ; 1933, 15 cents ; 1934, 31 cents ; 1935, 30 cents ; 1936, 41 cents ; 1937, 50 cents ; 1938, 37 cents (see Diagram No. 5).

Labour.—The labour engaged is composed of Sinhalese and immigrant Indian Tamils. The usual requirement of labour is one labourer to 3 acres of rubber.

Research.—A scientific staff is maintained by the industry and is supported by a cess on exports for the purpose of investigating the scientific side of the cultivation and preparation of rubber. Provision for this research work was made by Ordinance No. 10 of 1930.

Coconut.

Acreage, Area, &c.—It is estimated that approximately 1,100,000 acres are planted with coconuts. Along the coast of the Western and Southern Provinces planting has been done very closely and no systematic cultivation is carried out. Here the main product is toddy which is supplied to arrack distilleries ; at the same time the manufacture of coir string and rope is an important subsidiary industry, especially in the hands of women. Elsewhere the coconut is cultivated mainly for the production of copra, and the extraction of oil therefrom, as well as the manufacture of desiccated coconut. Cultivation is confined mainly to elevations below 1,500 feet and a well distributed rainfall of 50 to 90 inches is required. The greater part of the acreage lies in the North-Western, Western, and Southern Provinces.

Cultivation.—Cattle manure and artificial manures are used. Young coconuts systematically cultivated and manured come into bearing much earlier than coconuts which are not so treated.

Labour.—The quantity of labour required for a coconut estate is generally worked out at one labourer for 10 acres.

Research.—The Coconut Research Scheme, which was established by Ordinance No. 29 of 1928, has its headquarters at Bandirippuwa Estate Lunuwila, with a sub-station at Ratmalagara Estate, Madampe. It is

* Averages for top grades only (Ribbed Smoked Sheet and Contract Crepe) at local weekly sales.

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supported by a grant and a cess on the exports. The Senior Scientific Staff consists of the Technological Chemist who is at the same time Director of Research, the Geneticist and the Soil Chemist. On the junior staff are three technical assistants, four field assistants, the superintendent and conductor of the estate, and three clerks. Scientific research is carried out on the breeding and improvement of the coconut palm, manuring and cultivation, and the technology of coconut products. There are well equipped laboratories and a useful library and reading room at Bandirippuwa Estate. The third Wednesday in each month is set aside as Visitors' Day. Coconut planters and others interested in the industry are specially invited to make use of the library and reading room, which are open on week days from 9 A.M. to 4 P.M. and on Saturdays from 9 A.M. to 12 noon.

Leaflets and other publications on various aspects of the coconut industry are issued to *bona fide* inquirers who register their names on the Scheme's mailing list.

The nut.—The principal product, from a commercial point of view, is the nut. The yield per palm on a cultivated estate is about 40 nuts per annum. The average yield is probably under 30 nuts per palm, though with cultivation in good districts up to and over 80 may be secured. The number of palms to the acre may vary from 50 to 90, the average being about 70. The palms come into bearing in about six years with intensive cultivation, but more usually take up to ten years. The nuts are generally picked six times a year. They are made into copra upon the estate which produces them, but some small holders sell their nuts to manufacturers. The price rose owing to the increased demand for the manufactured products from Rs. 74 per 1,000 in 1913 to the maximum of Rs. 115 per 1,000 in 1920.

Prices.—There was remarkably little price fluctuation during the year. Prices declined during the first quarter from the opening figure of Rs. 35 a 1,000 to Rs. 27 at the end of March. From then until December very little movement was seen, and the average monthly quotations which follow are an accurate guide. At the end of December the market steadied slightly, closing at Rs. 28 per 1,000, prices being for equal proportions of husked nuts, large, middles and smalls, delivered at buyers' stores.

Average of the monthly quotations recorded by the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce for 1938 :—

(Per 1,000 nuts L.M.S.)

	Rs. c.		Rs. c.		Rs. c.
January	.. 33 57	May ..	.. 25 0	September	.. 24 38
February	.. 29 0	June ..	.. 25 50	October	.. 25 10
March	.. 27 50	July ..	.. 25 0	November	.. 26 75
April ..	.. 25 88	August	.. 24 50	December	.. 27 0

The annual average market prices in recent years were the following :— 1930, Rs. 46·58 per 1,000 nuts L.M.S. ; 1931, Rs. 37·12 ; 1932, Rs. 44·60 ; 1933, Rs. 29·36 ; 1934, Rs. 19·42 ; 1935, Rs. 35·71 ; 1936, 43·03 ; 1937, Rs. 44·83 ; 1938, Rs. 26·54.

Copra.—The most important manufactured product is copra. This is the dried kernel of the nut, and is used for the manufacture of coconut oil, which, again, is utilized for the production of margarine, soap, and other products. Poonac, a largely used cattle food, is the by-product in the manufacture of coconut oil from copra.

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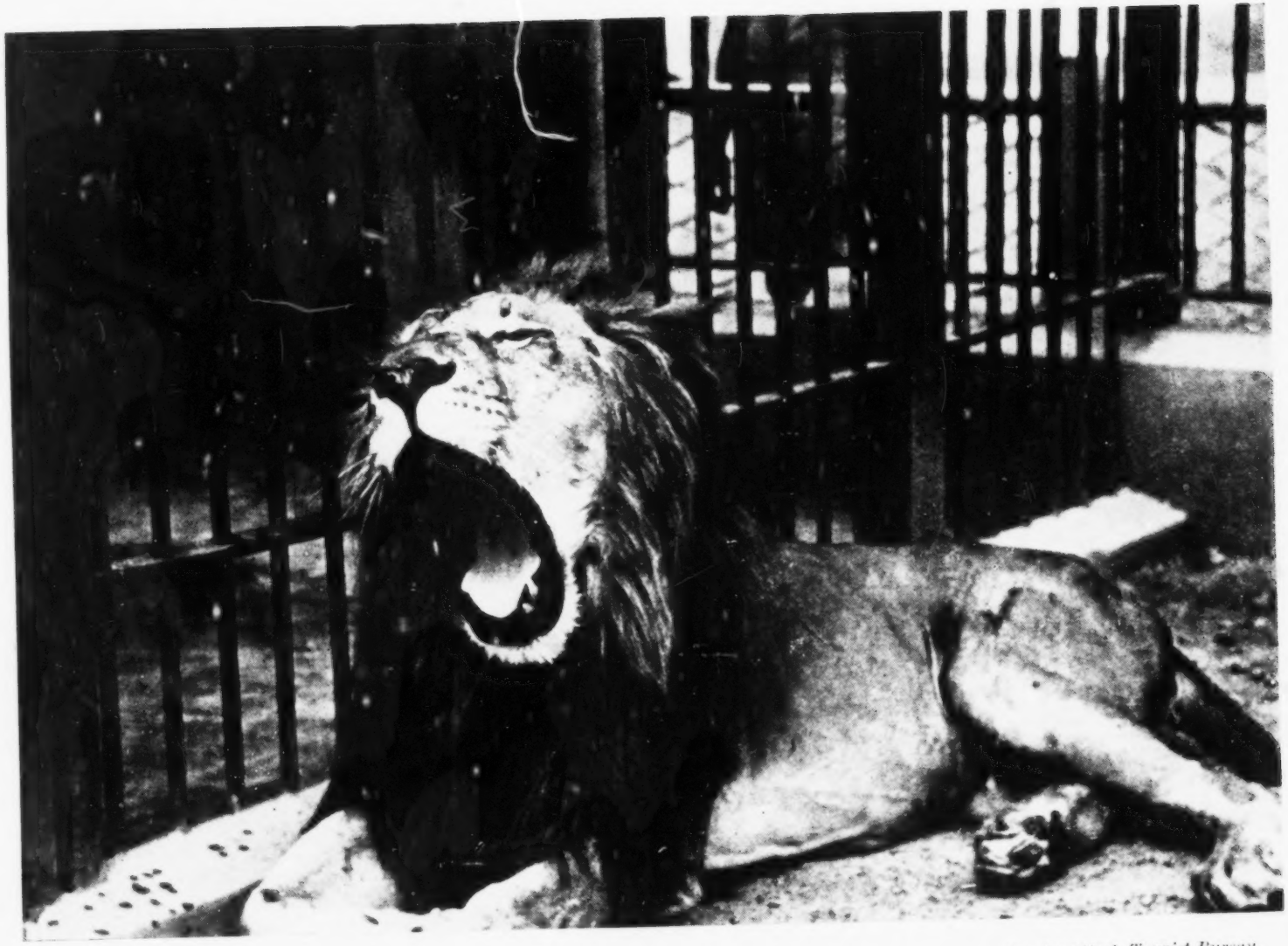

Photo by Werner Conitz. ZOO AT DEHRIWALA. *Courtesy Govt. Tourist Bureau.*

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The number of nuts required to manufacture a candy (560 lb.) of copra varies from 900 to 1,500.

The value of the exports of copra is shown in Diagram No. 9.

Prices.—The market opened the year at Rs. 34·25 per candy but fell to Rs. 31·25 by the end of January. Thereafter prices fluctuated between Rs. 27 and Rs. 25·75 until December, when the market advanced to Rs. 29·50 and closed the year at Rs. 29·25.

Average of the monthly quotations recorded by the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce for 1938 :—

(Estate No. 1 per candy of 5 cwt.)

	Rs. c.		Rs. c.		Rs. c.
January	.. 32 54	May ..	.. 27 66	September	.. 25 75
February	.. 30 7	June ..	.. 26 9	October	.. 26 33
March	.. 28 10	July ..	.. 27 15	November	.. 27 35
April ..	.. 26 41	August	.. 26 57	December	.. 28 97

The annual average market prices* in certain years were :—1925, Rs. 80·36 per candy (560 lb.) ; 1926, Rs. 79·40 ; 1927, Rs. 76·88 ; 1928, Rs. 76·22 ; 1929, Rs. 64·47 ; 1930, Rs. 52·36 ; 1931, Rs. 35·06 ; 1932, Rs. 42·21 ; 1933, Rs. 29·75 ; 1934, Rs. 21·98 ; 1935, Rs. 38·15 ; 1936, Rs. 48·01 ; 1937, Rs. 47·23 ; 1938, Rs. 27·74. (See Diagram No. 5.)

Coconut Oil.—Although a large quantity of copra is exported for the extraction of oil by the importers, a quantity of coconut oil is prepared in Ceylon. The traditional method of extraction consists in grinding the copra in a "chekku" consisting of a large wooden pestle, which is revolved by bullock power in a kind of stone mortar.

The value of the exports of coconut oil is shown in Diagram No. 9.

Prices.—Opening at Rs. 225 in January prices fell gradually until October when the value declined to Rs. 170 since when it recovered slightly to end the year at Rs. 180.

The monthly average prices recorded by the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce for 1938, compare as follows :—

(White Oil per ton F.O.B.)

	Rs. c.		Rs. c.		Rs. c.
January	.. 222 50	May ..	.. 188 44	September	.. 172 50
February	.. 199 90	June ..	.. 177 50	October	.. 169 75
March	.. 196 57	July ..	.. 181 75	November	.. 177 3
April ..	.. 186 25	August	.. 177 50	December	.. 179 53

The annual average market prices† in certain years were :—1925, Rs. 543·17 per ton f.o.b. ; 1926, Rs. 539·36 ; 1927, Rs. 491·73 ; 1928, Rs. 489·02 ; 1929, Rs. 412·33 ; 1930, Rs. 351·63 ; 1931, Rs. 253·52 ; 1932, Rs. 283·75 ; 1933, Rs. 209·43 ; 1934, Rs. 149·98 ; 1935, Rs. 245·58 ; 1936, Rs. 288·55 ; 1937, Rs. 302·72 ; 1938, Rs. 184·22.

Desiccated Coconut.—Desiccated coconut is produced in Ceylon on a large scale.

The value of the exports of desiccated coconut is shown in Diagram No. 9.

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* The average prices for 1927 to 1938 are for top grades only. Averages for other years represent the lowest and highest overall weekly quotations received for all grades.

† The average prices for 1925 to 1936 are for Ordinary Oil. Averages for other years are for White Oil

Prices.—The market opened the year at 8 cents per lb. but declined to 7 cents in February and 6 cents in April. The latter figure remained unchanged until December when a slight improvement took place and prices were marked up to 7 cents and continued at this level to the end of the year.

Average of the monthly quotations recorded by the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce for 1938 :—

(Per lb.)

	Rs. c.		Rs. c.		Rs. c.
January	.. 0 8	May ..	.. 0 6	September	.. 0 6
February	.. 0 7	June ..	.. 0 6	October	.. 0 6
March	.. 0 7	July ..	.. 0 6	November	.. 0 6
April ..	.. 0 6	August	.. 0 6	December	.. 0 7

The annual average market prices in certain years were :—1925, 20 cents per lb. ; 1926, 20 cents ; 1927, 19 cents ; 1928, 19 cents ; 1929, 16 cents ; 1930, 13 cents ; 1931, 10 cents ; 1932, 11 cents ; 1933, 8 cents ; 1934, 6 cents ; 1935, 10 cents ; 1936, 11 cents ; 1937, 10 cents ; 1938, 6 cents. (See Diagram No. 5.)

Information regarding the manufacture of alcohol, &c., is shown under " Toddy and Arrack ", page 35.

Coir, &c.—An important but somewhat unorganized industry, also dependent upon the coconut tree, is the manufacture of coir, which consists of the stout fibres forming the husk of the nut. These fibres are separated by rotting the husks in water, or by special machinery. The fibres are then graded and used for making brushes, yarn, mats, rope, &c., according to their quality. In many parts of Ceylon the coir fibres are separated by village labour, chiefly women, and sold by them to exporting firms.

The value of the exports of coir is shown in Diagram No. 9.

Prices.—The market opened in January at Rs. 3·25 per cwt. for good quality 2-tie, but, owing to the smaller demand from Japan, had declined to Rs. 2·70 per cwt. by the end of the month, at which price it remained steady until the end of May, when a further decline set in, to Rs. 2·35 per cwt. This was maintained until the middle of September, when the market weakened further to Rs. 2·15 per cwt., but the decline was short-lived as the market was back to Rs. 2·35 within a month and stood at this price at the end of the year.

Average of the monthly quotations recorded by the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce for 1938 :—

(3-tie per cwt.)

	Rs. c.		Rs. c.		Rs. c.
January	.. 3 78	May ..	.. 3 20	September	.. 2 87
February	.. 3 42	June ..	.. 2 92	October	.. 2 82
March	.. 3 29	July ..	.. 2 88	November	.. 2 78
April ..	.. 3 13	August..	.. 2 88	December	.. 2 81

The annual average market prices* in certain years for bristle fibre were :—1925, Rs. 7·62 per cwt. ; 1926, Rs. 7·46 ; 1927, Rs. 8·37 ; 1928, Rs. 8·53 ; 1929, Rs. 9·01 ; 1930, Rs. 8·23 ; 1931, Rs. 6·65 ; 1932, Rs. 7·95 ; 1933, Rs. 6·35 ; 1934, Rs. 4·71 ; 1935, Rs. 4·63 ; 1936, Rs. 4·95 ; 1937, Rs. 5·49 ; 1938, Rs. 3·06.

* The average prices for 1928 to 1938 are for top grades only. Averages for other years represent the lowest and highest overall weekly quotations received for all grades.

iagram No. 5A (p. 23) compares Colombo and London prices of copra coconut oil for each month of this year.

he London prices C.I.F. are taken from Messrs. Fischel & Co.'s Weekly orts for copra and from Messrs. H. M. F. Faure & Co.'s Annual Reports coconut oil.

Cacao.

ommercial cacao is produced from the seeds of the plant *Theobroma o*. The variety now grown in Ceylon is the *Forastero*.

levation and Rainfall, &c.,—The cultivation of cacao is restricted to urably situated valleys at an elevation between 500 to 2,000 feet ch receive a well regulated rainfall of 60 to 80 inches and are protected n high winds. Plantations lie almost entirely in the Kandy and ale Districts of the Central Province. Of an approximate acreage of 00 acres under cacao in the Island 55 per cent. is in the former district 33 per cent. in the latter.

abour.—The labour required for a cacao estate works out at about labourer for 2 acres. Tamils generally form the bulk of the labour e, but Sinhalese are also employed for lopping, &c.

lanting.—As the young plant requires to be carefully shaded, shade s must be planted at the same time between the rows about the same ance apart as the cacao.

rops.—Cacao commences to bear fruit about the fifth year, two os a year being then gathered. The general average yield is about o 4 cwt. per acre.

icking.—The flowers and fruit of the tree grow in a characteristic nner direct upon the trunk and branches of the trees. The fruit llipsoidal and of considerable size, and the beans are covered with o or mucilage. Ripening is generally indicated by a change of colour he outside of the pods. The fruit on the stems and main branches cked by means of an ordinary pruning knife, while that on the higher s of the tree is dealt with by cacao hooks. The picking gang goes nd as often as necessary, the period generally being between a fortnight three weeks. The pods are cut down by men or boys, who are wed by women, who gather the pods and heap them together. The ts are opened the same day, and the beans carted or carried to the nenting shed. One labourer will pick 1 to 1½ bushels of wet beans day. This is equal to about 37 lb. of the cured product.

ermentation.—At the fermenting shed the beans, covered with ilage, are heaped into boxes or vats for fermentation. This process ccompanied by rise of temperature and by decomposition of the pulp ounding the beans. During the fermentation the pulp becomes e liquid and gradually flows away, the bottom of the fermenting es being perforated and raised off the ground to admit of this. The od of fermentation in Ceylon is about 36 hours. After 12 hours the ns are given a light washing and turned over into another box. They again given a heavier washing at the end of the fermenting period of hours, when they are carried or carted to the barbecue or curing se.

uring.—The best method of curing is the gradual drying of the beans he sun or barbecues covered with coir matting. By this method the quality is obtained. The period varies from five to seven days,

according to the temperature. Most of the picking has, however, to be done during the wet season, and a greater part of the crop is cured by artificial means. The most popular curing house is a two- or three-floor building, the floors being constructed of strips of wood covered over with coir matting, on which the freshly-fermented beans are spread. The building is heated with hot air conducted by pipes placed under each floor, the hot air being obtained by means of a fan, which drives the air through the heating apparatus and then through the pipes. The temperature in the building during the curing process is kept between 110 and 120 degrees Fahrenheit.

Packing.—Cacao after grading is packed in bags (112 lb. to a bag) when it is ready for export. Most of the cacao from Ceylon is shipped, in this form.

Prices.—The average price for the year was Rs. 19·33 per cwt. as against Rs. 33·65 per cwt. in 1937.

Average of the monthly quotations recorded by the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce for 1938 :—

(Estate No. 1 per cwt.)

	Rs. c.		Rs. c.		Rs. c.
January .	.. 23 38	May ..	.. 16 56	September	.. 21 6
February	.. 22 13	June ..	.. 16 63	October	.. 19 70
March ..	.. 18 19	July ..	.. 21 5	November	.. 17 75
April ..	.. 16 81	August	.. 21 37	December	.. 17 25

The annual average market prices* in certain years were :—1925, Rs. 33·17 per cwt. ; 1926, Rs. 30·41 ; 1927, Rs. 52·22 ; 1928, Rs. 58·89 ; 1929, Rs. 53·46 ; 1930, Rs. 37·51 ; 1931, Rs. 29·71 ; 1932, Rs. 27·71 ; 1933, Rs. 25·09 ; 1934, Rs. 22·99 ; 1935, Rs. 18·37 ; 1936, Rs. 33·72 ; 1937, Rs. 33·65 ; 1938, Rs. 19·33.

The value of the exports of cacao is shown in Diagram No. 9.

Cinnamon.

Cinnamon, once the main export, still occupies a place—though a minor one—in the trade of the Island. The approximate total acreage is 26,000 acres, of which 58 per cent. is in the Southern Province (Galle District 40 per cent.) and 41 per cent. in the Western Province (Negombo area 30 per cent.).

The industry is entirely in the hands of Ceylonese. The number of large properties of 100 acres and over in extent is limited and these receive systematic attention. The majority of plantations are small areas of 10 to 25 acres in extent.

The Tree.—The cinnamon tree may grow to the height of 20 to 30 feet, and the trunk may be upwards of 3 feet in circumference. The trees cultivated to produce the cinnamon of commerce are coppiced, and long willowy shoots are produced, growing to a height of about 10 feet and to the size of a fair-sized walking stick. The shoots are cut and the bark is peeled off, and rolled into quills, which constitute the cinnamon of commerce.

Prices.—The average price for the year was 40 cents per lb. for quills and Rs. 35·16 per candy for chips.

* The average prices for 1927 to 1938 are for top grades only. Averages for other years represent the lowest and highest overall weekly quotations received for all grades.

Average of the monthly quotations recorded by the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce for 1938 :—

	Quills (Fine 0-0000 per lb. Rs. c.	Chips* (per candy of 5 cwt.) Rs. c.		Quills (Fine 0-0000 per lb.) Rs. c.	Chips* per candy of 5 cwt.) Rs. c.		Quills (Fine 0-0000 per lb.) Rs. c.	Chips* per) candy of 5 cwt.) Rs. c.
January	0 50	42 25	May	0 41	35 94	September	0 33	32 50
February	0 49	39 57	June	0 35	35 94	October	0 31	31 75
March	0 53	37 88	July	0 39	35 75	November	0 31	31 88
April	0 47	34 69	August	0 35	31 81	December	0 34	33 13

The annual average market prices† of quills in certain years were :—1925, 88 cents per lb. ; 1926, Re. 1·14 ; 1927, Re. 1·35 ; 1928, Re. 1·29 ; 1929, Re. 1·15 ; 1930, 59 cents ; 1931, 37 cents ; 1932, 28 cents ; 1933, 25 cents ; 1934, 29 cents ; 1935, 35 cents ; 1936, 37 cents ; 1937, 43 cents ; 1938, 40 cents ; of chips : 1925, Rs. 84·54 per candy ; 1926, Rs. 93·79 ; 1927, Rs. 102·77 ; 1928, Rs. 105·72 ; 1929, Rs. 96·86 ; 1930, Rs. 56·41 ; 1931, Rs. 38·92 ; 1932, Rs. 26·40 ; 1933, Rs. 20·64 ; 1934, Rs. 30·64 ; 1935, Rs. 27·69 ; 1936, Rs. 33·75 ; 1937, Rs. 47·17 ; 1938, Rs. 35·16.

An acre will yield about 120 lb. quills.

Citronella Oil.

Citronella oil grass is a large coarse grass growing 3 to 4 feet high, cultivated in Ceylon (and of late years in Java) for its essential oil, which is obtained from the leaves by distillation. It flourishes up to an elevation of 2,000 feet, but its cultivation is confined entirely to the Southern Province where the acreage under this crop is estimated to be 33,000 acres, of which 62 per cent. is in the Matara District and the remaining 38 per cent. in the Hambantota District. Cultivation is in the hands of the Ceylonese. The grass is readily propagated by division (seed being rarely produced), and may be planted about 2 by 3 feet apart in rows. Two cuttings a year may be obtained, and about 40 lb. of marketable oil per acre is an estimated annual yield. The oil is of a strong aromatic odour ; it is exported for use in scenting soaps, perfumery, &c., and is also a preventive against the bites of mosquitoes and leeches.

Prices.—Compared with 1937 the market throughout the year was remarkably steady.

The average price for the year was 73 cents per lb. as against 87 cents per lb. in the previous year.

Average of the monthly quotations recorded by the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce for 1938 :—

(Per lb.)

	Rs. c.		Rs. c.		Rs. c.
January	0 76	May	0 68	September	0 73
February	0 78	June	0 64	October	0 78
March	0 79	July	0 73	November	0 77
April	0 70	August	0 74	December	0 76

The annual average market prices in certain years were :—1925, Re. 1·37 per lb. ; 1926, 99 cents ; 1927, 77 cents ; 1928, 93 cents ; 1929, Re. 1·06 ; 1930, Re. 1·12 ; 1931, 80 cents ; 1932, 94 cents ; 1933, 87 cents ; 1934, 55 cents ; 1935, 47 cents ; 1936, 42 cents ; 1937, 87 cents ; 1938, 73 cents.

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* Loose at buyers' stores—Sifted free from sand and dust.

† The average prices for 1927 to 1938 are for top grades only. Averages for other years represent the lowest and highest overall weekly quotations received for all grades.

Tobacco.

Acreage and Localities.—The estimated acreage under this crop in the Island is 14,000 acres, of which a little over half is found in the Jaffna District of the Northern Province, where great care is given to cultivation. The methods adopted are peculiar to this area and the manufacture of the leaf gives rise to the most important industry in the district. Another variety of leaf is grown in the Central Province which claims about 21 per cent. of the total acreage under the crop. Dumbara in the Kandy District is a particularly favoured area, while in the Matale District the crop is of some importance to the peasant, besides there being a small manufacture of cigars and pipe tobacco from the local leaf as in the case in Dumbara. Tobacco is also grown to the extent of about 1,500 acres in the Kurunegala District where the method of manufacture to produce a chewing tobacco differs from that adopted in Jaffna. Elsewhere cultivation is carried out in the North-Central and Eastern Provinces to less extents.

Dumbara Tobacco.—A high grade of Ceylon Tobacco is grown in the Kandy District.

The leaves of the Dumbara tobacco burn with a good white ash, and are manufactured in the Island into cigars, which command a ready sale, and would be in greater demand if they were more uniform in quality. A large portion of the Central Province crop is sold to local manufacturers of cigars for use as wrappers for the Jaffna types. The leaves are smaller of lighter colour.

Jaffna Tobacco.—The Jaffna types consist of two kinds. These are locally known as the smoking and chewing kinds. Both are large-leaved, coarse tobaccos, the chewing type being of more vigorous and coarse growth than the smoking type.

Cardamoms.

Uses.—Cardamoms are of commercial value on account of the spice obtained from them, which is well known to cooks and confectioners, and is used in pharmacopoeia as a deadener of tastes and a medicine.

Habitat, &c.—The commercial value of the plant lies in the fruit, which is borne on racemes rising from the ground. The plant itself—*Elettaris Cardamomum*—grows in stools or clumps under the shade of forest trees at elevations between 2,800 and 4,000 feet, with a rainfall of 115 to 150 inches a year.

Manufacture.—The fruit is collected and is manufactured into either (1) bleached or (2) green dried.

Acreage.—The total acreage under cardamoms is estimated to be 6,000 acres, of which 82 per cent. is confined to the Central Province—approximately 2,500 acres in the Kandy District, 1,500 acres in the Nuwara Eliya District, and 1,000 acres in the Matale District. About 1,000 acres are found in the Kegalla and Ratnapura Districts (Province of Sabaragamuwa). The bulk of the plantations is in the hands of European owners, but the number of small gardens of a few acres in size in the hands of peasants is not inconsiderable.

Prices.—The average price obtained for cardamoms during 1938 was Re. 1·20 as against Rs. 2·10 in the preceding year.

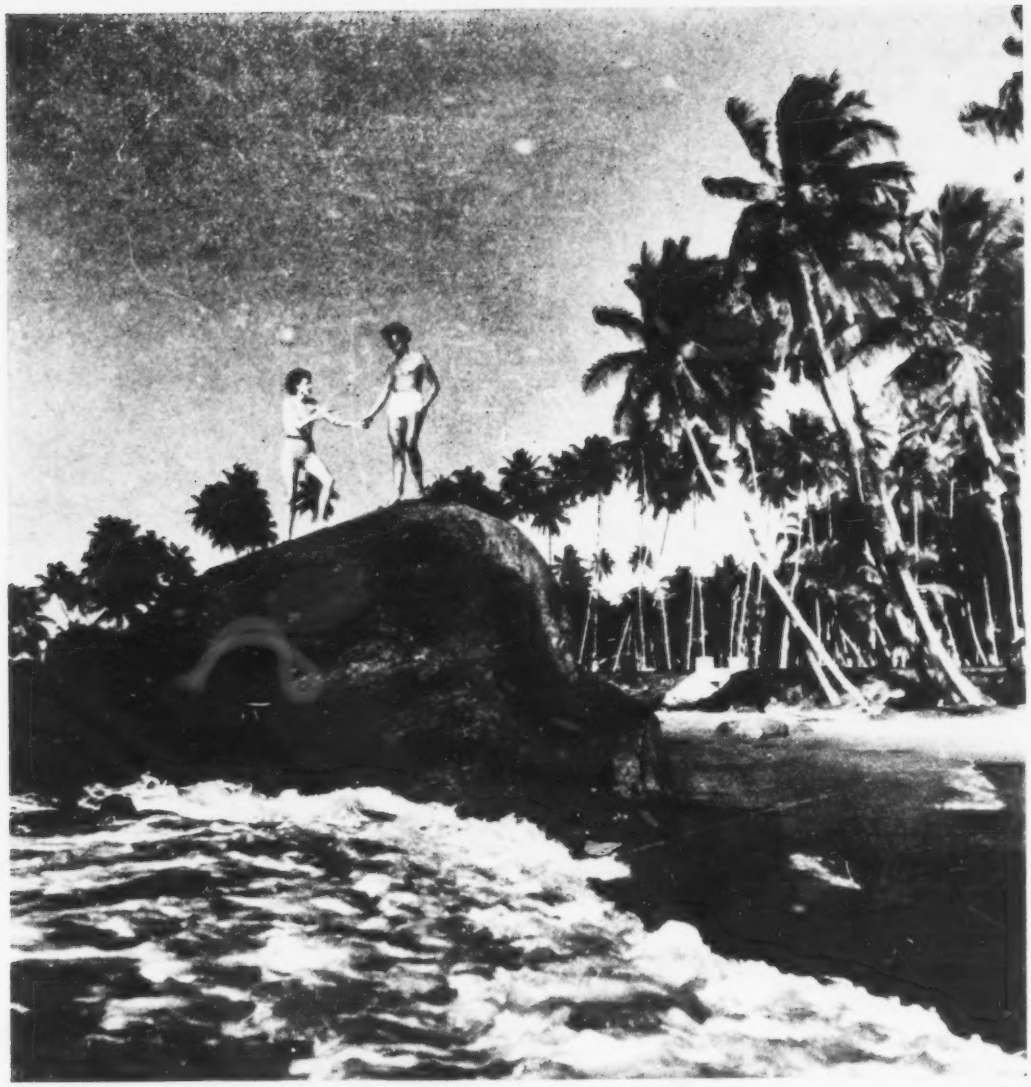

Photo by Werner Conitz. *Courtesy Gov^t. Tourist Bureau.*

MOUNT LAVINIA.

Average of the monthly quotations recorded by the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce for 1938 :—

(Green per lb.)

	Rs.	c.		Rs.	c.		Rs.	c.
January ..	1	34	May	1	42	September ..	1	2
February ..	1	31	June	1	32	October ..	1	2
March	1	21	July ..	1	25	November ..	1	3
April	1	34	August ..	1	9	December ..	1	11

The annual average market prices* in certain years were :—1925, Rs. 3·42 per lb. ; 1926, Rs. 2·44 ; 1927, Rs. 2·54 ; 1928, Rs. 2·50 ; 1929, Rs. 2·22 ; 1930, Re. 1·69 ; 1931, Re. 1·67 ; 1932, Re. 1·33 ; 1933, 95 cents ; 1934, 91 cents ; 1935, Re. 1·00 ; 1936, Re. 1·60 ; 1937, Rs. 2·10 ; 1938, Re. 1·20.

Arecanuts.†

Conditions.—The arecanut palm is grown in all village gardens in the wetter districts of the Island. It produces heavy crops of fruits, and provides straight stems, which are used for the erection of temporary structures. Pure cultivations of the palm similar to those to be found in Southern India are rarely seen in Ceylon, although in the Kegalla Districts there are some fairly extensive pure plantations. The area under arecanuts is about 69,000 acres.

The Fruit.—The fruits of the arecanut palm are harvested when ripe, and are sold in their unhusked state in all the bazaars and markets of the Island.

Arecanuts are generally exported to British and foreign India and the Maldive Islands, but practically the whole of exports in 1938 went into British India.

Foodstuffs.

Paddy or Rice.

If Hill paddy (*elvi*) is excluded, it may be said that the cultivation of paddy in Ceylon is based upon a plentiful supply of water. Not only are the plants dependent upon a good supply in all stages up to the ripening period, but the processes of cultivation in all parts of Ceylon, except some of the most northerly, are dependent upon it.

Rain-water Cultivation.—Cultivation without the help of irrigation is carried on, not only in dry districts like Jaffna, but also in wetter parts like the Kandy District. The success of the crop is entirely dependent upon a sufficient and reasonable rainfall, and upon the soil being capable of retaining the water for a fairly long period in order to tide over the rainless intervals. Should the rains fail after the paddy has been sown, the crop will perish, and then the cultivator must resow his field with a paddy which can mature in the remainder of the season, or lose the season entirely. Similarly, if the rains are late, the earlier maturing varieties of paddy must be sown.

Irrigation.—When paddy is grown under irrigation, the water may be supplied by springs, streams (*elas*), wells, or reservoirs ("tanks"). Cultivation under streams may be seen in the Central and Uva Provinces and under tanks in the drier Eastern, Northern, and North-Central Provinces.

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* The average prices for 1927 to 1938 are for top grades only. Averages for other years represent the lowest and highest overall weekly quotations received for all grades.

† Although in point of value of exports arecanuts rank between rubber and cacao, this sub-section is inserted here, as the cultivation is not organized and insufficient details are available regarding it.

Asweddumization.—In all cases where a system of irrigation is employed the land must be " asweddumized ", or prepared for paddy. Should the paddy area not be level, it is necessary to terrace it. This terracing is brought to a high level of perfection in the hilly districts. Distribution channels convey the irrigation water to the upper plots, and drains carry off the surplus water.

Seasons.—There are two paddy-growing seasons, both of which are made use of for the cultivation of the same tract of fields when sufficient labour and water are available. The *maha* crop is sown from the end of August to the middle of October, according to the district. The harvest from this crop is reaped in February or March. The *yala* crop season commences with sowing in March-April, the harvest being reaped in July to September. The corresponding Tamil seasons are called *munmari* and *pinmari* or *kalapokam* and *sirupokam*. Generally speaking, six and three months are required for the respective *maha* and *yala* crops. In some districts sowings take place between *maha* and *yala* seasons for a *meda* or *iddi* (Tamil) crop.

Acreage.—The area under wet land paddy in Ceylon is estimated to be 850,000 acres yielding approximately 17 million bushels of paddy (grain in husk) per annum. The greatest proportion of the acreage lies in the North-Western Province. But large extents are found in all the provinces.

Other Food Crops.

Chenas.—Many other food grains are grown in the Island. Except in the Northern Province, these are generally grown in " chenas "—areas of land covered with secondary forest or other vegetation, which are cleared and burned—which are either private or leased or granted by the Crown. The principal grains grown are kurakkan (*Eleusine coracana*), maize, Italian millet, *Paspalum* millet, and *Panicum* millet. Pulses are also grown in the chenas, the principal crops being green gram, horse gram, and black gram. Gingelly (*Sesamum indicum*) forms an important chena crop particularly in the Jaffna, Anuradhapura, and Kurunegala Districts. Hitherto in addition to the utilization locally of the crop produced in the Island, gingelly seed oil, and poonac had been imported from India to the value of Rs. 2 to 3 millions.

Edible tubers grow in abundance. These are known in the Island as yams, and include dioscorea yams, tannia yams, sweet potatoes, and manioc. Sweet potatoes are abundant in the Southern Province, while manioc or cassava has spread rapidly in all districts in recent years, and constitutes a general food. The preparation of tapioca might be possible in some districts if a good supply of pure water were available.

Plantains (bananas) of various types are largely cultivated, and are to be found in all markets. The largest area of plantains is to be found between Polgahawala and Rambukkana, but in recent years the bunchy-top disease has appeared and caused considerable damage. This disease now appears to be less virulent, and areas which suffered severely some years ago are now giving good crops of fruit.

Jak and breadfruit are important foodstuffs, while " jaggery " is made from coconut, palmyra, or kitul palms.

Vegetables and curry plants are generally cultivated throughout the Island, and markets are well stocked. Dried chillies are prepared in the drier districts, while onions are largely grown in some localities.

Pumpkins, gourds of various kinds, and cucumbers are largely grown and find a ready sale in the various towns and village markets of the country. In the hills European vegetables thrive and are largely grown for transport by rail to the principal centres of population and to the shipping in Colombo Harbour.

Miscellaneous.

Cotton.—Considerable success has been achieved in an effort to establish the cultivation of cotton as a peasant industry, chiefly in the Hambantota District of the Southern Province and in the Matale District of the Central Province. A cotton purchase scheme has been established whereby cultivators are given cotton seed for planting and the crop grown by them is purchased by Government on behalf of the Spinning and Weaving Mills, Colombo.

The following table shows the areas under cotton in the different agricultural divisions during the last nine years :—

Years.	Southern Division Acres.	Central Division Acres.	South-Western Division Acres.	Northern Division Acres.	Total Acres.
1929–30	2,297	—	—	—	2,297
1930–31	1,444	12	112	—	1,568
1931–32	261	29	18	—	308
1932–33	536	78	80	—	694
1933–34	300	87	2½	—	389½
1934–35	450	173	60	—	683
1935–36	756	379	80	—	1,215
1936–37	1,200	466	60	—	1,726
1937–38	850	446	250	200*	1,746

*Approximate.

Kapok.—Kapok is not grown as a pure crop, but is largely planted along the boundaries of fields and settlements and in some instances interspersed among other permanent crops. A regular trade is being conducted by petty dealers.

Kitul.—The fibre of the Borassus palm has always found a ready market, and in the past few years it has been used locally for the manufacture of brooms and brushes. The tree is not systematically cultivated, and is only indiscriminately distributed throughout the wetter districts of the mid- and low-country.

Papain.—This is the dried extract obtained from the milk of the papaya fruit for which there has been a steady market in the past. The crop was largely cultivated in the Kegalla, Kandy, and Kurunegala Districts, and the development of a profitable peasant industry was indicated.

Pepper.—The pepper vine is widely distributed throughout the wet low-country as well as in the Kandy and Matale Districts of the mid-country though systematic pure plantations are not established. It is grown against shade trees in certain tea and cacao estates, and is in evidence in practically every village garden.

Toddy and Arrack.

The production of toddy and arrack forms two important industries dependent on the coconut palm. For the formation of coconuts a large quantity of saccharine juice is supplied by the tree to the flowering stalks

or spadices, which are enclosed in spathes. If the spadix is " tapped " before the nuts mature, and a pot attached to it, a quantity of the juice, varying from 6 to about 12 drams per day, can be collected in the pot. A dram is equivalent to 1/48 of an imperial gallon. If lime is not used to prevent fermentation, the action of yeasts, which are present in the air or in the pot, will convert the sugar in the juice into alcohol, and the liquid will be converted into " toddy ", with an alcoholic strength of about 4 to 8 per cent. Toddy is also obtained similarly from the palmyra and kitul palms. It is sold in taverns under Government licence at rates varying from 48 cents to Re. 1·20 per gallon. A considerable industry depends upon the sale of toddy, which attracts may of the smaller Ceylonese and Malayalee capitalists. The cost of production of toddy (exclusive of transport and retailing costs) may be estimated at about 23 cents per gallon, and considerable profits are made when the sales are active.

The toddy consumption in 1937–38 (the rent-year being from October 1 to September 30) was 4,209,436 gallons, compared with 4,189,074 gallons in 1936–37, the average consumption per head of population being 0·79 gallons for both years. The figures for 1936–37 consumption do not include the toddy consumed in Jaffna District from January 1 to September 30, 1937, when all toddy taverns in that District were abolished and replaced by the tree tax system. Under this system, any person may tap any number of trees up to a maximum of 20 on payment of a tax of Rs. 2·50 per male palmyra and of Rs. 10 per female palmyra or coconut tree. The toddy is sold at the tree foot by each licensee ; figures for consumption under the tree tax system are thus not available. The actual toddy revenue (inclusive of tree tax) collected in the two financial years was Rs. 2,598,533 in 1936–37 and Rs. 2,705,713 in 1937–38, the revenue per head being 49 and 51 cents respectively. In 1938–39 the rents of 167 toddy taverns were sold for Rs. 2,298,485, a slight increase on the amount realized from the rent sale of the 161 sanctioned taverns for the financial year 1937–38.

By the distillation of coconut toddy, the local spirit known as " arrack " is produced, and this is sold, like toddy, in taverns licensed by Government. The whole of the distilling and sale of arrack is in the hands of Ceylonese capitalists. Distillation of arrack prior to 1923 was carried on in about 250 small pot-stills of the most primitive variety ; it is now concentrated in eight large modern distilleries situated in the Kalutara District, the outturn capacity of each being not less than 60,000 gallons at 27° u.p. per annum. Three of the distillers have installed " Barbet's " patent stills for continuous distillation, each capable of producing 1,000 gallons of arrack per day. All distillery operations are carried on under the close supervision of the Excise Department. The arrack made at these distilleries is far purer and almost entirely free from copper than any arrack previously distilled from coconut toddy in Ceylon. Insistence on better straining of the toddy wash, and on greater cleanliness generally, has resulted in a steady improvement of the quality of arrack. An Extra Special quality of pure pot-still arrack, matured in wood for 5 years, was also sold during April and May, 1937, as an experiment ; it was very well received. These new private distilleries were started in April, 1924. They supply arrack to Government at a fixed price under what is known as the " Contract Supply " system.

About 8 gallons of toddy are required to produce a gallon of arrack at proof strength, *i.e.*, the outturn in arrack (proof gallons) of a distillery is

about 12·0 per cent. of the toddy distilled. The distiller's cost of production is about Re. 1·30 to Re. 1·35 per gallon at 27° under proof, according to variations in the prices he has to pay for his toddy supplied on contract. The distillers sell their arrack to Government at Re. 1·80 per gallon at 27° under proof. Government stores and matures the spirit in wood, and carries on reducing, blending, and bottling operations.

Retailing is done by renters, who are usually those who offer the highest price for this privilege. In addition to paying this price irrespective of the volume of their sales, they pay the following charges for every gallon of arrack at 27° u.p. they obtain from a Government Warehouse to cover Government expenditure on purchasing, warehousing, and bottling arrack :—

Duty on bulk arrack at Rs. 8·50 per gallon and on arrack in bottles Rs. 7·50 per gallon ;

Cost price Rs. 3 per gallon in all districts except Trincomalee, Batticaloa, Badulla, Jaffna, and Vavuniya ;

Cost price Rs. 3·50 per gallon of bulk arrack at Trincomalee, Batticaloa, Badulla, Jaffna, and Vavuniya ;

Extra charges per gallon on the Ordinary quality of bottled arrack Re. 1, on the Special quality of bottled arrack Rs. 2, and on the Extra Special quality of bottled arrack Rs. 3·50 per gallon.

The quantity of arrack distilled during the last three years is as follows :—

	Gallons (proof strength).		Gallons (proof strength).		Gallons (proof strength).
1936 ..	.. 531,461	1937 ..	.. 387,911	1938 ..	.. 300,753

The corresponding percentage of outturn for the three years was 12·0, 11·89 and 12·06 respectively.

The consumption of arrack rose from 388,330 gallons in 1936–37 to 400,687 gallons in 1937–38, an increase of about 3·2 per cent. which is mainly accounted for by improved economic conditions.

The number of arrack taverns exclusive of canteens was 156 in 1936–37 as well as in 1937–38. The estimated net revenue, after deducting expenses of the distribution and storage system, was Rs. 4,480,000 in 1936–37, and Rs. 4,740,895 in 1937–38, which are equivalent to Re. 0·84 and Re. 0·89 respectively per head of population. The arrack consumption per head of population was 0·07 and 0·08 gallons in 1936–37 and 1937–38 respectively. The arrack revenue (net) per gallon was Rs. 11·54 in 1936–37 and Rs. 11·83 in 1937–38.

Vinegar Manufacture.

Toddy vinegar is obtained from the aceticization of fermented toddy, which takes place naturally after about 36 hours.

In 1924 special licences were first issued to vinegar manufacturers only in the Western and Southern Provinces, with a view to encouraging the manufacture of toddy vinegar as a local industry. Rules were passed in 1926 to control vinegar stores. Thirteen such licences were in force during 1937–38 (a decrease of 2 as against 1936–37) in addition to two licences issued to toddy tavern renters to manufacture vinegar from unsold toddy.

Excise Offences.

The following is a statement of Excise detections in the five years 1934, 1935, 1936, 1937, and 1938 :—

Year.	Foreign Liquor.	Arrack.	Toddy.	Opium and Ganja.	Others.	Total.
1934	10	260	6,471	736	564	8,041
1935	2	295	5,565	818	1,062	7,742
1936	2	348	7,235	796	757	9,138
1937	1	462	8,162	984	344	9,953
1938	8	593	9,730	924	704	11,959

The most remarkable increases occur under illicit distillation and under tapping, possession, sale and transport of toddy.

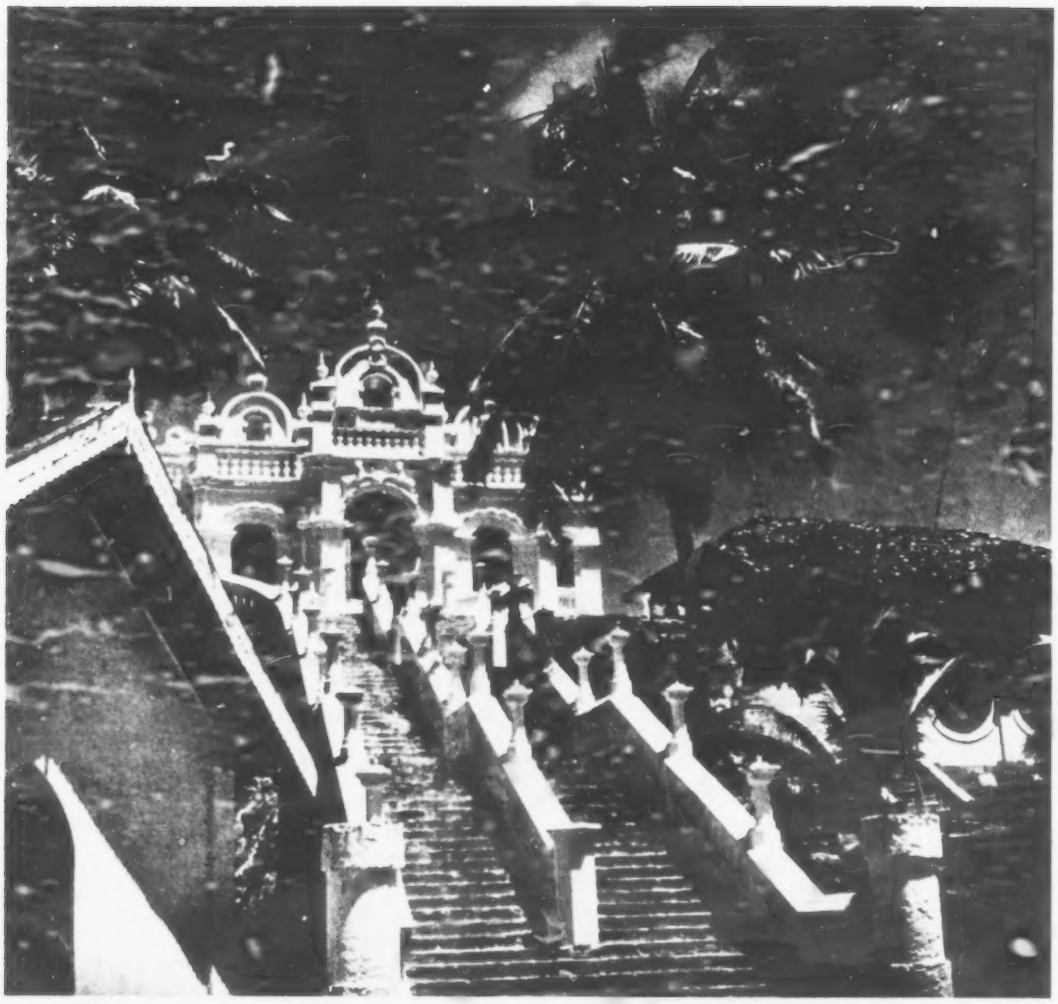
FISHERIES.

The fisheries of Ceylon can be subdivided into off shore, shore, lagoon, and fresh water fishing and the aquatic resources range from corals, molluscs and crustacea, to fishes, aquatic reptiles and aquatic mammals. The industry furnishes the country with about 32 thousand tons of fish or more annually, but this is by no means the entire quantity of fish products consumed.

The economic interests of the industry are not restricted to fishes alone, for there are three molluscs of exceptional importance to Ceylon. One is the pearl oyster which occupies rocky " paars " in the Gulf of Mannar off the west coast from Puttalam to Adams Bridge. These banks are under Government control and the fishery a Government monopoly. The last fishery was in 1925, the gross receipts being Rs. 517,507. Another bivalve is the window pane oyster, which lives partly embedded in the mud of Tamblegam lagoon near Trincomalee on the east coast. This fishery is leased by Government for three-year periods. The amount obtained from the last lease was Rs. 19,825 and the total number of oysters fished was 3,773,329. The third mollusc of importance is the chank which is fished in the shallow area of Palk Strait and the Gulf of Mannar. The royalty levied on the export of chanks for 1938 was Rs. 8,403·41. Money is also obtained by local bodies and by Government Agents from the sale of rentals for fish stalls and markets, sites for fish kraals, licences, &c.

The question of developing the fishing industry has taken the foremost place in the investigations conducted by the Department of Fisheries, although the lack of staff has proved a hindrance. Much of the preliminary work necessary prior to commencing large scale operations has still to be done, and the greater number of food fishes in Ceylon waters are but little known, their bionomics even less so. Progress has been made in supplying this initial need, and accounts of several important families, fresh water as well as marine, have been published, while others are under preparation.

Preliminary investigations into local fish curing have also been undertaken and accounts of the curing methods published. As a result of the knowledge derived from this work it is now proposed to commence pisciculture and smoke curing. With this object in view a series of seven large fish ponds have been established near Colombo. On the same site is erected a smokehouse for research into methods of smoking suitable to local requirements. Another advance in this direction is the decision to establish two fish curing yards on the East and West coasts, where



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KUMARAMAHAVIHARE.

fish curers will be supplied with high quality salt at the lowest possible price. The Marine Biologist is to advise the men in up to date curing methods and the by-products of the curing processes will be utilized as manure.

With a view to experimenting on a type of vessel and gear suitable to local fishermen the Fisheries Department has built a coble supplied with a sail and auxiliary motor. This vessel is at the service of fishermen, whose experiments and criticism should prove valuable in constructing a cheap type of vessel suitable for these waters.

Two extensive fishing banks were surveyed by the Department some years ago, viz., Pedro bank off the north-east coast with an area of over 1,000 square miles and Wage bank off Cape Comorin with an area of about 4,000 square miles. These continue to be unexploited, as the fishing vessels of Ceylon are small. The Portuguese tombu of 1618 enumerates large dhoneys among the fishing vessels of that period, but these appear to have been mainly employed for staying at sea, and salting their catch which was later taken inland for sale. The spread of the railway and lorry now enables speedy transport of fresh fish inland and consequently the curing industry has declined, while the slow moving dhoney has disappeared from the fishing grounds, now worked solely by outrigger canoes and catamarans of limited capacity and with little scope for further development.

Three grades of men control the industry. The first is the fisherman, who is generally employed by some wealthy capitalist who deals with contractors. The fisherman is subjected to from three to seven levies in cash and in kind from various quarters and it is debatable whether the help he recieves in return is by any means adequate recompense. In the 16th century under Sinhalese rule the men were liable to a revenue tax which was increased by the Portuguese and Dutch who also forced the men to labour as shipwrights and to load and unload ships, while restrictions on salt added to their hardships and commenced the decline of a once active industry.

A grant of Rs. 87,500 from the Colonial Development Fund for erecting a Research Station should shortly provide facilities for research into such aspects of local fisheries as the bionomics of economically important aquatic animals, the chemical reactions undergone in fish curing, and putrefaction of cured products as well as research into preservatives for boats and gear. The station is nearing completion.

SALT.

The manufacture, collection, and sale of salt constitute in Ceylon a Government monopoly, which is protected by an import duty. The monopoly is administered by the Executive Committee for Local Administration through the Salt Adviser and the Revenue Officers.

Ceylon consumes about 660,000 cwt. of common salt per annum. The greater part of this salt is manufactured or collected locally, and steps taken during the past four years to enhance and ensure production have been extremely successful and the Island is now in a position to export salt if markets can be found. Salt is manufactured from sea water by solar evaporation at the Government Salterns at Elephant Pass, in the Northern Province, and at Palavi, near Puttalam, in the North-Western Province, also in the privately owned salt pans at

Chiviyateru in the Northern Province, about four miles from Jaffna, at Puttalam and at Nilaveli, eight miles north of Trincomalee. Spontaneously formed salt resulting from the natural evaporation of brine is collected from lagoons in the Hambantota District of the Southern Province and in the Jaffna Peninsula in the Northern Province. These are Crown property. The quantity of salt manufactured at Chiviyateru is small, and the greater part of the Island's supply is derived from the Government Salterns, from the lagoons in the Hambantota District, and from the private salt pans at Puttalam. The following statement shows the total quantity of salt produced in Ceylon during the year and the average of eight years 1931–1938 :—

Producing Centre.	Average for 1931–38. Cwt.	1938. Cwt.
Elephant Pass	159,232	163,337
Palavi	92,984	101,590
Hambantota District	176,843	132,679
Puttalam District (excluding Palavi)	165,785	242,435
Jaffna and Mannar Districts (excluding Elephant Pass) ..	67,475	14,286
Trincomalee District	57,534	63,956
Total ..	719,853	718,283

Stocks at the beginning of 1938 amounted to 1,787,842 cwt. and at the end of the year to 1,849,732 cwt.

The amount realized during the financial year by sale of local salt from the Government depots was Rs. 2,223,470.

Owing to the nearly stationary consumption and the equalizing effect of the import duty the revenue from salt does not show a large percentage of variation from year to year.

PLUMBAGO.

Occurrence.—Plumbago, or graphite, is the most important of the economic Ceylon minerals. It occurs in minute scattered crystals in some of the gneisses, granulites and crystalline limestones, but it is only where it is found in veins that it is of any commercial importance. The veins or pockets vary from the smallest size up to a yard or more in width, and often consist of pure graphite unmixed with other minerals. Frequently, pyrite, quartz, felspar, pyroxene, apatite, &c., are associated with the graphite. The most common country-rock is a pyroxene granulite belonging to the charnockite series.

Mines.—The deeper mines go to a depth of between 600 and 1,200 feet, while considerable quantities of the mineral are obtained very near the surface. Several of the largest mines are fitted with electric light and equipped with modern haulage and other machinery, but in the great majority of the mines the arrangements are very primitive and there is no machine haulage.

The majority of the large mines were closed in 1920, and still remain closed, but a very large number of small mines have been since opened, some of them having worked for a short period up to the end of the year.

One hundred and sixty mines were reported to be working at the end of the year 1938 and employed about 3,527 men.

Prices.—During the year 1938, there was no improvement in the demand, but the average price rose from Rs. 132 to Rs. 148 per ton.

The increase in the demand for plumbago reported in 1937 was due to activity on naval armaments and prices had consequently risen resulting in considerable activity in mining. There was a slight improvement in the demand for graphite at the end of the year.

The average market prices for all grades for the last seven years were as follows :—

	Per Ton. Rs. c.		Per Ton. Rs. c.
1932	168 73	1936	112 40
1933	126 95	1937	132 35
1934	143 2	1938	148 30
1935	148 15		

The graphite produced in Ceylon is reputed to be among the best in the world, the average quality being better than the produce of the Madagascar mines.

Trade.—Plumbago mining and the trade in plumbago have always been in the hands of the Sinhalese and larger mines are worked by capitalists on whose land plumbago occurs. Some of the large mines with mechanical equipment could turn out 200 or more tons a month and the total output from Ceylon, if required, could easily reach 30,000 tons a year.

Uses.—Plumbago is chiefly used in the manufacture of crucibles, furnace-facings, electrodes, and stove polish, for making lubricants, black paint and lead pencils and in electroplating. Large quantity of plumbago is also used in the manufacture of munitions, and the principal buyers have been America, Japan, Germany, and the United Kingdom.

The exports of plumbago in 1938 amounted to 235,656 cwt. valued at Rs. 1,747,451.

OTHER ECONOMIC MINERALS.

Precious Stones.—Precious and semi-precious stones in large variety are found principally in the alluvial gravels of the Ratnapura District and the South-West portion of the Island. The most important are sapphire and ruby (varieties of corundum), chrysoberyl (including cat's eye and the rare stone alexandrite), beryl (acquamarine) and the semi-precious stones, topaz, spinel garnet, zircon, tourmaline, quartz of various colours (cairngorm, citrine, amethyst) and moonstone.

Mining for gems is carried on almost entirely by Sinhalese, on a co-partnership system, from pits dug into old river alluvium and gravels. The stones are bought up by the dealers to be cut and polished by lapidaries, the industry being confined largely to Ratnapura District. The better stones are exported to Europe and America, but the inferior varieties are largely sold locally or in India. It is difficult to estimate the exact value of the annual output, but it may be put at somewhere about Rs. 2,000,000.

With the exception of moonstone, which is mined direct from a band of acid leptynite, and some garnets, the gem-stones are all obtained from alluvial gravels. Sapphire and beryl, however, have been discovered *in situ* in some pegmatite veins in the Matara and Kandy Districts, respectively, and the other minerals named are also probably derived originally from rocks of similar type.

Thorium-bearing Minerals.—A number of minerals containing thorium, uranium and the rare earths have been found in Ceylon, in pegmatite-veins and also in alluvial gravels ; as constituents of natural concentrates in many of the gem gravels and on the seabeach. These were mined on a small scale at one time, but the deposits appear to be exhausted and

production has for a long time ceased. Monazite sands were worked under Government control near Bentota on the West coast, but the work was abandoned in 1927 as unprofitable owing to the heavy fall in the price of the mineral.

Ilmenite Sands.—Large deposits of natural beach concentrates, consisting of about 75 per cent. ilmenite (titanate of iron) and 25 per cent. zircon, rutile, garnet, &c., are known to exist at Pulmoddai and Tirrukovil, North and South of Trincomalee, respectively, on the east coast of the Island. The former deposit has been proved to contain over two million tons of Ilmenite (Fe Ti 03). Smaller deposits are found at other places on the coast. The mineral is used as a source of titanium for the preparation of titanium paints and pigments, an industry of growing importance. The Ceylon deposits have not yet been exploited.

Mica.—A small amount of mica, phlogopite variety, has been produced from pegmatite-veins or from limestones occurring at intrusive contact with granitic rocks. The deposits are very irregular, the commercial mica occurring in patches in the veins, with much barren ground between them. There was a revival of interest in the mineral in 1931 and a few tons were exported. The variety exported was entirely phlogopite (magnesia mica) " amber mica ". Mining of mica, however, is of rather sporadic description and during the year only 6 cwt. of mica was exported valued at Rs. 2,212.

Other Mineral Products.—Other mineral products of Ceylon which are capable of considerable development are the following :—

(1) Kaolin of good quality can be produced from the decomposed felspar of granite rocks in fairly large quantities.

(2) White quartz sand suitable for the manufacture of the commoner kinds of glass occurs in places on the west coast and in the north near Point Pedro.

(3) Limestone of a high degree of purity suitable for use in the manufacture of cement is found in large quantities in the Jaffna Peninsula. The coral deposits of the west and south coast are extensively burnt for lime and are also suitable for cement manufacture. The crystalline limestones of the interior of the Island are almost all dolomitic.

(4) The gneisses and granulites of the charnockite series furnish useful building stones of attractive colours.

(5) Pottery clays and brick-earth suitable for the manufacture of bricks and tiles are found in all the river valleys. Kabuk (laterite) which is the product of decomposition of the crystalline rocks, is extensively used for small buildings. When first quarried, it can be cut into slabs, which harden on exposure to the air. A small quantity of iron-ore is associated with the laterite of some places.

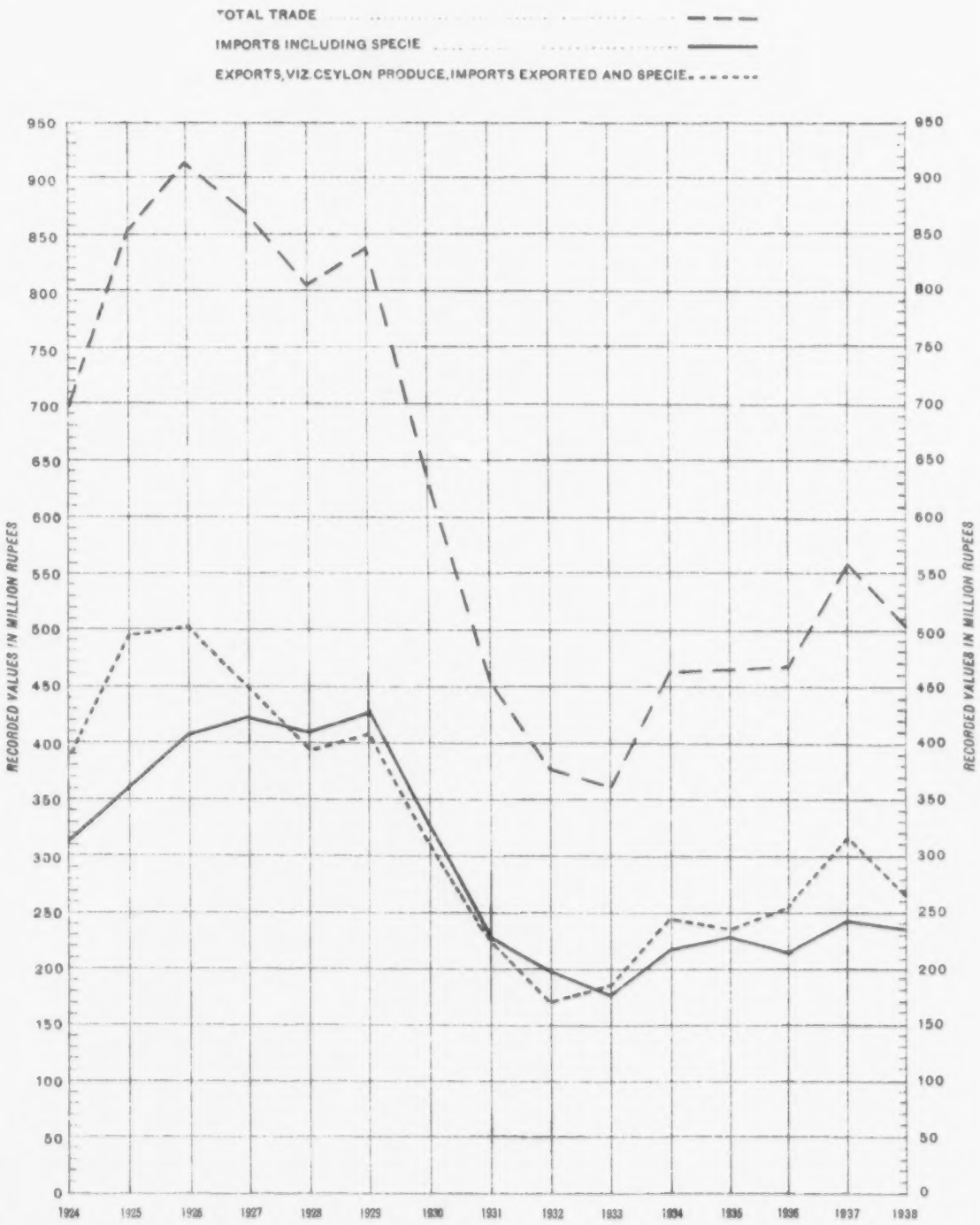
CHAPTER VII.

Commerce.

THE year 1938 was crowded with political and economic events abroad from which repercussions were felt in our oversea trade. The international situation was undoubtedly a disturbing factor militating against trade expansion. The incorporation of Austria in the German Reich, the German putsch into Czechoslovakia, the prolonged war in Spain

DIAGRAM No. 7.

VALUES OF TOTAL TRADE, TOTAL EXPORTS AND TOTAL IMPORTS, CEYLON, SINCE 1924



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and the Sino-Japanese conflict in the Far East are some of the outstanding events. Political events in September reached a climax almost plunging the whole world in a deadly war. As a result of the tense and electrified atmosphere in Europe, prices in all markets fell. On the other hand immediately after the political tension was somewhat relaxed, the signing of the Anglo-American Trade Agreement in November was the signal for improvement in general trade conditions.

The foreign trade turnover during the year reached Rs. 519·3 million as against Rs. 573·2 million in the preceding year recording a decrease of Rs. 54 million or 9·4 per cent.

Imports during 1938 totalled Rs. 235·5 million which amount represented a fall of Rs. 7·1 million (3·0 per cent.) below the preceding year but comparison with 1936 still showed an increase of Rs. 21·2 million (9·9 per cent.). Exports of demestic produce on the other hand declined sharply from Rs. 310·2 million in 1937 to Rs. 263·5 million in 1938, representing a significant shortfall of Rs. 46·7 million (15·0 per cent.) but there was nevertheless an advance of Rs. 19·1 million (7·8 per cent.) over 1936. The result of these movements is reflected in the total visible balance of trade which declined from the very favourable account of Rs. 87·5 million in 1937 to Rs. 48·7 million in 1938 and was also lower than the favourable balance of Rs. 54·1 million of 1936.

A noteworthy feature of the year was the enormous increase of textile goods from Japan as a result of the abolition of the quota for grey cotton goods and the relaxation of the quota restriction on other classes of foreign textiles. An added feature was the sudden increase in the demand for Ceylon tea from buyers in the United Kingdom in anticipation of a likely enhancement of the import duty on tea which came into effect in the beginning of the second quarter of the year.

Exports of tea accounted for 65·4 per cent. of the total value of domestic exports during 1938. Next in order of importance was rubber representing 17·2 per cent. of the exports. Coconut products contributed 13·1 per cent. of which the share of coconut oil was 5·4 per cent. copra 3·3 per cent., and desiccated coconut 1·7 per cent.

Prices of almost all the export commodities which reached a peak level in 1937 received a sharp setback in the year under review, rubber and coconut products being the principal products mostly affected. Papain and plumbago, however, continued to realize better prices in recent years.

The extent to which Ceylon depends on imported food is denoted by the fact that rice alone represented 23·1 per cent. of the total value of all imports, while curry-stuffs accounted for 1·7 per cent., fish products 6·0 per cent, sugar 3·5 per cent., and milk products 1·1 per cent. Cotton piece-goods take the most prominent place in the list of manufactured goods imported into Ceylon—being 6·5 per cent. of the total import value.

The following table gives the total value of imports, domestic exports and re-exports during the last five years :—

Year.	Total Imports.	Total Exports. Exports (domestic).	Total Exports. Exports (Other than domestic).	Excess of Exports over Imports.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1934	216,996,000	241,193,000	22,617,000	46,814,000
1935	227,501,000	230,041,000	23,072,000	25,612,000
1936	214,338,000	244,415,000	24,060,000	54,137,000
1937	242,600,000	310,198,000	20,365,000	89,475,000
1938	235,529,000	263,535,000	20,215,000	49,294,000

From the above figures it will be seen that the rapid expansion of our foreign trade evident during 1937 received a sharp recession in the following year but comparison with the year 1936 still showed a higher turnover.

The following table shows the percentage distribution of domestic exports consigned to (*a*) the Empire and foreign countries respectively, and (*b*) the principal countries of destination during the last five years :—

Country (Destination).	Percentage Distribution of Exports.				
	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.
British Empire—					
United Kingdom	51·58	51·79	49·14	46·35	53·94
Australia	3·72	4·44	4·57	4·26	4·14
British India	3·80	5·23	6·33	4·76	3·43
Canada	2·78	3·32	4·10	5·26	3·50
New Zealand	2·10	2·83	2·85	2·46	2·44
Union of South Africa	2·36	3·32	3·33	3·05	3·12
Other Empire Countries	1·55	1·85	1·54	1·58	1·54
Total British Empire	67·89	72·78	71·86	67·71	72·10
Foreign Countries—					
Belgium	1·47	1·32	1·07	1·42	1·61
Egypt	1·40	1·19	1·07	0·96	1·47
France	2·03	1·55	1·79	1·90	1·70
Germany	2·55	2·62	1·91	3·00	2·10
Italy	2·32	1·55	0·31	1·59	1·49
United States of America	13·90	11·20	15·45	15·66	12·64
Other Foreign Countries	8·44	7·79	6·54	7·76	6·89
Total Foreign Countries	32·11	27·22	28·14	32·29	27·90
Grand Total	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00

From the above table it will be observed that the share of exports consigned to British countries has shown a welcome improvement during 1938, particularly in respect of exports to the United Kingdom, who increased her share from 46·3 per cent. in 1937 to 53·9 per cent. in 1938. The United States of America still continued to be our best customer among foreign countries.

The table below shows the share of imports enjoyed by (*a*) the Empire and foreign countries and (*b*) the principal countries of supply during the last five years :—

Country (Source)	Percentage Distribution of Imports.				
	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.
British Empire—					
United Kingdom	18·36	20·60	21·11	22·18	20·64
Australia	2·37	2·31	2·45	2·59	2·60
British India	20·15	19·48	21·49	22·01	21·77
Burma	14·59	17·50	15·15	13·88	14·82
Other Empire Countries	5·61	5·99	5·48	5·62	7·35
Total British Empire	61·08	65·88	65·68	66·28	67·18
Foreign Countries—					
Belgium	0·85	0·84	1·36	1·88	1·58
France	0·83	0·71	0·63	0·73	1·05
Germany	1·64	2·04	2·03	2·34	2·07
Iran	6·44	5·58	4·95	3·43	3·24
Italy	0·45	0·23	0·09	0·33	0·30
Japan	8·67	5·37	6·41	6·78	6·54
Siam	5·23	5·49	5·03	2·31	2·78
Sumatra	4·40	4·11	3·18	4·51	3·97
United States of America	2·32	2·13	2·25	2·57	2·17
Other Foreign Countries	8·09	7·62	8·39	8·84	9·12
Total Foreign Countries	38·92	34·12	34·32	33·72	32·82
Grand Total	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00

It may be noted that the percentage share supplied by Empire countries has shown a slight improvement particularly in respect of British possessions, such as Burma who supplies most of our rice. Foreign countries

DIAGRAM No. 8

VALUES OF MAIN EXPORTS (CEYLON PRODUCE)

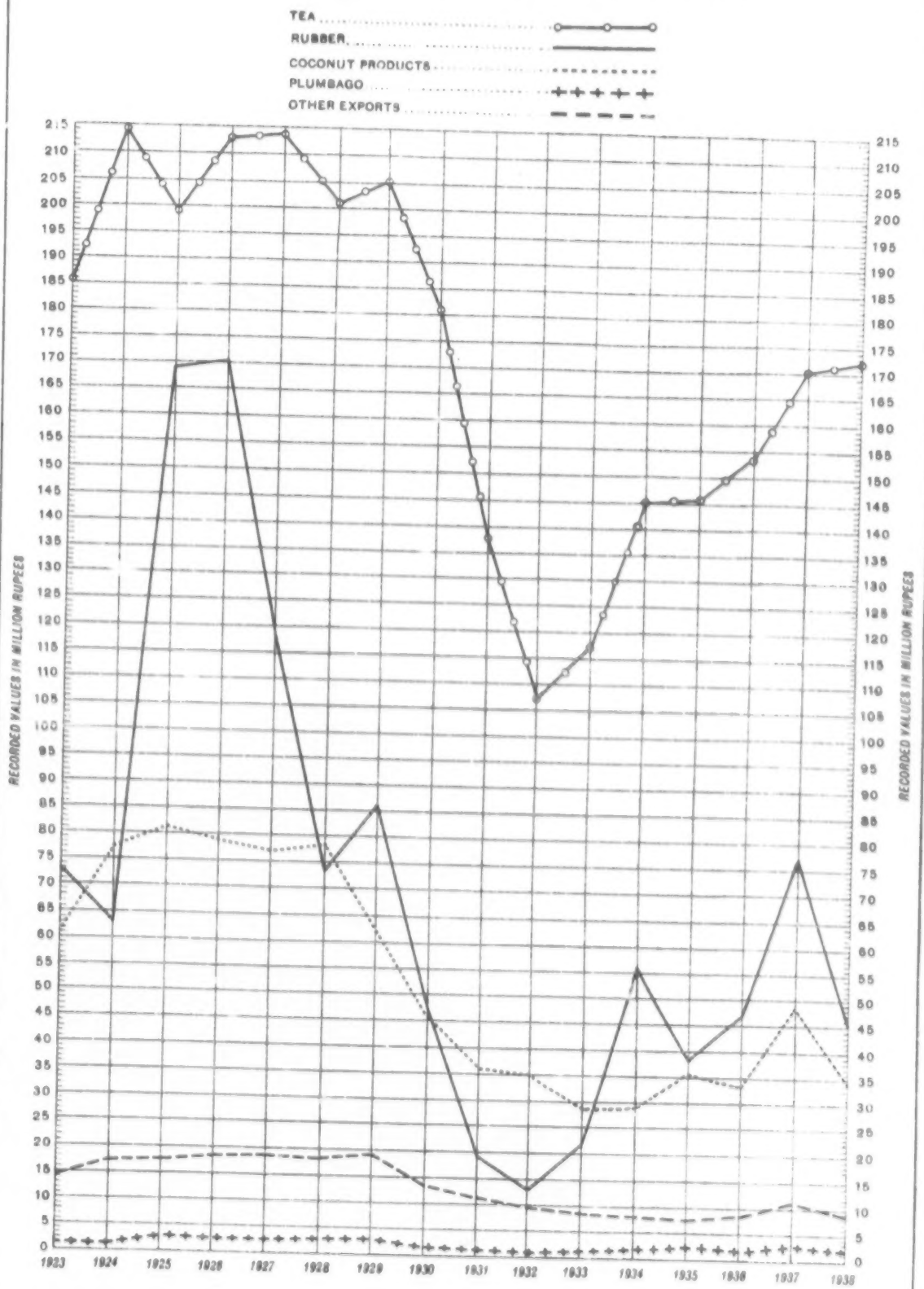

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DIAGRAM No. 9

VALUES OF MAIN EXPORTS UNDER 40 MILLION RUPEES

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which also received increased shares were Siam and France. Though her share fell slightly below the percentage recorded in the preceding year, Japan was still the leading foreign supplier.

Principal Articles of Export.

Description of Export.	Unit.	Quantity. 1938.	Quantity. 1937.	Value (Rs.) 1938.	Value (Rs.) 1937.
				(Thousands)	
Arecanuts	cwt.	83·9	68·3	1,031	844
Cacao	lb.	8,113	8,738	1,431	2,623
Cardamoms	cwt.	3·7	2·9	485	686
Cinnamon (chips and quills)	cwt.	47·0	52·3	1,567	2,056
Cinnamon oil	oz.	2,786	2,904	444	457
Citronella oil	lb.	1,604	1,522	1,182	1,329
Coconut, desiccated	cwt.	594	589	4,399	6,870
Coconut, fresh	No.	15,955	11,119	635	621
Coconut oil	cwt.	1,508	1,337	14,057	20,061
Coconut poonac	cwt.	733	604	2,694	2,438
Coir fibre	cwt.	732	928	2,083	3,905
Coir yarn	cwt.	92·1	108	917	1,038
Copra	cwt.	1,504	1,417	8,783	12,511
Curios	Rs.	—	—	205	183
Hides and skins	Rs.	—	—	490	461
Kapok	cwt.	11·5	7·9	231	257
Papain	lb.	168	197	419	421
Plumbago	cwt.	236	348	1,747	2,301
Rubber	lb.	114,624	156,099	45,275	77,010
Tea	lb.	235,739	215,733	172,421	170,587
Tobacco (unmanufactured)	lb.	2,100	2,414	631	710

Notes on Principal Exports.

Tea.

Tea continues to be the most prominent article of export from Ceylon and accounted for 65·4 per cent. of the value of export trade during 1938. Shipments of tea in 1938 totalled 235·7 million lb. valued at Rs. 172·4 million as against 213·7 million lb. valued at Rs. 170·6 million in the preceding year—recording a noteworthy increase of 22·0 million lb. (10·3 per cent). The quantitative increase in tea exports was reflected principally in heavier shipments to the United Kingdom (21·4 million lb.) who is usually our best customer, while smaller improvements were also noticeable in respect of the purchases made by Australia, Canada, Newfoundland and the Union of South Africa. As a result chiefly of the increased duty on tea entering the United Kingdom, producers were obliged to lower prices—the average for 1938 being 70 cents per lb. as against 76 cents per lb. in the preceding year. Prices nevertheless were higher than in 1936 by about 3 cents per lb.

Rubber.

Exports of rubber valued at Rs. 45·3 million aggregated 114·6 million lb. or 41·5 million lb. (26·6 per cent.) less than in the preceding year. The United States of America is out best customer for this commodity taking 54·4 million in 1938 which quantity, however, was smaller by 19·3 million than in 1937. The United Kingdom and Germany occupied the second and third places respectively in our list of best customers in this market. The price of rubber averaged 37 cents per lb. as against 50 cents per lb. in the preceding year as a result of a sharp fall in the American demand.

Coconut Products.

The total export value of coconut products amounted to Rs. 34·5 million which sum represented a pronounced fall of Rs. 14·1 million or 29·0 per cent. below the level attained in 1937. The volume of exports

of coconut products (copra, coconut oil, desiccated coconut and fresh nuts) expressed in terms of nuts aggregated 1,155 million nuts and were 92 million nuts more than in the preceding year but the price index which stood at 72·0 in 1937 fell sharply to 45·3—the lowest level on record since 1934 compared with the average for 1927–29 (100).

Copra.—Copra exports valued at Rs. 8·8 million aggregated 1·5 million cwt. indicating an advance of 86·7 thousand cwt. (6·1 per cent.) over the preceding year. British India topped the list of importing countries as usual and took 838 thousand cwt. in 1938, as against 957 thousand cwt. in the preceding year. On the other hand, European countries such as Italy, Germany, and Holland who resumed purchases in 1937 continued to increase their buyings in the year under review. The average price of Estate No. 1 Copra was Rs. 27·74 per candy as compared with Rs. 47·23 per candy in 1937—the decline being due partly to the increase in stocks of oils and fats in the markets in the United States of America and elsewhere.

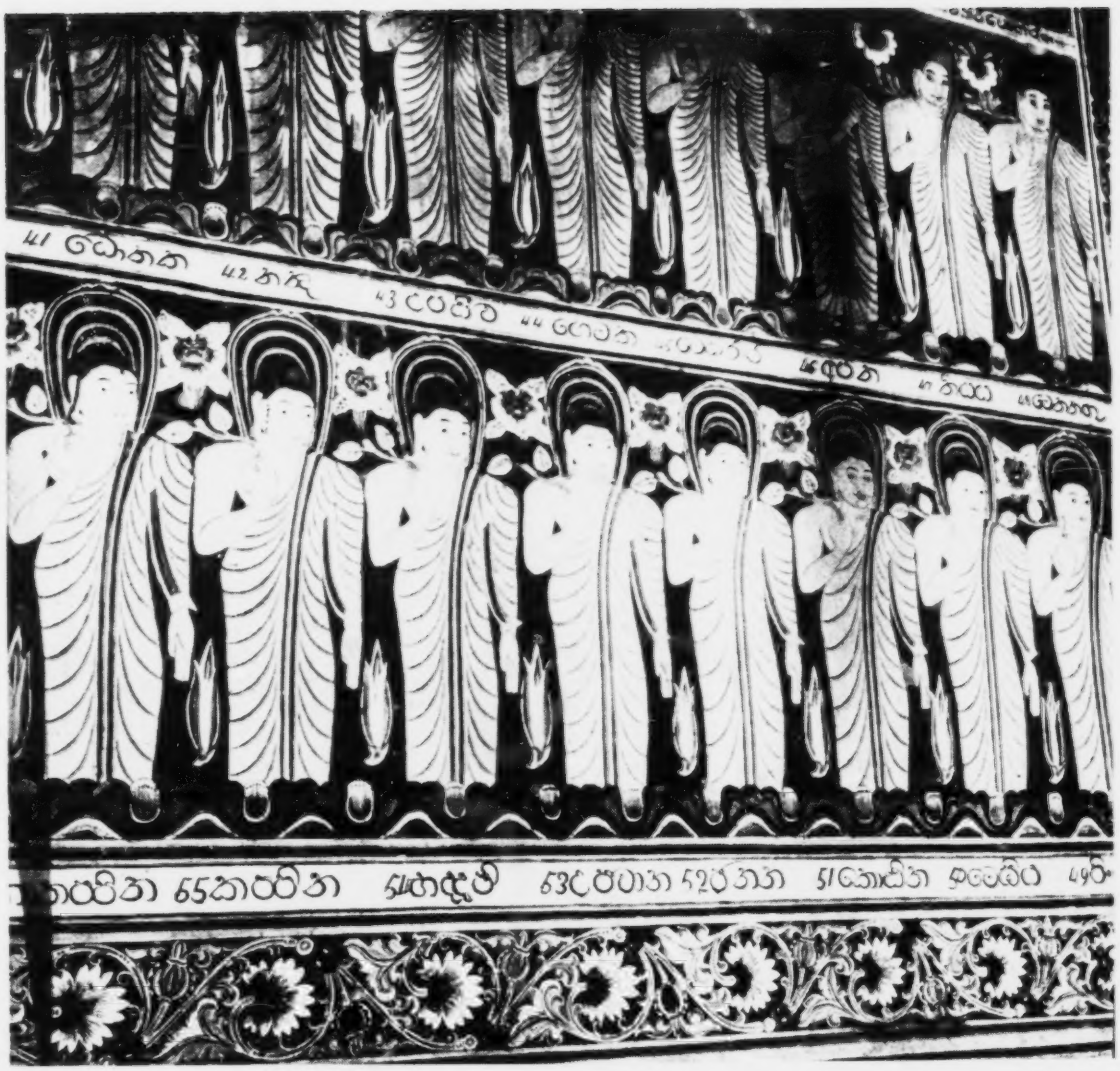
Coconut Oil.—Shipments of coconut oil totalled 1·5 million cwt. valued at Rs. 14·1 million as against 1·3 million cwt. valued at Rs. 20·1 million in 1937. Nearly a third of our exports of coconut oil was absorbed by the United Kingdom who ranks first in the list of our customers. Other important buyers in order of precedence were Canada, Sweden, and British India. The price of coconut oil averaged Rs. 184·22 per ton having fallen sharply from the high level at Rs. 302·72 per ton touched in 1937.

Desiccated Coconut.—Exports of desiccated coconut reached 594 thousand cwt. or 5 thousand cwt. more than in the preceding year and were valued at Rs. 4·4 million as against Rs. 6·8 million in 1937. The leading market as usual was the United Kingdom who purchased 331 thousand cwt. or 55·6 per cent. of the total export trade in this commodity. Other regular customers were Holland, Germany, Belgium, and France. The average price of desiccated coconut reached the very low level at 6 cents per lb. which is the lowest on record since 1934.

Fresh Coconuts.—The total number of nuts exported in 1938 was 16·0 million nuts or 4·9 million nuts (43·5 per cent.) more than in the preceding year, while the sum realized was Rs. 635 thousand as compared with Rs. 621 thousand in 1937. The United Kingdom was the leading market for fresh coconut and her takings amounted 5·6 million nuts as against 4·0 million nuts in the preceding year. Egypt was next in order of importance while British India and Holland were third and fourth respectively in the list.

Coconut Poonac.—Exports of coconut poonac aggregated 733 thousand cwt. valued at Rs. 27 million and were 127 thousand cwt. heavier than in 1937. Belgium as usual absorbed practically all our exports taking as much as 712 thousand cwt. in 1938. The price of coconut poonac averaged Rs. 75·27 per ton recording a decrease of Rs. 3·19 per ton below the level touched in 1937.

Coir Fibre.—Shipments of coir fibre (bristle and mattress) declined in both quantity and value, reaching 732 thousand cwt. valued at Rs. 2·1 million as against 928 thousand cwt. in 1937 valued at Rs. 3·9 million. The United Kingdom was the leading buyer taking 249 thousand cwt. during the year 1938 while other important customers were Japan, the Union of South Africa, Germany, and Belgium. The market price of



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coir bristles averaged Rs. 3·06 per cwt. in contrast to Rs. 5·49 per cwt. in 1937, while mattress fibre was quoted Rs. 2·29 per cwt. or 58 cents per cwt. lower than in 1937.

Coir Yarn.—Exports of coir yarn totalled 92 thousand cwt. realizing a sum of Rs. 918 thousand and were 16 thousand cwt. smaller than in the preceding year. Germany was our principal market for coir yarn while the United Kingdom occupied second place. The price average continued to improve from Rs. 8·70 per cwt. in 1937 to Rs. 8·97 per cwt. in the year under review.

Coconut Shell Charcoal.—Exports of coconut shell charcoal amounted to 220 thousand cwt. valued at Rs. 824 thousand as against 269 thousand cwt. valued at Rs. 978 thousand in the year 1937. The leading market for coconut shell charcoal was the United Kingdom, while France was also an important buyer.

Cacao.

The sudden recovery noticeable in the cacao trade in 1937, received a sharp set-back during the year under review. Shipments of cacao reached 8·1 million lb. as compared with 8·7 million in 1937, but the value realized fell sharply from Rs. 2·6 million in that year to Rs. 1·4 million in 1938. The Philippine Islands who is our best market for cacao continued to increase her takings from 3·8 million lb. in 1937 to 3·9 million lb. in 1938. The United Kingdom and Canada were also important customers in our list. The market price of cacao No. 1 declined sharply from Rs. 33·65 per cwt. in 1937 to Rs. 19·33 per cwt. as a result of the " hold up " in West Africa.

Plumbago.

The quantity of plumbago shipped in 1938 (Rs. 1·7 million) aggregated 236 thousand cwt. registering a decrease of 112 thousand cwt. below the level reached in the preceding year—the decline being principally due to a heavy reduction in the takings of the United States of America, who as usual was our best customer for Ceylon plumbago. Japan, however, was the leading buyer in 1938, closely followed by the United States of America, while the United Kingdom was a good third. The price of plumbago averaged Rs. 7·42 per cwt. which was better than the average at Rs. 6·62 prevailing in the previous year.

Cinnamon.

Exports of quills and chips valued at Rs. 1·6 million amounted to 47·0 thousand cwt. and were 5·3 thousand cwt. smaller than in 1937. Mexico as usual headed the list by buying 14·1 thousand cwt., while the United Kingdom and Germany absorbed 5·9 thousand cwt. and 4·3 thousand cwt. respectively. The average price of quills was 40 cents per lb. as against 43 cents per lb. in the preceding year.

Cinnamon Oil.

Exports of cinnamon oil (Rs. 444 thousand) totalled 2·8 million oz. which quantity represented a slight decrease of 0·1 million oz. below the preceding year. The United States of America (1·9 million oz.) and the United Kingdom (0·4 million oz.) were the leading customers who increased their takings, while shipments to the Straits Settlements (0·3 million oz.) fell to some extent. The total value of exports remained more or less at the same level during the last three years though the quantity exported continued to move in a downward trend.

Citronella Oil.

Exports of citronella oil were valued at Rs. 1·2 million and reached 1·6 million lb. as against 1·5 million in the preceding year or 1·3 million in 1936. The United States of America continued to top the list by taking over 812 thousand lb., while the United Kingdom was satisfied with 270 thousand lb. and Germany with 141 thousand lb. The price of citronella oil averaged 73 cents per lb. in contrast to 87 cents per lb. in 1937 or as against the low level at 42 cents per lb. in 1936.

Arecanuts.

Exports of arecanuts (Rs. 1·0 million) increased from 68·3 thousand cwt. in 1937 to 83·9 thousand cwt. in 1938. British India was the principal market for arecanut taking as much as 82·8 per cent. of our total exports. Prices averaged Rs. 12·28 per cwt. which average was slightly lower than in the preceding year but compared favourably with the average of Rs. 11·26 per cwt. in 1936.

Cardamoms.

Shipments of cardamoms fetching a sum of Rs. 485 thousand totalled 3·7 thousand cwt. or 0·8 thousand cwt. more than in 1937, but prices fell sharply from Rs. 2·10 per lb. in 1937 to Rs. 1·20 per lb. in the year under review.

Principal Articles of Import.

Description of Import.	Unit.	Quantity.		Value (Rs.)	
		1938.	1937.	1938.	1937.
		(Thousands.)			
Apparel	doz.	632	784	3,456	4,119
Artificial silk	yards	3,405	3,744	1,829	2,145
Biscuits and confectionery	lb.	1,394	1,758	961	1,087
Boots and shoes	doz. pairs	43·4	43·0	642	701
Broadstuffs	yards	3,214	4,327	1,930	2,722
Brass and alloys of copper	cwt.	14·3	17·5	920	1,151
Cement	cwt.	1,583	1,499	1,796	1,684
Cloths and stuffs	yards	140	203	327	463
Coffee	lb.	2,972	3,437	542	676
Cotton piecegoods	yards	63,474	67,000	15,300	17,962
Curry-stuffs	cwt.	356	341	4,038	4,337
Drugs and medicines	cwt.	9·9	11·2	2,240	2,185
Electrical goods	Rs.	—	—	3,450	2,682
Fiertilizers	cwt.	1,840	2,000	7,699	7,729
Fish, Maldive	cwt.	87·2	80·1	4,069	3,734
Fish products, other	cwt.	401	426	9,948	10,518
Four	cwt.	328	302	1,987	2,419
Fruits	cwt.	68·7	86·2	1,094	1,301
Glass and glassware	cwt.	54·6	58·4	759	842
Iron and steel	cwt.	736	900	8,979	10,743
Implements	doz.	92·2	132	813	1,112
Kerosene oil	gals.	8,213	8,552	3,696	3,848
Lubricating oil	gals.	724	933	506	625
Machinery	Rs.	—	—	4,620	4,834
Milk products	lb.	5,214	4,677	2,566	2,326
Motor Spirits	gals.	12,291	14,144	6,205	7,072
Motor Vehicles	No.	2,030*	3,213*	3,927	5,967
Non-ferrous metalware	cwt.	34·1†	41·2†	2,404	2,856
Onions	cwt.	662	636	2,053	2,049
Paddy	cwt.	173	98·3	550	247
Paints and colours	cwt.	28·6	36·6	803	993
Paper	cwt.	256	308	2,765	3,039
Perfumery	cwt.	5·0	6·3	643	636
Plates and sheets	cwt.	119	184	1,546	2,520
Pneumatic rubber tyres	No.	106	158	1,700	2,062
Potatoes	cwt.	270	277	1,276	1,406
Pulses	cwt.	390	379	2,332	1,936
Rice	cwt.	10,449	10,319	54,340	50,726
Soap	cwt.	56·0	65·2	1,739	1,949
Sugar	cwt.	1,489	1,524	8,312	7,642
Tea chests	No.	3,414	2,934	4,380	3,079
Tubes, pipes and fittings	cwt.	89·3	72·4	1,201	799

* Full figures. † Excluding plates.

Notes on Principal Imports.

Rice.—Though imports of rice increased slightly from 10·3 million cwt. in 1937 to 10·4 million cwt. in the year under review, the total import value of rice rose sharply from Rs. 50·7 million to Rs. 54·3 million —a 7·1 per cent. increase. Adverse weather conditions were chiefly responsible for the advance in prices. Burma as the leading supplier sent approximately two-thirds of our total requirements but the quantity received from this country in 1938 was 164 thousand cwt. smaller than in the preceding year. Supplies from British India on the other hand improved by 172 thousand cwt. and from Siam by 159 thousand cwt.

Other Grains.—The principal imports under this group are paddy, pulses, gram and beans. 55·4 per cent. of the paddy and 38·0 per cent. of the beans came from Burma, while 96·2 per cent. of the pulses and 78·5 per cent. of gram arrived from British India. With the exception of beans imports of all other grains showed increases over the preceding year.

Sugar.—Imports of sugar were valued at Rs. 8·3 million and aggregated 1·5 million cwt. recording a slight decrease of 35 thousand cwt. below the preceding year. Java alone supplied 1·3 million cwt. of our total requirements during 1938.

Wheat Flour.—Consignments of wheat flour including atta and soojee valued at Rs. 1·9 million totalled 314 thousand cwt. or 28 thousand cwt. more than in the preceding year. Practically the whole of our requirements arrived from Australia. Though British India has taken a larger portion of the trade in wheat and wheat flour in recent years, supplies of flour from British India last year fell by almost half the quantity sent to us in 1937.

Tobacco, Cigars, and Cigarettes.—The outstanding feature in the narcotics group was the marked increase in the consumption of beedies. Imports of beedies valued at Rs. 1·0 million rose sharply from 100 thousand lb. in 1937 to 262 thousand lb. in the year under review—the whole supply flowing in from British India. The consumption of imported cigarettes advanced by 8 thousand lb. to 36 thousand lb. in 1938—the principal source of supply being the United Kingdom. Raw tobacco (Rs. 1·1 million) to the extent of 1·3 million lb. was imported during 1938 of which 88·6 per cent. was supplied by the United States of America.

Coal and Liquid Fuel.—Imports of liquid fuel totalling Rs. 13·3 million rose substantially from 80·1 million gallons in 1937 to 100·2 million gallons in 1938—25·0 per cent. increase. The principal sources from which they were obtained were Iran, Bahrein Islands, and Sarawak. Coal imports (Rs. 6·2 million) totalled 384 thousand tons and were 32·8 per cent. less than in 1937. Coal from British India accounted for nearly two-thirds of the imports and the balance came largely from the Union of South Africa.

Fertilizers.—Imports of fertilizers were valued at Rs. 7·7 million and Rs. 30 thousand or 0·4 per cent. less than in the preceding year. Of the several varieties imported the following principal items showed increases : fish manure (Rs. 139 thousand), fish guana (Rs. 43 thousand), muriate of potash (Rs. 34 thousand), and sulphate of ammonia (Rs. 420 thousand). On the other hand the chief varieties which recorded declines were blood meal (Rs. 78 thousand), bone meal (Rs. 154 thousand),

mineral rock phosphate (Rs. 114 thousand), sylvinite (Rs. 55 thousand), calcium cynamide (Rs. 45 thousand), groundnut poonac (Rs. 73 thousand), refuse of salt petre (Rs. 6 thousand) and superphosphates (Rs. 18 thousand). Most of these came from British India except mineral rock phosphates from Egypt, calcium cynamide from Jugo-Slavia, muriate of potash from Germany, sulphate of ammonia from the United Kingdom.

Cement.—Imports of cement continued to expand from 1·5 million cwt. in 1937 to 1·6 million cwt. in 1938—Japan supplying 57·6 per cent. and the United Kingdom 39·9 per cent. of the total imports. Shipments of Japanese cement increased from 825 thousand cwt. in 1937 to 912 thousand cwt. in 1938, while imports from the United Kingdom were 631 thousand cwt. in 1938 as against 568 thousand cwt. in the preceding year. Prices of Japanese cement were much lower than those of other countries.

Metal and Metalware, Ferrous.—Imports of metal and metalware ferrous valued at Rs. 9·0 million amounted to 735·7 thousand cwt. and recorded a decline of 162·8 thousand cwt. (18·2 per cent.) below the level reached in the preceding year. The United Kingdom supplied 55·9 per cent. of the total imports, while France and Belgium accounted for 13·2 per cent. and 12·9 per cent. respectively. The movements in the main articles under this group imported from the United Kingdom were as follows :—Pig iron decreased sharply from 10,301 cwt. in 1937 to 2,800 cwt. in 1938, but British India increased her exports from 6,086 cwt. to 9,657 cwt. ; non-fabricated steel bars and rods dropped from 1,732 cwt. to 1,102 cwt. ; iron and steel girders, &c., increased from 29,638 cwt. to 45,737 cwt. ; galvanized corrugated sheets declined from 45,386 cwt. to 33,807 cwt. ; tinned plates and sheets dropped from 32,627 cwt. to 17,941 cwt. ; tubes, pipes and fittings rose from 72·4 thousand cwt. to 89·3 thousand cwt.

Non-Ferrous Metals and Metalware.—Imports under this group (Rs. 2·4 million) continued to drop sharply from 41·2 thousand cwt. in 1937 to 34·1 thousand cwt. in the year under review—a 17·2 per cent. fall. The United Kingdom accounted for 58 per cent. of the total import value, while British India and Germany contributed 19 per cent. and 12 per cent. respectively. The principal article imported under this head was aluminium lining the bulk of which was obtained from the United Kingdom.

Cotton Piece Goods.—Imports of cotton piece goods totalled 63·5 million yards valued at Rs. 15·3 million and showed a decrease of 3·5 million yards (5·3 per cent.) below the yardage recorded for 1937.

This decline was due to a sharp contraction in imports of bleached and dyed cotton goods by 4·5 million yards and 5·5 million yards respectively which nevertheless was offset to a large extent by heavier receipts of grey sheeting (5·4 million yards) and also printed material (1·0 million yards). The phenomenal increase in Japanese cotton piece goods was the result of a further relaxation of the restriction on imports of Japanese textiles in the beginning of the year so that Japan once again regained the lead held by her in 1934. British India was relegated to second place and the United Kingdom was a poor third.

Average prices of all varieties of Japanese piece goods were cheaper than in the preceding year and were in fact the lowest on record since 1934.

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Kerosene Oil.—The quantity of kerosene oil imported during 1938 was 8·2 million gallons as against 8·6 million gallons in the preceding year—recording a decrease of 4·0 per cent. The whole supply came practically from Sumatra.

Petrol.—Imports of motor spirits (Rs. 6·2 million) totalled 12·3 million gallons and were 1·9 million gallons less than in 1937. Sumatra continued to be the only source of supply.

Motor Vehicles.—Imports of motor cars were valued at Rs. 3·1 million as against Rs. 4·4 million in the preceding year. The United Kingdom was the leading supplier and accounted for 82·0 per cent. of the total import value. Imports of motor buses and lorries reached Rs. 803 thousand which represented however a decline of 49·7 per cent. below the preceding year. The United States of America however was the largest supplier (43·3 per cent.), while the United Kingdom was a good second (40·8 per cent.).

Tea Chests.—Comparison with 1937 revealed an increase of 480 thousand chests while the value also showed an expansion of Rs. 1·3 million. Imports from Japan which supplied 51·7 per cent. of our requirements increased by 363 thousand chests as compared with 1937. Finland was the next largest supplier sending us 844 thousand chests or 19 thousand chests more than in the preceding year.

Bullion and Specie.

The following table shows the imports and exports of bullion and specie during the last five years :—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Excess of Exports over Imports (+) and Imports over Exports (—).
1934	—	77,900	+ 77,900
1935	33,571	28,400	— 5,171
1936	96,940	117,150	+ 20,210
1937	535,520	41,838	— 493,682
1938	745,775	110,500	— 635,275

Imports of bullion and specie during 1938 totalled Rs. 746 thousand as against Rs. 536 thousand in the preceding year of which gold coin and bullion from British India alone amounted to Rs. 648 thousand. Silver bullion valued at Rs. 72 thousand made its way from the United Kingdom Exports of bullion and specie on the other hand reached Rs. 111 thousand compared with Rs. 42 thousand in the preceding year and consisted chiefly of gold bullion valued at Rs. 60 thousand consigned to British India and silver coin valued at Rs. 48 thousand shipped to the Maldive Islands.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRIES.

To assist in the development of the industrial and commercial activities of Ceylon the Bureau of Industry and Commerce which was previously formed as a section of the Department of the Registrar-General was established during 1938, as a new department under the Director of Commerce and Industries Apart from the financial assistance and technical advice given to local industries, the primary object of the Department of Commerce and Industries is to foster the export trade of the country. The Director of Commerce and Industries was appointed in the latter half of last year Imperial Trade Correspondent to the Department of Overseas Trade, England, and is in a very favourable position to

offer local traders the advantages of a reliable and effective Government organization for it is now possible for this Department to communicate direct with oversea officers of the Department of Overseas Trade.

Further, the Department of Commerce and Industries is represented in the United Kingdom and India by Trade Commissioners appointed from Ceylon and their headquarters are situated at London and Bombay respectively. Both these institutions are in reality oversea branch offices under the supervision of the Director of Commerce and Industries.

TOURIST BUREAU.

In order to promote tourist traffic to Ceylon, a Government Tourist and Publicity Bureau was established in June, 1937. The office of the Bureau is housed in the Grand Oriental Hotel building, York street, Colombo. The Bureau is a non-profit organization and its services are rendered free. All information on Ceylon, advice on matters of tourist interest and travel literature can be obtained from the Director, Government Tourist and Publicity Bureau.

CHAPTER VIII.

Labour.

No marked change occurred in the labour position in Ceylon during 1938 and no new spheres of employment attracted to it workers hitherto unemployed or engaged in other pursuits.

During the beginning of the year a drought was experienced in the northern and eastern parts of the Island which necessitated the provision of relief to the peasantry dependant for their livelihood on the successful harvesting of crops. These were employed on schemes of public utility such as the construction and repair of roads and irrigation works.

The failure of the north-east monsoon on which the major portion of the Island relies for its rain prevented any successful cultivation being undertaken in considerable areas of the Island. Extensive relief measures had to be organized and towards the end of the year were still in operation. Rs. 200,000 were voted by the State Council in this connection but reports received showed this sum to be totally inadequate and further expenditure would be necessary on a vast scale almost comparable to that of 1935.

No shortage of workers was experienced in the tea and rubber industries and in spite of the restrictions which limited the free migration of labourers between India and Ceylon, estates appeared to experience no difficulty in securing an adequate labour force. These restrictions had been imposed by the Government of India in order to bring pressure to bear on the Government of Ceylon to settle certain political differences which had arisen between the two Governments and to secure a rise in wages. It was not apparent that this action was in the interest of the labourers nor did it appear to be in accordance with the spirit of the Indian Immigration Act which was designed to make it easy for workers to find employment abroad.

The question of wages of these Indian labourers was, however, reviewed in the light of the variation in the cost of living since they were last fixed : investigation did not disclose that any rise in prices had occurred so as to presume the labourers were undergoing any hardship. Inquiries,

in fact, proved that on a greater number of tea and rubber estates wages were paid in excess of the minimum rates fixed. However, towards the close of the year the wages boards were summoned to review and adjudicate upon representations made on the proposal to vary rates of wages. At the end of the year the decisions of these boards had not been received.

The housing conditions on tea and rubber estates, the provision of medical facilities as well as the introduction of improved sanitary measures continued to receive the attention of Government and planting industries.

The Report of Sir Edward Jackson was received during the course of the year with regard to the proposal to impose measures whereby Indian immigration into this country could be controlled. His view generally is that the close proximity of the two countries causes the state of the Indian labour market in Ceylon to be a very fluid one. The Indian worker comes to Ceylon when there is employment available and returns to his village in South India, when he is unable to find any occupation in this country. His presence therefore in Ceylon is largely influenced by the desire of the Sinhalese labourer to obtain employment in those occupations which the Indian is usually engaged. Sir Edward Jackson does not advocate the establishment of any control of Indian immigration into Ceylon.

Certain sections of public opinion appear to regard the Indian labourer as responsible for the inability of the Sinhalese to find employment and motions have been introduced into the State Council indicating that the conclusions of Sir Edward Jackson are not likely to be accepted.

The Report, however, is still being considered by the Board of Ministers, who have not indicated the line of action which they propose to take with regard to Indian immigration into this country.

The Agencies established for the purpose of furthering the employment of Sinhalese on tea and rubber estates continued to function throughout the year though during the last six months, few, if any, applications were received at the Agencies for the supply of Sinhalese labour. Statistics generally indicated that the employment of Sinhalese in these industries continued to increase in spite of the lack of support given to the Agencies, the future of which is at present under consideration.

Provision was made in the estimates of expenditure for 1937–38 for the appointment of 3 Labour Inspectors to foster the further employment of the Sinhalese villager as an estate labourer. The recommendations for these appointments are still under consideration.

Unemployment was caused owing to the closure of mills in the Chilaw District engaged in the manufacture of coconut derivatives. As a relief measure work was undertaken on the construction of certain public works on which the *ex*-mill employees were engaged. The mills had not re-opened at the end of 1938 and the relief scheme was still in operation.

The unemployment in the City of Colombo continued to be engaged on relief schemes involving work of non-skilled nature and at the present moment there seems little likelihood of any stoppage of these schemes owing to the improvement in the economic situation. In fact at the end of 1938 more workers were in the receipt of relief than at the end of 1937.

The year 1938 was free from any industrial disputes of any magnitude. The Board of Conciliation appointed under Ordinance No. 3 of 1931 in consequence of a strike at the Ceylon Spinning and Weaving Mills published its award which were accepted by all parties as a settlement of the outstanding dispute.

A Board under the same Ordinance was appointed in consequence of a dispute arising between the owners of a Motor Omnibus Company and its employees relating to the rates at which the latter were remunerated. The Company had no difficulty in obtaining workers in place of the strikers and appeared to display no necessity in the Board reaching early decision. At the end of the year a meeting was still being held.

The Workmen's Compensation Act continues to operate successfully and its provisions are being more readily appreciated by the workers involved. The accidents reported during 1938 totalled 5,610 as compared with 4,028 in 1937.

Thirty-three Trade Unions have been registered under the Trade Unions Act of 1935, an increase of 2 over the number registered at the close of 1937. The Trade Unions Ordinance has so far met with little success in this country and there are at present little or no signs that the workers concerned appreciate the value of associations. Efforts are being made, however, chiefly through the aid of the Workmen's Compensation Act to encourage Trade Unions to take an interest in benefits which this Act confers on the members of the unions. Employers have also been asked to encourage their workers to form associations which can be registered under the Trade Unions Act.

During 1938 a Shops Act was passed by the State Council and the date from which it shall be proclaimed is still under consideration.

The Maternity Benefits Act is before the State Council and has already passed the second reading.

The new Wages Boards Act and a Factories Act are still in the hands of the Legal Draftsman.

CHAPTER IX.

Wages and the Cost of Living.

Labour in Ceylon.

1.—*Agricultural.*

About 850,000 acres are cultivated in paddy. The whole of this area is worked by village labour usually by the owner or lessee of the land, and his relations, but frequently also by hired labour.

The Estates.— The principal crops grown under estate conditions are tea, rubber, and coconuts. Tea estates almost entirely, and rubber estates for the most part, are worked by labour imported from South India (Tamil or Telugu). A few Indians are also employed on coconut estates, but these are mostly worked by Ceylonese.

At the end of 1938 the total number of Indians on estates was roughly 680,000, as compared with 657,000 at the end of 1937. The total number of arrivals of estate labourers during the year amounted to 47,210 and the departures to 46,807.

2.—*Industrial.*

A large number of labourers are employed in various activities connected with the port of Colombo, *e.g.*, as stevedore labourers, or in the coal-yard and marine engineering works.

Wages.—Under Ordinance No. 27 of 1927 a minimum wage is fixed for Indian labourers on tea and rubber estates and the new rates of wages in force from November 16, 1934, are—

	Men. Cents.	Women. Cents.	Children. Cents.	
Up-country	49	39	29	with rice at a rate not exceeding Rs. 4·80 per bushel
Mid-country	43	35	25	
Low-country	41	33	24	

In 1927 a Commission appointed to inquire into wages earned by the harbour workers in Colombo recommended the following rates which were accepted by the employers :—

	Loading Cargo. Rs. c.	Discharging Cargo. Rs. c.
Day, Full	1 75	1 60
Broken Periods, 6 A.M. to 12 noon	1 0 (*i.e.*) (87 plus 10)	0 90 (*i.e.*) (80 plus 10)
12 noon to 6 P.M.	0 87 *	0 80 *
or Every half or part thereof	0 20 †	0 20 †
Night—		
Full	3 50	3 20
Half	1 75 *	1 60 *
Broken Periods— For every hour between 6 P.M. and midnight	0 30	0 30

The following table shows the classification adopted by Government for daily and hourly paid labour :—

		Rates per Hour. Minimum. Cents.	Maximum. Cents.
Minor supervising grades	Class A I.	48	81
	A II.	31	63
Tradesmen	Class A III.	36	53
	A IV.	20	35
Semi-skilled labour	Class A V.	12	20
Unskilled labour	Class A VI.	8	14
Trade apprentices	Class A VII.	10	18
Women and boys	Class A VIII.	3	10

		Rates per Diem. Minimum. Rs. c.	Maximum. Rs. c.
Minor supervising grades	Class B I.	3 84	6 48
	B II.	2 48	5 4
Skilled labour	Class B III.	2 88	4 24
	B IV.	1 60	2 80
Semi-skilled labour	Class B V.	0 96	1 60
Unskilled labour	Class B VI.	0 64	1 12
Trade apprentices	Class B VII.	0 80	1 44
Women and boys	Class B VIII.	0 24	0 80

Estates employing Indian labour are required by law to pay their labourers monthly. In Colombo wages are often paid every week or fortnight.

Other Benefits available to Labour.

On nearly all estates the resident labour force is provided with free housing accommodation. In Colombo a few firms make similar provision for their labourers, but in most cases the latter find their own lodgings. Indians employed by the stevedore contractors are generally housed in a "kitangi"—a sort of barrack where the men sleep together in one large room.

* Subject to the qualification that wages by the hour for any fraction of a half day or half night shall not exceed the wages payable for the whole of that half day or half night.

† A full night's wages are payable when a labourer works from 6 P.M. to any fraction of the night beyond midnight.

Medical Attention and Provision for Old Age.—Estate labourers are entitled to free medical treatment either at the estate hospital (if there is one) or at the nearest Government hospital. Other labourers are entitled to free treatment at Government hospitals if they earn less than Rs. 50 per month in wages.

Female labourers on estates are entitled to free lodgings and medical care for one month after confinement.

Indian Labour on Estates.—Sick and indigent labourers are repatriated to India at the expense of the Immigration Fund.

Most estates pay a pension to deserving labourers who are no longer able to work. Free meals are usually given daily to children.

The Workmen's Compensation Ordinance, No. 19 of 1934, came into operation on August 1, 1935. It provides for compensation to be paid by the employer on the lines of the Indian Act to every workman who is injured by accident arising out of and in the course of his employment and to the dependents of workmen who have died as the result of such accident.

The Trade Unions Ordinance, No. 14 of 1935, came into operation on November 1, 1935. It provides for the compulsory registration of all Trade Unions.

CHAPTER X.

Education and Welfare Institutions.

Control.—Primary and secondary education in Ceylon, under the control of the Minister of Education and the Executive Committee of Education, is administered by the Department of Education, assisted by a Board of Education and 23 Education District Committees.

Board of Education.—The Board of Education is composed of 20 members nominated by the Governor. The Director of Education is Chairman and the personnel of the Board includes members of the State Council, managers of schools, and teachers. The main duties of the Board are to advise the Government on any educational matters especially referred to it for advice. It is not an administrative or executive body, and all regulations which are recommended by the Board require the confirmation of the Governor, and are thereafter laid before the State Council.

Education District Committees.—An Education District Committee has been constituted in each Municipality and Revenue District. These Committees are appointed by the Governor, and consist partly of officials and partly of unofficials. They are responsible first for putting into effect the rules relating to compulsory education and they frame by-laws and employ attendance officers for this purpose. Secondly, they erect and maintain schools where these are required. They are financed by an annual grant from the department, which is allocated on the basis of an approved programme of works submitted each year to the department.

Schools and Attendance.—The system of education in Ceylon provides a course of education leading to University degrees in arts, and science, and diplomas in medicine and law.

The schools of Ceylon are not divided on a basis of race or nationality. All schools which are maintained by Government or assisted by means of grants are compelled by law to admit pupils irrespective of race, nationality, or religion.

Photo by Werner Coaitz. *Courtesy Govt. Tourist Bureau.*

GALLE GATE.

Attendance at school between the ages of six and fourteen is compulsory, subject to a few exceptions. Such compulsion, however, applies only when school accommodation is provided within a reasonable distance of the residence of the pupil.

There are two distinct types of schools—schools administered directly by Government, schools assisted by Government and under the immediate control of private managers.

There are 1,923 Government schools, and the arrangements for the staffing of these are entirely in the hands of the department. All examinations for the issue of teachers' certificates and of otherwise testing efficiency, and all appointments, transfers, &c., are also dealt with by the department.

Assisted Schools and the Grant System.—There are in addition 3,101 (including schools attached to places of religious worship) Assisted schools under the immediate control of private managers. These schools receive an annual grant from the Education Department. In the case of vernacular schools the annual grant is calculated as the total amount of the salaries paid to an efficient staff plus an additional amount for maintenance. No fees are charged in vernacular schools. In the case of the English schools, however, fees are charged and from such fees the manager has to provide a fixed sum towards the salary of each teacher he employs. The grant consists of the balance of such salaries.

There are 156 schools attached to places of religious worship. These schools are supported by grants from Government funds.

In addition to Government Assisted schools, there is a certain number of private schools which are not assisted in any way by Government funds. Such schools are, however, subject to inspection by the department.

The type of instruction given in Ceylon schools can be considered under two main headings: (i.) non-vocational instruction; (ii.) vocational instruction.

Classification of Schools.—Under the heading of non-vocational instruction is included the type of instruction which is general and academic, and by far the larger number of schools come under this class. These schools are classified as follows :—

English.	Bilingual.	Vernacular.
Collegiate	Senior Secondary	Senior Secondary
Senior Secondary	Junior Secondary	Junior Secondary
Junior Secondary	Primary	Primary
Primary		

The primary schools provide a course of instruction from the Kindergarten up to Standard V. The course usually lasts six years.

The junior secondary schools provide a course of instruction from the Kindegarten up to the School-Leaving Certificate. The course usually lasts ten years.

The senior secondary schools provide, in addition to the course for the junior secondary schools, a further course up to the standard of the London Matriculation Examination. The course usually lasts twelve years.

The collegiate school is an English school which provides a course of instruction from Form I. or Standard VI. up to the standard of the London Matriculation Examination. The course usually lasts five years.

4——J. N. 83918 (5/39)

The vast majority of students complete their education at the junior secondary stage.

In addition to the schools that come under the above classification, there is a certain number of temple schools, which are known as Pirivenas. These schools are primarily intended for the Buddhist priesthood, and are not compelled to adopt the syllabus of work used by the ordinary schools.

Vocational Schools.—Under the heading of vocational schools come those schools which give a specialized form of instruction. Apart from one Tecnnical College, these can be divided into part-time schools and full-time schools. Under the heading of part-time instruction is included a variety of home industries which are taught to pupils in certain schools in addition to the ordinary academic course. Under the heading of full-time industrial schools come institutions for the training of teachers, technical schools, agricultural schools, and industrial schools. The course in training schools is usually one of two years. In technical schools it varies according to the subject which is studied. In agricultural schools course are entirely for adults who intend either to teach agricultural science or to become practical agriculturists. There is a variety of full-time industrial schools. All industrial schools are conducted upon a profit-sharing principle, so that the pupils benefit by whatever articles they produce. The course is one of two or three years. The subjects in which instruction is given are :—carpentry, weaving, basket work, pottery, printing, lacquer work, blacksmith work, and a few other minor industries.

The medium of Instruction.—The medium of instruction in schools varies according to the type of schools. In vernacular schools the medium of instruction is entirely Sinhalese or Tamil. This group of schools includes 81 per cent. of all the school-going children in Ceylon.

In Bilingual schools the vernacular language is the medium of instruction for the first four or five years of school life, after which a course of English is introduced in Standard IV. Every year thereafter the number of periods allotted to English is increased. The vernacular, however, continues to be taught throughout the whole course. There are also vernacular schools where an optional course of English, for one period a day, is given in all classes above Standard III.

In the case of the third group of schools, viz., English schools, two methods are employed in giving instruction in the English language.

In the first method pupils are admitted at the earliest stage of school life, viz., the Kindergarten. Pupils admitted in this way have usually a working knowledge of English, so that their progress in mastering the language is very rapid.

The second method employed is a two-year special course in English for pupils, who go from vernacular schools to English schools. The pupils who enter this course are approximately nine years of age, and have already received instruction in their own mother tongue in the primary standards. This course is an intensive one, in which the direct method of teaching a foreign language is employed. After completing this course pupils are able to enter the ordinary standards of the English school, in which the medium of instruction is English. In the majority of such schools the vernacular languages continue to be taught throughout the upper classes.

It will be seen, therefore, that in the system of instruction prevailing in Ceylon the pupils are given the following alternative courses :—(1) a full course of instruction in the vernacular languages ; (2) a full course of instruction in the vernacular languages plus a working knowledge of English ; and (3) a full course of instruction in English, not merely for pupils whose mother tongue is English, but for those who at the beginning of school life have no knowledge of that language.

SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF AND BLIND.

During the year 1938, 39 children were admitted, 25 of them being deaf and 14 blind. The total number of the deaf and blind children is classified thus :—

	School.		Industrial.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Deaf	97	51	5	3	156
Blind	45	60	12	2	119
					275

Applications for admission of deaf boys over the age of 9 have constantly been refused partly owing to lack of room, but chiefly because a deaf child unless he is only " hard of hearing ", must begin to learn at 5 or 6 years old if the school work is to be of any value to him.

Several blind children 14 or 15 years old had also to be refused admission. They are too old to be taught in the school and the Industrial Departments have to be reserved for those who have been through this part of school. Several mentally defective blind children have been refused and there are still several in the school who have no relations or friends and for whom the school must therefore be responsible.

Health.—There was an outbreak of mumps in the school during the second term of the year. Otherwise the health of the children has been very good.

Deaf School.—An electrical Hearing Aid, the Multitone, was installed in February. It is regularly used by all the children who have a trace of residual hearing. The speech and language of these children have improved to a very marked extent.

The speech standard in the kindergarten classes continues to be good but in all the classes there are far too many children to make possible the intensive individual teaching of language which is so essential for the deaf.

Blind School.—The standard of work in the blind school continues to be satisfactory. The majority of the children are alert and intelligent. Chair caning as a handwork subject, has been successfully introduced into the boys' syllabus.

Braille text books required in the school next year, are being produced and bound by the senior boys and girls.

The blind boys have given a broadcast concert of Sinhalese folk songs collected by one of the boys in the Maho district.

School excursions, which have proved to be of great value in both deaf and blind schools, have had to be restricted in number this year owing to the need for economy.

Industrial Section.—The work in this section is progressing satisfactorily. Netting has been introduced as a new industry for the blind girls.

All the Boys' Industrial Departments have now been moved from Ratmalana to Kotte. Poultry-keeping and gardening are developing as useful industries.

A few of the industrial girls and boys are employed in the Ratmalana school as Matrons and compound workers.

The after care of the industrial workers is still a serious problem. Each year boys and girls must pass on from the school into the Industrial Department and it is difficult to find work outside the school for any of our industrial workers.

Orphanages.—Educational facilities are provided for orphans or destitute children. A maintenance grant of Rs. 75 is paid to the manager of an approved Orphanage or Home on account of each orphan or destitute child who is between the ages of 5 and 15 (in an Assisted Vernacular school) / 5 and 17 (in an Assisted English school) at the beginning of the school year and who has been in residence at an Orphanage or Home for a period of not less than 9 months and has regularly attended a registered school during this period. Such grants during 1938 amounted to Rs. 169,478·75.

Reformatory.—There is only one reformatory school to which juvenile offenders are admitted. Here they are taught different trades such as gardening, carpentry, tailoring, cooking, bookbinding, ironwork, printing weaving, &c., while undergoing their term of punishment. One hundred and eleven juvenile offenders were admitted during the year bringing the total to 247.

Prisoners.—There are schools for prisoners at the two jails in the Colombo District. There are 23 pupils at Mahara and 33 pupils at Welikada. Social workers conduct English classes for certain prisoners at the latter jail. The jail school at Kandy has 1 pupil.

Lepers.—There are two schools for lepers: one at Hendala and the other at Mantivu which are conducted by the Sisters of the Franciscan Order. The school at Hendala consists of three sections, *i.e.*, English, Tamil, and Sinhalese containing 35, 21, and 22 pupils respectively. The ages of the pupils range from 5 to 44. The average attendance is 51. The Mantivu Leper School, also consisting of 3 sections, has 8 pupils in the English section, 12 in the Sinhalese, and 15 in the Tamil.

The Langdon Home.—In Badulla District there is one institution which receives assistance from Government for training women in industrial work and household management. After a period of training, these women go into the villages and teach the older girls reading, writing, sewing, embroidery, and lacemaking. They also give instruction in the art of clean and efficient housekeeping and also encourage the practice of thrift.

Pensions, &c.—The posts of Government teachers are pensionable and in addition they make contributions to a Widows' and Orphans' Pension Scheme. Teachers in assisted school are eligible for a pension similar to that of Government teachers, but the pension scheme in assisted schools is on a contributory basis.

THE CEYLON UNIVERSITY COLLEGE.

The University College was established in 1921 for the purpose of affording facilities for higher education to students in Ceylon.

Numbers.—The number of students on the roll in July, 1938, the beginning of the academic year, 1938–39, was 664, including 66 women students. The figures for 1921–37 were as follows :—

1921	..	166	1927	..	279	1933	..	417
1922	..	217	1928	..	315	1934	..	449
1923	..	262	1929	..	338	1935	..	539
1924	..	262	1930	..	394	1936	..	541
1925	..	256	1931	..	355	1937	..	586
1926	..	313	1932	..	377			

Courses.—The College offers instruction in Latin, Greek, Sanskrit, Pali, English, Sinhalese, Tamil, Logic, Philosophy, History, Geography, Economics, Pure Mathematics Applied Mathematics. Physics, Chemistry, Botany, and Zoology.

Honours courses are provided in Classics, English, Indo-Aryan (Sanskrit and Pali), Sinhalese, Tamil, History, Mathematics, Chemistry, Botany, Zoology, and Physics.

The College course is normally one of three years. At the end of the first year students take the (External) Intermediate Arts, Science, and Economics examinations of the University of London conducted in Ceylon. At the end of the third year they take the final examinations for the B.A. (General), B.A. (Honours), B.Sc. (General), and B.Sc. (Special) Degrees of the same University.

The College provides also a two-year course for Diplomas in Sinhalese and Tamil to students who have already passed the London Intermediate Examination in Arts. The course is of Honours degree standard.

Students who intended to join the medical profession are given one year's course of instruction in Physics, Chemistry, and General Biology, at the end of which they take either the First M.B. Examination of the University of London or the Pre-Medical Examination of the Ceylon Medical College, or both.

Graduates.—On the results of the examinations held in June, 1938, 37 candidates qualified themselves for the B.A. and B.Sc. degrees of the University of London.

The total number of graduates from the University College from the time of its inception in 1921 is 448, of whom 30 obtained Honours in Classics, 16 in English, 40 in History, 46 in Mathematics, 17 in Indo-Aryan, 7 in Physics, 21 in Chemistry, 6 in Botany, and 5 in Zoology.

Government University Scholarships.—Four scholarships (annual value £300–£360) tenable for three years are awarded annually on the results of the London B.A. (Honours) and B.Sc. (Special) examinations to the students of the University College for the purpose of prosecuting their studies at a University in the United Kingdom.

Hostels.—Most of the students not living with their parents or relations are residing in four hostels affiliated to the College and subject to the College rules and regulations. These hostels are administered by extra-university bodies and are subsidized by the Government.

University College Council.—This Council, which consists of twenty members nominated by His Excellency the Governor, advises the Principal of the College in matters realting to the administration of the College, and the preparation for its conversion into a University.

THE CEYLON MEDICAL COLLEGE.

The Ceylon Medical College was established in 1870 in the form of a medical school capable of affording a practical education on the principles of medicine and surgery, and especially midwifery, together

with a practical knowledge of Anatomy, Physiology, Materia Medica, Pharmaceutical Chemistry, and the art of dispensing. It had originally a Principal and three lecturers, and the whole course took only three years.

This course was later increased from time to time in order to keep abreast with the progress of medical science. In 1887 recognition was granted by the General Medical Council of the United Kingdom, and the diploma became registrable in Great Britain and all parts of the Empire.

In 1924 the complete extended curriculum of one year's pre-medical study (Chemistry, Physics, Biology) and five years' medical study was adopted.

The College now provides the complete course of instruction required for the practice of modern Medicine, Surgery, and Midwifery. Including the course of preliminary or pre-registration work in Physics, Chemistry, and Biology, which is provided by arrangement at the University College, Colombo, the whole course takes six years.

In addition to the complete medical curriculum, the College provides a course of instruction for a minor grade of medical practitioners, known as Apothecaries. These receive a two years' course of instruction in Anatomy, Physiology, Chemistry, Pharmacy, Pharmacology and Dispensing, Elementary Medicine, Surgery, and Midwifery, both theoretical and clinical and Surgical Dressing, and in Hygiene and Public Health. Since October 1, 1937, candidates are admitted only on passing the Apothecaries Entrance Examination. Those gaining the first 20 places in order of merit are admitted to the Apothecaries course of 2 years for which they each pay Rs. 25 a term as College fees. The free course of instruction has been abolished. On passing the two Apothecaries' Examinations they are employed by the Government to take charge of the Government Dispensaries and some small hospitals in the remote rural areas and villages, but are only permitted to practise while so employed in Government service and are subject to the control of the District Medical Officers. They are eligible to be registered as Pharmacists.

These Apothecaries to a large extent provide for the medical treatment of the poor villagers in remote districts and where fully qualified medical practitioners are not available.

A department for the training of pupil midwives had been added to the College. This work was formerly carried out by the Department of Medical and Sanitary Services, but from October 1, 1931, the teaching and examinations of pupils have been vested in the College Council. First and second class certificates of efficiency are conferred on successful candidates, who are then eligible to be registered as midwives. As this arrangement in practice proved difficult of administration it was discontinued from October 1, 1932. The College, however, continues to conduct the examinations for certificates of efficiency as midwives, the courses of instruction having been restored to the Department of Medical and Sanitary Services. The College thereby retains control of the standard of teaching.

The College is staffed by whole-time Professors, in Medicine, Surgery, Anatomy, Physiology, and Pathology, whole-time lectures in Anatomy Physiology and Pharmacology, and a large number of part-time lecturers, mostly drawn from the officers of the Department of Medical and Sanitary Services.

Copyright Photograph. *Chitra-do.*

GALLE HARBOUR.

Details of staff, fees, courses of study, and rules for students, and the history of the College, are embodied in the annual calendar, copies of which are sent free to Medical Schools in Great Britain, principal Educational Institutions, and Government departments in the Island.

The Government set up in 1928 a Post-licentiate Scholarship (suspended for the time being), which is granted yearly to the best student of the final year who qualifies in the first class within the statutory period, to enable him to obtain British qualifications and also to pursue studies and research in some special subject. The value of the scholarship is £300 per annum.

A small number of students generally discontinue study in the Ceylon Medical College and go to the United Kingdom to complete their studies.

A Dental School attached to the College was established at the beginning of 1938. The school provides a two years' course of training with a view to granting the students following the course a licence to practice dental surgery. The present course is intended solely for medical post-graduates, and is arranged essentially on the lines of recognized British Dental Schools and in conformity with the requirements of the Dental Board of the United Kingdom.

It is intended later to give a full dental curriculum for students not already possessing a medical qualification.

THE LAW COLLEGE.

The Law College which is controlled by the Incorporated Council of Legal Education exists for the supervision and control of the legal education of students desiring to qualify themselves as advocates or proctors of the Supreme Court. The Council consists of the Judges, the Attorney-General, the Solicitor-General, and such other persons of standing in the legal profession as the Judges may appoint. The members hold office for three years at a time. The academic qualifications requisite for admission in the case of advocates are (1) a degree in Arts or Science of any University in the British Empire, (2) a pass in the Intermediate Examination in Arts or Science of the University of London, and in the case of proctors (1) a degree in Arts or Science of any University in the British Empire, (2) a pass in the Matriculation Examination of the University of London or the Intermediate Examination in Arts or Science of any Indian University, or the Senior Local Examination, of the University of Cambridge, or the Cambridge Senior School-Leaving Certificate, provided always that the candidate shall adduce proof that he has passed an examination in English and Latin, such examination being either the examination on which he relies for his qualification or some one or other of the aforesaid examinations of any University in the British Empire.

Admission to the Law College takes place in the month of September and the number of students admitted during the year 1938 were :—

For the Advocate's course	8
For the Proctor's course	27

The staff consists of 14 lecturers appointed to hold office for a period of 3 years at a time, and a Principal.

The examinations provided for by the Rules of the Incorporated Council of Legal Education are held in the months of December and

July, the examiners being appointed annually. The number of candidates who in 1938 entered for these examinations, and the number successful therein were as follows :—

	Entered.	Passed.
Examinations for the Admission of Advocates	80	46
Examinations for the Admission of Proctors	364	164

CHAPTER XI.

Communications and Transport.

SHIPPING.

Colombo Harbour.

Introduction.—The position of Colombo at the junction of the most important trade routes in the East makes it an important port in the commerce of the East, and this natural advantage has been enhanced by the excellent facilities for docking, bunkering, loading and unloading cargo, water supply, &c., afforded by the port to the vast tonnage of shipping navigating Eastern waters. The port of Colombo has contributed largely to the commercial and economic prosperity of the Island, and this fact is borne out by the phenomenal growth of the city of Colombo since the conversion of the open roadstead into a great artificial harbour enclosed by extensive breakwaters. Colombo is a great *entrepot*, and the volume of business passing through its Customs houses is an indication of the state of trade and general prosperity of the Island.

Trade.—The quantity of imports and exports handled in the port of Colombo in 1938 amounted to 1,726,608 tons (1,086,949 tons imports and 639,659 tons exports), as compared with 1,756,880 tons (1,118,040 tons imports and 638,840 tons exports) handled in 1937. There has been a decrease of 30,272 tons as compared with the previous year.

Harbour.—The harbour is enclosed on all sides, being bounded on the south and east by the land and on the north and west by massive breakwaters. The approach to the harbour is free from navigational dangers. Vessels drawing 34 feet can enter by the Western entrance and vessels drawing 29 feet can enter by the Northern entrance. The Western entrance channel is 630 feet wide, with a navigable depth of 36 feet L. W. O. S. T., and the northern entrance channel 550 feet wide, with a navigable depth of 30 feet L. W. O. S. T. The sheltered area of the harbour amounts to 643 acres at low water, of which 246 acres have been dredged to 36 feet and over 140 acres to a depth varying between 36 feet and 34 feet, and 106 acres to between 33 feet and 30 feet ; the remaining 151 acres have a depth of less than 30 feet.

Accommodation for Vessels.—Berthing accommodation, exclusive of the Graving Dock, Guide Pier, and Oil Jetties, is available for 35 vessels in the north-east monsoon and 38 vessels in the south-west monsoon. Berths are available in either monsoon for vessels drawing up to 34 feet of water. One of these berths is for vessels of unlimited length.

Railways.—A broad gauge railway runs through the port premises and is connected with the main railway system of the Island, thus affording direct communication with all parts of the Island and Southern

India. Sidings are provided at different places on the waterside. The length of the railway is 6 miles 19 chains, but the total mileage of railway used, including sidings, &c., is 14⅝ miles. The port railway is available only for the conveyance of goods, the tonnage of goods handled during 1938 being 240,200 tons as against 233,198 in 1937.

Roads.—Communication by road to the harbour is excellent.

Canals.—The Lake to Harbour canal affords direct water transport between stores and mills situated on the lakeside and the harbour. It is navigable by fully loaded 40-ton harbour barges and to some extent relieves the congestion on roads. This canal, together with the lock basin and locks and the water area of the Beira Lake including the San Sebastian canal locks, is now included in the limits of the port of Colombo.

The total number of lighters, launches, &c., which passed through the Lake to Harbour canal during the year was 8,988 against 8,798 in 1937 and 7,720 in 1936.

Lakeside Facilities.

The development of the Lakeside Barge Yards, comprising the portion of land bordering on the Beira Lake, has opened up for commercial purposes a valuable stretch of land on the water front of the lake, and has relieved the congestion in the harbour by affording facilities for the reception of a number of boats which had hitherto been moored in the harbour. There is every indication, that, when trade improves, there will be an increasing demand for land on the lakeside which by its propinquity to the harbour and easy access thereto, both by land and water, affords a valuable venue for commercial purposes.

The Beira Lake is now an integral part of the port, and its progressive development will eventually lead to the establishment of a Commercial Zone in the vicinity of the port serving as a feeder to the business of the port and fostering its development.

Passenger Jetty.—The baggage office has good accommodation and examination halls. There is a staff always on duty day and night, and baggage landed with passengers is passed without delay. There is also provision for the storage of such baggage as a passenger may wish to leave in the premises, a small storage rent being payable. Accommodation is also provided at the Customs house at the Passenger Jetty for a Railway Booking inquiry Office and a Post Office. The Passenger Traffic during the year shows a decrease, the total number being 288,026, against 295,888 in the preceding year.

Landing and Shipping.—Landing and shipping of cargo is assisted by an efficient crane service. There is a total quayage of 15,657 lineal feet. The following are the particulars of cranes available at the port :—

Electric cranes	..	14	Hand derrick	..	1
Steam cranes	..	22	Steam derrick	..	1
Hand cranes	..	13	Mobile crane	..	1
Elephant hand crane	..	1	Steam jib crane	..	1
Floating cranes	..	2	Steam block loading titan		1

operating on the jetties and quays. The largest lift which can be made is 35 tons. The conveyance of cargo from the vessel to the wharf is done by lighters and is carried out by recognized stevedores and landing companies.

Cargo for shipment is brought down to the warehouse by cart, lorry, train, or barge. The Port Commission railway runs direct into the premises alongside three of the export warehouses. With regard to shipment, the same considerations apply as in the case of imports, some firms finding it more convenient to employ a clearing or shipping agency than to maintain their own staff. As in the case of import cargo, goods remain in the Government warehouse at the risk of the exporter. To suit the convenience of shippers who do not carry out their own shipments, landing and shipping companies are prepared to take over cargo at the shipper's stores for removal to the warehouse in the Company's own lorries. Export harbour dues are payable in all goods sent down to the warehouses or wharf. If they lie there for more than three clear days, further dues are payable for each day, and in addition a similar sum by way of warehouse rent. Cargo is taken to the vessel by means of lighters. A good supply of labour is available.

Warehouse Accommodation.—As goods discharged are not always directly transferred to some other means of conveyance, it has been found necessary to provide extensive warehouse accommodation for the increasing volume of goods demanding storage, pending shipment or removal from the premises. There is a total warehouse floor area of 568,786 square feet in the port for dealing with imports, exports, and transhipment cargo. Most of the warehouses have railway facilities and cranes are available where required.

The import warehouses are situated between the root of the South-west Breakwater and the Lake to Harbour canal. Other import warehouses and landing areas are also situated on either side of the canal, and these are largely used for the landing of rough cargo, such as timber and metal. Further north, three recently built warehouses are available at Kochchikade, where facilities are provided for transport by rail.

Five commodious warehouses are allotted for the accommodation of export cargo, in addition to an open shed used for the shipment of drums containing coconut oil and similar commodities, and another shed for rough cargo. The largest warehouse can accommodate 4,000 tons of tea packed in chests of the usual size. The other four warehouses can each accommodate from 2,500 to 3,000 tons.

There are several bonded warehouses within the Customs premises, and certain firms have their own bonded warehouses outside the premises. Goods may be bonded for any period up to two years, after which they must either be removed or rebonded. All goods placed in bond are liable to the same rent and harbour dues as in the case of import cargo up to the time of bonding, after which no further dues are payable and bonded warehouse rent is recovered, the amount payable per week on bonded goods being the same as the charge per day on import cargo. No rent is payable to the Customs in the case of goods which lie in bonded warehouses belonging to private firms, though a charge is made for Customs supervision of deposits and removals.

Several firms have their own warehouses and stores on the lakeside, which have direct access from the harbour through the canal and locks. Special facilities are given by the Customs for import cargo to be removed direct to these stores and, conversely, for the direct shipment of export cargo from these stores to the vessel. Rent and dues are, however, payable as in the case of goods landed in the warehouse, but the advantage of this direct traffic lies in obviating two additional handlings which would be necessary had the goods been landed or shipped from a quay.

Transhipment warehouses are available for the accommodation of cargo pending transmission to the destination. No import duty is payable upon such cargo, and rent and harbour dues are payable at a reduced rate, amounting to 1/5th of the rate payable upon ordinary import cargo. In the case of direct transhipment from vessel to vessel, a small fee is payable for Customs supervision. The volume of transhipment is fairly large, the quantity transhipped during the year being about 85,633 tons, but there is a steady traffic with Tuticorin and other South Indian ports of transhipment of cargo to and from the United Kingdom, America, Australia, the Far East, &c.

Removal of Cargo.—Goods may be cleared either by the importer himself or by any landing company or recognized clearing agency. Firms who import on a large scale find it convenient to keep their own staff of wharf clerks for the clearing of cargo and the passing of the necessary entries through the Customs. On the other hand firms whose business is not so great as to justify the maintenance of such a staff, find it more convenient to clear their goods through a Landing Company, or a Clearing Agency.

Warehouse rent and harbour dues are payable upon all goods landed at the wharf, and three clear days are allowed for the removal of the goods, exclusive of Customs holidays, of which there are five in the year, and Sundays. On goods removed after the expiry of this period further rent and dues are payable in respect of each day inclusive of Sundays and Customs holidays. Special facilities are offered by the Customs for clearing goods prior to the passing of the entry and the payment of the duty, rent, and dues. The usual system is to place a cash deposit with the Customs, against which goods are removed after any examination found necessary, the importer guaranteeing to pass the necessary papers within a reasonable period. Special facilities are also given for the clearing of perishable goods and of consignments, such as rice and sugar, which are landed in large quantities at a time.

Coaling Facilities.—There are about 29 acres of land on the foreshore of the harbour, half of which is leased to different companies for the stacking of coal. The coaling grounds between the Barge Repairing Basin and the Graving Dock have 17 coaling jetties. Large supplies of coal can be procured, and steamers are bunkered with good despatch at any hour of the day or night.

The types and approximate prices of coal stocked at Colombo for commercial purposes are as follows (December, 1938) :—

Type.	Price Trimmed (t.i.b.) Per Ton. s.	d.
Welsh coal (Admiralty quality)	43	3
Natal coal	34	0
Indian coal	34	0

The quantities of coal imported and issued for bunkers during the years 1937 and 1938 were as follows :—

	1937. Tons.	1938. Tons.
Imports	570,599	383,454
Bunkers	324,585	224,672

Oil Facilities.—The port is equipped with an up-to-date oil fuel installation which provides for the rapid bunkering of ships using oil fuel. The main Oil Installation Depot, about 92 acres in extent, is

situated at Kolonnawa, about 3½ miles from the harbour front, and various oil companies have erected their own storage and distribution tanks there. This depot is divided into a non-dangerous and a dangerous oil section and is separated by a safety reservation. Three main pipelines are laid connecting the discharge berth in the harbour with the main oil depot, two for oil fuel and the other for kerosene and petrol. In connection with the bunkering of vessels, a measuring tanks depot, about 19 acres in extent, has been established at Bloemendahl, about ¾ of a mile from the harbour front, and branch pipelines are provided from Kolonnawa to Bloemendahl and from Bloemendahl to the bunkering berths. The oil depot is also connected to the main railway system of the Island. Three reinforced concrete jetties, two for bunkering purposes and one for discharge of oil tankers, have been provided. The outer oil bunkering jetty is capable of accommodating vessels of 500 feet length and 26 feet draught. The inner bunkering jetty is used by barges for bunkering. Vessels of 500 feet length and 27 feet draught can be berthed at the discharge jetty where the latest facilities for discharging oil ships are provided, and vessels of deeper draught up to 29 feet are accommodated at the Graving Dock Guide Pier.

The imports of oil during the last two years were as follows :—

	1937. Tons.	1938. Tons.
Liquid fuel	313,942 ..	418,991
Kerosene oil	29,467 ..	26,705
Petrol and benzine	44,814 ..	34,777
Total ..	388,223	480,473

The quantities of liquid fuel issued for bunkers during the last two years were as follows :—

	No. of Ships Bunkered.	Tons.
1937	566 ..	266,670
1938	692 ..	371,390

There has been a decrease in the number of oil burning vessels calling at the port, while those burning coal have increased.

The Oil Facilities receipts during the year 1938 were Rs. 1,217,588·46, as compared with Rs. 996,545·96 in 1937.

Graving Dock.—Length of floor, 694 feet 7½ inches ; breadth of entrance-cope level, 85 feet ; depth over sill at low water, 30 feet ; depth over sill at high water, 32 feet. Docking can be carried out by day or night. The Inner Graving Dock, 350 feet long, entrance width 54 feet with a depth of 20 feet " at sill " was completed in July, 1938. This is an extension of the Outer Graving Dock.

Both docks are founded on solid rock, the outer being closed by a ship shaped Caisson, berthed alongside the south jetty when dock is open, the inner dock being shut off from the main dock by a " Box " flap gate, hinged along the sill and operated by a hydraulic winch.

The main pumping station on the North side of the main dock entrance is equipped with main steam driven centrifugal pumps capable of emptying the dock in less than 4 hours and is further equipped with drainage pumps, salt water pumps, electric generator for both 110 and 220 D.C.

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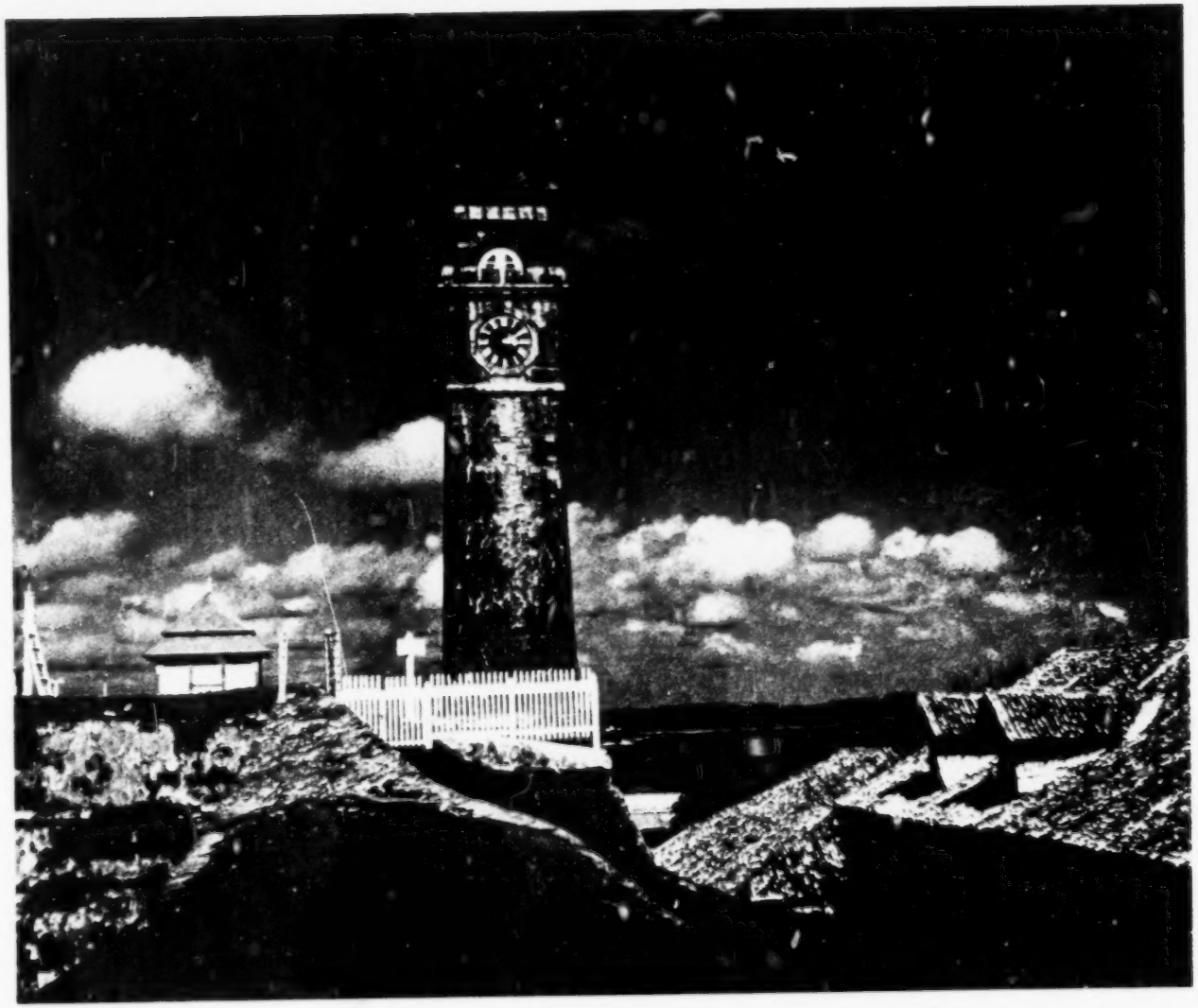

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CLOCK TOWER.

current air compressor and hydraulic pumps for operating penstocks and capstan—compressed air, salt and fresh water mains and electric supplies being available in both docks.

Patent Slip.—Length, 800 feet ; length of cradle, 220 feet ; breadth of cradle, 40 feet ; depth over keel blocks at lower end at low water, 21 feet 6 inches ; depth over keel blocks at upper end at low water, 10 feet 6 inches ; inclination 1 in 20. Capable of slipping a vessel of 1,200 tons dead weight.

Ambulance Facilities.—An ambulance launch is available for the conveyance of sick and injured persons between ship and shore. The Colombo Municipal Council provides an adequate and efficient motor ambulance service for the port.

Quarantine.—On entering the harbour each ship is visited by the Port Health Officer or his Assistant, and no person is allowed to board the ship or leave the ship till pratique is granted. If there are cases of infectious diseases on board, such as plague, cholera, smallpox, yellow fever, or typhus, the ship is held in strict quarantine until all necessary measures such as removal of the sick person, disinfection of the ship, vaccination, &c., as the case may be, are carried out. Thereafter the ship is allowed to be worked in restricted quarantine, any persons having business on board being allowed on special permits.

Port Commission.—The Colombo Port Commission is composed of the following :—The Principal Collector of Customs (who is Chairman or Chief Port Commissioner) ; the Director of Medical and Sanitary Services ; the General Manager of the Railway ; the Mayor of Colombo ; the Deputy Collector of Customs ; the Master Attendant, Colombo and Galle ; the Harbour Engineer ; six Unofficial Members to represent Import, Export, Shipping, Coaling, Oil, and Landing Agencies' Interests ; two Unofficial Members nominated by His Excellency the Governor to represent Ceylonese interests.

RAILWAYS.

All the railways in Ceylon are State-owned and Government-controlled, the management being vested in the Ceylon Government Railway Department.

The total length of line open is 951 miles, of which 834 miles are broad gauge (5½ feet gauge) and 117 miles narrow gauge (2½ feet gauge).

The frontispiece map shows how the different lines radiate from Colombo.

The following table shows the distance from Colombo Fort to the more important stations on the different lines, with the first class return passenger fare and the approximate time of journey :—

Col. Fort. To—	Distance. M. C.	Train Fare (Return). Rs. c.	Approx. Time of Journey. Hours.	Col. Fort. To—	Distance. M. C.	Train Fare (Return). Rs. c.	Approx. Time of Journey. Hours.
Peradeniya	71 62	7 60	3*	Polonnaruwa	162 1	17 10	7¼*
Kandy	75 12	7 95	3¼*	Batticaloa	217 78	22 90	10¾
Nanu-oya	128 62	15 70	7*	Trincomalee	184 25	19 45	8¾
Nuwara Eliya	135 27	16 80	7¾*	Mount Lavinia	7 47	0 85	¼*
Bandarawela	161 34	20 85	9¼*	Galle	70 38	6 75	2¼*
Anuradhapura	127 31	13 45	5*	Negombo	24 17	2 65	1¼*

* By express trains.

The main results of the working of the Ceylon Government Railway for the financial years 1933–34 to 1937–38 are shown in the following table :—

Particulars.	1933–34. Rs.	1934–35. Rs.	1935–36. Rs.	1936–37. Rs.	1937–38. Rs.
Total capital outlay	227,005,002	227,500,606	227,804,742	228,015,601	228,123,009
Gross earnings	20,980,422	18,273,081	16,749,221	16,304,611	16,128,529
Total working expenses*	18,943,156	18,911,326	19,587,815	20,355,043	20,268,060
Net revenue†	2,037,266	Loss 638,245	Loss 2,838,594	Loss 4,050,432	Loss 4,139,531
Percentage of net revenue on total capital outlay	·90 p.c.	—	—	—	—
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Gross receipts from ordinary passenger and season tickets	7,941,378	6,547,579	5,917,331	5,943,769	6,060,079
Gross receipts from parcels, goods, &c.	13,039,044	11,725,502	10,831,890	10,360,842	10,068,450
Free traffic (excluding that for Railway Department included in gross receipts)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

The number of passengers conveyed has increased by 1,353,414, the total conveyed during the year being 10,859,072. Under Season Tickets the number of ticket holders has decreased by 907, the total number of season tickets issued during the year being 194,717.

The number of parcels conveyed during the year was 1,115,163 or a decrease of 16,502.

The tonnage of merchandise carried was 907,116 or an increase of 11,018 tons, the noticeable increases and decreases being :—

	Increase. Tons.	Decrease. Tons.
Agricultural produce	—	6,093
Coconut produce (other than copra)	—	975
Common bricks and tiles	—	162
Copra	9,386	—
Kerosene oil and bulk petroleum	—	558
Liquid fuel	1,117	—
Manure	—	2,211
Packing for tea, rubber, and desiccated coconut	1,005	—
Petrol	1,003	—
Rice	5,490	—
Rubber	—	478
Salt	2,103	—
Sundry goods	4,084	—
Tea	7,521	—
Foreign Traffic	—	6,241
Special Train Traffic	—	4,028

Passenger Fares.

Fares.—(*a*) The fare charged in respect of each passenger for each mile of a single journey shall be as follows :—

		First Class. Cents.	Second Class. Cents.	Third Class. Cents.
(i.) On the Main Line from Nawalapitiya to Badulla and on the Uda-Pussellawa Line		10½	7	2½
(ii.) On the Kelani Valley Line	First 20 miles of a journey	7	4⅔	2½
	Beyond 20 miles	5½	3½	1½
(iii.) On the Puttalam and Coast Lines and on the Maradana-Ragama portion of the Main Line	First 25 miles of a journey	7	4⅔	2½
	Beyond 25 miles	6	3¾	1½
(iv.) On any other line		7	4⅔	2½

* Includes provision for renewals.
† That is, " Gross earnings " less " Total working expenses ".

Provided that in the case of a single journey from any station on the Kelani Valley Line to any station on the Puttalam or Coast Line or the Maradana-Ragama portion of the Main Line, the fare charged in respect of each passenger for each mile shall be as follows :—

	First Class. Cents.	Second Class. Cents.	Third Class. Cents.
(i.) First 20 miles of the journey	7	4⅔	2½
(ii.) Any part of the journey beyond the first 20 miles, if done on the Kelani Valley Line	5½	3½	1½
(iii.) Any part of the journey beyond the first 20 miles, if done on the Puttalam or Coast Line or on the Maradana-Ragama Portion of the Main Line	6	3¾	1½

Provided, further, that in the case of a single journey from any station on the Puttalam or Coast Line or on the Maradana-Ragama portion of the Main Line to any station on the Kelani Valley Line, the fare charged in respect of each passenger for each mile shall be as follows :—

	First Class. Cents.	Second Class. Cents.	Third Class. Cents.
(i.) First 25 miles of the journey	7	4⅔	2½
(ii.) Any part of the journey beyond the first 25 miles, if done on the Puttalam or Coast Line or the Maradana-Ragama portion of the Main Line	6	3¾	1½
(iii.) Any part of the journey beyond the first 25 miles, if done on the Kelani Valley Line	5½	3½	1½

(*b*) In calculating the fare for a single journey between any two stations, any fractional part of 5 cents which is below 2½ cents shall not be reckoned or charged for, and every fractional part of 5 cents equal to or above 2½ cents shall be reckoned and charged for as 5 cents :

Provided, however, that—

(i.) where the distance between the stations is one mile or less the 3rd class fare shall be 3 cents ;

(ii). where a journey on the Kelani Valley Line extends beyond 20 miles or where a journey on the Puttalam and Coast Lines and the Maradana-Ragama portion of the Main Line extends beyond 25 miles, every fractional part of a cent shall be reckoned and charged for as one cent.

(*c*) A return journey between any two stations shall be charged for at one and a half times the fare for a single journey between those two stations.

(*d*) In calculating the fare for a return journey, any fractional part of 5 cents which is below 2½ cents shall not be reckoned or charged for and every fractional part of 5 cents equal to or above 2½ cents shall be reckoned and charged for as 5 cents.

Week-end tickets are issued between all stations distance 25 miles and over at 1⅓ single fares for the double journey. Reductions are made for children, pioneers, and labourers of any nationality, and for periodical tickets.

Sleeping Cars.

The sleeping cars which run on the Up and Down night mail trains between Colombo, Kandy, and Badulla, Colombo-Kankesanturai, Colombo-Trincomalee, and Colombo-Batticaloa are provided with sleeping accommodation. Each berth is numbered and provided with bedding and an attendant accompanies each car. The charge for a sleeping berth is Rs. 5 in addition to the ordinary first class fare to the station to which the journey is made.

In the Indo-Ceylon mail trains sleeping berths without bedding are provided for through first-class passengers without any extra charge, but berths are not guaranteed unless they have been reserved, for which a registration fee of Re. 1 per berth will be charged. If bedding is required Rs. 5 must be paid for each set of bedding at the time of booking, and a berth will be made up as a bed by the Car Attendant. In such cases no registration fee will be charged.

Sleeping berths without bedding are provided for second class passengers on the Colombo-Kankesanturai Up and Down night mail trains at Rs. 2·50 each and on the Colombo-Talaimannar Pier Up and Down night mail trains at Re. ½ each for through Indo-Ceylon passengers.

Return sleeping berth tickets at Rs. 6 each first class, and Rs. 3 each second class are issued to holders of week-end, ordinary return, and excursion tickets.

Restaurant Cars.

These are attached to the important trains on the Main and Northern lines.

Restaurant Rooms.

These are provided at Maradana, Polgahawela, and Nanu-oya on the Main line, Colombo Fort and Alutgama on the Coast line, and Anuradhapura on the Northern line. Refreshments at these places are supplied at moderate prices.

Refreshment Baskets.

Refreshment baskets can be supplied for any train from Colombo on giving 20 minutes' notice to the Manager, Restaurant Cars and Rooms, at his office at Colombo Fort Station.

Luggage.

Each adult passenger is allowed, free of charge, the following weight of luggage :—

	lb.		lb.
First class	112	Third class	70
Second class	84		

A free allowance of half these quantities is made for each child travelling with a half-ticket. No luggage will be conveyed free for children under three years of age who travel free.

The Diesel Units commenced running on the Coast Line from March 14, 1938, and are proving very popular.

ROADS.

There are over 17,500 miles of roads and cart tracks in the Island controlled and administered by the following authorities :—

Authority.	Description of Roads.	Approximate Mileage.
(i.) Public Works Department ..	All main thoroughfares in the Island ..	5,427
(ii.) District Road Committees ..	All minor roads within the areas of jurisdiction of each Committee ..	4,370
(iii.) Local Governing Authorities, viz., Municipalities, Urban District Councils, Local Boards, Sanitary Boards, &c. ..	All streets within their respective jurisdictions	750
(iv.) Village Committees	All natural cart tracks within the jurisdiction of each Committee ..	7,500
(v.) Irrigation Department	— ..	70
(vi.) Private Parties	— ..	350

In addition there are approximately 8,200 miles of bridle paths in the charge of the District and Village Committees.

The Public Works Department is the principal road authority in the Island and is responsible for the construction and maintenance of all the "Main roads", by which are meant through arteries connecting the principal centres of populations with one another and with the railways and ports.

The whole cost of construction, improvements, and maintenance of these roads is met from the general revenue of the Island.

The roads vary in standard from narrow country roads to wide modern thoroughfares, the standard depending on the nature of the country traversed and the traffic carried.

The following is the classification of the Public Works Department roads according to the nature of their surfaces :—

	Miles.
Full-metalled	4,485
Track-metalled	303
Gravelled	493
Natural	146
	5,427

The metalled roads are maintained in good order, and, with but few exceptions may be considered passable to all classes of traffic. Gravelled roads can be considered as dry weather roads only ; in dry weather they are generally in fair order, but they cannot be relied upon to the extent of metalled roads. A large mileage of the metalled roads is tarred or otherwise surface-treated. At the end of 1938 the length of roads so treated was 4,406 miles.

The only direct charge on road users is that for the use of ferry boats, but on the main roads with a few exceptions the ferries have been replaced by bridges. Indirect charges are made in the form of import duties and taxes on wheeled vehicles.

The distribution of the main roads, distances between the principal centres, &c., can be ascertained on reference to the motor map of Ceylon, obtainable from the Surveyor-General, Colombo.

The distances from Colombo to other chief towns by road (given to the nearest half mile) are shown in the following list :—

Colombo to—	Miles.	Colombo to—	Miles.
Galle	72½	Batticaloa (*via* Badulla) ..	241
Peradeniya	68	Anuradhapura (*via* Matale) ..	158½
Kandy	72	Trincomalee (*via* Kurunegala)	169
Nuwara Eliya (*via* Peradeniya)	112	Anuradhapura (*via* Puttalam) ..	129
Nuwara Eliya (*via* Ginigathena)	106½	Jaffna (*via* Puttalam) ..	250

MEANS OF TRANSPORT BY ROAD.

The number of motor vehicles in Ceylon on December 31, 1930, was 24,405 ; it decreased during the years of depression to 23,359 on December 31, 1933. Owing to the revival of trade generally throughout the Island since 1934 there has been a steady increase in the number of motor vehicles. On December 31, 1938, there were 31,231 motor vehicles in the Island.

The average cost of running a small private car may be put at about 25 to 40 cents per mile. Hiring cars are available in most parts of the Island and cost 40 cents to Re. 1 per mile.

Drivers and mechanics for privately-owned cars can be obtained without difficulty and all drivers must hold the Government Certificate of Competence, while many are registered with the Automobile Association of Ceylon. Numerous facilities for repairs exist in Colombo, Kandy, Nuwara Eliya, and most of the other towns. Supplies of petrol and oil are available in all towns and in most of the larger villages.

The Automobile Association of Ceylon is affiliated or has reciprocal agreements with most of the Automobile Associations and Clubs in other countries and the Secretary (P. O. Box 338, Colombo) will afford any information which may be desired. The various landing, Customs, and registration formalities can be arranged for visitors by the Association. Facilities afforded by the International Convention relative to motor traffic are now available to Ceylon and a Ceylon TRIPTYQUE for Customs purposes is available through the leading Automobile Institutions overseas. International Driving Permits, International Certificates of registration for Motor Vehicles, and Fiscal Permits are valid in Ceylon.

Motor Omnibuses.—There is a plentiful supply of motor omnibuses, known in England as road service vehicles, carrying passengers for hire and running on nearly every main road in the Island. The number of omnibuses in use during the year was 2,625.

On the recommendations of the Special Commission on Transport, whose report was made in May, 1937, legislation was enacted to introduce centralized control of road motor transport, including the routes served by omnibuses and lorries.

The seating accommodation for passengers in motor omnibuses varies from 8 to 37.

Personal luggage of small dimensions and light weight is carried free of charge. Extra luggage is carried on the roof of the conveyance on payment of a fee.

Goods.—The chief means of transport of goods by road are the motor lorry and the local bullock cart. A double-bullock cart is capable of taking 1½ tons at a time and travels at the average rate of about 2 miles an hour. The cost per ton per mile may be put at about 80 cents. In the year 1934 there were about 22,424 single and double-bullock carts in Ceylon, the majority of which were used in the transportation of village produce. Figures for 1938 are not available. Motor lorries are fast replacing bullock carts in the movement of estate goods and in other industries. Lorries vary in load capacity from 5 cwt. to 5½ tons and travel at a speed of about 15 to 20 miles per hour, 15 miles being the legal speed limit for heavy lorries. They run mostly on petrol, a small number on steam or kerosene, some on crude oil, and a very few on charcoal. In 1938 there were 4,320 motor lorries and vans in Ceylon. The running cost can be kept at as low as 50 cents per ton per mile. The Diesel oil engine vehicles have been slowly gaining in popularity. The number of Diesel vehicles in Ceylon on December 31, 1938, was 367, as against 321 on December 31, 1937, and 229 on December 31, 1936. As Diesel vehicles run on crude oil which is imported free of customs duty, a special tax on transport vehicles using uncustomed oil was imposed with effect from January 1, 1936, in order to recoup the resultant loss of revenue by way of import duty on petrol which would otherwise have been used on these vehicles. The present scale of this heavy oil tax is as follows:

Where the tare of the heavy oil motor vehicle—	Monthly Rate. Rs. c.
(*a*) does not exceed 1 ton	63 25
(*b*) exceeds 1 ton but does not exceed 1½ tons	69 0
(*c*) ,, 1½ ,, ,, 2 ,,	74 75
(*d*) ,, 2 ,, ,, 2½ ,,	80 50
(*e*) ,, 2½ ,, ,, 3 ,,	86 25
(*f*) ,, 3 ,, ,, 3½ ,,	92 0
(*g*) ,, 3½ ,, ,, 4 ,,	103 50
(*h*) ,, 4 ,, ,, 4½ ,,	115 0
(*i*) ,, 4½ ,, ,, 5 ,,	126 50
(*j*) ,, 5 ,, ...	138 0

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THE SEA FROM THE RAMPARTS.

Tramways.—The only street tramways in Ceylon are those in the town of Colombo, the total length of double track being 7¼ miles. There are two nearly equal routes : one between the Fort and the Kelani river terminus, and one between the Fort and Borella, joined by across line between Maradana and Grandpass *via* Skinner's road and Armour street. The total number of passengers carried annually is estimated at about 13 millions.

CANALS.

The only artificial navigable waterways in Ceylon are a series of canals connecting a chain of lakes on the west coast—Bolgoda, Colombo, Negombo, Chilaw, Mundel, and Puttalam lakes—as also the estuaries of the Kalu-ganga, Kelani-ganga, Maha-oya, and Deduru-oya ; thus forming a continuous waterway from Kalutara in the south to Puttalam in the north, a distance of approximately 120 miles. These were maintained in good order.

In addition to the foregoing there are about 41 miles of boat channel maintained by dredging the Jaffna lagoon.

POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICE.

(Full information on this subject is to be found in the "Ceylon Post Office Guide", obtainable from the Postmaster-General, Colombo, price 75 cents.)

On December 31, 1938, 964 offices were open for business. Details of the facilities afforded are as follows :—

190 Post Offices (excluding the Central Telegraph Office which does only telegraph business) dealt with all classes of postal business, viz., mail and parcel work, registration and insurance of postal articles, money order, postal order, and Savings Bank work, and telegraph and telephone business. Thirty-seven Post Offices dealt with all classes of business except telephone work. One Post Office conducted all classes of business except value-payable and cash-on-delivery work and telephone work. Seven Post Offices dealt with all classes of postal business except telegraph and telephone work.

64 Sub-Post Offices conducted all classes of postal business except insurance, and also provided telephone-telegraph facilities. 152 Sub-Post Offices also conducted such business except telephone-telegraph work.

477 Village Receiving Offices dealt with mail work only. At 35 Railway Stations facilities for the despatch and receipt of inland postal telegrams were available. At 9 of these stations, mail work was also conducted.

There are 10,052 miles of telegraph wire (including railway telegraph wires), of which 2,734 are laid underground, and 54,585 miles of telephone wire (including Trunk and Junction lines) for subscribers' circuits, of which 37,900 are laid underground (excluding private estate lines).

Air Mail Services.

Since Ceylon's participation in the Empire Air Mail Service, first class mails between Ceylon and other participating countries, except India, are sent by air as the normal means of transmission. The postage charged is 20 cents per ½ oz. for letters and 10 cents per postcard.

In the case of countries not participating in the Empire Air Mail Service, and also India, a "Surcharge" air service is afforded at varying rates of postage. To India, the "Surcharge" air mail rate is 12 cents per ½ oz. for letters, and 9 cents per postcard, inclusive of postage.

A "feeder" air service, operating five times a week in either direction, connects Colombo with the main trunk line of Imperial Airways at Karachi.

Sea Mail Services.

First and Second Class Mails.—A regular weekly mail service is maintained between Ceylon and the Continent of Europe. Regular and frequent services are available to China and Japan. Mails for India are despatched by train every day in the week, except on Saturdays.

Second Class Mails.—There is a regular weekly service between Ceylon and the United Kingdom and between Ceylon and Australia. Regular and frequent services are also available to the Straits Settlements and Federated Malay States. A direct service, not less than twice a month, operates between Ceylon and British East Africa and South Africa. Mails for Mauritius are despatched fortnightly *via* Batavia and by the direct service from Colombo to Mauritius operating at irregular intervals.

Rates of Postage.

Inland Rates and Rates to India.

	Cents.		Cents.
Letters, per 2 ounces or part of that weight	6	Registered newspapers not weighing more than 2 pounds, for every 8 ounces ..	2
Post cards, each	3		
Printed matter, per 2 ounces or part of that weight up to a maximum of 2 pounds ..	2		

Rates to the United Kingdom, British Possessions participating in the Empire Air Mail Service, and Egypt.

	Cents.		Cents.
Letters, per ½ ounce or part of that weight	20	Printed papers, per 2 ounces or part of that weight	3
Postcards, each	10		

Rates to Empire Countries not participating in the Empire Service.

	Cents.		Cents.
Letters, per every ounces ..	9	Printed papers, per every 2 ounces ..	3
Postcards, each	6		

Rates to Foreign Countries (excluding Egypt).

	Cents.		Cents.
Letters, for the first ounce ..	20	Postcards, each	12
Every additional ounce or part of that weight	10	Printed papers, per 2 ounces or part of that weight	4

Inland Cash-on-Delivery System.

Postal articles can be transmitted by the Inland post on the value-payable system provided that the amount payable is not less than 50 cents or more than Rs. 600. A posting and delivery fee of 5 to 15 cents, according to value, will be levied on every value-payable article.

Foreign Cash-on-Delivery system.

The Cash-on-delivery Service is in operation between Ceylon and the United Kingdom, the Straits Settlements, the Federated and Unfederated Malay States, Germany*, and Burma. Details will be found in the "Ceylon Post Office Guide".

Money Orders.

Money Orders can be obtained at any of the Post Offices payable at any of the others and in most foreign countries. The maximum for inland and Indian Money Orders is Rs. 600, for foreign orders £40 except in certain special cases where the maximum is below this amount. The rate of commission for inland Money Orders is 20 cents for each complete sum of Rs. 20 and 20 cents for the remainder, and for Burmese and Indian Money Orders 20 cents for each complete sum of Rs. 10 and 20 cents for the remainder. The rate for foreign Money Orders expressed in sterling is 25 cents on sums not exceeding £1, and on sums exceeding £1, 25 cents on the first £ and 20 cents on each complete additional sum of £1 and 20 cents on the remainder. Money Orders payable in the United Kingdom or countries served through the United Kingdom are despatched by Air Mail. Telegraph Money Orders can be despatched in the inland service. Telegraph Money Order service is also available to Burma, India, and some other foreign countries. A fixed fee of 10 cents irrespective of the amount of the order is charged for inland Burmese and Indian Telegraph Money Orders. There are fixed minima for Telegraph Money Orders according to the currency in which the order is advised. Details will be found in the "Ceylon Post Office Guide".

Postal Orders.

Inland Postal Orders for fixed amounts ranging from 50 cents to Rs. 10 are issued, the rate of commission varying from 5 to 10 cents.

British Postal Orders.

There are 40 denominations of British Postal Order, ranging from 6*d*. to 21*s*., the difference between each up to 19*s*. being 6*d*., and 1*s*., between 19*s*. and 21*s*. Commission is charged at the rate of 10 cents on each of the first five denominations, 15 cents on each of the next twenty-five, and 20 cents on each of the remaining denominations. A full list of the countries to which British Postal Orders can be sent is given in section IX. of the "Ceylon Post Office Guide". Broken amounts up to 5*d*. (but not including fractions of a penny) may be made by affixing unused Ceylon postage stamps of equivalent value or British penny postage stamps not exceeding two in number in the spaces provided on the order.

Inland Telegrams.

The minimum charge for Inland ordinary telegrams is 50 cents for the first twelve words, including the address, and 5 cents for each additional two words or less. These telegrams can be sent from any one telegraph office to any other in the Island.

The charge for Urgent telegrams is Re. 1 for the first twelve words, including the address, and 10 cents for each additional two words or less.

* The outward service with Germany is temporarily suspended.

Greetings and Condolence telegrams can be sent at reduced rates on such occasions as Christmas, New Year, Wesak, Hindu New Year, Id, Birthdays, Birth of a child, Weddings, and Funerals and Deaths. The text of such a telegram should be a phrase selected from the list of stock phrases appearing at the end of rule 543 of the Ceylon Post Office Guide. The entire text is counted as one word for the purpose of the collection of charges. The charges are 30 cents for each such telegram consisting of not more than six words and 5 cents for each additional word in the name and address of the addressee or of the sender. For fuller details, see the rule already quoted.

Foreign and Colonial Telegrams.

The rates for telegrams to India are express Rs. 2, and ordinary Re. 1 for the first 12 words or less, and 15 cents and 10 cents respectively for each additional word.

The rates for telegrams to Burma are 18 cents and 36 cents per word for ordinary and urgent with a minimum charge for 8 words rounded up to the next multiple of five cents.

Telegrams to other Empire Countries can be sent *via* Eastern at the following flat rate per word :—

Ordinary 85 cents, Code 57 cents (with a minimum charge for 5 words).
Deferred 45 cents (with a minimum charge for 5 words).
" Daily letter telegram " 30 cents (with a minimum for 25 words).

Telegrams to other foreign countries can be sent on a minimum charge per word varying from 65 cents to Rs. 3·65 for ordinary, and from 45 cents to Re. 1·85 for deferred telegrams according to the distance of the place of destination, the route by which the telegram is to be sent, &c. A full list of places to which foreign and Colonial telegrams can be sent, together with the rates charged, is given in section 11 of the " Ceylon Post Office Guide ".

Foreign Cheap Rate Telegrams.

Telegrams in plain language are accepted for transmission as " Night Letter Telegrams " or " Daily Letter Telegrams " to various places abroad at considerably reduced rates. A list of places to which this service is available, and the scale of charges will be found in section 11 of the " Ceylon Post Office Guide ".

Radio-Telegrams.

Radio-Telegrams are accepted at any Postal Telegraph Office in Ceylon for transmission to ships equipped with radio-telegraph apparatus through the Coast Station in Colombo. Radio-telegrams to His Britannic Majesty's Ships of War may also be sent through Matara Radio.

The charges are as follows :—

	Per Word. Cents.
British Indian, or Colonial Government telegrams to His Britannic Majesty's Ships of War *via* Colombo radio or *via* Matara Radio	Free
Private telegrams to His Britannic Majesty's Ships of War—	
Via Colombo Radio ..	40
Via Matara Radio	25
All other Government or private telegrams *Via* Colombo Radio only ..	65
On Radio Telegrams sent to—	
(*a*) Spanish and Swedish ships the charge is ..	60
(*b*) Finnish ships the charge is ..	50

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DUTCH CHURCH.

The normal range of the Colombo Radio Station is 500 miles or about two days steaming from or to the port of Colombo, but this distance is considerably exceeded when conditions are favourable and also according to the equipment on board the ships.

With ships fitted with the Short Wave System, communication is possible for a few thousand miles. Ships not so fitted can be reached through those having the facility.

Telephone System.

Telephone communication exists between most of the principal towns and certain rural districts. The towns are generally served by Government exchanges and the rural districts by Government or private licensed exchanges which are connected to the general trunk system by means of Government trunk lines.

The charge for the use of a public call box for six minutes or less is 10 cents. The trunk rates are calculated as follows (for calls made between 8 P.M. and 8 A.M., half the rates are charged with a minimum of 20 cents) :—

		Rs. c.
For	3 miles or under	0 7
Over	3 miles and not exceeding 5 miles	0 10
Over	5 miles and not exceeding 7½ miles	0 15
Over	7½ miles and not exceeding 10 miles	0 20
Over	10 miles and not exceeding 15 miles	0 25
Over	15 miles and not exceeding 20 miles	0 30
Over	20 miles and not exceeding 30 miles	0 40
Over	30 miles and not exceeding 40 miles	0 50
Over	40 miles and not exceeding 50 miles	0 60
Over	50 miles and not exceeding 70 miles	0 80
Over	70 miles and not exceeding 90 miles	1 0
Over	90 miles and not exceeding 110 miles	1 20
Over	110 miles and not exceeding 150 miles	1 50
Over	150 miles and not exceeding 190 miles	1 80
	190 miles and over	2 0

The minimum annual rental for a telephone connection to a large town exchange is Rs. 180 for business or professional purposes and Rs. 120 for non-business or residential purposes and for a connection to a small town exchange Rs. 125 and Rs. 90 respectively.

Broadcasting Service.

The Government maintains a regular broadcasting service on a wave-length of 428·5 metres (700 KCS) with a transmitter radiating 5 K.W. situated in Colombo. Evening programmes are simultaneously broadcast on a shortwave wave-length of 48·7 metres (6,160 Kilocycles).

Programmes consisting of music, talks and news are broadcast in English, Sinhalese, and Tamil. Empire programmes from Daventry are relayed and broadcast almost daily.

The number of radio receiving licences in force at the end of 1938 was 6,007, as against 4,911 at the end of 1937.

There is a regular broadcast to schools conducted by the Department of Education.

CHAPTER XII.

Public Works.

Since the introduction in July, 1931, of the new Constitution for the Island under the Ceylon (State Council) Order in Council, 1931, the Public Works Department is placed under the immediate control of the Executive Committee of Communications and Works.

There was an increase of expenditure in 1938 on that of the previous years. The total expenditure by the department amounted to Rs. 11,800,099·70 as against Rs. 10,716,541·48 during the previous year (1936–37).

Maintenance.—The roads, bridges, canals and public buildings in charge of the department were maintained in satisfactory condition having regard to the funds available.

New Works.—The following are the more important works completed or in progress during the year :—

New Buildings and Additions and Improvements to Buildings.

Additions and Improvements to Government Stores, Colombo.
Quarters for 40 Married Sergeants and Constables, Slave Island.
Welikada Jail : improvements to water supply.
Cattle Quarantine Station, Colombo.
Additions to Government Dairy.
Repairs to proposed offices at premises occupied by Messrs. Brown & Co., at Chatham street, Colombo.
Bacteriological Institute, Colombo.
New Nurses' Home, General Hospital, Colombo.
New three-storey Ward, General Hospital, Colombo.
New Hospital, Kalutara.
Acquisition of land for Anti-Tuberculosis Hospital, Welisara.
Block of 12 rooms for Paying Patients, Lunatic Asylum, Angoda.
Second stage of extensions, De Soysa Lying-in Home, Colombo.
Building to house the Department of Pathology, Ceylon Medical College, Colombo.
Water Supply, Kandana Sanatorium.
Children's Ward, Kandana Sanatorium.
Extensions to Sisters' quarters, Hendala Leper Asylum.
Four light construction wards, Lunatic Asylum, Angoda.
Water Supply, Moratuwa Hospital.
Light construction Wards : 2 each at General Hospital, Colombo, and Anti-Tuberculosis Institute, Ragama, and 1 at Lady Ridgeway Hospital.
Laboratory and office accommodation for the Expert Adviser on Industries and his staff.
Model Coir Yarn Factory, Colombo.
Extensions to the Ceylon Technical College, Colombo.
Accommodation for the Telegraph Stores in the old Railway Workshops, Maradana.
Improvements to the new Council Chamber and Secretariat, Colombo.
New Type Store for Government Press, Colombo.
Installation of an electric pumping plant to the Residency, Kalutara.
Married quarters for Instructors, Police Training School, Bambalapitiya.
New Agricultural Station, Horana.
New Satin Wood Depot, Slave Island.
Cottage Hospital, Divulapitiya.
Cottage Hospital, Wellalawita.
Two Additional Wards, Moratuwa Hospital.

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Acquisition of land, Ragama Anti-Tuberculosis Hospital.
Extensions to the Anatomy Block, Medical College, Colombo.
Additions and Improvements to Leper Asylum, Hendala.
Improvements to Dental Institute, Colombo.
Workshop for Technical Adviser's Laboratory, Colombo.
Additions and alterations to Welikada Radio Station.
Extensions to Entomological Laboratory, Torrington Square, Colombo.
Light construction ward, De Soysa Lying-in Home, Colombo.
Light construction ward, Negombo.
Bungalow for the Director of Agriculture, Peradeniya.
Veterinary Department and Farm School, Peradeniya (Transfer and reorganization).
Rebuilding Kandy Hospital.
New Cottage Hospital, Ankumbura.
New Cottage Hospital, Pallegama.
Quarters for the Uniform Staff, Nuwara Eliya Post Office.
New Police Court, Gampola.
Improvements to "The Lodge" to be used as the residence of the Government Agent, Kandy.
Conversion of existing Ball Room, King's Pavilion, Kandy, into bed rooms.
Construction of Rubber Room and Smoke House, Experimental Station Peradeniya.
New Court-house for Additional District Court, Kandy.
Additions and Improvements to Agricultural Department buildings, Peradeniya.
Dambulla Hospital water supply scheme.
New Village Tribunal Court, Opata.
New roof for the Hambantota Residency.
New Store to Central Agricultural Station, Labuduwa.
New Hospital, Hambantota.
Cottage Hospital, Talawa.
Quarters for 2nd Apothecary, Elpitiya Hospital.
Maternity Ward, Balapitiya Hospital.
Light construction ward, Matara Hospital.
New District Court Building at Balapitiya.
New Village Tribunal Court, Hamantota District.
Renewing floor, Customs Office, Galle.
Lines for Game Watchers n the Resident Sportsmen's Reserve at Palatupana.
Quarters for Agricultural Instructor and for Foreman Paddy Seed Station, Ambalantota.
Seed Cotton Store (Cotton Purchase Depot) Rotation Station, Batataa
Quarters for officer-in-charge, Cattle Breeding Station, Karagoda-Uyangoda.
Renewal of floor of Education Office, Galle.
New Post Office, Matara.
New office for the District Engineer, P. W. D., Hambantota.
Improvements to Jaffna Customs.
Quarters for Jailer and Prison Apothecary, Jaffna.
Additional Ward, Delft Hospital.
V. D. Clinic, Jaffna Hospital.

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Additions and Improvements to Training School, Kopay.
Improvements to Jetty at Nainativu.
Quarters for Excise Guards, Elephant Pass.
Maternity Ward, Chavakachcheri Hospital.
Extension to Chavakachcheri Hospital.
Maternity Ward, Point Pedro Hospital.
Additions and Improvements to Post Office buildings, Northern Province.
Maternity Ward, Mullaittivu Hospital.
New Cottage Hospital at Pungudutivu.
Ward for Tuberculosis cases, Jaffna Hospital.
District and Police Court buildings, Point Pedro.
Clerks' quarters, Vavuniya.
New Post Office and Postmaster's quarters, Vavuniya.
New Residency, Trincomalee.
Cottage Hospital, Muthur.
Cottage Hospital, Akkaraipattu.
New Office for the amalgamated offices of the Assistant Provincial Registrar and Registrar of Lands, Trincomalee.
Bungalow for Assistant Superintendent of Police, Trincomalee.
Quarters for Superintendent of Excise, Trincomalee.
Quarters for Excise Inspector, Trincomalee.
Extensions to Trincomalee Hospital.
Water Supply, Kalmunai Hospital.
Improvements to Kachcheri Chief Clerk's quarters, Trincomalee.
Additions and Improvements to Mantivu Leper Asylum.
New Court-house, Kurunegala.
Office, Store, &c., Telegraph Inspectors, Polgahawela.
Divisional Agricultural Station, Wariyapola.
Cottage Hospital, Mawatagama.
Maternity Ward, Ridigama Hospital.
Light construction ward, Kurunegala Hospital.
New Dispensary and Apothecary's quarters, Tabbowa.
Additions to Dambadeniya Hospital.
Light construction ward, Dandegamuwa Hospital.
Maternity Ward, Chilaw Hospital.
Cottage Hospital, Kahatagasdigiliya.
Cottage Hospital, Murunkan.
Village Tribunal Court, Kalawewa.
Village Tribunal Court, Yakkala.
Village Tribunal Court, Kibissa.
Quarters for staff, Government Rice Mill, Anuradhapura.
Extensions to Maternity Ward, Mannar Hospital.
Additions to Government Farm, Polonnaruwa.
Extension to Badulla Hospital.
Bandarawela Sanatorium (Extension to Glendale Bungalow).
Extension to office of Registrar of Lands, Badulla.
Permanent Lines for Forest Department labourers at Ohiya.
Construction of main drain, Survey Camp, Diyatalawa.
Maternity Ward, Aranayaka Hospital.
Light construction ward, Kegalla Hospital.
Three Clerks' quarters, Type No. 6, Avissawella.
Isolation Ward, Avissawella Hospital.

Bridges.

Wellawatta bridge, Colombo-Galle road.
Approaches to Bolgoda bridge, 5th mile, Panadure-Nambapana road.
Pamunugama bridge, 9th mile, Hamilton canal.
Bridge No. 17/3, Colombo-Kandy road.
Bridge on 7th mile, Hamilton canal.
Bridge over Pelawatta-ganga at the end of Horawela-Pelawatta road.
Reconstructing bridge No. 9/1, Panadure-Nambapana road.
Bridge over Dandugama-oya at Seeduwa.
Improvements to platform of Giriulla bridge, Negombo-Giriulla road.
Angulana bridge on approach road to Angulana Railway Station.
Bridge on 17th mile, Nugegoda-Pokunuwita road.
Foot bridge over the Mahaweli-ganga at Haloluwa.
Causeway over the Amban-ganga at Elahera.
Reconstruction of Castlereagh bridge, 3rd mile, Wanarajah road.
Strengthening Kahawaturai bridge No. 6/7, Nawalapitiya-Hatton road.
Extension of bridge No. 11/14, Peradeniya-Ramboda road.
Hikkaduwa bridge on 61st mile, Colombo-Galle road.
Repairing Bentota Bridge, 39th mile, Colombo-Galle road.
Denepitiya bridge No. 3/1, Weligama-Telijjawela road.
Kahawatta bridge No. 2/3, Beliatta-Walasmulla road.
Reconstructing Seenimodera bridge No. 119/1, Colombo-Galle-Hambantota road.
Reconstructing bridge No. 121/3, Colombo-Galle-Hambantota road.
Reconstructing bridge No. 117/5, Colombo-Galle-Hambantota road.
Rebuilding bridges Nos. 2/4, and 41/10, Matara-Akuressa-Viharahena road.
Reconstruction of bridge No. 92/2, Goyapana-Tangalla road.
Reconstruction of Valukkai Aru bridge, 5th mile, Jaffna-Karativu road.
Dodanduwa bridge, No. 65/1, Colombo-Galle road.
Katugastota bridge, 2½ mile, Kandy-Katugastota road.
Extension to bridge No. 1/1, Paranthan-Karachchi road.
Bridge No. 28/2, Karativu-Sammanturai road.
Salt Lake bridge No. 5/1, North Coast road.
Reconstructing bridge No. 27/3, South Coast road.
Toppu bridge over the Maha-oya near 27th mile, Colombo-Puttalam road.
Reconstruction of bridge No. 17/1, Kurunegala-Puttalam road.
Renewing bridges Nos. 6/1 and 6/3, Kuliyapitiya-Hettipola road.
Reconstructing bridge No. 5/5, Bibile-Medagama road.
Widening bridge No. 6/1, Badulla-Bandarawela road.
Widening bridge No. 31/5, Colombo-Avissawella-Haputale road.
Reconstructing bridge No. 39/4, Colombo-Avissawella-Haputale road.
Improving bridge No. 2/6, Ambepussa-Alawwa road.
Reconstructing bridge No. 96/3, Madampe towards Hambantota road.
Strengthening bridge No. 3/7, Pasyala-Giriulla road.

New Roads.

Approach road to Pallewela Railway Station.
Cart road from Hendala to Uswetakeiyawa.
Extension of Kukul Korale road from Badureliya towards Kalawana.

Approach road to Kirillapone Railway Station.
Road from Tissamaharama to Kataragama.
Toppur-Seruwila road.
Welimada-Kirklees road, Welimada to Haloya.

Additions and Improvements to Roads.

Improvements to Colombo-Negombo road.
Raising culvert No. 6/1, Colombo-Negombo road.
Widening junction at Bandaragama.
Improvements to miles 18–22 and 32–37, Colombo-Galle road.
Construction of culverts, 20th mile, Colombo-Kandy road.
Improvements to Katugastota-Madulkele and Kabaragala road.
Improvements to miles 6, 7, and 13, Kurunegala- Dambulla road.
Improvements to miles 32, 35, 40, 45, and 54, Kandy-Badulla road.
Improvements to roads, Talawakele town.
Widening main road, Gampola town.
Ambalangoda road deviation.
Improving Beliatta-Tangalla road.
Widening approach road to Railway Station, Ambalangoda.
Improving 1st and 2nd miles, Dickwella-Beliatta road.
Improvements to miles, 39, 54 to 72, Colombo-Galle-Hambantota road.
Widening road embankments on 24th and 25th miles, Matara-Akuressa-Viharahena road.
Improvements to culverts, Hambantota-Tanamalwila-Wellawaya road.
Construction and extension of culverts Nos. 13/1, 34/5, 34/6, and 34/7, Matara-Akuressa-Viharahena road.
Jaffna-Pooneryn causeway.
Velani-Pungudutivu causeway.
Paranthan-Karachchi-Mullaittivu road extension.
Improvements to Jaffna-Kankesanturai road.
Improving the Coast road to Colombo (Pooneryn to Mannar).
Improving Point Pedro-Kudathanai-Maruthankerni road.
Widening and improving and extending culverts on sections of Kandy-Jaffna road.
Metalling 2nd and 3rd miles, Mullaittivu-Kokkilai road.
Improvements to Valaichchenai-Mahaweli-ganga road.
Widening and improving Kandy-Trincomalee road.
Widening and improving South Coast road.
Tarring miles 13–19, 22 and 23, Trincomalee-Yan-oya road.
Tarring miles 9–16, Pottuvil-Moneragala road.
Tarring miles 27–34, Valaichchenai-Mahaweli-ganga road.
Raising 1st mile, Palavi Service road.
Improving 9th and 10th miles, Kurunegala-Narammala road.
Widening and improving 1–5 miles, Pannala-Kuliyapitiya road.
Widening miles 10, 12–15, Alawwa-Polgahawela road.
Approach road to Chilaw Railway Station.
Widening and improving Alawwa-Polgahawela road.
Metalling and tarring sections of Galkulam-Madawachchiya road.
Widening miles 77 to 83, Galkulam-Anuradhapura road.
Improving Mannar-Pesalai-Talaimannar road.
Improving and tarring Puliyadi-Irakkam to Madhu road.
Metalling and tarring Kekirawa-Talawa road.

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LIGHTHOUSE AT DONDRA.

Extension of culverts, reconstructing temporary bridges and tarring, Habarana-Topawewa road to Mahaweli-ganga.
Protection of road at Hangili-ela, 69th mile, Kandy-Badulla road.
Widening and improving miles 64, 67, and 77, Kandy-Badulla road.
Widening between and extension of culverts, Badulla-Batticaloa road.
Widening 1st mile, Bandarawela-Welimada road.
Retaining walls, Colombo-Kandy road.
Improvements to Avissawella-Ginigathena road.
Renewing and extending bridges Nos. 3/5, 3/8, and 3/9 and tarring 6th mile, Pasyala-Giriulla road.
Improvements to culverts, Colombo-Avissawella-Haputale road.
Improvements to small span bridges on miles 9, 10, 12, and 13, Warakapola-Ruanwella road.
Tarring sections of Colombo-Avissawella-Haputale road.

Improvements to Minor Roads.

Extending bridge No. 2/4, and relaying platform and improvements on steep gradients, Kirindiwatta-Ganemulla road.
Reconstruction of bridge No. 8/1, Agalawatta-Badureliya road.
Reconstruction of bridge No. 8/1, Raigama-Anguruwatota road.
Rebuilding culverts 4/1, 6/1, and 8/4 and retaining wall on 3rd mile, Negombo-Alutapola road.
Rebuilding bridge No. 5/12, Galaha-Pupuressa road.
Improvements to Radella Short Cut road.
Improvements to Ragalla Kurunduoya road.
Renewing bridge No. 13/1, Labuduwa-Wanduramba road.
Reconstruction of bridges Nos. 20/7 and 20/8, Kamburupitiya-Mawarella road.
Renewing bridge No. 2/2, Tangalla-Wiraketiya road.
Reconstruction of bridge No. 7/3, Beliatta-Walasmulla road.
Rebuilding culverts Nos. 37/2, 37/6, and 37/7 and bridge No. 48/9, Kotapola-Urubokka-Mawarella, road.
Improvements to bridges and culvert No. 2/1, Yattalamatta-Atumale road.
Improvements to culvert No. 11/3 and bridges Nos. 12/11, 15/6, and 16/6, Elpitiya-Pitigala road.
Culverts on 1st and 3rd miles, Madukanda-Iratperiyakulam road.
Construction of two culverts on 7th mile, Oddusuddan-Puthukkudiyiruppu road.
Causeways on 7th mile, Nellukulam-Neriyakulam road.
Culverts on 2nd mile, Tanniyuthu-Kumulamunai road.
Muthur-Foul Point road.
Reconstruction of bridge No. 5/2, Kahawatta-Bemulugedera road.
Improvements to miles 2–5, Muttetugala-Hiripitiya road.
Improvements to miles 10 and 15–17, Kiriyankali-Andigama-Anamaduwa road.
Improving Kalugamuwa-Vilakatupota road.
Improvements to miles 21–25, Galanbindunuwewa-Kahatagasdigiliya (Eastern Minor road).
Bridges on 5th mile, Halmillewe-Negama-Madawachchiya road.
Improvements to miles 3–7, Palugama-Boralanda-Welimada road.
Improvements to Talawitiya-Kurugamodera road.

Raising Roads above Flood Level.

Raising 21st and 22nd mile, Colombo-Avissawella road.
Raising Hendala-Hunupitiya road.
Raising section of 25th mile, Horana-Anguruwatota ferry-Alutgama road.
Raising section of road, 11½ mile, Peradeniya-Gampola road.
Raising 6th and 7th miles, Puttalam-Trincomalee road.
Raising 59th mile, Colombo-Avissawella-Haputale road.

Loan Works.

Extension of existing Central Telegraph building to house the new Automatic Telephone Exchange.
New Hangar, Colombo Airport.
New Post Office and Automatic Exchange at Maradana.
New Post Office and Automatic Exchange at Havelock Town.
Training School for Youthful Offenders at Watupitiwela.
New Lighthouse at Galle.
Emergency landing ground, Puttalam.
Passara-Nakkala road.
Hayes-Lauderdale road (Southern Division).
Hayes-Lauderdale road (Sabaragamuwa Division).

WORKS CARRIED OUT FROM VOTES OF OTHER DEPARTMENTS.

Improvements to Zoological gardens, Dehiwala.
Establishment of a Fisheries Research Station, Colombo (Scheme assisted by the Colonial Development Fund).
Repairs to Totagamu Rajamaha Vihare, Telwatta, Hikkaduwa.
Erection of an enclosure for rearing crocodiles at Hikkaduwa.
Replacing brick pillars in stores and construction of a sump at wave trap at Pittawattemodera, Hambantota, for the Salt Department.
Metalling road at Karadiyanaru Farm School, E. P.
Improvements to Kandy-Jaffna road at 74th mile to prevent submergence of the road contingent to the raising of the Nachchaduwa Tank spill.
Unemployment relief works at Buller's road swamp, Watupitiwela and Ratmalana.

Public Works Department Private Account.

Augmentation of Wattegama Water Supply.
Ragalla Water Supply Scheme.
Improvements to Nuwara Eliya Water Supply (Stage I).
Gampola Water Supply Augmentation Scheme.
Kurunegala Water Supply Augmentation (Stage I).
Kurunegala Water Supply Augmentation (Stage II).
Badulla Water Supply.

Miscellaneous.

Colombo Airport.
Improvements to Mannar Water Supply.

Augmentation, Mannar Water Supply.
Water Supply to Government Quarters, Vavuniya.
Karaiyur Reclamation Scheme.
Motor Boat Service between Jaffna Peninsula and Delft.
Ferry boat for Jaffna District.
Improvements to Boat Channel, Jaffna lake.
Improvements to Chilaw Water Supply.
Improvements to Batticaloa Water Supply.
Improvements to Diyatalawa Water Supply.

IRRIGATION.

Early History.—From the earliest period in the history of the Island, the importance of conserving water for irrigation has been recognized. Historical records indicate that the construction of the necessary tanks and channels came to be regarded as a special and solemn duty assigned to the King for promoting the wealth and welfare of his subjects, and that in proportion to the zeal with which different monarchs had exercised this prerogative their names were venerated. The remains of extensive and intricate networks of tanks and canals can be found to-day in every part of the Island. Though it is unlikely that all these various irrigation systems ever existed simultaneously in full working order, it is clear that the ancient engineers realized the principles of conserving on a very large scale the intermittent supplies carried by the main rivers, and with the advantage of an unlimited command of labour and an intimate knowledge of their terrain, though handicapped by the primitive nature of their technique and appliances, they made valiant and often successful efforts to apply them.

Decay and Subsequent Growth.—Indigenous irrigation activity and agricultural prosperity seem to have reached their zenith about the twelfth century A.D. From then onwards to the modern era Ceylon was not infrequently ravaged by internal warfare and pestilence. No large irrigation work was constructed in this period, and, until the advent of the Dutch and subsequently of the British, the works already built were allowed to fall into disuse and disrepair. There is probably no form of civil engineering work that demands more constant and unremitting attention to its maintenance than that connected with the control of water, and it is not difficult to appreciate that without such attention the once great irrigation works very rapidly succumbed to the onset of floods and the ceaseless inroads of the jungle. In modern times many of the old irrigation works have been restored to active usefulness. There are yet others embedded in the jungle which await restoration as and when occasion arises.

Importance of Irrigation.—The importance of irrigation in Ceylon is due to two causes, one dietetic and the other climatic. Rice is the staple food of the people and its cultivation, though not always remunerative, has, through secular and religious encouragement, acquired a definite social status as the national agricultural industry. Rice practically grows in water, and although the rainfall in the Island is generally adequate in total amount, its seasonal incidence is uncertain. Rice cultivation cannot succeed if it depends solely on the vagaries of such rainfall, and the construction and maintenance of artificial means of diverting and conserving water are manifestly essential.

Classification of Irrigation Works.—The total area under paddy in Ceylon to-day is approximately 810,426 acres, which may be divided into four main categories according to the system or irrigation practised in each :—

		Approximate Area. Acres.
I.	Major works	170,426
II.	Minor works : Village tanks	200,000
III.	Do. Village channels	170,000
	Total under artificial irrigation ..	540,426
IV.	Direct rainfall	270,000
		810,426

The owners of land under major works are required to contribute, by an assessed annual rate, towards the cost of construction and maintenance of the works. The " construction rate " is generally a very small percentage of the capital cost of the work and the " maintenance rate " not infrequently produces considerably less revenue than the actual expenditure incurred by Government on the maintenance of the work.

Minor works, both tanks and channels, are maintained by the villagers themselves under the general supervision of Government officials and with the tangible and often considerable assistance of Government. The fourth category covers lands that, being situated in localities of evenly distributed rainfall, are able with reasonable chances of success to dispense with artificial irrigation. The trouble on these lands is often the super-abundance of water rather than its deficiency, and drainage rather than irrigation their particular need.

Progressive Development of Activities.—When the Irrigation Department was created in 1900 it was assigned the engineering duties of operating and maintaining those major works which had already been restored in whole or part, and of restoring a selection of old abandoned works under which the prospects of development appeared to be favourable. The administrative side of these works and the general responsibility for all minor irrigation works remained the function of the revenue officers, with such advice and assistance as they required from the Irrigation Department. Under this regime steady progress was made with the extension and improvement of irrigation service under major works, and latterly the engineering resources of the department have been applied in a rapidly increasing degree to the improvement of minor irrigation tanks and channels on modern scientific lines. Another development of the department's functions, which is rapidly acquiring considerable importance, is the construction of schemes for preventing or abating floods, for improvement of drainage conditions on irrigable lands, and for exclusion of sea-water therefrom. With this development the department has become directly interested in all the four categories of irrigation in Ceylon and the scope of its service has correspondingly widened.

Irrigation Works.—Under the present Constitution the department is under the general control of the Executive Committee of Agriculture and Lands, and a progressive policy of active development is being pursued.

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WARRIOR.

The summarized expenditure under the different services during 1937–38 is as follows :—

	Rs.	c.
Personal Emoluments	754,105	31
Other Charges (surveys, tools, transport, &c.) . ..	388,322	66
Maintenance—		
Major works	289,756	6
Village works	24,628	7
Roads	56,784	95
Construction—		
Major works	871,598	18
Village works	264,412	24
Department of Fisheries : Fresh water fish culture	1,533	14
Department of Agriculture : Acquisition and drainage of Beminiyanwila	868	20
Surveys done by the Survey Department for the Irrigation Department	125,367	4
	2,777,375	85

New Development Schemes.—As the last item in the foregoing summary suggests, the foundations are being laid for a much more extensive expansion of future irrigation policy. The engineering surveys of all large irrigation projects are now carried out by the Survey Department on lines specified by the Irrigation Department. The latter is thus provided with excellent plans, topographical, contour and detailed, on which the whole of the scheme in all its detail can be laid down in advance, and the costly errors that have sometimes been made with other large projects, started without adequate data, are effectively prevented. In addition to the engineering surveys, a survey is also carried out by the Agricultural Department to investigate the nature of the soils covered by the scheme, and to make a preliminary classification of the constituent areas according to their suitablilty for paddy or other crops.

In the loan recently floated the sum of Rs. 15 million is included for irrigation works, and already schemes of an aggregate estimated cost of about half this sum are approaching the construction stage.

Modernization of Construction.—In order to expedite the completion of these new schemes to a stage at which their benefits to agricultural development can be utilized serious consideration is being given to the questior of using modern power-driven plant on a large scale. The department has recently purchased three Diesel-driven Excavators and a Diesel Tractor (Caterpillar) and Grader and these machines are being tried out on various works. The results to date are sufficiently satisfactory to justify further and more extensive trial, and in addition to the use of these machines on purely engineering construction it is probable that their economic suitability for the operations of clearing and asweddumizing jungle land will be tried out under actual working conditions.

Research and Training.—The Research Laboratory has been built and its practical value has been put to very satisfactory tests.

Scope of Future Developments.—Ceylon is essentially an agricultural country, and as such has been well endowed by nature with all material factors for the creation of a prosperous industry. These factors need proper development, however, and none of them more so than those connected with the control and conservation of the Island's lavish resources in water. Apart from the ultimate object of producing the staple food of the country in sufficient quantity to meet her own consumption, a forward policy in irrigation development will restore the paddy industry to its traditional prestige and natural importance, and enable the resettlement of a happy and contented peasantry on the land.

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CHAPTER XIII.

Justice and Police.

The Judicial System of Ceylon.

Supreme Court.—The Supreme Court consists of a Chief Justice and eight Puisne Judges. It has appellate and revisional jurisdiction in civil cases from all courts except Village Tribunals. It exercises no original jurisdiction in civil cases. Under Ordinance No. 2 of 1891 it is a Colonial Court of Admiralty.

The Supreme Court has original jurisdiction in all criminal cases and exclusive jurisdiction in respect of the more serious offences, such as homicide, rape, and the graver types of housebreaking and robbery. In practice it seldom tries cases which do not fall within its exclusive jurisdiction. It usually sits with a jury and tries cases committed for trial by a Police Court. It exercises appellate and revisional jurisdiction over all criminal courts except Village Tribunals. The Supreme Court may pass any sentence authorized by law. It has also the power to issue writs of *habeas corpus, mandamus, quo warranto, &c.*, and also to disenrol Advocates and Proctors who are found guilty of deceits, crimes or malpractices. Special jurisdiction is conferred on the Supreme Court to hear election petitions.

District Courts.—The District Courts, of which there are at present 21 in the Island, have unlimited original civil (including testamentary and matrimonial) jurisdiction and criminal jurisdiction in respect of all offences which are not within the exclusive jurisdiction of the Supreme Court. District Courts try only cases committed to them for trial by Police Courts*. District Courts may pass any of the following sentences :—

(*a*) Imprisonment of either description for a term not exceeding two years ;
(*b*) Fine not exceeding one thousand rupees ;
(*c*) Whipping ;
(*d*) Any lawful sentence combining any two of the sentences aforesaid.

When a person is convicted at one trial of any two or more distinct offences the aggregate punishment it can award is twice the punishment mentioned above.

Under sections 3 and 4 of Ordinance No. 2 of 1891 the Governor has power to appoint a District Court to have a limited Admiralty jurisdiction. The District Court of Colombo alone has been appointed to exercise such jurisdiction.

Police Courts.—There are 30 Police Courts and 3 Municipal Courts in the Island. The offences which a Police Court may try are specified in the schedule to the Crininal Procedure Code, 1898. Various Ordinances have also made other offences triable by a Police Court. A Police Court may not pass a sentence heavier than the following, except where an Ordinance has specially empowered it so to do :—

(*a*) Imprisonment of either description for a term not exceeding six months ;

* Under section 152 of the Criminal Procedure Code, a Police Magistrate who is also a District Judge may, in the course of an inquiry into an offence which is triable by a District Court, proceed to try such offence summarily when he is of opinion that it can properly be so tried. In such a case there is no previous committal.

(*b*) Fine not exceeding one hundred rupees ;
(*c*) Whipping, if the offender is under 16 years of age ;
(*d*) Any lawful sentence combining any two of the sentences aforesaid.

When a person is convicted at one trial of any two or more distinct offences the aggregate punishment it can award is twice the punishment mentioned above.

Police Courts also hold preliminary inquiries into crimes with a view to committal for trial by a District Court or the Supreme Court. If after inquiry a Police Magistrate is of opinion that an accused should be discharged he makes order to this effect. Where a Magistrate is of opinion that an accused should be committed for trial to a court of competent jurisdiction, the record of the proceedings at the inquiry is forwarded to the Attorney-General, who directs the Police Magistrate to commit the accused or to discharge him.

A special jurisdiction is conferred on Police Courts to make orders for the maintenance of wives and children.

Courts of Requests.—Courts of Requests have original civil jurisdiction (subject to certain exceptions) in all actions in which the debt, damage, or demand or value of the land in dispute does not exceed Rs. 300.

There are 30 Courts of Requests in the Island, of which one (the Colombo Court) is presided over by a separate Commissioner. All the others are presided over by a District Judge or a Police Magistrate who acts as Commissioner of Requests in addition to his duties as District Judge or Police Magistrate.

Village Tribunals.—Village Tribunals have civil jurisdiction in actions in which the debt, damage, or demand or the value of the land in dispute does not exceed Rs. 20, or, where both parties consent, Rs. 100, and in cases between a Co-operative Society and its members. Village Tribunals have criminal jurisdiction to try breaches of rules made by the inhabitants of the subdivision or the Village Committee under section 29 of Ordinance No. 9 of 1924, and various minor offences enumerated in the schedule to Ordinance No. 9 of 1924. A Village Tribunal may impose a fine not exceeding Rs. 20 or 14 days' imprisonment in default of payment.

A Village Tribunal is presided over by a paid President appointed by the Governor. He sits with three councillors chosen by lot. In the case of a difference of opinion between the President and the councillors, the opinion of the President prevails (section 50 of Ordinance No. 9 of 1924).

There are 220 Village Tribunals in the Island, namely, 24 in the Western Province, 36 in the Central, 50 in the Southern, 6 in the Northern, 22 in the Eastern, 21 in the North-Western, 15 in the North-Central, 17 in the Uva, and 29 in the Province of Sabaragamuwa.

Village Committees.—Village Committees in subdivisions, where no Village Tribunal has been established, have power to try breaches of rules made by the inhabitants of the subdivision or the Village Committee under section 29 of Ordinance No. 9 of 1924, and have the same power of punishment as Village Tribunals.

There are 49 Village Committees exercising this jurisdiction in the Island, namely, 48 in the Northern Province and 1 in the North-Western Province.

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The following schedule gives detailed information as regards the number of Courts, the number of Judges, Magistrates, &c. :—

Number of Courts, Judges, &c.

Court.	Number of Courts.	Number of Judges.	Remarks.
Supreme Court	1	9	One Chief Justice and eight Puisne Judges
District Court	21	28	There are four judges for the District Court of Colombo and two each for those of Kandy, Galle, and Jaffna. There is one judge for the District Courts of Chilaw and Puttalam, one for those of Nuwara Eliya and Hatton, and one for those of Mullaittivu and Vavuniya. Eleven of these officers are Police Magistrates and Commissioners of Requests in addition to their duties as District Judges. Two are supernumerary judges
Police Court	30	20	There are three Magistrates sitting at Colombo. The following groups of Courts have one Magistrate each :— Badulla, Bandarawela ; Matale, Panwila, Teldeniya ; Nuwara Eliya, Hatton ; Jaffna, Kayts, Mallakam : Point Pedro, Chavakachcheri ; Batticaloa, Kalmunai ; Mullaittivu, Vavuniya
Village Tribunal	220	59	—
Village Committee	63	—	—

POLICE.

The Police Force of Ceylon was established and is regulated under Ordinance No. 16 of 1865, as amended by the subsequent Ordinances.

Before the Police Force was constituted the duties of the Police were attended to by the Headmen. Regular Police have been gradually introduced into most parts of Ceylon since 1865. In the rural areas of the Provinces the Headmen play an important part in the detection and investigation of grave crime and it is essential that they should receive elementary instruction in detective methods. Classes of instruction were arranged in all parts of the Provinces during 1938, and the knowledge thus gained should be of the greatest value in meeting the increase in crime with which the Police have to deal.

The sanctioned strength of the Force is 1 Inspector-General, 2 Deputy Inspectors-General, 41 Superintendents, Assistant Superintendents, and Probationers, 239 Chief Inspectors, Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors (including the Port Police), 2 Sergeant Majors, 381 Sergeants, and 2,620 Constables.

General.—The following is a statement of crime for the last 5 years :—

	1938.	1937.	1936.	1935.	1934.
Total	16,854	14,673	14,287	12,957	12,730
True	10,858	9,639	9,400	8,505	8,405
Convictions	3,665	3,169	3,381	3,028	3,163
	34%	33%	36%	36%	38%
Pending	2,499	1,751	1,896	1,701	1,397

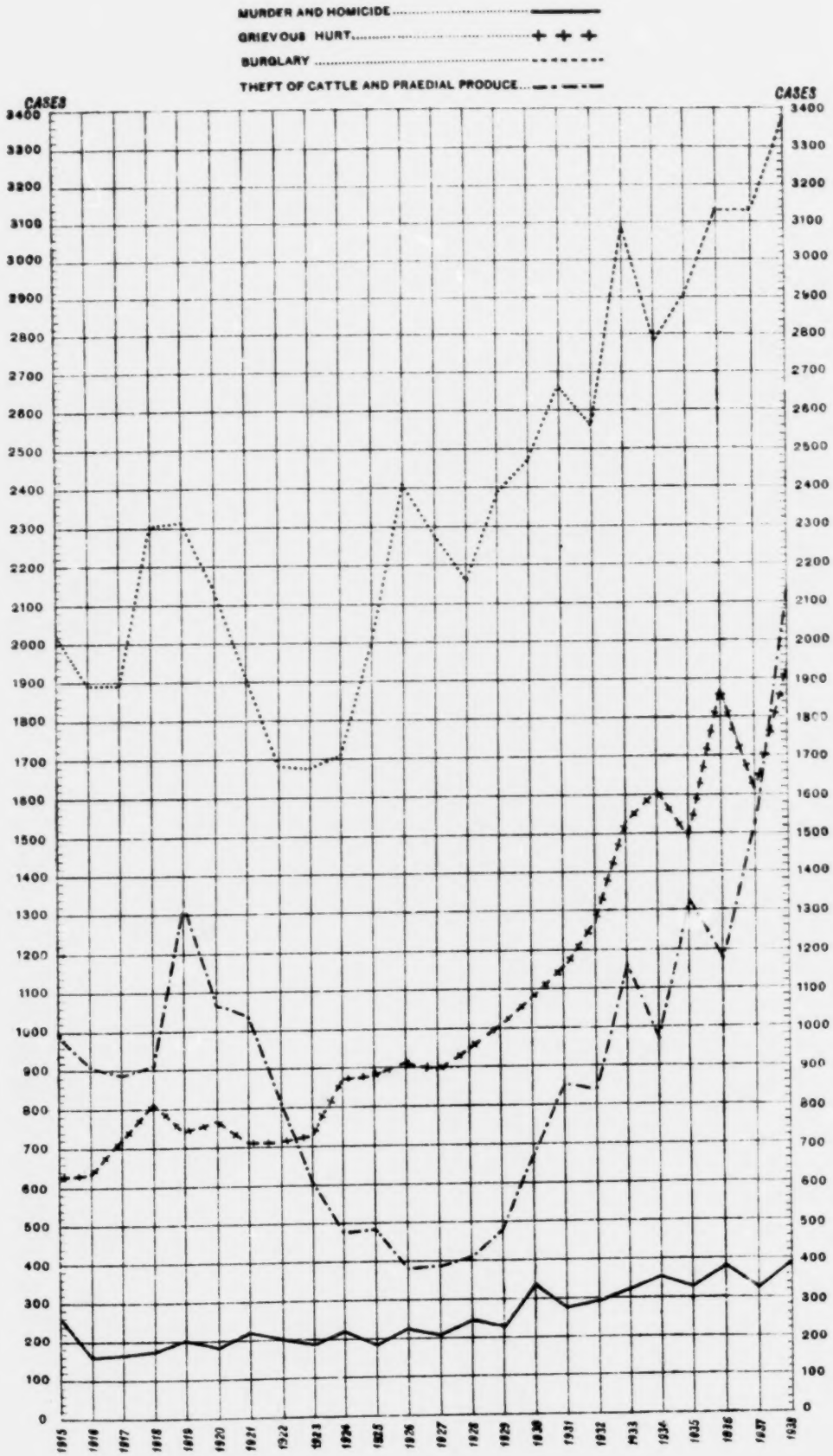
The following is an analysis of the main heads of crime for the last 5 years :—

	1938.	1937.	1936.	1935.	1934.
Homicide	390	326	379	330	352
Attempted homicide	218	200	228	175	141
Grievous hurt	1,933	1,618	1,869	1,486	1,612
Hurt with dangerous weapons	2,807	2,480	2,575	2,167	2,233
Burglary	3,376	3,136	3,137	2,910	2,777
Cattle theft	2,136	1,537	1,173	1,328	968
Robbery	1,418	1,219	1,239	1,092	1,134
Theft over Rs. 20	2,694	2,525	2,305	2,304	2,246
Bicycle theft	769	611	470	354	311
Other offences	1,113	1,021	912	811	856

Note.—The item " Theft of Cattle and Praedial Produce " in Diagram No. 10 represents " Cattle Theft " only from 1933 to 1938.

DIAGRAM No. 10

CRIME IN CEYLON 1915-1938



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Since 1937 thefts of cycles under Rs. 20 in value and unnatural offences were classified by the Police as crime.

The figures for 1937 and 1938 have been taken from the Police Grave Crime Abstracts which show the actual number of offences committed during the year. In previous years the figures quoted were taken from A. B. C. Returns furnished by the Magistrates and represented the *disposal* of true cases only.

There was an increase in crime, principally in the Eastern, North-Central, Sabaragamuwa, and the Southern Provinces. A considerable rise in cattle theft was caused by the repeal of the Cattle Branding and Voucher Ordinance in 1936.

Control of Motor Traffic.—There were 32,432 prosecutions under the Motor Ordinance. 778 were for reckless or negligent driving, 22 for driving a car when intoxicated, and 82 for failing to report an accident in which injury to a person was caused. In addition 60 cases for causing death, and 87 for causing injury by a rash and negligent act were instituted under the Penal Code.

One hundred and thirteen licences were cancelled or suspended.

3,558 accidents caused by motor vehicles were reported to the Police and 142 persons (of whom 91 were pedestrians) were killed as a result of injuries received in motor accidents.

In the majority of accident cases there is no compensation for the injured party where no offence can be proved or where the offender is acquitted in court. Compulsory third party insurance is essential and this is being provided for in the new Motor Ordinance that comes into effect in 1939.

24,138 prosecutions were entered against omnibuses, a type of vehicle which was responsible for 690 of the accidents reported.

The following are some relevant figures :—

Year.	Motor Vehicles on the Road.	Number of Prosecutions for exceeding Speed Limit.	Number of Prosecutions for Reckless or Careless Driving.	Fatal Accidents.
1933	23,359	394	343	92
1934	25,010	402	449	122
1935	27,052	597	619	129
1936	26,571	619	671	147
1937	30,223	649	739	154
1938	31,231	1,197	778	142

The control of motor omnibus traffic still necessitates the closest attention of the Police in order to check lawlessness on the high roads occasioned by omnibus company rivalry. But with the introduction of the new Motor Ordinance in 1939, the chances of this rivalry will be lessened by the existence of a central licensing authority that will have the power to assign routes and restrict licensing of vehicles according to the needs of the public.

Control of Bullock Cart and other Traffic.—Thirty-five persons were killed in street accidents in which vehicles other than motor vehicles were involved and 10,826 prosecutions were entered against drivers and owners of such vehicles. Action has been taken in Colombo to compel cyclists to keep to the side of the road, while in most towns pedestrians are from time to time reminded to use the pavements and where there are no pavements to keep to the right.

Cinematograph Films.—Films imported into Ceylon have previously been examined by the British Board of Film Censors in London and by the Censors in India. Lists of films passed, excised, or prohibited in England or in India are received monthly and private views, prior to public examination, are held where necessary by the Mayor of Colombo, who is the Censor for Colombo City, assisted by representative bodies.

The same system applies to outstations, copies of the lists being forwarded to local Censors. The system works well, and the managers of the various theatres readily co-operate with the authorities.

Maintenance of Order in the Streets.—In Colombo there were 13,201 prosecutions for offences against the Municipal and Statutory Laws. This figure includes 8,454 prosecutions against motorists. Later in the year a courtesy campaign was adopted and 400 motorists were warned for minor technical offences.

Gangs of traffickers in opium and ganja still give trouble, and boys are employed in large numbers for the sale and distribution of these prohibited drugs.

The molesting of passengers in the Fort and Pettah areas by shop touts and hawkers continues to bring undesirable notoriety to Colombo. The only remedy lies in the strengthening of the law, and it is hoped that this will be accomplished in 1939.

Criminal Investigation Department.

The Central Bureau established in 1930 to deal with forged notes and counterfeit coins dealt with 77 cases of forging, uttering, or possessing forged currency notes, as compared with 87 cases in 1937, and 120 in 1936. There were 58 cases of counterfeiting, uttering, and possessing counterfeit coins.

Immigrants.—90,690 persons entered and 114,924 left Ceylon *via* Talaimannar, compared with 101,910 arrivals and 111,250 departures by this route in 1937. Four absconders attempting to leave Ceylon were intercepted and arrested.

58,216 persons arrived from Tuticorin and 45,668 left Ceylon by this route, compared with 60,016 arrivals and 43,625 departures in 1937.

Colombo Airport.—With the official opening of the Airport at Ratmalana in February the duties of the Police in examining passports and dealing with destitute immigrants were extended to cover the arrival and departure of all aeroplanes. Two hundred and twenty-eight planes arrived and two hundred and twenty-seven departed during the year.

Air Raid Precautions.—In the latter part of the year 16 lectures were given on air raid precaution services by Officers of the Royal Army Ordnance Corps. Twenty-one selected officers, Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors from Colombo and the Western Province attended. Of these, 18 passed an examination on the subject and are being utilized for the further instruction of Police.

PRISONS.

Number of Admissions.—The total number of admissions on conviction during 1938 was 16,996 (16,546 males and 450 females). Of this number, 1,043 were admitted on conviction from the Supreme and District Courts. 147 were convicted of murder and culpable homicide not amounting to murder.

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SALTERNS AT HAMBANTOTA.

Number sentenced to death and executed.—The number of male persons sentenced to death during the year was 44, of whom 27 were executed and 1 was pardoned and released by order of the Governor. Of these 27, 2 were executed in January, 1939.

Daily average population.—The daily average population (both convicted and unconvicted prisoners) of the prisons was 4,057·17 (3,985·87 males and 71·30 females).

Reconvicted prisoners.—The number of reconvicted prisoners admitted was 6,389 (37·53 per cent. of the total admissions). Of this number 1,878 were reconvicted criminals within the meaning of Ordinance No. 2 of 1926 as amended by Ordinance No. 27 of 1928.

Preventive detention.—No prisoners were sentenced to preventive detention by courts during the year. The daily average of prisoners undergoing preventive detention was 24·49.

Number in default of payment of fines.—The number of admissions for non-payment of fines was 11,993. In 10,108 of these cases the offences were either statutory or made punishable by Village Tribunal rules.

No statistics are available as to the number of cases in which time was given for the payment of fines or for payment by instalments.

Young Offenders.

(*a*) *Young first offenders.*—The number of admissions of young first offenders of the age of 16–21 was 1,427, of which number 984 were for non-payment of fines and 698 for statutory or Village Tribunal offences.

(*b*) *Young reconvicted offenders.*—The number of admissions of young reconvicted offenders was 664, of which number 454 were for non-payment of fines and 392 for statutory or Village Tribunal offences.

Religion and race.—The following table gives the nationality and religion of all convicted persons received into the prisons during the year 1938 :—

Table showing Nationality and Religion of all Convicted Persons received into Prisons during the Year 1938.

Nationality.									Religion.						
Resident Europeans.	Non-Resident Europeans.	Burghers.	Sinhalese.	Tamils.	Moors.	Malays.	Others.	Total.	Protestants.	Roman Catholics.	Buddhists.	Hindus.	Muslims.	Others.	Total.
—	5	46	12,487	2,702	1,485	87	184	16,996	31	1,273	11,689	2,426	1,475	102	16,996

Prison punishments.—The number of punishments imposed during the year on prisoners for offences against prison discipline was 3,601 as against 2,484 in 1937, the number of individuals punished being 2,336. In most cases the offences were of a trivial nature. Three prisoners were sentenced to undergo corporal punishment during the year 1938, as against 9 in the previous year. There were three escapes during the year, but all of them were recaptured.

7——J. N. 83918 (5/39)

The Prisons Ordinance, No. 16 of 1877, placed all the prisons in Ceylon under the control of the Inspector-General of Prisons. Ceylon therefore enjoys the advantages of a unified prison system which renders possible classification by institutions in addition to subclassification in institutions.

The principle upon which this classification proceeds is the separation of the different types of offenders—especially the separation of the young offender from the adult, the first offender from the "habitual", the convicted from the unconvicted, males from females, &c. To each type of offender appropriate methods of treatment and training are applied.

The different prisons are utilized as follows :—

Welikada (*Colombo*), for the detention and training of the following classes :—

(i.) Adult first offenders with sentences of two years and over ;
(ii.) All "Star" class, *i.e.*, European or educated Ceylonese first offenders ;
(iii.) Young prisoners of the age of 16–21 (both inclusive) irrespective of length of sentence ;
(iv.) Female prisoners other than those sentenced to short terms in outstations who are detained in the local prisons.

Hulftsdorp (*Colombo*), for all local convictions from the courts of the Colombo District who are sentenced to short terms of one month and under.

Mahara is set apart for adult reconvicted prisoners with sentences of over two years in one section, and for all adult first offenders with short sentences ranging from over one month up to and including six months in a separate section. Selected prisoners from among the reconvicted prisoners are especially classified in the Special Class B in which they serve a probationary period of six months prior to transfer to Kandy prison for industrial and other forms of special training in the Special Class A. Prisoners are also transferred to Mahara prison occasionally from other prisons for misconduct.

Bogambara (Kandy) is set apart for the following :—

(i.) First offenders convicted by local courts and sentenced to one month's imprisonment or less ;
(ii.) All first offenders with sentences of over one year and up to but not including two years ;
(iii.) Special Class "A", *i.e.*, selected reconvicted prisoners from Mahara with sentences of over two years ;
(iv.) Prisoners undergoing sentences of preventive detention.

Jaffna is set apart for the following :—

(i.) Persons sentenced by the local courts to imprisonment for one month or under ;
(ii.) Short term reconvicted offenders with sentences of over one month and up to and including two years ;
(iii.) Prisoners transferred from other prisons for misconduct under monthly report.

The special gang is also located at Jaffna. The special gang is intended for prisoners guilty of continued bad or violent conduct. These prisoners are kept strictly apart from the other inmates.

Anuradhapura is set apart for the following :—

(i.) Locally convicted short term prisoners who are sentenced to one month and under.

(ii.) First offenders with sentences of over six months and up to one year.

Negombo, Galle, Badulla, and Batticaloa.—The prisons at Negombo, Galle, Badulla, and Batticaloa are used for the detention of short term locally convicted prisoners, and prisoners on remand. A few long term prisoners are also located in these prisons for employment on domestic services or for special reasons.

Remand prisons.—There are separate prisons for remand prisoners and persons awaiting trial, civil debtors, &c., only in Colombo (adjoining Welikada Prison) and in Kandy. At other Stations the ordinary prisons for convicted prisoners are also used for the location of these types in separate blocks or wards.

Methods of Treatment of Different Types of Offenders.

A. *Young first offenders.*—All young offenders of the age of 16-21 inclusive with sentences of over one month are detained at Welikada in separate wards. Rover Scout principles are utilized for their training and regular camps are held. The Welikada Prison Rover Troop is the first officially recognized prison troop in the world. Educational classes, industrial and vocational training, First Aid instruction, Boxing, Gymnastics, Drill, and games form a part of the regular curriculum, in addition to the various Scout activities.

B. *Long term first offenders.*—The progressive stage system—a feature of the English prison system—has been adapted to suit local conditions and is largely used in connection with the training of these offenders. According to this system prisoners fall into different classes. Every prisoner sentenced to imprisonment immediately enters and remains in what is called the penal stage for one month. He then enters and remains in Class IV., when he becomes eligible to earn remission, for eleven months. Conditional upon good conduct and industry he is promoted to Class III. where he remains for one year and then on the same conditions to Class II. At the end of one year if his conduct is satisfactory he is promoted to Class I. Promotion from class to class carries with it a graduated scale of privileges and on entry into Class II., gratuity and good conduct badges can be earned. Prisoners who show special skill and aptitude in the various trades are appointed Instructors (Grades I. and II.) who are accorded enhanced rates of pay and privileges.

Another feature in the training of these long term first offenders is the placing of responsibility on individual prisoners. Long term first offenders in Class I. of exemplary conduct are selected for appointment as Disciplinary Prison Orderlies. Their duties consist in assisting the regular prison officers ; they are left in charge of small parties inside the prison and act as escorts within prison walls, &c.

A further experiment is the formation of Leagues on the lines of the Mutual Welfare Leagues in the New York Prisons. There are two such Leagues—one for the Disciplinary Prison Orderlies and the other for prisoners who have earned good conduct badges. Inmate responsibility, managing their own affairs within limits and training in the ideals of good citizenship are the salient features of these Leagues.

All long term first offenders are employed and trained in one or more of the many trades and handicrafts taught in Welikada Prison. On reaching certain grades of the stage classification they earn money part of which may be spent in the purchase of books and extras to the diets or sent to their families and part of which is accumulated and paid on discharge.

C. *Reconvicted prisoners.*—For the training of selected types of reconvicted prisoners there are two classes in Mahara and Bogambara Prisons. Specially selected reconvicted prisoners with sentences of two years and over constitute Class B. These prisoners while at work are kept separate from the others. Evening classes are held for them and they are supplied with books from the prison library. They are also given the privilege of playing games, &c. After a probationary training for six months in this class all who prove satisfactory are transferred to Kandy where they form Special Class " A ". Prisoners in Special Class " A " are treated like first offenders in all matters relating to pay, industrial training, privileges, &c.

Labour.—All labour of a purely mechanical and unprofitable nature has been abolished. Prisoners are mostly employed on public works, the domestic services of the prisons, and on industrial undertakings. At Mahara the principal work is the quarrying of stone and stone breaking. In Jaffna the work consists of the reclamation of the lagoon. Welikada and Bogambara Prisons are highly industrialized. The following industries are carried on :—carpentry, tailoring, brush-making, rattan, fibre, shoemaking, blacksmiths' work, tin smiths' work, spinning and weaving, soap making, and printing. At Welikada there is in addition an up to date steam laundry which washes the linen of all the hospitals, railway, asylum, &c. The output value of prison industrial undertakings for the year 1937–38 was Rs. 270,352·75 as against Rs. 248,785·44 during the previous year.

Education.—For young offenders, that is, those of 22 and under, vernacular education is compulsory. At Welikada, Bogambara, and Mahara prisons evening classes, conducted by volunteer social workers, have been organized for the benefit of both young offenders and adult offenders. These classes are held in English and in the vernacular. Commercial classes in typewriting, shorthand, &c., are also held in Welikada prison for the benefit of Star Class prisoners.

Recreation.—Well conducted prisoners, particularly young offenders, Star Class prisoners, first offenders, preventive detention prisoners and prisoners in the Special Classes A & B who have reached and advanced stage in their training are allowed to take part in games both indoor and outdoor. Boxing, gymnastics, and volley ball are popular games.

Religious instruction.—There are no prison Chaplains in Ceylon but representatives of all creeds and denominations are allowed to visit the prisons, hold services, and give religious instruction. Services are held every Sunday and all prisoners are encouraged to attend the services of their particular denomination.

Preventive detention.—There is no separate prison for prisoners undergoing preventive detention. These prisoners are located in a portion of Bogambara prison specially set apart for them. But the conditions of an ordinary rigorous imprisonment prison afford little scope for the special course of training contemplated by the system of preventive detention, and the reorganization of the system is under consideration.

After care.—An unofficial organization known as the Ceylon Discharged Prisoners' Aid Association, with sub-committees in Colombo and Kandy works in conjunction with the prison authorities and is the agency through which aid is given to discharged prisoners. Owing to lack of funds and public support the scope and activities of the Association are very restricted.

Remission and Review of Sentences.—All criminal prisoners sentenced to rigorous or simple imprisonment (except under Chapter 7 of the Criminal Procedure Code) become eligible to earn a remission of sentence, which is conditional on good conduct and industry and which is based on the mark system, on completion of the first month (30 days) of their sentences. The maximum remission of sentence that a prisoner can earn in the case of a male prisoner, one-fourth of the period of imprisonment during which he is allowed to earn marks and, in the case of a female prisoner, one-third of such period. Under rule 40 of the statutory rules also the case of every prisoner is reviewed by the Governor on completion of 4, 8, 12, 15, and 20 years respectively of the term of imprisonment and a number of premature releases are made every year.

Health of prisoners.—Whole-time resident Medical Officers are provided for the three Colombo prisons and for Mahara prison. The Medical Officers attached to all the other prisons are not whole-time officers but have other outside duties to perform as well.

At Welikada there is an up to date prison hospital intended to serve the three Colombo prisons, with accommodation for 120 beds for general cases and 60 beds for infectious diseases.

In the female section of the Welikada prison there is a ward with 7 beds for general cases.

At Bogambara there is a hospital consisting of 5 wards.

In all other prisons a separate ward is utilized as a hospital.

All cases which need operative treatment or special nursing are transferred to the ordinary civil hospitals for treatment.

The total number of deaths of prisoners (both convicted and unconvicted) admitted to prison was 81 in 1938, as against 59 in 1937. These deaths include prisoners who died in the prisons and prison hospitals as well as in civil hospitals and other medical institutions, but are exclusive of judicial executions. They also include two cases of suicide and two cases of homicide respectively.

CHAPTER XIV.

Legislation.

THE following are the important Ordinances passed in the year 1938:—

The Estate Duty Ordinance, No. 1 of 1938.—This Ordinance makes provision for the re-imposition and collection of estate duty in Ceylon and gives effect to the decision of the State Council that steps should be taken for the restoration of the levy of death duties which were discontinued as a result of the enactment of the Abolition of Estate Duty Ordinance, No. 51 of 1935.

It has been found necessary to retain those essential provisions of the old Estate Duty Ordinance, No. 8 of 1919, which were derived from the corresponding sections of the relevant Finance Acts of the Imperial

Parliament ; but the basis of the levy of duty has been entirely changed in the Ordinance and the opportunity has been taken to introduce new procedure for the assessment, payment and collection of estate duty.

Estate duty will be levied on the value of the "Ceylon estate" of a deceased person, but the graduated rate per cent. at which such duty is payable will be ascertained by reference to the value of the "total estate" of the deceased, wherever situate, whether outside or within Ceylon. No estate duty will be payable unless the value of the total estate exceeds Rs. 20,000.

The Manufacture of Matches (Regulation) Ordinance, No. 9 of 1938.—This Ordinance makes provision for the regulation and control of the manufacture and sale of matches in Ceylon. No person is to be allowed to manufacture matches, splints, veneers or boxes or to import splints, veneers or boxes except under a licence issued by the Director of Commerce and Industries. The Ordinance also provides for a system of quotas to control the manufacture of matches.

The Savings Certificates Ordinance, No. 11 of 1938.—This Ordinance repeals the Post Office Cash Certificates Ordinance, 1929, and the Post Office Cash Certificates (Amendment) Ordinance, 1932, and makes provision for the issue of Ceylon Savings Certificates similar to the National Savings Certificates issued in Great Britain under the powers conferred by section 59 of the Finance Act (10 and 11 Geo. V. c. 18).

The Tea Control Ordinance, No. 12 of 1938.—This Ordinance provides for the continuance of a system of Tea Control for a further period of five years from April 1, 1938, in accordance with the Agreement entered into between the International Tea Committee and the Associations representing the tea producers of India, the Netherlands East Indies and Ceylon. The Ordinance, which came into force on April 1, 1938, reproduces the main features of the Tea (Control of Export) Ordinance, No. 11 of 1933. An important addition is the provision whereby a system of control of production of tea may be introduced, if it appears at any time that the amount of made tea produced in Ceylon is greatly in excess of the amount which Ceylon is entitled to export together with its requirements for local consumption. Any system of control of production will be introduced by regulations which will have to be approved by the State Council and ratified by the Governor.

The Criminal Procedure Code (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 13 of 1938.—This Ordinance amends the Criminal Procedure Code, 1898, so as to vest in Magistrates a greater degree of responsibility than they had with regard to the committal to the higher courts of cases which they have not the power to dispose of summarily. The opportunity has also been taken to give effect to the suggestion made by the Secretary of State for the Colonies that the Ceylon law on the subject of sentences of death on expectant mothers should be brought into line with the English law. Numerous other amendments which experience has shown to be necessary or expedient are also made by this Ordinance.

The Foreign-going Aircraft (Exemption from Customs Duty) Ordinance, No. 18 of 1938.—This Ordinance exempts from customs duty certain articles required for the use of aircraft on voyages to or from Ceylon. The only articles at present exempted are fuel and lubricants but other articles may be exempted by a resolution of the State Council which will require ratification by the Governor.

Photo by Werner Conitz. *Courtesy Govt. Tourist Bureau.*

"BUFFALO EARNS HIS KEEP."

The Court of Criminal Appeal Ordinance, No. 23 of 1938.—This Ordinance makes provision for the establishment of a Court of Criminal Appeal in Ceylon.

The Venereal Disease Ordinance, No. 27 of 1938.—The object of this Ordinance, which is modelled on the provisions of the Venereal Disease Act, 1917 (7 and 8 Geo. V. c. 21), is to prevent the treatment of venereal disease by persons other than registered medical practitioners and specially authorized practitioners of indigenous medicine.

The Rubber (New-planting) Ordinance, No. 38 of 1938.—This Ordinance provides for the allocation and distribution of the rights to plant new areas in rubber under the new International Agreement relating to rubber control.

The Kandyan Law Declaration and Amendment Ordinance, No. 39 of 1938.—The object of this Ordinance is to declare and amend the Kandyan Law in order to give effect to the recommendations made in the Report of the Kandyan Law Commission which was published as Sessional Paper XXIV. of 1935.

The Ceylon Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve (General Service) Ordinance, No. 44 of 1938.—The Naval Volunteer Ordinance, No. 1 of 1937, established a naval volunteer force in Ceylon. By the Ceylon Naval Defence Order, 1937, promulgated by His Majesty in Council on July 29, 1937, approval was given for the establishment in Ceylon of a branch of the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve. The same Order in Council authorized the Admiralty to accept any offer made by the Government of Ceylon to place at His Majesty's disposal for general service in the Royal Navy any vessel of war maintained out of funds provided by Ceylon or by Ceylon in conjunction with some other Colony. This Ordinance, which makes the necessary provision, is to be read and construed as one with the Naval Volunteer Ordinance, No. 1 of 1937.

The Motor Car Ordinance, No. 45 of 1938.—This Ordinance amends and consolidates the law relating to motor traffic in Ceylon. The Ordinance reproduces many of the provisions of the Motor Car Ordinance, 1927, which it replaces, but substantial changes have been made in order to give effect to those of the recommendations, made by the Transport Commission in Sessional Paper No. XII. of 1937, which have been accepted by the State Council. The opportunity has also been taken to remove various difficulties experienced in the administration of the repealed Ordinance, and to clarify certain provisions of that Ordinance which have from time to time been criticized by the Courts.

In Part VIII. provision is made for the first time for compulsory insurance against third-party risks. This part is based largely on the corresponding provisions of the Road Traffic Acts, 1930 and 1934, of the Imperial Parliament, but modifications to suit local conditions have been made on the lines of the Road Traffic (Third-party Insurance) Ordinance, 1938, of the Straits Settlements, and Chapter VIII. of the Motor Vehicles Bill recently introduced in the Indian Legislature.

The Criminal Procedure Code Amendment Ordinance, No. 47 of 1938.—This Ordinance amends the Criminal Procedure Code, 1898, so as to give effect to certain recommendations made in the Report of the Departmental Committee on the Administration of Prisons (Sessional Paper XXVI. of 1936) and to supplement the Payment of Fines (Courts of Summary Jurisdiction) Ordinance, No. 49 of 1938.

The Payment of Fines (Courts of Summary Jurisdiction) Ordinance, No. 49 of 1938.—This Ordinance amends the law with respect to the enforcement of fines imposed by Courts of summary jurisdiction with a view to reducing as far as possible the number of cases in which persons are committed to prison for default in payment of fines. The Ordinance is to a large extent modelled on the Money Payments (Justices Procedure) Act, 1935, and certain provisions of the Criminal Justice Administration Act, 1914, of the Imperial Parliament.

The Companies Ordinance, No. 51 of 1938.—The object of this Ordinance is to provide for a comprehensive law regulating companies. The existing Joint Stock Companies Ordinance, which was enacted as far back as 1861, does not apply to private companies, insurance companies, and banking companies, and is in several respects, unsuitable to modern conditions.

This Ordinance is based almost entirely on the Companies Act, 1929. The only point on which this Ordinance differs substantially from the English Companies Act is in regard to the provisions relating to banks. These provisions were introduced as it was felt that it would be unsafe to allow the formation of banking companies in Ceylon without greater safeguards than exist in England.

The Bank of Ceylon Ordinance, No. 53 of 1938.—This Ordinance provides for the establishment of a State-aided Bank in Ceylon, on the lines suggested by the Committee consisting of Sir John Caulcutt and Mr. R. A. Wilson. The Memorandum and Articles of Association submitted to the Secretary of State for the Colonies by the above-mentioned Committee have, subject to certain minor alterations, been incorporated in the Ordinance.

The Medical (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 55 of 1938.—This Ordinance, which amends the Medical Ordinance, 1927, prohibits the registration of aliens except with the approval of the Governor on the recommendation of the Executive Committee of Health.

The Village Communities Amendment Ordinance, No. 60 of 1938.—This Ordinance repeals sections 3 to 36 of the Village Communities Ordinance, No. 9 of 1924, and inserts new sections 3 to 63 in their place. The new sections are based on the provisions of the Local Government Ordinance, No. 11 of 1920, and are designed as far as possible to assimilate the powers, duties, and functions of Village Committees to those of District Councils. Three new Schedules have been added to the Ordinance.

The Rubber Control Ordinance, No. 63 of 1938.—The Rubber Control Ordinance, No. 6 of 1934, was enacted in order to give effect to an International Agreement which was signed at London on May 7, 1934. The text of that Agreement has since been modified, and the object of this Ordinance is to give effect to the revised Agreement for the regulation of the production and export of rubber.

The essential features of the Rubber Control Ordinance, No. 6 of 1934, have been retained as far as possible. Some of the old provisions have however been redrafted so as to avoid difficulties of administration or interpretation which have arisen from time to time.

This Ordinance is to be construed as one with the Rubber (New-planting) Ordinance, No. 38 of 1938.

The Imperial Lighthouse Service Goods (Rebate of Customs Duty) Ordinance, No. 64 of 1938.—Goods imported by the Imperial Lighthouse Service for the use of the Service are admitted free of customs duty. This Ordinance provides for a rebate of the import duty paid on articles purchased in Ceylon by the Imperial Lighthouse Service for the use of the Service. Provision is made for the re-imposition of duty in respect of any such article if it is subsequently sold in Ceylon.

The Prevention of Crimes Amendment Ordinance, No. 69 of 1938.—Under the Prevention of Crimes Ordinance, No. 2 of 1926, any person who has twice or ottener been convicted of a crime and sentenced to imprisonment for terms aggregating over one year, must, however trivial the crime may be with which he is subsequently charged, be committed for trial before a District Court. The general rule of English law is that the court of trial is determind by the nature of the offence charged and not by the character of the accused. This Ordinance therefore amends the principal Ordinance to secure the same result in Ceylon.

Factory and Labour Legislation.

The Shops Regulation Ordinance, No. 66 of 1938, introduces into Ceylon legislation, based on the principles of the English law, for the regulation of the employment of shop assistants and the control of the opening and closing hours of shops. The provisions of the new law will apply in the case of all premises in which any retail or wholesale trade or business is carried on, including any premises in which the business of a barber or hairdresser or the sale of articles of food and drink is conducted. Bazaars and sales of work for charity, the hawking of newspapers and the business of an undertaker will not be affected. In addition to these exemptions, regulations made by the Executive Committee of Labour, Industry and Commerce may exempt from the provisions of the Ordinance, premises in which any particular trade or business is carried on.

Subsidiary Legislation.

Apart from comprehensive sets of regulations made under the Fauna and Flora Protection Ordinance, No. 2 of 1937, the Manufacture of Matches (Regulation) Ordinance, No. 9 of 1938, the Savings Certificates Ordinance, No. 11 of 1938, the Tea Control Ordinance, No. 12 of 1938, and the Rubber Control Ordinance, No. 63 of 1938, the subsidiary legislation for the year was concerned only with the amendment of existing subsidiary legislation or the introduction of such legislation into new districts or areas.

CHAPTER XV.

Banking, Currency, Weights and Measures.

BANKS.

The following is a list of banks which have branches in Ceylon :—

Name of Bank ..	..	Imperial Bank of India
Address of Head Office	..	Madras
Branch in Ceylon	..	Prince street, Fort, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon	..	—
London Office ..	..	25, Old Broad street, London, E. C. 2

Name of Bank	National Bank of India, Ltd. (Incorporated in the United Kingdom)
Address of Head Office ..	26, Bishopsgate, London, E.C. 2
Branches in Ceylon ..	York street, Fort, Colombo; Ward street, Kandy; and Nuwara Eliya
Agents in Ceylon ..	Clark, Spence & Co., Galle
Bankers in the United Kingdom	The Bank of England; The National Provincial Bank, Ltd.; The National Bank of Scotland, Ltd.

Name of Bank	The Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China
Address of Head Office ..	38, Bishopsgate, London, E.C. 2
Branch in Ceylon ..	Queen street and Baillie street, Fort, Colombo
Bankers in the United Kingdom	The Bank of England; Midland Bank, Ltd.; Westminster Bank, Ltd.; National Provincial, Bank, Ltd.; The National Bank of Scotland, Ltd.; Lloyds Bank, Ltd.

Name of Bank	Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation
Address of Head Office ..	Hong Kong
Branch in Ceylon ..	24, Prince street, Fort, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon ..	E. Coates & Co. (Galle), Ltd., Galle
Bankers in the United Kingdom	Westminster Bank, Ltd.

Name of Bank	The Mercantile Bank of India, Ltd.
Address of Head Office ..	15, Gracechurch street, London, E.C. 3
Branches in Ceylon ..	Queen street, Fort, Colombo; 97, Queen's Hotel building, Kandy; and Church street, Galle
Agents in Ceylon ..	—
Bankers in the United Kingdom	The Bank of England; Midland Bank, Ltd.

Name of Bank	The Eastern Bank, Ltd.
Address of Head Office ..	2, and 3, Crosby square, Bishopsgate, London, E.C. 3
Branch in Ceylon ..	Main street, Fort, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon ..	—
Bankers in the United Kingdom	The Bank of England; Westminster Bank, Ltd.; The National Provincial Bank, Ltd.; The Bank of Scotland; Barclay's Bank, Ltd.; Martin's Bank, Ltd.

Name of Bank	The P. & O. Banking Corporation, Ltd.* (with which is affiliated The Allahabad Bank, Ltd.)
Address of Head Office ..	117–122, Leadenhall street, London, E.C. 3
Branch in Ceylon ..	Victoria Arcade buildings, York street, Fort, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon ..	E. Coates & Co. (Galle), Ltd., Galle
Bankers in the United Kingdom	The Bank of England; Lloyds Bank, Ltd.; Westminster Bank, Ltd.; The National Provincial Bank, Ltd.; Royal Bank of Scotland

Name of Bankers ..	Thos. Cook & Son (Bankers), Ltd.
Address of Head Office ..	Berkeley street, Picadilly, London, W. 1
Branch in Ceylon ..	Prince street, Fort, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon ..	—
Bankers in the United Kingdom	The National Provincial Bank, Ltd.; Barclay's Bank, Ltd.; Midland Bank, Ltd.

* Since amalgamated with the Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China.

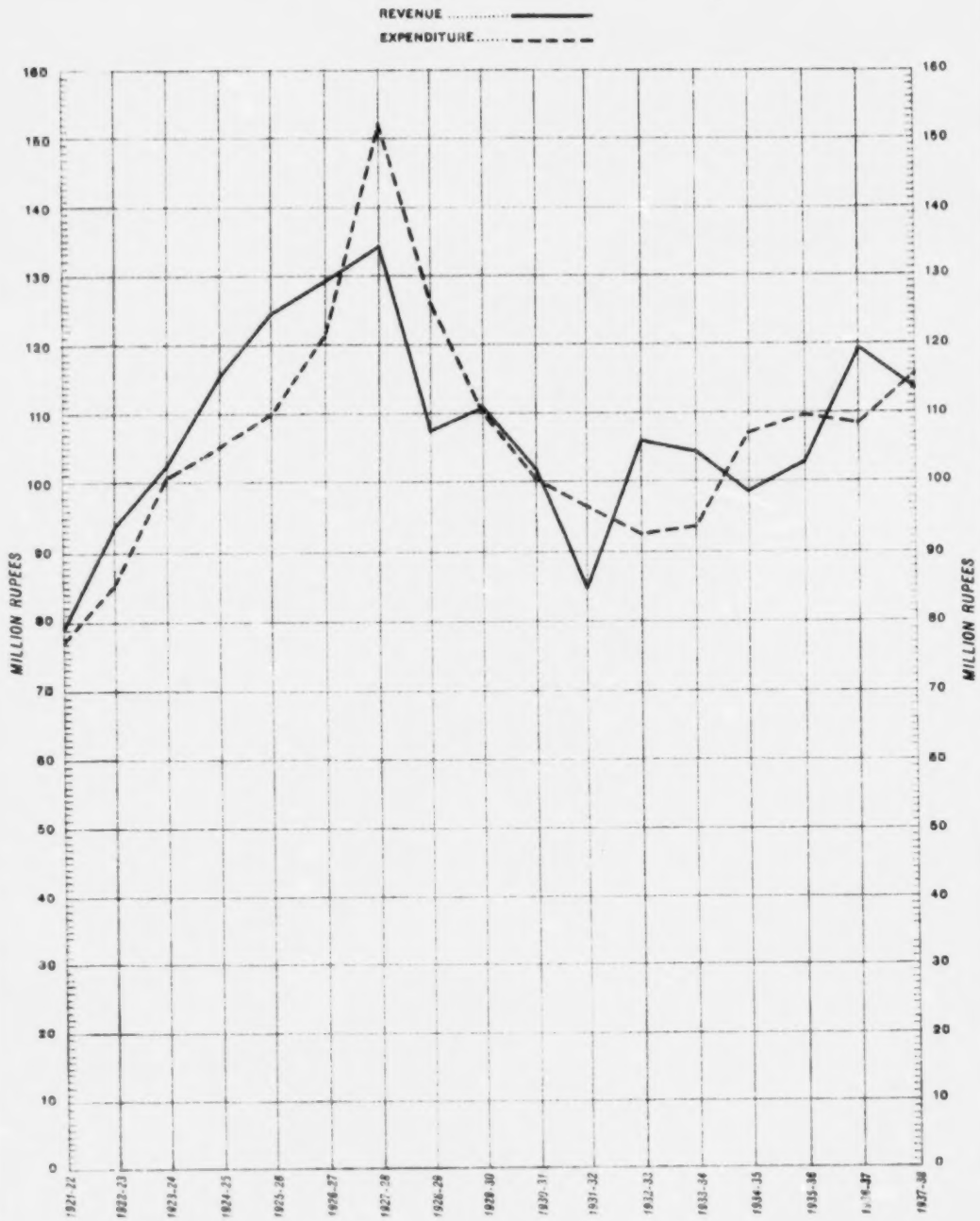
Photo by V. Namasivayam. *Courtesy Govt. Tourist Bureau.*

DIYALUMA FALLS.

DIAGRAM No. 11

TOTAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE OF THE ISLAND

FOR EACH FINANCIAL YEAR (OCTOBER 1 TO SEPTEMBER 30) SINCE 1921-22



Name of Bank	Indian Bank, Ltd.
Address of Head Office ..	Indian Bank Buildings, North Beach road, Madras
Branches in Ceylon ..	Chatham street, Colombo; Grand Bazaar, Jaffna
Agents in Ceylon ..	None
Bankers in the United Kingdom	The National City Bank of New York

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Name of Bank	The Calicut Bank, Ltd.*
Address of Head Office ..	The Calicut Bank, Ltd., Bank road, Calicut, India
Branch in Ceylon ..	15, Baillie street, Fort, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon ..	None
Bankers in the United Kingdom	None

Name of Bank	The Bank of Chettinad, Ltd.
Address of Head Office ..	The Bank of Chettinad, Ltd., Rangoon, Burma
Branch in Ceylon ..	The Bank of Chettinad, Ltd., 256, Sea street, Colombo
Agents in Ceylon ..	No Agency (Manager: A. R. Muthukaruppan Chettiar)
Bankers in the United Kingdom	None

Name of Bank	Bank of Uva, Ltd.
Address of Head Office ..	Badulla
Branch in Ceylon ..	—
Secretaries	Colombo Commercial Co., Ltd., Colombo
Bankers in the United Kingdom	—

Banking Agencies.

Name of Bank.	Agents in Ceylon.
Coutts & Co.	George Steuart & Co., Colombo
Ulster Bank, Ltd., Belfast ..	do.
Westminster Bank, Ltd. ..	do.
Bank of Montreal ..	do.
Charles Hoare & Co. ..	do.
Martin's Bank, Ltd. ..	do.
National Provincial Bank, Ltd.	do.

Savings Banks.

There are two Savings Banks, viz., the Ceylon Savings Bank and the Post Office Savings Bank.

The Ceylon Savings Bank is a Government institution established in 1832. Accounts may be opened with a minimum deposit of 50 cents and not more than Rs. 2,000 can be deposited in one year irrespective of withdrawals. The maximum sum which a depositor may have to his or her credit is Rs. 6,000. Charitable institutions or societies may deposit Rs. 3,000 per annum up to a maximum of Rs. 9,000. The Bank allows interest at the rate of 3 per cent.

The Post Office Savings Bank is managed by the Post and Telegraph Department. Deposits and withdrawals can be made at any of the Post Offices in the Island. The first deposit is 50 cents and the minimum amount that can be deposited thereafter is 25 cents, and the maximum

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* Suspended business on August 15, 1938, and is in liquidation.

per annum is Rs. 750 irrespective of withdrawals. The total amount which a depositor may have to his or her credit is Rs. 3,000. The rate of interest allowed is 2·4 per cent.—2 cents per month for each complete sum of Rs. 10.

Co-operative Societies.

There were on April 30, 1938, 1,299 registered Co-operative Societies in Ceylon, of which 4 were Co-operative Central Banks, 1,051 Village Credit Societies of Unlimited Liability, 58 Societies of Limited Liability, 96 Thrift and Savings Societies, 22 Supply (Stores) Societies, 35 Supervising Unions, 1 Co-operative Land Mortgage Bank, 1 Co-operative Federation of Unions, 3 Sales Societies, 15 Labour Societies, 2 Poultry Societies, 1 Co-operative Motor Boat Society, 1 Co-operative Union Hospital, 1 Co-operative Dairy, 1 Sports Society, 1 Ceylon Fruit and Minor Produce Society, 1, Desiccated Coconut Millers' Society, 1 Paddy Hullers' Society, 1 Pottery Society, 1 Cardamom Theft Prevention Society, 1 Better Living Society, and 1 School Supply Society. These societies had 55,726 members.

Statistics are compiled only at the end of the co-operative working year on April 30. Since then the following Co-operative Societies have been registered :—

Unlimited Credit	74
Limited Credit	5
Thrift and Savings Societies	6
Unions	7
School Supply Societies	4
Cardamom Theft Prevention	4
Supply Societies	2
Poultry Society	1
Better Living Society	1
Industrial Society	1
Textile Society	1
Dairy	1
	107

Working capital on April 30 was Rs. 4,519,641.

Loans are still made from the Local Loans and Development Fund to societies in those parts of the Island which are not yet covered by the Central Banks.

The staff of the Department, exclusive of the clerical staff, consists of 1 Registrar, 1 Deputy Registrar, 4 Assistant Registrars, 34 Inspectors, 11 Sub-Inspectors, and 1 Supervisor, Labour Societies. The Sub-Inspectors and the Supervisor, Labour Societies, are not Government servants and are paid from the Audit and Supervision Fund out of the contributions made by societies and supplemented by a Government grant.

CURRENCY, &c.

The monetary unit in Ceylon is the Indian silver rupee, which is divided into 100 cents. The following fractions of the rupee are coined :— (1) Silver, 50-cents piece ; 25-cent piece ; and 10-cent piece ; (2) nickel 5-cent piece ; (3) copper, 1-cent piece and ½-cent piece.

The chief medium of exchange in Ceylon is the currency notes issued by the Government of Ceylon. They are of the following values :— Rs. 1,000, Rs. 500, Rs. 100, Rs. 50, Rs. 10, Rs. 5, Rs. 2, and Re. 1. The present value of the rupee is about 1*s.* 6*d.*

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

The standard weights and measures are the English units. In conjunction with these many local weights and measures are used.

CHAPTER XVI.

Public Finance and Taxation.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue of the Island in the last five completed financial years was :—

	Rs. c.		Rs. c.
1933–34 ..	104,100,361 7*	1936–37 ..	119,196,899 52†
1934–35 ..	98,993,551 55	1937–38 ..	113,347,590 59‡
1935–36 ..	102,770,506 64		

The following is a statement of the expenditure in the same financial years :—

	Expenditure chargeable to General Revenue including accumulated Surplus Balances Rs. c.	Expenditure chargeable to Revenue pending raising of Loan Funds. Rs. c.
1933–34 ..	93,444,581 34 ..	—
1934–35 ..	107,286,124 66§ ..	—
1935–36 ..	109,740,474 82‖ ..	1,177,961 81
1936–37 ..	108,778,780 43¶ ..	—
1937–38 ..	115,337,266 36** ..	—

Public Debt.

On September 30, 1938, the sterling debt of the Island stood at £12,243,775 and the rupee debt at Rs. 30,941,000 towards redemption of which were held securities and moneys amounting to £4,724,404 and Rs. 3,314,727.

Setting off the securities against the debts and effecting conversion at 1*s.* 6*d.* to the rupee the net total Public Debt of the Island amounts to Rs. 127,884,553 which is slightly greater than the revenue for the year ended September 30, 1938.

The following summary gives particulars of the public debt together with the value of the sinking fund in respect of each loan forming the debt :—

Sterling Loans. £.				Sinking Fund. £.
2,850,000	3%	Inscribed Stock,	1940	3,327,700
800,000	3¼%	,,	1959	27,721
1,000,000	4%	,,	1939/59	413,739
4,500,000	3%	,,	1959/64	222,315
1,250,000	5%	,,	1960/70	72,333
1,843,775	4½%	,,	1965	106,205
—		Supplementary Sinking Fund	.. ..	554,391
12,243,775				4,724,404
@ 1*s.* 6*d.* = Re. 1				@ 1*s.* 6*d.* = Re. 1
= Rs. 163,250,333				= Rs. 62,992,053

Rupee Loans. Rs.			Sinking Fund. Rs.
3,000,000	4%	Inscribed Stock, 1942/44	3,314,727
27,941,000	3½%	Registered Stock & Promissory Notes, 1957/62 ..	—
30,941,000			3,314,727
Rs. 194,191,333			Rs. 66,306,780

* Includes Rs. 4,339,061·10, being surplus in the Sinking Fund of the 4 per cent Inscribed Stock, 1934.

† Includes Rs. 13,847,174·87 recovered from Loan, being expenditure met from Surplus Balances in previous years pending raising of Loan.

‡ Includes Rs. 25,036·20 recovered from Loan, being expenditure met from Surplus Balances in previous years pending raising of Loan.

§ Includes Rs. 2,190,172·45, being expenditure charged to Special Reserve.

‖ Includes Rs. 1,035,442·45, being expenditure charged to Special Reserve.

¶ Includes Rs. 242,464·51, being expenditure charged to Special Reserve.

** Includes Rs. 627,075·78, being expenditure charged to Special Reserve.

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

The assets and liabilities of the Island on September 30, 1938, were as follows :—

The assets consisted of—

	Rs.	c.
(1) Cash in the hands of the Deputy Financial Secretary, in fixed or current deposit in Banks and with the Crown Agents in London	19,413,420	69
(2) Unissued stores, investments in rupee and sterling gilt edged securities, advances to the General Manager of the Railway, other recoverable advances, security deposits in banks, &c., remittances in transit investments on behalf of the Ceylon University Building and Equipment Fund and suspense account	35,312,683	22
	54,726,103	91

The liabilities consisted of—

(1) Widows' and Orphans' Pension Fund	12,975,946	89
(2) Ceylon University Building and Equipment Fund ..	4,969,063	39
(3) Loan Funds	6,820,488	28
(4) General Reserve Fund	10,000,000	0
(5) Special Reserve Fund	959,523	51
(6) Courts suitors and other depositors in the Treasury and the Kachcheries	7,806,409	78
(7) Other Governments and agencies, loans to local bodies (sinking funds) and unpaid drafts	687,135	13
(8) Department of Government Electrical Undertakings ..	1,045,620	45
	45,264,188	3
Surplus	9,461,915	88
	54,726,103	91

Taxation and yield thereof—

The main heads of taxation and the yield of each are as follows :—

	Rs.	c.
Customs	56,222,468	6
Salt	2,223,470	38
Country and foreign liquor	8,136,350	80
Licences	736,004	10
Tolls	39,395	91
Stamp duties, including composition duty on Bank cheques and share certificates	3,075,562	20
Estate duties	1,010,032	1
Betting tax	299,812	80
Income tax	13,456,350	53
Tax on heavy oil motor vehicles	263,417	12
Contribution by Electrical Department in lieu of income tax ..	64,722	46
	85,527,586	37

Excise and Stamp Duties (*summarized*).—The amount realized from Excise revenue during the financial year under review was Rs. 8,136,350·80 and that in respect of Stamp Duties Rs. 3,075,562·20. Compared with the revenue of the last financial year, Excise revenue shows an increase of Rs. 412,766·22 and Stamp Duties a decrease of Rs. 895,010·90.

Revision of Taxes.—During the financial year under review the following changes in taxes were made :—

	Old Rate.		New Rate.	
	Preferential.	General.	Preferential.	General.
I. (*a*) *Import duties* :—				
(i) from November 27, 1937, Goods, Wares and Merchandise—	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Beedies	4 0 per lb.	4 75 per lb.	1 50 per lb. of their gross weight	2 0 per lb. of their gross weight
Beedy leaves	—	15% ad. val.	1 50 per cwt.	1 50 per cwt.

	Old Rate.		New Rate.	
	Preferential.	General.	Preferential.	General.
(ii.) from February 15, 1938—	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Soap, toilet, perfumed and medicated ..	..12 0 per cwt. or 15% ad. val.*	..40 0 per cwt. or 35% ad. val.*	..15 0 per cwt. or 15% ad. val.*	..40 0 per cwt. or 35% ad. val.*
(iii.) from September 10, 1938—				
Studio cameras (including magazines, tripods, tilthead adapters, synchronous motors, camera motors, carrying cases, sound blimps and lenses), recorder outfits (including microphones for sound recorders), film printers, film editing tables, footage measures, synchronisers, microphone booms, processing plants and disc. recording machines for use in the production of 35 millimetre sound films for public exhibition, and component parts of any of the foregoing.	15% ad. val.	..25% ad. val.	..Fre e	..2½% ad. val.

(*b*) *Export Duties.*—

	Old Rate. Rs. c.	New Rate. Rs. c.
From February 26, 1938—		
Tea	..2 0 per 100 lb.	..1 50 per 100 lb.

II. *Income Tax.*—By Ordinance No. 3 of 1938 an additional income tax of 3 per cent. was imposed in lieu of estate duty upon the taxable income of every Hindu family and of every company whose shares are not movable property situate in Ceylon for the purposes of estate duty.

III. *Estate Duty.*—By Ordinance No. 1 of 1938, Estate Duty was reimposed on the estates of all persons dying on or after April 1, 1937, and leaving an estate exceeding Rs. 20,000 in value.

IV. (*a*) *Postal Rates.*—

Letters: Increase from 9 cents per oz. to 20 cents per ½ oz. to Empire Countries served by the "All-up" service.

Postcards: Increased from 6 cents per card to 10 cents per card to countries on the "All-up" service.

(*b*) *Money Order Rates* (*Changes*).—

Inland and Foreign Money Orders expressed in rupees :—

On sums not exceeding Rs. 20 = 20c. commission.
On sums exceeding Rs. 20 and not exceeding Rs. 600 = 20c. commission for each complete sum of Rs. 20 and 20c. for the remainder.

Orders expressed in Sterling :—

On sums not exceeding £1 = 25c. commission.
On sums exceeding £1 and not exceeding £40 = 25c. commission for the first sum of £1 and 20c. for each additional £1 or remainder.

Orders payable in Malaya :—

On sums not exceeding Rs. 20 or its equivalent in dollars = 20c. commission.
On sums exceeding Rs. 20 and not exceeding Rs. 600 or its equivalent in dollars = 20c. commission for each complete sum of Rs. 20 or remainder.

Orders payable in Netherlands East Indies :—

On sums not exceeding Rs. 20 or its equivalent in gilders = 30c. commission.
On sums exceeding Rs. 20 and not exceeding Rs. 600 or its equivalent in gilders = 30c. commission for each complete sum of Rs. 20 or remainder.

* Whichever produces the higher duty.

(c) *Ceylon Postal Orders.*—

50 cents to Rs. 3	=	5c. commission.
Rs. 4 to Rs. 10	=	10c. commission.

Telegraph Rates.—

Empire countries (except India and Burma)	=	85c. per word flat rate.

Imperial Coupons.—

Selling and exchange value .	=	20c. per coupon.
Penny and Half-penny stamps	=	6c. and 3c. respectively.

CURRENCY.

On September 30, 1938, the value of the currency notes in circulation amounted to Rs. 45,080,984. The Commissioners of Currency on this, date held silver rupees to the extent of Rs. 14,404,053 and British, Indian, and Colonial securities amounting to Rs. 40,207,671 (cost price) or Rs. 41,088,998 (market price).

The value of the reserve on September 30, 1938, was thus in excess of the value of the notes in circulation by Rs. 9,530,740 taking the investments at cost price.

During the year silver rupees to the extent of Rs. 192,000 were received from the public and the banks in exchange for currency notes.

Subsidiary coin of various denominations amounting in all to Rs. 12,066,529 was in circulation in the Island on September 30, 1938.

EXCHANGE.

The rates of exchange on London on December 31, 1938, were as follows :—

Selling demand	1*s.* 5 15/16*d.* to the rupee
Selling telegraphic transfer	1*s.* 5 15/16*d.* to the rupee
Buying demand	1*s.* 6*d.* to the rupee

ESTATE DUTIES.

Estate duty was reintroduced in the Island by Ordinance No. 1 of 1938 with retrospective effect from April 1, 1937. Estates which are over, Rs. 20,000 in value are chargeable to estate duty. The Ordinance introduced a new principle in determining the rate of duty, viz., that the value of property situate outside Ceylon not liable to Ceylon estate duty should be included for determining the rate of duty chargeable on the Ceylon estate. The nett revenue from Estate Duty for the financial year 1937–38 is Rs. 1,010,032, as against Rs. 607,819 for the previous year.

CHAPTER XVII.

Miscellaneous.

LAND.

THE climate varies considerably in different parts of Ceylon, and this fact has an important bearing on the development of land in the Island. There are two main climatic divisions, namely, the wet zone (comprising the centre and south-west of the Island) and the dry zone (comprising the northern and eastern parts).

The wet zone is the part of the Island, roughly a quarter of it, that receives the rain of the south-west monsoon. The rainfall in this zone is both ample and well distributed, with the result that conditions are

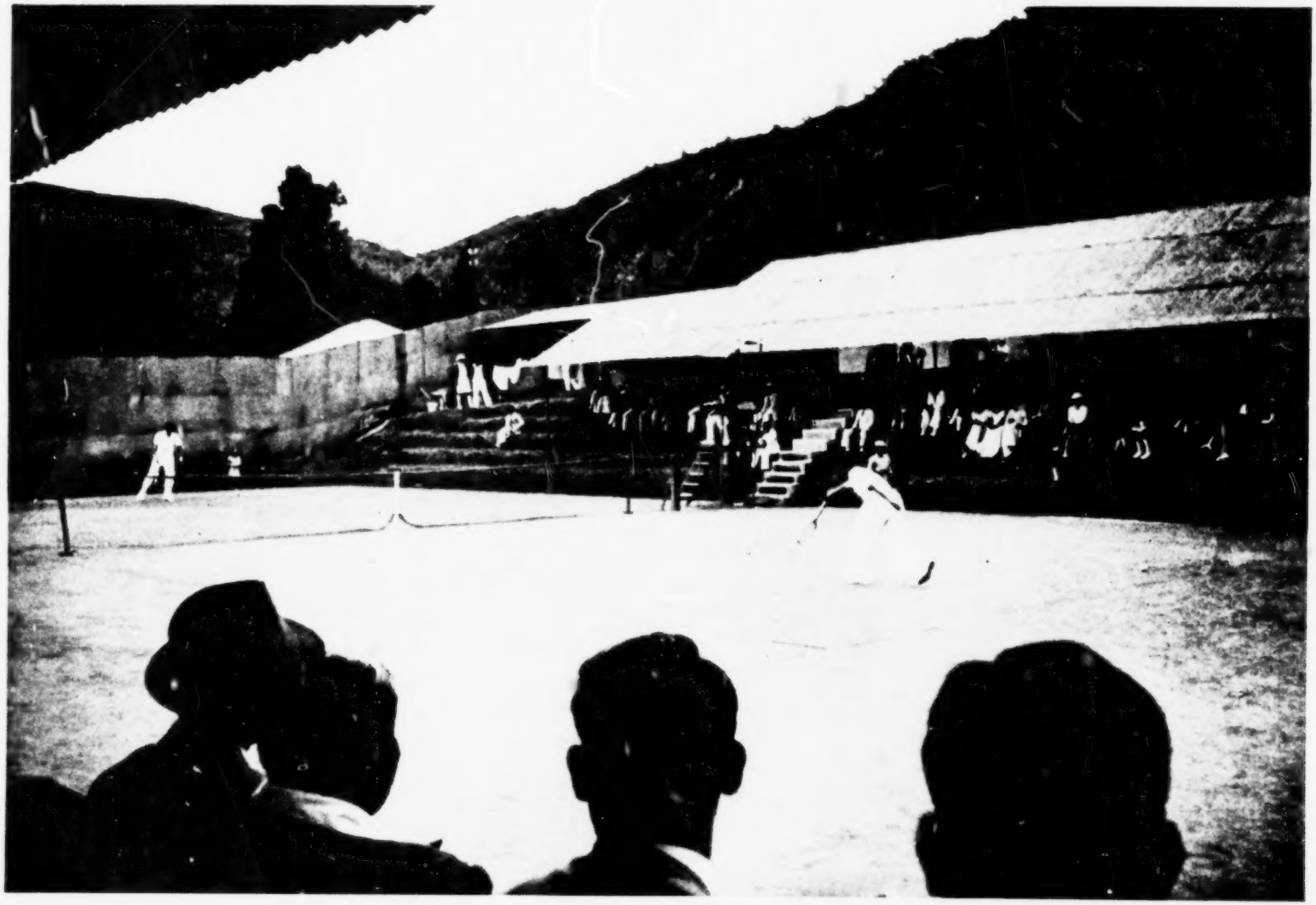

Photo by Werner Conitz. *Courtesy Govt. Tourist Bureau.*

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favourable for agriculture. Tea, rubber, coconuts, and other economic crops can be grown readily, and under normal conditions profitably. As a result of the international agreement to restrict the production of tea and rubber these products may not now be grown. In addition, village cultivation flourishes. For many years past the wet zone has steadily developed, and the population has increased considerably. At the present time, this zone contains the greater part of the population of the Island, and there is comparatively little land available for development except in remote or inaccessible districts.

In the dry zone, on the other hand, conditions are far less favourable. In the first place, the rainfall, though not really inadequate, is so unevenly distributed that the country suffers badly from drought each year, except where extensive storage tanks have been constructed. In the second place, a large part of the dry zone is extremely malarial.

For these reasons, the greater part of the dry zone is thinly populated and practically undeveloped. Where the land can be irrigated or the rainfall is favourable paddy is grown ; and a certain amount of land, chiefly near the coast, has been planted with coconuts. Most of the villagers, however, are mainly dependent on " chena " cultivation, that is to say, the periodical clearing and cultivation of tracts of jungle, which are abandoned after one or two crops of grain or vegetables have been grown on them. Systematic farming is unknown. Attempts are being made to develop this area.

A great obstacle to land development is the fact that land titles are often both complicated and uncertain. This is due to two main causes, the claims of the Crown and the absence of any system of registration of title.

In general, all undeveloped land is presumed by law to be the property of the Crown till the contrary is proved. It is clear, however, that to insist that this presumption shall be strictly applied is likely to lead to hardship in many cases. Legislation has therefore been passed providing machinery for dealing with the claims of private persons to land to which the presumption in favour of the Crown applies. The law on the subject is contained in the Land Settlement Ordinance, 1931, as amended by Ordinance No. 22 of 1932 and Ordinance No. 31 of 1933. A special department—the Land Settlement Department—has been organized for the purpose of systematically dealing with all the undeveloped land in the Island under these Ordinances. This undertaking involves a great deal of work, however, and is not likely to be completed for many years.

The need for a system of registration of titles to land has long been recognized, and in 1933 a Committee was appointed to consider this question. The Committee has submitted a report containing proposals for a system of registration of titles suitable to the conditions prevailing in Ceylon, and steps are now being taken to draft the necessary legislation.

Till recently it was the practice not to advertise any Crown land for sale or lease unless some one had applied for that land. When such an application was received, steps were taken to survey the land, and eventually to dispose of the freehold or leasehold by public auction. This system had many disadvantages. Long delays were almost inevitable ; the original applicant could not be sure of obtaining the land he wanted, at any rate at a reasonable price ; the development of the available land was haphazard rather than systematic ; and there was a tendency for the needs of the villagers to be overlooked.

The present policy is for Government to take the initiative in disposing of Crown land. As a necessary preliminary, the Crown land in each village is " mapped-out ", that is to say, it is allocated to various definite purposes in the following way. In the first place, land is set aside for the needs of the State and of the permanent village population. The next consideration is to reserve land for alienation to villagers who are unable to get land in their own villages and are prepared to move to localities where land is available. If possible, land is then provided for development by Ceylonese of moderate means. Any land remaining is made available for alienation to other persons, irrespective of their means or race. Once a village has been mapped-out, the Revenue Officer in charge of the district can dispose of the Crown land in that village without fear of overlooking the interests of any part of the community. He is therefore able to take the initiative, and periodically offer land for disposal if he thinks there is likely to be a demand for it. Persons who receive land under this system are put in possession with the least possible delay.

A further change is in the tenure of land alienated by the Crown. Hitherto the only tenures have been freehold and leasehold, but a new tenure was introduced by the Land Development Ordinance, No. 19 of 1935, which came into force on October 15, 1935. The principal features of this tenure are as follows :—

(*a*) The owner is obliged to cultivate the land, or utilize in some other way specified in the grant.

(*b*) The owner is required to make a small annual payment to the Crown in perpetuity.

(*c*) The land cannot be subdivided beyond the limit specified in the grant, or held in undivided shares smaller than the fraction specified.

(*d*) The succession to the land is not regulated by the ordinary law of inheritance, but by special rules designed to prevent the land from being subdivided.

(*e*) In certain cases, the owner is forbidden to lease or mortgage the land except to the Crown, and may not otherwise dispose of it without the Revenue Officer's consent.

In rural areas, the general policy now is to alienate Crown land required for agricultural purposes by peasants and Ceylonese of moderate means under the Land Development Ordinance. In urban areas the mode of alienation is normally by long lease. Outright sales of Crown lands have been reduced to a minimum.

The Ordinance provides adequate machinery for enforcing the conditions of the tenure.

It is the present policy of Government not only to take the initiative in bringing land forward for disposal but also to provide a positive stimulus to landless villagers to leave their homes and either take up land in less congested villages or found new villages in undeveloped districts. Thus, " colonization schemes " have been started in various parts of the Island, and those willing to take part in these schemes have been helped with grants of land and money. Provision is made for affording financial assistance to colonists and peasants who take up land under the new tenure.

The villagers are conservative, and as a rule are very reluctant to leave their homes. On that account, progress with colonization schemes has necessarily been slow, and is likely to remain so for some time to come.

Eventually, however, it is hoped that the villagers will become less reluctant to leave their homes, and the congestion caused by the growth of the population will cause an increasing number to migrate each year. In this way it should be possible gradually to reclaim large tracts of the dry zone, which are now almost uninhabited, but which formerly supported a large population.

One of the greatest difficulties that the village cultivators have to contend with is that of disposing of their produce at a remunerative price. On this account, a new department has recently been formed, which is responsible for the development of agricultural marketing. Satisfactory progress has already been made, and it is hoped that, as the organization of this department develops, it will become possible for villagers, even in remote parts of the Island, to dispose readily of their surplus produce.

Production Forests.

A large portion of the Island is still, in spite of agricultural development, &c., covered with forest of one kind or another. Most of the forests are situated in the more remote, inaccessible or sparsely populated parts of the country. Consequently the largest tracts are to be found in the Dry Zone—Northern, North-Central, Eastern and parts of the North-Western and Uva Provinces.

All the Crown land bearing forest is divided into two main categories, viz., that in charge of the Forest Department and that in charge of the Revenue Officers.

The forest land administered by the Forest Department represents practically all the forests which the Government intends to keep permanently as forest bearing land, while most of the land in the care of the Revenue Officers is available for agricultural and other developments.

The Forest Reserves and Proposed Reserves, which are the forests administered by the Forest Department, may be divided into several groups, viz., forests intended primarily for the production of timber and fuel, those intended for purely protective, climatic or scenic purposes and those intended for the protection of wild animals, birds, and plants.

The total area of Forest Reserves and Proposed Reserves at the end of 1938 is given in the table below, together with the localities in which they are situated :—

Locality.	Production Forests. (area in acres).	Protective Forests. (Climatic) (area in acres).	Protective Forests (Fauna and Flora) (area in acres).
Northern Province ..	455,743*	Nil	42,890*
	58,378		31,580
North-Central Province ..	23,959*	Nil	298,878*
	481,497		11,780
Eastern Province ..	449,557*	Nil	17,555*
	402,472		44,171
North-Western Province ..	88,372*	1,323*	117,382*
	241,571	12,136	Nil
Southern Province ..	47,604*	14,852*	162,857*
	63,609	8,912	Nil
Western Province ..	10,447*	Nil*	Nil*
	64,564	913	Nil
Central Province ..	16,988*	3,786*	45,364*
	16,720	1,766	Nil
Uva Province ..	5,849*	Nil*	4,170*
	7,493	733	100,756
Province of Sabaragamuwa ..	23,599*	17,470*	Nil*
	48,979	40,986	Nil
Totals ..	1,122,118*	37,431*	689,096*
	1,385,283	65,446	188,287

Grand Total .. 3,487,661 acres.

* Areas already Reserved by Proclamation.

The forests of Ceylon vary much in appearance and composition according to the particular Climatic Zone in which they are found. These Climatic Zones are usually referred to as the " Dry Zone ", " Wet Zone ", " Intermediate Zone ", and " Montane Zone ".

The Dry Zone forests belong to the " Tropical Dry Evergreen " type. The principal economic timber trees found in this type are Satinwood (Chloroxylon swietenia), Ebony (Diospyros ebenum), Palu (Manilkara hexandra), Ranai (Alseodaphne semecarpifolia) and Halmilla (Berrya cordifolia). It is from these forests that most of the heavy hardwoods supplied to Government Departments for railway sleepers, buildings, bridges, harbour works, &c., come, while the valuable satinwood is also confined to this zone. Most of the Dry Zone forests are managed on a selection system with a girth control limit for exploitation. Some areas in this zone have been planted with teak, which does not occur naturally in Ceylon.

The Wet Zone Forests are the " Tropical Wet Evergreen " type. These forests are characterized by being composed of a very large variety of species most of which yield timber of somewhat inferior and non-durable quality. An important tree found in this zone is Hora (Dipterocarpus zeylanicus) the timber of which is of considerable commercial importance, while trees producing timbers considered suitable for box making and match making occur in large quantities. Up to the present these forests have not been brought under organized management.

The Intermediate Zone, as the name implies, is the Climatic Zone between the Dry, Wet, and Montane Zones. It is comparatively small in extent and contains little crown forest. It is in this zone several of the most valuable of the timber trees grown in Ceylon are found. The most important of these are Jak (Artocarpus integra), Lunumidella (Melia composita), Milla (Vitex pinnata) and the exotic large leaved mahogany (Swietenia macrophylla). These species are grown in artificially established plantations of which there are now approximately 4,600 acres in this zone.

The Montane Zone forests are of the usual " Tropical Montane " type. They are primarily of importance as Protective forests and for their æsthetic value. Some of these forests are at present managed on a clear felling system followed by the establishment of plantations of exotics, principally the Monterey Cypress (Cupressus macrocarpa) and a variety of different Eucalyptus species. There are approximately 5,900 acres of these plantations. These areas are utilized to supply fuel to towns and estates situated in that zone.

The Forest Policy of Ceylon is to make the Island as far as possible self-supporting in respect of its timber and fuel requirements. At present large quantities of timber are imported, principally teak for constructional purposes and softwoods for the shipment of economic products, such as tea, rubber, desiccated coconut, &c. Little timber is exported from Ceylon, except high grade satinwood. The Central Timber Depot, where Government timber for export is stored, is at Slave Island, Colombo.

The Forest Department, which is under the general control of the Executive Committee of Agriculture and Lands, has its headquarters in the Secretariat, Colombo. In addition to the Conservator of Forests, the following forest officers have their offices at Headquarters :—

The Divisional Forest Officer, Working Plans.
The Divisional Forest Officer, Silvicultural Research.
The Divisional Forest Officer, Utilization Research.

Territorial Divisional Headquarters are situated at—

Colombo	..	.. South-Western Division
Kurunegala	..	.. North-Western Division
Jaffna	..	.. Dry Zone Division
Nuwara Eliya	..	.. Up-country Division

Though for many years the forests of Ceylon have been unsystematically exploited, the activities of the Forest Department are now directed to see that the forests are brought under regular management and the yield permanently sustained. For this purpose careful stock maps showing the contents of the Forest Reserves are being prepared and Working Plans compiled to control and systematize management.

Silvicultural Research is being organized on more comprehensive and intensive lines than hitherto with a view to collecting the necessary silvicultural information on which satisfactory Plans of Management may eventually be framed. The work has a completely untapped field before it and, as is to be expected, it has almost from every aspect to start " ab initio ".

Experiments are in hand for the greater utilization of indigenous timbers. " Ascu " treated sleepers of five species along with controls have been put out on the railway lines and are under observation. Logs of seventeen species were sent to England for test as to their suitability for Plywood and Veneers. Tests are also in hand of various species for the Chest and Match Industries.

The Fauna and Flora Protection Ordinance, No. 2 of 1937, was brought into force as from March 1, 1938. Under the provisions of the Ordinance, the Conservator of Forests has been appointed Warden and an Assistant Conservator of Forests as his Deputy. All Government Agents and Assistant Government Agents have been appointed District Wardens. An extent of 508,228 acres of Crown land has been declared National Reserves under this Ordinance, and Sanctuaries covering an extent of 180,866 acres have also been proclaimed.

SURVEY.

The Survey Department.—As no land can be alienated or otherwise dealt with by the Crown until it has been surveyed and demarcated, the work of the Survey Department is of great importance. Its chief activities may be summarized as follows :—

(*a*) Application Surveys, *i.e.*, a system of sporadic surveys, usually made on " Applications " by members of the public, to buy or lease Crown land, or on " Crown Requisitions " from Government officials for such surveys.

Included under this head are :—

(i.) Acquisition Surveys, or surveys undertaken for the acquisition of private land for Government or public purposes.

(ii.) Town Surveys—to further the development, the administration, and the assessment of towns by Local Bodies, and to assist town planning schemes.

(iii.) Forest Surveys, which include the demarcation of forest boundaries and fauna or flora reserves.

(iv.) Land Development Surveys or surveys arising from the Land Development Ordinance, No. 19 of 1935, which provides for the systematic development and alienation of Crown lands in the Island.

(v.) Engineering Surveys which are chiefly undertaken with a view to providing plans and sections for use in the investigation and development of irrigation schemes by the Irrigation Department.

(*b*) Block Surveys, or the continuous survey of large areas of land for the final settlement of claims as between the Crown and private owners.

Topographical Surveys.—In addition, the Survey Department, having completed a Topographical Survey of the Island, is now engaged upon a Topographical Revision Survey. Sectional maps for the whole Island on the scale of 1 mile to the inch can be obtained at the Surveyor-General's Office, Colombo, at "Ceylon Products", Chatham street, Colombo. Numerous other small scale maps are also published. The chief of these are :—

4-mile and 8-mile to the inch maps of the Island.
6-mile to the inch motor maps.
4-mile and 24-mile to the inch agricultural maps.
Aviation map of Ceylon and South India on the scale of 1/1,000,000.

Models.—The following can also be obtained from the Surveyor-General's Office, Colombo :—

(*a*) Plaster of Paris and Paper Models on a horizontal scale of 1 mile to 1 inch, and a vertical scale of ½ mile to 1 inch.
(*b*) 8 mile Paper Models on a horizontal scale of 42,240 feet to one inch and a vertical scale of 8,290 feet to one inch.
(*c*) Bas Relief Maps on a scale of 1 : 1,000,000 or 15·78 miles to one inch.

Other Work of the Survey Department.—The other work of the Survey Department is not directly connected with the subject of this chapter. It includes—

(1) Trigonometrical Surveys.
(2) Precise Levelling.
(3) The Observatory and Meteorological Stations.

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* The above list which has been compiled by Messrs. L. E. Blazé, O.B.E., R. S. Enright (Librarian, University College), S. C. Blok (Librarian, Public Library, Colombo), and Director, Colombo Museum, contains the names of some of the principal works dealing with Ceylon, but does not purport to be a complete list. The year of publication is given in each case, and the list has been arranged, as far as possible, in chronological order.

Photo by Werner Conti. *Courtesy Govt. Tourist Bureau.*

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